

James 1:19-22

Listen Up

August 29, 2021 – Rev. Rick Lyon

"Let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger."

Topic #1 - TRIALS

James 1:2 - Count it all joy brothers and sisters when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith *produces* patience.

Topic #2 - TEMPTATION

v. 1:14 - each one is tempted when he is *drawn away* by his own desires and *enticed*.

Topic #3 - Truth

v. 1:18 - Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of *truth*, that we might be a kind of first fruits of His creation.

1. Receive the truth

v. 1:19 - So then, my beloved brethren, let everyone be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger; ²⁰ because the wrath of man doesn't produce the righteousness of God. ²¹ Therefore lay aside all filthiness and overflow of wickedness, and *receive* with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

A. Be Quick to Listen

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Isaiah 55:2-3 - “Why spend money on that which isn't bread, and your labor on that which doesn't *satisfy*? *Listen carefully to Me*, and eat what's good, and your soul will delight in the richest of foods. *Incline your ear* and come to Me; *listen*, so that your soul may live.”

Dietrich Bonhoeffer: (Life Together) *Listening can be a greater service than speaking. Many people are looking for an ear that will listen. They don't find it among Christians, because many Christians are talking when they should be listening. But he who no longer listens to his brother, will soon no longer be listening to God either; he'll do nothing but prattle in the presence of God too. This is the... death of the spiritual life.*

**A wise old owl lived in an oak.
The more he knew, the less he spoke.
The less he spoke, the more he knew.
And these same truths apply to you.**

B. Be Slow to Speak

William Paige: *"There are three things that never come back; the spent arrow, the spoken word and the lost opportunity."*

Proverbs 18:21 - Death and life are in the power of the tongue.

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C. Be Slow to Anger.

v. 1:19-20 - Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger;
²⁰ because the wrath of man doesn't produce the righteousness of God.

Genesis 4:5-7 - So Cain was very angry, and his face was downcast. Then the LORD said to Cain, “Why are you angry? Why do you look so dejected? You'll be accepted if you do what is right. But if you don't do what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to control you, but you must rule over it.”

Numbers 20:3-5 - So, the people blamed Moses and said, “Why have you brought us into this wilderness to die? Why did you make us leave Egypt and bring us here to this terrible place?”

2 Kings 5:12-13 - So Naaman turned and went away in a rage. But his officers tried to reason with him and said, “Sir, if the prophet had told you to do something very difficult, wouldn't you have done it? So you should certainly obey him when he says simply, ‘Go and wash and be cured!’”

1. Receive the Truth

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2. Live the Truth

v. 1:22 - But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

- **Be quick to hear... Slow to speak... Slow to anger.**
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James chapter one revolves around three topics:

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Topic #1 - TRIALS

Topic #2 - TEMPTATION

Topic #3 - TRUTH

What should you do with the truth?

1. _____ the truth.

In order to receive the truth, you need to:

A. - Be quick to _____.

B. - Be slow to _____.

C. - Be slow to _____.