

Reedy Fork Baptist Church

Wednesday, January 28, 2026

BIBLE STUDY

Theme: “Are You Real”

SCRIPTURE IN RESPONSE: James 1: 19-27

19 My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry,

20 because human anger does not produce the righteousness 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 what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror

24 and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

25 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.

26 Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their 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.

I. Key Words:

- Genuine
- Faith
- Compassion
- Attitude
- Obedience

II. People, Places, & Time:

- Apostle James

III. Background:

James 1:19-27 is a powerful passage about genuine faith in action, urging believers to be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger, emphasizing that human anger doesn't bring God's righteousness, and calls for actively doing the Word, not just hearing it, which involves getting rid of evil and showing compassion (like caring for orphans and widows) as the mark of true, "pure religion".

IV. In Depth:

1. Lesson Emphasis #1: Attitude Towards God's Word (vv. 19-21):

- A.** Quick to Hear, Slow to Speak, Slow to Anger: When God's truth confronts you, listen carefully, don't rush to defend yourself or argue, and control your temper because anger doesn't lead to righteousness.
- B.** Put Away Filth: Get rid of moral impurity and wickedness so you can humbly receive the life-saving Word, which is like a seed planted in you.

2. Lesson Emphasis #2: Being Doers, Not Just Hearers (vv. 22-25):

- A.** The Mirror Analogy: Simply hearing God's Word without acting on it is like looking in a mirror and immediately forgetting your reflection—it's self-deception.
- B.** The Law of Liberty: The "perfect law" (God's Word) brings freedom; those who truly look into it, persevere, and act on it are blessed, not just those who hear.

