



The Best Translation of the Bible

James 1:19-27

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Mahatma Gandhi, the former leader of India, attended school at one time in South Africa. While a student there, he often attended church. He was attracted to Christ and read often in the New Testament. Yet, Gandhi never became a Christian. Listen to the testimony he gave: "I got the impression that they were just a group of worldly-minded people going to church for recreation and conformity to custom. I have the highest admiration for the Christian life and for the Christ of the Bible. And I might have become a Christian if I could have seen one." [Paul Powell, Go-Givers in a Go-Getter World (Nashville: Broadman, 1986), 127.]

Andrew Carnegie once said, "As I grow older, I pay less attention to what men say. I just watch what they do."

How to Make Your Bible a Blessing:

1. Be RECEPTIVE to God's Word (v.19-20, 23-25)

- Quick to Hear (attentive to the Word – see Prov. 4:20-22)
- Slow to Speak (slow to argue with the Word)
- Slow to Wrath (slow to get offended at the Word)
- Receive with Meekness (see Acts 17:11; 1 Thess. 2:13)
 - o "accept and submit to the Word which has been planted" – the Jerusalem Bible
 - o The word "receive" is translated several times in the New Testament as "welcome" (Matt. 10:40; Gal. 4:14; Heb. 11:31 Ph)

2. REPENT of all known sin (v. 21)

- Filthiness = wax in the ears
- Overflow of wickedness – an weed-infested garden (overgrown)

3. RESPOND to God's Word (v.22, 26-27)

Three Evidences of Genuine Faith:

1. controlled speech (v.26)
2. compassionate service (v.27)
3. clean separation from the world (v.27)

"The Bible was not simply given for information, but for our transformation!"

Do people see the Bible come alive in you in your daily walk?

What is a greater compliment than, "You really know your Bible?" **"That you really live your Bible."**