



The Chaos of Post-Truth: The Devil and Lies

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ABSTRACT

The post-truth era has had a significant impact on the responses and behaviors of both individuals and groups. The characteristics of this era tend to blur objective facts and lead to relativism, where objective truth is no longer considered absolute. This situation triggers the spread of false news and the distortion of facts, causing individuals to become disseminators of lies or, at the very least, mislead others into logical fallacies far from objective truth. The purpose of this research is to analyze the impact of the post-truth era on individual behavior and thinking, as well as to uncover the factors contributing to the widespread dissemination of lies and manipulation of facts. This study also aims to understand the root causes of the chaos in the post-truth era from a theological perspective. This research employs a qualitative method with a library research approach. The researcher analyzes the variables used and presents them descriptively. The results of the study indicate that the chaos of the post-truth era stems from individuals being deceived, manipulated, and trapped in the allure of lies, diverting them from the objective truth that originates from God, and instead leading them towards subjective truth driven by personal desires and passions.

Keywords: Post-truth, chaos, devil, lies, manipulation, objective truth, subjective truth, deception

Article history

Received: 06
Agustus 2024

Revised: 16
September 2024

Accepted: 30
September 2024

Published: 02
Oktober 2024

Citation (APA Style): Lontoh, F. (2024). The Chaos of Post-Truth: The Devil and Lies. *Jurnal Teologi Dan Pelayanan Kerusso*, 9(2), 281-291. <https://doi.org/10.33856/kerusso.v9i2.418>

INTRODUCTION

The development of digital technology amidst postmodernism has given rise to a new phenomenon known as post-truth. In post-truth society, truth is considered relative, and the pursuit of viral content often becomes the primary goal. Sharing various types of information on electronic platforms such as gossip, falsehoods, and other content has become a hallmark of the post-truth era (Purba & Kennedy Sitorus, 2023). In line with this, the Ministry of Communication and Informatics (Kominfo) found that a total of 9,546 hoax news items were spread across various social media platforms, based on accumulated data from August 2018 to early 2022 (Yakti Widyastuti, 2022).

The post-truth era brings people into a state of information anxiety. Heidegger revealed the tendency among the public to avoid falling behind others in terms of information. This anxiety is driven by the desire to follow trends rather than seek the truth (Hardiman, 2018). For example, if hoax news and other negative information are perceived as "cool" and trending and shared by public figures on their social media accounts, this negative information may be seen as relative and eventually accepted as truth by the public (Hardiman, 2018).

In Indonesia, this phenomenon has led to many fraud cases. Head of Public Relations Ferdinandus Setu revealed that there are three types of hoax dissemination. The first type involves individuals who use the internet without sufficient knowledge to verify information. The second type involves well-educated individuals with high intellectual capacity who spread hoaxes for political purposes, such as to bring down political opponents. The third type consists of individuals who know the information is a hoax but still spread it for financial gain from the controversy it generates (Kominfo, 2019).

This phenomenon shows that hoaxes have become an inseparable part of the post-truth era. This era represents a time when facts are often ignored. Ken Wilber, in his book *Trump and the Post-truth World* (2017), links post-truth to nihilism, narcissism, skepticism, and postmodernism, which fundamentally reject universal truth. According to him, reality and truth are subjective constructions that depend on individual perspectives and interpretations, without any universally accepted moral framework or virtue (Eko Suharyanto, 2019).

The increasing use of social media is one of the main indicators of this phenomenon. The Indonesian Internet Service Providers Association (APJII) recorded that internet penetration in Indonesia has increased year by year. In 2018, internet penetration reached 64.8%, rising to 73.7% in 2019-2020. In 2021-2022, it increased by 1.17% from the previous year, reaching 77.02% (Finaka & Nurhanisah, 2023). In 2023, internet penetration reached 78.19%, which, when calculated based on population, amounts to 215,626,156 people out of a total of 275,773,901 (Yati, 2023).

