

Through the Bible

HEBREWS-I

Zac Poonen



Illustrations by Vinay Kuruville

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CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

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Hebrews

IT DEALS WITH THE DOCTRINE OF THE HUMANITY OF CHRIST, WHICH HAS PRACTICAL IMPLICATION FOR TODAY



THERE IS NO RECORD WITHIN THIS LETTER AS TO WHO WROTE IT OR TO WHOM IT WAS WRITTEN. THIS IS A VERY PROFOUND LETTER.



A DEAD DOCTRINE (WITHOUT BEING USED PRACTICALLY) IS LIKE A DEAD MUSCLE. WHAT HAPPENS TO A MUSCLE IF YOU DON'T USE IT FOR A LONG TIME? IT BECOMES WEAK AND FINALLY WITHERS UP.

THIS BOOK REVEALS THE HUMANITY OF JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD AND THE PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS OF THAT FOR US MORE THAN ANY OTHER BOOK IN THE ENTIRE NEW TESTAMENT.

IT IS BECAUSE JESUS LIVED ON EARTH AS A MAN, THAT WE TOO CAN FOLLOW IN HIS FOOTSTEPS AND "WALK AS HE WALKED ON THIS EARTH" (1 JOHN 2:6). "CONSIDER JESUS" COULD BE CALLED THE THEME OF THIS LETTER -- FOR THAT APPEARS IN 3:1; 8:1 AND 12:2, 3.



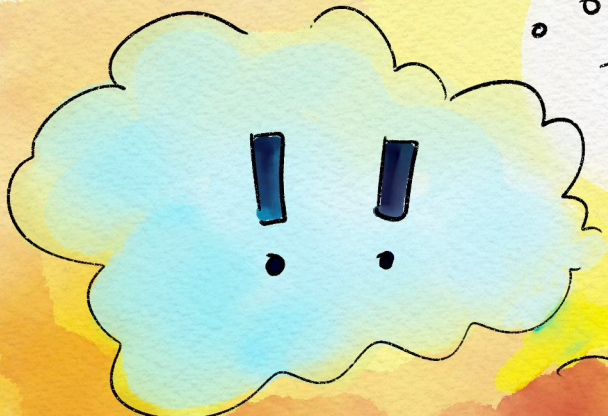


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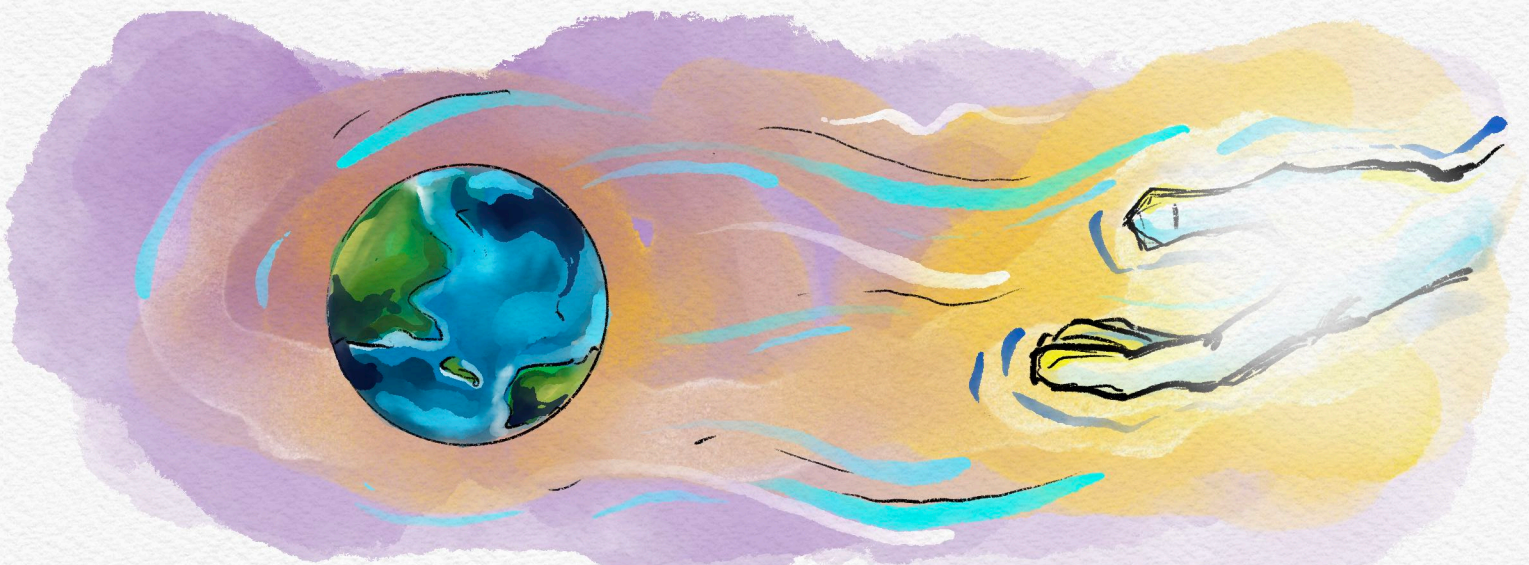
"PRESSING ON TO PERFECTION" (6:1) COULD ALSO BE CONSIDERED AS A THEME OF THIS LETTER. "ENTERING INTO THE MOST HOLY PLACE" (10:19) COULD BE CONSIDERED AS YET ANOTHER THEME. THIS LETTER SHOWS US HOW WE CAN ENTER INTO A PLACE OF INTIMATE FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD.

THE WORD 'BETTER' OCCURS 13 TIMES IN THIS LETTER -- A BETTER SACRIFICE, A BETTER RESURRECTION, A BETTER COVENANT, A BETTER MEDIATOR, ETC.

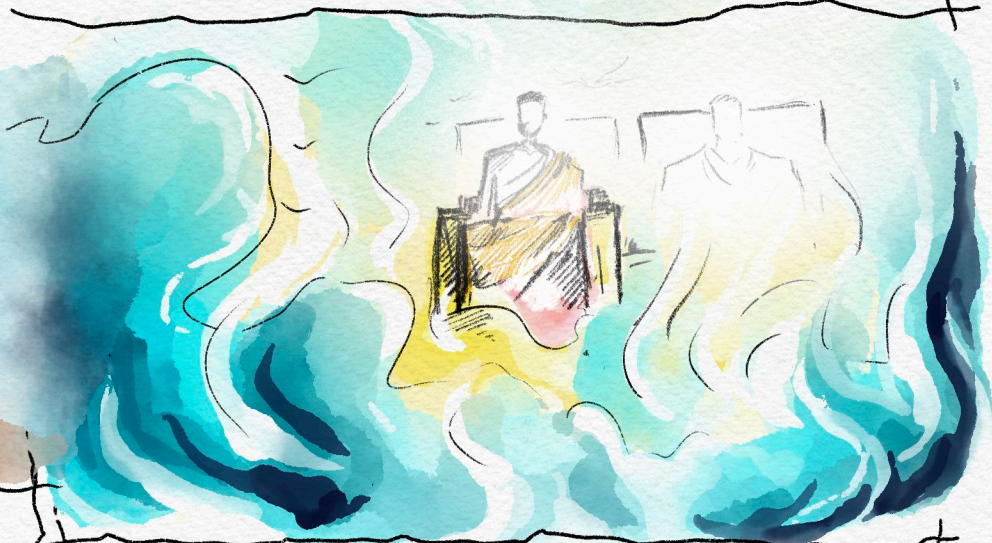


IN CHAPTER 1, WE ARE TOLD THAT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, GOD SPOKE THROUGH THE PROPHETS IN MANY WAYS -- THROUGH VISIONS, DREAMS, PROPHETIC WORDS AND WRITTEN SCRIPTURE.

BUT NOW GOD HAS FINALLY SPOKE TO US THROUGH HIS SON. HIS SON IS CALLED "THE WORD OF GOD" -- WHICH MEANS GOD SPEAKING. JESUS IS THE MESSAGE. HIS LIFE IS GOD'S MESSAGE FOR US.



THE ONE MENTIONED IN GENESIS 1:1 AS THE **CREATOR OF THE WORLD** IS JESUS (HEB 1:2 , 1:10), ALONG WITH THE **FATHER** AND THE **HOLY SPIRIT**. JESUS IS ALSO THE ONE WHO UPHOLDS THE **ENTIRE UNIVERSE** BY THE WORD OF HIS POWER (1:3).



JESUS IS THE **RADIANCE OF GOD'S GLORY** AND THE **EXACT REPRESENTATION OF HIS NATURE** (1:3). "HE WHO HAS SEEN **ME**, HAS SEEN THE **FATHER**", SAID **JESUS** (JOHN 14:9).

AND WHEN JESUS HAD MADE A **PURIFICATION OF ALL OUR SINS** HE SAT DOWN AS A **MAN AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE MAJESTY ON HIGH**. AND **GOD** COMMANDS ALL THE **ANGELS** TO **WORSHIP JESUS THE MAN** (1:6).



WHEN JOHN FELL DOWN TO **WORSHIP AN ANGEL** ONCE, THE ANGEL IMMEDIATELY SAID, "**DON'T DO THAT. WORSHIP GOD**" (REVELATION 19:10). THE ONLY PERSON ENTITLED TO RECEIVE **WORSHIP** IN THIS UNIVERSE IS **GOD** HIMSELF.

WHEN **JESUS** WAS ON **EARTH**, WE READ IN THE **GOSPELS**, OF HIS **RECEIVING AND ACCEPTING WORSHIP** FROM **MEN**, AT LEAST SEVEN TIMES. HE **EMPTIED HIMSELF OF THE PRIVILEGES** BUT WAS **STILL GOD** WHEN HE WAS ON **EARTH**



WHEN JESUS LIVED ON EARTH, HE LIVED WITH ALL THE LIMITATIONS OF US HUMAN BEINGS. SO HE NEEDED TO BE ANOINTED. (1:9) JESUS DID NOT NEED TO BE ANOINTED WHEN HE WAS IN HEAVEN.

FINALLY, WE SEE GOD THE FATHER HIMSELF ADDRESSING JESUS AS GOD, SAYING: "THY THRONE, O GOD, IS FOREVER AND EVER" (HEBREWS 1:8) -- A QUOTATION FROM PSALM 45:6. ALL OF THIS INTRODUCTION IS TO PROVE THE DEITY OF CHRIST BEYOND ANY SHADOW OF DOUBT.

HE WAS ANOINTED PRIMARILY BECAUSE HE LOVED RIGHTEOUSNESS AND HATED LAWLESSNESS. THERE IS A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN DOING RIGHTEOUSNESS AND LOVING RIGHTEOUSNESS.

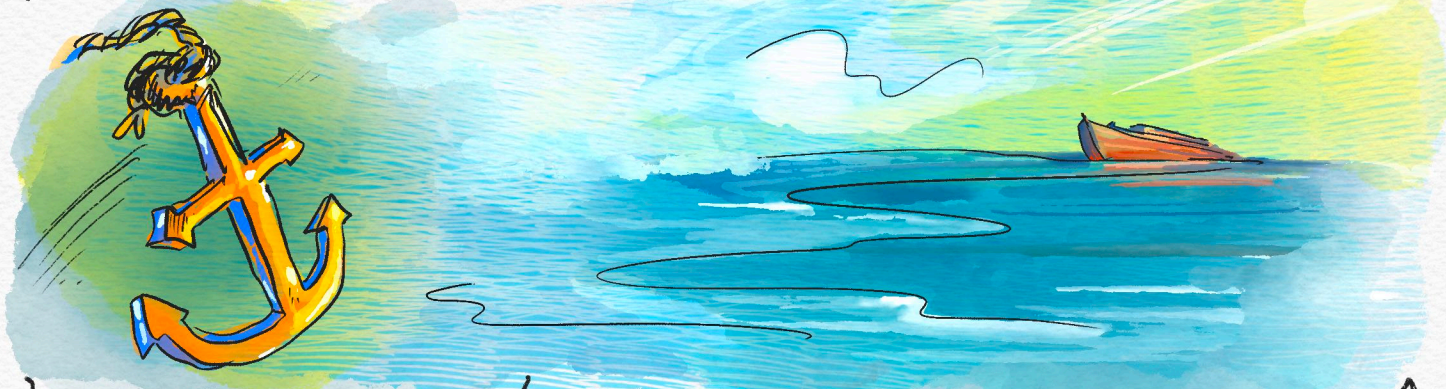


JESUS IS THE ELDEST SON. SINCE GOD IS NOT PARTIAL, HE WILL DO EVERYTHING FOR US, WHO ARE BORN AGAIN, THAT HE DID FOR HIS ELDEST SON, JESUS.

THE MORE WE LOVE RIGHTEOUSNESS AND THE MORE WE HATE SIN IN OUR LIVES, THE MORE WE WILL BE FILLED WITH THE JOY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. (ROMANS 14:17).

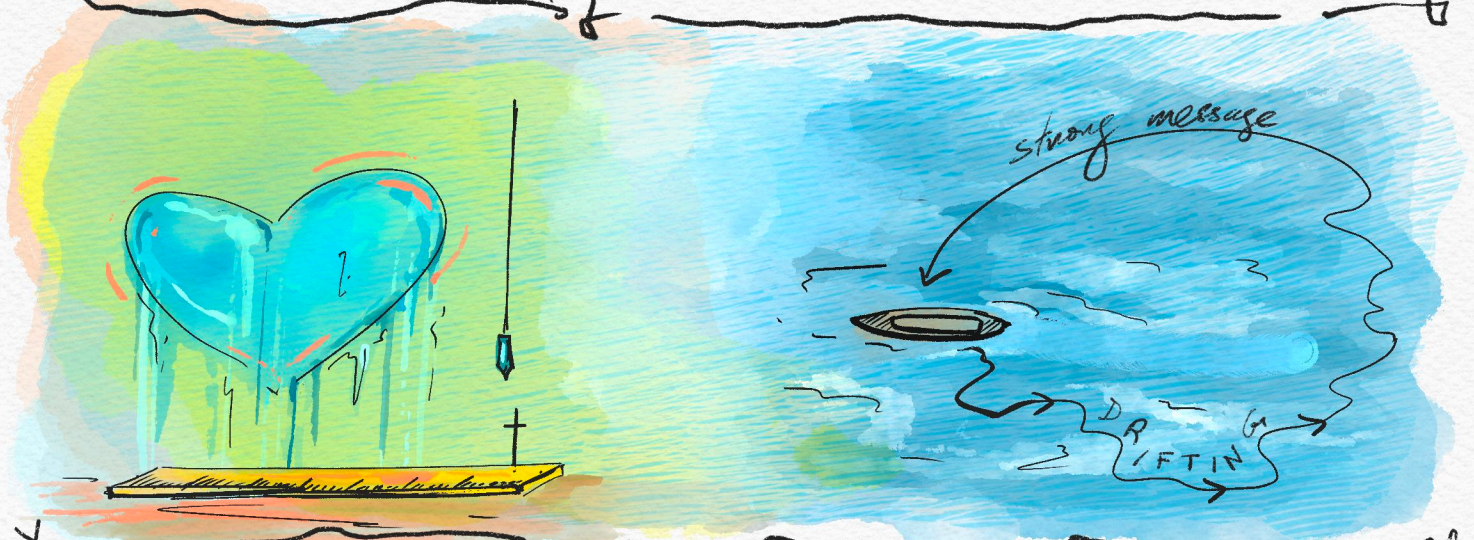


BECAUSE THE **ONE** WHO HAS SPOKEN THIS **WORD** IS SUCH AN **IMPORTANT PERSON**, THEREFORE WE MUST PAY MUCH **CLOSER** ATTENTION TO THE **WORD**, LEST WE **DRIFT** FROM IT (2:1). MANY CHRISTIANS ARE **NOT** IN DANGER OF **REJECTING** THE WORD OF GOD, BUT OF **NEGLECTING** IT -- AND THEREBY **DRIFTING AWAY** FROM IT.



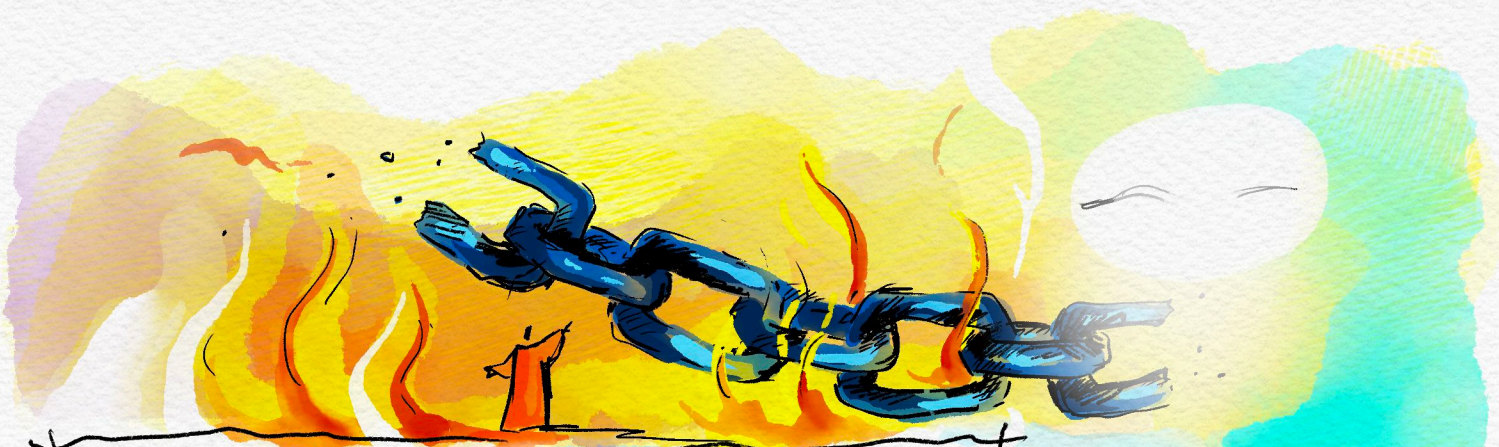
WHEN A SHIP HAS STOPPED IN A HARBOUR, IF AN **ANCHOR** IS NOT **DROPPED**, IT WILL **DRIFT**.

EVEN A **SLOW CURRENT** IS ENOUGH TO PUSH IT **FAR AWAY**. THIS **SLOW DRIFT** MAY **NOT** BE **OBSERVABLE**. BUT BY THE **NEXT MORNING** THE SHIP CAN BE **FAR FROM** WHERE IT STOPPED THE **PREVIOUS NIGHT**.

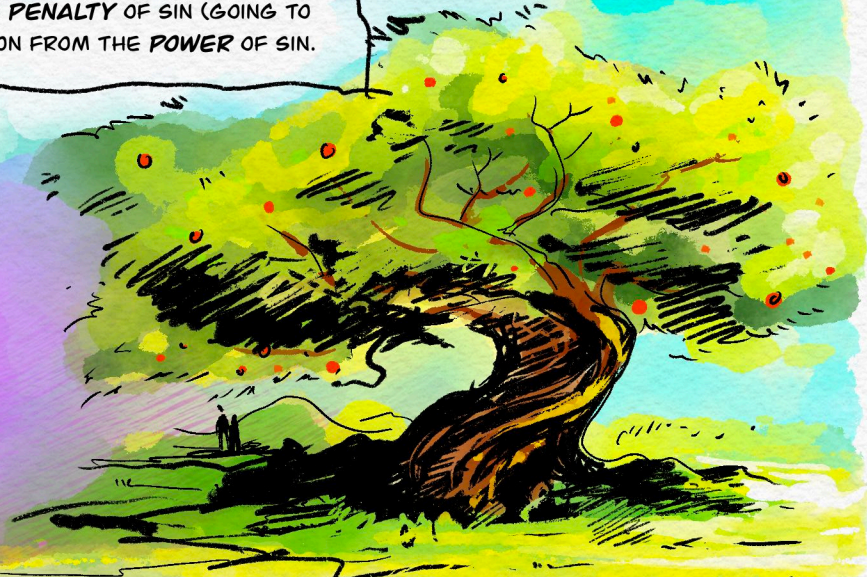


DRIFTING FROM GOD'S WORD IS LIKE THAT. OUR **STANDARD OF RIGHTEOUSNESS** BECOMES **LOWER**, AND WE HAVE STARTED THINKING **LIGHTLY** OF SOME **SINS**, AND OUR **LOVE FOR THE LORD** HAS **COOLED OFF**..

IT IS NOT GOD'S WILL THAT YOU **DRIFT** AND THEN COME **BACK** TO HIM WHEN YOU HEAR A **POWERFUL MESSAGE** AND THEN **DRIFT AGAIN** AND THEN COME **BACK AGAIN**. GOD WANTS YOU TO MAKE **CONSISTENT PROGRESS** TOWARDS **TOTAL CHRISTLIKENESS** IN YOUR LIFE.



MANY HAVE ACCEPTED **SALVATION** FROM THE **PENALTY** OF SIN (GOING TO HELL), BUT THEY HAVE **NEGLECTED** SALVATION FROM THE **POWER** OF SIN.



THEN THE WRITER GOES ON TO SPEAK ABOUT THE **HUMANITY** OF CHRIST. IN 2:6, HE QUOTES PSALM 8:4. ANGELS **DON'T** DIE, BUT **JESUS** **COULD** DIE. THIS MADE HIM **LOWER** THAN THE ANGELS.

ADAM WHEN **CREATED** **COULD** NOT HAVE DIED. SO HE WAS **NOT LOWER** THAN THE ANGELS. BUT WHEN HE **ATE** THE **FORBIDDEN FRUIT**, THEN HE **BECAME LOWER** THAN THE ANGELS, AND HE **COULD** DIE.



WHEN WE LOOK AROUND **TODAY**, ALL THINGS ARE **NOT UNDER MAN'S FEET** AS IT SAYS IN 2:8. **MAN** IS A **SLAVE** WHEN HE SHOULD BE A **KING**. THE **DEVIL** IS **RULING** THE WORLD OF MEN.

BUT WE DO SEE THE **MAN JESUS** IN WHOM VERSE 2:8 HAS BEEN **FULFILLED**. FOR A **LITTLE WHILE** **JESUS** WAS MADE **LOWER** THAN THE ANGELS. BUT NOW HE IS **CROWNED** WITH **GLORY** AND **HONOUR** -- **TODAY**, **JESUS** HAS **CONQUERED** **DEATH** AND IS **ABOVE** THE **ANGELS** -- AND **EVERYTHING** IS **UNDER HIS FEET**

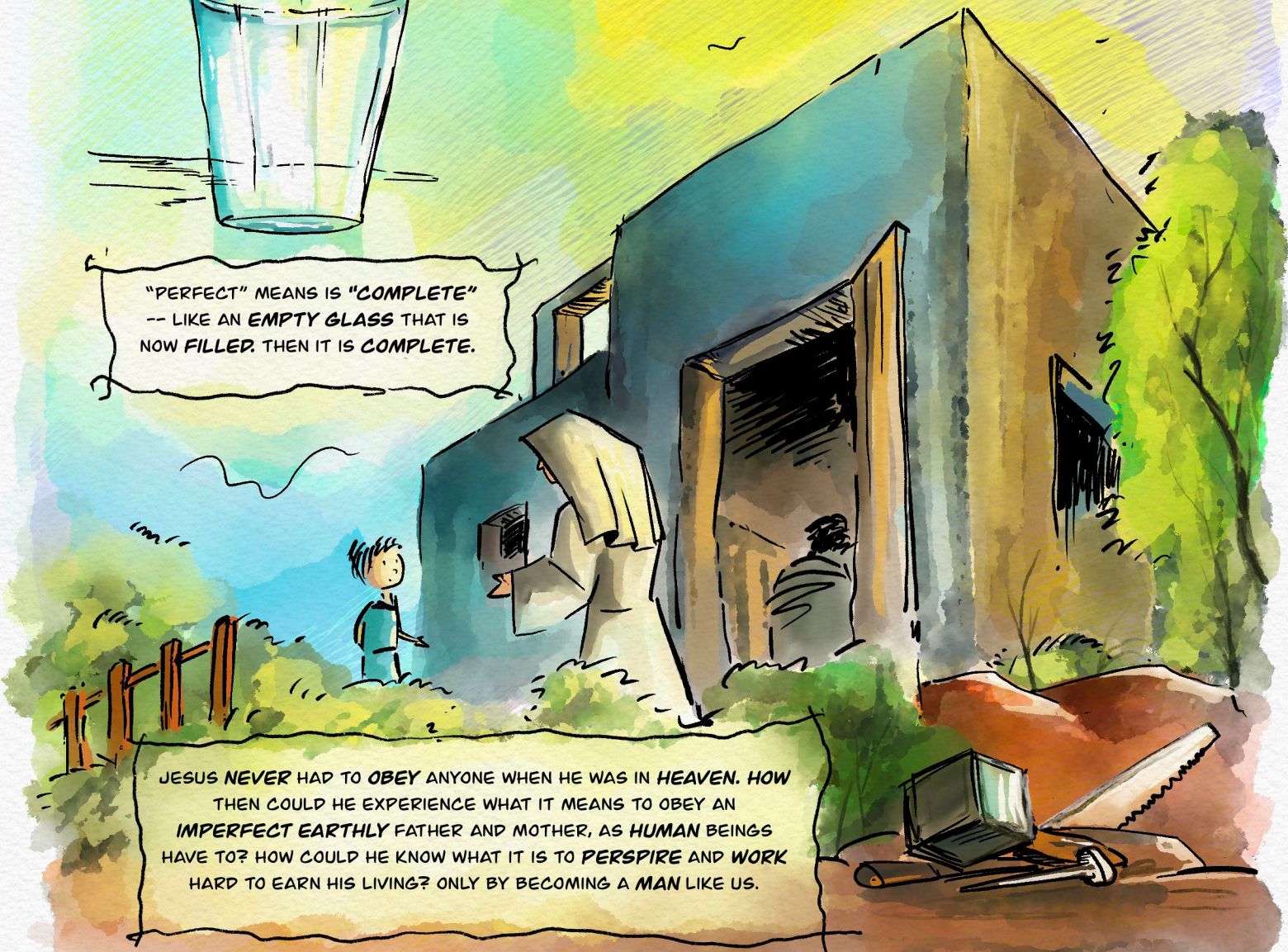


IN ORDER TO BRING US TO GLORY, GOD PERFECTED JESUS, OUR LEADER AND CAPTAIN THROUGH SUFFERING (2:10). WE BECOME PERFECT THE SAME WAY TOO -- THROUGH SUFFERING.

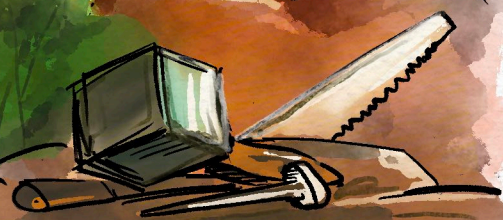
"JESUS TASTED DEATH FOR EVERYONE BY THE GRACE OF GOD" (2:9). JESUS NEEDED GRACE FROM HIS FATHER TO GO TO THE CROSS AND DIE. GRACE IS GOD'S HELP AND POWER. JESUS NEEDED THAT AS A MAN -- AND SO DO WE.



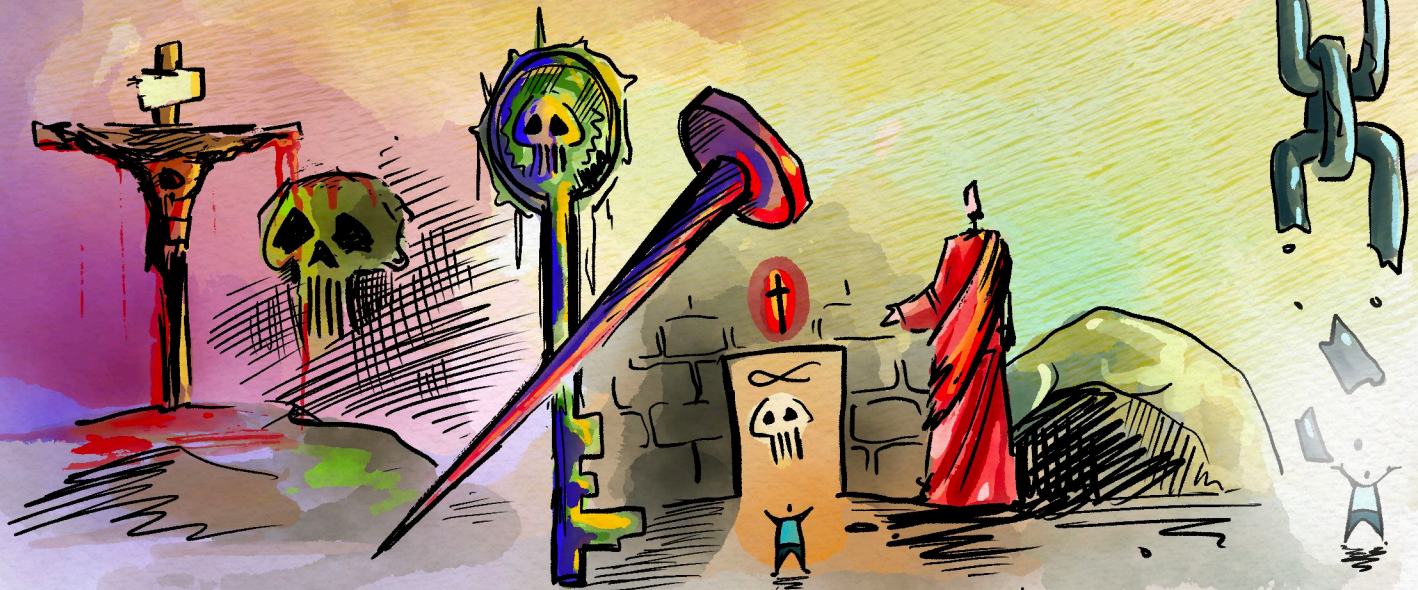
"PERFECT" MEANS IS "COMPLETE" -- LIKE AN EMPTY GLASS THAT IS NOW FILLED. THEN IT IS COMPLETE.



JESUS NEVER HAD TO OBEY ANYONE WHEN HE WAS IN HEAVEN. HOW THEN COULD HE EXPERIENCE WHAT IT MEANS TO OBEY AN IMPERFECT EARTHLY FATHER AND MOTHER, AS HUMAN BEINGS HAVE TO? HOW COULD HE KNOW WHAT IT IS TO PERSPIRE AND WORK HARD TO EARN HIS LIVING? ONLY BY BECOMING A MAN LIKE US.



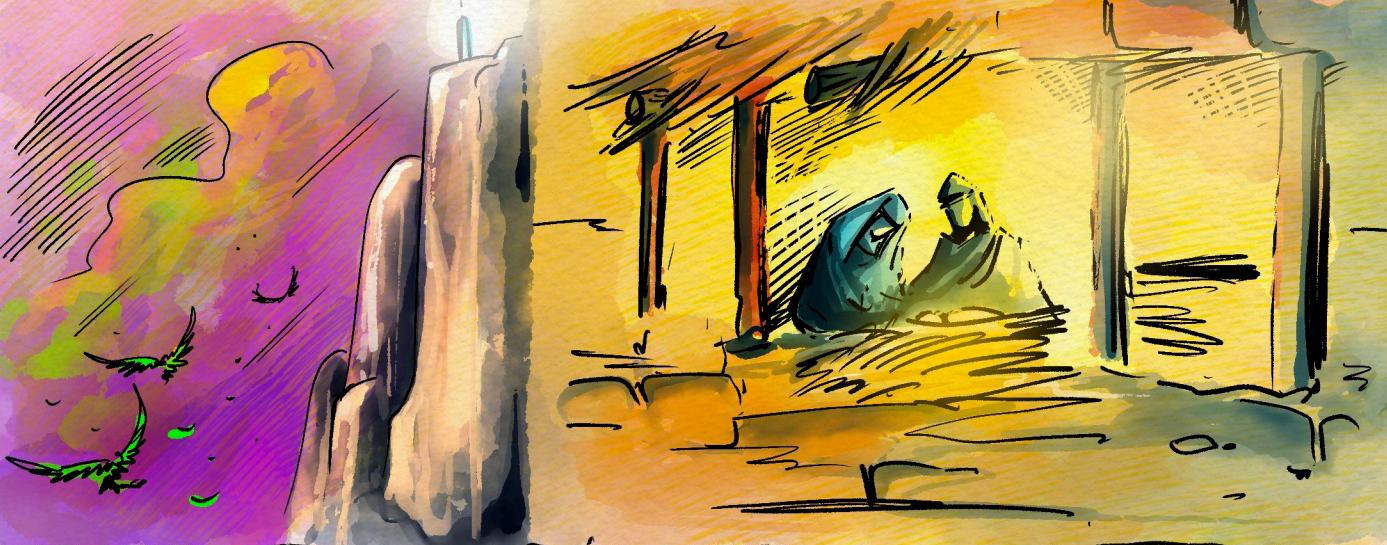
OUR LIFE ON EARTH IS ONE OF **SUFFERING**. JESUS **ACCEPTED** SUFFERING AND **WALKED** THROUGH THE **SAME** PATH WE WALK. NOW THE ONE WHO **SANCTIFIES** US AND THOSE WHO ARE **SANCTIFIED** ARE ALL FROM **ONE FATHER**.



THEN HE GOES ON TO SAY, "SINCE THE CHILDREN TAKE PART OF **FLESH** AND **BLOOD** HE ALSO **TOOK PART** OF THE **SAME**" (2:14). THAT WAS THE ONLY WAY HE COULD **DIE** -- AND **THROUGH DEATH** TAKE AWAY THE **POWER** OF **DEATH** FROM **SATAN**.

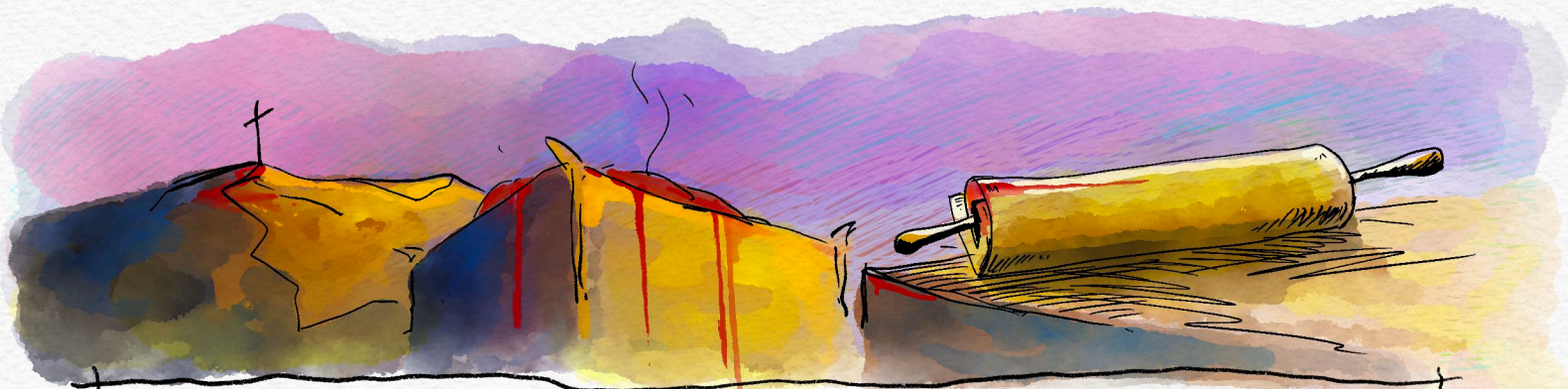
NOW JESUS SAYS, "I HAVE THE **KEYS** OF **DEATH**" (REVELATION 1:18). NOBODY AND **NOTHING** CAN KILL ME --UNTIL **JESUS** OPENS THE **DOOR** OF **DEATH** FOR ME AND SAYS, "MY SON, COME IN."

SATAN HAD THE **POWER** OF **DEATH** BECAUSE **MAN** HAD **SINNED**. NOW **JESUS** WANTS TO DELIVER US WHO HAVE LIVED ALL OUR LIVES IN THE **FEAR** OF **DEATH** (2:15).



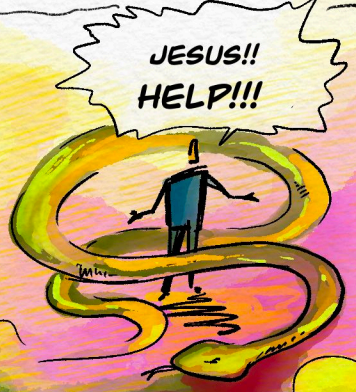
THE ANGELS ALSO FELL INTO **SIN** -- BEFORE **MAN**. BUT **JESUS** DID NOT BECOME AN **ANGEL** IN ORDER TO **SAVE** THEM (2:16).

BUT WHEN **MAN** SINNED, **GOD** BECAME A **MAN** IN ORDER TO **SAVE** US. I THINK THE **REASON** FOR THIS IS THAT **SATAN** SINNED ON HIS **OWN** -- WHEREAS **ADAM** SINNED THROUGH THE **INSTIGATION** OF **SATAN**.



JESUS DID NOT HAVE SINFUL FLESH AND HE NEVER SINNED. BUT OTHERWISE HIS HUMANITY WAS EXACTLY THE SAME AS OURS (2:17). THAT IS HOW HE COULD BECOME A MERCIFUL HIGH PRIEST FOR US. ONLY THUS COULD HE SATISFY THE RIGHTEOUS REQUIREMENT OF GOD'S LAW AND MAKE AN ATONEMENT FOR OUR SINS.

AND AS A MAN, SINCE HE WAS TEMPTED IN EVERY POINT, AND SUFFERED IN HIS FLESH IN THOSE TEMPTATIONS, HE CAN NOW COME RUNNING TO OUR AID, WHEN WE ARE TEMPTED (2:18).



IF AN ANGEL FROM HEAVEN CAME TO TEACH YOU HOW TO SWIM AND TOOK YOU TO A RIVER AND FLEW ACROSS THE RIVER AND SAID-

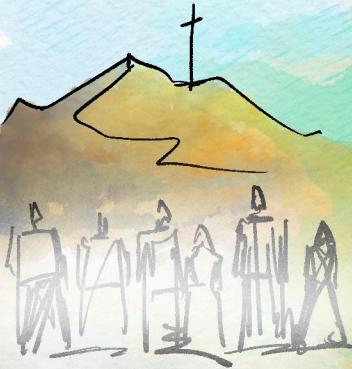
FOLLOW ME

I CAN'T FOLLOW YOU. I CAN ONLY ADMIRE YOU. IF YOU WANT ME TO FOLLOW YOU, FIRST GET RID OF YOUR WINGS, TAKE A BODY LIKE MINE THAT IS PULLED DOWN BY GRAVITY AND THEN TELL ME TO FOLLOW YOU.



TO BE AN EXAMPLE FOR US, JESUS WOULD HAVE TO FEEL THE PULL OF TEMPTATION EXACTLY LIKE WE DO, AND HAVE NO RESOURCES OTHER THAN WHAT WE HAVE.

THIS REVELATION CHANGED THE DIRECTION OF MY LIFE. BUT THE MORE I PROCLAIMED IT, THE MORE I FOUND THAT CHRISTIANS OPPOSED WHAT I TAUGHT. THE DEVIL HATES THIS DOCTRINE BECAUSE HE KNOWS IT WILL LEAD PEOPLE TO VICTORY.



IN 3:1, THE WRITER INVITES "HOLY BRETHREN" WHO HAVE A "HEAVENLY CALLING" TO "CONSIDER JESUS."

JESUS WAS FAITHFUL TO GOD WHO APPOINTED HIM. JESUS IS GREATER THAN MOSES BECAUSE MOSES WAS ONLY A PART OF THE HOUSE WHEREAS JESUS IS THE BUILDER OF THE HOUSE.



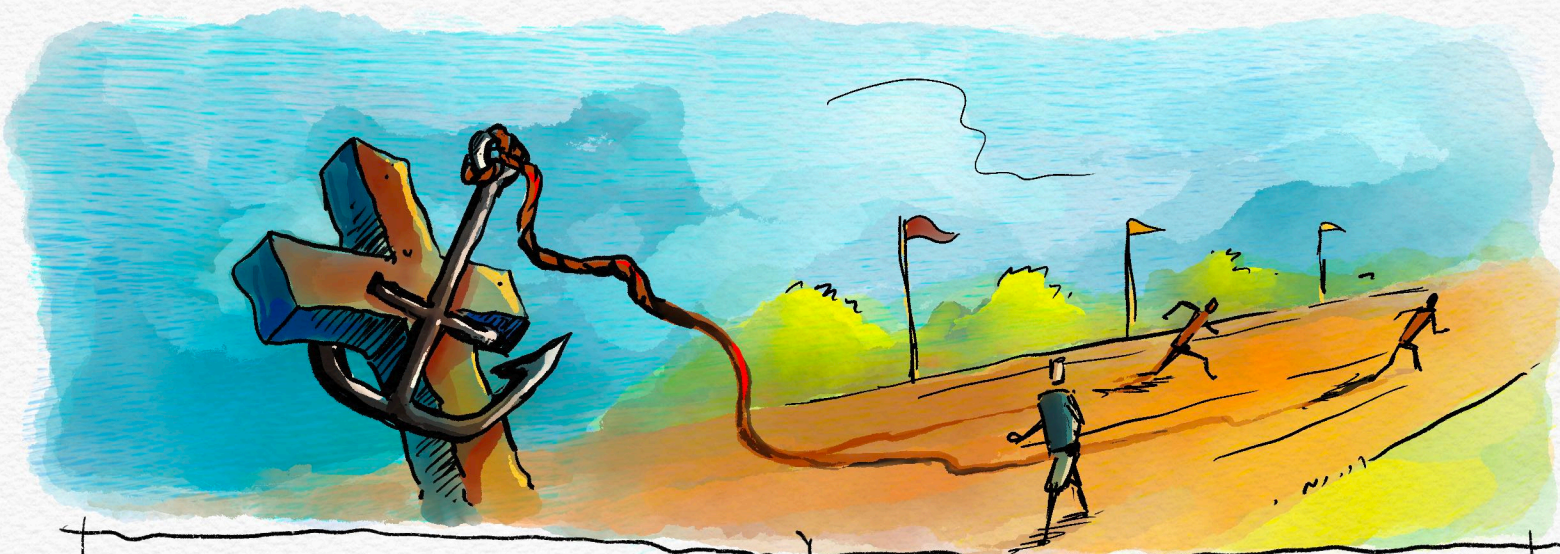
IN 3:7, WE ARE WARNED, "TODAY IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE DON'T HARDEN YOUR HEART." AND THEN IN 3:12, "TAKE CARE LEST THERE SHOULD BE IN ANY ONE OF YOU AN EVIL, UNBELIEVING HEART."

BUT INSTEAD OF FALLING AWAY, THE NEXT VERSE GIVES US ANOTHER OPTION, "ENCOURAGE ONE ANOTHER, EXHORT ONE ANOTHER EVERY DAY, AS LONG AS IT IS CALLED TODAY" (3:13). THIS WARNS US THAT IT TAKES ONLY 24 HOURS TO BECOME A BACKSLIDER.



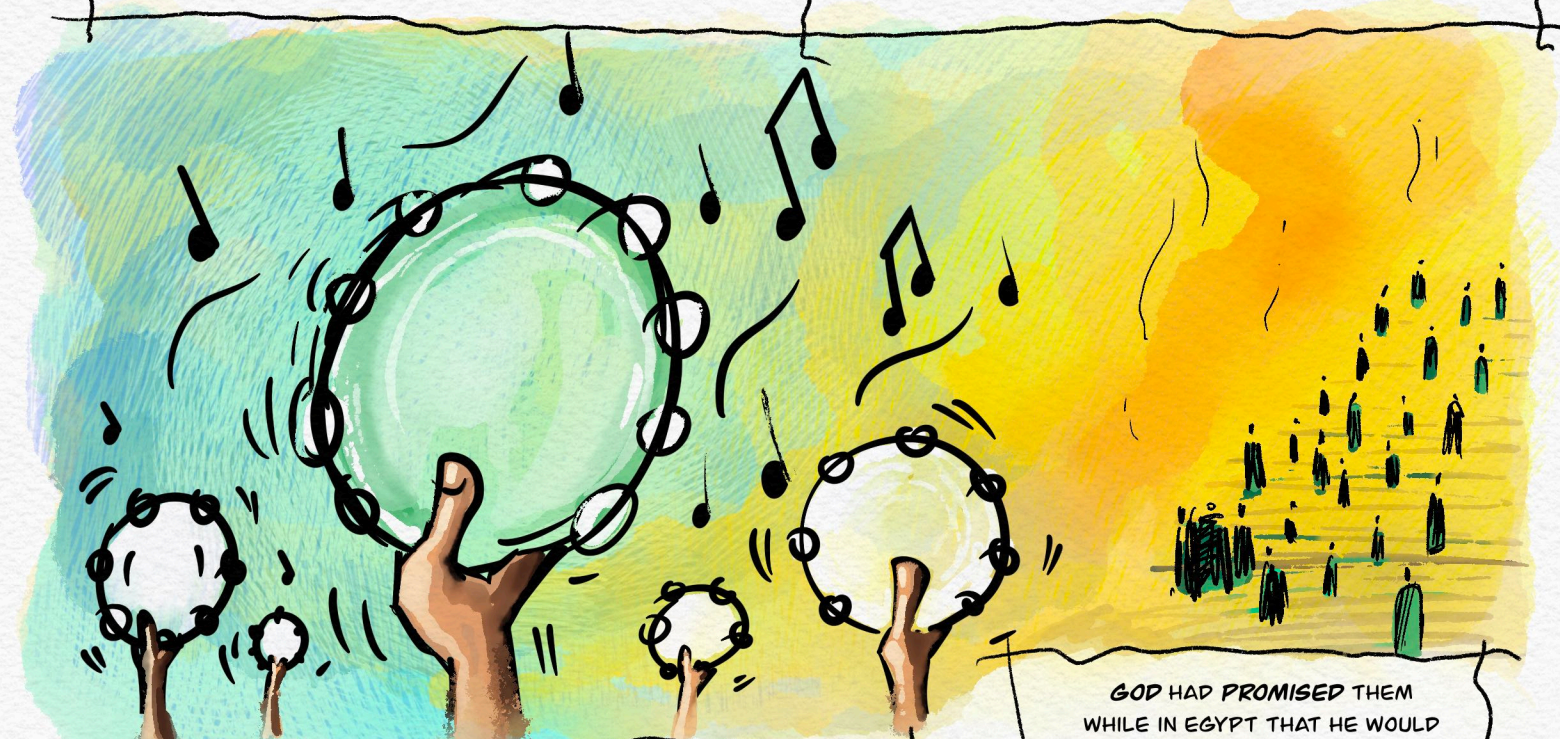
CAIN SAID, "I AM NOT MY BROTHER'S KEEPER." BUT IN CHRIST'S BODY, WE ARE OUR BROTHER'S KEEPERS, WE ARE OUR SISTER'S KEEPERS.

IF YOU HAVE NOBODY TO ENCOURAGE YOU OR EXHORT YOU, YOU HAVE THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE BIBLE.



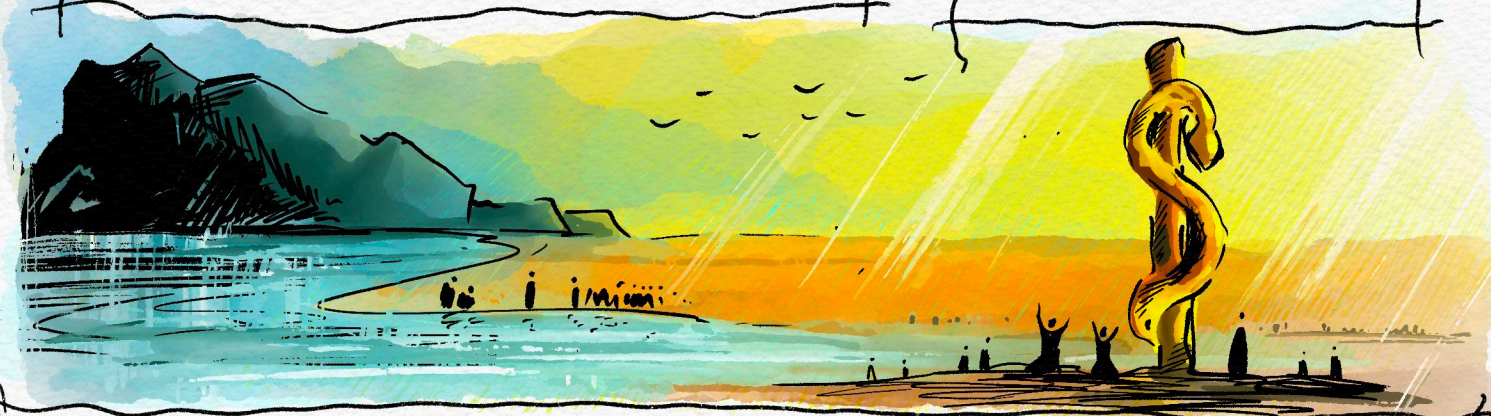
WE ARE TOLD IN 3:14, THAT WE BECOME PARTAKERS OF CHRIST ONLY "IF WE HOLD FAST THE **BEGINNING** OF OUR **CONFIDENCE** FIRM UNTIL THE **END**".

A LOT OF PEOPLE **START** A MARATHON RACE WELL, BUT THEY **DON'T FINISH** THE RACE AT ALL.



LOOK AT THE EXAMPLE OF THE **ISRAELITES**. THEY STARTED **WONDERFULLY**, BANGING **TIMBRELS** AND PRAISING GOD (EXODUS 15) BUT NEVER ENTERED **CANAAN**.

GOD HAD PROMISED THEM WHILE IN EGYPT THAT HE WOULD TAKE THEM INTO **CANAAN'S** LAND. BUT THEY DID NOT **BELIEVE** THAT GOD WAS CAPABLE OF DOING THAT.

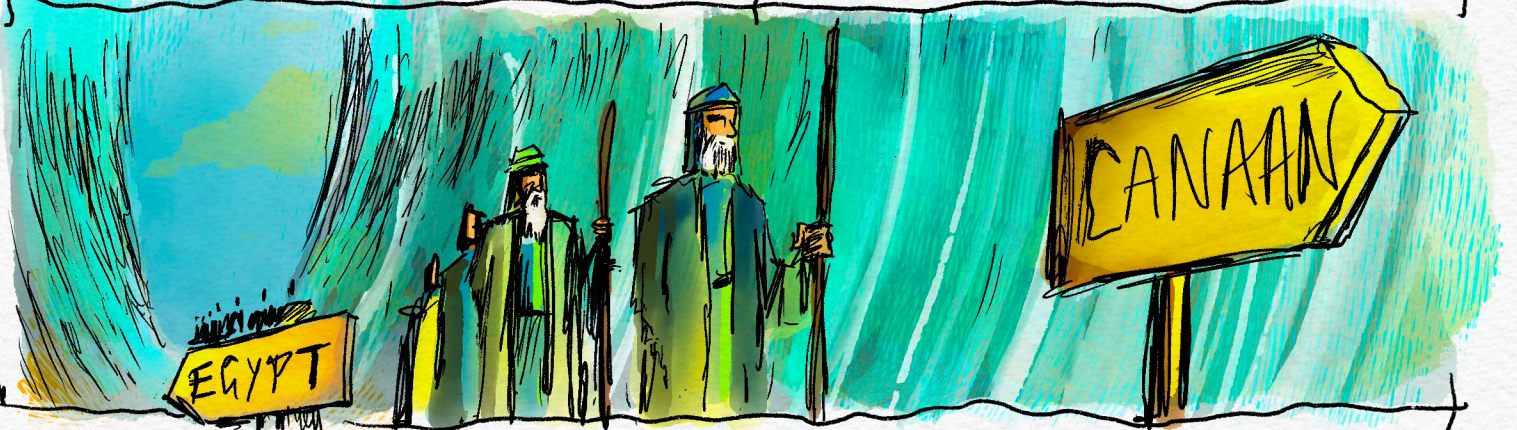


THESE ISRAELITES HAD EXPERIENCED SOME OF THE **GREATEST MIRACLES** EVER EXPERIENCED BY MEN ON EARTH -- TWO MILLION PEOPLE GETTING **BREAD** FROM HEAVEN EVERY DAY FOR 40 YEARS, RIVERS OF **WATER** FLOWING FROM A DRY **ROCK**, AND MIRACULOUSLY **INSTANTANEOUS HEALING** FROM **SNAKEBITES**. YET GOD WAS **ANGRY** WITH THEM FOR 38 YEARS.

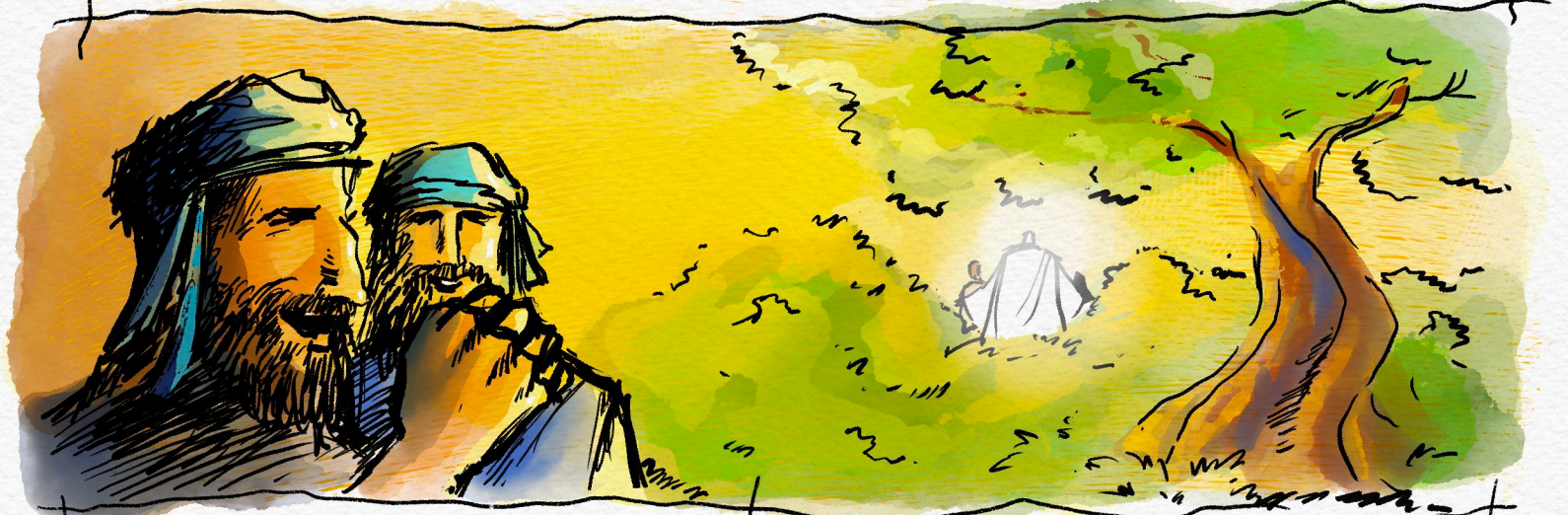


IN 3:19, WE READ "THEY WERE NOT ABLE TO ENTER BECAUSE OF **UNBELIEF**," AND THEN WE ARE TOLD IN 4:1, TO "FEAR LEST, WHEN GOD HAS GIVEN US ALSO A **PROMISE** OF ENTERING INTO HIS **REST** WE COME **SHORT** OF IT."

ROMANS 6:14 IS AS **CLEAR** A PROMISE AS GOD GAVE THE ISRAELITES THAT **HE** WOULD BRING EVERY **GIANT** IN CANAAN UNDER THEIR FEET. THIS IS THE LIFE OF **REST** THAT **GOD** PROMISES.



THERE WERE **TWO** PARTS TO THE PROMISE THAT GOD GAVE THEM WHEN THEY WERE STILL IN EGYPT, "I WILL TAKE YOU **OUT** OF EGYPT" AND "I WILL **BRING** YOU INTO CANAAN" (EXODUS 3:17). THEY HEARD THAT **GOOD** NEWS, BUT THEY EXPERIENCED ONLY THE **FIRST** PART. WE TOO CAN HEAR ABOUT THE **TWO** PARTS OF OUR SALVATION -- JESUS CAN **FORGIVE** OUR SINS AND JESUS CAN **KEEP** US FROM **FALLING** INTO SIN -- AND YET EXPERIENCE ONLY THE **FIRST** PART.



WHY COULDN'T THE ISRAELITES ENTER THE LAND? BECAUSE THEY DID **NOT** STAND **TOGETHER** IN **FAITH** WITH **JOSHUA** AND **CALEB** WHO **HEARD** AND **BELIEVED**. GOD'S WILL IS THAT WE SHOULD ENTER INTO THIS LIFE OF **CONSTANT REST**.

WHEN **ADAM** AND **EVE** WERE CREATED, THEIR VERY **FIRST** DAY WAS A DAY OF **REST**, IN ORDER TO **TEACH** **ADAM** AND **EVE** THE NECESSITY OF **BEGINNING** ALL THEIR **LABOUR** FROM A **POSITION** OF **REST** IN **GOD** ALWAYS.



HE SAYS, "TODAY, IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE
DON'T HARDEN YOUR HEART" (4:7).

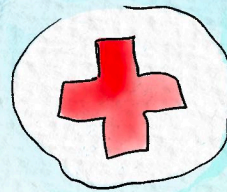
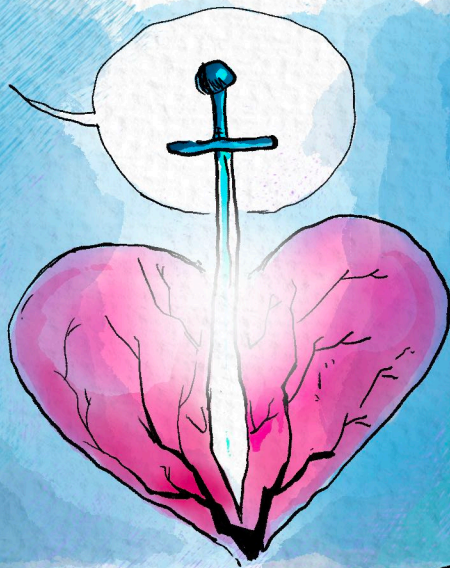
GOD IS PROMISING YOU A **CONSTANT SABBATH** -- A LIFE OF **PERPETUAL REST** IN HIM. AS LONG AS WE IMAGINE THAT BY OUR **OWN EFFORTS** WE CAN **OVERCOME SIN** ONE DAY, WE WILL BE **DEFEATED**. CONSIDER THE EXAMPLE OF THE **DISCIPLES TRYING TO CATCH FISH** (IN JOHN 21).

THEY WERE STRUGGLING ALL ACROSS THAT LAKE THE **WHOLE NIGHT** -- BUT CAUGHT **NOTHING**. WHEN THEY **STOPPED STRUGGLING** AND **TRUSTED** IN THE WORD OF THE **LORD**, THEIR BOAT WAS **FILLED WITH FISH**. THE LESSON THERE IS THE **SAME**.



THE PERIOD OF **STRUGGLING** IS A PICTURE OF LIVING UNDER THE **LAW**, WHERE **MAN TRIES** TO DO SOMETHING FOR **GOD**. UNDER **GRACE**, **GOD** DOES SOMETHING FOR **US**.

IN 4:11, WE READ, "THEREFORE LET US BE **DILIGENT** TO ENTER INTO THIS **REST** BY **FAITH** AND **NOT FALL** LIKE THOSE PEOPLE IN THE **WILDERNESS** IN **DISOBEDIENCE**."



4:12 SAYS THAT GOD'S WORD PENETRATES LIKE A **SWORD** INTO OUR HEARTS AND REVEALS TO US OUR **THOUGHTS** AND OUR **INTENTIONS**.

WHEN MAN WAS UNDER THE **LAW**, THE WORD OF GOD ONLY TESTED HIM ON THE **OUTSIDE**, LIKE A DOCTOR **EXAMINING** A PATIENT **SUPERFICIALLY**. BUT IN THE **NEW COVENANT** THE WORD OF GOD **PENETRATES** INSIDE THE **HEART**, LIKE A **SCAN** OR AN **X-RAY**. THERE COULD BE GREAT **EVIL** INSIDE. A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO LOOK **HEALTHY** ON THE **OUTSIDE** CAN HAVE SERIOUS DISEASES LIKE **CANCER** ON THE **INSIDE**.



SOUL

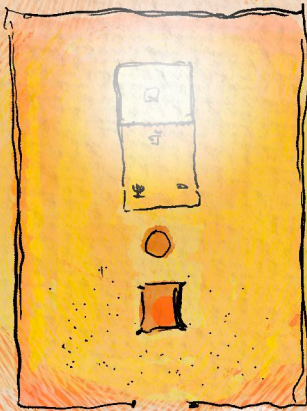
SPIRIT

GOD'S WORD IS A **TWO EDGED SWORD**. THE **PREACHER** MUST FIRST **ALLOW** IT TO CUT OPEN HIS OWN **HEART** AND REVEAL HIS OWN **THOUGHTS** AND **INTENTIONS**! MOST **PREACHERS** NEVER **JUDGE THEMSELVES** WITH GOD'S WORD. THEY ONLY **JUDGE OTHERS**.

ANOTHER THING THAT THE WORD OF GOD DOES IS **DIVIDE** BETWEEN **SOUL** AND **SPIRIT** (4:12).



THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF CHRISTIANS. **CARNAL** CHRISTIANS ARE THOSE WHO ARE **BORN AGAIN** BUT WHO STILL ENJOY "LIMITED" AMOUNTS OF **SINFUL PLEASURE** AND WHO LOVE **MONEY**, ETC. THEN THERE ARE **SOULISH** CHRISTIANS LIVE IN THEIR **INTELLECT** AND THEIR **EMOTIONS**. THEN THERE ARE **SPIRITUAL** CHRISTIANS WHO SEEK TO BE LED BY THE **HOLY SPIRIT**.



THE OLD COVENANT **TABERNACLE** HAD THREE PARTS -- **OUTER COURT**, **HOLY PLACE** AND **MOST HOLY PLACE**. THIS WAS A **PICTURE OF MAN'S BODY, SOUL AND SPIRIT** (1 THESSALONIANS 5:23).

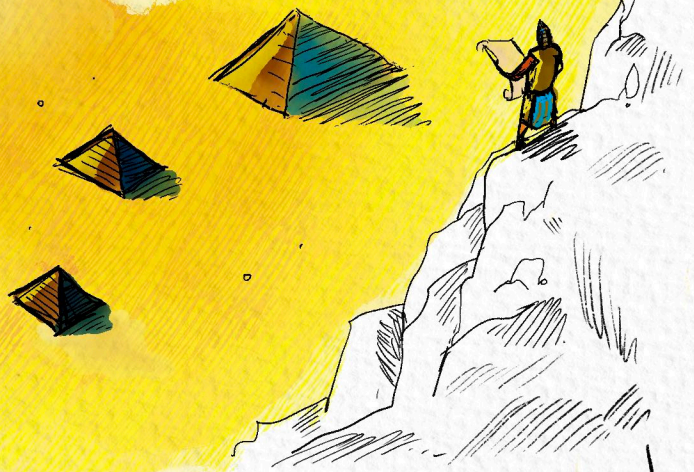


GOD'S PRESENCE WAS IN THE **MOST HOLY PLACE**. THERE WAS A **THICK VEIL** BETWEEN THE **HOLY PLACE** AND THE **MOST HOLY PLACE**. THIS WAS TO **SYMBOLICALLY TEACH** THAT **MAN COULD NOT LIVE OR SERVE GOD "IN THE SPIRIT"** UNDER THE OLD COVENANT.



DAVID ONCE TRANSPORTED THE **ARK OF GOD** ON A **BULLOCK CART** -- THE WAY THE **PHILISTINES** ONCE DID IT (2 SAMUEL 6:3; 1 SAMUEL 6:11). THAT WAS A **GOOD IDEA** BUT THAT WAS **NOT GOD'S WAY**

THOSE WHO **CANNOT** **DISTINGUISH** THE **DIFFERENCE** BETWEEN THE **SOUL** AND **SPIRIT** ARE **LIVING AS OLD COVENANT CHRISTIANS**.



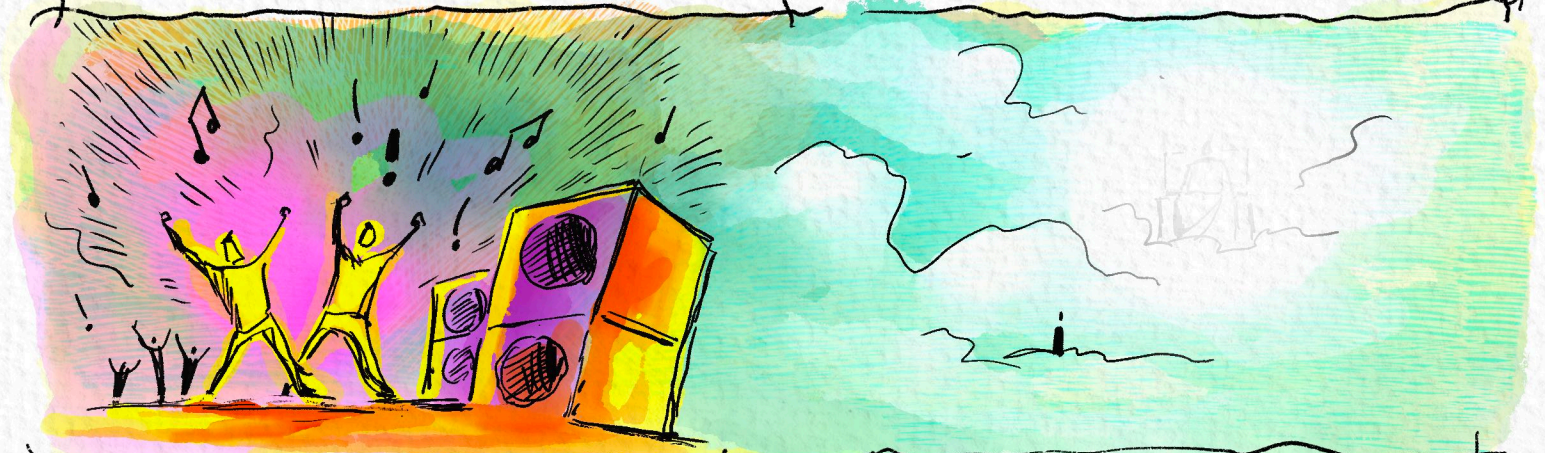
SOULISH CHRISTIANS MAY BE **GOOD PEOPLE** WHO ARE **EAGER** TO **SERVE** THE **LORD**. BUT THEY **DON'T UNDERSTAND** **GOD'S WAYS** WHICH **NOT HUMAN WAYS** (ISAIAH 55:8, 9).

MOSES MADE THE **TABERNACLE** EXACTLY LIKE **GOD TOLD** HIM. HE DID **NOT** BUILD IT, AS HE HAD **STUDIED** IN THE **ACADEMIES** IN **EGYPT**, WHERE THEY **LEARNED** HOW TO BUILD THE **MASSIVE PYRAMIDS**. **MOSES** HAD TO **GIVE UP** HIS **HUMAN UNDERSTANDING** OF HOW TO BUILD **GOD'S HOUSE**.



MOSES HAD TO GIVE UP HIS HUMAN UNDERSTANDING OF HOW TO BUILD GOD'S HOUSE. THAT WAS ONE REASON WHY GOD HAD TO TAKE HIM INTO THE WILDERNESS FOR 40 YEARS -- TO GET RID OF HIS HUMAN WISDOM.

WE CAN IMAGINE THAT WE CAN DO GOD'S WORK BETTER IF WE HAVE MANY ELECTRONIC GADGETS AND WE HAVE POLITICAL INFLUENCE. THAT IS A DECEPTION. IT IS THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT BY WHICH GOD'S WORK CAN BE ACCOMPLISHED



I HAVE BEEN TO MANY MEETINGS WHERE THEY CLAIM THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT IS MOVING JUST BECAUSE THERE IS A LOT OF EMOTION AND NOISE. WHAT THEY CALL "THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT" IS ONLY A "BAPTISM OF THEIR SOUL-POWER". MANY RELIGIONS INDULGE IN THE WHIPPING UP OF HUMAN SOUL-POWER.

4:13 SAYS THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE PERSON IN THE UNIVERSE WITH WHOM WE HAVE TO DO, ONLY ONE PERSON WE ARE ANSWERABLE TO -- GOD HIMSELF.

BOTH GOOD AND BAD CERTIFICATES FROM MEN ARE EQUALLY FIT FOR THE GARBAGE BIN.



BUT IF WE ARE ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT THE OPINION THAT OTHERS HAVE OF US, THEN WE WILL BECOME THEIR SLAVE.



I CAN FOOL PEOPLE THAT I AM SPIRITUAL, BUT I CANNOT FOOL GOD.