

“SUFFERING FOR THE SAVIOR: A SIGN”

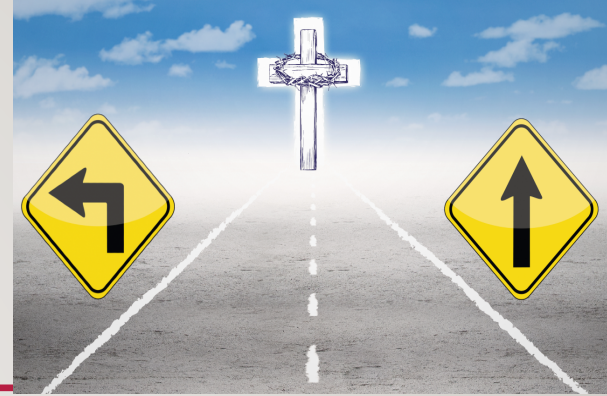
PHILIPPIANS 1:28-30 BIBLE STUDY

DANNY SCOTTON, JR.

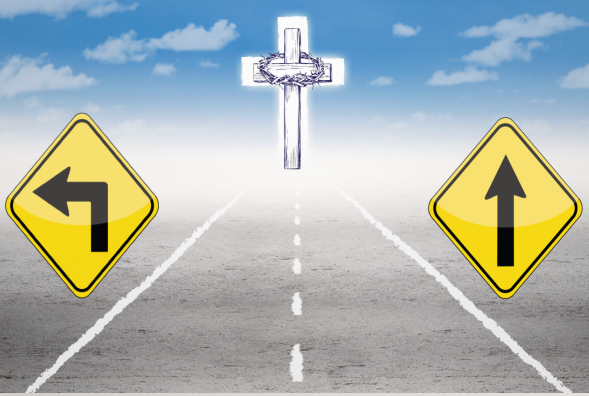




CONTEXT



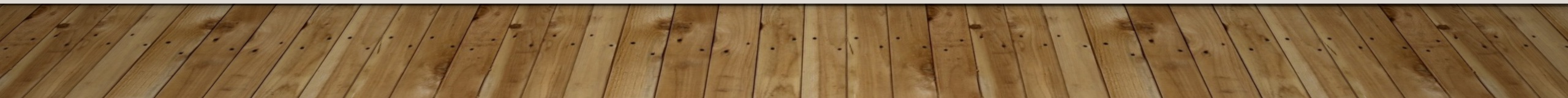
- Only, conduct yourselves as citizens [of Heaven] in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ, so that – whether coming and seeing you or whether being absent – I may hear about you that you stand firm in one spirit, in one mind, contending side by side for the faith of the Gospel (Php 1:27, AT)

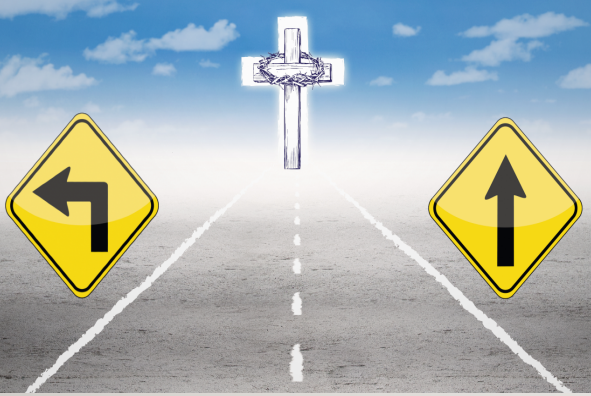


SUFFERING FOR THE SAVIOR: A SIGN



- and not being intimidated in anything by those who oppose, which is a sign of destruction to them, but of your salvation – and this is from God. (Php 1:28, AT)

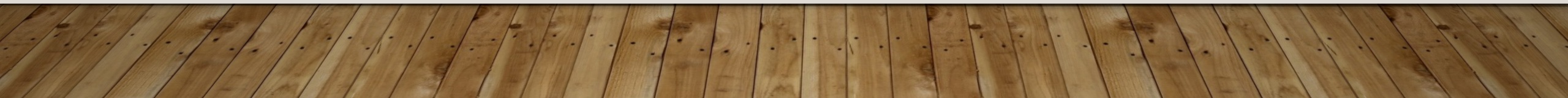


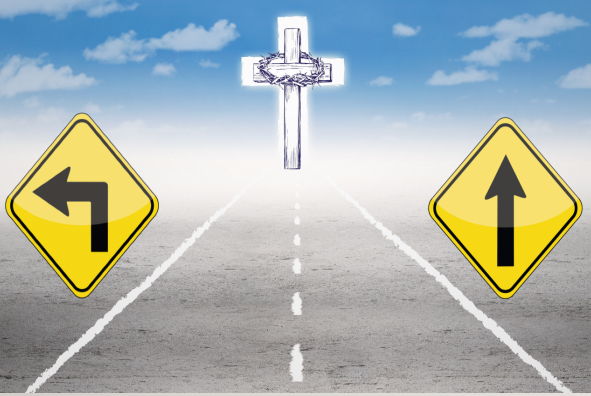


OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE = OPPOSING GOD



- 12 The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade. 13 No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. 14 Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. 15 As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. 16 Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed. (Ac 5:12-16, NIV)

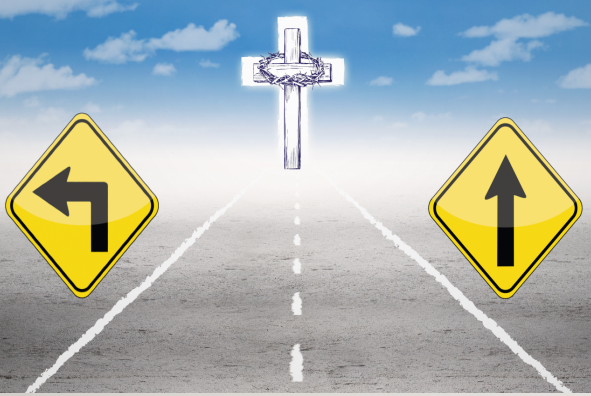




OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE = OPPOSING GOD



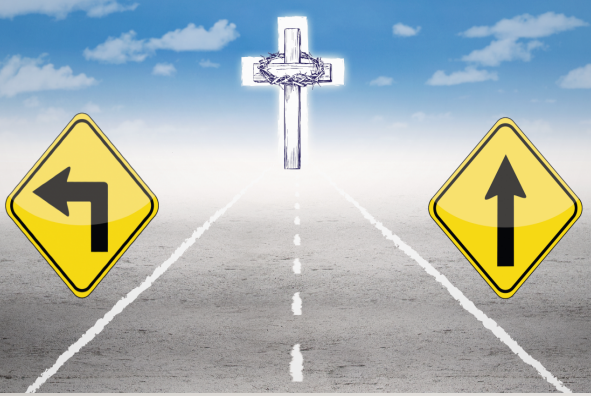
- 17 Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. 18 They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. (Ac 5:17-18, NIV)
- 19 But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. 20 “Go, stand in the temple courts,” he said, “and **tell the people all about this new life.**” 21 At daybreak **they entered the temple courts,** as they had been told, and **began to teach the people.** (Ac 5:19-21a, NIV)



OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE = OPPOSING GOD



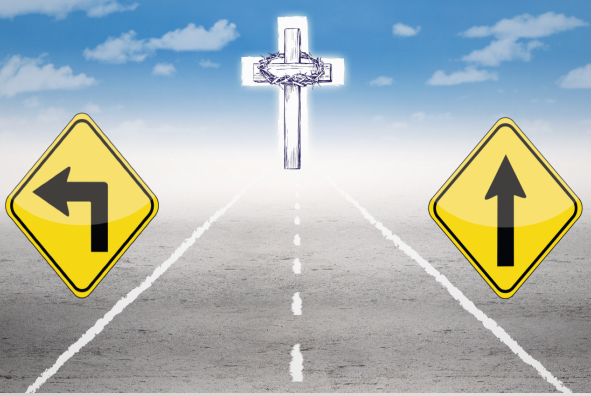
- 27 The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. 28 “We gave you **strict orders not to teach in this name,**” he said. “Yet you have **filled Jerusalem with your teaching** and are determined to make us guilty of this man’s blood.”
- 29 Peter and the other apostles replied: “We must obey God rather than human beings! (Ac 5:27-29, NIV)



OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE
= OPPOSING GOD



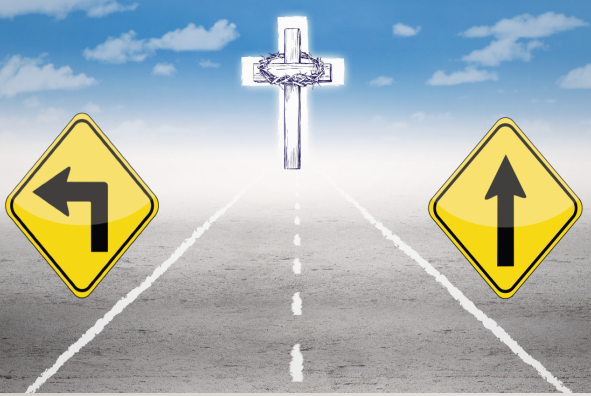
- 38 Therefore, in the present case I advise you: Leave these men alone! Let them go! For if their purpose or activity is of **human origin, it will fail.** 39 But if it is **from God**, you will not be able to stop these men; you will only find yourselves **fighting against God.**” (Ac 5:38-39, NIV)



OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE = OPPOSING GOD



- 40 His speech persuaded them. They called the apostles in and had them **flogged**. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.
- 41 The apostles left the Sanhedrin, **rejoicing** because they had been **counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name**. 42 Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah. (Ac 5:40-42, NIV)



OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE = OPPOSING GOD



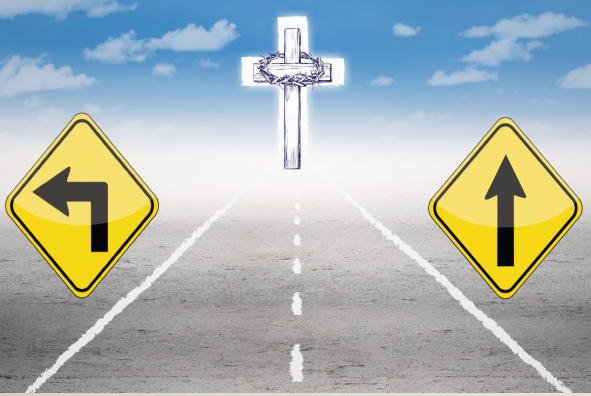
- 57 At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, 58 **dragged him out of the city** and began to **stone** him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named **Saul**.
- 59 While they were **stoning** him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” 60 Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.
- 8 And **Saul approved of their killing him.** (Ac 7:57-8:1a, NIV)



OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE
= OPPOSING GOD



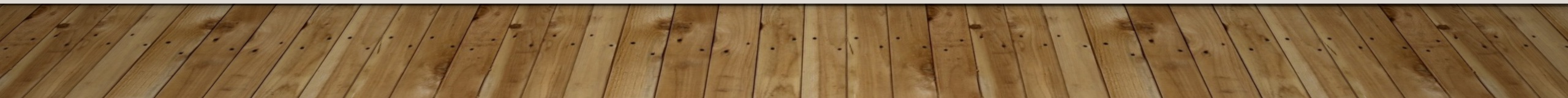
- 1b On that day a great **persecution** broke out **against the church in Jerusalem**, and all except the apostles were **scattered** throughout Judea and Samaria. 2 Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. 3 But **Saul began to destroy the church**. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison. (Ac 8:1b-3, NIV)

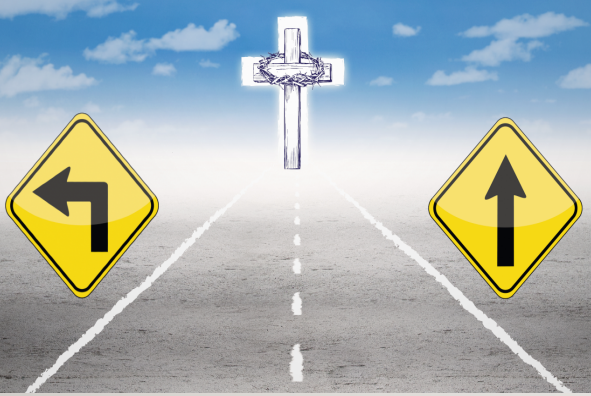


OPPOSING GOD'S PEOPLE = OPPOSING GOD



- 1 Meanwhile, Saul was still breathing out **murderous threats against the Lord's disciples**. He went to the high priest 2 and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus, so that if he found any there who belonged to the Way, whether men or women, he might **take them as prisoners** to Jerusalem. 3 As he neared Damascus on his journey, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. 4 He fell to the ground and heard a voice say to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you **persecute me?**"
- 5 "Who are you, Lord?" Saul asked.
- "I am **Jesus, whom you are persecuting,**" he replied. 6 "Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do." (Ac 9:1-6, NIV)

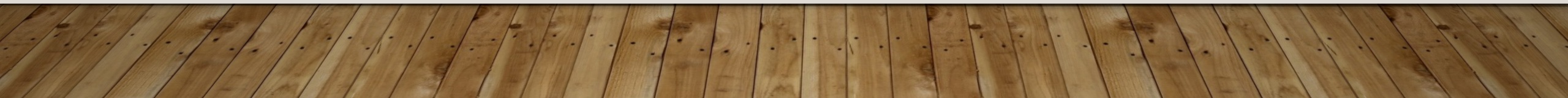


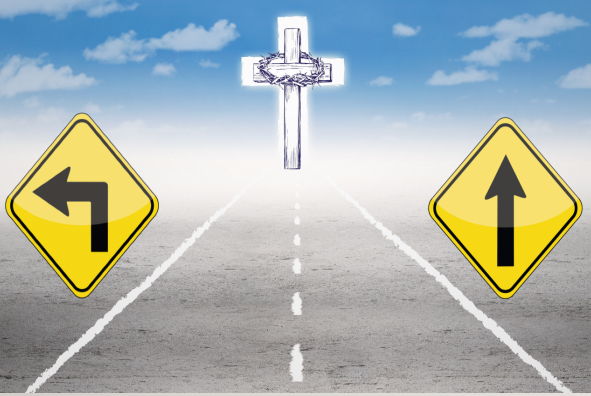


EVERLASTING DESTRUCTION



- 4 Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the **persecutions** and **trials** you are **enduring**. 5 All this is **evidence** [*endeigma*] that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be **counted worthy** of the kingdom of God, **for which you are suffering**. 6 God is just: **He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you** 7 and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. 8 He will **punish** those who do **not know God** and do **not obey the gospel** of our Lord Jesus.
- 9 They will be punished with **everlasting destruction** and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might 10 on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you. (2 Th 1:4-10, NIV)

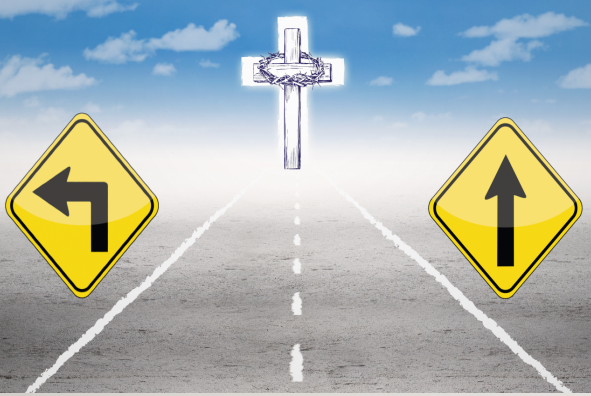




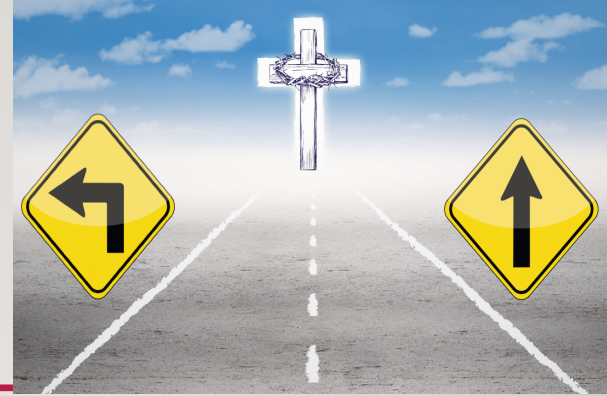
EVERLASTING DESTRUCTION



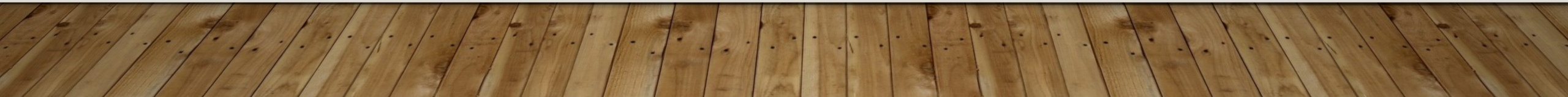
- If anyone destroys God's temple, **God will destroy that person**; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple. (1 Cor 3:17, NIV)

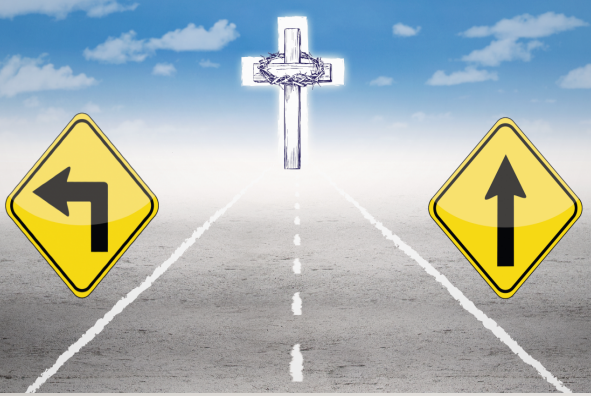


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: A PRIVILEGE



- For it has been graciously granted to you, for the sake of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for Him. (Php 1:29, AT)

