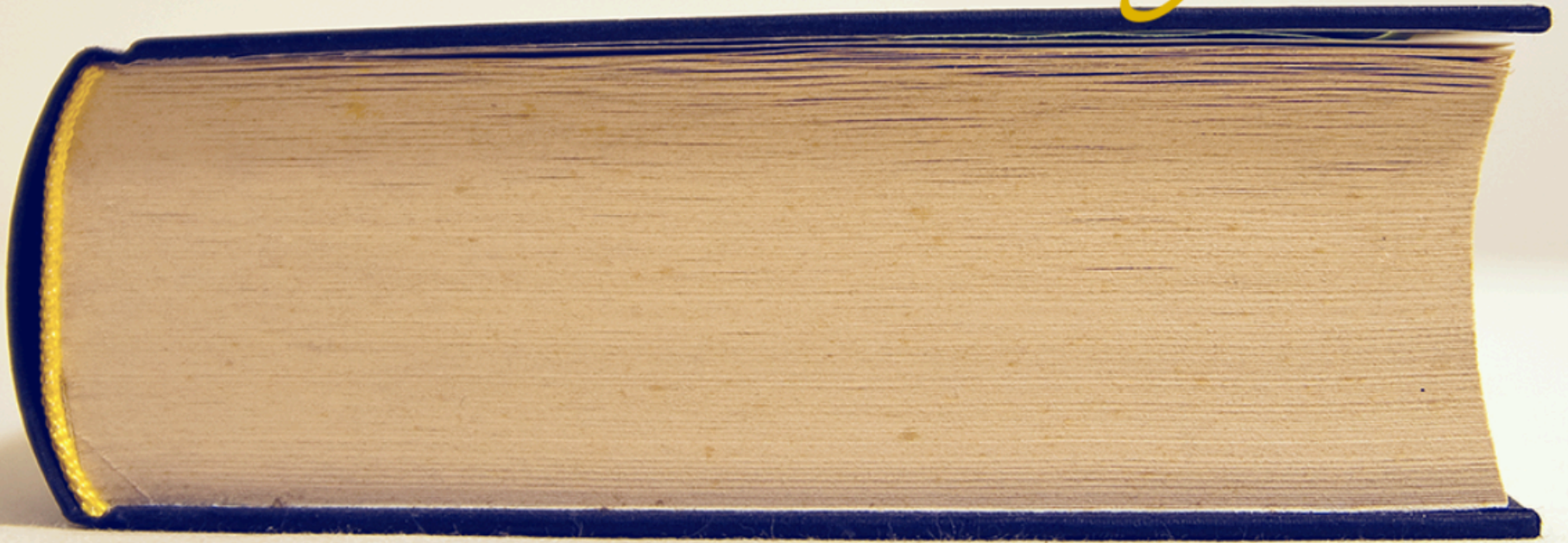


Proverbs

*Truth and Dishonesty*



# The Importance of Truth

- Truth (Merriam Webster):
  - The state of being the case; fact.
  - The body of real things, events, and facts.
- Truth is who God is.
- Truth is based not on feelings or desires, but on reality.

# The Importance of Truth

- Prov. 30:5 - Every word of God proves true; he is a shield to those who take refuge in them.
- Prov. 23:23 - Buy truth, and do not sell it; buy wisdom, instruction, and understanding.
- Prov. 16:13 - Righteous lips are the delight of a king, and he loves him who speaks what is right.
- Prov. 17:17 - Fine speech is not becoming to a fool; still less is false speech to a prince.

# The Destruction of Dishonesty

- Falsehoods are always misleading statements that misrepresent the truth.
- Prov. 6:16-19 - <sup>16</sup>There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him:<sup>17</sup> haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, <sup>18</sup> a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, <sup>19</sup> a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.

# The Destruction of Dishonesty

- Casual Dishonesty
  - **Slander:** Lying with the intention of doing harm to another's reputation.
  - **Gossip/Talebearing:** Sharing information with disregard to its truthfulness. A person who habitually reveals personal information or sensational facts about others (Merriam Webster.)
  - **Flattery:** Insincere praise.
  - **Half-Truths:** Not telling the whole story.

# The Destruction of Dishonesty

## Casual Dishonesty (continued):

- **Exaggeration:** Represents something as better or worse than it really is.
- **Excuses:** Attempt to lessen the blame attaching to a fault or offense.
- **Misrepresentation of Self:** An inaccurate portrayal of self (living standards, dress, words, or speech).

# The Destruction of Dishonesty

- Casual Dishonesty

*Why is this so normal and so prevalent?*

- A Cultural Shift in Churches

- Our current prioritization of traits tend to be based on the flesh.
- We must recapture biblical order.

# The Destruction of Dishonesty

- Casual Dishonesty (continued):
  - 1 John 4:8 - Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.
  - 1 Timothy 1:5 - The aim of our charge is love that issues from a pure heart and a good conscience and a sincere faith.
  - 1 Peter 1:22 - Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart.



# Truth and Dishonesty

*How do we fight against the sin of dishonesty?*

*Learn from Truth, Love from Truth, Live from Truth.*

# How Do We Fight Against the Sin of Dishonesty?

1) Learning from Truth:

a) God is the Truth.

b) Repent of a low view of Jesus.

c) Passion for Jesus is the fuel for truth.

Prov. 12:22 - Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight.

Prov. 19:5,9 - A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who breathes out lies will not escape.

Prov. 28:13 - Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses them and forsakes them will obtain mercy.

# How Do We Fight Against the Sin of Dishonesty?

## 2) Loving from Truth:

Prov. 8:7 - For my mouth will utter truth;  
wickedness is abomination to my lips.

Prov. 13:5 - The righteous hates falsehood,  
but the wicked brings shame and disgrace.

Prov. 12:19 - Truthful lips endure forever,  
but a lying tongue is but for a moment.

# How Do We Fight Against the Sin of Dishonesty?

## 2) Loving from Truth (continued):

Prov. 20:17 - Bread gained by deceit is sweet to a man, but afterward his mouth will be full of gravel.

Prov. 21:6 - The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a fleeting vapor and a snare of death.

Prov. 21:28 - A false witness will perish, but the word of a man who hears will endure.

Prov. 17:20 - A man of crooked heart does not discover good, and one with a dishonest tongue falls into calamity.

# How Do We Fight Against the Sin of Dishonesty?

## 3) Living from Truth:

Prov. 12:17 - Whoever speaks the truth gives honest evidence, but a false witness utters deceit.

Prov. 14:5 - A faithful witness does not lie, but a false witness breathes out lies.

# How Do We Fight Against the Sin of Dishonesty?

3) Living from Truth (continued):

Prov. 14:25 - A truthful witness saves lives, but one who breathes out lies is deceitful.

Prov. 24:28 - Be not a witness against your neighbor without cause, and do not deceive with your lips.

Prov. 26:28 - A lying tongue hates victims, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

Prov. 19:22 - What is desired in a man is steadfast love, and a poor man is better than a liar.

# **Truth and Dishonesty...and the Gospel**

**Our lives are dishonest and  
only Christ can set you free!**