

BE SLOW TO SPEAK

Text: James 3:1-12 Date: August 21, 2016

INTRODUCTION

- ❖ Words can do one of two things, they can give life, or they can give death.
- ❖ In James 1:19, one of the 3 ways we are to endure trials is: As those who have received the word in humility we are to be “*Be slow to speak.*”
- ❖ James 3:1-12, gives 3 reminders concerning the command “*Be slow to speak.*”

MAIN POINTS

1. He reminds prospective teachers about the peculiar difficulty of not controlling the tongue. (v. 1-6)
 - A. There is a stricter judgment.
 - B. We all stumble in many ways.
 - C. There is tremendous power in the tongue.
2. He reminds us that the tongue is impossible to completely bring under control. (v. 7-10)
 - A. It is untamable.
 - B. Capable of good and evil, it easily poisons the image of God.
3. He reminds us that a pure heart is incompatible with double-tongued speech. (v. 11-12)

CONCLUSION

- ❖ Become aware of when you are using the tongue negatively.
 - Negative uses of the tongue.
 - 30 day fasting.
- ❖ Refuse to listen to someone who is using the tongue in a negative way.
 - Preacher in Branson illustration. (“I refuse to be entertained by negative speech.”)