

PLAGUE OF PROFANITY

Int.

1. Aim: To explain that the use of filthy language is wrong at all times.
2. Eph. 4:29 asv "Let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth, but such as is good for edifying as the need may be, that it may give grace to them that hear."
 - a. Corrupt = rotten, worthless, morally bad
 - b. Speech = communication, talk, utterance
 - c. Our words in the presence of others ought to help rather than hurt
3. We are exposed to profanity in many places today; in the store, work place, school, ball games, TV, movies, radio, books, magazines - plague = epidemic, spreading to all
 - a. We hear the expression they "cuss like a sailor" or
 - b. Pardon my "French"
 - c. Men used to stop using profanity when a woman was present. But today women can curse just like men. Some young children use many of the four letter words of profanity.
4. The Bible is not silent about the kind of language we are to use.
 - a. Eph. 4:29 - no corrupt communication
 - b. Col. 3:8 "But now ye also put off all these; anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, filthy communication out of your mouth."
 - i. Filthy communication - base, shameful
 - ii. Cursing, profanity, and swearing are filthy communication.
5. Let's notice the plague of profanity.

Discussion**I. ARE THERE ANY CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE PROFANITY IS EXCUSED ?****A. Fussing and arguing with someone**

1. Would it be all right to use curse words to express our feelings?
2. What if the other person curses you, could you not curse them back?

B. What about cursing and using profanity when you are in pain ?

1. You hurt yourself, mash your finger, cut yourself in an accident.
2. What if you tear your new clothes
3. What about if you wreck your car, or have a fender bender.
4. Is it all right in these times to just blow off some steam by cursing or using some words of profanity ?

C. What about when you get angry ?

1. Someone treats you wrong. They abuse you verbally.
2. Things do not go to suit you. You are mad.
3. Is there anything when wrong you have what is called: "A slip of the tongue" and you use profanity in a burst of anger?
4. Is it all right to use profanity in these situations? It relieves stress !

D. What about using profanity to express your feelings about a certain matter with no malice or harm intended toward anyone?

1. Some think that profanity is "cool" or "funny"
2. Everybody is using this kind of language and we want to fit in and appear normal.

II. WHAT IS PROFANITY ?

- A. Dictionary definition
 1. Abusive, vulgar, or irreverent language
 2. The condition or quality of being profane
 3. Characterized by irreverence for God
- B. Profane speech
 1. When we apply the term profanity to our speech we are speaking of that which "Pollutes" our speech or causes it to be "unhallowed" and void of godly character.
 2. Therefore profanity refers to those words which are vulgar, derogatory, filthy or degrading in nature.
 3. It also refers to subject matter that is not fitting for God's people - like dirty jokes, filthy, crude, or unwholesome subjects.
- C. The word profanity is not found in the Bible.
 1. But the principles of the Bible condemn it strongly.
 2. It is strongly condemned.

III. WHAT DOES THE BIBLE SAY ABOUT USING PROFANITY

- A. Ex. 20:7 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes His name in vain."
 1. Any use of the name of God that is swearing or disrespectful is sin
 2. Vain - waste or in disorder
 3. The person who uses profanity will be held accountable to God for the misuse of his tongue.

B. Matt. 12:36-37 "But I say to you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. 37 "For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

1. Idle words - useless words, non-working word, inoperative, no legitimate work, morally useless and unprofitable
2. Words will save or ruin us spiritually
3. Many people will lose their souls because of their tongue.

C. Eph. 4:29 "Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers."

1. Corrupt communication = dirty mouth
 - a. Dirty or shady jokes
 - b. Profanity and cursing
2. Corrupt = rotten, putrid, worthless and is thrown away
3. Profanity is a mind-maggot.
4. Use words that are Good = pure, to build up
5. A Christians speech should be pure:
 - a. God is pure - Christ is pure
 - b. Heaven is prepared for pure people - Rev. 21:27
 - c. If we go there we must be pure and we cannot be pure with corrupt communication

6. James 3:1-12 v. 2 NKJV "For we all stumble in many things. If anyone does not stumble in word, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body."
 - a. A little member - tongue is small in comparison to rest of body
 - b. Full of deadly poison - curse men and bless God
 - c. Sweet and bitter ?
 - d. Berries and figs?
 - e. We must learn to control that little member.

