

New Hope Sunday School: Study of James
Lesson 5 – Faith and Temptation - James 1:13-18

Temptation and Trials

Jas 1: 13 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.

- What is the connection between our trials and temptation?
- Why would someone say they are being tempted by God? (Genesis 3:12)
- Where do our trials come from?
- Why can't God tempt us?
- Why can't God be tempted with evil?

Trials	Temptations
A trial comes from the outside in	A temptation comes from the inside out
Trials bring life	Temptations bring death
Trials lead to maturity	Temptations lead to a maturing of sin
God brings into your life the outward trials.	He does not bring the inner temptations. Those come from within you.

WCF: Chapter III - Of God's Eternal Decree.

- i. God, from all eternity, did, by the most wise and holy counsel of His own will freely, and unchangeably ordain whatsoever comes to pass: yet so, *as thereby neither is God the author of sin*, nor is violence offered to the will of the creatures; nor is the liberty or contingency of second causes taken away, but rather established.

1 John 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

Temptation is an impulse to sin, and since God is not susceptible to any such impulse (He is God) He cannot be tempted nor can he bring it about in man.

New Hope Sunday School: Study of James
Lesson 5 – Faith and Temptation - James 1:13-18

The Source of Temptation

Jas 1:14 But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

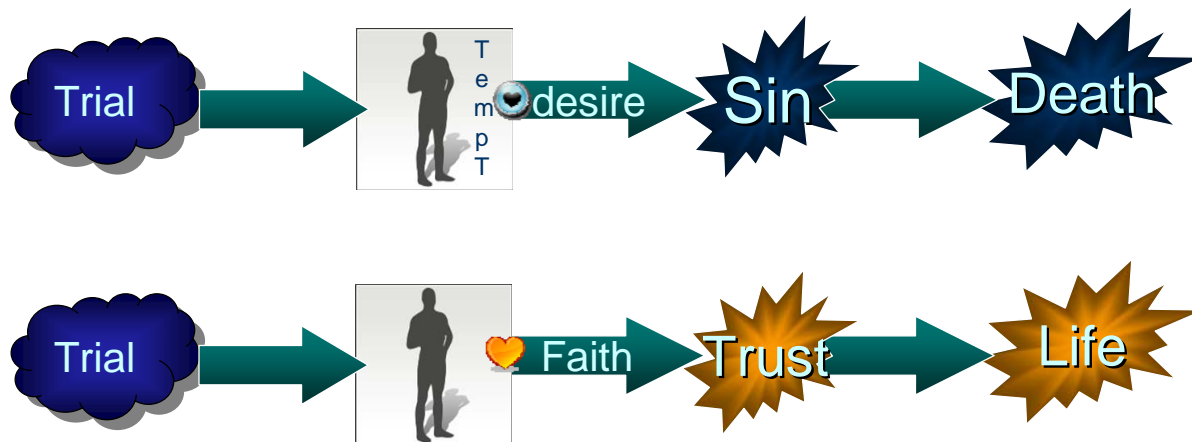
Jas 1:15 Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Job 15:35 They conceive trouble and give birth to evil, and their womb prepares deceit."

Rom 7:13 Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

Good Book on this issue => [Kris Lundgaard – The Enemy Within](#)

- Where does temptation come from?



“Even the suggestions of the devil do not occasion danger, before they are made ‘our own’ ” (Bengel)

“Christian maturity is not indicated by the infrequency of temptation but by the infrequency of succumbing to temptation” (Douglas Moo)

- What is the difference between the temptation of Adam and the temptation of Jesus?
Hint => it has to do with the source

New Hope Sunday School: Study of James
Lesson 5 – Faith and Temptation - James 1:13-18

The Antidote to Temptation

Jas 1:16-18 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every 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. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

- What are we not to be deceived about?
- What was the deception of Adam and Even in the garden?
- How would we be deceived?
- What do we learn about the nature of God in these verses?
- What do we learn about the will of God in these verses?

According to God’s plan.

By God’s power.

For God’s purpose.

- What is meant by “first fruits” of his creatures?
- What is the relationship between temptation and faith?

Sin	God
Verse 15	Verse 18
What we are able to accomplish	What God is able to accomplish
Brought forth sin	Brought US forth by the Word of truth
The result is DEATH	The result is LIFE