



Before the THRONE *The Devotional*

Volume 2

Books of Poetry

Psalm 141:3

“Set a watch, O LORD, before my mouth; keep the door of my lips.” Psalm 141:3

Everyone has experienced it.

Words were spoken that you wished you could call back.

Words have a life force in them and once released they can never be recalled. You may endeavor to retract them but your original words are out. Charles Swindall tells of a pastor who had been greatly maligned, but eventually the gossip came and asked the pastor for his forgiveness. The pastor graciously offered his forgiveness on one condition. The offender was to write out their confession, tear it up and then release the bits of paper to the wind. After this task was completed, the pastor then asked them to return and tell him when they had completed their penitence. Upon the return of the penitent, the wise pastor then instructed the person to go back and collect all the pieces of paper of the written confession, knowing that it would be an impossible task. When confronted with this assignment the person replied, “The wind has carried the pieces away and I’ll never be able to find them all!” The pastor then said, “Yes, and the words of gossip you spread concerning me – even though you’ve repented and I’ve forgiven you – can never all be called back!”

How many lives will continue to be wounded and affected by those few words of original gossip?

“Lord Jesus ...set a watch to my mouth!
 ...keep a guard upon my lips!
 ...place a bridle upon my tongue!

May the words of my mouth edify the hearer.

May the words of my tongue always honor You and bless others! Amen”

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