

PRACTICING THE WORD OF TRUTH

JAMES 1:22-25

October 5, 2008 Sunday Morning

INTRODUCTION:

Regardless of what mankind has done to himself or this planet, God's gifts and His goodness are still being poured out to all people by way of Calvary's cross and the salvation of lost humanity.

17. In the light of God's gifts and His goodness are we practicing the Word of Truth?

1. BE DOERS OF THE WORD vs.22a

Doers=keep on striving to be doers of the Word of Truth

- The whole personality of the person's inner being is involved: mind, soul, spirit, and emotions .
- The Word must enter into the hearer's heart and mind which then results in obedience to it.

Christianity is a faith that works; it is a belief that produces action .

2. BE NOT HEARERS ONLY

Hearer=an auditor who does no work and takes no exams or tests

Deceiving yourselves=self-delusion

MacArthur says: "Professing Christians who are simply content to only hear a sermon have made a serious spiritual miscalculation. When followed consistently, that deluded attitude gives evidence that they are not true believers at all but rather only pretenders."

3. CONTRASTS BETWEEN THE TWO

a. The one who is simply a hearer of the Word of Truth vss.23,24

Natural face=the face you were born with

Behold=a casual glance

- If you look into the mirror of God's Word and it makes very little impression upon you, it's because you are not taking the things of God seriously.
- God's Word requires time, attention, and sincere devotion.
John 7:17

b. The one who is a doer of the Word of Truth vs.25

Looks=to give a careful, earnest examination of what is being read

- When a doer discovers a truth, he abides by it.
- The faithful hearer and doer of the Word does not study the mirror itself but rather what the mirror reveals, namely, God's holiness, His will, and His truth for his life.

The perfect law of liberty: When we obey the Word of Truth, God sets us free. John 8:31,32

- True spiritual living is not a momentary feeling of compliance or commitment, but a long-term obedience to Scripture.
- When the mirror of the Word examines us and reveals the flaws in our lives, it also gives us a promise of cleansing. I John 1:9
John 15:3

It is the blood of Christ that cleanses the guilt in our lives, but it is the water of the Word that helps to wash away defilement .

*Blessed in what he does:*happy in the Scriptural sense is the one who puts into practice what he sees in the Word of Truth.
Ps.139:23,24