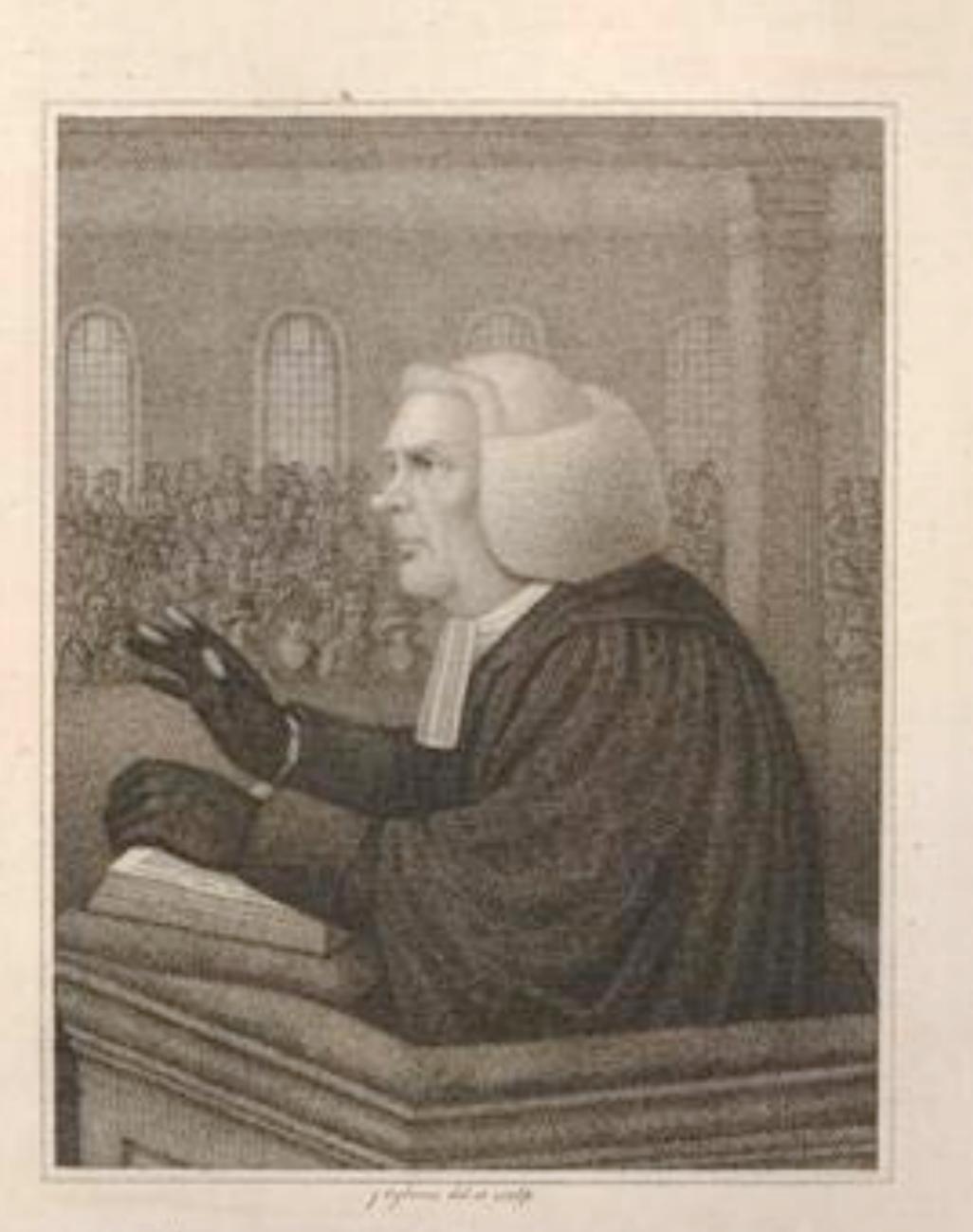


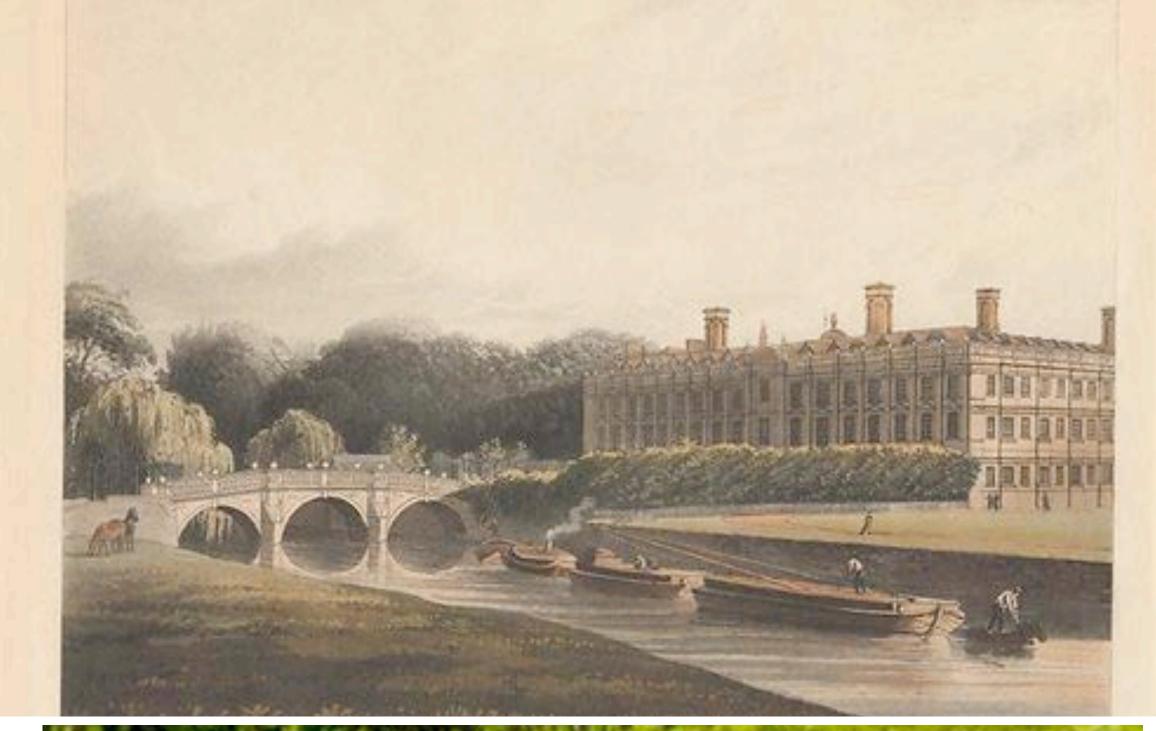


#### HOMEWORK

- ➤ The Three Questions:
  See @kendra\_graham
  official on Facebook
- > What Does it Say?
- > What Does it Mean?
- What Does it Mean to me?



REVIJOHN BERRIDGE AM Myde









### REVIEW

- ➤Jeremiah 4:1-2
- Northern tribes were more "Righteous" than Judah
- ➤"Righteous" The Act of doing the RIGHT thing
- ➤The Northern tribes wanted NOTHING to do with God and at least that was honest where Judah lived deceptive hypocritical lifestyles claiming to love God but not living it profession of faith without possession of faith
- ➤God's ask was have NO OTHER gods before Me Judah thought the ask was "obey mitzvot"
- The pure vine God planted was diseased with pride



#### BOLD DEFINITIONS

- ➤ PRIDE: A feeling of pleasure and celebration related to accomplishment- this can be labeled "Authentic Pride"
- ►HUBRIS: Hubristic Pride: Greek in Origen used to describe PRIDE and AMBITION that leads to ones downfall (Prov 6:18). An INFLATED sense of ones own innate abilities. Hubristic pride is tied to POWER, Position, Title and DOMINANCE more than being tied to actual accomplishment, connected to narcissism. HUBRIS NEEDS ATTENTION and ADMIRATION, they have contempt for others and lack empathy, a refusal to see their own errors but can see the error in others with ease, quick to blame, deny and defend rather than be accountable, MOTIVATED by SHAME based FEAR. This EXTREME ARROGANCE is NOT tied to Accomplishment, RELATIONSHIP is hard if not impossible, facade

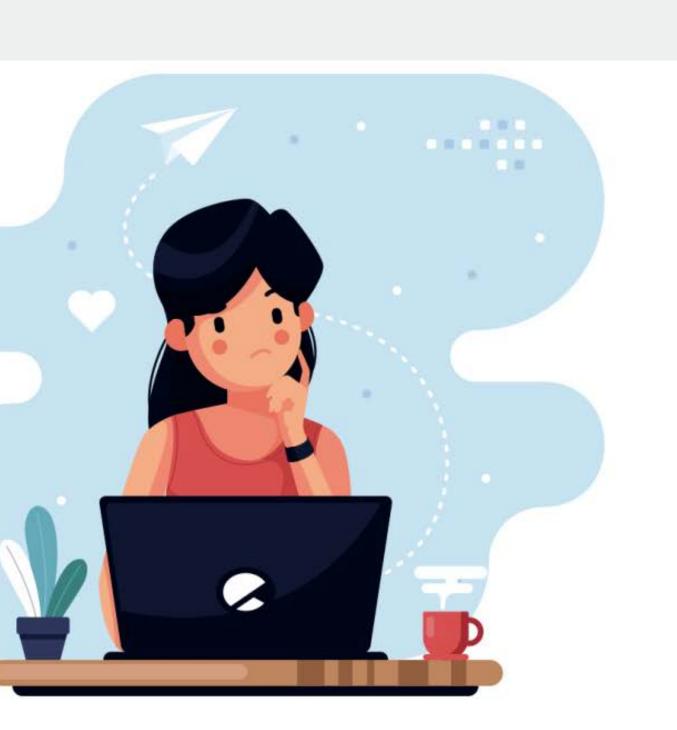


NOUN

WILLINGNESS TO STAY TEACHABLE, REGARDLESS OF HOW MUCH WE ALREADY KNOW

#### BOLD DEFINITIONS

- ➤ Humility: Latin origen from *HUMILITAS* meaning groundedness
- ➤ Quieter than Hubris
- ➤ According to over 200,000 cases studies,
  HUMILITY scores MORE POWERFUL than
  hubris! The only thing that can unseat
  PRIDE is AUTHENTIC HUMILITY
- ► Humility is often FALSELY categorized as WEAK
- ➤HUMILITY is NOT downplaying your accomplishments, it is NOT allowing people to ABUSE you
- ➤HUMILITY IS understanding your contributions in context



# Intellectual Humility

#### **BOLD DEFINITION**

- ➤Intellectual Humility is the ability to LISTEN to other Points of View (denominationally, theologically, traditionally, culturally), EXAMINE them, consider other Points of View, and HOLD ON to them IF THERE IS TRUTH, to LET GO if there is NOT TRUTH
- ➤ Someone with intellectual humility IS SOMEONE WHO BELIEVES VERY STRONGLY and has confidence because many sides of an issue have been considered and thought about
- Intellectual Humility is MORE CONCERNED with getting it right more than being right
- ➤ Intellectual Humility is open to learning, relearning or even unlearning if a belief is proven false. "I am here to get it right, not be right"



