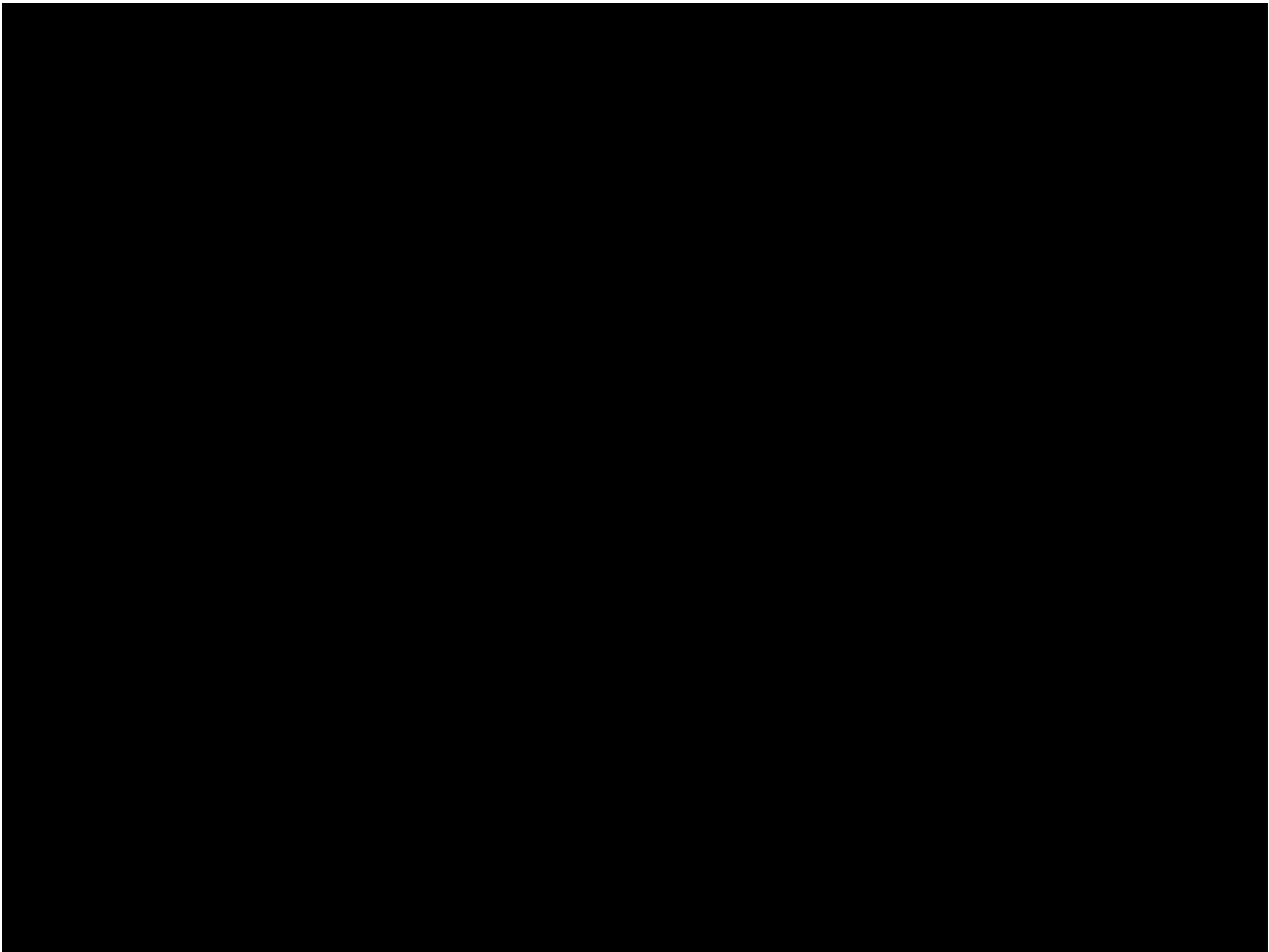


Thank you once again, Bill and Marie!







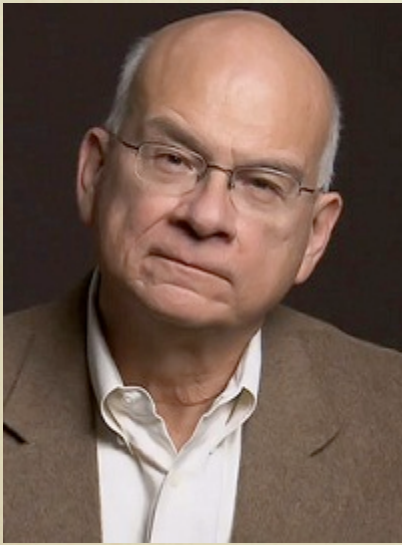
ACTS:

A HISTORY BOOK

Living **IN YOU.**

VINTAGE IDEAS FOR LIVING TODAY

No amount of money, power, planning, can prevent illness, accidents, betrayals, financial disasters or any number of other troubles from entering your life. Human life is fatally fragile, and subject to forces beyond our power to manage. In short Life is tragic. I think we all know this intuitively, but we attempt to run and hide from it's truth. And those who face the challenge of suffering learn all too well that it is impossible to do so in one's own strength.



–Pastor/Author Tim Keller

“Walking With God Through Pain and Suffering”



The Paradox of the Storm

Two Dominant Schools of Philosophy in Paul's Day

1. The Stoics

They believed everything was fixed, and it didn't matter what you did, what will be, will be.

