



Merry Christmas

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night.
⁹ An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. Luke 2:8,9



But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹ Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger. Luke 2:10-12



But Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying,
¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests.” ¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” Luke 2:13-15



So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. Luke 2:16-18



But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. Luke 2:19,20



How should we respond to the birth of Jesus Christ?





I. Do as the Shepherds Did

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told. Luke 2:20

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A close-up photograph of vibrant green evergreen branches, likely a spruce or fir, filling the top portion of the frame. The needles are sharp and densely packed, creating a rich, textured appearance.

I. Do as the Shepherds Did

"When they had seen him [Jesus], they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them." Luke 2:17,18

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- Don't miss the ordinariness of how
God's Word comes to you

all who heard it were amazed at what the
shepherds said to them vs. 18



- What did Mary do?

But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. Luke 2:19



I know what you have done; I know how hard you have worked and how patient you have been. I know that you cannot tolerate evil people and that you have tested those who say they are apostles but are not, and have found out that they are liars. ³ You are patient, you have suffered for my sake, and you have not given up. ⁴ But this is what I have against you: you do not love me now as you did at first.

Revelation 2:2-4



God's revelation comes
by ordinary reading:

Keep doing it.

Drifting is a constant
temptation:

Resist it.

Share what you're
seeing and hearing:

By treasuring it.

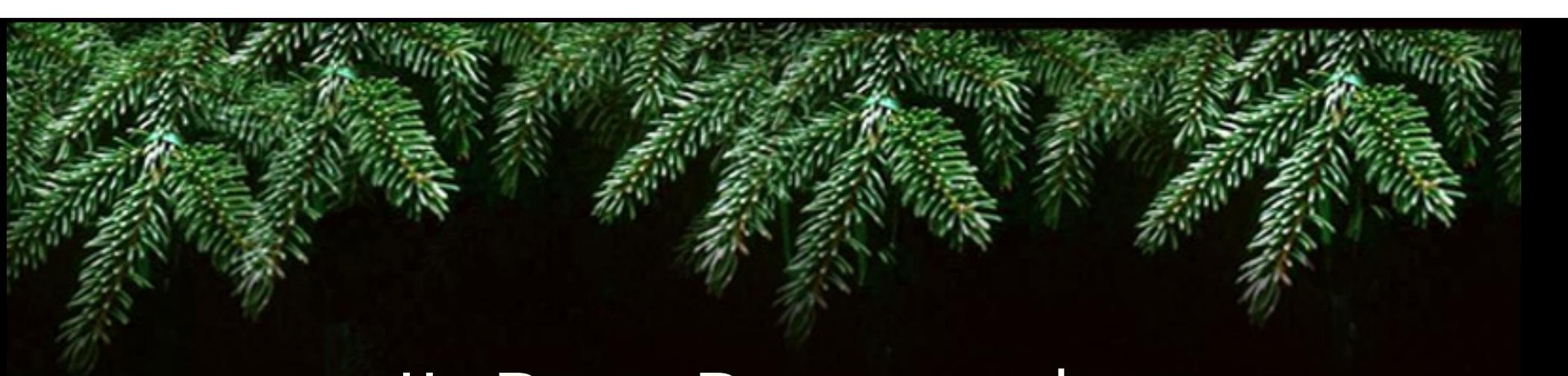
A close-up photograph of vibrant green evergreen branches, likely a spruce or fir, filling the top portion of the frame. The branches are densely packed with needles and are set against a dark, almost black background.

II. Be a Peacemaker

"Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men and women on whom His favor rests."

Luke 2:13,14

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II. Be a Peacemaker

I bring you good news of great joy
that will be for all the people. vs.10

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II. Be a Peacemaker

For since our **friendship** with God was **restored**
by the death of his Son while we were still

His enemies Romans 5:10

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A close-up photograph of vibrant green pine branches with sharp needles, positioned at the top of the page against a dark background.

