

FBC
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
PUNJAB JALPA

GAMMA21

GAMMA
SERIES

BOOK
OF

JAMES

A FAITH THAT WORKS

STUDY 1

Introduction

The Christian in Trials and Suffering

James 1:1-4

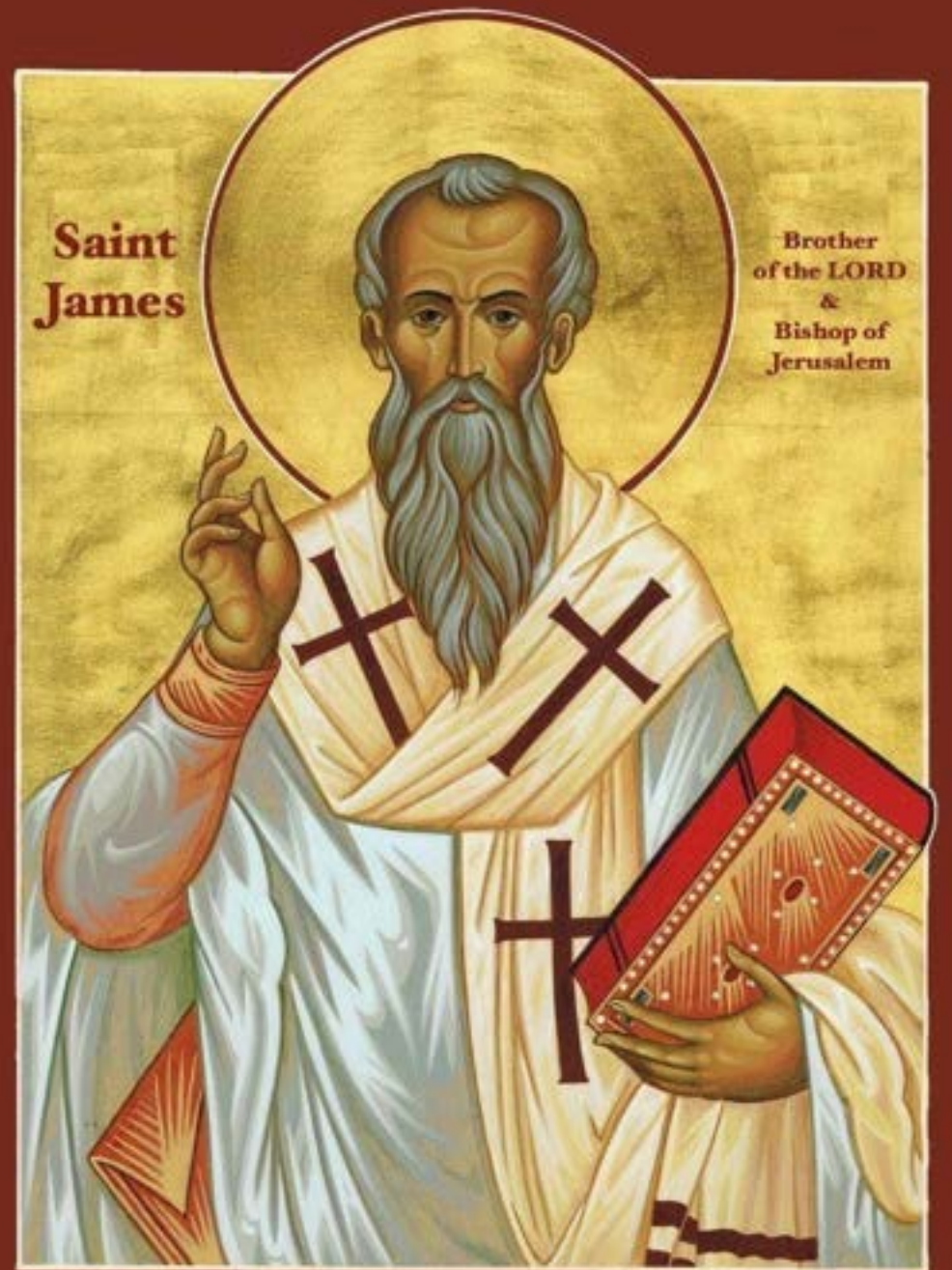
James 1:1-4 James, a servant of God and of the Lord
Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings.

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of
various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your
faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness
have its full effect, that you may be perfect and
complete, lacking in nothing.

WHO IS THIS JAMES?





