

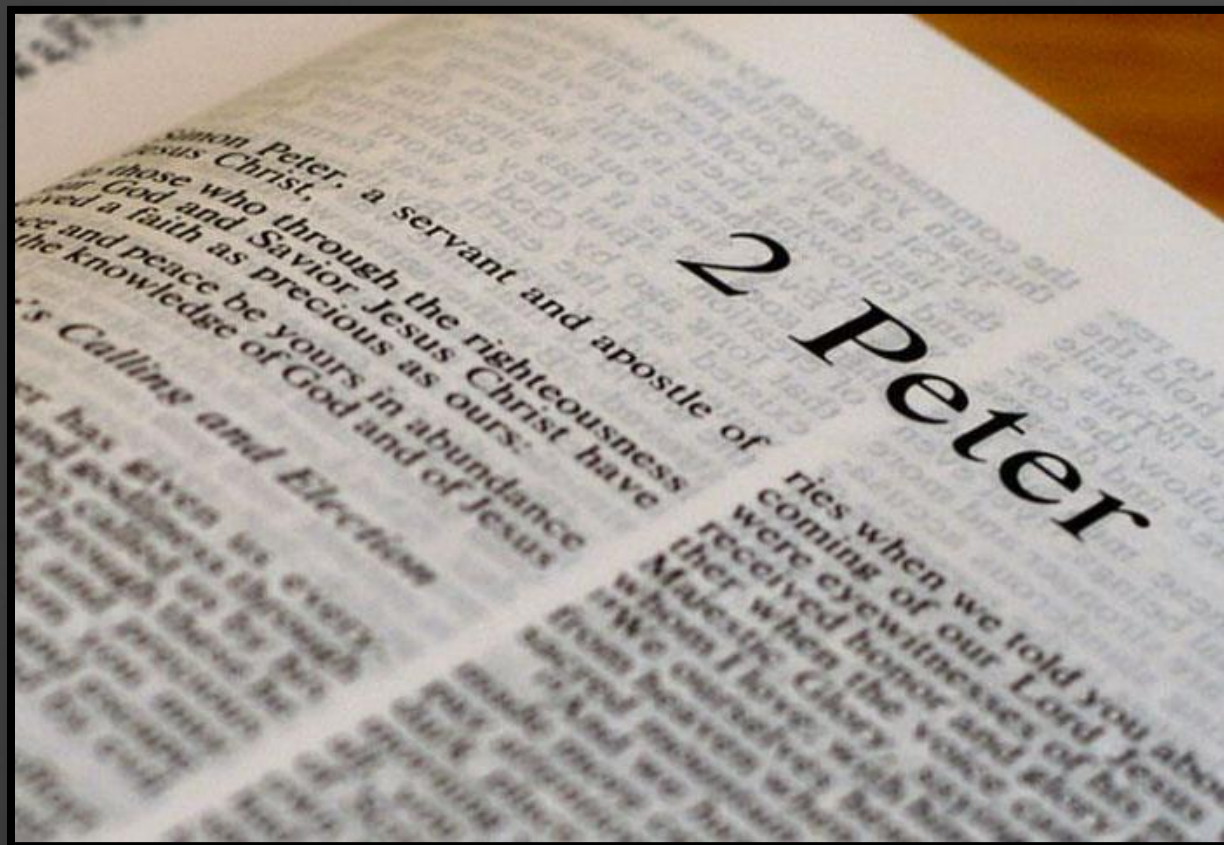
**IF YE DO
THESE
THINGS,
YE SHALL
NEVER
FALL**



Lesson Four

Knowledge

Peter promised that
“If ye do these things,
ye shall never fall.”



2 Peter 1:5-7, 10

5 And beside this, giving all diligence,

add to your **faith**
virtue;

and to virtue knowledge;

6 And to knowledge temperance;

and to temperance patience;

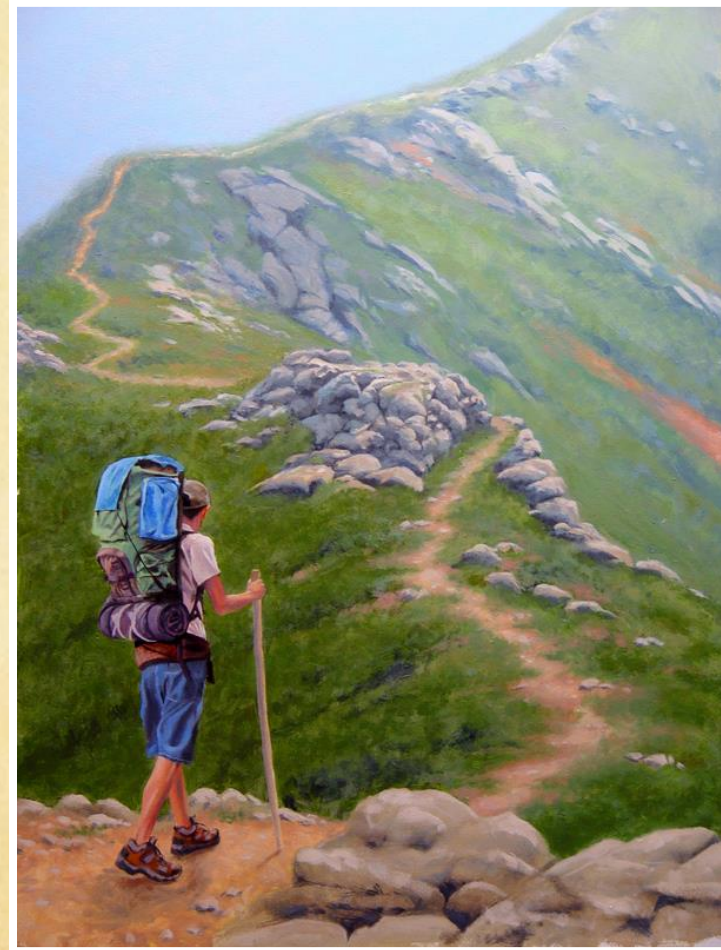
and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness;

and to brotherly kindness charity.

