

Though = "Even IF"

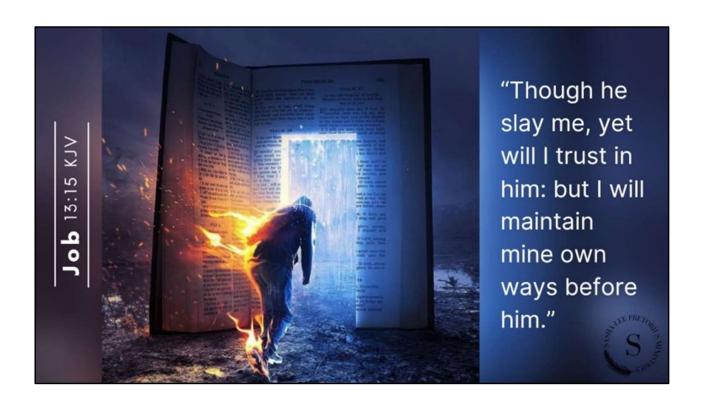
God might kill me, but I have no other hope.[fn] I am going to argue my case with him. NLT

[Job 13:15-16 NASB20] 15 "Though He slay me, I will hope in Him. Nevertheless I will argue my ways before Him. 16 "This also [will be] my salvation, For a godless person cannot come before His presence.

Job 13:15 "Though He slay me, I will hope in Him."

- Does God ever take peoples lives? What do you think of that? Does He have a right to?
- Do you know the story of Abraham being asked to sacrifice his son Isaac? Gen 22:1 Isn't this a troubling and puzzling command of God? It seems so opposite of what we know of Him, doesn't it?
- What are the very real reasons for our key verse this week? "Though He slay me, I'll trust Him"?

- Suffering is one of the most purifying revealers of our hearts ever! When people suffer poorly what does it reveal?
- How powerful is the pivotal interrupting word "Yet"??
- Being "slain" reminds of what aspects of this present Life?
- Do you remember Daniels friends declaration when threatened with death if they didn't bow before the idol? <u>Dan 3:16</u> -<u>18</u> "Whether God rescues us from you or not, we bow only to God!"
- Where is your ultimate and present Hope? When people tell you to have Hope, what does that mean?
- What are the things in your life worth dying for? List them all
- Ask 5 people who know you, and who aren't immediately thinking about this list of questions or not in the environment of church, what they think are the things you live for! Will you be surprised?
- How is this verse a huge paradigm shift in human perspective?!!



Worship puts God in His place & me in mine

- Many are outraged that God might kill?!
- Many more are outraged He commands us not to kill!
- "Worth"ship = bow, fall down, kiss the hand, revere
- Deuteronomy 32:39 'See now that I, I am He, and there is no god besides Me; [It is] I [who] put to death and give life. I have wounded and [it is] I [who] heal, and there is no one who can save [anyone] from My hand."
- We dare play God and presume His throne?!

Though He slay me! Really???

[Job 1:21 NASB20] 21 He said, "Naked I came from my mother's womb, And naked I shall return there. The LORD gave and the LORD has taken away. Blessed be the name of the LORD."

Many are outraged that God might kill?! YET, ever person who signs up for the Military is leaving that very decision in the hands of self serving politician's !!

Many more are outraged He commands us not to kill! Self Murder, Euthanasia, Abortion, Cloning, controlling births to save the planet (China) We seize the throne in making Gods decisions

prostrate oneself

We have a tendency, a sinful default setting to think more highly of ourselves than we ought!!

[Deu 30:19 NASB20] 19 "I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have placed before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants,

[Deu 32:39 NASB20] 39 'See now that I, I am He, And there is no god besides Me; [It is] I [who] put to death and give life. I have wounded and [it is] I [who] heal, And there is no one who can save [anyone] from My hand.

[Isa 41:4 NASB20] 4 "Who has performed and accomplished [it,] Summoning the generations from the beginning? 'I, the LORD, am the first, and with the last. I am He."

[Isa 45:5, 18, 22 NASB20] 5 "I am the LORD, and there is no one else; There is no God except Me. I will arm you, though you have not known Me, ... 18 For this is what the LORD says, [He] who created the heavens (He is the God who formed the earth and made it, He established it [and] did not create it as a waste place, [but] formed it to be inhabited): "I am the LORD, and there is no one else. ... 22 "Turn to Me and be saved, all the ends of the earth; For I am God, and there is no other. [Isa 48:12 NASB20] 12 "Listen to Me, Jacob, Israel whom I called; I am He, I am the first, I am also the last.

[Deu 4:35 NASB20] 35 "You were shown [these things] so that you might know that the LORD, He is God; there is no other besides Him.

[1Sa 2:6 NASB20] 6 "The LORD puts to death and makes alive; He brings down to Sheol and brings up.

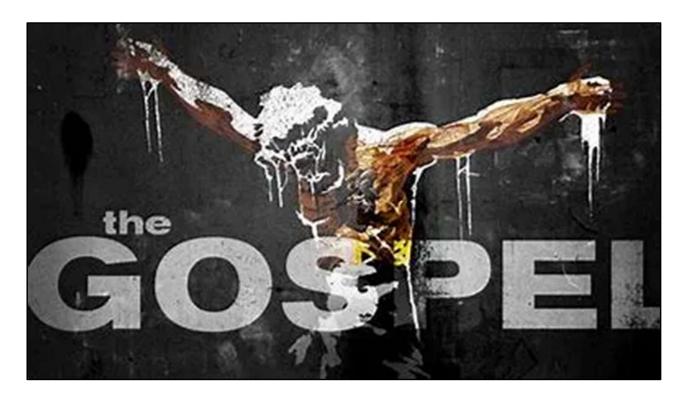
[2Ki 5:7 NASB20] 7 But when the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to kill and to keep alive, that this man is sending [word] to me to cure a man of his leprosy? But consider now, and see how he is seeking a quarrel against me."

[Job 5:18 NASB20] 18 "For He inflicts pain, and gives relief; He wounds, but His hands [also] heal.

[Hos 6:1 NASB20] 1 "Come, let's return to the LORD. For He has torn [us,] but He will heal us; He has wounded [us,] but He will bandage us.

[Rev 1:18 NASB20] 18 and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

[Isa 43:13 NASB20] 13 "Even from eternity I am He, And there is no one who can rescue from My hand; I act, and who can reverse it?"



Salvation is not a reward for the righteous it's a gift for the guilty.

At the expense of the one who was most Righteous!

Though HE slay me, Yet I will trust Him! Isn't that Exactly what Jesus said, in essence?!!

If God was willing to send His only Son to be slain in order to fulfill his Good and perfect will, then who Am I to protest His use of my life for His glory?!

This whole wrestling match is 1st about Who's right it is to control my life and second its wrestling with Gods motives (His love)

We absurdly tend to trust Our hearts while questioning His?!

