

## James 1:22

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

I was listening to Christian radio the other day. There was a man on sharing about a ministry that reads the bible in different languages and puts it on tape. These tapes are then given to different tribes to hear the gospel.

As he was talking, he would mention how they would all be sitting there listening to God's word, when all of a sudden a passage would come up like:

† **Ex 20:14** *You shall not commit adultery.*

Adultery was a common practice in these different tribes, but when they heard this, they would rewind the tape, listen to it again, then talk about it for 45 minutes and decide that they would no longer have adulterous affairs. Then they would come along to another passage which speaks of being good to your wife and treating her with love, once again they would rewind the tape listen again and decide that they would no longer hit or beat their wives, which was also a common practice.

Then I started to think about us, and how we read God's word and skim over things, thinking that God did not mean me, or that is just for the Jews or those other people, but not me. But Paul said:

† **Romans 2:11** *For there is no partiality with God.*

When we read something in the bible and the Lord speaks to us, we should not just shrug it off and continue reading on, but rather we should be like these tribes and go back over it again and again, and examine our own hearts and see if we need to change.

† **Psalms 26:2** *Examine me, O LORD, and prove me;  
Try my mind and my heart.*

It seems like a scary thing to pray, but if we do and mean it from our hearts, then God will show us what we need to change through His word, and when you read it, do it!

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