

Sunday, April 14, 2019—Body Building: Corrupt Communication, Part 3 (Putting Away Lying)

Introduction

- Romans 14:19—the second segment of this series is devoted to looking at things that make for peace among the brethren and edify the body of Christ.
- Ephesians 4:29-31—evil speaking does not make for peace among the saints. Evil speaking takes away peace and doesn't edify.
- James 3:2-12—establishes 5 principles regarding the tongue.
 - Principle 1: Controlled Speech Is a Measure of Maturity (James 3:2)
 - Principle 2: The Tongue is Small but Significant (James 3:3-5)
 - Principle 3: Our Words Are Potentially Combustible (James 3:6)
 - Principle 4: The Tongue is Like a Wild and Deadly Beast (James 3:7-8)
 - Principle 5: The Tongue Tends to Promote a Double Standard (James 3:9-12)
- Ephesians 4:22—corruption communication comes from residual brain wiring of the old man. Corrupt communication are those patters and types of speak that the unredeemed old man uses to either:
 - Accuse someone else
 - Excuse one's own behavior
 - Promote self
 - Escape accountability

Putting Away Lying

- Ephesians 4:25—within the context of Ephesians 4 Paul deals with lying and truth telling. Lying is to be “put away” whereas speaking the truth is to be “put on.”
- The Scriptures emphasize the serious natural of tampering with the truth.
 - Exodus 20:16—lying is forbidden in the 10 Commandments
 - Psalm 51:6—God desires truth to live within us.

- Proverbs 6:17—a lying tongue is included in the list of items that the Lord hates.
- Revelation 21:8—liars are included with those whose eternal sentence will be the lake of fire.
- Why is truth so important to God?

Reason 1: Truth Aligns Us with God

- God’s intense concern for truthfulness centers on his very nature.
 - Psalm 25:10
 - Psalm 31:5—God is a God of truth.
 - Titus 1:2—God cannot lie.
 - John 1:14—Jesus Christ was full of Grace and truth.
 - John 4:24—without truth we cannot worship God.
 - John 14:6—Jesus Christ the way the truth and the life.
 - John 17:17—the word of God is the only source of objective truth.
- Truth is absolute not relative. Truth is that which corresponds to its referent. Without the correspondence view of truth lying would be impossible.

Reason 2: We are Redeemed to reflect God’s Character

- Romans 8:29—our very purpose as believers is to be conformed to the image of Christ. If God is truth, then we too must portray truth to accurately reflect God’s image in our lives.

Reason 3: Truth-telling is a Matter of Submission to God’s Will

- God’s Word commands us to speak the truth—regardless of the cost.
- Proverbs 13:5
- Colossians 3:9—notice the one-anothering statement in verse 9. Our head, the Lord Jesus Christ does not lie to the other members of the body of Christ. Therefore, the members in particular of the body should not lie “one to another.”