THE CURE OF EVIL SPEAKING

TEXT:

James 4:11: Speak not evil one of another, brethren. He who speaketh evil of his brother, and judgeth his brother, speaketh evil of the Law, and judgeth the Law: but if thou judge the Law, thou art not a doer of the Law, but a judge.

"Speak evil of no man, brethren."



What is evil speaking? It is not just slander or lying. It is speaking evil about an absent party. If we tell a tale in a soft and quiet manner, perhaps with expressions of good will to the person and of hope they will be better some day, yet we do not want everybody to hear our tale, we are whisperers.

Romans 1:29: Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

This is the gang we are with, the haters of God — for all are classified together. Each one can have a zeal for righteousness, but in the spirit of the devil, just like the Pharisees of whom Jesus said, they are hypocrites.

Matthew 5:20: For I say unto you, "That except your righteousness shall exceed the righteousness of the scribes and Pharisees, ye shall in no case enter into the Kingdom of Heaven."

Matthew 18:7: Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!

"If thy brother trespass against thee, go . . ." — go about talking about him and murdering him with your tongue; tell him off when you get hot under the collar.

NO! Go and tell him of his fault between thee and him alone. If he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.



Matthew 18:15-17: Moreover if thy brother shall

trespass against thee, go and tell him his fault between thee and him alone: if he shall hear thee, thou hast gained thy brother.

¹⁶ But if he will not hear thee, then take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.

¹⁷ And if he shall neglect to hear them, tell it unto the church: but if he neglect to hear the church, let him be unto thee as an heathen man and a publican.

Galatians 6:1: Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted.

THIS IS COMING FROM OUR LORD. No alternative is allowed. You can never feel the blessings of the Lord while trampling the commands of God under your feet. Only love and the Spirit of meekness can dictate how one is to minister to the erring. Our purpose is to restore, not to condemn and rail.

James 2:8: If ye fulfil the Royal Law according to the Scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself, ye do well:

James 2:12: So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the Law of Liberty.

John 13:35: By this shall all men know that ye are My disciples, if ye have love one to another.

1 John 4:7: Beloved, let us love one another: for love is of God; and every one that loveth is born of God, and knoweth God.

John 3:16: For God so loved the world, that He gave His Only Begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have Everlasting Life.

The greatest of these three is love. This law of liberty is not enforced. It is spontaneous. It is of no value if it is compelled or demanded. The law of liberty will one day judge us.

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

When Christ uncovers this terrible sin at the Judgment Day, there will be many

shocking revelations about the kind of religion many professing Christ had. For the tongue is worse than a gun, and slays more people, by far, and the reaping will be more than the sowing ever was. I warn you, in the Name of Christ, confess your devilish evil and depart from it.

THY SPEECH BETRAYETH THEE

Your tongue either classifies you as a Christian or a "seemeth to be religious one". Your tongue is a sign of whether you are a true believer or a pretender. The tongue is a sign, a mark, a classifier.

Does anyone claim that his heart is good, even though his words are bad? This is an utter impossibility. For, "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." The good man out of the treasure of his heart bringeth forth

The tongue is a sign, a mark, a classifier.

good things; and an evil man, out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things."

Matthew 12:34: O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

- ³⁶ But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.
- ³⁷ For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.
- ³⁸ Then certain of the scribes and of the Pharisees answered, saying, Master, we would see a sign from thee.

Your heart is as bad as your tongue. Remember how the wise family doctor suspects a foul stomach condition by the looks of the tongue?



Our words convey our spirit. They reveal whether it is bad or good. When the tongue is witnessing for Christ, it is more important to the Spirit of God than all our members put together. But, the greatest detriment to the church and to our spiritual life is an unsanctified tongue. When the tongue can utter words that are unkind and hurtful, it is a sign that you are dead to God, and to human feelings as well.

Do you call yourself a Christian? You will be the only one who does, for others will

know better. Do you talk about going to Heaven? If you bridle <u>not</u> your tongue, you are in the "gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity,"

Acts 8:23: For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity.

The crafty old self causes most tongue talkers to stay clear, and steer away for:

James 3:6: the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of Hell.



1 Peter 3:10-11: For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no quile:

¹¹ Let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue it.

HEALTH IS LOST OR GAINED by the TONGUE

Proverbs 12:18: There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.



Excessive talking, public speaking, and rattling on and on exhausts the physical body, tires the nervous system, and wearies the mind. There is a very close connection between the good health of the body and the use of the tongue.

Proverbs 18:21: Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Proverbs 15:4: A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.

"A wholesome tongue is a tree of life" — (Life Giving)

Proverbs 16:24: Pleasant words are as an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones.

Proverbs 18:8: The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go

down into the innermost parts of the belly.

Many mental and nervous disorders can be caused by evil words. This is born out in these Scriptures. Don't let your ears be a garbage can.



"If you would tear one another to pieces with your words, find fault, quarrel, be careful, for the natural result will be that you will be consumed, one of another."

Galatians 5:14-15:

- ¹⁴ For all the Law is fulfilled in one word, even in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.
- ¹⁵ But if ye bite and devour one another, take heed that ye be not consumed one of another.



Have you presented your bodies a living sacrifice to God ... except for your tongue.?

Won't you come, saying, "Lord, this tongue of mine was given me to glorify thee. I have used it so often to find fault with others, to injure the reputation of a brother or sister, to speak unkindly to my family, but now I give it to Thee. Help me use it from this time on, solely to glorify Thee." Amen.

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