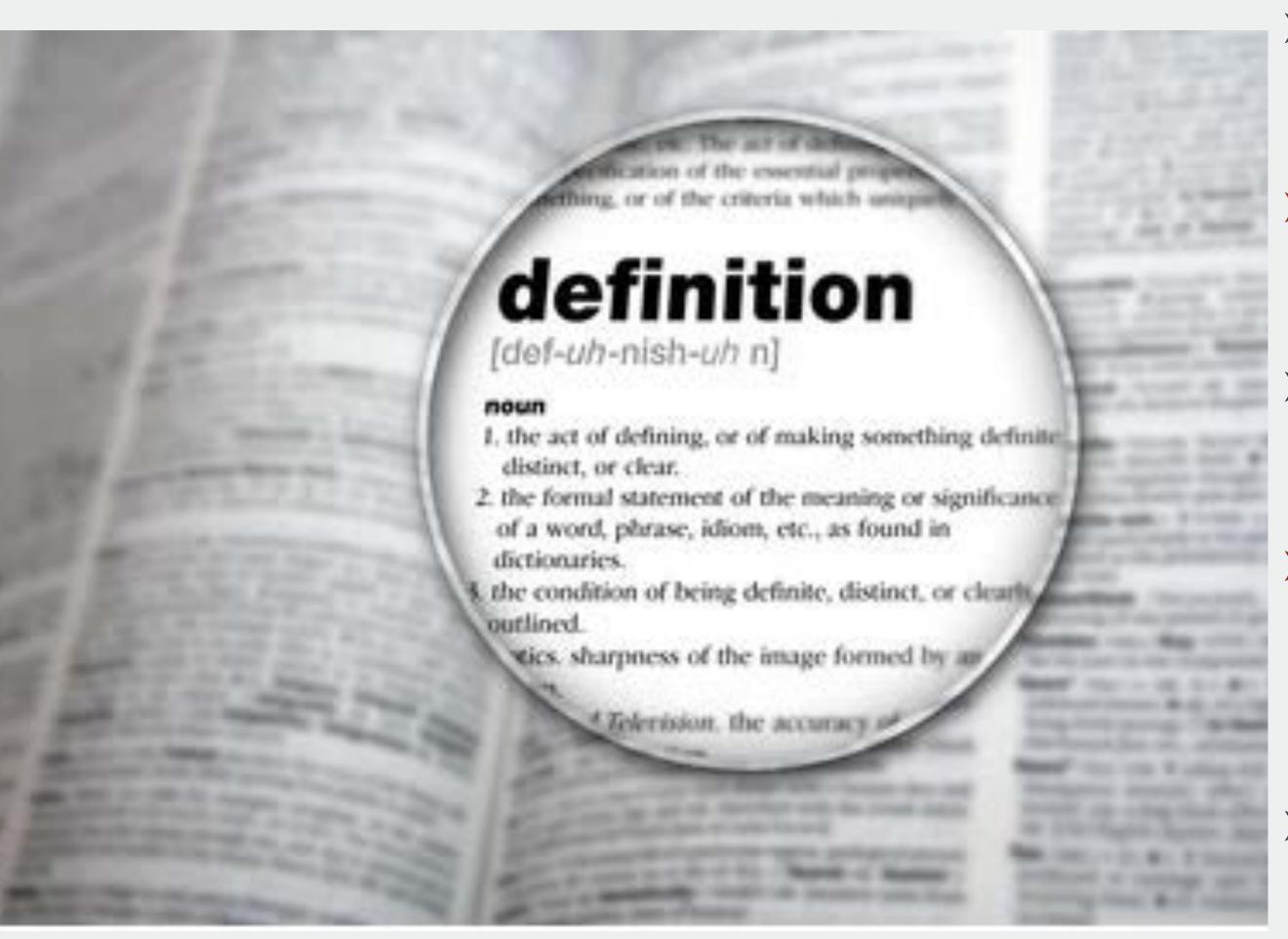
#### **BOLD HUMILITY**

- Authentic pride can be good for us... it keeps us from the extreme of self pity, which is pride with different clothes
- ►HUBRISTIC PRIDE- can be very dangerous
- ➤ Authentic Humility is VERY HARD and takes a lot of courage to embrace
- ➤ Authentic Humility keeps us growing in relationship with each other and God with the ability to be held accountable and being accountable to not ALWAYS being the RIGHT one in the room
- ➤ Humility give us the ability to Repent and Repair when Relationship is RUPTURED purposefully or accidentally because of harm we committed

# CAN YOU HEAR ME?!

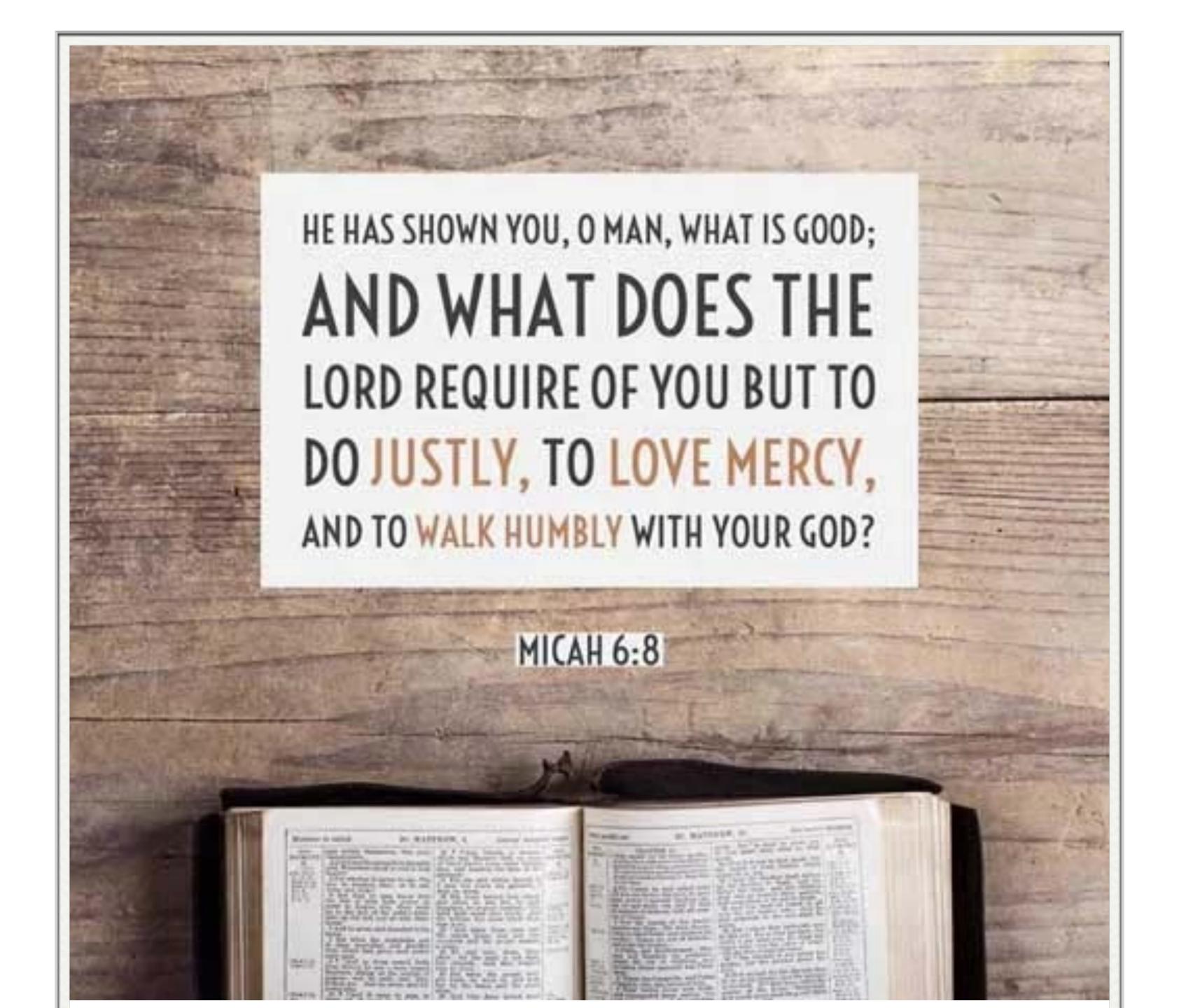
#### **BOLD HUMILITY**

- ➤to be clear: This week the question is, CAN WE HUMBLE? Embrace Authentic humility?
- ➤ Can we hear what God is saying?
- ➤ Can we let go of all the GOOD we THOUGHT was SO RIGHT and see the heart of God and reflect that? Maybe we already are...
- ►Israel was being asked to repent of their wickedness which was found in IDOLATRY
- ➤ Judah was being asked to repent of all their goodness which was found in IDOLATRY.
- ➤ Can we hear God's BOLD REQUEST TO HUMBLE in Justice, Righteousness and Truth



#### BOLD DEFINITIONS

- Truth: An ACTUAL state of a matter, Reality of it in all reality
- ➤ Righteousness: The quality of being righteous
- ➤ Righteous: Uprightness, *ABSOLUTELY MORAL*, The act of doing the right thing
- ➤ Justice: The quality of being fair, right and just...treating justly, fairly and RIGHTLY
- ➤ These above are all characteristics of God and descriptors. HE IS RIGHT, JUST, TRUE





#### BOLD INVITATION

- ➤ Will the NORTH HEAR? Vs 1-2
- >SHEMA ISRAEL!
- ➤ IT IS NOT TOO LATE!

