

PRAYING THE PSALMS

Bridging Intimacy With God

STUDY 1
THE BLESSED MAN
PSALM 1



PSALM 1---BLESSED

Psalms 1 (ESV) Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;



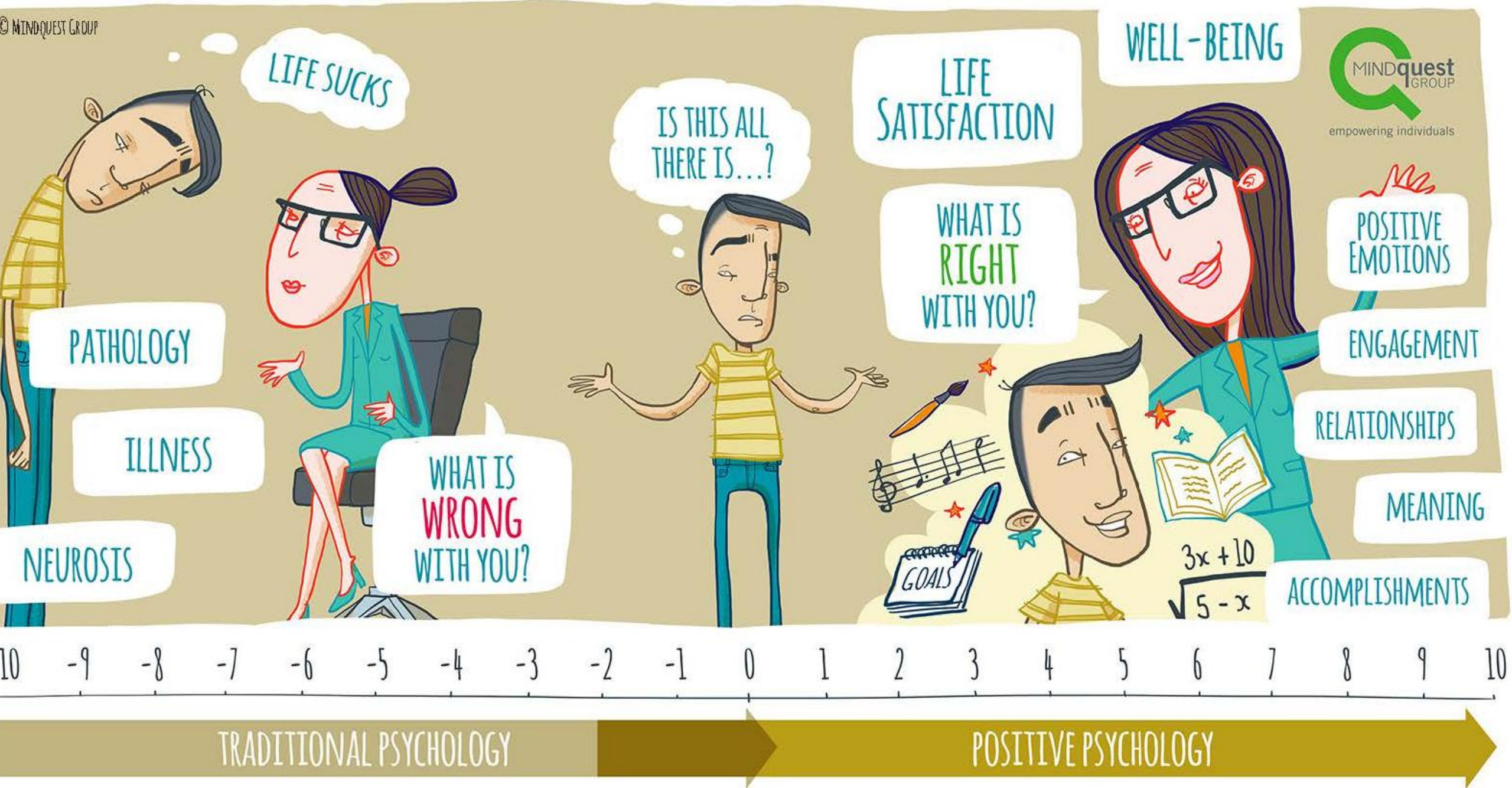


Rise of Dictators



Digital Technologies Change how we Live

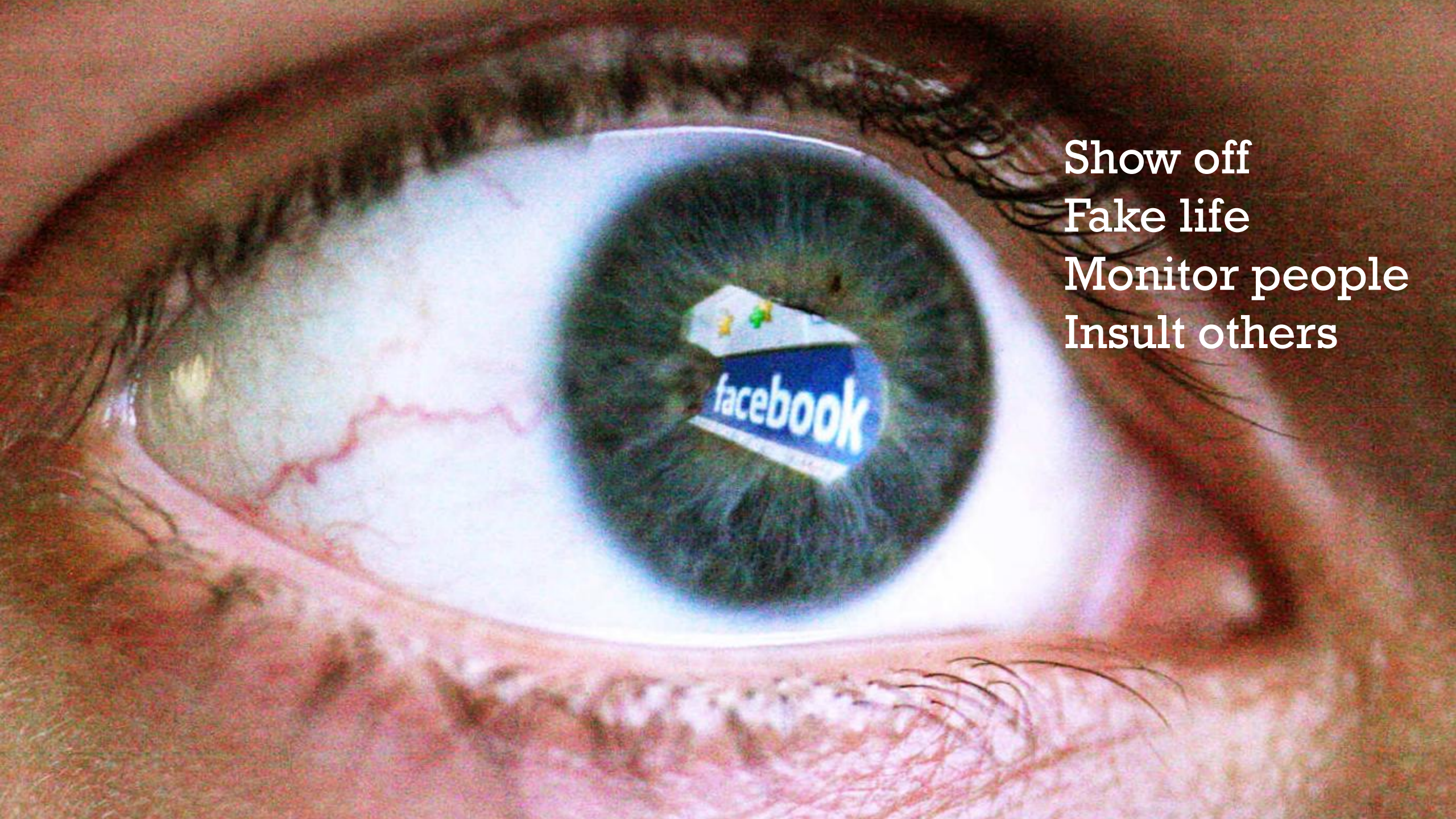
No change in happiness





FACEBOOK

- Connecting with family and friends
- Keeping in touch with loved ones
- Meeting new friends globally
- Keeping in touch with those you've crossed paths with.
- Sharing updates and interacting through messaging and comments.
- Watching Interesting videos, memes, and live streams
- Expressing yourself and learning new things



Show off
Fake life
Monitor people
Insult others

ASSOCIATION OF FACEBOOK USE WITH COMPROMISED WELL-BEING: A LONGITUDINAL STUDY

HOLLY B. SHAKYA NICHOLAS A. CHRISTAKIS

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, VOLUME 185, ISSUE 3, 1 FEBRUARY 2017, PAGES 203–
211

5,208 subjects

Facebook use was significantly correlated with declines in overall well-being over the years, as well as the more specific categories of physical health, mental health, and life satisfaction..

ASSOCIATION BETWEEN SOCIAL MEDIA USE AND DEPRESSION AMONG U.S. YOUNG ADULTS

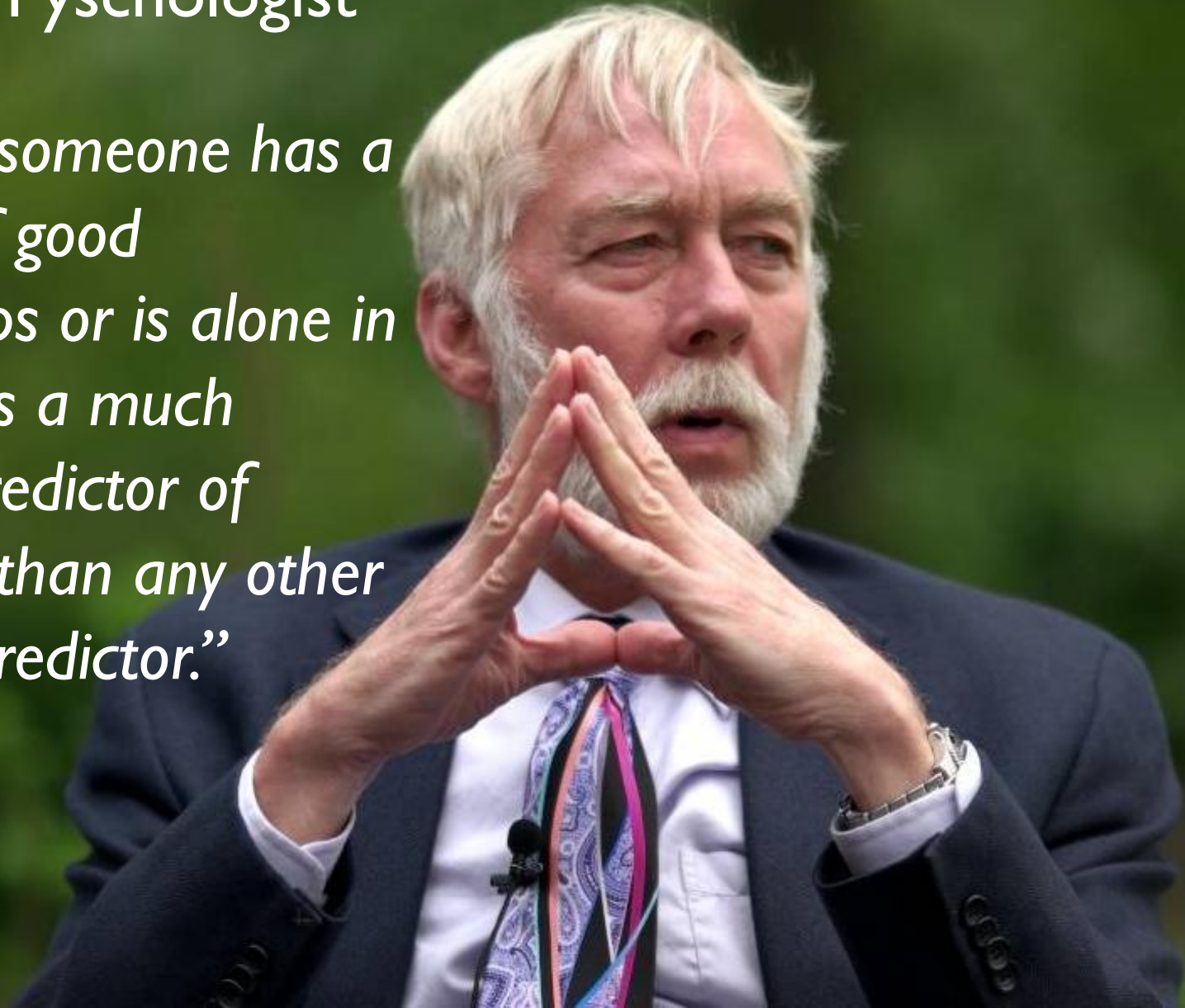
Liu yi Lin, B.A.,^{1,2} Jaime E. Sidani, Ph.D et al
DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY 00:1–9 (2016)

We surveyed 1,787 adults ages 19 to 32 about SM use and depression. Participants were recruited via random digit dialing and address-based sampling.

Social-media users in the study were 2.7 times more likely to have depression, even when controlling for other factors that might contribute to depression risk, including living situation, household income, and education level.

Roy Baumeister
American Psychologist

“Whether someone has a network of good relationships or is alone in the world is a much stronger predictor of happiness than any other objective predictor.”



