RUSSELL SANDERS 2-19-2024 THE DOOR OF YOUR MOUTH

James 3:8 says, "But the tongue can no man tame. It is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison." The full passage of James 3:2-12 speaks much about the tongue, meaning the words and thoughts spoken from our mouth and out of our hearts. Much trouble can be the result of speaking thoughtlessly.

So, how can we get help to bridle our tongue so as not cause issues, trouble, or ill words to be spoken?

Is it by self-discipline? That is a good thought, but in "the heat of the moment," we may let words slip out.

Psalm 141:2a and 3 tell us our source of help to properly control our tongue. This psalm is the prayer where David says, "Let my prayer be set forth before thee...set a watch [guard], O LORD, before my mouth. Keep [watch over] the door of my lips." (KJV.)

The Amplified bible says it this way: "Set a guard, O LORD, over my mouth. Keep watch over the door of my lips [to keep me from speaking thoughtlessly]."

Words spoken thoughtless are idle words. Jesus spoke of this in Matthew 12:36-37 where he said, "Every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment...justified...[or] condemned."

God can set a guard over our tongue if we ask Him. That guard possibly could be an angel to prevent [stop] us, or more likely, the Holy Spirit who puts a check upon us.

Ask the LORD for His help if you have a problem with this. Then, also make your conscious effort for self-control. Words can harm, words can benefit. Words can encourage.