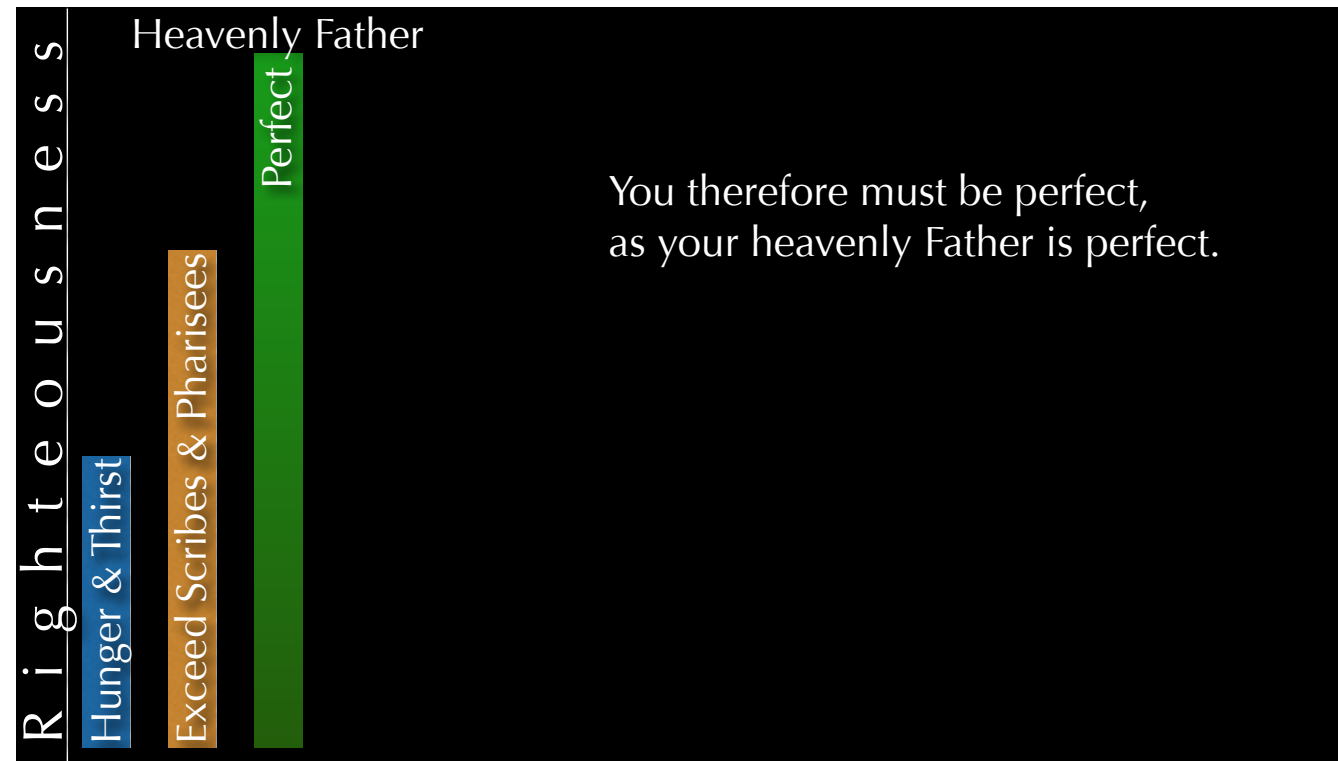




- text



- Used of people, the idea of “perfect” is maturity.
- My Father wants me to be a full grown adult follower, complete in Character like He is.
- Easy to see when we look at how this word is used...

R i g h t e o u s n e s s

Hunger & Thirst

Exceed Scribes & Pharisees

Perfect

Heavenly Father

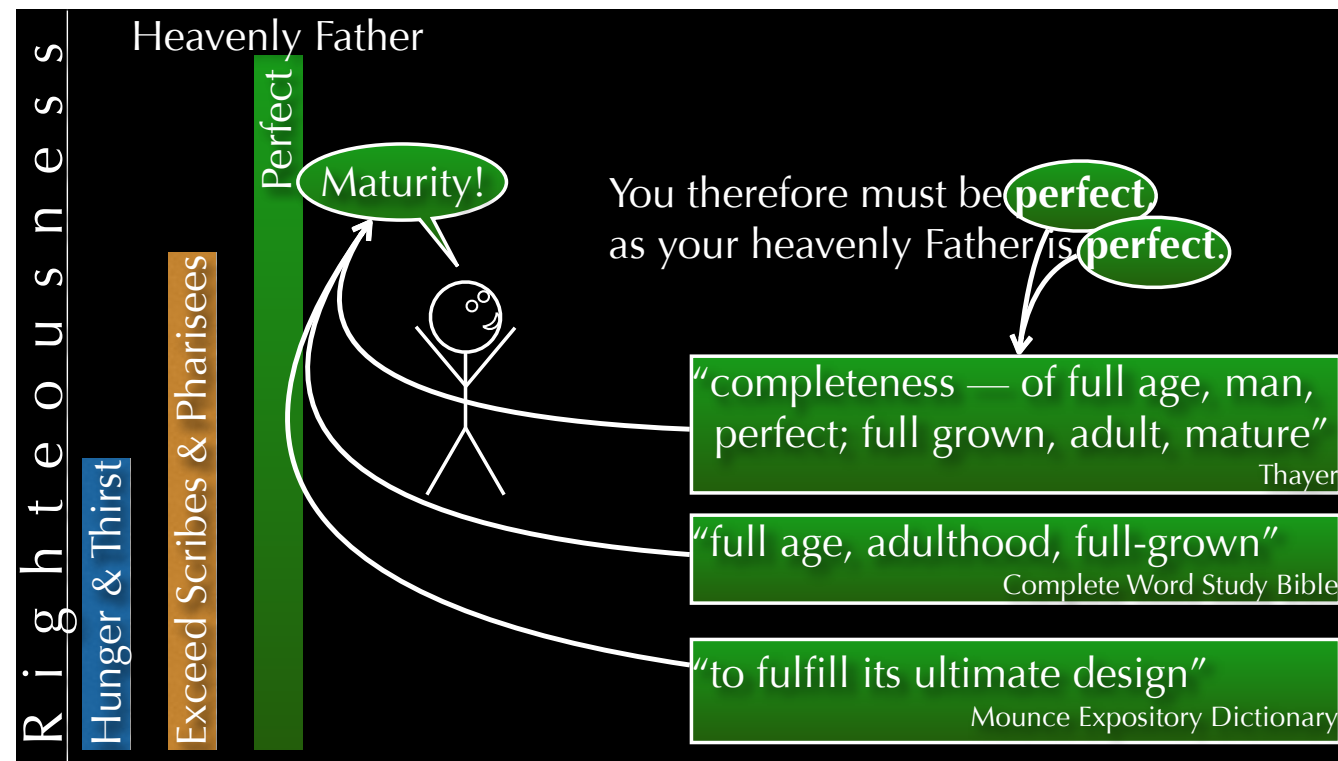
You therefore must be **perfect** as your heavenly Father is **perfect**.

"completeness — of full age, man, perfect; full grown, adult, mature"
Thayer

"full age, adulthood, full-grown"
Complete Word Study Bible

"to fulfill its ultimate design"
Mounce Expository Dictionary

- Used of people, the idea of “perfect” is maturity.
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- It means that I want to grow up to be like my big brother, who is like my Father.
 - It's really not about how high...
 - It's about resembling my Father: Character, and quality.
 - Look like Him, Act like Him, Think like Him, Be like Him.



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- Philippians 3:9: 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—
- My righteousness is because of Him
 - Not my own works, or own righteousness



- Jesus has shown us in this passage about the righteousness of God
- Life, Faith, Truth, Mercy, Love (examples, not exhaustive)



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R i g h t e o u s n e s s

Heavenly Father Life Faithful Truth Merciful Love
Perfect the **righteousness from God** that depends on faith

**You therefore must be perfect,
as your heavenly Father is perfect.**

Maturity!

Hunger & Thirst

Exceed Scribes & Pharisees



- You MUST be Perfect
 - You can!
- Don't be like the RYR, don't walk away sorrowful.
- Follow Jesus!

R i g h t e o u s n e s s

Heavenly Father Life Faithful Truth Merciful Love
Perfect the **righteousness from God** that depends on faith

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Put on the new self, which
is being renewed in
knowledge after the image
of its creator.