As long as social media and the internet continue to be used by society (and have even become a basic necessity), the post-truth phenomenon cannot be stopped. Social media serves as a vehicle for quickly spreading ideas and messages without regard for the underlying values of truth (Purba & Kennedy Sitorus, 2023). Post-truth is closely correlated with manipulation, which is essentially lying. In the book of Genesis, the Devil created lies to influence humans to follow his will. The Bible explains that the Devil successfully tempted Eve by offering enticing promises, such as that by eating the forbidden fruit, Eve would become like God and know good and evil (Genesis 3:4-5). The Devil manipulated Eve by distorting the essence of facts to achieve his goals (Natar, 2020). The question is, can the Devil's character be considered the precursor of the post-truth phenomenon in the contemporary era? What is the relationship between the Devil and lies, and how does it relate to post-truth?

This study aims to analyze the lies and manipulation carried out by the Devil against humans and examine their correlation with the characteristics of post-truth. This analysis is expected to show how post-truth characteristics are formed and how the Devil's manipulation of humans relates to this phenomenon, concluding that post-truth is not solely the result of social media but also reflects the character of humanity itself (Eko Suharyanto, 2019; Finaka & Nurhanisah, 2023).

This research provides significant contributions to previous studies on the post-truth phenomenon, especially in the context of how lies and the manipulation of information are not only caused by technological and social media developments but are also closely related to human nature and theological perspectives. Previous studies conducted by Wilber (2017), Hardiman (2018), and Eko Suharyanto (2019) have discussed the connection between post-truth and social, political, and postmodern nihilism. However, this research expands on these insights by examining post-truth from a religious perspective, specifically looking at how the Devil's manipulation in scripture mirrors this phenomenon in the modern world.

This study also complements previous research on the dissemination of hoaxes and their impact on society. While previous research emphasized technological and social aspects, this study adds an ethical

and theological perspective, showing how the post-truth phenomenon not only reflects irresponsible use of social media but also demonstrates human tendencies to manipulate truth for personal gain. This research deepens our understanding of how spiritual and moral aspects are involved in the post-truth era, providing a foundation for further discussion on solutions that involve ethical and religious approaches.

By linking the manipulative characteristics of the Devil in Genesis to the contemporary post-truth phenomenon, this research fills a gap in the literature regarding the moral and ethical roots of this phenomenon. It provides a basis for future studies that wish to explore how information manipulation in the post-truth era can be addressed through theological and ethical approaches.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research employs a qualitative method with a library research approach. This method was chosen due to the primary focus of the study, which is to analyze the phenomenon of post-truth from theological and ethical perspectives by examining relevant literature, including sacred texts, post-truth theories, and writings that explore manipulation and deception within religious and social contexts. The data for this study was sourced from secondary materials such as books, journal articles, research reports, and relevant online sources. The researcher examined works from experts who discuss the concepts of post-truth, deceit, and manipulation, as well as studies that connect the character of Satan in religious texts to the post-truth phenomenon in the modern era.

The analysis was conducted descriptively, identifying patterns of deception and manipulation depicted in sacred texts and comparing them to the characteristics of post-truth in contemporary society. The research also reviewed cases of hoaxes and misinformation on social media, analyzing them within a theological framework to understand how humans are influenced by manipulated information. The findings of this study are expected to provide a deeper understanding of the connection between the manipulation of information by Satan, as described in sacred texts, and the post-truth phenomenon in the digital age. Additionally, the research aims to contribute to previous studies by adding ethical and theological dimensions to the analysis of post-truth.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The formation of a new era is naturally a result of the conditions of the preceding era. The initial process is mass product-oriented, which begins as a design and eventually becomes a habit. This habit is born from studies and scientific discoveries that fundamentally change logical paradigms. This is similar to the creation of the post-truth era, which serves as a foundation for societal change toward new traditions (Taufik & Suryana, 2022). Post-truth is a new term translated by Oxford as a situation where reality no longer determines truth, but rather personal opinions based on emotions and beliefs. In this context, truth is no longer respected, and everything becomes biased and subjective (Zaluchu, 2020).

