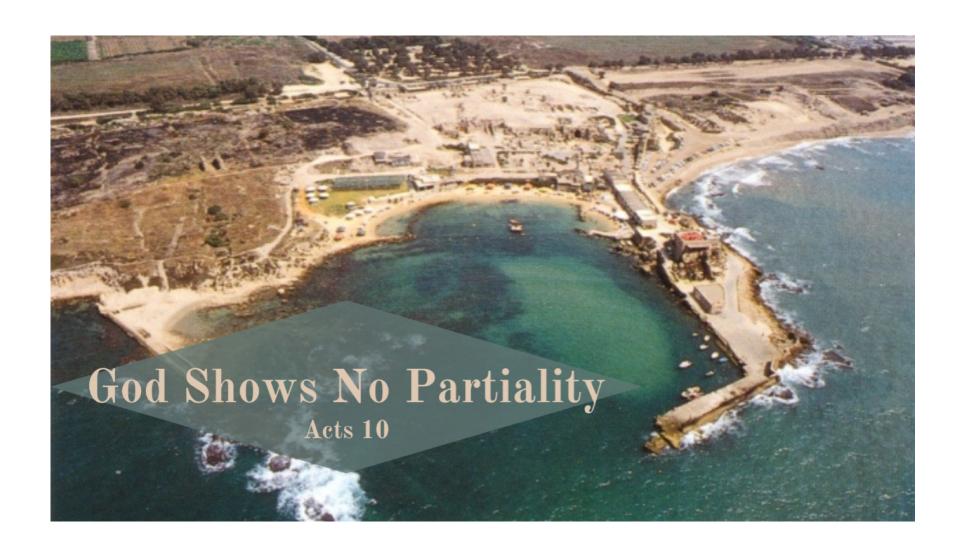


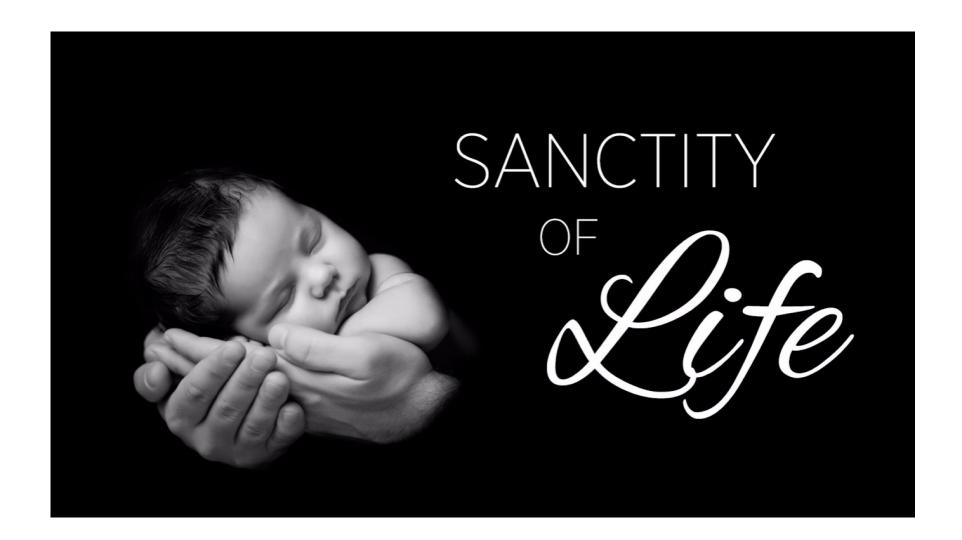
# LEAD CLASS

Can I Trust the Bible?

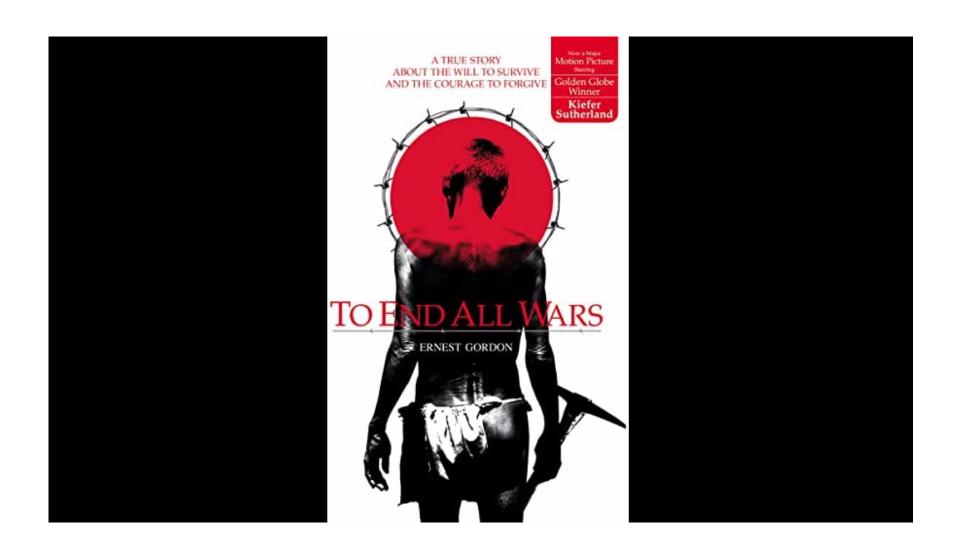
Dr. Michael Krueger February 3 & 4 // Register Online













**Ernest Gordon** 





"As conditions steadily worsened, as starvation, exhaustion, and disease took an ever-increasing toll, the atmosphere in which we lived became poisoned by selfishness, hate, and fear. We were slipping rapidly down the slope of degradation."

**Ernest Gordon** 

"When a man lay dying, we had no word of comfort for him. When he cried, we averted our heads. Men cursed the Japanese, their neighbours, God. Cursing became such an obsession that they constructed whole sentences in which every word was a curse."

Ernest Gordon

"Many had prayed, but only for themselves.

Nothing happened. They sought personal miracles – and none had come. They had appealed to God as an expedient. But God had apparently refused to be treated as one.

"We had long since resigned ourselves to being derelicts. We were the forsaken men – forsaken by our friends, our families, by our government. Now even God seemed to have left us."

**Ernest Gordon** 

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends."

John 15:12-13

"The curriculum, for those circumstances, was amazingly varied. Courses were offered in history, philosophy, economics, mathematics, several of the natural sciences, and at least nine languages, including Latin, Greek, Russian, and Sanskrit.

"The faculty was handicapped by a shortage of textbooks, but they were not deterred.

They wrote their own, from memory, as they went along. Language instructors compiled their own grammars on odd scraps of paper."

Ernest Gordon



"Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

"What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me — practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you."

Philippians 4:8-9

"... if there is anything worthy of praise, **think** about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me— **practice** these things, and the God of peace will be with you."

Philippians 4:8-9

# Two Main Commands

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1. "think about these things"

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- 1. "think about these things"
- 2. "practice these things"

Where am I <u>turning for joy</u>?

Where am I turning for joy?

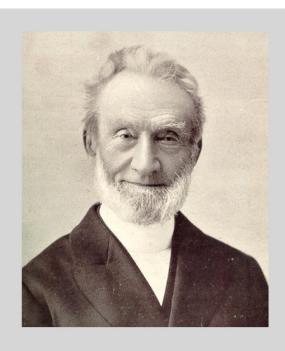
"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice." (4)

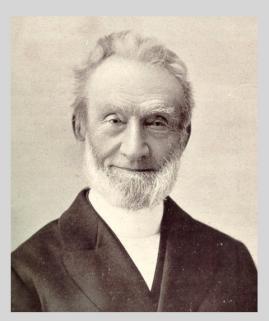
"But in what way shall we attain to this settled happiness of soul? How shall we learn to enjoy God? How obtain such an all-sufficient soulsatisfying portion in him as shall enable us to let go the things of this world as vain and worthless in comparison?"

George Mueller

"I answer, this happiness is to be obtained through the study of the Holy Scriptures. God has therein revealed Himself unto us in the face of Jesus Christ."

George Mueller





"I saw more clearly than ever, that the first great and primary business to which I ought to attend every day was to have my soul happy in the Lord."

George Mueller

"The more we know of God, the happier we are."

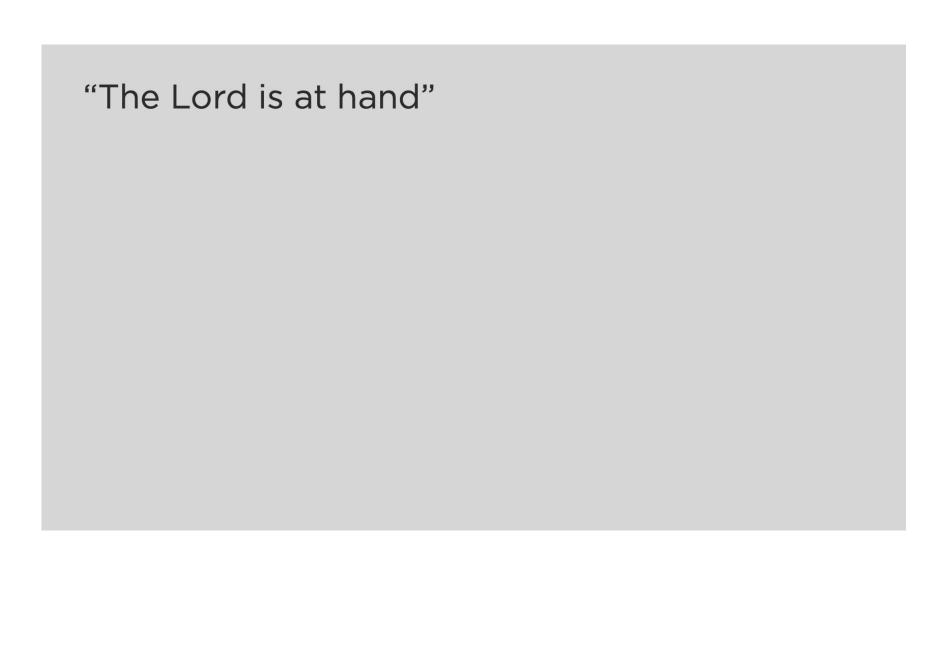
George Mueller

Where am I turning for joy?

- Where am I <u>turning for joy</u>?
- Who am I waiting for?

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- Who am I waiting for?

"Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand." (5)



"The Lord is at hand"

spatial - 1st coming -

"The Lord is at hand"

- spatial 1st coming -
- temporal 2nd coming -

"But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself."

Philippians 3:20-21

"Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand ..."

Philippians 4:5

reasonableness = rational courtesy

reasonableness = rational courtesy
gentleness + reasonableness

"When I can't control my surroundings, I become nervous and angry. It gets much worse when I am under stress. When triggered, I can go from perfectly calm to full-blown, white-hot rage within a fraction of a second.

"I think that my temper comes from the abuse I suffered when I was a child. At some point, I decided that I didn't have to take my parents' abuse anymore. Raging back became a matter of survival.

"So now, it's hard for me to feel concerned about the other person's feelings – in fact, I want them to hurt because they've hurt me. I know this sounds bad, but that's the way I feel when I'm in the middle of an outburst. I'm just trying to survive the best way I know how."

Jeremy

## Three Key Questions

- Where am I <u>turning for joy</u>?
- Who am I waiting for?
- What am I doing with my anxieties?

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- Where am I <u>turning for joy</u>?
- Who am I waiting for?
- What am I doing with my anxieties?

"Do not be anxious about anything" (6)

merimnao = anxious, distracted, concerned

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lit. to pull apart, divide

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lit. to pull apart, divide

fig. "to go to pieces"

"For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare."

Philippians 2:20

"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 4:6-7

"... that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together."

1 Corinthians 12:25-26

Where am I turning for joy?

- Where am I turning for joy?
- Who am I waiting for?

- Where am I turning for joy?
- Who am I waiting for?
- What am I doing with my anxieties?

"I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. "Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound.

"In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me."

Philippians 4:10-13