



## **Sermon Outline: God Never Fails a Test Malachi 3:10** by Gerald Cowan

*All Scriptures and comments are based on the **New King James Version**, unless otherwise noted.*

### **INTRODUCTION:**

1. We are not to tempt God or put Him on trial.
2. But when we test Him by His word we will find he is always faithful and true – **He never fails the test.**

### **DISCUSSION:**

- I. God invites and encourages His people to test and prove him, and He declares He will always be found faithful.**

#### **A. Malachi 3:10 —**

God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good? (**Numbers 23:19**)

#### **B. Romans 12:2**

#### **C. 1 Corinthians 10:13 cf 1 Corinthians 1:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:3**

- II. Some are apparently afraid to "prove" God.**

**A. They may be afraid He will fail the test and be "too small."**

**B. They may fear they might be refused and rejected by the Lord, though He says they will not be. John 6:37; Romans 9:33.**

- III. Some do not test Him because they are afraid they will find that He is what He claims to be.**

**A. If His words are true, they will be forced to believe something they would rather not believe, something that makes them afraid of Him.**

**B. "And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus" (**Philippians 4:19**).**

**IV. One woman's example of faith in "touching Jesus." Mark 5:25-34, Luke 8:43-48.**

- A.** She is **typical of human pain and suffering**, and of incurable disease.
- B.** She is **typical of human despair**, no hope of cure by ordinary means.
- C.** She is **typical of the hope that comes when one hears about Jesus** and reaches out to him.
- D.** She is **typical of the wonder that comes when Jesus reaches back** to one who is seeking him.
- E.** **Do you suppose Jesus publicized the woman's action and his response in order to encourage others to reach out to him too?**

**V. Does the Lord God ever fail? Can He fail? Sometimes it seems so because many prayer requests are not granted by God.**

- A.** **In general, you will not receive if you do not ask or if you ask without faith or with wrong motives. James 1:6; 4:3**
- B.** **Any request that is contrary to God's stipulated will cannot be granted by God. 1 John 5:14-15.**

**CONCLUSION:**

1. Failure to receive from God may be because we have neglected or refused to meet God's conditions, or
2. Have failed to establish a proper relationship with Him through Jesus Christ (**Acts 10:34-35, Matthew 6:33, Romans 6:17**).
3. **If God's will is accepted He must and will do what He promises.**

— Gerald Cowan, 2/22/2009, Dongola, IL, Sermon Notes & Summaries