

## **Nothing But the Truth – Pt. 1**

*Matthew 5:33–37*

—

**Tom Pennington**

May 3, 2026

**MAIN IDEA:** Jesus' fourth illustration in the Sermon on the Mount shows how the righteousness of His disciples surpasses the hypocritical external religion of the scribes and pharisees. Jesus' point in this paragraph (5:33–37) demands that His true disciples be known by loving but uncompromising truthfulness/honesty.

### **SERMON OUTLINE:**

- I. The Flawed Interpretation of the OT Command for Truthfulness (33)
  - Key words...
    - Vow - a solemn promise made to God (33)
    - Oath – proof of “the veracity of one’s statement by invoking deity, frequently with an implied invitation of punishment if one is untruthful” (34)
  - A. “Honesty is limited to oaths made in human courts” (33a).
  - B. “Honesty is limited to vows made to God Himself” (33b).
  - C. “Honesty is limited to promises made in God's name” (34-36).

### ***The Common Forms of this Temptation for Us***

1. Lying (contradicting or denying what we know is true)
2. Slander
3. Deception (trying to convince someone to accept as true what we know is false)
4. Cheating
5. False Accusations
6. A False Profession

### **BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL QUESTIONS:**

1. Read Exodus 34:6–7. What key truths do these verses teach us about the character of God? Is God the Father described in the OT any different than God the Son described in the NT (see John 1:14, 17)?

