

**THE
FAITH-REST LIFE
in the
DISPENSATION OF
GRACE**

(Hebrews 4)

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Bible Conference**



Answer the following questions:

- 1) **T or F** Because every believer is accepted in Christ, all that they now do is met with approval by God.
- 2) **T or F** The confession of daily sins (1 John 1:9) is the key to fellowship with God.
- 3) **T or F** The Christian life involves doing your best for Jesus and trusting God to do the rest.
- 4) **T or F** The goal of the Christian life is to learn sound doctrine.
- 5) **T or F** While justification is by grace through faith alone in Christ alone, sanctification is by faith plus works.

- 6) **T or F** Obedience is the key to true spirituality.
- 7) **T or F** While every believer has peace with God, not all believers enjoy daily the peace of God.
- 8) **T or F** You live the Christian life in the very same way that you were initially saved.
- 9) **T or F** The plan of God for the believer involves salvation in 3 phases, stages, or tenses.
- 10) **T or F** God helps those who help themselves.

J. Hudson Taylor

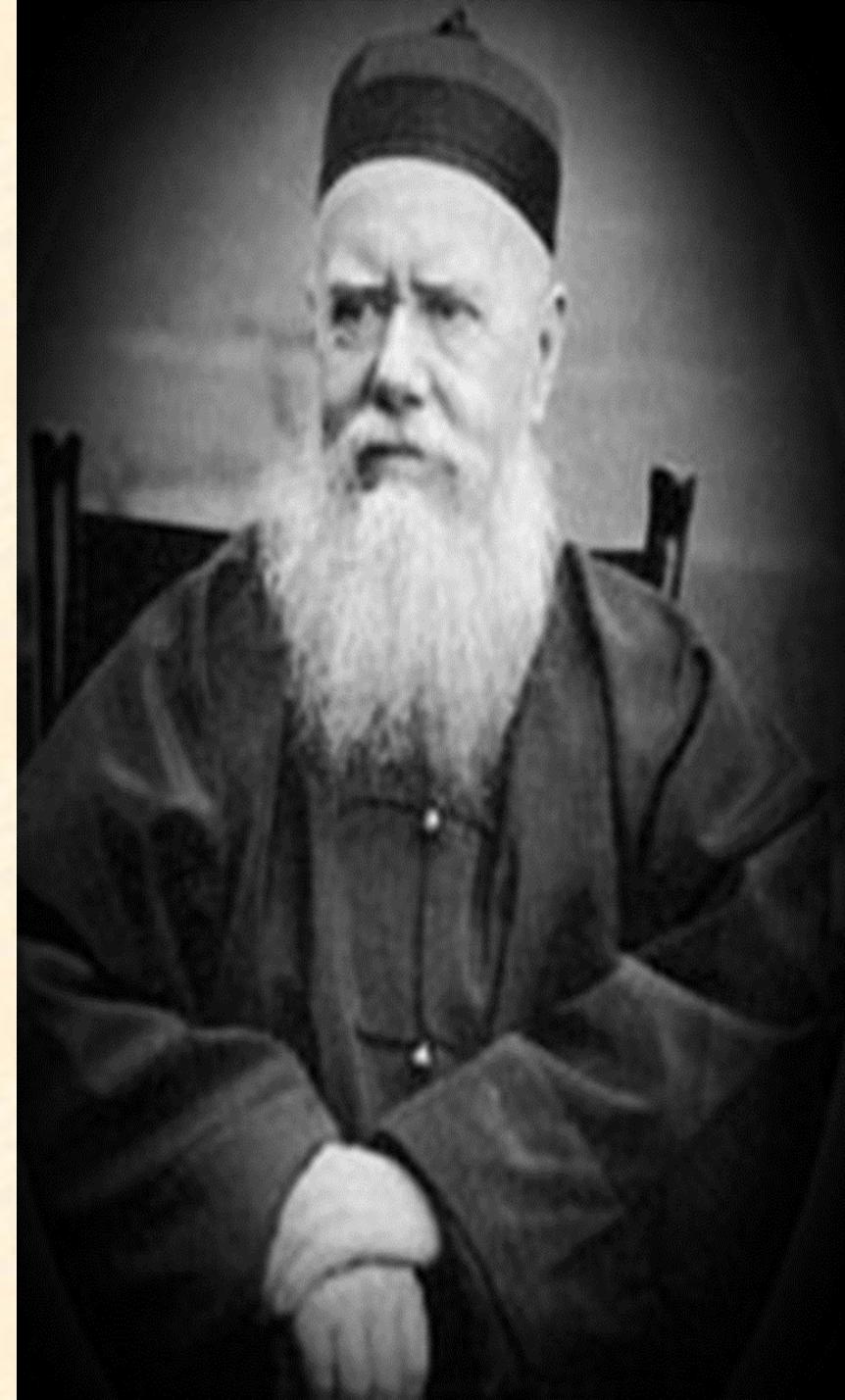
(May 21, 1832 – June 3, 1905)



CHINA INLAND MISSION



The branch of the vine does not worry, and toil, and rush here to seek for sunshine, and there to find rain. **No; it rests in union and communion with the vine; and at the right time, and in the right way, is the right fruit found on it. Let us so abide in the Lord Jesus.** I am no longer anxious about anything, as I realize the Lord is able to carry out His will, and His will is mine. It makes no matter where He places me, or how. That is rather for Him to consider than for me; **for in the easiest positions He must give me His grace, and in the most difficult, His grace is sufficient.**



Many Christians estimate difficulty in the light of their own resources, and thus they attempt very little and they always fail.

All giants have been weak men who did great things for God because they reckoned on His power and presence to be with them.

I used to ask God to help me. Then I asked if I might help Him. **I ended up by asking Him to do His work through me.**

HUDSON TAYLOR'S SPIRITUAL SECRET



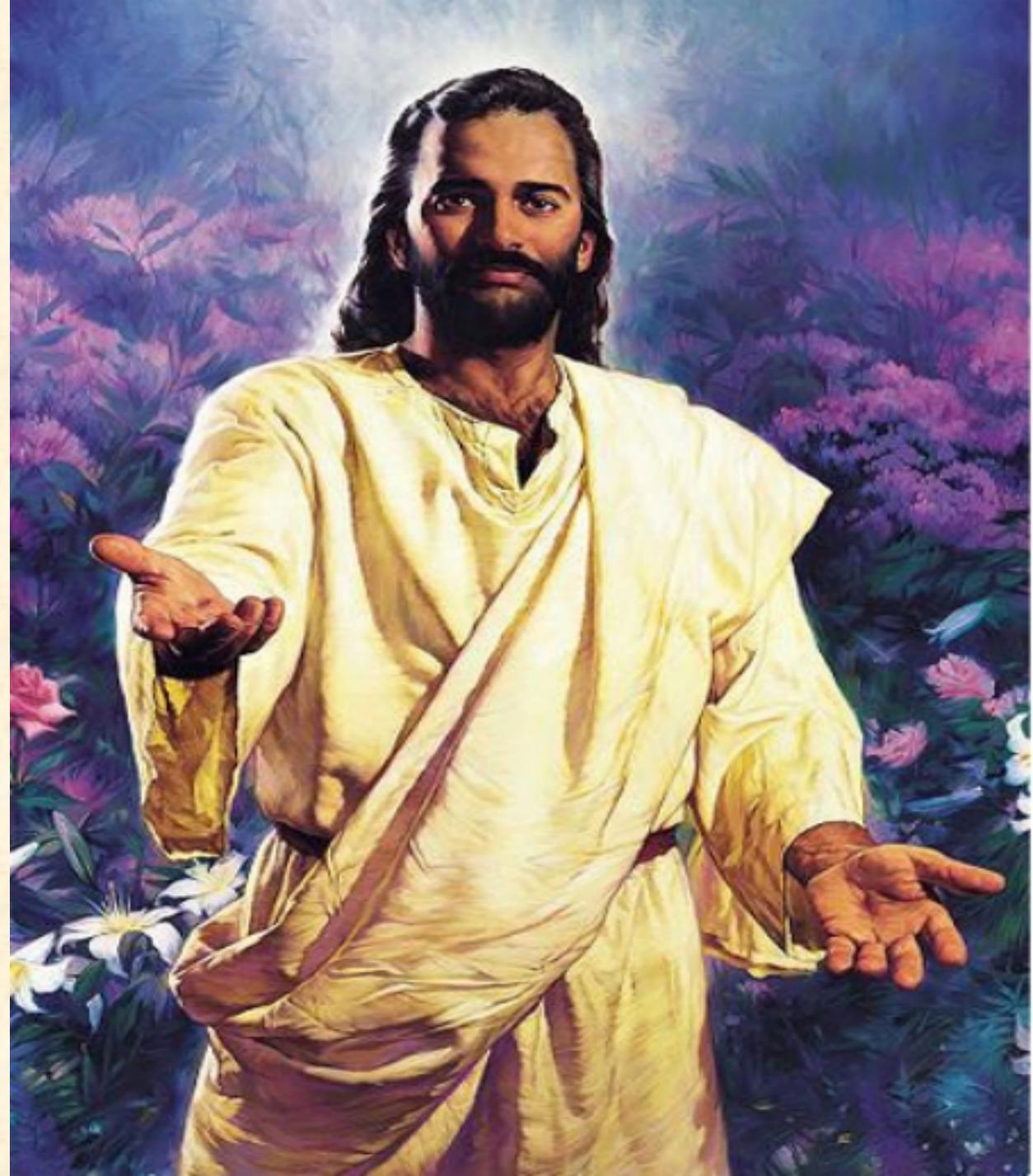
NEW EDITION

Dr. & Mrs. Howard Taylor

Matthew 11:28-30

"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and [#1] **I will give you rest.** 29

"Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and [#2] **you will find rest for your souls.** 30 "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."



- Do we (or those we teach) understand the 2 different “rests” that God is offering to you by His grace? (Matt. 11:28-30)

#1) The rest of SALVATION is through one decision to place your FAITH in JESUS CHRIST alone apart from religious works and traditions. This changes your ETERNAL DESTINY and RELATIONSHIP with God forever. This results in possessing PEACE WITH God.

Peace with God

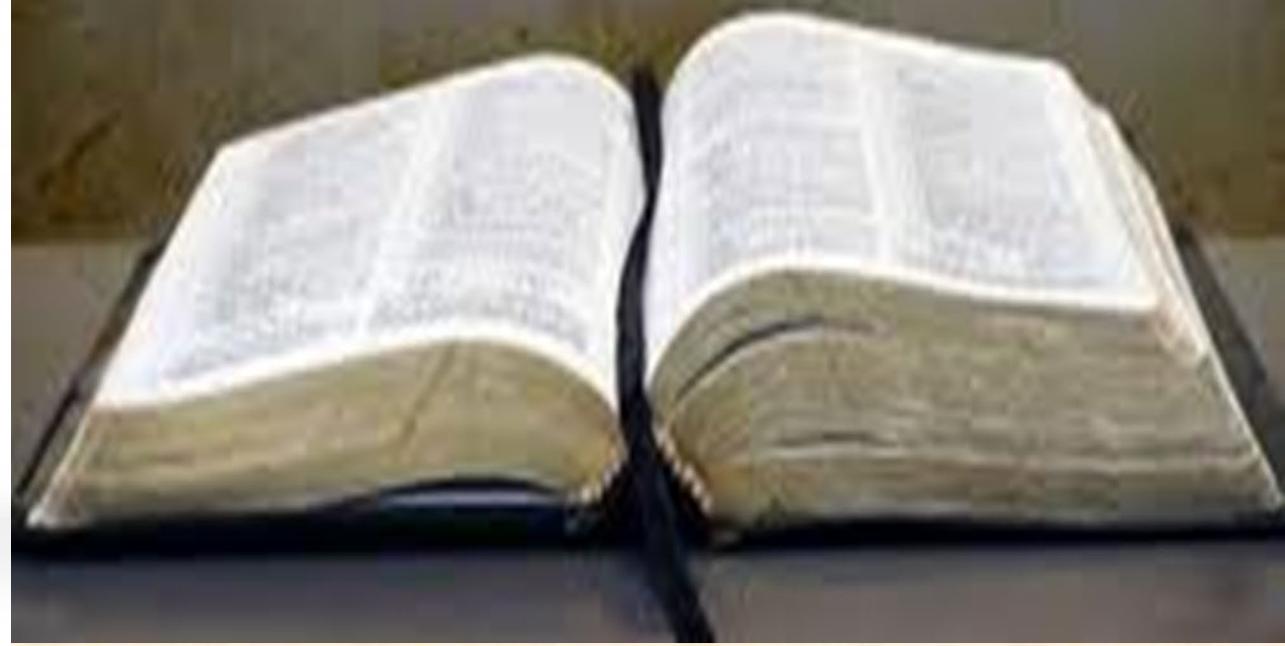
Romans 5:1

"Therefore having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:"

GUILT



For all have sinned and fall
short of the glory of God.
Romans 3:23

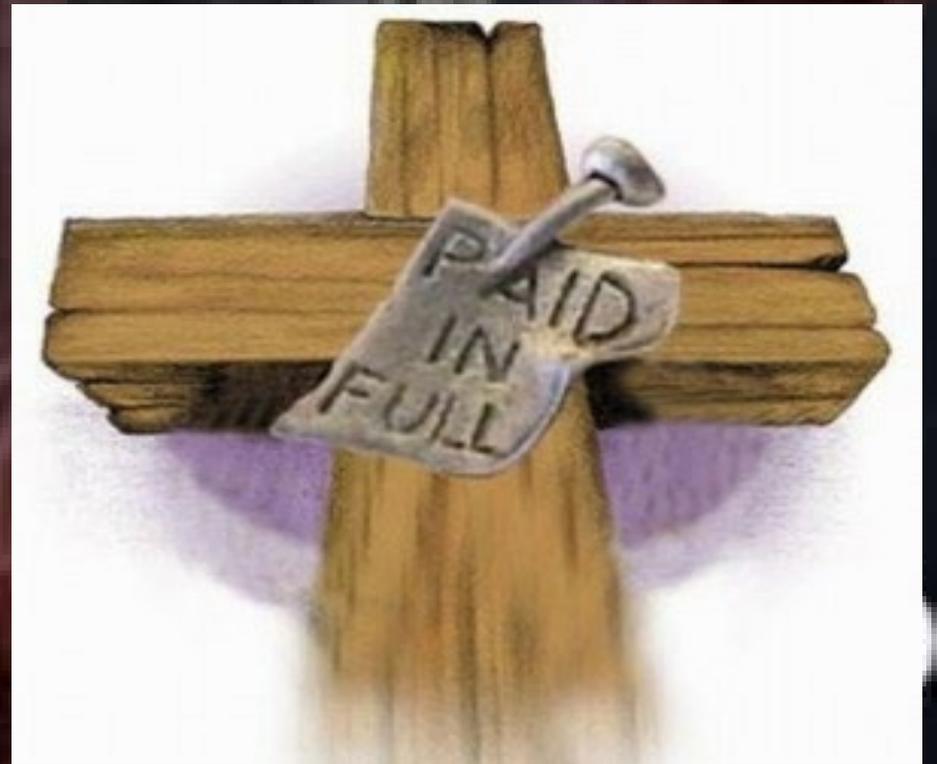


Romans 3:23-25

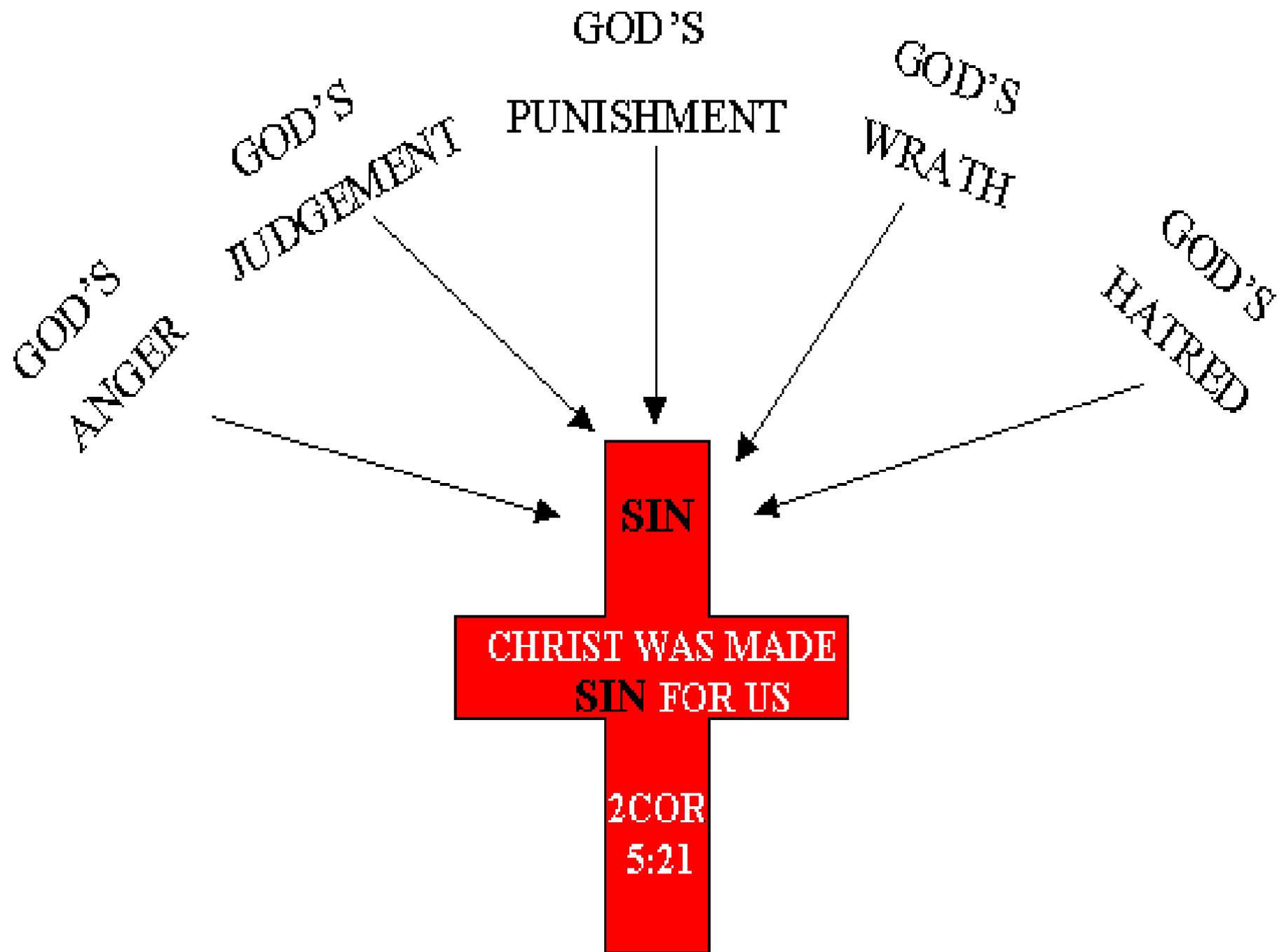
for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,
24 being **justified freely by His grace**
through the **redemption that is in Christ Jesus,**
25 **whom God set forth as a propitiation**
by His blood,
through faith,

Jesus suffered God's wrath
in your place.





JOHN 19:30





Religion says...

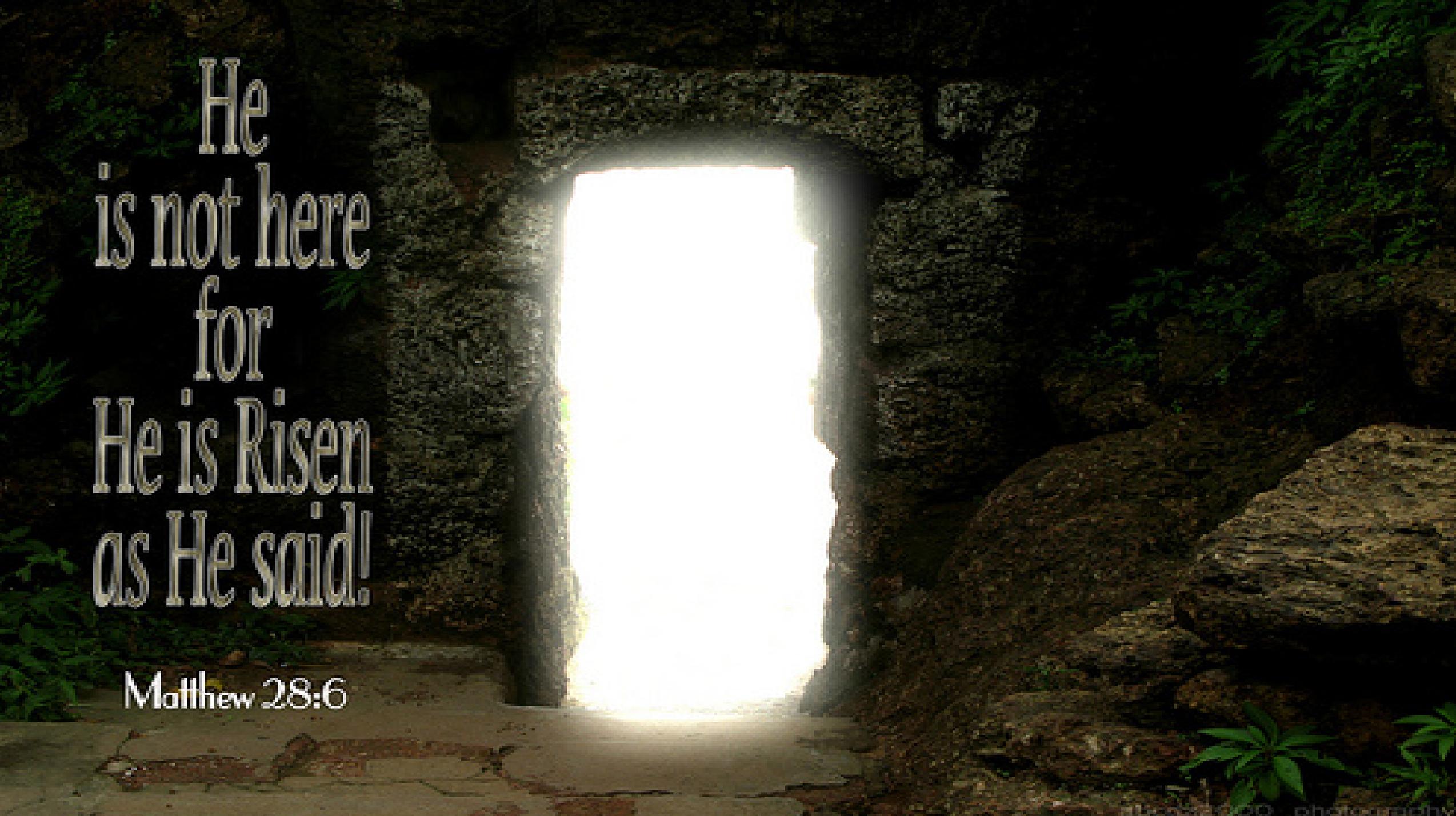


This is salvation by works.

God says...



This is salvation by God's grace.



He
is not here
for
He is Risen
as He said!

Matthew 28:6

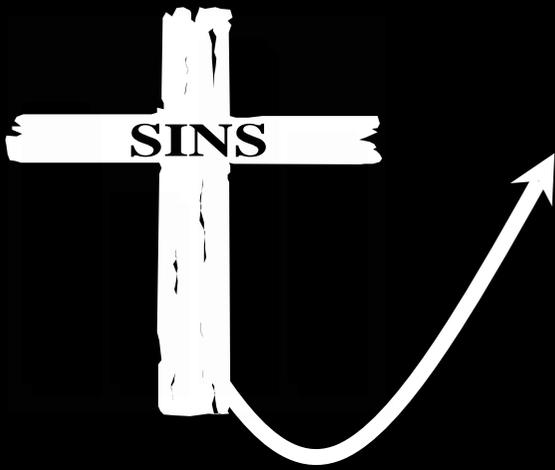
So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved. (Act 16:31)



Galatians 2:21 I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness come by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.



Faith



For by grace you have been
saved through **faith...**



and that
not of yourselves...



it is the **gift** of God...



not of works,
lest anyone should boast.

**Ask Jesus into
Your Heart**

**Water
Baptism**

**Jesus
Christ**

**Repent from
your sins**

Avoid Big Sins

Faith alone in Christ alone = Eternal Life!