FATE

The Stoics

were

absolutely

fatalistic

Two Dominant Schools of Philosophy in Paul's Day

1. The Epicureans

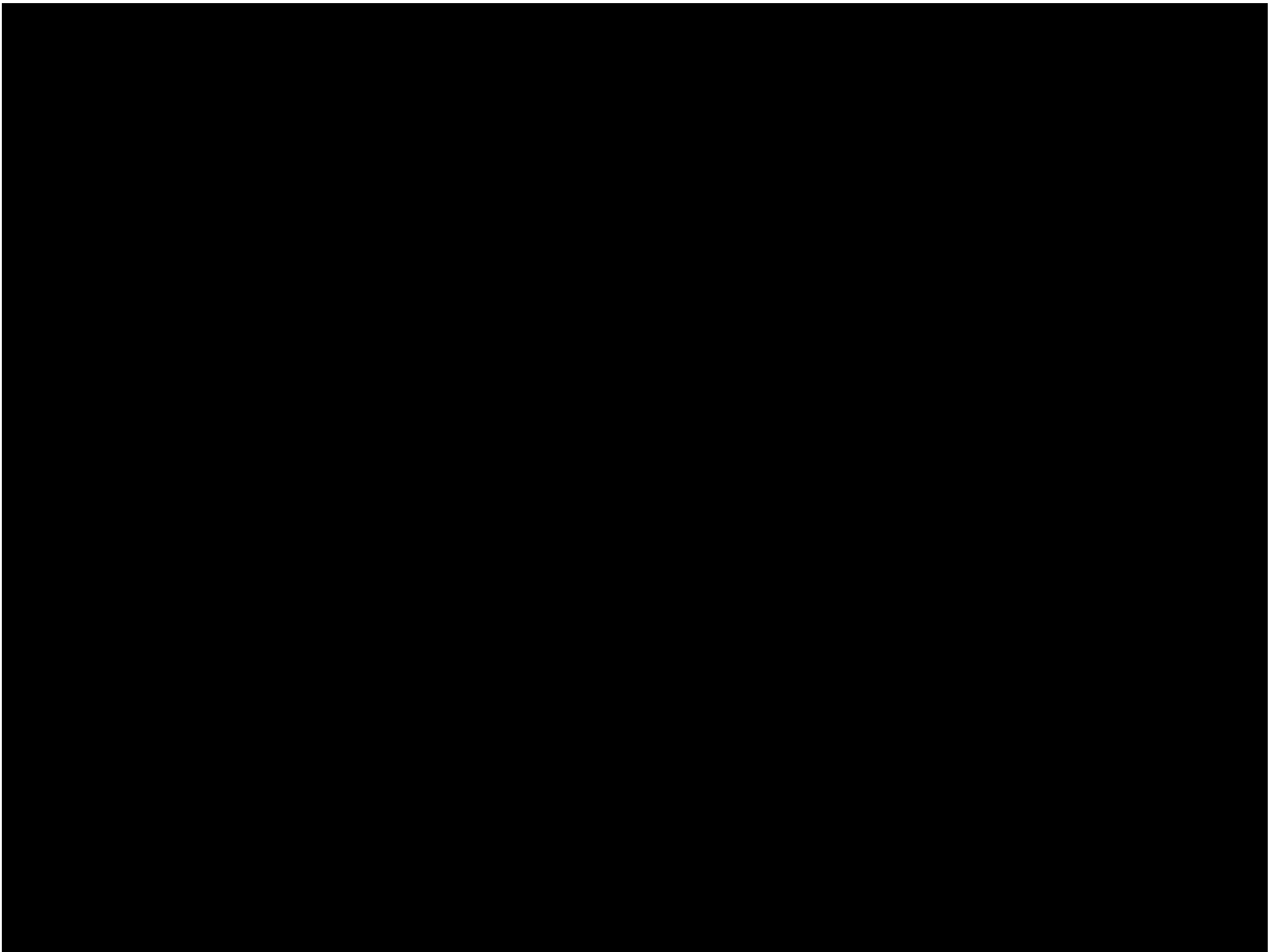
Life is completely up to you and through your choices to create the life you wanted.

FREE WILL

The
Epicureans
believed
history was
random.

Stoics-Accept Suffering

Epicureans-Avoid Suffering

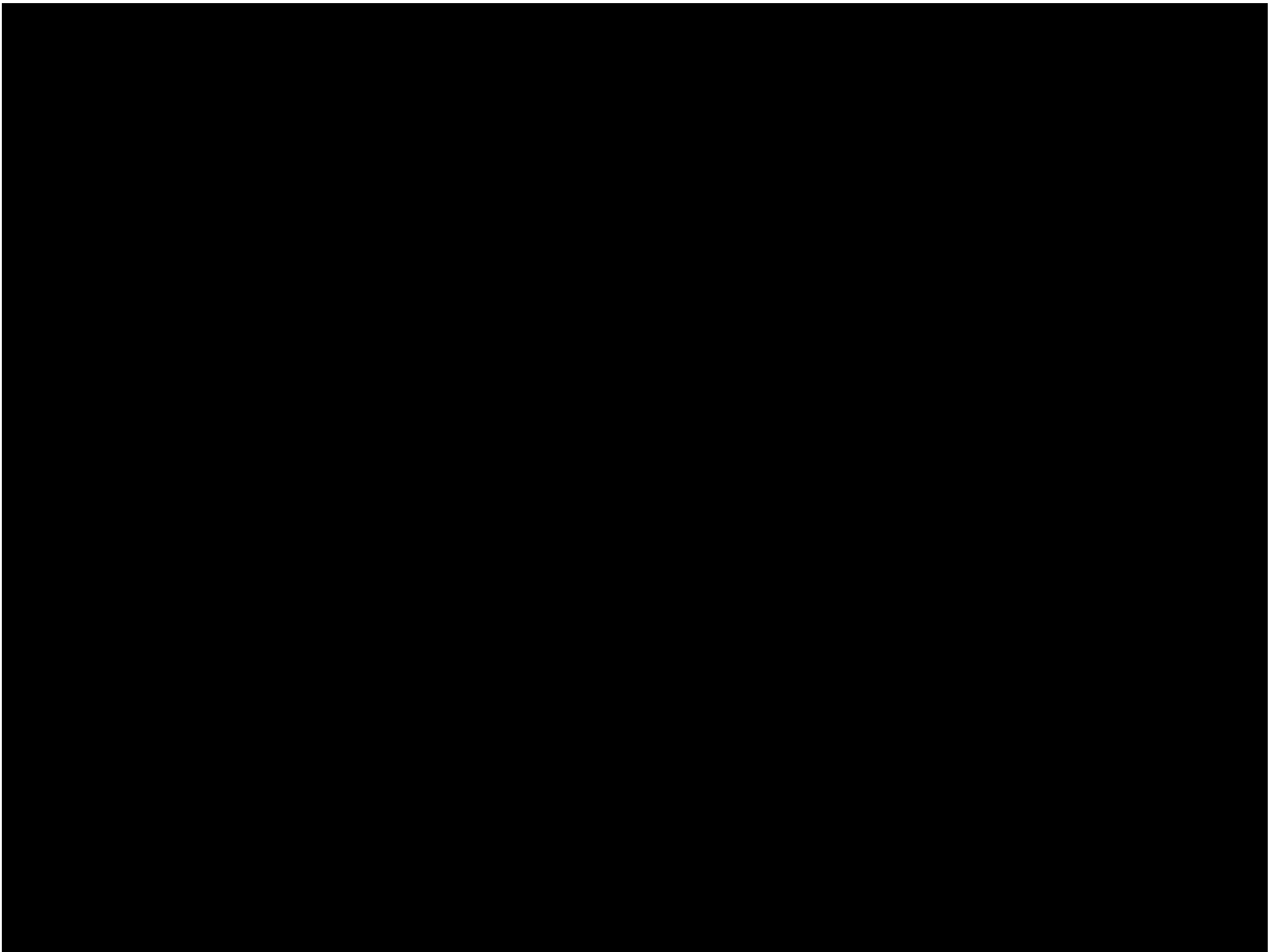


Take courage! None of you will lose your lives, even though the ship will go down. **23** For last night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve stood beside me, **24** and he said, 'Don't be afraid, Paul, for you will surely stand trial before Caesar! What's more, God in his goodness has granted safety to everyone sailing with you.' **25** So take courage! For I believe God. It will be just as he said. **26** But we will be shipwrecked on an island." Acts 27:22-26

Deuteronomy 18

“When I give you a prophecy, when I give someone a revelation, it will come true. If it doesn’t come true, you can know that’s a false prophet.”

Then the sailors tried to abandon the ship; they lowered the lifeboat as though they were going to put out anchors from the front of the ship. **31** But Paul said to the commanding officer and the soldiers, “You will all die unless the sailors stay aboard.” **32** So the soldiers cut the ropes to the lifeboat and let it drift away. Acts 27:30-32

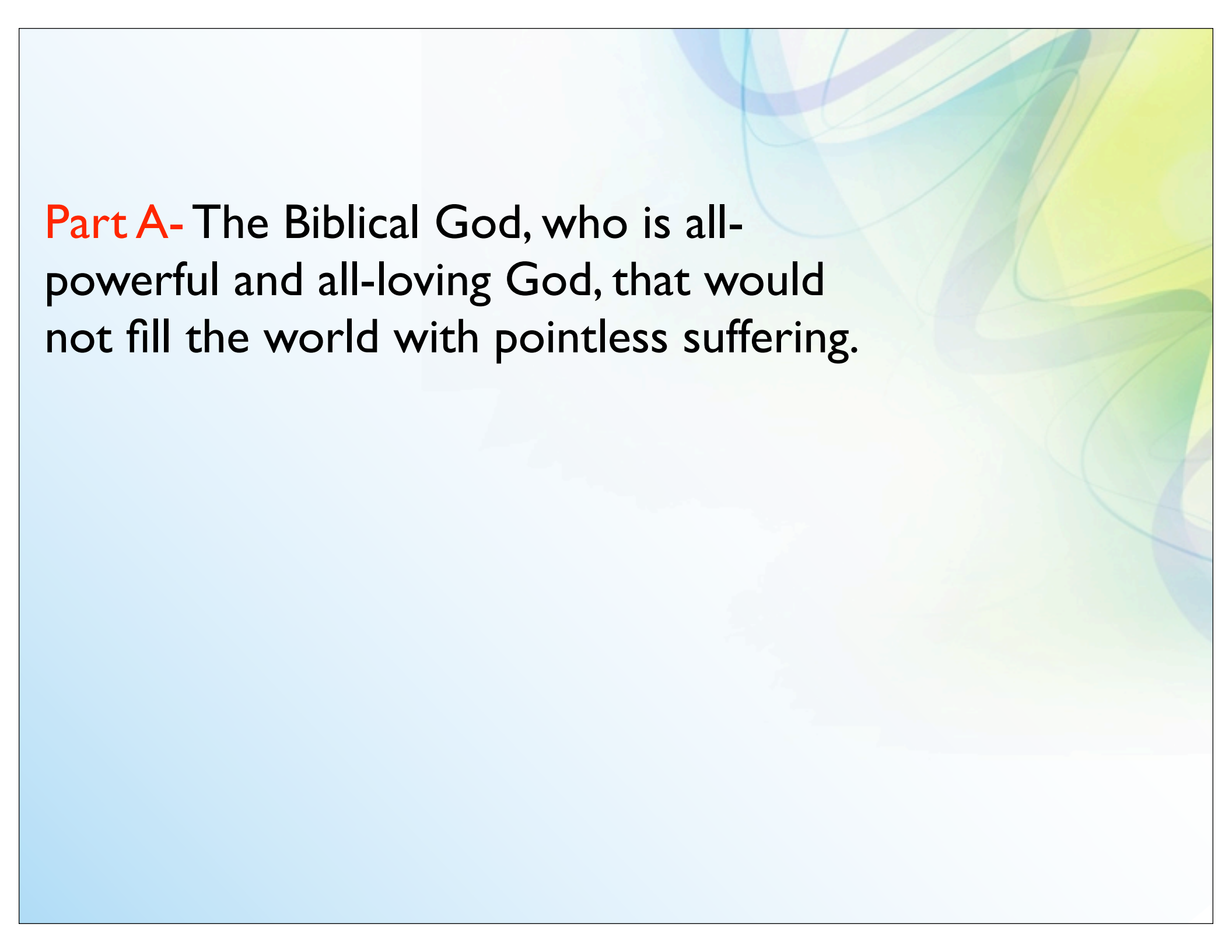


"When I see homeless people shivering in the wake of a deadly storm, when the news media bring me almost obscenely close to the raw grief of bereft parents, I do not need to ask, as all people of faith must, why an all powerful and all loving God allows such things to happen."

