



**NEW RELATIONSHIPS
AND OPPORTUNITIES**

Pray for ISRAEL

*Father show us Your glory
When there is distress and pain
Then answer them and save them*



PrayerWall



www.prayerwall.com

Psalm 17:7-9 -Complete Jewish Bible

⁷ Show how wonderful is your grace,
savior of those who seek at your right hand
refuge from their foes.

⁸ Protect them like the pupil of your eye,
hide them in the shadow of your wings

⁹ from the wicked, who are assailing them,
from their deadly enemies, who are all around them.

And All of the Innocent Victims

A religious procession is taking place on a wide, paved street. In the foreground, a priest in a black cassock and a white zucchetto walks towards the camera. Behind him, a large, dense crowd of people, many wearing white head coverings, follows. In the background, a tall, thin cross stands on a hill, and the sky is filled with soft, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall atmosphere is solemn and reverent.

**THE CHURCH
IS NOT
AN AUDIENCE
TO BE
ENTERTAINED:
IT'S AN ARMY
TO BE
TRAINED AND
EMPOWERED !!**

Repeat

**These are the 2 Most Important Hours
of My Week – Help Me to Cherish
Them**

**I Am Here Today to Worship
Not to Be Entertained
I Am Singing to An Audience of One
Accept My Worship Oh Lord!**



Repeat
I Lift My Offering to You
Let It Please You Oh Lord
This is My Seed
Although It Leaves My Hand
It will Never Leave My Life
You Will Multiply It!
Accept My Seed Oh Lord!

GIVING

GIFT **BLESSING** **sharing** **GIVE** **FAITH** **SHARE**

BLESSING **sharing** **GIFT** **OFFERING** **GIVE** **growing** **GIFT**

FAITH **GIVE** **growing** **OFFERING** **FAITH** **GIVING** **BLESSING**

sharing **BLESSING** **growing** **OFFERING** **FAITH** **GIVING** **SHARE**

GIFT **sharing** **GIVE** **FAITH** **GIVING** **BLESSING**

- **A person calls a pet store: "Send me thirty-thousand cockroaches, at once."**
- **Astonished clerk: "What in the world do you want with thirty-thousand cockroaches?"**
- **Caller: "I'm moving out today, and my lease says I must leave the premises in exactly the same condition I found them."**
- **Sounds like this man doent know much about my topic today**



Living a Life of Thanksgiving

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

*Thanks Giving is good but
Thanks Living is better.*

-Matthew Henry

Edward Church

November 17, 2024

Rejoice always,
Pray without ceasing,
In everything *Give Thanks*;
For this is the will of
God in Christ Jesus
for you.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus. —1 Thess 5:16-18

- **Three Simple Directives...**

- **...Packed With Profound Implications**

- **Rejoicing, Praying, and Giving Thanks**

- **Not Just In Times of Prosperity and Joy**

- but in **All Circumstances**

- This is the **Divine Will of God** for us

- **the Blueprint for a Life Lived in the Fullness of Christ Jesus.**

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



DOES GOD REALLY EXPECT ME TO
GIVE THANKS
DURING HARD TIMES?

