

Scriptures on Mouth & Thought Life

I. Introduction

A. Review

The Scriptures provide us with practical spiritual principles and tools that enable us to draw upon all that God has given us. These principles when applied to our lives promote positive, creative living, healing and wholeness, and a sense of well-being.

When we understand them and learn how to use biblical tools, they can become powerful instruments to help us live lives that are full, meaningful, and satisfying, even in the middle of difficult life situations.

This year's transmissions are designed for people who have a deep desire, intensity of longing, and a sincere reaching out after God. For those who long to increase the inflow of spiritual power, to draw upon the power of God, to live lives that are full, meaningful, and satisfying in the face of difficult life situations. We can produce better results by learning to use His laws of faith and love.

The Bible makes it clear that ignorance of God's ways can bring us into captivity or even destroy us.

Therefore My people go into exile (captivity) for their lack of knowledge (Isaiah 5:13).

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge (Hosea 4:6b).

B. Today's theme; Guarding the mouth and thought life

Ignorant of the importance of our thought life and our mouth. Right and wrong speaking; right and wrong thinking.

Key scriptures

- Death and life are in the power (lit. *hand*) of the tongue, and those who love it, will eat its fruit (Proverbs 18:21). Hebrew word used here is hand, suggesting that the words we speak give direction or fixes a landmark for our lives.
- My son, give attention to my words... keep them in the midst of your heart. For they are life to those who find them and health to all their whole body. Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put devious lips far from you. Let your eyes look directly ahead, and let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you (Proverbs 4:20-25).
- The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart – that is the word of faith which we are preaching, that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you shall be saved; for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation (Romans 10:6-10).

- For there is no good tree which produces bad fruit; nor, on the other hand, a bad tree which produces good fruit. For each tree is known by its fruit. The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good, and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart. (Luke 6:43-46)
- We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ (II Corinthians 10:5).
- The steadfast of mind Thou will keep in perfect peace, because he trusts in Thee (Isaiah 26:3).

II. What Are We To Do With Our Mouth?

A. Scriptures on importance of the mouth

- Who is the man who desires life, and loves length of days that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit (Psalms 34:12-14).
- Let him who means to love life and see good days refrain his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking guile...(I Peter 3:10).
- For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned (Matthew 12:33b-37).

B. Relationship of mouth to our heart

1. Heart is key to loving God

- I command you love the Lord your God...but if your heart turns away...you shall surely perish (Deuteronomy 30:16,17).
- You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind... (Luke 10:27).

2. Problem: Mouth & heart need agreement

- People draw near with their mouth, and honor Me with their lips, but they remove their hearts far from me, and their reverence for me consists of tradition learned by rote (Isaiah 29:13).
- People honor me with their lips, but their heart is far away from me, but in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the precepts of men (Matthew 15:8)

3. Word must be in mouth and heart

- The word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may observe it (Deuteronomy 30:14)
- The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart – that is the word of faith which we

are preaching...for with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation (Romans 10:6-10).

4. The heart is the key

We are defiled by that which comes from the heart. Human depravity is in the heart

- The things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile the man (Matthew 15:17-19).

C. The power of the mouth

1. Your confession can do one of two things for you:

- A soothing (*healing*) tongue is a tree of life, but perversion in it crushes the spirit (Proverbs 15:4).
- Out of same mouth comes blessing and cursing... (James 3:10)
- There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing (Proverbs 12:18).
- For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned (Matthew 12:37).

2. Your words can imprison you, ensnare you—wrong speaking: Backbiting; lying, deceit, flattering, doubt, unbelief, rebellion

- Defile the whole body, and set on fire the course of our life existence (James 1:6)
- An evil man is ensnared by the transgression of his lips (Proverbs 12:13)
- Full of deadly poison (James 3:1-).
- Lying lips are an abomination to the Lord (Proverbs 12:22)
- A fool's lips bring strife, and his mouth calls for blows. A fool's mouth is his ruin, and his lips are the snare of his soul (Proverbs 18:7-8).
- He who gives an answer before he hears, it is folly and shame to him (Prov 18:13).

