A War Over Words

by Thomas Akens

“A very great part of the mischiefs that vex this world arises from words.” ~ Burke

Speaking of words, Noah Webster, the father and founder of education in America, states that, they are “articulate sounds” which express “an idea or ideas”. What we call words are in themselves merely articulate sounds, that is, they are sounds joined together; much like the sounds of the animals. And like the animals these sounds are messengers of our thoughts. However, this is where the similarity ends; for nowhere do we find that the Lord gave to the animals a mind like to his own, as was given to man. Man, unlike the animals, was made capable of expressing the divine mind in word; his mind was made the vault where the treasure of divine wisdom and knowledge could be stored and transferred from father to son. Thought, therefore, is that which is conveyed by these sounds, and truly comprehends what we call “words”. And because words convey thoughts, and thoughts are the product of the mind, we must logically conclude that, “the mischiefs that vex this world” arise, not merely from the words, but from the mind or thoughts expressed by the words. It is, therefore, the thought conveyed by the words that is the issue at hand. That this is the case may be clearly seen in the following scriptures, (1) “out of the abundance of the heart (mind) the mouth speaketh (words).”1 (2) “Keep thy heart (mind) with all diligence, for out of it (that is, words) are the issues of life.”2 Put these two truths together and we see that, out of the heart flow the issues of life; and these “issues” flow from “the mouth”. The mouth, then, is the medium through which “the issues of life” or our thoughts are conveyed to others in words.

But, just how important are our words? In answer we need only quote what the apostle James says of our words under the figure of “the tongue”. He says, “For in many things we offend all. If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body. Behold, we put bits in the horses’ mouths, that they may obey us; and we turn about their whole body. Behold also the ships, which though they be so great, and are driven of fierce winds, yet are they turned about with a very small helm, whithersoever the governor listeth. . . . so is the tongue among our members”3 Again we ask, Just how important are our words? Answer, important enough that if a man should have such control of his words so as not to offend another “in word” he is said to be “a perfect man,” “able also to bridle the whole body.” And that no one should fail of comprehending the importance of words, we here

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give as our chief authority the final “word” on this question as spoken by Jesus Christ. His judgment stands thus, “By thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.”4

There is, therefore, a mind (heart) which, by its words, is the source of all the “mischief” and vexations of this world; a mind which is at variance with the divine mind, and which wars against it. And there is the divine mind.

Of that mind which is the source of all this world’s mischiefs and vexations we read that, it is “the spirit (mind) that now worketh in the children of disobedience.”5 Its word to us is, “Let us break their (God & Christ’s) bands asunder, and cast away their cords from us.”6 It is the mind, therefore, expressed in the word. Let us rebel. Of the author of this mind the word of God tells us that, “He was a murderer from the beginning, and abode not in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for he is a liar, and the father of it.”7 Here then is the source of the “mischief” which arise from words.

Of the divine mind we read, “Thy word is very pure” and “Thy word is true from the beginning.”8 Purity and truth are the foundations of the word (mind) of God. And the thought expressed by this mind says, “It is the spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing: the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.”9 Here then is the source of all truth, purity, and life, “the word of life”.10

We have now before us the two minds which are at work in this world. One is the source and giver of all life, and truth, and purity; while the other is a murderer or taker of life, and a liar, and father of it.

These two minds are embodied in two separate and distinct persons:

Of the one we read, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God,” and “in him (that divine Word) was life, and the life was the light of men,” and “the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth,” and the thought, the truth, expressed by this Word is, “I (the Word of God) am the way the truth and the life.”11

Of the other we read, “O Lucifer” “Thou art the anointed cherub that covereth,” and “thine heart was lifted up because of thy beauty, thou hast corrupted thy wisdom by reason of thy brightness,” “for thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.”12

Here, then, stand before us these two persons; representing and embodying the two minds, and each expressing its own separate and distinct thought. “No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other.” “Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? either a vine, figs? so can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh.”13 It is clear that we cannot serve both God and Satan. For just as a spring cannot give both sweet and bitter water, and like as the fig tree cannot bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs; in like manner we cannot with our words express the thoughts of both God and Satan. We must here, today, make our stand for one of these two minds. Either we will by our words convey only that which is true, pure, and life giving; or we will express that which is false, filthy, and devoid of life.

There is in the human heart a war; a war for the mastery of the tongue; a war whose outcome will determine the destiny of all that have lived, are living, and shall live upon this earth. Is it your desire to have the victory in this war? To you then, is the word spoken, “He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered them from their destructions.”14 That Word is the Son of God, sent forth to bring salvation from sin to all who will take refuge in him; as it is written, “For God so loved the world, that he sent his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.”15 And that your salvation might be sure, he hath offered to all his own mind, the mind of God, the Word of God, saying, “Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus . . . That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life.”16 Just now this word is spoken to you, just now is offered to you the mind of God. What will be your choice? To all who will choose life, and truth, and purity; to them it is promised, saying, Be “confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.” “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.”17 May God bless his word. Amen.

