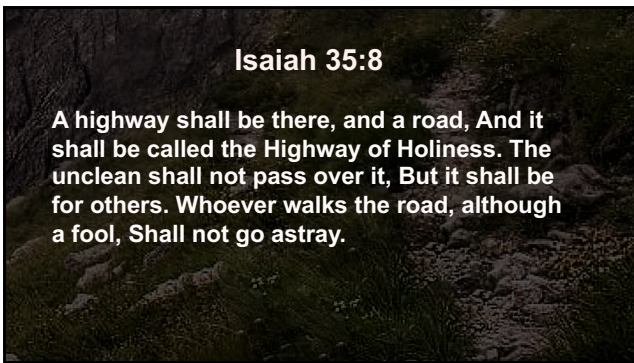
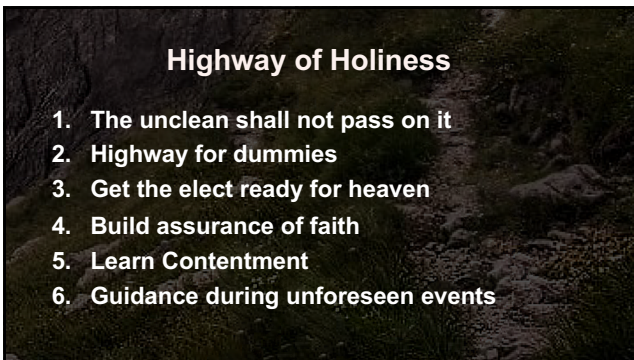




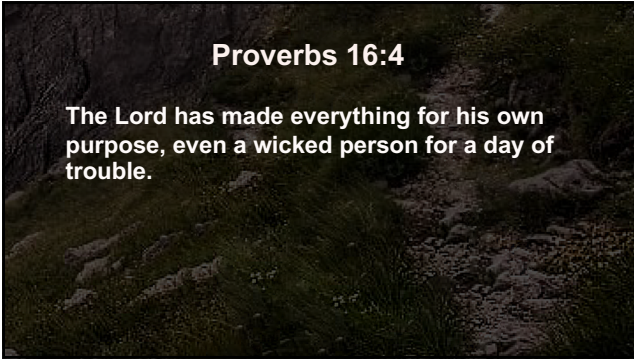
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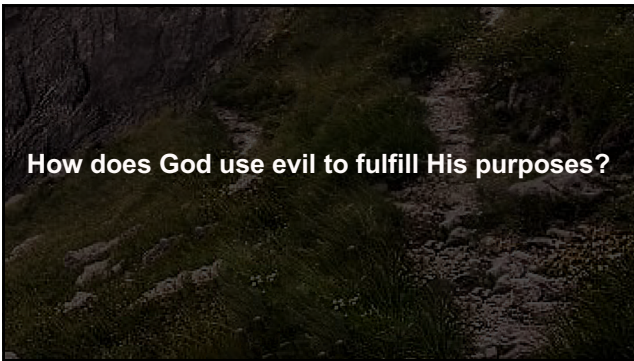
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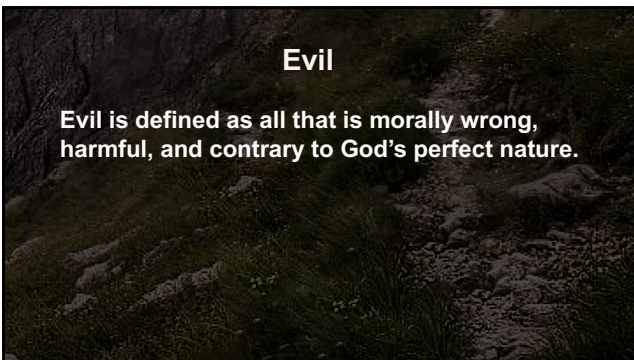
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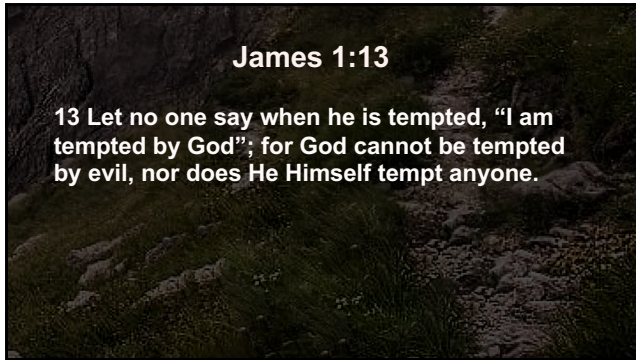
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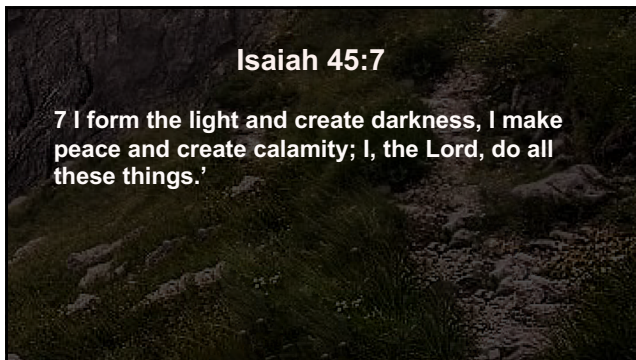
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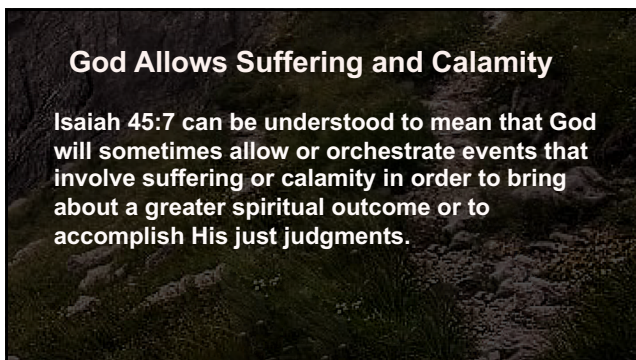
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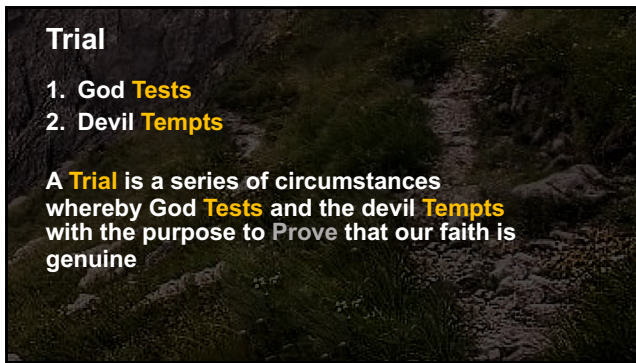
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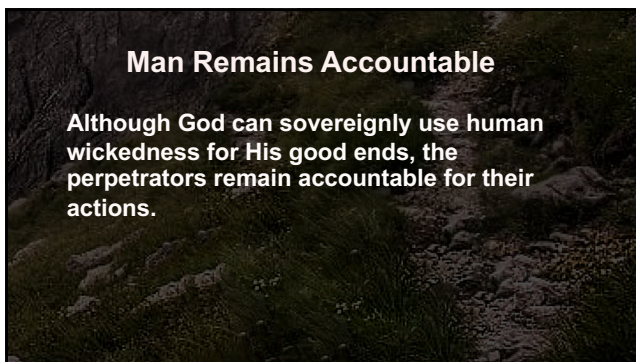
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12



13

How the Devil and God Uses Evil

The devil makes evil attractive as a **temptation** to either **victimize** or **corrupt**. Either way, the purpose is to destroy.

God transforms evil into good by **testing**; creating the opportunity to either choose evil or good, with the goal to expose evil as utterly repulsive and free people from its influence.

14

If God Wiped Out all Sources of Evil

If God wiped out all sources of evil in the world we would no longer be here, the evil is inside us.

- Timothy Keller

15

Reason for Evil and Suffering

Just because we don't see a reason for evil and suffering doesn't mean there's not a reason for it.

- Timothy Keller

16

Key Events in Joseph's Life

Joseph's Dreams	Joseph shares dreams of his future greatness, causing jealousy among his brothers.
Brothers' Betrayal	His brothers plot against him, initially intending to kill him but instead sell him into slavery.
Pharaoh's Dream	Pharaoh has troubling dreams that no one can interpret, prompting the cupbearer to remember Joseph.

17

Key Events in Joseph's Life

Joseph's Interpretation	Joseph interprets Pharaoh's dreams, predicting seven years of plenty followed by seven years of famine.
Appointment as Prime Minister	Pharaoh appoints Joseph as Prime Minister, giving him authority to prepare for the famine.

18

Direct and Indirect Guidance

Direct guidance is where God speaks to us with scripture, spiritual impression, dream, vision, prophecy, or direction through a leader.

Indirect Guidance is where God uses circumstances or influence to direct where he wants us.

19

The Hidden Hand of God

Throughout Joseph's hardships, God is present and active behind the scenes, orchestrating events for a greater purpose. Joseph's life shows that God is engaged in the quiet, subtle moments of life as well as the big impactful moments. The interconnectedness of life events illustrates God's sovereign plan.

20

God uses "Accidents" and "Coincidences"

If the brothers had not betrayed Joseph and sold him into slavery, the family (and Joseph) would not have been saved from disaster and death. The Lord used Egypt as a protective shield for Israel during times of great geopolitical turmoil until they were ready to (re)enter the promise land as a new nation.

21

Genesis 42:21

18 Then Joseph said to them the third day, "Do this and live, for I fear God: 19 If you are honest men, let one of your brothers be confined to your prison house; but you, go and carry grain for the famine of your houses. 20 And bring your youngest brother to me; so your words will be verified, and you shall not die."

22

1st Test of His Brothers - Genesis 42

Accuses His Brothers of Spying	v9 "Your servants are twelve brothers, the sons of one man in the land of Canaan; ...the youngest is with our father today, and one is no more."
Joseph's Test	v19 If you are honest men, let one of your brothers be confined to your prison house; but you, go and carry grain for the famine of your houses. 20 And bring your youngest brother to me; so your words will be verified, and you shall not die."

23

Genesis 42:21

21 Then they said to one another, "We are truly guilty concerning our brother, for we saw the anguish of his soul when he pleaded with us, and we would not hear; therefore this distress has come upon us."

24

Genesis 42:22-23

22 And Reuben answered them, saying, "Did I not speak to you, saying, 'Do not sin against the boy'; and you would not listen? Therefore behold, his blood is now required of us."
 23 But they did not know that Joseph understood them, for he spoke to them through an interpreter.

25

What are the brothers focused on?

Wrong: Is this punishment for past sins?

Right: An opportunity to repent and learn from the past and pass their tests now.

They don't know that God has already provided for them. The Lord simply wants them to learn their spiritual lessons. The Lord is using tests to verify their character.

26

Joseph's Testing

Were they Jealous of Benjamin, son of Rachel?
Would they abandon Simeon in Egypt to save their own necks?

Would Jacob trust God with beloved Benjamin?

God created circumstances to inspire obedience

27

2nd Test of His Brothers - Genesis 43

Benjamin 5x their portions at banquet	34 Then he (Joseph) took servings to them from before him, but Benjamin's serving was five times as much as any of theirs. So they drank and were merry with him.
Joseph's Test	Would the brothers be jealous of the special treatment given to Benjamin

28

Genesis 44:1-2

And Joseph commanded the steward of his house, saying, "Fill the men's sacks with food, as much as they can carry, and put each man's money in the mouth of his sack. **2** Also put my cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest, and his grain money." So he did according to the word that Joseph had spoken.

29

3rd Test of His Brothers - Genesis 44

Benjamin "steals" the silver cup	2... put my (Joseph's) cup, the silver cup, in the mouth of the sack of the youngest (Benjamin), and his grain money."
Joseph's Test	Would the brothers abandon Benjamin to slavery in Egypt and make up another false story to tell their father Jacob?

30

Genesis 44:30-34

30 "Now therefore, when I come to your servant my father, and the lad is not with us, since his life is bound up in the lad's life, **31** it will happen, when he sees that the lad is not with us, that he will die. So your servants will bring down the gray hair of your servant our father with sorrow to the grave.

31

Genesis 44:30-34

32 For your servant became surety for the lad to my father, saying, 'If I do not bring him back to you, then I shall bear the blame before my father forever.' 33 Now therefore, please let your servant remain instead of the lad as a slave to my lord, and let the lad go up with his brothers

32

Genesis 44:30-34

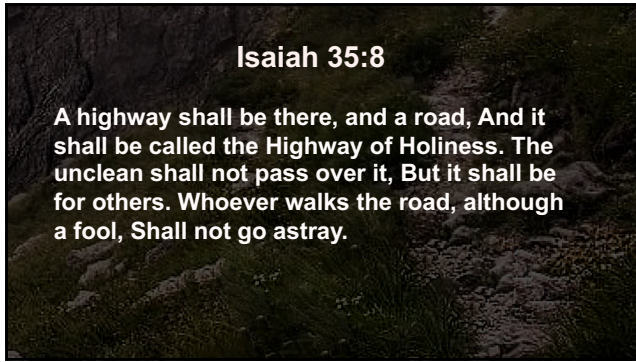
34 For how shall I go up to my father if the lad is not with me, lest perhaps I see the evil that would come upon my father?"

33

Genesis 50:15-21

19 Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? 20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. 21 Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

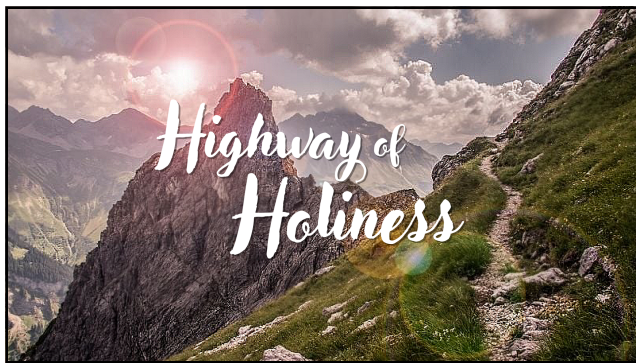
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Isaiah 35:8

A highway shall be there, and a road, And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness. The unclean shall not pass over it, But it shall be for others. Whoever walks the road, although a fool, Shall not go astray.

35



*Highway of
Holiness*

36
