

James
Women's Bible Study Revised 2022

Lesson 5: James 1:13-18

¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

1) Let's define some terms:

Tempt –

Lure –

Entice –

2) James clearly states that God is not the source of temptation. If you had to corroborate James' statement here, what would you say? What verses would you use to support your claims and explain how they support your claims?

3) In verses 14 and 15, James continues to explain what gives birth to sin and what the results of sin are. Are the results of sin that James speaks of referring to physical or spiritual?

4) Why is it important for a believer to be reminded of these things? Is it really productive for a believer to think on these things? Explain your answer.

5) In verse 16, James reinforces the idea that we are not to be deceived into thinking that God is the source of temptation. Why the repetition/emphasis on this idea?

6) As verse 17 reinforces God's immutability (or changelessness – not sure if that's a word), verse 18 explains several doctrines (or truths) to which we hold as believers. What doctrines do you find in verse 18?

7) What does it mean in verse 18 that we are “a kind of firstfruits of his creatures”? What are specific examples of these firstfruits?