

## The Shades of a Lie

**Untruth:** A contradiction of fact. The young prophet was lied to by the old prophet when he said, “an angel spoke to me by the word of the Lord” (1 Kings 13:18). The young prophet acted upon this lie and died.

**Mental reservation:** The internal act of adding an unspoken qualification to, or exploiting an ambiguity [unclearness] in one's words, or privately vowing that one does not mean what one is saying. This happens when someone speaks and withholds information that could add to the clarity of understanding on the part of the listener.

**Equivocation:** Using words or expressions that may have two or more meanings with the intent to deceive. When Abram led Pharaoh to believe that Sarai was his sister rather than his wife, his lie was contrived by equivocation (Gen 12:13; cf. 20:2).

**Out of context:** A statement made that was extracted from its proper setting. Jesus' statement, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19) was, at His trial, misquoted and used out of context to imply that He intended to destroy the actual temple of the Jews (Mark 14:58). The temple He was referring to was, of course, His body (John 2:21-22).

**Duplicity:** Pretending to entertain one set of feelings and acting under the influence of another. When Judas betrayed Jesus with a kiss, a sign of affection, in order to point him out to the Jewish officials for arrest, he was guilty of a lie by duplicity (Matt 26:48-49).

**Insinuation and Innuendo:** A malicious statement made that indirectly implies something derogatory about one's character. Diotrephes used this to belittle the apostle John and gain control of other Christians (3 John 9-10).

Every shade of a lie has the same outcome. All liars will face a painful and eternal separation from God (Rev 20:10; 21:8). Have you been set free from sin (Rom 6:18, 22)? Those who are buried with Christ by baptism into death are raised to walk in newness of life (Rom 6:3-4).

Green Meadow church of Christ  
3438 Green Meadow Dr.  
San Angelo, TX 76904; (325) 224-2848  
Sunday: 9:30; 10:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.  
Wednesday: 7:00 p.m.