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## SERMON OUTLINE

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### Honesty

#### Selected Proverbs

#### I. Honesty in our Words

- A. God watches over all truth (22:12).
- B. God loves truth and hates lies (6:17,19; 12:22).
- C. Lying reveals our character.
  1. Lying reveals the condition of the heart (12:20).
  2. Lying reveals hatred for God (14:2).
  3. Lying reveals hatred for people (25:18; 26:28).

#### Why We Lie and Deceive

- Guilt – To avoid getting caught and punished
- Fear – To avoid financial loss, humiliation, consequences
- Greed – To get or keep what we don't deserve
- Hate – To hurt or spite someone, revenge
- Pride – To get attention, impress – false claims, exaggeration, flattery
- Laziness – To get out of doing something – excuses
- Comfort – To get perks or sympathy

- D. Truth pays off; lying doesn't.
  1. Lying brings consequences (19:5).
  2. Truth gives security and lessens our anxiety (10:9).
  3. Truth makes decisions easier (11:3).
  4. Truth heals relationships (15:4).

#### II. Honesty in our Finances

- A. God watches over our business ethics (15:1).
- B. God loves honesty and hates dishonesty.
  1. Balances (11:1; 16:11; 20:10,23)
  2. Boundaries (22:28; 23:10)
  3. Bribes (15:27; 17:23)
  4. Overcharging (28:8)
  5. Being cheap (20:14)
- C. We can trust God when we're honest (28:20, 25).
- D. The good and godly love honesty (13:5; 30:8; 16:13).