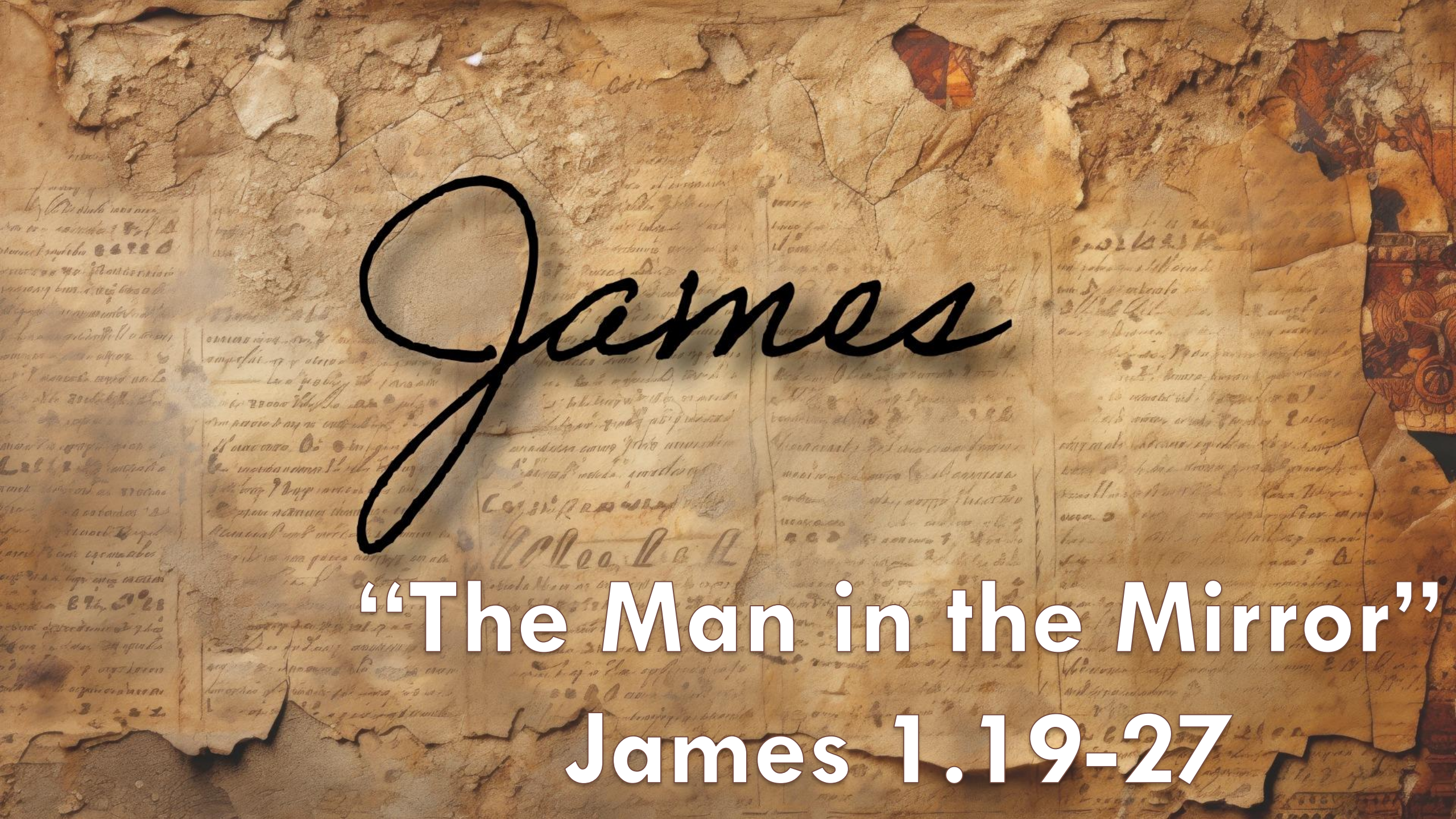




James

“The Man in the Mirror”
James 1.19-27



**WHAT'S WRONG
WITH THE WORLD?**



In one sense, and that the eternal sense, the thing is plain. The answer to the question “What is Wrong?” is, or should be,

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*Until a man can give that answer
his idealism is only a hobby.*

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**WHAT'S WRONG
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*I'm starting with the man in the mirror
I'm asking him to change his ways
And no message could have been any clearer
If you wanna make the world a better place
Take a look at yourself and then make a change*

