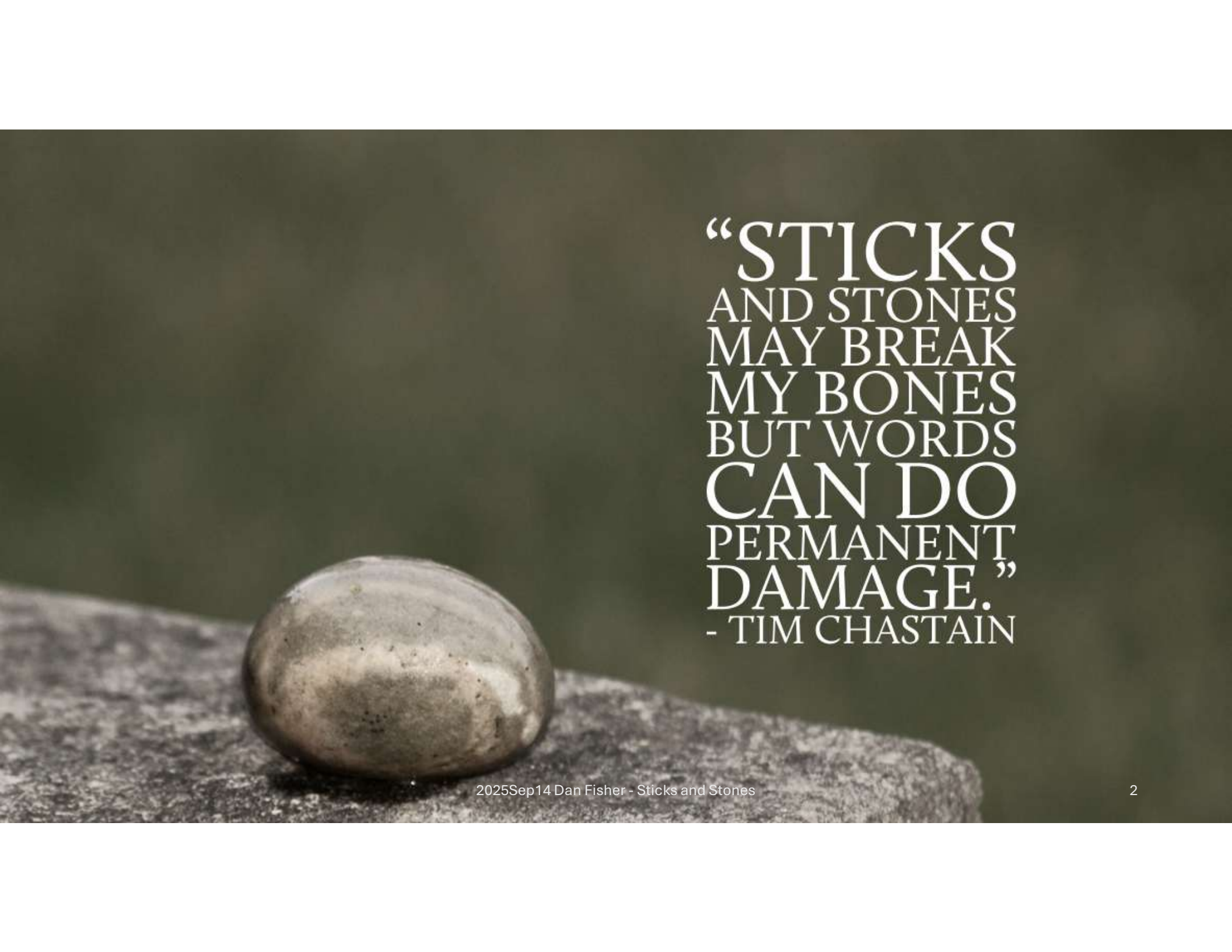


Sticks and stones ...

“The sin of bearing false witness”



A photograph of a smooth, rounded stone resting on a rough, textured rock surface. The stone is light-colored with some darker spots and is positioned in the lower-left foreground. The background is a blurred, dark greenish-grey.

“STICKS
AND STONES
MAY BREAK
MY BONES
BUT WORDS
CAN DO
PERMANENT
DAMAGE.”
- TIM CHASTAIN

Charlie Kirk 1993 – 2025



2025Sep14 Dan Fisher - Sticks and Stones



2025Sep14 Dan Fisher - Sticks and Stones

A man with grey hair, wearing a dark suit, white shirt, and striped tie, is seated in a light-colored armchair. He is holding a piece of paper with handwritten notes. The background is a blurred cityscape at night with various lights.