Nowadays, the post-truth tradition is supported by digital technology, including social media. Purba & Kennedy Sitorus (2023) revealed that social media acts as a vehicle for post-truth, enabling the rapid spread of ideas and messages without consideration for their truthfulness. Indeed, numerous hoaxes, slanderous news, and other negative information are rampant. In this situation, certain individuals exploit this while others are exploited.

Ferdinandus Setu, Head of the Public Relations Bureau, stated that there are three types of hoax spreaders. The first type consists of people who use the internet without much thought. Generally, hoaxes

spread due to a lack of knowledge in verifying information. The second type is educated individuals with high intellectual capability. They spread hoaxes to undermine their political opponents. In this regard, many educators, political elites, and public figures in Indonesia exhibit these characteristics. The third type consists of those who know the information is false but spread it for financial gain. For instance, they create hoax content on YouTube to generate controversy and attract viewers, which ultimately leads to financial profit (Kominfo, 2019).

Social media influencers, or "account owners," flood the platforms by sharing what they consider to be the truth. The basis for sharing this "truth" varies depending on what they feel or deem necessary to disseminate. Some share highly individualistic content, while others share religious values. However, there are also those who share subjective truths based on personal opinions. In the post-truth era, this is acceptable as long as it does not contradict individual values. Essentially, social media content creators can claim their content as truth (Taufik & Suryana, 2022).

In observing this phenomenon, many people share content based on subjective truths and personal interests. This way of thinking is individualistic and unrealistic because it focuses solely on personal interests without considering the consequences for the audience. The chaos of the post-truth era in Indonesia can be seen in the widespread dissemination of hoaxes.

The genealogy of hoaxes can be traced back to a philologist named Robert Nares (1753–1829). In the 18th century, the term "hoax" was used in England. In his book "A Glossary: Or Collection of Words, Phrases, Names, and Allusions to Customs," published in 1822 (Polando, 2021), Nares wrote that the word "hoax" comes from the Latin term *hocus*, referring to *hocus pocus*. The word *hocus* means "to cheat" or "to deceive." According to Nares, *hocus pocus* refers to the chants of witches, later used by magicians to start their tricks. *Hocus pocus* was derived from the name of a famous Italian sorcerer, Ochus Bochus. The term "deceive" was used to confuse others for entertainment purposes.

Social media has become a vehicle for post-truth to spread ideas and messages without concern for their truthfulness (Purba & Kennedy Sitorus, 2023). Now, social media resembles a stage for information drama, making it difficult to verify the truth, as everything is mixed and scattered. Most Indonesians are not thirsty for truth but for information. This aligns with Hardiman's (2018) statement that the phrase "thirst for truth" is no longer relevant for gadget users in this digital revolution era; the more appropriate phrase is "thirst for information."

The Ministry of Communication and Information Technology (Kominfo) and Katadata Insight Center (KIC) conducted a survey on hoaxes. The survey results showed that 11.9% of respondents admitted to spreading hoaxes in 2021. However, 30% to nearly 60% of Indonesians were exposed to hoaxes on social media. Meanwhile, around 21% to 36% could somewhat identify hoaxes. Most of the hoax issues circulating were related to religion, politics, and health (Fajri, 2023).

Instead of seeking information to be informed, much of the Indonesian public now finds themselves fueled by negative emotions from consuming information. For example, a hoax spread about a suicide bombing in Medan on April 4, 2021. In reality, it was not a terrorist suicide bombing but rather a car tire explosion caused by over-inflation (Diskominfo, 2021). Those exposed to this false news might start developing unfounded assumptions, with many believing it was a terrorist act. Those with more conservative or fundamentalist religious beliefs, in particular, may develop blind hatred toward certain religions. This chaos is not based on truth.

