



# YOUR WORDS ARE POWERFUL!

What God says about what you say

IN Favor video teaching series

## #1. "SPEAKING IS AN IMPORTANT GIFT FROM GOD"

*The first specific action recorded in the Bible (following the assertion that God has created all things) is speech—God's speech (Genesis 1:3) ... The last act of God recorded in Scripture is, like the first, speech: "He who testifies to these things says, 'Yes, I am coming soon'" (Rev 22:20). <sup>ISBE, "Speech"</sup>*

It is mentioned first and last, and in between it occurs so many times it would be difficult to count them: Imagine searching in the Bible for every occurrence of all forms of words like ...

- talk, speak, say, tell, discuss,
- word, message, conversation
- declare, announce, proclaim, recite
- rebuke, admonish, correct, command, demand, order
- teach, instruct, counsel, encourage, advise, suggest
- pray, ask, request, implore
- thank, praise, sing, shout, bless, call
- tongue, lips, mouth
- vow, oath, swear
- curse, quarrel, argue, insult
- boast, brag, gossip, slander, whisper, lie
- criticize, complain, flatter
- answer, reply, witness, testify
- and many more!



### Not everyone or everything has it

*Exodus 4:11 The LORD said to him, "Who gave man his mouth? Who makes him deaf or mute? Who gives him sight or makes him blind? Is it not I, the LORD?"*

*Psalms 115:4 But their idols are silver and gold, made by the hands of men. <sup>5</sup> They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but they cannot see;*

*1 Corinthians 12:2 You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols.*

The silence and consequent impotence of the false gods described in the OT (1 Kings 18:26-29) dramatizes the difference between them and the true, speaking God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; likewise the NT even more dramatically differentiates between the Word of God incarnate in Jesus Christ and the unspeaking false gods (Acts 17:22-31; Romans 1:19-23) ... <sup>ISBE, "Speech"</sup>

### It is a blessing when God gives it

*Isaiah 35:6 Then will the lame leap like a deer, and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.*

*Matthew 9:32 While they were going out, a man who was demon-possessed and could not talk was brought to Jesus. <sup>33</sup> And when the demon was driven out, the man who had been mute spoke. The crowd was amazed and said, "Nothing like this has ever been seen in Israel."*

*Matthew 15:30 Great crowds came to him, bringing the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute and many others, and laid them at his feet; and he healed them. <sup>31</sup> The people were amazed*

*when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled made well, the lame walking and the blind seeing. And they praised the God of Israel.*

*Mark 7:37 People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well," they said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."*

The power of speech is one of the greatest powers God has given us. With the tongue, man can praise God, pray, preach the Word, and lead the lost to Christ. What a privilege! But with that same tongue he can tell lies that could ruin a man's reputation or break a person's heart. The ability to speak words is the ability to influence others and accomplish tremendous tasks; and yet we take this ability for granted. *Warren Wiersbe*

### God has reasons for giving it to us

*Hebrews 13:15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that confess his name.*

*Psalm 34:1 I will extol the LORD at all times; his praise will always be on my lips.*

*Psalm 35:28 My tongue will speak of your righteousness and of your praises all day long.*

*Psalm 51:15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.*

*1 Peter 2:9 But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.*

*Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*

*Deuteronomy 8:10 When you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.*

*Psalm 100:4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name.*

*Psalm 118:28 You are my God, and I will give you thanks; you are my God, and I will exalt you. <sup>29</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever.*

*Colossians 2:7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.*

*1 Thessalonians 5:17 pray continually; <sup>18</sup> give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.*

*Romans 14:11 It is written: " 'As surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.' "*

*Also 1 Chronicles 16:4, 8-9, 34-36; Psalm 118:1, 19, 21; Joel 2:26; Mark 8:6-7*

Scripture is clear that God created the power of speech in its fullness in Adam and Eve, and that speech constituted an essential dimension of their reflection of God's image (Gen 1:27). *ISBE, "Speech"*

### THINK ABOUT IT ...



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