

## RIGHT RELIGION

Intro. Jas best known for faith vs works. This is closely related to his doctrine of right rel. Vain (without aim) rel just talks and that not well, 1:26 while right rel works, 1:27. Works involve (1) unselfish love (visit widows etc. from whom no reward and can't visit such before crowds--no reward or recognition) (2) unspotted life.

## I. Unselfish love.

## A. In the church, 2:1-13

1. Partiality is unXlike, 1,4a. Without respect of persons a Xn word. God is like that and so we should
2. Partiality degrades those whom God honors, 5. 1 Cor 1.
3. Partiality is a sin, 9.
4. Partiality breaks the law, 10. Lev 19:15; Deut 1:17 16:19.
5. Partiality will someday judge you, 13.

## B. In Business, 5:1-6.

Address is to unsaved. Saved exhorted not to complain, 9; remember OT examples, 10;11; but if unsaved are told certain things about wealth Xns ought to be at least that good. Money never condemned but love of and wrong use of, 1 Tim 6:10.

1. Remember wealth perishes, 2-3.
2. Money gained should be gotten justly and not as 4, 6. Wages supposed to be given nightly, but kept back and on some pretext never given. Even dragged employees into courts, 6. If you're a boss, don't get gain at expense of employees or God will judge you.
3. Remember God is the judge of all, 3b, 7,8,9 where Lord's coming mentioned 3x. He will settle accounts which he is now keeping.

## C. In your purpose in life, 5:19-20.

Should be aiming at converting sinners to truth of gospel and covering their sins. Means are 2-fold. Prayer (context of ch 5) and good works, 2:14-20. Illus of RR ticket.

## II. Unspotted life.

### A. Sin of the tongue, 3:1-12.

- Dwarfed* 1. Misuse of tongue means immaturity, 1-5. If tongue controlled whole body will be. Illus by bit in horse, rudder of ship, spark and forest fire. So your little tongue controls your body.
- Dirty* 2. Misuse of tongue is defiling, 6-8. Outwardly fair, inwardly foul.
- Decent* 3. Misuse of tongue is hypocritical, 9-12. Highest function of speech is to bless God. If Xn doesn't use his tongue like that he's a hypocrite.

### B. Sin of criticism, 4:11-12.

Must not do bec we are brothers, 11, and we are not judges. Matt 7:1-5 explain.

### C. Sin of worldliness, 4:1-5.

*Love* Esp 4-5. Adulterers not in best mss. Case of chaste bride, the church, being unfaithful. Either friend of God or enemy and worldliness is diff. 1 Jn 2:15. HS is jealous in us to have all of us, 5. He doesn't want us to give any love to the world.

Concl. How to live this right religion so world and other Xns know I belong to Jesus?

Ans is in 4:7-10 and the 10 aorists which indicate urgency and instantaneous action.

Submit, 7. Put self under God.

Take sides, 7. From Devil's to God's.

Separation, 8. Means cleanliness.

Seriousness, 9. May mean sorrow for past sins. Be sorry and remember not to do again.

Subjection, 10. Put yourself entirely under God.