

**JAMES 1:12-15**  
 PERSEVERING LOVE AND SINFUL DESIRE

1

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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. <sup>13</sup> LET 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. <sup>14</sup> BUT EACH PERSON IS TEMPTED WHEN HE IS LURED AND ENTICED BY HIS OWN DESIRE. <sup>15</sup> THEN DESIRE WHEN IT HAS CONCEIVED GIVES BIRTH TO SIN, AND SIN WHEN IT IS FULLY GROWN BRINGS FORTH DEATH.

2

1. THE SITUATION

- LIFE AS A PARADOX: FILLED WITH BEAUTY AND GOODNESS (JAMES 1:16-18) AND BROKENNESS (JAMES 1:12-15)

3

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- LIFE AS A PARADOX: FILLED WITH BEAUTY AND GOODNESS (JAMES 1:16-18) AND BROKENNESS (JAMES 1:12-15)
- VERSE 12 - JAMES CALLS US TO PUSH THROUGH TRIAL AND TEMPTATION AND REMAIN STEADFAST TO THE END

4

2. THE QUESTION

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5

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6

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- **OUR TEMPTATION IS TO BLAME GOD WHEN WE FACE TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS.**
- **VERSE 13 – GOD IS HOLY AND GOOD, THE SOURCE OF EVERY GOOD THING. HE DOES NOT TEMPT US. HE DOES NOT TRY TO TRIP US UP.**

7

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- **OUR TEMPTATION IS TO BLAME GOD WHEN WE FACE TRIALS AND TEMPTATIONS**
- **VERSE 13 – GOD IS HOLY AND GOOD, THE SOURCE OF EVERY GOOD THING. HE DOES NOT TEMPT US. HE DOES NOT TRY TO TRIP US UP**
- **WHERE IS GOD? GOD IS HOLDING OUT HIS PROMISES TO US, ENCOURAGING US TO PERSEVERE (VERSE 12)**

8

## 3. TWO DIFFERENT RESPONSES TO TRIAL/TEMPTATION

- **JAMES PRESENTS TWO DIFFERENT RESPONSES TO GOING THROUGH THE TRIALS OF LIFE: PERSEVERING LOVE FOR GOD (v.12) OR LUSTFUL OR COVETOUS DESIRE (v.14-15).**

9

3. TWO RESPONSES: RESPONSE 1 – **SINFUL DESIRE**

Course of Sin	EXAMPLE: Eve's Sin in the Garden
<b>Desire Conceived:</b>	The woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise
<b>Gives birth to Sin</b>	she took of its fruit and ate
<b>Sin brings forth death</b>	[Result is death and curse]

10

3. TWO RESPONSES: RESPONSE 1 – **SINFUL DESIRE**

Course of Sin	EXAMPLE: David's Adultery (2 Samuel 11)
<b>Desire Conceived:</b>	When David arose from his couch and was walking on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; and the woman was very beautiful.
<b>Gives birth to Sin</b>	So David sent messengers and took her, and she came to him, and he lay with her.
<b>Sin brings forth death</b>	[Leads to the murder of Uriah, death of the baby, and the unraveling of David's family]

11

3. TWO RESPONSES: RESPONSE 2 – **PERSEVERING LOVE FOR GOD**

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12

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- WE ARE TO DIRECT OUR LOVE, OUR DESIRE, TO THE RIGHT PLACE - TO GOD HIMSELF.

13

3. TWO RESPONSES: RESPONSE 2 –  
**PERSEVERING LOVE FOR GOD**

**"SET FAITH AT WORK ON CHRIST FOR THE KILLING OF YOUR SIN. HIS BLOOD IS THE GREAT SOVEREIGN REMEDY FOR SIN-SICK SOULS. LIVE IN THIS, AND YOU WILL DIE A CONQUEROR; YES, YOU WILL, THROUGH THE GOOD PROVIDENCE OF GOD, LIVE TO SEE YOUR LUST DEAD AT YOUR FEET."** JOHN OWEN

14

3. TWO RESPONSES: RESPONSE 2 –  
**PERSEVERING LOVE FOR GOD**

Persevering Love	Example: Abraham's Trial (Genesis 22)
<b>Trial and Temptation</b>	"Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>2</sup> He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you."
<b>Remains steadfast under trial</b>	So Abraham rose early in the morning...
<b>Stood the test, he will receive the Crown of Life</b>	The LORD: "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me... I will surely bless you..."

15

CONCLUSION – THE CROWN OF LIFE

**WE HAVE A NEED FOR ENDURANCE: LET THE LOVE OF GOD AND HIS PROMISES DRIVE YOU TO THE FINISH LINE AND THE REWARD.**

16