

**RockPointe Church Sermon Notes**  
Steven Christopher | The Law of Liberty  
Wednesday, July 9 & Sunday, July 13, 2025  
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James 1:25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

John 8:36 So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

Galatians 5:1 For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Galatians 5:13 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

James 1:26-27 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

"James paints a picture for us of what living out the law of liberty is supposed to look like. He gives us three examples for displaying faith, but this is not an exhaustive list. However, he pulls no punches in stating that if we do not do these things, we may be deceiving ourselves. The list is: controlling our tongue, serving those most vulnerable in our society, and not walking in the ways of this world."

Psalms 68:5 Father of the fatherless and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation.

Isaiah 1:17 learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

"What will the Father find when He comes back? Will He find us caring for those He loves dearly who may not be a benefit to society? Will He find us nurturing the next generation under our roof that He has entrusted us to encourage and raise up?"

"Who are the most vulnerable that the Lord has put in your path? We are called to serve them no matter what political or social stigma may be associated with them."

Tension Point: ----- We deceive ourselves about our identity when we do not live out our faith.

Resolution Point: ----- We are called to live liberated lives in Christ through restrained speech, serving the most vulnerable, and living a life that attracts others to Jesus.

Application/Vision: ----- Dick Eastland died trying to save campers because that's just who he was. We too are called to live a life of sacrifice in service to others.

## The Law of Liberty Sermon Discussion Questions

Have different people from small group read the verses below aloud, prior to beginning group discussion.

Scriptures: Psalm 68:5, Isaiah 1:17, James 1 :22-27, Galatians 5 :1 & 13

1. Who can share something we learn about the character of God from the sermon &/or the verses?
2. Isaiah 1:17 and Psalm 68:5 teach us what about God's care and expectations for us as His people?
3. According to James 1:22, when and how do we deceive ourselves?
4. In verses 22-25, James describes the difference between being a hearer and a doer of the Word. What is the difference? What is required in order to, "keep on becoming a doer of the Word?" What is the promised result of doing the Word?
5. What warning does Paul give us about the freedom we have been given in Christ according to Galatians 5:1 and 13? Why do we need this reminder?
6. What is your understanding of "pure and undefiled religion before God" as mentioned in James 1:27?
7. How are we stained by the world? How does one keep oneself, "unstained by the world" while still living in it?
8. Steven highlighted a picture of what living out the law of liberty is supposed to look like using three examples from James 1. Which example do you need the Holy Spirit's help with this week: bridling your tongue, visiting orphans and widows in their affliction, and/or keeping yourself unstained from the world?
9. Who are the widows and orphans in distress in your life\*, neighborhood and/or community? Consider some practical ways we as a small group can serve them this week/month/year and then ask two people to help follow up with a plan.

### Next Steps to put this teaching into practice:

**Memorize James 1:22.** Write it out on a card, which you put (appropriately) on your mirror.

**Conversation:** With whom do you need to work on being "quick to hear, slow to speak"? Practice doing more listening and be intentional to work on this, this week. Focus on them, not on your own responses.

**Read/Journal:** Take the next six pages and put 3 headings on each page. Think. Pray. Do! Then read James 1 each day. Write key words you read, a prayer, and something to do in response to that text.

**Prayer:** Pray specifically about two things this week. (1) Your anger. (Even if you're not hot-tempered, do you "stuff" your anger and let it turn into bitterness?) (2) Soul pollution. Ask the Holy Spirit to put a bridle in your mouth and convict you in areas you might be getting "polluted" by the world.

**SERVE\* Widows and Orphan** There are literally, widows and orphans, having suffered the loss of a family member all around us. But also consider the hospitalized, special-needs children and adults, folks living alone in assisted living facilities, the unemployed, immigrants, prisoners, etc.

\*Note – if you don't know any, please email [kim.cramer@rpcstaff.org](mailto:kim.cramer@rpcstaff.org) and we will be glad to send you some to connect with!