10 ... give diligence to make your calling
and election sure:

for if ye do these things, ye shall never
fall:



2 Peter 1:5-7, 10

5 And beside this, giving all diligence,

add to your **faith**
virtue;

and to virtue **knowledge;**

6 And to knowledge temperance;

and to temperance patience;

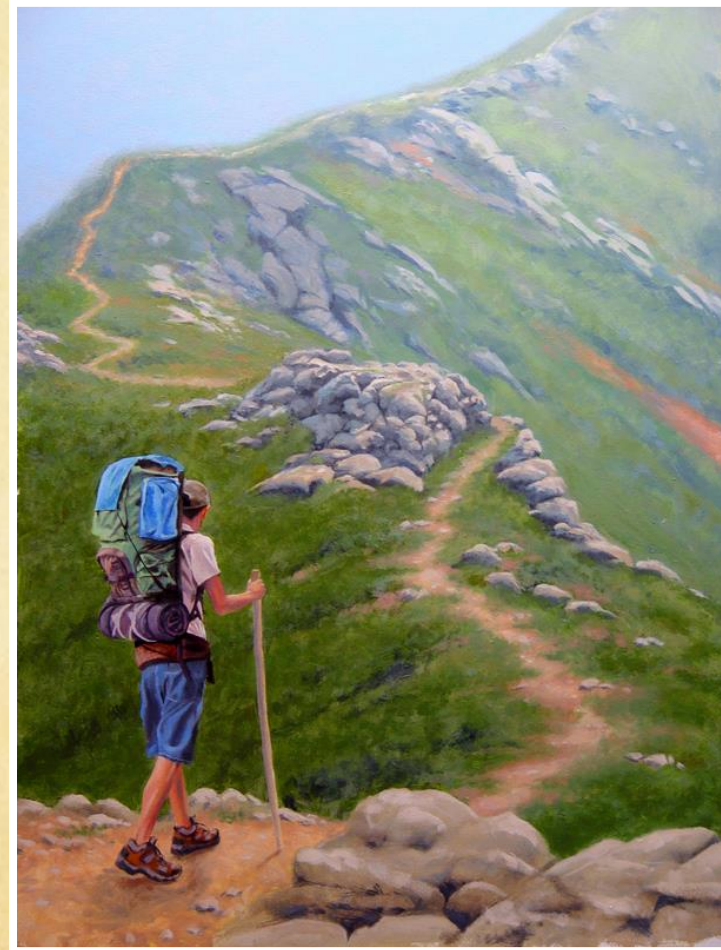
and to patience godliness;

7 And to godliness brotherly kindness;

and to brotherly kindness charity.

10 ... give diligence to make your calling
and election sure:

for if ye do these things, ye shall never
fall:



One might suppose that *knowledge* should be first on the list. But, as Jesus indicated, knowledge needs a key:

Luke 11:52

Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away **the key of knowledge:** ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.



One might suppose that *knowledge* should be first on the list. But, as Jesus indicated, knowledge needs a key:

Luke 11:52

Woe unto you, lawyers! for ye have taken away **the key of knowledge:** ye entered not in yourselves, and them that were entering in ye hindered.



These lawyers were not attorneys, but men who considered themselves experts in the Torah, the Law of Moses.

The key to the knowledge of the truth is *faith in God*.

Hebrews 4:2

For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, **not being mixed with faith** in them that heard *it*.



Knowledge is power...



Knowledge is power...
but faith is the *catalyst* to that power.




There is no substitute for faith;
no way to get around our need for it.



There is no substitute for faith;
no way to get around our need for it.

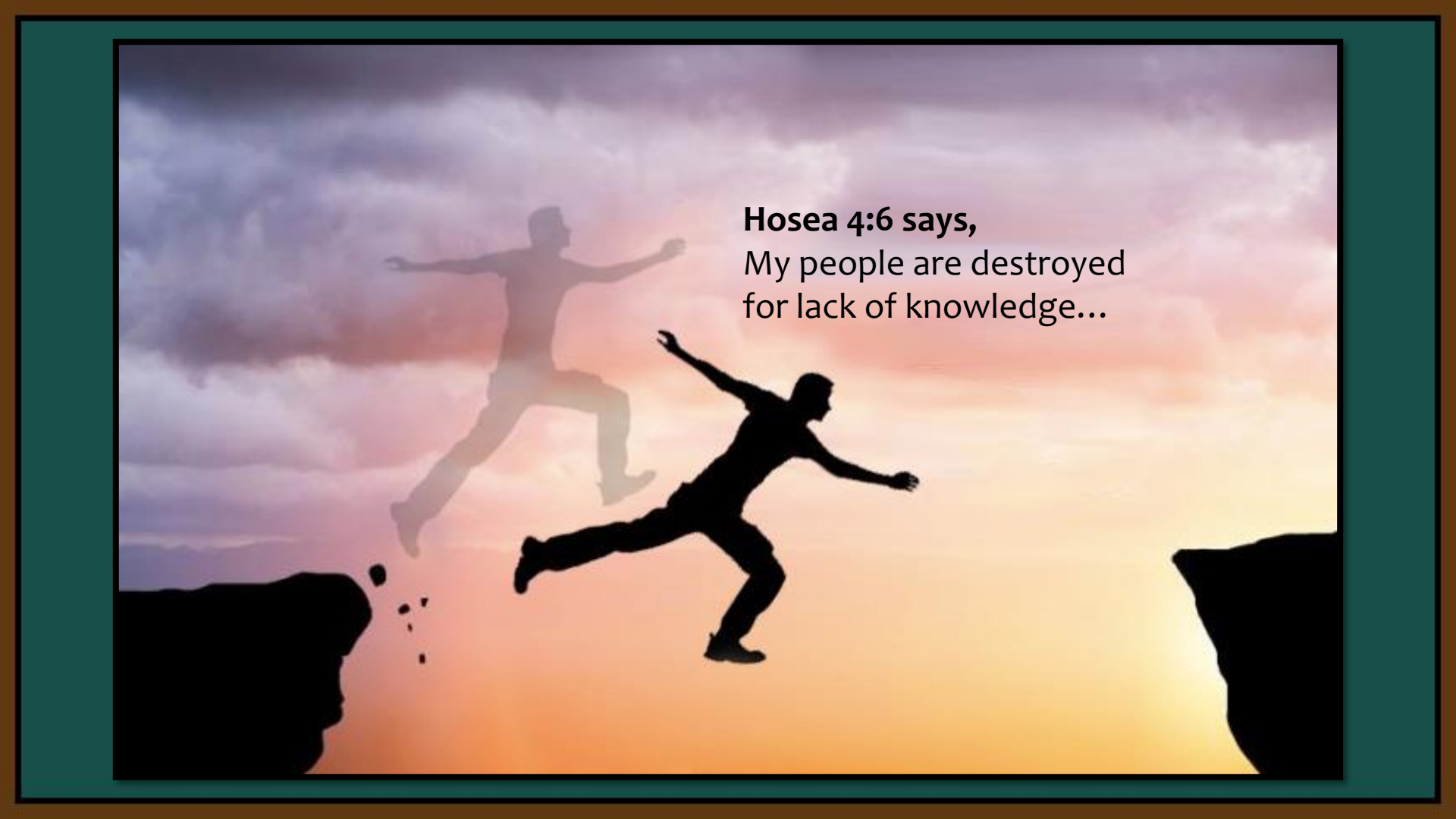
But faith alone is not enough.



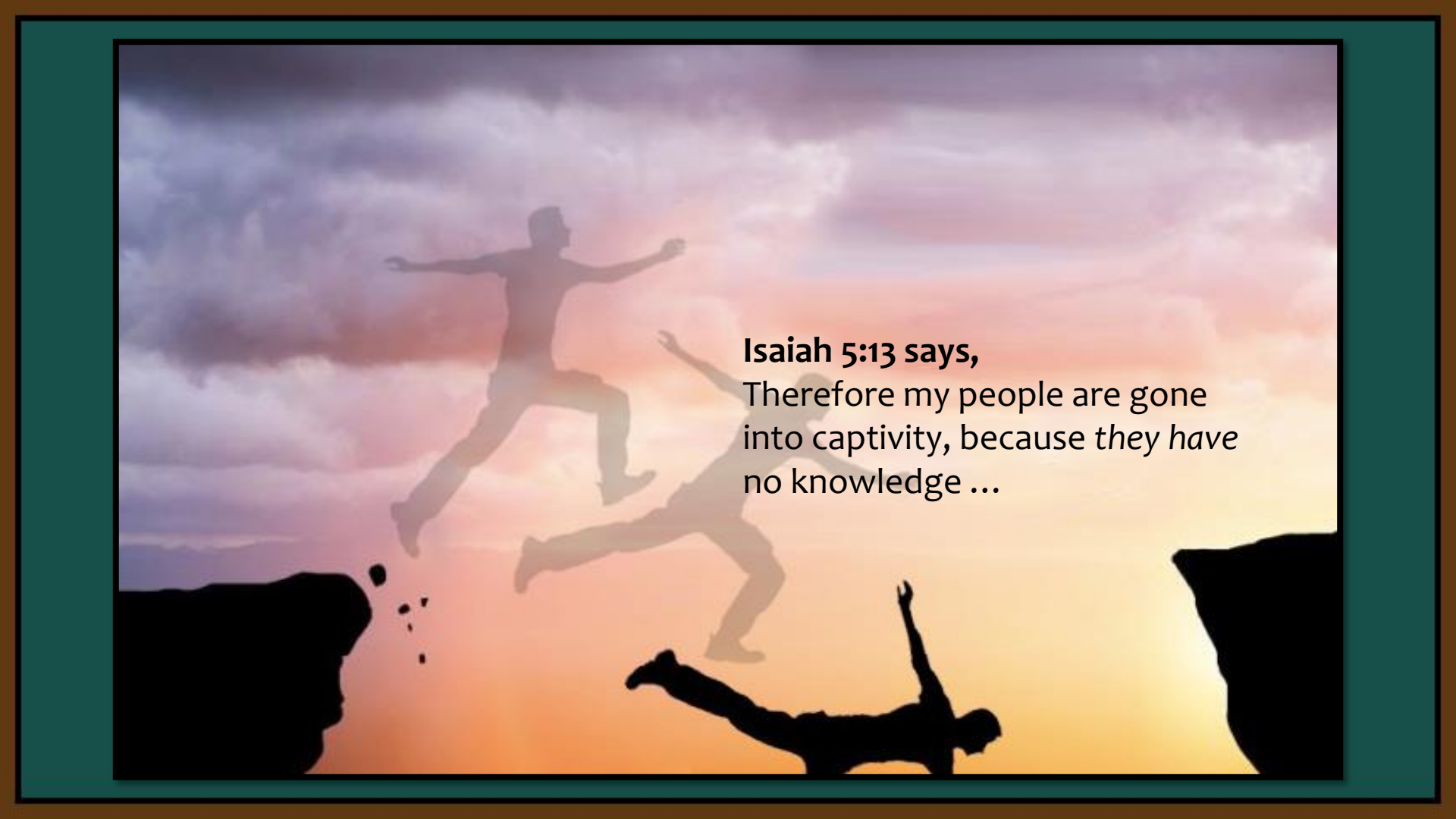
A silhouette of a man in mid-air, jumping across a gap between two dark, jagged rock formations. The background is a dramatic sky at sunset or sunrise, with colors ranging from deep purple and blue at the top to bright orange and yellow at the bottom. The man's arms are outstretched, and his legs are in a jumping position. A speech bubble is positioned above him, containing text. The entire scene is framed by a dark grey border.

I can do all things
through Christ!

Faith rooted in ignorance can be fatal!

The image features a sunset sky with soft, colorful clouds in shades of purple, pink, and orange. In the foreground, two silhouettes of people are captured in mid-air, jumping over a gap between two dark, jagged rock formations. The person in the foreground is in a dynamic, forward-leaning pose, while the second person is slightly behind and higher up. The overall scene conveys a sense of risk, challenge, and overcoming adversity.

Hosea 4:6 says,
My people are destroyed
for lack of knowledge...

