"Testing You To Know" **Practical Expressions of Genuineness** Deuteronomy 8:1 - 20 August 5, 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 Brings Seasons Of Want Though God Has Promised Abundance, (vs. 1 - 4) 1. God has promised good to those who obey His revealed word, (vs. 1)

1.1) God's Blessing Requires Obedience To All His Word, Not Just Some Of It "The Whole Commandment" - "For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. For he who said, "Do not commit adultery," also said, "Do not murder." If you do not commit adultery but do murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty." (James 2:10–12, ESV)

"I Command (Act.Part)"-**1.2)** We Should Not Obey Just For The Blessing, But For God's Honor

"Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil." (Matthew 6:9–13, ESV)

1.3) Obedience Is Not The Default Position, It Takes Fore-thought "You Shall Be (Impf) Careful To Do"-"Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not become partners with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light" (Ephesians 5:6–8, ESV)

Spiritually In & Out Increase 1.4) God Has Promised Abundance For Holistic Obedience "That You May Live (Impf) / Multiply (Perf) / Go (Perf) / Possess (Perf)" - "You have commanded your precepts to be kept diligently. Oh that my ways may be steadfast in keeping your statutes! Then I shall not be put to shame, having my eyes fixed on all your commandments." (Psalm 119:4–6, ESV)

1.5) God Blesses For His Glory, Not Yours

"God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it? Behold, I received a command to bless: he has blessed, and I cannot revoke it." (Numbers 23:19– 20, ESV)

1) "Finally, then, brothers, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. 2) For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus. For this is the will of God, your sanctification..." (1 Thessalonians 4:1-3a, ESV)

- 1) We should desire to grow in maturity and please God more and more.
- 2) God desires our sanctification and has instructed us in how to grow in Him.

How can the lack of blessing in your life point you toward repenting of disobedience?

"The Lord Swore (Perf.Pas) To Your Fathers"-

- 2. God has promised to be our guide during times of wandering, (vs. 2)
- 3. God has promised to be our source of provision during times of want, (vs. 3)
- 4. God has promised to be our daily protection in times of exposure, (vs. 4)
- God's Testing Disciplines His Children With Seasons Of Abundance To Teach Stewardship, (vs. 5 10)
 - 1. We must understand that God will bring seasons of discipline to teach stewardship, (vs. 5)
 - 2. We must guard what God has taught us as the only way to true prosperity, (vs. 6)
 - 3. We must trust that God is the One who will preserve to the end what He has promised, (vs. 7)
 - 4. We must accept the goodness of God as His provision leading to faithfulness unto His instruction, (vs. 8)
 - 5. We must undertake the responsibility to complete the work God has set before us, (vs. 9)
 - 6. We must continually declare God's goodness unto His people before the world, (vs. 10)
- <u>God's Testing Serves To Confirm His Covenantal Promises To Those Who Love Him, (vs. 11 20)</u>
 - 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)