

"Testing You To Know"
Practical Expressions of Genuineness
Deuteronomy 8: 1 - 20
September 23, 2012

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

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

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

4. We must accept the goodness of God as His provision which leads us to living in faithfulness, (vs. 8)

8.1) God's Goodness Provides For Daily Necessities

"Wheat And Barley"-

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him." (John 12:24–26, ESV)

8.2) God's Goodness Provides For Security & Protection

"Vines And Figs"-

"but they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree, and no one shall make them afraid, for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken. For all the peoples walk each in the name of its god, but we will walk in the name of the LORD our God forever and ever." (Micah 4:4–5, ESV)

8.3) God's Goodness Provides For Prosperity & Health

"Pomegranates, Olive Trees"-

"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working." (James 5:14–16, ESV)

8.4) God's Goodness Provides For Abundance

"Honey"-

"the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether. More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward." (Psalm 19:9–11, ESV)

1) ""There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish, but what are they for so many?" Jesus said, "Have the people sit down." Now there was much grass in the place. So the men sat down, about five thousand in number. 2) Jesus then took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated. So also the fish, as much as they wanted. 3) And when they had eaten their fill, he told his disciples, "Gather up the leftover fragments, that nothing may be lost."" (John 6:9–12, ESV)

- 1) Human provision will always be insufficient.
- 2) Divine provision will always be consistent and abundant.
- 3) God's provision always requires good stewardship.

Are you exercising a good stewardship over the provision God has granted you?

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

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

- God's Testing Serves To Confirm His Covenantal Promises To Those Who Love Him, (vs. 11 - 20)

1. God's children must guard against forgetting what God has taught them, (vs. 11)

2. God's children must guard against trusting in their own accomplishments, (vs. 12)

3. God's children must guard against boasting in their own success, (vs. 13 - 14)

4. God's children must guard against rewriting the past to highlight their own progress, (vs. 15)

5. God's children must guard against claiming God's wisdom as their own, (vs. 16)

6. God's children must guard against stealing God's glory and making it theirs, (vs. 17 - 18)

7. God's children must guard against worshiping themselves instead of worshiping God, (vs. 19)

8. God's children must guard against disobeying God as those who do not know God do, (vs. 20)