

CHRISTMAS
THE GOSPEL OF FEARLESS JOY

Luke 2: 8-12



A dramatic scene of a shepherd with his flock at night. The shepherd, wearing a dark robe, stands in the center, looking towards the right. His flock of sheep is scattered around him, some grazing and some looking towards the light. The background is dark, with a bright light source on the right side, creating a strong glow and lens flare. The overall mood is one of awe and fear.

Luke 2:8 (ESV) And in the same region there were
shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over
their flock by night, filled with great fear.

Gen 46: 34bf..or every shepherd is an abomination to the Egyptians.”

Social status-tax collectors ,dung sweepers

Forbidden to buy wool or milk from them..stolen goods

Mishnah-not obligated to rescue shepherds fallen into a pit

Jeremias-no civil rights..not witnesses



INVISIBLE PEOPLE



Not seen

Don't matter

No Value

Forgotten

GOD SEES THEM AND COMES TO THE THEM

Luke **Imperative** 7) And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.



Made image of God
Fear was never hard wired



DENTAL FEAR -32.9%



<https://hsdm.harvard.edu/news/filling-s-cleanings-exams-oh-my-getting-root-dental-fear>

More Than Half of Malaysians Fear Insufficient Retirement Savings, SC Warns



Fintech News Malaysia — October 14, 2024

🕒 2 Mins Read

16% confident their funds will last over 20 years

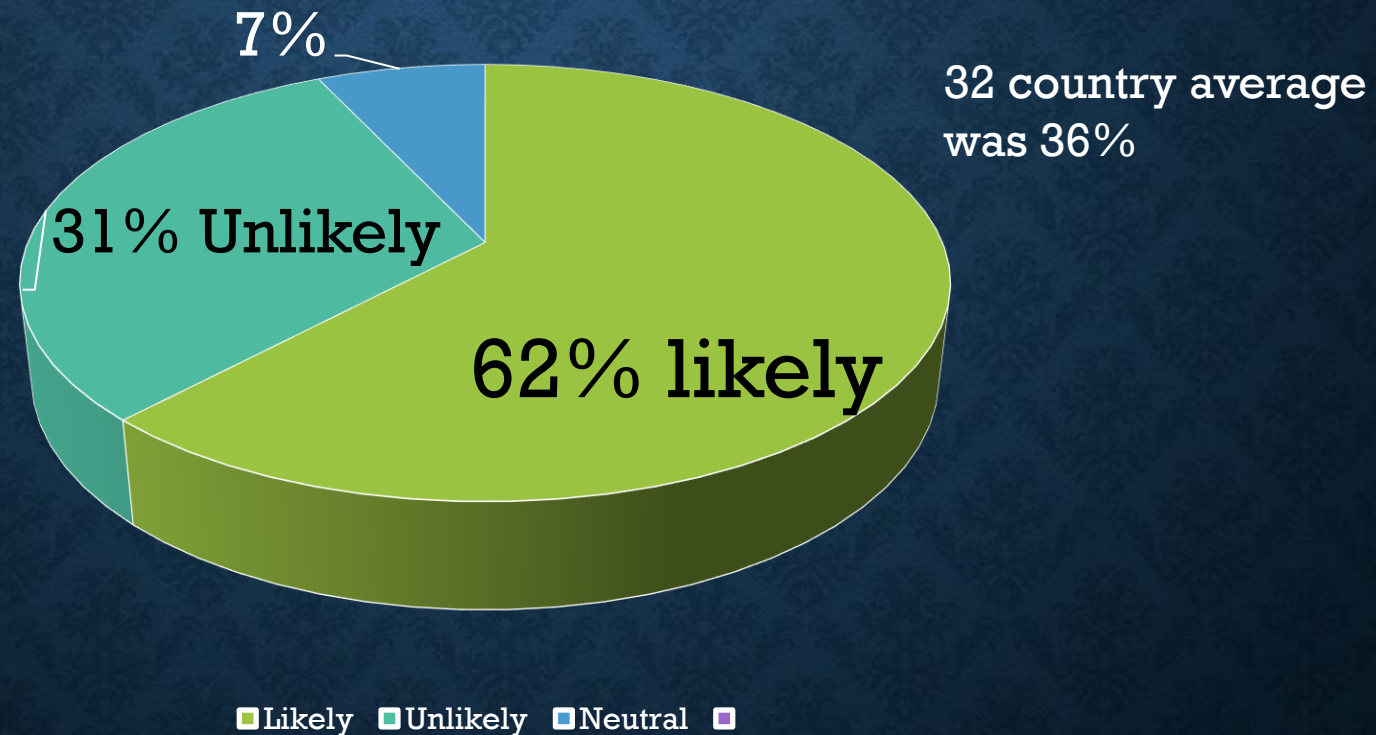
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HOW LIKELY IS AI TO REPLACE YOUR JOB



