

# Humbled and Tested... The Perfect Thanksgiving!

“Humbled” and “tested” could be good words to describe our 2020, don’t you think? They are also descriptive words that figure prominently in Deuteronomy 8, a key Scripture for Thanksgiving.

“Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands. He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord. Your clothes did not wear out and your feet did not swell during these forty years. Know then in your heart that as a man disciplines his son, so the Lord your God disciplines you.” (Deuteronomy 8:2-5)

Humbled and Tested.

I don’t know about you, but there are days I could do without testing. There is a part of me that would be happy to have an easy, simple life. And yet, testing serves a purpose. Times of testing are opportunities for growth. Times of testing teach us something about ourselves. And, ultimately, the tests we undergo in this life lead us to realize that we are not the boss; we are not God; we are not in charge here. Rather, the testing reminds us that we are to depend on the Lord who created us, sustains us, and gives us life—even eternal life.

Those are humbling thoughts. And I like being humble—really I do! I even asked my wife, Peg, if she thought I was a humble sort of guy. After thinking for a second, she said, “Yes, I guess so.” And I then went on to say that I would be sharing with everyone how good I am at being humble. (She began to shake her head as I walked away. I am sure she was thinking, “Pride cometh before a fall.” I guess it goes to show, it’s not possible for one to be proud of being humble.)

Oh, how we need the Lord’s perspective; to trust in Him with all our heart; in humility to hear Jesus’ words, “Apart from Me you can do nothing” (John 15:5); and to humbly approach His throne of grace as we confess our sins of self-reliance and self-importance.

Paragraph locked by Ken Green

Then we will rightfully acknowledge our need for Christ. Then we will see clearly all that Jesus has done for us. Then we will know the love the Father has lavished upon us. And then, the Spirit will cause thanksgiving to spring up in our lives and overflow into the lives of others. All these things to the glory of His holy name.

~ pk, Senior Pastor