

JAMES

Lesson 7: Bible Salvation by the Word of God

27 December 2019

In James 1:18-22, the people being addressed have been begotten with the word of truth, they are a kind of firstfruits of his creatures, and they have received the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. That is exactly what happens to anyone today who trusts the word of God and receives Jesus Christ as their Savior. James is clearly a book written for the benefit of the New Testament church.

Salvation is **by faith (Ephesians 2:8-9)**.

Many people have faith in the **wrong thing**: baptism, church membership, the preacher, good deeds, etc.

The **word of God** must be the object of your faith (**Romans 10:17**). The Bible tells a person what to do to be saved, who the Savior is, and what it all means.

The word of God is called **incorruptible seed (1 Peter 1:23)**, which **liveth and abideth forever**. When you put your faith in God's word, you're resting in something that is sure and certain.

- When your faith is in the word of God, it is an incorruptible seed that is planted in your heart. The eternal word of God is engrafted to your soul.
- When a branch is grafted onto the root stock of another tree, it receives its life from the root.
 - Jesus is the Root out of dry Ground (Isaiah 53:2).
 - Jesus is the Root of Jesse (Romans 15:12).
 - When you're saved and born again, you are grafted into Jesus Christ; His life is your life (John 15:5, 7).
- There is a living seed inside our corruptible body, unseen by anyone. When we die, our corruptible body must be sown in the ground before it can be resurrected (**1 Corinthians 15:35-38**).
 - Once we are free from our corruptible body of sin, everyone will be able to see that we are sons of God (**1 John 3:1-2**). They'll see the soul that has been redeemed and joined to Jesus Christ through the incorruptible seed.
 - You can't tell if a person is saved or not as long as they're in a corruptible body of sin.
 - As long as we're in this present life, our body is corrupt, dishonorable, weak, and natural (**1 Corinthians 15:42-44**).
 - The good seed of the word of God and a saved soul are dwelling in a corruptible body.

THE REDEEMED SOUL CANNOT SIN (1 John 3:9)

- Whosoever is born of God cannot sin.
 - The corruptible body is not born of God. It is yet to be redeemed (Romans 8:23). The body sins all the time because it was born of corruptible seed (from your father).
 - Your soul was saved (James 1:21). Your soul has been born of God's seed and cannot sin (**1 John 3:9**).
 - The soul, which does not sin—dwelling in a body that always sins—creates constant conflict in our lives (**Romans 7:14-25**). We have an "inward man" that delights in the law of God. But there is another law in our members (our body, **1 Corinthians 12:14-20**), which wars against the inward man.

- Outward man (visible) is perishing. It is temporal. Our inward man (unseen) is renewed day by day. It is eternal (**2 Corinthians 4:16-18**).

THE PARABLE OF THE SOWER (Matthew 13:3-9, Luke 8:5, 11, 12)

- The seed is the word of God which saves the person who hears it and believes it.
 - The Devil wants to take away the word of God before it can reach the heart of the hearer to prevent their salvation.
 - The Devil will be found wherever the word of God is being proclaimed.
 - We must pray that God will protect that seed.
 - The sower sows the seed everywhere; not just on the good ground.
 - We are to sow in season and out of season (2 Timothy 4:2, Ecclesiastes 11:4), whether we feel like it or not, and whether anybody receives it or not.
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SOWING IN TEARS; REAPING IN JOY (Psalm 126:5-6)

- Sowing in tears implies that you genuinely care about the souls you're witnessing to.
 - There is a promise that the one who sows in tears shall yield a harvest.
 - The more seed you sow, the greater the harvest.
 - The seed is called "precious seed." It's rare and therefore, valuable.
 - The word of the Lord was precious in Samuel's day (**1 Samuel 3:1**).
 - The word of the Lord is precious in our day. We must take the written word of God and sow it in the world so men and women can hear it and believe unto salvation.
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IS THE SEED YET IN THE BARN? (Haggai 2:19)

- Having the word of God in your house will not yield a harvest. You've got to take it out and sow it in the field (the world).
 - The harvest is not dependent on your abilities; it is all about the good seed.
 - You need to trust that the word of God has the power to save a soul (Romans 1:16).
 - God is more likely to use a person who knows they are lacking in eloquence (Exod 4:10). That is someone who is going to be fully relying on God and the power of His word.
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PAUL'S LESSON ON PREACHING (1 Corinthians 1:18-2:5)

- Preaching seems like a foolish thing to do, from the world's point of view.
 - To the born-again believer, the preaching of Christ crucified is the power and the wisdom of God.
 - God doesn't call many wise, mighty, or noble men to be his spokesmen. He chooses the foolish, weak, base, and despised (ordinary people) who will trust Him for the power and not place any trust in themselves and their own abilities. God can use you if you're a nobody (1 Samuel 15:17).
 - Paul confessed that he was not a good speaker or a wise man (1 Cor. 2:1). People listened to him because he preached the word of God. That's where the power and wisdom came from.
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