

He that
OVERCOMETH

shall inherit all things; and I will be
his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 21:7

**Perseverance in the
Hour of Trial**



PRESSURE; TROUBLE; TRIBULATION are Bad Words

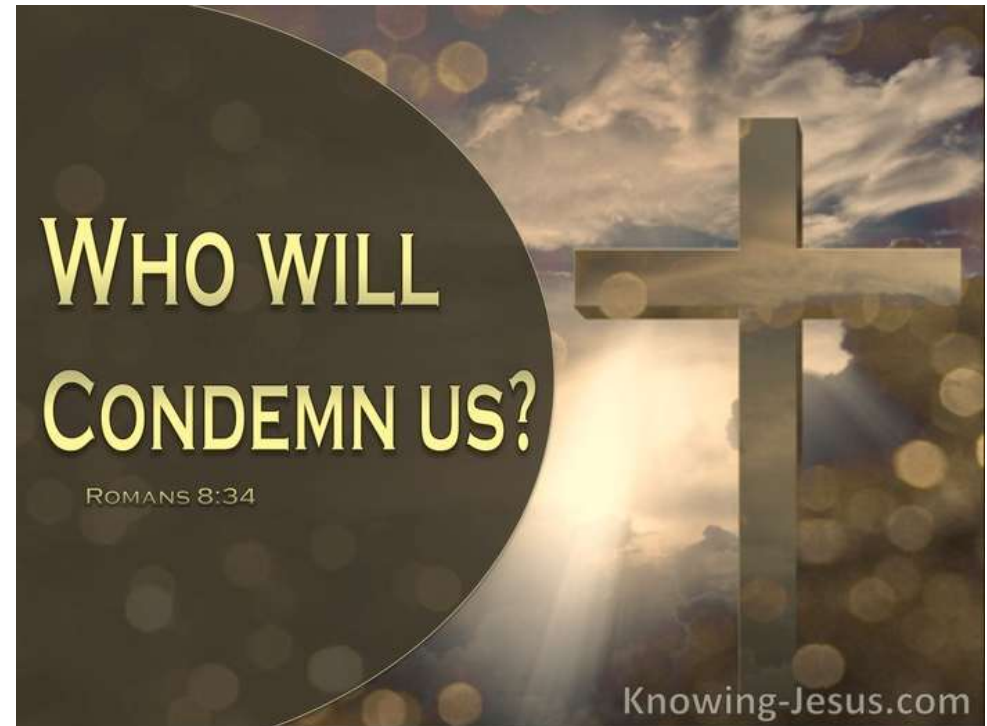
- **God will bring tribulation to OUR ways that HIS purposes might be accomplished IN us.**
- When TRUTH is preached, it CROSSES the way the sheep want to go.



**"All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned every one to his own
way; and the LORD hath laid on him
the iniquity of us all."**

Isaiah 53:6 (KJV)

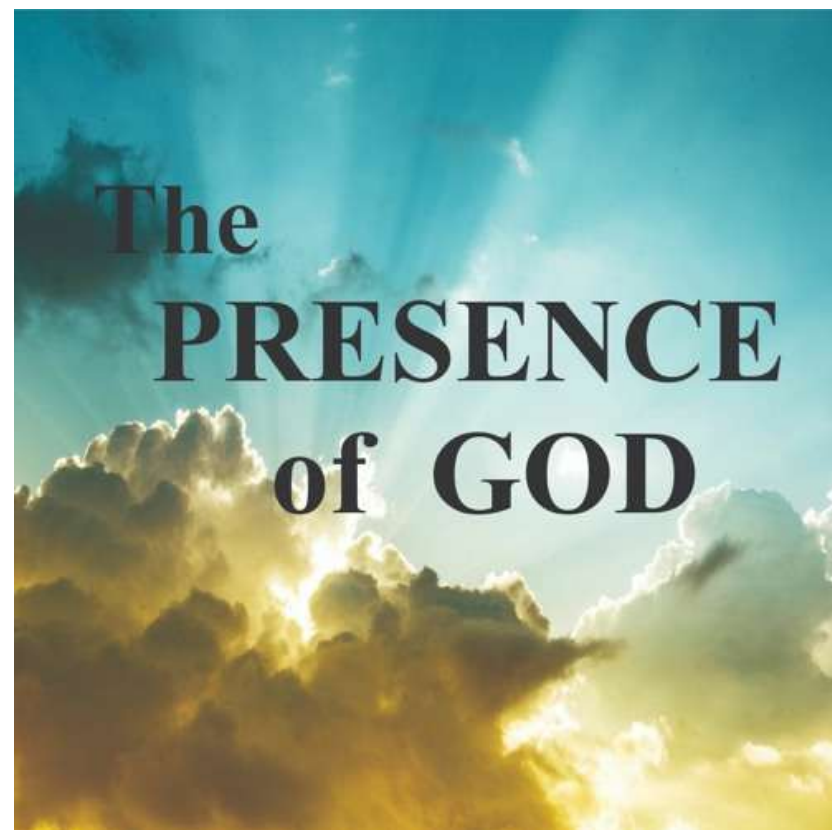
- God wants to **lead us through pressure**.
- You who are **parents** know this to be true.
- You bring **tribulation** to your **children** every time you **cross their way**.
- Those who are **ministers** know this is true.
- You bring **tribulation** every time you **preach the truth** that **crosses** the way of the **listener**.
- The **children** and the **saints** must **grow up**.
- They must **press through tribulation**.
- Jesus Christ ever liveth to make **intercession** for us.
 - **Who is he that condemneth?** *It is* Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, **who also maketh intercession for us**. Romans 8:34



- Jesus is at the **right hand** of the Father.
- Some only recognize His ministry in the past but fail to realize that **He is still ministering in our behalf.**
- There are three appearances of Jesus on our behalf.
- He **HAS** appeared as the High Priest since the foundation of the world.
 - For **then must he often have suffered since the foundation of the world:** but now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. Hebrews 9:26
- He **NOW** appears as the High Priest in the presence of God.
 - For Christ is not entered into the holy places made with hands, *which are* the figures of the true; but into heaven itself, **now to appear in the presence of God for us.** Hebrews 9:24
- He **SHALL** appear as the High Priest when he returns in the Second Coming.
 - So Christ was once offered to bear the sins of many; and unto them that look for him **shall he appear the second time without sin unto salvation.** Hebrews 9:28



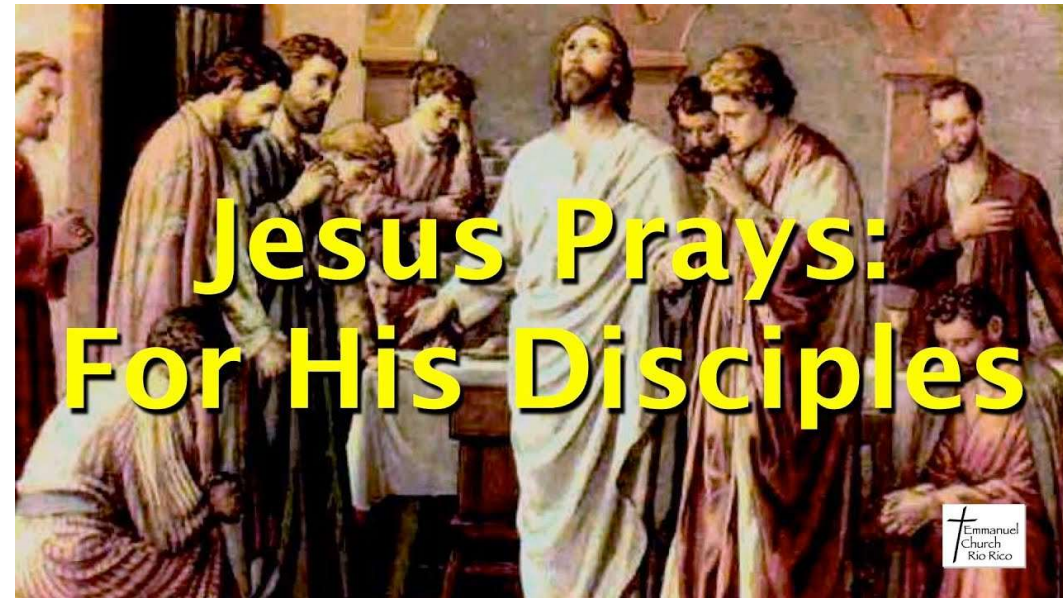
- On the **Day of Atonement** referenced in Leviticus 16, the High Priest appears at the Bazon Altar with the blood.
- Jesus Christ **HAS** appeared on **Calvary's cross** to put away sin by the **sacrifice of Himself** by the shedding of His own blood.
- Then the High Priest took the blood **beyond the Veil** to bring the nation of Israel into the Presence of God.
- Jesus Christ **NOW** appears in **the Presence of God for us**, bearing us up on His shoulders, and strapped to His heart of love!
- After sin had been fully atoned for, the High Priest then **returned to the people and revealed himself to the nation**.
- Jesus Christ **SHALL** soon appear without sin unto salvation and **every eye shall see Him**.



Escapism – I'll Fly Away Oh GLORY!

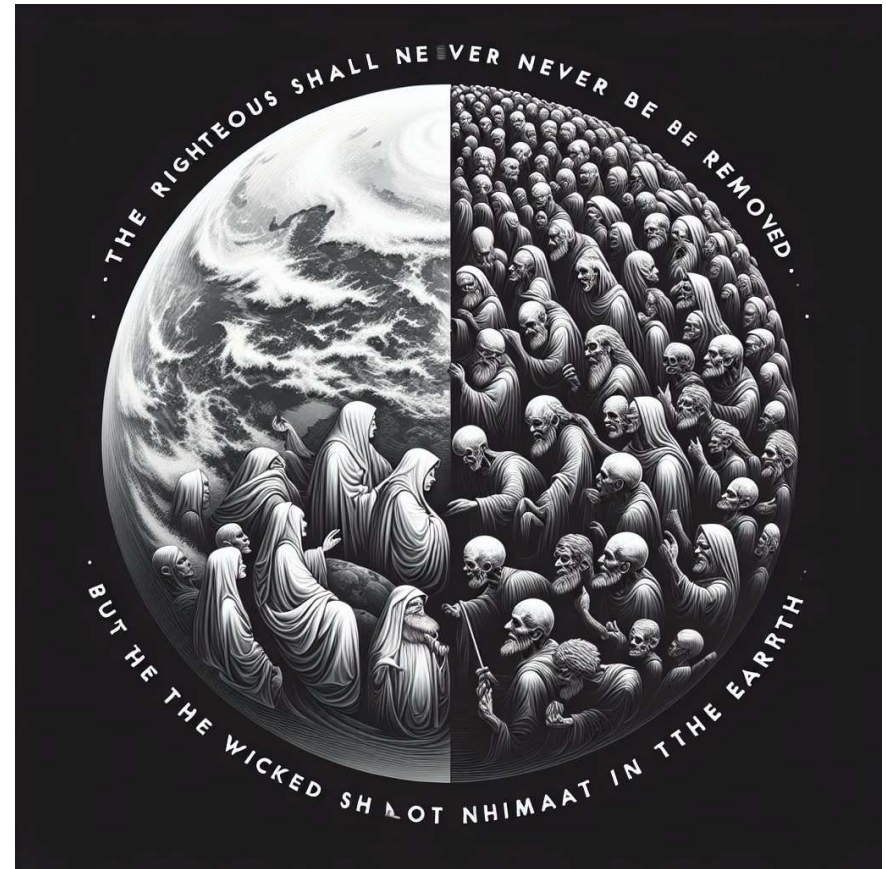
- Having fully put away and dealt with sin in the lives of a perfected people.
- He shall literally appear.
- He **HAS** appeared, and He **NOW** appears, and He **SHALL** appear!
- **The majority of the Church world wants to escape from their problems, and they are praying accordingly.**
- Is it possible that we could be asking amiss?
 - Ye ask, and receive not, **because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume *it* upon your lusts.** James 4:3
 - “Oh, God take me out of this trial! Get me out of this situation” instead of “What are you trying to teach me Father?”

- We must do everything in the **Name** or **NATURE** of the Lord Jesus.
 - And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God and the Father by him. Colossians 3:17
- We must **pray** as **He prayed**.
- We must **pray** as **He now prays**.
- If we are to **walk** with Him, we must then **AGREE** with Him and His prayer life!
 - **Can two walk together, except they be agreed? Amos 3:3**
- Jesus is our great High Priest and now appears in the Presence of God for us.
- He is praying for us!
- His High Priestly prayer is given to us in John 17:1-26.



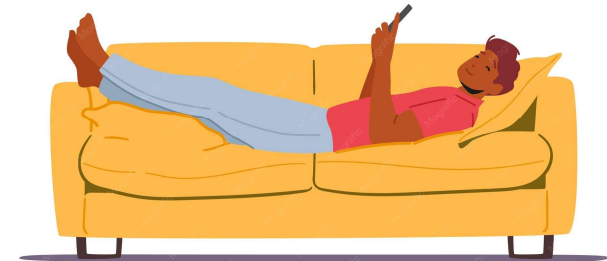
**I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world,
but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil.
John 17:15**

- I believe that those who are called to be Christians are to be **LIKE** the Lord in their praying.
- I believe in prayer, and I believe that this prayer in John 17 is still pouring forth from His heart!
- This scripture give us some real insight into the High Priestly prayer life of the Lord.
- What **did He say**, and what **is He saying**?
 - **I pray not that thou shouldest take them out of the world, but that thou shouldest keep them from the evil. John 17:15**
- It is obvious that we could teach this message from the standpoint of the Second Coming of Jesus, but we want to remain practical.
 - **The righteous shall never be removed: but the wicked shall not inhabit the earth.** Proverbs 10:30



The Carnal Mind is **LAZY** and wants **EASY**.

- Let me give a few more examples of what it means to press through tribulation.
- Have you met the kind of person who can never keep a steady job?
- The first day that something goes wrong, they want to quit and look for another job.
- And usually the thing that went wrong was that the boss expected his money's worth!
- They might complain about the working conditions, but most people simply want to complain about work.
- The carnal mind is **lazy**.
- It doesn't want to work or exert itself.
- It is ever asking, "What do I have to do?"
- Have you met the "professional student?"
- This is the kind of person who still thinks that he is in high school.
- This young person goes to college and discovers a different world...a real one.
- He meets some teachers who don't give out A's and B's like lollipops.

