

## **Life & Death, Blessing or Cursing;**

Shavuot Is the Appointed Time to Begin Actively Training & Taming our Tongue

By Messianic Rabbi Ed Rothman

- 1. At Shavuot G-d wanted to enter into a covenant with His people to make us a Kingdom of Priests and a Holy People.** Exodus 19:5-25 > 1 Peter 2:9-12 & Acts 2:1-11
  - Rev. 1:5b – To Him who loves us and has washed us from our sins by His own blood and made us a kingdom of priests to serve G-d His Father.
    - Priests **speak** to G-d to us on behalf of G-d & **speak** to G-d on behalf of us.
- 2. Isaiah's first reaction when being confronted with the glorious presence of G-d was to repent for the unclean speech of himself and his people.** Isaiah 6:1-7
- 3. Our Tongue is the outlet of our heart and when unrestrained grieves the Spirit of G-d.**
  - Matthew 12:33-37 – Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.
  - Ephesians 4:29-5:2 – When we speak corrupt words it grieves the Spirit of G-d.
- 4. Our Tongue has creative power and is a force for either good or evil**  
Proverbs 18:20-21 – From *the fruit of his mouth*, a man's stomach is filled.  
With *the harvest from or produce of his lips* he is satisfied.  
*Death and life are in the power of the tongue*, and those who love it *will eat its fruit*.
  - Pro. 12:14 – A man will be satisfied with good by the fruit of his mouth (or his words).
- 5. Our Tongue is the most difficult member of our body to Train / Tame**  
James 3:1-13 – If we learn to control our tongue we are demonstrating true spiritual maturity and the kind of Messiah-likeness that attracts the anointing of G-d's power and presence.
- 6. The Book of Proverbs instructs us concerning the proper use or abuse of our tongue.**
  - Pro. 10:11-13a – The mouth of the righteous is a well of life. But the mouth of the wicked conceals violence. Hatred stirs up strife, but love covers all sins. Wisdom is found on the lips of him who has understanding
  - Pro. 10:18-19, 20a & 21a – Whoever hides hatred has lying lips, and whoever spreads slander is a fool.
    - In the multitude of words, sin is not lacking, but he who restrains his tongue is wise. The tongue of the wise is like choice silver. The lips of the righteous feed & guide many.
  - Pro. 11:13 – A talebearer reveals secrets, but he who is of a faithful spirit conceals a matter.
  - Pro. 12:13 & 18-19 – The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his lips. But the righteous will come through (and out of) trouble.
    - There is one who speaks like the piercing of a sword, but the tongue of the wise promotes health, bringing healing. The truthful lip shall be established forever, but a lying tongue is but for a moment.
  - Pro. 15:1-2a, 4 & 23 – A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. The tongue of the wise uses knowledge properly.
    - A gentle, wholesome tongue (with its healing power) is a tree of life, but perverseness in it breaks the spirit.
    - A man has joy by the answer of his mouth, and a word spoken in due season (at the right moment), how good it is!

- Pro. 16:23-24 & 32 – The heart of the wise teaches his mouth, and adds learning to his lips. Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweet to the soul and health to the bones.
    - He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his own spirit than he who takes a city.
  - Pro. 17:14 & 27-28 – The beginning of strife is like when water first trickles (from a crack in a dam); therefore stop contention before it becomes worse and a quarrel starts.
    - He who has knowledge spares his words, and a man of understanding is of a calm spirit. Even a fool is counted wise when he holds his peace; when he keep his mouth shut he is considered perceptive, a man of understanding.
    - Pro. 18:7 – A fool’s mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul.
    - Pro. 25:11-12 – A word fitly spoken (the right words at the right time) is like apples of gold in settings of silver. Like an earring or ornament of fine gold, is a wise reproof to a listening and obedient ear.
7. **The Book of Psalms has some powerful gems for us to meditate on. Make them prayers for the consecration of your lips / mouth / tongue unto the L-RD.**
- Psa. 17:3b – I have purposed that my mouth shall not transgress.
  - Psa. 19:14 – Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be acceptable in Your sight; O L-RD, my Rock of strength and my Redeemer.
  - Psa. 34:1 – I will bless the L-RD at all times; His praise shall continually be in my mouth.
  - Psa. 39:1 – I said, “I will guard my ways, lest I sin with my tongue; I will restrain my mouth with a muzzle, while the wicked are before me.”
  - Psa. 141:3 - Set a guard, O L-RD, over my mouth; keep a watch over the door of my lips.
8. **Commit yourself to resolve conflict with a humble heart, in the fear of Almighty G-d.**
- Matthew 18:1-19 – Whoever humbles himself as a little child is greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven.
  - 1 Corinthians 11:27-32 – Not discerning the L-RD’s body, many are weak & sickly among us, and many have died.
  - Galatians 6:1-3 & 7-9 – You which are spiritual restore someone overtaken in a trespass in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. G-d is not mocked; whatever we sow, that is what we are going to reap.
  - 1 Peter 3:8-12 – Not returning evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but rather a blessing, knowing that you were called to this, that you may inherit a blessing
9. **Steps to freedom from the sins of our tongue – Reversing the Curse with Blessings**
- **Recognize** - Accept responsibility for allowing your tongue to be an instrument for evil.
  - **Repent** (Change your mind, agree with G-d, have godly sorrow) for the sins of our tongue against ourselves or others.
  - **Renounce** (To give up, reject, disown) the sins of our tongue and any curses we may have spoken against ourselves or others.
  - **Revoke** (To annul, cancel, withdraw, reverse and recall) any negative words or curses you have spoken against yourself or others.
  - **Replace / Restore** – Meditate on the Affirmations / Declarations of the Exchanged Life by Messianic Rabbi Ed & Rebbetsen Alberta