

Title: The Believer's Response To The Word of God Part 2

Text: 1:22-25

Main Idea: God commands us to respond to His word with the right actions.

Division Statements:

1. Implement the word with honesty (vv. 22-25).

Note: The import of verse 22 and the illustration of a self-deceived person in verses 23-25, is that we might look at ourselves honestly and examine our conduct to see whether in fact we are “doers of the word.” There are many self-deceived foolish “forgetful hearers” packing our churches. Let us not be numbered with them.

2. Implement the word with self-control (v. 26).

Note: The inability to exercise self-control, a fruit of the Spirit, specifically here by failing to “bridle his tongue” is proof that one is self-deceived and one's religion is useless (μάταιος (mataios) - worthless, empty, i.e. not saving)

3. Implement the word with love (v. 27a).

Note: The example of love “to visit orphans and widows in their trouble.” True religion implements God's word by reaching out to the world in love, especially those who are helpless and unable to repay (See Luke 14:12-14).

4. Implement the word with integrity (v. 27b).

Note: “and to keep oneself unspotted from the world.” This is integrity in the sense of being without compromise, having an undivided heart.

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