

James 1:16-18



The Source of Satisfaction is our Heavenly Father... (He is behind every good thing – every single perfect gift has been handpicked by our Good Father)

GOOD & PLENTY

James 1:16

It is easy to wrongfully blame God for our present predicaments

The problem with viewing trials and temptations from this perspective is it misses the ultimate goal of those hardships

God is in the business of taking pain and using it to produce holiness in each of our lives



"Deceived" = to be misled; to be led astray; to wander off



The only way any of us can obey this command (to NOT be deceived) is by dwelling on the character of God

James 1:16-17



In love, James encourages these believers to readjust their perception (see your circumstances how God does)

II Corinthians 12:7-10

Do you see how sometimes those difficult trials might actually be a blessing in disguise (a "good thing" and "perfect gift")?

James 1:16-17

The Source of everything good is our Heavenly Father



"Coming Down" is in the present tense and it describes these gifts as continually coming down (NOT a one-time event it's ongoing)

If we view the goodness of God solely upon our perception of the various trials we face, we have missed the unchanging goodness of God

James 1:18

"The Exercise of His Will" = speaks of a completed action (God brought us to Himself through the finished work of Jesus Christ)

"Firstfruits" = describes the first portion collected from either a harvest or an offering; it was set aside for the Lord (First installment there's more to come