

REALITY QUEST

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LIES

A lie is something that is not true. However, even the truth is a lie to those who don't believe it. For example: It has been taught to us as "history" that in Christopher Columbus' time most people thought the earth was flat; and if one would travel far enough, they would eventually fall off the end. Today, we know that these people were wrong; but, were they lying? Of course not. Therefore, it is safe to conclude that just because one espouses a belief that is a lie, does not mean that the individual who holds to the falsehood is lying.

A lie is something not true, but presented as truth by the liar. More importantly, the liar must "know" that he or she is lying; that is, that they are not telling the truth.

I can honestly report to date, that I have never, and I accentuate (stress) never, so far as my memory is able to recollect, "lied" to anyone, *who has come to know me personally*, except in the following instances: in my adolescence I lied to the parents at times to protect myself from punishment (this is something that anyone would have to admit or be pegged a definite liar); once I presented to Mike, my eldest brother, a copy of a document I wrote called, "The Sealed Portion of the Gold Plates" which I claimed (I lied) came from the secret vaults of the First Presidency of the LDS Church. I claimed I copied these documents from the vaults that I had gained access to as a security officer. The truth is: there are vaults which contain spurious documents and articles which can only be accessed by the top leaders of the mormon church. I was a security officer for the said church and did gain access to many areas restricted to the general public. However, I lied when I said I got what I presented to Mike as "The Sealed Portion" from these vaults. (This instance will be explained in more detail, along with the reason I lied to Mike in another article of *Reality Quest*.)

I have also lied in some instances to accomplish a certain end which I felt was good. In these instances, however, I have always told the truth to those I lied to after the end that I was trying to reach had been realized. (In this sense, I must add a continuance to my definition of a lie so as to be better understood: one who perpetuates a lie is a liar, if the lie is left to be considered truth infinitely. For example: I do not think it is a "lie" to tell children that Santa is real, if I know that upon maturing, the child will learn truth. I tell the lie to perpetuate happiness at Christmas time. A liar, to me, is a bad person who has done a bad thing. I do not think that a parent who enjoys the myth of Santa while their child is young can be a bad person. I guess I am going to have to distinguish between a good lie, (if there can be such a thing), and a bad lie- I'll follow the orthodox explanation and call a good lie a "white lie", and a bad lie I will just call a lie.

I have used white lies to my advantage many times. Nevertheless, it must be understood, that the person to whom I "white lied" was eventually told the truth and the reason for the "white lie" was explained by me or understood by the receiver. (The reason why I still consider my "lie" to Mike, as described above, to be a lie and not a "white lie" is because I haven't decided how to tell him the reason for my lie, nor do I believe he is capable, at this time, to understand.)

A focused reader who is paying attention would have caught the following from my above *justification* of my lies: "...I have never lied to anyone, *'who has come to know me personally'*". I will not attempt to hide the fact that I have lied to the "world". In other words, I have deceived the government, the landlord, employers (to get a job), and various others in order to survive. If one shows me a person who has

not lied to one of the entities just listed, I will show you a liar. What I want to make clear is that I have not lied to a *relative* or *friend*, except in the instances explained above.

Now, why, one might ask, does Chris attempt to explain why and when he lies? I explain these things because the only people in this frail world who have accused me of being a liar are those who call themselves my *relatives*. Ironically, it is these, as I have explained, to whom I never lie.

My dad, my mother (Gloria), my brothers and sisters, my sister-in-laws (my brother's wives only), and my x-wife, Paula, have called me a liar, always behind my back, or when I am not present to defend myself, I might add, and have presented me as such to those who have never met me or had any personal dealings with me. (My dad and my x-wife are those who have perpetuated the worst gossip about me.)

What usually happens is that my family, more especially the females, enjoy catching up on the "latest" about any member of the family not present when our family meets together. Since I have been ostracized by my family and am never invited to these family get-togethers, I usually get the brunt of the "latest". Now, this does not occur in the open forum of family discussion. Let me give an example of what occurs:

My family meets at my dad's house for, let's say, Thanksgiving dinner. Of course, Chris is not there because he hasn't been invited. Before the family even gathers in a "forum" situation, my brother's wives are off in a corner discussing the latest. Before coming to my dad's, my brothers have privately discussed their feelings with their wives in the most private and personal forum of all: the bedroom. Having shared these private conversations with four different women, (by the way, at one point I was sharing these conversations with three of the four women at the same time. Well, not at the same time, but in the same week.), I can personally testify to my brothers of the fact that our thoughts and opinions expressed during "pillow talk" are never kept to the quiet ears of the bedroom walls. If a husband wants to keep a secret from the world, the worst person he can tell is his wife. Anyway, during these pre-forum conversations, more fallacious family gossip is spread than during the main family forum.

