

The Soul's Ménage à Trois in James 1:13—15

James 1:13 - Let no one say when he [personal volition] is tempted [present passive participle of #2: *πειράζω, peirazō*], “I am being tempted [present passive indicative] by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt [present active indicative] anyone.

v. 14 - But each person [emphasis on volition] is always tempted [present passive indicative] when he is consistently towed about [static present of #3: *ἔξέλκω, exelkō*: lit: “one boat towing another”; came to mean “to allure”: volition is allured] by means of the lust pattern [#1: *ἐπιθυμία, epithumia* (feminine gender)] and enticed with bait [#4: *δελεάζω, deleazō*: “to lure”; “to entice”].

v. 15 - Then lust, having conceived [#5: *συλλαμβάνω, sullambanō*: lit: “to receive seed”; aorist tense for a point in time: many cohabiters, few pregnancies; lust (female gender) only becomes sin when its seed is fertilized by negative volition (male gender)] gives birth to sin [#6: *τίκτω ἁμαρτία, tiktō hamartia*: sin is delivered: volitional consent] and sin having been delivered alive consistently gives birth [static present of ἀποκυέω, *apokueō*: “to deliver (out from the womb)] to death [#7: *θάνατος, thanatos*: operational death].