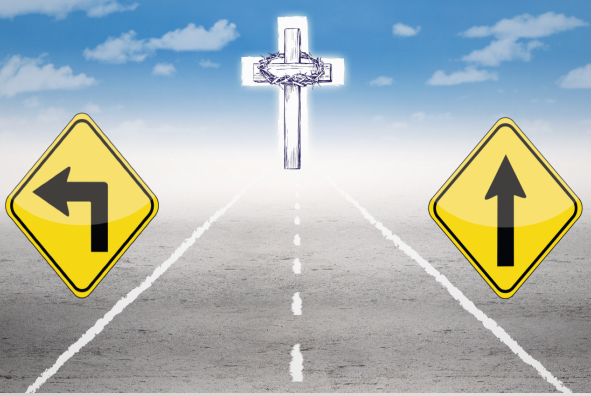




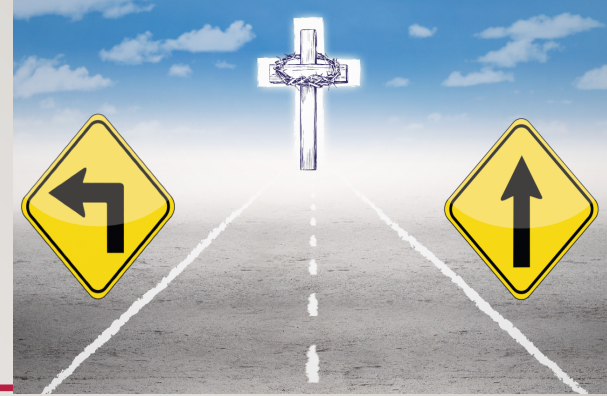
SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CHRIST-LIKE



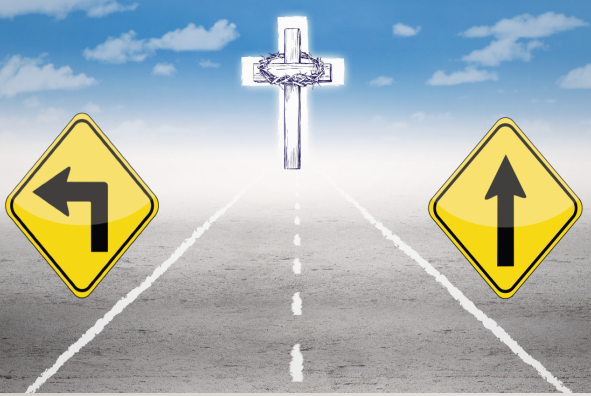
- I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and **participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death** (Php 3:10, NIV)
- 18 “If the world hates you, keep in mind that **it hated me first**. 19 If you belonged to the world, **it would love you as its own**. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you. 20 Remember what I told you: ‘**A servant is not greater than his master.**’ If they **persecuted me**, they will **persecute you also**. If they obeyed my teaching, they will obey yours also. (Jn 15:18-20, NIV)



SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CHRIST-LIKE



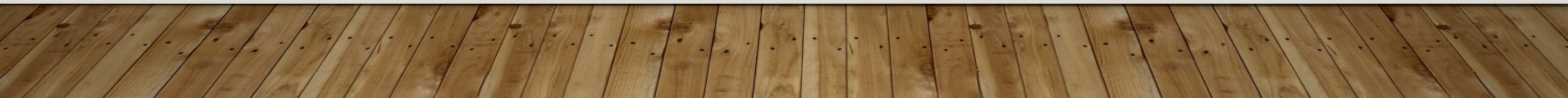
- 24 “A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; 25 it is enough for the disciple **to be like** the teacher, and the slave **like the master**. (Mt 10:24-25a, NRSV)



SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CONFIRMATION



- 3 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: “A farmer went out to sow his seed. 4 As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. 5 Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. 6 But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. 7 Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. 8 Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown (Mt 13:3-8, NIV)

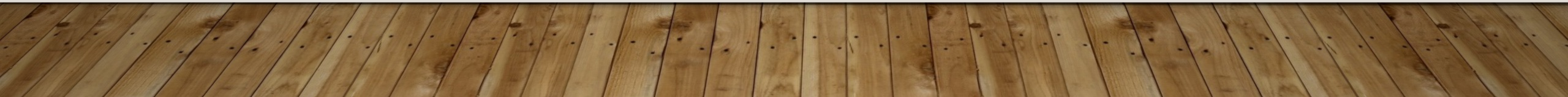


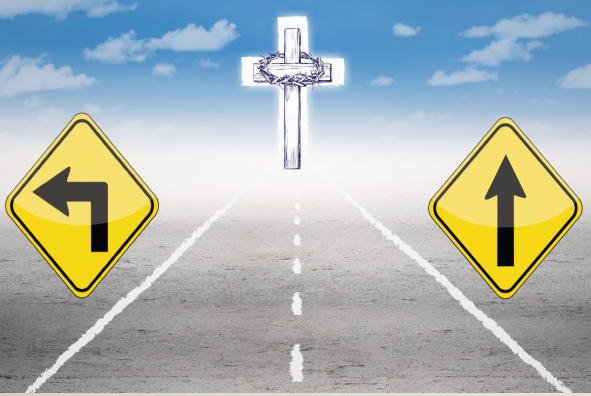


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CONFIRMATION

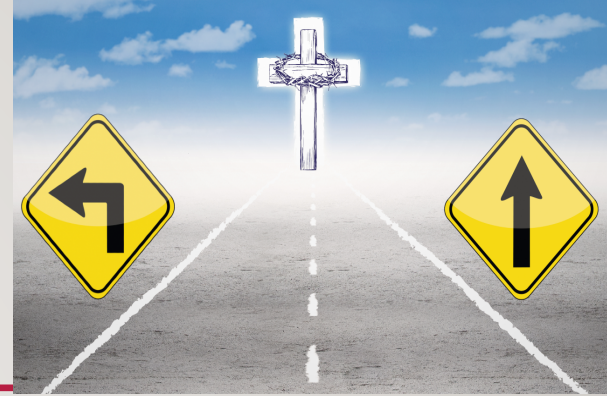


- 18 “Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19 When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. 20 The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21 But since **they have no root**, they last only a short time. When **trouble** or **persecution** comes **because of the word**, they **quickly fall away**. (Mt 13:18-21, NIV)

