

~LIE (986)

[Hebrew, *ka-zav'*, *sha-qar'*, Greek, *pseu'dos*]

.. The Opposite Of Truth

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- **Lying** generally involves **saying something false to a person who is entitled to know the truth** and doing so with **the intent to deceive or to injure him or another person**.
- A **lie** need not always be verbal. It can also be expressed in action, that is, a person may be living a **lie**. The **Hebrew** verb that conveys the idea of speaking that which is untrue is *ka-zav'*.
- A faithful witness is one that will not **lie**, but a false witness launches forth mere lies. (**Proverbs 14:5**)
- Another **Hebrew** verb *sha-qar'* means, **deal or act falsely**, and the noun form is rendered, **lie, deception, falsehood**.
- You people must not steal, and you must not deceive, and you must not deal falsely anyone with his associate. (**Leviticus 19:11**)
- All this is what has come upon us, and we have not forgotten you, and we have not acted falsely in your covenant. (**Psalms 44:17**)
- And you must not swear in my name to a **lie**, so that you do profane the name of your God. I am Yehowah. (**Leviticus 19:12**)
- The horse is a deception for salvation, and by the abundance of its vital energy it does not afford escape. (**Psalms 33:17**)
- Over whom is it that you have a jolly good time? Against whom do you keep opening wide the mouth, keep sticking out the tongue? Are you not the children of transgression, the seed of falsehood. (**Isaiah 57:4**)
- **Hebrew** *shaw'*, at times rendered, **untruth, falsehood**, basically refers to something **worthless, vain, valueless**.
- Untruth they keep speaking one to the other, with a smooth lip

- they keep speaking even with a double heart. (**Psalms 12:2**)
- Neither must you testify to a falsehood against your fellowman. (**Deuteronomy 5:20**)
 - Do give us assistance from distress, as salvation by earthling man is worthless. (**Psalms 60:11**)
 - Remember of what duration of life I am. Is it all in vain that you have created all the sons of men? (**Psalms 89:47**)
 - For the teraphim themselves have spoken what is uncanny, and the practicers of divination, for their part, have visioned falsehood, and valueless dreams are what they keep speaking, and in vain they try to comfort. That is why they will certainly depart like a flock, they will become afflicted, because there is no shepherd. (**Zechariah 10:2**)
 - The **Hebrew** verb *ka-chash'*, **deceive**, evidently has the basic meaning, **prove disappointing**.
 - You people must not steal, and you must not deceive, and you must not deal falsely anyone with his associate. (**Leviticus 19:11**)
 - Threshing floor and winepress do not feed them, and sweet wine itself proves disappointing to her. (**Hosea 9:2**)
 - The **Greek** term *pseu'dos* and related words have to do with **lying** and **falsehood**.
 - The father, or originator, of **lying** is Satan the Devil.
 - You are from your father the Devil, and you wish to do the desires of your father. That one was a manslayer when he began, and he did not stand fast in the truth, because truth is not in him. When he speaks the **lie**, he speaks according to his own disposition, because he is a **liar** and **the father of the lie**. (**John 8:44**)
 - His **lie** conveyed by means of a serpent to the first woman Eve ultimately brought death to her and to her husband Adam.
 - Now the serpent proved to be the most cautious of all the wild beasts of the field that Yehowah God had made. So it began to

- say to the woman; Is it really so that God said you must not eat from every tree of the garden? (**Genesis 3:1**)
- At this the woman said to the serpent; Of the fruit of the trees of the garden we may eat. (**Genesis 3:2**)
 - But as for eating of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, God has said; You must not eat from it, no, you must not touch it that you do not die. (**Genesis 3:3**)
 - At this the serpent said to the woman; You positively will not die. (**Genesis 3:4**)
 - For God knows that in the very day of your eating from it your eyes are bound to be opened and you are bound to be like God, knowing good and bad. (**Genesis 3:5**)
 - To the woman he said; I shall greatly increase the pain of your pregnancy, in birth pangs you will bring forth children, and your craving will be for your husband, and he will dominate you. (**Genesis 3:16**)
 - And to Adam he said; Because you listened to your wife's voice and took to eating from the tree concerning which I gave you this command; You must not eat from it, cursed is the ground on your account. In pain you will eat its produce all the days of your life. (**Genesis 3:17**)
 - And thorns and thistles it will grow for you, and you must eat the vegetation of the field. (**Genesis 3:18**)
 - In the sweat of your face you will eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken. For dust you are and to dust you will return. (**Genesis 3:19**)
 - That first **lie** was rooted in selfishness and wrong desire. It was designed to divert the love and obedience of the first human pair to the liar, who had presented himself as an angel of light, a benefactor.
 - And no wonder, for Satan himself keeps transforming himself into an angel of light. (**2 Corinthians 11:14**)
 - All other malicious **lies** uttered since that time have likewise been a reflection of selfishness and wrong desire. People have told lies to

escape deserved punishment, to profit at the expense of others, and to gain or maintain certain advantages, material rewards, or the praise of men.

- Especially serious have been the religious **lies**, as they have endangered the future life of persons deceived by them. Said Jesus Christ:
- Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! Because you traverse sea and dry land to make one proselyte, and when he becomes one you make him a subject for Gehenna twice as much so as yourselves. (**Matthew 23:15**)
- The exchange of God's truth for **the lie**, the **falsehood of idolatry**, can cause a person to become a practitioner of what is degrading and vile.
- Therefore God, in keeping with the desires of their hearts, gave them up to uncleanness, that their bodies might be dishonored among them. (**Romans 1:24**)
- Even those who exchanged the truth of God for the **lie** and venerated and rendered sacred service to the creation rather than the One who created, who is blessed forever. Amen. (**Romans 1:25**)
- That is why God gave them up to disgraceful sexual appetites, for both their females changed the natural use of themselves into one contrary to nature. (**Romans 1:26**)
- And likewise even the males left the natural use of the female and became violently inflamed in their lust toward one another, males with males, working what is obscene and receiving in themselves the full recompense, which was due for their error. (**Romans 1:27**)
- And just as they did not approve of holding God in accurate knowledge, God gave them up to a disapproved mental state, to do the things not fitting. (**Romans 1:28**)
- Filled as they were with all unrighteousness, wickedness, covetousness, badness, being full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malicious disposition, being whisperers. (**Romans 1:29**)
- Backbiters, haters of God, insolent, haughty, self-assuming,

inventors of injurious things, disobedient to parents. (**Romans 1:30**)

- Without understanding, false to agreements, having no natural affection, merciless. (**Romans 1:31**)
- Although these know full well the righteous decree of God, that those practicing such things are deserving of death, they not only keep on doing them but also consent with those practicing them. (**Romans 1:32**)
- The case of the religious leaders of Judaism in the time of Jesus earthly ministry shows what can happen when one abandons the truth. They schemed to have Jesus put to death.
- Then, when he was resurrected, they bribed the soldiers who had guarded the tomb so they would conceal the truth and spread a **lie** about the disappearance of Jesus body.
- But the Pharisees went out and took counsel against him that they might destroy him. (**Matthew 12:14**)
- When it had become morning, all the chief priests and the older men of the people held a consultation against Jesus so as to put him to death. (**Matthew 27:1**)
- And, after binding him, they led him off and handed him over to Pilate the governor. (**Matthew 27:2**)
- The next day, which was after the Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered together before Pilate. (**Matthew 27:62**)
- Saying; Sir, we have called to mind that that impostor said while yet alive, After three days I am to be raised up. (**Matthew 27:63**)
- Therefore command the grave to be made secure until the third day, that his disciples may never come and steal him and say to the people, He was raised up from the dead! And this last imposture will be worse than the first. (**Matthew 27:64**)
- Pilate said to them; You have a guard. Go make it as secure as you know how. (**Matthew 27:65**)

- While they were on their way, look! Some of the guard went into the city and reported to the chief priests all the things that had happened. (**Matthew 28:11**)
- And after these had gathered together with the older men and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient number of silver pieces to the soldiers (**Matthew 28:12**)
- And said; Say, his disciples came in the night and stole him while we were sleeping. (**Matthew 28:13**)
- And if this gets to the governor's ears, we will persuade him and will set you free from worry. (**Matthew 28:14**)
- So they took the silver pieces and did as they were instructed, and this saying has been spread abroad among the Jews up to this very day. (**Matthew 28:15**)
- Now the Passover and the festival of unfermented cakes was two days later. And the chief priests and the scribes were seeking how to seize him by crafty device and kill him. (**Mark 14:1**)
- The scribes and the chief priests now sought to get their hands on him in that very hour, but they feared the people, for they perceived that he spoke this illustration with them in mind. (**Luke 20:19**)
- Yehowah God cannot **lie**.
- God is not a man that he should tell **lies**, neither a son of mankind that he should feel regret. Has he himself said it and will he not do it, and has he spoken and will he not carry it out? (**Numbers 23:19**)
- For when God made his promise to Abraham, since he could not swear by anyone greater, he swore by himself. (**Hebrews 6:13**)
- Saying; Assuredly in blessing I will bless you, and in multiplying I will multiply you. (**Hebrews 6:14**)
- And thus after Abraham had shown patience, he obtained this promise. (**Hebrews 6:15**)
- For men swear by the one greater, and their oath is the end of

