

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 02 Sept ..... Galatians 1:1-24 ..... True Gospel
- 2) 09 Sept ..... Galatians 2:1-21 ..... True Grace
- 3) 16 Sept ..... Galatians 3:1-22 ..... True Life
- 4) 23 Sept ..... Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-7 ..... True Heirs
- 5) 30 Sept ..... Galatians 4:8-31 ..... True Freedom
- 6) 07 Oct ..... Galatians 5:1-26 ..... True Fruit
- 7) 14 Oct ..... Galatians 6:1-18 ..... True Compassion
- 8) 21 Oct ..... James 1:1-18 ..... With Perseverance
- 9) 28 Oct ..... James 1:19-27 ..... With Obedience
- 10) 04 Nov ..... James 2:1-26 ..... With Works
- 11) 11 Nov ..... James 3:1-18 ..... With Control**
- 12) 18 Nov ..... James 4:1-17 ..... With Submission
- 13) 25 Nov ..... James 5:1-20 ..... With Anticipation

**INTRODUCTION**

James chapter 3 deals with the following issues:

1. Don't be too quick to jump into teaching/leadership roles
2. Take control of our tongue to encourage, not to disparage
3. Seek godly wisdom to successfully sail through life's storms

Passage	Comments
James 3:1	<p><b>Let Not Many of You Be Teachers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It makes sense for most of us to be the arms &amp; legs, hands &amp; feet of Jesus who are led by a fewer no. of astute, qualified, faithful, experienced, and god-fearing servant/teachers (pastors/elders) that lead by example</li> <li>• God's Church should constantly be growing, and therefore, always in need of more qualified teachers, teachers who take their teaching seriously, realizing they are open to higher scrutiny and accountability</li> <li>• Why such importance to this ministry of teaching?</li> <li>• <b>Realize this.</b> Teachers/Elders who teach &amp; lead well are open to receive the "Crown of Glory" .... <b>1Pet 5:2-4</b></li> <li>• Recall Moses' hierarchical structure as recommended by his father-in-law, Jethro, to manage the masses.                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Ex 18:21</b> "...place [God-fearing men] over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens"</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**Ideal Christian Model (Funnel)**

▲ **The Pyramid.** In the typical business model, the CEO pushes his demands, which often get mistranslated, down to the workforce, and only a few workers are able to claw their way to the top.

▼ **The Funnel.** In the Christian model, Servant/Teachers lead by example, and qualified Christians who are faithful and experienced servants become teachers after thoughtful consideration.

3:2-12	<p><b>The Tongue Is Often Key to Success or Failure</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What we say divulges our true heart</li> <li>• Are we known for praises or curses? For encouragement or criticism? For love or hate?</li> </ul>
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Passage	Comments		
	<p><b>How should we control our tongue?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• James doesn't explain how we should control our tongue. except to pray for wisdom ..... <b>James 1:5</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Therefore, everyone's situation is different, and God expects each of us to discipline ourselves, rely on Him, &amp; be fully accountable for every word we utter</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Remember This.</b> Even a fool is considered wise when he keeps his mouth shut! ..... <b>Prov 17:28</b></li> </ul>		
3:13-15	<p><b>Wise Believers Exhibit Godly Behavior</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wise believers know God's word &amp; obey without delay</li> <li>• And wise believers are widely known by others                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Those who fear God rejoice when they see a wise, mature, god-fearing servant/teacher ..... <b>Ps 119:74</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
3:16-17	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>True Wisdom Comes from Above (God)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is Pure, Peaceable,</li> <li>• Gentle, Merciful,</li> <li>• Reasonable, Impartial,</li> <li>• Sincere, and</li> <li>• Produces Good Fruit</li> </ul> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>In Contrast, Man's Wisdom Comes from Self or Satan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It exhibits Jealousy,</li> <li>• Selfish Ambition,</li> <li>• Disorder, and</li> <li>• Every Evil Thing</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>True Wisdom Comes from Above (God)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is Pure, Peaceable,</li> <li>• Gentle, Merciful,</li> <li>• Reasonable, Impartial,</li> <li>• Sincere, and</li> <li>• Produces Good Fruit</li> </ul>	<p><b>In Contrast, Man's Wisdom Comes from Self or Satan</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It exhibits Jealousy,</li> <li>• Selfish Ambition,</li> <li>• Disorder, and</li> <li>• Every Evil Thing</li> </ul>
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3:18	<p><b>Blessed are the Peacemakers (Sons of God) .. <b>Mat 5:9</b></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "And those who are peacemakers will plant seeds of peace and reap a harvest of righteousness" (NLT)                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ How is this done?</li> <li>♦ Does Peacemaking involve compromise?</li> <li>♦ Is Peacemaking unity at all costs?</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Know This.</b> Unity at all cost is not a biblical concept. We should not compromise with evil intent.</li> </ul>		

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**

- Biblical teaching is a difficult job because the main tool of the ministry is the hardest part of the body to control → the Tongue
  - ♦ Those who control their tongue are able to control their whole body
- James shows how Christian teachers measure the importance of their words, and how believers realize the influence of their words.
- May we learn quickly that our words should be few (**Pr 10:19**, **Ecc 5:2**) and well thought out before uttering them (**Jms 1:19**).

**NEXT WEEK: James 4.** There is only one thing worse than being a miserable sinner – It is being a miserable saint. More proverbial statements from dealing with quarrels, how to resist the Devil, proper humility, judging others, and to be happy, we must first be remorseful.

