

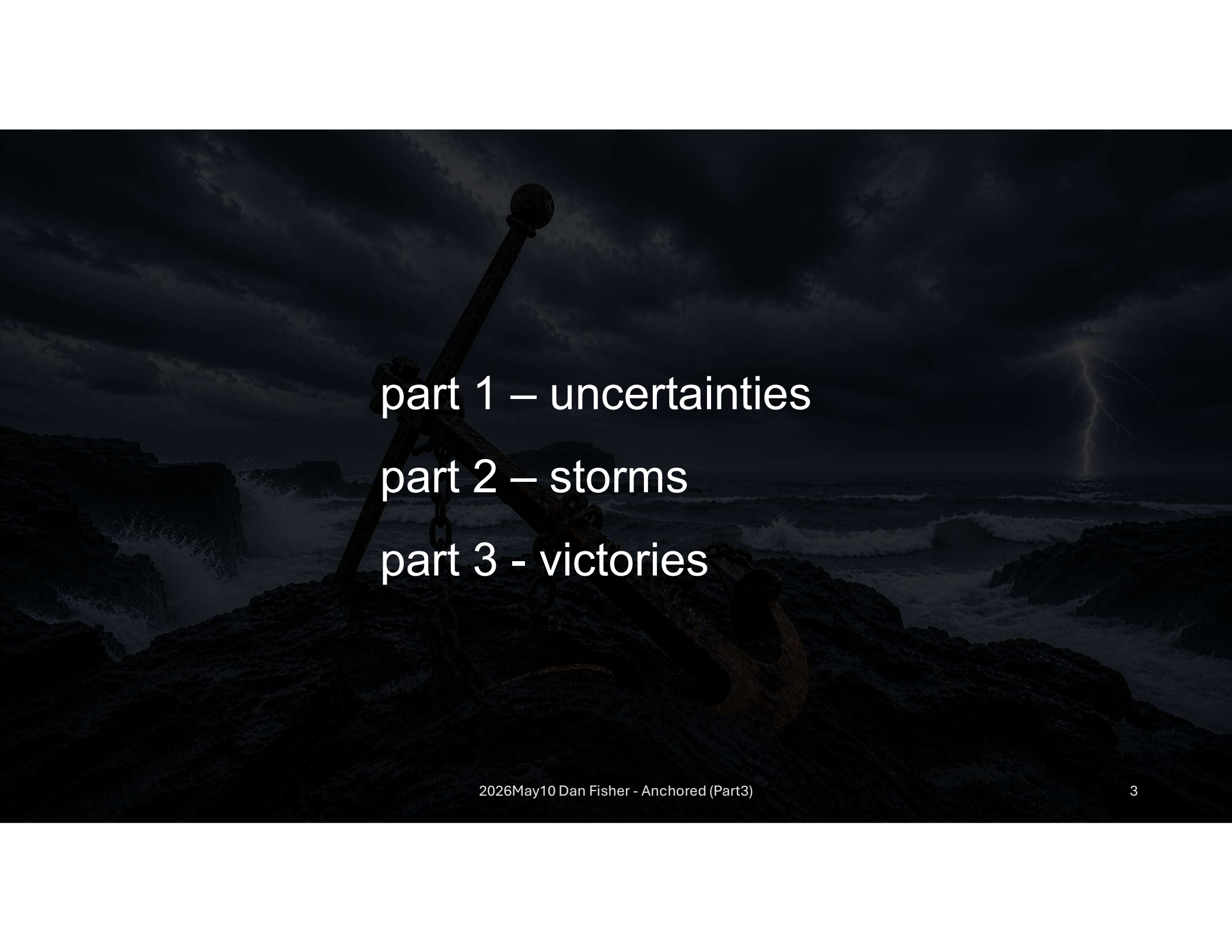


anchored

part 3: victory

A dark, stormy sea with a lightning bolt in the background and a large anchor in the foreground. The anchor is a traditional iron anchor with a shank and a crown, resting on a rocky shore. The sky is dark and cloudy, with a bright lightning bolt striking the water in the distance. The overall mood is dramatic and somber.

