

Tested Strings

A talented violinist was scheduled to play before a very critical audience. Although she had a fine instrument, she was not satisfied with the quality of its sound.

So she said to her father, "This violin must yield its full resonance and vibration of tone. I'm going out to buy some tested strings."

When asked what tested strings were, she replied, "First they're put on a rack and stretched and strained to take all the vacillation out of them. Then they are hammered and put through an acid test. This is what enables them to produce a perfect and full tone."

When she attached the tested strings and tuned the instrument, the music was noticeably warmer and richer than before.

If our lives are going to produce beautiful music for the Lord, testing is imperative. Although we won't enjoy the stretch, the strain and the stress, what God-honoring results they can produce.

After all, the trials of life are intended to make us better, not bitter.

You, O God, have tested us; You have refined us as silver is refined. Psalm 66:10

--Beecher Hunter