



- The Abundant Life: The Life to Come
- What will we be doing in heaven?

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

John 10:10

- 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 does Jehovah
have planned for us
to do in heaven?**

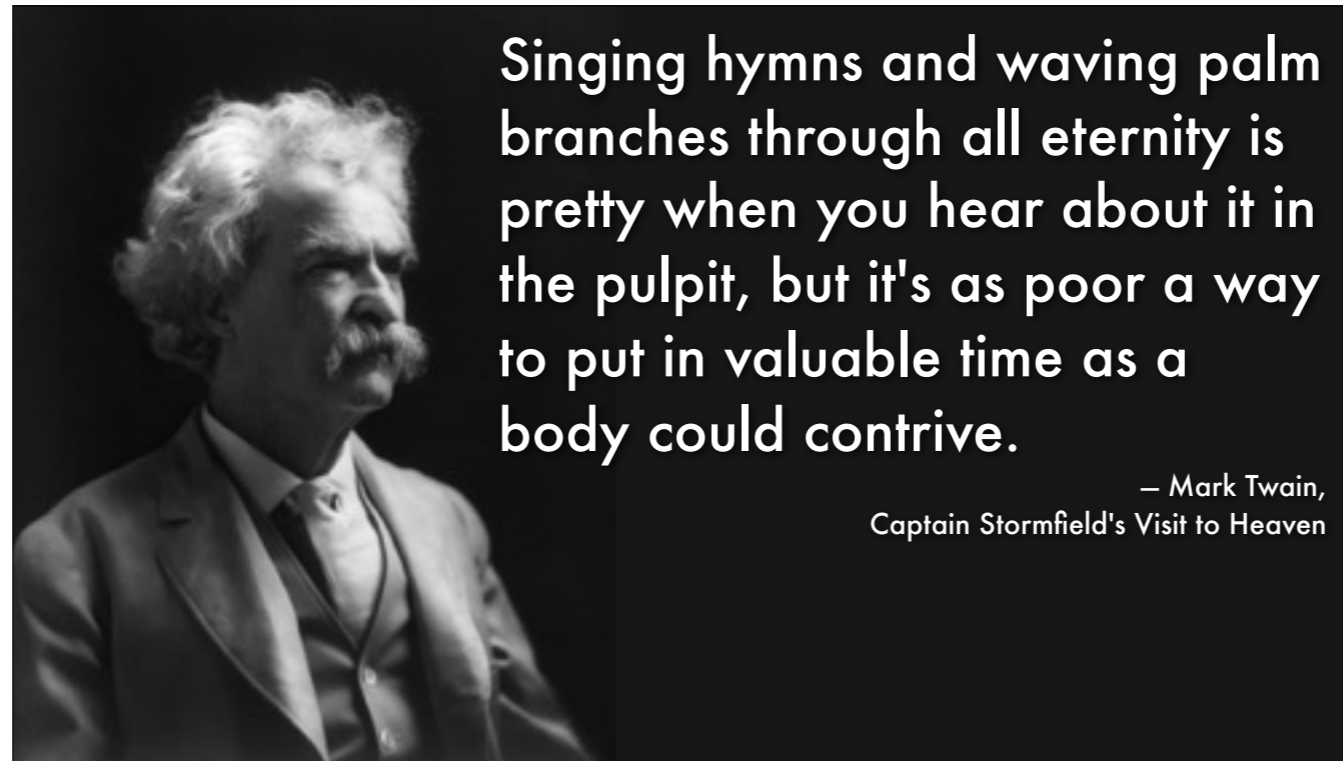
- What will we do in heaven for eternity?



- Common concepts in our society



- Children's cartoons: die, float on a cloud, halo, and usually harp.
- Implication is that in heaven we won't really be doing anything at all.



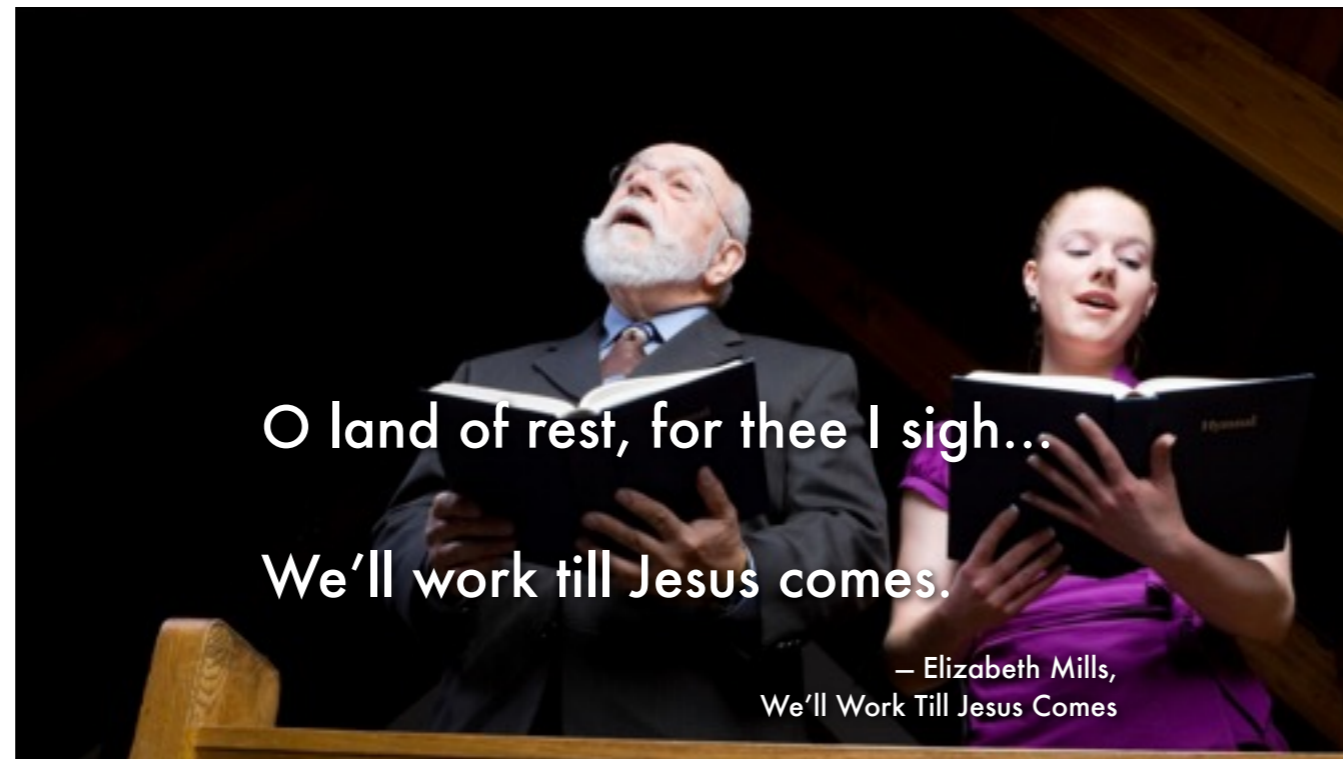
- Singing hymns and waving palm branches through all eternity is pretty when you hear about it in the pulpit, but it's as poor a way to put in valuable time as a body could contrive.
- - Captain Stormfield's Visit to Heaven
- Mark Twain



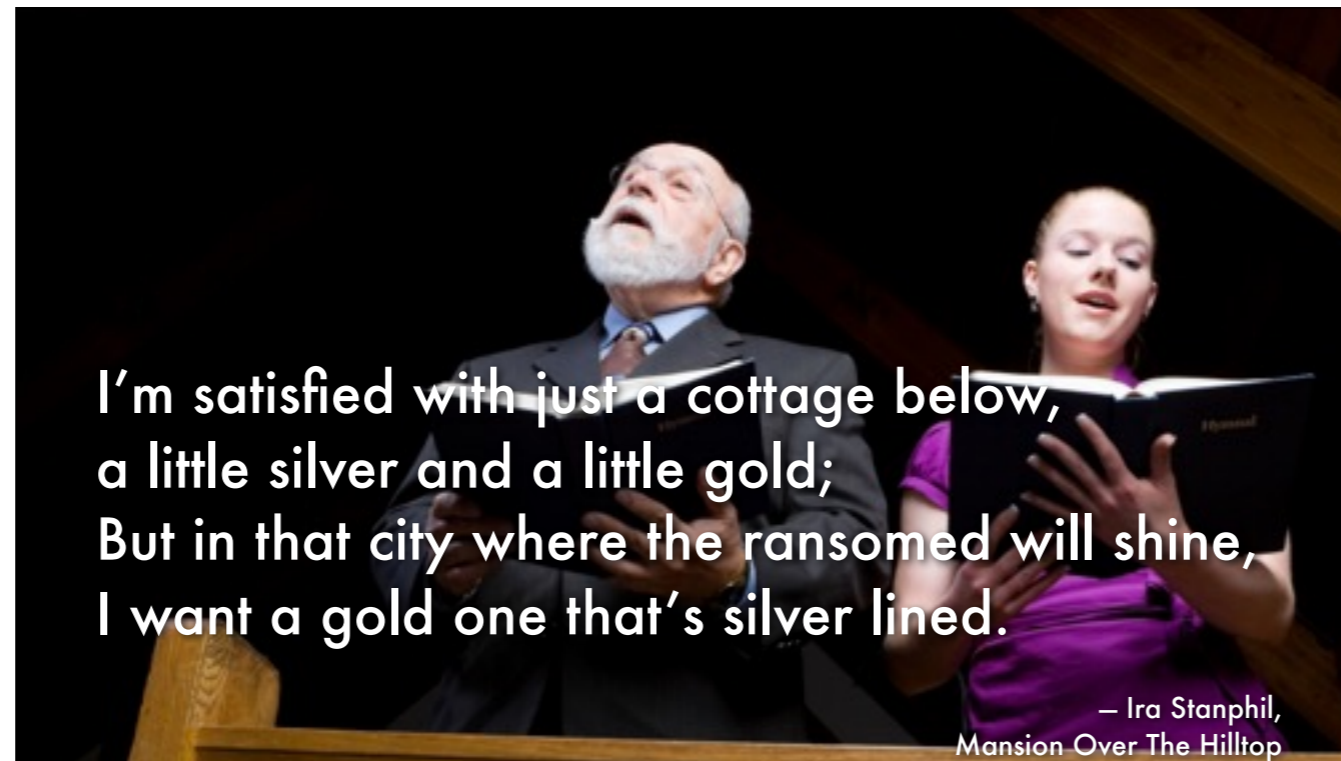
- Heaven is boring, hell is fun.
- The fun, interesting people go to hell, so it must be a better place than heaven.



