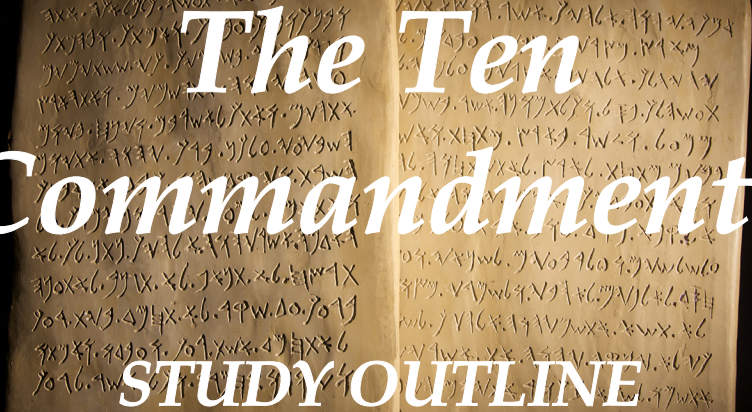


**VIDEO LECTURE SERIES**

*by Rev. A. T. Vergunst*



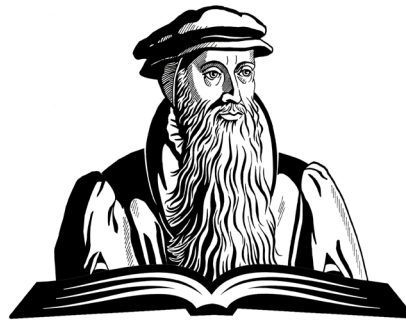
**The Ten  
Commandments**  
**STUDY OUTLINE**

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**Lecture #16**

***The Ninth Commandment***

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**The John Knox Institute**  
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*Entrusting our Reformed Inheritance to the Church Worldwide*

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Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from the Authorized King James Version.

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Rev. A. T. Vergunst is minister of the gospel at the Reformed Congregation of Carterton, New Zealand, a congregation of the Reformed Congregations of New Zealand.

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# *The Ten Commandments*

by Rev. A. T. Vergunst  
in 18 lectures

1. Introduction
2. The God of the Law
3. Paradise and the Law
4. Jesus and the Law
5. The Law and the Sinner
6. The Law and the Saint
7. The Law at Mount Sinai
8. The First Commandment
9. The Second Commandment
10. The Third Commandment
11. The Fourth Commandment
12. The Fifth Commandment
13. The Sixth Commandment
14. The Seventh Commandment
15. The Eighth Commandment
16. The Ninth Commandment
17. The Tenth Commandment
18. The Law in Eternity

# The Ten Commandments

by Rev. A. T. Vergunst

## STUDY OUTLINE

### Lecture #16

## THE NINTH COMMANDMENT

### Lecture Title:

Using Our Tongue Rightly

### Key Text:

“Thou shalt now bear false witness against thy neighbour.”—Exodus 20, verse 16

### Summary:

The Ninth Commandment is not just about not lying. It also deals with something we do daily, namely, the use of our tongue! Words are to be vehicles, not only of thoughts, ideas or truths, but also especially of love. In this module we first learn about the right way to use our tongue, and then hope to realize the wrong ways we can use it. May the name of the Lord be glorified by our words!

### Structure:

1. Introduction – the ninth general principle.
2. How does God value communication?
  - a. What the Ninth Commandment is about.
  - b. God values communications for three reasons.
3. How are we to express our love in the way that we communicate?
  - a. Tell the truth, bear a true witness about our neighbor in a court session.
  - b. Tell the truth in all non-court sessions.
  - c. Put away lying, promote the advantage and the good reputation and character of my neighbor.
4. What are God’s directions to safeguard our neighbor’s well-being through our communications?
  - a. Don’t twist the truth.
  - b. Don’t exaggerate the truth.
  - c. Don’t gossip.
  - d. God forbids slandering, spreading rumors.
  - e. God forbids flattery.
  - f. Be care of wordless communication.
5. Conclusion.

**Review Questions:**

1. What is the ninth general principle concerning the law of God? Explain this principle from the example of David.

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2. What is the Ninth Commandment about? Is it only about not speaking lies?

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3. For which three reasons does God value communication?

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4. According to this commandment, how are we to express love in the way that we communicate?

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5. What does God teach about communication as a way to safeguard our neighbor?

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6. What are examples of Satan's communication? Why should we turn away from such things?

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7. Why are gossip and slander very serious matters?

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8. Why does God also forbid flattery?

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9. What does the Ninth Commandment teach us about wordless communication?

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10. How does 2 Peter chapter 2 exhort people about using the tongue and about those who suffer under the pain of words?

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**Further Application:**

1. Meditate on this commandment while considering what the book of James says about using the tongue. Also read in the Heidelberg Catechism and the Westminster Shorter Catechism concerning this commandment.

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2. What practical instructions did you gain from this lecture about using the tongue?

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