The image features a dramatic sunset sky with soft, colorful clouds in shades of purple, pink, and orange. In the foreground, the dark silhouettes of three people are shown falling from a cliff edge. The person on the left is in mid-air with arms outstretched. The person in the middle is also falling, with one arm reaching out. The person on the right is in a more horizontal, falling position. The overall scene conveys a sense of loss and helplessness.

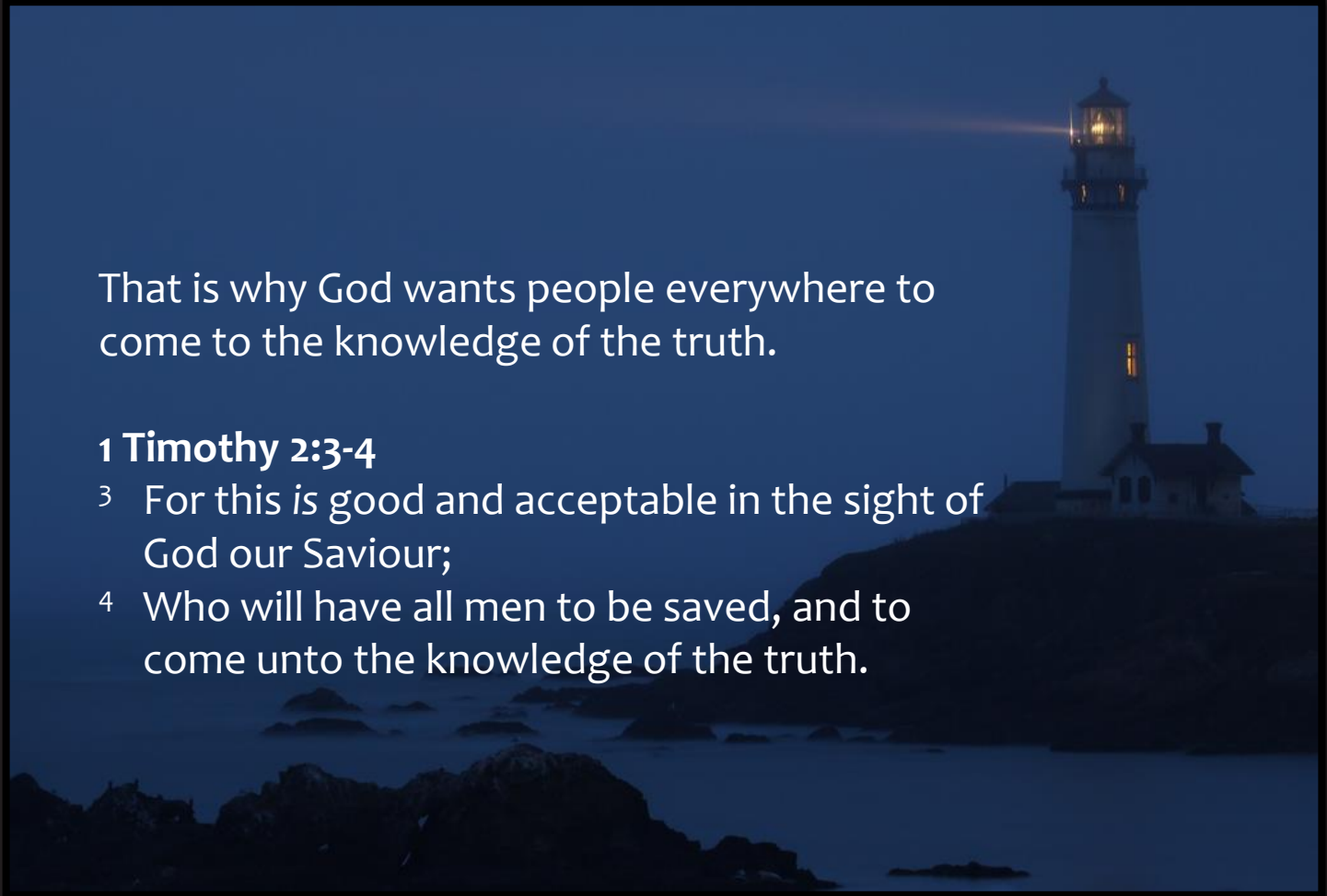
Isaiah 5:13 says,
Therefore my people are gone
into captivity, because *they have*
no knowledge ...

We don't appreciate the great value of having knowledge of God.

Proverbs 24:3-4

- 3 Through **wisdom** is an house builded;
and by **understanding** it is established:
- 4 And by **knowledge** shall the chambers be
filled with all precious and pleasant riches.

