

JAMES: WALKING THE TALK

LISTENING AND DOING

James 1:19-27

"My dear brothers" is a term of endearment. The pastor's heart is expressed by James. In 1Thessalonians 2 Paul bears his heart as he helps the new believers in their faith. He deals with them as a father his children.

TAKE NOTE OF THIS!

I. THE FIRST EXHORTATION:

- A. Quick to listen
- B. Slow to speak
- C. Slow to become angry
 - 1. We became angry with our brother and sister, younger twins, when they made my parents demand we tell them about the chocolates we were hiding for our parents' anniversary
 - 2. Man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires. Cain became very angry and killed his brother (Genesis 4:5)
 - 3. I was angry with the printer in Bilbao for a late delivery of posters for the LOGOS visit. I wrote a letter to him apologizing while on a trip
 - 4. I became angry with a team member on our ship line-up team in Barcelona. She cried. I repented for my anger

II. THE SECOND EXHORTATION:

- A. Get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent
- B. Humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you. Get back into the word after sin and confession

III. THE THIRD EXHORTATION: Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Remember how angry you got when some one deceived you? Well, don't do it to yourself! That is the greatest foolishness

IV. THE FOURTH EXHORTATION: Do what it says. What has the Lord spoken to you about recently? Have you done it? In your devotional times with the Lord write down those specific things he brings to your attention. "The just shall 'live by faith!'" Take a notebook to prayer meetings and write down those thoughts that God brings to you. He may put something on your heart that you should do. Remember too, our sins are not just those of commission but also of omission.

V. AN EXPLANATION:

- A. The one who listens, but does not do:
 - 1. Like a man
 - 2. Who looks at his face in a mirror
 - 3. After looking at himself, goes away and
 - 4. Immediately forgets what he looks like
- B. The one who does:
 - 1. The man who looks "intently"
 - 2. into the perfect law, that gives freedom
 - 3. and "continues" to do this
 - 4. not forgetting what he has heard
 - 5. but doing it (we tire of just talk! An OM leader from Latin America visited us and cleaned up our back garden! I couldn't stop marvelling! Most people

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come to talk, just talk. What a refreshing experience it is to have someone come and "do something for us!"

6. He will be blessed in what he does. I find that when I help others especially with physical work that the exercise does me much good! I need the exercise so helping people actually blesses me!

VI. ANOTHER EXPLANATION:

A. Worthless religion:

1. To consider one's self religious (human view)
2. Yet does not keep a "tight reign" on his tongue
3. This is self deception

B. Pure and faultless religion:

1. In the sight of God our father (God's viewpoint)
2. To look after orphans and widows in their distress
3. To keep oneself from being polluted by the world

VII. TO DO:

- A. INTERVIEW PEOPLE FOR STORIES OF THEIR OWN
- B. ASK ABOUT STORIES THEY KNOW OF OTHERS?
- C. WHAT IS THE "PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY"?