

Eternal Spirit  
Earth Maker, Pain Bearer  
Life Giver, Source of all  
that is and all that will be  
Father and Mother of us all  
Loving God, in whom  
is heaven



The hallowing of your name  
echo throughout  
the universe

The way of your justice  
be done by the peoples  
of the world

Your heavenly will be done  
by all created beings



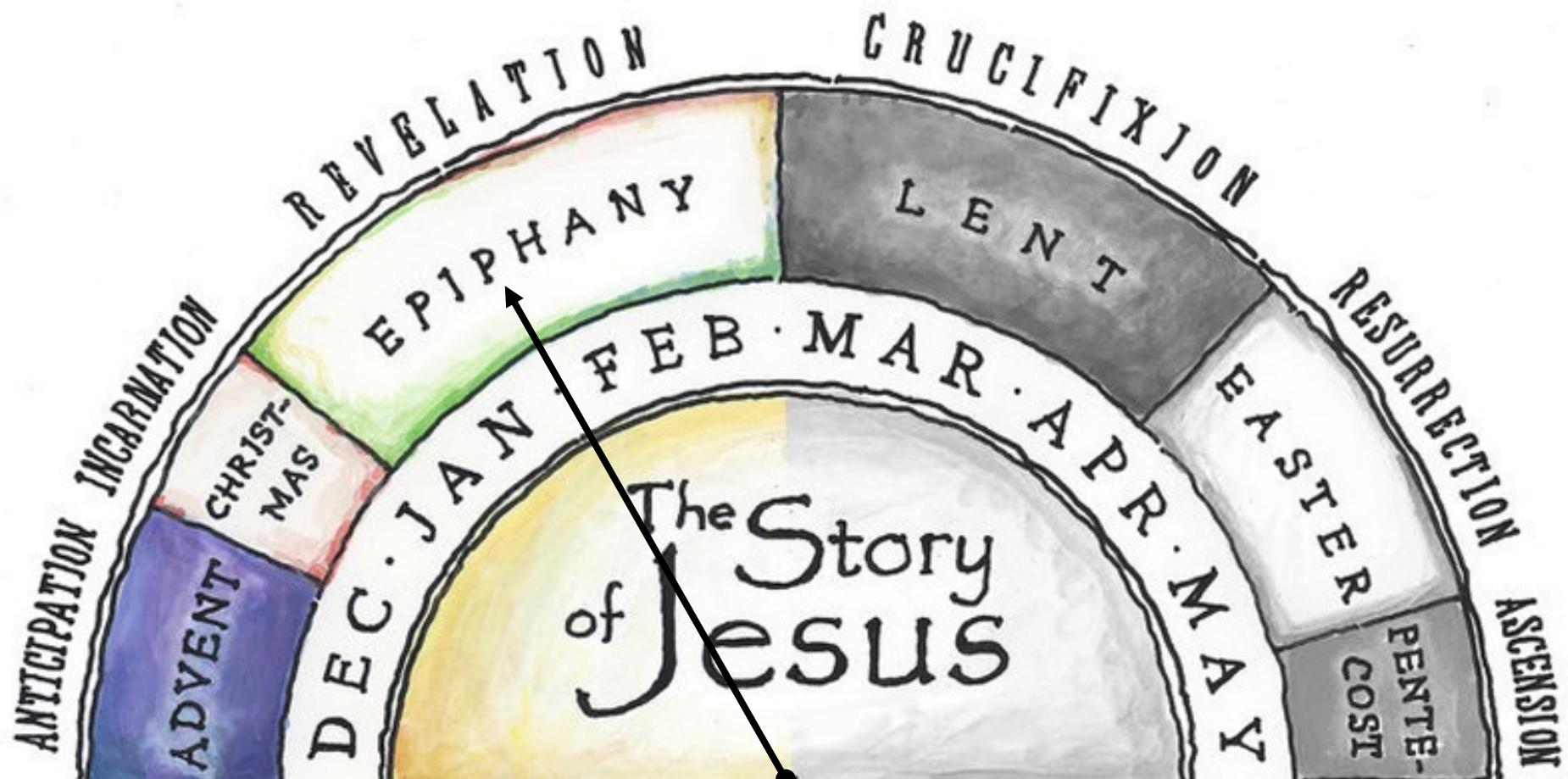
Your commonwealth  
of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope  
and come on earth  
With the bread we need  
for today, feed us  
In the hurts we absorb  
from one another,  
forgive us



In the times of temptation  
and testing, strengthen us  
From trials too great  
to endure, deliver us  
And from the grip of all  
that is evil, free us  
For you reign in the glory  
of the power that is love  
Now and forever. Amen.



# CHURCH CALENDAR



# THE PRACTICE OF GENEROSITY

Week 1: Joy

*Week 2: Simplicity > Greed*

Week 3: Stewardship

Week 4: Sharing



## **HOMER**

You know Mr. Burns,  
you're the richest  
guy I know.

## **MR. BURNS**

Oh, yes. But I'd trade it  
all for just a little more...





*- A Time to Lament, Repent, and Hope -*

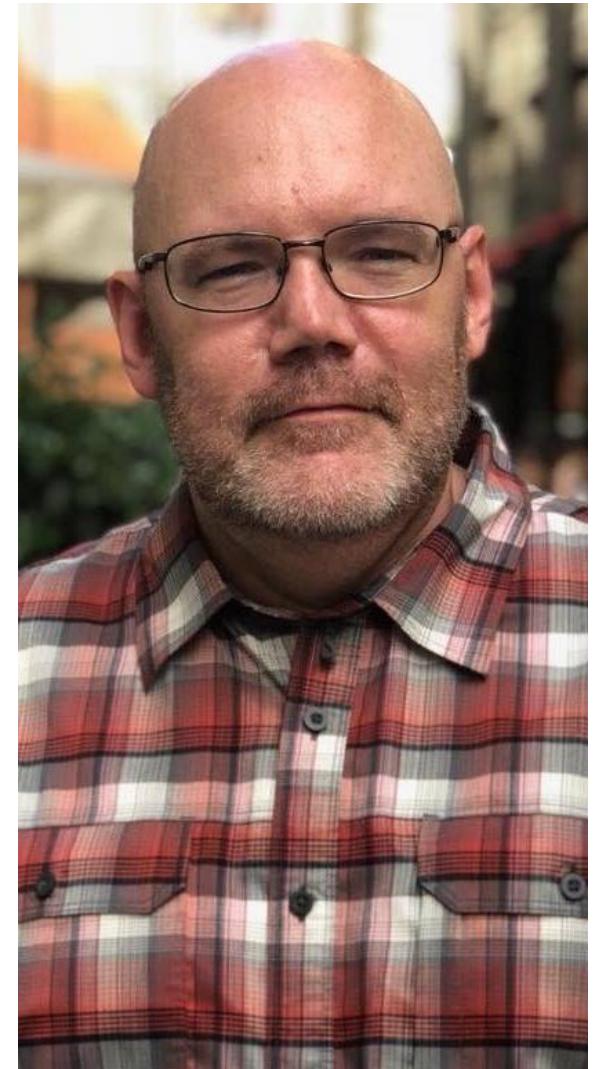


# **PASTOR**

You are not alone.