- Ever we'll sing praise to the King, singing redemption's song.
- Tillit S. Teddlie



- O land of rest for thee I sigh ... we'll work till Jesus comes.
- Elizabeth Mills



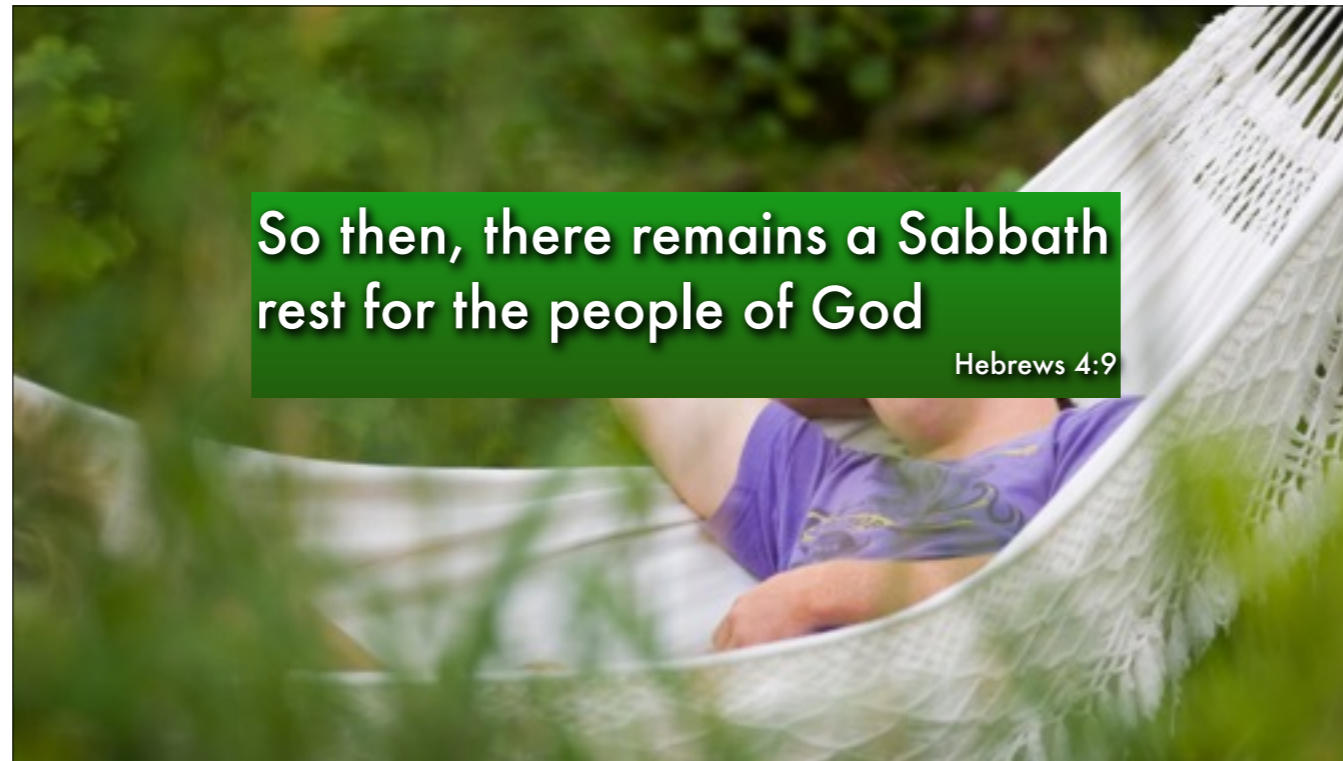
I'm satisfied with just a cottage below,
a little silver and a little gold;
But in that city where the ransomed will shine,
I want a gold one that's silver lined.

— Ira Stanphil,
Mansion Over The Hilltop

- I'm satisfied with just a cottage below, a little silver and a little gold; But in that city where the ransomed will shine, I want a gold one that's silver lined.
- Ira Stanphil



- Where does the idea of rest in heaven come from?
- Not unjustified in some ways.



- Hebrews 4:9-11: So then, there remains a Sabbath rest for the people of God, 10 for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his. 11 Let us therefore strive to enter that rest, so that no one may fall by the same sort of disobedience.
 - It seems that this has been misunderstood to refer to future (heaven) instead of now (church).

A photograph of a person lying in a white hammock, surrounded by lush green foliage. The person is wearing a purple shirt and is resting their head on their hand. A green rectangular box with white text is overlaid on the image.

So then, there remains a Sabbath
rest for the people of God

Hebrews 4:9

- So many have expected that Heaven will be a place of rest
 - Yet they didn't ask what that "rest" really means
 - Rest is the opposite of work... so no work in heaven!

A photograph of a person lying in a white hammock, surrounded by lush green foliage. A green rectangular text box is superimposed over the center of the image.

whoever has entered God's rest
has also rested from his works

Hebrews 4:10

- Hebrews 4:10 for whoever has entered God's rest has also rested from his works as God did from his.
 - God's rest:

A photograph of a person lying in a white hammock, partially visible. The background is a soft-focus green landscape. Two text boxes are overlaid on the image: a green one at the top and a blue one below it. A blue arrow points from the green box to the blue box.

whoever has entered God's rest
has also rested from his works

Hebrews 4:10

the heavenly blessedness in which God dwells, and of which he
has promised to make persevering believers in Christ partakers
after the toils and trials of life on earth are ended

— Thayer

- Thayer: a putting to rest calming of the winds a resting place metaph. the heavenly blessedness in which God dwells, and of which he has promised to make persevering believers in Christ partakers after the toils and trials of life on earth are ended

A photograph of a person lying in a white hammock, partially visible. The background is a lush green forest. Two text boxes are overlaid on the image: a green one at the top and a blue one below it. A blue arrow points from the green box to the blue box.

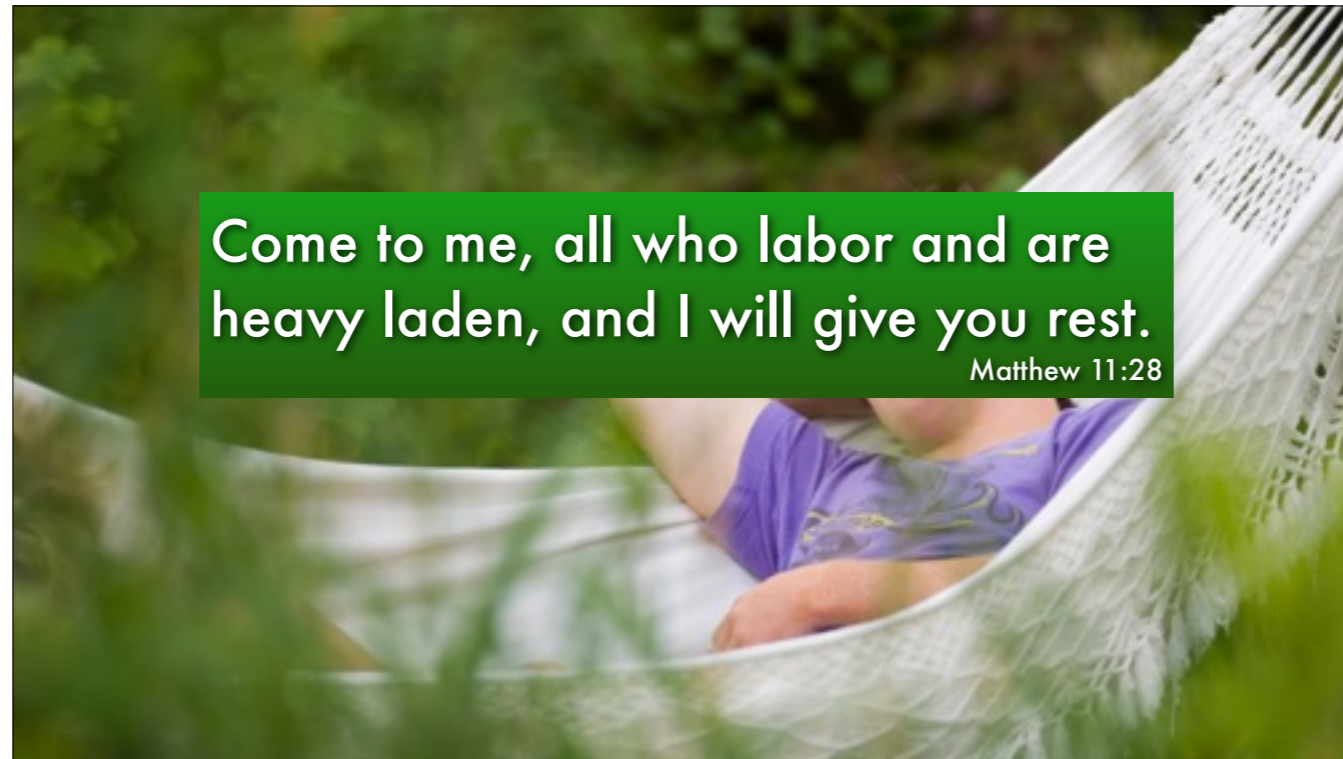
whoever has entered God's rest
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Hebrews 4:10