every dispute, as it is a legal guarantee to them. (**Hebrews 6:16**)

- In this manner God, when he purposed to demonstrate more abundantly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeableness of his counsel, stepped in with an oath. (**Hebrews 6:17**)
- In order, that, through two unchangeable things in which it is impossible for God to **lie**, we who have fled to the refuge may have strong encouragement to lay hold on the hope set before us. (**Hebrews 6:18**)
- He hates **a false tongue**.
- There are six things that Yehowah does hate, yes, seven are things detestable to his soul. (**Proverbs 6:16**)
- Lofty eyes, a false tongue, and hands that are shedding innocent blood. (**Proverbs 6:17**)
- A heart fabricating hurtful schemes, feet that are in a hurry to run to badness. (**Proverbs 6:18**)
- **A false witness** that launches forth **lies**, and anyone sending forth contentions among brothers. (**Proverbs 6:19**)
- His Law to the Israelites required compensation for injuries resulting from deception or malicious lying.
- In case a soul sins in that he does behave unfaithfully toward Yehowah and does deceive his associate about something in his charge or a deposit in hand or a robbery or he does defraud his associate. (**Leviticus 6:2**)
- Or he does find something lost and is actually deceptive about it and does swear falsely over any of all the things that the man might do to sin by them. (**Leviticus 6:3**)
- Then it must occur that in case he sins and indeed becomes guilty, he must return the robbed thing which he has robbed or the extorted thing which he has taken by fraud or the thing in his charge which was put in his charge or the thing lost that he has found. (**Leviticus 6:4**)
- Or anything at all over which he might swear falsely, and he

must make compensation for it in its full amount, and he will add to it a fifth of it. To the one whose it is he will give it on the day his guilt is proved. (**Leviticus 6:5**)

- And as his guilt offering he will bring to Yehowah a sound ram from the flock according to the estimated value, for a guilt offering, to the priest. (**Leviticus 6:6**)
- And the priest must make an atonement for him before Yehowah, and so it must be forgiven him regarding any of all the things that he might do resulting in guiltiness by it. (**Leviticus 6:7**)
- You people must not steal, and you must not deceive, and you must not deal falsely anyone with his associate. (**Leviticus 19:11**)
- And you must not swear in my name to a **lie**, so that you do profane the name of your God. I am Yehowah. (**Leviticus 19:12**)
- And a person presenting false testimony was to receive the punishment that he desired to inflict upon another by means of his **lies**.
- No single witness should rise up against a man respecting any error or any sin, in the case of any sin that he may commit. At the mouth of two witnesses or at the mouth of three witnesses the matter should stand good. (**Deuteronomy 19:15**)
- In case a witness scheming violence should rise up against a man to bring a charge of revolt against him. (**Deuteronomy 19:16**)
- The two men who have the dispute must also stand before Yehowah, before the priests and the judges who will be acting in those days. (**Deuteronomy 19:17**)
- And the judges must search thoroughly, and if the witness is a false witness and has brought a false charge against his brother. (**Deuteronomy 19:18**)
- You must also do to him just as he had schemed to do to his brother, and you must clear away what is bad from your midst. (**Deuteronomy 19:19**)
- So those who remain will hear and be afraid, and they will never again do anything bad like this in your midst. (**Deuteronomy 19:20**)

