

# **THE POWER OF WORDS AND OTHER WRITINGS**

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### *The Power of Words*

Words are powerful. They can make us laugh or cry, weep or shout for joy, sing praise or call for damnation, and do many other things. Why is it that letters that are put together in certain ways make us act the way we act? Is it because they tell us what we need to know, or is it deeper? Let us examine this topic together.

Words can have many meanings when put together in certain ways. They can be truthful or be lying, can be accurate or sarcastic, or any other way. It is said that words can be more powerful than sticks and stones because they will last a lifetime. Another thing that is said that if you do not have something nice to say, do not speak up. I guess that means when you use sarcasm, you have better indicate with your gestures that you mean the opposite of what the words imply.

One way that words are powerful through meaning is by synonyms, or words that have similar meaning. Speeches would be boring if you had to use or listen to the same word for the same meaning every time, but with synonyms it makes the task a lot easier. Maybe that's why language is so powerful this way, because it is always fresh when we use it.

Another way that they are powerful is by antonyms, or words that mean the opposite. It makes using sarcasm kind of easy, if you know the right antonym to use. If you think someone's ugly, you can use sarcasm like this: "Hey there, beautiful! Aren't we lovely today?" as long as your body indicates that it's sarcasm, otherwise people can take it as a complement or if you are trying the opposite tack, they may think you are being mean to them.

Another way words are powerful is through homonyms, or words that sound similar, but mean different. They allow us to quickly write a message and have it understood. An example: "Go 2 the store as soon as u get home." is read as "Go to the store as soon as you get home."

Maybe words are powerful because they will last a lifetime, as the old schoolyard saying goes: 'Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words will last a lifetime. So be careful what you say.' We can all learn the lesson, because no one is perfect. Yes, we can try to be perfect with our words, but let's admit, we all make mistakes.

Words are also powerful, because they can help us mend our broken fences of our lives and relationships. A simple and honest "I'm sorry" or "Please forgive me, I was wrong" can go a long way to mended fences. Yes, it will take time for the trust to go back up to the original level, but it needs an apology and forgiveness in order to start going back up, otherwise it will not go up, but continue to slide.

Words are also powerful, because they can be used to prove a point, or to disprove or at least dispute that someone else's point is right. There are many different ways of doing it, including some that try and build an illogical case. A good example is called "Straw Man" where another totally different point is set up as what you are discussing. Another example is called "The Slippery Slide" where the person using it tries to point out what may happen if something comes into affect, without looking at all the angles. A third is called "Ad Hominem" which is Latin for "Argument to the Man". It attacks the person opposing your side or you, instead of the argument for/against itself. Another common used false argument is "Argument from Age" which basically says older or younger wisdom/arguments are better. These are just a few of the many different false arguments.

As you have read, words are powerful in so many different ways. Clearly, they can have an impact on our lives. Maybe that is why the Golden Rule was instituted: "Do onto others what you would have them do unto you." If we use words the right way, others will do

the same to us.

### *A Christmas Poem*

As I look out my window at the snow,  
I think of Christmas past in time.  
When the church bells rang and chimed,  
Despite the wind that did blow,  
People came to remember Christ's birth.  
They did not know of a Santa Claus,  
Or worry about cruel laws,  
For Christ, God become man, has come to earth,  
To give man the most important gift of life.  
Now when people receive more than they give,  
Is that any way to live?  
The earth is now full of strife,  
When Christ came to give us peace.  
I hope as you go through this holiday season,  
You will understand its true reason.

### *Christmas Spirit*

As I think of Christmas past,  
I have to wonder:  
Is the Christmas spirit gone under,  
Or is it going to last?  
You have to see,  
That this is not the way,  
On this holy day,  
There is a better way to be.  
Back when church bells started to ring.  
People came despite the snow,  
And the winds that did blow.  
They came to sing,  
And remember the birth of Christ, the King.  
I hope as you read this poem,  
The point will be taken home.

### *God is My Father*

I need never to feel worried,  
Or for that matter hurried.  
For God is my dad,  
He is the best one to be had,  
I can trust in Him,  
For His love for me will never dim.  
He puts His trust in me,  
And His mercy is deeper than the sea.  
When I am scared,  
He has been my comfort.  
God has always cared,

Even though I was of a different sort.  
You have to see,  
That if He cares for me,  
He cares for you,  
Even if you do not want Him to.

