

Exposing the Truth about Men's Hearts

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I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Matthew 12:33-37.
- B. What one says will determine one's destiny.
- C. One is condemned because one's words reveal inward corruption. (John 5:18)
- D. One is evil or good by his or her fruit. (Luke 6)
- E. The character of Jesus' life should have been evident by what he did. (John 10; 9)

II. Jesus called the religious leaders vipers. (Matthew 3:7; 23)

- A. They are subtle leaders with poisoned tongues.
- B. They were evil in their very beings. (Psalm 51:4, 1 Samuel 24:15)

III. The principle: whatever you are on the inside will come out of your mouth.

- A. The heart is the basis of our thinking.
- B. The mouth can only produce what is in the heart.
- C. If there is blasphemy on the mouth, there is blasphemy in the heart. (Job 32:17, James 3, Romans 3, Proverbs 23:7)
- D. An unregenerate person can say no truly good thing that will give glory to God.

IV. Punishment. (Romans 2)

- A. The words of men are accurate gages of the heart.
- B. We are saved by grace through faith unto works.
- C. Everyone is responsible for what they say and the consequence that follows.
- D. Words that will bring judgment.
 - 1. Thoughtless. Men are judged for useless words--all the more they will be judged for their blasphemous words.
 - 2. Careless.
 - a. These are angry, unredeemed words.
 - b. These are evil, lustful, curseful, lying, false, destructive, vain, flattering, mad words.
- E. Believers are also accountable for what they say. (Psalm 141:3)

Application Questions:

1. What is the relationship between words and the heart?

2. How can words reveal condemnation?

3. How have your words been careless in the past? What can you do to better tame the tongue? Explain.
