Tongue Part 5

"1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, 2 Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge? 3 Gird up now thy loins like a man; for I will demand of thee, and answer thou me. 4 Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding." (Job 38:1-4 KJV)

In the book of Job we can read the discourse that had with his friends that came to comfort him but ultimately they were troubling his spirit with various accusations. Job tried to defend himself and wanted to prove to them that he did not do wrong things against God. While he was trying to do that, he was not aware that he already vented his words, passions, emotions, and started to accuse God. Elihu faced him with what he said, "9 I am clean without transgression, I am innocent; neither is there iniquity in me. 10 Behold, he findeth occasions against me, he counteth me for his enemy, 11 He putteth my feet in the stocks, he marketh all my paths." (Job 33:9-12 KJV) So when Job had spoken all these things the turn came now to God to speak to him in order to correct him.

"1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind, and said, 2 Who is this that darkeneth counsel by words without knowledge?" (Job 38:1-2 KJV) Job in his speech was unaware that he was giving a dark counsel and wrong opinion about who God is. What he spoke was wrong information and that is why God described what Job said about Him as words without knowledge. Many they sin because they don't have knowledge in God's Word and many they sin because they are not aware what they were speaking are wrong when it comes to the Word of God. God needed to speak to correct job so what was spoken needed to be corrected lest those who heard job and his three friends would be misled.

The trials that job that was passing through might be difficult and also he was not ready for it; not in facing it physically, but as well as in the knowledge of God; that He is not aware that part of the righteousness of God and His justice, that he need to pass through such trials. We many times speak words without knowledge when what we pass through does not agree with what we know from God's Word. That is why Apostle Peter told us the following: "5 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge." (2 Peter 1:5 KJV) Peter in his letter to the believers, he was encouraging them to be stead fast in faith, persevering through trials and escaping the corruption in the world through the great promises and encouraging them to be part of God's divine power, "1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ: 2 Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord, 3 According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: 4 Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust." (2 Peter 1:1-4 KJV)

"Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord." (2 Peter 1:2 KJV) Grace and peace will be multiplied to us through the knowledge of God and of Jesus Christ. Peter also recommended to them to add knowledge to their faith and to their good attitude and work. Knowledge is to know facts and that is how you will be led to the truth. As well as when you will have knowledge you will also find the truth. We will be able to coop with the trials and the temptation when our knowledge will increase. When we think that trial is not what we deserve to pass through, the Word of God would inform us that it is the justice of God and the righteousness of God.

The knowledge in God's Word will raise up our understanding to the point that we can understand and accept what we are passing through. God when he faced Job, he told him, "Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding." (Job 38:4 KJV) God was asking him if he has understanding; knowledge in God's word will raise up our understanding and make us see the events of life and the trials, from God's point of view, and that will make us accept them. That also will calm us from interior and will lead us to speak word with knowledge in God's counsel.

We need to be aware of the way we speak and to control our tongue, our heartss emotions and our minds' thoughts, and not to allow them to vent out causing troubles to ourselves and to others when we utter words without knowledge in God's presence.

The Scriptures teaches further why we need to be more cautious about our speech and what is coming out from our mouths. When we talk and our speech will cause harms by telling lies, then we are admonished to watch our hearts and not to allow perverse talk to come out from our lips: "23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life. 24 Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee." (Proverbs 4:23-34 KJV)

We need to control our hearts when we are angry and not to allow vent of speech that we regret after we say it, "A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards." (Proverbs 29:11 KJV) The fool has no understanding. he has no strategy, but the wise man know which time that he need to speak. He is under the leading of the Holy Spirit, and will speak when he is convinced by the Spirit of do that.

We need to wisely process what we speak and we should choose choice words, and to whom we are saying our words. We should be like a goldsmith who is putting together the pieces of the gold: "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver." (Proverbs 25:11 KJV) As the earring of gold that cannot be taken out from the ear is the choice word of reprove and correction upon those who obey God's word: "As an earring of gold, and an ornament of fine gold, so is a wise reprover upon an obedient ear." (Proverbs 25:11-12 KJV) When we are aware that the person is obedient then we can proceed to correct him.