Changes to Malaysia's education system raise fears that students are not prepared for future

patients



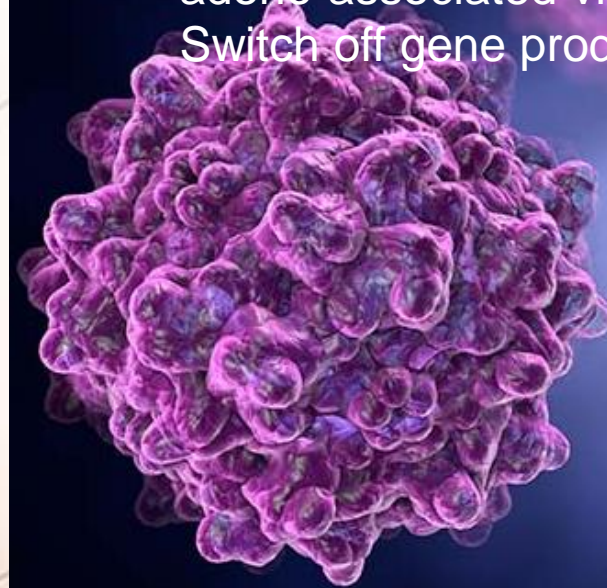
The Dual Language Programme, which has since 2016 allowed science and mathematics to be taught in English, is being reduced or scrapped altogether in several government schools in Malaysia. PHOTO: REUTERS

inhibitory "GABA" neurotransmitters cause fear



UNIV CALIF SAN DIEGO

adeno-associated virus (AAV) to
Switch off gene prod GABA



1. Hui-quan Li, Wuji Jiang, Li Ling, Marta Pratelli, Cong Chen, Vaidehi Gupta, Swetha K. Godavarthi, Nicholas C. Spitzer. **Generalized fear after acute stress is caused by change in neuronal cotransmitter identity.** *Science*, 2024; 383 (6688): 1252

FEARLESS JOY—BASED ON HISTORICAL EVENT



Luke 2:10 (ESV) And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.



“a feeling of extreme gladness, delight, or exaltation of the spirit arising from a sense of well-being or satisfaction.”

American Psychological Association



"the emotion evoked by well-being, success, or good fortune or by the prospect of possessing what one desires"

Miriam Webster



**OH WHAT A FEELING
TOYOTA**



POSSESSING WHAT YOU DON'T HAVE

Himage credit: <https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/media/video/2011-10-0038-jesus-forgives-sins-and-heals-a-man-stricken-with-palsy?lang=eng>

IF ONLY I CAN WALK



WALKING ISN'T THE ANSWER

Depression 24.2%

Anxiety 36.3%

Stress 20.6%

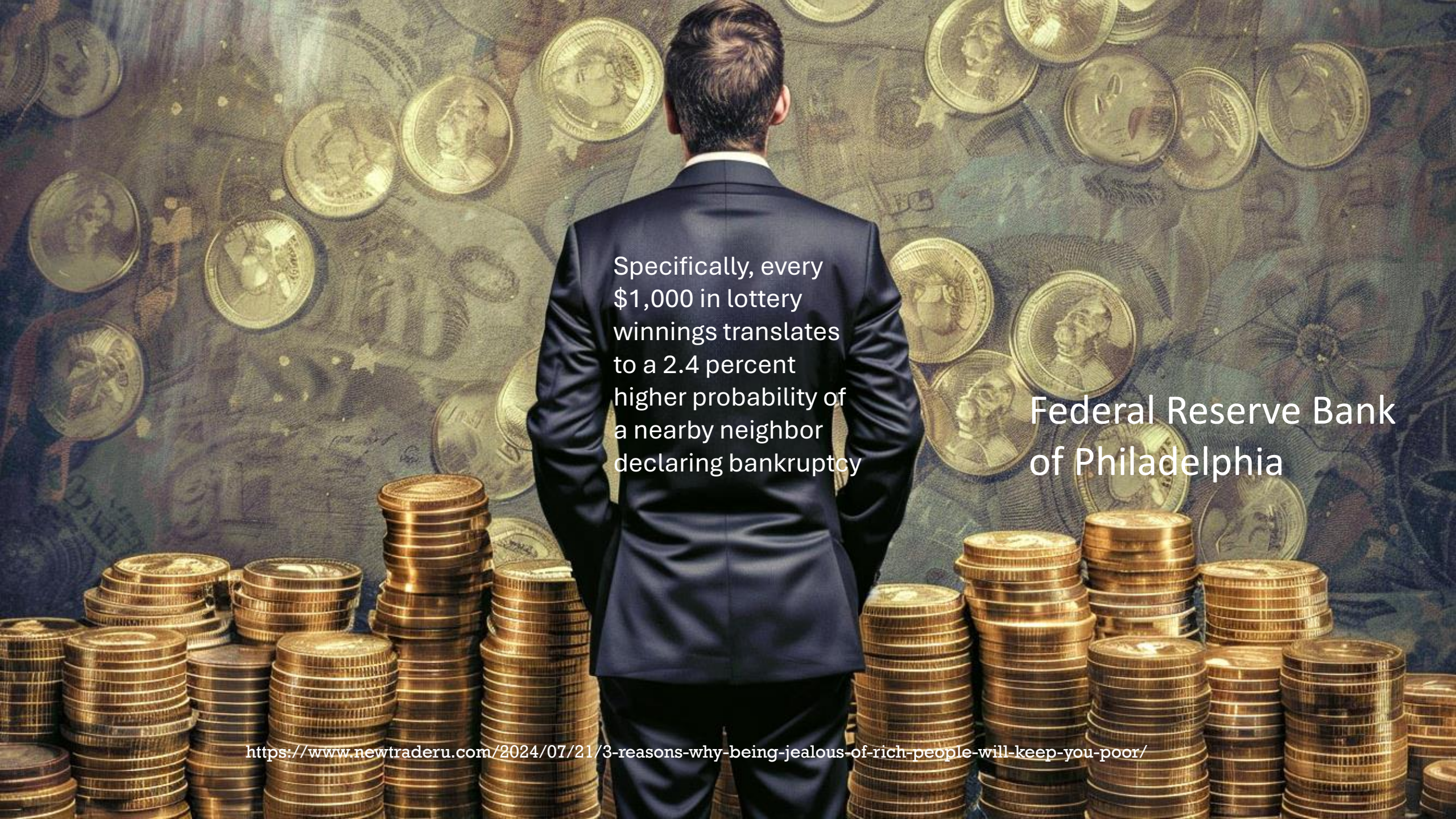
Prevalence and Associated Factors of the Severity of Depression, Anxiety and Stress Among Low-Income Community-Dwelling Adults in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Halyna Lugova¹ · Jo Ann Andoy-Galvan² · Sapna S. Patil²
et al Community Mental Health Journal (2021) 57:1489–1498

