

we may boldly say,

THE LORD IS MY

HELPER

Hebrews 13:6

1 Sam 7:12

Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.

EBENEZER

Come thou fount

*“Here I raise my **Ebenezer**.*

*Hither by Thine help I’m come:
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.”*

*Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.*



1 Sam 7:12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and called the name of it **Ebenezer**, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.









HERCULES
FENCE

Biblical Monuments

Abraham had an Ebenezer

Genesis 22:14 And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.

Jacob had an Ebenezer.

Genesis 28:22 “And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house”

(Called it ‘Bethel’ the House of God)

Biblical Monuments

Joshua had an Ebenezer.

Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of the Jordan to signal the LORD's drying up of the river, and the passing of the children of Israel into the land of promise (Joshua 4:9).

The Lord left us an Ebenezer.

Lord's Supper. "This do in remembrance of Me."

Monuments remind us that significant happened here.

What's your Ebenezer?



3 things about Ebenezer

1. The **Setting** of Ebenezer
2. The **Story** of Ebenezer
3. The **Significance** of Ebenezer

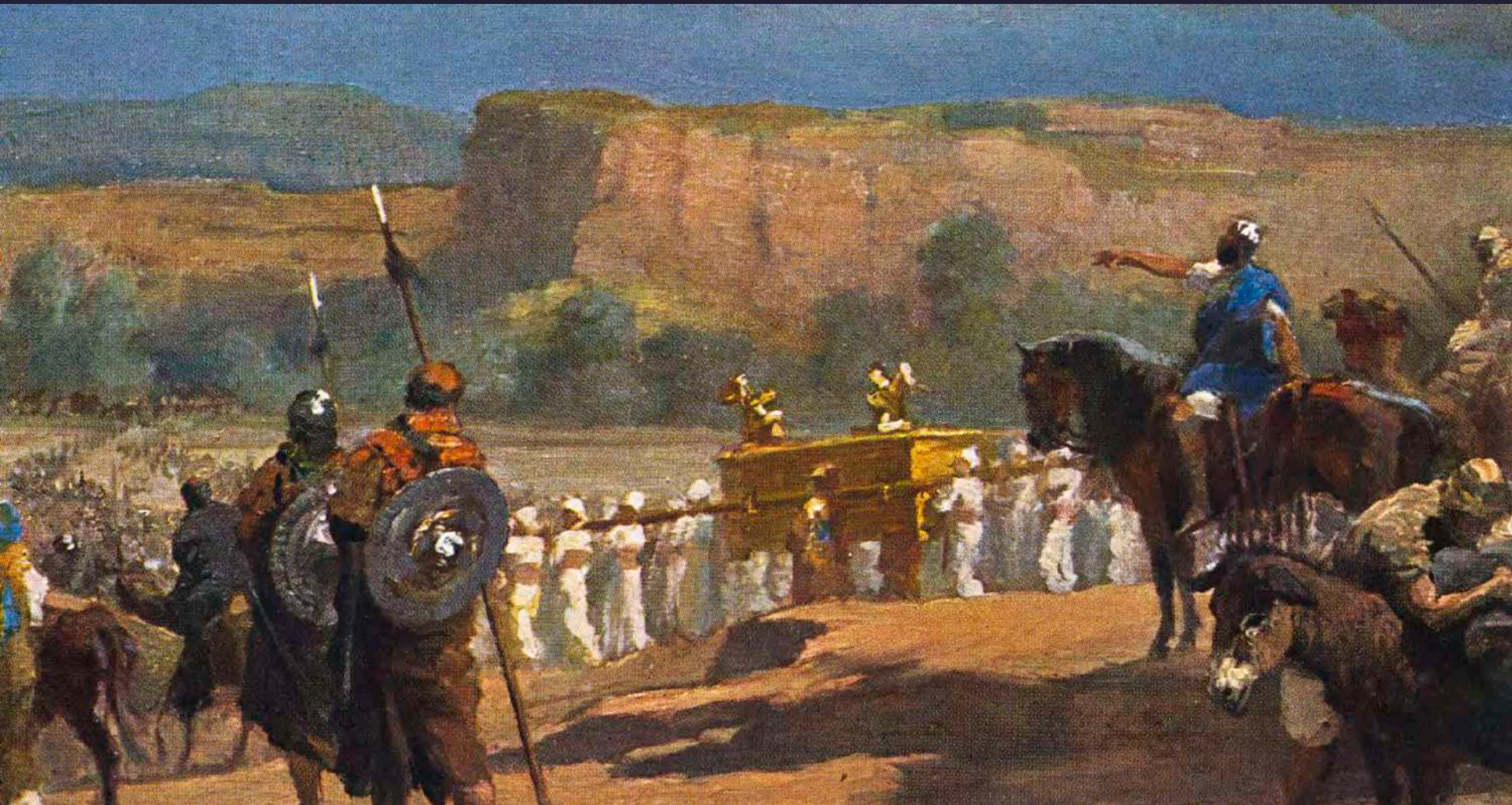
1. The **Setting** of Ebenezer

Departing from God.

1 Samuel 4:1 And the word of Samuel came to all Israel. Now Israel went out against the Philistines to battle, and pitched beside **Ebenezer**: and the Philistines pitched in Aphek.

The Ark of the covenant.

1st battle 4000 died. 2nd battle 30,000 died.
Philistines took the ark.



“The glory has departed from Israel, for the ark of God has been captured” (1 Sam 4:22).

Ichabod

1 Samuel 5:3 Dagon was fallen upon his face to the earth before the ark of the LORD. And they took Dagon, and set him in his place again.



Israel departed from God.

Trying to succeed in the energy of their own flesh.

2. The *Story* of Ebenezer.

Returning to God.

1 Samuel 7:1 And the men of Kirjathjearim came, and fetched up the ark of the LORD, and brought it into the house of Abinadab in the hill, and sanctified Eleazar his son to keep the ark of the LORD.

2 And it came to pass, while the ark abode in Kirjathjearim, that the time was long; for it was twenty years: and all the house of Israel lamented after the LORD.

20 years of departure from God,
lamented. (wailed, mourned)

3 And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If ye do **return** unto the LORD with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the LORD, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hand of the Philistines.

4 Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the LORD only.

Samuel preached. “Return to the Lord”

5 And Samuel said, Gather all Israel to Mizpah, and I will pray for you unto the LORD.

6 And they gathered together to Mizpah, and drew water, and poured it out before the LORD, and fasted on that day, and said there, We have sinned against the LORD. And Samuel judged the children of Israel in Mizpah.

Samuel prayed.

Here was his priestly ministry, he pray TO God FOR the people.

Mizpah means “watchtower”. A place to wait upon the Lord in prayer and WATCH for His answer.

7 And when the Philistines heard that the children of Israel were gathered together to Mizpah, the lords of the Philistines went up against Israel. And when the children of Israel heard it, they were afraid of the Philistines.

8 And the children of Israel said to Samuel, Cease not to cry unto the LORD our God for us, that he will save us out of the hand of the Philistines.

9 And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the LORD: and Samuel cried unto the LORD for Israel; and the LORD heard him.

10 And as Samuel was offering up the burnt offering, the Philistines drew near to battle against Israel: but the LORD thundered with a great thunder on that day upon the Philistines, and discomfited them; and they were smitten before Israel.

11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpah, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Bethcar.

Samuel Sacrificed. A lamb sacrificed for their sin.

Lord Heard. Lord thundered. Confused them.

12 Then Samuel took a stone, and set it between Mizpah and Shen, and called the name of it Ebenezer, saying, Hitherto hath the LORD helped us.

if we want to return to the Lord...
it is going to take PRAYER.

3. The Significance of Ebenezer.

Remembering God

What is Ebenezer?

It is a Hebrew word, made up of two parts.

eben – stone

ezer – help

It literally means “a stone of help”

A memorial on the battlefield itself.



EBENEZER

“Hitherto Hath
The Lord Helped Us”

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

1. Looking back

Hitherto means - “Thus far.” Up to this point.
So far. Until now.

Remembering how God has brought us this far

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

1. Looking back

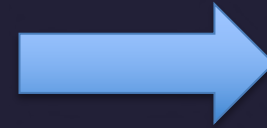
- It Remembers our Past Victories
- It Remembers our Past Mistakes

“You have left your first love....Remember from where you have fallen, and repent.”

(Revelation 2:5)

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

2. Looking Forward



Hitherto. - So far.

” so far, so good” –

Not sure about tomorrow.

But that’s not what the implication is here.

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

2. Looking Forward

2 Tim 1:12 for I know **whom** I have believed, and am persuaded that **he** is able to keep that which I have committed unto **him** against that day.

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

2. Looking Forward

This victory today is really just the first one, it is a signal that God will provide many more.

"I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee;

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

2. Looking Forward

John Newton



“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

2. Looking Forward

Amazing Grace; John Newton;

“Thro’ many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
tis grace has bro’t me safe **thus far**,
and grace will lead me home.”

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

2. Looking Forward

Future blessings

1 Samuel 7:13- So the Philistines were subdued, and they came no more into the coast of Israel: and the hand of the LORD was against the Philistines all the days of Samuel.

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

3. Looking up 



“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

3. Looking up

The stone did not say:

- EBENEZER -

We Israel defeated the Philistines here.
Our leader Samuel brought us victory.

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

3. Looking up

It said:

- EBENEZER -

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

3. Looking up

“a very present help in time of need” (Psalm 46:1).

Psalm 121: I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help?

2 My help cometh from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

3. Looking up

Paul had an Ebenezer.

2 Cor 1:10 -

Who delivered us from death,
and even now does deliver:
and we trust that he will yet deliver us;

God who helped in the past, the present and the future.

How did the victory come? -

Through the Sacrifice of the Lamb

1 Samuel 7:9 And Samuel took a sucking lamb, and offered it for a burnt offering wholly unto the LORD:

1 Samuel 7:11 And the men of Israel went out of Mizpah, and pursued the Philistines, and smote them, until they came under Bethcar.

Bethcar - "The house of the lamb."

Beth – House, Car– lamb

Sacrifice of the Lamb to the home of the Lamb.

- *From the Cross to the Throne*

3 things about Ebenezer

1. The Setting of Ebenezer

REMOVING

2. The Story of Ebenezer

RETURNING

3. The Significance of Ebenezer.

REMEMBERING

A tall, moss-covered stone stands prominently in a grassy field. The stone is dark and textured, with patches of green moss. The field is a mix of green and golden-brown grasses. In the background, there are rolling hills under a cloudy sky with a bright light source, possibly the sun, breaking through the clouds. The overall scene is serene and natural.

What's your
EBENEZER?

A tall, moss-covered stone stands prominently in a grassy field. The stone is dark and textured, with patches of green moss. The background features rolling hills under a cloudy sky, with a small stream or path visible in the distance.

Ebenezer

*Here I raise my Ebenezer.
Hither by Thine help I'm come:
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.*







SOUTHWEST HIGH SCHOOL

6512

WINSTEAD'S

WINSTEAD'S
DRIVE-IN

DRIVE THRU
OPEN
24/7

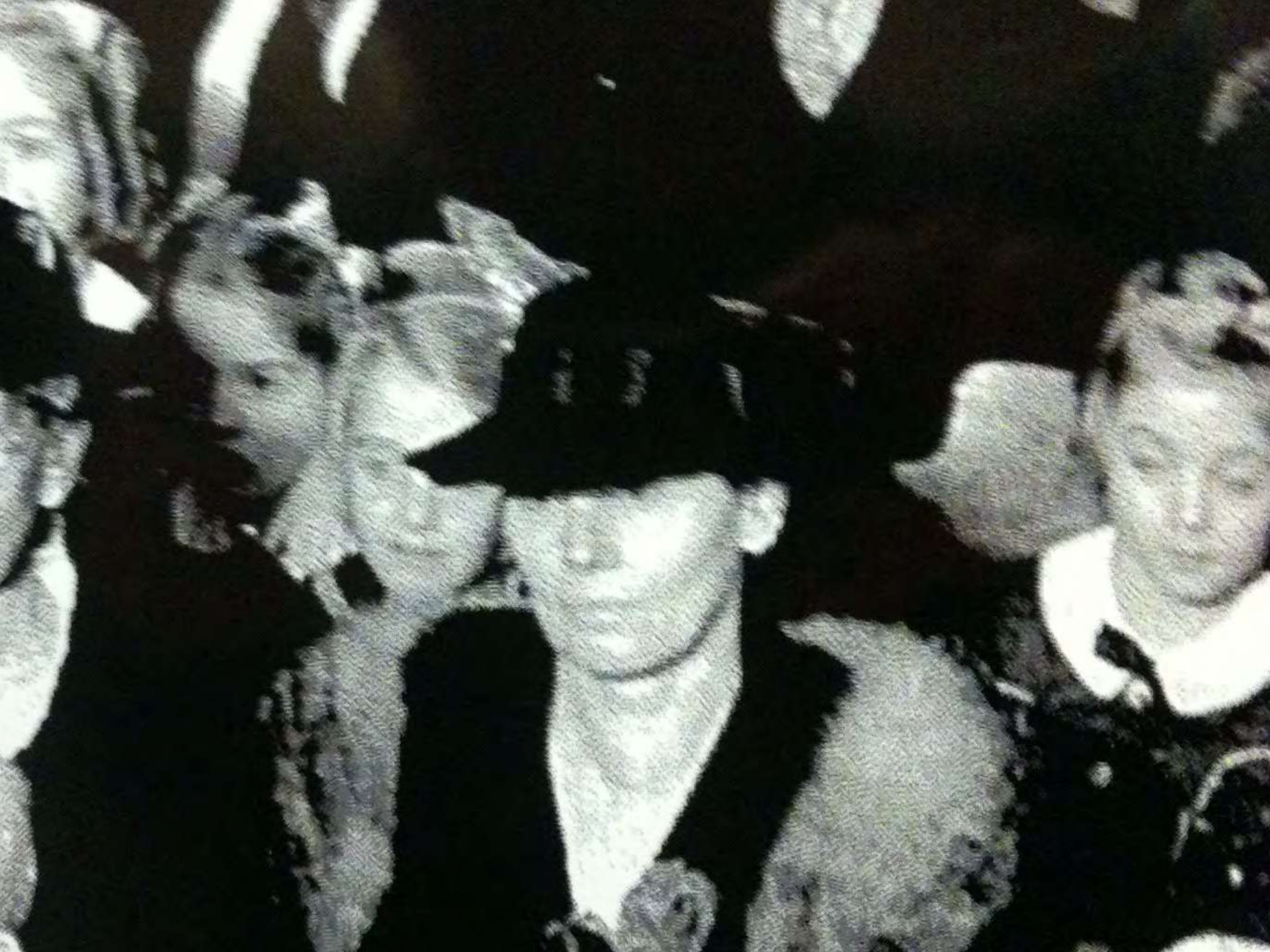
DRIVE THRU
OPEN
24/7



GOSPEL HALL

A black and white photograph of the front facade of a brick building. The building features a prominent arched window with a decorative, pointed-arch top. Above the window, a horizontal sign reads "GOSPEL HALL". The brickwork is dark, and there are lighter-colored decorative elements, including a small arched window on the left and right sides of the main arch. The sky is clear and light-colored.





Come, Thou Fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy, never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise.

Teach me, Lord, some rapturous measure
Meet for blood-bought hosts above
While I sing the countless treasure
Of my God's unchanging love.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let that grace Lord, like a fetter
Bind my wandering heart to Thee

Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Yet Thou, Lord hast deigned to seal it:
With Thy Spirit from above.

Here I raise my Ebenezer
Hither by Thine help I'm come:
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger
Wandering from the fold of God
He, to rescue me from danger
Interposed His precious blood.

Evenings

**we may boldly say,
THE LORD IS MY
HELPER**

Hebrews 13:6

THE LORD IS MY HELPER

- Help in Remembering – Ebenezer
- Help in a Storm



HELP!
IN A STORM



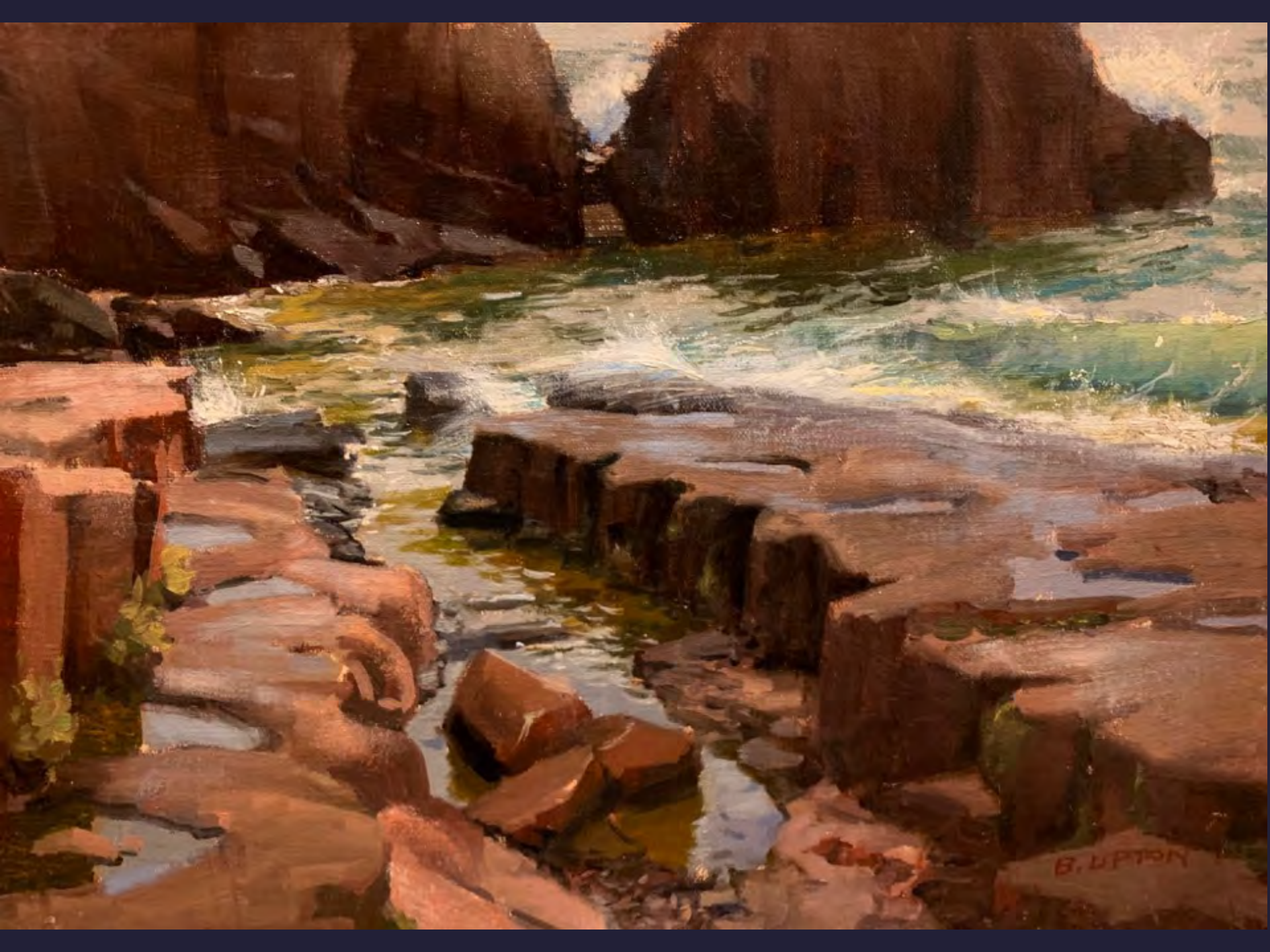


B. UPTON





S. W. P. T. N.



B. UPTON



BURTON





How do you go through a Storm?

PEACE
BE STILL

“be muzzled”

Mark 1:25

And Jesus rebuked him, saying,
Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

“Peace be still” = “Hold thy peace”

REBUKED him.

REBUKED the wind



37-

Great storm...

39

He arose...

Great calm.





**How did they get into
this situation?**

Mark 4:36

“they took Him as he was”

Lord's idea

Mark 4:35

Let us pass over unto the other side.”

**The purpose of a storm is
to show we are helpless.**

**You don't know you
need help
until you're in trouble.**

IMMEDIATELY!
45 times in Mark's gospel

Help:
to run to the cry
of someone in danger

To surround

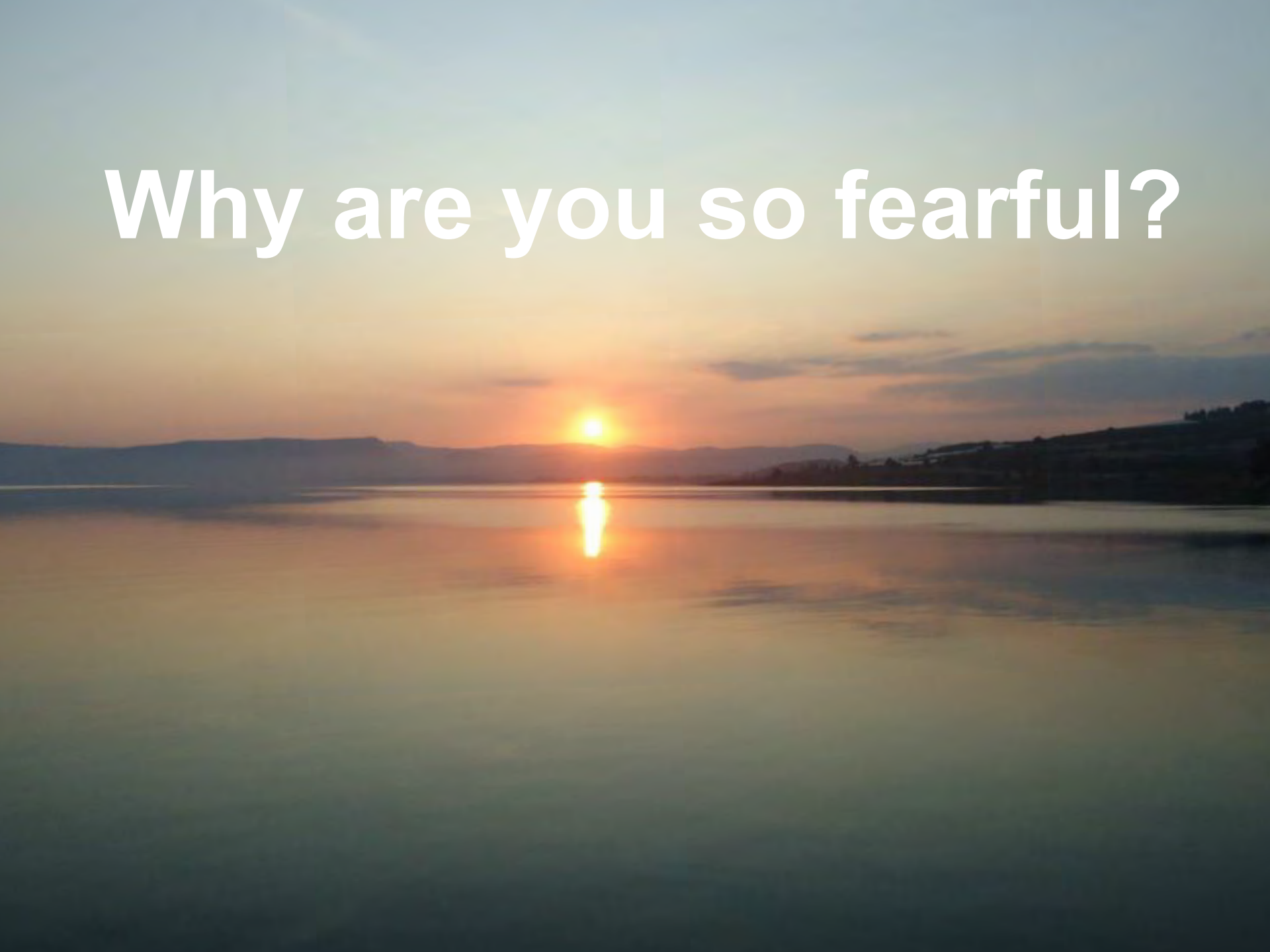


“Let us go to the other side.”

Don't you care?

1. They **cared** when they didn't need to.
2. They thought he didn't **care**.

Why are you so fearful?



Mark 4:41

And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What **manner of man** is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

GOD + MAN

“they feared exceedingly”

Greek words

“Phobio + Phobos”

“they feared with great fear”.

**They weren't afraid of the storm.
They were afraid of the calm.**



The aftermath

Mark 5:1

And they came over unto the other side of the sea, into the country of the Gerasenes.

ROUND 2

Mark 6:45

And straightway he constrained his disciples to get into the ship, and to go to the other side before unto Bethsaida, while he sent away the people.

Why are you afraid?

Mark 4:40

He said unto them,

Why are ye so fearful?

how is it that ye have no faith?

Why are we fearful?

Because we lose faith.

The boat will not sink.

The storm will not last forever.

Isa 41:13

**For I the LORD thy God will
hold thy right hand, saying
unto thee,**

Fear not; I will help thee.

**Like a river glorious, is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious, in its bright increase;
Perfect, yet it floweth, fuller ev'ry day,
Perfect, yet it groweth, deeper all the way.**

**Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest
Finding, as He promised, perfect, peace and
rest.**

**Hidden in the hollow, of His blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, never traitor stand;
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry, touch the spirit there.**

**Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest
Finding, as He promised, perfect, peace and
rest.**

**Every joy or trial, falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial, by the Sun of Love;
We may trust Him fully, all for us to do.
They who trust Him wholly, find Him wholly
true.**

**Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest
Finding, as He promised, perfect, peace and
rest.**



Cauffy



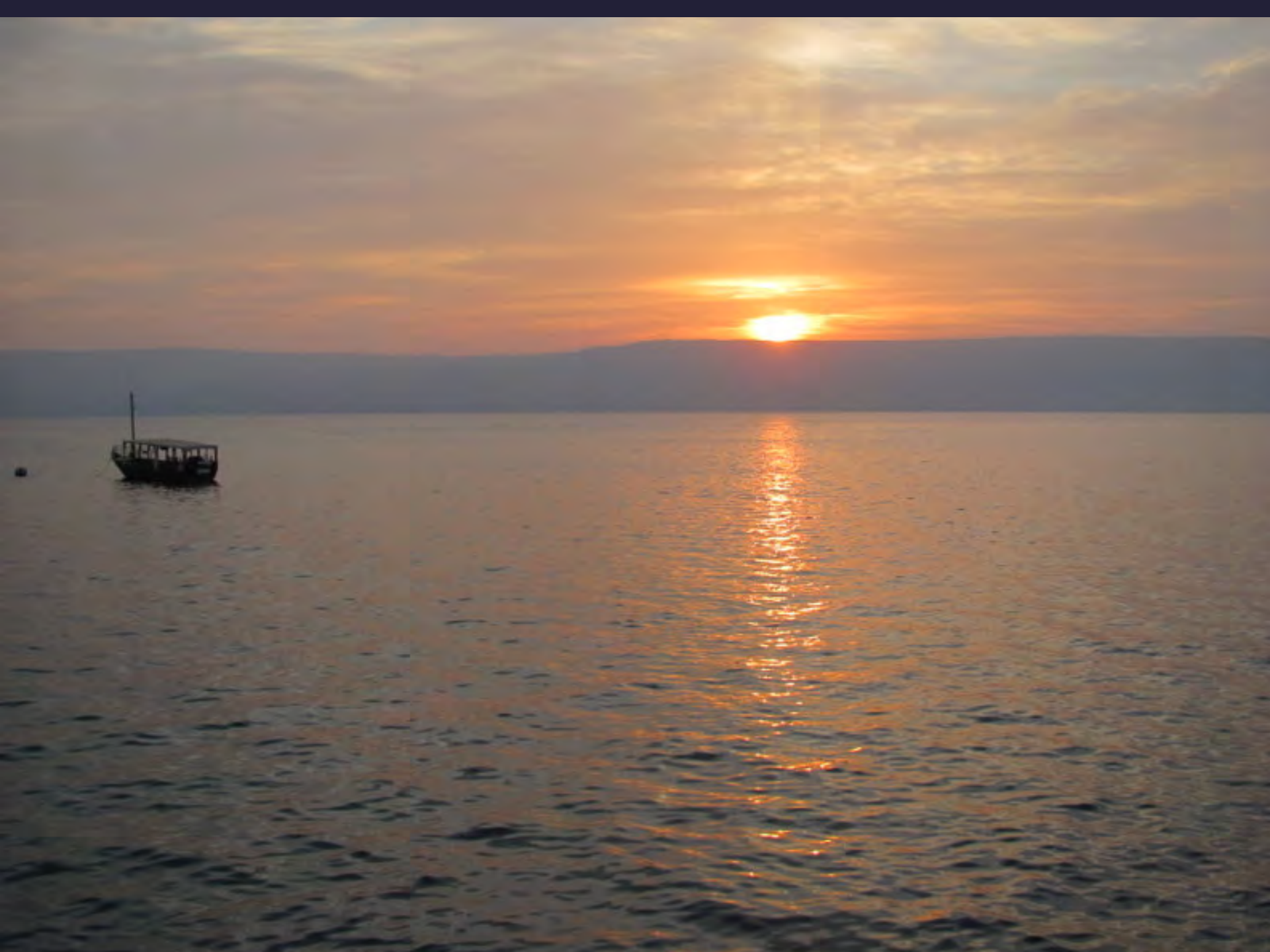














Evenings

we may boldly say,
THE LORD IS MY
HELPER

Hebrews 13:6

THE LORD IS MY HELPER

- Help in Remembering – Ebenezer
- Help in a Storm – Mark 4
- Help to do what's right

WHO AM I?

