

# The Tongue

12-7-25

James 3:6 (NIV)

The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

**God doesn't have much good to say about the tongue. Also pointing out the evils of the tongue show that nothing has changed in the last 2000 years of the church. Let us read through the whole section to grasp the dangers of the tongue.**

James 3:2-12 (NIV) NO/OH

<sup>2</sup>We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check. <sup>3</sup>When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us; we can turn the whole animal. <sup>4</sup>Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. <sup>5</sup>**Likewise**, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. <sup>6</sup>The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body.

It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. <sup>7</sup>All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, <sup>8</sup>but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. <sup>9</sup>With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. <sup>10</sup>Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be. <sup>11</sup>Can both fresh water and saltwater flow from the same spring? <sup>12</sup>My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.

**God is talking to HIS church. I have been on the receiving end. Unfortunately, I also have been on the giving end which I have confessed before God so I know this is true.**

James 3:6 (NIV)

The tongue is a fire, ... set on fire by hell!

**No excuses, James traces the inflaming nature of the tongue back to its source. The flame of the tongue is ignited by a passion: A temper rises, a lust is inflamed.**

**Suddenly the words, internal or vocal, burst forth. The emotions, the whole of the body, are uncontrollably involved. This is never justified, because it originates from hell itself! Sad truth, in our natural human nature, the tongue is uncontrollable.**

James 3:8 (NIV)

No human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

**We rationalize and say, “We need to prove our point, expose the wrong, explain the error.” God says that the tongue in its natural state “is a restless evil,” like an uncontrollable ferocious beast that will not be subdued. It is “full of deadly poison,” like a serpent ready to bite its victim and inject venom. While the tongue cannot be controlled by man, the tongue can be controlled by the indwelling Holy Spirit. Only by drinking from the stream of the Holy Spirit will the fire of the tongue be extinguished.**

James 3:11 (NIV)

Can both fresh water and saltwater flow from the same spring?

**The reality is that the tongue will reveal which spring we have been drinking from.** Thus, we don't drink from the Lake of fire, we drink from the stream of the Holy Spirit fulfilling the Royal Law of Love, the perfect Law of Freedom.

1 Corinthians 13:4–6 (ESV)

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

**Jesus gives us a simple truth:**

Matthew 12:34–35 (ESV)

Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

**What is in the heart comes out. Those filled with the Spirit will pour forth words of the Spirit.**

Ephesians 4:29-30 (ESV)

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, and do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God.

**We lose all power when we grieve the Holy Spirit by what we say. Give the issue to God and rest. We are in a different Kingdom where God rules.**

Acts 2:38 (ESV)

Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.