

LESSONS THIS QUARTER

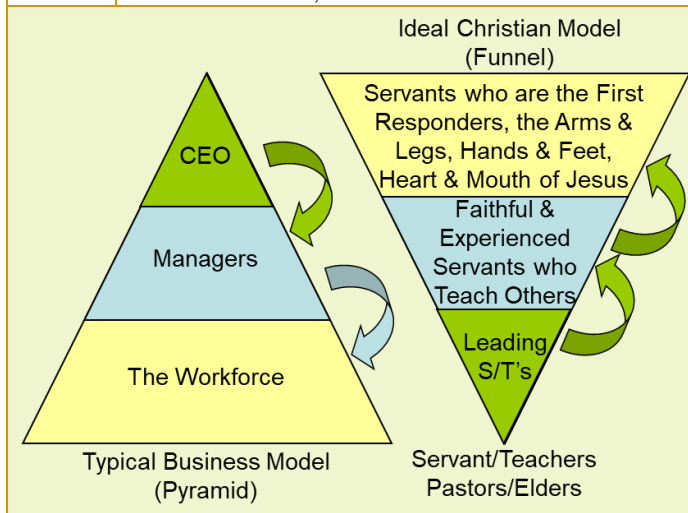
- 1) 02 Sept Galatians 1:1-24 True Gospel
- 2) 09 Sept Galatians 2:1-21 True Grace
- 3) 16 Sept Galatians 3:1-22 True Life
- 4) 23 Sept Galatians 3:23-29; 4:1-7 True Heirs
- 5) 30 Sept Galatians 4:8-31 True Freedom
- 6) 07 Oct Galatians 5:1-26 True Fruit
- 7) 14 Oct Galatians 6:1-18 True Compassion
- 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>Let Not Many of You Be Teachers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It makes sense for most of us to be the arms & legs, hands & 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 • 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 • Why such importance to this ministry of teaching? • Realize this. Teachers/Elders who teach & lead well are open to receive the "Crown of Glory" 1Pet 5:2-4 • Recall Moses' hierarchical structure as recommended by his father-in-law, Jethro, to manage the masses. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ♦ Ex 18:21 "...place [God-fearing men] over them, to be rulers of thousands, and rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens"



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

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.

