

## MESSAGE 2:

# JUDGMENT IN YOUR JAWS

### **SUGGESTED PASSAGE:** Matthew 12:31-37 (NASB)

<sup>31</sup> Therefore I say to you, any sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit shall not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup> Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man, it shall be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it shall not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come. <sup>33</sup> Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup> You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart. <sup>35</sup> The good man brings out of his good treasure what is good; and the evil man brings out of his evil treasure what is evil. <sup>36</sup> But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. <sup>37</sup> For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.

**MESSAGE GOAL:** The goal of this message on “Judgment in Your Jaws” is to help people change the things that come out of their mouths by taking inventory of their hearts and giving them good things on which to meditate.

**INTRODUCTION:** The words we speak have consequences. We will incur judgment for every word we have spoken in our lifetime. But it comes as no surprise to many of us that our attempts to change the words that come out of our mouths are weak at best. This is because we fail to understand that the source of our speech is our spiritual hearts. When our hearts are polluted, corrupt, angry, sad, doubtful, fearful or mean, the nasty words that come out of our mouths reveal the nasty condition of our hearts. The coming judgment on our words is a big deal. While Christians will receive a different judgment (the judgment seat of Christ) than non-Christians (the great white throne judgment), it's still vital that we understand that the gain or loss of spiritual rewards in the kingdom of heaven is determined, in part, by the quality of the words we speak while we are here on earth.

So, if we want to change the quality of things that come out of our mouths, we must examine the quality of our

hearts. Our spiritual hearts feed our thoughts (mind), choices (will), and feelings (emotions). We must begin to meditate on things that will promote its overall health. The more we meditate consistently on positive, constructive, uplifting things, such as Scripture, a good book, a productive discussion or a thoughtful sermon, the more good food will flow out into our thoughts, choices and feelings. That will positively impact our speech and the quality of our word choices. A transformed heart thus leads directly to a transformed mouth.

### **SERMON POINTS:**

*1. BLASPHEMY AGAINST THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TO REJECT JESUS CHRIST AFTER HAVING BEEN FULLY ILLUMINATED BY THAT SAME SPIRIT.*

- Speaking blasphemy against the Holy Spirit incurs judgment; it is the unforgivable sin.
- For those who are worried about whether or not they have committed such a sin, it is safe to say that they haven't. Their worry indicates that they are searching their hearts before God, and have thus not rejected the conviction of the Holy Spirit.
- Blasphemy against the Spirit is committed with full disclosure about that truth.
- Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit is not a misspoken word; it is a permanent rejection of the truth that Jesus is the Son of God.

*2. THE SOURCE OF YOUR SPEECH IS YOUR SPIRITUAL HEART.*

- Similar to the physical heart, which pumps blood throughout the body, the spiritual heart pumps the contents of your thoughts, choices and feelings.
- Oxygenated blood can carry vital nutrients throughout the body or it can carry contaminants as well.
- The blood that comes from your spiritual heart,



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similarly, can carry positive or negative content that affects how we think, how we feel, and even affect the decisions we make.

### 3. AN INVENTORY OF EVERYTHING WE SAY IN OUR LIFETIME WILL BE REVIEWED ON THE DAY OF OUR JUDGMENT TO DETERMINE GAIN OR LOSS OF REWARD.

- Similar to a wiretap, God remembers everything we say.
- On the day of judgment we will all give an accounting of what we have said during our lives on earth.
- For Christians, the words we say determine our gain or loss of heavenly reward.

### 4. WE CAN CHANGE THE QUALITY OF OUR SPEECH BY FOCUSING ON THE CONTENT OF OUR HEART.

- We should meditate on positive ideas (Philippians 4:8).
- We should continually meditate on positive ideas (Philippians 4:8, James 1:25).
- By revisiting the positive messages we receive—intentionally dwelling on them—we change the quality of the words that come out of our mouths.

#### ILLUSTRATIONS:

**RECEIVING A MOUTH INSPECTION AT THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE:** During a normal medical examination, when you go to your family physician, one of the things that you will be asked to do is open your mouth and stick out your tongue. They will go on to say, "Say, 'Ah.'" Now when they ask you to open your mouth and stick out your tongue, they're not merely looking for something wrong in your mouth. The doctor understands that the condition of the mouth can indicate problems that go much deeper. When they look in your mouth, it can sometimes indicate infection. It can sometimes indicate disease, and it regularly indicates vitamin deficiency. Simply by looking at your mouth, they can determine whether something is wrong much deeper inside. The correlation here is that the condition of our heart determines the condition of our speech.

**THE SAD FATE OF NAVY PLANES DURING WORLD WAR II:**

In World War II there was a Navy ship in the Atlantic, and six planes took off from the Navy vessel to bomb the enemy. On their way back, the ship turned out all of its lights so that the enemy would not know its location. But the problem was that the pilots couldn't see where to land because the lights on the ship were out. So the planes radioed the ship and asked them to turn on the lights briefly so they could land. With great despair, the captain denied their request because turning on the lights would jeopardize the safety of the hundreds aboard the ship. So the six planes continued circling until they ran out of gas, and they plunged to their deaths because the lights were out. The correlation here is that God will eventually turn out the light (remove saving hope) for those who have rejected the truth when they had the chance.

#### **THE DIFFERENT LEVELS OF SECURITY AT ALCATRAZ PRISON:**

In San Francisco Bay, there is a prison no longer in use, called Alcatraz. Not all prisoners who were in Alcatraz were on the same level; there was maximum security, medium security and minimum security. If you were in maximum security, that meant you were a hardened criminal. Maybe you got out for an hour a day, otherwise it was solitary confinement permanently—that, that was one level. Medium security meant that, that you got more free time—more time to interact. Minimum security—you got to go out and play basketball. You got to go to the library. In other words, there was much that you were allowed to do. Regardless of the level of imprisonment, there was no escaping from Alcatraz because it was surrounded by San Francisco Bay—full of sharks and a great distance from the shore. The correlation here is that hell—in one sense—has many levels in that there are varying degrees of punishment for those who will spend eternity there.

**MEDITATION AND THE COWS WHO CHEW THEIR CUD:** You're driving down the highway, and you see a cow with a dribbling chin—white stuff running down the cow's mouth. Cows have multiple stomachs. When a cow wants to eat some grass, it will eat up some grass and chew it a long time before swallowing it. But then the cow may want to chew it even more. So, the cow will regurgitate it before continuing to chew. But now, it's partially digested, so it's bringing up part-grass-part-juice. It does this repeatedly until what is left is just juice. Then it swallows it for the last time, and it infiltrates the cow's system more effectively. The cor-



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relation here is that the more we meditate on positive things, the more effective they will be at transforming our hearts and changing the quality of our speech.

## **SERMON LINES:**

This message will prove that the quality of our speech is indicative of something deeper.

This message will demonstrate that the source of our speech is our heart.

This message will reveal that we will give an accounting in the next life for everything we say in this life.

This message will encourage people to meditate constantly on Scripture and positive messages for the purpose of changing the heart, and thus, the quality of our words.

## **QUOTES BY DR. EVANS:**

“Once you reject full light, darkness is all that remains.”

“To blaspheme the Holy Spirit, is to reject Jesus Christ is indeed the Christ, the Son of the Living God after the Holy Spirit has revealed this truth in you.”

“The mouth is only articulating what the heart is declaring.”

“God has a tap on your mouth, and He is listening to every word.”



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