

Because He (Jesus) Lives

James 1:21-25 (KJV): Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls. ²² But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. ²³ For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: ²⁴ For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was. ²⁵ But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth therein, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

Giving honor to God, Jesus the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Giving honor to the men, women, and children of God. To my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. As we look at today's text of James 1:21-25, I would like to share from the topic "Because He (Jesus) Lives."

In this particular unit of scripture, James shares the importance of getting rid of everything that is wrong in our lives, both inside and outside, and encourages us to be happy about the wonderful message we have received, because it (The message of the Cross) is able to save our souls as it takes hold of our hearts. He reminds us that the message has a purpose, and that purpose is for us to obey the Word, not to simply hear it or read it. While reading and hearing are good, we must implement the Word in our lives and become a doer of the Word. My brothers and sisters, if a person just listens and doesn't obey, he is like a man looking at his face in a mirror; as soon as he walks away, he can't see himself anymore or remember what he looks like. James shares wise counsel with us all by encouraging us not to just listen to the Word, but to do exactly what the Word says to do. If one reads the Word, but fails to obey it, that individual is only fooling themselves. But if anyone keeps looking steadily into God's law for free men, he will not only

remember it, but he will do what it says, and God will greatly bless him in everything he does. (John 1:23-25 TLB). This message of the Cross is a living word.

Jesus Christ is the Word that became flesh. John 1:14 states that the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth. The blessing it to spend some quality time meditating on the Word of God, and walking with the Lord (living the life), then you will find autonomy. Yes, you will find freedom and peace that the world can't give you and the world surely can't take away. Isaiah 26:3, teach us that "Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee."

Do you want to be Jesus' disciple? If your answer is yes, be a worshipper of God. The message of the Cross consists of power, love, prophecy, and an empty grave. This means that we serve a living God... a living savior... who has blessed us with His Holy Spirit. My brothers and sisters, hold fast to the teachings of the Lord by strengthening your prayer life and reading the bible daily. Your spiritual eyes will be opened, and you will know the truth. Yes, my brothers and sisters, you will know the truth, and the truth shall set you free (John 8:31-32). Just knowing the truth will not set you free. You must make sure that your heart is fixed, and your mind is surely made up to trust the Lord Jesus Christ.

In closing, you must be a Doer of the Word. Hallelujah to the Lamb of God. Trust and believe that God sent His son. They called Him Jesus. He came to

love, heal, and forgive. He bled and died, to buy our pardon. An empty grave is there to prove our Savior lives. *And because He lives, I can face tomorrow.* Because He lives, all fear is gone. Because I know, He holds the future, and life is worth the living just because He lives. Be a Doer of the Word in Jesus name. Blessings and Favor, Amen.