You are deeply loved.

This is not the end of the story.



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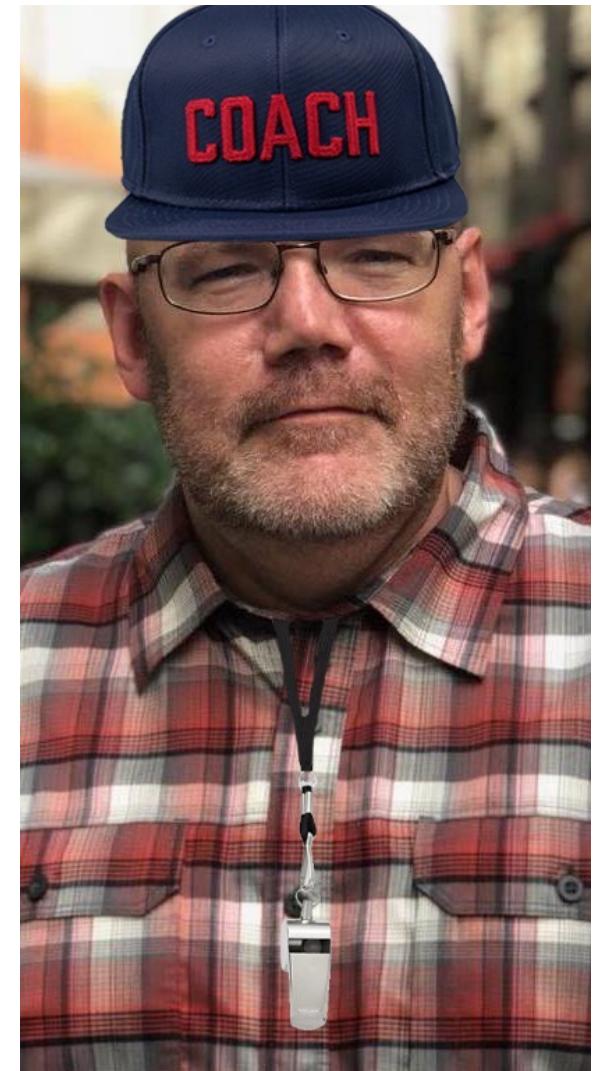
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# **COACH**

We can do hard things.

We must learn and grow.

It's time for us to show up.





## PART I: SCRIPTURE

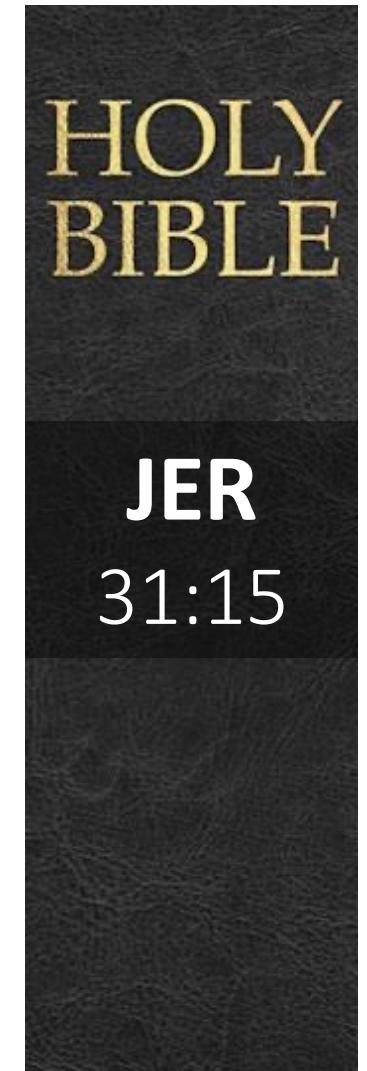


*Lord, see (our) anguish!  
(Our) heart(s) are broken  
and (our) soul(s) despair,  
for (we) have rebelled against you.*



***Lord, have mercy.***

*A voice is heard in Ramah,  
mourning and great weeping,  
Rachel weeping for her children  
and refusing to be comforted,  
because they are no more.*



***Lord, have mercy.***

*Hear (our) prayer, Lord;  
let (our) cry for help come to you.  
Do not hide your face from (us)  
when (we are) in distress.  
Turn your ear to (us);  
when (we) call, answer (us) quickly.*

***Lord, have mercy.***



*How long must (we) struggle  
with anguish in (our) soul(s),  
with sorrow in (our) heart(s) every day?*

*How long will (our) enemy  
have the upper hand?*

***Lord, have mercy.***



*How long will you defend the unjust  
and show partiality to the wicked?  
Defend the weak and the fatherless;  
uphold the cause of the poor  
and the oppressed.  
Rescue the weak and the needy;  
deliver them from the hand  
of the wicked.*

***Lord, have mercy.***



*There are six things the Lord hates,  
seven that are detestable to him:  
Haughty eyes, a lying tongue,  
hands that shed innocent blood,  
a heart that devises wicked schemes,  
Feet that are quick to rush to evil,  
a false witness who pours out lies,  
and a person who stirs up conflict  
in the community.*

***Lord, have mercy.***



*When you spread out your hands  
in prayer, I hide my eyes from you;  
even when you offer many prayers,  
I am not listening. Your hands are full  
of blood! Wash and make yourselves clean.  
Take your evil deeds out of my sight;  
stop doing wrong. Learn to do right;  
seek justice. Defend the oppressed,  
take up the cause of the fatherless; plead  
the case of the widow.*      ***Lord, have mercy.***



*He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.  
And what does the LORD require of you?  
To do justice, and to love mercy,  
and to walk humbly with your God.*



***Lord, have mercy.***

*This is what the Lord says:  
Do what is just and right.  
Rescue from the hand of the oppressor  
the one who has been robbed.  
Do no wrong or violence to the foreigner,  
the fatherless or the widow,  
and do not shed innocent blood...*

***Lord, have mercy.***



*“You have heard that it was said,  
‘Love your neighbor and hate  
your enemy.’ But I tell you, love  
your enemies and pray for those  
who persecute you, that you may  
be children of your Father in heaven.  
He causes his sun to rise on the evil  
and the good, and sends rain on  
the righteous and the unrighteous.*

***Lord, have mercy.***



*Because of the LORD's great love  
we are not consumed,  
for his compassions never fail.*

*They are new every morning;  
great is your faithfulness.*



***Lord, have mercy.***

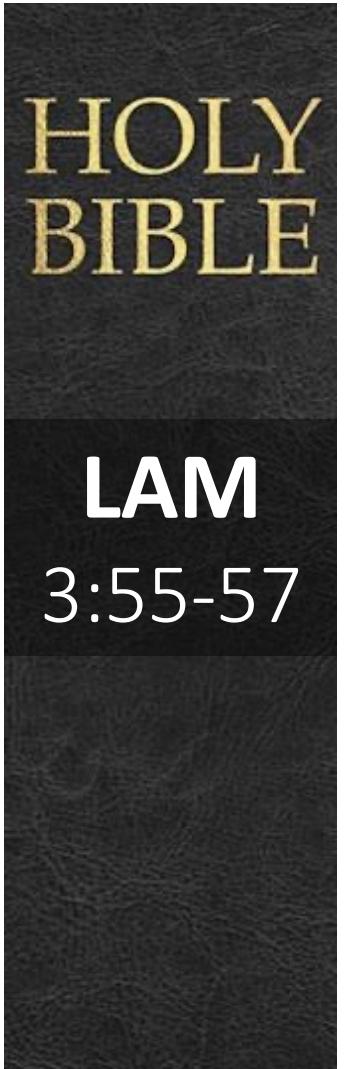
*(We) called on your name, Lord,  
from the depths of the pit.*

