

First Southern Baptist Church - 6-2-21
Images in James 1

I. “Superfluity” - (21) - KJV

1. Remaining
2. Hang over
3. All that remains (NASB)
4. “Snuff glass”

II. Wisdom (5)

Defined:

1. Insight into the will and way of God applied in real life - Prov. 2:10-19
2. To have the proper perspective as counseled here
3. The sense of God’s divine ordering of things
4. Strong sound faith not based on feelings, but on knowledge and understanding of the promises of God’s truth
5. God understands wisdom, He knows it’s way so we ask of Him - Job 28:23

III. “Crowns:” (12)

1. Crown of thorns (Mt. 27:29)
2. Crown of rejoicing (1 Thess. 2:19)
3. Crown of glory (1 Pet.5:4)
4. Crown of victory (1 Cor. 9:25)
5. Crown of righteousness (2 Tim. 4:8)
6. Crown of royalty (Ps. 21:3) - diadem
7. Crown as an ornament (Prov. 1:9)
8. A priest’s crown - a king’s crown - an athlete’s crown (stephanos - see 1 Cor.9:25)
9. 1 Thess. 2:19 - you are our crown

IV. Temptation Process - own lusts (14-15)

1. “Carried away” - (*exelko*) - idea is dragged away, as if compelled by inner desire. Used of a hunting trap to refer to baiting an animal.
2. “Enticed” (*deleazo*) - a common fishing term to refer to bait... to lure the prey from safety to capture and death.

Inward leaning to sin:

1. Jeremiah 17:1 - the heart is desperately evil
2. Romans 7:18-25 - no good dwells in me
3. Mt. 15:18-19 - out of the heart come evil thoughts
4. Mt. 26:41 - keep watching not to fall into temptation

Remember, we have two natures - as believers

-divine nature - 2 Pet. 1:4

-an enemy within

Even that which is itself is good and honorable can be lusted after for sinful reasons-
examples:

1. Desire for sleep - (lusted after) can become laziness

2. Desire for food (lusted after) can become gluttony

*All have different lusts

-all have them and all are susceptible to them

-all have sole responsibility for dealing with them

V. Wherefore, Be Swift to Heart (19) ...knowing this (its power), three quick demands

1. Swift to hear - readiness to listen ("receive")

2. Slow to speak - power of the word

3. Slow to wrath

A. Wrath (19-20) hinders the cause of Christ, not furthers

B. Hard for the non-believers to grasp, if we don't show it in conduct

C. Wrath does not produce behavior pleasing in God's sight

D. 21:2-6 have "doers" as the theme - restrain anger because it does not "do" right

VI. "Put aside" figure:

Put aside - (21)

1. All filthiness

2. All that remains of wickedness

*These are conditions for receiving, the "Word implanted"

1. Paul - "lay aside" the old self- Eph. 4:22-24

2. "Put them all aside" - Col. 3:8-10

3. "Lay aside every weight and sin" - Heb. 12:1

4. "Putting aside all malice" - 1 Pet. 2:1-2

VII. "Doers" (22)

"Doers" - the characterization of the whole person.

"Doers of the Word" - do you want to be

1. A person who fixes repairs - **or** a professional builder?

2. A person who fights in skirmishes **or** a professional soldier

3. A person who teaches an occasional SS class - **or** someone who is divinely called/ gifted?

VIII. How to receive (21)

1. "Meekness" -

2. 1 Thess. 1:6 - became followers having "received" the word

3. How did they "receive" the word? - 1 Thess. 2:13

IX. Perfect Law of Liberty (25)

1. Is this the royal law of 2:8?

Is this the law of liberty of 2:12?

2. Probably two different laws

Royal law (2:8) - is love the lord with all heart

Law of liberty - is the law generally

3. James says the law of God brings freedom

- John 8:32, you shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free
- what does that do to our understanding of the Old Testament laws?
- read - read John 8:31

X. Three actions - examples of “doing” (26-27)

1. **Bridle** your tongue

2. **Visit** - care for

-like Jesus said to Peter... “feed my sheep”

-the object of “visitation” or “care” is widows and orphans

...God judges for the widows - Ps. 68:5

...you shall not afflict any widow or orphan - Ex. 22:22

...if you truly amend your ways... do not oppress the widow... I will let you dwell in this place - Jer. 7:5-7

...honor widows who are widows indeed - 1 Tim. 5:3

XI. “Unspotted” - two possibilities

-“unspotted” sacrifice - lambs without blemish. Jesus was an unspotted lamb (1 Pet. 1:17-19)

-“unspotted wedding garment” -a bride adorned for her king (Eph. 5:25-27)

So... Paul could say

1. He’d lived his life with a good conscience - Acts 23:1; 24:16

2. I am conscious of nothing against me - 1 Cor. 4:4