

Resurrection Life of Jesus Church

THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS

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PART 19: THE TESTING OF ABRAHAM

It is an established biblical fact that salvation is by faith and faith alone in the Jesus Christ. **Ephesians 2:5-10**

It is also an established fact that Jesus wanted obedience from the people He saved. **John 14:15**

Obedience is not works but *faith in action!* **Hebrews 11:17**

LAW AND ORDER IN THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Before God began the creation of the universe, He had already created the physical laws that would govern it such as the law of gravity that holds the universe together. Mathematical laws govern all chemical reactions that made life possible for man, animals, birds and fishes, microbes and plants. The law of electricity is also necessary for all living organisms and the law of light is essential to our existence.

There are spiritual laws in the Kingdom of God that supersede the physical laws. Lucifer deceived Eve to break a spiritual law in order to take dominion over the human race. **Genesis 3:1-5**

Breaking a physical law invites death to the person breaking it. Breaking a spiritual law invites Satan to afflict the person. **1 Peter 5:8**

EVERY BELIEVER MUST BE TESTED

One of the spiritual laws is that Satan has the legal right to sift every believer in Christ. His goal is to afflict so much pain that you will curse God and die. This concept is brought out in the first two chapters of the book of Job.

Jesus confirmed this truth in His warning to the apostle Peter. **Luke 22:31-34; 54-62**

FIRST TESTED, THEN TRUSTED

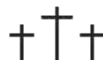
Abraham left his homeland by faith. **Genesis 12:1-4**

He became a liar through unbelief. **verses 10-13**

God encouraged Abraham. **Genesis 15:1**

Abraham consented to sin against the Lord through unbelief. **Genesis 16:1-4**

Abraham became a liar a second time. **Genesis 20:1-11**



THE ULTIMATE TEST

I am sure that Abraham had repented of his failures and there must have been a change in him. God knew the heart of Abraham, but He wanted Abraham to know what was in himself. At this point in his life, he had failed three out of the four tests, but now God was going to put him through the ultimate test. **Genesis 22:1-18**

The apostle Paul thought that this testing of Abraham was not only important at the time it happened, but should serve as an example from which every believer can learn. **Hebrews 11:17-20**

As a believer in Christ, you would do well to take note that obedience is better than sacrifice. **1 Samuel 15:22-23**

Remember, it's not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!

Do you have an ear to hear with?