

Sovereign Grace Church

“Truth-tellers” outline

May 28, 2017

Exodus 20: 16 HC 112

To be a false witness is an official way of saying that you are a liar. To lie or bear false witness is a sin that strikes at the very core of society. In order to make plans and produce goods one must have direct contact with reality. Lying is really an effort to distort or refashion reality. But reality cannot ultimately be distorted or refashioned! It simply is what it is! My telling myself that this lamp by my desk is not here does NOT make it disappear. If you tell yourself that there is an open door through which you intend to walk when there is not you will suffer the rude acknowledgment that your nose IS there...or at least WAS!

Deceit and lying are tools of the Devil and all those who have taken his path. We must remember that lying is not the same thing as making a mistake. Lying is deliberate and bears moral responsibility. Making a mistake will perhaps issue in serious consequences but there is no moral culpability. The reason that lying is so easy is because we naturally want to replace ourselves with Reality. If WE are the center of reality then lying is just a means to cope with a world who doesn't recognize our significance.

Lying is a sin that starts in the inner person & may or may not manifest itself in outward deeds. The hypocrite is an expert at presenting himself as truthful when hiding a heart devoted to deceit. The point is you don't have to lie to be a liar! We will consider this commandment & certain problems relevant to it in today's sermon.

1. What is Truth? Jn 14:6; Acts 4:12

2. Courts and Vows/Oaths Matt 5: 37

3. We are to speak the truth about Ourselves Rom. 12:3; Lk 18:11

