James #69

Divine good and perfect gifts are from our Father.

Open back up in our anchor study of James chapter 1 RF.

This will be the last class this week – I will be away for the weekend and I will be back on Tuesday September 2nd .

Let us keep the families of those children that were wounded and killed in the Minneapolis shooting in our prayers.

Jam 1:12 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.

[Jas 1:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/13/s_1147013) No one is to say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

[Jas 1:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/14/s_1147014) But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.

Every Christan is responsible for their own decisions and their own lust patterns and volition.

God created us with freedom of thought and a free will to choose for or against HIM each and every day.

[Jas 1:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/15/s_1147015) Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it has run its course, brings forth death.

[Jas 1:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/16/s_1147016) Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers *and sisters.*

Do not be deceived by the trickery and lies of the devil, remember that GOD is the God of light, truth and eternal life.

/[Jas 1:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/17/s_1147017) **Every good thing** given and **every perfect gift**is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shifting shadow.\

Over the last two messages, we noted that God is not an author of confusion.

If a Christian has a consistent life of chaos and confusion, that almost always points to an apathetic attitude toward the studying of the word of GOD.

Either that or they have been under false teaching and they need to regroup and get under the accuracy of the word.

[Jas 1:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/18/s_1147018) In the exercise of His will He gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would be a kind of first fruits among His creatures.

[Jas 1:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/19/s_1147019) You know *this,* my beloved brothers *and sisters.* Now everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger;

[Jas 1:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jas/1/20/s_1147020) for a man’s anger does not bring about the righteousness of God.

Now I want to focus on three words in James 1:17 before we move on to the next verse- GOOD, PERFECT and GIFT.

There are three Greek words in the New Testament are all usually translated as the adjective “*good*.”

/GOOD is translated as - *kalos*, which means something free from defects, and beautiful.

GOOD is also seen in - *agathos*, referring to moral excellence, something that is worthy of admiration.
GOOD is also seen in - *chrēstos*, which means something that is useful, profitable, or used in a kind gesture (charity).\

KA-LOSS, CHRIS-TOS, AUG-A-THUS

There is one that is always used for divine good and that is what we see in James 1:17. (agathos)

/Mat 5:16 “Your light must shine before people in such a way that they may *see your good (kalos) works*, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

Mark 9:50 *Salt is good*; but if the salt becomes unsalty, with what will you make it salty *again?* Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”\

/1Cor 15:33 Do not be deceived: “Bad company *corrupts good morals*.”

Luk 5:39 And no one, after drinking old *wine* wants new; for he says, ‘*The old is fine.’” (chrēstos)\*

Therefore, almost every scripture we can research in the NT Greek with the adjective – *agathos,* is speaking to divine good.

/Jas 1:17 - *Every good thing (agathos) given and every perfect gift (teleios  dōrēma) is from above*,

God gives from HIS abundance of grace and HIS character – the very air we breathe is a good thing from above – it is divine GOOD, its value is beyond human effort or comprehension. We are also given perfect (complete and impeccable) gifts from our FATHER.\

TELL-EE-US DOORAY-MA – means a completed and perfect gift. This is already given on the basis of the GIVER’S power and character, we are the receiver- we are passive in this transaction.

All your logistical blessings since birth, your family, your health or the meals you eat and air you breath come from a DIVINE Source…it is divine good.

 REPEAT

We can reflect divine GOOD through our union with Christ as we grow in the grace plan of God the Father.

Yet we all must first receive the perfect and impeccable gift of salvation first.

 REPEAT

/Jam 1:17 – *every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the FATHER of lights*-

The perfect gift is written singular and already complete (eternity past). COMING DOWN (present tense) the true gift that KEEPS giving!!\

The perfect and finished work of Jesus Christ is the true gift that keeps giving…it gives eternal security, eternal life…it gives us a supernatural union with Christ right now in this temporal world.

GOD is pure light – the definition of darkness is the very absence of LIGHT!

Whenever and wherever GOD is removed - darkness comes in.

/The DIVINE GOOD of God the Father is so abundant that everyone benefits from its logistical provisions. Unbelievers who ridicule our LORD reap the benefits – the tongue they curse HIM with and the air they breathe comes down from the FATHER of true divine light from above. The very brain they formulate their hate toward Christ was given from above! \

God’s abundant graciousness is also related to immutability, which means HE is always faithful because HE is the very definition of consistency, HE is eternal permanence.

There are many scriptures that point to the fact that for Bels, there are several different areas that the PERFECT GIFT of the work of Christ keeps giving us abundantly right now in time.

God’s abundant faithfulness is directly declared in HIS word repeatedly from Genesis into Revelation.

For example, in rebound —

/1Jhn 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous, so that He will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

God is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, every time we can rest in that. HE can never deny HIS own essence and HIS own justice system.\

What did our LORD tell Peter in reference to forgiveness? –

*Mat 18:22 Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy-seven times.*

Mankind puts numbers and limits on forgiveness and mercy…GOD does not!