 7. James 5:12 - swearing "But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath. But let your "Yes," be "Yes," and your "No," "No," lest you fall into judgment"
 - a. Matt. 5:33-37
 - b. Swearing = to invoke the name of God as a witness
- D. There is never any place or any time that it is all right to use profanity.
1. There is a device you can put on your TV called the TV Guardian - TVG
 2. It attaches to the Television and VCR - you can program it and filter the profanity that is on TV or on movies.
 3. You could call it a "Garbage filter"

IV. WHAT ABOUT SLANG WORDS ?

- A. Many who would not think of cursing plainly use bywords which are closely akin.
1. Christians must not use these words.
 2. It is sinful to do so regardless of who may use them.
- B. Swear - Matt. 5:33-37 NKJV "Again you have heard that it was said to those of old, 'You shall not swear falsely, but shall perform your oaths to the Lord.' 34 "But I say to you, do not swear at all: neither by heaven, for it is God's throne; 35 "nor by the earth, for it is His footstool; nor by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36 "Nor shall you swear by your head, because you cannot make one hair white or black. 37 "But let your 'Yes' be 'Yes,' and your 'No,' 'No.' For whatever is more than these is from the evil one."
1. To invoke the name of God as a witness to what has been done or said. Jews used God's handiwork.
 2. Slang words or "by words" are a form of swearing
 3. Interjection - words thrown in without grammatical connection
 4. Euphemism - substitution of a word which is less offensive or objectionable
- C. Slang words - when we look into the original meaning of such slang words we may be surprised at their meanings. These are some of the slang words we commonly hear...

dad-burned
darn
doggone
egad
gad
gee - gee whiz
gol
goldarn [goldurn]
golly
gosh

heck
jeez
jeepers
jeepers creepers
zounds
for goodness sake
goodness
thank goodness
my goodness
for heavens sake

Lordy -
Lordy mercy
good gracious
good grief
what the deuce
O my God

- D. There is a lot of disrespect for the name of God in our society.
1. It is not smart to take God's name in vain.
 2. There is nothing to be gained by being irreverent toward the name of God.
 3. Since there are about 400,000 words in the English language, a person should be able to express himself without cursing.
 4. In fact, it reflects upon man's intelligence. It signifies that the person has not the ability to express his feelings without being irreverent toward God.
- E. We are not to conclude from this that it is wrong to use the various names of God in our conversation when such usage is reverent, respectful and sober.
1. There are many examples in the Bible of such usage:
 - a. "God Forbid" - Rom 6:1-2
 - b. "If God Will" - Acts 18:21
 - c. "The Lord Grant" - II Tim. 1:18
 2. The Jews regarded the name of Jehovah as inexpressible and to this day refuse to pronounce it in Hebrew.
 3. It is the profane use of sacred things and names against which the Bible condemns, and all such expressions as these we have analyzed which should be rigidly excluded from our vocabularies.

V. INDICTMENTS AGAINST PROFANITY

A. It is a sin against God

1. Profanity breaks the command of God which says: "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain"
2. When you use profanity you are a sinner and you ought to repent of your sins.

3. A respectable person will respect his father and mother. Think of your Heavenly Father and reverence him.
4. Swearing and cursing destroys a man's reverence for God.

B. Profanity causes one to be unfit for worship

1. When you take God's name in vain you are in no position to worship God "in spirit and in truth"
2. It is an insult to Christianity.

C. Profanity sets a bad example

1. A father heard his son using profane language.
2. He asked his son about using profanity but the son said:
3. "There is nothing wrong with it. I heard you use it and my father would not use language that his son ought not to use."

D. Profanity is a bad habit

1. Some say: "I do not mean to do anything wrong. It has become a habit with me."
2. It is sinful to let a bad habit master you in that way.
3. It is one's duty to control himself and to overcome such an evil habit.

CONCLUSION

1. We are responsible for the proper use of our tongue
2. There is never a time when we have the right to use profanity, cursing, swearing or any corrupt language.
3. At no time, place or under any circumstance is it right to use profanity ! It is not right to tell what others said and use those corrupt words.
4. Col. 3:8 "put off filthy communication out of your mouth."
 - a. Watch your tongue and what you say - There is no such thing as a slip of the tongue.
 - b. There is nothing constructive that comes from the use of profanity
 - c. Profanity is a degrading sin and should be avoided like the plague.
5. Profanity is a plague on our society.
6. Cuss Free Week
 - a. Pasadena, California - March 3 - 7, 2008
 - b. No cussing week for the city's 25,824 residents
 - c. Result of an effort by a teenager named McKay Hatch - age 14
 - i. Started a "No cussing club" at South Pasadena High School - 50 members
 - ii. Motto: "Ya wanna hang with us? Don't cuss!"
 - iii. The club now has members in more than 30 countries with 15 chapters and 10,000 members worldwide
7. "Swearing is a vice so mean and low that every man of sense and character detests and despises it." (George Washington)

8. Control of the tongue begins in the heart or mind.
 - a. Putting the clamps on a "big mouth" begins with proper thinking.
 - b. ". . . out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things" (Matthew 12:34,35).
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Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Evening March 9, 2008
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