

²⁰ And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

MARK 7:20-23

And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches. And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?”

MARK 7:4-5

²⁰ And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. ²¹ For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, ²² coveting, wickedness, **deceit**, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

MARK 7:20-23

You shall not give false testimony
against your neighbor.

EXODUS 20:16

¹ Then David came to Nob, to Ahimelech the priest. And Ahimelech came to meet David, trembling, and said to him, “Why are you alone, and no one with you?” ² And David said to Ahimelech the priest, “**The king has charged me with a matter and said to me, ‘Let no one know anything of the matter about which I send you, and with which I have charged you.’** I have made an appointment with the young men for such and such a place. ³ Now then, what do you have on hand? Give me five loaves of bread, or whatever is here.” ⁴ And the priest answered David, “I have no common bread on hand, but there is holy bread—if the young men have kept themselves from women.”

1 SAMUEL 21

⁵ And David answered the priest,
“**Truly women have been kept from us** as always when I go on an expedition. The vessels of the young men are holy even when it is an ordinary journey. How much more today will their vessels be holy?” ⁶ So the priest gave him the holy bread, for there was no bread there but the bread of the Presence, which is removed from before the Lord, to be replaced by hot bread on the day it is taken away.

1 SAMUEL 21

⁷ Now a certain man of the servants of Saul was there that day, detained before the Lord. His name was Doeg the Edomite, the chief of Saul's herdsman.

⁸ Then David said to Ahimelech, **“Then have you not here a spear or a sword at hand? For I have brought neither my sword nor my weapons with me, because the king's business required haste.”** ⁹

And the priest said, “The sword of Goliath the Philistine, whom you struck down in the Valley of Elah, behold, it is here wrapped in a cloth behind the ephod. If you will take that, take it, for there is none but that here.” And David said, “There is none like that; give it to me.”

1 SAMUEL 21

⁶ Now Saul heard that David was discovered, and the men who were with him. Saul was sitting at Gibeah under the tamarisk tree on the height with his spear in his hand, and all his servants were standing about him. ⁷ And Saul said to his servants who stood about him, “Hear now, people of Benjamin; will the son of Jesse give every one of you fields and vineyards, will he make you all commanders of thousands and commanders of hundreds, ⁸ **that all of you have conspired against me? No one discloses to me** when my son makes a covenant with the son of Jesse.

1 SAMUEL 22

None of you is sorry for me or discloses to me that my son has stirred up my servant against me, to lie in wait, as at this day.”

⁹ Then answered Doeg the Edomite, who stood by the servants of Saul, “I saw the son of Jesse coming to Nob, to Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, ¹⁰ and he inquired of the Lord for him and gave him provisions and gave him the sword of Goliath the Philistine.”

1 SAMUEL 22

¹¹ Then the king sent to summon Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests who were at Nob, and all of them came to the king. ¹² And Saul said, "Hear now, son of Ahitub." And he answered, "Here I am, my lord." ¹³ And Saul said to him, "Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse, in that you have given him bread and a sword and have inquired of God for him, so that he has risen against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?" ¹⁴ Then Ahimelech answered the king, "And who among all your servants is so faithful as David, who is the king's son-in-law, and captain over your bodyguard, and honored in your house? ¹⁵ Is today the first time that I have inquired of God for him? No! Let not the king impute anything to his servant or to all the house of my father, for your servant has known nothing of all this, much or little."

1 SAMUEL 22

¹⁶ And the king said, “You shall surely die, Ahimelech, you and all your father’s house.” ¹⁷ And the king said to the guard who stood about him, “Turn and kill the priests of the Lord, because their hand also is with David, and they knew that he fled and did not disclose it to me.” But the servants of the king would not put out their hand to strike the priests of the Lord. ¹⁸ **Then the king said to Doeg, “You turn and strike the priests.” And Doeg the Edomite turned and struck down the priests, and he killed on that day eighty-five persons who wore the linen ephod.** ¹⁹ And Nob, the city of the priests, he put to the sword; both man and woman, child and infant, ox, donkey and sheep, he put to the sword.

1 SAMUEL 22

²⁰ But one of the sons of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub, named Abiathar, escaped and fled after David. ²¹ And Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the priests of the Lord. ²² And David said to Abiathar, “I knew on that day, when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he would surely tell Saul.

I have occasioned the death of all the persons of your father's house.

²³ Stay with me; do not be afraid, for he who seeks my life seeks your life. With me you shall be in safekeeping.”

1 SAMUEL 22

The background of the entire image is a dark, high-contrast photograph of water splashing, with droplets and ripples visible against a black background. The text is overlaid on this background.

DAVID

A

**RELATABLE,
PLAIN LIE**

DOEG

A

**WEAPONIZED,
ACCURATE
STATEMENT**

Why do you boast of evil, O mighty man?

The steadfast love of God endures all the day.

Your tongue plots destruction,

like a sharp razor, you worker of deceit.