  COME BACK! T'SHUVAH

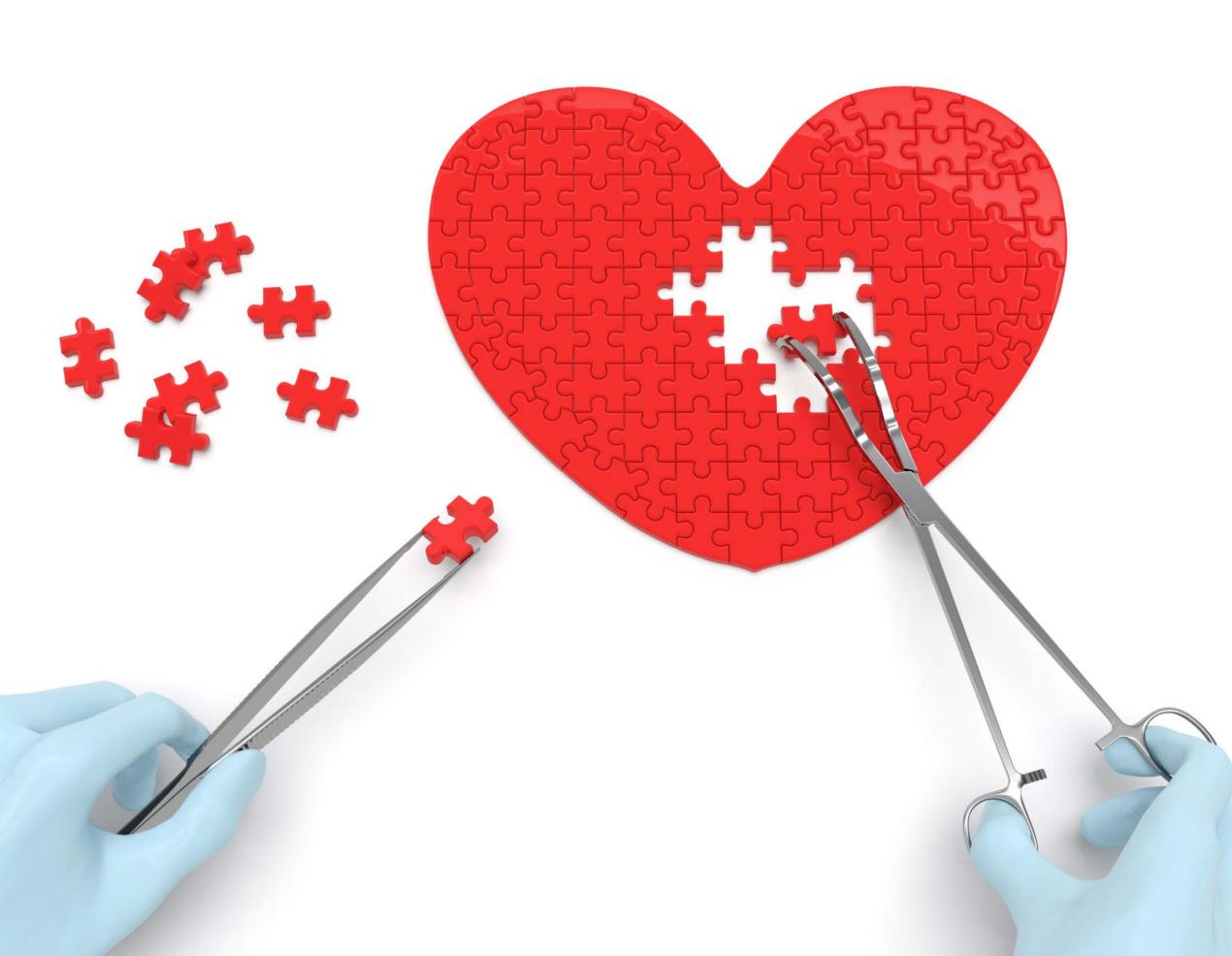
  (turn back, come back,
  realize you are not close)
- NO RECORDED respondents





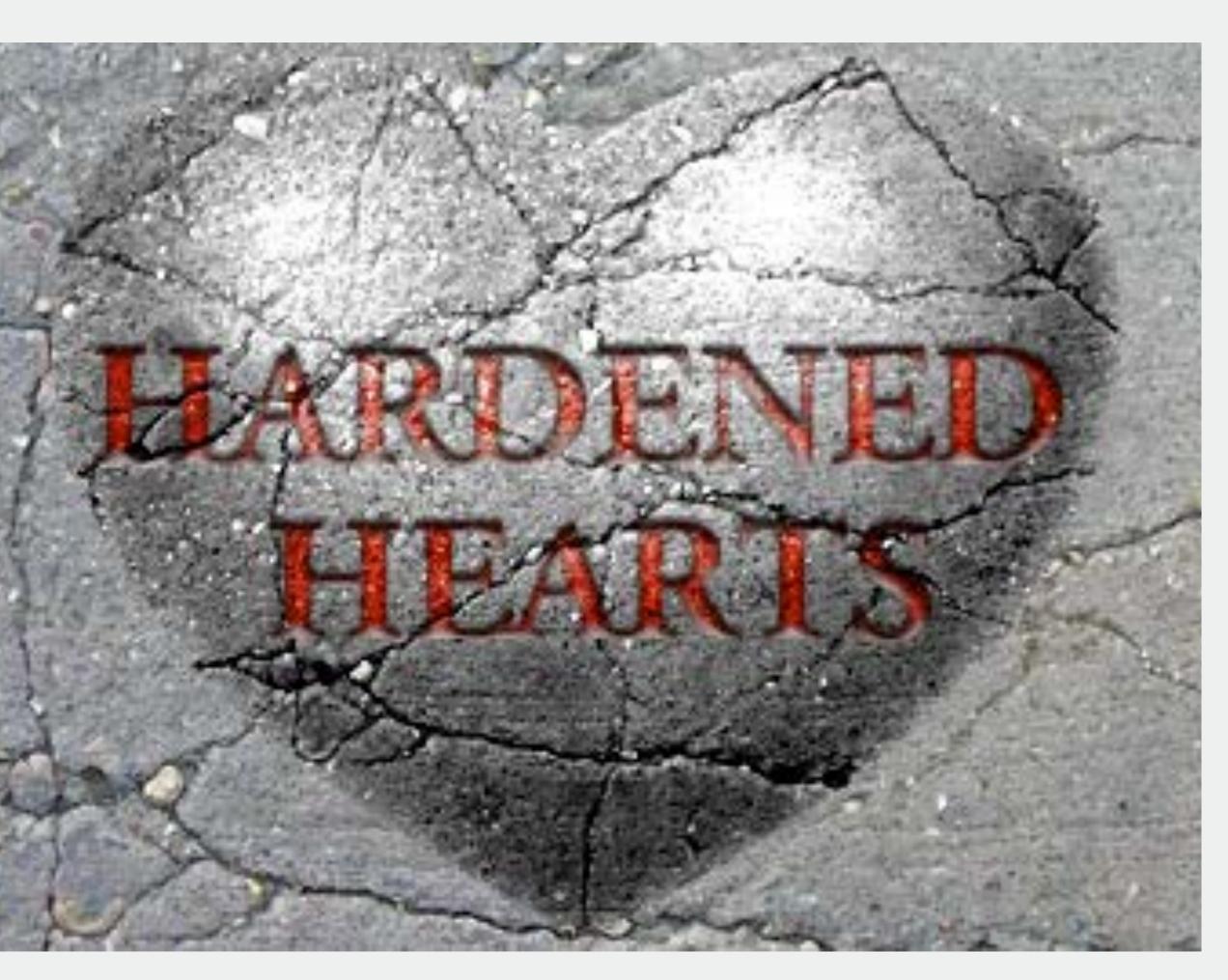
- ➤ Verses 3-4
- ➤Break up unsown ground
- ➤Pull the weeds and briars up
- ➤ Everything MUST be softened
- ➤CIRCUMCISE your HEART Deut 10, 30, Lev 26, Jere 9, Ezek 33, Isa 29, Rom 2, I Cor 7, Gal 5
- ➤ MESSAGE is to Judah who thought their heart was right
- ➤INWARD vs OUTWARD
- ➤ Blood covenants of Circumcision and the Cross

