

TRANSCRIPT – The 9th Commandment

Alrighty, Shabbat Shalom! And Shabbat Shalom to those who are watching with us today. I have a message today called, *The 9th Commandment*. I was thinking about it a long time ago of doing a message on all the Ten Commandments individually and I realize I've probably done about at least half. I know I've done one on the 1st Commandment, the 2nd Commandment, the 3rd Commandment, the 4th Commandment, the 7th Commandment, and I don't think I ever did one on the 9th Commandment. So basically if you ask people the Commandments, what are the Ten Commandments? And they name them. You would say the 7th, the 6th Commandment, *Thou shall not murder*. The 7th Commandment, *Do not commit adultery*. The 8th Commandment, *Thou shall not steal* and the 9th Commandment, *Thou shall not lie*.

But actually there's a little bit more, maybe a lot more to the 9th Commandment that we might not have realized. So I think it's a good topic to study. So I want to start in Exodus 20 in verse 16 ... Exodus 20 in verse 16, it says:

Exodus 20:16 *You shall not testify a witness of falsehood against your neighbor.*

So nowhere does it ever say the 9th Commandment is: Thou shall not lie. I mean lying you could say false witnessing is part of lying but it's not the only part of lying. So the Commandment is **not about lying** but **it's about bearing false witness against your neighbor**. That's what the Commandment is all about.

So even when you see ... sometimes you buy them for your home ... the Ten Commandments and they're made in short form. I've never see where it says you shall not bear false witness. It always just says: Thou shall not steal, thou shall not lie. But I think there's a lot to go into here when we're talking about this.

So I've had many, many questions over the years on this, on many aspects. So I'm going to go into different stories in Scripture that you may be familiar with, maybe not, that are kind of interesting when we're talking about the 9th Commandment, and then kind of come up with some conclusions.

So **any lie is not of the truth** of course. But there's a **difference** between lying to a thief to save a life and testifying falsely against someone trying to ruin their reputation for self-gain. So this happens every day. So I think it's a good time to go over this Commandment. Because every single day today do we see through the internet that at least half the stories, maybe three quarters of the stories are false to one degree or another.

And I don't think it was ever more apparent than during President Trump's presidency on both sides. I mean most of things that President Trump said were not true, completely true. They could have been partial truths. And just about 99% percent of the stuff they said against him was only partial truths; which is breaking the 9th Commandment and they are lies as we're going to see here.

So **people will hear a rumor and repeat it sometimes and actually that's breaking the 9th Commandment**. So we have to make sure in the world we're living in today that the things that we are getting ... because the news sources ... it's very hard to get good news today ... that they are proper sources and they are things that can be proven. And we need to prove it before we go into things like that. So Leviticus 19 in verse 16 ... Leviticus 19 in verse 16 says again:

Leviticus 19:16 *You shall not go as a slanderer against your people; you shall not stand up against the blood of your neighbor; I am YAHWEH.*

So like I said, the *primary source* of the 9th Commandment is not just in general lying; **but it's about bearing false witness**; bearing false witness **against anybody** would be breaking the 9th Commandment; **raising a false report**. And like I said today with the internet, this happens **every single day**. That actually the news today, the main news source, is

basically the way people used to say *Russian propaganda*. Remember that term years ago? You know the things coming out of Russia; it's propaganda. It's the government twisting it. Today it's the whole internet. Everything is propaganda, not just Russian propaganda; but whatever country you come from. It doesn't matter where you are. I can't think of a country in the world today that doesn't have propaganda that's coming out of the news sources which again would be against the 9th Commandment.

So you're not to go as a **slanderer** among your people. You should not stand against the blood of your neighbor. If we go to Deuteronomy 19 ... Deuteronomy 19 in verse 15 ... because we see the serious consequences of this ... Deuteronomy 19 in verses 15 and I'll go down to verse 20:

Deuteronomy 19:15 *One witness shall not rise against a man for any iniquity, or for any sin, in any sin which he sins. At the mouth of **two witnesses**, or at the mouth of three witnesses a thing shall be established.*

So why does Yahweh say that? Because sometimes people have told me like when I've said something to them about scripture, like maybe about tzit zotot and I say look, "Look if you look over here in Numbers you have to where the tzit-zote" and they say "Well, where's the second witness?" And I say, "You're misinterpreting it. Yahweh doesn't need a second witness." If something is once in Scripture from Yahweh that's all we need.

Why does Yahweh say here at the mouth of two or three witnesses? Because this is human beings that are liars. **Human beings are liars**. So in the case of a human being, there always has to be second witness because the person may be lying; or the person might not even be a liar, but sometimes we get things wrong as a human being. So something we **think** we see something that really wasn't seen that way or we're misinterpreting it. So even if our intentions are good and we're not a liar, there always needs to be a second witness because we're human. So Yahweh isn't human. Yahweh doesn't make mistakes. He doesn't need a second witness. It says:

Deuteronomy 19:16-20 *But If a vicious witness rises up against any man to charge apostasy against him, then both the men who have the dispute shall stand before YAHWEH, before the priests and the judges who shall be in those days. And the judges shall **carefully investigate** and, behold, if the witness is a false witness, and he has testified falsely against his brother, then you shall do to him as he plotted to do to his brother. And you shall put away the evil from among you. And those who remain shall hear and fear, and thereafter shall not add to commit any such evil among you.*

And I've had this happen before more than once in our Congregation in several areas where in certain cultures people that are basically good people but they'll just come and make false accusations with no proof or anything whatsoever. And then you investigate it and you find out that it's not true and then the person will come and hug the other person and say, "Ah yeah, I'm sorry I guess it's over." And it's like, "No it's not over. Read what happens here. You falsely accused him with **no evidence whatsoever** and now you have to take the punishment that you wanted him to have."

So we really have to think about this. In a world of the "Oprah Winfrey" mentality, like I like to say, that everybody wants to be part of the talk show and everybody wants to have opinion. And everybody wants to be able to say things at any time with no repercussions. We really have to think about it if you're bringing a false witness against somebody else and it's not true, then you're liable in that case.

And that's why we want to make sure. We don't want to stand back either if we do see something that is wrong, or if especially if it's sin. But if it's something that we're not a hundred percent sure of, we want to make sure we're not slandering somebody else because we would be breaking the 9th Commandment in that case. And not only that, like I said, retribution we would be liable of taking the punishment that we wanted the other person to have.

And a lot of matters like I said what I've seen when this has happened, it was only for reasons of jealousy. Somebody was jealous of somebody else. Sometimes even when someone was ordained an elder and they were jealous that he was an elder and they just brought a false report that had no truth to it whatsoever. And then when it came that the person was lying they had to be dealt with according to this. So **it's a serious matter to give false testimony**. We want to make sure that ... and again that's the whole premise of the 9th Commandment; it's not, thou shall not lie but it's thou shall not give ... bear false witness against thy neighbor.

And like I said today one click of the button; whether it's reporters, blogs, I mean and it's coming from a source right? It's coming from this global source. So now we're dealing with like I said the vaccine and with Covid 19 we're dealing with, right? So isn't it odd to people ... because a lot of people never question this ... that no matter with something whether it's true or false ... if you're giving testimony that the vaccine isn't a hundred percent good in every case then you're banned ... you're banned.

And there's doctors, good doctors that have been the **best** doctors in the world and even in vaccines that have come and just given their cautiousness with some things and they've been banned; banned from Facebook, banned from Twitter, banned from these things. Because it doesn't matter if it's true or not, what matters is you're **going against** this propaganda arm of the New World Order. So we have to realize that **this is evil in Yahweh's eyes** because it's affecting people world-wide.

So **as evil as it is to give false testimony; it's just as evil to stop true testimony** because in the end it's all doing the same thing; it's bearing false witness. And like I said if you're on the wrong side of that coin where maybe you were the darling of the global community because for years you believed in all the stuff they did. It doesn't make a difference. If you come out with something whether it's true or not that is against their narrative then you're going to get slandered. They're going to slander you.

