

## James 1:25-27 & 2:1-4

**25.** But he who **LOOKS** into the **PERFECT LAW** of **LIBERTY** (freedom) 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."

- **II Corinthians 3:17-18** "Now the \_\_\_\_\_ is the \_\_\_\_\_; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is \_\_\_\_\_. But we all with unveiled \_\_\_\_\_, beholding as in a \_\_\_\_\_ the glory of the Lord, are being \_\_\_\_\_ into the same \_\_\_\_\_ from glory to glory, just as by the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Lord."
- **James 1:23-24** "For if anyone is a \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ and not a \_\_\_\_\_, he is like a man observing his natural \_\_\_\_\_ in a \_\_\_\_\_; for he \_\_\_\_\_ himself, goes away, and immediately \_\_\_\_\_ what kind of man he was."

**Definition:** " **LOOKS into the PERFECT LAW of LIBERTY**" - The **WORD of GOD** is "**the perfect law of liberty**" spoken of here, and it is compared to a mirror. If you are a "doer" of the word, you will be transformed into the image of the Lord Jesus Christ as you read and study His word (see II Corinthians 3:17), because **you will APPLY in your LIFE what you've read in God's word and DO it**. But the one who is a "hearer only and not a doer" just forgets what he or she has seen or heard, and goes on being the same old selfish person they were before. It's like looking in a mirror, seeing that your hair is all messed up and your face dirty, but then walking away without brushing your hair and washing your face!

**Definition:** "**Not a FORGETFUL HEARER but a DOER**" - What does it mean to be a "**DOER of the word**"? It means more than just to listen to God's word being preached. It means to listen, **pay attention**, and **then DO it! To "take heed" or hearken diligently to God's voice**, or His word, would mean that you PUT it into PRACTICE in your life. You don't just read it, and let it go in one ear and out the other! Jesus said we must APPLY His word to our lives, or be "**doers**" of the word, and He said "Take heed what you hear."

- **Matthew 7:24-27** "Therefore, whoever \_\_\_\_\_ these sayings of Mine, and \_\_\_\_\_ them, I will liken him to a \_\_\_\_\_ man who built his house on the rock; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did \_\_\_\_\_ FALL, for it was founded on the \_\_\_\_\_. Now everyone who \_\_\_\_\_ these sayings of Mine, and does \_\_\_\_\_ them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand; and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it \_\_\_\_\_. And \_\_\_\_\_ was its \_\_\_\_\_."
- **Mark 4:24** "And He said to them, 'Take \_\_\_\_\_ what you \_\_\_\_\_. With the \_\_\_\_\_ measure you use, it will be \_\_\_\_\_ to you; and to you who \_\_\_\_\_, more will be given.'"
- **Deuteronomy 28:1-3** "Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently \_\_\_\_\_ the voice of the Lord your God, to \_\_\_\_\_ carefully \_\_\_\_\_ His commandments which I command you today, that the Lord your God will set you on high above all nations of the earth. And ALL these \_\_\_\_\_ shall come upon you, and overtake you, because you \_\_\_\_\_ the voice of the Lord your God. Blessed shall you be in the city, and blessed shall you be in the country."

**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.

- **Proverbs 12:13-14** "The wicked is ensnared by the transgression of his \_\_\_\_\_, but the righteous will come through trouble. A man will be satisfied with good by the \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_, and the recompense of a man's hands will be rendered to him."
- **Proverbs 12:2-3** "A man shall eat well by the \_\_\_\_\_ of his \_\_\_\_\_, but the soul of the unfaithful feeds on violence. He who \_\_\_\_\_ his \_\_\_\_\_ preserves his life, but he who opens wide his \_\_\_\_\_ shall have destruction."
- **Psalms 141:3** "Set a guard, O Lord, over my \_\_\_\_\_; keep watch over the door of my \_\_\_\_\_."
- **Matthew 12:34-37** "..... For out of the abundance of the \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things. But I say to you that for every idle \_\_\_\_\_ men may \_\_\_\_\_, they will give account of it in the day of judgment. For by your \_\_\_\_\_ you will be justified, and by your \_\_\_\_\_ you will be condemned."