The Faith of Jesus

By Nader Mansour

The Apostle Paul, after his conversion, led a very different life. So remarkable was the change that he spells it out for us in Galatians 2:20 “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” Paul now lived by something called “the faith of the Son of God.” In the last days we have a group of people who are described in a similar way. We read about them in Revelation 14:12 “Here is the patience of the saints: here are they that keep the commandments of God, and the faith of Jesus.” This characteristic of the saints is vital. They not only keep the commandments but they also keep the faith of Jesus. Not faith in Jesus, but the faith of Jesus. We know so little of that faith of Jesus. What exactly is this faith of Jesus? And how can we see a clear demonstration of it?

What is faith?

“Well faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen” (Hebrews 11:1). In the life of Christ we see a living demonstration of this definition of faith. The author and finisher of our faith lived by faith. This is the faith of Jesus. He was really authoring our faith as He lived here on earth and only by looking to Him can we really learn what that faith is like “Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith” (Hebrews 12:2).

The faith of Jesus tested

The greatest demonstration of the faith of Jesus is seen in the shadow of the cross.

As Jesus came up to this period He was faced with a trying temptation. His words seem strange and out of character “Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt” (Matthew 26:38, 39). Three times Christ prayed that prayer, and He totally submitted His case to God. His faith held on under severe trial. Christ’s agony was awful as He was surrounded by the hosts of darkness. He was beginning to feel the separation from His Father as the sins of the world were borne by Him. In the garden Christ had to hold on by faith as everything else seemed to urge Him to abandon the project. It was by faith alone that He continued on to the cross where the test got even worse.

The cross

At the cross Christ felt all alone. With no visible token or evidence of His Father’s presence He now had to walk that final part of the journey relying only on faith. Everything else was against Him, even His followers abandoned Him. Hanging on the cross Christ could perceive something taking place “And they crucified him, and parted his garments, casting lots: that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophet, They parted my garments among them, and upon my vesture did they cast lots” (Matthew 27:35). Picture Christ on the cross looking down at this scene. What comes to His mind? Would He be reminded of Psalms 22:18 “They part my garments among them, and cast lots upon my vesture.”? What does this do? It gives Him evidence of the things not seen. It strengthens His faith in what He is about to do, that He is on the right track. God had prepared some evidences to strengthen the faith of His Son at this trying hour. At this vital hour Christ had to rely on faith alone; a faith that is based on the word of God which gave Him evidence of that which could not be seen. God can now only communicate with His Son through the medium of faith. Christ was perfecting the faith that He wants to impart to us. He could not see the Father; He could not sense His presence; He did not feel victorious. All He had was faith. So keen was the anguish of Christ that He expressed it in the familiar words “My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me?” (Matthew 27:46).

Yet despite the evidence of his senses, and the temptation to doubt Christ’s faith did not waver. In His expiring breath Christ gave expression of His faith in the familiar words “... Father, into thy hands I commend my spirit: and having said thus, he gave up the ghost.” Luke 23:46; John 19:30. Here He was addressing the Father though He did not sense His presence. Everything was dark and oppressive. But the faith of Jesus reaches past all this and takes hold of that which is not seen. He trusts the Father whom He cannot see, feel, sense or perceive. Here is a victory of pure faith; a faith that is firmly founded on the word of God. This is the faith of Jesus which the saints in the last days must keep and never lose. We need this mind of Christ that operated by faith in the Father (Philippians 2:5). It assures of victory. Do we go through trying experiences? Do we feel forsaken of God? Let’s not miss the evidences of faith that God sends us our way? The remnant will go through an experience like Christ. They can only survive it if they have the faith of Jesus.

“Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;)” (Hebrews 10:23) ~
Plan to bring a tent, self contained RV, or there is a motel – 7 miles away. We will do our best to provide adequate accommodations for the elderly and those with poor health. The weather is usually dry and can be windy at times. Nights are cool, and can be cold, and days are hot. Free vegan meals are provided. There is no fee to attend or for meals but please let us know as soon as you are able if you plan to attend so we can plan. Also bring: warm and cool weather clothes, flashlight, sleeping bag and pad, sun hat.

**Location:** Sims property
9548 County Rd. 87 (Adin Lookout Rd)
Lookout, CA 96054
(530) 294-1115
David@historyinfo.net

**Directions:** The city of Lookout is 100 miles north east of Redding, California and 90 miles southeast of Klamath Falls, Oregon.

