

To Tell the Truth Notes

Exodus 20:16

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Main Point: Because God is truth, we must tell the truth.

God is Truth

1. Everything God says and does is _____ because He Himself is truth (Isaiah 65:16, Hebrews 6:18, Numbers 23:19, Psalm 51:6).
2. In Proverbs 6:16-19, God includes _____ of the tongue as three of the seven things He hates the most.

Ways This Command is Broken

1. _____ accusations.
 - False means “without _____.”
 - In Deuteronomy 5:20 a different word for “false” was used which means, “_____ or vain.”
 - To “witness” is to _____ or answer.
 - This could be translated, “You shall not be a _____ witness against your neighbor.”
 - The injunction against bearing false witness is stated throughout Scripture (Exodus 23:1-3, Proverbs 24:28).
 - False witnesses...
 - Are a threat to _____ being served.
 - Can harm or even put to death the innocent.
 - Can disrupt the life of the community at large.
 - Can undermine public confidence in the judicial system.
 - Other safeguards.
 - There had to be _____ than one witness (Deuteronomy 19:15).
 - A lying witness was given the same _____ the accused would have received (Deuteronomy 19:16-19).
 - A witness had to _____ the first stone (Deuteronomy 17:7).
 - The word “neighbor” has a broad definition and can mean, “_____, adversary, associate, companion, or fellow citizen.”
 - Literally means “near-one.”
 - In the parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37), Jesus defines a neighbor as anyone we encounter who _____ our help.
2. Lying
 - The first sin ever committed on earth was when _____ told a lie to Eve in Genesis 3:4.
 - When we lie, we are dining with the devil and demonstrating we _____ God and people (Proverbs 26:28)
 - Our speech is a measure of our _____ for God and for people (Proverbs 12:19, 22).
3. Gossip (Proverbs 26:20)
 - “The more interesting it is, the more likely it is to be false.”

- Gossip _____ friends (Proverbs 16:28).
 - Our words can bring pleasure or cause _____ (Proverbs 18:21).
 - Our tongues can build others up, or they can _____ them down.
 - One problem with gossip is the information is often _____.
 - Another problem is it's _____ (Proverbs 18:8).
 - One of the best ways to stop gossip is to simply _____ to listen to it (Proverbs 17:4).
4. Slander
- Slander is making a false statement designed to _____ someone.
 - God has no tolerance for slander (Leviticus 19:16, Psalm 101:5, 1 Peter 2:1, Romans 1:29-30).
5. Flattery
- Flattery can be defined as “the act of giving _____ compliments, generally for the purpose of ingratiating oneself with the subject” (Psalm 12:2-3).
 - A flatterer is one who pats you on the back today only to locate a soft spot to insert a knife tomorrow (Proverbs 29:5).
6. Deception
- Deception can be defined as “the act of _____ another through intentionally false statements or fraudulent actions” (Proverbs 24:28, Romans 3:13).
7. Silence (Ecclesiastes 3:7)
- We can break the ninth commandment by simply choosing to remain _____ when we hear someone being falsely maligned, or when we go quiet while an injustice is occurring (Leviticus 5:1, James 4:17, Proverbs 24:11-12, Proverbs 31:8-9).
8. False Teaching
- We need churches that will not capitulate or compromise on God's _____ (1 Timothy 4:1-2, Jude 1:3, 2 Timothy 4:1-4).

Response

1. _____ the truth (Ephesians 4:25).
- THINK
 - T – Is it **true**?
 - H – Is it **helpful**?
 - I – Is it **Inspiring**?
 - N – Is it **necessary**?
 - K – Is it **kind**?
2. _____ the truth (Deuteronomy 6:6-7).
- We must constantly combat lies by teaching the truth.
3. _____ to the truth.
- The final command Jesus gave is for us to be witnesses who testify to His life, death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 1:8).
 - We must make sure our conversation is seasoned with _____ and truth (Colossians 4:5-6).
4. _____ the truth (John 14:6, 8:32)
- Our tongues are inextricably linked to our _____ (Matthew 15:19-20).
 - Our words are but the public pronouncement of the private place of the heart.