4 PILLARS

- Peter
- Paul
- James
- John

Identification	Scripture	Description
James father of Judas Iscariot	Lk 6:16	Also known as Thaddues, nothing know about him
James son of Zebedee brother of John	Mtt 4:21,10:2; Mk 1:19	Part of the Sons of Thunder, present at Transfiguration, Martyred AD 44
James son of Alphaeus	Matt 10:3; Mark 3:18	One of 12 disciples many scholars believe he is the same person as James the Less
James the Less son of Mary	Matt 27:56 Mk 15:40; 16:1	Son of Mary one of eye witnesses to burial and resurrection of Jesus
James son of Joseph and Mary half brother to Jesus	Matt 13:55; Mark 6:3 ;Acts 1:14; 12:17; Jn 7:5	Initial unbeliever then saw the resurrected Jesus , leader of early church martyred AD 62

A young boy with a wide smile is sitting next to a baby who has a surprised expression. The boy is wearing a blue and white shirt, and the baby is wearing a colorful patterned shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

**LIVING WITH THE
PERFECT ELDER
BROTHER**

UNBELIEVING

John 7:2-5 (ESV) Now the Jews' Feast of Booths was at hand.


3 So his brothers said to him, "Leave here and go to Judea, that your disciples also may see the works you are doing.

4 For no one works in secret if he seeks to be known openly. If you do these things, show yourself to the world."

5 For not even his brothers believed in him.

THOUGHT HE WAS NUTS

Mark 3:21 (ESV) And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.”



**1 Corinthians
15:7 Then he
appeared to
James, then to
all the apostles.**

FAITH REQUIRES MINIMAL FACTS

Gary Habermas



A detailed painting of the Jerusalem Council, showing several men in traditional robes gathered around a table. They are examining scrolls and documents, with some pointing at the text. The scene is set in a room with a stone archway in the background. The overall tone is serious and focused.

ACTS 15 JERUSALEM COUNCIL

JAMES MADE CONCLUDING REMARKS

Acts 15:19-20 (ESV) Therefore my judgment is that we should not trouble those of the Gentiles who turn to God, 20 but should write to them to abstain from the things polluted by idols, and from sexual immorality,

RECEIVED PAULS REPORT OF 3RD MISSIONARY JOURNEY

Acts 21:17-19 (ESV) When we had come to Jerusalem, the brothers received us gladly. 18 On the following day Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.

MARTYRED AD 62



James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings.

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

IMAGINE FOR A MINUTE

James 1:1 James, Chairman of Jerusalem Council, Elder of Jerusalem church and brother of Jesus Christ (God)

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings.

