
Words of Truth

“These Things I Say, That Ye Might Be Saved”

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The title of our study comes from this context: *“Verily, verily, I say unto you, The hour is coming, and now is, when the dead shall hear the voice of the Son of God: and they that hear shall live. For as the Father hath life in himself; so hath he given to the Son to have life in himself; And hath given him authority to execute judgment also, because he is the Son of man. Marvel not at this: for the hour is coming, in the which all that are in the graves shall hear his voice, And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation. I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me. If I bear witness of myself, my witness is not true. There is another that beareth witness of me; and I know that the witness which he witnesseth of me is true. Ye sent unto John, and he bare witness unto the truth. But I receive not testimony from man: but these things I say, that ye might be saved”* (John 5:25-34).

Jesus had a goal when He came into this world. The goal of Christ was to save sinners (Matthew 18:11, Matthew 20:28, Mark 2:17, Luke 19:10, and I Timothy 1:15). When it was time for Jesus to work towards that goal, He did not want to waste any time (John 4:31-38). Therefore, we should understand when He talked He said things with the goal that people could be saved because of His words.

When we study about the life of Christ, we read things that will have an impact on our salvation. In fact, notice this inspired statement: *“And many other signs truly did Jesus in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book: But these are written, that ye might believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing ye might have life through his name”* (John 20:30-31). There are many things that could have been written about our Savior. What we must realize is that those things that were written had a purpose – for us to be saved!

In any and everything written in the Scriptures there can often be many lessons taught and learned. It is the quick [living] word of God (Hebrews 4:12). I think we all know that the word of God brings salvation (Romans 1:16). I think we also all know that knowledge of the word of God gives us all things pertaining to life and godliness (II Peter 1:3-4). I am not going to use the quoted statements above to teach those things in this study. Rather, what I am going to aim to do is get us to think about our words like Jesus thought about His words. His words had a purpose. Do your words have a purpose?

Words That Have A Reason For Being Spoken Or Written

Job spoke a lot of vain [empty] words, without knowledge (Job 35:16). False teachers use vain words (Jeremiah 23:16 and Ephesians 5:6). Some pray prayers of empty repetitions

(Matthew 6:7). Could you, in any way, be likened unto Job, false teachers, or people who pray perversely? The fact is, some people have long liked to talk even when they are really saying nothing. God teaches us that sin is not lacking in a multitude of words (Proverbs 10:19). Therefore, you'd think that we'd all not want to talk when there is nothing to say.

In many words there is also divers vanities (Ecclesiastes 5:7). A fool's voice is known by multitude of words (Ecclesiastes 5:3). A fool is full of words (Ecclesiastes 10:14). What does that mean of you or I if we just love to talk about nothing?

These points beg us to ask ourselves if our words have a purpose. To what end do we talk? Jesus had the goal of saving people with His words. What is the point of your words? There are many good things we can do with words. However, all of those things mean we will be speaking with a purpose.

If I am like Jesus and talking to help save a person or group of people, my words have a good purpose (I Thessalonians 2:1-13). If I am trying to share godly wisdom, my words have a good purpose (Psalms 37:30, Proverbs 10:21, and Proverbs 12:18). If I am speaking to spiritually build up a person or group of people, my words have a good purpose (Acts 20:32, Romans 14:19, and I Thessalonians 5:11). If I am speaking to rebuke a sinner and help them to be saved, my words have a good purpose (Proverbs 27:5-6). If I am honestly opening my mouth to the praise, honor, and glory of God; my words have a good purpose (John 5:23, Romans 15:6, and Hebrews 13:15). Again, what does all of that take? Doesn't it take thought for me to speak words that have a good purpose?

Words That Show Thought Behind Them

Solomon, through inspiration, said this: *“Keep thy foot when thou goest to the house of God, and be more ready to hear, than to give the sacrifice of fools: for they consider not that they do evil. Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter any thing before God: for God is in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few”* (Ecclesiastes 5:1-2). Similarly, the words of the inspired James tell us to be “slow to speak” (James 1:19).

God says: *“The heart of the righteous studieth to answer: but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things”* (Proverbs 15:28). Being ready to give an answer (I Peter 3:15) doesn't mean we need to speak immediately. Taking time to think and consider the right words is what God wants for us. Moreover, not just the right words but words that have a proper purpose.

Consider that every idle word that you speak is going to be brought into Judgment with God (Matthew 12:36-37). Make them count. If you are going to talk be ready to answer to God for what you say and the reason you said it. Show some thought to God and man for the things you speak.

Conclusion

There is always much to say, but sometimes enough is enough. The Scriptures in this study should make us all think. The example of Jesus, in words with a purpose, should guide us to be like-minded with our Savior. Let's focus on knowing how to talk (Colossians 4:6)!