

Beulah Missionary Baptist Church
 Noon Day Prayer – Bible Study
 Rev. Jerry D. Black, Pastor



18 January 2023
 12:00 Noon



Lesson #131 Controlling and Taming the Tongue

Scripture: James 3:1 – 18

Emphasis: James 3:2

“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.”

Subject: “If anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man”

Background: In James’ Letter to the Christians, we concluded our study in James in Chapter 2 verses 1 - 26. There were Four Major Topics: 1). Favoring the Rich over the Poor even in the Church Assembly the Rich were esteemed and the Poor were treated harshly 2). Breaking of One Law is a Transgressor of All Laws. There is no Law that is less unholy than another. 3). Faith Without Works is Dead, Your Works should Demonstrate Your Faith 4). A Sure Demonstration of Your Faith is showing Your Faith in Action. As Ambassadors for Christ and as God’s children, what we say and do matters. Displaying our love for Christ is important in showing our Faith through our works. James was not an Apostle and there is no Scriptural evidence that he became one of the Disciples who followed Jesus or joined the Ministry prior to our Lord’s death. In Scripture James along with Joses, Simon and Judas are mentioned as being the Carpenter’s sons, which would make James the half-brother of Jesus.

Introduction: In this 18th Lesson of the Letter to the Christians, we will continue our study in James in Chapter 3. There are Three Major Topics: 1). Controlling the Tongue 2). Man has not on his own been able to Control his Tongue and therefore it needs to be Tamed 3). Godly Wisdom used to Enhance our Conversations, Lifestyles and more importantly our Christian Character.

Lesson Topic #1 James 2:1 – 6

“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.”

- Taking Control Over the Tongue

- Fact #1 The Tongue has an Offensive Nature

- People are easily offended by what and how we say something to them in our Conversations, even if it is the Truth
 - Some people go with the intent on doing harm and will start Conversations to hurt or destroy someone's heart
 - Even by Accident we are capable in Conversations of Reveling information that we should not have shared that will Offend
 - In our Conversations sometimes people speaking about matters that they do not have all of the Facts or they have Wrong information that can be misleading and Offend someone

- Fact #2 How to Control the Body

- It only takes a Small Piece of Metal to be inserted into a Horse's Mouth in order to help Control the Direction the Horse Turns
 - The Rudder of a Ship is Small in Comparison to the entire size of the Ship, but it is effective in the Navigation Process through a Harbor
 - The Tongue is very Small compared to the Legs that carry the whole body to places, but the Tongue dictates how High or Low we Go

- Fact #3 Warning – The Tongue is a Fire

- The Tongue by its own Nature is Evil and can Ignite Tender
 - The Tongue can Rapidly Spread Evil and Disperse into Areas that are ready to Blaze out of Control – Some people use this to their Advantage – Especially in Politics or Ruthless Business even in the Church or at Home
 - Once Fire of the Tongue gets Ignited, it is hard to put it out
 - Some Tongue Fires join other Tongue Fires and when Ignited, it will cause an Innocent Man to be Crucified because of Evil Intent

Lesson Topic #2 James 2:7 – 12

“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.”

- The Tongue Must be Tamed
 - Realities #1 Man’s Ability to Tame Nature
 - The Circus and the Zoo are great examples of how men over the course of years have Tamed Animals to do what men wanted
 - Pigeons delivery messages during wartime and Dolphins and Whales jumping out of the water doing Choreographed Tricks to Music
 - Monkeys to Fly into Space in a Rocket
 - Realities #2 One Mouth – Blessings and Curses
 - One Mouth - Honoring Blessing God - One Minute Tearing Down
 - One Mouth - Spreading the Gospel - One Minute Spreading Lies
 - One Mouth - Singing Praises to God - One Minute Foul Language
 - One Mouth - Sharing your Love for God - One Minute Sharing Hate
 - Realities #3 It Can’t be Both
 - Your Tongue can be used to Encourage or destroy someone
 - Your Tongue can be used to Lift to Salvation or to Put down to Hell
 - Your Tongue can be used to Strengthen or Weaken someone’s Faith

Lesson Topic #3 James 2:13 – 18

“Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom. 14 But if ye have bitter envying and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. 15 This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is earthly, sensual, devilish. 16 For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work. 17 But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy. 18 And the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace of them that make peace.”

- Godly Wisdom Leads to Peace
 - Truths #1 Your Conversations Conveys Your Wisdom
 - Wisdom will lead you to know what to Share in Conversations

- If you want know about a persons Character, be patient and let them Talk and you will see everything through your God given Wisdom
- Wise People use Discretion and Tact when they Speak to Strangers
- Truths #2 Whatever You Have Inside of You Will Come Out
 - Jesus declared that it is not what a person puts into their mouths that Defile him, but what comes out of the man
 - Solomon declared that as a man Thinketh in his Heart so is he, if you have Bitterness, Envy or Strife in your Heart, it will come out in your Conversations
 - What you Share in your Conversations with people could be Picture into your Soul
- Truths #3 Confusion and Evil Works
 - Where Strife is Present – Evil is Lurking
 - Confusion is the Invitation for Evil to come and Control and Take Over the Situation especially during a Crisis
 - The Enemy has a Purpose
 - To Kill and Separate you from Love Ones and God
 - To Destroy Relationships
 - To Steal your Hope and Diminish your Dreams
 - To Discourage your Faith
- Truth #4 The Fruit of Righteousness
 - Wisdom from Above Is:
 - Pure, Peaceable, Gentle
 - Easy to be Intreated
 - Full of Mercy and Good Fruits
 - Without Partiality, and Without Hypocrisy

“Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God”

Conclusion: Out of the same mouth proceedeth Blessing and Cursing

Exercise our **Faith** and **Act** on our **Faith** accordingly. The Bible says that we are to be **Doers** of God’s **Word** and not just **Hearers** only.

Let us Pray

Acknowledgements