Doulos – indentured servant , Slave

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Kurios

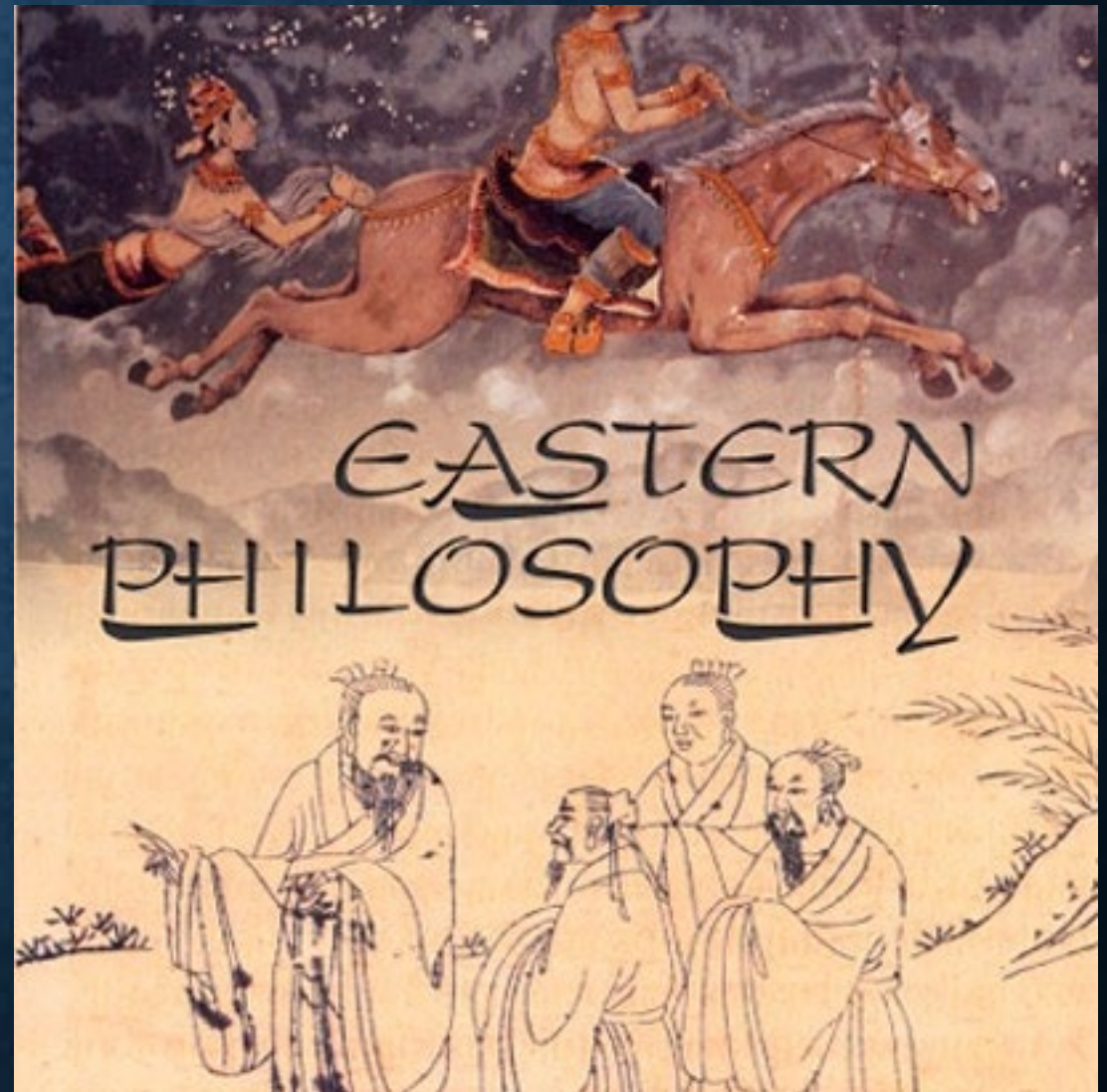
OT-YHWH

Greetings.

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.



**KAISER
KURIOS**





**JEWISH CONCEPT OF
TRANSCENDENCE OF GOD**

SYMBOLIC



**A FAITH THAT WORKS
IN THE REAL WORLD**



**Trials and
Tribulations**



Revelation 2:9-10 I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. 10 Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison,

SUFFERING IS INEVITABLE

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings.

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.



severe poverty (2:15-16)
exploitation by wealthy
landowners (5:1-6)
legal oppression by the rich
(2:5-7)
persecution (2:5-7)
powerlessness (1:26-27)
seriously ill, nearing death
(5:14-15)

RICH



POOR



- . overall economic situation of culture (2:14-26)
- . sinful greed of the rich (2:1-7)
- . corrupt legal system (2:5-7)
- . fraud (5:1-6)
- . sickness (5:14)
- . possibly personal sin (5:15-16)

SUFFERING IS A HUMAN CONDITION

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 ESV 1 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.....4 a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;





NO PAIN

Hospital admissions with symptoms jumped nearly 32% in Italy, while intensive care admissions rose about 21%, compared to the week before