3. Your words can set you free—right speaking

- Who is the man who desires life, and loves length of days that he may see good? Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit (Ps 34:12-14).
- A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth (Proverbs 12:14).
- Soothing (healing) tongue is a tree of life (Proverbs 15:4).
- Pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, healing to the bones (Prov 16:23, 24).
- Truthful lips will be established forever, but a lying tongue is only for a moment (Pro 12:17-20)

- Anxiety in heart of man weighs it down, but a good word makes it glad (Proverbs 12:25).
- Lips of wise spread knowledge (Proverbs 15:7).

4. Persuaded to act on His Word

According to Jesus, the difference between two types of people is whether they act on the words God speaks to them.

And why do you call me Lord, Lord, and do not do what I say?.

Everyone who comes to Me and hears My word, and acts upon them...is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation upon the rock; and when a flood rose, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built. But the one who has heard, and has not acted accordingly, is like a man who built a house upon the ground without any foundation; and the rivers burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great (Luke 6:47-49).

6. Acting on what we know!

Faith is revealed in action and in words. Faith grows.

This book of the law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it; for then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have success (Joshua 1: 8)

And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father (Col. 3:17)

But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror. For one he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be a blessing in his doing (James 1:22-26).

So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty....what use is it, my brethren, if a man says he has faith, but has not works? Can that faith save him? ...Even so faith, if it has no works is dead, being by itself. Faith without works is useless. Faith was working with his works, and as a result of the works, faith was perfected or completed. You see a man is justified by works, and not by faith alone. Faith without works is dead (James 2:12, 17-26)

D. Confession means to assent to something

Our confession, affirming the truth I have embraced, is Satan's defeat and makes it a living reality in my life. Spiritual experience is rooted in the Word of God, the basis.

That which the Lord has legally purchased, wrought, and provided for me – becomes mine experientially when by my believing the word of God in my heart and confessing with my mouth that it true – becomes mine.

Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful (Heb. 10:23)

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession; i.e., saying the say thing that God says (Heb. 4:14).

That if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God has raised him from the death, you shall be saved (Romans 10:9).

Confession: to

Affirm something I believe.

Testify to something I know.

Witness to a truth, I embrace.

E. Spiritual reality or presumption

1. Faith or presumption

On one hand, it says,

Have faith in God. Truly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, Be taken up and cast into the sea, and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is going to happen, it shall be granted to him. There I say to you, all things for which you pray and ask, believe that you have received them, and they shall be granted you (Mark 9:22-24)

For nothing will be impossible with God. And Mary said, Behold the bond slave of the Lord; be it done to me according to your word. (Luke 1:37-38)

On the other hand, it says,

Keep thy servant from presumptuous sins; let them not rule over me (Ps 19:13).

If we try to go beyond what I have genuine faith for, then I can get into trouble.

Faith must be in the heart, not only the mind!

2. Jesus' words – Spiritual reality

Every spiritual matter has its realities before God. When we touch the spiritual reality of something, life is released or flows.

It is the Spirit who gives life, the flesh profits nothing, the words I have spoken to you are spirit and are life (John 6:63)

The reality of a spiritual thing is something spiritual, not material. When I touch spiritual reality, I obtain life; it is living and fresh. It rings true.

We try to pretend, produce, manufacture, imagine, copy, imitate, but do we have hold of the true article, the genuine thing, the reality, or only the outward conduct based on doctrine. If it is based on doctrine, we act according to doctrines.

Doctrinal premises, mental reality, then we can overstep the boundaries and make presumptions, which is sin. (Ps. 19:13).

And my words and preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power (I Cor 2:1, 4).

We need to see the reality of spiritual truths by revelation in the heart

What is real in me can cause others to touch that reality too. P. 17, Nee

III. Importance of Our Thoughts

Confession is result of my believing, my believing is result of my right or wrong thinking.

A. Scriptures

For my thoughts are not your thoughts ()

We are destroying speculations and every lofty thing raised up against the knowledge of God, and we are taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ (II Corinthians 10:5).