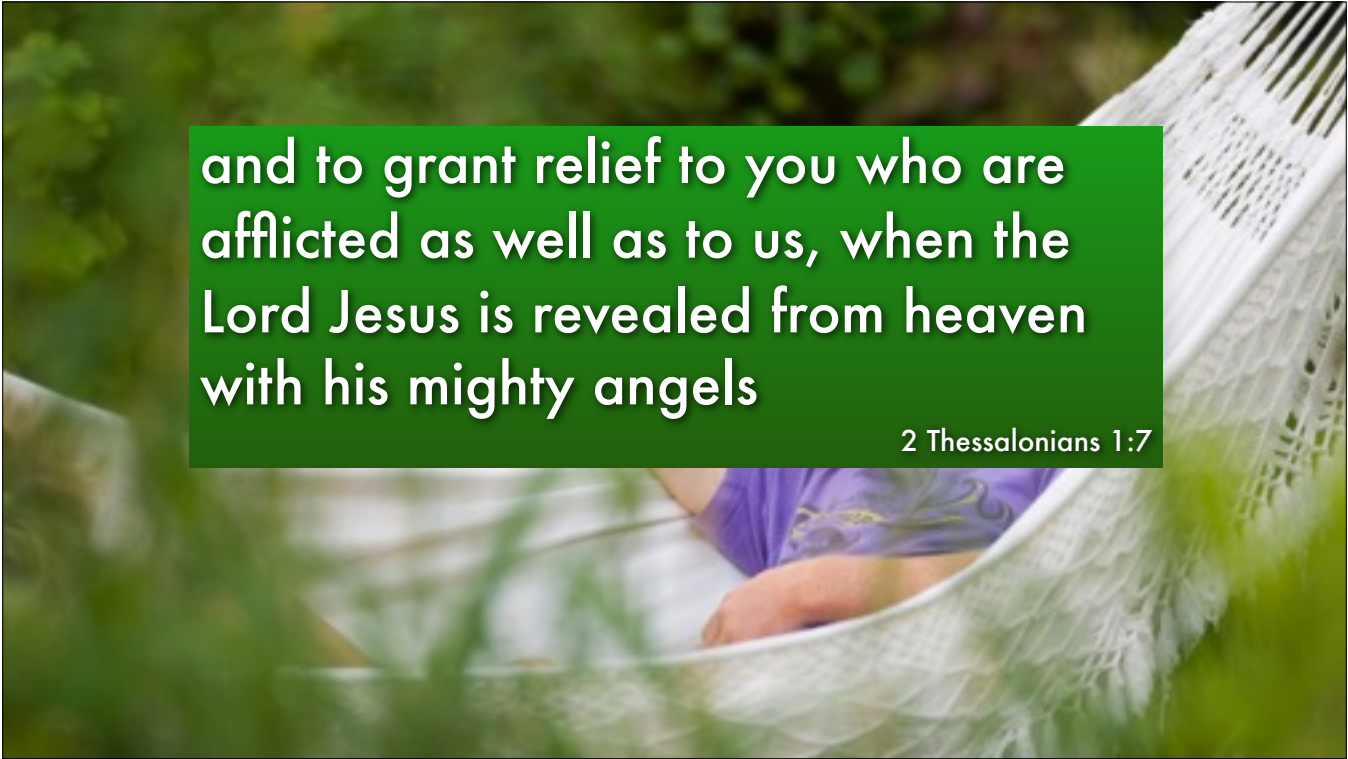
the heavenly blessedness in which God dwells, and of which he
has promised to make persevering believers in Christ partakers
after the toils and trials of life on earth are ended

— Thayer

- TDNT: In Heb. 3- 4 (cf. Ps. 95:11), the reference is to the rest (or resting place) that God gives to his people. As the OT promise points beyond Moses to Christ, so the rest of God in Gen. 2:2 points beyond Joshua and David (4:7- 8) to the final rest to which believers in Christ will attain if they hold fast to their faith.



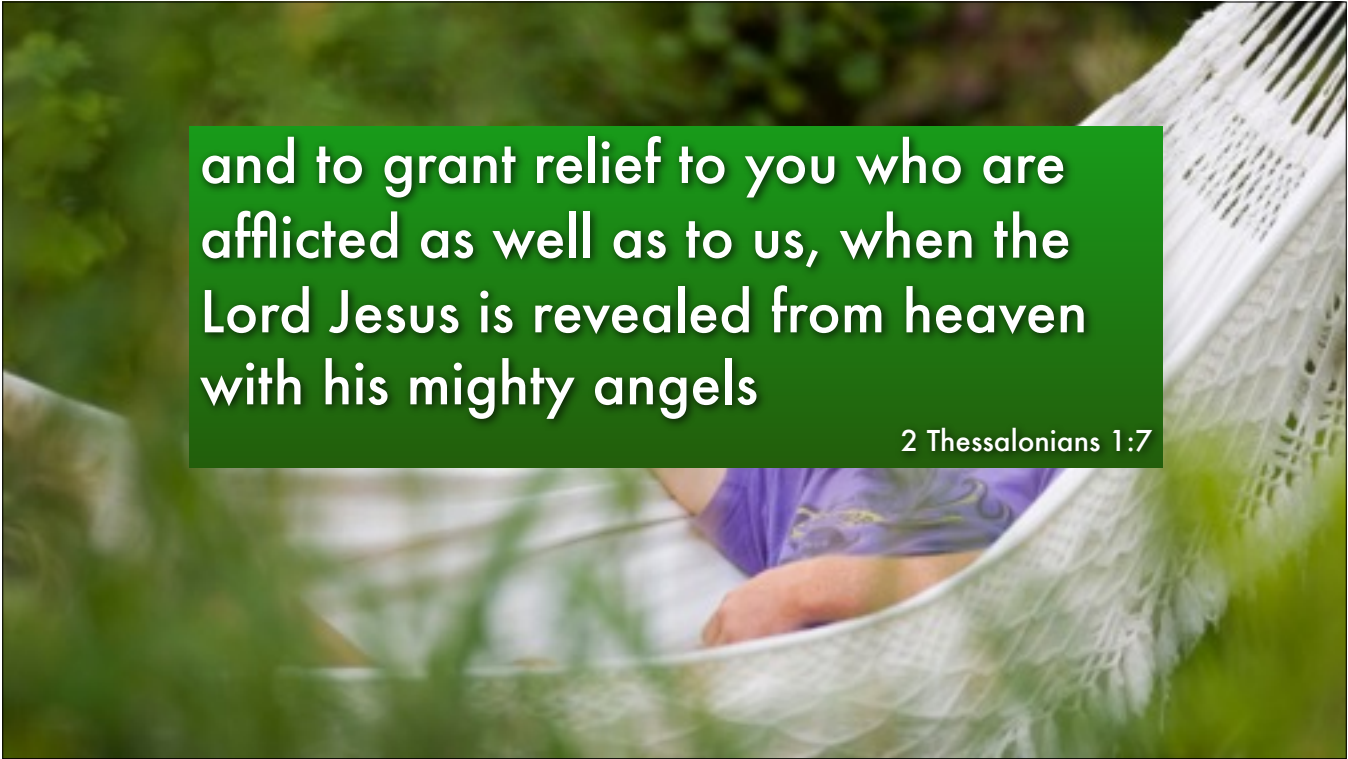
- Matthew 11:28: Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.



and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels

2 Thessalonians 1:7

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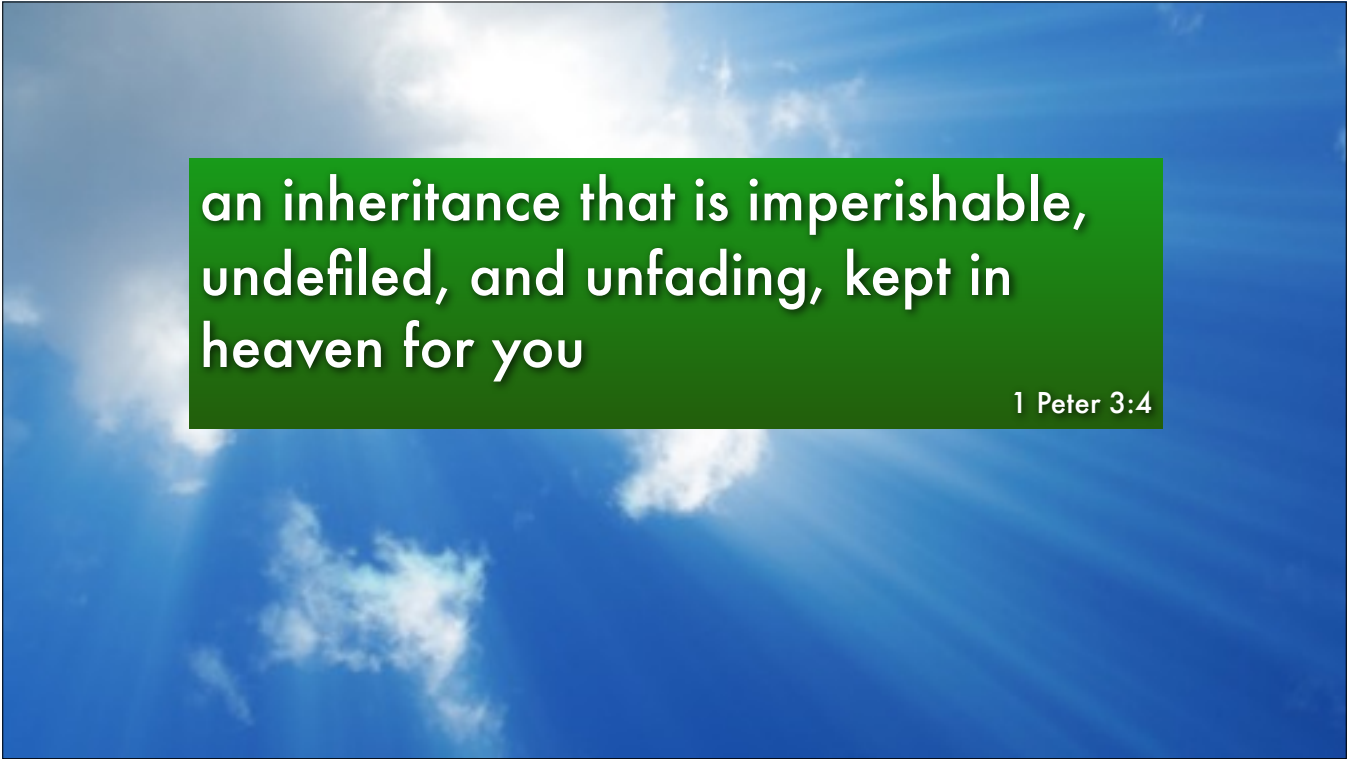
and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels

2 Thessalonians 1:7

- Rest... but
 - When?
 - What does it really mean?



