

**WHEN YOU OPEN YOUR MOUTH PUBLICLY  
YOU HAD BETTER BE ABLE TO BACK UP WHAT YOU SAY  
By Shaun Kearney**

**When you hold to a conviction privately that's your business.  
But when you speak out publicly then that's everyone's business.**

All spheres of public life are constantly under scrutiny. We see it in politics, in local Body Government, in the field of medicine, science, foreign affairs, education and even sport. Litigation and Lawsuits are commonplace in every level of society.

Make one rash statement and you will be quickly pulled into line and possibly ridiculed. The media are the self appointed watch dogs of society and wont allow anyone no matter who they are, whether they be President, Prime Minister, King, or civil servant to get away with anything that's not accurate. In other words we live in regulated society, that censors with ruthless efficiency all that is written and spoken.

You will be held accountable for every public statement that you make. Your critics will want proof of the claims you make, so you had better get your facts right or you could find yourself in very serious trouble. Promising careers have been seriously affected and in some cases completely ruined. Once someone makes a "faux par" they will never be allowed to live it down but rather continually reminded of it.  
ie. "Watch my lips", *President George Bush snr*.

Yet when it comes to Church leaders it seems that these rules don't apply, instead the clergy close ranks particularly in local congregations. If anyone calls for an explanation or questions what is preached publicly they are accused of "judging" and the matter is treated as a personal affront on the leader. The laity are effectively muzzled by such cliches as "you mustn't judge", or "you're not showing a loving attitude" and so you are made to feel uncharitable because you dared to question your authority figure. In turn this gives pastors great boldness to continue preaching adulterated poorly researched nonsense. They promote programs and visions that their flocks are going to have to pay for. And I mean pay, in some cases dearly. Well all that needs to stop as of now.

**Insulate a fool from his folly and he will never learn.**

For too long pastors and Church leaders have hidden behind this facade that denies individuals the right to an explanation. Confidently they deliver their uninterrupted Sunday morning monologues safe in the knowledge that they will not be challenged no matter how preposterous the claims are they make. They don't have the tongue of the learned.

These ministers must be held accountable just as much as anyone else that goes on public record. And you my dear brothers and sisters have the God given right to ask these brethren to substantiate what they claim to be the truth. They must "put up" or "shut up." Paul went so far as to say the mouths of some must be stopped.

It is a fact that we are all accountable. We can choose to be accountable before our peers and enjoy the safety that it affords, lest we run in vain, or face God on that

day. Make no mistake we will have to give an account, better sooner than later. Refuse now and it will be shouted from the rooftops.

We are not advocating an inquisition into everything that we are being told and taught. But we shouldn't have to be subjected to monologues, which once delivered are never to be questioned. You must never doubt, or God forbid, query the man of God. About the only option you have is to vote with your feet. I am happy to say that a growing number are doing just that.

Preachers and ambitious pastors in particular are “getting away with murder” to coin a phrase. We are being assaulted by an increasing barrage of half-truths and innuendo supposedly coming from God over the last 10 years that is taking the Lord's name in vain by making Him party to their misleading claims.

We have preachers cursing people who dare to question their ministry claiming that they are blaspheming the Holy Ghost in so doing. These are the sorts of tactics that are being used by preachers to frighten people, and put themselves beyond reproof.

This whole Babylonian business is about to receive a mortal wound from which it will never recover. God's people are not just there to finance the ambitions of some individual and be fleeced like a flock of dumb sheep.

### **THE TONGUE OF THE LEARNED**

We have here a reference to the personal training of the Messiah, from His early childhood to manhood by God through the agency of the Holy Spirit. No less than seven times while on earth Jesus Christ claimed to speak only what His Father told Him to. (John 7:16; 8:28, 46, 47; 12:49; 14:10,24; 18:8.)

#### **Isaiah 50:4.**

“The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.”

Every vocation has its own language or jargon that's unique to its particular field as a means of communication. Procedure must be adhered to and practised with integrity within lawful boundaries. The apprentice must learn skills that will enable him to function in his chosen trade. Before he is allowed to practice unsupervised he must demonstrate his competence by way of an examination.

