
The Origin and Sequence of Sin

James 1: 13 – 15

Solid Rock Church

Pastor Elliott Anderson

Where Does Sin Come From?

Adam and Eve?

Sin Nature?

The Devil made me do it?

Paul's Wrestle with Sin

Romans 7

15 I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do, I do not do, but what I hate, I do.

17 As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me.

18 For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out.

James Progression in Chapter 1 so far...

James's authorship and authority

Joy in trials

Requesting wisdom

Position in poverty

Humility in riches

Blessing of perseverance

Temptation vs Trials

Origin of Sin

Trials Bring Suffering and Faith Review

The Lord develops our patience and character through trials

The suffering in trials brings growth and maturity

1st Peter 1: 6 – 7, ...you have been grieved by various trials, for the testing of your faith, is more precious than gold.

Goal: Mature Christians

Patient in Trials

Immature people are always impatient, seek control, and wrestle with unbelief and mistrust

Mature people are patient, persistent, release control, and have strong belief and trust

Hebrews 6: 12 + 15, ...be imitators of those, who through faith and patience, inherit the promises of God.



Origin Definition

The point or place where something begins, arises, or is created.

Origin of Sin

Truth #1

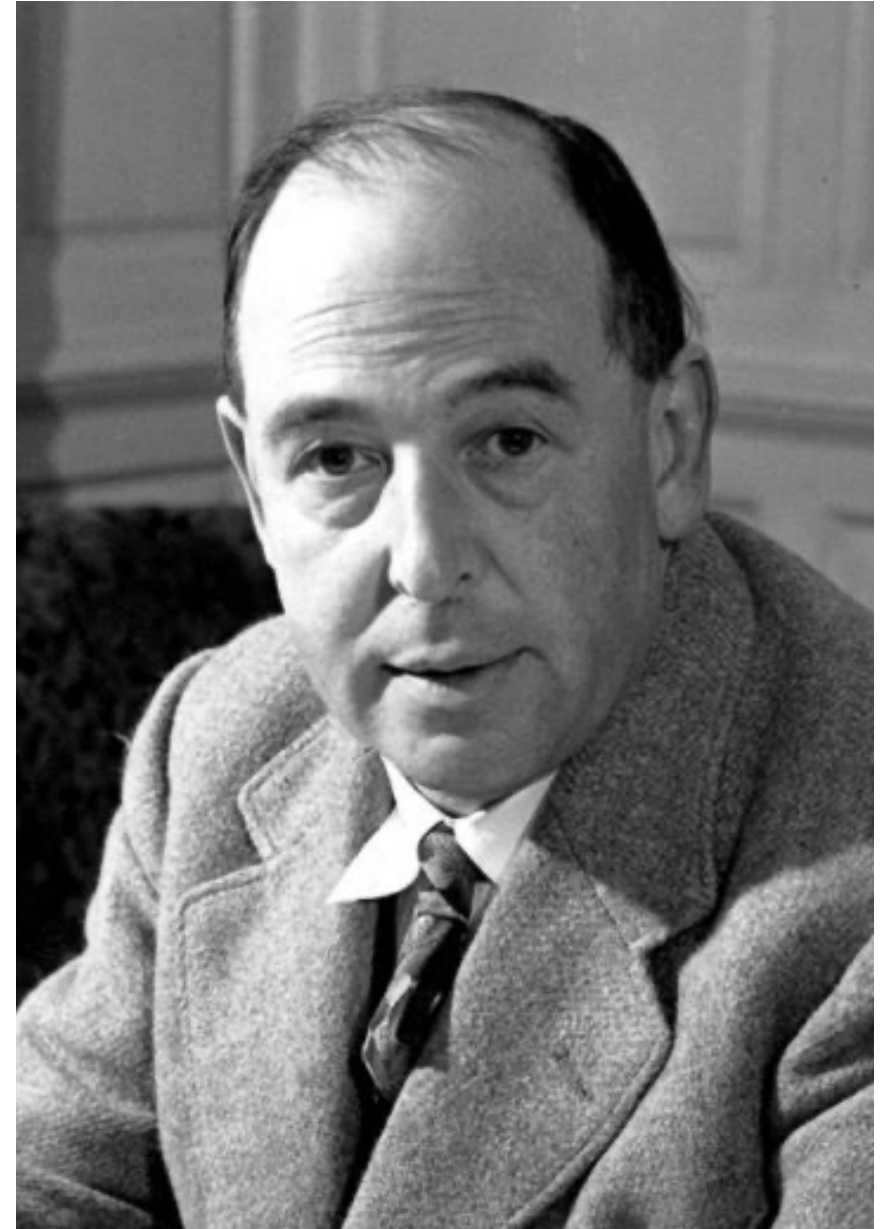
It's Not From God

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.

