

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Easton Literature Distribution; meet at the church at 8am; Faithful Rubies Meeting at 10am in the fellowship hall

Sunday, March 29

Birthday/Anniversary fellowship after the evening service

- SUNDAY, MARCH 29
  - THURSDAY, APRIL 2

Get-Acquainted Meetings at Easton Baptist Church at 7:00pm

- , SUNDAY, APRIL 5 Resurrection Sunday
- SUNDAY APRIL 12
  Workers' Meeting at 5:35pm in

Workers' Meeting at 5:35pm in the Young Adults' SS room

APRIL - MAY

Capital Raptist School Annua

Capitol Baptist School Annual Fund Appeal



#### SUNDAY

Early Service 8:30am
Sunday School 9:45am
Morning Service 11:00am
Choir Practice 4:30pm
Prayer Meeting 5:30pm
Evening Service 6:00pm

### WEDNESDAY

Teen Meeting6:15pmChildren's Service7:00pmBible Study & Prayer7:00pm

#### SOUL-WINNING & VISITATION

Wednesday 3:30pm Saturday 10:00am

## HOW TO AVOID DECEIVING OURSELVES

James 1:19-27 | Pastor T. H. Moore

at James 1:19-27 and the subject of self-deception. Self-deception is when we deceive ourselves about our spiritual condition. It is when we believe our own lies about ourselves, are blinded to our own condition, or pretend to be something that we are not. It is when we live in a false reality. Self-deception comes for within and is rooted in the sin of pride. It is a trap that even believers can fall into.

In this passage, James is warning Christians about the possibility of practicing self-deception and how to avoid it.

This week, we will look at the third way to avoid self-deception. So far, we have seen that in order to avoid self-deception, we must:

I. Receive the Word of God (vs. 19-21)

A. Close our Mouths and Open our Ears (vs. 19a)

B. Don't Get Mad at Rebuke (vs. 19b)

II. Rehearse the Word of God (vs. 22-25)

Lastly, we must:

III. Be Real with the Word of God (vs. 26-27)

We read in verses twenty-six and twenty-seven, "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain. Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James is going to give us a test here as to whether we are deceiving ourselves or not. Notice in verse twenty-six, he says that the deceiver "seems to be

religious". In other words, knows what he is supposed to say, when he is supposed to say it, how to act when he is at church or around other believers, but there is no reality to his faith. His religion is vain! James goes on to give us three areas that will reveal who we really are. The first area is:

A. Our Speech (vs. 26) "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue...". Notice the word "seem". Our tongue gives us the greatest revelation of our true spiritual

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condition. We read in James 3:2, 'If any man offend not in word, the same is a perfect man, and able also to bridle the whole body." Jesus Christ said in Matthew 15:18, "But those things which proceed out of the mouth come forth from the heart;". Can we control our tongues at work? In our homes? With our spouse and children? How about the tones of our voice when we speak to the ones that we say we love? If we profess to be right with God, yet cannot control our tongues, then we are deceiving ourselves!

There is a second area that will reveal who we really are:

B. In Our Service (vs. 27a) "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Do we

truly care for others like Jesus Christ would? Do we hand out tracts, witness, and do good—not just during our church ministry time or during soul winning time, but as a part of our life? Often, we separate our life into two categories—secular and sacred. We have our "church times" when we teach Sunday School, work on a bus route, witness to the lost, or engage in some other form of ministry. Then there is our "real life times" when we go to work and have our life at home. Too many Christians separate these two. It is almost as if they have a switch that they turn off and on. For example, they witness to people and hand out tracts during soul winning time, but when that time is over, so is the witnessing and handing out tracts.

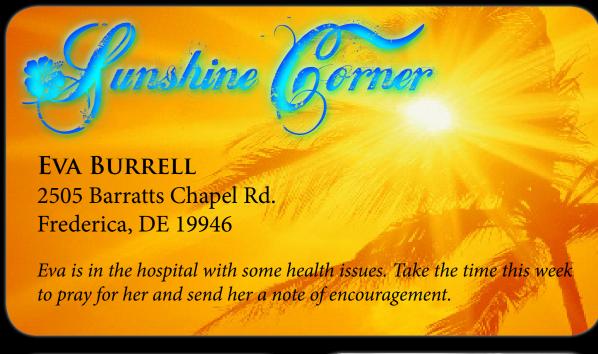
We can do the same with the way we speak. We can talk about the Lord and behave a certain way at church, but outside of church, we don't speak of Him and we live as if He did not exist. This is self-deception!

