



## JAMES | “PRIVILEGE AND TEMPTATIONS”

April 26, 2026

### James 1:9–18 (NIV)

<sup>9</sup> Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. <sup>10</sup> But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. <sup>11</sup> For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.

<sup>12</sup> Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

<sup>13</sup> When tempted, no one should say, “God is

tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; <sup>14</sup> but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. <sup>15</sup> Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

<sup>16</sup> Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters.

<sup>17</sup> Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. <sup>18</sup> He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

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### Notes:

Why James? Why now?

Purpose

“Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.” (1:4)

Purpose: To remind us that faith in Jesus is necessarily transformational

Structure: A series of hard-hitting, practical exhortations

The Challenge of Privilege (9-11)

“This is not really about how much privilege one has. It’s about our attitude towards it. Our privileges are simply vehicles to test the metal of our faith.” (Dr. James Prette)

The Challenge of Temptations (13-15)

An Eternal Perspective