

We Will Be Judged by Our Words
(Matthew 12:36-37)

Introduction:

1. This morning we studied a number of passages that teach us about "the judgment" that will follow the resurrection when Jesus returns.
2. This evening, our lesson is based on the Lord's statements recorded in Matthew 12:36-37 where He taught that "we will be judged by our words."
3. Let us first examine . . .

Discussion:

- I. THE SITUATION THAT LED JESUS TO MAKE THESE STATEMENTS
 - A. (vs.22) Jesus healed a man possessed by a demon [he was blind and dumb].
 - B. There were 2 responses to this miracle.
 1. (vs.23) The people were amazed and recognized Jesus as *"the son of David."*
 2. (vs.24) The Pharisees claimed that Jesus cast out demons by Beelzebub.
 - C. (vs.25-35) Jesus directed His comments to the Pharisees.
 1. Jesus showed how ridiculous their accusation was (vs.25-30).
 2. He continued by pointing out their errors.
 - a. They were guilty of blaspheming God's Spirit (vs.31-32).
 - b. Their words revealed the condition of their hearts (vs.33-35).
 - D. (vs.36-37) Jesus directed His comments to everyone -- we will either be justified or condemned by our words.
 - E. Now that we are familiar with the situation that led Jesus to make His statements in Matthew 12:36-37, let us turn our attention to . . .
- II. INSTRUCTIONS THAT WILL HELP US SPEAK PROPERLY
 - A. Remember that God knows our words (Psalm 139:4).
 - B. Ask God for help (Psalm 19:14).
 - C. Listen to God's instructions (Psalm 34:13).
 - D. Be determined to speak properly (Psalm 39:1).
 - E. Distinguish between times to speak and be silent (Ecclesiastes 3:7).
 - F. Keep the right things in the heart (Matthew 12:34-35).
 - G. Follow the instructions given in:
 1. Ephesians 4:29
 2. Colossians 4:6

Conclusion:

1. As we endeavor to run the Christian race, we are to keep our eyes focused on the Lord (Hebrews 12:1-2).
2. We learn from 1 Peter 2:22 that Jesus *"did no sin, neither was guile found in His mouth."*
3. Let us strive to imitate Him because "we will be judged by our words."