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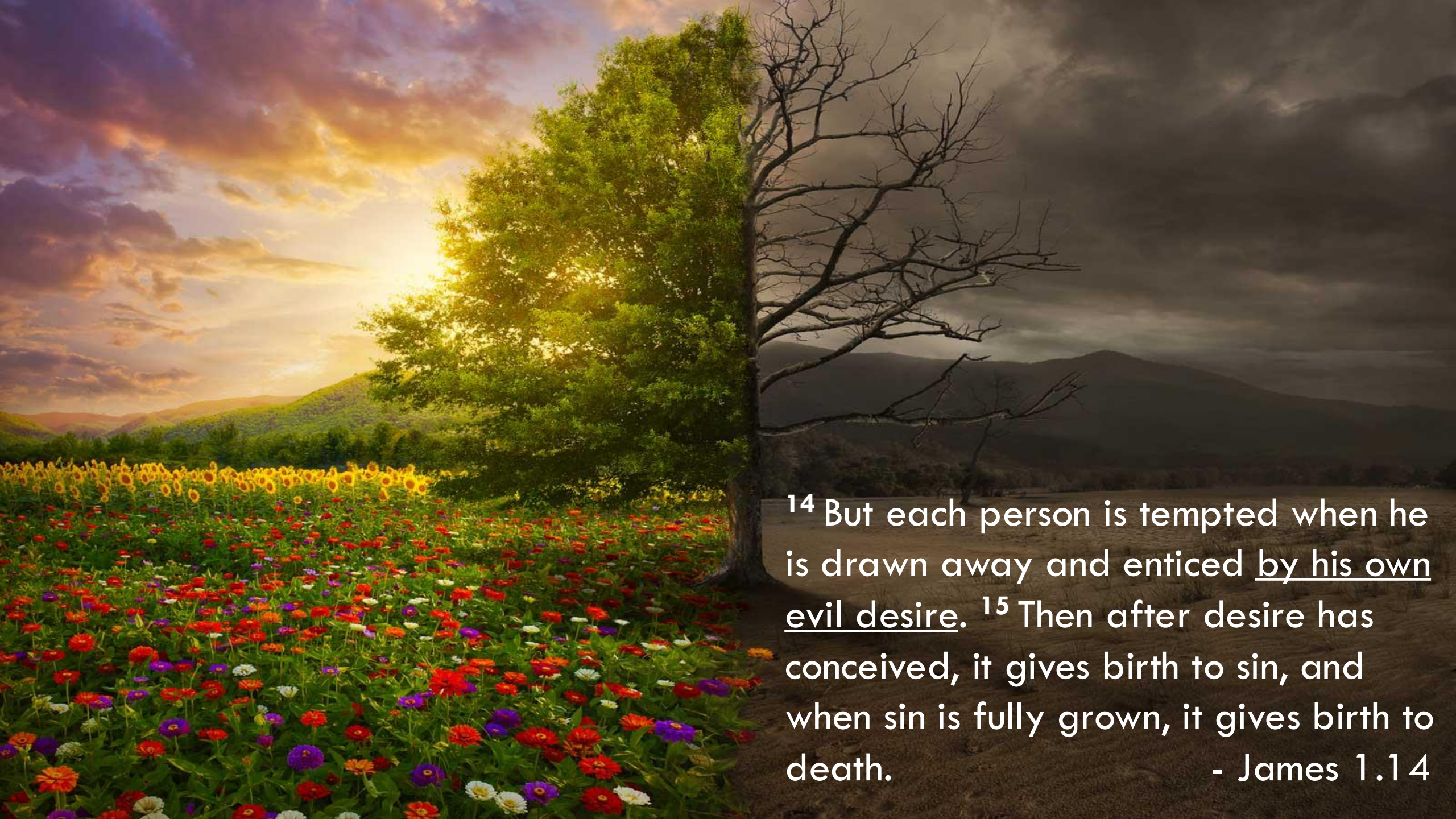


*The line separating good and evil
passes not through states, nor between
classes, nor between political parties
either—*

*but right through every human heart—
and through all human hearts.*

- Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn

**WHAT'S WRONG
WITH THE WORLD?**



¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is drawn away and enticed by his own evil desire. ¹⁵ Then after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin, and when sin is fully grown, it gives birth to death.

- James 1.14



By his own choice,
he gave us birth by
the word of truth so
that we would be a
kind of firstfruits of
his creatures.

