

God's Punishment vs Discipline



What's the difference between Punishment and Discipline?

- **Punishment** is a **negative method** that works by **instilling fear**. With punishment, your child will quickly learn to associate bad behavior with pain and loss. It quickly establishes that bad choices have negative consequences. It is often seen as a fast and easy way of obtaining immediate compliance from children.
- **Punishment is a way of controlling people and children by teaching them to be afraid** of an authority that will hurt them for disobedience. People learn to be in fear of the authority that is watching them, waiting for them to make mistakes, and will bring a punishment on them when they fail to comply. **This creates a relationship based on the fear** of being punished. **Over time, these relationships (marriage or parents/children or God) crumble because they are not based on love.**



What's the difference between Punishment and Discipline?

- **Discipline:** is a **positive method** for training based on **trust and confidence** in the parent or coach. It can teach self-control, confidence, and responsibility. It focuses on what children are expected and allowed to do, and can include encouraging, modelling, and rewarding good behavior. As opposed to being a reactionary action like punishment, discipline is a process that focuses on improved future behaviors.



Discipline works by teaching, training, and guiding adults and children so that they learn to practice self-control and develop the ability to manage their emotions and make wise choices regarding their personal behavior, knowing there will be consequences. Children grow to trust that discipline is given by someone who cares about them and wants them to improve. Parents and caregivers experience less guilt and stress when controlling a child with discipline as opposed to punishment.



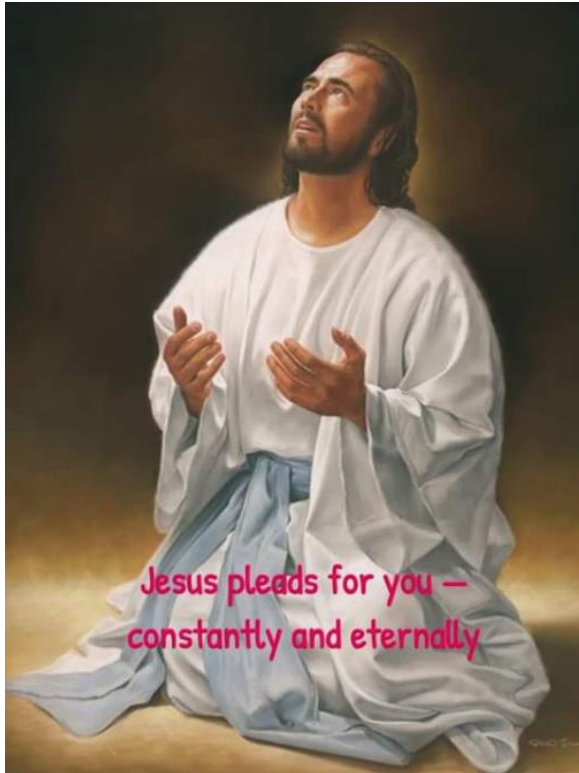
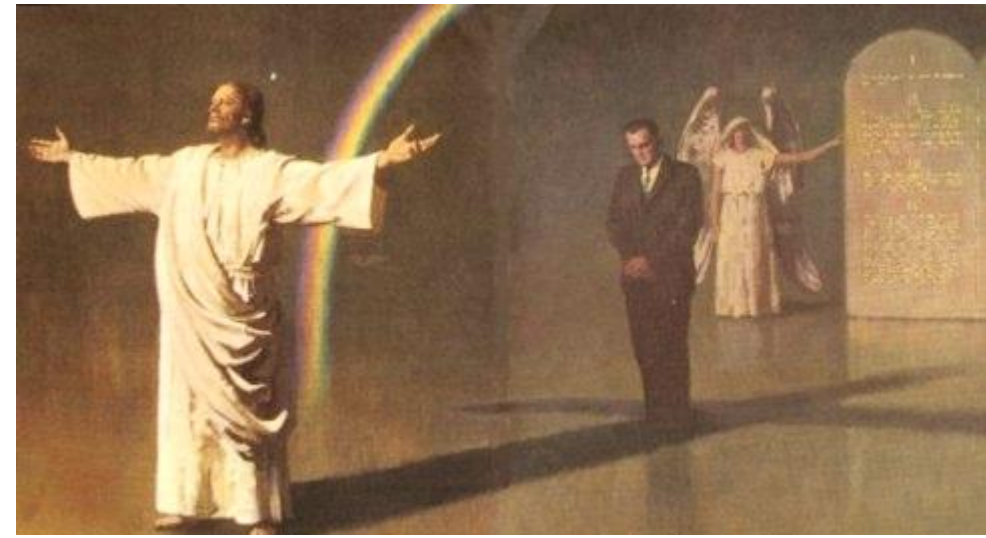
Definition of *punish*

transitive verb

- 1 **a** : to impose a penalty on for a fault, offense, or violation
 b : to inflict a penalty for the commission of (an offense)
 in retribution or retaliation
- 2 **a** : to deal with roughly or harshly
 b : to inflict injury on : HURT

**All very
negative!**

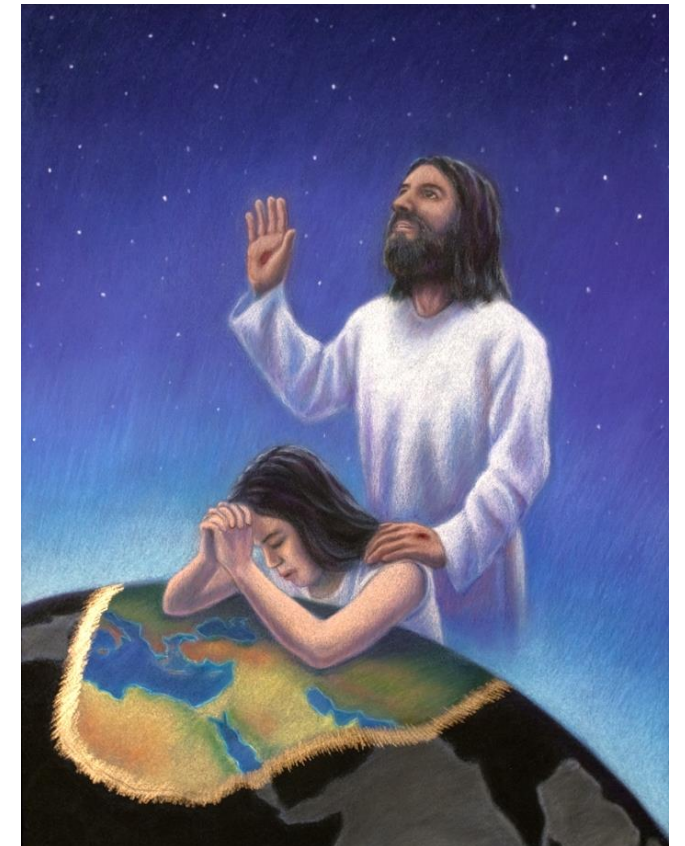
Most Christians think God is angry with us because we sin and wants to punish us, so Jesus needs to plead with God to forgive us!



Jesus pleads for you – constantly and eternally



Their focus is on Jesus changing God, when it should be on changing us!



Fear-based religions are common!
**Job was a righteous man, but he had
a fear-based relationship with God**

A man with white hair, wearing a brown robe, is kneeling on the ground, facing a large bonfire made of stones. He has his hands clasped in prayer. The bonfire is burning brightly, casting a warm glow. In the background, there is a large flock of sheep grazing in a green field. The landscape features rolling hills and a small town or village in the distance under a sunset sky.

He didn't ask: How is my loving God going
to use all my troubles to bring about good?

until the end
when he
finally
understood!

Job feels God is punishing him too much!

Job 6:1-5, 8-9

Then Job answered and said: 2 "**Oh, that my grief were fully weighed, and my calamity laid with it on the scales!** 3 For then it would be heavier than the sand of the sea — Therefore my words have been rash. **4 For the arrows of the Almighty are within me; My spirit drinks in their poison; The terrors of God are arrayed against me.**

5 Does the wild donkey bray when it has grass, or does the ox low over its fodder? *[Even animals don't complain when they are taken care of]*

8 "Oh, that I might have my request, **that God would grant me the thing that I long for!** 9 **That it would please God to crush me,** that He would loose His hand and cut me off!

With no hope in sight, Job wants to die

Job feels God is out to destroy him

Job 10:14-17

14 If I sin, then You mark me, and will not acquit me of my iniquity. 15 If I am wicked, woe to me; Even if I am righteous, I cannot lift up my head. I am full of disgrace; See my misery!

16 If my head is exalted, **you hunt me like a fierce lion,** and again You show Yourself awesome against me. 17 **You renew Your witnesses against me, and increase Your indignation toward me;** changes and war are ever with me.

**Job feels God is telling
everyone he is a terrible sinner**

Job & his friends had beliefs very similar to
the Prosperity Gospel teachings today



"God wants us to prosper
financially, to have plenty of
money, to fulfill the destiny
He has laid out for us."

Joel Osteen

This is similar to works based Judaism

Job's Hopeless prayer to God

Job 13:20-26

20 "Only two things do not do to me, then I will not hide myself from You: 21 **1) Withdraw Your hand far from me, and 2) let not the dread of You make me afraid.** 22 **Then call, and I will answer; or let me speak, then You respond to me.** 23 How many are my iniquities and sins? **Make me know my transgression and my sin.** 24 Why do You hide Your face, and **regard me as Your enemy?** *[when we have a relationship with God based on punishment & fear]* 25 Will You frighten a leaf driven to and fro? And will You pursue dry stubble? 26 For You write bitter things against me, and **make me inherit the iniquities of my youth.** *[Job's only explanation: God must punish us later for sins we committed early in life]*

Wrong views of God push us away

How will you react when bad things happen?



If we have a relationship with God built on fear & punishment, when bad things happen we can only understand that an angry God is punishing us



How will you react when
bad things happen?

If we have a relationship
with God built on love &
trust, when bad things
happen we will know that
all things work together
for good for those who
love God

God has set out to destroy me

Job 16:11-14

11 God has delivered me to the ungodly, and turned me over to the hands of the wicked. 12 I was at ease, but He has shattered me; He also has taken me by my neck, and shaken me to pieces; He has set me up for His target, 13 His archers surround me. He pierces my heart and does not pity; He pours out my gall on the ground. 14 He breaks me with wound upon wound; He runs at me like a warrior.

Feels God has no compassion or pity

Job feels God has wrongfully destroyed him

Job 19:7-12

7 "If I cry out concerning wrong, I am not heard. **If I cry aloud, there is no justice.** 8 **He has fenced up my way, so that I cannot pass; and He has set darkness in my paths.** 9 **He has stripped me of my glory,** and taken the crown from my head. 10 **He breaks me down** on every side, and I am gone; My hope He has uprooted like a tree. 11 **He has also kindled His wrath against me, and He counts me as one of His enemies.** 12 His troops come together and build up their road against me; They encamp all around my tent.

Job blames God for all of this!

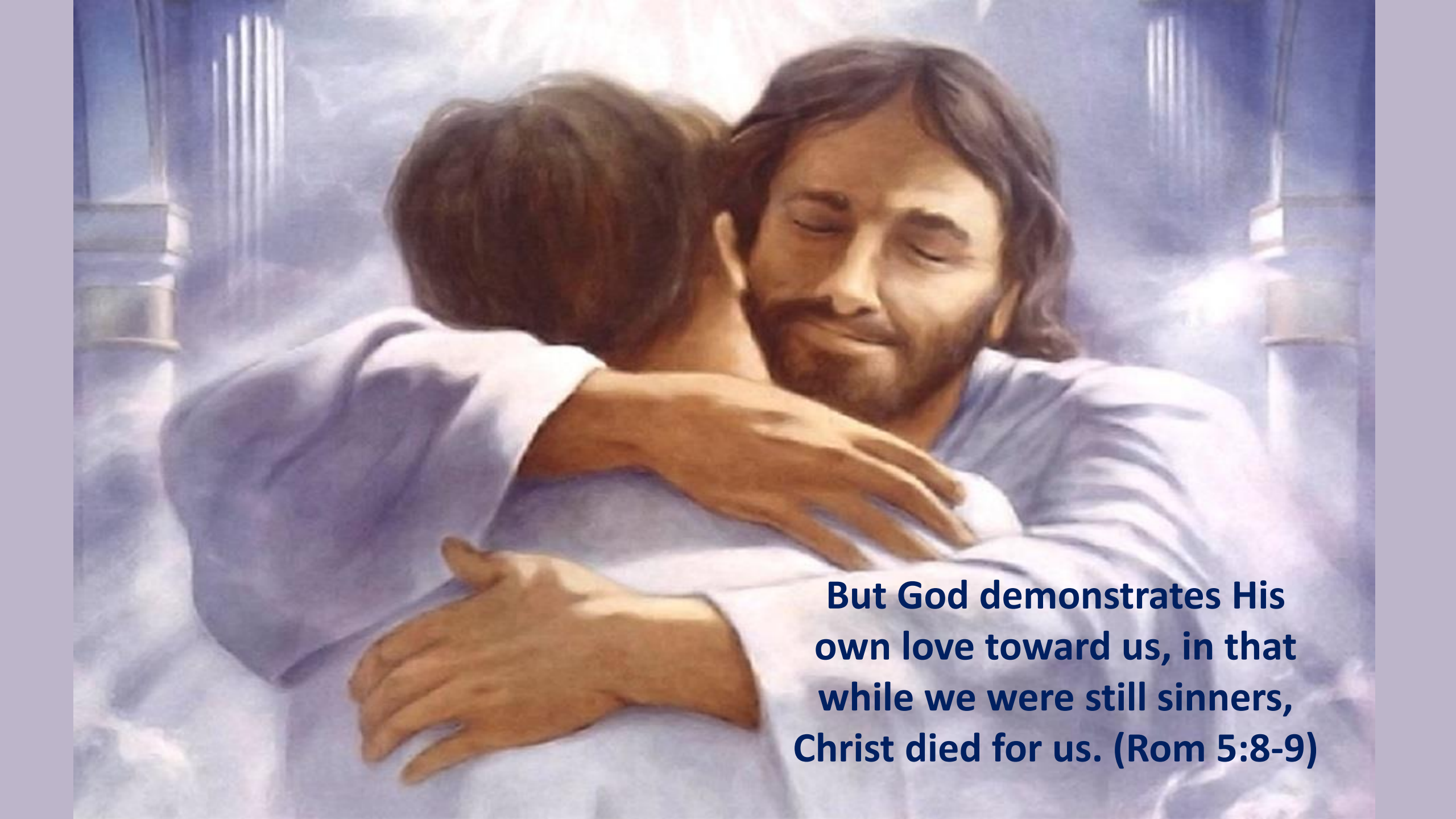
Job pleads for compassion from his friends

Job 19:21-22

21 **"Have pity on me, have pity on me, O**
you my friends, **for the hand of God has**
struck me!

22 **Why do you persecute me as God does,**
and are not satisfied with my flesh?

**He feels that God is mistakenly angry
with him and wrongfully persecutes him**



**But God demonstrates His
own love toward us, in that
while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us. (Rom 5:8-9)**

Having a loving relationship with God
brings confidence for the day of judgment

1 John 4:16-19 (ESV)

So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. 17 **By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment,** because as he is so also are we in this world. 18 **There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.**

There is no fear in love

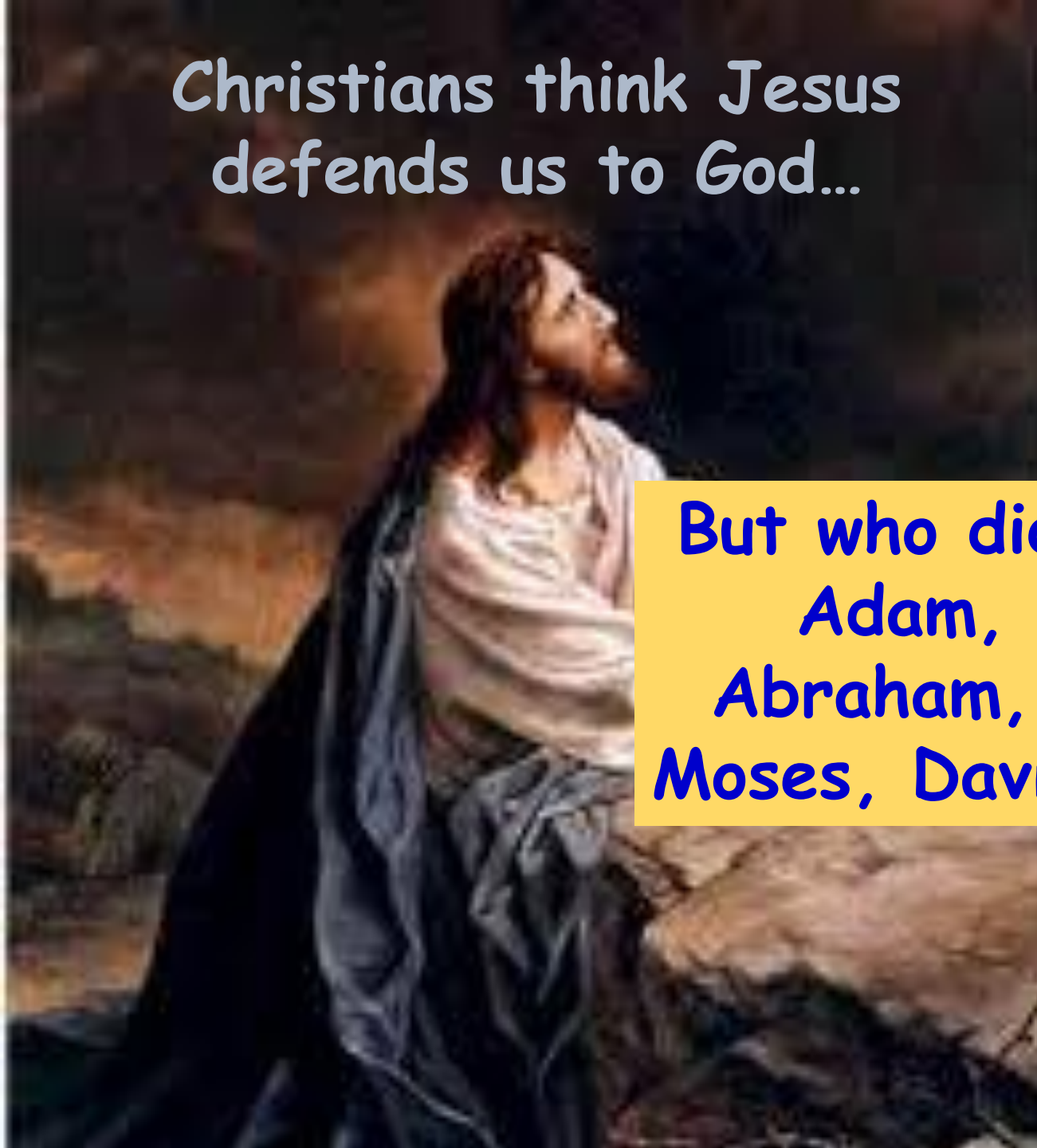
Most Christian religions were built
off the premise of an angry God
wanting to punish His sinning children



Christians think Jesus
defends us to God...

Pleading with an
angry God to
forgive us!

But who did this for
Adam, Noah,
Abraham, Joseph,
Moses, David or Job?



PTL 184 I know that my redeemer lives

These unbiblical concepts from the Christian community have slipped into our hymn books!

2 He lives, to bless me with his love,
he lives, to plead for me above.
He lives, my hungry soul to feed;
he lives, to help in time of need.
He lives, to help in time of need.

Thankfully, God is the one who initiated our salvation and wants to save us more than anyone else

GB 258

1 A Great High Priest is come
Who stands in Aaron's place;
Who, honouring the law,
Established life and grace:
'The law through Moses' service came,
But grace and truth by Jesus' name.

2 He once temptation knew,
That he might truly find
A fellow-feeling true
With every tempted mind:
In every point our Head was tried
Like us, and then for us he died.

3 He died, but lives alway,
And in the holy stands
To plead for saints who pray,
To hold up failing hands:
Our advocate abides in heav'n
That erring saints may be forgiv'n.

4 We other priests deny,
And laws, and offerings too
None but the Priest on high
The mighty work can do:
Through him, then, all our praise be
giv'n,
Who pleads his household's cause in
heav'n.

Jesus does not need to plead for us with His Father
because God has already entrusted him with the
authority to make these decisions - "All authority has
been given to Me in heaven and on earth." (Mat 28:18)

GB 249

CHRIST: HIS RESURRECTION

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n again!
Christ hath broken every chain!
Hark, the angels' joyful cry,
Singing evermore on high:
Hallelujah!

2 He who gave for us his life,
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today!
We too sing for joy, and say:
Hallelujah!

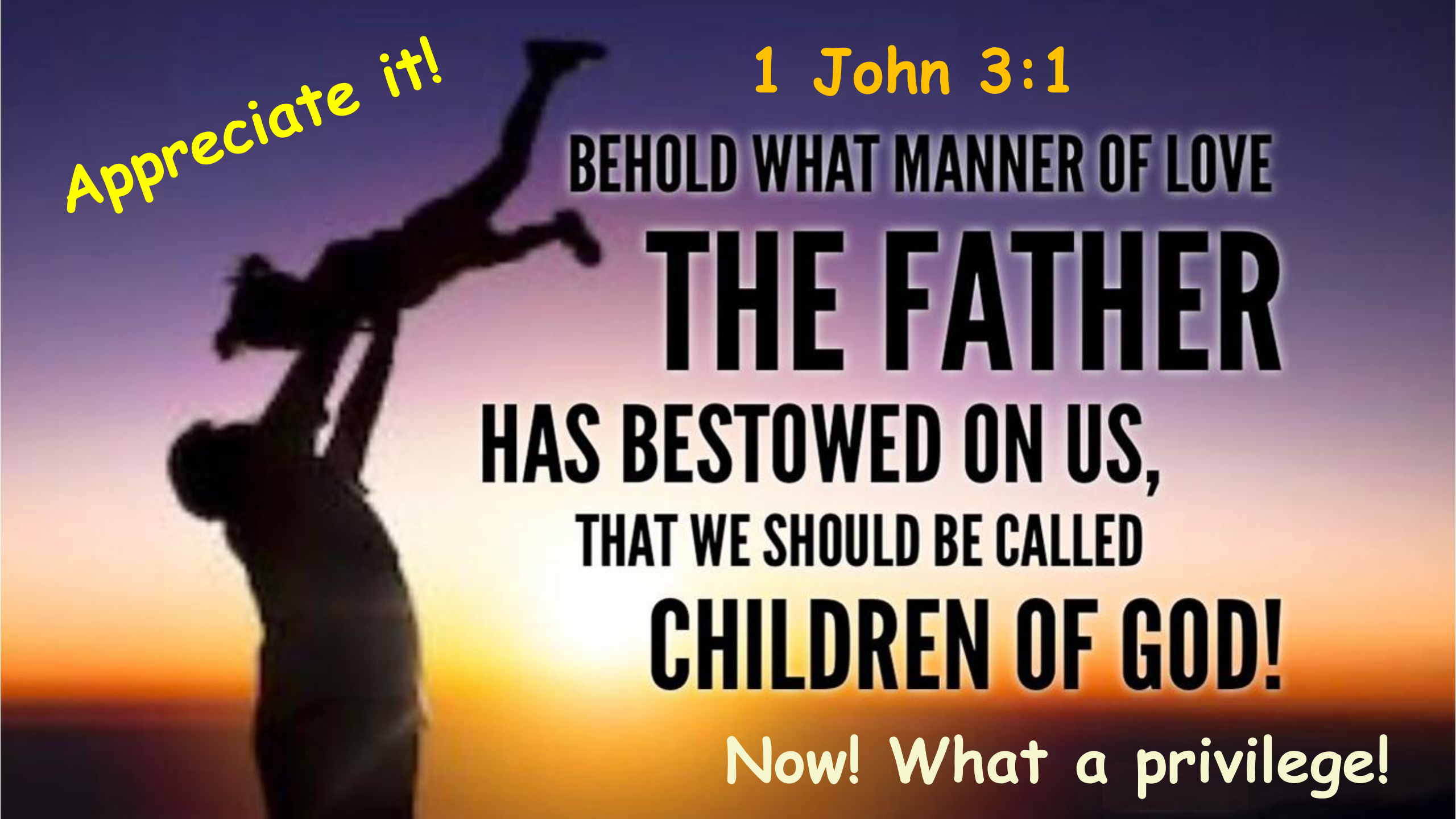
3 He who bore all pain and loss
Comfortless upon the cross,
Lives in glory now on high,
Pleads for us, and hears our cry:
Hallelujah!

4 Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, today thy people feed:
Take our sins and guilt away,
That we all may sing for ay:
Hallelujah!

GB 262 CHRIST: HIS PRIESTHOOD

4 He was made sin for us to show
The way of life and love;
For us he gave his life below,
And pleads for us above.

The only way this could be understood in Truth
is that Jesus is pleading with our mind of the
spirit he is growing in us to encourage us to
defeat Sin - not pleading with his Father



Appreciate it!

1 John 3:1

BEHOLD WHAT MANNER OF LOVE

THE FATHER

HAS BESTOWED ON US,

THAT WE SHOULD BE CALLED

CHILDREN OF GOD!

Now! What a privilege!

Jesus doesn't need to plead with God on our behalf

John 16:26-27

26 In that day you will ask in My name,
and **I do not say to you that I shall pray
the Father for you; 27 for the Father
Himself loves you,** because you have
loved Me, and have believed that I came
forth from God.

God loves us & He wants to help us

When we fail, God has provided Jesus for our help & mercy

1 John 2:1 (NKJV)

My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, **we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ** the righteous.

Advocate is a misleading translation today because it has come to mean: "one who argues the cause of another in a court" [Merriam-Webster]

Typical Christian Understanding (NIV)

My dear children, I write this to you so that you will not sin. But if anybody does sin, **we have one who speaks to the Father in our defense — Jesus Christ**, the Righteous One.

Many churches teach Jesus has to plead our case to God

God provided Jesus to grant us mercy & forgive us

1 John 2:1-2

1 My little children, these things I write to you, so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, **we have an advocate** (*Gr word means "Helper", "comforter"*) with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. 2 And **He Himself is the propitiation [place of mercy] for our sins**, and not for ours only but also for the whole world. *[if they are willing to walk in the light!]*

God provided Jesus to create a
righteous way for God to forgive our sins

God provided a propitiation

Romans 3:23-25

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 **being justified freely by His grace** through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 **whom God set forth as a propitiation** (*Gk word means “place of mercy” or “mercyseat”*) by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness

**God provided Jesus so He would have
a righteous way to forgive our sins**

Jesus intercedes with us to strengthen our Spiritual minds to overcome the mind of the flesh

Romans 8:26-27

26 Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes **intercession** ~~for us~~ with groanings [v.23 “we groan” & like Jesus with Lazarus & in garden] which cannot be uttered. 27 Now **He who searches the hearts** knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes **intercession** for the saints **according to the will of God.**

Christ's intercession is NOT to change God's mind because it is “according to the will of God”

John Carter in “Letter to the Romans”

The passage cannot conflict with others, which teach the unity of God and that the Spirit of God is not a person but the power of God. It must also be observed that the words “*for us*” are omitted by most editors of the Greek text.

Context.....Context.....Context

Why not give the word “*spirit*” the connotation so clearly indicated in the earlier verses of the chapter? If “*spirit*” there is synonymous with “*the new mode of thinking*”, is it not also so here? We believe such a view provides the most satisfactory explanation. The “*new man*”, when in suffering, approaches the Father in prayer. But for what shall he pray? For the suffering to be removed? Or for strength to endure? In his groaning he asks, after the example of Jesus, “Now is my soul troubled: and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour. But for this cause came I unto this hour. Father, glorify your name” (John 12:27,28). “O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless not as I will, but as you will” (Matthew 26:39). “And he that searches the hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, that he makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.” **God sees within, discerning the motives, and therefore knows the mind of the saint— that amidst the conflict what is desired is that God's will be done.**

Mediators in the Bible

- Any Bible Examples of Mediators besides Jesus Christ?
 - Moses (Gal 3:19-20; Acts 7:37-38)
- What does a mediator do in the Bible?
 - Communicates God's covenant to His people
 - Moses (Deut 5:5, 28, 31)
 - Christ (Heb 8:6; 9:15; 12:24)



Let's look at the verses

Moses as a Mediator

Galatians 3:19-20 (TNIV)

19 What, then, was the purpose of the law? It was added because of transgressions until the Seed to whom the promise referred had come. **The law was given through angels by the hands of a mediator (Moses).**

20 A mediator, however, implies more than one party; but God is one.

Moses Mediated God's covenant

Moses as a Mediator

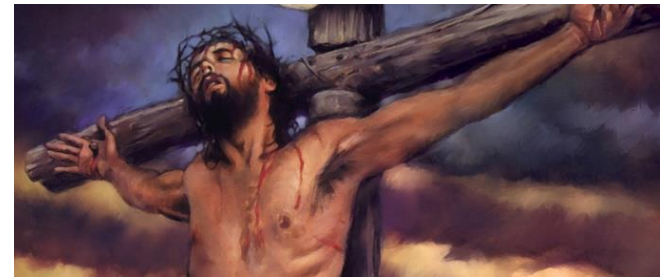
Deuteronomy 5:5, 28-30

5 **I stood between the Lord and you at that time, to declare to you the word of the Lord;** for you were afraid because of the fire, and you did not go up the mountain.

28 "Then the Lord heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me, and the Lord said to me: 'I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They are right in all that they have spoken. 29 Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever! 30 **Go and say to them, "Return to your tents."** 31 **But as for you, stand here by Me, and I will speak to you all the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments which you shall teach them,** that they may observe them in the land which I am giving them to possess.'

Moses mediated God's covenant because the people were afraid to get close to God

Jesus Christ is God's Mediator



- Jesus is not “our mediator”, he is “*the mediator of the new covenant*” Heb 8:6-7 [*communicator*] He is God's mediator
- Based on his death – Heb 9:15
 - He ratified the new covenant by his death (9:16-21)
 - He provides forgiveness for sins now and those under the first covenant – all sins!
- **1 Tim 2:5 “one mediator of God and men” (Yg lit)** [*not “between God & men”*]
 - Note the context: “*God our savior*” (v. 3)
 - “*desires all men (all races) to be saved*” (v.4)
 - God will save them through His new covenant mediated from Him to all nationalities of men by Jesus Christ
- **Verb form of Greek word for “mediator”(#3316)** used in Heb 6:17
“*confirmed* (#3315) by an oath”

Mediator: Confirms and communicates

The concept that Jesus
defends us to God...

Pleading with God
to forgive us!

But who did this for
Adam, Noah,
Abraham, Joseph,
Moses, David?

Our prayers in
some way pass
through Jesus

God is doing everything He can to save us

Romans 8:28-39 ESV

28 And we know that **in all things God works for the good of those who love him**, who have been called according to his purpose.

31 What, then, shall we say in response to this? **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, along with him, graciously give us all things? 33 **Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.** 34 Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died — more than that, who was raised to life — is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us *[in our war against Sin]*. 35 **Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?** Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? 36 As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered."

37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, 39 neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, **will be able to separate us from the love of God** that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God has always been the most invested in saving us

God will punish the wicked:

These will pay
the penalty of
of eternal destruction



2 Thessalonians 1:9

The wicked will be punished

1 Peter 2:13-14

13 Therefore submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake, whether to the king as supreme, 14 or to governors, as to those who are sent by him for the **punishment** [*“ekdikesis” 1557 (vengeance 8X, punishment 1X)*] **of evildoers** and for the praise of those who do good.

Government powers punish those who do evil

The wicked will be punished

2 Peter 2:7-9

and delivered righteous Lot, who was oppressed by the filthy conduct of the wicked 8 (for that righteous man, dwelling among them, tormented his righteous soul from day to day by seeing and hearing their lawless deeds) — 9 then the Lord knows how to deliver the godly out of temptations and to **reserve the unjust under punishment** [**“kolazo” (2849) punish 2X**] for the day of judgment,

God has and will punish the unjust for their behavior

The wicked will be punished

Hebrews 10:26-30

26 For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain **fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.** 28 Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Of how much **worse punishment** [*"timoria" 5098 vindication or a penalty – only 1X*], do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace? 30 For we know Him who said, **"Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,"** says the Lord.

God will take vengeance and punish the wicked

The wicked will be punished

2 Thessalonians 1:6-10

since it is a **righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you**, 7 and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, 8 **in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the** gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 **These shall be punished** *["tio" 5099 to pay a price, as a penalty (only here)]* **with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord** and from the glory of His power, 10 when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe

God will take vengeance on those who do not obey

discipline verb



- 1 : to punish or penalize for the sake of enforcing obedience and perfecting moral character
- 2 : to train or develop by instruction and exercise especially in self-control
- 3 : to bring (a group) under control
// discipline troops

Note how
translators
switch
from
instruction
to
chastening
when
context
involves
trouble
from God

Reference	Context	Lexicon
Prov 3:11	My son, despise not the chastening of the LORD; neither be weary of his correction:	4148
Prov 4:1	Hear, ye children, the instruction of a father, and attend to know understanding.	4148
Prov 4:13	Take fast hold of instruction; let her not go: keep her; for she is thy life.	4148
Prov 5:12	And say, How have I hated instruction, and my heart despised reproof;	4148
Prov 5:23	He shall die without instruction; and in the greatness of his folly he shall go astray.	4148
Prov 6:23	the commandment is a lamp; and the law is light; and reproofs of instruction are the way of life:	4148
Prov 7:22	after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks	4148
Prov 8:10	Receive my instruction, and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold.	4148
Prov 8:33	Hear instruction, and be wise, and refuse it not.	4148
Prov 10:17	He is in the way of life that keepeth instruction: but he that refuseth reproof erreth.	4148
Prov 12:1	Whoso loveth instruction loveth knowledge: but he that hateth reproof is brutish.	4148
Prov 13:1	A wise son heareth his father's instruction: but a scorner heareth not rebuke.	4148
Prov 13:18	Poverty and shame shall be to him that refuseth instruction: but he that regardeth reproof shall	4148
Prov 13:24	He that spareth his rod hateth his son: but he that loveth him chasteneth him betimes.	4148
Prov 15:5	A fool despiseth his father's instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent.	4148
Prov 15:10	Correction is grievous unto him that forsaketh the way: and he that hateth reproof shall die.	4148
Prov 15:32	He that refuseth instruction despiseth his own soul: but he that heareth reproof getteth	4148
Prov 15:33	The fear of the LORD is the instruction of wisdom; and before honour is humility.	4148
Prov 16:22	Understanding is a wellspring of life unto him that hath it: but the instruction of fools is folly.	4148
Prov 19:20	Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end.	4148
Prov 19:27	Cease, my son, to hear the instruction that causeth to err from the words of knowledge.	4148
Prov 22:15	Foolishness is bound in the heart of a child; but the rod of correction shall drive it far from him.	4148
Prov 23:12	Apply thine heart unto instruction, and thine ears to the words of knowledge.	4148
Prov 23:13	Withhold not correction from the child: for if thou beatest him with the rod, he shall not die.	4148
Prov 23:23	Buy the truth, and sell it not; also wisdom, and instruction, and understanding.	4148
Prov 24:32	Then I saw, and considered it well: I looked upon it, and received instruction.	4148
Isa 26:16	in trouble have they visited thee, they poured out a prayer when thy chastening was upon them.	4148
Isa 53:5	transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him;	4148
Jer 2:30	have I smitten your children; they received no correction: your own sword hath devoured your	4148
Jer 5:3	consumed them, but they have refused to receive correction: they have made their faces harder	4148
Jer 7:28	not the voice of the LORD their God, nor receiveth correction: truth is perished, and is cut off from	4148

Believers are trained & instructed

2 Corinthians 2:5-8

5 But if anyone has caused grief, he has not grieved me, but all of you to some extent — not to be too severe. 6 This **punishment** [*“epitimia” 2009 taking away right of citizenship (Vines) – only here*] which was inflicted by the majority is sufficient for such a man, 7 so that, on the contrary, **you ought rather to forgive and comfort him, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow.** 8 Therefore **I urge you to reaffirm your love to him.**

This believer lost his right to membership in the ecclesia in the hope that this would teach him to change

Young
kids
might
need
discipline
based
on fear



**Discipline your
older children like
God does with us**

**Out of
Love**



Train your older children like God does with us Out of Love

We want them to
understand how God
deals with them



When God's love is perfected in us we have confidence and no longer fear the judgment

1 John 4:17-21 (ESV)

17 By this is love perfected with us, **so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment**, because as he is so also are we in this world. 18 **There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love.** 19 We love because he first loved us.

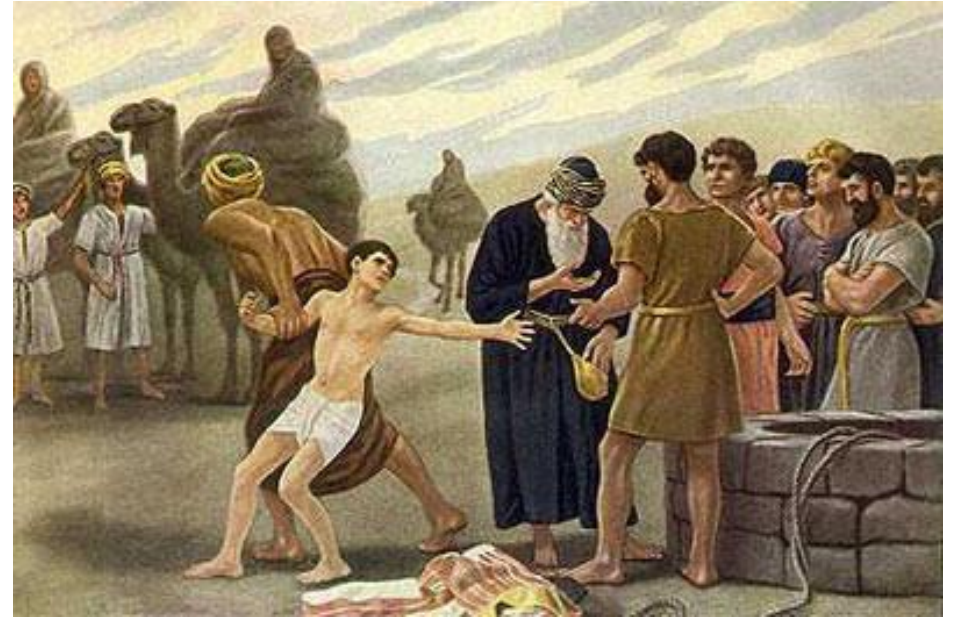
20 **If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen.** 21 And **this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.**

Loving God & His family will cast out fear of judgment.

This is based on a relationship with God over time!

Love has more power to change you than fear

When Joseph's brothers sold him they made up a story about Joseph being killed by a wild animal because they feared telling Jacob the truth



When Judah pleaded with Joseph to take Benjamin's place, it was because Judah loved Jacob and could not bear to see Jacob deal with the loss of another son

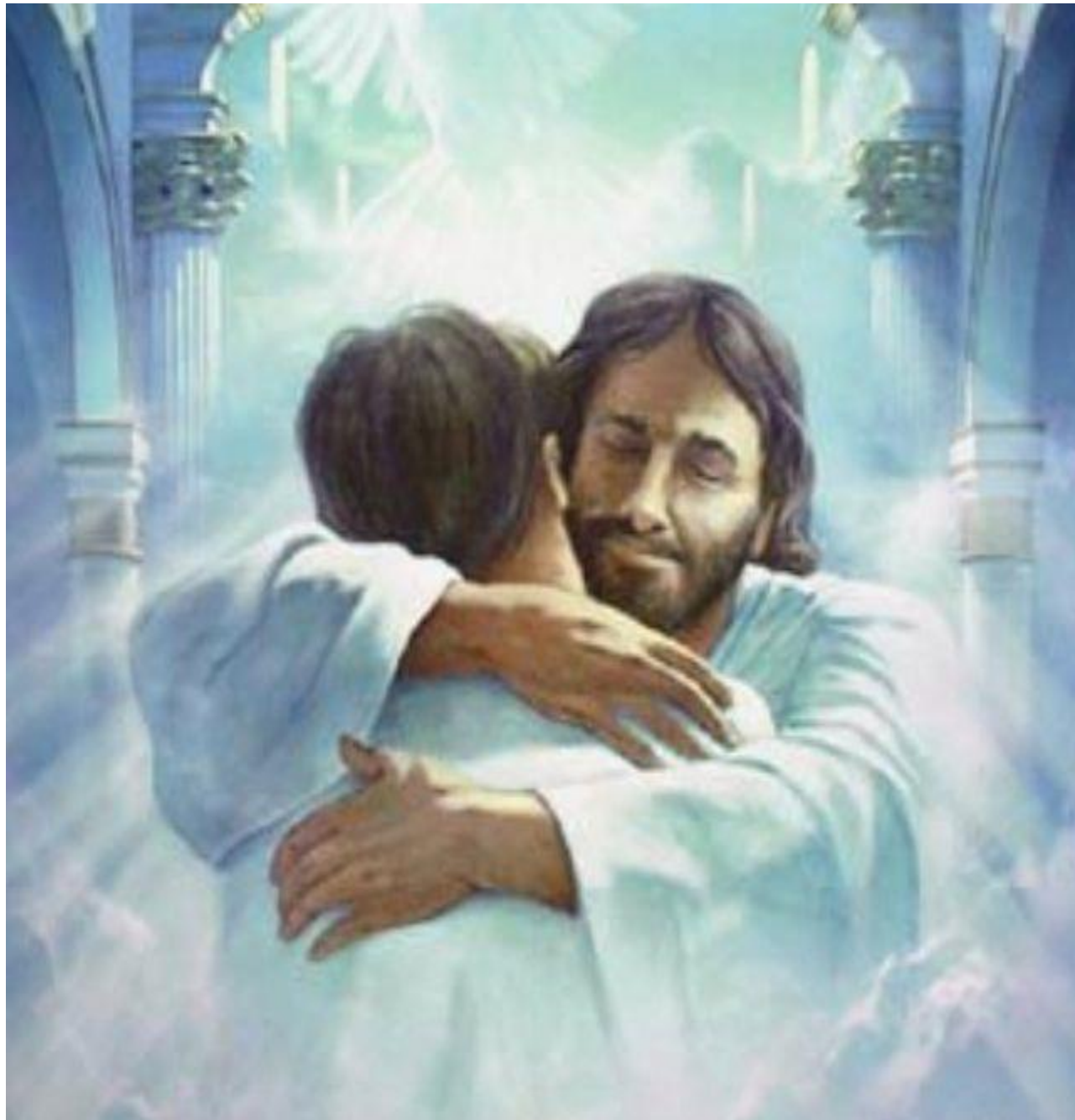
**A wrong view of God or Christ may cause us
to make bad decisions**

Matthew 25:24-27 NIV

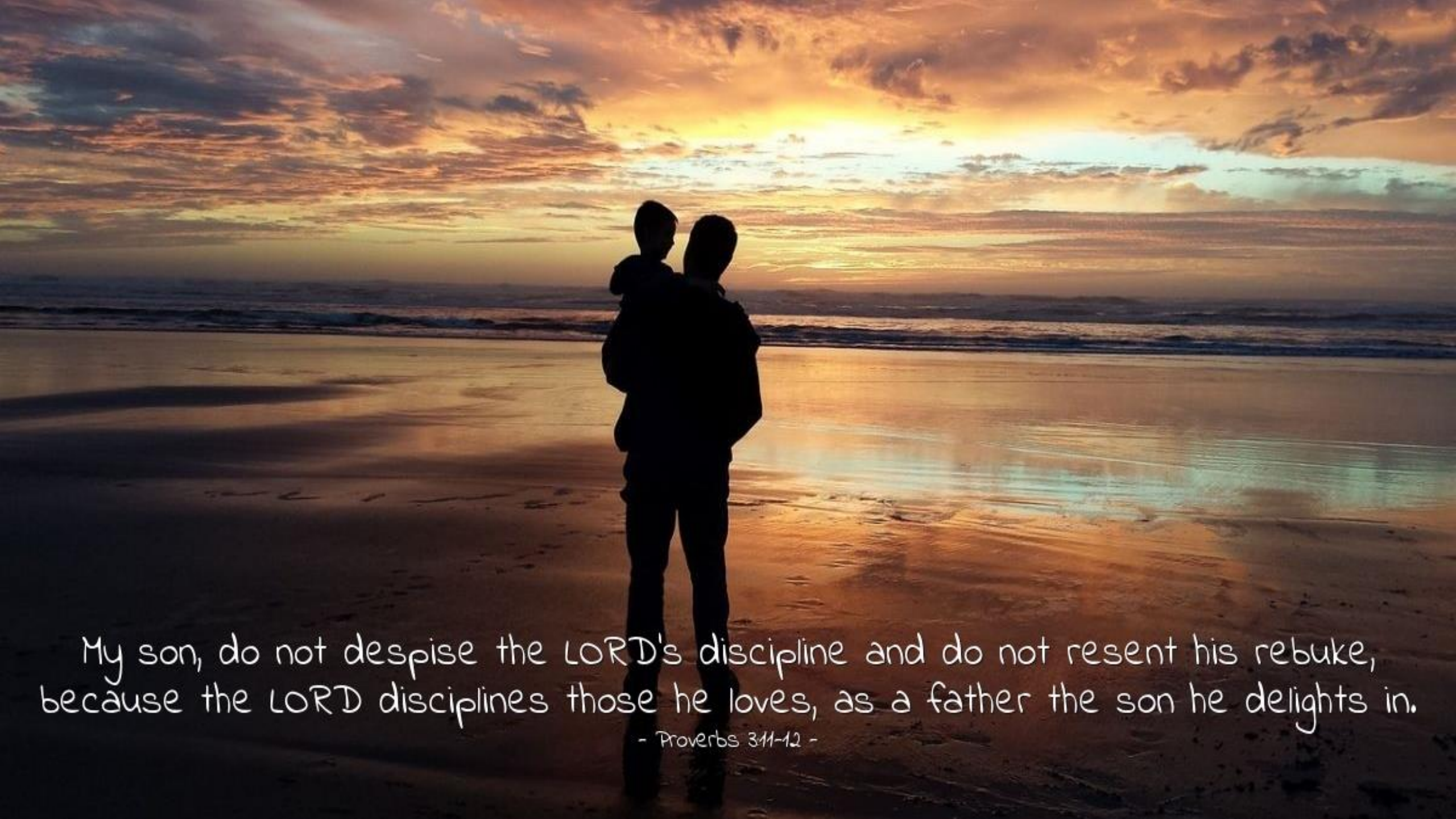
24 "Then the man who had received the one talent came.
'Master,' he said, '**I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting
where you have not sown and gathering where you have not
scattered seed.** 25 **So I was afraid and went out and hid your
talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.'**

26 "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew
that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not
scattered seed? **[ESV, RSV]** 27 Well then, you should have put my
money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I
would have received it back with interest.'

A fear-based relationship can paralyze our actions



The Love of God,
as revealed in
Jesus, will empower
us to grow from a
fear-based
relationship, to a
love-based
relationship with
God, that will cast
out fear



My son, do not despise the LORD's discipline and do not resent his rebuke,
because the LORD disciplines those he loves, as a father the son he delights in.

- Proverbs 3:11-12 -

What we should take home

- **God loves you** as the most wonderful father you could ever ask for. Jesus loves you too!
- **They wants you to join their family forever**
- **God brings troubles on those He loves** to discipline & train them – to make them better children – fit for eternity
- **We can trust God** – no matter what happens in our lives – In everything He works for good to those who love Him
- **Don't grumble & complain** – this is the way God grows your faith
- **Even Jesus learned obedience** through what he suffered



God is training us for immortality
It's a tough training program

Lessons from This Class

- God loves us & in kindness He trains us to become His children.
- God's training program involves some tough days & challenges
- Punishment instills fear, but discipline and training instill trust and love
- God does not punish His children. He disciplines & trains us to become more like Him
- God's model for training us is the same model we should use when training our children and grandchildren & ecclesial members
– train, don't punish