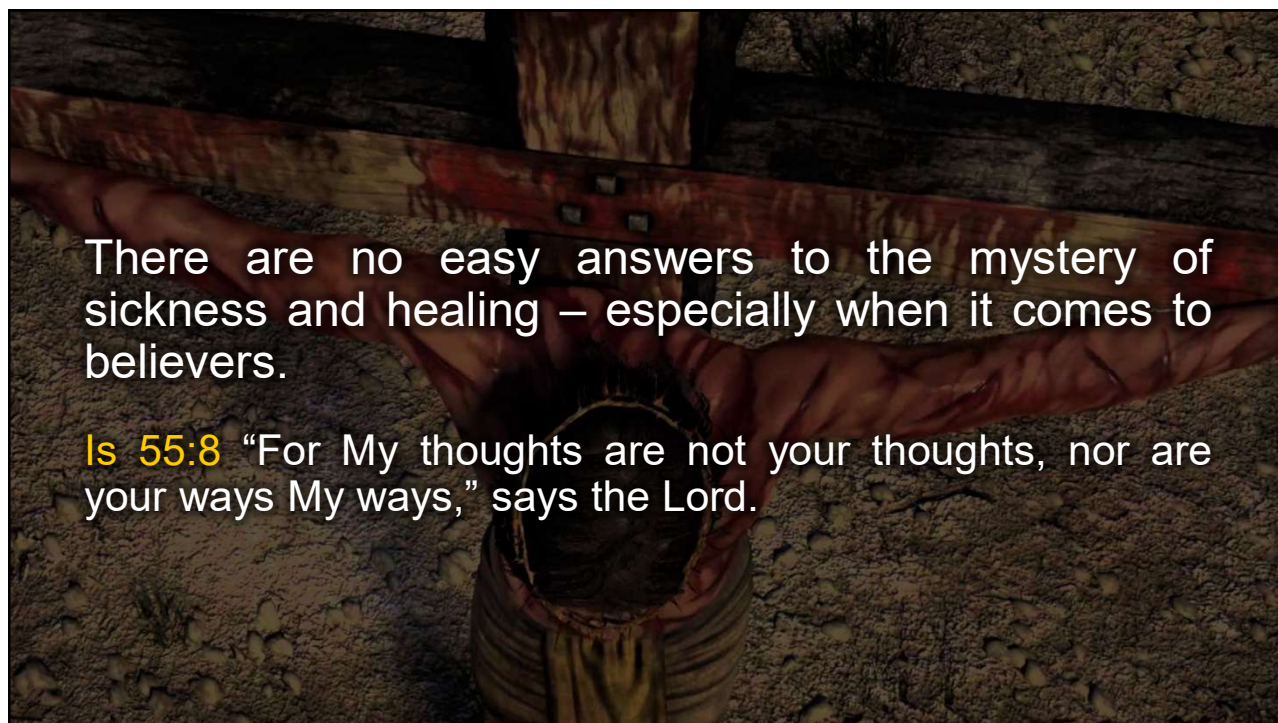


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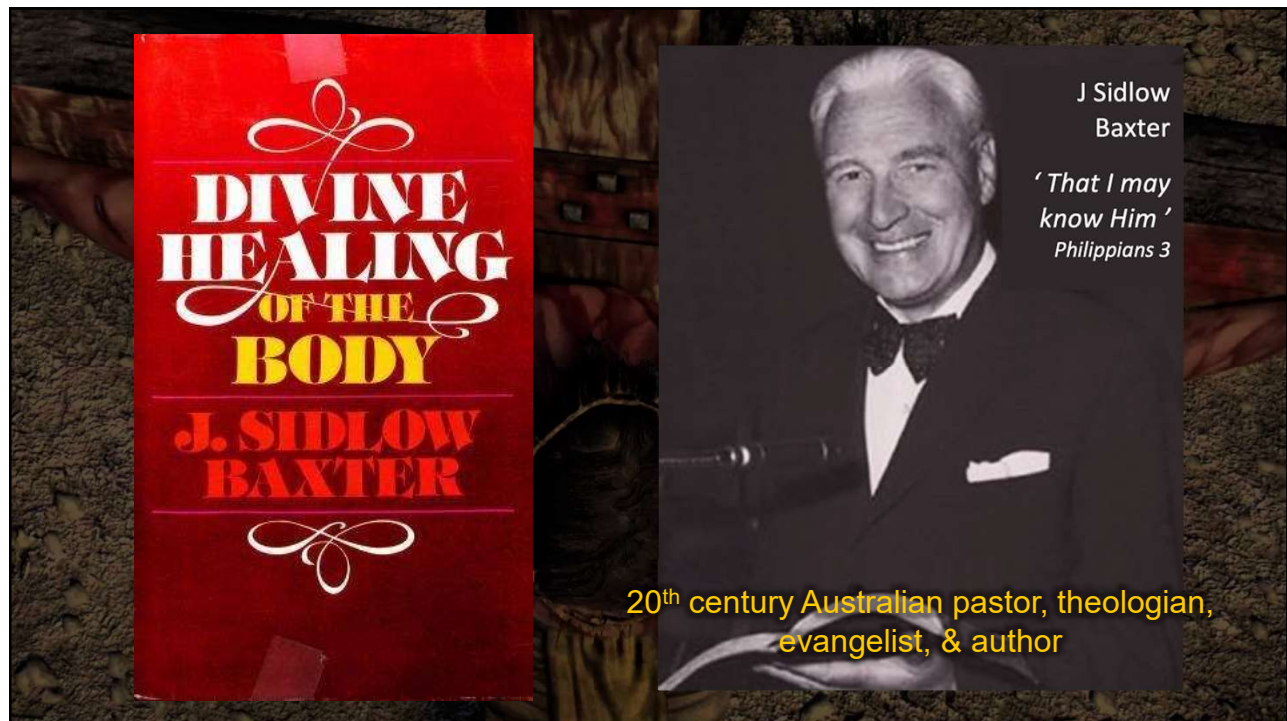


Some things in Scripture are difficult to understand  
– even Peter strained at some of Paul's writings:

**2 Pet 3:15-16** and consider that the longsuffering of our Lord is salvation – as also our beloved brother Paul, according to the wisdom given to him, has written to you, <sup>16</sup>as also in all his epistles, speaking in them of these things, **in which are some things hard to understand, which untaught and unstable people twist to their own destruction, as they do also the rest of the Scriptures.**

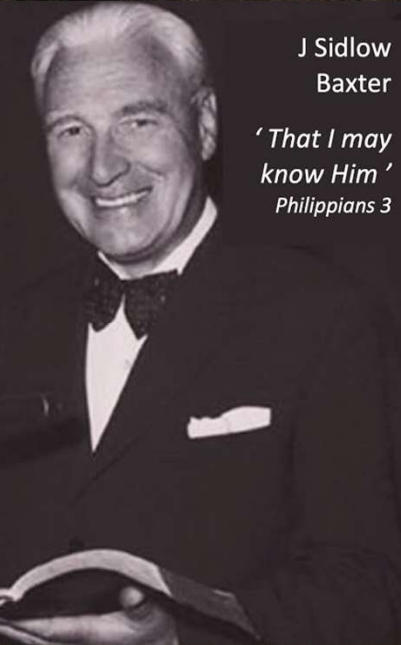
Consider Jn 3:16 and Is 53 (Ethiopian needed help understanding)

3



4



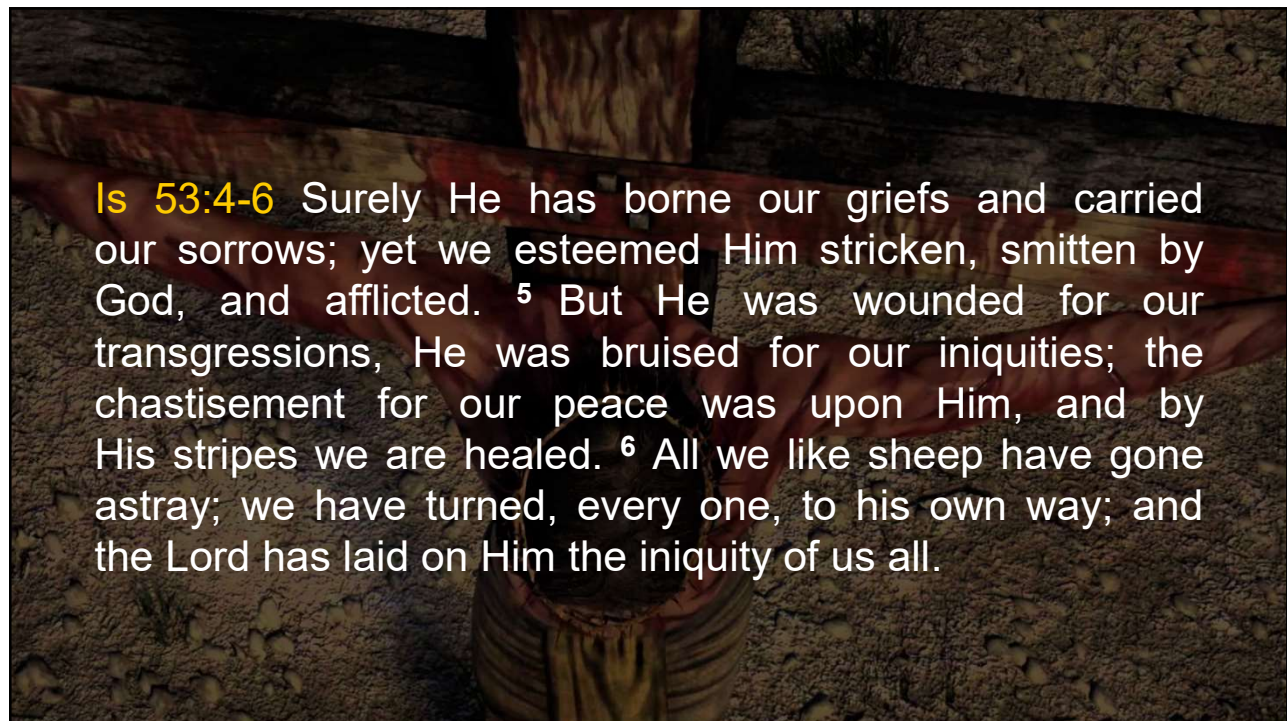


“And how endlessly interesting these problem texts make the Bible! Joseph Parker well said: ‘When the last word has been said about the Bible it will no longer be the Word of God.’ We never get to the end of the Bible. It is as wise in its reservations as in its revelations. Enough is revealed to make faith intelligent. Enough is reserved to give faith scope for development. Everything needful to salvation and godliness is written with such clarity that all the simple-hearted may understand; but there are other matters which, with wise divine purpose, are presented less lucidly, or even enigmatically, so as to challenge enquiry – matters fascinating, mysterious, or more intricate, but all yielding rich and sanctifying reward to devout exploration.”

J Sidlow  
Baxter  
‘That I may  
know Him’  
Philippians 3

*Studies in Problem Texts*

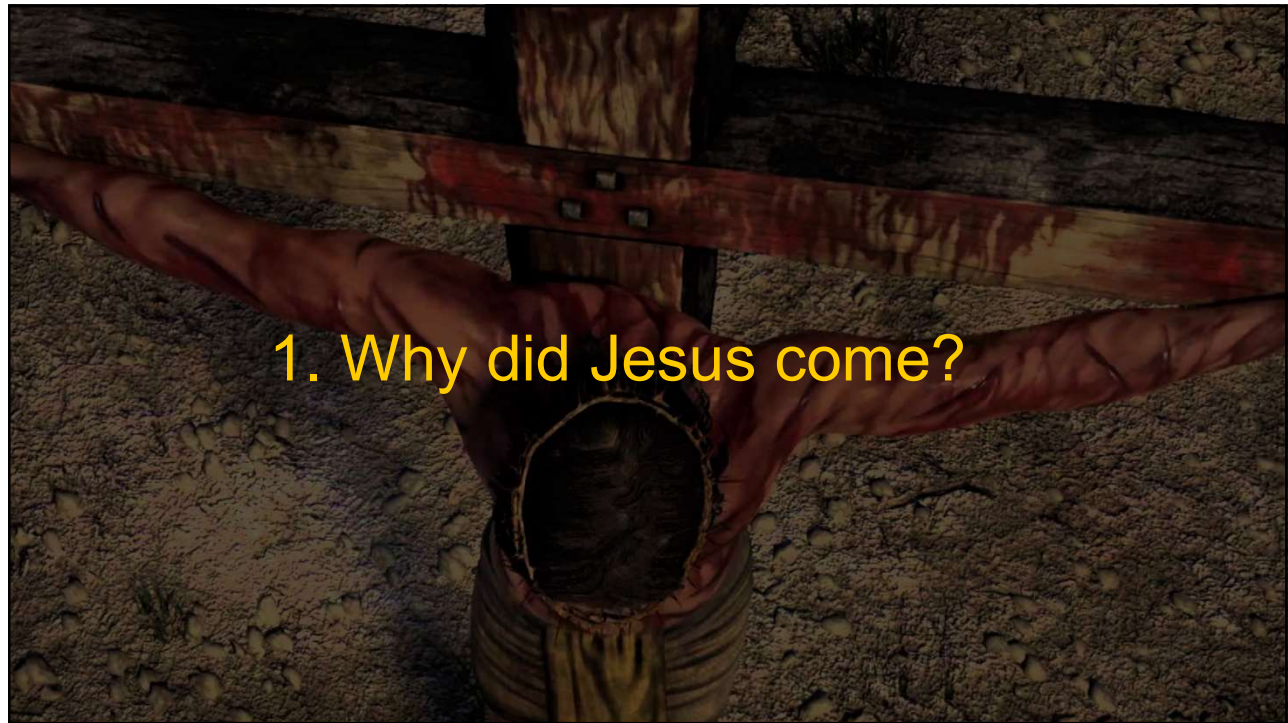
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**Is 53:4-6** Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. <sup>5</sup> But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed. <sup>6</sup> All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, every one, to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all.

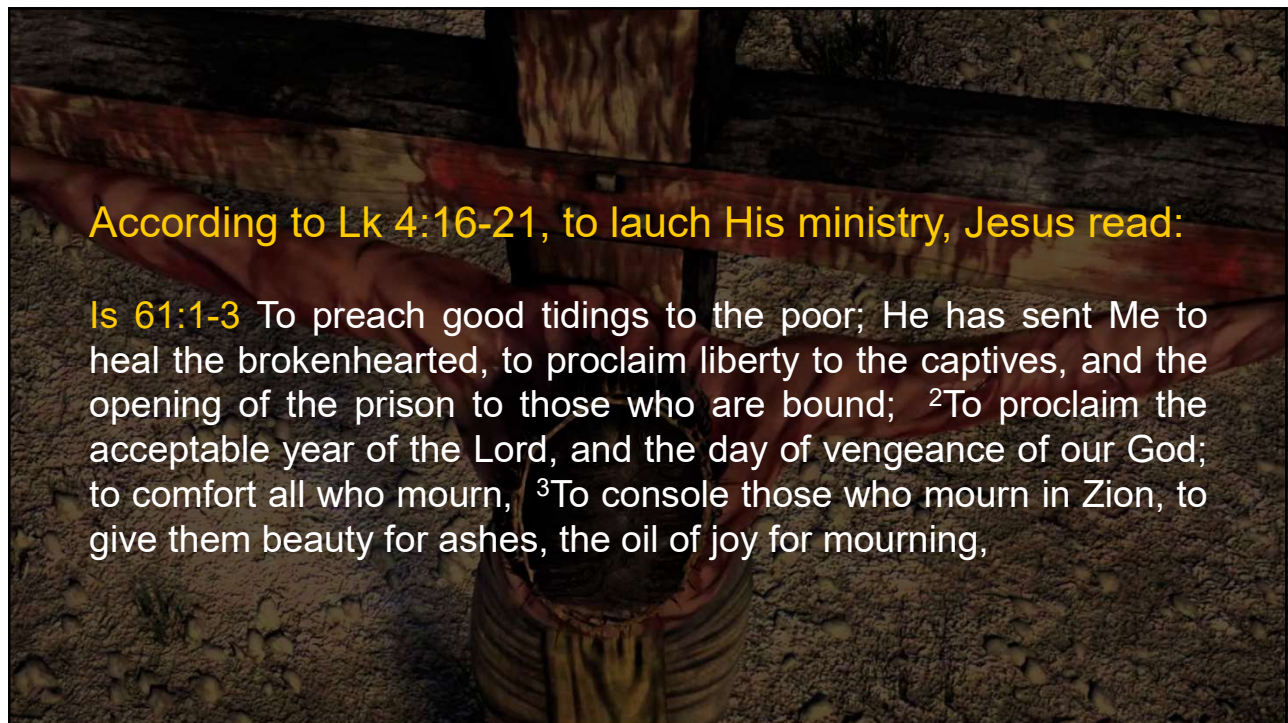
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## 1. Why did Jesus come?