II. Be a Peacemaker

For since our friendship with God was restored by
the **death of his Son** while we were still
His enemies. Romans 5:10

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Welcome

Behind these doors you'll discover people who struggle with lying, cheating, envy, greed, sexual impurity, gossiping, back biting, bickering, anger, swaggering, bullying, cruelty, arrogance, meanness, stupidity, impatience, hate, judgement, pride and even more.

We've compiled this long and sorry record as sinners and proved that we are utterly incapable of living the glorious lives that God wills for us.

We know we need Christ.

If you've discovered that you are like us, broken with contrite hearts desiring forgiveness from sin, people longing for a clean start, then

Please Come In.

For here, you will find rest for your weary souls and Peace with God. And not only for us but for everyone who believes in the work of Jesus.

We discovered out of sheer generosity God put us in right standing with Himself. A pure gift. He got us out of the mess we're in and restored us to where He always wanted us to be.



II. Be a Peacemaker

"I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart! And the peace I give isn't fragile like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid.

John 14:27 TLB

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Peace with God

He has taken our sins from us as far as
the east is from the west. Psalm 103:12

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Peace of God

Don't worry about anything, but in all your prayers ask God for what you need, always asking him with a thankful heart. ⁷ And God's peace, which is far beyond human understanding, will keep your hearts and minds safe in union with Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6,7 GNT

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Peace with Others

"Happy are those who work for peace"

Matthew 5:9

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III. Never Live in Fear

An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. Luke 2:9

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III. Never Live in Fear

But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid.

Luke 2:10

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III. Never Live in Fear

(Isaiah) said, "Mourn for me; I'm ruined! I'm a man with unclean lips, and I live among a people with unclean lips. Yet I've seen the king, the Lord of heavenly forces!" Isaiah 6:5

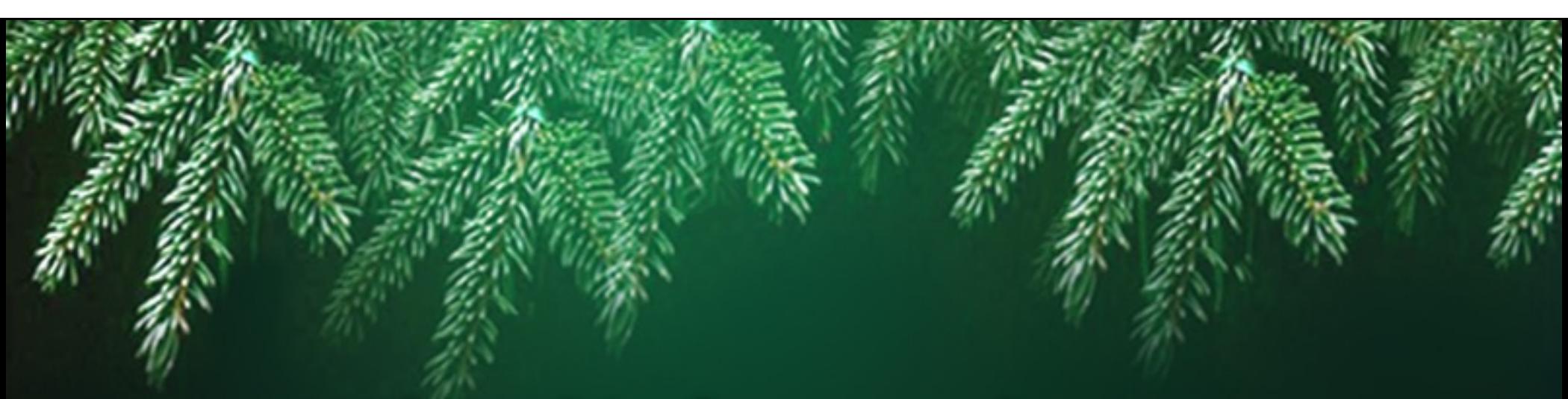
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A close-up photograph of vibrant green evergreen tree branches, likely a spruce or fir, filling the top portion of the frame. The needles are sharp and densely packed, creating a rich, textured appearance.

