

Our
Greatest
Need!



West Wilmington SDA Church
Feb. 16, 2019







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Need!



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**Are we living a form of Godliness
Without the Fire?**

Most

Popular Religion

at the End of Time...

The Religion of Form...

“This know also, that in the last days
perilous times shall come....self love-
covetous-boastful-proud-
blasphemers-disobedient to parents-
unthankful-unholy.... **Having a form of
godliness**, but denying the power
thereof: from such turn away.”

II Tim 3:1-5

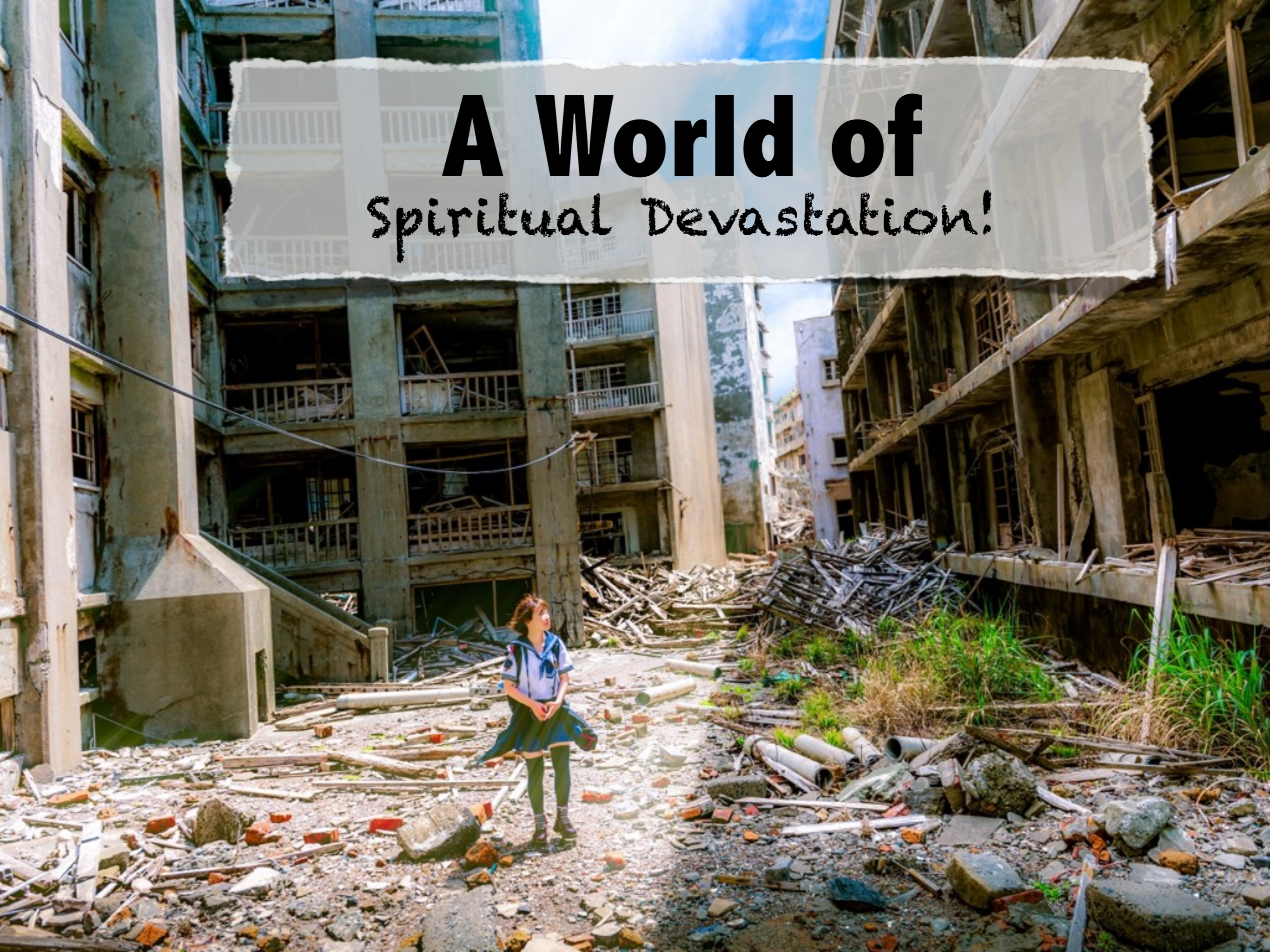
“If God were to take the Holy Spirit out of our midst today, about ninety-five percent of what we are doing in our churches would go on, and we would not know the difference. Yet if God had taken the Holy Spirit out of the midst of the first Christian community, about ninety-five percent of what they were doing would have ceased immediately.”



