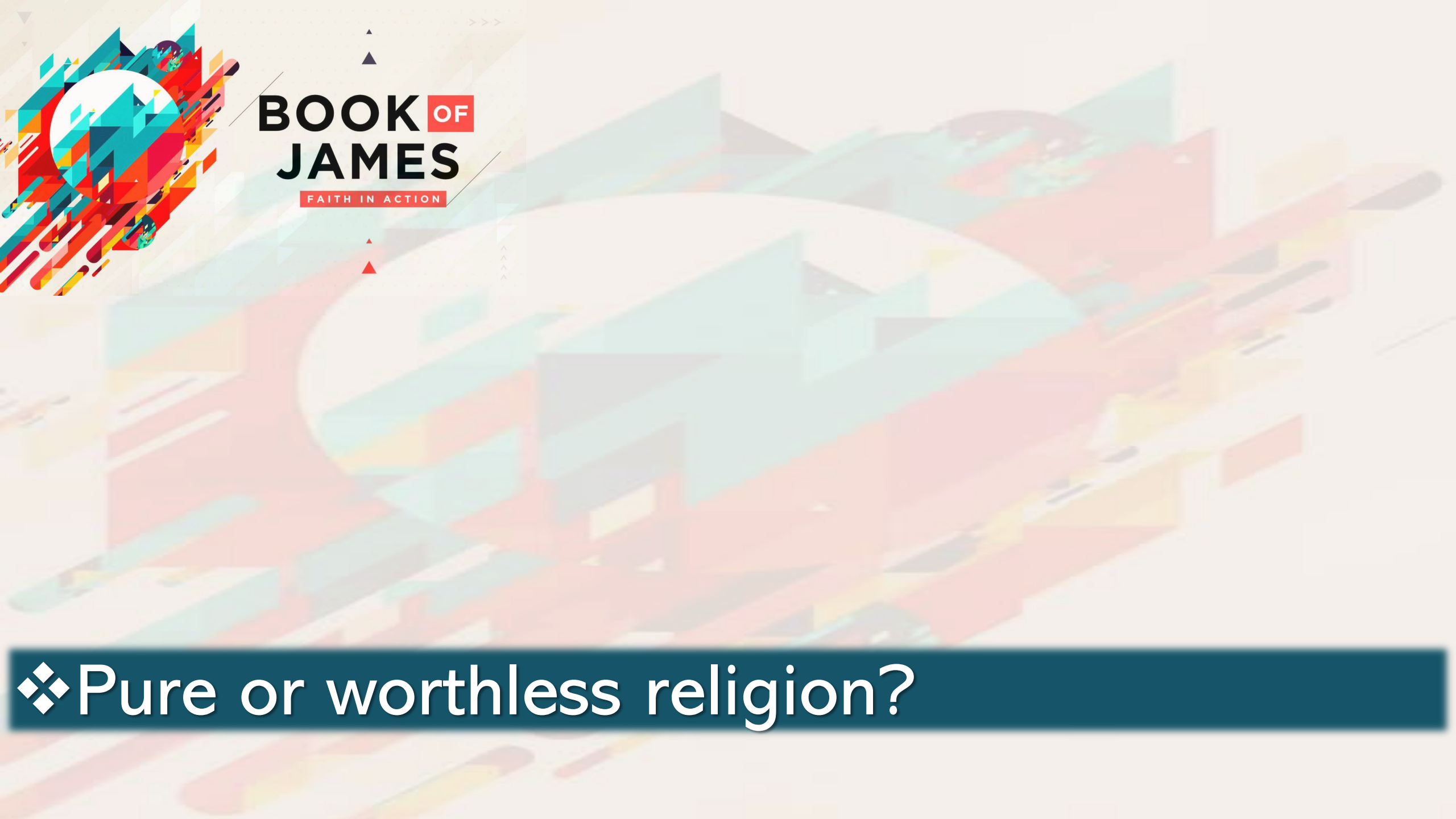




# BOOK **OF** JAMES

FAITH IN ACTION



BOOK OF  
JAMES

FAITH IN ACTION

❖ Pure or worthless religion?

Those who consider themselves religious and yet do not keep a tight rein on their tongues deceive themselves, and their religion is **worthless**. Religion that God our Father accepts as **pure** and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.



*James 1:19 (NIV)*



# BOOK OF JAMES

FAITH IN ACTION

- Pure or worthless religion?
- I should be consuming God's word

❖ Pure religion controls it's speech

You brood of vipers, how can you who are evil say anything good?