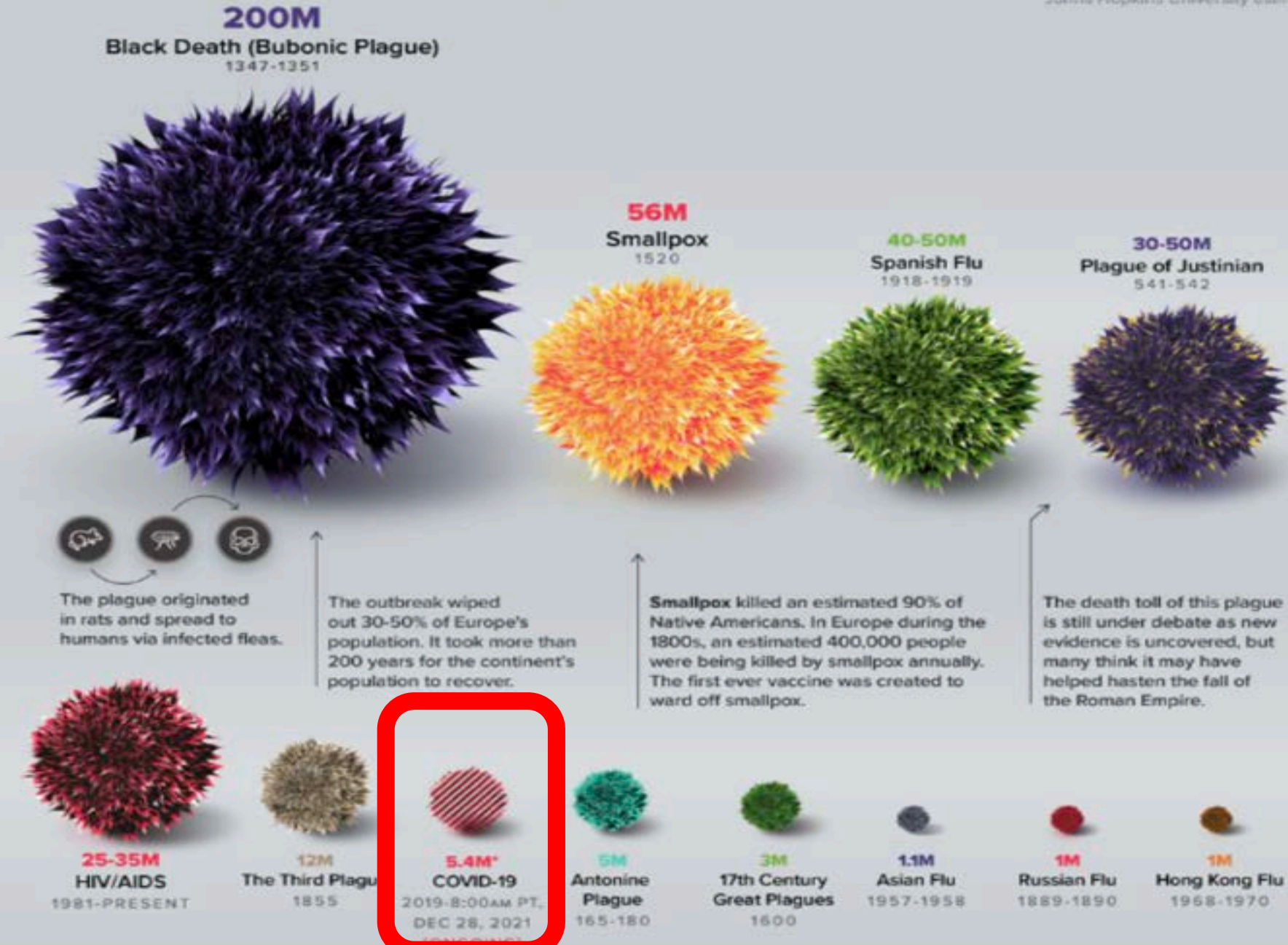
COVID 19 PANDEMIC

DEATH TOLL

[HIGHEST TO LOWEST]

It is hard to calculate and forecast the impact of COVID-19 because the disease is new to medicine, and data is still coming in.

*Johns Hopkins University estimates



Deaths per 100 000

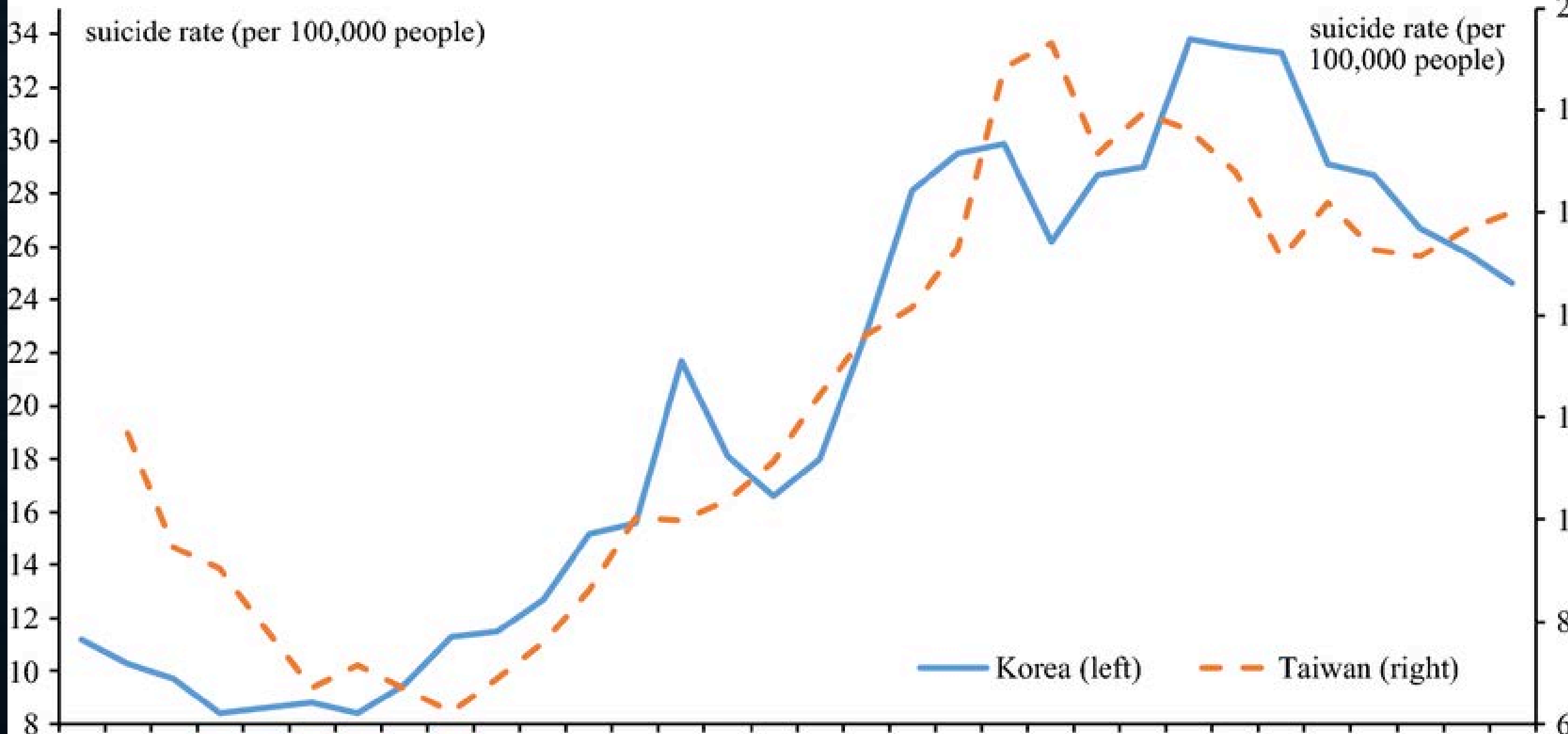
suicide rate (per 100,000 people)


