



02/19/2023

When God Moves: Tests, Temptations And Trials

Luke 6:22 - *What blessings await you when people hate you and exclude you and mock you and curse you as evil because you follow the Son of Man.*

Matthew 5:10-12 - *God blesses those who are persecuted for doing right, for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs. ¹¹“God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. ¹² Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.*

It’s The Jesus In Us Who’s The Reason For, And The Target Of A Believers Persecution

- 1. Persecution Forces Us To Turn To God, Rather Than The World.**
- 2. Spiritual Courage In Persecution Is A Witness To Others.**
- 3. The Faithfulness Of The Persecuted Church Should Encourage Us To A Greater Commitment.**

Isaiah 43:1-3 - *But now, O Jacob, listen to the LORD who created you. O Israel, the one who formed you says, “Do not be afraid, for I have ransomed you. I have called you by name; you are mine. ² When you go through deep waters, I will be with you. When you go through rivers of difficulty, you will not drown. When you walk through the fire of oppression, you will not be burned up; the flames will not consume you. ³ For I am the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior...”*

James 1:12-16 - *God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. ¹³ And remember, when you are being tempted, do not say, “God is tempting me.” God is never tempted to do wrong, and he never tempts anyone else. ¹⁴ Temptation comes from our own desires, which entice us and drag us away. ¹⁵ These desires give birth to sinful actions. And when sin is allowed to grow, it gives birth to death. ¹⁶ So don’t be misled, my dear brothers and sisters.*

Temptation Becomes Sin When The Thought Of Wrongdoing Is Accepted And Acted Upon

- 1) To Reveal The Quality Of Their Faith And Devotion.**
- 2) So They Could See What Was In Their Hearts.**

Genesis 22:1-2 - *Some time later, God tested Abraham's faith. "Abraham!" God called. "Yes," he replied. "Here I am."*² *"Take your son, your only son—yes, Isaac, whom you love so much—and go to the land of Moriah. Go and sacrifice him as a burnt offering on one of the mountains, which I will show you."*

Exodus 20:20 - *"Don't be afraid," Moses answered them, "for God has come in this way to test you, and so that your fear of him will keep you from sinning!"*

Deuteronomy 8:2 - *Remember how the LORD your God led you through the wilderness for these forty years, humbling you and testing you to prove your character, and to find out whether or not you would obey his commands.*

God's Tests Were Always Connected To Promotion

1 Peter 1:6-7 - *So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you must endure many trials for a little while.⁷ These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold—though your faith is far more precious than mere gold. So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.*