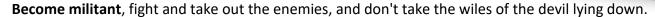
Giving Our Mouth to God - the Language of God's Kingdom





One basic area God is emphasizing is the powerful weapon of our mouth.

The most powerful GIFT God has entrusted to the human is the ability to speak WORDS – it is God's likeness and His image. God spoke in the beginning, 'Let there be light,' and there was light.

Animals do not communicate by speaking words like human beings do. They are not made in God's likeness and image like we are.

When that image in the human was shattered by rebellion and sin, God gave us His PERFECT IMAGE – and the EXACT representation of God – Jesus His only begotten Son.

And Jesus is the WORD of God – the LOGOS – the LIVING WORD - God ever SPEAKS and REVEALS HIMSELF and GIVES HIMSELF to us.

What is God saying to us for 2023?

Deny the devil the use of your mouth.

 \checkmark Rom 6:¹³ And do not present your members as weapons of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as weapons of righteousness to God.

Become militant against your carnal nature – don't give it the use of your mouth.

Your mouth is a powerful weapon of the evil one and sin, or a powerful weapon of God.

The devil provokes our sinful nature - flesh, carnal nature, old nature – to use us as his weapon for evil.

You are dead to sin in Christ - you have died with Christ to your old life, and rose with Him to new life, resurrection life – the space Christ occupies.

You don't need to respond to the provocation of the devil – dead people don't respond to insult, slander, kicks, threats, temptation and enticing.

But you are alive to God – you are sensitive to God's voice, even to His whispers, to respond to Him when He speaks to you.

So give God the use of your mouth - Make your mouth HOLY and POWERFUL with God's Spirit.

2. Isaiah's Shocking Revelation

The biggest shock for Isaiah in his encounter with God's holiness was – he has unclean lips, and the people of Israel have unclean lips.

He is living amid a polluted atmosphere – his lips and the lips of all his neighbours are spewing fumes of demonic poison filth filling the air – he just didn't know it.

During covid, we did all kinds of things to protect ourselves from catching the virus.

Healthcare workers were wearing full-on protective biohazard suits to protect themselves from the virus.

We put on masks, social-distanced, no singing – to keep the virus coming out of our mouths, and to keep ourselves from breathing in someone else's virus.

We gave up meeting in the school because educational facilities' covid rules were impossible. Not just masking, and social distancing, but floor covering for the worship team each week, wiping down everything and every surface we potentially touch, including each chair.

But there is something far more deadly that comes out of our mouths than a virus.

James 3 says hell fire comes out of our mouths that defiles the whole body – the whole family, extended family, church, nations. Sets on fire the entire forest. Sets on fire the very course of nature. In fact, the tongue is on fire by the hell fire.

Defiling words come out of our mouth and poisons minds, divides people, pollutes hearts with anger and revenge, and fills the entire atmosphere with spiritual poison and filth.

God's remedy for Isaiah – He sends His angel to cleanse Isaiah's lips with His fire from the altar, so that his mouth can carry God's holy word or power that will cleanse, wash, save, heal and give life.

Our tongues can release God's holy fire from the altar by the Spirit of God.

Or the hellfire from the devil.

3. The POWER of Our MOUTH

How do we use our mouth for the Lord?

We speak the divine Word He puts in our mouths. Be sensitive to the Holy Spirit who inspires in us words to speak forth in prayer, prophecy, and encouragement.

Hang around people who pray with faith and persistence, whose ears are perked up to hear the Word of God.

I was reminded of the profound realisation of the power God places in His people's mouths when I was a teenager, woken up (by the Lord?) at night to rebuke the devil harassing my mother and to declare God's word over my distressed friend in prayer.

I was astounded at how it worked on the hour. (It is very important that we as parents live a joyful life of overcoming pressure. Our children absorb our faith or our fear.)

JESUS

- ✓ **John 11** ⁴² And I know that You always hear Me, but because of the people who are standing by I said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." ⁴³ Now when He had said these things, He cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come forth!"
- ✓ **Matt 17** ²⁰ '...I say to you, if you have faith as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move;
- ✓ **Luke 17** ⁶ Jesus said, If you have faith as a mustard seed, you can say to this mulberry tree, 'Be pulled up by the roots and be planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

It's not so much **WHAT you say, but with what SPIRIT you say**. It is NOT a FORMULA. Sons of God are led by the Spirit.

✓ **John 6** ⁶³ It is the **Spirit** who gives **life**; the flesh profits nothing. The **word**s that I speak to you are **spirit**, and they are **life**.

JOSHUA

He made a big mistake by making a covenant with Gibeonites who lied to him, and formed an alliance treaty with them – like NATO. And Israel had to go to defend the Gibeonites under attack and honour the covenant.

It was one of Israel's profound victories. The hailstorms from the Lord wiped out their enemies.

✓ **Josh 10** ¹² Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel:

"Sun, stand still over Gibeon; And Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon."

¹³ So the sun stood still, And the moon stopped, Till the people had revenge Upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day. ¹⁴ And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel.

God can handle our mistakes and flaws, they don't stop Him. He knows our weaknesses better than us.

His great power and mercy can overcome them exceedingly beyond what we can imagine. We just have to keep walking with Him by faith.

MOSES

✓ **Ps 91** ² I will <u>say</u> of the LORD, "He is my refuge and my fortress; My God, in Him I will trust."

I will **SAY of the Lord** He is my refuge! (not think of the Lord). Something must be said, not just thought.

✓ **Jer 33** ³ 'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

Korean Bible says 'CRY OUT to ME!'

4. What Stops This from Working?

Speaking the devil's language of fear and unbelief - Complaining

Israel's primary failure in the wilderness was murmuring and complaining.

Complaining is almost always reasonable. Almost always there is a good reason for it. Remove the promise and presence of God out of the equation, and you can legitimise complaining.

Fear and complaining will attract and find the information needed to legitimise its existence.

Israel contends with Moses for WATER, 'Give us water. Did you bring us out here to kill us and our children and our animals?'

- ✓ **Ex 17** ⁶ Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink."
- ✓ And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷ So he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the contention of the children of Israel, and because they tempted the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Their unbelief – 'Is the Lord among us or not?' Massah (Quarreling) and Meribah (Tempting)

Israel's complaint on BREAD

Did you bring us out of Egypt to starve us to death in the wilderness?

- ✓ Ps 78 ¹⁷ But they sinned even more against Him By rebelling against the Most High in the wilderness.
 - ¹⁸ And they tested God in their heart By asking for the food of their fancy.
 - 19 Yes, they spoke against God: They said, "Can God prepare a table in the wilderness?
 - ²⁰ Behold, He struck the rock, So that the waters qushed out, And the streams overflowed. Can He give bread also?

Can He provide meat for His people?"

- ²¹ Therefore the LORD heard this and was furious; So a fire was kindled against Jacob, And anger also came up against Israel,
- ²² Because they did not believe in God, And did not trust in His salvation.
- ²³ Yet He had commanded the clouds above, And opened the doors of heaven,
- ²⁴ Had rained down manna on them to eat, And given them of the bread of heaven.
- ²⁵ Men ate angels' food; He sent them food to the full.

God finally was fed up with them when they whined about MEAT! He gave the quails for a month until they were vomiting quail meat!

God's Summary of Israel's Failure - Complaining, Unbelief

✓ **Ps 78** ⁴⁰ How often they provoked Him in the wilderness, And grieved Him in the desert! ⁴¹ Yes, again and again they tempted God, And limited the Holy One of Israel. 42 They did not remember His power: The day when He redeemed them from the enemy,

⁴³ When He worked His signs in Egypt, And His wonders in the field of Zoan;

How did they tempt God? By limiting the Holy One of Israel. By putting a cap on His capability and the power of His covenant with you.

Complaining is the language of unbelief and fear. Complaining distorts our view our reality.

They saw God perform mind-blowing miracles in Egypt. They had the Pillar or fire and cloud of His glory right there before them by day and night.

✓ Phil 4 ⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will quard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

God sits on the Praise of His people.

God occupies the praises of His people.

Then who occupies our complaint? Don't let the devil occupy your life.

5. For Whom Does This Work?

A small key opens big doors.

The tongue is the rudder that turns the entire ship.

Life and death are in the power of the tongue.

Elijah – Word of the Lord in Your MOUTH is the TRUTH - LIVING the TRUTH.

Is the word of the Lord in my MOUTH the truth? Does it carry His BACKING AND POWER?

If we get rid of all idle words, useless words, meaningless words, and empty words from our lives, and just speak the whole truth and nothing but the truth, we will have fewer words to say, but our words will have an impact into eternity.

Can God trust us with this POWER?

Can God trust us with such authority that everything we say will have THIS power?

What if out of our mouths come great blessings for God and powerful curses over people?