

## Tongue Part 2

***“1 My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation. 2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. 3 Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. 4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth. 5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! 6 And 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. 7 For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: 8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. 9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. 10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. 11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? 12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.”*** (James 3:1-12 KJV)

Apostle James speaks a clear Word to us about our responsibilities toward the tongue. We learn certain lessons from that and as the followings:-

***“1 My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.”*** (James 3:1-12 KJV) Whenever you open your mouth to speak, whether you are aware of it or not, you are teaching the people who are around you, who will be influenced of what you are going to speak. If you are speaking wrong things then you will be hold accountable before God and before men to what you had spoken.

Now those who teaches and takes the office of the teachers in the church they are more seriously accountable than others and they will be judged more if they will be delivering incorrect information or false teaching. The Lord add to His church teachers and give to them the gift of teaching to teach God's church and the new disciples of what is goes along the sound teaching. Every teacher receives from God certain teaching according to the need and He is responsible to teach that to the church. Also every teacher should know his limit about what he received from God because every teacher will receive a certain and a specific teaching from the Lord that the church needed in that particular time and place.

Also there are many who speak externally very beautiful words, but as long as these word are not the Word of God they will be judged by that. We should train ourselves that when we need to speak we need to bring the Scripture with us, that our speech should agree with the teaching, the doctrine and the Scriptures of the bible. Otherwise, what we then speaking is swollen and boastful words, and we will be judged for that.

***“2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.”*** (James 3:2 KJV) In various ways we might cause trouble or offence. But if a person will not sin or do mistake in what he says he is a perfect man and he is able to bridle his whole body. The word used here for 'bridle', is 'Chalinagoeo', and the meaning of it is to lead by a bridle, to guide, to bridle, hold in check, or to restrain. And it is used by James in defining the true religion: ***“If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.”*** (James 1:26 KJV) The tongue is connected with the heart and the mind. To bridle or to hold and restrain the tongue it means the heart and the thought of the person is in full control and bridled and paced with the Word of God and the will of God. If a person in what he speak is not perfect and keep causing error with the opinion he gives and the wrong council he advices then that person religion is in vain.

When we speak and say something wrong, or ought not to say it, then that is sin, and we need to confess that sin and renounce it. The Word of God tells us the followings: ***“If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”*** (1 John 1:9 KJV) We need to verbally renounce what we spoke wrong, considering it as sin, and that is the way that God would forgive us and purify us from all such unrighteousness in the error of our speech.

***“3 Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.”*** (James 3:3 KJV) The horse is a big and strong animal, and the way we control it is by putting bridle in his mouth and fix it on his head. We need to bridle our tongues so we will not be misleading into sins.

***“4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.”*** (James 3:5 KJV) The same is for the ship. Although they are big in size, and is moved by strong winds, but they are still directed with a small helm or rudder in the direction that the leader of the ship needed to move. In the same way, the tongue needed to be bridles and mustered in such a way so that it will not release ill spoken words that cause error and many troubles.

***“5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!”*** (James 3:5 KJV) The tongue is a little size member of the body, but it boast with great things. It is a small fire, but it can kindle a big fire around it?

***“6 And 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.”*** (James 3:6 KJV) Apostle James defines the tongue here as a fire, and as a world of sin and short comings. Its presence as part of our body members causes defilation to the whole body, and causes the fire to spread to our surroundings, and finally the tongue will be set on fire in hell. Therefore every one of us should bridle his own tongue to control and protect ourselves not to be judged and end up in hell because of the ill speech of the tongue.

***“7 For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind.”*** (James 3:7 KJV) The man had given the power

and the authority to tame and control every kind of beasts, birds, serpents and the animals in the sea. We are the masters in that field and we are called to bridle the animals.

**“8 But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.” (James 3:8 KJV)** But for the tongue of man no man can tame; the tongue is unruly evil and full of deadly poison. Then how the tongue can be tamed? Some people pray and ask God, ‘Lord help me to control my tongue, Lord help me not to speak bad things.’ You need to understand that God will not control your tongue and will not help you to control. The Lord had given the ability for each and every human being to control and bridle his own tongue. Therefore the matter is totally in our hands and in our jurisdiction to do it.

**“9 Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God.” (James 3:9 KJV)** We cannot be hypocrites. In one way or in a certain places we speak the correct things, but in other places we replace our speech with corruptible words, or wrong opinion and things that contradict God’s will and God’s plan.

**“10 Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.” (James 3:10 KJV)** Cursing is not telling lies, or slandering, or speaks bad or blasphemies, but cursing also include the things that we speak which mislead others and brings them away from God.

**“11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?” (James 3:11 KJV)** Good fountain will bring sweet water, and will not bring both sweet and bitter water. Once there is bitterness then there is something wrong in the fountain and that need to be corrected and cleaned.

**12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.” (James 3:12 KJV)** When you go to a fig tree you would expect to find figs, and when you go to the vine you expect grapes. It will not be possible for the fig tree to reproduce olives unless there is something wrong in the fig tree. It will also not possible for the vine to reproduce fig unless there is something wrong in the vine. Someone may say, it is still fine if we can get olive instead of figs or figs instead of grapes. But you are not getting what you need to get. The application of this interpretation is as follow: There are many who speaks nice and good words, but as long as it is not what you intend to listen or hear then it like bitter or salty water from a fountain. There are many who hear good opinion but is not God’s opinion. They are happy to pick up olives from figs and figs from grapes; they are glad with the half truth, which ultimately are lies.

Apostle Peter describe false prophets and teachers from the way they speak as we can read here: **“10 But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government. resumptuous are they, selfwilled, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities. 11 Whereas angels, which are greater in power and might, bring not railing accusation against them before the Lord. 12 But these, as natural brute beasts, made to be taken and destroyed, speak evil of the things that they**

**understand not; and shall utterly perish in their own corruption; 13 And shall receive the reward of unrighteousness, as they that count it pleasure to riot in the day time. Spots they are and blemishes, sporting themselves with their own deceivings while they feast with you; 14 Having eyes full of adultery, and that cannot cease from sin; beguiling unstable souls: an heart they have exercised with covetous practices; cursed children: 15 Which have forsaken the right way, and are gone astray, following the way of Balaam the son of Bosor, who loved the wages of unrighteousness; 16 But was rebuked for his iniquity: the dumb ass speaking with man's voice forbad the madness of the prophet. 17 These are wells without water, clouds that are carried with a tempest; to whom the mist of darkness is reserved for ever. 18 For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh, through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from them who live in error. 19 While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage.” (2 Peter 2:10-19 KJV)**

**My Dear and Beloved: “My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.” (James 3:1 KJV)** Apostles James warned the brethren from pretending to be teachers because otherwise they will bear great responsibility and they will be answerable to God if they will fail to do that. Even to us today, we are warned to control our tongues and are warned to clean our hearts and thoughts from defilements. Few and choice truthful words are more profitable than great swollen words of vanity, **“The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth.” (Proverbs 10:20 KJV)**

**My Prayer:** Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins, who was buried and rose from the dead on the third day to give me eternal life. Lord thank you for your Word to me. Lord I ask you forgiveness for the following corruptive speech that I uttered \_\_\_\_\_ . Lord I commit my life to clean my heart from evil thoughts and to speak with graceful speech that is season with salt so that others who hears will be edified and built up with the truth. Lord I commit myself to put bridle over my mouth and tongue. I understood that I am accountable for that. Lord sustains me, and let the fruit of the Holy Spirit appear in my life, personality and attitude. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.

# Jesus christ



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