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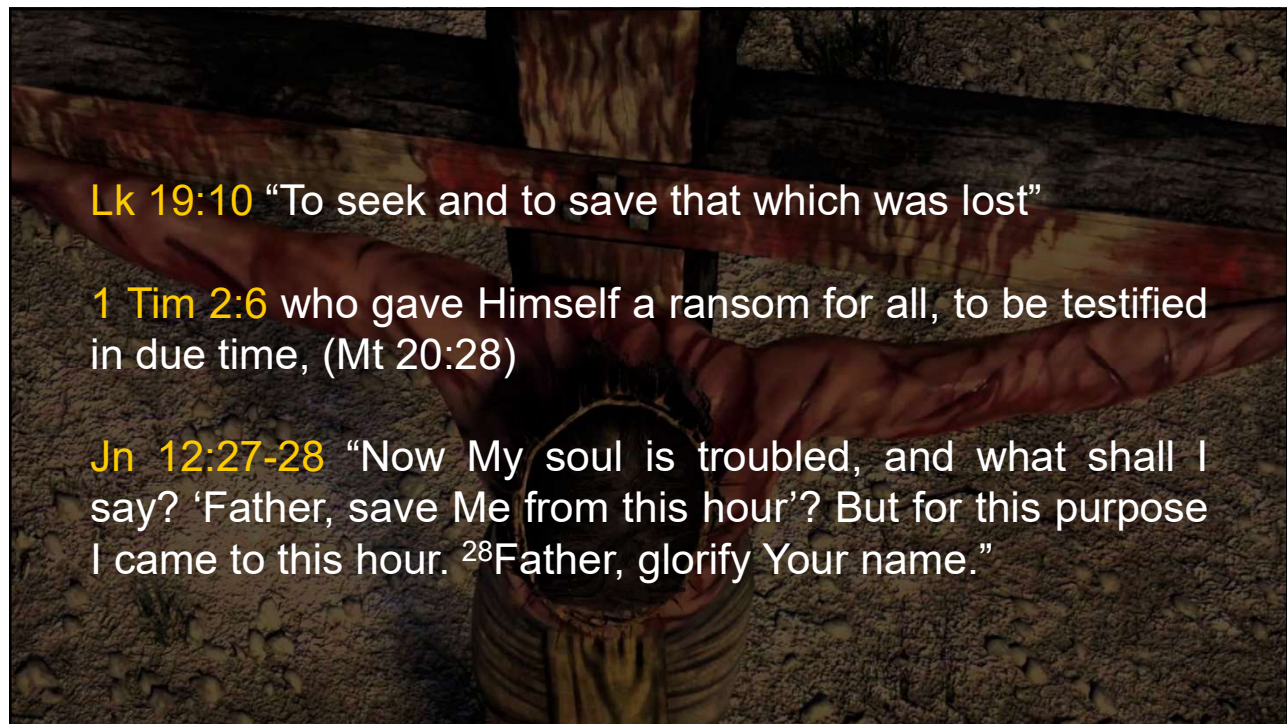


According to Lk 4:16-21, to launch His ministry, Jesus read:

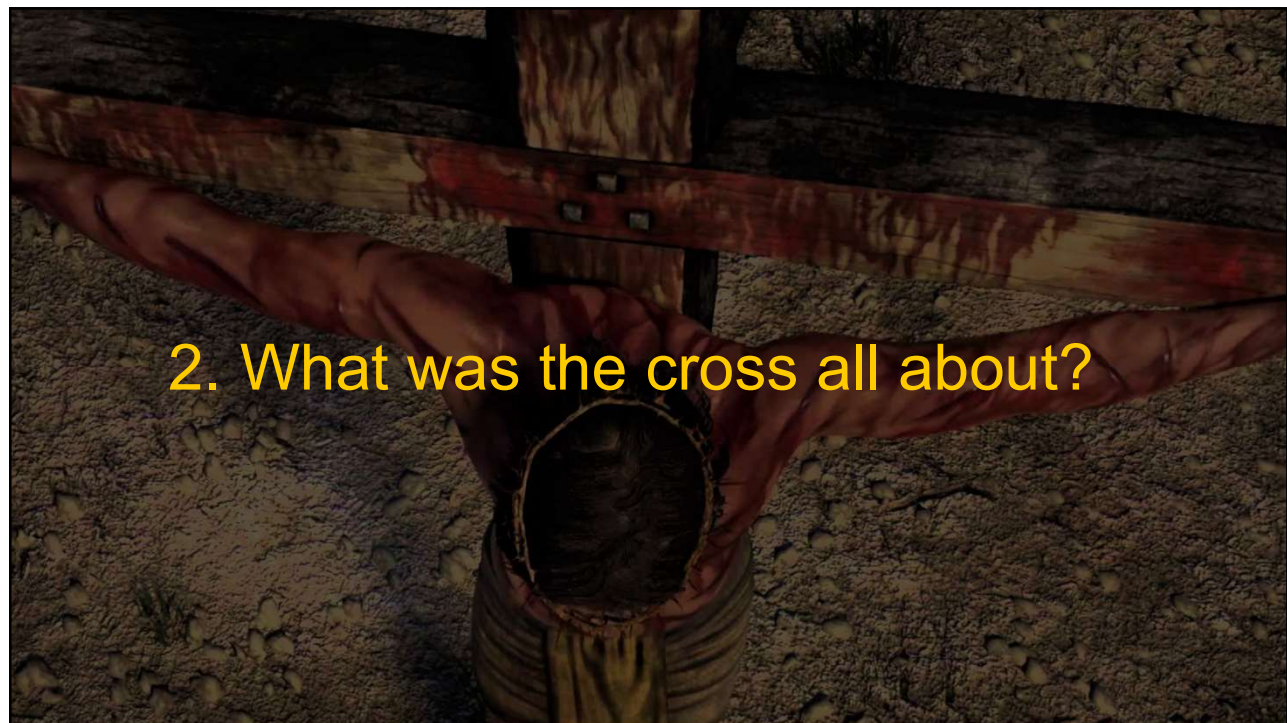
Is 61:1-3 To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound; <sup>2</sup>To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn, <sup>3</sup>To console those who mourn in Zion, to give them beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning,