*You heard (our) plea:*

*“Do not close your ears  
to (our) cry for relief.”*

*You came near when (we) called you,  
and you said, “Do not fear.”*

***Lord, have mercy.***



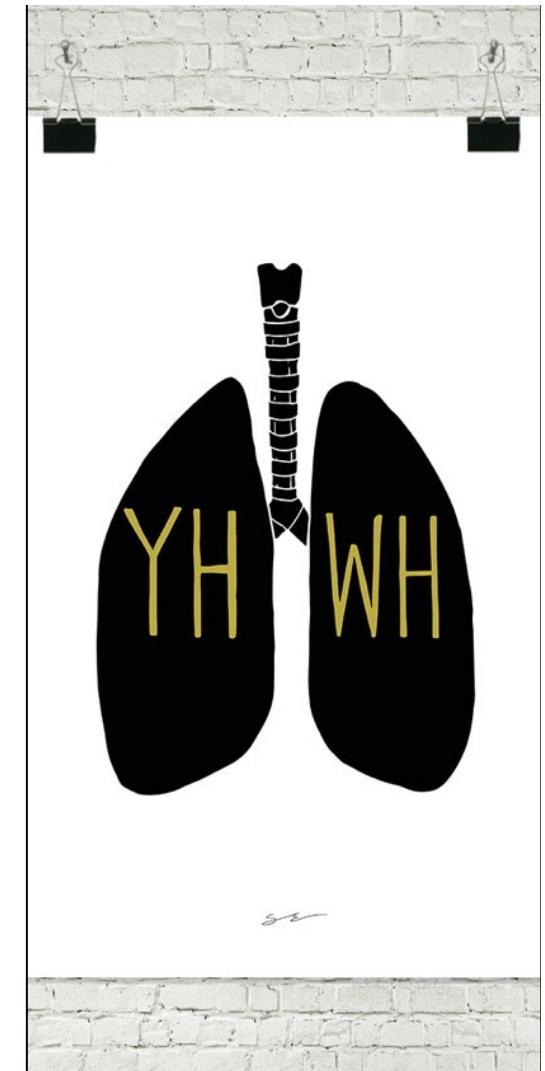


## PART II: PRAYER



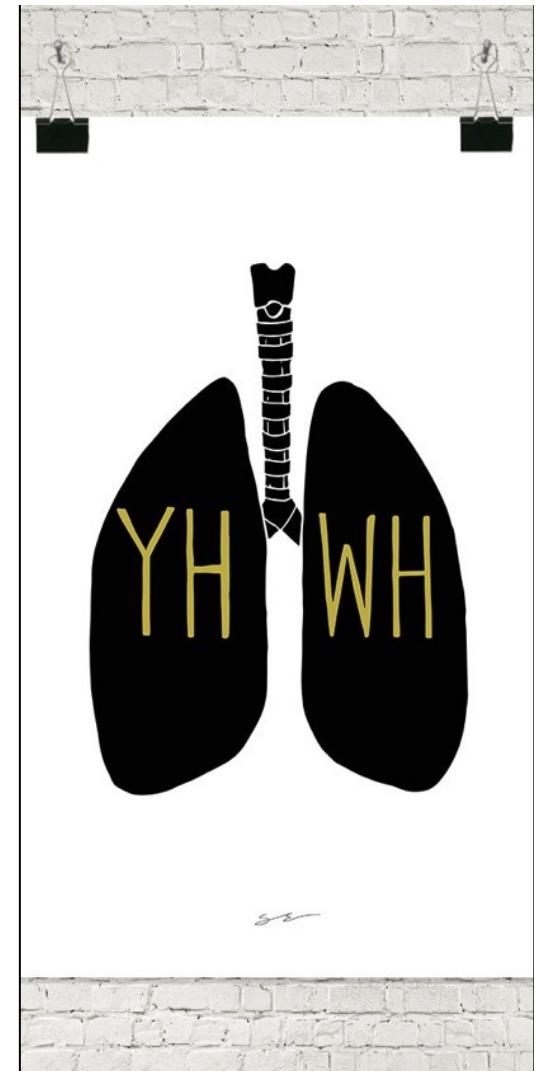
# **BREATH PRAYERS**

- Equip us for what lies ahead
- Empower us to seek a just peace



## **BREATH PRAYERS**

- Equip us for what lies ahead
- Empower us to seek a just peace
  
- Help us to embrace what is true
- Help us to resist what is false

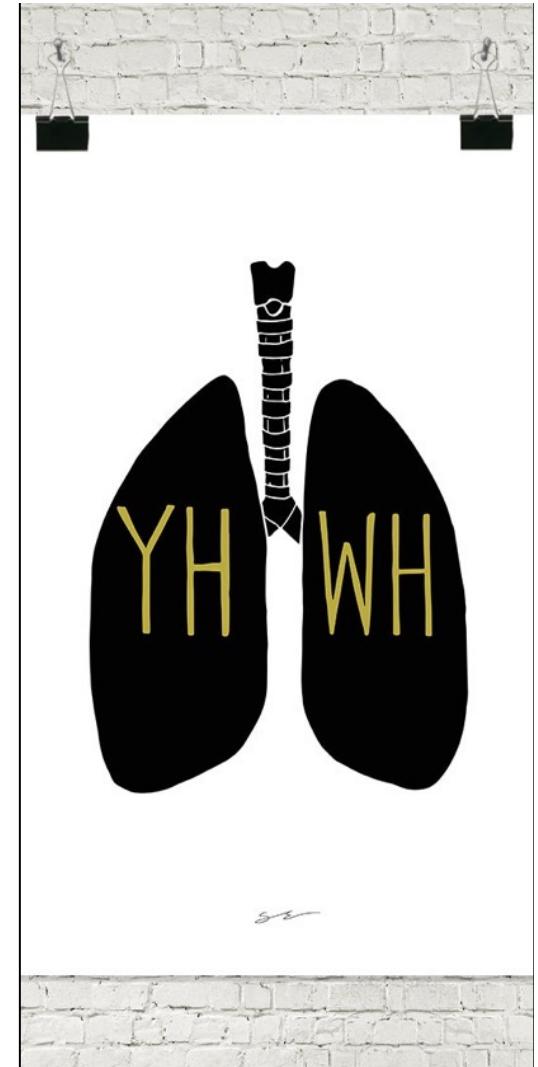


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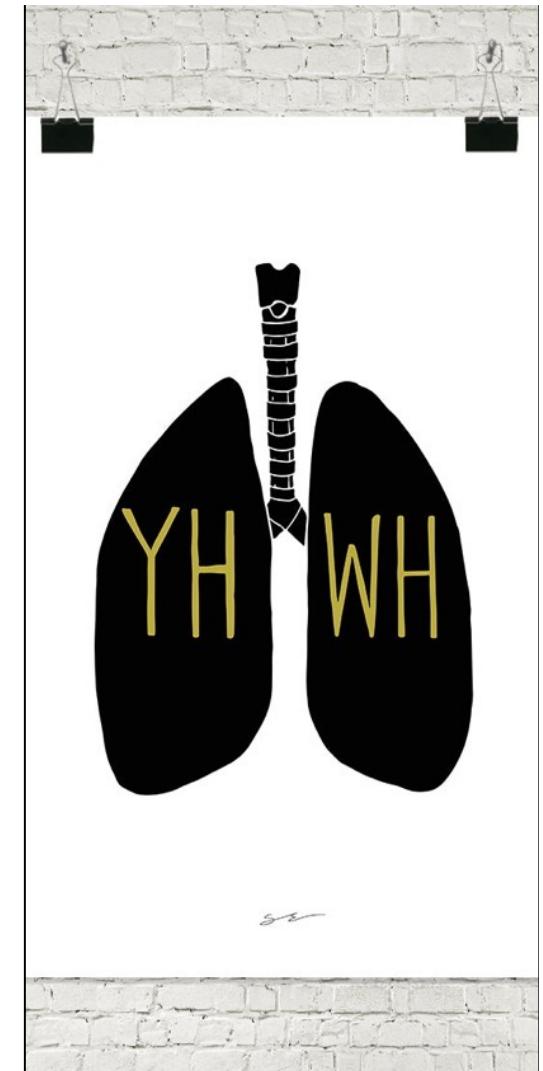
→ Help us to embrace what is true  
→ Help us to resist what is false

