

“God’s Yearning”

By Mrs. Sojourner

Today, wherever we turn we can easily find people desperately yearning. Some yearn for food, some for financial relief, some for deliverance from abuse, others for loving attention—the list is endless.



Notes:

Our Heavenly Father also yearns for something. What, you may wonder, would the God of the universe be yearning for? Souls. Our Heavenly Father yearns that all people will choose to come into a relationship with Him through the salvation that Jesus bought and now offers all mankind.

16Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. 17At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.' 18"But they all alike began to make excuses...

21"The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, 'Go out quickly

into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.' 22" 'Sir,' the servant said, 'what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.' 23"Then the master told his servant, 'Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full. Lk. 14:16-18, 21-23(NIV)

Let us, who love and serve God take a deliberate—but not condemning—look at ourselves. Are we desperate for souls? Do we endeavor to draw people—all people to Christ by blessing them with Christ’s love, mercy and grace? If so, wonderful. If not, let’s repent. Let us actively change our mindset towards God’s precious ones who do not yet know his love for them and ask God to give us his heart for souls.

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Sojourning

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...with The Sojourner

“In A Mirror” (Teaching Sketch)

James 1:19-27 (NIV)



There is marvelous insight to be found in the letter of James, Chapter One. You will gain great understanding into what James is conveying to his readers! James is letting Believers know the image they need to understand they are beholding when the scriptures are read concerning the image in which mankind was made and the restoration of that which had been given away by the first Adam in the Garden.

Notes:

creature in Christ. It is this new creature then, that we must understand or we will not fulfill our destiny as designed by God. It is the second Adam, Jesus the Christ, that restores us to the position held by mankind as described in Genesis, Chapter One.

Beyond allowing us to see the need for a Savior the scriptures then instruct us as to how to function as we were designed and empowered prior to the first Adam relinquishing the empowerment to Satan.

The Word As Mirror

James is using a natural mirror to explain what a person is like when they behold the image of themselves in the “mirror of the word of God.” When a person is convicted of sin, having recognized their own self in the mirror of the Word. They are convicted by the explanation of man’s sinful nature, as described in scripture, and if they repent accepting the work of Jesus the Christ on the cross, they are a new

Misreckoning

Deceiving one’s self by misunderstanding or misreckoning, as mentioned in James 1:22, needs to be avoided. Look here at the meaning in the Greek:

paralogizomai
par-al-og-id'-zom-ah-ee; to misreckon, that is, *delude*:—beguile, deceive.

This misreckoning is something we do by, and to, our

Please note: This is a teaching sketch only and not the complete teaching.

Scripture:

James 1:19-27 (NIV)

Listening and Doing

19 My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, 20 for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.

21 Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

22 Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. 23 Anyone who listens to the word but does not do^[a] what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror 24 and, after looking^[b] at himself, goes away^[c] and immediately forgets what he looks like.^[d] 25 But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does.

Notes:

[a] ποιᾶτε
-s
poy-ay-tace'a
per-former;
specifically a
"poet":—
doer,
poet.

[b] κατανόω
kat-an-o-eh'-o
; to observe
fully:—
behold,
consider,
discover,
perceive.

[c] "goes his way"
KJV.

[d] ἠόποιος
hop-oy'-os; of
what kind
that, that
is, how
(as) great
(excellent)
):—what
manner
(sort) of,
such as,
whatsoever.

26 If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. 27 Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

Amplified Bible

23 For if anyone only listens to the Word without obeying it and being a doer^[a] of it, he is like a man who looks carefully at his [own] natural face in a mirror;

24 For he thoughtfully observes^[b] himself, and then goes off^[c] and promptly forgets what he was like.^[d]

25 But he who looks carefully into the faultless law, the [law] of liberty, and is faithful to it and perseveres in looking into it, being not a heedless listener who forgets but an active doer [who obeys], he shall be blessed in his doing (his life of obedience).

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selves if we do not place into practice the condition, ability, and desire of the God, in whom we are made in the image of, by God's own will and plan.

Doers Of The Word

James tells us that only listening to the word will not get the job done. The root of the word here is to perform the word^(see note [a]). Anyone who has ever done a task with the desire to do it well, (play a piano, be a chef, practice medicine) must be able to perform well by understanding the intricacies required. They must thoroughly observe what needs to be understood and done^(see note [b]) without turning away and forgetting what they have observed.

Believers Are Restored

All believers have been restored to the authority they once possessed before the fall in the Garden. Are you a Believer? Have you accepted Christ? You have been made a new original Adam if you have. You, as such, have the authority of the original Adam restored by the Second Adam. You have dynamite power!

Notes:

[e] παροργίζωμαι
par-al-og-id'-zom-ah-ee; to mis-reckon,
that is, de-lude:—
beguile,
deceive.