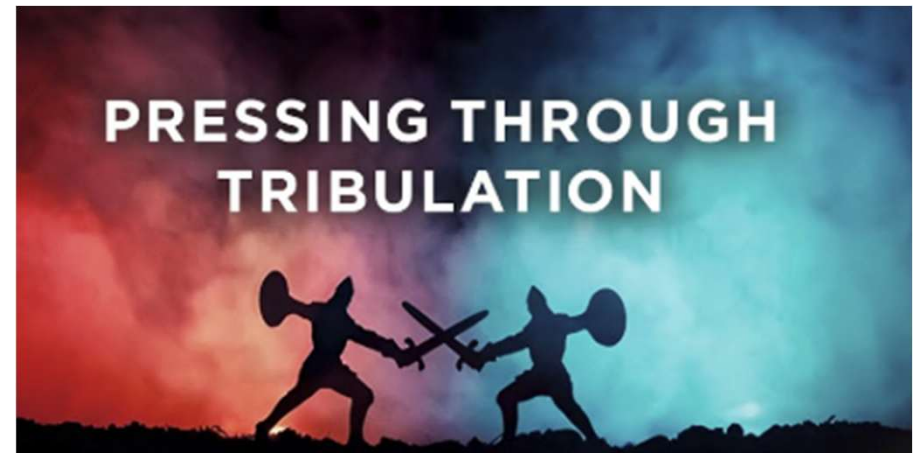


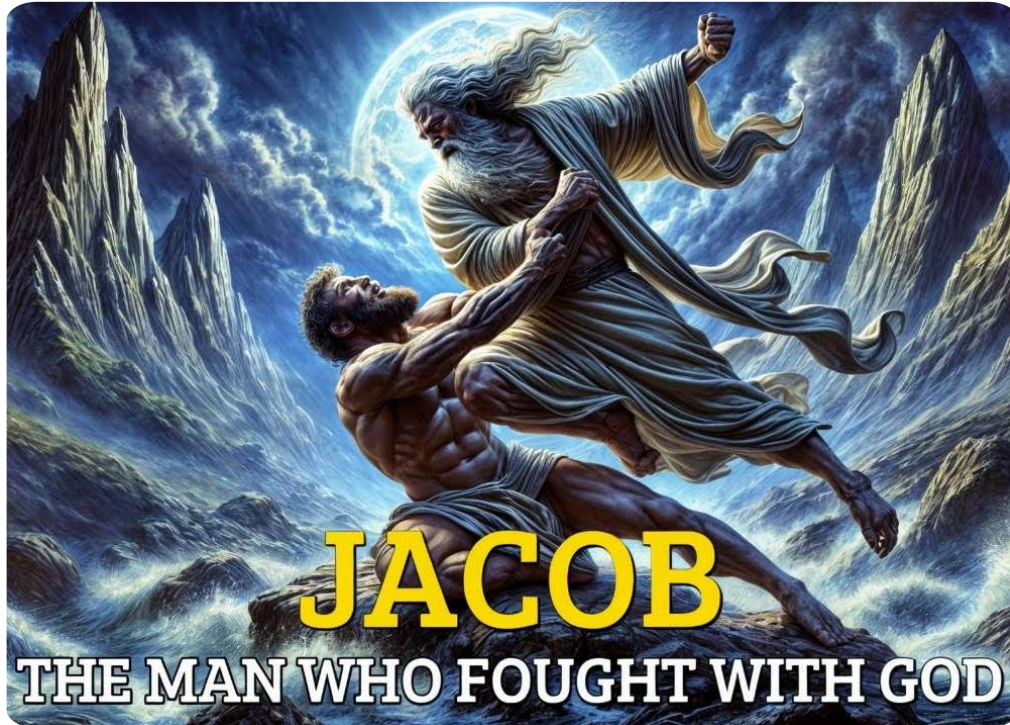
LAZY-LAZY-EASY

- He will have to work and study if he is going to make it.
- He may say, “Well, I think I’ll try another college. I don’t like this one.”
- And have met the kind of Christian that is as **unstable as water**?
 - **Unstable as water**, thou shalt not excel; because thou wentest up to thy father's bed; then defiledst thou *it*: he went up to my couch (Jacob talking about Judah). Genesis 49:4
- I have met so many who have **no spiritual roots**.
- They say, “Well, **I think I’ll try another ministry. I don’t like this one.**”
- People go looking for the ministry **of their own choice**.
- People are looking for a **place**, or a **job**, or a **college**, or a **ministry** where there are **no adversities**, or any **problems**, or anything that **crosses** or **inconveniences** them.



- In the church realm, some of these people eventually meet a ministry and a message that projects the **Lordship of Jesus Christ**.
- This **Gospel of the Kingdom** declares His Kingship in such a way that **people will have to submit to the will and the Word of God**.
- They will have to **change** those **unholy attitudes** of immaturity and **escapism**.
- **If they refuse to change they leave.**
- When something **goes against your will what do you do?**
- Do you **avoid pain, suffering** and **growing up** in God or do you want to **be taken out of the world?**
- Or are you **pressing through** your hour of **trial, your tribulation?**





- Everyone of you **sometime in life** will experience the **tribulation** of **facing the truth** of **who** and **what** you are.
- **Everyone of us** will have an experience **like Jacob** had.
- There was a time of **Jacob's trouble**.
 - Alas! for **that day is great**, so that none *is* like it: it *is* **even the time of Jacob's trouble**; but he shall be saved out of it. Jeremiah 30:7
- I will again lay aside the prophetical aspects of this verse and look to the practical.
- I know that Jacob went through *his* tribulation the night that **he met God face to face!**



Jacob Wrestling with God

- And Jacob was left alone; and there wrestled a man with him until the breaking of the day.
 - And when he saw that he prevailed not against him, he touched the hollow of his thigh; and the hollow of Jacob's thigh was out of joint, as he wrestled with him.
 - And he said, Let me go, for the day breaketh. And he said, I will not let thee go, except thou bless me.
 - And he said unto him, What *is* thy name? And he said, Jacob. [SUPPLANTER, SCHEMER, TRICKSTER, SWINDLER!]
 - And he said, Thy name shall be called no more Jacob, but Israel: for as a prince hast thou power with God and with men, and hast PREVAILED.
 - And Jacob asked *him*, and said, Tell *me*, I pray thee, thy name. And he said, Wherefore *is* it *that* thou dost ask after my name? And he blessed him there.
 - And Jacob called the name of the place Peniel: for I have seen God FACE TO FACE, and my life is preserved.
 - And as he passed over Penuel the sun rose upon him, and he halted upon his thigh.
 - Therefore the children of Israel eat not *of* the sinew which shrank, which *is* upon the hollow of the thigh, unto this day: because he touched the hollow of Jacob's thigh in the sinew that shrank.
- Genesis 32:24-32





Jacob met God **FACE to FACE**

Everyone of Us will have an Experience like Jacob

- For that day is great, so that none is like it: it is even the time of Jacob's trouble (Jeremiah 30:7)
- Jacob went through his tribulation during the NIGHT – dark time
- God said **WHAT IS YOUR NAME, JACOB?**
 - In shock, he whispered, **SCHEMER, TRICKSTER, SDWINDLER, SUPPLANTER**
- God said, **I AM CHANGING YOUR NAME!**
 - NO MORE will you be a SUPPLANTER (one who wrongfully or illegally seizes and holds the place of another)
 - You have contended [**STRUGGLED**] with God and have **PREVAILED**.



Face to Face with God

- Jacob was **ALONE** with God – no mom, no dad, no pastor, no noise, no crowds, **ONLY GOD**
- You must spend time **ALONE WITH GOD** in order to get to the place where you will **PREVAIL**.
- Those who Prevail with God will be **Humbled**.
- Their human strength will be **under submission**.
- **They will walk with a limp.**
- **Their Nature is our NAME**
- **Their Nature must CHANGE.**
- They will have been **TOUCHED [SMITTEN]** by God.
- **The Name “ISRAEL” = the Nature of Christ**
- God is going to trouble us until the **BREAKING**.
- Take heed, as unto **a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts:** (2 Peter 1:19)

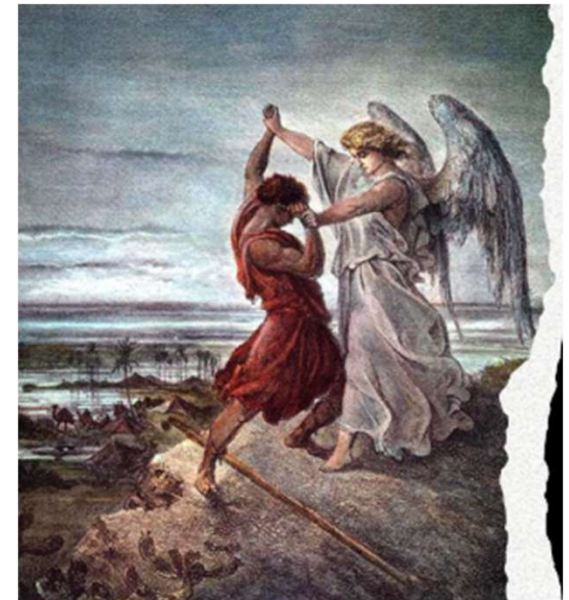
Dependance on the Staff.

- God is going to “**TOUCH**” us.
- “Touch” means to “**lay the HAND upon**, to reach, to smite, to **strike, plague**”
- **This is more than just a love-tap.**
- Consider these examples:
 - Surely he hath borne our griefs, and carried our sorrows: yet we did esteem him **STRICKEN, smitten** of God, and afflicted. Isaiah 53:4
 - And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip *it* in the blood that *is* in the bason, and **STRIKE** the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that *is* in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. Exodus 12:22
 - And Azariah the chief priest, and all the priests, looked upon him, and, behold, he *was* leprous in his **forehead**, and they thrust him out from thence; yea, himself hasted also to go out, because the LORD had SMITTEN him. 2 Chronicles 26:20
 - And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and **SMOTE** the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee. Job 1:19
- In the time of Jacob’s trouble, he was **SMITTEN** by the Lord.
- **And the Jacob nature in us will have to be SMITTEN by the Lord.**

Satan thought that he had taken everything from Job...



But to Job, God was his everything.



- There is a Christ or an **Israel nature** that God wants to **come forth** in each of us.
- He wants us to be **PREVAILERS**.
- God wants us to be **OVERCOMERS**.
- “**PREVAILED**” means “to be able, attain, endure, overcome, have power, might.”
- This **new nature** will display itself when our **THIGH** is **SMITTEN**.
- The thigh speaks of our **STRENGTH**, and especially our strength to **REPRODUCE** or **CREATE**.
- **Our ability to bring forth** must **decrease** that **His ability** to bring forth in us might **increase**.
 - **He must increase, but I *must* decrease.** John 3:30



He must increase,
but I must decrease.

- Have you **met** God?
- Has he **touched** you?
- If there is any **desire** in you at all for **Him and His Kingdom**, let me assure you that you will encounter Him in this dimension.
- Those who are Israelites indeed are **betrayed** by the way that they **WALK!**
 - Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and saith of him, **Behold an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!** John 1:47
- There is a **familiar limp in their life and ministry** that reveals the Lord.
- They are not so quick on the trigger.
- **They have learned to wait upon the Lord.**
- The Sun has arisen upon them and they **walk** in the light of His countenance.





- I would rather go into the Kingdom **maimed** than not go in at all.
- I would rather that the Lord **cripple** my **desires** and be the Good Shepherd who in love **breaks my spiritual legs** than to miss God altogether.
- There is a **nature** in us that must be dealt with.
- **Every** man and woman must face this.
- If you long for Him, then know that **He must change your name, your nature.**
- The Lord Jesus wants to deliver us from **hypocrisy** and bring us into the reality of the **overcoming life.**
- He wants us to have **power** with God and man.
- **He wants us to prevail.**

- There has never been a day like this day before.
 - **The Spirit of the Lord is upon me**, because he hath **anointed** me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to **heal the brokenhearted**, to **preach deliverance** to the captives, and recovering of **sight to the blind**, to **set at liberty** them that are bruised. Luke 4:18
- **God's** ways are not like **our** ways.
- **His methods** differ from the **natural** mind.
- Like Daniel the prophet, we **must experience the lions' den**.
- And the **den of lions** is ordained of the Lord to deal with the **den of thieves**.
 - Jesus said, "unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; but **ye have made it a den of thieves**." Matthew 21:13
- Is your life a **house of prayer** or a **den of thieves**?



**"It is written:
My house shall
be a house of
prayer...
but you have
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of thieves."**



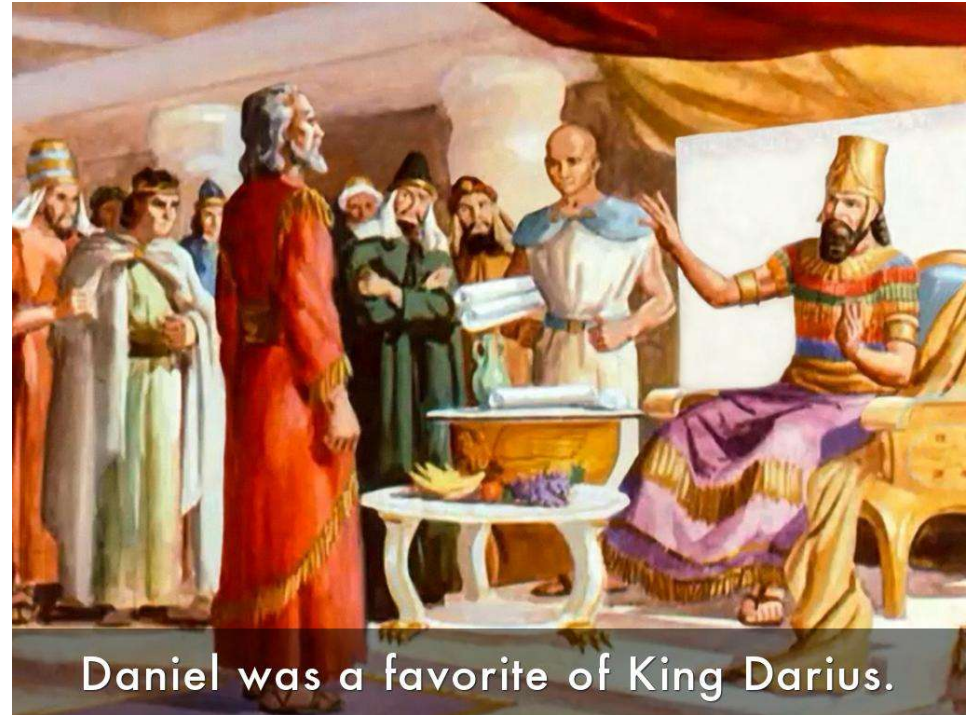
- Am I building God a **house of devotion** or am I scheming to climb in some other way?
 - Verily, verily, I say unto you, **He that entereth not by the door** into the sheepfold, but climbeth up some other way, the same is a **thief and a robber**. John 10:1
- **Daniel prayed his way into the lions' den.**
- But most of us want to **pray our way OUT of the lions' den.**
- The carnal mind **wants to flee from the lion**, but listen to these words of the prophet Amos:
 - **Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD!** to what end *is* it for you? **the day of the LORD is darkness**, and not light.
 - As if a man did **FLEE FROM A LION**, and a **BEAR** met him; or went into the house, and leaned his hand on the wall, and a **SERPENT** bit him. Amos 5:18-19



