

The Book of JAMES

What's So Great About Temptation?

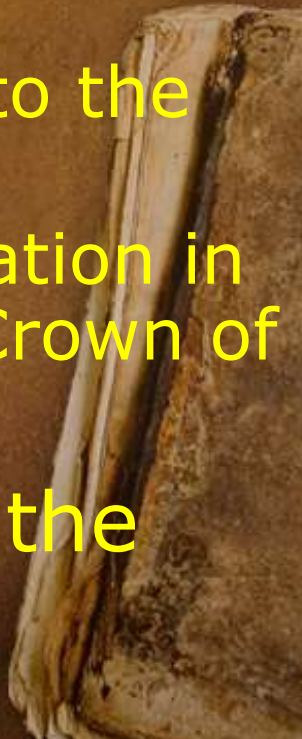
James 1:1-18

James

- The purpose of the book of James was to address the need for growing maturity among believers.
- The first object of James' instruction was the subject of temptation.
- James was the kind of person who lived a life of such personal holiness that he commanded great respect among believers.
- James' holy lifestyle and brutal honesty brought his life to an untimely end.



Products of Temptation

- The four products of temptation are:
 - Maturity - Undergoing assaults on our faith help us reach new levels of understanding and discernment.
 - Sincerity - It is impossible to inherit God's kingdom without a childlike faith.
 - Equality – Temptation reduces everyone to the same level.
 - Longevity - A person must endure temptation in order to be found worthy to receive the Crown of Life.
 - The products of temptation represent the character-building Christians need to prepare themselves for eternity.
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Necessity of Temptation

- The greatest product of our temptation is our standing with Christ when he returns.
- God, in His holiness, cannot experience temptation, nor does He dole it out to his children.
- God never tempts us to see if we will fall.
- Our human lusts are the sources of our temptations.
- The only way we can overcome the temptations brought on by our lusts is through Jesus Christ.
- We must deal with the source of our temptations directly and daily.



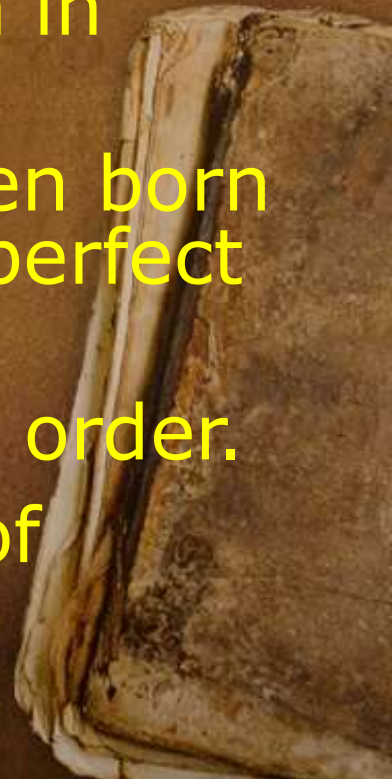
Good Gifts

- If a gift is truly good and truly perfect, then it has to come from God.
- God is called the “Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.”
- God has no dark side because. His nature will not permit him to do bad things.
- There is no hidden agenda in God’s plans.
- God can only give gifts that bring light to our lives.



Help for Temptation

- God does nothing that is not according to His will.
- God, by the sheer fact of His omnipresence, is in the present at every moment in history.
- Before God placed Adam and Eve in the Garden, He set His plan for our salvation in motion.
- As believers in Christ Jesus, we have been born as spiritual children of God through the perfect means of God's plan of redemption.
- Believers are the pinnacle of the created order.
- Our salvation has raised us to the level of spiritual sonship with God.



Conclusion

- Enduring temptations bring us to the place where we are fit for the glories of heaven.
- If you are not experiencing temptation in some form, get ready, your moment is coming.
- As sure as there is life, there will be more temptation.

