

WORDS

the good Shepherd
healer
salvation
the great I AM
THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY, AND FOREVER
LORD Almighty
THE IMAGE OF GOD
THE LAMB OF GOD
my Savior
good
God in the flesh
the source of my hope
HOLY
ALMIGHTY
son of the living God
the promised One
RISEN
full of grace and mercy
eternal life
the bread of life
my best friend
always with me
the way, the truth, and the life
my Savior
the one who loves me
COMING AGAIN
DELIVER
SON OF GOD
LOVING
GOOD
CORNERSTONE
the promised One
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full of grace and mercy
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my Savior
the one who loves me
COMING AGAIN
DELIVER
SON OF GOD
LOVING
GOOD
CORNERSTONE

*“...the word uttered
without any thought of
the effect it will have
on other people....”*

Matthew 12:36 LEB

“But I tell you that every **worthless word** that they speak,
people will give an account for it on the day of judgment!”

Why would Jesus give such a sobering warning regarding what we say?

1

“...our words,
especially those
to which we give no
particular thought,
reveal what we are.”

Leon Morris

2

Our words have
a far greater impact,
on peoples' lives
and in the spiritual
realm, than we can
ever imagine.

What we say, and how we say it, matters... eternally.

Ephesians 4:11-15 CSB

And he himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, to build up the body of Christ, until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God's Son, growing into maturity with a stature measured by Christ's fullness.

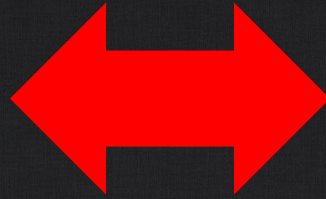
¹⁴ Then we will no longer be **little children**, **tossed by the waves and blown around** by **every wind of teaching**, **by human cunning with cleverness in the techniques of deceit**.

¹⁵ **But speaking the truth in love**, let us **grow in every way into him who is the head—Christ**.

...we have renounced
secret and shameful things,
not acting deceitfully or
distorting the word of God,
but commending ourselves
before God to everyone's
conscience by an open
display of the truth.

2 Corinthians 4:2 CSB

speaking
the truth



in love

aletheuo
literally, *truthing*;
living out the truth;
speaking the truth

agape
a valuing of
another which
motivates action
aimed at their
highest good

aletheia
reality as it
is revealed in
God's word by
God's Spirit

not all
truth is
equal

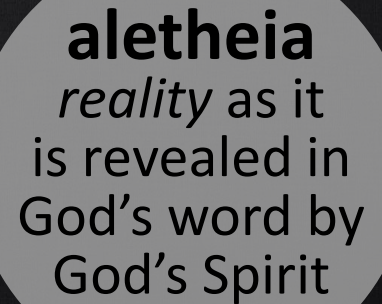
thoroughly
described in
1 Corinthians
13:4-7

Love is patient,
love is kind.
It does not envy,
it does not boast,
it is not proud.

⁵ It does not dishonor others,
it is not self-seeking,
it is not easily angered,
it keeps no record of wrongs.

⁶ **Love does not delight in evil
but rejoices with the truth.**

⁷ It always protects,
always trusts,
always hopes,
always perseveres.



aletheia
reality as it
is revealed in
God's word by
God's Spirit

struck down the church's stance on homosexuality being "incompatible with Christian teaching"

01:10
*...tossed by the waves
and blown around by
every wind of teaching,
by human cunning
with cleverness in the
techniques of deceit....*


redefined marriage as a lifelong covenant between "two people of faith" rather than solely between a man and a woman

God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural sexual relations for unnatural ones. ²⁷ In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another.

Romans 1:26-27a NIV

"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female,' ⁵ and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?'"

Matthew 19:4-5 NIV



"Queer kids ... the church once told them 'you're loved,' but then made that love conditional when they started to question their sexual orientation or gender identity. They're going to hear, 'We love you. We want you to be who God made you to be.'"

Bishop Karen Oliveto

Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.
1 Corinthians 13:6

John Stott writes in *The Message of Ephesians*...

“Thank God there are those
in the contemporary church
who are determined at all costs
to defend and uphold God’s revealed truth.

But sometimes they are conspicuously lacking in love.

When they think they smell heresy, their nose begins to twitch,
their muscles ripple, and the light of battle enters their eye.

They seem to enjoy nothing more than a fight.

Others make the opposite mistake.

They are determined at all costs
to maintain and exhibit brotherly love,
but in order to do so are prepared even
to sacrifice the central truths of revelation.”

Speaking the truth in love is
speaking the reality of God's will and ways
—*which we find clearly revealed in Scripture*—
in an open, honest and undistorted way,
with patience,
with kindness,
without envy,
without boasting,
without arrogance,
without dishonoring,
without self-seeking,
without being easily angered,
and without resentment.

*A worthless word is
“...the word uttered
without any thought of
the effect it will have
on other people....”*