

How To Quit Kidding Ourselves- And Change  
James 1:19-27 (Part 2 – Practice The Word)  
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James 1:22-25

**Introduction**

1. Many of us mark our bibles but do our bibles ever mark us? In order to grow and mature in Christ we must look into the mirror of God's Word and not only hear what it says but to practice the picture of Jesus that is being reflected...

**I. Examination (v23-25)**

**a. Take A Glance At Ourselves**

- i. The main reason we look into a mirror is to examine ourselves and fix anything not clean or neat. As we look into God's mirror we will see ourselves as we truly are.
- ii. James says there are several mistakes we make while looking at God's Word...
  1. First, they merely glance at themselves. (Can't deceive anyone be honest)
  2. Second, they forget what they see. (This is impossible to do when looking deeply enough) – Isaiah 6:5; Luke 5:8; Job 42:5-6
  3. Third, they fail to obey what the Word tells them to do. Hearing is never the same as doing and neither is talking.
- iii. When we look at God's mirror the Word we must remember what we are and what God says and do the will of God! For the blessing comes from the doing (Jm 1:25)

**II. Restoration – Exodus 38:8**

**a. The Cleansing Power Of The Word**

- i. Water for washing is a picture of the Word of God and its cleansing power (John 15:3; Ephesians 5:26; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11; Titus 3:4-6).
- ii. The power is not just to show us our sins but cleanse us. Just like the promise in 1 John 1:8-9. As we mediate and do it the blood of Jesus cleanses the guilty! (1 Peter 1:22-23; 2:1-3)
- iii. Nathan's experience with David in 2 Samuel 12 helps to illustrate this truth.

**III. Transformation – 2 Corinthians 3:18**

**a. Our Metamorphosis**

- i. After the Lord restores us, He wants to change us so we can grow and conquer self and sin!
- ii. This passage is a discussion of the contrasts of the old and new covenants. In it we learn that through Jesus we are to shine and therefore share in the glory of God as we become more like Jesus each and every day.
- iii. As we hear and act upon God's Word we cannot hide His image – Psalm 139:23-24
- iv. As we look at the mirror are we being transformed into the same image of Jesus if not then we may not be practicing the Word of the Lord!
- v. So let's stop kidding ourselves and hear and do the Word of God!