

# The Tests of Life

## "Defining Moments"

Does God test his children?

Test (*peirazo, Bahan*) – to prove by trial

**Proverbs 17:3** The refining pot is for silver and the furnace for gold, But the Lord **tests** hearts.

**Genesis 22:1** Now it came about after these things, that God **tested** Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2 He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of **which I will tell you.**"

**Exodus 16:4** Then the Lord said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you; and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, so that I may **test** them, whether or not they will walk in My instruction.

God's purpose in testing is to prove that our faith is real, not to him, but to us, and OTHERS.

**1 Timothy 3:10** These men must also first be **tested**; then have them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach.

**1 Timothy 5:22** Do not lay hands upon anyone too quickly and thereby share responsibility for the sins of others; keep yourself free from sin.

Satan also tests us. **1 Thessalonians 3:5** For this reason, when I could no longer endure *it*, I also sent to find out about your faith, for fear that the **tempter** might have tempted you, and our labor would be for nothing.

God, never with evil

**James 1:13** No one is to say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone.

Test reveal strengths, weaknesses, and limitations.

**1 Corinthians 10:12** Therefore let the one who thinks he stands watch out that he does not fall. (NASV)

A "defining moment" is a time in your life that has the power to change your life forever. Defining moments mold, shape, change, and direct our lives, and they often appear in the form of tests.

Ex. Choices, careers, patience, .....

It is not what happens in our life that defines us. It is how we respond to what happens in our life that really defines who we are...

**Ephesians 4:1** Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called, 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

**James 1:2** Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the **testing** of your faith produces endurance. 4 And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

11/02/22 g. smith notes