

## Should Christians Be “Good” Liars?

### Test Cases in Recent History

1. Hiding Jews in Nazi Germany
2. Smuggling Bibles in Hostile Nations
3. A Killer Seeking the Location of Your Family Members
4. A Social Worker at Your Front Door Inquiring About Your Homeschooled Children

### Six Preliminary Considerations

1. “The whole counsel of God concerning all things necessary for his own glory, man’s salvation, faith, and life, is either expressly set down in scripture, or by g\_\_\_\_\_ and n\_\_\_\_\_ c\_\_\_\_\_ may be d\_\_\_\_\_ from Scripture (W.C.of F., Chapter 1 Paragraph 6).
2. God is the a\_\_\_\_\_ of truth, and as His image bearers, we must be committed to the t\_\_\_\_\_ (WSC # 77-78, Numbers 23:19, Titus 1:2, Hebrews 6:18, John 14:6, Ephesians 4:15 and 25, Colossians 3:9-10, III John 12, Psalm 15).
3. We need then to be able to discover or to deduce from the B\_\_\_\_\_ a p\_\_\_\_\_ (“unavoidably forced upon the mind, upon an intelligent application of it to the Scripture” James Bannerman) which explains when Christians are permitted or obligated to s\_\_\_\_\_ l\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Since there are no d\_\_\_\_\_ s\_\_\_\_\_ from the Bible that establish such a principle (e.g. “Thou shalt lie in times of warfare or international conflict” or “Thou shalt speak falsehoods when murderers or robbers enter thine abode” or “Thou shalt prevaricate whence thou canst spare an innocent life”), good and necessary consequence must be deduced as a result of n\_\_\_\_\_ (stories) and verses that further explain such i\_\_\_\_\_. This is not an e\_\_\_\_\_ t\_\_\_\_\_ and helps explain a lack of consensus regarding the answer to our question.

5. C\_\_\_\_\_ of the t\_\_\_\_\_ is sometimes in keeping with the ninth commandment, but this is not the same as l\_\_\_\_\_ (Proverbs 11:13 and Matthew 18:15-18).
6. It is not simply enough to say we may l\_\_\_\_\_ for a “good cause”. Why not?

### Questions for Our Narratives

1. Does concealment of the truth take place in these verses?
2. Does lying take place in these verses?
3. Do these verses state or infer that God condoned the lying in these verses?

### Five Narratives to Consider

1. Exodus 1:8-21
2. Joshua 2:1-21 (Hebrews 11:31, James 2:25)
3. Joshua 8:1-22
4. I Samuel 16:1-5
5. II Kings 6:11-23