

**“O How Love I Thy Law!”**  
**The Ninth Commandment**  
**“Speak Every Man Truth”**  
**Exodus 20:16; Ephesians 4:25**

**Introduction:**

1. As We've Been Exploring Together:
  - The Ten Commandments:
    - On Sunday Nights:
      - We've Been Doing So:
        - Through The Lens Of:
          - 2 Timothy 3:16-17!
  - Which Tells Us That:
    - “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: / That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works!”
      - So - We've Looked At Each Commandment:
        - As “Profitable” And Useful For Us:
          - From Each Of Those Four Perspectives!
            - “Profitable For Doctrin, For Reproof, For Correction, For Instruction In Righteousness!”
  - This Means That:
    - Each Of The Commandments:
      - Tells Us Something:
        - First & Foremost:
          - About God!
        - But Then - They Also Tell Us:
          - Something:
            - About Ourselves!
            - About Christ!
            - And About Living Holy Lives:
              - Even As Christians!
2. And - One Of Our Desires:
  - For Going Through This Series, In This Way:
    - Was For The Lord:
      - To Develop In Our Hearts:
        - A Renewed Appreciation For:
          - The Moral Law Of God - And:
  - To Stir Us Up:
    - With The Same Kind Of Love:
      - For The Lord & His Law:
        - As David Had When He Wrote Psalm 119:97 - And Said:
          - “O How Love I Thy Law! It Is My Meditation All The Day!”
3. So - Tonight:
  - We Come To The Fourth Perspective:
    - Of The Ninth Commandment:
      - In Which We Are Told:
        - From Exodus 20:16 - “Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour!”
  - And - The Fourth Perspective:
    - Reminds Us That:
      - This Commandment Is Profitable:
        - “For Instruction In Righteousness!”
          - Now - As A Reminder:
            - These Commandments **Do Not Make** Us Righteous!
              - Because - We **Could** Never & We **Can** Never Keep Them Perfectly!
4. Instead - God Designed This Commandment:
  - Along With All Of The Others:
    - To Lead Us:

- To The Only One Who **Could** & Who **Did**:
  - Keep This Commandment Perfectly:
    - The Lord Jesus Christ!
- And When:
  - You Believe In Him & Receive Him As Our Savior:
    - He Then Writes This Commandment:
      - On Your Heart:
        - And Enables You:
          - To Pursue And Follow After The Holiness & Righteousness Of God Himself!

5. And So Now:

- As A New Creation:
  - In Christ Jesus - You Have A New Desire:
    - To Do What We Find:
      - The Apostle Paul Addressing:
        - In Ephesians 4:25 - Which Will Be Our Primary Text For Tonight!
- Ephesians 4:25 - Where We Are Told:
  - “Wherefore Putting Away Lying, Speak Every Man Truth With His Neighbor: For We Are Members One Of Another!”
    - Let’s Look At This Verse:
      - More Closely Together Tonight:
        - Because It Is “Profitable . . . For Instruction In Righteousness!”
- So - The First Thing We Find In This Verse:
  - Is That - As A Christian - You Need To:

1. **Reject What Is False!**

- 4:25 - “Wherefore Putting Away Lying!”
  - Remember - This Is What:
    - The Ninth Commandment:
      - Deals With!
        - All Kinds & All Forms:
          - Of Lies!
  - And What Is A Lie?
    - I Like How John Gill Defined A Lie:
      - “A Lie Is A Voluntary Disagreement Of The Mind And Speech, With A Design To Deceive!”
    - Now - Even Though:
      - Lying Primarily Has To Do With:
        - Deceptive Words:
          - It All Flows From:
            - A Deceptive Heart!
  - And So - All Kinds:
    - Of Falsehood:
      - Is To Be “Put Away” And Rejected:
        - By The Child Of God!
          - So - How Do We Go About Rejecting What Is False? First:
- Remember!
  - We Need To Remember:
    - What Lying Is & Where Lying:
      - And All Kinds Of Deception:
        - Come From!
    - If You Look Back:
      - To 4:22-24 - Paul Tells Us:
        - “That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; / And be renewed in the spirit of your mind; / And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness!”
  - What Is The Nature Of Lying?
    - For The Christian:

