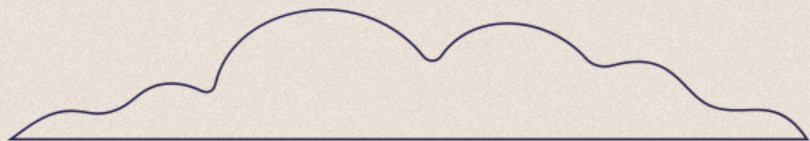
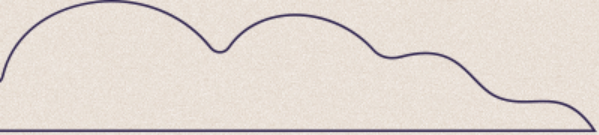




The Word



Part 2



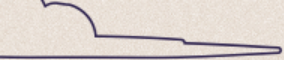
The Bible is
God's word to us.

It was recorded
by human
authors, under
the supernatural
direction of the
Holy Spirit.

It is the supreme
source of truth
and our rule of
faith and
conduct.



Because it is
inspired by God,
it is truth
without any
mixture of error.

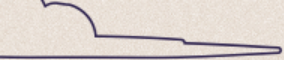




James 1:22-25 NIV

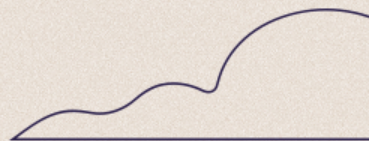
²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself,





James 1:22-25 NIV

goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.



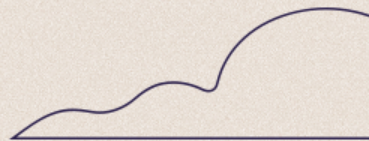


**God's Word is
perfect so you can
trust it to reveal.**



Hebrews 4:12 NLT

¹² For the word of God is alive and powerful. It is sharper than the sharpest two-edged sword, cutting between soul and spirit, between joint and marrow. It exposes our innermost thoughts and desires.





A mirror has two
purposes:




A mirror has two purposes:

- To reflect what is actually in front of it



A mirror has two purposes:

- To reflect what is actually in front of it
- To reveal what is there

The background features a light beige color with four simple line-art clouds: one in the top-left, one in the top-right, one in the bottom-left, and one in the bottom-right.

James tells us of two types
of responses people have
when they look into the
mirror of God's Word.



1

You can respond
with hypocrisy.



James 1:23-24 NIV

You can
respond
with
hypocrisy.

²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like.





**Filters allow you to fascinate
others and flatter yourself
without facing the problem.**



The great danger of only being charmed by the Word of God is that it prohibits us from being changed by the Word of God.



2

You can respond
with honesty.



