

Who Do You Think You Are?

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Self Esteem a Powerful Emotion

Many of the issues people deal with relates to "Self Esteem." According to the Encarta Dictionary, Self Esteem is defined as Self Respect (Confidence in your own self as an individual person.) So what do you see when you look in the mirror? Do you see yourself as God sees you, or do you see yourself as something less? Perhaps when you were younger your peers called you names that made you feel inferior, and these words continually come to mind. We live in a time when people in general seem to be somewhat over sensitive to what others say. This is especially true when it involves ethnicity and also religious beliefs or lack thereof. In the past not much was taken so seriously, but now we hear terms like "Hate Speech and Hate Crimes" just about every day on the news! Why are people becoming so overly sensitive to what others say about them? Are there invisible forces at work here? In the past I have touched on Spiritual Warfare and how it has been and will be, an on-going process until Jesus Christ returns. Are there satanic influences that are making people hypersensitive to mere words? We have all heard the phrase "Sticks and Stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me." This makes words out to be insignificant, having little effect on us. The Bible teaches the opposite to be true; consider the following passages:

James 3:4-6 (New King James Version) ⁴ Look also at ships: although they are so large and are driven by fierce winds, they are turned by a very small rudder wherever the pilot desires. ⁵ Even so the tongue is a little member and boasts great things. See how great a forest a little fire kindles! ⁶ And the tongue *is* a fire, a world of iniquity. The tongue is so set among our members that it defiles the whole body, and sets on fire the course of nature; and it is set on fire by hell.

James 3:7-10 (New King James Version) ⁷ For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and creature of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by mankind. ⁸ But no man can tame the tongue. *It is* an unruly evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹ With it we bless our God and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the similitude of God. ¹⁰ Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be so.

These verses pretty much verify that Satan indeed uses words in his quest to turn people from God and His Word; and remember, God Spoke the entire universe into existence!

Genesis 1:1-3 (New King James Version)

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. (emphases mine)

Although written a long time ago all of these verses remain true, we have misused the tongue for centuries so why is it, that people are becoming so hypersensitive in our day, you would assume we'd be a little tougher by now. The way Satan uses and manipulates words against God and His children is in a lot of ways complex, so let me run a few scenarios past you and see if they make sense pertaining to how Satan tries to confuse us with words. Although there is a Christian revival happening world-wide, most people wouldn't even notice it as it is being suppressed (swept under the rug) by the largely Anti-Christian media. For example, there are many reliable sources stating that Muslims are turning to Christianity in droves world-wide despite the risks to themselves and their families. I have heard testimonies of Muslims seeing visions and even having "Damascus type encounters" with Angels and some even claiming to have seen Jesus himself! Of course we can only take someone's word for what people claim to have seen, but these people are turning to Jesus as a result! This tells me God and His Holy Spirit is at work. Do you hear about any of this on the "Main Stream Media?" I would say

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that it is highly unlikely. However, you will hear instantly if a Christian says anything even remotely construed as being against the Muslim faith or any other. You will hear over and over people stating how "Hateful" Christians are.

God Says One Thing - Satan Says Another

So - we have just touched on two ways Satan works with words - suppression and manipulation. These I would classify as subtle actions, more cunning than provocative, just as what took place in the Garden of Eden long ago. Another way he works is by bending or suppressing truth, we talked about this in the last lesson entitled "Professing to be Wise." Remember, Satan is also known as "The Father of Lies." These are all ways that Satan not only messes with our Self Esteem, but how he steers the masses from the truth of God. Before we continue, let us look at the two quotes below. The man who made these statements was in charge of propaganda for one of the most evil men who ever walked the earth, Adolf Hitler.

1. ["Think of the press as a great keyboard on which the government can play."](#)
2. ["If you repeat a lie often enough, people will believe it, and you will even come to believe it yourself."](#)
[Joseph Goebbels](#)

I have quoted Goebbels in the past; he was a master at propaganda blinding millions of people to the truth which resulted in the death of millions worldwide. If you have any doubts concerning the effectiveness of "Goebbels Tactics" think about what is going on Right Now - Right Here in the United States of America! People have been blinded by Satan and his Minions to the point that they think that gender is something that you decide on. They have been convinced that what you were at birth (Male or Female) is irrelevant. Listening to the news this morning (July 7th, 2017) with my wife, there was a report that the military is now under a directive that all personnel must now submit to showering with those of the opposite sex that identify as the opposite sex! In other words it doesn't matter what you were when born, what you have, (or don't have) between your legs, if you identify as a woman - you're a woman... if you identify as a man - you're a man! What you identify yourself as overrides what you appear to be physically. On top of this, you cannot question or even acknowledge in any way any problem you may have with this policy if confronted with this situation! This policy, according to the report was put in motion by the Obama Administration and just now went into effect! WOW! It is my prayer the current administration sets us straight. So here we have God saying one thing and Satan saying something else. It is up to you to choose between the Truth and a Lie then stand up for what you believe. A person texted a talk show with an interesting observation. "When it comes to believing in Global Warming we are told to TRUST science, but when it comes to Gender, we are told to IGNORE science." It sounds like a Spiritual Battle to me. How do these things affect us as Believers in Christ... It is ultimately up to us to discern the Truth, based on God's Word, the Bible.