

Words of Truth

“Out Of The Abundance Of The Heart The Mouth Speaketh”

By: Brian A. Yeager

People often excuse spoken ignorance by saying something like, “they are just words”. God is not of that mindset. It is certainly true that words can be false and they do not always reveal what is inside of a person (Mark 7:1-9). However, even those fake words end up meaning much about a person when coupled with action (Matthew 7:15-20 and Titus 1:16). Therefore, words ALWAYS are to be judged and considered as a revealing thing about people.

Let me give you an example. Let's say a man says some of the following statements: “I know better than I do sometimes... I did not want to sing songs, I would not feel right singing, even though I did all I could to resolve the issue the best I could... Hear me clearly in what I am about to say because I don't want you to get it twisted. Lot's of times perhaps you have heard me say it, you know, you get frustrated and say I am just losin' it, like that. I'm not losing my mind. That's not what I'm sayin'. I'm not losing my mind, but I'm telling you brethren, my mind is becoming increasingly cluttered with the cares of this world. It is. Look at Luke 8, more so than in any recent time I can remember it's becoming increasingly cluttered with the cares of this world... I'm not making excuses, I'm just telling you my mind is getting increasingly cluttered with the things of this world... In word and conversation I have fallen short in that charity where I've fallen short, thinks no evil, but my mind is becoming cluttered; cluttered up... I can't be faithful in all points; I must have a faithfulness issue if I'm, you know; exploding on someone for instance – no good, I have some work to do, to the next part of the sermon... I'm not trying to justify myself but the thought process is becoming encumbered with the cares of this world” (Quotes from a false teacher preached in a sermon in Kansas).

What do the words above Scripturally tell you about the person who spoke those words? Consider some points from God's word about those words above. First, a supposed preacher said them. God says that the words of a teacher of His word will be held to a higher standard. In fact, God said that in a context about speaking words (James 3:1-18). With that point in mind, consider that this supposed preacher began his sermon thanking the song leader for putting off the songs because the supposed preacher felt unworthy to worship. HOW IS HE PREACHING IN THAT STATE OF BEING (Matthew 7:1-5, John 8:1-11, Romans 2:1-29, I Timothy 4:13-16, Titus 2:7-8)? Furthermore, if he could not worship God, how is he leading others in an aspect of worship and where is he leading them (Matthew 15:14)? How could they let him lead them (Romans 16:17-18, Ephesians 5:6-11, I Timothy 6:3-5, II John 1:9-11, and Revelation 2:14-16)? How can a man be excused when he knows better than what he does sometimes (James 4:17; cf. I John 3:8-10)? Then he says, multiple times, that the cares of this world are increasingly burdening him. What does that Scripturally mean (Mark 4:19, Romans 12:1-3, Colossians 3:1-4, II Timothy 2:2-4, and I John 2:15-17)? He even had his ignorant audience turn to Luke 8 and read Luke 8:14. How did they let him continue to spew garbage after that? He admitted falling short in word and deed on many accounts. Yet, continued to excuse sin with more sin. What does that tell of a person?

Very sadly, I could have filled this article with quotes from that sermon, articles from the same person, recorded conversations, etc. However, I want to take this study and redirect our minds a bit. Remember, the study is about how words reveal hearts. You can see the false teacher's heart by his words. That is because words do reveal what is going on inside of a person.

Words Reveal Hearts

Before we proceed, let's remember to always be cautious with our judgment (Proverbs 18:13 and John 7:24). This includes looking at words and reports about words. Now, to a consideration from the words of Jesus: "*O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned... But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies: These are the things which defile a man: but to eat with unwashed hands defileth not a man*" (Matthew 12:34-37 and Matthew 15:18-20).

Do you listen to yourself when you talk? Part of our task of being faithful Christians includes the process of self-examination (Psalms 119:59-60, Lamentations 3:40, Ezekiel 18:27-30, Haggai 1:5, Haggai 1:7, I Corinthians 11:23-32, II Corinthians 13:5, Galatians 6:4-5, and I John 3:20-21). We have read, from the words of Christ that will judge us (John 12:48), that our words reveal our hearts. If you have not been listening to yourself talk, you'd better start doing so. Your words are a reflection of who you are. Now, when you examine yourself and hear yourself talk, what will you do if your words reveal something sinful?

If Your Words Show A Corrupt Heart...

Many people excuse themselves when they sin and God does not accept such excuses no matter how much we convince ourselves that they are just excuses (I Samuel 15:1-35). The only way to really change is to honestly, without excuse or cover-ups (Jeremiah 2:22-24), confess your faults (Proverbs 28:13, Jeremiah 3:13, and I John 1:9) and truly repent of sin (II Chronicles 7:14, Job 42:1-6, Psalms 37:27, Isaiah 55:6-7, Jeremiah 7:1-5, Jeremiah 26:13, Ezekiel 14:6, Ezekiel 18:30, Ezekiel 33:14-16, Matthew 3:7-8, Matthew 21:28-32, Mark 6:12, Luke 13:3; 5, Luke 19:1-10, Acts 8:22, Acts 26:18-20, II Corinthians 7:1, II Corinthians 7:8-10, II Timothy 2:19, II Timothy 2:25, and Revelation 2:1-7). That change must not just be outward, for your words and actions will reveal such anyway (Matthew 23:25-28).

Conclusion

God hears you (Psalms 94:9-10 and Isaiah 59:1). He will not excuse erring words (Proverbs 13:3 and Ezekiel 35:12-15). We all can see the errors of the supposed preacher I quoted early in this study. He cannot see himself. His followers cannot see him. You can see him, but can you see you? It is not men that you will stand before in Judgment (II Corinthians 5:10). Properly prepare now for the biggest conversation of your life (Romans 14:11-12)!