

PRACTICAL WISDOM

A STUDY OF THE
BOOK OF JAMES

TRUE 'RELIGION'— JAMES 1:19-27



James 1:

19 *This* you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak *and* slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not achieve the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore, putting aside all filthiness and *all* that remains of wickedness, in humility receive the word implanted, which is able to save your souls. 22 But prove yourselves doers of the word, and not merely hearers who delude themselves.



James 1:

23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks at his natural face in a mirror; 24 for *once* he has looked at himself and gone away, he has immediately forgotten what kind of person he was. 25 But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the *law* of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man will be blessed in what he does. 26 If



James 1:

anyone thinks himself to be religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his *own* heart, this man's religion is worthless. 27 Pure and undefiled religion in the sight of *our* God and Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their distress, *and* to keep oneself unstained by the world.

JAMES. THE PRACTICAL!

- What is your lifestyle saying?
- What we do speaks louder than words!
- And when our words are emotion filled
- At this moment wisdom is needed!

CHALLENGE OF 'DOING' - #2

- James starts with 3 statements:
 - Quick to hear (*1x tachus, swift*)
 - Slow to speak (*2x here, 1x in Lk of rez*)
 - Slow to anger (*orge, wrath, vengeance*)
- Just this would change our lives...



Words about your words!

Pr 10:19 When there are many words, transgression is unavoidable, But he who restrains his lips is wise.

Pr 13:3 The one who guards his mouth preserves his life; The one who opens wide his lips comes to ruin.

Pr 17:27 He who restrains his words has knowledge, And he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.

Pr 21:23 He who guards his mouth and his tongue, Guards his soul from troubles.

WHY CAN'T I GET ANGRY???

- We justify so much of our anger
- 'righteous anger' ...probably not!
- Does not 'work out' God's righteousness
- Pleasing God...
- Remember in 'the moment'

PREPARE THE “POT” (21)

- Remove: filthiness and wickedness
 - Cast away; 1x defile, dishonor; malice
- Come with humility, gentleness
- ‘take hold’ of the *logos*
- Able to save
- How hard do you hold onto....

KEEP ON BECOMING...

- 'doers' – obey, perform, fulfilling 'poet'
- Hearing only is deceived! False reasoning
- Hearing and not doing... Adam & Eve!
- Looking in the mirror and forgetting!
- Looks intently, head down to see...

PERFECT LAW (25)

- When we look into – HIM!!!
- Job, Isaiah, Daniel, Ezekiel, Paul, John...
- Abides – to remain beside, survive
- Doer – Matt 7:21ff – sand or rock?
- Blessed of God – takers?

3 SPECIFIC ACTIONS

- Bridle your tongue! – self-deception!
- Visit orphans and widows in distress
- Keep yourself unstained by the world
- This is 'religion'???



Taming
the
Tongue

