



Sunday, March 21, 2010: Epistle of James - "The Law of Liberty"

Scripture: James 1:19-27

Speaker: Joe Boot

Sermon Notes:

1. By His Word God has brought us forth for the purpose of bearing fruit.
2. Today in James we come to the application of the Word.
3. Humility is not personality, it's about Godly character: willingly submitting to the Word of God.
4. Ceaseless, controversial talk is not conducive to the transmission of God's truth.
5. The anger of man doesn't bring about the righteousness of God.
6. We must shun moral shabbiness: idle talk, gossip, lewdness.
7. Knowledge leads only to pride and controversy, if it's not coupled with consistent application in our lives.
8. There's nothing worse than bringing shame to the name of Christ by our moral hypocrisy.
9. James says we cannot abstract the faith; instead we must be doers of the Word.
10. Our theology is to be applied practically. What we know must affect how we live.
11. Persevering in obeying the perfect law of liberty brings us blessing.
12. James sees the law of God as being perfect and bringing liberty.
13. One use of the law is the civil use in 1 Timothy 1:8-11.
14. If we don't like the law of God we probably haven't properly appreciated the character and nature of the gospel.
15. If we understand the gospel rightly, it sets us free from the curse of the law.
16. The redemption in Christ changes us to desire obedience to God.
17. Jesus pointed people to the law as the way of life; but we can't obey it without the redemptive power of Christ's work.

18. In Matthew 5:17-19, Jesus confirms that he hasn't come to abolish the law and prophets.
19. Salvation was by faith in Christ during all redemptive history.
20. Jesus says our worship is vain if we teach man's rules instead of the commandments of God (Mark 7:7).
21. Doing religious acts is useless if you fail to control your tongue.
22. Our faith is expressed by concern for the righteousness of God.
23. If we're not concerned with matters of biblical charity, our doctrinal integrity is in question.
24. In keeping of His commands there is great reward. (Ps. 19:11)

Application Questions:

1. Is my demeanour angry and hostile when I'm talking of the faith? How does my conversation with others need to improve?
2. Do I engage in idle reporting of something evil (negative) about others?
3. Do I need to repent of idle talk, lewd behaviour, or pornography?
4. Would Christ's name be honoured, if the moral secrets of my life were exposed in public?
5. How does scripture describe the effect of God's law in the believer's life? See Psalm 1; Psalm 19:7-8; Psalm 119:1-12.
6. How does the new covenant help the believer's obedience according to Hebrews 8:6-13 and Jeremiah 31:29-34?
7. Is my religious devotion to God negated by unrighteous speech habits?