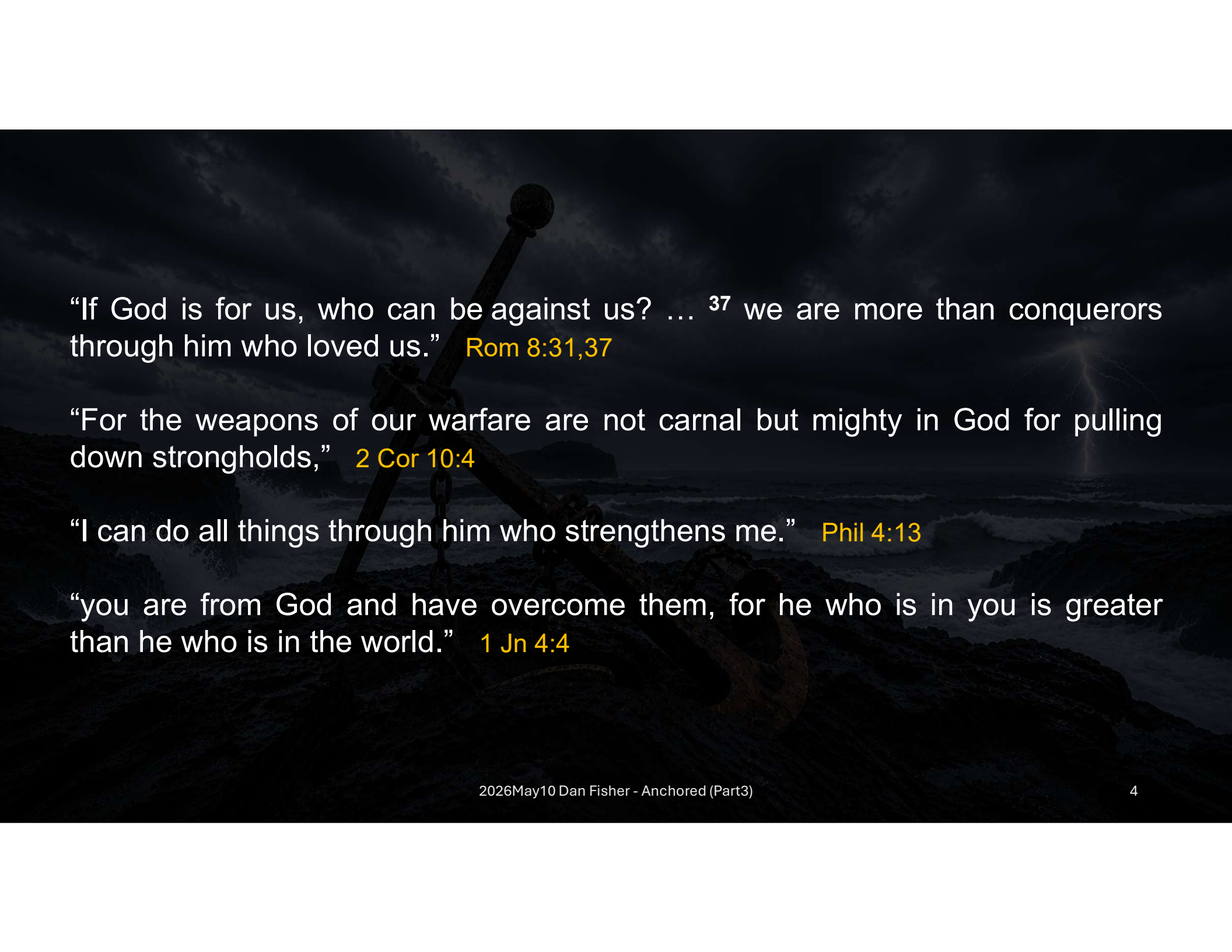
“This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast” **Heb 6:19**



part 1 – uncertainties

part 2 – storms

part 3 - victories



“If God is for us, who can be against us? ... ³⁷ we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.” **Rom 8:31,37**

“For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds,” **2 Cor 10:4**

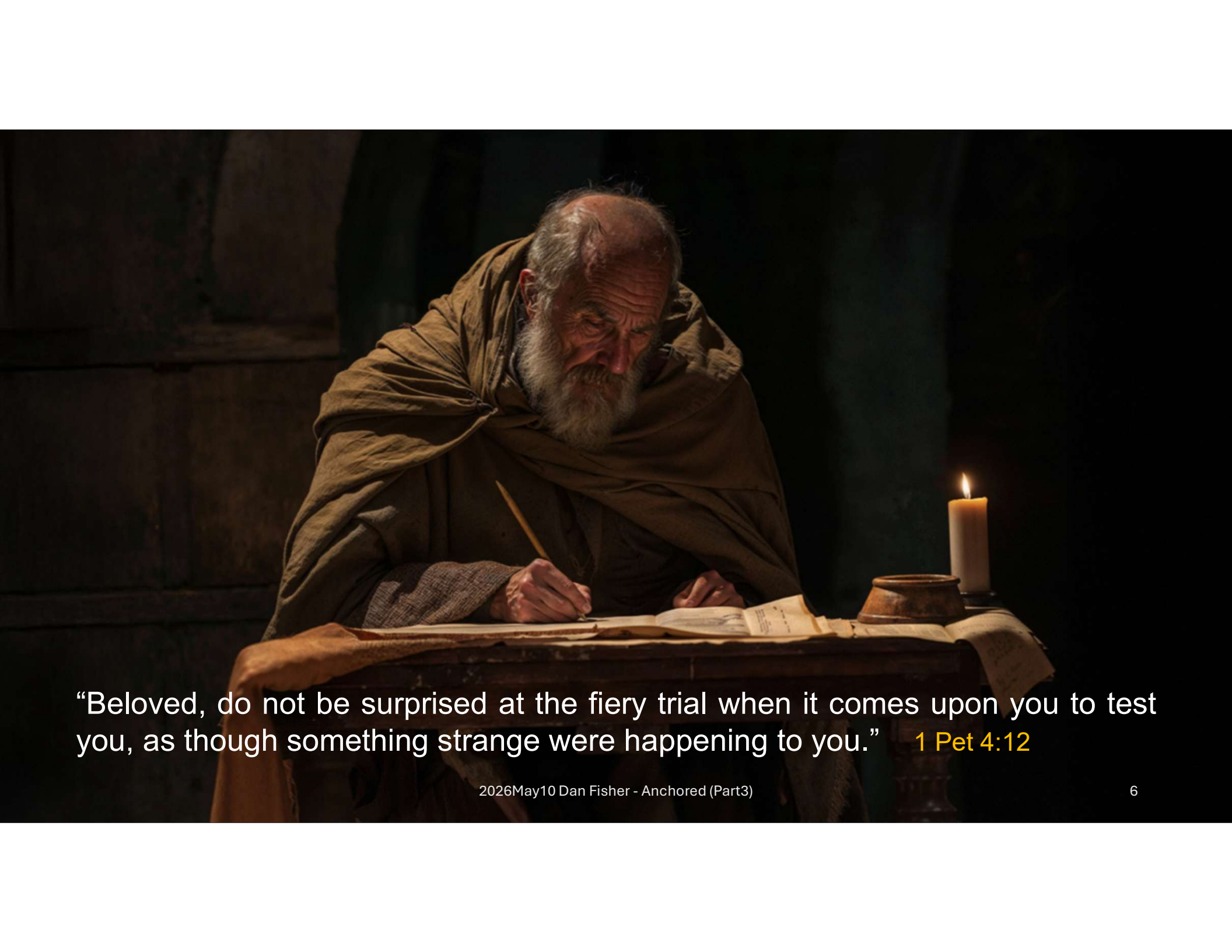
“I can do all things through him who strengthens me.” **Phil 4:13**

“you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.” **1 Jn 4:4**

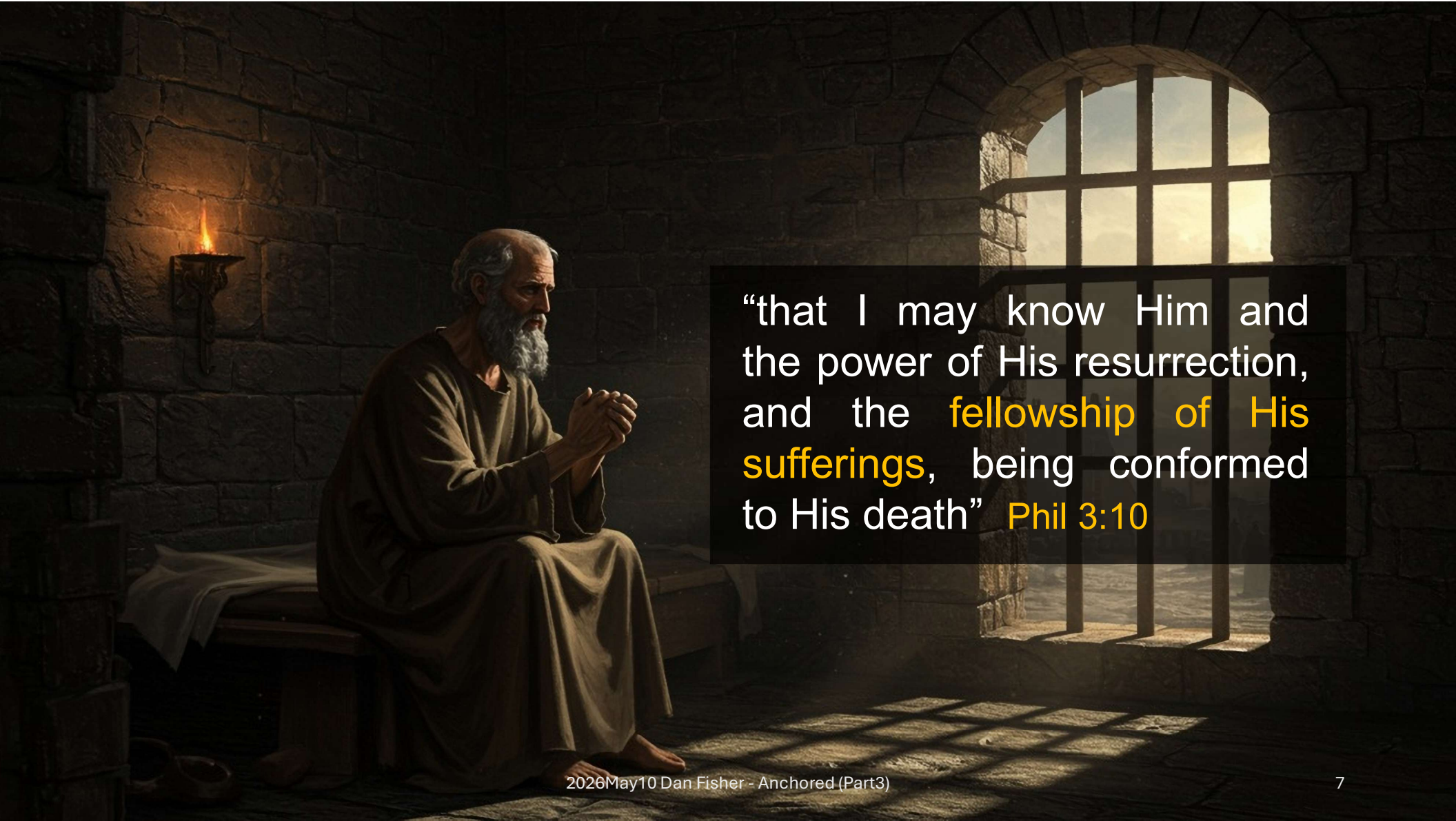
Sinclair Ferguson:

“One thing we should not be in our suffering ... surprised. ... It is not possible to follow a suffering Savior without entering into His sufferings.”

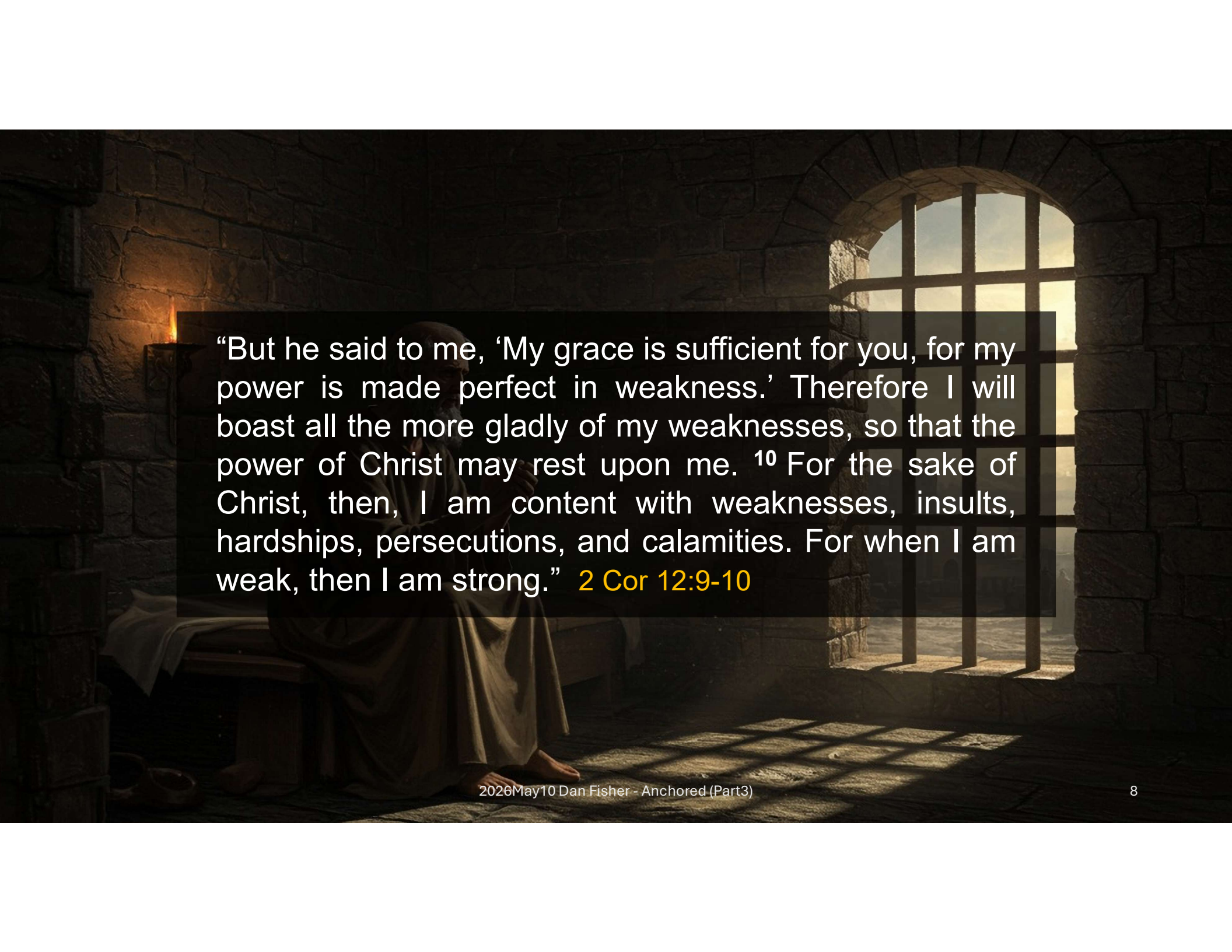
Sinclair Ferguson, “How Should I Endure Suffering?”, Ligonier Ministries,
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PiCYz-oGnTA>



“Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.” **1 Pet 4:12**



“that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death” Phil 3:10

A man in a dark, heavy robe is kneeling on the floor of a stone-walled room, possibly a prison cell. He is looking towards a barred window on the right. The room is dimly lit, with a small light source on the left wall. The window has a grid of bars and is set in an arched opening. The floor is made of large stone tiles. The overall atmosphere is somber and reflective.

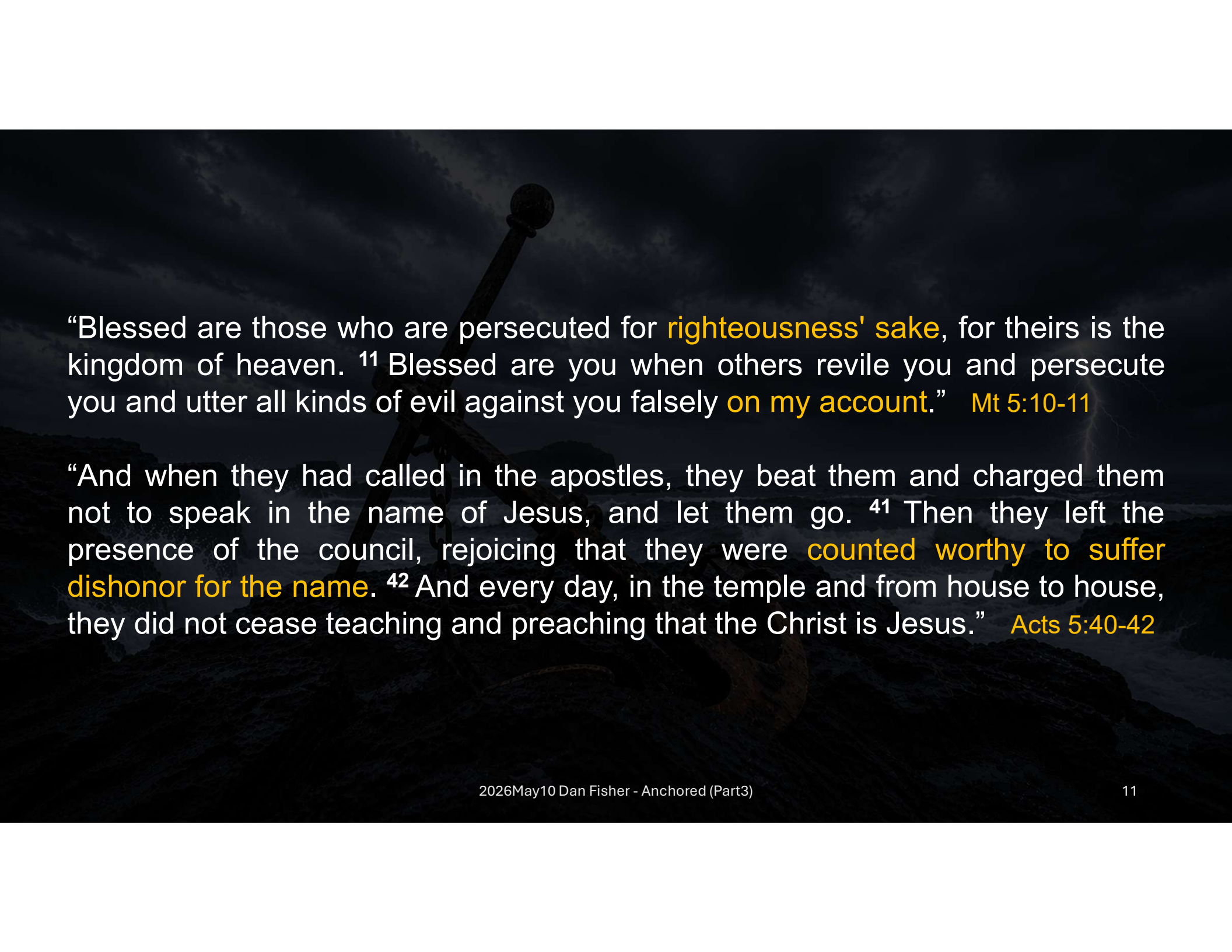
“But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. ¹⁰ For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.” **2 Cor 12:9-10**



How do we experience “biblical” victory?

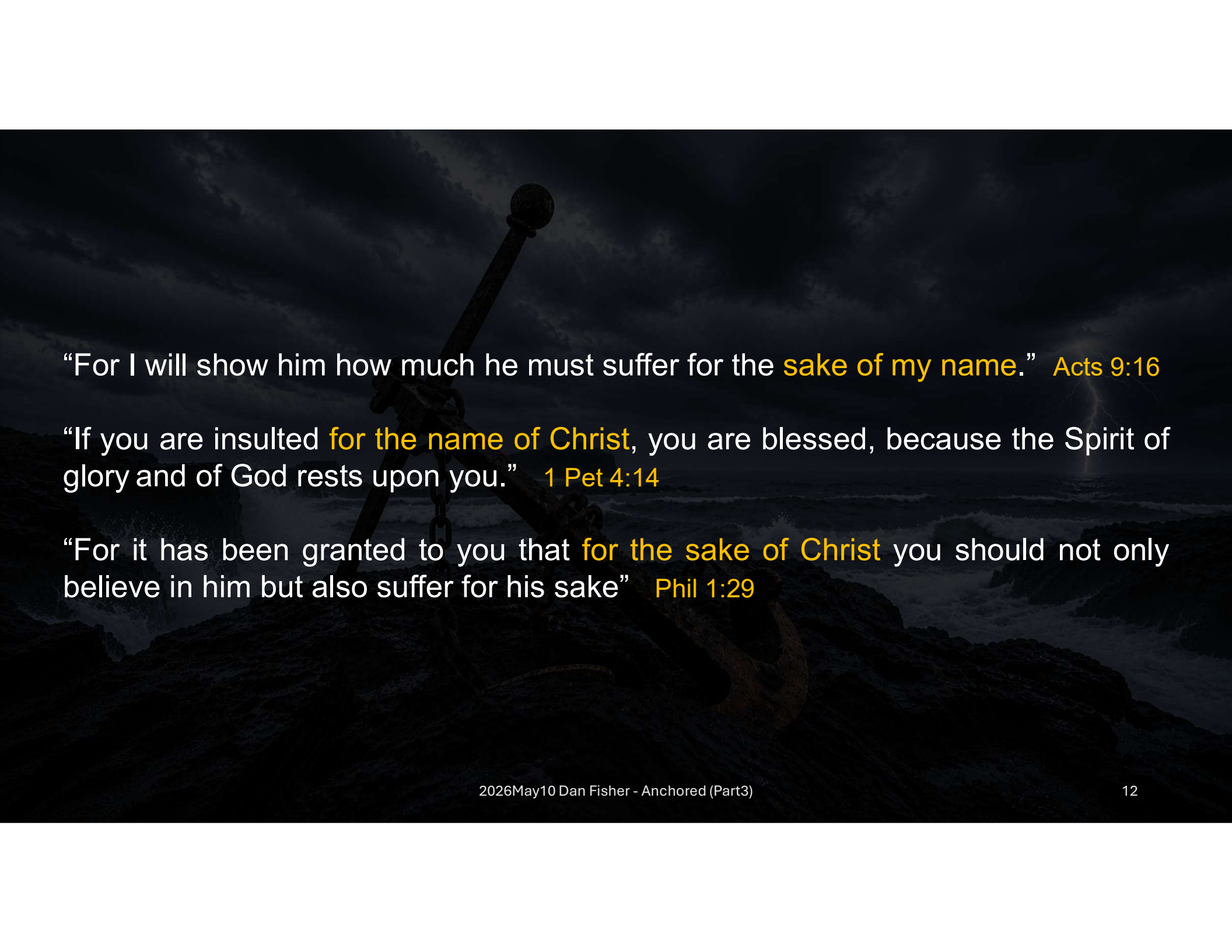


1. See hardship as an offering



“Blessed are those who are persecuted for **righteousness' sake**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely **on my account.**” **Mt 5:10-11**

“And when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹ Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were **counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.** ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.” **Acts 5:40-42**



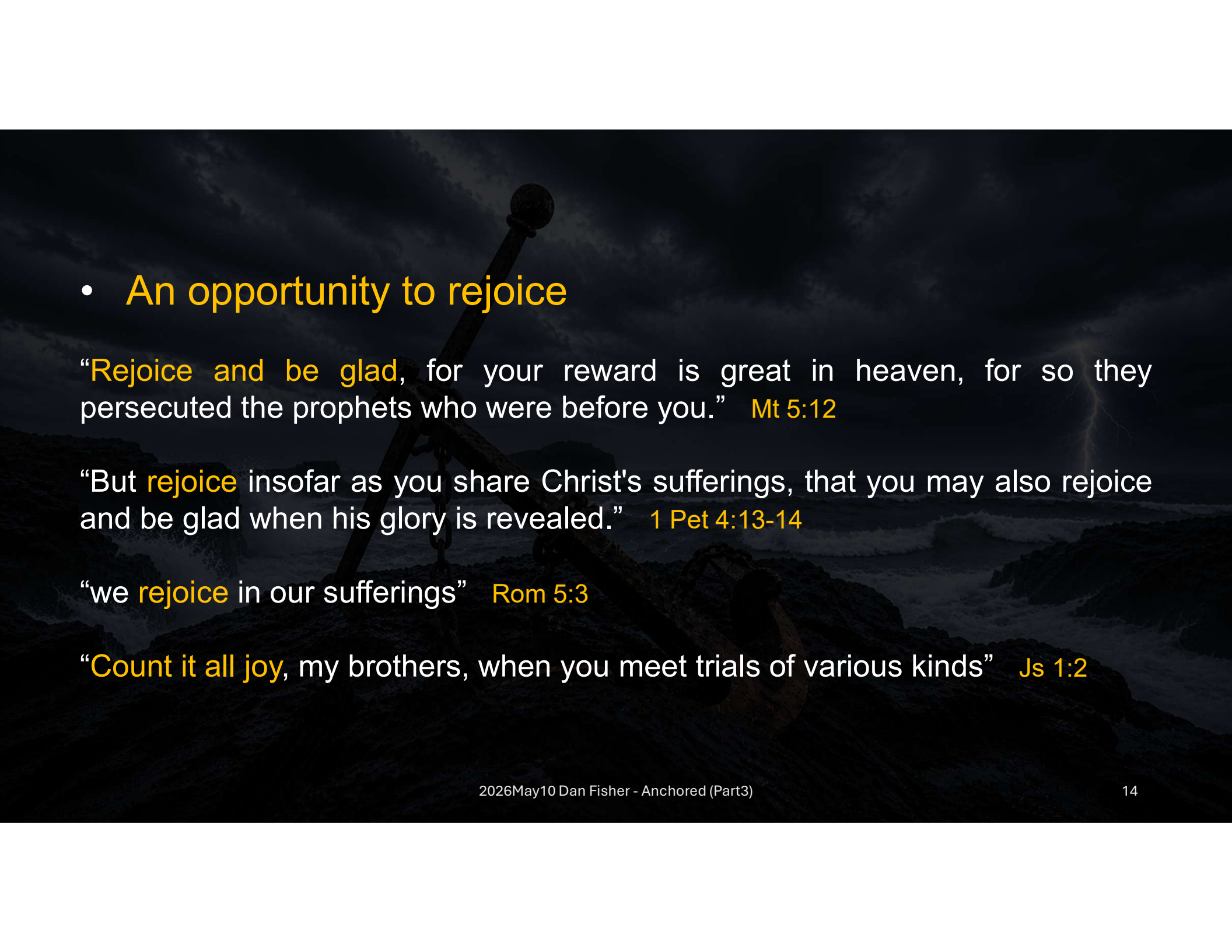
“For I will show him how much he must suffer for the **sake of my name.**” *Acts 9:16*

“If you are insulted **for the name of Christ**, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.” *1 Pet 4:14*

“For it has been granted to you that **for the sake of Christ** you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake” *Phil 1:29*



2. See hardship as an opportunity



- **An opportunity to rejoice**

“**Rejoice and be glad**, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” **Mt 5:12**

“But **rejoice** insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.” **1 Pet 4:13-14**

“we **rejoice** in our sufferings” **Rom 5:3**

“**Count it all joy**, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds” **Js 1:2**



- **An opportunity to be blessed**

In His Sermon on the Mount, Jesus says there are blessings that can only be received through suffering:

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.” **Mt 5:4**

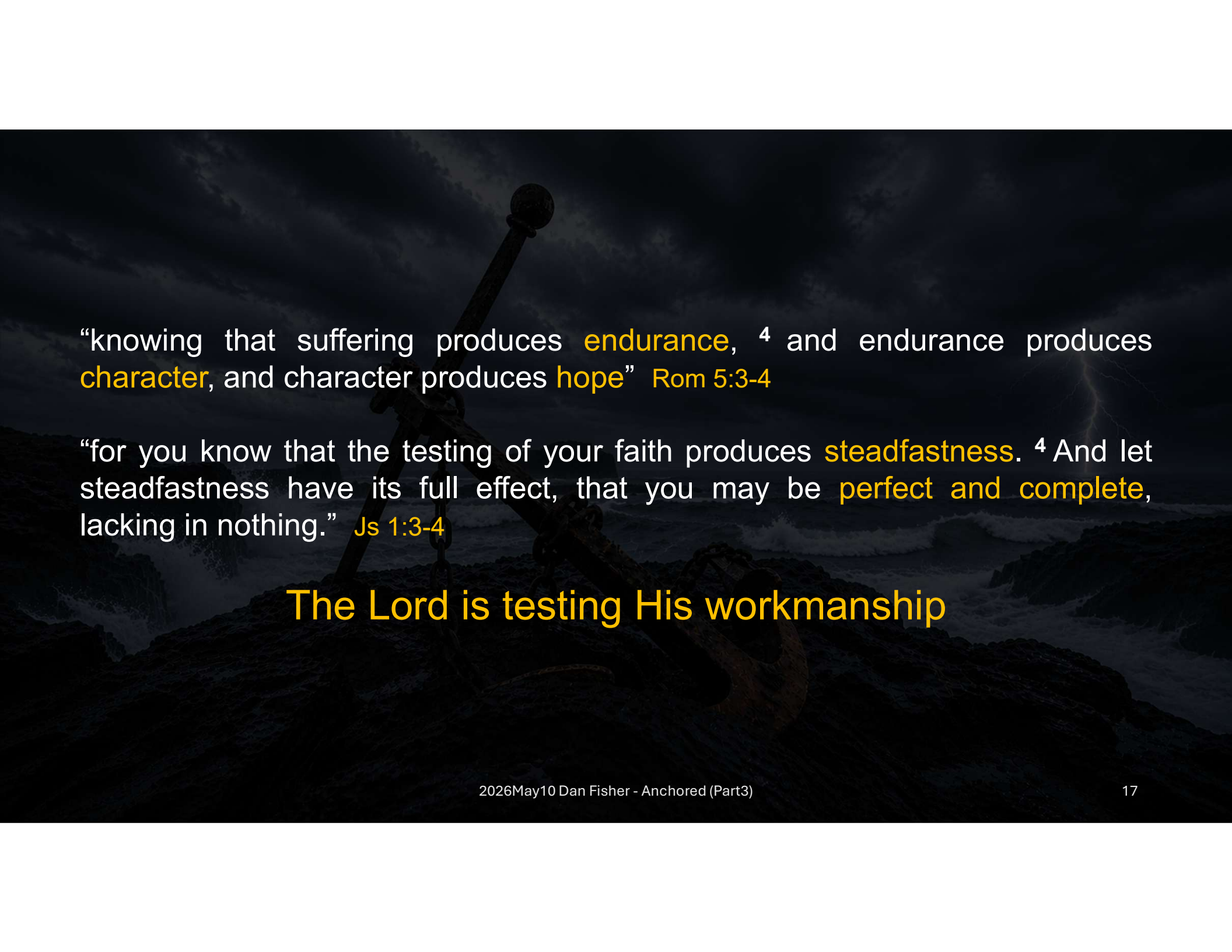
“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.” **Mt 5:10-11**



- **An opportunity to grow and earn rewards**

“always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the **life of Jesus also may be manifested in our bodies.** ¹¹ For we who live are always being given over to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.” **2 Cor 4:10-11**

“But if when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. ²¹ For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that **you might follow in his steps.**” **1 Pet 2:20-21**



“knowing that suffering produces **endurance**, ⁴ and endurance produces **character**, and character produces **hope**” Rom 5:3-4

“for you know that the testing of your faith produces **steadfastness**. ⁴ And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be **perfect and complete**, lacking in nothing.” Js 1:3-4

The Lord is testing His workmanship

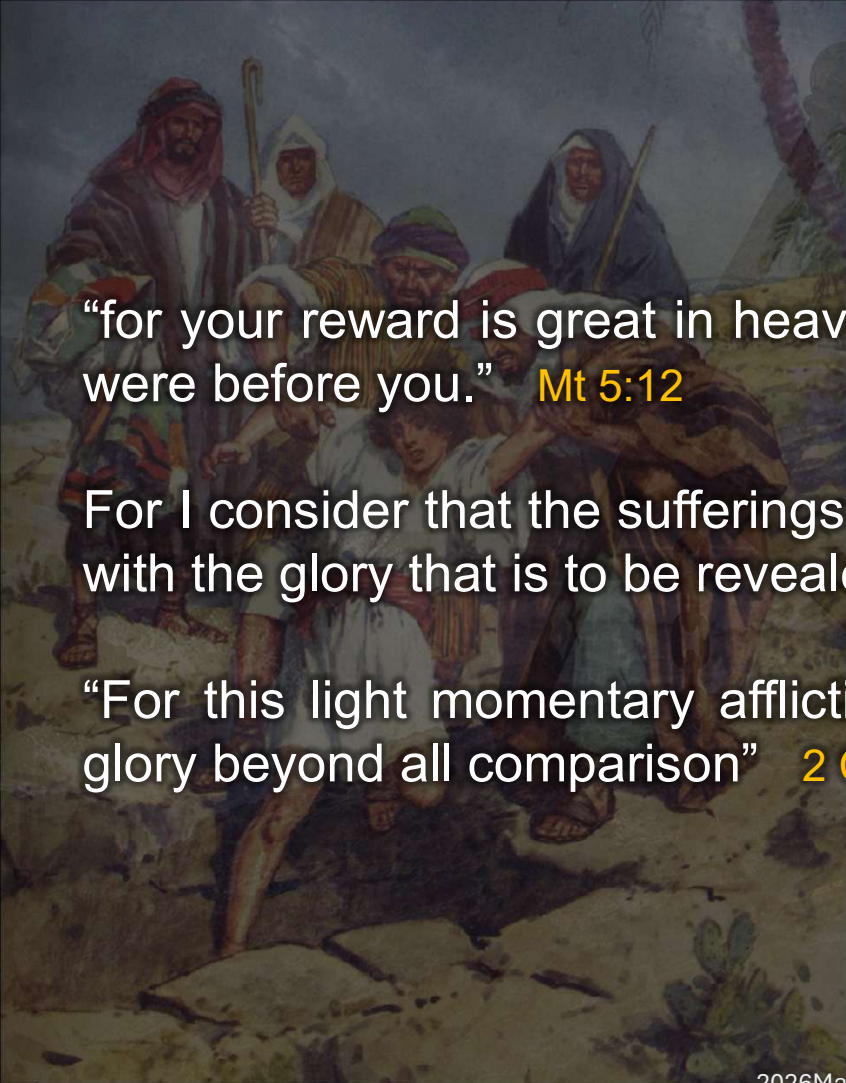


Rauno Heinla – 1190.5 lbs

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“for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.” **Mt 5:12**

