

Faithful When Tempted

James 1:13-15

I. Don't Blame God For Our Bad Choices (13)

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. (ESV)

- A. **Temptation Is A Plight For Every Person: Do _____** (1 Cor 10:12; Mt 26:41; Prov 22:3)
- B. **Temptation Is Not A Plot From God: Don't _____ Shift**
- God Is Unable To Be Lured With Temptation
 - God Is Uninvolved With Any Source Of Temptation

II. Acknowledge Our Sins Are Our Choices (14-15)

- A. _____ **Lures And Entices Our Desires** (14, 1 Pet 2:11)

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

- Looking around arouses the eye gate (Job 31:1; Mk 9:47; Prov 6:25-27)
- Surfing around opens the mind gate (2 Cor 10:5; Phil 4:8; Ps 139:23-24)
- Flirting around arouses the heart gate (Prov 5:8-10; 1 Thess 4:6)
- Feeling around arouses the sensuous gate (1 Cor 7:1)

- B. _____ **Is Birthed When We Choose To Act On The Temptation** (15a)

^{15a} Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin,

1. Sin Is Conceived Mentally: We Plot On How We Will Carry Out The Sin
 - Mentally, We Ignore The Person Of God
 - Mentally, We Ignore The Word Of God
 - Mentally, We Value Our Desire Greater Than Those We Victimize Or Objectivize
2. Sin Is Achieved Decisively: We Act On Our Plan Of Sin (Prov 7:8)

- C. _____ **Is The Result Of Full Grown Sin** (15b; Prov 14:12)

^{15b} and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Conclusion:

1. Don't Blame Shift The Responsibility Of Our Moral Choices
2. Don't Bite The Hook: Flee (2 Tim 2:22; Gen 39:12-13; Prov 22:3)
3. Do Break The Spiral Of Sin By Counting On Your Salvation And Strengthening Through Christ (Rom 13:14)
4. Do Be Open To God About Our Struggle And Sin: Confess (Prov 28:13; 1 Jn 1:9)
5. Do Get Accountability (Prov 27:6; 27:17; Eccl 4:9-10)

Discussion:

- What are common excuses we give for our sins?
- How does understanding temptation (from James 1:13-15) protect us from pornography, immoral relationships or an extra-marital affair?
- How could we be properly motivated to regularly confess our sins (1 Jn 1:9) and seek accountability?