

**"Testing You To Know"**  
*Practical Expressions of Genuineness*  
**Deuteronomy 8: 1 - 20**  
**September 2, 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)

**1. We must understand that God will bring seasons of discipline to teach stewardship, (vs. 5)**

**5.1) It Is Easy For Us To Forget Why God Allows Difficulty**

**"Know (Perf) Then In Your Heart"-**

*"And have you forgotten the exhortation that addresses you as sons? "My son, do not regard lightly the discipline of the Lord, nor be weary when reproved by him. For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives." It is for discipline that you have to endure. God is treating you as sons. For what son is there whom his father does not discipline? If you are left without discipline, in which all have participated, then you are illegitimate children and not sons." (Hebrews 12:5-8, ESV)*

**5.2) Earthly Discipline Is Not Just Obedience; It Is A Testimony**

**"As A Man Disciplines (Impf)"-**

*"Besides this, we have had earthly fathers who disciplined us and we respected them. Shall we not much more be subject to the Father of spirits and live?" (Hebrews 12:9, ESV)*

**5.3) To Reject Discipline Is To Reject God's Nature**

**"The Lord Your God Disciplines (Part) You"-**

*"For they disciplined us for a short time as it seemed best to them, but he disciplines us for our good, that we may share his holiness. For the moment all discipline seems painful rather than pleasant, but later it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it." (Hebrews 12:10-11, ESV)*

**1) "Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, 2) and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be put out of joint but rather be healed. 3) Strive for peace with everyone, 4) and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord." (Hebrews 12:12-14, ESV)**

- 1) Understand what the discipline is for.
- 2) Understand discipline heals and corrects what is misaligned.
- 3) Understand that discipline always pursues peace.
- 4) Understand discipline produces holiness necessary to salvation.

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)