

Angry Words! O Let Them Never

Sometimes it is hard for us to remember that once words are spoken they cannot be recalled. We may apologize for what we have said. We may ask forgiveness for our careless words. Sometimes we may spend a lifetime repairing the damage caused by our words.

Therefore, it has been suggested that before we speak, we need to taste our words. Or, expressed another way, we need to think twice before speaking once. There is a reason why we are to be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath. The wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God (**James 1:19**).

Most of us are familiar with the song “Angry Words” or sometimes titled “Love One Another.” Several phrases come to mind. Let them never from the tongue unbridled slip. Check them before they soil the lip. Angry words are lightly spoken and brightest links of life are broken by a single angry word. Do we listen to the message of the song?

The tongue can be a dangerous member that controls the body (**James 3:2-5**). The tongue reflects the inward person. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks (**Matthew 12:34-35**). Another way of expressing it is you can only spill out of the bucket, what is in the bucket. What is in our heart now?

The tongue has the power to do good and evil (**Proverbs 15:1-4**). The one who can guard his mouth and tongue will keep his soul from troubles (**Proverbs 21:23**). Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweetness to the soul and health to the bones (**Proverbs 16:24**). A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in settings of silver (**Proverbs 25:11**).

On the other hand, every idle word that we may speak, we will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by our words we will be justified, and by our words we will be condemned (**Matthew 12:36-37**). That alone should cause us to be very careful about what we speak. The tongue can defile the body and destroy friendships and is described as a world of iniquity (**James 3:6**).

The Scriptures tell us we may be angry but we are not to sin (**Psalms 4:4; Ephesians 4:26**). Therefore, we are to make things right quickly. We are not to let the sun go down on our anger or are we to dwell on our anger. Our love is to be without hypocrisy. We are to abhor evil and cling to what is good (**Romans 12:9**). As much as depends on us, we are to be a peace with all (**Romans 12:18**).

Consider what the Lord said to Cain “Why are you angry? And why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it” (**Genesis 4:6-7**).

We are to learn to love one another as Christ has loved us (**John 13:34-35**). When we are able to do this, we will keep His commandments (**John 15:12, 17**). Remember, that God’s commandments are not burdensome or grievous (**1 John 5:2-3**). When we love God we must also love our brother (**1 John 4:21**).

Paul shows us the importance of Biblical love in **1 Corinthians 13:1-3**. He then describes the characteristics of love in **verses 4-8**. He then describes how long love will last in **verses 9-13**. When was the last time we spent time with this chapter?

Remember, as we think in our heart, so we are (**Proverbs 23:7**). What are we thinking? Therefore, let the words of our mouth and the meditation of our heart be acceptable in God's sight (**Psalm 19:14**). God knows our thoughts before we think them (**Psalm 139:2**). Also, we need to remember that there is not a word on our tongue, that the Lord knows it altogether (**Psalm 139:4**).

Something to think about!

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