- And your eye should not feel sorry, soul will be for soul, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot. (**Deuteronomy 19:21**)
- God's view of malicious lying, as reflected in the Law, has not changed. Those desiring to gain his approval cannot engage in the practice of lying.
- You will destroy those speaking a **lie**. A man of bloodshed and deception Yehowah detests. (**Psalms 5:6**)
- He that is going about as a **slanderer** is uncovering confidential talk, and with one that is enticed with his lips you must have no fellowship. (**Proverbs 20:19**)
- Do not be **lying** to one another. Strip off the old personality with its practices. (**Colossians 3:9**)
- And clothe yourselves with the new personality, which through accurate knowledge is being made new according to the image of the One who created it. (**Colossians 3:10**)
- Women should likewise be serious, not **slandorous**, moderate in habits, faithful in all things. (**1 Timothy 3:11**)
- But as for the cowards and those without faith and those who are disgusting in their filth and murderers and fornicators and those practicing spiritism and idolaters and all the **liars**, their portion will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulphur. This means the second death. (**Revelation 21:8**)
- But anything not sacred and anyone that carries on a disgusting thing and a **lie** will in no way enter into it, only those written in the Lambs scroll of life will. (**Revelation 21:27**)
- Outside are the dogs and those who practice spiritism and the fornicators and the murderers and the idolaters and everyone liking and carrying on a **lie**. (**Revelation 22:15**)
- They cannot be living a **lie**, claiming to love God while hating their brother.
- If anyone makes the statement. I love God. And yet is hating his

brother, he is a **liar**. For he who does not love his brother, whom he has seen, cannot be loving God, whom he has not seen. (**1 John 4:20**)

- And this commandment we have from him, that the one who loves God should be loving his brother also. (**1 John 4:21**)
- For playing false to the Holy Spirit by lying, Ananias and his wife lost their lives.
- However, a certain man, Ananias by name, together with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession (**Acts of Apostles 5:1**)
- And secretly held back some of the price, his wife also knowing about it, and he brought just a part and deposited it at the feet of the apostles. (**Acts of Apostles 5:2**)
- But Peter said; Ananias, why has Satan emboldened you to play false to the Holy Spirit and to hold back secretly some of the price of the field? (**Acts of Apostles 5:3**)
- As long as it remained with you did it not remain yours, and after it was sold did it not continue in your control? Why was it that you purposed such a deed as this in your heart? You have played false, not to men, but to God. (**Acts of Apostles 5:4**)
- On hearing these words Ananias fell down and expired. And great fear came over all those hearing of it. (**Acts of Apostles 5:5**)
- But the younger men rose, wrapped him in cloths, and carried him out and buried him. (**Acts of Apostles 5:6**)
- Now after an interval of about three hours his wife came in, not knowing what had happened. (**Acts of Apostles 5:7**)
- Peter said to her; Tell me, did you two sell the field for so much? She said; Yes, for so much. (**Acts of Apostles 5:8**)
- So Peter said to her; Why was it agreed upon between you two to make a test of the spirit of Yehowah? Look! The feet of those who buried your husband are at the door, and they will carry you out. (**Acts of Apostles 5:9**)
- Instantly she fell down at his feet and expired. When the young

men came in they found her dead, and they carried her out and buried her alongside her husband. ([Acts of Apostles 5:10](#))

- Consequently great fear came over the whole congregation and over all those hearing about these things. ([Acts of Apostles 5:11](#))
- However, persons who are momentarily overreached in telling a **lie** do not automatically become guilty of an unforgivable sin. The case of Peter, in denying Jesus three times, illustrates that if a person is truly repentant, God will forgive him.
- Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard, and a servant girl came up to him, saying; You, too, were with Jesus the Galilean! ([Matthew 26:69](#))
- But he denied it before them all, saying; I do not know what you are talking about. ([Matthew 26:70](#))
- After he had gone out to the gatehouse, another girl noticed him and said to those there; This man was with Jesus the Nazarene. ([Matthew 26:71](#))
- And again he denied it, with an oath; **I do not know the man!** ([Matthew 26:72](#))
- After a little while those standing around came up and said to Peter; Certainly you also are one of them, for, in fact, your dialect gives you away. ([Matthew 26:73](#))
- Then he started to curse and swear; I do not know the man! And immediately a cock crowed. ([Matthew 26:74](#))
- And Peter called to mind the saying Jesus spoke, namely. Before a cock crows, you will disown me three times. And he went outside and wept bitterly. ([Matthew 26:75](#))
- While malicious lying is definitely condemned in the Bible, this does not mean that a person is under obligation to divulge truthful information to people who are not entitled to it.
- Jesus Christ counseled,
- Do not give what is holy to dogs, neither throw your pearls before swine, that they may never trample them under their feet

and turn around and rip you open. ([Matthew 7:6](#))

