

Commandment IX

Scripture: Exod. 20:16; Deut. 5:20

Intro: This injunction involves truth vs. false. Lying by silence or speech in misrepresentation of truth by exaggeration, omission, addition, or alteration. (Jn. 8:44)

1. God hates this sin. (Prov. 6:19)
2. God chastens for such sin. (Prov. 19:5,9) “He that speaketh lies shall not be unpunished.”

I. Biblical Treatment of Subject. (Ex. 20:16)

- A. Basically two ingredients involved.
 1. Slander: Charges reported or repeated. (Prov. 10:18;17:9)
 - a. Poison in the tongue: Scorpion’s sting in tail.
 1. Devil on the tongue to slander. Devil in the ear to hear it.
 2. Described as tongue smiling. (Jer. 18:18)
 - b. Proper living is no shield from slander: Lamb’s innocence will not preserve it from the wolf.
 2. Speaking lies: false witness. (Prov. 12:22) “Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord.”
 - a. Treatment of false witnesses. (Deut. 19:16-20)
 - b. Terrible effects: Sword (wound) Hammer (crush) (Prov. 25:18)
- B. Biblically two iniquitous infamies. (Prov. 24:28)
 1. Slander is scandalous.
 2. Speaking falsely as a witness is incriminating. Unreliable.

II. Betraying Trust Of Saints. (Prov. 17:9)

- A. Confidence is a special quality. (Prov. 17:17) “A friend loveth at all times.”
 1. Relationship of family of God. (Eph. 3:15)
 - a. Fellowship: This is your association. (I Jn. 1:7)
 - b. Friendship: These are your attachments. (Jn. 15:13)
 1. You need them, they need you: don’t misrepresent or repeat matters about them.
 2. You pray for them, they pray for you: Don’t clog the prayer line.
 2. Righteousness of family of God. (Rom. 4:6)
 - a. Trust God for it.
 - b. Trust you to accept it.
- B. Contempt is a shocking quandary. (Prov. 26:26)
 1. Ways to betray brethren.
 - a. Silence when should speak in the defense. (Prov. 10:19)
 - b. Speaking when silence would be best policy. (Ps. 25:11)
 2. Words betray believers. (Rom. 1:29-32) Protect them. (Gal. 6:1)

III. Believer's Trials Are Severe. (Ex. 20:16)

- A. Satanic accusations. (Jn. 8:44; Rev. 12:10)
 - 1. He employs this method to malign the saints.
 - 2. We engage in his ways when motivated to do the same.
- B. Saint's advocacy. (James 5:16)