

PASS THE TEST

2 Chronicles 7:14 and Job 1

We are set to go through many trials in this life as we were born in sin (Psalms 51). However, can you Pass the Test? God lets us know there is no temptation we cannot overcome (1 Corinthians 10:13). Today's lesson discusses Hope through despair.

First Case Study

Job in the bible was severely tested though he was **blameless and upright**, an extraordinary man who **feared God** and **shunned evil** (1:8). In other words, **Job** had *wisdom* and *understanding*:

- And he said to man, “The **fear of the Lord** - that is **wisdom**, and to shun evil is **understanding**.” (Job 28:28)
- A **wise** man fears the LORD and shuns evil, but a fool is hotheaded and reckless. (Prov 14:16)

God's assessment of him was very high. He was also **a man who persevered a great testing** (Jam. 5:11).

But stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and **he will surely curse you to your face**. (Job 1:11). Satan's goal was to get Job to *curse* God and he tried to accomplish this through Job's wife when she said, “Are you still holding on to your integrity? **Curse God** and die!” (Job 2:9) Thankfully, Job rejected her foolish words.

Job's First Test

After Job's initial bitter tests (1:13-19) of losing his oxen and donkeys, the killing of his servants, the burning up of sheep and servants, the carrying off of his camels, and the destruction of his children, Job states:

Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away; *may the name of the LORD be praised*. (Job 1:21). In all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing. (Job 1:22) Up to this point in his trials, Job does not sin. He's still blameless and upright:

Then the LORD said to Satan, “Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil. And he still maintains his integrity, though you incited me against him to ruin him without any reason.” (Job 2:3)

Job's Second Test

So Satan went out from the presence of the LORD and *afflicted Job with painful sores from the soles of his feet to the top of his head*. (Job 2:7). After this painful and severe second test, his wife tempts him to curse God. Job wisely rebukes her and maintains his integrity. He still hasn't sinned:

He replied, “You are talking like a foolish woman. Shall we accept good from God, and not trouble?” In all this, *Job did not sin in what he said*. (Job 2:10)

God Speaks And Job Repents

After the many discussions between Job and his so-called friends, God speaks to Job out of the storm (38:1–41:34). [This portion of Job is delightful to read as God questions Job and describes his own characteristics.] It is here that Job receives a stiff rebuke from the Lord:

Who is this that *darkens my counsel* with words without knowledge? (Job 38:2). Will the one who contends with the **Almighty** correct him? Let him who accuses God answer him! (Job 40:2)

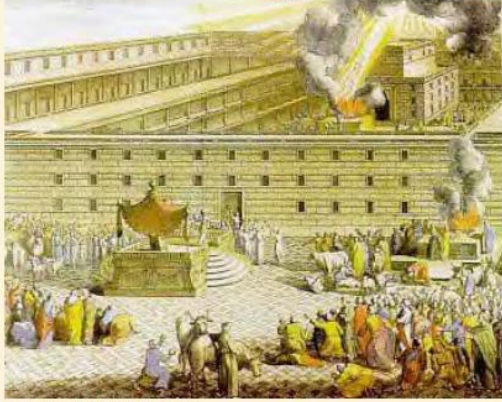
My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you. Therefore **I despise myself and repent in dust and ashes**. (Job 42:5,6)

Building of Solomon's Temple

2 Chronicles 7: 12 And the LORD appeared to Solomon by night, and said unto him, I have heard thy prayer, and have chosen this place to myself for an house of sacrifice. **13**If I shut up heaven that there be no rain, or if I command the locusts to devour the land, or if I send pestilence among my people; **14**If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land.

Isaiah 43 But now thus saith the Lord that created thee, O Jacob, and he that formed thee, O Israel, Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. ²When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. ³For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour: I gave Egypt for thy ransom, Ethiopia and Seba for thee. ⁴Since thou wast precious in my sight, thou hast been honourable, and I have loved thee: therefore will I give men for thee, and people for thy life.

Interesting Facts About Solomon's Temple



- Israel's first Temple
- Israel had the Tabernacle for 400 years.
- David wanted to build the Temple but was forbidden because he was a man of war. 1 Chronicles 22:8
- David gave Solomon the architectural design for the temple. 1 Chronicles 28:11-12
- David accumulated treasures and building materials for the building of the temple. 1 Chronicles 29:2-6
- The cost of the temple in today's money is estimated to equal 3 to 6 billion dollars.
- Solomon began construction of the Temple 490 years after Israel came out of Egypt. 2 Chronicles 3:2
- The Temple site was located on Mt. Moriah where Abraham had offered Isaac. Genesis 22:2
- The temple was built of great stones, cedar beams and boards overlaid with gold. 1 Kings 6:14-22; 7:9-12
- The construction took 7 years.
- Dedication: 1 Kings 8:26-66; 2 Chronicles 7:4-11
 - Solomon offered;
 - 220,000 oxen
 - 120,000 sheep
 - A 14 day feast was held.
- The temple was built by:
 - 30,000 Israelites
 - 150,000 Canaanites
 - Phoenician artists
 - Craftsmen from Tyre
- The Temple faced east and was built after the general plan of the Tabernacle—but twice the size.
 - 90 feet long
 - 30 feet wide
 - 45 feet high
- The Temple itself:
 - The Holy Place was 60' long by 30' wide.
 - The Most Holy Place (Holy of Holies) was 30' by 30'.
 - The Most Holy Place was separated from the Holy Place by a veil.
- Furniture in The Holy Place, 1 Kings 6:23-28
 - Golden Altar of Incense
 - 5 golden Candlesticks on the north side
 - 5 golden Candlesticks on the south side
 - 5 tables of showbread on the north side
 - 5 tables of showbread on the south side
- Furniture in the Most holy Place (Holy of Holies)
 - The Ark of the Covenant
- The Bronze Altar was 30' square by 15' high
- The Brazen Laver (called a "sea") was 15' in diameter and 8' deep, and sat on 12 bronze oxen

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