Carl Bates, Former President of Southern Baptist Convention

Is receiving the
HOLY SPIRIT
our greatest need?

A World of Spiritual Devastation!



Broken
Homes

A World of Spiritual Devastation!

Broken Hearts

Broken Cities

Broken Relationships

Broken Bodies

Broken Churches



A photograph of a young girl in a school uniform standing in a street filled with rubble and destroyed buildings. The scene is one of devastation, with debris scattered everywhere and the skeletal remains of multi-story buildings. The girl is looking off to the side, her expression somber. The background shows more damaged structures under a clear sky.

A World of Spiritual Devastation!

We are called to be the
“restorer of the breach.”
Isa. 58:12

Our Spiritual Breaches



Areas of SIN that hold back God's blessing!

- **Unconfessed sin**
- **Idols**
- **Addictions**
- **Ungodly mindsets**
- **Ungodly conversations**
- **Ungodly behaviors**
- **Ungodly relationships**
- **Worldly preoccupations**
- **Satanic strongholds**
- **Sins of omission**
- **Anything that keeps you from God!**

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“I want to be a Christian like him/her!”

Is our tongue bearing good fruit?

Gal. 5:22, Eph. 4:29

What FRUIT do we bear?

Gal. 5:22



Critical Heart = Critical Tongue
Self-righteous Heart = Judgmental Tongue
Bitter Heart = Angry Tongue
Ungrateful Heart = Grumbling Tongue
Loving Heart = Merciful Tongue
Faithful Heart = Truthful Tongue
Peaceful Heart = Reconciling Tongue
Trusting Heart = Faith filled Tongue
Kind Heart = Encouraging Tongue

*“Out of the
abundance of the
heart the mouth
speaks!”*

Matt. 12:34

“Many who would shrink with horror from some great transgression are led to look upon sin in **little matters** as of trifling consequence. **But these little [respectable] sins eat out the life and godliness of the soul...**”

Education, p. 189

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A Missionary's Story

Looking for a breach!

Spiritual Breaches are Toxic to our walk with God!



“In the whole satanic force there is NOT POWER to overcome one soul who in simple trust cast himself on Christ.

But we must have a knowledge of ourselves, a knowledge that will result in contrition before we can find pardon and peace. **It is only he who knows himself to be a sinner that Christ can save.”**

Christ Object Lessons, p. 157,158

Is removing all our
Spiritual Breaches
our greatest need?

Called out of Egypt



“Most professed Christians have no sense of the spiritual strength they might obtain were they as ambitious, zealous, and persevering to gain a knowledge of divine things as they are to obtain the perishable things of this life. Many are satisfied to be spiritual dwarfs...”

Counsels for the Church, p. 185-186



**“I am come that
they might
have LIFE...**



**and LIFE
MORE
ABUNDANTLY!”**

John 10:10

Is experiencing personal
Revival and Reformation
our greatest need?





Faith

is one of the most emphasized gifts in all of Scripture!



Alexander the Great



"I want a Palace!"







Jer. 32:17



“Our greatest need today is
an increase of faith.”

Signs of the Times, October 21, 1889

So is
GREATER FAITH
our greatest need?

We are in a CRISIS!!

- Personally!
- At Home!
- At Church!
- In our World!



“It was because Elijah was a man of large faith that God could use him in [the] grave crisis in the history of Israel. As he prayed, his faith reached out and grasped the promises of Heaven, and he persevered in prayer until his petitions were answered. He did not wait for the full evidence that God had heard him, but was willing to venture all on the slightest token of divine favor. And yet what he was enabled to do under God, all may do in their sphere of activity in God’s service...”