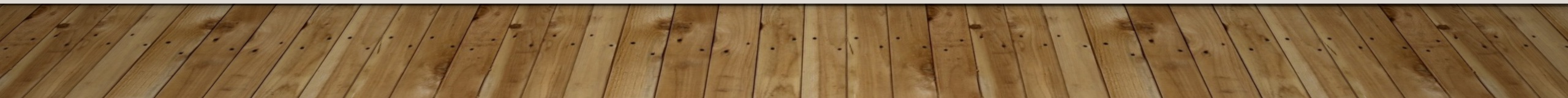


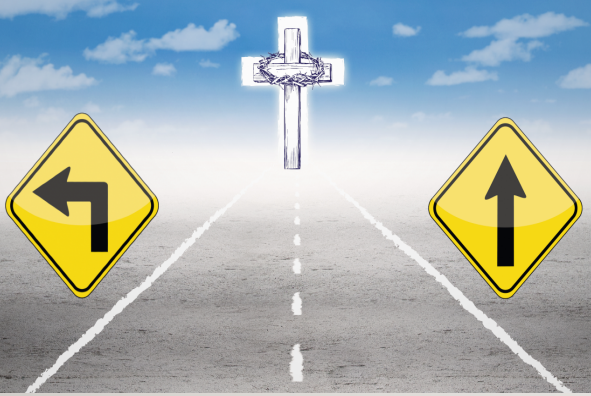


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CONFIRMATION

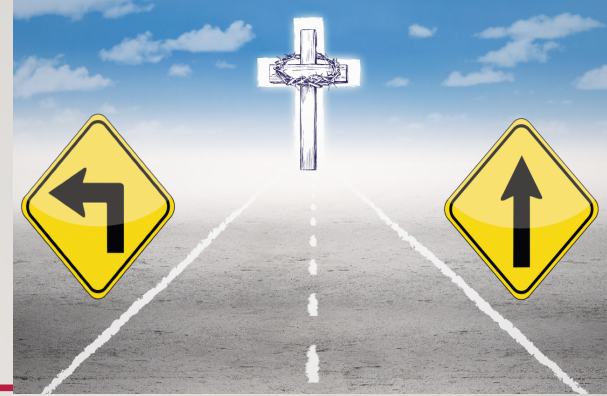


- 22 The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful. 23 But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown.” (Mt 13:22-23, NIV)



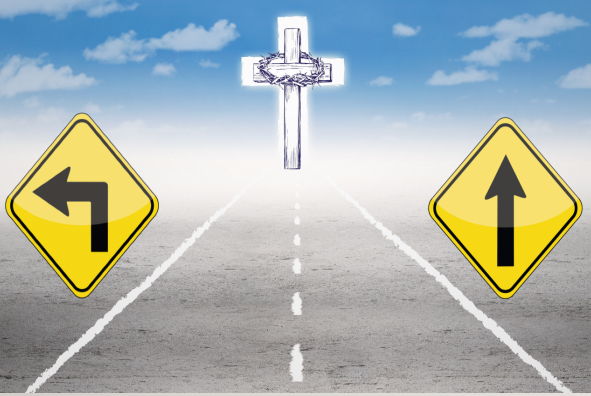


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CONFIRMATION

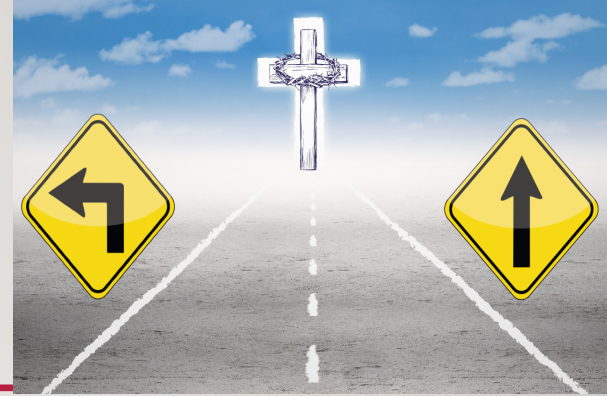


- Everyone will hate you **because of me**, but the one who **stands firm** to the end will be saved.
(Mk 13:13, NIV)

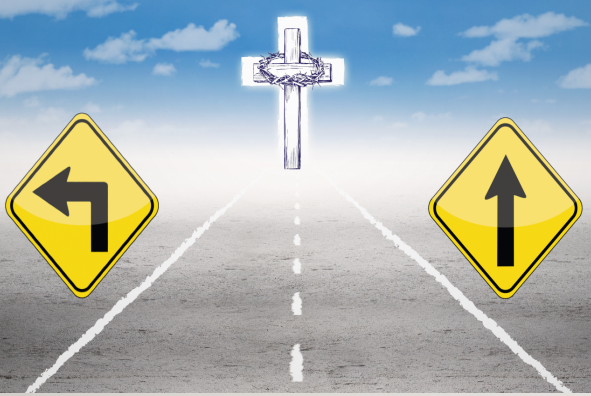




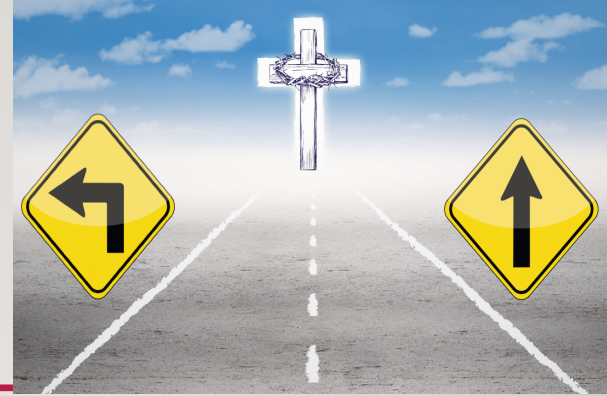
SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: PAUL'S PRIDE AND PRIVILEGE