He disciplines me when I am bad,  
He still loves me when at Him I am mad,  
He will always believe in me,  
Even though I may not always believe Him.  
His love and mercy are wider and deeper than the sea,  
And His tenderness for me will never dim.  
When Jesus came to earth,  
He came to show us that God is our heavenly dad,  
And that He is the best one to be had,  
That is why we celebrate His birth.  
God wants His sons and daughters to be obedient,  
So to earth, Jesus was sent.  
He came to show us the way,  
And that sin did not pay.

No matter where I hide,  
He is always able to seek me out.  
No where that I shall abide,  
His knowledge will not be flout.  
I cannot hide in a mountain,  
Nor in the depths of the sea,  
I cannot hide beneath a gushing, hot fountain,  
For there my heavenly Father's presence will be.  
Even if I hide among the stars,  
My Father will follow me.  
His presence will not be blocked by steel bars,  
His love for me is too great,  
And He will rescue me from Hell's gate.

No matter what Satan accuses me of,  
He will not turn me away,  
Because of His great love.  
From His law, I will not stray.  
If He is not your Father,  
He wants you to become His son or daughter.  
If you have to worry,  
Or along life's path you do not want to hurry,  
Or you are sinking in a sea of sin,  
Or you are out on a limb,  
Call out to Him.  
Your heavenly Father still loves you,  
Your life's greatest battle for you He shall win,  
Even if you do not want Him to.

### *If Evolution Were True, What Would Have to Change?*

If evolution were true, what would have to change? I am not saying it is true, but this question needs to be answered. Lots would have to change including: the big bang overcoming gravity; Uranus and Neptune should not be here; and the Oort cloud should have been detected. These are just a few of things that should be different if evolution were true.

If evolution were true, how did the big bang expand? I am not saying it is true, but this question needs an answer. It could not have expanded by itself, due to the force of gravity. Instead it would have turned into a giant black hole, and the universe would not have been formed. Is it more sensible to believe instead that God created the universe from nothing?

If evolution is true, why are there so many weird things in the Solar System? I am not saying that it is true, but the question bugs me. Evolution cannot explain the following things: Pluto's weird orbit, retrograde Venus, the tilted magnetic fields and giving off heat by Neptune and Uranus, and the retrograde and weird moons of Jupiter. In fact, according to evolutionists, Uranus and Neptune should not be in existence. They still need five and one-half billion years to form, according to evolutionists' models.

If the Solar System is four and one-half billion years old, why are there so many comets? I am not saying that it is that old, but the question needs to ask itself. There is no evidence either of the Oort cloud, or in the Kuiper Belt. Astronomers have not observed the Oort cloud, and the objects in the Kuiper Belt are too large for comets. Besides, collisions in the Oort cloud would have destroyed most of the comet nuclei.

If evolution is true, why are there layers of strata that are upside-down and bent out of shape? I am not saying that it is true, but the question really annoys me until I know the answer. Other weird things that evolutionists cannot explain are rapid burial of trees in multiple layers of strata; quick fossilization of jellyfish, and horseshoe crabs and their tracks; the ability to make coal, oil, and gems in days and not years. Take the example of the tree extending through more than one layer of strata. If the strata took many years to place, the tree would have rotted away before sediment would have covered it totally. However, if it happened in a global flood, than rapid burial is possible before it would rot.

If evolution is true, why is there not more missing links? I am not saying it is true, but this question needs an answer. It is quite clear that if there are no fossils of missing links, then there cannot be missing links. Everything in the fossil records just appears, yet it does not gradually form from something else.

If evolution is true, how did man evolve from apes? I am not saying it is true, but the question demands an answer. Man could not have descended from apes for one basic reason: No matter what changes you make to your body, they will not be passed on in your DNA. In other words, if an ape made his or her muscles bigger, his or her offspring would still have the original muscles. All the supposed ancestors on man's evolutionary tree are apes; a trash can of many different species, or fully humans.

If evolution is true, is sin real? I am not saying evolution is true and sin is not real, but the question clearly needs to be answered. If the universe just evolved, then there would be no original sin. No original sin and no need for God. No need for God and no need for Him to send Jesus for our sin. If there is no God, than there is no one to see what you do even when you are by yourself. If there was no original sin, than we should be heading upward morally. Instead, we are heading downward.

