

The Commandments Of Our Creator God

[Part 8]

The Ninth Commandment stated –

“You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.”

This is the age of the “sophisticated lie,” the double standard of morality.

This age also presents the spectacle of millions of people who believe in evolution attending churches which nominally, at least, believe in a Creator God.

The revelation of how much our entire “Christian” society is based on this hypocrisy is astounding.

It is only by seeking for and bearing witness to the truth that a person is associated with the Creator God, Jesus Christ, for God is truth.

John 17:17 [NIV] *“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.”*

We are set apart [sanctified] by God for a special task when we believe that all of God’s Word, the Christian Bible, is a record of what is true.

John 14:6 [NIV] *“Jesus answered, ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No-one comes to the Father except through me.’”*

Jesus Christ introduced Himself as the personification of what is true, to His disciples, also by accepting this we have access to God the Father.

No matter what other faults and weaknesses a person may have, if they are willing to speak only the truth, live openly and truthfully and acknowledge the truth when it is shown to them, they can be respected and helped to overcome their personal weaknesses.

The far-searching spiritual application of the Ninth Commandment is tremendous.

First, there is a personal living Almighty God, Creator of this Universe, whose ways and laws are intrinsically “right” because it is impossible for Him to lie. [**Titus 1:2**]

Therefore a person who is honest, who is willing always to speak the truth and acknowledge the truth when it is revealed to them, must eventually be “converted” to the ways of the true God, fulfilling God’s intention for all humanity.

Genesis 1:26-27 [King James] *“And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. So God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.”*

Every human being has been created in God’s “image” [Hebrew “tselem” meaning the shadow resemblance of the real thing] but not in the “likeness” of God [Hebrew “demûwth” meaning two for one, manner or character.]

Character takes time and right decisions over a period of time, as well as an intimate relationship with the One whose character you wish to emulate.

This is the very reason that the Creator God has given us human physical life that can change, unlike spirit that does **not** change.

Romans 12:1-2 [NIV] *“Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God, this is your spiritual act of worship. Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is, his good, pleasing and perfect will.”*

As we offer our lives to Jesus Christ out of gratitude for what He has done for us, through the active indwelling of the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of Christ [**Romans 8:9**], our minds and human spirit will be re-educated to become the “*likeness*” of our Creator God, a being who cannot lie.

As we are living in a society which is increasingly permeated by various forms of untruth, hypocrisy and self-deception. If we are ever to build the character of the Creator God, and thus receive the gift of eternal life in His created family, we must consider the Ninth Commandment in all of its ramifications and learn to obey it.

The danger of false testimony, is protected by the Ninth Commandment for every upright decent person in that it helps to guard their reputation.

Perhaps there is no more despicable sin than that of slander, the lie intended and spread abroad with intent to harm another human.

A thief takes only material goods that can be replaced, but a false witness who slanders may rob a person of esteem and reputation in the eyes of other people that will be difficult or impossible to restore.

James 3:6 [NIV] *“The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.”*

James was inspired to warn against this careless use of the tongue.

The first and basic application of this command is in conjunction with false testimony in the courts of justice. This is called perjury, a criminal offence and rightly so, for all justice is based on truth.

Yet literally thousands of people call on the name of God to witness to their wretched lies and wholesale distortions of the truth.

How often today are entire nations guided by people who are in power only because of their ability to delude and deceive their own people?

Promising their followers things they will never be able to supply.

By means of clever propaganda, the leader makes the people believe what they themselves know to be a big lie.

Only after months or years of uncertainty, anguish, and frustration of the people until ultimate disaster strikes and the truth is finally made plain then only by force of circumstances.

Even in our democratic nations, people are all too often recommended for high office, **not** because of integrity or ability but because of political expediency.

The political and government leaders who countenance this are certainly “*giving false testimony*” against their fellow countrymen, they are living a lie as well as helping to tell one.

Ephesians 4:25 [NIV] *“Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to his neighbour, for we are all members of one body.”*

Consider the great blessings that would come to society if business and manufacturers told the truth about their service or product.

If every bit of propaganda, news in the papers and on TV, every advertisement for products and every personal conversation was based on truth, what a wonderful society would result, one which was freed from deception.

John 8:31-32 [NIV] *“To the Jews who had believed him, Jesus said, ‘If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.’”*

Jesus Christ expressed how this living law would operate to bless those who obeyed Him completely.

The root of every sin including the breaking of the Ninth Commandment is pride or vanity.

Ecclesiastes 1:2 [King James] *“Vanity of vanities, saith the Preacher, vanity of vanities; all is vanity.”*

The real reason most people reject the true God is that they want to be “gods” in their own eyes and the eyes of their fellow human beings.

Isaiah 14:12-14 [King James] *“How art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning! how art thou cut down to the ground, which didst weaken the nations! For thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend into heaven, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God: I will sit also upon the mount of the congregation, in the sides of the north: I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the most High.”*

Satan was originally called “*Lucifer*,” the light bringer, but personal vanity and pride caused him to deceive himself as to who he was wanting to be, God.

Genesis 3:1-5 [King James] *“Now the serpent was more subtil than any beast of the field which the LORD God had made. And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, **then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.**”*

Satan used the same lie to deceive the first human beings and has continued to use it throughout every generation. [**Revelation 12:9**]

John 8:44 [King James] *“Ye are of your father the devil, and the lusts of your father ye will do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”*

Satan is the origin of all lies.

People lie because they are more concerned with their own self-esteem and sense of importance than they are with the ultimate good of their fellow human beings.

People speak and act falsely because they fear the opinions of other human beings much more than that of their Creator God. [John 12:43]

Romans 8:28-31 [King James] *“And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified. What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?”*

This is where our thoughts and concerns should be. We must quit worrying so much about what puny, mortal human beings think but be far more concerned about what our Almighty Creator God thinks.

Romans 1:18-20 [NIV] *“The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.”*

God is condemning those who knowingly suppress the truth of His existence and His purpose for creating human beings and the universe.

In the same category are ministers and Bible students who continue to teach and practice what they **know** are ancient pagan beliefs and customs condemned in the Word of God, the Christian Bible. In all too many cases, they know better, so they are *“without excuse.”*

This continued teaching of these basic scientific and spiritual lies is the very thing that is blinding most of this world to the real nature of our Creator God and His true plan and purpose for all humanity.

For as long as supposedly *“educated”* leaders keep deceiving themselves and others about the very existence, power and plan of the Creator God, our civilisation is doomed!

One of the basic qualities of God’s character is that He is truth. If we couldn’t rely on God’s Word, there could be no real assurance or forgiveness of past sins, of a present help in time of need, or of the future gift of eternal life.

Those who follow Satan in his refusal to live by the truth have a terrible fate awaiting them.

Revelation 21:8 [NIV] *“But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practise magic arts, the idolaters and all liars, their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulphur. This is the second death.”*

Remember there are no “white” lies in God’s sight. Half-truths, distortions and deceptions are condemned throughout God’s Word, the Christian Bible.

John 17:17 [NIV] *“Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth.”*

Jesus Christ’s prayer for all His disciples is that God would set them apart [sanctify] from the rest of the world by obedience to the truth as found in His Word, the Christian Bible.

This is the message to all humanity of the Ninth Commandment.