

# James 3:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:

## Analysis

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**For every kind of beasts, and of birds, and of serpents, and of things in the sea, is tamed, and hath been tamed of mankind:** Every species (physis, φύσις) of beasts, birds, serpents, and sea creatures has been tamed (damazetai, δαμάζεται), yet the tongue resists domination. Humans subdue creation but not their speech—a sobering paradox.

Reformed anthropology recognizes tongue-taming as supernatural work of grace. Our inability underscores need for Spirit's fruit of self-control.

## Historical Context

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Ancient circuses and games showcased tamed animals, so James's contrast resonated. Diaspora believers prided themselves on cultural accomplishments; James shows that true mastery lies in sanctified speech.",

## Related Passages

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**Romans 10:9** — Confession and belief for salvation

**Ephesians 2:8** — Salvation by grace through faith

## Study Questions

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1. Where do you see the limits of self-effort in taming your tongue?
2. How can you depend more fully on the Spirit for speech?
3. What stories of God's grace taming your tongue can you share?

## Interlinear Text

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πᾶσα γὰρ φύσει θηρίων τε καὶ πετεινῶν ἐρπετῶν τε  
every For kind of beasts and and of birds of serpents and  
G3956 G1063 G5449 G2342 G5037 G2532 G4071 G2062 G5037

καὶ ἐναλίων δεδάμασται καὶ δεδάμασται τῇ φύσει  
and of things in the sea hath been tamed and hath been tamed G3588 kind  
G2532 G1724 G1150 G2532 G1150 G3588 G5449

τῇ ἀνθρωπίνῃ

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