

James 1:19-27

Shoe-leather Christianity

For April 20, 2008

LESSON 3

Dr. Jerry Nelson

Questions are to be completed the week of April 13 leading up to the sermon on April 20.

Listening and Doing

Read James 1:19-27 and answer the following questions:

1. (1:19, 20) What is James' three-fold advice in 1:19?

How might the first two affect the third?

What militates against a righteous life?

2. (1:21) Considering verses 18 and 20, what might the "therefore" of verse 21 refer to?

What are believers to be rid of? (Cf. Ephesians 4:22)

Comparing verse 18, what is the "word planted in you"?

What does the "word planted in you" accomplish?

Reflection: Does "save" mean initial conversion, sanctification or both?

3. (1:22) Considering verses 18 and 21, what is the "word"?

How might we deceive ourselves?

4. (1:23,24) What is James' main point AND what analogy does he use to describe it?
5. (1:25) "The perfect law" is a synonym for what other ideas already presented by James? (Cf. 1:18, 21, 22, 23)

What four actions does James say the "blessed" man takes?

How does 2:12 help define the "perfect law" that gives freedom of 1:25?

6. (1:26) What two conditions result in a deceived person?

Who is deceived AND who does the deceiving?

What does James indicate by the metaphor of "a tight rein"? (Cf. 1:19)

Reflection: "Worthless" can be translated "futile, empty, or useless". What is the implication of such a religion?

7. (1:27) What two actions define religion that God accepts as good?

In what way(s) does 1:21 help define "polluted by the world"?

To what do "his religion" (1:26) and "religion" (1:27) refer?

Reflection: How inclusive a definition should we give to "orphans and widows"?

