

University Heights Church  
of Christ  
445 Columbia Ave.,  
Lexington, KY 40508  
(859) 255-6257  
www.uheightschurch.com

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

**Sunday**

Bible Study: 9:45 AM

Worship: 10:45 AM; 6:00 PM

**Wednesday**

Bible Study: 7:30 PM (This is  
immediately followed by a  
short worship period)

**First Friday of Each Month**

Singing: 7:30 PM

**LEADERSHIP**

**Elders**

David Collins

John Thompson

Troy Antle

**Evangelist**

Adam Litmer

**Deacons**

Richard Brundige

Matt Thompson

Adam Litmer

Bill Morelan

Jim Parsons

Pat Seabolt

Adam Daniels

Jamie Powell

**In need of prayers**

Jim Parsons, Edith Huffman, Diane Thompson, Karen Spivey, Jeff Howerton (also his aunt), Rhonda Boyd (and her sister, Dorothy), Paul Atkisson, Lois Weatherholt, Cassie Neel, Keia Burton, Robert Brundige, Valerie and Barry Boyd, Erlene Young, Larry Sells, Evelyn Damron, John Blessing, William Roberts, Paul Lyda, Sandra Queen, Annie Allen, Elijah Ossege, Chassey and Paisley Seabolt, Tammy Goble, Veronica Bowman, Cindi Bradbury (multiple sclerosis, recent eye surgery, and a fall that broke her arm), Jennifer Strutz, Steve Stewart (Chris's father, severe allergies causing significant and continuing health concerns)

# University Heights Messenger

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## **Spiritual Thoughts On A Common Expression**

By John Thompson

Who, besides infants, has not heard and does not understand the truism that actions speak louder than words? One who says he loves his wife, then verbally abuses her even in public, will never convince anyone that his love is genuine. One's actions are the weightier evidence of one's true character and will ultimately expose one's hypocrisy.

Let's consider wisdom. There are many wise people in the world. In each generation there are those people to whom others turn for advice, counsel, and comfort. As their reputation grows, more people may turn to them more often; that is, until their actions prove them not to be so wise after all. Do actions inconsistent with wise words nullify the truth of the words? Not at all, but they certainly lessen the ability of wise words to influence others for good. Why should you take my advice when you see me not taking it myself? Are you likely to listen to me in the future?

When you impart wisdom to another you, to some degree, judge them. By offering a wiser course of action, you are communicating that the proposed course of action is lacking in some way. Romans 2:1-3 reveals the terrible danger of talking

wisely but acting unwisely, of condemning the unrighteousness of others while being equally unrighteous oneself. *Therefore, you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, because you, the judge, practice the very same things. We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who practice such things. Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who practice such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God?*

Now, let's consider Solomon. *And God gave Solomon wisdom and understanding beyond measure, and breadth of mind like the sand on the seashore, so that Solomon's wisdom surpassed the wisdom of all the people of the east and all the wisdom of Egypt. For he was wiser than all other men, wiser than Ethan the Ezrahite, and Heman, Calcol, and Darda, the sons of Mahol, and his fame was in all the surrounding nations. He also spoke 3,000 proverbs, and his songs were 1,005. He spoke of trees, from the cedar that is in Lebanon to the hyssop that grows out of the wall. He spoke also of beasts, and of birds, and of reptiles, and of fish. And people of all nations came to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and from all the kings of the earth, who had heard of his wisdom.* (1 Kings 4:29-34)

Although it is impossible to know when during Solomon's reign his proverbs were spoken, probably they occurred over several years. But we do know at some point during his reign he no longer pleased God and the reason involved behavior that was the opposite of many of his proverbs. *My son, be attentive to my wisdom; incline your ear to my understanding, that you may keep discretion, and your lips may guard knowledge. For the lips of a*

*forbidden woman drip honey, and her speech is smoother than oil, but in the end she is bitter as wormwood, sharp as a two-edged sword. Her feet go down to death; her steps follow the path to Sheol; she does not ponder the path of life; her ways wander, and she does not know it.* (Proverbs 5:1-6)

That is what Solomon said, but what did he do? *Now King Solomon loved many foreign women, along with the daughter of Pharaoh: Moabite, Ammonite, Edomite, Sidonian, and Hittite women, from the nations concerning which the Lord had said to the people of Israel, "You shall not enter into marriage with them, neither shall they with you, for surely they will turn away your heart after their gods." Solomon clung to these in love. He had 700 wives, who were princesses, and 300 concubines.* (1 Kings 11:1-3) Without a doubt, some of the time he was apt to speak the proverb he was actively recruiting some of his 700 wives and 300 concubines. And his foreign wives did to him exactly what his proverb said would happen. *And his wives turned away his heart. <sup>4</sup>For when Solomon was old his wives turned away his heart after other gods, and his heart was not wholly true to the Lord his God, as was the heart of David his father.* (1 Kings 11:3-4)

Actions certainly speak louder than words, do they not?