- Susan Jacoby

Author-Age of Seclurism





Part A- The Biblical God, who is all-powerful and all-loving God, that would not fill the world with pointless suffering.

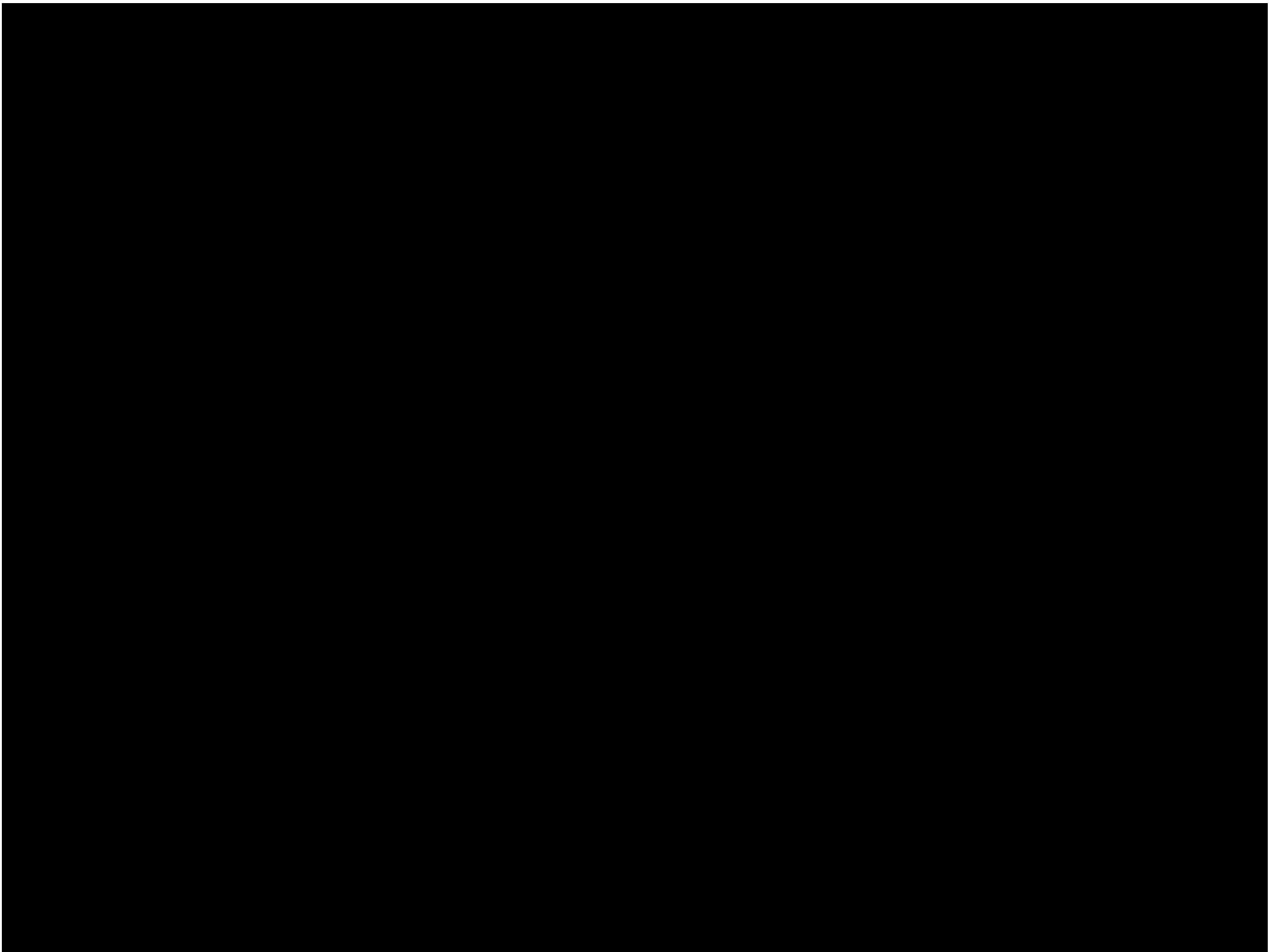
Part A- The Biblical God, who is all-powerful and all-loving God, that would not fill the world with pointless suffering.

Part B- The world is filled with pointless suffering.

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Part B- The world is filled with pointless suffering.