And like I said, not to say President Trump did everything right because I think he did a lot of things that weren't right. But he's a perfect example. He couldn't do **everything wrong**. It's like when you're picking ... like if there's a lottery and there's whatever amount of numbers, there's fifty numbers and you have to pick ten numbers out of fifty. That's really, really hard to pick ten out of fifty. It's almost impossible. That's why you win millions of dollars for people that do that right?

But it's almost just impossible to get everyone wrong. Or there's ballgames ... there's ten ball games and you're going to say who is going to win and who is going to lose. It's almost just as hard to lose everyone then win everyone. So when you're looking at a point where **every single thing** that somebody says is wrong then you got to say something's wrong here. He could be wrong eighty percent of the time or seventy percent but hardly everybody's wrong a hundred percent of the time. And nobody's right a hundred percent of the time. But this is what happens here.

And this is why like I said what Yahweh says, *in the mouth of two witnesses or three witnesses*. So we want to *make sure* that when we're repeating something, particularly if it's dealing with somebody else's reputation, that **everything that we're saying is true and that it's verifiable**.

And years back before the internet there were always these rumors going around in the 1990's. It was George Bush was an alien. I don't know if you ever heard that one you know. But I mean there's people that actually believed it and they come up with all of these rumor from the rumor from the rumor of the family and they're reptilians and they're part of the Nephilim, all this crazy stuff. But that's what the internet is for. And back then you joke and say, "Yeah, the day will come that people will believe the earth is flat." And that's like that's not a joke anymore. There's people that believe it.

So we want to make in the internet world that we're not just believing something hook, line and sinker, that we're **proving it**. That's why the Bible says, *prove all things*. And it's not enough to just believe the truth. We have to **love the Truth**. And why is it that people fall for these things in the end time? Things like the rotating Sabbath? Thessalonians ... *because My people because they love not the Truth I'll give them strong delusion that they believe a lie*.

So we have to **love the Truth**. And if you love the Truth and you're following judicial order and you're following the leaders that Yahweh has had there for 2000 years, like I say, how do you know that the Sabbath doesn't rotate by the moon? Because we have a 2000 year history; it's right in my book. I mean I document it all and we know it. We've had it for 2000 years, we have a history and we're very specific in that history and we've never done it that way. Going back to the apostles, the apostles never kept the Sabbath by a rotating moon and neither did Yahshua for that matter.

So you really don't have to go too far to prove these things totally ridiculous and false. But like I said in the world we live in today people are falling for it and unfortunately the 9th Commandment is being broken every day and I don't even think most people are realizing that they're doing it. Exodus 23 in verse 1 says:

Exodus 23:1 *You shall not raise a false report; You shall not put your hand with the wicked, to become a violent witness.*

So raising a false report which is violating the 9th Commandment, bearing false witness, it could start with something very simple. You know like I said a rumor on the internet but then it's going into bearing false witness against people that people don't realize with it. Let's go to Titus 1 verse 15 and 16 ... Titus chapter 1 verse 15 and 16 it says:

Titus 1:15-16 *Truly, all things are pure to the pure, but nothing is pure to those being defiled and faithless, but even their mind and conscience has been defiled. They profess to know YAHWEH, but by their works they deny Him, and they are abominable and disobedient, condemning every kind of good work.*

So there's people again ... I've been in a position in ministry in the last twenty-seven years because we are a public ministry. We have a website. People can watch all over the world. It's a great thing, where twelve million people roughly, that have been on our website and have watched our videos, millions of downloads.

So I'm happy for that but on the other end. Really to be honest, I don't desire to be in the public eye. I never did. It's not me. I don't care. I don't have to be famous or anything else. And in a world that you live in today if you actually have a little bit of wisdom you'll realize if you're in the public eye in the world we live in today it's only a bad thing. Because you could be today's darling right and everybody loves you but tomorrow in this kind of world you're living in today everybody is going to hate you. So it just is not worth that kind of thing and we see this here when we're looking at Titus; that *to the pure, all things are pure but nothing is pure to those being defiled and faithless*. And there's people that will just see everything from the eyes of someone being wrong. And I've mentioned this in other sermons before.

Like you come in the Sabbath service and somebody says, "Are you offended, are you mad at me, you looked this way, you didn't say hello, you didn't say this" and its like, "Whoa just knock it off. C'mon." I mean people are people. Unless if I have a problem with you I'm going to come up and say, "Can we go talk privately?" And tell you what I have a problem with. And if I don't do that then I don't have a problem with you.

So this thing of constantly thinking in our mind that somebody is looking at us the wrong way or thinking the wrong way or didn't say hello fast enough or said hello too fast; it's crazy! But this is where again it all winds up one way or another on the internet. It all winds up on Twitter. It all winds up on blogs. And praise Yahweh that we're not part of that because it even makes life a lot more complicated.

And like it says here ... *and they are abominable and disobedient, condemning every kind of good work.* And people that have written me for the **first time**, never had any contact with them and have told me things that they thought I believed or I said or I did that, never in my life. Recently it was somebody with the calendar saying that, "Oh yeah I read your book but I don't believe you because the Bible doesn't say that you start the month by a crescent moon." I'm like, I never said that and my book says the total opposite of it. So if you're really reading the book and you are really listening you would never think that. But people will repeat that and repeat things about Don Esposito that Don Esposito never said, Don Esposito never believes. And if you **thought** it, just come to Don Esposito and ask him. That's all you have to do. But this is all part of the 9th Commandment.

And like I said the Bible is very clear and in the book of Jacob, you break one, you break them all. And this is an **important one** because I think probably next to the 1st Commandment of love Yahweh with all your heart, mind, soul and strength, this is probably the ... or one of the most important Commandments because **it's dealing with people every day of your life**. Yahshua even said the 2nd Commandment is like the 1st one, love your neighbor as yourself. And this is what it comes down to. You'll never love your neighbor if you're falsely accusing him. So it's important we understand what's entitled here.

You know what? This is not something that started just in our day in age. Let's go to 3rd John ... 3rd John verse 9-12 ... there's only one chapter there. Because even the Apostle Paul believe it or not, the Apostle John, believe it or not, we look at him as like probably next to the Apostle Peter, and some people even put John above Peter because John was the one that had his bosom, or had his head on Yahshua's bosom. He was the one He loved and did a lot of different things. But he certainly was one of the top **three apostles** with Yahshua, right? And yet, at the end of John's life here as he's writing this in the 90's, John was looked at as a heretic. John was actually looked at as a heretic. Can you imagine? And this is ... listen what he writes here, he says:

3rd John 1:9-12 *I wrote to the Congregation, but he loving to be first of them, Diotrephes, does not receive us ... so they wouldn't even receive John in the Congregation ... Because of this, if I come, I will recall his works which he does, ranting against us with evil words. And not being satisfied with these, neither does he receive the brethren; and he forbade those intending to receive them, and cast them out of the Congregation ... wow, who is this person ... Beloved, do not imitate the bad, but the good. The one doing good is of YAHWEH; but the one doing bad has not seen YAHWEH. Witness has been borne to Demetrius by all, and by the truth itself. And also bear witness, and you know that our witness is true.*

So wow, so this is like I said, the apostles went through this. The Apostle Paul, even today people look at Paul as a heretic and they say Paul was trying to do away with the Torah; which he **never** did. It never says that. So we're living in a really, really dangerous time. And even when Yahshua in Matthew 24 was telling the very first thing to look for and beware of in the end time, that's the first thing He said, deception. So in a world of deception, **all the more why** we really want to think about our words and think about what we're saying and what we're doing. And like I said, like he says here, what does the Apostle John say, **the truth is our witness**. And that's why at the end of the day, how many people have even went to prison.

