

Words are reflections of our souls

By T.P. ALEXANDER
Central Newspaper Services

Helpful speech or harmful speech (Proverbs)

Webster's dictionary describes the word "Proverb" as "A pithy saying popularly accepted since ancient times, expressing practical wisdom in homely language."

The text given for today's study is made up from selected proverbs, illustrating "helpful speech or harmful speech."

People communicate mostly by words, arranged in a manner to express certain thoughts, whether good, bad, uplifting, or derogatory. Normally words express our inner thoughts and feelings.

Words convey our attitudes and our inner selves. The scriptures are replete with words of

instruction concerning our spirituality and likewise, our lack of spirituality.

The writer, generally accepted to be Solomon, was a very wise person, and one of the great men of God because he permitted God to work His will through him. That's the secret to men/women becoming great people of God.

The Bible is Holy History. It records the thoughts and actions of people living some six thousand years ago - how God worked through them to establish His redemptive will and purpose for all mankind.

The Bible sets forth God's precepts of Godliness and what He wants and expects from mankind. Yet, God has instilled in the heart of man a will of choice; He does not force His will upon people, except perhaps in certain cases.

Words and the neighbors: Bad news/good news (Proverbs 11:12;13:12:28)

"There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword but the tongue of the wise is health." (Verse 18)

The theme of the book of Proverbs is wisdom, and it begins by declaring that God, our creator, is the source of wisdom. Many of the proverbs deal with speech - concise, hard-hitting statements.

The first three verses in our collection of proverbs deal with the way that our speech affects those around us. These three verses deal with contempt, concealment, hurt and healing.

When we pause and give some thought to our relationships with others, we find that

mainly they fall within these four categories.

Our heart, mind and tongue seem to work in conjunction with each other, and they respond to everyday relationships with other people. When someone praises one of our acts we react with a smiling "thank you."

Conversely, when someone criticizes our words, or actions, we usually respond negatively, or in sharp defense. Sometimes our humanity overrides our Christianity, when certain negative incidents occur.

Words and the speaker: Good news/bad news

"The heart of the righteous studieth to answer but the mouth of the wicked poureth out evil things." (Verse 28)

Our words I believe may be classified in one of two cate-

gories, i.e., "self control" or "self destruction."

The Apostle James warns us that the tongue is of all things most difficult to bring under control.

Someone remarked of this that the best policy is the cultivation of a lifelong habit of speaking the truth plainly - so honestly so that all you need to remember are the facts.

The facts of a particular matter, or incident, are hard for someone to misunderstand.

In Verse 24, Solomon, the

author makes a refreshing statement, "Pleasant words are as a honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health to the bones."

Some wise person once said that the words from our mouths are reflections of our souls; while this writer has not given that statement much intuitive thought, it does make a positive impression on my mind.

(Lesson based on the International Sunday School Lessons)

Services

Let there be light on the field

❖ New Life

Pentacostal Holiness

New Life Pentacostal Holiness Church will have a yard sale Aug. 29, 7:30 a.m. at BE-LO Shopping Center. Proceeds will be used for church functions. For donations or more information contact Bertha Wilkins at 426-1846.

❖ First Baptist Missionary

The First Baptist Missionary Church will celebrate the anniversary of the Deacons Board, Deaconess Board and Trustee Board on Sunday, Aug. 16 at 2:30 p.m. The Rev. Thomas Lee and Wynn's Grove Missionary Baptist Church of Colerain will be special guests.

❖ Bethel Baptist

Revival services will be held at Bethel Baptist Church Aug. 23-26 at 7:30 each evening. The guest evangelist is the Rev. Royce E. Williams. The Rocky Mount native is president of Missions Evangelism Ministries, which is dedicated to evangelistic preaching and singing, both at home and abroad, for the salvation of souls and the edification of the church. A graduate of Campbell University and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary, Williams did extensive studies at Mid American Theological Seminary.

Rev. Williams has been in the full-time ministry since the age of 16 through ministries of music, missions and evangelistic preaching. He is currently serving at Oak Grove Baptist Church, Roper. A nursery will be open.

The Lady Pirates softball team will be in the spotlight next season.

