



[TOP](#)

Daily Devotional, Monday, June 19, 2017 - The Testing of Our Commitment

JUNE 19TH 2017 BY DEE LOFLIN

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Hebrews 11:8-9

In situations when God is testing us, He will teach us new and deeper truths about Himself, His purposes, and His promises. Though we feel stretched in painful seasons, such difficulties are always designed to be beneficial.

From a human perspective, times of testing can be baffling because we don't understand how anything good could result. Consider God's command that Abraham sacrifice his long-awaited son Isaac. Abraham's earthly viewpoint could have regarded this order as:

Unreasonable. "I cherish my son above all else. How could You ask this?"

Untimely. "Why now, Lord? My son is still young. He is the one through whom my descendants are to come."

Unfair. "It's not right that You ask this. Haven't I left home to follow You?"

Unbearable. "This is too hard for me. I cannot take this pain."

Abraham rejected that kind of thinking. Instead, he trusted God. The trial revealed Abraham's unshakable commitment to the Lord's plan.

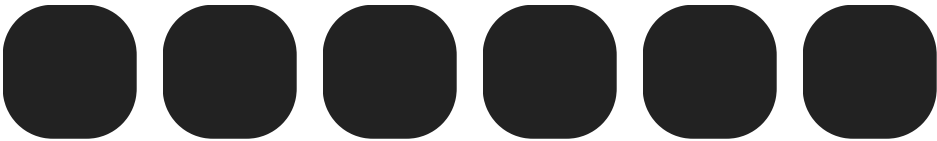
Knowing which circumstances will help us grow, our Father asks us to exercise faith and choose His way. Recalling His unending love and wholehearted commitment to His children will help us do this. Be assured that God makes no mistakes in His dealings with us.

Imagine Abraham’s joy when the Lord provided a ram as a sacrifice in Isaac’s place. We will receive the same reward of spiritual joy when we remain steadfast. Won’t you respond to times of testing as Abraham did—by trusting and obeying God?

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