A vibrant rainbow arches across a cloudy sky, casting a soft glow. Below the rainbow, a dark body of water stretches across the foreground, with a range of mountains in the distance under a heavy, grey sky.

JOY

Somewhere over the rainbow
Skies are blue
And the dreams that you dare to dream
Really do come true



Specifically, every
\$1,000 in lottery
winnings translates
to a 2.4 percent
higher probability of
a nearby neighbor
declaring bankruptcy

Federal Reserve Bank
of Philadelphia

ABIGAIL DISNEY

Special entrance and a special exit, private airplane and a private bar. You don't want to inhabit anything but the stratosphere with people who are like "the dynamics of wealth are similar to the dynamics of addiction". Everywhere you look, there's somebody who has — as you get more, you need more. They felt that the more money they had, they more they had to lose.



Image Credit : - Phillip Faraone/Getty

Images for Refinery29

[https://www.businessinsider.com/abiga](https://www.businessinsider.com/abigail-disney-patriotic-millionaires-billionaires-miserable-unhappy-people-wealth-tax-2022-4)

[il-disney-patriotic-millionaires-](https://www.businessinsider.com/abigail-disney-patriotic-millionaires-billionaires-miserable-unhappy-people-wealth-tax-2022-4)

[billionaires-miserable-unhappy-people-](https://www.businessinsider.com/abigail-disney-patriotic-millionaires-billionaires-miserable-unhappy-people-wealth-tax-2022-4)

[wealth-tax-2022-4](https://www.businessinsider.com/abigail-disney-patriotic-millionaires-billionaires-miserable-unhappy-people-wealth-tax-2022-4)

