

THE BOOK OF JAMES

# FATHWORKS



## James 1:19-27 Input and Output

*“My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires. 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. Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do. Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless. 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.”*

*James 1:19-27, NIV*

James begins to look at the input and output of our religion. He reinforces the idea that whatever a person allows to rule inside of them will naturally flow through them. There is a natural expression of the change in our identity that occurs with Jesus Christ. While James isn't claiming that it is works that save us, he does state plainly that it is the works that show our faith, for good or bad. Whatever we allow in to shape our identity will be the thing that is expressed through what we do. Furthermore, this is not a passive process but an intentional shaping and molding as we allow the word of God to become implanted deep into our spiritual DNA.

What are the three exhortations given in 1:19

1) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

Why is moving straight to anger usually not a good response? What happens when we do this? What is the alternative to getting angry?

James puts the idea of moral filth being present in a person against the idea of the word being implanted in a person. What does it mean for the word to be implanted? How does this handle moral filth?

How do you define yourself? What does it mean to define yourself like this? What does it look like to have our identity built in our redemption in Jesus Christ?

How does James use the analogy of the mirror to explain what it means to not put the words of God into practice?

James very clearly discusses the importance of words and our faith. What connections do you see between what we say and who we are? What is speech? What types of speech do you see that are problematic to our faith?

# Daily Bible Reading Plan

Day One James 1:19-27

Day Two John 4

Day Three Romans 4

Day Four Psalm 4

Day Five Exodus 4

Day Six John 5

Day Seven Romans 5

---

## Prayer Requests