



## **LESSON TWO: Genuine Religion** (James 1:12-27)

SUNDAY EVENING MESSAGE  
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Introduction: Christians should appreciate the practical nature of the book of James. The writer uses common sense words, illustrations, and teaching. I believe that his intention is to show that God desires us to live genuine Christian lives. With each section of Scripture we dissect, we will consider another valuable truth from the brother of Jesus, and learn how to grow in our faith. In this lesson, we will focus on genuine religion. Let's study together. . . .

Discussion:

- I. Christians Find Blessings In Their Temptations (vs.12-15)**
  - A. Temptation is par for the course.
  - B. Enduring temptation leads to God's approval.
  - C. Blaming God for temptation is a foolish practice.
  
- II. Christians Find Gifts In Their Obedience (vs.16-18)**
  - A. Deception can hinder our awareness.
  - B. God is the giver of great gifts.
  - C. God is revealing His will to mankind.
  
- III. Christians Find Righteousness In Their Perseverance (vs.19-20)**
  - A. Righteousness is seen when we are quick to hear.
  - B. Righteousness is seen when we are slow to speak.
  - C. Righteousness is seen when we are slow to wrath.
  
- IV. Christians Find Salvation In Their Reception (vs.21-25)**
  - A. The implanted word can save your soul.
  - B. Become a doer, not just a hearer, to save your soul.
  - C. Reflection and adjustments can save your soul.
  
- V. Christians Find Purity In Their Hearts (vs.26-27)**
  - A. Vain religion includes poor commitment.
  - B. Pure religion includes a personal commitment.
  - C. Pure religion includes a corporate commitment.

Conclusion: This practicality of this book leads us to see things that are applicable in any age. To live genuine Christian lives we need genuine religion. Will you follow James' advice?

**WORD OF THE DAY = "Religion"**