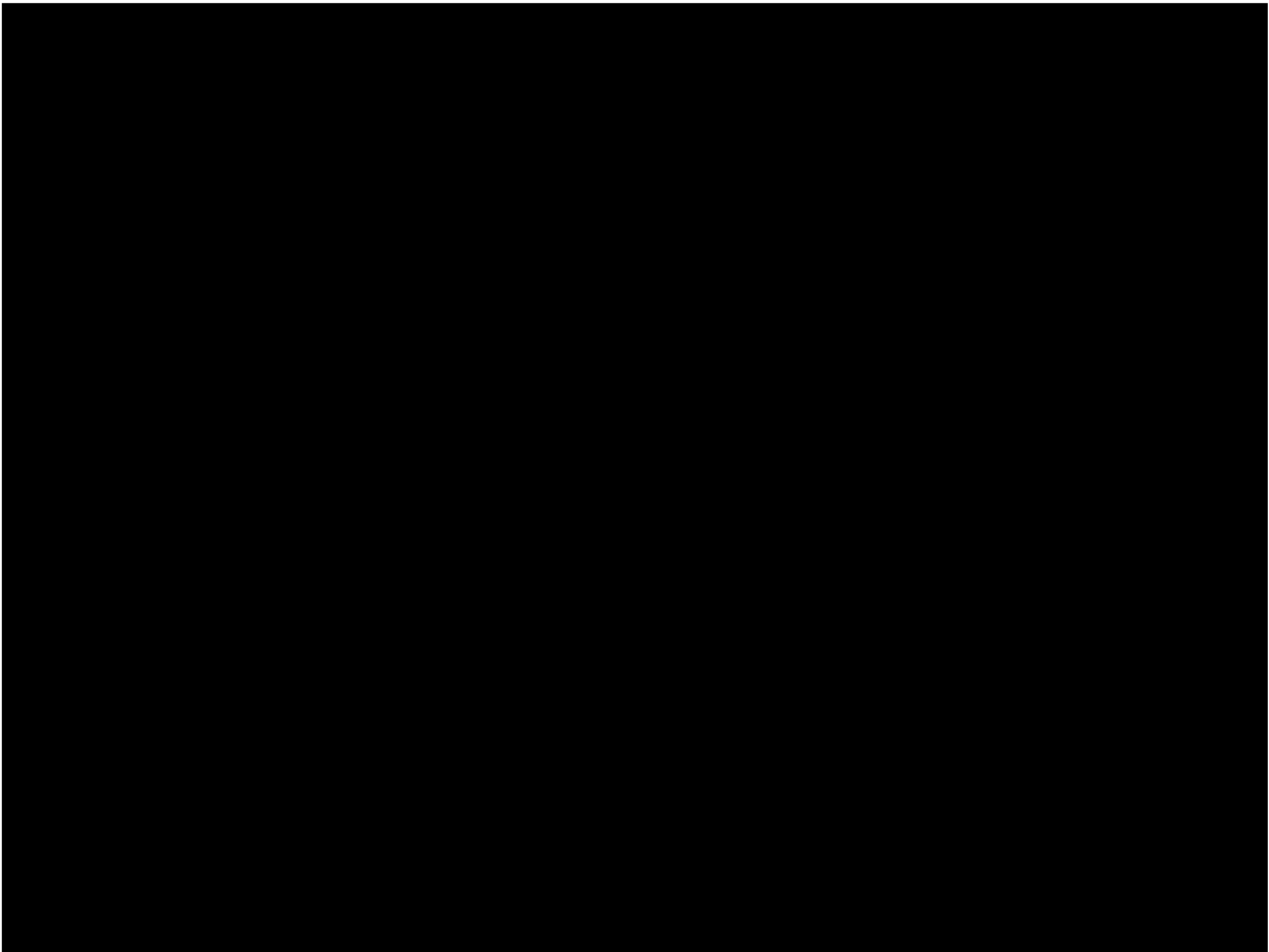
Part C- Therefore the biblical God cannot exist.



“My thoughts are nothing like your thoughts,” says the Lord. “And my ways are far beyond anything you could imagine.

Isaiah 55:8







**The Product
of the Storm.**

Just as day was dawning, Paul urged everyone to eat. “You have been so worried that you haven’t touched food for two weeks,” he said.
34 “Please eat something now for your own good. For not a hair of your heads will perish.”
35 Then he took some bread, gave thanks to God before them all, and broke off a piece and ate it. 36 Then everyone was encouraged and began to eat— 37 all 276 of us who were on board.

Acts 27:33-37

“You will be betrayed by parents, brothers, relatives, and friends. They will put some of you to death, but not a hair of your head will perish. So by patience and endurance you will possess your souls.” Luke 21:16-19

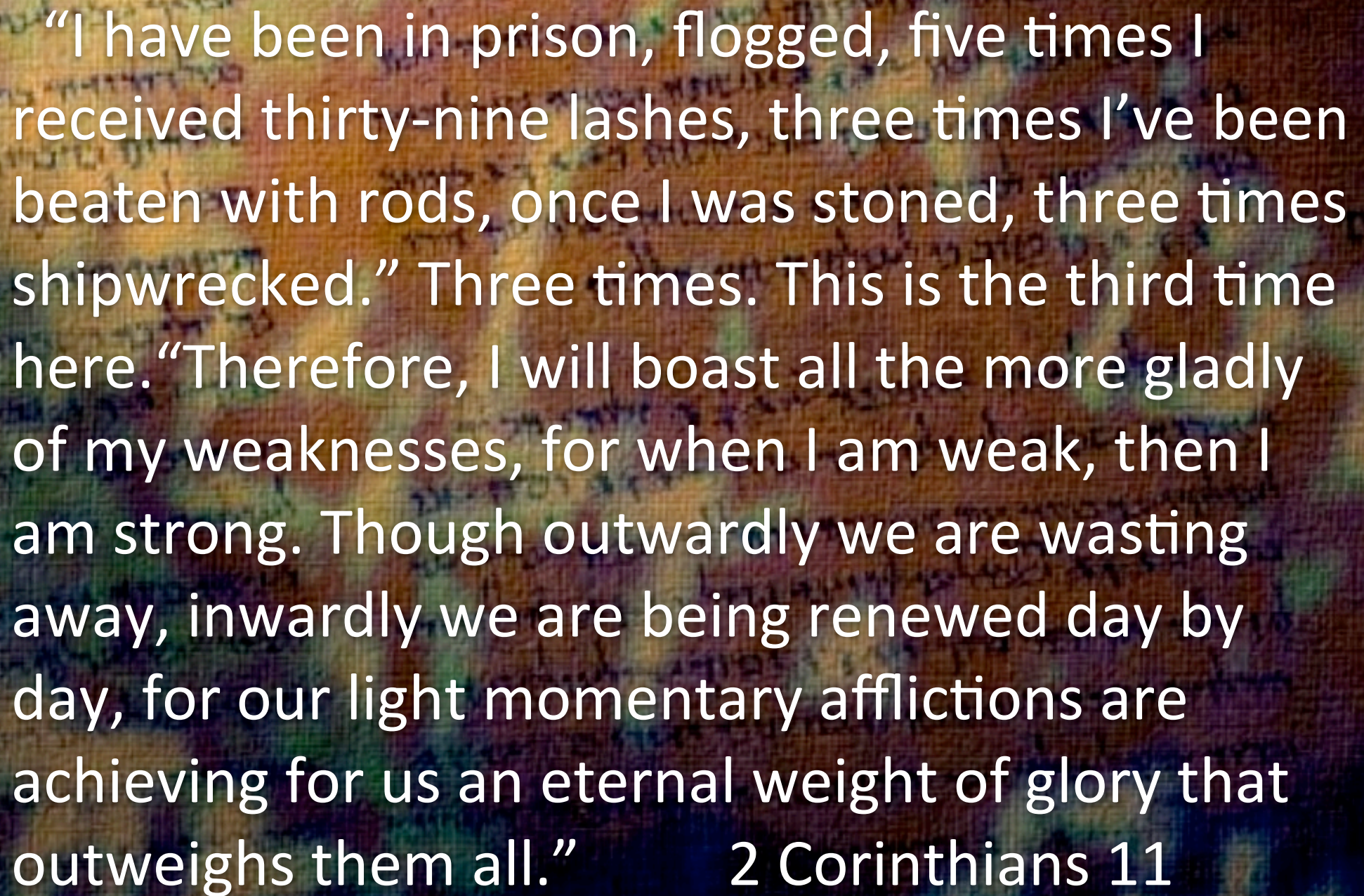


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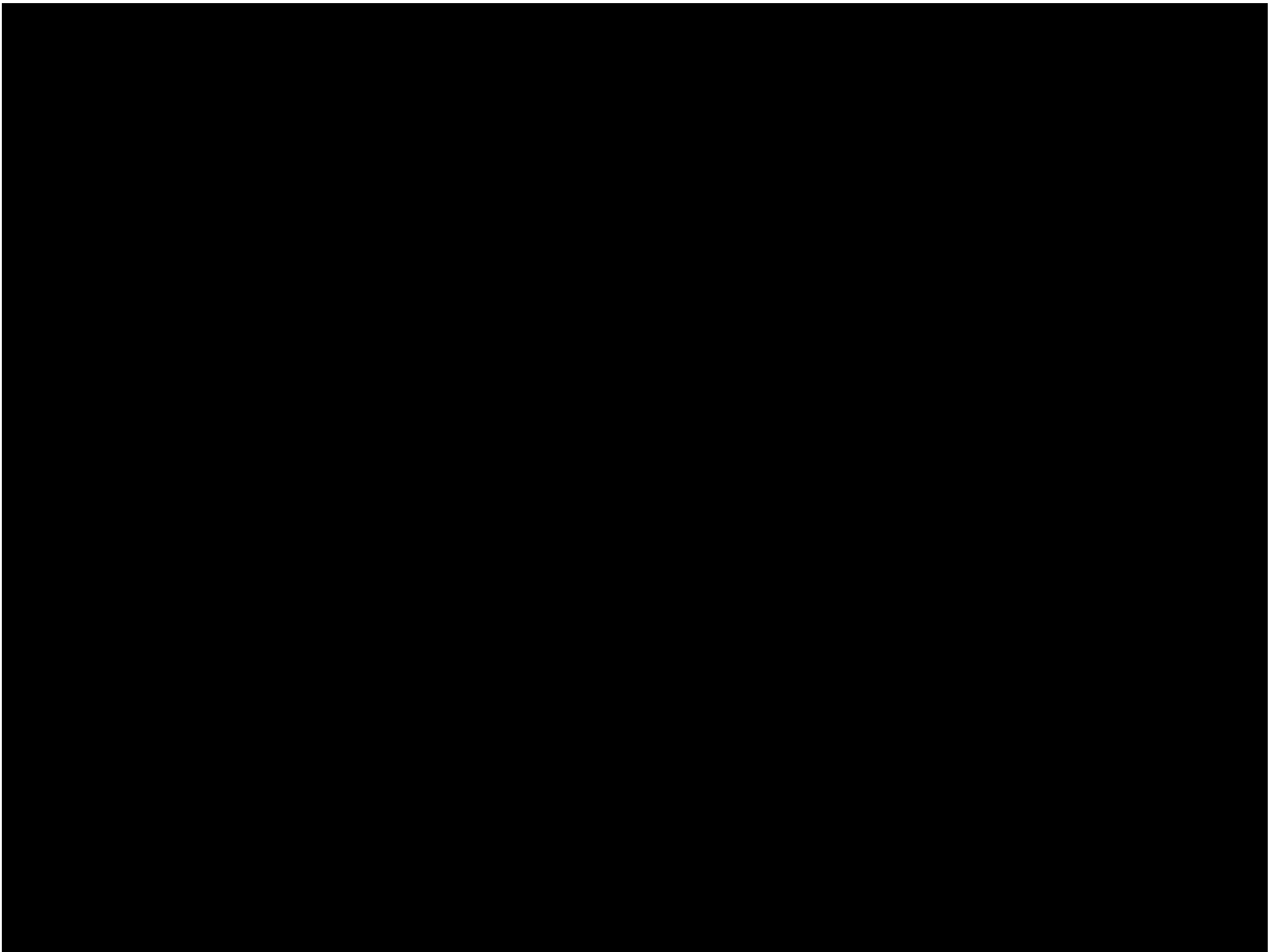


Not a hair of your head will perish.
They will put some of you to death
By patience and endurance you will
possess your souls.”





