

Title: **FATHER OF LIGHTS**

Text: **James 1:16-27**

(I) MANY TITLES EMPLOYING THE WORD “FATHER”

- 1. Father of the Lord Jesus Christ (2 Corinthians 1:3)**
- 2. Father of mercies (2 Corinthians 1:3)**
- 3. Father of Glory (Ephesians 1:17)**
- 4. Father of lights (James 1:17)**

(II) SIGNIFICANCE OF THESE TITLES

- 1. Each title reveals an attribute of God**
- 2. Each title highlights an aspect of God**
- 3. Each title is employed with great reverence to particular circumstances**

(III) FATHER OF LIGHTS

*“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and comes down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.” **James 1:17***

1. God is described as a Great Divine Giver

2. Description of all His gifts

- a) They are good gifts
- b) They are perfect gifts

3. An appreciation of God

- a) As the Father of lights
 - i) There is absolutely no darkness in God
 - ii) There is only pure light
 - iii) The use of the plural “lights” serves to highlight the idea of “light”
- b) No variation
- c) No shadow of turning

(IV) REASONS FOR THIS EMPHASIS

- 1. To challenge misunderstanding of God**
- 2. To challenge misrepresentation of God**
- 3. To challenge misconceptions of God**

(V) DANGER OF ASSOCIATING EVIL TEMPTATIONS WITH GOD

“Let no one say when he is tempted, ‘I am tempted by God’; for God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does He Himself tempt anyone.” James 1:13

1. Blaming God

- a) Openly
- b) Subtly

2. Associating God with evil

- a) This is impossible
- b) This is to be rejected outright

(VI) CHILDREN OF THE FATHER OF LIGHTS

“Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.” James 1:18

- 1. Brought forth by the Word of truth**
- 2. Brought forth to be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures**
- 3. Brought forth to reflect God as the Father of Lights (where truth dominates)**