...**Faith such as THIS**

is needed in the world today—faith that will lay hold on the promises of God's word and refuse to let go until Heaven hears.”

Prophets and Kings, p. 156

Rom. 10:17

But before we will have an increase in faith,
something else has to happen first!

My Story



**“And she [was]
planted in the
wilderness, in a
dry and thirsty
ground.”**



Ezek. 19:13



I thought I was a good person!

"However trifling this or that wrong act may seem in the eyes of men, no sin is small in the sight of God.

Man's judgment is partial, imperfect, but God estimates all things as they really are. The drunkard is despised and is told that his sin will exclude him from heaven; **while pride, selfishness, and covetousness too often go unrebuked.** But these are sins that are especially offensive to God, for they are contrary to the benevolence of His character, to that unselfish love which is the very atmosphere of the unfallen universe...

...He who falls into some of the grosser sins may feel a sense of his shame and poverty and his need of the grace of Christ;

but pride feels no need, and so it closes the heart against Christ and the infinite blessings He came to give."

Steps to Christ, p. 30

My Breaking

**“It is good for me that I have been afflicted
that I might learn thy statutes...
Thou in faithfulness has afflicted me.”**

Ps. 119:71,75

Melody, do you recognize how

DESPERATELY

you need Jesus?



"This is my body which is broken for **YOU** [Melody]."

1 Cor. 11:24

My body was Broken because of your...

Selfishness!

Self
Sufficiency

SIN!

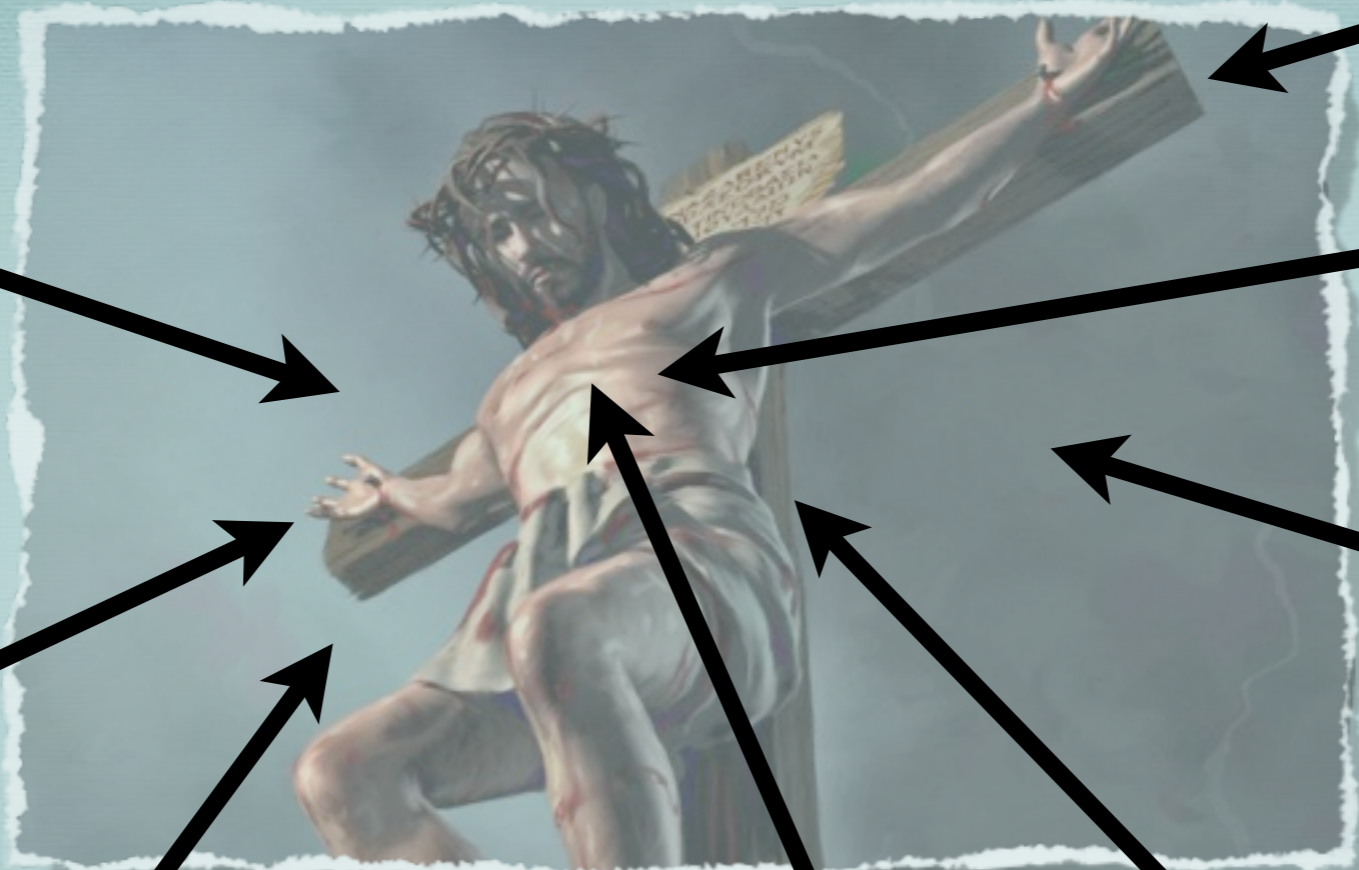
Worldly
Lusts!

