

I. God is Sovereign p. 59

In the book Psalm 32:10b p. 59; Matthew 26:42; Luke 26:46 & 2 Timothy 1:12 top of p. 60

1 Peter 2: ²³ *and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously;*

A. God alone is sovereign: Psalms 86: ¹⁰ *For You are great and do wondrous deeds; You alone are God.*

Isaiah 46: ⁹ *“Remember the former things long past, For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is no one like Me, ¹⁰ Declaring the end from the beginning, And from ancient times things which have not been done, Saying, ‘My purpose will be established, And I will accomplish all My good pleasure’;*

B. Over creation & preservation: Psalms 135: ⁶ *Whatever the LORD pleases, He does, In heaven and in earth, in the seas and in all deeps. ⁷ He causes the vapors to ascend from the ends of the earth; Who makes lightnings for the rain, Who brings forth the wind from His treasuries.*

John 1: ³ *All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being.*

Colossians 1: ¹⁶ *For by Him all things were created, both in the heavens and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things have been created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together.*

Revelation 4: ¹¹ *“Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power; for You created all things, and because of Your will they existed, and were created.”*

C. Over governments: Proverbs 21: ¹ *The king’s heart is like channels of water in the hand of the LORD; He turns it wherever He wishes.*

Daniel 2: ²⁰ Daniel said, "Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, For wisdom and power belong to Him. ²¹ "It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men And knowledge to men of understanding.

4: ³⁴ "...For His dominion is an everlasting dominion, And His kingdom endures from generation to generation. ³⁵ "All the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing, But He does according to His will in the host of heaven And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward off His hand Or say to Him, 'What have You done?'

D. Over individual lives: Jeremiah 18: ⁶ "Can I not, O house of Israel, deal with you as this potter does?" declares the LORD. "Behold, like the clay in the potter's hand, so are you in My hand, O house of Israel.

John 6: ³⁹ This is the will of Him who sent Me, that of all that He has given Me I lose nothing, but raise it up on the last day.

Romans 9: ¹⁵ For He says to Moses, "I WILL HAVE MERCY ON WHOM I HAVE MERCY, AND I WILL HAVE COMPASSION ON WHOM I HAVE COMPASSION." ¹⁶ So then it does not depend on the man who wills or the man who runs, but on God who has mercy. **15:** ³² so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and find refreshing rest in your company.

Ephesians 1: ¹⁰ ...In Him ¹¹ also we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to His purpose who works all things after the counsel of His will, ¹² to the end that we who were the first to hope in Christ would be to the praise of His glory.

James 4: ¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and also do this or that."

E. Over small events: Matthew 10: ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a cent? And yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father.

F. Yet He takes personal interest in individuals and the smallest details of their lives:

Psalms 8: ³ When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, The moon and the stars, which You have ordained; ⁴ What is man that You take thought of him, And the son of man that You care for him? ⁵ Yet You have made him a little lower than God, And You crown him with glory and majesty! ⁶ You make him to rule over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet, **[HCL added vv.5-6]**

Psalms 139: ¹O LORD, You have searched me and known me.

² You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar.

³ You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all.

⁵ You have enclosed me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it.

⁷ Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

⁸ If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there.

⁹ If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea,

¹⁰ Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me.

¹¹ If I say, "Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, And the light around me will be night,"

¹² Even the darkness is not dark to You, And the night is as bright as the day.

Darkness and light are alike to You.

¹³ For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth;

¹⁶ Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written The days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them.

¹⁷ How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You.

Proverbs 16: ¹The plans of the heart belong to man, But the answer of the tongue is from the LORD.

⁹ The mind of man plans his way, But the LORD directs his steps.

³³ The lot is cast into the lap, But its every decision is from the LORD. **19:** ²¹ Many plans are in a man's heart, But the counsel of the LORD will stand.

Matthew 10: ³⁰ But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So do not fear; you are more valuable than many sparrows.

In the book Psalms 139:6 bottom p. 60

G. p. 61 God exercises ultimate control over painful & unjust events:
Exodus 4: ¹⁰ Then Moses said to the LORD, "Please, Lord, I have never been eloquent, neither recently nor in time past, nor since You have spoken to Your servant; for I am slow of speech and slow of tongue." ¹¹ The LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?" ¹² Now then go, and I, even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you are to say." [HCL--Even so Moses kept arguing and God gave him Aaron as a mouthpiece.]

Job 1: ⁶ Now there was a day when the sons of God came to present themselves before the LORD, and Satan also came among them. ⁷ The LORD said to Satan, "From where do you come?" Then Satan answered the LORD and said, "From roaming about on the earth and walking around on it." ⁸ The LORD said to Satan, "Have you considered My servant Job? For there is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man, fearing God and turning away from evil." ⁹ Then Satan answered the LORD, "Does Job fear God for nothing? ¹⁰ Have You not made a hedge about him and his house and all that he has, on every side? You have blessed the work of his hands, and his possessions have increased in the land. ¹¹ But put forth Your hand now and touch all that he has; he will surely curse You to Your face." ¹² Then the LORD said to Satan, "Behold, all that he has is in your power, only do not put forth your hand on him." So Satan departed from the presence of the LORD.; **42:** ¹⁰ The LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends, and the LORD increased all that Job had twofold. ¹¹ Then all his brothers and all his sisters and all who had known him before came to him, and they ate bread with him in his house; and they consoled him and comforted him for all the adversities that the LORD had brought on him. And each one gave him one piece of money, and each a ring of gold. ¹² The LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning;

Psalms 71: ²⁰ You who have shown me many troubles and distresses Will revive me again, And will bring me up again from the depths of the earth.

²¹ May You increase my greatness And turn to comfort me.

²² I will also praise You with a harp, Even Your truth, O my God; To You I will sing praises with the lyre, O Holy One of Israel.

Isaiah 45: ¹ Thus says the LORD to Cyrus His anointed, Whom I have taken by the right hand, To subdue nations before him And to loose the loins of kings;

⁵ "I am the LORD, and there is no other; Besides Me there is no God.

I will gird you, though you have not known Me;

⁶ That men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun That there is no one besides Me. I am the LORD, and there is no other,

⁷ The One forming light and creating darkness, Causing well-being and creating calamity; I am the LORD who does all these.

Lamentations 3: ³⁷ *Who is there who speaks and it comes to pass, Unless the Lord has commanded it?* ³⁸ *Is it not from the mouth of the Most High That both good and ill go forth?*

Amos 3: ⁶ *If a trumpet is blown in a city will not the people tremble? If a calamity occurs in a city has not the LORD done it?*

1 Peter 3: ¹⁷ *For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong.*

In book Isaiah 29:16 bottom of 1st paragraph p. 61

H. God takes no pleasure in what is hurtful: Ezekiel 33: ¹¹ *Say to them, 'As I live!' declares the Lord GOD, 'I take no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but rather that the wicked turn from his way and live. Turn back, turn back from your evil ways! Why then will you die, O house of Israel?'*

I. Never the author of sin: James 1: ¹³ *Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. ¹⁴ But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust.*

1 John 1: ⁵ *This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.*

J. Yet He sometimes allows suffering and unjust acts:

In book Acts 2:23 middle of 3rd paragraph p. 61

Luke 22: ⁴² *saying, "Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done."*

Acts 4: ²⁷ *For truly in this city there were gathered together against Your holy servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, along with the Gentiles and the peoples of Israel, ²⁸ to do whatever Your hand and Your purpose predestined to occur.*

Romans 3: ²¹ *But now apart from the Law the righteousness of God has been manifested, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all those who believe; for there is no distinction; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified as a gift by His grace through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus; ²⁵ whom God displayed publicly as a propitiation in His blood through faith. This was to demonstrate His righteousness, because in the forbearance of God He passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ for the demonstration, I say, of His righteousness at the*

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present time, so that He would be just and the justifier of the one **who has faith in Jesus.**

[HCL added 1 Corinthians 2:7-8 ⁷ but we speak God's wisdom in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory; ⁸ the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;]

**K. At the right time God administers justice rights all wrongs:
In the book Proverbs 16:4-5 top of p. 62**

Psalms 33: ¹⁰The LORD nullifies the counsel of the nations; He frustrates the plans of the peoples. ¹¹ The counsel of the LORD stands forever, The plans of His heart from generation to generation.

Romans 12: ¹⁹ Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "VENGEANCE IS MINE, I WILL REPAY," says the Lord.

L. We are not released from responsibility for our actions:

Matthew 12: ³⁶ But I tell you that every careless word that people speak, they shall give an accounting for it in the day of judgment.

Romans 14: ¹² So then each one of us will give an account of himself to God.

[HCL added: I Peter 4: ; ⁵ but they will give account to Him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.

The Spiritually Living already in heaven--2 Corinthians 5:10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may be recompensed for his deeds in the body, according to what he has done, whether good or bad. & [also 1 Cor. 3:11-16]

The Spiritually Dead--Revelation 20:11-15 ¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and Him who sat upon it, ... ¹² And I saw the dead, ..., standing before the throne, and books were opened; and another book was opened, which is the book of life; and the dead were judged from the things which were written in the books, according to their deeds. ¹⁵ And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

John 3:16-18 ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that **whoever believes** in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. ¹⁸ He who believes in Him is not judged; he who does not believe has been judged already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.

1 Peter 3:9 The Lord is not slow about His promise, as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing for any to perish but for all to come to repentance.]

II. God is Good p. 62**In book Psalms 62:11-12 bottom of p. 62****A. God will be with us in suffering and accomplish good through it: p. 63**

Isaiah 43: ² "When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; And through the rivers, they will not overflow you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be scorched, Nor will the flame burn you.

³ "For I am the LORD your God, The Holy One of Israel, your Savior; I have given Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in your place.

John 9: ¹ As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. ² And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world."

John 11: Now a certain man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² It was the Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped His feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick. ³ So the sisters sent word to Him, saying, "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." ⁴ But when Jesus heard this, He said, "This sickness is not to end in death, but for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified by it."

1 Peter 1: ⁶ In this you greatly rejoice, even though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been distressed by various trials, ⁷ so that the proof of your faith, being more precious than gold which is perishable, even though tested by fire, may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

B. We can comfort others: 2 Corinthians 1: ³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, ⁴ who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. ⁵ For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.

2 Corinthians 1: ⁶ But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; or if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer; ⁷ and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our sufferings, so also you are sharers of our comfort. ⁸ For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life; ⁹ indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so

that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead; ¹⁰ who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us, ¹¹ you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many.

In book 1 Peter 2:20, 23; 4:19 p. 63

C. We learn to rely more on God: 2 Corinthians 1: ⁹ *indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;*

2 Corinthians 12: ⁷ *Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!⁸ Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.⁹ And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰ Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.*

D. Need for repentance Psalms 119: ⁶⁷ *Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word. ⁶⁸ You are good and do good; Teach me Your statutes. ⁶⁹ The arrogant have forged a lie against me; With all my heart I will observe Your precepts. ⁷⁰ Their heart is covered with fat, But I delight in Your law. ⁷¹ It is good for me that I was afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.*

**E. God uses difficulties to conform us to the likeness of Christ p. 63
bottom of page last paragraph**

Romans 8: ²⁸ *And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. ²⁹ For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;*

In book Romans 5:3-4 bottom p. 63 & top of p. 64 also James 1:2-4 top of p. 64

**F. God can be trusted to never give us more than we can handle 2nd
paragraph p.64 2nd paragraph**

Exodus 4:11-12 ¹¹ *The LORD said to him, %Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹² Now then go, and I even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you are to say.+*

1 Corinthians 10:13 *No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.*

G. Sometimes He removes problems after their purpose is accomplished

2 Corinthians 1:3-11 ³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort,* ⁴ *who comforts us in all our affliction so that we will be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.* ⁵ *For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ.* ⁶ *But if we are afflicted, it is for your comfort and salvation; or if we are comforted, it is for your comfort, which is effective in the patient enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer;* ⁷ *and our hope for you is firmly grounded, knowing that as you are sharers of our sufferings, so also you are sharers of our comfort.*

⁸ *For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came to us in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, so that we despaired even of life;* ⁹ *indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;* ¹⁰ *who delivered us from so great a peril of death, and will deliver us, He on whom we have set our hope. And He will yet deliver us,* ¹¹ *you also joining in helping us through your prayers, so that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the favor bestowed on us through the prayers of many.*

H. p. 64 bottom Other times they remain

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 ⁷ *Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!* ⁸ *Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.* ⁹ *And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.* ¹⁰ *Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ’s sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.*

I. Sometimes we don't know the answer

Romans 11:33-36 ³³ *Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!* ³⁴ *For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR?* ³⁵ *Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN?* ³⁶ *For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.*

J. p. 65 trust God and experience greater peace

Psalm 131:1-3

¹ O LORD, my heart is not proud, nor my eyes haughty;
Nor do I involve myself in great matters,
Or in things too difficult for me.

² Surely I have composed and quieted my soul;
Like a weaned child rests against his mother,
My soul is like a weaned child within me.

³ O Israel, hope in the LORD
From this time forth and forever.

Isaiah 26:3-4 ³ **You** keep him in perfect peace

whose mind is stayed on **you**,
because he trusts in **you**.

⁴ Trust in the **LORD** forever,
for the **LORD GOD** is an everlasting rock. [ESV]

Proverbs 3:5-7 ⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart
And do not lean on your own understanding.

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge Him,
And He will make your paths straight.

⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes;
Fear the LORD and turn away from evil.

III. The Path has been marked with examples in the Bible p. 65

A. Job-- Job 42:2-3 in book

Job 40 ¹ Then the LORD said to Job,

² "Will the faultfinder contend with the Almighty? Let him who reproves God answer it."

³ Then Job answered the LORD and said,

⁴ "Behold, I am insignificant; what can I reply to You? I lay my hand on my mouth.

⁵ "Once I have spoken, and I will not answer; Even twice, and I will add nothing more."

God Questions Job

⁶ Then the **LORD** answered Job out of the storm and said,

⁷ "Now gird up your loins like a man; I will ask you, and you instruct Me.

⁸ "Will you really annul My judgment? Will you condemn Me that you may be justified?

⁹ "Or do you have an arm like God, And can you thunder with a voice like His?

¹⁰ "Adorn yourself with eminence and dignity, And clothe yourself with honor and majesty.

11 "Pour out the overflowing of your anger, And look on everyone who is proud, and make him low.

12 "Look on everyone who is proud, and humble him, And tread down the wicked where they stand.

13 "Hide them in the dust together; Bind them in the hidden place.

14 "Then I will also confess to you, That your own right hand can save you.

God's Power Shown in Creatures

15 "Behold now, Behemoth, which I made as well as you; He eats grass like an ox.

16 "Behold now, his strength in his loins And his power in the muscles of his belly.

17 "He bends his tail like a cedar; The sinews of his thighs are knit together.

18 "His bones are tubes of bronze; His limbs are like bars of iron.

19 "He is the first of the ways of God; Let his maker bring near his sword.

20 "Surely the mountains bring him food, And all the beasts of the field play there.

21 "Under the lotus plants he lies down, In the covert of the reeds and the marsh.

22 "The lotus plants cover him with shade; The willows of the brook surround him.

23 "If a river rages, he is not alarmed; He is confident, though the Jordan rushes to his mouth.

24 "Can anyone capture him when he is on watch, With barbs can anyone pierce his nose?

God's Power Shown in Creatures

Job 41: *1 "Can you draw out Leviathan with a fishhook? Or press down his tongue with a cord?*

2 "Can you put a rope in his nose Or pierce his jaw with a hook?

3 "Will he make many supplications to you, Or will he speak to you soft words?

4 "Will he make a covenant with you? Will you take him for a servant forever?

5 "Will you play with him as with a bird, Or will you bind him for your maidens?

6 "Will the traders bargain over him? Will they divide him among the merchants?

7 "Can you fill his skin with harpoons, Or his head with fishing spears?

8 "Lay your hand on him; Remember the battle; you will not do it again!

9 "Behold, your expectation is false; Will you be laid low even at the sight of him?

10 "No one is so fierce that he dares to arouse him; Who then is he that can stand before Me?

11 "Who has given to Me that I should repay him? Whatever is under the whole heaven is Mine.

12 "I will not keep silence concerning his limbs, Or his mighty strength, or his orderly frame.

13 "Who can strip off his outer armor? Who can come within his double mail?

14 "Who can open the doors of his face? Around his teeth there is terror.

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- ¹⁵ *"His strong scales are his pride, Shut up as with a tight seal.*
- ¹⁶ *"One is so near to another That no air can come between them.*
- ¹⁷ *"They are joined one to another; They clasp each other and cannot be separated.*
- ¹⁸ *"His sneezes flash forth light, And his eyes are like the eyelids of the morning.*
- ¹⁹ *"Out of his mouth go burning torches; Sparks of fire leap forth.*
- ²⁰ *"Out of his nostrils smoke goes forth As from a boiling pot and burning rushes.*
- ²¹ *"His breath kindles coals, And a flame goes forth from his mouth.*
- ²² *"In his neck lodges strength, And dismay leaps before him.*
- ²³ *"The folds of his flesh are joined together, Firm on him and immovable.*
- ²⁴ *"His heart is as hard as a stone, Even as hard as a lower millstone.*
- ²⁵ *"When he raises himself up, the mighty fear; Because of the crashing they are bewildered.*
- ²⁶ *"The sword that reaches him cannot avail, Nor the spear, the dart or the javelin.*
- ²⁷ *"He regards iron as straw, Bronze as rotten wood.*
- ²⁸ *"The arrow cannot make him flee; Sling stones are turned into stubble for him.*
- ²⁹ *"Clubs are regarded as stubble; He laughs at the rattling of the javelin.*
- ³⁰ *"His under parts are like sharp potsherds; He spreads out like a threshing sledge on the mire.*
- ³¹ *"He makes the depths boil like a pot; He makes the sea like a jar of ointment.*
- ³² *"Behind him he makes a wake to shine; One would think the deep to be gray-haired.*
- ³³ *"Nothing on earth is like him, One made without fear.*
- ³⁴ *"He looks on everything that is high; He is king over all the sons of pride."*

B. p. 65 & top of page 66 Experience of Joseph Genesis 37-40 read from Bible

[HCL Notes from <https://thehlukejourney.wordpress.com/2013/08/27/8-lion-chaser-skills/>

Embracing Uncertainty-

-Joseph (all scripture from Genesis except as noted)

Mother died 35:16-19, hated by brothers 37:8-11, sold into slavery by brothers 37:28-36, falsely accused 39:12-21, forgotten in prison 40:13-23, made 2nd in Egypt 41:38-46, during 7 years of plenty stored food to be used during 7 years of famine 41:47-49, Josephs brothers came to Egypt for food 42:1-8, Joseph brought his family to Egypt 42:8-47:31, comforted his brothers 45:3-13, 50:15-22, Joseph extracted a promise his bones would be carried from Egypt 50:24-25, Moses fulfilled promise Exodus 13:19 1462 BC, Joshua buried Josephs bones in Israel Joshua 24:32 1422 BC & Faith Hebrews 11:22]

Joseph's humility and trust in God Genesis 50:19-21 in book p.66 2nd paragraph

C. David said God allowed evil men to flourish for a time in Psalm 37. 1st 6 vv's bottom p.66

D. Example of Peter Acts 4:24,27-29; 5:41 p.67 1st paragraph

E. Example of Paul Acts 16:25 in book p.67; Paul continued to view everything as Gods sovereign will p.67 bottom

2 Corinthians 4:7-18 ⁷ *But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that the surpassing greatness of the power will be of God and not from ourselves;* ⁸ *we are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not despairing;* ⁹ *persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;* ¹⁰ *always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body.* ¹¹ *For we who live are constantly being delivered over to death for Jesus' sake, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.* ¹² *So death works in us, but life in you.*

¹³ *But having the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I BELIEVED, THEREFORE I SPOKE," we also believe, therefore we also speak,* ¹⁴ *knowing that He who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and will present us with you.* ¹⁵ *For all things are for your sakes, so that the grace which is spreading to more and more people may cause the giving of thanks to abound to the glory of God.*

¹⁶ *Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.* ¹⁷ *For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison,* ¹⁸ *while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

2 Corinthians 12:7-10 ⁷ *Because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, for this reason, to keep me from exalting myself, there was given me a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me—to keep me from exalting myself!*

⁸ *Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me.* ⁹ *And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.* ¹⁰ *Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.*

Ephesians 4:1 *Therefore I, the prisoner of the Lord, implore you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling with which you have been called,*

Philippians 1:12-14 ¹² Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, ¹³ so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else, ¹⁴ and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.

Colossians 4:3 in book p.67 last 3 lines

Ephesians 6:19-20 ¹⁹ and pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

F. Elizabeth Elliot "God is God" p.68

G. Joni Eareckson Tada "Nothing is a surprise to God" p.69

I. When gives a disability, He also gives us the means to deal with it. P. 69

Exodus 4:11-12 ¹¹ The LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes him mute or deaf, or seeing or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?" ¹² Now then go, and I, even I, will be with your mouth, and teach you what you are to say."

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

IV. Trust is a decision p.70

Letter from woman & interview p.70-72 "God set before me a choice--His way or my way. If I chose my own way I was on my own"

Deuteronomy 30:11-20 ¹¹ "For this commandment which I command you today is not too difficult for you, nor is it out of reach. ¹² It is not in heaven, that you should say, 'Who will go up to heaven for us to get it for us and make us hear it, that we may observe it?' ¹³ Nor is it beyond the sea, that you should say, 'Who will cross the sea for us to get it for us and make us hear it, that we may observe it?' ¹⁴ But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may observe it.

Choose Life

¹⁵ "See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, and death and adversity; ¹⁶ in that I command you today to love the LORD your God, to walk in His ways and to keep His commandments and His statutes and His judgments, that you may live and

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multiply, and that the LORD your God may bless you in the land where you are entering to possess it. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you will not obey, but are drawn away and worship other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall surely perish. You will not prolong your days in the land where you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess it. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, the blessing and the curse. So choose life in order that you may live, you and your descendants, ²⁰ by loving the LORD your God, by obeying His voice, and by holding fast to Him; for this is your life and the length of your days, that you may live in the land which the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, to give them."

Romans 5:5 in book p.71 3rd paragraph from bottom

V. Summary and Application-- 6 questions p. 72-73

3. Read Psalms 37 and 73. What do these psalms warn you not to do? What do they instruct you to do? List the comforting promises they provide.

Psalm 37 Security of Those Who Trust in the LORD, and Insecurity of the Wicked. A Psalm of David.

¹ Do not fret because of evildoers, Be not envious toward wrongdoers.

² For they will wither quickly like the grass And fade like the green herb.

³ Trust in the LORD and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.

⁴ Delight yourself in the LORD; And He will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

⁶ He will bring forth your righteousness as the light And your judgment as the noonday.

⁷ Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.

⁸ Cease from anger and forsake wrath; Do not fret; it leads only to evildoing.

⁹ For evildoers will be cut off, But those who wait for the LORD, they will inherit the land.

¹⁰ Yet a little while and the wicked man will be no more; And you will look carefully for his place and he will not be there.

¹¹ But the humble will inherit the land And will delight themselves in abundant prosperity.

¹² The wicked plots against the righteous And gnashes at him with his teeth.

¹³ The Lord laughs at him, For He sees his day is coming.

¹⁴ The wicked have drawn the sword and bent their bow To cast down the afflicted and the needy, To slay those who are upright in conduct.

¹⁵ Their sword will enter their own heart, And their bows will be broken.

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¹⁶ Better is the little of the righteous Than the abundance of many wicked.

¹⁷ For the arms of the wicked will be broken, But the LORD sustains the righteous.

¹⁸ The LORD knows the days of the blameless, And their inheritance will be forever.

¹⁹ They will not be ashamed in the time of evil, And in the days of famine they will have abundance.

²⁰ But the wicked will perish; And the enemies of the LORD will be like the glory of the pastures, They vanish—like smoke they vanish away.

²¹ The wicked borrows and does not pay back, But the righteous is gracious and gives.

²² For those blessed by Him will inherit the land, But those cursed by Him will be cut off.

²³ The steps of a man are established by the LORD, And He delights in his way.

²⁴ When he falls, he will not be hurled headlong, Because the LORD is the One who holds his hand.

²⁵ I have been young and now I am old, Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken Or his descendants begging bread.

²⁶ All day long he is gracious and lends, And his descendants are a blessing.

²⁷ Depart from evil and do good, So you will abide forever.

²⁸ For the LORD loves justice And does not forsake His godly ones; They are preserved forever, But the descendants of the wicked will be cut off.

²⁹ The righteous will inherit the land And dwell in it forever.

³⁰ The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, And his tongue speaks justice.

³¹ The law of his God is in his heart; His steps do not slip.

³² The wicked spies upon the righteous And seeks to kill him.

³³ The LORD will not leave him in his hand Or let him be condemned when he is judged.

³⁴ Wait for the LORD and keep His way, And He will exalt you to inherit the land; When the wicked are cut off, you will see it.

³⁵ I have seen a wicked, violent man Spreading himself like a luxuriant tree in its native soil.

³⁶ Then he passed away, and lo, he was no more; I sought for him, but he could not be found.

³⁷ Mark the blameless man, and behold the upright; For the man of peace will have a posterity.

³⁸ But transgressors will be altogether destroyed; The posterity of the wicked will be cut off.

³⁹ But the salvation of the righteous is from the LORD; He is their strength in time of trouble.

⁴⁰ The LORD helps them and delivers them; He delivers them from the wicked and saves them, Because they take refuge in Him.

**Psalm 73 The End of the Wicked Contrasted with That of the Righteous.
A Psalm of Asaph.**

- ¹ Surely God is good to Israel, To those who are pure in heart!*
- ² But as for me, my feet came close to stumbling, My steps had almost slipped.*
- ³ For I was envious of the arrogant As I saw the prosperity of the wicked.*
- ⁴ For there are no pains in their death, And their body is fat.*
- ⁵ They are not in trouble as other men, Nor are they plagued like mankind.*
- ⁶ Therefore pride is their necklace; The garment of violence covers them.*
- ⁷ Their eye bulges from fatness; The imaginations of their heart run riot.*
- ⁸ They mock and wickedly speak of oppression; They speak from on high.*
- ⁹ They have set their mouth against the heavens, And their tongue parades through the earth.*
- ¹⁰ Therefore his people return to this place, And waters of abundance are drunk by them.*
- ¹¹ They say, "How does God know? And is there knowledge with the Most High?"*
- ¹² Behold, these are the wicked; And always at ease, they have increased in wealth.*
- ¹³ Surely in vain I have kept my heart pure And washed my hands in innocence;*
- ¹⁴ For I have been stricken all day long And chastened every morning.*
- ¹⁵ If I had said, "I will speak thus," Behold, I would have betrayed the generation of Your children.*
- ¹⁶ When I pondered to understand this, It was troublesome in my sight*
- ¹⁷ Until I came into the sanctuary of God; Then I perceived their end.*
- ¹⁸ Surely You set them in slippery places; You cast them down to destruction.*
- ¹⁹ How they are destroyed in a moment! They are utterly swept away by sudden terrors!*
- ²⁰ Like a dream when one awakes, O Lord, when aroused, You will despise their form.*
- ²¹ When my heart was embittered And I was pierced within,*
- ²² Then I was senseless and ignorant; I was like a beast before You.*
- ²³ Nevertheless I am continually with You; You have taken hold of my right hand.*
- ²⁴ With Your counsel You will guide me, And afterward receive me to glory.*
- ²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but You? And besides You, I desire nothing on earth.*
- ²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail, But God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.*
- ²⁷ For, behold, those who are far from You will perish; You have destroyed all those who are unfaithful to You.*
- ²⁸ But as for me, the nearness of God is my good; I have made the Lord GOD my refuge, That I may tell of all Your works*