HELEN SANDERS
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TESTS

There are those of us that remember school days when test day came. Many prepared for hours by studying and looking through their textbooks and notes. Others rarely studied, but both were given the test. Some scored well while others did poorly. Some freeze when it is time to take a test. They often are afraid of failure.

Tests are given to see just how much we have learned. A good teacher will not put things in a test that the student has not heard in the classroom. He gives questions that will produce satisfactory results, not failure. They may not be easy, but they should always be fair.

Life is full of tests and trials. Many are not fair. God allows these tests to help us mature. We either learn from life and pass the test or must go through the trial and be tested again until we do pass. With God it is an "open book" test. He wants us to get our answers from him that have already been written in His Word. When a trial comes (test) then we go to the book to see what answers God has for us.

Most of the time that we fail it is because of poor choices. Just like a test in school, if we make the choice to not study it will cause us to do poorly when test time comes. With God, He wants us to read the book so we will know the answers when the test comes.

II Timothy 2:15 is not a suggestion. It is a command. It says, ***"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth."***
The word for study is "spoudaza" which means to make effort, be diligent, endeavor, labor, study. It takes this kind of effort to pass the tests of life. If we fail to study, we can be sure that we will fail the test. On the other hand, if we do study, we will be equipped to take the test and pass it. If we do fail, God gives us another chance. We can be thankful for that. Unlike the tests in school that give us only one chance to pass, God gives us chance after chance so we cannot fail with God! If we do continue to fail it is our choice, not God's.