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## Hearers & doers of the word Pt 1 Be not just a hearer!

This is our first study on the topic – hearers and doers of the word. In this study we establish (1) Those who only hear the law are not just before God, but the doers, (2) those who only hear the word of God deceive themselves, and (3) those who only hear the word of God are like a man looking into a glass – they see the old man!

Our three points established from the scriptures –

1. Those who only hear the law are not just before God but the doers.  
“(For not the hearers of the law are just before God, but the doers of the law shall be justified” (Rom.2: 13).

2. Those who hear the word of God and do not deceive themselves  
“But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves”  
(Jam.1: 22).

3. Those that hear and not do are believers that look in the mirror and see the old man

“For if any be a hearer of the word, and not a doer, he is like unto a man beholding his natural face in a glass: For he beholdeth himself, and goeth his way, and straightway forgetteth what manner of man he was” (Jas.1: 23 & 24).

### Illustration

I remember going to church for 16 years, and being a hearer only, I would sing in the choir, listen to sermons and readings from the scriptures. I heard the words that were spoken, and I got confirmed I read the Good News Bible and prayed, and said yes I believe, but I left the church building each week and my life was no different to any other lost man. I would have looked at myself in the mirror during those 16 years and seen the same man (a brute beast) that I was before I ever went to church.

Question to think about.

How does a Christian know if they are a hearer only and not a doer of the word?

Answer from the scriptures

A Christian will know whether they are a hearer only when they enter into temptation: They have a choice– i) Turn, and repent or ii) fall and never get back.  
i) Acknowledges their sin, “repent...and do works meet for repentance” (Acts 26: 20)

ii) You fall away – “They on the rock are they, which, when they hear, receive the word with joy; and these have no root, which for a while believe, and in time of temptation fall away” (Lk.8: 13). They will be a hearer and not a doer of the word–  
“But he that heareth, and doeth not, is like a man that without a foundation built an house upon the earth; against which the stream did beat vehemently, and immediately it fell; and the ruin of that house was great” (Lk.6: 49).

Q– Why would a Christian that says they love the Lord, allow themselves to fall, and either repeat that process infinitum or never get up at all?

A– They deceive themselves – Jas 1:22 But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves. T They allow themselves to be drawn away of their own lust and enticed (Jam.1: 14)

Q– Why? A– Because their desire, their lust for what they want is greater than their love for God. Let us all be not just hearers of the word but doers, and without partiality, but with consistency and “uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity” (Tit.2: 7).