

Speak the Word Only

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Scripture References: Mt. 8:8, Joshua 1:8, James 1:22, 26 and 3:2

I've had more visions about the power of our words than anything else. Some of these visions are in the book, *Revelations from God*. I'm including one to emphasize what the Lord wants us to know.

Vision of the Tape Recorder

Helena, Montana

February 11, 1998

I dreamed that Satan had hooked up a tape recorder to our phone line; it was sitting on the desk "in the spirit" so that you could not see it but it was hooked up to the phone.

Interpretation: The devil is monitoring us and recording our words (and those of other Christians phoning us) so he can use them against us! I saw some spirits shadowing people and I was amazed at how intelligent and anticipatory they were relative to what the person was going to do. They seemed to have "intel" and know ahead of time. We must be very cautious about our words and what we say as well as not acting without "soaking it in prayer" or else the devil will trap us. He will use our words against us as he assumes his role before God as the "accuser of the brethren."

Today while reading Joshua 1:8 the Spirit of the Lord forcefully reinforced this thought. The Lord Himself is instructing Joshua on how to be successful, and no it's not by "sowing a seed" of x amount of dollars to some ministry – it's through the Word!

The Lord gave me a very powerful night vision in 1997 and it was completely in *dark speech*; it dealt with the importance of the Word in helping us fulfill the will of God for our lives. I wrote about this in *Hebrews* because the Lord also gave me an equation for True Wisdom at that time. When the Lord creates us, our spirit, before we are born in the flesh He places certain gifts and callings into our spirits; this is our purpose – our destiny – for being born.

The *single most important ingredient* in how close we come to fulfilling the perfect will of God for our lives – our destiny and purpose – is exactly what the Lord told Joshua in 1:8. We are to meditate the Word! Notice what He said to Joshua,

“This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.”

But this morning the Spirit's focus was not on the meditation but rather on the *speaking* of the Word. You've probably known the importance of meditating the Word but notice what the Lord said to Joshua: “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth ...!” He didn't say it would not depart out of his mind or thoughts but out of his mouth! The purpose of meditating the Word is so that we will speak the Word and be doers of the Word. I would encourage you to meditate on this verse of scripture for about 30 minutes and allow the Holy Spirit to speak to you about this.

Notice the steps: (1) we are to meditate the Word day and night, (2) we are to speak the Word – it should “not depart out of thy mouth,” (3) *Then* you “will make your way prosperous ... and have good success.” This is the Old Testament version of James 1:22 – we must be hearers, doers and speakers of the Word because the Lord said His Word “would not return void.”

James points out an important aspect of speaking is to be able to “bridle” or control our tongues. If we are able to do this (3:2) then we can become “perfect” and not stumble.

In Matthew 8 we observe not only that Jesus understood and practiced this principle but also that a Roman centurion came to understand it as well simply by observing the ministry of Jesus. He understood the principle not only of spoken *words* but also the authority behind those words. After all, it’s the authority behind the Word of God that makes it come to pass.

Notice what happened, this centurion came to Jesus because he had compassion for his servant who “lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.” (Mt. 8:6) In some ways, although he was not a Jew and therefore not in covenant with the Lord, he was like Jesus – being a centurion he was the commander over 100 men. Yet, he was concerned with this one who was sick. He was a man of compassion; I’m sure that impressed Jesus.

Jesus was also impressed by the man’s compassion and faith so He said, “I will come and heal him.” This should have been the end of the matter because the centurion was concerned with his servant being healed. But, no, the centurion says something so extraordinary that it causes Jesus to respond – “Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.”

This man understood something so profound, so spiritually enlightening that those of the covenant should have understood but they didn’t. He understood the power of Jesus’ words – he understood that Jesus didn’t have to come lay hands on the servant for him to be healed. He said, “... speak the word only, and my servant will be healed.”

Then, we see in verse 9 that he completely understood not only the impact of the words but also the authority behind the words. He said, “For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me; and I say to this man, ‘Go,’ and he goeth; and to another, ‘Come,’ and he cometh; and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he doeth it.”

Why did these soldiers and servants obey his words? Because he had authority! And he saw a parallel with Jesus – when Jesus spoke, the words He spoke must be obeyed because of Jesus’ *authority*.

Now I want to carry this further so you can apply it to your own life just as Joshua did. Under the New Covenant every born-again believer receives the three-fold anointing of the Spirit that was available under the Old Covenant.

Every believer does not receive a Five-fold anointing: apostle, prophet, pastor, teacher, evangelist but every believer receives an anointing of the Spirit as prophet, priest and king. Your prophetic anointing does not make you a Prophet in the sense of the Five-fold office of prophet – that’s a higher anointing – but what it does do is give you prophetic insight. We’ve demonstrated this to Christians all over the world in Holy Spirit workshops and teaching on the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Now, it’s important for you to understand *how* you exercise these three anointing: how would you suppose you exercise your priestly anointing? Through prayer, especially intercessory prayer. How about your kingly anointing? How does the king exercise his authority? Through the word, praise God! That is why the *Athaliah* spirit is after your kingly anointing, to prevent you from exercising your God-given authority through the spoken word! The way to defeat the spirit of Athaliah in your life and church is to “speak the word only.”

Remember, these words of the Lord to Joshua and apply them to your life today: “This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth, but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein; for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.” Bless His Holy Name! He will “watch over His word to perform it.” (Jer. 1:12)