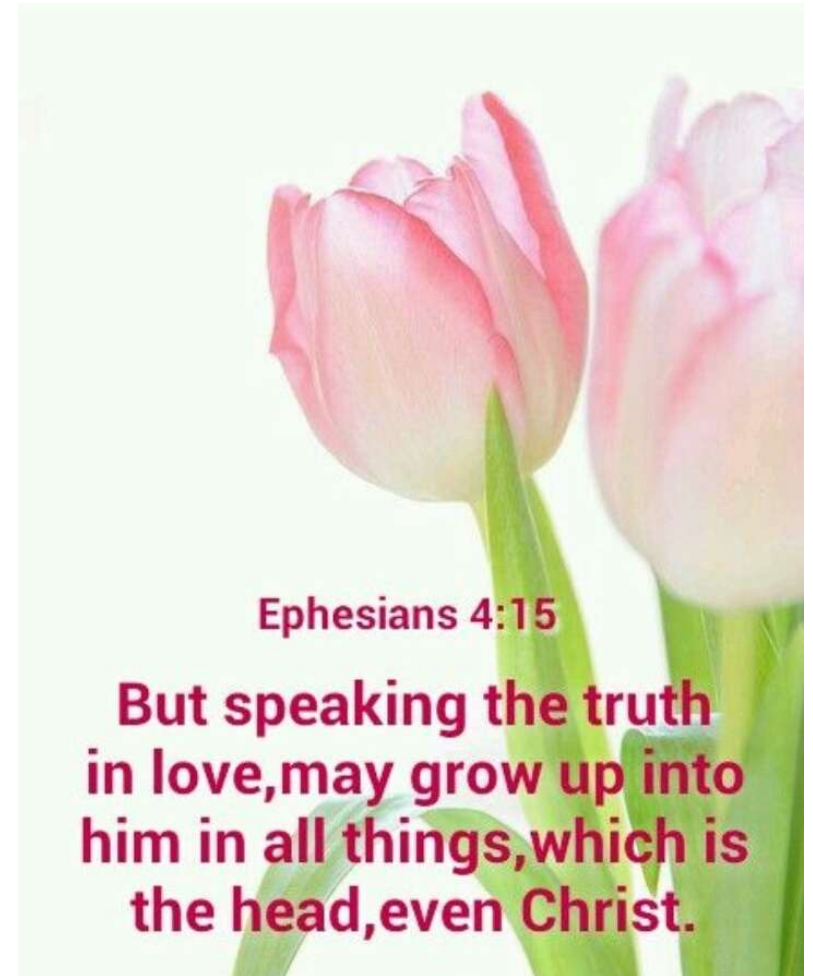
- **There is no escape.**
- In the day of His anger, are you going to be **in the Ark** or **trying to get in?**
- We want to **avoid** the lions' den.
- David knew nothing of the **giant** when he killed the **lion** and the **bear**.
 - David said moreover, The LORD that delivered me out of the paw of the **lion**, and out of the paw of the **bear**, he will deliver me out of the hand of this **Philistine**. And Saul said unto David, Go, and the LORD be with thee. 1 Samuel 17:37
- To those who are after God's heart, let me exhort you: **DAVID, YOU'VE GOT A GOLIATH AHEAD OF YOU!!**



- Goliath was **death** in action.
- **You're sent to over come it.**
- The **lion** and the **bear** experience is a **God-ordained** taskmaster for a **greater victory.**
- **Do not flee the lion.**
- Your **deliverance** is right where your **problem** is.
- **The lions' den was a blessing.**
- It made the king **fast** and **pray!**
- No manner of **hurt** will come upon you, because you believe in your God.
- The night season with the lions will bring the enemies of God and their companions to nought.
- Kings will then decree to the nations the greatness of our god and prophesy of the majesty of His Kingdom!
- **And Daniel prospered.** (Daniel 6:28)



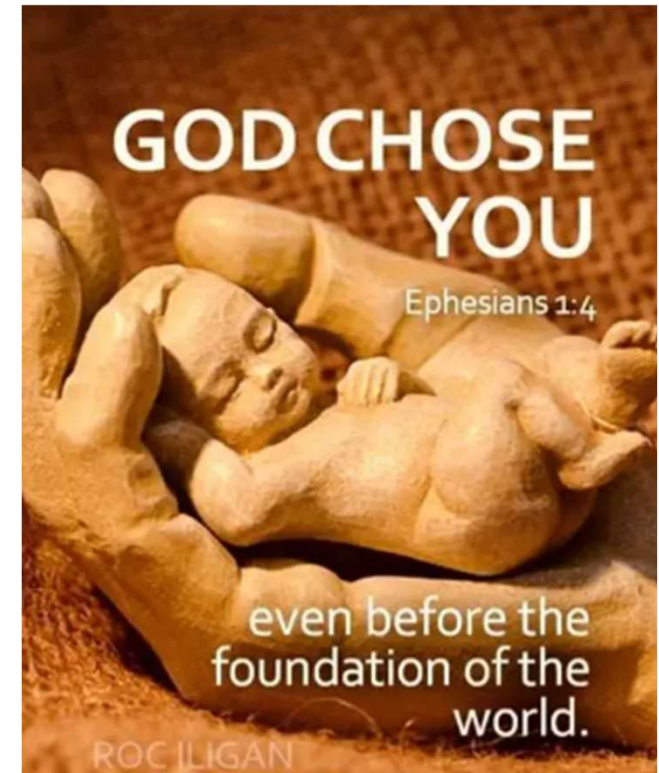
- May God help us to look at things from **His perspective**.
- He is working out **His purposes** in us as we submit to **His ways**.
- There is a **glorious Church** on the horizon that knows that the **trial of our faith is much more precious than gold** that perisheth (1 Peter 1:7) and that we must **press through tribulation** into the fullness of our Living Head.
 - But speaking the truth in love, may **grow up into him in all things**, which is the head, *even* Christ. Ephesians 4:15
- These principles are desperately needed to **balance** what we have heard concerning faith and prosperity.
- God does not want His people to be **snared** by extremes or tangents.
- We must be **balanced**, declaring the **whole Word of God**.



Ephesians 4:15

**But speaking the truth
in love, may grow up into
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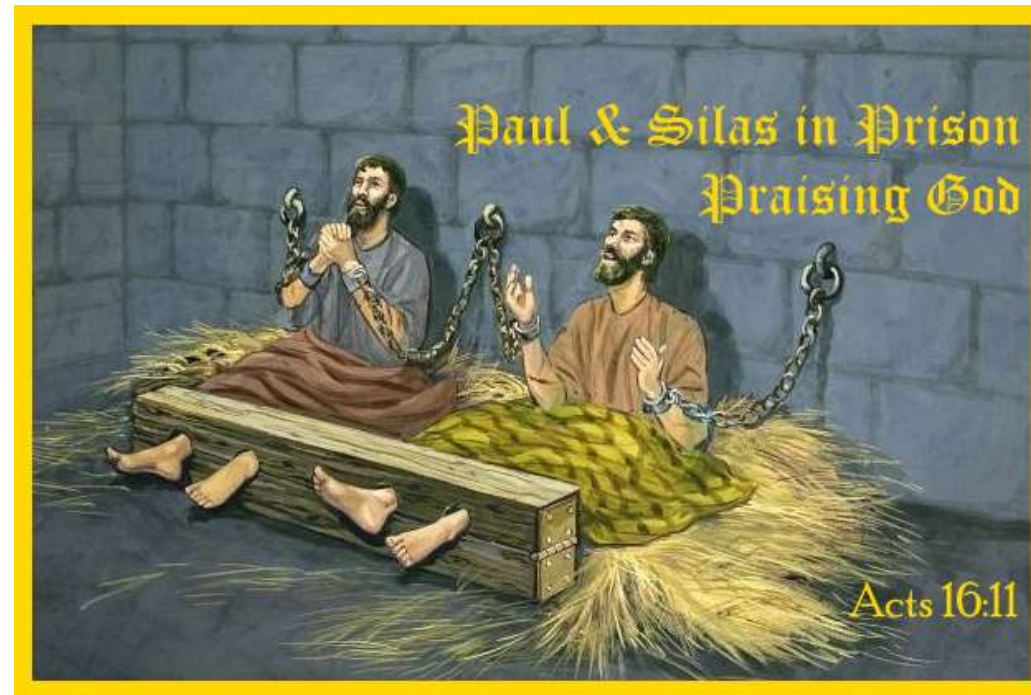
- Contrary to popular opinion, **we did not choose Jesus, but he chose us.**
 - **Ye have not chosen me, but I have chosen you,** and **ordained** you, that ye should go and bring forth fruit, and *that* your fruit should remain: that whatsoever ye shall ask of the Father in my name, he may give it you. John 15:16
- Jesus loved to **break traditions.**
- He did so here, for it was the custom of the Jews that a disciple **could choose** his own master.
- Paul the Apostle knew of this, for he said:
 - Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* in Christ:
 - According as **HE HAD CHOSEN US** in him **before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:
 - Having **PREDESTINED us unto the adoption of children** by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of HIS will. Ephesians 1:3-5



