

# Out of the Depths of Darkness

Isaiah 59:1-21



Isaiah 59:1-4

Behold, the LORD's hand is not so short That it cannot save;  
Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear. But your iniquities  
have made a separation between you and your God,  
And your sins have hidden His face from you so that  
He does not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood  
And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken  
falsehood, Your tongue mutters wickedness.  
No one sues righteously and no one pleads honestly.  
They trust in confusion and speak lies;  
They conceive mischief and bring forth iniquity.

Isaiah 59:5-8

They hatch adders' eggs and weave the spider's web;  
He who eats of their eggs dies, And from that which is  
crushed a snake breaks forth. Their webs will not become  
clothing, Nor will they cover themselves with their works;  
Their works are works of iniquity, And an act of violence is  
in their hands. Their feet run to evil, And they hasten to  
shed innocent blood; Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity,  
Devastation and destruction are in their highways.  
They do not know the way of peace, And there is no justice  
in their tracks; They have made their paths crooked,  
Whoever treads on them does not know peace.

Isaiah 59:9-11

Therefore justice is far from us, And righteousness does not overtake us; We hope for light, but behold, darkness, For brightness, but we walk in gloom. We grope along the wall like blind men, We grope like those who have no eyes; We stumble at midday as in the twilight, Among those who are vigorous we are like dead men. All of us growl like bears, And moan sadly like doves; We hope for justice, but there is none, For salvation, but it is far from us.

Isaiah 59:12-13

For our transgressions are multiplied before You,  
And our sins testify against us; For our transgressions  
are with us, And we know our iniquities:  
Transgressing and denying the LORD,  
And turning away from our God,  
Speaking oppression and revolt,  
Conceiving in and uttering from the heart lying words.

Isaiah 59:14-17

Justice is turned back, And righteousness stands far away;  
For truth has stumbled in the street, And uprightness cannot  
enter. Yes, truth is lacking; And he who turns aside from  
evil makes himself a prey. Now the LORD saw, And it was  
displeasing in His sight that there was no justice. And He saw  
that there was no man, And was astonished that there was  
no one to intercede; Then His own arm brought salvation  
to Him, And His righteousness upheld Him. He put on  
righteousness like a breastplate, And a helmet of salvation  
on His head; And He put on garments of vengeance  
for clothing And wrapped Himself with zeal as a mantle.

## Isaiah 59:18-20

According to their deeds, so He will repay, Wrath to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies; To the coastlands He will make recompense. So they will fear the name of the LORD from the west And His glory from the rising of the sun, For He will come like a rushing stream Which the wind of the LORD drives. "A Redeemer will come to Zion, And to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," declares the LORD.

Isaiah 59:21

“As for Me, this is My covenant with them,” says the LORD:

“My Spirit which is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your offspring, nor from the mouth of your offspring’s offspring,” says the LORD, “from now and forever.”



## Main Point

It is *the LORD* who saves  
out of the depths of darkness,  
and it is *He* who preserves  
by the light of His grace.

# Out of the Depths of Darkness

What does the Lord see?



Isaiah 59:14-17

Now **the LORD** saw,  
and it was displeasing in His sight.



# What does the Lord see?

## Pervasive Perversity

### What is perversity?

The willful determination or disposition to go counter to what is expected or desired, rebellion.

To turn away from or reject what is right, good, or proper.

Isaiah 59:1-4

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He does not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood  
And your fingers with iniquity; Your lips have spoken  
falsehood, Your tongue mutters wickedness.  
No one sues righteously and no one pleads honestly.  
They trust in confusion and speak lies;  
They conceive mischief and bring forth iniquity.

