

- 3 *The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things:*
4 *Who have said, With our tongue will we prevail; our lips are our own: who is lord over us?*
5 *For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him.. (Psalm 12:3-5)*

“Diplomacy,” “Statesmanship,” “Dialogue,” “Negotiation,” are some of the words in which men hope today. Little do we realize that we have come to think in our foolishly deluded hearts, “with our tongue will we prevail.” Still less do we realize that we have been subtly brought to this mentality by means of the idea that “our lips are our own: who is lord over us?”

Men who do not fear God, do not trust His salvation, refuse to serve Him, think that they can talk their way into, through and out of anything. That is their trust and their hope. It is usually, likewise the trust and hope of their adversaries. Both hope to get the best of the other by means of fair and clever speeches.

The main weapons in such a warfare are flattery, arrogance, lies and threats. It is expected of both parties and never admitted by either. The fact of the immoral and corruptive nature of such wicked talk is totally ignored. The fallacy, “the end justifies the means,” is invoked; any manner of dishonesty in conversation, promises, treaties, and commitments is considered necessary.

Humanly speaking, the real victims of such a lying generation are those who would be honest, will speak nothing but the truth, and will not back down on their commitments. Soon the honest and godly are victimized and impoverished by the dishonest “diplomats.” The law-abiding are intimidated and threatened by those who know how to twist the law to their own advantage.

Then what shall we do? Shall we forsake the law of God and join the liars and cheats? shall we allow ourselves to be exploited and plundered by those who would devour us? Neither is necessary. Our help is in the Lord. He will cut off all flattering lips. He will deliver us from fear of those who “puff” at us, and He will provide for those who walk humbly and justly with their God.

-C.M.