
Alleged Bible Contradictions – Temptation

Allegedly, there is a contradiction between what James wrote about temptation and what Moses recorded about Abraham. Genesis 22:1 reads, “*And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham.*” James wrote, “*Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth He any man*” (Jas. 1:13). What is going on in these two passages?

While the word *tempt* appears in the KJV of Genesis 22:1, the NKJV correctly used the term stating that God *tested* Abraham’s faith. The same Hebrew word is used in 1 Samuel 17:39 stating that David had not “*tested*” Saul’s armor before he went to fight with Goliath. God, in instructing Abraham to offer Isaac, was giving Abraham the opportunity to prove his faith – He was not enticing him to sin. The Hebrews writer touched on what happened with this sacrifice when he wrote, “*By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son*” (Heb. 11:17-19). In Abraham’s mind, when God commanded it, it was done! That is the type of faith God’s people today need!

In the first chapter of James there are two forms of testing that are spoken of. There are *trials* that come from external sources (1:2-8) and *temptations* that come from internal desires (1:13-16). The enticement to commit sin comes when one is “*drawn away of his own lusts and enticed*” (1:14). Sin originates in the heart of man and comes to fruition when the thought is acted upon (Mk. 7:18-23). James also wrote, “*Do not err, my beloved brethren*” (1:16). In other words, don’t misunderstand the origin and consequences of temptation and sin in your lives – it does not come from God! James goes even further by saying, “*Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights*” (1:17). The Greek states that good things continually are coming down from the Father.

In their efforts to discredit and demean God, atheists actually show their ignorance of Him and His nature. Instead of digging in and studying words, they dig in and misrepresent what Scripture records for us. After Abraham submitted himself to God’s will, the angel of the Lord said, “*now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from Me*” (Gen. 22:12). Abraham’s faithful obedience to God led to him being referred to as “*the friend of God*” (Jas. 2:23). When the Christian today submits himself to the will of God, he becomes God’s friend. When he resists the temptation to sin he draws closer to God and God to him (Jas. 4:7-8).

WORKS WE SUPPORT

Jim Waldron – India

Stacy & Kathy Ferguson – Pacific Islands Bible College

Fulton County Gospel News

Paragould Children’s Home

OUR SICK

- Dale Welch is home recovering from surgery.
- Bonnie Owsley has been diagnosed with vestibular disease and has been homebound. Keep her in your prayers.
- There are several with continuing health struggles that need our prayers: J.C. and Freda Caldwell, Leslie McIntosh, Lisa Rawlins, Lucille Ridgeway, Cecilia Broughton, Tim Lawson, Brooke Tate, Dennis & Debbie Rose, Bernice Zirnstein, Bill & Rita Burns, Tim Lawson, Jerry Hobbs, Eric Stephens, Terry Wayne Frizzell, Mary Grable, Margie Collins, and James Nicholson.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Our Gospel Meeting and our youth day have been postponed.
- The baby shower for Meghan Hedden Thompson has been postponed.

CHILDREN'S HOME ITEMS

Mac & Cheese, Dry Noodles, Dry Beans, Canned Soup, Canned Chicken, Oatmeal

NURSING HOME

Dana Mills, Rosemary Washam, Lena Daily, Jean Slatton, Bill Shepherd, Betty Griffith

Elders

Kevin Hedden
(417) 280-6709
Derek Hufstedler
(417) 280-6002
Steve Russell
(501) 626-8567
Steve Simers
(870) 625-7648
Randy Ward
(417) 264-3839

Deacons

Jeremy Allen
(417) 867-3375
Robert Cox
(870) 219-4993
Jeff Lancaster
(417) 372-1702
Monty Ragsdale
(870) 710-2596
Reggie Richardson
(417) 293-1524
Keith Rose
(870) 966-4399
Tim Tate
(870) 710-2553
Jay Towell
(417) 274-0180

Preacher

Barry O'Dell
(870) 710-1043

LEADING IN WORSHIP

This Week - Sunday AM

Opening Prayer – Doyle Richardson
Song Leader – Jay Towell
Worship Prayer – Doyle G. Richardson
Scripture – Braden Hufstedler

North Side

Ken Royster
Don Whiteside
Cody Green

South Side

Randy Ward
Remington Richardson
Darren Richardson

Closing Prayer – Jacob Simers

Sunday PM

Worship Prayer – Reggie Richardson
Scripture – Tyler Phillips
Closing Prayer – Bill Pace

Wednesday Night

Opening Prayer – Steve Russell
Closing Prayer – Reece Ragsdale

Attendance Card

Bryce Bennett & Wyatt Allen

Greeters

Steve & Sandy Russell

Next Week - Sunday AM

Opening Prayer – Raymond Owsley
Song Leader – Stan Caldwell
Worship Prayer – Steve Simers
Scripture – Jeremy Allen

North Side

Robert Cox
Derek Hufstedler
Jon Richardson

South Side

Marvin Hedden
Collin Powell
Garet O'Dell

Closing Prayer – Bob Simers

Sunday PM

Worship Prayer – Dalton Nicholson
Scripture – Bret Bennett
Closing Prayer – Reece Ragsdale

Wednesday Night

Opening Prayer – Charles French
Closing Prayer – Steve Atkins

Attendance Cards

Carter Nicholson & Xarian Richardson

Greeters

Steve & Rae Lynn Simers

SERVING IN MARCH

Announcements – Forrest Rose

Counters – Dennis Nicholson & Dalton Nicholson

Food Committee – Kelley Towell, Sharon Hedden & Kathy Honeycutt

Deacon – Robert Cox

Sunday AM Class – 10:00

Worship – 10:45 & 6:00

Wednesday Night – 7:00

Website - www.mammothspringchurchofchrist.com

Facebook – Church of Christ at Mammoth Spring

PO Box 251 Mammoth Spring, AR 72554 – (870) 625-3217