

For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." *Luke* 6:45.

"A fool's wrath is known at once, but a prudent man covers shame." *Proverbs* 12:16.

Evil speaking betrays the fact that we are not dealing with a good treasure but with an evil content. Such a person is not inspired by the Spirit of God but by their own sins.

"Let no one say when he is tempted, 'I am tempted by God'; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death." *James* 1:13–15.

As we apply these principles to the process of revelation we notice that God gives the treasure of His divine message through the agency of imperfect human language. But in doing so no bad words, doubtful suggestions, or even swearing, is used. The speech chosen to convey God's message will be polite and honest. In other words, it is a pure speech.

### Evil Contents Within the Vessel



The "treasure":  
The evil heart

Bad language

The earthen vessel:  
Human nature

**"An evil man out of the evil treasure of his heart brings forth evil. For out of the abundance of the heart his mouth speaks." *Luke* 6:45.**

"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things." *Philippians* 4:8

"The chief requisite of language is that it be pure and kind and true—the outward expression of an inward grace." *Education*, 235.1.

The contemporaries of Christ were greatly impressed with His language. Even His opponents said, "No man ever spoke like this Man!" *John* 7:46.

"He made truth beautiful by presenting it in the most direct and simple way. His language was pure, refined, and clear as a running stream. His voice was as music to those who had listened to the monotonous tones of the rabbis." *The Desire of Ages*, 253.5.

The speech of Jesus' disciples was also pure. Christ's influence on their words was noticeable. "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were uneducated and untrained men, they marveled. And they realized that they had been with Jesus." *Acts* 4:13.

"The disciples of Jesus were noted for the purity of their language." *The Desire of Ages*, 712.3.

"Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, 'Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?' *Acts* 2:7, 8.

"The apostles and their associates were unlettered men, yet through the outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost, their speech, whether in their own or a foreign language, became pure, simple, and accurate, both in word and in accent." *The Desire of Ages*, 821.4.

Even when the followers of Christ are challenged, their speech will be calm and impartial. They will not defend self, and are ready to have their stand put to the test.

When the disciples preached the message in the power of the Holy Spirit, they were challenged in a very prejudiced way. "Others mocking said, 'They are full of new wine.'" *Acts* 2:13. But Peter answered this provocation calmly and objectively. "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel." *Acts* 2:14–16.

"The servants of God who teach the truth should be men of judgment. They should be men who can bear opposition and not get excited; for those who oppose the truth will pick at those who teach it, and