



“Scripture” James 1:18-27

If we have been born again through the Spirit of God making the Word of God alive to our hearts (v18a), then why aren't our lives more remarkable (2Pet1:3-4)? Why are we too easily overwhelmed by trials (outward pressures) and overtaken by temptations (inward pressures)? When was the last time you were awestruck by the wealth of God's presence, the comfort of His love, the strength of His power and the significance of being His beloved child?

James is going to teach us that the Word of God which was implanted in us (v21b) at our spiritual birth, now is the agency to grow us and to increase the life of God in us if you will Receive it, Reflect on it and Respond to it.

A God-changed Heart Will...

RECEIVE God's Word vv18-21

- As one who belongs completely to God. v18 “that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.” (1Cor6:19-20)
- A humble teachable listener. Vv19-20 “...be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger...” (Pro17:27-28; Matt13:1-23)
- Who loves to have God tell you how to live. V21b “...receive with meekness the implanted word,” (Ps1:1-3, 119:103)

REFLECT on God's Word vv22-25

- Looks diligently vv23b & 25a “But the one who looks into the perfect law...” (Luke24:12)
- Applies Personally vv23c & 24a “For he looks at himself...” (Heb4:12; 2Tim3:15-16)
- Does it Consistently v25 “The law of liberty and persevere...” (Josh1:8)

RESPOND to God's Word vv22-27 (Matt7:21-23)

- In Speech v26b “...bridle his tongue...”
- In Service v27b “...visit orphans and widows in their affliction...”
- In Separation v27c “...keep oneself unstained from the world.”

Those who know that salvation comes by God's grace and not their works, have an inner Holy Spirit dynamic of grateful joy that empowers the greatest works for God's glory!

Growing Notes

- 1) How would you answer the three questions in the sermon introduction? What is James going to teach us in this Bible study and what is our responsibility (see intro.)?
- 2) Read James 1:18-27. How did the Holy Spirit bring us forth (born again) so that we should be what kind of people (v18)? How does being slow to hear and quick to speak and quick to get angry hinder the work of God's Word in our lives (vv19-20)?
- 3) What must we do for God's implanted word to save our souls (v21)? What analogy does James give us to make sure we are more than just hearers but also doers of God's Word (vv22-25)? Our beliefs should be more and more seen in our behavior in what three ways (vv26-27)?
- 4) Take some time to review the sermon notes under each of the following points along with cross references: A God-changed heart will...Receive, Reflect and Respond to God's Word. Which one(s) were most helpful? Which one(s) do you struggle with the most? What are your next steps in experiencing God more and being transformed by Him through His Word? Pray.