*Thursday, June 2, 2011*

**Word Of Mouth**

Proverbs 10:19-20 In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise. (20) The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth. (KJV)

Whether a multitude of words comes out in the form of a doctrine, or even a slander against others, it would do you well not to be repeating a matter. Again we see the flip side of choice words; this time being described like silver which is something that is considered high in value and of much worth.

Proverbs 29:11 A fool uttereth all his mind: but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards. (KJV)

So you heard something about someone else; but the real question is: is it something that you needed to repeat? Was the matter based on fact or just some fool uttering his entire mind?

Proverbs 17:9 He that covereth a transgression seeketh love; but he that repeateth a matter separateth very friends. (KJV)

You know, when you hear someone always talking about others you see someone that is basically pointing out their own faults and shortcomings in themselves, and then taking out their frustrations on others. The verses above would definitely fall under the category of being quick to hear, and then much slower to speak. Nothing says love like keeping the mouth closed no matter how juicy the gossip sounds.

Psalms 101:5 Whoso privily slandereth his neighbour, him will I cut off: him that hath an high look and a proud heart will not I suffer. (KJV)

Pride is a precursor to a fall, which can result from a few words that you let slip, thinking more highly of yourself than God does. You may think it’s not such a big deal, yet when going through the Bible it is quite specific as to where our Lord stands on the matter.

Ecclesiastes 10:20 Curse not the king, no not in thy thought; and curse not the rich in thy bedchamber: for a bird of the air shall carry the voice, and that which hath wings shall tell the matter. (KJV)

Hey, ever hear that term about the little bird flying onto the shoulder and speaking a matter into the ear? Well, as we see it actually came from the Bible, and again we see that it is dealing with the tongue. Reminds me of hunter safety when going out in the field with a rifle, you had better know what you are shooting at before you pull the trigger. Words can be like a stray bullet that can have a deadly effect or a positive one depending on the target it hits.

Proverbs 18:7-8 A fool's mouth is his destruction, and his lips are the snare of his soul. (8) The words of a talebearer are as wounds, and they go down into the innermost parts of the belly. (KJV)

Talk about getting gut shot; here again we see the effects of what a stray word can have on others. Those words that you put out have a way of getting back to those that you were backbiting about, and can have a strong negative effect when they enter the ear.

Proverbs 26:20-21 Where no wood is, there the fire goeth out: so where there is no talebearer, the strife ceaseth. (21) As coals are to burning coals, and wood to fire; so is a contentious man to kindle strife. (KJV)

Wood, hay, and stubble are described as being highly flammable and not much of use to our Lord. Getting rid of all that contention and strife will result in a lot more peace, and less whisperings and evil surmising of others who thrive on drama.

James 3:6-8 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. (7) For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind: (8) But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. (KJV)

When a fire is started and it causes damage, the source of the fire is sought out and dealt with so that it ceases. You cannot tame your own tongue without the strength and the truth to set you free so that the living waters will be flowing instead of something deadly and destructive.