THE SEARCH FOR BLESSING



- Misapplication of Abrahamic covenant -material and financial inheritance for believers in this life
- Jesus died to take away every sickness in this life and to atone for the “sin” of financial poverty
- **Give to get**
- **Name it and claim it**

PSALM 1---BLESSED

Psalms 1 (ESV) Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

BLESSEDNESS

OLD TESTAMENT

NEW TESTAMENT

Ashrey

Barukh

Makarios

“The good life”

Root –Ashar –straight
or right

Blessings from God

person who is experiencing God’s favor and
abundance in their lives.

PSALM 1---BLESSED

The good life-Deep contentment in the life of the man or woman who is right or "straight" with God.

Psalms 1 (ESV) **Blessed** is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

STRUCTURE OF THE PSALM

Righteous life

The blessedness of the untarnished life v1

The secret behind it is life meditating on the law v2

Prosperity of righteous illustrated by the tree v3

Unrighteous life

The unrighteous live worthless lives – metaphor of chaff v4

Final separation of ungodly ..judgement v5

Conclusion

Unrighteous will perish
God will save the righteous v6

PSALM 1---THE WAY....AN IMAGE

Psalms 1 (ESV) Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

2 but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night.

3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

4 The wicked are not so,

but are like chaff that the wind drives away. 5 Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

6 for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

"Way" is a dominate metaphor throughout Scripture

Character

Context—God's word
Faith hope and love

Conduct--Action

Consequence

THE WAY





fineart
america

PSALM 1---THE WAY....AN IMAGE

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PSALM 1---WALK A METAPHOR

Psalms 1 (ESV) Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

TWO WAYS TO LIVE



Negative
What it is not

Positive
What it is



Progression

THE RANGE OF THE UNRIGHTEOUS

Walk

Having been influenced by
the values in living..moral
ethical areas

Stand

Considers adopting their
life style

Sit

Actively joins them and
becomes anti-Christian

Ungodly /Wicked

Unbelievers
No part of covenant
Can be wicked
Can be kind but not godly

Sinners

Intentionally or
unintentionally fail to
obey God

Scoffers

Ridicule the righteous
or destroy their
integrity
Double meanings to
taunts

Its like walking in pasar malam



WALK - COMPROMISE

Fear of being labelled

Indulge our desires

Misguided attempt to be relevant

Ignorance of the Word

THE DIVIDED KINGDOM (2 Chronicles 17-20)

King Jehoshaphat

Mediterranean Sea

Went against his own prophet
Micaiah who was against his
military campaign with Ahab

Alliance with Ahab
Gave his son to marry Ahabs
daughter

Shipbuilding venture with
Ahab's son Ahaziah

ISRAEL

Jerusalem

JUDAH

Dead
Sea

Lake
Galilee





**“TRUMP HAS
KEPT HIS END OF
THE BARGAIN”:
CAN
EVANGELICALS
DANCE WITH THE
DEVIL AND NOT
GET BURNED?**

Vanity Fair.com 3/7/18



that it is time “to decouple the
identity of the Church from
particular political
platforms.”
SBC President



PSALM 1---HOW TO DELIGHT?

2 but his **delight** is in the law of the Lord, and
on his law he meditates day and night.

The Hebrew word for Law (*Torah*) is a derivation of the verb (תָּרָה *yara*), meaning to throw, cast or shoot: “to throw something to hit its mark, as in a javelin.”



On target
Torah-Law

Off target
Hatta-sin

CHRISTIANITY IS NOT A LIST OF DO'S AND DON'TS



DELIGHT IS A MATTER OF NATURE
IT IS A MATTER OF WHAT WE LOVE, WHAT WE DELIGHT
IN, WHAT TASTES GOOD TO US.

John 3:19-21 (ESV) And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. 20 For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be exposed. 21 But whoever does what is true comes to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that his works have been carried out in God."

A photograph of three women of different ethnicities sitting together and smiling while reading books. The woman on the left has long dark hair and is wearing a grey top. The woman in the middle has curly dark hair and is wearing a green cable-knit cardigan. The woman on the right has blonde hair and is wearing a white cardigan over a blue top. They are all holding open books and looking at each other with joyful expressions.

1) pray for new taste buds on the tongue of your heart;
2) meditate on the staggering promises of God to his people.

Psalms 119:103-104 (ESV) How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

104 Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way.

DELIGHT

- *I will **delight** myself in thy statutes: I will not forget thy word. Psalms 119 :16*
- *Thy testimonies also are my **delight** and my counsellors. Psalms 119:24*
- *And I will **delight** myself in thy commandments, which I have loved. Psalms 119:47*

NEED FOR THE SPIRIT AND A WILLING HEART

Psalms 119:18 (ESV) **Open** my eyes,
that I may behold wondrous things out
of your law.

