

# TRIUMPH

“Do you know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it” (1 Cor. 9:24)

## Figurative Language and Symbolism (9)

*Gabriel Rodriguez*

### Inside This Issue:

Curse Words

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Never Pass Away**

The next figure of speech used in the Bible involves addition of words and meanings. There are many in this category. There is *epizeuxis*, a duplication or repetition of the same word in a sentence (e.g., Isa. 40:1; Jn. 1:51); *anaphora*, repetition of the same word at the beginning of successive sentences (e.g., Matt. 5:3-11); *polysyndeton*, repetition of the word “and” (e.g., Acts 1:8); *paradiastole*, repetition of “neither” or “nor” (e.g., Rom. 8:38-39); *epistrophe*, repetition of the same word at the end of successive sentences (e.g., Ps. 115:9-11); *epanadiplosis*, encircling; the same word at the beginning and end of a sentence (e.g., Phil. 4:4); *anadiplosis*, like sentences endings and beginnings (e.g., Ps. 121:1-2); *repetito*, repetition of the same word irregular in the same passage (e.g., Jn. 16:12-15, “shall” and “will” appear 11 times in 4 verses); *polyptoton*, many inflections, the repetition of the same word in different forms (e.g., Eph. 6:18; Rev. 17:6).

The use of repetition in passages was either to amplify a certain

meaning, or give indication to an important thought/direction. For example, in Philippians 4:4, Paul says, “*Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice*” (*epanadiplosis, encircling*). The context reveals Paul’s plight of imprisonment for the cause of Christ (1:16). And although the apostle Paul was experienced this hardship, Paul emphasized his state of mind, one of joy and happiness (1:25-26; 2:1-2; 2:17; 3:1; 4:4).

Therefore, the message was clear. Paul wanted to express the idea of remaining optimistic regardless of dreadful and pessimistic circumstances of life. Paul wanted to become an example of becoming victorious over pain and suffering. Therefore, in replete fashion Paul emphasized the idea of “rejoice.”

Hence, whenever we see multiple usages of a particular word, this should help to indicate that something of importance is being relayed for us to take notice of. May God be praised!

# Curse Words

## Church News and Announcements

### CONGREGATION

The family home devotional will be on October 23 at 6:30 pm in the home of the Hipps. The menu is soups, salads, and desserts.

The Ladies' Bible class and Men's training class will be at 4:00 pm on October 25.

The ladies will cover lesson 9 in their book and the men will be studying Haggai, as directed by bro. Austin Maldonado.

Elders need volunteers for the month of November: to prepare communion, organize the fellowship luncheon, and a man to be in charge of services. See Brother Hipp if you can assist.

The Sunny Glen Children's Home is requesting Fabric Softener sheets and Pie Filling. The truck will be here between December 15-17. As before, you can donate funds by giving it to one of our elders, memo your check for Sunny Glenn, or purchase these items on your own and place it in the library. The donated funds will be used to purchase the items in bulk from Sam's Club. Thank you.

**FYI: Daylight savings time ends November 1.**

### YOUTH

The Hipps will host November's Youth Devotional. Date and time to be announced later.

### YOUNG ADULT

Our next young/middle age adult devotional will be on October 30th at the home of the Rodriguez's at 7:00 pm. This will be a wholesome costume party. Menu will be Halloween themed party foods. Prize will be given to the most creative food entree.

### AREA NEWS

The Price rd. congregation in Brownsville, TX invites the ladies to their Ladies' Day on November 7 beginning at 8:30 am. The topic will be "The Role of Women in Evangelism."

It's often been said that our language is a window to our soul. This is exactly what Jesus meant in Matthew 12:34 when He said, "*O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the mind the mouth speaks.*" What we say reveals our mind. Therefore, take an account of the words you use daily, and this will give you indication of what type of mind you possess, or more specifically, what you're feeding your mind on a daily basis.

