

The Attackers: Lying Is a Behavior Pattern, Eph 4:25; Paul Quotes Zechariah 8:16a, “Speak truth to one another!” The Application of Truth Legally & Generally, vv. 16b-17; All Lies Have Multiple Consequences; the Doctrine of the Public Lie: Motivation: Self-Centeredness & Anti-Authority Arrogance

Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, throwing off the behavior pattern of systematic lying ... (EXT)

- (8) Truth is only be found in Scripture; all else is initially compromised by human viewpoint which ultimately devolves into pathological lying.
- (9) Prolonged time in the cosmic systems turns a believer into a star student in the Satanic Academy of Cosmic Didactics.
- (10) The paragraph in Ephesians 4:25-32 deals with reversion recovery, but what makes this necessary are believers who have prolonged their residence in the cosmic systems by means of lying.
- (11) Paul now moves into his comments on reversion recovery which he introduces with a quote from:

Zechariah 8:16a - ‘These are the doctrinal principles you shall apply: [1] Speak [Piel of דָּבַר (*davar*): intensive imperative] truth [אֱמֶת (*’emeth*)] to one another [fellowman];

If a rebellious people are to be restored to civility, then there are three things they must do and two things they must cease from doing. Verse 16 contains the former while verse 17, the latter.

Restoration of order within the commonwealth and among one’s fellowman begins with truth. To “speak truth” one must have truth in his stream of consciousness. To have truth in his *kardia*, he must be positive to its revelation through Bible study.

Zechariah 8:16b - [2] execute (or render) [Qal of שָׁפַט (*shaphat*): imperative of command: judge based on the clear reading of the law] the judgment [מִשְׁפָּט (*mishpat*): legal decisions] of truth [’emeth: doctrine] and peace [שְׁלוֹם (*shalom*): spiritual prosperity] in your gates [שַׁעַר (*sa’ar*): courts of law].’

True justice is based on establishment principles contained in Scripture and executed by those who are in spiritual maturity.

Zechariah 8:17 - [3] ‘Also let none of you imagine evil in your heart [לֵבָב (*levav*): stream of conscious] against another person, and [4] do not love perjury [שְׁבוּעָה (*shebu’ah*) + שֶׁקֶר (*sheqer*): a deceitful oath]. [5] For all these things I detest,’ says the Lord.

- (12) Zechariah’s message from the Lord is designed to inspire the people to conduct themselves in the fashion that the Lord’s rulership in the millennial kingdom will require.
- (13) They are challenged to live the spiritual life of Israel which involved orientation to the rituals, feast days, and laws that present the Messiah, and toward each other based on truth resulting in prosperity while avoiding evil and false testimony against anyone.
- (14) Paul pulls from this passage to illustrate how the believers in Ephesus are to behave toward each other:

Ephesians 4:25 - Therefore, throwing off the behavior pattern of systematic lying, [**Zechariah 8:16**] “Each one of you keep on communicating truth with your fellow believer, for we are each members of the body of Christ. (EXT)

- (15) Lying is a very convenient sin. Its ever-present availability enables a believer to cover up wrongdoing, contradict in order to control, mislead, delude, and prevaricate as expediency dictates for his own advantage.
- (16) Lies are processed in the divine decree. They enter into the public conversation and produce ramifications under the principle of “causes, conditions, successions, and relations.”
- (17) When a lie enters into the exchange of information then other people’s decisions are based on the belief that the statement was true.
- (18) Each of us is susceptible to the lie, either as a purveyor or receptor. Therefore, all lies are public lies.
- (19) This brings us to a doctrine that has application to each of us individually and, as citizens of a client nation in decline, to all of us collectively.
- (20) And remember this principle as we engage the study of this doctrine: the source of all lies is from the Dark Side, invented by Lucifer, communicated by demon influence at best and demon possession at worst, and practiced by Homo sapiens, either by unbelievers or believers living in the cosmic systems.

The Doctrine of the Public Lie

I. Motivation:

1. Those who are in the cosmic systems are extremely self-centered and as such become anti-authority. Anyone who holds a position of authority or influence over them must be neutralized or removed.
2. Often this form of arrogance motivates reactor factors that draw cosmic problem-solving ideas from the lust pattern of the sin nature.
3. The combination of emotional reaction fueled by arrogance stokes suppressed bitterness into proactive anger.
4. The garbage collected in the subconscious area of the soul strikes out in various ways toward the alleged antagonist.
5. Irrational arrogance motivates the development of the public lie designed to destroy the reputation, credibility, or integrity of an individual, a group, an object, or an idea.