



**LOVE**

UNDEFINED

# 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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