

Tested in Battle

Lesson 13

Ps 26:2 NKJV

Examine me, O LORD, and prove me; Try my mind and my heart.

Heb 5:8

8 though He was a Son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered.

Martin Luther said there are three things necessary to create a successful minister of God: prayer, meditation, and temptation.

You'll really never know the strength and reality of your faith until you experience difficulty in life. You'll never know for sure whether God can be trusted or if you'll fall to temptation.

The apostle Peter thought his faith in Christ was solid until the temptation came to deny Him. Jesus knew Peter was not mature yet and that he would deny Jesus three times in one day. Peter didn't believe it. Sure enough, Peter denied Jesus three times. Peter could not believe he could do such a terrible thing.

In order to discover this about himself, he needed to be placed in a situation to reveal his true condition. God allows circumstances to develop around your life to give your faith opportunity to be proven.

It is only when we are tested in battle that we become skilled warriors. You can be confident God will allow trials to come your way through situations like an unreasonable boss, a client who refuses to pay, a false assault on your character, or a difficult relationship that requires unconditional love.

These battles are sent your way to test what you know in the mind in order that they might become part of your heart.

If you fail the test, do not be worried, the exciting thing about God is, He will not stamp loser on your forehead, He will allow you to take another test until you pass.

The sooner you learn this about God the sooner you will try harder to pass the test.

Learn from it and grow through the experience just as Peter did.

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Roundtable Discussion

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1. Have you ever had experiences in your life that you looked back on and realized it was a time of testing? Did you know it was a time of testing when you were in the middle of it?
2. What was the greatest lesson you learned from a time of testing?
3. What are some of the signs to look or in order to determine that you are in a time of testing?