

## Word of Power

people are hungry to know how to be **positive, faithful**, with **both thoughts and words** when **surrounded by negativity** with **those they know, live with**.

### James 3 –

1 Not many should become teachers, my brethren, being aware that we shall be getting greater judgment.

2 For we all are tripping much. **If anyone is not tripping in word, this one is a perfect [mature] man, able to bridle the whole body also.**

3 Now if we are thrusting the horses' bits into their mouths, so that they are yielding to us, **we are steering their whole body also with it.**

4 Lo! the ships also, being of such proportions, and driven by hard winds, are being **steered** by the **least rudder**, wherever the impulse of the helmsman is intending.

**Steer (turn about in KJV)** = to transfer, lead over; to direct - “transfer”? = to convey from one person, place or situation to another; synonyms include *move, shift, transform, change, transmit*

5 Thus the tongue, also, is a little member and is grandiloquent. Lo! What amount of fire is kindling what amount of material!

**grandiloquent** – a compound word from 2 Greek words that together mean to **BOAST GREATLY**– to bear oneself loftily in speech or action – seems to denote any kind of haughty language which wounds and provokes others, and stirs up strife. *Magala* = proud (presumptuous) things, full of arrogance, derogatory to the majesty of God.

6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of injustice. The tongue is constituted among our members that which is spotting the whole body [*as in the opposite of “without spot, wrinkle or blemish”*], and **setting the wheel of our lineage** [*the course of genealogy, our birth, descent*] **aflame**, and is set aflame by Gehenna.

7 For every nature, both of wild beasts and flying creatures, both of reptiles and those of the salt sea, is tamed and has been tamed by human nature.

8 Yet **the tongue** can no man tame -- a turbulent evil, distended with death-carrying venom.

9 **With it we are blessing the Lord and Father, and with it we are cursing men who have come to be in accord with God's likeness.** [*I would add that many of us are also busily cursing ourselves*]

10 **Out of the same mouth is coming forth blessing and cursing. There is no need, my brethren, for this to become thus.**

11 No spring out of the same hole is venting the sweet and the bitter.

12 No fig tree, my brethren, can produce olives, nor a grapevine figs. Thus neither does brine produce sweet water.

## Proverbs 18 –

<sup>2</sup> Fools find no pleasure in understanding but delight in airing their own opinions.

<sup>4</sup> The words of the mouth are deep waters, but the fountain of wisdom is a rushing stream.

<sup>6</sup> **The lips of fools bring them strife**, and their mouths invite a beating.

<sup>7</sup> The mouths of fools are their undoing, and their **lips are a snare to their very lives.**

<sup>8</sup> The words of a gossip are like choice morsels; they go down to the inmost parts.

<sup>10</sup> The **name** of the LORD is a fortified tower; the righteous run to it and are safe.

<sup>13</sup> To answer before listening— that is folly and shame.

<sup>14</sup> The human spirit can endure in sickness, but **a crushed spirit** who can bear?

<sup>15</sup> The heart of the discerning acquires knowledge, for the ears of the wise seek it out.

<sup>20</sup> From the **fruit of their mouth** a person's stomach is filled; with the harvest of their lips they are satisfied.

<sup>21</sup> **The tongue has the power of life and death**, and those who love it will eat its fruit.

## Psalm 9:2

I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of **your name**, O Most High.

## Psalm 138:2 –

(NIV) for you have so exalted your solemn decree that it surpasses your fame.

(NASB) For You have <sup>(E)</sup>magnified Your word according to all Your name.

(KJV) for thou hast magnified thy word above all thy name.

(AMP) for You have exalted above all else Your name and Your word and You have magnified Your word above all Your name!

## Here is the CLV:

For You have magnified Your name, your promise [**saying**], over all else.

## Numbers 11:

<sup>23</sup> The LORD answered Moses, "Is the LORD's arm too short? Now you will see whether or not **what I say will come true for you.**"

## Hebrews 1:

1 By many portions and many modes, of old, God, speaking to the fathers in the prophets,

2 in the last of these days speaks to us in a Son, Whom He appoints enjoyer of the allotment of all, through Whom He also makes the eons;

3 Who, being the Effulgence of His glory and Emblem of His assumption, besides **carrying**

on all by His powerful declaration, making a cleansing of sins, is seated at the right hand of the Majesty in the heights;

### Ephesians 6:

10 For the rest, brethren mine, be invigorated in the Lord and in the might of His strength.

11 Put on the panoply of God, to enable you to stand up to the stratagems of the Adversary,

12 for it is not ours to wrestle with blood and flesh, but with the sovereignties, with the authorities, with the world-mights of this darkness, with the spiritual forces of wickedness among the celestials.