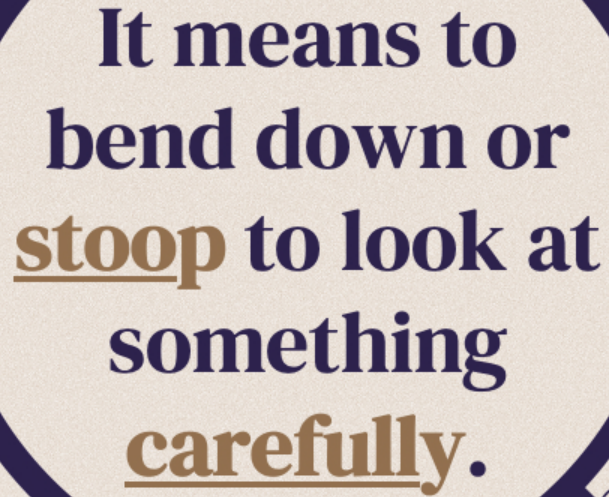
James 1:25 NIV

**You can
respond
with
honesty.**

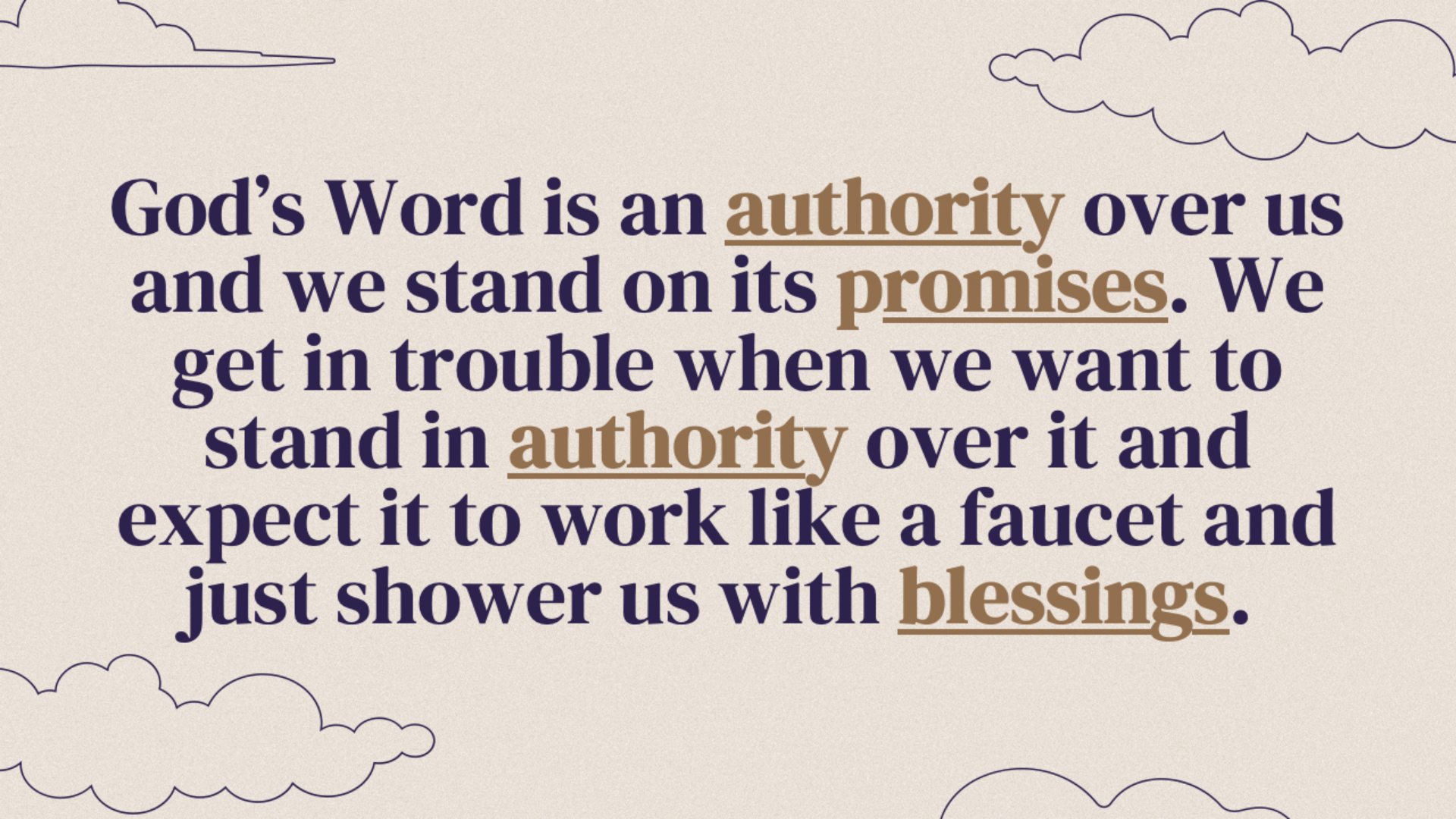
²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.



The words “looks intently”
is one word in the original
Greek, the word *parakuptó*.

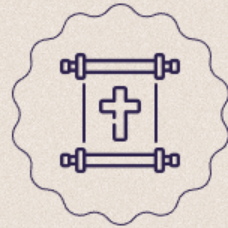


It means to
bend down or
stoop to look at
something
carefully.



