

# **Pure Doctrine for Holy Living**

*A Study of the Epistle of James*

**Doers of the Word**

**Lesson 2**

**James 1:19-2:13**

*Trinity Bible Church Sunday School*  
*January 13, 2019*

# The New Covenant Age

- ▶ A new era in the plan of God began on the Day of Pentecost
- ▶ The end of the Law of Moses for the believer
- ▶ “The mystery of His will” (Eph 1:9-10)
- ▶ The need for new revelation – apostles and prophets (Eph 2:20)
- ▶ First epistle written: James (ca AD 45)
- ▶ Theme: Becoming “perfect and complete, lacking in nothing” (Jas 1:4)

# The Introduction (1:1-18)

- ▶ Servants of God
- ▶ The joy of trials – the proof of genuine faith
- ▶ The need for wisdom
- ▶ Foundational truths
  - The goodness of God
  - The new birth
  - The Word of Truth

# First Fruits of His Creatures

- ▶ The importance of the Word of God (1:19-25)
- ▶ Specific examples of perfection (1:26-2:7)
- ▶ The Law of Liberty, the Royal Law, and the Law of Moses (2:8-13)

# The Word of Truth (1:19-21)

- ▶ Brought forth by the Word of Truth (1:18)
- ▶ Be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger (1:19-20)
- ▶ Receive the word implanted which is able to save your souls (1:21)
- ▶ Jonah – the angry prophet who is quick to speak
- ▶ Jesus – the silent sufferer with an open ear (Isa 50:5; 53:7)

# Be Doers and Not Hearers Only (1:22-25)

- ▶ Prove to be a doer of the word and not a deluded hearer (1:22)
- ▶ The use and abuse of a mirror (1:23-24)
- ▶ The mirror of the soul – the perfect law of liberty (1:25)
- ▶ The doer will be blessed in what he does

# Pure and Undeiled Religion (1:26-2:7)

- Bridle the tongue
- Visit orphans and widows
- Keep yourself unstained by the world
- Do not show partiality



# The Sin of Partiality (2:1-7)

- ▶ Faith in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ
- ▶ Sin in the synagogue – preference for fine clothes over dirty clothes
- ▶ Judging by wicked reasoning – human wisdom
- ▶ Blessed are the poor – chosen to believe and to inherit the Kingdom
- ▶ The rich – persecution and blasphemy
- ▶ Human “wisdom” fails to “achieve the righteousness of God” (1:20)



# Living by the Law of Liberty (2:8-13)

- ▶ Three Laws: the Royal Law, the Law of Moses, the Law of Liberty
- ▶ The Royal Law – the Law of the King
  - It is the standard for heirs of the Kingdom
  - If you love your neighbor as yourself, you do well
  - It is a higher standard than the Law of Moses – it commands the mind
  - The Royal Law is incompatible with showing partiality

# Living by the Law of Liberty (2:8-13)

- ▶ The Law of Moses
  - The description is consistent with the Law of Moses
    - Emphasis upon guilt
    - Emphasis upon the unity of sin – transgress one = transgress all
  - No mercy
  - 3 parts: commandment, reward, penalty – but no blessing
  - A permanent slavery
    - No solution for sin
    - No solution for inability
    - No grace and no mercy
    - No eternal blessing



# Living by the Law of Liberty (2:8-13)

- ▶ The perfect Law – abiding brings blessing (1:25)
- ▶ The righteousness of God without penalty; blessing without penalty
- ▶ The Law Liberty is commandments after redemption – no penalty
- ▶ The Law of Liberty is freedom from inability – the Holy Spirit within
- ▶ The Law of Liberty shows mercy has replaced judgment
- ▶ Speak and act like those to be judged by the Law of Liberty
- ▶ The Law of Liberty is the Law of the King



# The First Fruits Among His Creatures

- ▶ It is a people whose faith reflects the glory of Christ
- ▶ It is a people who show mercy because we have received mercy
- ▶ It is a people who are no longer slaves to sin or spiritual inability
- ▶ It is a people who are distinguished by doing good