**Isaiah 29:12.** “And the book is delivered to him that is not learned, saying, Read this, I pray thee: and he saith, I am not learned.”

**2Timothy 2:15.** “A workman who needeth not to be ashamed.”

Who in their right mind would go to a blacksmith to have a tooth removed? Or ask a doctor to build him a house; or allow a lawyer to perform an operation to remove his appendix? So why entrust the keeping of your immortal soul to the unqualified? The builder must be qualified. The dentist and surgeon must be competent as they have the lives of the patients under their care to consider. The surgeon must be effective as

well as efficient. No matter how efficient he is, if he amputated the wrong limb, how effective would that be? You can be extremely efficient, but hopelessly ineffective.

A patient was rushed to hospital for emergency surgery. After consultation the surgeons went ahead and removed the patient's appendix. The operation went smoothly and was performed in a professional manner however the man died. An autopsy revealed the patient had an obstruction in the bowel not appendicitis. They were efficiently effective in killing the patient.

No trial lawyer would be permitted to continue arguing a case that proffered his opinions and beliefs. The court deals in points of law and legalities, not in the opinions of what some lawyer may think or feel. The judge will not tolerate incompetence in his court. Lawyers must present their arguments according to the statutes of the written law. The truth the whole truth and nothing but the truth is what every trial endeavours to arrive at. The judge and jury are there for the sole purpose of rendering a decision based on truth beyond reasonable doubt so that justice may be administered. However when it comes to the pulpit, sad to say, this does not always apply.

Terms must be defined. A Strong's concordance is a necessity for word definitions.  
Word definitions.

To the Law and to the testimony.

Definitive - Conclusive, to be looked on as final.

God's word is not up for debate. The spies set up a committee.

### **“Judge” and “to Judge not”**

2919 *krinw krino kree'-no*

AV-judge 88, determine 7, condemn 5, go to law 2, call in question 2, esteem 2, 114

1) to separate, put asunder, to pick out, select, choose

2) to approve, esteem, to prefer, 3) to be of opinion, deem, think, to be of opinion

4) to determine, resolve, decree

5) to judge, 5a) to pronounce an opinion concerning right and wrong

5a) to be judged, i.e. summoned to trial that one's case may be examined and judgment passed upon it

5b) to pronounce judgment, to subject to censure

5b1) of those who act the part of judges or arbiters in matters of common life, or pass judgment on the deeds and words of others

6) to rule, govern

6a) to preside over with the power of giving judicial decisions, because it was the prerogative of kings and rulers to pass judgment

7) to contend together, of warriors and combatants

7a) to dispute

7b1) to go to law, have suit at law

### **Judgeth**

1 Cor 2:15. He that is spiritual Judgeth all things.

350 *anakrinw anakrino an-ak-ree'-no v*

AV-examine 6 times, Luke 23:14, Acts 12:19, 1Cor 9:3. Judge 6, ask question 2, search 1, Acts 17:11. Discern 1; 1Cor 2:14. (16 times all told))

*Dia krino* I Cor 11:29. To judge thoroughly.

1) examine or judge

- 1a) to investigate, examine, enquire into, scrutinise, sift, question
- 1a1) specifically in a forensic sense of a judge to hold an investigation
- 1a2) to interrogate, examine the accused or witnesses
- 1b) to judge of, estimate, determine (the excellence or defects of any person or thing)

**Isaiah 50:4. “Tongue” language**

AV-tongue 98, language 10, bay 3, wedge 2, talkers 1; 117

- 1) tongue
- 1a) tongue (of men)
- 1a1) tongue (literal)
- 1a2) tongue (organ of speech)
- 1b) language
- 1c) tongue (of animals)
- 1d) tongue (of fire)
- 1e) wedge, bay of sea (tongue-shaped)

**Isaiah 50:4. “Learned”**

03928 dwml limmuwd lim-mood'or dml limmud lim-mood'

from 03925; TWOT-1116a; adj

AV-learned 2, disciple 1, taught 1, used 1, accustomed 1; 6

- 1) taught, learned, disciplined
- 1a) taught
- 1b) accustomed to (something)

