

## **“The Little Member”**

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### ***Jesus Christ Apostolic Ministries International***

**From Text:** (James 3:5) *Even so the tongue is a little member, and boasteth great things. Behold how great a matter a little fire kindleth!*

{Dictionary Meaning: way of speaking: somebody's manner of speaking}

#### ***Intro***

As a child we often heard of words like **“Tattle tell”** & **“Big Mouth”** or maybe **“Sticks & Stones may break my bones, but words will never hurt me”** but as we all know that “Words” will and can hurt and even “Kill” we will get to the “Kill” part a little later. The little member is, if you have not guessed by now, is the **“Tongue”** other wise know as **“The little Red member behind the white pearly gates”**. Something that is so little but **can cause such great harm**, (James 3:6) *And the tongue is a fire, a world of iniquity: so is the tongue among our members, that it defileth the whole body, and setteth on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire of hell. (James 3:8) But the tongue can no man tame; it is an unruly evil, full of deadly poison.* Have you ever noted that as we speak our whole body will follow with the “Tone” of our speech whether it be in anger or in an act of Love! It can control how our body behaves in all manner of speaking. It can spew out “Hate” or “Love” “Evils” or “Good” if hate or evil it will cause the whole body to become defiled, and set a blaze of fire within us that can NOT! Be tamed or put out.

Let’s start with some of the “Evils” (Romans 3:13) *Their throat is an open sepulchre; with their tongues they have used deceit; the poison of asps is under their lips;* we must note here that the word “Sepulchre” means (Burial Place for the Dead) so the throat which the tongues resides is become a container of things that

are dead and have no life and the tongue a means of deceit and the lips them self's has the poison of asps (A asp is a very deadly Snake).

Now we have all heard how our wife's and women love to "Gossip" but men too love to do the same just in a little different way. As we begin to talk about someone (Not present), things can start to get out of hand, you know what I am talking about, standing out side of Church on Sunday morning just before service or after service, talking about "Sister Jane" or "Brother John" and before you know it that poor brother or sister has gotten so deeply buried that it is going to take a lot to dig them out.

We all know what they called "Back Biting" or "Back Stabbing" now we are getting into the "Killing" of the Brother or Sister see; (Proverbs 16:27), we have talked about them so much that we have "Killed" them (No not in the Physical" but in the "Spiritual"), see; (Proverbs 18:21).

We have put them down so much with our Lips and tongue that they become dead to the people around him / her and they do not even know what has happened. *(James 1:26) If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain.* If we say we are a "Christian" (Or Christ Like) but backbite, backstab, and kill our brothers' and sisters', we know this must NOT! Be so. If we let these things become a part of us then our "Religion" or our Christ Like ways are Void. *(James 3:10) Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. (James 3:11) Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter? (James 3:12) Can the fig tree, my brethren, bear olive berries? Either a vine, figs? So can no fountain both yield salt water and fresh?* We can not be a Christian and talk about our brother or sister to the point we have killed them in the site of the saints of God, see; ( Proverbs 26:20-21).

It is impossible to be both "Good" & "Evil" we can not go to an "Apple" tree to pick "Oranges" we can not be both a "Christian" and "Sinner" at the same time, *(Matthew 7:16) Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? (Matthew 7:17) Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. (Matthew 7:18) A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.* We must have the same "Spiritual Fruit", other wise that will lead to the killing. The tongue can spit out many lies on each other that lead up to the Murder of the brother or sister. One of the first things we need to do as becoming Christians is to follow what Jesus lived *(1 Peter 2:22) Who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth:*{ "Guile" (deceitfulness)}, Jesus when he spoke had full

control of his tongue, he spoke the “Truth” he spoke no “Lies” nor did he try to “Deceive”.

Lying does two things; 1) It is Sin, 2) It Kills the person the Lie is told on. The other thing that “Little Member” does is “Boast” we have all listened to people talk about themselves much higher than they should, putting themselves up on a pedestal, trying to impress others that they are someone other than what they really are, see; (Jude 1:16) & (2 Peter 2:18). Then there is the other kind of “Killer” of words that the “Little Member” does and this one really is a Big one, the “False Preachers & Teachers” that are more “Public Speakers” than “God Called” Preachers. We see so many on TV, and in our churches that *just speak from the word of God* but do **NOT!** Preach or Teach **THE!** Word of God. These people are “Killing” the People and leading them down a long and dangerous path. Some have great words and speak well and they have people following them for the words that their Tongue are speaking are “Luring” and “Seducing”.

The Apostle Paul stated in (1 Corinthians 12:29) **Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles?** It seems these days that everyone is a Preacher &/or a Teacher. Paul also stated in (2 Timothy 4:3) **For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;** so this “Poison” from that “Little Member” is very Deadly, for it not just Kill’s one or two, it “Kills” **Many.**

The people believe the words that they are hearing are “True” and that they will be lead to the “Kingdom of God” and NOTHING! Could be further from the “Truth”! So we see some of the great damage that this one “Little Member” can and does Cause! But we have a means of escape from that “Little Evil Member” we read that this member **“NO MAN CAN TAME”** and no man can, But the Lord and savior Jesus Christ can! (James 3:1) *My brethren, **be not many masters**, knowing that we shall receive the greater condemnation.* As we see what James is saying that we can not control or be the Masters over our self’s or our members, and he goes on to tell us the only way that we can get the “Victory” over this “Member” (James 4:7) **Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil,** and he will flee from you. (James 4:8) **Draw nigh to God,** and he will draw nigh to you. *Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.* You will see that James said the first thing we need to do is “Submit” to God we can NOT! Resist first or we will find our self’s in the “Condemnation” that he was speaking of in

(V.3:1). We must submit to God and then and Only then we will be able to “Resist” the Devil and put that “Little Member” under Control, and know that the words “Coming out of our Mouths” are of God and not “Us”! (*Romans 6:13*) *Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.* So we see now some of the things that this little “Member” can and does do, **Lying**, **Boasting**, **Backbiting**, not mentioned are **Profanity**, **Jesting and Joking** the Bible says which are **“Not”** convenient, see; (*Ephesians 5:4*) & (*Proverbs 15:2*), **Vain talking**, **blasphemy**, and the Greatest **“Killing”** . from the time God made Man & Woman he gave us this “Little Member” to use for “Communicating” with one another, it can and should be used to praise our Lord & God, to express Love to one another, to Preach & Teach the “True” word of God, and not used as a “Weapon” or “Debasement” and “Tearing” down of one another. These are some of the ways the “Little Member” should be used to speak in Truth, Praise, Uplifting of the Saints, speaking in humility, Love, Speaking the word of God as “He” says and not “Us”, keeping the words that we speak, see; (*Numbers 30:2*).

We see that we as mere Men & Women can not “Tame” or “Control” this Little Member, only when we “Submit” to **God** then and only then, by **God’s Power** we can bring this Member under control and have the “Little Member” **Tamed!** And put out the **Fire** it has kindled! “If you have a ear to hear, let you hear”