

THE WESTMINSTER STANDARDS

Shorter
CATECHISM

VIDEO LECTURE SERIES

by Rev. Jonathan Mattull

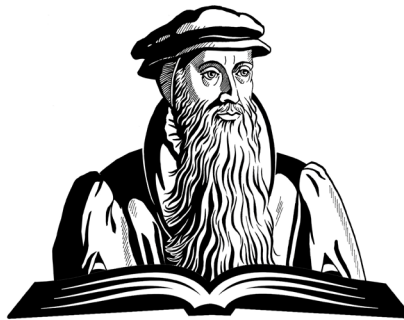
Adult Study Guide

for Lecture #41

The Ten Commandments:

Love for Truth

Catechism Questions 76, 77, & 78



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35. The Ten Commandments: A Day for Holy Love—*Questions 57–59*
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37. The Ten Commandments: Love within Our Relationships—*Questions 63–66*
38. The Ten Commandments: Love for Life—*Questions 67–69*
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41. The Ten Commandments - Love for the Truth—*Questions 76 thru 78*
42. The Ten Commandments - Love from Within—*Questions 79 thru 81*
43. Understanding Our Sin—*Questions 82 thru 84*
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ADULT STUDY GUIDE

for Lecture #41

The Ten Commandments:

Love for Truth

Memorization

Question 76: *Which is the ninth commandment?*

Answer: *The ninth commandment is, "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour."*

Question 77: *What is required in the ninth commandment?*

Answer: *The ninth commandment requireth the maintaining and promoting of truth between man and man, and in our own and our neighbour's good name, especially in witness-bearing.*

Question 78: *What is forbidden in the ninth commandment?*

Answer: *The ninth commandment forbiddeth whatsoever is prejudicial to truth, or injurious to our own or our neighbour's good name.*

Lecture Structure

1. Introduction.
2. The beauty of truth.
3. Sharing the truth.
4. Denying the truth.
5. Applications.

Literal Study

1. Define these words as they are used in the lecture:

- a) Bear witness _____
- b) Maintain truth _____

c) Promote truth _____

d) Prejudicial _____

2. Summarize the main teachings from the answers to Questions 76, 77, & 78.

Lecture Checkup

1. What is the value of speech and communication in mankind? How should it be governed and directed?

2. How is the truth related to God? What does this mean to us?

3. Is God able to lie? Why? How can you prove this from the Bible?

4. What is your understanding of “telling the truth”? What part of the truth should we tell?

5. What does it mean to maintain and promote our own good name? and our neighbor's good name? Why should we do that?

6. What is gossip? What does the Bible say about gossip?

7. What is the essence of lying? What about "little white lies"?

8. Is it right to lie to protect someone who is in danger? What did Samuel do to avoid lying when he came to Bethlehem to anoint David?

9. How should we understand the example of Rehab who lied to save the Israelite spies in Jericho? How did God commend her?

10. Does telling the truth mean that we must always tell everyone everything we know? Is there a time to remain silent? Explain, and prove your answer from the Bible.

Further Studies

1. How may we defend our good name?

2. Why should everyone endeavor to maintain and promote their own good name?

3. In what ways ought we to maintain and promote our neighbor's good name, in regard to others, and to ourselves?

4. What are some of the things forbidden by the ninth commandment which are injurious to our own good name and the good name of our neighbor?

Practical Application

1. Examine yourself against what you have learned about the ninth commandment. Ask yourself, "Whose image do I bear by my speech and my communications?" Why are we always tempted to lie in our everyday lives?

2. Having learned more about the ninth commandment, are you feeling convicted of this sin? Do you see your need for Christ? Now consider the speech and communications of the Lord Jesus as recorded in the Gospels. What is Christ's work in the life of a believer in regard to telling the truth?

Project Ideas

Read and meditate on Bible passages in this lecture regarding the telling of truth and lies. Write a short article explaining how we should use our tongue in speech and communications.