



“This fellow does not
cast out demons except
by Beelzebub, the ruler
of the demons.”
– Matthew 12:24

Evaluating and Exposing a Lie

“Test all things...” (1 Thes. 5:21)

“Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits, whether they are of God; because many false prophets have gone out into the world.” (1 Jn. 4:1)

Notables

Definition of a Lie

Distinguish a lie from a liar

Beware of judging

Do not give anything or anyone more credence than God

1. Unfounded Claim or Accusation

Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, "This fellow does not cast out demons except by Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons." (Matt. 12:24)





2. How does it measure to the truth we know?

- “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again, if anyone preaches any other gospel to you than what you have received, let him be accursed.” (Gal. 1:8-9)

3.Reasonability

- How does the assertion or accusation interact with the reality we observe and experience?



4. Is there a bias or personal motive?





5. Does it make God a liar?

- "Has God indeed said, 'You shall not eat of every tree of the garden'?" (Gen. 3:1)
- "...let God be true but every man a liar." (Rom. 3:4)
- "He who believes in the Son of God has the testimony in himself. He who does not believe God has made him a liar, because he has not believed in the testimony that God has borne to his Son." (1 Jn. 5:10 RSV)

6. Intolerant of Dissent

- “Why do you ask Me? Ask those who have heard Me what I said to them. Indeed they know what I said.” And when He had said these things, one of the officers who stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand, saying, “Do You answer the high priest like that?” Jesus answered him, “If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?” Then Annas sent Him bound to Caiaphas the high priest. (Jn. 18:21-24)



Responding to a Lie

1. Take the thought captive

- “For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ...” (2 Cor. 10:4-5)

2. Evaluate

3. Do NOT share the lie

4. Expose it

- "If I have spoken evil, bear witness of the evil; but if well, why do you strike Me?" (Jn. 18:23)