

SERMON NOTES:
Mt.12.36-37 - "Pruning, Productivity, & Punishment"
June 19, 2022 #172

True Believers are Fruitful Trees:

Jesus says humans act according to their **nature**.

"By your words you will be justified [acquitted] ... or condemned."

I. THE PARABLE v.33

Jesus' general point was: "You must **make up your minds about Me and My work.**"

II. THE PERSONALIZATION v.34a

Vipers are **deadly**. **Vipers** are **deceptive**.

When someone reached into the woodpile of **religion**, thinking to pick up a stick of **truth**,
he could be bitten to death by those soul-damning liars.

III. THE PRINCIPLE vv.34b-35

What a person is on the inside, his mouth will give evidence of on the outside.
What the heart is full of, will overflow from the mouth.

IV. THE P_____ vv.36-37

❖ People's words are an **A**_____ gauge of their **H**_____.

Salvation & condemnation are not produced by words or deeds, but they are **M**_____ by them.

Jesus' point is that words are **R**_____ evidence of the reality of salvation.

The speech of a redeemed person comes from his **R**_____ heart.

The only way of salvation is by God's grace working through man's faith

❖ We are saved for good **W**_____.

The Christian's speech will reflect God's **T**_____ work in the heart.

A_____ words of the unredeemed heart have no value.

***No spiritually good thing can come from a heart that is spiritually evil**

A Christian's customary speaking will be **P**_____ and his customary activities will be **R**_____.

Unbelievers will be judged by their own **W**_____ (Lk.19.22).

The books that report **D**_____ and the book that reports **F**_____ will alike testify against unbelievers.

✓ On judgment day our **H**_____ will matter most.

✓ The good words are words of **F**_____ in the Savior.

✓ A good heart declares faith in Jesus **F**_____.

✓ After we are saved, our casual words slowly **change** for the better.

➤ An evil heart has no words of **F**_____ in Jesus, and **H**_____ and foolish words to others.

Jesus asks: "What do you say about me? What do you say in your most casual words to others?"

CONCLUSION:

Every mouth speaks, and we must consider what our mouths say as they follow our hearts and minds.

Jesus appeals to heart & mind and He wants every one of us to say, "**I am for Jesus.**"