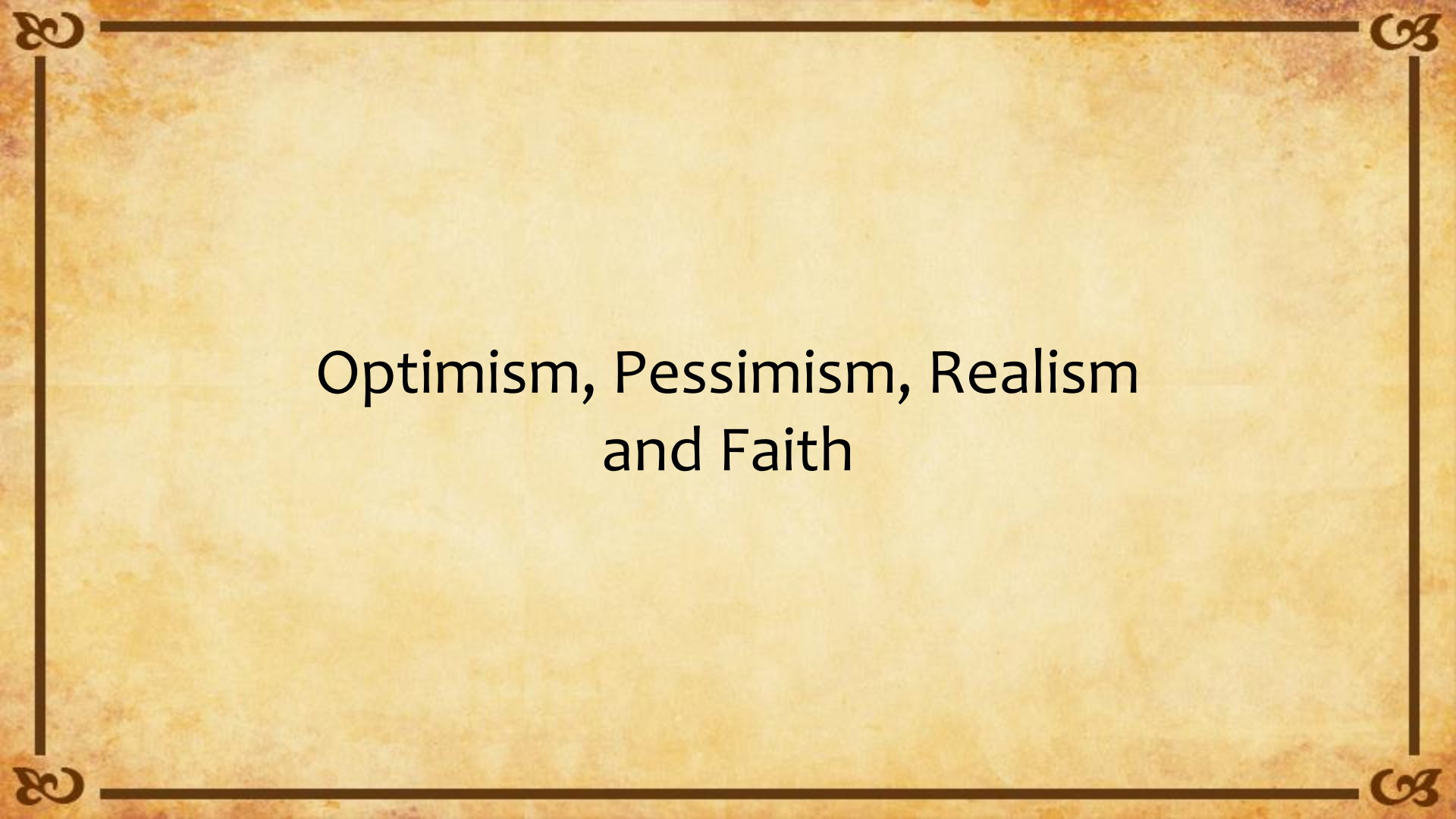


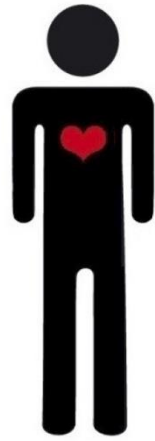
Seeing what is happening in the world around us,

“What shall we then say
to these things?”



