

# TRUTH & RIGHT

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## THE BIBLE HAS LIES

Does this title shock you? Would it surprise you to learn that the above is a true statement when said in its proper context? I realize some folks say things like "the Bible has lies in it" to denounce the Bible and to put it on the level of a work of man rather than a work of God (II Tim. 3:16-17). This is obviously not my purpose. When we spend time reading and studying God's word, however, it will not take long before we notice several whose lies are recorded for us in the Bible. Let us examine a few examples together and make some applications. Satan lied when he told Eve that she and her husband could eat the forbidden fruit and "shall not surely die" after God said they would die if they ate that fruit (Gen. 3:4, 2:17). Due to

this event, we read where Christ called Satan the "father" of lies (Jn. 8:44). Satan was the author or originator of lies on earth. The Bible records the first lie in Genesis 3:4, and many more of his lies are recorded in the Bible. Many prophets have lied through the years. For example, the older prophet in I Kings 13 lied when he told the younger prophet an angel had spoken to him and said he wanted him to eat at his house (I Kings 13:18). Hananiah was a false prophet who "*made (Judah) trust in a lie*" when he told king Zedekiah that God would break the yoke of Babylon and that the people would return "*within two full years*" (Jer. 28:2-3, 11, 15). Peter said, "*false prophets also arose among the people*

..." (II Pet. 2:1). Yes, the lies of many false prophets are recorded in the Bible! Ananias and Sapphira lied when they made it seem like they had given all their money from a property sale to benefit the poor saints. In fact, they didn't do that at all. Instead, they lied to the Holy Spirit (Acts 5:1-11). Paul warned Timothy about some liars, specifically naming Hymenaeus and Philetus as two who lied to Christians when they taught the brethren that *"the resurrection has already happened"* and overthrew some folks' faith (II Tim. 2:17-18). When John wrote, he said that one who would deny that Jesus is the Christ *"is a liar"* (I Jn. 2:22). Evidently, this happened at times. Peter said there were some who did that in their false teaching (II Pet. 2:1). These are just a few examples of the lies which can be found in the Bible. Now, what is their purpose for being in the Bible? I don't know that there is a single reason for including these lies. However, I would like to suggest a couple of reasons I see for God recording lies in the Bible. First, every time folks lied, they were exposed for the lies they told. Sometimes this happened

quicker than at other times. However, as we study the Bible, we are able to expose all those who lied, and we can know the truth today. When the lies are exposed, it causes the truth to shine that much brighter. God's word (truth, Jn. 17:17) is so diametrically opposed to error and falsehood that the difference between truth and falsehood becomes even more apparent when the lies are exposed. Take note that sometimes, those who lied were God's people (ex: Abraham, Gen. 12:13, 20:2; Peter, Matt. 26:69-75, etc.). Such impartiality by God (Rom. 2:11; Col. 3:25) lets us see these people, "warts and all" and allows us to learn from their mistakes (Rom. 15:4) so we don't make those mistakes, ourselves (I Cor. 10:11-12). **Conclusion** Yes, the Bible records many who lied, but for all of the lies, we find the truth is there to defeat and denounce each and every lie (Jn. 17:17)! Make no mistake; if folks tell lies and are unrepentant, they will *"have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death"* (Rev. 21:8). Though men are susceptible to lying, God cannot lie (Titus 1:2). He expects us to be honest

# BIBLE TRIVIA

## C H A L L E N G E

DIRECTIONS: After searching through your Bible, circle which answer is correct.

1. Jesus healed Peter's Mother-in-law, who was sick with a \_\_\_\_.

- a) Cold
- b) Fever
- c) Rash
- d) Virus

2. Jesus once healed a leper by stretching out His hand and \_\_\_\_.

- a) Pointing
- b) Motioning
- c) Waving
- d) Touching him

3. A woman was healed of a hemorrhage by touching \_\_\_\_.

- a) Jesus
- b) Apostles
- c) Scripture
- d) Magic stones

4. 10 lepers were cleansed by Jesus, who told them to show themselves to \_\_\_\_.

- a) Apostles
- b) The public
- c) Magicians
- d) Priests

5. After putting clay on a blind man's eyes, Jesus told him to \_\_\_\_ in the pool of Siloam.

- a) Wash
- b) Swim
- c) Splash
- d) Stand

6. Before raising Lazarus from the dead, Jesus said to \_\_\_\_ the stone against his tomb.

- a) Hit
- b) Place
- c) Knock on
- d) Remove

7. In answer to a royal official begging Jesus to come heal his son, Jesus said, "Go, your son \_\_\_\_."

- a) Dies
- b) Cries
- c) Lives
- d) Walks

8. Jesus said to a paralytic brought to Him to heal, "Your sins are \_\_\_\_."

- a) Bad
- b) Forgiven
- c) Many
- d) Big

9. In the company of loud mourners, Jesus said, "The child has not died, but is \_\_\_\_."

- a) Faking
- b) Alive
- c) Asleep
- d) Sick

10. At a funeral procession for a dead man, Jesus said, "Young man, I say to you, \_\_\_\_."

- a) Speak
- b) Walk
- c) Live
- d) Arise

### ANSWERS & VERSES:

- 1) B, Reference: Mk. 1:30-31
- 2) D, Reference: Mk. 1:40-41
- 3) A, Reference: Lk. 8:43-46
- 4) D, Reference: Lk. 17:14
- 5) A, Reference: Jn. 9:6-7
- 6) D, Reference: Jn. 11:39

- 7) C, Jn. 4:46-50
- 8) B, Mt. 9:2
- 9) C, Mk. 5:38-39
- 10) D, Lk. 7:11-14

(Eph. 4:25)! Let us be like God (Rom. 12:2) and tell the truth (Col. 3:9)! – Jarrod Jacobs **The Word Of God Is Not Bound!** In his second letter to Timothy, the apostle Paul made it clear that even though he was bound (in prison) at that time, *“the word of God is not bound”* (II Tim. 2:9). As I thought about that statement, I realized that this fact has always been true. Regardless of the circumstances in this world, whether it be the political climate, times of persecution, times of prosperity, indifference, etc., *“the word of God is not bound!”* It never has been! Satan has tried everything in his power to stop the spread of God’s word and has failed miserably! Let us study the following and see how God’s word *“is not bound.”* Though the Old Testament prophets were killed for preaching the truth (Matt. 23:34-35, 37; Heb. 11:36-38), *“the word of God is not bound”*! Though Jehoiakim tried to destroy the scrolls containing God’s word (Jer. 36:22-23), *“the word of God is not bound”* (Jer. 36:28-32)! Though John was imprisoned and beheaded for teaching the truth (Matt.

14:3-12), *“the word of God is not bound”*! Though Christ was nailed to a cross due to man’s envy and their hatred of His preaching (Lk. 23:33), *“the word of God is not bound”* (Mk. 16:15-16)! Though the apostles were threatened for preaching Christ in Jerusalem (Acts 4:21, 5:40); *“the word of God is not bound”* (Acts 5:29-31)! Though the apostles were persecuted when they were not intimidated by men’s threats (Acts 5:42), *“the word of God is not bound”* (Col. 1:5-6, 23)! Though the Christians were scattered for teaching God’s word (Acts 8:1), *“the word of God is not bound”* (Acts 8:4)! Though the apostle Paul was put in prison for preaching the truth (II Tim. 2:9; II Tim. 1:16), *“the word of God is not bound”* (II Tim. 2:2)! Though John was in exile for his faithfulness to the Lord (Rev. 1:9), *“the word of God is not bound”* (see: Rev. 2-3)! - Jarrod Jacobs