



EASTER 2023

“BECAUSE HE LIVES”

John 11:1-44

BECAUSE HE LIVES...

01

Death is no
longer the
final
destination

02

Eternal life
actually
begins today

03

We need to
take hold of
Eternal life
now

The problem of death

THE
FINAL
DESTINATION



The scene

John 11:3. So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.”



Mary

Martha

Disciples

Crowd



DISCIPLES ONLY SEE THE END OF THEIR MINISTRY



John 11:7–8 Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again.” 8 The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?”

CANNOT SEE PAST THE FINALITY OF DEATH



John 11:16 (ESV) 16 So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, “Let us also go, that we may die with him.”

Voice of resignation

DEATH IS NOT FINAL DESTINATION

John 11:11-15 (ESV) After saying these things, he said to them, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” 12 The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” 13 Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. 14 Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, 15 and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”



Mary

Martha

*MISSED OPPORTUNITY
GRIEF AND OF FAITH*

32. Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”


21 “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

LONG DISTANCE HEALING

John 4:49-50 The official said to him,

“Sir, come down before my child dies.”

50 Jesus said to him, “Go; your son will live.” The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him and went on his way.



“Lord, if you had been
here

Our God is too small

Biblical world too
distant and
abstract

Our world view
informed by our
current experience
and information





Mary

Pessimist

Martha

Optimist

Each reacts to Lazarus death and Jesus delay

20b but Mary remained seated in the house
28 When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.”

21.. she went and met him
22 But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.”

DAVID WATSON

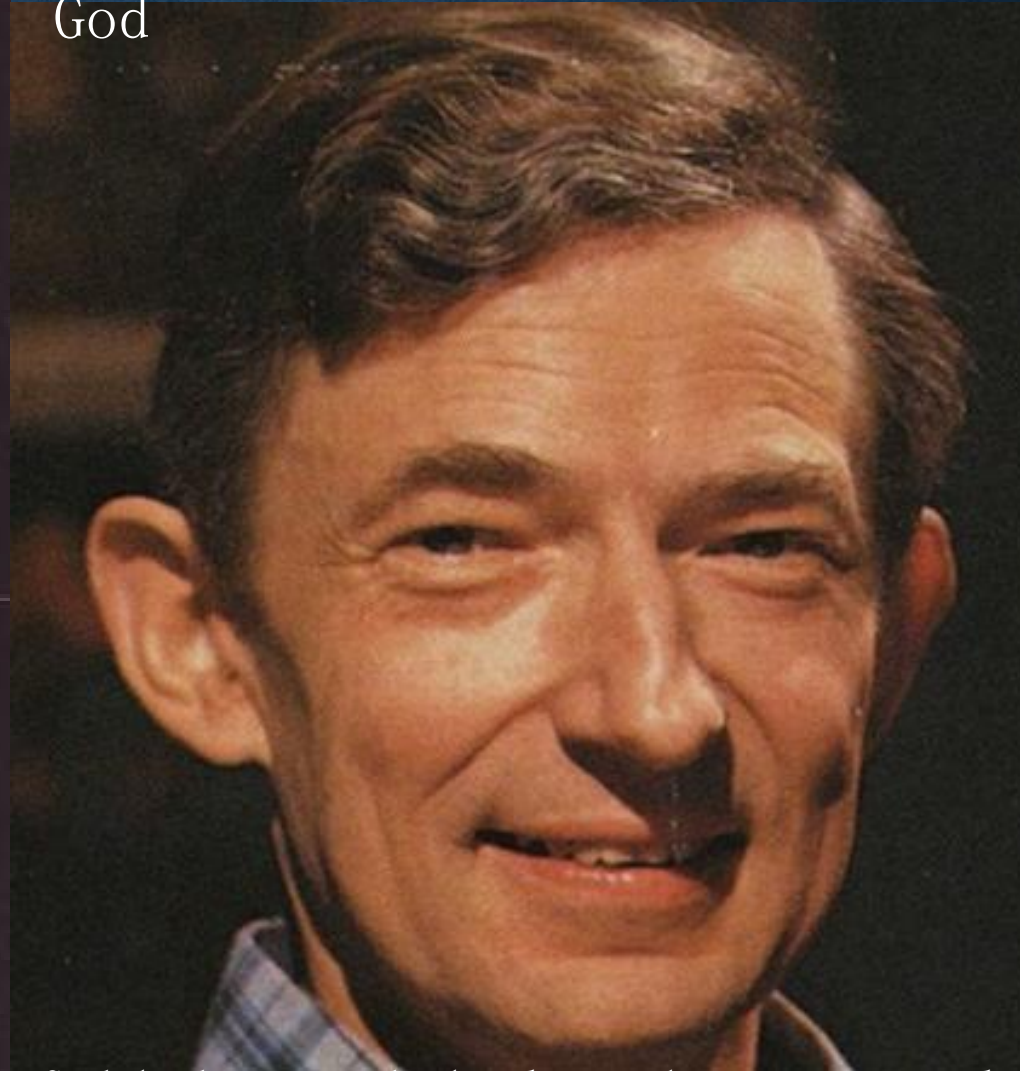
FEAR NO EVIL

ONE MAN DEALS WITH
TERMINAL ILLNESS

"MARVELOUS, POIGNANT,
RADIANT"

