



# 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."**