

## The Pride that Blinds

Nebuchadnezzar, a Babylonian king during the time of the prophet Daniel, was made insane for seven years because of his pride, and had remained so until he realized in a humble way that God is the one who is in control. Pride had caused him to glory only in himself and, thus, he did not give God any of the credit for his kingly reign and accomplishments, when all the while it was because of the Lord that he had that exalted position of power.

In **Acts 12:21-23**, we find a NT example of one who also became arrogant and would not attribute his abilities to God. It reads: "And on an appointed day, Herod, having put on his royal apparel, took his seat on the rostrum and began delivering an address to them. And the people kept crying out, 'The voice of a god and not of a man!' And immediately an angel of the Lord struck him because he did not give God the glory, and he was eaten by worms and died."

By Tom Edwards

We should thank God for all our good abilities, realizing that He has made it possible for us to have such.

It's pride that tells a man that he doesn't need God. It's pride that keeps one from the humbleness it takes to accept the way of salvation. It's pride that can give a person a false sense of security: a feeling that he has no need for the Savior. Solomon wisely wrote in **Prov. 16:18**, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall."

May it be our desire to humble ourselves before the Lord and simply take Him at His word--never allowing pride to blind our vision from God's humble way of righteousness.



Brad Marshall (Allie Hosey's Cousin)	Owen Mauldin (Seth and Summer Mauldin's Son)	Frank Hand (Laura Humphrey's dad)	Sandlyn Fultz (Davis Fultz's Sister)
Gloria Detmer and Carol Dickerson (Toni Herd's Sisters)	Don Lanier (Father of Greg Lanier)	David Hartsell (Holly and Brad's Father)	Kate Miller (Daughter of Brandon and Erin Miller)
Betty Mcareavey (Mary Ann Roberts' mom)	Kevin Simpson	Patsy Rhodes (Relative of Toni Herd)	Jerry Foropoulos (Anna Jean's Uncle)
Tom Davis (Walker Davis' Uncle)	Quinton Addison (April Jerkins Grandfather)	Danny Weldon (Rusty Weldon's brother)	Yolanda Stewart (Michael Bassie's Sister)
Gerald White (Christopher, Anna and Wesley's Father)	Austin Locke (Jeremiah Johnson's Grandfather)	Rebecca Davis (Chuck Hahn's Niece)	Camden, grandson of Steve Pruitt (friend of Greg Lanier)
John M. Rhodes and Bonnie Rhodes Kirkley (Toni Herd's family)	Joe Perkins (Scott Perkins' Dad)	Aubrey Meeks (Toni Herd's Nephew)	Johnny Richardson

### May Birthdays

- 1-Bethany Marchman
- 2-Taylor Bethea
- 2-Emily-Anne Rouse
- 3-Paula Davis
- 10-Ian Norman
- 10-Ryan Hasty
- 11-Scott Perkins
- 12-Daphene Whatley
- 12-Patrick Davis
- 13-Anna Grace Long
- 13-Jana Hall
- 13-Peyton Vines
- 15-Bryce Daniels
- 18-Ty Randolph
- 19-Madison Bradshaw
- 19- Amanda Graves
- 22-Sarah Holliday
- 24-Andy Roberts
- 25-Chuck Hahn
- 26-Fallon Hartsell
- 28-Barbara Weeks
- 28-Candy Long
- 31-Rachel Tolliver

### News and Notes

- ☑ - Lets keep in our prayers our expectant mother, Nicole Pender!
- ☑ - Ladies' class this Thursday 7:00 p.m. at Carmen Herd's house on "Heaven."
- ☑ - Elle Vaughn, baby daughter of Scott and Genna, continues to develop well!
- ☑ - Bob Simpson had 2 stents placed in his heart on Friday.
- ☑ - PARENTS: Please register your children for VBS online at [www.auchurch.com/vbs](http://www.auchurch.com/vbs).
- ☑ - Congratulations to those graduating from high school this month: Parker Godwin and Jude Hosey!
- ☑ - David Ogle is scheduled to have hip surgery this week.
- ☑ - We Extend sympathy to the family of Jacob Neeley in the loss of his grandmother, Pearl Kincaid this week.
- ☑ - Toni Herd's cousin, Pam Bailey, had successful back surgery.
- ☑ - Owen Mauldin continues in hospital in SC for nutrition and pain management.
- ☑ - Please pray for Joannetta's uncle/Ben Holcomb's grandfather, David Holcomb who was hospitalized for tests.
- ☑ - Please pray for Joannetta's sister-in-law, Audrey Burnett, who was diagnosed this week with cancer.