“I have been in prison, flogged, five times I received thirty-nine lashes, three times I’ve been beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times shipwrecked.” Three times. This is the third time here. “Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, for when I am weak, then I am strong. Though outwardly we are wasting away, inwardly we are being renewed day by day, for our light momentary afflictions are achieving for us an eternal weight of glory that outweighs them all.” 2 Corinthians 11

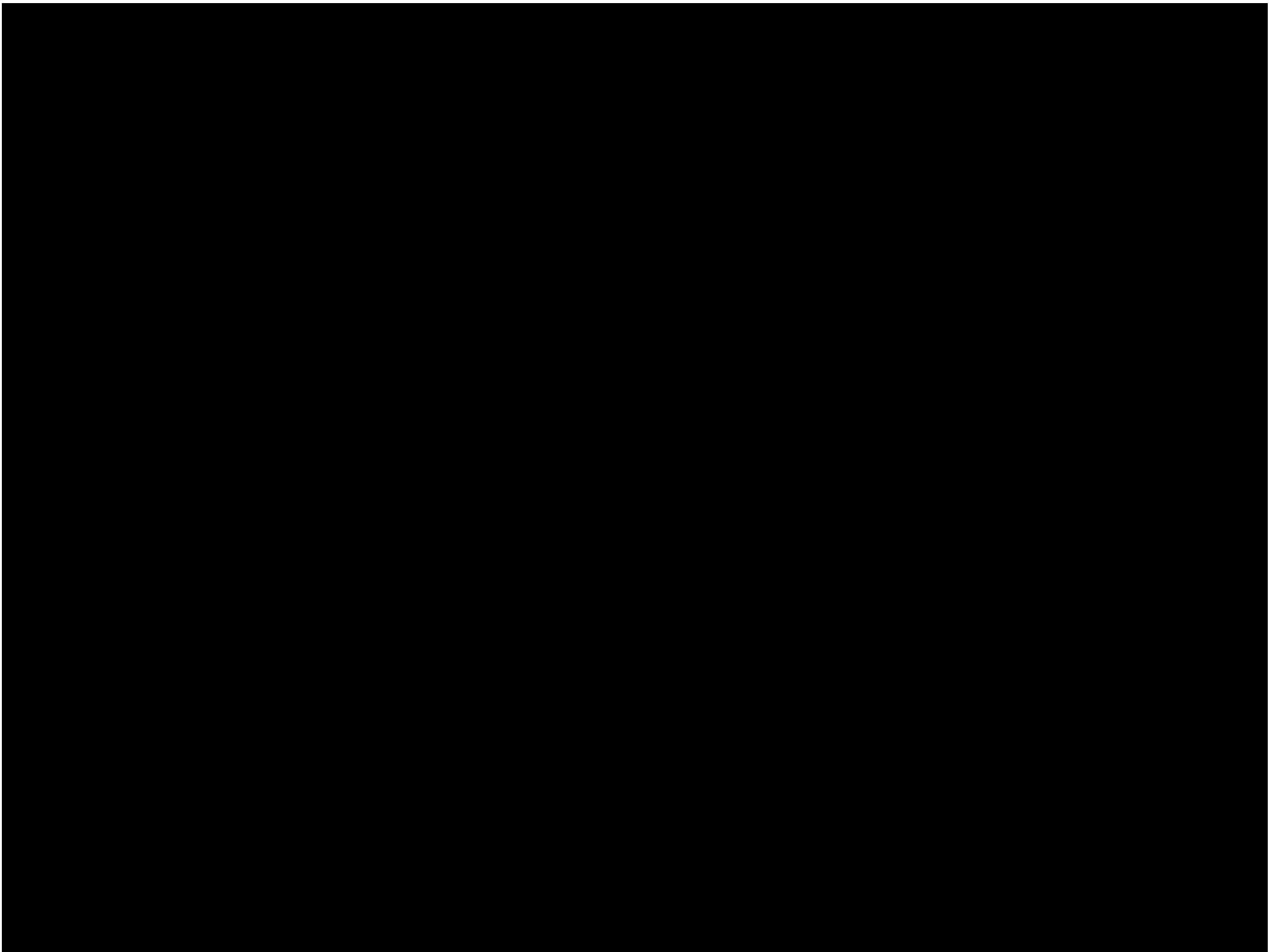


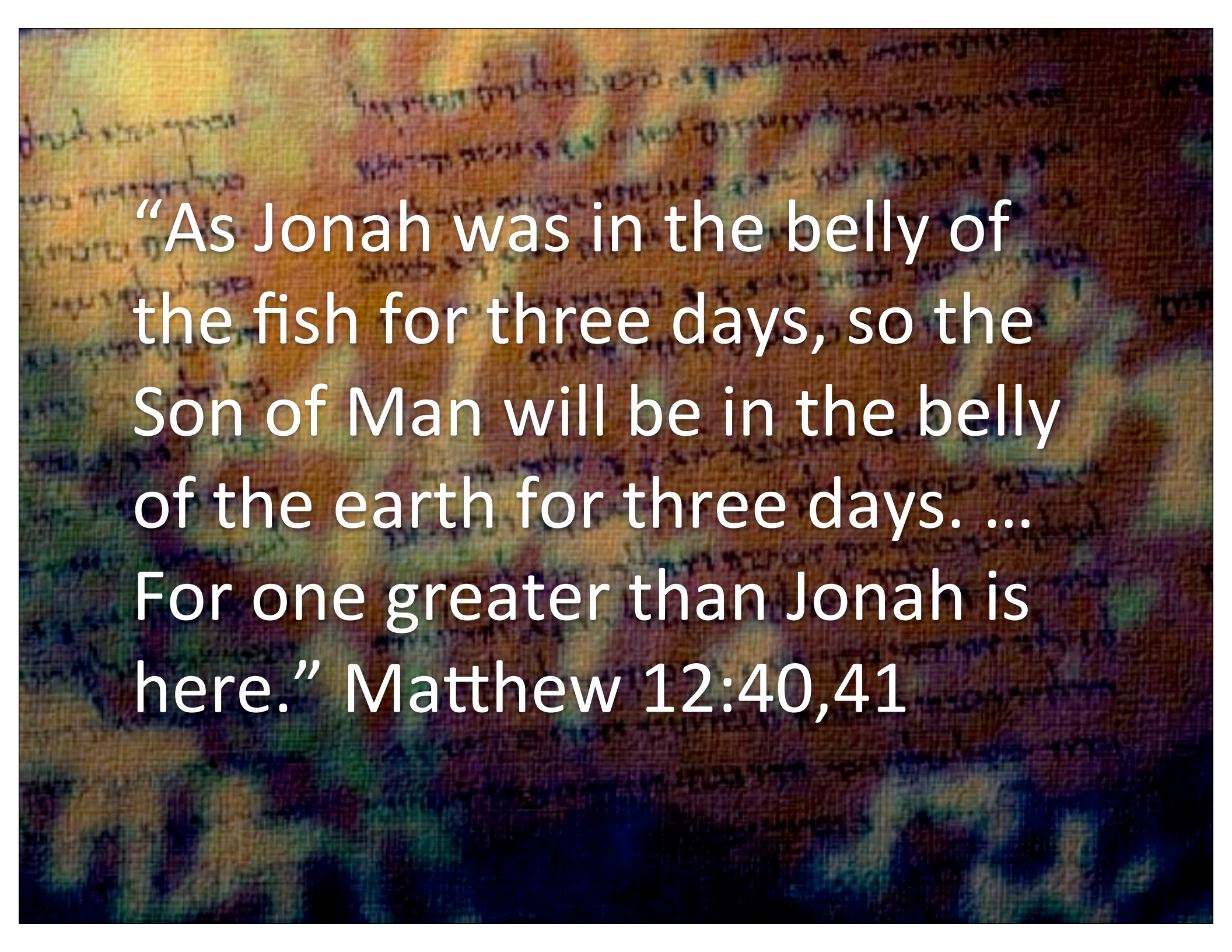


The Presence in the Storm

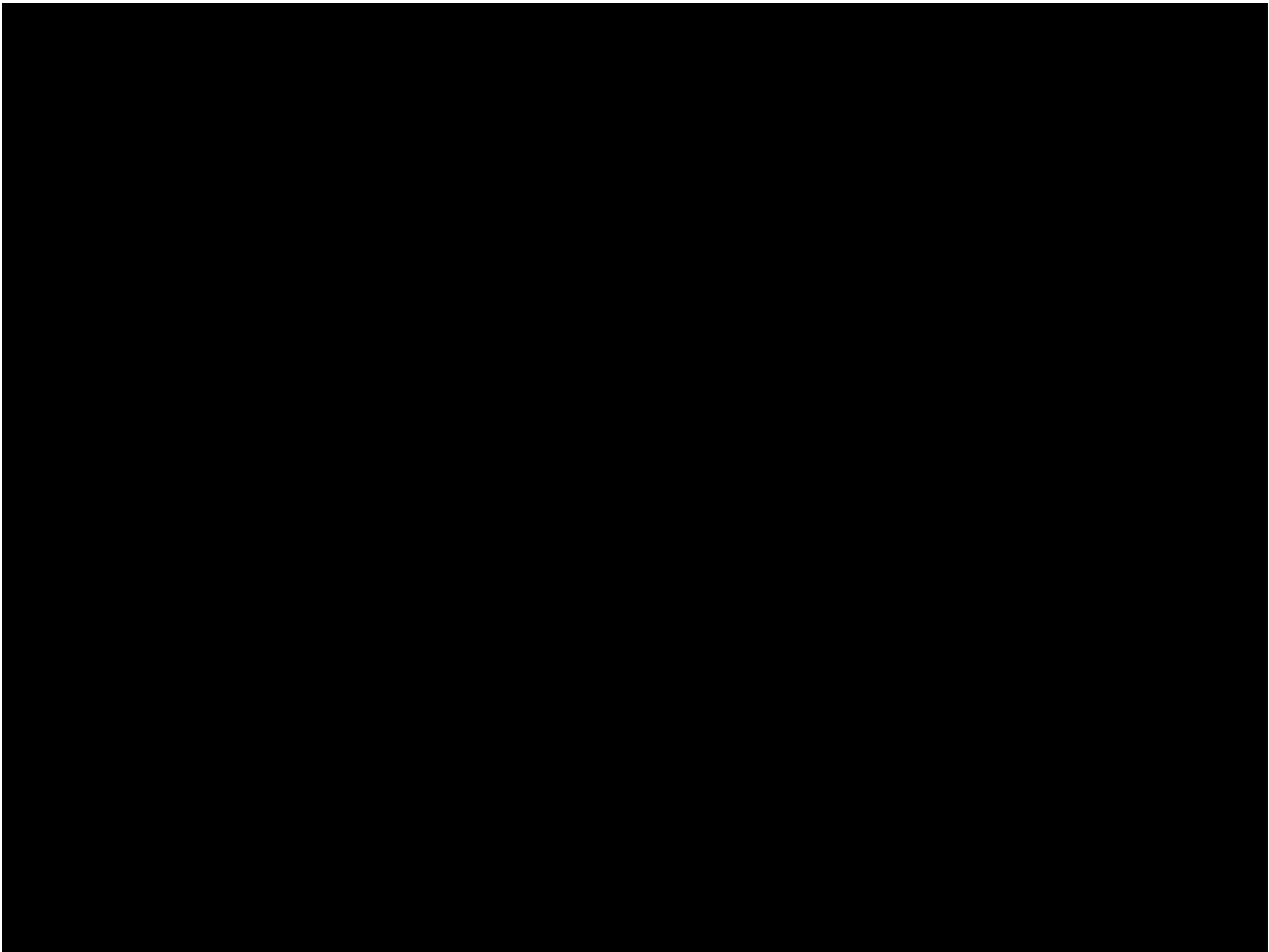
the God whose I am and
whom I serve stood
beside me ..." vs. 23







“As Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days, so the Son of Man will be in the belly of the earth for three days. ... For one greater than Jonah is here.” Matthew 12:40,41



Stay close because I am going to tell you a mystery— something you may have trouble understanding: we will not all fall asleep in death, but we will all be transformed. 52 *It will all happen so fast*, in a blink, a mere flutter of the eye. The last trumpet will call, and the dead will be raised from their graves with a body that does not, cannot decay. All of us will be changed! 53 We'll step out of our mortal clothes and slide into immortal bodies, *replacing everything that is subject to death with eternal life*. 54 And, when we are all redressed with bodies that do not, cannot decay, when we put immortality over our mortal frames, then it will be as *Scripture says: Life everlasting* has victoriously swallowed death. 55 Hey, Death! What happened to your big win? Hey, Death! What happened to your sting?

1 Corinthians 15

