

October 04, 2026

Pastor Andy McClellan

Series Title: James

Sermon Title: "Do the Word"

Text: James 1:19-27

1. Instead of prideful wickedness, **RECEIVE** the Word, vv. 19-21 (*see also Proverbs 10:19, 16:32, 14:29; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 13:3-9; Mark 7:21-23; Luke 8:11-15; Galatians 5:19-21; Ephesians 4:20-26; 1 Peter 1:22-2:3*).
2. Instead of forgetful hearing, **OBEY** the Word, vv. 22-25 (*see also Deuteronomy 30:14; Psalm 1:1-6; Matt. 7:21-27; Luke 6:46-49, 11:28; John 13:17; Romans 2:6-11, 3:21-27; Hebrews 4:12-13; 1 John 2:3-6*).
3. Instead of worthless religion, **DISPLAY** the Word, vv. 26-27 (*see also 3:2; Ps. 34:13-14, 68:5, 146:9; Isaiah 1:10-17; Micah 6:6-8; Matt. 25:31-46; 2 Pet. 3:14; 1 John 3:17-18*).

FOR FURTHER STUDY & DISCUSSION

1. How do both being quick to speak and to become angry keep us from hearing another person? What are some other obstacles, including sinful actions and attitudes, that can get in the way of us hearing what someone is saying to us? In the same way, as we go through trials, what are some obstacles to our hearing what God would say to us through His Holy Spirit and His Word? What are some potential obstacles in your life right now?
2. What does it mean that the Word is "implanted" in us (see Matt. 13:3-9 and Jer. 31:33)? Why is meekness or humility so necessary for receiving/hearing the Word of God that has been implanted in our hearts? How do we "put away" those things that keep us from doing that (see Eph. 4:20-26)? How does this show us our need for the Holy Spirit's help?
3. What might you assume about a person who studied his face in the mirror for several minutes, but then forgot the color of his hair and eyes? In vv. 22-25, how is that person like one who hears and studies the Word of God and doesn't do it? How does this warn us against using mere bible knowledge as the measure of spiritual growth? What should we expect to see as the fruit of a Christian who has the implanted Word and studies it intently? Why? What should we do if we don't see that in ourselves or others?
4. What is the "law of liberty" in v. 25 (see Rom. 3:21-27 for help) and how does it point to the freedom we have because of the work of Christ? According to James, what is the result for obedience to this law? As those who have been liberated by Jesus, how does James point us to an obedience that is rooted in remembering who we already are in Christ?
5. What is "religion" and what are some things that are often listed as evidence that a person is "religious?" Is it possible to be a religious Christian, but not be Christlike? How? According to James, what in vv. 26-27 are the characteristics of worthless religion, and what is the evidence of pure religion in a person's life? How are those activities connected to the presence and power of the implanted Word in their lives?

NEXT WEEK: James 2:1-13, Pastor Andy McClellan

© 2026 Damascus Community Church, www.damascuscc.org