**Are Some Lies OK With God?**

# Reading – Genesis 12:10-20

Webster defines a "lie" as **"to make an untrue statement with the intent to deceive; to create a false or misleading impression."**

The word "lie" comes from the Greek word pseudos, from which we get the word "pseudo." **"being apparently rather than actually as stated."** ***(Proverbs 6:16-19) These six things the LORD hates, Yes, seven are an abomination to Him: {17} A proud look, A lying tongue, Hands that shed innocent blood, {18} A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that are swift in running to evil, {19} A false witness who speaks lies, And one who sows discord among brethren.***

**GOD DID NOT EXCUSE LYING YESTERDAY.**

God did not excuse Abraham in Genesis 12:13.

What do Abraham's lies tell us about him at that time? His faith in God was not what it should have been. ***(Matthew 16:24-26) Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. {25} "For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. {26} "For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?***

Once was not enough for Abraham. He lied again by overt omission in ***(Genesis 20:2-16) Now Abraham said of Sarah his wife, "She is my sister." And Abimelech king of Gerar sent and took Sarah. {3} But God came to Abimelech in a dream by night, and said to him, "Indeed you are a dead man because of the woman whom you have taken, for she is a man's wife." {4} But Abimelech had not come near her; and he said, "Lord, will You slay a righteous nation also? {5} "Did he not say to me, 'She is my sister'? And she, even she herself said, 'He is my brother.' In the integrity of my heart and innocence of my hands I have done this… {8} So Abimelech rose early in the morning, called all his servants, and told all these things in their hearing; and the men were very much afraid. {9} And Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, "What have you done to us? How have I offended you, that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done deeds to me that ought not to be done." {10} Then Abimelech said to Abraham, "What did you have in view, that you have done this thing?" {11} And Abraham said, "Because I thought, surely the fear of God is not in this place; and they will kill me on account of my wife. {12} "But indeed she is truly my sister. She is the daughter of my father, but not the daughter of my mother; and she became my wife. {13} "And it came to pass, when God caused me to wander from my father's house, that I said to her, 'This is your kindness that you should do for me: in every place, wherever we go, say of me, "He is my brother."' " {14} Then Abimelech took sheep, oxen, and male and female servants, and gave them to Abraham; and he restored Sarah his wife to him. {15} And Abimelech said, "See, my land is before you; dwell where it pleases you." {16} Then to Sarah he said, "Behold, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver; indeed this vindicates you before all that are with you and before everybody.***

Like father, like son, Isaac lied overtly in ***(Genesis 26:1-9) There was a famine in the land, besides the first famine that was in the days of Abraham. And Isaac went to Abimelech king of the Philistines, in Gerar. {2} Then the LORD appeared to him and said: "Do not go down to Egypt; live in the land of which I shall tell you. {3} "Dwell in this land, and I will be with you and bless you; for to you and your descendants I give all these lands, and I will perform the oath which I swore to Abraham your father. {4} "And I will make your descendants multiply as the stars of heaven; I will give to your descendants all these lands; and in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed; {5} "because Abraham obeyed My voice and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes, and My laws." {6} So Isaac dwelt in Gerar. {7} And the men of the place asked about his wife. And he said, "She is my sister"; for he was afraid to say, "She is my wife," because he thought, "lest the men of the place kill me for Rebekah, because she is beautiful to behold." {8} Now it came to pass, when he had been there a long time, that Abimelech king of the Philistines looked through a window, and saw, and there was Isaac, showing endearment to Rebekah his wife. {9} Then Abimelech called Isaac and said, "Quite obviously she is your wife; so how could you say, 'She is my sister'?" And Isaac said to him, "Because I said, 'Lest I die on account of her.'"***

**GOD DOES NOT EXCUSE LYING TODAY.**

The Bible informs us that God hates lying. The Bible tells us that Satan is the origin of lying ***(John 8:44) "You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.***

***(1 John 1:8-10) If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. {9} If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. {10} If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar, and His word is not in us.***

***(Proverbs 19:5) A false witness will not go unpunished, And he who speaks lies will not escape.***

***(Revelation 21:8) "But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death."***

### Situation Ethics

The prominent Humanist writer, Joseph Fletcher, while serving as Professor of Situation Ethics at Episcopal Theological School at Cambridge, wrote a book advancing situation ethics: **"Situation Ethics: The New Morality."**

Tenets: There are only 3 approaches to follow in making moral decisions.

1. The legalistic approach. **"...One enters into every decision-making situation encumbered with a whole apparatus of prefabricated rules and regulations."**

2. The antinomian approach. **"...One enters into the decision-making situation armed with no principles or maxims whatsoever, to say nothing of rules."**

3. The situational approach. **"The situationist enters into every decision-making situation fully armed with the ethical maxims of his community and its heritage, and he treats them with respect as illustrators of his problems. Just the same he is prepared in any situation to compromise them or set them aside in the situation if love seems better served by doing so."**

***(John 14:15) “If you love Me, keep My commandments.***

***(1 John 5:3) For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome.***

***(Matthew 22:37-40) Jesus said to him, " 'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' {38} "This is the first and great commandment. {39} "And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' {40} "On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."***

***(Proverbs 14:12) There is a way that seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.***

***(Isaiah 5:20-21) Woe to those who call evil good, and good evil; Who put darkness for light, and light for darkness; Who put bitter for sweet, and sweet for bitter! {21} Woe to those who are wise in their own eyes, And prudent in their own sight!***

**GOD WILL NOT EXCUSE LYING TOMORROW.**

***(Psalms 19:12-13) Who can understand his errors? Cleanse me from secret faults. {13} Keep back Your servant also from presumptuous sins; Let them not have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, And I shall be innocent of great transgression.***

***(Ephesians 4:25) Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another.***