

WHEN MAY I TELL A LIE?

David Halbrook

Things that once were clearly wrong no longer seem so clear to our society as they reject the Bible. Has this already happened to you? Here's a test: Is lying always wrong?

The Bible is clear, making no exceptions. God cannot lie (Titus 1:2). Satan is the father of lies (John 8:44). Christians must not lie (Eph. 4:25). ...*all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone* (Rev. 21:8).

The Koran permits Muslims "to recant while their hearts remain loyal to the Faith" ("The Bee" 16:106). If they are forced to deny their faith but choose to remain loyal in their hearts, they will be forgiven for lying! When might they do this?

When can you trust an atheist when the consequence of their "non-belief" is that nothing is always, or ever, wrong?

"According to the common Catholic teaching. . . However, we are also under an obligation to keep secrets faithfully, and sometimes the easiest way of fulfilling that duty is to say what is false, or to tell a lie." This quotation is from The Catholic Encyclopedia (www.newadvent.org/cathen/10195b.htm).

Speaking *the truth* in love is God's way. **QVCOC.COM**

Editor's Note: Some people might be surprised to read about these religious groups giving permission to lie, but they likely won't hear about it unless they read this article. Find the article in *Arkansas Weekly* and help others to see it. Surely this topic will get a conversation going! One suggestion is to begin by asking them if they knew the Koran permits lying in some situations. After they react, ask if they knew the Catholic Church permits it too. Then, let the above Scriptures show God's pure way.

Simple opportunities to teach the lost and assist each other.

Pray for: Janice White, The Ledgerwoods, Samuel Southall, and others with ongoing trials, our brethren who are travelling, and new Christians among us.

Please check the bulletin board in the back. There are several items that need volunteers (preparing Lord's Supper, roadside signboard).

We assemble each Sunday at 10AM, 10:45AM, 5PM & Wednesday at 7PM

Church of Christ—Quail Valley
4104 E. Harrison St.
Batesville, AR 72501
Office- (870) 793-6700

Evangelist:
David Halbrook 569-4491

The Exhorter

Acts 11:23 *Exhorted them all... cleave unto the Lord*

Church of Christ--Quail Valley

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WHY THE NEW YORK GIANTS DO NOT HAVE CHEERLEADERS

Heath Rogers

Most people who know me know I am a big fan of NFL Football. I have a favorite team (Houston Texans), but I like the league as a whole and have a handful of teams that I follow and root for. I have always kind of liked the New York Giants. They won their first Super Bowl when I was a teenager. I enjoyed watching Phil Simms drive the team down the field. LT (Lawrence Taylor) was the best outside linebacker to play the game, and Bill Parcells was a tough, no-nonsense coach. In recent years, the Giants have proven to be a thorn in the side of an otherwise flawless Tom Brady, beating his Patriots in two Super Bowls. The Giants are having a down year this season (as are my Texans), but they have a lot going for them.

I ran across an old article on Yahoo this week that brought my appreciation for the New York Giants to a new level. The article, written by Eric Holder, discusses the reasons that six NFL teams do not have cheerleaders. Honestly, I was surprised to learn there were as many as six. The teams are the Green Bay Packers, Chicago Bears, New York Giants, Pittsburg Steelers, Cleveland Browns, and Detroit Lions. No surprise, seeing as how these are cold weather teams. However, the article went on to give various other reasons for the absence of a cheerleading squad. Notice what is said about the New York Giants:

"The Giants have always taken a bluecollar, button-down approach to football, and that way of doing business extends to the sidelines.

'Philosophically we have always had issues with sending scantily clad women out on the field to entertain our fans,' said John Mara, the Giants co-owner, in a 2010 New York Times interview. 'It's just not part of our philosophy.' He added that 'Some teams are comfortable with not only having cheerleaders but selling cheerleader swimsuit calendars or in a couple cases lingerie calendars.

It's not something you're going to see the Giants do. Not while I'm around, anyway."

