

Series "Marks Of Maturity"
"Temptations"
James 1:13-18
Study-2

Temptation Confronts All Of Us! Matthew 26:41

**Book of James presents - "Marks Of Maturity" (13 Marks Of Maturity)
Last Study "Trials", this morning "Temptations."**

1 Corinthians 10:12

**Temptation – "is an invitation to do wrong"
Not wrong to be tempted, but Sinful to yield to temptation.**

Thought Of Our Passage: "Beware, Lest A Trial Sent From God Becomes A
Temptation From Lust, Resulting In Fruitlessness Instead Of Fruitfulness."

- 1. Verse 13 Don't Blame God For Temptations:**
- 2. Verses 14-15 The Source Of Temptations Is Lust:**
- 3. Verses 16-18 God Brings Good, Not Bad:**

1. Verse 13 Don't Blame God For Temptations:

James 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted,

Context - James 1:2-12 teaches that God sends us **trials** so that we can grow in our **endurance**, and to make us **mature**,

Verse – 12 perseveres under trial - James is speaking of the trials of life.

James 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted,

Notice, **when he is tempted**, not "if" he is tempted, but "**when**" he is tempted.
Temptations are common to mankind

James gives another use of the word "**Trial**" is "**tempted**";
the usage of this word means a "*solicitation to do evil.*"

Temptation – 21 times in the NT, and **20 times** with the idea of bringing out our worth and testing.

"The trial is ordered by God for our good, yet the inner solicitation to evil which is aroused by the outer trial is from ourselves."

"I am being tempted by God"; eager to blame someone for their sin.

Adam blamed Eve. And Eve the serpent. **Genesis 3:12**

1 Corinthians 10:13 God made two promises to the believer:

Promise #1 - God Won't Allow A Temptation We Can't Endure:

Promise #2 – God Will Provide A Way Of Escape:

1 Peter 2:11

God's Character: for God cannot be tempted by evil, (None-tempt able)

"God is unversed in evil" "God is not able to be tempted, nor does He tempt"

God is holy - it is His very nature.

Holiness - *"is the complete absence of evil.*

The complete presence of goodness."

Notice that God does not mention the Devil by name here,

Though we know that he is the tempter, **because we are responsible.**

James 4:7 Luke 22:31; 1 Thessalonians 3:5; 1 Peter 5:8

God's Actions: and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

2. Verses 14-15 The Source Of Temptations Is Lust:

James 1:14 But a contrast of God versus mankind. **each one is tempted**

1. Desire/Lust - Starting point

2. Deception - Bait that is dangled.

3. Disobedience - We go against God's plan and sin.

4. Death - Spiritual, physical, character, separation from God.

1. Desire/Lust: James 1:14 enticed by his own lust -

The word "*lust*" in English today has an evil connotation, but it means **(desire)**, which speaks of any kind of desire.

1. Sleep is normal - without it we would fall apart. but laziness is sin.

2. Hunger is good - without it we would not eat and would die -, but gluttony is sin.

3. Thirst - is a drive given to us by God, Need to keep from dehydration, but drunkenness is wrong.

4. The sexual drive - (Marriage, enjoyment and procreation)

"The flesh" is not evil of itself. Our skin is not evil, but within it, it contains a sinful capacity, Adamic nature, the old nature that produces sin, heartache. **Mark 7:21-23; 1 John 2:16**

But each one is tempted (enticed)

We do not need to look elsewhere for the blame because we are the responsible party.

2. Deception: James 1:14 when he is carried away -

"It is the drawing out, drawing away of a fish from its original retreat, beguiling it from under a rock, "drag"

and enticed

"to trap with bait" "is used of a fisherman that lure by the bait"

Proverbs 1:10

3. Disobedience: James 1:15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; (Sin is the union of will and lust)

4. Death: James 1:15 Death – *"separation" without faith in Jesus*

One Verse We See All 4:

Genesis 3:6 (Desire) (Deception) (Disobedience) (Death)

Romans 6:23; John 10:10

3. Verses 16-18 God Brings Good, Not Bad:

James 1:16 Do not be deceived,

Literally - "Stop being deceived, don't be misled"

my beloved brethren,

James is being really tender and affectionate **Psalm 119:9-11**

James 1:17 How to get victory - Remember God's goodness!

Satan told Eve that God is holding back. **Genesis 3:5**

James Reveals Four Things About The Goodness Of God:

1. God Gives Only Good Gifts: Every good thing given

If it is good it came from God if it is not good it did not come from God.

Good – *"useful, profitable, beneficial"* **Matthew 7:11**

2. God Gives The Right Way:

every perfect – *"complete, lacking nothing"* **gift** (every act of giving)

3. God Gives Constantly: is from above, coming down

Literally "Keeps on coming down."

That the giving of God is constant, **Colossians 3:1**

4. God Does Not Change:

the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.

God does not change.

coming down from the Father of lights,

He is the God of light, the God who illumines the way. Truth, purity.

with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.

God is not whimsical. **1 John 1:5**

The key is not eliminating temptation but managing temptation.

James 1:18

God's will was not to entice us to evil/death, but the giving of salvation.

Our Salvation Was Given By A Gracious God:

In the exercise of His will He brought us forth John 1:13

Our Salvation Comes Through God's Word:

by the word of truth, 1 Peter 1:23

In the exercise of His will He brought us forth (This is the divine side)

by the word of truth, (That is the preaching of the gospel) **1 Peter 1:23**

Our Salvation Is The Finest Birth Possible: so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

"First fruits" Leviticus 10-11

so that we might be, as it were, the first fruits among His creatures. God did not save us that we might be an end unto ourselves. .

Temptation Cannot Be Outgrown But Can Be Overcome!

Application:

1. Our Failure In Temptation Is Our Fault, Not God's Fault, Because God's Character Is Holy, The Complete Absence Of Evil, And The Complete Presence Of Goodness.
2. Desire Is The Starting Point For Temptation, Then Comes Deception - Bait Is Dangled. Then Disobedience - Going Against God's Plan, Resulting In Death - Spiritual, Physical, And Eternal.
3. God Gives Only Good Gifts, God Gives The Right Way, God Gives Constantly, And God Does Not Change.