- "Though HE slay me, Yet I will trust Him!" Jesus said
- If God was willing to send His only Son to be slain in order to fulfill his Good and perfect will, then who Am I to protest His use of my life...for His glory?!
- This whole wrestling match is 1st about Who's right it is to control my life and second, it's judging God's motives (His love)!
- Who controls your life now? How's that going?

The problem with most who question God is; We absurdly tend to trust our hearts (Our purity of motives, our unselfish/altruism of effect, our wisdom of success) while questioning His?!

His use of my life, whether by suffering, blessing or death...for His glory?!

[Luk 6:46 NASB20] 46 "Now why do you call Me, 'Lord, Lord,' and do not do what I say?

[Luk 6:47-49 NASB20] 47 "Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and acts on them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when there was a flood, the river burst against that house and [yet] it could not shake it, because it had been well built. 49 "But the one who has heard and has not acted [accordingly] is like a man who built a house on the ground without a foundation; and the river burst against it and it immediately collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great."



Jehovah-Jireh.

"Abraham called that place The Lord Will Provide" (verse 14). Thus we have another character-revealing name of God: Yahweh-Yireh.

He provides Himself! His Son!

Love passes the test! Genesis 22

- God "I AM", Abraham "Here I am". 22:1
- Your "only son" to Moriah, offer him! (Jerusalem) 22:2
- God commands the "Cursed" and Impossible??!!
- 3 young men, Heaven interrupts on 3rd day! 22:3-4
- Isaac was old enough to resist, but laid down his life
- Abraham passed! Jehovah Jireh So loved He GAVE!
- Abraham's faith showed he Loved God above all!
 Romans 4

IF love doesn't pass the test, it wasn't Love!

God asked Abraham to do What God eventually DID! Not because Abraham could or should sacrifice Isaac but to Show Abraham, and us all, that God Loves us more than we can ever know!

The Big difference here is that God deserves our sacrifices, We do NOT deserve His!

[1Co 16:22 KJV] 22 If any man love not the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be Anathema Maranatha. Anathema means accursed,

https://www.gotquestions.org/how-old-was-Isaac.html
Several commentators have weighed in on the question of how old Isaac was when he was to be sacrificed: **18 to 20 years old** (Leupold, 1:625); **25 years old** (Josephus, 1.13.2); about **33 years old** (Adam Clarke, 1:140); and **over 20** years old (Jamieson, Fausset, and Brown, p. 29).

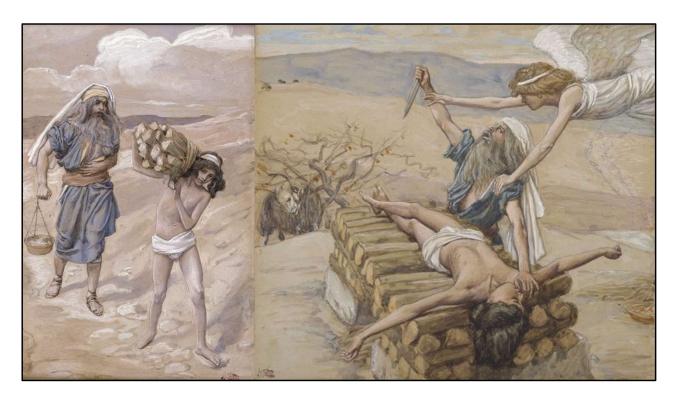
Does God ever require Human sacrifice? Like Pagans? Sanctity of life! ...

[Gen 22:1-4, 6-11 NASB20] 1 Now it came about after these things, that God

tested Abraham, and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2 Then He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you." 3 So Abraham got up early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and his son Isaac; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place of which God had told him. 4 On the third day Abraham raised his eyes and saw the place from a distance. ... 6 And Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. 7 Isaac spoke to his father Abraham and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." And he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?" 8 Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for the burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. 9 Then they came to the place of which God had told him; and Abraham built the altar there and arranged the wood, and bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 And Abraham reached out with his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. 11 But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

Worship is LOVE!

[Rom 4:16-21 NASB20] 16 For this reason [it is] by faith, in order that [it may be] in accordance with grace, so that the promise will be guaranteed to all the descendants, not only to those who are of the Law, but also to those who are of the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 17 (as it is written: "I HAVE MADE YOU A FATHER OF MANY NATIONS") in the presence of Him whom he believed, [that is,] God, who gives life to the dead and calls into being things that do not exist. 18 In hope against hope he believed, so that he might become a father of many nations according to that which had been spoken, "SO SHALL YOUR DESCENDANTS BE." 19 Without becoming weak in faith he contemplated his own body, now [as good as] dead since he was about a hundred years old, and the deadness of Sarah's womb; 20 yet, with respect to the promise of God, he did not waver in unbelief but grew strong in faith, giving glory to God, 21 and being fully assured that what [God] had promised, He was able also to perform.



Did Sarah Know?

"YET"

- "God might kill me, but I have no other hope. I am going to argue my case with him." NLT
- Job 3:21 "Who long for death, but there is none, and dig for it more than for hidden treasures"...7:15-16
- "Yet" expresses faith in expectation! Time will tell!!
- "yet will I <u>trust</u> in him", <u>In Him!</u>
- "hope" is not in a result, but a person!

God might kill me, but I have no other hope. I am going to argue my case with him. NLT

Keep the faith?! Always have Hope?!

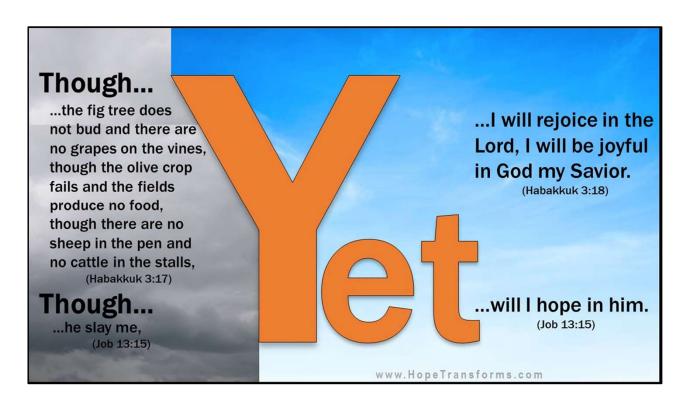
[Job 3:1 NASB20] 1 Afterward Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his [birth.]

[Job 3:20-22 NASB20] 20 "Why is light given to one burdened with grief, And life to the bitter of soul, 21 Who long for death, but there is none, And dig for it more than for hidden treasures; 22 Who are filled with jubilation, [And] rejoice when they find the grave?

<u>Job 3:20</u> "Why is light given to those in misery, and life to the bitter of soul, <u>Job 3:21</u> to those who long for death that does not come, who search for it more than for hidden treasure,

Job 7:15 so that I prefer strangling and death, rather than this body of mine. Job 7:16 I despise my life; I would not live forever. Let me alone; my days have no meaning.