There was just recently in the last couple months, I heard of somebody that was in prison, maybe close to 30 years and they found out he didn't do the murder or whatever it was and they were releasing him. So in the end of the day, there's people that get accused falsely and even go to prison for it; but I've always said, the main thing is that **Yahweh knows. That's the One you want to be right before because your eternal reward or your eternal punishment is coming from Yahweh; it's not coming from man.** So we want to see this.

Now on the other end, if we go to Leviticus 5, on the other end like I said even though we have to do watch our words and we want to make sure what we're saying is true. Actually it's also violating the 9th Commandment if we know something is true and we don't say it. So Leviticus 5 verse 1 says:

Leviticus 5:1 *And when a person sins, and hears the voice of swearing, and he is a witness, or has seen, or has known, if he does not reveal it, then he shall bear his iniquity.*

So **part of the Commandment of not bearing false witness against your neighbor is not telling the truth when you know it** because if somebody is being accused of something and there's a false witness that's testifying against this person in court and you know the truth and you don't go there and tell the truth, you're doing just as much damage as the other person is doing by lying. So again **abstaining** from telling the truth is doing as much damage as the person who is out there lying because **how is the truth going to be known then?** So we have a **responsibility before Yahweh** according to the 9th Commandment when we know the truth, to tell the truth. So again:

Leviticus 5:1 *When a person sins ... so if you see it ... and hears the voice of swearing, and he is a witness, or has seen, or has known, if he does not reveal it, then he shall bear his iniquity.*

And there's times people will come up to me and somebody in the Congregation has sinned and they have used the Matthew 18 process. They went to the person privately, the person either denied it or wouldn't change, and they're like apologizing because they're coming up and telling what this person did. And it's like, "No, don't apologize. That's your responsibility before Yahweh." Because you know what? Just like the watchman, **if the watchman doesn't warn the people then the watchman is responsible for the death of those people.**

So **you don't have a choice.** The same way I don't have a choice. If it wasn't for Yahweh's Spirit this would be the **last** vocation I would chose ... be an elder and do all these things. I mean in a worldly sense you see it doesn't end good especially when you look at our history. Many of the people got burned at the stake and all other kinds of stuff. But when Yahweh calls you to something you have a responsibility to do it. And that's why whether I like it or not, from **my love** for somebody else if he's doing something wrong, I have to share it with him. Because if I don't share it with the person and then that person when it comes to Judgment Day and he didn't even know he was doing something wrong, I'm going to be responsible because Yahweh showed me or I seen it and I didn't come and say what was done.

So if you know the truth and you don't say it you're bearing false witness because you're not sharing the truth. And again, many people don't want to get involved. They're afraid today their name won't be spared and I understand it in the world with social media and all this. I mean you come forward, you lose your job, you are banned. There's a lot of repercussion that comes from it but as believers we're commanded to tell the truth. There's no doubt about it. So we don't have a choice.

So now let me go into, for maybe the next twenty minutes or so, some stories in Scripture, that maybe like I said you may have thought about it or didn't think about, that are dealing with bearing false witness and situations with it; because there's many situations in Scripture and they're all a little bit different. They are not all just very simple of somebody lying about somebody else and you say, "Oh yeah that was totally wrong."

So let's take a look at some of these stories and see. We'll start with the first one in Genesis 3 which is, I've spoken about before, and I think this one is pretty easy to figure out; but some of the other ones are a little bit almost shocking. And you really have to think and pray about them to see ... hmmm, what is right in this situation? What would I have done if I was there? And what did Yahweh think about this?

But here we see in Genesis 3 the serpent saying, that he's cunning, right? We know that. He hasn't changed his character so he does the same thing today. He uses these little tricks to try to deceive the people of Yahweh.

Genesis 3:1 So he's cunning above every beast of the field ... *which YAHWEH Elohim had made. And he said to the woman, Is it so that Elohim has said, You shall not eat from any tree of the garden?*

So what did Elohim do? He came down and said, You may eat of every tree of the garden but of the tree in the middle of the garden you shall not eat; for the day you eat of it you shall die. So what's the first thing satan does? He comes and tells part of the story. And you could put this situation to anything in your own life. We all have situations like this right?

I mean you're living in an apartment and the landlord says, "Look you can use the whole backyard. It's for use anybody. You want to do a barbeque. You want to have people over. It's all for you but just don't use the shed. That's mine. That's personal things that are in there." And it's the same thing that you could use ... and somebody can come and like, "Oh the landlord said you can use. Can we use the shed? Can we put something in the shed?" Right? It's always **satan not trying to tempt you with what you can do but trying to tempt you with what you can't do**. And that's really what you have to ask yourself when you're thinking of, are you violating Yahweh's Word? Am I doing something I'm not allowed to do? It's that simple.

Genesis 3:2-3 *And the woman said to the serpent, of the fruit of the trees of the garden, We may eat, but of the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, Elohim has said, You shall not eat of it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.*

Comment: Now in the original command in chapter 2 we didn't see Elohim said about not touching it ... maybe He did, maybe He didn't. Some people like to say, "Oh she just made that up." We don't know that. We don't know if she made it up or maybe Yahweh did say that. And it just wasn't written there because we know when it comes to sin we don't want to get as close as we can to the fence because chances are you're going to wind up sinning then. But she said it anyway, regardless.

Genesis 3:4-5 *You shall not eat of it, or even touch it, lest you die. And the serpent said to the woman ... now he comes with the big lie. Now that he's deceiving her, now that he's mixing Yahweh's words, now he comes with the big lie and says ... no you're not going to die for Elohim knows that in the day you eat of it, even your eyes will be opened, and you shall be as Elohim, knowing good and evil.*

And isn't that the interesting part when a doubt comes in, right? You could be so straight on line and straight with doctrine and straight with everything and think you have faith; and what satan only wants to do is put one little doubt in your mind because that's all he needs. Because once you have one little doubt; it could be about anything. I've seen people, actually not only lose all their faith, even stop believing in Elohim completely; and it all started with one little doubt; **one little doubt** that can come in something like this.

Like in Church of God, it could be something that people heard thirty years after Herbert Armstrong was dead that he did this or he did that; and whether he did it or not, that's up to Yahweh to decide. But he's dead now and has no bearing in my life what he did. But there will be people that will say, "Well, if he would have done that and how could he have been the leader and how could he have been, and then maybe the Sabbath is not right. And maybe this isn't right. Now I can't believe anything." And before you know it, "so what do you believe in now?" "Nothing, I don't even believe Yahweh exists."

It's like wow, but that's the way it starts; and that's why we how dangerous this is. And that's why you really have to be careful because sometimes you might think it's not a big point but somebody can be bearing false witness against his neighbor in the **most simple of things** that might not even be true. You **thought** so and so cooked an egg on Sabbath ...

wow, why would he cook an egg; we're not supposed to cook an egg. Then you find out in the end he never even cooked it on Sabbath.

That's why I'm saying it could be the little thing that it starts from. But this is the way satan works. So this story is a prototype of all history. So think about this. Think about this when you're repeating something or you're thinking of repeating something. **Is it true or not? And that a half-truth isn't necessarily a truth if it's going to lead to a lie.** A half-truth, doesn't mean you always to give all the information, but a half-truth if it's going to lead to a lie from that half-truth then that's breaking the 9th Commandment.

Let's go to Genesis 20, here's another interesting story. Like I said I got three or four really, really stories that will make you think. Now this is one with father Abraham. He's the father of the faithful, going to be up there top of the Kingdom but I'm going to read now starting in verse 1 of chapter 20:

Genesis 20:1-2a *And Abraham pulled up stakes from there to the land of the Negev, and lived between Kadesh and Shur, and stayed in Gerar. And Abraham said with regards to his wife Sarah, She is my sister.*

Comment: Or my relative. The word that's used is used very liberally. So it means like, just like today when we say, "brother, how you doing?" "Oh he's your biological brother?" "No, no, no that doesn't mean that. Brother means he's my relative. He's my brother." So it's the same thing here. The word sister doesn't mean that she's his **physical** sister born but she was his relative. And most likely from what Josephus tells us she's his cousin. She's the cousin. She's the father's brothers daughter and Abraham's cousin; but she's related to him one way or another.