J.I. PACKER

Death will drive us towards or away from
God

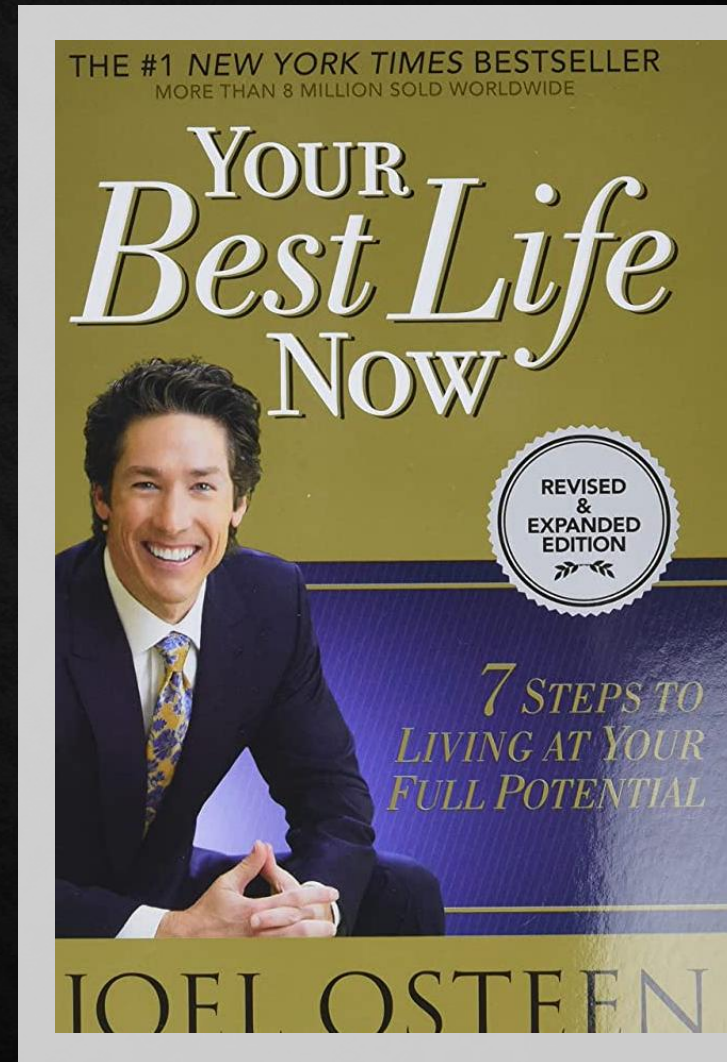
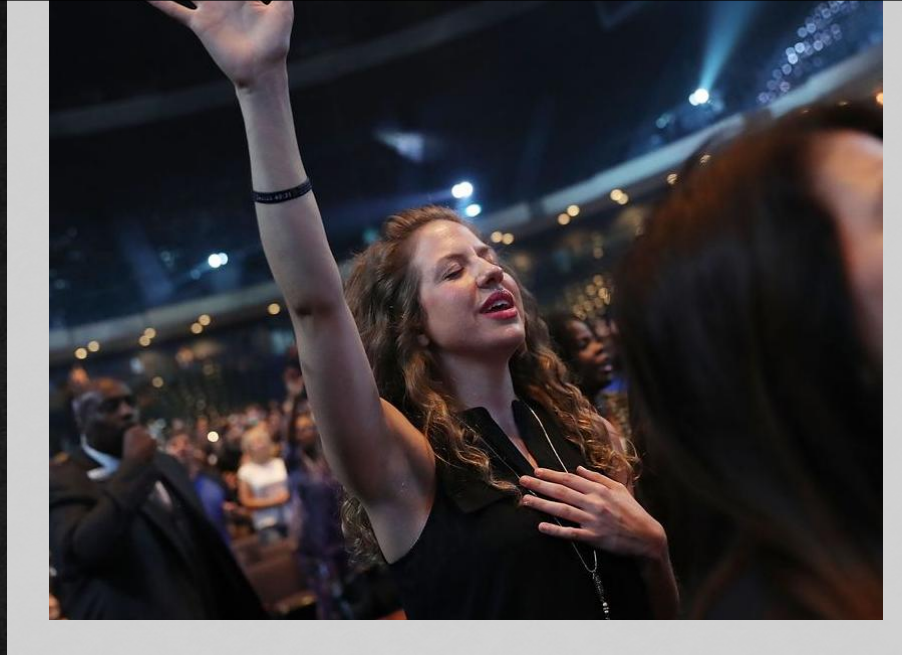


God had crossed the line the imaginary line we all
draw in our lives that no one who truly loves us can
cross

A photograph of a man with dark skin, wearing a red long-sleeved shirt, resting his head on the back of a wooden church pew. His eyes are closed, and his hand is pressed against his forehead. A thick Bible with a worn, light-colored cover lies on his lap. The background shows other pews and a window with a grid pattern, suggesting a church interior. The lighting is soft and somewhat dim, creating a somber atmosphere.

DISILLUSIONED CHRISTIANS





POP CHRISTIANITY AND SENTIMENTALISM

- Cherry pick verses
- Minimize our own sinfulness
- If we go to church God owes us good things

THE ALPHA COURSE



“Why didn’t God heal my loved one after much prayer when he answered some of my other less important prayer?”

Why are we suffering ? Why doesn’t God take away

After becoming a Christian recently, bad thing happened to the person I care about, why is that? I wonder whether I have made a wrong decision to accept Christ. our sufferings ?

COMPASSION MISINTERPRETED AS IMPOTENCE



John 11:35 Jesus wept. 36 So the Jews said, “See how he loved him!” 37 But some of them said, “Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”



STEVEN FRY

*you see the absolute
Five minutes later you are looking
phenomenal majesty and
at the life cycle of the parasitic
complexity and bewildering
worm whose job it is to bury
itself in the eyeball of a little
lamb and at the next eye ball from
inside. while the lamb dies in
horrible agony and then you turn
goes "And how can you say
to them and say
there is no God ? Look at
"Yeah, where is your God now?"
that!*

DEATH IS NOT THE FINAL DESTINATION

IT IS THE BEGINNING OF OUR ULTIMATE REALITY

John 11:5-6 (ESV) and her sister and Lazarus. 6 So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

John 11:14-15 (ESV) Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, 15 and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”

BECAUSE HE LIVES...

01

Death is no
longer the
final
destination

02

Eternal
life begins
today

03

We need to
take hold of
Eternal life
now



SHE IS CONFLICTED

John 11:21-24 Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. 22 But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” 23 Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” 24 Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.”

LOOK AT THE PAST RAISING OF THE DEAD IN THE OT

Elijah raises
widow's son
1 Kings 17:17-24

Elisha raises
Shunnamite's
son
2 Kings 4: 32-37

Elisha
posthumous
raising of
dead
2 Kings 13: 21

Witch of Endor
raises Samuel
1 Sam 28

LOOK AT THE FUTURE



Daniel 12:2-3 And many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. 3 And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

JESUS FINE TUNES THE CONCEPT OF RESURRECTION



John 5:28–29 Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice 29 and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.

PHARISEE

- Interpretations of the Torah
- Middle class
- Resurrection
- After life
- Rejected Jewish leaders



SADDUCEE

- The Torah alone rejected interpret
- Upper class-ruling
- No resurrection
- No after life
- Supported Jewish leaders

SHE DID NOT REALLY BELIEVE IN CURRENT RESURRECTION

John 11:39 (ESV) Jesus said, “Take away the stone.” Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, “Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.”

JESUS ADDRESSES THIS CONCERN

V 25 JESUS SAID TO HER....

“I am the resurrection and the life” .



