Thou Shalt Not Bear False Witness

Rufus Barfield · Exodus 20:16

INTRODUCTION

- Thou shall not bear false witness against thy neighbor.
- What is self-evident here is that we should not tell lies on your neighbor. That's obvious, it's valid, it's plain, it's right there before us.

1 The Neighbor Is Your Spiritual Self

Romans 12:2

- When we study the scriptures, there's always a deeper meaning and a deeper appreciation for what we read.
- The neighbor of our physical self is our spiritual self. The neighbor of our outer self is our inner self.
- The neighbor that we're going to talk about this morning that we should not bear false witness against is your spiritual self, your real self.
- The spiritual man is a state of being. It's a state of consciousness. It's a state of being attuned to God through Christ Jesus.

2 Man Was Created in the Image of God

Romans 2:14–16; James 3:9

- It's a book of salvation, yes, but it's also the science of the mind. It tells us how to think.
- How we think is demonstrated in how we live, how we talk, what we do or don't do.
- When God created us, he gave us the ability, the capacity to make moral right decisions.
- Being made in the image of God is what gives us value, free will, understanding, reason.

3 A True Witness of the Divine Self

Joel 3:10

- It is the true destiny of the outer self, the material self, the physical self to be a true witness of the divine self.
- God is calling us to speak his life-changing words over your life circumstances.
- Cancer is a fact. Depression is a fact. Unemployment is a fact. But it's not the truth of you. The truth of us is righteousness, joy, peace, love.
- The question is, am I bearing true witness concerning my spiritual self?

4 What Interferes With Bearing True Witness

Romans 7:19; James 3:14–16; 2 Timothy 1:7

- We must set aside our worldly carnal self. We must move past the things that interfere with our spiritual well being.

- We have to make a conscious decision daily to live and be that inner man.
- What are some other things that interfere? Bitterness. Self-seeking behavior.
- For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and love and a sound mind.

5 Our Spiritual Responsibilities to One Another

- We can become aware of our spiritual responsibilities to one another.
- We should actively seek how we can be of active service and edification to one another.
- When we see injustices happen and do nothing, when we act as though it doesn't exist, we're part of the problem.
- We must be patient, understanding, compassionate, actively edifying one another and loving one another.

6 What Can I Do?

Philippians 4:8–9

- One, develop some positive affirmations.
- Pray without ceasing. Does that mean I go around with my eyes closed all day praying? No.
- Whatever things are true, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, whatever things are virtuous.
- Finally, assess who God is in you.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Beloved, do we see God in us and do we allow God through Christ Jesus to work and flow through us?**

MY NOTES