

The Satanic Attack of Corrupt Communication

*Scripture
Reading:*

**Ephesians 4:27-28
James 3:8-18**

INTRODUCTION

- Satan's attack of taking what does not belong to you (**stealing**), is common among Satan's children
 - **The unbeliever does not require Satanic lust in order to be motivated to steal**
 - **The true Christian, on the other hand, will only be tempted to steal when mentally attacked by Satan to do so**
- The same thing is true of Satan's lust to use **corrupt communication**
 - **That kind of speech is common for Satan's children (all unbelievers)**
 - **But Christians must be tempted by Satanic attack to use corrupt communication**

Various Kinds of Evil Speech

- **Swearing = affirming or denying an oath**
 - Proper swearing
 - Herod Agrippa - Mk 6:23
 - God (to Abraham) - Lk 1:73
 - Improper (by Peter's denial of Christ)
 - Peter's denial of Christ - Matt 26:74
 - Examples: "as God is my witness" or "by the beard of my face"

Various Kinds of Evil Speech (cont.)

- **Blasphemy = uttering a false attribution**
 - Jesus accused of blasphemy - Jn 10:33
 - False Jews - Rev 2:9
- **Cursing**
 - **Anathema = devoted to destruction; ruination. In NT involves disfavor with Jehovah; removed from a benefit**
 - Jewish assassins - Acts 23:12, 14, 21
 - NT believers who place, or allow themselves to be placed, under Law for present-tense salvation - Gal 1:8-9
 - **Katara = literally, to take down verbally**
 - Peter's cursing - Matt 26:74 ("may God strike me down if I am lying")
 - Jesus cursing the fig tree - Mk 11:21
 - Christians exhorted not to curse (take down verbally) other men - James 3:8-11

Various Kinds of Evil Speech (cont.)

- “Sapros” words
 - ‘Rotten at the core’
 - Rotten fruit and trees - Matt 7:17-18
 - Rotten fish - Matt 13:48
- Legitimate words, whose wrong usage ‘rots at the core’
 - “Bastard” - Heb 12:8
 - “Bald head” - 2 Kings 2:23, cf. Jer 48:37
 - Crude expressions used frivolously (of bodily functions)
 - Exclamatory language
 - The Lord’s name
 - “Hell”

The Response of the Believer to Evil Speech

- **Eph 6:10-18**

- Put on the Armor of God

- **Eph 4:29**

- Speak that which is beneficial, building up the existing need, gives grace to the one hearing - Speak with grace

- **Col 4:6**

- Speak with grace
- Speak cautiously, not off the cuff of your emotions

- **Rom 12:14**

- Speak well of, and do not curse (take down verbally the ones who persecute you)

CONCLUSION

- Words that 'rot at the core', and words that 'take down verbally' are Satanically (and demonically) caused to affect the believer's speech
- By yielding to Satan's attack to this kind of speech will ruinously affect our testimony for Christ
 - **James 3:14-17** ¹⁴But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. ¹⁵Such "wisdom" does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice. ¹⁷But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere.