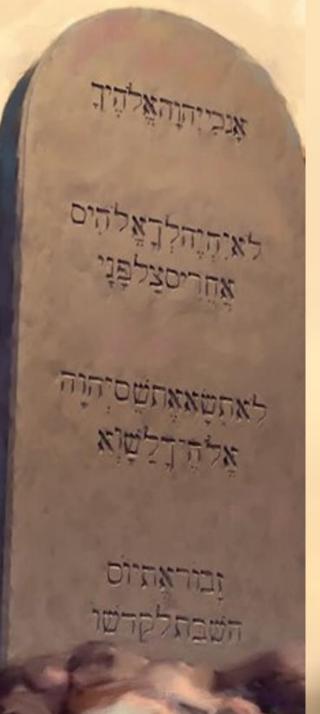


Peuteronomy 5:20 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

Main Idea

The 9th Word teaches that the LORD is perfectly truthful in all that He says; and, it requires that we not lie but love and defend the truth, especially in reference to our neighbor.



Do Not Bear False Witness What must be understood to understand this Word?

What must be understood?

We must understand that objective truth *does* exist.

John 18:37-38

Pilate therefore said to Him, "So You are a king?"
Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king.
For this I have been born, and for this I have come
into the world, to bear witness to the truth.
Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

John 18:37-38

Pilate therefore said to Him, "So You are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king.

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Our cultural response!

John 18:37-38

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Jesus answered, "You say correctly that I am a king.
For this I have been born, and for this I have come into the world, to bear witness to the truth.

Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice."

Pilate said to Him, "What is truth?"

What must be understood?

We must understand that objective truth does exist.

We must understand that the desire to deceive is much deeper than just telling a lie.

Matthew 15:18-19

But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

The real source!

Matthew 15:18-19

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For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

Deceit and slander are matters of the heart!

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adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.

What must be understood?

We must understand that objective truth does exist.

We must understand that our desire to deceive is much deeper than just telling a lie.

We must understand that Satan himself is the father of lies.

John 8:44

You are of your father the devil, and you want to do the desires of your father. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. Whenever he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own nature; for he is a liar, and the father of lies.

John 8:44

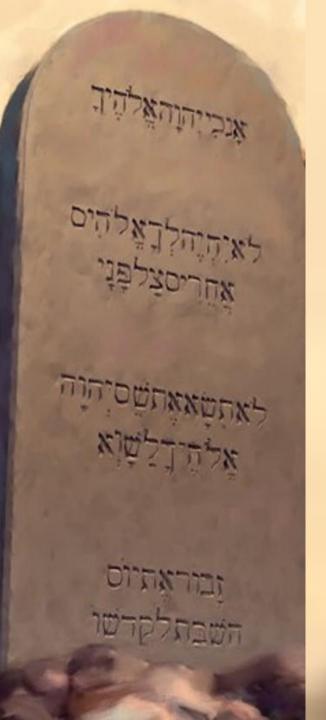
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Lying is satanic!



Do Not Bear False Witness

What must be understood to understand this Word?

What does the 9th Word require?

What does the 9th Word require?

That you do not testify falsely about yourself or another.

Peuteronomy 5:20 You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not **bear false witness** against your neighbor.

The primary application of the 9th Word was judicial.

Zechariah 8:16-17

"These are the things which you should do:
speak the truth to one another; judge with truth
and judgment for peace in your gates.

Also let none of you devise evil in your heart against another,
and do not love perjury; for all these are what I hate,"
declares the LORD.

Judicial Righteousness

Zechariah 8:16-17

"These are the things which you should do:

speak the truth to one another; judge with truth

and judgment for peace in your gates.

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The place of judicial proceedings

Zechariah 8:16-17

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Lying in judicial proceedings

Zechariah 8:16-17

"These are the things which you should do: speak the truth to one another; judge with truth and judgment for peace in your gates. Also let none of you devise evil in your heart against another,

and do not love perjury; for all these are what I hate," declares the LORD.

However, this command is expanded to lying in general and to slander against a neighbor throughout the Old Testament.

Examples:

Leviticus 19:11 and 16

You shall not steal, nor deal falsely, nor lie to one another.

You shall not go about **as a slanderer** among your people, and you are not to act against the life of your neighbor...

Proverbs 6:16-17

There are six things which the Lord hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood...

The Apostle Paul uses Zechariah's statements to make application more broadly to us.

Zechariah 8:16

These are the things which you should do: speak the truth to one another; judge with truth and judgment for peace in your gates.

Ephesians 4:25

Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth, each one of you, with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.

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Believers will desire to lay falsehood aside and will speak truthfully about themselves and about others.

Zephaniah 3:13

The remnant of Israel will do no wrong and tell no lies, Nor will a deceitful tongue be found in their mouths.

This will find its ultimate fulfillment at Christ's return.

What does the 9th Word require?

That you do not testify falsely about yourself or another.

That you do not receive false or unverified testimony against anyone else.

You shall not **bear false witness** against your neighbor.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not spread a false report;
You shall not join hands with a wicked man
to be a malicious witness.

