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# DON'T TAKE THE BAIT

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*Philadelphia Church*

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# **James 1:1-17**

***1 James, a bondservant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
To the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad:***

***Greetings.***

***2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; 8 he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.***

***9 Let the lowly brother glory in his exaltation, 10 but the rich in his humiliation, because as a flower of the field he will pass away.***

## **James 1:1-17 cont**

***11 For no sooner has the sun risen with a burning heat than it withers the grass; its flower falls, and its beautiful appearance perishes. So the rich man also will fade away in his pursuits.***

***12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. 13 Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed. 15 Then, when desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, brings forth death.***

***16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.***

## James 1:13-14

***13 Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone. 14 But each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed.***

## 2 Corinthians 2:11

***11 lest Satan should take advantage of us;  
for we are not ignorant of his devices.***

***44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do. He was a murderer from the beginning, and does not stand in the truth, because there is no truth in him. When he speaks a lie, he speaks from his own resources, for he is a liar and the father of it.***

**Matthew 4:3**

***<sup>3</sup> Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, “If You are the Son of God, command that these stones become bread.”***

***10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.***

***11 “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.***

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***Fear-* causes us to lose  
our faith and focus on  
another perceived  
danger.**

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**1 John 4:18**

***18 There is no fear in love; but perfect love casts out fear, because fear involves torment. But he who fears has not been made perfect in love.***

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***“Satan wants to lure us into his traps, and he knows what kind of "bait" will appeal to us. he knows what we are like, and he will attack us where we are the weakest.” - BG***

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***Distraction-*** gets you  
to focus on anything  
other than God.

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**James 1:12**

***12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.***

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***Spirit of offense-***  
**holds us back and**  
**weighs us down**  
**Spiritually.**

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**Matthew 24:20**

***20 And pray that your flight may not be in winter or on the Sabbath.***

## Colossians 3:12-13

***12 Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; 13 bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do.***

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***Compromise-*** making  
concessions or  
substituting worldly  
things that cause  
spiritual decline.

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**Compromise is not only a subtle distraction, but it never will be as good as what God has planned for you.**

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***Comparison-*** makes  
you falsely feel like  
you are doing well or  
doing poorly.

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**What am I comparing  
myself to?**

**Is that even what God  
wants for me?**

## 2 Corinthians 10:12

*12 For we dare not class ourselves or compare ourselves with those who commend themselves. But they, measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.*

## Romans 12:3

***<sup>3</sup> For I say, through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God has dealt to each one a measure of faith.***

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***Confusion-*** spiritual disorder or lack of clarity in contrast with order or the peace of God.

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**1 Corinthians 14:33**

***33 For God is not the author of confusion  
but of peace, as in all the churches of the  
saints.***

**James 1:12**

***12 Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.***