

## It Happened In The Garden! - Part 1 | Are you ready for the test?

*I don't want you to forget, dear brothers and sisters, about our ancestors in the wilderness long ago. All of them were guided by a cloud that moved ahead of them, and all of them walked through the sea on dry ground. In the cloud and in the sea, all of them were baptized as followers of Moses. All of them ate the same spiritual food, and all of them drank the same spiritual water. For they drank from the spiritual rock that traveled with them, and that rock was Christ. Yet God was not pleased with most of them, and their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. These things happened as a warning to us, so that we would not crave evil things as they did, or worship idols as some of them did. As the Scriptures say, "The people celebrated with feasting and drinking, and they indulged in pagan revelry." And we must not engage in sexual immorality as some of them did, causing 23,000 of them to die in one day. Nor should we put Christ to the test, as some of them did and then died from snakebites. And don't grumble as some of them did, and then were destroyed by the angel of death. **These things happened to them as examples for us. They were written down to warn us who live at the end of the age. If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall. The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.***

*1 Corinthians 10:1-13 (NLT)*

- They had the same experience.
- They had the same opportunities.
- They had the same provision.
- Yet their outcomes were different.

*These things happened to them as examples for us. They were written down to warn us who live at the end of the age. If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall. The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, he will show you a way out so that you can endure.*

*1 Corinthians 10:11-13 (NLT)*

*His disciples said, "Finally! You're giving it to us straight, in plain talk—no more figures of speech. Now we know that you know everything—it all comes together in you. You won't have to put up with our questions anymore. We're convinced you came from God." Jesus answered them, "**Do you finally believe? In fact, you're about to make a run for it—saving your own skins and abandoning me. But I'm not abandoned. The Father is with me. I've told you all this so that trusting me, you will be unshakable and assured, deeply at peace. In this godless world you will continue to experience difficulties. But take heart! I've conquered the world.**"*

*John 16:29-33 (CEV)*

*After Jesus had finished speaking to his disciples, he looked up toward heaven and prayed:*

*John 17:1a (CEV)*

- Abiding in His presence enables us to bear up under difficult circumstances and overcome testing and temptation.

- We need revelation, so that we are prepared for what we might face.
- The preparation always comes before the test.

*Then they sang a hymn and went out to the Mount of Olives. On the way, Jesus told them, "All of you will desert me. For the Scriptures say, 'God will strike the Shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there." Peter said to him, "Even if everyone else deserts you, I never will." Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, Peter—this very night, before the rooster crows twice, you will deny three times that you even know me." "No!" Peter declared emphatically. "Even if I have to die with you, I will never deny you!" And all the others vowed the same.*

*Mark 14:26-31 (NLT)*

- God does not promote those who think they can pass the test, He only promotes those who pass the test.

### Understand This:

- Arrogance produces ignorance but humility releases grace!

*You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God. Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning? They say that God is passionate that the spirit he has placed within us should be faithful to him. And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.*

*James 4:4-7 (NLT)*

### Jesus Did Two Things For Them:

#### 1. He offers them hope.

*But after I am raised from the dead, I will go ahead of you to Galilee and meet you there."*

*Mark 14:28 (NLT)*

#### 2. He offers them a way through.

*Then, accompanied by the disciples, Jesus left the upstairs room and went as usual to the Mount of Olives. **There he told them, "Pray that you will not give in to temptation."***

*Luke 22:39-40 (NLT)*

### How do you withstand the test?

- You need to pray!