



JAMES

Hearing, Doing, and Growing

JAMES 1:19-27



Righteous Living by the Word

1. The Need for the Word (19-21)
2. The Application of the Word (22-25)
3. The Fruit of the Word (26-27)



Jesus on Receiving the Word

Mark 4:1-20 *niv*

He taught them many things by parables, and in his teaching said:

³“Listen! A farmer went out to sow his seed...”

¹³ Then Jesus said to them, “Don’t you understand this parable? How then will you understand any parable? ¹⁴ The farmer sows the word.

¹⁵ Some people...”

²⁰ “Others, like seed sown on good soil, hear the word, accept it, and produce a crop—some thirty, some sixty, some a hundred times what was sown.”



Jesus on Doing the Word

Matthew 7:24 *niv*

“Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock.”



The righteous life that God requires
only comes about by receiving the Word in
faith and doing what it says.



JAMES 1:19-21 *niv*

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,²⁰ because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.²¹ Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.



Implanted word

Jeremiah 31:33 *niv*

“This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD.

“I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts.

I will be their God,
and they will be my people.”



Implanted word

James 1:18 *niv*

He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.



JAMES 1:19-21 *niv*

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Because human-centered efforts are not effective for righteousness, we should receive the powerful Word of God.



JAMES 1:22-23 *niv*

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror...



JAMES 1:24 - 25 *niv*

...and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.



JAMES 1:22 *esv*

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



The blessing and power of God's Word only
comes when that Word is obeyed.



JAMES 1:26-27 *niv*

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.



“Today, ‘religion’ for most Westerners designates a detached area of life, a kind of private hobby for those who like that sort of thing, separated by definition (and in some countries by law) from politics and public life, from science and technology. In Paul’s day, ‘religion’ meant almost exactly the opposite...”

-N.T. WRIGHT



“...The Latin word religio has to do with ‘binding’ things together. Worship, prayer, sacrifice, and other public rituals were designed to hold the unseen inhabitants of a city (the gods and perhaps the ancestors) together with the visible ones, the living humans, thus providing a vital framework for ordinary life, for business, marriage, travel, and home life.”

-N.T. WRIGHT



JAMES 1:26-27 *niv*

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.



The genuine fruit of God's Word
is merciful love and moral purity.



The righteous life that God requires
only comes about by receiving the Word in
faith and doing what it says.



