

Title: The Believer's Response To Temptation

Text: 1:13-18

Main Idea: Understand the truth and overcome temptation

Division Statements:

1. Recognize your personal accountability for temptation and sin (vv. 13-15).

Note: Temptation when it comes does not come from God (v13) "but each one is tempted when he is drawn away by his own desires and enticed." This leads to the consequences laid out in verse 15.

2. Recognize the purpose of God: New Birth and New Life (vv. 16-18).

Note: God's purpose, however, which is laid out in these verses, is much grander and wonderful beyond compare. New birth is indicated by the verb "brought us forth" ἀποκυέω (apokueo): to give birth to.

3. Respond to temptation as a loyal living sacrifice (vv. 16, 18).

Note: Rather than being "deceived" (v. 16) in the face of temptation, we are to live as "a kind of firstfruits of His creatures" (v. 18). "Firstfruits" refers to the praise and thanksgiving offerings given to God in Ex. 23:19; Lev. 23:9-13; Deut. 26:1-19. Thus our very lives are to be a joyful offering given to God, a kind of living sacrifice (e.g. Rom. 12:1).

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