

WATCHMAN CATHOLIC CHARISMATIC RENEWAL MOVEMENT
2024 FIRST FRUIT FASTING EXERCISE Jan.22 – Feb 11. 2024
(Day 8)

Theme: JUMPING IN THE JOY OF JUBILEE
Texts: Ps.4:3-8; 32:11; 126:1-6
Topic: THE THRILL OF A TREATED TONGUE
Subtexts: Prov. 15:1; 16:24, Col. 4:6

In this Jubilee era when the Lord has given opportunity for the reset of homes, businesses, spiritual lives etc, it is essential to note that **thorns and thistles of character** can jeopardize the ultimate purpose of an era.

One of the most pernicious thorns is **the untreated tongue** (cons. Jas. 3:5-8, 10-12). Many lives are in tatters because of abuse of the tongue: speaking without discretion, insolent words, obscene language, boastful and annoying talks, regretful demeaning comments, acrid language. Where such toxic tongues are operational, peace is suffocated and joy is strangled, irrespective of the numerous testimonies being witnessed (Prov. 21:1, 27:15; Job 19:1-5)

Regrettably, many stay in the Church but refuse to submit their tongues to divine treatment, and so retain flippant and venomous tongues. (Rom. 3:13; Prov. 18:13)

How can the tongue be treated?

It is a **two-way** project: there is the duty of the needy and there is responsibility of the Lord.

It is the **believer's responsibility** to appraise self and discover his short comings (Lk. 15:17-19, 2 Cor. 13:15). Such discovery would lead to godly sorrow and decision to refrain from the unwanted "tongue" (Lk. 15:19). Acknowledging the deadliness of the tongue, he proceeds to make fervent scripture-based prayers viz praying the scriptures on unhealthy speaking (Ps. 1:1-3, Prov. 15:28, 17:27, 1 Pt. 3:10); praying for sanctification experience (Matt.12:34, 1Thess.5:23, Isa. 6:1-7). Then consciously walking in the light of the scriptures (Ps. 17:3, 19:14, Prov. 10:19, 16:23, 17:27); even separating from friends with toxic tongue (1 Cor. 15:33, Ps. 119:63; Prov. 19:27).

A **believer with a treated tongue** abstains from speaking guile (Ps. 34:13), does not speak indiscriminately (Prov. 25:8,11,21,23, Jas. 1:19-20, 26), speaks softly and graciously (Prov. 25:15, Ps. 15:1, Col. 4:6), abstains from jesting and foolish talking (Eph. 5:6, 4:29, Ps. 39:1) and rather use the tongue to praise and worship. (Col. 3:16,17)

The **Lord Jesus** is the Model: He had perfect control of His tongue and didn't allow the pressure of people to make Him indiscriminately or disorderly use it (Matt.26:62-63, Jn. 19:8-11, 1 Pt. 2:22-23)

A treated tongue generates life that soothes the wounded heart, binds the broken hearts, repairs breaches in lives, calms frayed nerves, form bridges for separated persons, renders a sweet smelling savor to the Almighty (Prov. 18:21).

Such tongues can effectively deploy the inherent creative power to change situations for the best. (Prov. 10:19)

What a thrill to have a treated tongue!