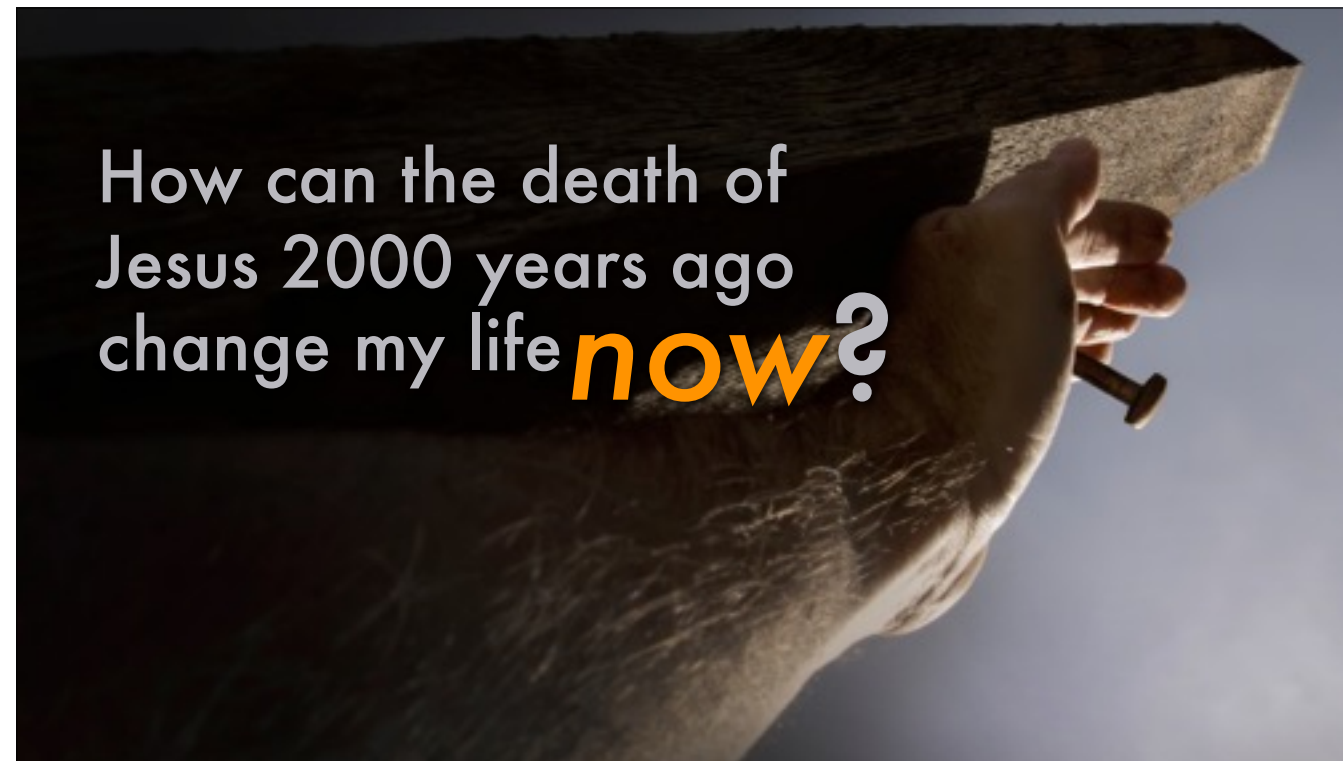




- Abundant Life — Now



- How can the death of Jesus 2000 years ago change my life now?

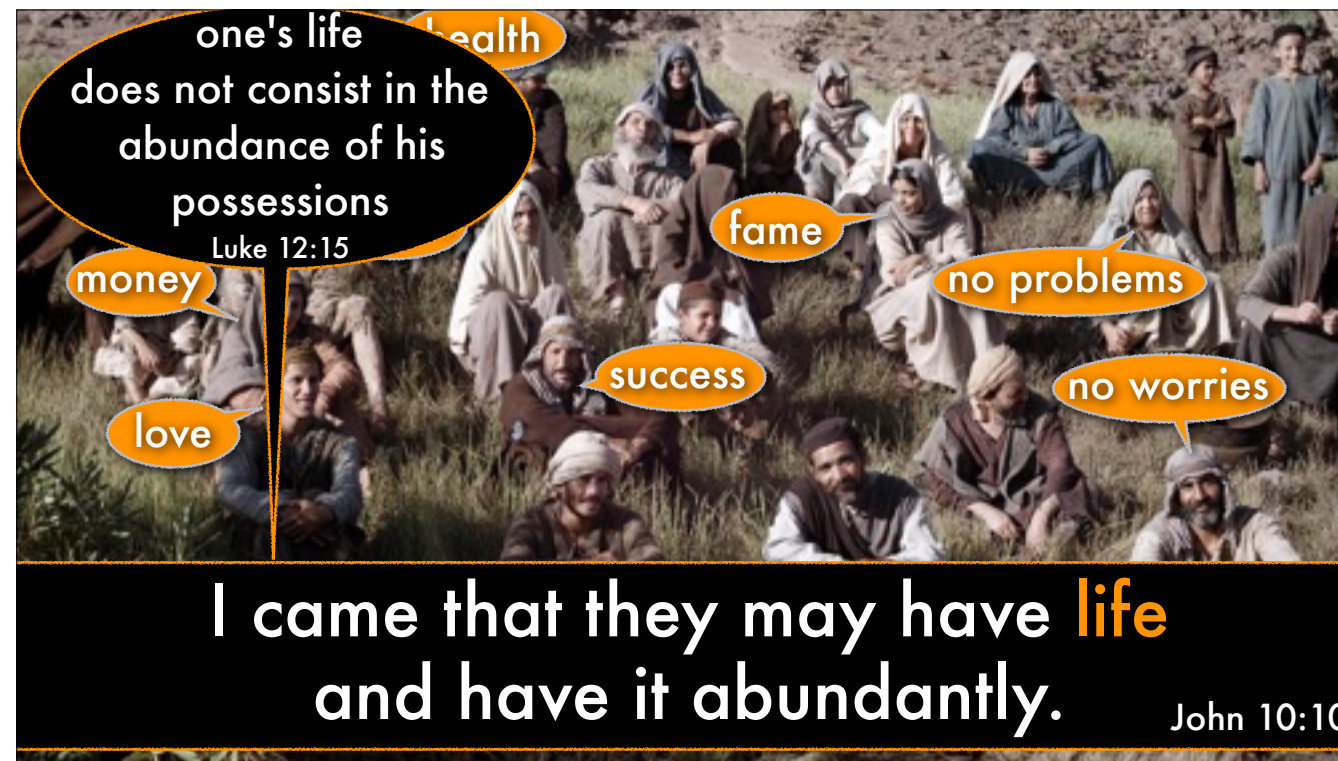


I came that they may have **life**
and have it abundantly. John 10:10

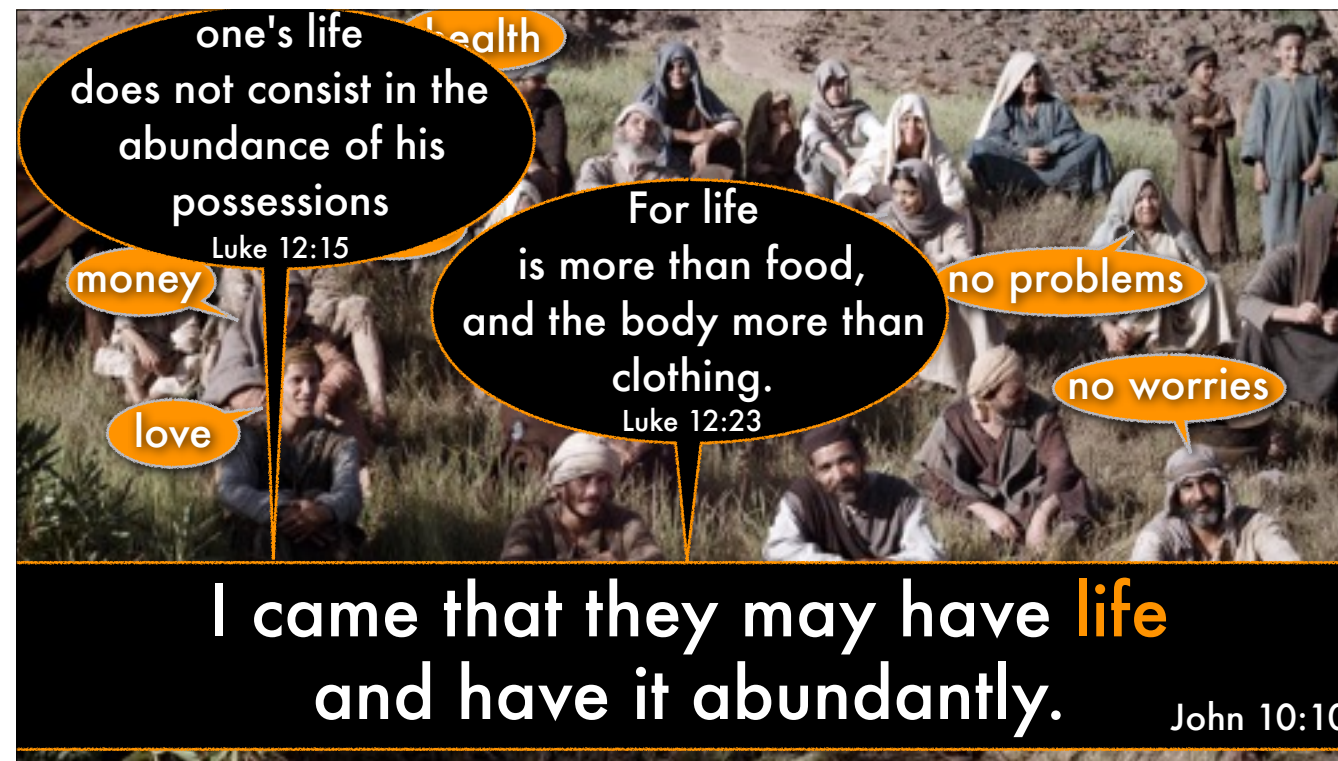
- Jesus: John 10:10
- The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.
- What did **they** think Jesus meant by an abundant life?



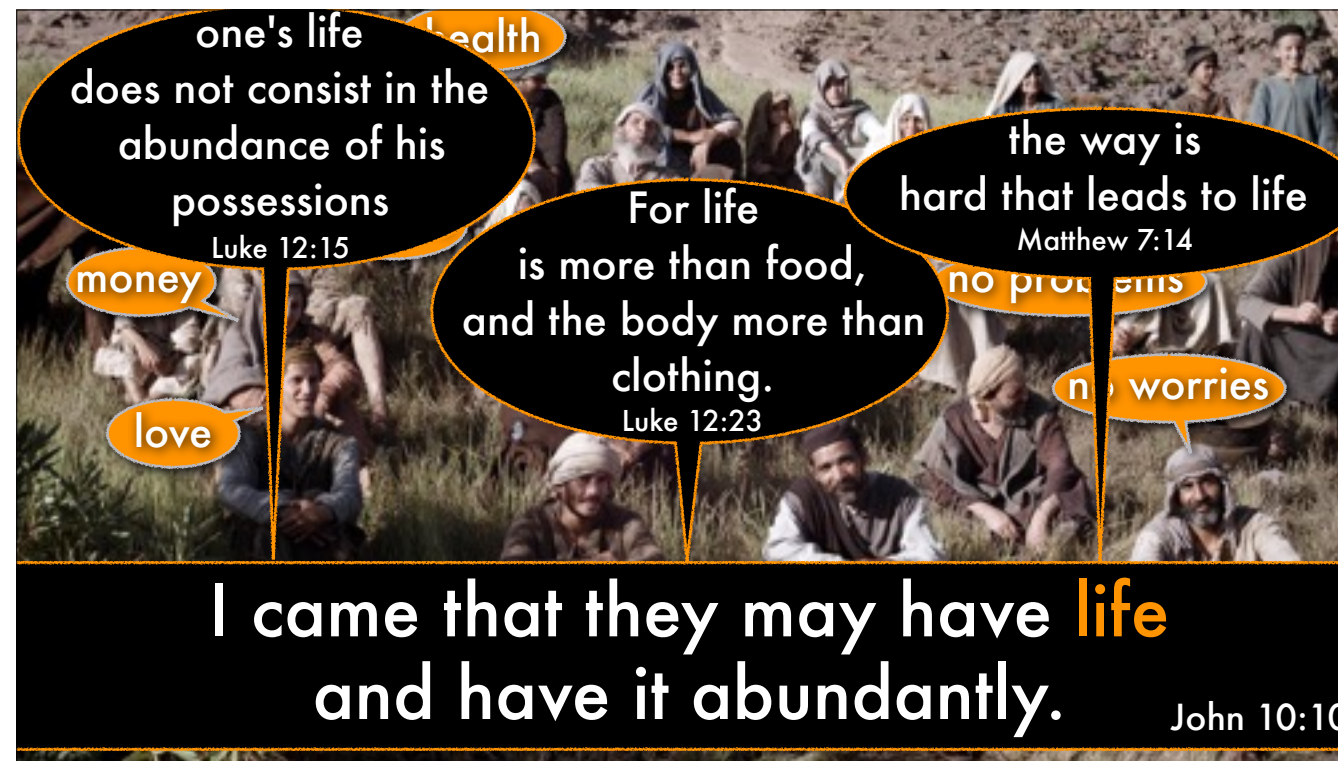
- fame, success, love, money, health, peace
- no problems, no worries
- What do you think an abundant life would mean?



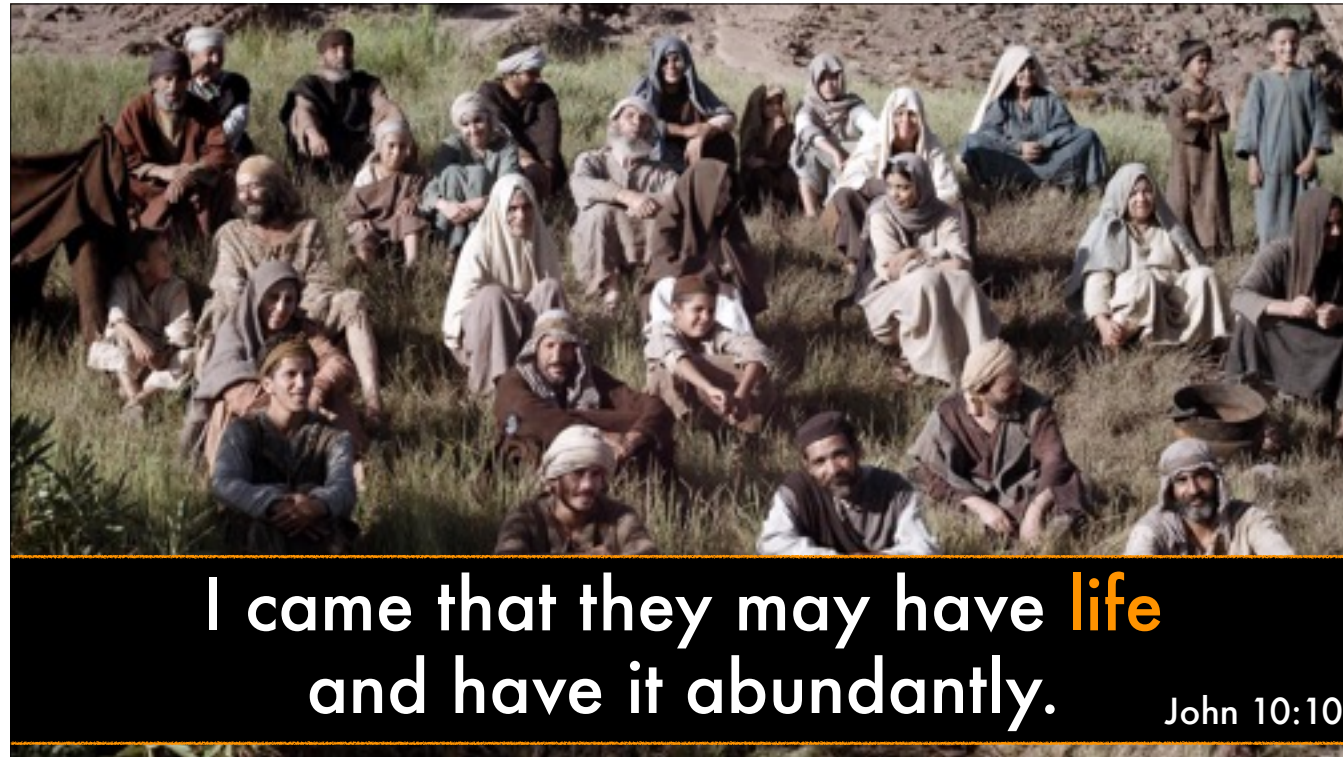
- Luke 12:15: for one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions



- Luke 12:23: For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing.

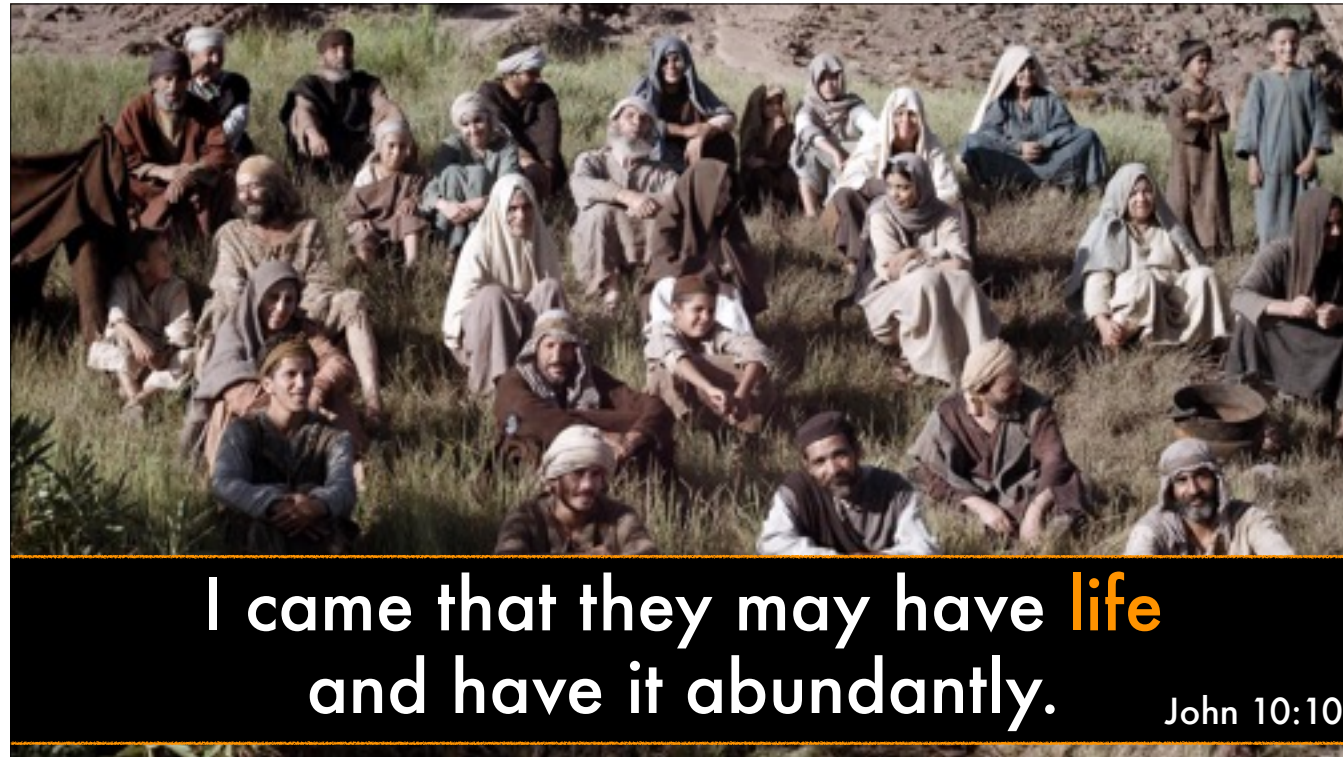


- Matthew 7:14: For the gate is narrow and the way is hard that leads to life, and those who find it are few.
- Hard!
 - If you think “abundant life” means that life will be easy then you’ve missed Jesus’ point.



I came that they may have **life**
and have it abundantly. John 10:10

- What did **Jesus** mean by “abundant life”???



I came that they may have **life**
and have it abundantly. John 10:10

- More than just an easy life... consider life of Paul, Jesus' apostle
- All from 2 Corinthians

utterly burdened
beyond strength
despaired of life




2 Corinthians
1:8-9; 4:8-12;
6:4-5; 6:9-10;
7:5-6; 11:23-30;
12:7

I came that they may have **life**
and have it abundantly.

John 10:10

- 2 Cor. 1:8-9: utterly burdened, beyond strength, despaired of life

A photograph of a ship's mast and rigging, likely from a sailing vessel, struggling in a dark, stormy sea. The mast is tilted and surrounded by white-capped waves, conveying a sense of being overwhelmed and in distress.


utterly burdened
beyond strength
despaired of life
afflicted
perplexed
persecuted
struck down

2 Corinthians
1:8-9; 4:8-12;
6:4-5; 6:9-10;
7:5-6; 11:23-30;
12:7

I came that they may have **life**
and have it abundantly.

John 10:10

- 2 Cor. 4:8-12: afflicted, perplexed, persecuted, struck down


A dramatic photograph of a ship's mast and rigging, likely from a sailing ship, struggling against a dark, turbulent sea with white-capped waves. The mast is tilted, and the rigging is complex and dark against the blue and white water. The overall mood is one of struggle and adversity.

utterly burdened imprisonments
beyond strength riots
despaired of life labors
afflicted sleepless nights
perplexed hunger
persecuted
struck down
afflictions
hardships
calamities
beatings

2 Corinthians
1:8-9; 4:8-12;
6:4-5; 6:9-10;
7:5-6; 11:23-30;
12:7

**I came that they may have life
and have it abundantly.** John 10:10

- 2 Cor. 6:4-5: afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger



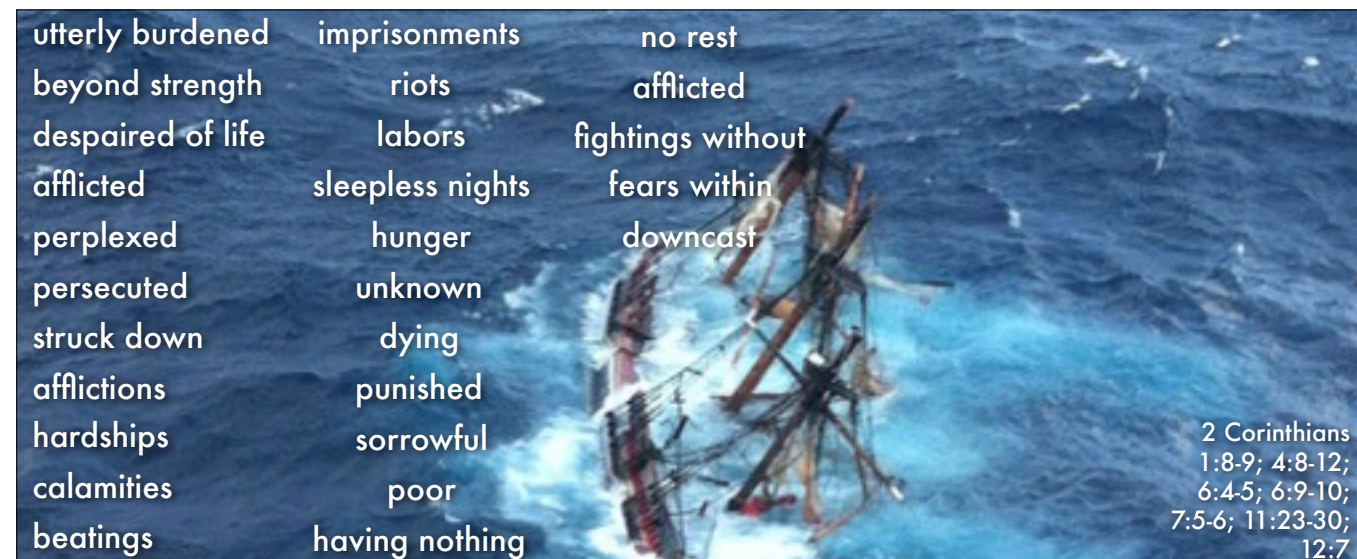
utterly burdened imprisonments
beyond strength riots
despaired of life labors
afflicted sleepless nights
perplexed hunger
persecuted unknown
struck down dying
afflictions punished
hardships sorrowful
calamities poor
beatings having nothing

2 Corinthians
1:8-9; 4:8-12;
6:4-5; 6:9-10;
7:5-6; 11:23-30;
12:7

I came that they may have **life
and have it abundantly.**

John 10:10

- 2 Cor. 6:9-10: unknown, dying, punished, sorrowful, poor, having nothing



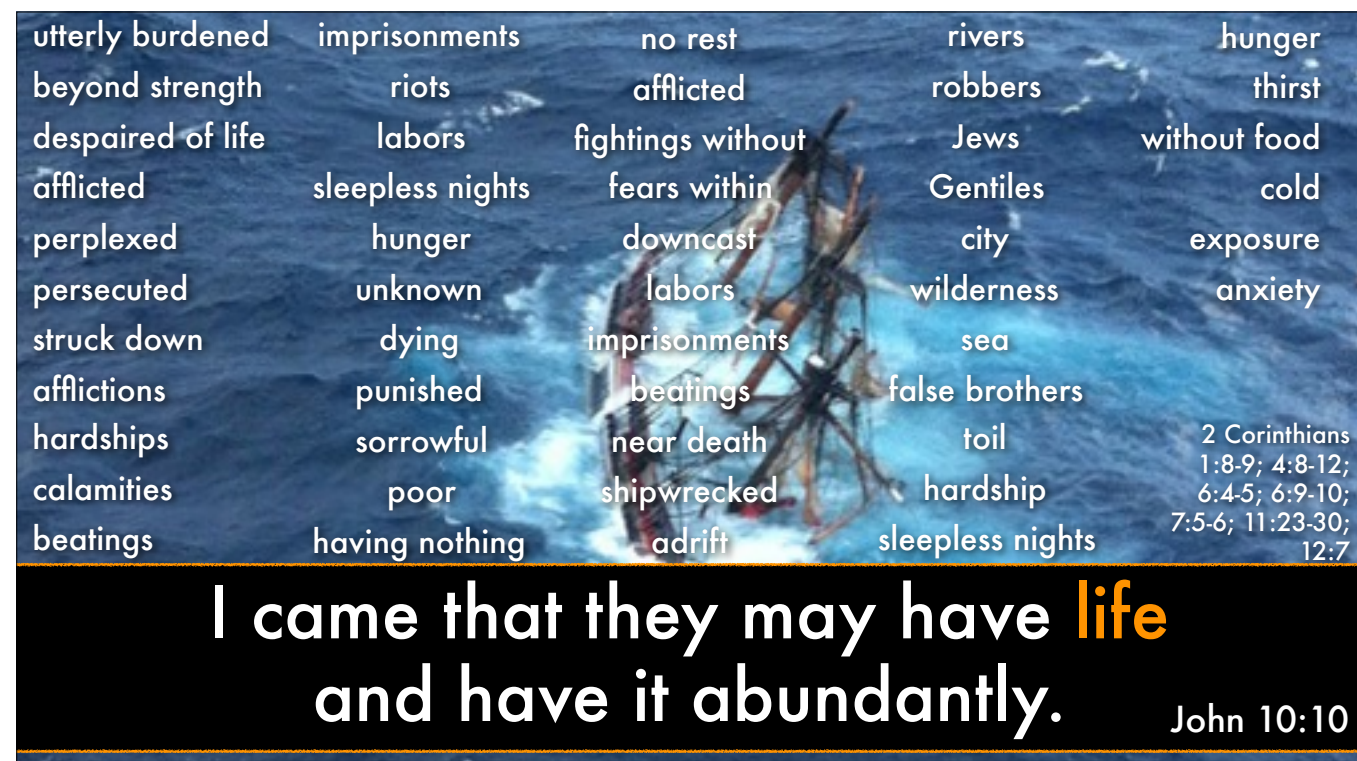
utterly burdened	imprisonments	no rest
beyond strength	riots	afflicted
despaired of life	labors	fightings without
afflicted	sleepless nights	fears within
perplexed	hunger	downcast
persecuted	unknown	
struck down	dying	
afflictions	punished	
hardships	sorrowful	
calamities	poor	
beatings	having nothing	

