

Speak Every Man Truth With His Neighbor

I. Introduction: There is always a balance to maintain (**Deuteronomy 5:32**).

A. We know there are times to speak and times not to speak (**Ecclesiastes 3:7**).

1. It is not good to always have something to say (**Proverbs 10:19**, **Proverbs 15:28**, and **Ecclesiastes 5:1-2**).

2. Even when it comes to attempting to save a lost soul, there is a time to remain silent (**Proverbs 9:7-8**, **Proverbs 23:9**, **Matthew 7:6**, and **Titus 3:9**).

B. We know that certain times wherein society impacts what we do and do not do (**I Corinthians 9:19-23** and **I Corinthians 10:23-33**).

1. The fact is, we need to be cautious how we speak around some people (**Psalms 39:1** and **Colossians 4:5-6**).

2. Having said that, we can never alter the truth (**II Corinthians 2:17**).

3. Don't allow righteous caution to become an erring excuse not to speak up when you should (**Isaiah 62:6** and **Acts 4:18-20**).

II. Body: **Zechariah 8:16-17** and **Ephesians 4:25**

A. Like the days of Jesus, we live in a time wherein how you speak may be greatly judged and even used to attack you (i.e. **Mark 12:13**).

1. It is not a new thing to see words twisted (**Psalms 56:5-6**).

2. People will even be dishonest in how they present things to us to try and get us to say something they can use against us (**Luke 20:20-26**).

3. No matter how careful you are, if the world wants to trip you up and use your words against you, they'll find a way (**Matthew 26:59-61**; cf. **John 2:13-21**).

B. In days like these you have to be bold (**Proverbs 28:1**).

1. You cannot say or do nothing if the need to stand arises (**Psalms 40:9-10**, **Proverbs 28:4**, and **Jude 1:3-4**).

2. If the lost truly desire to know the truth, we cannot be ashamed to speak it (**Romans 1:14-18**).

C. Speaking the truth will cause you to have enemies (**Galatians 4:8-16**).

1. People have killed those whom speak truth (**II Chronicles 24:20-21**).

2. Truth speakers have faced ridicule (**Jeremiah 20:8**).

3. The world hated Jesus because He spoke truth (**John 7:7**).

4. Though the world may hate you... Since speaking the truth is righteous (**Proverbs 12:17**), you know you have the best ally ever when you stand for and speak the truth (**Psalms 11:7**; **37:28**).

III. Conclusion: **Proverbs 12:19**