

The Overflow of the Heart

By John J. Parsons

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight. (Psalm 19:14)

Our words reveal what's hidden within our hearts, and therefore – because words and thoughts are intimately connected – we must be very careful about how we *think*, and especially about how we esteem others. The Chofetz Chaim wrote that the foundational principle of guarding our speech is to always judge others in the best possible light. This involves *hakarat tovah*, that is, recognizing the good in others, and choosing to see with *ayin tovah*, “a good eye.” It is better to judge favorably – even if we are in error – than it is to judge critically – even if we are telling the truth.

The sages say that our judgments carry great weight in Heaven. The words we say, whether good or bad, call for a response in the realm of the spirit. This is hinted at by the Hebrew word for “thing,” i.e., *devar*, which also means “word.” When we defend someone and speak favorably of him or her, our words *mean something* and favorably dispose Heaven itself; on the other hand, if we accuse them or are critical of them, we align our thoughts with Satan, and the opposite effect is produced.

Listen to the words of your heart and understand that they are *devarim*, “things” that are defining the course of your life right now. Proverbs 4:23 says, “more than all else, guard your heart, because from it are the bounds of your life.” Our thoughts and words are ultimately “prayers” we are constantly offering.... How you think/pray determines the “bounds” or course of your life. As Yeshua said, “According to your faith be it done unto you” (Matthew 9:29).

May the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to the Lord, our strength and our redeemer. Amen

Yeshua spoke of “good and evil treasures of the heart” that produce actions that are expressed in our words (Luke 6:45). The focus here is not so much on the externals (for example, the use of profanity), but rather on the underlying condition of the human heart. Our inward motive determines our thinking, which in turn affects the way we act and use words. We must be on guard to keep away from *lashon hara* (evil speech) by focusing on what is worthy, lovely, and of good report (Philippians 4:8).

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A Poem to God

By Pattie DeLea

**Beholding You only Lord
My Maker, my Savior, and King
Seeing You in Your Word
Causes my heart to sing!
Sensing Your spirit of grace
Your beauty so awesome and free,
Knowing You face to face,
Knowing all You've done for me.
There is no God like unto Thee!
Your goodness, Your grace
Surrounds my life.
As I see Your face
Focusing on You alone,
You above all else
I know I am never alone.
Your goodness, Your grace,
Tasting and seeing
You, in every instance,
You, in every place
Of difficulty.
Helping me have feet of the hind,
Giving grace of a supernatural kind,
You are my all, my only,
There is no God like unto You,
Faithful, kind and true.**

Comforting Silence

By Linda Schreurs*



Have you ever had your breath taken away in an instant of overwhelming joy...perhaps in seeing your newborn child for the first time, seeing a magnificent mountain view, or upon seeing the ocean for the first time? You gasp because it's a “wow moment” that has transpired in your life. You never forget those incredible times because they leave a lasting mark upon your soul. I'm sure many of you, perhaps as a child, put your head outside a car window that was traveling down the road. It takes your breath away! So you close your mouth. You cannot speak, and it's wild fun while it lasts! Spiritually, I've often called this place in the Lord a “wordless realm” of glory. You literally DRINK IN the Spirit. You inhale His Divine Breath in ways unexplainable by human language. No wonder Jesus says in John 4:23 “An hour is coming, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and truth; for such people the Father seeks to be His worshippers.” Your heart enters a place of worship where your spirit is joined to the Holy Spirit and worship is found in simple adoration of that intimate, spiritual communion of silent awe and wonder. We need to learn how to “be still and KNOW our God (Psalm 46:10). Indeed words are fine and necessary in expressing our love to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit all the days of our lives. Nevertheless, there is a realm of spectacular beauty beyond human expression. It can only be experienced through the Spirit.



Listening seems to be a lost art these days. But many of the mystics of old dwelt in that holy place of awe and reverence before the Lord. Sainly souls such as Brother Lawrence, Madame Guyon, Katherine Kuhlman and many others, entered a place in the Spirit where they could not utter one sound from their lips or heart because it could cause the Holy Dove to take flight. It's an extremely sacred place with splashes of silent splendor as a crashing sea wave upon the rocks! One begins to ascend the mountain of the Lord in ways not previously comprehended or experienced. It's a whole new realm that we can climb, going higher and higher each time. Talk about ascending the mountain of the Lord! (Psalm 24).



In those glorious moments of silence, my heart begins to soar with that of the Holy Spirit as my flesh is set aside and I enter into a realm of the heavens simply gazing into the Face of God. I'd liken it to an old couple married many, many years, who sit in their lawn chairs on a beautiful, sandy beach. All they're doing is just holding hands watching the grand spectacle of a fiery sunset together. They know each other so well words aren't necessary. Often they can discern what the other is thinking without even asking. It's so precious. And that's my experience with my beloved King of glory! I know many of you know



what I am talking about. But perhaps, some do not. I'm taking this opportunity to encourage you to learn to know the Lord in this way. It strengthens your soul like nothing else.

I'll for sure date myself now, but there's an old 60's song that says, “To know, know, know him, is to love, love, love him-and I do, and I do and I do!” It's true. To know and love the Lord in the intimacy of silence is to love Him deeper still. Oh, to simply lie upon His bosom listening to the sound of His every heartbeat as did John the Beloved! (John 13:23). It's not surprising the Lord entrusted to him the final book of the Bible-Revelation. There needs to be a desire within each one of us to find that place of deeper revelation. Do you long for this? Do you long for deeper insights and understanding? Do you long to see the glory of the Lord that takes your breath away? Is there a cry in your heart to access a place of utterly profound motionlessness where you know the heartbeat of God? Do you seek His Breath in ways you've not known before? Have you tried entering into silence to experience those things? I've often read John 14:9 with an unsettled heart because one of the Lord's own apostles did not know the Lord in this manner. Jesus admonishes His chosen servant saying, “Have I been so long with you and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip?”



Beloved friends, during these somewhat silent months of autumn and winter as much of nature lies dormant, begin to let the supernatural flow of God into your life in a new and incredible way. Begin to make it your insatiable pursuit to go deeper in your walk with your Beloved King of glory. Get to know Him more intimately in the splendor of His holiness through the wordless realm of the spirit. Therein is communication beyond the norms. We don't always have to use our tongue. We don't always have to be praying “in tongues” to get there. We don't always have to be filling up space and air. John 3:6 says, “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.” Intimacy with God comes by way of the Holy Spirit. We must understand that we don't need to be talking all the time. Yes, constant communiques with the Lord are wonderful, and yet, there are times of holy intimacy where words simply are not needed! In fact, the reverential, holy fear of God will cause you to hold your tongue as your heart is arrested in awe and wonder. It's as if the Holy Spirit takes your breath away as when you behold something of great magnitude! Do you know this realm? If not, begin to seek for it, as it will take you into greater depths of the Lord's heart beyond anything you thought possible.

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