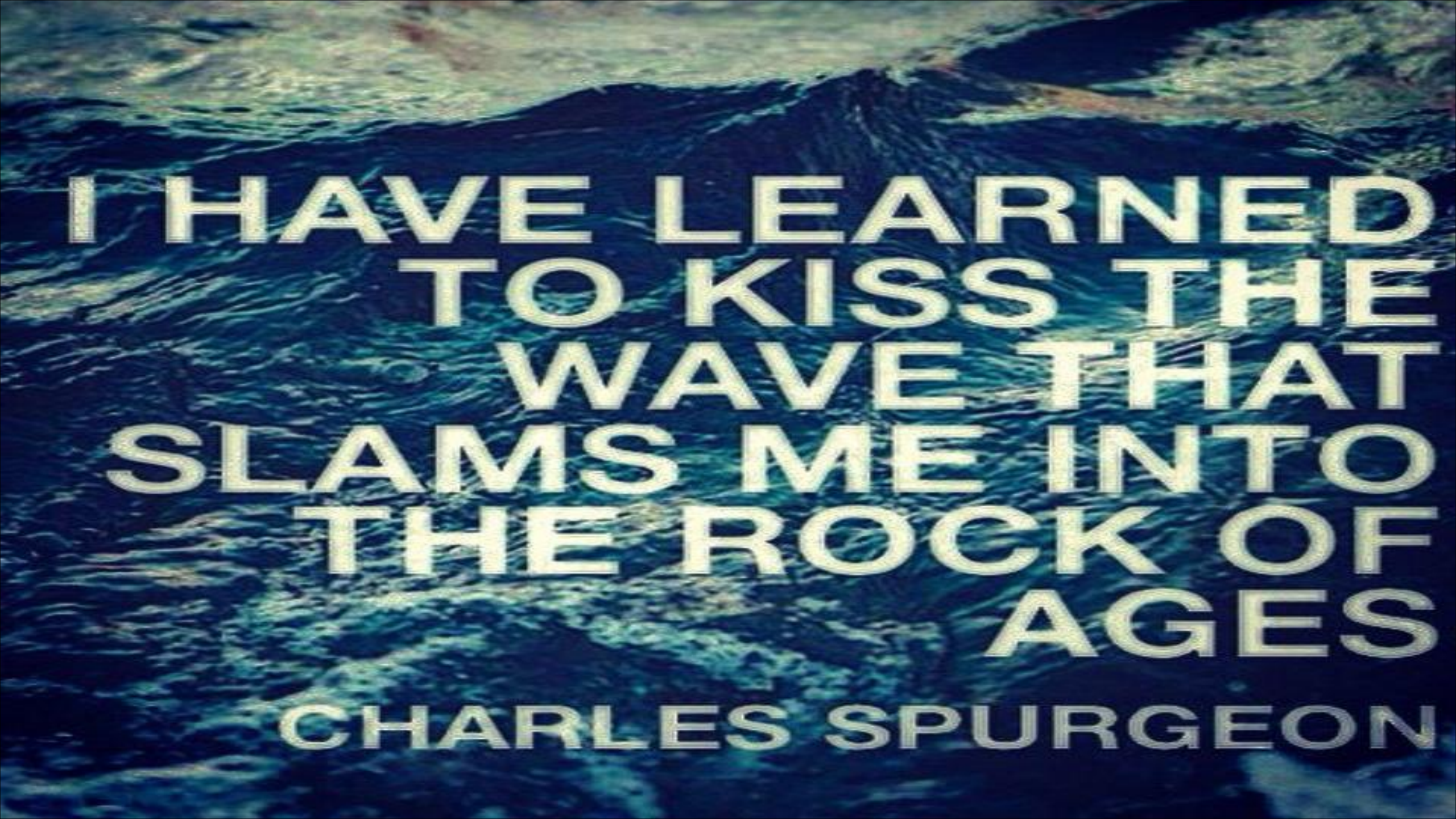
Challenging Command

- **How can we give thanks in midst of Trials / Tribulations?**
 - **How can we Rejoice in Times of Sorrow?**
 - **How can we Maintain a Posture of Prayer...**
- ...When We are Surrounded by Chaos and Uncertainty?**

