*Wednesday, March 7, 2012*

**Slice of Life**

Proverbs18:19-21 A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city: and their contentions are like the bars of a castle. (20) A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. (21) Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof. (KJV)

The words that we speak can bring forth things into existence; on the positive end, life and satisfaction to those that speak in line with God. On the other end of the spectrum we see death is brought back into play by a slip of the tongue, something someone allowed into the heart then flowed out of the mouth, like venom. A brother in the Lord can be offended by simple words which can be a result of a simple misunderstanding or lack of communication. Sometimes it results from envy; where the brother gets hit from friendly fire by those that he trusted and considered to be close, in the form of backbiting. Christians can walk in the life God chose for them for a season and then find themselves back on the enemies turf again because of negative things that they allowed to get into the heart then flow haphazardly through the tongue.

Job 3:1-3 After this opened Job his mouth, and cursed his day. (2) And Job spake, and said, (3) Let the day perish wherein I was born, and the night in which it was said, There is a man child conceived. (KJV)

The mouth that started all these issues as far as Job is concerned is off and running again, like a valve leaking toxins into the air. As we continue in the book of Job we see this opens Job up for a lot of things, none of which are good.

Job 2:3-6 And the LORD said unto Satan, Hast thou considered my servant Job, that there is none like him in the earth, a perfect and an upright man, one that feareth God, and escheweth evil? and still he holdeth fast his integrity, although thou movedst me against him, to destroy him without cause. (4) And Satan answered the LORD, and said, Skin for skin, yea, all that a man hath will he give for his life. (5) But put forth thine hand now, and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse thee to thy face. (6) And the LORD said unto Satan, Behold, he is in thine hand; but save his life. (KJV)

The reason the Lord spoke in the end of verse three about not destroying Job without cause is because Job had only spoke concerning his sons and daughters. This again is confirmed at the end of verse 6 when the Lord tells Satan that Job has not spoken against himself as of yet, so the enemy did not have a right to take his life at that point.

James 1:19-21 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath: (20) For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God. (21) Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. (KJV)

All throughout the Bible we are warned about our words, what they can do when in line with God and what harm that can result when we put ourselves on the enemy’s turf.