



YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL!

What God says about what you say

IN Favor video teaching series

#5. PROVERBS 18:21

“The tongue has the power of life and death, and those who love it will eat its fruit.”

The Good News Bible translates our verse, “What you say can preserve life or destroy it; so you must accept the consequences of your words.” And *the Message* paraphrases it, “Words kill, words give life; they’re either poison or fruit—you choose.”

Similar references

Proverbs 12:14 From the fruit of his lips a man is filled with good things as surely as the work of his hands rewards him.

Proverbs 18:20 From the fruit of his mouth a man's stomach is filled; with the harvest from his lips he is satisfied.

Proverbs 12:13 An evil man is trapped by his sinful talk, but a righteous man escapes trouble.

Proverbs 13:3 He who guards his lips guards his life, but he who speaks rashly will come to ruin.



He who sows with his lips shall reap an abundant harvest, whether of sin unto death, or of righteousness unto life. Words seldom fall idly to the ground. Uttered often in thoughtlessness, they take root in congenial soil and come to fruition most unexpectedly. Often has a chance word, dropped casually to a stranger, been the means of untold blessing, rejoicing the soul of the one who uttered it, when at last he is apprised of its blessed result ... But if the words be evil, the harvest is just as certain; and it is well known that weeds and noxious plants will flourish where nourishing fruits and grains cannot come to perfection. The man of unholy lips shall find abundant result from his reckless words, and shall as truly as the other “eat the fruit thereof.” *H. A. Ironside*

Those who love it refers to people who love to talk or express their opinions. *Will eat its fruits* means “will pay the price of their much talking,” “will be faced with the consequences of what they say.” It is not stated whether this will be good or bad, but it is probably a warning that it will be bad. *UBS Handbook*

There is however a certain playfulness of paradox in the form of a statement. The man’s belly is to be filled, not, as is usual, by what he puts into his mouth, but by what comes out of it. *TBC*

THINK ABOUT IT ...



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