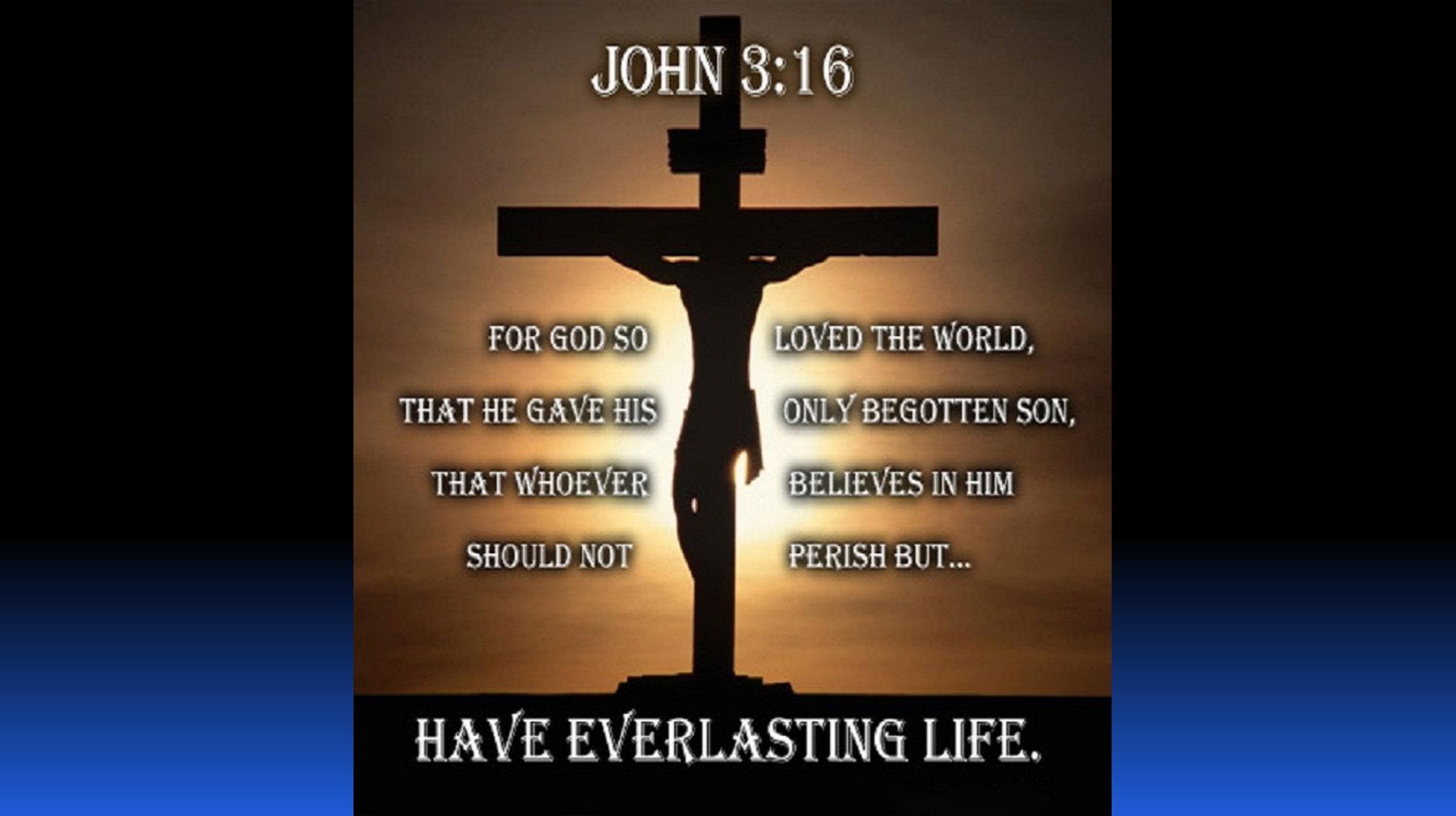
**Ask Jesus into
Your Heart**

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Avoid Big Sins

A large, dark silhouette of a cross is centered in the image. The background behind the cross is a warm, glowing sunset or sunrise, with a gradient from dark blue at the top to bright yellow and orange in the middle, and dark blue at the bottom. The text is overlaid on this background.

JOHN 3:16

FOR GOD SO
THAT HE GAVE HIS
THAT WHOEVER
SHOULD NOT

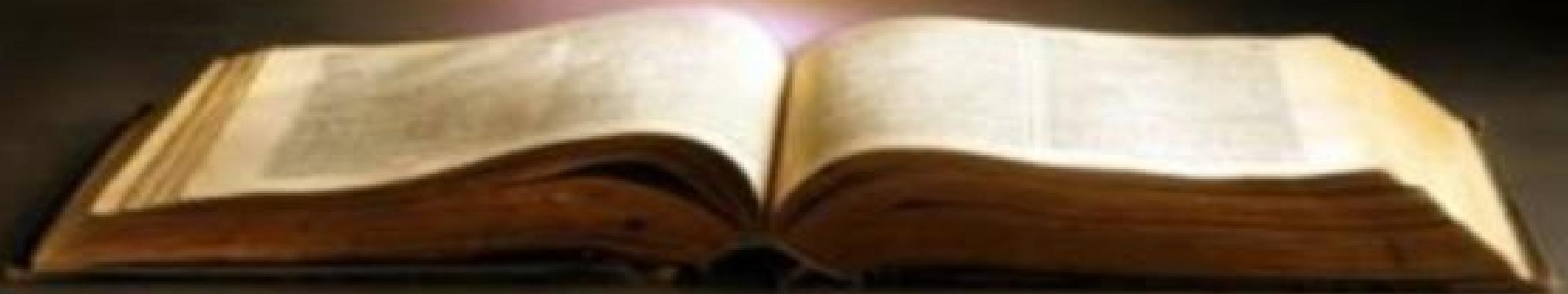
LOVED THE WORLD,
ONLY BEGOTTEN SON,
BELIEVES IN HIM
PERISH BUT...

HAVE EVERLASTING LIFE.

John 3:17-18 "For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.



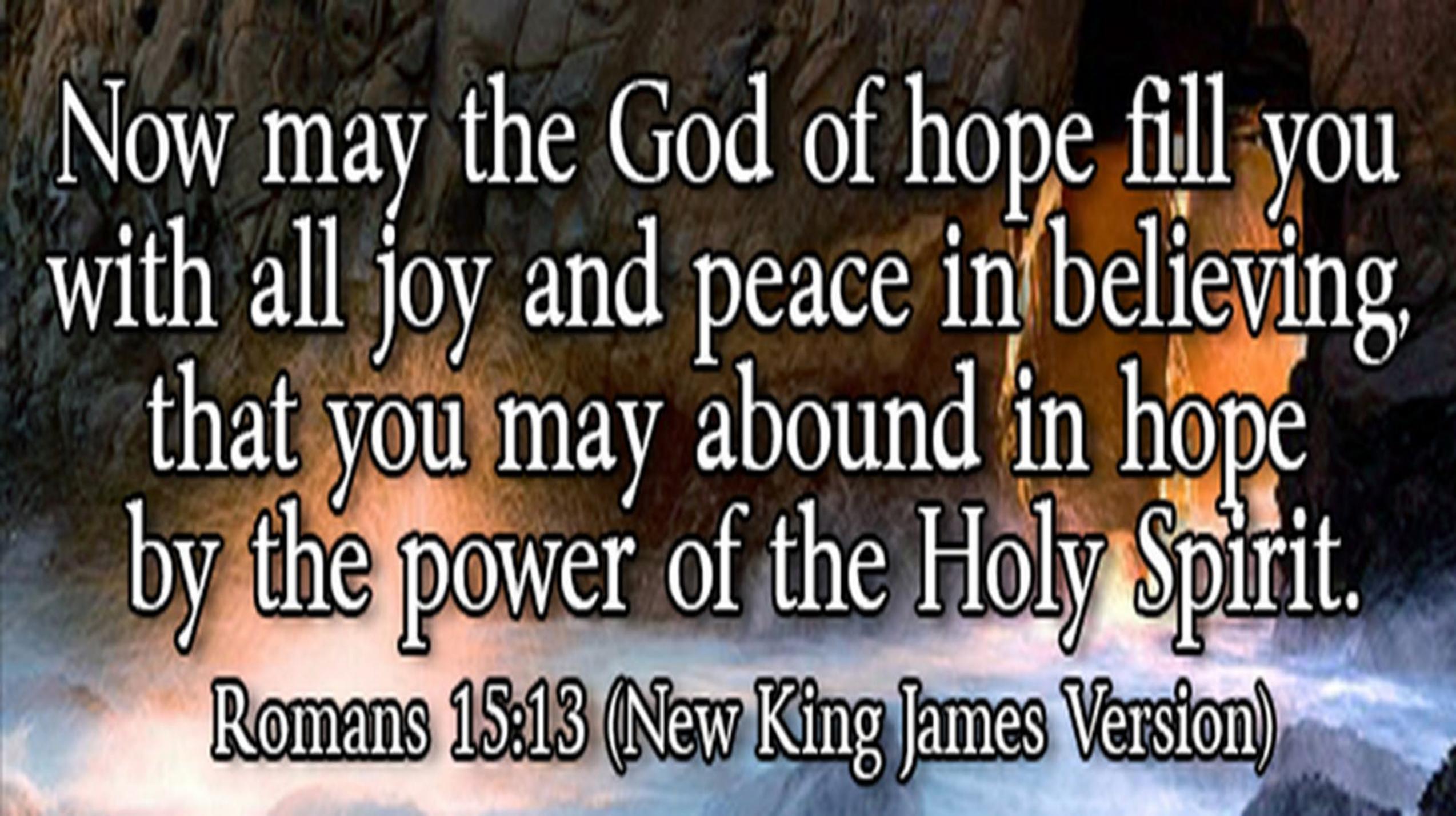
"These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, so that you may **KNOW** that you have eternal life." 1 John 5:13



Matthew 11:28-30

*"Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and [#1] I will give you **rest**. 29 "Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and [#2] you will find **rest** for your souls. 30 "For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."*

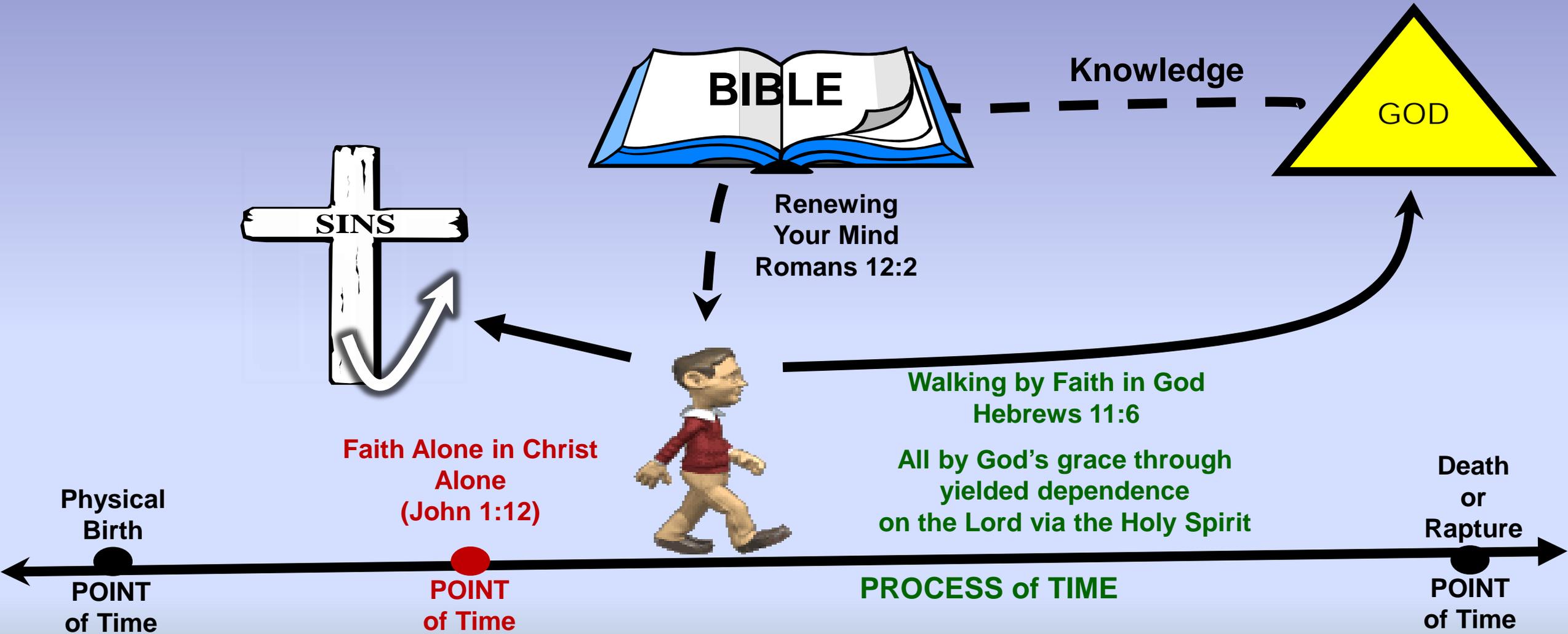
#2) The rest of the FAITH-REST life is through repeated decisions to TRUST the Lord and YIELD to Him moment by moment in your daily issues and trials of life. This transforms you INTERNALLY and affects your FELLOWSHIP with God in time. This results in enjoying the PEACE OF God.

