

The Epistle Of James

James 1:21 (NKJV)

“Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.



“Being Faithful In Word &
Deed”—James 1:17-27

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

**Receive with meekness the implanted word,
which is able to save your souls.**



- ◆ Written to Christians who had been scattered abroad because of persecution – (1:1,2, cf. Acts 8:4)
- ◆ The problem of trials and how Christians should view them – (1:2-12)
- ◆ The danger of temptation - (1:13-16)
- ◆ Since all good things come from God - let us NEVER blame Him or be angry with Him for our problems - but rather trust & submit to Him in all things - (1:17-27)

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

James 1:17-27 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. ¹⁸ Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

James 1:17-27 (NKJV)

¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath;
²⁰ for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

James 1:17-27 (NKJV)

²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

James 1:17-27 (NKJV)

²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. ²⁶ If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

James 1:17-27 (NKJV)

²⁷ Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

Don't Blame God For Things That Are Evil - 1:17-20

James 1:17 (NKJV)

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

◆ **Don't blame God for Your trials - (1:2-12)**

◆ **Don't blame God for your temptations - (1:13-16)**

✳ God is the source of all that is good rather than evil - (Ps 84:11; Mat 7:11; Luke 11:11) God is not moody - (Mal 3:6; Heb 1:12; 13:8)

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

Don't Blame God For Things That Are Evil - 1:17-20

James 1:18 (NKJV)

Of His own will
He brought us
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◆ **God's greatest gift - (1:18)**

- ✳ "Of His own will" - God's begetting us is of his own free will (Jn 1:12-14, Eph 1:3-6). He was and is under no constraint or obligation to man.
- ✳ God's offer of salvation was a conscience choice proceeding from His love & mercy - (Jn 3:16; Rm 5:8; Ep 2:5-10; Tit 3:3-5)

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- ✳ Vs. 14-15 gave the genealogy of sin. Vs. 18 gives the genealogy of righteousness.
- ✳ "The word of truth" - is God's means of saving, i.e. regenerating men - (Acts 2:37; Rom. 1:16,17; 10:14-17; 2 Thes 2:13-15; 1 Pet 1:22-2:3)

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◆ **God's greatest gift - (1:18)**

- ✳ "That we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures" - As regenerated people, we ourselves become the firstfruits, new creatures (1Pet 1:3-5, 2Cor 5:17, Gal 6:15).
- ✳ For this reason, it is only reasonable that we present our bodies as living sacrifices to him (Rom 12:1).

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

Don't Blame God For Things That Are Evil - 1:17-20

James 1:19 (NKJV)

So then, my
beloved brethren,
let every man be
swift to hear, slow
to speak, slow to
wrath;

◆ **"Know this" (ESV) or "This you know" (NASB) - (1:19)**

- ✳ Because of the reasons just before presented - (*only good comes from God - especially His word by which we can be saved*)
- ✳ Many are not good learners because they are not good listeners - (*filled with pride & selfishness*) - Ez 33:31

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◆ **"Know this" (ESV) or "This you know" (NASB) - (1:19)**

- ✳ **Swift to hear** - (*an ear bent to hearing God's word*) - Prov 2:2; 4:20; 22:17
- ✳ **Slow to speak** - Eccl 5:2,3; (*Can't hear God's word if we are blaming Him for our problems & sin - speaking our opinions & preconceived ideas*)
- ✳ **Slow to wrath** - not all wrath is wrong - Eph 4:26

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◆ "Know this" (ESV) or "This you know" (NASB) - (1:19)

- ✳ Let every man be "slow to wrath" -
can prevent an honest investigation
of the truth. (cf Acts 26:9-11)
- ✳ Hearing the truth demands a calm &
humble spirit - (Mt. 5:3-6; Jam 1:21)
- ✳ Teaching others demands gentleness
- 2 Tim 2:24,25

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

Don't Blame God For Things That Are Evil - 1:17-20

James 1:20 (NKJV)
for the wrath of
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God.

◆ **"The wrath of man does not
produce the righteousness of
God - (1:20)**

- ✦ Anger results in a misuse of the tongue - (James 3:8-12),
- ✦ Anger results in the twisting of God's justice (Romans 12:19),
- ✦ Selfish anger doesn't bring about the will of God and it keeps one from being right with God.

