



THE WORD *Alive*

The Preaching Ministry of
Ashley River Baptist Church

I heard that..... **James 1:21-25**

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21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. 25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues *in it*, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

I. Be a hearer of the Word

22 “*But be...*” Keep on becoming; A continuous progression
NASB: “*But prove yourselves...*”

To Hear requires the proper:

1 – POSITION: you must intentionally position yourself in a place to be able to hear
2 - POSTURE: You must have an attitude of desire to hear and comprehend

Hearer: One who actively seeks and receives a message with an understanding of its value and significance and with an intent or desire to apply it.

You first must hear it!

Object of hearing

WORD: (logos) a message or teaching; the content of the Gospel message; the full self revelation of God through Jesus Christ; the word of truth; A message of truth, insight and instruction from God to be sought, taught and obeyed.

You must understand the value of the Word and its necessity for your life or you will never desire to hear and apply it.

v. 21 “*receive...the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.*”

The Word is God’s message for your life and salvation.

II. Be a doer of the Word

22 *But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.*

The Word was never intended to be simply heard, but applied. “*...not hearers only*”

To think otherwise is to deceive ourselves.

Deceive: distort; delude; cheat; to act wrongly based on false reasoning.

Doer: A maker; producer; one who takes action in response and obedience to what he has heard;

To be a Doer of the Word requires:

- 1. Attitude:** Philippians 2:14 “*Do everything without complaining or arguing,*”
- 2. Action:** Matthew 7:21 “*Not everyone who says to me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.*”

III. Receive a blessing from the Word

25 *But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.*

The Word of God is like a mirror revealing us for what we really are in the eyes of God, that we not be deceived.

To stay before that “mirror”, the Word of God, keeps us mindful of our position and purpose and keeps us focused on the work before us that results in blessings. (v.23-24)

The Blessing

God has always intended that His Word not only be heard but obeyed put into practice because it alone is the word of truth, life and salvation.

God’s promise to you is that if you will be about the work to which he has called you in His Word, you will be blessed in the things you do.

May you hear that and DO that!