Turning From Sin Part 1

Adam Willingham · James 1:14–15 · Series: **Turning From Sin**

INTRODUCTION

- These two verses tell us the stages of sin, the development of sin, starting with desire or lust.
- So God does not tempt us to evil. It's not God's fault when we are tempted. Instead, it's our fault.
- Once we understand how sin develops, I believe we'll be much better equipped to then be able to stop sin at each stage of its development.

1 Temptation: Desire Plus Opportunity

James 1:14; 1 John 2:15–16; Genesis 3:1–6

- We're talking here about any desire, strong desire for something that is outside of the will of God.
- Enticement is simply the opportunity to now fulfill that desire.
- Sinful desire must not go unchecked. It is the root of the problem. Without desire, there would be no temptation.
- For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders.
- Temptation can never rightly be blamed on anything or anyone, except for ourselves and our own desires.
- So temptation equals desire plus opportunity.

2 Sin: When Lust Has Conceived

James 1:15; Genesis 3:6; 1 John 3:4

- Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin.
- At this point, the bait has been taken. At this point, the Christian has acted on this desire plus opportunity.
- She took from his fruit and ate. And she gave also to her husband with her, and he ate.
- The Greek word for sin is Hamartia, which means a failing to hit the mark.
- It's better not to commit sin in the first place than to commit it and have to get forgiveness.
- Sin equals, now remember what temptation was, desire plus opportunity plus action.

3 Death: When Sin Is Accomplished

James 1:15; Revelation 20:14

- And when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death.
- This final stage is the consequence of unforgiven sin.
- So what is this death being spoken of here? It is spiritual separation from God.
- If you die in such a state, then what is the consequence? It is eternal death.
- You know whose fault it will be? Your fault.

- And what's at the core of the problem? Lust. Desire. That's what got you to that final punishment.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Lust leads to sin leads to death. And so we have to avoid that. We have to overcome temptation and get right to the root of the matter, which is lust.**

MY NOTES