

A person with short brown hair, wearing a blue jacket and red earbuds, is seen from behind, looking out at a vast landscape of blue mountains under a bright sky with clouds. The foreground shows a dry, grassy field with some small bushes.

*the life
you've always wanted...?*

WISER THAN SOLOMON

Ecclesiastes 1

² "Meaningless! Meaningless!"
says the Teacher.

"Utterly meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."

³ What do people gain from all their labors
at which they toil under the sun?

Ecclesiastes 12

⁸ "Meaningless! Meaningless!"
says the Teacher.
Everything is meaningless."

ECCLESIASTES

written by
Solomon, the
most unlimited
man in history

who gets to test-
drive the deep
desires and
thinking of all
humans

Ecclesiastes 1

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says the Teacher.

"Utterly Hevel!

Everything is Hevel."

³ What do people gain from all their labors
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Ecclesiastes 12

⁸ "Hevel! Hevel!"

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HEVEL



HEVEL

A Hebrew words used 37 times in this short book, which starts and ends with *hevel* (1.2, 12.8)
literally, smoke or vapor

1. Fleeting or temporary - Psalm 144.4, Job 7.16, Eccl 11.10
2. Futile, because it's illusory and vaporous
 - Jeremiah 10 and Isaiah 57 - idols are *hevel*. They look real and promise something that seem real but when you try to grab it, it slips out of your hands
 - In the same way, achievement, money and pleasure in this world are *hevel* (1.14, 2.1, 2.11, 5.10)

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1. Fleeting or temporary - Psalm 144.4, Job 7.16, Eccl 11.10
2. Futile, because it's illusory and vaporous - Jer 10; Isa 57; Eccl 1.14, 2.1, 2.11, 5.10 and others
3. Paradoxical or incomprehensible because of chance and death

Eccl 9.¹¹ I have seen something else under the sun: The race is not to the swift or the battle to the strong, nor does food come to the wise or wealth to the brilliant or favor to the learned; but time and chance happen to them all. ¹² Moreover, no one knows when their hour will come: As fish are caught in a cruel net, or birds are taken in a snare, so people are trapped by evil times that fall unexpectedly upon them.



HEVEL



SOLOMON ISN'T THE FINAL WORD IN ECCLESIASTES

Ecclesiastes 1

¹ These are the words of the Teacher, King David's son, who ruled in Jerusalem.



SOLOMON ISN'T THE FINAL WORD IN ECCLESIASTES

Ecclesiastes 12

⁸ "Everything is meaningless," says the Teacher, "completely meaningless."

⁹ Keep this in mind: The Teacher was considered wise, and he taught the people everything he knew. He listened carefully to many proverbs, studying and classifying them. ¹⁰ The Teacher sought to find just the right words to express truths clearly.

¹¹ The words of the wise are like cattle prods—painful but helpful. Their collected sayings are like a nail-studded stick with which a shepherd drives the sheep. ¹² But, my child, let me give you some further advice: Be careful, for writing books is endless, and much study wears you out.

