

**Woman of Courage**  
**May 10, 2023**  
**“A Word Spoken”**

**Matthew 12:22-37 – ESV – Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. And all the people were amazed, and said, “Can this be the Son of David?” But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, “It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons.” Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore, they will be your judges. But if it is by the Spirit of Jehovah that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of Jehovah is come upon you. Or how can someone enter a strong man’s house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house. Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come. “Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart (Mind) the mouth speaks. The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless (Idle) word they speak, for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”**

**Blasphemy – Websters - blas-fay-me'-ah – The act or offense of speaking sacrilegiously about Jehovah, profane talk – To show contempt or disrespect for Jehovah.**

**Adam Clarke – Blasphemy – injurious or impious speaking, mocking and deriding (contemptuous) speech.**

**TLK Cross References – Blasphemy – from Strongs G984, G988, G906 – To hurt or blast the reputation, to smite with words, or reports, when applied to men it denotes injurious speaking, or calumny, and when used in reference to Jehovah it signifies speaking impiously of Jehovah's nature, attributes and works.**

**Vilification – abusively disparaging speech or writing.**

**Scurrilous – G989 – making or spreading scandalous claims about someone with the intention of damaging their reputation.**

**Calumnious – G989 – False and defamatory; slanderous, harmful, and often untrue, tending to discredit or malign.**

**Contempt – Websters – the feeling that a person or a thing is beneath consideration, worthless or deserving scorn. Disregard for something that should be taken into account. The offense of being disrespectful or disobedient.**

**To be a contemptuous person – The act of despising; the state of mind of one who despises; disdain, lack of respect or reverence for something.**

**Contempt is feeling like the other person is not worth your anger. You are still angry, but you are trying to regulate your anger by looking down on the other person and putting a distance between you. Contempt is the cold version of hate. Like hate, contempt is about who you are, your nature and your personality.**

**Slander – an action or crime of making a false spoken statement damaging to a person's reputation.**

**Idle words – Matthew 12:36 - ar-gos- inactive, that is, unemployed, lazy, useless, barren, slow.**

**Cambridge – ineffectual for good**

**Albert Barnes – means a vain, thoughtless useless word, a word that accomplishes no good**

**Adam Clarke – a word that does nothing, that neither ministers grace nor instruction to them who hear it. Vain (empty). Such as false testimony against a neighbor.**

**Romans 2:6-9**

**Isaiah 55:7**

**Ezekiel 33:11**

**Hebrews 10:29**

**Acts 7:51**

**James 3:3-12**

**Very well we hold to our traditions set forth by men and show utter contempt for the words of Jehovah that bring life.**