WHAT DETERMINES HAPPINESS

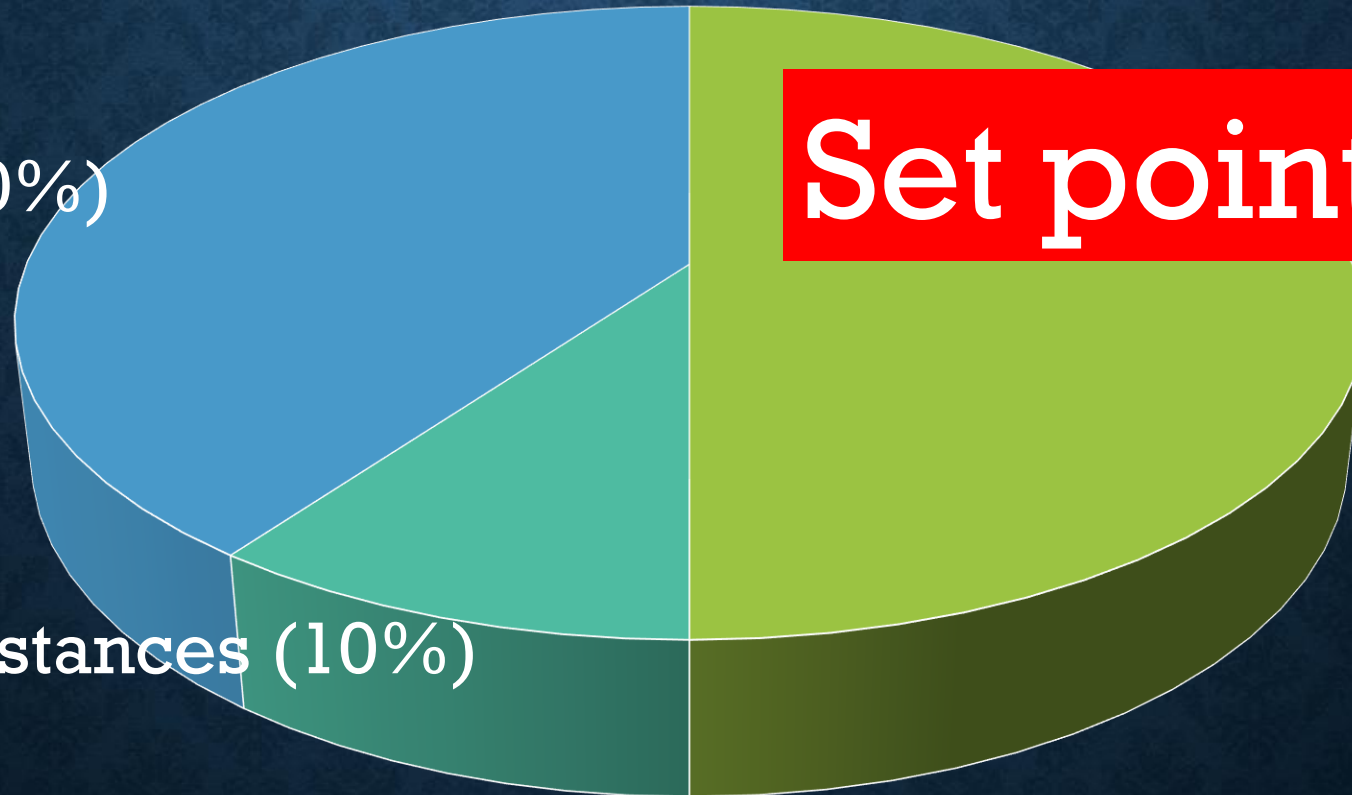
Percentage

Intentional
Activities (40%)

Circumstances (10%)

Set point (50%)

