

The Test, Heartfelt Repentance

October 9, 2011

Oakbrook Community Church (PCA)

Genesis 44

Pastor Mark W. Turner

I. God does not tempt, but He tests 1-2

- Not prescriptive for our dealings
- Reconciliation is only possible by repentance
- Plan to reveal the heart of brothers
God's Perfect Plan: Jms 1:13; 1:2,3
Temptation is designed to destroy you... Testing is designed for your good!

II. God knows how to touch us at our most vulnerable point 3-17

- Brothers believed themselves to be honest men 7-8
- Brothers lay their own trap 9
- Steward sets trap for their hearts 10 (*just guilty one enslaved rest go free!*)
- True guilt is recognized 16 [42:21]

III. How to Approach God 18-34

We can learn from Judah's appeal to the Ruler!

Learn from Judah's descendant 1 Pt 2:23

- A. Sinners Approach God by Submitting to His Rightful Authority (Attitude)
- His authority is Absolute & Rightful (Job 38:2; 40:2; Lk 12:4-5)
Respond in proper reverent fear
 - Our submission must be a Complete Submission
- B. Sinners Approach God by Appealing to His Compassion (Affection)
- Approach God with all our hearts (sincerity)
 - Approach God with all our minds (logic based upon His character)
- C. Sinners Approach God by Owning up to their Sin (Action)
- Judah — a changed attitude demonstrated (action):
A sensual pleasure oriented, self-centered man who NOW offers to deny himself of pleasure, his rights and freedom so his brother might go free!

Genuine Repentance Manifests: (lessons we should learn)

- Absence of blame (except towards self) 16
- Always affects Relationships positively (with God & others)
- Entrusting self to Sovereign God (seems costly) but Gracious Blessings
1 Jn 3:16 Pass on God's love, entrust yourself to His economy!

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