<u>Job 10:1</u> "I loathe my very life; therefore I will give free rein to my complaint and speak out in the bitterness of my soul. (Job)



[Hab 3:17-18 NASB20] 17 Even if the fig tree does not blossom, And there is no fruit on the vines, [If] the yield of the olive fails, And the fields produce no food, [Even if] the flock disappears from the fold, And there are no cattle in the stalls, 18 Yet I will triumph in the LORD, I will rejoice in the God of my salvation.

[Job 13:15 NASB20] 15 "Though He slay me, (Yet) I will hope in Him. Nevertheless I will argue my ways before Him.

17x in Job, 530 times in NASB20

[Job 4:21 NASB20] 21 'Is their tent-cord not pulled out within them? They die, yet without wisdom.'

[Job 8:7, 12, 21 NASB20] 7 "Though your beginning was insignificant, Yet your end will increase greatly. ... 12 "While it is still green [and] not cut down, Yet it withers before any [other] plant. ... 21 "He will yet fill your mouth with laughter, And your lips with joyful shouting.

[Job 10:7-9, 13 NASB20] 7 'According to Your knowledge I am indeed not guilty, Yet there is no one to save [me] from Your hand. 8 'Your hands fashioned and made me altogether, Yet would You destroy me? 9 'Remember that You have made me as clay; Yet would You turn me into dust again? ... 13 'Yet You have concealed these things in Your heart; I know that this is within You:

[Job 19:25-26 NASB20] 25 "Yet as for me, I know that my Redeemer lives, And at the last, He will take His stand on the earth. 26 "Even after my skin is destroyed, Yet from my flesh I will see God,

[Job 20:14 NASB20] 14 [Yet] his food in his stomach is changed To the venom of cobras within him.

[Job 21:14 NASB20] 14 "Yet they say to God, 'Go away from us! We do not even desire the knowledge of Your ways.

[Job 22:18 NASB20] 18 "Yet He filled their houses with good [things;] But the advice of the wicked is far from me.

[Job 24:12 NASB20] 12 "From the city people groan, And the souls of the wounded cry for help; Yet God does not pay attention to the offensiveness.

[Job 30:24 NASB20] 24 "Yet does one in a heap of ruins not reach out [with his] hand, Or in his disaster does he not cry out for help?

[Job 32:3 NASB20] 3 And his anger burned against his three friends because they had found no answer, yet they had condemned Job.

[Job 33:14 NASB20] 14 "Indeed God speaks once, Or twice, [yet] no one notices it.

[Psa 37:25 NASB20] 25 I have been young and now I am old, Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken Or his descendants begging for bread.

[Psa 66:12 NASB20] 12 You made men ride over our heads; We went through fire and through water. Yet You brought us out into [a place of] abundance.

[Psa 71:14 NASB20] 14 But as for me, I will wait continually, And will praise You yet more and more.

[Psa 74:12 NASB20] 12 Yet God is my King from long ago, Who performs acts of salvation in the midst of the earth.

[Psa 78:23 NASB20] 23 Yet He commanded the clouds above And opened the doors of heaven;

[Psa 102:18 NASB20] 18 This will be written for the generation to come, That a people yet to be created may praise the LORD:

[Psa 119:110, 141, 143, 157 NASB20] 110 The wicked have set a trap for me, Yet I have not wandered from Your precepts. ... 141 I am small and despised, [Yet] I do not forget Your precepts. ... 143 Trouble and anguish have come upon me, [Yet] Your commandments are my delight. ... 157 Many are my persecutors and my enemies, [Yet] I do not turn aside from Your testimonies.

[Psa 129:2 NASB20] 2 "Many times they have attacked me from my youth up; Yet they have not prevailed against me.

[Psa 138:6 NASB20] 6 For the LORD is exalted, Yet He looks after the lowly, But He knows the haughty from afar.

[Psa 139:16 NASB20] 16 Your eyes have seen my formless substance; And in Your book were written All the days that were ordained [for me,] When as yet there was not one of them.

[Pro 3:34 NASB20] 34 Though He scoffs at the scoffers, Yet He gives grace to the needy.

[Pro 11:24 NASB20] 24 There is one who scatters, and [yet] increases all the more, And there is one who withholds what is justly due, [and yet it results] only in poverty.

[Pro 30:12 NASB20] 12 There is a kind who is pure in his own eyes, Yet is not washed from his filthiness.

[Jhn 1:10 NASB20] 10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through Him, and [yet] the world did not know Him.

[Jhn 2:4, 20 NASB20] 4 And Jesus said to her, "What [business] do you have with Me, woman? My hour has not yet come." ... 20 The Jews then said, "It took forty-six years to build this temple, and [yet] You will raise it up in three days?"

[Jhn 3:10, 24 NASB20] 10 Jesus answered and said to him, "You are the teacher of Israel, and [yet] you do not understand these things? ... 24 for John had not yet been thrown into prison.

[Jhn 4:20, 27 NASB20] 20 "Our fathers worshiped on this mountain, and [yet] you [Jews] say that in Jerusalem is the place where one must worship." ... 27 And at this point His disciples came, and they were amazed that He had been speaking with a woman, yet no one said, "What are You seeking?" or, "Why are You speaking with her?"

[Jhn 5:40 NASB20] 40 and [yet] you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life.

[Jhn 6:17, 36, 70 NASB20] 17 and after getting into a boat, they [started to] cross the sea to Capernaum. It had already become dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ... 36 "But I said to you that you have indeed seen Me, and [yet] you do not believe. ... 70 Jesus answered them, "Did I Myself not choose you, the twelve? And [yet] one of you is a devil."

[Jhn 7:6, 8, 19, 26, 30, 39 NASB20] 6 So Jesus said to them, "My time is not yet here, but your time is always ready. ... 8 "Go up to the feast yourselves; I am not going up to this feast, because My time has not yet fully arrived." ... 19 "Did Moses not give you the Law, and [yet] none of you carries out the Law? Why are you seeking to kill Me?" ... 26 "And [yet] look, He is speaking publicly, and they are saying nothing to Him. The rulers do not really know that this is the Christ, do they? ... 30 So they were seeking to arrest Him; and [yet] no one laid a hand on Him, because His hour had not yet come. ... 39 But this He said in reference to the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet [given,] because Jesus was not yet glorified.

[Jhn 8:20, 37, 52, 57 NASB20] 20 These words He spoke in the treasury, as He taught in the temple [area;] and no one arrested Him, because His hour had not yet come. ... 37 "I know that you are Abraham's descendants; yet you are seeking to kill Me, because My word has no place in you. ... 52 The Jews said to Him, "Now we know that You have a demon. Abraham died, and the prophets [as well;] and [yet] You say, 'If anyone follows My word, he will never taste of death.' ... 57 So the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and You have seen Abraham?" [Jhn 9:30, 34 NASB20] 30 The man answered and said to them, "Well, here is the

amazing thing, that you do not know where He is from, and [yet] He opened my eyes! ... 34 They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and [yet] you are teaching us?" So they put him out.