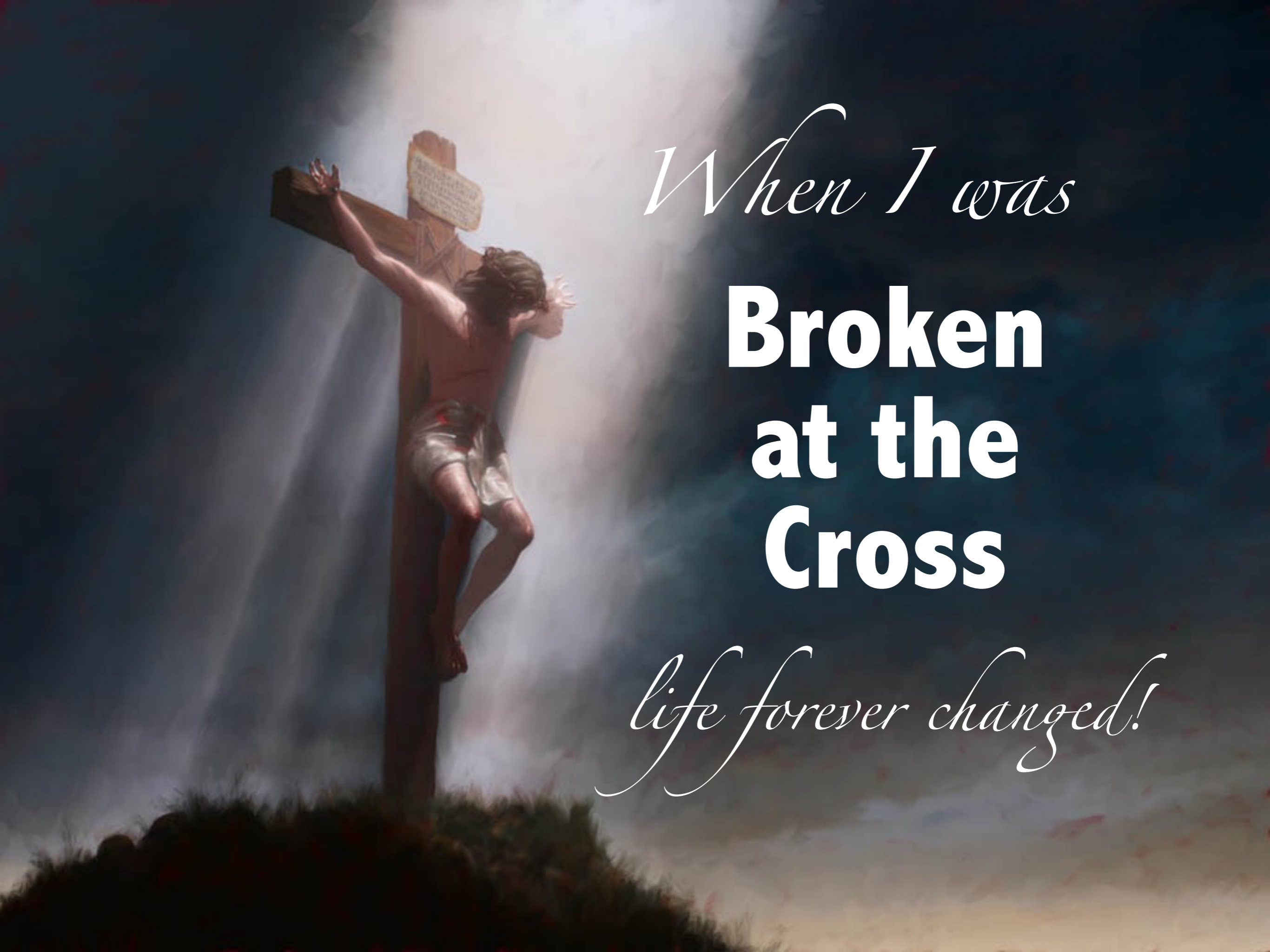
Gluttony!