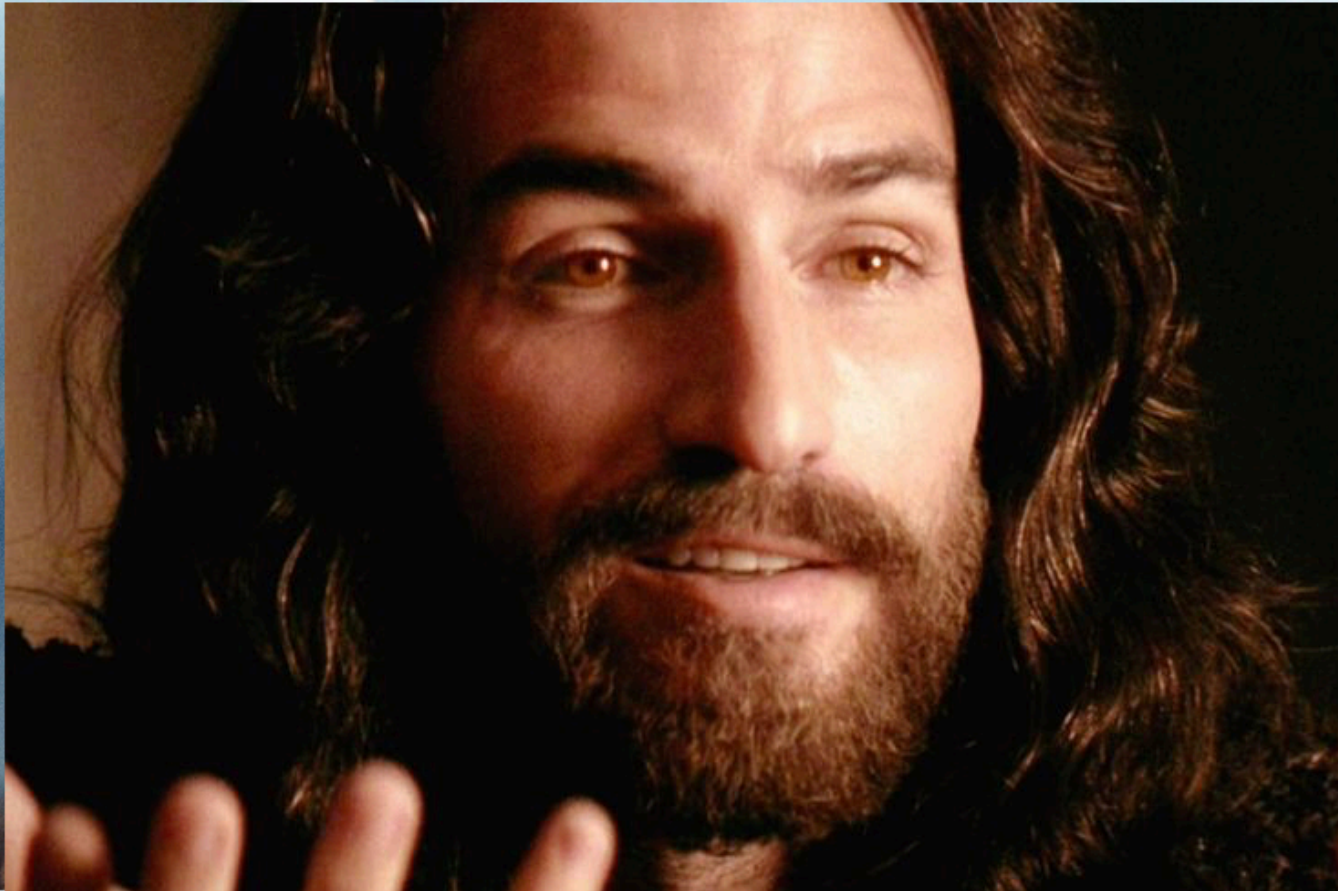
¹³ That's the whole story. Here now is my final conclusion: Fear God and obey his commands, for this is everyone's duty. ¹⁴ God will judge us for everything we do, including every secret thing, whether good or bad.

