

## “MIRROR, MIRROR, ON THE WALL”

Proverbs 27:19; James 1: 22-25

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I got to thinking about looking in the mirror the other day. Have you ever stopped to think about what you pay attention to when you look in the mirror? I noticed I pay attention to the same thing every time. Did I part what is left of my hair in the right place, and did I get all I intended when I shaved? Those are my two mirror priorities. Anyway, I'm convinced that when we look in the mirror we overlook a lot of ourselves, and we tend to predict what we will notice. The other key aspect of mirror looking is that the minute we walk away from the mirror, we forget what we look like.

There are two Bible passages I thought about when I thought about mirrors. The first has to do with reflections in Proverbs 27:19. *“As water reflects a face, so a man's heart reflects the man.”* When we look at a reflection of ourselves we see what we want to see and ignore the rest. What is in our hearts, be it love or fear, joy or sadness, generosity or stinginess may not be remembered when we look at ourselves, but it will certainly be remembered by others.

The second passage is found in the book of James. *“If any one is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who observes his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like.”* The point here is that our words are as useless as our memory of our face in the mirror. When we put into practice the words of God, that practice becomes manifest in the heart that reflects who we are and who God is. When our actions support our words about God, our “faces” are seen, we are blessed, and our hearts reflect who we are. Most of this can be wrapped up in the word **integrity**. For an interesting follow on thought read James 1:26-27. Happy mirror gazing this week; we might even reflect the heart of God.