

TESTING TIME

August 10, 2025

John Hoffman, Pastor of Pastoral Care

Joshua 1:9 (NLT) (9) This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”

1) _____ is _____ to come!

Exodus 14:13–30 (NLT) (13) But Moses told the people, “Don’t be afraid. Just stand still and watch the Lord rescue you today. The Egyptians you see today will never be seen again. (14) The Lord himself will fight for you. Just stay calm.” (15) Then the Lord said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving! (16) Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground. (17) And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they will charge in after the Israelites. My great glory will be displayed through Pharaoh and his troops, his chariots, and his charioteers. (18) When my glory is displayed through them, all Egypt will see my glory and know that I am the Lord!” (19) Then the angel of God, who had been leading the people of Israel, moved to the rear of the camp. The pillar of cloud also moved from the front and stood behind them. (20) The cloud settled between the Egyptian and Israelite camps. As darkness fell, the cloud turned to fire, lighting up the night. But the Egyptians and Israelites did not approach each other all night. (21) Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the Lord opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land. (22) So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side! (23) Then the Egyptians—all of Pharaoh’s horses, chariots, and charioteers—chased them into the middle of the sea. (24) But just before dawn the Lord looked down on the Egyptian army from the pillar of fire and cloud, and he threw their forces into total confusion. (25) He twisted their chariot wheels, making their chariots difficult to drive. “Let’s get out of here—away from these Israelites!” the Egyptians shouted. “The Lord is fighting for them against Egypt!” (26) When all the Israelites had reached the other side, the Lord said to Moses, “Raise your hand over the sea again. Then the waters will rush back and cover the Egyptians and their chariots and charioteers.” (27) So as the sun began to rise, Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the water rushed back into its usual place. The Egyptians tried to escape, but the Lord swept them into the sea. (28) Then the waters returned and covered all the chariots and charioteers—the entire army of Pharaoh. Of all the Egyptians who had chased the Israelites into the sea, not a single one survived. (29) But the people of Israel had walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, as the water stood up like a wall on both sides. (30) That is how the Lord rescued Israel from the hand of the Egyptians that day. And the Israelites saw the bodies of the Egyptians washed up on the seashore.

2) **How soon we forget God’s** _____ .

Psalms 106:13–14 (NLT) (13) Yet how quickly they forgot what he had done! They wouldn’t wait for his counsel! (14) In the wilderness their desires ran wild, testing God’s patience in that dry wasteland.

3) **We forget so** _____ **where God** _____ **us from.**

Numbers 11:4–6 (NLT) (4) Then the foreign rabble who were traveling with the Israelites began to crave the good things of Egypt. And the people of Israel also began to complain. “Oh, for some meat!” they exclaimed. (5) “We remember the fish we used to eat for free in Egypt. And we had all the cucumbers, melons, leeks, onions, and garlic we wanted. (6) But now our appetites are gone. All we ever see is this manna!”

4) There is a _____ to be paid for _____ .

Numbers 13:27–30 (NLT) (27) This was their report to Moses: “We entered the land you sent us to explore, and it is indeed a bountiful country—a land flowing with milk and honey. Here is the kind of fruit it produces. (28) But the people living there are powerful, and their towns are large and fortified. We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak! (29) The Amalekites live in the Negev, and the Hittites, Jebusites, and Amorites live in the hill country. The Canaanites live along the coast of the Mediterranean Sea and along the Jordan Valley.” (30) But Caleb tried to quiet the people as they stood before Moses. “Let’s go at once to take the land,” he said. “We can certainly conquer it!”

Numbers 14:31–33 (NLT) (31) “ ‘You said your children would be carried off as plunder. Well, I will bring them safely into the land, and they will enjoy what you have despised. (32) But as for you, you will drop dead in this wilderness. (33) And your children will be like shepherds, wandering in the wilderness for forty years. In this way, they will pay for your faithlessness, until the last of you lies dead in the wilderness.

5) We all need to _____ our own failures and _____ in God.

Romans 3:23–24 (NLT) (23) For everyone has sinned; we all fall short of God’s glorious standard. (24) Yet God, in his grace, freely makes us right in his sight. He did this through Christ Jesus when he freed us from the penalty for our sins.

OBEDIENCE IS THE VERY BEST WAY TO SHOW THAT WE BELIEVE AND TRUST GOD!

*For more information about what it means to begin a relationship with Jesus or what to do after making a decision to follow Him, stop at Guest Central in the lobby following the service, email us at info@otterbeinchurch.org, or call the church office at 717.762.7147 to set up an appointment. You may also learn more about what it means to follow Jesus and/or request materials and find additional information to help you on your spiritual journey by clicking “**Next Steps > Jesus**” on our website at www.otterbeinchurch.org.*