

Lies People Tell Themselves

I Cor. 3:18-21

Intro. Warnings Against Deception...

- By others: (II Cor. 11:3; I Tim. 4:1ff; Matt. 7:15)
- By self: (I Cor. 3:18)
- Lesson: "Some Lies That People Tell Themselves"

I. "I Can Sin With Impunity..."

- "I can get by with it." Here is one of the most destructive. One comes to believe that they can transgress God's law without consequences.
- The words of the Devil in the garden of Eden (Gen. 3:4; 2:17; Jn. 8:44), and his servants have been spreading it ever since.
- Some things that accompany that lie.
 - "Just a little sin won't hurt" (II Sam. 6:6-7)
 - "No one will see me or know" (Ex. 2:11-14)
 - "God will just overlook" (Mal. 2:17; Ps. 50:21)
 - "God made me this way" (Rom. 1:25-28; I Cor. 10:13)
 - "My intentions are good." (Acts 23:1; 26:9)
 - "There is no hell" (Matt. 25:30; Mk. 9:43ff)
- The truth we must face...
 - God sees all (Heb. 4:11-13; Eccl. 12:14)
 - God will hold us accountable (Rom. 14:12; Gal. 6:7-8)

II. 'Evil Associations Will Not Corrupt Me...'

- All are affected by those with whom we closely associate for good or bad.
- Because of peer pressure...
 - Israel rejected God and asked for a king. (I Sam. 8:5)
 - Rehoboam lost most of the kingdom. (I Kings 12 esp. 8,16-19)
 - Herod beheaded John. (Matt. 14:9)
 - Pontus Pilate delivered Jesus to be crucified. (Mk. 15:8,15)
 - Many have been led to sin. (Alcohol, drugs, fornication, gambling, immodest dress, etc.)
- I Cor. 15:33 → Be not deceived, evil companions corrupt good morals. (Prov. 1:10)

III. "I Don't Have Enough Time – I Have Plenty of Time..."

- Both are excuses to avoid or put off things that we know we really ought to do.
 - I don't have enough time.
 - An excuse often used to excuse our selves for not doing the things we really ought to do. (Js. 4:17)
 - We find the time to do the things that we really want to do. (Matt.6:33; Col. 3:1-2)
 - The Bible tells us how to use our time. (Eph. 5:15-16; Col. 4:5)
 - I have plenty of time.
 - An excuse often used to put off doing the things we should do now.
 - The Bible warns us against this presumptive attitude: (Acts 24:25; Js. 4:14; I Pet. 1:24)
 - John 9:4; II Cor. 6:2

IV. "God Will Accept My Excuses..."

- God did not accept the excuse of Moses (Ex. 3:10-4:17)
- God did not accept the excuses of those who refused to come to the great supper. (Lk. 14:16-24)
- God did not accept the excuse of the one talent man. (Matt. 25:24-30)
- He will not accept ours.
- God wants obedience, not excuses. (I Sam. 15:22-23)