

## Should Christians Be “Good” Liars?

### Five Opening Comments

1. Lest there be any doubt, God’s people should be known as those who are c\_\_\_\_\_ to the t\_\_\_\_\_ God who cannot l\_\_\_\_\_ and to t\_\_\_\_\_ itself.
2. We are taking two weeks to discuss r\_\_\_\_\_ r\_\_\_\_\_ occurrences in our lives.
3. We should be good B\_\_\_\_\_, however, and search the S\_\_\_\_\_ regarding this matter.
4. Other passages we could have considered include Judges 4:18-21 and 5:24-27, I Samuel 19:12-17, I Samuel 20:6, I Samuel 21:13, I Samuel 27:10, II Samuel 5:22-25, II Samuel 15:34, II Samuel 17:19-20, I Kings 22:19-23 (see also Ezekiel 14:9 and II Thessalonians 2:11-12), and Jeremiah 38:24-28.
5. We are seeking Biblical p\_\_\_\_\_ that can be a\_\_\_\_\_ to life’s difficult questions. We should do so with deep h\_\_\_\_\_ and C\_\_\_\_\_ c\_\_\_\_\_ to our brothers and sister who reach different conclusions.

### 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

### **Evaluate These Quotes**

*“No enemy or criminal has any right to knowledge from us which can be used to do us evil. Man has an obligation to speak truthfully in all normal consequences, but he cannot permit evil men to steal, murder, or rape by his truth-telling, which must at all times have reference to an absolute God rather than an absolute idea.”*

*“It is quite true that Scripture warrants concealment of truth from those who have no claim upon it. But these facts of the right and duty of concealment are not to be equated with our right to speak untruth. There is a chasm of difference between the forfeiture of right to know the truth, which belongs to one man, and the right to speak untruth on the part of another.”*

### **Thibault’s Thoughts (as of August 30, 2015)**

- There are rare times in life when deception is understood to be part of the so-called “rules of engagement” by all parties involved (e.g. on the battlefield, a game of chess, athletic competition). This deception is not a violation of the ninth commandment, and some would thus not categorize it as a lie (e.g. Charles Hodge).
- When there is no prior mutual understanding of deception, we are free to conceal the truth when it may be used for evil purposes, but we are not free to lie.