“If you kill the man behind the idea, it doesn’t just give the idea legs, it gives it wings.” **Greg Gutfeld**

Ex 20:16 “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.”

Ex 23:1-2 “You shall not circulate a false report. Do not put your hand with the wicked to be an unrighteous witness. ² You shall not follow a crowd to do evil; nor shall you testify in a dispute so as to turn aside after many to pervert justice. ³ You shall not show partiality to a poor man in his dispute.



Lev 19:16 You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

Ps 34:13 Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

Prov 6:16-19 a lying tongue & a false witness who breathes out lies



Eph 4:29 Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.

Js 4:11 Do not speak evil against one another, brothers. The one who speaks against a brother or judges his brother, speaks evil against the law and judges the law.







Jasmine Felicia Crockett, TX Congresswoman

2025Sep14 Dan Fisher - Sticks and Stones

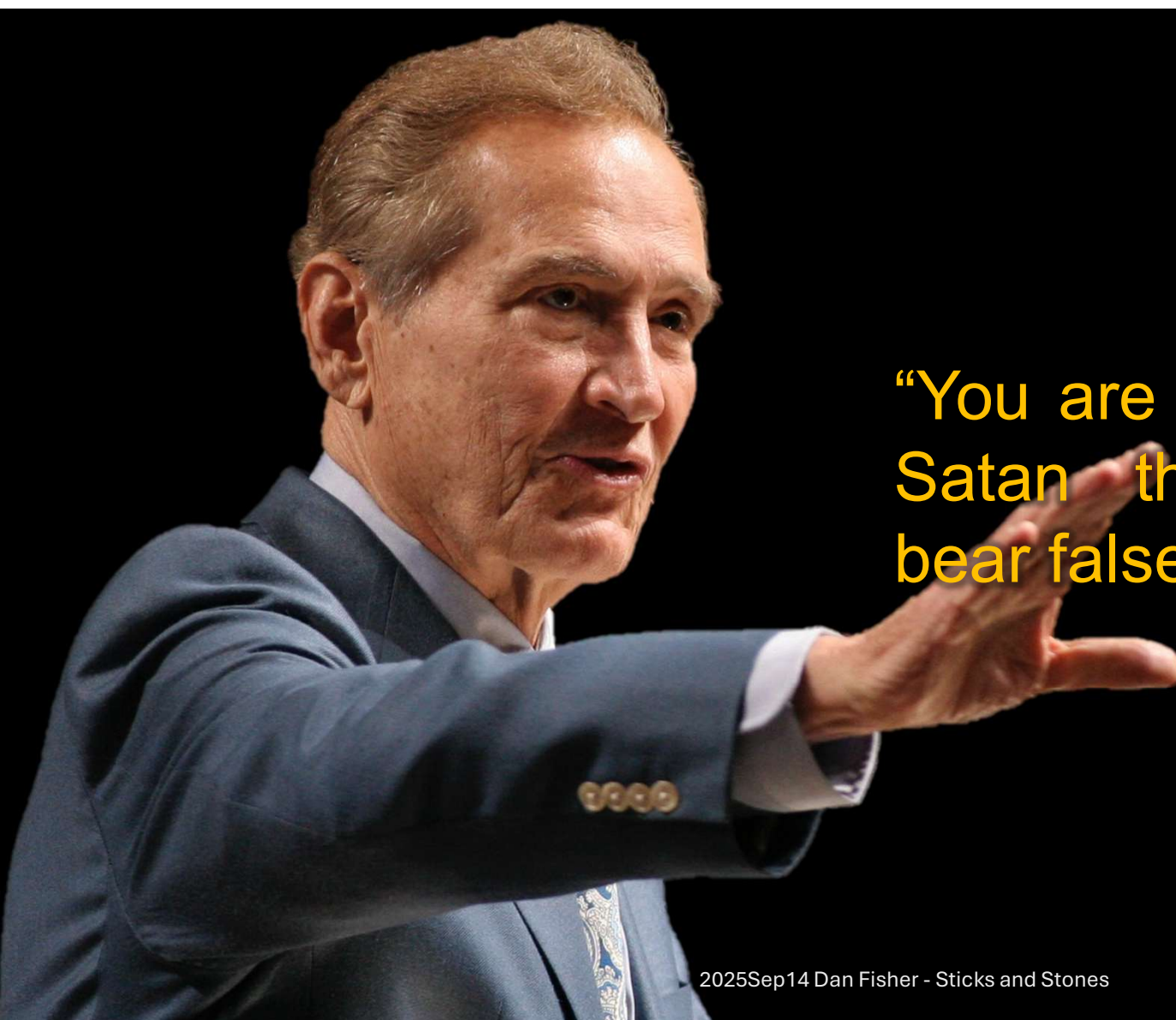
1. The diabolicalness of a false witness



