

## **But He Lied**

### **1 Kings 13:15-18**

If you love the \_\_\_\_\_, do you also love the \_\_\_\_\_? We search the Scriptures because we \_\_\_\_\_ the Bible is inspired. God breathed out the \_\_\_\_\_ that are found in Scripture. God willed \_\_\_\_\_ word found there. Because God is all-knowing and utterly wise, but He \_\_\_\_\_ lies, we can \_\_\_\_\_ what we read in Scripture. Humans, on the other hand, don't know everything and are often \_\_\_\_\_. We can't always trust people, so we must \_\_\_\_\_ what we hear by God's Holy Word.

Pontius Pilate once asked Jesus the \_\_\_\_\_, "What is the truth?" He must not have been paying attention, because Jesus had actually given him an \_\_\_\_\_ to that question. The Lord Jesus said, "For this purpose I was born and for this \_\_\_\_\_ I have come into the world – to bear \_\_\_\_\_ to the truth. Everyone who is of the \_\_\_\_\_ listens to my voice" (John 18:37). The more we listen closely to the Lord Jesus, the more we'll understand the truth. The Lord Jesus promised, "If you \_\_\_\_\_ in My word, then you are truly disciples of Mine; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you \_\_\_\_\_" (John 8:31-32). Every word that Jesus spoke was the \_\_\_\_\_. Because of Jesus we can know what is right and wrong; we can know about our God; and we have an infallible \_\_\_\_\_ by which to judge all things. Jesus gives us \_\_\_\_\_ we need to know about eternal life, and salvation, and godliness. He said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father \_\_\_\_\_ through me" (John 14:6). We need to listen to the Lord Jesus, because He will never \_\_\_\_\_ us astray.

### **Our reading today comes from 1 Kings 13:15-18.**

After King Solomon \_\_\_\_\_, his son Rehoboam took the \_\_\_\_\_. Solomon had \_\_\_\_\_ against God greatly; and because of his \_\_\_\_\_ God said that He would tear apart the kingdom. Then Rehoboam came along and he was immature and greedy for \_\_\_\_\_; and the people rejected him; and this brought about the \_\_\_\_\_ of Israel from Judah. Jeroboam, who became the leader of these ten tribes to the north of Israel, caused Israel to \_\_\_\_\_ by making two golden calves and placing them in the cities of Bethel and Dan. Jeroboam feared the people would go back to Jerusalem and \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord, so he told the people, "You have gone up to Jerusalem long enough. Behold your \_\_\_\_\_, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt" (1 Kings 12:28). Jeroboam \_\_\_\_\_ that his golden calves represented the God who led Israel out of Egypt. He incited the people to \_\_\_\_\_ sacrifices and burn incense to the golden calves which he had made. They could \_\_\_\_\_, of course, be God. **Read the second of the Ten Commandments in Exodus 20:4-6.**

You have to wonder how the people of Israel could \_\_\_\_\_ from God's teaching and \_\_\_\_\_ such an outright lie. They had to \_\_\_\_\_ almost everything they knew about God in order to follow Jeroboam's false and humanly-contrived religion. They ignored the \_\_\_\_\_ about God. I'm reminded of Paul's statement in Romans 1:25 about people who "exchanged the truth about \_\_\_\_\_ for a lie and worshiped and served the \_\_\_\_\_ rather than the Creator." How can something man-made \_\_\_\_\_ mankind? Of course, those golden calves \_\_\_\_\_ gods. God saw what Jeroboam did and He decided to send a man of God, a \_\_\_\_\_, to the altar at Bethel where Jeroboam was, and to speak out against the king. This man of God, at God's direction and \_\_\_\_\_, predicted a sign or a miracle. He said, "This is the sign that the LORD has spoken: 'Behold, the altar shall be \_\_\_\_\_, and the ashes that are on it shall be poured out'" (1 Kings 13:3). It happened just as God said that very \_\_\_\_\_. The altar was split \_\_\_\_\_, and the ashes were poured out. The man of God left Bethel, going home by a different route and refusing to eat \_\_\_\_\_ or drink \_\_\_\_\_.

