



**Numbers 13:23
-Pt 3b**

**NO PAIN
NO GAIN**

Dealing with Life's

The Struggle Principle



The Struggle Principle



**The Christian Life Requires Us to...
...Walk by Faith Not by Sight (2 Cor 5:7)**

Move Beyond Our:

- **Feelings**
- **Limitations**
- **Prepare for Battle:**

The Struggle Principle



PAIN

The Struggle Principle

When We Choose to Walk by Faith

We Are Met With Resistance

Resistance = Struggle

Without Struggle...

...Faith is Hindered

We Don't Want to Experience Struggle

But Cant Walk by Faith Without It

God Left Giants in Promised Land On Purpose..to Produce Struggle

God Knows a Lack of Struggle Produces:

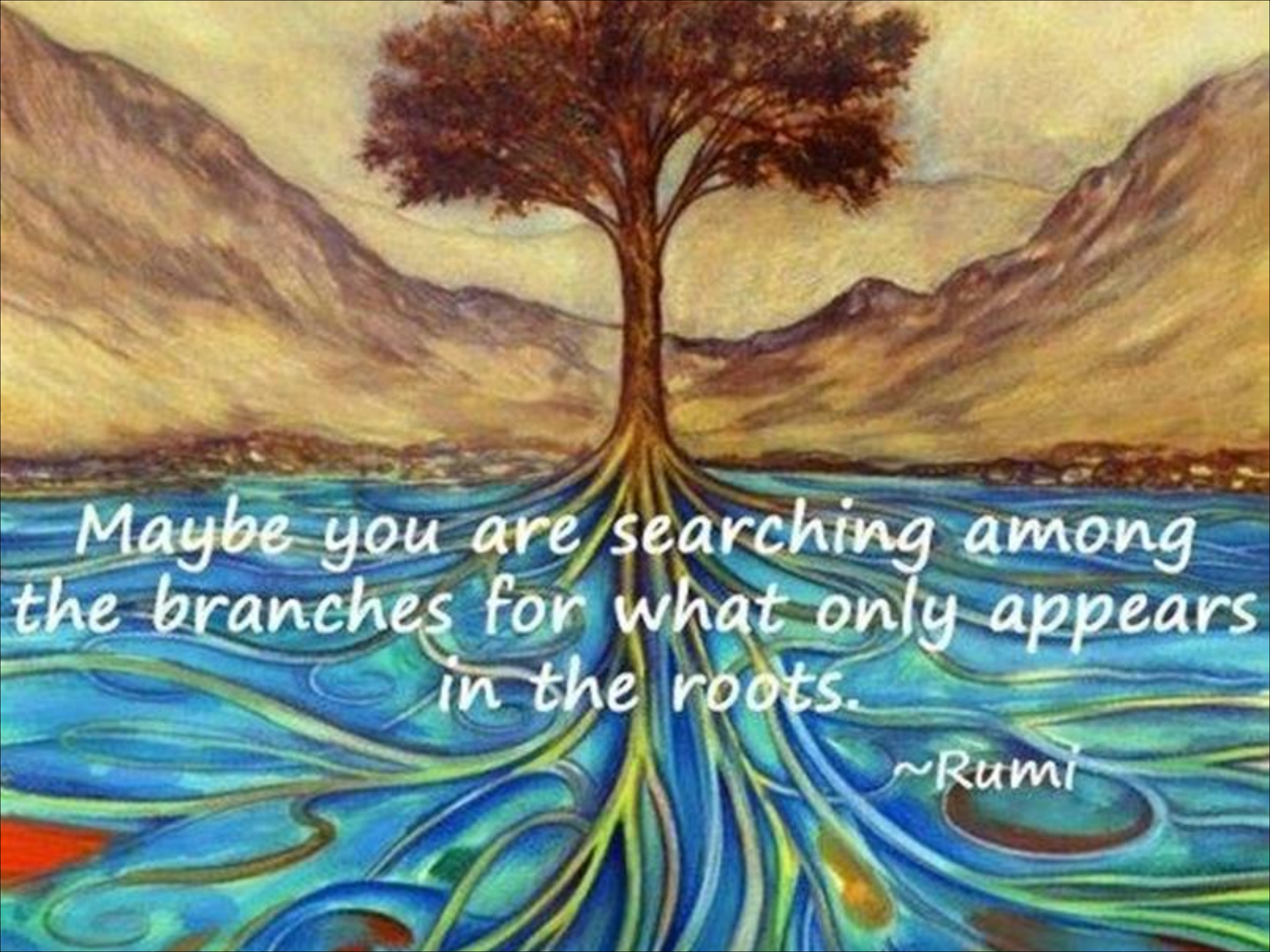
- **Spiritual Weakness**
- **Loss of Spiritual Edge**
- **Thanklessness**
- **Spiritual Laziness**