Optimism, Pessimism, Realism
and Faith

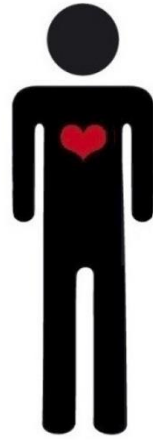
An Optimist



OPTIMIST

An Optimist

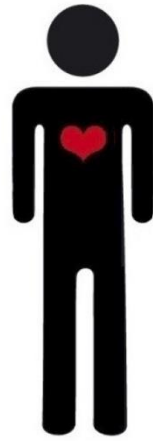
1. Expects good things in the future.



OPTIMIST

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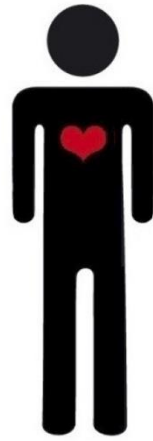
1. Expects good things in the future.
2. Expects to get what he wishes for.



OPTIMIST

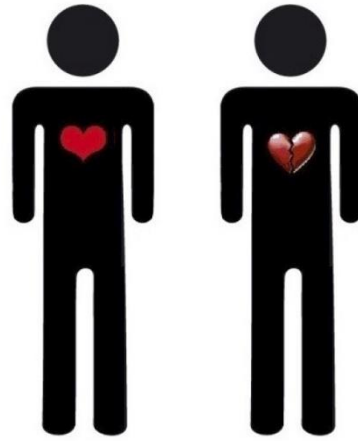
An Optimist

1. Expects good things in the future.
2. Expects to get what he wishes for.
3. Shuts his ears to bad news.



OPTIMIST

A Pessimist

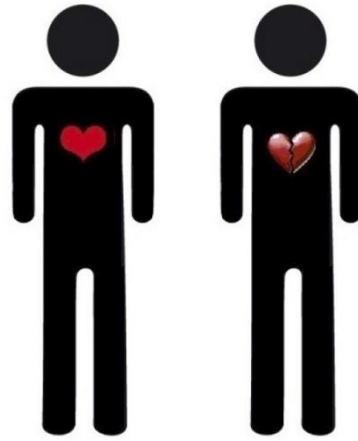


OPTIMIST

Pessimist

A Pessimist

1. Expects things to get even worse.

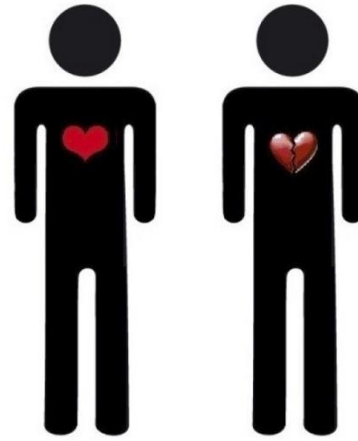


OPTIMIST

Pessimist

A Pessimist

1. Expects things to get even worse.
2. Braces for the inevitable letdown.

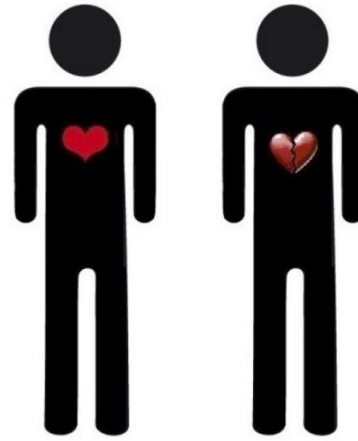


OPTIMIST

Pessimist

A Pessimist

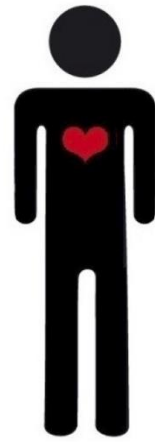
1. Expects things to get even worse.
2. Braces for the inevitable letdown.
3. Is suspicious of good news.



OPTIMIST

Pessimist

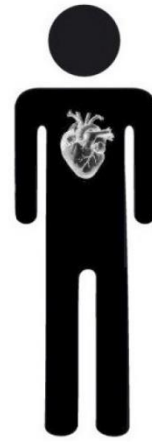
A Realist



OPTIMIST



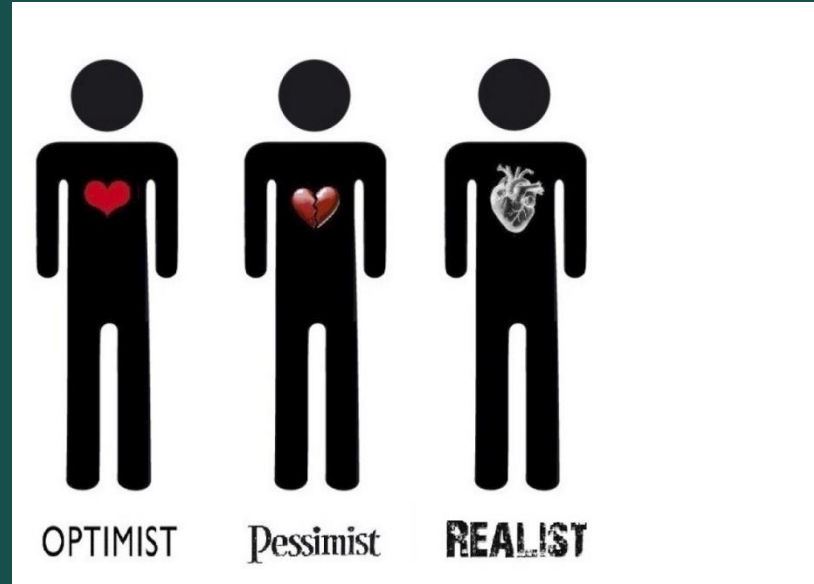
Pessimist



REALIST

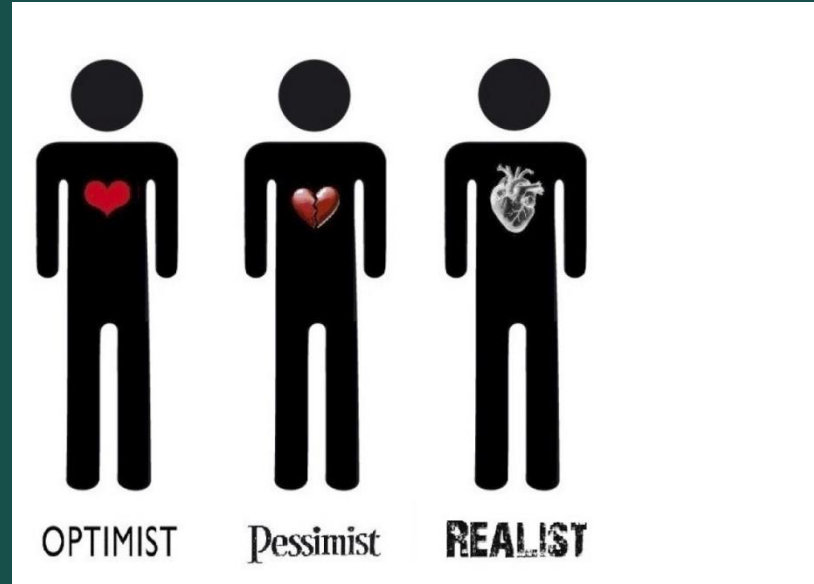
A Realist

1. Takes the world as he sees it.

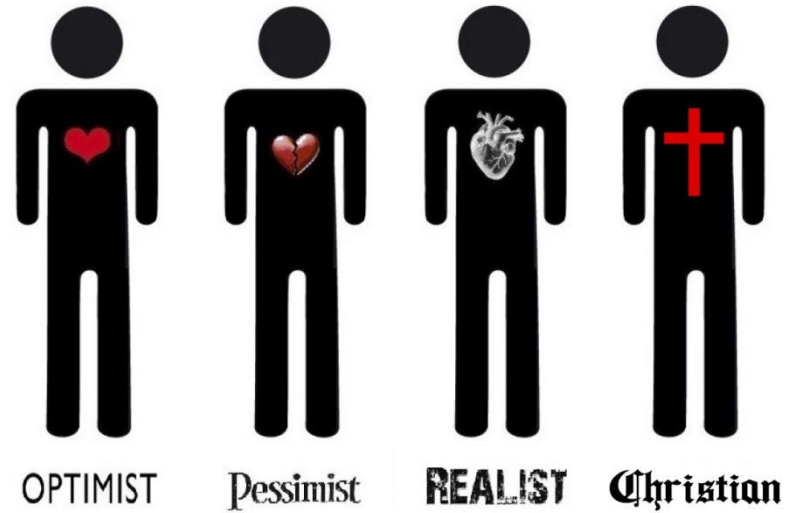


A Realist

1. Takes the world as he sees it.
2. Deals with it accordingly.



What about
a Christian?