James 1.18



What we believe the
problem to be
will determine what
solution we seek

**WHAT'S WRONG
WITH THE WORLD?**



Goal of Christian life:
grow into the image of Jesus
James 1.5



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Outward factors for growth
Things done to us (trials)
James 1.1-18



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Outward factors for growth
Things done to us (trials)
James 1.1-18

Inward factors for growth
Things we do
(hearing & doing God's Word)
James 1.19-27

1. Look to the Book (James 1.19-25)

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 - "righteousness" = right relationship



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 - "Therefore" (do this instead)
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 - I can't.
 - He can.
 - Let Him!



1. Look to the Book (James 1.19-25)

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- Total salvation: saved from disease of sin & death, brought into state of wholeness before God
 - Past: saved from sin's penalty
 - Future: saved from sin's presence
 - Present: saved from sin's power





1. Look to the Book (James 1.19-25)

- A) Quickly listen to God's Word (vs 19-20)
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- C) Continually do God's Word (vs 22-26)

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- Vs 22-24

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- Vs 22-24



1. Look to the Book (James 1.19-25)

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- C) Continually do God's Word (vs 22-26)
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- Vs 25
- "law of freedom"
= all of God's Word!



Why is it the “perfect law of freedom?”



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It perfectly expresses God's nature

Why is it the “perfect law of freedom?”



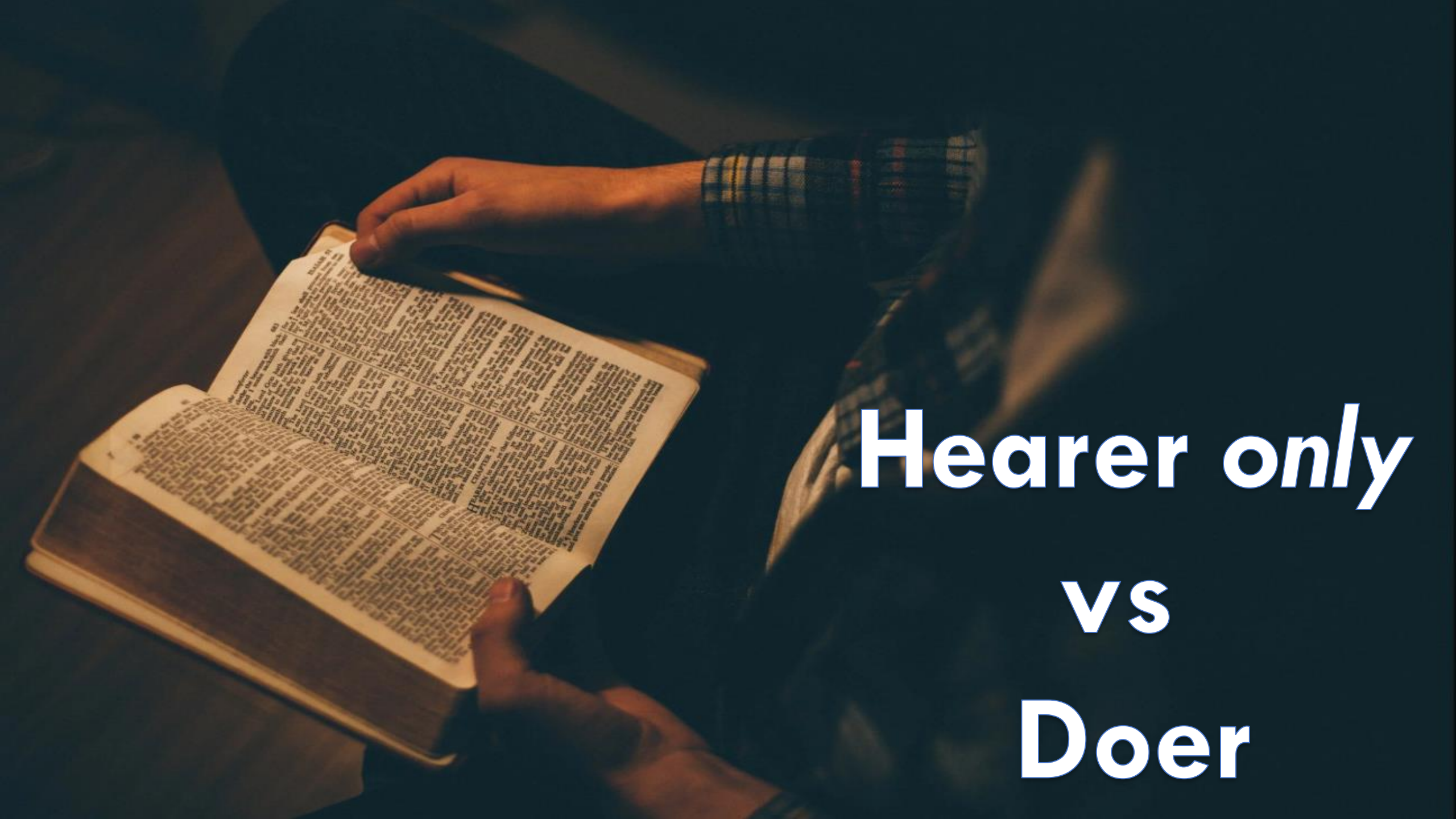
It perfectly expresses God's nature
It perfectly matches our nature