Genesis 20:2b-5 *And Abimelech the king of Gerar sent and took Sarah ... so now he's going to this area, the king takes her ... And Elohim came to Abimelech in a dream by night and says to him, Behold, you are about to die because of the woman you have taken, she being married to a husband. And Abimelech had not come near to her. And he said, YAHWEH, will You slay even a righteous man? And did he not say, She is my relative? And she, even herself said, He is my brother. In the honor of my heart and the purity of my hands I have done this.*

Genesis 20:6-7 *And Elohim said to him in a dream, Yes, I know that you did this in the honor of your heart, and I also withheld you from sinning against Me. On account of this I did not allow you to touch her. And now return the wife of the man, for he is a prophet, and he will pray for you, and you shall live. And if you do not restore her, know that surely, you shall die, and all that are yours ... Wow, so talk about ... remember what Yahweh said, they'll fear you if you're keeping My name and here it is.*

Genesis 20:8-12 *So Abimelech rose up early in the morning and called for all his servants. And he spoke all these words in their ears. And the men were greatly afraid. And Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, What have you done to us? And in what have I offended you that you have brought on me and on my kingdom a great sin? You have done things to me that ought not to be done. And Abimelech said to Abraham, What did you see that you have done this thing? And Abraham said, Because I thought, Surely the fear of Elohim is not in this place, and they will kill me for my wife's sake. And yet she really is my relative, daughter of my father; only not daughter of my mother. And she became my wife.*

So here it is now. He certainly was deceiving. He wasn't telling the whole truth and he really had grave consequences come out of this but at the same rate, Yahweh rebuked Abimelech. He didn't rebuke Abraham. He never rebukes Abraham for saying this, right? So first interesting story we have to look at. And like I said, technically she was his relative but she was also his wife that he wasn't telling that situation.

Now let's go to another story that had worse ramifications. And it's in 1st Samuel 21 with King David when Saul is chasing King David ... 1st Samuel 21 ... and I'll start in verse 1:

1st Samuel 21:1 *And David came to Nob, to Ahimelech the priest. And Ahimelech trembled at meeting David, and said to him, Why are you by yourself, and no man is with you?*

Comment: Now remember David is the head of the army. He killed Goliath. He's got a very famous name. He's the head of the army of Saul and now he's coming here so Ahimelech is just thinking what's the leader of Saul doing here.

1st Samuel 21:2-4 *And David says to Ahimelech the priest, The king has commanded me a matter; and he said to me, Do not let a man know anything of the matter about which I am sending you, and which I told you. And I have directed the young men to such and such a place ... which he's not being truthful with him ... And now, what is there under your hand? Give five loaves into my hand, or whatever is found. And the priest answered David and said, There is no common bread under my hand, but only holy bread, if the young men have been kept from a woman.*

1st Samuel 21:5-7 *And David answered the priest and said to him, Surely, a woman has been kept from us as yesterday and the third day, since I came out, and the vessels of the young men are holy. And in a way the holy bread is common; also surely today it is sanctified in the vessels. And the priest gave the holy bread to him, for there was no bread there except the Bread of the Presence which is from the presence of YAHWEH ... this is the twelve showbreads ... in order to put hot bread in on the day it was taken away. And a man was there on that day, of the servants of Saul, detained before YAHWEH. And his name was Doeg the Edomite, the chief of Saul's shepherds.*

So here it is, Saul's chief of the shepherds as Doeg is there ... and what's going to happen? Let's see the ramification of this ... 1st Samuel 22 in verse 11:

1st Samuel 22:11-12 *And the king sent to call Ahimelech the priest, the son of Ahitub, and all his father's house, the priests in Nob. And they came, all of them, to the king. And Saul said, Now hear, son of Ahitub. And he said, I am here, my master. And Saul said to him, Why have you conspired against me, you and the son of Jesse by your giving bread and a sword to him, and to ask of Elohim for him, to rise up against me, to lie in wait, as at this day?*

So Ahimelech also gives him the sword of Goliath but he doesn't know it. He's thinking that he's doing this for Saul. And now, Saul is thinking he's conspiring with King David ... really bad situation. So Ahimelech is saying, "Hey what do you think? He's coming here, he's under you. I'm not thinking twice. So let's drop down to verse 18 and see what happens:

1 Samuel 22:18-22 *And the king says to Doeg, You turn and fall on the priests. And Doeg the Edomite turned and fell on the priests and killed eighty five men bearing a linen ephod in that day. And he struck Nob, the city of the priests with the mouth of the sword, from man even to woman, from child even to suckling, and ox, and donkey, and sheep, with the mouth of the sword. And one son escaped of Ahimelech the son of Ahitub. And his name was Abiathar, and he fled after David. And Abiathar told David that Saul had killed the priests of YAHWEH. And David said to Abiathar, I knew on that day when Doeg the Edomite was there, that he certainly would tell Saul. I am turned to grief for every life of the house of your father.*

So David is grieving. He's sad. He didn't do this on purpose but his deceit got these people killed. Now what's interesting about this, not only does Yahweh not say anything to him that he was wrong to do that but this story is actually repeated by Yahshua when they were taking the grain on the Sabbath and saying that they were breaking, violating the Torah. He said what did David do when he went and got the showbread? The same story we just read from Ahimelech and He said David was blameless. Now He was talking in the showbread, but if he was blameless that must have been that he wasn't accounted a liar either.

So here we see two circumstances: one with Abraham and one with David where they're not giving false testimony against somebody they're just giving ... **they're lying basically to save their life or to save the life of somebody.** And

Yahweh is not condemning it. Is it right? I'm not saying that. But I'm saying you don't see Yahweh condemning this. That's why I say there's a lot more to the 9th Commandment than meets the eye because there's stories in the Bible that are not that easy to figure out. But one thing is, that's why I say the 9th Commandment doesn't say you shall not lie; the 9th Commandment clearly says you shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

And I'm not saying you should ever lie but what I'm saying is bearing false witness is **way worse**. And that's why I say Yahweh is not going to judge a person who's hiding a holocaust victim and the SS guards come like Corey Ten Boom and they say, "Are there Jews in this house?" And they say, "No, no, no there's no Jews here." To try to save their life and they're telling a lie to the demons at the door. He's not going to judge them the same way as somebody who is openly lying about other people just to harm their reputation because they're jealous about them and they want to destroy them.

Yahweh is ... that's why it says **He looks in our heart and He sees why we do something**. So we're going to see **there is a better way** but we have to understand when we're looking at this **why** the 9th Commandment says ... it doesn't say you shall not lie ... it says you shall not bear false witness. Because one is way worse than the other and **your motive is very important** in the situation either way.

Let's go to another story with Jeremiah ... Jeremiah 38 in verse 19 ... Jeremiah 38 in verse 19. This is when Jeremiah is prophesying about Babylon coming in and destroying Israel and taking them captive because Yahweh told him to. It's not that he wanted to. Matter of fact, there's several times that Jeremiah said, "I don't want to do this anymore!" And they're looking at him as a traitor, right? They're looking at him as this.

So now he's going before Zedekiah. Remember Zedekiah is a very young king. Sometimes when we think of kings you're thinking, we have this vision in the head just like Christianity in the world when they think of Elohim their vision is always of an old guy with a long white beard. Where they get that from, who knows? But it's the same way, when people think of a king you're thinking of this older person, this real mature person. Here's Zedekiah that's a young guy. Some of these kings ... Josiah was 8 years old when he became king. So they're young. Some of them are very prideful and in this case Zedekiah he's seeing what's happening and now he realizes that Jeremiah is a real prophet and he wants to know the truth. So let's pick up the story here in verse 19:

Jeremiah 38:19-22 *And Zedekiah the king said to Jeremiah, I am afraid of the Jews who have fallen to the Chaldeans, lest they give me into their hand and they abuse me ... so he's realizing if Jeremiah is right; which he is, then he's going to fall into their hands and they're going to abuse him ... And Jeremiah said, They will not give. Please obey the voice of YAHWEH which I am speaking to you, and it will be well with you and your soul will live. But if you refuse to go out, this is the Word YAHWEH has made me see: Even, behold, all the women who are left in the house of the king of Judah shall be brought out to the rulers of the king of Babylon. And they will say, The men who look after your welfare have seduced you and have prevailed against you; your feet have sunk in the mire, and they turned back.*

Jeremiah 38:23-25 *And they shall bring out all your wives and your sons to the Chaldeans. And you shall not escape out of their hand, but shall be seized by the hand of the king of Babylon. And this city shall be burned with fire. And Zedekiah said to Jeremiah, Let not a man know of these words, and you shall not die ... so now that's the truth of the matter but Zedekiah is telling Jeremiah don't say anything. So now let's look what happened ... But if the rulers hear that I have talked with you, and they come to you and say to you, Now tell us what you said to the king; do not hide it from us and we will not put you to death; also, What did the king say to you?*

Jeremiah 38:26-28 *Then you shall say to them, I was causing my plea to fall before the king, that he should not return me to the house of Jonathan, to die there ... so they're basically telling him just to tell him half of the story. Don't tell what's*

going to happen what Yahweh said to tell, just tell the part about you not wanting to die. So what does he do ... *And all the rulers came to Jeremiah and asked him. And he told them according to all these words that the king had ordered him ... so he didn't tell them. He didn't tell them everything that was going to happen according the king's words ... And they were silent with him, for the matter was not heard. And Jeremiah dwelt in the court of the guardhouse until the day Jerusalem was captured. And he was there when Jerusalem was captured.*

Well they weren't going to listen to the word anyway. And if he told them the word not only would they come after Zedekiah, they probably would have killed him anyway. But that's not a justification for it because that's what he was supposed to do. That's what his job was to prophesy of this.

So this like I say, now add to the list. You have Abraham, you have King David, you have Jeremiah – all three that **they didn't bear false witness against anybody but they certainly were not honest with the truth**. Again to people that were evil though. In no case was it people that were looking for truth; or people that would have **saved** life. In every case by **if they would have said more it would have gotten somebody killed by doing it**.

But again, there's still another way as we're going to see. Let's go to another story here ... 1st Kings 22 ... this is a real interesting one because this will really make you think ... 1st Kings 22 ... in verse 12. Now this is where Ahab is going to war and he's trying to find out from the prophets what does Yahweh say? Are we going to win the war or lose the war? And there's this prophet Micaiah who's a prophet of Yahweh. He seems to be a good prophet, knows the truth but he's always prophesying bad things to Ahab. So all the prophets said he's going to win the war, go out everything will be great. So they say we'll call Micaiah. Let's see what he has to say about it. And I'm going to pick up in verse 12:

1st Kings 22:12-13 *And all the prophets were prophesying so, saying, Go up to Ramoth-Gilead, and prosper. For YAHWEH shall give it into the king's hand. And the messenger that had gone to call Micaiah spoke to him, saying, Behold now, the words of the prophets with one mouth are good to the king. Please let your word be as the word of one of them, and speak good ...* so they're telling him this. And he usually speaks bad but what happens?

1st Kings 22:14-15 *And Micaiah said, As YAHWEH lives, Surely that which YAHWEH says to me, that I will speak. And he came in to the king. And the king said to him, Micaiah, shall we go to battle to Ramoth-Gilead, or shall we forbear? And he said to him, Go up, and prosper, and YAHWEH shall give it into the king's hand.*

Comment: Now it's the first thing you think about is, he just said in the verse before that whatever Yahweh puts in his mouth he's going to say but yet he already knew that Yahweh wasn't going to give the battle to him. So he's not only lying but he's lying in the name of Yahweh; which is pretty bad.

1st Kings 22:16-18 *And the king said to him, How many times have I adjured you that you shall speak nothing to me but truth in the name of YAHWEH ...* so the king, even Ahab, is scolding him for this. So now he's going to tell him the truth ... *And he said, I have seen all Israel scattered on the hills like sheep that have no shepherd. And YAHWEH said, These have no masters; they shall each return to his house in peace. And the king of Israel said to Jehoshaphat, Did I not tell you, He will not prophesy good things of me, but evil?*

Comment: So strange story, we don't know much about this prophet. He's a human being, why he would do it like that. But then the next thing that he says is **really more interesting** because now he's going to tell why did these other prophets lie to him? And look what he says in verse 19 ...

1st Kings 22:19-23 *And he said, Therefore, hear the Word of YAHWEH: I saw YAHWEH sitting on His throne, and all the host of Heaven were standing by Him, on His right and on His left. And YAHWEH said, Who shall entice Ahab, and he shall go up and fall in Ramoth-Gilead? And this one said this, and that one said that. And a spirit came forth and stood before*

YAHWEH, and said, I surely will entice him. And YAHWEH said to him, By what means? And he said, I will go out and shall be a spirit of falsehood in the mouth of his prophets. And He said, You shall entice him, and also you are able. Go and do so ... wow ... And now, behold, YAHWEH has put a spirit of falsehood in the mouth of all these prophets of yours; and YAHWEH has spoken evil as to you!

Now we don't know this messenger, was he a demon that was going out and putting a mouth of falsehood? Could be. We have no idea. Could be a demon? Could be a cherub? We don't know but one thing we know is that **Yahweh allowed it**. Yahweh is asking how are going to make Ahab lose and this messenger comes and says I'll put a spirit of lying, a spirit of falsehood.

And Yahweh says yeah go ahead and do it. So it's something that really you got to really meditate on and really think about it because now it's not even human beings that make mistakes, maybe in the best of their heart. But there's times that we see that Yahweh allows a spirit of falsehood Himself into deceivers. So these, like I said, Ahab was not good. What was happening was not good. He was allowing it.

And to be honest if you read Samuel and Kings you could probably find fifteen different stories like this. I couldn't get into all of them. But there's a lot of stories that you find like this; like when Absalom was coming against King David and then what did David do? His friend comes and he sends his friend to break the counsel of Absalom and it's a normal thing that you do in warfare.

Today they do the same thing; like you're trying to break the counsel of the other side and you try to ... it's like a game of chess that's being played where one person is you're trying to maneuver them to make the enemy think you're doing this and then you're really doing it. And it's all over the place. You see that right? And Yahweh will tell them, "Go out of the city and then when they come in attack them from the back." So there's all kinds of strategies that are involved. But in these cases it's literally where somebody was telling a falsehood. They weren't telling the truth to do it.

So you know when we look in the New Testament, if we go to Matthew 27 in verse 14 ... Matthew 27, I mean in verse 12 ... Matthew 27 in verse 12 we see that Yahshua was in a similar situation and He used a different tactic. So you have the tactic here where somebody told half a truth. You have a tactic where someone just absolutely lied. You have another tactic where someone can tell the truth and just get somebody killed who's innocent ... like the Nazi's coming in, "Oh yeah they're right upstairs! I had to tell the truth!" And then you have people killed. But look at Yahshua's tactic ... Matthew 27 in verse 12:

Matthew 27:12-14 *And when He was accused by the chief priests and the elders, He said nothing. Then Pilate said to Him, Do You not hear how many things they testify against You? And He did not answer him, not even to a word, so that the governor greatly marveled.*

So another tactic we can use in these situations is **simply say nothing** ... simply say nothing. Don't tell anybody. There's times where ... because we're in a very dangerous time now in the world and in the Congregation. And we have underground Congregations that are part of us where they're in very persecuted areas that I don't publically say the areas the people are in; or tell anything about them, just to pray for them; or maybe an update but without giving information.

