

# The Law Of Liberty

James 1:21-25

## Introduction:

- A. Are Christians under law of any kind?
  - 1. Some think not, based on misunderstanding of certain scriptures. (John 1:17; Rom. 6:14-15).
  - 2. Sin is tied to law — if no law then no sin (1 John 3:4; cf. Matt. 7:23; 2 Thess. 2:7 ASV)
- B. Text supplies important information about the law governing Christians.

## Discussion:

### I. The Law Identified.

- A. “His own will” expressed in “the word of truth.” (V. 18).
- B. “The word” (vv. 22, 23) — The word of apostolic preaching. (Rom. 10:8; 1 Pet. 1:23-25)
- C. “The law of Christ” (cf. Gal. 6:2; 1 Cor. 9:21) — rather than “law of Moses.” (Gal. 5:1-4).

### II. The Law Described.

- A. It is “the *perfect* law.”
  - 1. Complete and sufficient. (2 Pet. 1:3; Jude 3; Gal. 1:6-9; Rev. 22:18; 2 John 9-11).
  - 2. Cannot improve:
    - a. Its quality.
    - b. Its contents.
    - c. Its provisions.
- B. It is “the perfect law of *liberty*.”
  - 1. Freedom from “the law.” (Gal. 5:1-3).
  - 2. Freedom from sin.
    - a. Old law could not do this. (Rom. 8:1-3).
    - b. *From* sin, not *to* sin. (Rom. 6:1; Gal. 5:13).
  - 3. Freedom to serve. (Rom. 6:17,18).
- C. It is a *clear* law - a mirror. (Vv. 23-24).

### III. The Law Applied.

- A. It is applied by:
  - 1. Laying aside all filthiness ... (V. 21).
  - 2. Receiving it with meekness — hearing it — looking into it. (V. 21, 25).
  - 3. Not forgetting, but doing it. (Vv. 22-25).
  - 4. Continuing in it. (V. 25).
- B. When applied, it:
  - 1. Begets (KJV); Gives birth (NIV); Brings forth (NKJ); (V. 18).
    - a. By the *implanted* word. (V. 21)
    - b. Corinthians begotten by gospel. (1 Cor. 4:15; cf. Acts 18:8).
    - c. Born again by word — gospel. (1 Pet. 1:23, 25).
  - 2. Saves our souls. (V. 21).
  - 3. Reveals our true condition. (V. 24).

## Conclusion:

- A. Will you receive it today?
- B. Will you obey it today?
- C. Will you continue in it?