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” **Rom 8:18**

“For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison” **2 Cor 4:17**



- **An opportunity to testify**

“let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” **Mt 5:16**



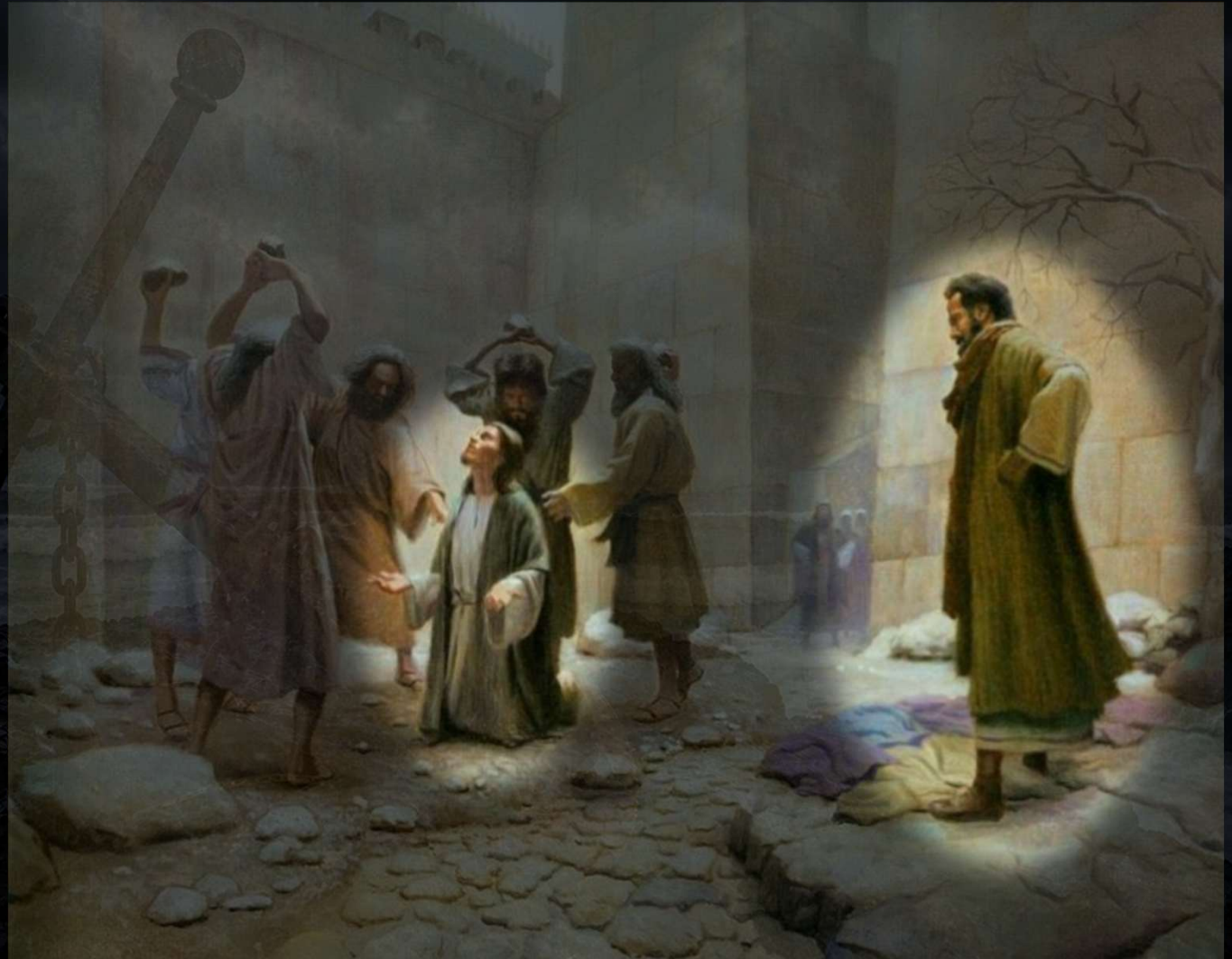
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“And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.” [Acts 7:58](#)



“And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul.” *Acts 7:58*

Paul's watching
Stephen die
likely played a
major role in his
salvation



What suffering has done for me:

- Driven me to seek the Lord
- Made me appreciate how Jesus suffered – for me
- Made me humbler and more dependent on Him
- Made me more pliable/moldable
- Made me more Christlike
- Made me examine my motives and spiritual condition
- Made me reflect on how I have treated others
- Made me evaluate my life in light of eternity – do I value what heaven does
- Made me recognize people are flawed and sometimes disappoint/hurt us
- Helped me learn from their wrongdoing so I will not do likewise

“Jesus learned obedience through what he suffered” **Heb 5:8**

Hast Thou No Scar, Amy Carmichael

Hast thou no scar?
No hidden scar on foot, or side, or hand?
I hear thee sung as mighty in the land,
I hear them hail thy bright ascendant star,
Hast thou no scar?
Hast thou no wound?
Yet, I was wounded by the archers, spent.
Leaned me against the tree to die, and rent
By ravening beasts that compassed me, I
swooned:
Hast thou no wound?
No wound? No scar?
Yet as the Master shall the servant be,
And pierced are the feet that follow Me;
But thine are whole. Can he have followed far
Who has no wound nor scar?

