

FBC POWELL, 4-13-08 PM NOTES
"WATCH YOUR MOUTH"
MATTHEW 12:33-37
(# 49 in Series, "Verse by Verse through Matthew")

Proverbs 18:21a (NKJV) "Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue..."

"[The tongue] can sway men to violence, or it can move them to the noblest actions. It can instruct the ignorant, encourage the dejected, comfort the sorrowing, and soothe the dying. Or it can crush the human spirit, destroy reputations, spread distrust and hate, and bring nations to the brink of war."

—Curtis Vaughn

Proverbs 10:11a (NKJV) "The mouth of the righteous *is* a well of life..."

Proverbs 25:11 (HCSB) "A word spoken at the right time is like golden apples on a silver tray."

I. The Analogy (v. 33)

II. The Application (vv. 34-35)

A. The Tongue and Its Venom (v. 34)

Matthew 3:7 (NKJV) "But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming to his baptism, he said to them, 'Brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come?'"

John 8:44 (NKJV) "You are of *your* father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and *does not* stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own *resources*, for he is a liar and the father of it."

"What the heart, or the mind, dwells on and feeds on is what it is full of; and that which fills the heart is what the mouth inevitably speaks. A person may carefully monitor his words most of the time, but the pressure of evil thoughts, anger, stress, pain, or the association with vulgar friends will sometimes force his real thoughts and attitudes to the surface in the form of words."

—John MacArthur

James 1:26 (NKJV) "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."

B. The Treasure and Its Value (v. 35)

III. The Accountability (vv. 36-37)

A. The Comprehensiveness of Our Accountability (v. 36)

Proverbs 10:19 (NKJV) "In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his lips *is* wise."

Psalms 141:3 (NKJV) "Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips."

Ephesians 4:29 (NASB) "Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a *word* as is good for edification according to the need *of the moment*, so that it will give grace to those who hear."

Colossians 4:6 (NKJV) "Let your speech always *be* with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one."

B. The Consequences of Our Accountability (v. 37)

James 2:21 (NKJV) "Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered Isaac his son on the altar?"