Whoever believes
in me, though he
die, yet shall he
live



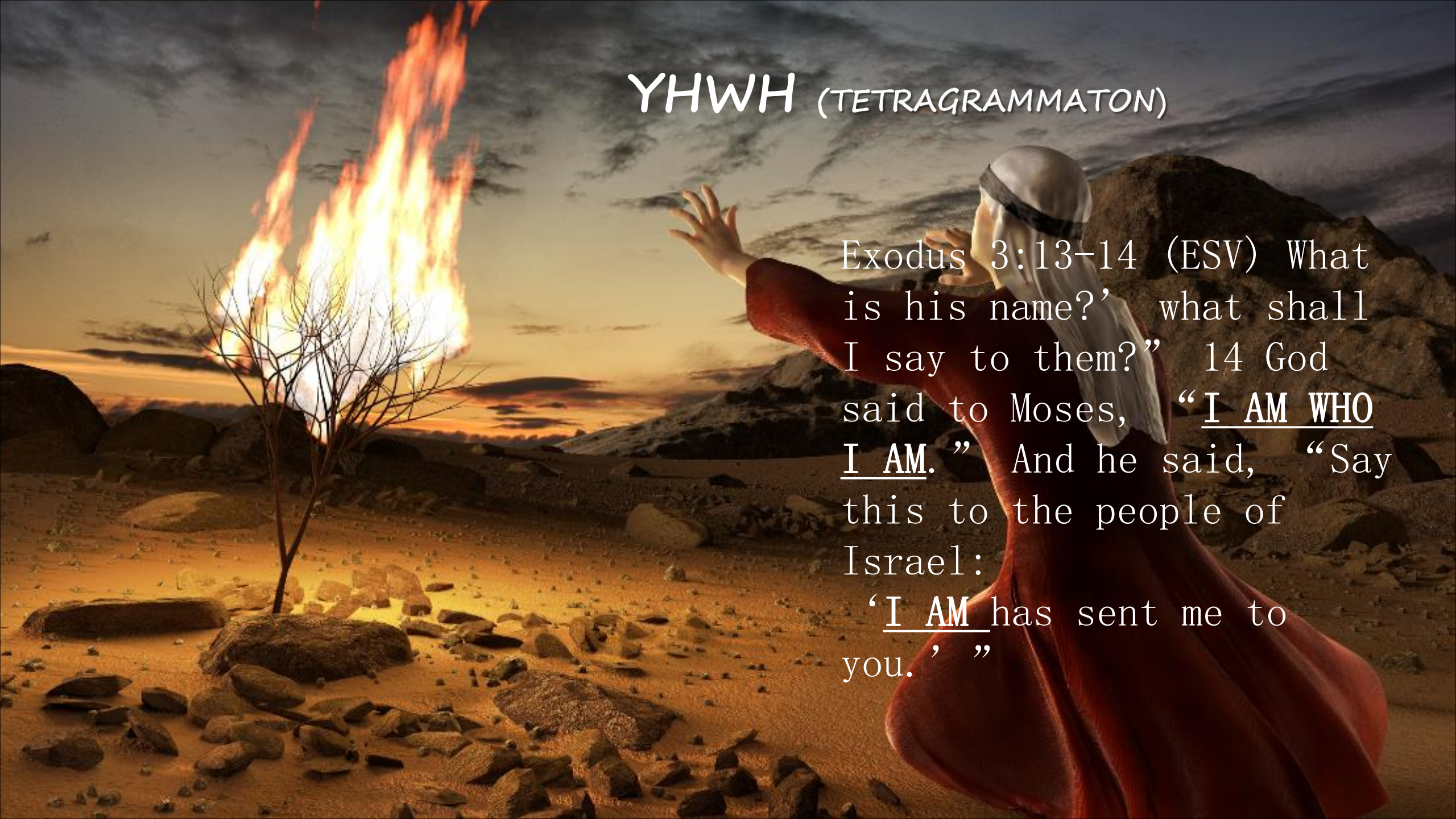
26. and everyone who
lives and believes in
me shall never die.



V 25 JESUS SAID TO HER....

“I am the resurrection and the life” .

YHWH (TETRAGRAMMATON)

A dramatic scene of Moses in the desert, wearing a red robe and a white head covering. He is standing with his arms outstretched, looking towards a large, intense fire that is burning in a bush. The landscape is rocky and arid, with a sunset or sunrise sky in shades of orange and yellow. The fire is very bright, with flames reaching high into the air.

Exodus 3:13–14 (ESV) What is his name?’ what shall I say to them?” 14 God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM.” And he said, “Say this to the people of Israel: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”

SEVEN "I AM"

GOD IS CURRENT AND EVERY PRESENT REALITY

- 1) John 6:35 I am the bread of life;
- 2) John 8:12 I am the light of the world.
- 3) John 10:7b I am the door of the sheep.
- 4) John 10:11 I am the good shepherd.
- 5) John 11:25 I am the resurrection and the life
- 6) John 14: 6 I am the way, and the truth, and the life.
- 7) John 15:1 I am the true vine

JESUS RE-PURPOSES DEATH



John 11:3-4 (ESV) So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” 4 But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

Martyrs.....dare to die because it proves the resurrection

MIRACLES

Dunamis



SYNOPTIC GOSPELS

Expressions of power of the kingdom

Simieon



GOSPEL OF JOHN

Points to the identity of the King

MIRACLE POINTS TO MESSAGE



John 20:30–31 (ESV) Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

SEVEN SIGNS-SEMION-POINTS

done in public -explicitly designated by John as a sign

1) John 2:1-11 Water into wine

Passin of old covenant
displaced by new covenant
changes us from inside

2) John 2:12-17 Cleansing of Te

*imminent destruction of
the temple*

3) John 4:46-54 Healing of nobleman'

*King has no limits power over
death*

4) John 5:1-15 Healing of Lame man

Healing of skeptic-
sinner

5) John 6:1-15 Feeding 5000

Jesus supplies all our needs

6) John 11 Healing of man born

No OT precedent Contrast

7) John 9 Resurrection of Lazarus

Power over death



V 25 JESUS SAID TO HER....

“I am the resurrection and the life” .



Whoever believes
in me, though he
die, yet shall he
live



26. and everyone who
lives and believes in
me shall never die.

