HEARING – DOING
AND THE MIRROR

MARCH 29, 2017
HEARING, DOING AND THE MIRROR

- Mirrors Are Too Honest
- Mirrors Don’t Compromise Enough
- When We Look Straight Into A Mirror We See Ourselves
(James 1:22-27 NIV) 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 a man 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 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. (26) If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his 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.
HEARING, DOING AND THE MIRROR

The “Hearers Only”

• (James 1:22 NIV) **Do not merely listen** to the word, and so deceive yourselves. **Do what it says.**

• The “Hearers Only” -- Listen & Listen Only

• “Hearers Only” Deceive Themselves

• **It Is Not The Hearing But** The Doing **That Brings The Blessing.**
HEARING, DOING AND THE MIRROR

The Doers:

• Listen To What The Word Says & Do It

• (James 1:22 NIV) Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says.

• It’s Not Enough To Know The Word
  — We Have To Live The Word

• True Faith: Knowing It & Doing It!
HEARING, DOING AND THE MIRROR

• James Describes The “Hearer Only” Like A Man In A Mirror

• (James 1:23-24 NIV) 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 (24) and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.
HEARING, DOING AND THE MIRROR

- **James Describes “The Doer”**
  Looks And Keeps On Looking

- *(James 1:25 NIV)* 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.
HEARING, DOING AND THE MIRROR

- The Real Difference Between Hearers And Doers Is Seen In How They Live Their Lives
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• (James 1:26-27 NIV) If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his 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.
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The Characteristics Of Pure Religion

• (1) Self-control — A Bridled Tongue
• (2) Love For Others
• (3) A Clean Life
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Actions Of A Hearer Only:

• What They Have Is In Their Heads Not In Their Hearts

• No Freedom To Live For Christ
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Actions Of A Doer: Hears And Acts

• What They Have Is Not Just In Their Head -- But It Is In Their Heart

• The Doer: Opposite Of The Hearer Only
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• The *Doer Is Able To* Display Pure & Faultless Religion:

• We Don’t Receive From God Just So We Can Talk About The Christian Life

• We Receive From God So That We Can Live The Life!
HEARING, DOING AND THE MIRROR

We Need To:

• Do What We Know!

• Develop The Kind Of Life That Consists Of Loving Others And Being Holy Before God