

Words – 6

Proverbs 18:21 (The Message)

²¹ Words kill, words give life; they're either poison or fruit—you choose.

Each of the words we choose to use carry enormous power with them

- Power to heal or wound
- Encourage or discourage
- Speak the truth or tell a lie
- To praise or to criticize

Words are connectors, in fact they are our God connection

He connects with us – Genesis 1, 2; John 1:14; Psalm 107:20

We are created in His image – “speaking spirit” – Genesis 2:7

James 3:2 (NKJV) The Tongue

²For 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.

No Slide: James 3:4-6

Your Tongue as a Bridle

Your tongue as a rudder

Your tongue as a spark – “Fire”

The Tongue is **Humanly Untamable**

James 3:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. ⁸ But no man can tame the tongue. *It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.*

- The tongue is unruly – its evil!
- It's impossible to tame – humanly
- Its full of deadly poison

James 3:9–12 (NKJV)

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. 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.

The tongue is

- Disproportionality powerful
- Inherently evil
- Humanly untamable
- Contrastingly productive

Even though the tongue is untamable there's hope!
God can tame and control the tongue

The Holy Spirit can fill our mouths with the right words

Mark 13:11 (NKJV)

¹¹ But when they arrest *you* and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; **for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.**

In Christ God has given us a new heart – let us put off the old self and put on the new one!

- Pause
- Ponder
- Pray
- Take some time before you speak and let the new person on the inside tell you what to say

James 1:19 (NLT)

¹⁹ Understand this, my dear brothers and sisters: You must all be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to get angry.

Psalms 19:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my strength and my Redeemer.

The Baptism of Heaven

Turning our tongue into a fountain of life rather than a fire hose of destruction cannot be accomplished without turning to the only supernatural source of help available to us

- No man can tame the tongue but the Holy Spirit can
- The Holy Spirit – He is referred to as “The Promise of the Father” as well as “The Helper”

Acts 1:4 (NKJV)

⁴ And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for **the Promise of the Father**, “which,” *He said*, “you have heard from Me;

John 14:26 (NKJV)

²⁶ But **the Helper**, the **Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.

The Holy Spirit brings “Power” into our lives

19th century evangelist **Charles Finney** had to make a break from his doctrinal past upon receiving the baptism – *“I could feel the impression, like a wave of electricity, going through and through me”*

A few decades later **Dwight L. Moody** had nothing remarkable happen in his life until after receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit

Hebrews 6:1–2 (NLT)

So let us stop going over the basic teachings about Christ again and again. Let us go on instead and become mature in our understanding. Surely we don't need to start again with the fundamental importance of repenting from evil deeds* and placing our faith in God.² You don't need further instruction about baptisms, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

- Notice “Baptisms” is plural
- Baptism into the Body of Christ
- Baptism of water
- Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Baptism into the Body of Christ

1 Corinthians 12:13 (NLT)

¹³ Some of us are Jews, some are Gentiles,* some are slaves, and some are free. But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.*

- When you are saved the Holy Spirit baptizes you into “The Body”

Water Baptism or “John’s Baptism”

Matthew 28:19 (NLT)

¹⁹ Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations,* baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

Water baptism follows repentance for your sins, and acknowledgment of Jesus as your savior

- It is tremendously significant
- But if you get baptized without confessing Jesus as Lord you only get wet
 - Talk about “infant baptism”
- It is not just a religious ritual
- It is a statement about a change that has occurred in your life as a result of salvation

Colossians 2:12-13 Amplified Bible (AMP)

¹² having been buried with Him in baptism and raised with Him [to a new life] through [your] faith in the working of God, [as displayed] when He raised Christ from the dead. ¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh (worldliness, manner of life), God made you alive together with Christ, having [freely] forgiven us all our sins,

- Being saved means that you stop going your own way and start going God’s way
- Your sinful nature is buried
 - Being submerged in water represents this
- You have been raised from the dead
 - Being raised out of the water represents this
- Water baptism is a demonstration that your old nature has been cut off and that all things become new
 - 2 Corinthians 5:17
- You have become a “New Person”

Some denominations will say there is only “One Baptism”

*Most who would say this probably believe in two baptisms
– Baptism into the Body of Christ and Water Baptism*

Ephesians 4:4–6 (NLT)

⁴ For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you have been called to one glorious hope for the future. ⁵ There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all, in all, and living through all.

- Says there is “One Lord” yet we believe that there are 3 members of the Godhead
 - One Lord yet 3 expressions
 - One baptism yet 3 expressions

Holy Spirit Baptism

Lets’ look at all three mentioned in the book of acts

Acts 2:37–39 (NLT)

³⁷ Peter’s words pierced their hearts, and they said to him and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸ Peter replied, “Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, {*salvation*} and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. {*water baptism*} Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. {*Holy Spirit baptism*} ³⁹ **This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away***—all who have been called by the Lord our God.”

There are many people that don't believe we need to be baptized in water or the Holy Spirit

- There is a power that comes on you with the Holy Spirit
Baptism – *greater sensitivity to the supernatural*
- This baptism adds a supernatural dimension to your life
- “Power from on high”

Acts 8:5–8 (NKJV)

⁵ Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. ⁶ And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ And there was great joy in that city.

- Holy Spirit power brings healing
- There should be great joy and freedom

Again, note 3 Baptisms

Acts 8:12–13 (NKJV)

¹² But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. ¹³ Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.

Acts 8:14–17 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, ¹⁵ who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

- They “believed” Philip – Salvation
- They were baptized – in water
- They laid hands on them to receive the Holy Spirit

Another example

Acts 19:1–2 (NKJV)

19 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ² he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

- Notice they didn’t automatically receive the “Holy Spirit”
- They were already believers
- They had not heard of the Holy Spirit

Acts 19:3–5 (NKJV)

³ And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴ Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” ⁵ When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

- We see “Repent and Believe”
- We see water baptism

Now look what happens

Acts 19:6 (NKJV)

⁶ And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

Here we see all three baptisms

- Repent and believe – Salvation
 - Baptism into Jesus (Body of Christ)
- Water Baptism
- Holy Spirit Baptism

1 John 5:7–8 (NKJV)

⁷ For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. ⁸ And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one.