PSALM 1---THE RESULTS OF DELIGHTING

3 He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers.

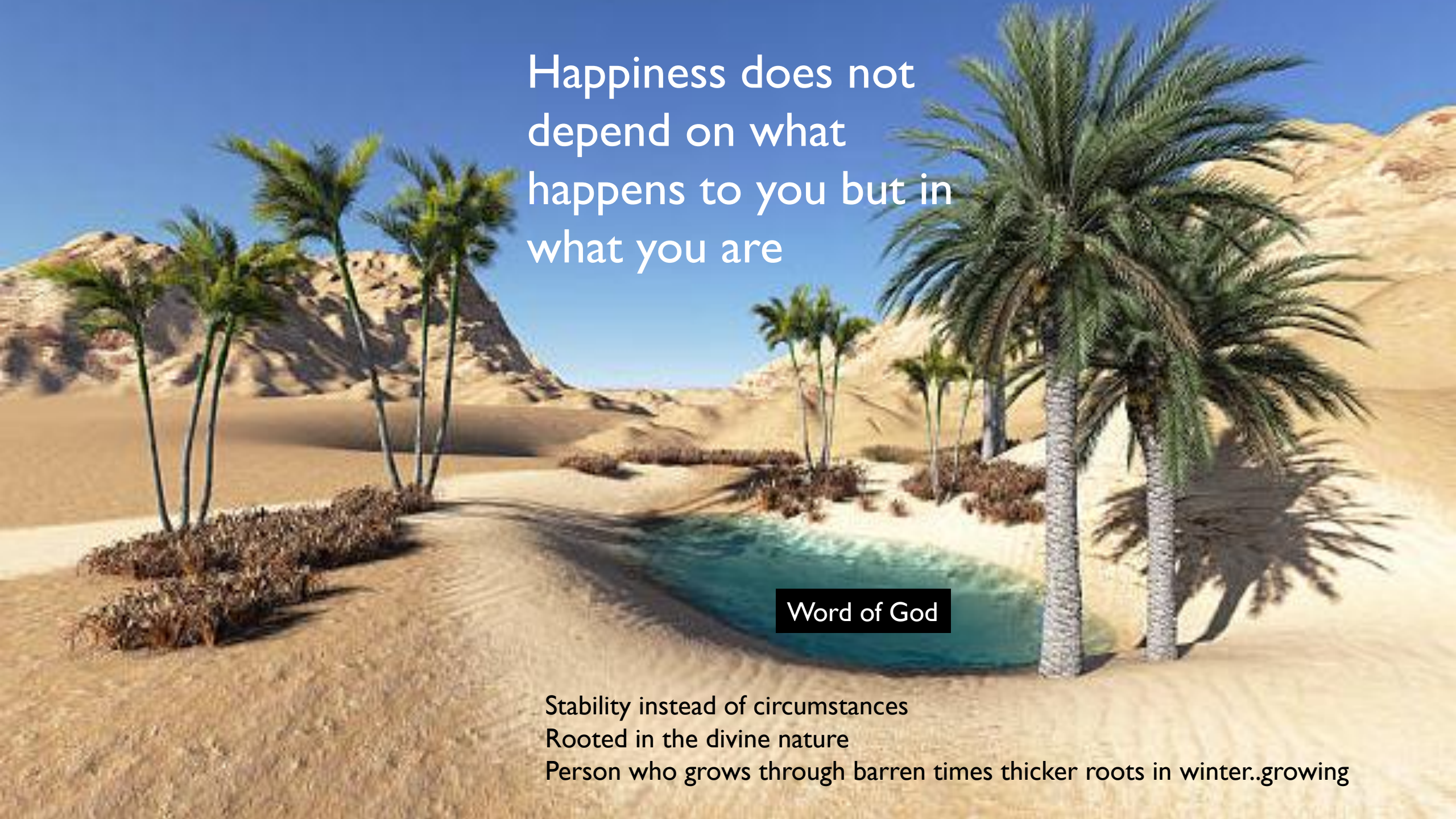
METAPHOR OF FRUIT TREE

and its leaf does not wither.



that yields its fruit in its season,



A desert landscape under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, a small, clear pool of water sits in the sand. Several palm trees are scattered throughout the scene, some standing alone and others in small groups. The background features rolling sand dunes and rocky hills. The overall atmosphere is one of tranquility and resilience.