■ Set Point ■ Circumstances ■ Activities intentional



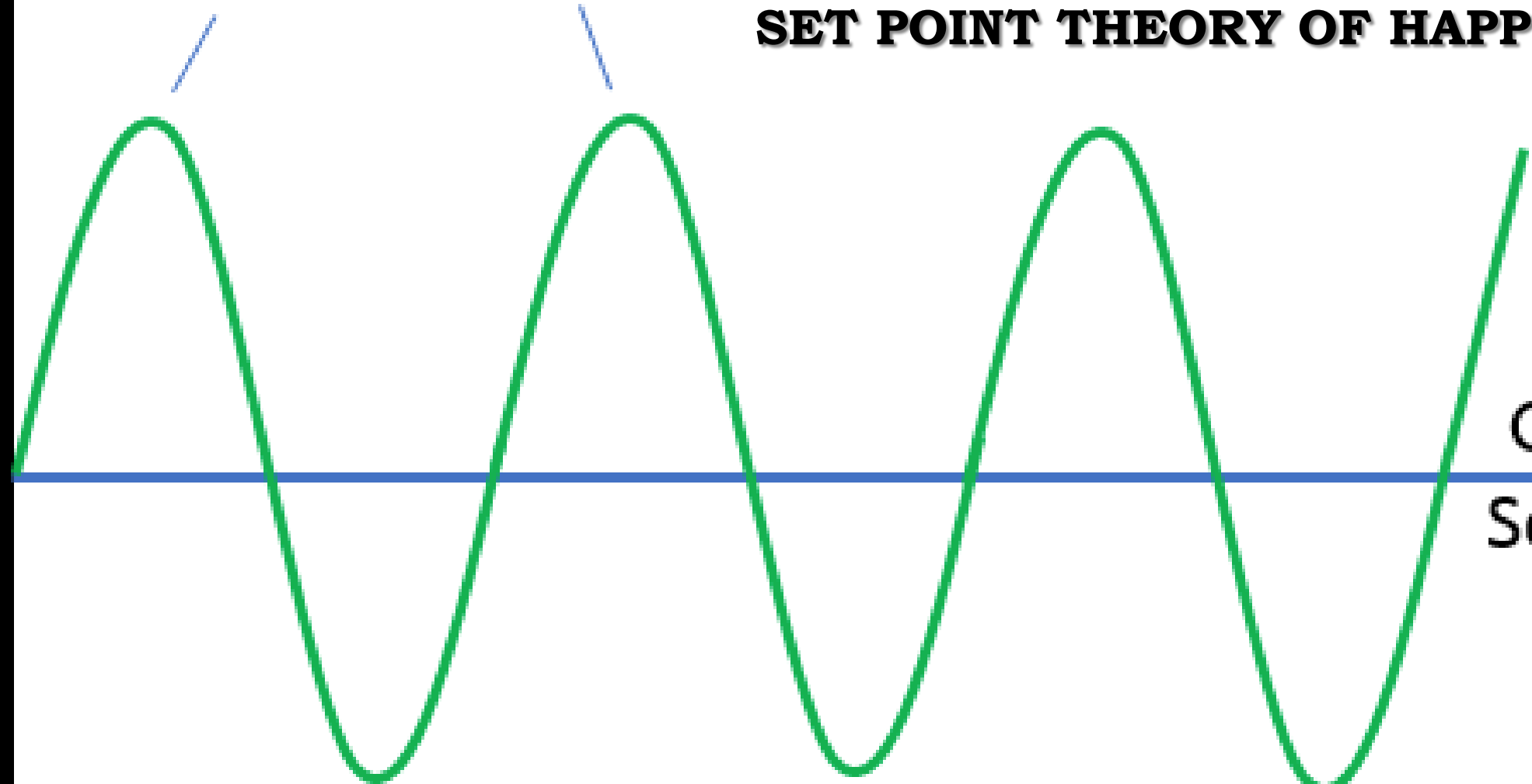
SET POINT THEORY OF HAPPINESS

Good Circumstances

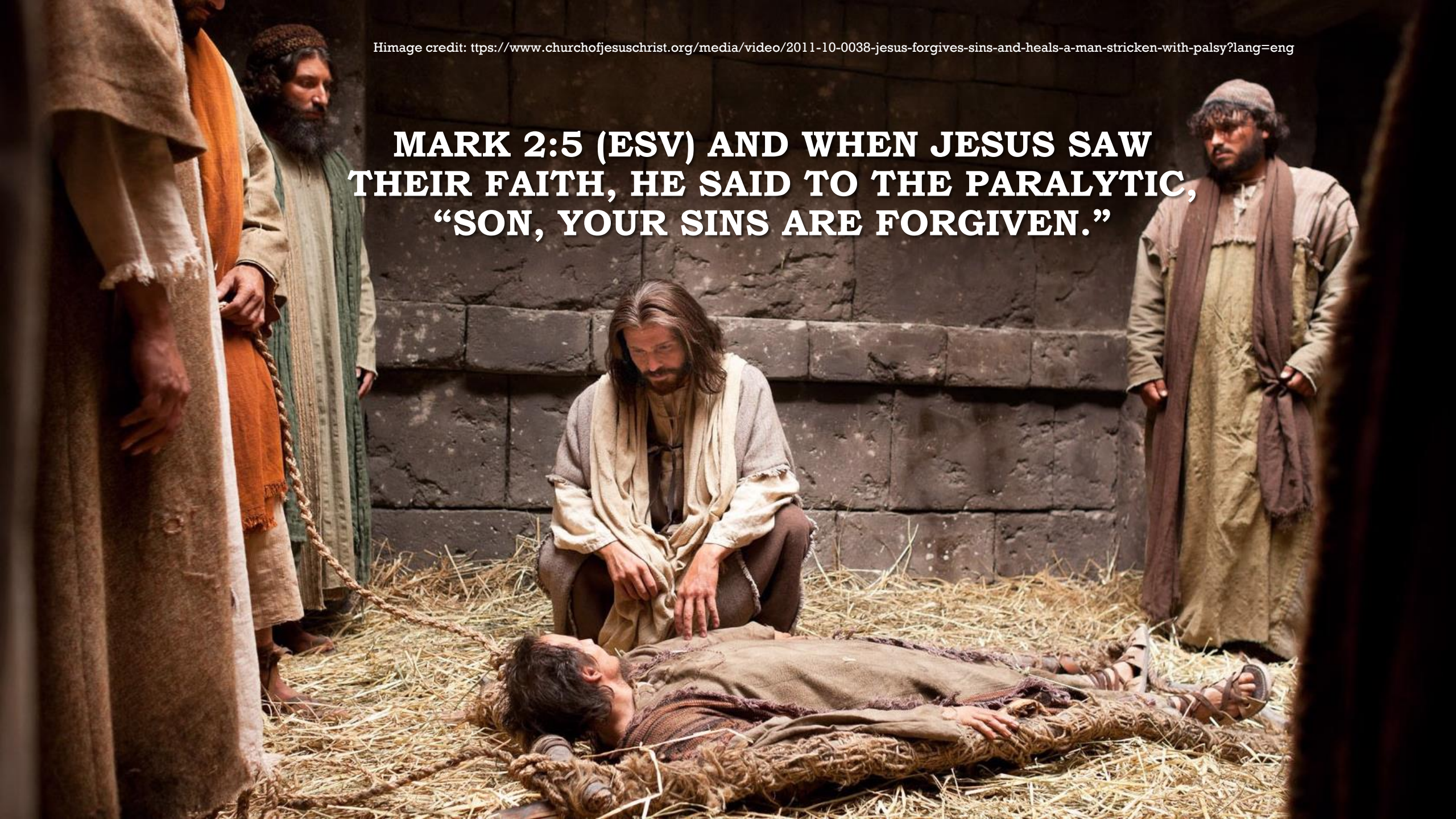
Genetic
Set-Point

Bad Circumstances

HAPPINESS



**MARK 2:5 (ESV) AND WHEN JESUS SAW
THEIR FAITH, HE SAID TO THE PARALYTIC,
“SON, YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN.”**





Luke 2:11 (ESV) 11 For unto you is
born this day in the city of David a
Savior, who is **Christ the Lord.**



THE GENESIS OF FEAR

Genesis 3:5 (ESV) 5 For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”





**DEAL WITH
SHAME IN MY
OWN WAY**



Naomi Osaka: 'It's O.K. Not to Be O.K.'

We can't
handle
being
God

Image credit <https://time.com/6077128/naomi-osaka-essay-tokyo-olympics/>



Jeremiah 2:13 for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living waters, and hewed out cisterns for themselves, broken cisterns that can hold no water.