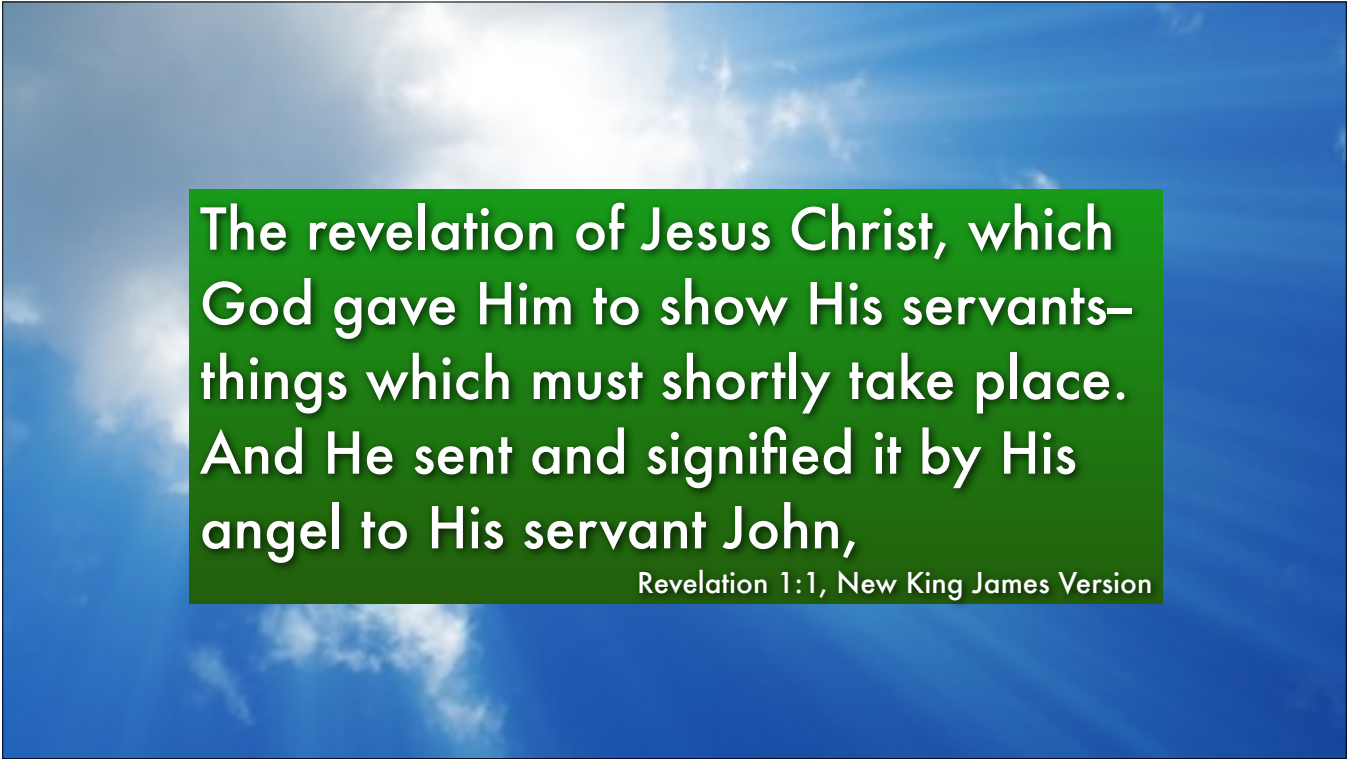
- Visions from Heaven



an inheritance that is imperishable,
undefiled, and unfading, kept in
heaven for you

1 Peter 3:4

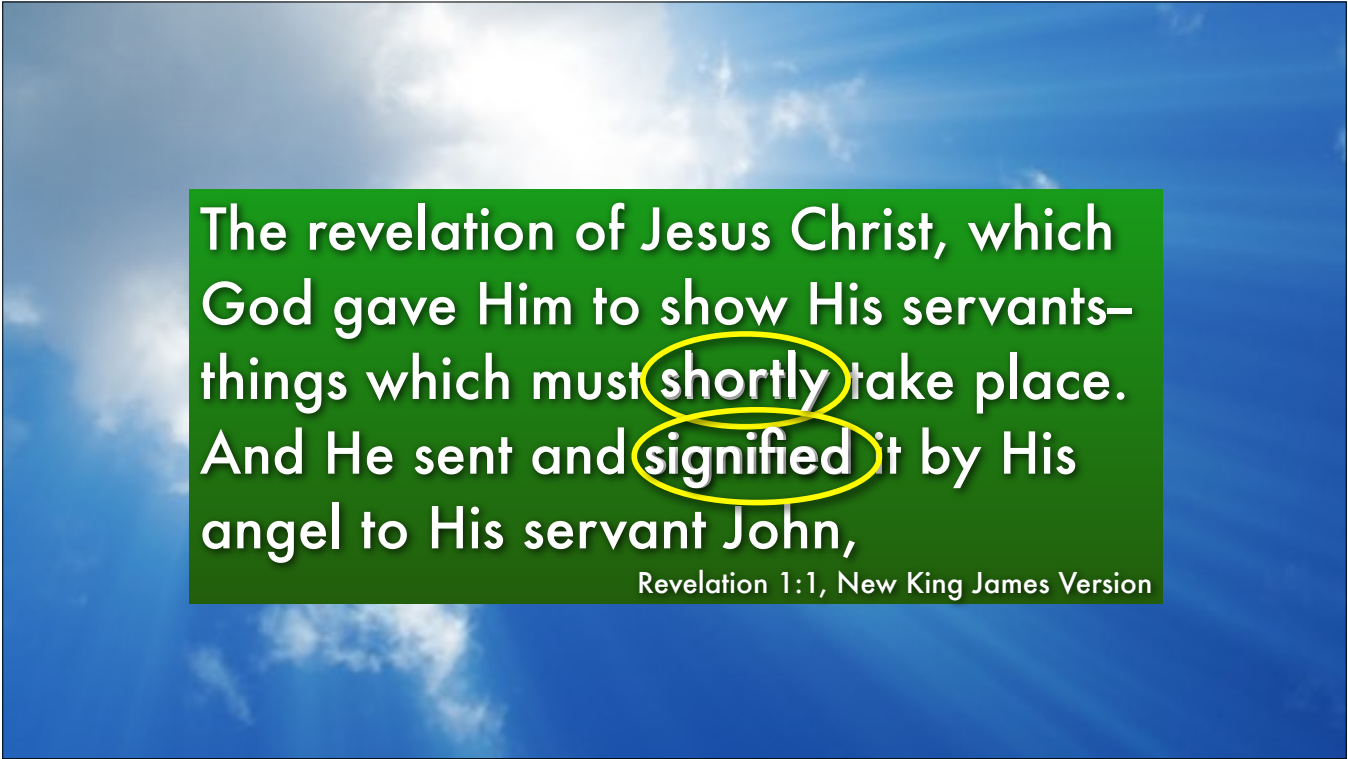
- 1 Peter 1:3-5: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, 4 to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, 5 who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.



The revelation of Jesus Christ, which
God gave Him to show His servants--
things which must shortly take place.
And He sent and signified it by His
angel to His servant John,

Revelation 1:1, New King James Version

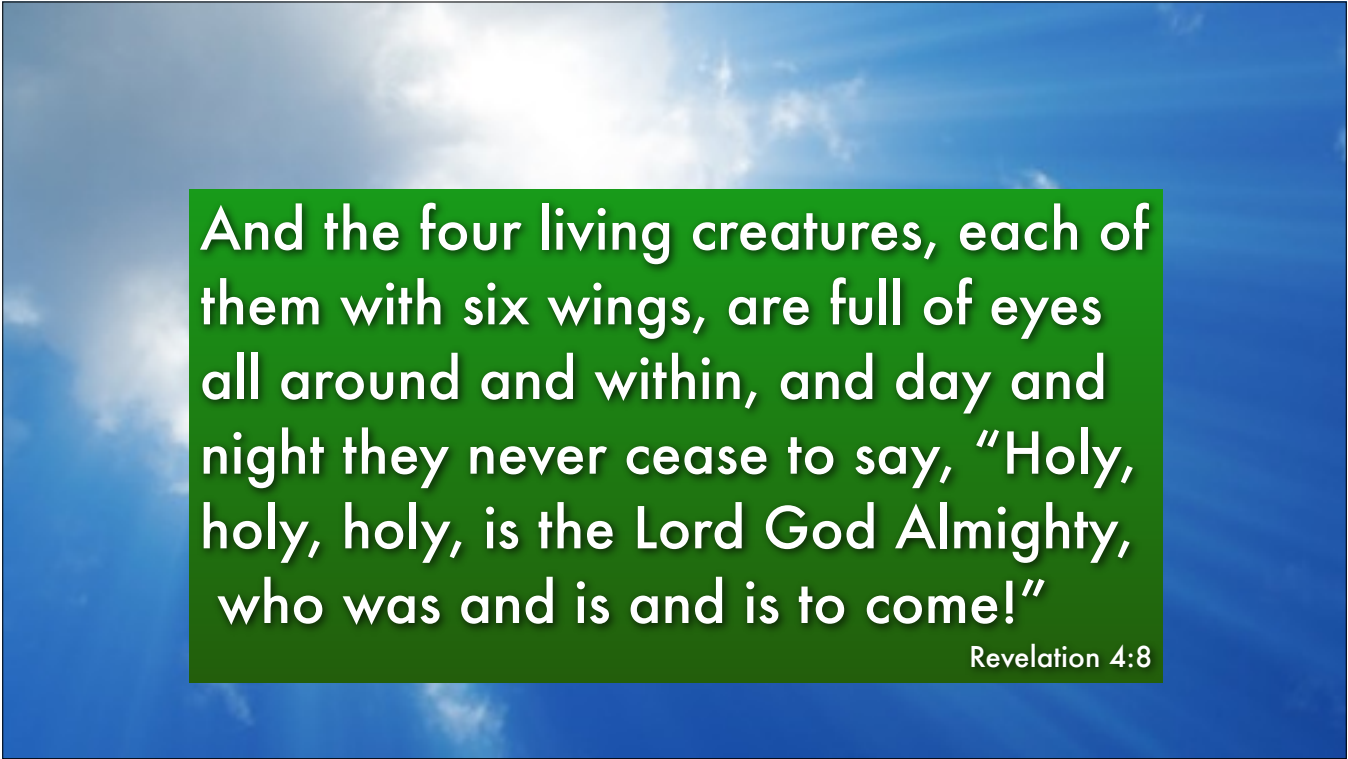
- Revelation 1:1: The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John,
- NKJV: The Revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave Him to show His servants--things which must shortly take place. And He sent and signified it by His angel to His servant John,