/1Cor 10:13 **No temptation has overtaken you except *something* common to mankind; and God is faithful**, so He will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but **with the temptation will provide the way of escape** also, so that you will be able to endure it.

In temptations HE gives us all we need to endure or escape it.\

Jump over to 2Timothy 2 for our closing today RF.

God is faithful…HE will not allow you to suffer in temptations or testing above that which you are able.

He will never put more on you than you can bear, that’s God’s faithfulness;

God is faithful in provision, as well as our protection.

/1Thes 5:24 Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will do it.

2Thes 3:3 But the Lord is faithful, and He will strengthen and protect you from the evil one.\

God is always faithful because it is HIS very nature… HIS very essence.

His promises and plan never fall short; HE is faithful to follow through on HIS word.

/Isa 55:11 So will My word be which goes out of My mouth; **It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire,** And without succeeding *in the purpose* for which I sent it.\

As we will see in closing even when we are faithless…HE is faithful.

God’s integrity and character are not dependent upon mankind’s good behavior.

God’s grace plan does not waiver or stall when mankind sins and fails.

Therefore, we can rest assured HE is working in our favor even on our worst day.

 REPEAT

/Heb 10:23 Let’s hold firmly to the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful;

1Cor 1:9 God is faithful, through whom you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.\

Now in 2Timothy chapter two, the Apostle Paul is making it clear to Timothy that his role as pastor teacher, is a strict calling, like a combat solider prepared for duty.

Christianity in general is a call to duty, to uphold a certain standard, to pick up your cross and deny your flesh.

2Tim 2:8 Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, descendant of David, according to my gospel,

[2Ti 2:9](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2ti/2/9/s_1127009) for which I suffer hardship even to imprisonment as a criminal; but the word of God is not imprisoned.

The Apostle Paul was familiar with testing, temptation and attacks…hardships.

Even his stints in prison never stopped the forward motion of the plan of GOD.

/[2Ti 2:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2ti/2/10/s_1127010) **For this reason I endure all things** for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus and with *it* eternal glory.

This is written in a Greek present tense, the crux of his statement is – Timothy, buckle up! The pressure will happen from time to time, yet we know GOD is faithful. Focus on the mission.\

Spiritual maturity requires some grit and consistency.

The Apostle Paul is teaching on the hardships and battles into maturity.

/[2Ti 2:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2ti/2/11/s_1127011) The statement is trustworthy:For **if we died with Him, we will also live with Him**;

***IF*** (1st class condition) - this is true, we died and will live in HIM, understanding POSITIONAL TRUTH, is a key pathway into maturity.\

[2Ti 2:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2ti/2/12/s_1127012) If we endure, we will also reign with Him;If we deny Him, He will also deny us;

/Again, we see the facts, the first-class condition, if we endure in maturity – we reign with HIM. We become winners and at the 2nd Advent we are in positions of leadership. IF WE DENY- is a conditional clause (3rd class condition), it is probable, yet it remains to be seen. Many Bels will be denied as winners in the future, not denied from heaven! \

We know this because we understand eternal security and we need only read the scripture in its context with the next verse. We know Timothy is being prepped to teach accurate doctrine, so Bels under his ministry can achieve maturity. REPEAT

IF WE ENDURE into Spiritual Maturity there is a reward – that is the highlight of this set of scriptures.

We know because the Apostle Paul was warning that we have to become soldiers prepared for spiritual warfare – suffering hardships.

/[2Ti 2:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/2ti/2/13/s_1127013) If we are faithless, **He remains faithful, for He cannot deny Himself.**

IF (1st class condition) – we become losers (future clause), we continue in negativity (reversionism) – HE REMAINS FAITHFUL. Positional truth, you are in union with Christ! \

This does the exact opposite from teaching loss of salvation…it is the complete opposite – eternally secure.

Let us close remembering how gracious and merciful TLJC was toward those who attacked HIM. Then just think how much more love and mercy HE wants to shower on HIS future bride.

/Luk 23:34 But Jesus was saying, “**Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.**” And they cast lots, dividing His garments among themselves. 35 And **the people stood by, watching. And even the rulers were sneering at Him**, saying, “He saved others; **let Him save Himself** if this is the Christ of God, His Chosen One.”\

The LORD was suffering beyond anything we can ever imagine.

Yet HE requested forgiveness for those who made HIM suffer and those who were enjoying HIS suffering.

/[Luk 23:36](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/luk/23/36/s_996036) The soldiers also **ridiculed Him,** coming up to Him, offering Him sour wine, 37and saying, “**If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself**!”\

If our LORD has that kind of love and mercy for these cruel hearted Unbels during HIS suffering on the cross…how much more so do you think HIS love and mercy go out to us??

This appears to fall under the concept of ‘a fortiori.’

It is called – ‘a fortiori’ a Latin term meaning, from the stronger… if I can do the greater, I certainly can do the lesser.