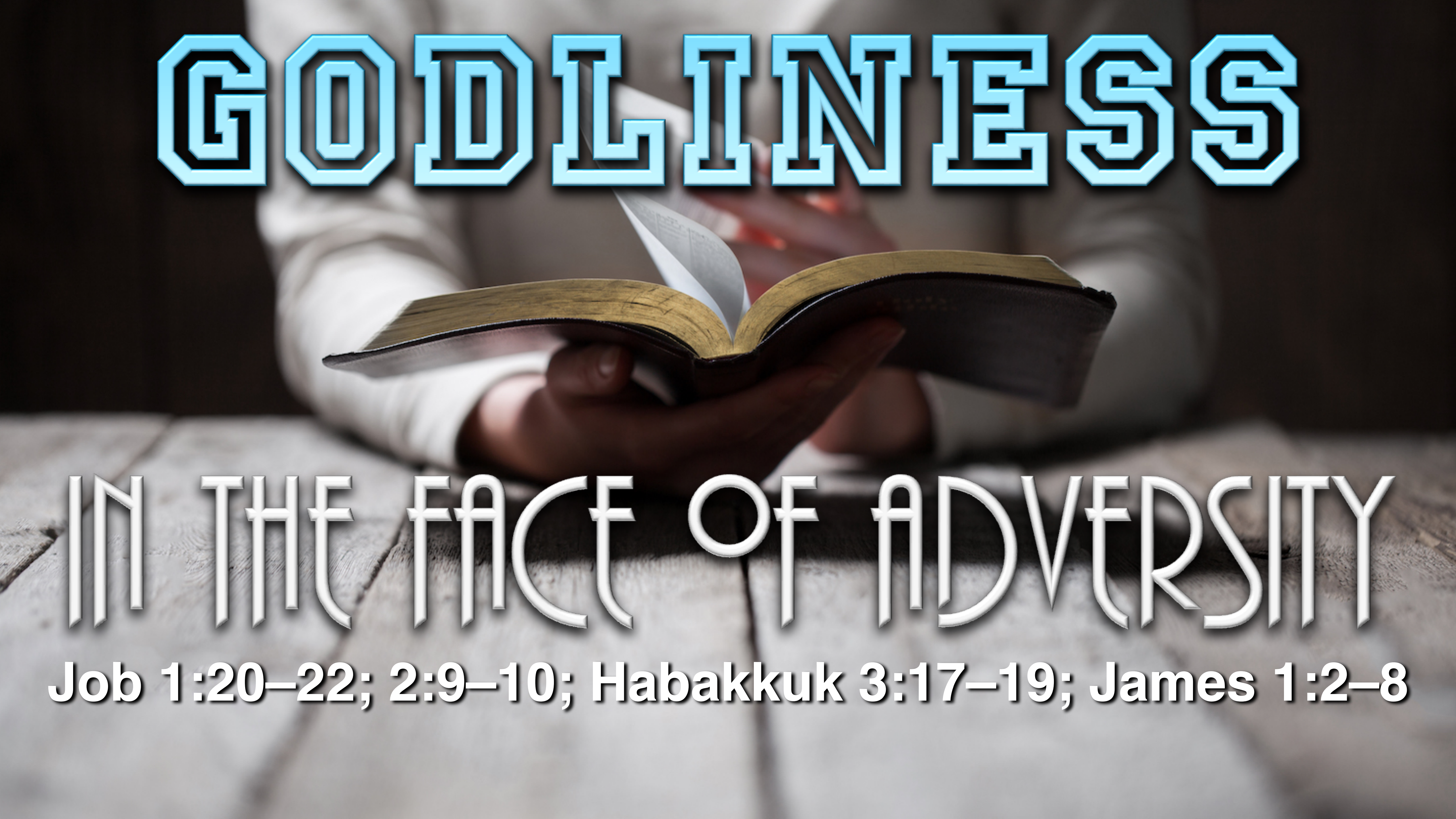


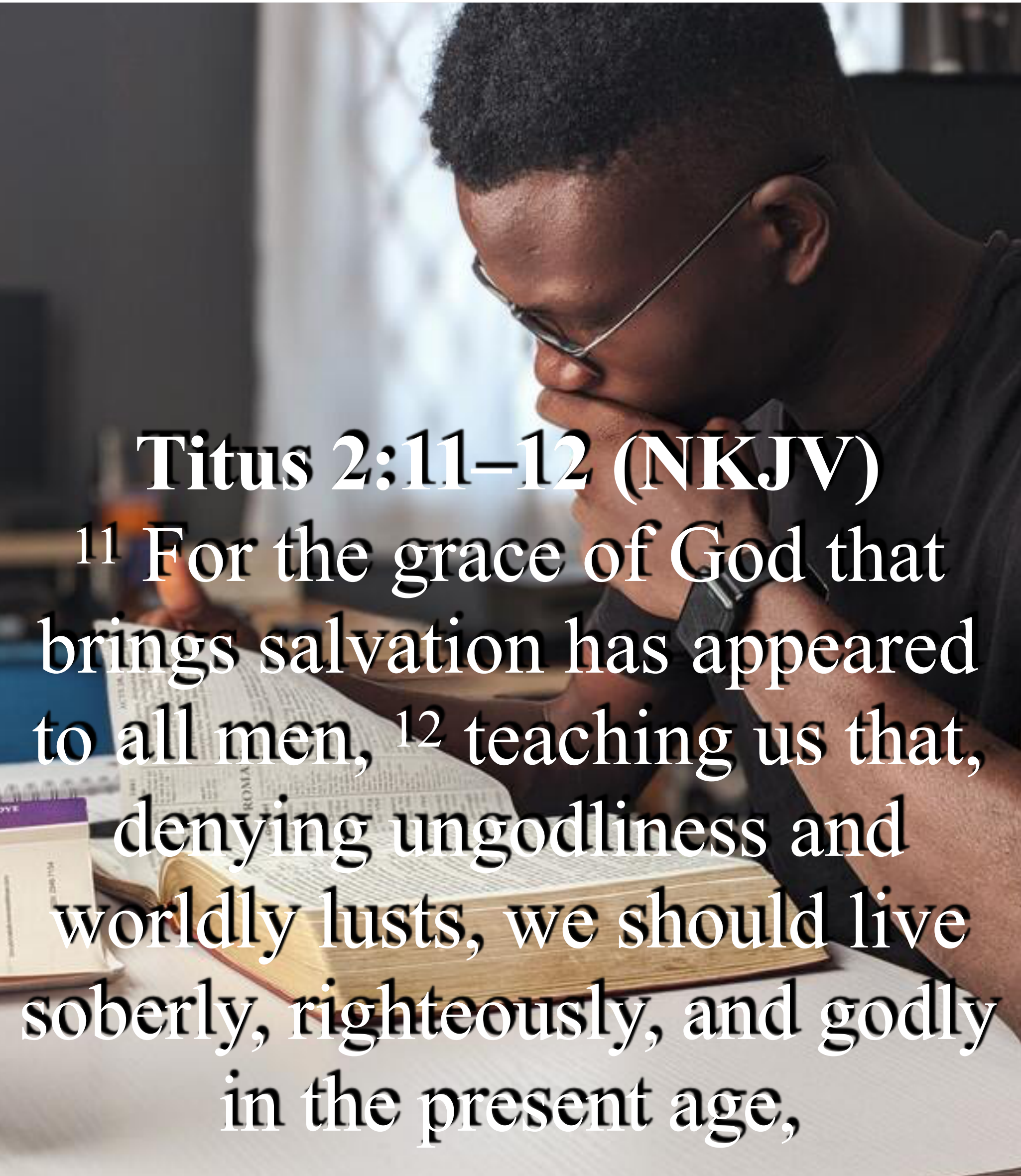
GODLINESS

A person wearing a white robe is holding an open book. A bright, glowing light source is positioned behind the book, creating a halo effect. The background is dark and out of focus.

IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

Job 1:20–22; 2:9–10; Habakkuk 3:17–19; James 1:2–8

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

A close-up photograph of a man with short dark hair and glasses, wearing a dark shirt, looking down at an open Bible. His hand is resting on the pages. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a desk with other books and papers.

Titus 2:11–12 (NKJV)

¹¹ For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, ¹² teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age,

- **Necessity of Godliness.**
- **Essentials To Godliness.**
- **Godly Religion.**
- **Godly View of Sin.**
- **Godly Use of Our Bodies.**
- **Need For Godly Families.**

Job 1:20–22 (NKJV)

²⁰ Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. ²¹ And he said: “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord.” ²² In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.

Job 2:7–10 (NKJV)

⁷ So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and struck Job with painful boils from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. ⁸ And he took for himself a potsherd with which to scrape himself while he sat in the midst of the ashes. ⁹ Then his wife said to him, “Do you still hold fast to your integrity? Curse God and die!” ¹⁰ But he said to her, “You speak as one of the foolish women speaks. Shall we indeed accept good from God, and shall we not accept adversity?” In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

GODLINESS

IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

Job 14:1–2 (NKJV)

¹ “Man *who is* born of woman Is of few days and full of trouble. ² He comes forth like a flower and fades away; He flees like a shadow and does not continue.

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

THE REALITY OF ADVERSITY

► **Our Lives On Earth Will Be UNSETTLED!! – Ever Changing**

➤ Good & Bad Days

➤ Good & Bad Weeks

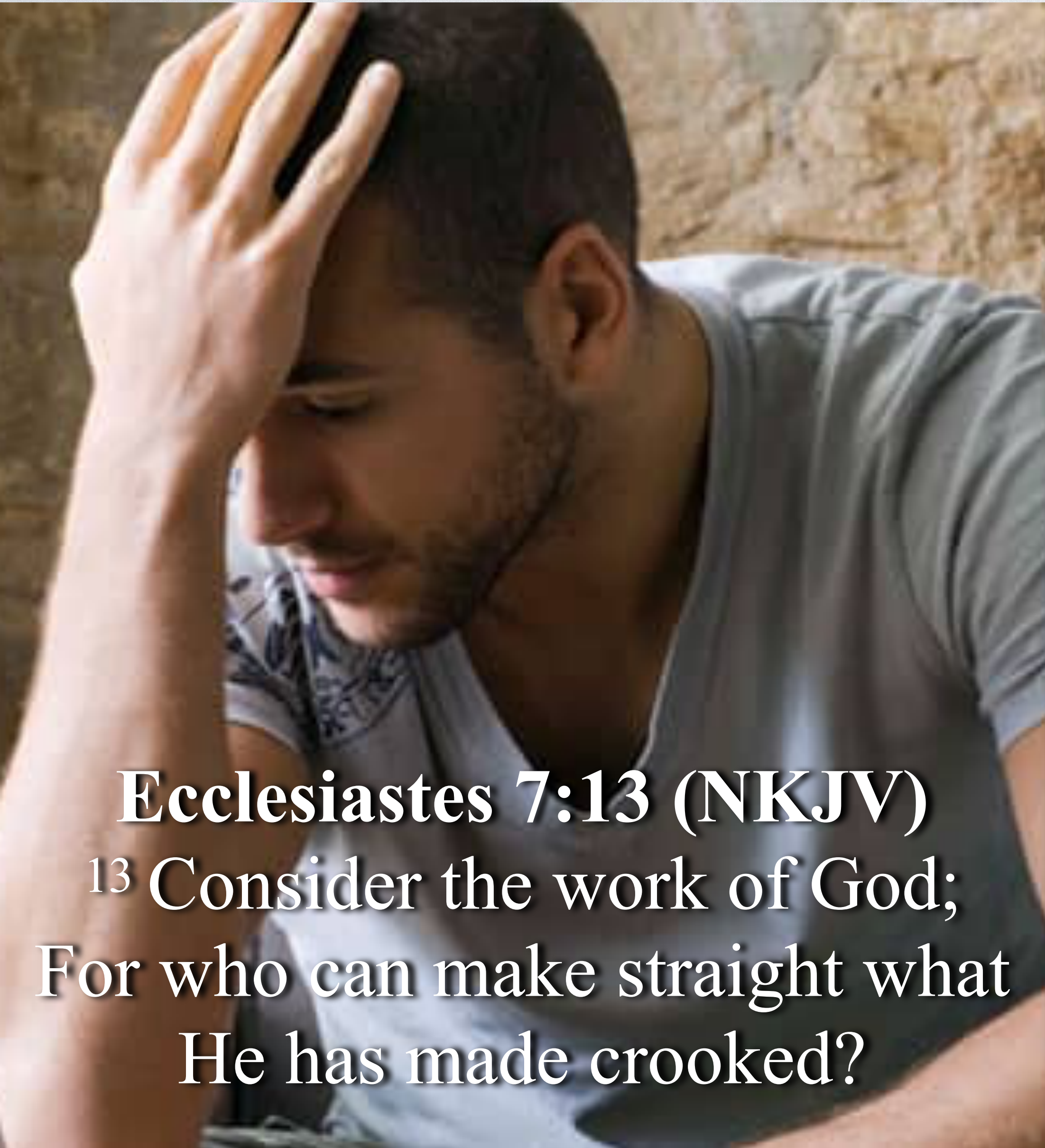
➤ Good & Bad Months

➤ Good & Bad Years

Job 14:1–2 (NKJV)

¹ “Man *who* is born of woman
Is of few days and full of
trouble. ² He comes forth like
a flower and fades away; He
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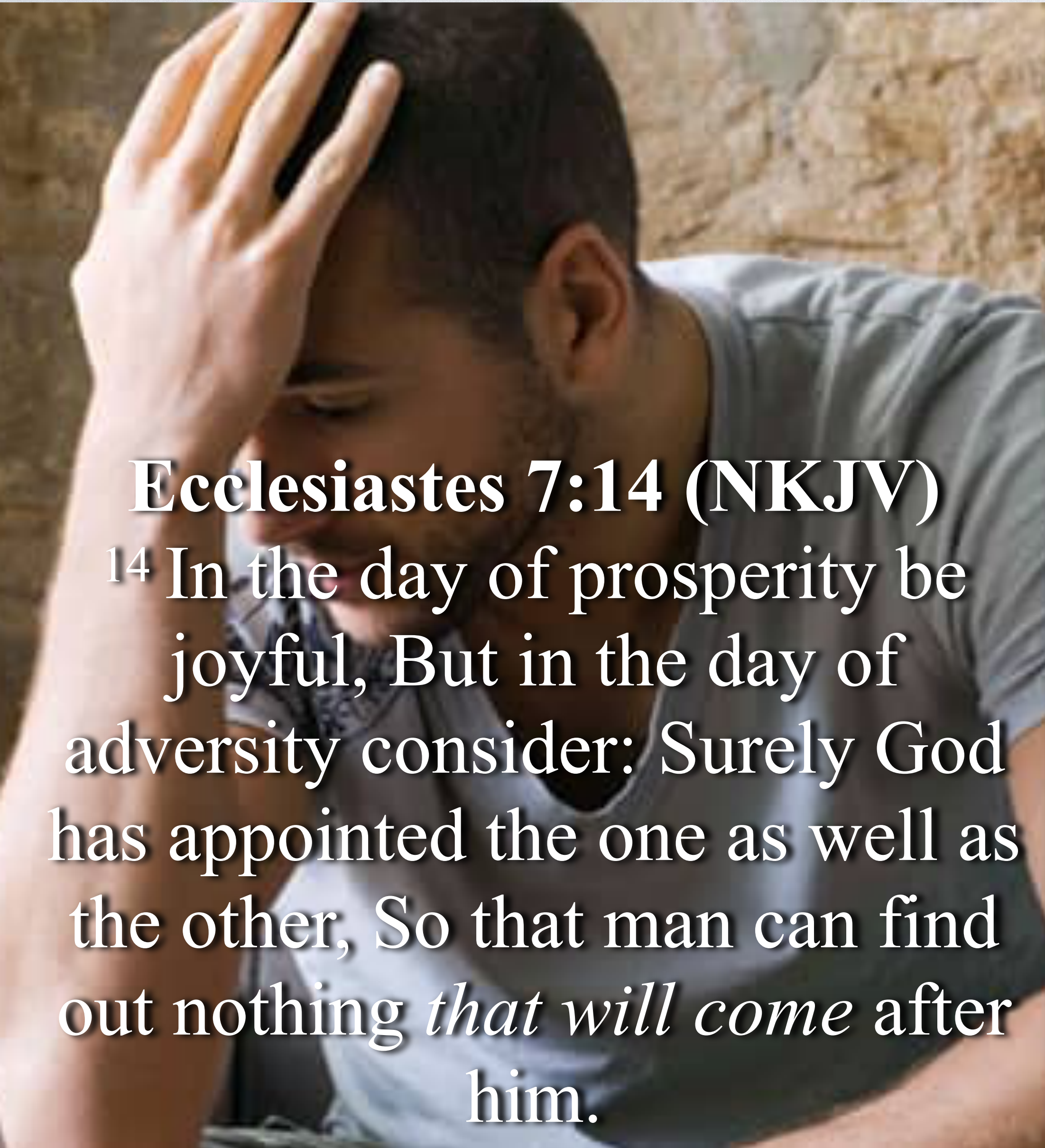
GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

- 
- ▶ **There are many things beyond our control - especially the judgments of God! (1:15; Dan. 4:35.)**
 - There is nothing wrong with changing the things we can – But we must learn to accept the things we cannot change (Phili 4:11-13)

Ecclesiastes 7:13 (NKJV)

¹³ Consider the work of God;
For who can make straight what
He has made crooked?

GODLINESS - IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY



Ecclesiastes 7:14 (NKJV)

¹⁴ In the day of prosperity be joyful, But in the day of adversity consider: Surely God has appointed the one as well as the other, So that man can find out nothing *that will come* after him.

- ▶ **There are many things beyond our control - especially the judgments of God! (1:15; Dan. 4:35.)**
- When things go well, be cheerful; accept the situation and enjoy it - make the best of the present.
- “in the evil day, consider,” i.e., use the times of adversity for solemn reflection.

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

Habakkuk 3:17–19 (NKJV)

¹⁷ Though the fig tree may not blossom,
Nor fruit be on the vines; Though the
labor of the olive may fail, And the fields
yield no food; Though the flock may be
cut off from the fold, And there be no
herd in the stalls— ¹⁸ Yet I will rejoice in
the Lord, I will joy in the God of my
salvation. ¹⁹ The Lord God is my
strength; He will make my feet like
deer's *feet*, And He will make me walk
on my high hills.



James 1:2–8 (NKJV)

² My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, ³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. ⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. ⁵ If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. ⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. ⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ *he is* a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

GODLINESS - IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

FAITH IN TRIALS

² My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, — James 1:2 (NKJV)

- Need correct perspective (2)
- WHEN, not if (cf. 2 Tim. 3:12)
- Christians will encounter MANY types and degrees of trials. (2)
- We can be victorious (3-12)



GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

THE PURPOSE OF ADVERSITY

To Cause Reflection

To Produce Humility

Turn Us To His Will

To Produce Patience

To Turn Our Minds From
Temporal To Eternal

Ecclesiastes 7:2-3 (NKJV)

² Better to go to the house of mourning Than to go to the house of feasting, For that *is* the end of all men; And the living will take *it* to heart. ³ Sorrow *is* better than laughter, For by a sad countenance the heart is made better.

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

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Luke 15:17-18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you,

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

THE PURPOSE OF ADVERSITY

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Deuteronomy 8:3 (NKJV)

³ So He humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manna which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every *word* that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord.

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

THE PURPOSE OF ADVERSITY

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Psalms 119:71 (NKJV)

⁷¹ *It is good for me that I have been afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.*

Psalms 94:12-13 (NKJV)

¹² Blessed *is* the man whom You instruct, O Lord, And teach out of Your law, ¹³ That You may give him rest from the days of adversity, Until the pit is dug for the wicked.

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

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Romans 5:3-4 (NKJV)

³ And not only *that*, but we also glory in tribulations, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; ⁴ and perseverance, character; and character, hope.

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

THE PURPOSE OF ADVERSITY

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2 Corinthians 4:17–18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, is working for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory, ¹⁸ while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen *are* temporary, but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

THE PURPOSE OF ADVERSITY

To Cause Reflection

To Produce Humility

Turn Us To His Will

To Produce Patience

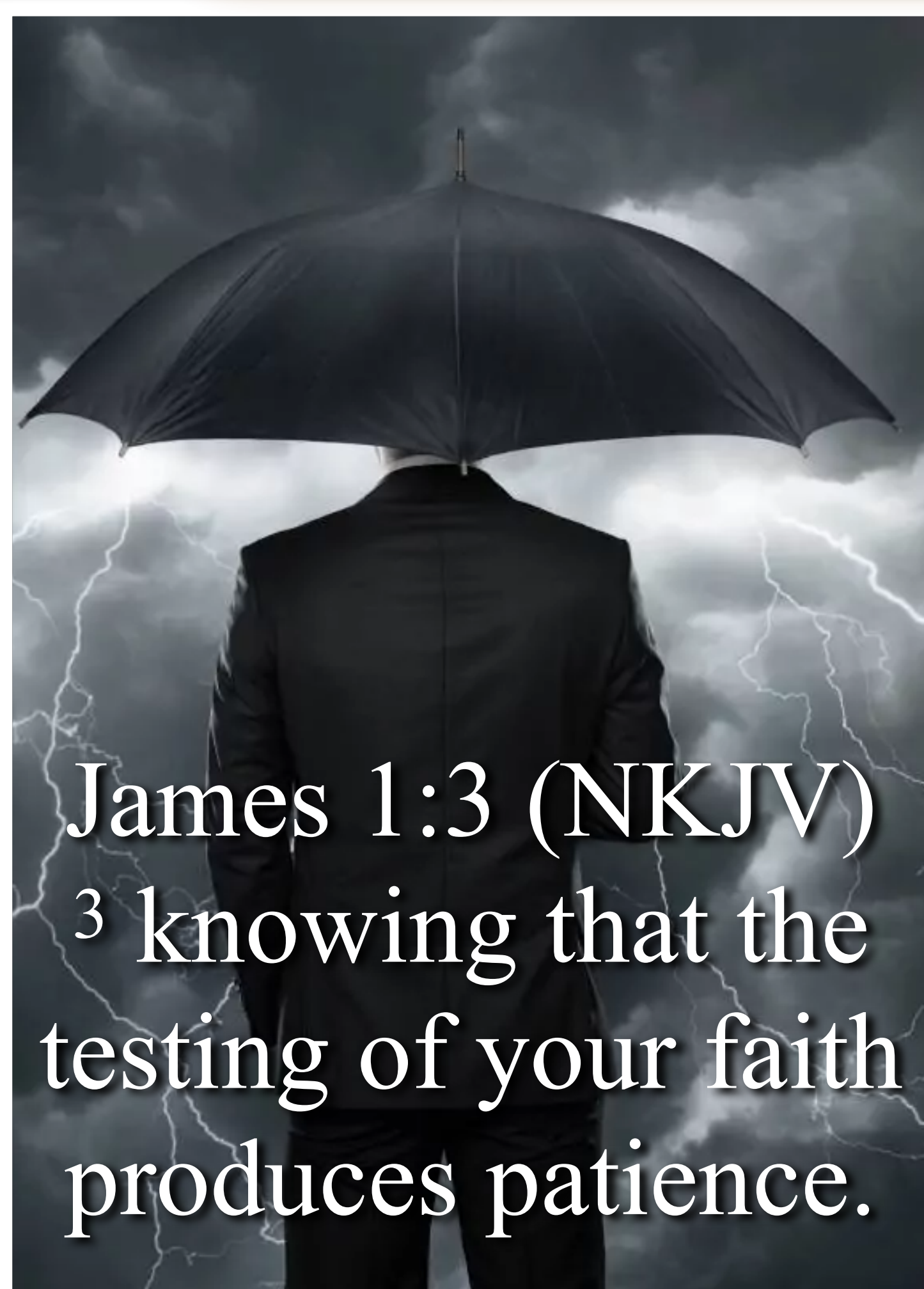
To Turn Our Minds From
Temporal To Eternal

Romans 8:17–18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together. ¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

GODLINESS - IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

3 IMPERATIVES - KNOW / LET / ASK (3-8)



James 1:3 (NKJV)

³ knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience.

- **KNOWING** - “to possess information about—‘to know, to know about, to have knowledge of, to be acquainted with, acquaintance.’” - (Lou Nida)
- ▶ Patience is NOT passive acceptance; It denotes steadfastness and constancy in the face of difficulty!
- ▶ It is a courageous perseverance in the face of suffering, faithfulness in spite of circumstances.

GODLINESS - IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

3 IMPERATIVES - KNOW / LET / ASK (3-8)



James 1:4 (NKJV)

⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

■ BUT LET PATIENCE HAVE ITS PERFECT WORK ...

- ▶ The word LET does not mean that we are allowing something to be done to us passively, (to hold one's self to a thing, to lay hold of a thing, to adhere or cling - (Thayer)
- ▶ We want to get our trials or difficulties over with quickly, but true growth occurs best through resistance training, (*knowledge & wisdom; immune system; muscle strengthening; physical stamina ...*)

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

3 IMPERATIVES - KNOW / LET / ASK (3-8)



James 1:4 (NKJV)

⁴ But let patience have *its* perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

■ BUT LET PATIENCE HAVE ITS PERFECT WORK ...

- ▶ Instead of grumbling and complaining ... Hold to patience – patiently endure the trial, doing good despite the trial — TRUSTING GOD.
- ▶ Patience doesn't do the work for us – but we, by holding onto patience, eventually will receive the fruits of endurance ... IT PRODUCES “MATURITY” and “SUFFICIENCY!” (PERFECT - "completeness, wholeness, maturity)

GODLINESS - IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

3 IMPERATIVES - KNOW / LET / ASK (3-8)

James 1:5 (NKJV)

5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

■ ASK FOR WISDOM ...

- ▶ God has told us the purpose of trials – let us believe Him!
- ▶ God has told us how to live and react to trials – let us obey Him!
- ▶ God has promised to be with us, aide us, strengthen us, - let us trust Him!
- ▶ Let us pray for the wisdom to allow God to use whatever means He sees fit to bring us to maturity

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

3 IMPERATIVES - KNOW / LET / ASK (3-8)

James 1:6–8
(NKJV)

⁶ But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind.

■ ASK IN FAITH WITHOUT DOUBTING

- ▶ MUST **BELIEVE** God's revealed word regarding the purpose and benefits of trials.
- ▶ MUST **FOLLOW** God's Word – will grow in grace and knowledge of God's word, gaining wisdom!
- ▶ MUST **TRUST** in God's providential care – Will understand God is with us and will use trials for our good (*to bring his children to maturity, and purity*)

GODLINESS - IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

3 IMPERATIVES - KNOW / LET / ASK (3-8)

James 1:6–8
(NKJV)

⁷ For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord; ⁸ he is a double-minded man, unstable in all his ways.

■ ASK IN FAITH WITHOUT DOUBTING

- ▶ A double minded man is unstable in all his ways - like a ship tossed about - without anchor (Eph 4:14)
- ▶ A double minded man cannot please God! (James 4:8; Mat. 6:24; 1 Kings 18:21)
- ▶ Such a one will not receive wisdom - He lacks the values, focus, devotion and dedication that is necessary . . .

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

DO NOT WORRY

Matthew 6:30–34 (NKJV)

³⁰ Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, *will He* not much more *clothe* you, O you of little faith? ³¹

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ ³² For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.



GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

DO NOT WORRY

Matthew 6:30–34 (NKJV)

³³ But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

³⁴ Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day *is* its own trouble.



GODLINESS - IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

POVERTY

FRIENDS

Persecution

SUFFERING

Temptation

DEATH

SICKNESS

GOD



GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

James 1:12 (NKJV)

¹² Blessed is the man who endures temptation; for when he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him.

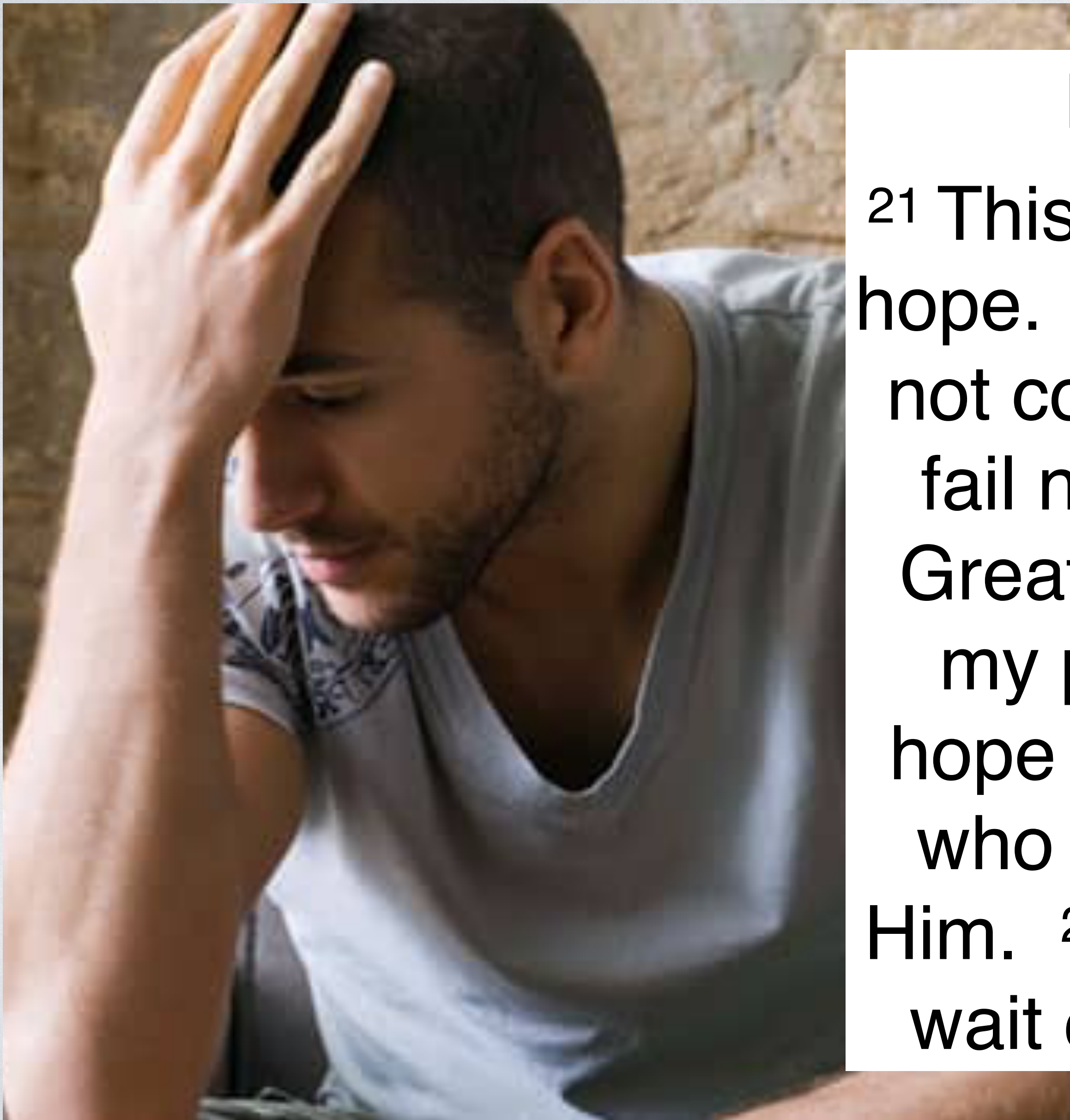
**Instead of becoming
VICTIMS, we can BE
VICTORS!**



GODLINESS - IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

Lamentations 3:21-26 (NKJV)

²¹ This I recall to my mind, Therefore I have hope. ²² Through the Lord's mercies we are not consumed, Because His compassions fail not. ²³ They are new every morning; Great is Your faithfulness. ²⁴ "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "Therefore I hope in Him!" ²⁵ The Lord is good to those who wait for Him, To the soul who seeks Him. ²⁶ It is good that one should hope and wait quietly For the salvation of the Lord.



**Is The Lord
Your Portion?**

**Do You Hope
In Him?**

**Do You Wait
For Him?**

**Do You Seek
Him?**

**Will You Be
Saved By
Him?**



Romans 8:17–18
(NKJV)

¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together. ¹⁸

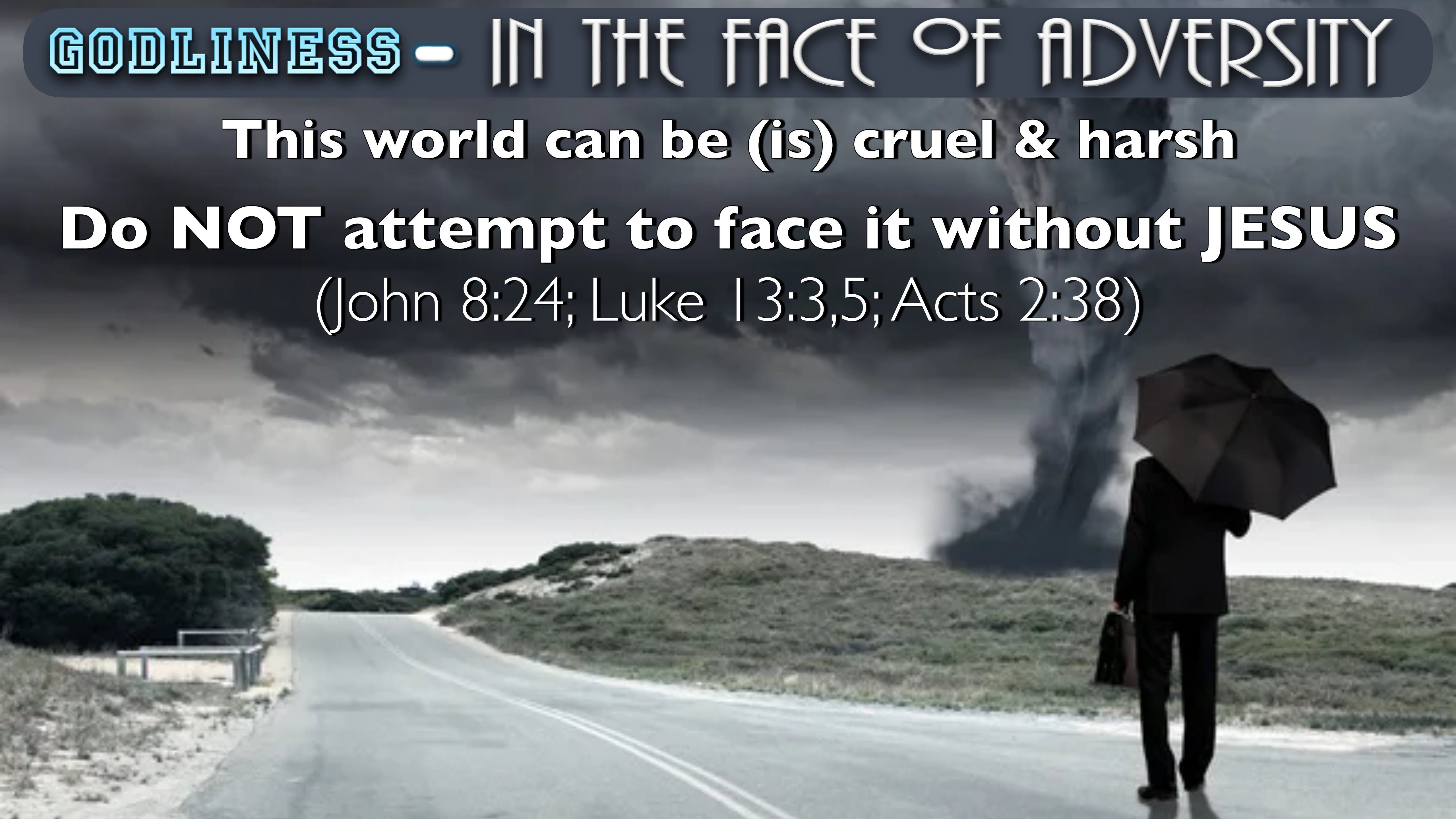
For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

GODLINESS – IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

This world can be (is) cruel & harsh

Do NOT attempt to face it without JESUS

(John 8:24; Luke 13:3,5; Acts 2:38)



GODLINESS

IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

- **HAVE YOU BELIEVED? (John 8:24)**
- **HAVE YOU REPENTED? (Acts 17:30)**
- **HAVE YOU CONFESSED? (Rom. 10:9,10)**
- **HAVE YOU BEEN BAPTIZED? (Rom. 6:3-6)**
- **ARE YOU LIVING FOR JESUS WHO DIED FOR YOU? (Rom. 6:8–11; 2 Cor. 5:15)**

THANK YOU FOR BEING WITH US TODAY



100 CORNERSTONE ALEXANDER AR, 72002

You Are Welcome At Any
And All of Our Services!

MEETING TIMES:

Sunday A.M. Bible Study: 9:00

Sunday A.M. Assembly: 10:00

Sunday P.M. Assembly: 4:00

Wed. P.M. Bible Study: 7:00



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GODLINESS

IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY

Job 1:20–22; 2:9–10; James 1:2–4

Charts by Don McClain

Preached August 16, 2026 / Alexander church of Christ

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Job 1:13–22 (NKJV)

¹³ Now there was a day when his sons and daughters *were* eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother's house; ¹⁴ and a messenger came to Job and said, "The oxen were plowing and the donkeys feeding beside them, ¹⁵ when the Sabeans raided *them* and took them away—indeed they have killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!"

Job 1:13–22 (NKJV)

¹⁶ While he *was* still speaking, another also came and said, “The fire of God fell from heaven and burned up the sheep and the servants, and consumed them; and I alone have escaped to tell you!” ¹⁷ While he *was* still speaking, another also came and said, “The Chaldeans formed three bands, raided the camels and took them away, yes, and killed the servants with the edge of the sword; and I alone have escaped to tell you!” ¹⁸ While he *was* still speaking, another also came and said, “Your sons and daughters *were* eating and drinking wine in their oldest brother’s house,

Job 1:13–22 (NKJV)

¹⁹ and suddenly a great wind came from across the wilderness and struck the four corners of the house, and it fell on the young people, and they are dead; and I alone have escaped to tell you!” ²⁰ Then Job arose, tore his robe, and shaved his head; and he fell to the ground and worshiped. ²¹ And he said: “Naked I came from my mother’s womb, And naked shall I return there. The Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; Blessed be the name of the Lord.” ²² In all this Job did not sin nor charge God with wrong.