In the genealogy of hoaxes, the *hocus pocus* element likely plays a significant role, with various

hoaxes—hate speech and others—becoming entertainment for viewers. Many viewers fall into a state of alienation and are trapped in the web of hoaxes.

True but "Not Really True"

In the context of the post-truth era, "truth" becomes a social emotional element. This means that as long as something can stir public emotions, it is considered true, regardless of where the information comes from or how it has been modified. As a result, it becomes unclear whether it is actually true or "not really true," which often contradicts the facts. The post-truth era leads us to a state where we "don't really" know what truth is.

Undeniably, the post-truth era carries the thinking patterns of postmodernism, which rejects universalism and absolutism. Postmodernism promotes the idea of relative truth (Omar Ar Razy, 2021). The prevalence of unchecked hoaxes tends to reinforce the notion of relative truth. Moreover, when such information is echoed by educated and famous individuals, what is "not really true" can become accepted as truth.

Ferdinandus Setu, Head of the Public Relations Bureau, revealed that certain educated individuals with high intellectual capacity, educators, political elites, and public figures in Indonesia spread hoaxes for personal gain (Kominfo, 2019). In the post-truth era, all of this is considered acceptable as long as it does not contradict individual values. In other words, people who create social media content can claim what they create is the truth (Taufik & Suryana, 2022).

When educated people, public figures, and religious leaders with many followers promote subjective truths or spread hoaxes for personal interests, the information they provide becomes "not really true." It's like breathing in the scent of perfume that is actually a foul odor. Joseph Goebbels famously said: "A lie told once remains a lie, but a lie told a thousand times becomes the truth. If you repeat a lie often enough, people will believe it, and you will even come to believe it yourself" (Polando, 2021).

In the end, the post-truth era leads us to believe that what is "not really true" becomes true. Reflecting on this, American philosopher Abraham J. Heschel in his book *Who Is a Man* explained: "The tragedy of modern man is related to the fact that man fails to discover who he truly is or gets lost in a false identity, which leads him to fail in finding his true self. This failure is not due to a lack of knowledge but to acquiring the wrong knowledge" (Setiawan, 2014).

So, what causes people to lose their way and tend to fall into adopting a false identity? This needs to be traced back to the manipulations and deceptions of the Devil, whose lies and manipulations aim to achieve his goals over humanity.

"Satan and Lies"

Satan's words are those that do not align with God's will or contradict His Word, corrupting the truth of God. Such words lack a foundation in truth because they originate from a false source with intentions that oppose God's will. Justin Taylor explains that when Satan appeared as the cunning serpent, his first action was to speak, and his words were designed to cast doubt on God's Word. The next step was to accuse God of being deceitful by saying, "You will not surely die" (Illu et al., 2022).

Satan's words are different from those spoken by God or oppose His Word because their purpose contradicts God's intentions. While God expresses love for humanity, Satan seeks to destroy human life, even though his words may sometimes seem convincing or trustworthy. Sumiwi explains that in John 10:10,

the thief (representing Satan) comes only to take control of the sheep, steal them, and thus destroy them. The aim of Satan's words is to lead humans to follow him (Illu et al., 2022). Humans are inclined to follow Satan because they have fallen into a sinful state, making them easily influenced or trapped by enticing words. Satan's promises may offer excitement, but they ultimately bring destruction and do not deliver true happiness. When people follow Satan's words, they become ensnared by his influence, making it difficult to escape, as his lies take hold of them.

People may feel that what Satan says is true, without paying attention to what God has spoken (Belo, 2020). After Satan became the enemy of God and mankind, rebelling against God and attempting to seize His throne (Isaiah 14:12-15, Ezekiel 28:12-15), he continues to create lies to lead humanity astray. Satan's goal in distorting God's Word is to confuse people. He declared, "You will not surely die" (Genesis 3:1-4). John 8:44 explains that from the beginning, Satan has been a murderer and has deceived the truth. This refers to the event in the Garden of Eden, where Satan brought death to humanity through deceit and lies (cf. 1 John 3:8; Romans 7:11).