The revelation of Jesus Christ, which
God gave Him to show His servants—
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And He sent and signified it by His
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Revelation 1:1, New King James Version

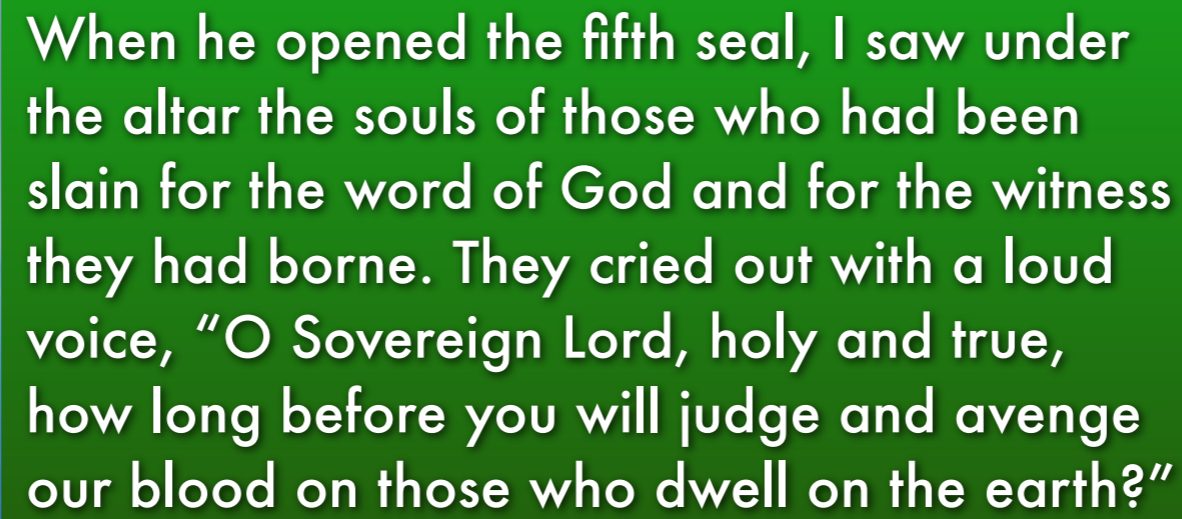
- must shortly take place
- signified = figurative



And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"

Revelation 4:8

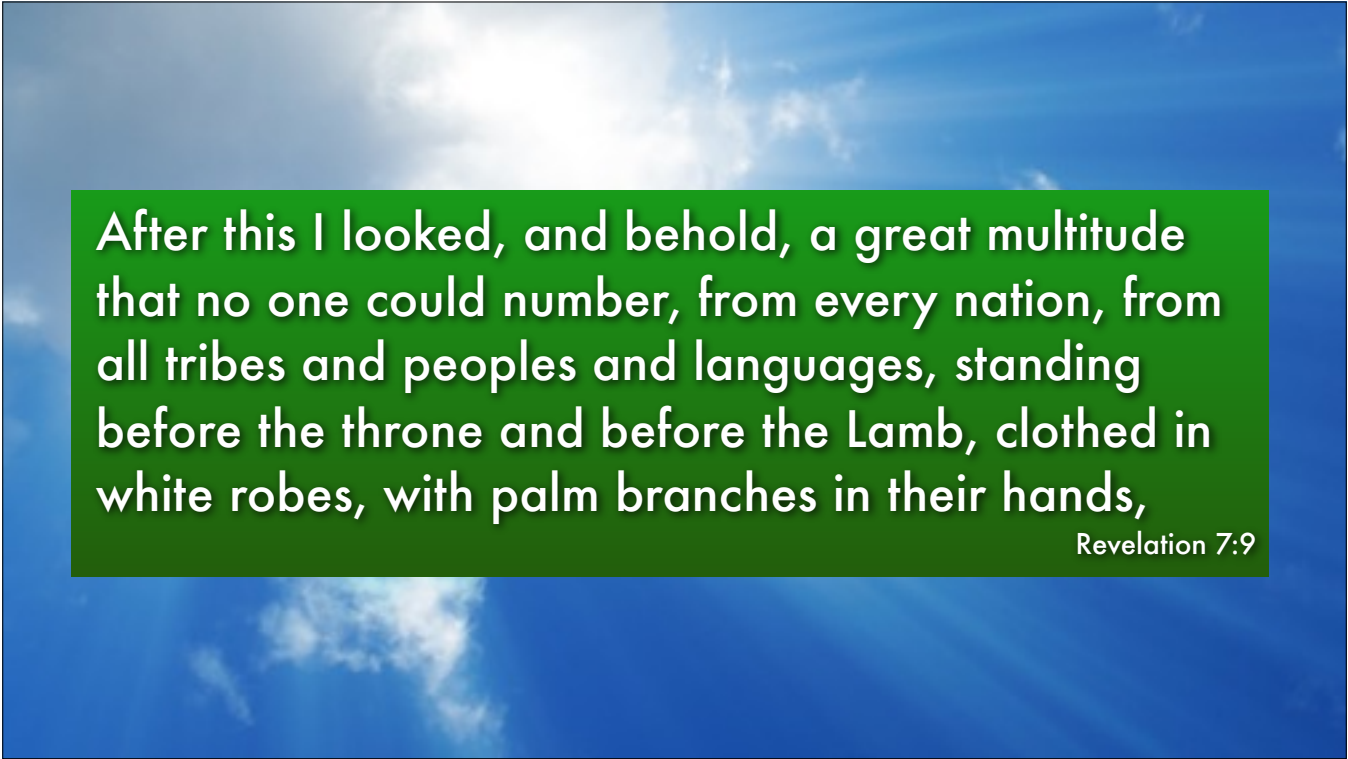
- Revelation 4: Throne of God,
- Revelation 4:8: And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!"



When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"

Revelation 6:9-10

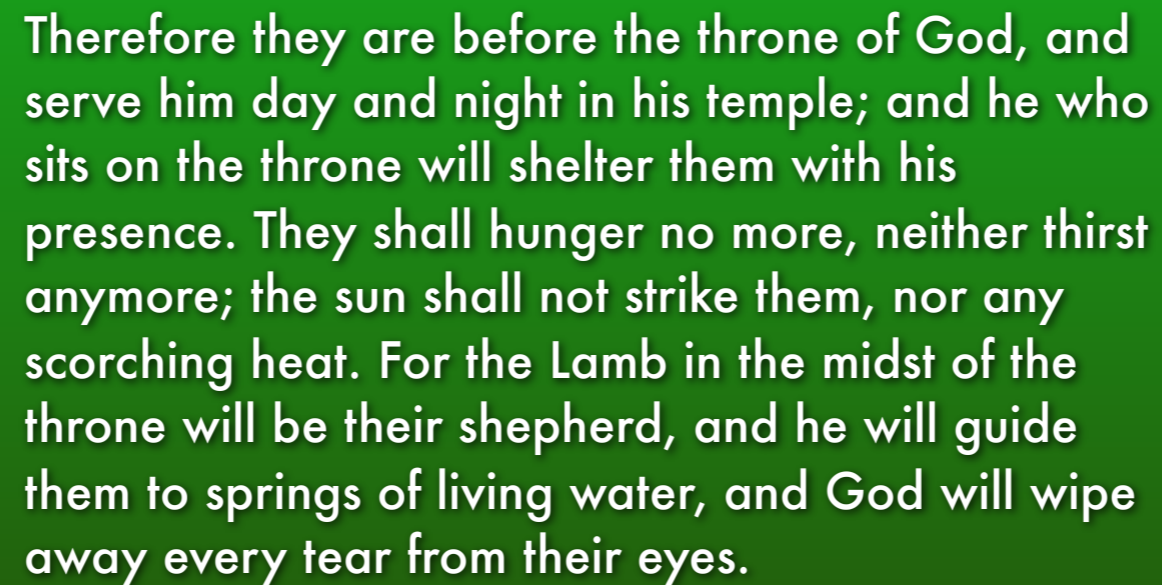
- Revelation 6: opening the seals: 5th seal (9-11)
- Revelation 6:9-10: When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar **the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God** and for the witness they had borne. They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?"



