PASSING THE TEST  
1 PETER 1:6-7 / 1-17-21 / AM

I. FIRST, OUR TRIALS ARE TEMPORARY.
   A. Peter makes this clear in verse 6—“... for a little while you may have to suffer.”
   B. Of course, that “little while” can seem like an eternity to us.
   C. COVID-19 seems to be lasting forever too.
   D. How can a trial or test seem brief or temporary?
      1. The answer is that everything is temporary when compared to eternity.
      2. This puts our trials into perspective because, thankfully, they don’t last forever.

II. SECOND, OUR TRIALS ARE NECESSARY.
   A. Peter says this in verse 6—“you may have had to suffer in all kinds of trials” (“have had to”).
   B. Peter didn’t tell us exactly how long we will suffer.
   C. Hard times and trials come to all of us. Why?
   D. One reason is that trials help us grow in our faith according to James--1:2-4.

III. THIRD, OUR TRIALS ARE PURIFYING.
   A. Peter makes this clear in verse 7.
   B. Notice in verse 7 the little phrase “so that”.
      1. These two words tell us that our trials have a purpose.
      2. There is a reason for this Coronavirus too.

IV. FOURTH, OUR TRIALS ARE BENEFICIAL.
   A. Peter says in verse 7 “(They) may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.
   B. Peter’s promise is that if we pass God’s testing in this life, then we will receive praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.
   C. What was Peter referring to with the phrase in verse 7 “when Jesus Christ is revealed.”