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The Tongue is Powerful

According to legend many years ago, there were an eagle and a turtle who became very good friends. They always traveled together on long trips. However, one day the turtle became very tired and informed the eagle that he could not make the return trip. They sat and tried to think of some way for the turtle to make the return journey.

Finally, the turtle had a bright idea. He said to the eagle, "You can fly and carry a stick in your claws and let me hold to the stick with my mouth." They tried it and it worked fine.

As they flew over a farm, two of the farmhands looked up and saw the unusual sight. One of the men said to the other, "That's a clever idea. I wonder if the eagle or the turtle thought of it?" The turtle, desiring to receive the praise, opened his mouth to say, "I did." You can figure out the rest of the story. Unable to bridle his tongue, the turtle met his death.

The Tongue's Power

The tongue is the cause of the spiritual death of many Christians. Have you ever really considered the power that the tongue possesses? Freedom of speech is a blessing. The gift of speech is a gift of God, but it is the will of God that a Christian bridle his tongue. James said, "If any man thinketh himself to be religious, while he bridleth not his tongue but deceiveth his heart, this man's religion is vain" (Oas. 1:26). Jesus tells us if we use the tongue in an unsuitable fashion it can destroy us: " *Continued on page 2*