There is a third area that will reveal who we really are:

C. In Our Separation (vs. 27b) ...and to keep himself unspotted from the world." Are our standards at home the same as they are at church? Do we see standards of separation as "church rules"? Are there things we would never listen to or watch at church or around church people that we have no problem with when we are away from them? This is where the true problems lies. If the world would see God's people living true, real, genuine, heart-born Christian lives, we would have very little trouble convincing them that God's Word is true!

# Join us in prayer for...

- \* EASTON BAPTIST CHURCH: Reid family; financial support; literature distribution; Get-Acquainted Meetings (March 29th April 2nd)
- BUILDING RENOVATION: God's guidance and wisdom
- EVA BURRELL: health
- PAM CORDREY: cancer and mother's cancer
- ' SCOT & KATIE DAKU: safety while on furlough; increased support
- , IAN GONZALEZ' COUSIN, IRIS: heart transplant needed
- HEISHMAN'S GRANDDAUGHTER, ELLIE: heart complications
- , ANGELA HASSLER: health; needs infusion for MS
- , LAURA HORNE: health
- , MIKE JAGER: eye surgery in April
- , LISS/MYERS FAMILY: bereavement
- MARK & KATIE MCELREATH: miscarriage
- PASTOR & MRS. MOORE: safe travels
- RANDY MOSS: salvation & severe depression
- , HEATHER REECE: radiation treatments
- RICK SCHROETER: recovering in Genesis Rehab in Milford
- , ROB SNOVER: infection







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# From the Mission Field

AMBASSADOR BAPTIST COLLEGE

#### **Removing the Candlestick**

By Dr. Alton Beal

\*This article is the Word from the President section of Ambassador Baptist College's periodic newsletter.

Early in his opening Gospel of the New Testament, Matthew recorded the instance when Jesus called Andrew and Peter to follow Him. The brothers were seasoned fisherman and had just cast a net into the water with the hopes of making a living. After hearing the call of Jesus, "Follow me," they left their nets and followed Jesus (Matthew 4:20)....

I am afraid that we have emphasized to our children the importance of making a living rather than doing the will of God. If modern day career planning had been taught in Peter's and Andrew's day, they would have never left the fishing business to become a disciple. Many parents teach their children to make career choices based on job security, pay scale, and advancement. I am afraid that we will not see an increase in full-time Christian workers until we return to emphasizing the importance of God's will....

We have also raised a generation that is more concerned with comfort and pleasure than submission and obedience. In all fairness, we should not lay all of the blame for this on the youngsters. We parents and grandparents have bought into the American dream of entertainment, education, and enrichment and taught it to our children. We have focused on pleasing ourselves rather than pleasing God. We have taught that more education will solve our ills. We have created such an appetite for materialism, that we are more content with our material possessions minus God than we are with God minus our material possessions. With the help of sincere but misguided Christians, the world is drowning out the call for preachers and full-time Christian workers. To see this trend change, we must stress the importance of having a life submitted to God and ready to obey His will.

A lack of faith has always hindered people from responding to the Lord's call to the ministry. In Exodus 3 and 4, the Lord gave Moses a very definite call and equipped him for the task. In spite of those things, Moses still doubted God and experienced His wrath before submitting to God's leading. A number of men have been called to prepare for the Lord's work but faltered when financial and sentimental pressures challenged their calling. Faith in God will move us to do the impossible. Through the years, I have seen a number of men uproot their families, leave established careers, and go to Bible college to prepare for the ministry. All of them had to walk by faith and not by sight (2 Cor. 5:7).

I believe with all of my heart that God is still calling people to "leave their nets." When is the last time you have seen a fellow church member or friend surrender for the ministry? I have often said, "Not everyone is called to the ministry, but everyone should be willing to go." Are you willing to leave your nets and follow Jesus?