Use choice word and gentle tongue with certain people (princes) as the Holy Spirit leading you to speak to them so that their hearts will be soften: "By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone." (Proverbs 25:15 KJV)

Be aware not to answer fool with the same folly he has otherwise you will be like him, "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him." (Proverbs 26:4 KJV) The best thing you do when you meet a fool keep silent and don't allow him to pull you to sideways and trap you with words.

"Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit." (Proverbs 26:5 KJV) Now here in the verse when you meet a fool, you need to speak so he will not be wise in his own conceit.

Now how we can differentiate which time we need to keep silent and which time we need to speak, and what to speak. Let us learn further from the Scripture and from the life of our Lord Jesus Christ how he dealt with the people that came across His life.

Christ during his trial, he met Pilate who wanted to release him but the Jewish leaders were pressurizing him. The following was part of the scene and the discussion that was going on between them: "5 Then came Jesus forth, wearing the crown of thorns, and the purple robe. And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the man! 6 When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Take ve him, and crucify him: for I find no fault in him. 7 The Jews answered him, We have a law, and by our law he ought to die, because he made himself the Son of God. 8 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he was the more afraid; 9 And went again into the judgment hall, and saith unto Jesus, Whence art thou? But Jesus gave him no answer. 10 Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee? 11 Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin." (John 19:5-11 KJV) When the Jewish leaders insisted on Pilate to crucify Jesus because He claimed to be the son of God, Pilate when he heard that He is the Son of God, he was afraid and went to Jesus and asked Him: "Whence art thou?" (John 19:9 KJV) Jesus did not answer Pilate's question. If Jesus would answer this question and informed Pilate that He is the Son of God, Pilate would release Him because he is afraid of God, and not because he believed on Him. If that matter took place Jesus would not be crucified and that is against God's will. Therefore He kept silent so that God's will, will come true in His life. In this Jesus followed *Proverbs 26:4*, "Answer not a fool according to his folly, lest thou also be like unto him." (Proverbs 26:4 KJV)

But when Pilate confronted Jesus and was proud that he has a power over his life, "Then saith Pilate unto him, Speakest thou not unto me? knowest thou not that I have power to crucify thee, and have power to release thee?" (John 19:10 KJV) Here Jesus answered him, "11 Jesus answered, Thou couldest have no power at all against me, except it were given thee from above: therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin." (John 19:11 KJV) The answer of Jesus here to Pilate was based on Proverbs 26:5, "Answer a fool according to his folly, lest he be wise in his own conceit." (Proverbs 26:5 KJV) Pilate was thinking that he has power over Jesus without knowing that this power was given to him from above. Therefore Jesus needed to rebuke him for that folly so he will not be wise in his own conceit and humble down before God. Jesus also told Pilate the following: "Therefore he that delivered me unto thee hath the greater sin." (John 19:11 KJV) Jesus in this He told Pilate that the one who handed him over to him (The Jewish leaders with Judas) had the greater sin. So here Jesus showed Pilate his sin also, conniving with the Jews, and confronted him with it, because he was fully aware that Jesus was innocent but he stood against Jesus to please the chief priests. The Jewish and Judas Iscariot who handed over Jesus to be crucified had greater sin than Pilate because they heard and knew the Word of God; they witnessed the miracles and they have seen the life of Jesus but still they decided to betray Him in such a way.

