

# BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM ON GOD'S WORD AND NOT OURS

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—February 11th, 2024

## ECCLESIASTES 5:1-7

(ESV)

*[1] Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil. [2] Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few. [3] For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words.*

*[4] When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. [5] It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. [6] Let not your mouth lead you into sin, and do not say before the messenger that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry at your voice and destroy the work of your hands? [7] For when dreams increase and words grow many, there is vanity; but God is the one you must fear.*

## INTRODUCTION

Reverence is not perceived on the outside, but reverence is an attitude of the heart.

**Hebrews 12:28–29**—*[28] Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe, [29] for our God is a consuming fire.*

The fear of the Lord is the attitude of reverence that humans are required to have as they approach God.

**Ecclesiastes 12:13**—*[13] The end of the matter; all has been heard. Fear God and keep his commandments, for this is the whole duty of man.*

## WORDS OF WISDOM

The preacher is warning us not to draw near to God with an unbridled tongue.

The way we use our tongues reveals the condition of our hearts.

**Luke 6:45**—*[45] The good person out of the good treasure of his heart produces good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure produces evil, for out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks.*

While the Preacher warned Old Covenant believers to take their tongues as they entered the presence of God, the Holy Spirit admonishes us, New Covenant believers, to tame our tongues at all times because we live our lives in the presence of the glory of God.

- **Proverbs 10:19–[19]** *When words are many, transgression is not lacking, but whoever restrains his lips is prudent.*
- **Proverbs 13:3–[3]** *Whoever guards his mouth preserves his life; he who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.*
- **Proverbs 21:23–[23]** *Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble.*
- **Matthew 12:36–[36]** *I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak...*
- **James 1:19–[19]** *Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger...*
- **James 1:26–[26]** *If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless.*

We speak more than we should because we are proud.

**1 Peter 3:1–2–[1]** *Likewise, wives, be subject to your own husbands, so that even if some do not obey the word, they may be won without a word by the conduct of their wives, [2] when they see your respectful and pure conduct.*

**1 Peter 2:21–23–[21]** *For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. [22] He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. [23] When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly.*

**Isaiah 53:7–***He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth; like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent, so he opened not his mouth.*

## WORDS OF TRUTH

Promises made to God must be fulfilled with the highest sense of priority.

**Deuteronomy 23:21–23–[21]** *“If you make a vow to the LORD your God, you shall not delay fulfilling it, for the LORD your God will surely require it of you, and you will be guilty of sin. [22] But if you refrain from vowing, you will not be guilty of sin. [23] You shall be careful to do what has passed your lips, for you have voluntarily vowed to the LORD your God what you have promised with your mouth.*

What God is concerned with is that we are committed to the truth.

**Matthew 5:37–[37]** *Let what you say be simply ‘Yes’ or ‘No’; anything more than this comes from evil.*