suicide rate (per 100,000 people)

— Korea (left)

- - - Taiwan (right)

1985 1986 1987 1988 1989 1990 1991 1992 1993 1994 1995 1996 1997 1998 1999 2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016



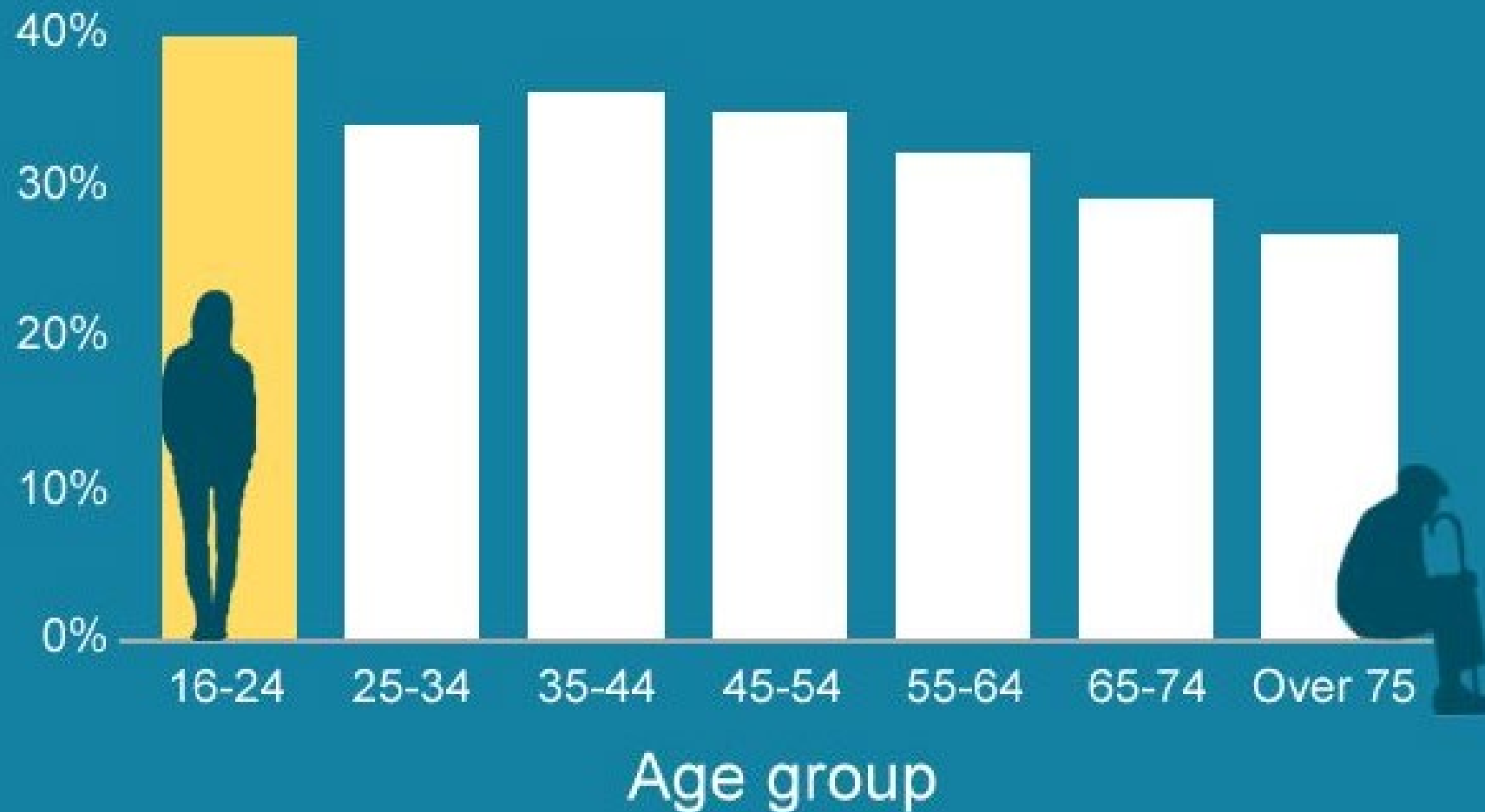


1 in 3 suffer
psychological
distress

New Straits Times
Report 2021

anxiety, depression, post-traumatic
stress, and insomnia disorders

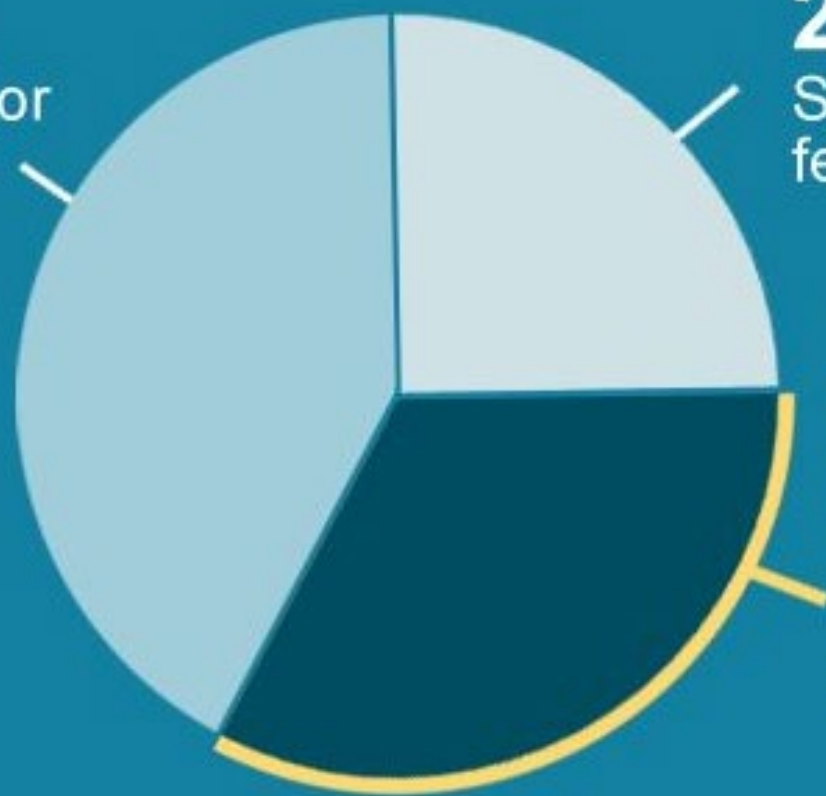
People in the survey who said they feel lonely 'often' or 'very often'



How common is loneliness with people of all ages?

42%

Rarely or never feel lonely



25%

Sometimes feel lonely

33%

of people say they feel lonely often or very often



SECULAR LIFE'S GOALS

Personal
achievement
Happiness

Relationship
intimacy

Happiness

intimacy

A COMMAND

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ,

To the twelve tribes in the Dispersion:

Greetings. Egeomai-- to lead, consider, count, regard

2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.



Leading procession



Triggering event –Fired from Job

Interpretation

Unfair
Victim
I am useless
and no good

Fear

Sadness

Hopelessness

Powerlessness

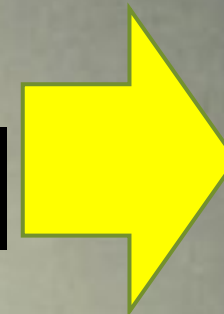
Frustration

Fear

Sadness

Hopelessness

Powerlessness



Joy



मास्क पहनाओ
रोग से बचाओ





Viktor Frankl (1905-1997)

MAN'S SEARCH FOR MEANING VIKTOR E. FRANKL

WITH A NEW FOREWORD BY
HAROLD S. KUSHNER



MORE THAN
12 MILLION COPIES
IN PRINT
WORLDWIDE

CHOICE



Victor Frankl

“Between stimulus and response there is a space. In that space is our power to choose our response. In our response lies our growth and our freedom.”



SECULAR RESPONSE

EPICETUS

Recognition of powerlessness

Happiness and freedom begin with the clear understanding of one principle. Some things are within your control and some things are not



On many an occasion I felt an urge to cut my life short there and then, and was only held back by the thought of my father, who had been the kindest of fathers to me and was then in his old age.



Will Power

*Having in mind not how bravely I was capable of dying but how far from bravely he was capable of bearing the loss, I commanded myself to live. There are times when even to live is an act of bravery.”
— Seneca*

A woman with long, dark, wet hair is looking upwards and to the right. She is in the rain, with water droplets visible on her face and hair. The background is a dark blue, rainy scene.

