

Blessing Or Cursing?

Proverbs 4:24

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Solomon continues to help us take our spiritual *Pulse* as we begin 2010. Today we look at our mouth. The New Testament book of James is similar in style to Proverbs. He includes a major section concerning the power of the tongue to bless or to curse.

I. The Power to Direct

1. Teachers have responsibility for their words.
 - Doctrinally
 - De-valuing pupils
2. Power of tongue to direct and effect lives:
 - "I do!" on lips of bride/groom
 - "Guilty" on lips of a judge
 - "No!"
3. Never underestimate the power of your words:
 - Woman at the well
 - Peter at Pentecost
 - Edward Kimball on DLM

II. Power to Destroy

1. Like a Fire
2. Like an Animal

III. Power to Delight

1. Bless God and man made in His image
2. Like a fountain
3. Like a tree
4. A warning

Matthew 12: ³⁴ "Brood of vipers! How can you, being evil, speak good things? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

³⁵ "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.

Psalm 19: ¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

Tongue used for blessing:

- Confess my sin to the Father and receive cleansing
- Confess our love and encouragement daily to those close to us.
- Confess faith/loyalty to Jesus

Matthew 10: ³² " Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.

³³ "But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.

Romans 10: ⁹ that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.