Colossians 3:10



- Colossians 3:10: and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.



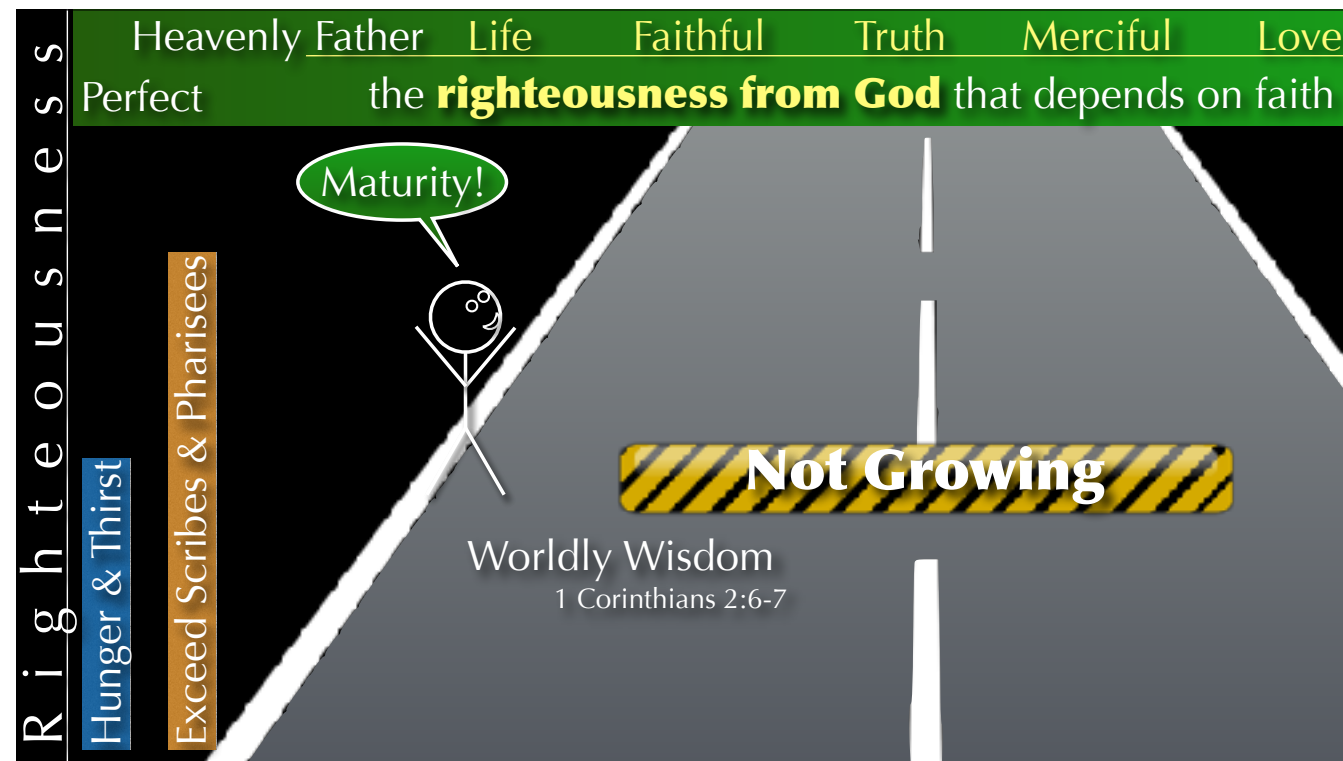
- Dangers of Not Maturing in Christ
- Parable of Sower... 3 Hindrances (Matthew 13)
 - Roadblocks and obstacles
 - with a few nuances added by Dave.



- Matthew 13:18-23 (ESV) 18 “Hear then the parable of the sower: 19 When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what has been sown in his heart. This is what was sown along the path. 20 As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, 21 yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away. 22 As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful. 23 As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”



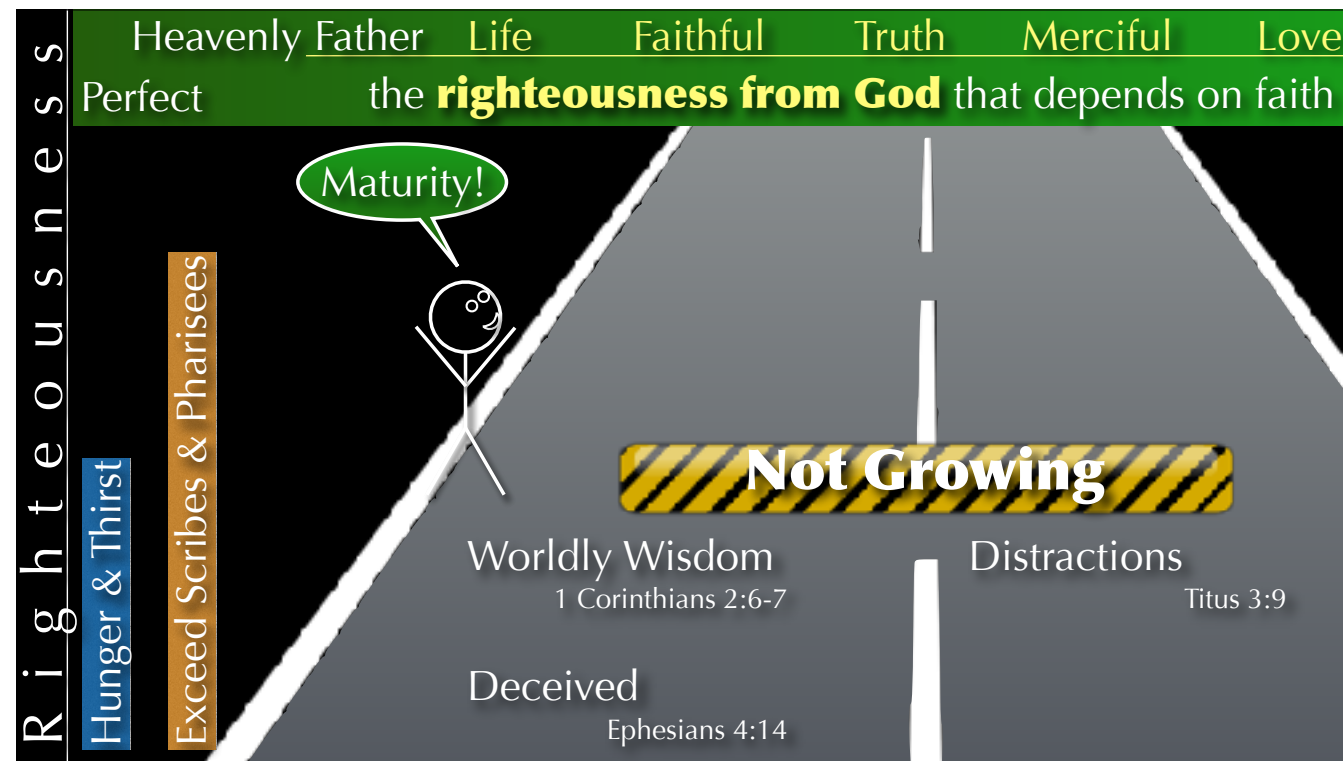
- Not growing up (seems obvious, but happens)
 - “not understand” (19)



