

“YOUR SPEECH BETRAYS YOU!”



Introduction

- ◎ The night Jesus was betrayed (Matt. 26) ...
 - *31 Then Jesus said to them, “All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night ... 33 Peter answered and said to Him, “Even if all are made to stumble because of You, I will never be made to stumble.” 34 Jesus said to him, “Assuredly, I say to you that this night, before the rooster crows, you will deny Me three times. ...*
 - *58 But Peter followed Him at a distance to the high priest’s courtyard. And he went in and sat with the servants to see the end.*

Introduction

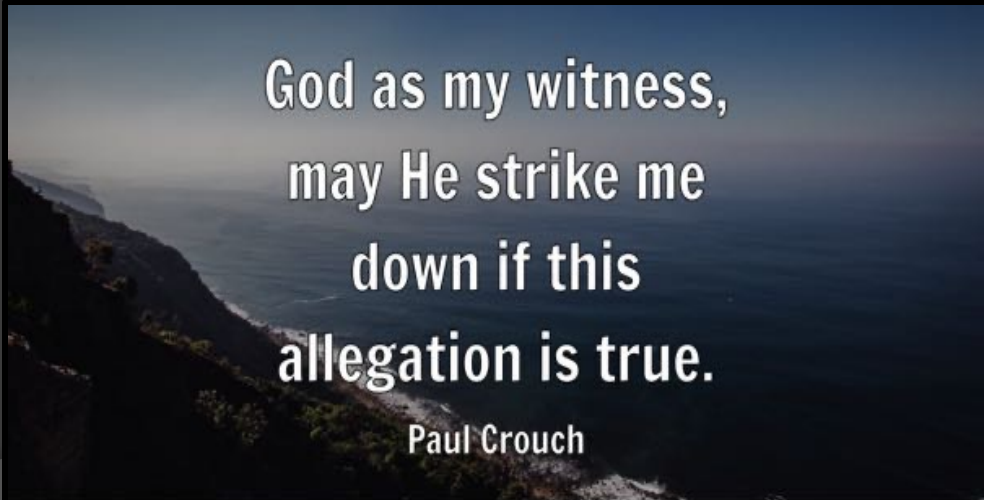


Introduction

- *69 Now Peter sat outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came to him, saying, “You also were with Jesus of Galilee.” 70 But he denied it before them all, saying, “I do not know what you are saying.” 71 And when he had gone out to the gateway, another girl saw him and said to those who were there, “This fellow also was with Jesus of Nazareth.” 72 But again he denied with an oath, “I do not know the Man!”*
- *73 And a little later those who stood by came up and said to Peter, “Surely you also are one of them, **for your speech betrays you.**” 74 Then he began to curse and swear, saying, “I do not know the Man!”*

Introduction

- ◎ Peter's regional dialect/pronunciation
 - Mark 14:70 *"Surely you are one of them; for you are a Galilean, and your speech shows it."*
- ◎ *"...curse and swear"*
 - *"to vehemently declare one's self liable to the severest divine penalties ... to declare anathema or accursed"*
 - *"to affirm, promise, threaten, with an oath; in swearing to call a person or thing as witness, to invoke, swear by"*



God as my witness,
may He strike me
down if this
allegation is true.

Paul Crouch

Introduction

- ◎ Jesus is “Lord”, we are His “disciples”
 - What we do, where we go, what we wear, **what we say**, what we think, etc.
- ◎ James 1:26
 - *“If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one’s religion is useless.”*
- ◎ James 3:2ff
 - *“a fire”, “an unruly evil, full of deadly poison”, untamable*
- ◎ Psm. 64:2-3 *“a sword”*



Contrasts

Teaching

- Col. 4:6 *“Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one.”*
- 1 Pet. 3:15 *“always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear;”*

Gossip/slander

- Prov. 26:20-21 a *“talebearer”*
- Prov. 16:28 *“A perverse man sows strife, And a whisperer separates the best of friends.”*
- Politicians, co-workers, social media



Contrasts

⦿ Encouragement

- Eph. 4:29 “*corrupt*” word vs. “... *what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers.*”
- Col. 3:16 “*teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs,*”

⦿ Complaining

- 1 Cor. 10:10 “*nor complain/murmur, as some of them also complained,...*”
- Phil. 2:14 “*Do all things without complaining and disputing,*”
- Jude 16 “*These are grumblers, complainers,*”



Contrasts

☉ Praise/thanks

- Heb. 13:15 “... *let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.*”
- Eph 5:20 “*giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,*”

☉ Anger/Cursing

- Eph 4:31 “*Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.*”
- James 1:19 “... *slow to speak, slow to wrath*”
- James 3:9 “...*curse men*” (to curse, doom, call for evil/calamity on them)

But no man can tame the tongue ... With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. — James 3:8-9

Contrasts

☉ Wholesome words

- Prov. 15:4 “A *wholesome tongue is a tree of life, But perverseness in it breaks the spirit.*”
- Prov. 16:24 “*Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, Sweetness to the soul and health to the bones.*”

☉ Profanity

- Eph. 4:29 “*...unwholesome/rotten*”
- Eph. 5:4 “*... vulgar joking*”
- Col.3:8 “*...obscene speech/ filthiness*”
- Euphemisms



Contrasts

◎ Truth

- Eph.4:25 *“Therefore, putting away lying, Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor, for we are members of one another.”*

◎ Lies

- Jer. 9:5 *“Everyone will deceive his neighbor, And will not speak the truth; They have taught their tongue to speak lies; ...”*
- Prov. 26:28 *“A lying tongue hates those who are crushed by it, And a flattering mouth works ruin.”*
- Jude 16 *“they mouth great swelling words, flattering people to gain advantage.”*



~~Lies~~
Truth

Contrasts

☉ Humility

- Titus 3:2 *“to speak evil of no one, to be peaceable, gentle, showing all humility to all men.”*
- 1 Pet. 5:5 *“Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.””*

☉ Boasting

- Psm. 5:5 *“The boastful shall not stand in your sight...”*
- James 4:16 *“But now you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.”*



And More Involving Our Speech?

◎ 1 Cor. 3:3

- *“For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?”*

◎ 2 Cor. 12:20

- *“I fear that there may be discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, slander, gossip, arrogance and disorder.”*

◎ Mark 7:21-23

- *“For from within, out of the heart of man, come ... deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”*

And More Involving Our Speech?

◎ Gal. 5:19-23

- *“19 Now the works of the flesh are evident, which are: adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lewdness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatred, contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, dissensions, heresies, 21 envy, murders, drunkenness, revelries, and the like; of which I tell you beforehand, just as I also told you in time past, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.”*

Conclusion

◎ Psm. 141:3

- *Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.*

◎ Matt. 12:34-37

- *“For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. ... But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. 37 For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”*



Conclusion

"THERE IS A TIME FOR EVERYTHING, AND
A SEASON FOR EVERYTHING UNDER THE
HEAVENS...**A TIME TO BE SILENT** AND A
TIME TO SPEAK."

Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7