First Kings 13 tells us of an old prophet who \_\_\_\_\_ down this man of God and said, "Come home with me and eat bread." The man of God replied, "I may not return with you, or go in with you, neither will I eat bread nor drink water with you in this place, for it was said to me by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord, 'You shall neither eat bread nor drink water there, nor return by the way that you came.'" The old prophet, however, was not \_\_\_\_\_. So, in 1 Kings 13:18-19 we see a \_\_\_\_\_ story. The old prophet said, "I also am a prophet as you are, and an \_\_\_\_\_ spoke to me by the word of the Lord, saying, 'Bring him back with you into your house that he may eat bread and drink water.' But he \_\_\_\_\_ to him." So the man of God went back with this older prophet; he \_\_\_\_\_ bread in his house; he \_\_\_\_\_ water. Apparently the man of God placed his \_\_\_\_\_ in what the lying prophet said rather than what God Himself had told him to do. Because of his disobedience, God \_\_\_\_\_ the man of God. A lion met him on the way and \_\_\_\_\_ him. Because he believed a lie, he \_\_\_\_\_ the wrath of God. Some people say it doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ what you believe as long as you love God. That isn't so! It does matter what you \_\_\_\_\_. The man of God had to \_\_\_\_\_ that the hard way. I hope that you won't make that \_\_\_\_\_. If you believe a lie, it could cost you your \_\_\_\_\_.

The apostle Paul wrote to the churches of Galatia, \_\_\_\_\_ them not to follow a false gospel. **Read what Paul said in Galatians 1:6-9.** Even if the source \_\_\_\_\_ credible, such as an angel from heaven, we must not \_\_\_\_\_ what God says and turn it into a falsehood, a lie. Many people, frankly, are \_\_\_\_\_ by distorted, twisted gospels today. They think they believe the truth, when they have \_\_\_\_\_ their confidence in a distortion of the truth. There is but one \_\_\_\_\_, and anything contrary to that one gospel is \_\_\_\_\_ to the soul. That's what the Bible says!

Christians must be in the business of \_\_\_\_\_ people to distinguish truth from error. That means, because we love people and we want them to be saved, we must proclaim the \_\_\_\_\_ and expose what is \_\_\_\_\_. It's not mean-spirited, but loving, to expose error and to help people learn the truth. James 5:19-20 says, "My brethren, if any among you \_\_\_\_\_ from the truth and one turns him back, let him know that he who turns a sinner from the \_\_\_\_\_ of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins."

**Read what the apostle Paul taught Timothy in 2 Timothy 2:24-26.** Our task as humble and gentle servants of God is to \_\_\_\_\_ people who are in error to find the \_\_\_\_\_, to help them go to heaven. I would rather tell people the truth that \_\_\_\_\_ for a little while than to tell people a lie that causes them to be \_\_\_\_\_ eternally. It matters what we believe!

Adolf Hitler told \_\_\_\_\_ outrageous lies. He held that if you tell a big enough lie and tell it frequently enough, it'll be \_\_\_\_\_. By telling lies, Hitler and the Nazis were able to \_\_\_\_\_ eleven million people in his death camps. The more outrageous the lie, the more some become gullible.

The difference between the truth and a lie is as \_\_\_\_\_ as the difference between God and the devil. The Lord Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of truth, but the devil has always been a liar. The Lord Jesus described the devil this way, "He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not \_\_\_\_\_ in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own \_\_\_\_\_, for he is a liar and the father of lies" (John 8:44). While the devil speaks lies he \_\_\_\_\_ to be a follower of God. He wants everyone to \_\_\_\_\_ he is moral and true, but he has no intention of being moral or being true to people and telling the truth. He is out to \_\_\_\_\_ people into following his error. **Read what 2 Corinthians 11:14-15 says.** Being religious doesn't make a person righteous, and \_\_\_\_\_ oneself a preacher or a prophet doesn't guarantee what one says is true.