Happiness does not
depend on what
happens to you but in
what you are

Word of God

Stability instead of circumstances
Rooted in the divine nature
Person who grows through barren times thicker roots in winter..growing



Bible Study

Prayer

Meditation

MEDITATION IS PREACHING TO YOUR HEART

Psalms 42:5-6 (ESV) Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God

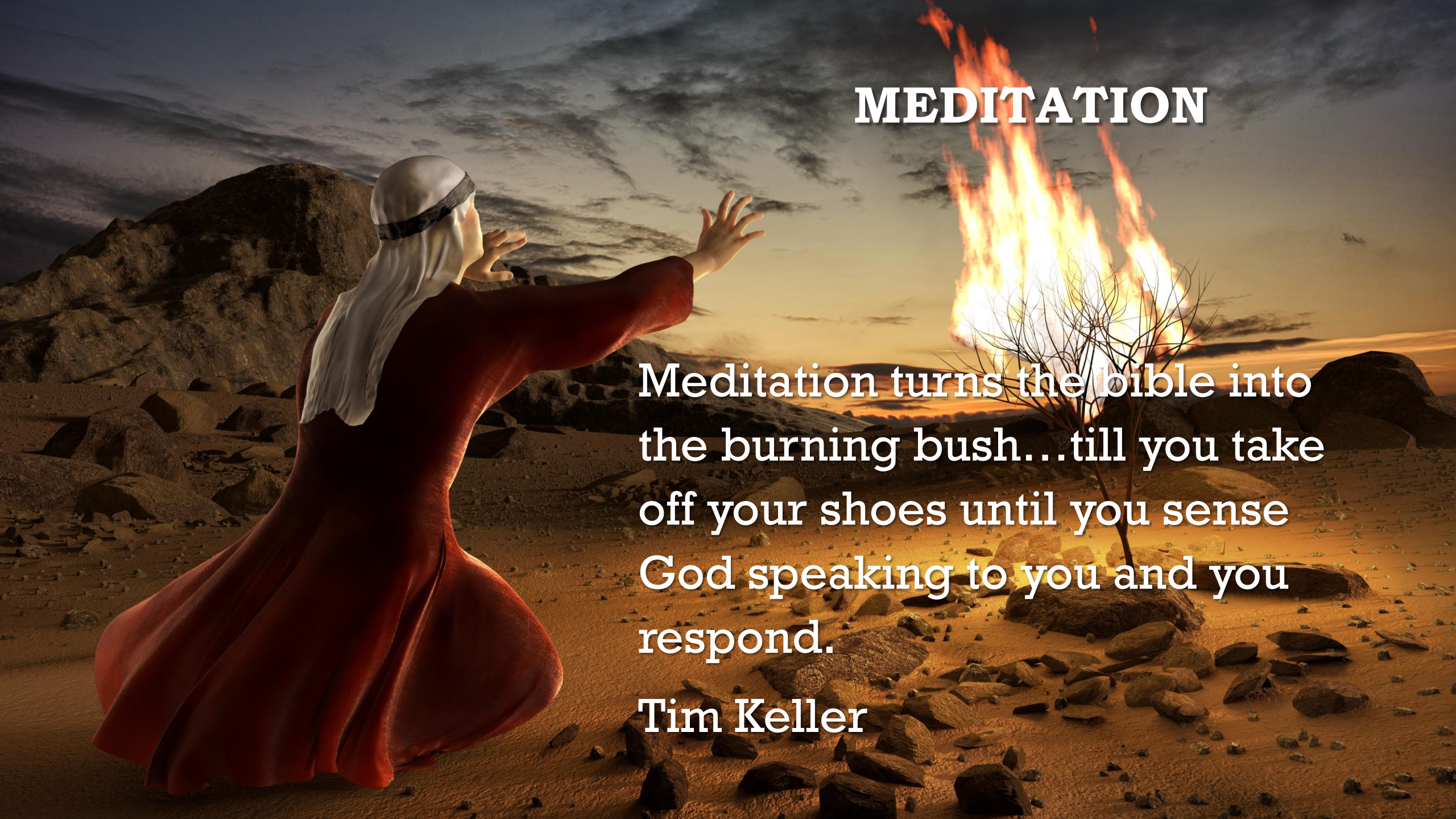
MEDITATION IS PREACHING TO YOUR HEART

Psalms 103:1-5 (ESV) Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, 3 who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, 4 who redeems your life from the pit who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy 5 who satisfies you with good so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

MEDITATION

Meditation turns the bible into
the burning bush...till you take
off your shoes until you sense
God speaking to you and you
respond.

