

October 11, 2020

Scott's Thoughts



But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”
(James 1:22, ESV)

I'm not sure how many mirrors we have in our house. I can think of three that I use

almost daily and sometimes several times a day. I use a mirror to shave (yes, I shave) and to brush my hair (what there is of it). I use another mirror to check my clothes and to make sure my tie is straight. These are not expensive mirrors, but they are decent in quality and they reflect a true image.

After looking in a mirror, I make adjustments as called for. If my hair is standing straight up, I'll grab a brush or comb and make the necessary corrections. If my shirt tail is in on one side and not the other, I'll do what is necessary to even it out. I'm grateful the mirrors do not give a distorted reflection.

However, if I pick up a child's mirror, I'll often notice that its quality is poor and it is hard to get a clear image of what it reflects. They are like the mirrors in the fun house that reflect distorted images. They are fun but not really useful for real world use. I laugh and am sometimes shocked at my reflection in the fun house, but never consider correcting what I see.

I am grateful the mirrors at home are clear. Come to think about it, if I am not willing to make corrections based on the honest reflection

from my mirror then I am wasting my time looking at it in the first place. I know some things in that reflection cannot be fixed immediately. I look and the mirror says, “Scott, you need a haircut.” Ok, I agree, but I am not going to cut my own hair so I have to make time to go somewhere and get it cut. Sometimes it takes me several weeks to get around to doing so. Guess what? The delay only makes the accurate reflection worse.

God has given us a mirror for our soul. *“But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.”*
James 1:22–25 (ESV).

God says that we not only need to look into his mirror but we need to act on what we see there. Notice he does not tell us to look into our self opinion but into “the perfect law, the law of liberty and persevere . . . but a doer who acts.”

Lord help me to look, see, and do.

Thanks for listening and keep on shining.
—Scott

Ava & I send Greetings to All.