

Title: The Tongue -

Text: (James 3:1-13)

Do we build or do we tear down?

(James 3:1) *My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation*

(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.*

(Ja 3:2-13) It's a small organ, but it controls the whole body

Vs 5-8 **It can cause a lot of problems.**

Illus. Writing Checks your body can't cash.

Vs 9-12 **We are hypocrites with our mouths.**

Solomon Explains the Problem of the Tongue: (Pr 6:12-19)

(Prov 6:12) *A **naughty** person, a wicked man, walketh with a **froward** mouth.*

NAUGHTINESS, n. Naughtiness.

1. Badness; wickedness; evil principle or purpose.

Wicked; corrupt.

FRO'WARD, a. Perverse, not willing to yield or comply with what is required; unyielding; ungovernable; refractory; disobedient; peevish; as a froward child.

(Prov 6:13) *He winketh with his eyes, he speaketh with his feet, he teacheth with his fingers;*

(Prov 6:14) *Frowardness is in his heart, he deviseth **mischief** continually; **he soweth discord.***

MIS'CHIEF, n.

- 1. Harm; hurt; injury; damage; evil*
- 2. Intentional injury; harm or damage done by design.*
- 3. Ill consequence; evil; vexatious affair.*

(Prov 6:15) *Therefore shall his calamity come suddenly; suddenly shall he be broken without remedy.*

Sin has one reward—destruction & death.

To earn the reward you simply use filthy language, give deceitful or cheating gestures, plan how to take advantage of other people, create controversy, be proud, lie, murder, testify falsely, and stir up every possible evil.

Sin of the Tongue is listed in the list of 7 Abominations

All these represent sin against the community.

These sinners break God's guidelines for life, & He will punish the sinner

(Prov 6:16) *These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an **abomination** unto him:*

ABOMINA'TION, n. *You make God Sick!*

- 1. Extreme hatred; detestation.*
- 2. The object of detestation, a common signification in scripture.*

The way of the wicked is an abomination to the Lord.

(Prov 15:8-9,26)

Hence, defilement, pollution, in a physical sense, or evil doctrines & practices, which are moral defilements, idols & idolatry, are called abominations.

(Prov 6:17) *A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,*

(Prov 6:18) *An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations, feet that be swift in running to mischief,*

(Prov 6:19) *A false witness that speaketh lies, and he that soweth discord among brethren.*

THIS IS BIG-TIME IMPORTANT TO GOD!

(Matt 12:36-37) *But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.*

We will Judged,

We will give an Account for what we have said to others.

Why do people tear down others?

I. Improper view of our self! They are getting their self-esteem from someplace other than God?

II. Wh's Opinion Matters Most to You?

a. Your Special to God. (Jn 3:16)

He told you, have you told Him how special He is?

b. Your Special to your Family:

i. Parents: Only God has more invested in you.

ii. Spouse: Most Important relationship,

1. 2nd only to God.

iii. Kids: Our Greatest Responsibility/Opportunity.

They already have friends, they need parents.

They become what we are. Critical, Edifying, Loving.

c. Your Special to your Pastor & Church Family.

You are a part of something special here.

It hurts when people treat us like we are optional.

You are not optional to us.

III. Whose Opinion of you, is Most Important to you?

a. What God thinks of you?

i. *We are designed to bring God glory!*

b. What you think of yourself?

(Jer 17:9) *Your Heart is deceitful, above all things, & Desperately wicked, who can know it.*

c. What others think of you?

Let me ask: *What does God think of those people whose opinions you value so much?*

Is He concerned they won't like him?

Does God share their Opinion? Share their Values?

Do they share God's Opinion? No? Then why do we care?

IV. What do we give our voices to?

Illus: *What ever it is, We have to Own it!*

Can you Define what you have decided to Value?

Can you Defend what you have decided Value?

(Matt 12:36) *That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.*

a. We choose sides with our voice! Illus: *Barabbas*

b. Our Voices are to Testify of God! (Ps 26:7)

Illus: *Testify, Amen, Hallelujah,*

(Ps 107:2) *Let the redeemed of the LORD say so*

c. Our Voices are to Sing Praise to God! (Ps 98:4)

Illus: *We will in Heaven, why not now?*

d. Our Voices are to Lead Others to Salvation:

Show me an Angry kid, I will show you an angry parent!

Are you critical? so will they be. Edifying? so will they?

EXERCISES FOR YOUR TONGUE

"How to get your tongue ready to train up your children".

God warns us there is a danger of wasting the strength in our tongues. Read [James 1:26](#).

God has given us some great exercises to strengthen our tongues.

Here are 12 of them, based on [James chapter 1](#).

1. **Tell your tongue to be joyful**. Say, "Praise the Lord! He's still working on me" ([vs. 2](#)).
2. **Tell your tongue to speak patiently**. Say "My goal is to give them all they need for their maturity" ([vs. 3,4](#))
3. **Tell your tongue to pray for wisdom**. Say, "I need wisdom" ([vs.5](#)).
4. **Remind your tongue to ask in faith**. Say, "I trust God. He is working all things together for good" ([Rom 8:28](#)). "I trust God to give me the wisdom I need for this experience" ([vs. 6-8](#)).
5. **Remind your tongue to ask in hope**. Say, "God promises that there are better things to come" [vs. 9-11](#)
6. **Tell your tongue to rejoice & pray for endurance**. Say, "With God's help I'm not giving up" ([vs. 12](#)).
7. **Tell your tongue to be thankful**. Say, "Thank you God for giving me rewards" ([vs. 12](#)).
8. **Tell your tongue to be loving**. Say, "I love you Heavenly Father" ([vs. 12](#)).
9. **Tell your tongue to stop complaining**. Say "Everything God does is good. I'm the sinner, I am the one that gets drawn away, not Him!" ([vs. 13-15](#))

10. **Tell your tongue not to be deceived**. Say, "I can count on God to be good to me at all times" [vs. 16-18](#)

11. **Tell your tongue to be quiet**. Say, "Be slow to speak, so that my Ears will be able to be swift to Hear, & so that my Flesh will be slow to Wrath" ([vs. 19-20](#)).

12. **Tell your tongue that you want it to speak clean words**. Say, "I want my tongue to be clean, because I'm getting ready to use it to speak the Word of God" ([vs. 21](#)). Use soap on you if necessary.

It is also good to RECITE ([1 John 1:6-9](#)).

Say "Thank you God for forgiving me."

13. **Tell your tongue to change gears**. Say, "Now let's practice what you preach. It's time for my feet to exercise what my tongue has been saying" ([vs. 21-27](#)).

APPLICATION: ([vs. 27](#))

Go to others. Say, "Hello, God loves you."

Ask, "How can I help you?"

Remember this, God wants to give them something that is pure, and you want to keep it that way.

10 Words that Bring Revival to any Relationship!

I was wrong.

I am sorry.

Will you forgive me?