

## When Truth Will Cost You, Tell It Anyway

### Honesty is the only policy

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**USPA NEWS** - "A faithful witness will not lie: but a false witness will utter lies. Proverbs 14:5"

Jesus is the Faithful and True Witness (Rev 3:14). He is called Faithful and True (Rev 19:11). Men falsely accused Him on trial (Mark 14:56-60); they hated Him for His honesty (Is 53:9).

Is this proverb too simple for your time? You can grasp its obvious meaning with a single reading. But have you considered the less obvious importance of faithfulness, honesty, and truth? You must take Solomon's dark saying and open it to the light of the Bible and the Holy Spirit. Let every reader be gripped by the importance of perfect faithfulness.

Faithful men (or women) are rare. David wrote, "Help, LORD; for the godly man ceaseth; for the faithful fail from among the children of men" (Ps 12:1). Solomon asked, "Most men will proclaim everyone his own goodness: but a faithful man who can find?" (Pr 20:6). You can easily and quickly make yourself exceptional by scrupulous honesty.

Jeremiah said, "Run ye to and fro through the streets of Jerusalem, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be any that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon it" (Jer 5:1). Micah added, "The good man is perished out of the earth: and there is none upright among men: they all lie in wait for blood; they hunt every man his brother with a net" (Micah 7:2).

It is no different today; in fact, it may be worse, even among so-called Christians. For the character of carnal Christianity, which makes for perilous times, includes trucebreakers, false accusers, and traitors, among other sins (II Tim 3:1-5). You should rather follow Paul in carefully providing things honest in the sight of all men.

The world watches Christians, so you must be impeccably honest at all times to silence their accusations (I Pet 2:12; 3:16). Paul commanded you to even avoid the appearance of evil (I Thess 5:22). Honesty is the only policy! Is your word always as pure as gold? Do you always speak or write without embellishment or exaggeration? Check every word!

God hates lying. Of seven things God hates, two of them are lying. There will be no liars in heaven, for they will all be in the lake of fire. He is a God of truth, and He despises false witnesses. If a man gave false witness in Israel, he would be judged with whatever punishment was at stake.

Reader, do you have perfect integrity? Do you always tell the truth? Can all men totally trust your every word? You must hate exaggeration. When asked about your activities, you must be open and complete. When asked about others, you must honestly represent them. When truth will cost you, tell it anyway. Are you the faithful man so hard to find?

Jesus is the Faithful and True Witness (Rev 3:14). He is called Faithful and True (Rev 19:11). Men falsely accused Him on trial (Mark 14:56-60); they hated Him for His honesty (Is 53:9). His disciples will be as perfectly honest (John 1:47; Rev 14:5). You will be the only Bible many will read. Let them learn about the God of truth from you.

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