Jn 8:44 You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he lies, he speaks out of his own character, for he is a liar and the father of lies.

Devil = slanderer





“You are never more like
Satan than when you
bear false witness.”

Adrian Rogers

Rom 1:28-30 God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; ... They are gossips, ³⁰ slanderers



2. The deceitfulness of a false witness



Js 1:26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.



- One can lie using flattery and by repeating rumors

Prov 20:19 do not associate with one who flatters with his lips.

Prov 26:28 A lying tongue hates its victims, and a flattering mouth works ruin.

Ps 55:20-21 My companion stretched out his hand against his friends; he violated his covenant. ²¹ His speech was smooth as butter, yet war was in his heart; his words were softer than oil, yet they were drawn swords.

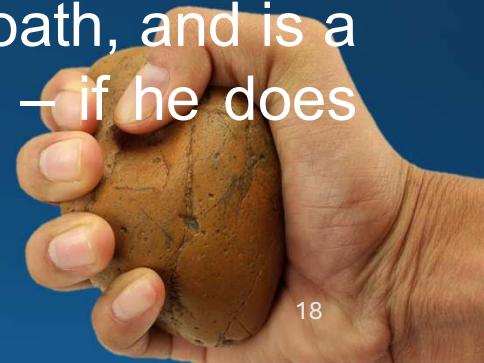


- When we listen to slander, we're as guilty as the one who told it

Prov 18:8 The words of a talebearer are like tasty trifles, and they go down into the inmost body.


- We can be a false witness by being silent when we should be speaking up

Lev 5:1 If a person sins in hearing the utterance of an oath, and is a witness, whether he has seen or known of the matter — if he does not tell it, he bears guilt.



3. The destructiveness of a false witness



A photograph of Governor Spencer Cox of Utah speaking at a podium. He is wearing a dark blue suit, a white shirt, and a yellow tie. He is gesturing with his right hand. Behind him is a wooden wall and a Utah state flag. The Great Seal of the State of Utah is visible on the podium.

“Words are not violence.
Violence is violence.”

Gov. Spencer Cox, Utah

- Can cause death

Prov 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue

- Can destroy reputations

Prov 11:9 With his mouth the godless man would destroy his neighbor

Jer 18:18 Come, let us strike him with the tongue



- Can cause strife & fighting

Prov 18:6-7 A fool's lips walk into a fight, and his mouth invites a beating. ⁷ A fool's mouth is his ruin, and his lips are a snare to his soul.

- Can destroy friendships

Prov 16:28;17:9 A dishonest man spreads strife, and a whisperer separates close friends. ... he who repeats a matter separates close friends.



What can we do?



- Recognize the damage a false witness does
- Resist the urge to stop because of false witnesses
- Realize that some of us may be false witnesses

2 Cor 12:20 I fear there is slander & gossip among you



- **Resolve to never be a false witness**

Prov 10:18-19 whoever utters slander is a fool. ¹⁹ When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.

Prov 11:13 Whoever goes about slandering reveals secrets, but he who is trustworthy in spirit keeps a thing covered.

Prov 26:20-21 Where there is no wood, the fire goes out; and where there is no talebearer, strife ceases. ²¹ As charcoal is to burning coals, and wood to fire, so is a contentious man to kindle strife.



If you have a practice of lying, you are lost

1 Jn 3:9 No one born of God makes a practice of sinning, for God's seed abides in him; and he cannot keep on sinning, because he has been born of God.

Rev 21:8 “ ... all liars will be in the lake that burns with fire and sulfur, which is the second death.”

