

“O How Love I Thy Law!”
The Ninth Commandment
“God Is True”
Exodus 20:16

Introduction:

1. I'd Like To Begin Tonight:
 - In The Book Of Proverbs:
 - ***Proverbs 6*** - So Please Turn There With Me:
 - In Your Bibles Tonight!
 - Where In:
 - Proverbs 6:16-19 - We Read These Rather Startling Words:
 - “These six [things] doth the LORD hate: yea, seven [are] an abomination unto him!”
 - Yes - There Are Some Things:
 - That God Hates - And That:
 - God Absolutely Detests And Despises!
 - And What Are They?
 - 6:17-19 - “A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood, / An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief, / A false witness [that] speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren!”
2. Two Of The Seven Things:
 - God Hates - That Are Itemized For Us:
 - In Those Verses:
 - Have To Do With Lying!
 - 6:17 - “A Lying Tongue” - And:
 - 6:19 - “A False Witness That Speaketh Lies!”
 - Now - What Makes God:
 - Hate Lying So Much?
 - So Much So - That:
 - Not Only Does He Condemn It:
 - Twice In These Verses:
 - But Then - In Revelation 21:8:
 - It Is Included In As One Of The Primary Sins:
 - That Will Experience The Final Judgment Of God!
 - 21:8 - “But the fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death!”
3. So - Unlike Us:
 - Who So Often Think Of Lies:
 - As A “Little Sin” - When Compared With All Of The Other:
 - “Big Sins!”
 - To God - Lying ***Is***:
 - A Big Sin!
 - There Is No Such Thing As:
 - “A Little White Lie” - To God!
 - So - What Makes Lying Such:
 - An Abomination To God?
 - It Is Because:
 - This Sin In Particular:
 - Goes Against His Grain!
 - It Is Not:
 - A Conflict:
 - Of Personality, Though!
 - It Is:
 - A Conflict:
 - Or Principle!
4. Because - God Is:
 - A God Of Truth! (2x)

- This Is The Doctrine:
 - That Stands Behind:
 - The Ninth Commandment:
 - Which We Find In Exodus 20:16, And Which Is On Your Message Guide Tonight - Which Says:
 - “Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour!”
 - Now - Like All Of The Other Commandments:
 - That We Have Looked At:
 - This Commandment:
 - Both Reflects The Nature Of God - And:
 - Further Reveals:
 - The Nature Of God!
 - This Is Because:
 - All Of The Commandments:
 - Flow Directly From:
 - His Character!
5. So - To Review - From **Exodus 20**:
- The First Commandment:
 - Reflects The Truth:
 - That God Is A Unique God:
 - That Is - He Is The Only God!
 - So - In 20:3 - We Are Told:
 - “Thou shalt have no other gods before me!”
 - The Second Commandment:
 - Reveals The Truths:
 - That God Is Both A Spiritual & A Sovereign God!
 - And That Is Why - In 20:4-6 - We Are Told: “Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness [of any thing] that [is] in heaven above, or that [is] in the earth beneath, or that [is] in the water under the earth: / Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God [am] a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth [generation] of them that hate me; / And shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments!”
 - The Third Commandment:
 - Flows From The Truth:
 - That God Is A Personal God!
 - And That Is Why - In 20:7 - We Are Commanded: “Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain!”
 - The Fourth Commandment:
 - Reflects The Doctrine:
 - That God Is A Restful God!
 - And So - In 20:8-11 - We Are Commanded To: “Remember the sabbath day, to keep it holy. / Six days shalt thou labour, and do all thy work: / But the seventh day [is] the sabbath of the LORD thy God: [in it] thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy manservant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that [is] within thy gates: / For [in] six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them [is], and rested the seventh day: wherefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day, and hallowed it!”
 - So - Even Though This Commandment Has Both Moral And Ceremonial Elements In It:
 - It Reminds Us That: “There Remaineth Therefore A Rest To The People Of God!” (Hebrews 4:9)
 - The Fifth Commandment:
 - Reveals The Doctrine:
 - That God Is A Father-God!
 - Who Is To Be Honored In That Way - And So - In 20:12 - We Are Reminded To:
 - “Honour thy father and thy mother: that thy days may be long upon the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee!”

- The Sixth Commandment:
 - Flows From The Doctrine:
 - That God Is A Living God - And That:
 - All Life Flows From Him!
 - So - In 20:13 - We Are Told - “Thou shalt not kill!”
- The Seventh Commandment:
 - Reflects The Truth:
 - That God Is A Faithful God!
 - So - In 20:14 - God Tells Us - “Thou shalt not commit adultery!”
- And - The Eighth Commandment:
 - Reveals The Doctrine:
 - That God Is A Giving God!
 - Completely Good And Generous - So - In 20:15 - God Commands Us - “Thou shalt not steal!”