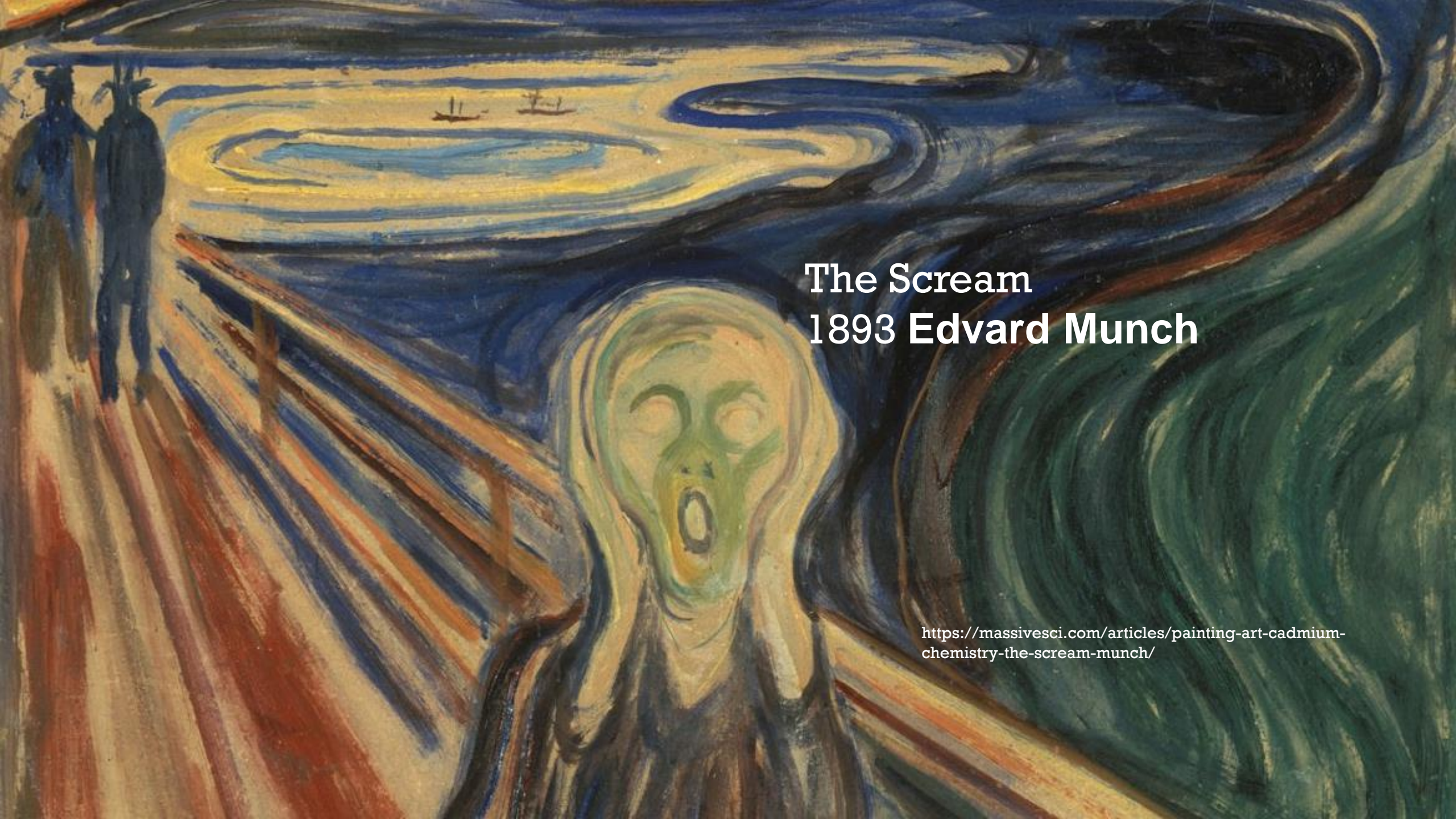


Happy Hour



unch

articles/painting-art-cadmium-
unch/



The Scream
1893 Edvard Munch

<https://massivesci.com/articles/painting-art-cadmium-chemistry-the-scream-munch/>

MEGAJOY RESTS UPON OUR *FAITH* IN THE LORD

1 Peter 1:8-9 (ESV) Though you do not now see him, you **believe in him** and rejoice with **joy** that is **inexpressible** and filled with glory, 9 obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

A close-up, high-speed photograph of water splashing into a pool. The water is captured in mid-air, creating a dynamic, energetic scene with many small droplets and bubbles. The color palette is dominated by various shades of blue, from deep navy to bright, almost white highlights where the water is most turbulent. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue, making the sharp water in the foreground stand out.