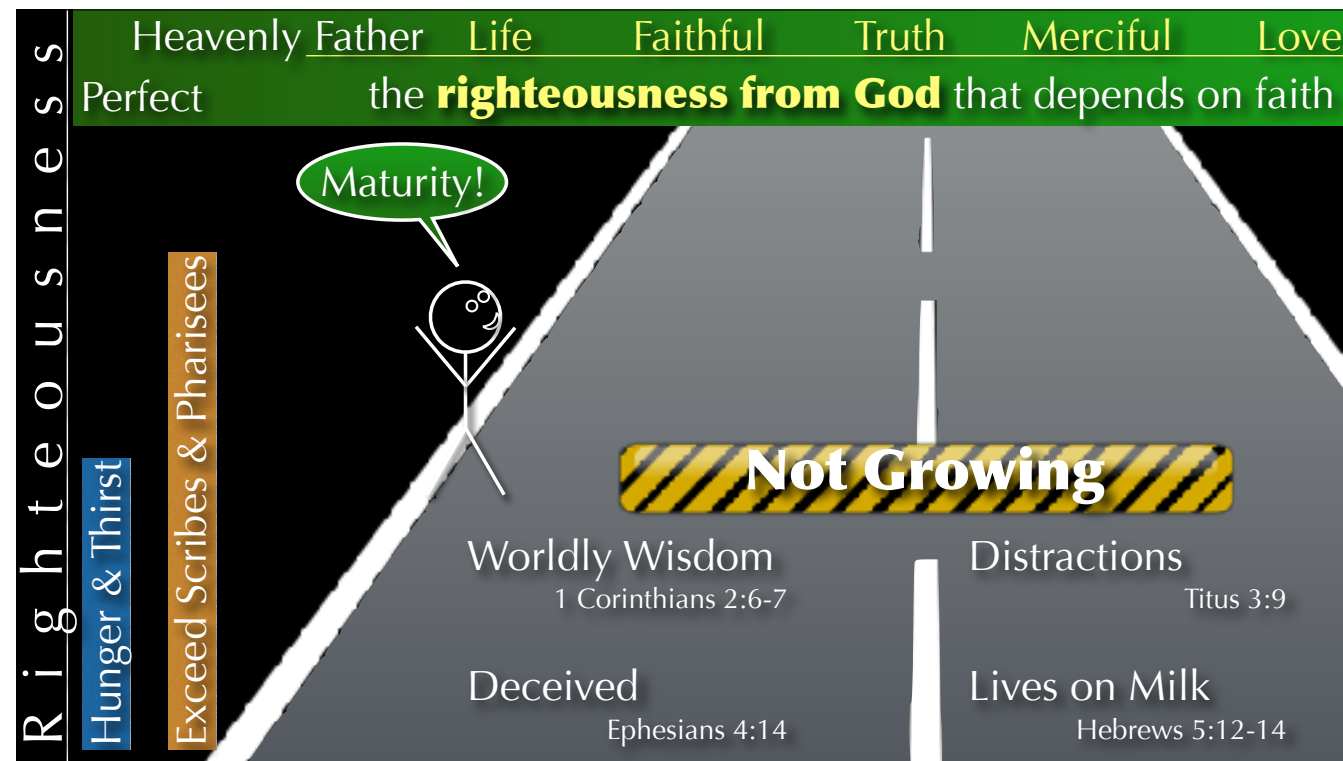
- Wisdom of World
 - 1 Corinthians 2:6-7 (ESV) 6 Yet among the mature we do impart wisdom, although it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to pass away. 7 But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glory.



- Easily Deceived
 - Ephesians 4:14 (ESV) 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.



- Foolish Distractions
 - Titus 3:9 (ESV) 9 But avoid foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless.



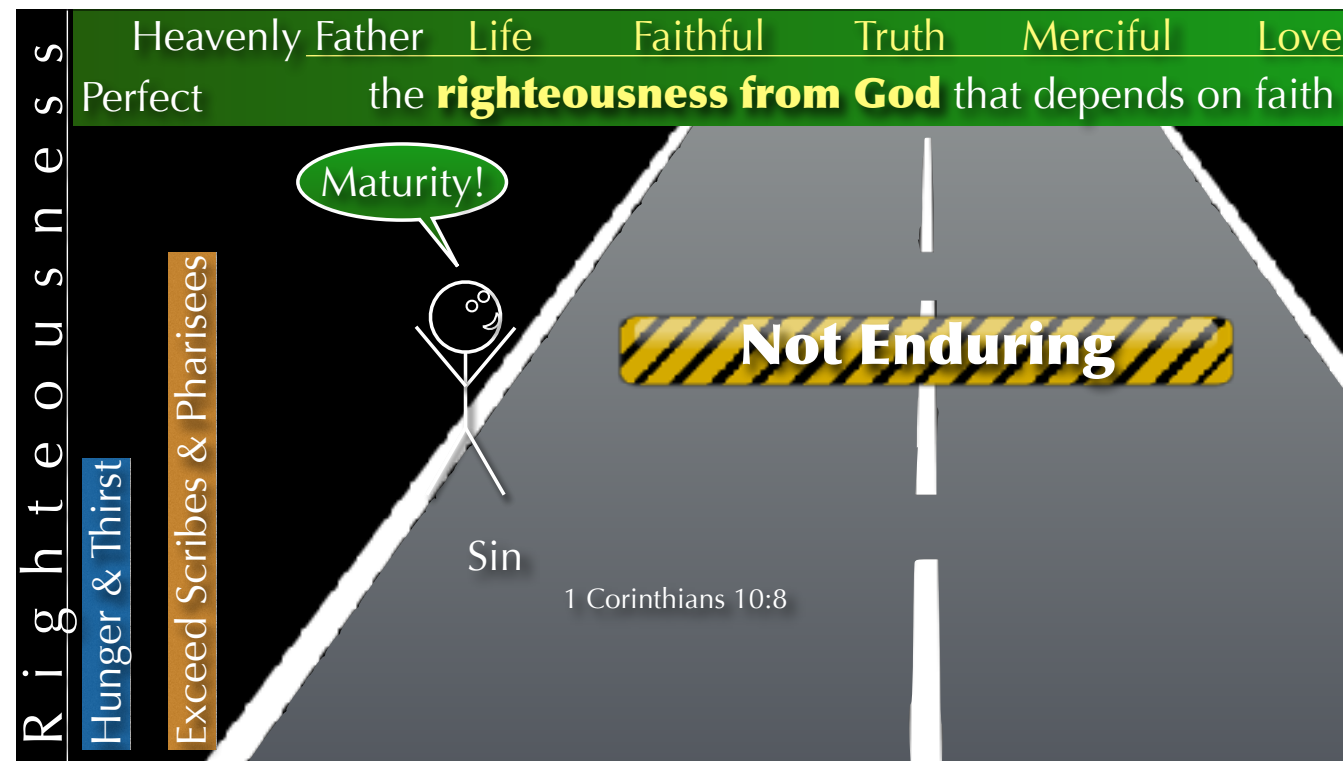
- Lives on Milk
 - Hebrews 5:12-14 (ESV) 12 For though by this time you ought to be teachers, you need someone to teach you again the basic principles of the oracles of God. You need milk, not solid food, 13 for everyone who lives on milk is unskilled in the word of righteousness, since he is a child. 14 But solid food is for the mature, for those who have their powers of discernment trained by constant practice to distinguish good from evil.



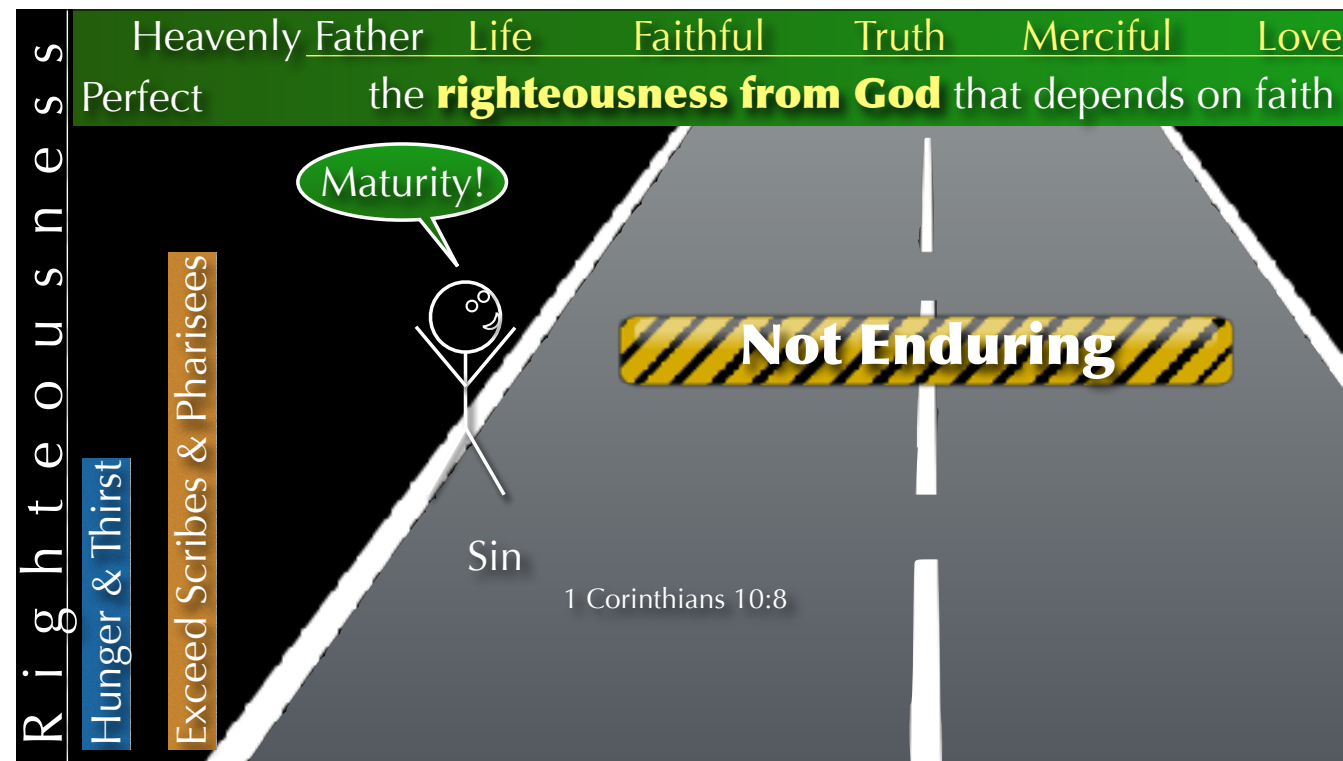
- Not enduring
 - Matthew 13:21: yet he has no root in himself, but endures for a while, and when tribulation or persecution arises on account of the word, immediately he falls away.



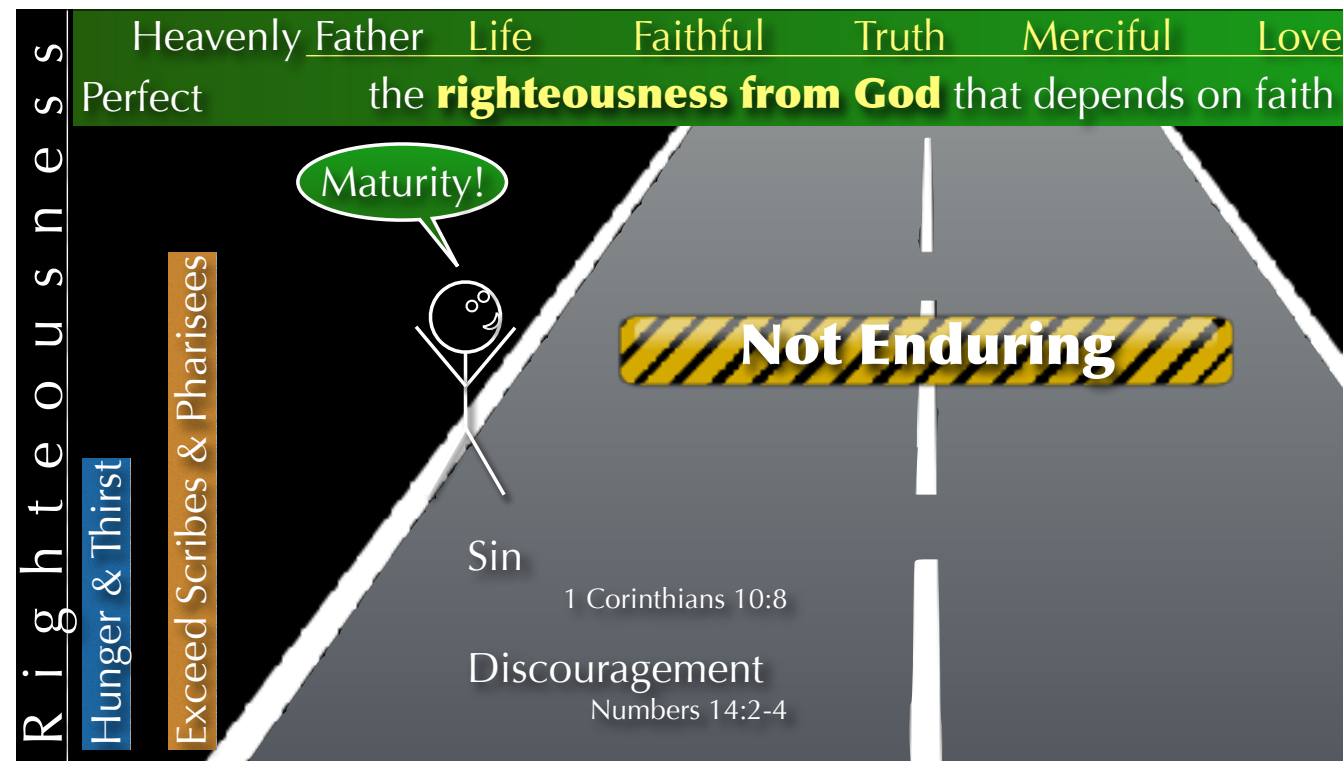
- James 1:2-4: Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.



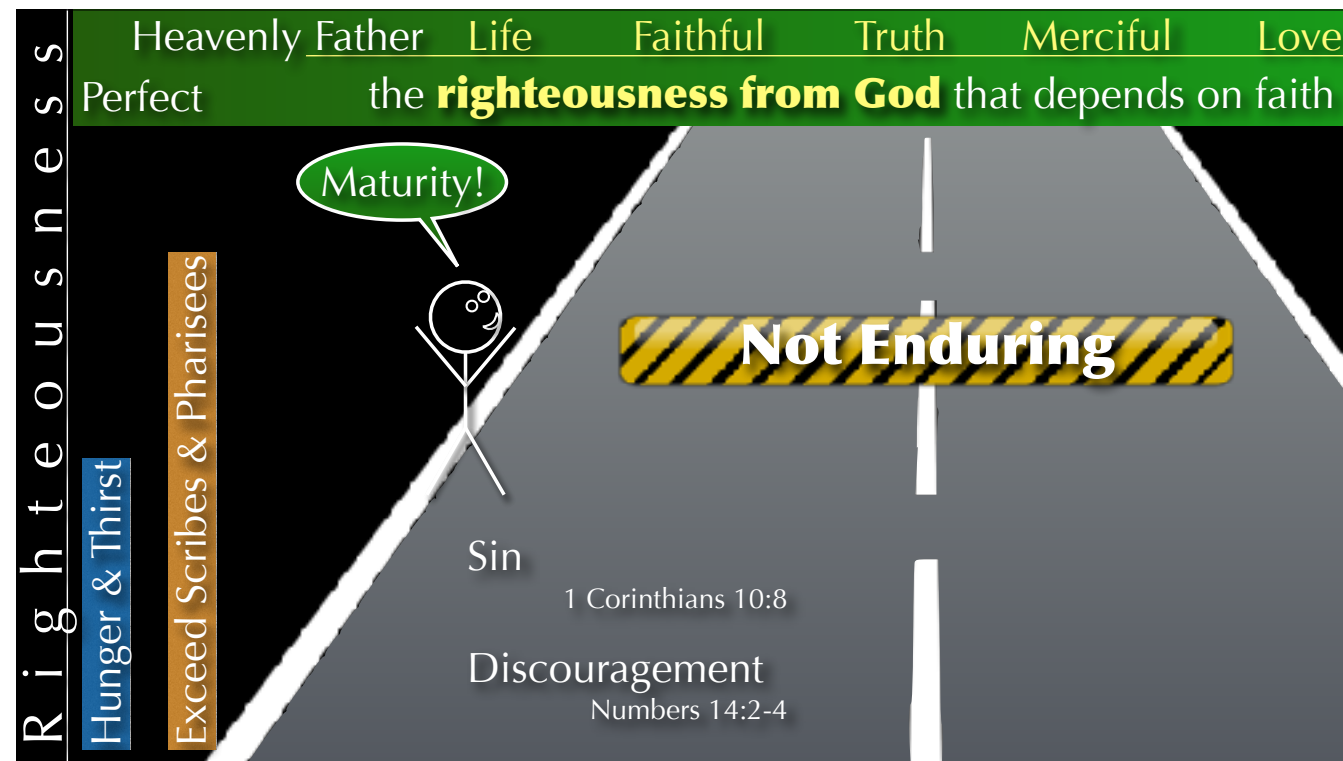
- Sin
 - 1 Corinthians 10:5: Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were **overthrown** in the wilderness.
 - 1 Corinthians 10:8: We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day.



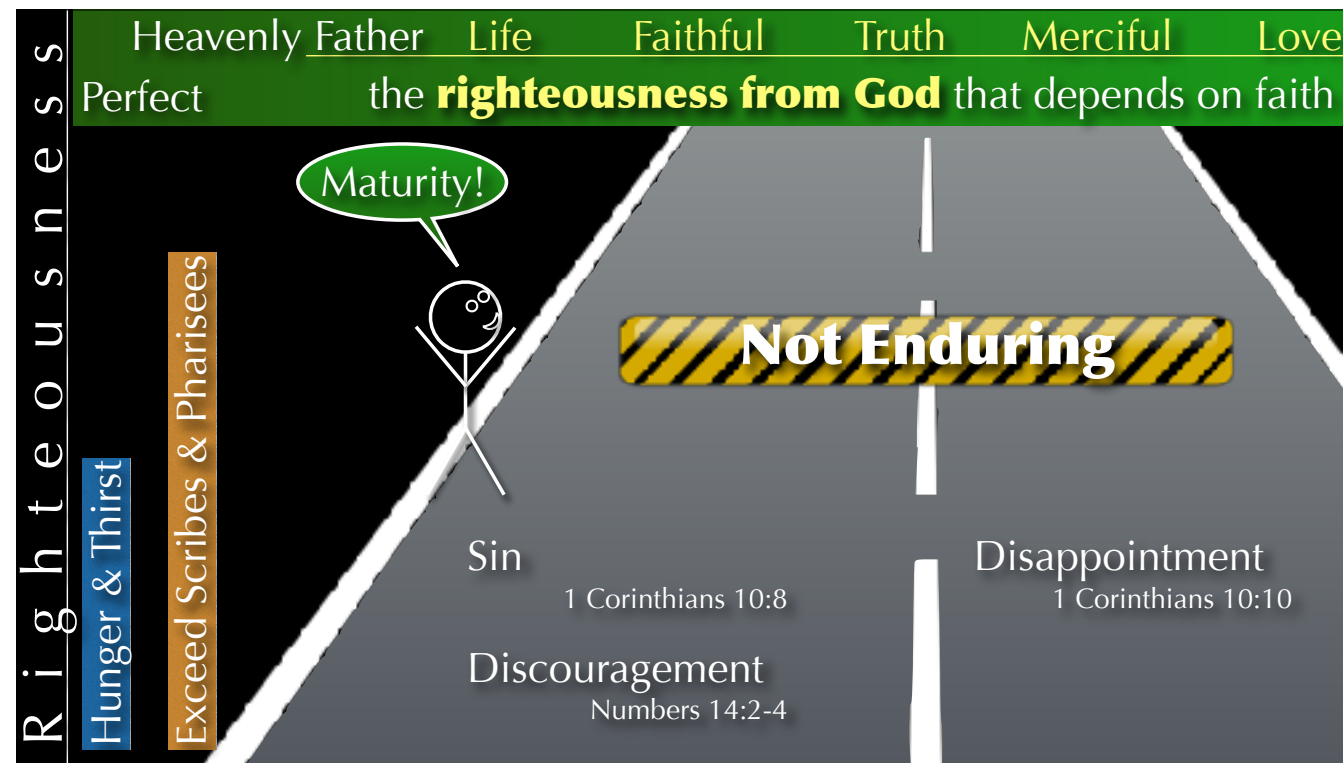
- Journeying to land of promise... distracted! compromised!
- Hebrews 11:25: choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.



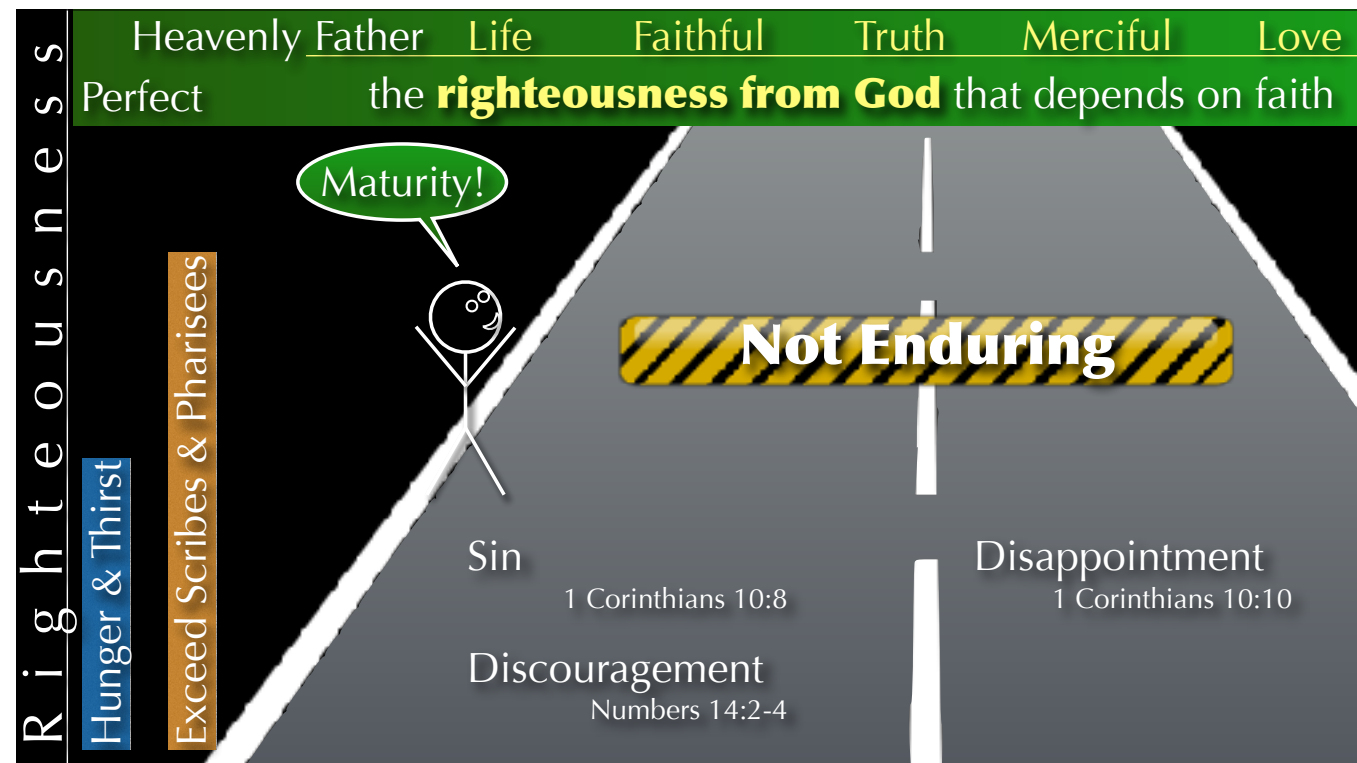
- Discouragement
 - Numbers 14:2-4 (ESV) 2 And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! 3 Why is the Lord bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword?



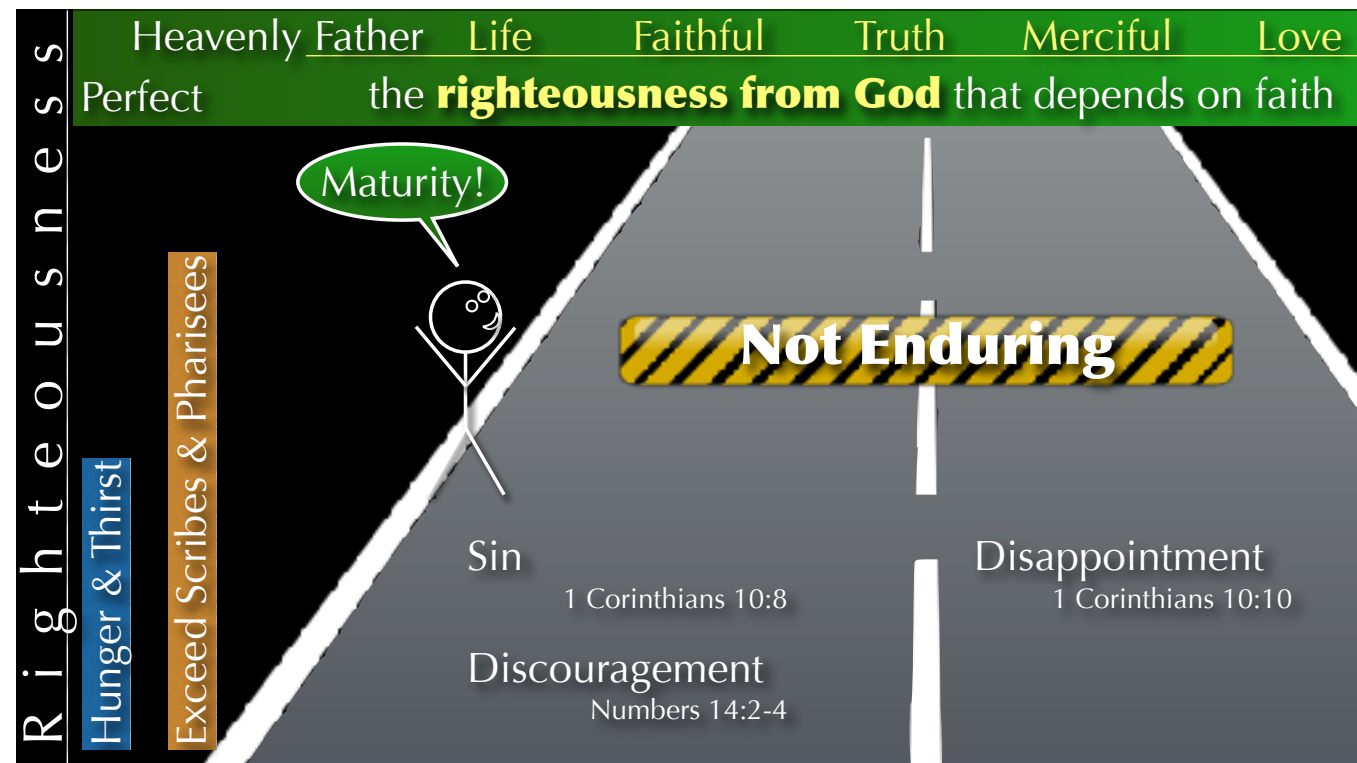
- Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?” 4 And they said to one another, “Let us choose a leader and go back to Egypt.”
 - Question every decision.
 - Can’t see in good.
 - Expect the worst.
 - Go back.



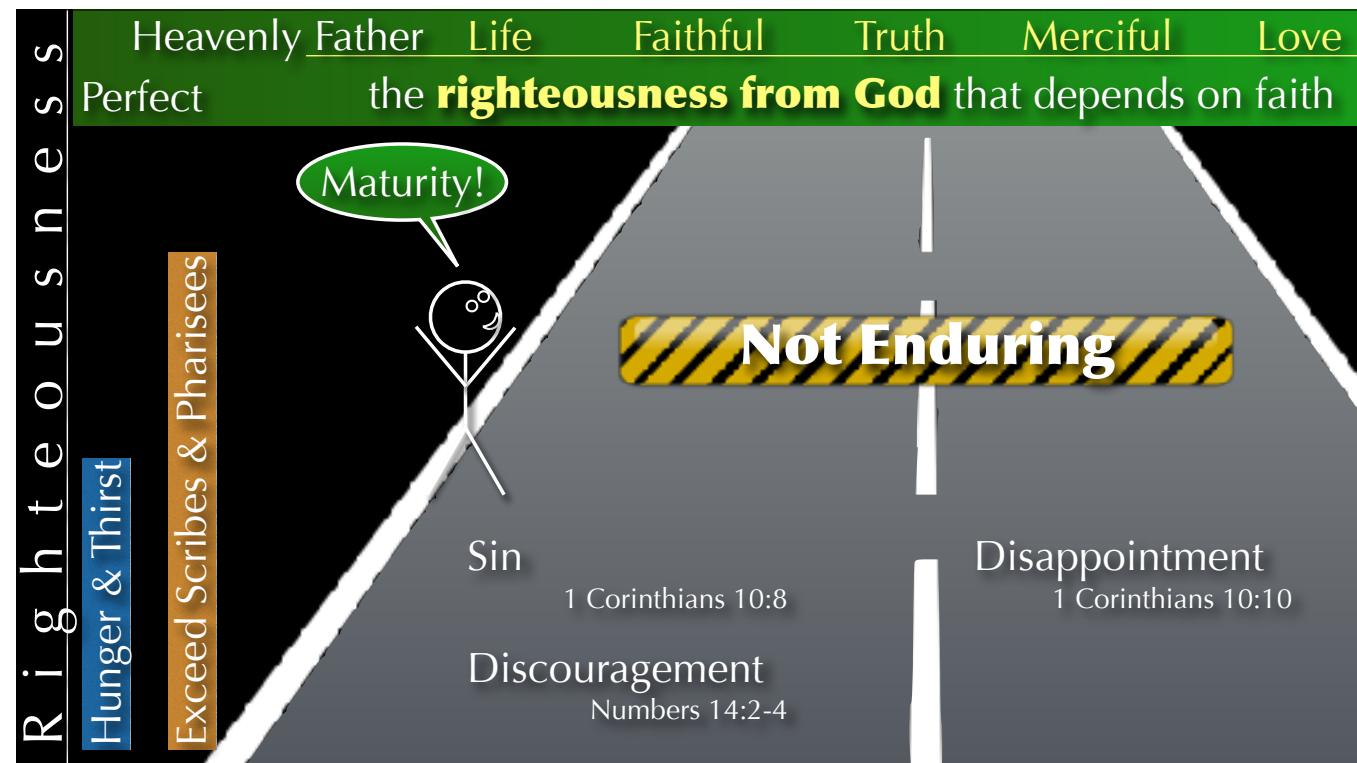
- Disappointment
 - Moses
 - Numbers 16:3: They assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron and said to them, “You have gone too far! For all in the congregation are holy, every one of them, and the Lord is among them. Why then do you exalt yourselves above the assembly of the Lord?”



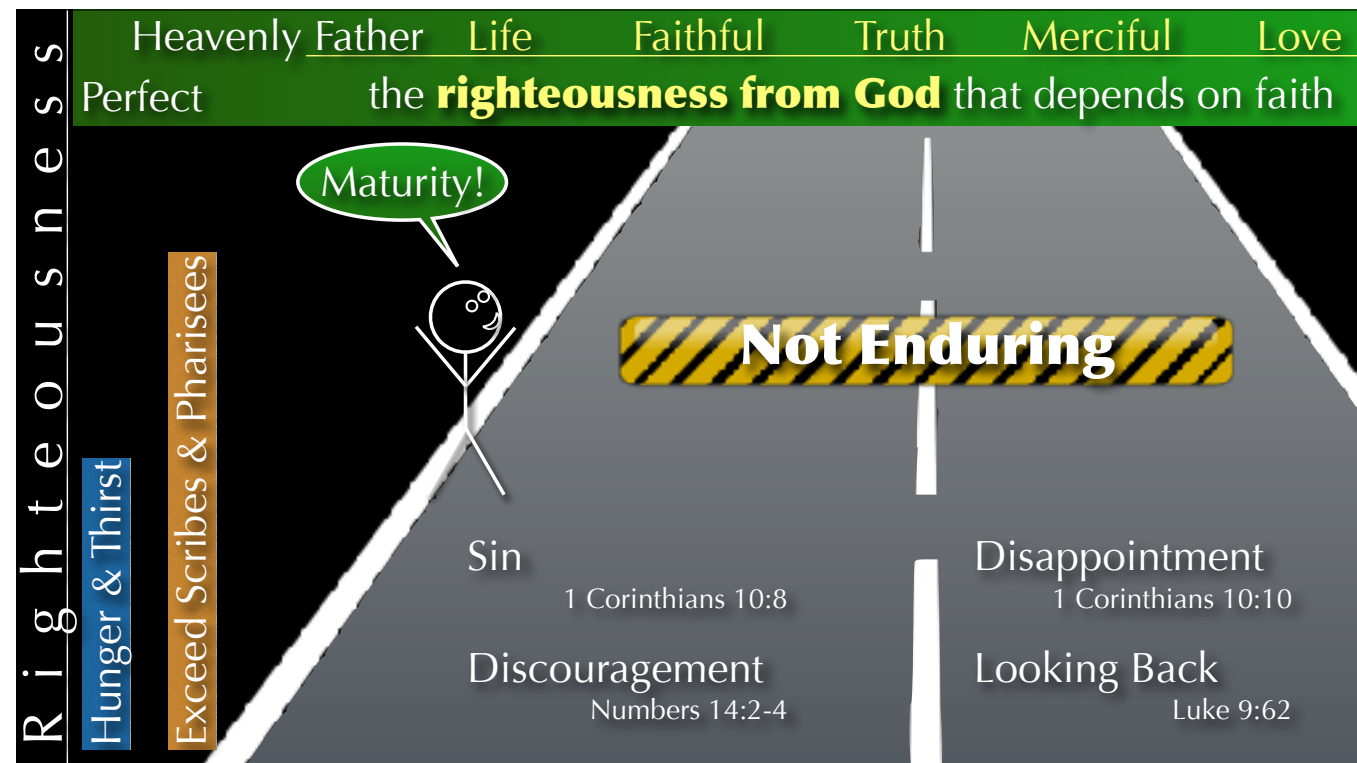
- Numbers 16:41: But on the next day all the congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and against Aaron, saying, “You have killed the people of the Lord.”
- 1 Corinthians 10:10: nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer.



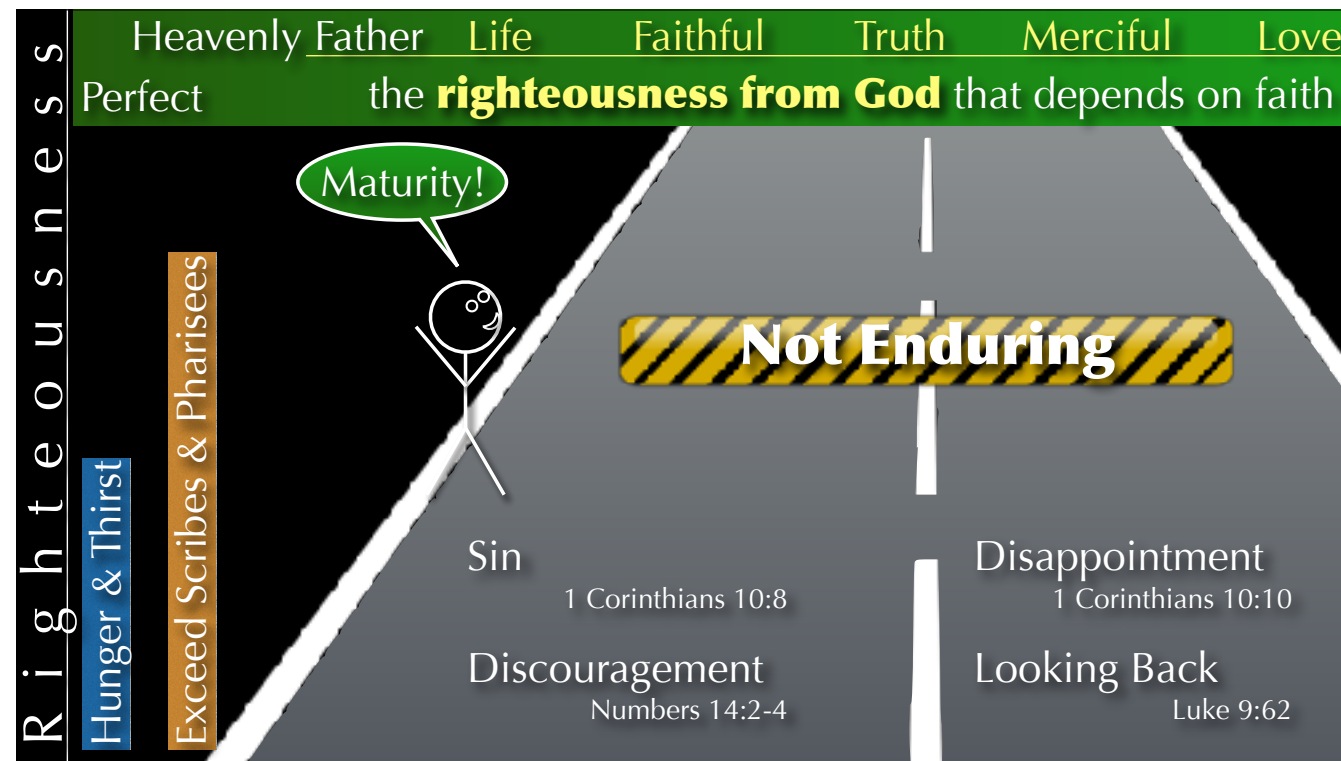
- In people
 - Elders not what I think they should be
 - Preacher doesn't do what I think he should do
- In a group of people
 - Hypocrites
 - Not friendly



- In God
 - Prayers... not answered, not answered how I'd like
 - Obedience is hard.
 - Keeps me from doing what I want to do.



- Looking Back
 - Luke 9:62 (ESV) 62 Jesus said to him, “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”
 - To the world
 - To an easier faith



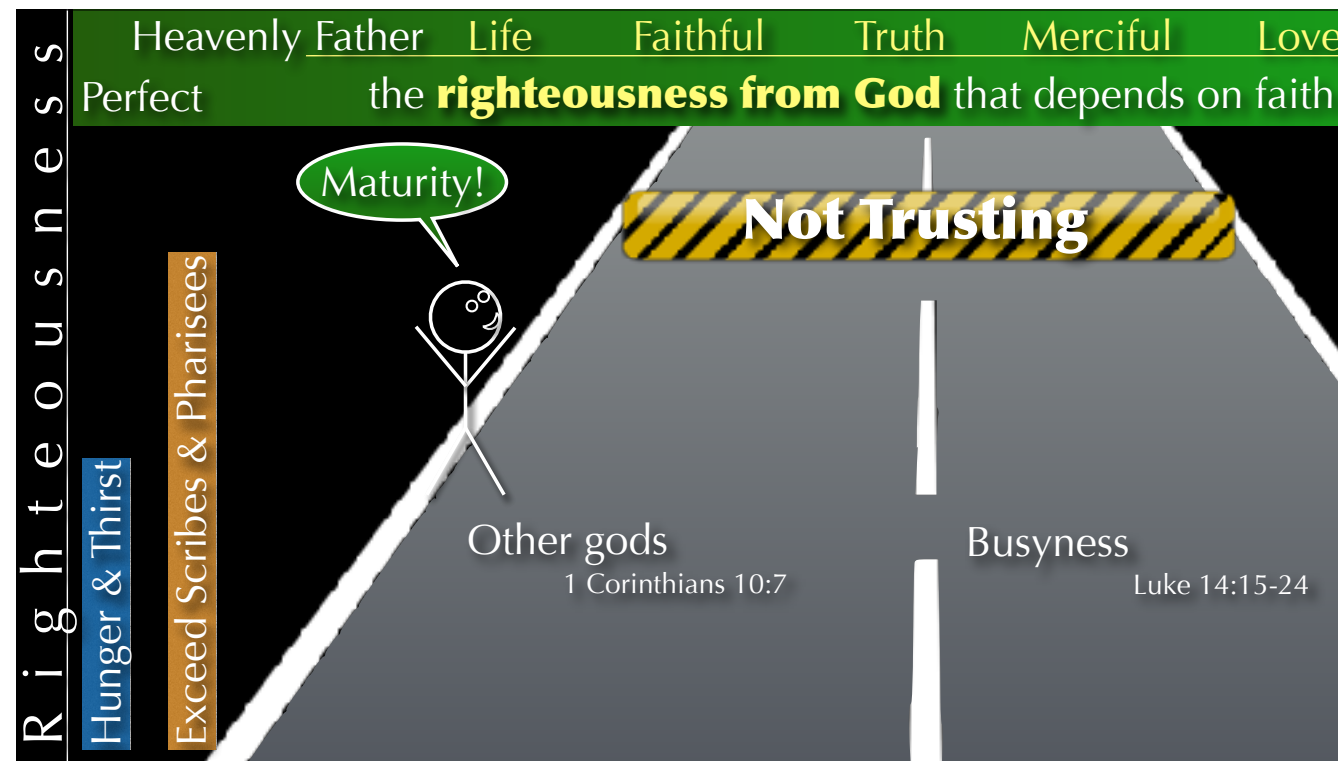
- Hebrews 10:36-39 (ESV) 36 For you have need of endurance, so that when you have done the will of God you may receive what is promised. 37 For, “Yet a little while, and the coming one will come and will not delay; 38 but my righteous one shall live by faith, and if he shrinks back, my soul has no pleasure in him.” 39 But we are not of those who shrink back and are destroyed, but of those who have faith and preserve their souls.



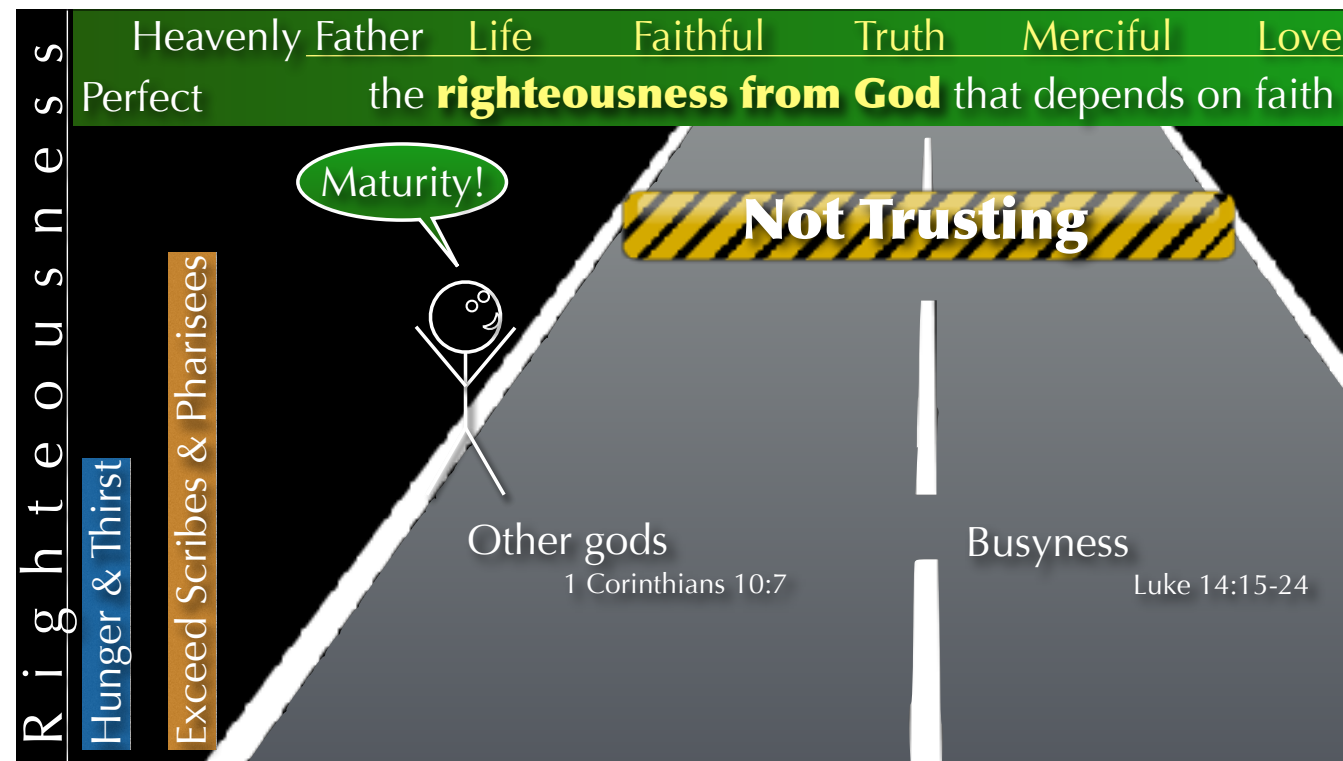
- Not trusting in God (trusting in things of this world and this life) or Distraction?
 - Matthew 13:22: As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the deceitfulness of riches choke the word, and it proves unfruitful.
 - Rich Young Ruler



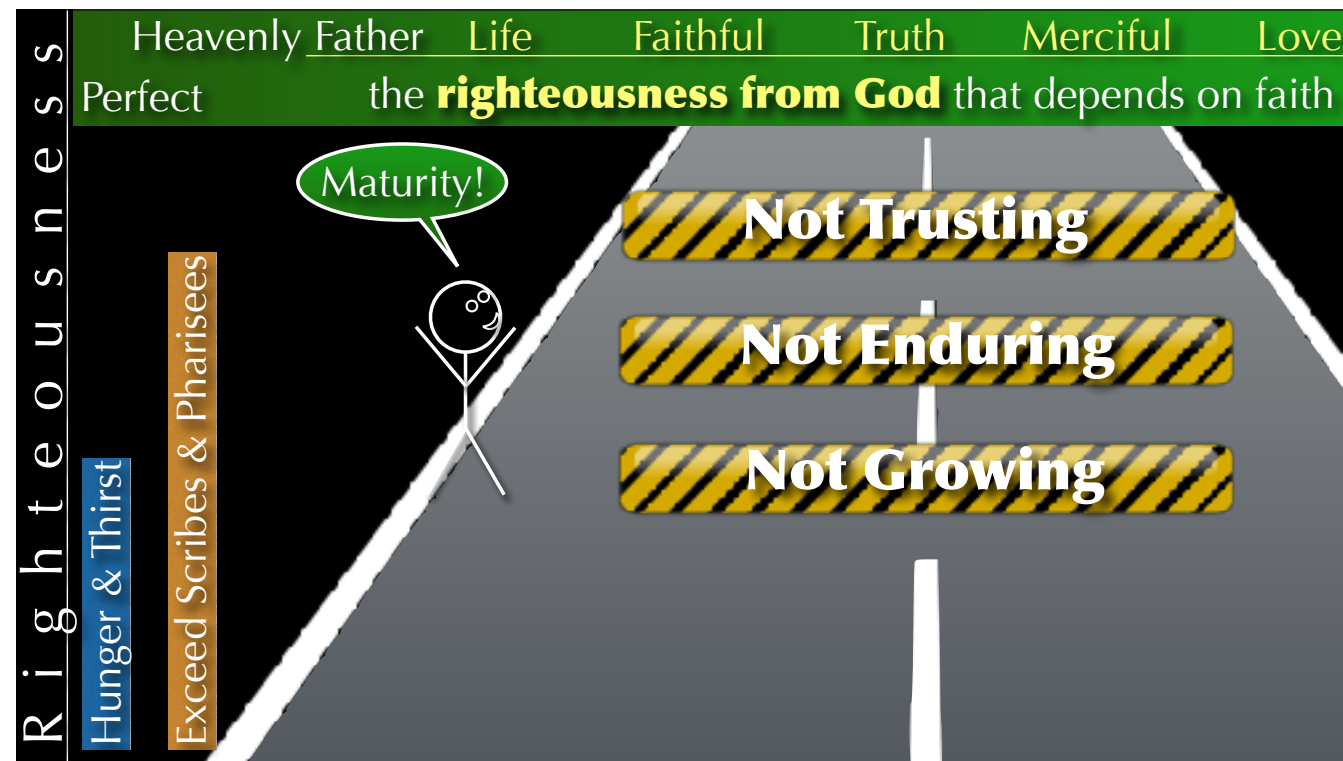
- Looking to other gods
 - 1 Corinthians 10:7: Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.”



- Busyness
 - Luke 14:15-24 (ESV) 15 When one of those who reclined at table with him heard these things, he said to him, “Blessed is everyone who will eat bread in the kingdom of God!” 16 But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet and invited many. 17 And at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, ‘Come, for everything is now ready.’ 18 But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it. Please have me excused.’ 19 And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them. Please have me excused.’ 20 And another said, I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’ 21 So the servant came and reported these things to his master. Then the master of the house became angry and said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and crippled and blind and lame.’ 22 And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.’ 23 And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. 24 For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”
 - What excuses are you making?
 - Our Father should never be an “add on” in our lives.
 - Rather integral to who we are.



- What excuses are you making?
- Our Father should never be an “add on” in our lives.
- Rather integral to who we are.



- ★ We all struggle with each of these at various times in our lives.
- ★ Let's grow up to be like our Father.
 - ★ Character
 - ★ Don't let obstacles distract you.

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

2 Corinthians 5:20

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



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Ducks: <https://i.pinimg.com/originals/61/bb/60/61bb6081ae3614973475238218a7170e.jpg>

Lions: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Like_Father_like_Son.jpg

You Must be Perfect: Hindrances to Growth

Matthew 5:48

Synopsis: Jesus teaches us that true righteousness is about being like our Father, about being fully-grown up in Him. However, there are several reasons why some disciples grow to be like them. In this lesson, we'll discuss some of the things that hinder us.

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