

The Marriage Covenant #9

(The Ninth Commandment, "Thou Shalt Not Bear False Witness")

Sunday November 12, 2000

Let us remain standing while we read from the Word of God.

EXODUS 20:16 *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.*

Let's bow our heads and our hearts now in a word of thanks giving and prayer. Dear Father, we come this morning to Thy Word knowing that by it you framed the heavens and the earth, and by it you maintain all things. We would ask you this morning Father, to bless the womb of our minds that we might receive Thy Seed Word into our hearts and minds and that it might bring forth in us the Life that is in Thy Word and the fruit which You destined for us from before the foundations of the world for we ask it in the most precious name of Your Dear Son, and our Brother, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen.

This morning we have taken our text from **EXODUS 20:16** *Thou shalt not bear false witness....* This will be number 8 in our Marriage Covenant series and we shall deal with the Ninth Commandment, ***Thou Shalt Not bear false witness.***

Again we are taking these Ten Commandments in this series, and we are showing their application in the marriage covenant. As stated through out this series, I believe the Ten Commandments were given by God to man, not as a weapon to beat us down with, but as laws to regulate and promote a better relationship between God and man. And thus as laws to regulate and promote relationship, I believe they are a very useful tool

to be used in the Marriage Covenant to promote a healthier relationship between the man and his wife.

As we found in our study of the eighth Commandment, "*Thou shalt not steal*," No marriage can last under a selfish atmosphere, one that is me first. We found that a marriage based on a 50/50 concept is bound for ruin because it is based on a merit system and no one can live up to the expectations of the other. The 50/50 merit system says, "If you do this for me, I will do this for you." It is the scratch my back and I will scratch yours philosophy. And it is bound to fail and it must fail because it is based upon expectations and unless both have the same understanding of what is expected, you can never satisfy the other.

Besides, any relationship that is not based upon Grace will never last. And Grace says, I Love you regardless and I want to do for you even if you do nothing in return. And when you expect nothing in return, you become blessed when something is given to you.

Jesus said, *do, expecting nothing in return*. **He also said**, "*do unto others as you would like for them to do unto you*." Therefore, we know that

MARK 9:35 *And he sat down, and called the twelve, and saith unto them, If any man desire to be first, [the same] shall be last of all, and servant of all.* Instead of wanting to be first we must be willing to be last. Instead of wanting to be served, we must be willing to serve. Jesus also said in **MATTHEW 16:25** *For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.*

Instead of trying to save our lives, we must lose them. We must love our neighbor (our Spouse) as much as we love ourselves. We must come to the place where self centeredness has no place in our life. If we want to be served, then we must serve. To have friends you must show yourself friendly. Isolation never begets friendships. Being there for the other will reap others being there for you. You reap what you sow. If you sow sparingly, you will also reap sparingly. If you are stingy with your help to others, you will receive little in return. Sow bountifully and you shall reap bountifully.

II CORINTHIANS 9:6 ¶ *But this [I say], He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.* (the word bountifully means to do so with Grace, Blessings, and Praise in your hearts)
7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, [so let him give]; not grudgingly (not with sorrow in your hearts, not with pain and grief. No that will never bring forth a good return to you.

How many have ever given and then down the road the ones you gave to turn on you and you wished you had never given them so much of yourself? Well, Paul is telling us here God does not like that. You give and you were happy when you had the opportunity to give, and though they turn against you it should not matter, that is between them and God. If you give grudgingly, you will receive grudgingly).

Now Paul said, *7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, [so let him give]; not grudgingly nor of necessity* (in other words, don't give because you have to give, or because you feel like you had better give, because you will only receive from others in the same way that you give to others) And Paul goes on to say, *for*

God loveth a cheerful giver. 8 And God [is] able to make all grace abound toward you; that ye, always having all sufficiency in all [things], may abound to every good work:

I would like to read this from the Masoretic text.

*⁶ Remember this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. ⁷ Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, **for God loves a cheerful giver.** (Notice, it is not all givers, but the cheerful giver that the Lord Loves). ⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. ⁹ As it is written: "He has scattered abroad his gifts to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." ¹⁰ Now he who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will also supply and increase your store of seed and will enlarge the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹ You will be made rich in every way so that you can be generous on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in thanksgiving to God .(You see, God gives to those who give, so that through them he can give even more. That's the way God operates! When you show God that you are willing to give, He will supply your needs that you might have more to give.) ¹² This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of God's people but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God. ¹³ Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel of Christ, and for your generosity in sharing with them and with everyone else. ¹⁴ And in their*

prayers for you their hearts will go out to you, because of the surpassing grace God has given you. ¹⁵ Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Now, although we could continue on with these thoughts of selfishness verses the giving heart in a Marriage, We will need to press forward in our study of these ten Commandments in the Marriage Covenant. Therefore, this morning I would like to continue with the Ninth Commandment, "

EXODUS 20:16 *Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.*

Now the question must come to our minds, "how does this tie into the Marriage Covenant? Our answer is very simple. But first we must know what it means to bear false witness.

