

## Tests of Life

*Enter not into the path of the wicked, and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away.—Proverbs 4:14-15*

As a Christian we need to make a commitment to live permanently in God's way. This is not necessarily the easy road or the popular one. It definitely is not free from temptation. We may be troubled and lose sleep as we struggle over a commitment to follow what we know is right.

When faced with temptation, we can be assured that God will provide a way for us if we stay true to what the Bible teaches. Often we are pulled away from the path of righteousness by our own lusts. We are enticed by the evil.

Solomon warns in Proverbs 4:15 to avoid the way of the wicked. Not to get too close. I hear many say "I can do this without sinning. I know my limits." When we were at the Grand Canyon, my husband told me to get away from the edge. I was right on the precipice because I wanted to see down the cliff. He was right. Why go so close to the edge that I put myself in harm's way. The same goes for the Christian life. "Don't get so close to sin that you might slip and fall. The Bible says to "*Flee from it.*"

Verses 19 and 20 of this Proverb make it clear that God has given us a better way. When we disregard that we make a choice to follow the will of the evil one and spurn God.

*But the path of the just is as the shining light, that shineth more and more unto the perfect day. The way of the wicked is as darkness: they know not at what they stumble.*