

Ten Commandments (Part 62)  
(The 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment – Part 3)

Exodus 20:16: “*You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.*”

-God is a God of truth (Ex. 34:6; Ps. 31:5; 51:6; 111:7; Jer. 5:3; John 1:14; 8:44; 14:6; 15:26; 17:3, 17; 18:37; Titus 1:2; ).

-Postmodernism: “Truth is made, not found.” (Richard Rorty)

-Because God is a God of truth, His people are to be a people of truth. They are to be true to Him and true to others. Our dealings with other people must be grounded in God’s character. The necessity of truthfulness in us rests upon God’s truthfulness. Professor John Murray (POC pp. 127-129): “*As we are to be holy because God is holy, so we are to be truthful because God is truthful. Untruth is the hallmark of impiety. Truth is the badge of godliness.*”

Special Cases

1) The Hebrew Midwives (Ex. 1; Acts 5:29)

2) Rahab the Harlot (Josh. 2:1-7; Heb. 11:31; James 2:25) See also the woman of Bahurim (2 Sam. 17).

3) Samuel the Prophet (1 Sam. 16:1, 2; Prov. 11:13; 12:23) See also Jer. 38:14-28.

4) Old Testament Military Strategies (Josh. 8; 2 Sam. 5)

Other Examples: Jonathan in 1 Sam. 20; Obadiah in 1 Kings 18; Elisha in 2 Kings 6; Jesus in John 7

Practical Lessons

1) Seek to be wise and discerning in what you say and do.

2) Beware of rationalizing violations of the 9<sup>th</sup> Commandment (Ps. 15:4).

3) Be a truth-teller (Ps. 120:2; Rev. 21:8; 22:15).