

Gratitude: Principles from the Mirror Metaphor in James 1:23-25 and 2 Corinthians 3:17

The “*doer of the word*” is the man who objectively accepts the critique of Scripture, believes its analysis, and makes the proper adjustments in his soul. Self-analysis is only as efficient as the content of doctrine in the stream of consciousness. Further, self-analysis is impossible for the believer who is a “*hearer of the word*” but not a “*doer of the word*.”

At the end of James 1:25 the consistent hearer and doer of the word is said to be “*happy in all that he does.*” This indicates that the believer who is a “*doer of the word*” has been consistent in the following:

1. Utilization of the two power options and the three spiritual skills.
2. Development and deployment of the 10 problem-solving devices.
3. Steady advance through the increments of the Gratitude Gauge.
4. A consistently increased capacity for blessings.
5. Effective use of the mirror of the soul for self-analysis, self-judgment, and self-improvement.

D. Principles from the Mirror Metaphor of 2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Spiritual freedom is the environment of the soul under the filling of the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 3:17 - Now the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.

The word for “*Lord*” here is Kurios and refers to deity. It refers to one of the three Members of the Trinity determined by context. The principle is that spiritual freedom exists wherever the Holy Spirit is found.

Consequently, when the Holy Spirit is in control of the believer’s soul, that believer enjoys spiritual freedom. This is commonly referred to by us as the filling of the Holy Spirit or status quo spirituality. This is not an overt form of freedom as is found under the Laws of Divine Establishment. This is an invisible form of spiritual freedom which grants the believer an encapsulated environment of equal privilege and equal opportunity in which he may execute the Christian way of life. It is within this encapsulated environment of freedom that we may peer into the mirror of the soul for self-analysis, self-judgment, and self-improvement.

2 Corinthians 3:18 - But we all, with an unveiled face [believers under the filling of the Holy Spirit minus the 3 arrogant skills and the removal of strong delusion] looking into a mirror [Scripture] to produce a reflection [the Shekinah Glory reflected into our souls], namely, the glory of our Lord, are being transfigured [*metamorphoo*] into that same image from the source of glory [Christ: the indwelling Shekinah Glory] to the attainment of glory [spiritual maturity: experiential sanctification] from the source of the Holy Spirit [mentorship].