The condition of man

The condition of man

Psalm 39:5b:

... verily every man at his best state is altogether vanity.

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A PESSIMIST?

The condition of man

Psalm 39:5b:

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A PESSIMIST?

Psalm 138:8a:

The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me:

The condition of man

Psalm 39:5b:

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A PESSIMIST?

Psalm 138:8a:

The LORD will perfect that which concerneth me:

AN OPTIMIST?

The condition of society

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2 Timothy 3:12-13:

12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

13 But evil men and seducers shall wax worse and worse, deceiving, and being deceived.

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ANOTHER PESSIMIST?

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John 15:18-19:

18 If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before *it hated* you.

19 If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you.

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A REALIST?

“The just shall live by faith.”

(Habakkuk 2:4; Romans 1:17b; Galatians 3:11; Hebrews 10:38)

Hebrews 11:1:

“Now faith is

the substance of things hoped for,
the evidence of things not seen.”

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It is the reason for our expectation of good things to come,

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the substance of things hoped for,
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*It is the reason for our expectation of good things to come,
Our proof of realities yet invisible to the eye.*

“the evidence of things not seen”

1 Peter 1:8

Whom **having not seen**, ye love; in whom, **though now ye see him not**, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

“the evidence of things not seen”

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Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory:

1 Corinthians 2:9:

But as it is written, **Eye hath not seen**, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him.

“the evidence of things not seen”

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2 Corinthians 4:18

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; **but the things which are not seen are eternal.**

Abraham's evidence of things not seen:

Romans 4:19-21:

19 And being not weak in faith, he considered not his own body now dead, when he was about an hundred years old, neither yet the deadness of Sara's womb:

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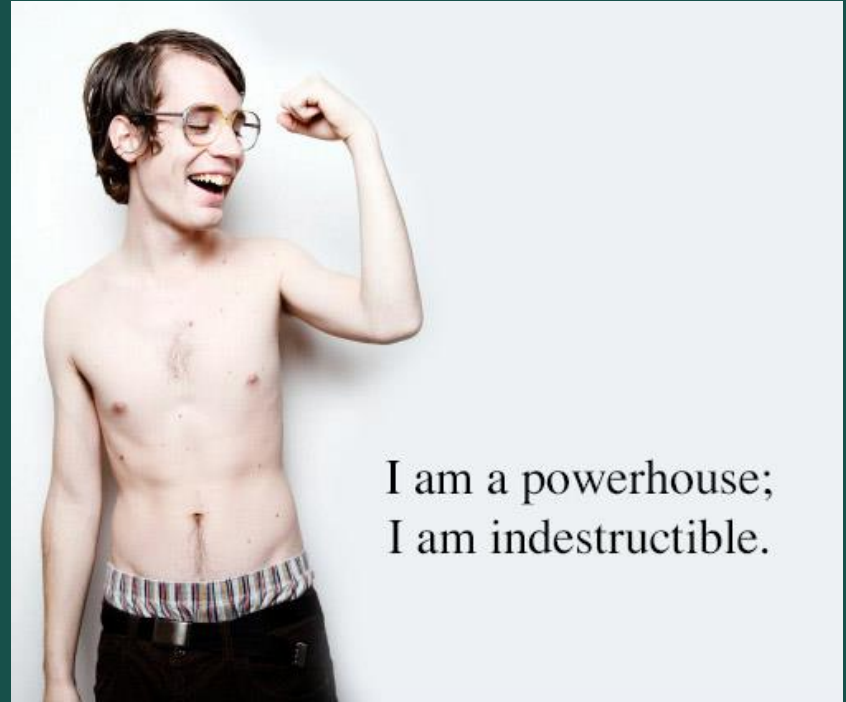
21 And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.

Abraham “considered not his own body now dead.”

This was not a positive affirmation.

Abraham “considered not his own body now dead.”

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I am a powerhouse;
I am indestructible.

From “35 Affirmations That Will Change Your Life”

Matthew 6:27:

Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

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Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

Lamentations 3:37:

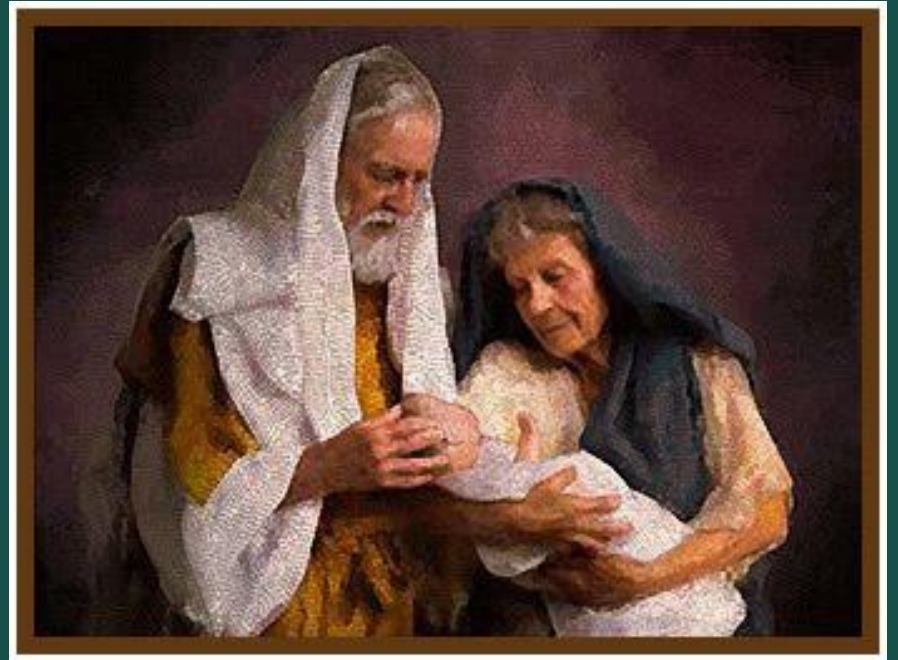
Who *is* he *that* saith, and it cometh to pass, *when* the Lord commandeth *it* not?

Abraham “considered not his own
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Abraham “considered not his own body now dead.”

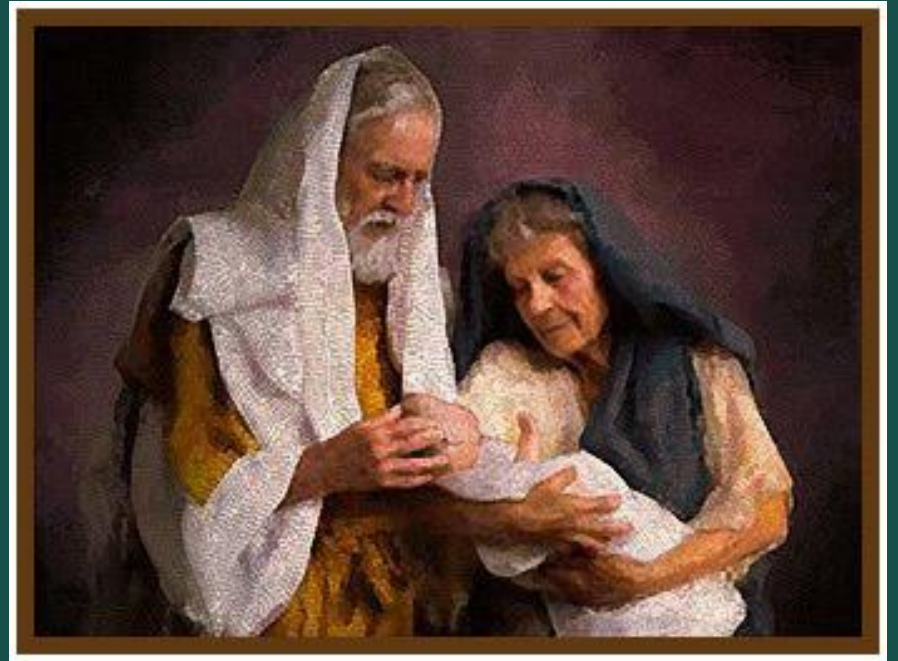
He based his expectation on God’s ability and not his own weakness.



