

He Passed a Forgotten Test

Written by Bill Perkins

"Do not put the Lord your God
to the test, as you did at Massah."
- Deuteronomy 6:16

When Satan tempted Jesus to leap from the temple,
it wasn't just a dare-it was
a reenactment of a forgotten test.

At Massah, Israel demanded proof of God's
presence even though He had already given them
bread from heaven and water from the rock.
Their cry was, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Satan echoed that same test: "If You
are the Son of God, throw Yourself down."
Just as Israel doubted God's presence despite
His provision, Satan pressed Jesus to doubt
His identity despite the Father's declaration.
But Jesus didn't need to prove
to the Devil His Sonship.
His Father had publicly declared: "This is My beloved Son."
That word was enough.
Jesus trusted the Father's promise
and refused the tempter's dare.

And this was only one of the temptations.
There were two more:

- Bread: When urged to turn stones
into bread, He trusted the Father's provision instead.

- Kingdoms: He rejected Satan's
demand for worship and honored the Father instead.

Where Israel failed in the wilderness, Jesus succeeded.
He obeyed by trusting the Father's presence without demanding proof.
In doing so, He showed that true
faith rests on God's promise, not on signs.

You may not know this about Jesus:
He passed the test everyone else forgot.

What has God already said about me
that I need to believe-rather than trying to prove
myself to Him or to others?

God has spoken over me: I am His child.

I am forgiven.

I am loved.

I am chosen.

My temptation is to prove those truths
by effort or by impressing others.

But Jesus shows me a better way:
to rest in what the Father has already declared.
Faith isn't proving-it's believing.

Father, thank You for a Savior
who passed the forgotten test,
who trusted You in the wilderness,
obeyed You to the cross, and was
raised and exalted for my sake.
Teach me to rest in what You have spoken,
not in what I can prove.
Anchor my identity in Your declaration,
and let Your faithfulness shape my life.
In Jesus' name-Amen.