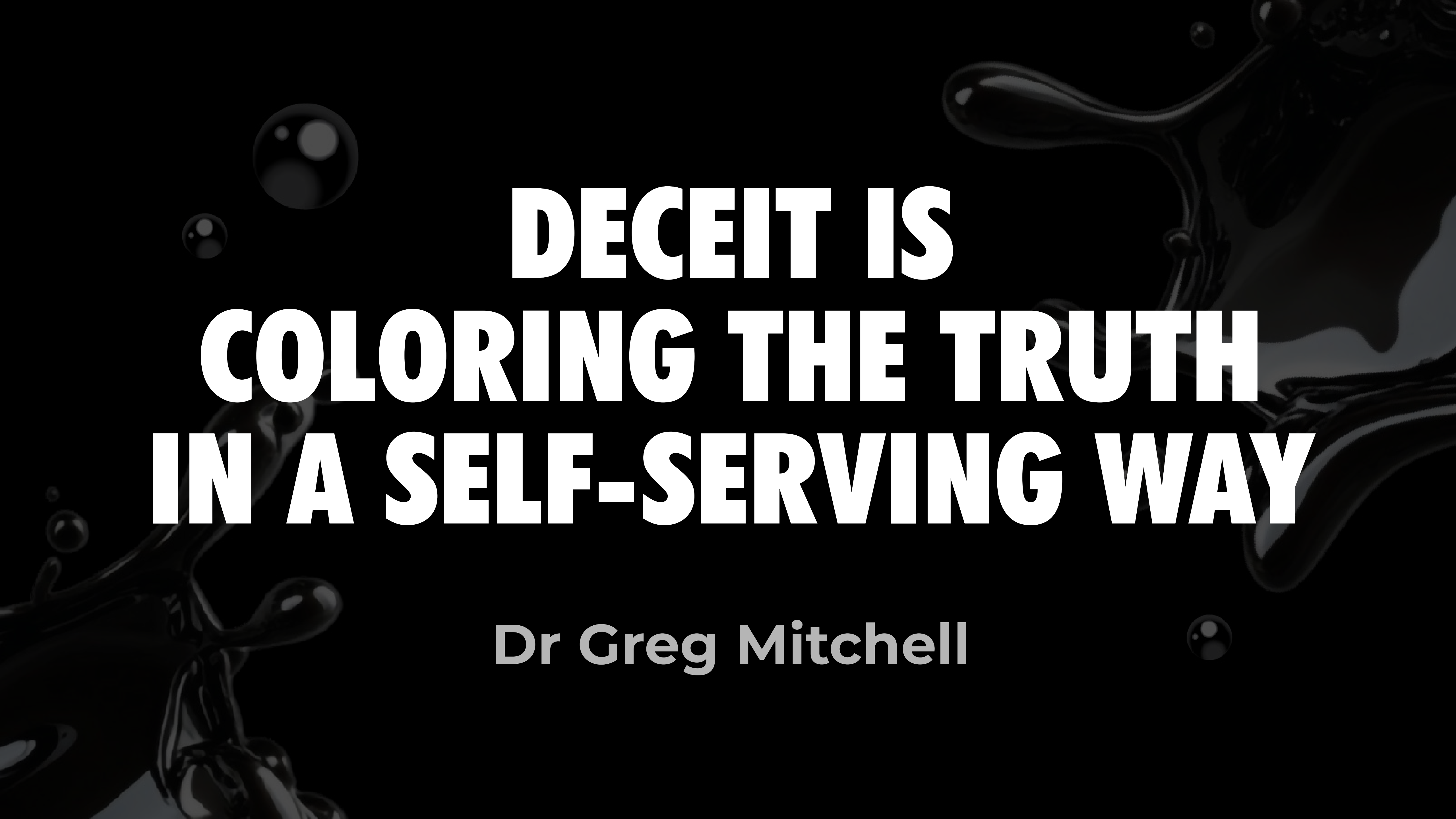
You love evil more than good,

and lying more than speaking what is right. Selah

You love all words that devour,

O deceitful tongue.

PSALM 52:1-4



**DECEIT IS
COLORING THE TRUTH
IN A SELF-SERVING WAY**

Dr Greg Mitchell

IT CAN INCLUDE:

MISLEADING

EXAGGERATION

GOSSIP

SUSPICION

DISMISSING

HIDING

“See the man who would not make
God his refuge,
but trusted in the abundance of his riches
and sought refuge in his own destruction!”

PSALM 52:7

A DECEPTION ISSUE IS ULTIMATELY A TRUST ISSUE.

It happens when we fail to trust that God is in control of reality, and instead feel the need to take matters into our own hands.



When do you feel the pressure to bend reality?

What circumstances make you feel you must take matters into your own hands?

Where in your life are you struggling to trust that God is in control?

But I am like a green olive tree
in the house of God.

I trust in the steadfast love of God
forever and ever.

I will thank you forever,
because you have done it.

I will wait for your name, for it is good,
in the presence of the godly.

PSALM 52:8-9