8



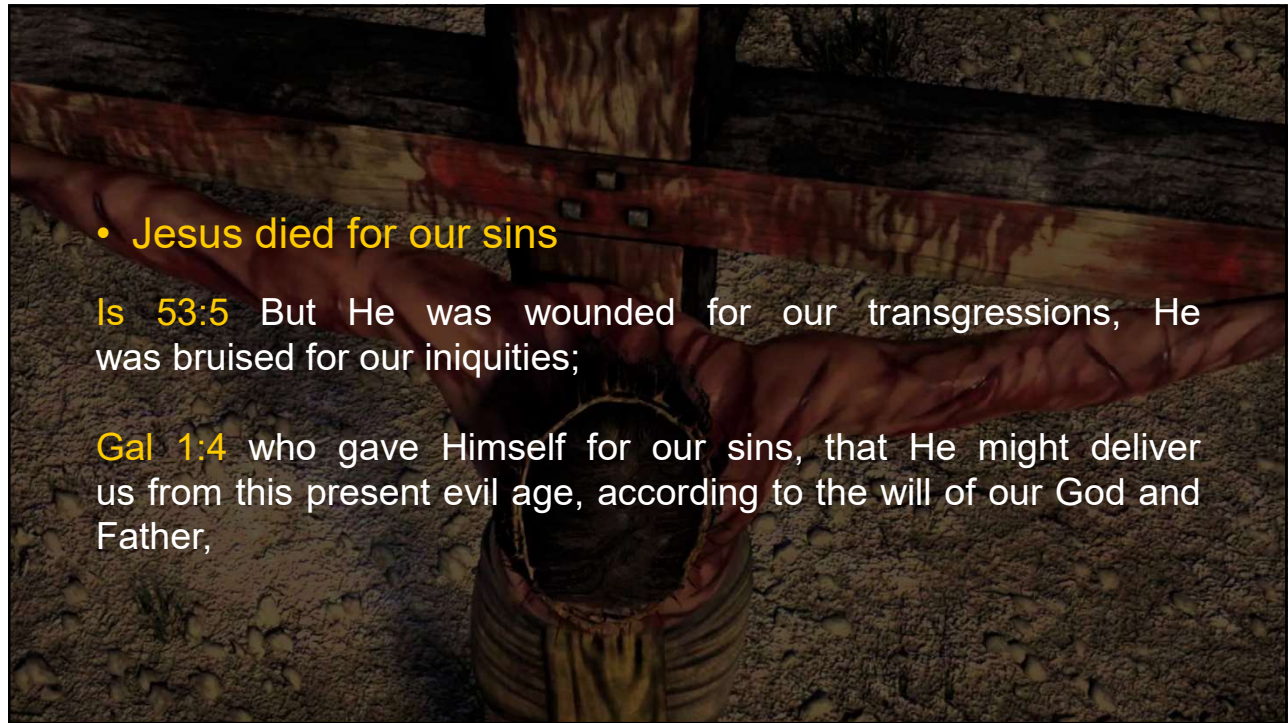


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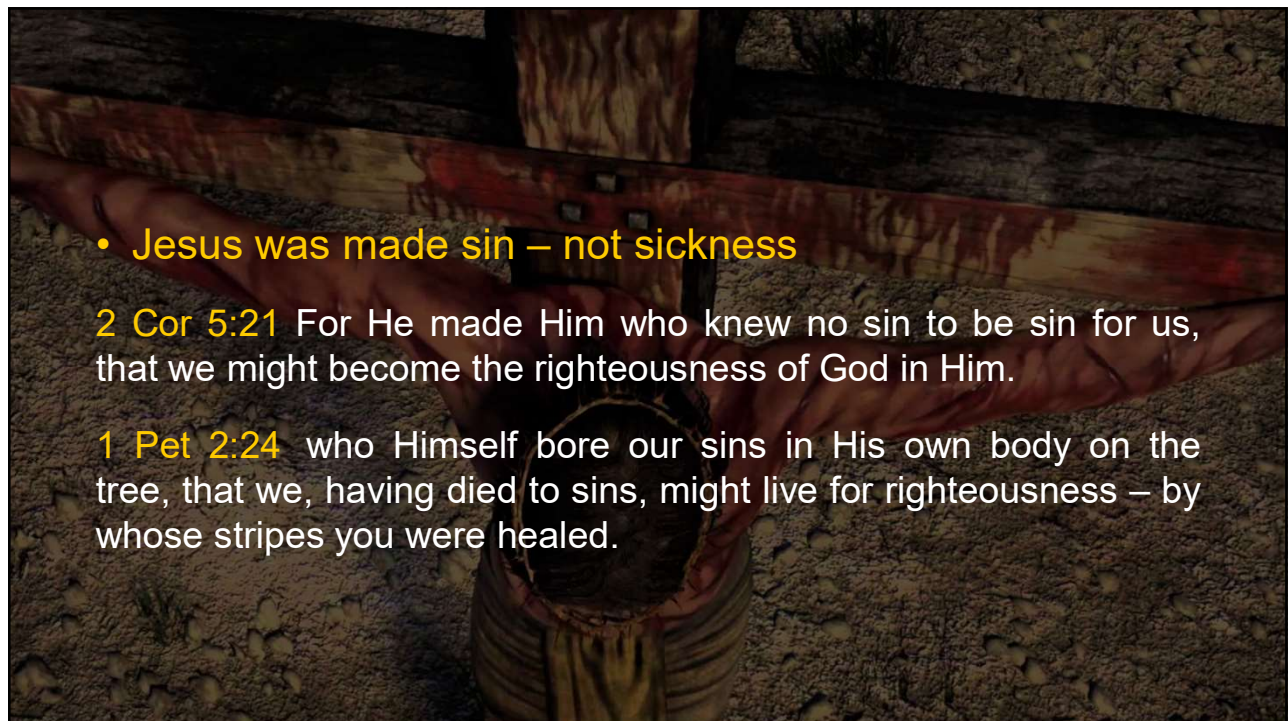


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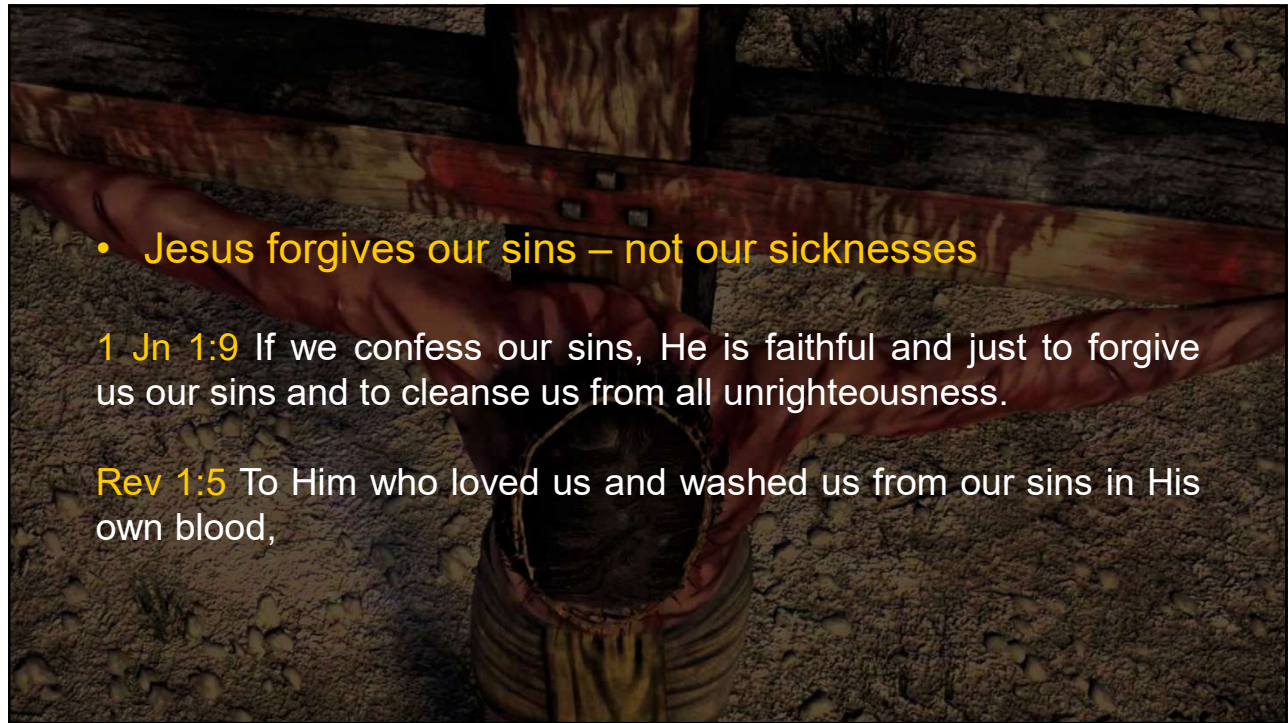


