

Studies in the Letter from James 1:19-27

Sunday, May 12, 2019

The Letter From James: We said in the first study that James, rather than being a logically developed theme from start to finish, was a series of practical admonitions in living the Christian life. The remainder of chapter one is a good example of this: within a loosely gathered theme there are a number of short admonitions for every believer.



Show me your faith without the works,

And I will show you my faith by my works.

I. The Relationship Between Righteousness and Anger

- A. Anger does not achieve the righteousness of God (v 20)
 - 1. Paul says become angry and stop sinning but he is pointing to an attitude toward sin
 - 2. James is speaking of a behavior toward one another and indicates that anger does not lead to righteousness
- B. Everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger (v 19)
- C. Put aside all filthiness and all that remains of wickedness (v 21)
 - 1. Filthiness in this context refers to moral dirt
 - 2. Wickedness refers to evil intent and behavior
- D. In humility receive the Word which sanctifies (v 21)

II. Living out the key verse

- A. Prove yourselves doers of the Word and not merely self-deceived hearers (v 22)
- B. If you are a hearer only and not a doer (v 24)
 - 1. You are like a person who looks in a mirror
 - 2. Once you have looked at yourself you forget what kind of person you are
- C. But for those who look intently for the purpose of obedience there is great blessing (v 25)

III. Pure religion

- A. A loose tongue is worthless religion and leads to deception (v 26)
- B. Pure religion which is undefiled in the sight of God is (v 27)
 - 1. To visit orphans and widows in their distress
 - 2. To keep oneself unstained by the world

Conclusion: Where do you see yourself in verses 19-27?