

Doctrine of the Tongue

As Found in the book of Proverbs

1. God hates a lying tongue. It is listed as one of the seven deadly sins.
 - *Proverbs 6:17 A proud look, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,*
2. Sensually women bent on immorality will use their tongues to flatter men. Bible doctrine residing in the soul is needed to keep a man from designing women.
 - *Proverbs 6:24 To keep thee from the evil woman, from the flattery of the tongue of a strange woman.*
3. A proper use of the tongue is recognized as something of great value.
 - *Proverbs 10:20 The tongue of the just is as choice silver: the heart of the wicked is little worth.*
4. When the tongue is consecrated to God and full of Bible doctrine it can communicate spiritual wisdom.
 - *Proverbs 10:31 The mouth of the just bringeth forth wisdom: but the froward tongue shall be cut out.*
5. When the tongue is used to wound, the words spoken are like the piercing of a dagger.
 - *Proverbs 12:18 There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.*
6. In the providence of God He has established a principle of morality in the universe to curb and control lying. It will only be allowed to last for a brief time.
 - *Proverbs 12:19 The lip of truth shall be established for ever: but a lying tongue is but for a moment.*
7. When a person is without God and without *Bible* doctrine in the soul then the lips of that person can only speak foolishness. A fool is a person who is “*stupid*” and “*wicked*” for such does the word “*fool*” (Heb. *nabal*) mean. Therefore foolishness refers to thoughts which are simple “*stupid*” and “*wicked*.”
 - *Proverbs 15:2 The tongue of the wise useth knowledge aright: but the mouth of fools poureth out foolishness.*

8. As the tongue of a righteous person speaks that which is valuable (Proverbs 10:20), so the same tongue is analogous to a tree that produces good living fruit. .
 - *Proverbs 15:4 A wholesome tongue is a tree of life: but perverseness therein is a breach in the spirit.*
9. There are many situations where wisdom is the better part of valour. The Lord must give the proper answer.
 - *Proverbs 16:1 The preparations of the heart in man, and the answer of the tongue, is from the LORD.*
10. A person who lies will in turn listen to lies being told.
 - *Proverbs 17:4 A wicked doer giveth heed to false lips; and a liar giveth ear to a naughty tongue.*
11. Those who speak one way to one person and then change their thoughts with another will find their inconsistencies will produce much harm.
 - *Proverbs 17:20 He that hath a froward [distorted, false] heart findeth no good: and he that hath a perverse tongue [a tongue that changes] falleth into mischief.*
12. Individuals who learn the power of an effective use of the tongue for evil or good can persuade people towards death or life. Consider the words of Martin Luther, John Wesley, Jonathan Edwards or Billy Graham and contrast them with the words of Adolf Hitler, Benito Mussolini, Joseph Stalin or Sadam Hussein.
 - *Proverbs 18:21 Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.*
13. It is possible to think and grow rich by using lies to acquire wealth. It is also the equivalent of seeking out death.
 - *Proverbs 21:6 The getting of treasures by a lying tongue is a vanity tossed to and fro of them that seek death.*
14. A person who is able to control his tongue saves his soul from much heartache.
 - *Proverbs 21:23 Whoso keepeth his mouth and his tongue keepeth his soul from troubles.*
15. Soft material can eventually wear and break down that which is stronger than itself. A single drop of water falling on a rock will have little or no impact. But a steady dropping of water will eventually wear the stone away. In like manner a soft answer can have a profound impact on a hard heart.

- *Proverbs 25:15 By long forbearing is a prince persuaded, and a soft tongue breaketh the bone.*
16. *There are times when the expressing of a righteous anger will do much to drive away an abusive tongue.*
- *Proverbs 25:23 The north wind driveth away rain: so doth an angry countenance a backbiting tongue.*
17. Those who lie will despise those who are affected by their lie. Perhaps this is due in part to a willingness to believe one's own lie in order to have a self of self righteous anger.
- *Proverbs 26:28 A lying tongue hateth those that are afflicted by it; and a flattering mouth worketh ruin.*
18. Many Christians believe the way to win souls to Christ is to flatter the ungodly rather than call them to repentance. The honest sinner would rather be rebuked out of conviction than flattered with insincerity.
- *Proverbs 28:23 He that rebuketh a man afterwards shall find more favour than he that flattereth with the tongue.*
19. A virtuous woman is one who speaks kindness.
- *Proverbs 31:26 She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness.*