CHOOSE YOUR ATTITUDE

Denial-Delusion

- Think comforting thoughts
- It is going to be alright
- It will affect everyone else but not me
- Glass half full
- It is not that bad



CONCRETE SPIRITUAL TRUTH

James 1:2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of **various kinds**, 3 for you

It really does not matter what trial

God has a purpose it is not random nor out of control
acertain genuiness of faith

of your faith produces

To produce spiritual growth

its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Toward and ultimate destination

PAUL AS THE SAME IDEA

Romans 5:3-4 (ESV) Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,



**GENUINNESS OF
THEIR LOVE**

WHAT IS LEADING EMOTION HERE



A photograph of an elderly couple, Phillip and Penelope Knatchbul, sitting in the front seats of a car. Phillip is on the left, wearing a grey tweed jacket, and Penelope is on the right, wearing a pink and white striped shirt. They are both smiling and looking towards the right. The car's interior, including the steering wheel and dashboard, is visible. The background is a blurred green landscape.

Phillip and Penelope Knatchbul

**STEADFASTNESS
OF THE LOVE AND
FAITH IN EACH
OTHER**





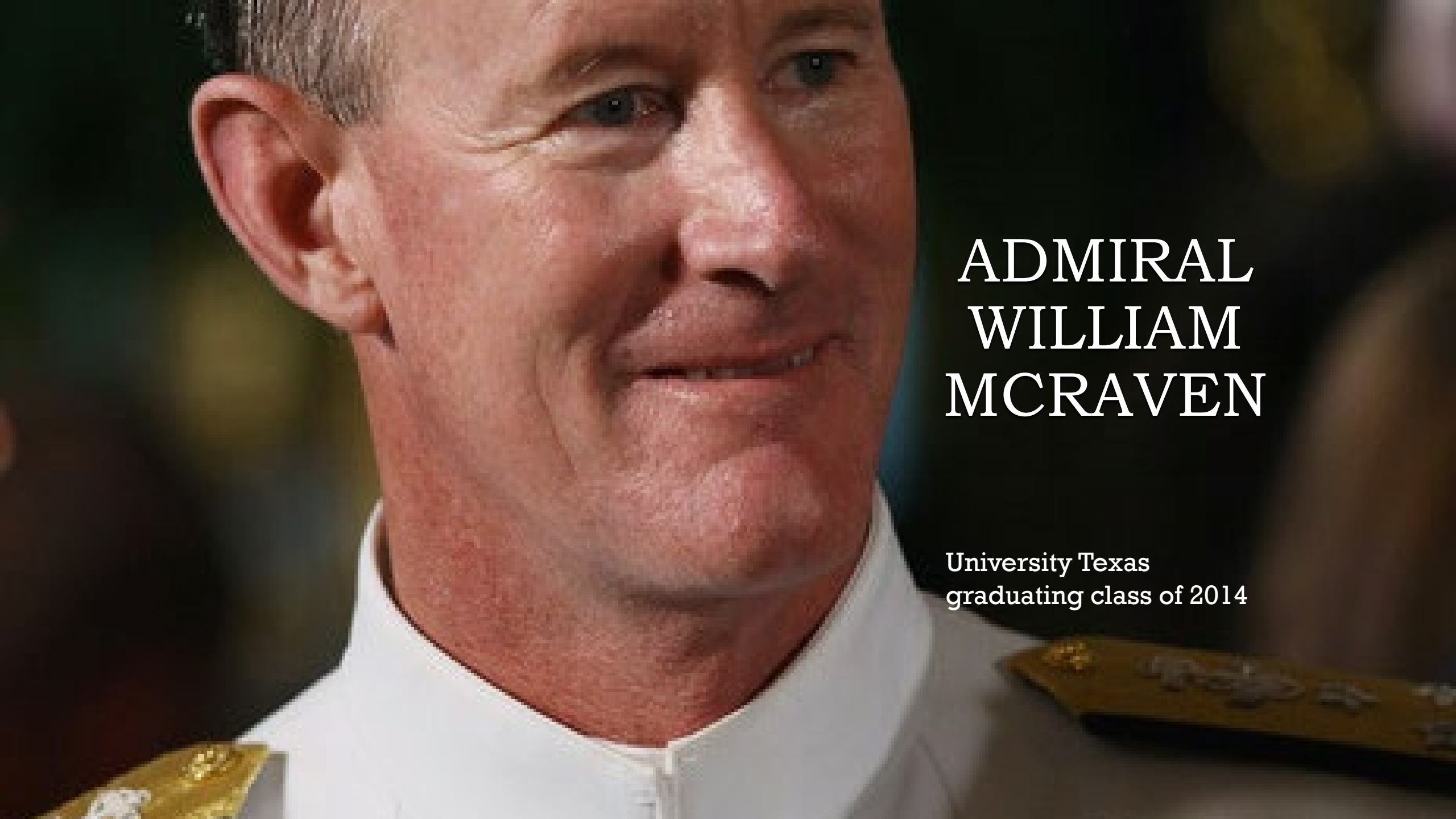
JOY BASED ON GOD'S CONTROL OF THE FUTURE

CONCRETE SPIRITUAL TRUTH

James 1:2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.



John 15:1-2 (ESV) I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. 2 Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.

