

True Religion

In Jms 1:26-27, we see the word religion spoken of twice. Verse 26 — The word *religio* translated into English means whoever is truly linked to God, reconciled back to Him, finding a place in Him, having fellowship with Him. Verse 27 speaks of undefiled religion, which is who we are as a people.

“If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and yet does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this man’s religion is useless” — because you are not actually doing His will. If you are re-linked to Him then He tells you what He wants you to do and you receive faith to do it. He persuades you to do His will. King Agrippa said this of Paul, “You almost persuaded me to be a despised Christian like you.”

If we are re-linked to Him, in communion with Him, then our whole body is connected to the head. The little finger doesn’t want to do what the thumb does. It won’t do a good job because it isn’t persuaded by the head to act like the thumb. And my head doesn’t want to do what my foot does. And so it is that we all work together in different aspects of the Body of Messiah. 1 Cor 12:12 — There are many parts, but one Body. If you’re re-linked to Him you can judge yourself rightly and help your brother to see rightly, too. If you’re not re-linked you either never were or you’re cut off from the head for some reason and whatever you’re doing is coming from your own initiative.

If you’re re-linked you can help your brother see by our Master’s Spirit, but if you’re cut off you can’t help him and you’ll just blast him because you’re in the flesh, like the world (having an unbridled tongue). To *bridle* means to restrain. When a horse is bridled the rider is in control and the horse lives for the rider and not himself. In order for a horse not to go its own way it has to be bridled, and we also need to bridle our tongue. If we can’t we’re not re-linked to God. If anyone thinks he is, it will be outwardly manifested in what he does. If not, he is deceiving himself. If we are re-linked to Him then He directs our every word and we’re not speaking useless things. Otherwise if we think we’re bridling our tongue, we’re deceiving our own heart.

Jms 1:27 — Pure, undefiled religion is caring for orphans and widows in their time of trouble, living unspotted by the world. But if you are in tune with a worldly spirit (such as with music) then your religion is false. If the Holy Spirit is in control then you will show forth the fruits of the spirit — love, joy, peace, patience, etc. If we’re not then what we do is coming forth from false religion and we are deceiving our own heart.

Our Master said that whoever claims to see but doesn’t see, his guilt remains forever. It would be better to say, “I don’t see.” Otherwise we’ll only tear down and destroy the Edah. “*You’re either for Me or against Me.*” That’s the *religion* He’s talking about. It’s like Jms 3:10 says, “*Out of the same mouth proceed blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.*” Verses 11-12 — “*Does a spring send forth fresh water and bitter from the same opening? Can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs?*” We are like what comes forth out of us. Mt 12:33 — A tree is known by its fruit. You are known by what you say and how you say it, and what you do and how you do it. It’s a person’s glory, the inner worth that comes out of them. This tells whether you are real or unreal. You can’t have that glory in you and then what comes out of your mouth is bad. A person’s inner glory is shown by what he says and does. Christians claim to have true religion and we do, too, in the twelve tribes. They claim to see and they say, “Follow my example. I am connected to God. I have the Holy Spirit.” If any religion doesn’t care for orphans and widows and wage-keepers and is spotted by the world (such as worldly music) it’s not true religion. In verse 34 our Master is talking to the *brood of vipers*, but that is not just the Jews. That can be us, too.

Mt 12:34-35 — “For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. A good man out of the good treasure of his heart brings forth good things, and an evil man out of the evil treasure brings forth evil things.” *What’s in the well comes up in the bucket.* Verse 36 — “...for every idle word men may speak, they will give account of it in the day of judgment.” That doesn’t mean that you can’t have fun and laugh, but there can’t be a destructive way in you that would hurt people. We have to judge ourselves rightly and not ridicule, being careful that what we speak is not coming from an evil spirit, speaking idle words that don’t build up or from knowledge that puffs up.

Men will have to give an account on judgment day for every word that comes out of their mouths that they

didn't confess. Everything that didn't bear good fruit and we didn't confess and no one came to us about it, we're accountable for and we'll have to be judged for it in the next age. We'll either rule ten cities or we'll be cast out where there is the gnashing of teeth. We didn't utilize our time to the fullest extent. By our words we'll be justified or condemned. If we're true sons and truly re-linked to God in true fellowship, then what comes out of us will be a manifestation of His Spirit in us, and our religion will be true religion. There is nothing more we can do to prove that we are true. It's what we say with our mouth and what we do by our hands to build. Then we can say, "Here we are, the Body of Messiah." It is Him living in us, His Body on earth. We will either be justified or condemned. 1 Cor 3:16 — We can either build or destroy the temple. If we destroy we will be destroyed. Jms 3:10-12 — What should come forth from us should be mercy, love, kindness. *Mercy smiles in the face of judgment*" (Jms 2:13).

