

When our lives get intersected by some form of unpleasant trial, if we're NOT careful, we can point the finger at God

James 1:13-15

What is actually to blame for our being tempted?

Our deceitfully wicked and sin-filled hearts

"Trials" and "Temptations" = to test, to scrutinized; to examine; to try; it also means to entice; to dangle a lure

When it's used in the positive sense, it means "Trials" and when it's used in the negative sense, it means "Temptations" I Corinthians 10:13

When temptations arise, we are NOT helpless, in God's strength, we are able to endure that temptation

INSIDE OPPOSITION

James 1:13

Matthew 4:1-11



Two big differences:

1 - Jesus is 100% God and 100% man: both realities, God CAN'T be tempted by evil and Jesus was led into the wilderness to be tempted, are true

2 – Jesus was tempted by an outside source; it WASN'T an internal temptation to commit evil, like we experience

James 1:12



Do you see the progression to correctly responding?

1st = you encounter a trail (your faith is put to the test)

2nd = you respond to that trial with endurance and perseverance (you pass the test) 3rd = you choose to endure the trial (resulting in you maturing)

4th = it culminates in you receiving the Crown of Life (Heaven)

James 1:13-15



1st = you face a situation that tests your faith (you have a choice) 2nd = you regrettably toy with that temptation (and you're carried away)

3rd = you cross a line (action occurs - temptation has birthed sin) 4th = unrepentant and unaddressed and unpaid for sin, results in death (eternal separation from God)