A close-up portrait of Admiral William McRaven, a middle-aged man with short, light-colored hair, looking slightly to the right with a subtle smile. He is wearing a white collared shirt and a dark jacket with gold epaulettes. The background is dark and out of focus.

ADMIRAL
WILLIAM
MCRAVEN

University Texas
graduating class of 2014

NAVY SEALS

SEAL = FINISH 6 MONTHS

Just don't quit.

THE CIRCUS



END RESULT

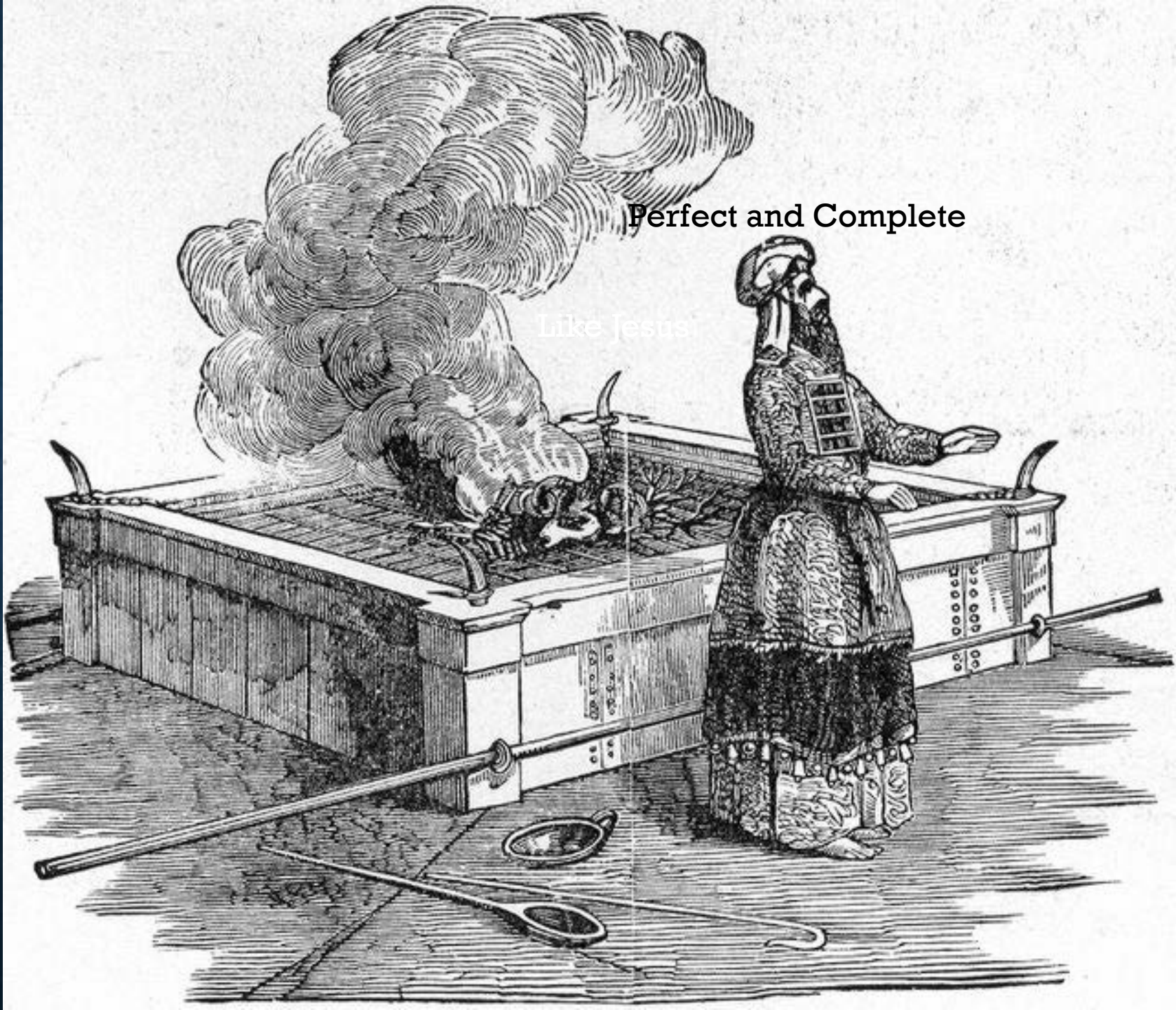
James 1:2 Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, 3 for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. 4 And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

Matthew 5:48 You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Galatians 4:19-20 (ESV) my little children,
for whom I am again in the anguish of
childbirth until **Christ is formed in you!**

Ephesians 4:12-13 (ESV) to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

Perfect and Complete



BY PRODUCTS OF SUFFERING

Humility

Freedom

Compassion

Faith

HUMILITY

So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited

(2 Corinthians 12:7 ESV)

addiction

FREEDOM



• CC

COMPASSION



Hebrews 12:1-2 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, ² looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.