- That is why Jesus on certain occasions refrained from giving full information or direct answers to certain questions when doing so could have brought unnecessary harm.
- Then there came to Jesus from Jerusalem Pharisees and scribes, saying; ([Matthew 15:1](#))
- Why is it your disciples overstep the tradition of the men of former times? For example, they do not wash their hands when about to eat a meal. ([Matthew 15:2](#))
- In reply he said to them; Why is it you also overstep the commandment of God because of your tradition? ([Matthew 15:3](#))
- For example, God said; Honor your father and your mother, and, Let him that reviles father or mother end up in death. ([Matthew 15:4](#))
- But you say; Whoever says to his father or mother; Whatever I have by which you might get benefit from me is a gift dedicated to God. ([Matthew 15:5](#))
- He must not honor his father at all. And so you have made the word of God invalid because of your tradition. ([Matthew 15:6](#))
- Now after he went into the temple, the chief priests and the older men of the people came up to him while he was teaching and said; By what authority do you do these things? And who gave you this authority? ([Matthew 21:23](#))
- In reply Jesus said to them; I, also, will ask you one thing. If you tell it to me, I also will tell you by what authority I do these things: ([Matthew 21:24](#))
- The baptism by John, from what source was it? From heaven or from men? But they began to reason among themselves, saying; If we say; From heaven. He will say to us; Why, then, did you not believe him? ([Matthew 21:25](#))
- If, though, we say; From men, we have the crowd to fear, for they all hold John as a prophet. ([Matthew 21:26](#))

- So in answer to Jesus they said; We do not know. He, in turn, said to them; Neither am I telling you by what authority I do these things. (**Matthew 21:27**)
- Therefore his brothers said to him; Pass on over from here and go into Judea, in order, that your disciples also may behold the works you do. (**John 7:3**)
- For nobody does anything in secret while himself seeking to be known publicly. If you do these things, manifest yourself to the world. (**John 7:4**)
- His brothers were, in fact, not exercising faith in him. (**John 7:5**)
- Therefore Jesus said to them; My due time is not yet present, but your due time is always at hand. (**John 7:6**)
- The world has no reason to hate you, but it hates me, because I bear witness concerning it that its works are wicked. (**John 7:7**)
- You go up to the festival. I am not yet going up to this festival, because my due time has not yet fully come. (**John 7:8**)
- So after he told them these things, he remained in Galilee. (**John 7:9**)
- But when his brothers had gone up to the festival, then he also went up himself, not openly but as in secret. (**John 7:10**)
- Evidently the course of Abraham, Isaac, Rahab, and Elisha in misdirecting or in withholding full facts from non-worshippers of Yehowah must be viewed in the same light. (**Genesis Chapter 20**)
- Now a famine arose in the land and Abram made his way down toward Egypt to reside there as an **alien**, because the famine was severe in the land. (**Genesis 12:10**)
- And it came about that as soon as he got near to entering Egypt, then he said to Sarai his wife; Please, now! I well know you are a woman beautiful in appearance. (**Genesis 12:11**)
- So it is bound to happen that the Egyptians will see you and will say; This is his wife. And they will certainly kill me, but you they will preserve alive. (**Genesis 12:12**)

- Please say you are my sister, in order, that it may go well with me on your account, and my soul will be certain to live due to you. (**Genesis 12:13**)
- So it happened that, as soon as Abram entered Egypt, the Egyptians got to see the woman, that she was very beautiful. (**Genesis 12:14**)
- And the princes of Pharaoh also got to see her and they began praising her to Pharaoh, so that the woman was taken to the house of Pharaoh. (**Genesis 12:15**)
- And he treated Abram well on her account, and he came to have sheep and cattle and asses and menservants and maidservants and she-asses and camels. (**Genesis 12:16**)
- Then Yehowah touched Pharaoh and his household with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. (**Genesis 12:17**)
- With that Pharaoh called Abram and said; What is this you have done to me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? (**Genesis 12:18**)
- Why did you say; She is my sister, so that I was about to take her as my wife? And now here is your wife. Take her and go! (**Genesis 12:19**)
- Now there arose a famine in the land, besides the first famine that occurred in the days of Abraham, so that Isaac directed himself to Abimelech, king of the Philistines, to Gerar. (**Genesis 26:1**)
- Then Yehowah appeared to him and said; Do not go down to Egypt. Tabernacle in the land that I designate to you. (**Genesis 26:2**)
- Reside as an alien in this land, and I shall continue with you and bless you, because to you and to your seed I shall give all these lands, and I will carry out the sworn statement that I swore to Abraham your father. (**Genesis 26:3**)
- And I will multiply your seed like the stars of the heavens and I will give to your seed all these lands, and by means of your seed

all nations of the earth will certainly bless themselves. (Genesis 26:4)

