



False Accusations

Some of the most prevalent ungodliness in our time is false accusations. This has been a relationship destroyer. Many have been deemed guilty by accusation which is totally against the law of the land and above all the Word of God.

Today if someone doesn't like you, all he has to do to destroy your reputation, life, family, and career is to raise false accusations and sad to say most people will treat the accused as guilty with no second thought that a false accusation is not a final verdict. That person will connive and conspire to bring you down through unfounded witnesses. Most of the accusations have not verification, and they have no collaboration.

Oh, how this ungodly concept has destroyed many families and lives. The most worrying thing is this could easily happen to any of us. Are we going to sit back and allow ungodliness to prevail and destroy the rule of law or are we growing to stand up and fight against this injustice?

One day I heard one ungodly woman on television say that the "testimony of a woman must be believed as true without collaboration or verification." Nothing can be further from the truth. This is purely ungodly, wrong, and foolish. This television person was saying that the Word of God is not accurate, and we do not need two or three witnesses to verify and collaborate with an accusation. She was saying that women can't lie.

She was saying that a woman can't be bought or used to falsely accuse a man of something untrue and unfounded. Imagine how many lives could be destroyed if this was the pattern of dealing with an accusation.

The sad thing about this is that no one is immune to these false accusations. This can happen to anyone in any setting or environment. Someone can just come up and say untrue things about you and many believers plus the world will believe it without even giving the accused a chance to defend themselves nor face their accusers and witnesses. I have heard situations where a person raised a false accusation without against another person without even ever meeting them and it became a stain on another person's life.

The law stands that one shall be innocent until proven guilty. You must tell the accused what they did, where they did it, the time, and have two to three witnesses collaborating and willing to verify those accusations. Evidence or a legal burden of proof is required to convict a person of a crime. This principle and the entire American Judicial system is founded on the Holy Word of God (Deuteronomy 19:15-21).

A. Deuteronomy 19:15-21 "One witness shall not rise up against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin that he sinneth: at the mouth of two witnesses, or at the mouth of three witnesses, shall the matter be established. [16] If a false witness rise up against any man to testify against him that which is wrong; [17] Then both the men, between whom the controversy is, shall stand before the Lord, before the priests and the judges, which shall be in those days; [18] And the judges shall make diligent inquisition: and, behold, if the witness be a false witness, and hath testified falsely against his brother; [19] Then shall ye do unto him, as he had thought to have done unto his brother: so shalt thou put the evil away from among you. [20] And those which remain shall hear, and fear, and shall henceforth commit no more any such evil among you. [21] And thine eye shall not pity; but life shall go for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot."

a) These passages strongly forbid a witness of one. Such should not even arise for any sin or iniquity.

i) Only in the mouth of two and three shall a matter be established. Many other passages in the Word of God fully promote a two or three witness (Matthew 18:16; John 8:17; Hebrews 10:28; 2 Corinthians 13:1).

b) It is possible for a false witness to arise against any or anyone.

c) Judges are to make diligent inquisition and if the witness is found to be false, whatever was to be done to the accused shall be instead done to the accuser.

i) In other words, the accuser should not get away with false accusations. Today many false accusations go unpunished, and they have only increased. This is the wrong approach and will cause false accusations to increase.

ii) It seems that in our society, false accusers get away with this all the time. There are no repercussions to their false accusations.

d) Punishing the lying false accuser would deter others from falsely making up allegations and accusations against others. There ought to be severe consequences for making a false allegation because false accusations are ungodly and have destroyed so many lives.

B. 1 Timothy 5:19 "Against an elder receive not an accusation, but before two or three witnesses."

- a) The word “Elder” used here refers to more than an old person in age, but mostly to a person in leadership.
- b) The same principle mentioned in Deuteronomy 19:15 still applies equally to those in authority. No accusation is to be received or accepted by a judge or anyone without two or three witnesses.
- c) There is a greater need to follow this principle because one person’s accusation could easily discredit a leader and keep out of the pulpit. Today we have many people who yield to Satan and slander those in leadership. Having multiple people collaborate a story will stop abuse and discrediting due to personal and selfish reasons.
- d) A witness is one who furnishes evidence or proof. He is more like a martyr. It is one who is willing to put their name and life on the line. People who are not willing to put their names on paper are not true witnesses.
 - i) An anonymous source is not a witness. A witness or verified source must be willing to come forth with their identity and name.
- e) The word “receive” is referring to “admit or accept.” No accusation is to be accepted or received unless it is brought forward by two or three witnesses.
- f) Charges or allegations that do not have two to three witnesses should be ignored and/or dropped. They are unfounded according to the Word of God.
- g) If two or three witnesses are present, it does not mean that their witness is true.
 - i) These witnesses could be mercenaries.
 - ii) The judge or the person in charge of addressing these accusations must “make diligent inquisition” (Deuteronomy 19:18). This means they must investigate thoroughly, look into the allegations or accusations with care, without prejudice or bias, and favoritism. The judge must question and find out if the witness is lying or telling the truth, make a thorough inquiry to ensure that justice is done not just assume that if two or more people arise with an allegation, it ought to be true.
- h) Deuteronomy 17:6 “At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death.”

It is ungodly to act on rumors as leaders to hang another person. As long as people still exist, rumors will.

If we can adhere to these biblical principles, we can significantly reduce and/or eliminate false accusations. The answer to the problems and challenges in our society lies in God's Word.

Rick Warren