

THE PERFECT LAW OF LIBERTY

It is important to remind you of two factors of James 1:25

- Context: James 1:19-28
- Vocative of Address James 1:19 “My beloved brethren.”

We will study the three aspects of the Perfect Law of Liberty.

1. We will begin by examining our lesson text by a sequence of three aorist participles and a promise.

(James 1:25)

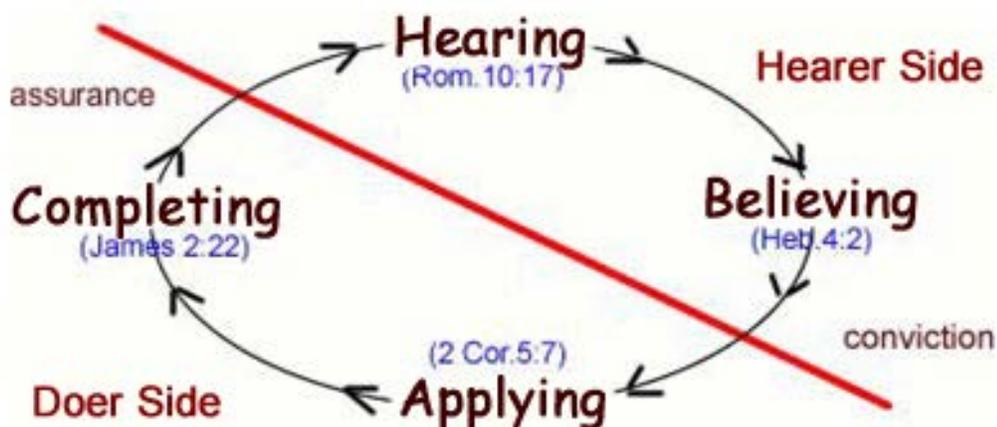
1st – “But (de) [contrast to James 1:22-24] **the one who looks intently** (ho parakupto/ a.a.ptc.nsm) at (eis+acc. of extent) the perfect law of liberty (ton teleios nomos tes eleutheria)” –

2nd – “and (kai/ adjunctive of ptc) **abides in it** (parameno/ a.a.ptc.nsm)” –

3rd – “**not (ouk) having become** (ginomai/ a.m.ptc.gsn) a **forgetful** (epilesmone) **hearer** (akroates) **but** (alla) [contrast of forgetful hearer to an] **effectual** (ergon([work] **doer** (poieotes),

- **Promise:** “**This one** (houstos/ nsm) [demonstrative pronoun of emphasis] **will be** (eimi/ f.m.ind.3ps) [Absolute Status Quo of existence] **blessed** (makarios) **in** (en+loc of sphere) **what he does** (te poiesis).”

2. The implanted word of God (James 1:21) becomes the Perfect Law of Liberty, when the faith cycle is completed.



The goal of “Abiding” [continuing or persevering suggesting pressure or stress] in the implanted word is becoming an “effectual doer” by completing the faith cycle.

NOTE: Angels watch intently, as spectators in the Angelic Conflict, of the fulfillment of the prophetic Word of God. (1 Pet.1:10-12)

3. When I hear, “Perfect Law of Liberty,” it sounds like an oxymoron: Law (bondage) and Liberty (freedom).

I’m sure this view would be contradictory to Jews and legalists.

How does the perfect Law of Liberty make sense?

It is based on “Grace salvation” through (unmeritorious/ without work) Faith in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

(1 Cor.15:3-4) ³ For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, ⁴ and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

(Eph.2:8-9) ⁸ For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; ⁹ not as a result of works, so that no one may boast.

(Rom.10:4) ⁴ For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

(Rom.1:16; Matt.5:17)

The grace gospel is how the Law becomes the Perfect Law of Liberty (Gal.3:15-25) vs (Rom.8:3)

(Gal.3:13-14) “**Christ redeemed us from the curse of the Law, having become a curse for us – for it is written, ‘Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree,’ in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through Him.” (Gal.3:10-14)**

“Work’s mechanics” salvation is how The Perfect Law of Liberty is attacked and called a different (heteros) gospel

(Gal.1:6-9) ⁶ I am amazed that you are so quickly deserting Him who called you by the grace of Christ, for a different gospel; ⁷ which is *really* not another; only there are some who are disturbing you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. ⁸ But even if we, or an angel from heaven, should preach to you a gospel contrary to what we have preached to you, he is to be accursed! ⁹ As we have said before, so I say again now, if any man is preaching to you a gospel contrary to what you received, he is to be accursed!

(Acts15:1b) “Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, **you cannot be saved.**”

(Acts15:5) ⁵ But some of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed stood up, saying, “**It is necessary** to circumcise them and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses.”

Faith in the grace gospel is an example of the Perfect Law of Liberty (freedom)

(Acts 15:11) “But we believe that we are **saved through the grace** of the Lord Jesus, in the same way as they are also.” (Eph.2:8-9; Gal.2:16)

(Gal.5:1) “**It was for freedom that Christ set us free**; therefore, keep standing firm (steko/ p.a.impv.2pl) and do not be subject (me enecho/ p.p.impv.2pl) again to a yoke of slavery.” (Rom.8:1-3)

(Gal.5:13) “For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, **but through love serve one another. But if** (1cc / true) **you bite and devour one another**, [and you are] take care that you are not consumed by one another.” (Gal.5:15; 1 Pet.2:16; 2 Cor.3:17-18)