[Jhn 10:41 NASB20] 41 Many came to Him and were saying, "While John performed no sign, yet everything John said about this Man was true."

[Jhn 11:8, 30 NASB20] 8 The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone You, and [yet] You are going there again?" ... 30 Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still at the place where Martha met Him.

[Jhn 14:9 NASB20] 9 Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you for so long a time, and [yet] you have not come to know Me, Philip? The one who has seen Me has seen the Father; how [can] you say, 'Show us the Father'?

[Jhn 16:2, 32 NASB20] 2 "They will ban you from the synagogue, yet an hour is coming for everyone who kills you to think that he is offering a service to God. ... 32 "Behold, an hour is coming, and has [already] come, for you to be scattered, each to his own [home,] and to leave Me alone; and [yet] I am not alone, because the Father is with Me.

[Jhn 17:11, 25 NASB20] 11 "I am no longer [going to be] in the world; and [yet] they themselves are in the world, and I am coming to You. Holy Father, keep them in Your name, [the name] which You have given Me, so that they may be one just as We [are.] ... 25 "Righteous Father, although the world has not known You, yet I have known You; and these have known that You sent Me;

[Jhn 19:34, 41 NASB20] 34 Yet one of the soldiers pierced His side with a spear, and immediately blood and water came out. ... 41 Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden [was] a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid.

[Jhn 20:9, 14, 17, 29 NASB20] 9 For they did not yet understand the Scripture, that He must rise from the dead. ... 14 When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing [there,] and [yet] she did not know that it was Jesus. ... 17 Jesus said to her, "Stop clinging to Me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father; but go to My brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to My Father and your Father, and My God and your God." ... 29 Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen Me, have you [now] believed? Blessed [are] they who did not see, and [yet] believed."

[Jhn 21:4, 23 NASB20] 4 But when the day was now breaking, Jesus stood on the beach; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ... 23 Therefore this account went out among the brothers, that that disciple would not die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but [only,] "If I want him to remain until I come, what [is that] to you?"

"To Die is gain"!

- Philippians 3:23 But I am hard-pressed from both [directions,] having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for [that] is very much better;
- 2 Corinthians 5:8 but we are good courage and **prefer** rather to be absent from the body and **to be** at home with the Lord.

[Phl 1:21 NASB20] 21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. [Job 3:1 NASB20] 1 Afterward Job opened his mouth and cursed the day of his [birth.]

Phl 1:20-23 according to my eager expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but [that] with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. 21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if [I am] to live [on] in the flesh, this [will mean] fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose.

[2Co 5:8 NASB20] 8 but we are of good courage and prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be at home with the Lord.

[Rev 14:13 NASB20] 13 And I heard a voice from heaven, saying, "Write: 'Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on!" "Yes," says the Spirit, "so that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow with them."

[Isa 57:1 NASB20] 1 The righteous person perishes, and no one takes it to heart; And devout people are taken away, while no one understands. For the righteous person is taken away from evil, 2 He enters into peace;

[Rom 8:35-39 NASB20] 35 Who will separate us from the love of Christ? [Will] tribulation, or trouble, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or

sword? 36 Just as it is written: "FOR YOUR SAKE WE ARE KILLED ALL DAY LONG; WE WERE REGARDED AS SHEEP TO BE SLAUGHTERED." 37 But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Num 11:15 If this is how you are going to treat me, put me to death right now--if I have found favor in your eyes--and do not let me face my own ruin." (Moses)

Ecc 2:17 So I hated life, because the work that is done under the sun was grievous to me. All of it is meaningless, a chasing after the wind. (Solomon)

<u>1Ki 19:4</u> while he himself went a day's journey into the desert. He came to a broom tree, sat down under it and prayed that he might die. "I have had enough, Lord," he said. "Take my life; I am no better than my ancestors." (Elijah)

Jer.20:14 Cursed be the day on which I was born! The day when my mother bore me,

let it not be blessed! 15 Cursed be the man who brought the news to my father, "A son is born to you," making him very glad. 16 Let that man be like the cities that the Lord overthrew without pity; let him hear a cry in the morning and an alarm at noon, 17 because he did not kill me in the womb; so my mother would have been my grave, and her womb forever great. 18 Why did I come out from the womb to see toil and sorrow, and spend my days in shame? (Jeremiah)

Jon 4:3 Now, O Lord, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live."

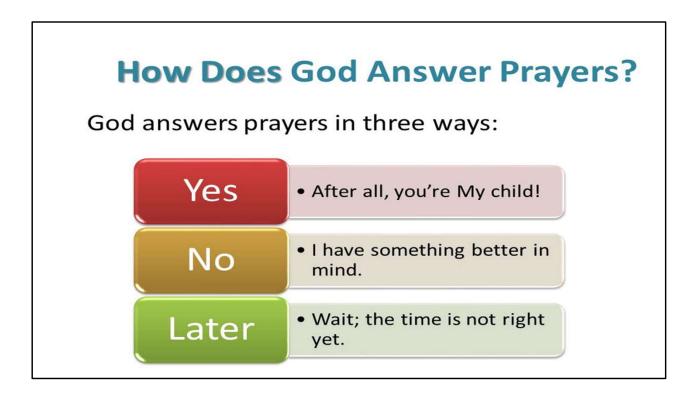
Jon 4:8 When the sun rose, God provided a scorching east wind, and the sun blazed on Jonah's head so that he grew faint. He wanted to die, and said, "It would be better for me to die than to live." (Jonah)

Rev 12:11 They overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony; they did not love their lives so much as to shrink from death.

Psa 73:25 Whom have I in heaven but you? And earth has nothing I desire besides you.

"To Die is gain"!

 Isaiah 57:1 - Good people pass away; the godly often die before their time. But no one seems to care or wonder why. No one seems to understand that God is protecting them from the evil to come.



And YET we resent and resist the answer "NO"!!! Its unacceptable! People still argue that he isn't answering our prayers unless he answers the way we demand!

We don't want a GOD to answer our prayers, we want a celestial Concierge to satisfy all our whims and wants! We have forgotten out place and His!

Its not right for God to tell me NO! Doesn't he know who He's talking to?

The youth who brazenly and arrogantly asked me to pray for him to get Lucky this weekend!

"Look! I see four men untied and walking"

- "we are not in need of an answer to give you concerning this matter. "If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to rescue...us and He will rescue us"
- But even if He does not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods!
 Dan 3:18
- Death before dishonor!
- He is always with us in the fire! Trust Him!
- Kill us and we win!

[Isa 43:2 NASB20] 2 "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you.

[Dan 3:14, 16-30 NASB20] 14 Nebuchadnezzar began speaking and said to them, "Is it true, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, that you do not serve my gods, nor worship the golden statue that I have set up? ... 16 Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego replied to the king, "Nebuchadnezzar, we are not in need of an answer to give you concerning this matter. 17 "If it be [so,] our God whom we serve is able to rescue us from the furnace of blazing fire; and He will rescue us from your hand, O king. 18 "But [even] if [He does] not, let it be known to you, O king, that we are not going to serve your gods nor worship the golden statue that you have set up." 19 Then Nebuchadnezzar was filled with wrath, and his facial expression was changed toward Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. He answered by giving orders to heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated. 20 And he ordered certain valiant warriors who [were] in his army to tie up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego in order to throw [them] into the furnace of blazing fire. 21 Then these men were tied up in their trousers, their coats, their caps, and their [other] clothes, and were thrown into the middle of the furnace of blazing

fire. 22 For this reason, because the king's command [was] harsh and the furnace had been made extremely hot, the flame of the fire killed those men who took up Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego. 23 But these three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, fell into the middle of the furnace of blazing fire [still] tied up. 24 Then Nebuchadnezzar the king was astounded and stood up quickly; he said to his counselors, "Was it not three men [that] we threw bound into the middle of the fire?" They replied to the king, "Absolutely, O king." 25 He responded, "Look! I see four men untied [and] walking about in the middle of the fire unharmed, and the appearance of the fourth is like a son of [the] gods!" 26 Then Nebuchadnezzar came near to the door of the furnace of blazing fire; he said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, come out, you servants of the Most High God, and come here!" Then Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego came out of the middle of the fire. 27 The satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together [and] saw that the fire had no effect on the bodies of these men, nor was the hair of their heads singed, nor were their trousers damaged, nor had [even] the smell of fire touched them. 28 Nebuchadnezzar responded and said, "Blessed be the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego, who has sent His angel and rescued His servants who put their trust in Him, violating the king's command, and surrendered their bodies rather than serve or worship any god except their own God. 29 "Therefore I make a decree that any people, nation, or [population of any] language that speaks anything offensive against the God of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego shall be torn limb from limb and their houses made a rubbish heap, because there is no other god who is able to save in this way." 30 Then the king made Shadrach, Meshach, and Abed-nego prosperous in the province of Babylon.



This story is ok b/c they didn't get hurt or even have smoke smell on their clothes??!

But jobs story has meant more to many people suffering than Daniels friends

Very revealing and refining

- Whatever can take away your joy reveals your god!
- Lovers of <u>self</u>, <u>money</u>, <u>pleasures</u> more than God
 2 Timothy 3
- · Grumbling and complaining assaults God's love!
- Do you have 'affluenza'? What do we deserve?
- After being loved with God's extravagant grace, is there anything too much that the Sovereign of the universe could ask of you? Is HE Sovereign?

[1Pe 1:7 NASB20] 7 so that the proof of your faith, [being] more precious than gold which perishes though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

[Job 23:10 NASB20] 10 "But He knows the way I take; [When] He has put me to the test, I will come out as gold.

[Mal 1:1-3 NASB20] 1 The pronouncement of the word of the LORD to Israel through Malachi: 2 "I have loved you," says the LORD. But you say, "How have You loved us?" "[Was] Esau not Jacob's brother?" declares the LORD. "Yet I have loved Jacob; 3 but I have hated Esau, and I have made his mountains a desolation and [given] his inheritance to the jackals of the wilderness."

Faith is trust when we can't see! I'm expendable on earth for the Kingdom that never ends!

What are the things in your life worth dying for? List them all How is this verse a huge paradigm shift in human perspective?!!

[2Ti 3:2, 4 NASB20] 2 <u>For people will be lovers of self</u>, <u>lovers of money</u>, boastful, arrogant, slanderers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, ... 4

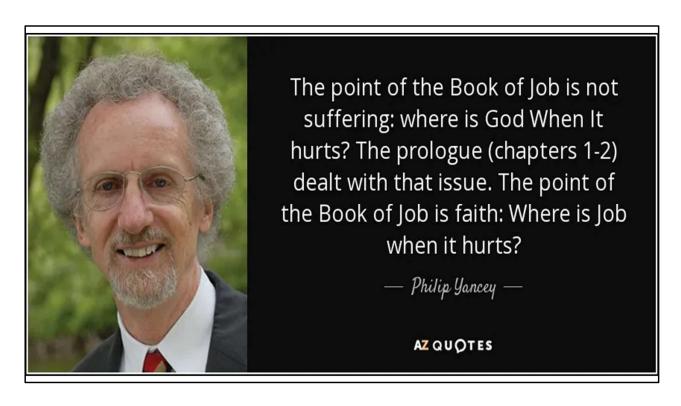
treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God,

In Seeing With New Eyes, David Powlison offers <u>a type of diagnostic test for</u> identifying idols in our lives.

- 1. What do I worry about most?
- 2. What, if I failed or lost it, would cause me to feel that I did not even want to live?
- 3. What do I use to comfort myself when things go bad or get difficult?
- 4. What do I do to cope? What are my release valves? What do I do to feel better?
- 5. What preoccupies me? What do I daydream about?
- 6. What makes me feel the most self-worth? Of what am I the proudest? For what do I want to be known?
- 7. What do I lead with in conversations?
- 8. Early on, what do I want to make sure that people know about me?
- 9. What prayer, unanswered, would make me seriously think about turning away from God?
- 10. What do I really want and expect out of life? What would really make me happy?
- 11. What is my hope for the future?

[Phl 2:14 NASB20] 14 Do all things without complaining or arguments; [1Co 10:10 NASB20] 10 Nor grumble, as some of them did, and were killed by the destroyer.

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2524108/Judge-let-spoiled-rich-teen-killed-DUI-previously-boy-aged-fourteen-prison-TEN-YEARS.html



The Point is <u>NOT</u> "where is God when life hurts"! The Point <u>IS</u> "Hey Job, where is your faith when life Hurts"?!

God isn't the one being tested here! We must never put God to the test! He already passed it!

Job, what if ...

- Your story will be an immense comfort to billions
- Through it all God will be greatly glorified
- It's what God wants from you right now
- You will be drawn ever closer to God and sanctified
- While I (God) may be silent I'll be faithful to you
- Your suffering will be weeks, reward more than 2x
- After a brief life, Eternal joy & No more tears!

IF Job could've heard these questions form God, how do you think he would respond?

With Even More humble surrender to the wisdom and goodness of God!

So, how about you? Will you trust Him?! Hasn't He proven enough How much He loves you?

Thank God He won't give you what you deserve! And Gives you more than you creamed!



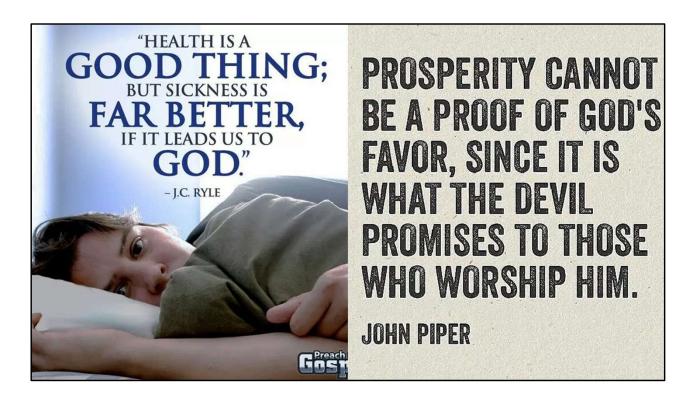
Comfort is our God!!

