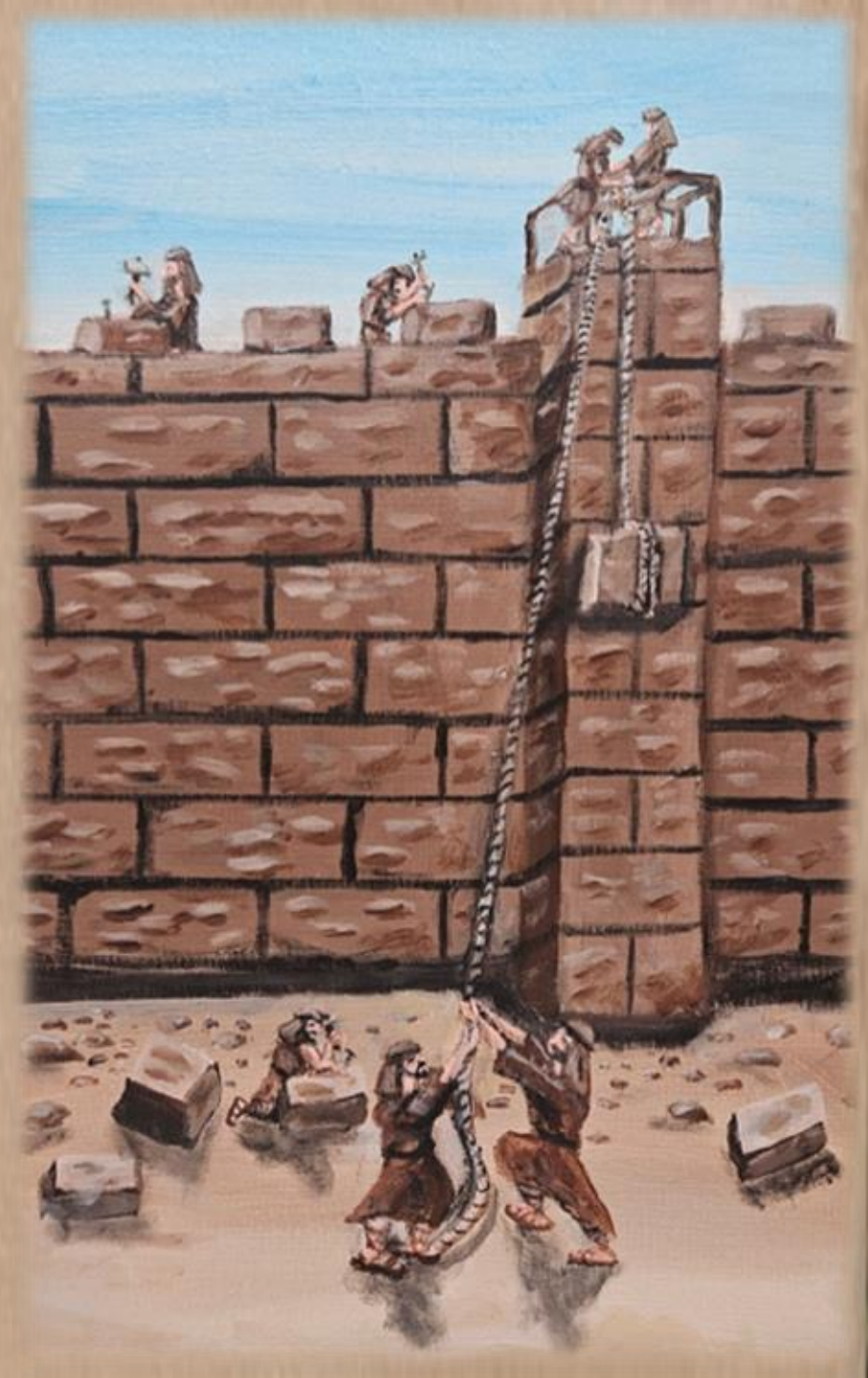


BUILD

Let us rise up and build.

For we are God's fellow workers.

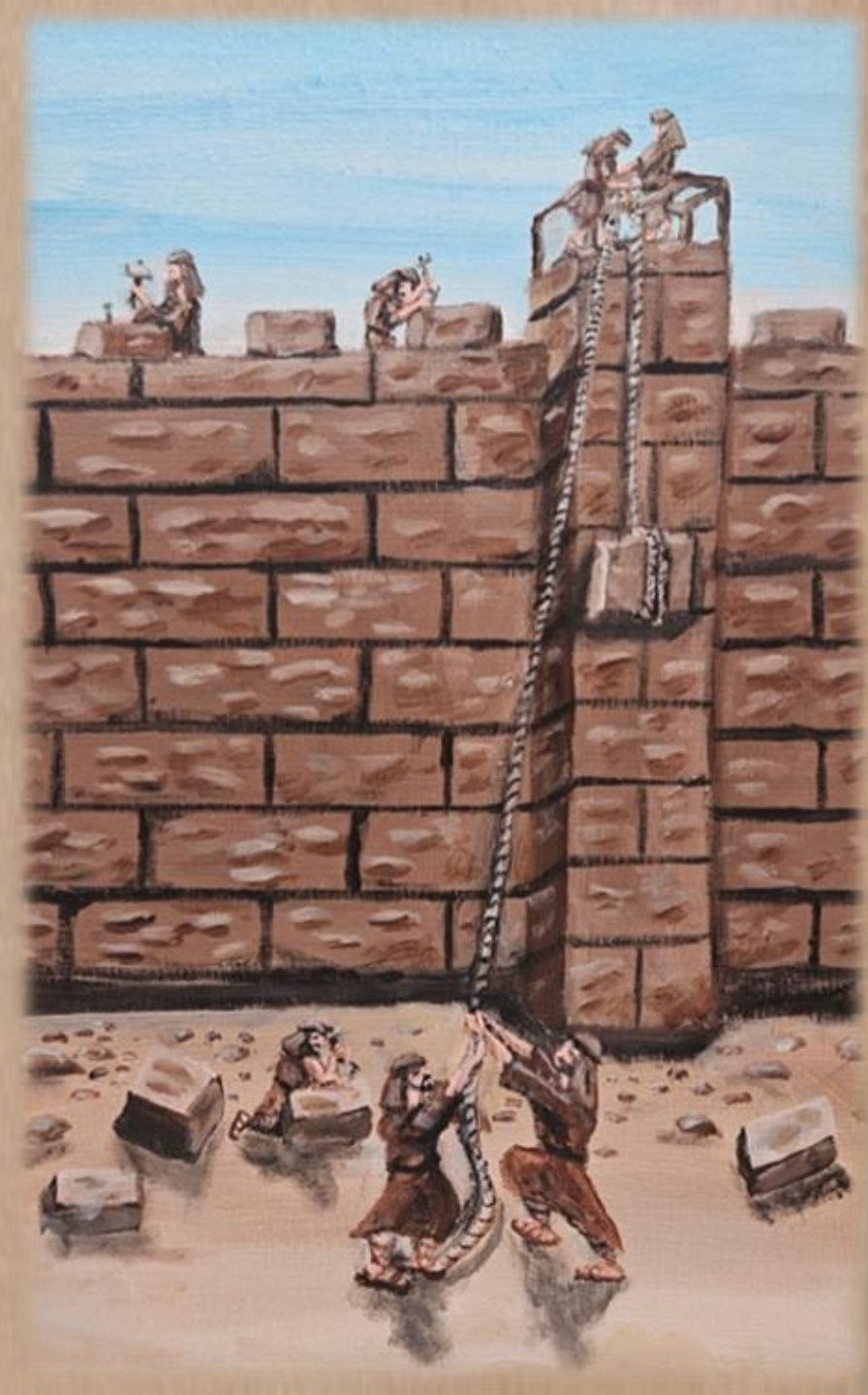
Nehemiah 2:18 – 1 Corinthians 3:9



1st Timothy

3: 8-13

or, Tested and Proven Blameless



1st Timothy 3: 8-13

Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹ They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. ¹¹ Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things.

1st Timothy 3: 8-13

¹² Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ¹³ For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

Our Sermon Text Questions

- How is a deacon candidate tested?
- Will other Christians be tested? Or only deacon candidates?
- How can a person be tested yet found blameless?
- What is it about deacons that enable them to hold the mystery of the faith in good conscience? Why is this standard, which seems like it ought to apply to all believers, tucked right in here in the standards for deacons?
- Why are there standards for deacon's wives and about deacon's children?

1st Timothy 3:10

And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless.

“Tested”

And let them also be **Dokimazesthōsan /**

δοκιμαζέσθωσαν first; then let them serve as deacons
if they prove themselves blameless.

Hebrews 5:7

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence.

Phil's 7 Trial Takeaways

- God sees the storm. But comfort yourself in the sovereignty of God. This test is a challenge to you, but it's no challenge to God.
- This is a trial. But God has a good purpose. Your Father in heaven loves you, and the Lord is good.
- You are being challenged during this test. But you will shine for God's glory all the more, if you pass the test. Whether or not you pass this test is largely up to you. But the Lord thinks you are ready to take this test.

Phil's 7 Trial Takeaways

- What spiritual supplies you need for this test, the Holy Spirit has already made available to you. If you already had the physical supplies you need for this test, you would not grow during this test. That's why this test seems so big to you.
- Remember the Lord's faithfulness. You have been challenged before, and the Lord was always faithful. He will never leave you nor forsake you. He will not leave us as orphans.

Phil's 7 Trial Takeaways

- It's not wrong to ask God if you took a wrong turn somewhere. Don't wait too long for an answer, but it's not wrong to ask. But this is key: if what you're feeling in response to that question is condemnation, that condemnation is not from the Lord. God does not speak in condemnation to the justified.
- It's easy to grow weary during a trial. But if you put on the garment of praise, the spirit of heaviness will depart. Keep your eyes on Jesus, not the storm.

1st Timothy

3:8-13

or, Tested and Proven Blameless