The self-serving
ways you act!

Your
Spiritual Pride!

Lack of love
for the Lost!





When I was

**Broken
at the
Cross**

life forever changed!

**Often we want a painless
Pentecost!**

We want to be full and free and
fruitful in our lives, without getting
to the Cross!

“To be **broken** is the
beginning of revival.
It is painful, it is humiliating,
but it is the only way.”

- Roy Hession

What is it that keeps us from
being broken?

PRIDE!

Pride is the carbon monoxide of sin.
It silently and slowly kills you without
you even knowing. TIM KELLER



Pride doesn't listen.

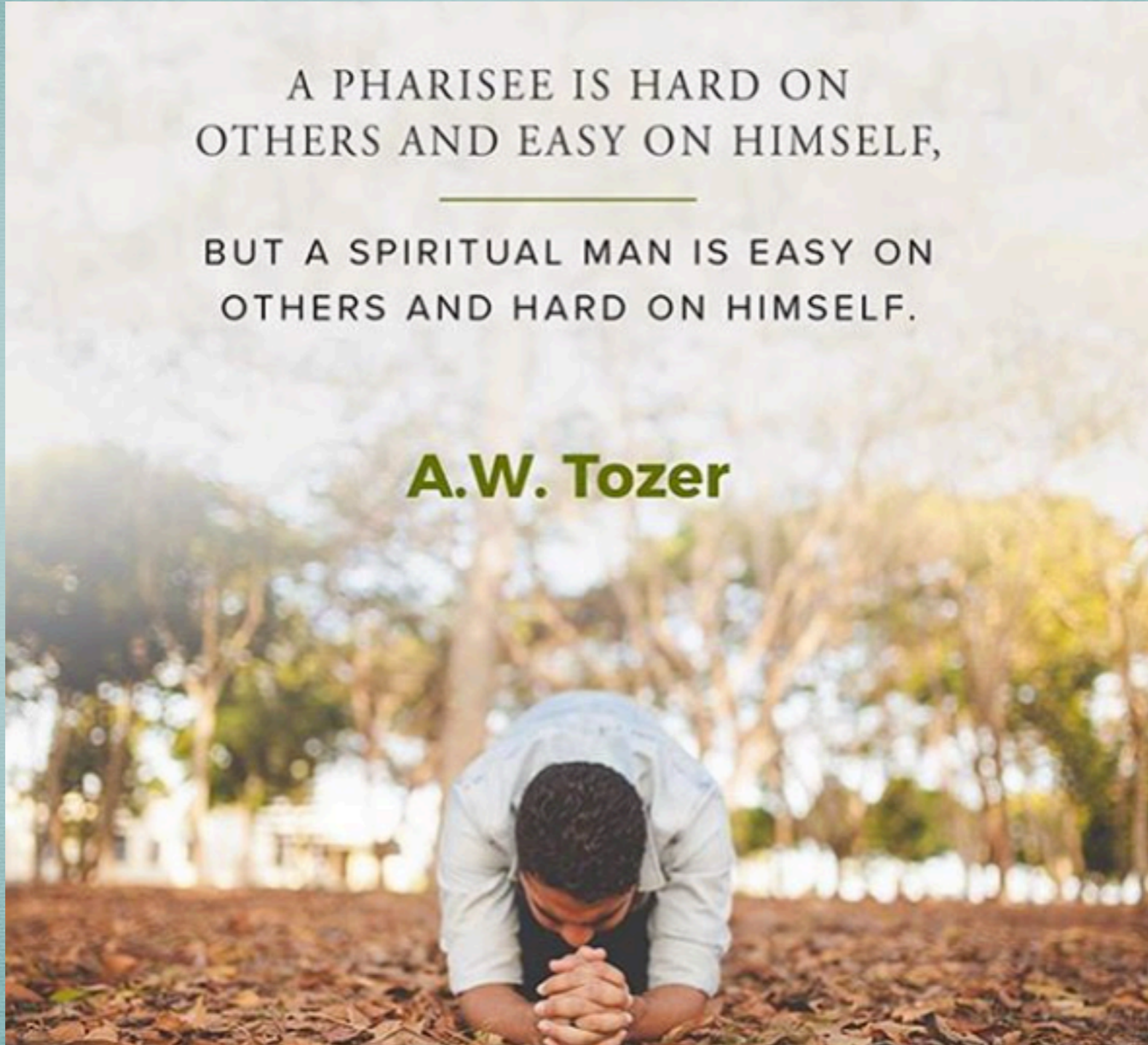
It knows.