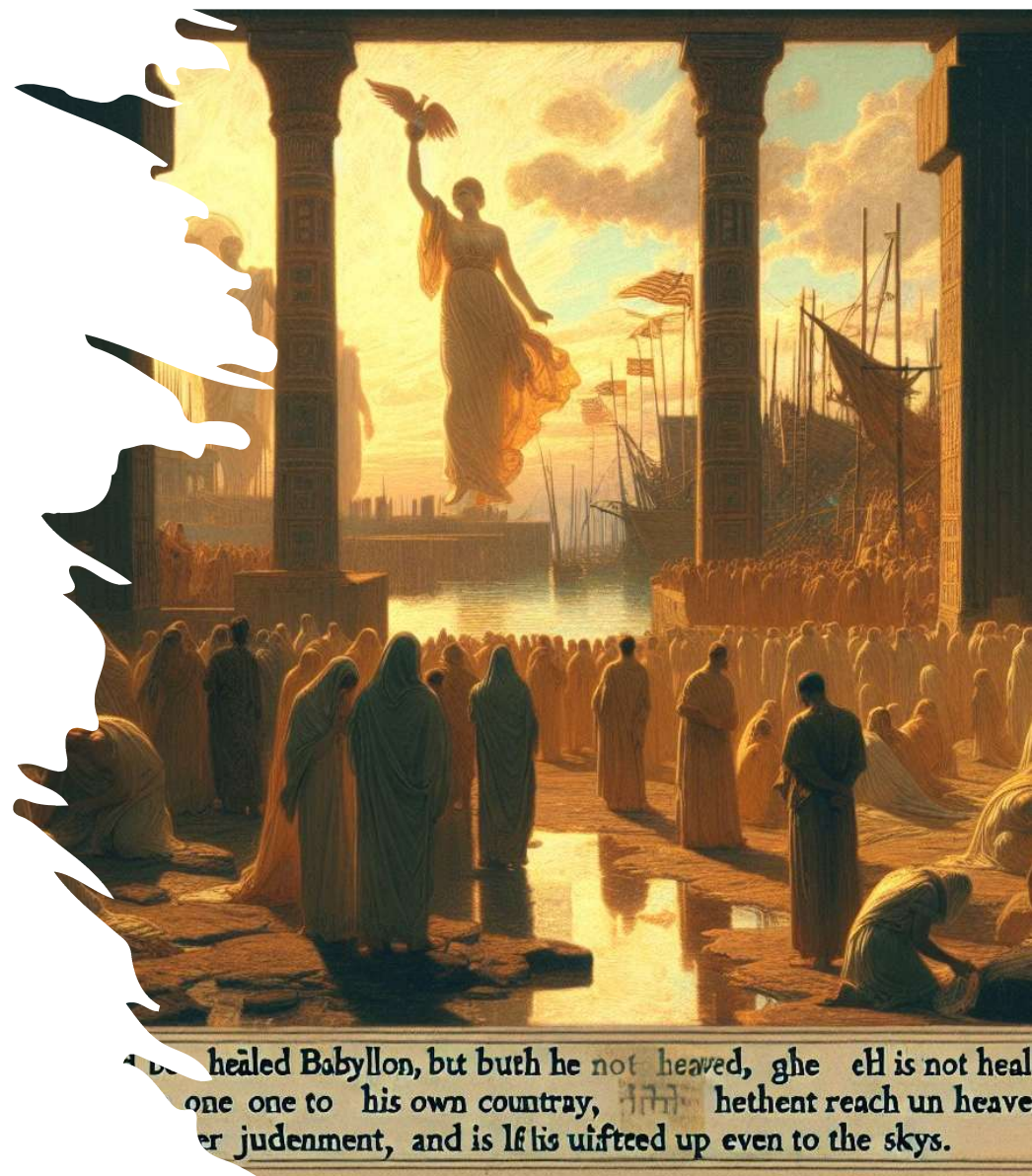


- We have been **picked out to be picked on.**
- The man who has no experiential understanding of the Father's dealings with his sons is a man who will never be an overcomer.
- **In our affliction, we will seek Him early.**
 - I will go *and* return to my place, till they acknowledge their offence, and seek my face: **in their affliction they will seek me early.** Hosea 5:15
- God deals with us as **SONS.**
 - And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My **SON**, despise not thou the **CHASTENING** of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him:
 - For whom the Lord loveth he **CHASTENETH**, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth.
 - For they verily for a few days **CHASTENETH** us after their own pleasure; but he for *our* profit, that we might be partakers of his holiness.
 - Now no **CHASTENING** for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Hebrews 12:5-6; 10-11
- **If someone is always picking on you, praise the Lord!**

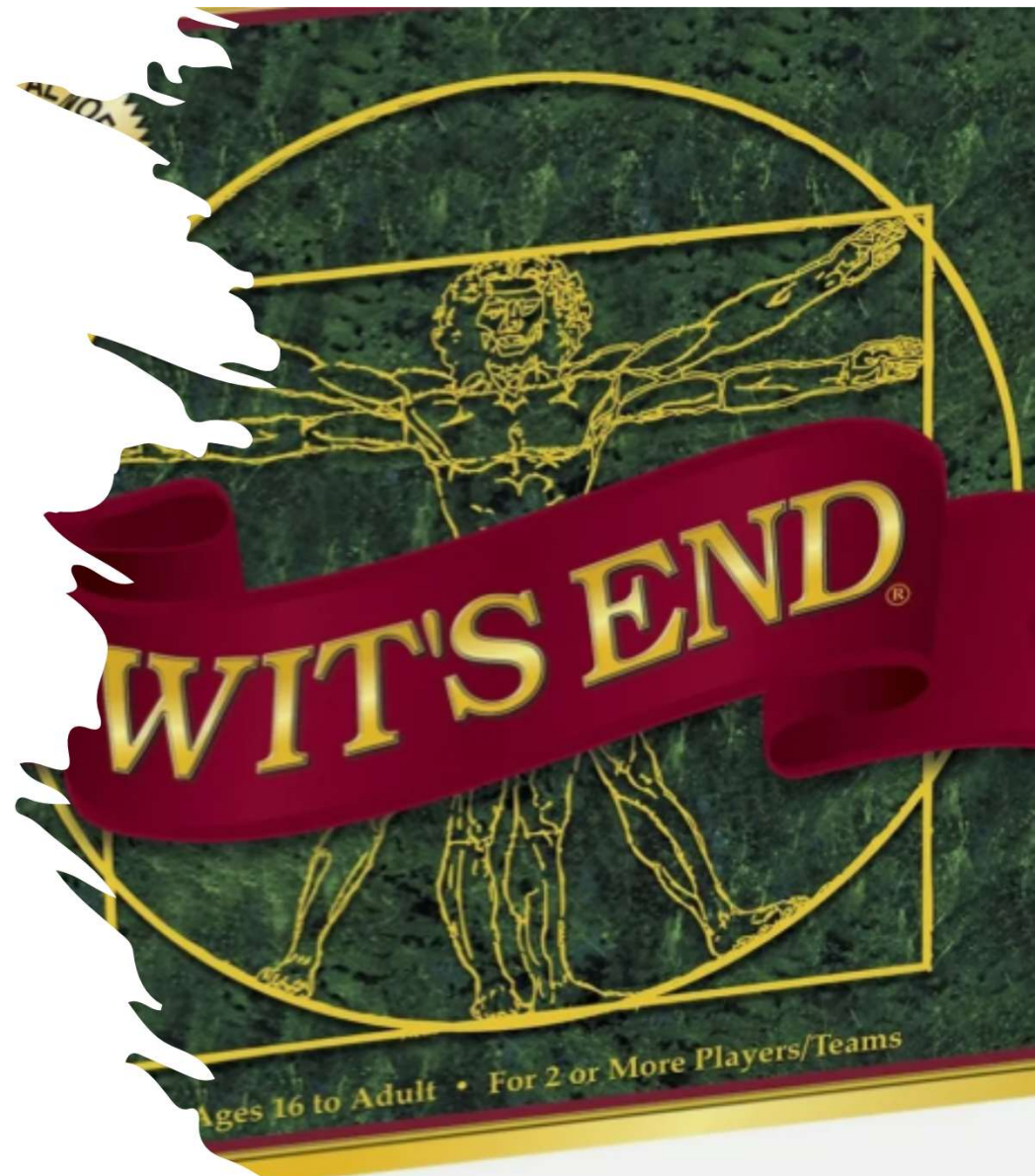
- Maintain this attitude: “Go ahead and pick on me...**I am a tree full of fruit.** Go ahead, that’s why I grew it!”
- Those who do not know the ways of the Father often become **bitter** and **angry**.
- Do you remember the story of **Paul** and **Silas** recorded in Acts 16?
- They were **led by the Spirit** to the Roman province of Macedonia to **preach the Gospel**.
- **Although a Roman citizen, Paul was beaten** and thrown into the “inner prison.”
- This room might well have been the bottom cell which would have **received the waste of the prison**.
- They were thrown into the sewer and had a **LEGAL** right to complain, but they praised God who led them there!
- **Start singing unto the Lord.**
- **The other prisoners are listening.**
- There would have been **no release for the others** if Paul and Silas had not suffered for righteousness’ sake.



