

PRETTY LITTLE LIARS
MATTHEW 5:33-37
Satilla Baptist Church
Oct 1st 2017 AM Service
Pastor William Pope
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I. INTRODUCTION

- a. 4 OF 6 “But I say unto you statements”
- b. Jesus is revealing the hypocrisy and sinful nature of the outwardly religious of His day.
- c. Review 1st 3
 - i. Murder
 - ii. Adultery
 - iii. Divorce
- d. Now He turns to Truth and Lies
- e. *“Whenever the Bible talks about the tongue, or about what you say, you ought to stop and study it, and you ought to master it. Because James says, “If any man can control his tongue, the same is a perfect man.” That’s the heart of the matter, “For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks,” says Matthew 12:34. Matthew 15:18 says, “Those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart, and they defile the man.” In other words, you need to learn that what you say is a vital thing because it is nothing but the thermometer of the heart. Whenever the Bible talks about speech or the tongue, you ought to listen.” – Dr John MacArthur*

II. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- a. In the OT there are several passages and many examples of people swearing an oath.
 - i. OT Teaching on Oaths:
 - 1. *Deuteronomy 6:13 says, “You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him, and shall take oaths in His name.”*
 - Isaiah 65:16 says, “He that swears shall swear by the*

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God of truth." Deuteronomy 10:20 says, "You shall fear the LORD your God, Him shall you serve, and to Him shall you cleave, and swear by His name." The only object ever to be sworn by was God. In Jeremiah 12:16, Jeremiah reaches to the Gentiles and says, even to the Gentiles, "You are to swear by God's name only." In Joshua 9:20, it says, "This we will do, lest wrath be upon us because of the oath which we swore." They had a fear of God and when they called God to witness something, it bound their hearts. Leviticus 5 says that if you have broken an oath to God, you must go and offer a trespass offering, a sacrifice. This was serious business. Only in God's name, and only on very special occasions" – Dr. John MacArthur

- b. What the Pharisees had done in Jesus Day, because they feared Swearing by God, they had invented all these "Lesser" oaths. Heaven, Earth, Jerusalem, Head.
 - i. Modern Day examples:
 - 1. "I cross my heart, hope to die, stick a needle in my eye"
 - 2. "I swear on my mothers' grave"
 - 3. Example of person trying to convince me he was telling the truth.
 - ii. All of this was ways to avoid being truthful. The whole system built on lies and falsehood.

III. PRETTY LITTLE LIARS.

- a. Example: Jerry Clower clip
- b. Different kinds of liars:

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i. Scared Liars

1. Lying to cover up something

a. Proverbs 28:13 (NKJV) 13 He who covers his sins will not prosper, But whoever confesses and forsakes them will have mercy.

ii. Nice Liars:

1. Flatterers. People who lie to avoid confronting someone with an unpleasant truth.

a. Proverbs 28:23 (NKJV) 23 He who rebukes a man will find more favor afterward Than he who flatters with the tongue.

iii. Manipulating Liars

1. Liars who have a grand purpose. Who lie and deceive to achieve a grand result.

IV. TRUTH

a. We are to be people of truth.

b. He is the Father of truth, so when we open our mouths, the truth ought to come out. On those solemn occasions when we vow a vow to God, we ought to keep that vow. On those other occasions, in the daily matters of life, our 'yes' should be 'yes,' and our 'no' should be 'no.' Anything more than that reveals an evil, untrustworthy heart.