- **Due to the fact that Abraham listened to my voice and continued to keep his obligations to me, my commands, my statutes, and my Laws. (Genesis 26:5)**
- **So Isaac went on dwelling at Gerar. (Genesis 26:6)**
- **Well, the men of the place kept asking with respect to his wife, and he would say; She is my sister. For he was afraid to say; My wife. For fear that, to quote him; The men of the place should kill me because of Rebekah. Because she was attractive in appearance. (Genesis 26:7)**
- **So it came about that as his days there extended themselves Abimelech, king of the Philistines, was looking out of the window and taking in the sight, and there was Isaac having a good time with Rebekah his wife. (Genesis 26:8)**
- **At once Abimelech called Isaac and said; Why, she is no other than your wife! So how is it that you said; She is my sister? At this Isaac said to him; I said it for fear I should die on her account. (Genesis 26:9)**
- **But Abimelech continued; What is this you have done to us? A little more and certainly one of the people would have lain down with your wife, and you would have brought guilt upon us! (Genesis 26:10)**
- **Then Joshua the son of Nun sent two men out secretly from Shittim as spies, saying; Go, take a look at the land and Jericho. So they went and came to the house of a prostitute woman whose name was Rahab, and they took up lodging there. (Joshua 2:1)**
- **In time it was said to the king of Jericho; Look! Men from the sons of Israel have come in here tonight to search out the land. (Joshua 2:2)**
- **At that the king of Jericho sent to Rahab, saying; Bring out the men that came to you, that have come into your house, for it is to search out all the land that they have come. (Joshua 2:3)**

- Meantime the woman took the two men and concealed them. And she proceeded to say; Yes, the men did come to me, and I did not know from where they were. ([Joshua 2:4](#))
- And it came about at the closing of the gate by dark that the men went out. I just do not know where the men have gone. Chase after them quickly, for you will overtake them. ([Joshua 2:5](#))
- She, though, had taken them up to the roof, and she kept them out of sight among stalks of flax laid in rows for her upon the roof. ([Joshua 2:6](#))
- In the same manner was not also Rahab the harlot declared righteous by works, after she had received the messengers hospitably and sent them out by another way? ([James 2:25](#))
- Consequently the heart of the king of Syria became enraged over this matter, so that he called his servants and said to them; Will you not tell me who from those who belong to us is for the king of Israel? ([2 Kings 6:11](#))
- Then one of his servants said; None, my lord the king, but it is Elisha the prophet who is in Israel that tells the king of Israel the things that you speak in your inner bedroom. ([2 Kings 6:12](#))
- So he said; You men go and see where he is, that I may send and take him. Later the report was made to him, saying; There he is in Dothan. ([2 Kings 6:13](#))
- Immediately he sent horses and war chariots and a heavy military force there, and they proceeded to come by night and close in upon the city. ([2 Kings 6:14](#))
- When the minister of the man of the true God rose early to get up, and went out, why, there a military force was surrounding the city with horses and war chariots. At once his attendant said to him; Alas, my master! What shall we do? ([2 Kings 6:15](#))
- But he said; Do not be afraid, for there are more who are with us than those who are with them. ([2 Kings 6:16](#))
- And Elisha began to pray and say; O Yehowah, open his eyes, please, that he may see. Immediately Yehowah opened the attendants eyes, so that he saw, and, look! The mountainous

region was full of horses and war chariots of fire all around Elisha. (2 Kings 6:17)

