

**Thou Shalt Not Bear False
Witness . . .
Exodus 20:16 (KJV)
All other verses NIV**

Commandment #9 - Thou shalt not bear false witness...

Exodus 20:16 "You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

The Ninth Commandment

- Exodus 20:16 is a rule of **TRUTH**.
- Truth is a **SERIOUS MATTER** to God.
Proverbs 6:16-19 *There are six things the LORD hates, seven that are detestable to him: ¹⁷haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, ¹⁹a false witness who pours out lies and a person who stirs up conflict in the community.*
- Leviticus 19:11, Psalms 15:3, Psalms 101:5, Psalm 101:7

Where does truth come from?

- Truth comes from **GOD**. Jesus is **THE TRUTH**.
John 1:17 *For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.*
John 14:6 *I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*
- Truth must start with a **BASELINE**.
- Christians use **THE BIBLE** as our baseline for **TRUTH**.
2 Timothy 3:16 *All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,*

Where do lies come from?

- Lies come from **THE DEVIL**. Satan is **THE FATHER OF LIES**.
John 8:44 *You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*
- Falsehood has no **BASELINE**.
- Non-believers use **THE HEART** as their baseline for **THEIR TRUTH**.
Jeremiah 17:9 *The heart is deceitful above all things and beyond cure. Who can understand it?*

What does God say?

- We are all **SINNERS** and we are all **LIARS** by nature.
Jeremiah 6:13 *"From the least to the greatest, all are greedy for gain; prophets and priests alike, all practice deceit.*
- Our lies are based in our own **SELF-INTEREST**.
- When we lie, we align ourselves with **SATAN**.
- When we align with Satan we are **GOD'S ENEMIES**.
Colossians 1:21 *Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.*

What is true? – The Bad News

- Our sin nature aligns us with **THE ENEMY**.
- According to God's justice, our lies **CONDEMN** us.
Revelation 21:8 *But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars—they will be consigned to the fiery lake of burning sulfur.*
- Neither our **REPENTANCE** nor our **CONFESSIONS** will save us.

What is true? – The Good News

- Our salvation depends solely on **JESUS' WORK ON THE CROSS**.
Ephesians 2:8-9 *For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast.*
- On the cross, Jesus takes on our **LIES** and trades it for **HIS TRUTH**.

The Truth Aligns Us With God, Our Father.

When We Speak God's Truth, We Deny Our Own Self-Interest.

**Honesty, Despite The Cost To Us, Reflects Jesus' Work To
Non-believers.**

Reflecting Jesus Aligns Us With God's Mission For Our Lives.