

BEING TESTED: "WHY DOES GOD TEST ME?"

God **TESTS** us. He never **TEMPTS** us.

Temptation is purposed for **FAILURE**.

Testing is purposed for **SUCCESS**.

"In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."
John 16:33 (NIV)

WHY DOES GOD TEST ME?

A. To REFINE Me.

So be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead, even though you have to endure many trials for a little while. 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.

1 Peter 1:6-7 (NLT)

Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:2-4 (NIV)

B. To REMIND Me.

And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:28 (NASB)

C. To REALIGN Me.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

Psalms 139: 23-24 (NLT)

Our purpose is to please God, not people. He alone examines the motives of our hearts.

1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NLT)

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO PASS?

A. COOPERATE.

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)

B. INCORPORATE.

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.

James 1:22-25 (NKJV)

QUESTIONS:

- 1) In what area of my life is God testing me right now?
- 2) How am I Cooperating with Him?
- 3) What am I Incorporating from what I've learned? How?