- When they began to come down to him, Elisha went on to pray to Yehowah and say; Please, strike this nation with blindness. So he struck them with blindness according to the word of Elisha. (2 Kings 6:18)
- Elisha now said to them; This is not the way, and this is not the city. Follow me, and let me conduct you to the man you look for. However, he conducted them to Samaria. (2 Kings 6:19)
- And it came about that as soon as they arrived at Samaria, Elisha then said; O Yehowah, open the eyes of these that they may see. Immediately Yehowah opened their eyes, and they got to see, and here they were in the middle of Samaria. (2 Kings 6:20)
- The king of Israel now said to Elisha as soon as he saw them; Shall I strike them down, shall I strike them down, my father? (2 Kings 6:21)
- But he said; You must not strike them down. Are those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow the ones that you are striking down? Set bread and water before them that they may eat and drink and go to their lord. (2 Kings 6:22)
- Accordingly he spread a great feast for them, and they began to eat and drink, after which he sent them away and they went to their lord. And not once did the marauding bands of the Syrians come again into the land of Israel. (2 Kings 6:23)
- Yehowah God allows, an operation of error, to go to persons who prefer **falsehood** that they may get to **believing** the **lie**, rather than the Good News about Jesus Christ.
- But the lawless ones presence is according to the operation of Satan with every powerful work and **lying** signs and portents. (2 Thessalonians 2:9)
- And with every unrighteous deception for those who are perishing, as a retribution because they did not accept the love of the truth that they might be saved. (2 Thessalonians 2:10)

- So that is why God lets an operation of error go to them, that they may get to believing the lie. (2 Thessalonians 2:11)
- In order, that they all may be judged because they did not believe the truth but took pleasure in unrighteousness. (2 Thessalonians 2:12)
- This principle is illustrated by what happened centuries earlier in the case of Israelite King Ahab. Lying prophets assured Ahab of success in war against Ramoth-gilead, while Yehowah's prophet Micaiah foretold disaster.
- As revealed in vision to Micaiah, Yehowah allowed a spirit creature to become a deceptive spirit in the mouth of Ahab's prophets.
- That is to say, this spirit creature exercised his power upon them so that they spoke, not truth, but what they themselves wanted to say and what Ahab wanted to hear from them. Though forewarned, Ahab preferred to be fooled by their lies and paid for it with his life. (2 Chronicles Chapter 18)
- And for three years they continued dwelling without war between Syria and Israel. (1 Kings 22:1)
- And it came about in the third year that Jehoshaphat the king of Judah proceeded to go down to the king of Israel. (1 Kings 22:2)
- Then the king of Israel said to his servants; Do you really know that Ramoth-gilead belongs to us? Yet we are hesitating to take it out of the hand of the king of Syria. (1 Kings 22:3)
- And he went on to say to Jehoshaphat; Will you go with me to the fight at Ramoth-gilead? At this Jehoshaphat said to the king of Israel; I am the same as you. My people are the same as your people. My horses are the same as your horses. (1 Kings 22:4)
- However, Jehoshaphat went on to say to the king of Israel; Inquire, please, first of all for the word of Yehowah. (1 Kings 22:5)
- So the king of Israel collected the prophets together, about four hundred men, and said to them; Shall I go against Ramoth-gilead in war, or shall I refrain? And they began to say; Go up, and Yehowah will give it into the king's hand. (1 Kings 22:6)

- **But Jehoshaphat said; Is there not here a prophet of Yehowah still? Then let us inquire through him. (1 Kings 22:7)**
- **T that the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat; There is still one man through whom to inquire of Yehowah, but I myself certainly hate him, for he does not prophesy good things concerning me but bad, Micaiah the son of Imlah. However, Jehoshaphat said; Do not let the king say a thing like that. (1 Kings 22:8)**
- **Accordingly the king of Israel called a certain court official and said; Do bring Micaiah the son of Imlah quickly. (1 Kings 22:9)**
- **Now the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah were sitting each one on his throne, clothed in garments, in the threshing floor at the entrance of the gate of Samaria, and all the prophets were acting as prophets before them. (1 Kings 22:10)**
- **Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah made for himself horns of iron and said; This is what Yehowah has said; With these you will push the Syrians until you exterminate them. (1 Kings 22:11)**
- **And all the other prophets were prophesying the same as that, saying; Go up to Ramoth-gilead and prove successful, and Yehowah will certainly give it into the king's hand. (1 Kings 22:12)**
- **And the messenger that had gone to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying; Look, now! The words of the prophets are unanimously of good to the king. Let your word, please, become like the word of one of them, and you must speak good. (1 Kings 22:13)**
- **But Micaiah said; As Yehowah is living, what Yehowah will say to me, that is what I shall speak. (1 Kings 22:14)**
- **Then he came in to the king, and the king proceeded to say to him; Micaiah, shall we go to Ramoth-gilead in war, or shall we refrain? At once he said to him; Go up and prove successful, and Yehowah will certainly give it into the king's hand. (1 Kings 22:15)**
- **At that the king said to him; For how many times am I putting you under oath that you should not speak to me anything but truth in the name of Yehowah? (1 Kings 22:16)**