DOES GOD REALLY EXPECT ME TO

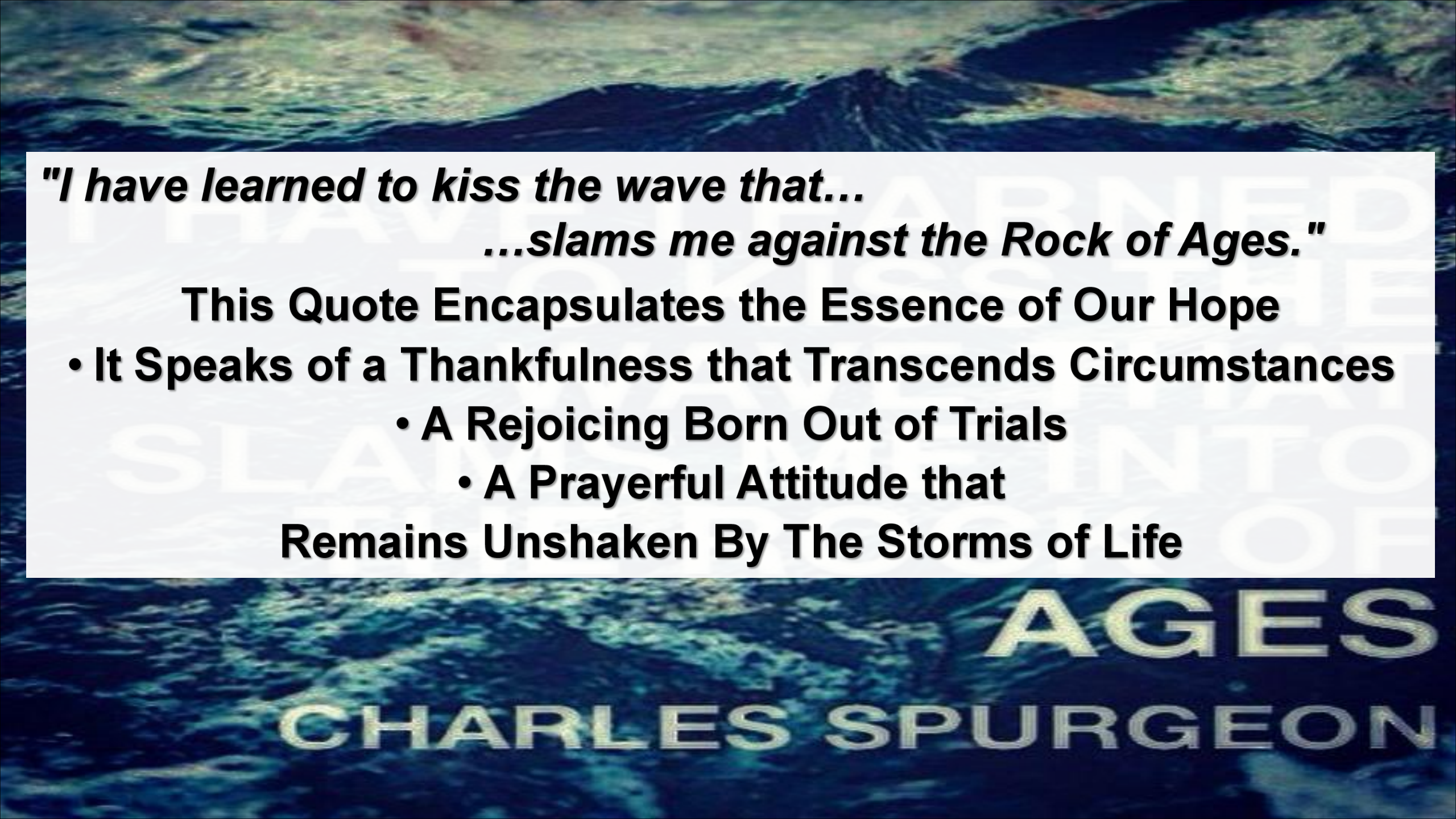
GIVE THANKS

DURING HARD TIMES



I HAVE LEARNED
TO KISS THE
WAVE THAT
SLAMS ME INTO
THE ROCK OF
AGES

CHARLES SPURGEON



***"I have learned to kiss the wave that...
...slams me against the Rock of Ages."***

This Quote Encapsulates the Essence of Our Hope

- **It Speaks of a Thankfulness that Transcends Circumstances**
 - **A Rejoicing Born Out of Trials**
 - **A Prayerful Attitude that
Remains Unshaken By The Storms of Life**

ROCK OF AGES
CHARLES SPURGEON



Thank you God for
everything in my life.

The good and bad.

Some were Blessings
and some were Lessons!

