

Lovin the Law – Taming the Tongue

September 10-11, 2022

Exodus 20:16 (NIV) – “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor”.

Luke 12:2 (NIV) – “There is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or nothing hidden that will not be made known”.

“What a startling revelation it would be if a tape recording could be played of all that every church member has said about his fellow members in one week!” – **Alan Redpath**

James 3:1-2 (NIV) – “Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check”.

James 1:19-20 (NIV) – “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 3:3-6 (NIV) - “When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one’s life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell”.

“How very strange that we have ever come to think that Christian maturity is shown by the ability to speak our minds, whereas it is really expressed in controlling our tongues” – **Alan Redpath**

“The image which seems to have been before the mind of the apostle was that of a torch which enkindles and burns everything as it goes along – a torch itself lit at the fires of hell” – **Albert Barnes**

Proverbs 26:18-19 (NIV) – “Like a maniac shooting flaming arrows of death is one who deceives their neighbor and says, ‘I was only joking’”.

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Proverbs 16:24 (NIV) – “Gracious words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and healing to the bones”.

“It’s crazy, too imagine, words from my lips as the arms of compassion. Mountain crumble with every syllable; hope can live or die. So speak life, speak life into the deadest darkest night” – **Toby Mac**

Ephesians 4:19-24 (NIV) - “Having lost all sensitivity, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to indulge in every kind of impurity, and they are full of greed. That, however, is not the way of life you learned when you heard about Christ and were taught in Him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus. You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness”.

“**sensuality**” = Greek *aselgia* – “licentiousness, wantonness, conduct shocking to public decency”

Ephesians 4:25,29 (NIV) - “Therefore, each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body” - “Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen

Colossians 3:7-10 (NIV) – “You used to walk in these ways, in the life you once lived. But now you must also rid yourselves of all such things as these: anger, rage, malice, slander, and filthy language from your lips. Do not lie to each other, since you have taken off your old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator”.

Mark 14:55-59 (NIV) – The chief priests and the whole Sanhedrin were looking for evidence against Jesus so that they could put Him to death, but they did not find any. Many testified falsely against Him, but their statements did not agree. Then some stood up and gave this false testimony against Him: “We heard Him say, ‘I will destroy this temple made

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with human hands and in three days will build another, not made with hands”. Yet even then their testimony did not agree.