

## The Ninth Commandment

וְלֹא תַעֲנֶה בְּרֵעֲךָ עַד שָׂוְא :

### Abarbanel

This includes, besides bearing false witness, one who mocks his fellowman, slanders and denigrates him, insults him publicly, and the like.

### Avraham ben haRambam

These ten commandments which contain the roots of the whole Torah mirror all the 613 precepts...from the ninth commandment *lo ta'aneh* branch out the prohibition of falsehood, the admonition to tell the truth, not to pervert justice, to respect persons, not to take bribes, to appoint judges, the laws of testimony and so on.

## The Tenth Commandment

וְלֹא תַחְמֹד אִשְׁתֵּי רֵעֲךָ  
וְלֹא תַתְאֲוֶה בֵּית רֵעֲךָ שְׂדֵהוּ וְעַבְדוֹ וְאִמָּתוֹ שׂוֹרוֹ וְחַמְרוֹ וְכֹל אֲשֶׁר לְרֵעֲךָ :

### Ibn Ezra

Many people will be puzzled by this command (not to covet). Is it conceivable that there should exist a man who does not at some time or another covet a beautiful object...? Let me now give you a parable. A country yokel in his right senses will not covet in his heart to possess a beautiful princess since he knows that this is impossible just the same as he will not seriously desire to have wings like a bird. For this reason, the thinking person will neither desire nor covet. Since he know that the Almighty has forbidden him his neighbor's wife, such a course of action will be even further from his mind than from that of the country yokel in regard to the princess. He will therefore rejoice in his portion and not turn his attention to coveting and desiring things not belonging to him. Knowing that the Almighty does not wish to give it to him, he will realize that he can not take it by force or through his designs.