

Bad Influences Draw Away

Under the influence

- James 1:12-15 –
 - 12: a man: blessed if he endures
 - 13: no one: ‘tempted by God’
 - 14: each one: tempted by own lust

Drawn away:

Drag away, carry away, lure...

Enticed:

Catch by bait;
lead into sin

Under the influence

- James 1:12-15 –
 - 12: a man: blessed if he endures
 - 13: no one: ‘tempted by God’
 - 14: each one: tempted by own lust
 - 15: **Lust...Sin...Death**

Influence

- Power or capacity of producing effect on others
 1. Influence may be good or bad.
 - a. Paul (Ac.18; 1 Co.6:9-11)
 - b. Plato (1 Co.15:32-33)
 2. Everyone has influence.
 3. Cannot lose influence, even at death.

1 Corinthians 15:33

- Menander
- Acts 17:28; Tit. 1:12 [Cf. 5:6]

‘Even secular writers agree’

I. What Is Bad Company?

'Good for nothing'

- **Bad:** base, worthless.
- **Company:** close association of persons.
 - Keep company with; join in doing things together.
 - Conversation, speech (*homily*).

I. What Is Bad Company?

II. What Are Good Habits?

'Good'

- Morally good and benevolent, reputable, kind, loving (Ep.4:32).
 - 1 Pt.2:3, Lord – gracious, kind.
 - Opposed to harsh, sharp, bitter.

'Habits / Morals'

- Customary state, usage, habit, character. Pr.22:1

I. What Is Bad Company?

II. What Are Good Habits?

III. How Does Bad Company
Corrupt Good Habits?

Corrupt

- To cause deterioration of the inner life, *ruin...* Rv.19:2

1 Co.3:17, Temple of God – holy becomes profane. [Ephesus, 16:8]

2 Co.11:3, minds – new creature returns to old way of life.

Thoughts become words.
Words become actions.
Actions become habits.
Habits become character.
Character becomes destiny.

- To call
life, /

1 Co.3:17, temple of God
becomes profane. [Ephesians 16:8]

2 Co.11:3, minds – new creature
returns to old way of life.

1. We are influenced by friends

- School, work, recreation, neighbors
 - Ro.12:21
 - Ro.16:19
 - Simple: unmixed

2. We are influenced by foolish

- Pr.13:20
 - One bad apple
 - Mt.5: intimacy or intimidation
 - 13: salt loses flavor
 - 14: light covered (intimidated) by darkness.

Mt.26

Gal.2

Ac.5

2. We are influenced by foolish

- Pr.13:20
- 1 Co.15:12, conformity
 - Intellectuals make ordinary people feel stupid and out of step.

‘Wise men speak because they have something to say; fools, because they have to say something’ – Plato

3. We are influenced by family

- Solomon, 1 K.11
- Ahab, 1 K.16:31 . . . 21:25
 - Mt.10 – a very real danger

I. What Is Bad Company?

II. What Are Good Habits?

III. How Does Bad Company Corrupt...?

IV. How To Prevent
Corruption (Drawn Away)?

NOT by withdrawing from society

- Mt.5:16...`before men`
- Ac.18...Paul went to Corinth

NOT by staying in spiritual infancy

- 1 Co.15 direct connection with 3:1-3

How to combat bad influences?

- Turn to Bible for guidance. Hb.5:12-14.
Ps.119:104.
- Study Bible for answers. Get help.
- Maintain convictions. Ep.6:10-12. Ex.32;
Dn.1:8
- Avoid compromising situations. Mt.6:13;
26:41.
- Avoid people who bring out your worst.
Dt.20:8.

People can be hazardous to our faith

- Pr.1:10-19, peer pressure
- Ph.3:2, beware of dog
- Rv.2:2, not born yesterday

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26:41.
- Avoid people who bring out your worst.
Dt.20:8.
- Associate with good people. Pr.13:20.