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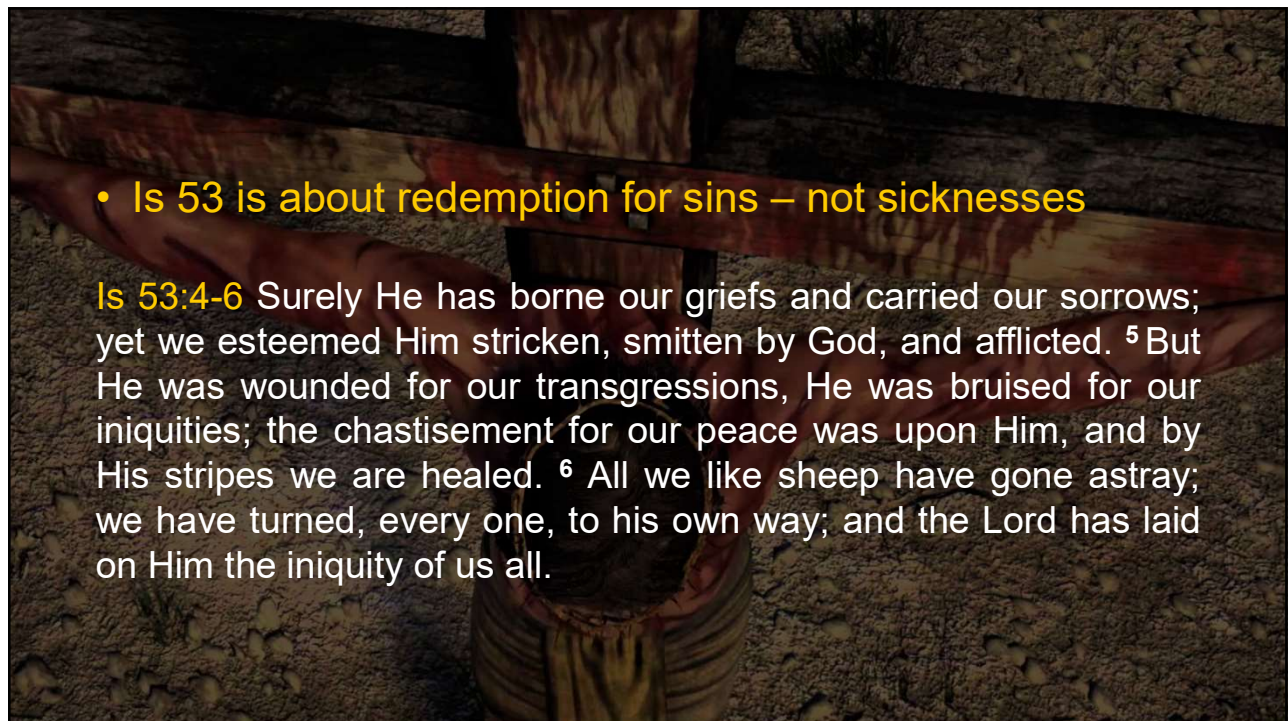


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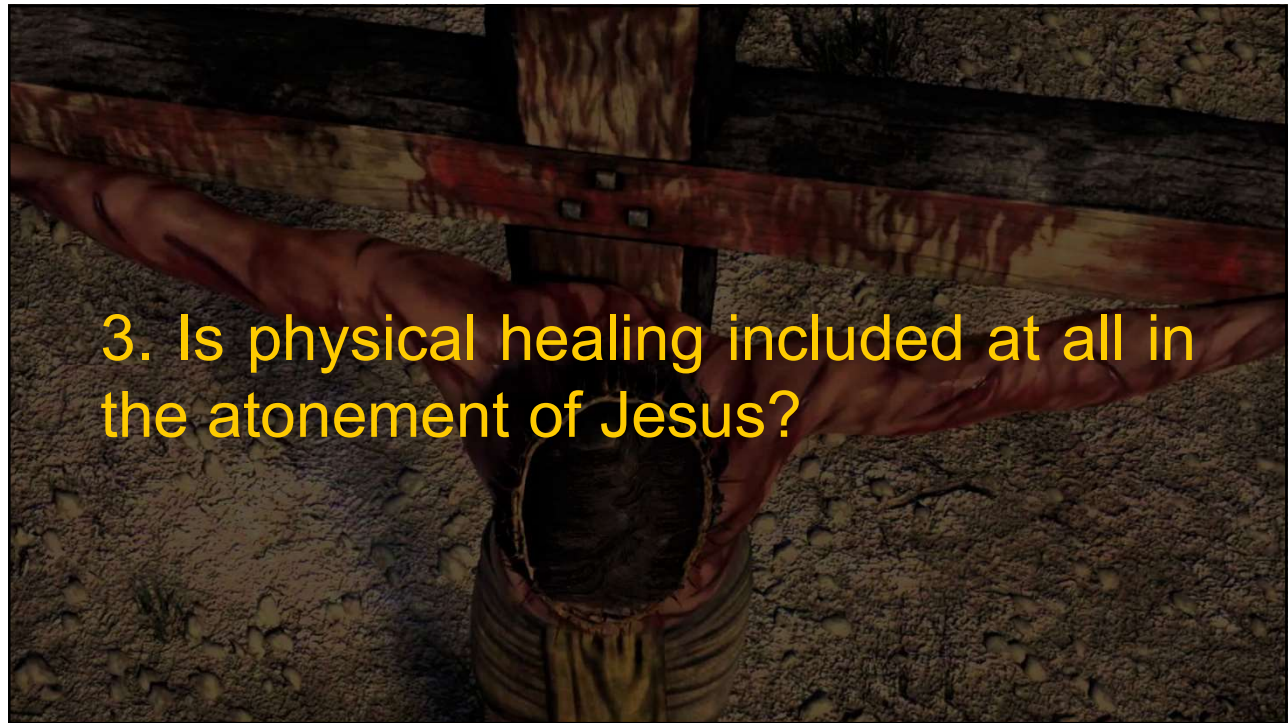


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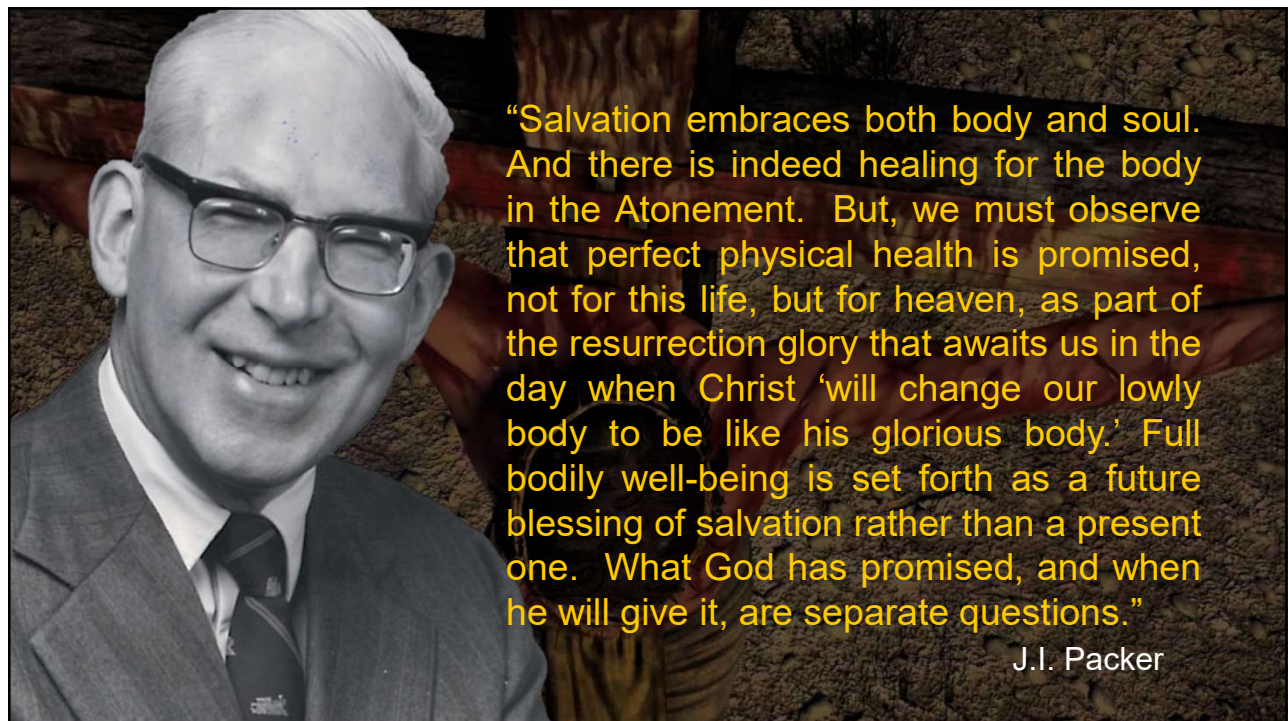


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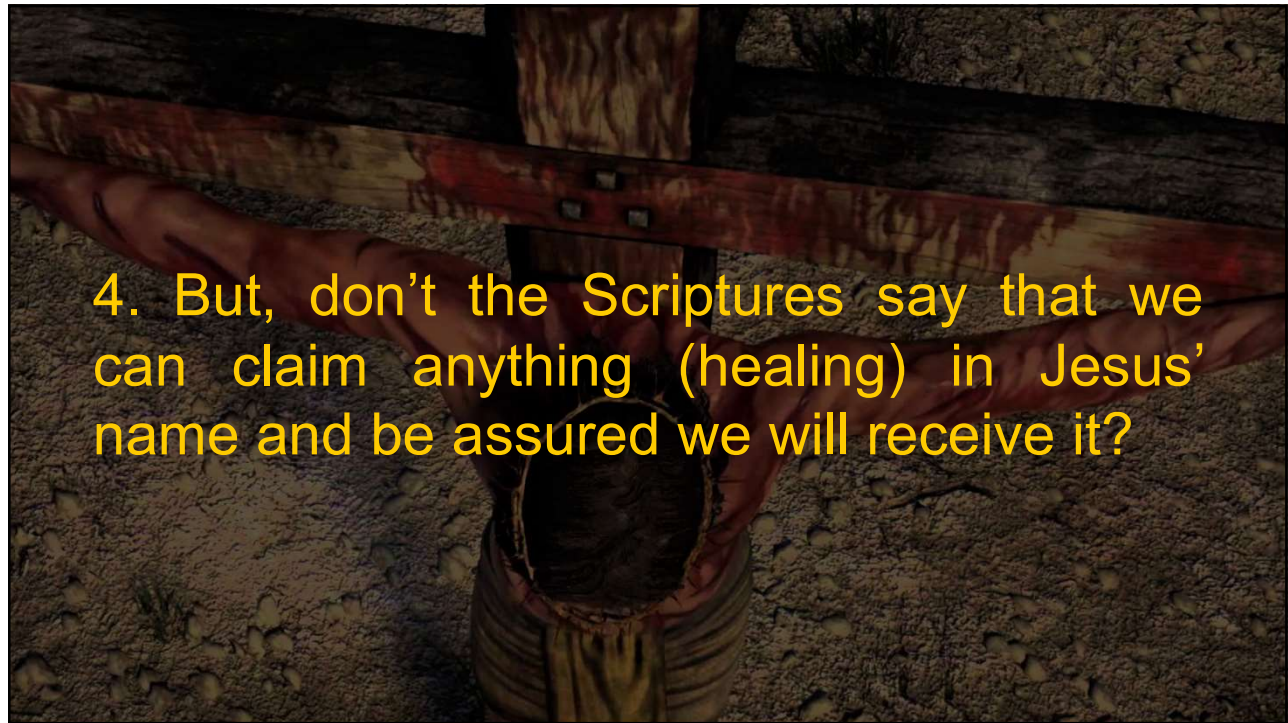


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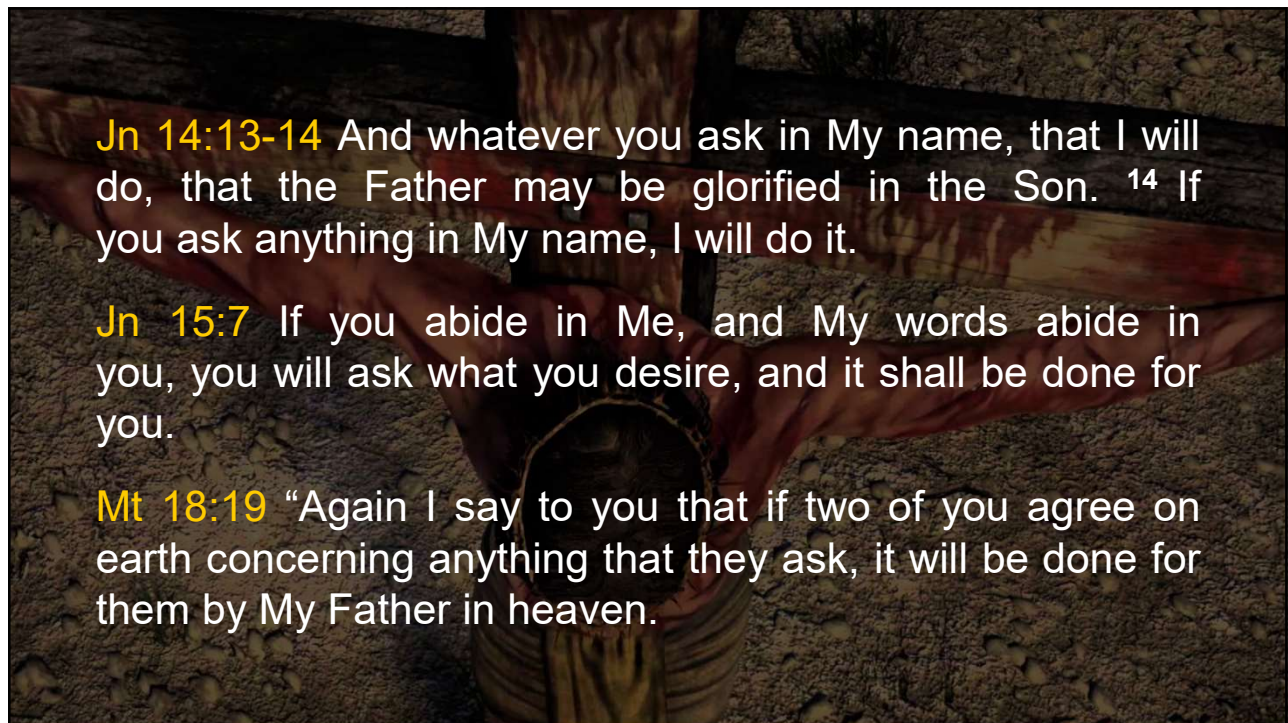


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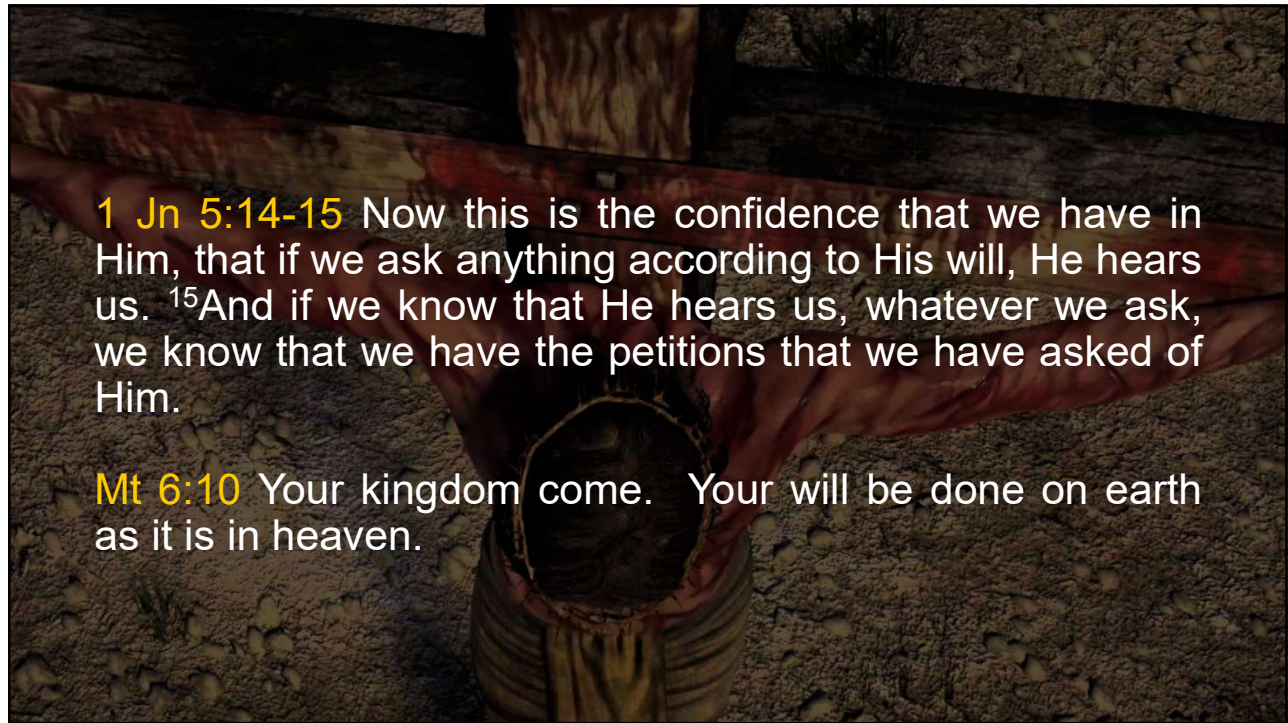


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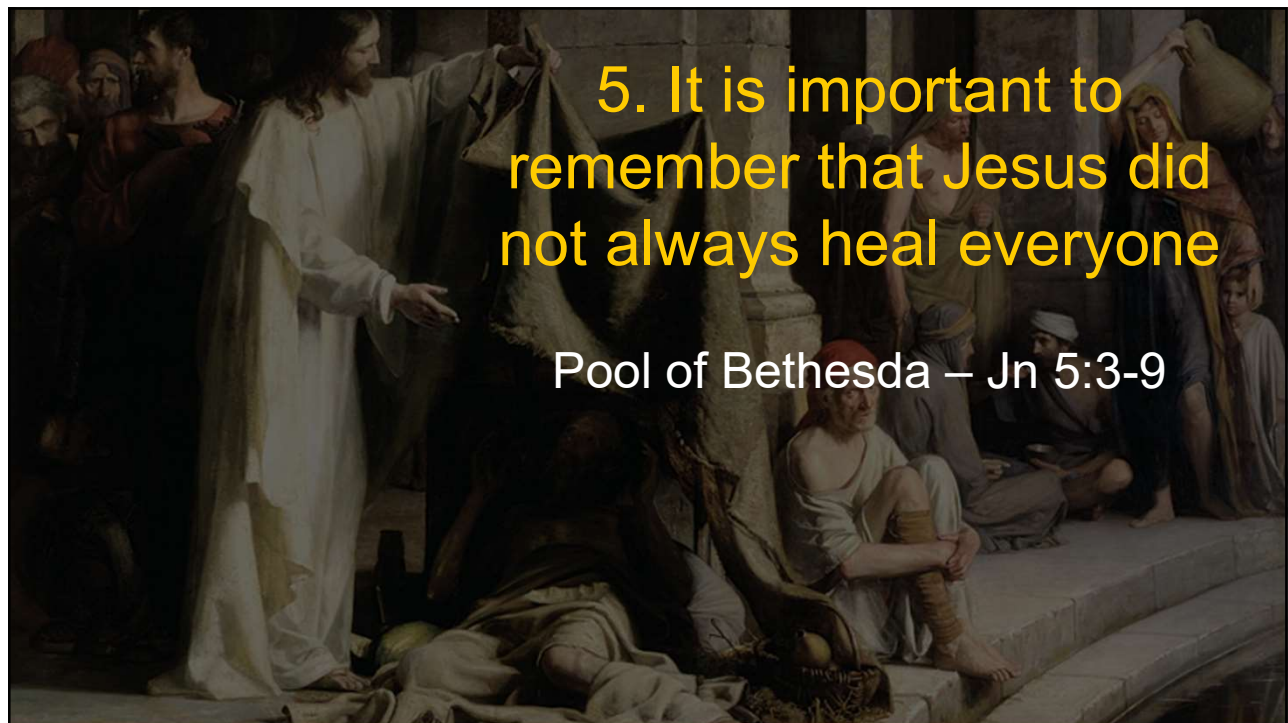


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## 6. Committed believers get sick

- Isaac went blind – Gen 27:1
- Jacob was sick – Gen 48:1
- Job was sick with boils – Job 2:7
- Daniel was sick from doing God's will – Dan 8:27
- Peter's mother – Mt 8:14
- Lazarus was sick – Jn 11:2
- Tabitha was sick – Acts 9:36-37
- Christians were sick at Corinth – 1 Cor 11:30
- Paul had a sickness – 2 Cor 12:7-10 (eyes: Gal 4:13-15)
- Epaphroditus was sick – Phil 2:25-30
- Timothy was sick – 1 Tim 5:23
- Trophimus was sick – 2 Tim 4:20
- Js 5:14 presupposes that believers will get sick

21

Js 5:14-16 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

22



## 7. A loving God will sometimes allow suffering

**Heb 2:10** For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

**Phil 3:10** that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,

**2 Cor 1:5** For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ.

23

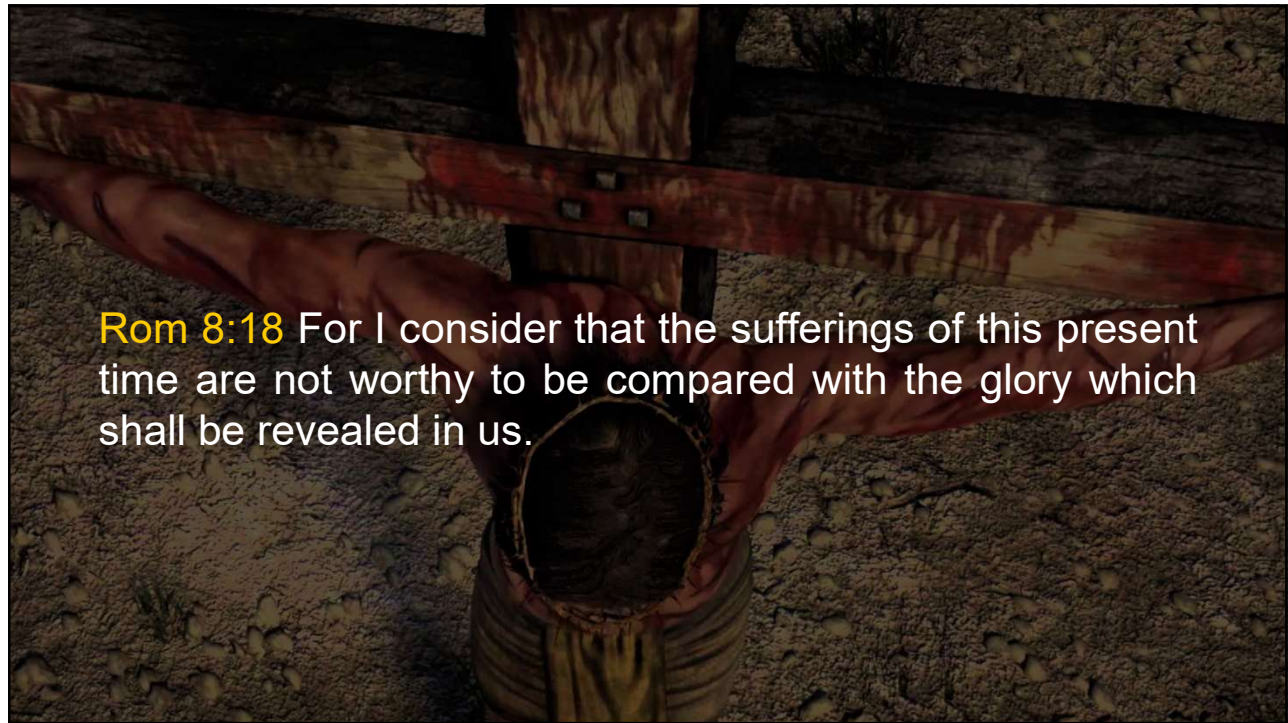
**1 Pet 4:13** but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy.

