

James Series Going Deeper

5- Day Devotional

Week 5, Day 1: God is Not the Source of Your Temptation

Verse of the Day

Primary Scripture: James 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.

Primary Focus Statement

God is perfectly holy and completely separate from evil, therefore He is never the source of temptation in your life.

Devotional Teaching

James begins this section by confronting a dangerous lie that can take root in the human heart, especially in difficult seasons. When we feel pressure, when temptation is strong, or when life is not going the way we expected, there can be a subtle shift where we begin to blame God. It may not be something we say out loud, but it can live deep within us. We begin to question His goodness, His intentions, or even His character.

James shuts that down immediately. God cannot be tempted by evil and He does not tempt anyone. That means there is absolutely nothing in God that is drawn toward sin and there is nothing in Him that would ever lead you toward it. He is completely pure, completely righteous, and completely good. Temptation does not originate from Him.

This matters deeply for your life because how you view God determines how you respond to Him. If you believe God is behind your temptation, you will begin to distance yourself from Him. But if you understand that He is holy and completely for your good, you will run to Him in the middle of your struggle instead of away from Him.

Temptation is real, but God is not the source of it. He is your refuge in the middle of it.

Reflection Questions

1. Where in my life have I subtly blamed God for struggles or temptations I am facing?
2. Do I truly believe that God is completely good and incapable of leading me into sin?
3. How would my response to temptation change if I ran to God instead of pulling away from Him?

Action Step

The next time you feel temptation, immediately turn to God in prayer and remind yourself that He is your help, not the source of the struggle.