

# *Living with Integrity*

*PASTOR JONATHAN WILEY • JAMES 1:19–27*

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

**James 1:19**

*for man's anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires.*

**James 1:20**



*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.*

**James 1:21**

*Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves.  
Do what it says.*

**James 1:22**

*Anyone who listens to the Word but does not do what it says  
is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror*

**James 1:23**



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

**James 1:24**

*But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it — he will be blessed in what he does.*

**James 1:25**



*If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless.*

**James 1:26**

*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 1:27**



**Receive the Word Humbly (1:19–21)**



When you receive the Word with meekness, you accept it, do not argue with it, and honor it as the Word of God. You do not try to twist it to confirm it to your thinking.

**Warren Wiersbe**

*It is by grace you have been saved!*

**Ephesians 2:5b**

**Obey the Word Diligently (1:22–25)**



You have not really listened to the Word if you have not obeyed the Word.

**David Platt**

I am frighteningly convinced that countless people within the Church listen to the Word week by week, and yet it is not planted in their heart, and it is evident because they are not acting on it. Sure, they act on the things that agree with their lifestyle, or they act when it is convenient to obey...

**David Platt**



But when this Word confronts, challenges, convicts, or tries to change them, they put it aside and forget it, never putting it into action. Be careful if this describes your life because this is not the Christian life. In the Christian life the Word is planted in your heart, and you receive it like blood to your heart, humbly and constantly, and by the grace of God that moves your heart, you obey it.

**David Platt**



If we are to use God's mirror profitably, then we must gaze into it carefully and with serious intent. No quick glances will do. We must examine our own hearts and lives in the light of God's Word. This requires time, attention, and sincere devotion. Perhaps one reason we glance into the Word instead of gaze into the Word is that we are afraid of what we might see.

**Warren Wiersbe**

*For the Word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.*

**Hebrews 4:12**



*Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight.  
Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him  
to whom we must give account.*

**Hebrews 4:13**

*This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.*

**John 3:19**



*Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.*

**John 3:20**

*But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light...*

**John 3:21**



*This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you: God is light; in Him there is no darkness at all.*

**1 John 1:5**

*If we claim to have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth.*

**1 John 1:6**



*But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, His Son, purifies us from all sin.*

**1 John 1:7**

*Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.*

**Psalm 139:23**



*See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.*

**Psalm 139:24**

Men are free when they want to do what they ought to do. This is the “splendid paradox” produced by a living faith in the Gospel through the indwelling Holy Spirit.

**D. Edmond Hiebert**



**Live the Word Honestly (1:26,27)**

# *Themes in James*

**Controlling the Tongue** (1:26)

1:19,20; 3:1–12; 4:11,12

**Caring for Those in Need** (1:27)

2:1–13, 15,16; 5:1–6

**Being Unpolluted  
by the World** (1:27)

4:4–10



*For out of the overflow of the heart, the mouth speaks.*

**Matthew 12:34b**

**To live with integrity, be a receiver and a doer of the Word.**



*Do not merely listen to the Word, and so deceive yourselves.  
Do what it says.*

**James 1:22**