


No false testimony (Sermon)

Introduction



Who are our neighbours?



What is meant by “false testimony”?

The importance of reliable testimony

If a man presents himself as a witness but is demonstrated to be a perjurer, he shall weigh and deliver 15 shekels of silver.

If a man accuses another man
and charges him with homicide
but cannot bring proof against
him, his accuser shall be killed

If a malicious witness takes the stand to accuse someone of a crime, the two people involved in the dispute must stand in the presence of the Lord before the priests and the judges who are in office at the time. The judges must make a thorough investigation, and if the witness proves to be a liar, giving false testimony against a fellow Israelite, then do to the false witness as that witness intended to do to the other party. You must purge the evil from among you.

Deuteronomy 19:16–19

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Not just about false testimony

‘ “Do not steal.

‘ “Do not lie.

‘ “Do not deceive one another.

Leviticus 19:11

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‘ “Do not go about spreading slander among your people.

‘ “Do not do anything that endangers your neighbour’s life. I am the Lord.

Leviticus 19:16

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These are the things you are
to do: Speak the truth to each
other, and render true and
sound judgment in your courts;

Zechariah 8:16

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Why is this important?



False testimony against Jesus

On the testimony of two or three witnesses a person is to be put to death, but no one is to be put to death on the testimony of only one witness.

Deuteronomy 17:6

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Jesus answered them,
‘Destroy this temple, and I
will raise it again in three
days.’

John 2:19

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‘Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.’

Acts 2:36

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