From the South or West: From 299 at Red Barn in Bieber go north on Bieber-Lookout Rd. (toward Lookout). Go 6 miles and turn right on county Road 87. Go one mile and driveway is on the left. #9548

**SHOULDN'T I ATTEND THIS CAMP MEETING?**

By David Sims

For Seventh Day Adventists (speaking generically), summer is somewhat synonymous with camp meetings. Since the beginning of the Advent Movement, there have been camp meetings in various localities making it possible that no one really has to spend an inordinate amount of time traveling in order to attend at least a few camp meetings each year. Especially in this day and age of driving and even flying.

Anciently, the Israelites males encouraged to be the spiritual leaders in their homes, were required to attend these convocations three times each year, but the whole family was encouraged to attend. “Thrice in the year shall all your men children appear before the Lord GOD, the God of Israel.” (Ex 34:23) God considered it of such importance that he commanded this three times. (see also Ex 23:14, 17; 34:24) and a fourth time he mentioned it. He gave them a promise of protection for their temporal interests while they attended. “For I will cast out the nations before thee, and enlarge thy borders: neither shall any man desire thy land, when thou shalt go up to appear before the LORD thy God thrice in the year.” (Ex 34:24)

Though we do not have to walk for days to attend the convocations as the Israelites did, it still requires devotion, but it is well worth it.

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Joseph, when a young man not much older than I am today, found himself one day facing the greatest crisis of his life. His whole future destiny was to be affected. Now, as the hour of decision came upon him, he firmly determined to serve his father’s God with an undivided heart, and his soul thrilled with the high resolve to live as became a subject of the King of heaven.

Shall we wait for a crisis before resolving this for ourselves? This raises a pertinent question: What is God’s will for my life as I become a young woman, and how do I live this practically from day to day?

In Psalms 144:12 we read that God’s design for His daughters is that they be as cornerstones, polished after the similitude of a palace.

To be a cornerstone means that I must be prepared to support the weight of the structure. Practically speaking, this means I must be a Proverbs 31 woman in my home, family, and in my wider circle of influence.

To be a polished cornerstone like those found in a palace means that I must learn to do this in a manner fitting a daughter of the King.

At home I must guard my spirit, my actions, my words. I must give time to personal culture, to training and educating myself in right principles. I must be an example to others. I must meditate upon the word of God night and day and bring it into my practical life. (To be a True Young Lady p.23)

God has been showing me a few areas I need to have polished.

Firstly, I need to become an “apprentice helpmeet”.

As a young woman preparing to take my place as a “cornerstone”, I am so thankful for the opportunity God has given me to apprentice myself to my mother and learn as much as I can from her about how to be an helpmeet to my father. It is in the home that I learn to practice the principles of economy and home industry, as outlined in Proverbs 31. In short, I need to be preparing a thorough knowledge of all aspects of home industry in order to help support my father's house, and, if time should last, fit me to be a useful helpmeet to my husband. That is God’s will for my life.

The family firm is a sacred, social society, in which each member is to act a part, each helping the other. The work of the household is to move smoothly, like the different parts of well-regulated machinery. (To be a True Young Lady 23)

Young women think that it is menial to cook and do other kinds of housework; and, for this reason many girls who marry and have the care of families, have little idea of the duties devolving upon a wife and mother.

It is the right of every daughter of Eve to have a thorough knowledge of household duties, to receive training in every department of domestic labor. (To be a True Young Lady 23)

The Majesty of Heaven “willingly consented to come to this earth to do the work laid upon Him by...
Sometimes he needs a hand nailing decking or standing a frame, roofing or installing kitchens and I enjoy contributing to our family in this way, as well as learning these practical skills.

The Bible says that children are as arrows in the hand of a mighty man. I like to think that I am an arrow on a mission for my father. Daddy sometimes tells his clients that he will be bringing his teenage daughter to help him on the job, and they often express surprise when we meet. I don’t think they expected someone like me!

Daddy gets to field all sorts of questions about children, families, and God after I am gone! It is a blessing to be able to give this witness in the homes of his clients.

Now that we live in the mountains we use a lot of firewood to heat our home! This last winter daddy bought a smaller chainsaw that is safe for mother and I to use. He wasn’t happy for us to use his big one because if it kicked back we could get hurt. He has taught me how to maintain it and sharpen the chain as well as how to identify which timber will burn well and how to safely cut a load of firewood.

These are just some of the practical ways that I can fill my place as a cornerstone.

Secondly, as I endeavor to serve God according to principle, I must love my parents and siblings best of all my friends. This is another training ground for me to learn to be a Titus 2 woman.

Young people, aren’t we sometimes tempted to get our priorities muddled? Don’t we sometimes find our hearts are more drawn after our friends than our own family?

I faced this temptation until I realized that God hand-picked my family for me. He chose the very ones I needed most and placed them in my home that we might bless, refine, and encourage one another.