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

Receive The Word With Meekness- 1:21

James 1:21 (NKJV)

Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

◆ **"Therefore lay aside" - (1:21)**

✳ "Get rid of" - in the original language, means to strip away, to take off -

✳ It is in the passive voice meaning that it is something we are to do ourselves - (Rom 13:12; Eph 4:22; Col. 3:5-8; Heb 12:1; 1 Pet 2:1)

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◆ **"Therefore lay aside" - (1:21)**

- ✳ "All filthiness" - ῥυπαρία, rhyparia - only here in NT - denotes "dirt, filth" . . . used metaphorically of moral "defilement" - Vine's -
- ✳ "Overflow of wickedness" - κακία, kakia - primarily, "badness" in quality (akin to A, No. 1), denotes (a) "wickedness, depravity, malignity," - Vine's - (cf Rom 13:12; Eph 4:22; Col. 3:5-8)

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◆ **"Receive with meekness the implanted word" - (1:21)**

- ✳ "Receive" - a deliberate and ready acceptance - requires prepared soil, Mat 13:23
- ✳ "with meekness" - the opposite of wrath - willing to be taught and led by God - (1 Thes 2:13)
- ✳ "The implanted word" - that which you have been taught - (Luke 8:11)

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◆ **"Receive with meekness the implanted word" - (1:21)**

- ✳ "Which is able to save your souls" -
That we may be saved by faith - faith
comes by hearing the word of God -
(Rom 10:17; John 6:44,45)
- ✳ The gospel is God's power to save -
(Rom 1:16,17)
- ✳ Must be held on to - (1 Cor 15:2)

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

Be Doers of The Word And Not Hearers Only - 1:22-27

James 1:22 (NKJV)

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

◆ **Far from the common idea - "let go and let God"**

- ✳ We must cooperate with the message, conform to the message and submit to the message - Luke 6:46; Mat 7:21-23; John 14:15; Heb 5:8,9
- ✳ We have a very active role to play in the purposes of God and our own salvation - Phil 2:12

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◆ **The danger of self deception**

- ✳ The illustration - 23-25 - A man who is a hearer but not a doer of the word is like a man who looks at himself in a mirror - and then turns away forgets what he looked like.
- ✳ To be blessed in what we do, we must "look into the perfect law of liberty and continue in it" - and be a "doer of the work" - vs. 25

"Being Faithful In Word & Deed"

Be Doers of The Word And Not Hearers Only - 1:22-27

James 1:25 (NKJV)

But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

◆ **"The Perfect Law of Liberty" - i.e. - The gospel of Christ**

- ✳ It is still referred to as LAW - Rom 8:2; Gal. 6:2
- ✳ It delivers men from slavery of sin This is true liberty. (John 8:32)
- ✳ It freed the Jews from the yoke of bondage - (Rom 7; Gal 5:1-4)
- ✳ It delivers from the punishment of sin - (Rom 5:9)

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Be Doers of The Word And Not Hearers Only - 1:22-27

James 1:26 (NKJV)

If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.

◆ **"Pure & Undeiled Religion"**

- ✳ We bridle our tongue - (cursing, gossip; slander; lying, etc. - James 3
- ✳ We visit, (help) those less fortunate, (orphans and widows) - 27; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Tim 5:3-16
- ✳ We keep ourselves unspotted from the world - (1 John 2:15-17; 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1; Titus 2:11,12; 1 Thes 5:21,22; 1 Pet 4:1-4)

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Ephesians 4:17-27 (NKJV) ¹⁷ This I say, therefore, and testify in the Lord, that you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind, ¹⁸ having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart; ¹⁹ who, being past feeling, have given themselves over to lewdness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.

Ephesians 4:17-27 (NKJV) ²⁰ But you have not so learned Christ, ²¹ if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus: ²² that you put off, concerning your former conduct, the old man which grows corrupt according to the deceitful lusts, ²³ and be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

Ephesians 4:17-27 (NKJV) ²⁴ and that you put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness. ²⁵ Therefore, putting away lying, "Let each one of you speak truth with his neighbor," for we are members of one another. ²⁶ "Be angry, and do not sin": do not let the sun go down on your wrath, ²⁷ nor give place to the devil.