



God Cannot Lie

“Into Your hand I commit my spirit; You have ransomed me, O Lord, God of truth” (Psalm 31:5).

As a child, there comes a moment when we realize the power of deception to shape the perception of reality to benefit ourselves. When people believe us, we shape their “reality”, influencing their actions to get what we want—“*he who utters lies is treacherous*” (Proverbs 14:25b). Every human being (scientist, politician, hairdresser) has lied in this life. We have all been treacherous and there is always a hint of doubt with what we say, regardless of what our credentials are.

Not so with God, for He cannot lie. He says He is “*the God of Truth*” (Isaiah 65:16). The wicked prophet Balam learned this when he asked God to undo His promise to Israel: “*God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent; Has He said, and will He not do it? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?*” (Numbers 23:19) God will do what He promises, and He made promises to Israel and the Church, swearing by Himself, “*for men swear by one greater than themselves, and with them an oath given as confirmation is an end of every dispute. In the same way God, desiring even more to show to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of His purpose, interposed with an oath, so that by two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have taken refuge would have strong encouragement to take hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, a hope both sure and steadfast and one which enters within the veil, where Jesus has entered as a forerunner for us, having become a high priest forever*” (Hebrews 6:16-20a).

Those who take refuge in God’s unbreakable promise have “*the hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie, promised long ages ago*” (Titus 1:2-3a). And though time may drag on, God does not forget His promises, for “*the Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance*” (2 Peter 3:9). God is patient for those who’s “*iniquities have made a separation between you and your God*” (Isaiah 59:2a). These are the unrepentant, separated from His truth, whom He desires to have “*truth in the innermost being*” (Psalm 51:6a). But we are all incapable of redeeming ourselves to God (compensating for our treachery), so God promised a redeemer, even Himself (Isaiah 59:20), who would compensate for those who turn from their iniquity. Jesus is that Redeemer—“*I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me*” (John 14:6).

But not everyone believes Jesus is the way to redeem themselves. They do not like Him because His truth convicts them of their sinful lusts and their wicked plans. They make Him their enemy: “*Have I become your enemy by telling you the truth?*” (Galatians 4:16) Paul asked the Galatians, echoing Jesus who said to the Pharisees, “*You are seeking to kill Me, a man who has told you the truth, which I heard from God*” (John 8:40a).

Jesus is “*the faithful witness*” (Revelation 1:5) to mankind. “*A truthful witness saves lives*” (Proverbs 14:25a) by telling it like it is. Jesus told mankind they were separated from God, and He showed them the way back to Him: “*Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life*” (John 5:24). Believe Him. He cannot lie. Amen.