

“Regarding a Biblical Worldview”

James 1:9-18

“Living Out What Lies Within” – A Message Series in James

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Merriam-Webster’s definition of a worldview: A comprehensive perception of the world especially from a framework of philosophy. Put in the simplest terms, a worldview is how one sees life and the world at large.

- There are present and future consequences to aspects of the worldview that we embrace.

A critical component to following Jesus (Jn 10:10; 14:6) is that of developing a _____ worldview.

This morning, we’ll look at a Biblical worldview regarding four aspects of life:

- **Area #1:** Temporal _____ (Js 1:9-11)
 - Let the poor say, “I am rich”. Why? *Poverty = dependence on God* (Lk 1:48; Isa 61:1; 2 Cor 12)
 - Let the rich say, “I am poor”. Why? *Cultivate poverty of spirit* (Mk 10; Mt 5:3; 13:22; Rev 3:17)
- **Area #2:** The blessing of _____ (Js 1:12)
 - Perseverance, fortitude, toughing it out brings to pass the prophetic utterance, “BLESSED”!
 - This “crown of life” (1 Cor 9:24-27) is not absolute glory / honor here on earth, but in eternity.
- **Area #3:** Regarding _____ (Js 1:13-15)
 - God does not tempt. He’s not your enemy (Jn 10:10). He loves you! (Jn 3:16, 2 Tim 3:16)
 - Verse 14: “Enticed” is *deleazo* (“del-ee-AHH-hoe”) meaning to use bait to catch someone.
- **Area #4:** God is _____ (Js 1:16-18)
 - Questioning God’s goodness is an epidemic. The early Christians could relate (Ac 8).
 - We are encouraged in verse 16 not to be deceived!

Why should we not be deceived? Four quick reasons:

1. All that is good comes from God (v 17a; Psa 18:30)
2. Our Gift-Giver is the Father of all creation (v 17b; Gen 1:31)
3. His goodness never changes (v 17c; Mal 3:6)
4. His goodness is seen in our salvation (v 18; 1 Pet 1:23)

Kingdom Assignment: Spend some time reflecting on the worldview that comprises your life. Are there any facets of your worldview that contradict the Word of God? In following Jesus, would you be open to your worldview evolving to more accurately reflect Biblical wisdom? _____