

ORDER OF SERVICE

December 12, 2021

Worship in Fellowship
Worship in Music
Worship in Message
Worship in Advent
Worship in Giving

Jeremy Mikeska

Stand Firm In Hardships

1 Peter 4:12-5:5

Stand Firm Series

Life Change: That we entrust our souls to God and do good.

Dreading tests...

Do not be surprised when hardships come 12

Rejoice in hardships... 13

as opportunities to share in Christ's sufferings 4:1; Phil. 2

because you WILL see God's glory 13

since blessing comes while suffering in the name of Christ 14

for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you 14

Don't bring suffering on yourself with sin 15

Glorify God, the righteous Judge 16-18

Trust God and do good 19

Recognize the hardship of leadership 5:1-4

Humble yourself before others 5:5

ARE you prepared for the tests to come? Humility is key. Submitting to the Lord's will is required. The Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you, believer, to empower you to stand firm in the hardships of life.

Are you resting in Him? Or, are you running ragged in the futile attempts to numb the pains of the world? The weary world can rejoice because God came near to offer us life. Standing firm in hardships begins by understanding and taking on the humility of our Lord.



STAND FIRM

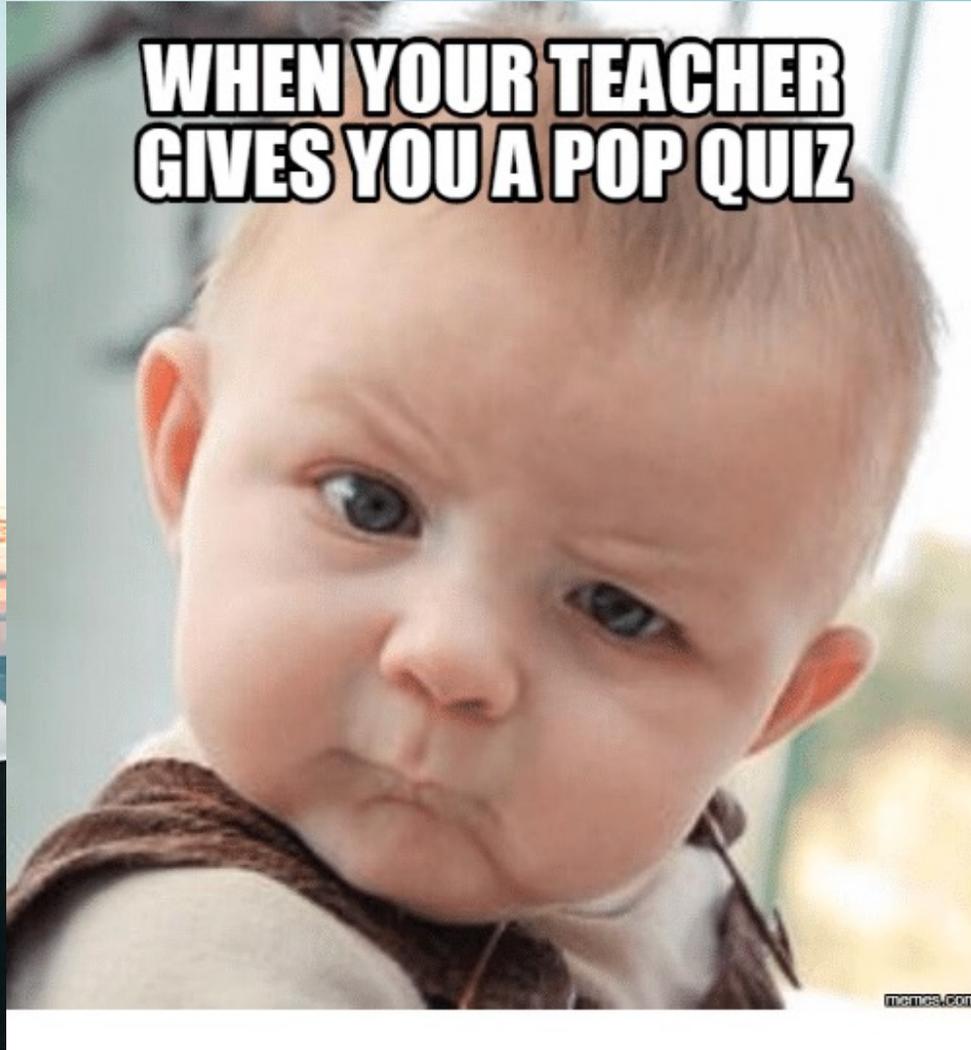
a study of 1 Peter

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1 Peter 4:12

¹² Dear friends, don't be surprised when the fiery ordeal comes among you to test you, as if something unusual were happening to you.

Titus

Phi

Heb

Jms

1 Peter

2 Pet

1 Jn

2 Jn

3 Jn

how do u think u did

On what

the final bro

It's tomorrow

it was today at 10:15

may 8th 10:15

????!!!!!!

diego

Genesis 22:1-2

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, “Abraham!”

“Here I am,” he answered.

² “Take your son,” he said, “your only son Isaac, whom you love, go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains I will tell you about.”

Genesis 22:3-5

³ So Abraham got up early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took with him two of his young men and his son Isaac. He split wood for a burnt offering and set out to go to the place God had told him about.

⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ Then Abraham said to his young men, “Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go over there to worship; then we’ll come back to you.”

Genesis 22:6-7

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac. In his hand he took the fire and the knife, and the two of them walked on together.

⁷ Then Isaac spoke to his father Abraham and said, “My father.”

And he replied, “Here I am, my son.”

Isaac said, “The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?”

Genesis 22:8-10

⁸ Abraham answered, “God himself will provide’ the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” Then the two of them walked on together.

⁹ When they arrived at the place that God had told him about, Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood. He bound his son Isaac and placed him on the altar on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then Abraham reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

Genesis 22:11-12

¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, “Abraham, Abraham!”

He replied, “Here I am.”

¹² Then he said, “Do not lay a hand on the boy or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your only son from me.”

Genesis 22:13-14

¹³ Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son. ¹⁴ And Abraham named that place The LORD Will Provide, so today it is said, “It will be provided on the LORD’s mountain.”



Kevin Rolfs

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Romans 5:3-5

² We have also obtained access through him by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we boast in the hope of the glory of God. ³ And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, because we know that affliction produces endurance, ⁴ endurance produces proven character, and proven character produces hope. ⁵ This hope will not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

James 1:2-4

² Consider it a great joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you experience various trials, ³ because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance. ⁴ And let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking nothing.

A person stands on a dark, rocky mountain peak, silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky. Below the peak, a vast sea of white clouds stretches across the valley. The sky transitions from a warm orange glow near the horizon to a deep teal and blue at the top, where small white specks resembling stars are scattered. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

STAND FIRM

a study of 1 Peter

1 Peter 4:13

13 Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed.

Phillipians 2:5-7

**⁵ Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, existing in the form of God,
did not consider equality with God
as something to be exploited.**

**⁷ Instead he emptied himself
by assuming the form of a servant,
taking on the likeness of humanity.
And when he had come as a man,**

Phillipians 2:8-9

⁸ he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death— even to death on a cross.

⁹ For this reason God highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name,

Phillipians 2:10-11

**¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus
every knee will bow—
in heaven and on earth
and under the earth—
¹¹ and every tongue will confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

A person stands on a dark, rocky mountain peak, silhouetted against a vibrant sunset sky. Below the peak, a vast sea of white clouds stretches across the valley. The sky transitions from a warm orange glow near the horizon to a deep teal and blue at the top, where small white specks resembling stars are scattered. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

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Matthew 26:36-39

³⁶ Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and he told the disciples, “Sit here while I go over there and pray.” ³⁷ Taking along Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, he began to be sorrowful and troubled. ³⁸ He said to them, “I am deeply grieved to the point of death. Remain here and stay awake with me.” ³⁹ Going a little farther, he fell facedown and prayed, “My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from me. Yet not as I will, but as you will.”

Matthew 26:39-43

40 Then he came to the disciples and found them sleeping. He asked Peter, “So, couldn’t you stay awake with me one hour? **41** Stay awake and pray, so that you won’t enter into temptation. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak.”

42 Again, a second time, he went away and prayed, “My Father, if this cannot pass unless I drink it, your will be done.” **43** And he came again and found them sleeping, because they could not keep their eyes open.

Matthew 26:44-46

44 After leaving them, he went away again and prayed a third time, saying the same thing once more. 45 Then he came to the disciples and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and resting? See, the time is near. The Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners.

46 Get up; let’s go. See, my betrayer is near.”



WHAT DO YOU DO WITH A PROBLEM?



Written by Kobi Yamada ✨ Illustrated by Mae Besom

Creators of the New York Times Best-selling Book *What Do You Do With an Idea?*

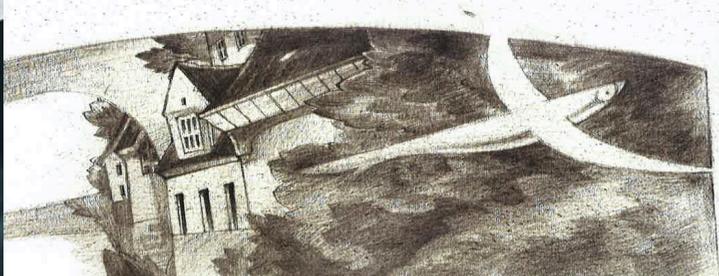


I don't know how it happened,
but one day I had a problem.
I didn't want it. I didn't ask for it.
I really didn't like having a problem,
but it was there.



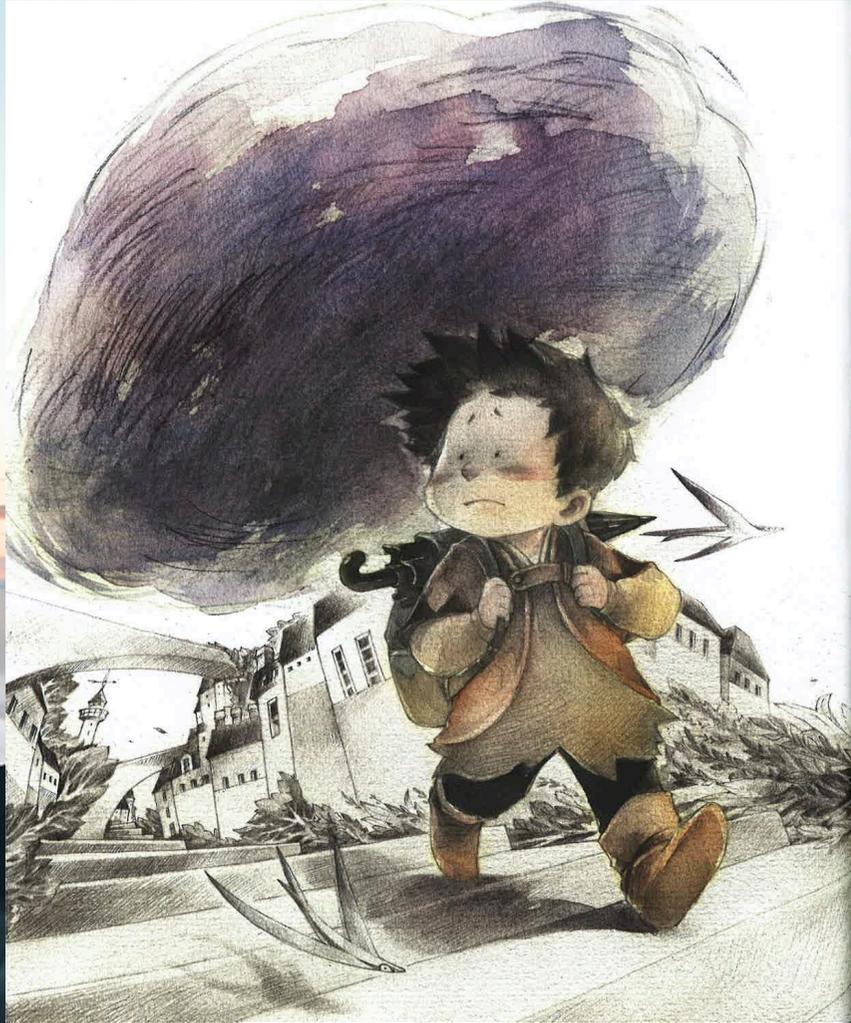


“Why is it here? What does it want?
What do you do with a problem?” I thought.



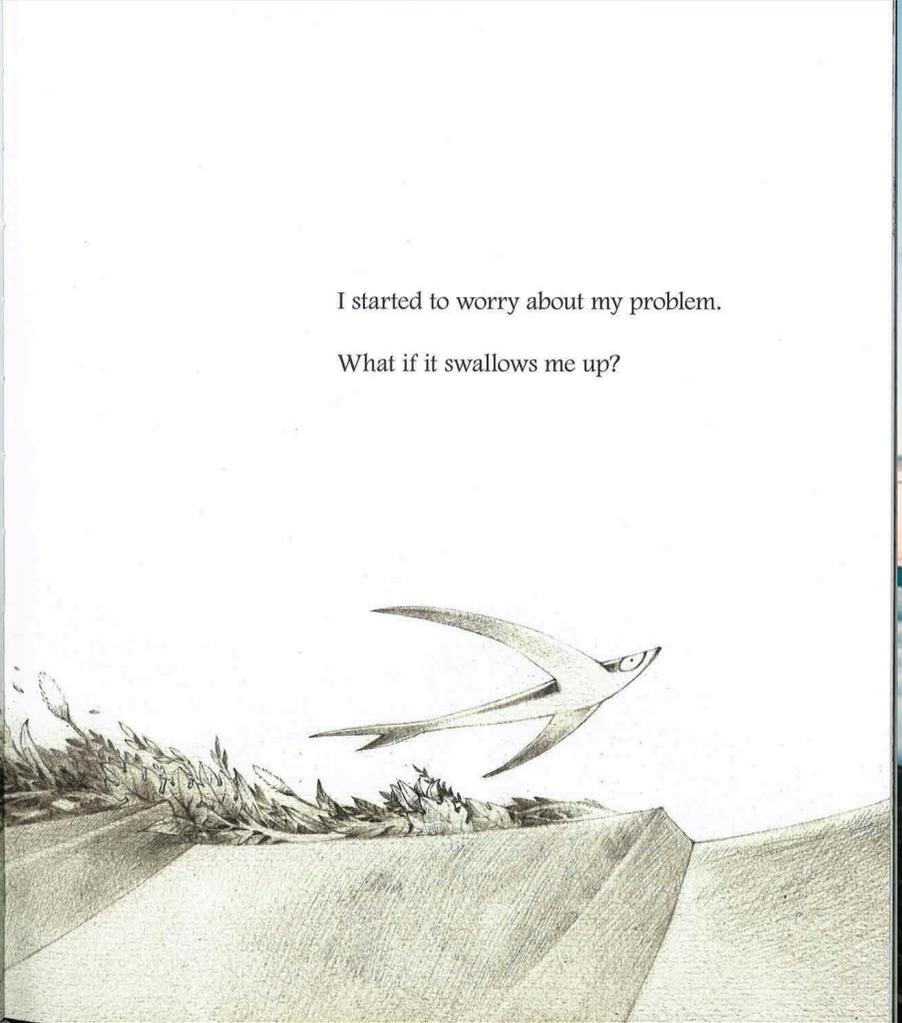
I wanted to make it go away.

I shooed it. I scowled at it. I tried ignoring it.
But nothing worked.



I started to worry about my problem.

What if it swallows me up?

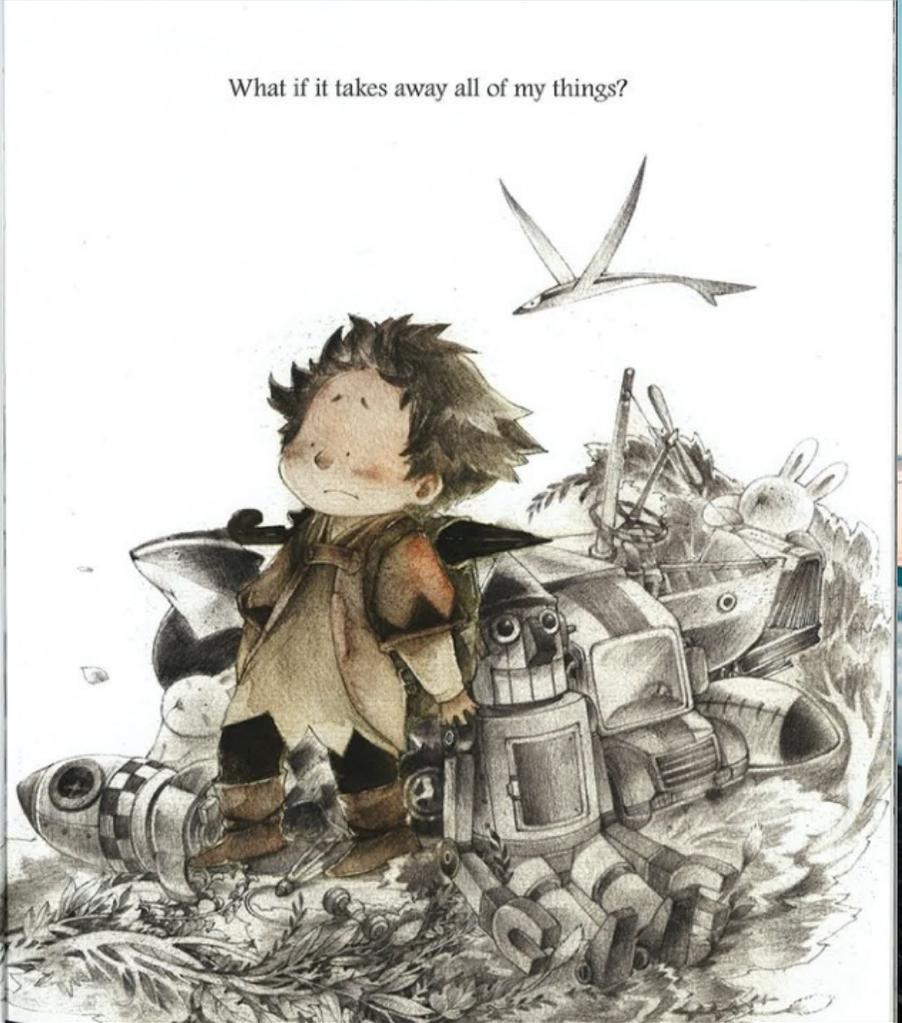


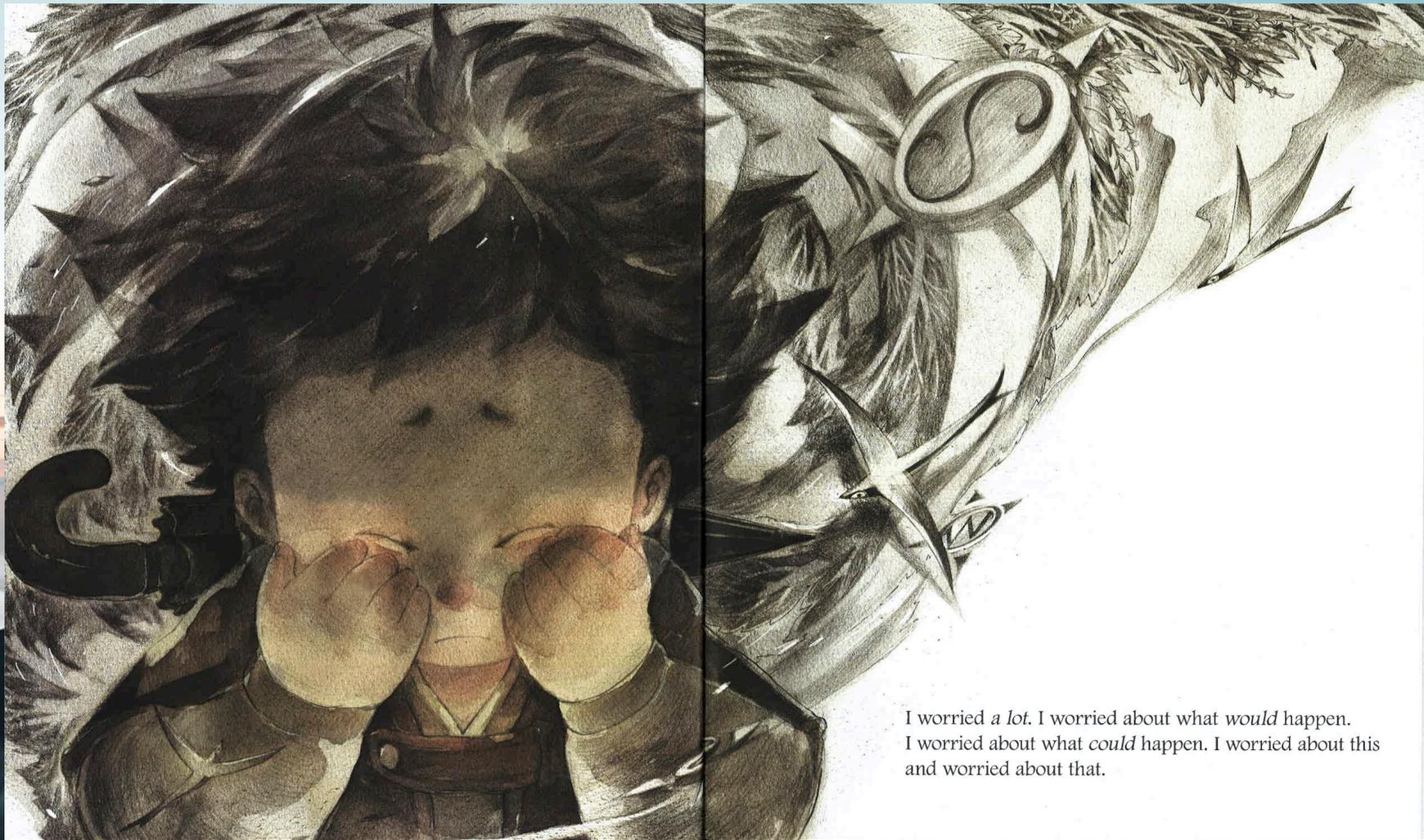


What if my problem sneaks up and gets me?



What if it takes away all of my things?





I worried *a lot*. I worried about what *would* happen.
I worried about what *could* happen. I worried about this
and worried about that.



And the more I worried, the bigger my problem became.



I wished it would just disappear. I tried everything
I could to hide from it. I even found ways to disguise
myself. But it still found me.



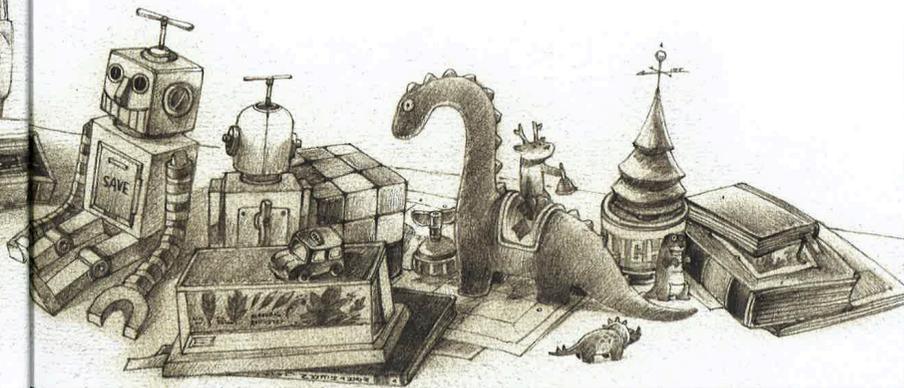
And the more I avoided my problem,
the more I saw it everywhere.

I thought about it all the time.
I didn't feel good at all.

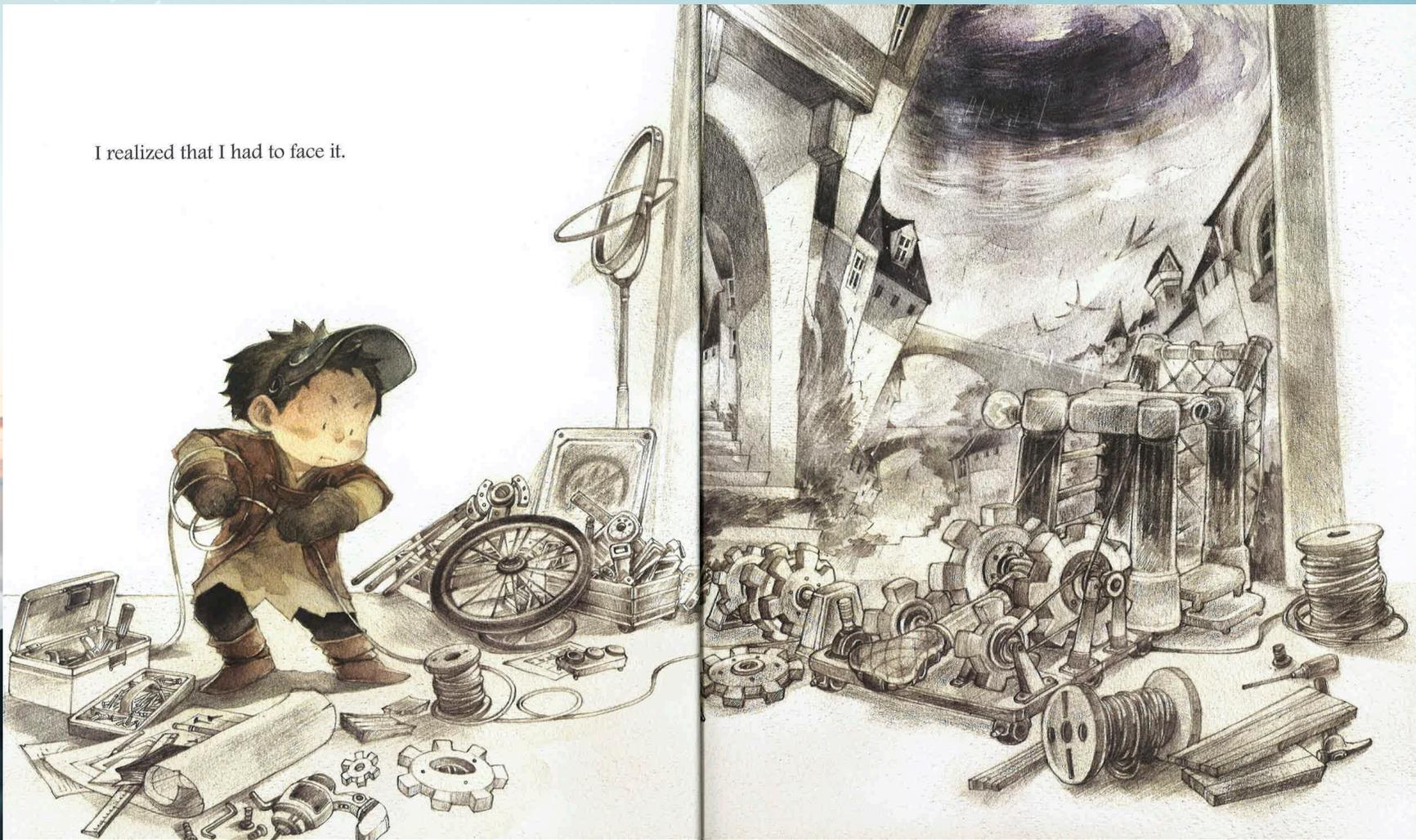


I couldn't take it anymore. "This has to stop!" I declared.

Maybe I was making my problem bigger and scarier than it actually was. After all, my problem hadn't *really* swallowed me up or attacked me.



I realized that I had to face it.



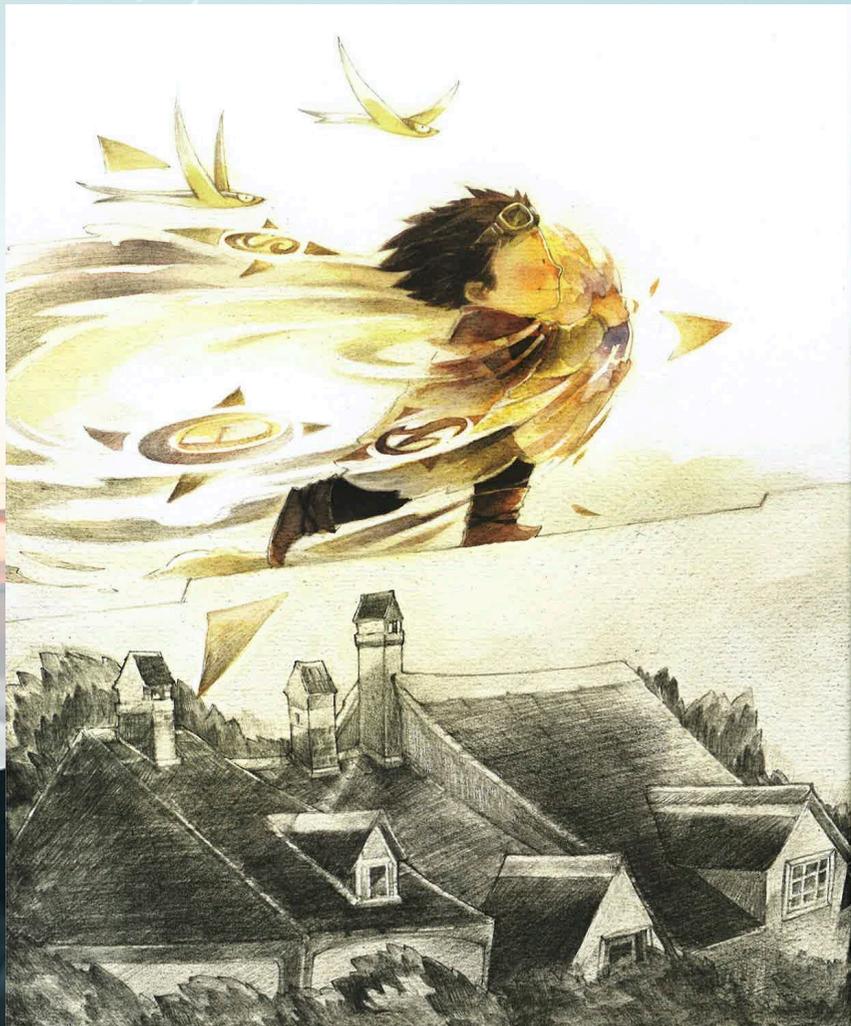


So even though I didn't want to, even though I was really afraid, I got ready and I tackled my problem!

When I got face-to-face with it, I discovered something.
My problem wasn't what I thought it was.

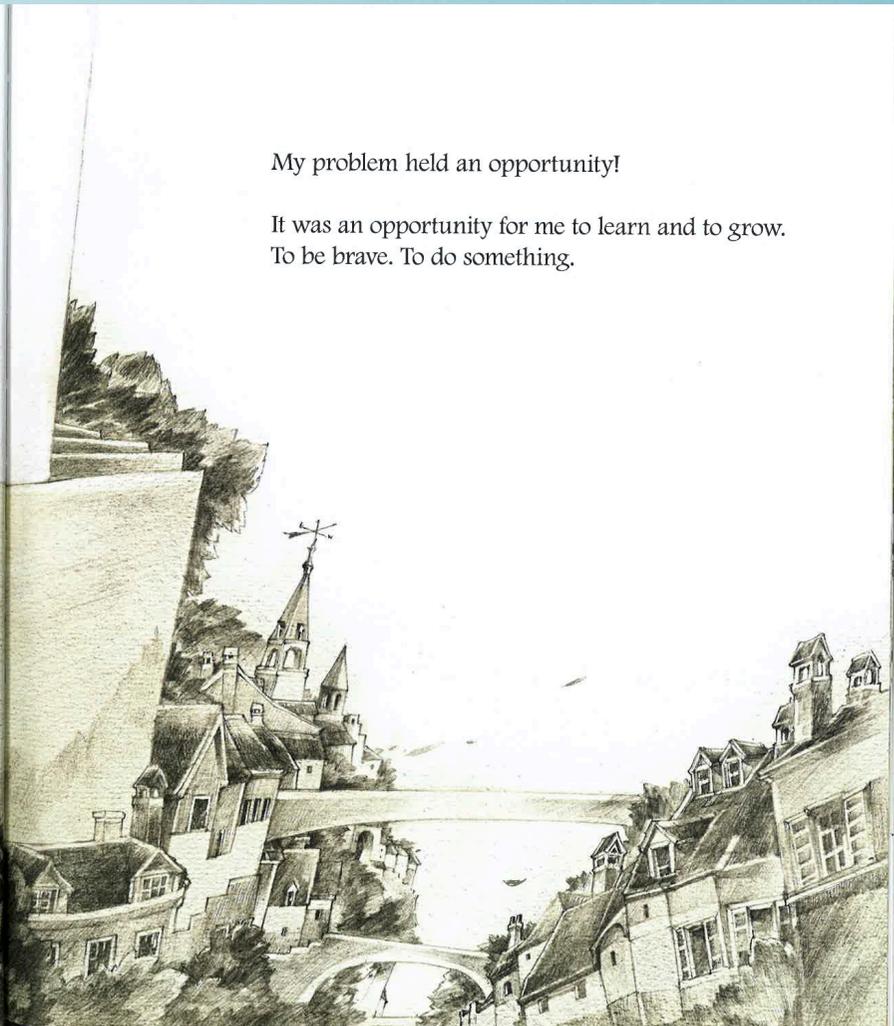
I discovered it had something beautiful inside.





My problem held an opportunity!

It was an opportunity for me to learn and to grow.
To be brave. To do something.

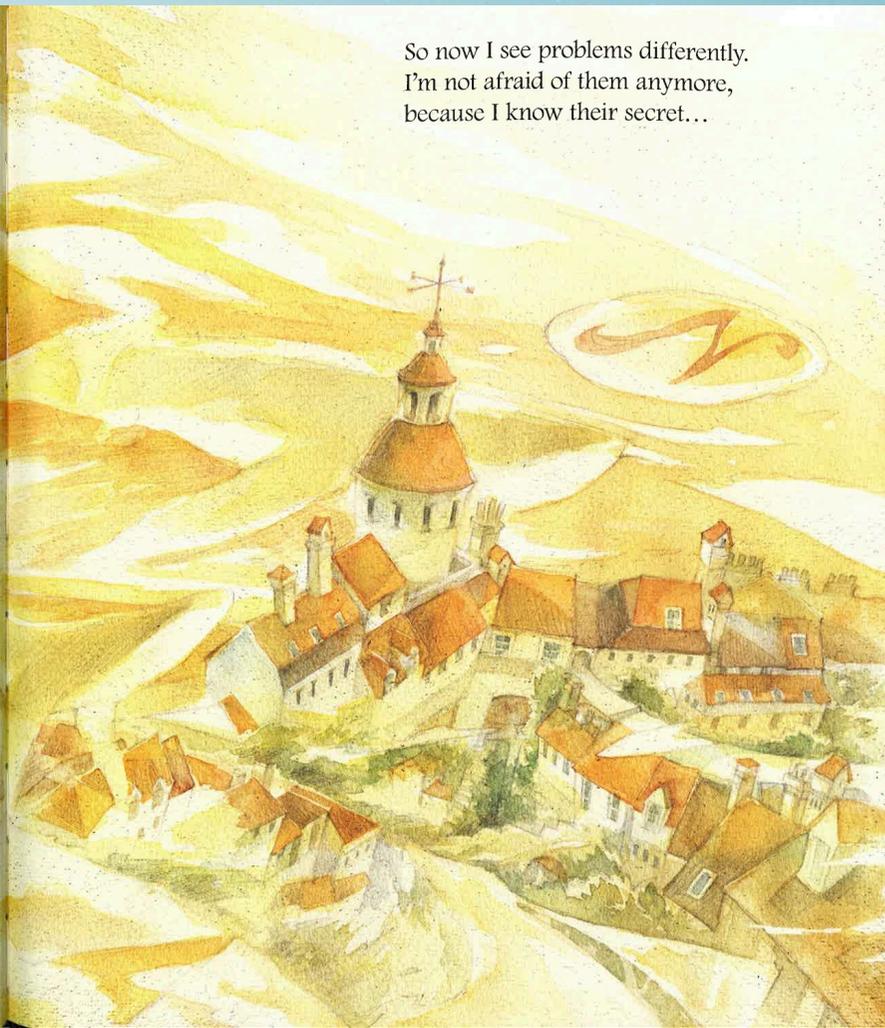


It showed me that it was important to
look closely because some opportunities
only come once.





So now I see problems differently,
I'm not afraid of them anymore,
because I know their secret...





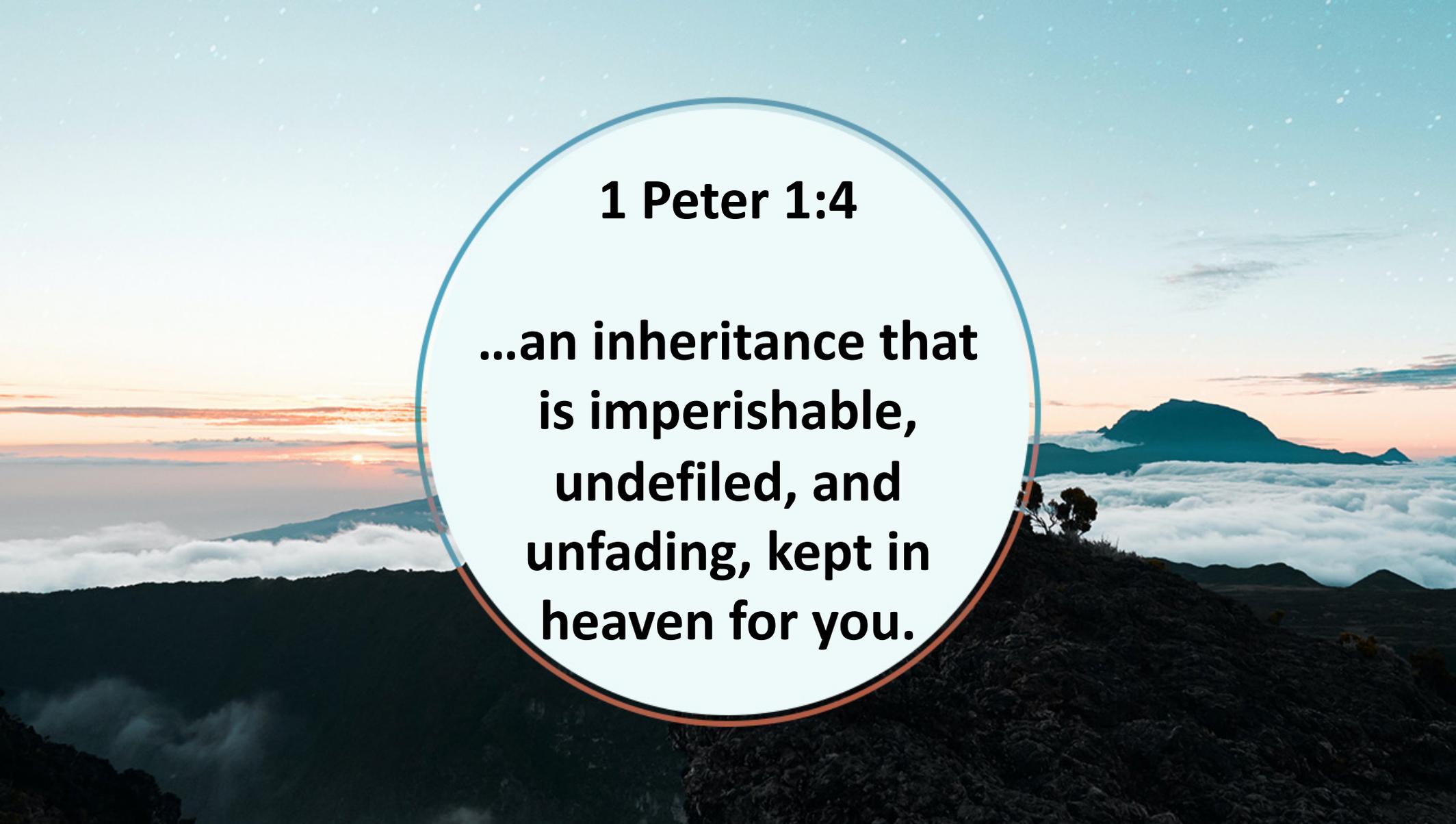
Every problem has an opportunity for something good. You just have to look for it.

1 Peter 4:13

13 Instead, rejoice as you share in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may also rejoice with great joy when his glory is revealed.

Romans 8:16-17

¹⁶ The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are God's children, ¹⁷ and if children, also heirs—heirs of God and coheirs with Christ—if indeed we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.



1 Peter 1:4

**...an inheritance that
is imperishable,
undefiled, and
unfading, kept in
heaven for you.**

1 Peter 4:14

14 If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

Matthew 5:11-12

¹¹ “You are blessed when they insult you and persecute you and falsely say every kind of evil against you because of me. ¹² Be glad and rejoice, because your reward is great in heaven. For that is how they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

1 Peter 4:14

14 If you are ridiculed for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

Isaiah 11:2

**² The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—
a Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
a Spirit of counsel and strength,
a Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD.**

Acts 7:54-57

54 When they heard these things, they were enraged and gnashed their teeth at him. **55** Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven. He saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

56 He said, “Look, I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!”

57 They yelled at the top of their voices, covered their ears, and together rushed against him.

Acts 7:58-60

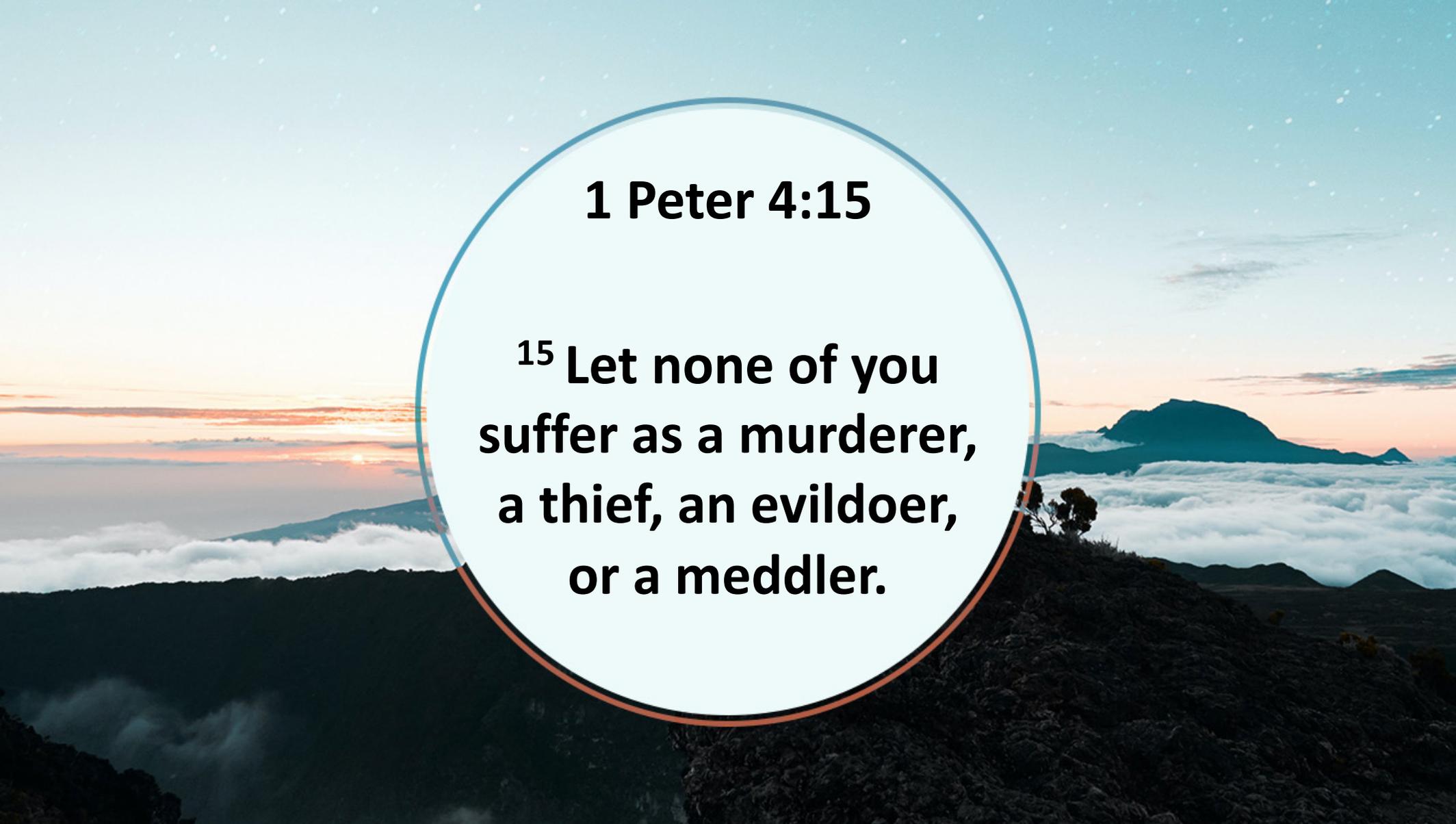
⁵⁸ They dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. And the witnesses laid their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit!” ⁶⁰ He knelt down and cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them!” And after saying this, he fell asleep.

Acts 8:1-3

8 Saul agreed with putting him to death. On that day a severe persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout the land of Judea and Samaria. ² Devout men buried Stephen and mourned deeply over him. ³ Saul, however, was ravaging the church. He would enter house after house, drag off men and women, and put them in prison.

Acts 8:4-8

⁴ So those who were scattered went on their way preaching the word. ⁵ Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah to them. ⁶ The crowds were all paying attention to what Philip said, as they listened and saw the signs he was performing. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying out with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed, and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ So there was great joy in that city.