After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude
that no one could number, from every nation, from
all tribes and peoples and languages, standing
before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in
white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

Revelation 7:9

- Revelation 7:9-17:
 - great multitude
 - every nation
 - standing before the throne and Lamb
 - white robes and palm branches
 - **Crying out with loud voice:** "Salvation"
 - 14) washed robes, white in blood of lamb



Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

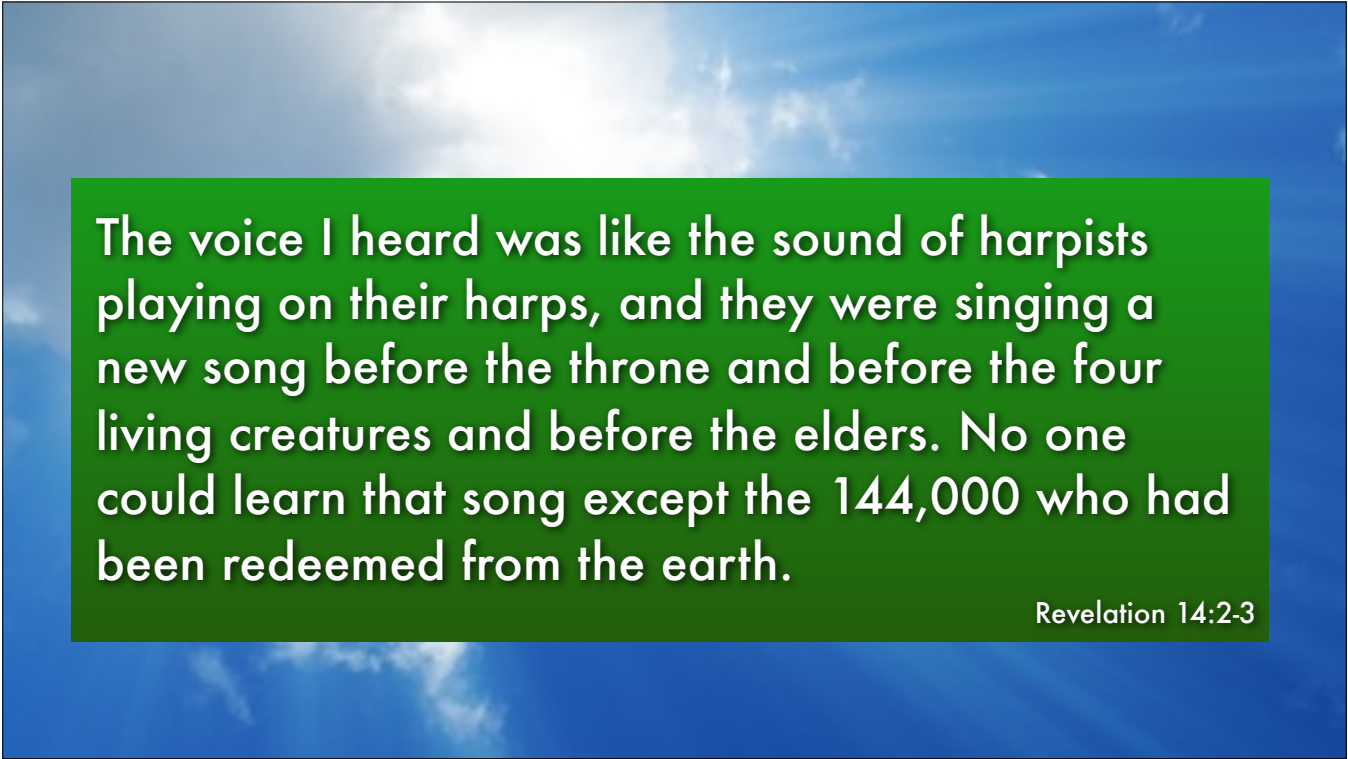
Revelation 7:15-17

- Revelation 7:15-17: Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. 16 They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. 17 For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple; and he who sits on the throne will shelter them with his presence. They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any scorching heat. For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of living water, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.

Revelation 7:15-17

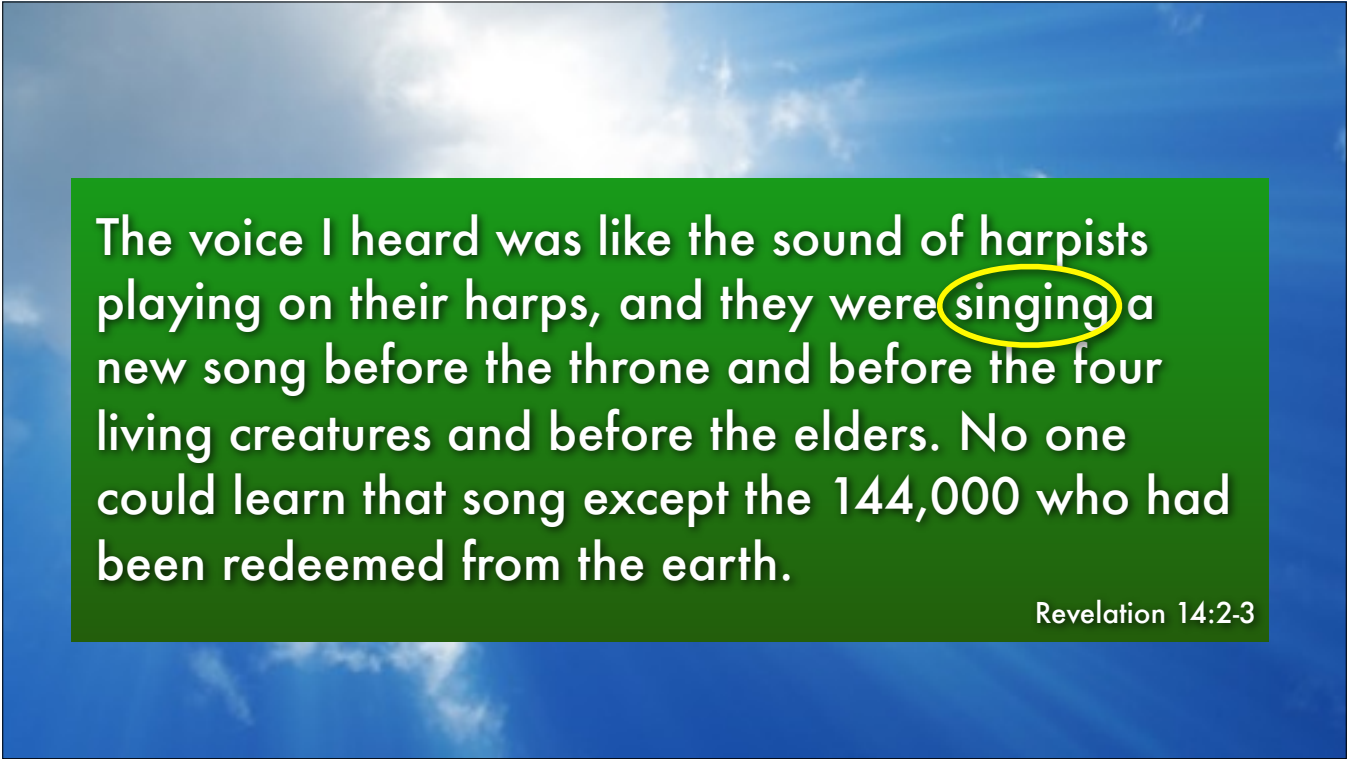
- Serve Him Day and Night
- But... when?
 - short time (therefore not a picture of eternity?)
 - currently serving God!
 - Will that change in heaven? I don't think.
- Serve implies that work is being done.



The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

Revelation 14:2-3

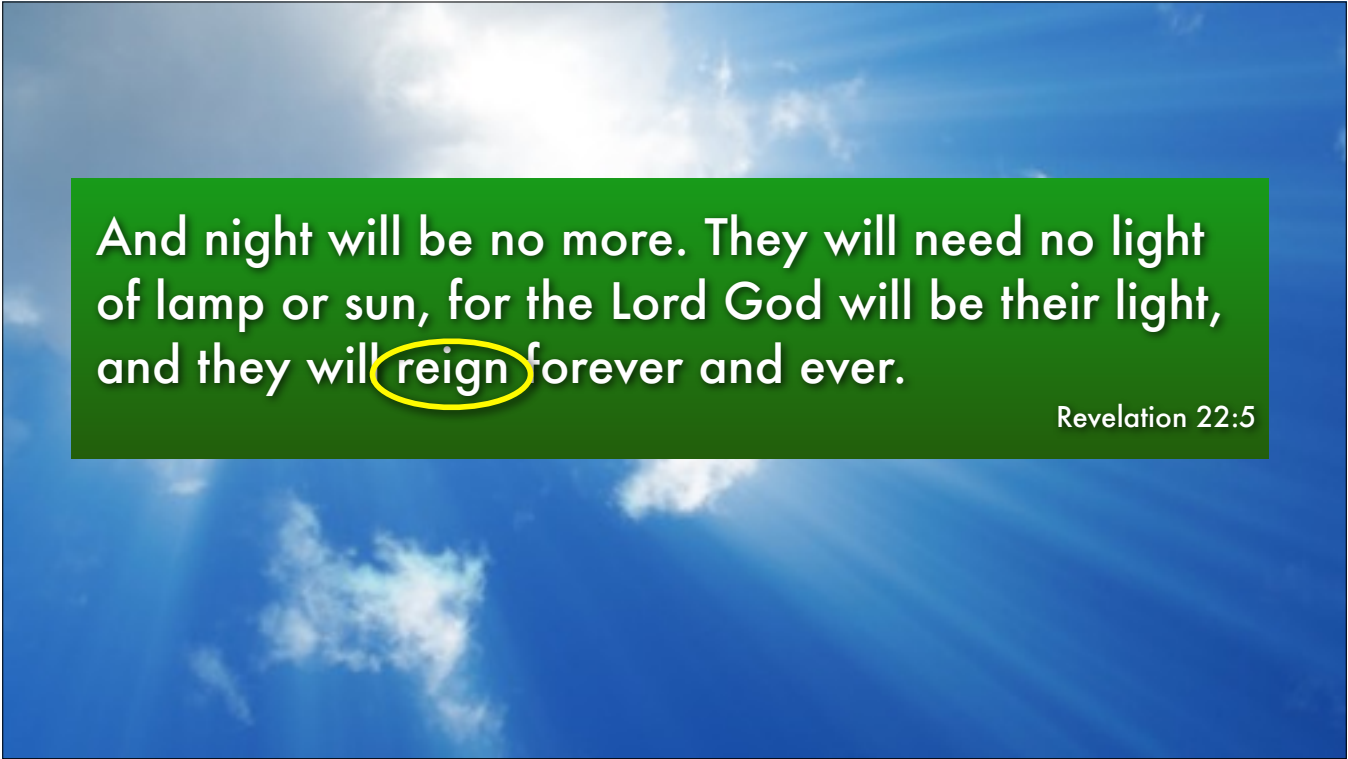
- Revelation 14:2-3: The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, 3 and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.
- 144000: name on forehead, redeemed



The voice I heard was like the sound of harpists playing on their harps, and they were singing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the 144,000 who had been redeemed from the earth.