2 Corinthians
1:8-9; 4:8-12;
6:4-5; 6:9-10;
7:5-6; 11:23-30;
12:7

**I came that they may have life
and have it abundantly.**

John 10:10

- 2 Cor. 7:5-6: no rest, afflicted, fighting, fear, downcast

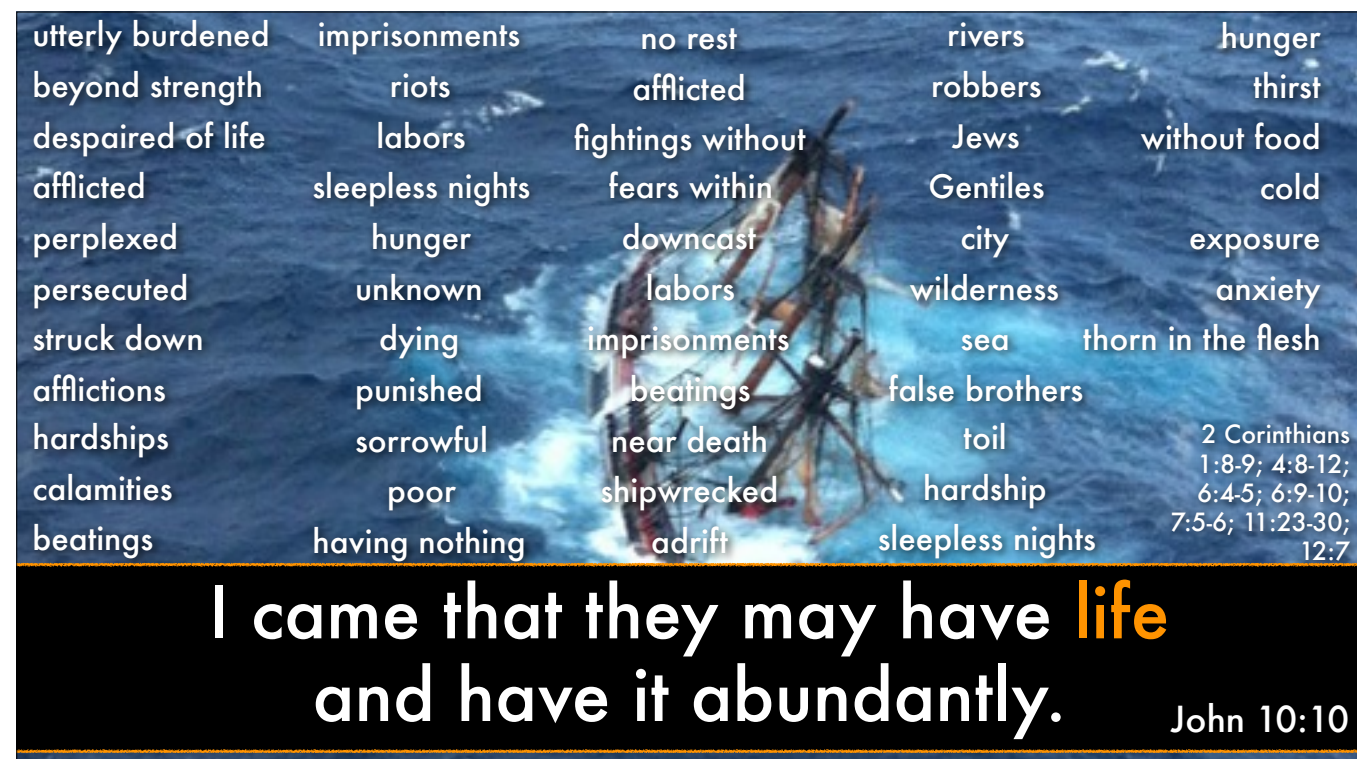


utterly burdened	imprisonments	no rest	rivers	hunger
beyond strength	riots	afflicted	robbers	thirst
despaired of life	labors	fightings without	Jews	without food
afflicted	sleepless nights	fears within	Gentiles	cold
perplexed	hunger	downcast	city	exposure
persecuted	unknown	labors	wilderness	anxiety
struck down	dying	imprisonments	sea	
afflictions	punished	beatings	false brothers	
hardships	sorrowful	near death	toil	2 Corinthians
calamities	poor	shipwrecked	hardship	1:8-9; 4:8-12;
beatings	having nothing	adrift	sleepless nights	6:4-5; 6:9-10;
				7:5-6; 11:23-30;
				12:7

I came that they may have **life and have it abundantly.**

John 10:10

- 2 Cor. 11:23-30: labors, imprisonments, beatings, near death, shipwrecked, adrift, rivers, robbers, Jews, Gentiles, city, wilderness, sea, false brothers, toil, hardship, sleepless nights, hunger and thirst, without food, cold, exposure, anxiety



utterly burdened	imprisonments	no rest	rivers	hunger
beyond strength	riots	afflicted	robbers	thirst
despaired of life	labors	fightings without	Jews	without food
afflicted	sleepless nights	fears within	Gentiles	cold
perplexed	hunger	downcast	city	exposure
persecuted	unknown	labors	wilderness	anxiety
struck down	dying	imprisonments	sea	thorn in the flesh
afflictions	punished	beatings	false brothers	
hardships	sorrowful	near death	toil	2 Corinthians
calamities	poor	shipwrecked	hardship	1:8-9; 4:8-12;
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				7:5-6; 11:23-30;
				12:7

I came that they may have **life and have it abundantly.**

John 10:10

- 2 Corinthians 12:7: So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, **a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me**, to keep me from becoming conceited.

utterly burdened imprisonments no rest rivers hunger
 beyond strength despairs of life afflicted sleepless nights fears within Gentiles thirst without food cold

Did Paul enjoy an *abundant* life?

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 Corinthians 12:10

I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.
 Philippians 3:8

beatings having nothing adrift sleepless nights 6:4-5; 6:7-10; 7:5-6; 11:23-30; 12:7

I came that they may have *life* and have it abundantly.
 John 10:10

- Philippians 3:7-11: But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I count **everything as loss** because of the **surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may **gain Christ 9 and be found in him**

Did Paul enjoy an *abundant* life?

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.
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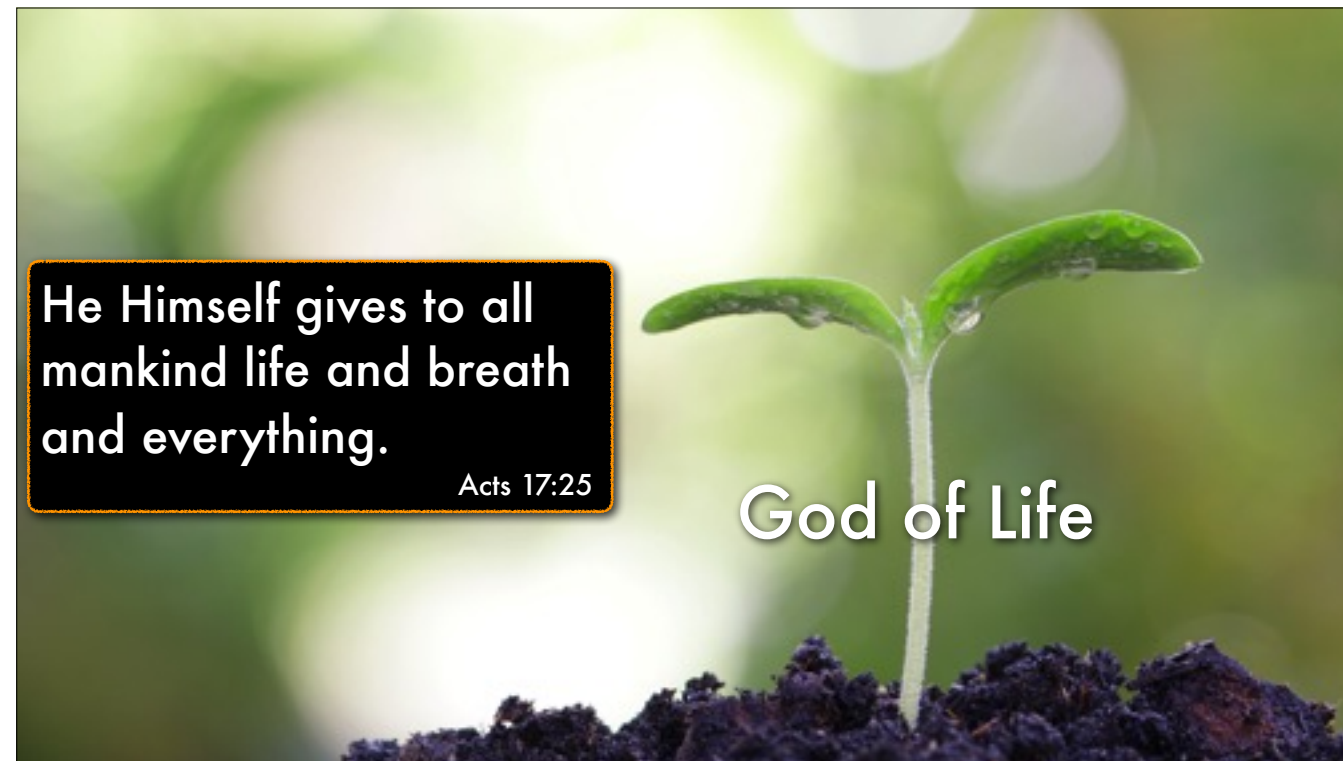
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John 10:10

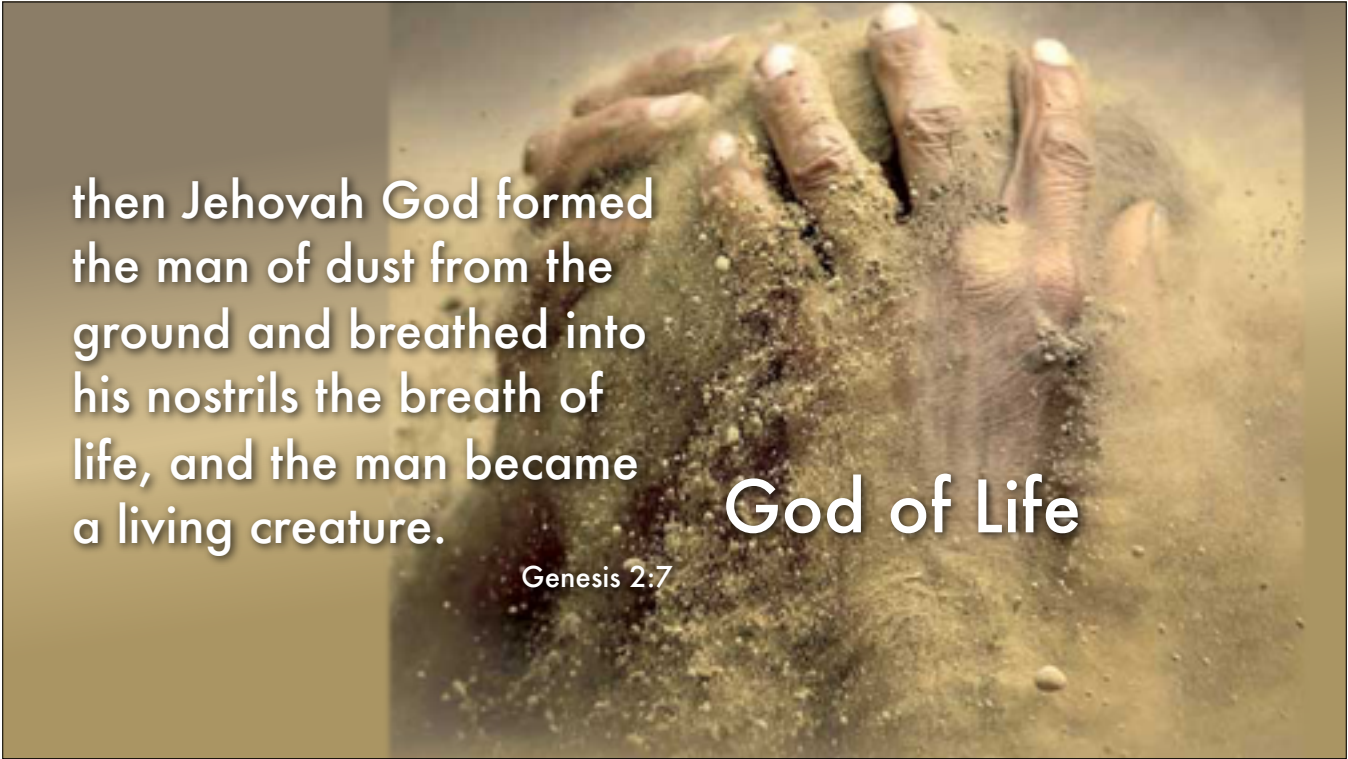
- Philippians 3:9-11: not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— 10 that **I may know him** and the power of his resurrection, and **may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death**, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the **resurrection from the dead**.



- Our God is the God of Life



- Acts 17:25: nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.

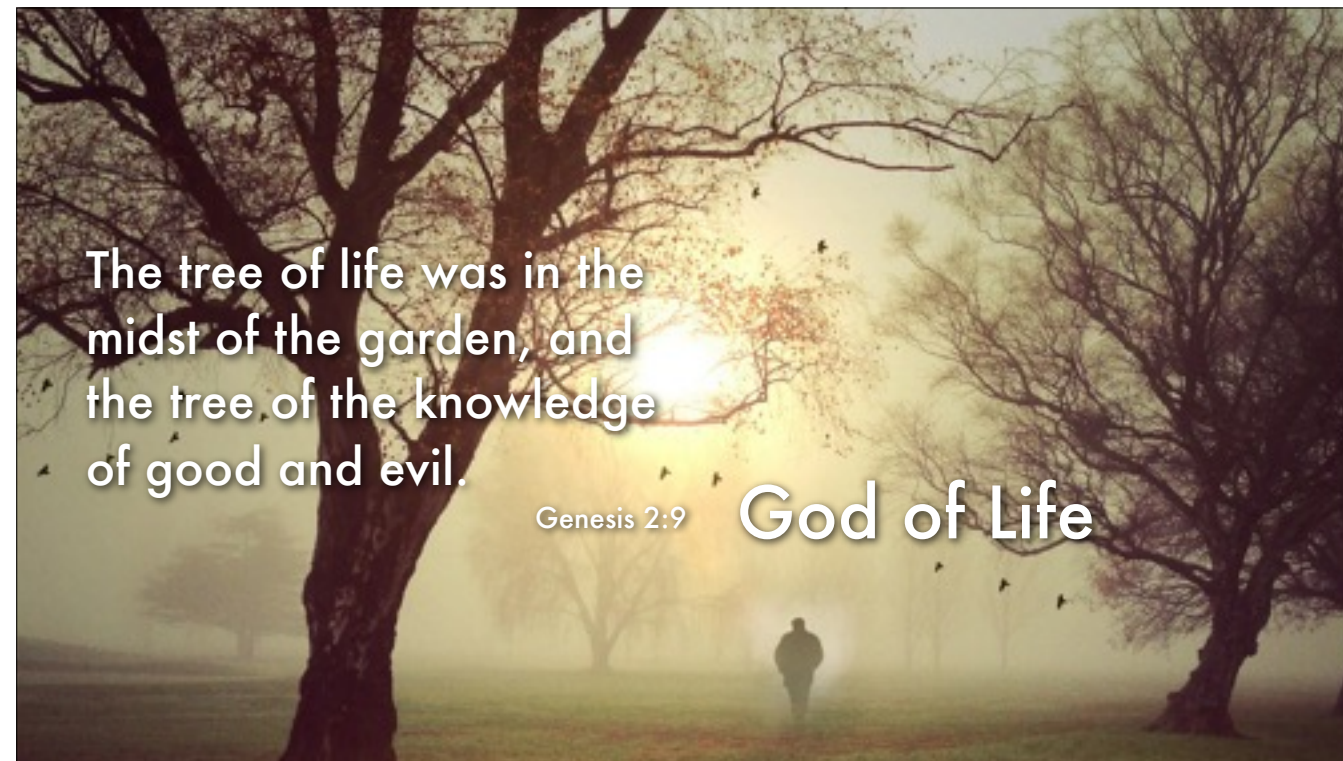


then Jehovah God formed
the man of dust from the
ground and breathed into
his nostrils the breath of
life, and the man became
a living creature.