**Heb 11:35-39** Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented ... They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. <sup>39</sup> And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith,

**1 Pet 5:9** knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

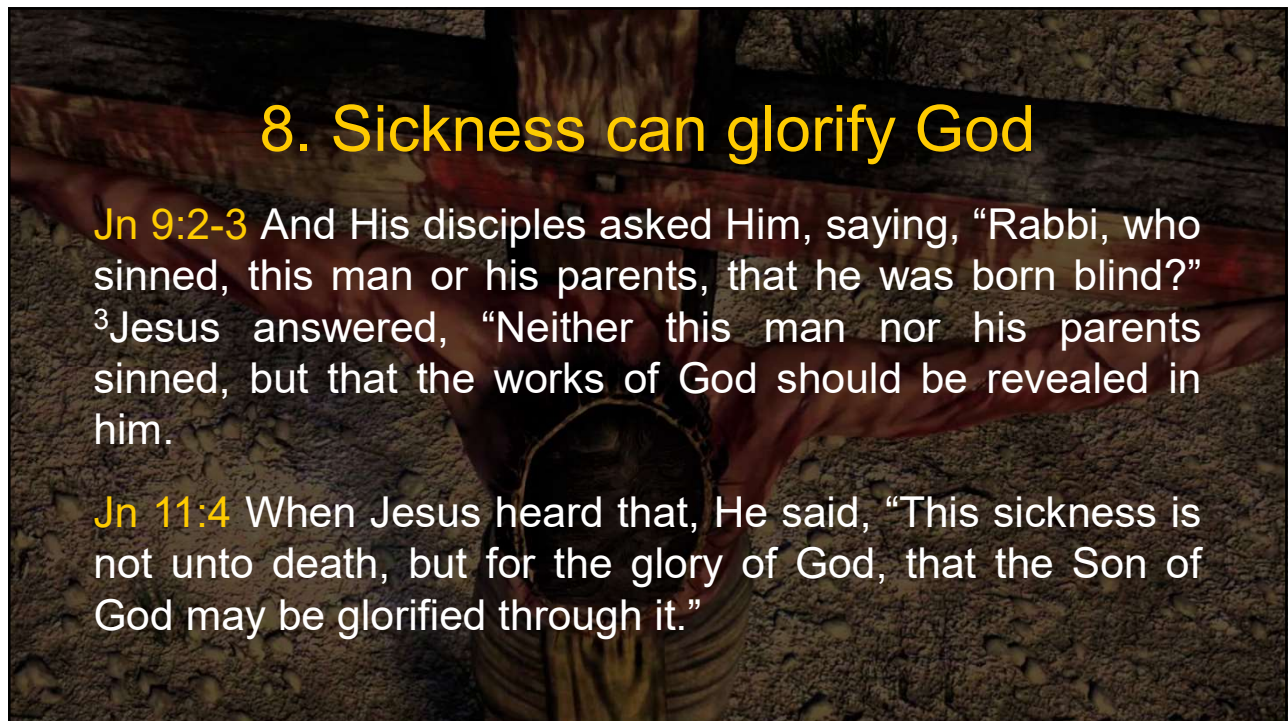
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**Rom 8:18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

25



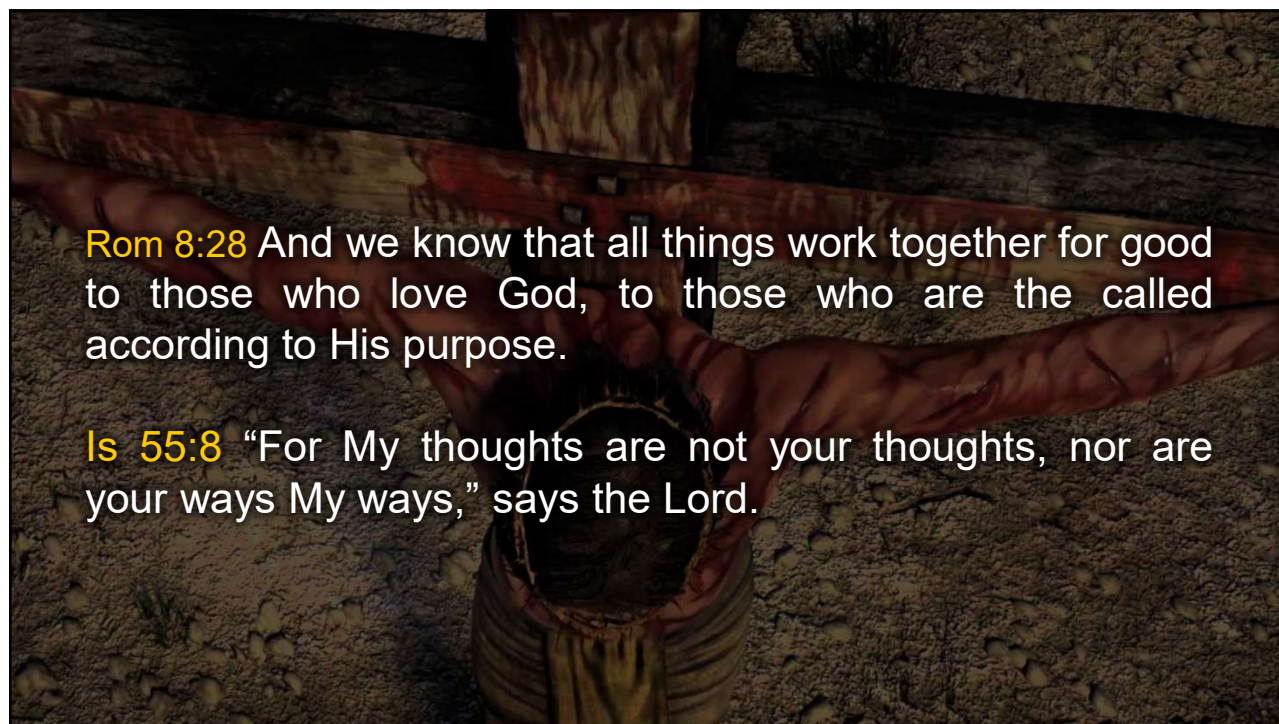
## 8. Sickness can glorify God

**Jn 9:2-3** And His disciples asked Him, saying, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”  
<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.

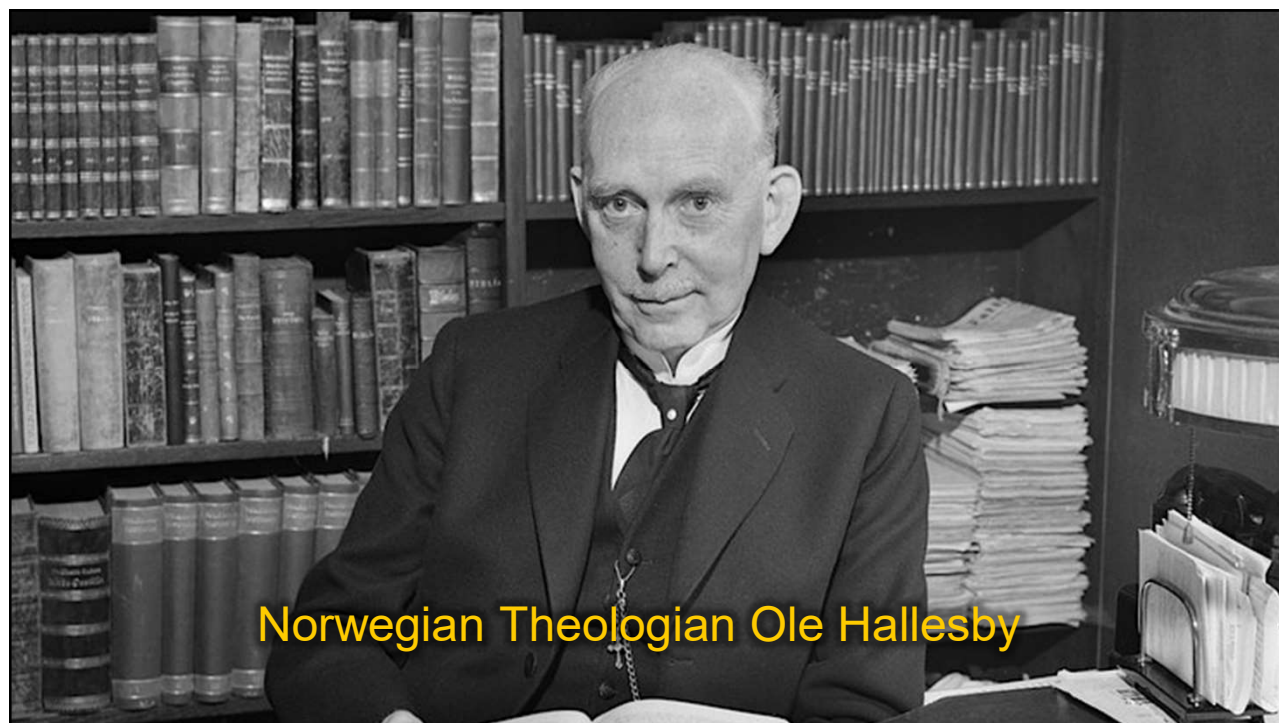
**Jn 11:4** When Jesus heard that, He said, “This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

26





27



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