And sometimes if somebody knows of this; or somebody was with me in an area and I'll say, "Please don't say anything about this." And they'll ask me, "Well, what should I say if somebody asks me?" I say, "No, you could feel free, tell them that Elder Don said not to mention anything. That's all." You could say that. There's nothing wrong with that. I don't mind it because I know **there's things that are better left unsaid and there's things we can say**.

So in situations like that I would never want somebody to lie or say something else but we could use what Yahshua does here. We can simply not say anything. And the same way there were a lot of people who did do this in the Nazi regime. When people came in and they started to tell them, where are they, where are they? And they said nothing. And it might get you killed. You need a lot of character for this stratagem because **it may get you killed or tortured** because they're not just going to say, "Okay, you're not talking we're going to leave." They'll torture you unmercifully and maybe even kill you but **at least you kept your integrity and you didn't lie. You didn't say something untrue and you certainly didn't get somebody else killed.**

So I always say there's different stratagems for different situations, not always is it the same thing but I would think **whatever strategy that Yahshua used was never wrong.** He always did the most perfect thing. And that's why I think this is a good strategy even though personally it may be not the best strategy personally for us; but it's the best strategy as far as being honest about something. So Yahshua just simply kept quiet. You can simply decide not to tell information. So you don't have to tell a lie. You don't have to tell a half-truth. You could simply not tell anything. Ecclesiastes 3 ... Ecclesiastes the third chapter says:

Ecclesiastes 3:1-7 *To all there is an appointed time, even a time for every purpose under the heavens: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pull up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones; and a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing ... right? Covid ... a time to embrace, a time to refrain ... social distancing, I think that time is coming to an end ... a time to seek, and a time to let wander away; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew together; **a time to keep silent, and a time to speak;***

So that's not the strategy that's all the time because **there's a time maybe where Yahweh has you to witness for Him and even if it's going to mean your life that you shouldn't stay quiet.** Now this is why you have to have a lot of prayer. But if we go back to Matthew the 10th chapter ... Matthew 10 in verse 19 ... this is why you **really have to be praying and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide you,** He says:

Matthew 10:19-20 *But when they deliver you up, do not be anxious how or what you should say, for it will be given to you in that hour what you should say. For you are not the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.*

And I could say this firsthand, not just with myself, but firsthand with myself and also over the last year I know of several stories where people were in very difficult situations like this and they just prayed and the Holy Spirit put the words in their mouth. And there's no way that it came from themselves because they actually said things at times that they didn't even know but that they said; and of course was true.

So **there's a time that we stay quiet but there's a time we need to speak.** But we shouldn't have to worry about it because **it's the Holy Spirit that's saying the words.** What we need to do is to be **praying and be keeping contact with Yahweh's Spirit** so that when that time comes it's the Spirit that's speaking and not ourselves because the words that come out of us most of time will be the wrong thing to say. But if we allow the Holy Spirit then it will never be. And even with Yahshua ... let's go back to Matthew 26 ... because He didn't always stay quiet as we know. He didn't always stay quiet because there was a time where He had to speak or they wouldn't have crucified Him. Matthew 26 in verse 59 ... Matthew 26 in verse 59:

Matthew 26:59-63a *And the chief priests and the elders and the whole Sanhedrin looked for false testimony against Yahshua, so that they might put Him to death, but they did not find any, even though there were many false witnesses coming forward, they did not find any. But at last, coming up two false witnesses said, This One said, I am able to destroy*

the sanctuary of Elohim, and in three days to rebuild it. And standing up, the high priest said to Him, Do you answer nothing? What do these witness against you? But Yahshua kept silent.

Comment: So it's very interesting that when they were witnessing against Him personally He kept His mouth silent because He knew what was true and He knew what wasn't true and He didn't have to justify Himself. Even Scripture says, *let justification come from another man's mouth, not your own.* But now with the high priest is going to adjure Him for His whole purpose on life, not anything anymore about justifying Himself but His purpose on being here on the earth. Now He will speak.

Matthew 26:63b-66 *And answering, the high priest said to Him, I put You on oath by the living Elohim that You tell us if You are the Messiah, the Son of Elohim. Yahshua said to him, You said it. I tell you more. From this time you shall see the Son of Man sitting off the right hand of YAHWEH in power, and coming on the clouds of heaven. Then the high priest tore his garments, saying, He blasphemed! Why do we have any more need of witnesses? Behold, now you have heard His blasphemy. What does it seem to you? And answering, they said, He is deserving of death.*

So do you Yahshua said, "Ah, I should have had more discipline"? No, of course not; He witnessed at that point for the whole reason He came to this earth. Even when He was praying in the Garden of Gethsemane and He said, "*Father, if there's any other way, but let Your will be done, but not Mine.*" And He said but for this reason I came into the world. **That's the whole reason He came to the earth as a human being so that He could suffer and die and pay the penalty of our sins.**

So if He didn't give that testimony at that point, not only saying that He was Son of Elohim but Son of Yahweh because according to their own law, if He just used the word Elohim they would have just beat Him with stripes. But the fact that He used the name YAHWEH was the death penalty. So **He used the right words at the right time and spoke the truth when He needed it.**

Let's go to 1st Kings 13 because here's another one that's a very, very odd story ... a very odd story. We're going to go through it and analyze it some. And like I said when it comes to this subject it's not always cut and dry because **it's the Spirit of Yahweh that's leading and motives are an important part of when to say something, when not to say something.** So I'm going to start in chapter 13 here because this is like I said a very, very interesting story here that we see.

1st Kings 13:1-18 *And, behold, a man of Elohim had come from Judah to Bethel, by the Word of YAHWEH, and Jeroboam was standing by the altar to burn incense ... so this is a prophet that's coming. It doesn't give his name but he's certainly a prophet of Yahweh and we're going to see what happens ... And he cried by the altar, by the Word of YAHWEH, and said, Altar! Altar! So says YAHWEH, Behold, a son will be born to the house of David, his name Josiah, and he will sacrifice on you the priests of the high places who are burning incense on you, and they will burn the bones of man on you.*

Comment: Isn't it amazing that this many, many, many years before Josiah is born. Not only is he prophesying this is going to happen; which it did. He even prophesied the name of the person it was going to happen for. So he's clearly a prophet of Yahweh.

1st Kings 13:1-5 *And on that day he gave a sign, saying, This is the sign that YAHWEH has spoken, Behold, the altar is torn, and the ashes that are on it are poured out. And it happened when the king heard the saying of the man of Elohim which he had cried against the altar in Bethel, Jeroboam put out his hand from the altar, saying, Seize him. And his hand which he put out against him withered, and he was not able to bring it back to him ... so here's a miracle too. He's ready*

to grab this prophet and his hand withers away ... *And the altar was torn, and the ashes poured out on the altar, according to the sign that the man of Elohim had given by the Word of YAHWEH.*

1st Kings 13:6-7 *And the king answered and said to the man of Elohim, Please entreat the face of YAHWEH your Elohim, and pray for me, and my hand shall come back to me. And the man of Elohim entreated the face of YAHWEH, and the hand of the king came back to him, as it was as at the beginning. And the king spoke to the man of Elohim, Come home with me, and refresh yourself, and I will give you a gift.*

1st Kings 13:8-10 *And the man of Elohim said to the king, If you would give me the half of your house, I would not go in with you, nor will I eat bread, nor will I drink water in this place. For so He commanded me by the Word of YAHWEH, saying, You shall not eat bread nor drink water, nor turn back in the way that you have come. And he went on another way, and did not turn back in the way in which he came into Bethel.*

Comment: So very clearly this man is a man of Elohim. He's following exactly what Yahweh said and for whatever reason Yahweh said don't come back the same way you came. And don't eat and drink in there. You have a job, you do your job and you keep going. And he did it. But now something really strange is going to happen. Let's read here.