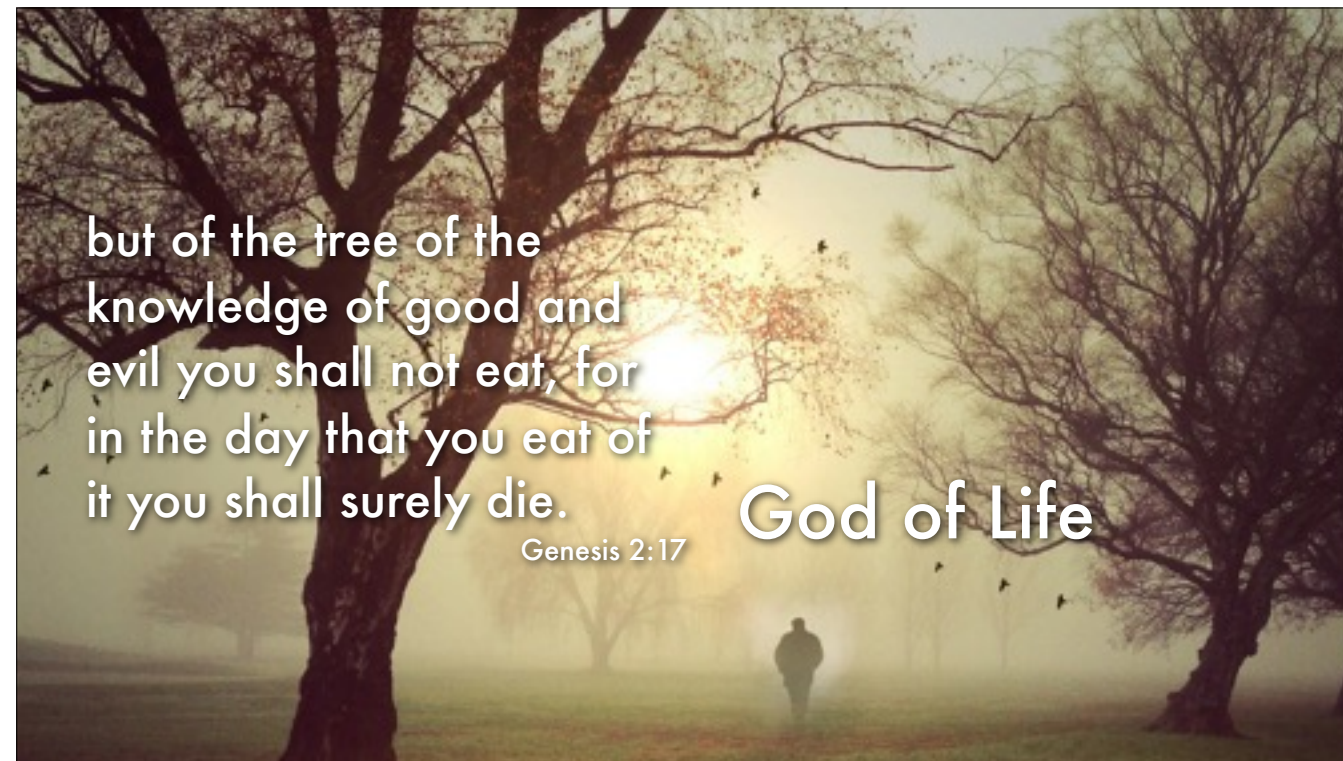
Genesis 2:7

God of Life

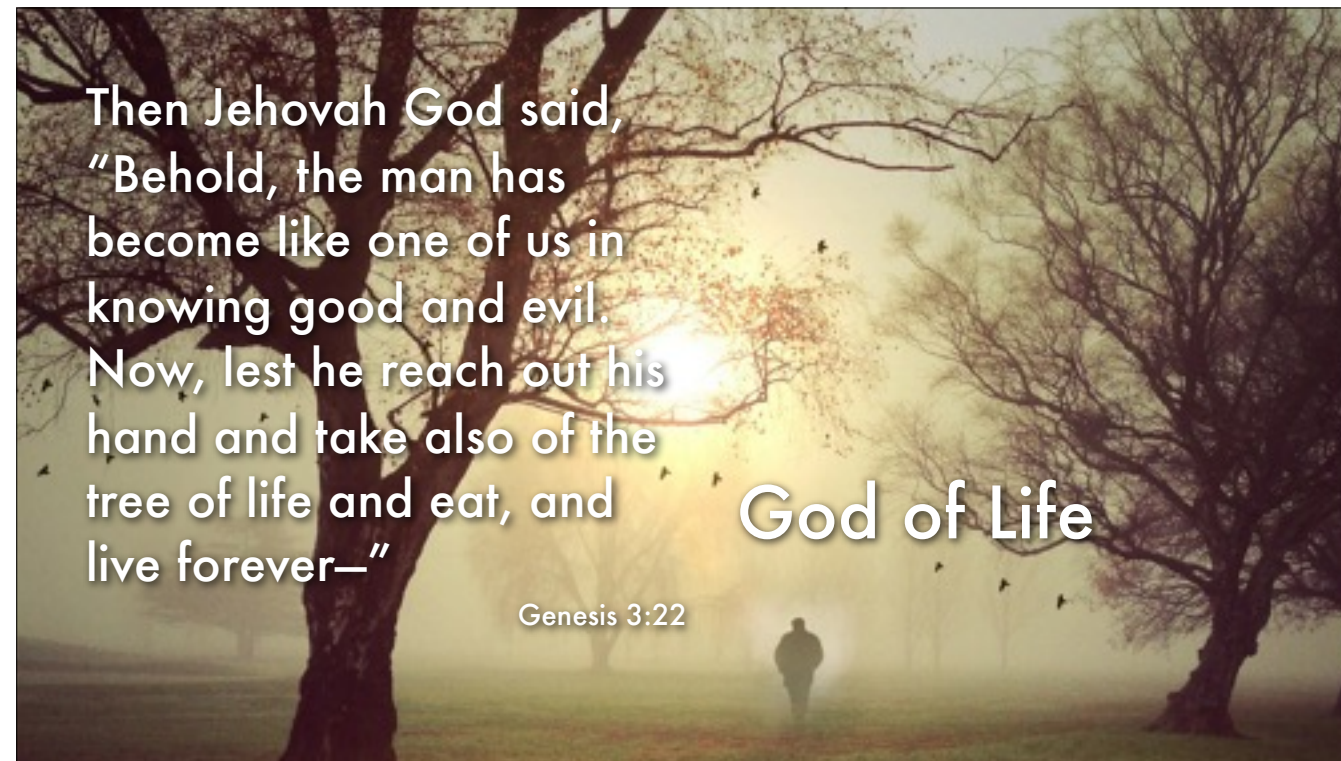
- Genesis 2:7: then the Lord God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature.



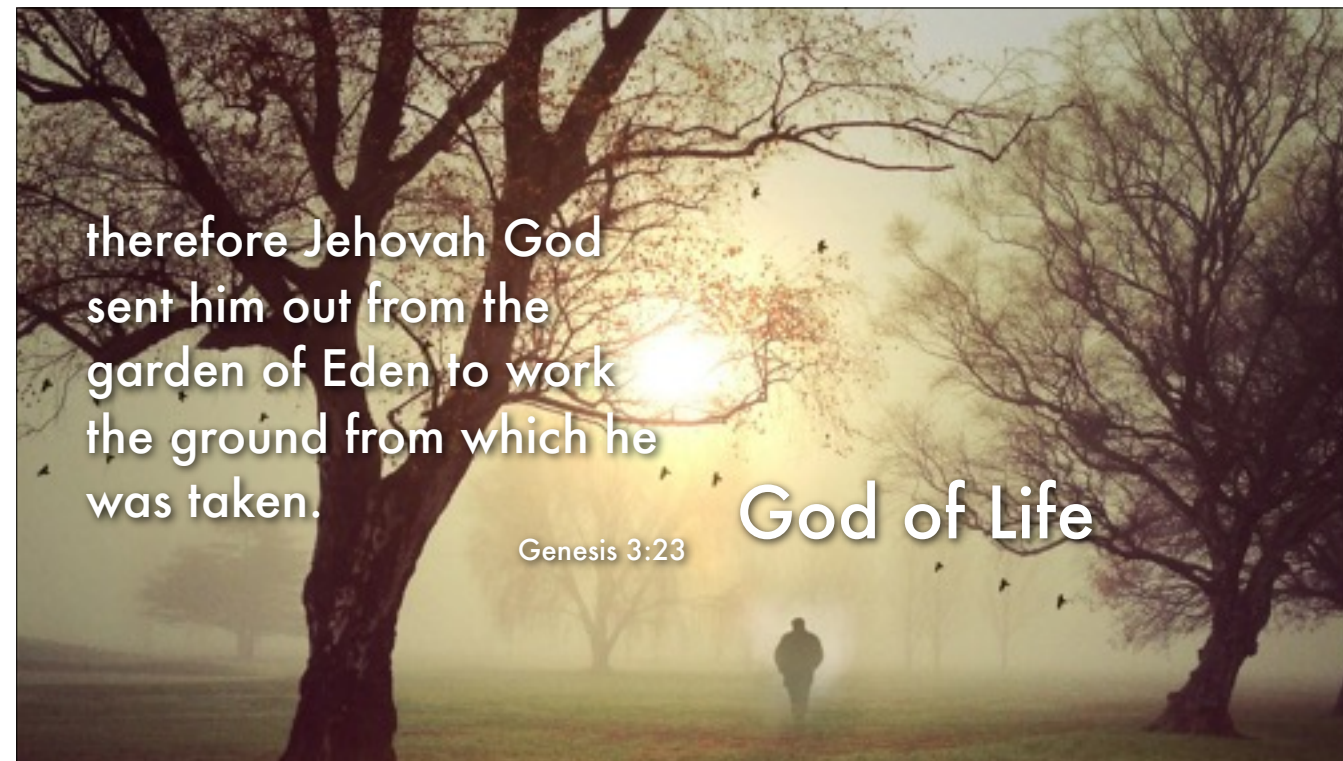
- Genesis 2:9: And out of the ground the Lord God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.



- Genesis 2:17: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”



- Genesis 3:22: Then the Lord God said, “Behold, the man has become like one of us in knowing good and evil. Now, lest he reach out his hand and take also of the tree of life and eat, and live forever—”
- Perhaps because He never intended us to live eternally on this earth?

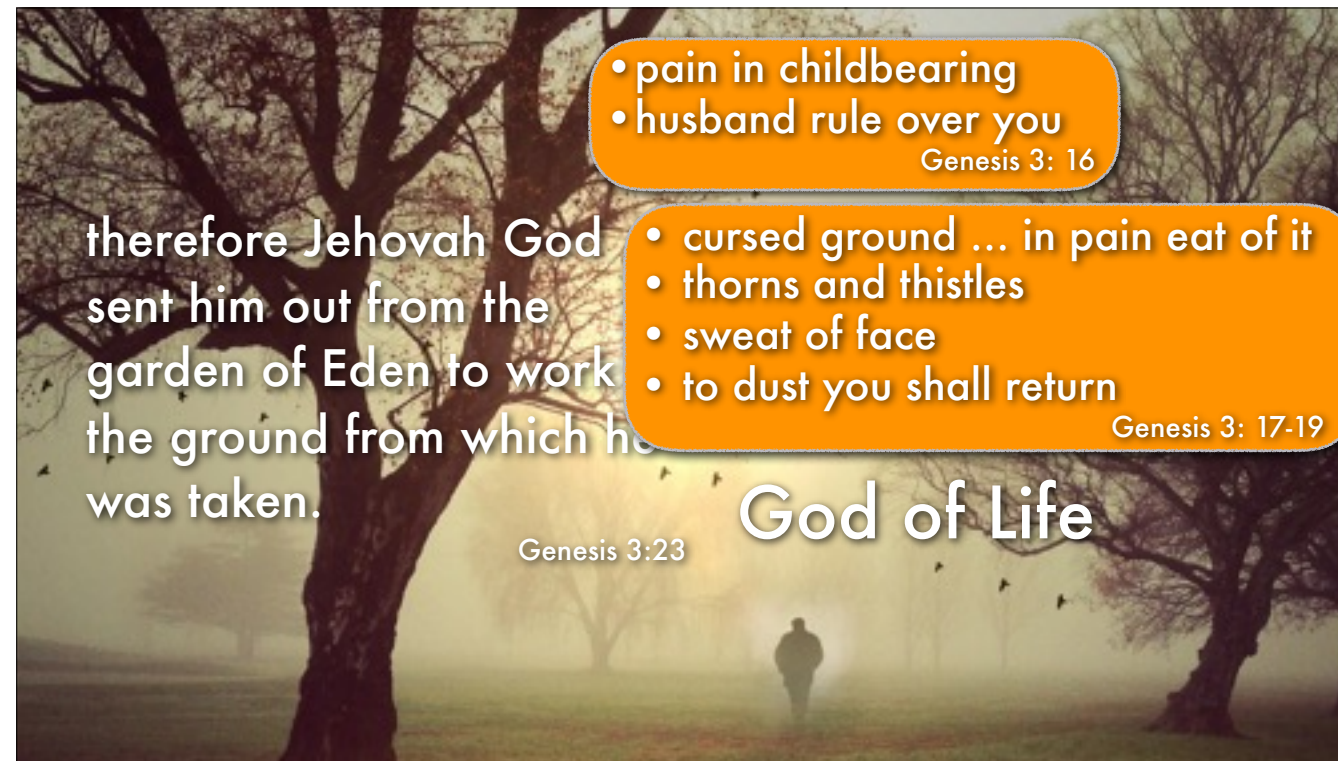


therefore Jehovah God
sent him out from the
garden of Eden to work
the ground from which he
was taken.

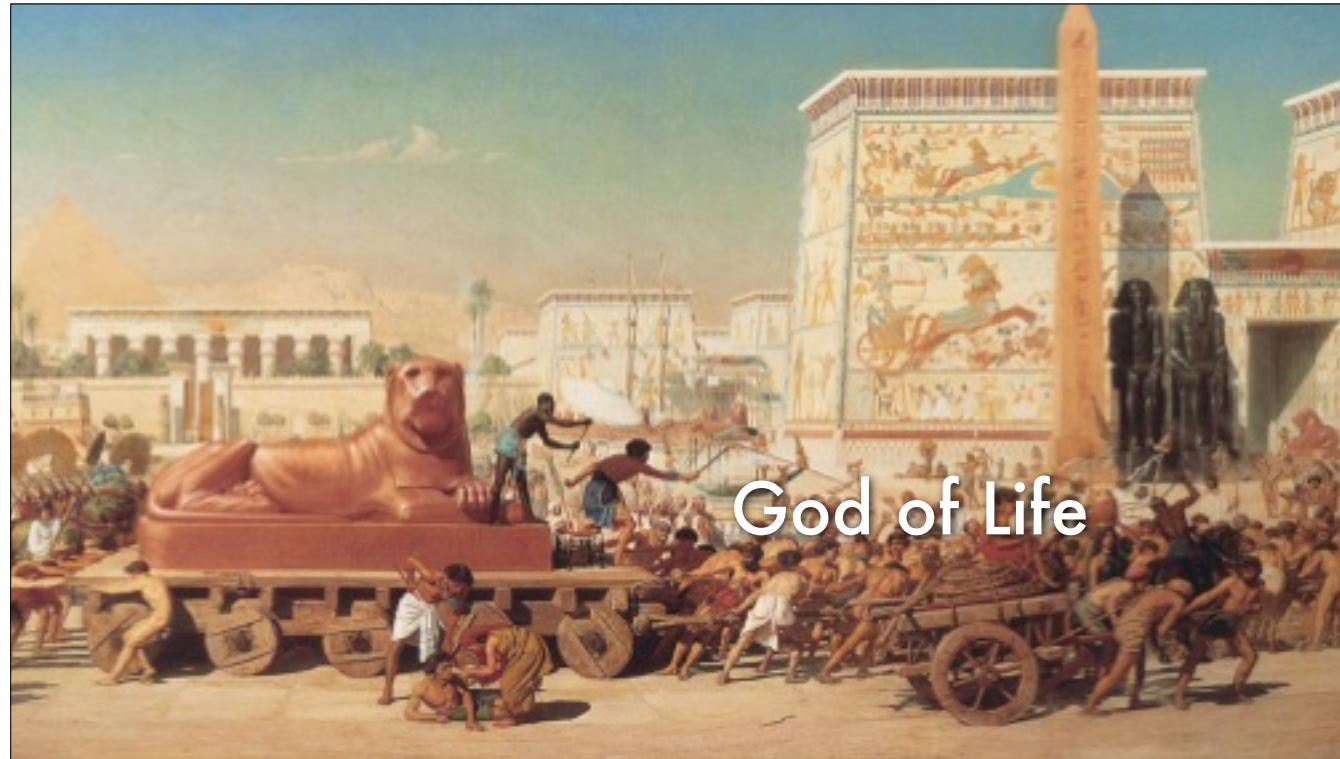
Genesis 3:23

God of Life

- Genesis 3:23: therefore the Lord God sent him out from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken.



