

**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, MARSHALL HEIGHTS**  
**4934 B STREET, SE WASHINGTON, DC 20019**  
**Dr. Lehman D. Bates, Pastor**

**THE CHURCH AT STUDY**  
**Wednesday, February 8, 2012**  
**7 PM - 8:30 PM**

**THE EPISTLE OF JAMES**  
**Chapter 3:1-12**  
**“FAITH & THE TONGUE”**

**THESIS**

**The influence of the tongue with the spoken word can be for good, or evil.**

**INTRODUCTION**

**In James chapter 3 a different discussion begins. Here is a look at those who teach. Not everyone should become teachers. Not every believer is a teacher. Teachers will be held to a stricter judgment by God (1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11-16). Temptations and trails are common to all of us, but especially to teachers, who are subject 1) to the sins of the tongue (v. 1-12, esp. v. 1) and 2) to misunderstanding true wisdom (v. 13-18, esp. v. 13). Misusing the tongue is the first temptation common to us all, particularly to teachers. A teacher tells others how to live and corrects them when they come short. A teacher is responsible for the lives and growth of those under him. He is held responsible by God. If the teacher fails to live what he teaches, he will bear a greater judgment and condemnation. The main tool for the teacher in his work is speech or the tongue.**

**James, under the Guidance of The Holy Spirit tells us 4 things every believer must know about the tongue in verses 2-12:**

- 1. The tongue stumbles and sins often, v. 2.**
- 2. The tongue is a little member, boasting great things, v. 3-5.**
- 3. The tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity, v. 5-6.**
- 4. The tongue is a restless evil, v. 7-12.**

**I** In her book, *“30 Days To Taming Your Tongue,”* Deborah Smith Pegues lists thirty tongues which require taming. Four (4) of her tongues for taming have been selected, with 3 added by Pastor for discussion:

- “1. The Lying Tongue - Proverbs 12:22; 6:17**
- 2. The Judgmental Tongue - Mt. 7:1-5; John 8:15-16**
- 3. The Complaining Tongue - Psalms 142**
- 4. The Indiscreet Tongue - Prov. 2:11-12”**
- 5. The Arrogant Tongue - Ps. 14:1; 31:20; Prov. 16:18; Is. 14:12-14  
(Prideful; Disrespectful; Impudent)**
- 6. The Bankrupt Tongue - Judges 16:16-21  
(Dispossessed; Barren; Empty)**
- 7. The Cancerous Tongue - Jer. 23:9-32  
(Sick; Diseased; Malignant)**

## **II TONGUE CONTROL**

**How do you think “tongue control” can be achieved?**

**A.**

- 1)**
- 2)**
- 3)**

**B.**

- 1)**
- 2)**
- 3)**

**C.**

- 1)**
- 2)**
- 3)**

