



F. Y. C.

For Your Consideration

❖ SEPTEMBER 2018 ❖

Words Spoken Reveal One's True Character

HOW ONE TALKS — WHAT ONE SAYS — WHEN ONE SPEAKS

HOW

*Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt,
so that you will know how you should respond to each person.*

Colossians 4:6

*There is one who speaks rashly like the thrusts of a sword,
But the tongue of the wise brings healing.*

Proverbs 12:18

WHAT

*Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth each one of you
With his neighbor, for we are members of one another.*

Ephesians 4:25

He who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets, Therefore do not associate with a gossip.

Proverbs 20:19

WHEN

Like apples of gold in settings of silver is a word spoken in right circumstances.

Proverbs 25:11

A time to tear apart and a time to sew together; A time to be silent and a time to speak.

Ecclesiastes 3:7

WORDS

They originate in the heart and mind.

"The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth what is evil; for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart."

Luke 6:45

They are used as evidence in judgment.

"But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

Matthew 12:36-37

**Succinctly
Put**

Self Control — *the most challenging form of control.*

MEMORIALS

In Washington DC, there are monuments dedicated to individuals, such as George Washington, Abraham Lincoln, Thomas Jefferson, and others. But one memorial is most impressive: the Vietnam War Memorial Wall. It is a wall with over 58,000 names of dead and missing soldiers who died while serving their country. These are the names of those who gave the ultimate sacrificial gift.

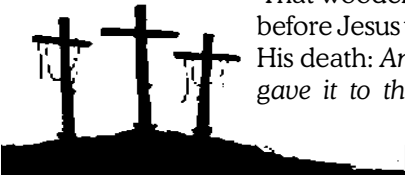
While visiting the memorial, I observed someone looking for the name of a loved one. Once found, he began tracing the name onto a piece of paper. What an emotional moment. What an act of appreciation. What a moving demonstration of love.

But that memorial with all those names pales by comparison to another name that was inscribed years ago. That name was inscribed, not on a wall, not on a monument, and not on a headstone. It was written on a cross—in Hebrew, Greek, and Latin—for all to read: “JESUS THE NAZARENE, THE KING OF THE JEWS.” Jesus, God’s only Son, who took on the form of man to become the sacrificial Lamb that takes away the sins of the world.

Jesus died. No! He was crucified! He gave His life that you and I might be reconciled to God. It was a dreadful sight: Nailed to a cross between two thieves. Bystanders mocking. His mother watching. What agony. What excruciating pain. But most of all, what love. Love for all mankind.

CALVARY (Golgotha)*

That wooden cross is gone. The place where He was crucified is uncertain. But before Jesus was crucified, He gave His disciples directions on how to remember His death: *And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.”* Luke 22:19-20.



MAY WE NEVER FORGET

“This do in remembrance of me.”

On the first day of the week as His followers we partake of the bread and the fruit of the vine in remembrance of His great sacrifice and His love for you and me. What a solemn occasion. What an act of appreciation. What a moving demonstration of love!

For while we were still helpless, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will hardly die for a righteous man; though perhaps for the good man someone would dare even to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 5:6-8

Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!

2 Corinthians 9:15



* —

Golgotha— The name of the place where Jesus was crucified. It is interpreted by Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, as meaning “the place of a skull.” This name represents in Greek letters the Aramaic word *Gulgaltha*.

Calvary is not found in the Greek text. It is derived from the Latin word for skull, *Calvarius*. Most all of today’s translations do not contain the word.

Be On Guard (1)

Therefore, beloved, since you look for these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, spotless and blameless, and regard the patience of our Lord to be salvation; just as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given him, wrote to you, as also in all his letters, **speaking in them of these things, in which are some things hard to understand, which the untaught and unstable distort, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures, to their own destruction.** You therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, be on your guard lest, being carried away by the error of unprincipled men, you fall from your own steadfastness, but grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. 2 Peter 3:14-18

[bold face emphasis mine]

AN AGE-OLD PROBLEM

Misunderstanding

Nicodemus (he who came to Him before, being one of them) said to them, "Our Law does not judge a man unless it first hears from him and knows what he is doing, does it?" They answered him, "You are not also from Galilee, are you? Search, and see that no prophet arises out of Galilee." John 7:50-52

Misusing

Then the devil took Him into the holy city and had Him stand on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written, 'HE WILL COMMAND HIS ANGELS CONCERNING YOU'; and 'ON THEIR HANDS THEY WILL BEAR YOU UP, SO THAT YOU WILL NOT STRIKE YOUR FOOT AGAINST A STONE.'" Matthew 4:5-6

Misquoting

So Peter seeing him said to Jesus, "Lord, and what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you? You follow Me!" Therefore this saying went out among the brethren that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but only, "If I want him to remain until I come, what is that to you?" John 21:21-23

Questioning

Was it from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only? If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment. 1 Corinthians 14:36-37

FOUR WAYS IN WHICH SCRIPTURES ARE HANDLED

Sincerely, but misunderstood.

Diligently, but for support of pre-conceived beliefs.

The desire to create support for beliefs gives birth to "proof-texting."
(The basis for the saying, "You can prove anything by the Bible.")

Abused (dishonest, self-deluded) knowingly misuse and twist Scriptures.

Honest and sincere inquiry; wherein one is willing to accept what is written (setting aside previously held beliefs or notions).

— CONTINUED



Ponder This Love

It's easier to love humanity as a whole than to love those we encounter on a daily basis.

If someone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for the one who does not love his brother whom he has seen, cannot love God whom he has not seen.

1 John 4:20



Love is the glue that holds relationships together; jealousy causes them to become unstuck.

Love is patient, love is kind, and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant, does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered.

1 Corinthians 13:4-5

Wrath is fierce and anger is a flood, but who can stand before jealousy?

Proverbs 27:4



It's much easier to demonstrate love than it is to define it.

Little children, let us not love with word or with tongue, but in deed and truth.

1 John 3:18

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, entreat you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, showing forbearance to one another in love.

Ephesians 4:1-2

HYPERBOLE

A figure of speech in which exaggeration is used for emphasis or effect.

– American Heritage Dictionary

Through the Eye of a Needle

"Again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were very astonished and said,

"Then who can be saved?"

Matthew 19:24-25

The preceding verses (16-23) mention a young rich ruler who said, *"All these things [the commandments] I have kept; what am I still lacking?"* He went away sorrowful, being unwilling to part with his treasures for "treasures in heaven."

The contrast between the small size of the needle's eye and the largest indigenous animal is to be preserved for its very improbability. Jesus' hearers believed that wealth and prosperity were a sign of God's blessing (cf. Leviticus and Deuteronomy). So their disbelief is more along the lines that, "if the rich, who must be seen as righteous by God by their evident blessing, can't be saved, who can be?"

–Roberts Word Studies & various other sources

Jesus' answer: *And looking at them Jesus said to them, "With people this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."* Ibid. verse 26

RICHES: BLESSING OR HINDRANCE?

Wealth and prosperity are not a factor in obtaining salvation. They may even deter it. One blessed with wealth must be careful not to let it become a stumbling block. Salvation is based on one's faith in Jesus, God's anointed Son. The rich and poor are saved by putting their trust in Jesus and obeying Him.

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