

“James #4”

James 1:19 - 27 (Doers of the word – not Hearers Only and true religion)

Review: James 1: 19 – 21 (ESV) Read

- Quick to hear (Listen), slow to speak... Slow to anger

Ecclesiastes 5: 1-2 (NKJV) Read

Proverbs 10: 19-21 (NKJV) Read... (V21 - Wisdom / Heart)

- **I want to deal with this 3rd thing...Slow to anger...** there is something profound here!
(we will unpack this as we proceed)

V's 20 -21 (NLT) ***“Human anger does not produce the righteousness God desires. So, get rid of all the filth and evil in your lives. And humbly accept the word God planted in your hearts, for it has the power to save your souls.”***

- God has spoken a different word to us. **A word planted in our hearts...**
- A word of forgiveness, a word of grace, that brings about the righteousness of God...
- A Godly righteousness, **we are incapable to produce...**

“We have been born to a new life, which is shaped by God’s Word of grace... Words of grace that find themselves on our lips as the Spirit works through the Word implanted in our hearts.”

Colossians 3: 1 – 11 (NLT) The Spirit showed me something I never saw before or realized.

“Since you have been raised to new life with Christ, set your sights on the realities of heaven, where Christ sits in the place of honor at God’s right hand. Think about the things of heaven, not the things of earth. For you died to this life, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. And when Christ, who is your life, is revealed to the whole world, you will share in His glory., So put to death the sinful, earthly things lurking within you. Having nothing to do with sexual immorality, impurity, lust, and evil desires. Don’t be greedy, for a greedy person is an idolater, worshiping the things of this world. Because of these sins, the anger of God is coming. You used to do these things when your life was still part of this world...” (V8)

(I want you to notice a break or a change of thought or direction in V8, I never noticed)

(V8) “But now is the time to get rid of anger, rage, malicious behavior, slander, and dirty language. (V9) Don’t lie to each other, for you have stripped off your old sinful nature and all its wicked deeds.”

(Colossians 3:5 -11) NKJV... Read

Tonight’s Study: James 1:22 -25 (ESV) Read

- We are able to be doers of the law, because of the *implanted word* in our hearts.
- *Jesus kept the law on our behalf...* but not only on our behalf, *but kept it perfectly hence He died / crucified unjustly...*
- When you are in Christ, He gives you credit for His work... *We are set free from having to obey the law for our salvation!*
- Hence the law of liberty, the perfect law. *Kept and fulfilled by Christ Jesus!*

V25 (another translation)

“But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it – he will be blessed in what he does.”

- THE PERFECT LAW... IS JESUS!

Robert Heller: *“Now we are free! But here is the ironic part: we are free to keep the law! What does that mean? It means that since the law no longer condemns us, we no longer have to fear it... We look to the law to see how it is we can live as those who have been given a new life of freedom in Christ Jesus.”*

Romans 7: 7 – 12... 13 – 15... (ESV)

Romans 8: 1 – 4... (ESV)

Text: James 1:26 – 27 (ESV) Read

- Religion has become a bad word in our culture today... we don't understand what true religion is.
- God cares for and looks after His people...*those that are poor, broken, distraught, those oppressed by sins and life's circumstances.*
- As His ambassadors we too are to care for those in need and hurting!

(GOD HAS BLESSED ME SO THAT I CAN BLESS OTHERS...)

- In James day, it was the widows and orphans that were the most needy!