The Proverb writer said in 4:23, "*Guard your mind, for out of it are the issues of life.*" What we allow to enter our mind is what comes out. So the company we keep and the things we allow to be exposed to will eventually seep out. This is why the admonition is given in 1 Corinthians 15:33, "*Be not deceived, evil communication corrupts good manners.*"

Speech, what we say in everyday life, reveals the ruler of our mind. Consider Colossians 3:1 and ff. Paul begins by encouraging Christians that "*if ye be risen with Christ (baptism; new life), seek those things which are above (righteousness), where Christ sits on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth*" (1-3). Paul commanded Christians to set their mind on things relating to righteousness (right conduct and character) and wholesomeness, following the example of Christ, who should be our life (3-4). But this would require them to "*Mortify (kill) the old man (bad*

*habits) that are upon the earth: fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry...put off all these: anger, wrath, malice, blasphemy, and filthy communication out of your mouth...seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds*" (5-9).

The **company** of "*filthy (debased) communication (language)*" is anger, wrath, malice, and blasphemy. In other words, when we get upset and our emotions get the best of us, this is when we usually leak out what is stored in our minds, and if we haven't guarded our minds well, we begin to utter foolishness. But as we become Christians, our objective is to put away old ways/habits and be "*renewed in knowledge after the image of him*" (v. 10). This means, we must renovate our lives by injecting righteous and wholesome knowledge, which mimics the life of Christ; a life filled with meaningful speech and actions. As Paul stated in Colossians 4:6, "*Let your speech be always with grace, seasoned with salt, that ye may know how ye ought to answer every man.*"

Our speech must be distinct and fruitful, one that brings joy and happiness to others, but especially to God. What we say must bring others up, not tear them down (Pr. 18:21). This is why we must protect our mind and in doing so, our speech will be a blessing. May God be praised!

**Bro. G. Rodriguez**

## WHAT SAITH THE LORD?

Nearly two thousand years ago an important question was raised before the Apostles after they had delivered the good news of Jesus's life, death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 2:21-36). The hearer's conscience were pricked of sinful conduct (2 Cor. 7: 10-11) and asked: "*Men and brethren, what shall we do* (in order to be saved)? (Acts 2:37). Without hesitation, Peter elevated his voice and proclaimed: "*Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of your sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit*" (Acts 2:38).

Upon hearing the words of Peter, the people obeyed. This demonstrated their belief in Christ (Jn. 8:24). Hence, they repented of sin and confessed allegiance to the name of Christ (Matt. 10:32-33). Afterwards, the people were baptized for the remission of their sins (Acts 2:41, cf. Mrk. 16:16; 1 Pet. 3:21).

The people's submission to the words of salvation granted them a relationship with God the Father by accessing citizenship into the church of Christ (Acts 2:47, cf. Matt. 16:18; Mrk. 9:1; Acts. 2:1-4). As a member of Christ's body (Acts 8:4) the people were then encouraged to live faithful unto death by conquering sin in their lives (Rev. 2:10; Rom. 6: 4-12; 2 Tim. 4: 6-8). We then await for the coming day in which all men shall be judged the word of God (Jn 12:48; Acts 17:30-31; 2 Cor. 5:10). Will we be ready?

## SHEPHERD'S CORNER

### God's Words Will Never Pass Away

Jesus promised, "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away" (Matt.24:35). We watch the seasons, as Spring brings new life to the land and autumn leads to a cold, dead winter. We see the same pattern in our own lives, as "the outward man is decaying" (2 Cor. 4:16). But that pattern does not hold true with the word of God, for, "The grass withereth, and the flower falleth: but the word of the Lord abideth forever" (1 Pet. 1:24-25). Satan has long tried to destroy God's word, to diminish its influence in the lives of men and women. But, "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God unto salvation" (Rom. 1:16). That power still exists today.

Some question the relevance of the Bible in our lives today. "That book is 2,000 years old, and we live in the 21st century!" But what is forgotten is that man has not changed, his needs have not changed, because his character has not changed. Man's principle problem in life is sin, and of all the writings in the world, only the word of God gives an answer for that. "For ever, O Lord, thy word is settled in heaven" (Psa.119:89). We may choose to reject, or ignore, the word of God in this life. But when we stand before Him in the final judgment, his word will be there as the standard by which we are judged: "He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my sayings, hath one that judgeth him, the word that I spake, the same shall judge him the last day" (Jno. 12:48). That word will endure, it will never be destroyed.