The background of the image is a scenic landscape. It features a wide river valley with a river winding through it. In the distance, there are mountains under a blue sky with some clouds. A waterfall is visible on the right side of the image, cascading down a rocky cliff. The overall tone is bright and natural.

Now may the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace in believing,
that you may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13 (New King James Version)

Walking By Faith



BE ANXIOUS FOR NOTHING,
but in everything by prayer and supplication,
WITH THANKSGIVING,
let your requests be made known to God;
AND THE PEACE OF GOD,
which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and minds
THROUGH CHRIST JESUS.

PHILIPPIANS 4:6, 7 NKJV

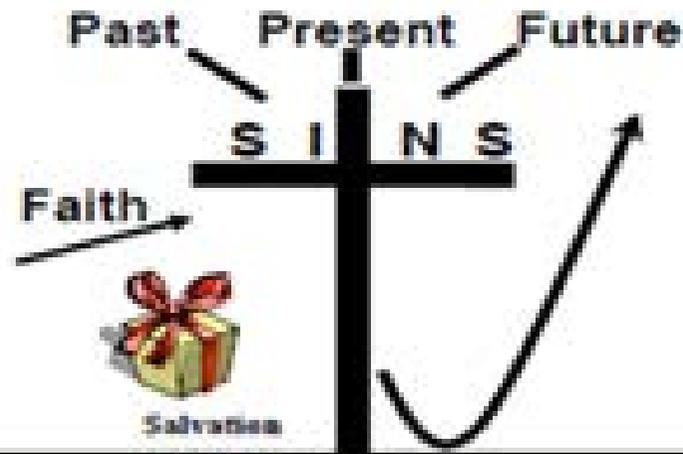


SALVATION BY GRACE

Deliverance in Stages 1, 2, and 3 of Salvation
All Deliverance is by God's Grace Provision

Stage #1 Justification

*Saved from the
the Penalty of sin
(Past Tense)*



Titus 3:5
Ephesians 2:8-10
John 3:17

Stage #2 Sanctification

*Being saved from the
Power of sin
(Present Tense)*



Believer in Time

1 Timothy 4:16
James 1:21
Philippians 2:12-13

Stage #3 Glorification

*Will be saved from
Presence of sin
(Future Tense)*



Romans 5:9-10
Romans 13:11
1 Corinthians 3:15

Hebrews 4:1

Therefore,

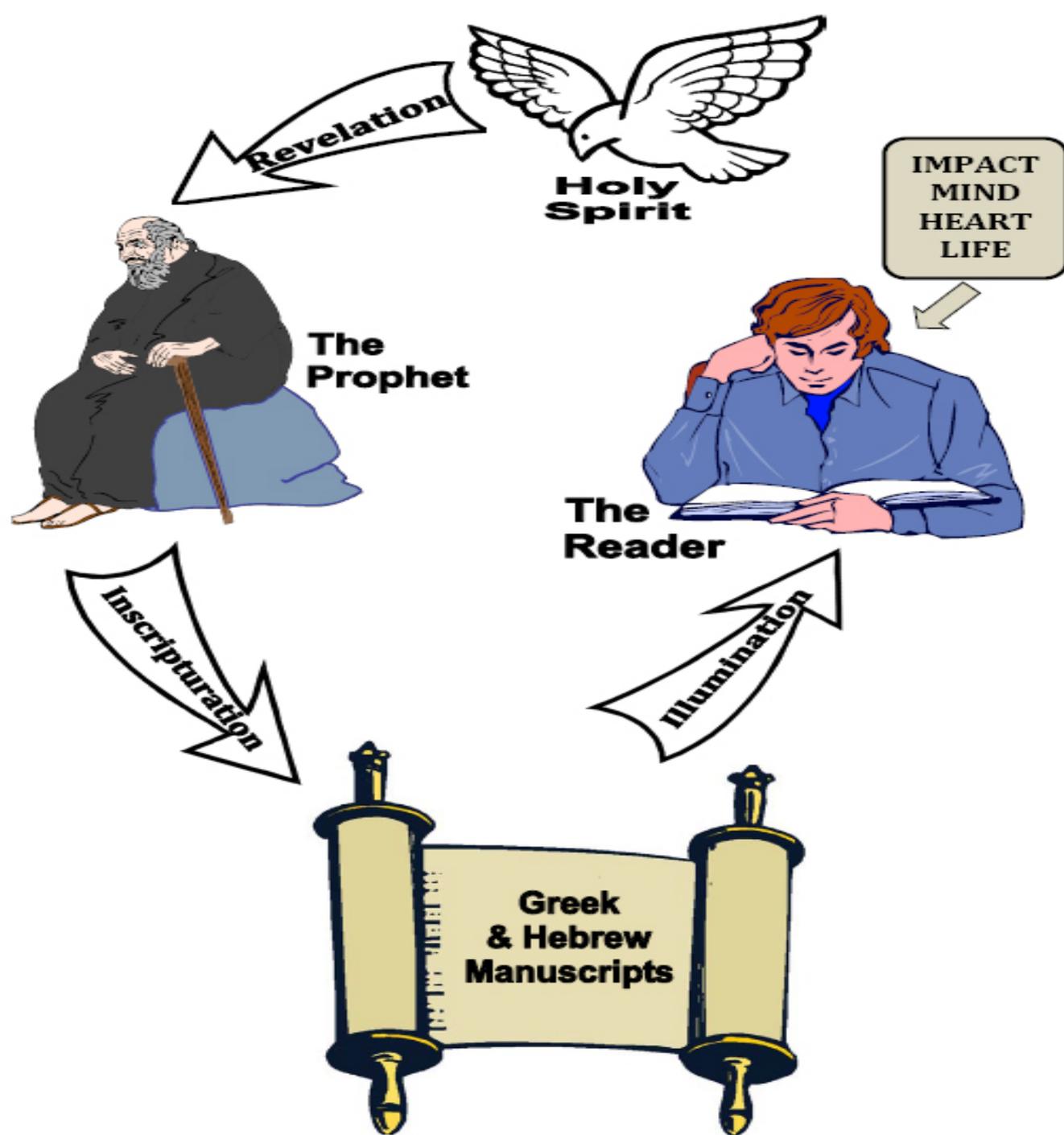
since a promise remains

of entering His rest,

let us fear lest any of you seem to have
come short of it.

A. The CONTEXT of HEBREWS 4.

1. The *writer* of Hebrews is **UNKNOWN**, though ultimately it was the **HOLY SPIRIT**.



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1. The *writer* of Hebrews is UNKNOWN, though ultimately it was the HOLY SPIRIT.

2. The *recipients* of Hebrews were **JEWISH BELIEVERS IN CHRIST**, not the **UNSAVED** (3:1;4:1; 6:1,9; 10:19, 39; 12:1; 13:22).

Hebrews 3:1 Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus,

1. The *writer* of Hebrews is UNKNOWN, though ultimately it was the HOLY SPIRIT.

2. The *recipients* of Hebrews were BELIEVERS IN CHRIST, not the UNSAVED.

3. The *date* of Hebrews is approximately AD 68, while the TEMPLE, and defunct PRIESTHOOD and SACRIFICES were still in existence.

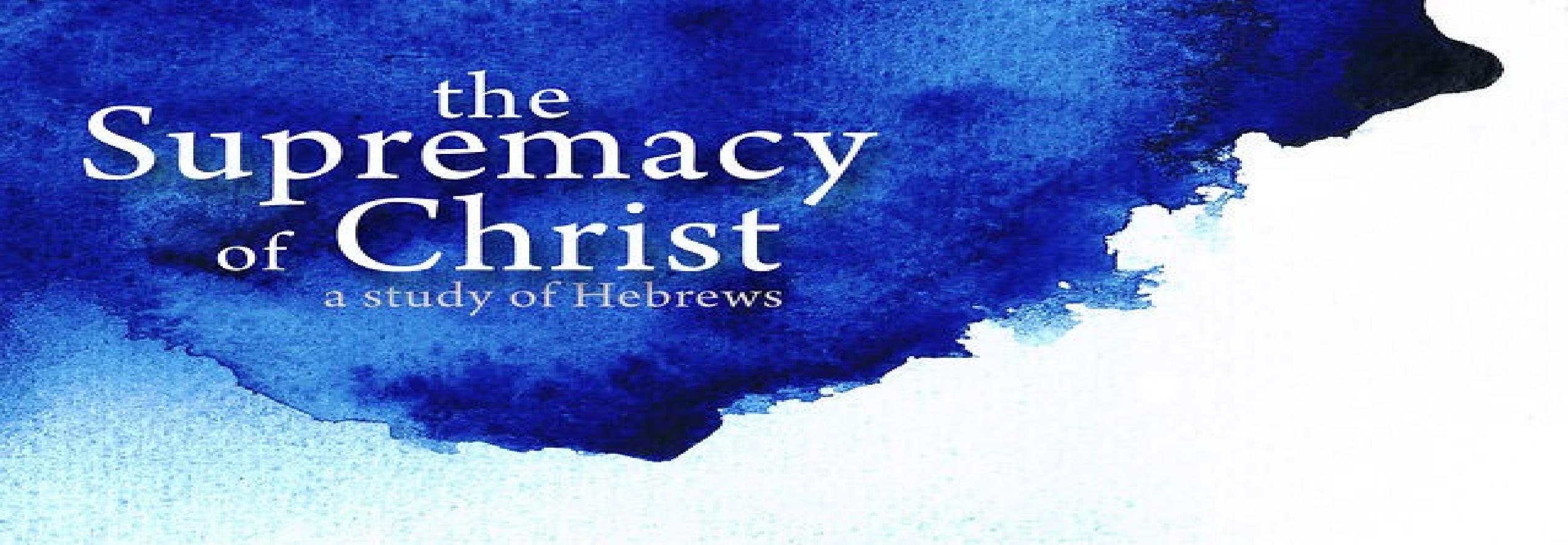


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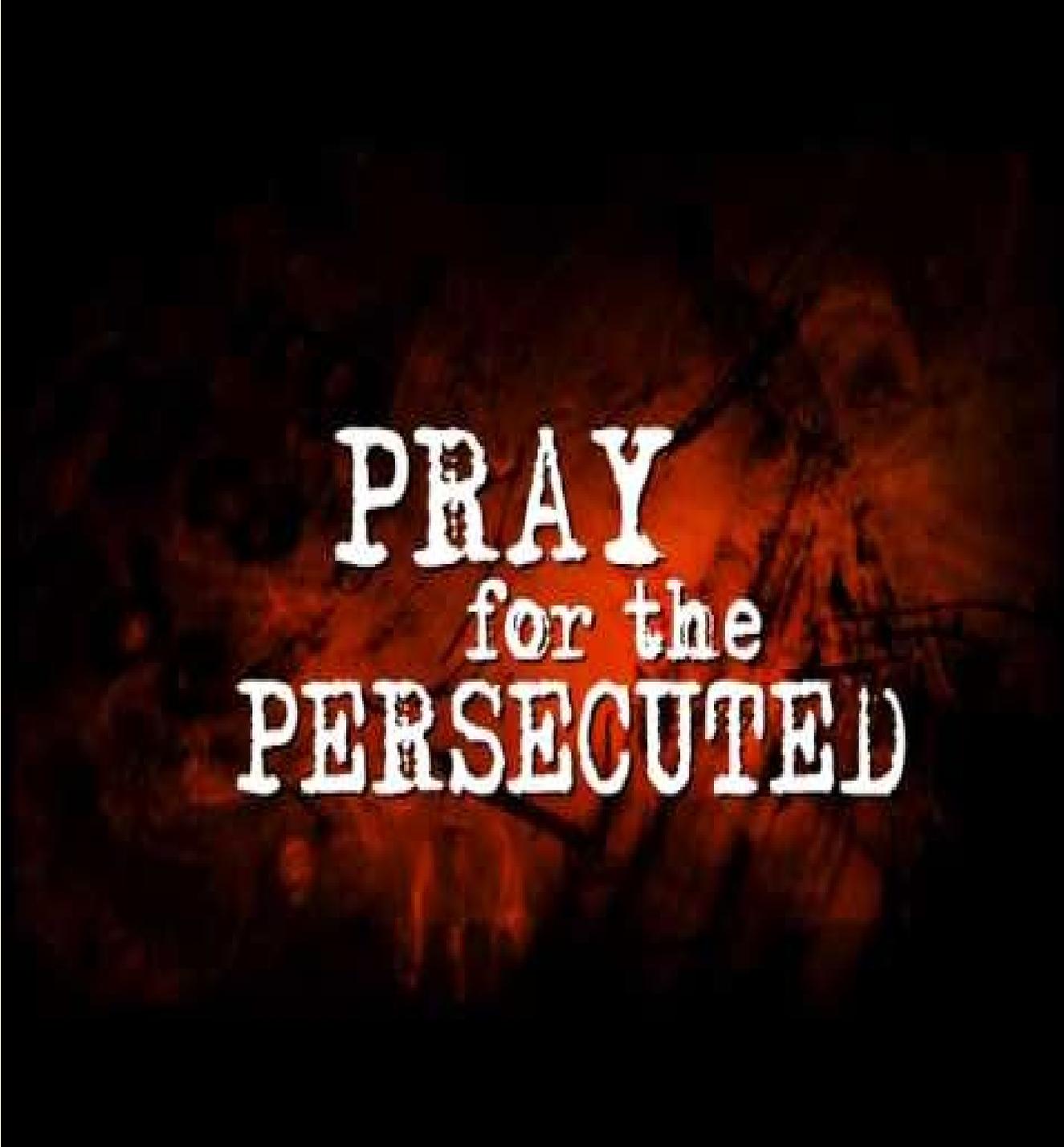
4. The *theme* of Hebrews is **THE SUPREMACY OF JESUS CHRIST. (1:1-3)**