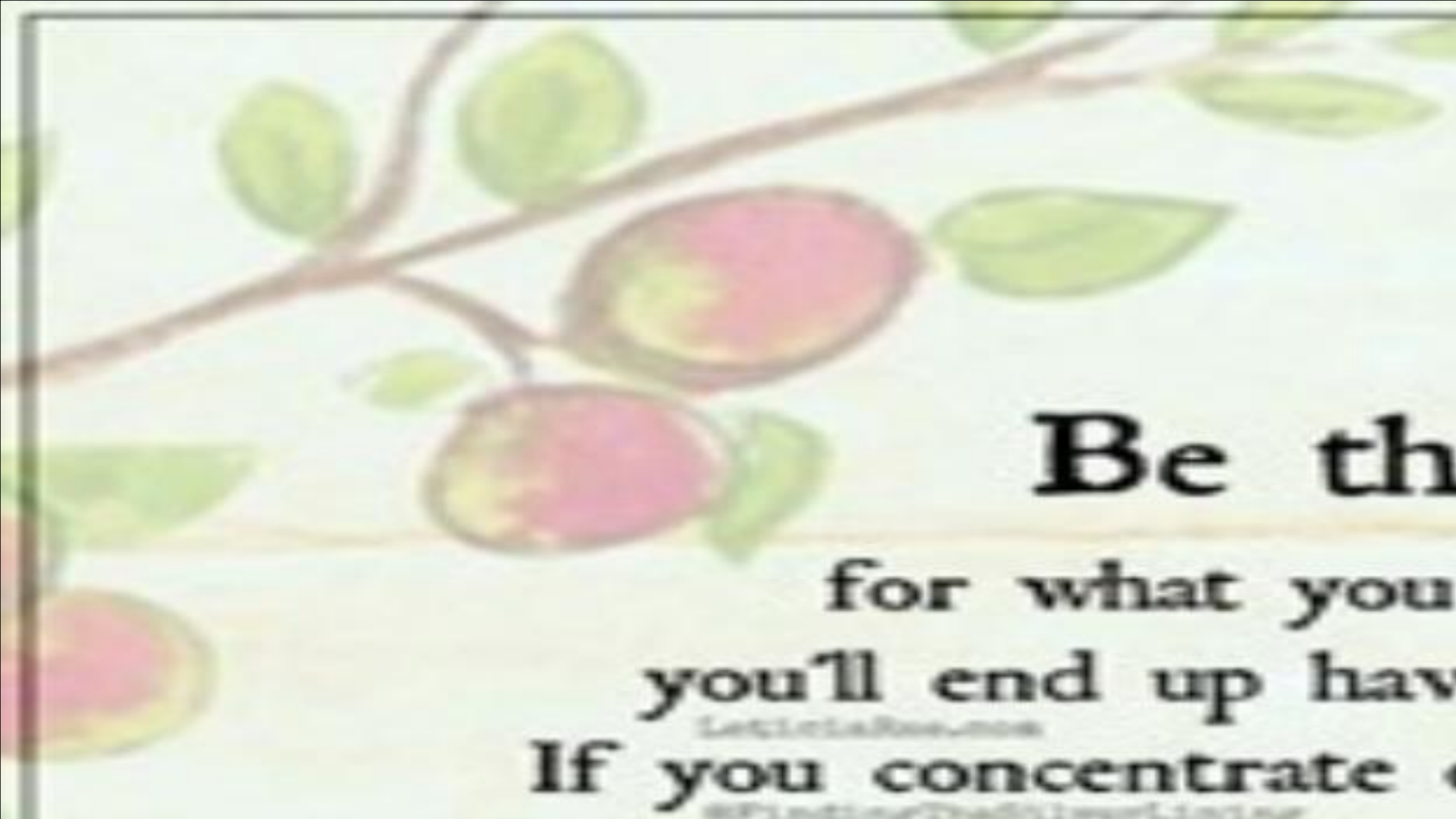
Thankfulness Transcends Circumstances

- **In the midst of life's trials, it can be challenging to maintain a heart of thankfulness.**
 - **Valley, Hardship, Loss, Disappointment**
- **Where the rubber meets the road, where our faith is truly tested.**
- **It's Not About What's Happening Around Us...**
 - **...But What's Happening Within Us**
 - **We can choose to focus on our problems, or our blessings.**
 - **We can choose to dwell on what's wrong, or what's right.**

Thankfulness is a Choice:

We actively choose, It's a decision that we make...

...regardless of what life throws our way.



Be thankful

for what you have;
you'll end up having more.
Let's Be Real
If you concentrate on what you
@FindingTheSilverLining
don't have,
you will never ever have enough.

Oral Winfrey

Thankfulness Is Not Contingent On Our Circumstances:

Thankfulness is a Discipline:

- **It's Doesn't Come Naturally, It's Work to Cultivate**
- **It's like a muscle we have to exercise, a skill we have to develop**
 - **It's a habit we have to form, a practice we have to maintain**
 - **It's a journey we have to embark on, a path we have to tread**

*If you concentrate on what you
don't have,
you will never ever have enough.*

Orval Winfrey

"The secret is Christ in me, not
me in a different set of
circumstances."