Revelation 14:2-3

- harps and singing
- Harps
 - is a metaphor for the voice from heaven
 - also roar of many waters and loud thunder
- Singing new song



And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Revelation 22:5


- Revelation 22:5: And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.



- Crying out
- Serving
- Singing
- Reigning



- Visions from Heaven

A close-up photograph of a person's hands and arms, wearing a light blue denim shirt. The person is holding a piece of light-colored wood, possibly sanding or shaping it. The background is plain white.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.

Genesis 2:15

- Genesis 2:15: The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it.



Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening.

Psalms 104:23

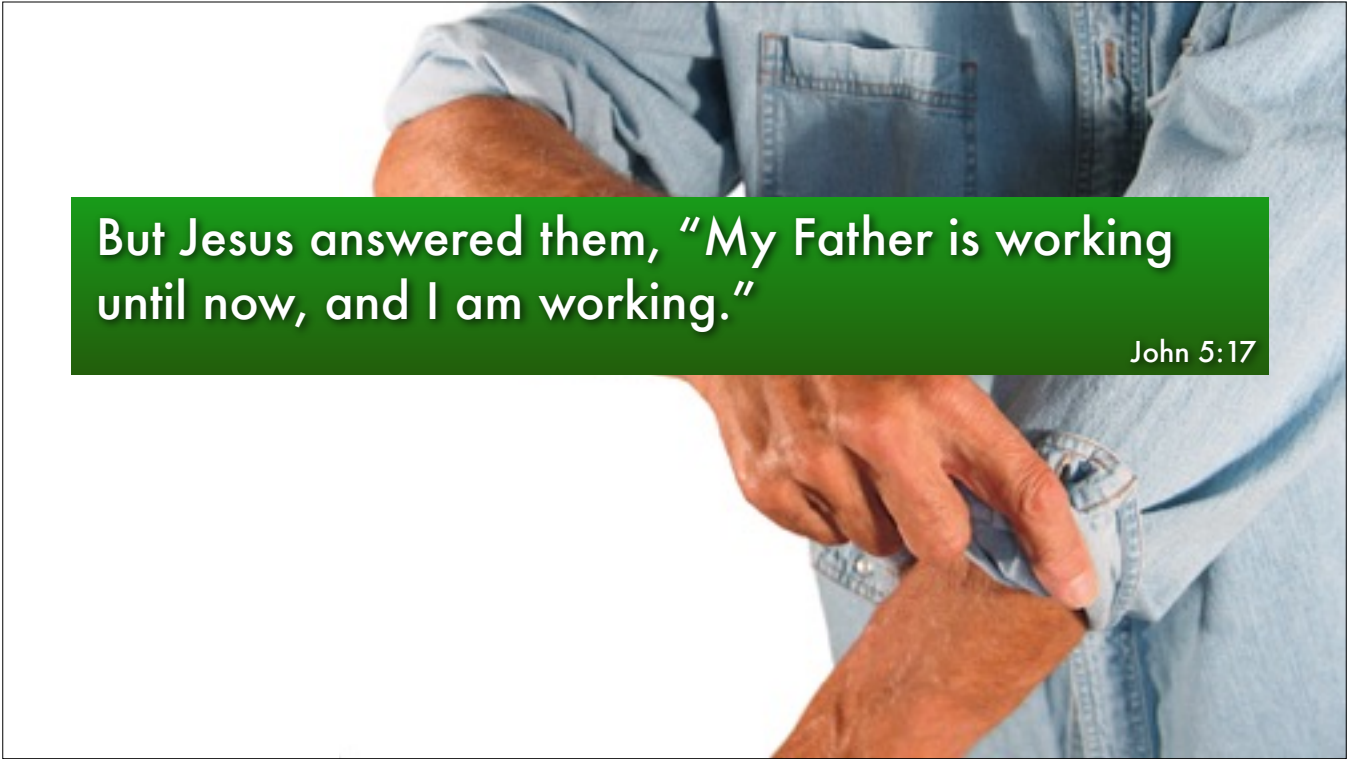
- Psalms 104:23: Man goes out to his work and to his labor until the evening.
-

A close-up photograph of a person's torso and arms. They are wearing a light blue denim shirt with the sleeves rolled up. Their hands are holding a thick, light-brown wooden staff or handle. The background is plain white.

Therefore I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter my rest."

Psalms 95:11

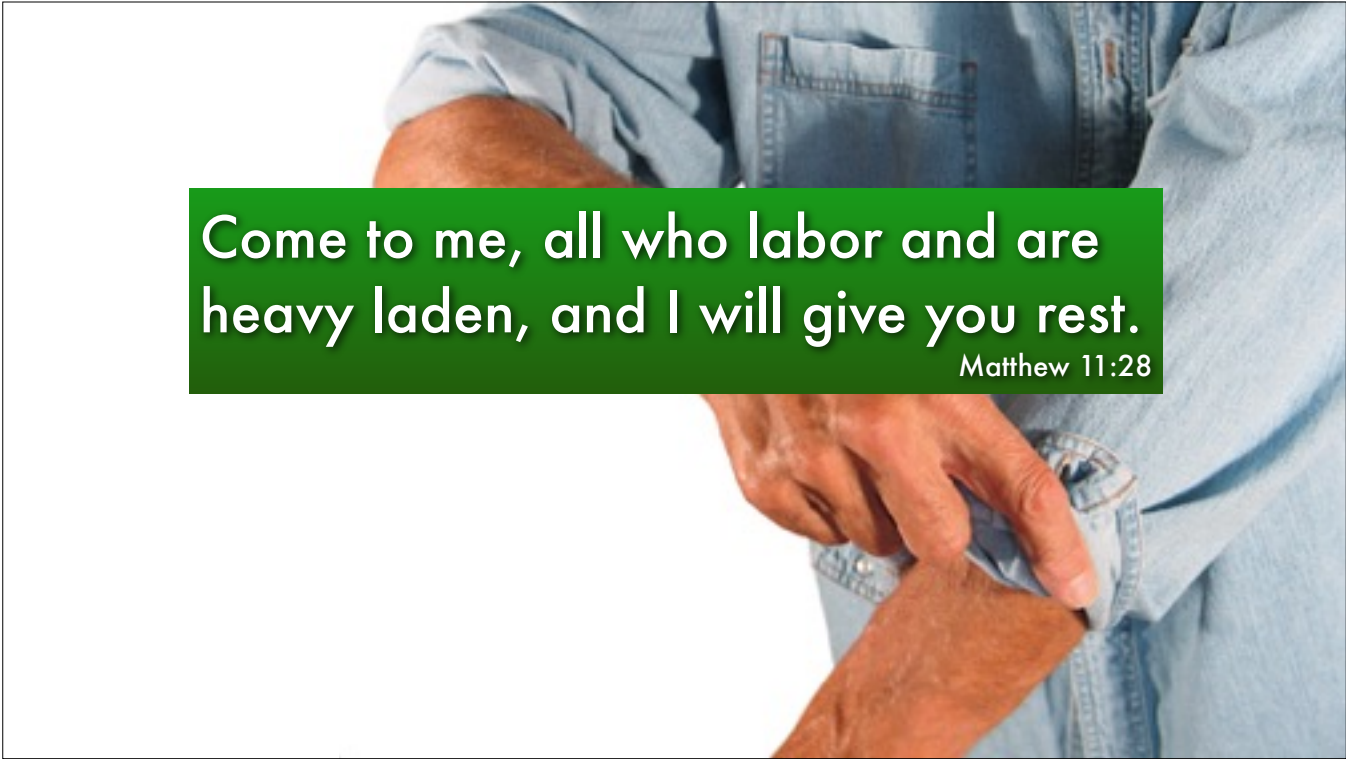
- Psalms 95:11: Therefore I swore in my wrath, "They shall not enter my rest."
- When the Israelites entered the promised land, would they have NOTHING to do?
 - Was every day a day of singing, praise, worship?
 - Houses, vineyards, farms: work!



But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."