- God will keep us during the **hour of trial**.
- There are two many scriptures to substantiate this truth.
- One of the most important passages is Exodus 7-12.
- Just as the **plagues** came upon Egypt, so our **nation** and the **world system** is being **judged**.
- Listen to the prophet Jeremiah:
 - Babylon *hath been* a golden cup in the LORD'S hand, that made all the earth drunken: the **NATIONS** have drunken of her wine; therefore the nations are **mad**.
 - **Babylon is suddenly fallen and destroyed:** howl for her; take balm for her pain, if so be she may be healed.
 - We would have healed Babylon, but she is not healed: **forsake her, and let us go every one into his own country: for her judgment reacheth unto heaven, and is lifted up even to the skies.** Jeremiah 51:7-9



- “mad” means “gone mad, **foolish**, to rave, rage, to be puffed up in vain glory, to vaunt, to rave with foolish conceit, great departure from wisdom that the mind, without any control, rushes on with **blind fury**.”
- Remember when David was described as “**mad**”.
 - And he (DAVID) **changed his behaviour** before them, and feigned himself mad in their hands, and scrabbled on the doors of the gate, and let his spittle fall down upon his beard. 1 Samuel 21:13
- The world system is **rushing on in blind fury**.
- The nations are **mad**.
- **Pharaoh’s days are numbered.**
- There are no answers; **mankind** is at its **wit’s end**.
- Every bit of **human wisdom** and **genius** will find no solution.
- There can be **no peace** apart from the **Prince of Peace**!
- **But praise God, His keeping power is over His people.**



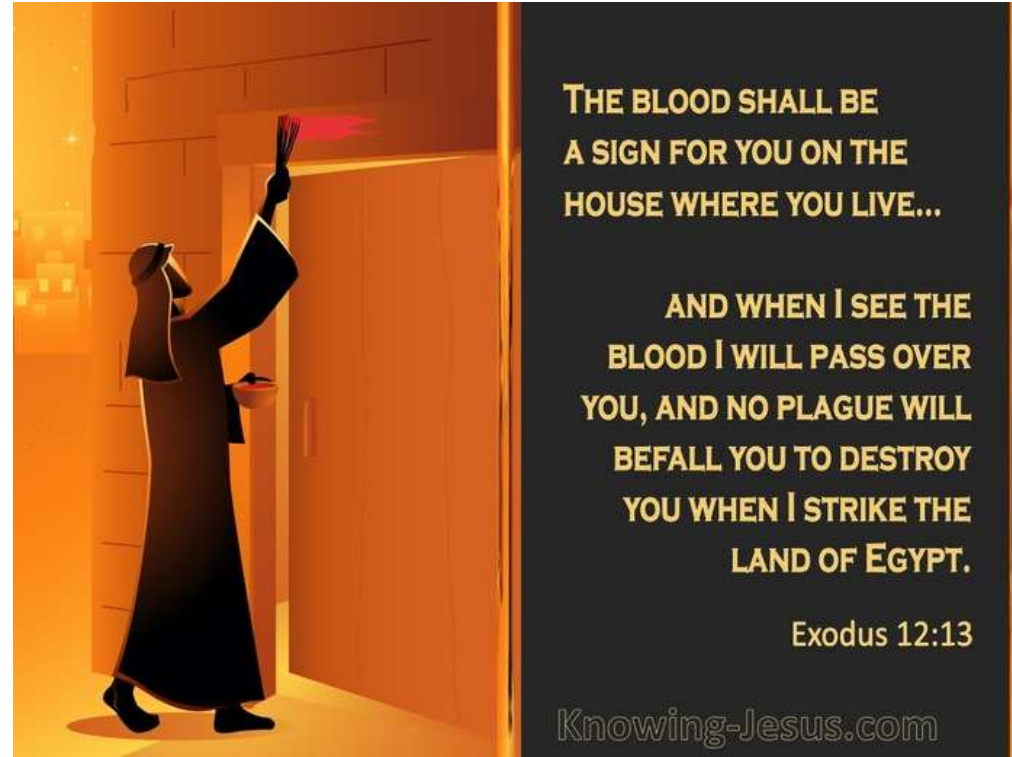
- The **messenger of death** is passing through the **nations**.
- **Homes** are being ripped asunder.
- **The blood of the Passover Lamb is our only hope.**
- Under the leadership of Moses, the Old Testament nation **learned to endure in times of trouble**.
- We must come into a **living experience** of know the Lord **Who is the Keeper of the pavilion**.
 - thou shalt keep them **secretly in a pavilion from the strife of tongues**. Psalms 31:20
- We must walk in the reality of the **secret of His Presence** and **His tabernacle**.
- God's people must **walk with Jesus Christ** in such reality that they **KNOW** He is a God Who will take care of them and meet their needs supernaturally.
- **I am alarmed at the number of Christians who have never trusted God to meet the needs of their lives.**
- So many are **lacking in the exercise of faith**, and have become soft, pampered and lukewarm.
 - So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth. Revelation 3:16



