

A top-down view of a vintage letter-writing setup. A piece of aged, yellowed, and torn paper lies on a dark wooden surface. In the top left corner is a small, round, light-colored inkwell filled with dark ink. In the bottom right corner is a black quill pen with a silver-colored ferrule and nib. Next to the quill is a circular red wax seal with a black string tied around it. The text "A Letter from James" is centered on the paper in a black serif font.

A Letter from
James

The Power of the Tongue



A Warning to Teachers

James 3:1 Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. 2 We all stumble in many ways.

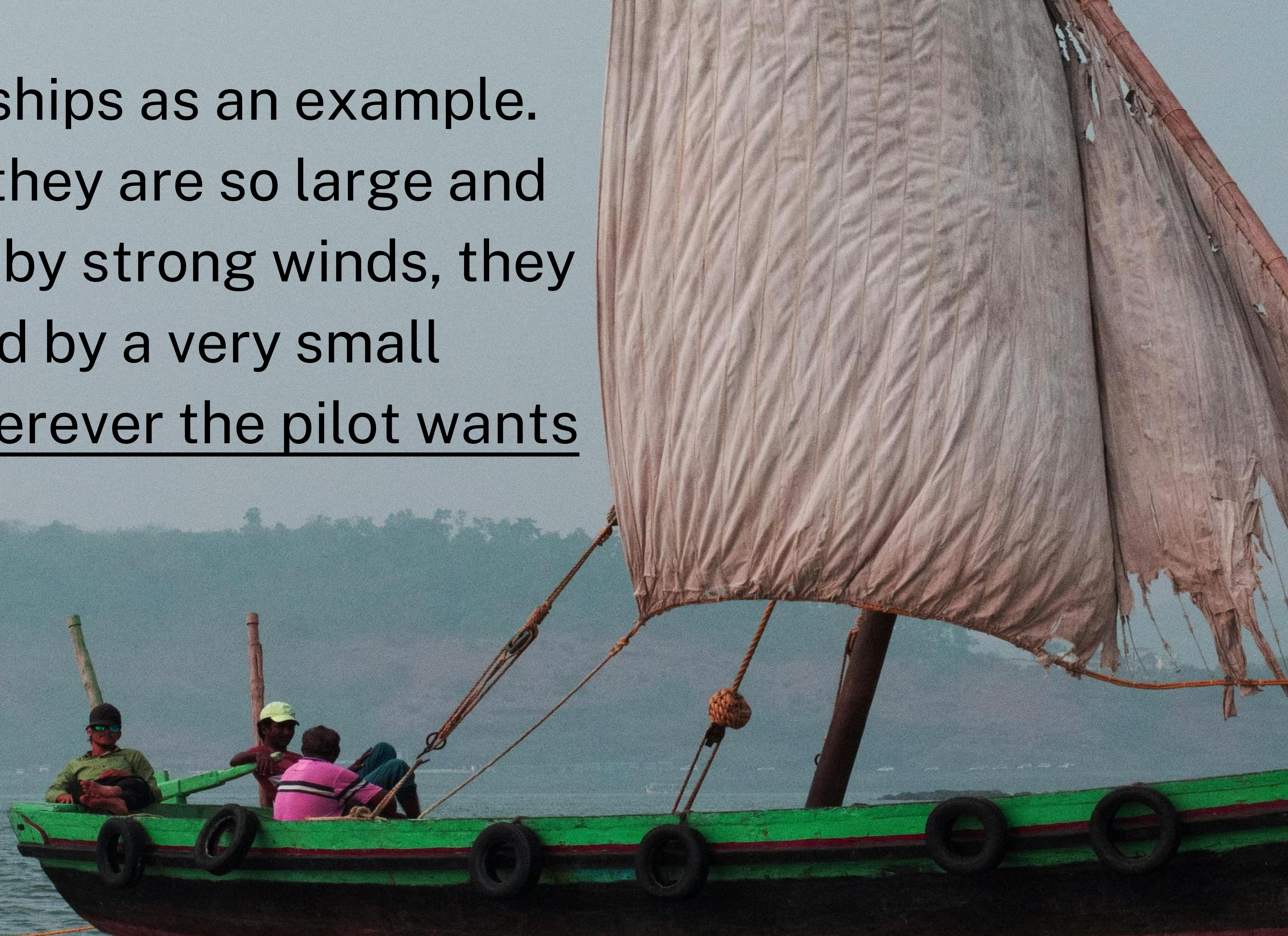
Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.

The Tongue is Powerful and
needs to be Controlled

3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal.



4 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.



The Tongue is Small
but can anyone control it?

5 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. 6 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.

7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.



God can help you control the Tongue
by yielding to His Spirit

Check your heart... it is speaking!

Luke 6:45 A good man brings good things out of the good stored up in his heart, and an evil man brings evil things out of the evil stored up in his heart. For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.

Is there inconsistency in your speech?

9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. 11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? 12 My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

Is your speech controlled by God ?

If so...

- You will speak truth in love (Eph 4:15)
- You will have wholesome speech and build others up. (Eph 4:29)
- Your conversations will be full of grace (Col 4:6)
- You will want to speak about Jesus (Acts 4:20)
- You will praise God (Acts 16:25)

Is your speech controlled by your flesh?

If so, you will...

- Slander others (1 Cor 6:9-10)
- Gossip and curse others
- Lie
- Be quarrelsome
- Be reckless with your words
- Use unwholesome words and foul language

1 Cor 6:9 Or do you not know that wrongdoers will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor men who have sex with men 10 nor thieves nor the greedy nor drunkards nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11 And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

**What is your Tongue
saying
about your Faith?**