

Recent studies of high school and college students have determined that most find the age-old issue of truth to be a non-issue today. It seems that the concept of objective morality based on absolute truth is not convenient anymore for our progressive and advanced society.

This has become most evident in the area of cheating. Three out of four high school students surveyed at 25 high schools recently admitted to cheating on a test at least one time in the past year according to a study by Rutgers University professor Donald McCabe. The news does get better as we head to college as only about half admit to cheating there!¹



I personally find no comfort in this statistical information. Since people are choosing to base their moral actions on their own subjective feelings and needs, it obviously causes one to consider the possible consequences.

¹ US News & World Report, May 21 2001

Some cheating went on a few years ago in Israel. A contractor decided to cheat just a little bit by ignoring some building codes to save money. He obviously didn't intend to harm anyone. He surely didn't expect that any problems would result from his action. Yet over two dozen people were killed and another 300 injured at a wedding party when the floor of their banquet room collapsed beneath them.

I am sure that you would agree with me that the "cheating" of the contractor was obviously wrong because of the horribly disastrous consequences. But you also might be saying that your little bit of cheating here and there can't really be wrong, can it?

I would encourage you to consider some ancient words of wisdom from David, King of Israel, who about 3000 years ago wrote concerning the character of God in the Psalms:

"Righteousness and justice are your throne's foundation, kindness and truth precede your countenance."²

God is big on truth, absolute and objective truth. That is one of the reasons He gave us the Scriptures. By reading and studying them we know who God is and we also know the best way to live our lives.

² Psalm 89:15 (The Stone Edition Tanach)

God is not only big on the issue of truth, He is also committed to making His truth an unavoidable issue for us to live by. His Ten Commandments laid the foundation for right and wrong, good and bad, which God expects us to follow.



Unfortunately no one can keep God's Commandments perfectly. King David sought to live by God's truth, but he also at times broke it. This is called sin. When David broke God's command and cheated against another man, he admitted his sin and asked God to forgive him:

"Abundantly cleanse me from my iniquity, and from my sin purify me"³

Have you been cheating a little with God's truth? Have you been talking yourself into believing that things you know to be against God's truth are just "little sins"? I would encourage you today to admit your sin as King David did. God is always willing and ready to help you live a life of truth for Him.

³ Psalm 51:4 (The Stone Edition Tanach)

God's greatest gift to help us live a life of truth is the Messiah of Israel: Yeshua (Jesus). Yeshua said of himself, *"I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."*⁴



God sent us the Messiah to teach us God's truth. God also sent the Messiah to die for us because we disobeyed God's truth. The Messiah took our punishment on himself, and gave us his eternal life.

*Are you ready...
to stop cheating on God?*

*Are you prepared...
to live by God's truth?*

First admit to God your cheating, admit you have sinned and have disobeyed His truth. Turn away from your sin and say to God that you are willing to live by His truth.

Second, accept that Messiah Yeshua is the only true way for you to have a relationship

with God. Accept that Yeshua's death paid the penalty for your sin and that your sinfulness and guilt can be totally taken away only when by faith you accept Yeshua's death for yourself.

If you are ready to make this step or if you are just curious, please feel free to contact us.

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Truth

OR

Consequences?



⁴ John 14:6 (Jewish New Testament)