

Taming the Tongue

James 3:1-12

October 1, 2017

Main Point:

Strive to control your tongue by the grace and help of God in Jesus Christ.

1. We all struggle to control our tongue.
2. But we need to control our tongue because it will help us in other areas of life.
3. We also need to control our tongue because it is a destructive force for evil.
4. We need to control our tongue because it's a mark of a true Christian as well.
5. We can control our tongue by the grace and help of God in Jesus Christ.

Cross-References and Quotations

Douglas Moo “Teachers, because they bear so much responsibility for the spiritual welfare of those to whom they minister, will be scrutinized by the Lord more carefully than others.”

Luke 12:48⁴⁸ ... For everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required; and to whom much has been committed, of him they will ask the more. (NKJV)

Matthew 15:11¹¹ "Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man." (NKJV)

Anthony Selvaggio “James wants us to understand that while the tongue is small, it can become a weapon of mass destruction.”

Anthony Selvaggio “According to James, a Christian who uses his tongue to both bless God and curse his own brother is just as absurd as a spring which yields both fresh water and salt water, a fig tree which bears olives, or a grapevine which bears figs.”

James 1:26²⁶ If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless. (NKJV)

Anthony Selvaggio “What James is telling us is that humans, left to their own nature, are incapable of taming the tongue, but those who are new creations in Christ can progress towards the perfection of which ... [he] speaks in James 3:2.”