What You Say Will Give You Away

**Read:** Judges 12:5-6; Numbers 31:14-16; II Kings 2:23-24

**Text:**  Psalm 19:14 “Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation

of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my

redeemer.”

**Introduction:** Who said the following? “Give me liberty or give me death.” “Ask not what your country can do for you but ask what you can do for your country.” “We have nothing to fear but fear itself.” “I only regret that I have but one life to give for my country.” “Let thy words be few.”

Recently Hillary Clinton has taken some flack in the media because she tries to utilize a southern accent when she is speaking in the south. Last time around she tried to speak as if she was black and took some flack for that as well. In this age of recording devices we are learning of things that people have said or done in private. It is devastating to some careers.

**I.Contaminated Speech can expose you:** In Judges we read about the Ephriamites who tried to get past a checkpoint by lying about their heritage. They had a problem: their manner of speech prevented them from correctly pronouncing the word: “Shibboleth.” It cost them the lives of 42,000 men.

**II. Corrupt Counsel can expose you:** In the book of Numbers we

Read about Balaam and his greed. God wouldn’t allow him to pro-

nounce curses on His people so Balaam provided counsel to Balak. He

told him that there was a way to get God to remove His protection

from Israel. He advised him to send out his young women and have

them seduce and intermarry with the Israelites. Then, he said, that God

will cease blessing them and would bring a curse on them. In the end it

cost Balaam his life as well as all the adults of Moab.

**III. Childish name calling can expose you:** Elisha was being mocked for being bald and it cost the lives of 42 children. I guess he never heard of the old sticks and stones rhyme. We are learning in this day of social media just how damaging name calling can be.

**IV. Conniving speech can expose you:** Aaron was a tremendous help to Moses. He stood with him in front of Pharaoh and commanded him to let the children of Israel go. He pronounced each of the plagues be-fore they happened. He stood beside Moses all the way but there was another side of Aaron that is exposed: he was also a spineless wuss. When the people wanted a golden calf he made them one. In Numbers 12, When Miriam questioned the authority of Moses, over his inter-racial marriage, he fell into lockstep with her. Their conniving invoked the rage of God.

**V. Contriving deceit will expose you:** Acts 5 tells us about a man and

his wife who decided to tell a lie. They were giving a large offering to

the church while acting as if they were giving all. We would be so

thrillled with the large offering that we would overlook the deceit; but

not Paul. He points out their deceit and pronounces their deaths.

**Conclude:** Listen to me talk and you will know what is important to me. Listen to me talk and you will know if I am a man of character or not. Listen to me talk and you will know what I love and what I hate. Much can be inferred from what a man doesn’t say but more can be learned from what comes out of a man’s mouth.

Jesus said “from the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.” Have you ever heard someone say something and then follow it with: “I don’t know why I said that.” Perhaps it is because it was in your heart.

In Ecclesiastes 5:2 Solomon says: “Be not rash with thy mouth, and let not thine heart be hasty to utter *any* thing before God: for God *is* in heaven, and thou upon earth: therefore let thy words be few.”