

T, h, e, P, o, w, e, r, o, f, W, o, r, d, s,

In the journalism world B.C. (Before Computers) into which I was introduced, news stories were cranked out on a typewriter – and a manual one at that.

Nowadays, not only are stories produced differently – more efficiently and effectively – but the entire process of preparing a newspaper’s pages for the press is done electronically. The methods of communication have undergone an amazing revolution.

In this rapidly changing technological age, thanks to computers – including an array of hand-held mobile devices – words fly around the world in a flash. People email, text and tweet with abandon, reacting and overreacting to everything from what’s taking place in their own backyard or a visit to the coffee shop to events on the other side of the oceans.

Some people post Scripture verses or inspirational thoughts on social media. Others post hateful words to politicians or the schoolmate they are bullying or the athletes on an opposing team. Hardly a day passes without some famous person trying to take back harsh words.



Words matter. Like stones, they can build up or tear down.

Jesus put it this way: You are the tree and your words are your fruit. The words you speak – or write or text – reveal who you really are on the inside.

Our Lord was addressing the Pharisees when He said: “But I say unto you that for every idle word men may speak, they will give an account of it in the day of judgment. For by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned” (Matthew 12:36-37 NKJV).

The Pharisees were constantly criticizing Jesus in public, tearing Him down, and causing people to doubt the truth that came from Jesus’ lips. Jesus said it is impossible for good fruit to come from an evil tree.

Words match the heart – good or bad. And by those words we will be judged.

That is a sobering thought.

– Beecher Hunter