

NEW TESTAMENT: THEME

SAVING FAITH VS. BEING DECEIVED

James 1:22

- “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves” (v.22)
- If you are a hearer only, you are deceived.
- James is not content to allow such self-deception.

Romans 7:15,18; 8:4

- When I sin it’s not what I want to do and when I do it I hate it. That is the indication of regeneration (7:15).
- Paul is saying my will is different. The desire is changed (7:18).
- The behavior is changed as a result (8:4)
- Chapter 7 says, “I have a new will and a new desire.” Chapter 8 says, “I have a new behavior.”

1 John 2:3-6

- How you behave is the proof of what you really believe and whether or not you’ve been regenerated.
- Regeneration, a profound miracle of God, can not be hidden.

Mt.23: 24-36

- The Pharisees were hypocritical.
- They were into religion like few people who have ever lived.
- They cleansed the outside of the cup but inside is full of filth.
- They white washed the tombs but inside are full of the stench of death.

Mt.25: 1-13

- Parable of the 10 Virgins, 5 wise and 5 foolish.
- The wise had oil in their lamps, the foolish did not.
- The foolish had a form of religion, but were not saved.