

The Terre Haute

SPEAKER

"If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God..." (1 Peter 4:11).

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MAINTAINING SELF-CONTROL

John Edwards

The apostle Paul said, in 1 Corinthians 9:27, *"But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway."* In order to bring our bodies into subjection to the Lord, we must maintain self-control. Self-control is a part of three vital areas of our lives: our thoughts, our words, and our actions.

OUR THOUGHTS. Paul tells us, in Romans 12:3, not to think too highly of ourselves, but to think soberly. Solomon said, in Proverbs 23:7, *"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he..."* From this passage, I ask the following questions: What are we filling our minds with? Do we spend all of our time watching television? What types of literature are we reading? What do we listen to on the radio? What are our friends telling us? In Philippians 4:8, Paul tells us to think on things that are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of good report. If we're not thinking on these things, we may be thinking on things which will damn our soul.

OUR WORDS. The Psalmist said, *"Let the words of my*

mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer" (Ps. 19:14). The words of our mouth must also be acceptable in the Lord's sight. Jesus said, *"That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment...."* We must stop to count the cost of not controlling our words. We must do as James said, in James 1:19, *"...be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath."* Wrath, or anger, may bring on actions which are not acceptable with the Lord of Hosts.

OUR ACTIONS. Peter said, *"Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul"* (1 Pet. 2:11). Philippians 2:14 tells us, *"Do all things without murmurings and disputings."* We must abstain from fleshly lusts and be found doing all things without murmurings and disputings. Solomon said, in Ecclesiastes 12:14, *"...God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil."*

In Romans 14:12, Paul said, *"So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God."* Whether or not we have controlled our thoughts, our words, and our actions will be brought up on the day of

judgment.

URGENT NEEDS IN THE CHURCH TODAY

Leroy Brownlow

MORE KNOCKING ON DOORS AND LESS KNOCKING ON EACH OTHER. The Great Commission demands that we busy ourselves in taking the gospel to others (Mk. 16:15). The Bible says, *"Speak not evil one of another..."* (Jas. 4:11). It is so much better to be busy doing good rather than evil.

MORE SOUND HEADS AND FEWER SOREHEADS. Perhaps there has never been a time in the history of the church in which we have had a greater need for men sound in the faith and wise in judgment. Sometimes the voice of the wise goes unheeded and the voice of the foolish takes over (1 Ki. 12:6-8).

MORE OPEN HEARTS AND FEWER OPEN MOUTHS. All conduct proceeds from the heart. Prejudice closes the heart to a true consideration of the facts. If the heart was made right before the mouth was opened, most church problems locally and universally would cease to exist (Jas. 3:5-6; Prov. 26:20).

MORE SEED SLINGING AND LESS MUD SLINGING. The task of sowing the seed of the kingdom is so great that it should leave no time for the slinging of mud at a brother. The fact that we have the whole world as our foe should draw us closer together (Prov. 18:24). There should be no division in the Lord's camp (1 Cor. 1:10). One can never whitewash himself by slinging mud at another. He who tries gets his own hands dirty.

MORE SACRIFICE OF SELF AND LESS SACRIFICE OF OTHERS. There are plenty of members of the church who are willing to sacrifice the other fellow — his talent, his time, his money, and even perhaps his reputation. Sacrifice should begin at home (Lk. 9:23).

MORE CONCERN OVER DIRECTION THAN SPEED. This is the jet and missile age. Speed is being enthroned and multitudes bow before it. But in the Lord's work, the greater question is not: "How fast are we traveling?" But rather, "Which way are we going?" (Jn. 14:6; Mt. 7:13-14). All speed is not progress. On the other hand, neither is standing

still.

ANSWERING OBJECTIONS TO MARK 16:16

John Edwards

When we point out, "*He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned*" (Mk. 16:16), some take issue with the word of the Lord.

NOT IN MY BIBLE. Ever quoted Mark 16:16 to hear, "That's not in my Bible"? The Revised Standard Version has removed Mark 16:9-20 on the basis that it is missing from two fourth century manuscripts. The passage is in all the more than five hundred manuscripts, except the two, and is in all the more than two thousand manuscript copies.

DOESN'T SAY, "HE THAT IS NOT BAPTIZED SHALL BE DAMNED." We are told that if baptism was really necessary Jesus would have said, "he that believeth not and is not baptized shall be damned." Mark 16:16 teaches that it takes two things

to be saved: belief and baptism; but it only takes one thing to be lost — just don't believe (Jn. 3:18). It's like this: "He that eateth food and digesteth it shall live; but he that eateth not shall die." It's not necessary to say, "he that eateth not and digesteth not" for we all know that if you don't eat food you won't digest it!

THE THIEF ON THE CROSS WASN'T BAPTIZED. It is argued that if the thief was saved without baptism then we can be saved without being baptized. First of all, how do you know the thief wasn't baptized? Things might indicate that he was baptized (Mt. 3:1-6; Jn. 4:1). 53 days after the thief died and went to paradise, the gospel was preached, "*Repent and be baptized*" (Acts 2:38). You can't hold a man responsible to a law that didn't come into effect until 53 days after his death! We live under the Lord's commission and must meet its requirements!

**EVERY MEMBER
AT
EVERY SERVICE!**

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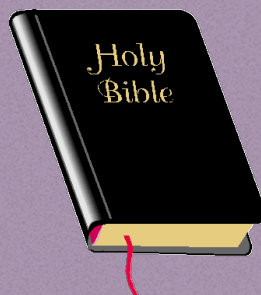
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Sunday @ 10:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m.
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Come be with us!



***We Speak Where the
Bible Speaks.***

***We Are Silent Where the
Bible Is Silent.***

***We Do Bible Things in
Bible Ways.***

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