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Faith Bible Church
<http://www.fbcweb.org/doctrines.html>
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DAILY DOCTRINE: Testing, the Ten Tests of the Exodus Generation:
Test #10

<http://www.fbcweb.org/Doctrines/Tests-10.pdf>

1. In Numbers 14:22 the Lord said, "'Surely all the men who have seen My glory and My signs, which I performed in Egypt and in the wilderness, yet have put Me to the test these ten times and have not listened to My voice.'
2. The ten tests:
 - a. Test #1: **Fear test** at the Red Sea, Exod. 14:11-12.
 - b. Test #2: **Bitterness test** at the waters of Marah, Exod. 15:23-26
 - c. Test #3: **Grumbling-at-the-details-of-life test**, Exod. 16:2.
 - d. Test #4: **Grumbling-at-the-details-of-life test (retake of test)**, Exod. 16:20.
 - e. Test #5: **Grumbling-at-the-details-of-life test (retake of test)**, Exod. 16:27.
 - f. Test #6: **Temporal provision test**, Exod. 17:1-7.
 - g. Test #7: **Faith-obedience to truth test (also "worship test")**, Exod. 32.
 - h. Test #8: **Hardship test**, Num. 11:1.
 - i. Test #9: **Lusting-after-blessings test**, Num. 11:4; 1 Cor 10:6.
 - j. Test #10: **The final test, Num. 14.**

3. The Final Test. Numbers 13:31-14:10: But the men who had gone up with him said, "We are not able to go up against the people, for they are too strong for us." ³² So they gave out to the sons of Israel a bad report of the land which they had spied out, saying, "The land through which we have gone, in spying it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants; and all the people whom we saw in it are men of *great* size. ³³ "There also we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak are part of the Nephilim); and we became like grasshoppers in our own sight, and so we were in their sight." Then all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. ² And all the sons of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron; and the whole congregation said to them, "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness!" ³ "And why is the LORD bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become plunder; would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?" ⁴ So they said to one another, "Let us appoint a leader and return to Egypt." ⁵ Then Moses and Aaron fell on their faces in the presence of all the assembly of the congregation of the sons of Israel. ⁶ And Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh, of those who had spied out the land, tore their clothes; ⁷ and they spoke to all the congregation of the sons of Israel, saying, "The land which we passed through to spy out is an exceedingly good land. ⁸ "If the LORD is pleased with us, then He will bring us into this land, and give it to us-- a land which flows with milk and honey. ⁹ "Only do not rebel against the LORD; and do not fear the people of the land, for they shall be our prey. Their protection has been removed from them, and the LORD is with us; do

not fear them." ¹⁰ But all the congregation said to stone them with stones. Then the glory of the LORD appeared in the tent of meeting to all the sons of Israel.

4. Principles.

- a. Testing is a fact of life in the plan of God.
- b. Testing is required for spiritual growth.
- c. Testing is required for the believer to gain spiritual virtue. Apart from the development of virtue there is no true capacity for life, either in difficulties or in blessings.
- d. The objective in all testing is to learn the lesson.
- e. The lesson is always related to Bible doctrine.
- f. The Israelites were to believe what God who had promised them (Bible doctrine) that He would take care of them in every way, Exod. 13:21-22; 14:13-14; 15:1ff.
- g. The issue is to believe what God says in His Word.
- h. Failure to believe the Word of God when one is tested will lead to some type of human viewpoint emotional revolt.
- i. In emotional revolt, logic and the Word of God are rejected. The believer becomes irrational, cf. Num. 14:3, 'Why is the Lord bringing us out here to kill us and our children?' When the believer does not take God's Word seriously, he ends up distrusting the character of God. All tests are designed to get the believer to better understand God and understand that one's life is not about the details or circumstances of life.
- j. We have God's promise that He will never put more on the believer than he can handle, 1 Cor. 10:13. This means that God provides everything the believer needs to pass any test. However, the believer must use God's grace provisions.
- k. Failure to take God's Word seriously has horrible ramifications: distrust of God, divine discipline, and forfeiture of supergrace blessings.
- l. Believers who continue advance in Bible doctrine as evidenced by living out its truths are promoted and granted supergrace blessings of the promised life: *"But My servant Caleb, because he has had a different spirit and has followed Me fully, I will bring into the land which he entered, and his descendants shall take possession of it (Num. 14:24).*
- m. Will you be a Caleb and move into God's promised life, especially designed for you in eternity past, by growing in and living out His Word?

In the Logos,

Pastor Don