

# Notes for Matthew 5:33-37

Hebrew & Greek pronunciation spelled phonetically

“I meant what I said and I said what I meant...an elephant’s faithful, 100 percent!”

- *Horton the Elephant in Dr. Seuss’s book, Horton Hatches an Egg.*

Ephesians 4:25 - *Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another.*

Leviticus 19:12 - *You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the Lord.*

Numbers 30:2 - *If a man vows a vow to the Lord, or swears an oath to bind himself by a pledge, he shall not break his word. He shall do according to all that proceeds out of his mouth.*

Mark 12:31 - *The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.”*

Judges 11:30-31 - *And Jephthah made a vow to the Lord and said, “If you will give the Ammonites into my hand, 31 then whatever comes out from the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the Ammonites shall be the Lord’s, and I will offer it up for a burnt offering.”*

In Joshua 9, the Gibeonites tricked Joshua and Israel into a peace treaty by pretending to be from a distant land, wearing old clothes, and carrying moldy food. Failing to consult God, Joshua and the leaders swore an oath of safety. When the deception was discovered three days later, Israel honored the oath but forced the Gibeonites into servitude as woodcutters and water carriers.

Joshua 9:14 - *So the men took some of their provisions, but did not ask counsel from the Lord.*

Romans 1:9 - *“For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of his Son, that without ceasing I mention you always in my prayers.”*

2 Corinthians 1:23 - *“But I call God to witness against me – it was to spare you that I refrained from coming again to Corinth”*

Galatians 1:20 - *“In what I am writing to you, before God, I do not lie!”*

1 Thessalonians 2:5 - *“For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed – God is witness”*

Matthew 26:63-64 - *But Jesus remained silent. And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” 64 Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.”*

Genesis 22:16 - *“By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, anger of the Lord may turn away from Israel.”*

Hebrews 6:13 - *For when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself,*

Isaiah 66:1 - *Thus says the Lord: “Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool; what is the house that you would build for me, and what is the place of my rest?”*

Ephesians 4:15 - *Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,*

There are too many Christians who prefer to keep God’s Word in the 1st Century AD. Too many do not want to examine their actions or beliefs under the lens of God’s Word. They say we should “stick to scripture” which means don’t bring God’s Word into today’s world.

Proverbs 27:17 - *Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another.*

1 Corinthians 15:58 - *Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.*

“The lady doth protest too much, methinks.”

- *Queen Gertrude’s Hamlet famous line from in response to the excessive vows of love by another character.*

James 5:12 - *But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.*

Matthew 26:72-74 - *And again he denied it with an oath: “I do not know the man.” 73 After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, “Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.” 74 Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, “I do not know the man.” And immediately the rooster crowed.*

John 14:6 - *“I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”*