1st Kings 13:11-14 *And then a certain aged prophet was living in Bethel, and his son came and told him all the deeds that the man of Elohim had done that day in Bethel, the words that he had spoken to the king; yea, they told them to their father. And their father said to them, Where is this man, what way did he go? And his sons saw the way that the man of Elohim from Judah had gone. And he said to his sons, Saddle the donkey for me. And they saddled the donkey for him, and he rode on it, and he went after the man of Elohim, and found him sitting under the oak tree. And he said to him, are you the man of Elohim who has come from Judah? And he said, I am.*

1st Kings 13:15-18 *Then he said to him, Come home with me and eat bread ... just like the king said ... And he said, I am not able to go back with you, and to go in with you, nor may I eat bread or drink water with you in this place; for a word came to me by the Word of YAHWEH, You shall not eat bread nor drink water there; you shall not turn back to go in the way in which you came. And he said to him ... this is what the second man says who's chasing him, the second prophet ... He said, I also am a prophet like yourself, and a cherub spoke to me by the Word of YAHWEH, saying, Bring him back with you into your house, and he shall eat bread and water (he lied to him) ... wow, so then he turns back and goes into his house.*

Now, it's a really strange story. Not the fact that this prophet came, not the fact that Yahweh him don't eat bread and water and leave; that all seems fine but why would this other prophet who seems like a real prophet. He doesn't seem like an evil person as we're going to read here. He even mourns for the person, gives him a proper burial. Why would he come and lie to this person and tell him Yahweh said to come eat bread with me when Yahweh never said that? And then what happens after that? He goes back and as he's eating in this prophet's house, the one who lied to him. Look what he says:

1Kings 13:21-24 *and he cried to the man of Elohim who came from Judah, saying, So says YAHWEH, Because you have resisted the mouth of YAHWEH, and have not kept the command that YAHWEH your Elohim has charged you, and turned back and ate bread and drank water in the place of which He said to you, You shall not eat bread nor drink water; your carcass shall not come to the burying place of your fathers. And after he ate bread and after he drank, it happened that he saddled the donkey for him, for the prophet whom he had brought back. And he left, and a lion found him in the way and killed him ... this is the first prophet that went. The lion killed him and he ... was thrown down in the way, and the donkey was standing near him, and the lion was standing near the carcass.*

1Kings 13:25-26 *And behold, men were passing by and saw the carcass thrown in the way, and the lion standing near the carcass; and they came and spoke of it in the city in which the old prophet lived. And the prophet ... the one who lied now ... who brought him back out of the way heard and said, It is the man of Elohim who provoked the mouth of YAHWEH, and YAHWEH gave him to the lion, and tore him apart and killed him, according to the Word of YAHWEH He spoke this.*

And afterwards what happens? He buries the man in his own tomb and says I want to be buried there with him. So it doesn't seem like the second man ... even though he lied ... it doesn't seem like he was an evil person. It doesn't seem like he was jealous of him. What it seems is **Yahweh allowed this as a test because Yahweh doesn't lie. Yahweh doesn't change ... I am the same yesterday, today and forever, I am YAHWEH, I change not. Therefore the sons of Israel are not consumed.** That's the only reason we're here today as Israelite because Yahweh doesn't lie. He doesn't change His mind.

But this prophet should have known that; and wow is that the lesson to learn. It's a strange story and why would the second man lie to him for that, bring him home, feed him and then yell at him and say why did you come to my house and listen to me? Why did you believe me? But I say the same thing. If I tell you something that's not out of the Word of Yahweh, don't believe me! Don't believe me. I don't want you to believe me if I'm saying something that's not from the Word of Yahweh. And I look at this story and I relate it to a lot of the people who fall for the rotating Sabbath and those things.

I mean people that for twenty years, Yahweh comes to them He opens up His Word, He tells them that His Sabbath is the 7th day; it's from creation – 6 days' work, 7th day is the Sabbath. It's always been the same pattern and now all of a sudden twenty years later satan is coming and deceiving them that no the Sabbath isn't the 7th day, the Sabbath rotates on the moon. So if the first day of the moon is on a Tuesday then count 7 days and then the Sabbath will be on a Monday now.

And it's the same thing here. It's just like that prophet that's coming and lying to this guy. It's like **once Yahweh tells you something and it's true, the truth doesn't change.** There's things ... and just like the calendar, we don't have the calendar totally a hundred percent complete because we're human and it's not a hundred percent in the Bible. I think we have it pretty good but we learn on that and we grow on that.

Just a couple years ago Yahweh opened up with New Moons and shared more about that with us. But **His Word and His Truth is never going to change. His Commandments are never going to change. The Sabbath day is never going to change.** And in this case, this prophet who was actually a good prophet and a faithful prophet unfortunately lost his life because he didn't understand that Yahweh doesn't change.

He allowed another human being that he respected also as a prophet to change him; and we can't do that. Our trust has got to be in the Word of Yahweh, not in a human being. We trust the leaders of Yahweh but as Paul said, "follow me as I follow Messiah. Don't follow me because of me. **Follow me as I follow Messiah.**" And that's what we do.

And this is like I said, it's a very interesting story and a very sad story in a lot of ways but it teaches us a lot. Ecclesiastes 5 ... let's go back to Ecclesiastes ... Ecclesiastes 5 starting in verse 1, he says:

Ecclesiastes 5:1-2 *Guard your feet when you go to the house of The Elohim, and draw near to hear, more than to give a sacrifice, as do the fools. For they do not know that they are doing evil ... so what's it say... **draw near to hear and more to worship than speaking** because the fools are the ones that are doing too much talking ... *Do not be hasty with your mouth, and do not let your heart hurry to bring forth a word before The Elohim. For The Elohim is in Heaven, and you are on earth; on account of this, **let your words be few.****

That's why I love praying. I pray every day and I pray all the time. I'm praying in my mind as I'm going but I usually don't pray for like an hour at a time because I just feel like Yahweh knows everything I have to say before I'm praying. And I'm not against people praying for hours at a time. There's people that are prayer warriors but I feel like He already knows it so I want to praise Him and glorify Him and get to the point that I need to say but I don't want to just keep dragging on. I don't want to drag on like in Church of God they used to say before baptism if you weren't praying at least a half an hour a day then they wouldn't baptize you. So you'd be there with your little watch and you'd have this little list there of things; and I think we should be praying at least a half an hour a day. It doesn't all have to be at once, but He says right here that **He's in Heaven and we're on earth so let our words be few. We don't have to try to keep trying to convince Him of things**, that's the point of it.

Ecclesiastes 5:3-6 *For the dream comes through the greatness of the task; and the voice of the fool is known by the many words ... where many words are sin is not absent ... When you vow a vow to Elohim, do not wait to fulfill it. For He has no pleasure in fools. **Fulfill that which you have vowed.** It is better that you should not vow, than that you should vow and not fulfill it. Do not allow your mouth to cause your flesh to sin; do not say before the Messenger of YAHWEH, that it was an error. Why should The Elohim be angry over your voice, and destroy the work .of your hands?*

So **it's very clear when we make a vow to Yahweh we must keep our word as Yahweh does. Don't let man deceive you.** And that's what that prophet did. **He allowed man to deceive him.** He should have said, "You know what? Yahweh spoke to me. Yahweh told me what to prophesy. If He wanted me to come to your house then Yahweh would have told me. He doesn't need you to tell me. He gave me a direct command."

And I'll tell you something there's times in my life when Yahweh has given me a direct command and I feel the same way that if Yahweh is going to change it, the same way that He commanded me to something **He can show me whether it's an audible voice or it's in His Word if there's a change of plan.** But once Yahweh has put me on a path there's no man on this earth that's going to take me off that path because Yahweh can do it Himself.

So we want to make sure that if particularly when it comes to a Commandment, particularly when it comes to violating a direct command that Yahweh gives like in this case. **Romans 3:4** talks about *let Yahweh be true and every man a liar* basically or every man false. But it really is **Yahweh is the only Truth. His Word is the only Truth** and that's why in a world things are not always just so easy black and white in every situation.

