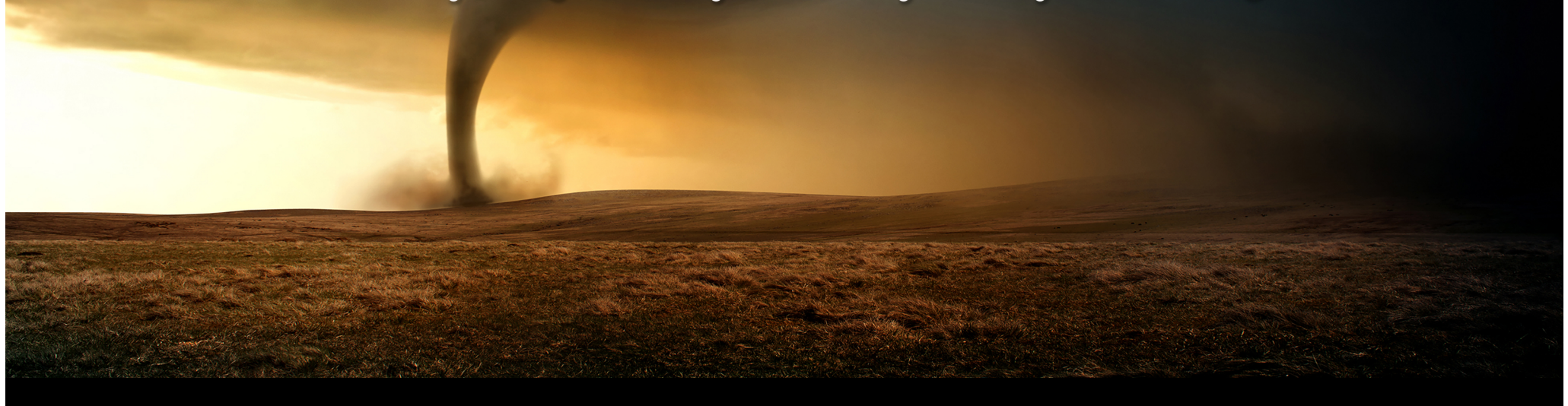


HABAKKUK

Living by Faith in Troubled Times

The sovereign Lord is my source of strength Hab. 3:19



1 The prophecy that Habakkuk the prophet received.

2 How long, Lord, must I call for help, but you do not listen? Or cry out to you, "Violence!" but you do not save?

3 Why do you make me look at injustice? Why do you tolerate wrongdoing? Destruction and violence are before me; there is strife, and conflict abounds.⁴ Therefore the law is paralyzed, and justice never prevails. The wicked hem in the righteous, so that justice is perverted.

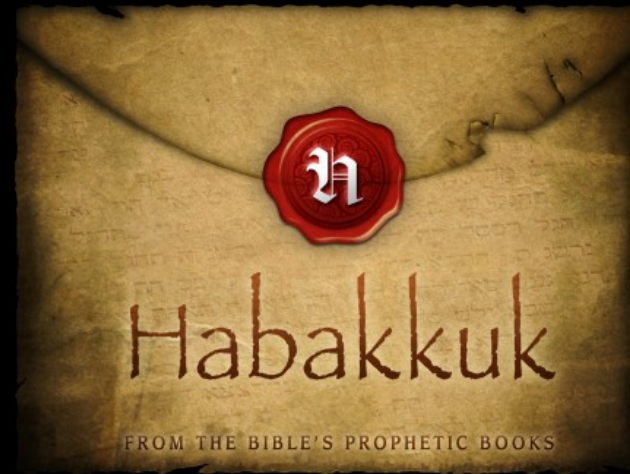
⁵ "Look at the nations and watch—and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.⁶ I am raising up the Babylonians, that ruthless and impetuous people, who sweep across the whole earth to seize dwellings not their own.⁷ They are a feared and dreaded people; they are a law to themselves and promote their own honor.⁸ Their horses are swifter than leopards, fiercer than wolves at dusk. Their cavalry gallops headlong; their horsemen come from afar.

They fly like an eagle swooping to devour; ⁹ they all come intent on violence. Their hordes advance like a desert wind and gather prisoners like sand.¹⁰ They mock kings and scoff at rulers. They laugh at all fortified cities; by building earthen ramps they capture them.¹¹ Then they sweep past like the wind and go on—guilty people, whose own strength is their god."

¹² "Lord, are you not from everlasting? My God, my Holy One, you will never die. You, Lord, have appointed them to execute judgment; you, my Rock, have ordained them to punish.¹³ Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing. Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves? "

¹⁴ You have made people like the fish in the sea, like the sea creatures that have no ruler.¹⁵ The wicked foe pulls all of them up with hooks, he catches them in his net, he gathers them up in his dragnet; and so he rejoices and is glad.¹⁶ Therefore he sacrifices to his net and burns incense to his dragnet, for by his net he lives in luxury and enjoys the choicest food.¹⁷ Is he to keep on emptying his net, destroying nations without mercy?

Habakkuk written -625 BC



Babylon 1st attack 605BC Daniel carried away

Two more attacks in 598/587BC

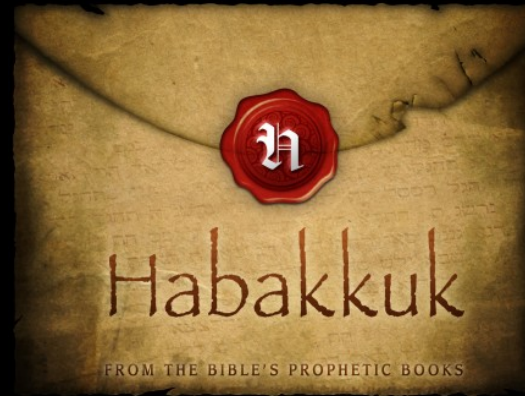




The Captivity of Judah (586-516 B.C.)

200 Miles

Habakkuk written -625 BC



Babylon 1st attack 605BC Daniel carried away

Two more attacks in 598/587BC



Captivity ends 536BC

By Medo-Persian King

Cyrus decree



“This is what the Lord says to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I take hold of to subdue nations before him and to strip kings of their armor,so that you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel, who summons you by name. ⁴ For the sake of Jacob my servant, of Israel my chosen, I summon you by name and bestow on you a title of honor, though you do not acknowledge me.

Isaiah 45:1-4 (705BC)

“This is what the Lord says—the Holy One of Israel, and its Maker: Concerning things to come, ... I will raise up Cyrus in my righteousness: I will make all his ways straight. He will rebuild my city and set my exiles free, but not for a price or reward, says the Lord Almighty.”

Isaiah 45:11-13 (705 BC)

“This is what Cyrus king of Persia says:
“The Lord, the God of heaven, has given
me all the kingdoms of the earth and he
has appointed me to build a temple for
him at Jerusalem in Judah.

Ezra 1:2 (536BC)

1. What Did Habakkuk See?

Vs.3 Why do you make me look at injustice?
Why do you tolerate wrongdoing?



"As fish are caught in a cruel net,
or birds are taken in a snare, so
men are trapped by evil times
that fall unexpectedly upon
them." Ecclesiastes 9:12

1. What Did Habakkuk See?

Vs. 4 The law has become paralyzed



2. How did Habakkuk Approach God?

Vs.3b Why do you tolerate wrongdoing?



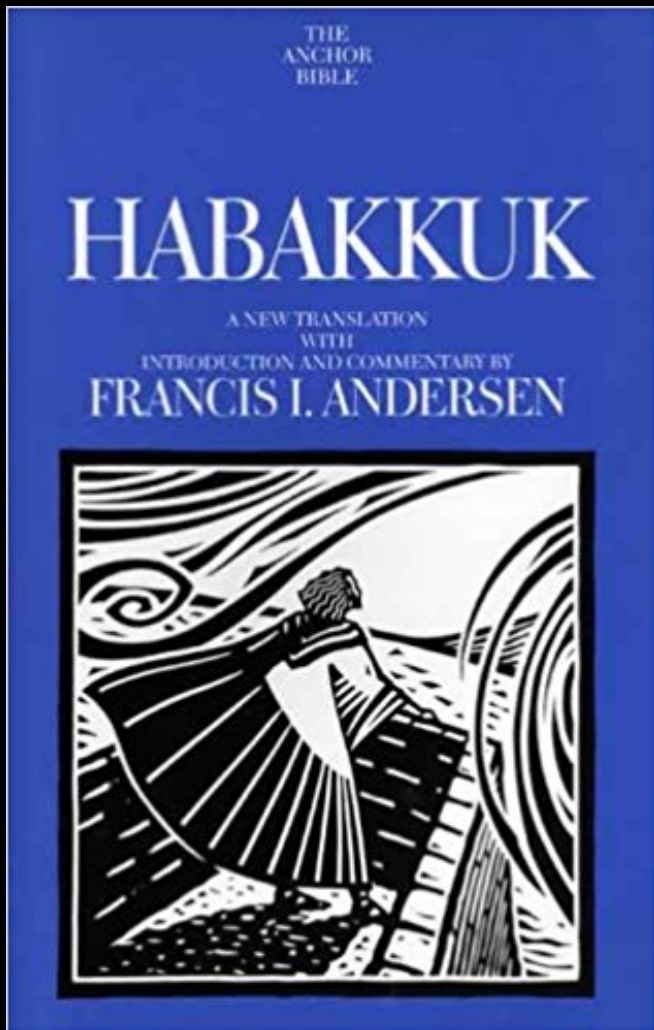
2. How did Habakkuk Approach God?

Vs.12 "O Lord, are you not from everlasting?" "Are you not infinite?"



"O Lord, **are you not** from everlasting?"

"Are you not infinite?" vs. 12



"Most of the 96 occurrences of this word translated "Are you not" in the Bible are in vigorous human arguments."

¹² "Lord, are you not from everlasting?
My God, my Holy One, you will never die.
You, Lord, have appointed them to
execute judgment; you, my Rock, have
ordained them to punish.

You have taken from me friend and
neighbor—darkness is my closest
friend. Psalm 39:13

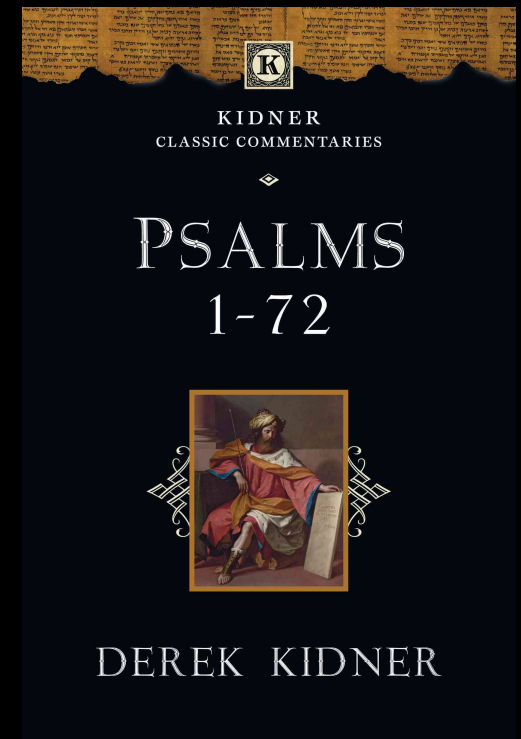
Look away from me, that I may enjoy
life again before I depart and am no
more." Psalm 88:18



DEREK KIDNER

British Old Testament scholar, best known for writing commentaries

Peter said, "Go away from me, Lord;
I am a sinful man"
Luke 5:8



"I am their God not because they put on a happy face, because they don't; not because they have perfect emotional self-control, because they don't; and not because they're doing everything just right, because they're not.

Pastor Tim Keller



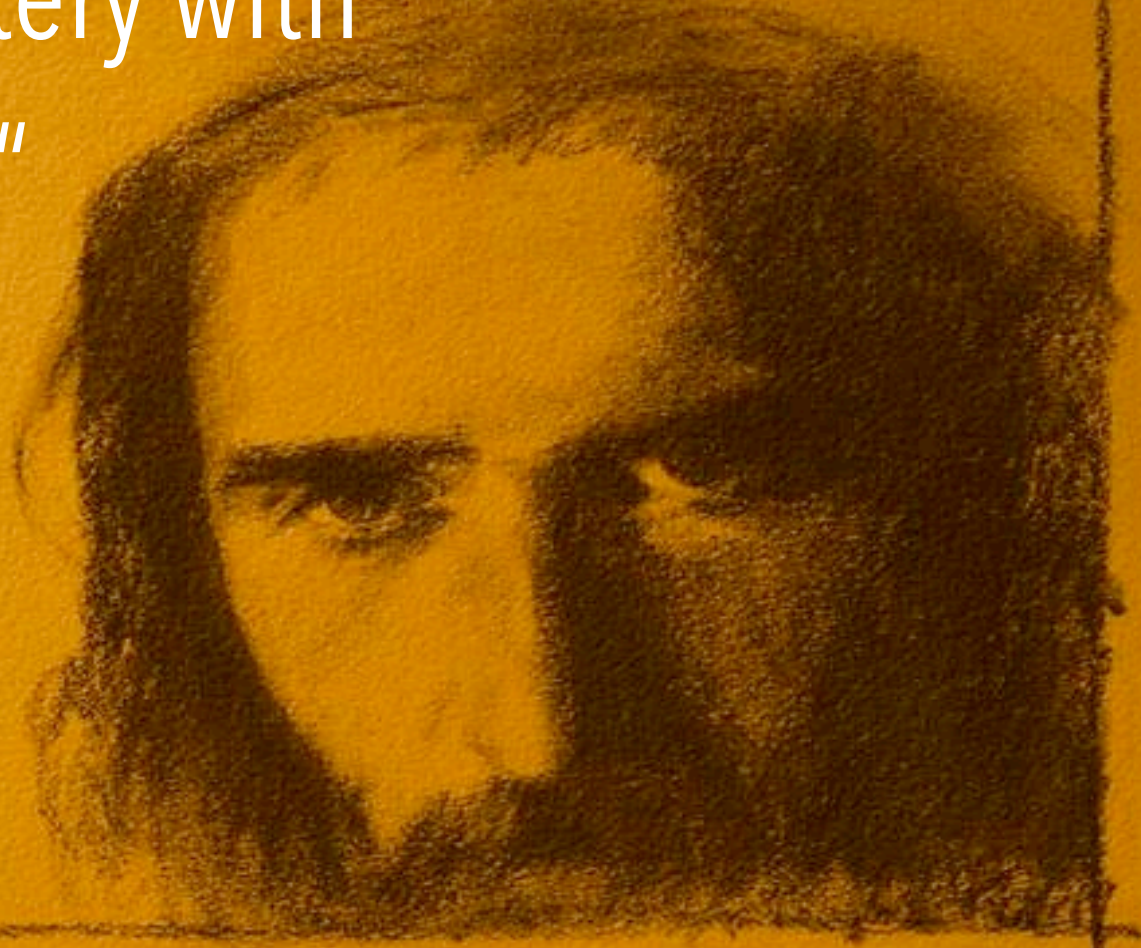
" I remain their God because of my grace,
because my relationship to them is not based on
their performance. It's because of my
unconditional, covenantal committed love."

Pastor Tim Keller



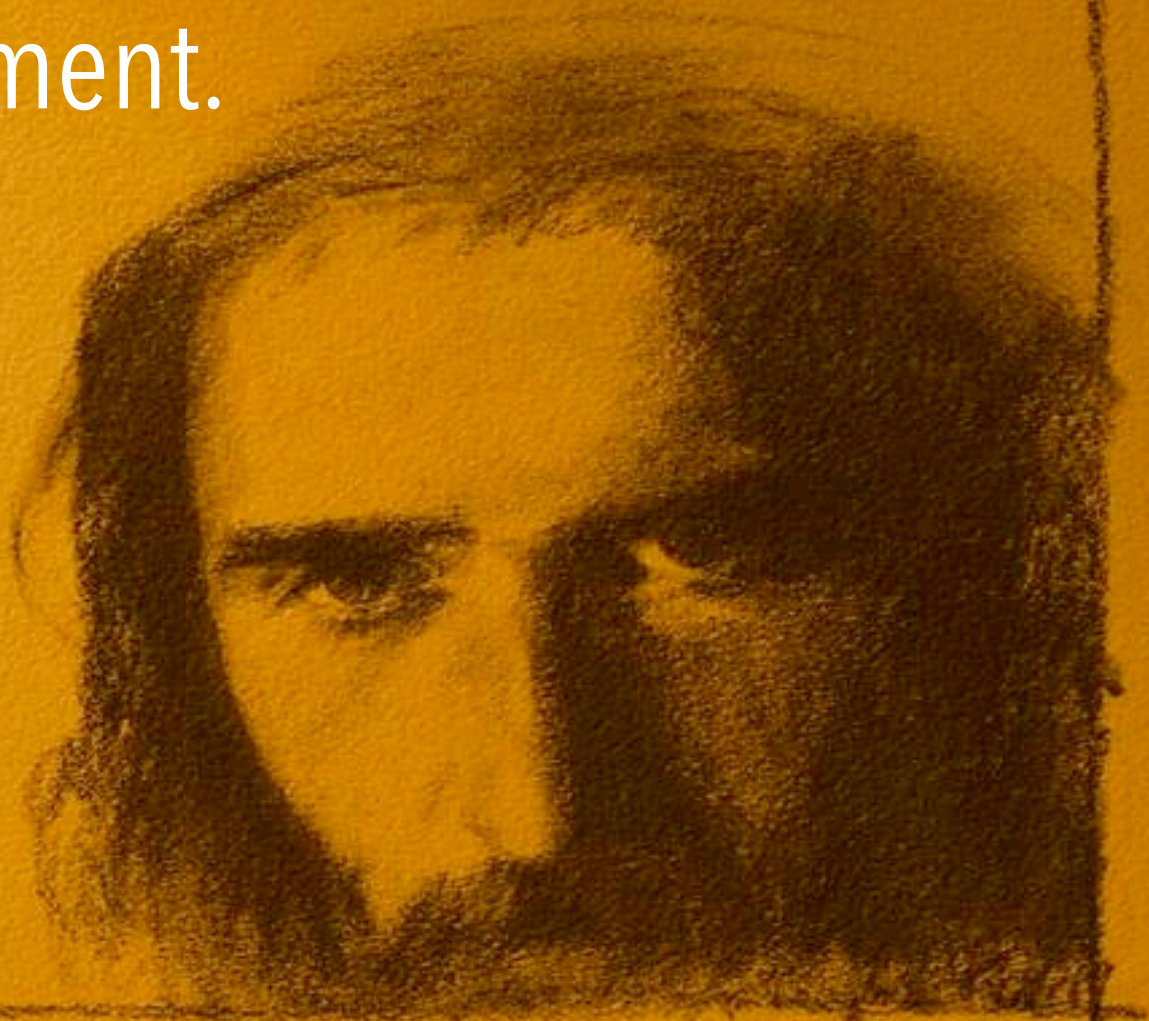
Jesus, "But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart."

Matthew 5:28



But I tell you that anyone who is
angry with a brother or sister will be
subject to judgment.

Matthew 5:24



3. What Did Habakkuk Hear?

Vs. 5 "For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told"? "I am raising up the Babylonians, that ruthless and impetuous people, who sweep across the whole earth ..."

1. What Does It All Mean?



I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you. ³⁹ Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses. Acts 13:38

Paul is quoting Habakkuk 1:5

'Look ... and be utterly amazed. For I am going to do something in your days that you would not believe, even if you were told.' " Acts 13:41

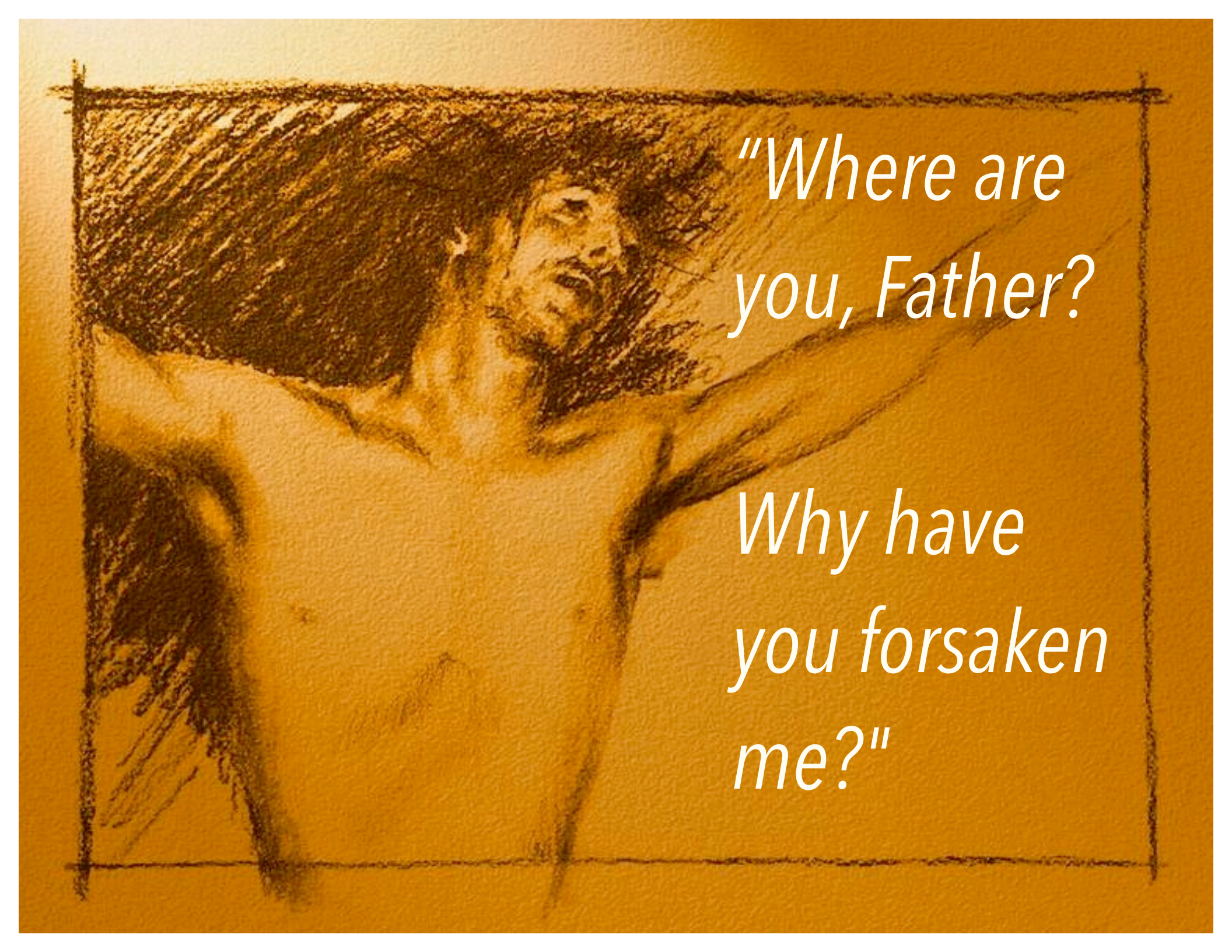
¹³ Your eyes are too pure to look on evil; you cannot tolerate wrongdoing.

Why then do you tolerate the treacherous? Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves? "

"Father, is there any way out of this? If it be possible, let this cup pass from me."

Yet he said, "Not my will but thy will be done."





*"Where are
you, Father?"*

*Why have
you forsaken
me?"*

