

## PASSING THE TWELVE TESTS OF ABUNDANCE

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The Bible promises that God wants to bless you with abundance. John 10:10 tells us that the purpose for Jesus coming to our world was so that we would “have life” and “have it *more abundantly*.” God has abundance waiting for you, but He’s an investor and He wants to invest wealth into the hands of people who will use it wisely and who will produce fruit. *You and I are required by God to endure tests before we receive our blessings.* I’m thankful that God doesn’t allow me to get everything I’m supposed to have right now, because I wouldn’t be ready to manage all of it. I need to go through some tests so that *my heart is right* and *my mind is right*. If these two things are right, then my actions will produce good things I believe God wants to work in your life the same way.

When you understand the twelve tests of abundance, and you act on them, you will produce fruit in your life, and they will qualify you for promotion with God. If you fail any of them, you will find yourself taking the test again. Sometimes God has us taking a test ten times, but eventually we get it. *What a feeling it is to finally pass a test you’ve been working on for a long time!*

### **Test Four: the Jones Test** – *Can you overcome social pressure to spend money?*

We all face peer pressure in one form or another. There’s an invisible, unspoken rule that comes from the image of successful Americans that is portrayed by those on television and in the movies. It says that in order to be successful, you need to own certain things – nice houses, expensive cars, jewelry, stylish clothes, etc. This is the pattern of the world. But the Bible tells us *not to conform to the world*. Romans 12:2 says “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind.”

We need to continually ask ourselves: Do we care more about how many cars we have, how many TVs we have, and how many vacations we take or more about what God thinks about us? Do we yearn to please our own flesh or to please God? Do we care about other people’s opinions more than we care about what God thinks about us?

Proverbs 13:7 tells the story of two different people – one who follows foolishness and another who follows wisdom: “One man pretends to be rich,

yet has nothing; another pretends to be poor, yet has great wealth.” The next time you feel the pressure to buy something because you’re the only one in the neighborhood or the family that hasn’t done so yet, you need to ask yourself this question: Which is better? To have *a little money and live in peace* or to have *a lot of borrowed money and live with the trouble that can come with making payments*? Proverbs 15:16 says: “Better *is a little with the fear of the LORD*, than **great treasure with trouble**.”

Always remember that your earthly possessions have no eternal value, but pure obedience to God yields abundance on earth and more importantly, eternal treasures in Heaven.

*Taken from “Stores of Wealth: Spiritual Principles for Success with Money”  
– a three-part financial series by Jon Oral Nash.*

***Product Description:*** Pastor Jon Oral Nash shares 3 sessions that will completely transform the way you manage money! Discover how to overcome seasons of famine in your finances, how to pass the major tests you encounter with money, and five important keys that will unlock free cash in your budget. If you're trying to get your financial house in order, you need to hear this teaching!

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