

Living by God's Word

James 1:19-27

A. Avoid Futile Attempts at Practical Righteousness (1:19-20)

1. Resist natural human impulses (v19)

a) Audience: "my beloved brethren" – born again, believers in Christ, specially _____ children of God (James 1:18, John 1:11-13)

b) Instruction: "let every man be..." a person who _____ to challenges like this:

- "quick to hear"
- "slow to speak"
- "slow to wrath"

2. Understand the weakness of human wrath (v20)

a) God has not delegated the enforcement of _____ to His children; "the wrath of man" produces something other than the righteousness of God. (Matthew 5:44-45, Romans 12:19)

b) Implication: God must have a _____ for producing righteousness in your life.

B. Be Regularly Reshaped (1:21-27)

1. Follow the process of letting go so you can grab something new (v21)

a) Prerequisite to living by God's word: "laying aside" that which is _____ to the righteousness of God. (Colossians 3:5-11)

b) Primary task for the child of God: " _____ .. the... word"

- With what attitude? "with meekness"
- Why? the salvation of your soul, which is a process of Christian _____
 - What is saved? "your soul" = your life
 - What are you saved from by receiving the word?

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- What did Jesus say about this process that produces righteousness in believers?
 - “A sower went out to sow...” (Luke 8:4-15)

 - “He who hears these sayings of mine, and does the, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock...” (Matthew 7:24-27)

 - “If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall set you free...” (John 8:31-36)

 - “Sanctify them by your truth. Your word is truth.” (John 17:17)

2. Fear the danger of thinking you know the word of God. (v22-25)

- a) The command (v22)

- b) The illustration (v23-24)

- c) The application (v25)

3. See the difference between true and false religion (v26-27)

- a) False Christian religion does not _____ (v26)

- b) True Christian religion brings about selfless _____ and _____ (v27)