NOVEMBER 27, 2026

THE WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE: PROVING OF THE HEART

Text: DEUTERONOMY 8:2-3

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

NEW TESTAMENT PLAN

Matthew 17-18

1 YEAR PLAN

~~Zephaniah 1-2~~

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When the children of Israel left Egypt, God was taking them to the Promised Land. However, He led them through the wilderness. The wilderness was not their destination, but it was an important part of their journey. Deuteronomy 8:2 tells us that God led them through the wilderness for forty years to humble them and prove them, to see what was in their hearts and whether they would obey Him.

God was not tempting them to do evil. He was proving their hearts. Their hunger, thirst and difficult experiences revealed what was inside them. When there was no food, would they trust God? When there was no water, would they remain faithful? When Moses delayed on the mountain, would they wait on God or turn to other gods? The wilderness revealed the true state of their hearts.

This is also an important part of our walk with God. As long as we are journeying with Him, we will experience seasons that feel like the wilderness. These seasons are not necessarily because God wants us to suffer or has abandoned us. Rather, they are times when He deals with our hearts and helps our souls become like Christ.

God is not only interested in where we are going; He is also interested in who we become along the way. Our reactions to pressure, delays, correction and difficult situations reveal what is in our hearts. The wilderness brings these things out so that God can work on us. In John 14:30, Jesus said, "For the prince of this world cometh, and hath nothing in me." What a testimony! The enemy could come, but he found nothing in Jesus that belonged to his nature. This is the kind of life God wants us to grow into.

Even Jesus was led into the wilderness, where He was tempted by the devil. Yet, He remained obedient and stood firmly on God's Word. This shows us that the wilderness is not a sign of failure. It can be a place where our faith and obedience are strengthened.

Therefore, the goal is not just to come out of the wilderness but to come out changed. God wants our souls to reflect Christ more and more. The wilderness is part of the process of becoming who He has called us to be.

Further reading: Exodus 16:1-4 Matthew 4:1-11 Romans 8:28-29



Prayers:

Father, help me to grow through every season and become more like Christ. Amen.

Confession:

My heart is yielded to God. I am growing in Christ, and remain faithful in every season. The enemy will find nothing of his own in me. So help me God.



Song suggestion: Follow your Way - Cleft Music