

**The Heart of the Matter - Message #4**  
**Heart Diagnosis Matthew 12:33-37**

1. The Parable (33)

*A Tree Is Recognized By Its Fruit*

They had accused Jesus of performing miraculous deeds by satanic power.

- **What is true in nature is also true of \_\_\_\_\_**

Proverbs 20:11, "Even a child is known by his deeds, whether what he does is pure and right."

**The Pharisees' Illogical Reasoning Came From Their \_\_\_\_\_**

2. The Principle (34)

*The Mouth Reveals the True Nature of the Heart*

Jesus called the Pharisees a "Brood of vipers!" Jesus declared that the religious leaders of Israel were "evil".

- **What fills the heart overflows from the \_\_\_\_\_**

As students of the scriptures they should have known this.

Proverbs 10:11, "The mouth of the righteous is a well of life, but violence covers the mouth of the wicked."

The language is the fruit but the heart is the root.

**The Principle Is \_\_\_\_\_**

- **My speech is a \_\_\_\_\_ into my heart**

What do the words that come out of my mouth reveal about the condition of my heart?

James 3:8-12, ".....Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree, my brethren, bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Thus no spring yields both salt water and fresh."

**I Can Diagnose the Condition of My Heart by Examining the Predominant \_\_\_\_\_ of My Speech**

Ephesians 4:29-30, "Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers."

3. The Contrast (35)

*Good vs. Evil*

Jesus reveals that good and evil do exist.

- **The evil that men do comes from their \_\_\_\_\_**

Mark 7:20-23, "And He said, "What comes out of a man, that defiles a man. For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil....."

Jeremiah 17:9-10, "The heart is deceitful above all things..."

**Only \_\_\_\_\_ Can Change Our Heart**

4. The Prophecy (36-37)

*Words are of Critical Importance*

When people are condemning Jesus they are really condemning themselves.

- **Words will be \_\_\_\_\_**

The emphasis here is upon the unbeliever who already stands under the condemnation of God. Their words will be used in their judgment. Revelation 20:12

**Believers Will Not Be Condemned by Their Words but Will be \_\_\_\_\_ for Their Words**

Psalm 139:4, "For there is not a word on my tongue, but behold, O Lord, You know it altogether."

2 Corinthians 5:10, "For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive the things done in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad."

- **Words can be \_\_\_\_\_**

People are found either guilty or innocent in a court of law by the testimony of words. Jesus says that our words are an accurate testimony of the condition of our heart.

Hebrews 3:12, "Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God."

**Words do not Produce Salvation or Condemnation They \_\_\_\_\_ Them**

What would other people say about the condition of my heart based upon the content of my speech?

Colossians 4:6, "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one."