



February 11: James 1:12-18

1. What is the reward that James promises will come to those who steadfastly endure trials? Can you think of other passages of Scripture that point to similar rewards?
2. How should the promise of reward for endurance motivate us in our walk with Christ?
3. The Bible teaches that God often in his providence ordains that his people should face trials—as opposed to the idea that God is ever the cause of sin or evil, which it does not teach. What passages of Scripture teach this truth regarding trials? What stories in the Bible illustrate it?

4. If God sometimes ordains that his people will face trials, what then is James saying in verse 13 that God *does not do*? (Hint: there is a difference between trial and temptation!)

5. When once we act on our evil desires and give birth to sin, what does James say is the result after sin “is fully grown?”

6. Why does James turn in verse 16 to talk about God’s goodness and faithfulness? What are his readers in danger of deceiving themselves about, with particular reference to their trials and the temptations that come with them?

7. What does it mean to be “brought forth?” Has James used this metaphor before in this chapter? Read John 3:1-6. Where did James get this idea of Christians having been “brought forth?”

8. James’s point in verse 18 is to show his readers that God is good and that he gives good gifts. How does his example of the gift of regeneration accomplish that goal? (Read Romans 8:32. James is using the same kind of reasoning.)