

I. INTRODUCTION

II. THE OTHER IMAGE THAT GOD'S WORD REVEALS: OUR OWN

- A. *What is the Mirror in James 1:22-24?*
- B. *What is the "Natural Face" in James 1:23?*
- C. *What Should We See When We See our Own Image in God's Word?*
- D. *In What Way Do We Have a Sinless Nature Inside of Us?*
- E. *How Should the Fact That We Have a Sinless Nature Affect How We Live?*
- F. *How is God's Word Liberating?*

III. CONCLUSION

Review:

Secret #1: The Christian life is a miracle of resurrection

Secret #2: The Christian life is a miracle of transformation

1. After speaking of God as the giver of gifts, what gift does James remind us of in v. 18?

Our spiritual birth, the new birth that God has given us, i.e., everlasting life.

2. By what means did we receive this gift?

We received it *by the word of truth*, i.e., God's Word (specifically the Gospel), James 1:18.

3. In light of this, what does "natural face" or "face of his birth" refer to in verse 23?

It refers to our born-again face, the sinless nature we now have inside of us due to our spiritual birth, James 1:18, 23.

4. What is the mirror?

The mirror is God's Word, *the perfect law of liberty*, James 1:22, 25.

5. How is it that the Word of God shows us both the glory of God and the face of our birth?

We acquired the face of our new birth through Christ and it is He who now lives in us, (Romans 8:10). We are continuously being transformed into His image (2 Corinthians 3:18) so that when we behold the glory of God (the face of His Son) in His Word, we at the same time see our own, since in some sense they are one in the same.

6. How do these verses indicate we should act after we see ourselves in the mirror?

We should apply (obey) God's Word so that our behavior reflects the sinless Christ-like being we are in our core, James 1:22-25.

7. How is it that the Word of God can be referred to as the "perfect law of liberty"?

Instead of it being a burdensome set of rules to live by, it becomes that which liberates us to live out the inner Christ-like being we already are, James 1:25.

Secret #3: The Christian life is coming to be in experience what we already are in our innermost being.