

“HOW TO TAME MY TONGUE”

JAMES SERMON SERIES - #5

JAMES 3:1-12

JULY 3, 2022

Introduction

James 3:2 – *For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body.*

Proverbs 12:18 – *There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword, but the tongue of the wise brings healing.* (NASB)

1. Why must I watch what I say?

a. My tongue directs _____.

James 3:3 – *If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well.*

James 3:4 – *Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs.*

b. My tongue can destroy _____.

James 3:5, 6b – *So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire. ... ⁶The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell.*

James 3:7-8 – *For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.*

c. My tongue displays _____.

It's inconsistent.

James 3:9-10 – *With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.*

James 3:11-12 – *Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.*

The problem is not with my tongue but with _____.

Matthew 12:34, 36 – *You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. ... ³⁶But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken.*

2. What's the solution?

a. _____.

Ezekiel 18:31b – *Make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel?*

2 Corinthians 5:17 – *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.*

b. _____.

Psalms 141:3 – *Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips!*

c. _____.

James 1:19 – *Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger.*

THINK Is it True?
Is it Helpful?
Is it Inspiring?
Is it Necessary?
Is it Kind?

Conclusion