

“James: Authentic Christianity (3) – Victory Over Temptation” (1:13-18)

**Today’s Subject: Temptation...
Live Out an Authentic Christian Life through Perseverance!**

I. The Tests: Trials and Temptations (1:13-18)

Every culture in every age is intrinsically Hostile to Christianity...

A. External Persecution: Trials

**Insights from God’s Wisdom reveal the Godly Perspective to *Persevere*:
*Promise of Maturity in the present life and Reward of the Crown of Life in the next***

B. Personal Struggle: Temptation...

C. Trial and Temptation (Pairosmos): Both serve to Test the Believer’s Character

1. God’s Perspective: Trials in Believer’s Life is to Develop/Prove his Progress

2. Satan’s Perspective: Temptation aims to cause the Believer’s Downfall

3. Illustration: Job – “Blameless and Upright; Feared God and Shunned Evil” (Job 1:1)

But... Temptations are usually packaged in Attractive Wrappings...

II. The Source of Temptation (1:13-14)

A. God is neither the Origin, nor the Agency of Temptation (v 13; cf. Gen 3:12)

B. Temptation comes from one’s Evil Desire (v 14)

III. The Consequences of Falling into Temptations (1:15-16)

A. The Imagery (v 15)...

Unchecked Lust/Desire yields Sin; Unconfessed Sin brings Death

B. Don’t be Deceived (v 16)

**A Right Response to Trials results in Growth to Spiritual Maturity,
Wrong Response to Lust leads to Spiritual Poverty and Death – Uselessness**

IV. The Solution to Temptation (1:17-18)

A. Believers’ Recognition: Birthed by God’s Choice to be His 1st Fruits

B. Believers’ Resolution: Desire to Rest in the Father’s Unchanging Character, to be in a Close Relationship with Him, and to Know His Word and to Choose to Obey His Will

“In the action that I Choose:

Does the world see me as an Authentic or an Inconsistent Christian?”

Reflection: Don’t be Distracted by our Desires to follow after the Baits of Temptation, which lead to Despair and Disqualification for the Kingdom Purpose

Choose Rightly and Live a Godly, Authentic Christian Life!

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***Promise* of _____ in the present life and *Reward* of the
_____ in the next**

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C. Trial and Temptation (Pairosmos): Both serve to Test the Believer’s _____

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