



LOVE

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Introduction:

James, the brother of Jesus,
used an EXTREMELY
strong word to describe what
can happen to our religion!
Why, and what does it mean for us?

de·file (dĭ-fīl')

1. To make filthy or dirty; pollute: defile a river with sewage.
2. To debase the pureness or excellence of; corrupt: a country landscape that was defiled by urban sprawl.
3. To profane or sully (a reputation, for example).
4. To make unclean or unfit for ceremonial use; desecrate: defile a temple.

Text: James 1:19-27

My dear brothers and sisters, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, because human anger does not produce the righteousness that God desires.

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Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you.

Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves.

Do what it says.

Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.

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But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it — not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it — they will be blessed in what they do.

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Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is worthless.

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Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

James 1:19-27

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The predominant focus of **EVANGELICALS** has been toward avoiding moral pollution, while often ignoring Biblical teaching about our attitudes toward the less fortunate.

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Our true **CHARACTER** is revealed
by how we act toward the
HELPLESS among us.

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What do we do for those who
can do NOTHING for us?

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We **DEFILE** both ourselves and our
RELIGION when we make our
RELIGION about us rather than
about love for God and others!

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It is difficult to recognize

DEFILEMENT in ourselves when

it is **PERVASIVE** in our

surroundings.

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The only **PURE** motive for our words
and actions is **LOVE!**

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Conclusion:

We live in a time when relationships are troubled.

Could it be that the problem is that we don't truly know how to love?



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