

November 18, 2018

“A Restless Evil”

By Michael Hickox

Olney Church of Christ

220 North Van Street
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Services

Sunday

Bible Study	9:30 am
A.M. Worship	10:20 am
P.M. Worship	2:00 pm

Wednesday

Bible Class	7:00 pm
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Visitors are welcome
We offer Bible classes for all ages
We also offer in-home Bible studies

We have Bible lessons on the radio
(92.9 FM) Sundays from 8:00-8:30 a.m.

James 3:8: *But nobody can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.*

James 3 speaks of how dangerous the tongue (our speech) can be. Like bits in horses' mouths that guide the entire horse (**verse 3**), or rudders of ships that direct the whole ship (**verse 4**), the tongue is a small part of the body, but it has great power (**verse 5**). The tongue will cause much harm if we are not careful (**verse 6**).

Consider six specific sins of the tongue:

1) False Teaching - This is the “sin of the tongue” first warned against in **James 3. Verse 1** of the chapter says that teachers will receive strict judgment. This implies that *false* teachers will be judged harshly. While the words of the Gospel teacher are wonderful (**Rom. 10:15**), the words of the false teacher are destructive (**2 Tim. 4:4**).

2) Lying - **Colossians 3:9** instructs “*don't lie to one another.*” **Proverbs 12:22** says “*lying lips are abomination to the LORD.*” Lying promotes hypocrisy and strife. It must be put away.

3) Gossiping - God rebukes busybodies (**2 Thess. 3:11; 1 Tim. 5:13**), whisperers (**Rom. 1:29**), tattlers (**1 Tim. 5:13**), and talebearers (**Prov. 11:13; 20:19**). All of these relate to the sin of gossiping.

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(Continued)

Gossip involves saying things about others behind their backs that are not appropriate. It could involve repeating rumors that may or may not be true. It could involve speaking things about others that are true, but ought not be repeated. Gossiping is often done as a way of making the gossiper feel better about him or herself. Such is not only selfish, but harmful. **Proverbs 18:8: *The words of a gossip are like dainty morsels: they go down into a person's innermost parts.***

4) **Boasting** - While some gossip to bring others low, others boast in order to exalt themselves high. Such is foolish. **Proverbs 27:2: *Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; a stranger, and not your own lips.*** When we consider how hopeless we are without God, it is evident that we have no reason to boast ***“except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ”*** (Gal. 6:14).

5) **Angry Words** - The hymn “*Angry Words, O Let Them Never*” warns against speaking rash words that damage relationships. The song may remind us of the Scripture, ***“a gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger”*** (Prov. 15:1). Instead of speaking wrathfully toward someone, the Holy Spirit exhorts ***“let every man be swift to***

hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath” (James 1:19).

6) **Corrupt Speech** - **Ephesians 4:29** says ***“let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth, but such as is good for building up as the need may be, that it may give grace to those who hear.”*** **Ephesians 5:4** warns against ***“foolish talking”*** and ***“jesting, which are not appropriate.”*** **Colossians 3:8** says to put away ***“shameful speaking out of your mouth.”*** Corrupt speech could include false teaching, lying, gossiping, boasting, and angry words, but it could also include cursing, taking the Lord's name in vain, or repeating vulgar and inappropriate jokes...these are not the things that come out of the mouths of those who are focused on serving God.

Words can be a wonderful thing. (**Proverbs 16:24; 25:11**), but when our words are not what they should be, they cause much damage.

May we choose our words wisely and purify our hearts so that they will produce good words (**Matt. 12:34-35**). May we remember our Lord's words ***“that every idle word that men speak, they will give account of it in the Day of Judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned”*** (Matt. 12:36-37).

God's Plan for Saving Man

God's Grace	Ephesians 2:8
Christ's Blood	Romans 5:9
The Holy Spirit's Gospel	Romans 1:16
Sinner's Faith	Acts 16:31
Sinner's Repentance	Luke 13:3
Sinner's Confession	Romans 10:10
Sinner's Baptism	1 Peter 3:21
Christian's Work	James 2:24
Christian's Hope	Romans 8:24
Christian's Endurance	Revelation 2:10

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Words to Consider

“Thus saith the LORD, Let not the wise man glory in his wisdom, neither let the mighty man glory in his might, let not the rich man glory in his riches: But let him that glorieth glory in this, that he understandeth and knoweth me, that I am the LORD which exercise lovingkindness, judgment, and righteousness in the earth: for in these things I delight, saith the LORD.” –Jeremiah 9:23-24

Prayer List

Holly G
Barb A
Harold B (Prostate Cancer)
Sandy S (Foot Injury)
Betty P
Mabel H
Norma's Grandson, Ryan (Head Injury)
Cheryl S (Breast Cancer)
Norma C (Injuries from fall)
Jerry G (Throat Cancer)
Mattie B (Leukemia)
Tom B (Pancreatic Cancer)
Linda & Family
Dody G
Joe B (Lung Cancer)
Allen S (Cancer)
Jeanette & Family
Raymond B

Daily Bible Reading

Nov. 18 – Jeremiah 51-52; Hebrews 9
Nov. 19 – Lament. 1-2; Hebrews 10:1-18
Nov. 20 – Lament. 3-5; Hebrews 10:19-39
Nov. 21 – Ezekiel 1-2; Hebrews 11:1-19
Nov. 22 – Ezekiel 3-4; Hebrews 11:20-40
Nov. 23 – Ezekiel 5-7; Hebrews 12
Nov. 24 – Ezekiel 8-10; Hebrews 13

“Your Word is a lamp to my feet, and a light for my path.” –Psalm 119:105

Prayer Leaders

Sunday, November 18, 2018

Bible Study: Carlyle

Worship: Roger

Evening: Steve

Wednesday, November 21, 2018

Mike

Cleaning Building

Paula

Prepare Communion

Jessica

Upcoming Reminders

Nov. 24: Ladies' Bible Class @ 9:30 a.m.

Assignments

Sunday, November 25, 2018

Reading: Dan H

Announcements: Dave

Table: Mark

Serve: Harold

Mason

Roger

John

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

Invitation: Mike

Anniversaries

November 20 - Mike & Rowena

Birthdays

November 20 - Patsy

November 21 - Tretyn

November 25 - Mason

November 27 - Roger