

Blessings in James

Introduction:

1. In His Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12), Jesus showed how certain people are "*blessed*."
2. Similar statements are found throughout the Bible, including the book of James.
3. Previously, we showed from James 1:12 that those who endure temptation are "*blessed*."
4. In this lesson we are concentrating on another blessing revealed in James 1:25 -- doers of the word will be "*blessed*."
5. Before we examine this verse, let us consider the context in which it appears.

Discussion:

- I. (James 1:21-24) JAMES SHOWED HOW GOD'S WORD IS TO BE RECEIVED
 - A. (vs.21) "*The engrafted word*" is to be received with "*meekness*."
 - B. (vs.22a) God's people are to be "*doers of the word*."
 - C. (vs.22b) We are not to be "*hearers only*."
 1. Such a person deceives himself -- he has not fooled God.
 2. Such a person is described in vs.23-24.
 - a. One who only hears God's Word without doing what it teaches is compared to someone who looks at his face in a mirror, he sees himself as he is [he is made aware of improvements that need to be made], he goes on his way without making any changes, and he forgets the image he saw.
 - b. James actually wrote about a person who looks into God's Word [the mirror of the soul], he sees himself as God sees him [he is made aware of sins that need to be corrected], he goes on his way with making any corrections, and he forgets his faults that God's Word has revealed.
- II. (James 1:25) DOERS OF THE WORD WILL BE "*BLESSED*"
 - A. A doer of the Word is described as a person who:
 1. looks into "*the perfect law of liberty*" [the Lord's New Testament -- Hebrews 9:15]
 2. continues in that perfect law
 3. is not a "*forgetful hearer*"
 4. is a "*doer of the work*" revealed in that perfect law.
 - B. A true doer of the Word will "*be blessed in his deed*."
- III. BLESSINGS AVAILABLE TO DOERS OF THE WORD ARE ADDRESSED IN:
 - A. Luke 6:46-49
 - B. John 8:31-32
 - C. John 14:21-23
 - D. 1 John 2:5