During the family forum many things are discussed. I have no doubt that many times my name was mentioned, but no one had the "guts" to call me a liar at these times. You see, the members of the human family are never really sure if the others in the family agree with their opinion. Since most like to be agreed with, one rarely brings up an opinion which they are not sure the majority will back up. Now, this only has to do with the general "family forum". When one on one conversation takes place, the gossip flourishes.

I have not been involved with my family for about 7 years. How, therefore, can any of them make a judgment of whether or not I am a liar? They do not know me, or have any of them tried to get to know me. (Just recently some have made the attempt and have found me to be quite opposite from what they assumed by the lies that they had heard.) The judgment that my family has made of me came from their ears hearing something that someone had told someone that I had done. In other words, all hearsay.

I would more than enjoy bringing all who have accused me of lies in the same room and allow them to confront me with the same. I have proposed this before only to have my request denied by those who would not benefit from the truth being told. At one time I had my x-wife, Paula, in a court of law where I was acting as my own attorney, which many think, and I tend to agree, that I had a fool for a client, and I cross examined her as to whether I have at anytime lied to her. She could think of none. Even after a recess in which she was able to confer with her attorney, she could think of none. How she can accuse me as being a liar, I do not know. However, I have never heard from Paula's own mouth that I am a liar. NO ONE has called me a liar to my face. Only in the security of the ignorant do those who accuse me of lies obtain an audience.

There are three attorneys in my family and not a few brilliant minds. I would make the challenge to any of them to call a "family forum" *ultimo*, bring forth any witnesses they would like, and let's hold a pseudo-court to see if any scrape of evidence can be presented to substantiate the claim that I am a liar. The 3 attorneys and the "brilliant minds" can represent the family, and I will represent the fool again. I have no doubt, that if this forum would take place, I would be exonerated.

Therefore, of any of those who call me a liar I would ask one thing: refrain from lying please.

I PRAY FOR SATAN

The title of this declaration could have got me killed a few hundred years ago. Even today I am sure the ignorant will blindly ridicule and condemn me for this statement. Regardless, the statement should be true of all "righteous" people.

I am sure that many of those who profess family affiliation to me have prayed many times for my behalf. No doubt, my dear zealous paternal grandmother faithfully puts my name on the "prayer roles" of the temples of her church. This she does out of a sincere love for her grandson. I appreciate her love- yet, knowing that she thinks I have no chance of obtaining the same level of honor in "God's kingdoms" as she does, unless of course I repent of my ways, transforms a sincere love into bigotry-something I'm glad I do not share with her; unless of course one considers me to be a bigot of bigots-which is true.

Now, Satan is an alleged person also. In a lot of christian circles Satan is considered a spiritual brother. He is referred to as Satan because his works are wicked. If my works, according to some, are direct results of what Satan has influenced me to do, then it would make sense to pray for the "source" of my deception; that perhaps this individual will see the errors of his ways, repent and stop corrupting me and others. What would happen if everyone in the religious world prayed for the soul of Satan? What if the "faithful" fasted for 40 days and nights that God would change the countenance of Satan to be an ally instead of an enemy? Well, if everyone who believed in God and his diametric (opposite) companion fasted forty days and forty nights, we wouldn't have to worry about Satan any longer; they all would be dead of starvation and Satan would have no one to tempt. On the other hand, perhaps God would intervene, save Satan's soul, and elevate him to his once held status as "the son of the morning", i.e., Lucifer.

If Satan is an enemy of Jesus, then it would appear that Jesus himself commanded his followers to pray for the guy:

"But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;" (The Bible, Matthew, chap. 5, verse. 44.)

If I had to pray for anyone, (and I really believed in the illusions of Christians), I would pray for the man who causes all the corruption in the first place. However, since I appear to the christian world as an "Antichrist", a person deceived by the man I would pray for, I would surely be a "house divided" and I would surely fall.

Oh well, I can only hope that when I put Satan's name on the temple prayer roles of the mormon church it didn't cause a drift between the gods.

THE MUDDY RIVER

There is a river whose waters run muddy and murky. Trying to stop the river from being dirty and to clean it up, some humans got together at the river's edge to contemplate the task before them. Finally, someone suggested that they make huge buckets and bail out the dirty water and let the clean water continue its course downward. They attempted this, but soon realized the dirty water which they bailed out soon found its way back into the river. "Let's build a big well where we can store the dirty water we take from the river so that it can not escape and make its way back into the river," a pensive onlooker suggested. So they built huge wells to place the muddy water which they took from the river. After a lot of bailing, they soon realized they needed to build more and more wells to house the muddy water. It soon became apparent that they needed more help in bailing out the water if they wanted to clean the river. They soon enlisted the help of as many people as possible to bail the water.