A blue watercolor splash graphic on a white background, with the splash extending from the top left towards the center right.

the
Supremacy
of Christ
a study of Hebrews

The use of the word “better” in the book
of Hebrews: 13x

5. The *problem* being addressed in Hebrews is centered on significant **PRESSURE & PERSECUTION** directed to these believers by the Jewish community and the imminent danger of their **RETURN to RABBINICAL JUDAISM.** (Hebrews 10:32-39; 13:7-14)



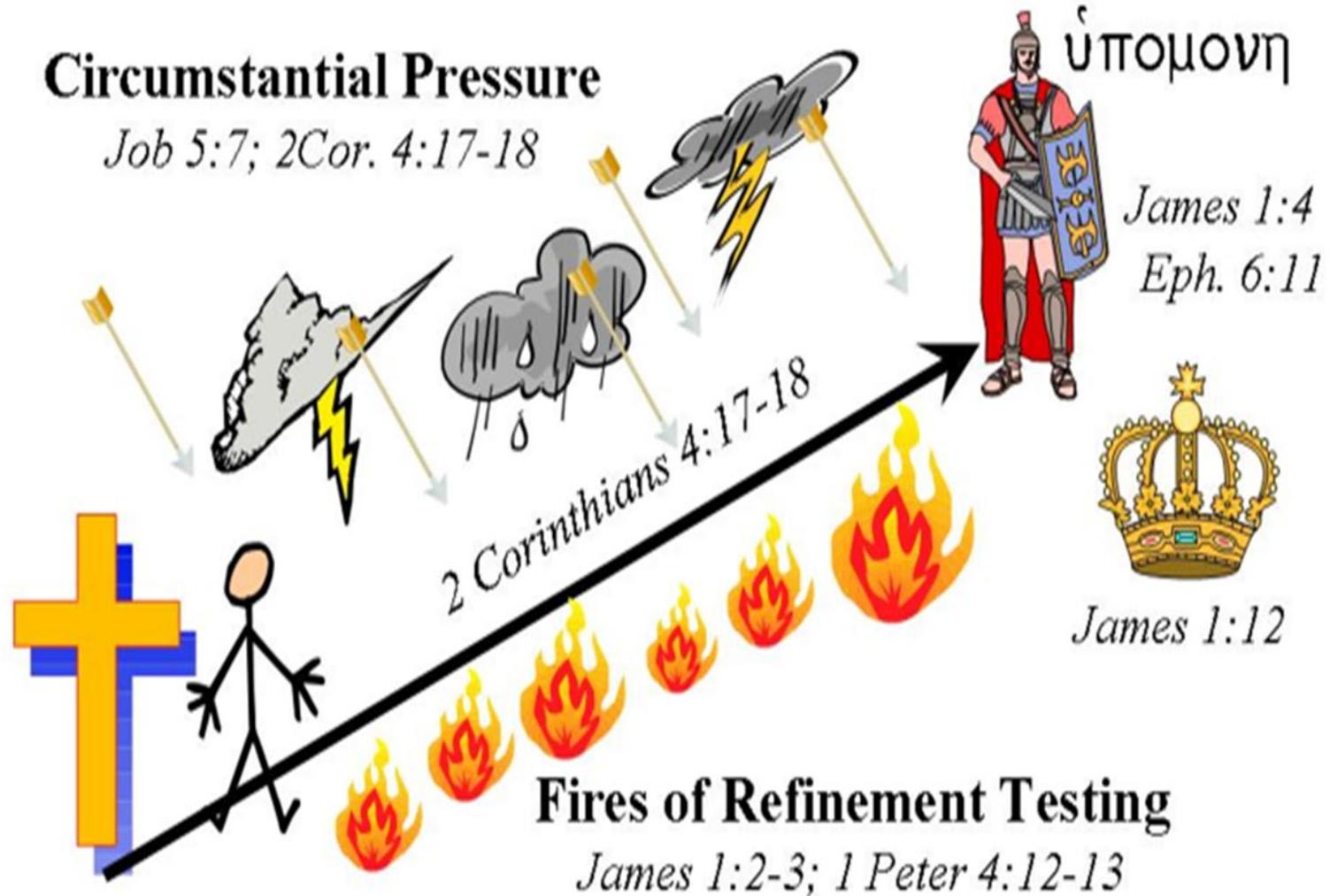
PRAY
for the
PERSECUTED

6. The *purpose* of Hebrews is to demonstrate the **SUPREMACY OF CHRIST** so as to challenge believers to **WALK BY FAITH** and **PERSEVERE** in the face of tremendous pressure to compromise resulting in conditional blessings in time and reward later.

God's Character Development Program

Circumstantial Pressure

Job 5:7; 2Cor. 4:17-18



7. The contrast that is emphasized is the **FAILURE** of the Exodus generation of believers (Hebrews 3) to walk by faith and enter into God's rest (Hebrews 3) and the offer of **FAITH –REST LIFE** to these Hebrew Christians years later (Hebrews 4).

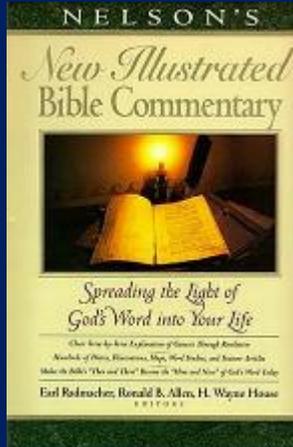


Exodus 14:30-31

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ When Israel saw the great power which the LORD had used against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in His servant Moses.”



Exodus 14:31



“When we read *so the people feared the Lord* and the words that follow, we are meant to understand that the community had come to saving faith and so were a reborn people. They *believed the Lord* (the same wording used of Abraham’s saving faith in Gen. 15:6; read Paul’s comments in Rom. 4)...The people were transformed spiritually even as they were delivered physically.”

A. The **CONTEXT** of HEBREWS 4.

B. The CONTENT of HEBREWS 4.

A dramatic landscape with a person standing on a beach facing a massive, crashing wave under a stormy sky. The text "A LIFE OF FAITH BRINGS REST" is overlaid in large, white, bold letters.

**A LIFE OF FAITH
BRINGS REST**

a. The *subject* of this third warning revolves around the concept of **REST** which is found 11x in Hebrews 3 & 4.

COME UNTO ME, ALL WHO ARE WEARY AND HEAVY-LADEN
AND I WILL GIVE YOU REST
Matthew 11:28



ChristianPhotoshops.com

a. The *subject* of this third warning revolves around the concept of REST.

b. The *meaning* of “rest” involves...CESSATION OF WORK OR LABOR; FREEDOM FROM WORRIES OR ANXIETIES; SENSE OF CONFIDENCE, PEACE, AND INNER STABILITY INVOLVING DEPENDENCE UPON SOMEONE OR SOMETHING.

- **What is this ‘rest’ referring to in this context?**

1) It is not **SALVATION**. {Due to context; they were already believers; also 1 John 5:13; and 2 Tim. 2:13 }

2) It is not **HEAVEN**. {Due to context, and a correct understanding of Canaan land. }

3) It is not the **MILLENNIUM**. {Due to context & that entrance is being offered now, not later. }

4) It is the daily **FAITH-REST LIFE** in which the believer walks by faith in dependence upon God and enjoys inner peace, joy, stability, etc. as the Lord fights His battles and carries His burdens. This is supported by the fact that it is being presently offered to them to be entered today, without waiting for some future time & was available to the Exodus generation, thus nullifying Heaven & the Millennium.

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2. The *meaning* of “rest” involves...

3. The *provider* of this “rest” is GOD. (4:1b)

Hebrews 4:1 Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it.

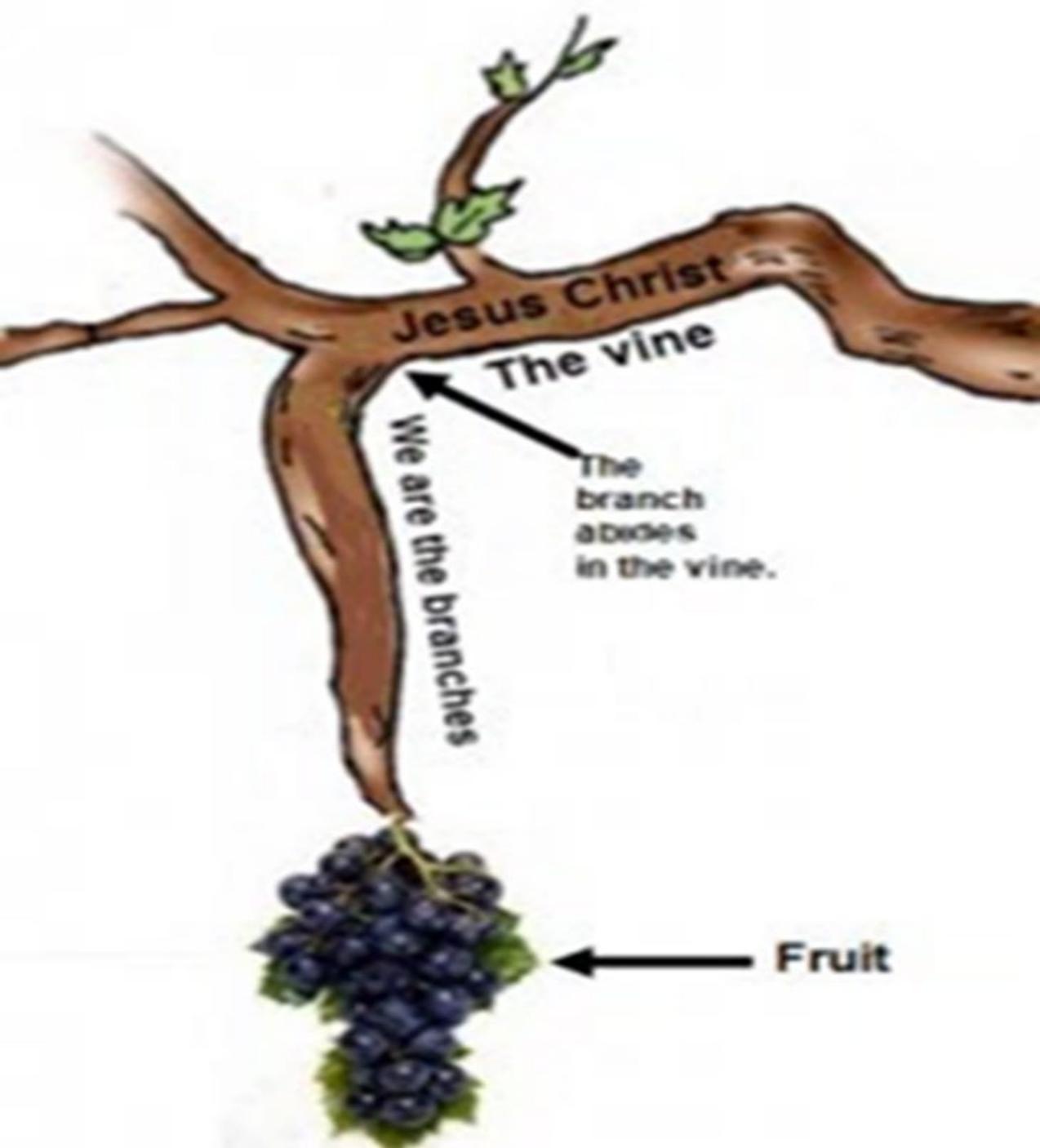
Hebrews 4:10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

- **Why is this important to remember?**

Because just like with our justification before God or positional sanctification, this daily rest and practical sanctification cannot be pumped out or produced by our self-efforts and living by law. We must enter by faith in the Lord.