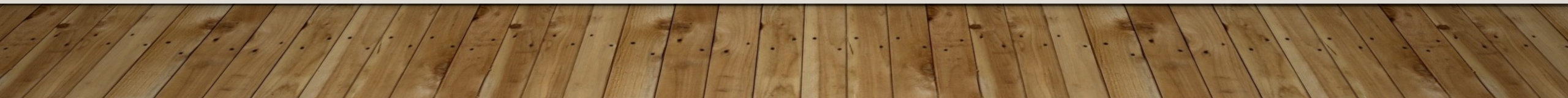
- 15 But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to proclaim my name to the Gentiles and their kings and to the people of Israel. 16 I will show him how much **he must suffer for my name.**” (Ac 9:15-16, NIV)

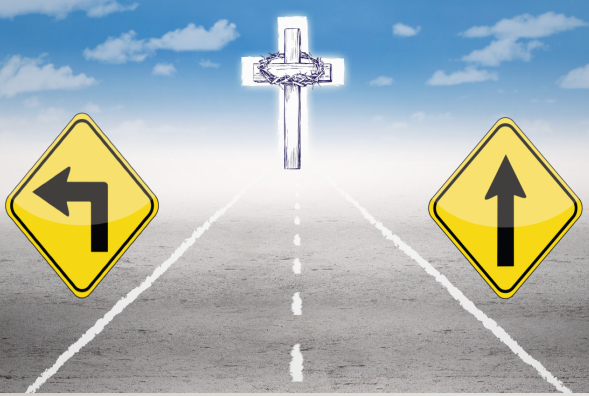


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: PAUL'S PRIDE AND PRIVILEGE



- 21b Whatever anyone else dares to boast about—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast about. 22 Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they Abraham's descendants? So am I. 23 Are **they servants of Christ?** (I am out of my mind to talk like this.) **I am more.** I have worked much harder, been **in prison more frequently**, been **flogged more severely**, and been **exposed to death** again and again. (2 Cor 11:21b-23, NIV)

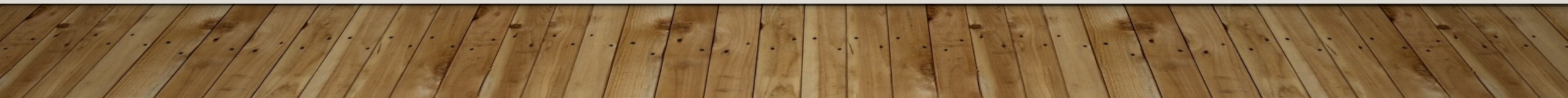


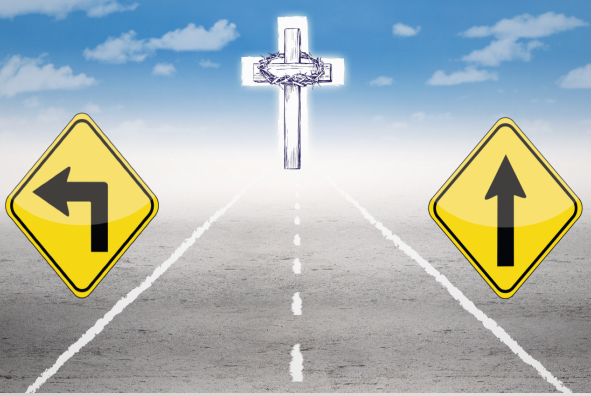


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: PAUL'S PRIDE AND PRIVILEGE



- 24 Five times I received from the Jews the **forty lashes minus one**.
25 Three times I was **beaten with rods**, once I was **pelted with stones**, three times I was **shipwrecked**, I spent a **night and a day in the open sea**, 26 I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from **rivers**, in danger from **bandits**, in danger from my **fellow Jews**, in danger from **Gentiles**; in danger in the **city**, in danger in the **country**, in danger at **sea**; and in danger from **false believers**. (2 Cor 11:21-26, NIV)

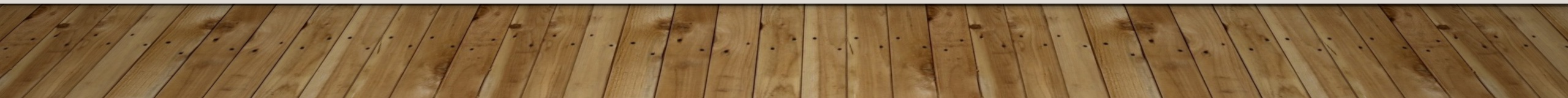


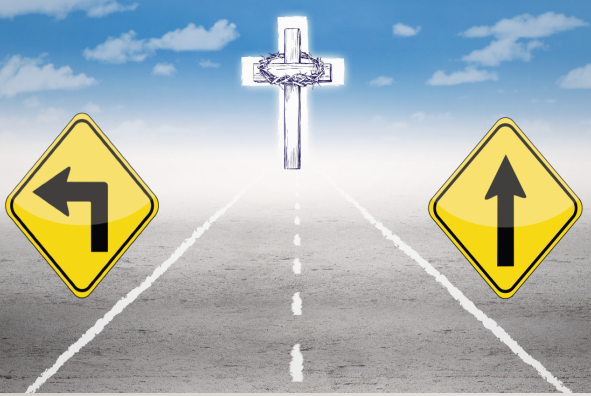


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: PAUL'S PRIDE AND PRIVILEGE



- 27 I have labored and toiled and have often **gone without sleep**; I have known **hunger** and **thirst** and have often **gone without food**; I have been **cold** and **naked**.
- 28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my **concern for all the churches**. (2 Cor 11:21-28, NIV)

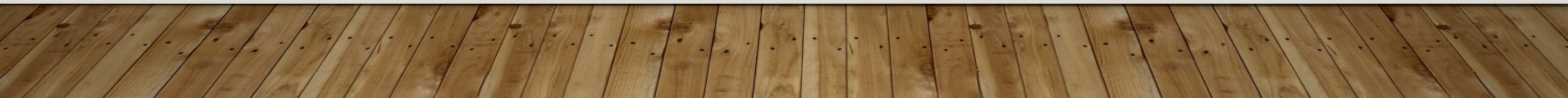




SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: PAUL'S PRIDE AND PRIVILEGE