→ May we stop praying around the pain  
→ And start standing in it



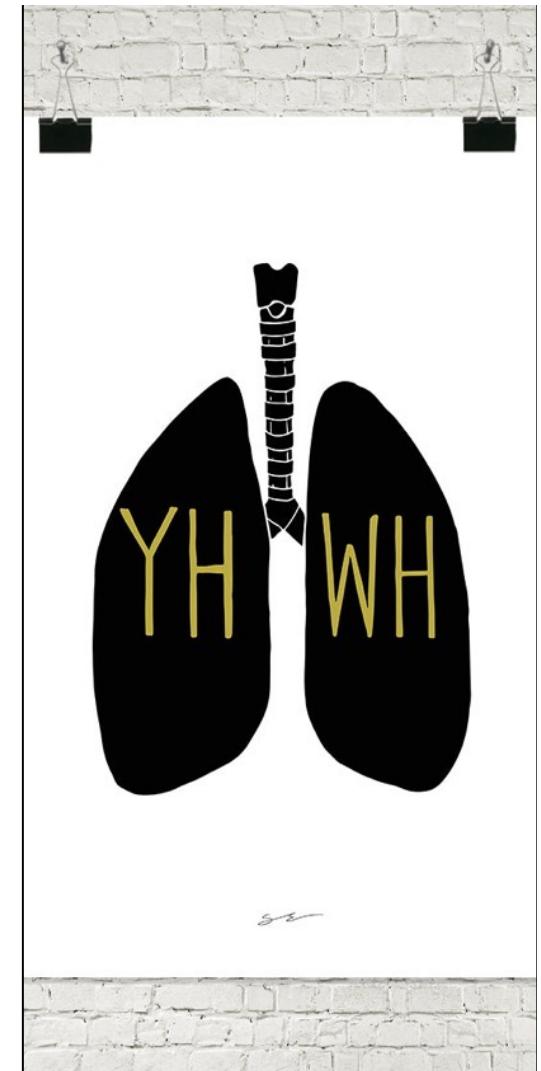
# **BREATH PRAYERS**

- Every empire falls
- Jesus, you remain



## **BREATH PRAYERS**

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- Jesus, you remain
  
- Bring justice to our streets
- Bring mercy to our hearts

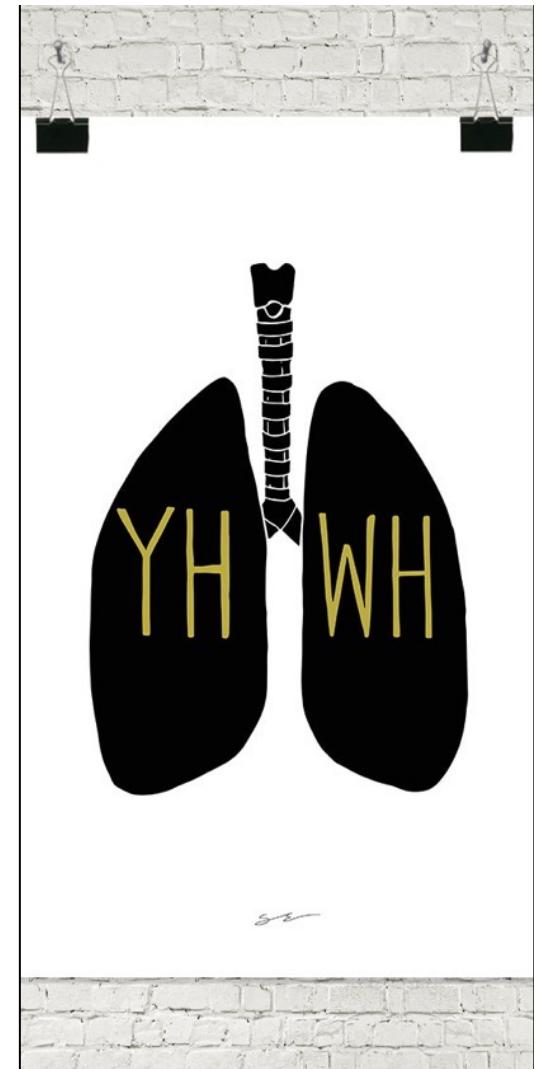


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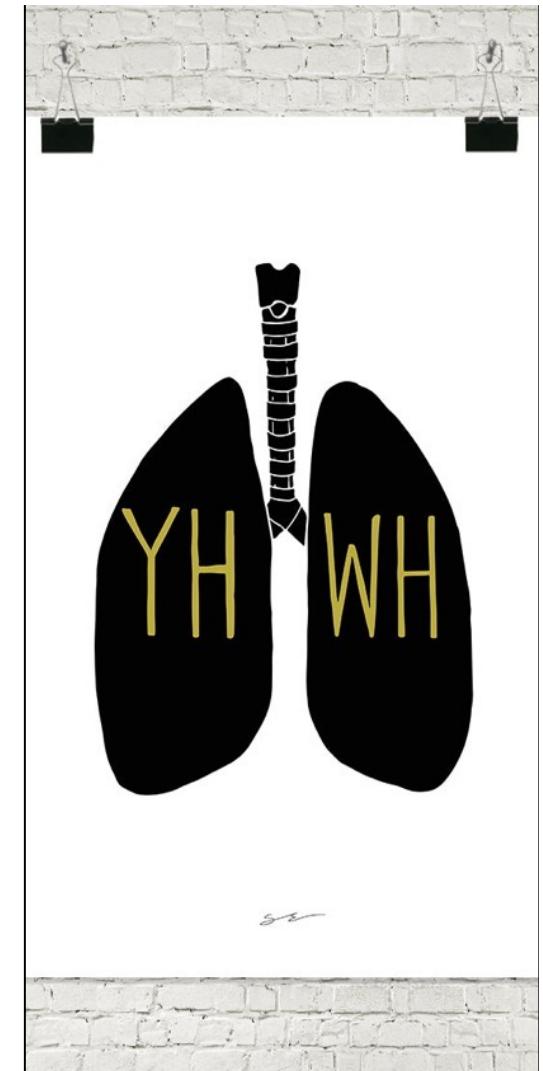
→ Bring justice to our streets  
→ Bring mercy to our hearts

→ Lord, bless the peacemakers  
→ Lord, protect the peacemakers



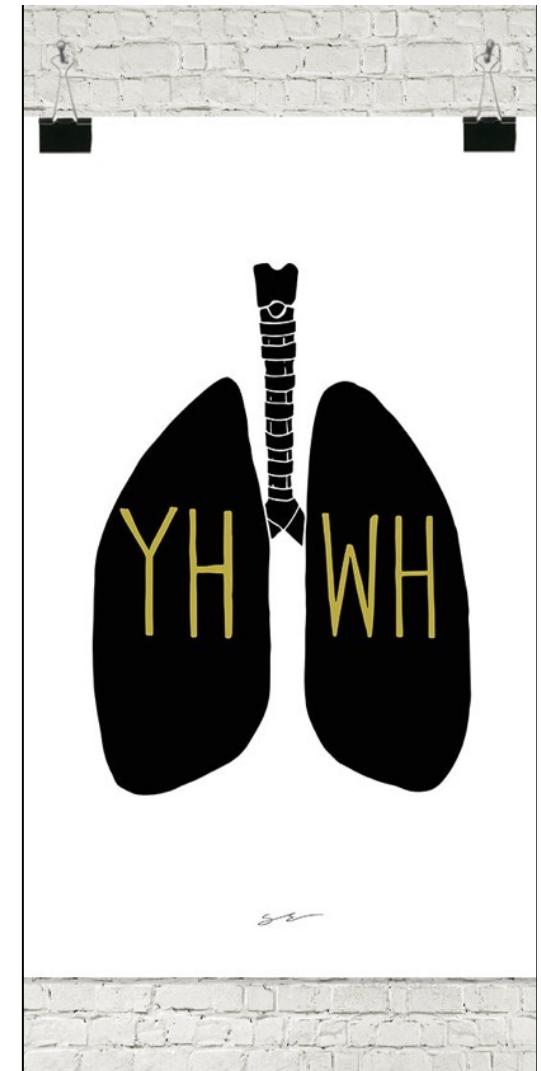
# **BREATH PRAYERS**

- Lord, comfort the troubled
- And trouble the comfortable



# **BREATH PRAYERS**

- Lord, comfort the troubled
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- Help us to live
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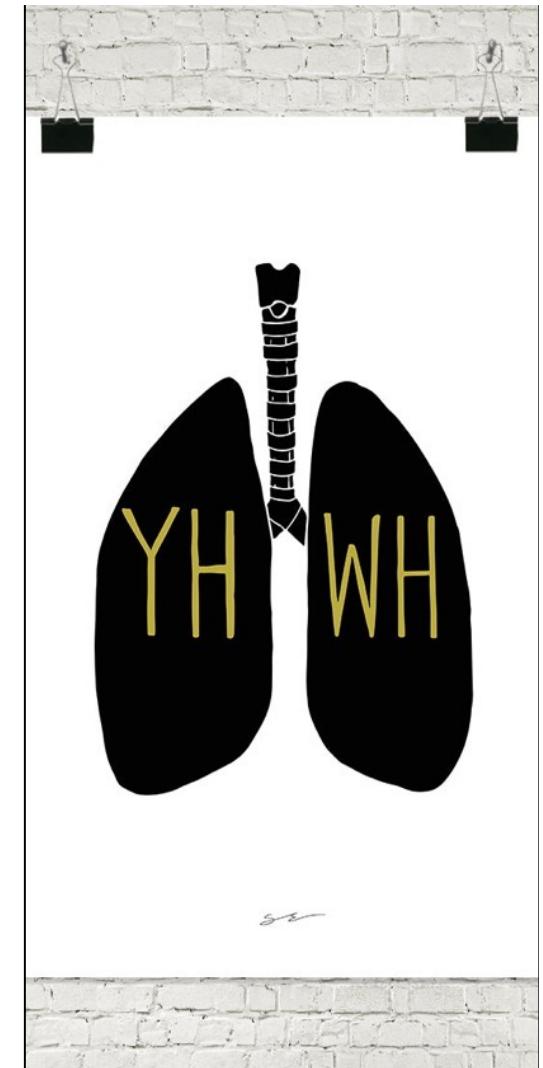


# **BREATH PRAYERS**

→ Lord, comfort the troubled  
→ And trouble the comfortable

→ Help us to live  
→ as people who tried

→ Help us to live  
→ As a reflection of your love. Amen.





BLACK  
LIVES

## PART III: INSTRUCTION

## **A FEW ETHICAL NOTES**

- ✗ This isn't who we are!**
- ✓ I am grieved and saddened...**





Nina Turner · [Follow](#)

3h ·

... X

On May 13, 1985 in Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania State Police dropped a bomb from a helicopter onto a Black neighborhood.

11 people were killed, 5 of whom were children.

As we see ICE terrorize communities, understand that saying "this isn't who we are" is false.



## **A FEW ETHICAL NOTES**

 This isn't who we are!  
 I am grieved and saddened...

 They're killing US citizens!  
 No one deserves to be executed...



## **A FEW ETHICAL NOTES**

- ✗ This isn't who we are!**
- ✓ I am grieved and saddened...**
  
- ✗ They're killing US citizens!**
- ✓ No one deserves to be executed...**
  
- ✗ This has never happened before!**
- ✓ Well, folks from excluded groups...**



austinchanning 6m

⑧

I'm seeing a lot of "Mr Roger's didn't tell us what to do now" posts. And I just wanna scream, "but Black people did"

Black people have been talking about policing in this country f o r e v e r while our children and cousins and parents and partners die.

We have told you what to do over and over again.

Do you believe us now? Do you realize it has always been this bad?

Are you ready to do what is next, which is organize?

1/2

Heart 56

Comment 1

Share 5



austinchanning ✅ 6m

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Heart 56

Comment 1

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⑧

austinchanning ✅ 3m

I understand what you mean. Part of me wants to be gracious. I want to welcome those who are just now waking up. I want to honor that you want to help. I want to honor the sadness of this moment. I want the movement to always be expanding. I honestly do. AND. this expression of helplessness or bewilderment is so hard to take in. It's so hard.

Because it assumes that all the Black people who have died at the hands of police thus far weren't also helpers. And so many of them were.



ninaturnerohio ✅ 17h

Philando Castile was executed in his car in front of his daughter and girlfriend outside of Minneapolis in 2016.

He had a concealed carry permit and informed the officer.

He was brutally murdered.

This terror is not new.

## **A FEW ETHICAL NOTES**

- ✗ I miss the before times!
- ✓ Learn historical perspectives...



## **A FEW ETHICAL NOTES**

- ✗ I miss the before times!
- ✓ Learn historical perspectives...
  
- ✗ This is just like Nazi Germany!
- ✓ Focus on our own history...



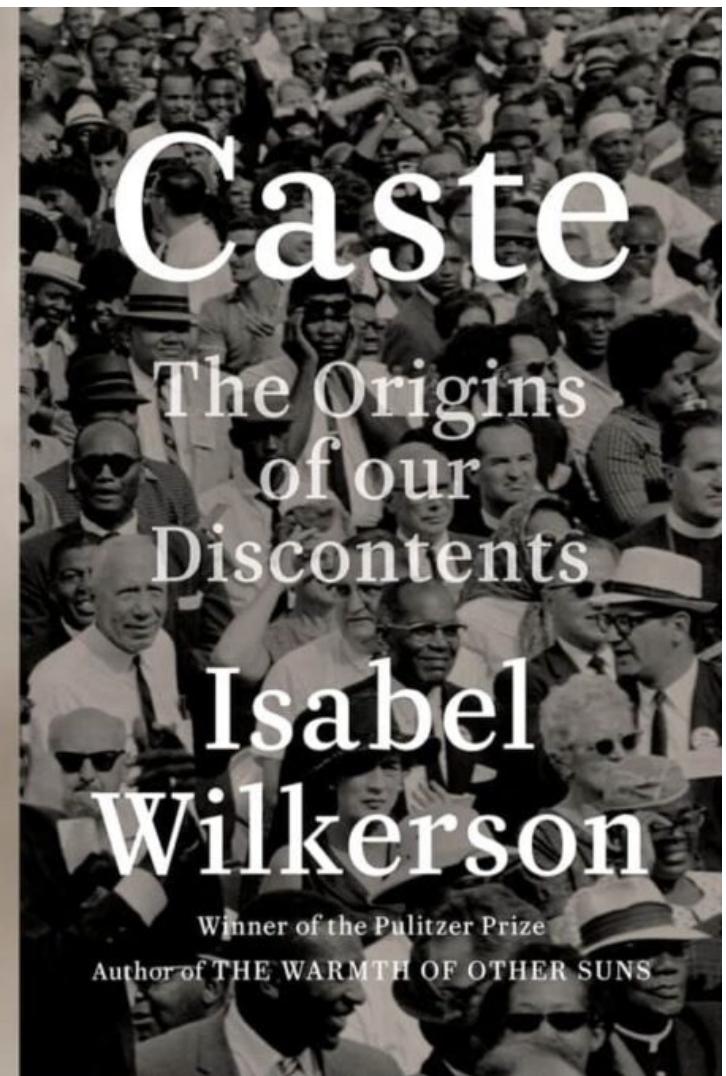


laurenthomanwrites 2h

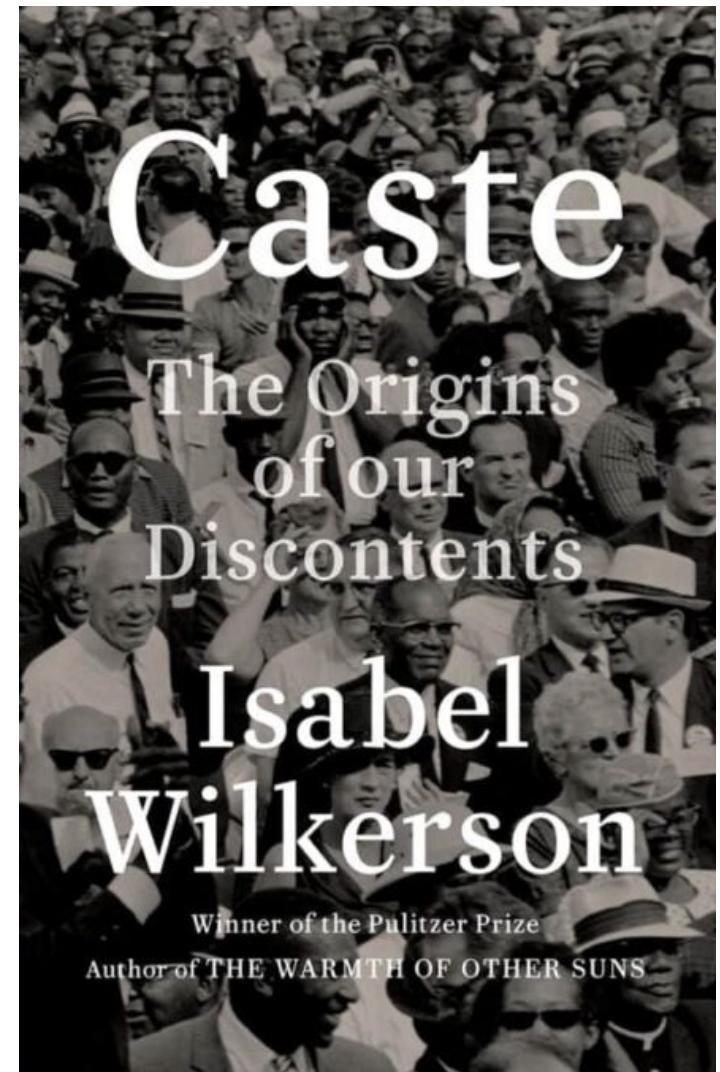
...

4. Alex Patti was a good person with no criminal history AND folks convicted of crimes also don't deserve to be beaten/shot to death in the street
5. White privilege ensures white people generally have a safer experience in the U.S. than POC AND resisting tyranny is inherently an unsafe activity.  
White privilege is a screen, not a force field.
6. Current events in the U.S. have direct parallels to WWII Germany AND many of the Nazis' worst actions were based on anti-Black U.S. policies.