For the mouth speaks what the heart is full of.



*Matthew 12:34 (NIV)*

But I tell you that everyone will have to give account on the day of judgment for every empty word they have spoken. For by your words you will be acquitted, and by your words you will be condemned.”



*Matthew 12:36–37 (NIV)*



# BOOK OF JAMES

FAITH IN ACTION

- Pure or worthless religion?
- Pure religion controls it's speech

❖ Pure religion shows practical compassion

Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: **to look after** orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.



*James 1:27 (NIV)*



“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.



*Matthew 25:31–46 (NIV)*

“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For **I was hungry** and you gave me something to eat, **I was thirsty** and you gave me something to drink, **I was a stranger** and you invited me in,



*Matthew 25:31–46 (NIV)*

I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?’



*Matthew 25:31–46 (NIV)*

When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ ‘The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, **whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.**’



*Matthew 25:31–46 (NIV)*

“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,



*Matthew 25:31–46 (NIV)*

I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’ “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’



*Matthew 25:31-46 (NIV)*

“He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’  
“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”



*Matthew 25:31–46 (NIV)*



# BOOK OF JAMES

FAITH IN ACTION

- Pure or worthless religion?
- Pure religion controls it's speech
- Pure religion shows practical compassion

❖ Pure religion will focus on personal purity



Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.



*James 1:27 (NIV)*

You're the only Jesus some will ever see.

And you're the only words of life some will ever read.

So let them see in you the One in Whom is all they'll ever need.

'Cause you're the only Jesus some will ever see.

“ True religion—true Christianity—is moved by a Christ-shaped heart of mercy. It bridles the tongue when talking about people created in God’s image. It cares for the poor, the ones who can easily be taken advantage of and don’t have any power to care for themselves. And it keeps itself free from the impurities of pornography and gluttony and greed. “

John Piper



BOOK OF  
**JAMES**  
FAITH IN ACTION

- Pure or worthless religion?
- Pure religion controls it's speech
- Pure religion shows practical compassion
- Pure religion will focus on personal purity

❖ Pure religion does not show favoritism

My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favoritism. Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in.



*James 2:1-4 (NIV)*

If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, “Here’s a good seat for you,” but say to the poor man, “You stand there” or “Sit on the floor by my feet,” have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?



*James 2:1–4 (NIV)*

For God does not show favoritism.



*Romans 2:11 (NIV)*

Stop judging by mere appearances, but instead judge correctly.”



*John 7:24 (NIV)*



... People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”



*1 Samuel 16:7 (NIV)*

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.



*2 Corinthians 8:9 (NIV)*

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.



*Matthew 5:3 (NIV)*

Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: Has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him?



*James 2:5-7 (NIV)*

You say, 'I am rich; I have acquired wealth and do not need a thing.'

But you do not realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind and naked.



*Revelation 3:17-22 (NIV)*

But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?



*James 2:6 (NIV)*



BOOK OF  
JAMES  
FAITH IN ACTION

- Pure or worthless religion?
- Pure religion controls it's speech
- Pure religion shows practical compassion
- Pure religion will focus on personal purity
- Pure religion does not show favoritism

❖ Pure religion lives by the golden rule

If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture,  
“Love your neighbor as yourself,” you are doing right.



*James 2:8 (NIV)*



For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of it. For he who said, “You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a lawbreaker.



*James 2:10–13 (NIV)*



BOOK OF  
**JAMES**  
FAITH IN ACTION

- Pure or worthless religion?
- Pure religion controls it's speech
- Pure religion shows practical compassion
- Pure religion will focus on personal purity
- Pure religion does not show favoritism
- Pure religion lives by the golden rule

❖ Mercy triumphs over judgment

Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.



*James 2:10–13 (NIV)*

Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.



*Matthew 5:7 (NIV)*

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free.  
But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh;  
rather, serve one another humbly in love.



*Galatians 5:13 (NIV)*

“The way we as Christians treat others isn’t determined by their economic class, their age, their clothing, their weight, their gender, their skin color, or even their attractiveness.

Don’t show partiality. Don’t do it... You and I must fight against the pull of our hearts to be around those like us.”

Matt Chandler

- Pure or worthless religion?
- Pure religion controls it's speech
- Pure religion shows practical compassion
- Pure religion will focus on personal purity
- Pure religion does not show favoritism
- Pure religion lives by the golden rule
- Mercy triumphs over judgment



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