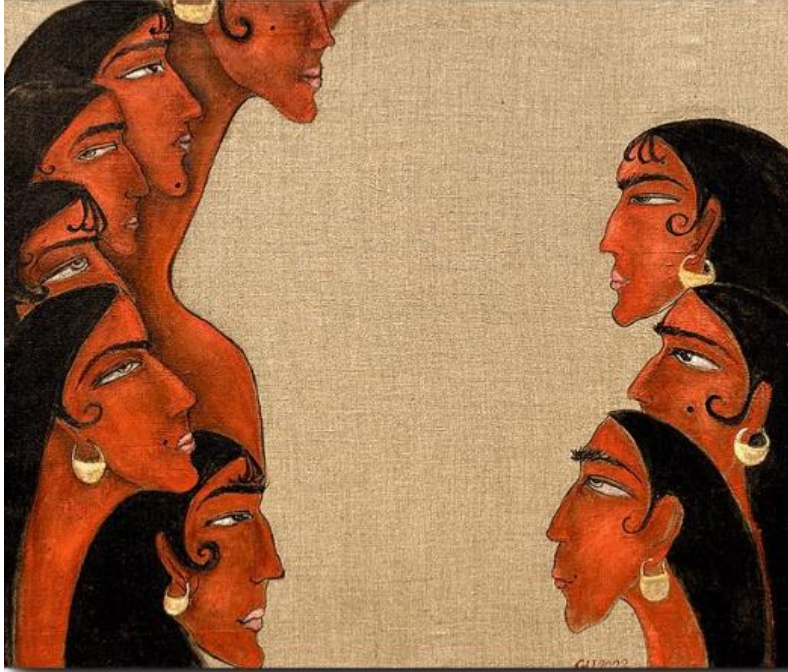


WORDS



Never since the beginning of time has this world been so full of words.

We are bombarded from all sides.

Even our music is swallowed up in torrents of words.

Words that come so fast they stumble over each other.

They get louder and louder.

Angry words.

Challenging words.

Suspicious words.

Commanding words.

Enticing words.

We cling to sanity by filtering what we hear.

We choose the words that appeal to us and discard the rest.

There are only two kinds of words:

Throw-away words.

Eternal words.

When Jesus commands us to be “wise as serpents” he is charging us to discern between throw-away words and eternal words.

Between words that are true and words that are tainted.

No one can do this for us.



Each follower of Jesus is to be “wise as a serpent”, discerning between the true and the tainted.

If I allow myself to be misled by tainted words, the blame falls on me.

I cannot plead ignorance.

Deep within I knew those words lacked the ring of truth.

I knew.

But I liked what I heard.

I loved being part of a “believing crowd”.

"Either make the tree good, and its fruit good; or make the tree bad, and its fruit bad; for the tree is known by its fruit.

You brood of vipers! how can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.

The good man out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil man out of his evil treasure brings forth evil.

I tell you, on the day of judgment men will render account for every careless word they utter; for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

Matthew 12

We are accountable for the words we speak.

We are also accountable for the words we choose to believe.

“Be wise as serpents and innocent as doves.”



Prayer: Lord, Father, we are bombarded with words turning us this way and that way...words that harden us, that make us bitter, that make us angry...words that aren't drawing us closer to you...words that keep us from loving and building up others. We admit they entice us. We need your help to remove ourselves from the crowd of ugly voices that pull us away from your heart. Help us to discern and discard all these throwaway words that bombard our hearts. Help us to hear you, to recognize truth.... to cling to, to believe, and to speak life-giving words, eternal words. We need your help to be wise as serpents and yet to remain innocent as doves, to know the truth without being bitter and vindictive. We need your cleansing, your healing, your power to have hearts and lips that bring forth good. Help us. Help us so our words no longer condemn us. Amen.

Message: Richard E. Bieber July 2021 aka Throw Away Words

Featured Artist: Guzel Zakirova from Kazakhstan at [instagram.com/guzelzakirart](https://www.instagram.com/guzelzakirart) and [artsy.net/artist/guzel-zakirova](https://www.artsy.net/artist/guzel-zakirova).... seeking permission.

Maranatha Mirror Messages

mmirror.net

maranathamirror18@gmail.com

586-530-6983



THE LAMB
WHO WAS SLAIN
HAS BEGUN HIS REIGN