

CHAMPIONS OF FAITH

“The Testing of Your Faith”

Hebrews 11:17–19

July 17, 2011

“A faith that cannot be tested cannot be trusted.” Warren Weirsbe

‡ Tests and trials and temptations come in two kinds: The devil T _____ us to do evil to cause us to S _____.
God T _____ us to do good to cause us to S _____. What God wants to do is to make our faith strong and pure.

1 Peter 1:6-7, “You rejoice in this, though now for a short time you have had to struggle in various trials so that the genuineness of your faith— more valuable than gold, which perishes though refined by fire — may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.”

Turn to Genesis 22.

James 1:13, “No one undergoing a trial should say, ‘I am being tempted by God.’ For God is not tempted by evil, and He Himself doesn’t tempt anyone.”

‡ The test of faith that Abraham is facing is not what he is giving U _____ for the Lord, but what he is giving B _____ to the Lord. Are you able to give your blessings back to God?

I. Can I Trust God with the P _____ He Has Given to Me? Heb. 11:17

Could it be that Abraham is coming to love Isaac more than he is loving God? Could it be that he is coming to love the gift more than the giver? ‡ God will never take S _____ P _____ in your life to anything or to anyone. God desires, deserves, and demands P _____ in your life.

Malachi 2:2, “If you don’t listen, and if you don’t take it to heart to honor My name,” says Yahweh of Hosts, “I will send a curse among you, and I will curse your blessings. In fact, I have already begun to curse them because you are not taking it to heart.”

‡ The test of faith is not primarily between love and hate. But between two loves: Those things we love dearly and that which we must love supremely.

II. Can I Trust God with the P _____ He Has for Me?

‡ Faith is not primarily believing God in spite of the evidence. It is O _____ God in spite of the C _____.

What Kind of Obedience?

1. It must be I _____ obedience.
2. It must be I _____ obedience.
3. It must be I _____ obedience.
4. It must be I _____ obedience.

III. Can I Trust Him with the P _____ He Has Made to Me?

Why didn’t God let Abraham sacrifice Isaac? It wasn’t I _____ that God wanted, it was A _____.

What is the heart of the message? If you love it, let it go. If it is yours, you’ll get it back. We say, “Finders keepers, losers weepers.” God says, *Keepers weepers, losers finders.*

Abraham called the name of that place, “Jehovah-Jireh”— God will provide!

For God to Test My Faith ...

Memorize 1 Peter 1:6-7.

ASK: Is there any good gift that I’m unwilling to surrender?

Is there any obedience that I’m not willing to perform even if it seems contradictory to God’s plan for me?

Is there any promise that I cannot trust God with even if it doesn’t make sense?