

Series: SINGLE-MINDED PEOPLE ARE BLESSED

SINGLE MINDED PEOPLE ARE BLESSED WITH “Tongues of Wisdom!”

James 3

¹ My brethren, let not many of you become teachers, knowing that we shall receive a stricter judgment. 1 Corinthians 12:29; Matthew 12:34-37

² For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.

Can the tongue really have total control over our lives?

James 3

³ Indeed, we put bits in horses' mouths that they may obey us, and we turn their whole body.

⁴ Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires.

⁵ Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things.
See how great a forest a little fire kindles!

⁶ And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

The Corona Virus doesn't affect everyone, but the tongue does.

⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind.

^{8a} But no man can tame the tongue.

We can conquer the Corona Virus with a promised vaccine and proper hygiene, but we cannot conquer the tongue in our own strength.

^{8b} It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.

The Corona Virus isn't deadly for everyone, but the tongue is.

⁹ With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God.

¹⁰ Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

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¹¹ Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening?

¹² Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus, no spring yields both salt water and fresh.

Teachers talk a lot in the Church and must understand the difference between wisdom from God and wisdom from self and Satan.

James 3

¹³ Who is wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct that his works are done in the meekness of wisdom.

¹⁴ **But** if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth.

¹⁵ This wisdom does not descend from above, but is earthly, sensual, demonic.

Bitter envy - Earthly – Bitter that your treasure here on earth is not as great as others.

Self-seeking - Sensual – focusing on yourself and fulfilling desires and lusts.

Boast and lie against truth - Demonic – believing the lies of demons.

James 3

¹⁶ For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.

¹⁷ **But** the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy.

¹⁸ Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

Is your tongue empowered with Godly wisdom and doing good?

Psalms 34:12-14

Next Steps This Week:

1. I will be honest concerning the destructive force of a self-directed tongue.
2. I will study how wisdom from below affects my tongue and my behavior.
3. I will cry out to God for my life to be controlled by the Holy Spirit so that my tongue glorifies Him in all I say and do.