Sermon Outline

James 1:16-18

Introduction:

The encouragement of knowing the blessing of a gracious salvation

We should be careful about being deceived 1:16,22,26 - God is good!

The gift of salvation is the greatest way to know God's character

1: The Lord Is The Source Of All Good Gifts: 17

Going back to verse 5 - God is the giving God - Matt. 7:11

- v. 17 links to 1:4-5, & also is linked to 3:17-18 "from above"

These gifts keep coming down from our Heavenly Father

The Lord who does not change - Mal. 3:6; ever faithful - Lam. 3:22-23

What a blessing to know this teaching in the changing world of today!

2: The Lord Is The Source Of Our Salvation: 18

Because of our sin we were spiritually dead - Eph. 2:1

Our terrible state of being in sin - Gen. 6:5; Isa. 64:6

A: The Lord is sovereign in our regeneration:

Sin gives birth to death but God brings us to spiritual birth!

- Jn. 1:13; 3:1-8; 1Jn. 5:1; Dt. 30:6; Ez. 36:26-27; 2Cor. 5:17

Being born again we then have faith. Faith doesn't produce new birth!!

B: The Word is the sole instrument in regeneration:

The Holy Spirit makes use of His Word to bring about regeneration

- 1Pt. 1:23,25; Acts 16:14; cf. Rom. 10:14-17; Acts 13:49

- Isa. 55:11; Jer. 23:29; 2Tim. 4:2

C: A purpose in regeneration:

"Firstfruits" - Ex. 23:19; - cf. firstborn - Num. 3:12; 18:15; Ex. 4:22

- Rom. 16:25; 2Thess. 2:13; Rev. 14:4; cf. 1Cor. 15:20,23

We are wholly the Lord's & we look forward to creation's redemption

Application:

As the Lord has set us apart for Himself - let us be holy in all we do

Let us pray for the Lord's blessing upon the Word being preached