## **How Far Have We Fallen? (Part Three)**

Presidential Lying John W. Ritenbaugh Given 02-Nov-13; Sermon #1183c

People of many nations give birth to cliches that capture in just a few words counsel that is fitting for a certain situation in life. For example, *carpe diem*—two Latin words that essentially mean "to seize the day." It covers grasping an opportunity to take advantage of a situation that is profitable for you. Then there is one that might be a purely American cliche. It is, "Let the buyer beware." This became prominent in our vigorous free market economy that contained very few government regulations. I lets us know that if you get suckered in and you buy a product from a snake oil salesman, you probably are going to bear the cost. Meanwhile, the slick-talking snake oil salesman, regardless of all of the lies that he has told to sell his product to simple and trusting people, is pretty much assured of going free of any penalty.

You might recall the stage and movie production "76 Trombones." It was built around such an incident. During the 1960s, this nation had a president who was charming, to say the least, but a known womanizer that was hidden from the public by the media. But somehow, somewhere along the line, he angered some powerful and violent men, and despite being president, he was assassinated.

The vice president who followed him into office was a political snake oil salesman who told so many lies and alienated so many people that when the next election arrived, he did not dare face the public because he knew he would be overwhelmingly defeated. He chose not to run.

Our next president, as we enter the late 1960s and into the 1970s, was not a man who was appealing to look at, but he was, for the most part, a fairly good public servant. However, a group of his supporters pulled off a robbery of helpful political information for him. It was a robbery that he authorized, and he went into it because he deemed it a helpful political move. But then he made it a major political mistake. He lied about it, and his political

enemies ultimately had all they needed to cause him to resign in disgrace—the only president in our history to do so.

What is interesting is that in terms of placing the nation in danger before its military and economic enemies, both the robbery and the lie were really insignificant affairs. No one's life was in any danger whatever. It was merely a squabble between two political parties. But lying then was unacceptable. Why? Because a liar cannot be trusted at any time, let alone to lead the nation. I think that in the passage of time, this helps to illustrate how vastly the nation's perception of that particular sin's seriousness has changed.

In the 1990s, we had another charming president who was committing sexual sins repeatedly—in the Oval Office yet—and lying about it. He could not be impeached. Even though people knew he was sinning, he was so strongly supported by others around him. And so now, today, 15 years later, his womanizing is put off as "just a man thing. That's what boys do."

Now we have a president who's been lying repeatedly and openly before the American public for years about a wide variety of issues regarding warfare, economics, the welfare system, unemployment, spying, the operations of the CIA, border problems, selling guns to Mexican drug lords, Benghazi, and Obamacare. We have slipped so far down, it almost seems as though the more he lies, the more he is loved.

He seems to escape blame for any of the problems his lies are intended to hide, and it appears that a large percentage of the public simply doesn't care that he lies, largely for two reasons obvious to you and me. One is that the lying is not judged as serious because the public has lost respect for God and lying is not perceived as serious because God and His law are not in their picture. The second is because the media is in the same boat. They do not respect God either, so their reporting is packed with justifications supporting his lies, and thus the public is given a distorted perspective. Today, though, there seems to be perhaps a crack of hope that his lies are beginning to catch up to him, because his popularity has begun falling rapidly.

**Proverbs 16:10** Divination is on the lips of the king; his mouth must not transgress in judgment.

**Proverbs 29:4** (*The Living Bible*) A just king adds stability to his nation, but one who demands bribes destroys it.

President Obama is, by far and away, the most biblically hostile president this nation has ever had to endure. I have in my file an article by one David Barton. I really do not know who he is, but he has listed the date and the quotation of 70 times since Mr. Obama took office that he has publicly made anti-Christian, anti-Jewish, and anti-biblical beliefs and values statements. That's incredible.

Just yesterday, I read an interview in WorldNetDaily of Dan Bongino, who is a former Secret Service officer assigned to directly protect President Obama. But he is now a candidate for a congressional office in Maryland and the author of a book titled, *Life Inside the Bubble*. He said in this interview,

We are at a very dangerous point. We're in a lot of trouble. The president sees government, and I think it's because of his lack of experience and maybe community organizing in the past, as like a shiny new toy. And for all the disagreements I had with Clinton, Carter and Bush, there were always limits. There was a time you just did not cross. We cross a line seemingly every day.

Well, the big news right now is the opening of the Obamacare website and the number of people being canceled by their health insurer. But let me tell you the big lie. You've heard somewhat of it. But many, many times, Mr Obama has publicly stated that very few people would have their medical insurance canceled. He has publicly stated *repeatedly* that if you want to keep your present insurance, you can. That is not true. It has now been proved by two ladies, who did a tremendous amount of research, that he was informed—this appeared in *The New York Times*—by people in the insurance industry as early as July, 2010, that millions of people would lose their medical insurance because the insurance companies cannot possibly meet the qualifications off the Obama Care Act, and so they have to cancel them in defense of the corporation.

This is recorded in the Federal Register that he was informed. The Federal Register is much like a personal diary that people keep, but on a massive

national scale. And his oft-repeated lie is deliberately done to encourage people to buy their insurance in the federal marketplace online at a much higher price. And it is now estimated that this will happen to 93 million people.

So the question is, why is he doing this? Why did he so consistently lie about something that he should have known because he was told that this would occur? Well, the judgment is that it was done to force a single-payer system on the American people. In other words, to deliberately have their insurance canceled to force the people into a single payer system, and that single payer will be the federal government. And in so doing, the federal government will gain control of one sixth of the American economy. It appears that he has executed a massive scam through lies on the very people who voted him into office