Tim Keller



THE RESULTS OF THE WORD

- Psalms 1:3 (ESV) He is like a tree planted by **streams of water**

- that yields its fruit in its season,
- and its leaf does not wither.
- In all that **he does, he prospers.**

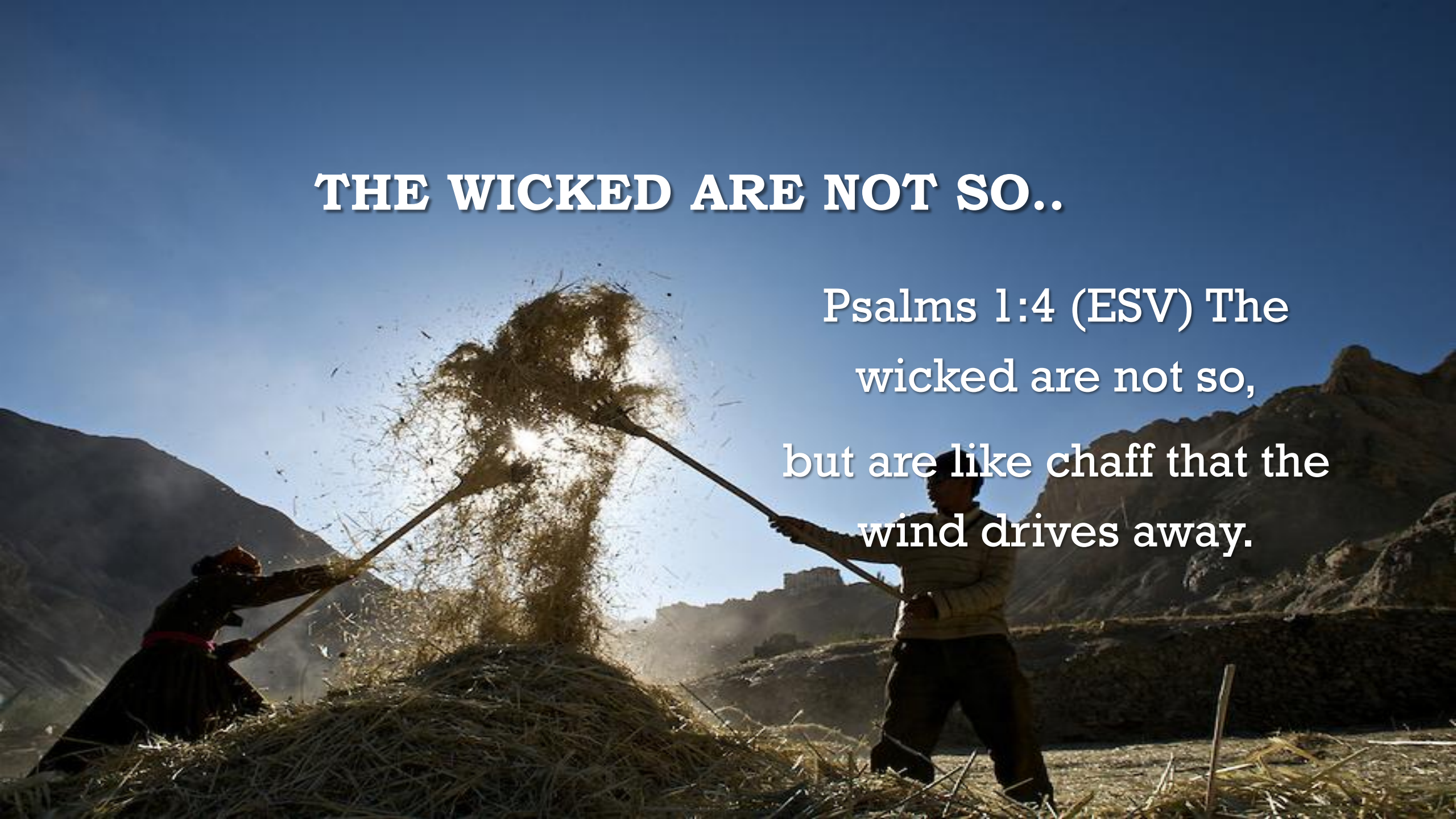
Flourish – not blanket statement of unlimited success as context restricts that . If the righteous meditate on the Word they will live in obedience to it and doing that is what will succeed

THE WICKED

4 The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the wind drives away. 5
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;
6 for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but
the way of the wicked will perish.

THE WICKED ARE NOT SO..

Psalms 1:4 (ESV) The
wicked are not so,
but are like chaff that the
wind drives away.