The Hebrew word used here is the word, sheqer {sheh'-ker} and it means to disappoint, to falsify or deceive. And how could a marriage union stay glued together when the husband or wife lies to the other, or purposely deceives the other, or lives a life of deception. Now, I am not talking about misunderstandings. I am talking about deliberate deception and fraudulent behavior. The word Sheqer used for false witness, comes from the root word shaqar {shaw-kar'} meaning to deal with falsely, or to cheat. Therefore we can see again that there is a certain self centeredness in a person who is occupied with falsehood, or who creates an atmosphere of disappointment and mistrust.

And my concern for you young people is that you be very careful in making your decision to find a spouse. You better make sure that person you are

interested in is mature and has a giving heart. Because if they are selfish, or self centered, then you will always come out on the short end of the stick.

And you say, how do I know that this guy or this girl has a giving heart. Well, first of all, find out if they freely give their tithes and offerings. Ask them how they feel about it. Do they do so grudgingly, and sparingly? Then if they do so with God, what do you think they will do with you? I know several men who are so tight with their wives, that their wives finally went out to work just to have some money they could feel free to spend on the little things. And when you follow the money, you will also find out that these same men are very tight with God. They don't tithe, they don't contribute to the offerings in their church and they think if they give a couple hundred dollars a year to their church they are the last of the big time spenders.

There is an old expression, "**FOLLOW THE MONEY**" and it works every time. Brother Vayle told me years ago, that if you watch what a person does with their money, it will tell you more about that person than almost anything else. And that is so true. "**FOLLOW THE MONEY**".

You want to know what that boy will be like as a husband five years from now, "**FOLLOW THE MONEY**"... You want to know what she will be like as a wife 5 years from now? "**FOLLOW THE MONEY**"... What does she do with her extra money? What does he do with his? Does he put God first? Is he a selfless person who puts others needs above his own? Is she a giving person who looks out for the needs of others before she looks to her own needs? Well, how do you know? "**FOLLOW THE MONEY**"...

Do you bounce checks? Do you have credit card debt? **"FOLLOW THE MONEY"**... Then start to ask the 5-Y question. Why do you have credit card debt, then when he tells you what he bought, then ask him again, why did you buy it, then when he tell you why he bought it, then ask again Why, Why, why until you come right down to the source of the trouble which is never a need, but a want that has not been put under control.

Years ago in another church I attended, a certain brother came to the deacons because he could not pay his apartment rent for that month. He came to the deacons to enquire about help from the church to help him. The first question the head deacon asked him was, what have you bought recently that is not a usual purchase for food or clothing? After some discovery questioning, they found that he had purchased a stereo that he could not afford. Instead of giving him the rent money he was advised to return the stereo and he could pay his own rent. Whether or not this deacon knew it, he was following **the money trail**, and it lead to the source of the problem.

In **Revelations 3: 14** we hear Jesus Say, *"Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:"*

The attitude in Laodicea is to say, I am rich, just look at all the things I have, I am increased with Goods, I have lot's of things, and yet Jesus says, they are poor, blind and naked. Now, I believe he is not just telling us their spiritual condition, although this is true that spiritually they are poor, blind and naked. But although they have many things, they owe, they owe, they owe, until their

debt has made them slaves to pay for these things. The majority of people today are nothing more than indentured servants.

Over 50% of all stalks being bought on the stalk market are paid by credit card. And the trick is that you are given these almost unlimited spending on these cards, and when you get to the place where you have maxed out this card, you just apply for another one with a higher level of credit until you have become bound like an indentured slave working just to make the minimum payments.

What a trap of the devil.

Look at the warning that peter gave to us in **II PETER 2:18** *For when they speak great swelling [words] of vanity, they allure (entice, they bait, they deceive) through the lusts of the flesh, [through much] wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty (or more precisely, while they promise them liberty to do as they please), they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.*

And there is your answer to whether you should use credit cards or not. Convenient? Sure, they are made to be convenient.

MATTHEW 7:13 *Enter ye in at the strait gate (the narrow gate): for wide [is] the gate, and broad [is] the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: 14 Because strait [is] the gate, and narrow [is] the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it.*

Paul said, **I CORINTHIANS 6:12** ¶ *All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient* (That means profitable): *all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.*

So many use the argument, well, the deal was so good I just had to get it now, they said ONE DAY ONLY, THIS PRICE WILL NOT LAST... and you fell for the age old gimmick. But when you paid on that credit card, you ended up paying 18-20% interest and now you are paying interest on the interest.

