

A photograph of a dirt path winding through a forest. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and long shadows. Three people are walking away from the camera on the path. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

Spiritual
LESSONS FROM
OUR WALK WITH *God*

A photograph of a winding dirt path through a forest at sunset. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a golden glow and long shadows. Three people are walking away from the camera along the path. The trees are silhouetted against the bright light.

Part 5

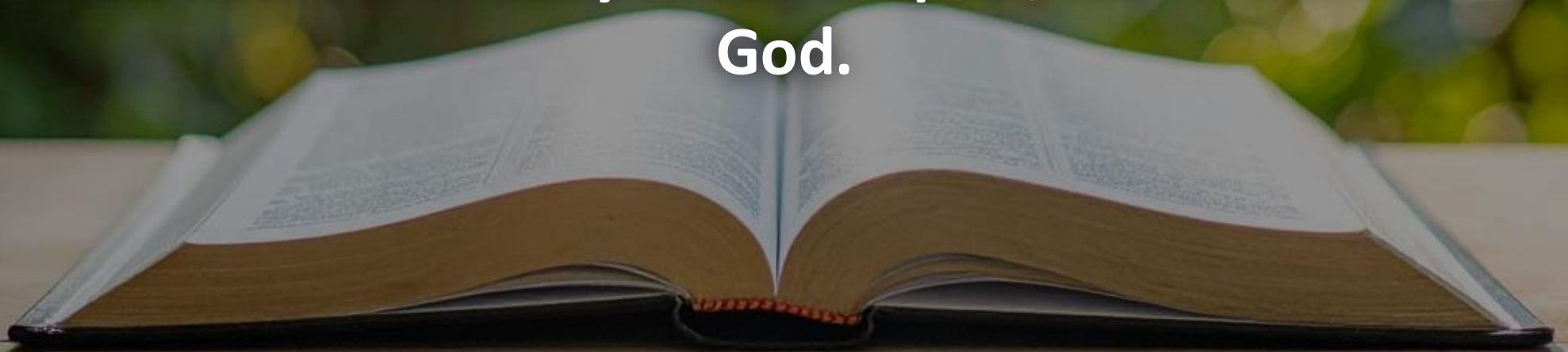
Spiritual Preparedness for Abundant Life in Times of Trouble

JEREMIAH 17:7-8 and 29:10-14

DR. CRAIG H.

CONTEXT OF JEREMIAH 17 and 29

The context of Jeremiah 17:5-8 is a sharp prophetic warning to the Kingdom of Judah during a period of national crisis and impending exile. During this difficult time, Judah was tempted to rely on political alliances and military strength to save themselves from the Babylonian Empire, rather than trusting in God.



CONTEXT OF JEREMIAH 17 and 29

Judah has a choice:
Trust in the FLESH or Trust in the LORD.



The Kingdom of Judah's SIN

Let's feel the weight of it

JEREMIAH 7 (NLT)

**23 ” ...Obey me, and I will be your God and you will be my people.
Do everything as I say, and all will be well with you.”**



JEREMIAH 7 (NLT)

24 “But my people would not listen to me. They kept doing whatever they wanted, following the stubborn desires of their evil hearts. They went backward instead of forward.”



JEREMIAH 7

**28 “Therefore say to them,
‘This is the nation that has not obeyed
the LORD its God or responded to correction.
Truth has perished;
it has vanished from their lips.’”**



JEREMIAH 17 (ESV)

¹ “The sin of Judah is written with a pen of iron...

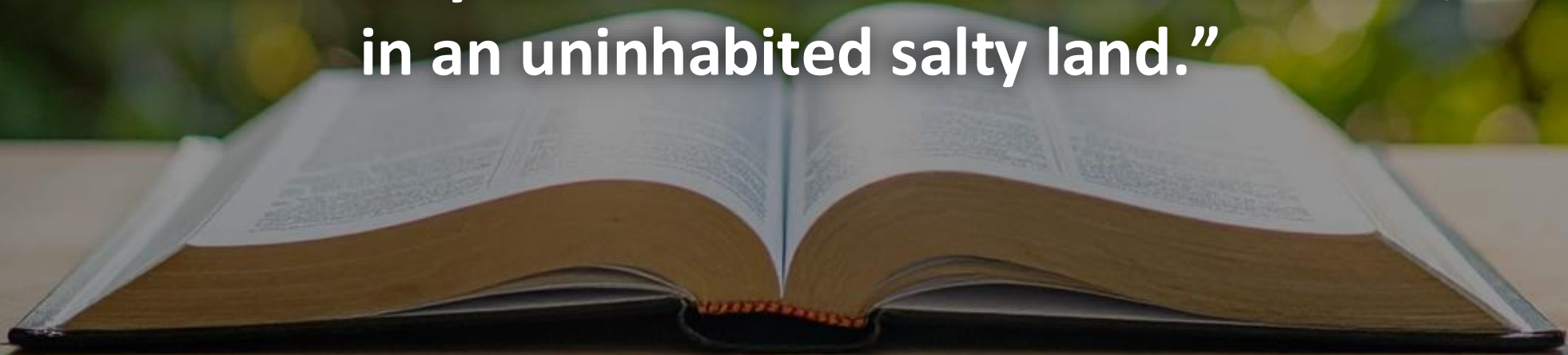
⁴ You shall loosen your hand from your heritage that I gave to you, and I will make you serve your enemies in a land that you do not know, for in my anger a fire is kindled that shall burn forever.”



JEREMIAH 17 (NLT)

⁵ This is what the Lord says:

“Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength and turn their hearts away from the LORD. ⁶ They are like stunted shrubs in the desert, with no hope for the future. They will live in the barren wilderness, in an uninhabited salty land.”



The Kingdom of Judah is in Big Trouble

**There is only one way out of the
messes we make**

In times of trouble, how do we spell RELIEF?

**T-R-U-S-T
IN THE LORD**

JEREMIAH 17 (NLT)

7 “But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence.

8 They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.”



**If you want to be blessed by God,
you have to trust in the LORD**

JEREMIAH 17:7

JEREMIAH 17 (NLT)

⁷ “But **blessed** are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence.



What does it look like to TRUST in the LORD?

JEREMIAH 17:8

JEREMIAH 17 (NLT)

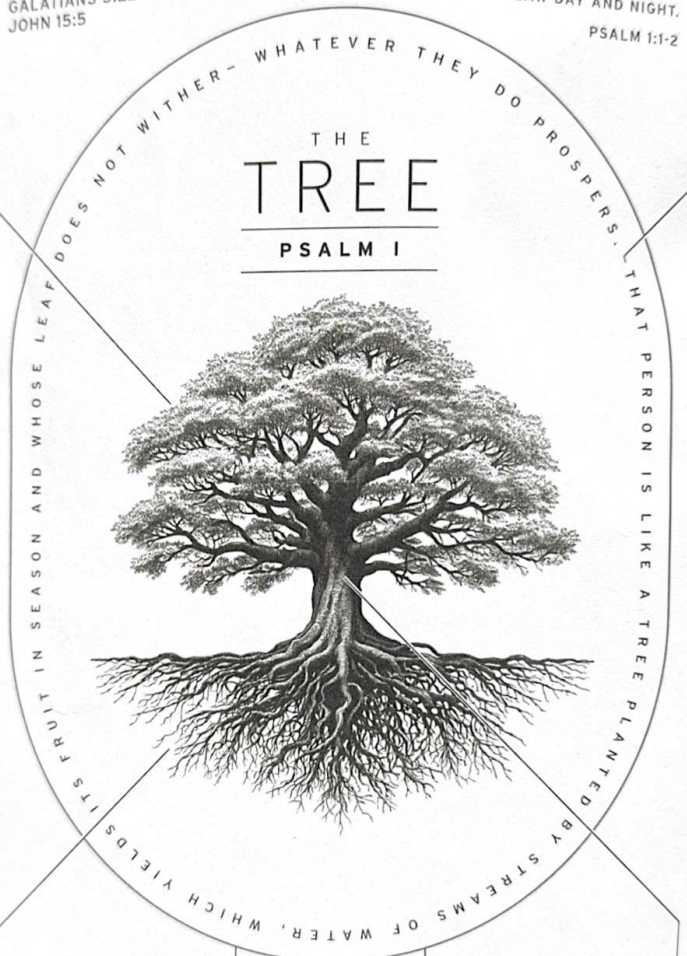
⁸ They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.”



BRANCHES & FRUIT
**TRANSFORMING
MINISTRY**

MATTHEW 28:18-20
GALATIANS 5:22-23
JOHN 15:5

BLESSED IS THE ONE WHO DOES NOT WALK
IN STEP WITH THE WICKED OR STAND IN
THE WAY THAT SINNERS TAKE OR SIT IN
THE COMPANY OF MOCKERS, BUT WHOSE
DELIGHT IS IN THE LAW OF THE LORD,
AND WHO MEDITATES ON HIS
LAW DAY AND NIGHT.
PSALM 1:1-2



THE
TREE
PSALM 1

ROOTS AND SOIL
**TRANSFORMING
FAITH**

PSALM 1
JOHN 8:31
EPHESIANS 3:16-19
COLOSSIANS 2:6-7



TREE TRUNK
**TRANSFORMING
COMMUNITY**

COLOSSIANS 3:12-17
HEBREWS 10:23-25
PHILIPPIANS 2:1-5
JOHN 13:35

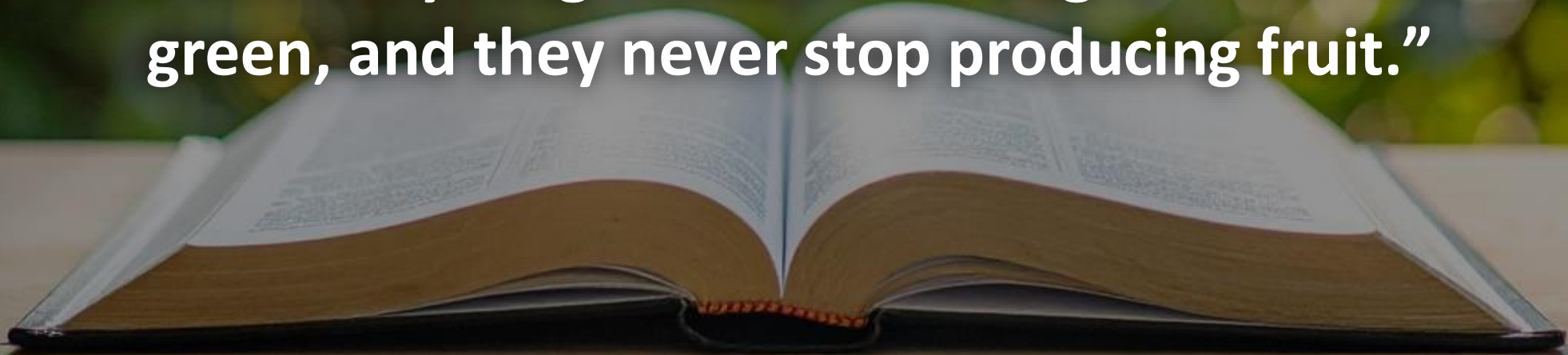
TRUST in the LORD

1. **RECOGNIZE that with Jesus Christ "You'll Never Walk Alone"**

JEREMIAH 17 (NLT)

⁷ “But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence.

⁸ They are like trees **planted along a riverbank**, with roots that reach deep into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.”



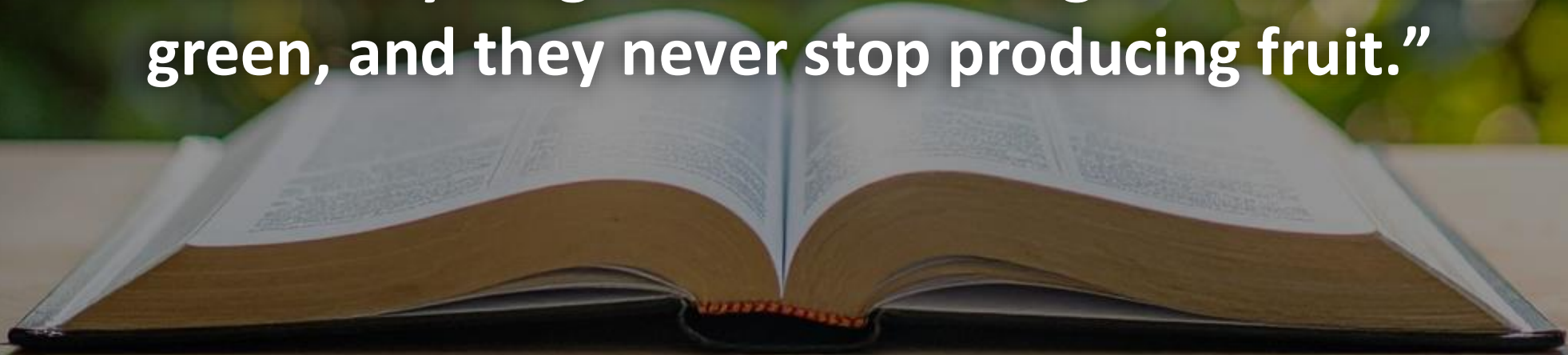
TRUST in the LORD

1. **RECOGNIZE** that with Jesus Christ "You'll Never Walk Alone"
2. **RESPOND** with trust to God's invitation to spread your roots into the living water that Jesus Christ gives

JEREMIAH 17 (NLT)

⁷ “But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence.

⁸ They are like trees planted along a riverbank, **with roots that reach deep** into the water. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.”



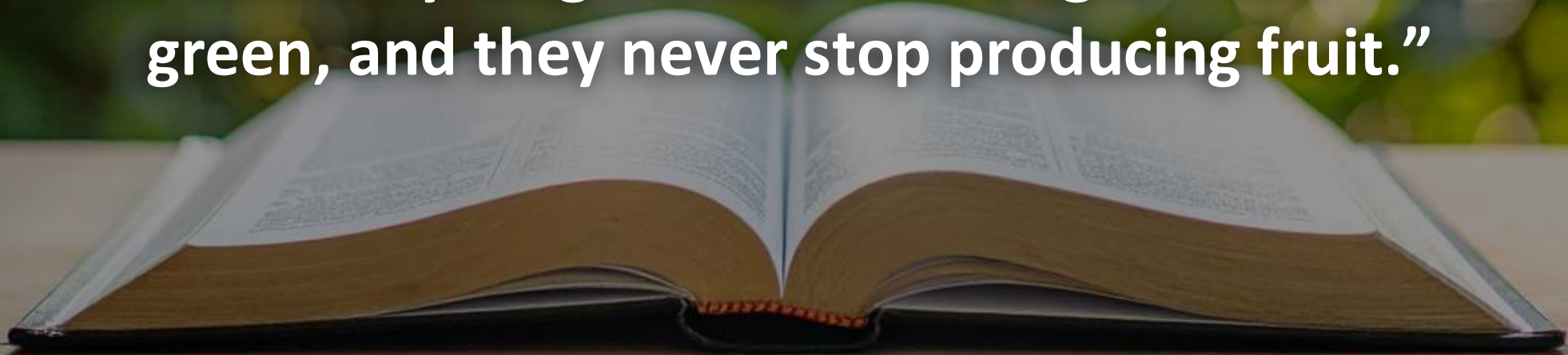
TRUST in the LORD

1. **RECOGNIZE** that with Jesus Christ "You'll Never Walk Alone"
2. **RESPOND** with trust to God's invitation to spread your roots into the living water that Jesus Christ gives
3. **REFRESH** yourself daily in the river of living water that is Jesus Christ himself

JEREMIAH 17 (NLT)

⁷ “But blessed are those who trust in the LORD and have made the LORD their hope and confidence.

⁸ They are like trees planted along a riverbank, with roots that reach deep **into the water**. Such trees are not bothered by the heat or worried by long months of drought. Their leaves stay green, and they never stop producing fruit.”



JEREMIAH 17 (NLT)

13 O LORD, the hope of Israel, all who turn away from you will be disgraced. They will be buried in the dust of the earth, for they have abandoned **the LORD, the fountain of living water.**



Rhythms of Grace

**What are my rhythms for deepening
my roots into
the river of God's grace?**

Rhythms of Grace

- Walking with God
- Listening to God's Word
 - Talking with God
- Practicing Gratitude
- Living a Life of Worship

Rhythms of Grace

**“Love God and do
whatever you please.”**

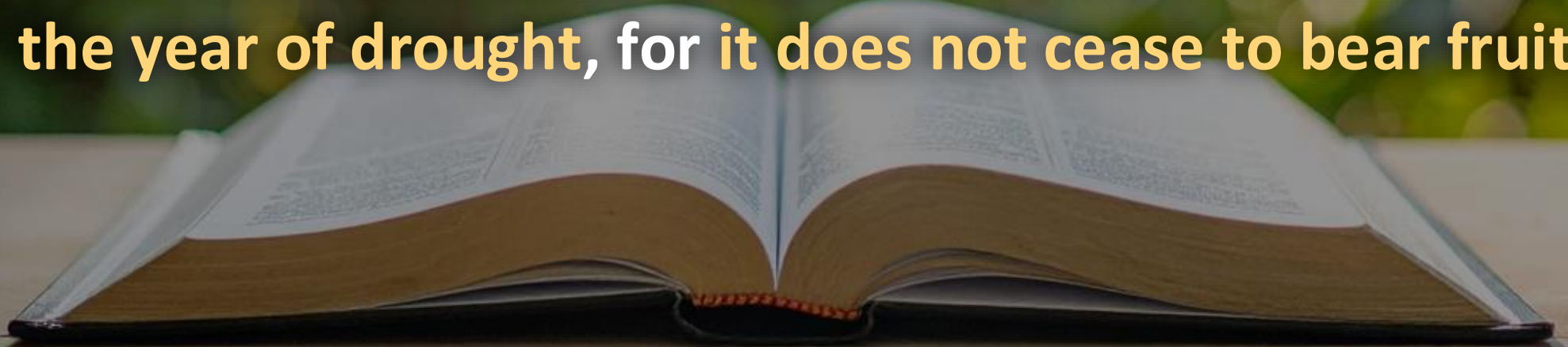
- St. Augustine

What happens when we trust the LORD,
and trouble still comes?

JEREMIAH 17 (ESV)

⁷ “Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD,
whose trust is the LORD.

⁸ He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out
its roots by the stream, and does not fear **when heat comes**, for
its leaves remain green, and is not anxious
in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit.”









When you don't understand God's Hand

TRUST HIS HEART

JEREMIAH 29 (NLT)

11 “For I know the plans I have for you,” says the LORD. “They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.”



JEREMIAH 29 (NLT)

¹² “In those days when you pray, I will listen.

¹³ If you look for me wholeheartedly, you will find me.

¹⁴ “I will be found by you,” says the LORD.



JEREMIAH 29

¹⁰ This is what the LORD says, “You will be in Babylon for seventy years. But then I will come and do for you all the good things I have promised, and I will bring you home again.”



GALATIANS 3 (ESV)

**13 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for us, for it is written:
“Cursed is everyone who is hanged on a tree.”**



2 CORINTHIANS 5

21 “God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

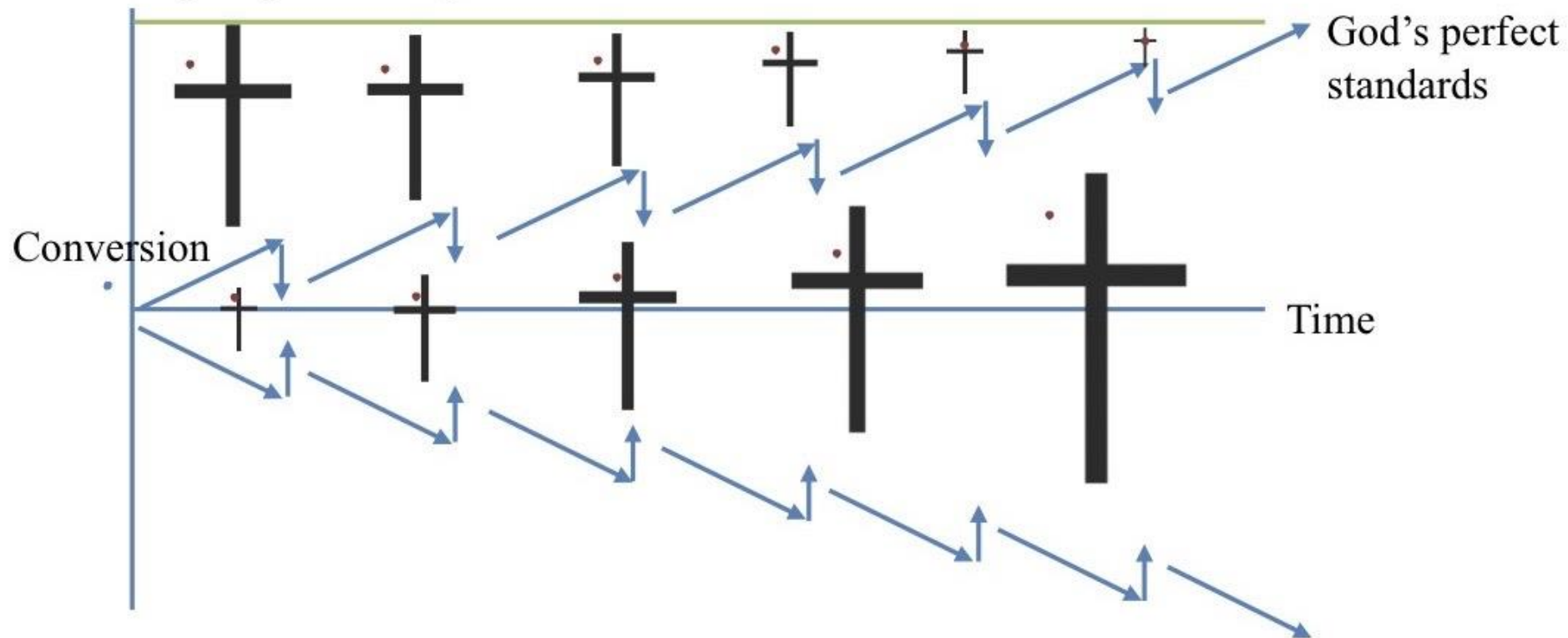


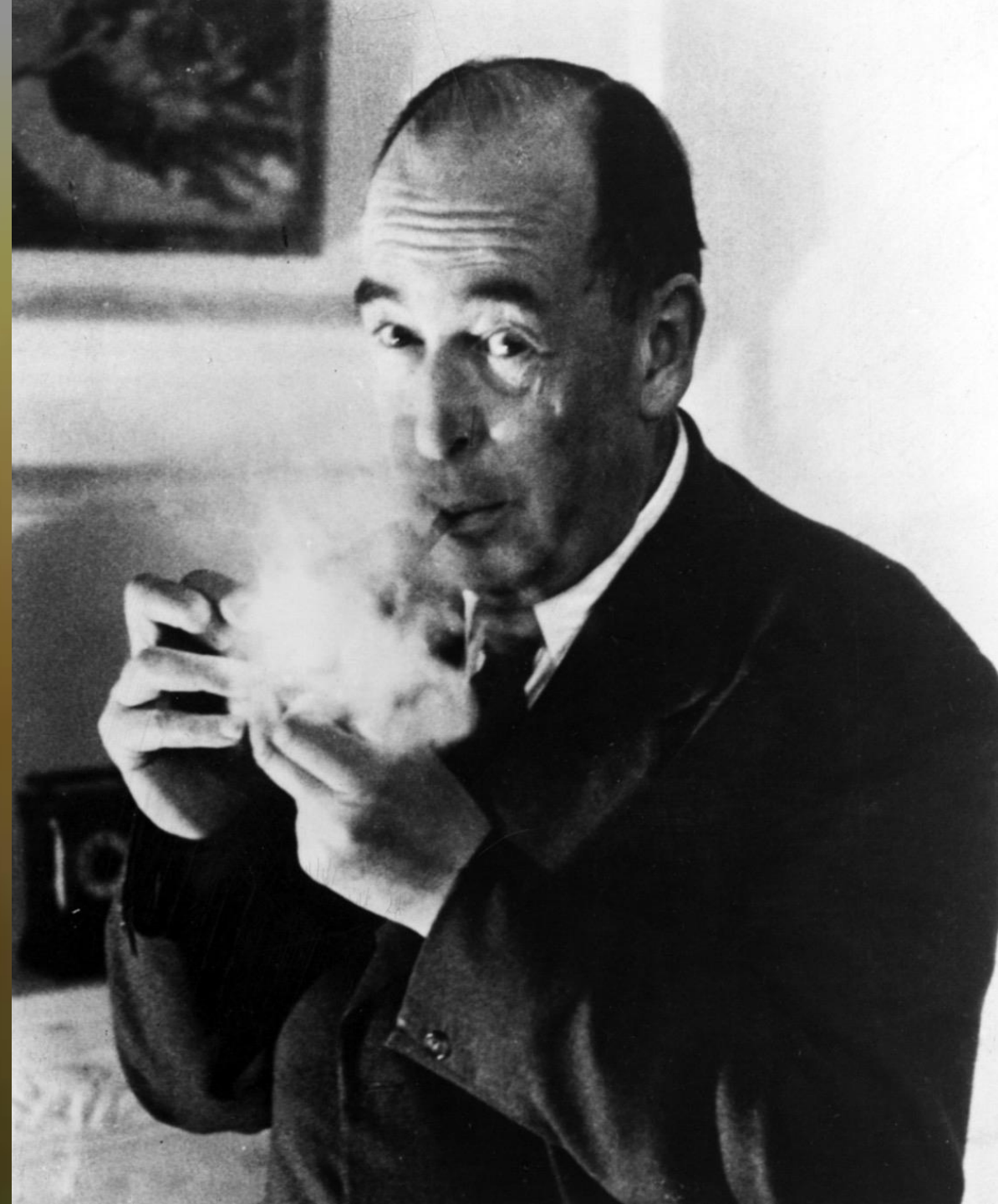
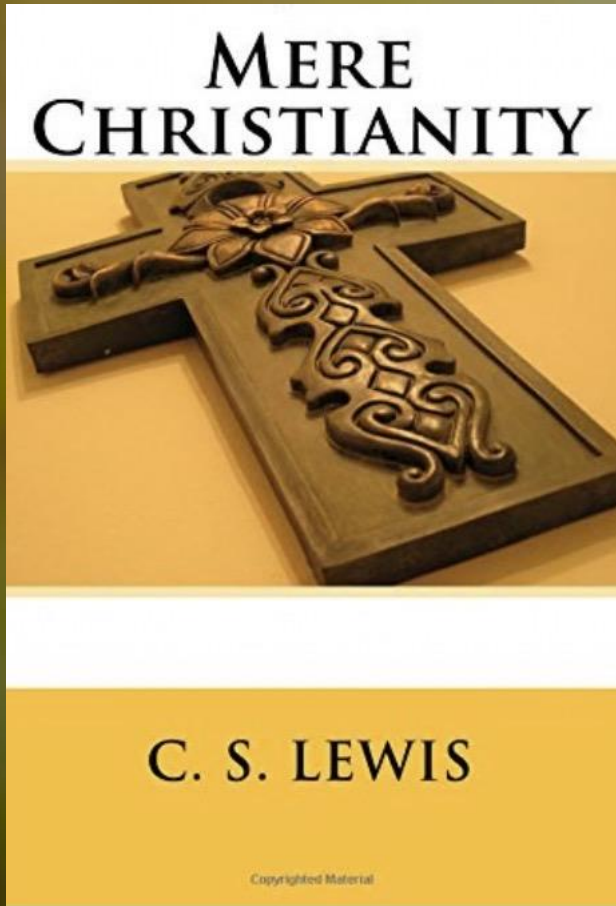
2 CORINTHIANS 3 (ESV)

18 And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.



Developing a “Lifestyle of Repentance” through rhythms of encountering and delighting in God’s grace.





A photograph of a dirt path winding through a forest. The sun is low in the sky, creating a golden glow and long shadows. In the foreground, a man and a woman are walking away from the camera. Further down the path, another person is walking away. The trees are tall and thin, with some green leaves visible.

Spiritual
LESSONS FROM
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