

WORDS FITLY SPOKEN

Int.

1. Aim: To show that our tongue used properly is a valuable member of our body!
2. Pro. 25:11 "A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver."
 - a. Another translation reads "apples of gold in baskets of silver" - beautiful combination of color and images
 - b. Custom in the Far East to place on the banquet table as a centerpiece a silver filigree basket filled with golden apples
 - c. Sometime during the meal the basket was passed around and each guest was invited to select an apple as a gift from the King.
 - d. Beautiful words are more precious and lovely than golden apples!
 - (1) The right word is a delightful gift
 - (2) A word spoken at the right time and in an appropriate manner!
3. Prov. 15:23 "A man hath joy by the answer of his mouth: and a word spoken in due season, how good it is." Answering well is a wonderful thing - right words / right time
4. Pro v. 18.21 "Death, and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof."
 - a. Words can wreck; words can revive; words can ruin; words can restore
 - b. Our words can either be a blessing to us and others or a curse!
 - c. Eccl. 3:7 "...a time to keep silence, and a time to speak."
5. Let us notice words fitly spoken that become a blessing to us and others

Discussion**I. WORDS FITLY SPOKEN ABOUT OUR LORD**

- A. "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." Acts 8:37
1. No other words are more like apples of Gold in pictures of silver
 2. You can never say any words that have deeper meaning
 3. The Ethiopian Eunuch made this confession and went on his way rejoicing!
 4. You can never fully rejoice until you have made that confession!
- B. Why should you confess?
1. The Lord commanded it - Matt. 10:32-33
 2. Confession is required before baptism Acts 8:36,37
 3. The thing that hindered his baptism was confession
 4. It is a part of Gods plan of salvation -- Rom.. 10:9.
 5. No one can reach heaven and refuse to own their lord
- C. Your first apple of Gold will be your confession of Jesus Christ as the son of God

II. WORDS FITLY SPOKEN IN THE HOME

- A. "And in her tongue is the law of kindness." Pr. 31:26
1. The virtuous woman learned how to choose her words and compliment the home with them - Listen
 2. She provides an example for every member of the home.
- B. Illustration = Two young people being counseled before wedding
1. Preacher was advising them to be kind to each other and close each day in prayer to ask each others and Gods forgiveness for any unpleasant things said or done during the day

2. Girl said to her Fiance - "We should pledge never to speak an unkind word to each other."
 3. Then she told the preacher "My own home could have been a little bit of heaven. My father was wealthy, and we had a lovely home, but my mother and father quarreled with each other all the time, and in place of a little of heaven our home became a little corner of hell."
- C. Pro. 21:23 "Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles."
1. Words fitly spoken are valuable - our tongue gets us into trouble
 2. But sometimes silence is golden - Eccl. 3:7

III. WORDS FITLY SPOKEN ARE OFTEN WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

- A. Encouraging words are like apples of gold in a silver basket
1. We use too few words of encouragement
 2. Bible teaches us:
 - a. "Exhort one another" - Heb. 10:25
 - b. "But exhort one another daily" - Heb. 3:13
 - c. Tit. 2:6 "Exhort the young men to be sober minded."
- B. A Word of encouragement, a word of appreciation, a little compliment can change a life.
1. Mk. 16:7 "But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see Him, as he said unto you."
 2. At this time Peter was probably miserable and down and out with himself for having denied Jesus. He had failed his master.

3. When the messenger came with the message and said those two little words, "AND PETER", He probably jumped up and said "say that again."
 4. He actually called my name. Does he still want me to be his Disciple?
 5. Those two little words changed his outlook on life.
- C. We need to encourage
1. The leaders of the church
 2. The Bible School teachers. work they do!
 3. Preachers need words of encouragement!
 4. The elderly and feeble need words of encouragement
 5. Young People
 6. Encourage every fellow Christian to continue living the Christian life.
- D. EXHORT - To call on, entreat, admonish, to urge one to pursue some course of conduct.. To turn forward, propel (before, to turn) to impel morally, to urge forward, encourage,- COMFORTER!

IV. WORDS FITLY SPOKEN ALWAYS INCLUDE WORDS OF COMFORT

- A. The right choice of words are a great comfort to those that are bereaved. For example the Bible says, "And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother." John 11:19 comfort = console
- B. There are many reasons in life why we need comforting.
1. Sickness - death
 2. Feeble-mindedness - "Comfort the feeble-minded." I Thes.5:14 - fainthearted, despondent

3. Three reasons why Job needed comforting:
 - a. Loss of his family
 - b. Loss of his wealth
 - c. Loss of his health
4. Isa. 50:4a ASV "The Lord Jehovah hath given me the tongue of them that are taught, that I may know how to sustain with words him that is weary: ."

V. WORDS FITLY SPOKEN ARE WORDS OF THE GOSPEL

- A. Preach to all the world - Matt. 28:18-20
 1. Can't do it all at once. Cannot preach the gospel to all the world at one time.
 2. Must do it one by one.
 3. One person teach another person the gospel.
 4. This is certainly an example of Words Fitly Spoken.
- B. Speaking the truth in love - Eph. 4:15 "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ:"
- C. Speak Right Words [Gospel] at the Right time [Due Season] with the Right Attitude [Love]
 1. Do not preach or teach opinion
 2. Can't nag or pressure one to obey - a person must obey from the heart
 3. Can't cast pearls before swine - those who are willing to learn can be taught
- D. A word fitly spoken can covert a soul !

CONCLUSION

1. "Words fitly spoken are like apples of gold in pictures of silver." Pro. 25:11
2. Our words must be seasoned with salt. - Col. 4:6
3. "We will cross over a busy street just to speak to someone who has said something nice about us. But we will walk around the block to miss coming face to face. with someone who has criticized us."
4. The most beautiful words we will ever speak are those spoken for the Master!

Bibliography

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