



BELIEVE IT.

James: A Bible Study WISDOM

WISDOM REVEALS: GOD IS PERFECTING US

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds,
³ for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness.

⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

James 1:2-4 ESV

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial,
for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life,
which God has promised to those who love him.

James 1:12 ESV

GROWTH PROGRESSION

Trials/Testing, Steadfastness/Perseverance, Perfection/Completeness

GOD IS PROTECTING US

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.

¹⁴ But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire.

¹⁵ Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin,
and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

James 1:13-15 ESV

TWO METAPHORS

1 FISHING

2 PREGNANCY

*God protects us by revealing the dangerous steps
and process of temptation.*

GOD IS PROVIDING FOR US

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷ Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.

¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth,
that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

James 1:16-18 ESV

"If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts
to your children, how much more will your Father
who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!"

Matthew 7:11 ESV

Trust God to give us exactly what we need for our perfection.

PERFECTION THROUGH US

Who is wise and understanding among you? By his good conduct let him show his works in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth. ¹⁵ This is not the wisdom that comes down from above,

but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice.

¹⁷ But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere.

¹⁸ And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

James 3:13-18 ESV

TWO KINDS OF WISDOM

1 EARTHLY, UNSPIRITUAL, DEMONIC

2 FROM ABOVE

WISDOM IS POSSIBLE FOR ALL OF US

If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God,
who gives generously to all without reproach,
and it will be given him.

James 1:5 ESV

God gives wisdom generously to all who ask.

A LOOK IN THE MIRROR

*I'm confused about my struggles,
but ready to ask God for wisdom to understand.*

*I keep making bad choices,
but want to stop giving into temptation.*

*I'm looking in the wrong places for good things,
but want to believe God gives every good thing I need.*

*My heart reveals immaturity - jealousy, selfish ambition, boasting -
but I want to be pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason,
full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere...*

at peace, whole, mature, just perfect.

NEXT STEPS

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