

James 1:16-27 "Don't Swallow the Lie"

Calvary Chapel Titusville 11/2/25

Pastor Paul Andris

Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. (James 1:16 NKJV)

The enemy's strategy is not to bludgeon you with heresy but to nudge you off center.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. (1 Peter 5:8 NKJV)

How we confront lies.

casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ, (2 Corinthians 10:5 NKJV)

The Christian life requires discernment: turn up the truth, turn down the lies.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning. (James 1:17 NKJV)

God doesn't move off His character. He's the same. Always.

"If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons... Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful; nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it." (Hebrews 12:7, 11)

The Father who never changes is still good when the plan is pruning.

Gratitude is not denial; it's defiance against deception.

Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures. (James 1:18 NKJV)

What grace starts, grace sustains.

The question is not the strength of your resolve but the certainty of His promise.

So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God. (James 1:19-20 NKJV)

Proverbs sings the same tune:

In the multitude of words sin is not lacking, But he who restrains his lips [is] wise. (Proverbs 10:19 NKJV) He who has knowledge spares his words, [And] a man of understanding is of a calm spirit. (Proverbs 17:27 NKJV) A soft answer turns away wrath, But a harsh word stirs up anger. (Proverbs 15:1 NKJV)

If your online presence produces adrenaline but not the aroma of Christ, James says it's not righteousness, it's just rage.

Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls. (James 1:21 NKJV)

Gospel change isn't behavior management; it's a Spirit-led wardrobe exchange.

Then Jesus said to those Jews who believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. "And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." (John 8:31-32 NKJV)

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. (James 1:22 NKJV)

Hearing without doing is another form of deception.

"Therefore whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock. "But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: "and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall." (Matthew 7:24-27 NKJV)

James 1:16-27 “Don’t Swallow the Lie”

Calvary Chapel Titusville 11/2/25

Pastor Paul Andris

Do not let hearing become a hobby instead of a highway of transformation.

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; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. (James 1:23-24 NKJV)

The Word is a mirror—it shows you what’s real.

Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will be made to stumble because of Me this night, for it is written: 'I will strike the Shepherd, And the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' (Matthew 26:31 NKJV)

When Scripture reveals pride, fear, lust, or bitterness, don’t argue with the mirror.

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. (James 1:25 NKJV)

God’s commands are not bars on a prison; they are rails on a track.

Obedience is not a New Year’s resolution; it’s daily reliance.

If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one’s religion [is] useless. (James 1:26 NKJV)

James goes after our most public muscle: the tongue.

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, [and] to keep oneself unspotted from the world. (James 1:27 NKJV)

Real devotion has two rails: mercy and purity.

Mercy.

Learn to do good; Seek justice, Rebuke the oppressor; Defend the fatherless, Plead for the widow. (Isaiah 1:17 NKJV)

Micha:

He has shown you, O man, what [is] good; And what does the LORD require of you But to do justly, To love mercy, And to walk humbly with your God? (Micah 6:8 NKJV)

Purity.

Separation is not isolation. Jesus was in the world, not of it. Holiness isn’t a bunker; it’s a lighthouse.

If your Christianity never touches the vulnerable, James says it’s missing half its heartbeat.

If your compassion costs your consecration, it’s not Christlike either.

Remember the Father’s generosity.

Rest in His initiating grace.

Reset your speed—ears fast, words slow, temper slower.

Repent by laying aside and receiving.

Respond with obedience.

Restrain your tongue.

Reach the vulnerable and remain unspotted.

This is not moralism; it’s the music of mercy.