

James

Chapter Three

FAITH COMES BY HEARING: Read Chapter Three

SUMMARY: Verses 1-18

1. James makes the statement that no one is immune from being judged by God. He states clearly that those who teach the Word are judged more strictly.
2. James makes the evaluation that you could live perfectly if you could control your mouth. He will prove that this is an impossibility. No man can tame the tongue.
3. James says your entire course of life is controlled by your mouth. Your mouth gives proof of your faith. Your mouth can turn your whole body. Your tongue is like a bridle on a horse, a rudder on a ship, and it can move and direct the overall direction of your life.
4. James states that the tongue is set on fire by hell. That assumes that hell can manifest itself in your life via your mouth and words. So often, we associate the hell in people's lives with dirty and evil actions. However, much of the hell we see is in direct correlation to the words in our mouth.
5. James states that NO person can tame his own tongue. This will carry great weight when considering why the baptism with the Holy Spirit was so necessary. (Acts 2) Here, James states the tongue is an evil poison, set on fire by hell, unruly, and can set your whole life on fire. The book of Acts, chapter 2, shows us the resulting fruit of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. In the upper room a sound came from heaven, tongues of fire rested on their heads, and life flowed from their lips. The baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues was God's answer to the chaos of evil of the untamed tongue.
6. James states that blessings and cursings should never flow out of the same mouth.
7. James says that having wisdom is to be humble and do life God's way.
8. We should never cover up truth with wrong living. When you fake the Christian walk you have to constantly lie and boast to cover up wrong living and actions.
9. Selfishness and jealousy have their core rooted in earthy, evil, and demonic.
10. You can't be spiritual and live a selfish and jealous life.
11. God's wisdom brings life. It's pure, peace loving, gentle, yielding to others, full of mercy, fruitful in good deeds, shows no favoritism, and is sincere. To produce fruit apart from the wisdom of God is selfish ambition. And in selfish ambition you will find chaos and every evil work.

REFLECTION

1. What verse stuck out to you most?
2. Why are the teachers of the bible judged more strictly?
3. Why do you think God put so much power in the mouth?
4. How can the mouth and your words be the deciding factor over your destiny?
5. Has your mouth ever altered your life?
6. How would you connect the baptism of the Holy Spirit to the ability to tame the tongue?
7. Why did God consider the baptism of the Holy Spirit so crucial?
8. How does selfish ambition open up chaos and hell in your life?

APPLICATION

1. How can you better control your words?
2. How can you better link your mouth up with your destiny?
3. Are there selfish areas in your life that you need to repent of and end?
4. Explain this phrase: God's wisdom brings you life.
5. Have you ever been baptized with the Holy Spirit evidenced by speaking in tongues?
6. Are you willing to humble yourself and ask God to baptize you now with His Holy Spirit? Ask Him to do so now.

