

# Psalms 12:3

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

The LORD shall cut off all flattering lips, and the tongue that speaketh proud things:

## Analysis

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The prayer that God would 'cut off flattering lips' addresses the sin of deceitful speech. The Hebrew 'chalaq' (flattering/smooth) describes speech designed to manipulate. The 'boastful tongue' that speaks of 'great things' parallels the Antichrist's arrogant claims (Daniel 7:8, Revelation 13:5). Reformed theology sees flattery as theft—stealing glory from God and manipulating others for selfish gain.

## Historical Context

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Written during a time when false counselors surrounded the king, using smooth words to advance their own interests rather than speaking truth.

## Related Passages

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**Psalms 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

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1. How can you discern between genuine encouragement and manipulative flattery?
2. In what ways are you tempted to use words to manipulate rather than minister?

## Interlinear Text

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יִכָּרֶת	! הַיְהוָה	כָּל	שִׁפְתֵי י	חֲלָק וְ	לִשׁוֹן
shall cut off	The LORD	H3605	lips	all flattering	and the tongue
H3772	H3068		H8193	H2513	H3956
מִדְּבַר	גְּדֻלֹת:				
that speaketh	proud				
H1696	H1419				

## Additional Cross-References

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**Proverbs 18:21** (Parallel theme): Death and life are in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

**Revelation 13:5** (Parallel theme): And there was given unto him a mouth speaking great things and blasphemies; and power was given unto him to continue forty and two months.

**Daniel 7:8** (Parallel theme): I considered the horns, and, behold, there came up among them another little horn, before whom there were three of the first horns plucked up by the roots: and, behold, in this horn were eyes like the eyes of man, and a mouth speaking great things.

**Psalms 17:10** (Parallel theme): They are inclosed in their own fat: with their mouth they speak proudly.