Satan's goal in creating lies is to trap humans and make them carry out his will. His desires include murder and deceit. John 8:32 and 8:40 emphasize the distortion of truth. When Satan approaches humans, he does not offer truth (God's Word) but lies, thus deceiving and destroying humanity (Genesis 3:1-3). According to Ridderbos, Satan speaks lies because there is no truth in him. He is called a "boaster" because he is the father of lies, opposing God's Word and seeking to dominate and corrupt (Genesis 3:3-4) (Ridderbos, 2012).

Satan reveals his desires to humans, encouraging them to do things that please him, which are contrary to God's Word. Stephen Tong states, "The voice that makes us feel lulled, drawn to commit evil, and tempted to sin is surely the voice of Satan" (Tong, 2013). Satan attempts to persuade humans to follow his will, which opposes God's Word. He seeks to confuse the understanding of truth, creating lies that introduce ideas that do not align with reality. Satan reveals things that contradict God's Word, causing humans to doubt His truth. If Satan succeeds in altering a person's perception, they will naturally follow his will. This is Satan's strategy: influencing humans by shifting their perception (Wijaya, 2021).

A lie created by Satan is a falsehood that leads to wrong actions or words, contrary to what should be believed, even though some may accept it while others reject it. Satan knows that what he says opposes God's Word and aims to harm humanity, but he does it because it is his role as the enemy of God and humans (Illu et al., 2022).

Satan's lies are not based on truth (God's Word) but on its opposite. He tries to replace God's truth with lies (Romans 1:5), directing people toward unreliable things that conflict with God's will because they are not rooted in His Word. Satan never conveys anything true, yet he manages to lure people away from truth, goodness, and beauty. His lies are often not scrutinized or analyzed critically by humans. They tend to accept them easily without examining the actual reality. Satan creates lies through misleading communication that does not provide understanding but leads to traps. The end result is that people choose to follow him, as they generally prefer an easy, instant path over struggling with principles of truth and established norms.

The communication that Satan establishes with humans is filled with ambiguity, deception, and pretense, not bringing peace or joy, but instead resulting in chaos and unhappiness, leaving people powerless and trapped. Satan does not have the cause-and-effect power to enforce obedience; he merely uses cunning to present opportunities that undermine the truth, leading people to follow his will. Satan continually seeks

opportunities to bring people down. 1 Peter 5:8 states, "Be sober-minded and watchful. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour." Satan is depicted as a dangerous beast, a monster that opposes everyone, wandering aimlessly, and making this world uncomfortable with offers that appear to bring comfort but ultimately destroy human lives (Illu, 2020).

Aside from Adam and Eve, who were deceived by Satan, there are several other examples in the Bible that show how Satan can create lies that influence people. One example is when King Saul sought guidance from a medium in Endor (1 Sam. 28:3-25). After the prophet Samuel died, Israel was defeated in battle by the Philistines, and King Saul became extremely shaken and fearful. Saul sought guidance from God but received no answers through the Urim, Thummim, or the prophets (1 Sam. 28:6). This led Saul to turn to a medium in Endor to summon the spirit of Samuel. Something mysterious emerged from the earth, which Saul believed to be Samuel's spirit because of the woman's invocation. However, what appeared was not Samuel's spirit but rather "an old man wrapped in a robe" (1 Sam. 28:14a).

On that dark night, Saul could not clearly see the figure that the woman claimed to have seen (1 Sam. 28:8, 14a). Because Saul believed that the spirit of the dead could be contacted, he immediately concluded that the figure was the prophet Samuel (1 Sam. 28:14b). In reality, the one who appeared was Satan disguised as Samuel. Satan can disguise himself as an angel of light (2 Cor. 11:14). The book of Job (7:9-10; 14:10-12) clearly states that the spirits of the dead do not appear on earth again until the heavens pass away. The spirits of the deceased cannot roam the earth, nor can they help or disturb the living.

