



Mirror, Mirrr...part 2: Snow White (James 1:22-27)



Woman putting on makeup



This painting on papyrus (Turin Papyrus 145) from the 2nd half of the 2nd millennium BCE shows a woman putting on make-up. In her right hand she holds an application stick for coloring her lips, and in her left a mirror and a make-up box wherein she dips the stick. Ancient mirrors were made of polished copper, with no glass inlay yet; hence the mirror was not quite that clear. Exod 38:8; 2 Kings 9:30; Job 37:18; Isa 3:23; Jer 4:30; Ezek 23:40; Wisd of Sol 7:26; of Sol 13:14; Sirach 12:11; 1 Cor 13:2; 2 Cor 3:18; James 1:23

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James 1:22-27

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

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; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.

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.

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.

Pure and undefiled religion before God and the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their trouble, *and* to keep oneself unspotted from the world.

Message Notes: Snow White has a concerned view of herself, 22-25

- She sees herself in the mirror
- She takes the mirror's image with her

- She remembers what she saw
- She makes her appearance match her desire

Message Notes: Snow White isn't trying to fool anyone, 26-27

She knows that she is a "work in progress"

She hears God's instructions and does something about them

She bridles her tongue

- so she can be appropriate, Colossians 4:6
- so she can be prepared, 1 Peter 3:15

She harnesses her energy

- so she can serve those in need
- so she can subdue her appetites, 1 Corinthians 9:24-27

Good Works

The Priority of good works.

- We were created for good works. It is God's design and desire that we walk in them, Ephesians 2:10
- The wealthy (those who have been blessed with much) should do good works, 1 Timothy 6:17–19
- All Christians need to be zealous for good works, Titus 2:14
- All Christians need to be careful to maintain good works, Titus 3:8
- All Christians need to stir each other up to do good works, Hebrews 10:24
- Good works bring glory to God, Matthew 5:16
- Good works contradict the evil things that unbelievers would otherwise say against us, 1 Peter 2:12, NKJV

The Place of good works. We do them because we are saved, not to get saved (they are the response to God's grace, not the price of it). Galatians 2:16.

James 1:22–27

O N T A E G S F
D B W O R D E B
E W S A O G V T
N Y W E G C I T
O A R E R A E H
Y D O V D V C O
N O I G I L E R
A G O E V Y D S
D S T E G R O F
ANYONE AWAY DECEIVES
DOER FORGETS HEARER
OBSERVES RELIGION WORD