

Speech and Authority

My wife and I had some Bible teaching early in our marriage that has been of great help to us and that is “the words we say matter in the spirit realm”. Most Charismatic or Pentecostal Christians (praying in tongues) have had this teaching but most Catholics and main line protestant Christians have not.

Mark 11:23For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

This is the verse that is used to base the teaching on. “**He shall have whatever he says.**” There are other places that indicate that this can be positive or negative. I am going to go through the Bible and show a few other places where this has come in. An in-depth teaching is best done by others if you want to go into a lot of detail. A lot is available free on-line and by doing a word search.

There are two concepts that have to do with children and the words we speak.

One is found in **Matthew 8:5-10**

5And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

6And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

7And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

8The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

9For 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.

10When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

If we think about the people Jesus knew, Joseph, Mary, John the Baptist (Jesus said John the Baptist was the greatest prophet under the old covenant), Peter, James, John, we see that it is almost an unbelievable statement. This centurion had more faith than anyone. We see two things that the centurion got hold of. One, Jesus’ words have authority and we all fit somewhere in a chain of command and authority structure. We have spiritual authority over our children. When we couple authority with “**you can have what you say**” we have a recipe for great blessing or great disaster.

Numbers 13

17 And Moses sent them to spy out the land of Canaan, and said unto them, Get you up this way southward, and go up into the mountain:

18 And see the land, what it is, and the people that dwelleth therein, whether they be strong or weak, few or many;

19 And what the land is that they dwell in, whether it be good or bad; and what cities they be that they dwell in, whether in tents, or in strong holds;

20 And what the land is, whether it be fat or lean, whether there be wood therein, or not. And be ye of good courage, and bring of the fruit of the land. Now the time was the time of the firstripe grapes.

21 So they went up, and searched the land from the wilderness of Zin unto Rehob, as men come to Hamath.

22 And they ascended by the south, and came unto Hebron; where Ahiman, Sheshai, and Talmai, the children of Anak, were. (Now Hebron was built seven years before Zoan in Egypt.)

23 And they came unto the brook of Eshcol, and cut down from thence a branch with one cluster of grapes, and they bare it between two upon a staff; and they brought of the pomegranates, and of the figs.

24 The place was called the brook Eshcol, because of the cluster of grapes which the children of Israel cut down from thence.

25 And they returned from searching of the land after forty days.

26 And they went and came to Moses, and to Aaron, and to all the congregation of the children of Israel, unto the wilderness of Paran, to Kadesh; and brought back word unto them, and unto all the congregation, and shewed them the fruit of the land.

27 And they told him, and said, We came unto the land whither thou sentest us, and surely it floweth with milk and honey; and this is the fruit of it.

28 Nevertheless the people be strong that dwell in the land, and the cities are walled, and very great: and moreover we saw the children of Anak there.

29 The Amalekites dwell in the land of the south: and the Hittites, and the Jebusites, and the Amorites, dwell in the mountains: and the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and by the coast of Jordan.

30 And Caleb stilled the people before Moses, and said, Let us go up at once, and possess it; for we are well able to overcome it.

31 But the men that went up with him said, We be not able to go up against the people; for they are stronger than we.

32 And they brought up an evil report of the land which they had searched unto the children of Israel, saying, The land, through which we have gone to search it, is a land that eateth up the inhabitants thereof; and all the people that we saw in it are men of a great stature.

33 And there we saw the giants, the sons of Anak, which come of the giants: and we were in our own sight as grasshoppers, and so we were in their sight.

What the spies said was completely true, but God called it an **evil report** (verse 32).

Everything in the physical realm is subject to the spiritual realm, which is more real than the physical. Everything physical is subject to change. If we say to a child, “you are bad.” The spiritual authority we have over that child will put a curse on that child and really we don’t know if that child is bad or not. If that child did something bad an hour ago, that child could have had a complete conversion between the time they did something bad and the time we said that they were bad. We do not know what is on the inside of the child or what is happening in the spiritual realm and we may be guilty of lying. The thing to say if anything is, “the child did a bad thing.”

I am going to give a few Bible references that say this in different ways.

Proverbs 15:23 A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good is it!

Proverbs 25:11 A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God is pure: he is a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Joshua Chapter 1:8 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.

We are to say what God says, even if it may conflict with what we see or experience.

At the wedding feast in Cana (John chapter 2) Mary tells the servants to do what Jesus tells them to do. I don't think Mary thought Jesus was the boss but she understood Jesus' words were always correct, he had all the answers, and he talked different than other people.

Luke 6:45 A good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good; and an evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is evil: for of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaketh.

Matthew 15:18 But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart; and they defile the man.

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.

James 1:26 If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.

James 3:

2 For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body.

3 Behold, we put bits in the horses' mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body.

4 Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth.

5 Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold, how great a matter a little fire kindleth!

6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell.

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, which 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.

11 Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

12 Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.

13 Who is a wise man and endued with knowledge among you? let him shew out of a good conversation his works with meekness of wisdom.

And finally back where we started:

Mark11:

13 And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet.

14 And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it.

20 And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.

21 And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.

22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

We can read these references in other translations and you will get even a better understanding.

As an afterthought look at Jesus when he raises Lazarus from the dead. **John 11:1-44.**

Jesus says in verse 4 “**this sickness will not end in death.**” In verse 11 he says “**Lazarus has fallen asleep**”. The disciples said, “**Good then he will get better.**” Jesus then says, “**Lazarus is dead.**” Jesus did not like to use the word “death” because in verse 4 he had made the faith statement as to the outcome. In verse 41 Jesus says, “**Father, I thank you that you have heard me.**”

[Proverbs 21:1](#)

The **king's** heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.