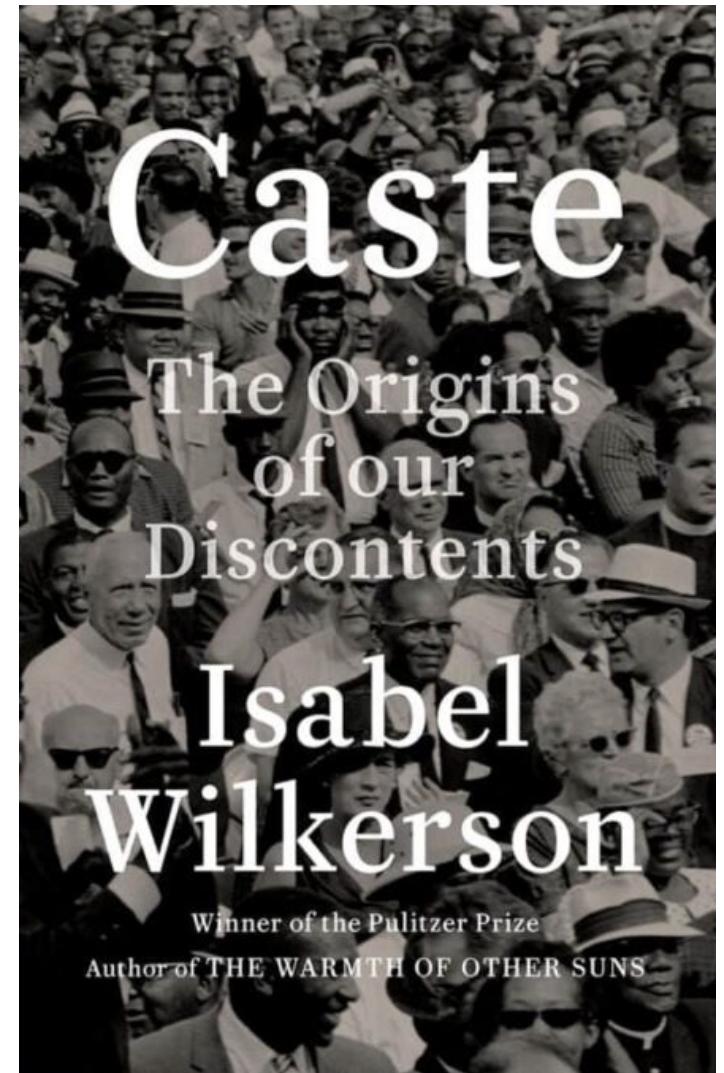
2/2



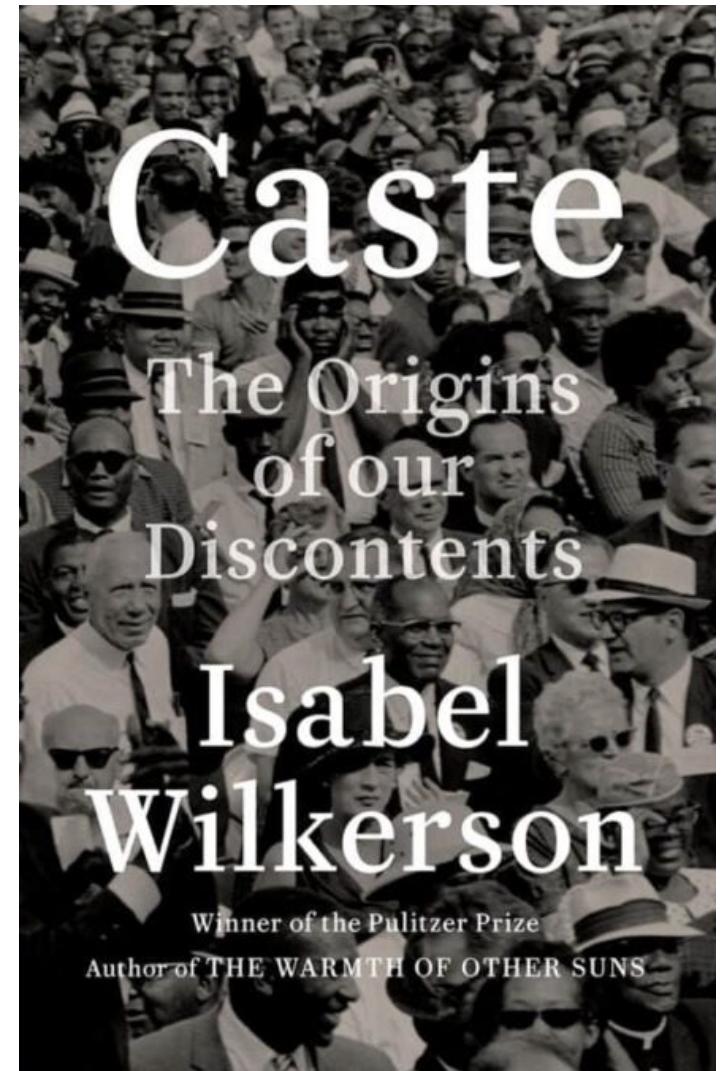
The Nazis were impressed by the American custom of lynching its subordinate caste of African-Americans, having become aware of the ritual torture and mutilations that typically accompanied them...



Hitler especially marveled at the American “knack for maintaining an air of robust innocence in the wake of mass death.”



While the Nazis praised “the American commitment to legislating racial purity,” they could not abide “the unforgiving hardness” under which “‘an American man or woman who has even a drop of Negro blood in their veins’ counted as blacks,” Whitman wrote. “The one-drop rule was too harsh for the Nazis.”



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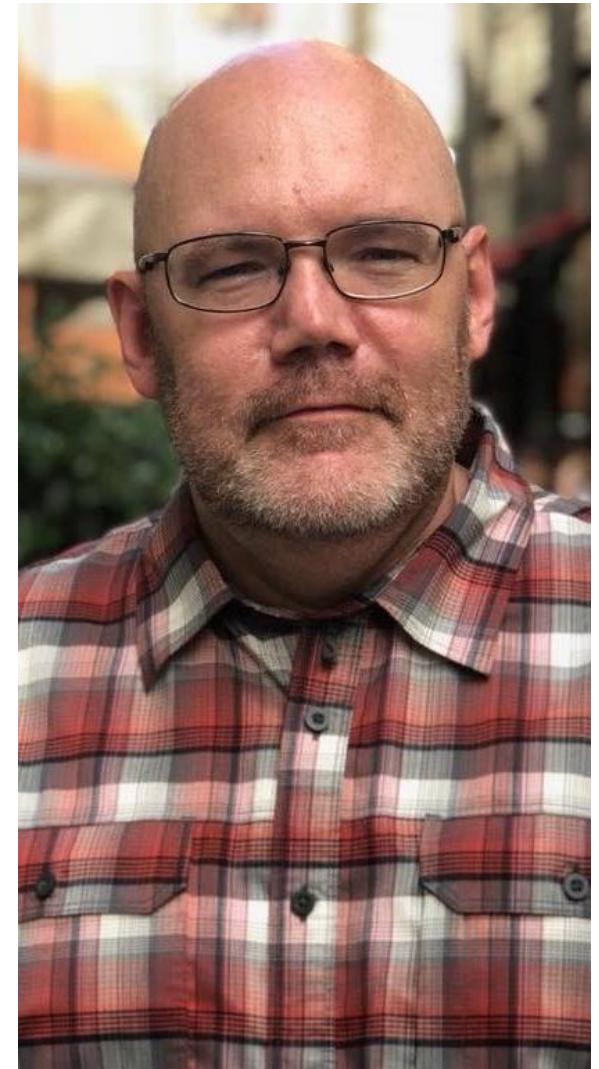
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## PART IV: WORDS TO HELP US THROUGH



## PART V: A FINAL REFLECTION



Don't dress avoidance up as holiness.  
Don't call silence "peacemaking."  
Don't light a candle and think  
it substitutes for showing up.  
Peace isn't what you ask for  
when the boot is already  
on someone's neck.  
Peace is what the powerful  
ask for when they don't  
want to be interrupted.



Unity isn't neutral.

Unity that refuses to name  
violence is just loyalty to  
the ones holding the weapons.

Stop using scripture like chloroform.  
Stop calling your fear "wisdom."

Stop pretending Jesus was crucified  
because he preached good vibes  
and personal growth.



You don't get to quote scripture like a lullaby while injustice stays wide awake. You don't get to ask God to "heal the land" if you won't even look at the wound. There is a kind of peace that only exists because it refuses to tell the truth. That peace is a lie. And lies don't grow anything worth saving.



The scriptures...weren't written to keep things calm. They were written to help set things right. And sometimes the most faithful thing you can do is stop praying around the pain and start standing inside it. If that makes you uncomfortable, good. Growth always is.



Lord, make us channels of disturbance.  
Where there is apathy, let us provoke;  
Where there is compliance, let us bring questioning.  
Where there is silence, may we be a voice.  
Where there is too much comfort  
    and too little action, grant disruption.  
Where there are doors closed and hearts locked,  
    grant the willingness to listen.

## Closing Prayer



When laws dictate and pain is overlooked...  
When tradition speaks louder than need...  
Grant that we may seek rather to do justice  
than to talk about it.

Disturb us, O Lord:

to be with, as well as for, the alienated;  
to love the unlovable, as well as the lovely.

Lord, make us channels of holy disturbance. Amen.

**Closing Prayer**