# It is Pervasive!

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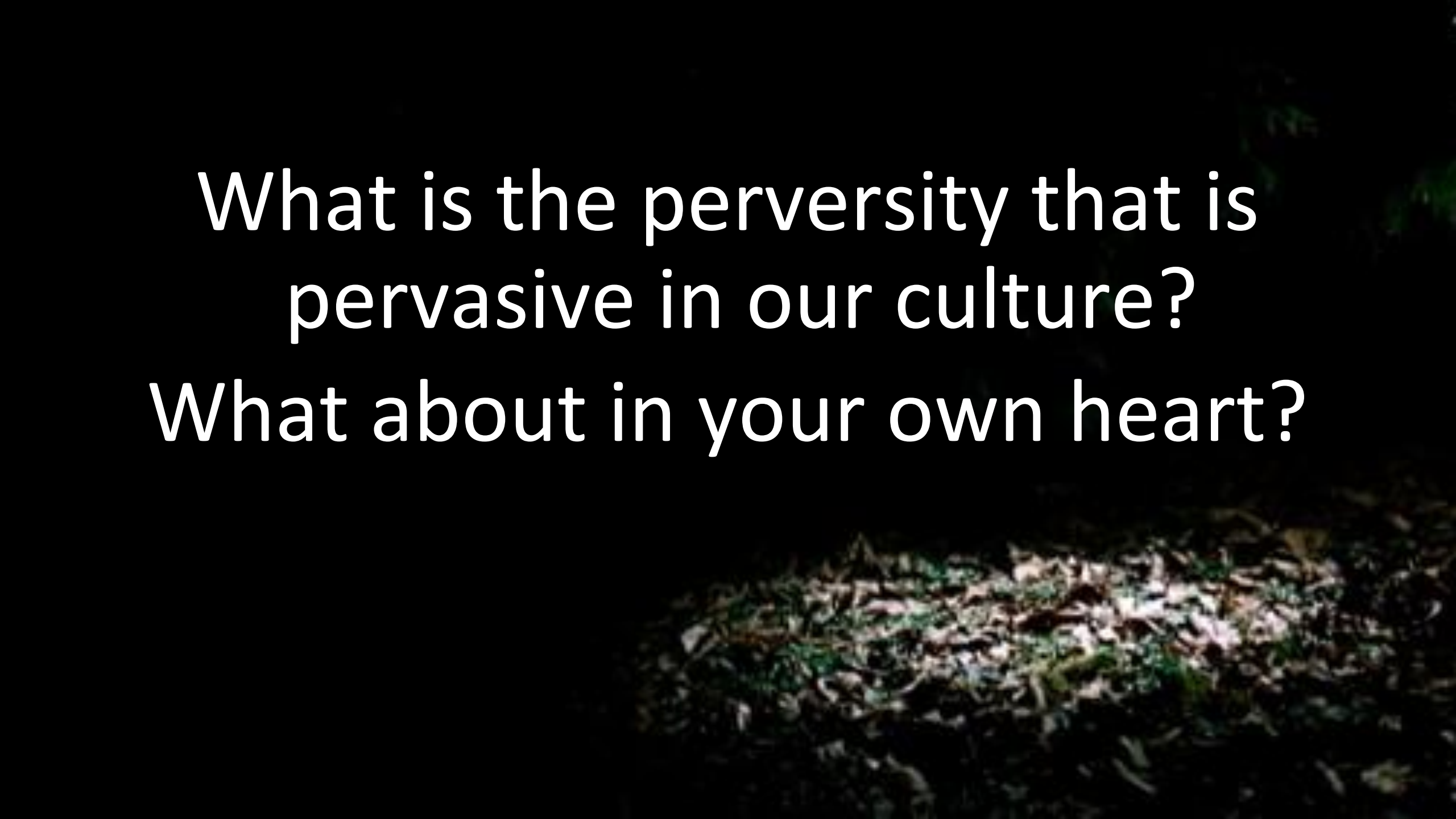
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What is the perversity that is  
pervasive in our culture?  
What about in your own heart?



# What does the Lord see?

Pervasive Perversity

## **Injurious Iniquity**

Isaiah 59:5-8

They hatch adders' eggs and weave the spider's web;  
He who eats of their eggs dies, And from that which is  
crushed a snake breaks forth. Their webs will not become  
clothing, Nor will they cover themselves with their works;  
Their works are works of iniquity, And an act of violence is  
in their hands. Their feet run to evil, And they hasten to  
shed innocent blood; Their thoughts are thoughts of iniquity,  
Devastation and destruction are in their highways.  
They do not know the way of peace, And there is no justice  
in their tracks; They have made their paths crooked,  
Whoever treads on them does not know peace.

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# Devastation and destruction are in their highways.

They do not know the way of peace, And there is no justice  
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Whoever treads on them does not know peace.

Isaiah 59:14-15

Justice is turned back,  
And righteousness stands far away;  
For truth has stumbled in the street,  
And uprightness cannot enter.

Yes, truth is lacking;  
And he who turns aside from evil makes himself a prey.

Isaiah 59:14-15

Justice is turned back,  
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And **he who turns aside from evil  
makes himself a prey.**



What are the injuries resulting  
from our iniquity?

What injury has *your*  
iniquity caused?



# What does the Lord see?

Pervasive Perversity

Injurious Iniquity

**Noxious Neglect**

Isaiah 59:14-15

Justice is turned back,  
And righteousness stands far away;  
For truth has stumbled in the public squares,  
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Isaiah 59:15-17

Now the LORD saw,

And it was displeasing in His sight  
that there was no justice.

And He saw that there was no man,

And was astonished that there was no one to intercede.

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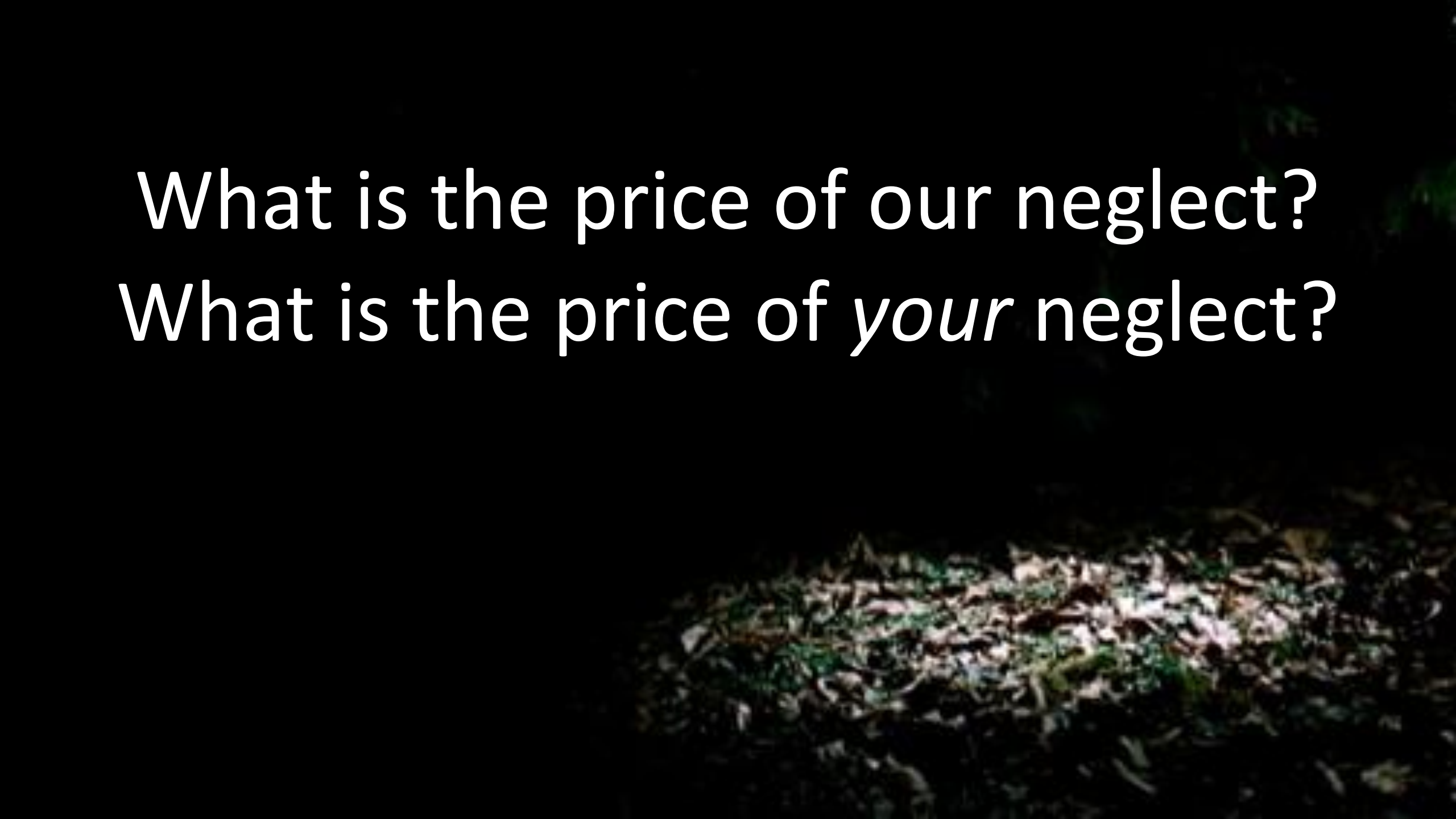
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What is the price of our neglect?  
What is the price of *your* neglect?

# Out of the Depths of Darkness

What does the Lord see?

**What does the Lord do?**





**What does the Lord do?**

**He executes justice Himself.**



Isaiah 59:1-2

Behold, the LORD's hand is not so short That it cannot save;  
Nor is His ear so dull That it cannot hear.  
But your iniquities have made a separation  
between you and your God,  
And your sins have hidden His face from you  
so that He does not hear.

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And your sins have hidden His face from you  
so that He does not hear.

**The problem is not with the LORD;  
it is with you!**

**Your sins have brought God's  
judgment of separation.**

Isaiah 59:15-17

Now the LORD saw,

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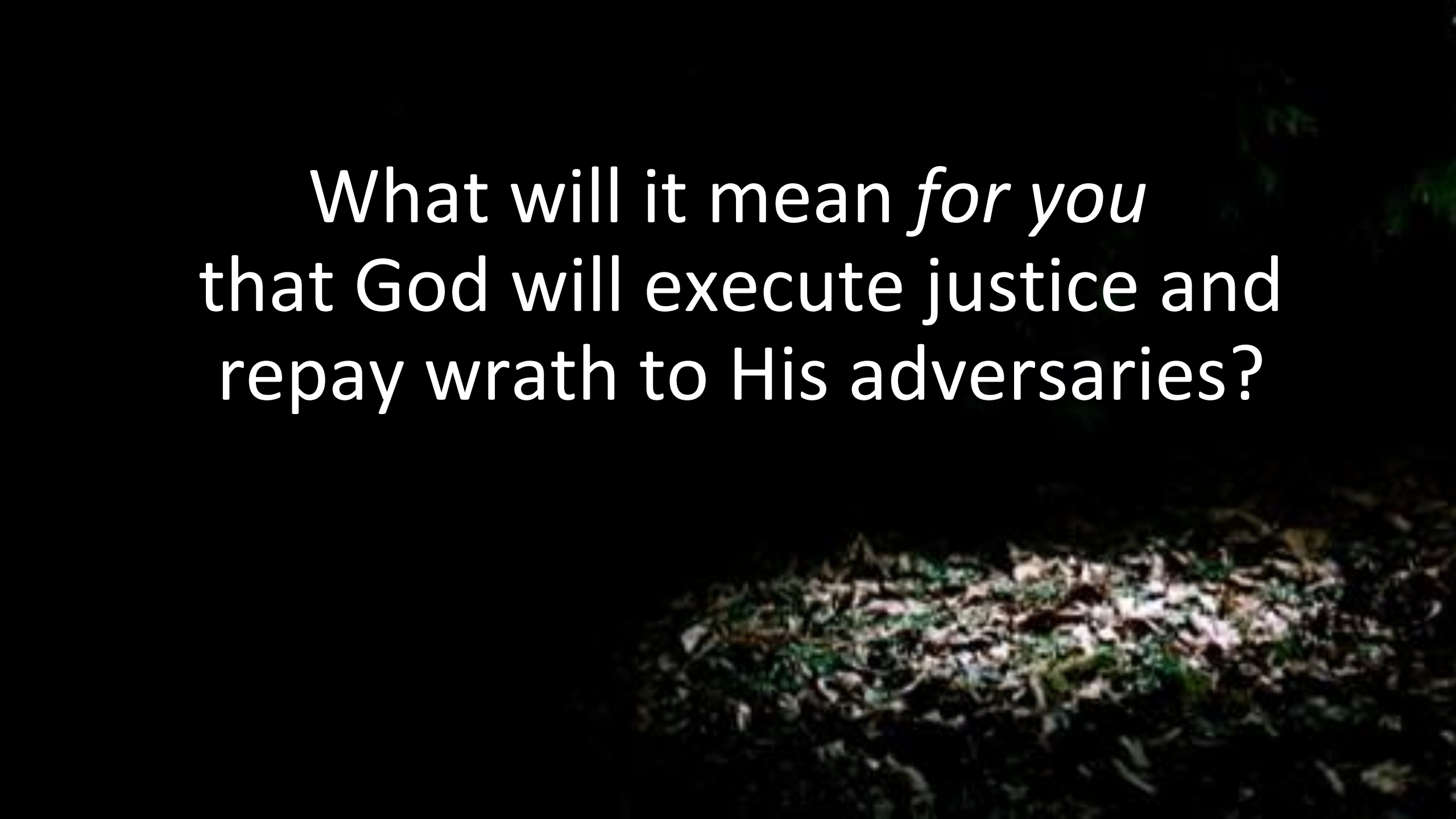
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Wrath to His adversaries, recompense to His enemies;

To the coastlands He will make recompense.

So they will fear the name of the LORD from the west  
And His glory from the rising of the sun, For He will come  
like a rushing stream Which the wind of the LORD drives.

Isaiah 59:17-19





What will it mean *for you*  
that God will execute justice and  
repay wrath to His adversaries?



# What does the Lord do?

He executes justice Himself

**He brings salvation Himself**

Isaiah 59:16-17

And He saw that there was no man,  
And was astonished that there was no one to intercede;  
Then His own arm brought salvation to Him,  
And His righteousness upheld Him.  
He put on righteousness like a breastplate,  
And a helmet of salvation on His head.

Isaiah 59:16-17

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It is God who saves!

Isaiah 45:21-22

There is no other God besides Me,  
A righteous God and a Savior; There is none except Me.

Turn to Me, and be saved, all the ends of the earth;  
For I am God, and there is no other.

**How does He save?**

Isaiah 59:16-17

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# How?

**John 3:16**

For God so loved the world,  
that **He gave His only begotten Son**,  
that all those believing in Him should not perish,  
but have eternal life.

**Romans 8:34**

Christ Jesus is He who died, yes,  
rather who was raised,  
who is at the right hand of God,  
**who** also **intercedes for us**.

# Out of the Depths of Darkness

What does the Lord see?

What does the Lord do?

**What did the Lord vow?**



Isaiah 59:21

“As for Me, **this is My covenant with them,**”  
says the LORD:



**What did the Lord vow?**

**He vowed to give His Word**

Isaiah 59:21

“As for Me, **this is My covenant with them,**” says  
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“My Spirit which is upon you, and My words which  
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**John 5:24**

Truly, truly, I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.

**God has given His Word that  
saves and preserves.**

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He vowed to give His Word

He vowed to give Himself

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says the LORD, “from now and forever.”

**Ezekiel 36:26-27**

Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

## **Ezekiel 36:26-27**

Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

And **I will put My Spirit within you** and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.

**John 14:16-18**

And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

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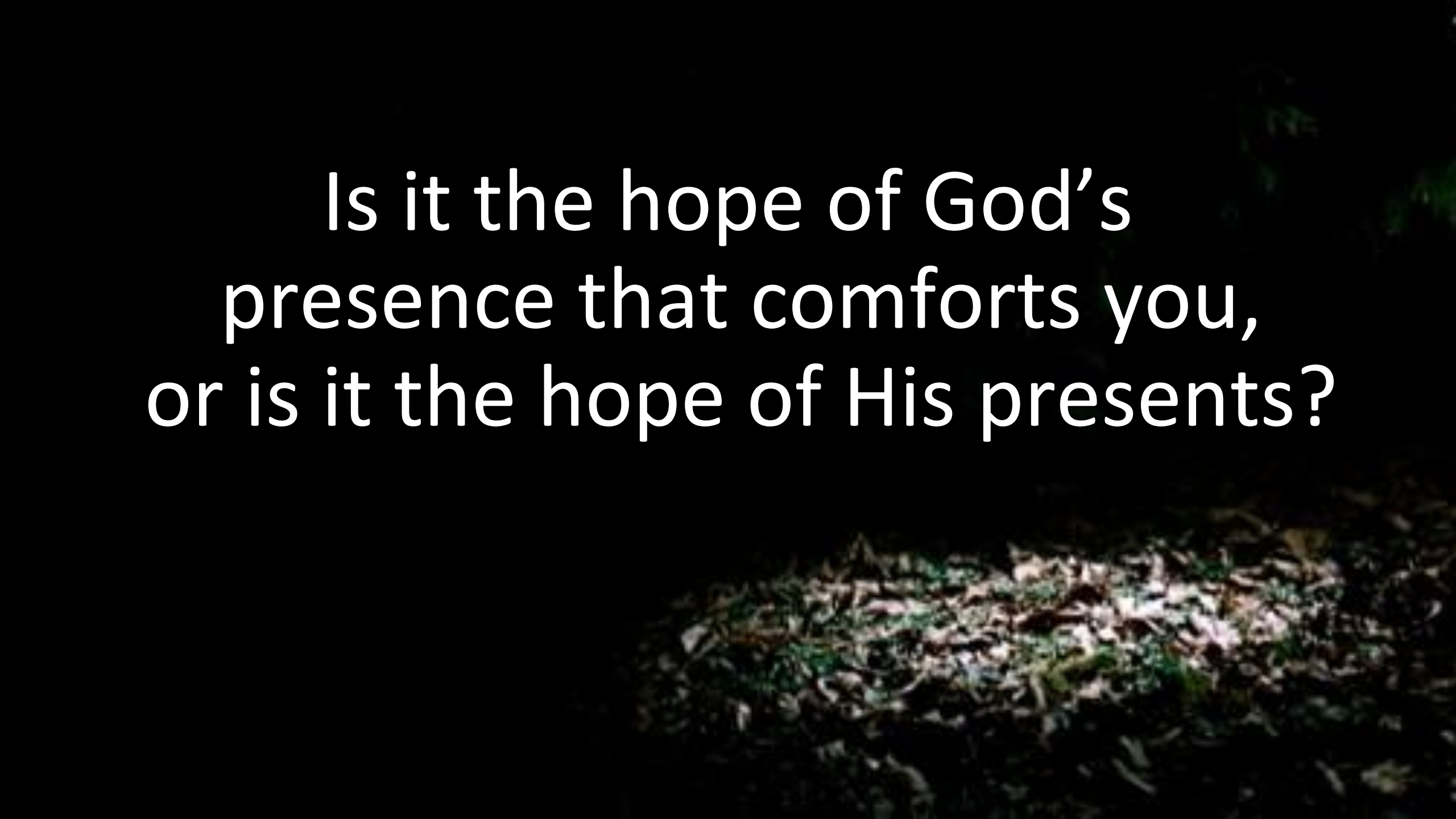
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but you know Him because **He abides with you,  
and will be in you**. I will not leave you as orphans;  
I will come to you.

## **John 14:16-18**

And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans;

**I will come to you.**



Is it the hope of God's  
presence that comforts you,  
or is it the hope of His presents?





## For Consideration:

Do you believe that it is out of the depths of *your own* darkness that God must save you?

Do you believe that it is *God* who must save you and that it is *God* who must preserve you?

Does this message make you haughty or humble?