No, John Mara is not a gospel preacher, elder, or even a member of the Lord's church (to my knowledge), but he sure hits the nail on the head. How refreshing to hear a leader in the NFL acknowledge two truths about cheerleading: 1) cheerleaders are not dressed in a proper manner, and 2) their purpose is to provide entertainment for the fans.

While some of the performances done by cheerleaders requires skill and athletic ability, I have grown tired of people trying to pass cheerleading off as a sport. Cheerleading is not popular because it is a "sport." Cheerleading is popular because it is an opportunity to see "scantly clad" women bounce around and showcase their bodies for the fans in the stands. This "fact" is what John Mara and the Giants have an "issue" with. I do as well. So do many other faithful Christians.

The Bible instructs Christian women to "*adorn themselves in modest apparel...*" as "*women professing godliness*" (1 Tim. 2:9-10). It is impossible for a young lady to do this in a cheerleading uniform. Despite this fact, I have known of many Christian young ladies who were/are cheerleaders. They and their parents feel no shame as they prance out on the field in immodest uniforms to entertain the fans (provide an opportunity for them to lust).

I was impressed to read Mr. Mara's comments. The New York Giants may not be my favorite team, but they have moved up on my list of favorites. At least their owner is willing to take a stand for modesty and decency in a world that is sinking deeper and deeper into sin.

The Knollwood (OH) Reminder; 12- 8-13

ARE YOU A ROBBER?

J. Wiley Adams

Nobody wants to be called a thief or a robber. Such is dishonorable. Yet we seem to have another set of standards when it comes to the matter of spiritual things. Robbery is the taking of that which rightfully belongs to another and appropriating it to our own use. He who does this is a thief. He is guilty of stealing.

In Malachi 3:8 God accused Israel of robbing Him? While appearing to serve, they had in reality left God. When God accused them of going away from his ordinances and admonished them to return they assumed an air of innocence saying "Wherein shall we return?" (v. 7) Many today are like that. When accused of leaving the

ordinances of God they piously ask "What have I done?" They, like Israel of old, know full well what they have done. They are just too stubborn to admit.

They also raised the question as to "Wherein have we robbed thee?" The reply was clear and plain: "In tithes and offerings." God said that whole nation had robbed him. They were all then thieves. In v. 10 he said, "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse..."

In the New Testament by inspiration, Paul commanded that "Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him.. .." Literally this means to put into the treasury according to our prosperity and each one is to have a part in this. We do not have a certain percentage stipulated but the proportion is clear--"as God hath prospered him." This is a Divine command. To disregard it is to make us guilty of robbing God and thus thievery. (I Cor. 16:2)

In II Cor. 9 there are some principles laid as to attitude and motive in the matter of giving. In v. 6 the principle of sowing and reaping is set forth. This is something we all understand. We reap what we sow and in direct proportion to it. In v. 7 there is purpose of heart. We should plan to give and that bountifully. Giving is not to be grudgingly or forced but cheerfully done. It is the cheerful, bountiful, purposeful giver that God loves.

My friend, do you give of your means as prospered on the first day of the week. If you do not, by every rule in the book you are a thief!

Editor's Note: In 2 Corinthians 8-9, Paul is reminding the Corinthians to keep the financial commitments they had made. As a church, we have a variety of financial commitments related to spreading the gospel and regularly new ones are considered. When you are out of town, sick, or if the weather hinders us from assembling together, what do you do with the money you planned to lay aside on the first day of that week? Do you pocket it, spend it, or give it to the Lord the following week? What does God expect and deserve? When you were hindered from assembling and giving, the Lord's work continued in other ways. Like the Corinthians, we must remember our commitments and be cheerful givers.

The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. (Selah) Come, behold the works of the LORD, who has made desolations in the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; He breaks the bow and cuts the spear in two; He burns the chariot in the fire. Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth! The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Selah (Psalms 46:7-11)