"In God I will praise his word, In God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me" (Psa. 56:4). **Bro. W. Holmes**

# CHURCH LEADERSHIP

### BISHOPS/SHEPHERDS/ELDERS

(1 Tim. 3: 1-6)

Brother Elwyn Hipp (830) 510-6311,  
Brother Wayne Holmes (210) 696-8597

### DEACON

(Acts 6: 1-5; 1  
Tim. 3: 7-12)

Brother Raul Baltierra  
(210) 843-9730

### GOSPEL PREACHER

(1 Cor. 9:1-16; 1 Tim.  
4:6; 2 Tim. 4: 2-5)

Brother Gabriel Rodriguez  
(210)315-4453



# October 18

## AM WORSHIP

Announcements: *G. Rodriguez*  
 Opening Prayer: *B. Dorries*  
 Song Leader: *R. Trevino*  
 Lord's Supper: *R. Baltierra; A. Maldonado; R. Baltierra Jr.; S. Hernandez*

Scripture: *Isaiah 53: 1-5*  
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*  
 Benediction: *T. Mayces*

## PM WORSHIP

Announcements: *G. Rodriguez*  
 Opening Prayer: *J. Guillen*  
 Song Leader: *A. Maldonado*  
 Lord's Supper: *T. Mayces; J. Mokry*  
 Sermon: *G. Rodriguez*  
 Benediction: *R. Baltierra*

After Greeter: *G & D Gribble*  
 Greeter/Usher: *J. Mora*  
 AV Duty: *M. de la Garza*  
 Elder in charge: *E. Hipp*

## REMEMBERING OUR BELOVED

(by writing, calling, and praying)

Wayne Holmes  
 Juanita Mahan  
 Richard Rodriguez  
 Rina White  
 Gonzalez family (Janie's mother passed away last Friday; funeral was held in Corpus on Wednesday)  
 Joe Guillen  
 Sarah Cannon  
 Olga (Joe's mother-in-law)  
 Ina Dial  
 David Sudhoff  
 Elijah Sudhoff  
 Roy Guajardo (battling Parkinsons)  
 Rose Scott (grandmother of Clay and Wes Bond)  
**Rose Smith (had successful hand surgery)**

### BATTLING CANCER:

Barbara Oakes	Johna Dorries
Abigail Reyes	Graciola Anderson
Lydia Cowan	George Jackson
Briana Nieves	Sonny Cary
Elwyn Hipp	Edna Wilks (Hospice home care)

### SHUT-INS:

Dorothy Harper  
 Mary Louese Hughes  
 Dazel Ball  
 Mildred Geest

### TRAVELING:

A. Jacob; Courtney Cobb (Japan); Mayces'

## SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES October

Organizing Monthly Luncheon:  
*Dorries*  
 Preparing Lord's Supper:  
*Schandua*  
 Auditorium Service Duties:  
*Schandua*  
 Wash baptismal garments; clean cry room  
*R. Smith*  
 Brother in charge of services:  
*E. Hipp*

AM Theme:  
 "Praising God" - A Study in the book of Psalms  
 PM Theme:  
 Setting the Church in Order - A Study in the books of 1 and 2 Timothy and Titus

**AM Sermon:**  
*Psalm 25*  
**PM Sermon:**  
*Be Battle Tested (2 Tim. 2:1-5)*

### WEDNESDAY NIGHT DEVOTIONAL

October 14: *R. Trevino*  
 October 21: *W. Holmes*  
 October 28: *G. Rodriguez*

## FOR THE RECORD

### October 11

**Attendance:**  
 Sunday Bible Study 49  
 Sunday AM Worship 67  
 Sunday PM Worship 40  
 Wednesday Bible Study 38  
 Budget/Offering: **\$2,450.00/ \$2,572.00**

Weekly Bible Readers: 11/29 (Adult Bible class)

## SHENANDOAH CHURCH OF CHRIST

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 San Antonio, TX 78230  
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Church email Address:

[shenandoah@shenandoahcofc.org](mailto:shenandoah@shenandoahcofc.org)

### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES:

Sunday: Bible Study at 9:30 am; Worship at 10:30 am;  
 Worship at 5:00 pm.  
 Wednesday: Bible Study at 7:00 pm