

If Anyone ... Thinks He Is Religious – Part 2

Jas. 1:26, 27

Introduction:

- A. Multitudes claim to be religious, but not all please God. (Cf. Acts 17:22)
- B. James makes several recommendations for anyone thinking himself to be religious.

Discussion:

- I. Let Him Demonstrate The Wisdom From Above.**
 - A. Shows itself in a good life. (3:13-16).
 - B. Places purity above peace (3:17-18).
- II. Let Him Draw near to God (4:8).**
 - A. By submitting to God and resisting the devil. (4:7).
 - B. With clean hands and hearts. (4:8).
 - C. By repentance (4:9-10; cf. Matt. 5:4)
- III. Let Him Recognize Christ as His Lawgiver (4:11-12).**
 - A. By always submitting to his law.
 - B. By not usurping His role as judge (4:11)
 - C. By placing the future in his hands. (4:13-17).
- IV. Let Him Be Honest and Fair. (5:1-5).**
 - A. May be rich and honest – dishonest and poor.
 - B. One must not be rich at the expense of others. (5:4).
- V. Let Him Pray to God (5:13-18).**
 - A. Not for a miracle – miracles no longer needed.
 - 1. Elijah's drought was not a miracle – just like any long dry spell.
 - 2. Elijah's rain came like rain always came in that area. (1 Kings 18:44,45).
 - B. God answers prayer providentially – else why pray.
- VI. Let Him Love Sinners (5:19-20)**
 - A. Not sin, but sinners.
 - B. Must convert sinners among brethren.

Conclusion:

- A. If we claim to be religious let us back it up with proper attitudes and conduct.
- B. If you think you are religious, have you obeyed the Lord to become a Christian?