SOLOMON ISN'T THE FINAL WORD IN ECCLESIASTES

Fear God - letting Him guide of our life
There *are* new things under the sun



WISER THAN SOLOMON

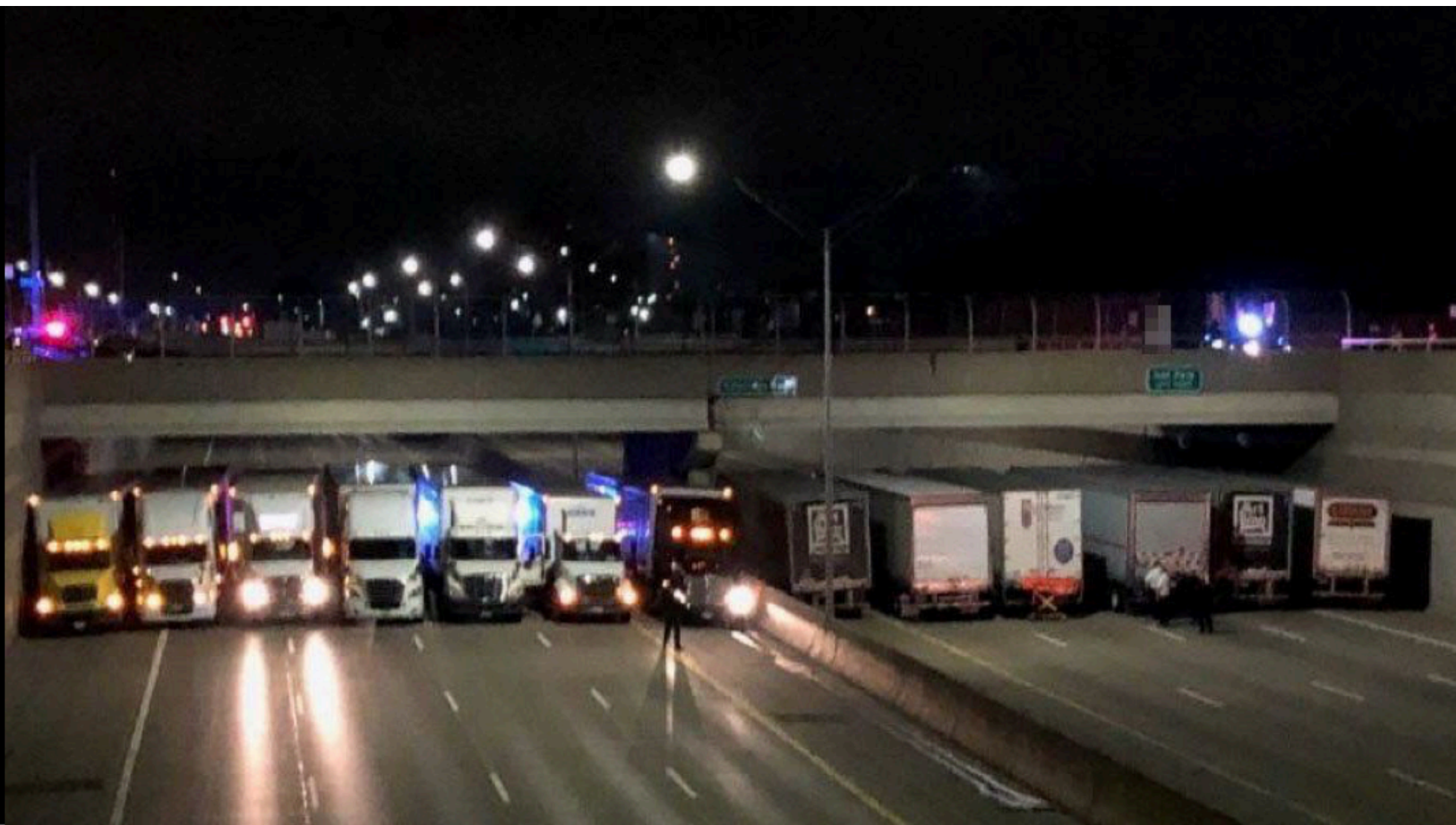


Jesus knew Ecclesiastes

People Matter

"Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'

Matthew 22:36-39



WISER THAN SOLOMON

Paul knew Ecclesiastes

Rom 1:16 I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes: first for the Jew, then for the Gentile.

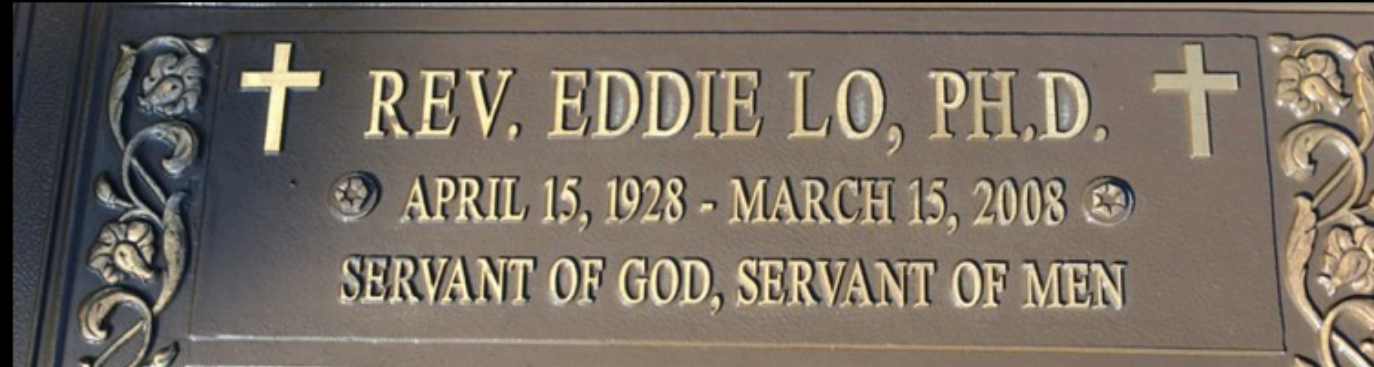
Acts 21.13 - Then Paul answered, "Why are you weeping and breaking my heart? I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus."