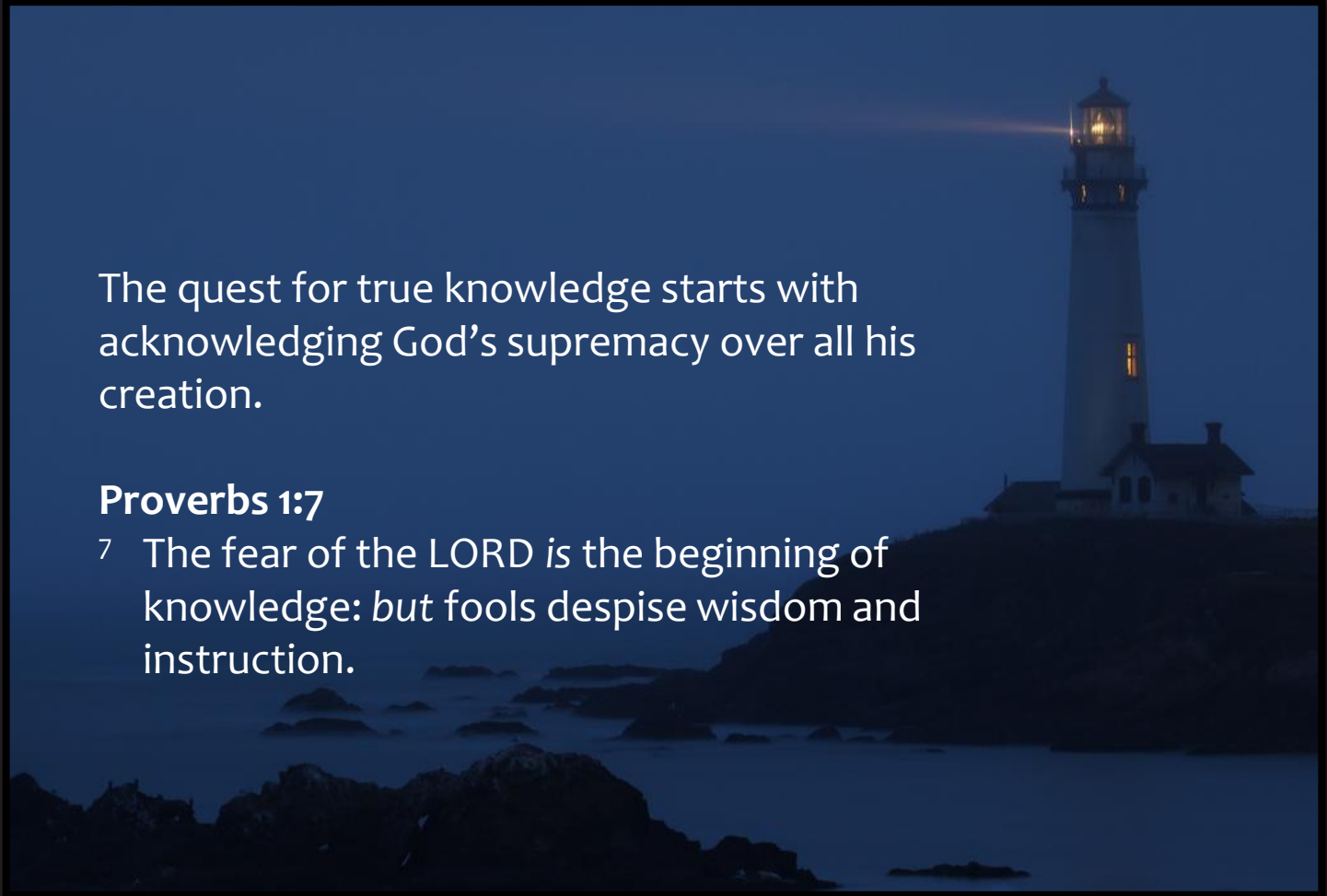




That is why God wants people everywhere to come to the knowledge of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:3-4

- ³ For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour;
- ⁴ Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

A tall, white lighthouse stands on a dark, rocky cliff. The lighthouse is illuminated from within, and a bright beam of light emanates from the top, shining across the dark blue sky. Below the cliff, the ocean is visible, with dark rocks protruding from the water. The overall scene is set during twilight, with a deep blue sky and a calm sea.

The quest for true knowledge starts with
acknowledging God's supremacy over all his
creation.

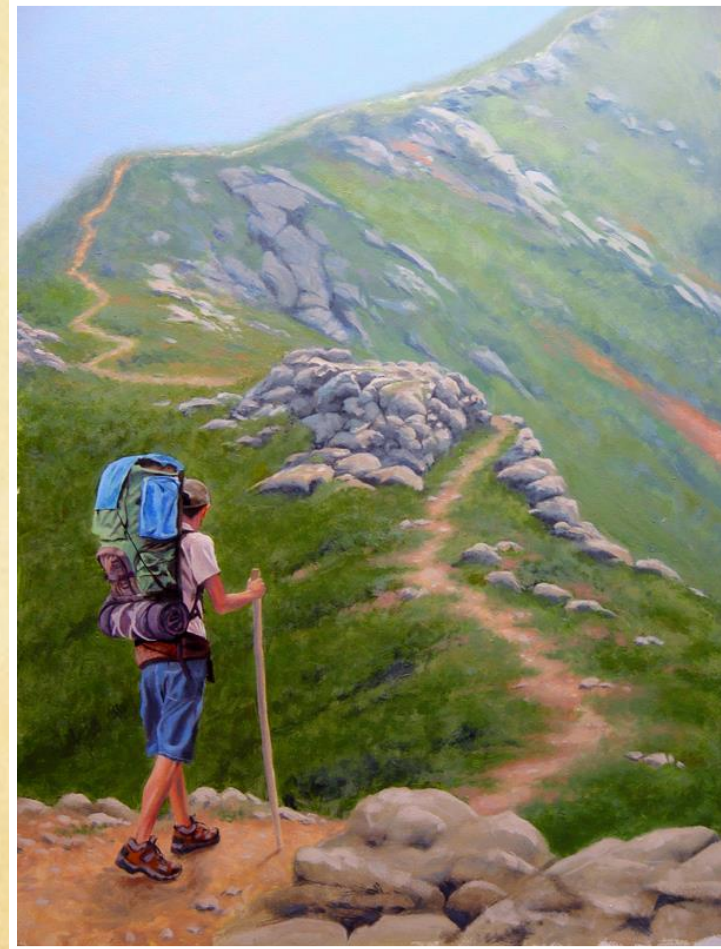
Proverbs 1:7

⁷ The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of
knowledge: *but* fools despise wisdom and
instruction.

Without faith in God, man is destined to be “ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth” (2 Tim 3:7).

