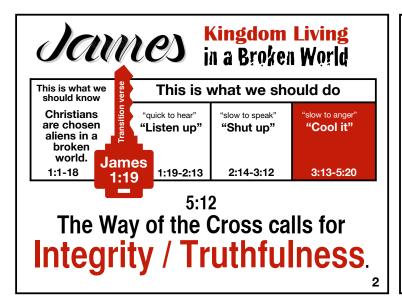


4



James 5:12

"12 But above all, my brethren, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or with any other oath; **but your yes is to be yes, and your no, no**, so that you may not fall under judgment."

- This passage is not about profanity or legal oaths, but about integrity of speech. Our tongue must be in service of the truth.
- This is but one part of Integrating (syncing) all facets of life with Christ's Spirit words & truth, claims & deeds, private & public, formal & casual, etc.

"Getting it together"

Matthew 5

"33 Again, you have heard that the ancients were told, 'You shall not make false vows, but shall fulfill your vows to the Lord.' 34 But I say to you, make no oath at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, 35 or by the earth, for it is the footstool of His feet, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. 36 Nor shall you make an oath by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. 37 **But let your statement be, 'Yes, yes' or 'No, no'; and anything beyond these is of evil."**

New Covenant Disciples follow a (higher) New Standard.

Matthew 12

"33 . . . for the tree is known by its fruit. 34 You brood of vipers, how can you, being evil, speak what is good? **For the mouth speaks out of that which fills the heart.** 35 The good man out of his good treasure brings forth what is good; and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings forth what is evil. 36 And I say to you, that every careless word that men shall speak, they shall render account for it in the day of judgment. 37 For by your words you shall be justified, and by your words you shall be condemned."

New Covenant Disciples reveal a New Heart with their speech.

5

3

James 4

"1 What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source **your pleasures** that **wage war in your members**? 2 You lust and do not have; so you commit murder. You are envious and cannot obtain; so you fight and quarrel. You do not have because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask with **wrong motives**, so that you may spend *it* on your pleasures. 4 You adulteresses, do you not know that **friendship with the world** is hostility toward God?"

- Disintegration (falling apart) is the product of a life out of sync with God's Image (Christ's Spirit).
- But this troubled life is in sync with this world's purpose, perspective, plan, priorities, passions, and power.

Orthodox claims that are not integrated into life **are useless**.

James 2:14

"What use is it, my brethren, if someone **says** he has faith but he has no works? Can that faith save him?"



"Truth that is not applied is no better than error and may be a whole lot more damaging. The Devil is a better theologian than any of us and is the Devil still."

A.W. Tozer

Matthew 4:9 The disintegrated church (The devil shows Jesus all the kingdoms of this world and says) "All these things I will give you, if you fall - is where the ministers minister and down and worship me." the congregation congregates to consume, complain, and criticize. Are we spiritual aliens to this world - is where leaders feel entitled to or to God's kingdom? lord it over, manipulate around, and prey upon the sheep. Christian • purpose, - is where members try to look busy, Nationalism act holy, and be happy as they show perspective, up, shut up and cough up. Political plans, muscle priorities, - is where members expect **Optics over** God's kingdom before its passions, substance time and without its King. power. Values, hopes, & expectations are Material / temporal 8 9

Worldly Wisdom Signs we are going in the wrong direction.

James 3

"14 But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your heart, do not be arrogant and so lie against the truth. 15 This wisdom is not that which comes down from above, but is earthly, natural, demonic. 16 For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there is disorder and every evil thing."

Godly Wisdom Signs we are going in the right direction.

John 16:33

"These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have **peace**. In the world you have tribulation, but **take courage**; I have overcome the world."

Peace and Assurance.

Godly Wisdom Signs we are going in the right direction.

James 3

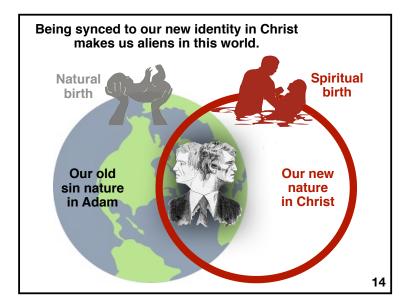
"17 But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy. 18 And the seed whose fruit is righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace."

12

Ephesians 4

"20 But you did not learn Christ in this way (world wisdom), 21 if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, 22 that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, 23 and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and **put on** the new self, which in the likeness God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth."

What does it mean to "lay aside" the old and "put on" the new?



Ephesians 4

"25 Therefore, laying aside falsehood, speak truth, each one of you, with his neighbor, for we are members of one another."

"29 Let no **unwholesome word** proceed from your mouth, but only such a word as is good for edification according to the need of the moment, that it may give grace to those who hear."



An integrated life is a renewed heart revealed in words and deeds.

James 2:12

"So **speak** and so **act** as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty (free from the Law)." James 1:26

"If anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man's religion is worthless."

James 3:8

"But **no one can tame the tongue**; *it is* a restless evil and full of deadly poison."

James 4:11 "Do not **speak** against one another, brethren."

James 5:12 "but your yes is to be yes, and your no, no,"

Ephesians 4:24

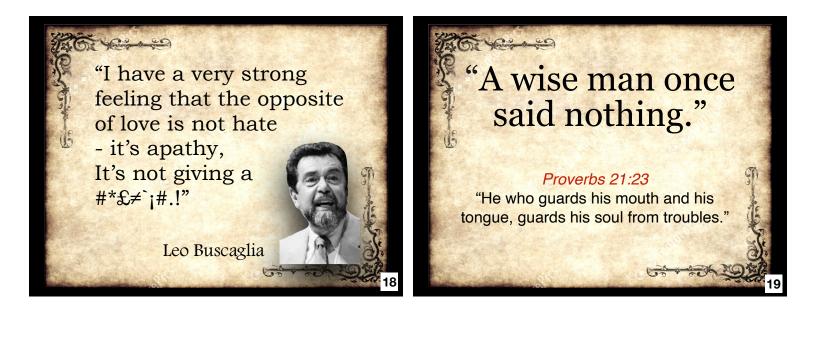
"put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth."

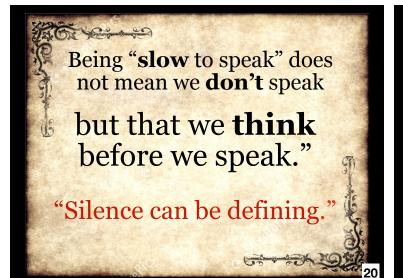
Before I speak I will renew my baptismal covenant to die to self and let Christ live in me.

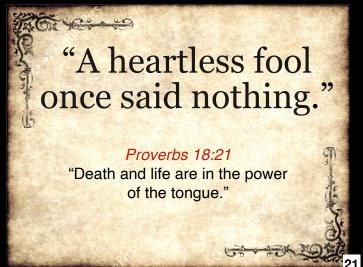


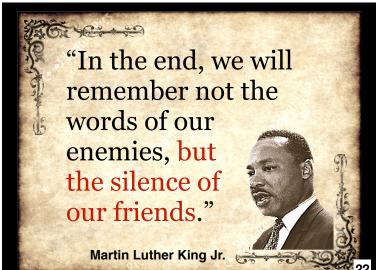
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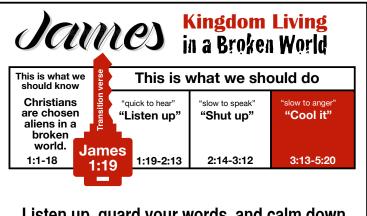
16











Listen up, guard your words, and calm down because it's not over yet.