III. Never Live in Fear

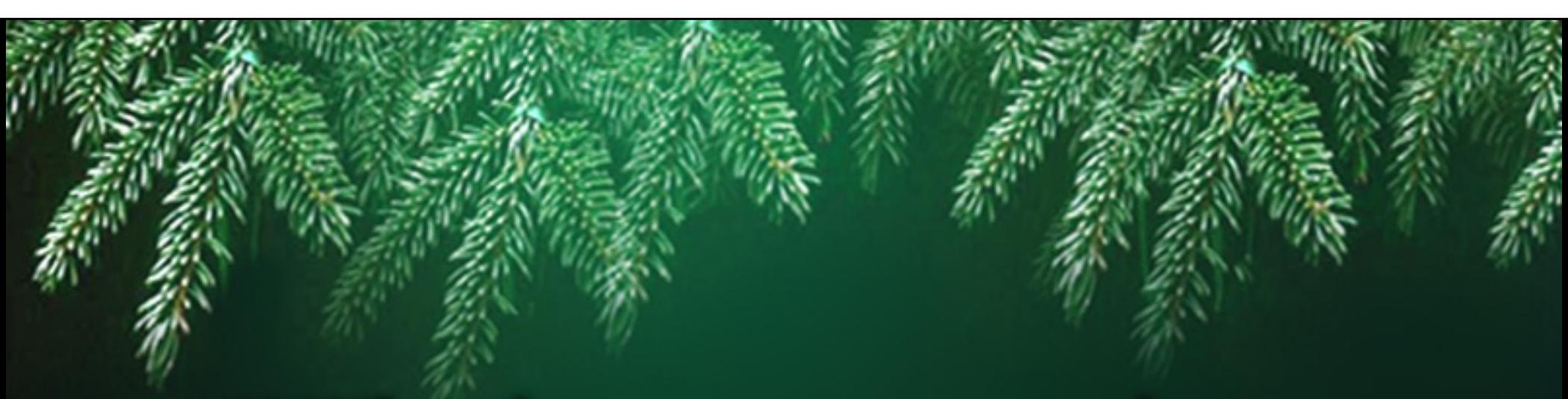
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born
to you; he is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

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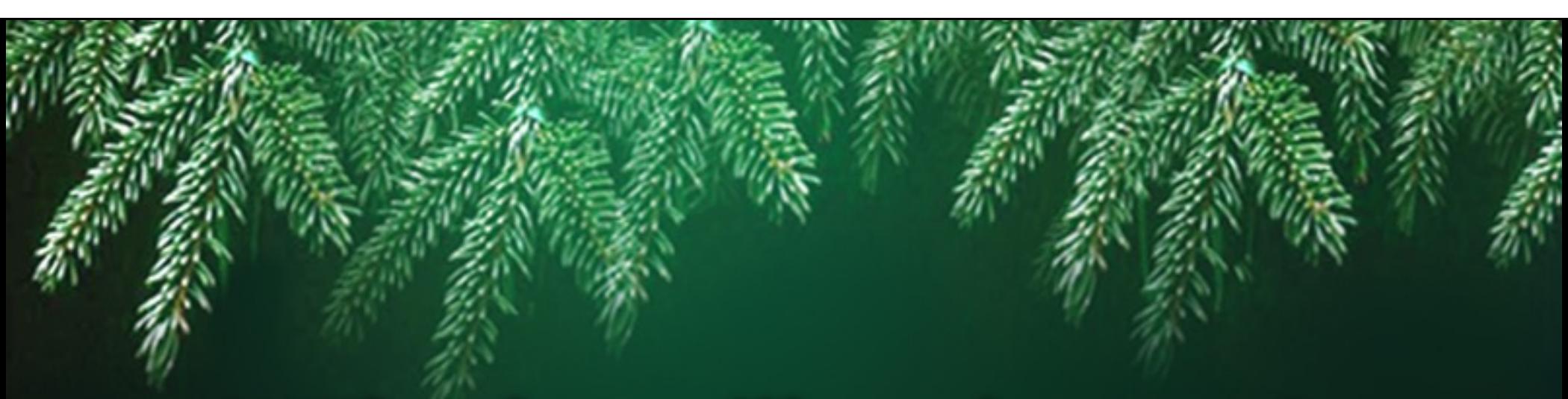
**31 If God is for us, who can
ever be against us?**

32 Since he did not spare even his own
Son but gave him up for us all, won't
he also give us everything else?



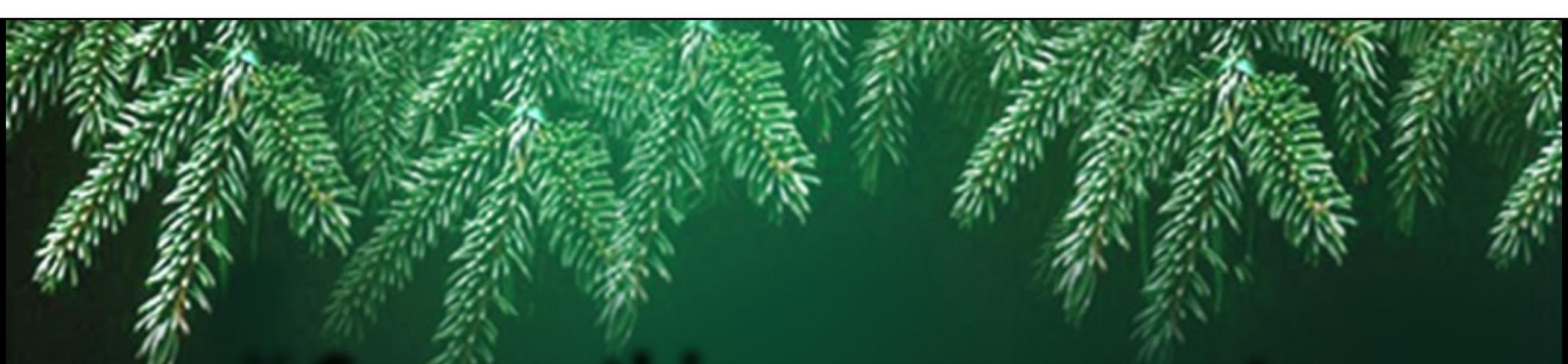
**33 Who dares accuse us whom
God has chosen for his own?**

No one—for God himself has given
us right standing with himself.



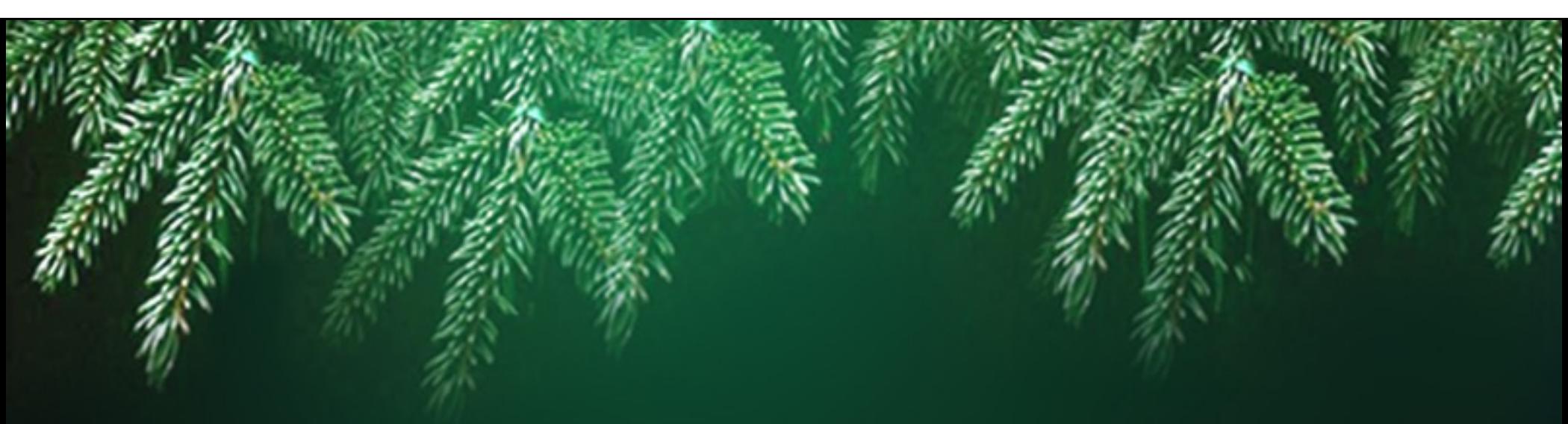
³⁴ **Who then will condemn us?**

No one—for Christ Jesus died for us and was raised to life for us, and he is sitting in the place of honor at God's right hand, pleading for us.

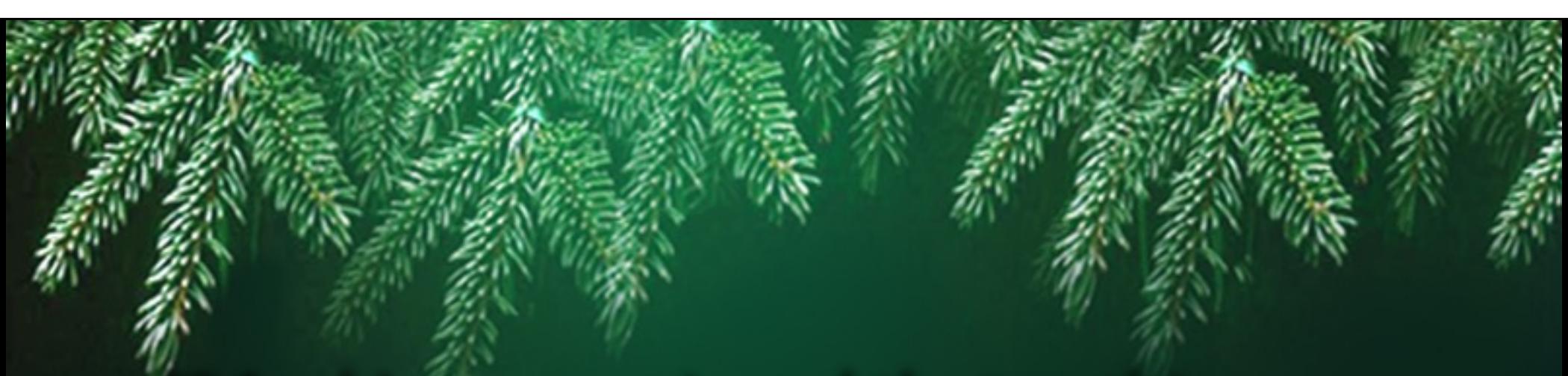


**35 Can anything ever separate
us from Christ's love?**

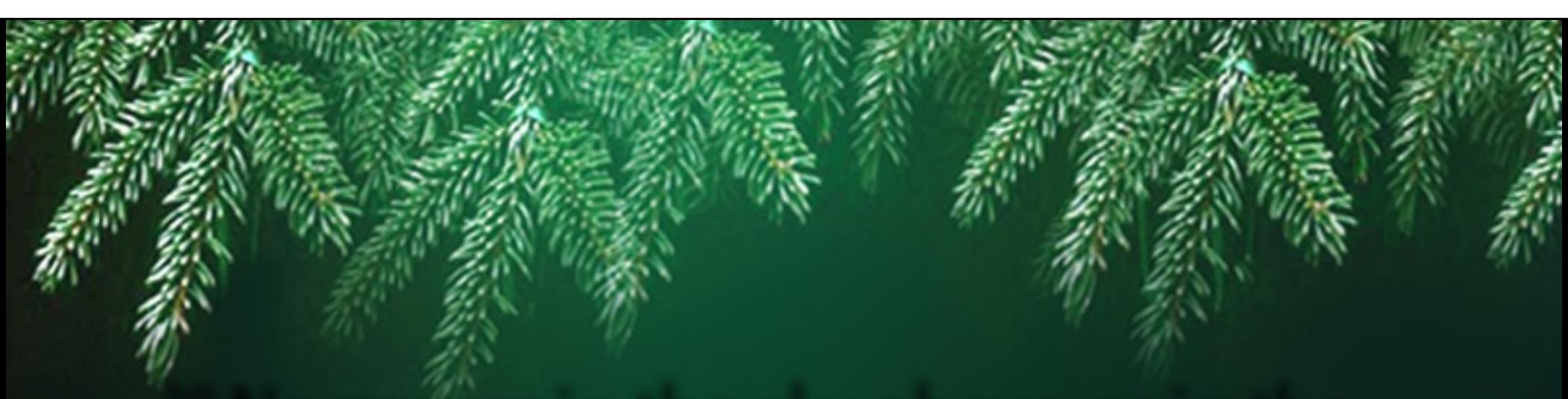
Does it mean he no longer loves us if we
have trouble or calamity, or are
persecuted, or hungry, or destitute, or in
danger, or threatened with death?



...No, despite all these things,
overwhelming victory is ours
through Christ, who loved us.

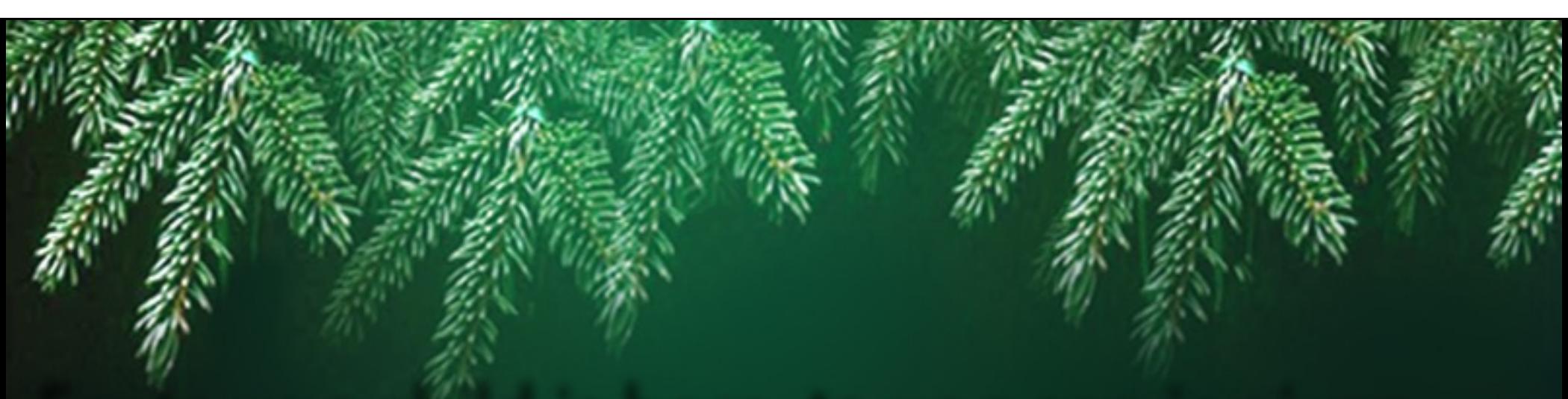


38 And I am convinced that nothing can ever separate us from God's love. Neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow—not even the powers of hell can separate us from God's love.



39 No power in the sky above or in the earth below—indeed, nothing in all creation will ever be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:31-35; 37-39



For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his
shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace. Isaiah 9:6



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