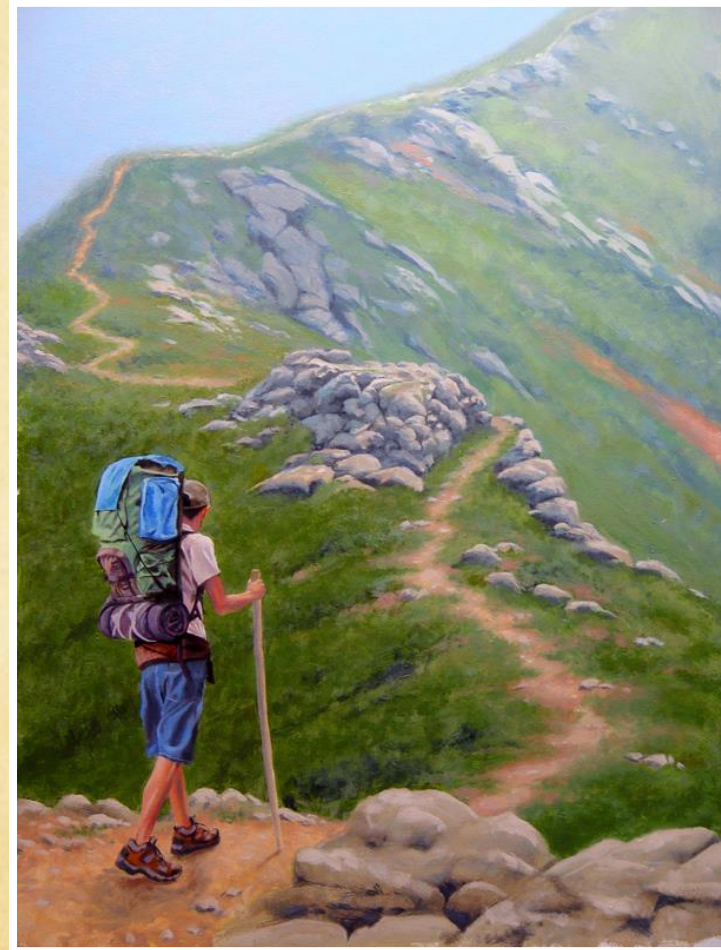


Everything begins with **faith**, because without faith in God, “it is impossible to please him” (Heb 11:6).



Everything begins with **faith**, because without faith in God, “it is impossible to please him” (Heb 11:6).

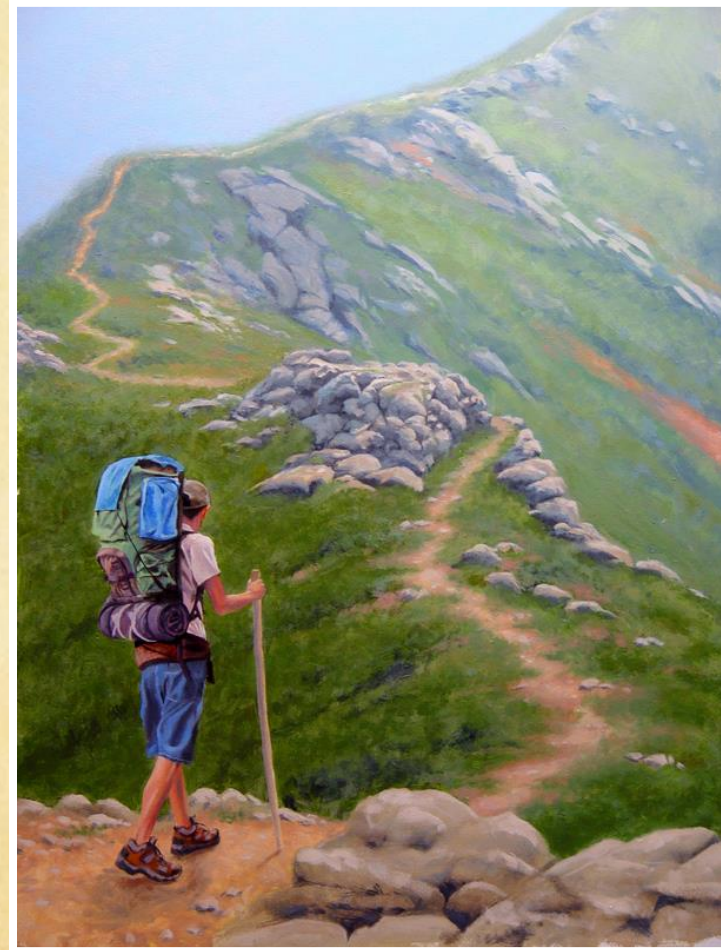
But “faith without works is dead” (Jms 2:20), and so we must add **virtue** to our faith – works that show our faith. We are to be “zealous of good works” (Titus 2:14).



Everything begins with **faith**, because without faith in God, “it is impossible to please him” (Heb 11:6).

But “faith without works is dead” (Jms 2:20), and so we must add **virtue** to our faith – works that show our faith. We are to be “zealous of good works” (Titus 2:14).

But zeal alone can be a dangerous thing!



Before his conversion, Paul's persecution of the church was fueled by his zeal for the Jews' religion.

Galatians 1:13-14

- ¹³ For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it:
- ¹⁴ And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation,
being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.



He thought he was acting virtuously, but he learned he was acting in ignorance.



He thought he was acting virtuously, but he learned he was acting in ignorance.

1 Timothy 1:12-13

- ¹² And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;
- ¹³ Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did *it ignorantly in unbelief.*



Having a zeal for God is commendable only when it is “according to knowledge.”

Romans 10:2-4

- 2 For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, **but not according to knowledge.**
- 3 For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.
- 4 For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.



The Law proved to everyone under the law that they were guilty before God.

Romans 3:19

¹⁹ Now we know that what things soever the law saith, it saith to them who are under the law:
that every mouth may be stopped, and all the world may become guilty before God.



There was a time when God overlooked the sin of those who were ignorant of God. But when knowledge came, it brought with it the responsibility to live according to truth.

Acts 17:29-30

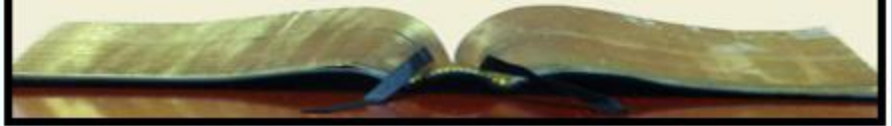
- ²⁹ Forasmuch then as we are the offspring of God, we ought not to think that the Godhead is like unto gold, or silver, or stone, graven by art and man's device.
- ³⁰ And the times of this ignorance God winked at; but now commandeth all men every where to repent:



Jesus equated knowing the truth
with true freedom.

John 8:31-32

- ³¹ Then said Jesus to those Jews
which believed on him,
If ye continue in my word, *then*
are ye my disciples indeed;
- ³² And ye shall know the truth, and
the truth shall make you free.