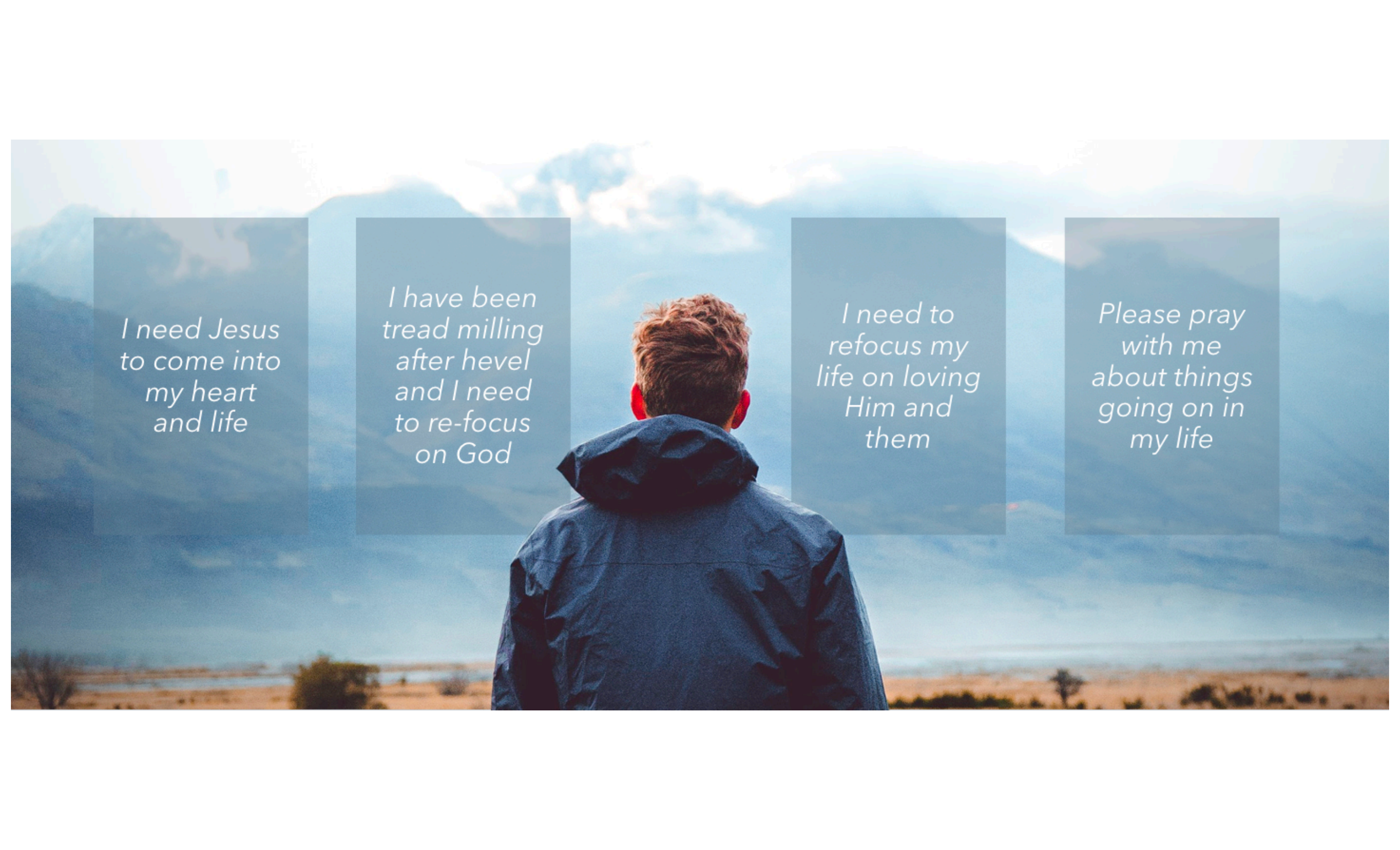


Apostle Paul

Do I want to live the life of Solomon or Paul?





A person with short brown hair, seen from behind, wearing a blue hooded raincoat. They are standing in a dry, open landscape with sparse vegetation. In the distance, there is a body of water and a range of mountains under a sky filled with soft, white clouds. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

*I need Jesus
to come into
my heart
and life*

*I have been
tread milling
after hevel
and I need
to re-focus
on God*

*I need to
refocus my
life on loving
Him and
them*

*Please pray
with me
about things
going on in
my life*