# The Auburn Beacon



Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. (**Matthew 5:16**)

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## The Tongue is Powerful

By Robert Buchanon



### Thoughts to Ponder

If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless. (**James 1:26**)

According to legend many years ago, there were an eagle and a turtle who became very good friends. They always traveled together on long trips. However, one day the turtle became very tired and informed the eagle that he could not make the return trip. They sat and tried to think of some way for the Robert Buchanon turtle to make the return journey.

Finally, the turtle had a bright idea. He said to the eagle, "You can fly and carry a stick in your claws and let me hold to the stick with my mouth." They tried it and it worked fine.

As they flew over a farm, two of the farmhands looked up and saw the unusual sight. One of the men said to the other, "That's a clever idea. I wonder if the eagle or the turtle thought of it?" The turtle, desiring to receive the praise, opened his mouth to say, "I did." You can figure out the rest of the story. Unable to bridle his tongue, the turtle met his death.

Four good questions we need to ask ourselves before we say anything about another person is:

- (1) Is it true?
- (2) Even if it is true, will it do any good to tell it?
- (3) Is it necessary?
- (4) Would I say it in the presence of that person?

thinketh himself to be religious, while he bridleth not his tongue but deceiveth his heart, this man's religion is vain" (**Jas. 1:26**). Jesus tells us if we use the tongue in an unsuitable fashion it can destroy us: "But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the Day of Judgment" (**Matt. 12:36**).

David wrote, "I said, I will take heed to my ways that I sin not with my tongue" (**Psa. 39:1**). There are many ways in which Christians can sin with the tongue.

### Talks Too Much

One misuse of the tongue is the fellow who talks too much. We say he "runs

(Continued on page 2)

### Elders

Walker Davis  
(334) 703-0050

Larry Rouse  
(334) 734-2133



### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES Sunday

Bible Class ..... 9:30 AM  
Worship ..... 10:20 AM  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 PM

### Wednesday

Bible Classes ..... 7:00 PM

### E-Mail:

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Larry Rouse  
Evangelist and Editor

### The Tongue's Power

The tongue is the cause of the spiritual death of many Christians. Have you ever really considered the power that the tongue possesses? Freedom of speech is a blessing. The gift of speech is a gift of God, but it is the will of God that a Christian bridle his tongue. James said, "If any man

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(Continued from page 1)

off at the mouth." The tongue is the only part of the human body that can run from morning till late hours of the night and never get tired. A writer in the Atlanta Constitution once put it: "We think too little, and talk too much, and often get ourselves in 'dutch.' And to quote the words of my old grandpa, 'You don't catch much till you close your trap!'"

### Talks Too Hastily

Also, many times in anger or disappointment we "fly off the handle." This is the fellow that talks too hastily. Many harsh words are often spoken that do not manifest the spirit of a true Christian. James said, "But let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak..." (**Jas. 1:19**). We need to be reminded of the cliché "Think twice before you speak." We often feel we need to "put in our two cents worth" and really speak our mind. If we do, God says we are a fool: "A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards" (**Prov. 29:11**).

### Unbridled Tongues

Preaching on gossip, false witness, and lying steps on the toes of some Christians concerning unbridled tongues. The apostle Paul said, "Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbor..." (**Eph. 4:25**). Lying is from Satan. **John 8:44** tells us "for he is a liar and the father of it." The ninth commandment stated, "Thou shall not bear false witness against thy neighbor." Solomon tells us that the Lord hates "a lying tongue" and "a false witness that speaketh lies" (**Prov. 6:17, 19**). These verses should guard the reputation of man from false testimony in court, Over-the-fence gossip, slander of a neighbor, or out and out lying.

Four good questions we need to ask ourselves before we say anything about another person is:

- (1) Is it true?
- (2) Even if it is true, will it do any good to tell it?
- (3) Is it necessary?
- (4) Would I say it in the presence of that person?