James 1:13

Test vs Temptation

C.S. Lewis, “A test from God reveals our priorities and principles of faith; a temptation, is not from God, it is an enticement to act in disobedience to His own Word.”



Blaming Others For Our Sinful Choices

Adam blamed Eve

Eve blamed Satan

Cain blamed ignorance

Abram blamed Sarai's beauty

Sarai blamed her infertility

Blaming God for Our Sin

Proverbs 19: 3, When a man's folly brings his way to ruin, his heart rages against the Lord.

Romans 9: 14, What shall we say then? Is there injustice on God's part? By no means! **20,** Who are you, O man, to answer back to God?

2 Reasons Not to Blame God

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.

James 1:13

1. His Character: God
can't be tempted

2. His Actions: God
tempts no one to sin

God's Character

God is of such good, holy, righteous, and perfect character, He is incapable of being tempted by sin or tempting us to sin.

1st John 1: 5, This is the message we have heard from Him and declare to you, that God is Light and in Him there is no darkness at all.

God's Action

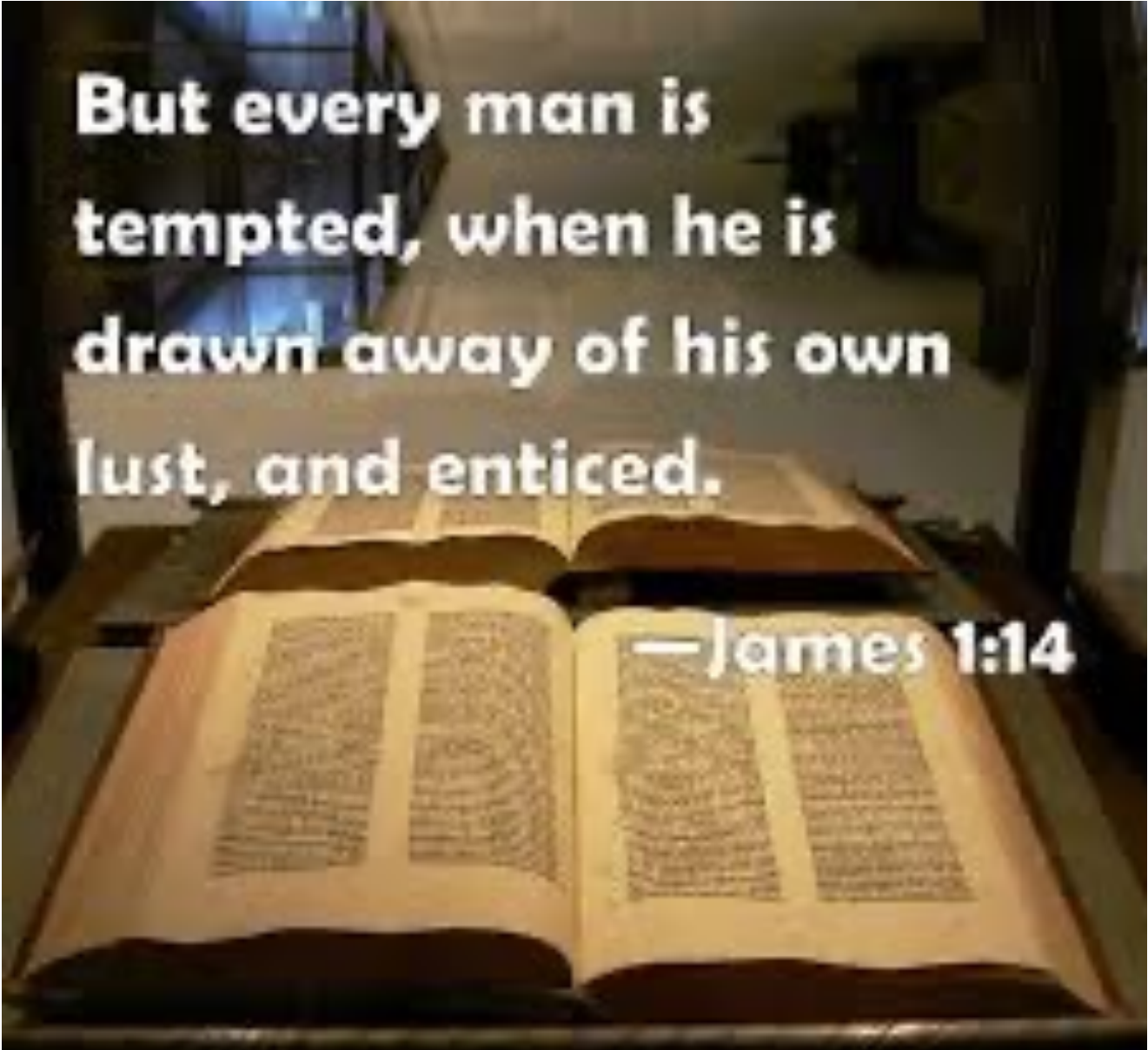
God's Holy character does not allow any action that would be morally wrong - or to entice us to do something morally wrong.

