

Matthew 12:36-37

³⁶ "And I say to you, that every careless word that men shall speak, they shall render account for it in the day of judgment. ³⁷ "For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned."

Many churches have worked to reach the unsaved and to lead them to Jesus Christ; tragically they stop there. Unless that person is properly discipled, then too often these new converts are led to believe that the only ones, who will face judgment in eternity, are the lost; but that is the farthest thing from the truth! Each of us will be required to give an account for our lives, especially Christians. So then why don't we live our lives realizing that this day is coming? Consider **Psalms 90:12, So teach us to number our days, that we may present to Thee a heart of wisdom.** Is it not true to say that for many Christians who live their lives in unrepentive sin, that they lack a heart of wisdom? Look with me at **Proverbs 11:20, The perverse in heart are an abomination to the LORD, But the blameless in their walk are His delight.** Church, we must each face the sin that encompasses us, and repent from it. Just because we have always done something or gotten away with something, is no excuse to continue in it. One of the vilest sins in the church is gossiping! Countless churches deal with this sin. Many pastors and believers have written this off as a minor offense; but is it really? It is actually one of the most destructive forces in the body of Christ. **Proverbs 18:21** tells us that, **Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruit.** Words have such incredible power; but too many people really don't believe that. Consequently, they speak death over everything in their lives! They speak death over their spouse, children, job, home, car, pastor, church, and even against themselves! Generally, such people have a low self-esteem, and they believe that they deserve the death and failures that they are facing. Yet, others are shocked when their self fulfilled prophecies take place. Perhaps you grew up in a home where the only words spoken, were words of death. Perhaps you have a member in your church family who always tears apart verbally everything that is said and done. This sin is not limited to only the lost and the layman; unfortunately it is alive and well in many church leaderships today. **Proverbs 17:27** says, **He who restrains his words has knowledge.** Restraining our words is something that we all must work at more diligently.

My heart today, is to uncover the fact that each of us will one day give an account for our lives spent here on planet earth. The question that each of us must answer is, "What do we really want to say, or have said about our lives here?" Do we really believe that our Lord will only hold the lost accountable for their words? That somehow they are the only ones who will be justified or condemned? Then, if God will hold our words accountable, don't you believe that He is going to hold the rest of our lives accountable as well? I believe that **Matthew 12:35** sums it all for each of us, "**The good man out of his good treasure brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings forth what is evil.**" Our treasure and fruit within each of us, is a clear representation of our heart. If that fruit is evil, destructive and lawless; then that heart is evil. If your heart is evil, then condemnation is what you will face before our God. Don't be deceived into believing that you can do and say whatever you want without having to face a Just God one day. Brethren, what do your words say about you?