

# **James: A Letter from Jesus' Brother** **Overcoming Temptation – James 1:19-21**

## **Introduction**

A powerful picture of what happens when we sin:

“Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked, be utterly desolate, declares the LORD, for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.” Jeremiah 2:12-13

## **What should we do when we are being drawn into sin? (v.19-20)**

We should be quick to hear God’s Word, and slow to speak angrily against God (v.19)

## **Why is that so important? (v.21)**

Because sin can end up killing us spiritually (vv.14-15)

Because God’s Word can save us from that sin (21).

## **How can my soul be saved from that sin? (vv.19-21)**

By receiving God’s Word.

Not by beating ourselves up, making resolutions, giving up, or trying to change apart from Jesus.

## **How can we hear in a way that will save our souls? (v.21)**

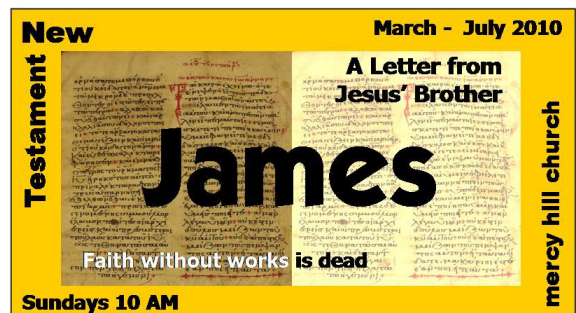
Turn your attention away from sin and put it back on Jesus.

Humble yourself before God.

Trust God’s word-implanting power.

Prayerfully ponder the word about Jesus.

**Passages to use:** Exo 15:11; Isa 9:1-7; Isa 11:1-9;  
Isa 53; Jer 2:12-13; Joh 1:1-14; 2Co 3:18; 2Co 4:3-6;  
2Co 8:9; 2Co 5:11-21; Gal 2:20; Phil 2:1-11; Col 1:15-  
23; 1 Pet 1:3-9; Rev 1:4-7; Rev 5:1-14; Rev 21:1-4



## **HOME GROUP DISCUSSION OF SUNDAY'S TEACHING**

What was the Holy Spirit saying to you Sunday through this passage?

What questions, ideas, objections, encouragements did you come away with?

Before Sunday's teaching, what did you think was the reason for your sinning? How did Sunday's teaching change your answer?

Do you agree that Jam 1:19 is talking about being quick to hear God's Word, and slow to speak angrily against God — accusing Him of being the one pulling us into sin? Why or why not?

Do you agree that if we let sin grow in us it could cost us everlasting life? How can that fit with the idea that when God saves us He keeps us from falling away in a final way (Jer 32:40-41)?

What are some other ways you've tended to respond to sin besides turning your heart to God's Word? Why are those responses easier than turning our hearts to God's Word?

What sin have you seen in your heart this week? How have you responded to it? What has God done?

What's your take-away from this message? What are you going to do differently? When? How?

Share prayer requests that come up in the discussion, jot them down below, and pray for each other.

**New** **March - July 2010**

**Testament** **A Letter from Jesus' Brother James**

**Faith without works is dead**

**Sundays 10 AM** **mercy hill church**