

PROVERBS: LESSON 16

FALSEHOOD - TRUTH (23:23)

(Jerry Fite)

I. LIES AND TRUTH - RULERS AND NEIGHBORS

- A. Lying lips an abomination to Jehovah - dealing truly Jehovah's delight (12:22).
- B. Lips of truth established forever - lying tongue only for a moment (12:19).
- C. Lying lips not becoming to a prince (17:7).
- D. A king desiring falsehood will receive falsehood from servants (29:12).
- E. Lying lips hurts our neighbors (26:18-19, 26:28).

II. THE FALSE WITNESS - BACKBITER - SLANDERER AND FAITHFUL WITNESS

- A. The faithful witness will not lie - the worthless witness mocketh at justice (14:5, 19:28).
- B. Harmful deceit is the character of the false witness (12:17, 14:25).
- C. The false witness wounds his neighbor (25:18, 24:28).
- D. The false witness will suffer (19:5, 19:9, 21:28, 25:23).

III. LYING LIPS AND HATRED

- A. Hiding hatred can issue into lying lips (10:18, 26:24-26).

IV. FALSE AND JUST BALANCE AND WEIGHTS

- A. Just weights are part of God's law (16:11).
- B. False weights are an abomination to Jehovah - Just weights are His delight (11:1, 20:10, 20:23).
- C. Deceitful trade practices condemned (20:14, 20:17, 21:6)

QUESTIONS:

1. How is God affected by the truthfulness of our words?
2. How long do truth and lies last?
3. What is not becoming to a ruler?

4. What affect does the King desiring falsehood have on his servants?

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5. What is not lessened when deceit is manifested in jest?

6. If we lie concerning the actions of others, what do we actually feel?

7. Why is a witness worthless who mocks justice?

8. What will we manifest if righteousness is our goal?

9. What is a false witness in regard to his neighbor?

10. What can cause you to speak lies against your neighbor?

11. What is another way of saying that a false witness will not escape?

12. In 21:28, why will a man that "heareth" speak words that will endure?

13. A backbiting tongue will bring **what** from **whom**?

14. Describe the following with ONE word: "He that hideth hatred is of lying lips?"

15. Are our business affairs outside God's law?

16. How is God affected by our standards in business?

17. Does God forbid "haggling" over a price in 20:14? Explain.

18. Describe what it is like to gain something in business by deceit?