Living My Blessed Life

James 1:21c-25

Sermon Outline

A. Water Where you are Planted (vs. 21c):

1. **Humility, Gentleness** – They are to accept the Word of God with patient submission, not seeking revenge against anyone because they do not contend with what God is directing them to do.
2. **Receive the Word** – They are commanded to once and for all to be deliberate in taking a hold of the Word of God.
3. **Implanted** – At the point of salvation the Word of God becomes permanently rooted in the believer’s heart.
4. **Able** – The Word continuously has the power and ability, by itself, to deliver a believer from every form of bondage.
5. **Save** – The Word of God delivers believers, through the Holy Spirit, from the bondage of sin.
6. **Able to save** – The Word of God can be light to us in perplexing moments.
7. **Able to save** – The Word of God can provide us strength when we are weak.
8. **Able to save** – The Word of God can provide us hope when we are hopeless.
9. **Soul** - The Word of God has the ability to deliver us from deep feelings of sorrow, distress or intense pain.

B. Be a Doer (vs. 22-24):

1. **Prove yourselves** – Being a doer is to be assertive; takes initiative.
2. **Prove yourselves** – James commands the believers to bring into existence what they received at the point of salvation; the implanted Word of God provided to them when the Holy Spirit was deposited in them.
3. **Doers of the Word** – The focus of having the Word implanted in them is for them to do what is required of them.
4. **Not merely hearers** – They must not allow themselves to simply be those who relegate themselves to just listening to the Word of God.
5. **Deceive** – To choose to be a listener rather than focus on experiencing the power of the Word of God is to mislead oneself or cause oneself to reason incorrectly.
6. **Is a hearer** – This is a believer who endlessly just listens to God’s Word with no intent of doing anything.
7. **Not a doer** - This person purposefully focuses their attention on not doing what is required.

8. **Is like a man** – This person continuously has the disposition of truly not having any intention of doing what they have heard.

9. **Looks at his natural face** – A person who is just a listener continuously carefully and thoroughly examine their face in a mirror meaning while listening they came to a full understanding of what they heard.

10. **Once he has looked** – This is a listener who once and for all has a complete clear understanding of all that was said.

11. **Gone away** – The example is the person leaves the mirror with no intent of addressing anything they saw. When the listener leaves they are completely set on leaving with no intention of doing anything they heard.

12. **Forgotten** – The example is the person does not even remember or neglects to recall anything they saw in the mirror. Once the listener is gone the willfully neglect to make no use of what they heard.

13. **A hearer not a doer** – When a person listens carefully but does nothing the Word affects no change.

14. **A hearer not a doer** – The Word is of no benefit to a careful meticulous listener.

15. **What kind of person he was** – The person who saw themselves in the mirror perpetually is not concerned with what he saw in the mirror.

16. **What kind of person he was** – Listening with no intent on being a doer exposes the believer to the negative effects of a carnal Christian.

**C. Live Blessed (vs. 25):**

1. **Who look intently** – This is to make considerable effort to learn (like someone bending forward) the ‘perfect law’ of God.

2. **Who look intently** – We need to have a heart that values God’s Word.

3. **Who look intently** – Our high value for God’s Word must lead us to examine it for life.

4. **The perfect law** – **Adjective, accusative, singular, masculine | predicative, adjective/ Noun, accusative, singular, masculine | preposition object** – This means the complete divine law of God as written by Moses in the Pentateuch.
5. **The perfect law** – God’s Word lacks nothing.

6. **The law of liberty** – This is the law without the 300 hundred additional laws given by the elders which was enforced by the Pharisees. These additional laws is connected to the reason Paul persecuted them.

7. **The law of liberty** – This is the law that does not enslave them with unnecessary rules and regulations. It eliminates the religious and ceremonial regulations. It is most controlled and directed by the teachings of Jesus Christ.

8. **The law of liberty** – God’s Word is not confining, it is liberating.

9. **Abides** – This believer does not just intently focus on learning the law they commit to remain steadfastly committed to preserving in it (John 15:1-17).

10. **Abides** – No matter the storms of life we must remain committed to trust it.

11. **Not having become** – They determine once and for all to not develop the disposition of a hearer.

12. **Forgetful hearer** - A forgetful hearer is someone who willfully gives no attention to do anything they took the time to listen to.

13. **But an effectual doer** - Instead of being a forgetful hearer these believes possess a lot of energy focused on living out their faith. This is like a person who heard their boss give orders to clean a house and they put in a lot of effort to make sure the entire house is clean before the stop working.

14. **Will be blessed** – The believer is blessed because their commitment to obey God’s Word leads to the development of the Holy Spirit in them so that they experience spiritual prosperity.

15. **Will be blessed** – A faithful doer of the Word God will make them satisfied because they will experience favor from Him.

16. **Will be blessed** – God’s Word blesses (Psalm 1, 112).

17. **In what he does** – Everything the doer of the Word faithfully does leads to productive results.

18. **In what he does** – Whatever the doer of the Word does he will experience God’s favor (will be given favorable results) and find satisfaction and happiness. This is a process that involves what is taught in 1:2-4 and 2:14-26 (this is probably why the word ‘abide’ is used).
19. **In what he does** – The believer who is a doer will experience powerful inner strength to endure the difficulties of life while experiencing favorable circumstances from God.

20. **In what he does** – When God’s Word directs our lives we are guaranteed success (Joshua 1:5-9).

21. **In what he does** – A spiritually maturing believer lives a powerful life (Romans 8:28, 37).