

It might very well be that we could throw aside all these words. Words vary with the people who use them and they make up new words to express ideas. That is the particular idea which I wish to state is that the statement is something which is verbally contrary in words which is contrary to the truth. That's what I call a lie. To say that it is raining when you know it is not. I don't say when it isn't, but when you know it isn't. But that is I would say is in practically all, ^{if} ~~not~~ all cases, definitely wrong. Deceit by which I mean giving a false impression with the intention of harming someone else or of securing a wrong advantage to yourself. That would be wrong even if no truth were involved in it. The very motive would make it wrong. Yet the matter of concealment of the whole matter from one who does not have a particular right to inquire into the situation is something which is not forbidden in Scripture. Now as to whatever the definition of the particular word is if the word doesn't suit this let's use a different word.

(Question) That is what their question meant and it was a question which they had no right to ask and which consequently he was under obligation to answer.

(Question) Well, that, of course, is a matter of our interpretation. That ~~is~~ is not what was done. ~~The~~ God commanded the other thing. Now if that had been what God wanted, He would have commanded that. We have to draw our conclusions from what God did.

(Question) Exactly. And that deception which involves ~~anything~~ or anything that involves an evil motive is wrong. Deceit involves an evil motive and is wrong. Lying regardless of motive seems to be altogether practically wrong. But concealment of something which ~~is not~~ another one does not have a special right to inquire into is as far ~~wrong~~ as I know nowhere forbidden in the Scripture. That seems to me to be a fair statement of the facts as I see them. Now, of course, if it had been the Lord's will that instead of that, everytime anyone asks you a question it was your obligation to give them either a full and complete answer to their question or else to say that it is none of your business. I