

“But above all things, my brethren, swear not, neither by heaven, neither by the earth, neither by any other oath: but let your yea be yea; and your nay, nay; lest ye fall into condemnation.” James 5:12 KJV



You don't have to say what you think. Once spoken, words are no longer your own. Say yes or no and mean yes or no! How often do we lie to avoid hassle or be accepted? Whatever the reason, a lie is a lie! Silence is better than a lie! Peter may have thought to spy, but lied three times! He later regretted it, because *“he went out, and wept bitterly.”* How often have you lied with good intention, but later bitterly regretted it? No GOOD intent ever involves a lie! We may think we are protecting another's feelings, when it's really our own. The less you say, the more it is heeded. I've known and know many eloquent liars who seem genuine, but are more snake than saint! Words define character and actions verify it. A trustworthy person says what is right and does what they say. If you say one thing and do another, no one will trust you. You can't pretend to be a Christian for long until you are found a liar! True believers will know pretenders by the Holy Spirit of Truth. *“We are of God: he that knoweth God heareth us; he that is not of God heareth not us. Hereby know we the Spirit of Truth, and the spirit of error. And hereby we do know that we know Him, if we keep His commandments.”* If you do not abhor sin, have no desire to obey God's Word, and are constantly looking for loopholes to disobey, you do not know God and are none of His! You have deceived yourself! Don't compare yourself to others to determine your own faith, but compare yourself to God's Word! It's not, “Do you know God?” but “Does God know you?” *“For we dare not...compare ourselves with some that...measuring themselves by themselves...are not wise. For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth. Many will say...in that Day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name...and in Thy name done many wonderful works?’ And then will [He] profess unto them, ‘I NEVER KNEW YOU: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.’”* God's Word will reveal your sin. *“Without [it] we are nothing.”* SELF confidence always leads away from God!

My words should true reflect my heart,
And should be Truth right from the start,
If God's own Word doth light my heart,
My lips from Truth will ne'er depart! ~CGP

You know you are *“walking in the Light”* when you find more fault with yourself than others. The good news is, *“If we confess (admit) our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”* Admit your sin to God and forsake it. Repentance is obedience of God's Word. *“Delight thyself also in the LORD; and He shall give thee the desires of thine heart.”* You won't delight in God's Word if you don't love God. You won't love God unless you see yourself as the unworthy recipient of His Grace and forgiveness. As long as you believe you have some goodness, you will not truly love God! *“There is NONE GOOD, no not one!”* Reveal God's Love and forgiveness to others with your own words and obedience. Tell what Truth has done for you and will do for those who repent by obeying God! Truth is the salt of speech!

“Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.” Colossians 4:6 KJV