

Theology Simply Explained — CC99 “The Value of Words and Names”

Pastor walks his children through Children’s Catechism question 99—especially explaining how names are valuable as our neighbor’s most precious earthly possession, and words are valuable as being created to worship God and image Him in serving others.

Q99. What is the ninth commandment? ***The ninth commandment is, Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.***

(The following is a machine-generated transcription. Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording via hopewellarp.org)

Sophia. Your catechism question this week is children's catechism, 99 What is the ninth commandment? The answer is the ninth commandment is. Thou shalt not bear. False witness against thy neighbor. Now, as has been the case, as we've gone through the Commandments, there is A progression and a connectedness in the order.

In this, uh, Particular case, as we come from, The eighth commandment Thou shalt not steal. Um, the ninth commandment. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. It's actually a Uh, of or a Um,

It's actually teaching you. Something that you should not steal from your neighbor? And that is, Your neighbor's good name. And it's teaching you something about. The most important possession. One of the most important possessions. Let you employ for the Lord. And that is your words. He has entrusted many things to us.

But he has entrusted among those many things. He is entrusted to us, speech words. And so, on the one hand, Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor. Is reminding us of the value of a good name. Which Proverbs tells us a good name is better than riches.

And so you should care about your neighbor's, good name. And not steal it from him by false witness. And on the other hand, he is teaching us. Uh, the weightiness and the value. Of being those who speak words. And just like all of our other possessions, We are to employ in a way.

That glorifies God, especially our words. We are to employ in a way that glorifies God. And so Think about those things more in the next question and answer when we get to. What does the ninth commandment teach us? But just by virtue of the ninth commandment being ninth and understanding its placement in the Ten Commandments and how it relates to the other things.

We are reminded Of the value of a good name. And the importance of using words correctly, We are the only speaking creatures. Um, in the earth. The, uh, there are other creatures that make sounds and have Sorts of Ways to communicate but they do not communicate themselves. They do not have a responsibility to truth.

And, To use words with one another, as those who use words to praise God, All right, so your question is, what is the ninth commandment and your answer is The ninth commandment is, Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.