COBURG ROAD CHURCH OF CHRIST - JANUARY 6, 2019

PYRAMIDS IN EGYPT

Psalm 105:17-19

He sent a man before them, Joseph, who was sold as a slave. They afflicted his feet with fetters, he himself was laid in irons; Until the time that his word came to pass, the word of the Lord tested him.

Exodus 15:23-26

23 When they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter; therefore it was named Marah.

24 So the people grumbled at Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"

25 Then he cried out to the Lord, and the Lord showed him a tree; and he threw it into the waters, and the waters became sweet. There He made for them a statute and regulation, and there He tested them.

26 And He said, "If you will give earnest heed to the voice of the Lord your God, and do what is right in His sight, and give ear to His commandments, and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have put on the Egyptians; for I, the Lord, am your healer."

Exodus 20:18-20

18 All the people perceived the thunder and the lightning flashes and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking; and when the people saw it, they trembled and stood at a distance.

19 Then they said to Moses, "Speak to us yourself and we will listen; but let not God speak to us, or we will die." 20 Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order that the fear of Him may remain with you, so that you may not sin."

Deuteronomy 8:16-18

16 In the wilderness He fed you manna which your fathers did not know, that He might humble you and that He might test you, to do good for you in the end. 17 Otherwise, you may say in your heart, 'My power and the strength of my hand made me this wealth.' 18 But you shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who is giving you power to make wealth, that He may confirm His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Psalm 17:3

You have tried my heart; You have visited me by night; You have tested me and You find nothing; I have purposed that my mouth will not transgress.

Psalm 26:1-3

Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.
 Examine me, O Lord, and try me; Test my mind and my heart.
 For Your lovingkindness is before my eyes, and I have walked in Your truth.

Jeremiah 17:9f

9 The heart is more deceitful than all else And is desperately sick; Who can understand it?
10 I, the Lord, search the heart, I test the mind, Even to give to each man according to his ways, According to the results of his deeds.

James 1:2-4

2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. **4 And let endurance have its perfect** result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

1 Peter 4:12-19

12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you;
13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation His glory you may rejoice with exultation.
14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of

glory and of God rests on you.

15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;

16 but if anyone suffers as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

17 For it is time for judgment to begin with the household of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? 18 and if it is with difficulty that the righteous is saved, what will become of the Godless man and the sinner?

19 Therefore, those also who suffer according to the will of God shall entrust their souls to a faithful Creator in doing what is right.

REASONS FOR TESTING 1. Passing God's tests results in great rewards. 2. Tests produce fear (respect) for God. 3. Tests cause us to trust God, not self. 4. Passing God's tests gives us great confidence. 5. Our reward is proportionate to our tests. 6. Testing produces perfection. 7. Testing is a sharing in Christ.