**Acts 2:40. “Earnestly testified”**

AV-testify 11, charge 3, witness 1; 15

- 1) to testify
- 1a) earnestly, religiously to charge
- 2) to attest, testify to, solemnly affirm
- 2a) to give solemn testimony to one
- 2b) to confirm a thing by testimony, to testify, cause it to be believed

**Witness**

1. More than one witness was required in criminal cases. Deut 17:6 19:15
2. They were the first to execute the sentence on the condemned. Deut 13:9 17:7  
1Ki 21:13 Mt 27:1 Ac 7:57,58
3. False witnesses were liable to punishment. Deut 19:16-21
4. It was also an offence to refuse to bear witness. Lev 5:1  
Thou shalt not bear false witness.

**Acts 2: 40. “Exhort”**

AV-beseech 43, comfort 23, exhort 21, desire 8, pray 6, intreat 3, misc 4; 109.

- 1) to call to one's side, call for, summon
- 2) to address, speak to, (call to, call upon), which may be done in the way of exhortation, entreaty, comfort, instruction, etc.
- 2a) to admonish, exhort
- 2b) to beg, entreat, beseech
- 2b1) to strive to appease by entreaty
- 2c) to console, to encourage and strengthen by consolation, to comfort
- 2c1) to receive consolation, be comforted; 2d) to encourage, strengthen
- 2e) exhorting and comforting and encouraging; 2f) to instruct, teach.

**Hebrews 4:12- Word. 3056 logov logos log'-os**

AV-word 218, saying 50, account 8, speech 8, Word (Christ) 7, thing 5.

1) of speech

1a) a word, uttered by a living voice, embodies a conception or idea

1b) what someone has said

1b1) a word ; 1b2) the sayings of God

1b3) decree, mandate or order

1b4) of the moral precepts given by God

1b5) Old Testament prophecy given by the prophets

1b6) what is declared, a thought, declaration, aphorism, a weighty saying, a dictum, a maxim

2f) reason, cause, ground

3) In John, denotes the essential Word of God, Jesus Christ, the personal wisdom and power in union with God, his minister in creation and government of the universe, the cause of all the world's life both physical and ethical, which for the procurement of man's salvation put on human nature in the person of Jesus the Messiah, the second person in the Godhead, and shone forth conspicuously from His words and deeds.

This term was familiar to the Jews and in their writings long before a Greek philosopher named Heraclitus used the term Logos around 600 B.C. to designate the divine reason or plan which coordinates a changing universe. This word was well suited to John's purpose in John 1. See Gill on "Joh 1:1".

#### **Hebrews 4: "Quick"**

AV-live 117, be alive 9, alive 6, quick 4, lively 3, not tr 1, misc 2, vr live 1; 143

1) to live, breathe, be among the living (not lifeless, not dead)

2a) to have true life and worthy of the name

2b) active, blessed, endless in the kingdom of God

3) to live i.e. pass life, in the manner of the living and acting

3a) of mortals or character

4) living water, having vital power in itself and exerting the same upon the soul

5) metaph. to be in full vigour ; 5a) to be fresh, strong, efficient,

5b) as adj. active, powerful, efficacious

#### **Hebrews 4:12 "Powerful"**

AV-effectual 2, powerful 1; 3 active

#### **Hebrews 4:12. "Sharper"**

Comparative of a derivative of the primary temno (to cut, more comprehensive or decisive than 2875, as if by a single stroke, whereas that implies repeated blows, like hacking); ;adj Does not imply repeated blows.

#### **Hebrews 4: "Two edged Sword"** 3162 macaira machaira makh'-ahee-rah

From a presumed derivative of 3163; TDNT-4: 524,572; n f AV-sword 29; 29

1) a large knife, used for killing animals and cutting up flesh

2) a small sword, as distinguished from a large sword

2a) curved sword, for a cutting stroke

2b) a straight sword, for thrusting **Piercing, penetrating.**

**Hebrews 4:12 15 Discerner.** 2924 kritikov kritikos krit-ee-kos' from 2923; TDNT-3: 943,469; adj. AV-discerner 1; 1. relating to judging, fit for judging, **skilled** in judging.

