

FOOTHOLDS

Lesson 2: Living in a Culture of Deception

- I. Current culture exhibits and embraces deception as an acceptable way to navigate through life.
 - A. In the world of academics, cheating has become rampant and in many cases accepted.
 - B. In business, scams and deceptive schemes have become common practices as a way to make money.
 - C. In regard to government, lying about income and taxes has become regarded as routine and acceptable.
 - D. In our personal lives, it has become more acceptable to be dishonest in order to avoid the consequences of telling the truth.
- II. One of God's attributes is truth.
 - A. God is truth which means "in the most comprehensive sense, that He is consistent with Himself, that He is all the He should be, that He has revealed Himself as He really is, and that He and His revelation are completely reliable." (Charles Ryrie)
 - B. He proclaims that He abounds in truth (Exodus 34:6).
 - C. Being a God of truth, He remains totally reliable, completely just and wholly righteous (Deuteronomy 32:4).
 - D. Due to His being truth, He can be trusted to fulfill His covenants and His promises (Psalm 132:11; Titus 1:2).
 - E. Christ proclaimed that He is truth, meaning that He is God and He and what He says about Himself and us is totally reliable (John 14:6).
- III. The Lord calls us to live truthfully.
 - A. At our innermost being, He desires truth to characterize our lives (Psalm 51:6).
 - B. In our communication with one another He wants us to be truthful and put away deceit (Ephesians 4:25; James 5:12).
 - C. In our personal ethics He commands us to be truthful which means we reject lying, cheating and any other form of deception (Proverbs 11:1; 16:11, 1 Peter 3:10).