

## **A WARNING TO THE TEACHERS OF THE CHURCH**

An introduction to chapter three of the Book of James. We will divide chapter three into two general sections for study: (Jas.3:1-12) and (Jas.3:13-18).

- **(Jas.3:1-12) Will be entitled, Abuses of the Tongue.**
- (Jas.3:13-18) Will be entitled, Abuses of Wisdom.

James opens his lesson on the Abuse of the Tongue by issuing a stern warning to the “Many teachers” within the Christian church.

(Jas.3:1) “**Stop becoming** (me ginomai/ p.m.impv.2pl) **many** (polus/ nplm) **teachers** (didaskalos/ nplm).”

### **Three aspects of James’ warning to spiritually gifted teachers of the Church.**

- 1. The teachers James is addressing are not Sunday school type teachers, but rather those spiritually gifted teachers like mentioned by Paul in (Rom.12:6-8) (7 spiritual gifts).**

**The Spiritual Gift:** “**He who teaches** (ho didasko/ p.a.ptc.nsm/ gift), **in** (en+locative of sphere) **his teaching** (te didaskalia lsf) [function/ what you teach].” (Rom.12:7b)

- Notice the gift and function are the same word. This is not always true of spiritual gifts.

(2 Tim.3:16-17) “**All Scripture** is inspired by God and profitable for **teaching (didaskalia)**, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”

- 2. Every Church Age Believer receives a spiritual gift at the moment of grace salvation (Rom.12:4-6); (1 Cor.12:4-7, 11-13, 28-29) (1 Cor.12-14).**

(1 Cor.12:11-13 “But **one and the same Spirit** works all these things, **distributing to each one individually just as He wills**. For even as the body is **one** and yet has many members of the body, though they are many, are **one** body, so also is Christ. For by **one** Spirit we were all baptized into **one** body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of **one** Spirit.” [not 7 ones]

- 3. James warns spiritually gifted teachers about one problem area in (Jas.3:1-2).**

(Jas.3:2) “For **we all stumble** (ptaio/ p.a.ind.1pl) in many (1cc/ true) **anyone does not stumble** in (en+loc. sphere) what he says (logos/ lsm) [the tongue/ communication of word of God], **he is a perfect (teleios/ nsm) [spiritually mature believer] (2 Pet.3:18) man (aner/ nsm)**, able (dunatos/ nsm) [inherent spiritual power] to bridle (chalinagogeo/ a.a.infin) [bridle with a bit, a control issue of the tongue, learning to conquer other areas of stumbling] the whole body as well.”

### Three Examples:

- A. Telling people what they want to hear rather than telling them what they need to hear from the Word of God.**
- a. This is referred to as being “men pleasers.”
  - b. (1 Thess.2:4) “But just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, **not as pleasing men but God, who examines our hearts.**” (Gal.1:10)
- B. Failing to tell people the truth regarding certain sins because the teacher has not conquered them in his own life.**
- a. (Rom.1:25) “For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.
  - b. (Eph.4:15) “**Speaking the truth in love**, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him, who is the head, even Christ.”
- C. Teaching doctrines that are not compatible with grace in every aspects of the Christian Way of Life.**
- a. (1 John 1:5-22) “if we say” (1 Jn.1:5; 1:6-7; 1:8-9; and 1:10-2:2).

### It is important to understand the six stages of grace.

(2 Pet.3:18) “But **grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ**. To Him be the glory, both now and to the day of eternity. Amen.”

(2 Tim.4:2) “Preach the word, be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort, with great patience and instruction (didache, NC doctrine).”

### The Warning

(Jas.3:1)

**“Let not many become teachers, my brethren,  
knowing that as such we shall incur a stricter judgment.”**