

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE

PHILIPPIANS

TO LIVE CHRIST

=

TO DIE GAIN!





2 Corinthians 12:20

For I fear lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I wish, and that I shall be found by you such as you do not wish; lest there be contentions, jealousies, outbursts of wrath, selfish ambitions, backbitings, whisperings, conceits, tumults;

THE WORD

TRUTH INSPIRED BY GOD



Philippians 4:2

**I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be
of the same mind in the Lord.**

. . . and the church of Corinth

. . . and the church of Galatia

. . . and the church of Ephesus

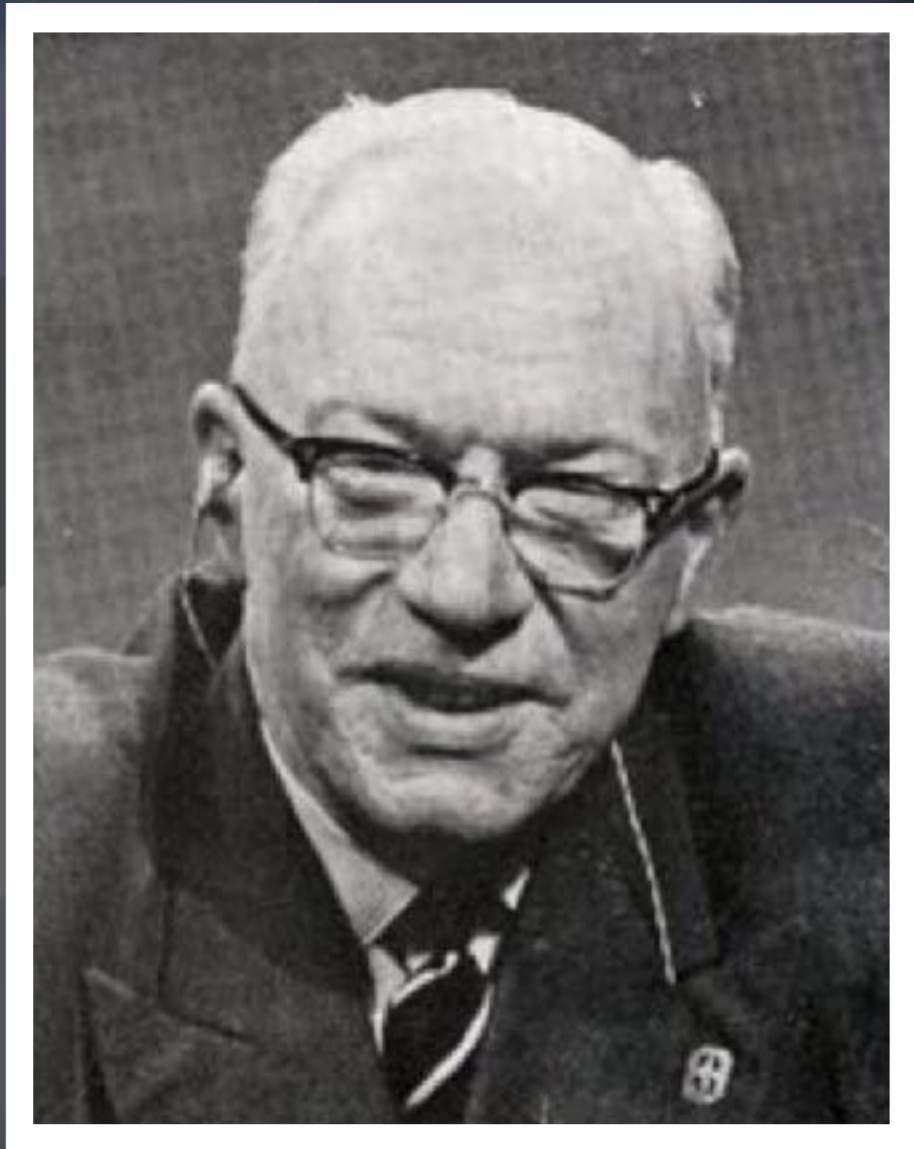
. . . and the church of Colossi

***Why are we making such a big deal
about this?***



“The one danger which threatened the Philippian church was that of disunity. There is a sense in which that is the danger of every healthy church. It is when people are really in earnest, when their beliefs really matter to them, that they are apt to get up against each other. The greater their enthusiasm, the greater the danger that they may collide. It is against that danger Paul wished to safeguard his friends.”

