

Studies in the Book of Proverbs by John T Polk II For The Fellowship Room

(#139) The Proverbs of Solomon 19:9- To Tell The Truth About Lies

Since God Created humans, only God can provide specific understanding of human behavior. God gave Solomon Divine Wisdom **(1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10)** to explain what and why behavior is as it is, and **Proverbs 10:1 - 24:34** are randomly written, as if they were Judgments Solomon made about individual cases brought to him for Divine Wisdom (1 Kings Chapters 3 and 10), or simply God-given explanations about life. New Testament passages may help see the continuation of Wisdom offered through Jesus Christ.

Proverbs 19:9:

A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies shall perish.

Bearing "false witness" is the same as a "lie." This is not the same as someone who misunderstands, isn't sure, or otherwise is innocently ignorant of the facts. A "false witness" (liar) is stating as fact that which is intended to avoid the truth about someone or something. Since it is "Satan who deceives the whole world" (Revelation 12:9), God hates "a false witness *who* speaks lies" (Proverbs 6:19), and so should every righteous person (Psalm 119:104- "Through Your precepts I get understanding; Therefore I hate every false way;" Psalm 119:163-"I hate and abhor lying, *But* I love Your law"). Since we cannot know everything, as God does, we must rely upon witnesses to give us facts upon which to make our decisions. As we sift through human statements, God's witness is always right, best, and objective.

Other proverbs uphold this:

- A false witness will not go unpunished, and he who speaks lies will not escape. (Proverbs 19:5)
- A disreputable witness scorns justice, and the mouth of the wicked devours iniquity. (Proverbs 19:28)
- A man who bears false witness against his neighbor is like a club, a sword, and a sharp arrow. (Proverbs 25:18)
- A false witness shall perish, but the man who hears him will speak endlessly. (Proverbs 21:28)



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And the tragedy is many will hear the man who speaks endlessly on a subject about which he has been sorely misinformed.

- **"Evolution"** is one of these subjects based entirely upon "false witness," as there is no scientific fact, no passage of Scripture, and no common sense known to mankind that establishes any, or all, of the "lie."
- "Global Warming" (now, "Climate Change") is another subject about which only "false witnesses" are sure, while weather scientists and observers demonstrate that, for many decades, there is no "global warming" directly caused by humans (or occurring at all!). And God's decree in Scripture (Genesis 8:22) continues to be obeyed throughout His Earth, regardless of media propaganda contrariwise.

Since Satan is "the accuser of our brethren" (Revelation 12:10), then "gossip" about fellow humans is bearing "false witness" not based upon fact or our personal knowledge. Jesus Christ was crucified by "false witnesses."

Now the chief priests and all the council sought testimony against Jesus to put Him to death, but found none. For many bore false witness against Him, but their testimonies did not agree. Then some rose up and bore false witness against Him, saying, 'We heard Him say, "I will destroy this temple made with hands, and within three days I will build another made without hands."' But not even then did their testimony agree. (Mark 14:55-59)

Jesus never said that of the "temple made with hands" but spoke "of the temple of His body" (John 2:19-22).

There is so much "false witness" being passed around, established truth centers around Jesus Christ, Who said,

"For this cause I was born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice." (John 18:37)

Everyone who follows Jesus Christ will be truthful with him/ herself, and with others, because "no lie is of the truth" (1 John 2:21).