

A man in a dark suit and tie is holding a white, featureless mask. The mask has large black eye holes and a simple, straight line for a mouth. The man's hand is visible, holding the bottom of the mask. The background is a textured, light-colored wall.

James It is time to grow up!

Men to Men Ministry

Lesson 4

Do not be deceived!

James 1:16-18

Truth

1. “The truth will set you free. But not until it is finished with you.” — David Foster Wallace
2. “The truth is rarely pure and never simple.” — Oscar Wilde
3. “Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom.” — Thomas Jefferson
4. “The fact that a great many people believe something is no guarantee of its truth.” — W. Somerset Maugham
5. “Truth, like surgery, may hurt, but it cures.”
6. Truth is truth until you share it with someone.

Trials, Wisdom, Temptation

- **Where does Temptations come from?**
 - **Starts with trial**
 - **We all have them, rich or poor, old or young, we all have trials.**
 - **We are destined to be men of constant sorrow**
 - **They are not from God**
 - **All trials require a response**
 - **We can give up and cry “Woe is Me”**
 - **We can persevere resulting is strength from God**
 - **We can change a trial into a temptation**
 - **Take our own path, MY needs, MY wants, MY desires**
 - **We are enticed dragged, invited to go astray.**
 - **Temptation’s path leads to sin**
 - **Sin leads to death.**

Psalms 119:10,11

With all my heart I have sought Thee; Do not let me wander from your commandments. Thy word I have treasured in my heart, That I may not sin against thee.

The possibility of deception

¹⁶ Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers.

¹⁷ Every good thing given, and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow. ¹⁸ In the exercise of His will He gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

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Progression to possession

- A warning of possible deception
- The perfect giver is good
- The perfect gift is good and constant
- The perfect gift is good and constant that we may be like HIM in Moral character.
- We become God's possession.



**How to not be
deceived.**

**How to
overcome sin.**

**What are the
necessary
steps to not be
deceived?**



1. Change our desires

- **Desires are the location of the beginning of SIN**
- **How to change our desires.**
 1. **Change that is inspired buy a large injection of God's word.**
 - **Psalms 119:11,**
 - **Matthew 4:3-10**
 2. **Change that is inspired by understanding of God's love**
 - **Psalms 116:12-14**
 - **Psalms 119:104**
- **Changing in our desires takes time. Be patient.**

2. Limit our opportunities

- **Temptation has two components**
 - **Desire and opportunity**
 - **Matthew 6:13**
 - **Matthew 26:41**
- **Avoiding situations that might excite desire**
 - **Psalms 101:3-4**
 - **Job 31:1**
- **Avoid those who's behavior encourages sin**
 - **Psalms 101:6-7**
 - **Colossians 15:33**

3. Allow the Holy Spirit to do what He is called to do.

- **Fruit of the Spirit includes SELF CONTROL**
 - **I Corinthians 15:33**
 - **Galatians 5:22-23**
 - **Acts 2:38**
 - **Acts 5:32**
- **The Holy Spirit is an agent of strength**
 - **Ephesians 3:16**
 - **Romans 8:12-13**
 - **Philippians 4:13**
 - **Ephesians 3:20**

4. Overcome failure.

- **What if we fail?**
- **As long as you are alive you still have opportunity.**
 - **Sin is only victorious in our punishment**
 - **We can only overcome punishment through forgiveness**
 - **I John 2:1-2**
 - **By his blood we can be forgiven of our present sins**
 - **Acts 2:38**
 - **Acts 22:16**
 - **Revelation 1:5**
 - **Acts 8:22**
 - **I John 1:9**

We can overcome sin

Stop at any place in the first five sin processes

- 1. Trial**
- 2. Temptation**
- 3. Entice**
- 4. Conception**
- 5. Birth**
- 6. Death**

We can overcome in greater process.

- 1. Change our desires**
- 2. Limit our opportunities**
- 3. Allow the Holy Spirit to do what He is called to do**
- 4. Overcome failure.**