

MANNAGING OUR MOUTH...Part I

Reference: **James 3:1-12**

Pastor Larry Webb

verse one, “*My Brethren, let not many of you become teachers...*”

Essentially, James has given us a warning. He said, “Don’t be so anxious to be a teacher.”

The reason is not because teachers aren’t _____.

The reason is not because more teachers aren’t _____.

Question: Why shouldn’t all of us become teachers?

verse one (cont’d.) “...*knowing that we* (meaning knowing that we who are teachers) **shall receive a stricter judgment.**”

This passage argues that those who engage in biblical instruction, those who have been faithful to teach in a Christian context, are going to face a stricter analysis at the Judgment Seat of Christ.

There are at least three reasons why teachers are going to face a stricter evaluation and judgment than those who don’t teach.

- A teacher is responsible to teach _____.
Reference: **1 Timothy 3:15** (see screen),
- A teacher is responsible to _____ his own teaching.
Reference: **Hebrews 13:7** (see screen)

Teaching falls into two basic categories:

_____ i.e. what we say and
_____ i.e. what we do.

- A teacher is responsible for the _____ he is teaching.
Reference: **Hebrews 13:17** (see screen)

James starts to discuss our tongue in the next succession of verses. According to this passage, if anyone does not stumble in word (his speech) then two things are said to be true about him.

- He is a _____ person.
verse 2b, “...*If anyone does not stumble in word* (speech) **he is a perfect** (mature) **man...**”
- He has _____ - _____
verse 2c, “...*If anyone does not stumble in word* (speech) **he is a perfect man, able also to bridle the whole body.**”

Starting at verse three, James uses three pairs of word pictures in order to show us the incredible importance of the human tongue:

Pair One...the _____ and the _____ (**verses 3, 4, 5a**)

Pair Two... the _____ and the _____ (**verses 5b – 8**)

Pair Three...the _____ and the _____ (**verses 9 -12**)

Biblical references commenting on the inherent power of the human tongue:

Reference: **Proverbs 18:21, Proverbs 13:3, Proverbs 21:23** (see screen)