

Preacher's Pen points

Guideposts for Faithful Living



The book of James offers some of the most practical teaching in the NT, teaching that will help us live the life of faith. For example in chapter one, James first examines the challenge of temptation, showing us how we should respond to it. Then, he considers the process of salvation, showing us how we may live the righteous life God seeks from us. May I suggest you read the chapter as you consider this list of practical exhortations for dealing with temptation and implementing the pure and undefiled religion of Jesus Christ.

Exhortations from James chapter one!

1. Accept life's tests with joy knowing that they will make you a better person (Jas. 1:2-4).
2. Ask God for wisdom so that you may know how to overcome them (Jas. 1:5-8).
3. Take time to cherish and be thankful for the spiritual blessings you possess, regardless of your physical condition (Jas. 1:9-11).
4. Look to the reward God has promised to those who endure (Jas. 1:12).

5. Don't blame God when you are tempted and fail; but do thank him for the good gifts He gives and for seeking to save you from your sins (Jas. 1:13-18).
6. Be quick to hear what God says, slow to talk back, and slow to get angry when you don't agree (Jas. 1:19).
7. Instead of resisting the truth, put away evil, and receive with meekness the implanted word (Jas. 1:21).
8. Don't just be a hearer of the word; be a doer of the work God commands (Jas. 1:22-25)

As we apply these practical exhortations, we will practice "pure and undefiled religion", being "unspotted by the world" (Jas. 1:27). Let's pray about it, and then let's live it!

—Johnny Felker (www.truthchasers.com)

But one who looks intently at the perfect law, the law of liberty, and abides by it, not having become a forgetful hearer but an effectual doer, this man shall be blessed in what he does. (James 1:25)