All of this evidence makes creation and the global flood that is described in the book of Genesis in the Bible the logical way of explaining it. Evolution has too much to explain, and not enough answers.

### *Jesus is Coming Back*

Jesus is coming back.  
Will you be ready?  
For Him, will you be steady?  
Will you withstand Satan's attack?  
When the trumpet will sound,  
And the archangel shall shout  
Will you be looking about,  
Or will you be glory bound?  
Will you be ready on that day,  
Or on earth, will you stay?

His coming will be like a thief in the night,  
When he comes back, will you be glad  
Or will you be sad  
At that glorious sight?

### *My Favorite Quotes*

Curiosity killed the cat.

What you do not know cannot hurt you.

A penny saved is a penny earned.

God helps those who help themselves.

Stop kicking the dog.

If we do not carry the message of truth, who will?

An apple a day keeps the doctor away.

A joke a day keeps sadness away.

Time is money.

Early to bed,  
Early to rise,  
Makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.

-Benjamin Franklin

If you do your best, then whatever you do will be for the best.

### *On the Kyoto Accord*

The Kyoto Accord is useless,  
For it will only create more of a mess!  
"Pass it!" the environmentalists pleaded,  
Even though it was not needed.  
Why did the national government approve of this plan?  
Volcanoes produce more greenhouse gas than man!  
Man produces less than one percent,  
Still the national government's approval was sent.  
The problem it will not attack,  
So why is the government going down this track?  
This government has put the nation back!  
The prime minister wanted to be remembered,  
The plan should be dismembered.  
The oil industry will lose many jobs,  
What are we to make power from - corn cobs?  
Why is the government wasting money on it?  
The plan should be tossed in the pit!

### *The Future*

Alternative power is here already,  
And it here to stay.  
For a source of power, it is steady,  
And should be the way.  
One source of power is the sun,  
Another is the tides,  
I am sure the ways to make power there are a ton,  
I am sure that we will make big strides.  
A source of power for our cars  
Is the long-lasting fuel cell,  
This technology could help us on Mars.  
Do you need me to tell  
Why these alternative sources we need?  
Our oil is running out - guaranteed!



## *Winter*

Winter is cold,  
Colder than I am.  
It is not bold,  
But like a lamb.  
It turns the land white,  
And makes me sneeze.  
The sun is bright,  
And cold is the north breeze.  
I will stay by the fire,  
And read a good book.  
Next year, I will stack the wood higher,  
And give winter a cold look.  
As I write this poem  
In my warm socks,  
Canada is my home -  
Despite winter's knocks.

### *Christmas and Easter: Independent yet Interdependent*

Why are Christmas and Easter independent, yet interdependent? Can we celebrate one of these events without the other? If the above question is not possible, why is this so? What events in the two thousand years following it would not have taken place or changed in character? Finally, is there anything that we can learn from these events and this study of them?

Christmas and Easter are independent, yet interdependent for a basic reason: If one did not occur, the other would not have occurred or we would not celebrate it today. If you look at the facts, you can see why this reason is true. If Jesus did not become a baby at the first Christmas, he could not have died, and three days later, rise from the dead. However, if He was born, nailed to the cross and died, and did not rise from the dead, why would we celebrate His birth if we did? The only reason I can think of is that we still might celebrate it is because people would say He was the Great Teacher of all teachers, and thus its significance would change.

You cannot celebrate either Christmas or Easter by itself for another basic reason: If one of these events did not occur nearly two thousand years ago, why would we celebrate the other in its current form? Look at the facts, and this is clear to see. If Jesus was not born, could we celebrate His death and resurrection? We could not, because it could not happen. On the other hand, if He did not rise from the dead, why would we celebrate His birth? We probably would not, unless we considered Him the Great Teacher, and followed His teachings. To others, it would not make sense.

Another reason why we cannot only celebrate Christmas or Easter is this: The lone celebration by itself would not fully tell the story of salvation. If you only celebrated His birth, would you fully understand what Jesus did the first Easter? It would be impossible, unless you were a good student of the Bible. If you only celebrated Easter, would you fully understand how Jesus became a man? Again, it would be nearly impossible, except to good Bible students.