SPONTANEOUS INSIDE OUT NOT OUTSIDE IN

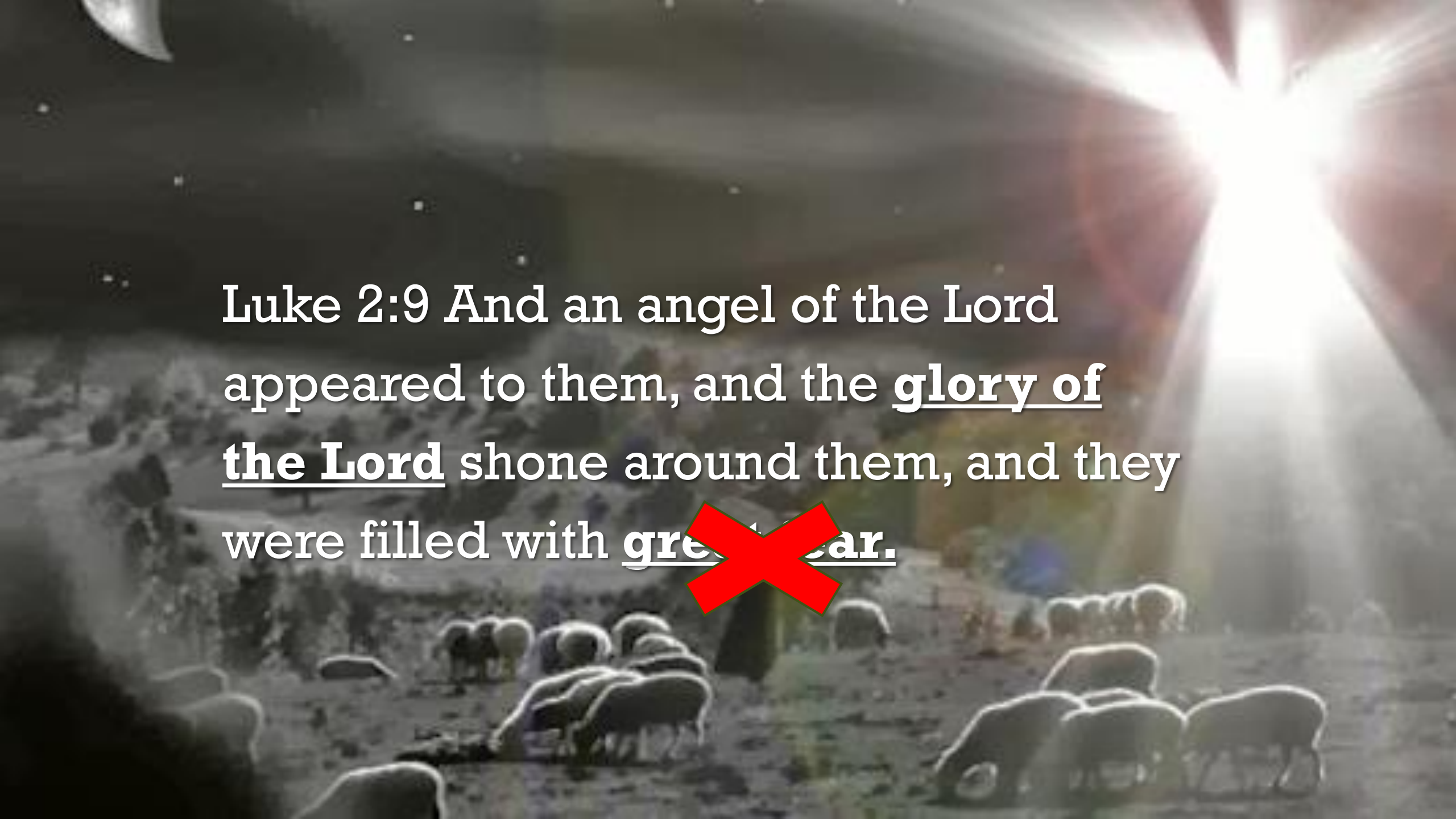
John 4:14 (ESV) The water that I will give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”



**The river of joy
flows through foot
of the cross**



Isaiah 53:5 (ESV) But he
was pierced for our
transgressions; he was
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the
chastisement that brought
us peace, and with his
wounds we are healed.

A dramatic scene with a bright light source in the sky, possibly a sun or moon, casting a glow over a landscape. In the foreground, there are several sheep grazing on the ground. The overall atmosphere is serene and majestic.

Luke 2:9 And an angel of the Lord
appeared to them, and the glory of
the Lord shone around them, and they
were filled with great fear.



MEGA JOY COMES WITH SEEING REALITY

Isaiah 35:10 (ESV) And the ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain gladness and joy,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.



