

Scripture: Proverbs 25
Singing: 402:1, 4, 6 – 335 – 24 – 435:9

LD. 43.112 (2)

Intro: The best law preaching is to expound glory of Jesus Christ

THE 9TH COMMANDMENT: HONOR ME IN USING MY GIFT OF WORDS
I. The truth about words II. Our calling in using words God's way

I. The truth about 'words'

- A. There is nothing innocent or neutral about 'words' (Eph. 4:29)
- B. Sadly since Gen 3, words have been turned into *weapons of war* (James 3)
1. We 'kill' with words (Prov. 21:9; Prov. 19:13b)
- C. God's verdict: *misuse of the tongue is an abomination* (Prov. 6:16-19)

II. Our calling in using 'words' God's way

- A. The best way to explore our calling: *study Jesus' keeping of the 9th!*
1. 1 Peter 2:22: *neither was 'guile' found in His mouth*
 2. Hebrews 7:26: *Our Lord is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners*
 - a. best expounded in comparing with 1 Peter. 2:1
 - He spoke without malice (1 Cor. 5:8)
 - He spoke without hypocrisy
 - He spoke without envies
 - He spoke without evil speakings
 - b. In the light of this, reflect on our various forms or manners of speech?
 3. Mark 7:34: Jesus *sighed* facing the needy man
 4. James 3:2: *Jesus did live Jame's perfection standard*

Two Closing Reflections

A. Don't go home with a new resolution to watch your tongue

1. Instead go home to seek behold the 'glory of God in Jesus' face' (2 Cor. 3)
 - a. apart from Him, we cannot speak a single word in the right way

b without faith in His absolute sovereign control of *all things*, our tongues will continue to misfire (Ex. 14:9-12, 31)

B. Don't forget to always tell 'the truth'

1. I don't mean '*Don't bow to idol of political correctness*' (Matt. 15:12-14)

2. I mean tell the truth of God **AND** His Gospel (Acts 8:4; Num. 11:24-29)

Truths about the Tongue

We know metals by their tinkling, and men by their talking. (T. Brooks)

Some care not what they say in their anger. They will censure, slander, and wish evil to others. How can Christ be in the heart when the devil has taken possession of the tongue? Let them whose tongues are set on fire, take heed that they do not one day in hell desire a drop of water to cool them. (T. Watson)

In company, guard your tongue; in solitude, guard your thoughts.

“Lord, make my words gracious and tender
for tomorrow I may have to eat them!”

It is bad to think ill, but it is worse to speak it. (M. Henry)

Sharp tongues is the only edged tool that grows sharper with constant use.

Speech is only good when it is better than silence. (R. Sibbes)

Gossip is something that goes into ear
and comes out of the mouth greatly enlarged.

No one has a gossiping tongue unless he has gossiping ears.