

Pearls of Wisdom

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Pearls of Wisdom

James 1:19-20

¹⁹ *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But **everyone** must be **quick to hear**, **slow to speak** *and* **slow to anger**;

²⁰ for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

Pearls of Wisdom

- A. Swift to Hear
- B. Slow to Speak
- C. Slow to Anger

Pearls of Wisdom

B. Slow to speak

Believers speech should reflect their Christian calling.

Christian speech should be sincere, godly, praising, thanking and honoring God.

I. The desire for godly speech

1. In oneself

Psalm 19:14

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart Be acceptable in Your sight, O LORD, my rock and my Redeemer.

Psalm 39:1

1 I said, “I will guard my ways That I may not sin with my tongue; I will guard my mouth as with a muzzle While the wicked are in my presence.”

I. The desire for godly speech

2. In others

Ephesians 4:29–31

29 Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, so that it will give grace to those who hear. **30** Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31** Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

Ephesians 5:4

4 and there must be no filthiness and silly talk, or coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks.

II. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to God

1. It gives glory to God

Hebrews 13:15

15 Through Him then, let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that give thanks to His name.

II. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to God

1. It gives thanks and praise to God

Colossians 3:17

17 Whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through Him to God the Father.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

in everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

II. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to God

3. It confesses Jesus Christ as Lord

Romans 10:9–10

9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved; **10** for with the heart a person believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

III. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to others

1. It is gentle, gracious and tactful

Colossians 4:6

6 Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.

III. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to others

2. It is kind

2 Timothy 2:24–25

24 The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged, **25** with gentleness correcting those who are in opposition, if perhaps God may grant them repentance leading to the knowledge of the truth,

III. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to others

3. It is instructive and edifying

Colossians 3:16

16 Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.

III. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to others

4. It is honest

Matthew 5:37

37 “But let your statement be, ‘Yes, yes’ or ‘No, no’; anything beyond these is of evil.

III. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to others

5. It is truthful and sincere

2 Corinthians 2:17

17 For we are not like many, peddling the word of God, but as from sincerity, but as from God, we speak in Christ in the sight of God.

III. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to others

6. It will speak of God and his works

Psalm 145:7

7 They shall eagerly utter the memory of
Your abundant goodness And will shout
joyfully of Your righteousness.

III. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to others

7. Jesus Christ's speech was perfect and unique

John 7:46

46 The officers answered, "Never has a man spoken the way this man speaks."

Matthew 7:28–29

28 When Jesus had finished these words, the crowds were amazed at His teaching; **29** for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as their scribes.

C. Slow to anger

Human anger arises for a number of reasons, some of which are acceptable and others which are not. Scripture stresses the potentially destructive aspects of human anger and urges moderation.

I. Reasons for human anger

1. Jealousy

Genesis 4:4–5

4 Abel, on his part also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and for his offering; **5** but for Cain and for his offering He had no regard. So Cain became very angry and his countenance fell

Luke 15:28

28 “But he became angry and was not willing to go in; and his father came out and began pleading with him.

I. Reasons for human anger

2. Pride

Jonah 4:1

1 But it greatly displeased Jonah and he became angry.

3. The truth

Jeremiah 37:15

15 Then the officials were angry at Jeremiah and beat him, and they put him in jail in the house of Jonathan the scribe, which they had made into the prison.

II. Human anger is sometimes justified

Exodus 16:20

20 But they did not listen to Moses, and some left part of it until morning, and it bred worms and became foul; and Moses was angry with them.

Luke 14:21

21 “And the slave came back and reported this to his master. Then the head of the household became angry and said to his slave, ‘Go out at once into the streets and lanes of the city and bring in here the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’”

III. Results of human anger

1. Strife

Genesis 4:8

8 Cain told Abel his brother. And it came about when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his brother and killed him.

2. God's judgment

Matthew 5:22

22 “But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother shall be guilty before the court; and whoever says to his brother, ‘You good-for-nothing,’ shall be guilty before the supreme court; and whoever says, ‘You fool,’ shall be guilty enough to go into the fiery hell.

III. Results of human anger

3. Sin

James 1:20

20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God.

Ephesians 4:26

26 BE ANGRY, AND yet DO NOT SIN; do not let the sun go down on your anger,

IV. Dealing with anger

1. Become slow to anger

1 Corinthians 13:5

5 does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong suffered,

James 1:19

19 This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger;

IV. Dealing with anger

2. Not taking revenge

Romans 12:19

19 Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY,” says the Lord.

IV. Dealing with anger

3. Renouncing anger

Ephesians 4:31

31 Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice.

Colossians 3:8

8 But now you also, put them all aside: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive speech from your mouth.

Pearls of Wisdom

B. Slow to speak

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2. In others

II. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to God

1. It gives glory to God
2. It gives thanks and praise to God
3. It confesses Jesus Christ as Lord

III. Characteristics of godly speech in relation to others

1. It is gentle, gracious and tactful
2. It is kind
3. It is instructive and edifying
4. It is honest
5. It is truthful and sincere
6. It will speak of God and His works
7. Jesus Christ's speech was perfect and unique

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C. Slow to anger

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2. Pride
3. The truth

II. Human anger is sometimes justified

III. Results of human anger

1. Strife
2. God's judgment
3. Sin

IV. Dealing with anger

1. Become slow to anger
2. Not take revenge
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