

Hays Mill church of Christ

21705 Hays Mill Road Elkmont, AL 35620

by Steve Klein

The Bible has influenced the English language in untold ways. Although we may not realize it, many of the common phrases we use to express ourselves are rooted in Scripture. Here are some well-known sayings that actually come from the Bible:

The skin of my teeth. Job said, "My bone clings to my skin and to my flesh, And I have escaped by the skin of my teeth," Job 19:20.

A drop in the bucket. "Behold, the nations are as a drop in a bucket, and are counted as the small dust on the scales..." Isa 40:15.

The root of the matter (or problem). "But ye should say, Why persecute we him, seeing the root of the matter is found in me?" Job 19:28.

Living off "the fat of the land." "And take your father and your households and come to me, and I will give you the best of the land of Egypt and you will eat the fat of the land,' Gen 45:18.

At their wits' end. "They reel to and fro, and stagger like a

drunken man, and are at their wits' end," Psa 107:27.

All things to all men. The apostle Paul said, "To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made All things to all men, that I might by all means save some," 1 Cor 9:22.

The Bible's influence on mankind has been so pervasive that most people commonly quote phrases from it without realizing it! If the speech of people of the world has been slightly influenced by the Bible, the speech of God's children should be greatly influenced by it. Christians, who are to be constantly studying God's word and striving to live by it, will naturally demonstrate it in speech.

We will speak "the truth in love," Eph 4:15.

We will speak as the oracles of God, sharing God's word with others. "If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God," 1 Pet 4:11.

We will speak with grace, answering spiritual questions with wisdom and solid Bible knowledge. "Let your speech always be with grace, seasoned with salt, that you may know how you ought to answer each one," Col 4:6.

We will utter "sound speech" which promotes spiritual health. "...sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you," Tit 2:8.

We will not engage in filthy talk or dirty jokes. "...neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor coarse jesting, which are not fitting, but rather giving of thanks," Eph 5:4.

We will not lie. "Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds," Col 3:9.

Some time ago, I met a young preacher who impressed me in this way: His every day speech sounded like the Bible. He used very few of the popular "in" phrases that you hear from most young people, very few of the catchy religious sayings that you hear from many denominational preachers, and very few colloquialisms common in his region of the country. In every day conversation, he sounded like he was reading the Bible. Isn't that how every Christian should aspire to sound?

-via the Bulletin of the church of Christ at New Georgia, June 25,2006.

...And few more phrases

- The apple of one's eye—Psa 17:8
- He's the salt of the earth—Mt 5:13
- The sun shines on the righteous— Mt 5:45
- Seek and you shall find—Mt 7:7
- A little bird told me—Eccl 10:20
- Eat, drink and be merry—Lk 12:19
- A coming Armageddon— Rev 16:16
- He's a doubting Thomas—Jn 20:27
- She's a (painted) Jezebel— 2 Kings 9:30-37; Rev 2:20
- He's a Judas (goat)—Lk 6:16
- Old wives' tales—1 Tim 4:7
- Prodigal son—Lk 15:11-24
- He's a wolf in sheep's clothing— Mt 7:15
- A leopard can't change its spots— Jer 13:23
- He was the scapegoat— Lev 16:9,10
- The sweat of your brow— Gen 3:17,19

- Red sky at night, sailor's delight; red sky in the morning, sailor's take warning—Mt 16:1-3
- Pride goes before a fall— Prov 16:18
- Money is the root of all evil (actually, "the love of money is a root of all sorts of evil," NASB)— 1 Tim 6:10
- The blind leading the blind— Mt 15:14
- Spare the rod, spoil the child (the phrase itself is not found in scripture...)—Prov 3:12; 13:24; 19:18; 22:15; 23:13,14; 29:15,17
- There's a time and place for everything—Eccl 3:1
- Going the extra mile—Mt 5:41
- Their left hand doesn't know what their right hand is doing—Mt 5:3,4
- Practice what you preach— Mt 23:2,3
- He saw the handwriting on the wall—Dan 5:5,6 📖

✤ Remember in Prayer ♣

Joyce continues to wrestle with brain cancer, and hospice is beginning to help—continue to struggle alongside her in prayer. Billy felt seriously ill a week ago while at home, but felt much better by the time emergency services arrived; and Marie had a fall outside the building a week earlier, but apparently suffering only bruises—we can thank God that both seem well now. Remember others with chronic illnesses as well, including **Mike B**; **Carolyn**; **Kathy Mitchell**; and **John, Sylvia and Paige Pollard**.