John 5:17

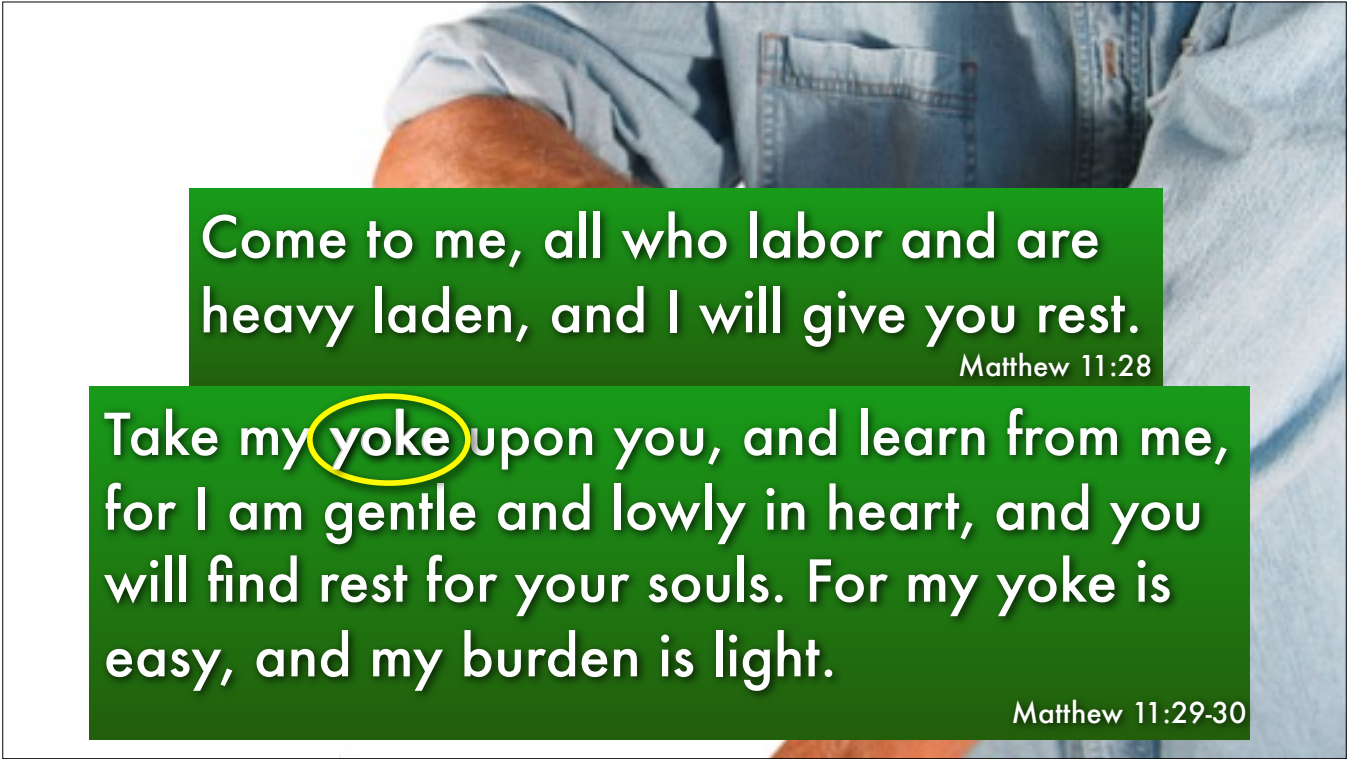
- John 5:17: But Jesus answered them, "My Father is working until now, and I am working."

A close-up photograph of a person's torso and arms. They are wearing a light blue denim shirt with the sleeves rolled up. They are holding a thick, light brown wooden plank with both hands, positioned horizontally across their midsection. The background is plain white.

Come to me, all who labor and are
heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

- Matthew 11:28: Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.



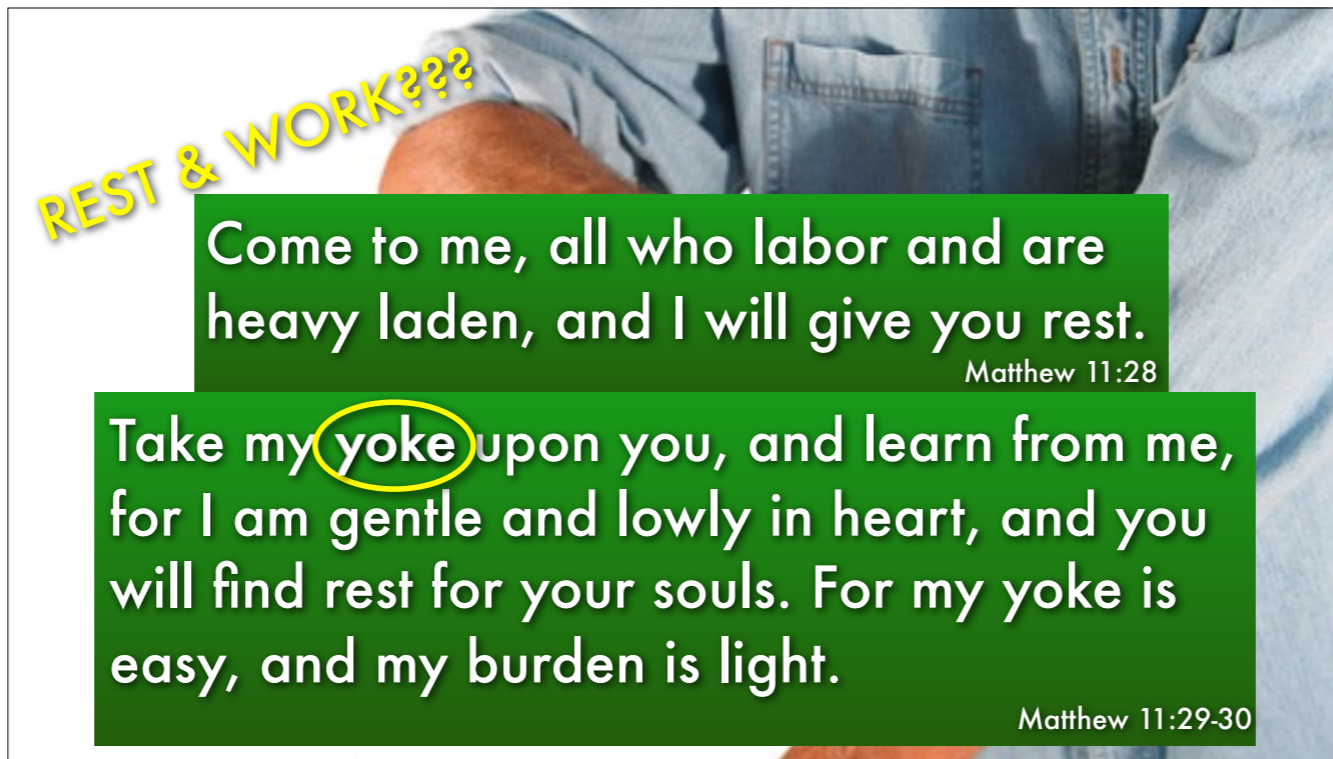
Come to me, all who labor and are
heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

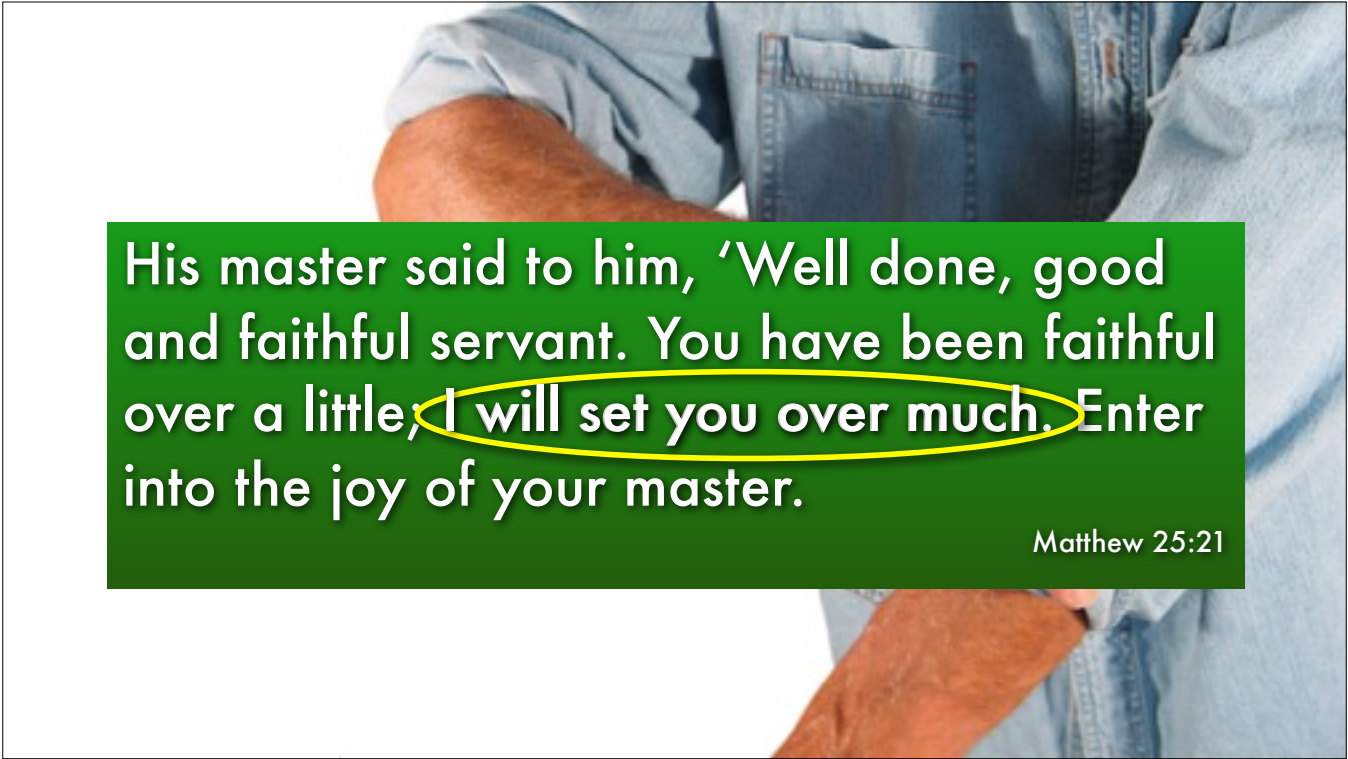
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me,
for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you
will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is
easy, and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:29-30

- Matthew 11:29-30: 29 Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.
- Yoke is for work of plowing: don't wear a yoke without work!
 - Easy
 - Burden is light



- How can we have both REST and WORK???
- Joy of relationship (yoke joins us together with Christ)
- Fulfillment of purpose



His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.

Matthew 25:21

- Matthew 25:21: His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; **I will set you over much.** Enter into the joy of your master. '



Do you not know that we are to
judge angels?

1 Corinthians 6:3

- 1 Corinthians 6:3: Do you not know that we are to judge angels? How much more, then, matters pertaining to this life!
- How does this connect to “reign” (Revelation 22:5)

What does Jehovah have planned for us to do in heaven?

- What will we do in heaven for eternity?
- Serving, Working, Judging, Singing/praise
- Rest
- Joy
- Psalms 16:11: You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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

2 Corinthians 5:20



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The Abundant Life: The Life to Come - part 3

John 10:10

Synopsis: What will we be doing in heaven? Almost no specific information, but it will not be doing nothing! Rest, yes, and yet work. Serve and judge.

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