

The Power of the Tongue

February 19, 2012

Death and life are in the power of the tongue . . .

Proverbs 18:21a

By your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

Matthew 12:37

The Principle of the Two

Two nations are in thy womb, and two manner of people shall be separated from thy bowels; and the one people shall be stronger than the other people; and the elder shall serve the younger.

Genesis 25:23-24

The spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven.

1 Corinthians 15:46-47

For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; these are contrary the one to the other.

Galatians 5:17

The First	The Second
Cain	Abel
Ishmael	Isaac
Esau	Jacob
Jacob (Heal-Grabber)	Israel (God-Grabber)
Leah (Reuben)	Rachel (Joseph)
Manasseh	Ephraim
Saul	David
Old Covenant (Law)	New Covenant (Grace)
Adam	Jesus
Natural Birth	Supernatural Birth

The Two Tongues

As Revealed in Psalm 12

Tongue #1 - The Proud Tongue

They speak vanity every one with his neighbor: with flattering lips and with a double heart do they speak. The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaks **proud** things . . .

Psalm 12:2-3

Tongue #2 - The Pure Tongue

The words of the LORD are **pure** words: as silver tried in a furnace of earth, purified seven times. Thou shalt keep them, O LORD, thou shalt preserve them from this generation for ever.

Psalm 12:6-7

The Description of the Tongue

My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body. Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body. Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But no man can tame the tongue. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so. Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh. Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom. But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic. For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there. But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

James 3

Introducing: The Tongue

Even so **the tongue is a little member** and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! And **the tongue is a fire**, a world of iniquity. **The tongue** is so set among our members that it **defiles the whole body**, and **sets on fire the course of nature**; and it is set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. But **no man can tame the tongue**. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

James 3:5-6

- It's a little member
- It's a fire
- It defiles the whole body
- It sets on fire the course of nature
- It is an unruly evil
- It is full of deadly poison
- no man can tame it

The Romance Between the Heart and the Tongue

But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

Matthew 15:18

A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and 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.

Luke 6:45

The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things.

Proverbs 15:28

The First Born Tongue

The Proud Tongue (Brackish waters), Cursing and Contention

In the mouth of the foolish is a rod of pride

Proverbs 14:3

Only by pride cometh contention.

Proverbs 13:10

A fool's lips bring strife, And his mouth calls for blows.

Proverbs 18:6

The Second Born Tongue

The Pure Tongue (Fresh Water, Living Water) - Clear, clean water, blessing

Who did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth:

1 Peter 2:22

And in their mouth was found no guile: for they are without fault before the throne of God.

Revelation 14:5

The Classic Justifications of the Unruly Tongue

- I'm just being honest
- If it's in my head, shouldn't it go airborne via my tongue?
- I say this because I love you
- The person needed to come down a few notches
- They started it!

Defiled Christian Communications

The “Christian” Tongue as controlled by the Flesh

- Prayer Gossip
- Spiritual Manipulation - “God has spoken”
- Super-spiritual control
- Wielding Scripture for personal gain
- Belittling others
- Irreverence / Coarseness
- Exaggeration / Lying
- Harshness / Frustration

Every Word Matters

Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or else make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for a tree is known by its fruit. Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

Matthew 12:33-37

Does God Share Everything?

The Godly Art of Discretion

- Only that which is profitable
- Only that which is edifying

- Only that which is necessary
- Only that which is honorable
- Only that which is loving
- Only that which is pure
- Only that which keeps a trust
- Only that which preserves Truth
- Only that which brings God glory

God: The Secret-Keeper

The Name that no one else knows

And I saw heaven opened, and behold a white horse; and he that sat upon him was called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he doth judge and make war. His eyes were as a flame of fire, and on his head were many crowns; and **he had a name written, that no man knew, but he himself.**

Revelation 19:11-12

The Secret Things Belong to Him

The secret things belong unto the LORD our God: but those things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children for ever, that we may do all the words of this law.

Deuteronomy 29:29

And he said unto them, **It is not for you to know** the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

Acts 1:7

But of that day and that hour knows no man, no, not the angels which are in heaven, neither the Son, but the Father.