How many have ever heard that sales gimmick, buy for less today because tomorrow prices are going up. If you ever hear those merchandizing shows on the radio or on television, they say ONE DAY SALE ONLY, and yet that same show is aired about once and week and the price never goes up. If anything it goes down. But you've just got to have it. Like with computers. Oh, I've just got to have that model, and ye if you wait a few months it will be about half the price, because a newer and shinier one will come down the pike.

So we are dealing with deception, and now let's look at how this deception works its way into the marriage. We found that the words, "*Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy*", means that you should never knowingly commit falsehood with the intent to deceive. It says, Against thy. And that is the key. It is one thing to deceive yourself, but another thing altogether when your deception involves another. And as I have made the point earlier, this deception does not just mean to lie to your wife. But it means also to get caught up in falsehood, or deception and this has a direct impact on your spouse.

If your spouse does not pay his or her tithes, they are stealing from God. Now if that money is part yours then you will suffer the consequences as well. My kids know that as long as they live under my roof, they will obey the laws of God that I obey. Because if they don't they will bring the curse into my home. Therefore, My kids know what it means to render to God and to render to Caesar. I make sure they know that they will be blessed. The parent that does not enforce the Word of God in their home is robbing their children of the Blessings of God.

Another means whereby your spouse may be bearing false witness is in their profession. Are they claiming to be a believer and then not living their profession. If they will deceive the brethren, then they will deceive you. In the message **ANOINTED ONES AT END TIME 65-0725M 49** Brother Branham said, *" Now, you can graft it in there. You see? Every grapefruit, lemon, tangelo, tangerine, whatever the citrus fruits they are, every one of them can live in that tree, but bearing false witness of the tree, living by the tree. You see it? They are living and thriving on the genuine life that's in that tree. Now, there's **Matthew 24:24**. Living by the same life, but they wasn't right at the beginning. They're bearing false witness of that tree. It's an orange tree. Yet it's a citrus tree. And they say, "This church, this denomination is bearing record of Christ." And got a false baptism, false witness of the Word, trying to say that the power of God was only for the disciples?*

Notice they are grafted into the tree but are not in the original seed of that tree. An Orange can be grafted onto a grapefruit tree and still live on that tree, because it is a citrus tree. And if you were to look at the tree you would think it was a

grapefruit tree because there are grapefruits growing on it. And how deceptive people can be. Claiming to be Christian, having a form of Godliness but denying the Word thereof, from such turn away.

Remember, the Hebrew word used for bearing false witness is the word, sheqer {sheh'-ker} and it means to disappoint, to falsify or deceive. We're talking about deliberate deception and fraudulent behavior. And you can not develop a unity if you can not develop trust. The opposite of falsehood is truthfulness and honesty. Webster tells us that honesty is freedom from lying, stealing and cheating. And to be honest implies trust and trustworthiness. Webster tells us that trust is the firm belief or confidence in the honesty, integrity, reliability, justice, etc., of another person or thing. In other words, faith. And when it is evident between two people you can not help but to love that person. Paul said, **I CORINTHIANS 13:4**

1. ¶ *Love suffereth long*, in other words, it means to be patient in bearing the offenses and injuries of others; to be mild and slow to punish
2. *[and] Love is kind*; to show one's self mild, to be kind, use kindness
3. *Love envieth not*; to be heated or to boil with envy, hatred, anger; in a good sense, to be zealous in the pursuit of good
4. *Love vaunteth not itself*, to boast one's self; a self display, employing rhetorical embellishments in extolling one's self excessively
5. *Love is not puffed up*, to inflate, blow up, to cause to swell up; to puff up, make proud; to be puffed up, to bear one's self loftily, be proud
6. *Love doth not behave itself unseemly*, to act unbecomingly
7. *Love seeketh not her own*, Is not self centered

8. *Love is not easily provoked*, to irritate, provoke, arouse to anger; to scorn, despise, make angry, to exasperate, to burn with anger
9. *Love thinketh no evil*; has no bad thoughts or evil thoughts toward the loved ones
10. *Love rejoiceth not in iniquity*, to rejoice, be glad; to rejoice exceedingly and iniquity is something you know to do but don't do it.
11. *but love rejoiceth in the truth*; to rejoice with, take part in another's joy; to rejoice together, to congratulate
12. *Love Beareth all things*, to cover over with silence; to keep secret; to hide, conceal; i.e. hides and excuses, the errors and faults of others 3) by covering to keep off something which threatens, to bear up against, hold out against, and so endure, bear, forbear
13. *Love believeth all things*, to be committed to -- be put in trust with -- be committed to one's trust - to think to be true; to be persuaded of; to credit, place confidence in
14. *Love hopeth all things*, to earnestly expect
15. *Love endureth all things*. endure - take patiently - wait for - abide with - to be patient with - suffer - to remain with - to tarry behind - to abide, not recede or flee- to preserve: under misfortunes and trials to hold fast to one's faith in, to endure, bear bravely and calmly: ill treatments
16. *Love never faileth*: to fall out of, to fall down from, to fall off - metaphorically, to fall from a thing, to lose it

Now, if you have this kind of Love for the man or the woman, you will have all these attributes of love as well. And if you do not have these attributes of Love, you don't have Love, you have affection, you might have infatuation, you might have like, but if you truly love, then you truly will endure all things, hope the best in all things, believe the best in all things, bear all things, you

will be kind, and not self centered, and you will rejoice together and never put yourself first. Now, how are we going to have love for the brethren if we can't have this kind of love for our spouse.