Like so many before and after them,
these men were blind to their own
captivity.

John 8:33

³³ They answered him,
We be Abraham's seed,
and were never in bondage to
any man:
how sayest thou,
Ye shall be made free?



Ironically, the children of Israel had been subjected to Egyptian, Babylonian, Persian, Greek, and now Roman authority when these words were spoken!

John 8:33

³³ They answered him,
We be Abraham's seed,
**and were never in bondage to
any man:**

how sayest thou,
Ye shall be made free?



But Jesus was speaking of a far greater tyranny.

John 8:34-36

- ³⁴ Jesus answered them,
Verily, verily, I say unto you,
Whosoever committeth sin is
the servant of sin.
- ³⁵ And the servant abideth not in
the house for ever:
but the Son abideth ever.
- ³⁶ If the Son therefore shall make
you free, ye shall be free indeed.



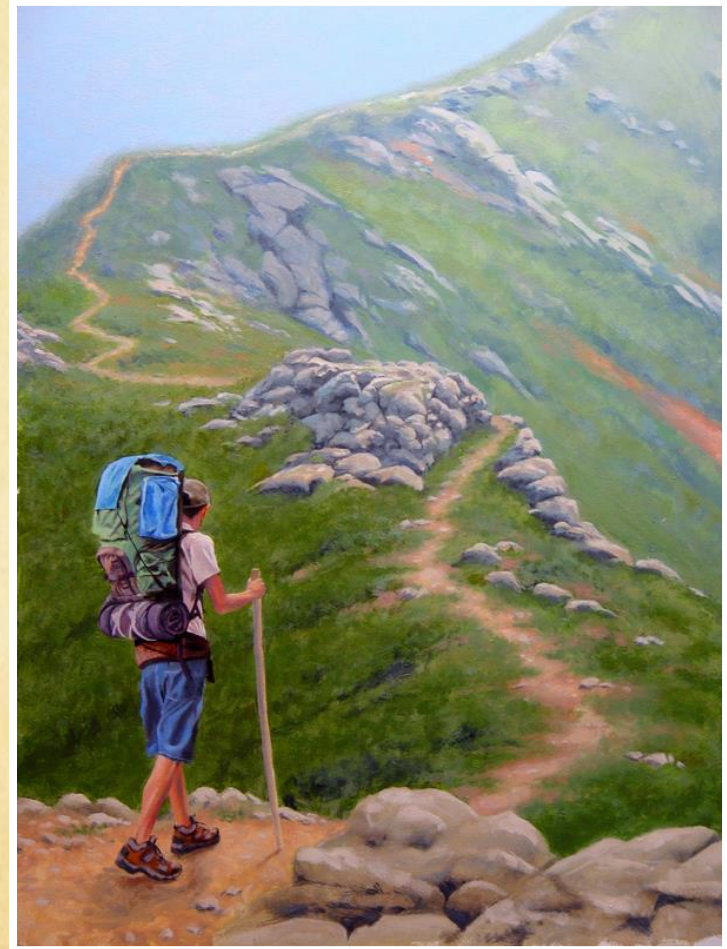
True freedom is to be released from the bondage of sin. And this comes with *continuing* in the word of the Son, the word of truth.

John 8:34-36

- ³⁴ Jesus answered them,
Verily, verily, I say unto you,
Whosoever committeth sin is
the servant of sin.
- ³⁵ And the servant abideth not in
the house for ever:
but the Son abideth ever.
- ³⁶ If the Son therefore shall make
you free, ye shall be free indeed.

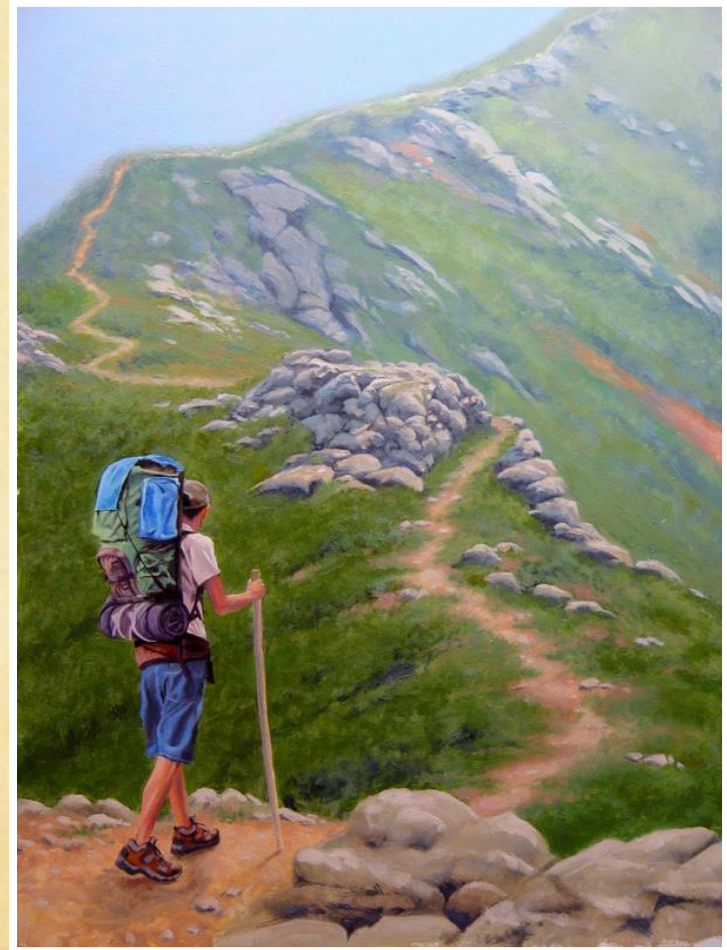


Everything begins with **faith**, because without faith in God, “it is impossible to please him.”



Everything begins with **faith**, because without faith in God, “it is impossible to please him.”