— KEVIN VANHOOZER

A PHARISEE IS HARD ON
OTHERS AND EASY ON HIMSELF,

BUT A SPIRITUAL MAN IS EASY ON
OTHERS AND HARD ON HIMSELF.

A.W. Tozer



Pharisee versus the Publican

Luke 18:9-14

“Christ cannot take up the names of those who are satisfied in their own self-sufficiency. He cannot importune in behalf of a people who feel no need of His help, who claim to know and possess everything...”

Faith and Works, p. 84

**“All our
righteousness
is as filthy rags...”**

Isa. 64:6



Pharisee versus the Publican

Luke 18:9-14

Do we recognize our
**DESPERATE
SPIRITUAL
NEED?**



If so, then we are at the
PERFECT PLACE
for God to begin
HIS WORK!





“Our only claim to His mercy is our
GREAT NEED!”

Ministry of Healing, p. 161

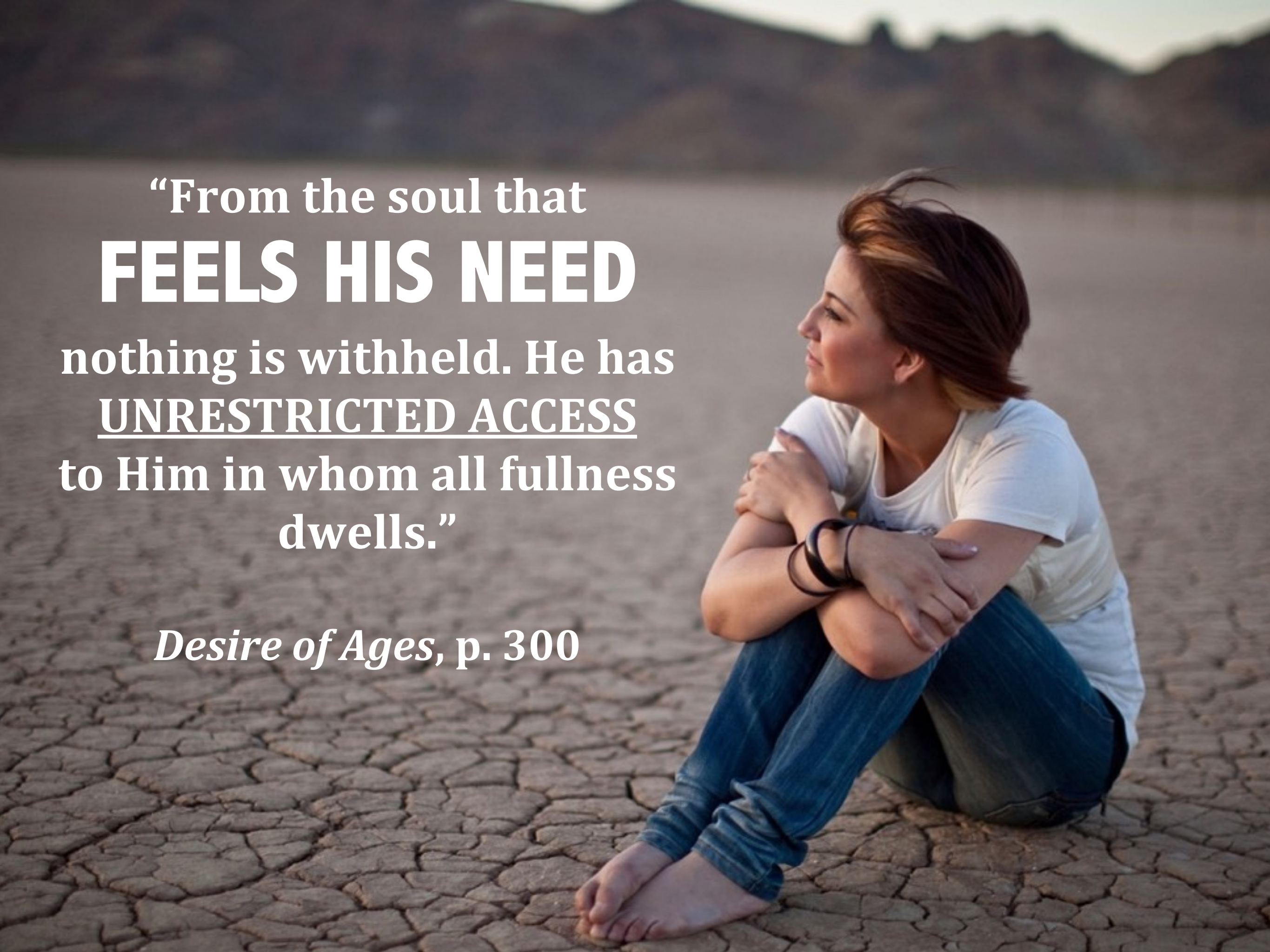
We will Never...

- Receive the the **OUTPOURING** of the Holy Spirit
- Experience deeper **REVIVAL** and **REFORMATION**
- **REMOVE** spiritual breaches
- Have personal **VICTORY** in our life
- Enjoy a deep daily **VIBRANT WALK** with Christ!
- Experience **HEALING** in our church
- Be the **WITNESSES** God has called us to be
- Grow to have strong **FAITH**

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**...Until we are being DAILY BROKEN at the Cross
and recognize our desperate spiritual need!**

A woman with brown hair, wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans, is sitting on cracked, dry earth. She is looking off to the side with a thoughtful expression. The background shows a vast, cracked landscape under a soft, hazy sky.

“From the soul that
FEELS HIS NEED
nothing is withheld. He has
UNRESTRICTED ACCESS
to Him in whom all fullness
dwells.”

Desire of Ages, p. 300

We are great at

ORGANIZATION

at ORGANIZING...



We need to learn
what it means to
AGONIZE!

Joel 2

“The sacrifices of God are a **BROKEN SPIRIT:**
a **BROKEN** and a **CONTRITE HEART**, O God,
thou wilt not despise.”