"Comfort is the god of our generation, so suffering is seen as a problem to be solved, and not a providence from God" Matt Chandler

We Worship ourselves! We must never be inconvenienced or suffer the discomforts of lesser people!

Look at how the wealthy shower themselves in pleasures, amenities, luxuries, bed of roses...

And how they recoil and boil over the lack thereof!



Health is a good thing.
But sickness is FAR Better IF it leads us to Christ!
JC Ryle

How many afflicted have been brought to absolute brokenness and utter humility and in their helplessness sought God!

The safest road to hell is the gradual one - the gentle slope, soft underfoot, without sudden turnings, without milestones, without signposts.

C. S. Lewis

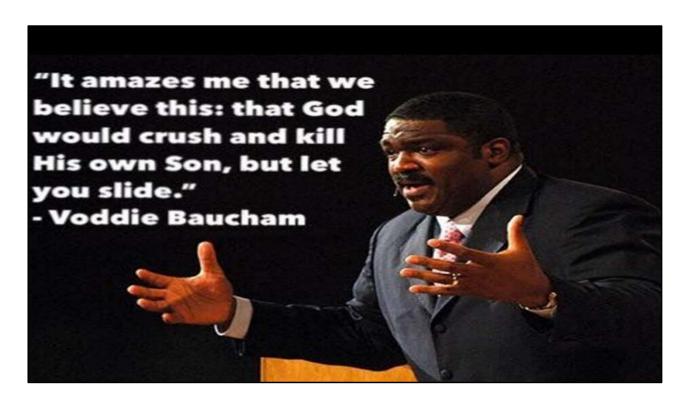
Prosperity (Or health) cannot be a proof of gods favor, Since it is what the devil promises to those who worship Him!

Piper

And remember What Jesus said,

[Mat 19:24 NASB20] 24 "And again I say to you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." [Pro 30:7-9 NASB20] 7 Two things I have asked of You; Do not refuse me before I die: 8 Keep deception and lies far from me, Give me neither poverty nor riches; Feed me with the food that is my portion, 9 So that I will not be full and deny

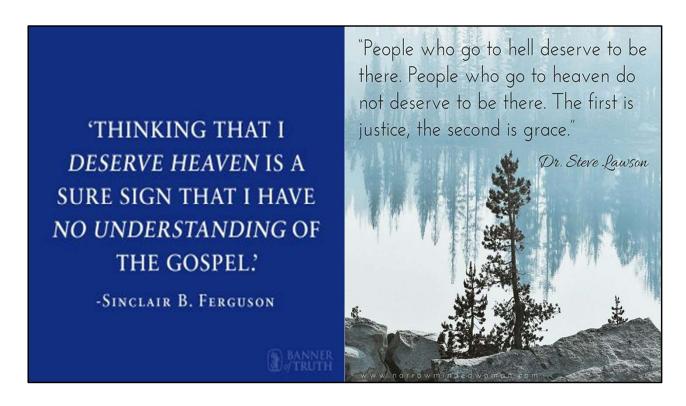
[You] and say, "Who is the LORD?" And that I will not become impoverished and steal, And profane the name of my God.



"It Amazes me that we believe this: that God would crush and kill His own son, but let you slide" Voddie Baucham

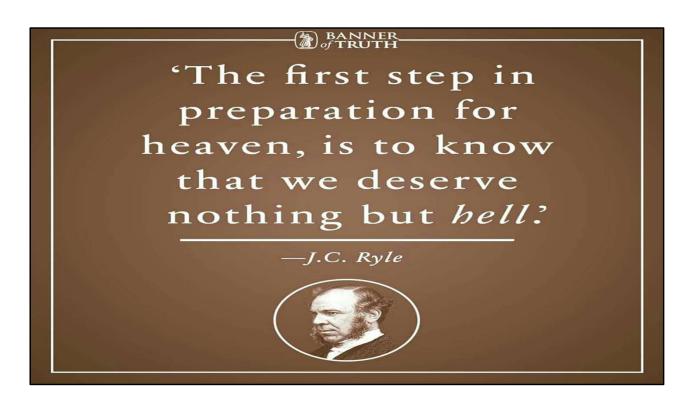


Gods love in John 3:16 is NOT AMAZING because the world is So big! But because the world is SO BAD! D.A. Carson

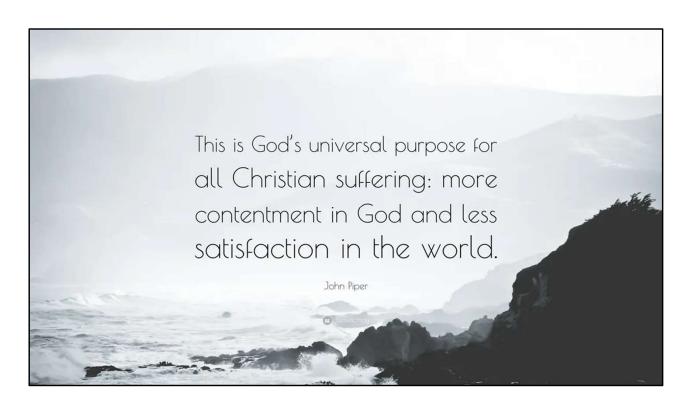


Thinking that I deserve heaven (or better pleasures, comforts and ease) is a sure sign that I have NO understanding of the gospel! Sinclair Ferguson

People who go to hell deserve to be there! People who go to heaven do NOT deserve to go there! The first is justice, the second is Grace! Steve Lawson

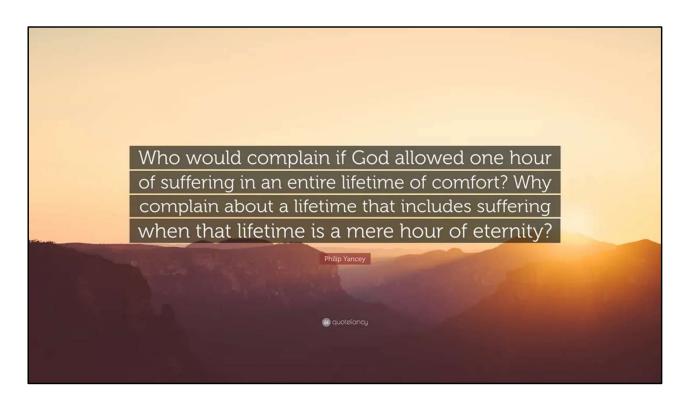


The first step in preparation for heaven is to know that we deserve Hell! JC Ryle



This is Gods universal purpose or all Christian suffering: More contentment in God and less satisfaction in the world!