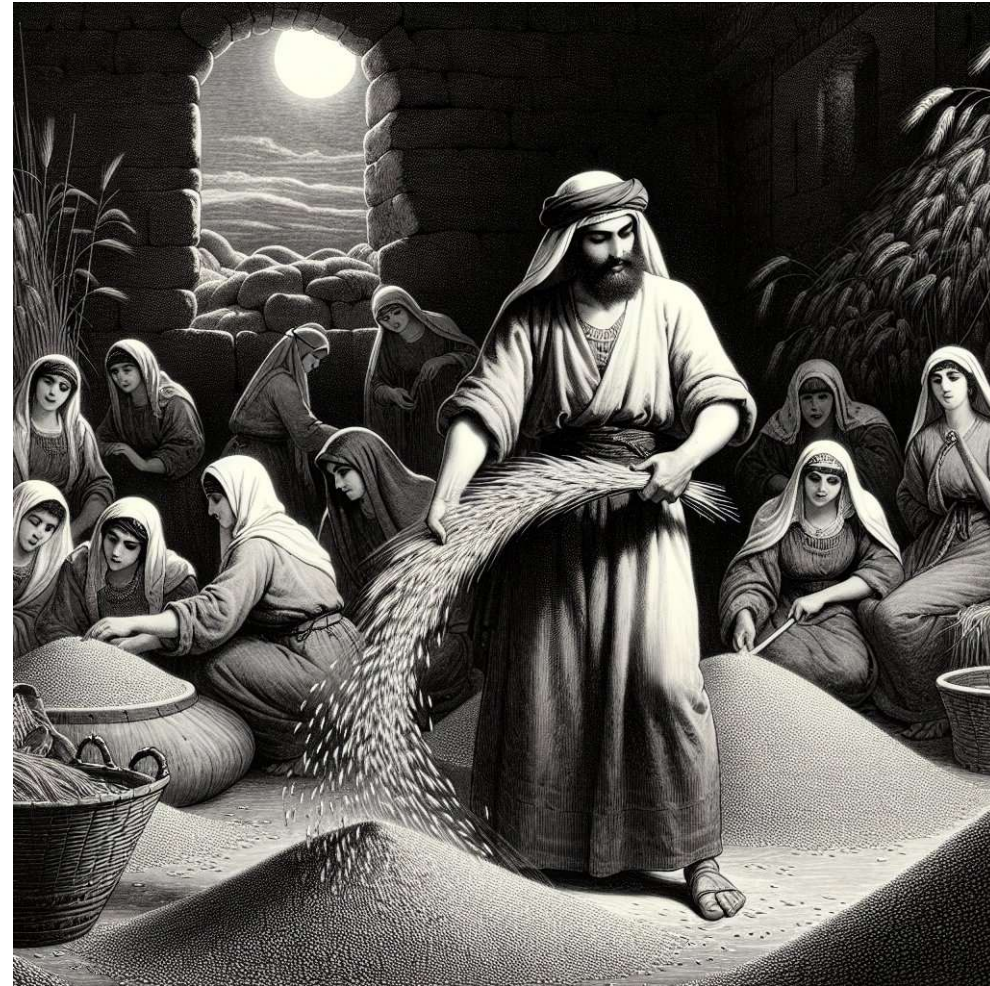
- Many want nothing to do with the thought of **hardship** or **tribulation**.
- God has a people who know by experience that God keeps us in the hour of trial.
 - And such as do wickedly against the covenant shall he corrupt by flatteries: **but the people that do know their God shall be strong, and do exploits.** Daniel 11:32
- **Society is crumbling.**
- **Babylon is crumbling.**
- This **world system** is headed for the **rocks** (Acts 27).
- **When God judged Egypt, he preserved His people!**



- And I will **SEVER** in that day the land of Goshen, in which MY PEOPLE dwell, that no swarms of *flies* shall be there; to the end **thou mayest know that I am the LORD in the MIDST of the earth.**
- And I will put a **DIVISION** between **MY PEOPLE** and thy people: to morrow shall this sign be.
- And the **LORD** shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and **there shall nothing die of all *that is the children's of Israel.***
- Only in the land of Goshen, where the CHILDREN OF ISRAEL *were*, **was there NO hail.**
- They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the CHILDREN OF ISRAEL **had LIGHT in their dwellings.**
- And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye *are*: and **when I see the BLOOD, I will PASS OVER you**, and **the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you**, when I smite the land of Egypt. Exodus 8:22-23; 9:4,26; 10:23, 12:13



- “**Server**” means “to **separate**, distinguish, set apart”.
- “**Division**” means “deliverance, **redeem**”.
- **God makes a difference.**
- He hastens to **meet the needs of His people.**
- God **keeps His children** during the **hour of trial.**
- In the church world right now, **God is separating the sheep from the goats.**
- It is **harvest time**, and He is **dividing.** (Matthew 13:37-43)
- Jesus Christ, our **Kinsman-Redeemer**, our Heavenly **Boaz**, is down at the **threshing-floor** dividing His harvest.
 - And now *is* not Boaz of our kindred, with whose maidens thou wast? **Behold, he winnoweth barley to night in the threshingfloor.** Ruth 3:2
- At this time, **He is threshing the FIRSTFRUITS** of the harvest.



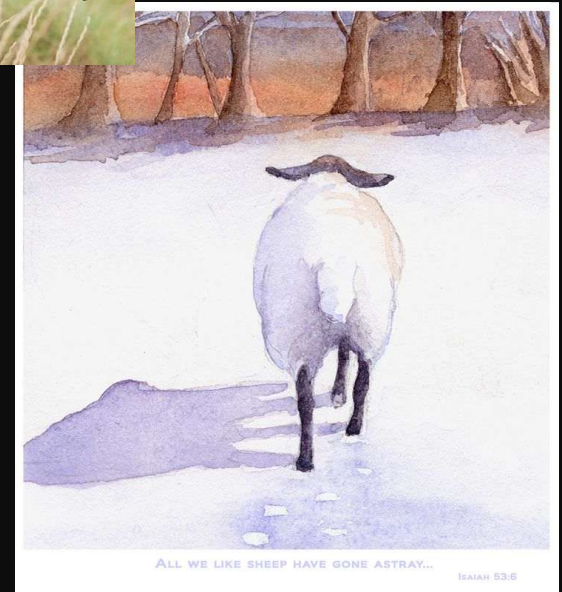
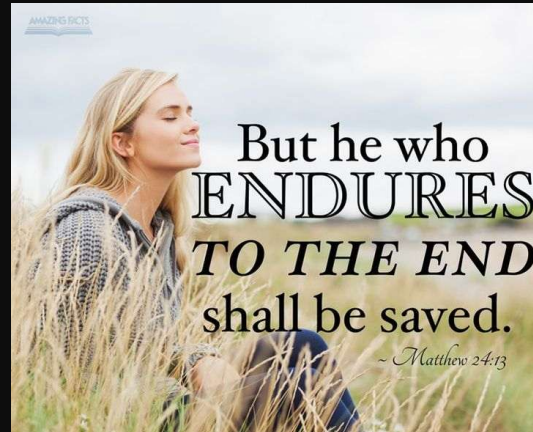
- God is **sanctifying** and **protecting** His own – **those who KNOW their God**.
- He is doing this in the **hour of trial**.
 - Beloved, think it not strange concerning **the fiery trial which is to try you**, as though some strange thing happened unto you:
 - **But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings**; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. 1 Peter 4:12-13

1 Peter 4:12-13

12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

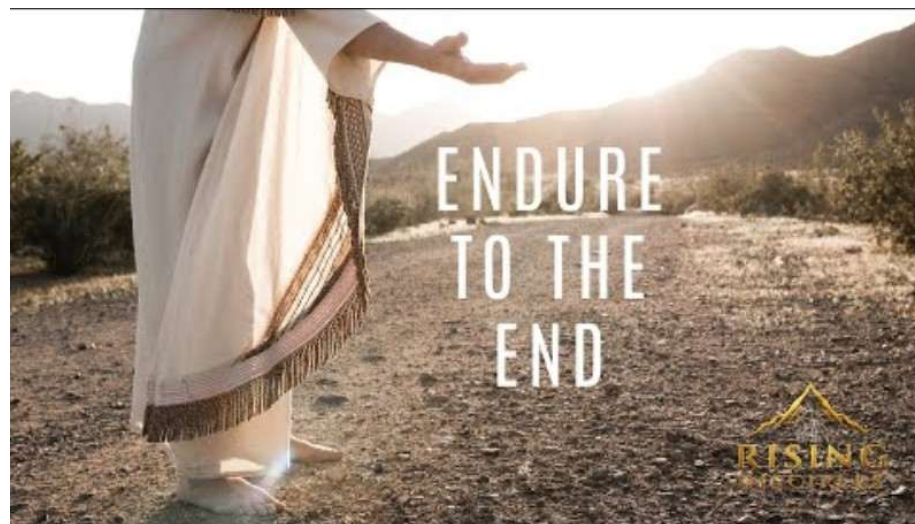
13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

During your **hour**
of trial will you
endure or will
you go **astray**?



Join me in Worship – Endure to the End

**Endure to the end, don't ever stray,
He walks beside us, every day.
As we strive to be like Him,
He fills our lives, from limb to limb.**



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