

## "Understanding God's Nature"

James 1:9-18

July 21, 2019

### Position - vs. 9-11

Romans 8:16-17, "The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,<sup>17</sup> and if children, heirs also, heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him so that we may also be glorified with Him."

Principle #1: It is not your material resources that take you through the testings of life; it is your spiritual resources.

### Perseverance - vs. 12

Luke 6:22-23, "Blessed are you when men hate you, and ostracize you, and insult you, and scorn your name as evil, for the sake of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Be glad in that day and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. For in the same way their fathers used to treat the prophets."

2 Timothy 4:8, "... in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing."

### Progression - vs 13-16

Desire - vs. 13-14

Principle #2: If we are not careful, testings on the outside may become temptations on the inside.

Principle #3: It is when we want to satisfy our desires in ways outside God's will that we get into trouble.

Death - vs. 15-16

**Romans 6:23**, "For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."

**Principle #4**: The bait keeps us from seeing the consequences of sin.

**Principle #5**: It is not about what you feel like doing, it is about doing what is right, whether you feel like it or not.

**Philippians 2:13**, "... for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure."

**Perfection - vs 17**

**James 3:17**, "But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, reasonable, full of mercy and good fruits, unwavering, without hypocrisy."

**Principle #6**: God gives only good gifts, and the way He gives is good.

**Purpose- vs. 18**

**1 Peter 1:23**, "...for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and enduring word of God."