Abraham “considered not his own body now dead.”

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God’s promise was all the evidence Abraham needed.

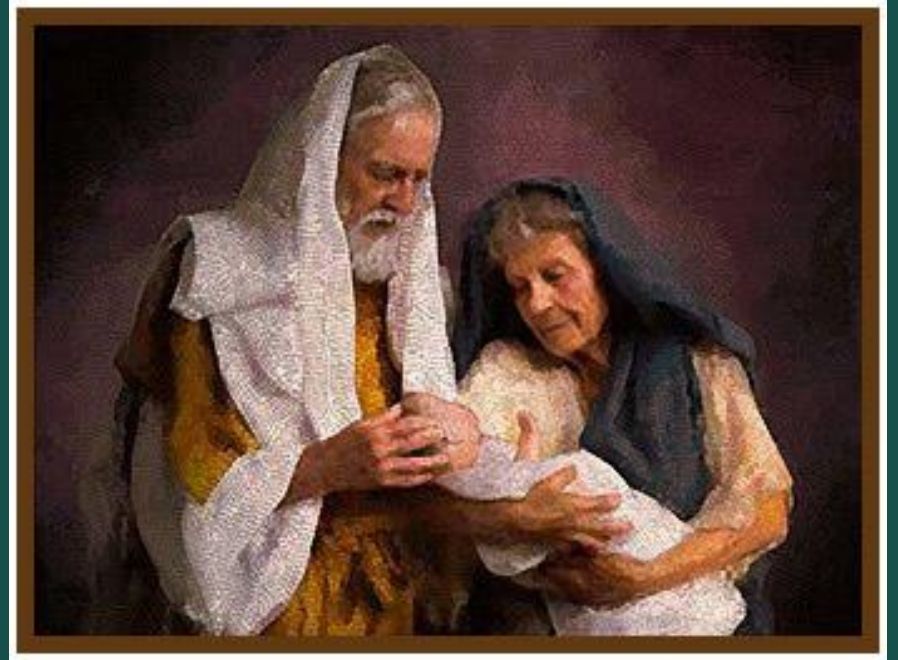


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Elisha's evidence of things not seen:

2 Kings 6:8-17:

8 Then the king of Syria warred against Israel, and took counsel with his servants, saying, In such and such a place shall be my camp.

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9 And the man of God sent unto the king of Israel, saying, Beware that thou pass not such a place; for thither the Syrians are come down.

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11 Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the king of Israel?

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11 Therefore the heart of the king of Syria was sore troubled for this thing; and he called his servants, and said unto them, Will ye not shew me which of us is for the king of Israel?

12 And one of his servants said, None, my lord, O king: but Elisha, the prophet that is in Israel, telleth the king of Israel the words that thou speakest in thy bedchamber.



13 And he said, Go and spy where he is, that I may send and fetch him. And it was told him, saying, Behold, he is in Dothan.

14 Therefore sent he thither horses, and chariots, and a great host: and they came by night, and compassed the city about.



15 And when the servant of the man of God was risen early, and gone forth, behold, an host compassed the city both with horses and chariots. And his servant said unto him, Alas, my master! how shall we do?

16 And he answered, Fear not: for they that be with us are more than they that be with them.



17 And Elisha prayed, and said, LORD, I pray thee, open his eyes, that he may see.

And the LORD opened the eyes of the young man; and he saw: and, behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire round about Elisha.



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Faith does not create.

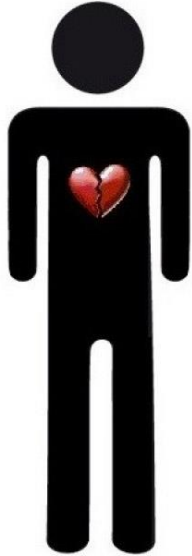


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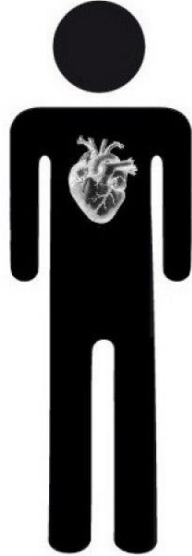
Faith recognizes what God has already provided.