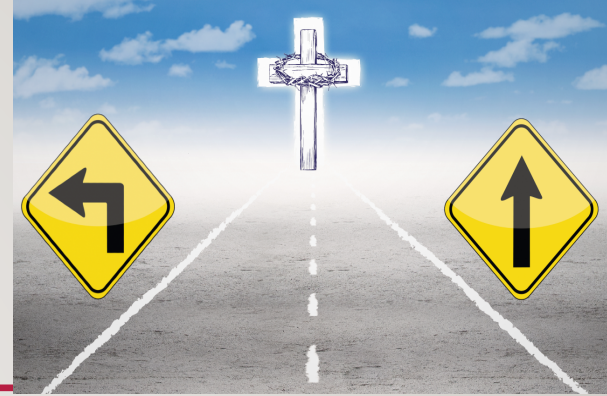


- 9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will **boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses**, so that Christ’s power may rest on me. 10 That is why, for Christ’s sake, I **delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties**. For when I am weak, then I am strong. (2 Cor 12:9-10, NIV; cf. 2 Cor 1:5)

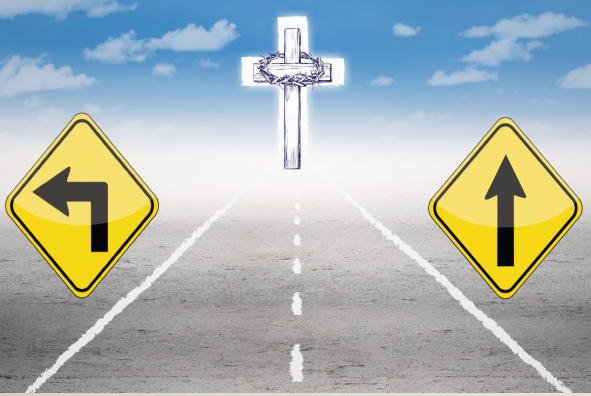




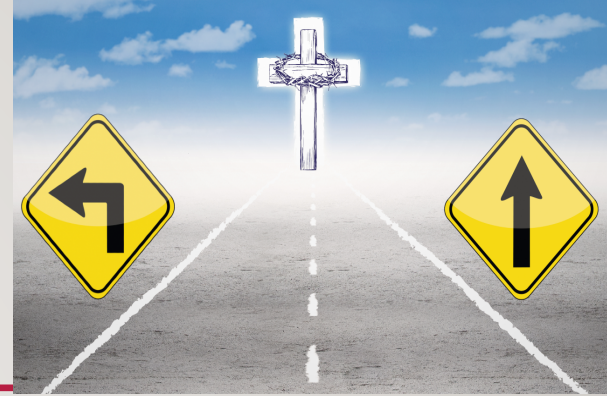
SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CAUSE FOR JOY



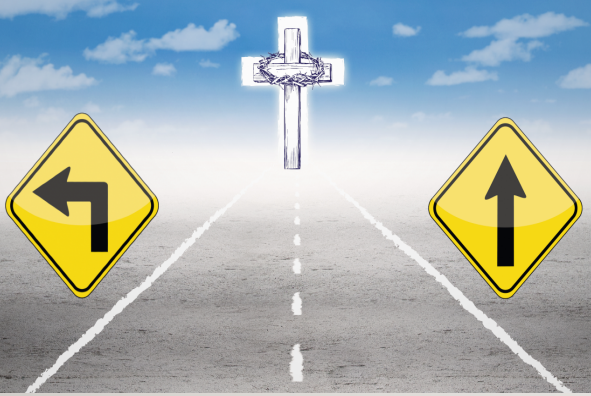
- 3 Not only so, but we also **glory in our sufferings**, because we know that **suffering produces perseverance**; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. (Rom 5:3-4, NIV; cf. Jas 1:2-4)
- But **rejoice** inasmuch as you **participate in the sufferings of Christ**, so that you may be **overjoyed** when his glory is revealed. (1 Pet 4:13, NIV)



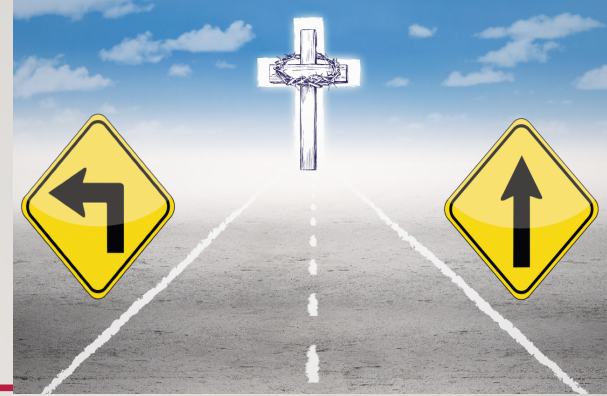
SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CAUSE FOR JOY



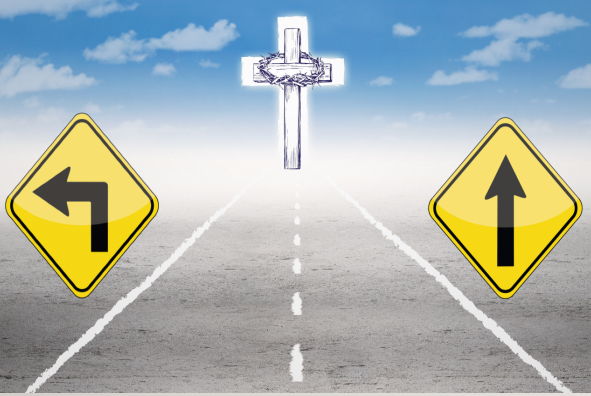
- 3 Not only so, but we also **glory in our sufferings**, because we know that **suffering produces perseverance**; 4 perseverance, character; and character, hope. (Rom 5:3-4, NIV; cf. Jas 1:2-4)
- But **rejoice** inasmuch as you **participate in the sufferings of Christ**, so that you may be **overjoyed** when his glory is revealed. (1 Pet 4:13, NIV)



