

## **I. DEFINITION OF TESTING IN THE BIBLE**

- A. POSITIVE: EXPERIENCE, EXPERIMENT; ATTEMPT** (see Acts 9:26; 16:7)
- B. NEGATIVE: HOSTILE, MALICIOUS; REBELLIOUS** (*tempt, test*; Mk.12:13(15); Mt.22:15(18); Lk.20:20; Jn.8:6)
- C. SIGNIFICANCE: UN/BELIEF, DIS/OBEDIENCE** (Ps.78:17-22; 41f; 56f; 70 / Mal.3:10; Is.7:11f)
- D. SUMMARY: “TRYING/VERY TRYING”**

## **II. TESTING JESUS** (Mt.16:1-4 (12:38,39); Mk.8:11-13; Lk.11:16,29; 12:54-56)

- A. TESTING GOD IS WICKED & UNFAITHFUL** (Mt.16:1,4 (12:38,39); Lk.11:16,29; see Mk.8:11,12)
- B. OPEN EYES FOR SKY SIGNS** (Mt.16:2,3; Lk.12:54-56)
- C. CLOSE EYES FOR HEAVENLY SIGNS** (Mt.16:2,3; Lk.12:54-56; see Mt.13:14-16)
- D. SUMMARY: REJECT GIVEN & MAKE DEMANDS** (Lk.7:18-23 (4:18); see Lk.11:16,29; Mt.16:1-4)

## **III. CLASSIC BIBLICAL EXAMPLES**

- A. ISRAEL: MASSAH** (Ps.95:7b-11 (Heb.3:7f; 18,19); see Ex.17:1f(7); Dt.6:4f; 12f,16)
- B. ISRAEL: RETURN TO EGYPT** (Num.14:1f,11,22; see Ps.106:23,24)
- C. ISRAEL: FIERY SERPENTS** (Num.21:5f with 1Cor.10:9,6f/13)
- D. TEMPTER: IN THE WILDERNESS** (Mt.4:1f; 3,6,9; 7; see Lk.4:1f)
- E. TEMPTER: MINISTRY** (Mk.12:13(15); Mt.22:15(18); Lk.20:20; Jn.8:6; see Heb.12:3)
- F. TEMPTER: GETHSEMANE** (Heb.5:7f; see Mt.26:36f,39,41; see Mt.16:23)
- G. SUMMARY: TESTING IN UNBELIEF & DISOBEDIENCE** (Mt.16:1&4; see Ps.78:18f,22,41f,56f)

## **IV. CENTRAL CONTEMPORARY APPLICATIONS**

- A. ASK CHRIST TO SAVE YOU FROM TESTING GOD!** (Ps.78:1f; 70f; see Mt.13:14-16; Eph.2:1-10; see Job 1:21,22; 2:10)
- B. DO NOT TEST THE LORD BY UNBELIEF & DISOBEDIENCE!** (Mt.16:1&4; see Ps.78:18f,22f,41f,56f; 95:7f (Heb.3:6f); 1Cor.10:6f,9; 1Th.3:5; Rom.2:8,9)
- C. DO TEST THE LORD BY FAITH & OBEDIENCE!** (Mal.3:10; Is.7:11f; see Num.14:22/24; Acts 2:38f; Eph.6:1f; Rom.2:7,10)
- D. USE THE MEANS OF GRACE TO RESIST BEING TEMPTED!** (Acts 2:42; see Lk.4:1-13 & 20:40,46; see 1Cor.11:24f; Eph.4:14f)
- E. USE THE MEANS OF GRACE TO RESIST TESTING GOD!** (Acts 2:42; see Mt.16:1&4; see 11:5; see Num.14:22; Ps.78:7,11; Dt.6:4f,12,16; see Rom.1:21f; 1Cor.11:24f; Eph.4:14f)

*Brethren, what shall WE DO?* (see Acts 2:37f)