GRACE
We Just Don't Get It



Legalism is the mental attitude which seeks to earn or merit the blessings of God by religious rituals or good works for either salvation or sanctification.

Years ago, Miles Stanford insightfully penned, *“Our Father knows that we are weakness incarnate; that we can do nothing. The trouble is that we do not know it. He must bring us all to the place where we see that we are utterly weak and helpless.”* Is not this what Paul declared?

2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God,

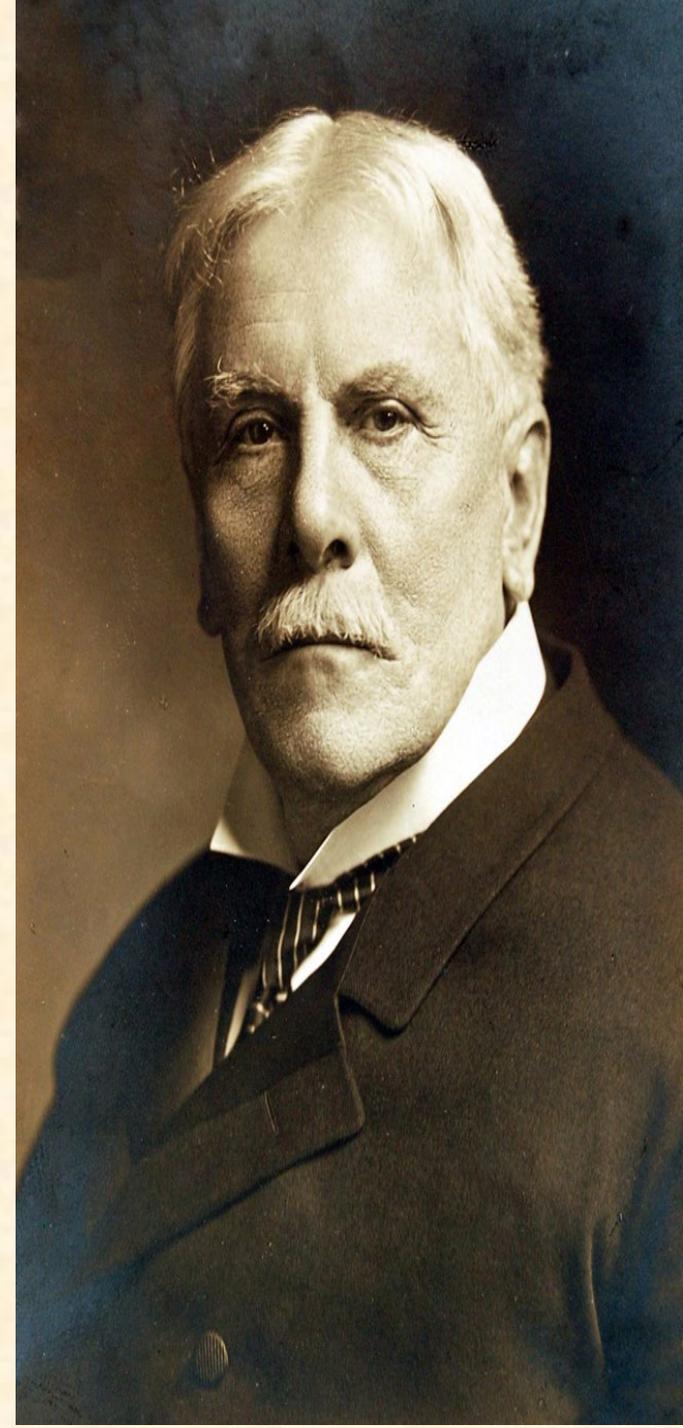
2 Corinthians 12:9-10 And He said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ’s sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

Colossians 2:6-7

As you have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, 7 rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving.

- *Do your best for Jesus.* But is that how you received Jesus Christ?
- *Confess your sins.* But is that what Acts 16:31 states?
- *Wake up and get to work.* What a contrast to Ephesians 2:8-9!
- *Obedience is the key.* Is that what John 3:16 states?
- *Practice the spiritual disciplines.* Romans 4:4-5 destroys that form of legalism.

C.I. Scofield wisely wrote years ago about Paul in Romans 7: *It is a very common mistake to suppose that we could be holy if we wanted to. We think our difficulty lies in bringing the will to act on the side of what God requires, and that if we only put forth sufficient will-power we should enter upon a spiritual life. But here is a man who makes the amazing discovery that the spiritual life is something above the reach of his will at its highest stretch. He cannot grasp spirituality and bring it down into his life by willing to do it. And this was the experience, let us remember, of one of the strongest wills that ever was lodged in a human character. The Apostle Paul was not a weakling; he was endowed with immense will power. (New Life in Christ, p. 18)*



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4. **The *warning* is for us to FEAR a failure to COME SHORT of ENTERING into God’s rest. (4:1c)**

Hebrews 4:1 Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it.

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5. The *ongoing promise and possibility of entering God’s rest* REMAINS for you. (4:1a)
- 6. The *good news of God’s rest* is a message God had and still wants PREACHED to believers in the PRESENT just as in the PAST. (4:2a)**

Hebrews 4:2 For indeed the gospel {of the faith-rest life} was preached to us {1st century Christians} as well as to them {Exodus generation} ; but the word which they {the Exodus generation} heard did not profit them, {why?} not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.

7. The *means of entering God's rest* involves more than HEARING / KNOWING God's Word [as important as that is], but also BELIEVING in God's PERSON, PROMISES and PRINCIPLES. (4:2b; 5:12-14)

Hebrews 4:2 For indeed the gospel [of God's rest] was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.

• What are the opposites of faith-resting in the Lord?

1) **Walking BY SIGHT.** (2 Cor.5:7)

2) **Walking BY FEELINGS.**

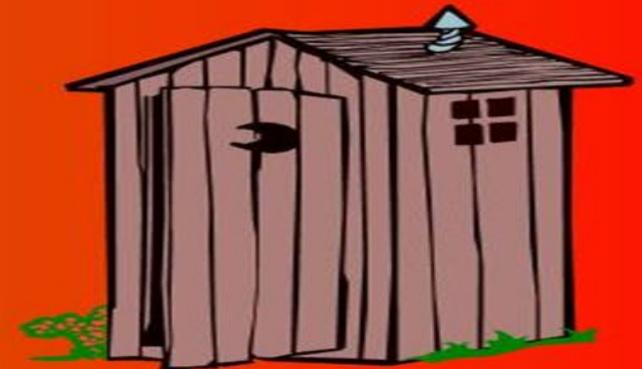
3) **Walking by HVP.**

*Psalm
18:2; 91:2*

**Divine Viewpoint
Soul Fortress**

vs.

**Human Viewpoint
Outhouse**



Isaiah 64:6

• **Why don't many believers enter or enjoy God's rest today?**

1. **IGNORANCE** ... of knowing the availability of God's rest or how to enter it.

2. **ARROGANCE** ... in thinking they can handle life by their own wisdom and/or strength, or that they must help God out.

3. **APATHY** ... about spiritual realities as they pursue the pleasures of sin or the world to their own sp. ruin.

4. **REBELLION** ... in resisting or violating God's will for them.

5. **SELF-CENTEREDNESS** ... as they think life is about their fulfillment instead of fulfilling God's will.

8. The *faith-rest life* is a **TRANSDISPENSATIONAL** principle over the ages as illustrated in **CREATION** and **CANAAN**. (4:3-5)

DAY 1  EARTH, SPACE, TIME & LIGHT	DAY 2  ATMOSPHERE
DAY 3  DRY LAND & PLANTS	DAY 4  SUN, MOON & STARS
DAY 5  SEA & FLYING CREATURES	DAY 6  LAND ANIMALS & MAN



You will keep him in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You.

(Isaiah 26: 3)



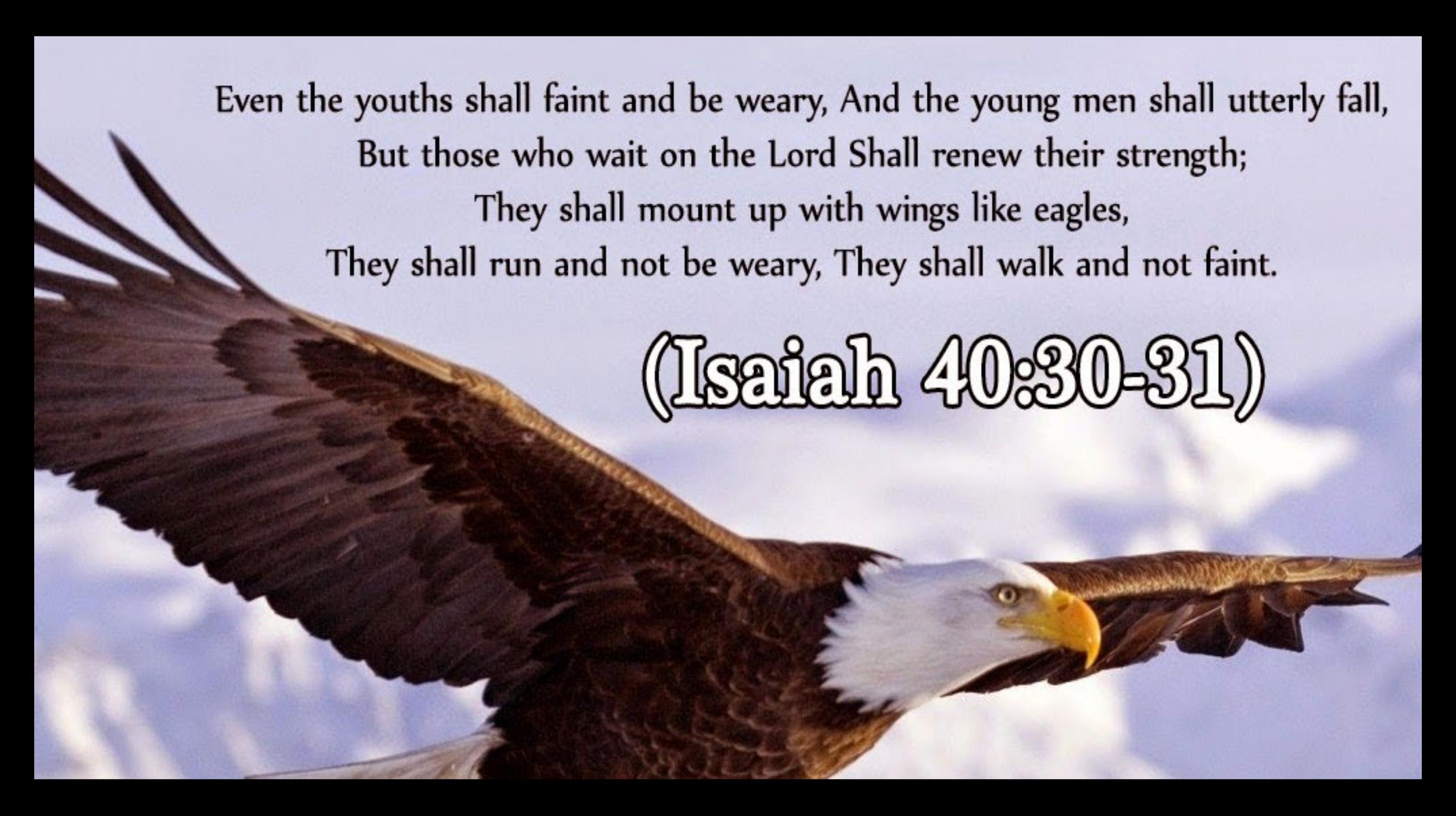


TRUST IN THE
LORD FOREVER,
FOR IN YAH,
THE LORD, IS
EVERLASTING
STRENGTH.

ISAIAH 26:4

Isaiah 26:5

For He brings down those
who dwell on high, The
lofty city; He lays it low,
He lays it low to the
ground, He brings it down
to the dust.

A bald eagle is shown in flight, its wings spread wide, against a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The eagle's head is white, and its beak is a vibrant yellow. The feathers on its wings are dark brown and detailed. The eagle is positioned on the left side of the frame, flying towards the right.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, And the young men shall utterly fall,
But those who wait on the Lord Shall renew their strength;
They shall mount up with wings like eagles,
They shall run and not be weary, They shall walk and not faint.

(Isaiah 40:30-31)

**... FEAR NOT, FOR I AM WITH YOU;
BE NOT DISMAYED, FOR I AM YOUR GOD;
I WILL STRENGTHEN YOU,
I WILL HELP YOU,
I WILL UPHOLD YOU,
WITH MY RIGHTEOUS RIGHT HAND.**

ISAIAH 41:10

A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a dark foreground. The sky is filled with large, billowing clouds in shades of white, grey, and brown, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The foreground is dark and appears to be a field of tall grass or reeds, with some light reflecting off the water or wet ground. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

"I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed."