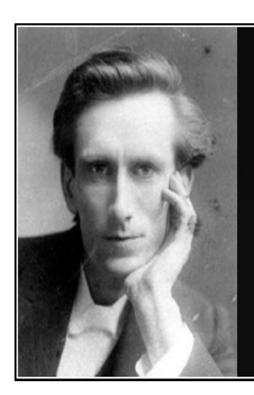
Piper



Who would complain if God allowed 1 hour of suffering in an entire lifetime of comfort?

Why complain about a lifetime that includes suffering when that lifetime is a mere hour of eternity!

Yancey



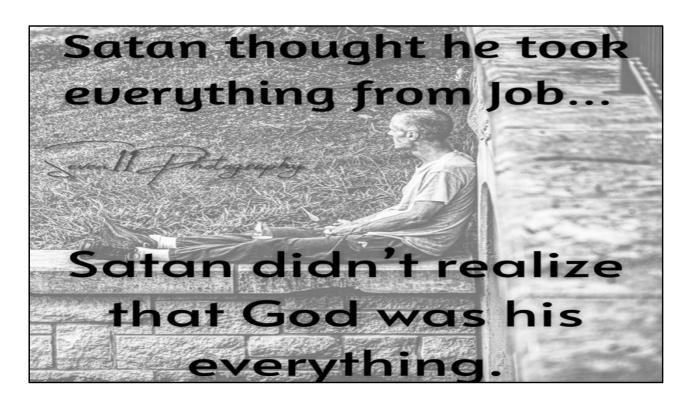
Faith, as the Bible teaches it, is faith in God coming against everything that contradicts Him- a faith that says, "I will remain true to God's character whatever He may do." The highest and the greatest expression of faith in the whole Bible is- "Though He slay me, yet will I trust Him" (Job 13:15).

— Oswald Chambers —

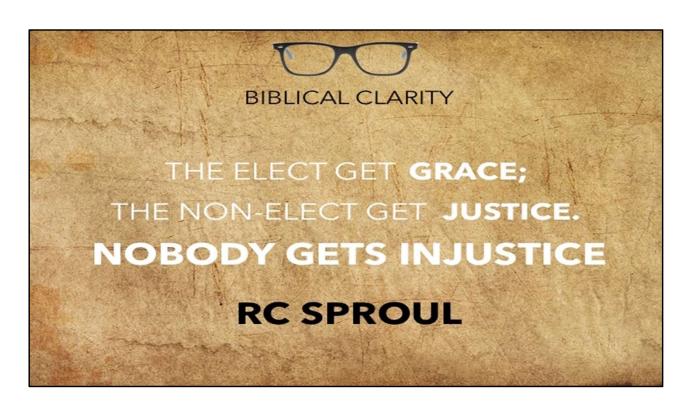
AZ QUOTES

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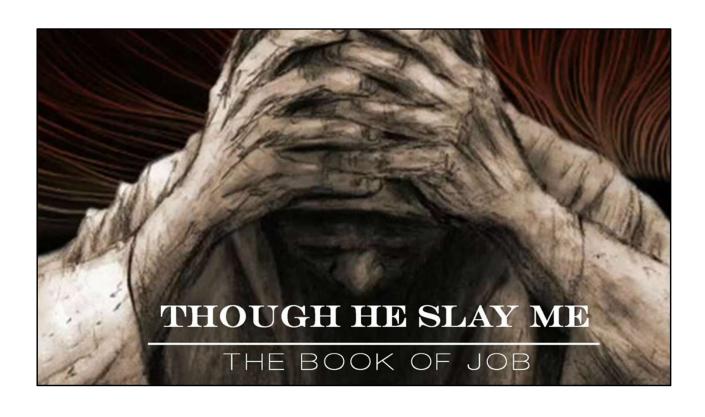
Oswald Chambers

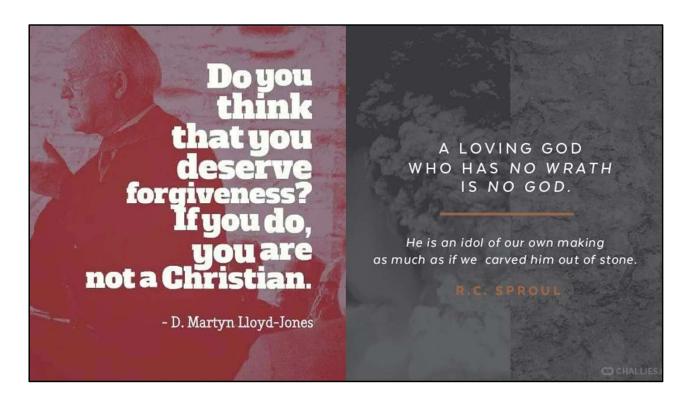


Satan thought he took everything from Job...Satan didn't realize that God was his everything!



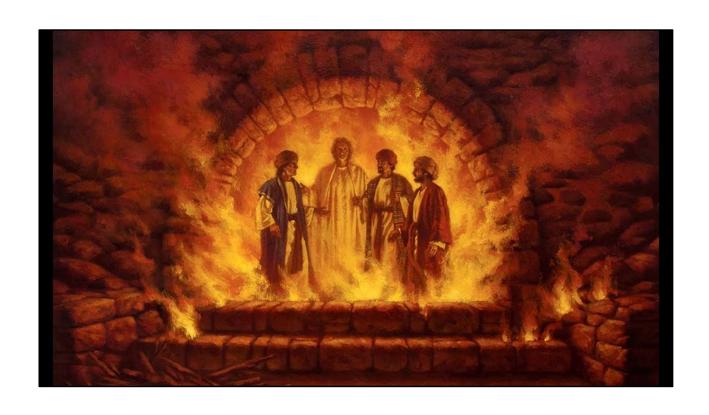
The Elect get grace The Non-elect get justice Nobody gets injustice! RC Sproul

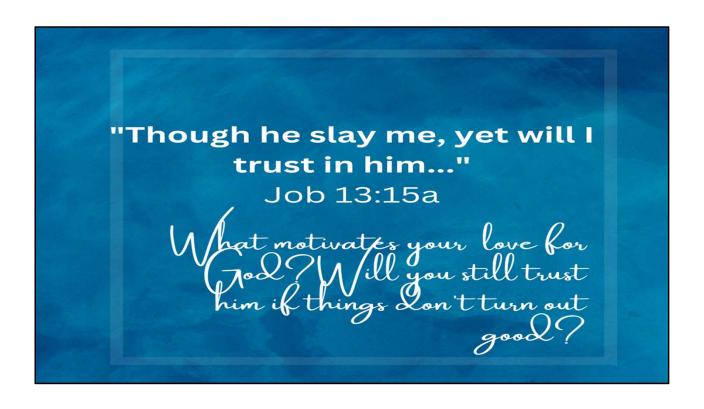




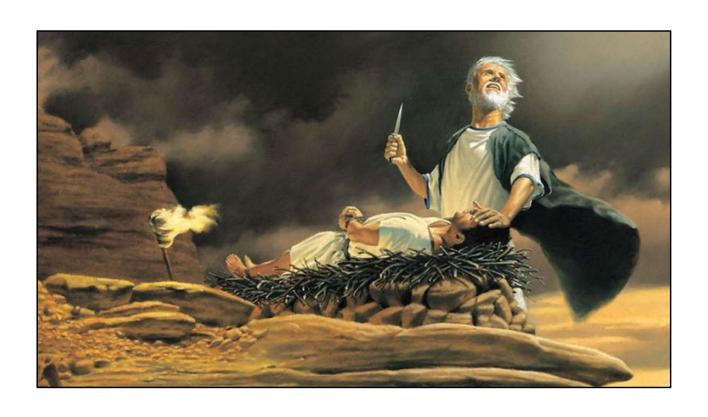
Do you think you deserve forgiveness? If you do, you are NOT a Christian. Martin Lloyd jones

