

Remnant Life Church  
August 8, 2021  
“Spiritual Warfare – The Tongue”  
Pt 2  
James 3:3-12

- ❖ Many of these weapons or tools are not designed primarily to inflict damage on the enemy or even defend yourself or your family
- ❖ Rather, it is the knowledge of what they are and how to use them that positions you for victory
- ❖ One of the most powerful – the tongue
  - The Bible refers to the tongue 133 times in the NIV
  - Most all of them on the importance of guarding and controlling its use
- ❖ While the tongue certainly is the instrument of what we say, it is not the source
- ❖ The words we say are generated from our hearts – out of the heart the words come

Determining the words that are coming out of my mouth...

- 1. What are the words you say when in the midst of a crisis?**
- 2. What do you say when you become frustrated?**
- 3. Do you keep your promises and fulfill your verbal commitments?**
- 4. How do you handle power and authority?**
- 5. What are the words you speak to your spouse, children, grandchildren or other family?**
- 6. How do you respond when people disagree with you?**

How important are the words that you say?

- After all, haven't the power of words been diminished by the moral breakdown of our culture?
- Do parents even still teach their children that it is wrong to lie?
- To be called a liar was one of the worst labels you could have hung on you but today, does anybody really care?

I can tell you that the power of words, regardless of how the world treats them, is capable of giving life and capable of killing.

**Prov 18:21** - *The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.*

**READ:** James 3:3-12

We know that words originate in the heart by the overflow of who we are

- But what has become lost is the understanding of their power
- It does not get any plainer than it directly impacts every area of your life
  - But that is what words do
  - They bring life and they can take life

- They bless or curse.
- Words build up or tear down.
- Words bring forth great things, or they destroy our lives.
- Words frame our world.
- Words turn things around.
- Words direct our lives.
- Words set the rudder for the courses of our lives.
- Words start fires.
- They ensnare.
- They impart.
- They bring joy.
- Words are seeds.
- They produce fruit.
- Words are containers.
- They are not merely nebulous sound waves that dissipate into thin air; words can move mountains.
- Finally, words play a huge role in determining our eternal destiny, the salvation of our souls and the quality of our lives on earth.

That is why it is so important to find the true Words and speak them – the true Word is God’s Word

- There is a reason all the Words of Jesus are printed in red in many Bibles – those are the most important words
  - Perhaps the bracelets should have not been WWJD but WWJS

Consider first the words of God and what they established in the power of words:

- 1) **Gen 1:3** - *And God said, “Let there be light” and there was light.*
  - a) **Gen 1:6, 9, 14, 24, 26. 29** – *And God said*
  - b) The creation of the universe came on the WORD of God
  - c) The very life of all creation was brought forth by the spoken word
- 2) What does that mean?
  - a) Words bring life
  - b) Your words can bring life to the person you are speaking to
    - i) Many times, my role in helping people through a difficult time
    - ii) Not to provide answers but to speak words of life, encouragement, and hope
  - c) You don’t need to be a pastor or minister to do that
  - d) Every one of us are called, as a child of God, to speak those words
  - e) But, again, it begins in your heart

One of the biggest problems with the words that come out of your mouth is once they are said they cannot be unsaid

- Ever hear someone say, “I was just kidding”, or “I take that back”, or “That’s not what I meant.”

- If words come from the heart, then you did mean that, you weren't kidding, and you can't take it back
- A slogan in WWII was "Loose lips sink ships"
  - IOW, talking about things of the war could endanger the troops if the wrong person heard what you were saying
- Well, we are not talking about troop ships, we are talking about your heart, your soul, your feelings, and your very life
  - Many a marriage has been deeply hurt by words
  - Many a career lost by words spoken by or about someone
  - Many a child has grown up with deep wounds by being told they were no good, a failure, a loser, or unwanted

Words are primarily defined in the Bible as being one of two things – a blessing or a curse