

"Testing You To Know"
Practical Expressions of Genuineness
Deuteronomy 8: 1 - 20
August 12, 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 Brings Seasons Of Want Though God Has Promised Abundance, (vs. 1 - 4)
2. God has promised to be our guide during times of wandering, (vs. 2)

2.1) God Is Sovereign Over Every Situation: The Good, Bad & Ugly **"Shall Remember (Perf) The Whole Way"**
"Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands – remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world." (Ephesians 2:11-12, ESV)

2.2) You Are Not Where You Are By Accident **"The Lord Has Led (Perf) You"** - *"The LORD is my SHEPHERD; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me." (Psalm 23:1-4, ESV)*

2.3) You Can Not Expect That Everyday Will Be "Sunny & 75°" **"Forty Years / Wilderness / Humble You"** -
"The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:11-14, ESV)

2.4) Your Obedience In The Worst Of The Worst Proves Faith **"Testing You To Know / Heart / Keep (Impf) Commandments"** - *"Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would be doing the works Abraham did, but now you seek to kill me, a man who has told you the truth that I heard from God. This is not what Abraham did. You are doing the works your father did." ... Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love me, for I came from God and I am here... Why do you not understand what I say? It is because you cannot bear to hear my word. You are of your father the devil, and your will is to do your father's desires..." (John 8:39-44, ESV)*

1) "In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. 2) Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls." (1 Peter 1:6-9, ESV)

- 1) There is joy in difficulty that proves God's redemption of His children.
- 2) Our walk with God is not about what we see; it is about what we know He has promised.

How are forgetting God's sovereignty over your difficulties or even blaming God for your trials?

3. God has promised to be our source of provision during times of want, (vs. 3)
 4. God has promised to be our daily protection in times of exposure, (vs. 4)
- God's Testing Disciplines His Children With Seasons Of Abundance To Teach Stewardship, (vs. 5 - 10)
 1. We must understand that God will bring seasons of discipline to teach stewardship, (vs. 5)
 2. We must guard what God has taught us as the only way to true prosperity, (vs. 6)
 3. We must trust that God is the One who will preserve to the end what He has promised, (vs. 7)
 4. We must accept the goodness of God as His provision leading to faithfulness unto His instruction, (vs. 8)
 5. We must undertake the responsibility to complete the work God has set before us, (vs. 9)
 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)