

## ***When Blessing Becomes a Curse***

James 3:1-12

Pastor Greg Wilson

### **Why is what you say so important?**

#### **1. You are accountable for your words (vv. 1-2)**

- The ability to speak words is a gift from God
- We are accountable to God since He gave us the ability to speak
- **1 Corinthians 4:7**
- We are accountable to our listeners to speak in a way that honors the God who gave us this ability
- This is a serious reminder to be humble

#### **2. Even a few wrong words can burn (vv. 3-8)**

- Your words can burn you
- Your words can burn others

#### **3. Your words can be a blessing or a curse (vv. 9-10)**

- On the positive side, the gift of speech can be a tool that God can use
- **Proverbs 16:24**
- **Proverbs 10:11**
- On the negative side, the gift of speech can be a weapon of the Devil

#### **4. Your words say something about your faith (vv. 11-12)**

- It is hypocrisy to praise God in a church service and curse people the rest of the week

Living under the Lordship of Christ includes your tongue. Allow the "Word made flesh" to control your fleshly words.