Heidelberg Catechism LORD'S DAY 43

Q112. What is the aim of the ninth commandment?

**A. That I never give false testimony against anyone,[1] twist no one's words,[2] not gossip or slander,[3] nor join in condemning anyone rashly or without a hearing.[4] Rather, in court and everywhere else, I should avoid lying and deceit of every kind;[5] these are the very devices the devil uses,[6] and they would call down on me God's intense wrath. I should love the truth, speak it candidly, and openly acknowledge it.[7] And I should do what I can to guard and advance my neighbor's good name.[8]**

1. Prov. 19:5 – "A false witness will not go unpunished, and a liar will not escape."
Prov. 19:9 – "A false witness will not go unpunished, and the liar will perish."
Prov. 21:28 – "A false witness will perish, but a good listener will testify successfully."
2. Ps. 15:3 – "who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors;"
3. Rom. 1:29–30 – "They were filled with every kind of injustice, evil, covetousness, malice. Full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, craftiness, they are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, haughty, boastful, inventors of evil, rebellious toward parents,"
4. Matt. 7:1[–2] – "Do not judge, so that you may not be judged. For the judgment you give will be the judgment you get, and the measure you give will be the measure you get."
Luke 6:37 – "Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven;"
5. Prov. 12:22 – "Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord, but those who act faithfully are his delight."
Prov. 13:5 – "The righteous hate falsehood, but the wicked act shamefully and disgracefully."
6. John 8:44 – "You are from your father the devil, and you choose to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning and does not stand in the truth because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks according to his own nature, for he is a liar and the father of lies."
7. 1 Cor. 13:6 – "it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth."
Eph. 4:25 – "So then, putting away falsehood, let each of you speak the truth with your neighbor, for we are members of one another."
8. 1 Pet. 4:8 – "Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins."