

Stop, Look, Listen

James 1:17-25

September 6, 2009

God pronounces a blessing on the one who stops, looks and listens to the perfect word of God, the liberating word of God. Jesus said, "If you abide in My word, you are truly disciples of Mine; and you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."

1. A. Read James 1:17-25 then re-read verse 25. Is this pronouncement of blessing an isolated text?
Psalm 1:1-3, Matthew 7:24-27

 - B. Look at this text, James 1:17-25, again. Who is this message from? For whom is this message? Is this a new message? Find the "Stop, Look, Listen" in this text.
James 1:17-19

 - C. Look back at this summer, the past few months, and reflect on times you have stopped, maybe even turned off the constant media barrage, and meditated on God's word, heeded it and found great blessing.
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2. A. In a world of change, what a blessing to have the changeless word of God. Remember, God does not change! Stop for a moment and enjoy Who is writing to you.
Psalm 27:14, 130:5, Ecclesiastes 5:2-3, 7, Isaiah 40:27-31, Hebrews 13:8, James 1:17

 - B. Take some time right now, having stopped, to look at this message God has for you. Stop and look at creation and learn from what you see, how God provides and who He really is.
Matthew 6:25-34, Isaiah 40:26, Psalm 19:1-10

C. Listen! Open your Bible and listen and heed.
James 1:19-25, Psalm 1:1-2, Mark 4:3-20

Take care what you listen to and how you listen.
Isaiah 66:1-2, Mark 4:24, Luke 6:47-49, 8:18, James 1:21, 25

3. Take the challenge: start every day between now and Halloween (all saints day) with stopping, looking, and listening to God's word.
Joshua 1:8, John 8:31-32, Romans 15:4, II Timothy 3:16-17, James 1:19, 25

4. There are just two kinds of people in the world: those who have found the solution to life in Jesus Christ, and those who have not. Have you stopped, looked, and listened to the main person of the Bible, Jesus Christ? God gave us four accounts of His life; Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. Have you read any one of these? If you do not know Him as Savior and LORD, or you are not sure, take the time to stop, look, and listen to one of these accounts.
John 10:11, 27, James 1:18, 21