

Words! **Part 2: "Unshaken"**

A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Proverbs 25.11

Our words: carry the ability to destroy or build up, to darken or enlighten, to help or hinder...

Our words, spoken wisely, at the right moment, the right way: can be redirecting, rescuing, redeeming...

Our words can be extremely valuable, beautiful and refreshing...

The Word we know, the words we understand, the words we speak... Have everything to do with the health and life of God we experience and share! We must know that we know what we know and we don't speak until we do!

Only then is a word fitly spoken like apples of gold in pictures of silver. Proverbs 25.11

Premise: We are Ambassadors for Christ! 2Corinthians 5.20 Ambassadors live in a place that is not their own! And only *good* as long as they do! Ambassadors represent another country! They speak for their Commander! They help/protect their own citizens in a foreign land!

When people see the ambassador they see the country and its leaders and should be able to say, "if that's what it's like, I want it!" And in times of trouble they don't hesitate to run to the ambassador and the embassy for sanctuary! Unless there's nothing superior or better about it!

Words... Become so important to us when we face the issues demanding faith! Do we really believe that what we say we believe is really real? No where does that question get so distilled as when you're talking about the death of a loved one!

Ten days ago, my dad died...

My dad was a great man! Born during the depression, 1 of 19 kids! Married to the same gal for 64 years! "Thick and thin!" Raised two good kids! Inspired and influenced a lot of people, young and old, in his lifetime! Found Jesus as Savior in the 70's! With my Mom, led the elder group for a time and worked on the kitchen team! I loved being Fred's son!

When I got the news he died, there was no grief... Didn't know anyone who fought such a valiant fight for a lifetime... So deserving of his honorable discharge, medal of honor, place among heroes! It had to be about his gain/not our loss! Couldn't begrudge his visit to such an exotic R&R destination for one moment! Belief in the reality of heaven, established our hearts!

Little disconcerting for some who don't understand the gravitas of faith... Lack of care/regard? Denial? Comforting to others who do... Faith is the "substance," weight, anchor! Don't have to grieve **Luke 9.60** Never grieve like the world does **1Th4.13** Respond reflecting King/Kingdom!

So much damage has been done by people who come undone at death!

Do we really believe that what we say we believe is really real? Then why do we grieve: *As though they are gone?* Standard: "Sorry for your loss!" (?) Do we say that when on vacation? "I know you miss your folks!" YES! *As though not going to see them again?* Know right where they are: ALIVE FOREVERMORE! And when we are going to see them! *As though heaven is a bad place?* "Why did they go?"

Do your fighting/grieving/crying while they're alive... and stuck! 2Sam12.22,23 Demonstrate the reality of your belief by praising and thanking God for his release/reward! **2Cor5.6-9 2Tim4.8** Rep God who is faithful in not letting us face more than we can successfully deal with! **1Cor10.13**

“As workers together, I beg you not to receive the grace of God in vain!” 2Cor6.1 “Whether it’s death or sickness or relationships or finances we must show the unshakable nature of God and His kingdom by being unshaken!”

Dying is not hard! Living requires hard work! Dying is not “the end” – beginning! Last step here is the first step there! Sunset here is sunrise there!

SWAIGTDWWIKN? SHOWMOREROCK!