

“New Life Should Look Beautiful!”
Overview of the Letter of James
April 3, 2005 Pastor Harry Skeele

Introduction:

If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. 1:26

He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created. 1:18

I. New birth from God won't deliver me from . (1:13-18)

Perseverance must finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything. 1:4

When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each one is tempted when, by his own evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is fullgrown, gives birth to death. Don't be deceived, my dear brothers. 1:13-15

II. New birth introduces me to a long, slow process of . (1:20-25)

Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like a man who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But the man who looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues to do this, not forgetting what he has heard, but doing it—he will be blessed in what he does. 1:23-25

III. New birth requires new in at least three areas. (1:26,27)

If anyone considers himself religious and yet does not keep a tight rein on his tongue, he deceives himself and his religion is worthless. Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. 1:26,27

3 areas:

1. Our _____
2. Personal _____ prevention, and
3. The way we treat _____, especially those who need _____.

Conclusion: