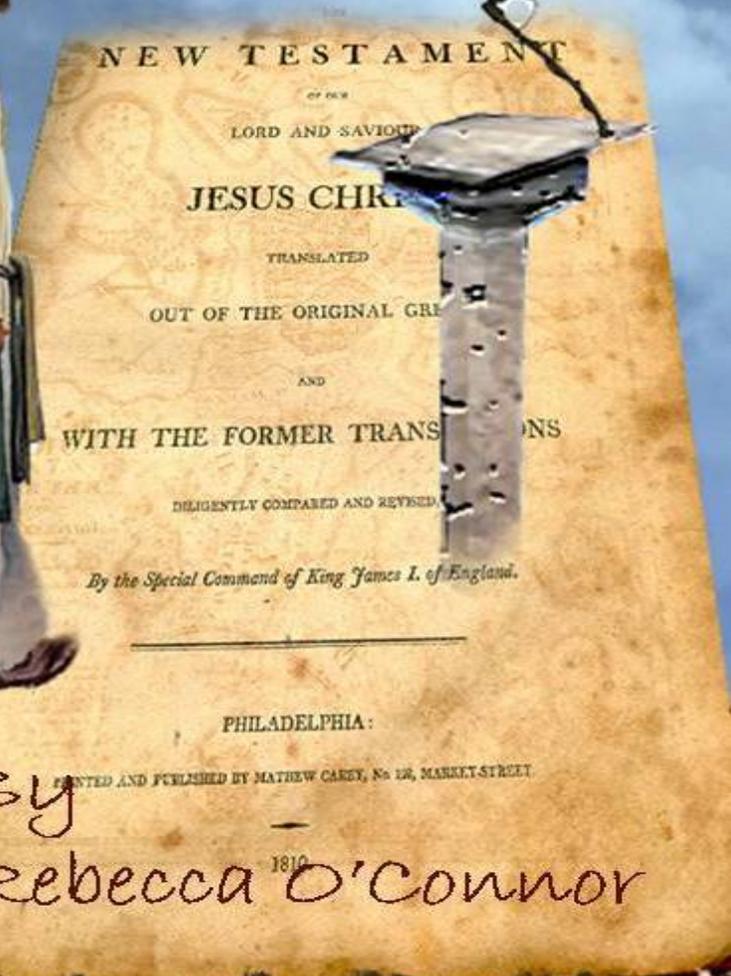
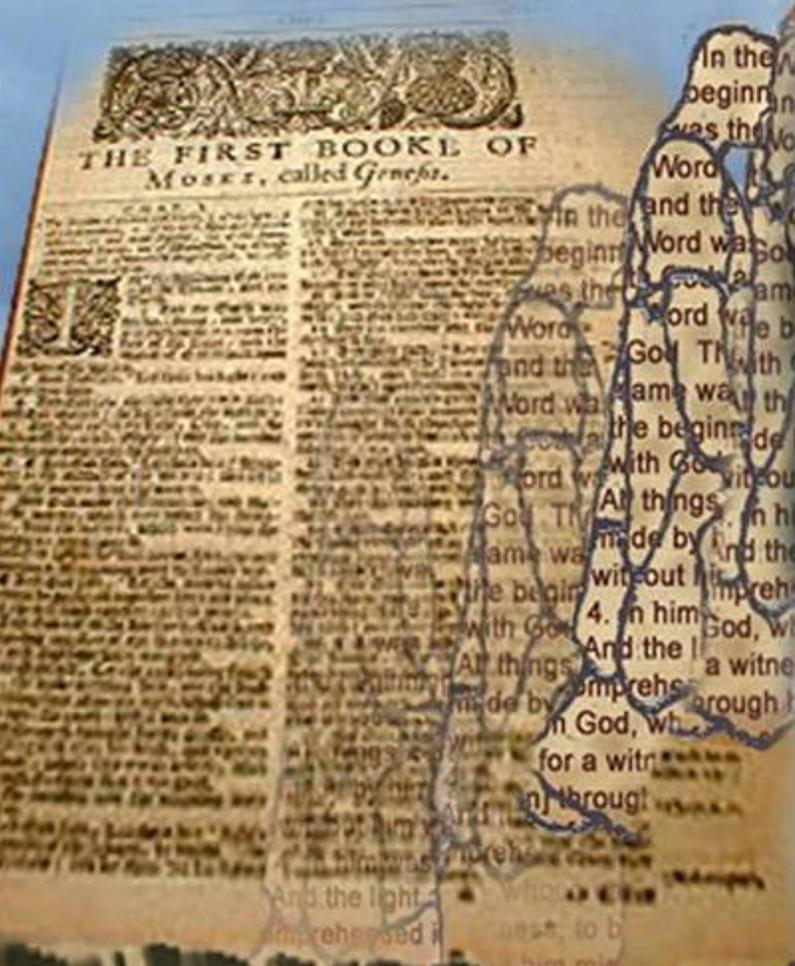


# Testing: 1-2-3



By  
Rebecca O'Connor

# Testing:

1-2-3

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## Foreword

Several years ago there was a television commercial for a popular man's aftershave. As purported, after its application the stimulating, brisk effect was equated to that of receiving a slap in the face by a beautiful woman. Following the robust slap, the freshly shaven man would state, "WOW...I needed that!" I can undoubtedly state that the well written, inspired instruction contained in "Testing: 1-2-3" has no less than the same awakening effect, if you dare to listen.

Because of my longstanding involvement in music and playing concerts in live venues, when I saw the title of this publication, it evoked memories of the many hours of associated sound checks required in preparation for such musical events. Allow me to explain.

Although the musicians may be well rehearsed in the performance of their music, it is the "soundman" that is charged with the ultimate responsibility to insure that the words (*song lyrics*) have a clear ride on a musical wave. The words must travel unobstructed to their target...the listeners' ears. Words, especially when delivered on that musical wave, can change lives (*for better or worse*), renew, or destroy. However if the sonic collisions of the instruments override the efficient delivery of the words, then the benefit or message is lost or misunderstood. In the professional music industry often times, prior to a band (*secular and Christian*) performing a concert tour, they will usually have a CD for sale. The CD of the tunes that will be performed affords the listener/concert goer the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the words. The CD pack also usually contains a printed lyric sheet from which you can learn the words of the songs. Beware, however, if a lyric sheet is not included, you may never know what message is truly being delivered.

This brings me to my final point of this foreword. Often times in a concert, emotions are elevated solely by high volume though the actual words are not heard or read on a lyric sheet. Those who are seeking the true nature of God cannot be just a listener but must be a reader of the Word as well. As in a poorly mixed song, the preached message can be obstructed or otherwise altered by emotion, preference or opinions, so make sure you read God's lyric sheet for yourself to know what the Words really are.

Testing: 1-2-3...Can you hear me or are you simply refusing to listen?

May God bless your understanding,  
Dennis O'Connor

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## TESTING: ONE, TWO, THREE

### [LEARNING THE LESSON]

*Matt 17:5*

*This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him.*

*KJV*



What constitutes the doctrines by which we adhere? Much of our doctrine is based upon the Word of God. There are also those unwritten doctrines incorporated by the repetition of a belief or saying. I would wager that of those calling themselves Christians only ¼ of them have actually read parts of the Bible with even less having read it all. Many Christians visit church at the holidays or special events and at best get glimpses of the Bible through others who “seem to know”. The only Bible many of the churched have read is their pastor. What he preaches is what they know. “Why read the book when you can see the movie?”

Not knowing Scriptures well, phrases like: “This too shall pass” along with “God helps those who help themselves”, and my personal pet peeve, “God won’t put any more on you than you can bear”, are quoted as if verses from Scripture. They are not to be found anywhere in Scripture, however. While some of these types of phrases may have truth in them, others are actually contrary to the Gospel. If you hear something repeated enough you take it as Gospel, but when those with whom you hold admiration and respect repeat it often enough, it is made into doctrine set in stone.

I have written chapters on the subject of testing because clergy everywhere seem to repeat the same incredible belief of testing coming from God for our good. I have to admit that when going through trials the Lord will turn these things toward a good outcome so we naturally assume the whole thing was His idea. Human assumption does not make it Scriptural, however. You will have to forgive me as I was not raised a pure blood to any particular denomination as I was christened Methodist, baptized Presbyterian, church camped with the Baptist and received the Holy Spirit as an Assembly of Godder! I HAVE MADE THE ROUNDS. My dad’s side, being Italian, prayed to Mary that we would make it to purgatory. That being said, my parents were Bible readers and followed Biblical principles. I learned more Christian living from my parents than all the churches we faithfully attended. [We did not even miss church when our car burst into flames, but we may have been late...as I recall.] My parents took the Word seriously and lived their faith, but I am not relying upon the faith of my parents. If I had a question as a child I went to them, but all of my questions now go to the Word. I not only have read the entire Bible, but I have gone over some of the rough areas under translation to study to show myself approved. This is not my “pat on the back” but should be the common practice for all who love the Lord.

I confess to you now that this book may just help me in writing about the subject of testing for the final time as a catharsis for the frustration of this subject I have had for some time. First we must find the basis of all Truth from which to use as our center. There is one solid piece of Truth in whom all others are subject. So let us first **learn the lesson**.

The WORD became flesh. Have you noticed that the Scripture does not read and God's Son became flesh but says the WORD itself became flesh? In other words, there is no WORD greater above the earth, on the earth or beneath the earth greater than the WORD made flesh named Jesus! *Phil 2:9-11 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* The Words came off the page of God's heart, and we got the interview straight from its source of origin. Jesus was not a second hand report or hearsay or even a representative of Truth, but THE WORD or straight talk from the very throne. We can see that Jesus did not live even 1% outside of the Word in any individual form save that of God and WORD:

**John 17**

*Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee:*

*2 As thou hast given him power over all flesh, that he should give eternal life to as many as thou hast given him.*

*3 And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.*

*4 I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.*

*5 And now, O Father, glorify thou me with thine own self with the glory which I had with thee before the world was.*

*6 I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.*

*7 Now they have known that all things whatsoever thou hast given me are of thee.*

*8 For I have given unto them the words which thou gavest me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came out from thee, and they have believed that thou didst send me.*

*9 I pray for them: I pray not for the world, but for them which thou hast given me; for they are thine.*

*10 And all mine are thine, and thine are mine; and I am glorified in them.*

*11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we are.*

*12 While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name: those that thou gavest me I have kept, and none of them is lost, but the son of perdition; that the scripture might be fulfilled.*

*13 And now come I to thee; and these things I speak in the world, that they might have my joy fulfilled in themselves.*

*14 I have given them thy word; and the world hath hated them, because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*

*15 I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.*

*16 They are not of the world, even as I am not of the world.*

*17 Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.*

18 *As thou hast sent me into the world, even so have I also sent them into the world.*  
 19 *And for their sakes I sanctify myself, that they also might be sanctified through the truth.*  
 20 *Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;*  
 21 *That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.*  
 22 *And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one:*  
 23 *I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me.*  
 24 *Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world.*  
 25 *O righteous Father, the world hath not known thee: but I have known thee, and these have known that thou hast sent me.*  
 26 *And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.*

I have seen a vision that I will try to explain, for visions are hard to put to language. I saw the Bible opened up. The Old Testament was on the left and the New Testament on the right side. I saw a figure made of words, as if liquid; flow up from the book into the form of a man. As the liquid form crossed over to the New Testament He became a flesh and blood human. As He became totally human He turned to face me, and I saw that it was Jesus. Standing there a voice went through my head saying, ***“This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; Hear ye Him.” Matt 17:5*** I remembered that God’s voice had said this at the Mount of Transfiguration. Jesus transfigured for me to understand that He alone is my base of Truth and all things pass through Him. Jesus and God are one in all things. Two other figures were with Jesus on that mount [not in my vision], and Peter thought it would be good to build three tabernacles...one for each. That was when God stopped him and said ***“This is my beloved Son in whom I am well pleased; hear ye Him.”*** Through this revelation, I received the comprehension in which I apply to all of my study. No other man has been God on this earth, but many have represented God. We cannot be saved by Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Moses, Elisha or Elijah, but Jesus who is THE CHRIST, Savior, Redeemer, and Lord. ***John 14:6 I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.***

You cannot take words from the OT to pit against Jesus, for Jesus was and is THE WORD. I know this now having seen for myself that the Words took the form of a man who is Jesus. God did not have a makeover in personality before HE came off the pages to be seen and heard. The angels did not have an intervention on God to soften His ways before He entered the flesh. ***“Okay, which one of us will approach God about His harsh ways? Let’s get Mikey [Michael] to do it; he’ll do anything!”*** [It is okay to laugh; God does it all the time.] He has always been the same God without shadow of turning. The difference is in the container of the Word. There is not another living being that has been the WORD MADE FLESH. There have been representatives of the Word. There have been many containers of the Word, but only ONE WORD walking in the fullness of God. We,

as witnesses, are God in part, by being in God's image carrying God's message while resisting the pull of our flesh with its emotions, passions and feelings. Just as Paul, we must die daily to our flesh. We have many dusty thoughts to resist. Yes, even so for Billy Graham, and he is humble enough to verify that. There is no man past, present or future who will override the Words of Jesus. The OT patriarchs believed God without having seen Him while He materialized in the NT and answered all of our questions. Those of His followers believed in faith that He was the Christ, however, they had the advantage not known by the patriarchs in that they heard Him audibly and saw Him visibly. God speaking through a vessel does not make the vessel perfect for building upon otherwise we might have a church named for Balaam's jackass.

Those who love the Old Testament love it for the history of man's relationship with God and the amazing accounts of man's testimony. These are examples that have taught generations for years. Christians may read "In the beginning" and know the link that is not missing for our origin while others play at guessing what might have evolved...ours is recorded. [Evolution is so sketchy anyway that while they are insisting that man evolved from monkeys they neglect to tell from where the monkeys came.] We find comfort in the songs of David throughout the Psalms and wisdom from the Proverbs. We do not reject the Old Testament, we embrace our roots, we see man's failings, but we live according to the WORD which will never pass away: ***Matt 24:35 Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away. Mark 13:31 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. Luke 21:33 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away.***

This is first person, Jesus, speaking. Jesus is the "MY WORDS" talked about in these Scriptures.

We, who decrease so that HE may increase, are mangers at best. We are not much on the outside that anyone would notice but inside hold the King of Glory. Jesus was not the manger but THE KING OF GLORY in the manger. So that being said, do I have your agreement that Jesus is greater than Abraham? Isaac? Jacob? Moses? Elijah? Elisha? If Jesus is not your center, I will tell you in all honesty that reading this book will be a waste of your time, but here is something Jesus did repeat over and over:

*Rev 2:7 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;*

*Rev 2:11 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;*

*Rev 2:17 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;*

*Rev 2:29 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*

*Rev 3:6 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*

*Rev 3:13 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*

*Rev 3:22 He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.*

Since repetition is the master of birthing doctrine then hear it from the MASTER. Let me give you something to ponder: While there were many proper names given for God in the Old Testament None of them crossed the great divide into the New Testament. Jehovah, Yahweh, YHWH, EL, or Shadday etc. is not used in the New Testament. Father and God are not names but positions such as sister and brother or cousin, and almighty is an adjective describing God. The name was described in Isaiah yet unknown: *Isa 9:6 For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.*

All of these things are attributed to the child that was to come, the Messiah and Christ. God's only proper name in the New Testament is JESUS. The OT had many names for God according to the personality perceived, yet the NT narrowed the field to one name above all the other names in heaven, earth and beneath...JESUS. Jesus is our center and base from which we judge all things and test all words. This is the first lesson to learn.



## TESTING: ONE, TWO, THREE!



### [TAKING THE TEST]

*1 Peter 4:12*

*Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:*

We learn the lessons of Jesus' Words because life is full of trials and tests. Although we do not look for the trials and tests, they find us. Taking the tests are the effects of living in this world. The length and repetition of tests is the result of two factors:

1. not learning the lesson
2. not knowing who is administering the test

We are not taking divine tests from God for our growth. God gave His Word for our growth. It is when we venture upon the slippery slopes that we sideslip into the various trials. There are, however, persecutions against our faith that need not have come from a slope slippery or otherwise...it is simply, as I said before, living in this world.

As a teacher I will tell you the order of the test **as it should be**:

- Study to show yourself approved
- Application of the Word to life
- Pop quiz
- Pass because you were prepared
- Learn and grow having put what you study to practice
- Test

You may think this naïve of me to have listed the process all nicely in order as if we take the test by our timetable. My point is not that you may order the time of the trial, but that you are prepared at all times to pass any test coming your way. You cannot cram at the last minute and cross your fingers hoping to pass. The day of the test is to be fully prepared to give the correct responses on the test. Once the lesson is learned you go on to the next lesson and learn, grow and mature. People get this backwards in that they see the test before the lesson or the test as the lesson, but it is God's Word that is the lesson. A good student understands this. It is a far sight better than this:

- Test
- Fumble
- Grumble
- Cry
- Maybe learn, but if not repeat the whole process over again
- And again
- And again

I have had students who were very conscientious in studying wanting to do well for a good grade and reward while others were satisfied with just passing. Just passing means you win a few and lose a few. Then there were those who did not care to learn the lesson at all because the studying required more than they cared to give, but they surely did know how to belly ache and get mad at the teacher because life just was not fair when the grades came out! Mom and Dad were not fair with grounding them from some of their favorite activities when they saw the grades as well. You must get rid of the idea that a test is to precede the lesson, but that the lesson is to be learned before the test arrives.

It was always amazing to me that the ones who cared less to learn the lesson cried the most. God seems to know this about His children. He knows those who love Him and those who use Him for the blessing's sake and a fire insurance policy: *John 14:23-24 Jesus answered and said unto him, **If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him. He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's which sent me.***

If we love Jesus we will KEEP His words. What does it mean to “keep”?

- **KEEP: Greek #5083** τηρέω tēreō to *guard* (from *loss* or *injury*, properly by keeping *the mind's eye* upon; - hold fast, be a keeper, server, observer, preserver, reserver) serve, watch.

Do you love God? Then you must do more than understand His word; you must comprehend it. We must live beyond our beliefs to live within His faith. Remember this: that the test and trials of beliefs will come. Beliefs are subject to turn into faith through the Word. Are you willing to lose a belief if you gain True Faith? I have lost many beliefs in order to be built up in faith and know what my faith is. Our beliefs are challenged through tests and trials continually, but once we gain faith it stands the test of times. Will you pass it the first time or will you need a make-up test? God, like any good parent, will encourage you to learn the lesson before the test, for it is harder to learn the lesson after the grades are recorded.

Remember that our base of all instruction is Jesus. If we still do not know this, as I said before, STOP READING THIS BOOK. We cannot base anything upon what we think we know but upon what Jesus said and what the Holy Spirit led throughout the Gospel from Christ on. So once again I will ask you: Who is the author and finisher of our faith? Let us first look at that:

*Heb 12:2-8*

*2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.*

*3 For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.*

*4 Ye have not yet resisted unto blood, striving against sin.*

5 And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:

6 For whom the Lord loveth he **chasteneth**, and **scourgeth** every son whom he receiveth.

7 If ye endure **chastening**, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father **chasteneth** not?

8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.

As you can plainly see Jesus is the author of my story and your story, in other words Script-Yours! We are living within the Gospel pages. We have not hit “The End” yet. Then we come to see the words having to do with chastisement and correction. Is chastisement our test? Let us look there to see:

- **Chasteneth #G381** παιδεύω paideuo □ to *train* up a child, that is, *educate*, or *discipline*: - chasten (-ise), instruct, learn, teach.
- **Chastening, Chastisement #G3809** παιδεία paideia *tutorage*, that is, *education* or *training*, by implication disciplinary *correction*: - chastening, chastisement, instruction, nurture.
- **Corrected #G3810** παιδευτής paideutēs a *trainer*, that is, *teacher* or (by implication) *discipliner*: - which corrected, instructor.

Chastisement and scourging are done with the Word. Jesus took man’s literal, physical, chastisement and scourging for our peace and healing while man is flogged or scourged of the Word. Man uses weapons of destruction, but Jesus uses the sword of the spirit, which is the Word to edify and build up. When we accept the Word, it is as water for the washing away old beliefs that may corrupt, but when we do not want to conform to Truth, that Truth is as hard as hail: *Isa 28:17 Judgment also will I lay to the line, and righteousness to the plummet: and the hail shall sweep away the refuge of lies, and the waters shall overflow the hiding place.*

*Matt 21:42-44 Jesus saith unto them, Did ye never read in the scriptures, **The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner: this is the Lord’s doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes? Therefore say I unto you, The kingdom of God shall be taken from you, and given to a nation bringing forth the fruits thereof. And whosoever shall fall on this stone shall be broken: but on whomsoever it shall fall, it will grind him to powder.***

It would be better to fall upon [submit] the Word/stone and for our will to be broken unto repentance than for the Word/stone to be that hard hail to us that sears our conscience to turmoil within! This is talking about the Word. Literal hail cannot sweep away lies, but the hard water of the Word can, and hail is definitely hard water or hard Word. We are chastened and scourged of the Word! The trial may come from our resisting the Word. Paul was an Old Testament figure, not in time frame but in religious thought and belief, yet found himself materialized on the other side of the Bible into the New Testament of faith in Jesus’ salvation on the road to Damascus. When God revealed His identity as Jesus, Paul’s vision changed...literally. The OT thinkers with old vision

threatened Paul's life constantly. Paul was tested by the OT religion or belief but delivered into the NT faith. Today we are still double-minded by living with the Old Testament belief and try to force it into newer wine skins without reconciling the container and substance alike.

Let me interject here that if a trial comes, and you are standing on a belief rather than the faith of the Word it is like standing on only one leg...on a loose rope...over a cliff...without a net. Soon you will not have a leg to stand on! God wants us to Believe in Him and not just to believe a belief. Believing is a verb that shows action to either of the nouns **belief** or **faith**. When we believe and walk in the Word through Jesus we are in faith. When we believe a belief a trial gives us the opportunity to conform to the Word and walk in faith. Faith is a connector of all Truth and agrees with itself over and over. A belief will conflict with faith at some point because it does not always agree with Truth. This is why people say that we do not understand God, for one minute He does this and the next...well who knows. Faith will connect all Truth. Beliefs will disconnect at some point. This is the positive thing about a test or trial in that it gives you the opportunity to put a belief to the test. The devil thinks to defeat us, but remember that the fourth figure in your fiery trial is Jesus. Make the devil sorry he ever messed with you, for you have matured and are now two times the threat to his kingdom! It is by no means a shame to show some battle scars in the fight leading to victory. Just remember your witness is being observed always. A little too much **whine** in your walk will cause a **stumbling witness**.

But let us continue with lesson two: Taking The Test. You will find, neither the noun "test" nor verb "testing" in either KJV of the Old or New Testaments, yet we hear of these tests and testings from the pulpit of our churches as well as the big ministries in the media. If you doubt me then look up the words for yourself. I welcome people not only to scrutinize what I write but study it out. Know why you believe what you believe. I do not write books for argument's sake, but that I may learn more in order to teach more fully. Though the words *test* and *testing* are not found, we go through them nonetheless.

It seems every difficulty that comes is regarded a test or trial, which I agree, however, who is administering this trial or test? Since test, tests, tested, testeth, testing are not to be found in Scripture, we must look at the word used for this, which is the verb **to tempt**. Where there is a temptation there is sure to be a tempter.

*Matt 4:1 Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil.*

*Mat 4:1 Then<sup>5119</sup> was Jesus<sup>2424</sup> led up<sup>321</sup> of<sup>5259</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> spirit<sup>4151</sup> into<sup>1519</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> wilderness<sup>2048</sup> to be tempted<sup>3985</sup> of<sup>5259</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> devil.<sup>1228</sup>*

- **Tempted: Greek #3985**

πειράζω□□ peirazo: to *test* (objectively), that is, *endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline*: - assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.

- **Devil: Greek #1228**

διάβολος diabolos: a *traducer*, specifically *Satan*. - false accuser, devil, slanderer.

Now we know the words used for tests, which is, tempt. Granted, we do not generally hear someone say that God is tempting us; only that God is testing us. Since we have no basis for the remark that *God is testing us* to be found in Scripture, and the only word for test is tempt, I believe we have found our EUREKA! And before you can say the word Abraham...do not. I promise I will get to Abraham being "*tempted by God*" at the close of this chapter if you will be patient.

The Scripture refers many times to the trying of our faith. We can follow this subject in the same book of James:

*James 1:2-8*

*2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations;*

*3 Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience.*

*4 But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.*

*5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*

*6 But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed.*

*7 For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord.*

*8 A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*

For the studier I will help your efforts and repeat the Scriptures:

Jam 1:2-8 My<sup>3450</sup> brethren,<sup>80</sup> count<sup>2233</sup> it all<sup>3956</sup> joy<sup>5479</sup> when<sup>3752</sup> ye fall into<sup>4045</sup> divers<sup>4164</sup> temptations;<sup>3986</sup>

3 Knowing<sup>1097</sup> this, that<sup>3754</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> trying<sup>1383</sup> of your<sup>5216</sup> faith<sup>4102</sup> worketh<sup>2716</sup> patience.<sup>5281</sup>

4 But<sup>1161</sup> let patience<sup>5281</sup> have<sup>2192</sup> her perfect<sup>5046</sup> work,<sup>2041</sup> that<sup>2443</sup> ye may be<sup>5600</sup> perfect<sup>5046</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> entire,<sup>3648</sup> wanting<sup>3007</sup> nothing.<sup>3367</sup>

5 (1161) If<sup>1487</sup> any<sup>5100</sup> of you<sup>5216</sup> lack<sup>3007</sup> wisdom,<sup>4678</sup> let him ask<sup>154</sup> of<sup>3844</sup> God,<sup>2316</sup> that giveth<sup>1325</sup> to all<sup>3956</sup> men liberally,<sup>574</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> upbraideth<sup>3679</sup> not;<sup>3361</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> it shall be given<sup>1325</sup> him.<sup>846</sup>

6 But<sup>1161</sup> let him ask<sup>154</sup> in<sup>1722</sup> faith,<sup>4102</sup> nothing<sup>3367</sup> wavering.<sup>1252</sup> For<sup>1063</sup> he that wavereth<sup>1252</sup> is like<sup>1503</sup> a wave<sup>2830</sup> of the sea<sup>2281</sup> driven with the wind<sup>416</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> tossed.<sup>4494</sup>

7 For<sup>1063</sup> let not<sup>3361</sup> that<sup>1565</sup> man<sup>444</sup> think<sup>3633</sup> that<sup>3754</sup> he shall receive<sup>2983</sup> any thing<sup>5100</sup> of<sup>3844</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> Lord.<sup>2962</sup>

8 A double minded<sup>1374</sup> man<sup>435</sup> is unstable<sup>182</sup> in<sup>1722</sup> all<sup>3956</sup> his<sup>848</sup> ways.<sup>3598</sup>

First of all, we see temptations #3986 in the Greek expository:

- **Temptations: Greek #3986** πειρασμός peirasmos a putting to *proof* (by experiment [of good], *experience* [of evil], solicitation, discipline or provocation); by implication *adversity*: - temptation, X try.

Temptation is an experiment to man, in that man has the ability to grow through the experience on the good side with patience, but the adversary to solicit you to the knee-jerk reaction of evil does provocation. We remember that this happened to Jesus in the wilderness.

- **Patience: Greek #5281** ὑπομονή *hupomonē* cheerful (or hopeful) *endurance, constancy*: - enduring, patience, patient continuance.

If there is one thing a soldier learns is endurance. David was able to fight Goliath because he had learned endurance and that God could see him through anything. God sent him neither the bear nor the lion, but God saw him through the bear and the lion for which David counted it as joy for his victory over death. This is what made David perfect in work when it came time to face the giant.

James goes on to say let patience have her perfect work. It does not say let temptation have its perfect work. Let temptation produce patience and allow patience to work. What is perfect work?

- **Perfect: Greek #5046** τέλειος *teleios* *complete* (in various applications of labor, growth, mental and moral character, etc.); neuter (as noun, with G3588) *completeness*: - of full age, man, perfect.

Work means just what you think it means, and to be perfected in the work is building and maturing your character in the Word. Those, of course, who do not allow patience to do her perfect work, will not pass the test but experience the side effects by the adversary. The enemy chalks this up to success and will push this button again and again for pop quizzes often because he found what works.

Looking at James 1:5 we see that God does not leave us helpless. If you lack wisdom it does not say that God will interfere, but that He must be asked for His counsel, and He willingly gives you the wisdom you need. God will not upbraid you with, "Well, you did this to yourself!" "How could you have been so stupid?" "Serves you right!" Those thoughts come from the enemy to break your resolve into accepting the consequences as a thing deserved.

The weight of the entire Scripture will depend upon our faith, however. Look at the rest of James 1:6-8, and you will see how important it is to know who is administering the test. If you are going to whine that God is testing you then you do not comprehend Him as the remedy. It would be difficult for me to stand if I believed God was **putting** me on trial instead of **taking** me through to its exit. The sea did not part for Moses alone but parts for each of us that we pass through to dry land again. Remember the Scripture that says, *Ps 23:4 Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.*

If you read the early verses of Ps 23 you will see where the Lord leads until we get to verse 4, and we find ourselves taking the reins.

Remembering once again that when we ask for God's help, He does not upbraideth; so the rod and staff are His Word guiding us which is a comfort not a beating.

I would never want to fight God. However, if we understand that we are enlisting God's help to fight the enemy we are single minded in the fight. David knew his God was the deliverer not the afflicter: *Ps 34:17-19 The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles. The LORD is nigh unto them that are of a broken heart; and saveth such as be of a contrite spirit. Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.*

God does not deliver us from God Himself but from the afflicter. Let us continue in James further to make it very clear that God is not the tester remembering what we have already read in the first chapter of James.

*James 1:13-17 Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:*

*14 But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed.*

*15 Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death.*

*16 Do not err, my beloved brethren.*

*17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.*

Remember that the word test etc. is not used. The word for test is tempt. So let us break this down for the studier:

Jam 1:13 Let no man<sup>3367</sup> say<sup>3004</sup> when he is tempted,<sup>3985</sup> I am tempted<sup>3985</sup> of<sup>575</sup> God:<sup>2316</sup> for<sup>1063</sup> God<sup>2316</sup> cannot be tempted<sup>2076, 551</sup> with evil,<sup>2556</sup> neither<sup>1161</sup> tempteth<sup>3985</sup> he<sup>848</sup> any man:<sup>3762</sup>  
 14 But<sup>1161</sup> every man<sup>1538</sup> is tempted,<sup>3985</sup> when he is drawn away<sup>1828</sup> of<sup>5259</sup> his own<sup>2398</sup> lust,<sup>1939</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> enticed.<sup>1185</sup>  
 15 Then<sup>1534</sup> when lust<sup>1939</sup> hath conceived,<sup>4815</sup> it bringeth forth<sup>5088</sup> sin:<sup>266</sup> and<sup>1161</sup> sin,<sup>266</sup> when it is finished,<sup>658</sup> bringeth forth<sup>616</sup> death.<sup>2288</sup>  
 16 Do not<sup>3361</sup> err,<sup>4105</sup> my<sup>3450</sup> beloved<sup>27</sup> brethren.<sup>80</sup>  
 17 Every<sup>3956</sup> good<sup>18</sup> gift<sup>1394</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> every<sup>3956</sup> perfect<sup>5046</sup> gift<sup>1434</sup> is<sup>2076</sup> from above,<sup>509</sup> and cometh down<sup>2597</sup> from<sup>575</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> Father<sup>3962</sup> of lights,<sup>5457</sup> with<sup>3844</sup> whom<sup>3739</sup> is<sup>1762</sup> no<sup>3756</sup> variableness,<sup>3883</sup> neither<sup>2228</sup> shadow<sup>644</sup> of turning.<sup>5157</sup>

- **Tempted, Tempteth: Greek #3985** πειράζω peirazō to *test* (objectively), that is, *endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline*: - assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.
- **[God cannot be] tempted: Greek #551** ἀπειράστος apeirastos *not temptable*: - not to be tempted.

God does not tempt you, but if you ask Him He will give you everything you need to stand. Just remember He stands blameless. If you are going to blame God for the test, your stand is weak, and you are double minded in your faith having nothing. You are even instructed not to err in thinking that God would do this, since God only gives good and perfect gifts, it is impossible for Him to turn and

be fickle. If God cannot test with evil or use evil means for testing, how is He able to contract it out to the enemy who is only perpetually evil? His Word says He does not. If His Word says that He does not then I tell you that for Him to do so would break His Word and divide His Kingdom. It is an impossibility for God to go against His own Word. God is not a man that He should lie. I wrote an entire book entitled, ***Epiphany: A Study Of Job***, which shows that God neither commissioned Satan nor gave His blessings for the attack against Job. It is much too extensive to rewrite it all again, but you may find the book on my website: [christianbooksdot.com](http://christianbooksdot.com).

As the Scripture indicates, there is no variableness with God.

- **Variableness: Greek #3883** παραλλαγή *parallagē* *transmutation* (of phase or orbit), that is, (figuratively) *fickleness*: - variableness.

There are prophetic words throughout the Scriptures in two forms:

1. God's Spirit giving the understanding for a warning of impending danger.
2. Man transposing these warnings given into his own translation from feelings and anger.

Prophecies fueled by anger say more words outside of God than from His Spirit. *Luke 9:53-55* *And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem. And when his disciples James and John saw this, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did? But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.*

Jesus was not saying, that this is how things used to be but not anymore, or that it was a job for the Father not for the Son. He said you know not what manner of spirit you are. This was not the spirit of God at all. Notice too that Jesus did not just mention this but rebuked them for such a statement.

Moses had a problem with anger, and who can blame him? I cannot cast that stone. Dealing with the bunch as he did was equal to having a migraine! Moses gave into anger by murdering a man and hiding his body. This is a sign of his Achilles heel. The burning bush could not burn out the frustration or anger that he had to fight off. More than not he succumbed to it, but as God's representative Moses showed the captive a way to freedom's door while his anger delivered the "sinners into the hands of an angry God". He spoke, at times, the words of God and other times he spoke his own angry self-fulfilling prophecies. Many of us, if not all in ministry, have experienced the feelings that stirred Moses.

How many times have you heard someone whether clergy or layman say, "God won't put any more on you than you can bear"? This is quoted as if Scriptural. It is absolutely not! If you can find **that** Scripture in KJV write me at [rebeccabooks@ymail.com](mailto:rebeccabooks@ymail.com), and I will eat the book! I believe that this misrepresentation comes from 1 Cor 10:13. If you read from 10:7-14 you will find

that this is talking about those who were practicing idolatry, and we are given the example to educate us from falling into the same trap. Let us take a closer look:

1 Cor 10:9-14

9 Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

10 Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.

14 Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.

And for the studier:

1Co 10:9-14 Neither<sup>3366</sup> let us tempt<sup>1598</sup> Christ,<sup>5547</sup> as<sup>2531</sup> some<sup>5100</sup> of them<sup>846</sup> also<sup>2532</sup> tempted,<sup>3985</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> were destroyed<sup>622</sup> of<sup>2529</sup> serpents.<sup>3789</sup>

10 Neither<sup>3366</sup> murmur<sup>1111</sup> ye, as<sup>2531</sup> some<sup>5100</sup> of them<sup>846</sup> also<sup>2532</sup> murmured,<sup>1111</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> were destroyed<sup>622</sup> of<sup>2529</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> destroyer.<sup>3644</sup>

11 Now<sup>1161</sup> all<sup>8956</sup> these things<sup>5023</sup> happened<sup>4819</sup> unto them<sup>1565</sup> for examples:<sup>5179</sup> and<sup>1161</sup> they are written<sup>1125</sup> for<sup>4314</sup> our<sup>2257</sup> admonition,<sup>3559</sup> upon<sup>1519</sup> whom<sup>3739</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> ends<sup>5056</sup> of the<sup>3588</sup> world<sup>1165</sup> are come.<sup>2658</sup>

12 Wherefore<sup>5620</sup> let him that thinketh<sup>1380</sup> he standeth<sup>2476</sup> take heed<sup>991</sup> lest<sup>3361</sup> he fall.<sup>4098</sup>

13 There hath no<sup>3756</sup> temptation<sup>3986</sup> taken<sup>2983</sup> you<sup>5209</sup> but<sup>1508</sup> such as is common to man.<sup>442</sup> but<sup>1161</sup> God<sup>2316</sup> is faithful,<sup>4103</sup> who<sup>3739</sup> will not<sup>3756</sup> suffer<sup>1439</sup> you<sup>5209</sup> to be tempted<sup>3985</sup> above<sup>5228</sup> that<sup>3739</sup> ye are able,<sup>1410</sup> but<sup>235</sup> will with<sup>4862</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> temptation<sup>3986</sup> also<sup>2532</sup> make<sup>4160</sup> a way to escape,<sup>1545</sup> that ye<sup>5209</sup> may be able<sup>1410</sup> to bear<sup>5297</sup> it.

14 Wherefore,<sup>1355</sup> my<sup>3450</sup> dearly beloved,<sup>27</sup> flee<sup>5343</sup> from<sup>575</sup> idolatry.<sup>1495</sup>

Here are some test questions:

1. [Verse 9] What were these people destroyed by? \_\_\_\_\_

**Serpent: Greek #3789** ὄφις ophis of -is a snake, figuratively (as a type of sly cunning) an artful malicious person, especially Satan: - serpent.

2. [Verse 10] Those who murmured were destroyed of the: \_\_\_\_\_

**Destroyer: Greek #3644** ὀλοθρευτής olothreutēs a ruiner, that is, (specifically) a venomous serpent: - destroyer.

3. [Verse 11] Why are these things written in the Bible for us to read? \_\_\_\_\_

**Admonition: Greek #3559** νουθεσία nouthesia calling attention to, that is, (by implication) mild rebuke or warning: - admonition.

Verse 13 is beautiful, but look at this under translation: *There is no evil test that can get hold of you after the manner of man, but that God is trustworthy who will not leave you to be tested alone but will join together with you during the trial to make an exit place that you gain power of endurance.*

Remember this fits with patience to produce endurance from the chapter in James.

Some obscure little words that you would never suspect are hiding a key to the meaning. For example, look at this verse 13: *There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*

- **will with: Greek #4862** σὺν sun *union, with or together* (but much closer than G3326 or G3844), that is, by association, companionship, process, resemblance, possession, instrumentality, addition, completeness.

The punch line comes in verse 14: ***Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.***

God did not tempt these people into idolatry nor did He punish them because of it. Idolatry punishes all on its own by the tempter who administered the temptation/test. The ruiner, destroying serpent paid his worshipers in his only reward for services rendered: misery, death, and destruction. People's ability to choose may choose to leave God's protection, which leaves them subject to Satan buffeting. Satan, as the accuser, puts us on trial, and our only defense is the blood of the lamb and the word of our testimony. Many tests and trials face Christians everyday.

- Financial lack proves God the provider not the thief.
- Sickness proves God the healer not the afflicter.
- Depression proves God the deliverer not the oppressor.

God does not need to prove us; it is we who tend to prove God: *Mal 3:10-11*  
*Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be meat in mine house, and **prove me now herewith, saith the LORD of hosts, if I will not open you the windows of heaven, and pour you out a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it. And I will rebuke the devourer for your sakes, and he shall not destroy the fruits of your ground; neither shall your vine cast her fruit before the time in the field, saith the LORD of hosts.***

- **Prove: Hebrew #974** בָּחַן bâchan to *test* (especially metals); generally and figuratively to *investigate*: - examine, prove, tempt, try (trial).

David proved God simply by believing Him and seeing that over and over again God was his strength. We cannot prove God with our doubts for then we are once again double-minded and will receive nothing. Do not get me wrong when I say that God is God whether we prove it or not, but God is GOD to us as we have proven Him to ourselves in our own lives and situations.

Abraham believed God and moved from Ur into a land that God took him, and it was counted to him as righteousness. I believe Abraham had to have been one

of God's most faithful servants. Look at this man's bio with me. He neither saw nor heard God other than the way we all do, which is by faith, so says it in Heb 11:8. He did not have the privilege of knowing God through Jesus, for it was before his time. He was raised from his childhood to adulthood in a pagan society where they believed in sacrificing their children in the high places to gods like Molech and others in the expression of loyalty. Ur was also famous for sacred prostitutes and moon worship. Some of these characteristics in pagan thought were taken from Ur for example:

**Harper's Bible Dictionary 1959 writes:** "Semitic deity [Molech] whose worship was characterized by parents' sacrificing their children by compelling them to pass through or into a furnace of fire. In very early times there may have been a sanctuary of Molech in the Jerusalem Hinnom Valley at Topheth (possibly Aramaic for 'place of burning'). Molech is sometimes regarded not as a foreign god, but as the king embodying the god in Israel. The Israelites may have absorbed from the Canaanites a feeling that they owed their first-born to Yahweh (cf. Abraham and Isaac, Gen 22; Jephthah and his only child, Judges 11:31-39)."

This practice was done away with under Hebrew law: *Lev 18:21 And thou shalt not let any of thy seed pass through the fire to Molech, neither shalt thou profane the name of thy God: I am the LORD.*

Jephthah, however, knew the laws of Moses, but his roots also came into play.

**Barnes' Notes: *Judg 11:31***

"Jephthah intended his vow to apply to human beings, not animals: for only one of his household could be expected to come forth from the door of his house to meet him. They also preclude any other meaning than that Jephthah contemplated a human sacrifice. This need not, however, surprise us, when we recollect his Syrian birth and long residence in a Syrian city, where such fierce rites were probably common. The Syrians and Phoenicians were conspicuous among the ancient pagan nations for human sacrifices, and the transfer, under such circumstances, to Yahweh of the rites with which the false gods were honored, is just what one might expect."

I suppose this is why the Lord said that we should train our children up in the way they should go so that when they are old they will not have departed from it. Our background has very much to do with how we receive God. Abraham believed that showing honor to God and proving your love was to sacrifice your first-born. He was raised in that thinking. As I have written before, you can take the boy out of the country, but you cannot take the country out of the boy. He obviously thought of Isaac as his true first-born for he was the first-born with Sarah. Isaac was also more favored with promise by God, which was a more fitting sacrifice. Even though Abraham believed this was of God, he also believed that Isaac would be miraculously saved alive, and he was...an angel stopped him! God is His Word, and He would not that one should perish. For God to tempt Abraham to use pagan rites in the high places as if this was God's Will would mean that God lied. The reason God told Abraham to leave his homeland or Ur was because of such practices in the first place. Plus the fact, that God wanted to add not subtract Abraham's seed. The high places of child sacrifice were an

abomination to God, and God was very adamant about these practices: *Lev 20:3*  
*And I will set my face against that man, and will cut him off from among his people; because he hath given of his seed unto Molech, to defile my sanctuary, and to profane my holy name.*

*1 Kings 11:7-11*

*7 Then did Solomon build an **high place** for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that is before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.*

*8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.*

*9 And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice,*

*10 And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded.*

*11 Wherefore the LORD said unto Solomon, Forasmuch as this is done of thee, and thou hast not kept my covenant and my statutes, which I have commanded thee, I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant.*

*2 Kings 23:9-10*

*9 Nevertheless the priests of the **high places** came not up to the altar of the LORD in Jerusalem, but they did eat of the unleavened bread among their brethren.*

*10 And he defiled Topheth, which is in the valley of the children of Hinnom, that no man might make his son or his daughter to pass through the fire to Molech.*

*Jer 32:34-35*

*34 But they set their abominations in the house, which is called by my name, to defile it.*

*35 And they built the **high places** of Baal, which are in the valley of the son of Hinnom, to cause their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire unto Molech; which I commanded them not, neither came it into my mind, that they should do this abomination, to cause Judah to sin.*

As you can see God's children had to be warned for it became part of their belief. Here again we see belief rather than "God faith". Abraham did not have the benefit of these laws. He stood upon his belief in the act of loyalty from his roots yet had the faith that God would protect Isaac. Abraham had the right God but the wrong practice. It was God who loved us back so dearly as to give us His Dear Son to show us His nature, yet who became a willing sacrifice. God's sacrifice did not come at the cross, but in Jesus' willingness to leave heaven and come to earth. Abraham sacrificed for love, and God sacrificed for love. Love for love was the exchange here. God does not go against His Word. He was the Word before it was written. He would not tell anyone to go against His Word.

The NT told of two things counted for the righteousness of Abraham:

*Heb 11:8, 17-19*

*8 By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.*

*17 By faith Abraham, **when he was tried**, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,*

*18 Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:*

19 Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

Here is the proof right in black and white:

**Heb 11:17** By faith<sup>4102</sup> Abraham,<sup>11</sup> when he was tried,<sup>3985</sup> offered up<sup>4374</sup> Isaac:<sup>2464</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> he that had received<sup>824</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> promises<sup>1860</sup> offered up<sup>4374</sup> his only begotten<sup>3439</sup> son,

Where have you seen this word tried #3985 before?

- **Tried: Greek #3985** πειράζω peirazō to *test* (objectively), that is, *endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline*: - assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.

Now let us put the whole thing together only this time the word **peirazo** for tried and tested will be used, as it is the correct translation of the word:

**Heb 11: 17** By faith Abraham, when peirazo, offered up Isaac:

**Jam 1:13** Let no man<sup>3367</sup> say<sup>3004</sup> when he is peirazo,<sup>3985</sup> I am peirazo<sup>3985</sup> of<sup>575</sup> God:<sup>2316</sup> for<sup>1063</sup> God<sup>2316</sup> cannot be peirazo<sup>2076, 551</sup> with evil,<sup>2556</sup> neither<sup>1161</sup> peirazo<sup>3985</sup> he<sup>848</sup> any man:<sup>3762</sup>

14 But<sup>1161</sup> every man<sup>1538</sup> is peirazo,<sup>3985</sup> when he is drawn away<sup>1828</sup> of<sup>5259</sup> his own<sup>2398</sup> lust,<sup>1939</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> enticed.<sup>1185</sup>

15 Then<sup>1534</sup> when lust<sup>1939</sup> hath conceived,<sup>4815</sup> it bringeth forth<sup>5088</sup> sin:<sup>266</sup> and<sup>1161</sup> sin,<sup>266</sup> when it is finished,<sup>658</sup> bringeth forth<sup>616</sup> death.<sup>2288</sup>

16 Do not<sup>3361</sup> err,<sup>4105</sup> my<sup>3450</sup> beloved<sup>27</sup> brethren.<sup>80</sup>

17 Every<sup>3956</sup> good<sup>18</sup> gift<sup>1394</sup> and<sup>2532</sup> every<sup>3956</sup> perfect<sup>5046</sup> gift<sup>1434</sup> is<sup>2076</sup> from above,<sup>509</sup> and cometh down<sup>2597</sup> from<sup>575</sup> the<sup>3588</sup> Father<sup>3962</sup> of lights,<sup>5457</sup> with<sup>3844</sup> whom<sup>3739</sup> is<sup>1762</sup> no<sup>3756</sup> variableness,<sup>3883</sup> neither<sup>2228</sup> shadow<sup>644</sup> of turning.<sup>5157</sup>

Abraham was obedient to leave Ur, and though he ignorantly clung to one belief, believed that God would honor His promise of Isaac's seed by raising Isaac up in the end. It was Abraham's belief that took Isaac up to the high place for sacrifice, and Abraham's faith that knew they would both come down from that same high place together. He thought that his belief and his faith were the same, but they were not. Belief took him to the high place of sacrifice, but his faith walked him down. It was his faith that credited him with righteousness, and Abraham's faith grew from it.

#### **BELIEF:**

1. Something believed; an opinion or conviction: *a belief that the earth is flat.*
2. The mental act, condition, or habit of placing trust or confidence in.
3. A mental attitude of acceptance or assent toward a proposition without the full intellectual knowledge required to guarantee its truth.

#### **FAITH:**

1. Spiritual *persuasion*
2. That is, *credence*
3. Moral *conviction* (of *religious* truth, or the truthfulness of God)
4. *Reliance* upon Christ for salvation
5. *Constancy* in such profession
6. (Gospel) *truth* itself
7. Assurance

## 8. Fidelity

All those patriarchs died without seeing the promised Savior: Heb 11:13

*These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*

We have faith through Jesus/Word/Gospel while Abraham had far less than we yet loved God with all of his heart. Abraham is a great Bible patriarch. Abraham did not know God as Jehovah. Moses was the first to know this name, and yet, I firmly believe that when Abraham met Jesus for the first time knew Him right away! Many are the wonderful examples of men of faith to stir our hearts with gratitude hoping that we would have fared as well in their circumstances.

Why then was it written that God told Abraham to sacrifice his son? The story was passed through the generations until it reached Moses who wrote it down, as he understood it to happen. Moses is responsible for the Pentateuch [Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy]. The story of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Noah etc. all heard in faith like you and I. It was, however, penned to read: "And the Lord said", "Thus saith the Lord", "the Lord spoke to Noah, Abraham etc. and saith". Moses put dialog to the belief of each event in sentence form just as the "lots" being cast in the book of Judges were written in sentence form: "And the Lord said to go up." Clearly it should have read that the "lot" was cast and came up positive to go.

**Harper's Bible Dictionary: Lot** (listed under magic and divination) *"The casting of lots was a popular means of divination. Lots were used throughout the Old Testament to assign territory to the 12 tribes of Israel, and decide guilt or innocence. Early in Israel's religious experience, magic was denounced, because it led people to rely on peeping wizards and muttering soothsayers rather than on God's guidance (Isa. 8:19). False prophets, preying on people's fears, staged frenzied demonstrations which showed how far they were from the true spiritual prophets of Hebrew monotheism, who shunned omens and listened to the 'still small voice' of the Lord."*

See the use of the "lot" and note too that the determination was not should we go up, but who shall go up first. They had already determined to go:

*"But now this shall be the thing which we will do to Gibeah; we will go up by LOT against it;"*  
(Judges 20:9)

Now read how the "lot" was interpreted and written in sentence form. Remembering too that the Lot is either a yea or nay vote, or the 12 lots of different inscriptions to identify the tribes:

*"And the children of Israel arose, and went up to the house of God, and asked counsel of God, and said, Which of us shall go up first to the battle against the children of Benjamin?  
**AND THE LORD SAID JUDAH SHALL GO UP FIRST.**"* (Judges 20:18)

Benjamin whipped them down to the ground killing 22,000 of them, but it had to be blamed upon God for He **told** Judah to go up! No, it was a pebble's throw,

but you see how it is written as a “Thus saith the Lord”. They did keep going to battle against Benjamin by the casting of lots and finally did win which is written thusly:

*“And the Lord smote Benjamin before Israel: and the children of Israel destroyed 25,100 men that day...” (Judges 20:35)*

It is written as if the Lord commanded it, the Lord did it...it was the fault of the Lord, or so it is written:

*“And said, O God of Israel, why is this come to pass in Israel, that there should be today one tribe lacking in Israel?” (Judges 21:3) “And the people repented them for Benjamin, because that **THE LORD HAD MADE A BREACH IN THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL.**” (Judges 21:15)*

The Lord is put in a “lose-lose” situation not much different than today. God is still blamed for everything. My mother once said of this type thought: “This puts Satan at the sidelines yelling, ‘Go God Go!’”

Just as Abraham believed many things to be true, his beliefs became hewn down to faith. This is the same thing that faces us: hewing down our beliefs and coming into the faith of the Word. We hew away all the phrases having nothing to do with Scripture as well as experiences and traditions. Keep what is Word and cast off what is not. Our beliefs may have taken us up to the high places of false ideas and trials, but faith will walk us down if we allow its growth.



## [PASSING THE TEST]

*Ps 34:19*

***Many are the afflictions of the righteous: but the LORD delivereth him out of them all.***

To begin this chapter I want to give some straight talk to all those who hold to the belief that God allows Satan to test them in order to build their faith or the belief that God is testing you period. If I may share my own “Moses’ moment” with you:

1. ***If God is allowing Satan to test you with sickness and disease to build your faith***, then why go to the doctor to stop the test instead of working your faith? There is no such pill a doctor can give you for faith.
2. ***If your cross to bear is infirmity at God’s Will***, then pick up your cross and bear it without complaint, and by all means stay away from intercessors of faith, for they will try to rob you of the infirmity.
3. ***If being poor and destitute is holiness***, stop begging for more.
4. ***If God will not PUT ON YOU any more than you can bear*** then suck it in and bear up.
5. ***If you believe that God breaks the legs of the straying sheep***, then either stop straying or learn to limp, Brother.

I think that about sums it up in the least possible ways to offend. You will have to trust me when I say I could go further. Moses is not the only one having to resist frustration. I have kept it to a moment. This book is not written in anger. I had my moment when I went to a site online recently and the question was asked: “Where, in the Bible, does it talk about the shepherd breaking the legs of the straying sheep to keep them from straying away?” That is not the first time I have run across this sentiment some use for Scripture. It was actually in my A Beka Book Bible 4<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum. I did not teach it, however. It has no Scriptural basis. It rises to the level of “God won’t put any more on you than you can bear”. A better phrase would be that we would not put any more on God than He could bear! He has been misunderstood, mistaken and misquoted enough to have sent fire down on us all...if He were that kind of God. Lu 9:51-55.

The straying sheep Scripture is found in Luke 15:4-6

*What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing.*

*And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost.*

Did you find a broken leg dangling in any of those verses? No, and you will not anywhere else in the Word, but surely as I am sitting here writing, someone will preach it. Not even Jesus, as the sacrificed lamb, had one bone broken. Teachers need to beware of ignorant teaching for they not only condemn themselves but teach it to others leading to their hurt as well.

Also, while I am at it, look at this little discrepancy:

*Isa 53:4 Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.*

**Smitten** נכה beat, strike, wound, kill, murder, punish, slaughter

**God** אלהים *gods* in the ordinary sense; generic for *God, magistrates, angels, gods, goddess, judges*

The translators made this common noun into a proper noun, but this is not the case. This is the generic catchall word for many things as you see by the definition. You have read the account of Jesus' arrest, those who struck Him, beat Him with whips, and crucified Him. At whose order was Jesus beaten, struck, wounded, and killed? God? Magistrates? Judges? It was God's understanding, knowing mankind, of all that Jesus would face. Jesus was not ordered by God to be abused by man. Jesus was willing to die. Jesus allowed man to do what man did.

*Matt 26:53 Thinkest thou that I cannot now pray to my Father, and he shall presently give me more than twelve legions of angels?*

*John 10:17-18 Therefore doth my Father love me, because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment [permission of authority, injunction] have I received [obtained] of my Father.*

- *I lay down my life*
- *I take it up again*
- *I lay it down myself*
- *I have power to lay it down*
- *I have power to take it again*

Lawyers obtain injunctions all the time from judges. Jesus obtained an injunction from God before He ever came to earth.

*[An injunction is available as a remedy for harm for which there is no adequate remedy at law. Thus, it is used to prevent a future harmful action rather than to compensate for an injury that has already occurred, or to provide relief from harm for which an award of money damages is not a satisfactory solution or for which a monetary value is impossible to calculate.]*

Jesus did nothing of Himself, yet got an injunction from God to lay down His life and take it up again. This is the one thing Jesus requested of His own and God granted Him before He came to earth.

I have gone through trials of my faith, but God has proven Himself over and over that He is who He says He is. Our biggest problem is not that we do not

understand the Word; it is that we do not comprehend it. If anyone in my class could not comprehend the fourth grade material they would be held back. When we do not comprehend God we are held back from the very faith that redeems us. I want to get into this subject so that you can see more clearly how to pass these tests, but first we must comprehend the Word of God in order to walk it out.

Let me explain the difference between **understanding** and **comprehending**. To understand is to have, for example, the ability to read the words on a page and know its content. To *understand* is in the 2<sup>nd</sup> dimension of thinking because it is flat or flat words upon flat pages. In other words, it is a group of words making a complete thought. To *comprehend* is it to take the flat words off the page or that complete thought which we commit to our application of life, and it becomes our faith. In other words, those words are no longer on a flat page but walking in the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension seen as the person who has applied those words to his/her life. An excellent example of this is God. God in the Old Testament is 2<sup>nd</sup> dimension...flatly understood belief but unseen except upon the flat page while in the New Testament God got up from the page walking and talking in 3-D visual. The Word became the person. The Word came off the page and walked among us just as I saw in my vision. We may understand Jesus by reading the Bible, or we may comprehend Him because He dwells in us and we in Him. Our faith becomes us.

Christians live in the third dimension yet our Christianity is still on the flat page not applied to our third dimension's sight, thinking and faith. Jesus while seen in the third dimension worked in the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension, but let's look at these examples using dimension as an analogy.

Human thought in the **1<sup>st</sup> dimension is existence**. It is like that of a baby. The baby exists but has no real thought or language as yet. It is primal in thought to feelings of hot, cold, hungry, thirsty, uncomfortable, startled, tired, and it reacts to these feelings in much the same way. These feelings rouse within basic instincts. An instinct is an inborn pattern of activity or tendency to action. The action of the baby would be to cry out its expression. [There is no belief here; simply reaction.]

We will say that the **2<sup>nd</sup> dimension is a conscious level**. This is at the level of understanding, but remember that understanding belief is flat. It would be like reading the *Rules of the Road* and understanding how to drive by what is read upon a flat page without ever actually sitting behind the wheel. Still this is a functioning dimension.

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension has perspective, perception, and depth** of the physical universe and of time and distance. This dimension experiences its world in its five senses and is generally lead and often bound by them. We have added depth to the flatness but are bound by the laws of our physical world, which has its limits. Gravity holds us physically bound to the earth. In the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension you have the ability to comprehend faith that God has depth. That ability is not

necessarily used, for while all live in the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension in all aspects of life, Christianity may still be flat vision belief.

**In the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension consists the unlimited spirit realm** in which there is no time or distance to limit it. The 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension has the understanding belief of this 4<sup>th</sup> dimension, but this does not mean they comprehend it by faith. In this dimension seeing and hearing is done without the use of the natural eyes and ears. Christian's refer to this as discernment or spiritual insight. This is man walking by the spirit [faith] rather than the physical flesh because he comprehends God as off the page and walking within him. Jesus is our prime example. He existed in the 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension yet lived His life in the 4<sup>th</sup> in all He showed us. The power of the unseen was made manifest. He perceived the thoughts of man and gravity had no hold. Jesus showed this by walking on water. He could change His molecular structure by walking through a groping crowd untouched. Teleporting or translation from one place to another without natural use of physical transportation methods is another 4<sup>th</sup> dimensional application. This takes you into another dimension usually where the unseen may materialize. This is the place of the supernatural.

We have been given equipment in which to walk the same as Jesus since He is the one who handed it down to us. We must live this in comprehended faith for its activation.

#### **THE EQUIPMENT:**

*Isa 11:2-3*

- *And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,*
- *The spirit of wisdom and*
- *Understanding,*
- *The spirit of counsel*
- *And might,*
- *The spirit of knowledge*
- *And of the fear of the LORD;*  
*And shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the LORD: and he shall not judge after the sight of his eyes, neither reprove after the hearing of his ears:*

#### **JESUS DEMONSTRATES THE EQUIPMENT:**

*Luke 4:18-19*

1. *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me*
2. *To preach the gospel to the poor;*
3. *He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted,*
4. *To preach deliverance to the captives, and*
5. *Recovering of sight to the blind,*
6. *To set at liberty them that are bruised,*
7. *To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.*

If you put each of these side by side the equipment in Isaiah matches its use in Luke:

1. ***Isa. And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
Lu. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me***  
This, as my pastor put it, is loves first kiss. God kisses us with destiny, and destiny tugs at our heart to be fulfilled.
2. ***Isa. the spirit of wisdom  
Lu. to preach the gospel to the poor***  
The skill in wisdom builds the house or the foundation to educate those who are in lack into seeing their destiny and pro-vision of God.
3. ***Isa. understanding, [which is talking about comprehension faith in Hebrew]  
Lu. he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted,***  
This understanding is instruction in compassion, to train or teach by giving perception. We are brokenhearted when we do not understand the “Whys?” of it all. Here God gives the “Wise” to the “Whys?”
4. ***Isa. the spirit of counsel  
Lu. to preach deliverance to the captives,***  
Deliverance always needs counseling. In most all if not all cases people need counseling to see how not to become ensnared again. The lifestyle of the many afflicted invites the very thing for which they need deliverance.
5. ***Isa. might  
Lu. recovering of sight to the blind***  
Might is a power gift. Might is where the miracles and healings dwell. It is the dunamis power that heals blind eyes and deaf ears. The lame walk, and the dead are raised to life.
6. ***Isa. the spirit of knowledge  
Lu. to set at liberty them that are bruised***  
Knowledge here is cunning awareness, which is discernment. The bruised are those who have been under the attack of Satan. To recognize the attack we must discern the attacker and who is administering the test.
7. ***Isa. the fear of the LORD  
Lu. To preach the acceptable year of the Lord***  
Fear is not being afraid but showing reverence in fullness. It is knowing the fullness of God’s reverence or identity. How can you preach whom you do not know in fullness?

These are the “seven spirits” of God, which is also the dimension of Him without limitations. These are seven characteristics of one God. Jesus worked in all of these facets and told us to walk in them as well. Jesus showed us the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension and handed us the keys to the Kingdom in order to have its access.

You can be walking in these if you are that witness praying, counseling, laying hands on the sick and casting out devils. I have people all around me doing

these things, but because they are not renowned on radio or television it just is not what Jesus did. It is of course the same. Some will receive and some waver not receiving just as they did with Jesus. We must remember the condition we bring into play for the answer to be attained for the one receiving:

- *James 1:6-8 But let him **ask in faith, nothing wavering**. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed. For let not that man think that he shall receive any thing of the Lord. A double minded man is unstable in all his ways.*
- *John 15:7 **If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.***
- *James 4:2-3 **Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not. Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts.***
- *1 John 3:22 **And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight.***
- *1 John 5:14 **And this is the confidence that we have in him, that, if we ask any thing according to his will, he heareth us:***

We can but pray for the sick, but we cannot receive for them too. Just as we pray for the salvation of loved ones but cannot receive Christ for them. We see that we must do more than understand God's Word; we must comprehend it, apply it, and live it. What we live must be more than beliefs but faith in the Words that do not pass away.

Hundreds of people were healed through receiving Jesus Words and hundreds were not healed. Hundreds asked nothing of Jesus. The same amount go through trials and tests yet how many make it through? How many ask for help? How many comprehend God? How many believe God is the tester? If God is the tester and the redeemer, you are double-minded against yourself and should expect nothing from God for a house divided against itself will fall, Matt 12:25. We are going to have to get it through our heads that we fight against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places Eph 6:12.

We need to get over into the God dimension of comprehension. To understand the dimensions of God, we must first understand dimensions of human thought. Just as dimensions are found in mathematics and physics, they also exist in the spirituality of human thinking. You are probably wondering if I am making salvation more complicated than necessary when it is as easy as a confession. Well, that is because it is more complicated than a confession by the English understanding. In the English version, salvation is assumed as a one time prayer or confession that we receive Christ in our hearts. Confession in the Bible in Hebrew is *homologeō* meaning that you have covenanted yourself to God in the same way as being engaged. We are engaged to Him. We are no longer single but coupled together with Him in ALL things. We work together toward the same goals and not single-minded desires. There are two schools of thought in this engagement:

1. Christ moves in with us and goes with us everywhere we go. He lives in our home. He is the “handy-man” for whatever needs fixing. He heals us and takes care of the finances etc. He is at our beck and call.
2. We move in with Christ and go wherever He takes us. We live in Him. We are the “handyman” going into all the world, preaching the gospel to every creature, with these signs following us: In Jesus’ name we will cast out devils; speak with new tongues; if we drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt us; lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. [Mk 16: 16-18] We are at His beck and call.

Did you catch the difference? In example #1, Jesus is the handyman of our convenience and an insurance policy against fire while #2 makes it clear that He is our bridegroom for whom we are willing to give up everything else.

My pastor ministered a sermon that expressed the beautiful relationship of the Bridegroom’s first kiss. I wish I had written down all of his references, but I made a list somewhat from this message that I will share with you.

**I. KISS:** God needed a way to reach out and touch His bride, so He became a man visible for His bride to see and learn. *Ps 85:10 Mercy and truth are met together; righteousness and peace have kissed each other.* God came in human form and kissed us with His mercy, Truth, righteousness and peace by paying for them upon the cross. The bride was sleeping until God kissed her by sacrificing His life to free her from death’s sleep. This kiss awakened her to life. The bride has been awakened to a new love.

**II. IMPREGNATE:** By love’s first kiss the bride became impregnated by God’s sperm, and her spirit within began to quicken. As this gestation and inner protection begins, growth seems a quick work surrounded in the washing of the water by the Word. We are in containment during this growth process as each member is formed to maturity within the confinement of the womb. *Ps 139:13 For thou hast possessed my reins: thou hast covered me in my mother's womb .Ps 139:16 Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being unperfect; and in thy book all my members were written, which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them.* Though unperfect it is time to leave the womb of protection to breathe on our own.

**III. BIRTH:** This process is not an easy time. Here is where the testing comes in from the enemy trying to get us to abort. There are times of alternating contractions when we feel the pressures of this birth and are squeezed from all sides. Then comes blessed times of release. Many have not been able to withstand the beginning of birthing contractions and abort before they can establish in the faith: *Matt 13:19-23 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side. But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it; Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended. He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful. But he that received seed into the good ground is he that heareth the word, and understandeth it; which also beareth fruit, and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.* [You can clearly see what tests our faith here.]

Those who weather the short contractions make it through the early labor but lose sight of the vision of birth when the contractions come more frequently and with greater intensity. Those who endure through the hardest of labor and the more frequency of being squeezed yet never giving up the fight, make it to full-term birth taking their first breath in the Kingdom. God has allowed us to sever the umbilical to Him and live by our own choices. Many do live independently of God, but still others will keep the cord of life attached and remain part of the Father's life.

**IV. NURTURE:** Out of the birthing process has come the witness nurtured by the Lord through His good tutelage. The school of the Kingdom is learned and becomes the witness of all nurtured by the King. The bride is intimate with her groom as they are no longer separate but become one in love and purpose. He leads, and she follows. She learns the secret places of her Bridegroom, and He becomes her life and focus. *Matt 13:17 For verily I say unto you, That many prophets and righteous men have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen them; and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard them.*

**V. MATURE:** The bride shares love's first kiss with those who are hungry for the love of the Bridegroom. She helps assist during the time of labor with encouraging words of love given by the Groom and intercessions. Many become co-laborers in the field as they add in numbers building together in the Kingdom. As they grow and multiply they also go out and labor in other fields to spread the Kingdom. *Heb 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith;*

Because of her extraordinary love and faithfulness she has added to the Bridal party who await the return of the Groom doing mighty exploits for the Kingdom. Her lamp overflows with oil, for He comes.

**VI. WITNESSES:** *Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.*

*Matt 22:9 Go ye therefore into the highways, and as many as ye shall find, bid to the marriage.*

**VII. BRIDAL PARTY:** *Matt 25:6-7 And at midnight there was a cry made, Behold, the bridegroom cometh; go ye out to meet him. Then all those virgins arose, and trimmed their lamps. Rev 14:14-16 And I looked, and behold a white cloud, and upon the cloud one sat like unto the Son of man, having on his head a golden crown, and in his hand a sharp sickle. And another angel came out of the temple, crying with a loud voice to him that sat on the cloud, Thrust in thy sickle, and reap: for the time is come for thee to reap; for the harvest of the earth is ripe. And he that sat on the cloud thrust in his sickle on the earth; and the earth was reaped.*

**VIII. WEDDING DAY:** *Rev 21:1-4 And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea. And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them,*

***and be their God. And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.***

Oh, my Good Friends, what a happy day at the end of all trials and tests to find yourself with no more sorrow, crying or pain. This story can have a good ending for us to live happily ever after! Can I get an Amen?



TESTING ONE TWO THREE:



[FINAL EXAM]

*2 Peter 3:10-11*

***But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,***

All the lessons learned and tests taken will culminate into one gigantic final exam for the course of our journey. We will each come to the end of ourselves, whether the world continues on the same after us or whether you are present when the bridegroom takes His bride in one sweeping grand finale. There will be a final exam as the opening Scripture indicates. The admonition comes in: *1 Cor 3:13-15 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss: but he himself shall be saved; yet so as by fire.*

We are facing the birth pangs of finality coming to its edge. The earth is shaking and individuals are shaking as well. Just as the earth has fault lines so do ministries, families and individual people. When a shaking happens these faultlines rupture in to fissures which separate, divide and damage. Destruction can be on a large or small scale all depending on the magnitude of the shake and the size of the fault being shaken. The lessons learned limit the fault's size, and the blood of the lamb can erase it completely if we will allow it. If we do not learn the lesson the fault line will be the feeble target for the enemy's next shaking. What is the lesson? Digesting the Word of God is the lesson in which all answers are found. While the examples are in the Old Testament, our foundation to build upon is in the New Testament: *1 Cor 3:10-11 According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon. For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.* I am not opposed to the Old Testament, but no one died for me in the Old Covenant. Jesus died and purchased me with His blood, and I will follow Him.

If we have applied the lessons to our lives and walk in the sure foundation, the tests are passed, and we are stronger from each of them in order for the final exam. This exam comes at the end of our lives. We find the timeline of events dating back as far as the early persecution of the new church to the time of Jesus' return. It is not written in order as you will see.

*Luke 21:7-28*

*7 And they asked him, saying, Master, but when shall these things be? and what sign will there be when these things shall come to pass?*

*8 And he said, Take heed that ye be not deceived: for many shall come in my name, saying, I am*

*Christ; and the time draweth near: go ye not therefore after them.*

*9 But when ye shall hear of wars and commotions, be not terrified: for these things must first come to pass; **but the end is not by and by.***

*10 Then said he unto them, Nation shall rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom:*

*11 And great earthquakes shall be in divers places, and famines, and pestilences; and fearful sights and great signs shall there be from heaven.*

*12 **But before all these,** they shall lay their hands on you, and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues, and into prisons, being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake.*

*13 And it shall turn to you for a testimony.*

*14 Settle it therefore in your hearts, not to meditate before what ye shall answer:*

*15 For I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which all your adversaries shall not be able to gainsay nor resist.*

*16 And ye shall be betrayed both by parents, and brethren, and kinsfolks, and friends; and some of you shall they cause to be put to death.*

*17 And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake.*

*18 But there shall not an hair of your head perish.*

*19 In your patience possess ye your souls.*

*20 And when ye shall see Jerusalem compassed with armies, then know that the desolation thereof is nigh.*

*21 Then let them which are in Judaea flee to the mountains; and let them which are in the midst of it depart out; and let not them that are in the countries enter thereinto.*

*22 For these be the days of vengeance, that all things which are written may be fulfilled.*

*23 But woe unto them that are with child, and to them that give suck, in those days! for there shall be great distress in the land, and wrath upon this people.*

*24 And they shall fall by the edge of the sword, and shall be led away captive into all nations: and Jerusalem shall be trodden down of the Gentiles, **until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled.***

*25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring;*

*26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken.*

*27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.*

*28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.*

Now let me put these things in the categories of **past, continuous throughout,** and **future.**

#### **PAST “Beginning of sorrows”:**

1. Earlier persecutions of the church
2. Abomination of desolation vs. 20 as prophesied twice. Once by Daniel and again through Jesus:
  - [Daniel's prophecy describes the reign of one of the later Syrian kings, Antiochus IV, surnamed Epiphanes ("the manifest (God)" or "the illustrious"). With tragic wit, the Jews nicknamed him Epimanes, or "the madman," when it became apparent that his policies were violently anti-Jewish. Determined to "civilize" (i.e., Hellenize) the Jews, this little horn (Daniel 8:9-14) systematically forbade, under penalty of death, circumcision, Sabbath and

holy day observance, and the reading or possession of the scrolls of the Torah. He executed some for refusing to eat swine's flesh and butchered others who would not bow to a pagan image.

*Additionally, he had a statue of Zeus Olympius (an "abomination of desolation," Daniel 11:31; cf. Matthew 24:15) erected in the Temple. Swine were sacrificed on God's altar, and pagan rites, orgies, and festivals were performed in the Temple grounds. In his pride (Daniel 8:11), he decreed that he should be worshipped as Zeus; his coins were struck with the inscription theos epiphanes ("God manifest"), a horrible counterfeit of the true "God with us." So we see that the prophecy of Daniel fulfilled through Epiphanies.*

*Other despicable deeds of Antiochus, like his wars against Egypt and the Maccabees, are prophesied in Daniel 11:21-35, where he is clearly depicted as a type of the end-time Beast. His historical activities blend into the future rise and fall of the coming world dictator, who will also speak blasphemies and persecute God's people (Revelation 13:5-7). (Bible Tools, Topical Studies)*

- *"In 70 AD Vespasian's supporters called him back to Rome to become emperor. Titus finished the final siege of Jerusalem, then erected an idol on the devastated temple altar. Josephus claims 1.1 million Jews were killed and 97,000 enslaved in the war and siege." (Wars, VI, ix, 3)*

*". . . The members of the Jerusalem church, by means of an oracle given by revelation to acceptable persons there, were ordered to leave the City before the war began and settle in a town in Perea called Pella. To Pella those who believed in Christ migrated from Jerusalem . . ." (The History of the Church, 1965, p. 111)*

3. Jerusalem trodden down by the Gentiles vs. 24 [May 14, 1948 when Israel was declared a nation in one day!] *Is 66:8 "Who hath heard such a thing? who hath seen such things? Shall the earth be made to bring forth in one day? or shall a nation be born at once? for as soon as Zion travailed, she brought forth her children." Je 31:17 "And there is hope in thine end, saith the LORD, that thy children shall come again to their own border." [In 1967 was the six day war that Israel gained Jerusalem.]*

### **CONTINUOUS "Sorrrows":**

1. persecutions: vs. 12-24 [These have been in the past and will continue through the timeline until the very end.]
2. wars and rumors of wars [nation against nation; kingdom against kingdom]
3. earthquakes in many different places
4. famines
5. pestilence
6. fearful sights
7. signs from heaven [**signs** σημεῖον seimion: miracle, sign, token, wonder; **heaven** οὐρανός ouranos: (as the abode of God); by implication *happiness, power, eternity, specifically the Gospel (Christianity)*: - air, heaven ([-ly]), sky.]

Which could be indicative of mighty moves coming from God through revivals, awakenings etc. throughout history to present and future.

## **FUTURE “End time sorrows” vs. 25-28:**

### **1. signs in the sun, moon and stars**

**Signs** [Greek] is talking about supernatural happenings of the sun, moon, and stars, which could have any number of meanings. With progress we have seen signs of the cross, God’s eye looking back at us etc. This gives us more capabilities in this era of progress. There are more supernatural things to come. Scientists record changes in planets all the time.

### **2. distress and perplexity of nations**

Whereas the wars and rumors of wars are always with us, this is not talking about wars. This is talking about the stress of governments. The anxieties of governments come from world economic chaos of banks colapsing due to many factors such as world wide famine and drought, job loss, disasters, the ravages of war, and nuclear threats. When the fiber of a government’s economy suffers it sets off a chain reaction of uncertainty which begins the crumbling that reaches its core frame. Governments change to weather the effects, but these tendancies lead further from the cure. There is but one cure: *2 Chron 7:14*

*If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.* This worked in the history of a people and it is tried and true. If there is any test that Scripture shows it is the test of God’s ability to forgive.

### **3. sea and waves roaring**

Many things cause the sea waves to roar. Hurricanes, sudden motion could be an earthquake, a powerful volcanic eruption or an underwater landslide. The impact of a large meteorite could also cause a tsunami. Tsunamis travel across the open ocean at great speeds and build into large deadly waves in the shallow water of a shoreline. Earthquakes cause most tsunamis.

### **4. men’s hearts failing**

This is not talking about a muscle but the center of who you are which is the heart or center of your mind and soul. That being said what distresses your mind will cause the chest muscle distress eventually. If you faint in your mind through stress and anxiety your heart muscle will eventually fail as the result.

### **5. powers of heaven shaken**

Powers [Greek] is talking about dunamis in the Gospel as wavering. The word for heaven [Greek] is Gospel or Christianity. This is where the apostasy comes in. Remember in history how the people were unprepared for the Messiah to be crucified. They expected Jesus to come in great power, taking the throne and doing away with all the ills and captivity of their people. Even though Jesus took care of the ills and captivity and took the throne of our hearts, it was not in the way the people

expected and they were shaken. Even Jesus' disciples were shaken. Today we have beliefs as well. These beliefs will be shaken and tested. Those who are preparing and growing daily in the Word today as God's Spirit reveals have a better opportunity to flow in the things happening for they are not boxing ideals into a religion. They are gaining insight to the Scriptures that they had not understood before.

## 6. Jesus' return for His bride

This test is just around the corner if you can read the signs. Yes, many of the things we have seen in prophecy have been with us since Jesus, but they were events not regularities of everyday living. Luke shows us the time frame if we read with comprehension and note what is past, continuous and future.

Did you realize that stress used to be an event which happened but ended. People had periods of stress in their lives. Today people live on tranquilizers and antidepressants wanting relief from anxiety and stress everyday because it has become regular living. Birth pains at the beginning are events spread out in time while the progression of labor brings those contractions closer and in more regularity.

You never wait to learn the lessons until the final exam. If it will be hard even for the elect, how do those who are not as diligent fare?

*Matt 24:24 For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect.*

*Mark 13:22-23 For false Christs and false prophets shall rise, and shall shew signs and wonders, to seduce, if it were possible, even the elect. But take ye heed: behold, I have foretold you all things.*

God showed me recently in prayer that there are two ways of going through a shaking. We will all shake according to who we are in Christ Jesus or who we are not. This will not be automatic but standard...you must do the shifting to be in gear.

The Lord made this clear for me:

- While some will drown in the flood, His children will call it the washing of the water by the Word. *[Ex 14:16 But lift thou up thy rod, and stretch out thine hand over the sea, and divide it: and the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.]*
- While some will be burned by the fires, His children are already on fire for Him. *[Dan 3:25 He answered and said, Lo, I see four men loose, walking in the midst of the fire, and they have no hurt; and the form of the fourth is like the Son of God.]*
- While some will be swallowed by the earth in the quake, His children will be spit out of their earthly graves. *[Matt 27:52-53 And the graves were opened; and many bodies of the saints which slept arose, And came out of the graves after his resurrection, and went into the holy city, and appeared unto many.]*
- As the destructive winds roar, His children will have a mighty rushing wind of strength. *[Acts 2:2-4 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto*

*them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.]*

These are two very different dimensions. God is calling for the Sons of God to be manifest in these times of great stress and perplexity, but if we are the distressed and perplexed, what benefit are we? Do you know of any calling themselves Christians who in the first minute of greeting can whip out the list of obituaries, disasters and illnesses before you can say hello? I see more Christians walking around with their heads down moaning about what God is putting them through. What witness is this? It is a testament to Satan's success and our helplessness in God. This should not be. At these times I can feel God saying, *Jer 1:17 "Thou therefore gird up thy loins, and arise, and speak unto them all that I command thee: be not dismayed at their faces, lest I confound thee [chaph that you become discouraged] before them."*



## [CLOSING ARGUMENT FOR VERDICT]

Ps 19:13

***Keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression.***

**KJV**

[I will tell you at the outset that in my closing argument for your final verdict many of the Scriptures and evidence will be once again referred to for your consideration. This is not a trial to convict God as guilty or not guilty, but my final argument as the defense that God is not the tempter/tester.]

“The **presumption of innocence** – being **innocent until proven guilty** – is a legal right that the accused in criminal trials have in many modern countries. The burden of proof is thus on the prosecution, which has to collect and present enough compelling evidence to convince the judge and jury, who are restrained and ordered by law to consider **only actual evidence** and **testimony that is legally admissible**, and in most cases lawfully obtained, that the accused is guilty beyond a reasonable doubt. In case of remaining doubts, the accused is to be acquitted. This presumption is seen to stem from the Latin legal principle that *ei incumbit probatio qui dicit, non qui negat* (the burden of proof rests on who asserts, not on who denies).” American Law and Legal Information

**INNOCENCE, PRESUMPTION OF – “The indictment or formal charge against any person is not evidence of guilt. Indeed, the person is presumed by the law to be innocent. The law does not require a person to prove his innocence or produce any evidence at all. The Government has the burden of proving a person guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, and if it fails to do so the person is (so far as the law is concerned) not guilty.”** Law Library’s Lexicon

No one walks into the courtroom guilty in the court’s eyes. Guilt must be proven. The proof is not in: “so-and-so said so”, circumstantial evidence, or “I believe this is the way it happened”. Assumption and guesswork will not convict. The charges are made by the prosecution in a preliminary hearing to see if there is enough evidence to go to trial. If there are any witnesses they must be questioned and checked for credibility. This is a costly and time-consuming effort. Trials can go on for months and months. All of this is to protect the innocent. As a matter of fact the law would rather let hundreds of guilty go free rather than send one innocent to jail or death.

If a witness is not an eyewitness then they must stick to the facts of which they are aware. If they try to give their thoughts or belief of what happened you will

hear the defense object, and the objection will be sustained. If there is an eye witness, their testimony will be scrutinized on the circumstances surrounding their eye view: was it night time, how far away were you, do you wear glasses, how dirty was the window from which you viewed the act etc. The witness will be judged on the credibility of their character, physical attributes or imperfections and possible relationship to the defendant.

One thing is evident and that is that an act has been committed for which a trial is set. The trial is to determine where to place the burden of guilt. Have innocent people gone to jail? Yes, but with modern technology and DNA evidence 208 convicted and sentenced people have been exonerated.

Why am I sharing all this information with you? I have been hearing for years of all God has been presumed to have done and without any clear evidence. The unclarity was not that the act occurred but that it occurred as was reported. With all of our progress you would think Christians might dig down into the DNA of God to see whether God committed an act in which He has been branded. The same people, who tell us not to judge our brethren, are quick to judge God. People in the Bible and people today flip out accusations upon God and label disaster as *God's judgment* or an *Act of God*. By what authority do we speak these assumptions? Assumptions would not convict a man, but they will convict God as guilty. It is not based on a roll of the dice for us today as it was of old.

Do you want to know why we get away with it? God will never defend Himself. He expects His children to know Him better than that. Look at the ***nature of the Lamb***:

*Isa 53:7 He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, yet he opened not his mouth: he is brought as a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is dumb, so he openeth not his mouth.*

*Acts 8:32-33 The place of the scripture which he read was this, He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and like a lamb dumb before his shearer, so **opened he not his mouth**: In his humiliation his judgment was taken away: and who shall declare his generation? For his life is taken from the earth.*

We know that false accusations, oppression, affliction, and humiliation were laid upon Him, and yet God did not open His mouth. Today He does not open His mouth when falsely accused. This does not mean that He is guilty or that He does not care to be understood. He does not want to buy our love nor scare us into serving Him, but He does want people to know Him. God has fingerprints, DNA, and character. We cannot judge Him guilty of an act unless we know what these are. As with our past we had no technology to prove DNA as we do today. So it is in the Old Testament of the past, which only had the blood of animals and hearsay witnesses stemming from belief. Today or since the New Testament we have the blood evidence of God through Jesus. We have God's DNA through

Jesus the Christ! We have access to this DNA evidence in order to make clear verdicts of faith rather than beliefs based upon hearsay or hunch.

Since very young I have heard of God through many different means. I have already explained how I base my judgment of what I accept as God speaking and what I regard as historically told of God. As part of the jury judging the witness of God, I had reasonable doubt. So like any juror who asks the bailiff for more transcripts to search through in order to base a judgment, I delved into the Bible. When I say **delve into** I do not mean surface. You cannot know anything or anyone well by just looking at the surface. Dig into the fingerprints, find the DNA, and match the character to the deed. If we do not do this then we judge matters on hearsay only.

There are questions I want to ask some of the witnesses of God in all respect but in all honesty like:

**What I would ask Abraham:**

How did you know that it was God who wanted you to sacrifice your son?  
*"God told me."* Gen 22:1-2

You mean God appeared before you, and in an audible voice told you?  
*"I believed that it was the Will of God."* Heb 11:8, 17

Isn't it true that this was a practice in your hometown of Ur, for loyalty shown to the gods by sacrificing a child? See p. 15 top  
*"Well, yes, but God had me pack up and leave Ur."* Gen 12:1

Why do you suppose God would want you to leave Ur? Isn't it because of those very practices? And was it not in the high places that the pagans sacrificed their children? You needn't answer as history bears this out.  
Did God give you any promises after you felt you should leave Ur?  
*"God promised that He would multiply my children like the stars for number."* Gen 15:5

Isn't it true that the son you were going to kill was destined to become a nation, Israel? *"Yes, this is true."* Gen 17:19, 21

By the way, could you tell me why you did not follow through with what you say was God's plan and sacrifice your son?  
*"A voice cried out from heaven and stopped me."* Gen 22:11-12

I see, so this time it was a voice that you heard from heaven that stopped you. This voice was reported as being from an angel, and that the trial was given by an angel thought at first to be God. This testimony is a bit clouded. Let me refresh you on the testimony: Gen 22:11-12 And the **angel of the LORD** called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I. And he said, Lay not thine hand

upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now **I know that thou fearest God**, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son **from me**.

You see my puzzlement at who has delivered the message and from whom the test was given by this account. This angel is speaking in the first person and referred to God in the second person. You believed it was God's Will, yet you received this from an angel. It is unclear in what form the angel appeared in your testimony. Angel is from the word that could mean: מלאך ambassador, angel, king, messenger, also a prophet, priest or teacher. In the New Covenant, we are told to try the spirits whether they be of God or not.

*2 Cor 11:14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.*

*1 John 4:1-3 Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world.*

I believe you testified that you felt God was testing your loyalty to Him, yet this is no different from what the pagans in Ur thought and practiced.

One last thing: Didn't you tell Isaac when he asked where the sacrifice was that *God would provide*? And didn't you make it clear to the servant you left at the bottom of the hill that you would both be coming back down? Gen 22:5, *"Yes, this is true."*

By all of this testimony it is clearly understood that you had a sincere belief of what you were supposed to do as the saying goes, but still you had an inner discernment that caused you to doubt that the act would be accomplished. Gen 22:8; Heb 11:19

Abraham, as seen by the jury, is a credible witness and Godly man. He is not an eyewitness however. He only told the account, as he believed it to happen. Because his testimony was before the advances of DNA [Jesus], they were taken as the only proof to convict God as the tempter. I put the test to you. Did God tell Abraham to kill His own son?

I read a statement from a well-known minister who confessed that if God told him to kill someone he would have to do it just as Abraham felt compelled. If I felt the unction to kill someone I would say, "Shut up devil!" and resist the enemy. We have progressed in our generation yet too often still rely upon the old convictions and beliefs. The only blood evidence we have under the old covenant is the blood of animals while God did leave blood evidence of Himself through His shed blood at the cross. Jesus is the blood DNA of God, which testifies of Him. We see the event recorded in the New Testament, but it is recorded simply that Abraham was faced with a trial and does not mention how the trial came to

Abraham. The only way to get DNA of the Father is through His son Jesus. These are the facts through DNA:

**On the immutability of God:**

*James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.*

He is unchangeable in His nature, perfections, purposes, promises, and gifts. He, being holy, cannot turn to that which is evil; nor can He, who is the fountain of light, be the cause of darkness. Since every good and perfect gift comes from Him, evil cannot proceed from him, nor can He tempt any with it. The Bible is very clear that God does not change, His Mind, His Will, nor His Nature. It is circumstances on earth and with humans that change, and God deals with the change to restore order of His ultimate plan. This can only be done without manipulating people but in appealing to the conscience of man's heart.

*John 8:57-58 Then said the Jews unto him, Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, **Before Abraham was, I am.***

*Heb 11:17 **By faith** Abraham, when he was **tried**, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son,*

- **Tried** πειρά□□ peirazo: to test (objectively), that is, endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline: - assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.

*James 1:12-13 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him. Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man:*

- **Temptation** πειρασμός□ peirasmos: a putting to proof (by experiment [of good], experience [of evil], solicitation, discipline or provocation); by implication adversity: - temptation, X try.
- **Tempted and tempteth** πειρά□□ peirazo□: to test (objectively), that is, endeavor, scrutinize, entice, discipline: - assay, examine, go about, prove, tempt (-er), try.

As you see by the DNA evidence collected Abraham was truly tempted and was willing to sacrifice his own son to show loyalty to God, which God in turn blessed him even though it was not God's test. God does not break His own laws. He follows His own laws decreed to mortals. **On earth as it is in heaven** means that everything hangs upon His Word, and He is the Word which is Love.

God cannot at any time commission, enlist, or use Satan to tempt or try any human, but when we are tested and put to trials God will deliver us from them all.

*Matt 12:25-28 Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand: And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand? And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils,*

*by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges. But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.*

Jesus, God's DNA, shows the difference in kingdoms:

**Fruit of God's Spirit:** *Gal 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.*

*Eph 5:9-11 (For the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness and righteousness and truth;) Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather reprove them.*

**If you have seen Jesus you have seen the Father:**

*John 10:30 I and my Father are one.*

*John 14:8-11*

*8 Philip saith unto him, Lord, shew us the Father, and it sufficeth us.*

*9 Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father?*

*10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.*

*11 Believe me that I am in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.*

**I rest my case.**

## OTHER ZAHAR BOOKS:

Legacy Of A Heretic  
Identity Theft  
Reservations  
On Earth As It Is In Heaven  
Stumblingstones and Other Pitfalls  
Give Satan A Ride and He'll Do The Driving  
That Taste Of Wilderness  
Boil The Frogs Slowly  
A Dragon's Tale  
I'll Fly Away O Glory  
To Be-Attitude Or Not To Be?  
Ya Gotta be kiddin' me, Lord!  
The Milk, The Meat and The Manna  
Rules of Engagement  
In The Image  
The Adam's Family  
Poster Child  
Reconciliation For Dummies  
Hidden Manna  
Voice of Destiny  
Script-Yours  
Religion's Reality  
Epiphany  
Word Integrity  
Are We There Yet?  
Maintaining Hedges  
Across The Great Divide  
The Planting of the Lord  
Star Wars The Reality  
What's A Nice Kid Like You Doing In A Place Like This  
Taking Captivity Captive  
He Would Be King  
The General Con-Census  
Final Discourse  
Piece Of Mind