#### BOLD CIRCUMCISION



- ➤ This will require RELATIONSHIP which requires vulnerability
- ➤ Cultivated relationships depend on honesty and authenticity.
- ➤ Jewish people, the natural firstborn has a responsibility here to be circumcised BOTH physically and spiritually as a sign
- ➤ THE HEART circumcision is asked of Gentiles and physical circumcision is not asked of Gentiles

#### HARDENED HEARTS



- ➤ Hardening occurs the longer we are out of relationship whether with God or a person, it's a natural consequence
- The attitude can be to still profess a faith, profess a relationship, but if they could be honest, it's a relationship in pretense only
- ➤It has never been about behavior modification, it's always about heart transformation
- ➤ Repentance is from the inside of the bowl to the outside.
- ➤Perhaps we want to share His name, but live a separate life

#### **BOLD WARNING**





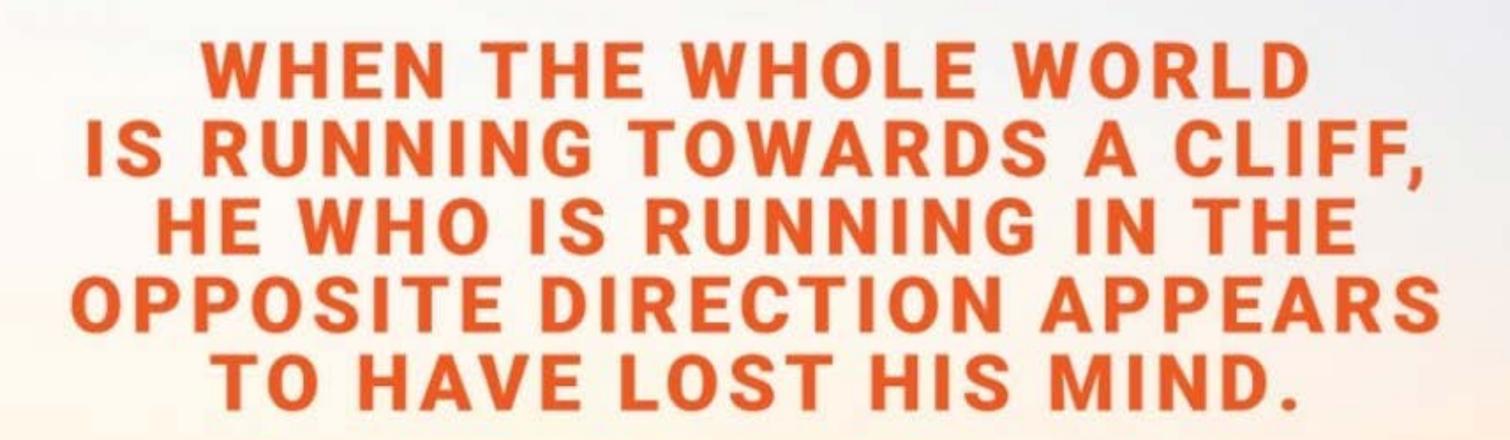








- ➤ Verses 5-7
- >HUBRISTIC PRIDE goes before a FALL!
- The enemy has a focused battle plan: STEAL, KILL, DESTROY
- ➤ Babylon is **COMING** and you think, eh, we will be fine, God won't let us down! We have contracted Him for such a time as this!
- There WILL BE DESTRUCTION,
  IT WILL BE DEVASTATING



C.S. Lewis





# BOLD DISASTER

- ➤ Verse 6-7
- ➤ DISASTER: Seber Gadol:
  - ➤Utter, complete
  - ➤ Like a complete bone fracture
  - ➤Shattered Pottery, impossibility of fixing
- ➤ IS the WILD branch seeing this? Hearing what God is saying? Will the wild branch get a pass because they are wild? Will God discipline all His children for idolatry?
- ➤ Repentance is needed when we have harmed the heart of God.
- ➤ Humility is the ask, fear of God to return to His people



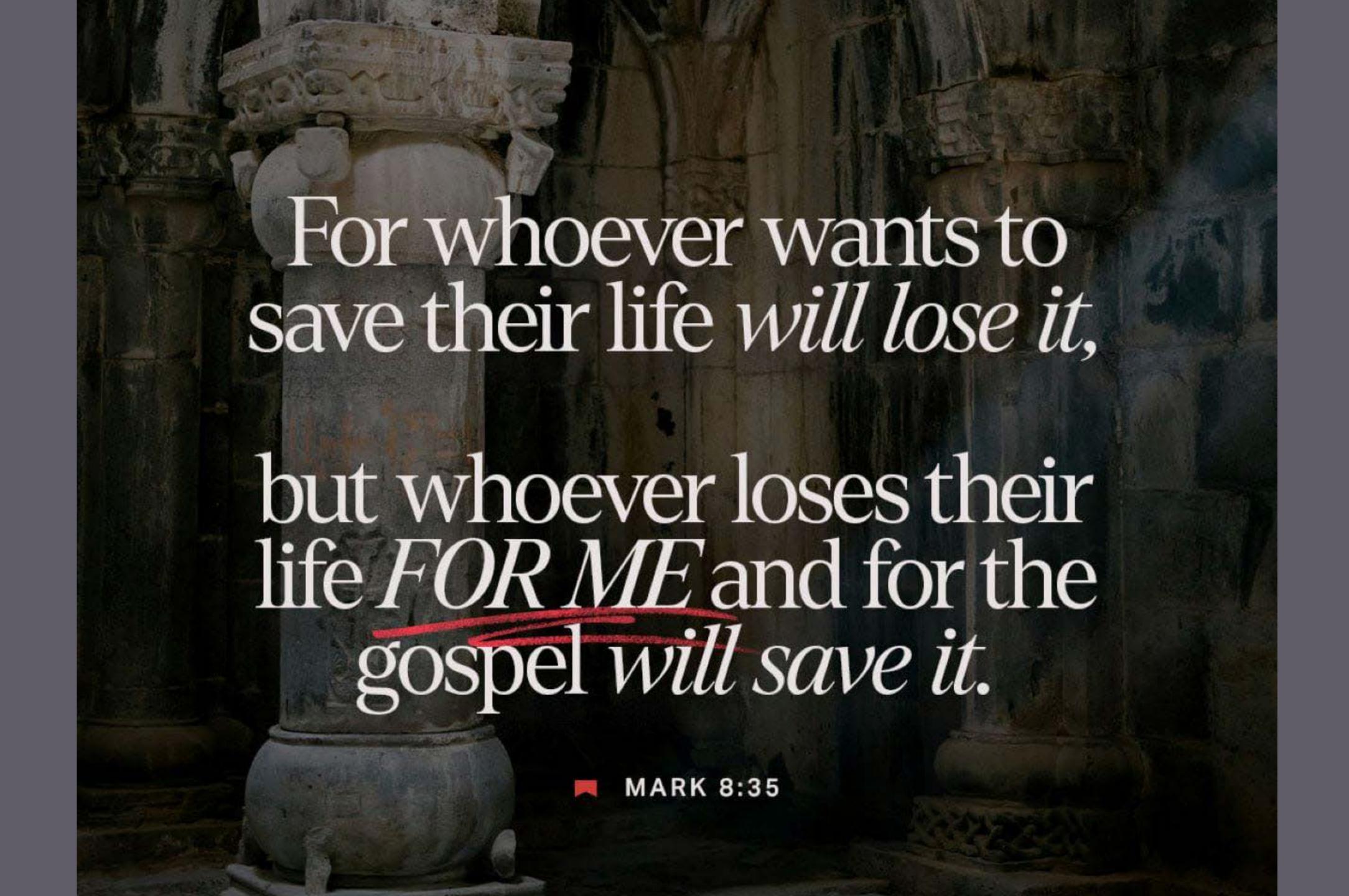
## BOLD EXPOSURE...

