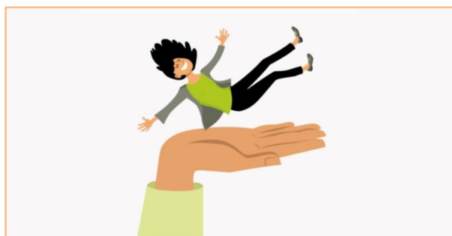


## Testing, Testing, 123

### A Lord's Flock Praise & Worship Topic

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Trying times teach us to hold on and trust God. If we turn away from God and rely on our own wisdom, strength, or abilities, our lives will be destroyed. We do not have the strength to pass trials if we rely only on ourselves. Every test we take teaches us another lesson. For every trial or problem, Jesus is the answer!



1. **The Lord tests the righteous.** God is always testing us in different ways and circumstances.

1.1. David was going through a very hard test (Ps. 11:1-7). His enemies were giving him trouble and urged him to leave & hide in his stronghold for his own protection. David rejected this because the Lord was his stronghold and buffer.

1.2. Three men refused to worship a pagan god even under the threat of punishment in a burning furnace. They believed that their God would deliver them from the furnace. They did not compromise (Daniel 3: 16-18).

1.3 Job served God but was allowed to have a serious hardship. "But even if God slays me, I will trust in Him" (Job 13:15).

1.3. Philip was tested to get food for 15, 000 hungry men, women, children (John 6). Every time God puts us in a test, He already knows what to do. He allows failure but He will show a way out to bear the test (1Cor. 10:13).

2. **Only God is the solution to our problems.** God already knows our problems because He has the sufficiency to supply all our needs.

2.1. Let us bring our problems to Him like Philip and Andrew did. With boldness, they obeyed God rather than man.

2.2. Let us not be surprised by trials. God is testing how much we trust Him. When we come to serve the Lord, prepare for trials. Be sincere. Cling to the Lord that we may prosper. He will help make our way straight.

3. **What are the various reasons for testing?**

**3.1 Test of Faith.** We either excel or we quit/fall when we have trials regarding our family, our jobs, relationships. God will decide if we're

ready to go to the next level. Will our own limitation determine what God can do?

**3.2 To prove it.** (1Pet. 1:6-7). He tests the genuineness of our faith. "These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith— of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed."

**3.3 To purify it.** "But he knows the way that I take; when he has tested me, I will come forth as gold" (Job 23:10).

**3.4 To perfect it.** God is testing what our reaction will be to ill talks. God promises that those who are persecuted in His name will endure.

**3.5 Test of Perseverance.** The Lord wants us to surrender to Him. When the testing is severe let us feel the strength of God. He wants to see our attitude when we are in darkness. Trials turn into victory.

**3.6 Proven Character.** A proven character comes from testing; "...will restore you, make you perfect" (1 Pet. 5:10).

**3.7 To glorify God.** God cannot entrust His children to those who have not been tested. God tests us to see how planted we are. He must be #1 for us.

**3.8 God will bless us.** The ways of God are different from the ways of the world. Jesus said, "truly I tell you, at the renewal of all things, those who have followed me will sit on the throne" (Matt. 19:28).

**Conclusion:** How should we, as followers of Christ, respond to the things going on in our personal lives? Let us pray that God will search our hearts and show us where we have fallen short. Let us pray that we will pass the test (Matt. 25:23). Even if the world hates us, we have Jesus, our Master and Teacher. The Bible gives us guidelines on what we should do. Live a life based on God's word.

#### Reflection:

- 1) What trial/s (sickness, loss of job, failure of relationship) have tested your faith?
- 2) Are you spending more or less time with God through all these testings?

#### SCRIBES Ministry

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<https://lordsflock.org/teachings/digests>  
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