13 Therefore take up the panoply of God that you may be enabled to withstand in the wicked day, and having effected all, to stand.

14 Stand, then, girded about your loins with truth, with the cuirass of righteousness put on.

15 and your feet sandaled with the readiness of the evangel of peace;

16 with all taking up the large shield of faith, by which you will be able to extinguish all the fiery arrows of the wicked one.

17 And receive the helmet of salvation and the sword of the spirit, which is a declaration of God.

**Declaration – Rhema (as opposed to “word” – logos) “Gush-effect” is the direct, literal Greek translation: “that which is or has been uttered by the living voice, thing spoken, word; a saying of any sort as a message, a narrative –**

**go back to Ps. 138:2**

For You have magnified Your name, your promise [*saying*], over all else.

**MATT 12:34 - For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.**

**Eph 5:20-21 –**

**giving thanks always for all things, in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, 21 to our God and Father, being subject to one another in the fear of Christ.**

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**MATT 21 –**

18 Now in the morning, leading them back into the city, He hungers.

19 And, perceiving one fig tree on the roadside, He came to it and found nothing on it except leaves only. And He is saying to it, "No longer, by any means, may fruit be coming of you for the eon." And withered instantly is the fig tree.

20 And, perceiving it, the disciples marvel, saying, "How instantly withered is the fig tree.

21 Now, answering, Jesus said to them, "Verily, I am saying to you [probably leg-o, laying down an idea, conveying a thought with the emphasis on the sense of it], if you

should be having **faith and not be doubting**, not only that to the fig tree will you be doing, but if you should be **saying** to this mountain also, 'Be picked up and cast into the sea!' it will be occurring.

22 **And all**, whatsoever you should be **requesting in prayer**, **believing**, **you shall be getting**."

What are the conditions Jesus laid down here?

1. **Having faith** – **have** is “denoting possession”.
  - a. **Faith** = Now faith is an **assumption** of what is being **expected**, a **conviction** concerning matters which are not being observed (**Hebrews 11:1**)
    - i. **Assumption** = that under which the mind takes its stand
    - ii. **Expected** = Greater than hope. This is what is relied upon, not merely hoped for (as in “maybe, maybe not; who knows; we just hope”)
    - iii. **Conviction** = literally “exposing” - that by which a thing is proved or tested
2. **Not doubting** - to be at variance with one's self, hesitate
3. **SAYING** – **declaring** (He 1:3 **carrying on all by His powerful declaration** – **powerful = the ability to accomplish.**)
4. **Requesting** (express a desire to have or do something) **in prayer** – Prayer = “Toward-well-having” -
5. **Believing** – being convinced by testimony concerning matters outside the sphere of observation (sounds a lot like the definition of faith, doesn't it?)

Charles Capps, in his book, *The Tongue, a Creative Force*, writes that when he meditated on the story we just read about the Lord speaking to the fig tree, he says that the Lord spoke to this heart: *I have told my people they can have what they say, but they are saying what they have!*

**Isaiah 3:10:** **Say** to the righteous that it will go well with them, For they will eat the fruit of their actions.

**Romans 10:8-17** –

But what is it saying? Near you is the **declaration**, in your **mouth and** in your heart -- that is, the **declaration** of faith which we are **heralding** 9 that, if ever you should be **avowing with your mouth the declaration** that Jesus is Lord, **and should be believing in your heart** that God rouses Him from among the dead, you shall be saved.

10 For **with the heart it is believed** for righteousness, yet **with the mouth it is avowed** for salvation.

11 For the scripture is saying: Everyone who is believing on Him shall not be disgraced.

12 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same One is Lord of all, being rich for all who are **invoking** Him.

## Invoking is “On-Call” as in call on, appeal to. This is SPOKEN!

13 For everyone, whoever should be **invoking** the name of the Lord, shall be saved.

14 **How**, then, should they be **invoking** One in Whom they **do not believe**? Yet **how** should they be **believing** One of Whom they **do not hear**? Yet **how** should they be **hearing apart from one heralding**?

