

"Testing You To Know"
Practical Expressions of Genuineness
Deuteronomy 8: 1 - 20
September 30, 2012

"Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come." (1 Corinthians 10:11 ESV)

God's Call For His People To Be A Treasured Possession Requires Testing To Prove Genuineness, (vs. 1 - 20)

- God's Testing Disciplines His Children With Seasons Of Abundance To Teach Stewardship, (vs. 5 - 10)

5. We must undertake the responsibility to complete the work God has set before us, (vs. 9)

9.1) God's Provision Is Intended For The Work, Not Your Consumption **"You Will Eat Without Scarcity" -**

"Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to accomplish his work. Do you not say, 'There are yet four months, then comes the harvest'? Look, I tell you, lift up your eyes, and see that the fields are white for harvest. Already the one who reaps is receiving wages and gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor.'" (John 4:34-38, ESV)

9.2) God Will Not Under Supply What Is Needed For The Work **"You Will Lack Nothing" -**

"So Jesus said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. For the Father loves the Son and shows him all that he himself is doing. And greater works than these will he show him, so that you may marvel.'" (John 5:19-20, ESV)

9.3) The Work God Has Purposed Is Of Immanent Value **"Stones Are Iron" -**

"But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen. This charge I entrust to you, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies previously made about you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, holding faith and a good conscience. By rejecting this, some have made shipwreck of their faith," (1 Timothy 1:16-19, ESV)

9.4) The Work Doesn't Get Done On Its Own; You Must Participate **"You Can Dig Copper" -**

"Jesus answered, 'It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.'" (John 9:3-4, ESV)

1) "Then you will prosper if you are careful to observe the statutes and the rules that the LORD commanded Moses for Israel. 2) Be strong and courageous. Fear not; do not be dismayed. 3) With great pains I have provided for the house of the LORD 100,000 talents of gold, a million talents of silver, and bronze and iron beyond weighing, for there is so much of it; timber and stone, too, 4) I have provided. To these you must add. 5) You have an abundance of workmen: stonecutters, masons, carpenters, and all kinds of craftsmen without number, skilled in working gold, silver, bronze, and iron. 6) Arise and work! 7) The LORD be with you!" (1 Chronicles 22:13-16, ESV)

- 1) Prosperity is the direct result of obedience.
- 2) The work will be daunting but we should not be afraid.
- 3) Our work is to invest in the Lord's call.
- 4) Others have provided but we must add to it as well.
- 5) The work requires the cooperation of the workmen.
- 6) Our mandate is to get up and work!
- 7) Obedience to this mandate brings God's grace for the labor.

How have you seen the kingdom of God as an entitlement instead of an investment?

6. We must continually declare God's goodness unto His people before the world, (vs. 10)

- God's Testing Serves To Confirm His Covenantal Promises To Those Who Love Him, (vs. 11 - 20)
 1. God's children must guard against forgetting what God has taught them, (vs. 11)
 2. God's children must guard against trusting in their own accomplishments, (vs. 12)
 3. God's children must guard against boasting in their own success, (vs. 13 - 14)
 4. God's children must guard against rewriting the past to highlight their own progress, (vs. 15)
 5. God's children must guard against claiming God's wisdom as their own, (vs. 16)
 6. God's children must guard against stealing God's glory and making it theirs, (vs. 17 - 18)
 7. God's children must guard against worshiping themselves instead of worshiping God, (vs. 19)
 8. God's children must guard against disobeying God as those who do not know God do, (vs. 20)