Elisabeth Elliot
TyndaleRewards.com

Thankfulness is a Virtue:

- It's not optional for us as followers of Christ.
 - It's something expected / required of us.
- It's a mark of spiritual maturity, a sign of godly character.
- It's a fruit of the Spirit, a reflection of the divine nature.
 - It's a testament to our faith, a witness to our hope.

Thankfulness is a Blessing:

- It's not something that's burdensome but beneficial
 - It's a source of joy, peace.
- It's a gateway to contentment, a pathway to fulfillment.
 - It's a gift from God, a treasure from heaven.

"I CAME NAKED FROM MY
MOTHER'S WOMB,
AND I WILL BE NAKED
WHEN I LEAVE.
THE LORD GAVE ME
WHAT I HAD,
AND THE LORD HAS TAKEN
IT AWAY.
PRAISE THE NAME
OF THE LORD!"



Job 1:21

Job:

- **He had everything - wealth, family, health/ deep reverence for God**
- **His wealth was plundered, his children were killed, his health gone**
- **Yet, in midst of suffering, his response was one of thankfulness.**

"Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked I will depart. The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised."

-Job 1:21

- **Job's thankfulness was not tied to his circumstances...
...but to his understanding of God's sovereignty**

**He recognized that everything he had was from God...
...therefore, even in loss, he chose to give thanks**



Paul:

- **Despite being Imprisoned, Beaten, Shipwrecked, and Facing Numerous Other Hardships for the Sake of the Gospel,**
- **Paul's Letters are Filled with Expressions of Thankfulness.**

"I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, / I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any / every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want." -Phil 4:11-12

- **Paul's Thankfulness was Not Tied to His Physical Condition or Circumstances, but to his Contentment in Christ.**



1 Thes 5:18 "give thanks" -Greek= "eucharisteo"

- **This word is used in other passages in the New Testament.**
- **Jesus uses this word when He breaks the bread at Last Supper**

*"And he took bread, gave thanks (**eucharisteo**) and broke it, and gave it to them, saying, 'This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me.'"* -**Luke 22:19**

Jesus is giving thanks for the bread that...

...symbolizes His body which will be broken for us

• **Paul recounts the Last Supper, "*and when he had given thanks (**eucharisteo**), he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.'*"** **1 Corinthians 11:24**

- **Paul is emphasizing the act of giving thanks as a central part of the Christian practice of communion.**



"eucharisteo" is used in a context of sacrifice and self-giving love.

- Gives a deeper understanding of what it means to...
...give thanks in all circumstances".**
- It is not a superficial but a deep, sacrificial thankfulness ...
...recognizes God's love and provision even...
...in the midst of hardship / suffering.**

In the Life of Jesus:

- We see the ultimate example of thankfulness.**
- In Gethsemane, facing the imminent pain / humiliation**
- Jesus prayed, *"Father, if you are willing, take this cup from me; yet not my will, but yours be done"* -Luke 22:42**
- Jesus' thankfulness was not based on His circumstances, but on His submission to the Father's will.**

Having a rough day?
Place your hand
over your heart.
Feel that?
That's called PURPOSE.
You're alive for a reason.

Don't give up.

riseafterfalling.tumblr

Rejoice always,
Pray without ceasing,
In everything *Give Thanks*;
For this is the will of
God in Christ Jesus
for you.
1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice
ALWAYS

Pray
CONTINUALLY

Give Thanks
IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES

FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL FOR YOU
IN CHRIST JESUS

1 THESSALONIANS 5:16-18

"The secret is Christ in me, not
me in a different set of
circumstances."

Elisabeth Elliot
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- Thanksgiving as a lifestyle transcends the temporal and touches the eternal, it reflects not just our faith, but the very character of God Himself.
- It is the constant, unchanging element that holds everything together, even when the colors of our circumstances change.
- Thanksgiving has the power to change not just our perspective, but our very lives.
- When we cultivate a lifestyle of thanksgiving, we are not merely changing our attitude but our hearts, our minds, and our spirits.
- We are aligning ourselves with the heart of God, who is the source of all blessings.
- It's not just about expressing gratitude in words, but living out that gratitude in our actions, in our relationships, in our choices, and in our daily walk with God





**Want to Have a Better Week...
...No Matter What?**

This Week Try This...

Instead of

- **Complaining**
- **Comparing**

Try Being Thankful!

**Maybe Not for the
Circumstances**

But to the One...

...Over All Circumstances

**The True Giver of Peace in the
Midst of It All!**