Romans 8:18



And we know that all
things work together
for good to those
who love God, to
those who are the
called according to
His purpose.
Romans 8:28

9. The *present opportunity to enter God's rest* still **REMAINS available to **ALL** believers **TODAY**, though it is only entered by **SOME**. (4:6-9)**

Hebrews 4:6-9 Since therefore it **remains** that **some** must enter it, and those to whom it was first preached **did not enter** because of disobedience {unbelief}, 7 again He designates a certain day, saying in David, "**Today**," after such a long time, as it has been said: "**Today**, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts." 8 For if Joshua had given them rest, then He would not afterward have spoken of another day. 9 **There remains therefore a rest for the people of God.**

- What word is found 5x in this passage, and what is this emphasizing?

TODAY!!!

1. Hebrews 3:7-8

2. Hebrews 3:13

3. Hebrews 3:15

4. Hebrews 4:7a

5. Hebrews 4:7b

This emphasizes that the Christian life is a moment by moment, daily walk of faith that can be entered into and enjoyed at any time if we are willing to turn in faith to the Lord.

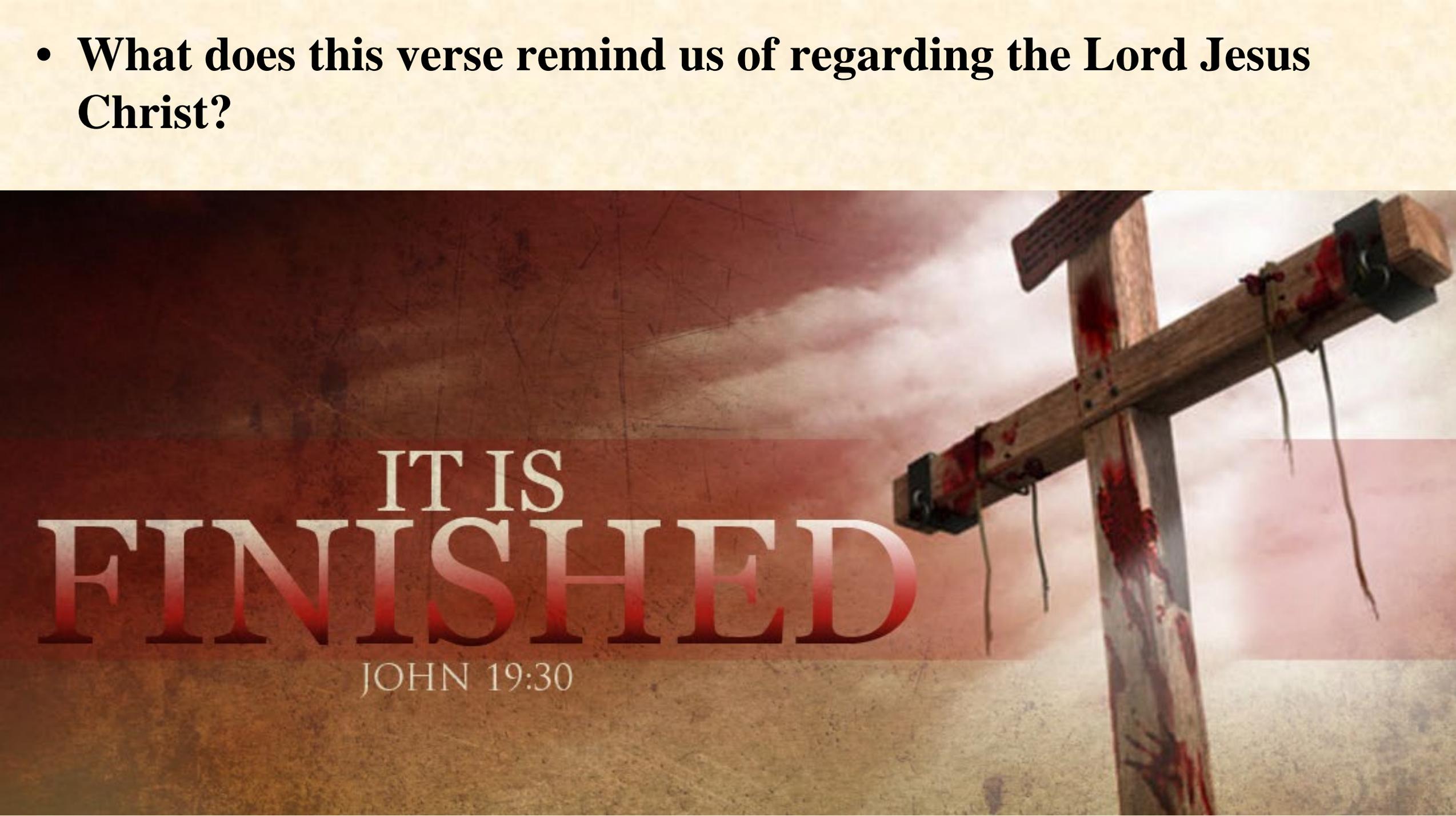
10. The *necessities* for entering God's rest include God's GRACE provisions. (4:10) and your FAITH in God's person, principles and promises, as it involves a willingness for you to CEASE FROM YOUR OWN WORKS as God did from His. (4:10)

Hebrews 4:10 For he who has entered His rest has himself also ceased from his works as God did from His.

Matthew 6:30 "Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, *O you of little faith?*

Matthew 8:8-10 The centurion answered and said, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed. 9 "For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,' and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 10 When Jesus heard it, He marveled, and said to those who followed, "Assuredly, I say to you, *I have not found such great faith, not even in Israel!*

- **What does this verse remind us of regarding the Lord Jesus Christ?**

A wooden cross stands against a cloudy sky. The cross is made of weathered wood and has several splatters of red blood on it. The background is a mix of light and dark clouds, creating a dramatic atmosphere.

IT IS
FINISHED
JOHN 19:30

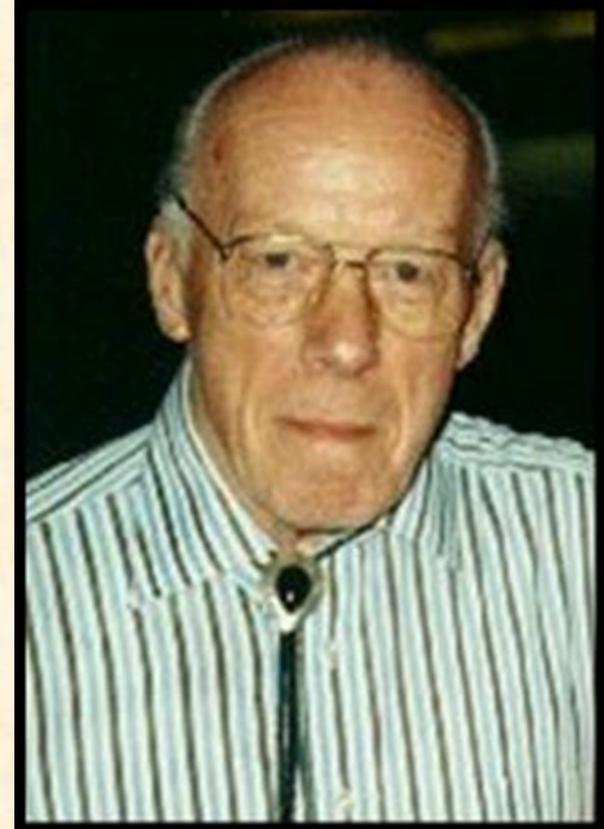
**GOD'S
RICHES**

**AT
CHRIST'S
EXPENSE**

“The growing Christian is often accused of passivity by the doing Christian. The Lord Jesus Christ was not passive; the apostle Paul was not passive; nor is the believer passive who seeks to ‘grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord and savior, Jesus Christ.’” (2 Peter 3:18)

Compulsive activity is not necessarily fruitful, as the “works of the flesh attest”. (Miles Stanford; None But the Hungry Heart, #8; pg.12)

* The Christian life is one of active dependence and passive production. (DR)



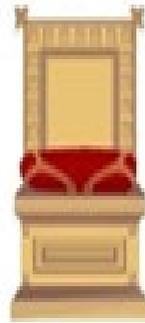
What elements does faith-resting as a believer in Christ involve in this present dispensation of grace?

1) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's past work via the Holy Spirit **FOR** you in providing victory over the sin nature through your identification in Christ. (Romans 6:1-14)

Positional Truth

Romans 6:11

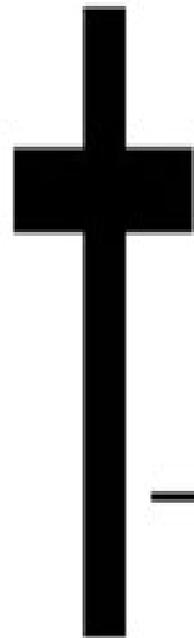
Col. 3:1-4



Session

Rom. 6:5

Ascension



Death

Rom. 6:6

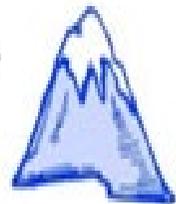
Col. 2:9-12



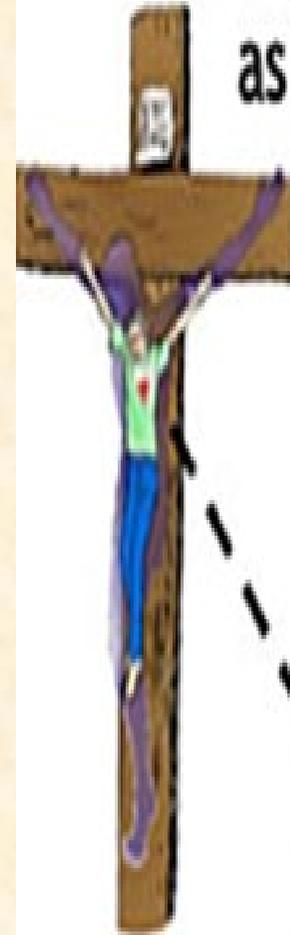
Burial

Resurrection

Rom. 6:4



"present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead..."



What elements does faith-resting as a believer in Christ involve in this present dispensation of grace?

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- 2) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's present work via the Holy Spirit **IN** you in providing daily enablement and spiritual transformation. (Rom.7:15-8:1-7; Gal.5:16; 2 Cor. 3:17-18)

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- 3) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's present work **TO** you in carrying your burdens, fighting your battles, and directing your paths. (1 Peter 5:7; Prov.3:5-6)

What new elements does faith-resting in Christ involve in this present dispensation of grace?

- 1) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's past work via the Holy Spirit **FOR** you in providing victory over the sin nature through your identification in Christ. (Romans 6:1-14)
- 2) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's present work via the Holy Spirit **IN** you in providing daily enablement and spiritual transformation. (Rom.7:15-8:1-7; Gal.5:16; 2 Cor. 3:17-18)
- 3) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's present work **TO** you in carrying your burdens, fighting your battles, and directing your paths. (1 Peter 5:7; Prov.3:5-6)
- 4) It involves resting by faith regarding Jesus Christ's present work **THROUGH** you in service to the Lord and others. (Col.1:27-29)

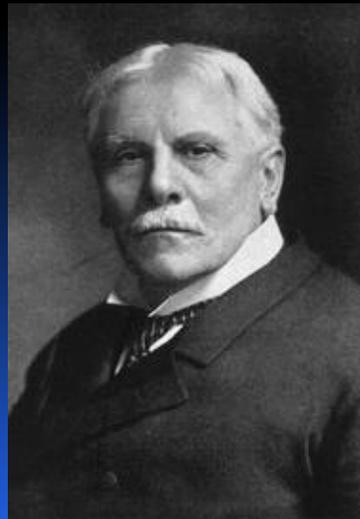
What new elements does faith-resting in Christ involve in this present dispensation of grace?

5) It involves “rightly dividing the word of truth” with a **HEAVENLY/GRACE** orientation as a **CITIZEN** of Heaven (Phil. 3:20) and member of the **CHURCH, THE BODY OF CHRIST** (Eph. 2 & 3) who has been blessed with **ALL** spiritual blessings in the heavenly places in Christ (Eph. 1:3; Col. 2:10) with a **HEAVENLY** destiny and home (John 14:1-3) and heavenly **INHERITANCE** (1 Peter 1:3-5) so that we see ourselves as **PILGRIMS** on the Earth (1 Pet. 2:11) and **AMBASSADORS** for Christ (2 Cor. 5:18-21).

C.I. SCOFIELD from RIGHTLY DIVIDING THE WORD OF TRUTH

It may safely be said that the Judaizing of the church has done more to hinder her progress, pervert her mission, and destroy her spiritually than all other causes combined.