If we see apparitions or hear voices resembling the dead, we must be cautious not to worship or revere them, for they are Satan in disguise. Satan exploits the belief that the dead can communicate with the living, a belief that God opposes (Lev. 19:31; Deut. 18:10-13; Isa. 8:19-20) (Liau, 2008).

Second, Satan controlled the hearts of Ananias and Sapphira. In Acts 5:2-3, after selling a piece of land, Ananias and his wife Sapphira conspired to keep back part of the proceeds. Peter then asked, "Why has Satan filled your heart?" (v. 3), affirming that Ananias had not only lied to humans but also to God. Peter continued in verse 9, "How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord?" Every person can choose to allow either Satan or the Holy Spirit to control their heart, and this choice is a personal responsibility.

The Bible teaches that the source of sin comes from Satan and uncontrolled human desires (James 1:13-14). When someone sins, four parties are aware of the sin: God, Satan, oneself, and the conscience (Romans 2:13-14). Romans 2:5 and 11 explain that sin brings serious consequences, including death, which causes great fear among believers. No sin is considered trivial or deliberately committed in God's sight (Leviticus 10:1-11). This is God's justice, which brings punishment to those who sin.

The sin of Ananias and Sapphira was withholding what rightfully belonged to God, lying to the Holy Spirit, conspiring to deceive, allowing their hearts to be filled by Satan, and pretending to give all the proceeds to Peter. Another example is Judas Iscariot (Luke 22:3), where Satan whispered the plan of betrayal into his heart. Judas conspired with the religious leaders to capture Jesus Christ, his Master, in exchange for money. Matthew Henry explains that this betrayal was the work of Satan, who believed that by betraying Jesus, he could destroy Him, but he could only wound Him. Anyone who betrays Christ, His truth, or His way is acting under Satan's influence (Henry, 2010). Satan also incited King Herod (Matthew 1:26-28). Additionally, the Bible explains that Satan did not succeed in influencing Jesus Christ, despite creating lies and offering his desires. Matthew 4:1-11 provides an example where Satan's deception was defeated by Jesus Christ in the Garden of Gethsemane. This passage describes three temptations:

1. The first temptation (v. 3) focuses on Jesus Christ's physical needs as a human. Jesus was hungry and needed food. Satan hoped that because of Jesus' hunger, his offer would seem very suitable, so that Jesus would follow him. However, Jesus quoted Deuteronomy 8:1-4, showing that humans possess a spiritual nature that can control their physical needs and that God's will must govern human choices, not physical needs or desires. For Jesus, turning stones into bread was not difficult, but He rejected the offer.
2. The second temptation (Matthew 4:6) involved Satan asking Jesus to throw Himself down from the pinnacle of the temple if He truly was the Son of God. Jesus quoted Deuteronomy 6:16, which states that God has the power to protect and preserve His people, but humans should not impose their will on God to make Him fulfill their desires.
3. The third temptation (Matthew 4:8-9) saw Satan offering worldly things on the condition that Jesus worship him. Satan promised power and instant wealth if Jesus would bow to him. Jesus quoted Deuteronomy 6:13, affirming that humans should worship and serve only God. All of these temptations were thwarted by Jesus, who stood firm on the Word of God (Matthew 4:4, 7, 10). Matthew 4:10 confirms that by using God's Word, Jesus sharply rebuked Satan to depart from Him (Osborne, 2012).

"Satan in Creating Lies"

Satan's words have influenced and damaged human life since the beginning of creation (Genesis 3:1-4). He will continue to do so until Jesus Christ returns. Therefore, as long as the world exists, Satan will not cease creating lies to influence humans into doing his will or desires, which causes disharmony between God and humanity, as well as among humans themselves. Satan strives to distance people from God by making them follow his will. Hence, Satan continually seeks to bring down humanity through cunning and deception, offering false hope or promises that exceed what God has said but are ultimately intended to ruin human life. A theological analysis of Satan's lies and their influence on humans can be explained through several points:

Satan tempts humans by distorting God's words. God's words are the truth given to humans so they may be followed responsibly. However, Satan distorts or creates lies that stir human curiosity to follow his will. Satan enslaves humanity. After successfully influencing people, Satan controls them, making them follow his will because they are already trapped in his bondage. Humans under Satan's slavery is under his control and continually carry out his will because they cannot escape the bondage.