- Genesis 3:16-19:
 - To the woman: multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.”
 - And to Adam he said: cursed is the ground, in pain you shall eat of it, thorns and thistles, By the sweat of your face; and to dust you shall return



Israel in Slavery after 400 years in Egypt: cry out out to God.
Jehovah sends Moses.

Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am Jehovah, and I will **bring you out** from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will **deliver you from slavery** to them, and I will **redeem you** with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.

Exodus 6:6



Exodus 6:6: Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.

Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am Jehovah, and I will **bring you out** from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will **deliver you from slavery** to them, and I will **redeem you** with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment.

Exodus 6:6

Moses spoke thus to the people of Israel, but **they did not listen** to Moses, because of their **broken spirit** and **harsh slavery**.

Exodus 6:9



Exodus 6:9: Moses spoke thus to the people of Israel, but they did not listen to Moses, because of their broken spirit and harsh slavery.

Lives so miserable that they couldn't hear the good news!



- Job 7:16: I loathe my life; I would not live forever. Leave me alone, for my days are a breath.
- Job 9:21



- Ecclesiastes 2:17: So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind.
- Indulged himself: wealth and material things.
- Wisdom
- STILL DEATH!



Life is hard.

- Life is hard.
- This is not what God intended for us.
 - Life is more than just existing.
- Thrive, flourish.

For the Son of Man came to seek
and to save the lost.”

Luke 19:10

- Luke 19:10: For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”
- God’s solution for bringing us back together
 - since time of Adam... all sin, all separated from God
 - Jesus.



- Luke 5:29-32: And Levi made him a great feast in his house, and there was a large company of tax collectors and others reclining at table with them. 30 And the Pharisees and their scribes grumbled at his disciples, saying, “Why do you eat and drink with tax collectors and sinners?”



- Luke 5:29-32: 31 And Jesus answered them, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. 32 I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance.”



- Luke 7:34: The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!
- Luke 15:1-2: Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. 2 And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them."



- Luke 7:39: Now when the Pharisee who had invited him saw this, he said to himself, "If this man were a prophet, he would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching him, for she is a sinner."



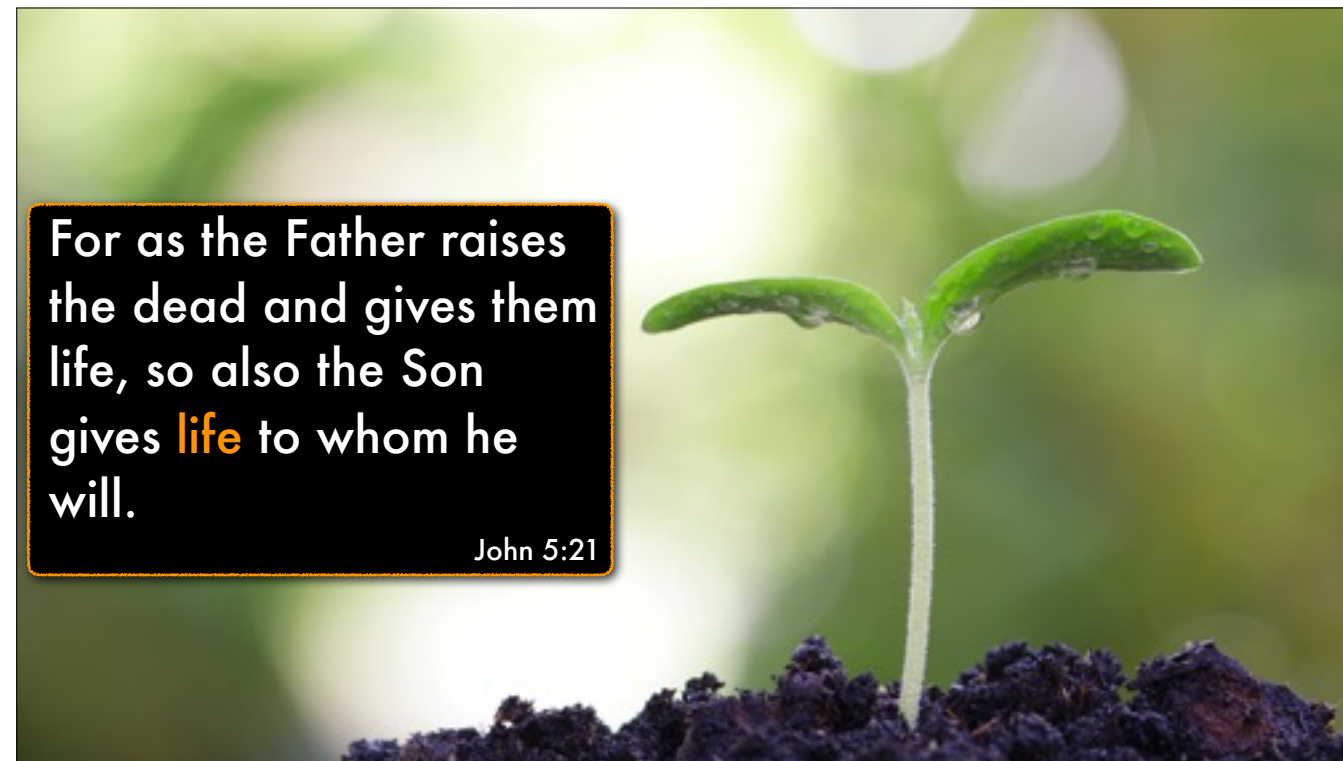
- Matthew 9:36: When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.



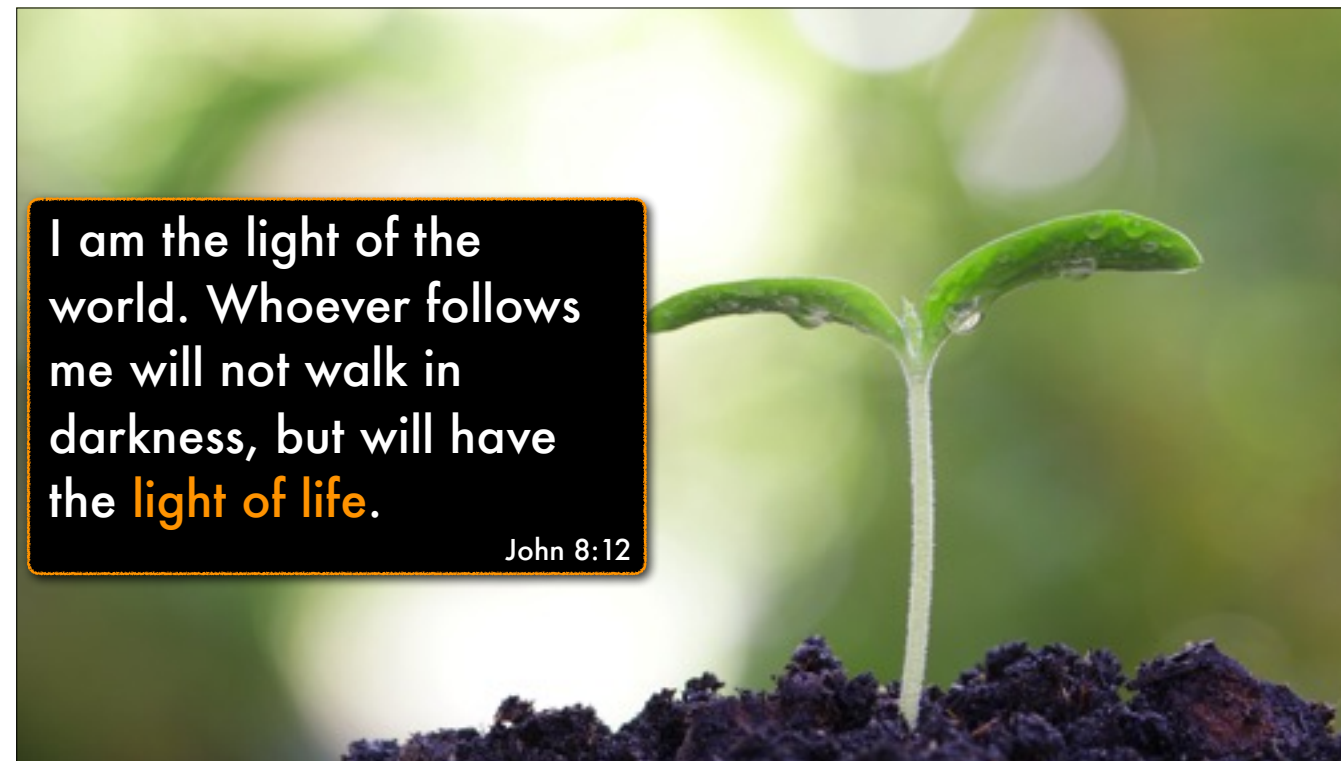
- John 4: Samaritan woman living with a man, 5 previous husbands



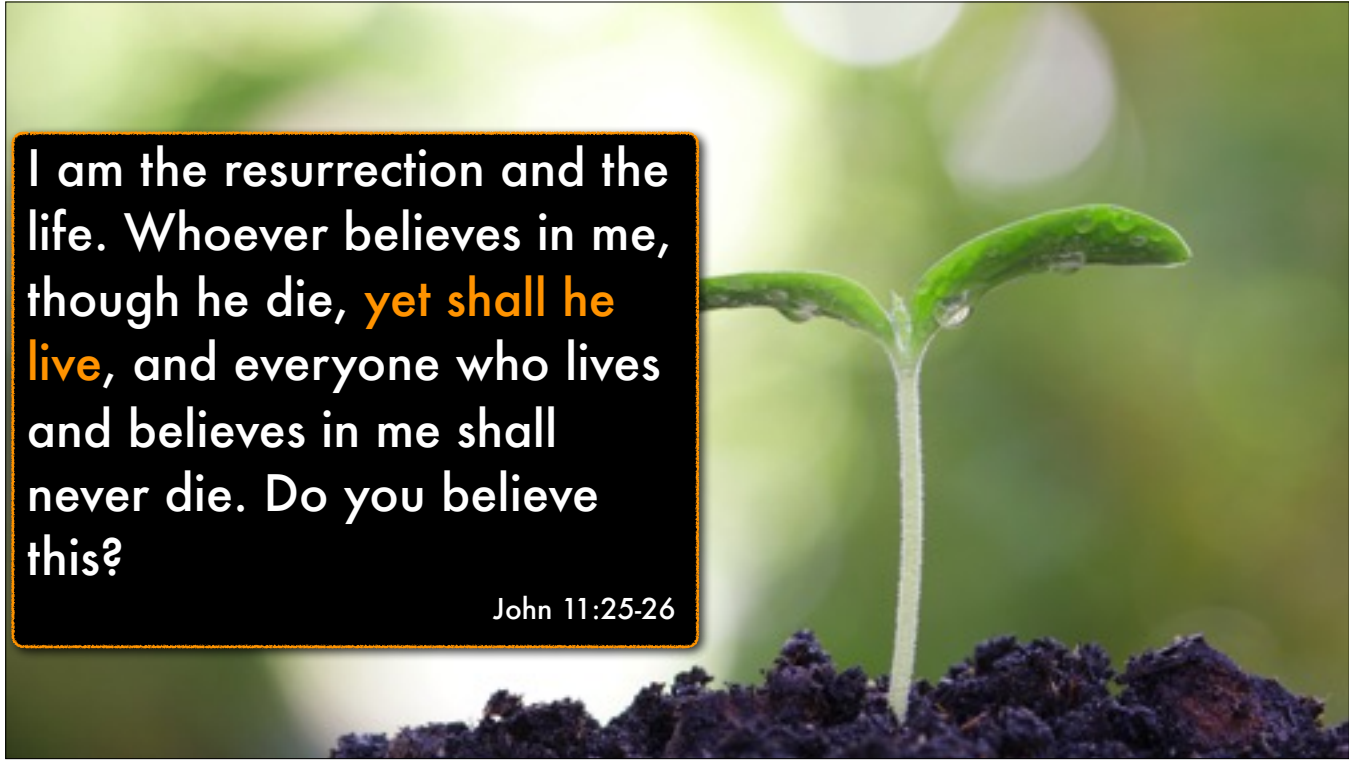
- John 8: Woman caught in adultery



- John 5:21: For as the Father raises the dead and gives them life, so also the Son gives life to whom he will.



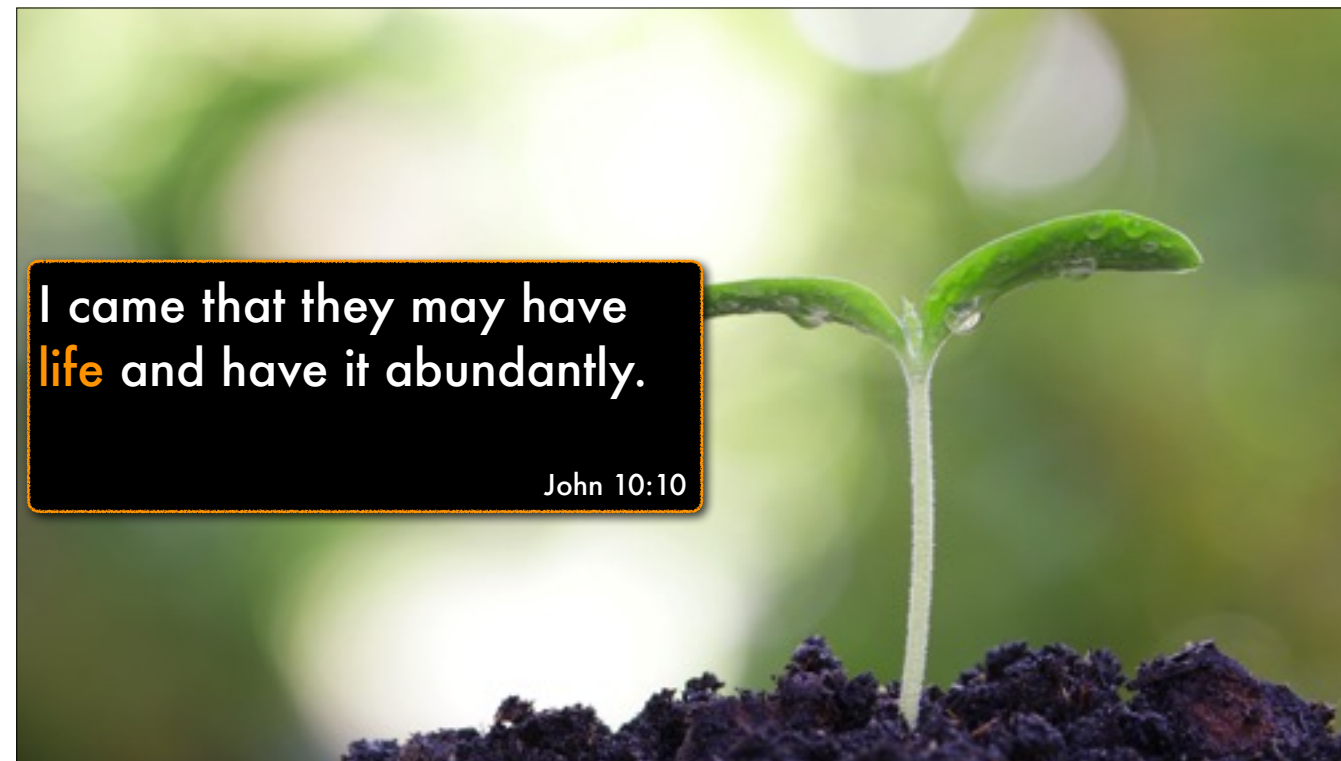
- John 8:12: Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”



I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, **yet shall he live**, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?

John 11:25-26

- John 11:25-26: Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”



- John 10:10: The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.
- 1 Timothy 4:8: for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come.



- With the promise of an abundant life, why are people coming to Jesus? Listening? Trusting?
- Maybe, like the Israelites, because of sin,
 - broken in spirit (hopeless)
 - harsh slavery (oppressed)
 - harassed and helpless
 - So we don't listen!

For the Son of Man came to seek
and to save the lost.”

Luke 19:10

- Luke 19:10: For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”
- That’s who Jesus came for — the LOST
 - spent time among them
 - taught them truth
 - called to belief and repentance and baptism —> LIFE



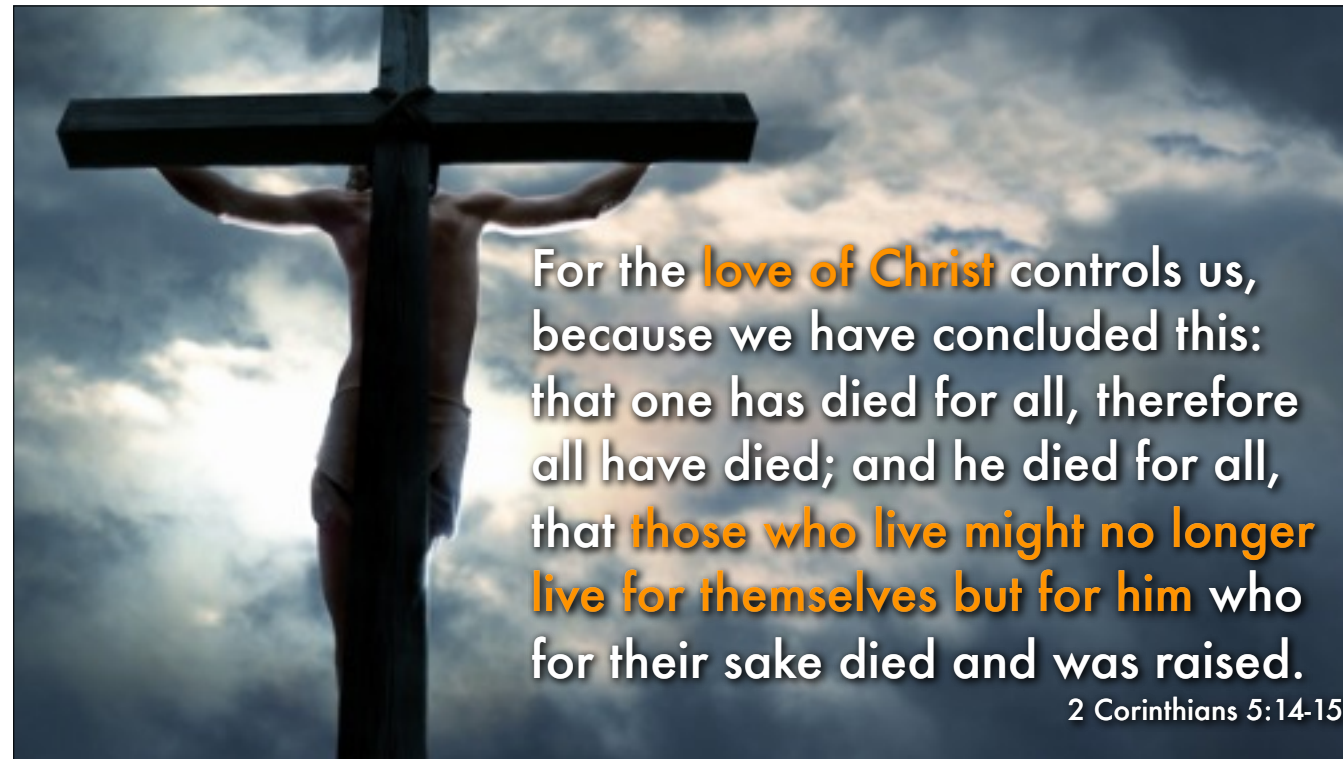
- The Love of Christ



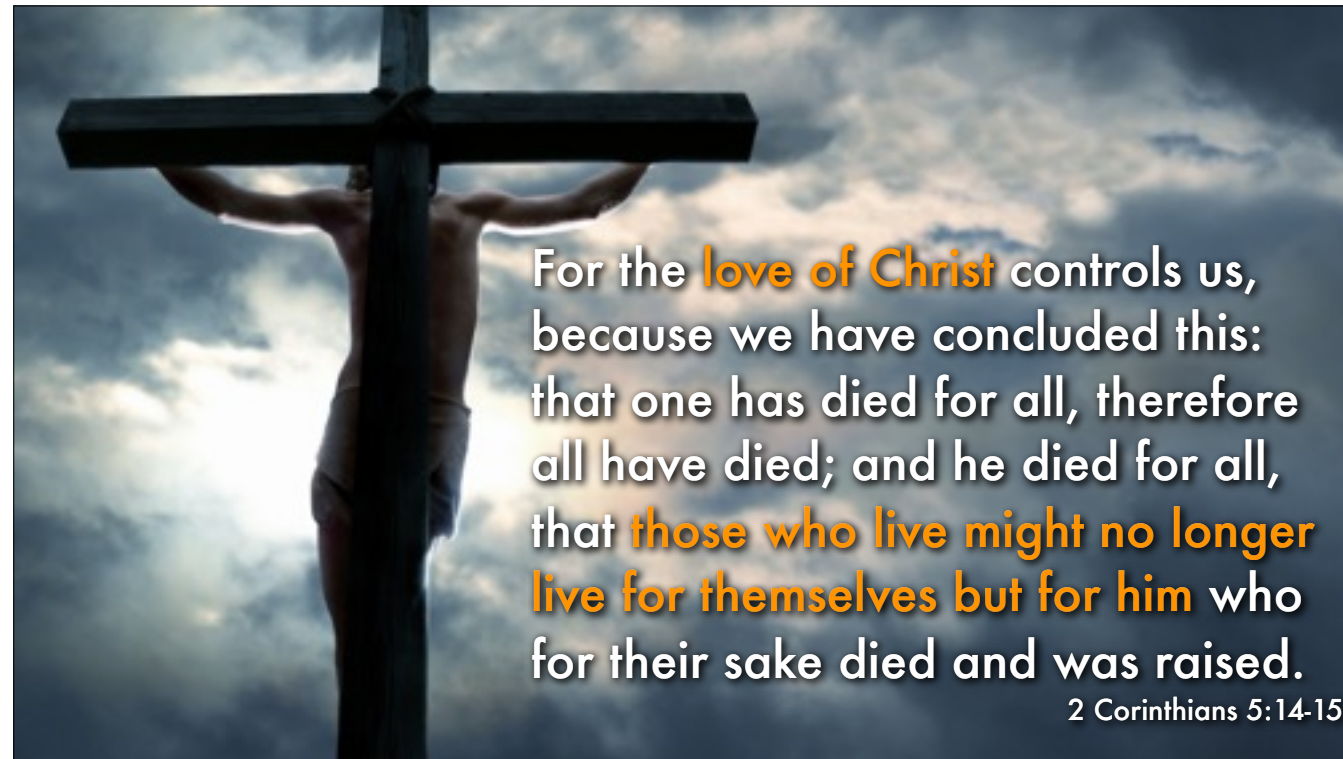
- Love between a man and a woman:
 - suddenly he feels really alive
 - thrilled with new discovery
 - seen it in others; but now he's living it
 - colors brighter, music in the air.
 - Life is no longer just existing: he sees the beauty everywhere.



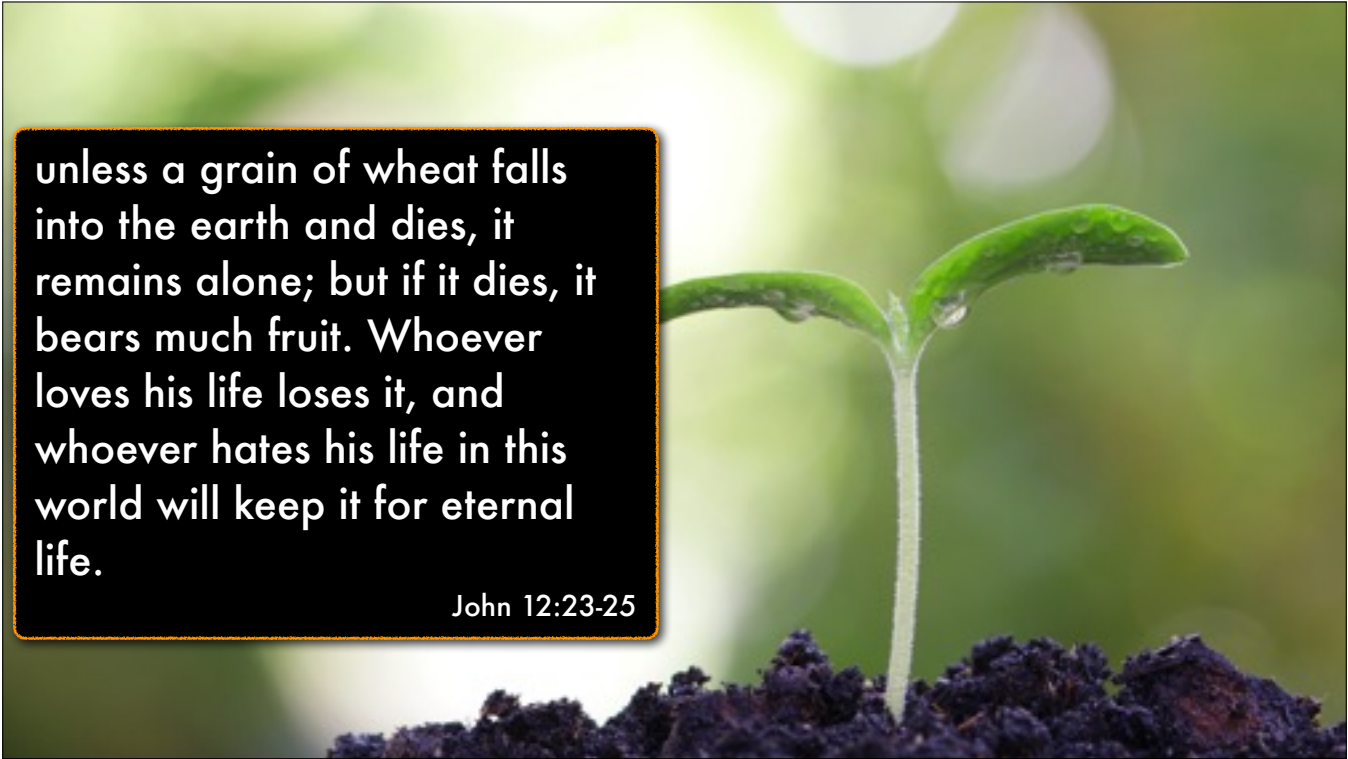
- Love between a woman and a man
 - something changes and she is more beautiful
 - love becomes center of her life
 - She's now flourishing.



- 2 Corinthians 5:14-15: For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this:that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.



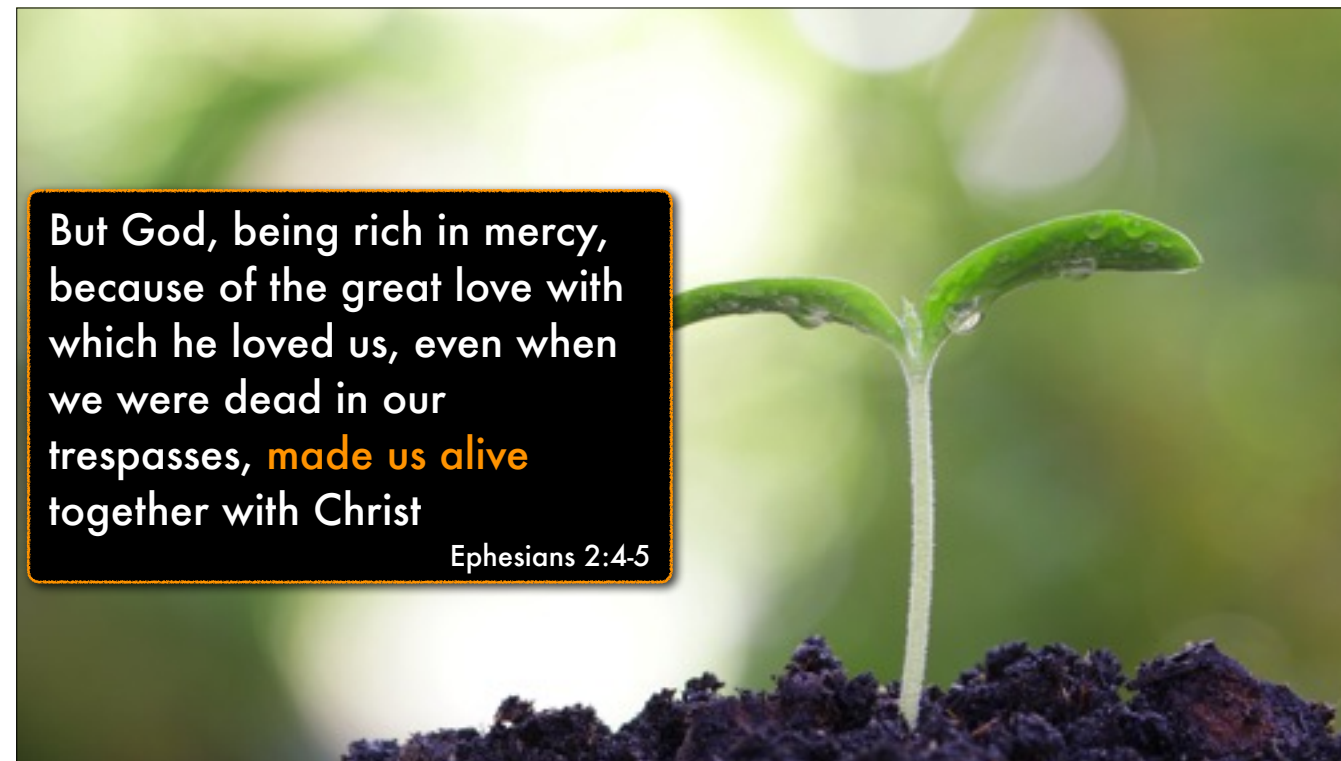
- 2 Corinthians 5:16-17: From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.



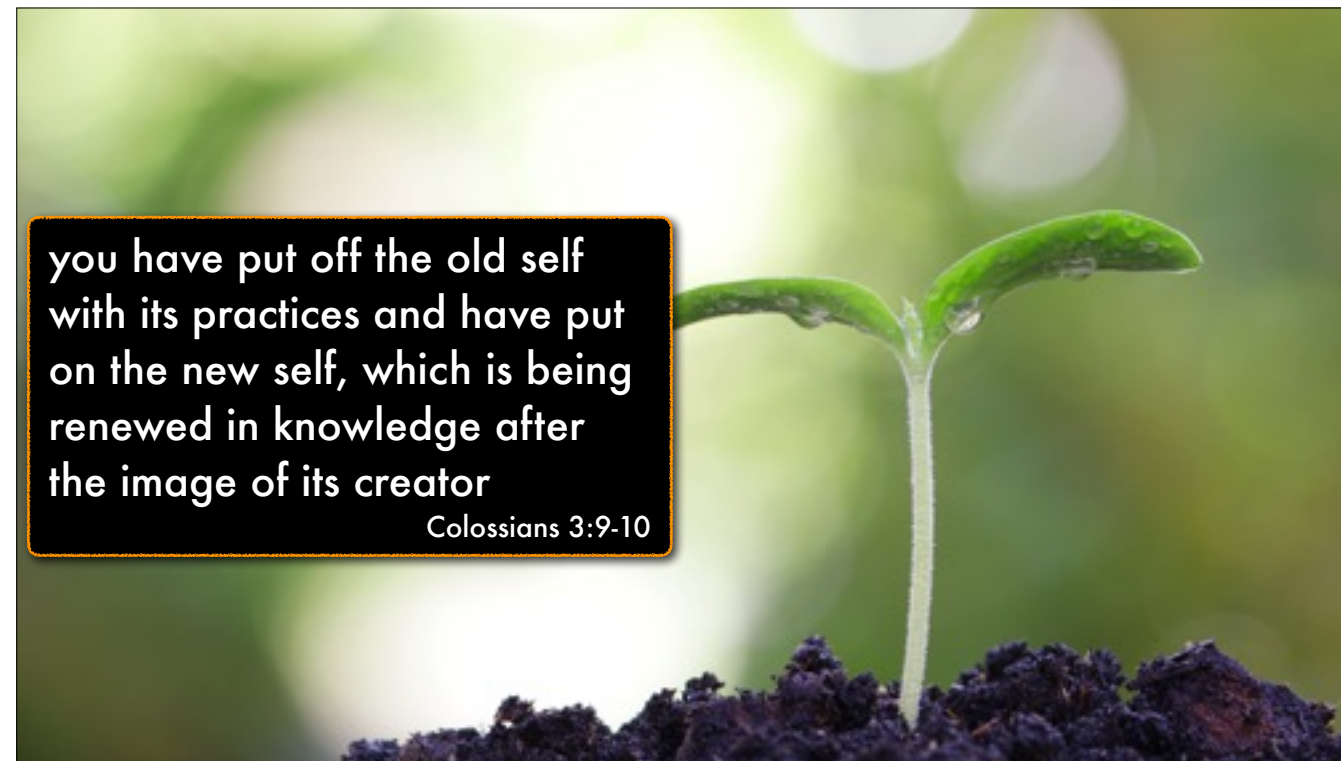
unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

John 12:23-25

- John 12:23-25: And Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 24 Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. 25 Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.



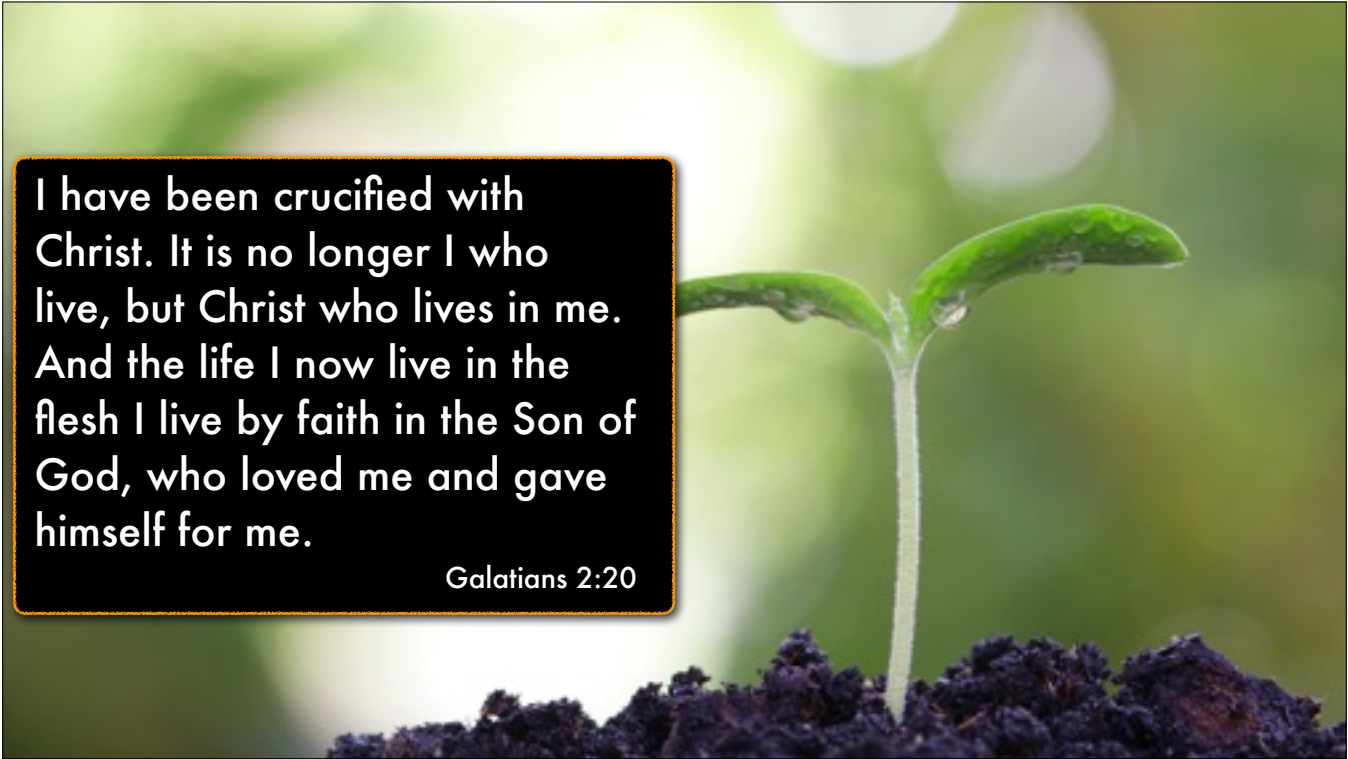
- Ephesians 2:4-5: But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ — by grace you have been saved —



- 9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices 10 and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator
- (Colossians 3:9-10 ESV)



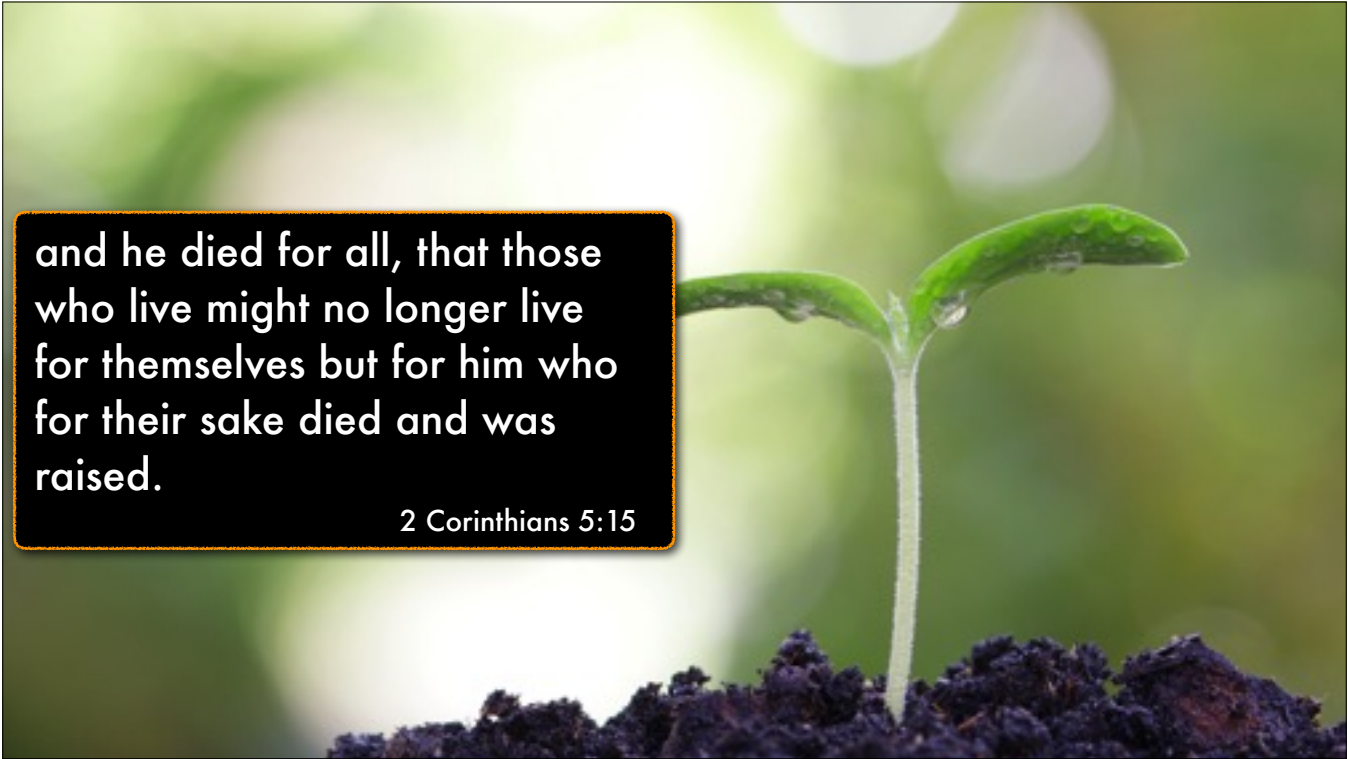
- Romans 6:4: We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.



I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

Galatians 2:20

- Galatians 2:20: I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.
- Love of Christ compels me.



and he died for all, that those
who live might no longer live
for themselves but for him who
for their sake died and was
raised.

2 Corinthians 5:15

- 2 Corinthians 5:15: and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.



- So what is the abundant life Jesus promised us?
- John 17:3

And this is eternal life,
that they know You
the only true God, and
Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

John 17:3

- John 17:3: And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.
- We tend to think of eternal life as something measured by time (or lack of time?); going on forever.
 - Not saying that there's no time component; but it's probably not the most important aspect

And this is eternal **life**,
that they **know** You
the only true God, and
Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

John 17:3

- Jesus: defines eternal life very differently
 - focus is on life
 - focus is on relationship: Know God and Jesus.



- John 10:10: life, abundant
- John 10:11, 14: I am the good shepherd.



- John 10:11: I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.



- John 10:14-15: I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, 15 just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep.



- John 10:27: My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.
- Love of Christ Compels US!



- John 10:28: I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.



- Eternal life
 - Jesus' sacrifice for us: life for life
 - Know!
 - Follow.



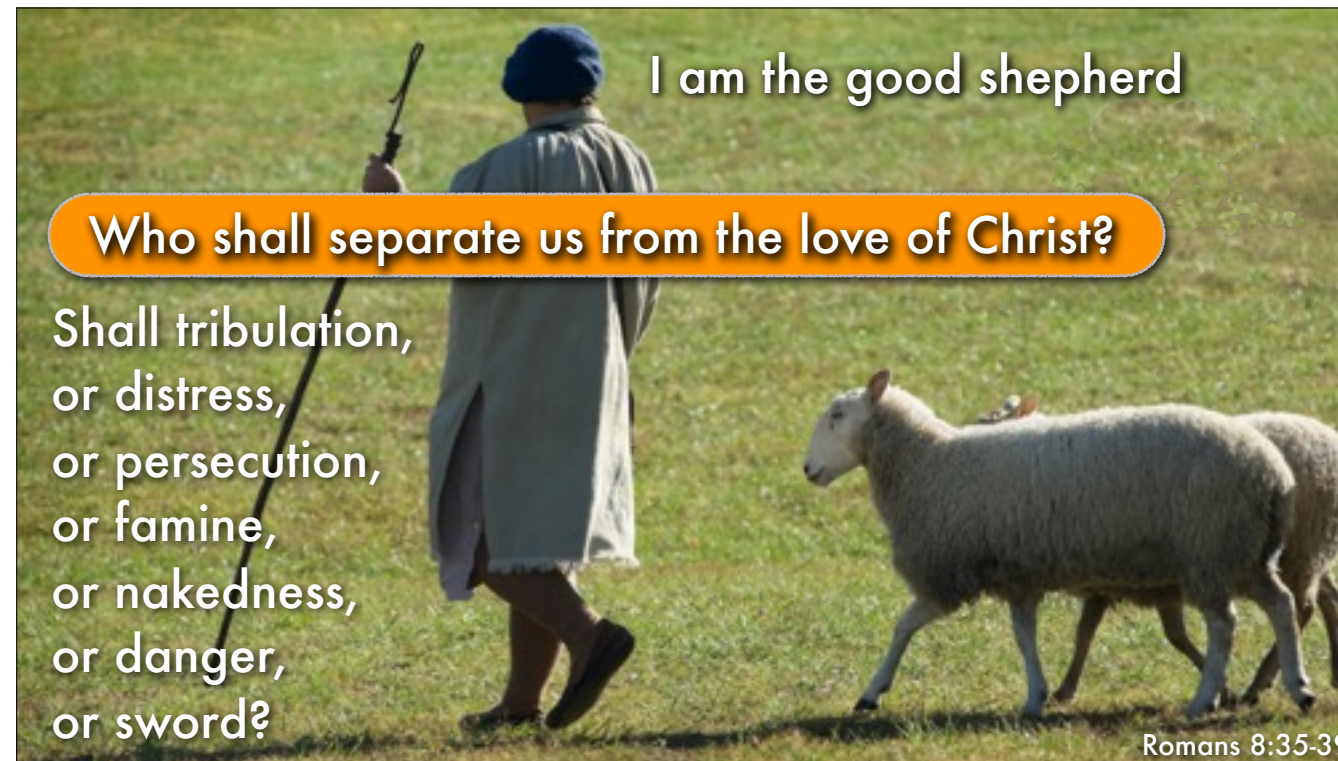
- Romans 8:35-39



- Romans 8:31-34: What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.