William Barclay



Philippians 2:1

**Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ,
if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the
Spirit, if any affection and mercy,**

If = ei (if)

**This word is always conditional when
used with an indicative verb.**

There is consolation in Christ

There is comfort of love

There is fellowship of the Spirit

There is affection and mercy





Philippians 2:1-4

Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

LIKE

MIND ED!



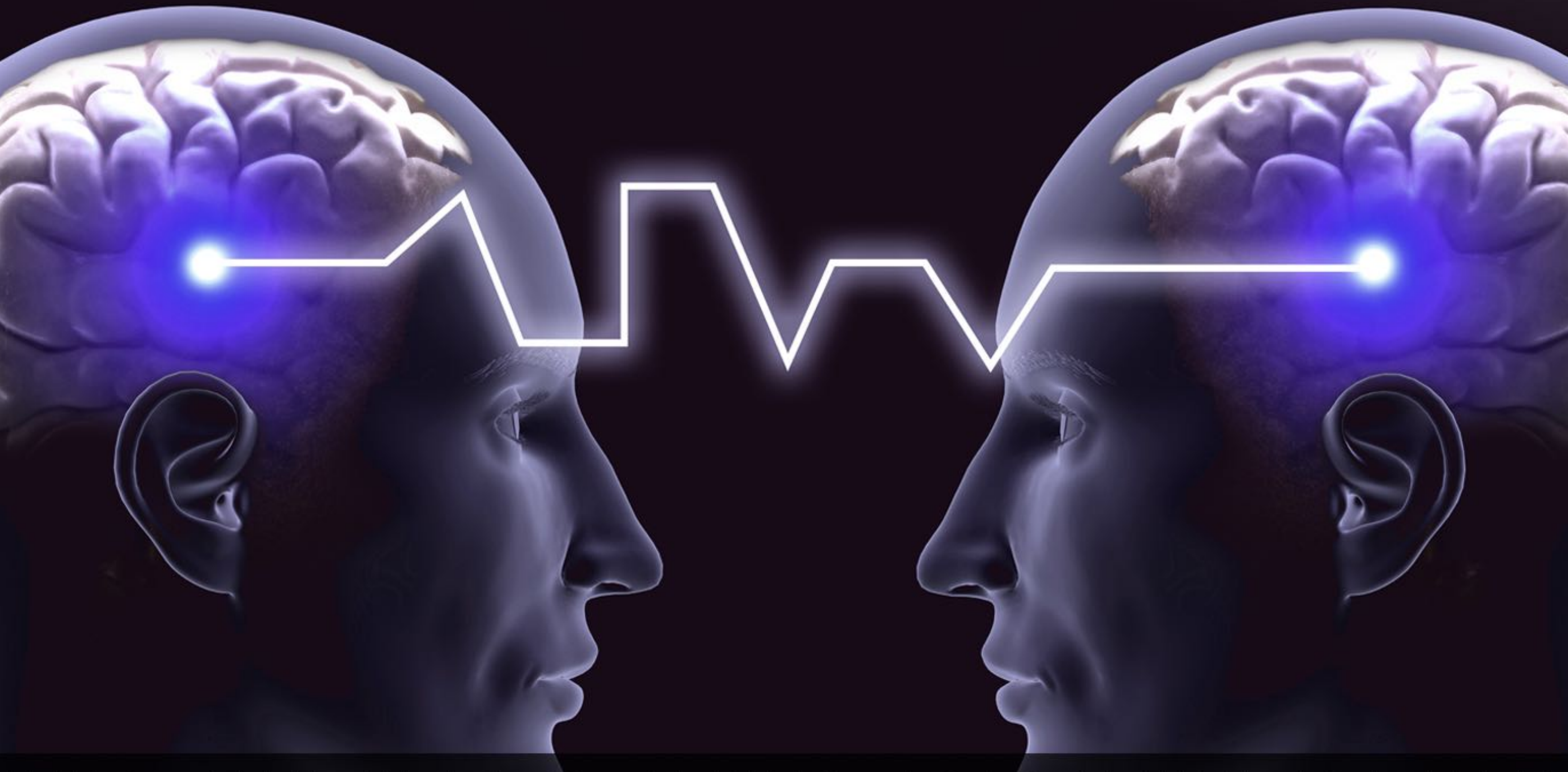


Being Like-Minded.

Having the Same Love.

Being of One Accord.

Being of One Mind.





Romans 12:14-21

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep. Be of the same mind toward one another. Do not set your mind on high things, but associate with the humble. Do not be wise in your own opinion.

Repay no one evil for evil. Have regard for good things in the sight of all men. If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men. Beloved, do not avenge yourselves, but rather give place to wrath; for it is written, "Vengeance is Mine, I will repay," says the Lord. Therefore "If your enemy is hungry, feed him; If he is thirsty, give him a drink; For in so doing you will heap coals of fire on his head." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.



Selfishness

Hatred

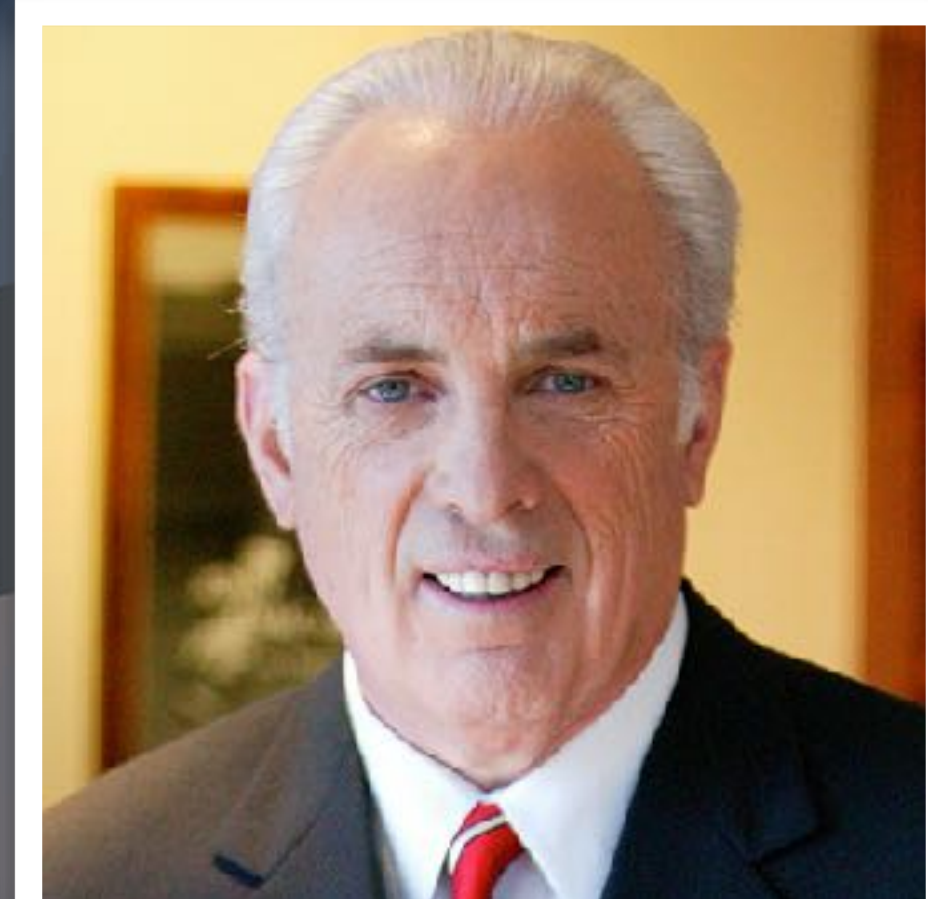
Envy

Jealously

And the countless other evils

“No two Christians—no matter what their level of spiritual maturity and knowledge of Scripture — will understand everything exactly alike. But if they are controlled by humility and love, they will be genuinely united in spirit. They will not allow inconsequential differences to divide them or to hinder their service for the Lord.”

John MacArthur Jr.











**Rather than all of these things,
we must . . .**











Philippians 2:5-11

Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

“Don’t forget, that in all this wide universe and in all the dim reaches of history there has never been such a demonstration of unselfish humility as when the Son of God in sheer grace descended to this sinful planet! Remember that never -- never in a million years -- would He have done it if He were the kind of God who looks only to His own interests and closes His eyes to the interests of others.! You must remember my brothers and sisters, that through our union with Him in living, redemptive experience, this principle and passion by which He was moved must be the principle and passion by which we are moved!”

Paul Reese



**IF JESUS WAS NOT BOTH FULLY
MAN AND FULLY GOD HE COULD
NOT BE THE MEDIATOR AND
SAVIOR OF THE WORLD!!!**

- He had to be fully God in order for His sacrifice to have the infinite worth necessary to atone for the sin of mankind.
- He also had to be fully man in order to represent mankind and take the penalty of sin upon Himself in man's behalf.
- It was man who sinned, who was under the curse, and who was condemned to render his life forfeit to God.
 - Therefore, JESUS COULD NOT HAVE SUBSTITUTED FOR SINFUL MAN ON THE CROSS IF HE HAD NOT TAKEN UPON HIMSELF THE "LIKENESS OF MAN"!!!
- And, HE HAD TO BE GOD TO HAVE THE ABILITY AND POWER TO SAVE MANKIND FROM HIS SIN!!!

Simply put,
no one took Jesus' life . . .

HE GAVE IT!!!

Romans 5:6-9

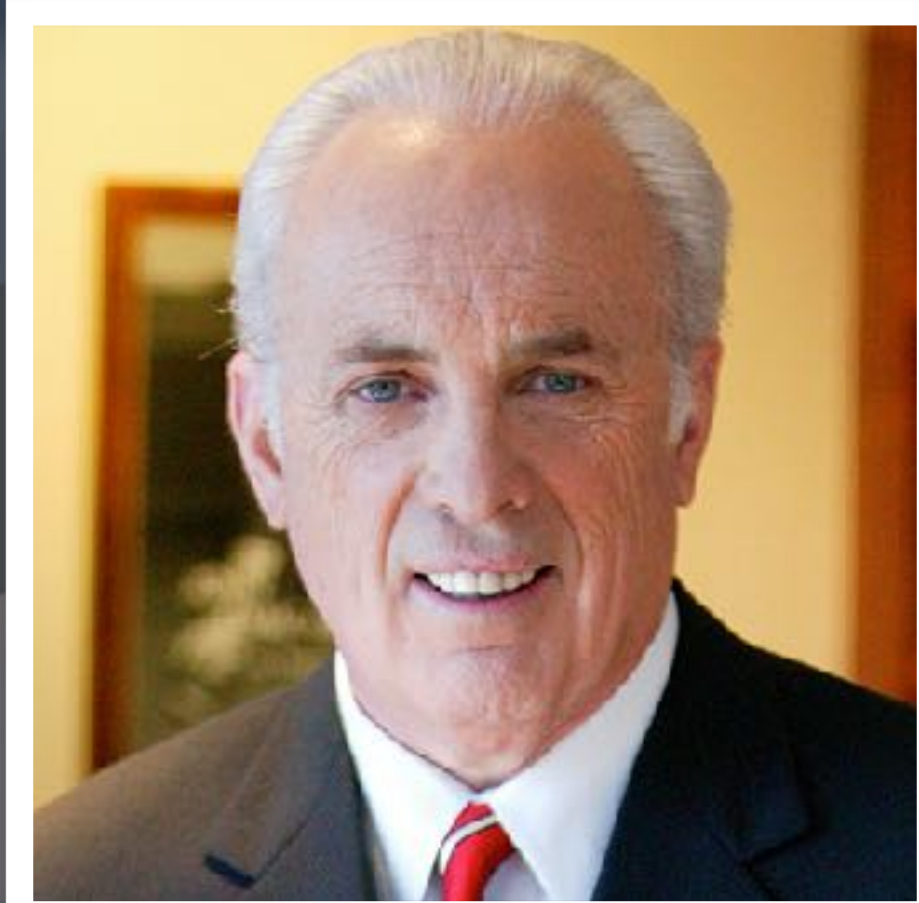
For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

Philippians 2:12

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

“From the earliest days of the church, the relationship between the power of God and the responsibility of believers in living the Christian life has been debated . . . Is the Christian life essentially a matter of passive trust or of active obedience? Is it all God’s doing, all the believer’s doing, or a combination of both? Is it all God’s doing, or is there a requirement on man’s part in response to the command to believe the gospel?”

John MacArthur Jr.



The Quietests

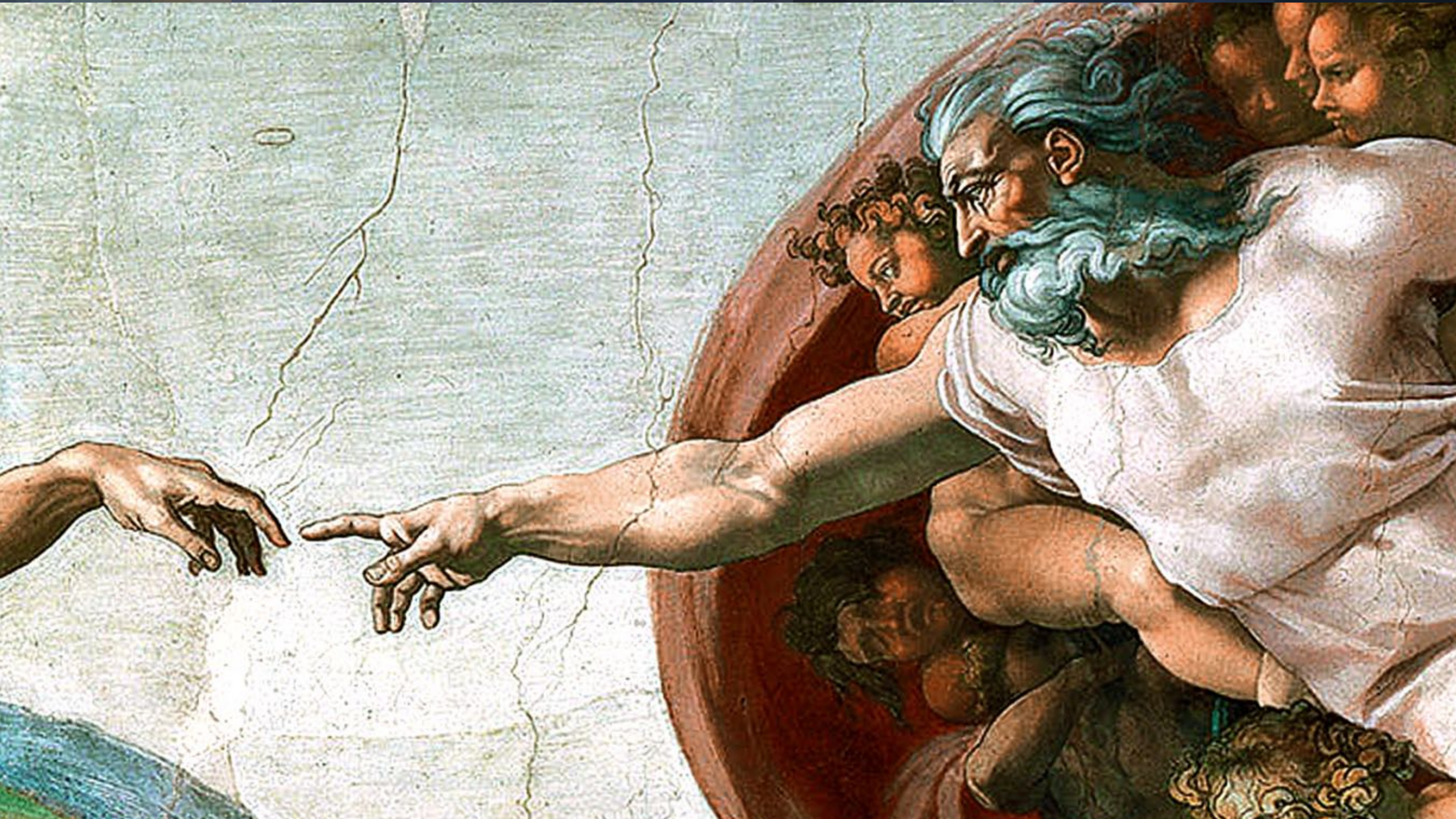
vs

The Pietests

Is salvation up to us?

or

Is salvation up to God?



Ephesians 2:8-9

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.

John 6:44

No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day.



Acts 16:31

So they said, “Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household.”

Philippians 2:12

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;

We need to obey.

We need to be responsible.

**We need to recognize the
consequences of sin.**

And we need to

WORK THESE THINGS OUT!!!

Salvation has three time dimensions: past, present, and future.

- The past dimension is that of justification, when believers placed their faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord and were redeemed.**
- The present dimension is sanctification, the time between a believer's justification and his death or the Rapture.**
- The future aspect is glorification, when salvation is completed and believers receive their glorified bodies.**

We have been saved!

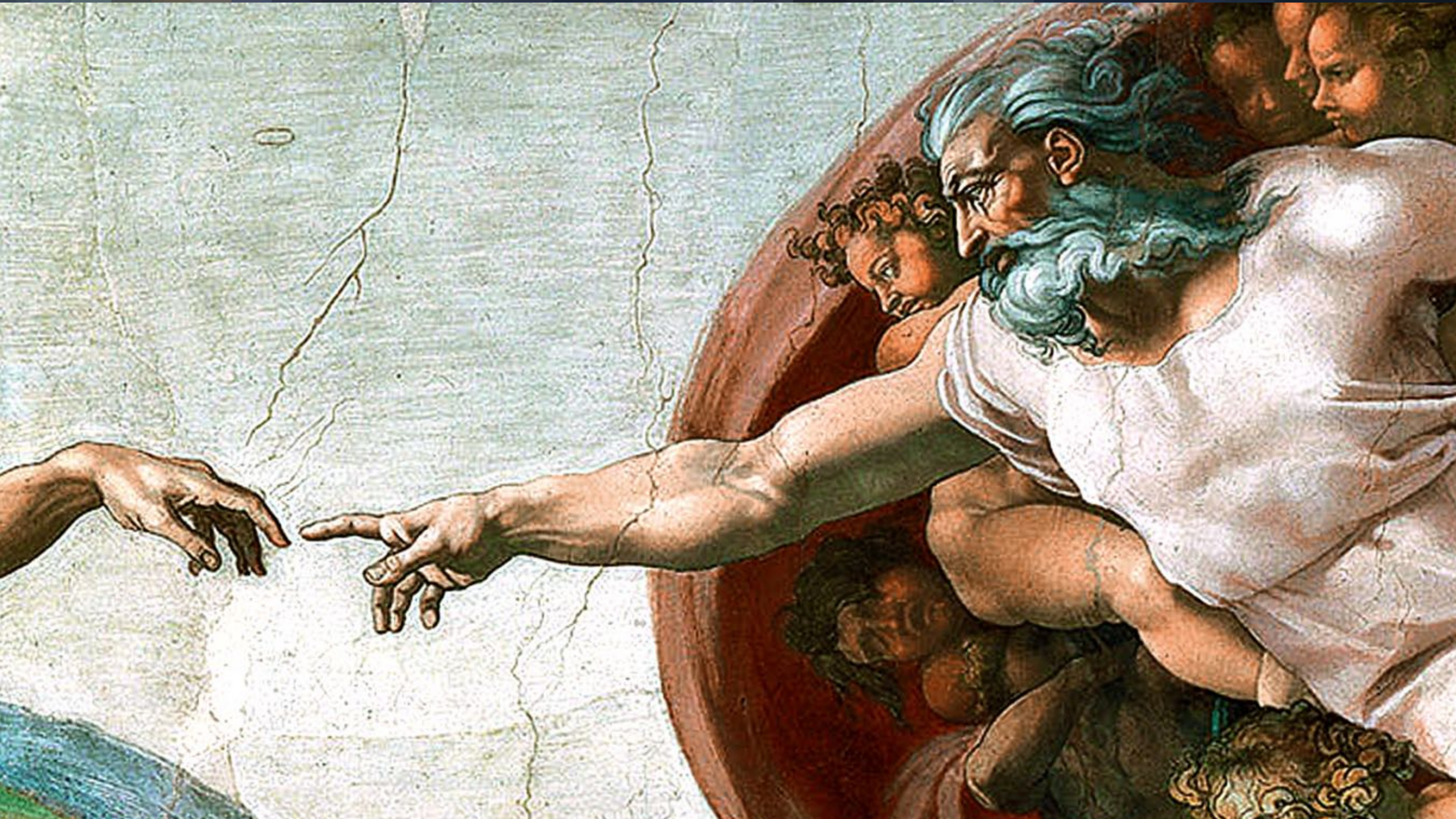
We are being saved!

We will be saved!

Philippians 2:13

for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

**Not only is God a Person . . .
BUT HE IS PERSONAL!!!**



**And, because God is a person . . .
HE HAS A PERSONAL CONCERN
FOR OTHER PERSONS!!!**

Malachi 3:16-17

Then those who feared the LORD spoke to one another, And the LORD listened and heard them; So a book of remembrance was written before Him For those who fear the LORD And who meditate on His name.

“They shall be Mine,” says the LORD of hosts, “On the day that I make them My jewels. And I will spare them As a man spares his own son who serves him.”



Isaiah 55:6-7

Seek the LORD while He may be found, Call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, And the unrighteous man his thoughts; Let him return to the LORD, And He will have mercy on him; And to our God, For He will abundantly pardon.

**But now, here's one we all struggle
with . . .**

Philippians 2:14-16

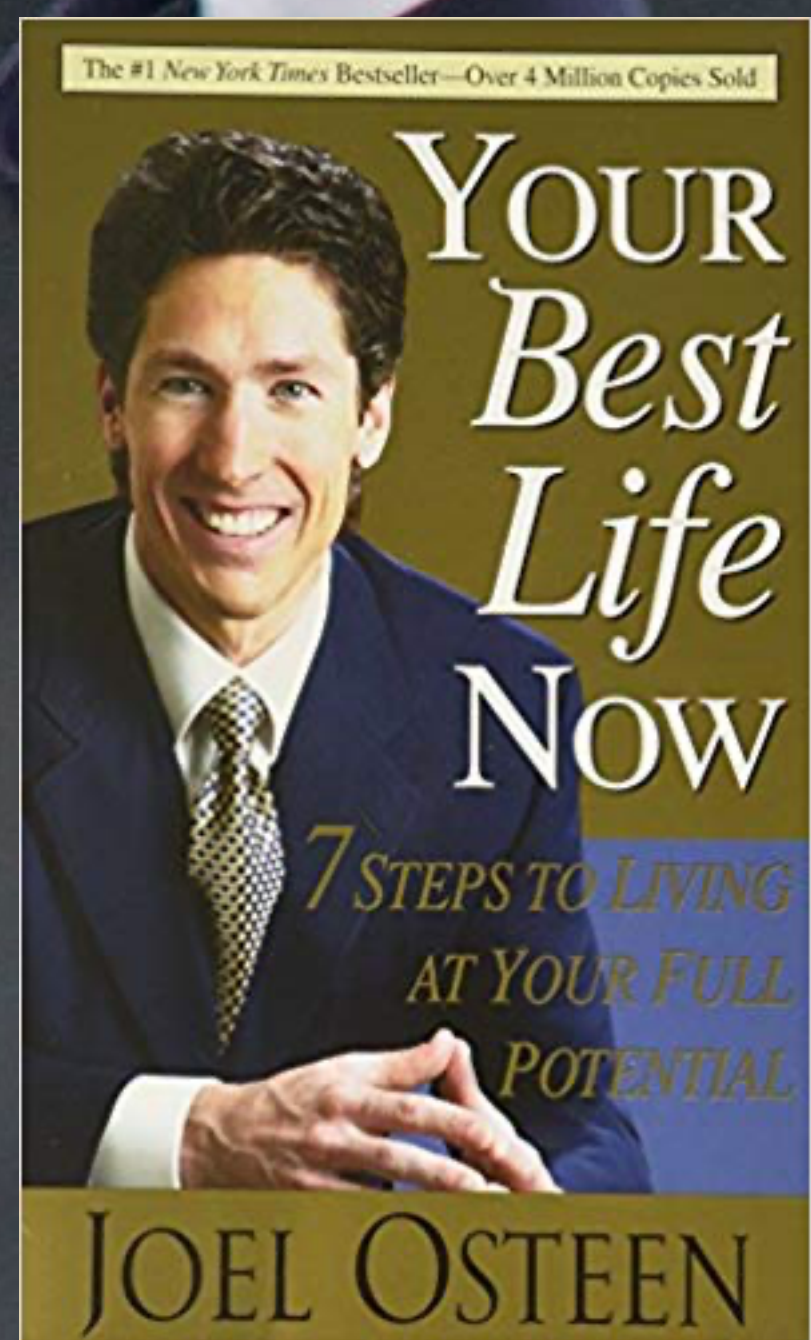
Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

NO COMPLAINING!!!

NO EXCEPTIONS!!!

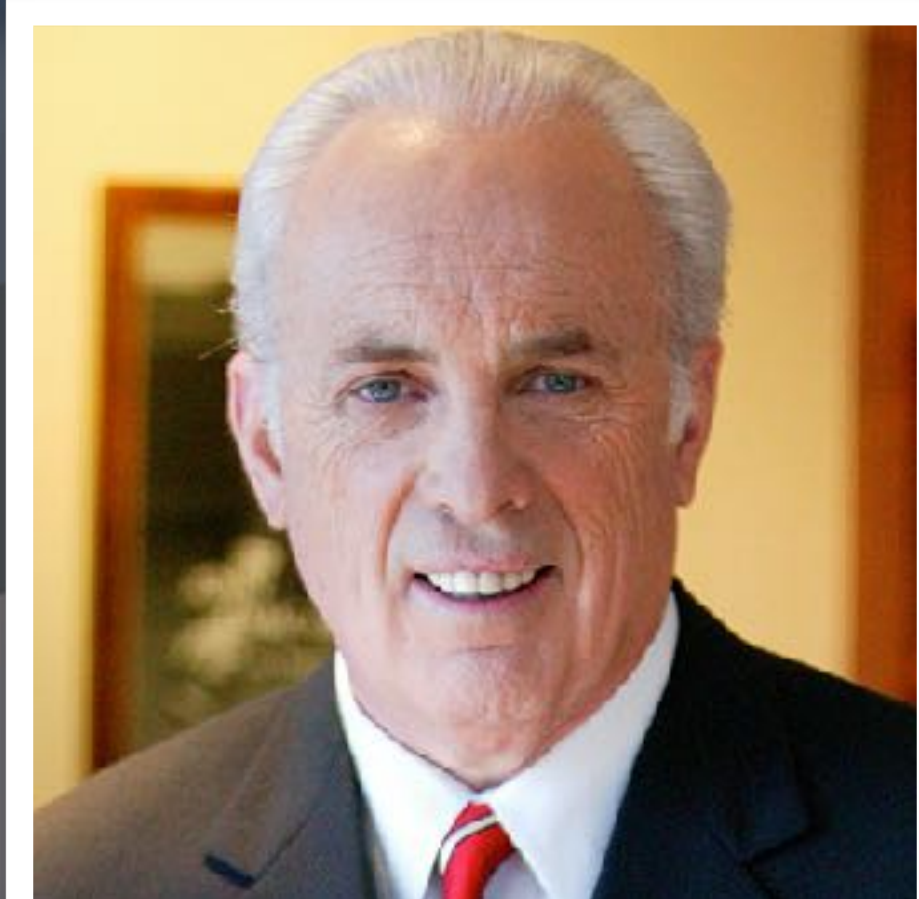


G R E E D



“The only way you’re living your best life now is if you’re going to hell.”

John MacArthur Jr.



**BUT THE BIBLE COMMANDS
US A BELIEVERS NOT TO
COMPLAIN!!!**

James 5:9

**Do not grumble against one another, brethren,
lest you be condemned. Behold, the Judge is
standing at the door!**

1 Peter 4:9

**Be hospitable to one another without
grumbling.**





Why all these warnings?

**BECAUSE COMPLAINING SHOWS A
LACK OF CONTENTMENT AND A
FAILURE TO BE SATISFIED WITH
GOD'S PROVIDENTIAL WILL AND IS
A DEEP-SEATED AND SERIOUS
SIN!!!**

Complaining = *gongysmos* =

To mutter or murmur. A low and suppressed discourse. Secret and sullen grumbling.

Disputing = *dialogismos* =

*To reason a dispute. To be contentious.
To discuss doubts.*

Matthew 20:1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, ‘Why have you been standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.’”

Matthew 20:1-16 (continued)

“So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, ‘Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.’ And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner, saying, “These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.’ But he answered one of them and said, “Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?’ So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen.”



So I guess it would make sense,
**IF WE ARE CALLING OURSELVES
“CHRISTIANS”, WE SHOULD LIVE
AS JESUS LIVED!!!**

2 Peter 3:10-14

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night, in which the heavens will pass away with a great noise, and the elements will melt with fervent heat; both the earth and the works that are in it will be burned up. Therefore, since all these things will be dissolved, what manner of persons ought you to be in holy conduct and godliness, looking for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be dissolved, being on fire, and the elements will melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, looking forward to these things, be diligent to be found by Him in peace, without spot and blameless;

**Then Paul lists three examples of
people who lived this way . . .**

Philippians 2:17-30

Yes, and if I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus. But you know his proven character, that as a son with his father he served with me in the gospel. Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me. But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly.

Philippians 2:17-30 (continued)

Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem; because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

“Example is the most powerful rhetoric.”

Thomas Brooks







Part 1

TIMOTHY

A Sonless Father Finds A Fatherless Son





Epaphroditus = “*belonging to*” or “*avored by Aphrodite*”, the Greek goddess of love (whom the Romans called Venus).

This indicates that, like Timothy, he was probably born and educated in Greek culture.





Philippians 2:2-4


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