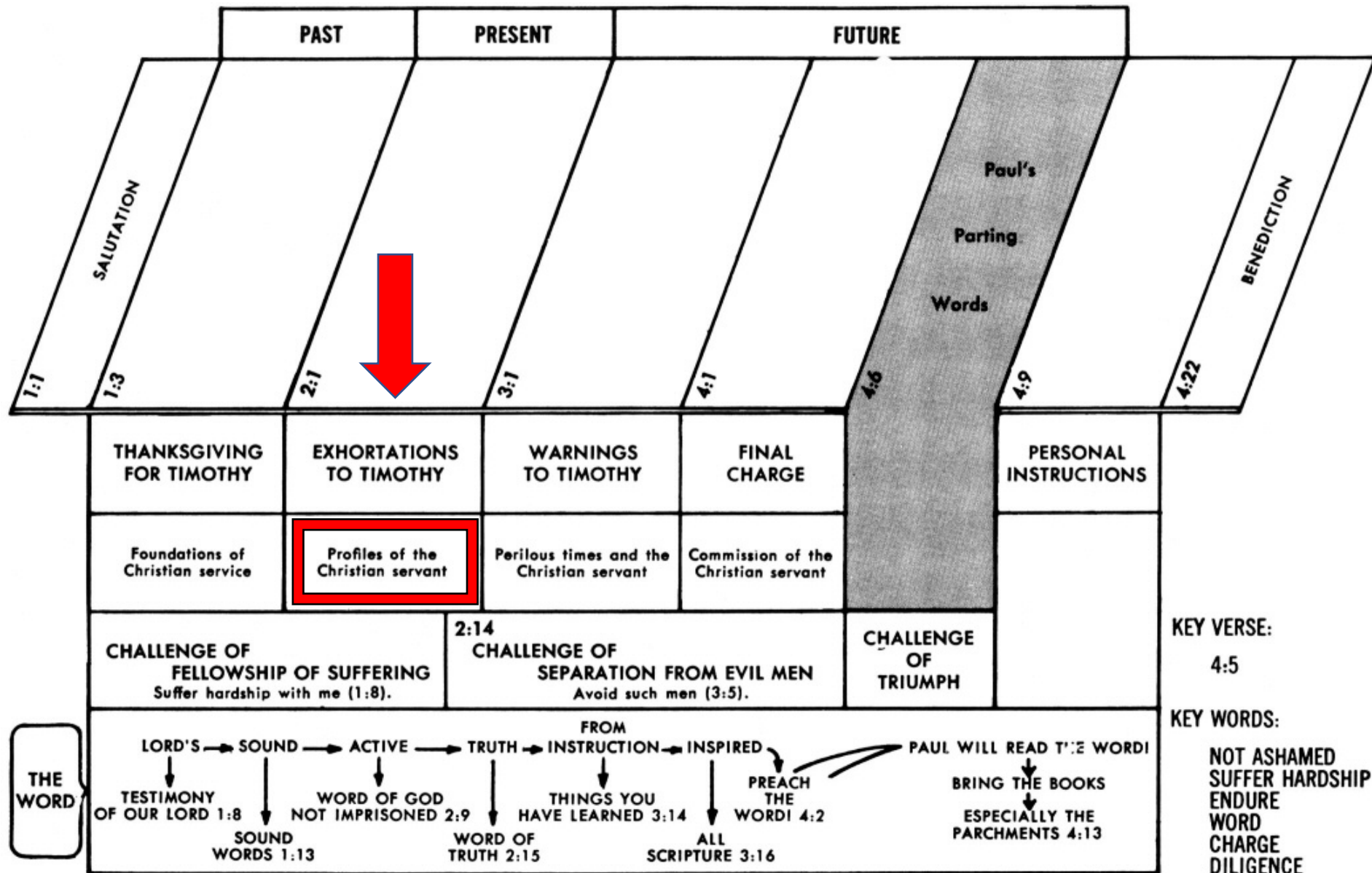




**SOLDIER ★ ATHLETE ★ FARMER**

**2 Timothy 2:1-7**



KEY VERSE:  
4:5

KEY WORDS:

NOT ASHAMED  
SUFFER HARDSHIP  
ENDURE  
WORD  
CHARGE  
DILIGENCE

“I did not shrink from declaring to you anything that was profitable, and teaching you in public and from house to house.”

Acts 20:20

# Secret to Dedication

“There was a day when I died, utterly died; died to George Mueller, his opinions, preferences, tastes, and will; died to the world, its approval or censure; died to the approval or blame even of my brethren and friends; and since then I have studied to show myself approved only to God.” George Mueller

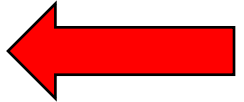
2 Timothy 2:1 You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

2 The things which you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses, entrust these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also.



3 Suffer hardship with me,  
as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

# 9 Personalities of Faith

- Timothy as a Son
- Timothy as a Teacher
- Paul's Illustrations:
  - **Soldier**
  - **Athlete** 
  - **Farmer**

- Paul as:
  - Prisoner
  - Workman
  - Vessel
  - Bond-Servant



# Chiasm of 2 Timothy 2:2

- The things which you have heard from me
  - in the presence of many witnesses
    - **entrust these**
    - to faithful men
  - who will be able to teach others also

# Paul's Illustrations

- Soldier – Discipline
- Athlete – Dedication
- Farmer – Diligence
- Each giving a dimension of truth
- Together giving a composite of truth

5 Also if anyone competes as an athlete,  
he does not win the prize  
unless he competes  
according to the rules.

Galatians 5:7

You were running well; who hindered you from obeying the truth?

## Philippians 2:16

Holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.

1 Cor 9:24-25 Do you not know that those who run in a race all run, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win. Everyone who competes in the games exercises self-control in all things. They then do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.

1 Cor 9:26-27 Therefore I run in such a way, as not without aim; I box in such a way, as not beating the air; but I discipline my body and make it my slave, so that, after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified.

## 2Timothy 4:7-8

I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day;



5 Also if anyone competes as an athlete,  
he does not win the prize  
unless he competes  
according to the rules.

# Competing

- There is a course
- There is a finish
- There is a set of challenges
  - Satan
  - World
  - Flesh



“The Christian experience, from start to finish, is a journey of faith.”

Watchman Nee

5 Also if anyone competes as an athlete,  
he does not win the prize  
unless he competes  
according to the rules.

# Crowning

- The wreath was insignificant
- The honor was invaluable
- The Giver is the gift!
- No shame in the honor!
- No greed in the game



“The Christian life is not adding Jesus to one’s own way of life but renouncing that personal way of life for His and being willing to pay whatever cost that may require.” John MacArthur

5 Also if anyone competes as an athlete,  
he does not win the prize  
unless he competes  
according to the rules.

# Complying

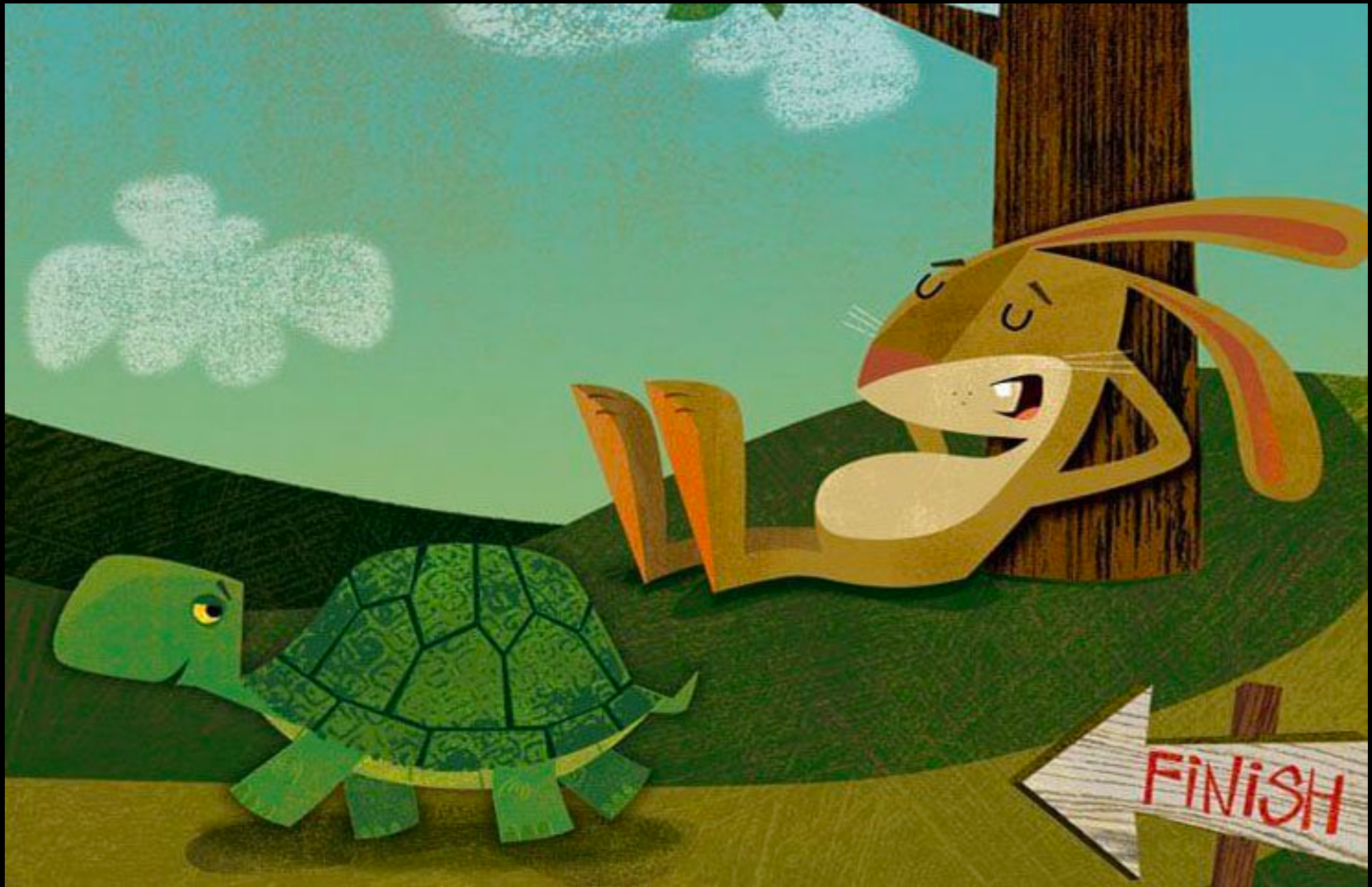
- 1 Cor 9:27 – ‘disqualified’
  - Sins of Commission – cheating
  - Sins of Omission – neglecting
  - Sins of Attitude – believing
- All may run – not all are ‘pleasing’
- 1 Cor 10:1-5





“When it comes to God’s commands, the issue is not clarity; it’s commitment.”

Woodrow Kroll



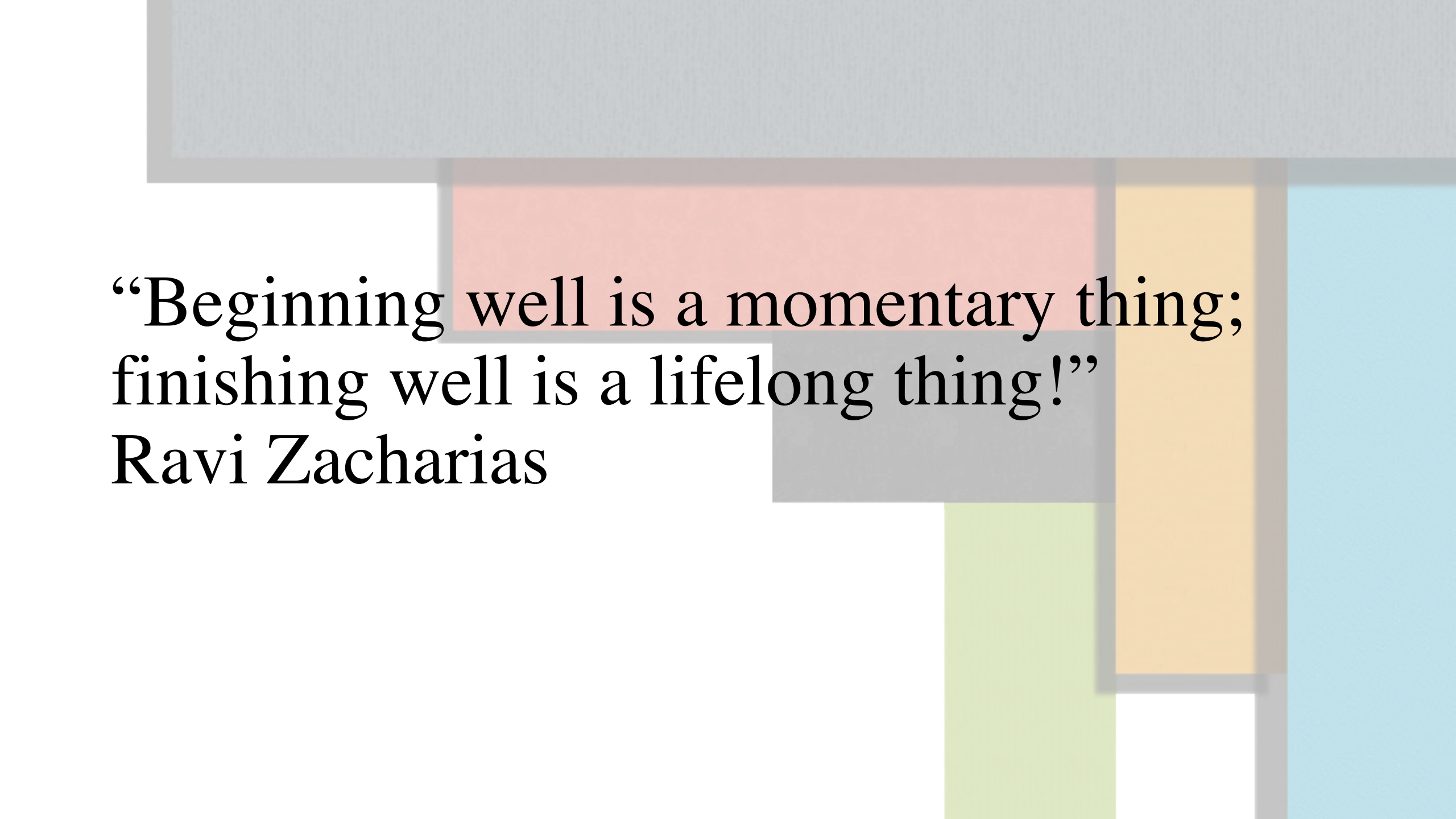
# Finishing Well - Jerry Bridges

## Endurance of the Saints! 2007

- daily time of focused personal communion with God
  - I am listening!
- daily appropriation of the gospel
  - I am redeemed!
- daily commitment to God as a living sacrifice
  - I am offered!
- firm trust in the grace and love of God
  - I am believing!

“But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.”

Acts 20:24



“Beginning well is a momentary thing;  
finishing well is a lifelong thing!”

Ravi Zacharias



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