

Blessed are the Doers

(James 1:21-25)

How often do you look in the mirror? We all look in the mirror for various reasons. One thing that is true about mirrors is they reveal the truth about physical appearance. They show us how we really look on the outside.

In James 1:23-24, James describes the Bible as a spiritual mirror. It is a mirror that when we look into it, we learn the truth about ourselves spiritually. We learn how we really look in the sight of God. When we look in the spiritual mirror what do we see? Do we see people who are really trying to please and glorify God? Or, do we see people who are merely hearers who have deceived ourselves? How we answer this questions can determine if we are truly blessed in our lives (James 1:25).

I. The two groups being described in James 1:22:

- A. Those who merely hear God's word:
 - 1. Those on Pentecost (Acts 2:41)
 - 2. The rich young ruler (Mark 10:17-22)
 - 3. Felix the Governor (Acts 24:25)
- B. Those who hear and do :
 - 1. The 3000 on Pentecost (Acts 2:41)
 - 2. Cornelius the Gentile (Acts 10:48; 11:14)
 - 3. The saved on Judgment Day (Matthew 7:21-23)

II. How can we become merely hearers?

- A. Listening to the sermon, while failing to live a sermon .
 - 1. Do we love to hear gospel preaching, but we fail to apply the preaching in our lives? Do we listen to sermons, but never grow or become more like Jesus?
 - 2. God wants us to live what is being preached (James 1:22, 25).
- B. Being faithful coming to services, while failing to be faithful to the Lord.
 - 1. Being faithful coming to services is certainly important (Hebrews 10:24-25).
 - 2. But that is NOT enough! We must also strive to be faithful to the Lord. We have strive to please God all the time (Luke 9:23; Colossians 1:10).
- C. Taking notes, while failing to practice what is being written.
 - 1. It is a good thing to take notes during the sermons.
 - 2. But beyond writing things down (beyond taking notes) God wants us to bear fruit, grow and become more like Jesus!
- D. Seeking godly counsel, while failing to take heed to it.
 - 1. The Bible promotes seeking godly counsel and advice (Proverbs 12:15; 13:10; 27:9).
 - 2. But none of that advice will do us any good if we don't apply it!
- E. Reading the Bible consistently, while failing to be transformed .
 - 1. Every day we need to allow God to talk to us through His word.
 - 2. But beyond just reading, God wants us to be changed (2 Corinthians 5:17). God wants His word to help us made good decisions and be more like His Son.

Conclusion: Can we be doers of God's word? We have to because the effectual doer will be blessed in what he does (James 1:25).