

TWISTING SCRIPTURE Pt. 2: CONFESS, SPEAK to the MOUNTAIN, MARK 11:23

I'm still dealing with how these false teachers twist God's Word to prop up their false teachings like: Name it and Claim it, Word of Faith, Health and Wealth, Speak it into Existence which are all The Prosperity Gospel Movement in the church. They came out of new age, these teachings are based on the law of attraction which has no place in the church.

Last week we heard John Olsteen say that through our mouth we can rise to a level of health and prosperity. He said people do not realize the power of their words. Then he said he was going to teach on that very subject so that everyone could be helped through the Word of God.

He boldly started right up front presenting the prosperity gospel by saying we can rise to a level of health and prosperity by the words we speak. He craftily laid out his whole sermon based on the words we speak.

*Please play from 4:03 to 4:45 - John Olsteen gives a twisted definition of the word confess: STOP

Then John says, you know Dodie a lot of people don't realize what confession means. Confession means to say the same thing or to agree. So when we say confess the Word of God it means that we are saying the same thing that God says. And that we agree with God. I didn't understand that for a long time. If you are sick for instance, you don't say I don't hurt, don't have any symptoms, the dr's report is wrong. All those are facts, we don't deny the existence of sickness. We just read in the bible what God says about healing and we just simply say, "I agree with God." I'm going to say what God says and that turns things around. Dodie says, that's right.*(about 1 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnV6QdArW6c>

He started his false teaching by twisting the definition of the word confess. I went over that last week. The only time we confess anything that agrees with God is when we agree with Him about our sin and confess it to Him and ask forgiveness.

Otherwise the word confess generally means to acknowledge something. So he planted this idea that we need to go around confessing God's Word. He is teaching the new age concept that you have the power to make what you want happen, just find it in God's Word and start meditating on it, speaking it, reading it, thinking about it – all the time. You cannot manipulate God this way. Nowhere in Scripture do we read that you speak His Word over and over and that is how He moves on our behalf. They are craftily leading people away from prayer. When you have a weak prayer life you have a weak walk and you are a weak Christian. That's what satan wants and his ministers are doing his bidding.

He then starts saying God created with words. He just spoke and it was. He made us in His image. We can create with words.

He is teaching that we can create what we speak and he ties it to God because we are made in His image. This is the false idea that we can speak things into existence like God can. That is a twisted perversion of scripture. Only God can speak things into existence. **(Gen. ch.1, Romans 4:17)** We are made in God's image in the sense that we have a body, soul and spirit and that is like the Trinity but we are not God and we cannot do everything He can do.

He then goes on to tell the people - Say the opposite of your situation. Things won't change until you confess the same thing God says. He's hammering the idea that you need to speak out what you want. He gave a wrong example of what it means to confess, then he began to focus on God speaking and creating with words and then he swung around to say we are just like God so we can create with our words too. He laid a foundation teaching that we need to be confessing God's Word. So he continues to push the idea that we should go around speaking what we want.

*Please play from 10:32 – 10:42 John Olsteen says we can create with words.
STOP

He said the thing that God impressed upon him was that God said He wanted to make them men and women who can create with words. He referenced Mark 11:22-23 on the screen and he says that is what Jesus was talking about. *(about .5 min)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnV6QdArW6c>

He said God impressed this upon him. God and Jesus roll of their tongues so easily, but you must test the spirits? **(1 John 4:1)** Just because someone says The Holy Spirit told them this or that does not mean it is true. Just because someone claims to have had a dream or a vision from God doesn't mean it is true. **(Deut. Ch. 13)** Just because someone performs a miracle doesn't mean it is by God's hand. **(2 Thess.2:3-9)** In these last days we had better get busy getting closer to Jesus and learning to test what spirit someone is speaking by and doing things by. I used to be naïve as a baby Christian and took people at face value, well not anymore – Praise God! This man had a demonic anointing on his life. Joel has the same anointing, he just delivers his sermons with a smile but his teachings are from the same old devil. You have to grow in godly discernment through the reading of God's Word. The test of all of this is what is the outcome? The outcome the false ministers desire is to draw you further and further away from God. They are leading people to serve other gods – the fallen angels because of not knowing God's Word and not hearing from The Holy Spirit.