**Definition: "Does not BRIDLE his TONGUE"** - The word of God has a lot to say about how we speak, and **what comes out of our mouths, TONGUE and lips**. We must learn to control our MOUTHS and how we speak, or it could damage or even destroy our lives. In Proverbs, it says, "The wicked is ensnared (trapped) by the transgression of **his lips**, but the righteous will come through trouble." We must allow **the Holy Spirit to help us GUARD** and CONTROL (bridle) our lips and speech.

- **Psalms 34:13** "Keep your \_\_\_\_\_ from evil, and your \_\_\_\_\_ from speaking guile (dishonesty, deceit)."
- **Psalms 39:1** "I said, 'I will \_\_\_\_\_ my ways, lest I \_\_\_\_\_ with my \_\_\_\_\_; I will restrain my \_\_\_\_\_ with a muzzle, while the wicked are before me.'"

**Definition: "DECEIVES his own HEART"** - The Christian who ignores God's word, and does not apply it to his life is terribly deceived, and is trusting in his own warped opinion of himself. Jesus talks to the church in the city of Laodicea in Revelation 3:15-18, telling them that **they are DECEIVED about their own spiritual condition**. They think they are rich and have need of nothing, but Jesus tells them they are far from "okay" and are actually "wretched, miserable, poor, blind, and naked" in His sight. They think they "have it all going on" in the spiritual sense, but they are very much **DECEIVED in their thinking. This SELF-DECEPTION is a type of PRIDE** that makes us see ourselves in a better light than we actually are.

- **Revelation 3:17-18** "Because you \_\_\_\_\_, 'I am \_\_\_\_\_, have become wealthy, and have need of \_\_\_\_\_' - and do \_\_\_\_\_ know that you are wretched, \_\_\_\_\_, poor, \_\_\_\_\_, and naked - I counsel you to buy from Me gold refined in the fire, that you may be rich; and white garments, that you may be clothed, that the \_\_\_\_\_ of your \_\_\_\_\_ may not be revealed; and anoint your eyes with eye salve, that you may \_\_\_\_\_."

**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.**

- **Psalm 146:9** "The Lord watches over the strangers; He \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_; but the way of the wicked He turns upside down."
- **Psalm 68:5** "A father of the \_\_\_\_\_, a defender of \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ in His holy habitation."
- **Acts 6:1-4** "Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a murmuring against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their \_\_\_\_\_ were neglected in the daily \_\_\_\_\_. Then the Twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, 'It is not desirable that we should leave the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the \_\_\_\_\_ and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this \_\_\_\_\_; but we will give ourselves continually to \_\_\_\_\_ and to the ministry of the \_\_\_\_\_.'"
- **Deuteronomy 10:18** "He administers justice for the \_\_\_\_\_ and the \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ the stranger, giving him \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "To visit ORPHANS and WIDOWS in their trouble" - "To visit ORPHANS and WIDOWS"** means more than just dropping by to see them. It means to take care of them financially - to feed and provide housing for them. Taking care of orphans ("the fatherless") and widows was an important part of the life of the early Christian church. There was no welfare system for a woman to turn to if her husband died, and **if she didn't have adult children who could take her into their home and provide for her**, the church was supposed to care for her. In Acts 6:1-4, we see the early church having a problem between the Jewish believers and the Greek converts in how the widows were being cared for. Evidently, there was one or more common meals served at the church, because the first deacons of the church were chosen to deal with "serving tables" for the widows, so that the twelve apostles would not be burdened. If a woman truly had no family to take care of her, and if she were too old to consider remarriage, Paul told the church to provide for her and "take her into the number" of widows being provided for by the church.

- **I Timothy 5:3-5 & 16** "Honor \_\_\_\_\_ who are really \_\_\_\_\_. But if any \_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_ or grandchildren, let them first learn to show piety (religion) at home and to repay their parents; for this is \_\_\_\_\_ and acceptable before God. Now she who is really a \_\_\_\_\_, and left \_\_\_\_\_, trusts in \_\_\_\_\_ and continues in supplications and \_\_\_\_\_ night and day." (Verse 16) "If any \_\_\_\_\_ man or woman has \_\_\_\_\_, let them relieve them, and do not let the \_\_\_\_\_ be burdened, that it may relieve (take care of) those who are really \_\_\_\_\_."

**Definition: "Keep oneself UNSPOTTED from the WORLD"** - "Keep oneself unspotted" means to not get dirty and stained by something. The "world" in this sense means **the whole system of THINKING and BEHAVIOR** among the UNSAVED people of the world, who are under Satan's control. Satan is called "the god of this world" and the "prince" or "**ruler**" of this WORLD.

- **Ephesians 2:1-2** "And you He made alive, who were dead in your trespasses and sins, in which you once walked according to the course (system) of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons (children) of disobedience:"
- **Romans 12:2** "And be not conformed to \_\_\_\_\_ but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ will of God."

- **James 4:4** "Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ is enmity (hostility, hatred) with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ makes himself an \_\_\_\_\_ of God."
- **I John 2:15-17** "Do not \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ or the things in the \_\_\_\_\_. If anyone \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the \_\_\_\_\_ - the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_, the lust of the eyes, and the \_\_\_\_\_ of life - is not of the Father but is of the \_\_\_\_\_. And the \_\_\_\_\_ is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides \_\_\_\_\_."

**2:1-4.** My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, **with partiality**. For if there should come into your assembly a man **with gold rings, in fine apparel (clothes)**, and there should also come in **a poor man in filthy clothes**, and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes, and say to him, 'You sit here in a good place,' and say to the poor man, 'You stand there,' or, 'Sit here at my footstool,' have you not **shown partiality** among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts (motives)?"

- **Jeremiah 9:23-24** "Thus says the Lord, 'Let not the wise man \_\_\_\_\_ in his wisdom; let not the mighty man glory (boast) in his might; let not the \_\_\_\_\_ man glory in his \_\_\_\_\_ but let him that \_\_\_\_\_ glory in this, that he understands and \_\_\_\_\_ Me, that I am the \_\_\_\_\_ who exercises loving kindness, judgment and righteousness in the earth; for in these things I delight, says the \_\_\_\_\_.'"
- **Ephesians 6:9** "And you, masters, do the same things to them, giving up threatening, knowing that your own Master also is in heaven, and there is no \_\_\_\_\_ with Him."

**Definition: "With PARTIALITY"** - In the King James Version, it is called "respect of persons", and it means to judge someone by their outward appearance, and **PREFER one type of person over another** for the wrong reasons; an unfair prejudice or bias. In this case, James was addressing the problem of rich and poor people in the church. He was telling the Christians not to prefer or like someone better just because they were rich and dressed in fancy clothes, or to neglect or treat someone unfairly just because they were poor and wearing raggedy clothes.

- **Romans 2:11** "For there is no \_\_\_\_\_ with God."
- **Deuteronomy 1:17** "You shall show no \_\_\_\_\_ in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the \_\_\_\_\_; you shall not be \_\_\_\_\_ in any man's presence, for the judgment is God's....."
- **Acts 10:34** "Then Peter opened his mouth and said, 'In truth I perceive that \_\_\_\_\_ shows no \_\_\_\_\_.'"
- **Proverbs 28:21** "To show \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_, because for a piece of bread a man will transgress (sin)."
- **Colossians 3:25** "But he who does \_\_\_\_\_ will be repaid for the wrong which he has done, for there is no \_\_\_\_\_."
- **I Peter 1:17** "And if you call on the Father, who without \_\_\_\_\_ judges \_\_\_\_\_ to each one's \_\_\_\_\_....."