

Matthew 12.22-37 – What your words say about your heart.

I confess that too often my words don't build up

Context – opposition from the Pharisees

1. Is Jesus the good King? V22-29

The good Messiah-King fulfils 2 Sam 7.12-13; Psalm 2; Isa 42.1-4; Dan 7.13-14

Is Jesus doing miracles by Beelzebul/ Satan/ evil (2 Kings 1.1-3)

No, a kingdom or house divided won't stand

No, Jesus is stronger than strong Satan

Our battle is also against evil and Jesus the strong One can help

2. Be very careful how you respond to him v30-32

You can't sit on the fence regarding Jesus

All manner of sins can be forgiven, except if you say Jesus did evil

Jesus died to get forgiveness for you – trust him.

Example of Yenny, who found forgiveness and freedom from evil

3. Your words reveal your heart v33-37

A bad tree will produce bad fruit, and bad people bad words

Drunkenness loosening the lips to reveal the heart

The heart is the ruler and driver of your words and behaviour

God will hold us accountable for all the words we've spoken

But the good news is God by the Spirit gives us new hearts (Ezek 36.25-27)

(Rom 2.29)

In lockdown what words will you speak? How will they build up?