HELEN SANDERS 12-13-2023 THIS IS A TEST

Do you feel like you are being squeezed? Do you wonder what is happening around you? Does it seem like chaos is coming at you from every direction? Well, then you are among company. God is allowing you to be tested.

All faith is tested by fiery trials. Like gold that is put in the fire to be refined, this is what is happening to you. James 1:2 says, "My brethren (that's you and me) count it all joy when you fall into divers temptations." The word" temptations" comes from the Greek word "peirasmos" which means "putting to proof." It also means discipline, and adversity.

We must realize that just as in school we are tested on what we have learned, the same is true spiritually. What have we learned? You can be sure if you have learned a spiritual principle that you will be put to the test to see if you really believe it or not.

For instance, you may have learned that God is called Jehovah Jireh. This means he is our provider. You learn that all provision comes from God. Then things happen and you are in a tight place financially. It is a test to see if you truly believe that God will provide.

Or perhaps you are sick, but you have learned that God is our healer. You invariably will be tested to see if you believe he will heal you.

Tests come, and when we pass one there will be another one. This is how our faith grows. Do not look at testing as a bad thing. It means that God is growing you in faith!

Remember, this is only a test. If you fail the test, it is an open book exam (the bible), and you will be able to take it again until you pass the test.