



DEVOTION: November 8, 2020

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing?
Nathan Cecil

One of my favorite Christian hymns is Charles Wesley's "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing." The imagery of the hymn is powerful: "O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of our God and King the triumphs of His grace." Singing those lines stirs in me a longing for a 1,000 tongues so that I could praise God more adequately. While this is still true, I recently had this thought: the one tongue I have is not exclusively engaged in praising God, which makes me wonder if I should really be longing for 999 more. I wonder if Charles Wesley ever considered that there would be a downside to having a 1,000 tongues? Thankfully, we have great hope. God has made us alive with Christ and has given us His Spirit, who enables us to walk in a manner worthy of our calling (Ephesians 4:1), which includes how we use our words. In Ephesians 4:29, the Apostle Paul gives us some positive guidelines for using our words. He says that our words should always be good for building up, fit the occasion, and give grace to those who hear. Take time to meditate on Ephesians 4:29 and ask God to help you use your words wisely today. One day, we will all have glorified bodies fitted with tongues that only glorify God, but until that day, let us strive to honor God with the words we use.



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