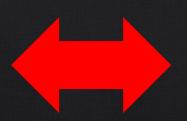


Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you should answer everyone.

Colossians 4:6 MEV



"The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil."

John 8:7 NIV

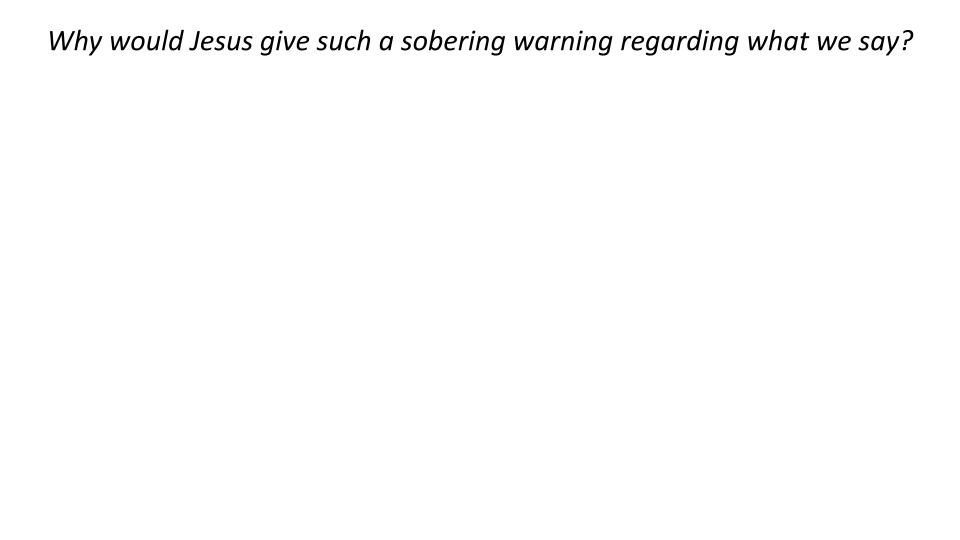
"...the word uttered without any thought of the effect it will have on other people..."

Matthew 12:36-37 LEB

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

37 For by your words you will be vindicated, and by your words you will be condemned."

Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths.... Ephesians 4:29



Matthew 12:33-37 LEB

"...the tree is known by its fruit. 34 Offspring of vipers! How are you able to say good things when you are evil? For from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. ³⁵ The good person from his good treasury brings out good things, and the evil person from his evil treasury brings out evil things. 36 But I tell you that every worthless word that they speak, people will give an account for it on the day of judgment! ³⁷ For by your words you will be vindicated, and by your words you will be condemned."

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

"...our words, especially those to which we give no particular thought, reveal what we are." **Leon Morris**

kind \(\rightarrow\) unkind thoughtful

self-consumed altruistic

narcissistic forgiving \(\rightarrow\) vindictive honest \(\rightarrow\) dishonest humble \leftrightarrow arrogant grateful \(\rightarrow\) ungrateful respectful \(\rightarrow\) dishonoring compassionate

→ callous merciful

judgmental moral + immoral godly \leftrightarrow worldly

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

"...our words,
especially those
to which we give no
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reveal what we are."

Leon Morris

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

John 6:63b MEV "The words that I speak to you are spirit and are life."

Proverbs 18:21 CSB Death and life are in the power of the tongue....

With their mouths the godless destroy their neighbors....
Proverbs 11:9a NIV

The words of the reckless pierce like swords.... Proverbs 12:18a NIV

...a perverse tongue crushes the spirit. Proverbs 15:4b NIV

Proverbs 18:21 CSB Death and life are in the power of the tongue....

...the tongue of the wise brings healing. Proverbs 12:18b NIV Those who guard their lips preserve their lives.... Proverbs 13:3a NIV A wholesome tongue is a tree of life....

Proverbs 15:4a MEV

Proverbs 18:21 CSB Death and life are in the power of the tongue....

With the tongue we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in God's likeness. 10 Blessing and cursing come out of the same mouth. James 3:9-10a CSB

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Matthew 12:36 LEB

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

Is it any wonder David would write in Psalm 141:3?

Is it any wonder Paul would admonish in Colossians 4:6?

Is it any wonder James would warn us in James 1:19?

LORD, set up a guard for my mouth; keep watch at the door of my lips.

Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt....

Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger....