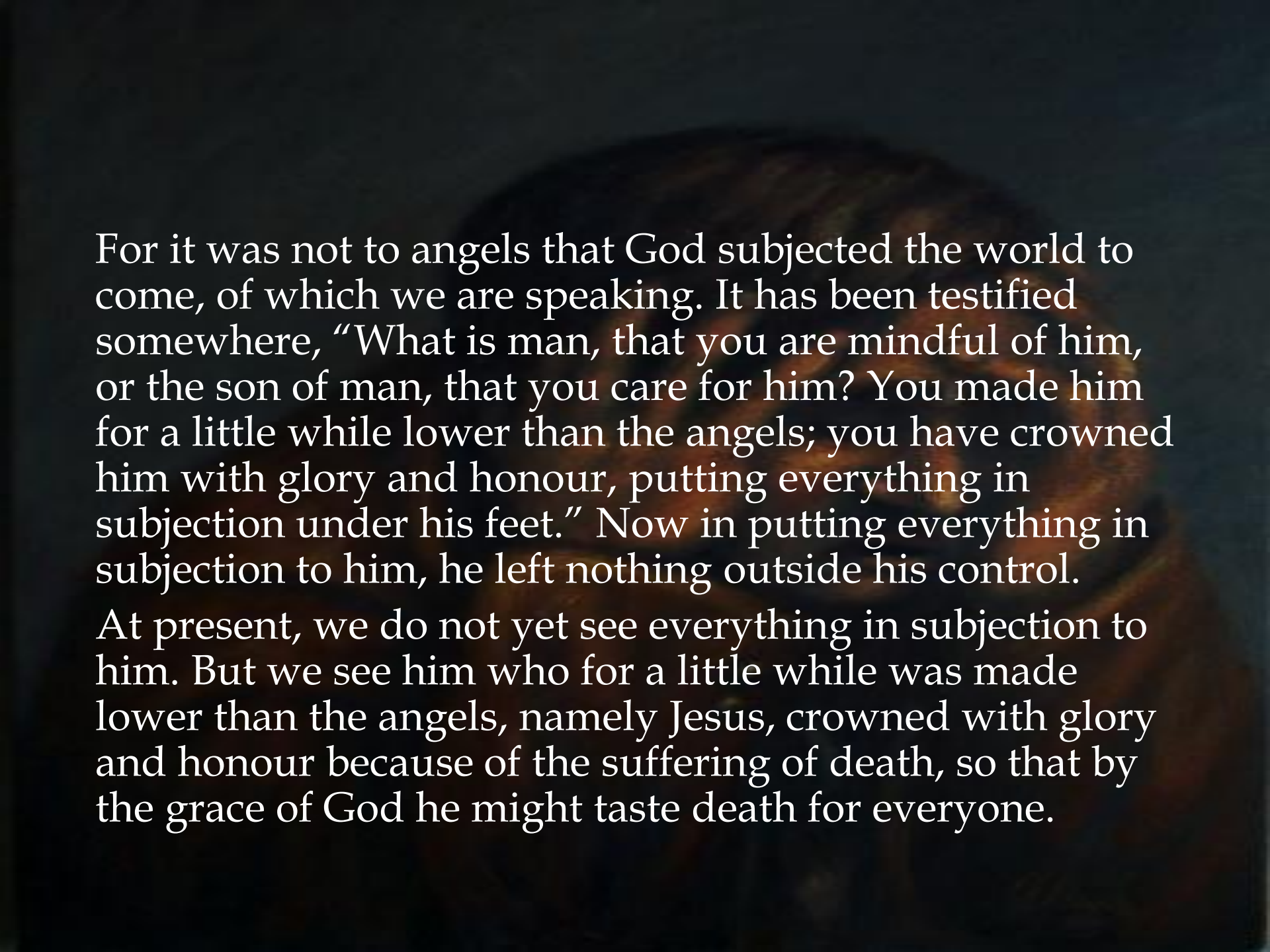


Hebrews 2:1-9

Therefore we must pay much closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.



For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere, "What is man, that you are mindful of him, or the son of man, that you care for him? You made him for a little while lower than the angels; you have crowned him with glory and honour, putting everything in subjection under his feet." Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control.

At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honour because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Hebrews Summary: Jesus ...

- ▣ Heir of all things
- ▣ Through whom the world was created
- ▣ Radiance of the glory of God
- ▣ Upholds the universe by the word of his power
- ▣ Purified sins
- ▣ Superior name to angels
- ▣ Superior to angels
- ▣ Succumbs to suffering and death????????????????

Hebrews 2:10-13

For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many **sons** to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. For he who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have **one source**. That is why he is not ashamed to call them **brothers**, saying, "I will tell of your name to my **brothers**; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Behold, I and the **children** God has given me."

Jesus Identifies With Us

1. We are in the same family
2. We are in a similar position in the family
3. We share similar life experiences because of that position



Hebrews 11 Family

- ▣ Abel
- ▣ Noah
- ▣ Sarah
- ▣ Abraham told to sacrifice Isaac
- ▣ Joseph
- ▣ Moses and the Israelites
- ▣ Gideon
- ▣ David



Suffering Is Fitting???

- ▣ 10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.
 - What does that say about:
 - ▣ The character of God?
 - ▣ Our need?
 - ▣ ... because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Heb 2:18
 - Heb 7:26 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens.

Made Perfect???

- ▣ 10 For it was fitting that he, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory, should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering.
 - Not moral imperfection - For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Heb 4:15 (see also 7:26, 9:14)
 - Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered. And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him. Heb 5:7-9

John Piper

Here being "made perfect" means "learning obedience" through suffering. This does not mean that he was once disobedient and then became obedient. It means that Jesus moved from untested obedience into suffering and then through suffering into tested and proven obedience. And this proving himself obedient through suffering was his "being perfected." ... We have all suffered and failed to be perfected by it. Instead we murmur and complain and get angry at God and his providence.

