

## James – The Marks of a Mature Believer

### Having a Proper Outlook on Trials (James 1:13-18)

As believers, we will all face trials of some sort (John 16:33). The solution is not to try to avoid these trials, but to honestly embrace them and discover God's purpose for them. James provides practical insight into how we can properly respond to these trials in order for us to benefit and mature from them.

He has a Proper Outlook of Trials (James 1:1-18)

#### A. The Appropriate Response to Trials from WITHOUT (1:2-8)

##### 1. Do Not \_\_\_\_\_ His Character

- a. COUNT: A Deliberate Settled Conviction (1:2)
- b. KNOW: A Determined Sought Out Understanding (1:3)
- c. LET: A Dependent Submissive Will (1:4)
- d. ASK: A Deepened Spiritual Relationship (1:5)

*Instead of running from our trials James encourages the believer remain under them, and "ask from the giving God" (vs. 5), whom only desires for us to be made mature and complete.*

#### B. The Appropriate Evaluation of Trials (1:9-10)

#### C. The Appropriate Reward of Trials (1:12)

#### D. The Appropriate Response to Trials from WITHIN (1:13-18)

##### 1. Do Not **DRAWN AWAY** by your own Desires (1:13-15)

 James 1:14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.

 **Tempted / Test** (G3985) peirazo: to try or put to the proof. Peirazo is a neutral word which simply means to "put to the proof." Sometimes it is translated as temptation and other times it is translated as a trial or test. The context will determine the correct meaning.

God's purpose for the **test** or trial is always to bring about the good. Thus He allows *pressure to assist in the growth and development of the believer's faith*. (James 1:2; 1 Peter 1:6-7)

On the other hand, peirazo is sometimes translated **temptation** - as the objective is to craftily try us by means of an enticement or solicitation to sin. This purpose for the test is to bring out the bad. God is never the source of temptation.

##### a. Facing the \_\_\_\_\_ (1:13a)

###### (1.) God is not the \_\_\_\_\_ of Temptation

 James 1:13a Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"

##### b. Facing the \_\_\_\_\_ (1:13b-14)

###### • God is \_\_\_\_\_ (1:13b)

 James 1:13b ...for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.

 **Two simple facts are revealed about God -**

God's \_\_\_\_\_ takes no pleasure in evil, therefore He cannot be tempted to sin.

God's \_\_\_\_\_ is in perfect harmony with His character, therefore He takes no pleasure in tempting anyone.

###### (1.) The \_\_\_\_\_ of Temptation

- Man is \_\_\_\_\_ (1:14)

###### (2.) The \_\_\_\_\_ of Temptation (1 Peter 2:11)

**Temptation** is not sin; it is the call to battle.

**(3.) The Downward \_\_\_\_\_ of Temptation**

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🕯 **Drawn away:** to draw out; metaphorically lure forth: in hunting and fishing as game is lured from its hiding place, so man is allured from safety to sin.

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🕯 **Enticed:** to lure by bait.

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**2. Do Not be DECEIVED by Wandering Away from Him (1:16-18)**

📖 James 1:16 NKJV Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

📖 James 1:16 YLT Be not led astray, my brethren beloved

🕯 **Deceived / Err** (KJV): to go astray; wander away; roam; to go off course. (Present/Passive/Imperative)

**a. \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_ in His Worthiness! (1:17-18)**

**(1.) He is the Giver of ALL Good (1:17a)**

📖 James 1:17a Every good gift<sup>G1394</sup> and every perfect gift<sup>G1434</sup> is from above...

🕯 **Gift:** (G1394) dosis: the act of giving. 🕯 **Gift:** (G1434) dōrēma: the gift given

**Reflecting on what God has Given**

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**(2.) He is the Father of Lights (1:17b)**

📖 James 1:17b ... and comes down from the Father of lights

**(3.) He is Unchangeable (1:17c)**

📖 James 1:17c ... with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.

**(4.) He Brought Forth Life to Us (1:18)**

📖 James 1:18 Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.