



Daily Reflections

February 13, 2018

Scripture

James 1: 12-18

Blessed is he who perseveres in temptation,
for when he has been proven he will receive the crown of life
that he promised to those who love him.

No one experiencing temptation should say,
"I am being tempted by God";

for God is not subject to temptation to evil,
and he himself tempts no one.

Rather, each person is tempted when lured and enticed by his desire.

Then desire conceives and brings forth sin,
and when sin reaches maturity it gives birth to death.

Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers and sisters:

all good giving and every perfect gift is from above,
coming down from the Father of lights,

with whom there is no alteration or shadow caused by change.

He willed to give us birth by the word of truth

that we may be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Our Scripture Reflection

James offers us a tremendous spiritual insight in today's text. The danger of temptation is to give up and give in. Doing so prevents us from calling upon and allowing God's Grace to assist us in our trials. Perseverance means "hanging on and digging in" for as long as it takes. When we do, we learn

patience and trust in Our Lord. What wisdom for us as we prepare to enter the Holy season of Lent.

Food for your Journey

Hatred bangs drums. Lust bangs the pulse. Anger bangs the fist. But complacency slides into the soul, un murmuring, uninvited and unnoticed, with a warm and quilted aura of coziness.

--George William Rutler, *The Seven Ages of Man* (San Francisco: Ignatius Press, 1991), 94.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Be with me when I am in trouble and find myself doubting and even giving up on my faith. Help me to realize that with Your Grace, all things are possible, Lord. Amen