



The Truth About Temptation

James 1:1-16

July 19, 2026

Pastor Vaughn

1. The cause of temptation

James 1:13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

14 But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

15 Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.

2. The course of temptation

3. The consequence of sin

4. An expectant command

Application Questions

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. It is also helpful when you are able to discuss your answers with others. For more information about Koinonia Groups at Heritage Church that utilize these questions as the basis for their discussion, please see Pastor Vaughn or e-mail Vaughn@hcgj.org.

1. What personal connection did James share with many of the original recipients of his epistle?
2. How do you think that shaped his message to them?
3. How do Christians sometimes indirectly blame God for the temptations they face?
4. According to James, why is it wrong to blame God for tempting us?
5. What is the true source of the temptations we face?
6. What part does the devil play in our tempting?
7. What is the danger of harboring "secret" sins in one's heart?
8. Discuss with the group a plan for gaining victory over temptation.

Here are some resources that may assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon. While Pastor Vaughn cannot endorse every concept presented in each book, he does believe these resources will be helpful in profitably thinking through today's topic.

Blomberg, Craig L. and Miriam J. Kawell. **Zondervan Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament V 16.** Zondervan 2008.
Hughes, Kent R. **James, Faith That Works.** Crossway, 1991.
Lenski, Richard C.H., **The Interpretation to the Epistle to the Hebrews and the Epistle of James.** Augsburg Fortress, 1946, 2008.
MacArthur, John. **The MacArthur New Testament Commentary: James.** Moody Publishers, 1998.
Moo, Douglas J. **The Letter of James.** Intervarsity, 1985.
Varner, William. **The Book of James, A New Perspective.** Kress, 2010.
Zodihates, Spires. **The Work of Faith.** Eerdmans 1959.

Streaming of both the audio and video of today's sermon is available on the Heritage website (HCGJ.org) and App (Heritage GJ). The App can also be found on YouTube, RokuTV, AppleTV, GoogleTV, FireTV, and CarPlay. Podcasts for Heritage Church can also be found on your favorite provider.