It became the human's obsession to clean the river. There appeared many businesses selling the buckets the people used to bail out the water. Because there were many other things to be done to sustain the life and happiness of the humans, they found it necessary to hire others to bail out the water. The obsession to clean the river became greater and greater. It seemed that the harder the "bailers" bailed the water, the dirtier it got. So, more "bailers" were hired, more brick and cement sold to build the wells, and more businesses sprang up to sell the necessary objects needed to clean the river's dirty water.

The humans soon realized that it was becoming very expensive to clean the water. However, every once in a while, the dirty water would make its way into their homes. And this only made the humans more determined to clean the mud out of the river. Some of the humans didn't do anything to solve the problem of the dirty water; these were waiting for some kind of miracle to take place that would suddenly cleanse the river of its pollutants.

Recently, the United States Congress passed a bill providing millions of dollars to the law enforcement agencies throughout the U.S.. With the allotted monies, states and communities are going to be able to afford many more police officers to fight what has been coined a "crime epidemic" in America. There is no other civilized (if this word can be used) country in the world with a crime rate like that of the United States. It is bad, and getting worse.

The Clinton administration wants new prisons, more policemen, and tougher sentences for criminals. In other words, they want new wells, new "bailers", and more buckets to clean up the dirty river of American crime. The prisons are full. The criminal courts are busting at the seams. Defense lawyers are inundated with more cases than they can possibly get to in a lifetime. Building contractors and law enforcement lobbyists (those who legally bribed the congress to pass the crime bill) are basking in the sun of their new found money making opportunities. Yet, much more devastating is the fact that most prisoners leave incarceration worse off than when they first entered prison. I was in jail for only a month and learned how to use drugs, make bombs, and kill without anyone knowing who did it- I was in a small jail in a very small town in Montana-just think what one would learn in the "higher institutions of learning", i.e., the state and federal prisons?

What a waste! More cops isn't going to help. More "institutions of learning crime" are not going to help; especially if we keep the students in school longer. You can not clean a muddy river by bailing out the dirty water. You must find the source of the mud and eliminate it. Well, not all the humans were so blind. Some found out what the source of the mud was and tried to tell the other humans. They explained that the mud was coming from the drains of their own houses, and the only way to stop the mud was to quite using water in their houses. Now, the humans were so used to the convenience of the indoor plumbing that the thought of loosing it was not an option they were about to explore. So the humans continued to hire more bailers and build more wells so that they could keep their "indoor plumbing".

Crime is a product of our society. We will never reduce crime, let alone eliminate it, until we change the society that produces it. To those who are waiting for Jesus to come down and change the muddy river miraculously into a clean one, I wish you were right. But, these same individuals contribute to the mud and will be eliminated too. We must all pitch in and try to find the source of our "mud". More importantly, we must be willing to make the necessary changes to eliminate the filth. We have history to study and great opportunities to learn what changes should be made. I have studied the problem exhaustively at times and have come close to what I think could solve the problem. However, I am very much aware that the solutions which I have come up with have been discussed by the politicians who make our laws and administer them to us. They, as well as I, know that humans are far from ready to give up their "indoor plumbing".

Socialism failed to bring about the happiness and fairness that the human being desires, but it did reduce crime. Capitalism perpetuates crime, but provides the hope of this coveted fairness and happiness. The other "isms" won't even be mentioned for they are just ramifications of either socialism or capitalism. What we need is the best parts of both. Both are forms of human government which have evolved over time according to the knowledge and learning of the human race. The truth is, our world is much better than it was in the past. To the fanatic Christians who wait for everyone to be burned while they float to the sky (rapture)- who claim that these "last days" are the most wicked of all- how much happiness would they have found back in the time of their Lord?-especially if they were a woman. We are progressing by naturally evolving through learning and finding more about ourselves and the earth on which we live. We usually learn from a mistake and improve upon it. Nevertheless, the evolutionary process has always been very slow; so I don't expect to see much change in my lifetime.

The contribution which I wish to make to the humans who are trying to bail out the dirty water without considering its source, is to help other humans learn what I have learned, i.e., have as many intelligent children that I can, so that they will consider the source of the mud, and when the time is right, be able to help eliminate it. I also want to live my life as an example to others of how to live without "indoor plumbing". If I succeed, we all succeed. If I fail, we're all going to be burned anyway, so why worry?

