

A Study of the General Epistles

(NT Survey Lesson 191--James 1)

Introduction: This chapter is filled with practical information on how to live so as to “receive the crown of life”. James discusses two spiritual births: 1) the birth of sin caused by temptation; 2) the birth of a child of God caused by salvation. In the first section James tells us how we should respond to temptation.

Lesson aim: To learn how to live so as to receive the crown of life.

How to deal with Satan's temptations--Jas. 1:1-16

1. What does James urge Christians to do when they encounter various trials or temptations? (v. 2-3) Why?
2. How can a Christian find the wisdom he needs to handle life's temptations? (v. 5) In what way does James say God gives wisdom?
3. With what attitude should a Christian ask for this wisdom from God? (v. 6-8) How does James describe the doubting man?
4. In what can the poor man exult or rejoice? (v. 9) In what can the rich man glory or exult? (v. 10) To what does James compare the rich man “in the midst of his pursuits” (v. 11)?
5. What promise does God give to those who endure or persevere in trial? (v. 12)
6. Who is not the source of our temptations to sin? (v. 13) What does James say about His relationship to temptation?
7. When one is tempted, by what is he drawn away and enticed? To what does lust give birth after conceiving? When sin is finished, it brings forth what?

How to receive God's salvation--Jas. 1:17-27

1. What does James affirm comes from God? (v. 17) How does he describe God?
2. What did God do in the exercise of His will? (v. 18) In order that we might be what?
3. Name three things we should do that will keep us from rebelling against God's word (v. 19). Why must these be avoided? (v. 20)
4. If we are live right, what must we put aside? (v. 21) What must Christians receive in order to be saved? With what attitude?
5. Will it do any good just to hear the word? (v. 22) To what does James liken this kind of man? (v. 23-24)
6. What instead should we do? (v. 25) How does James describe this law into which we look? What does God promise to those who do this?
7. What does James say would prove that our religion is worthless? (v. 26)
8. How does James define "pure and undefiled religion"? (v. 27)