How It Worked for Jesus

Perfect Son of
God

Made Perfect
Though
Suffering

Demonstrated
Righteousness
on Earth

How It Works for Us

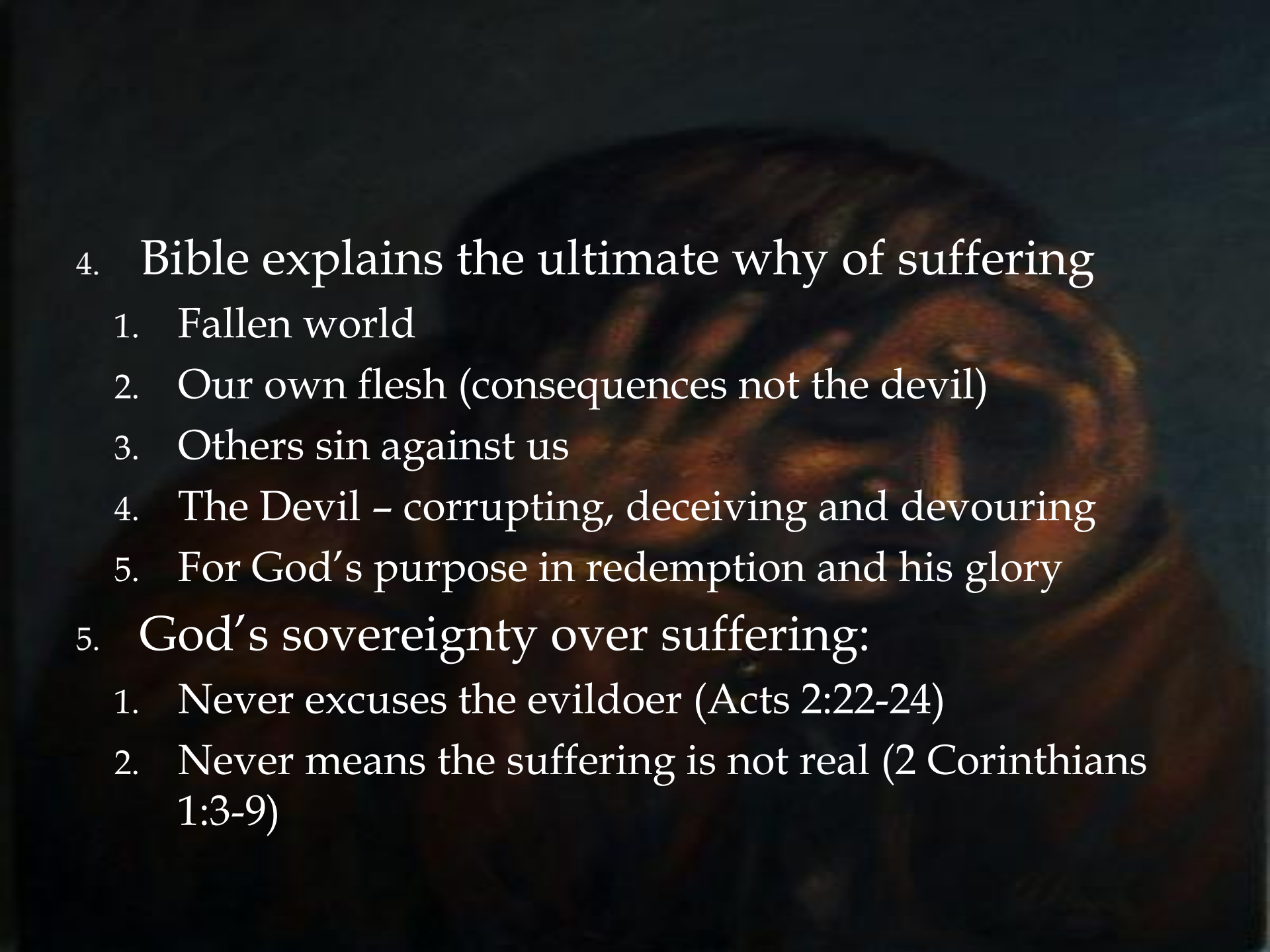
Declared
Perfect in
Jesus

Made Perfect
Though
Suffering

Actual
Personal
Holiness

5 Important Points on Suffering

1. God is sovereign over all things including suffering (1 Samuel 2:2-7)
2. The bible clearly says that God is good (Psalm 25:7)
 1. Faulty thinking that a truly good God would not let people suffer
 2. Even though he did not intervene in the slaughter of his own son
 3. If He is not sovereign in the sin He will not be sovereign in the turning of it for good (Romans 8:28)
 4. Almost never answers the why questions because usually it is humans calling God to account, Gideon (Judges 6:13-14) – he will not play that game
3. God clearly has a redemptive purpose in our suffering (2 Corinthians 1:3-7)

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4. Bible explains the ultimate why of suffering
 1. Fallen world
 2. Our own flesh (consequences not the devil)
 3. Others sin against us
 4. The Devil – corrupting, deceiving and devouring
 5. For God's purpose in redemption and his glory
 5. God's sovereignty over suffering:
 1. Never excuses the evildoer (Acts 2:22-24)
 2. Never means the suffering is not real (2 Corinthians 1:3-9)

The Greatest Evil and the Greatest Good Meet at the Cross

- ▣ “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know — this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. Acts 2:22–23
- ▣ What does this mean for intense evil and suffering?