

HELEN SANDERS
12-2-2023
THE MOUTH

I often say that my greatest asset and my worst liability is my mouth. I can use it to bring the Word of God and teach, or I can use it to instill hurt.

In James Chapter 1 the Lord's brother James talks about testing, patience, wisdom, faith, and the crown of life. In verse 19 it says, ***"Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath."***

It is evident through centuries of war that many conflicts start from disputes. Disputes start from words, and words come from a mind that is not controlled by the Holy Spirit. Often instead of being quick to hear, we block out what someone is saying so we can speak.

We also speak when we should be silent. This alone can stop feuds and even war. Then there is the wrath. It is defined from the Greek word "orge" as excitement of the mind, violent passion, ire, vengeance, indignation. These definitely are not fruit of the Holy Spirit. To keep one's temper shows maturity. Sadly, most of us, including myself, have failed in this.

Our goal as mature Christians should be to hear more, to speak less, and not get angry. If we can learn to tackle these three things and conquer them, then we will have a life of victory. If we don't, we can be sure we will have feuds, strife, and even war. I pray for you that you are able to conquer these three things and walk in peace.