Review.

1. Those whom James originally addressed suffered tremendous hardship and ________________.

2. The believer is to consider it all _______ as they encountered the various trials of life.

3. The testing of one’s faith produces ________________.
   a. “He that endures until the end shall be ________” (Mark 13:13).

4. James exhorts us to seek God for heavenly ____________ that we might comprehend what good He is working.

   James 1:12-18

I. “__________ is a man who perseveres under trial!”

   A. By definition, men are happy because of their fortunate circumstance, but a blessed man is a man who is filled with a deep sense of satisfaction and an abiding joy ______________ of his circumstance!

       1. A blessed man is one who is in the world yet independent of the world. His satisfaction comes from _______ and God ____________!

   B. The man who perseveres is blessed for he knows what is his reward - a crown of life (______________ ________).

II. It is sinful to ____________ the temptation to sin on God.

   A. God is not indirectly nor ____________ responsible for our being tempted to sin as we face trials.

       1. “For God ____________ be tempted by evil!”

       2. Neither does “He Himself ... ________ anyone” to sin.

       3. 1 Cor 10:13 says, “No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is ______________, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will ____________ the way of escape also, that you may be able to ____________ it.” If God is for us - who can stand against us?

   B. We are directly tempted to sin by ______ own __________ which desire to entice us and carry us away!
1. When we face a trial and fail, we must confess that what God meant for our good, _____ in lust _________.

2. When sin is allowed to have its way - influencing and corrupting and decaying all in its path - it brings forth _________.

III. Don’t be __________! 

   A. The end of sin is ________ (eternal damnation).
   
   B. Every _________ thing and every perfect _________ is from God.
      
      1. Trials will come, and with the trials so will we be tempted to sin, but God _________ it all for our _________ that we might persevere and receive a crown of life!
      
      2. The primary “good thing” and “perfect gift” James has in mind is our _______________.
         
         a. In the exercise of God’s will He brought us forth (we were born again) by the _________ of _______________.
         
         b. When we approach the _________ to God, (and Christ is that gate!) there we read the invitation, “Whosoever will!” Then, upon entering through the Gate (__________) we look back upon our entrance into the kingdom and read this declaration, “In the exercise of His will He brought us forth by the Word of Truth.”
         
         c. Beloved church, as we consider the salvation God brings to us, we understand that He saves us, not to tempt us to fail, but that we would be the best (the _______ _______________) of all He created!

      It is a matter of ________: “Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life, which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.”

And, it is a matter of __________: “But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.

___________ ________ who you will serve!

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