I am your constant companion.

I know you better than your best friend.

I am your greatest encouragement or your heaviest burden.

I will push you upward or drag you down to failure.

Teach me what is right and after a few lessons

I will do it automatically.


Neglect me and I will stay silent.

Train me and I will guide you in the right path.

Forget about me, ignore me and I make you miserable.

I AM YOUR

CONSCIENCE

A black sign with white text is positioned in the foreground. The sign reads "UNITED STATES" at the top, followed by "Internal Revenue Service Building" in a larger font. The background features the Internal Revenue Service Building, a large, classical-style stone building with many windows and columns. An American flag is flying on a tall pole to the left of the building. Bare tree branches are visible in the foreground, and some green foliage is on the right side. The sky is clear and blue.

UNITED STATES

Internal
Revenue
Service
Building

CLEAR CLEAN
CONVICTING
CONSCIENCE

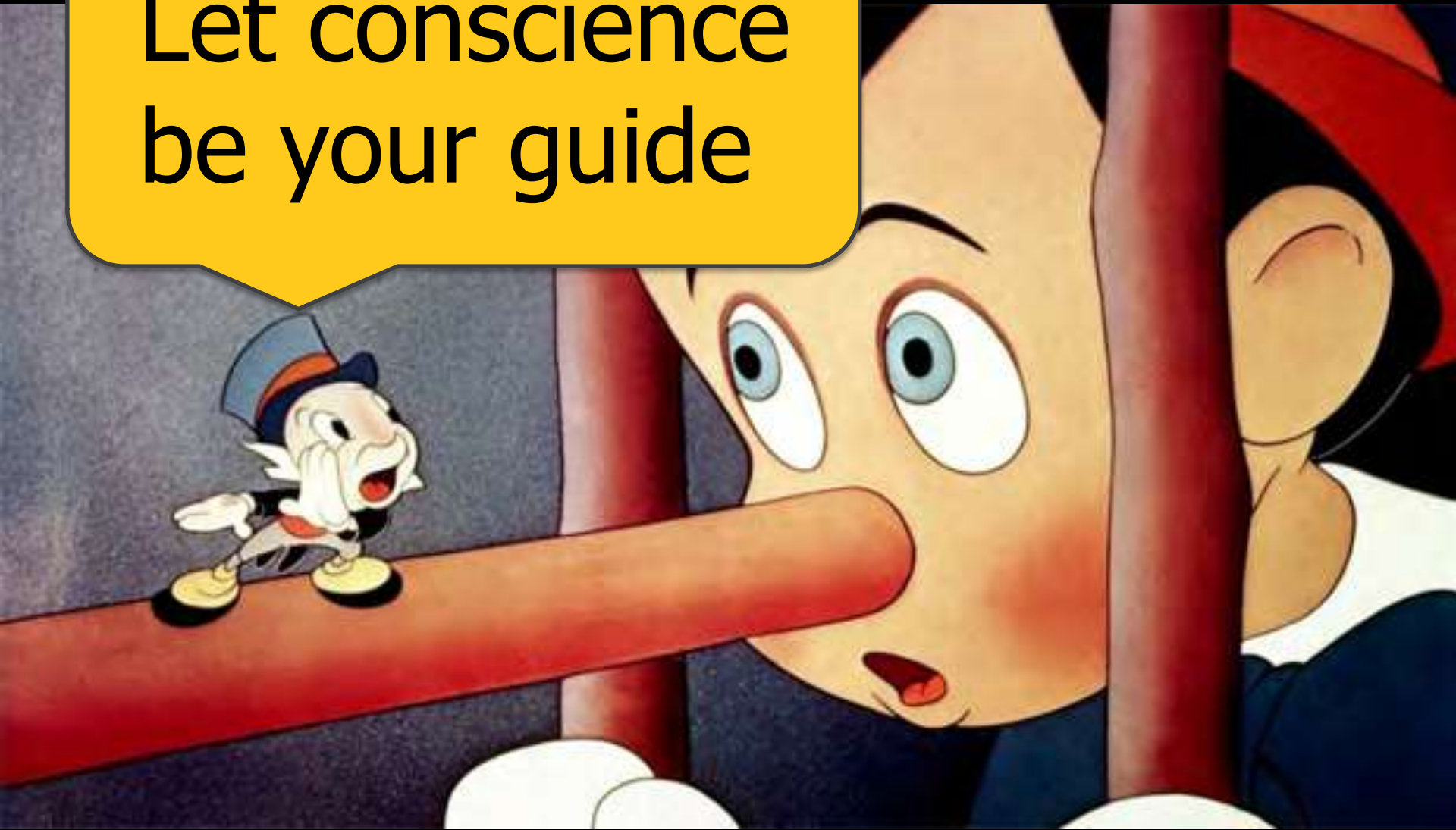
Help from God to do what's right.

“Let conscience
be your guide”

Walt Disney's

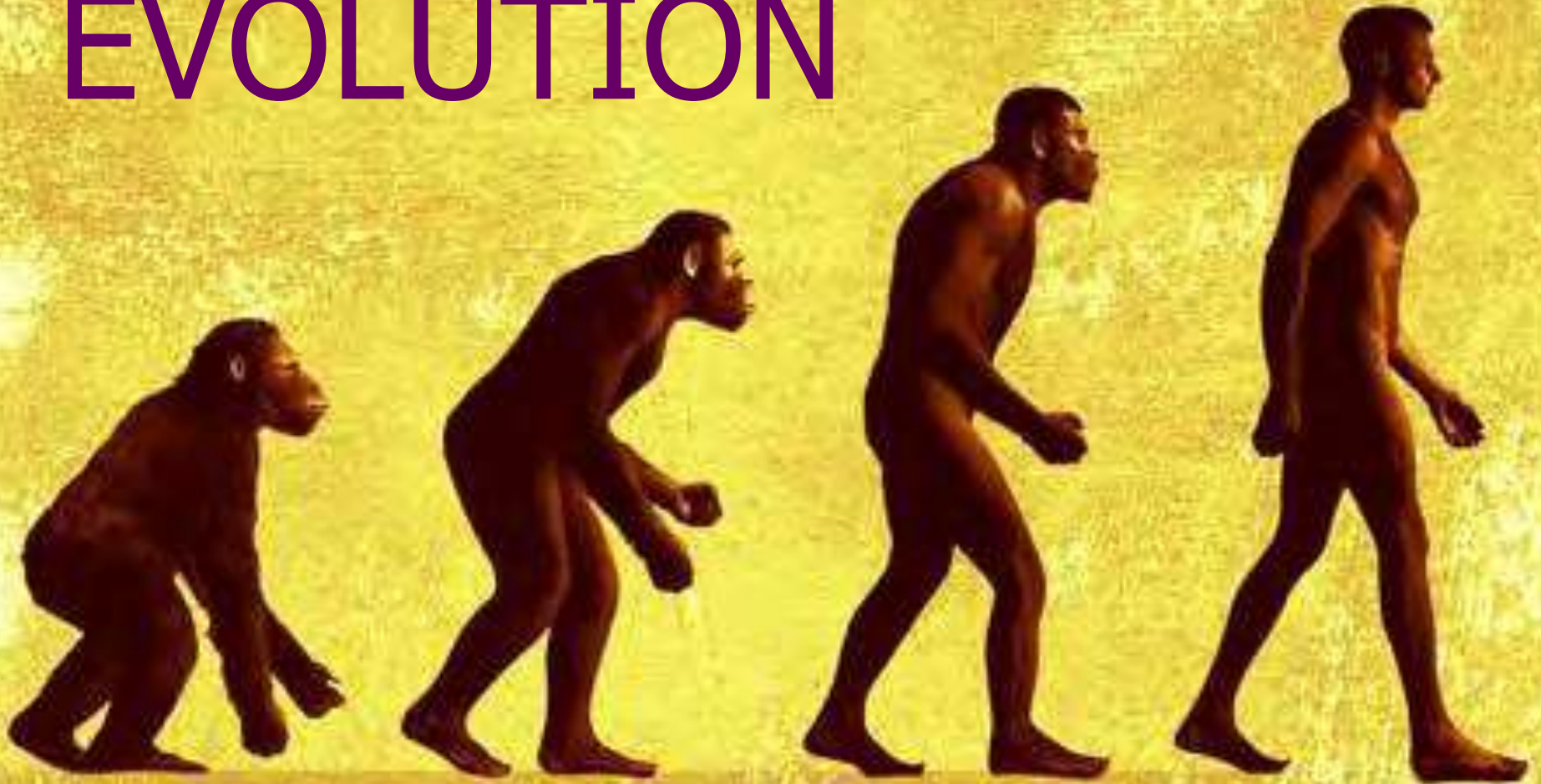
Pinocchio

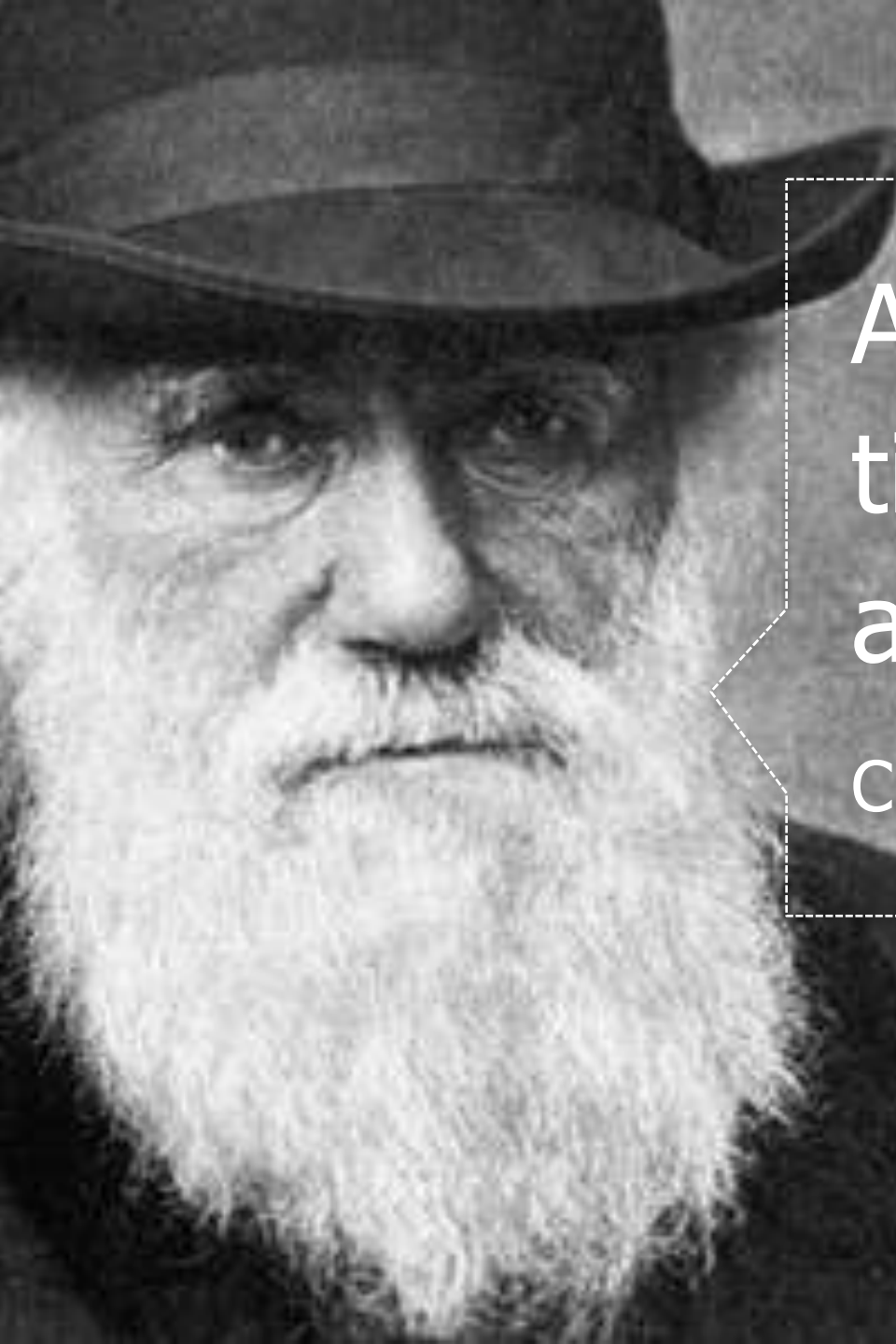
Let conscience
be your guide



Conscience comes from **behind us**

EVOLUTION





Any animal over
time will develop
a conscience.

Charles Darwin

Conscience comes from **around us**



PARENTS

Conscience comes from above us

Conscience is
a gift from God

Visible



Body

Invisible



Soul



Spirit

Conscience

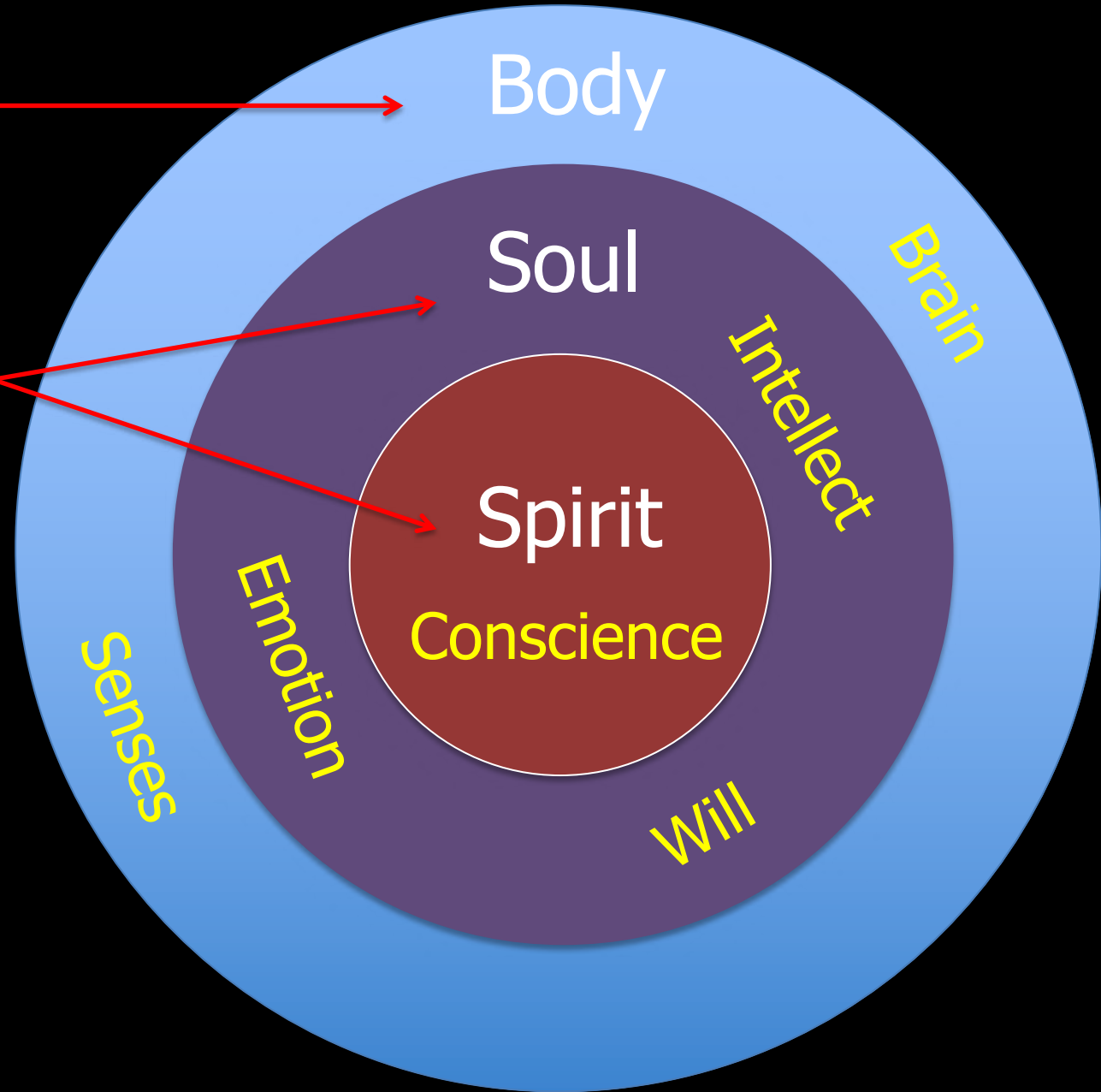
Brain

Intellect

Emotion

Will

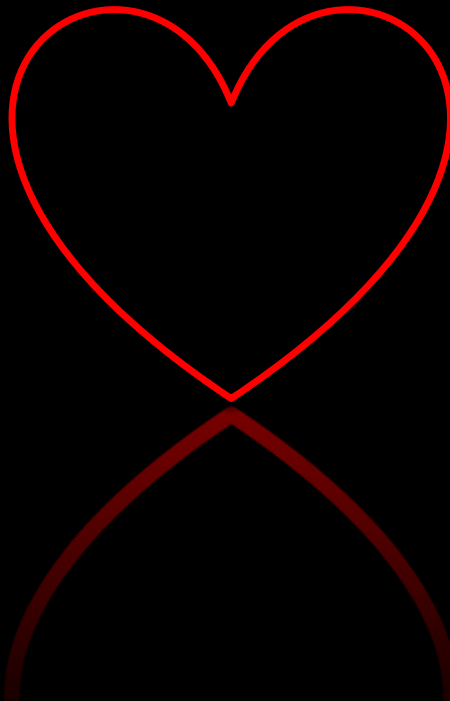
Senses



In the Old Testament

The Conscience can be referred to as

the heart.



In the New Testament

CON - **SCIENCE**

(together) (knowledge)

Knowing oneself. Inner knowledge.

A young child with blonde hair styled in two pigtails is looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. In the foreground, a dark metal baking tray holds several golden-brown cookies. The background is slightly out of focus, showing a kitchen setting with a white cabinet and a colorful patterned cloth.

guilty.

Conscience definition

The conscience tells us that we ought to do what we believe is right and it restrains us from doing what we believe is wrong.



It urges to do right.



WARNING

It sounds an alarm when you do wrong.

A young child with blonde hair is lying in bed, looking up. A hand is holding a digital thermometer in the child's mouth. The child is wearing a blue and green plaid shirt. The background is a light blue wall.

Conscience
is like a thermometer.

It can warn you when you are sick
But it can't help you get better.

What it is not.

- **It's not God speaking to us.**

Conscience is a human ability.

God can speak through the conscience.

- **It's not the Holy Spirit.**

Rom 9: 1 "...my conscience also bearing me witness in the Spirit."

- **It's not guilt.**

Guilt is an emotion.

These all work with the conscience,
but they are not the conscience.

“My conscience is cross wired
with my sweat glands.”



Light of CREATION



Light of CONSCIENCE



Light of CHRIST



Romans 2:14-16

14 For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves:

15 Which show the work of the law written in their **hearts**, their **conscience** also bearing witness, and their **thoughts** the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)

16 In the day when God shall judge the **secrets of men** by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

1. HEARTS

“they show the work of the law written in their **hearts**,”

2. CONSCIENCE

“their **conscience** also bearing witness, ”

3. THOUGHTS

“and their **thoughts** the mean while accusing or else excusing one another;)”

1. HEARTS = LAW



2. CONSCIENCE = JUDGE



3. THOUGHTS = JURY



Romans 2:16

16 In the day when God shall judge the **secrets of men** by Jesus Christ according to my gospel.

Conscience is an Umpire



Conscience is an Umpire



Conscience is an Umpire



Everyone
has a conscience.



The Conscience is not dependable.

~~"Always let conscience
be your guide."~~

Jiminy Cricket





80 mph



Conscience accuses me.

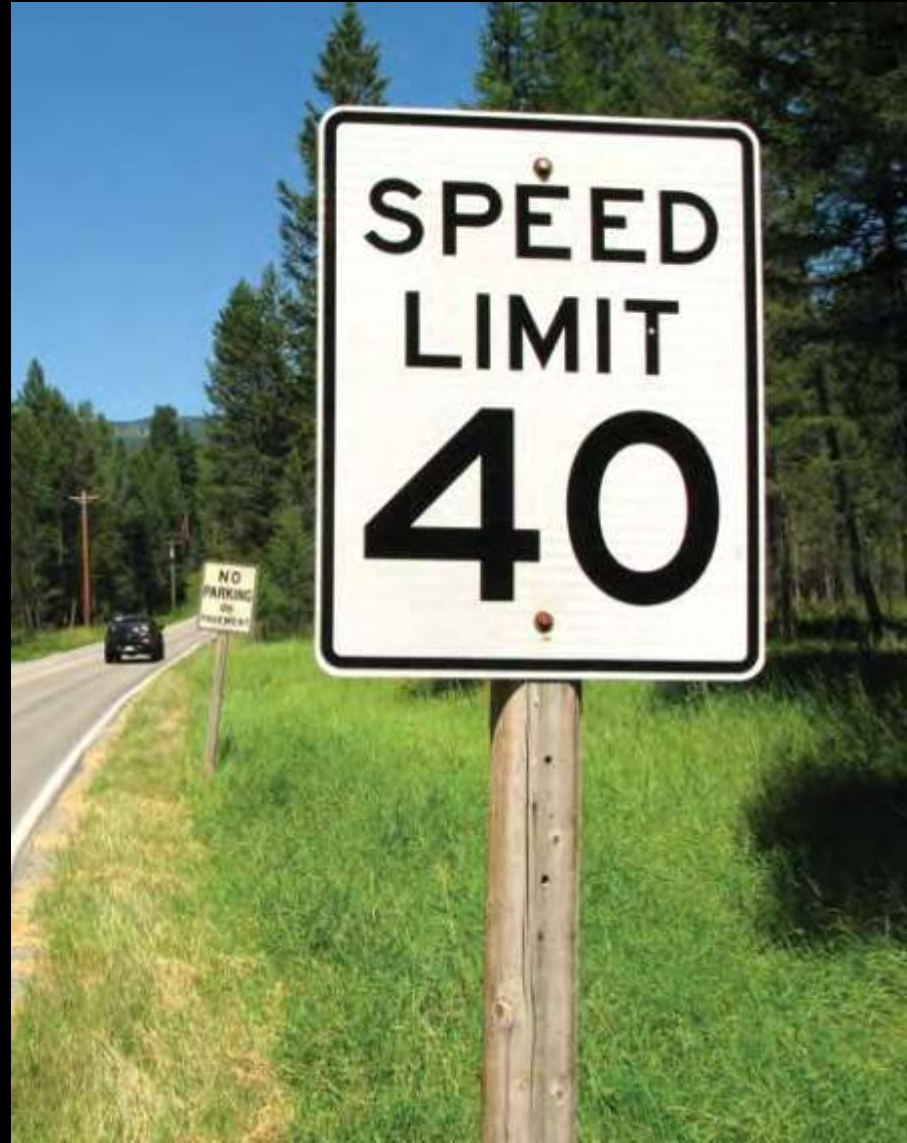


55 mph



Conscience excuses me.

Conscience is mistaken.



Acts 23:1

And Paul, earnestly beholding the council, said, Men and brethren, I have lived in all **good conscience** before God until this day.

Conscience tells us that we ought
to do right, but it does not tell us
what right is —

that we are taught by God's word.

Henry Trumbull

Act 24:16

And herein do I **exercise**
myself, to have always a
conscience void of offence
toward God, and toward men.



John 8:9

And they which heard it, being **convicted by their own conscience**, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even unto the last: and Jesus was left alone, and the woman standing in the midst.

The spoken and written Word of God is what convicts the conscience.



Ignoring our conscience.

SEARCHED



CONSCIENCE

1 Timothy 4:2

God has cleaned our conscience.

Hebrews 10: 22

Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an **evil conscience**, and our bodies washed with pure water.

God has purged our conscience.

Hebrews 9:14

How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, **purge your conscience** from dead works to serve the living God?

CONCLUSION:

Inform your
Conscience.

Get your Standards from the Word of God

CONCLUSION:

Obey your
Conscience.

Don't go against what it says.

AM I REAL?

THE MESSAGE OF THE CONSCIENCE

Your conscience keeps it real.

CLEAR CLEAN
CONVICTING
CONSCIENCE

Evenings

**we may boldly say,
THE LORD IS MY
HELPER**

Hebrews 13:6

THE LORD IS MY HELPER

- Help in Remembering – Ebenezer
- Help in a Storm
- Help to do what's Right – Conscience

HELP FOR THE HELPLESS

Powerless Man Powerful God

**John purpose is that you believe that
Jesus is the Christ the Son of God.**

Themes in John

Theme 1

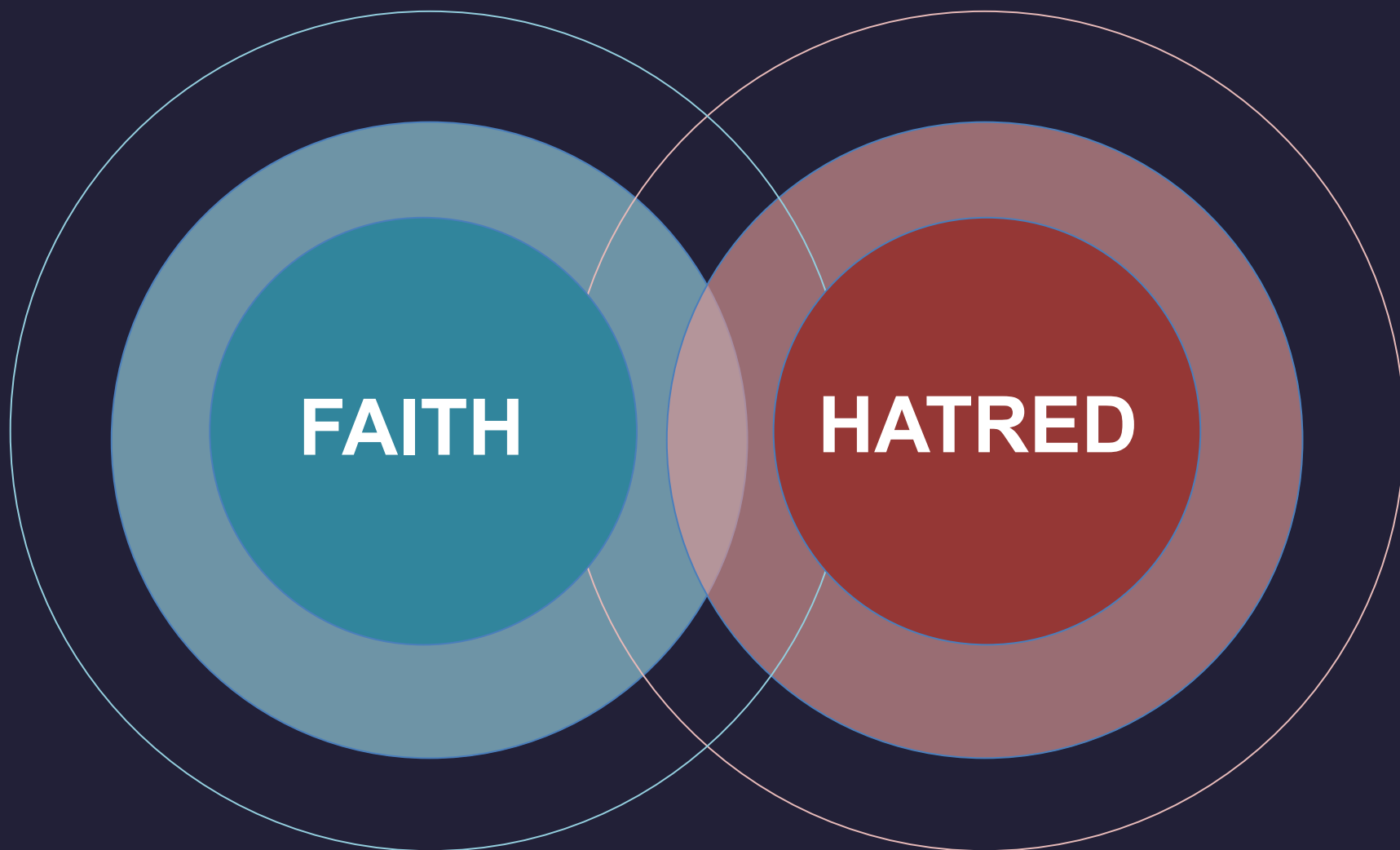
John 1:12 - But as many as **received** him, to them gave he **power** to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:

Themes in John

Theme 2

John 1:11 - He came unto **his own**, and his own **received him not**.

John 5 is a turning point.



Themes in John

Theme 3

Grace vs Law.

John 1:17 For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ.

John has 7 Signs

What is a sign?

A green rectangular sign with rounded corners and a white border, mounted on a grey post. The sign contains the text "A MIRACLE WITH A MESSAGE" in white, bold, uppercase letters.

**A MIRACLE
WITH A MESSAGE**

Sign #3

What is the message in the miracle:



GRACE

THE SETTING:

- **JERUSALEM**

John 5:1 After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

Feasts of the Lord.

Feast of the Jews.

Leviticus 23:4 - These are the feasts of the LORD, even holy convocations, which ye shall proclaim in their seasons

Isaiah 1:14 - Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hateth: they are a trouble unto me; I am weary to bear them.

God's own feasts are trouble to Him.
Because he had been removed from it.

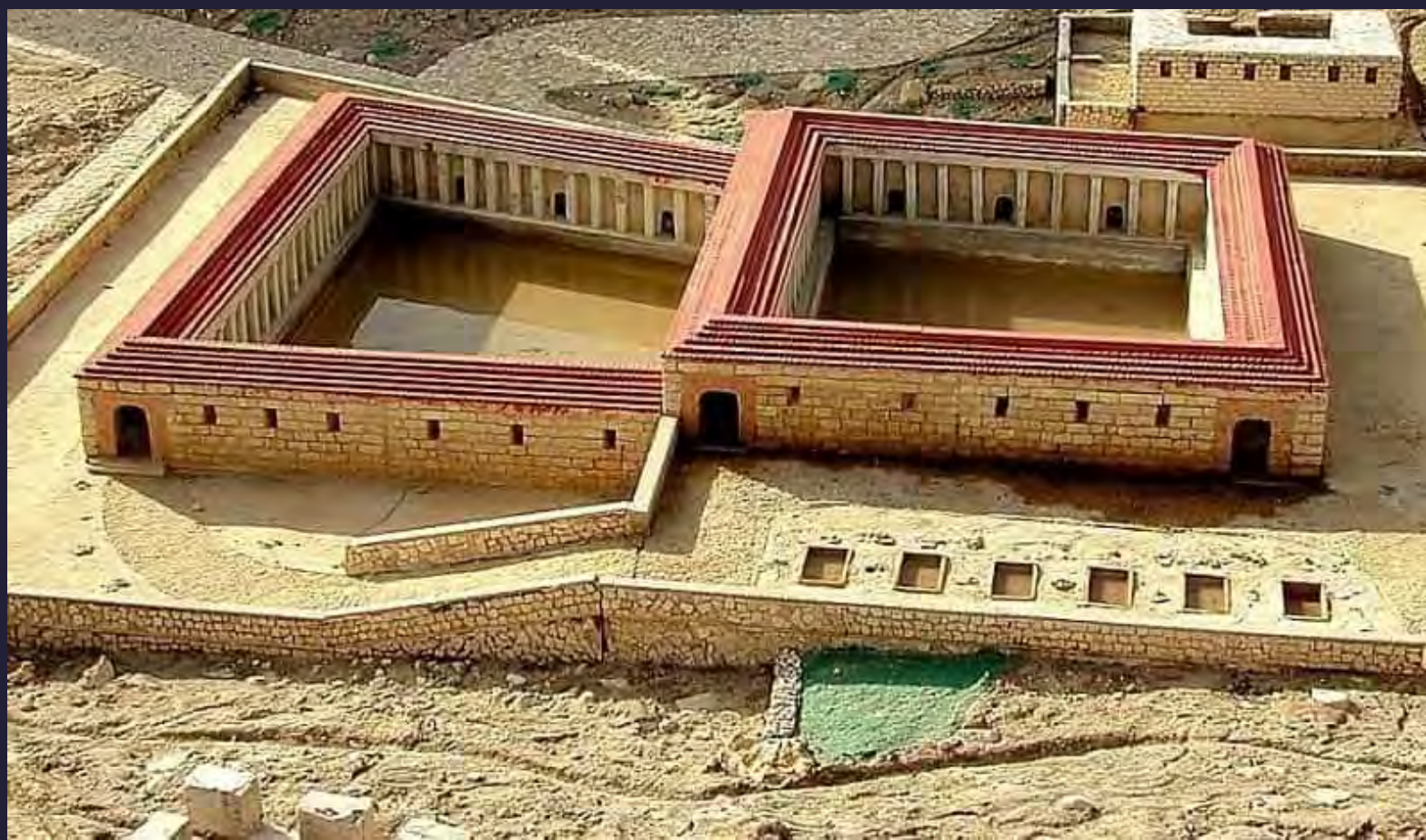
Feast of the LORD ~~LORD~~ JEWS

John 5:2 Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep gate a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches.

- JERUSALEM
- BETHESDA – “house of mercy”

The sheep gate – All the lambs came through here to be sacrificed.

Bethesda. - The house of Mercy.
A place of healing.



THE PEOPLE

John 5:3 In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water

- JERUSALEM
- BETHESDA
- MULTITUDE OF PEOPLE

THE PEOPLE

John 5:3 In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, lame, paralyzed, waiting for the moving of the water

Impotent – No Power.

Powerless man. Powerful God.
Help for the Helpless.

John 5:4 For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.



John 5:5 And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.

- JERUSALEM
- BETHESDA
- MULTITUDE OF PEOPLE
- CERTAIN MAN

John 5:5 And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.



38 years hoping to get into the pool

8 years - Lord dedicated at the temple as a baby

20 years - Lord visits the temple age 12

Why 38 years?

Deu 2:14 “And the time we took to come from Kadesh Barnea until we crossed over the Valley of the Zered was thirty-eight years, until all the generation of the men of war was consumed from the midst of the camp, just as the LORD had sworn to them.

Israel wandered in the wilderness for 38 more years.

38 years of punishment for their unbelief.

John 5:6 When Jesus saw him lie, and **knew** that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made well?

The Lord **knew** all about him.

Do you want to made well?

He is drawing out the heart of man.
Creating a desire.

Lord asked questions to make them think
He asks 307 questions in the gospels.

The question is to admit our need that we
are Helpless

John 5:7 The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.

The man thought he was asked:
Can you be made whole?"

He answers: 'I don't have anybody to help me.

Lord is saying... "WILL you? Not CAN you?"
He was helpless.

John 5:8 Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.

Three things he couldn't do:

Stand up, Pick up, Walk.

Luke 6:6 ...there was a man whose right hand was withered.

10 And looking round about upon them all, he said unto the man, **Stretch forth thy hand.** And he did so: and his hand was restored whole as the other.

We are Powerless.

Lord asks us to do impossible things

- Love your enemies
- Be ye Holy

The Lord gives power to ALL who have believe in him.

I cannot.. But I will...because HE said so!

John 5:9 And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.

Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

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Faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

THEME 1 –

“as many as received him to them he gave the **power**”

vs 9 ... "it was the Sabbath."

SABBATH

That is the important part of the story.

To get up and walk was not wrong.

To carry something, that was against the law!

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SABBATH

That is the important part of the story.

To get up and walk was not wrong.

To carry something, that was against the law!

THEME 2 -

"He came unto his own but his own received him not"

John 5:10 The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry thy bed.

Here come the Jews...

Mark 3:2 - And they watched him, whether he would heal him on the sabbath day; that they might accuse him.

Bible - Sabbath Law.

No manna gathered.

No sticks for a fire.

No buying and selling.

Jews - Sabbath law 39 rules about work

Planting seed, plowing, baking, work in the field, at home, sewing, writing, erasing, build, making a fire.

Law #39.. Carrying a load.

Law #39. Transporting an object between a private domain and the public domain, or for a distance of 4 cubits within the public domain.

Can't move anything a distance of 6 feet.

The Jews here represent the Law.

Does the Law **HELP** Him?

It only tells you that you broke the law.

All the **LAW** can see is breaking the rules.

But all **GRACE** can see is what God has done.

THEME 3

The Law came by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ –

John 5:11 He answered them, He that made me whole, the same said unto me, Take up thy bed, and walk.

John 5:12 Then asked they him, What man is that which said unto thee, Take up thy bed, and walk?

John 5:13 - And he that was healed knew not who it was: for Jesus had moved himself away, a multitude being in that place.

John 5:14 Afterward Jesus findeth him in the temple, and said unto him, Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

In the temple. He was offering thanks.

The Lord's challenge to him:

Behold, thou art made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

Does sin cause our suffering?

Not always.

The man who was born blind.

Joh 9:2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

Joh 9:3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents:

But here his own sin did cause his problems.
38 years year ago,.

“Sin no more”

Grace – Healed the man.

Truth – Told him to sin no more.

Don't take the Grace of God for granted.

John 8:11 - She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: **go, and sin no more.**

John 5:15 The man departed, and told the Jews that it was Jesus, which had made him whole.

John 5:16 And therefore did the Jews persecute Jesus, and sought to slay him, because he had done these things on the sabbath day.

Here is a verse which summarizes their thinking...

Luke 20:20 — “So they watched Him, and sent spies who pretended to be righteous, that they might seize on His words, in order to deliver Him to the power and the authority of the governor.”

Was the healed man saved?

He didn't say the words: "I believe you are the Son of God"

The blind man said "this one thing I know... once I was blind now I can see"

He did respond in faith to the Lord's words.

RISE: Confidence in Jesus Word his Authority

TAKE UP THY BED: Commitment to do it.

WALK: Go forward now in faith.

Do I WANT to be better?

I am powerless. But God is powerful.

God's will is to save.

The problem is with man's will

The Lord is not WILLING that any should perish.

The Lord said.. “

John 5:40 - And ye will not come to me, that ye might have life.

John 5:24...He that heareth my word, and believeth
on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, ...

That's grace.

LESSONS:

1. Grace comes to the POWERLESS

Grace reaches out to a helpless person.

*When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources
Our Father's full giving is only begun.*

2. Grace is Powerful - limitless.

*“His love has no limits,
His **grace** has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;”*

3. Grace came by Jesus Christ

For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.

Grace is Jesus Christ.

Do you want to be well?

Help for the Helpless.

**He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater;
He sendeth more strength when the labors increase.
To added affliction He addeth His mercy;
To multiplied trials, His multiplied peace.**

**His love has no limits,
His grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;”
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.**

**When we have exhausted our store of endurance,
When our strength has failed ere the day is half done,
When we reach the end of our hoarded resources
Our Father's full giving is only begun.**

**His love has no limits,
His grace has no measure,
His power no boundary known unto men;"
For out of His infinite riches in Jesus
He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again.**

we may boldly say,

THE LORD IS MY

HELPER

Hebrews 13:6

THE LORD IS MY HELPER

- Help in Remembering – Ebenezer
- Help in a Storm – Mark 4
- Help to do what's Right – Conscience
- Help for the Helpless – John 5

HELP IN

PRAYER

HELP IN PRAYER

1. Prayer helps us

2. We can help others by prayer

2 Corinthians 1:11

You also **helping together by prayer** for us,

3. God helps us pray

Luke 18:1

Then He spoke a
parable to them, that
men always ought to
pray and not lose heart,

Luke 18:1

“ought always to pray,”

**WHY DON'T
WE PRAY?**

Luke 18:1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

What is prayer?”

Answer: “talking with God.”

Luke 18:1 Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart,

**WHY DON'T
WE PRAY?**



1. TOO BUSY. NO TIME.

Daniel prayed 3 times a day.

He did it when prayer was ILLEGAL!

Dan 6:10 Daniel...knelt down on his knees three times that day, and prayed and gave thanks before his God, as was his custom since early days.

Psalms 119:164 "Seven times a day I praise You,"



1. TOO BUSY. NO TIME.

“Cold mountains and the midnight air
Witnessed the fervor of His prayer.”

Isaac Watts

1. TOO BUSY. NO TIME.

HELP:

Schedule it. Plan it!

Find SOME time everyday to pray.

Psalm 55:17 - Evening and morning and at noon I will pray, and cry aloud, And He shall hear my voice.

Mark 1:35 Now in the morning, having risen a long while before daylight, He went out and departed to a solitary place; and there He prayed.

2. NOT IMPORTANT. IT'S NOT A PRIORITY.



City of Ai.



Josh 6 – The Lord spoke to Joshua about taking Jericho = VICTORY
Josh 7 – Joshua did not speak to the Lord about Ai. = DEFEAT
Josh 8 - The Lord spoke to Joshua about taking Ai = VICTORY

2. NOT IMPORTANT. IT'S NOT A PRIORITY.

“I have so much to do that I shall have to spend the first three hours in prayer.”



- Martin Luther

2. NOT IMPORTANT. IT'S NOT A PRIORITY.

HELP:

Make it a Daily Habit.

Habit: Behavior pattern regularly followed until it becomes automatic.

Pray always. Eph 6:18

Continue in Prayer Col 4:2

I cry unto thee daily. Psa 86:3

Give us this day our daily bread. Mat 6:11

Take up his cross daily, and follow me. Luke 9:23

Manna gathered up daily. Exodus 16:21

3. WE DON'T BELIEVE GOD.

Hebrews 11:6

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God **must believe that He is**, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

Jeremiah 33:3

'Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know.'

3. WE DON'T BELIEVE GOD.

HELP

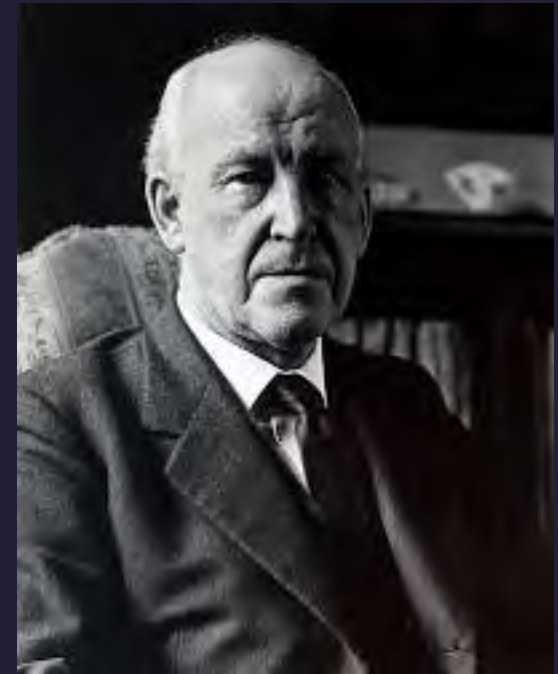
Pray, believing.

Mat 21:22 "And whatever things you ask in prayer, believing, you will receive."

4. PRAYER IS HARD.

“Everything we do in the Christian life is easier than prayer.”

Martyn Lloyd-Jones



4. PRAYER IS HARD.

“strive together with me in prayers to God for me, (Romans 15:30).

“strive” is agonizomai — “agonize.”
to struggle.

4. PRAYER IS HARD.

HELP:

Make it a discipline.

1. Discipline requires training.
2. Discipline requires practice.

“commit your way to the Lord” *Ps 37:5*

Strive, contend, fight, labor, practice, exercise,
wrestle

5. APATHY.

“I don't feel like it”

Apathy - Lack of interest.

2 Peter 3:1 I stir up your pure minds by way of reminder,

2 Peter 1:12 - remind you always of these things, though you know them

5. APATHY.

“I don’t feel like it”

HELP:

Watch and Pray. Wake up.

Luk 21:36 Watch therefore, and pray always

Be on Guard, Be alert. Be vigilant.

Mat 26:41 Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

6. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

“For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought,

Romans 8:26

6. I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.

HELP:

Do it. *The Spirit helps us.*

Rom 8:26 Likewise the **Spirit also helps** in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

Listen, Watch and **Do.**

Philippians 4:9 The things which you **learned** and received and heard and saw in me, these do,

7. I FEEL GUILTY.

Sin keeps us from praying.

“Prayer will make a man cease from sin
as sin will make a man to cease from prayer.”

-John Bunyan



7. I FEEL GUILTY.



We Don't Pray Because We Didn't Pray.

7. I FEEL GUILTY.

Sin keeps us from praying.

HELP:

Confess it.

1 John 1:9 If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(THIS IS A PRAYER!)

James 4:8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

7. I FEEL GUILTY.

Sin keeps us from praying.

“Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to **help** in time of need.”

(Hebrews 4:16).

8. WE DON'T SEE RESULTS.

What good does it do?



8. WE DON'T SEE RESULTS.

HELP:

Persist in prayer.

“Men ought always to pray, and not lose heart” (*Luke 18:1*).

continuing steadfastly in prayer (*Rom 12:12*)

continued steadfastly ...in prayers (*Acts 2:42*)

KEEP ON PRAYING

9. DON'T REALIZE WE ARE IN A BATTLE.

Eph 6:12 For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.



9. DON'T REALIZE WE ARE IN A BATTLE.

HELP:

Discernment. Spiritual Vision.

Be aware of the enemy. Open our eyes.
We need the armor of God for the spiritual battle.

Eph 6:18 **praying always** with all prayer and
supplication **in the Spirit**, being **watchful** to this
end with all perseverance and supplication for
all the saints

10. WE DON'T LOVE GOD.

John 14:21 "He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me.

Luke 18:1 men ought always to pray, and not to lose heart.

10. WE DON'T LOVE GOD.

“Prayer is the conversation
of a loving soul with God,”

- Thomas Manton



IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America

Prayer is:

A DECLARATION
OF
DEPENDENCE

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, solemnly publish and declare, that these United States are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connections between them and that Kingdom, are and ought to be totally dissolved; and that as free and independent States, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent States may of right do.

10. WE DON'T LOVE GOD.

HELP:

Obey His Commands to Pray.

Be devoted to prayer. (Col 4:2) (committed, loyal)

Psalm 116:1 I love the LORD, because He has heard
My voice and my supplications.

Jude 1:20 praying in the Holy Spirit,
21 keep yourselves in the love of God,

Luke 18:1 ...

men ought always to pray and not
lose heart (faint)

We have two choices:

You're praying or you're fainting.

Keep on Praying. Don't give up.

1. Schedule.
2. Habit.
3. Pray believing.
4. Discipline.
5. Watch.
6. Do it.
7. Confess.
8. Persist.
9. Discernment.
10. Obey.

HELP IN PRAYER

1. Prayer helps us

2. We can help others by prayer

2 Corinthians 1:11

You also **helping together by prayer** for us,

3. God helps us pray

The boat will not sink.

The storm will not last forever.

Master, the tempest is raging!
The billows are tossing high!
The sky is o'ershadowed with blackness,
No shelter or help is nigh:
"Carest Thou not that we perish?"
How canst Thou lie asleep,
When each moment so madly is threat'ning
A grave in the angry deep?

**The winds and the waves shall obey Thy will.
Peace, be still!**

**Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea,
Or demons, or men, or whatever it be,
No water can swallow the ship where lies
the Master of ocean and earth and skies;**

**They all shall sweetly obey Thy will!
Peace, be still! Peace, be still!**

**They all shall sweetly obey Thy will!
Peace, Peace, be still!**

Master, with anguish of spirit
I bow in my grief today;
The depths of my sad heart are troubled—
Oh, waken and save, I pray!
Torrents of sin and of anguish
Sweep o'er my sinking soul;
And I perish! I perish! dear Master—
Oh, hasten, and take control.

The winds and the waves shall obey Thy will.
Peace, be still!

Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea,
Or demons, or men, or whatever it be,
No water can swallow the ship where lies
the Master of ocean and earth and skies;

They all shall sweetly obey Thy will!
Peace, be still! Peace, be still!
They all shall sweetly obey Thy will!
Peace, Peace, be still!

**Master, the terror is over,
The elements sweetly rest;
Earth's sun in the calm lake is mirrored,
And heaven's within my breast;
Linger, O blessed Redeemer!
Leave me alone no more;
And with joy I shall make the blest harbor,
And rest on the blissful shore.**

The winds and the waves shall obey Thy will.
Peace, be still!

Whether the wrath of the storm-tossed sea,
Or demons, or men, or whatever it be,
No water can swallow the ship where lies
the Master of ocean and earth and skies;

They all shall sweetly obey Thy will!
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