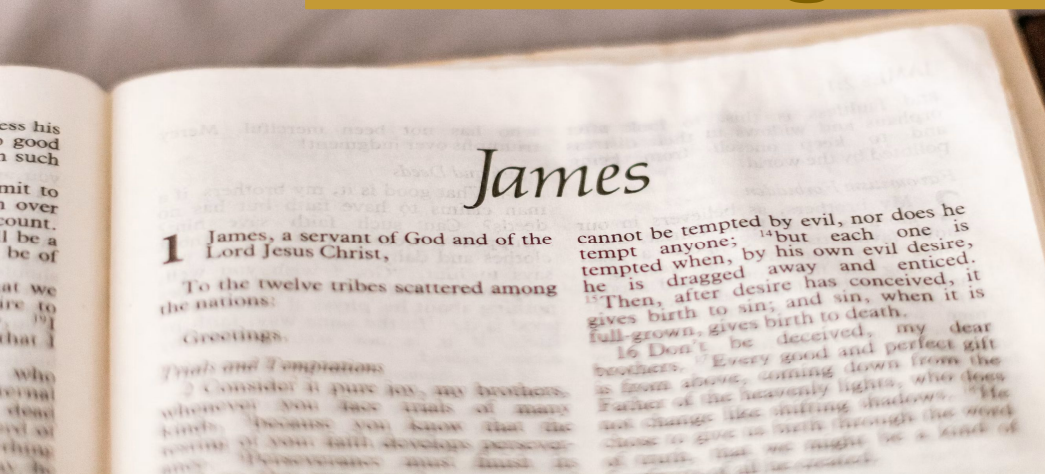




THE BOOK OF JAMES

Producing a **LIVING FAITH**



REVIEW: Producing a LIVING Faith

- A faith that is mature vv. 2-4
- A faith that is undivided vv. 5-8
- A faith that is wealthy vv. 9-11
- A faith that is rewarded vv. 12-15
- A faith that has begotten us vv. 16-18

The κεφαλαια Structure of James:

Prologue – 1:1-18

Thematic Statement – 1:19-20

- 1) Swift to Hear 1:21-2:26
- 2) Slow to Speak 3:1-18
- 3) Slow to Wrath 4:1-5:18

Epilogue 5:19-20

Producing a LIVING Faith Being “quick to hear”

(James 1:21-25)

“Hearer and doer”

Outline:

1. The Principle vv. 21-22
2. The Hearer vv. 23-24
3. The Hearer and Doer v. 25

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1. The Principle vv. 21-22

Observations:

- “Therefore” – is an inference (conclusion) determined by a previously stated fact
- 1) “**wrath**” – the outward action that is the “overflow” (cf. v. 21a) of the soul.
- 2) “**speech**” – the soul formulating thoughts and ideas to enable action. (cf. Mt. 12:34)
- 3) “**hear**” – the soul receiving new information. From this information comes speech, and from speech comes action.

1. The Principle vv. 21-22

Observations:

- “lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness”
- At a glance it seems like the main verb and an imperative command. But it is a middle, aorist, participle. Meaning this is a result of doing something else. The subjects (James’ audience) are affected by the completed act of the main verb.

1. The Principle vv. 21-22

Observations:

➤ “Receive... the word” (main verbal phrase)

1) Filthiness and overflow of wickedness = laid aside

2) Soul = delivered



1. The Principle vv. 21-22

Observations:

➤ “Receive... the IMPLANTED word”

- Receiving the gospel caused spiritual birth (cf. James 1:18; 1 Pet. 1:22)
- Both James and Peter make this point and then develop it by instruction on the NEED for the word.
- Cf. the parable of the sower Mt. 13...

1. The Principle vv. 21-22

Observations:

- “Receive with MEEKNESS”
 - “meekness” = gentleness or humility. This is the means by which the word is to be received. This is done when our NEED for the word is realized and our state is understood.

1. The Principle vv. 21-22

Observations:

➤ “which is able to save your souls”

- Save from what?

- 1) Physical deliverance

- 2) Spiritual deliverance

*** Look again at 1:15 also look forward 5:19-20

1. The Principle vv. 21-22

Observations:

- We are under the development of:
“be quick to hear”
 - Doing is the implication.
 - Hearing only = deceiving (specifically the expectation of completing James’ instruction)
 - Hearing and doing = completing James’ instruction.

Outline:

1. The Principle vv. 21-22
2. The Hearer vv. 23-24
3. The Hearer and Doer v. 25

2. The Hearer vv. 23-24

Observations:

- James likens the hearer and NOT doer to someone looking into a mirror v. 23
- The hearer NOT doer (mirror looker) sees themselves only while they receive the reflected image. The moment they depart from the mirror they no longer see what they saw. v. 24

Looking into the Word: (hearer only)

- 1) Shows identity
 - a. Regarding the flesh
 - b. Regarding the world
 - c. Regarding the devil
- 2) Shows filthiness
- 3) Shows overflow of wickedness

Removing the “mirror” (the word) doesn’t remove fleshly, wordly, or demonic influence. It removes DVP and resumes the default HVP.

Outline:

1. The Principle vv. 21-22
2. The Hearer vv. 23-24
3. The Hearer and Doer v. 25

3. The Hearer and Doer v. 25

Observations:

➤ The word = the mirror = “the law of liberty”

The law of liberty:

- “law” νόμον
 - Definition: a principle or standard for prescriptive usage.
 - Usage: 197 x’s
 - Usage here: Principle

- The law of liberty: (cf. Jn. 8:32; Rom. 8:2; 2 Cor. 3:17; Gal. 2:4; 6:2; James 2:12; 1 Pet. 2:16)

3. The Hearer and Doer v. 25

Observations:

- The word = the mirror = “the law of liberty”
- The one hearing and doing:
 - 1) Does not forget
 - 2) Is blessed

Outline:

1. The Principle vv. 21-22
2. The Hearer vv. 23-24
3. The Hearer and Doer v. 25
4. The Doing vv. 26-27

4. The Doing vv. 26-27

Observations:

➤ Useless Religion –

- Θρησκὸς = devout, pious, ceremonious in worship.
- “if anyone... thinks he is religious”
- “and does not bridle his tongue”
 - 1) “deceives his own heart”
 - 2) Their “religion is useless”

4. The Doing vv. 26-27

Observations:

- Pure and Undefined Religion –
 - Visit orphans and widows in their trouble.
 - Keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Outline:

1. The Principle vv. 21-22
2. The Hearer vv. 23-24
3. The Hearer and Doer v. 25
4. The Doing vv. 26-27

Application/Summary:

➤ A challenge for myself... shared with you:

- 1) “let the Holy Spirit search you out”
- 2) “humble yourself and do what God desires of His children”
- 3) “learn to worship God in a worthy manner”

Application/Summary:

1) “let the Holy Spirit search you out”

- Am I equipped to receive? (cf. 1 Cor. 2:14)
- What do I do with what I hear?
- What keeps me from doing?

Application/Summary:

2) “humble yourself and do what God desires of His children”

- What is my current level of intake of the Word?
- What do I need to do to produce a doer's mentality?

Application/Summary:

3) “learn to worship God in a worthy manner”

- If I receive the word I can do the word.
- If I do the word I am operating from DVP.
- If I am operating from DVP I am seeing a living faith produced in me.
- If I am seeing this... I am delivering my life from the physical consequences of sin.
- If I am doing that... I have a living faith!



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