

## James 3:1-12 - New Living Translation

### Controlling the Tongue

**3** Dear brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> not many of you should become teachers in the church, for we who teach will be judged more strictly. **2** Indeed, we all make many mistakes. For if we could control our tongues, we would be perfect and could also control ourselves in every other way. **3** We can make a large horse go wherever we want by means of a small bit in its mouth. **4** And a small rudder makes a huge ship turn wherever the pilot chooses to go, even though the winds are strong. **5** In the same way, the tongue is a small thing that makes grand speeches. But a tiny spark can set a great forest on fire. **6** And among all the parts of the body, the tongue is a flame of fire. It is a whole world of wickedness, corrupting your entire body. It can set your whole life on fire, for it is set on fire by hell itself.<sup>[b]</sup> **7** People can tame all kinds of animals, birds, reptiles, and fish, **8** but no one can tame the tongue. It is restless and evil, full of deadly poison. **9** Sometimes it praises our Lord and Father, and sometimes it curses those who have been made in the image of God. **10** And so blessing and cursing come pouring out of the same mouth. Surely, my brothers and sisters, this is not right! **11** Does a spring of water bubble out with both fresh water and bitter water? **12** Does a fig tree produce olives, or a grapevine produce figs? No, and you can't draw fresh water from a salty spring.

## Mark 8:27-38 - New Living Translation

### Peter's Declaration about Jesus

**27** Jesus and his disciples left Galilee and went up to the villages near Caesarea Philippi. As they were walking along, he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" **28** "Well," they replied, "some say John the Baptist, some say Elijah, and others say you are one of the other prophets." **29** Then he asked them, "But who do you say I am?" Peter replied, "You are the Messiah."<sup>[a]</sup> **30** But Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

### Jesus Predicts His Death

**31** Then Jesus began to tell them that the Son of Man<sup>[b]</sup> must suffer many terrible things and be rejected by the elders, the leading priests, and the teachers of religious law. He would be killed, but three days later he would rise from the dead. **32** As he talked about this openly with his disciples, Peter took him aside and began to reprimand him for saying such things.<sup>[c]</sup> **33** Jesus turned around and looked at his disciples, then reprimanded Peter. "Get away from me, Satan!" he said. "You are seeing things merely from a human point of view, not from God's." **34** Then, calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, "If any of you wants to be my follower, you must give up your own way, take up your cross, and follow me. **35** If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake and for the sake of the Good News, you will save it. **36** And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?<sup>[d]</sup> **37** Is anything worth more than your soul? **38** If anyone is ashamed of me and my message in these adulterous and sinful days, the Son of Man will be ashamed of that person when he returns in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."