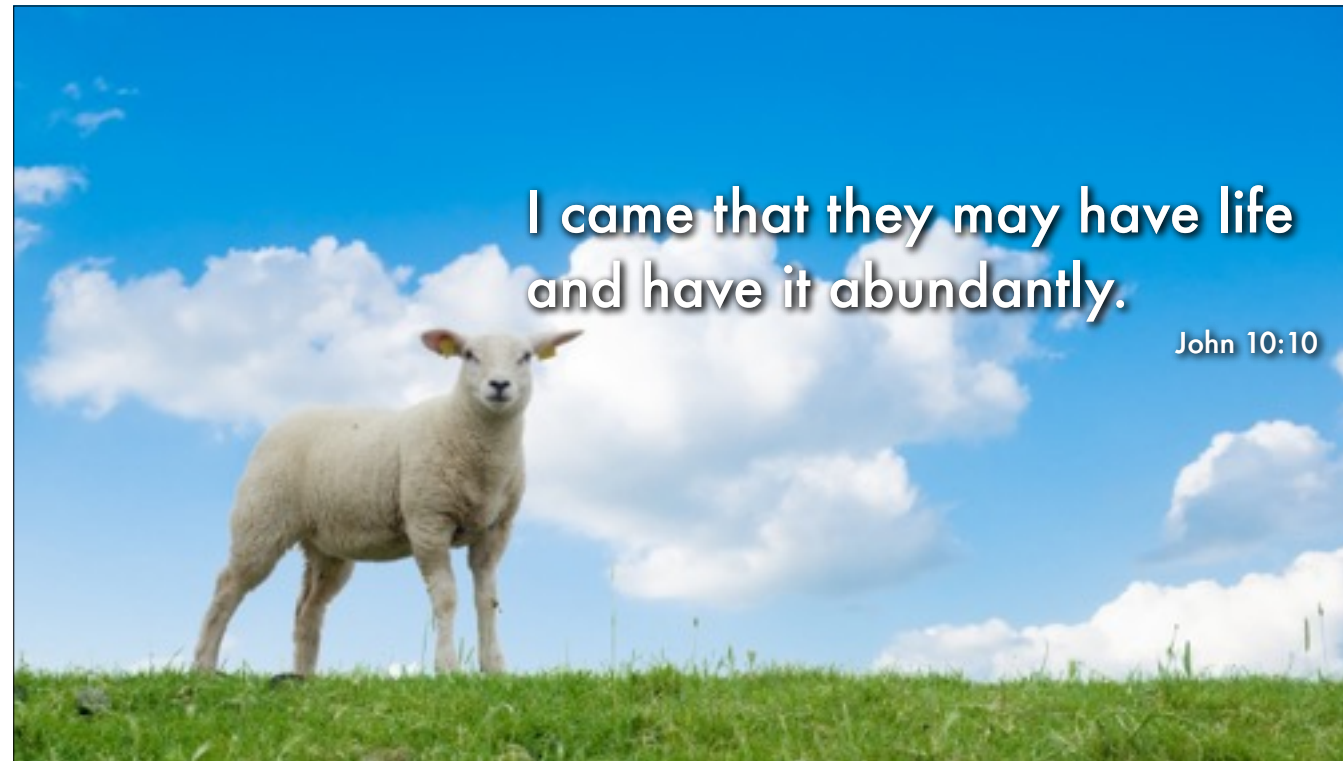
- Romans 8:35: Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?
- He is the good shepherd: know him; life.



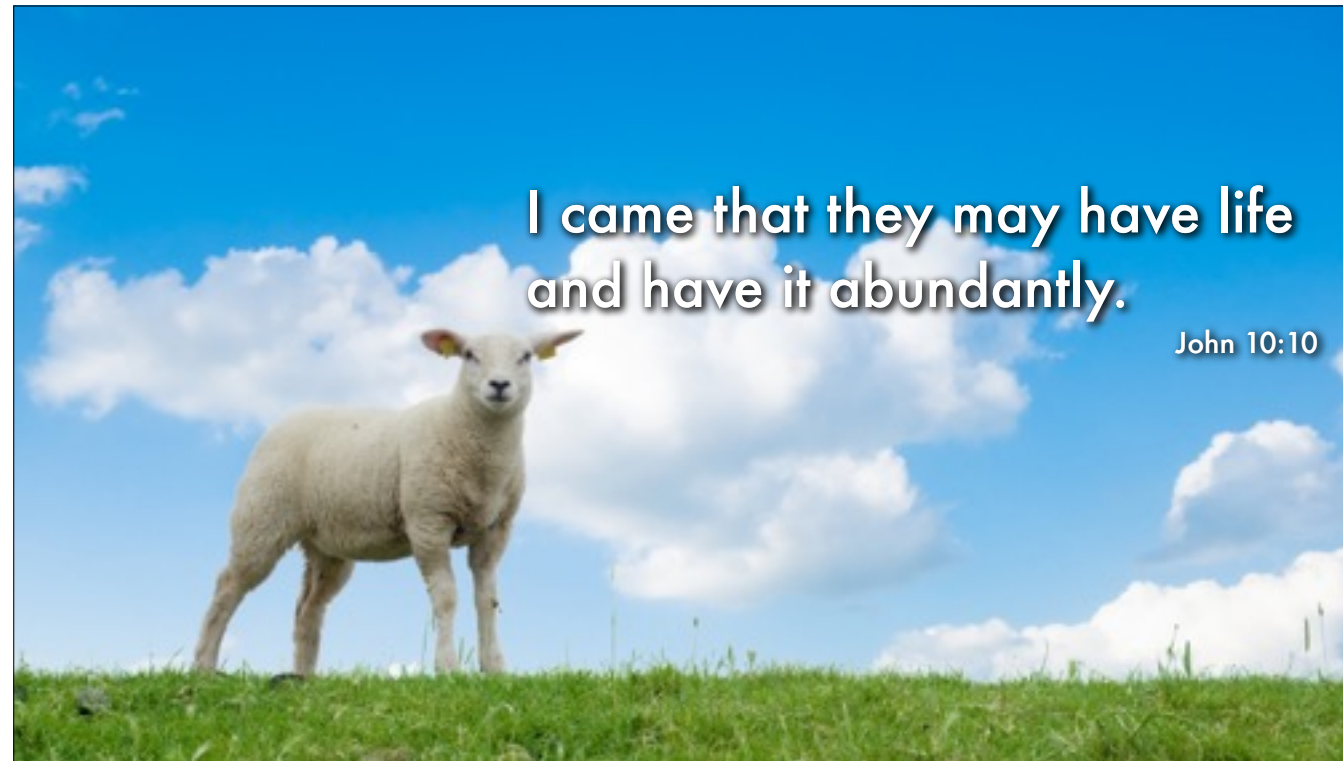
- Romans 8:35-37: Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.
- Did Paul enjoy an abundant life?



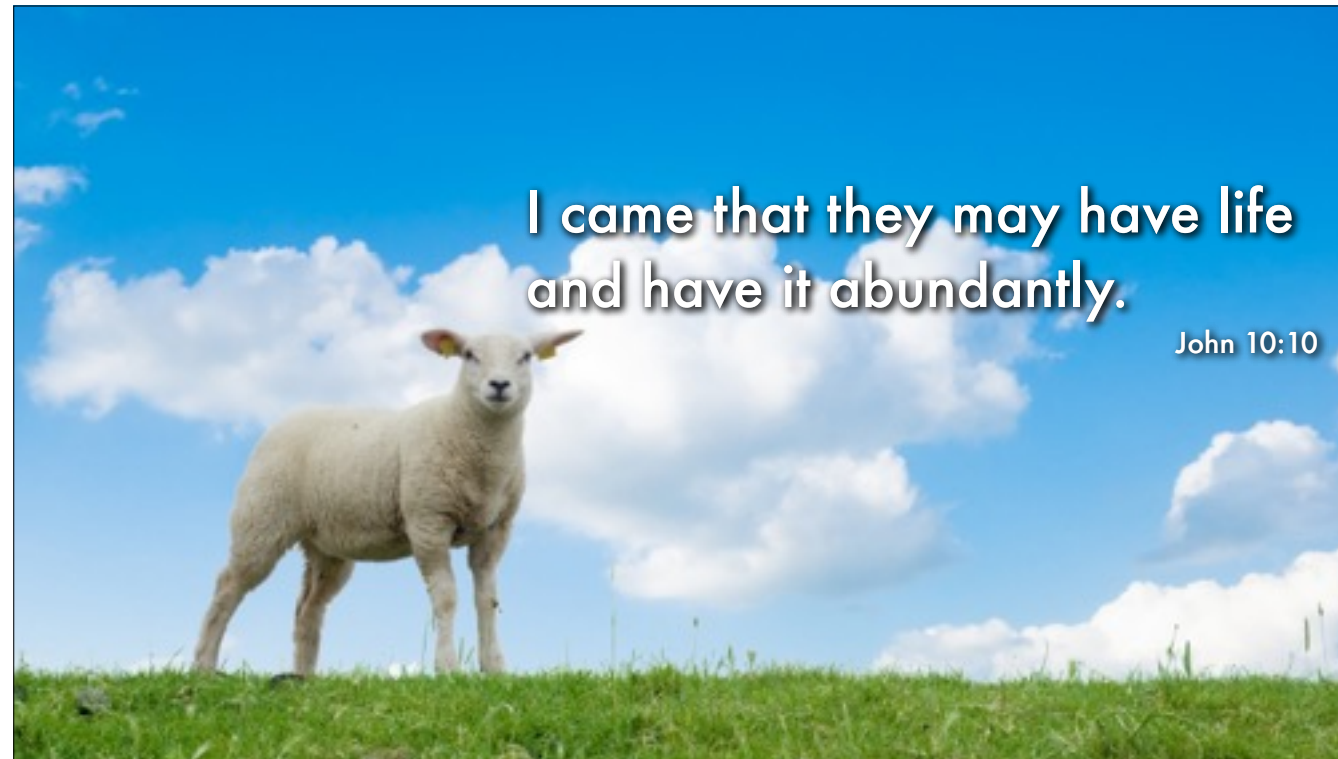
- Romans 8:38-39: For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.



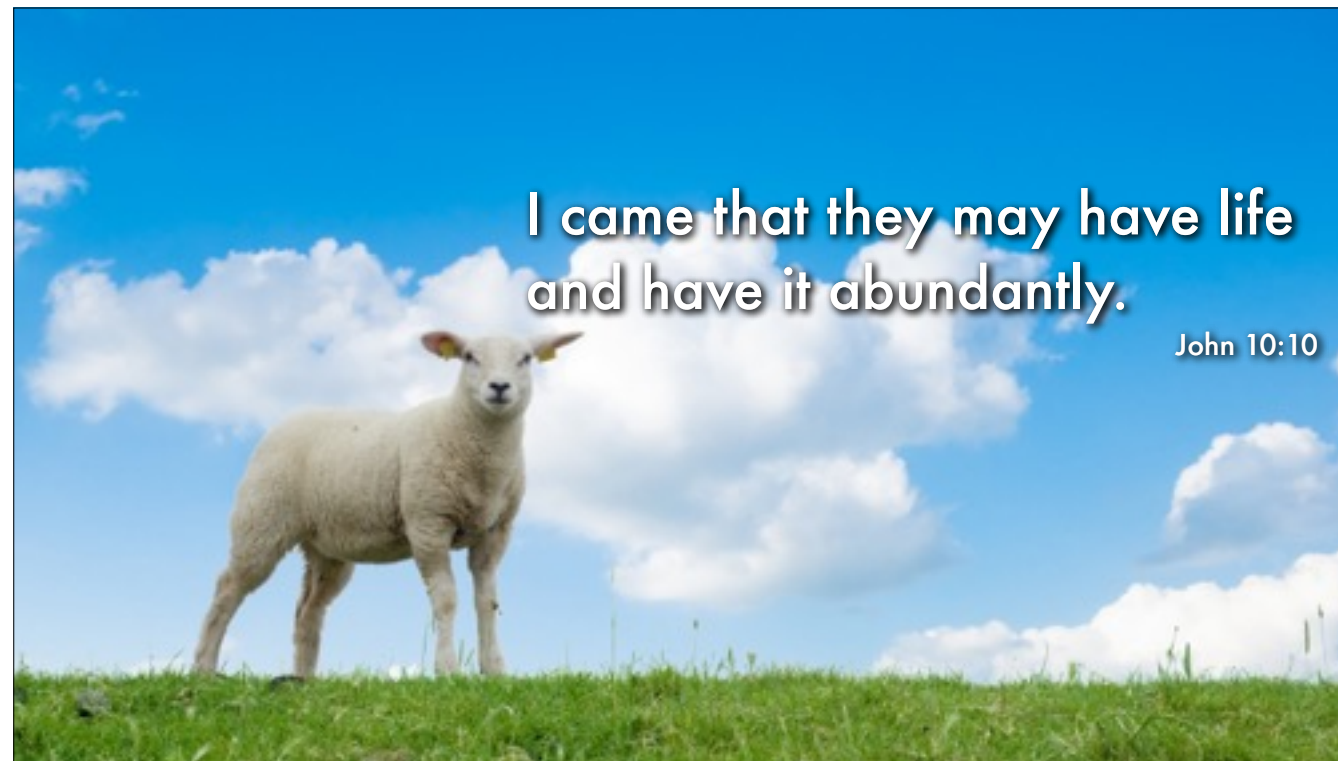
- What does this all mean about the difficulties and troubles of this life?
 - How can it really be abundant?



- The abundance is not about comfort and ease
 - It is abundant because of our relationship with our Father and Son and Spirit.
 - Security of relationship (love of Christ, child of God)
 - Security of salvation (hope)



- Understanding this life, this relationship, puts everything else into perspective.
 - Nothing is comparable to Jesus!
 - Philippians 3:8-11: Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— 10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.



- The abundant life is living the real life that our Father always intended us to Him.
 - Not burdened by the sin, and guilt, and fear
 - But secure in our loving relationship with Him.
- You can have an abundant life
 - Starting right now
 - Do you believe in the Good Shepherd?

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20



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The Abundant Life — Now

John 10:10

Synopsis: What did Jesus mean when he promised abundant life? We'll explore both what that must not mean and what it does mean. This lesson will focus on the present life.

These thoughts were provoked and borrowed from chapter 11: A Careless Rage for Life in The Dragon Slayer by Jim McGuiggan, NOOKstudy (David Stewart, fcor1614@yahoo.com). This material is protected by copyright.

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"Let all that you do be done with love."