



17 - 23 Nov, 2019

The Power of Words, part 3

**‘My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this:
everyone should be quick to listen,
slow to speak and slow to become angry,
because human anger does not produce
the righteousness that God desires’ James 1:19,20**

As Christ’s disciples, the words we utter are to be (Prv 10)

- † a fountain of life not of death. *‘The mouth of the righteous is a well of life’ v.11a***
- † a source of discernment not of nonsense. *‘Wisdom is found on the lips of him who has understanding’ v.13a***
- † few. *‘In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips is wise’ v.19***
- † a treasure not worthless. *‘The tongue of the righteous is choice silver; the heart of the wicked is worth little’ v.20***
- † a building tool not a destructive one. *‘The lips of the righteous feed many, but fools die for lack of wisdom’ v.21***
- † a source of wisdom not a source of leading others astray. *‘The mouth of the righteous brings forth wisdom, but the perverse tongue will be cut out’ v.31***
- † a guide to what is fitting not to what is improper. *‘The lips of the righteous know what is acceptable, but the mouth of the wicked what is perverse’ v.32***

Two of the ten commandments are directly related to our words and the other eight are indirectly related

- † *‘You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, for the Lord will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain’ Ex 20:7***
- † *‘You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor’ Ex 20:16***
- † According to Christ, through our words we can commit murder (*Mt 5:21-22*)**

Words are not neutral, they either build or destroy

- † Every word uttered is consequential. There is no evaporative inconsequential word
- † *'For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth; it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it' (Is 55: 10-11)*

The effect of the words we utter

Positive Effect of words

Correct others and lead them away from danger

(Prv 4:4,5,20; 5:1)

Source of wisdom *(Prv 10:19)*

Cheer up and bring peace

(Prv 12:25; 15:1)

Heal *(Prv 12: 18)*

Solve problems

Negative Effect of words

Lead into temptation and danger
(Prv 7:5, 21; 10:19)

Source of lies *(Jn 8:44)*

Lead into anger, and depression

(Prv 10:19; 12:25)

Hurt *(Prv 12: 18)*

Destroy reputations, relationships, feelings

In summary

- † *'Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things' Phil 4:8*
- † *'If you know that the words in your mouth are not from God, silence yourself' Bishop George Khodr*
- † Saint John Chrysostom, the golden mouthed, filled his heart and mind with epistles of Saint Paul. He said, *'As I keep hearing the Epistles of the blessed Paul read, and that twice every week, and often three or four times ... I grieve and am pained, that all people do not know this man, as much as they ought to know him'*

Bibliography

1. <https://www.crosswalk.com/faith/prayer/the-tremendous-power-of-our-words.html>

2. Homilies: On the Epistle of St. Paul, The Apostle, to the Romans. 1848, by Saint John Chrysostom

Legend

 Refers to mandatory readings

Verse to memorize

'A wholesome tongue is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit' Proverbs 15:4

In my Prayer and Faith Autobiography Book

God acts

✝ 'The Word [of God] is alive and it cuts like the sword through the darkness, with a message of life to the hopeless and the frail breathing life into all who believe...the world and its glories will fade but Its truth, It will not pass away; It remains yesterday and forever the same' Casting Crowns

My reaction

- ✝ Are my words correcting others?
- ✝ Am I giving hope to others through my words?

During the coming week, let us pray expectantly

1. seeking the Lord's will to be done in Lebanon
2. for CrossTalk to find a locale
3. for David, Gisele, Habib and Karim
4. to become more of saints and less of sinners
5. to seek the Lord in every word I say, every act I do and every thought I think
6. to help in building His Kingdom by building His Church on earth
7. to deny ourselves, carry our cross and follow Him
8. to thank Him for creating us and each one around us, on His image and likeness, and choosing us to reveal His splendor
9. to all the sick
10. to all those in prison
11. to the unity of the Christians
12. to one another to be honest and not lack integrity
13. to put all that we have in the Lord's hands trusting His management
14. to all the Christians who are being persecuted, and to those who are persecuting them

15. to all families, that the Lord unites the parents together in His Name and stops all fights

16. to the situation in Lebanon, Syria, Egypt, Iraq and the whole region

During this coming week, we will lift the Protestant Church in prayer

قانون الايمان
نحن نؤمن بالله واحد
أب قادر على كل شيء
خالق السماء والأرض
وكل ما يرى وما لا يرى
و برّب واحد يسوع المسيح، ابن الله الوحيد
المولود من الأب قبل كل الدهور
إله من إله، نور من نور، إله حق من إله حق
مولود غير مخلوق
ذو جوهر واحد مع الأب
هو الذي به كان كل شيء
الذي من أجلنا نحن البشر ومن أجل خلاصنا
نزل من السماء
و تجسّد بالروح القدس من مريم العذراء وصار
إنساناً
وصُلب عنا على عهد ببيلاطس البنطي
وتألّم وقُبر
وقام أيضاً في اليوم الثالث حسب الكتب
وصعد إلى السماء
وهو جالس عن يمين الأب
وسبّأني أيضاً بمجد
ليدين الأحياء والأموات
الذي ليس لملكه نهاية
ونؤمن بالروح القدس
الربّ المحيي
المُنبتق من الأب والإبن
المسجود له والمُمجّد مع الأب والإبن
الذي تكلم بالأنبياء
ونعتقد بكنيسة واحدة، مقدّسة، جامعة، رسولية
و نَعترف بمعمودية واحدة لمغفرة الخطايا
و ننتظر قيامة الموتى وحياة الدهر الآتي
أمين

الصلاة الربانية
أبانا الذي في السموات
ليتقدس اسمك
ليأت ملكوتك
ليكن مشيئتك
كما في السماء
كذلك على الأرض
خبرنا كفافنا أعطنا اليوم
واغفر لنا ذنوبنا
كما تغفر نحن أيضاً
للمذنبين إلينا
ولا تدخلنا في تجربة
لكن نجنا من الشرير
لأن لك الملك والقوة والمجد
إلى الأبد
أمين