6. So - In A Similar Way:
- This Ninth Commandment:
 - Is “Profitable For Doctrine” Because:
 - It Flows From:
 - The Fact That:
 - God Is A God Of Truth!
 - God Is Always True!
 - Now - In The Words Of Pontius Pilate:
 - When Jesus Was Standing Before Him:
 - “What Is Truth?” (John 18:38)
 - According To The Dictionary:
 - Truth Is That Which:
 - Conforms To Reality!
 - And - In Order For Truth To Be Truth:
 - It Must Be Both:
 - Timeless And Changeless!
 - And God Is Both!
 - Even As Psalm 100:5 Tells Us:
 - “His Truth Endureth To All Generations!”

7. So - Tonight - I Want Us To See:
- Three Ways In Which:
 - God Reveals Himself:
 - As True!

* First - God Is True:

1. In His Own Witness!

- And This Means That:
 - All That God Is – Is So!
 - In God’s Own Nature:
 - He Is True!
 - He Is Always True:
 - **In** Himself - And:
 - He Is Always True:
 - **To** Himself - Because:
 - He Is The Ultimate Reality!
 - The Word That Is Often Used:
 - To Describe This Doctrine Is:
 - “Veracity!” - And The Reason This Word Is Used:
 - Is Because It Is Closely Related To The Doctrine:
 - Of God’s Faithfulness!
 - In Fact - Those Two Attributes:
 - Are Frequently Seen Together:
 - In The Book Of Revelation When Referring To Jesus Christ!
 - Like Revelation 3:14 - “And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These

- things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God!”
- Even Though - As John Gill Describes It:
 - “The Veracity Of God Is The Foundation Of His Faithfulness!” - Yet:
 - God Is Both Faithful **And** True!
- His Truth Is:
 - A Unique Attribute In And Of Itself!
 - Wayne Grudem - “God’s Truthfulness Means That He Is The True God, And That All His Knowledge And Words Are Both True And The Final Standard Of Truth!”
 - So - When God Reveals Himself To Us - He Reveals That He Is:
- True To His Own Certainty!
 - And To His Own Reality!
 - In Exodus 3:14 - When God Revealed Himself To Moses As The “Great I Am” - He Was Testifying To Moses About The Reality Of His Own Self-Existence!
 - “And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you!”
 - God Is Also:
- True To His Own Character!
 - In Jeremiah 10:10 - The Lord Says This About Himself:
 - “But the LORD [is] the true God, he [is] the living God, and an everlasting king: at his wrath the earth shall tremble, and the nations shall not be able to abide his indignation!”
 - Of Course - These Are Just A Few:
 - Of The Great Attributes Of God!
 - He Is The True God!
 - He Is The Living God! And:
 - He Is An Everlasting King!
 - More Can Be Added!
 - But - As God Reveals More Of His Nature:
 - To Us Through The Bible:
 - His Testimony About Himself:
 - Is Completely True!
 - But Also - He Is:
 - True To His Own Comprehension!
 - This Means That - All Truth:
 - Originates From Him! All Truth:
 - Starts With Him!
 - That Is Why:
 - “All That He Knows And Thinks Is True And Is A Correct Understanding Of The Nature Of Reality!” (Wayne Grudem)
 - And This Is Why:
 - God Hates Lying So Much!
 - It Goes Against The Grain:
 - Of His Nature - Of Truth!
 - Numbers 23:19 Tells Us That:
 - “God [is] not a man, that he should lie; neither the son of man, that he should repent: hath he said, and shall he not do [it]? or hath he spoken, and shall he not make it good?”
 - God Is And Will Forever Be:
 - The “Living And True God!” (1 Thessalonians 1:9)
 - And So - All That God Is – Is So!

* Second - God Is True:

2. ***In His Own Works!***

- This Means That:
 - All That God Does – Is So!
 - **IE:** A Few Years Ago - Fantasy Books Were All The Rage - The Authors Of Those Fantasy Books Took Their Cues From Some Of The Classics Written By J. R. R. Tolkien And C. S. Lewis!
 - But - What God Does:
 - Is Not Imaginary!
 - What God Does:

- Is Not Fantasy!
- What God Does:
 - Is Reality!
- Even Nebuchadnezzar, The King Of Babylon:
 - Came To Understand This Truth:
 - When - In Daniel 4:37 - Said - "Now I Nebuchadnezzar praise and extol and honour the King of heaven, all whose works [are] truth, and his ways judgment: and those that walk in pride he is able to abase!"
 - So - We Can See That:
- The Ways Of God:
 - In This World:
 - Are True!
 - Though They May Be Hard To Understand & Hard To Explain:
 - They Are Nonetheless Real!
 - After All - As We Find In:
 - Psalm 72:18 - "Blessed [be] the LORD God, the God of Israel, who only doeth wondrous things!"
 - Think About The Way:
 - Of God's Creation:
 - Of This World!
 - Psalm 33:6-9 - "By the word of the LORD were the heavens made; and all the host of them by the breath of his mouth. / He gathereth the waters of the sea together as an heap: he layeth up the depth in storehouses. / Let all the earth fear the LORD: let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him. / For he spake, and it was [done]; he commanded, and it stood fast!"
 - Now - The World Scoffs At The Thought That A God Could Create This World:
 - With Just His Words!
 - But - Just Because:
 - You Have A Hard Time Understanding:
 - How This Can Be True:
 - Doesn't Make It False!
 - Or - Think About The Way:
 - Of God's Salvation:
 - Of Your Soul!
 - In 1 Timothy 3:16 It Is Called A "Mystery" For Good Reason:
 - "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory!"
 - The Process Of How:
 - "God Was Manifest In The Flesh" Is:
 - A Hard Truth!
 - Even Mary Had A Hard Time Understanding:
 - God's Way When She Was Told By The Angel When She Would Be The Mother Of Messiah!
 - So - In Luke 1:34-35 - "Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man? / And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God!"
 - I'm Not Sure:
 - That Explained A Whole Lot To Her!
 - But She Understood That:
 - God's Work Is True & All That God Does – Is So!
 - All Of The Ways Of God:
 - In This World:
 - Are True! And So Are:
 - The Wonders Of God:
 - In This World!
 - In 1 Chronicles 16:9 - In One Of David's Psalms:
 - He Writes - "Sing unto him, sing psalms unto him, talk ye of all his wondrous works!"

- So - Just Because:
 - The Way God Does His Work In This World:
 - May Be Hard To Understand:
 - And Even - At Times - Hard To Believe:
 - It Doesn't Change The Reality Of What He Accomplishes!
 - And So - Believe It Or Not:
 - All That God Does – Is So!
 - God Is True!
 - True In His Own Works!

* Third - God Is Also True:

3. *In His Own Words!*

- This Means That:
 - All That God Says – Is So!
 - He Always Tells The Truth!
 - And This Applies:
 - To Every Part Of His Word:
 - Whether It Is History, Prophecy, Or Doctrine!
 - God Cannot Lie! (Titus 1:2)
 - In Fact - God's Word:
 - Is The Final Standard And Definition Of Truth!"
 - As Jesus Himself Recognized:
 - In John 17:17 - "Thy Word Is Truth!"
 - God's Word Is True:
 - In All Its Parts!
 - The Precepts Of His Word:
 - Are True!
 - That Is - The Legal Parts:
 - Of The Bible - His Law!
 - Psalm 19:9 Tells Us That:
 - "The fear of the LORD [is] clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD [are] true [and] righteous altogether!"
 - The Law Of God:
 - Really Does:
 - Reflect And Reveal:
 - God's Nature And Will!
 - God's Laws Are Not:
 - Arbitrary!
 - He Doesn't Just Make Up Rules:
 - As He Goes Along!
 - But Also:
 - The Principles Of His Word:
 - Are True!
 - That Is - The Doctrinal Parts:
 - Of The Bible:
 - That Tell Who He Is - And:
 - What He Is Like!
 - And That Is Why We Are Called:
 - To Believe These Truth About Him!
 - Hebrews 11:6 - "But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him!"
 - But Even More:
 - The Promises Of His Word:
 - Are True!
 - That Is - The Gospel Part:
 - Of The Bible - The Good News:
 - Of God's Grace:

- To Man!
- This Is What The Apostle Paul Refers To:
 - In Ephesians 1:13 - When He Writes:
 - About Jesus - “In whom ye also [trusted], after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise!”
 - The Gospel Is The Word Of God’s Truth!
 - And That’s What Makes His Promises Sure!
- Remember Tonight:
 - All That God Says – Is So!
 - Because - God Is True!
 - True To His Own Word!

Conclusion:

1. This Doctrine Is A Very Comforting Doctrine!
 - Because - Now - More Than Ever:
 - We Need Truth!
 - Just Think About:
 - All The Lies:
 - That Take Place In This World!
 - Lies:
 - In Politics!
 - In Relationships!
 - And - Even In Our Own Hearts!
 - Jeremiah 17:9 - “The heart [is] deceitful above all [things], and desperately wicked: who can know it?”
2. When Surrounded By:
 - Such A Cloud / A Fog / A Smog:
 - Of Lies - What Are We To Do?
 - Remember To Look To:
 - The One Who Said:
 - “I Am The Way, The Truth, And The Life!” (John 14:6)
 - Jesus Is The Truth!
 - And - You Can:
 - Without Any Reservation:
 - Believe In Him - And:
 - Trust In His Truth!

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