



# **Trees, Treasure and Words**

**Matthew 12:33-37**



# Trees and Fruit... (v.33)

- ▶ A Biblical Reality
  - ▶ Good Trees → Good Fruit
  - ▶ Bad Trees → Bad Fruit
  - ▶ Knowing a Tree

# The Heart and Our Treasure (vv. 34-35)

- A Rhetorical Question: “You Can’t”
- The *Abundance* of Our Hearts → Our Speech
  - Your verbal actions show me who you are
- Two Kinds of Treasure Troves
  - You Can’t Outperform Your Treasure
    - The Importance of Order: A Counter-Cultural Anthropology
      - Sometimes evil treasure still looks shiny (Matt. 6:5; Rom. 16:18)



# By Your Words... (36-37)

- Every “Careless” Word
- Justification By... Words?
  - The Nature of Eschatological Justification





# Seeking Good: Treasure, Fruit and Words

- Faking Fruitful Trees
  - Fruit Stapling
  - Fruit Profiling
  - God's Way: Transforming Love—A Holy Treasure Trove
- The Power and Importance of Words
  - Words Witness
    - Present
    - Future
  - Words Do Things
  - Taming the Tongue