Pilate upon hearing the answer of Jesus he was convicted of his sin, he wanted to release Jesus, but he was threatens by the Jewish that if he will do that he is not a friend to Caesar because Jesus is the king who would replace Caesar. Previously Pilate discussed that with Jesus and came to know that Jesus is the king of the Jews: "33 Then Pilate entered into the judgment hall again, and called Jesus, and said unto him, Art thou the King of the Jews? 34 Jesus answered him, Sayest thou this thing of thyself, or did others tell it thee of me? 35 Pilate answered, Am I a Jew? Thine own nation and the chief priests have delivered thee unto me: what hast thou done? 36 Jesus answered, My kingdom is not of this world: if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence. 37 Pilate therefore said unto him, Art thou a king then? Jesus answered, Thou sayest that I am a king. To this end was I born, and for this cause came I into the world, that I should bear witness unto the truth. Every one that is of the truth heareth my voice." (John 18:33-37 KJV) Upon that occasion Pilate was ceased with fear, and since Jesus did not proclaim to him that He is the Son of God, so Pilate thought to himself that there is no threat from God, and he find it easier to connive with the Jewish and pervert justice than to face the wrath of Caesar, and therefore he handed over Jesus to them to be crucified as they wished, "12 And from thenceforth Pilate sought to release him: but the Jews cried out, saying, If thou let this man go, thou art not Caesar's friend: whosoever maketh himself a king speaketh against Caesar. 13 When Pilate therefore heard that saying, he brought Jesus forth, and sat down in the judgment seat in a place that is called the Pavement, but in the Hebrew, Gabbatha. 14 And it was the preparation of the passover, and about the sixth hour: and he saith unto the Jews, Behold your King! 15 But they cried out, Away with him, away with him, crucify him. Pilate saith unto them, Shall I crucify your King? The chief priests answered, We have no king but Caesar. 16 Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led him away." (John 19:12-16 KJV) With that silence that Jesus practiced in front of the question of Pilate He secured to do the very will of God. Therefore, we in the same way we might not be comfortable to swallow our pride when we are faced with foolish people, but let us not think to win the session, instead let us focus more and precisely that our answer will ultimately lead us to do the good will of God.

Also you need to know whom you need to rebuke and whom you need to avoid. "7 He that reproveth a scorner getteth to himself shame: and he that rebuketh a wicked man getteth himself a blot. 8 Reprove not a scorner, lest he hate thee: rebuke a wise man, and he will love thee." (Proverbs 9:7-8 KJV) How you will do that? The first thing you do is to send a rebuke to those who do wrong and watch their response. If they will react and start to fight against you, then you just move away from them for they are wicked and scornful people and you have nothing to do with them. But if they are thankful to you for your correction to

them they are wise people. The next step that you need to do for those wise people is to give them the instruction that will further God's blessings in their lives: "Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be yet wiser: teach a just man, and he will increase in learning." (Proverbs 9:9 KJV)

"Fools make a mock at sin: but among the righteous there is favour." (Proverbs 14:9 KJV) The Hebrews word used here for 'mock', is 'luwts', and it has the followings meaning: to scorn, talk arrogantly, to boast, to be inflated, scoff, act as a scorner, show oneself a mocker. There are people who are proud of their sinful nature and who boast with the evil they are doing. Certain times people when they speak, they make light of sin and they make light of wrong doing. In speaking this way, they are promoting sins further by contaminating those who hear them and push them to do wrong. When you speak remember there are people listening, now if you speak foolish things that promoting sins, then you are pushing others to sin.

"An ungodly man diggeth up evil: and in his lips there is as a burning fire. (Proverbs 16:27 KJV) Speech certain time is accompanied by burning fire of evil coming out from ungodly men, who have unclean heart that cause damage to others who hear him. Like the speech of Pilate who was ungodly wicked person who was full of injustice, politics and manipulation and has no fear of God.

Froward people soweth strife and desire to cause fights and separation between close friends. Froward people also mean perverse people who are difficult to deal with, "A froward man soweth strife: and a whisperer separateth chief friends." (Proverbs 16:28 KJV)

"He that saith unto the wicked, Thou are righteous; him shall the people curse, nations shall abhor him." (Proverbs 24:24 KJV) We should not flatter a wicked person and announce him as righteous in the front of the public. We will be cursed and abhorred by others when we are unfaithful in such a way. Instead we should say the truth, we should work for justice, and help those who had no power and no voice, "8 Open thy mouth for the dumb in the cause of all such as are appointed to destruction. 9 Open thy mouth, judge righteously, and plead the cause of the poor and needy." (Proverbs 31:8-9 KJV)

"19 In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise. 20 The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth. 21 The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom." (Proverbs 10:19-21 KJV) We ought to control our hearts and our tongues, because when there are multiple words, sin is not absent. Our tongues should be a choice silver and we need to speak choice words, timely and to the right people; the purpose of them to teach others and feed them with God's Word and the counsel of God. For this purpose our hearts should be clean and not move with pride or emotions that will cause unnecessary words to be uttered and without reason.

