

## *Mt. Lebanon Church*

Sermon

5.29.2022

Please look up and read all verses in their entirety. I have only written partial verses.

Make your own notes, write down other scriptures that you run across while studying, write down questions that you may have or comments as well. Allow the Holy Spirit to reveal to you what he would have you to see through the study of God's word.

The Tongue Speaks for the Heart

### **James 3: 8 – 10, 13, 17 – 18**

Can we control the words that come out of our mouth? The answer would be, not of our own power. Therefore, it is not impossible to control our words, but it is extremely difficult. Our words and how that we use them can either build one up or tear many down. The quality and contents of our speech reveals how much we have allowed godly wisdom to mature within us. Our Christian maturity is evident in how that we speak to others, and also in how that we talk about others. Wisdom is required when it comes to our speech, and God will give wisdom to those who choose to speak wisely. The question we should ask ourselves before allowing our words to be directed towards others, and this, is that which I am about say, truthful, compassionate, profitable to the well being of others, is it necessary, and is it of Gods will and timing.

**James 1: 9,....**wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath....

Learning obedience will help us in controlling how we listen, and when we speak. If God is truly in control of our life, we can afford to take the time to understand before we speak. Instead of speaking just to ensure that we are heard, we can respond in a helpful, compassionate manner. It is a choice that we must make to believe that God is in control.

**James 3: 8 – 10,....**but the tongue can no man tame, it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison....therewith bless we God, even the Father, and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude ( likeness ) of the God....

This may seem like a bold statement, but keep in mind that James did not say that the tongue could not be tamed, he simply stated that no man could tame it. This is because our tongue is more powerful than we are due to the fact that it is not an ability that we possess of our own power, without Christ.

**Proverbs 26: 12,....**see thou a man wise in his own conceit? There is more hope of a fool than of him....

Self-confidence and self-righteousness are a condemnation to the soul. This establishes conceit in our heart and in our mind, which leads us to believe that our ideas and thoughts cannot be wrong.

So, what brings about this unruly evil in our life.

**Luke 6: 45,....**a good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good....an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil....for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh....

It is our words that reveal that which is in the heart. The things that we say, and the manner in which we say them discloses the attitude of our hearts. Not often do we consider this, for if we did, we would be more careful, considering the things that we say, and how that we say them. Therefore, it is the overflow of the heart that the mouth speaks. Becoming honest with ourselves begins with looking at the sinfulness in our own life before pointing out to others what we believe to be the sinfulness in their lives. In order to see the sin in our lives, we must not look at our actions or behavior, for man is able to justify his actions, and give excuses for his behavior. If we really want an honest glimpse of our own heart, we must listen to our own words. Have we ever taken the time to listen to what comes out of our mouth? Our words reveal the contents of our heart.

**James 3: 13,....**who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? Let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness and wisdom....

A truly wise person will show humility through the wisdom of his good works and good conversation. There is a significant difference between true wisdom, which is godly wisdom given from above, and false wisdom which comes from the world. True wisdom is not how much knowledge a man acquires, but how he conducts himself with the wisdom that God has given unto him. Boasting and deceitfulness come through worldly wisdom, which is not from above. But our heavenly conversation will be one of sincerity and truth.

**Colossians 4: 6,....**let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man....

Our presentation of the gospel should be a work of clear communication, through the wisdom of the Holy Spirit, making the most of every opportunity given unto us by God. Our words must not spoil but preserve the message of Christ and the cross. What we teach as believers should be uplifting, helpful, and add eternal value to every conversation. Wisdom and knowledge are not all that God requires for a positive presentation of the gospel. We must present the truth, using gentleness, with respect, always giving a reason of the hope that is within us.

**1 Peter 3: 15,....**sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear....

**James 3: 17 – 18,....**but the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy....and the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace....

Herein is described the characteristics of wisdom which comes from above. With these characteristics, believers gain the willingness, and the ability to trust fully in God, and to serve the needs of others. This kind of wisdom focuses on all that God has called unto us to do.

**James 3: 17,....**reflection

It is amazing how much easier and more pleasant our Christian life becomes as we take on the characteristics of Gods wisdom from above and give up the selfish ambition that we are harboring within our hearts, which causes us to avoid the truth, and live our life with a false worldly attitude.

**James 3: 18,....**and the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace....

As we live our lives peaceably, in the full confidence of Gods will, then will we see that there is no need to be concerned about the quality or the content of our conversation. This then will be a reflection of Christ within us, and the sure possibility that through him we can control the words that come forth from within us, because that which is within us is that which is the fruit of righteousness, sown in peace, through the qualities of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

Therefore, we should live our life accordingly, as we read concerning the proof of our life in Christ.

**Ecclesiastes 3: 1, 7,....**to everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven....a time to keep silence, and a time to speak....

Let us pray.

If anyone has any questions, comments or would just like to discuss any of the scriptures, feel free to call, text or email me. Keep praying for each other and all the God lays upon your heart. Hope to see everyone soon. God Bless.

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