

**The Ten Commandments**

**9. ‘Do not tell lies about people’**

*‘You shall not give false testimony against your neighbour.’* Exodus 20:16 NIV

*“Have nothing to do with a false* *charge and do not put an innocent or honest person to death, for I will not acquit the guilty.”* Exodus 23:7 NIV

***6****On the testimony of two or three witnesses a person is to be put to death, but no one is to be put to death on the testimony of only one witness.****7****The hands of the witnesses must be the first in putting that person to death, and then the hands of all the people. You must purge the evil from among you.* Deut’ 17:6-7 NIV

*‘“Do not go about spreading slander among your people. ‘“Do not do anything that endangers your neighbour’s life. I am the Lord.* Leviticus 19:16 NIV

* **False testimony or slander an innocent person.**

*God, who does not lie…* Titus 1:2 NIV

*…it is impossible for God to lie…* Hebrews 6:18 NIV

*You belong to your father, the devil, and you want to carry out your father’s desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, not holding to the truth, for there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks his native language, for he is a liar and the father of lies.*

John 8:44 NIV

* **God = Truth & Life. Satan = Lies & Death.**
* **When we tell the truth we follow the example of God, but when we tell lies we follow the example of Satan.**

**The problem:**

***18****But the things that come out of a person’s mouth come from the heart, and these defile them.****19****For out of the heart come evil thoughts – murder, adultery, sexual immorality, theft, false testimony, slander.****20****These are what defile a person…* Matthew 15:18-20 NIV

**The solution:**

*‘He* (Jesus) *committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.’*

1 Peter 2:22 NIV

***59****The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for false evidence against Jesus so that they could put him to death.****60****But they did not find any, though many false witnesses came forward.* Matthew 26:59-60 NIV

*‘He himself bore our sins’ in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; ‘by his wounds you have been healed.’* 1 Peter 2:24 NIV

**The Outcome:**

*23 For you have been born again…….through the living and enduring word of God……1 Therefore, rid yourselves of all malice and all deceit, hypocrisy, envy, and slander of every kind. 2Like newborn babies, crave pure spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow up in your salvation,****3****now that you have tasted that the Lord is good.*

1 Peter 1:23 & 2:1-3 NIV

*24…put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness. 25 Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbour, for we are all members of one body.* Ephesians 4:24-25 NIV

*9 Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices* ***10****and have put on the new self…* Colossians 3:9-10 NIV

*34…Do not swear at all…37 Simply let your ‘Yes’ be ‘Yes’, and your ‘No’ be ‘No’; anything beyond this comes from the evil one.*  Matthew 5:34&37 NIV

* **Jesus wants me to be known as a .**

***4****Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.****5****It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs.****6****Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.****7****It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres.* 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 NIV.