

Hindrance to Advancing V

Failure to understand the power of your words!

Through Faith, we understand that the worlds were framed by the word of God.

KJV Hebrews 11:3 Through faith we understand that the worlds were framed by **the word of God**, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.

In Genesis 1 and 2, “God said, God called, and then God saw.”

Nothing that exists came into being until God said it.

I

Man was **created** in the image of God.

Man was created in the **likeness** of God.

We recognize the *Imago Dei*, the image of God in every human being. ***Genesis 1:26-28***

KJV Genesis 1:26 **And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness; and let **them** have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth. ²⁷ So God created **man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them.** ²⁸ **And God blessed them, and God said unto them,** Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth, and subdue it: and have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over every living thing that moveth upon the earth.**

The **image** (selem) of God is His nature.

Man is lesser than and finite in his reflection of the nature of God.

His nature includes His life, personality, truth, wisdom, love, holiness, and justice.

As image bearers, we have the capacity for spiritual fellowship with Him.

We are created in His likeness means, we are created to function, behave, and act like Him.

The habits and actions of Christ are Habitus Christus.

Adam was created entirely and as one being.

^{KJV} **Genesis 5:1** This is the book of the generations of Adam. In the day that **God created man, in the likeness of God made he him;** ² **Male and female created he them;** and blessed them, and **called their name Adam**, in the day when they were created.

Mankind's words carry power in the Earth and in the heaven like his creator.

II

Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

^{KJV} **Proverbs 18:20** A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. ²¹ **Death and life** are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

NLT **Proverbs 18:20** Wise words satisfy like a good meal; **the right words** bring satisfaction. ²¹ **The tongue** can bring death or life; those who love to talk will reap the consequences.

Our words carry benefits and rewards and consequences and destruction.

KJV **Psalm 141:3** Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.

NKJV **Psalm 141:3** Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth; Keep watch over the door of my lips.

“Watch Your Mouth!”

III

The words of our mouth and the meditations of our heart are to be acceptable in God’s sight.

What we say and think should be pleasing to God.

Jesus warns us about our words.

KJV **Matthew 12:36** But I say unto you, That **every idle word** that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment.

Jesus teaches us by words we are justified by our words we are condemned.

KJV **Matthew 12:37** For **by thy words** thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

Our words will be a portion of our eternal judgment in the end.

IV

James teaches us to **control** our tongues.

KJV **James 3:7** 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. ⁹ Therewith bless we God, even the Father; and therewith curse we men, fwhich are made after the similitude of God. ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be.

The tongue controls and defiles the whole body. **Vs. 6**

The tongue can be an unruly evil voice. **Vs 8**

The tongue can also be a source of blessing and increase. **Vs 10**

Failure to understand the power of your words will hinder your advancement!

Prayer: *KJV* **Psalm 19:14** Let the **words** of my mouth, and the **meditation** of my heart, **be acceptable in** thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

*Rhema Christian Center
Bishop La Fayette Scales
Saturday & Sunday, December 15 & 16, 2023
9:30 a.m.*