



GOING DEEPER

The Truth That Sets You Free: John 8: 31-44 & Genesis 3:1-5



When Jesus said, "You will know the truth, and the truth will set you free," he was simultaneously saying that we can be enslaved by lies.

Jesus teaches us three important things about the devil in John 8:

1. There is a devil.
2. The devil's end goal is to spread death.
3. The devil's primary strategy is lies and deception.

Great Lie #1—A Distorted Sense of Who We Are - "For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil" (Gen. 3:5).

Great Lie #2—A Distorted Sense of Who God Is - "He said to the woman, "Did God actually say..." (Gen. 3:1)

Here the devil's lies are most prominent: You can't trust God, but you can trust yourself, your own wisdom, and desires. Look at this bright, shiny thing—this tree that God said was off-limits.

Eat it, take it, seize it, do it, experience it.

Follow your heart.

Your inner intuition will lead you to the happy life you crave.

These are still the serpent's lies.

Lies about who God is, who we are, and what makes for a happy life.

"The participial construction 'everyone who sins' is in present tense, which implies a continual habit of sinning rather than an occasional lapse."

Is it possible to just think you can do a "little sin", but stop when you are ready?

Here is an excellence resource on The Path of Lying from **@LifeTruths** 2013:

Step 1 is the Lie itself. Seems small at first but it is a lie.

Step 2 is Self-Protection: we lie about having lied

Step 3: It now becomes a habit. A way of life. Even lying about trivial things.

Step 4: Self-Deception: We now start to believe our own lies.

Step 5: Rationalization: Our lies can make them seem like the good thing to do.

Step 6: Perfection: We get good at lying. We now have techniques, and this helps expand our capability to rationalize.

Step 7: Justification: We see it as our duty to lie.

When we see this, we need to move to repenting this behavior before God as He already knows of the lies.

We need to remember that God is not the creator of lies. He is the creator of truth. As Jesus said, "the Truth will set you free." It will.

Is there someone you can help break free from this cycle?

Final Thoughts This Week on this Passage:

What lies are you believing about God? What lies are you believing about yourself?

What is God inviting you into through this passage? What do you feel like God has been saying to you through this scripture and this week's message?

Notes and Reflections: