

We Speak What Has Filled Our Heart

Introduction

Jesus told the Pharisees an important truth in Matthew 12:34. He told the Pharisees here, who had just blasphemed, that "out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." It's no wonder Jesus called them a generation of vipers. He tells them they are evil and are incapable of speaking good things. Jesus continues on telling them, "A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things."

He reminds them that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. By our words we shall be justified, and by our words we shall be condemned.

It is of the utmost that we guard our heart by being careful of the things we allow ourselves to see and hear. What our heart is filled with is determined by what we allow into it. So, we must exercise caution when allowing certain things into our lives that may bring about evil fruit in our hearts. It is our responsibility to guard those things in our lives and we do not need to allow certain things into our lives, as we shall see.

Wisdom

Proverbs 4:20–27 (KJV)

20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

22 For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health to all their flesh.

23 Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it *are* the issues of life.

24 Put away from thee a froward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee.

25 Let thine eyes look right on, and let thine eyelids look straight before thee.

26 Ponder the path of thy feet, and let all thy ways be established.

27 Turn not to the right hand nor to the left: remove thy foot from evil.

I chose this portion of Scripture to start with because of what we read in Proverbs 4:23, "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." It is certain the we are completely unable to preserve the life of our bodies. Even though, God's words are life unto us who find them and health to all our flesh. We are however expected to keep ourselves from those things that would destroy our life and use all

proper means of preserving our life. For any of us to do this it requires God's words. Therefore, we are speaking of keeping our hearts with all diligence as being the heart we receive as a regenerated heart; a new heart from God when we have believed on the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus as our only means of salvation. So, we are to keep our renewed heart with all diligence and we must do so through God's word. Our hearts, while regenerated, are still subject to uncountable corruptions against it, so we need to be all the more diligent.

The mouth speaking from the abundance of an unregenerate heart is incapable of speaking good things. It matters not how nice someone's words may sound, or with what intention we may perceive from the unregenerate heart, it is only evil because it is not the renewed heart given to those who believe on Jesus that is the source of what is being spoken. Consider what Jesus says in Matthew.

Matthew 12:30 (KJV)

30 He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.

You see, there is no gray area with God as there is in the wisdom of the world. It is either one way or the other. Either good or evil, black or white, with God or against God, etc. There is no inbetween in God. Jesus says a few verses later,

Matthew 12:35 (KJV)

35 A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things.

Is there an inbetween, gray area spoken of here by Jesus? Of course not!

So we see we must guard our hearts. We must be diligent about keeping it. But how do we do this? How do we keep our hearts pure and undefiled? We must do this with wisdom, the wisdom that comes from God, that is.

Wisdom Is The Key

Proverbs 4, from which we read a bit earlier, begins like this.

Proverbs 4:1–7 (KJV)

1 Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.

2 For I give you good doctrine, forsake ye not my law.

3 For I was my father's son, tender and only *beloved* in the sight of my mother.

4 He taught me also, and said unto me, Let thine heart retain my words: keep my commandments, and live.

5 Get wisdom, get understanding: forget *it* not; neither decline from the words of my mouth.

6 Forsake her not, and she shall preserve thee: love her, and she shall keep thee.

7 Wisdom *is* the principal thing; *therefore* get wisdom: and with all thy getting get understanding.

This makes it abundantly clear wisdom is the principal thing. We must get wisdom and understanding and refuse to give it up. Wisdom will preserve us and keep us.

Wisdom is the quality of knowledge, discernment and understanding that comes from God Himself. It is a gift of the Holy Spirit. We receive wisdom when we are saved, and as our faith in God grows as a result of the word of God, our wisdom increases also. Godly wisdom from the Holy Spirit is what is able to keep our hearts and we must diligently seek after it. The Holy Spirit, after all, is who leads us, guides us, teaches us, and comforts us; it is the Holy Spirit that is the source of the wisdom we need in our lives to keep our hearts.

I'd like to add verses 8 and 9 as an extra encouragement to those who believe on Jesus and receive the wisdom that comes from above.

Proverbs 4:8–9 (KJV)

8 Exalt her, and she shall promote thee: she shall bring thee to honour, when thou dost embrace her.

9 She shall give to thine head an ornament of grace: a crown of glory shall she deliver to thee.

You see, Scripture speaks in the Old and New Testaments of a crown of glory being given to those who have faith in God.

Entrances To The Heart

Based on what we just discussed, we know wisdom is needed to keep our hearts. Our hearts are kept by wisdom and we get that wisdom by hearing. The wisdom we need is the wisdom of God, so we must get it by hearing the word of God. This provides one of the entrances to our heart, then. Entrance one is our ears. In order to keep our hearts

abundantly filled with that which is good, we must hear words of wisdom, God's words. After all, Proverbs 4 started off with the command to hear! That thing which we are hearing is good doctrine from God. As a reminder, remember what we read at the beginning of this message,

Proverbs 4:20 (KJV)

20 My son, attend to my words; incline thine ear unto my sayings.

The word of God cannot make it any clearer than it is! Incline thine ear unto my sayings! That which we hear goes to our heart. Out of the abundance of our heart, the mouth speaketh. We have to be diligent in guarding our hearts, therefore we must be diligent in what we allow in our ears.

God's word produces good fruit. We allow it into our heart, we will speak good things. What then are you allowing in your heart? Are you staying in God's word on a daily basis, or are you listening to the wisdom of the world on a daily basis. Actually, let me ask this, are you listening to God or are you listening to Satan on a daily basis? You see what is of God is of God, and what is not of God comes from our adversary the devil, Satan. How often are you listening to God's word? Is there an abundance of good fruit in your heart, or are you being fooled into thinking you're okay, even though you haven't opened your bible in days, weeks, months, even years? You know and God knows, too. Folks, you cannot fool God for God is not mocked.

Romans 10:17 (KJV)

17 So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

We incline our ears to God's sayings and we receive wisdom and faith. This is a good thing, for without faith it is impossible to please God.

As we continue, let's look at Proverbs 4 again in the verse that follows what we just discussed.

Proverbs 4:21 (KJV)

21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.

Here we see another entrance to the heart! Let them not depart from thine eyes. Our eyes are an entrance to our heart. What we see will affect what kind of fruit our heart will produce. If we look at and read God's word, our heart will be abundantly filled with good fruit, or treasure, as Jesus said in Matthew 12.

Once again, the wisdom we seek is of God and not the world. The wisdom of God brings life, but the wisdom of the world brings death.

1 John 2:16 (KJV)

16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

James 1:14–15 (KJV)

14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.

15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.

The wisdom of the world is lustful and produces evil fruit. When this has abundantly filled our hearts, we speak evil things.

Points Of Clarification

We have seen how the ears and eyes are the entrances to what is deposited in our heart. They are the avenues to our heart that bring in either good or evil. To keep our heart, our regenerated heart, we must guard what we allow ourselves to hear and see. They are what deposit the abundance of either good or evil in our heart.

An interesting point that needs to be made here comes about because of the words Jesus spoke in Matthew 12:34.

Matthew 12:34 (KJV)

34 O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.

Notice here that the word that is used for speak is actually speaketh. That is not by accident, but brings out what this actually means here. First off, Jesus speaks about the abundance of the heart. He is referring to that which significantly outweighs everything else in our heart. There is so much of either good or evil in our heart that it overflows out of the heart. This is what we speak then.

Now the word speaketh has the "eth" ending on it. This is something that we as contemporary English speakers probably don't understand. The word speak here is from the Greek word for speak, which in this case is *laiei*. Please be careful with this kind of word searching, though. I am not an expert in Greek, but I take the time to look at it in certain

situations to help me understand something like the eth ending of the english word being used here. The translators of the King James bible were experts in Greek and took the translation from the Textus Receptus. This word lalei, or speak, is a word that is grammatically used as a present, active, indicative verb. If you look up your grammar, you will find this is a word that is being used in the present time and in this case means it is one that is continuously used. So, when we say speaketh, we mean it is being spoken not only in the present, but is a continuous action. The person whose heart is abundantly filled with evil continuously speaks evil things, but the person whose heart is abundantly filled with good, continuously speaks good things.

How We Will Be Judged By God

All this is important; actually it is extremely important that we keep our hearts diligently. It is extremely important that we only allow that which comes from God to abundantly fill our hearts. Our speech must be good as it comes forth from a heart abundantly filled with good fruit. It not only affects things in our present life, such as a long life and health to all our flesh as we read in Proverbs, but also affects how we are judged by God in that day of judgment.

Matthew 12:36–37 (KJV)

36 But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

37 For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Every word that proceeds out of our mouth we will give account of. We will either be justified or condemned by our words. Now this does not mean for the believer that the words which they speak will place them in heaven or hell. When we repent of our ways and believe on the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus as our only means of salvation, we are saved from the wrath of God and eternally secure our place with God in Heaven. However, as Paul teaches us later in his writings, we do gain or lose reward for those things of which we give account of. So, our words, every idle word, will produce reward or loss of reward for us at the time we appear before Jesus at that Bema Seat Judgment. We can only be justified by the blood of Jesus.

Now, those who never believed on Jesus, will give account of every idle word that they spoke from their unregenerated heart. Their words will either justify or condemn them. Since they are appearing in front of Jesus at that Great White Throne Judgment, they will be judged according to the law. The law that is impossible for any man to keep. Their words will not save them because even if they have words which can justify them, there will be words that will condemn them. This will result in them being cast into that eternal lake of fire, because the law finds all guilty and does not justify any.

This is why it is so important that a person repent of their way, their words, and believe on Jesus for salvation. Those words of the sinner acknowledging their sinful ways and need of Jesus for salvation are the words that will justify them. There is no other way to the Father than by Jesus. If you are not saved, will you speak those justifying words showing you believe on Jesus and not your own ways? If you are saved, will you stay in God's word daily, abundantly filling your heart with the wisdom of God? If you do this, then you will go out and share that Gospel message with others! You won't be able to stop yourself from

doing so. For out of the abundance of your heart that is filled with God's wisdom, you will speak and people can be saved.