

Genesis 50

Reconciling Evil & Suffering



Genesis 50

¹² So Jacob's sons did as **he had commanded** them: ¹³ They carried him **to the land of Canaan** and buried him in the cave in the field of Machpelah, near Mamre, which Abraham had bought along with the field as a burial place from Ephron the Hittite. ¹⁴ After burying his father, Joseph returned to Egypt, together with his brothers and all the others who had gone with him to bury his father.

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "What if Joseph holds a grudge against us and pays us back for all the wrongs we did to him?" ¹⁶ So they sent word to Joseph, saying, "**Your father left** these instructions before he died: ¹⁷ 'This is what you are to say to Joseph: I ask you **to forgive your brothers the sins and the wrongs** they committed in treating you so badly.' **Now please forgive the sins of the servants** of the God of your father.'" When their message came to him, **Joseph wept**.

¹⁸ His brothers then came and **threw themselves down** before him. "We are your slaves," they said. ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Don't be afraid. **Am I in the place of God?**

Genesis 50

²⁰ **You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good** to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives. ²¹ So then, don't be afraid. I will provide for you and your children." And he reassured them and **spoke kindly to them.**

²² Joseph stayed in Egypt, along with all his father's family. He lived a hundred and ten years ²³ and saw the third generation of Ephraim's children. Also the children of Makir son of Manasseh were placed at birth on Joseph's knees.

²⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, "I am about to die. **But God will surely come to your aid** and take you up out of this land to the land he promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." ²⁵ And **Joseph made the Israelites swear an oath** and said, "**God will surely come to your aid**, and then you must carry my bones up from this place."

²⁶ So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed **in a coffin in Egypt.**



Reconciling Evil & Suffering

**Counting on the Promise of God
Seeing from the Perspective of God
Resting in the Propitiation of Christ**

Counting on the Promise of God

v1-3, Jacob's death

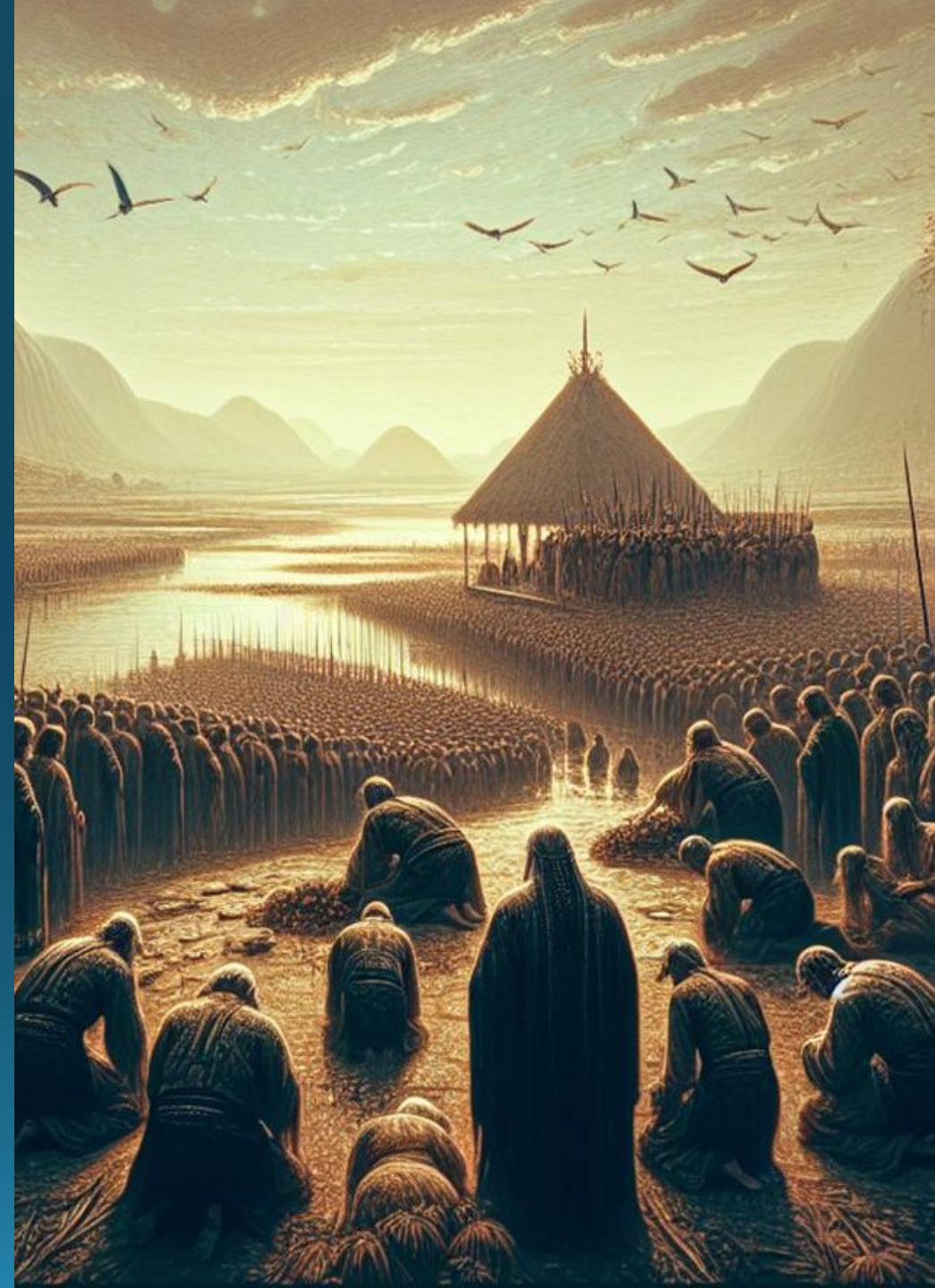
- Jacob's faith in the Promise

Hosea 12:2–4, 12:

- Jacob struggled with the angel, his flight to Aram; his initial "heel-grabbing" nature with the faith he developed through suffering.

v 13-14, Burial in Canaan

- Whisper of resurrection hope





Counting on the Promise of God

v24,25, “**But God** will surely come to your aid..”

- Joseph made the sons of Israel swear an oath

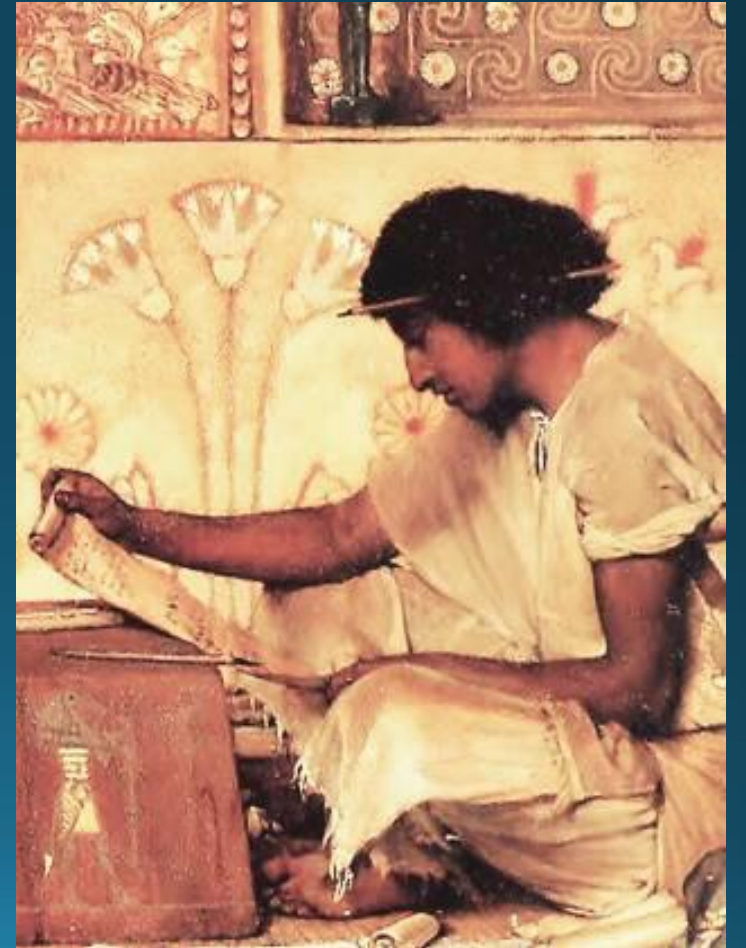
Hebrews 11:22, “**By faith** Joseph, when his end was near, spoke about the exodus of the Israelites from Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his bones.”

v26, “... **in a coffin** in Egypt.”

Seeing from the Perspective of God

v17-18, Joseph's brothers begging for forgiveness,

“Your father left these instruction... I ask you to forgive.... please forgive “



I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment.
FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES

I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket, I'll lose my job.
LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION.



Seeing from the Perspective of God

v17-18, Joseph's brothers begging for forgiveness,

“Your father left these instruction... I ask you to forgive.... please forgive “

“When their message came to him, **Joseph wept.**”



The Pain of being mistrusted

“..living in their guilt..”

Grace versus Fear



Seeing from the Perspective of God

BUT JOSEPH SAID TO THEM,
“DON’T BE AFRAID.
AM I IN THE PLACE OF GOD?”

Genesis 50:19 NIV

Surrender to the
Sovereignty of God

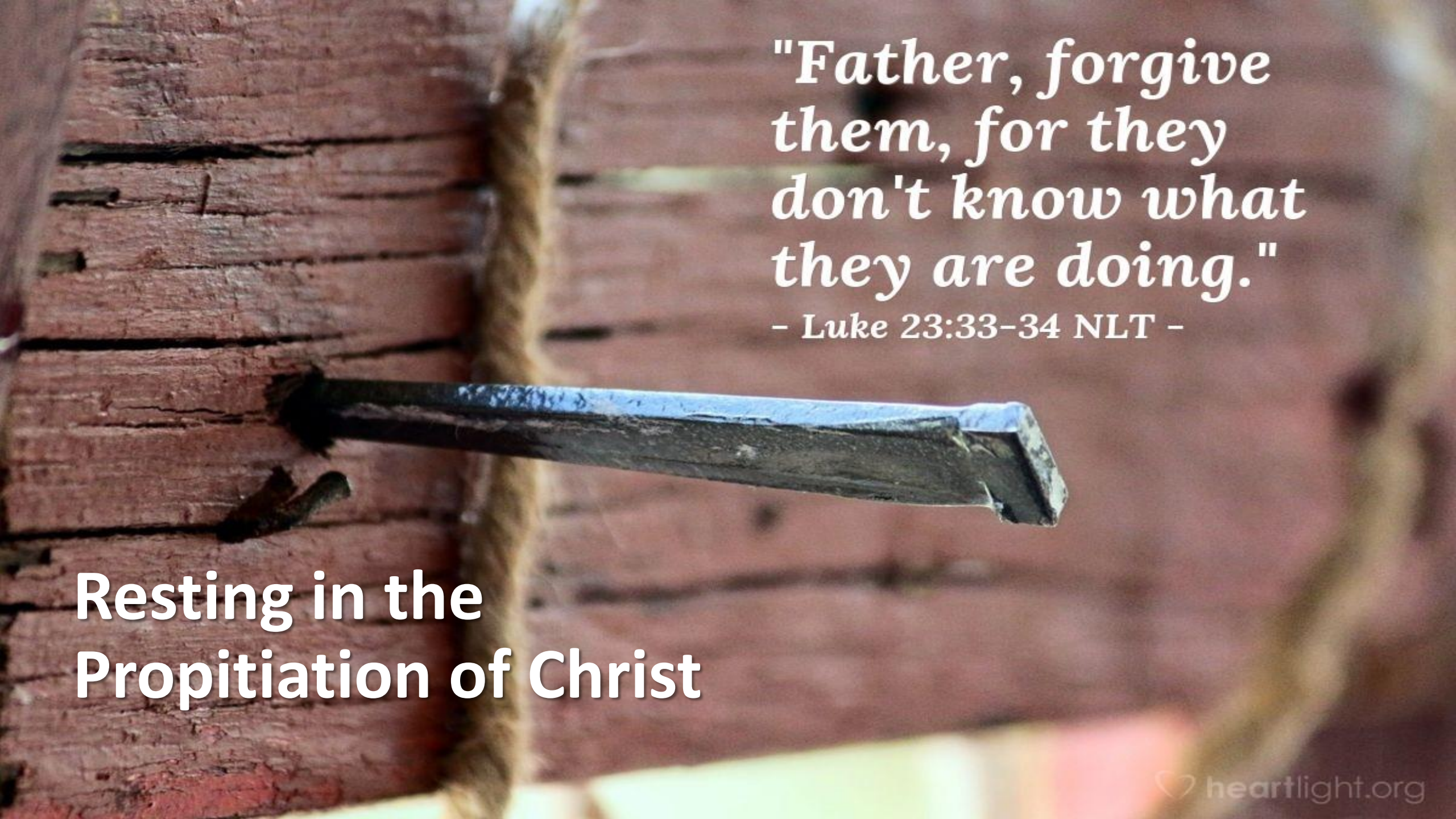
**YOU INTENDED TO HARM ME,
*but God intended
it for good,*
TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT IS NOW BEING
DONE, THE SAVING OF MANY LIVES.**

Genesis 50:20

“Jesus wept.” – John 11:35



The Tear of Empathy
The Pain of Humanity



"Father, forgive them, for they don't know what they are doing."

- Luke 23:33-34 NLT -

**Resting in the
Propitiation of Christ**

Resting in the Propitiation of Christ

“ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him and cause him to suffer, ..”

- Isaiah 53:10a

Reconciling ?

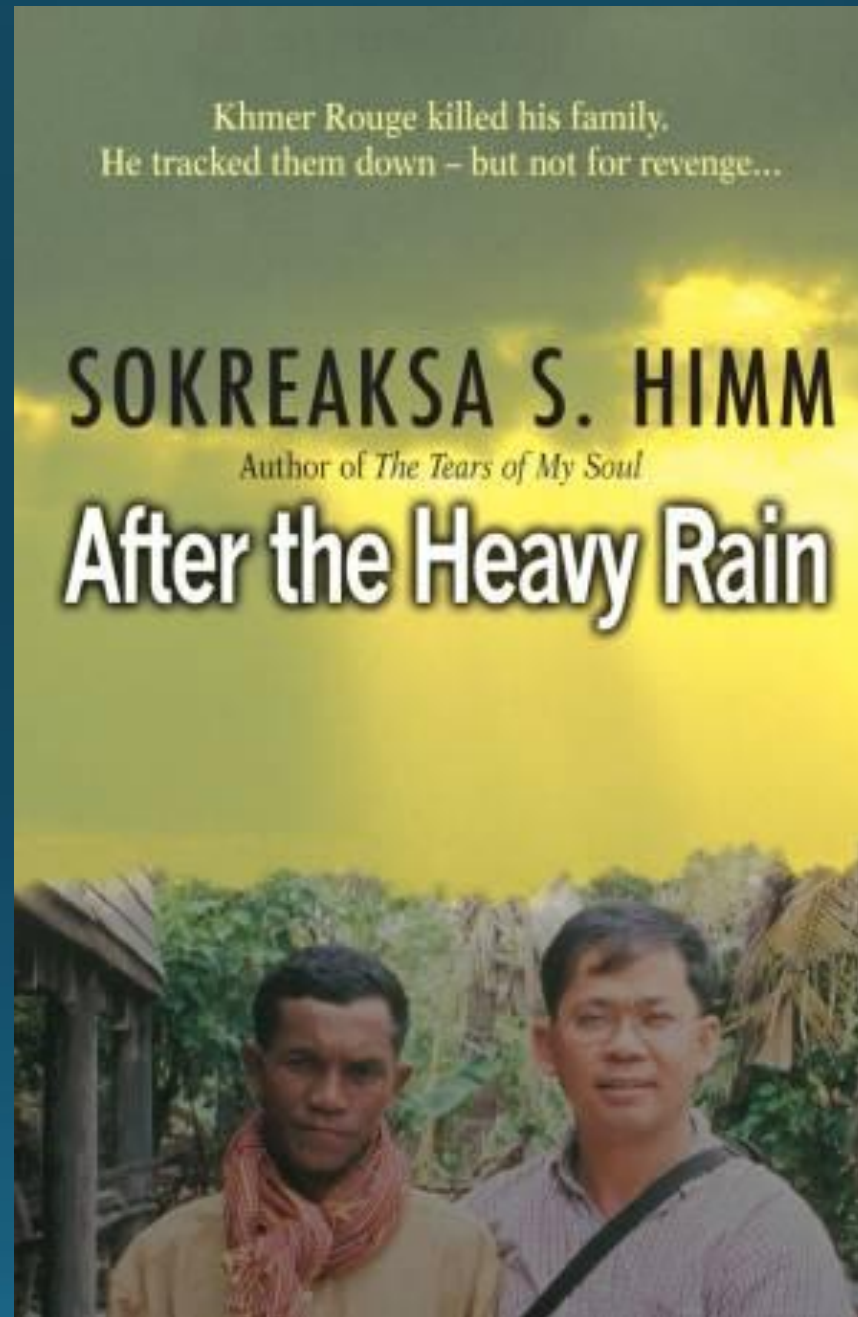
Whom have I in heaven but
you? And earth has nothing I
desire besides you. My flesh
and my heart may fail, but
God is the strength of my
heart and my portion forever.

- Psalm 73:25-26 -



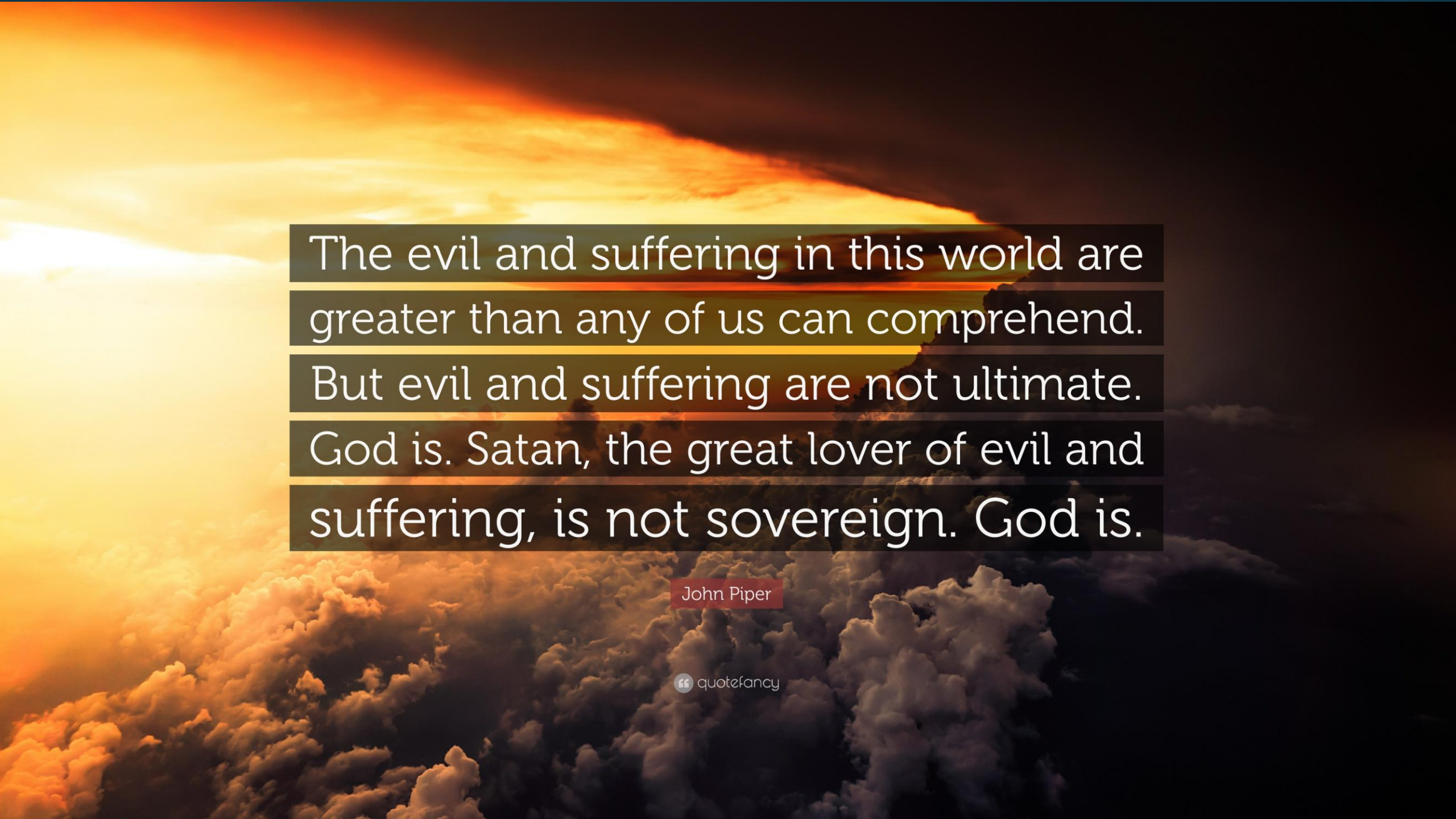


- None of us has suffered as much as he



"I forgive him because it was what Christ did. And is what Charlie would do."

- Erika Kirk



The evil and suffering in this world are greater than any of us can comprehend. But evil and suffering are not ultimate. God is. Satan, the great lover of evil and suffering, is not sovereign. God is.

John Piper

quotefancy

A dramatic scene from the movie 'The Day After Tomorrow' showing a massive ice wall and a lightning bolt striking a city.

Reconciling Evil & Suffering

Faith - on the Promise of God

Hope - from His Perspective

Love - by the Propitiation of Christ