By truthfully answering these questions we might apply that all should be "swift to hear, and slow to speak." Bearing false witness robs one of his most valuable possessions, his good reputation. In **Rev.**

**21:8** liars are included in the list that "shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone ..."

### Profanity

Finally, and possibly one of the worst ways of sinning with the tongue is taking "the name of Jehovah thy God in vain." The Bible forbids us to use God's name in any way except with love and reverence for our Maker and Creator. Many Christians who would not dare think of cursing plainly use words that are euphemisms for curses. Such expressions are:

- (1) GOLLY--This is a euphemism for God. (2) GOSH--This, too, is a substitute for Sod.
- (3) GEE--This is a euphemistic contraction of Jesus.
- (4) DARN--This is a euphemism for the curse, damn.
- (5) The expression "MY LORDY" is repeating the name of the Lord in vain.

(6) And Christians cover their ears in shame when they hear "HELL" used in an oath. They show great concern but then turn right around and say "For heaven's sake." If anything, this is even worse. Jesus said, "And he that sweareth by the heaven, sweareth by the throne of God, and by him that sitteth thereon" (**Matt. 23:22**).

If you, dear reader, have been guilty of using such slang words, consider carefully before using them again. Have respect for the name of God.

### Conclusion

The gift of speech is wonderful and a gift of God, but it can be abused. The tongue is certainly powerful. "He that would love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile" (**1 Peter 3:10**).

**Truth Magazine - March 5, 1970**



# Revilers

By Eric Parker

### Complicating Factors in Language

Language is captivating! It is fluid and at times even volatile. In other words, it changes without notice and is always morphing in different ways. Think of the word "cool." The common definition of cool is fairly cold. However, subcultures within the United States during the 20th century began to redefine the word. The word has now taken on a separate definition typically meaning stylish or excellent. Another example can be seen in the work of Shakespeare. Did you know that Shakespeare created 2,000 words during his life and work?

As language is so fluid, we sometimes have difficulty defining words that were once commonly used. Nowhere is this more evident than in the vocabulary used in the Bible. A simple example would be meat as it is used in the KJV. When we think of meat, we typically think of the parts we ate that are taken from the carcasses of animals. However, meat once meant in a more general sense, food. There are also other complicating factors. Sometimes language is full of more technical jargon. A brief listing of some of these types of biblical words, found in nearly all versions of the Bible, would include atonement, sanctification, propitiation, etc.

My simple point is that we sometimes miss the meaning of important words used in the Bible and, therefore, miss out on the point the author is making.

### What is a Reviler?

A word commonly used in the Bible, and likewise commonly misunderstood, is the term "revile." To revile means to speak abusively towards and commonly indicates a profane manner of speech toward another individual (VINES). A common English dictionary defines it as a verbal attack with abusive language or, more simply, to insult. A reviler is one who speaks ill towards others and has a spirit of dissension. Revilers are commonly recognized by their bad attitude and ill will.

To give you an illustration of the sheer magnitude of this word, look to the book of Jude. Jude is a short book mainly focused on characterizing false teachers that had "crept in unnoticed." These same individuals are described as revilers of angelic majesties and revilers of things that they are ignorant of (**Jude 8, 10**). These revilers are identified as ungodly multiple times, as being ignorant, and as having no basis or recognition of Godly authority.

### The Destruction of a Reviler

In 2 Timothy 3, Paul gives a description of people who would arise during Timothy's ministry. These individuals would claim to be Christians, but their attitude would not align with that claim. Here, Paul gives one of the most distinguishing and in-depth descriptions of these individuals enumerating nearly 30 of their characteristics. These individuals would be bold and brash; they would use their claim to take advantage of others. They would be most noted for their conceit and arrogance, billowing themselves up while they break others down. They would be revilers. They would speak ill against others. They would have a bad attitude towards other Christians and they would allow small differences to be the source of contention.

Christians are told to control their tongues because of the damage and destruction that can be spread through words. James details this great destruction in his letter by stating, "See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity, the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by Hell" (**James 3:5b-6**). We commonly are told that "sticks and stones will break my bones, but words will never hurt me." Well, truth is, words do hurt or we wouldn't have to appeal to this little ditty so often. Words are crushing, discouraging, and disheartening. Therefore we are told to be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger because anger does not accomplish the righteousness of God (**James 1:19f**).

### We Cannot Be Revilers!

Today, I ask everyone who reads this article to look at these verses and make personal application. Are you the person that Paul is describing? Do you speak ill towards other Christians? Do you think before you speak or do you allow ill threats, nasty sarcasm, and disrespectful speech to pour forth freely from your lips? If so, remedy this wrong and change the way you speak to others. Be a source of encouragement in all areas and build others up! Don't make the mistake of failing to have an attitude that lines up with your claim of being a Christian.

