

We ~~was~~ noticed that the Bible takes a position on deceit and on deception which is very different from that which is taken by the world at large and probably by any other religion as far as I know. ~~The~~ The stress in the Bible is very great upon the truth and the importance of the truth. Christ said, "Let your yea be yea and your nay nay." For every bit of evidence that one can gather from the Scripture that any type of deception is ever permissible and could gather a great amount of evidence against any statement that is in any way deceptive or contrary to the truth. Certainly the ideal of the Scripture is one ~~in~~ in which everyone is perfectly open and above board in every way. Certainly it is the Lord's desire that when his people make any sort of a statement that people be able to depend upon this statement, no matter what harm might ~~be~~ come to the individuals by the statements which he has made. ~~We~~ We noticed that the instances of lying in the Scripture are mostly by people who are outside of the center of God's favor or else who are doing something ~~for~~ from which unfortunate circumstances have come and there is no reason whatever to feel in most cases that any favor of the Lord has been upon the statement or the deception which they have made. However, we cannot make a 100 per cent statement in this direction. We noticed that there are certain exceptions.

(Question) I don't know as we could do that. Perhaps with a little attempt to gather together a bit and compare them one ~~xxxxxxx~~ might be able to do that but I have not been able to do that as yet, but I do feel that the cases in connection with war in which a person is really a servant of the Lord engages in a deception and ~~is~~ has any sort of approval of God for it would hardly be sanctified in any cases, very few if any, as direct misstatements. It would seem rather that he would have to. In most cases where the children of the Lord ~~are~~ are doing the work of the Lord and engaging in any sort of deception. That is the number where a direct statement that is contrary to truth might be considered as permissible is so very small that I feel that the past expression would be in most cases in the direction of being just as far away from that as possible. I don't think

23-132