Habakkuk 1: 13, You who are of purer eyes than to see evil and cannot look on wickedness.

1st Peter 2: 22, He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth

Origin of Sin Truth #2

**Lust in our
Heart is the
Root of Sin**

An open Bible is shown from a high angle, resting on a dark surface. The pages are yellowed with age and contain printed text in two columns. Overlaid on the upper half of the image is white text. The text reads: "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed." Below this, in a slightly smaller font, is the attribution "—James 1:14".

**But every man is
tempted, when he is
drawn away of his own
lust, and enticed.**

—James 1:14

Our Sinful Heart Tempts Us

Mark 7: 21, For **from within**, out of the **heart of man**, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come **from within**, and they defile a person.

Lust in Greek

Lust – *epithumia* intense desire for anything
- *epithumeo* the verb from – to desire, to long for

Lust (desire) is used positively and negatively in the Bible.

Lust (desire) in the Greek is neutral, not tied to sexuality

Drives/Desires as Normal or Sinful

Eating is necessary

gluttony is sinful

Sleeping is necessary

laziness is sinful

Marital sex is normal

adultery, fornication is sinful

Money is necessary

greed is sinful

Resources are needed

theft and hoarding is sinful

Our *Epithumia* and *Yeser*

Yeser Hebrew word in Jewish Theology

The impulse toward sin – the flesh

1st John 2: 16, For all that is in the world – the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life – is not from the Father but is from the world.

The Devil Doesn't Make Us Sin

He lies, deceives, entices, encourages, and may present opportunities, but Satan doesn't make us sin. It is our choice.

1st Thessalonians 3: 5, ...for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain.

Two Participles for Lust in James 1: 14

1. Carried Away - Greek word meaning to “draw out”
imagery in Jewish culture bait being used to lure fish

2. Enticed – Greek word meaning to lure to a result
imagery in Jewish culture for a snare for a wild animal

Carried Away, Enticed by Our Own Lust

The bait / snare attracts and stimulates our desire

We are drawn to and enticed by the temptation

The choice of sin or holiness - is then upon us

Genesis 4: 7, If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it.