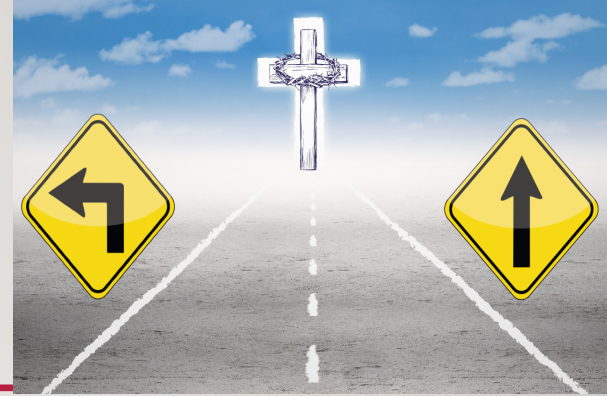
SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: CAUSE FOR JOY



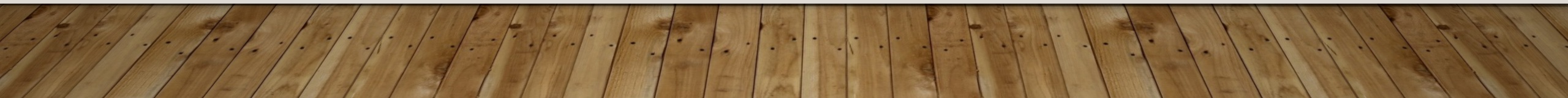
- 11 “Blessed are you when people insult you, **persecute you** and falsely say all kinds of evil against you **because of me.**
12 **Rejoice and be glad,** because **great is your reward in heaven,** for in the same way they **persecuted** the prophets who were before you. (Mt 5:11-12, NIV)

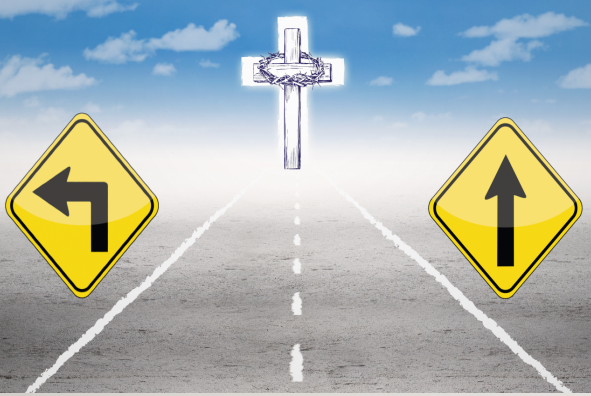


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: COUNT ON IT



- 2 We sent Timothy, who is our brother and co-worker in God's service in spreading the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you in your faith, 3 so that no one would be unsettled by these **trials**. For you know quite well that **we are destined for them**. 4 In fact, when we were with you, we kept telling you that we would be **persecuted**. And it turned out that way, as you well know. (1 Th 3:2-4, NIV; cf. 1 Th 2:14)

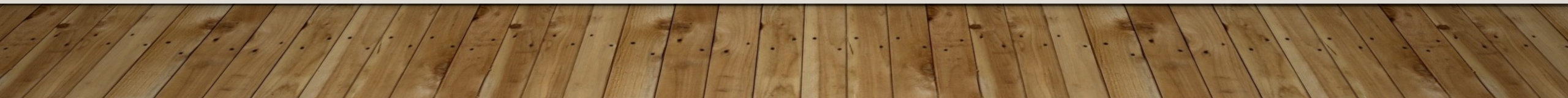


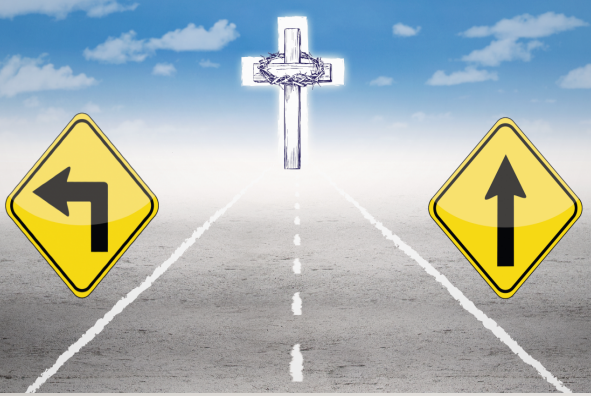


SUFFERING FOR CHRIST: COUNT ON IT



- In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be **persecuted** (2 Tim 3:12, NIV)
- Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, **if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory** (Rom 8:17, NIV; cf. 2 Cor 4:10; 2 Tim 2:12)

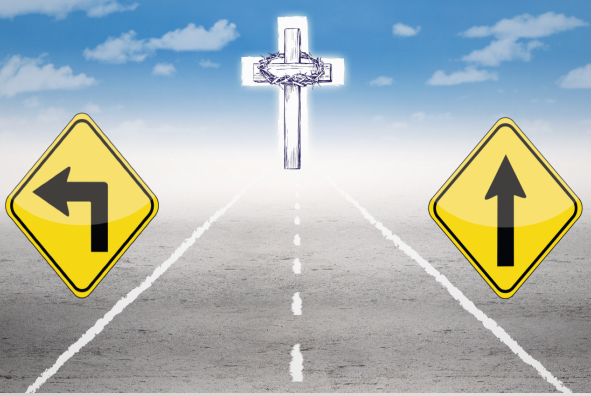




SAME STRUGGLE, SAME TEAM



- having the same struggle of which you saw I had and now hear I [still] have. (Php 1:30, AT)
- I have fought the good **fight** [*agōn*], I have finished the **race**, I have kept the faith (2 Tim 4:7, NIV)
- We had previously **suffered** and **been treated outrageously in Philippi**, as you know, but with the help of our God we dared to tell you his gospel in the face of strong **opposition** [*agōn*] (1 Th 2:2, NIV)



SAME STRUGGLE, SAME TEAM



- For it is right for me to have this mindset for all of you, because I have you [all] in my heart, and in both my **chains**, as well as in the **defense and confirmation of the Gospel**, all of you are **my partners in [God's] grace** (Php 1:7, AT)
- Join together in **following my example**, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a **model**, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.
(Php 3:17, NIV)

