

SUMMER SERMON SERIES 2022

JAMES

FAITH ⊕ ACTION

“Are you really listening to God?” V.19-22

GRACE NORWALK

- **How important is God's word to you?**

- A survey from 2021 found that **11 percent of Americans read the Bible daily**. (98% of Americans claim to be Christians)
Trends in reading habits over four years showed that the majority of Americans never read the Bible.

- Christianity Today

Report: 26 million Americans Stopped Reading the Bible Regularly During COVID-19

- **How important is God's word to you?**

- **Bible readership demographics**

Bible readership varies across each demographic, with **Millennials most likely to have never read the Bible**, whereas the most frequent readers were those aged over 70 years old.

- *Changes in attitudes have not been drastic, but rather it seems that disengagement with the Christian scripture has been a gradual process.*

- 16 **Do not be deceived** my beloved brethren.
- 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

- 18 Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of first fruits of His creatures.

James 1:19-20

- 19 Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to wrath.
- 20 for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.
- 21 Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.
- 22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

James reveals three attitudes that are necessary for believers to rightly receive God's word

I. Be quick to hear the truth from God's Word.

V.19a Therefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be quick to listen

- Quick= tachy - means
- A very brief period of time, with focus on speed of an activity or an event."
(Listen)
- It carries with it a sense of urgency in both time and speed

- **Proverbs 18:13**

- ***13 It is foolish and shameful to respond before listening.***

James reveals three attitudes that are necessary for believers to rightly receive God's word

I. Be quick to hear the truth from God's Word.

• Why should we be quick to hear God's Word?

1. As they were experiencing trials, is the Word of God that will give them comfort.

Psalm 119

49 Remember the word to Your servant, Upon which You have caused me to hope.

50 This *is* my comfort in my affliction, For Your word has given me life.

James reveals three attitudes that are necessary for believers to rightly receive God's word

I. Be quick to hear the truth from God's Word.

- Why should we be quick to hear God's Word?

1. As they were experiencing trials, is the Word of God that will give them comfort.

Psalm 119

- *O may Your lovingkindness comfort me, According to Your word to Your servant.*

James reveals three attitudes that are necessary for believers to rightly receive God's word

1. Be quick to hear the truth from God's Word.

2. As they were experiencing temptations, the Word of God will give them strength to say no!!

How did Jesus resist temptation?

James reveals three attitudes that are necessary for believers to rightly receive God's word

I. Be quick to hear the truth from God's Word.

3. As they have been deceived, the Word of God guide them to the truth.

- *¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren....*
- *¹⁹ let every man be quick to listen....*

James reveals three attitudes that are necessary for believers to rightly receive God's word

- II. Be Slow to speak your own opinion before learning God's Word

let every man be:

- quick to listen, slow to speak,
- Humbleness, wisdom...
- Proverbs 17:27-28 ESV
- *27 Whoever restrains his words has knowledge, and he who has a cool spirit is a man of understanding.*
28 Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent.

James reveals three attitudes that are necessary for believers to rightly receive God's word

- III. Be Slow to anger when the Bible calls you out

- let every man be:

- quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to wrath.

- Why?

²⁰ for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.

James reveals three attitudes that are necessary for believers to rightly receive God's word

- III. Be Slow to anger when the Bible calls you out
 - V.19. Be quick to hear His word, understand it and applied it:
 - His word will help you endure the trial...
 - His word will help you resist temptation...
 - His word will make you a productive Christian, you will add value to others...

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