THE WORD LIFE

Bios



Physical life

Zoe

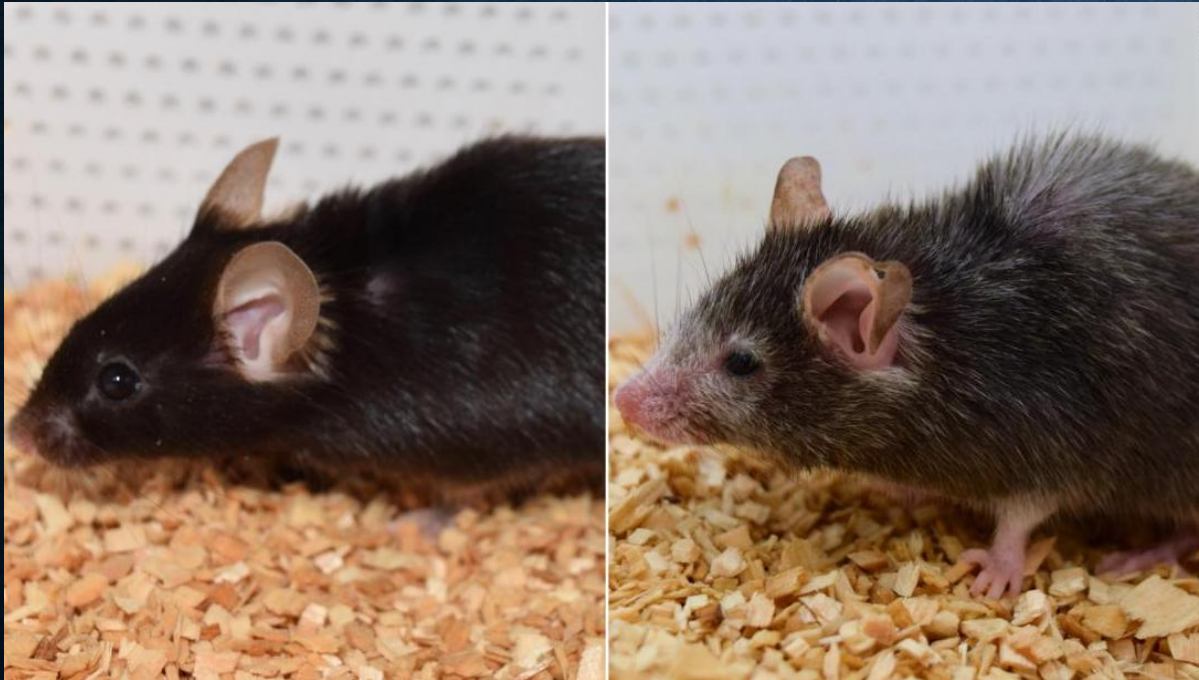


Quality of life
that is from
heaven

THE 'BENJAMIN BUTTON' EFFECT: SCIENTISTS CAN REVERSE AGING IN MICE. THE GOAL IS TO DO THE SAME FOR HUMANS

By Sandee LaMotte, CNN

Updated 0606 GMT (1406 HKT) June 3, 2022



Bios

Molecular biologist David Sinclair's [lab](#) at Harvard Medical School

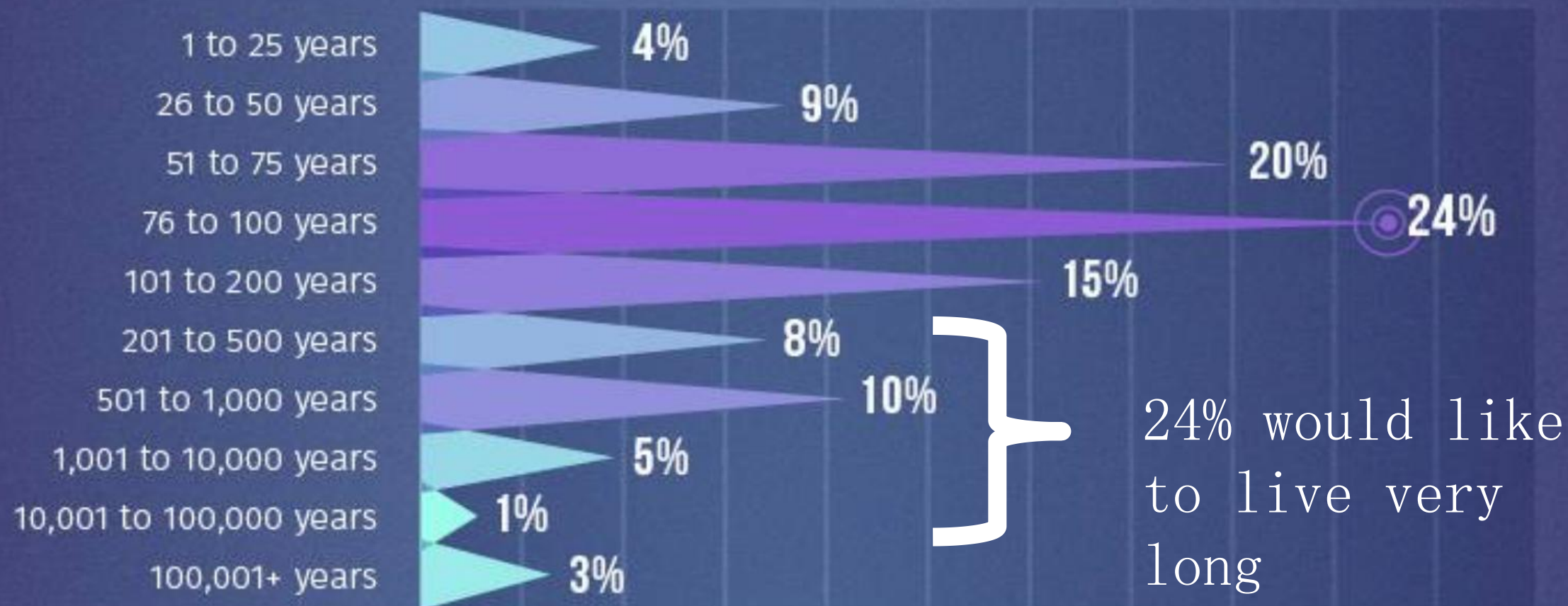


'SHINYA YAMANAKA
NOBLE PRIZE 2012
MATURE CELLS
PLURIPOTENT CELLS






*If you could stop aging after 25, **how many more years would you like to live?***



Life defined by memories



I have so many memories
I don't think I have anything to do
because I have done everything that I have
practically wanted to do

Amelia Tereza Harper, Tereza, it's Tereza because it's Czechoslovakian.

How to Live Forever or Die Trying

On the
New
Immortality



Bryan Appleyard

“I think there’s a point that the immortalists don’t understand, and it’s that one exhausts one’s own personality over a certain period. It’s a weird idea that you would go on and on, still being interested in being yourself. I don’t think anyone would. I think you’d get excruciatingly

LIVING LONGER UNDER ANY CONDITION



Would You Choose to Live Longer If ...

Work or family

You needed to work to support yourself throughout your extended life span?



79%

Only you and your family could extend your life span but no one else?



73%

Only you and your spouse could extend your life span?



63%

Your mind aged normally but not your body?



48%

You aged normally throughout your extended life span?