- It Is Part Of Your
  - “Former Conversation!” (4:22)
- It Is Part Of Your:
  - “Old Man!” (4:22)
- It Is:
  - “Corrupt!” - And:
    - “According To [Your] Deceitful Lusts!” (4:22)
- So - When You Lie:
  - In Any Way, Shape, Or Form:
    - You Need To Remember:
      - That Its Part Of:
        - Your **Old** Man:
          - Not - Your **New** Man!
    - And - You Are Going **Backwards**:
      - Instead Of:
        - Moving **Forward!**
  - Remember The True Nature:
    - Of Lying:
      - And Reject It!
        - And Then:
- Repent!
  - We Need To Repent:
    - From All The Kinds Of Lies And Falsehood:
      - That May Still Be:
        - In Our Hearts And Lives!
    - We Need To:
      - “Change Our Minds” About Lies:
        - And Realize That:
          - “No Lie Is Of The Truth!” - And:
            - There Is **No** Good In **Any** Lie!
  - So - Of Course - We Need To Repent:
    - From Any False Words:
      - In Our Conversation - With Others!
    - The False Words:
      - That Come Out Of Our Mouths - Or:
        - That Even May Be Written Out:
          - By Our Hands!
    - **IE**: Social Media:
      - Has Made It So Easy:
        - To Write Out Our Own Lies:
          - Or Even - Share & Share In:
            - The Lies Of Others! Also
  - We Need To Repent:
    - From Any False Witness:
      - In Our Contact - With Others!
        - A False Witness Will Maintain Something To Be True:
          - When It Is False!
    - We Are False Witnesses:
      - When We Embrace A Lie:
        - To Harm Others - And:
          - To Help Ourselves!
    - **IE**: Like The False Balances That The Lord Tells Us About In The Book Of Proverbs!
      - Proverbs 11:1 - “A false balance is abomination to the LORD: but a just weight is his delight!”
      - Proverbs 20:23 - “Divers weights are an abomination unto the LORD; and a false balance is not good!”
        - Also:
  - We Need To Repent:

- From Any False Walk:
  - In Our Conduct - With Others!
    - Where We Live According To:
      - The Lies Of:
        - Hypocrisy!
- Even As James Tells Us:
  - In James 3:11-14 - “Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? / Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh. / Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. / But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth!”
- So - Remember & Repent From:
  - Any Falsehood:
    - That You May Find:
      - In Your Heart & Life:
        - And - Reject It!
          - And Then:
- Restore!
  - If Necessary:
    - Restore What May Have Been Taken:
      - From Someone:
        - By Your Lie!
    - Remember The Story:
      - Of Zacchaeus - The “Wee Little Man?”
  - Found In:
    - Luke 19:1-7 - “And [Jesus] entered and passed through Jericho. / 2 And, behold, [there was] a man named Zacchaeus, which was the chief among the publicans, and he was rich. / 3 And he sought to see Jesus who he was; and could not for the press, because he was little of stature. / 4 And he ran before, and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him: for he was to pass that [way]. / 5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up, and saw him, and said unto him, Zacchaeus, make haste, and come down; for to day I must abide at thy house. / 6 And he made haste, and came down, and received him joyfully. / 7 And when they saw [it], they all murmured, saying, That he was gone to be guest with a man that is a sinner!”
      - Publicans Were Known For Deceiving And Cheating The People:
        - By Collecting More Than What Was Due For Their Taxes!
          - Cheating - At Its Core:
            - Is Lying!
      - But - When Zacchaeus Met Jesus - Or:
        - Rather - When Jesus Met Zacchaeus:
          - What Happened?
    - Luke 19:8-10 - “And Zacchaeus stood, and said unto the Lord; Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have taken any thing from any man by false accusation, I restore [him] fourfold. / 9 And Jesus said unto him, This day is salvation come to this house, forsomuch as he also is a son of Abraham. / 10 For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost!”
- When Zacchaeus Met Jesus:
  - It Was Jesus:
    - Who Changed Zacchaeus!
      - And - As A Result:
        - He Rejected What Was False!
          - By Remembering It!
          - By Repenting From It!
          - And Then:
            - By Restoring What He Stole!
  - And - We Who Have Met Jesus:
    - And - Who Have Been Changed By Jesus:
      - Need To Do The Same!
        - Ephesians 4:25 - “Wherefore Putting Away Lying!”
- We Need To Keep On:
  - Rejecting Whatever Is False:

- In Our Lives & In Our Hearts!
- But Then - We Need To Go Further! And:

## 2. ***Report What Is True!***

- As Paul Continues In:
  - Ephesians 4:25 - "Speak Every Man Truth With His Neighbor!"
    - Now - In Order To:
      - Speak The Truth:
        - You Need To:
          - Know The Truth!
  - And - The Basis Of Truth:
    - Is God Himself!
      - After All - This Is The Doctrine:
        - That Underlies The Ninth Commandment!
          - God Is True! And - Christ Is True!
  - So - Those Things That:
    - Conform To & Correspond With:
      - The Nature Of God - And:
        - The Reality Of God:
          - Must Be Held Dear To Our Hearts!
  - According To Proverbs 23:23:
    - We Are Even Admonished To:
      - "Buy The Truth, And Sell It Not!"
        - Because Truth:
          - Is A Precious Thing!
  - So - Report The Truth:
    - In A Present Way!
      - We Need To Speak The Truth:
        - All The Time!
      - Now - There May Be Times:
        - When It Is Both Wise And Necessary:
          - To Veil The Truth:
            - From Those Who Are Not Entitled To Know The Truth!
        - But - It Is Never Right:
          - To Veil The Truth:
            - With A Lie!
    - **IE:** We Looked At This Issue Last Month - As We Considered Some Of Those In The Bible Who Seemed To Be Rewarded For Deception - Like The Hebrew Midwives / Rahab / And Even David!
      - Even Though It Was Not Necessary:
        - For Them To Disclose The Truth:
          - To Those Who Demanded It From Them:
            - Since The Truth Could Have Caused Great Harm!
      - Yet - It Was Also Not Necessary:
        - For Them To Veil The Truth:
          - With A Lie!
            - There Might Have Been Other Ways To Protect Themselves & Others!
              - Silence!
              - Or - Refusal!
    - So - Whenever It Is Time:
      - To Speak The Truth:
        - We Must Do So:
          - With Integrity Of Heart!
      - We Also Need To:
        - Report The Truth:
  - In A Pervasive Way!
    - Not Only At All Times - But Also:
      - In All Circumstances!
    - We Are Tempted To Lie:
      - When We Fail:

- In Our Duties!
- Or:
- When We Feel:
- It Will Benefit!
- But - No Matter:
- What Setting Or Circumstance:
- You Are In:
  - When You Are Called Upon To Report The Truth:
  - You Must Do So:
    - To Glorify The Lord - No Matter What The Cost!
- We Also Need To:
  - Report The Truth:
- In A Personal Way!
  - Ephesians 4:25 - "Speak Every Man Truth With His Neighbor!"
    - And - Remember How:
      - Jesus Addressed The Question:
        - "Who Is My Neighbor?"
    - He Gave Us:
      - The Parable / Story:
        - Of The Good Samaritan!
  - In The Eyes Of God:
    - Every Person:
      - Is Our Neighbor!
- And So - As Christians:
  - We Are To Have A Testimony:
    - Of Truth And Integrity!
    - We Need To:
      - Not Only:
        - Reject What Is False!
      - We Need To:
        - Also:
          - Report What Is True!
  - But - Then - We Also See:
    - From This Verse:
      - That We Need To:

### 3. *Relate What Is Right!*

- As Paul Continues In Ephesians 4:25:
  - "For We Are Members One Of Another!"
    - This Describes:
      - A "Near Relation And Close Union Of One To Another!"
        - And - It Certainly Applies:
  - In The Church!
    - As Christians - Brothers & Sisters In Christ:
      - In A Special Way:
        - "We *Are* Members One Of Another!"
      - And - Truth:
        - Is To Be The Hallmark:
          - Within The Church - And:
            - In All Of Our Relationships!
    - Remember When:
      - In Acts 5 - Both Ananias & Sapphira:
        - Lied To The Holy Spirit?
          - How Did It Affect:
            - Them?
          - How Did It Affect:
            - The Church?
  - We Need To Always:
    - Be Right & Truthful:

- To Each Other:
  - In The Church!
- But - I Don't Think:
  - This Part Of Ephesians 4:25:
    - Only Applies To The Church!
    - I Think It Also Applies:
- In The Community!
  - Truth Is Essential:
    - For The Welfare:
      - Of Any Community & Society!
  - **IE:** Think Of All Of The Allegations Of Fraud Coming Out From The Elections That Took Place Just Over A Month Ago!
    - If The Allegations Are True:
      - What Does It Do:
        - To The Confidence & Trust:
          - People Have In The Election System Of Our Country?
    - But - If The Allegations Are False:
      - What Does It Do:
        - To The Peace And Welfare:
          - Of The Country As A Whole?
- As Christians:
  - We Must Always:
    - Relate What Is Right:
      - In Whatever Community:
        - God Has Placed Us!
  - We Must Always:
    - Ephesians 4:25 - "Speak Every Man Truth With His Neighbor: For We Are Members One Of Another!"

**Conclusion:**

1. So - The "Instruction In Righteousness" That We Find:
  - In The Ninth Commandment - And:
    - From This Verse Is To:
      - Always:
        - Reject What Is False!
        - Report What Is True! And:
        - Relate What Is Right!
2. But - It Is Also Important:
  - To Consider:
    - **How** We Speak The Truth!
      - Paul Addresses This Too - A Bit Earlier:
        - In Ephesians 4:15 - "But Speaking The Truth In Love!"
3. So - How Will You:
  - Respond To This Truth:
    - Tonight?
      - Ephesians 4:25 - "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another!"

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