- ➤ Verse 8
- ➤ What is Judah to do? Exactly to stay this execution? What does humility ACTUALLY look like?
  - ➤ Raise a military?
  - ➤ Befriend a politician/make pact with another country like Egypt or Ashur?
  - ➤ Maybe strong social media posts?
  - ► Have swords at the ready like Nehemiah?
  - >FEARLESSLY MAKE A STAND!?
- ➤NOPE... the ASK is to LAMENT and PUT ON SACKCLOTH
- >TRULY THE DUMBEST STUPIDEST IDEA EVER INVENTED ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH
- ➤SOOOO just lay down and lose our country?

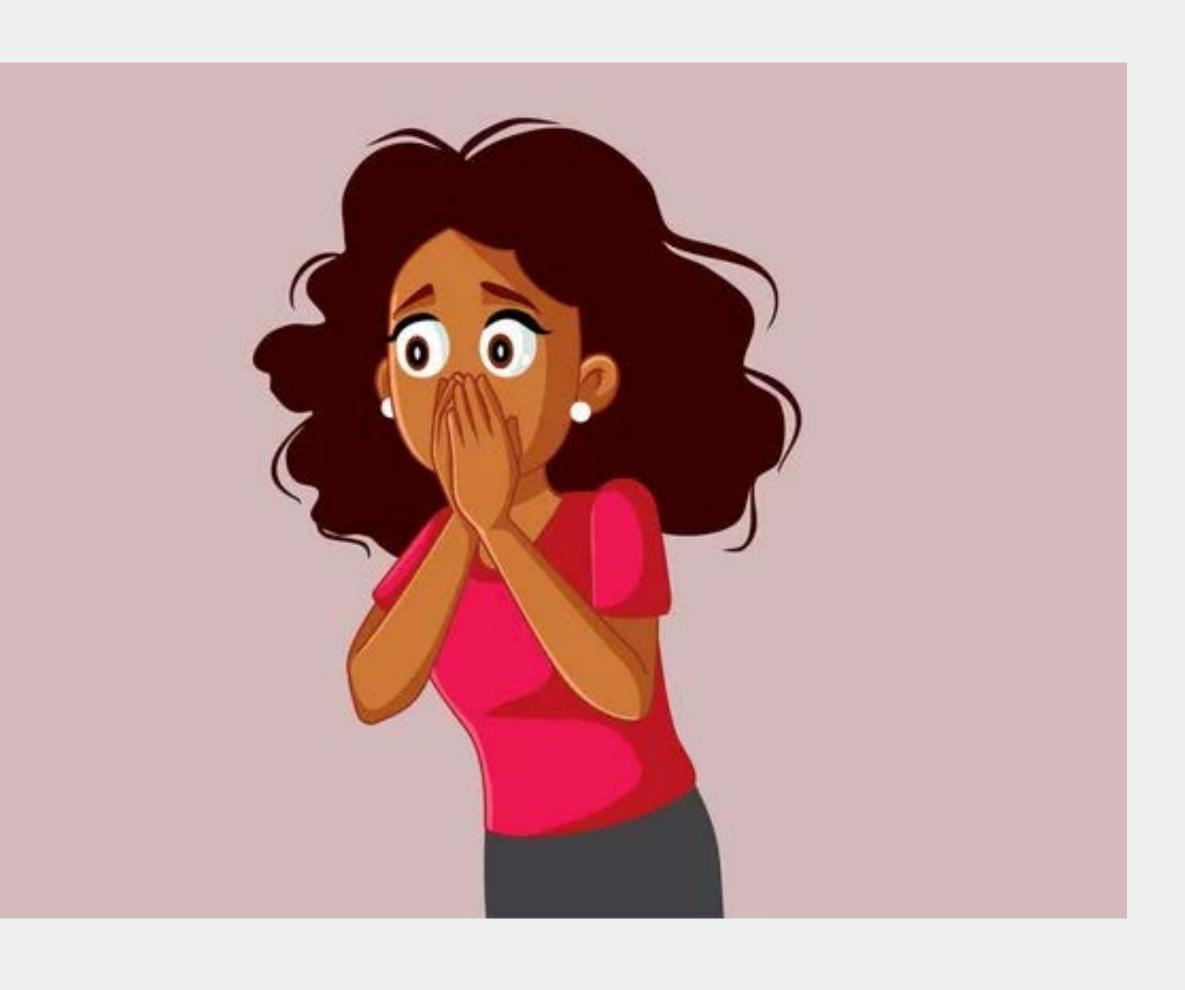


#### BOLD FACTS

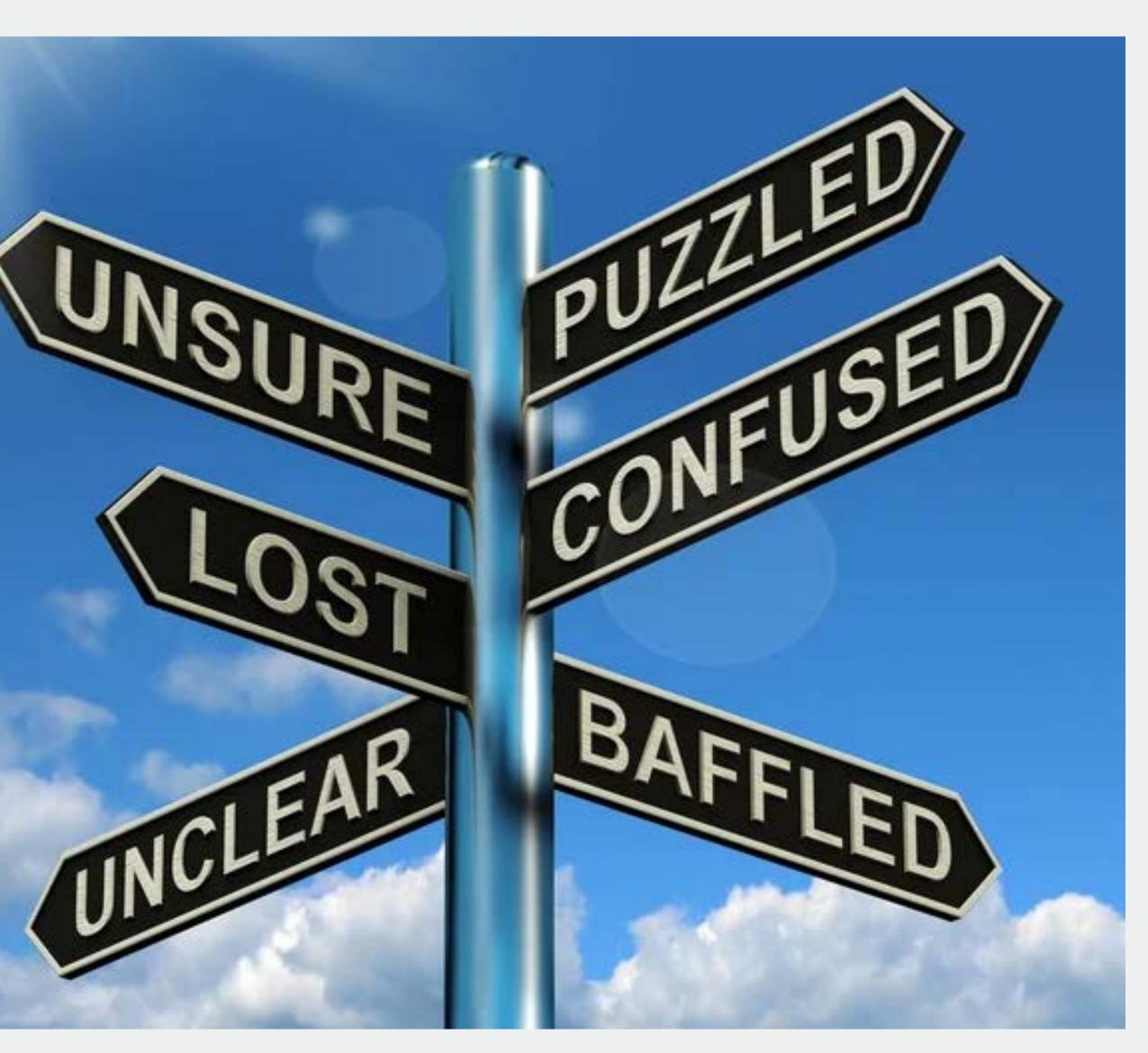
- ➤ Most Biblical military plans given by God are not really embraced by the military of any era.... If we can be honest. Jericho? Gideon? Assyria?
- ➤WE have faith for JUDAH that God is not lying here, but we do NOT have faith for US
- ➤ What is easier or more heroic? Fighting to the death on the front lines, or Psalm 51(ing) the abuse that has been going on in the church?
- ➤ Embracing Humility and lamenting for the harm to the heart of God? Embracing vulnerability?
- ➤ Definition of VULNERABILITY: the FEELING of uncertainty, risk, exposure WITHOUT defensive armor.
- The ONLY thing that unseats hubristic pride is AUTHENTIC HUMILITY... nope don't like it



# BOLD CONFUSION



- ➤ (9) The King and princes hearts fail
- ➤Priests, religious leaders, pastors, teachers, Bible study teachers will be appalled (Stunned, ravaged, horrified)
- ➤ Judah's prophets will be stupefied (dumbfounded, shock and awe to the point of utter confusion)
- ➤ These leaders, political and spiritual TRULY really 100% BELIEVED there was no way they could be wrong. It's the feeling like, "We believed a lie?" Their theology and doctrine were so ON POINT, their HEARTS WERE NOT. THE HEART ACTUALLY MATTERS



#### BOLD PROTEST

- ➤Verse 10
- ➤ HONESTY in relationship
- ➤God have you deceived (NaSHa)mentally deluded
- ➤You allowed them to believe "The LORD will provide PEACE"
- ➤God Does not deceive, but gives us over to our hearts, there was a delusion at play, since God saved them from Assyria, He will do it again. We embrace a deception over a relationship, if the prophets and priest had relationship they would know
- ➤ In the future there will be a STRONG DELUSION (2 Thess 2:11)



#### BOLD FIRE

- ➤ Verse 11-12
- ➤ At that Time...none will escape
- ➤ Scorching WIND (Ruach- wind) Ruach HaKodesh - Holy Spirit
- ➤The breath of the HOLY like FIRE

  UNRESTRAINED NOT bringing refreshment
  but devastation
- ➤ Wind originating on "Those hills"
- ➤God is not cleaning house, He's burning it down (12) Sentencing
- ➤TREATING THEM RIGHTLY, it is His character to do so
- ►HE LOVES us ENOUGH to look "There" and expose



#### BOLD FIRE

- ➤ Vs 13
- ➤ Comes in the clouds like a whirlwind!
- ►WOE to us in the presence a HOLY GOD.
- The people were mistaken that He was present in HIs house, now when His presence comes, He is unmistakeable.
- ➤14-17 In the MIDST of sentencing, there is still mercy to repent, to be clean and delivered
- ➤SEE HEAR PERCEIVE and UNDERSTAND how you have harmed the heart of God!
- ➤ Remember the difference between "religious repentance" and godly sorrow that leads to "godly repentance"
- ➤ Jerusalem is SURROUNDED yet they hold to their goodness, Peace Peace! Their pretense is FULLY BELIEVED as TRUE



#### WHAT? THIS IS NOT ON US, RIGHT?

- ➤ 18: Who is to blame here?
- Stupified, our own actions? But they have been so good, so right! We believed the promises 100%
- ➤ Judah holds to their "NOT GUILTY" plea.
- ➤They will reap what they sow, but they DON'T have to! Just humble! **HUMBLE is hard**, if not impossible if you are this far in
- Their towers will fall in spite of reinforcement, their political allies will turn on them and burn them, their political pacts will crumble
- THERE will be no stay of execution, unless sackcloth is donned.
- The decision is made.... We will fight... lest we lose this country and land

#### BOLD LAMENT



- ➤ Verses 19-22: Invitation to anguish again... this time with Jeremiah
- ➤ Lament reflects the heart of God, relationship is seen in joining God
- > Sitting in the dark
- MY GUTS! Central place for feeling in Jewish culture



#### **BOLD LAMENT**

- ➤ A prophet invites us to humble, to face the truth even when the delusion makes more sense
- ➤ Delusion enables us to build our own narrative, and denial is not just ignoring a truth but RECONSTRUCTION of a truth that is more palliative because if we really understood and saw the reality Jeremiah is describing here, it would absolutely crush us
- ➤ A Prophet invites us to enter the truth of our own sin of idolatry (worshipping doctrine, tradition, denomination) we elevate our knowledge to divine status
- A prophet does not have the luxury to embrace anything else but the true reality of the situation and sits between the people and God and laments on behalf of the people who need the delusion to be true



#### **BOLD LAMENT**

- ➤ Can we lament alongside of Jeremiah here? Because we too are blind, bound, deaf to the love affair we have with idolatry and delusion.
- ➤ Can we admit that idolatry has given us more joy, love, peace and security than relationship?
- ➤ Embracing lament is grieving the harm that we cannot fix or undo or clean WHILE embracing the hope that at the end there is RESTORATION, REDEMPTION and Healing.
- ➤ Jeremiah is seeing the near future (20) years or so down the road, he will be called a liar, a destroyer
- ➤ Judah would rather Babylon tear those towers from their hands, than walk away in humility & sackcloth
- ➤THE prophet stands in the MIDDLE between denial, delusion & devastation. The Prophet hated, unwanted, abused and rejected.

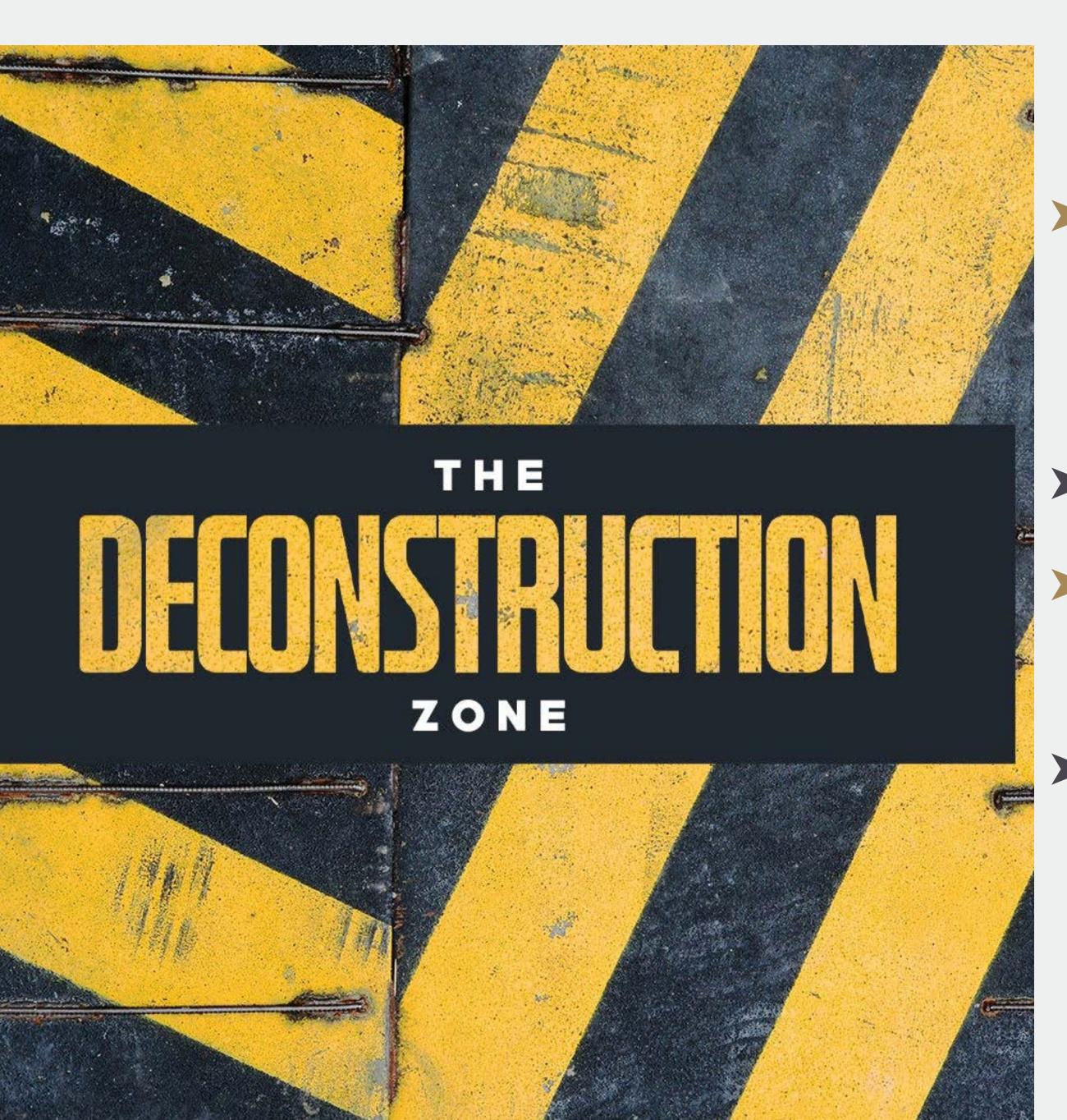


- ➤ 21- Make the sirens stop
- ➤ Judah is being asked to individually and corporately lament, stop turning a blind eye to the wickedness
- ➤ Jeremiah weeps for those who should be weeping but refuse in their hubris.
- ➤It seems as if Jeremiah knows the heart of God and feels the heart of God, reflects the heart of God and it matters to him. Does the heart of God matter that deeply to us? Could God be calling us to lament individually and/or corporately?
- ➤ We do NOT lament well if at all, it's easier to just not worry and be happy.



#### **BOLD TRUTH**

- ➤ 22 God says His people DO NOT KNOW HIM or care about Him
- ➤ Judah is so deluded, thinking they are so wise, they have zero intellectual humility, because they are so "right" and so "good"
- SO FOUND they refuse to be lost



#### BOLD DECONSTRUCTION

- ➤23-28 Jeremiah courageously looks at what God is showing him, eyes to see ears to hear
- > Reversal of creation narrative
- ➤ Humility in the presence of God is the order of the day
- ➤God will not change His mind, can anything change the mind of God? YES! REPENTANCE, sackcloth ... seems we keep coming to that



#### BOLD RESPONSE

- ➤ Verses 29-31
- ➤In spite of God's offer to repent, Judah decided to try to hide where there was no sanctuary (rocks are not even stable)
- ➤ Judah ended up having to leave it all anyway... being forced out by an enemy that had no love or care for them at all, Baal was no where to be found in the day
- ➤ Vs 30 Let's make a deal... instead of sackcloth, have you seen me in scarlet? I look amazing....
- ➤The enemy will NOT be appeased with deals or negotiations he has come to steal, kill and destroy

#### **BOLD REFUSAL TO HUMBLE**



- ➤It was NEVER Nebuchadnezzar they were fighting.
- ➤ Judah chose to fight to the death instead of embracing vulnerability in the presence of a loving God. (31) is the definition of vulnerable
- ➤ Vulnerability: The feeling of RISK, UNCERTAINTY, EXPOSURE without the armor of defense. Judah was so afraid to LOSE all they had, but they lost it all in the end anyway, and more than their towers
- ➤ Putting on sackcloth is the courageous thing not the weak thing to do. Can the church do this? Or is it too late for us as well?

Here lay the earthly Remains of JOHN BERRIDGE late Vicor of Euerion and an itinerant Servant of JESUS CHRIST who loved his Master and his Work and after running on his Errands many Years was called up to wait on him above Reader art thou bern again. No Salvation without a new Birth . I was born in Sin Feb. 1716 Remained ignorant of my fallen State till 1750 Lived proudly on Faith & Works for Salvation till 1754 Admitted to Everton Vicarage 1755 Fled to JESUS alone for Refuge 1756 Fell asleep in Chrill Jan 22d 1795

John Berridge, Vicar of Everton



# HOMEWORK:

**ANY VERSES** 

JEREMIAH 5