A loving God who has NO wrath is NO God! He is an idol of our own making as much as if we carved him out of stone R.C. Sproul

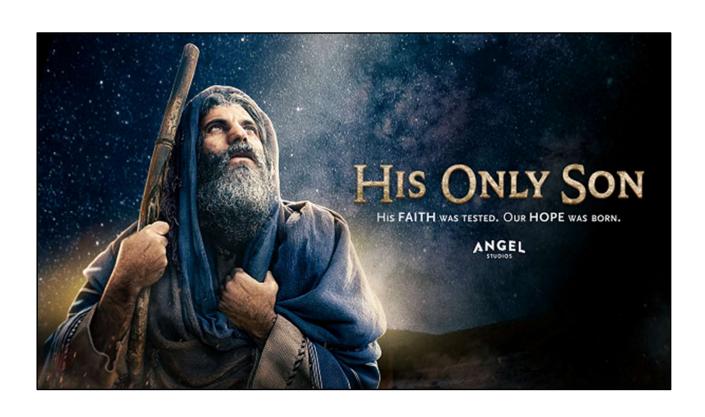


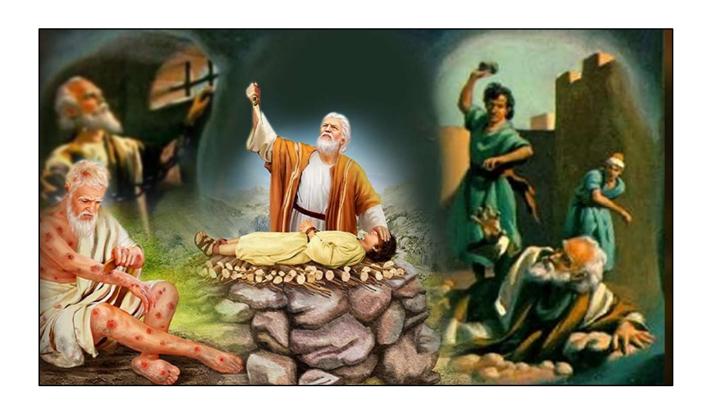


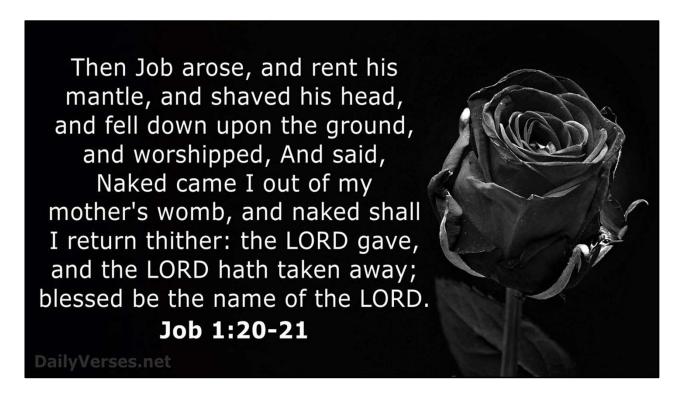


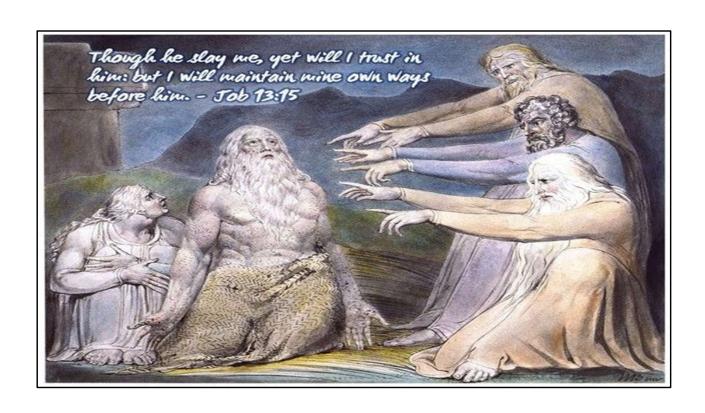


12 Your maxims are broverns or asnes; away; your defenses are defenses of clay. like a fleeting sha endure. 13"Keep silent and let me speak; 3Do you fix your eye then let come to me what may. Will you bring h 14Why do I put myself in jeopardy judgment? and take my life in my hands? Who can bring wha 15Though he slay me, yet will I hope in impure? No one! I will surely a defend my ways to his 5Man's days are dete you have decree ¹⁶Indeed, this will turn out for my months deliverance, and have set lim for no godless man would dare come before him! exceed. ⁶So look away from ¹⁷Listen carefully to my words; alone, let your ears take in what I say.



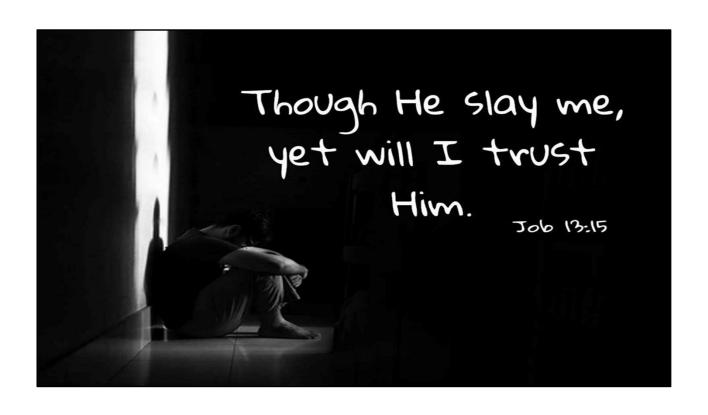














The misfortunes which God is represented in the book of Job as allowing Satan to inflict on Job, merely to test his faith, are indications, if not of positive malevolence, at least of a suspicious and ruthless insecurity, which is characteristic more of a tyrant than of a wholly powerful and benevolent deity.

— A.J. Ayer —

AZ QUOTES