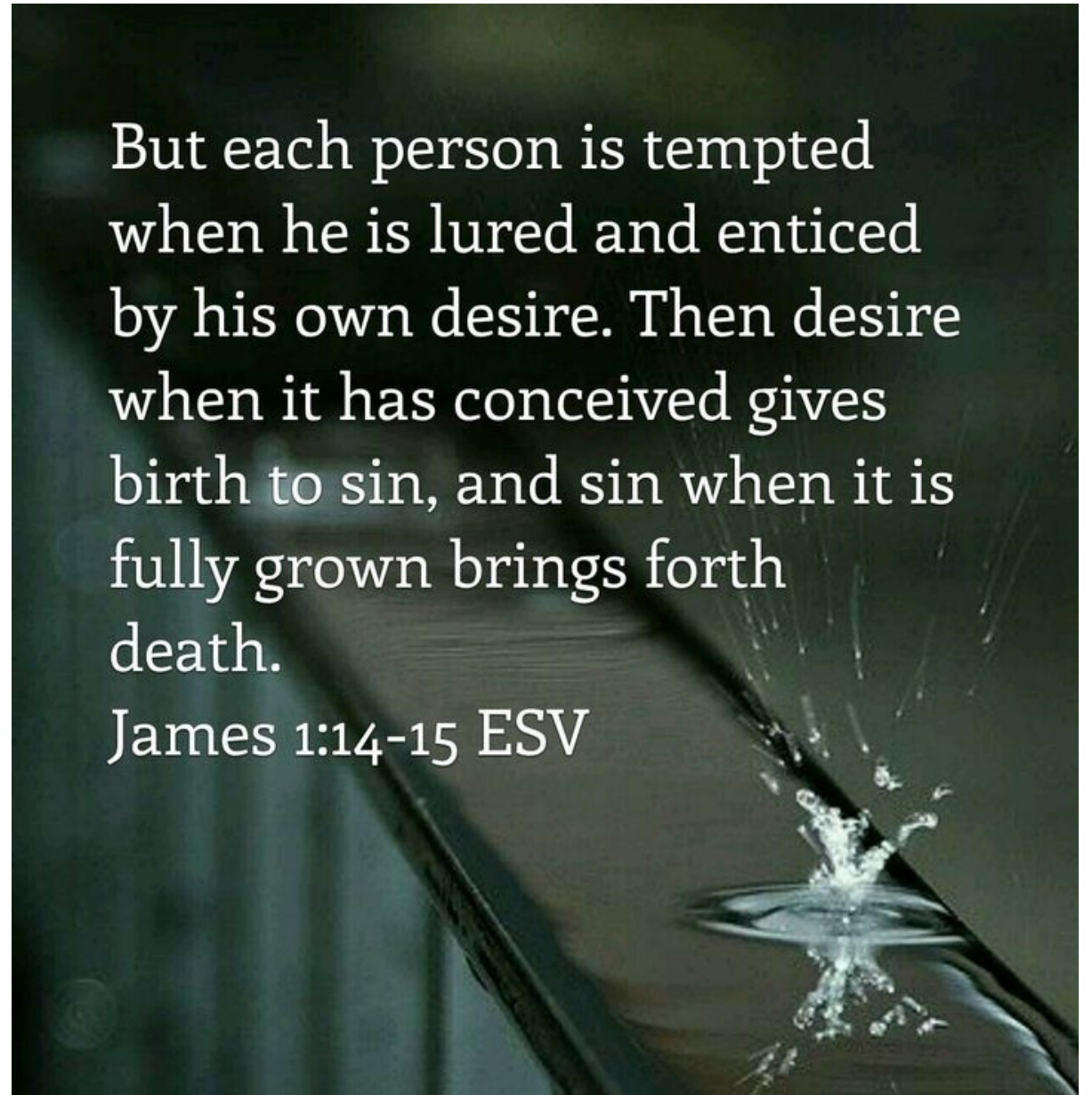
Sequence of Sin

James 1: 15

We must Break it

But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

James 1:14-15 ESV



Sin Sequence of James 1: 15

Step 1: A desire is presented, thought of, or encouraged

Step 2: The sin is conceived (devised, planned)

Step 3: The sin is committed (given birth)

Step 4: The consequences of the sin commence (grows)

Step 5: The result of the sin is death

Romans 6: 23, The wages of sin is death

Steps to Break the Sin Sequence

Step 1: Recognize the temptation, don't allow conception

Proverbs 1: 10, My son, if sinners entice you, don't consent

Step 2: Avoid the temptation, walk away from it

Proverbs 4: 14, Don't enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of evil.

Steps to Break the Sin Sequence

Step 3: Don't think about the temptation

Proverbs 4: 15, Avoid it, don't even think about it, turn away and move on.

Step 4: Submit the temptation to God

James 4: 7, Submit to God, resist the devil, and he will flee from you

Steps to Break the Sin Sequence

Step 5: Counter the temptation with pursuit of prayer, truth, and life in the Spirit.

Matthew 26: 41, Keep watch and pray, so that you will not give in to temptation for the Spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Step 5: Counter the Temptation with Pursuit of Righteousness

2nd Timothy 2: 22, So flee youthful passions and pursue righteousness, faith, love, and peace along with those who call on the Lord from a pure heart.

Psalms 1: 1 -2, Blessed is the man who walks not in the way of sinners nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the Word of the Lord, and on his law, he meditates day and night.

Spiritual Thinking Cycle Reminder

Our beliefs lead to our thinking

Our thinking leads to our emotions - desire

Our thinking leads to our acting

Our behavior leads to our experience

Our experience reinforces our beliefs