

# Psalms 52:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.

## Analysis

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The accusation: 'Thy tongue deviseth mischiefs; like a sharp razor, working deceitfully.' The 'tongue' represents speech and influence. 'Deviseth' indicates deliberate planning of harm. The razor image suggests cutting precision that wounds while appearing to serve. Deceitful speech appears helpful while actually harming.

## Historical Context

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Doeg's report to Saul about Ahimelech helping David (1 Samuel 22:9-10) led to the massacre of 85 priests. His 'sharp razor' words killed through royal decree.

## Related Passages

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

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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1. How can speech 'work deceitfully' like a razor?
2. What is particularly dangerous about calculated, careful evil speech?

## Interlinear Text

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רְמִתָּה: עָשָׂה הַמְּלָטָשׁ בְּתַחַשׁ בְּהַלְוִת  
mischiefs deviseth Thy tongue razor like a sharp working deceitfully  
H1942 H2803 H3956 H8593 H3913 H6213 H7423

## 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.

**Psalms 57:4** (Parallel theme): My soul is among lions: and I lie even among them that are set on fire, even the sons of men, whose teeth are spears and arrows, and their tongue a sharp sword.

**Psalms 59:7** (Parallel theme): Behold, they belch out with their mouth: swords are in their lips: for who, say they, doth hear?

**Proverbs 12:18** (Parallel theme): There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise is health.