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Proverbs 10:18
He <u>who spreads</u> slander is a fool.

Slander is to speak a lie or unverified accusation against someone to his harm. Paul sets those who slander others alongside those who hate God in his list of depravities!

Romans 1:28-30

God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice;

they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God...

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But note also!

Romans 1:28-30

God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice;

they are **GOSSIPS**, slanderers, haters of God...

What does the 9th Word require?

That you do not testify falsely about yourself or another.

That you do not receive false or unverified testimony against anyone else.

That you do not conceal the truth to the harm of your neighbor.

You shall not pervert the justice due to your needy brother in his dispute.

Psalm 37:30

The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, And his tongue speaks justice.

To withhold information that would exonerate or prevent injury to your neighbor is to pervert justice and do harm to him.

Cultural Examples:

Discovery
Exculpatory evidence
Concealment of damaging facts
Full disclosure

What does the 9th Word require?

That you do not testify falsely about yourself or another.

That you do not receive false or unverified testimony against anyone else.

That you do not conceal the truth to the harm of your neighbor.

That you do not knowingly or neglectfully misquote or misrepresent another.

Romans 3:8

And why not say (as we are slanderously reported and as **some affirm that we say**), "Let us do evil that good may come"?

Their condemnation is just.

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and as some affirm that we say),
"Let us do evil that good may come"?
Their condemnation is just.

The Apostle Paul was regularly misquoted and mischaracterized by his enemies.

We ought not misquote or mischaracterize anyone!

The greatest misquotes possible?

Deuteronomy 18:20

But the prophet who shall speak a word presumptuously in My name which I have not commanded him to speak, or which he shall speak in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.

The greatest misquotes possible?

2 Peter 3:15-16

...just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.

What does the 9th Word require?

That you do not testify falsely about yourself or another.

That you do not receive false or unverified testimony against anyone else.

That you do not conceal the truth to the harm of your neighbor.

That you do not knowingly or neglectfully misquote or misrepresent another.

That you love the truth and speak and defend truth lovingly.

Remember Paul's Words:

Ephesians 4:25

Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth, each one of you, with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.

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Therefore, laying aside falsehood,

speak truth, each one of you, with his neighbor,

for we are members of one another.

Don't just speak it; rejoice in it!

1 Corinthians 13:6

Love...does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth.

Believers do not simply refrain from lying; they love and rejoice in the truth.

Which means they will labor to know it rightly when it matters!

Unity in and from the truth

Ephesians 4:14-15

As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming; but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ.

Unity in and from the truth

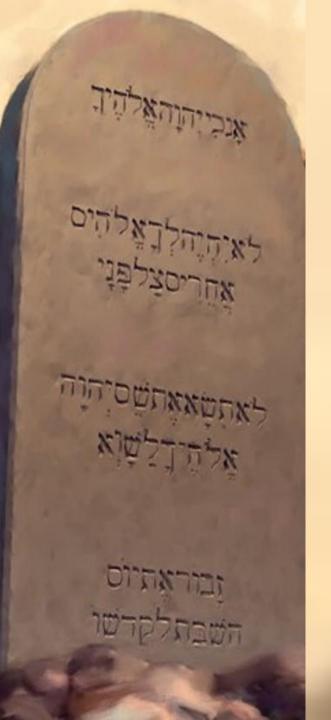
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but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all

aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ.

Speaking the truth in love is not just lovingly speaking gospel truths but speaking the gospel lovingly into the lives of those we love.



Do Not Bear False Witness What does the 9th Word teach us about God?

What does the 9th Word teach?

That the Word of the LORD is perfectly true.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;

The testimony of the LORD is sure,

making wise the simple.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;

The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple.

Psalm 119:160

The sum of Your word is truth,
And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple.

Psalm 119:160

The sum of Your word is truth,

And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple.

Psalm 119:160

The sum of Your word is truth,

And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.

John 17:17
Sanctify them in truth; Your Word is truth.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;
The testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple.

Psalm 119:160

The sum of Your word is truth,

And every one of Your righteous ordinances is everlasting.

John 17:17

Sanctify them in truth; Your Word is truth.

God does not bear false witness. His Word is inerrant!

What does the 9th Word teach?

That the Word of the LORD is perfectly true.

That the testimony of the Lord is sure.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;

The testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.

The law of the LORD is perfect, restoring the soul;

The testimony of the LORD is sure,

making wise the simple.

The truthfulness of God's Words and the surety of His promises are the foundations of our faith.

If God could bear false witness, we would have no hope!

Numbers 23:19

God is not a man, that He should lie,
Nor a son of man, that He should repent;
Has He said, and will He not do it?
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?

What He has said, He will do; and what He has promised, He will complete!

Conclusions

Lying is satanic because Satan is the father of lies.

Truth telling is godly because God is Truth and always truthful.

Because God is Truth and is always truthful, all who put their hope in Him can have *real* hope.

Response:

Repent of your lying and turn away from your sin.

Believe upon the Lord Jesus Christ for your justification and trust in Him alone for your full salvation.