15 Yet **how** should they be **heralding** if ever they should **not be commissioned**? According as it is written: How beautiful are the feet of those bringing an **evangel** of good!

16 **But not all obey** the evangel, for Isaiah is saying, "Lord, who believes our **tidings**?"

17 Consequently, **faith is out of tidings, yet the tidings through a declaration of Christ.**

**Herald:** “Proclaim” – make known publicly with authority beforehand

**Avow:** to say the same thing as another, i.e. to agree with, assent; 2) to concede; 3) to profess; to declare openly, speak out freely

**Evangel:** a reward for good tidings; good tidings

**Tidings:** hearing, that which is heard

### Look at the order of things here:

Declaration – avowing with the mouth that which is believed with the heart according to what has been heard as a result of heralding. This leads to invoking, and out of tidings issues faith!

Everything depends first on words – on **declarations** first from God – then **heralding** (based on receiving a **commission** FROM God)...then **hearing**, then **believing**, then **avowing** – declaring openly, and then **obeying** (doing)!

How many times did Jesus say this?

**Mark 7:16** – If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear!"

Jesus was clearly commissioned:

John 5:23

He who is not honoring the Son is not honoring **the Father Who sends Him.**

24 "Verily, verily, I am saying to you that he who is **hearing My word and believing Him**

Who sends Me, has life eonian and is not coming into judging, but has proceeded out of death into life.

25 Verily, verily, I am saying to you that coming is an hour, and now is, when **the dead shall be hearing the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear shall be living.**

**Now THAT is the power of His voice – His declaration, as to Lazarus, in John**

**11:43:** "Lazarus! Hither! Out!"

37 And the Father Who sends Me, He has **testified** concerning Me. Neither have you ever heard His voice nor a perception of Him have you seen.

38 And His word you do not have remaining in you, **for that One Whom He commissions**, this One you are not believing.

### Now watch this:

46 For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me, for **he writes concerning Me**.

47 Now **if you are not believing his *writings*, how shall you be believing My *declarations*?"**

In verse 37, Jesus speaks of The Father's testifying of Him, and earlier of John the Baptist's . . . *to be a witness, to bear witness, i.e. to affirm that one has seen or heard or experienced something, or that he knows it because taught by divine revelation or inspiration.*

How did the Father testify about Jesus? And here we come full circle to the declarations through the mouth of God to His chosen vessels who wrote them down and who proclaimed them to the people to whom God sent them. When they had ears to hear, they believed and obeyed; and when they didn't, they perished or were conquered and driven into exile and servitude!

This entire study over the past year has been titled, "*Light up the Scriptures*," and it turns out to be a very appropriate name!

*Remember what the ark was called that held the stone tablets? "The ark of the Testimony"! What was on them? Commandments – Instructions...declarations... sayings – written by Whom? By God's own hand!*

Look again at **Psalm 138:2 – from our last study**

For You have magnified Your name, your promise [**saying**], over all else.

Jesus, answering Satan's first test, in **Matthew 4:4** and **Luke 4:4**, quoted Moses in Deuteronomy 8:3

"It is written, 'Not on bread alone shall man be living, but on every **declaration** going out through the mouth of God.'"

Remember what declaration means from our study last week: **Declaration – Rhema – "gush-effect"** is the direct, literal Greek translation: "that which is or has been uttered by the living voice, thing spoken, word; **a saying of any sort as a message, a narrative.**

## Prov 12: 14-15 –

A man will be **satisfied** with good by the fruit of his **words**,

And the deeds of a man's hands will return to him.

<sup>15</sup>The way of a fool is right in his own eyes,

But a wise man is he who **listens** to counsel.

One cannot **listen** to council unless it is first **spoken!**

**Satisfied:** means FODDER in Greek – “satisfy is to feed with herbs, grass, hay, to fill with food, to fatten; [secondarily,] to **fulfill** the desire of any one”

Stay with the word – the idea of “satisfied” for a while, as it relates to the idea of being. Think about how the **word** of God has always been **satisfied**. Is it not by being fulfilled? Is it not itself FOOD – i.e. FODDER:

## Matthew 5:6

"Happy are those who are hungering and thirsting for righteousness, for they shall be **satisfied**."

## Matt. 7:16-20

You will know them by their fruits. Grapes are not gathered from thorn bushes nor figs from thistles, are they? So every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot produce bad fruit, nor can a bad tree produce good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. So then, you will know them by their fruits.