Doctrinal Studies

TESTING

James 1:2 – "My brethren, count (add up the facts and come to a conclusion) it all joy when ye fall into various tests and trials." James 1:3 – "Knowing this that the trying of your faith worketh patience (the approved part of your works endurance) And let faith have her (its) perfect work, or let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be complete, entire, wanting in nothing."

I Pet 4:12 – "Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial which is to try you, as a surprising occurrence to you. But as you share the sufferings of Christ - rejoice that, when His glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy."

GENERAL TESTING

- I. Pressures from without and from within come as a result of living (in the Devil's world) on this earth. James 1:12 "Blessed happiness to the man (Noble man) who endures testing, for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that keep on loving Him." (That's staying inside of the Divine Dynasphere)
- II. Testing actually develops the born again believer, and makes him more keenly aware of the importance of the doctrines of RTF (Restoration to Fellowship), DD (Divine Dynasphere), WIS (Walking in the Spirit, and SWW (Saturation with the Word).
- III. When a test comes, what determines our attitude toward it will be totally determined by what we have on the inside. II Pet 3:18 "Grow (PAImp) in grace and knowledge of the Lord of us and Savior Jesus Christ."
- IV. Studying God's word causes a person to recognize a test and also know what to do. We either pass or fail the test depending on the spiritual food inside. I Pet 5:10 "But the God of all Grace, who hath called us unto His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you whole, perfect, complete, stablish (confirm), strengthen, settled (YOU)."
- V. If a test is failed, it will always be repeated. II Pet 3:17 "You therefore, beloved, seeing you know these things before, beware lest you also, being led away with the error of the wicked, fall from your own stability"

Doctrinal Studies

TESTING (Continued)

- VI. When you learn a new doctrine you will be tested on that subject (James 1:7 "Inflated thinking results in disaster"; James 1:8 "A split-souled person is fickle in all his ways").
- VII. The world, flesh and the Devil compose our enemies and Satan is being unusually successful in three areas of love.
 - a. Category I love God's love ...non-perception
 - b. Category II love Right companion Divorce
 - c. Category III love Homosexuality, Lesbianism
- VIII. Tests come from many areas, as revealed in II Cor. 4:8, 9 "We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair persecuted, but not forsaken, cast down but not destroyed."
- IX. Our Lord was tested in many ways. Luke 11:16, Luke 20:23; Luke 4:13 and Matt 16:1 "The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting Him, desired that He should show them a sign from heaven..."; Mark 8:11 "And the Pharisees came forth, and began to question Him, seeking of Him a sign from heaven, tempting him." Mark 10:2 "And the Pharisees came to Him, and asked Him 'Is it lawful for a man to put away his wife?', tempting Him."; Mark 12:14c and 15 "'Is it lawful to give tribute to Caesar, or not? Shall we give, or shall we not give?' But He, knowing their hypocrisy, said unto them, 'Why tempt ye me? Bring me a penny, that I may see it.' And they brought it. "And He said unto them, 'Whose is this image and superscription? And they said unto Him, Caesar's. And Jesus answering said unto them, Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's.' And they marveled at Him."
- X. The only way for victory in testing is continual residence in the Divine Dynasphere (I Peter 4:12-14; II Pet 2:9; I Cor. 10:13).
 - a. Metals are tested Prov. 27:21 "As the fining pot for silver, and the furnace for gold, so is a man to his praise"
 - b. Fire burns out the dross Rev 18:9,18, I Pet 4:12
 - c. All the tests are getting us ready for graduation, James 1:4. "... to be perfect, entire, wanting nothing."