Written by Tim Black
Wednesday, 19 November 2008 14:05

James: A Handbook on Holiness

The Evidence of the Word

James 1:26-27

General outline of chapter 1:

1.

The Way to Holiness: The Divine Perspective 1:2-27

1.

The Trial-Temptation Complex 1:2-18

1.

The Confrontation with Trials: Joy & Wisdom 1:2-8

2.

The Range of Trials: Poverty & Riches 1:9-11

3.

The Outcome of Trials: Confidence, Defeat, Victory 1:12-18

1.
1.

The Word of God 1:19-27

1.

The Confrontation with the Word 1:19-21

2.

The Objective of the Word 1:22-25

3.

The Evidence of the Word 1:26-27

James 1:26-27

Negative Evidence – the Tongue

26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart,

this person's religion is worthless.

Positive Evidence – Orphans, Widows, the World

27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God and the Father is this:

to visit orphans and widows in their affliction,

and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

Discussion Questions:

1.

Is James defining *all* aspects of true "religion" here? What aspects of "religion" does he

mention? t_____, h_____, v_____ o_____ & w_____, w_____

2.

V. 26 What is the evidence of "worthless" religion—the evidence God's word has had no effect? _____

3.

V. 26 What does a person's tongue reveal? Consider vv. 19, 24, and Luke 6:45 _____

4.

V. 27 Why will a Christian visit orphans and widows? _____

5.

V. 27 In what ways can the world stain a person? _____
In those situations, what does it mean to be "in the world, but not of it"? _____

6.

What is one place you don't see evidence that your religion is pure and undefiled? _____

1.

Review & Summary:

1.

What should you do when confronted by God's word? See vv. 19-20 _____

2.

What is the word's objective? See vv. 22-25 _____

3.

What is good evidence God's word has reached its objective in you? See vv. 26-27 _____