C.I. SCOFIELD (1843 – 1921)



C.I. SCOFIELD from RIGHTLY DIVING THE WORD OF TRUTH

Instead of pursuing her appointed path of separation from the world and following the Lord in her heavenly calling, she has used Jewish Scriptures to justify herself in lowering her purpose to the civilization of the world, the acquisition of wealth, the use of an imposing ritual, the erection of magnificent churches, the invocation of God's blessing upon the conflicts of armies, and the division of an equal brotherhood into "clergy" and "laity."



11. The *factors* for entering God's rest include:

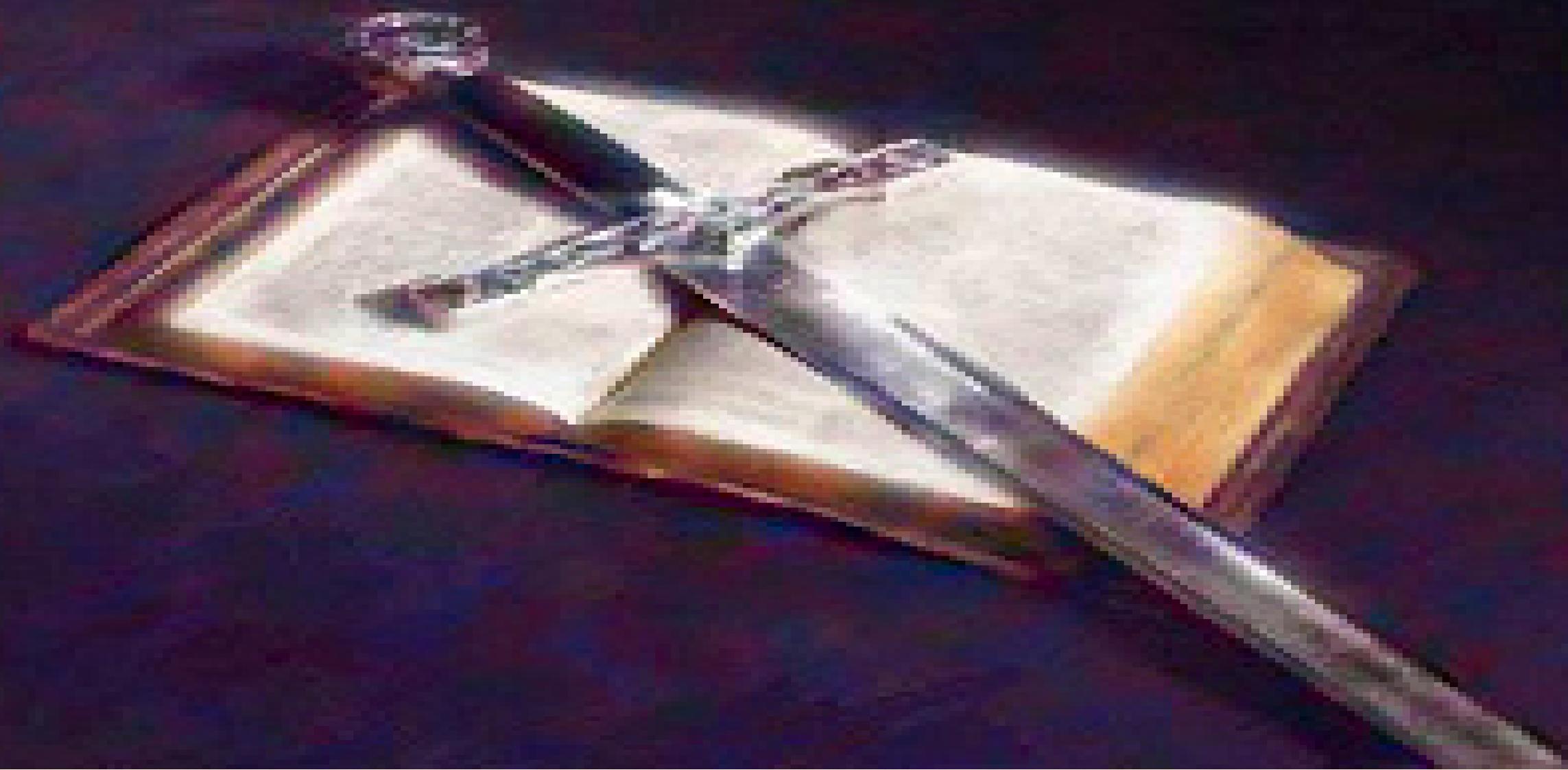
- a. God's GRACE provisions. (4:10)
- b. Your FAITH IN God's principles and promises.
- c. **DAILY DILIGENCE to enter God's rest. (4:11)**

Hebrews 4:11 Let us therefore be diligent to enter that rest,
lest anyone fall according to the same example of
disobedience.

11. The *elements* for entering God's rest include:

- a. God's GRACE provisions. (4:10)
- b. Your FAITH IN God's principles and promises.
- c. DAILY DILIGENCE to enter God's rest. (4:11)
- d. The KNOWLEDGE of God's Word. (4:12)**

Hebrews 4:12 For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.



11. The *elements* for entering God's rest include:

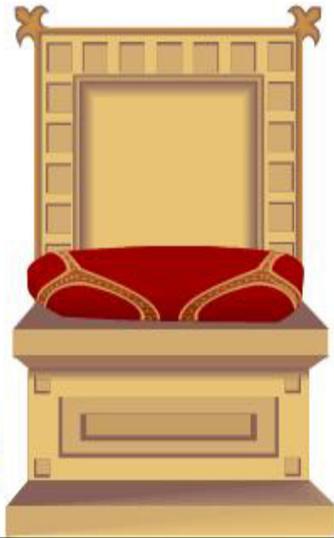
- a. God's GRACE provisions. (4:10)
- b. Your FAITH IN God's principles and promises.
- c. DAILY DILIGENCE to enter God's rest. (4:11)
- d. the KNOWLEDGE of God's Word. (4:12)
- e. **a reminder of your ACCOUNTABILITY to God.
(4:13)**

Hebrews 4:13 And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.

The Evaluation Throne of Christ

1 John 2:28

“Well done
Good and
faithful servant”



"ashamed"
and
"loss" of reward



2 Cor. 5:10



1 Corinthians 3:11-15



What about 1 John 1:9 and the confession of sin?

- 1) It is a transdispensational principle. (Prov. 28:13; 1 John 1:9)
- 2) 1 John 1:9 has a corrective place for being restored to having fellowship with God (1 John 1:7,9) but does not prevent sin in the believer's life. (Rom. 6-8)
- 3) While this passage { 1 John 1 } is an important section dealing with fellowship with God, yet in the book of 1 John itself, confession of sins is not again emphasized as the key to spirituality, though “abide” in some form is found
- 4) In the most extensive section on sanctification & spirituality in the NT (Rom. 6-8), confession of sins is totally absent and missing.

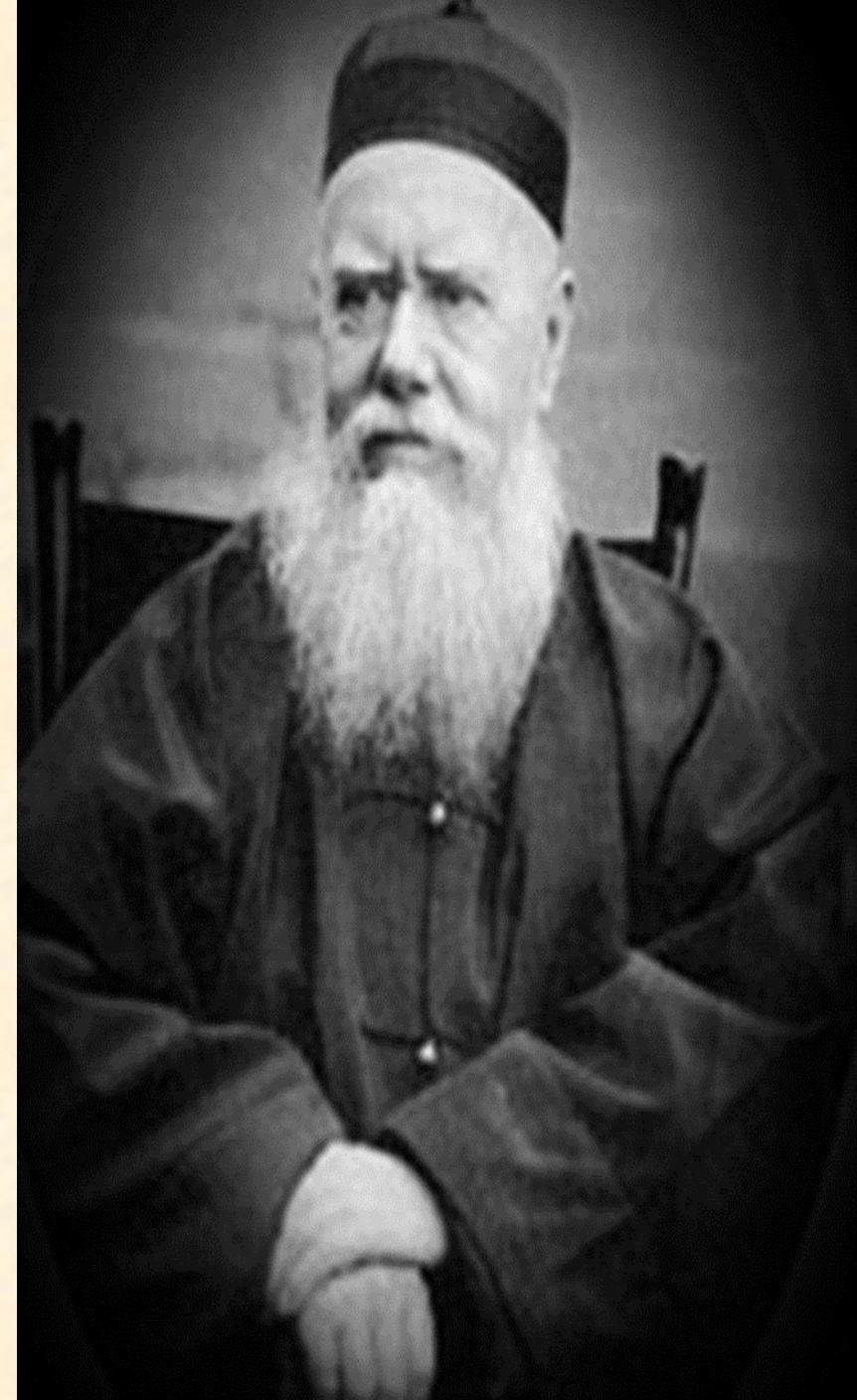
12. The *closing exhortations* regarding the faith-rest life amidst the pressure & persecution these believers were facing (Heb. 4:14-16):

Hebrews 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, **let us hold fast our confession.** 15 For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

let us therefore
come boldly
to the throne of
grace
that we may find
MERCY AND GRACE
in time of need.

Hebrews 4:16

I knew that if only I could abide in Christ all would be well, but I could not. I would begin the day with prayer, determined not to take my eye off Him for a moment, but pressure of duties, sometimes very trying, and constant interruptions apt to be so wearing, caused me to forget Him. Then one's nerves get so fretted in this climate that temptations to irritability, had thoughts and sometimes unkind words are all the more difficult to control. Each day brought its register of sin and failure, of lack of power. To will was indeed "present with me," but how to perform I found not.



All the time I felt assured that there was in Christ all I needed, but the practical question was—how to get it out. He was rich truly, but I was poor; He was strong, but I weak. I knew full well that there was in the root, the stem, abundant fatness, but how to get it into my puny little branch was the question. As gradually light dawned, I saw that faith was the only requisite—was the hand to lay hold on His fullness and make it mine. But I had not this faith.

I strove for faith, but it would not come; I tried to exercise it, but in vain. Seeing more and more the wondrous supply of grace laid up in Jesus, the fullness of our precious Savior, my guilt and helplessness seemed to increase. Sins committed appeared but as trifles compared with the sin of unbelief which was their cause, which could not or would not take God at His word. . . . I prayed for faith, but it came not. What was I to do?

When my agony of soul was at its height, a sentence in a letter from dear McCarthy was used to remove the scales from my eyes, and the Spirit of God revealed to me the truth of our oneness with Jesus as I had never known it before.

"But how to get faith strengthened? Not by striving after faith, but by resting on the Faithful One." "But how to get faith strengthened? Not by striving after faith, but by resting on the Faithful One." "Ah, there is rest!" I thought. "I have striven in vain to rest in Him. I'll strive no more. For has not He promised to abide with me—never to leave me, never to fail me?" And, . . . He never will.