48%

GRANT GLUECK STUDY HARVARD



456 poor men growing up in Boston 1939 to 2014 vs health of 268 Harvard sophomores

TWO FOUNDATIONAL ELEMENTS IN ELDERLY



George Vaillant Prof of Psychiatry Harvard Univ

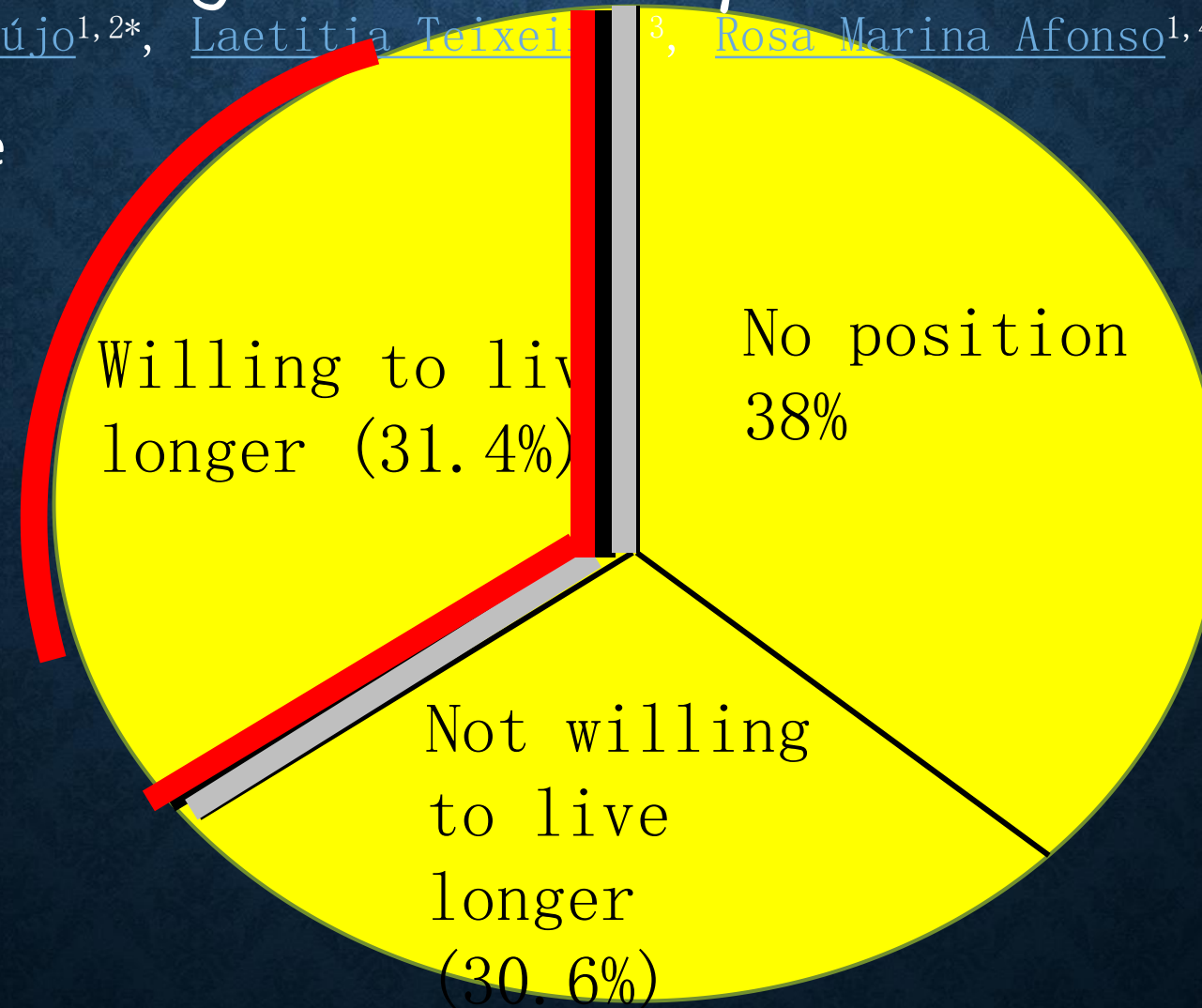
“When the study began,
1. Love.
nobody cared about empathy
2. Finding a way of
or attachment. But the key
to coping with life
to healthy aging is
relationships, that does not push
relationships, love away,”
relationships.”

To Live or Die: What to Wish at 100 Years and Older

Front. Psychol., 10 September 2021

[Lia Araújo](#)^{1,2*}, [Laetitia Teixeira](#)³, [Rosa Marina Afonso](#)^{1,4} and [Oscar Ribeiro](#)^{1,5}

Majority = family the wish to meet new great-grandchildren or see a grandchild's achievements (e.g., wedding, university graduation)



121
centenarians
Mean age 101
years; SD,
1.63 years

Quality



THAT THE QUALITY OF THE PERSON'S
PRESENT LIFE IS A 'FORETASTE' OF WHAT IS
TO COME

John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that
they know you, the only true God, and Jesus
Christ whom you have sent.

WHAT ETERNAL LIFE LOOKS LIKE



Galatians 5:22–23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control

They are all relational
terms

WHAT ETERNAL LIFE IS NOT

- Salvation
- Redemption
- Reconciliation
- Adoption
- Forgiveness
- Regeneration
- Glorification

In order to

Know God

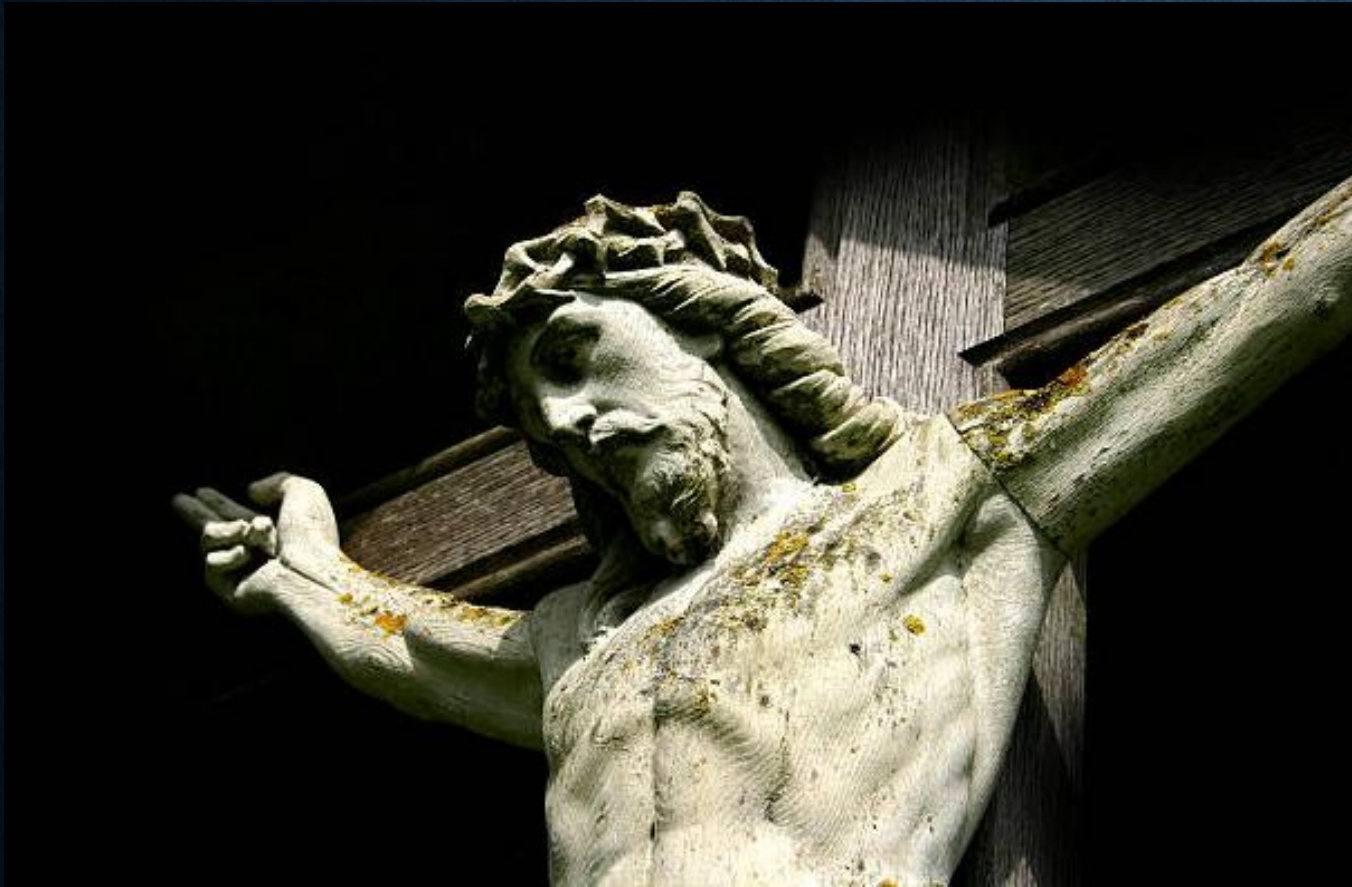
A woman with long, flowing red hair is shown in profile, looking upwards with her hands outstretched in a gesture of awe or prayer. She is wearing a dark blue patterned top. The background is a soft-focus view of a town or city at sunset, with mountains in the distance. The lighting is warm and golden, suggesting the time is either dawn or dusk.

Awareness of His existence

Romans 1: 21 For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking

IT IS MORE THAN

ETERNAL LIFE= KNOWING GOD



- Loving God
- Trusting Him
- Prize and prioritize His glory
- Rejoice in who He is and what He does
- Willingness to place your life in His hands



Seeing God in his glory, beholding his beauty,
understanding his infinite and incomparable power,
tasting the sweetness of his person, his kindness, his
love, his mercy, this is what it means to know God.
This is eternal life.

BECAUSE HE LIVES...

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Death is no
longer the
final
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Eternal life
begins today

03

We need to
take hold
of eternal
life now

THE TRUTH NOT ONLY SAVES US IT SHAPES OUR LIVES

John 11:25-27 Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” 27 She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

THE SHAPE OF ETERNAL LIFE

New

1. Perspectives
2. Purpose
3. Priorities
4. Power

A hand holds a black-rimmed magnifying glass in the foreground, focusing on a landscape. The landscape features a wide, flat, light-colored area in the foreground, possibly a dry riverbed or a field. In the middle ground, there are several hills or mountains with distinct horizontal geological layers. The sky is blue with scattered white clouds. The text "OUR PERSPECTIVE" is written in a white, stylized font across the center of the image, partially overlapping the magnifying glass and the landscape.

OUR PERSPECTIVE

Muhammad Shafee



Sithambaram



4-1 VERDICT FINAL APPEAL NAJIB

Grounds for Agong for consideration to determine which was the "better judgment".

"This decision is a vindication that the charges against Najib are legally mounted and not politically motivated by the prosecution,"

John 11: 39b Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days."

He stinks

"John 11:11 After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him."

He's asleep



NEW PERSPECTIVES

Not new disabilities but new opportunities



2 Corinthians 4:16 So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day.

2 Corinthians 4:7 But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us.

SECRETS OF THE CENTENARIANS

Marriage 77 years



Charlotte 102 and John Henderson 104

Lack of men in her life

"They're more trouble than they're worth"



Jesse Gallan 109



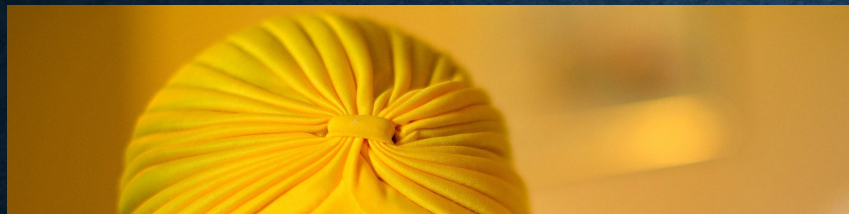
Adelina Domingues

114

Her secret

*Never wear make
up*

SUZANNAH MUSHATT 116 YRS



MISAO OKAWA 114 YRS



ITS NOT WHAT YOU EAT OR DO
ITS WHO YOU TRUST



“I am the resurrection and the life”

NEW PURPOSE



Philippians 3:10–11 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.



Philippians 3:20–21 But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.



LOOKING FORWARD

- Child
 - Young man
 - Middle Age
 - Elderly
-
- Plans—short, medium
long-eternal

NEW PRIORITIES



NEW PRIORITIES



Matthew 13:44 The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

Matthew 6:9–10 “Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name. 10 Your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

PAUL'S PRIORITIES



1 Timothy 6:12 Fight the good fight of
the faith Epilambanomai

Take hold of the eternal life to which
you were called and about which you made
the good confession in the presence of
many witnesses.



Acts 21:30

They seized Paul and dragged him out of the temple, and at once the gates were shut.