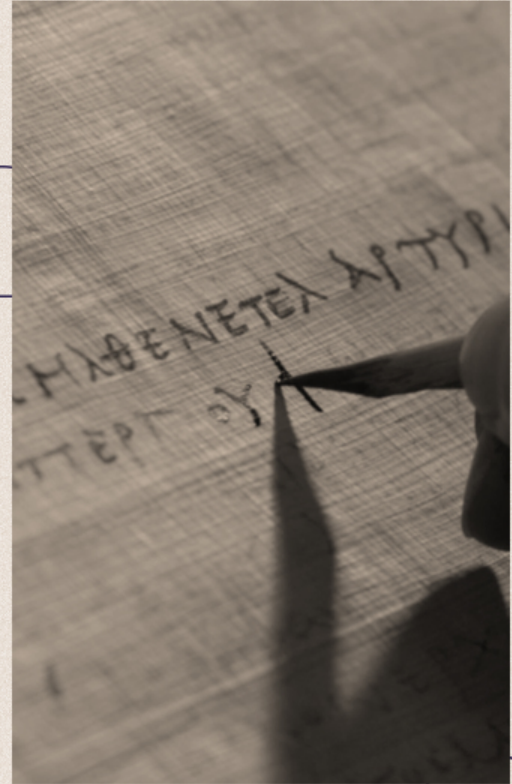
God's Word is an authority over us
and we stand on its promises. We
get in trouble when we want to
stand in authority over it and
expect it to work like a faucet and
just shower us with blessings.

What is the perfect law
that gives freedom?



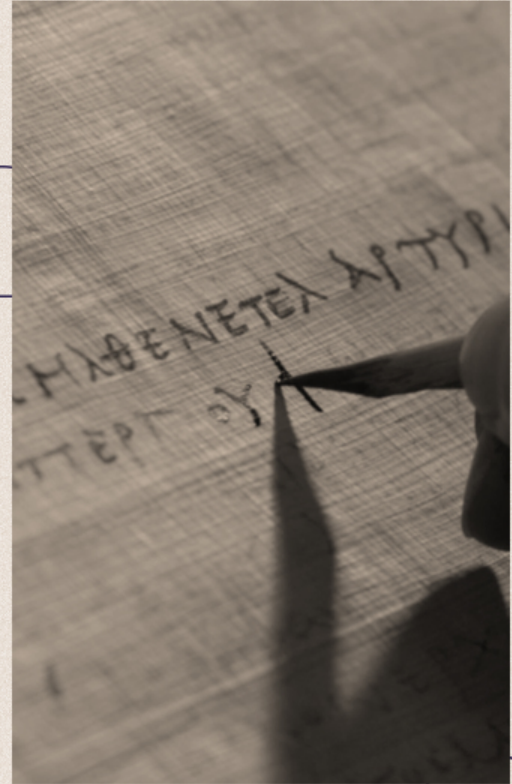
What is the perfect law that gives freedom?

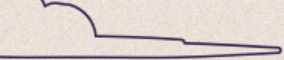
The “law” which in this context stands for the Word of God in general is a perfect reflection of the character and demands of a holy God. The idea of the perfect law is that of consummate soundness, wholeness, completeness, finished, reaching its end, wanting nothing. It is God’s final word and it is complete, embodying the full revelation of God in Christ Jesus.



What is the perfect law that gives freedom?



By referring to the Word as the law that gives freedom, James focused on its redemptive power in freeing believers from the bondage of sin and then freeing them to righteous obedience. It allows us to serve God not out of fear or mere sense of duty, but out of gratitude and love.





John 8:31-32, 34-36 ESV

³¹ So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, ³² and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.”





John 8:31-32, 34-36 ESV

³⁴ Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵ The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. ³⁶ So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”



Romans 8:1-4 NLT

¹ So now there is no condemnation for those who belong to Christ Jesus. ² And because you belong to him, the power of the life-giving Spirit has freed you from the power of sin that leads to death. ³ The law of Moses was unable to save us because of the weakness of our sinful nature. So God did what the law could not do. He sent his





Romans 8:1-4 NLT

own Son in a body like the bodies we sinners have. And in that body God declared an end to sin's control over us by giving his Son as a sacrifice for our sins. ⁴ He did this so that the just requirement of the law would be fully satisfied for us, who no longer follow our sinful nature but instead follow the Spirit.

