

## Our Bible reading for today – John 14:1-14

### “I Am the TRUTH!”

There's a scene in Joshua 9 in which a rag-tag little group of men deceptively strode into Israel's camp. Their purpose was to deceive. They were from Gibeon, a nearby town, but appeared in worn out clothes and shoes, with dried out bread and cracked wine-skins. They falsely claimed to be from a very far away country. In the text you can almost hear them stretch out their words, “*a v-e-r-y f-a-r-r-r-r c-o-u-n-t-r-y*”. They wanted a promise that the Jews wouldn't bother them in the conquest of their land. They got their agreement through their deceit. But there were consequences.

Satan is the greatest deceiver. One of his best tricks is in the use of language. Even in the Garden of Eden he deceived Eve into sinning, claiming the forbidden fruit would make her wise and like God. He tried to trick Jesus himself into bowing to him, with the promise of giving Him the kingdoms of the world.

Our common language contains the deceit of what politicians use constantly – “*positive spin*”. “*Adult*” or “*mature*”, which should be desired traits, are words used for all sorts of immoral, perverted, gory, violent, hateful, damaging and filthy entertainment. Rebellion is called being a “*free spirit*”, when in fact every person was made by God as a “*free spirit*”. Making all the wrong choices does not make a person free at all! Abortion, which is the killing of an unborn child – a human being – is called “*freedom of choice*”, “*a woman's right to choose*” or “*reproductive rights*”. Opposing abortion is called “*a war on women*”. What deceit! Hitler put the ultimate spin on mass murder calling it “*the final solution*”.

What a contrast to Jesus! He spoke the truth. Always! He is sometimes spoken of as “*the greatest teacher who ever lived*”. People flocked to Him hanging on His words, acknowledging that, “**No man ever spoke like this man.**” His classic “**Sermon on the Mount**” is noted for making clear that not only our deeds are often sinful but our thoughts and motives are often evil too. He taught a higher law than did the religious leaders who opposed Him.

A couple of His greatest statements:

***“I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”***  
(<sup>NIV</sup> John 14:6)

***“For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.”*** (<sup>NAU</sup> John 3:16)

Satan's lies are aimed at human defeat and failure, and to take as many of us as possible to hell with him. Jesus' truths are aimed at taking as many of us as possible to heaven with Him, and make us fulfill our greatest potential in this life. Satan's “*positive spin*” takes lies and makes them attractive to the gullible. But truth is truth. It gives life to the wise. Jesus is the TRUTH! Believe Him, and believe in Him!