

I. The Challenge to live honestly is the demand of our day.

A. Tract, "Can You Be Trusted?"

B. Manifestations of dishonesty

1. Unscrupulous business practices,

Deceptive advertisements,

Unjust treatment of employees,

Cheap prices made possible by inferior articles.

2. Teapot Dome oil reserve assigned to a private individual for \$300,000 by a member of Pres. Harding's cabinet.

3. The "Black Sox Scandal" of 1919.

Eight White Sox players sold out their team.

C. What are some of the causes of dishonesty?

1. The depravity of the human heart

2. Idleness and laziness

3. Covetousness. \$17 billion spent annually in U.S. on crimes resulting from dishonesty.

4. Luxury and extravagance

5. Pride and selfishness

Believer.

II. The Will to Live Honestly is the Nature of a Regenerated (Story of the slave who said, "Massa, I will be honest whether you buys me or not.")

A. Christian standards.

See tract.

Chinese Proverb: "It is better to light a candle than to curse the darkness."

B. The Honor of Christ is staked on the honor and integrity of a Christian.

C. The Christian realizes, even moreso than many good people who are not Christians, that sincerity and honesty are the very bonds which hold society together

the Scriptures.

III. The Way to Live Honestly is the Whole Content of

A. What the Bible says about honesty.

Dishonesty is prohibited in hundreds of instances.

1. Deut. 35:13, "Thou shalt not have in thy bag diverse weights and measures, a great and a small."

2. Prov. 11:1, "A false balance is abomination to the Lord."

3. Prov. 19:5, "A false witness shall not be unpunished and he that speaketh lies shall not escape."

4. Rev. 21:8, "All liars shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone."

5. I Thess. 4:3, "This is the will of God, that no man defraud his brother in any matter."

6. Other Scripture quotations in System Bible.

B. Honesty begins in uprightness of heart.

C. Honesty in word.

Humpty Dumpty, in Albce in Wonderland, said, "I make words mean what I want them to mean."

D. Honesty in deed.

1. Marshall Field of Chicago

2. Horace B. Claflin of N.Y.

3. Refusal to cheat or gamble.

IV. The Reward of Living Honestly is a Good Conscience.

A. The dishonest person pays a high price for his

ill-gotten gains, --- a bad conscience,

disrespect of his fellow men,

and the wrath of a righteous God.

B. The Christian is not honest because it pays,

He is honest because it is right to be honest.

C. In any particular circumstance, it may or it may not

pay financially or materially to be honest,

but it always pays off in a good conscience to be completely honest.