Yahweh is not going to judge somebody who is hiding a holocaust victim the same way he's going judge somebody who's lying about his neighbor because he's jealous of him and he's jealous of his position. And when things come up particularly in the time we're living in now **we need to be praying. We need to be seeking Yahweh. We need to seeking His Word and we need to allow His Spirit** ... like we just read in **Matthew 10 to be guiding and directing us.**

Matthew 12 in verse 31 ... but in the end of the day we want our words to be true and we want to make sure that we're following ... *Man should not live by bread alone but every word that comes from the mouth of Elohim* ... Matthew 12 in verse 31 ... pretty interesting I've read this many times in sermons on like gossip, what-not, about our words. But I'm going to start today in verse 31 because it's connected its right before there, it says:

Matthew 12:31-32 *Because of this, I say to you, Every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven to men, but the blasphemy concerning the Spirit shall not be forgiven to men ... so isn't that interesting that when Yahshua was being attacked by Himself, right even here ... And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him. But whoever speaks against the Ruach H'Chodesh, the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, not in this age nor in the coming age.*

Comment: So when they were personally attacking Yahshua and lying about Him He just stayed silent. But when it came to attacking His Messiahship, when it came to bringing the truth that Yahweh brought Him for then He had to speak. He spoke the truth because that would have been blaspheming the Holy Spirit if He didn't speak the truth, like it says in Leviticus. He had to speak the truth at that point. And that's why sometimes when you first read this, well why would blaspheming the Holy Spirit be worse than blasphemy ... because people that blaspheme Yahweh and Yahshua don't even know what they're doing.

When you blaspheme the Holy Spirit you know what you're doing. It means the Holy Spirit has opened your mind to the truth and you're willingly not following the truth of Yahweh and that's evil. And that's why like I said, **Yahweh looks at our intent**. And even in the stories with Abraham and King David, maybe what they did their action was wrong but **their heart wasn't wrong. They weren't out there looking to purposely deceive and hurt somebody else**. Maybe their weakness of faith caused them to do the wrong thing. But it says:

Matthew 12:31-35 *Because of this, I say to you, Every sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven to men, but the blasphemy concerning the Spirit shall not be forgiven to men. Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree corrupt and its fruit corrupt; for the tree is known by the fruit. Generation of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. The good man out of the good treasure of his heart puts forth good things. And the evil man out of the evil treasure puts forth evil things. But I say to you, that every vain word, whatever men may speak, they shall give an account of it in Judgment Day.*

Comment: So when you're dealing with the 9th Commandment, not bearing false witness against your neighbor or speaking something untrue, it all comes down to ... **every word that comes out of our mouth is going to give an account in Judgment day**. And we should be thinking about that whenever we answer anything.

Matthew 12: 37 *For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.*

So **when we doubt the Word of Yahweh, we blaspheme. His Word is the only pure Word of Truth**. So doubting His Word is actually blasphemy. Matthew 7:1 and 2 ... and this is why can we judge Abraham what he did with Sarah? Can we judge King David what he did with Ahimelech? No, we can't judge. We can say I might have done something different and we could say, "I probably should have taken this route" but don't we judge? Because in chapter 7 of Matthew 7 says:

Matthew 7:1-2 *Do not condemn, that you may not be condemned; for with whatever condemnation you judge, you will be judged; and with whatever measure you measure, it will be measured again to you.*

So we can analyze. We could say I would have done it different. We could see where there's a better way but when I'm saying we don't judge them, I mean condemn them. We don't condemn them that no, no, no that what they did was absolutely wrong. I would have never done that. And if you say that in a situation, "Well, I would have never done that!" That's the core of self-righteousness because what we see when it comes to this in Scripture, there's many, many different examples and everybody did something different.

And like I said, it's good to analyze it and say, "You know what that probably wasn't the best example." Like in Abraham's case you say, wow he's the father of the faithful. Why would he worry about a king taking his wife? When he didn't tell the complete truth of it Yahweh intervened. Don't you think Yahweh would have intervened more if he was absolutely faithful and just said the truth? Well maybe he lacked a little bit of faith in that case the same way I lack faith in my life.

And that's **why I don't want to condemn because I'm condemning myself**. And this is why I say, we look at this kind of situation and we examine things like the 9th Commandment to see how we can **build our faith and maybe do it in a better way and be better servants, not to judge other people where they're wrong**.

The same way how on earth can I judge the person who's hiding Corrie Ten Boom who's risking their life, who sacrificed everything that's hiding Holocaust victims because she's not telling the truth to a Nazi Commander? I'm just thankful I wasn't in that situation. How can I on earth can I condemn her for that when she's saving life and not telling information to evil people?

And to honest my personal opinion is, **I don't believe that Yahweh expects us to give information to people that are going to use it evilly**. I think like Yahshua did. The best thing is stay quiet. Don't say a word. But I don't think **under any circumstance** that Yahweh requires us. And I think **it's actually evil to give information that's absolutely true when it's going to harm another human being**. That's just my personal opinion on that. But that's the way I feel that I would pray to Him that He would give me the strength to suffer being beaten that I don't talk because in the end a lot of them talked because of being beaten and beaten and beaten like with Richard Wurmbrand.

And you really have to have a strong mind that you're not going to be a traitor because it is being a traitor to a degree when your giving information that is going to harm or kill other people for no other reason that they're a believer in Yahshua. In this case, no other reason than they're a Jew. That was it. They weren't robbers. They didn't commit a crime. The Nazis were looking for them to kill them because they were Jewish. It was a demonic plan!

So I have no obligation in Scripture to sit here and tell a messenger of satan anything, right? And that's why I say, the best thing is to keep your mouth shut. Let them beat you until you die, not be giving up where other are going to be killed. And that's just my opinion.

But the key is **under no circumstance should we be condemning what somebody else did**, right, wrong or indifferent. We learn by it, right? Like I say, we can discuss and learn by it; but because **in any circumstance Yahweh is the only Judge**. On Judgment day I'm not going to be there judging that person; Yahweh will be. So we're not to judge anybody. We're not to judge the murderer. We're not to judge the child molester. **We're to judge their actions as being evil but we're not to judge them**. We're not to judge motives.

We're basically to just be able to judge a truth. That's what we are with it, judge a truth and what's right; and not be though judging the motives of others because only Yahweh knows the heart. We don't know why somebody does something. All we know is the action. Like a homosexual; and I've had where I've been trying to witness before and they're telling me how much I hate them and I said, "no, I don't hate you. I'm sharing this Scripture with you because I love you. I don't want to see you go to the Lake of Fire. I don't even know you" although I have known personally homosexuals. So when I'm sharing with them that their **actions** are going to lead to death. I'm not condemning them as a person. I'm condemning the action that they're doing.

Last Scripture I want to go into is Proverbs 12:18 and 19 ... Proverbs 12:18 and 19, it says:

Proverbs 12:18-19 *There is a rash speaking like thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise is healing ... There is a rash speaking like thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise is healing ...* and then verse 19 ... *The lips of truth are established forever, but a lying tongue lasts only while I wink.*

And that's really a great Scripture ... *The lips of truth are established forever, but a lying tongue lasts only while I wink.* Lying words will not last, but **the Word of Yahweh is forever**. Yahweh is only truth but we live in a world where satan is

the god of. And although we always want our word to be true, we are not obligated to give information of someone who will use it for evil purposes to hurt another human being.

Yahweh will judge our hearts and motives. He will not judge a person who gave false information to hide a Holocaust survivor the same way He will judge someone who falsely accused another person simply to win a lawsuit or out of jealousy or revenge. All lying is wrong but the main purpose of the 9th Commandment is not to bear false witness against somebody else. This is the **main intent** of the 9th Commandment. Yahweh bless, Shabbat Shalom!