

INTRODUCTION: TEST RESULTS

A. ILLUSTRATIONS: HYPOTHESIS, TEST, RESULT

B. EXAMPLES: JOB, ABRAHAM (Job 1:6f; 2:1f; Gen.22:1f,12(Heb.11:17f))

I. TESTING IN JAMES

A. SHOW (Jms.2:18(21,24,25); 3:13(Mt.15:19))

B. TEST (Jms.1:2,3; 12,13; 5:10,11; see Gen.22:1f,22)

II. TESTING IN AFFLICTION

A. ADAM (Gen.3:1f; see Job1:6f; Jms.1:2f,5f)

B. ABRAHAM (Gen.22:1f,22)

C. JOB (Job 1:6f; 2:1f; etc.)

D. JESUS (Lk.4:1f; Heb.4:15; 5:8f)

E. PAUL (2Cor.12:7; see 1Cor.4:6-13; 2Cor.4:2,7f,15; 6:4f; 11:20,23f; see Prov.27:21)

F. OFFICERS (1Tm.3:10; 2Cor.8:22; see Acts 6:3; Jms.3:13f)

G. PETER (Lk.22:31f,61; see 1Pt.1:6,7; 4:12,13f)

H. US (Jms.1:12f; see 1:27; 2:1f; 2:15; 3:13f)

III. TESTING IN YOUR LIFE

A. THE GOOD IN BAD TIMES (Jms.1:2a,12a; see 1Pt.1:6,7; 12,13f)

B. TESTED & APPROVED (Jms.1:12; 1Pt.1:7; 1Tm.3:10)

C. TESTED & TEMPERED (Jms.1:3; see Heb.12:11)

D. TESTED & FAILED (Jms.1:2f&5f; 12&13f; 3:17&5:8)

E. WORD & SACRAMENT (1Cor.3:13; Jer.5:14; see Jms.1:5,2f & 4:8)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE, FAMILY AND SMALL GROUP FELLOWSHIP

Suggestions: Don't feel obliged to use every question or every part of every question. Go through and discuss those that are of greatest interest to you. Then consider going back and discussing those that may also be useful, including those that may have seemed a bit difficult. In all questions, keep the outline before to identify entries relevant to the question and to look up appropriate verses listed.

1. What most surprised, puzzled or impressed you from this sermon?
2. What was most helpful? Why? How will you apply it in your daily life?
3. What is God's primary purpose in testing us through adversity?
4. Why is this necessary?
5. Why is this valuable to us?
6. How does the Spirit test us by means of the Scriptures?
7. What examples of testing are particularly striking and/or helpful to you? (II)
8. What other examples of testing are instructive to you both in Scripture & in history (past or present)?
9. What other illustrations of testing are helpful to you?
10. What are the three effects of testing? (III)
11. How should we respond to each effect? (III)
12. How does the Spirit help us to respond? (III)