Ps. 51:17

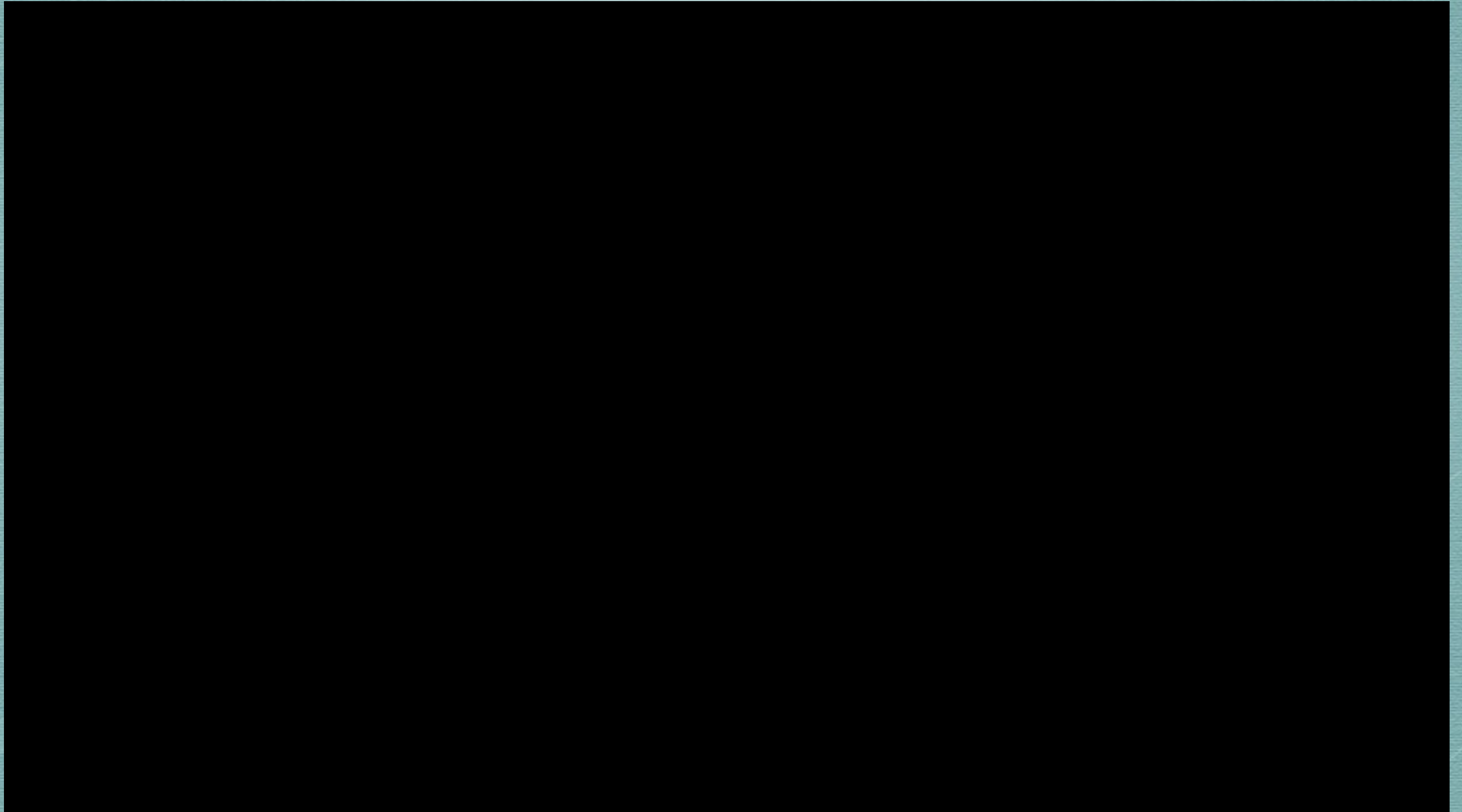


David Wilkerson

Testimony

The Call to Anguish

By David Wilkerson



“The greatest victories to the church of Christ or to the individual Christian are not those that are gained by talent or education, by wealth or the favor of men. They are those victories that are gained in the audience chamber with God,

**when earnest, agonizing faith
lays hold upon the mighty arm
of power.”**

Patriarchs and Prophets, p. 203

What is our

*Greatest
Needs?*



It is that we are **DAILY BROKEN** in recognition of our

GREAT NEED!





“Now unto Him that is **able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think**, according to the power that worketh in us...Unto Him be the glory” Eph. 3:20,21