Many people, like Pilate, have, frankly, \_\_\_\_\_ on trying to find the truth when it's really staring them right in the face. Some people don't \_\_\_\_\_ to know the truth, and some have no \_\_\_\_\_ for the truth. Because sin is in their lives and they want the \_\_\_\_\_ of sin, many people would rather believe a lie than take the steps necessary to believe the truth. We don't like to call sin, this day and time, sinful, so we \_\_\_\_\_ to ourselves about when life begins or whether marriage matters. We don't like to think of anyone as being \_\_\_\_\_, so we decide that just every doctrine is \_\_\_\_\_. We don't like to think of anybody as being \_\_\_\_\_, so we consider everyone \_\_\_\_\_. Someone doesn't \_\_\_\_\_ the teaching of the necessity of baptism for salvation, so they \_\_\_\_\_ that baptism isn't necessary. People don't want to admit that there is but \_\_\_\_\_ gospel, so they will think \_\_\_\_\_ gospel is true. People don't like to admit that there is one \_\_\_\_\_, so they believe every \_\_\_\_\_ takes you to heaven. But the fact of the

matter is many people \_\_\_\_\_ themselves. People are not the \_\_\_\_\_ of truth; God is and His Word declares His truth!

No matter how \_\_\_\_\_ we believe something is right, it's false if it contradicts what the Lord \_\_\_\_\_ in His Word, the Bible. We need to know that the Lord Jesus takes His Word \_\_\_\_\_, even if we don't. **Read what the Lord said in John 12:48-50.** The Lord Jesus knew His words were the measure of truth and would affect our \_\_\_\_\_. If we reject His words, we'll be \_\_\_\_\_; but if we abide by His words, we can know the truth and we can be \_\_\_\_\_. When believing the truth is demanding, but believing a lie is convenient and popular, many people \_\_\_\_\_ to believe the lie. They believe what they want to \_\_\_\_\_, and they'll find preachers and teachers who will tell them what they want to \_\_\_\_\_. They get complacent and \_\_\_\_\_ that their lie is really the truth. They'll do nearly anything rather than \_\_\_\_\_ to what God has actually said. Solomon urges us, "Buy truth, and do not \_\_\_\_\_ it, Get wisdom and instruction and understanding" (Proverbs 23:23). Buying the truth comes at a high \_\_\_\_\_. It means being honest enough to \_\_\_\_\_ that what we have heard in the past may not be true.

Many people in our religious world no longer \_\_\_\_\_ the truth, and they have bought into lies. We need to be like the noble Bereans. "Now these Jews (that is in Berea) were more \_\_\_\_\_ than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, (and they were) examining the Scriptures \_\_\_\_\_ to see if these things were so" (Acts 17:11). Have you \_\_\_\_\_ the Scriptures to find out if what you believe is so? Or have you simply accepted what \_\_\_\_\_ have told you? Have you \_\_\_\_\_ the truthfulness of what you believe by a serious study of God's Word? Have you taken \_\_\_\_\_ to buy the truth? As humans, most of us have faced the bitter \_\_\_\_\_ that what we once believed was right was actually wrong. We all get fooled, but we aren't left without \_\_\_\_\_. We can \_\_\_\_\_ the truth. Jesus promised we could in John 8:32, and that God \_\_\_\_\_ all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:4). God revealed the truth in His Word, the Bible; but we must take the time to \_\_\_\_\_ it out, \_\_\_\_\_ it, and \_\_\_\_\_ it. It's not \_\_\_\_\_ to know the Word. We must let it touch our \_\_\_\_\_, to shape our \_\_\_\_\_. Ignorance causes confusion, and lies cause chaos, but \_\_\_\_\_ of God and His Word leads to order and wisdom. **Read what James says in James 1:22-25.** If we do \_\_\_\_\_ with what we have learned from God, we've robbed ourselves of a \_\_\_\_\_.

If your heart and soul aren't \_\_\_\_\_ with God, don't lie to yourself that everything is ok. You need to \_\_\_\_\_ the perfect law, the law of liberty! To become a Christian, to be free from sin, you must \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus as the Christ, the Son of God. Repent of your \_\_\_\_\_; follow God's will. Confess Jesus as the Christ and be \_\_\_\_\_, immersed in water, for the forgiveness of your sins. And, do it today!