- So he said; I certainly see all the Israelites scattered on the mountains, like sheep that have no shepherd. And Yehowah went on to say; These have no masters. Let them go back each one to his house in peace. (1 Kings 22:17)
- Then the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat; Did I not say to you, He will prophesy concerning me, not good things, but bad? (1 Kings 22:18)
- And he went on to say; Therefore hear the word of Yehowah; I certainly see Yehowah sitting upon his throne and all the army of the heavens standing by him, to his right and to his left. (1 Kings 22:19)
- And Yehowah proceeded to say; Who will fool Ahab, that he may go up and fall at Ramoth-gilead? And this one began to say something like this, while that one was saying something like that. (1 Kings 22:20)
- Finally a spirit came out and stood before Yehowah and said; I myself shall fool him. At that Yehowah said to him, By what means? (1 Kings 22:21)
- To this he said; I shall go forth, and I shall certainly become a deceptive spirit in the mouth of all his prophets. So he said; You will fool him, and, what is more, you will come off the winner. Go out and do that way. (1 Kings 22:22)
- And now here Yehowah has put a deceptive spirit into the mouth of all these prophets of yours, but Yehowah himself has spoken calamity concerning you. (1 Kings 22:23)
- Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah now approached and struck Micaiah upon the cheek and said; In just which way did the spirit of Yehowah pass along from me to speak with you? (1 Kings 22:24)
- At that Micaiah said; Look! You are seeing which way on that day when you will enter the innermost chamber to hide yourself. (1 Kings 22:25)
- Then the king of Israel said; Take Micaiah and turn him back to Amon the chief of the city and to Joash the king's son. (1 Kings

22:26)

- **And you must say; This is what the king has said; Put this fellow in the house of detention and feed him with a reduced allowance of bread and a reduced allowance of water until I come in peace. (1 Kings 22:27)**
- **Upon that Micaiah said; If you return at all in peace, Yehowah has not spoken with me. And he added; Hear, all you peoples. (1 Kings 22:28)**
- **And the king of Israel and Jehoshaphat the king of Judah proceeded to go up to Ramoth-gilead. (1 Kings 22:29)**
- **The king of Israel now said to Jehoshaphat; There will be a disguising and entering into the battle for me, but you, for your part, put on your garments. Accordingly, the king of Israel disguised himself and entered into the battle. (1 Kings 22:30)**
- **As for the king of Syria, he had commanded the thirty-two chiefs of the chariots that were his, saying; You must fight, neither with the small nor the great, but with the king of Israel alone. (1 Kings 22:31)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as the chiefs of the chariots saw Jehoshaphat, they, for their part, said to themselves; Surely it is the king of Israel. So they turned aside against him to fight, and Jehoshaphat began to cry for aid. (1 Kings 22:32)**
- **And it came about that, as soon as the chiefs of the chariots saw that it was not the king of Israel, they immediately came back from following him. (1 Kings 22:33)**
- **And there was a man that bent the bow in his innocence, but he got to strike the king of Israel between the appendages and the coat of mail, so that he said to his charioteer; Turn your hand around, and take me out from the camp, because I have been badly wounded. (1 Kings 22:34)**
- **And the battle kept rising in intensity on that day, and the king himself had to be kept in a standing position in the chariot facing the Syrians, and gradually he died in the evening, and the blood of the wound kept pouring out upon the interior of the war chariot. (1 Kings 22:35)**

- **And the ringing cry began to pass through the camp about the setting of the sun, saying; Everyone to his city, and everyone to his land! (1 Kings 22:36)**
- **Thus the king died. When he was brought to Samaria, then they buried the king in Samaria. (1 Kings 22:37)**
- **And they began to wash off the war chariot by the pool of Samaria, and the dogs went licking up his blood, and the prostitutes themselves bathed there, according to Yehowah's word that he had spoken. (1 Kings 22:38)**