

**Scripture Reference:** Psalm 33:6-9

**Date:** September 21, 2014

**Title:** "The Power of God's Words"

**Focus:** We underestimate the effective power of God speaking / Hearing God Series (7 of 11)

Psalm 33 calls for praise to YHWH. Of the reasons the psalmists gives for honoring God he says,

*vv. 6-9; By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their host. He gathers the waters of the sea together as a heap; He lays up the deeps in storehouses. Let all the earth fear the Lord; Let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him. For He spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast.*

People carry around scars reflecting the devastating power of words that have been spoken to them over the years.

We acknowledge the power of words spoken by humanity. Why will we not admit to the power of words spoken by God? Do we not believe God spoke and creation came into being (Gen. 1; Heb. 11:3)? Was it not by the words of Christ the sick were healed, the blind received sight, and the dead arose (Matt. 9:6-7; Lk. 18:35-43; Mk. 5:41-42)?

If what God says has no power, why listen? But, they do have power.

## Words Have Power to Shape Reality

Proverbs 15:4; “*A soothing tongue is a tree of life, But perversion in it crushes the spirit.*”

Proverbs 18:21; “*Death and life are in the power of the tongue.*”

Proverbs 25:15; “*A soft tongue breaks the bone.*”

It's not that words intrinsically have power.

Instead, they are empowered by the personality of the person speaking them. I may dismiss the comments of one who is unknown. But, I am affected by those of the people I love and respect. However, even words spoken by strangers can have power when they echo family and friends.

It is *whom* that is speaking that empowers the words. This has even more validity when considered of God.

The Psalmist calls for “*all the inhabitants of the world [to] stand in awe of [God]*” because, “*by the word of [God] the heavens were made, and by the breath of His mouth all their hosts*” (vv. 8 & 6).

Words, human or divine, convey the personality of the speaker. When speaking, that person is literally giving another “a piece of his/her mind” and personality. They are telling who they are and what they think.

When God speaks, He offers humanity life.

John 6:63; “It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing; the words that I have spoken to you are spirit and are life.”

When you hear the words of God, you must consider Who He is. What is written in the Bible and impressed upon the heart does not take place within a vacuum. They convey the very person of God and are supported by all He is.

This is why Jesus prayed, “*Father . . . I have manifested Your name to the men whom You gave Me out of the world; they were Yours and You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word*” (John 17:6).

## **Words are Spiritual Power**

The psalmist declared, “[*God*] spoke, and it was done; He commanded, and it stood fast” (v. 9).

What is spoken conveys the personality of the speaker as well as his wishes for what is to be done.

We believe we live in a chaotic world when in reality it is one of our own making. Mankind is the reason for his problems. He has created the reality he endures.

James 3:5-8; “*The tongue is a small part of the body, and yet it boasts of great things. See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! And the tongue is a fire, the very world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of our life, and is set on fire by hell. For every species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has*

*been tamed by the human race. But no one can tame the tongue; it is a restless evil and full of deadly poison."*

However, where chaos does not exist it is because people live according to the words of God (John 10:10).

What God speaks has the power to transform people, communities, states, nations, and the world. But, it must be heeded to become affective.

James 1:21-24; *"Putting aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; for once he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was."*

## **The Last 18 Inches**

When God speaks, it reveals who He is. What God says, holds power to change life. Do you believe this? There was a centurion who did. - Luke 7:1-10

Jesus commends this soldier for his faith. Believing Who Jesus is, the centurion accepted Jesus had the authority to cause to happen what He said.

Would Jesus find such faith among us today? What would you do where you to trust His word in the manner this centurion did?