Several things or events would not have occurred or changed in character if these events had not occurred. First, everyone would not know of His life and teachings. This is an important point for a basic reason: Either He would not have become a man, or only historians and followers of His cult would study His life and teachings.

Second, we would have to become Jews in order to go to heaven. Third, we would still be worshiping idols. Fourth, only the Old Testament would be in existence. Fifth, the papacy would not be in existence. Sixth, the Crusades in the twelfth century would only have been political and military in nature. Finally, the Vatican City would still be part of Italy.

I have learned several things from the bench in my study of them. I have learned like Christmas and Easter are independent, yet interdependent. I have also learned that several important events and things were dependent on them.

### *Salvation*

What is salvation? What is the doctrine of grace, and how does it relate to salvation? What is the doctrine of justification by faith, and how does it relate to salvation?

Salvation is the act or process of God saving man from sin. It is a gift from God. Everyone who wants to go to heaven must accept it, for Romans 3:23 states, "For all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God".

No one can earn salvation. God saves you only by His grace. This is the doctrine of grace, and without it, God cannot save us. For Ephesians 2:8-9 says, "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith - and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God - not by works, so that no one can boast." God did not wait for us to realise our sin and call out to Him, but sent His son, Jesus, to die for our sins. For Romans 5:8 states, "But God demonstrates His own love for us by this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

The doctrine of justification by faith is this: When you believe that Jesus rose from the dead, God cancels the guilt of your sin and declares you righteous. For Romans 10:9-10 states, "That if you confess with your mouth, 'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved." In addition, Romans 4:5 states, "However, to the man who does not work but trusts God who justifies the wicked, his faith is credited as righteousness."

I have learned much about salvation. I have learned that when I believed in Jesus, God justified me. I have also learned that it is the gift of God to man.

## *Faith*

What is faith? How can you show your faith? What are the results of faith? What is its power? What are the costs of faith? What are the rewards of faith? What are some of the examples of faith in action? What can we learn from this study?

Faith believes that something or someone is true. It also believes in God and that He can do the impossible. According to Hebrews 11:1, it is also "being sure of what we can hope for and certain of what we do not see".

According to the Bible, baptism is the way of showing your faith. For Matthew 3:6 says, "Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River." In addition, Luke 3:3 says, "He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins."

In the Bible, amazing things happened for those who believed in God. David had faith in God, and as a result, God gave him victory over Goliath and all his enemies. Jotham, a descendant of David, also had faith in God and obeyed Him, so God gave him victories in battle. Phileasar had faith and was zealous for God, and He counted it for righteousness in His sight. Jesus said that anyone with faith can command a mountain to cast itself in the sea and it will.

Faith's power is the ability to do greater works than Jesus did. In John chapter 14, verse 12, He said, "I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father." We wonder why we cannot do great things for God. It is clear to see: We do not have enough faith in God.

If a person has faith in God, others may laugh at or persecute them for their faith. Their family may even persecute them. Matthew 10:35-37 says, "For I have come to turn 'a man against his father, a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law - a man's enemies will be the members of his own household'. Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me." According to Paul, the world will persecute everyone for their faith for Second Timothy 3:12 states, "In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted."

In spite of the costs, faith does have rewards. If you have faith in God and obey Him, you will prosper. Ebed-Melech's trust in God and his showing of it, by rescuing Jeremiah the prophet from the miry pit, resulted in God promising him that God would save his life after Jerusalem fell. In the book of Matthew, a woman's faith healed her from bleeding that had been happening for twelve years. God will bless us with all blessings when we have faith in Christ. If you are faithful on earth, God will reward you in heaven.

Many examples of faith in action are in the Bible. Rahab showed her faith in God by hiding the Israelite spies that Joshua had sent. In Matthew 25:35-36, Jesus said that we could exercise our faith by feeding the hungry, giving a drink to the thirsty, being friendly to the friendless, clothing the naked, or visiting those who are sick or in prison. Peter and John showed their faith in Jesus by healing the crippled beggar in Jesus' name. According to Hebrews 11:7, Noah built an ark because of his faith in God. If your faith is genuine, it will produce good deeds.

I have learned many things from this study of faith. I have learned what faith is. I have also learned what can happen if I have faith.