

July 31, 2022



**"WORTHLESS RELIGION"**  
Ross Wellman, *Missions Pastor*

**JAMES 3:1-12 ESV**

If you have no control of your tongue, then the Scripture says your religion is worthless! (James 1:26)

You cannot perfectly control your tongue. You need something outside yourself.

***4 illustrations of the tongue:***

- Horse
- Ship
- Fire
- A Restless Evil

What is natural to you is hell. What is unnatural to you is the Spirit. This means that you are sufficient in yourself for destruction. But the Spirit brings true freedom. (2 Corinthians 3:17)

If the unbridled tongue brings only destruction, then you are never "just venting."

There is a biblically commanded process for handling the sin of others.

- 1) Go directly.
- 2) Take another.
- 3) Notify the church.
- 4) Love.

***Application***

The work of taming the tongue is an ongoing work. We must all remain vigilant.

We produce what we cultivate.

Taming the tongue is a step toward taming the body.