

Weapon of Mass Destruction

Weapon of mass destruction (WMD), weapon with the capacity to inflict death and destruction on such a massive scale and so indiscriminately that its very presence in the hands of a hostile power can be considered a grievous threat. Modern weapons of mass destruction are either nuclear, biological, or chemical weapons.

Picture links (each are a slide)

Nuclear Weapon: <https://qph.fs.quoracdn.net/main-qimg-c3950ce7216cb8f99f070227ca367da9>

Chemical Weapon: <http://pravda-team.ru/eng/image/article/1/8/1/60181.jpeg>

Biological Weapon: <http://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Screenshot-at-Jan-03-08-11-13.png>

Human Tongue:

https://www.more.com/sites/more.com/files/styles/hero/public/tongue-problems_hero.jpg

James 3:1-12 (NASB)

Let not many *of you* become teachers, my brethren, knowing that as such we will incur a ^[a]stricter judgment. ²For we all stumble in many *ways*. If anyone does not stumble in ^[b]what he says, he is a perfect man, able to bridle the whole body as well. ³Now if we put the bits into the horses' mouths so that they will obey us, we direct their entire body as well. ⁴Look at the ships also, though they are so great and are driven by strong winds, are still directed by a very small rudder wherever the inclination of the pilot desires. ⁵So also the tongue is a small part of the body, and *yet* it boasts of great things.

See how great a forest is set aflame by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, the *very* world of iniquity; the tongue is set among our members as that which defiles the entire body, and sets on fire the course of *our* ^[c]life, and is set on fire by ^[d]hell. ⁷For every ^[e]species of beasts and birds, of reptiles and creatures of the sea, is tamed and has been tamed by the human ^[f]race. ⁸But no one can tame the tongue; *it is* a restless evil *and* full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless *our* Lord and Father, and with it we curse men, who have been made in the likeness of God;¹⁰from the same mouth

come *both* blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not to be this way. ¹¹ Does a fountain send out from the same opening *both* ^[a]fresh and bitter *water*? ¹² Can a fig tree, my brethren, produce olives, or a vine produce figs? Nor *can* salt water produce ^[h]fresh.

I. Remember the Power

- a. **Matthew 12:36-37:** But I tell you that every ^[a]careless word that people ^[b]speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment. ³⁷ For ^[c]by your words you will be justified, and ^[d]by your words you will be condemned.”
- b. “The more influence I have, the more potential for evil I carry.” Andy Stanley

II. Relinquish the Reigns

- a. **James 1:19-20:** My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be **quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry**, ²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires
- b. “Seek first to understand, then to be understood”. From *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People* by Stephen Covey
- c. **Ephesians 4:29:** Let no unwholesome word proceed from your mouth, but only such a *word* as is good for edification according to the need of *the moment*, so that it will give grace to those who hear.
- d. **Ephesians 5:3-4:** But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity, or of greed, because these are improper for God’s holy people. ⁴ Nor should there be **obscenity, foolish talk or coarse joking**, which are out of place, but rather thanksgiving.

III. Repair the Damage

- a. If you start a fire accidentally, you’re still responsible for the fire you started.

- b. **Luke 6:45:** The good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth what is good; and the evil *man* out of the evil *treasure* brings forth what is evil; **for his mouth speaks from that which fills his heart**

Homework:

Psalm 19:14: Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, oh Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.