

## *The Tongue*

*He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: but he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.  
Proverbs 13:3*

-Nothing gets us in trouble more than our mouths because our mouth acts as a conduit for what is in our hearts:

*For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders, Thefts, covetousness, wickedness, deceit, lasciviousness, an evil eye, blasphemy, pride, foolishness: All these evil things come from within, and defile the man. Mark 7:21-23*

*In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise. Proverbs 10:19*

-If a person talks long enough, they will sin with their lips. Words provide a hotbed for sin; therefore, words should be guarded and carefully chosen.

*My brethren, be not many masters, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation. 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. Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. 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. Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth! 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. 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: But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, which are made after the similitude of God. Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh. 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.  
James 3:1-13*

-The very nature of a creature of hell lives within us and the tongue can bring out all that is within. A Christian with a bad mouth is as unnatural as a cool mountain spring spewing out unpalatable seawater.

*Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips. Psalm 141:3*

-Our prayer needs to be that God would help us guard our tongues.