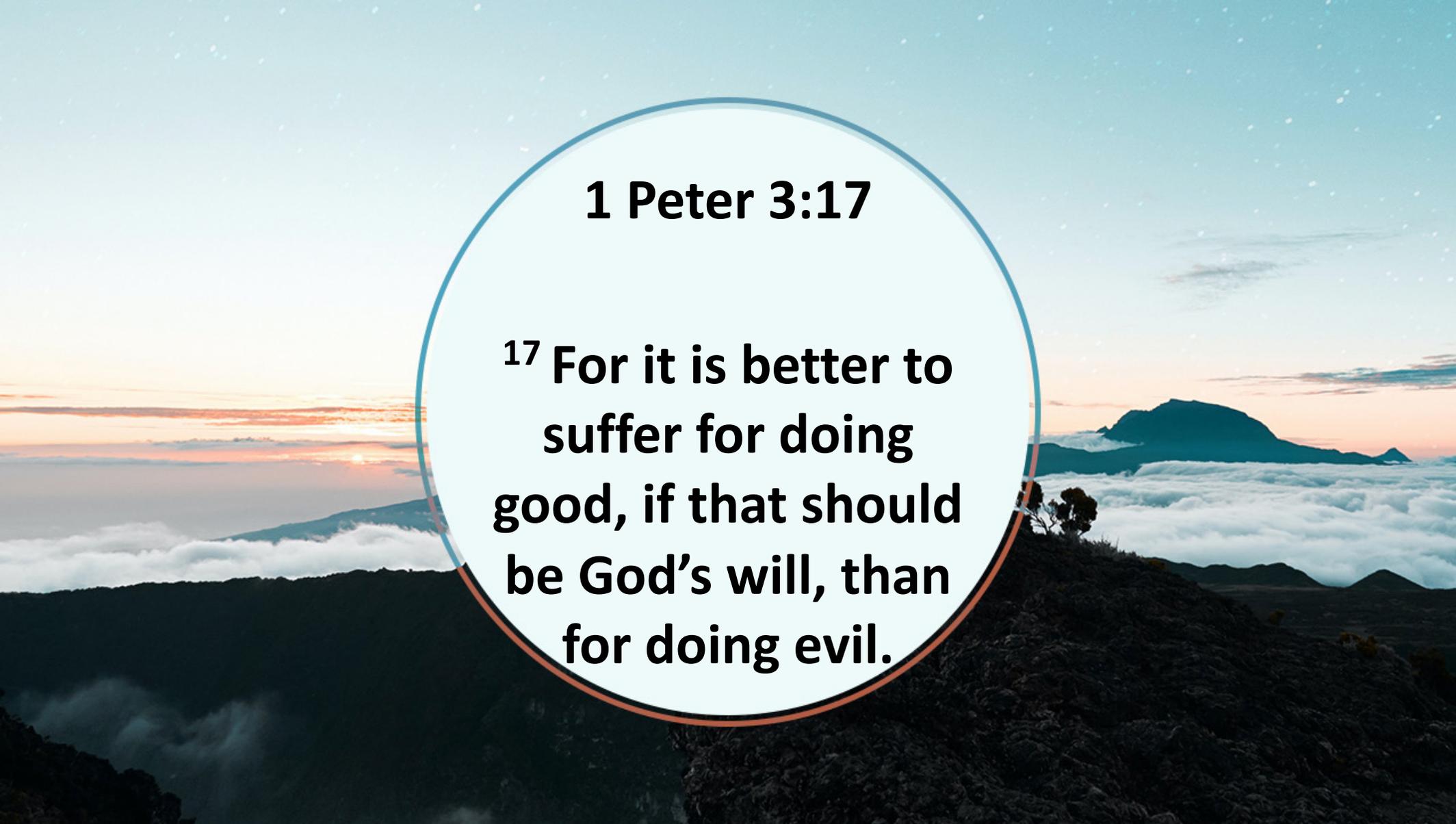


1 Peter 4:15

**¹⁵ Let none of you
suffer as a murderer,
a thief, an evildoer,
or a meddler.**

The Bible Knowledge Commentary

Peter stressed that persecution was no excuse for lawlessness. Christians were not to retaliate (3:9). Physical violence was not to be met by murder. Confiscation of property was not to be compensated for by theft. No matter what their trials, Christians were to do nothing that would justify punishing them as criminals (cf. 2:19; 3:17). They were not to suffer as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. Even interfering in other people's affairs is out of place for Christians (cf. 1 Tim. 5:13). Vol.2, p 854



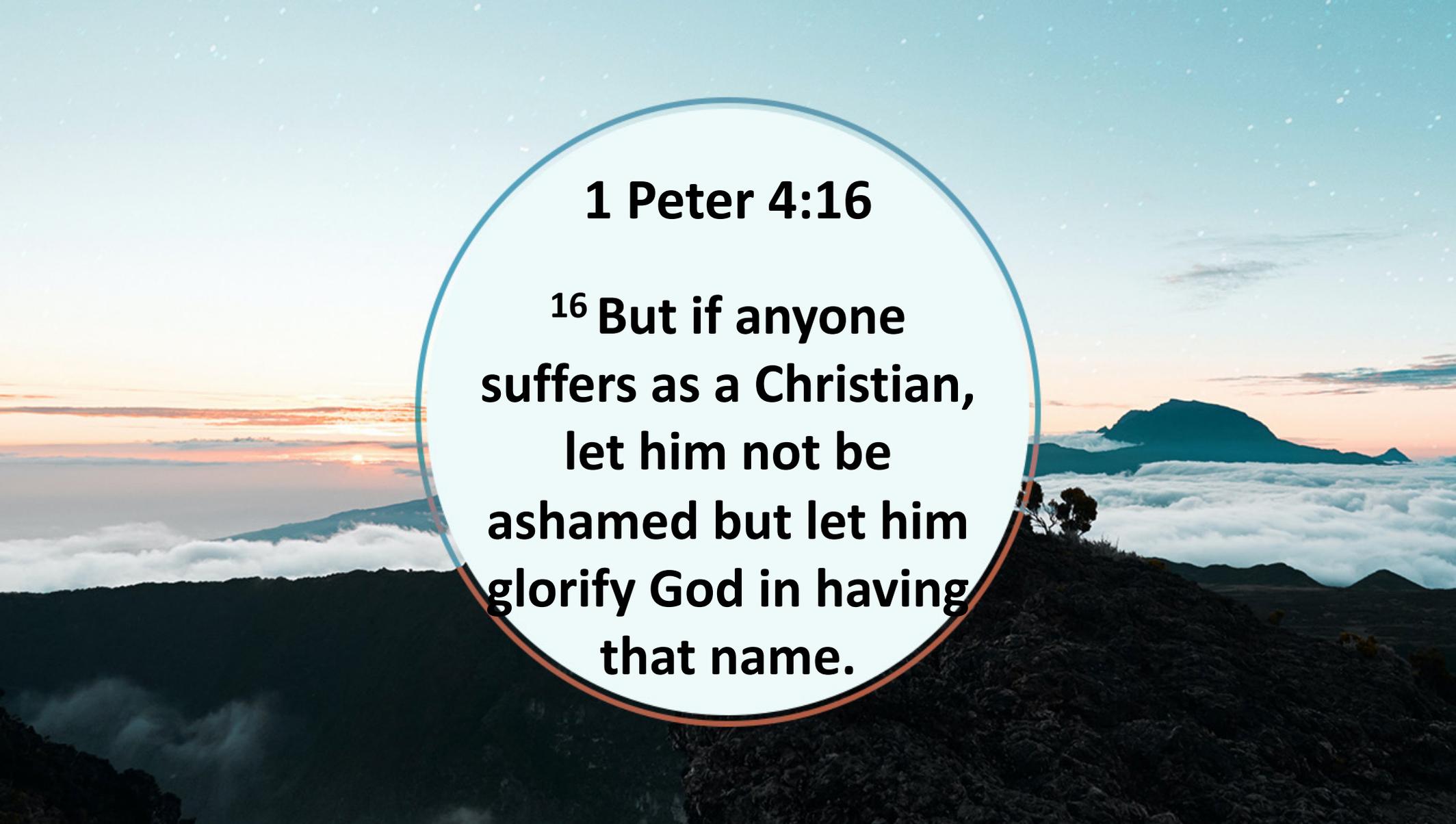
1 Peter 3:17

**¹⁷ For it is better to
suffer for doing
good, if that should
be God's will, than
for doing evil.**



STAND FIRM

a study of 1 Peter



1 Peter 4:16

¹⁶ But if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed but let him glorify God in having that name.

John 9:1-3

As he was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth.

² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

³ “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” Jesus answered. “This came about so that God’s works might be displayed in him.

1 Peter 4:16-18

17 For the time has come for judgment to begin with God's household, and if it begins with us, what will the outcome be for those who disobey the gospel of God?

18 And if a righteous person is saved with difficulty, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?'

The Bible Knowledge Commentary

Peter had referred to persecution and suffering as trials that refine and prove one's faith (1:6–7) if reacted to in the will of God (3:17). Now he added that God allows persecutions as disciplinary judgment to purify the lives of those in the family of God.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary

If believers need disciplinary earthly judgments (if it begins with us, a first-class condition which assumes the reality of the premise), how much more will those who do not obey the gospel (cf. 2:7) the ungodly and the sinner, deserve everlasting judgment? Peter quoted the Septuagint rendering of Proverbs 11:31, If it is hard for the righteous to be saved, to emphasize God's disciplinary demands on His children.

The Bible Knowledge Commentary

The vicissitudes of life are a part of God's constant care, yet from a human perspective discipline is always "hard." Peter is not teaching that salvation is earned through personal trials or works, but simply that those who are saved are not exempt from temporal disciplinary judgments which are the natural consequences of sin. The writer of Hebrews also supports Peter: "Endure hardship as discipline; God is treating you as sons" (Heb. 12:7). Vol. 2, p. 855

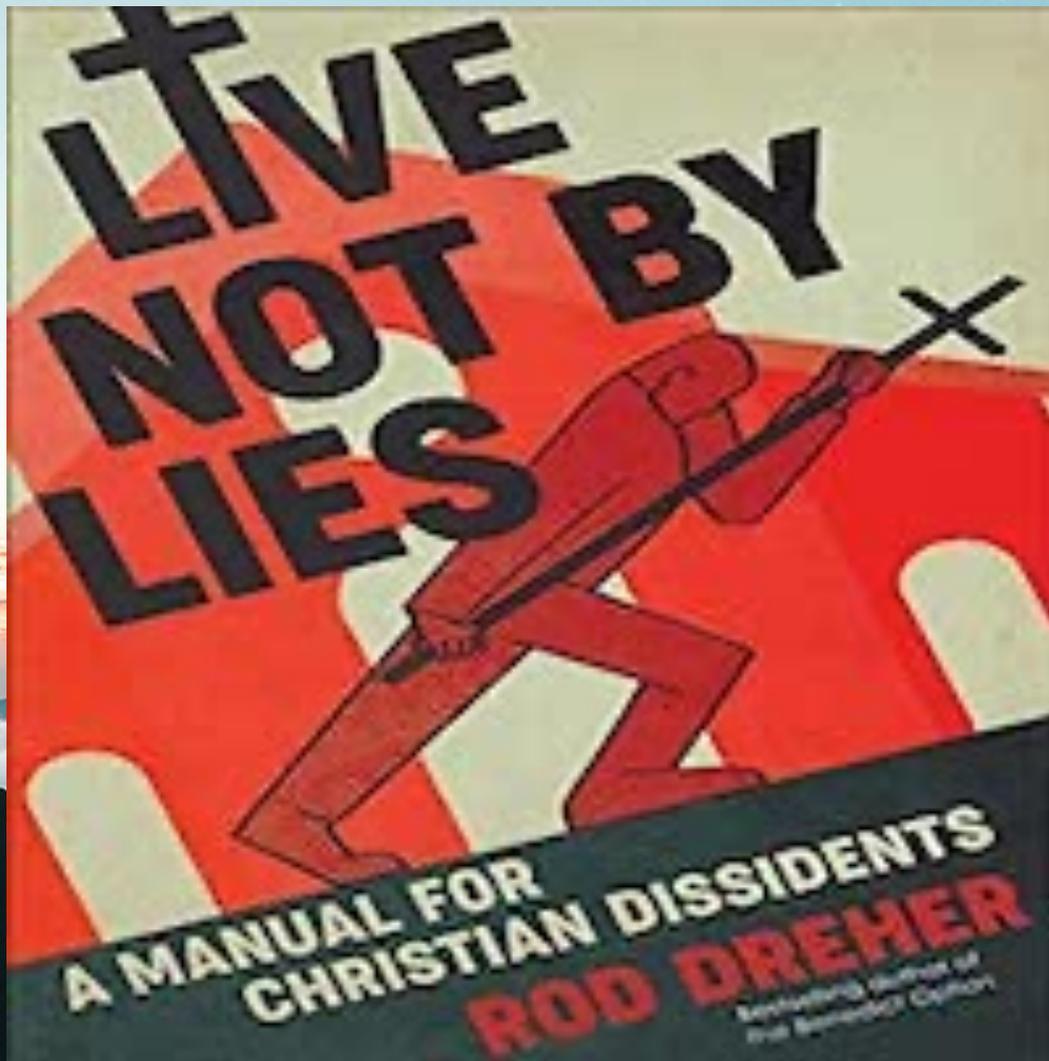
1 Peter 4:19

19 So then, let those who suffer according to God's will entrust themselves to a faithful Creator while doing what is good.



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Live Not by Lies-Rod Dreher

“That’s true,” says Kamila. “But he also had the conviction that to destroy the communist regime was his mission in life. He was always talking with God and asking what is the right way. He always struggled to see the right values, and to live up to them.”

Live Not by Lies-Rod Dreher

“This is something very important about my father,” says Marketa. “He believed that he was accountable before God, not before people. It didn’t matter to him when other people didn’t understand why he did the things he did. He acted in the sight of God. And you know, the Bible gave him strength, because it is full of stories of the prophets and others going beyond the border of what was comprehensible or understandable to people, for the sake of obeying the Lord.” p. 140-141



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a study of 1 Peter

1 Peter 5:1-4

I exhort the elders among you as a fellow elder and witness to the sufferings of Christ, as well as one who shares in the glory about to be revealed: ² Shepherd God's flock among you, not overseeing out of compulsion but willingly, as God would have you; not out of greed for money but eagerly; ³ not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. ⁴ And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

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STAND FIRM

a study of 1 Peter

Wayne Braudrick

“All this teaching on persecution applies to each Christian.

However, Peter particularly relates these lessons to Elders. The “therefore” tells us that God’s words to Elders are connected with the persecution teaching. Why does God connect being an Elder to being persecuted?

Wayne Braudrick

Two reasons occur to me:

- 1. The exemplary role as leaders in the congregation makes Elders a prime target. They have a big target on their chests.**
- 2. The job of being an Elder is fraught with pain. Trust me on this score - being an Elder is hard. Because of their role & the difficulty of their job, Elders will very likely face persecution if anyone does."**

1 Peter 5:5

⁵ In the same way, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. All of you clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because

**God resists the proud
but gives grace to the humble.'**



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a study of 1 Peter



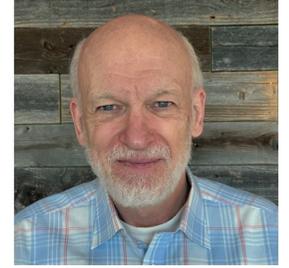
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