Who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God. That we might know the things freely given to us by God. Which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words (I Corinthians 2:11-13)

For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he should instruct him, but we have the mind of Christ.

B. Right & Wrong Thinking

Do you know the difference between life and death?

Practice right thinking – neuronal pathway

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what the will of God, that which is good and acceptable and perfect. (Romans 12:2)

The steadfast of mind Thou will keep in perfect peace, because he trusts in Thee (Isaiah 26:3)

Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God (Col 3:16)

Finally brethren whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely (lovable and gracious), whatever is of good repute (attractive), if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, let your mind dwell (ponder these) on these things. The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of peace shall be with you (Philippians 4:8).

C. Problem of lying thoughts

When we believe something that is not true we call it a lie. And lies introduce a system of negativity into our consciousness that influence our thoughts, emotions, and behaviors.

We have an enemy, the great deceiver

Satan cannot speak from truth because there is no truth in him. He can distort the truth, and he will even quote Scripture as he did when he tempted Jesus. The power of Satan is in the lie and half truths. If he is able to deceive Christians into believing a lie, they will be spiritually impotent. He can't do anything about our identity and position in Christ, but if he can get us to believe it is not true, we will live as though it isn't. When the lies are exposed, Satan's power

over us is broken. (Neil Anderson, *Steps to Freedom In Christ*).

Be sober, be watchful, your adversary, the devil walks around like a roaring lion, seeking some one to devour (I Pet. 5:8).

In order that no advantage be taken of us by Satan; for we are not ignorant of his schemes (II Cor. 2:11).

Put on the full armor of God, that you may be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not...take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth (reality), and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace, take up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming missiles of the evil one, and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, be on the alert (Eph. 6:11-18)

D. The New Covenant— a better covenant

Written in two places: mind and heart

Hebrews 8:10

Hebrews 10:16

IV. Closing

A. Practice right speaking

1. King David's prayer— a man after God's own heart

- Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight O Lord, my strength and my redeemer (Psalms 19:14).
- I will guard my ways, that I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth as with a muzzle, while the wicked are in my presence (Psalms 39:1).
- Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips. Do not incline my heart to any evil thing, to practice deeds of wickedness (Psalms 141:3,4).
- You have tried my heart; You have visited by night; You have tested me and found no evil device in me; I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress (Psalms 17:3).

2. Teach your mouth

- My son, give attention to my words... keep them in the midst of your heart. For they are life to those who find them and health to all their whole body. Watch over your heart with all diligence, for from it flow the springs of life. Put away from you a deceitful mouth, and put devious lips far from you. Let your eyes look directly ahead, and let your gaze be fixed straight in front of you (Proverbs 4:20-25).

- The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, pleasant words are a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, healing to the bones (Proverbs 16:23, 24).
- My tongue shall speak Thy Word (Psalms 119:72)
- The opening of my lips will produce right things. For my mouth will utter truth; and wickedness is an abomination to my lips. All the utterances of my mouth are in righteousness; there is nothing crooked or perverted in them. They are all straightforward... (Proverbs 8:6-9)
- Put all aside, anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self with its evil practices (Colossians 3:8,9)
- Refrain thy tongue from speaking evil (I Peter 3:10).
- Bridle the tongue (James 1:26).
- Deliver my soul from lying lips, from a deceitful tongue (Psalms 120:2).
- Put away a froward mouth (Proverbs 4:27).
- If you have been snared with the words of your mouth, have been caught with the words of your mouth... Go humble yourself... (Proverbs 6:2).

3. Use your mouth to praise God

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all mind, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:4,6,7)

- He who offers a sacrifice of thanksgiving honors Me, and to him who orders his way aright, I shall show the salvation of God (Psalms 50:23).
- For my mouth is filled with thy praise (Psalms 71:8).
- Accept the freewill offering of my mouth and teach me (Psalms 119:108).
- Let my tongue sing of Thy word. For all thy commandments are righteousness (Psalms 119:172).