God Left Giants in Promised Land On Purpose..to Produce Struggle



God Left Giants in Promised Land On Purpose..to Produce Struggle

- #1- Because They Needed to Learn How to Fight**
- #2- Because Giants Distinguish the Difference ...
...Between Professors and Possessors**
- #3- Giants Expose the Grasshoppers in the Crowd**
(When giants show up grasshoppers speak up)
- #4- You get to Know Yourself in the Struggle**
(the real you comes out under pressure)
- #5- You get to Know Your God...**
 - ...You Realize that God is Your Only Help**
 - ...You Realize that He is More Than Enough!**



Maybe you are searching among
the branches for what only appears
in the roots.

~Rumi

#6- You Get Stronger, You Put Down Roots, You Dig Into The Word And Prayer

Jeremiah 17:7-8 (KJV)

⁷ Blessed *is* the man that trusteth in the LORD, and whose hope the LORD is.

⁸ For he shall be as a tree planted by the waters, and *that* spreadeth out her roots by the river, and shall not see when heat cometh, but her leaf shall be green; and shall not be careful in the year of drought, neither shall cease from yielding fruit.

#7- The Struggle Produces Thankfulness

#8- You Become Aware of the Excesses and Unnecessary Things in Your Life

Commitment Test

#9- Struggles Test Your Level of Commitment

- The only way to truly gauge your level of commitment is through the struggle

Joshua 24:15 (KJV)

