

More Power: Power of the Spoken Word

Wylie United Methodist Church

Pastor Jeff Hatcher – June 26, 2016

James 3:3-10

3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. 4 Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go. 5 Likewise the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. 6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole person, sets the whole course of his life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. 7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and creatures of the sea are being tamed and have been tamed by man, 8 but no man can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. 9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in God's likeness. 10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers, this should not be.

With words...

1. GOD DISPLAYS HIS POWER

Gen. 1 (God spoke the universe into existence)

"And God said... Let there be..."

Jer 30:22 (God declares His everlasting covenant with us)

[God said] "... you will be my people, and I will be your God."

Luke 5:13 (Jesus healed with words)

[Jesus said] "Be clean!" And immediately the leprosy left him.

John 8:11 (Jesus showed mercy with words)

[Jesus said] "... neither do I condemn you,"

John 11:43-44 (Jesus raised the dead with words)

43 Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44 The dead man came out..

John 19:30 (Jesus reconciled us to God with words)

Jesus said, "It is finished."

With words...

2. OUR HEART IS REVEALED

Matt 12:34

Out of the overflow of the heart the mouth speaks.

With words...

3. OUR SALVATION IS DECLARED

Rom 10:9-10

9 That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

With words...

4. OUR PRAISE IS PROCLAIMED

Psa 34:1

I will extol the Lord at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.

Heb 13:15

Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise — the fruit of lips that confess his name.