

## **OVERCOMING TRIALS, PRACTICING TRUE RELIGION**

Christians can benefit from trials by remaining true to God's word.

### **OBSERVATIONS FROM OUR STUDY**

Have you ever heard the phrase "The Devil made me do it"?

A murder case in 1981 where the accused stated on trial that the Devil made him do it. the defense built its case around the fact that the man was tempted to do it by the Devil. Was supposedly possessed and under the control of an evil spirit. Several have tried this same defense since then.

If we can say "I was led by the spirit" referring to the Holy Spirit, can we also say "I was led by the spirit" meaning an evil spirit?

Part of this lesson will be discussing the SOURCE of our temptations.

### **DEFINITIONS: IN YOUR OWN WORDS**

RELIGION-

TRIALS-

LUST-

WRATH-

WISDOM-

The term "IN VAIN"-

## OVERCOMING TRIALS, PRACTICING TRUE RELIGION

*(March 5<sup>th</sup> & March 8<sup>th</sup>)*

Christians can benefit from trials by remaining true to God's word.

**(GOLDEN TEXT)** James 1:22- *Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*

### REJOICE IN TRIALS

**(JAMES 1: 1-8)**

1- Who was this letter addressed to and what do we know about them as far as their religion?

2- Why do you think James opened his letter by calling himself "a servant of God" and do you think this was necessary?

3- James discusses TRIALS as issues that exist both internally and externally and these trials will test your faith. He called them "Diverse temptations". What would be an example of these DIVERSE TEMPTATIONS? REF: JAMES 1:2 and JAMES 1:20-21

4-What does it mean to say that we should "COUNT IT ALL JOY" when we are going through trials?

5- There is just having all the answers and there is having Godly wisdom, both are knowledge. Is there a difference between the two forms of knowledge? REF: PROV 2: 1-10

**\*\*WE SHOULD BE SEEKING THIS UNDERSTANDING, FOR THIS IS WISDOM FROM GOD\*\*.**

## **UNDERSTAND THE SOURCE OF TEMPTATIONS**

**(JAMES 1:12-18)**

1- Do you believe that as humans we are PRE-DISPOSED to certain temptations which lead us to yield and commit sin? REF: JAMES 1: 13-14

2- The matter of temptation is often referenced as a war. Just like regular warfare on a battlefield one side is trying to conquer or defeat the other. What steps would you recommend for Christians to become conquerors over their temptations?

3-Is there a difference between the temptation outlined in Matthew 4:1-1-3 and the temptation outlined in James 1:12-14?

## **BE DOERS OF THE WORD**

**(JAMES 1: 19-27)**

1- Explain James 1:19 and what you feel it is instructing us to do.

2- James 1:19-27 is pointing to a change in your ways, James is saying put off these old behaviors and put on the new, like a new set of clothing. This is what he means by being "DOERS of the word". What are some major steps we need to take to be successful DOERS OF THE WORD?

3- How would you describe a person's life if he or she is a hearer of God's word but never a doer of God's word? Ref: James: 1: 22-26