

Darkness Amplified:
2 What is Temptation?
James 1:12-15
April 21

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. 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. James 1:12-15

Temptations Reveal Desires

1. Reflecting on James 1:12-15, what does it mean to remain steadfast under trial, and how does this relate to resisting temptation?
2. How does the concept of temptation challenging our perception of reality affect our decision-making process?
3. According to James, where does the source of temptation lie, and how does this understanding influence our response? Use James 1:13-14 in this discussion.

Three Categories of Temptation

4. Explore the three categories of temptation outlined in 1 John 2:15-17 (desires of the flesh, material gain, and power). How do these categories manifest in today's world?
5. How can an awareness of our desires help us discern between godly and ungodly means of fulfillment?
6. Discuss the statement, "Being tempted is not failing." How can this perspective empower individuals in their spiritual journey? How does self-denial fit into this?

Know The Truth, Know Yourself.

7. Explore the idea of desires being twisted into darkness. What are some strategies for untwisting and aligning desires with God's truth?
8. Reflect on the warning from Jesus in Luke 17:1-3 regarding temptations and causing others to sin. How does this caution inform our interactions with others?
9. Reflect on the ultimate promise for those who remain steadfast under trial, as mentioned in James 1:12. How does this promise encourage believers in their faith journey?