

# Slow To Wrath

## James #2

**TEXT: James 1:19-27**

### INTRODUCTION:

- A. THE INTENT OF THE WORD IS TO EFFECT OUR BEHAVIOR.
- B. IN OUR TEXT JAMES DIRECTS US AWAY FROM THE TEMPTATION WE HAVE TO UNCONTROLLED ANGER.
- In **vs. 19-20** we find a trio of commands: a. "swift to hear" b. "slow to speak" c. "slow to wrath."
  - This is seen in connection of his description of pure religion (**vs. 26-27**).
  - These admonitions are given in regards to our reception of the Word (**vs. 18, 21**).
- C. WE NEED TO HUMBLY BE RECEPTIVE TO WHAT THE WORD OF GOD SAYS.
- I. THE WRATH OF MAN (vs. 19-20).**
- A. **ANGER, WRATH**, *orge*, originally any "natural impulse, or desire, or disposition," came to signify "anger," as the strongest of all passions. (Vine's).
- B. THE O T (**Pro. 14:17; 14:29; 15:18; 16:32; 19:19**)
- C. THE N T ALSO SAYS MUCH AGAINST ANGER AND WRATH (**Rom. 12:19**)
- It is included with the "works of the flesh" in **Gal. 5:19-21**.
  - To the Ephesians Paul writes (**Eph. 4:31**), and the Colossians (**Col. 3:8**).
- D. THERE IS A PLACE FOR ANGER (**Eph. 4:26**).
- parorgismos*, "indignation, exasperation, wrath" (Thayer)
- Jesus was angry (**John 2:13-17; Matt. 23:13-36**).
  - God is a God of anger as well as of love (**Psa. 78:49-51; vs. 58-61; Rom. 1:18**).
- E. IN OUR ANGER WE MUST REFRAIN FROM SIN (**Eph. 4:26**).
- Our anger must have just cause (**Matt. 5:22; 7:1-4**).
  - It must be restrained (**1 Cor. 9:25**) ... "slow to wrath..." (**Jas. 1:19**).
  - It must not produce sinful behavior (**Phil. 2:3; Rom. 12:19, 21**).
  - It must not be allowed to fester (**Eph. 4:26-27**).
- F. MAN'S ANGER FRUSTRATES GOD'S PURPOSE IN US (**James 1:20**).
- God's desire is that we should be at peace (**Rom. 12:18**).
  - We are to imitate Jesus and "walk in love" (**Eph. 5:1-2**).
- II. THE IMPLANTED WORD (vs. 21-25).**
- A. FOR THE SALVATION OF OUR SOULS (**vs. 21**).
- God's power to save is **in the message (Rom. 1:16-17)**. "...**therein is revealed** ..."
  - God's plan (**1 Cor. 1:21**). "... **foolishness of preaching** ..."
  - A **revelation of God's will** for us (**2 Tim. 3:16-17**).
- B. RECEIVE WITH MEEKNESS (**vs. 21**).
- There are things we must lay aside (**vs. 21a**).
  - Meekness involves humbling oneself to obey (**Phil. 2:5-8**).
- C. **BE YE DOERS OF THE WORD (vs. 22)**.
- The **purpose** of the law is **to do (Matt. 7:21, 24-27)**.
  - It is delusion to think the word is beneficial without obedience (**vs. 22; Rom. 2:13**).
  - Useless to look into a mirror if image is not recalled (**James 1:23-25**).
  - The perfect law (**2 Tim. 3:16-17**), of LIBERTY (**John 8:32**).
- III. PURE RELIGION (vs. 26-27).**

- A. APPLICATION HAS TO BE MADE (**vs. 26**)
  - 1. Goes back to **verses 19-20**.
  - 2. Exhort and reprove with all authority (**Titus 2:15**).
- B. **RELIGION** - the adjective here refers to a zealous and diligent performance of religious services (**Vincent's Word Studies**).
  - 1. To be pure, it must contrast with mere outward form (**Matt. 15:8-9**).
  - 2. Pure religion cannot be practiced by those who participated in sin.
- C. OUR RELIGIOUS SERVICE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY DOING GOOD (**Heb. 13:15-16**).
  - 1. Our text says to visit the fatherless and widows.
  - 2. Paul says "all men" (**Gal. 6:10**).
- D. WE MUST REMAIN UNSPOTTED FROM THE WORLD (**vs. 27**).
  - 1. Worldly aspirations must not crowd out the heavenly (**1 John 2:15**).
  - 2. We are not to follow the trends that pertain to the world (**Rom. 12:2**).
  - 3. Worldly lusts war against the soul (**1 Pet. 2:11-12; 2 Cor. 7:1**).

### **CONCLUSION:**

- A. GOD HAS CERTAIN EXPECTATIONS OF US IN OUR RELIGION.
- B. THOSE EXPECTATIONS ARE REVEALED IN THE BIBLE.
- C. WE NEED TO ACT UPON THEM – LIVE CONSISTENTLY WITH WHAT GOD HAS REVEALED.