

LIARS

"...Let God be true, but every man a liar: Romans 3:4.

The word "**Liar**" isn't used often in the Bible. But, when it is, it carries heavy ramifications with huge judgment for those falling into its falsity.

I have always told my children that **lying** is the worse characteristic that anyone can have. Lying destroys every other good trait that we may possess. If you can't believe a guy, then nothing else is sacred to him, either.

Lying degrades a person to nothing; which, when compared to God - and in the vein of this article, is man's actual estate before the LORD. The truth is; without God and His mercy, man is most miserable. Thus, don't lie. Let God be true. Repent of this sin.

The verse of Scripture under the heading answers nonbelievers. Paul is being rhetorical when he asks, "**For what if some did not believe?**"

Paul means: **If you don't believe, what's that going to do to God?** The truth is, nothing that man accepts or rejects affects God; that's the message. Paul tells us that God is always on the throne; whether man accepts His word and rule, or not.

In verse 5, Paul says he is thinking as a man by asking: "**But if our unrighteousness commend the righteousness of God...Is God unrighteous who takes vengeance?**"

And, Paul is reasoning with men, here. His entire argument is for us to reason out that God is always righteous and true. So, it doesn't matter what man thinks, says or does. If anyone doesn't believe in God or the gospel message, there is no skin off God's nose (Here, I speak as a man using everyday language).

However, it gets **pretty scary** when we read what **lying** does to men, and what it makes men become, as recorded in 1st John. "**Who is a liar but he that denieth that Jesus is the Christ? He is an Antichrist, that denies the Father and the Son**" (V 2:22). When Jesus is denied, clearly, God is misrepresented.

It gets even more frightening when we learn what **lying** means. **Liars**, not only deny Jesus and misrepresent God, they follow the devil. **Wow!** Hear good, the words of Jesus to the Jews. "**You are of your father the devil. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies,**" John 8:44.

Lying is such a serious sin that it causes men to follow things that are not of God. However, we reiterate, if all men "**believeth not**" and "**deny the Father and Son;**" or, if the whole world denies, it doesn't alter God, one iota. We must remember this and throw in with Paul and John, always acknowledging the Lord and His Son, Jesus.

A liar will say anything; such as, "**I love God!**" While that sounds great, the fact is that God's love has a filtering effect that causes us to bond with others, forming lasting friendships, promoting eternal fellowship.

Therefore, John's teaches, "**If a man say, I love God, and hate his brother, he is a liar.**" The word "**hate,**" usually means to love less. And here, it seems to be the case; for, John places man and God on equal terms, when love is considered. John sees the heart of a man in fellowship with Christ as loving those belonging to Christ. No exceptions!

This is what Jesus taught on discipleship. "**By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another,**" John 13:35.

But, John wants us to understand some spiritual logic and, he wants us to utilized it. "**...for he that loves not his brother whom he has seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?**" (I Jn 4:20).

Again, in John's mind, loving God equals loving man. He emphasizes the law of the spirit; teaching that, loving God means we must love one another. This is true spiritual love.

Without question, **lying** is a huge sin against God and His word. In fact, John explains that if we don't believe, we are a false witness and "**make God a liar; because he believes not the record God gave of His Son,**" I Jn 5:10. That, my friends, is exactly the opposite of "**Let God be true.**"