For the first time, Perquimans County High School will be able to host evening games due to a joint project by N.C. Power and the Perquimans County Athletic Boosters.

Perquimans was the only school in the Northeastern Albemarle Conference without a lighted softball field.

The poles were set several

weeks ago. Friday and Saturday, N.C. Power crews, along with Booster volunteers, installed the lights. Work will continue to run the necessary wiring and other electrical equipment for the project.

Initial estimates for the project hovered around \$30,000. Then N.C. Power stepped in and offered substantial assistance with installation and ordering the necessary supplies through the company. With the price lowered to

around \$11,000, the Athletic Boosters voted to undertake the project.

In addition to membership fees, concession sales, the Old Timers game and the sports program, the Boosters are accepting donations for the project. Any business or individual donating \$300 purchases one light fixture for the project. The donor's name will appear on a permanent sign at the park. In addition, those who donate a light by Friday will receive a complimentary ad in the sports program.

Donations of all sizes are being accepted. For information or to donate, contact Edgar Roberson, Parker Newbern or Susan Harris.



PHOTO BY SUSAN HARRIS

North Carolina Power crews install the lights and cross bars at the Perquimans County High School softball field. The lighting project is a joint effort by N.C. Power and the Athletic Booster Club.

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NC SALES TAX IS ADDITIONAL
DELIVERY DATE: SATURDAY, AUGUST 22, 11 - 1 P.M.
DELIVERY LOCATION: CABINET OUTLET, EDENTON

Open Letter
Dear Friends,
Funeral prearrangements depend upon individual circumstances. What is satisfying for some may be impractical for others. Prearranging a funeral is often a tentative plan contingent upon circumstances remaining somewhat stable during the remaining lifetime of the prearranger and of the survivors involved. We invite you to discuss the subject with us.
Respectfully,
W. Lacy Swindell
Swindell Funeral Home
509 Dobbs Street 426-7311 Hertford

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and **EVANS FLORIST**
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The "Word" for the Week
Ride On Victoriously
Here is the grand picture. "I looked, and behold, a white horse, and he who sat on it had a bow; and a crown was given to him, and he went out conquering and to conquer" (Revelation 6:2). Is this horseman Jesus Christ?
Psalm 45:4 exhorts, "in Your majesty ride on victoriously, for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness." This is definitely Messiah, the anointed One, Jesus of Nazareth. The parallel seems plain. Christ and His Good News are powerful forces.
We have seen riots in city streets, shootings in schools, an escalation of family violence, and much drug and alcohol abuse. Powerful forces must quell these evil threats to personal safety and eternal well-being.

The basic confession of Christianity is in line with this picture. "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" (Romans 10:9). Jesus Christ is Lord. He is the risen Lord. Christians follow this "Lord of Glory" (1 Corinthians 2:8), this "King of kings (Revelation 19:16), this One who sits on "the throne of the Majesty in the heavens" (Hebrews 8:1). Revelation 19:11 also portrays "a white horse, and He who sat on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness He judges and wages war." Ride on victoriously, Lord Jesus.

The Weekly Message is brought to you by the following merchants:

NOTICE OF DEMOCRATIC PRIMARY ELECTION FOR THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
The Perquimans County Board of Elections will hold a primary election on September 15, 1998. The primary will be a Democratic Primary for the Third Congressional District. The polls will be open from 6:30 A.M. until 7:30 P.M. Voters who are registered need not re-register. Residents of the county who are not registered must register by August 21, 1998.
Any voter who will be out of the county the entire time the polls are open on election day, or who will be unable to go to the polls because of sickness or disabilities may vote by absentee ballot. The voter may apply for absentee ballot beginning August 14, 1998. Absentee applications will be issued through Tuesday, September 8, 1998 at 5:00 P.M.
"One Stop" absentee voting at the Board of Elections office will begin August 24, 1998 and end September 11, 1998 at 5:00 P.M. The Board of elections office will be open Monday through Friday 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. during this time.
The Board of Elections office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 A.M. until 5:00 P.M. We are located at 608 Edenton Road St., if you need additional information call 426-5598.
L. Paul Smith, Jr. Chairman
Perquimans County Board of Elections

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