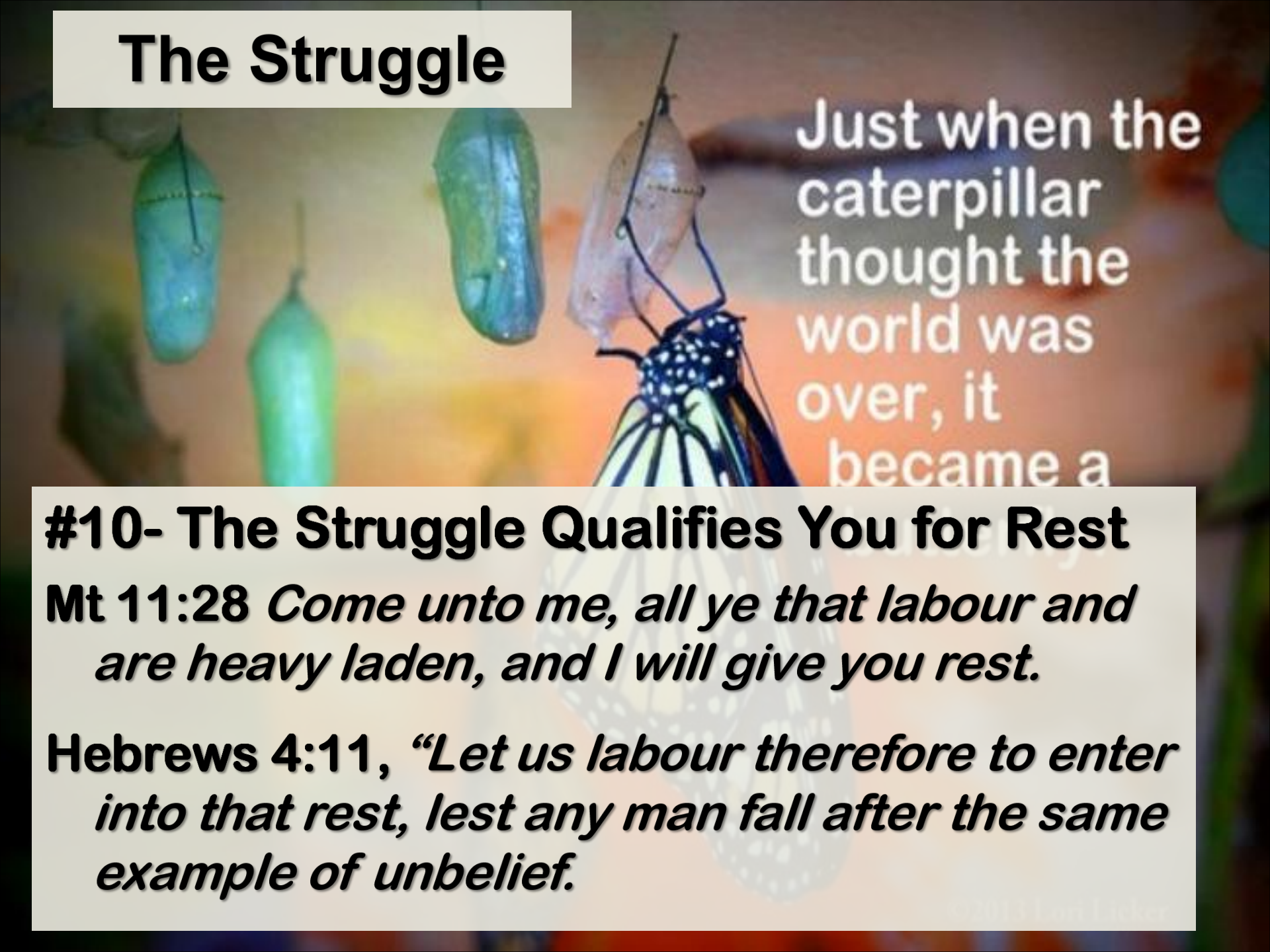
¹⁵ And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.

The Struggle

Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a butterfly.



The Struggle



Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a

#10- The Struggle Qualifies You for Rest

Mt 11:28 *Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

Hebrews 4:11, *“Let us labour therefore to enter into that rest, lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief.*

The stronger
the faith,
the harder
the tests,
the greater
the rewards.



#11- The Struggle Qualifies You for the Reward

1 Sam 17:25 *And the men of Israel said, Have ye seen this man that is come up? surely to defy Israel is he come up: and it shall be, that the man who killeth him, the king will enrich him with great riches, and will give him his daughter, and make his father's house free in Israel*

the tests,
the greater
the rewards.

A person is walking away from the camera on a cobblestone path that leads towards a bright, glowing horizon. The person is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. The background is a bright, hazy sky, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is one of a journey or a path leading to a reward.

**What Has Made You...
...What You are in God**



A black and white photograph of two men wrestling. They are both wearing light-colored shirts and dark pants. They are holding each other's hands and appear to be in a struggle. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

What Has Made You... ...What You are in God

...is the Struggle

▪ **What You had to...**

○ **Fight For**

○ **Fight Against**

○ **Overcome**

Psalm 30:5

Things to Remember about the Struggle ...

- It Don't Last Forever
- It is an Instrument of Transition
- It Means You are On Your Way Somewhere
 - *The Devil Wouldn't Fight You If ...
... You Were Not Going Somewhere*
- It Prepares You for Your Future
- It Is An Indication of Transition

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**WITHOUT STRUGGLE
THERE IS NO PROGRESS**