"Be not a witness against thy neighbour without cause; and deceive not with thy lips." (Proverbs 24: 28 KJV) The Word of God admonishes us not to be false witness against the people, and not use our lips to deceive them by telling lies. The word of God teaches us to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. So let us love our neighbor speak the truth about them and not to slander them. Even to those who did evil against us, let us pray for them as Jesus told us to pray for those who ill treat us.

"Say not, I will do so to him as he hath done to me: I will render to the man according to his work." (Proverbs 24:29 KJV) Don't use your mouth to boast of your power and to utter threats against people.

Remember what David said about how to make your life beautiful and profitable by keeping your tongue from evil, speaking lies and uttering bitterness of heart: "11 Come, ye children, hearken unto me: I will teach you the fear of the LORD. 12 What man is he that desireth life, and loveth many days, that he may see good? 13 Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. 14 Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. 15 The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and his ears are open unto their cry. 16 The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth." (Psalm 34:11-16 KJV) When you are able to control your tongue from speaking evil then you will be able to depart from evil and will start to do the good things that God had prepared for you to do. When you are living a righteous life God will answer your prayers, grant your petition, and you will find favor from Him. He will be against your enemies and against those who do you harm.

"Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it." (Psalm 34:14 KJV) You can avoid doing evil by doing your best to do good. When people do you harm, what you need to do is to control your mouth, and instead of reacting and speaking and promising evil as they did to you, what you need to do is to direct your attention and start to do what is good and the very work of God that He wants you to do.

Also we should not give judgment without adequate evidences; there must be two to three witnesses to confirm: "At the mouth of two witnesses, or three witnesses, shall he that is worthy of death be put to death; but at the mouth of one witness he shall not be put to death." (Deuteronomy 17:6 KJV) "This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established." (2 Corinthians 13:1 KJV) "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." (Matthew 18:16 KJV)

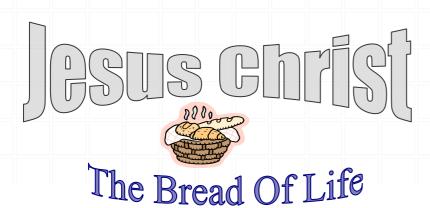
"He that answereth a matter before he heareth it, it is folly and shame unto him." (Proverbs 18:13 KJV) When we answer before we hear, sure we will speak not the right thing and we will be like fool people. Even fool people will be better if they will know how to control their mouths and not be hasty in words: "Seest thou a man that is hasty in his words? there is more hope of a fool than of him." (Proverbs 29:20 KJV)

We ought to work and achieve things in our lives. Speaking only and not achieving is only a lost of business and of no profit: *"In all labour there is profit: but the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury." (Proverbs 14:23 KJV)* We ought to work hard and do our part well before we speak.

When our hearts are clean and our lips are speaking choice words then we will find the King of kings with us in life and we are in His presence, "He that loveth pureness of heart, for the grace of his lips the king shall be his friend." (Proverbs 22:11 KJV)

My Dear and Beloved: Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ came to bring justice to the world. He did all what God had ordained for Him to do. We are called to do the same. *"But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ." (Ephesians 4:15 KJV)* Therefore let us read the Scriptures, speak the Scripture, live the Scriptures and fulfill the Scriptures so that God will be pleased with us and destroy not the work of our hands, as we agree to pray.

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 commit myself to live in the principle that I learn from your message. I commit myself to closely watch what is coming out of my lips. Lord I will continue to be at your feet, hearing the voice of yours and moving to do the things that you want me to do. Lord gives me more fruit of the Holy Spirit to radiate your attitude and character in my life. Lord protects me and provide for me to continue to serve you. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.



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