49 days



AGENCE FRANCE PRES



YOU CANNOT SEE THE JOY UNLESS YOU FEEL THE PAIN

JOY OF THE PARDONED

APRIL 18, 2023

Jamil Arshad



The pain of 40 years in jail



Iranian inmate on death row pardoned by victim's family,

POLICE

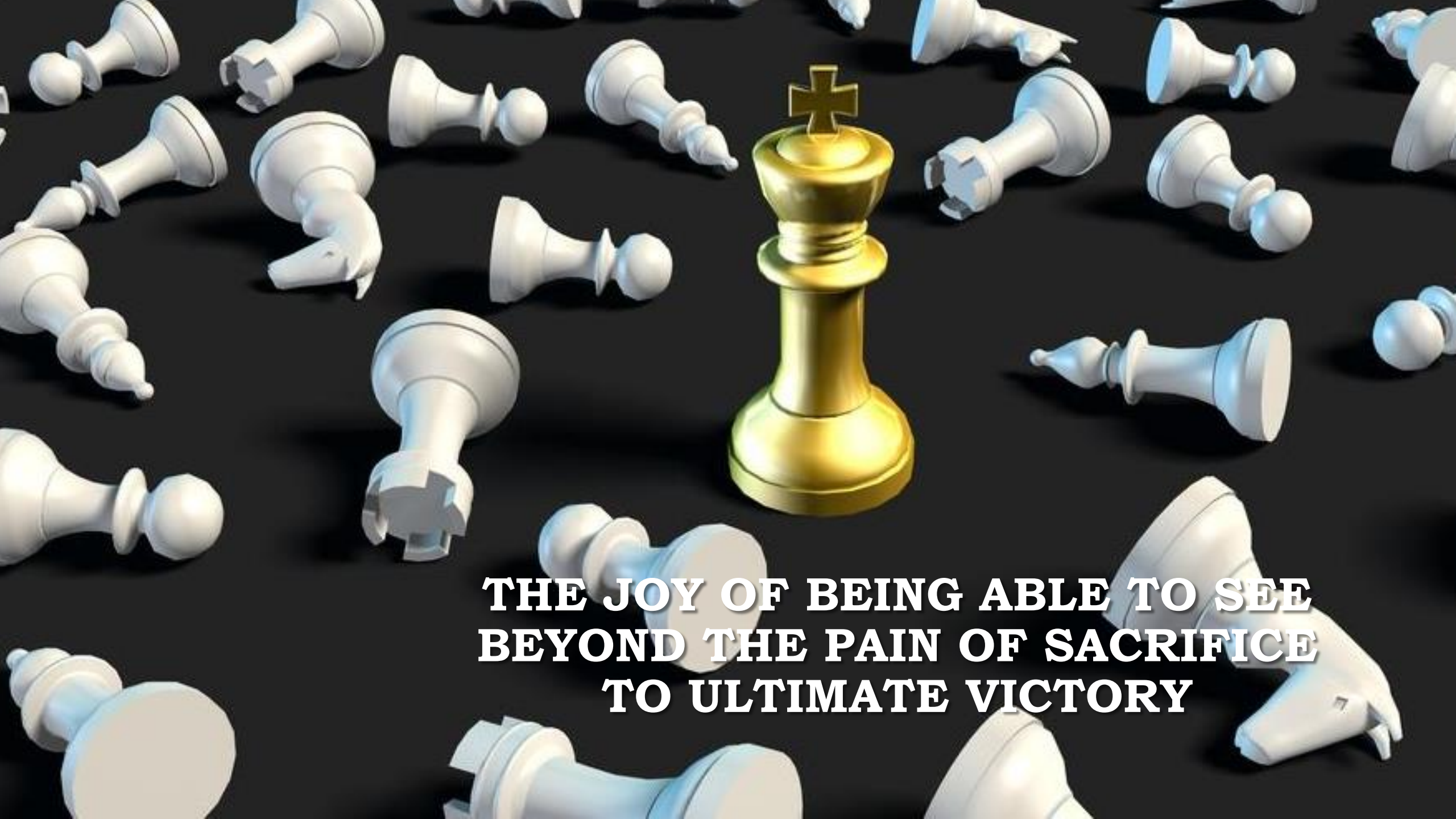




MEGA JOY UNDIMINISHED BY PAIN

The leading thought in the presence of trials must be joy

James 1:2-4 (ESV) **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.



**THE JOY OF BEING ABLE TO SEE
BEYOND THE PAIN OF SACRIFICE
TO ULTIMATE VICTORY**

Biblical joy is not a temporary emotion, a release of the right chemicals. It is a way of being, a lifestyle, a lens through which you walk through the world.



Gospel

Gospel

a lens through which you walk through the world



God's plan

Testing
Steadfastness
Maturity

Anger

Sadness

Frustration

Failure

**THE JOY OF BEING ABLE TO
SEE BEYOND THE PAIN TO
ULTIMATE VICTORY**

A close-up photograph of a newborn baby wrapped in a white blanket, lying in a person's arms. The baby is sleeping peacefully with its eyes closed. The person holding the baby is wearing a dark, ribbed long-sleeved shirt. The background is dark and out of focus.

FEARLESS MEGA JOY

You can't take away
your own fear, and you
can't create your own
joy.

You need to make room
in your heart



Joshua 24:15 (ESV) And if it is evil in your eyes to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your fathers served in the region beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”



Joshua 24:23 (ESV) He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your heart to the LORD, the God of Israel.”



CHRIST THE LORD

Christian joy is a good feeling in the soul, produced by the Holy Spirit, as he causes us to see the beauty of Christ in the word and in the world.

John Piper



FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH
SUBANG JAYA

iS

**there
More to Life than this**

**9TH 2025
JAN**



Alpha



ALPHA²⁷

*T***HURSDAYS 8:00PM TO 9:30PM • 9TH JAN 2025 TO 30TH APR 2025**

TO REGISTER » <https://forms.gle/JfJsyqKqZ7BfdrV77>

MORE INFO » <https://fbc.com.my/alpha/>



benediction





Jude 1:24-25 (ESV) Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, 25 to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.