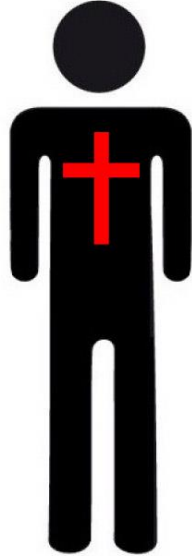
OPTIMIST



Pessimist

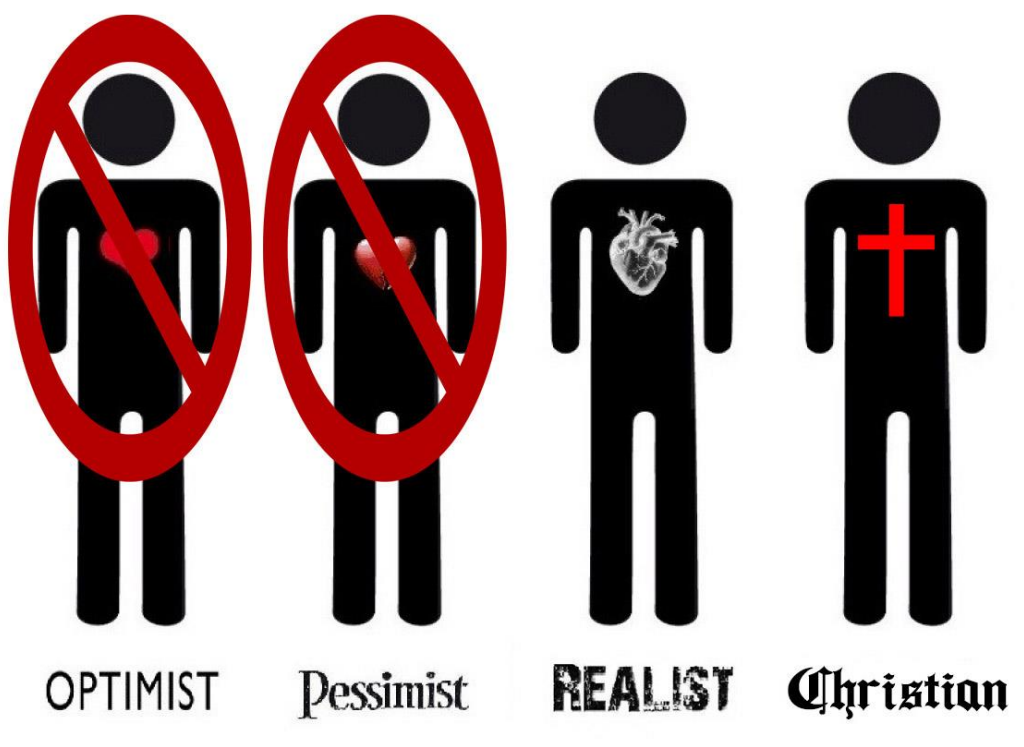


REALIST



Christian

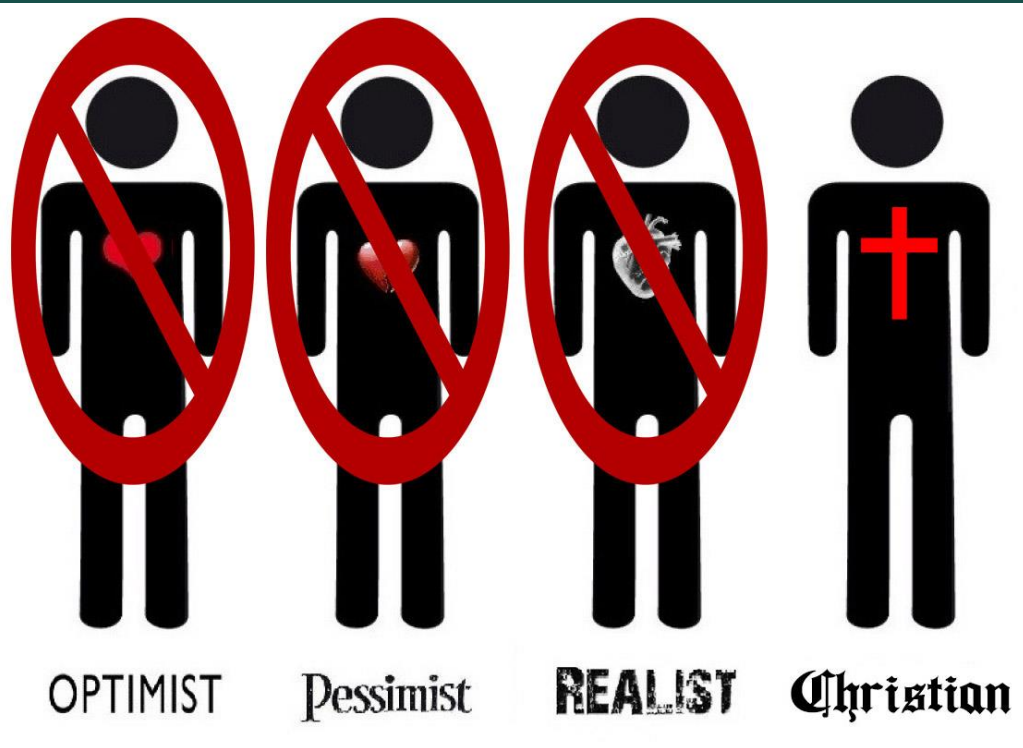
It is not about being
an optimist,



It is not about being
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a pessimist,

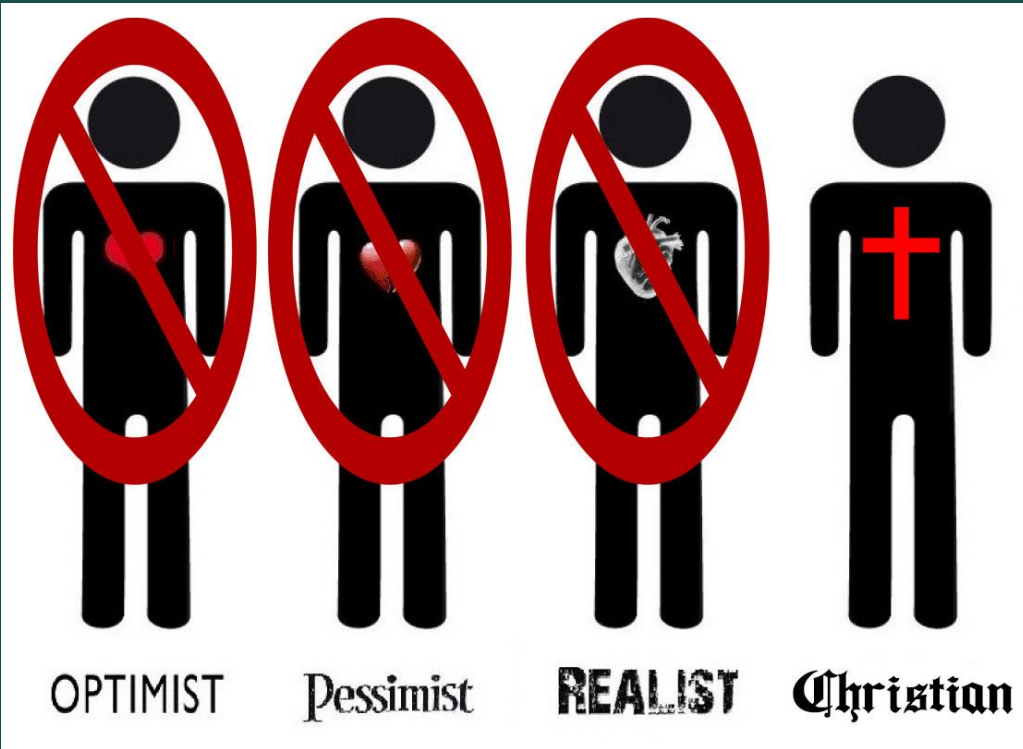


It is not about being
an optimist,
a pessimist,
or a realist.



It is not about being an optimist, a pessimist, or a realist.

It is about having faith in “the invisible God” and in things unseen.



It is not about being an optimist, a pessimist, or a realist.

It is about having faith in “the invisible God” and in things unseen.

It is about having your eyes opened by God.



Psalm 119:18:
Open thou mine eyes,
that I may behold wondrous
things out of thy law.



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