

THE BOOK OF JAMES

FATHWORKS



James 1:12-18

Dealing With Temptation

"Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him. When tempted, no one should say, "God is tempting me." For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death. Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created."

James 1:12-18, NIV

Every person seeking to follow Christ will most assuredly encounter temptation along the way. This is an unavoidable fact that we must be willing to deal with. It is during these times of temptation that what we believe about God and about His salvation becomes clear. We quickly see what the things we turn to are and who we blame for our situation. But James makes it clear, that being able to stand up in the face of temptation is a valiant expression of our faith; one that leads to eternal glory. Furthermore, God is there every step of the way through our times of temptation to see us through to the other side.

Verse 12 introduces us to the concept of those who are tempted. Who is the blessed person and why?

Blessed

Why?

What is the progression of temptation in verses 14-15?



James is clear that God cannot be tempted by evil nor will he tempt anyone. How do we understand a sovereign God and the fact that we are tempted? Is there a difference between being tested and tempted?

What gifts does God give to His people?

Explain what it means that we have been given "birth through the word of truth?"

What temptations have you seen other people endure that you don't feel is a temptation for you? What temptations do you endure that may not be the same for others? What does this imply about the need for the body of Christ to support one another?

How does the way we handle temptation put our faith on display? Where is this challenging for us individually?

Daily Bible Reading Plan

Day One James 1:12-18

Day Two Psalm 2

Day Three Exodus 2

Day Four John 3

Day Five Romans 3

Day Six Psalm 3

Day Seven Exodus 3

Prayer Requests