

HELEN SANDERS
12-12-2020
DID YOU HEAR THAT?

One of the things listed in Proverbs 6:16-19 that God hates and actually calls abominations is ***“a false witness that speaketh lies.”*** Now most of us would think of that as someone testifying in a jury trial that doesn't tell the truth. Yet it means much more than that. The Amplified reads ***“A false witness who breathes out lies [even half-truths], and one who spreads discord (rumors) among brothers.”***

This passage could include gossip. I have seen lives destroyed because of gossip. Most think of women being gossips, but I can assure you men are just as bad if not worse. If God hates it, we should too!

Then there are the “half-truths” mentioned. There is no such thing as a half-truth. If it isn't *all truth*, then it is a lie. Satan is very good at distorting scripture. When he tempted Jesus in the wilderness, he used the scripture, but twisted it for his own advantage. We should not even consider a “half-truth.” God hates lies. A lying tongue is mentioned in verse 16 of Proverbs 6.

I think that people should put into practice what my mother taught me as a child. She said, and I quote her, “If you can't say something nice, then don't say anything at all.” Now there are times that we must speak up about something to clear the air, but we should not be spreading gossip about another brother or sister. It should be said face to face. Spreading rumors by saying, “Did you hear that?” shows the immaturity in the body of Christ if we continue to do things that God hates.

Years ago, someone asked me a question about a person, wanting to know something that truly was none of their business. My response to their question was, “Can you keep a secret?” This person said, “Yes.” Then I said, “So can I” and I walked away. This may seem rude to you, but I squelched this person from spreading gossip. Maybe you should try it too.

I will close with this from Ephesians 4:29: ***“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.”***

Be blessed!