Satan incites humans to sin. Satan involves humans in doing what he commands without reflection, bringing about vain thoughts or delusions that disturb human peace of mind. Paul refers to this as "futility," which brings shame, ignorance, and leads to sin, suffering, oppression, hardship, and evil (Romans 8:19-23; 8:38-39; 1 Corinthians 5:5; 2 Corinthians 12:7; 1 Timothy 1:20; 1 Thessalonians 2:18) (Ridderbos, 2012).

Satan steals the Word of God sown in human hearts (Matthew 13:19). Jesus explained that the Kingdom of Heaven will come to the world while all its enemies, including Satan, still exist. The removal of these enemies, or Satan, must await the time of the harvest. Believers and unbelievers will coexist, and God allows unbelievers to do evil. At the end of time, God's true and just purpose will be revealed, and those who commit evil will receive eternal punishment (Ecclesiastes 12:14). Jesus explained that the one who sows good seed is the Son of Man, signifying that this sowing continues. The good seed represents

those who receive and respond to the Word of God. The weeds are the property of Satan. Jesus draws a clear distinction between those who belong to the kingdom of God and those who belong to Satan. In the end, angels will gather the wicked, and they will be punished in the fiery furnace (Zephaniah 1:3) (Illu et al., 2022).

"The Correlation of Post-Truth: Satan's Deception Through Lies"

The era of post-truth is historically unexplained in its direct correlation with Satan's deception through lies. However, within Christianity, the nature of deception and being trapped in lies, which becomes a defining characteristic of those ensnared, can be identified as having fallen for Satan's persuasion. Post-truth itself refers to an era where groups of people disregard objective facts or, at the very least, are largely separated from them.

Post-truth enables deception based on personal gain or an escape from uncomfortable realities. It is common, for example, to find people involved in large-scale corruption who wish to avoid facing unpleasant consequences or legal punishment. Such corrupt groups will reject the facts of their wrongdoing in various ways to avoid the consequences. A person who is swept away by and disregards absolute truth will inevitably be carried into relativism, where there is no definitive truth, and everything is seen as relative. Satan's deception seeks to promote this mindset, just as he distorted the objective fact given to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden about the prohibition of eating from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Satan reversed this fact, telling them, "You will not surely die." This led to a test of the objective truth, shifting it into a relative interpretation.

If one does not recognize Satan's deception and becomes swept away by it, they may sink further into it. This deception has a tendency to become ingrained in one's character. When correlated with a Christian worldview, post-truth is a manifestation of being seduced by Satan's lies. It is no surprise, then, that within the post-truth mindset, lies can be accepted and treated as facts by its adherents.

CONCLUSION

The discussion of the post-truth era does not have a direct historical connection with the lies of Satan. However, from a Christian perspective, the post-truth era can be seen as a manifestation of humanity being submerged in Satan's deception. In the post-truth mindset, there is a disregard for truth, and instead, decisions are driven by emotions and personal interests, which are egocentric and eliminate others for the sake of self-interest. Similarly, Satan's lies are characterized by rebellion against God's objective truth. Satan manipulates humanity to divert them from the truth that God intends, leading them away from God.

If humanity follows Satan's deception, it will undoubtedly drift further away from God. Nevertheless, Jesus Christ provides an example and a model for responding to Satan's lies and various manipulations. Jesus overcame the temptations He faced, whether physical, material, or worldly. Indeed, Jesus passed the tests and manipulations of Satan during His fasting, remaining steadfast in His devotion to God without wavering.

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