Ask, Seek, Find

Lk 11:9 and Mt 7:7 — *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.* "Lk 11:13 — He will give us good gifts, but we have to ask for good things, for example, "We need a house, a place for our boat ..." We pray for the things the Holy Spirit puts in our hearts to pray for. He tells us what His will is. We are the Body. He never acts independently from the rest of the Body. And we know that He hears us when we pray because He puts all good things in our hearts to pray for — for the government of this township, for disciples to come in (never what we can come up with alone). Then when we ask for His will to be done on the earth He will convey His heart to us in love and goodness. We never get anything we don't ask for. We might get it, but it's not from Him. He only acts on behalf of those who seek Him, those who keep asking and never quit knocking until He gives them what they ask for.

1 Jn 5:14-15 — Did you ever ask and not know that He hears you? Of course, everyone has. If we know He spoke to us and we ask then He will give it to us because we are not asking for selfish things. 1 Jn 3:22 sums it up — He will answer us if we do these things and if we abide in Him and He in us, as Jn 15:7 says, and we know what we ask is His will. He will do it if we are re-linked to Him — a whole Body — a re-connected growth that comes from Him.

There are lots of religious spirits that deceive people into thinking they are God's spirit. But true religion is unspotted by the world. In the beginning down south the church we were going to closed its doors because everyone was home watching the super-bowl game — except us! They were deceiving themselves (Jms 1:26). If we're re-linked we'll hold fast to the Head. If we can do that we'll grow in leaps and bounds. But if we let a spirit come in and we're not truthful about ourselves, we're deceiving our own heart. We can't come into the holy of holies like this to break bread, where we meet with our Father in worship. Before we come to the breaking of bread we have to judge ourselves rightly. If not, we are deceiving ourselves and we'll suffer the consequences. We'll either be blessed or cursed.

So we need to understand this before we begin breaking of bread here so we can start out right. Plymouth, Massachusetts, is the greatest place on earth to be where there's freedom of religion. We can exercise this freedom that was started over 300 years ago. Today in other countries like England people are free to be re-linked to any spirit they want to be linked to. That's why there are so many divisions. We can be connected to the right spirit if we seek for Him.

Keli — At least we're in a place here where we have a chance to be re-linked to God.

2 Cor 11:14-15 — People don't realize that fallen angels masquerade as angels of light and they connect themselves to these spirits, not producing fruit on the earth. Those who are re-linked to Him are in unity (onship) accomplishing His will and these are who He is coming back for.

Elishevah — People come into our market and ask, "Are you religious?" And we say, "Yes, we are." I'm thankful we have the freedom to use that word. It's a good word, but it's been greatly misused.

ha-emeq — When Yoneq said we can know what's really real by what comes out of the bucket I thought about a tree and how I know for sure that a carob tree makes carob pods — you can tell a tree by its fruit. And you can tell what's in the well by what comes up in the bucket. You can tell what's really in us by what comes out of our mouths. When we are squeezed just right sometimes we're

surprised at what comes out. What? Did that come out of me? If it's garbage then we're surprised, but He can change us.

Baruch — When we were talking about being re-linked I was thinking about the human body and how it has many systems — the nervous system, the circulatory system, etc. and how they all do their part, but if they're not linked to the head there'll be chaos and they'll die. When the link to the head is broken and if the head is not governing over the systems the body goes haywire. That's what happened to the first church.

I'm thankful for good government that makes the Body work in coordination with the head.

There can't be any independent action in the Body. We have to be able to bridle our tongues and be constructive, not destructive.

Benyamin — I'm thankful that what comes out of our mouth affects what we do. An example is slang — it's destructive and it takes you off track from where you are headed and it can destroy what we are doing. What comes out of our mouths has an effect on people's lives. Our Father wants to use us; we are His mouth on earth and people take what we say as being His will.

People don't think any more or less of our Father than what we do and say.

Yashuvam — If we have true communion with our God then we will help our brother to be re-linked. I'm thankful we have that ability to help each other.