Mark 13:32

All is not supposed to be Written

Only that which is needful

And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which, if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that should be written. Amen.

John 21:25

Discretion

The tongue governed by Grace, held to the highest honor and harnessed to speak only that which is Edifying

If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridles not his tongue, but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

James 1:26

Edifying

That which builds stronger; that which strengthens and fortifies; that which adds more of what is needful.

Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of **edifying**, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.

Ephesians 4:29

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but all things **edify** not.

1 Corinthians 10:23

. . . **edify** one another . . .

1 Thessalonians 5:11

... seek that ye may excel to the **edifying** of the church.

1 Corinthians 14:12

... Let all things be done unto **edifying**.

1 Corinthians 14:26

... but we do all things, dearly beloved, for your **edifying**.

2 Corinthians 12:19

Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith one may **edify** another.

Romans 14:19

Measuring Every Word

The Canon-Tested Tongue

But I say unto you, That **every idle word** that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

Matthew 12:36

Jesus, the Model Tongue

Wholly consecrated, wholly given

I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him.

Deuteronomy 18:18

For I have not spoken of myself; but the Father which sent me, he gave me a commandment, what I should say, and what I should

speak. And I know that his commandment is life everlasting: whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

John 12:49-50

Believe thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwells in me, he does the works.

John 14:10

I have many things to say and to judge of you: but he that sent me is true; and I speak to the world those things which I have heard of him.

John 8:26

For I have given unto them the words which thou gave me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.

John 17:8

It is the spirit that quickens; the flesh profits nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.

John 6:63

Let No Corrupt Word Escape

. . . put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another. "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, nor give place to the devil . . . **Let no corrupt word proceed**

out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice. And be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.

Ephesians 4:22-32

The Cross: The Blow to the Head

A fool's lips bring strife, And his mouth calls for blows.

Proverbs 18:6

. . . Himself took our infirmities, and bore our sicknesses.

Matthew 8:17b

Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows . . .

Isaiah 53:4a

Who His own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness . . .

1 Peter 2:24a

For in that He Himself has suffered, being tempted, **He is able to aid those who are tempted.**

Hebrews 2:18

He Took the Blow for us

He was struck upon the cheek and His mouth touched with vinegar that our mouths might bear the Word of God and wield the Almighty sword of the Spirit

. . . one of the officers which stood by struck Jesus with the palm of his hand.

John 18:22

And they spit upon him . . . and smote him on the head.

Matthew 27:29-30

they filled a sponge with vinegar . . . and put it to his mouth.

John 19:29

The Cross: Where the Tongue was Tamed

Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. Let not sin therefore

reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. Neither yield you your ~~members~~ *tongues* as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your ~~members~~ *tongues* as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.

What then? shall we sin, because we are not under the law, but under grace? God forbid. Know ye not, that to whom you yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness? But

God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.

Romans 6:11-18

The Power of the Purified Tongue

In the year that king Uzziah died I saw also the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up, and his train filled the temple. Above it

stood the seraphims: each one had six wings; with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he did fly. And one cried unto another, and said, Holy, holy, holy, is the LORD of hosts: the whole earth is full of his glory. And the posts of the door moved at the voice of him that cried, and the house was filled with smoke. Then said I, Woe is me! for I am undone; because **I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips:** for mine eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts. Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, having a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with the tongs from off the altar: And he laid it upon my mouth, and said, Lo, **this hath touched thy lips; and thine iniquity is taken away,** and thy sin purged. Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then **said I, Here am I; send me.**

Isaiah 6:1-8

The First Words of Holy Fire-Touched Lips

Here am I; send me.

Isaiah 6:8

The Gift of Holy Fire-Touched Lips

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Acts 1:8

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house

where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:1-4

An Empowered Tongue

whatsoever I speak therefore, even as the Father said unto me, so I speak.

John 12:50

The Church of the Tamed Tongue

May we, the consecrated of Almighty God, speak only . . .

- that which is profitable
- that which is edifying
- that which is necessary
- that which is honorable
- that which is loving
- that which is pure
- that which keeps a trust
- that which preserves Truth
- that which brings God glory
- *that which He is speaking*
- *that which is born of Holy Fire*

