

JAMES 3

- I. BEWARE OF DESIRING THE OFFICE OF TEACHER (1-3).
  - A. GREATER RESPONSIBILITY -- STRICTER ACCOUNTABILITY.
  - B. WE ALL SIN (1 JN. 1:8,10) (RELIGIOUS BUMPER STICKERS).
    - 1. IN MANY WAYS.
    - 2. ESPECIALLY IN WHAT WE SAY (TEACH).
      - A) WHAT WE SAY REFLECTS WHAT WE ARE (MA. 12:34).
      - B) CONTROL OVER TONGUE = PERFECTION.
- II. ILLUSTRATIONS OF THE POWER OF THE TONGUE (3-6).
  - A. BIT IN THE MOUTH GUIDES THE HORSE.
    - 1. THE BODY (LIFE) FOLLOWS THE TONGUE'S LEAD.
    - 2. WE MUST BRIDLE OUR TONGUES (1:19).
  - B. SMALL RUDDER TURNS A GREAT SHIP.
    - 1. TONGUE IS SMALL.
    - 2. TONGUE SPEAKS WITH ARROGANT PRIDE.
  - C. FOREST FIRE STARTED BY A SPARK.
    - 1. THE TONGUE IS A FIRE.
    - 2. ALL THE SINFUL CHARACTERISTICS ARE FOUND IN WHAT WE SAY.
    - 3. DEFILES THE WHOLE PERSON.
      - A) PHYSICALLY.
      - B) SPIRITUALLY.
    - 4. IGNITES ALL OF A PERSON'S LIFE.
    - 5. IS ITSELF DIRECTED BY SATAN (MA. 5:22).
- III. THE UNTAMED TONGUE (7-12).
  - A. ALL CREATION HAS BEEN TAMED BY MAN (GEN. 1:26-28).
  - B. MAN CANNOT TAME THE TONGUE (NEEDS W).
    - 1. NEVER AT REST.
    - 2. DEADLY POISON (PS. 140:3).
  - C. TWO-FOLD USE OF THE TONGUE.
    - 1. BLESS GOD.
    - 2. CURSE MAN.
  - D. INCONSISTENCY SHOWS THE BLESSING IS DEAD (LIKE FAITH).
    - 1. FRESH & BITTER WATER (JORDAN & DEAD SEA).
    - 2. FIG & VINE (PALESTINE'S 2 MAIN FRUITS).
    - 3. SALT SPRING DOESN'T PRODUCE FRESH WATER.

IV. TRUE WISDOM (13-18).

- A. CHALLENGE -- IS THERE ANYONE WHO IS WISE?
  - 1. KNOWLEDGE IS NOT ENOUGH.
  - 2. WISDOM IS PROPER USE OF KNOWLEDGE -- ESP. TOWARD GOD.
- B. SHOWN BY A GOOD LIFE.
  - 1. ACTIONS.
  - 2. ATTITUDES.
- C. FALSE WISDOM.
  - 1. BITTER JEALOUSY & PARTY SPIRIT.
    - A) PROMINENT IN EARLY CHURCH.
    - B) ONE WHO CAUSES DISSENSION & CLAIMS TO BE WISE IS A LIAR.
  - 2. EARTHLY, UNSPIRITUAL, DEVILISH.
  - 3. RESULTS.
    - A) CHAOS.
    - B) EVERY EVIL PRACTICE.
- D. WISDOM FROM ABOVE.
  - 1. PURE.
    - A) FIRST PRIORITY.
    - B) CLEANSED & CONSECRATED TO GOD.
  - 2. PEACE-LOVING.
    - A) PRODUCES PEACE, NOT STRIFE (RO. 12:18).
    - B) BEGINS WITH PEACE WITH GOD.
  - 3. CONSIDERATE (LIVES FOR OTHERS).
  - 4. SUBMISSIVE TO THE FATHER.
  - 5. FULL OF MERCY AND GOOD FRUITS.
  - 6. IMPARTIAL.
  - 7. SINCERE.
- E. THE HARVEST OF RIGHTEOUSNESS.
  - 1. SOWN IN PEACE.
  - 2. HARVESTED IN PEACE.