Let's see what Jesus actually said:

Mark 11:22-23 - And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

The mountain is whatever obstacle or problem you are dealing with. When we read God's Word we must always understand that when it says we get whatever we say, it is always according to God's will and plan for our lives. **(Romans 8:28)** So satan's ministers make a stand on this verse and use it as a foundation to go on and teach that you just speak whatever you want with the backdrop that you are being like God and they say that even Jesus said this is what you should do. That is the new age teaching that you are divine, that we are gods. We are not gods.

If you have The Holy Spirit inside of you, you should get a check in your spirit when you hear this kind of teaching. Baby Christians may not catch this right off but as you grow in faith these kind of teachings should begin to bother you. They are false, deceptive teachings trying to mess up your relationship with God.

Let's hear what Pastor Erustus shared about how we speak to the mountain:

By Jesus saying we "speak to the mountain" He meant we address challenges, problems, obstacles or circumstances in our lives which seems by human effort/minds impossible to overcome. But only moves away through faith in God and without doubt.

Pastor as one example I will look at Goliath in the battle field against the Israelites. **(1 Samuel ch.17)** He was a big mountain before the Israelites to overcome. David, full of faith in God and with no doubt in God he spoke to this mountain (Goliath) to be moved away from the Israelite's life. God used David's sling and 5 stones for Goliath to be moved away and Goliath as a mountain in the Israelite's lives was done away with.

Another example could be when one is facing a very big deep-rooted financial challenge or need whereby in human thinking you can't comprehend how you will overcome it unless God intervenes in His own ways. Now you speak to the mountain (the big financial challenge) by praying and believing without doubt in the heart that God will provide the means to overcome.

That's how you rightly divide God's Word.

John Olsteen then goes on to reinforce the idea that we just speak what we want by saying that the power of death and life are in the tongue. **(Prov.18:21)** These new age ministers are teaching that the words you speak are powerful and that you have the power within yourself based on what you speak to manifest whatever you want. Our words being powerful is a Biblical concept but they are teaching it in a perverted way, that's what satan and his ministers do, they pervert and twist God's Word.

Proverbs 18:20-21 – A man's belly shall be satisfied with the fruit of his mouth; and with the increase of his lips shall he be filled. Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

New Living Translation

Wise words satisfy like a good meal; the right words bring satisfaction.

New Living Translation v. 20

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Good things can come from what you speak, you can show love and encouragement and lift someone up with your words, you can bring peace and comfort with your words. Or you can be mean and ugly and spew venom and hate with your words and tear someone down with what you say. You will reap the consequences of what you speak. **(James 3:5-10)** You can sow good spiritual fruit by speaking God's Word or bad spiritual fruit by being mean and having ungodly speech that is hurtful. Whatever seeds you are sowing, they are spiritual and spiritual seeds do not die. You can sow to God's kingdom or to Satan's – think about what you say and the consequences of it. Our words as Christians can be life giving or they can be destructive. That is what is meant by death and life are in the power of the tongue, we can speak good, uplifting, wholesome and righteous things or we can speak hateful, harmful, evil and wicked things.

CLOSING

Heb.4:12 – For the Word of God is quick (alive), and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow (marrow), and is a discernor of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

They are teaching that your words are so powerful that whatever you speak will manifest. This is an utter perversion of what God's Word has to say about what we speak.

Speaking God's Word is powerful. God follows His Word to accomplish it and He keeps His promises to His children and His Word will bring conviction on those that don't adhere to His Word. The best words we can speak and be sure they are not idle words are God's Word. God's Word is life giving.

PRAYER

John Osteen's The Power of Words (1988).mpg

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnV6QdArW6c>