

# James 3:11

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?

## Analysis

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**Doth a fountain send forth at the same place sweet water and bitter?** Does a fountain (pēgē, πηγή) send forth sweet and bitter water simultaneously? Nature teaches consistency; believers should likewise produce uniform speech flavored by grace.

Reformed spirituality looks to creation analogies to illustrate sanctification. A Spring's output reveals its source; tongues reveal hearts.

## Historical Context

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In arid lands, mixed-water springs were unusable. James's audience valued pure water sources. He uses everyday experience to expose the absurdity of mixed speech.",

## Related Passages

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**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

## Study Questions

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1. What influences are polluting the fountain of your heart?

2. How can you cultivate a consistently sweet stream of words?
3. Who experiences the refreshment of your speech?

## Interlinear Text

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μήτι ἡ πηγὴ ἐκ τῆς αὐτῆς ὁπῆς βρύει τὸ<sup>τὸ</sup>  
**Doth** G3588 **a fountain** G4077 **at** G1537 **the same** G846 **place** G3692 **send forth** G1032 G3588

γλυκὺ καὶ τὸ πικρόν  
**sweet** G1099 **water and** G2532 G3588 **bitter** G4089

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