

# The Test of Love

by Mary Wilder Tileston

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*The test of love is not feeling, but obedience, and it's through obedience that we show our willingness to follow God's will.*

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 8:6, 1 Samuel 15:22, Psalm 119:60, Luke 17:14, John 14:15, Romans 6:16, Hebrews 5:9, James 1:22, 1 John 5:3

**Topics:** "Obedience To God", "Love And Faith"

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## Description

Mary Wilder Tileston emphasizes the importance of obedience to God's commandments, highlighting that regardless of our feelings or enjoyment, we are called to obey God's will for His sake. She encourages stepping out in obedience, trusting that God will provide the necessary disposition along the way. Tileston stresses that obedience is the test of love towards God, not just a matter of emotions, and that striving for good behavior leads to God granting good feelings as a gift.

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## Transcript

Thou shalt keep the commandments of the Lord thy God, to walk in His ways.

DEUTERONOMY 8:6

And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

LUKE 17:14

GOD calls us to duty, and the only right answer is obedience. If it can be glad and willing and loving obedience, happy are we; but, in any case, whether we ourselves get enjoyment and blessing from the task or not, the call must be obeyed. The will of God must be done for the sake of God, not for the sake of ourselves. Undertake the duty, and step by step God will provide the disposition. We can at least obey. Ideal obedience includes the whole will and the whole heart. We cannot begin with that. But we can begin with what we have. God calls. It is better to obey blunderingly than not to obey at all.

GEORGE HODGES

The test of love is not feeling, but obedience.

WILLIAM BERNARD ULLATHORNE

If one fights for good behavior, God makes one a present of the good feelings.

JULIANA H. EWING

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