

## Lesson 4 - James 1:13-18 - Temptations

What Are They? (13-15)	How Do You Deal With Them?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- not being tempted by God (13)</li> <li>- We can endure temptations in our life (I Cor 10:13)</li> <li>- You have a choice - use God's way of escape OR we can do it our own way and give in</li> <li>- God can't be tempted by evil and does not tempt anyone</li> <li>- We are tempted when we are carried away by our own lusts (14)</li> <li>- Sin is a process of wrong thinking and wrong mindset</li> <li>- Progression - carried away by your lust - lust conceived gives birth to sin - sin brings forth death</li> </ul> <p>Carried away = wild game being lured into a trap - drawn to their own deaths - what promises to be good actually is harmful</p> <p>Enticed = baiting a hook, to delude, charm, enchant</p> <p>Lust = strong desire to acquire something to fulfill the flesh - Ro 7:8-25; Mt 15:18-20</p>	<p>Don't let Satan get a foothold in your life (Js 4:7-8; Eph 4:26-29)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Resist the devil - he will flee</li> <li>- Draw near to God</li> <li>- Cleanse our hands and purify our hearts</li> <li>- Forgiveness (Ro 12:17-20)</li> <li>- Thinking properly - filling our minds with God's Word and God's thoughts not allowing Satan to whisper thoughts (Pr 4:23; II Cor 10:5; Col 3:2; Joshua 1:8; Matt 6:22-23/I Jn 4:1; Phil 4:8)</li> <li>- Desire what pleases God (Lk 6:45)</li> </ul>

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How Does Satan Use Them?	How Did Jesus Overcome Them?
<p>How Does Satan Get a Foothold?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Distraction - busyness, no time for God, pull you away from your walk (Ps 46:10 - be still and know that I am God)</li> <li>- Delay - I will wait for a better time, when life gets back to normal . . . , I don't know enough right now to help anyone else</li> <li>- Discouragement - non-realistic expectations, Satan robs us of our joy - closed doors are God's way of moving us - no situation is hopeless when God is in control</li> <li>- Distortion - the devil will twist truth and then send us down the road of wrong thinking - amplify existing problems - see ourselves as victims instead of empowered children of God</li> <li>- Doubt - if we doubt God's goodness, power, character and we let that fester - it will begin eroding our faith</li> </ul>	<p>Matt 4:1-11            God uses Satanic tempting to serve His purpose (Job)</p> <p>Jesus was tempted in all the ways we are tempted (3 points) - He 4:15; I Jn 2:16</p> <p>1) lust of the flesh (3-4)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- since you are the Son of God turn the stones into bread</li> <li>- Violate God's plan and use your own power to satisfy your hunger</li> <li>- Jesus' response - Quotes Scripture - Dt 8:3 - God allowed Israel to become hungry to teach them His provision - teach them trust - they were to be fed spiritually</li> </ul> <p>2) lust of the eyes (8-10)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I will give you all the kingdoms right now</li> <li>- Ruler of this world (Jn 12:31; 14:40: 16:11), god of this world (II Cor 4:4), world lies in his power (I Jn 5:19; cf Dan 10:13; Eph 6:10ff)</li> <li>- Price - fall down and worship Satan</li> <li>- Response - Dt 6:13-14 - Scripture - Worship God and serve Him only</li> </ul> <p>3) boastful pride of life (5-6)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- trust in Himself alone</li> <li>- Satan twists Scripture - test God instead of trusting God</li> <li>- Response - don't put God to the test - Dt 6:16 - the people didn't trust God - they put their trust Moses (Ex 17:2-7)</li> </ul>

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Blame Game	Don't Be Deceived (16-17)	Best Gift (18)
<p>Responsibility for our actions or blame others?</p> <p>Gen 3:8-13 - they chose not to obey God - they both made their own choices</p> <p>When confronted they blamed someone else</p> <p>We don't want to take the consequences of our actions</p> <p>How do we take responsibility?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- I Cor 10:13</li> <li>- We recognize sin and call it what it is - sin is sin</li> <li>- We stop justifying our sin</li> <li>- Recognize that we made a deliberate choice</li> </ul> <p>Stop blaming others and take responsibility</p> <p>God is working through the problems in our life - don't blame God and don't try to squirm out of it but allow God to use it to bring you to maturity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- don't blame God for temptations</li> <li>- They come from your sin nature</li> <li>- Blame belongs to you (your decisions)</li> </ul> <p>What God does Give?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- gives what is good and perfect</li> <li>- Choice is do you want God's good or do you want to chase the bait of Satan</li> <li>- God is gracious and gives everything that is perfect</li> </ul> <p>Father of lights - Jewish expression</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- God as Creator including the sun, moon, and stars</li> </ul> <p>Variation and shifting shadow - they change position and varying shadows</p> <p>God doesn't change</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- He 13:8 - He's the same yesterday, today, and forever</li> <li>- Mal 3:6; I Jn 1:5</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sovereign will of God which is the source of this new life</li> <li>- Regeneration - Jn 3:3-8; I Pe 1:23-25; Jn 1:12-13; Eph 2:4-6</li> </ul> <p>Word of truth</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jn 17:17 - God's Word is truth and it sanctifies believers - sets them apart from the world to serve God</li> <li>- Col 1:5 - word shows us what is in store for us - hope of heaven</li> <li>- I Thes 2:13 - when you receive the Word, it performs its work in you</li> <li>- Titus 3:5 - Word washes us (Eph 5:26)</li> </ul> <p>First Fruits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- offering brought before God as an act of faith that more would be coming (Lv 23:9-14; Pr 3:9-10)</li> <li>- Christians are the first evidence of God's new creation that is to come (II Pet 3:10-13)</li> <li>- Enjoy our new life in Christ it is a foretaste of the glory to come (Ro 8:19-23)</li> </ul>