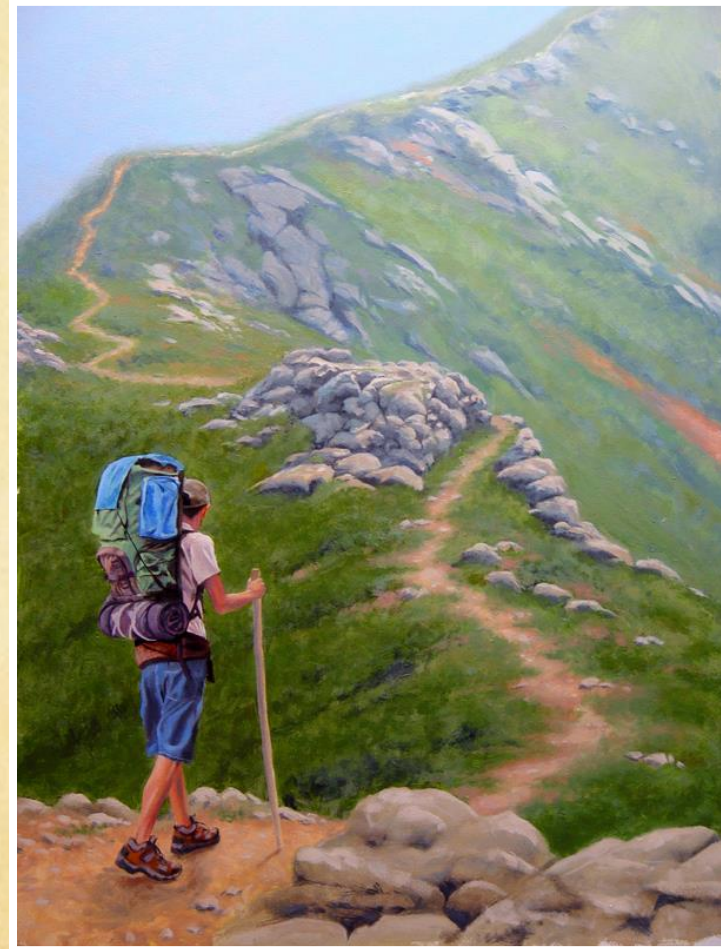
But “faith without works is dead”, and so we must add **virtue** to our faith – works that show our faith.



Everything begins with **faith**, because without faith in God, “it is impossible to please him.”

But “faith without works is dead”, and so we must add **virtue** to our faith – works that show our faith.

Now we add to our virtue **knowledge**, lest our zeal for God be misdirected.



The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

1. There are always hindrances to gospel work that must be overcome.

Romans 1:13

Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles.

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

1. There are always hindrances to gospel work that must be overcome.

Romans 1:13

Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, *(but was let hitherto,)* that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles.

(but was hindered up to now)

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

1. There are always hindrances to gospel work that must be overcome.

Whether we go or stay, we all share the responsibility of prayer.

2 Thessalonians 3:1

- ¹ Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may have *free* course, and be glorified, even as *it is* with you:
- ² And that we may be delivered from unreasonable and wicked men: for all *men* have not faith.

Romans 1:13

Now I would not have you ignorant, brethren, that oftentimes I purposed to come unto you, (but was let hitherto,) that I might have some fruit among you also, even as among other Gentiles.

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

1. There are always hindrances to gospel work that must be overcome.
2. There is a reason why currently it is mostly Gentiles who come to Christ.

Romans 11:25

For I would not, brethren, that ye should be ignorant of this mystery, lest ye should be wise in your own conceits; that blindness in part is happened to Israel, until the fulness of the Gentiles be come in.

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

1. There are always hindrances to gospel work that must be overcome.
2. There is a reason why currently it is mostly Gentiles who come to Christ.
3. The work of Christ was foretold in the Old Testament in type and shadow.

1 Corinthians 10:1-4

- 1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;
- 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;
- 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat;
- 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink:
for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them:
and that Rock was Christ.

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

1. There are always hindrances to gospel work that must be overcome.
2. There is a reason why currently it is mostly Gentiles who come to Christ.
3. The work of Christ was foretold in the Old Testament in type and shadow.
4. The gifts from the Holy Spirit are tools for Christian service.

1 Corinthians 12:1

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I would not have you ignorant.

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

1. There are always hindrances to gospel work that must be overcome.
2. There is a reason why currently it is mostly Gentiles who come to Christ.
3. The work of Christ was foretold in the Old Testament in type and shadow.
4. The gifts from the Holy Spirit are tools for Christian service.
5. A gospel minister must be strong in faith, courage, and trust.

2 Corinthians 1:8-9

- ⁸ For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:
- ⁹ But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:
- ¹⁰ Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

Verse 11 again shows the responsibility of those who remain behind, saying, “Ye also helping together by prayer for us.”

2 Corinthians 1:8-9

- ⁸ For we would not, brethren, have you ignorant of our trouble which came to us in Asia, that we were pressed out of measure, above strength, insomuch that we despaired even of life:
- ⁹ But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead:
- ¹⁰ Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver: in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us;

The New Testament names six things of which we should not be ignorant:

1. There are always hindrances to gospel work that must be overcome.
2. There is a reason why currently it is mostly Gentiles who come to Christ.
3. The work of Christ was foretold in the Old Testament in type and shadow.
4. The gifts from the Holy Spirit are tools for Christian service.
5. A gospel minister must be strong in faith, courage, and trust.
6. As Christians, we can find comfort even in times of great loss.

1 Thessalonians 4:13; 16-18

- ¹³ But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope.
- ¹⁶ For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:
- ¹⁷ Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.
- ¹⁸ Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

We have “escaped the pollutions of this world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 2:20).

Grace and peace are multiplied unto us through the knowledge of God and of Christ.

2 Peter 1:2-3

- ² Grace and peace be multiplied unto you **through the knowledge** of God, and of Jesus our Lord,
- ³ According as his divine power hath given unto us all things that *pertain* unto life and godliness, **through the knowledge** of him that hath called us to glory and virtue:



That is why we are exhorted to continually grow in knowledge.

2 Peter 3:18

But grow in grace, **and in the knowledge** of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him *be* glory both now and for ever. Amen.



**IF YE DO
THESE
THINGS,
YE SHALL
NEVER
FALL**

Up Next:
And to Knowledge, Temperance.



wtwh.org