The highest duty that devolves upon youth is in their own homes, blessing father and mother, brothers and sisters by affection and true interest. (Messages to Young People p. 326)

I have found that as I invest my affections and interest in my family, home really is the sweetest place on earth. No, our home isn’t perfect and we don’t always see everything eye-to-eye but even when things aren’t “sunny-side-up” I am thankful for the privilege of living with my best friends.~
With those who lived at a distance from the tabernacle, more than a month of every year must have been occupied in attendance upon the annual feasts. This example of devotion to God should emphasize the importance of religious worship and the necessity of subordinating our selfish, worldly interests to those that are spiritual and eternal. We sustain a loss when we neglect the privilege of associating together to strengthen and encourage one another in the service of God. The truths of His word lose their vividness and importance in our minds. Our hearts cease to be enlightened and aroused by the sanctifying influence, and we decline in spirituality. In our intercourse as Christians we lose much by lack of sympathy with one another. He who shuts himself up to himself is not filling the position that God designed he should. We are all children of one Father, dependent upon one another for happiness. The claims of God and of humanity are upon us. It is the proper cultivation of the social elements of our nature that brings us into sympathy with our brethren and affords us happiness in our efforts to bless others. (Patriarchs and Prophets p. 541)

If the children of Israel needed the benefit of these holy convocations in their time, how much more do we need them in these last days of peril and conflict! (6 Testimonies p. 40)

Satan is working with hellish untiring vigilance to cause discord. This disunity is eating like a cancer the life of the remnant people of God. Shall we not be on his track, realizing his plans and seeking to defeat him. It is one of his modes of operation to keep us away from the camp meetings where we can meet with those from all over the field and get to know one another better. This communication helps to dispel doubts, suspicions and evil surmising. It strengthens the cause of God by strengthening our bonds to one another.

Some will say:

"It is expensive to travel, and it would be better for us to save the money and give it for the advancement of the work where it is so much needed." Do not reason in this way; God calls upon you to take your place among the rank and file of His people. Strengthen the meeting all you possibly can by being present with your families. Put forth extra exertion to attend the gathering of God's people.

"Brethren and sisters, it would be far better for you to let your business suffer than to neglect the opportunity of hearing the message God has for you. Make no excuse that will keep you from gaining every spiritual advantage possible. You need every ray of light. You need to become qualified to give a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear. You cannot afford to lose one such privilege." (6T 39)

Brothers and sisters, we don't know how much longer we will be free to gather together this way. I hope to see each of you at the camp meetings this summer.

Lemon juice has long been used as a natural disinfectant. One author recommends the following recipe for using lemon juice as a bathroom disinfectant. Simply mix 1 part lemon juice concentrate to 4 parts water in a spray bottle. Spray on counters, sinks, toilets, bathtubs, and more for cleaning purposes. Let it sit for 30 minutes. Then, spray again and wipe clean. This helps destroy germs and many types of bacteria.

At the Tsyuma Central Hospital, scientists examined various methods of disinfection on a battery of 4 microbes, including strep. According to their study published in the Medical Journal of Tsyuma Central Hospital, they found that using a method of spraying lemon juice and then wiping with a paper towel after 1 minute achieved a "4-log reduction" of bacteria. A 4-log reduction is a scientific term meaning a 99.99% kill rate of microbes. (cited at: http://greenkeen.blogspot.com/2010/03/lemon-juice-natural-disinfectant-has.html, though we have not been able to find this article in the Medical Journal for verification, but it is in line with various other studies we have found.)

Lemon juice has been found to act as a disinfectant in water, and specifically to inhibit the Vibrio Cholerae bacteria (the bacteria that causes Cholera in humans). Its
effectiveness as an inhibitor of bacteria depends upon the pH of the water, the concentration of the lemon juice, and the time of its contact with the water. In what would be classified as very hard water (>180mg CaCO₃ per liter), the lemon juice concentration being at least 2 percent, it needs 30 minutes of allowed time to act, to kill Vibrio Cholera. The less alkaline the water the less time or concentration needed. (Lemon juice as a natural biocide for disinfecting drinking water study performed from January through July 1993 Author: D'Aquino, M; Teves, S A Citation: Bull-Pan-Am-Health-Organ. 1994 Dec; 28(4): 324-30)

Another study has shown lime juice to kill more than 99.9 percent Vibrio Cholera on lettuce and cabbage within 5 minutes. In fact none of the original inoculated bacteria could be found.


has sought to depict house-work, training children, and being a wife and help-meet a mere drudgery and slavery. The family unit has come under fierce attack by this mindset from all quarters.

Don't be surprised if government, while still doing the things that undermine the foundation for the family unit, under the guise of providing a solution to the eroding family values, legislates Sunday to be a day for the family. ~

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