THE WICKED

- No intrinsic value to God
- May appear to be good
A lot of charitable and good
works but no value
be used of God
- But work not done in faith
nor for His glory is useless



WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S



MACBETH

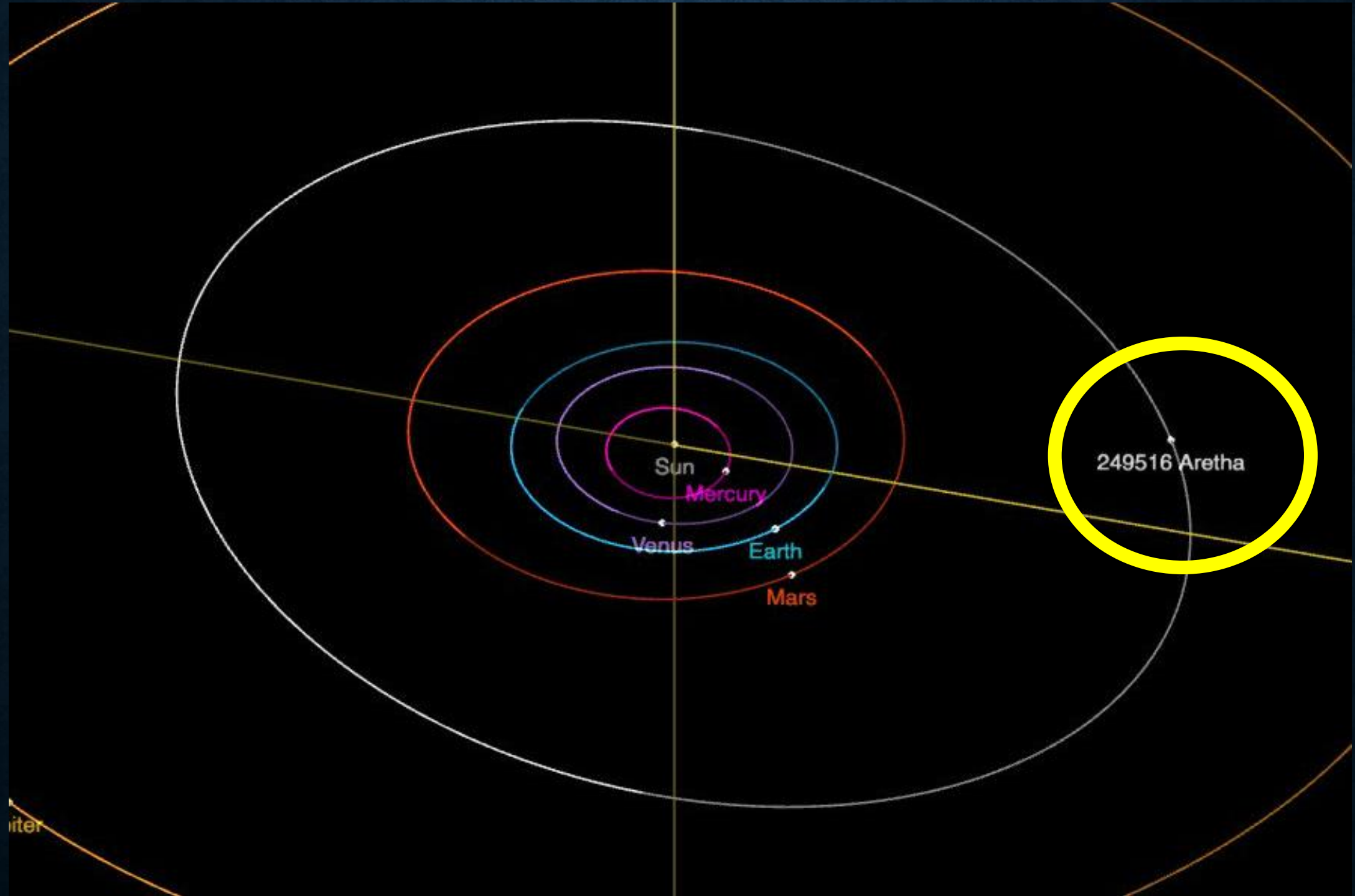
Life's but a walking shadow, a poor player
That struts and frets his hour upon the stage
And then is heard no more. It is a tale
Told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,
Signifying nothing.

Act 5 Scene 5 Page 2 Macbeth

ARETHA FRANKLIN 1942-2018







CONCLUSION

6 for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

Know : participle – continuous ,enduring manner -
Living intimate relationship to its subject and at same time inclined to it and bound to it ,..know is opposite to perish saving knowledge