

DOCTRINE OF THE SINS OF THE TONGUE

February 11, 1988

- I. The mouth is a window which reveals who is in control of the "Real You" (Mt.15:11 "*Not what enters into the mouth defiles the man, but what proceeds out of the mouth, this defiles the man*"; cp. Mt.15:18,19).
- II. The uncontrolled tongue (Jam.3:5-8):
 - A. Is like a spark which ignites an entire forest (sets in motion destructive forces, vs.5).
 - B. Is capable of articulating the entire realm of STA-sponsored evil (vs.6).
 - C. Defiles the whole body (Mt.15:11).
 - D. Incites the whole course of human existence (vs.6).
 - E. Receives its spark from demonic influences (vs.6).
 - F. Is not amenable to control (vss.7,8).
 - G. Is unstable and deadly (vs.8).
- III. Lying and deceit are closely related verbal sins (Ex.20:16, the ninth Commandment - "*You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor*").
 - A. God cannot lie (Heb.6:18).
 - B. Lying and deceit are an abomination to God (Prov.12:22; Ps.5:6).
 - C. Lies will not endure (Prov.12:19).
 - D. Wealth gained by lies leads to the sin unto death (Prov.21:6).
 - E. Deceit is a function of the unprincipled rich (Ps.52).
 - F. Lying and deceit are sins associated with national reversionism (Ps.55:11; Jer.5:27; 8:5,10).
 - G. Deceit is a function of conspiracy (Prov.12:20).
 - H. Lying conceals hatred (Prov.10:18; 26:24).
 - I. Antichrist will employ deceit (Dan.8:25).
 - J. God denies deceivers a place before Him (Ps.101:7).
 - K. Absence of deceit is a mark of maturity (Ps.32:2).
 - L. Avoidance of deceit leads to a longer life (Ps.34:8-14; 55:23).
 - M. We should pray for deliverance from deceitful people (Ps.144:8-11).
 - N. We should not lie to each other (Col.3:9).
 - O. Jesus avoided deceit (Isa.53:9; 1Pet.2:22).
 - P. We are to avoid this sin (Prov.4:24).
- IV. Flattery is closely associated with deceit and is a sin of the tongue.
 - A. It is always associated with deceit (Ps.5:9; 12:2; Prov.26:28; Rom.16:18).
 - B. It is a function of the evil woman (Prov.2:16; 7:5,21).
 - C. It is a function of the deceivers of the last days (Jd.16).
 - D. There is more blessing for rebuke than flattery (Prov.28:23).
 - E. It is something that is foreign to the mature believer (Job.32:21,22).
 - F. It is not a function of the faithful communicator (1Thess.2:5).
 - G. God will cut off all flatterers (Ps.12:3).

- V. Gossip and slander are verbal sins (Rom.1:28-30).
- A. Such activity was forbidden under the Law (Lev.19:16).
 - B. A fool spreads slander (Prov.10:18).
 - C. Slander destroys category 3 love, friendship (Prov.16:28; 17:9).
 - D. Slanderers will not be established (Ps.140:11).
 - E. We are not to associate with such persons (Prov.20:19).
 - F. Malicious gossips abound in the last days (2Tim.3:1-3).
 - G. Deacon's wives are not to be such (1Tim.3:11).
 - H. Older ladies are to avoid this (Ti.2:3).
 - I. We are to isolate this sin (Eph.4:31; Col.3:8; 1Pet.2:1).
 - J. Absence of this sin is a mark of spiritual maturity (Ps.15:3).
- VI. Boasting is a sin of the tongue (1Sam.2:3; Jam.3:5).
- A. Men boast in evil (Ps.52:1), wealth (Ps.49:6), idols (Ps.97:7), and men (1Cor.3:21).
 - B. It is a characteristic of the Rapture generation (2Tim.3:2).
 - C. Men at the end are enjoined to cease boasting (Ps.75).
 - D. We are not to boast in tomorrow (Prov.27:1; Jam.4:13-17).
 - E. Rather, we should boast in our knowledge and understanding of God's plan (Jer.9:23,24; 1Cor.1:31; Ps.20:7; 34:2; 44:8).
- VII. Cursing is a sin of the tongue.
- A. It is associated with bitterness (Rom.3:14).
 - B. It is directed towards God (Ex.20:7).
 - C. Since man is created in the image of God, we are not to curse man (Jam.3:9-12).
 - D. Job would not curse God (Job.2:9,10).
- VIII. Complaining is a verbal sin demonstrating maladjustment to one's niche.
- A. The Exodus generation was constantly complaining due to reversionism (Ex.15:24; 16:2; Num.14:27; Deut.1:26,27; Ps.106:25).
 - B. We are not to do as they did (1Cor.10:10).
 - C. God hears our complaining (Ex.16:7-9,12).
 - D. Jesus was the object of this sin (Lk.5:30; 15:2; 19:7; Jn.6:41,61; 7:32).
 - E. We are to do all things without complaining (Phil.2:14; 1Pet.4:9).
 - F. We are not to complain against one another (Jam.5:9).
- IX. Foul language, dirty jokes or stories, and silly talk is another area that believers should avoid (Eph.5:3,4 "...and there must be no *filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks*"; cp. 4:29).
- X. Blasphemy is a verbal sin that includes reviling God's name (akin to cursing) and contradicting God's word (false doctrine is blasphemy).
- A. The King of Assyria committed this sin by telling the Jews that God could not deliver them (Isa.37:1-7).
 - B. Israel's misfortunes, due to divine discipline, have led to Gentile blasphemy (Isa.52:5; Rom.2:24).
 - C. Paul was, as an unbeliever, the greatest sinner due to his blasphemy (1Tim.1:13).

- D. The Antichrist is a super blasphemer (Rev.13:5,6).
 - E. The doctrines of false religion constitute blasphemy (Rev.17:1).
 - F. All blasphemy is subject to forgiveness except rejection of Christ (Mt.12:31).
- XI. Some other abuses of speech to guard against.
- A. Unfulfilled promises (Deut.23:23; Ps.15:4c; Eccl.5:4,5).
 - B. Rash and impudent speech (Prov.15:28; 29:20).
 - C. Many words (Prov.10:19; 15:2; Eccl.5:2,3,7; 10:14).
- XII. Control of the tongue is a mark of maturity (Ps.15; Jam.3:2).
- XIII. God protects the positive believer from the attack of the tongue (Job.5:21; Ps.31:20; 120).
- XIV. Divine discipline awaits those who do not control their speech (Prov.10:31; 11:11; 21:23).
- XV. The tongue of the powerful and ruthless.
- A. The Word of God recognizes the existence of the ruthless and oppressive (Prov.30:11-14).
 - B. Their mouth conceals violence (Prov.10:6).
 - C. David prayed for protection from such men (Ps.57:4-6; 64; 140).
 - D. They constantly plot against the righteous (Ps.37:12).
 - E. Such men from among all nations will be opposed to Israel (Ps.59).
 - F. God is opposed to them (Prov.8:13).
 - G. The Word of God describes their end (Ps.73).
 - H. The perverted tongue will be stopped (Prov.10:31).
- XVI. The prayer of the positive, God-fearing believer with respect to speech: Ps.141:3 "*Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.*"

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