



EQUIP

Sunday School

Put to the Test
Genesis 22–23

Theology of Trials

I. God never tempts His people



James 1:13

*Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God”; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and **He Himself does not tempt anyone.***



Theology of Trials

- I. God never tempts His people
 - A. We are tempted externally
 1. Satan (Gen 3:1–5; Matt 4:1–11)
 2. Men (Prov 1:10)
 - B. We are tempted internally
 1. James 1:14; Joshua 7:21



James 1:14

*But each one is tempted when he
is carried away and enticed by his
own lust.*



Theology of Trials

- I. God never tempts His people
- II. God does test His people
 - A. To prune our faith (John 15:1–2)



John 15:1-2

*I am the true vine, and My Father is the vinedresser. “Every branch in Me that does not bear fruit, He takes away; and every branch that bears fruit, **He prunes** it so that it may bear more fruit*



Theology of Trials

- I. God never tempts His people
- II. God does test His people
 - A. To prune our faith (John 15:1–2)
 - B. To perfect our faith (James 1:2–4)



James 1:2–4

Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.



Theology of Trials

- I. God never tempts His people
- II. God does test His people
 - A. To prune our faith (John 15:1–2)
 - B. To perfect our faith (James 1:2–4)
 - C. To prove our faith (Genesis 22)



Theme

Genuine faith endures testing and prepares for the future promise.



Put to the Test
Genesis 22–23

I. Faith Tested (Gen 22)

A. The Radical Test of Faith (vv. 1–2)



Application

- When God tests us, he does so by stretching us beyond our limits.
- When God tests us, he does so by defying our understanding
- When God tests us, he does so even after substantial spiritual growth and blessing.



Put to the Test
Genesis 22–23

I. Faith Tested (Gen 22)

- A. The Radical Test of Faith (vv. 1–2)
- B. The Radical Obedience of Faith (vv. 3–10)



Application

- Radical obedience in the midst of testing stems from faith
- Radical obedience means being willing to surrender your best to God



Put to the Test
Genesis 22–23

I. Faith Tested (Gen 22)

- A. The Radical Test of Faith (vv. 1–2)
- B. The Radical Obedience of Faith (vv. 3–10)
- C. The Gracious Provision for Faith (vv. 11–19)
 - 1. A Substitute (vv. 11–14)
 - 2. A Reaffirmed Promise (vv. 15–19)



Put to the Test

Genesis 22–23

I. Faith Tested (Gen 22)

- Parenthesis: Gen 22:20–24
 - God is providentially working behind the scenes to bring about His eternal purposes



Put to the Test
Genesis 22–23

- I. Faith Tested (Gen 22)
- II. Faith Prepares (Gen 23)
 - A. The Death of Sarah (vv. 1–2)
 - B. The Possession of a Burial Site (vv. 3–20)



Application

- Death provides us an opportunity to witness to the world where our true hope lies (Heb 11:13–16)

