

# 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	έρπετῶν	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		G5449		
τῇ	ἀνθρωπίνῃ							
G3588	G442							