

JAMES

Lesson 9: Be a Hearer and a Doer of the Word (James 1:22-25)

10 January 2020

In James 1:22-25, God wants us to understand that a person who hears the word of God but doesn't apply it to their lives, the word of God will have no effect upon their life, though they heard it. A believer who is a "doer of the word" (vs 22) will be a "doer of the work" (vs 25). The Bible is not given just to teach you facts about God; it should provoke you to do something for the Lord. As you are doing the work, God gives you a blessing.

What the Bible says about Hearing:

Ezekiel 3:6-7 God told Ezekiel to go speak to Israel even though they won't listen. God gives everyone a chance to repent and turn to the Lord. Ezekiel certainly would not get a blessing from the response of the people (they would not hear). The blessing came in doing what God told him to do.

Acts 7:57-60 The people of Israel plugged their ears and yelled so they wouldn't have to hear Stephen's preaching. They missed a chance to hear the gospel, but they'll have no excuse on the day of judgment. Stephen's blessing was in being personally escorted directly to Heaven by the Lord Himself.

Matthew 13:10-17 The Lord obscures His word so that those who "will not hear" cannot understand. When you read and study the Bible, you must approach it believing that it is God's very truth or else He will not give you any light to understand it. Notice how Jesus explained his parables only to those who believed His words.

John 8:42-47 In verse 12, Jesus said those that followed him would not walk in darkness. In verse 43 he told the religious leaders the reason they didn't understand Him was because they cannot hear. The reason they cannot hear is because they didn't believe Him (vs 45) and therefore they are not of God (vs 47).

James 1:22-25 If you are genuinely a hearer of the word, it will be evidenced by the fact that you are doing something in response to what you've heard. If you hear the word of God, but you're not doing what it says, you're deceiving yourself when you say you're saved. You obviously haven't truly heard the word or there would be a change in your activities.

Romans 10:17-18 Everybody in the world has an opportunity to hear God's word if they want to.

Revelation 22:18-19 When you hear God's word, you'd better be careful how you handle it. Don't change it to your own liking. Receive it as God gave it. That's a right and proper hearer of the word. Believe it, remember it, do it.