Matt 14:31

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him



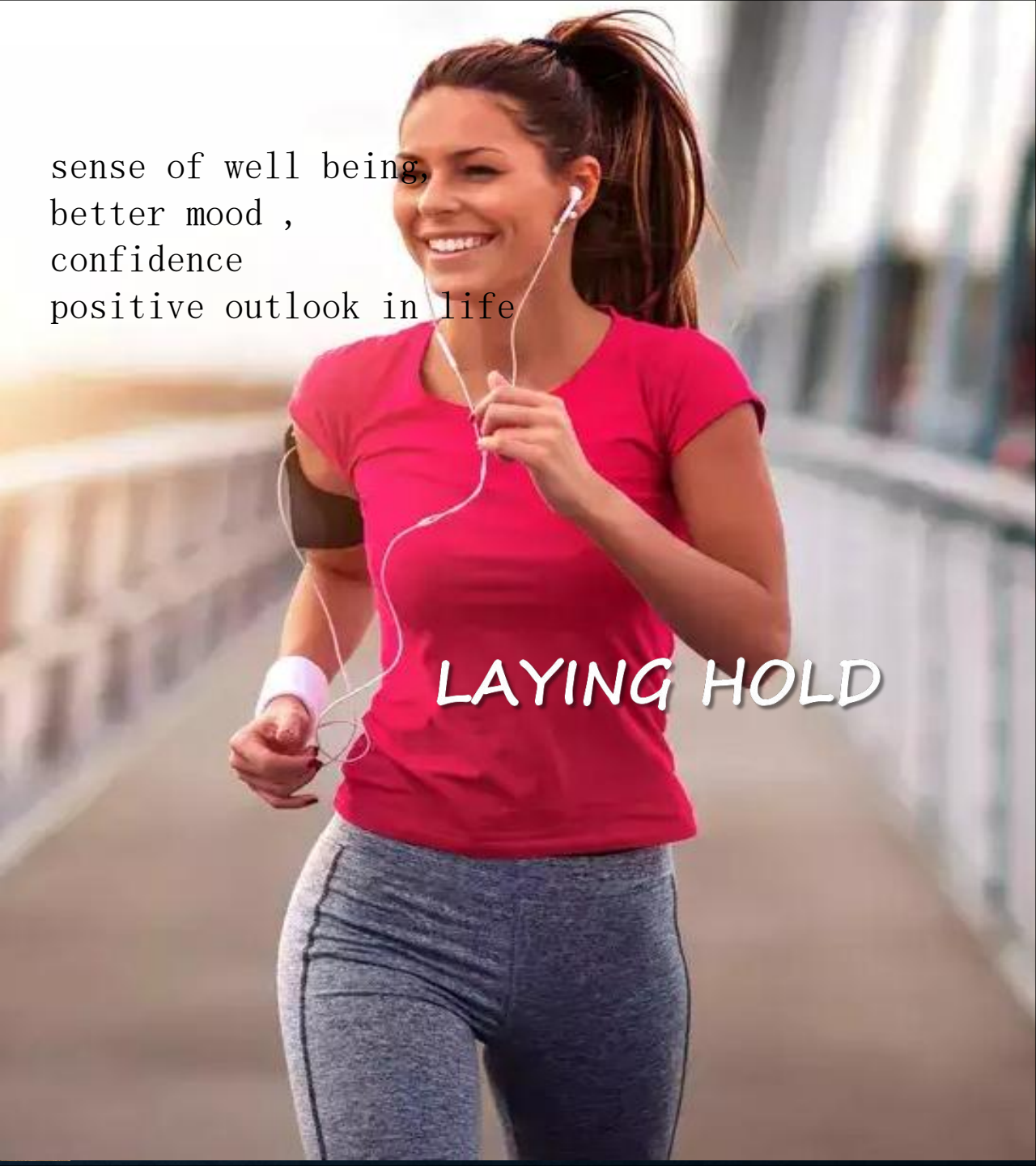
Luke 23:26

And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus.

SEIZE ...VIOLENTLY



LAYING WASTE



sense of well being,
better mood ,
confidence
positive outlook in life

LAYING HOLD

A NEW POWER



John 11:8-10 The disciples said to him, “Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?” 9 Jesus answered, “Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. 10 But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him.”

“God has no
problems only
plans”



FEAR = RESIGNATION



John 11:16 So Thomas, called the Twin,
said to his fellow disciples, “Let us
also go, that we may die with him.”

DOUBTING THOMAS AND THE RESURRECTION



John 20:27–29 (ESV) Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.”
28 Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

Because He Lives
Confidence

~~*I can face tomorrow!*~~

I will look forward to tomorrow



NEW POWER

We are not defined by single act of heroism or your latest sin



Supernatural powers of tomorrow

Power to forgive

Sacrifice

Give

Love the unlovable

Reconcile

Patience

Hope in ministry



NEW POWER TO REPENT



We are not defined by
single act of heroism or
your latest sin

A life time of
repentance





Heaven -distant-unreal, distant
Affairs of this world - important
Kingdom is diminished
Sacrifice is a chore
People are an interruption
Classify people..accord to your need
Burn out..

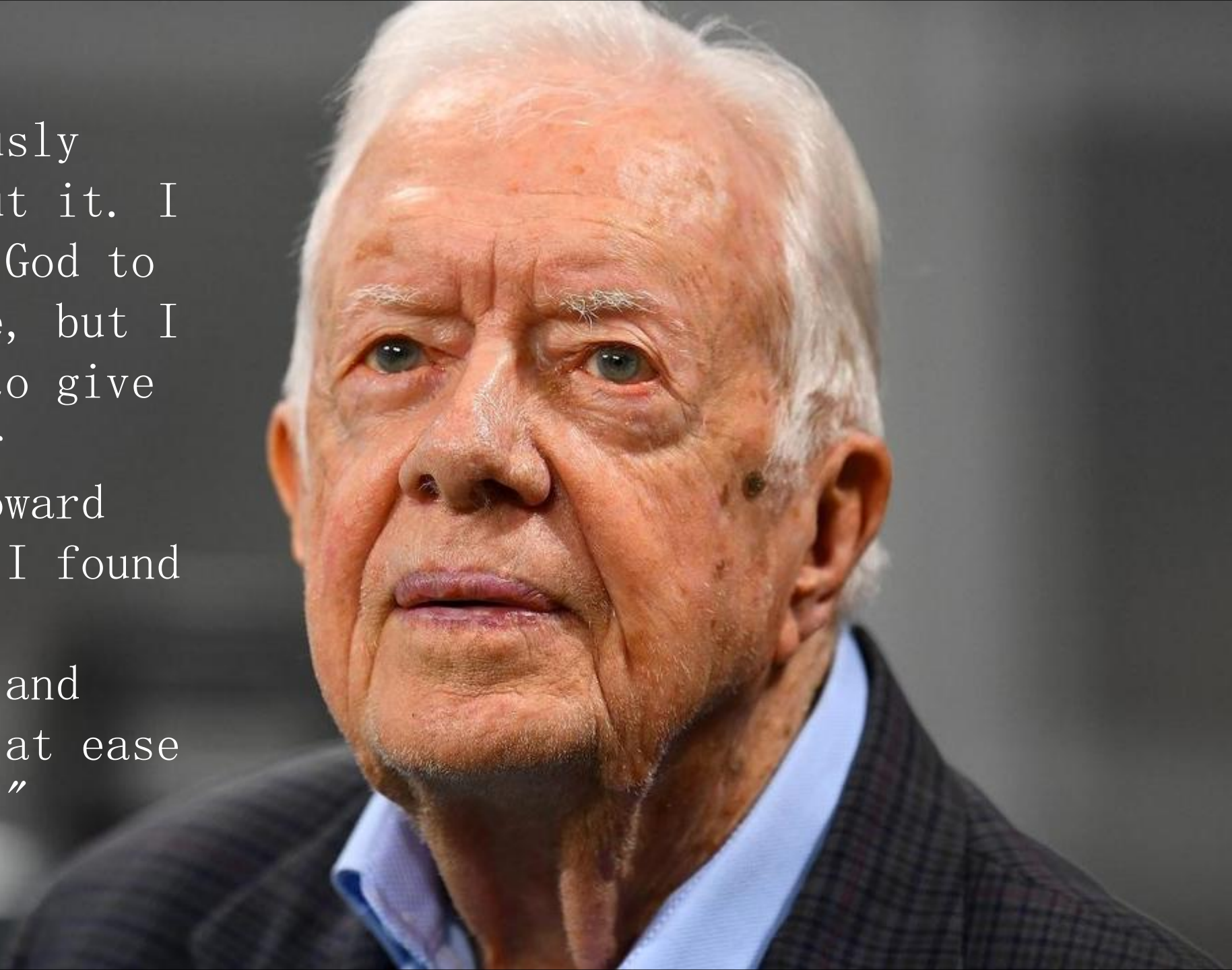
An elderly woman with short, wavy white hair is seated in a plush red leather armchair. She is wearing a dark navy blue cardigan over a light pink or mauve turtleneck sweater. Her right hand is resting against her cheek, with her fingers slightly curled. She has a thoughtful expression, looking slightly off-camera to the right. The background is a softly lit room with a wooden side table holding several framed photographs of people from different eras. The overall mood is intimate and reflective.