ADOPTION Part.4 60-0522E 101 *I said, "O Lord, that's what I'm here at the church for, trying to set the church in order," telling you, brother and sister, there's only one thing that can enter that; that's perfect love. Not because you're loyal to the Branham Tabernacle, or the Methodist church, or Baptist church, them's all right; you should be. But, oh, friends, you've got... Not because you spoke with tongues, danced in the Spirit, because you cast out devils, or moved mountains with faith. That all's all right, for that's all right, but still unless that real perfect love is in there. That was where perfect... ...102 They have obtained an inheritance...(We inherit what? Eternal Life)... being predestinated... How? Does everybody understand that? Did you call on God? No, God called on you. No man never sought God. It's God seeking man. Jesus said, "No man can come to Me except My Father draws him first." See, it's the nature of man to run from God. And you say now... That--that's what bothers me though, to preach to you people; don't remain on in the same condition you've been going in; change now. Hear me as I say it, **THUS SAITH THE LORD**. I've never called myself this; I'm not. But you called me your prophet, or a prophet. The world believes that, the world around, millions and millions and millions of people. I've spoke directly and indirectly to ten or--ten or twelve million people, or more, directly speaking. I've seen tens of thousands of visions, and signs and wonders, and not one of them have ever failed. And that's right. He's foretold me things that's never failed to happen just exactly. I'll bring*

any man to trial for that. That's right. I don't claim to be a prophet, but you listen to me.

104 THUS SAITH THE LORD, it'll take perfect love to put you in that place, for that's all there was there. No matter how many, how much religious demonstrations, how many good deeds you done, or whatever you done, that won't count nothing on that day. It'll take perfect love. So whatever you do, you lay aside everything else, until you are just so filled with the love of God, till you can love those who hate you. I'm just, as I said this morning, I was made... My whole makeup is grace. A lot of people say, "Now, you scratch my back, and I'll scratch yours. Yeah, you do something for me, and I'll do something for you." That's not grace. Grace is, if your back is itching, I'll scratch it anyhow, whether you scratch mine or not; you slap me on the face, and say, "my back needs itching, needs scratching," I'll scratch it. See? That's it; do something. I don't believe in works; I believe that works is love. Works is--works is the manifestation that grace has taken place. I don't live true to my wife because I believe she'd divorce me if I didn't; I live true to her because I love her.

106 I don't preach the Gospel, 'cause I think I'd go to hell if I didn't; I preach the Gospel because I love Him. Certainly. You think I'd cross those stormy seas, and them planes diving back and forth, and lightning flashing around, and--and everything else, and most any minute... and everybody screaming, and "Hail Mary's" a going on through the plane, and everything... Them people a-swinging in them safety belts, and the pilot saying, "Enough gas to last fifteen minutes longer, don't know where we're at." Do you think I'd do that just--just for the fun of doing it? Huh. You think I'd get back out there in the jungles

where German soldiers had to put their arms around me like this each night and take me in and out of the meeting, until the Holy Spirit begin to perform miracles, communists setting with night scopes, to shoot me a mile away. You think I'd do that just for the fun of it? Because something in me, love. They're humans that Christ died for. Paul said, "I'm not only willing to go up to Jerusalem, but I'm going up there to be crucified. I'm going up to die. I'm going up there to die for the cause of the Lord." It's something, love that constrains you, that makes you. That's exactly right.

107 If I'd preach the Gospel for money, if it would've been, I wouldn't have been twenty thousand dollars tonight in debt. I wouldn't been that in debt. No, sir. Because I'd have kept some of the--some of the millions that had been given to me. One man, one man sent an FBI agent with a million-five-hundred-thousand dollar money draft. And I said, "Take it back." Not for money, it isn't money. I don't preach the Gospel for money, not for that. It's because of the love. The thing I want to do, is, when I cross that last breath yonder, which may be in five minutes from now; it may be in two hours from now; it may be fifty years from now. I don't know when it'll be. But when it does, I do arrive there, I want to see the splendor of youth running, hollering, "My darling brother, my brother." That's what's in my heart. That's why. I don't try to disagree with you to be--be different, but I'm trying to put you on the road that's right. That's the way in. Not your church, not your denomination, but your birth in Christ. Oh, my. Whew.