

INTRODUCTION

- * FOCUSING ON THE CHRIST ... *The Shadow of Christ* ... *The Life of Christ* ... *The Return of Christ* ... *The Reign of Christ*
- * The past two weeks we considered the Reign of Christ. First, considering the Future Physical Reign of Christ and then secondly, His Present Spiritual Reign
- * In that message, we saw that when we accept Christ as our Savior, we receive a special gift – that God comes to live in our hearts.
- * When Christ is re _____ and re _____ in our hearts – it will be re _____ in our lives.
- * Lord willing, over the next couple of weeks, and months, we will be considering The Reflection of Christ ... first, in our individual lives and then in our “corporate” assembly-life.
- * Today, we begin by considering how Christ is reflected in our speech.

INSTRUCTION

I. OUR SPEECH SHOULD REFLECT T_____NESS (4:25)

A. Putting A_____ F_____

B. Putting F_____ O_____

II. OUR SPEECH SHOULD REFLECT G_____NESS (4:26-27, 29-32)

A. E_____ing Others

B. F_____ing Others

III. OUR SPEECH SHOULD REFLECT R_____NESS (5:4-5)

A. Ab_____ of C_____ing

B. Ab_____ in T_____ing

IV. OUR SPEECH SHOULD REFLECT P_____NESS (cf. 5:6; Colossians 2:6-10)

A. Re_____ing a B_____al Worldview

B. Re_____ing a S_____ar Worldview (cf. Romans 12:2)

James 1:19-26 ¹⁹ So then, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; ²⁰ for the wrath of man does not 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. ²² But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. ²³ For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; ²⁴ for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. ²⁵ But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does. ²⁶ If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.

INTROSPECTION

- * HOW WELL IS CHRIST REFLECTED IN YOUR SPEECH?
- * WHAT DOES YOUR SPEECH REVEAL ABOUT WHO, OR WHAT, IS REIGNING IN YOUR HEART?
- * WHAT DECISION(S), AND/OR COMMITMENT(S), DO YOU NEED TO MAKE?