Why is it the “perfect law of freedom?”



True freedom:

The opportunity and ability to give expression
to who God has created us to be

A person is shown from the chest down, sitting and reading an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The room is dimly lit, with a warm, orange glow from a light source, possibly a lamp, illuminating the person's hands and the pages of the Bible. The background is dark and out of focus.

Hearer *only*

vs

Doer

be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger (vs 19)



Hearer *only*

vs

Doer

2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

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- How do we “do” God’s Word?

2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- How do we “do” God’s Word?
- How do we know what it means to live right?

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2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Vs 27 “God the Father”

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- Vs 27 “God the Father”
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 - ...we are called to grow... (vs 19-25)

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- Vs 27 “God the Father”
 - Birthed by the Father’s word... (vs 18)
 - ...we are called to grow... (vs 19-25)
 - ...into the image of our Father! (vs 26-27)

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- Vs 27 “God the Father”
 - Birthed by the Father’s word... (vs 18)
 - ...we are called to grow... (vs 19-25)
 - ...into the image of our Father! (vs 26-27)
- Like Father, like child



2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Outline of Book of James



2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Outline of Book of James
- Three truths about our Father:



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 - 1) Cares for the helpless (1.18a)
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 - 3) Purpose is holiness (1.18c)
- Three marks of his children:
 - 1) Controlled tongue (1.26)



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- Three topics of the letter:

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- Outline of Book of James

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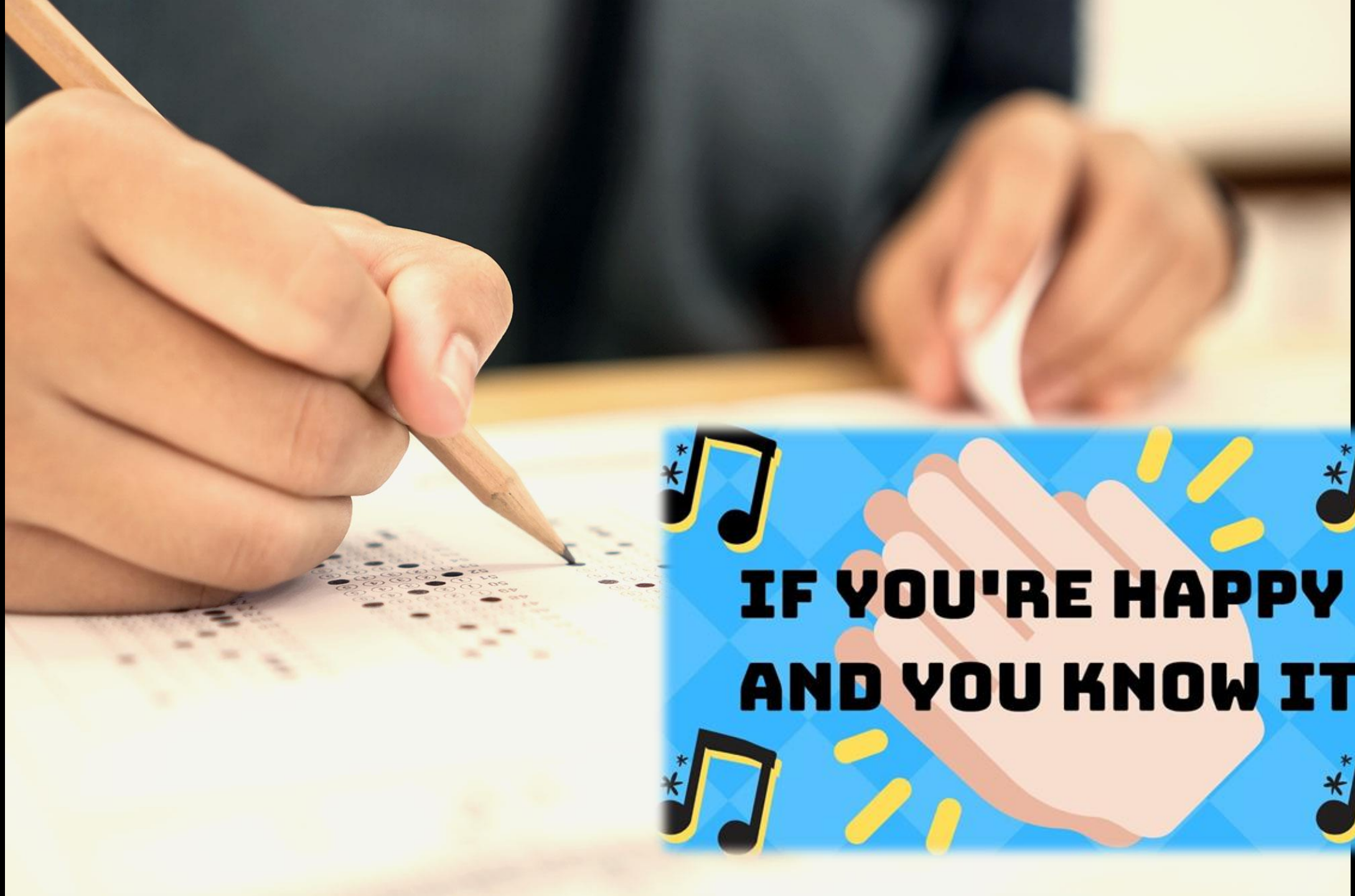
- Vs 26-27 right living = “true religion”

2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Vs 26-27 right living = “true religion”
 - Religion: outward display of the life of God rooted in our heart, shaping our life







**IF YOU'RE HAPPY
AND YOU KNOW IT**

2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Self-examination: do I look like my beloved Father?



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- 1) God speaks what is good (vs 26)



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 - *Do I have control of my tongue?*
 - *Do I speak with patience?*
 - *Do I stop and say: is that kind, true and necessary?*
 - *Do I speak words to encourage others, to build them up? Or tear them down and build myself up?*



2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Self-examination: do I look like my beloved Father?
- 2) God is love (vs 27a)



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 - *Do I care for the most vulnerable people around me? Or do I just make excuses for why I don't?*



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 - Psalm 68.5 God in his holy dwelling is a father of the fatherless and a champion of widows.
 - *Do I care for the most vulnerable people around me? Or do I just make excuses for why I don't?*
 - *Am I actively spending time with the defenseless? Listening, helping, having and showing compassion?*



2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Self-examination: do I look like my beloved Father?
- 3) God is holy (vs 27b)



2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Self-examination: do I look like my beloved Father?
- 3) God is holy (vs 27b)
 - 1 Peter 1 ¹⁵ But as the one who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct; ¹⁶ for it is written, **Be holy, because I am holy.**



2. Look Like Our Father (vs 26-27)

- Self-examination: do I look like my beloved Father?
- 3) God is holy (vs 27b)
 - 1 Peter 1 ¹⁵ But as the one who called you is holy, you also are to be holy in all your conduct; ¹⁶ for it is written, **Be holy, because I am holy.**
 - *What stains in my life am I hiding from God or others?*



Is this working for our salvation??

Is this working for our salvation??



Is this working for our salvation??



If the life of God is in me, to remain unchanged is unthinkable.

Is this working for our salvation??



If the life of God is in me, to remain unchanged is unthinkable.



The problem with
the world is ME.

**WHAT'S WRONG
WITH THE WORLD?**



**The problem with
the world is ME.**

**The solution for the
world must be
JESUS.**

**WHAT'S WRONG
WITH THE WORLD?**

Jesus saved us from sin's penalty.

Jesus saved us from sin's penalty.



Jesus is saving us from sin's power.

Jesus is saving us from sin's power.



Jesus is saving us from sin's power.



¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸ We all, with unveiled faces, are looking as in a mirror at the glory of the Lord and are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory; this is from the Lord who is the Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3

Jesus will save us from sin's presence.

Jesus will save us from sin's presence.

He shall return in robes of white,

Jesus will save us from sin's presence.

*He shall return in robes of white,
the blazing sun shall pierce the night,*

Jesus will save us from sin's presence.

*He shall return in robes of white,
the blazing sun shall pierce the night,
and I will rise among the saints,*

Jesus will save us from sin's presence.

*He shall return in robes of white,
the blazing sun shall pierce the night,
and I will rise among the saints,
my gaze transfixed on Jesus' face*