**The Study of James: Contend for the Faith**

**The Unchanging God Who Gives Life - James 1:16-21**

**Reasons Why God Isn’t the Source of Temptation.**

"*16 Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. 17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.* (James 1:16–18)

**Reason 1: God's gifts are for growth not destruction.**

**Reason 2: God is the constant source of light.**

The three requirements to create shadows:

1. Source of light
2. Opaque object
3. Surface to reveal the shadow

**Reason 3: God gives birth to life, not death.**

**Steps toward Salvation.**

*"19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.* (James 1:19–21)

**Step 1: Quick to hear**.

**Step 2: Put away sin**.

**Step 3: Receive the word implanted**.

**Result: The salvation of the soul.**

**Discussion Questions:**

1. According to James, how can we know that God doesn't tempt us? (James 1:16-18)
2. What does it mean to be quick to hear? (James 1:19)
3. Discuss the three steps toward the salvation of one's soul. (James 1:19-21)