

JAMES

October 25, 2020

James 1:26-27

READ

James 1:26-27

QUESTIONS for REFLECTION

1. What comes to mind when you hear the word “religion”?

Discuss what sets the Christian “religion” apart from the other religions of the world.

2. What is the first characteristic of worthwhile religion (v. 26)?

Identify two consequences if a person does *not* do this.

3. Why is the tongue in need of this attention?

- Proverbs 18:21
- Proverbs 10:19
- Proverbs 15:4
- Mark 7:20, 23
- Proverbs 21:23

4. Bridling the tongue is a metaphor for what kind of control (James 3:2)?

5. What is the second characteristic of worthwhile religion (v. 27a)?

6. In what two ways might a child in the find itself an orphan in the Roman Empire?

To which prevalent practice today does at least one of these correspond? Discuss the

response of the church.

7. Discuss how the early church cared for widows (Acts 6:1-6)? (How did this care go beyond simply providing meals?)
8. What is God's relationship to orphans & widows (c.f., Psalm 68:5; Psalm 82:3)?
9. What is the third characteristic of worthwhile religion (v. 27b)?
10. What does James mean by his use of the word "world" (27b)? To what is he referring?

Whose domain is this world (John 14:30)? What does that mean or look like? (How does the sovereignty of God fit into this reality?)

11. Trace the slippery slope of the world—
 - James 4:4
 - 1 John 2:15
 - Romans 12:2
 - 1 Corinthians 11:32
12. Discuss how you can keep yourself from being stained by the world. What do you do when stains do appear?

PERSONAL RESPONSE

1. I will control my conversation this week by . . .
2. I will express my compassion this week by . . .
3. I will check my conduct this week by . . .