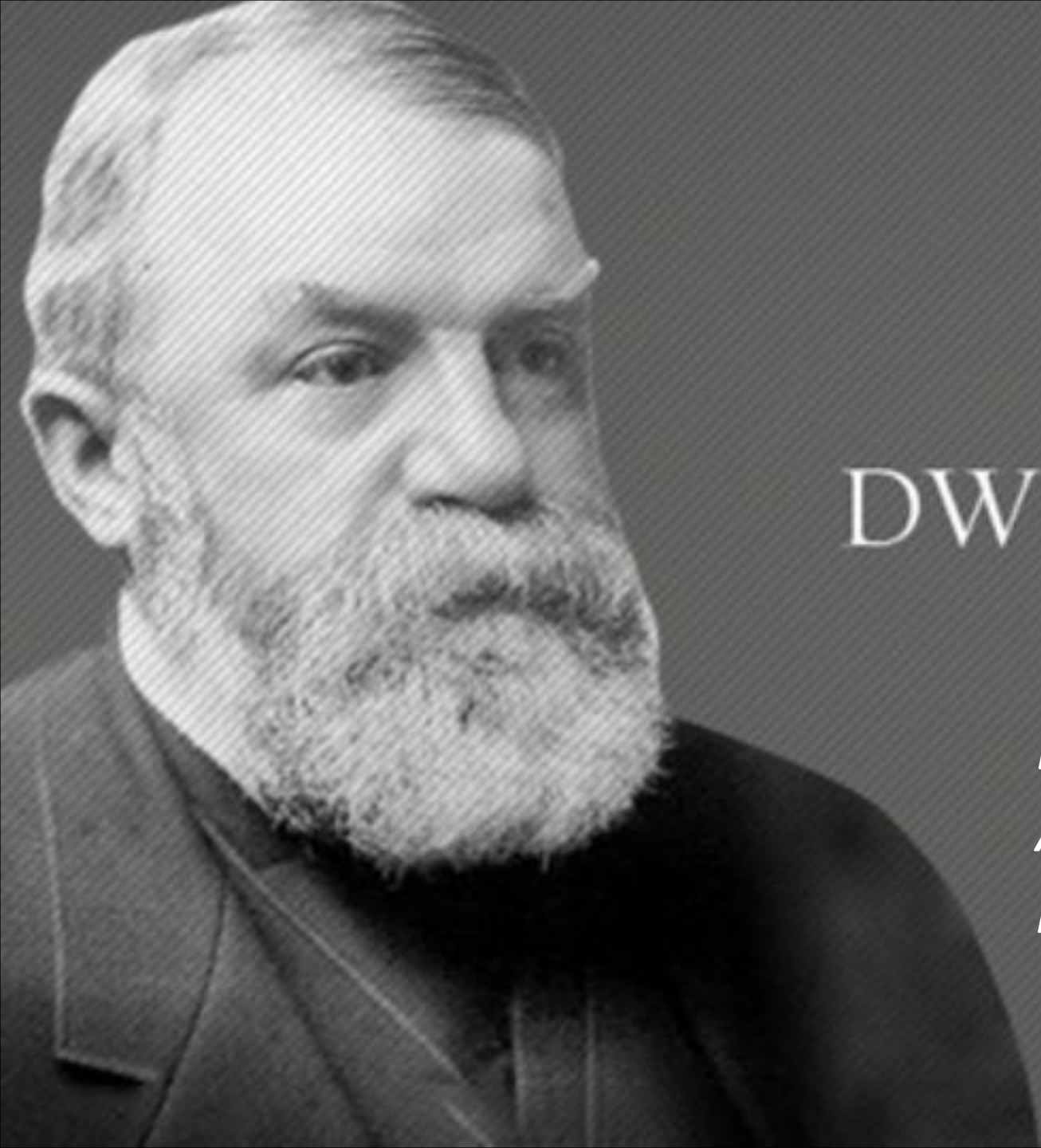
Life defined by memories Looking backwards

I have so many memories
I don't think I have anything to do
because I have done everything that I have
practically wanted to do

Amelia Tereza Harper, Tereza, it's Tereza because it's Czechoslovakian.

. "I obviously
prayed about it. I
didn't ask God to
let me live, but I
asked God to give
me a proper
attitude toward
death. And I found
that I was
absolutely and
completely at ease
with death."





DWIGHT L. MOODY

1837–1899

*Don't you believe a word of it!
At that moment I shall be
more alive than I am now!"*

CHALLENGE



John 11:25-26 I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, 26 and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

EASTER BENEDICTION

1 Corinthians 15:56–58 (ESV) The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. 57 But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

58 Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.