



Pope Benedict IX



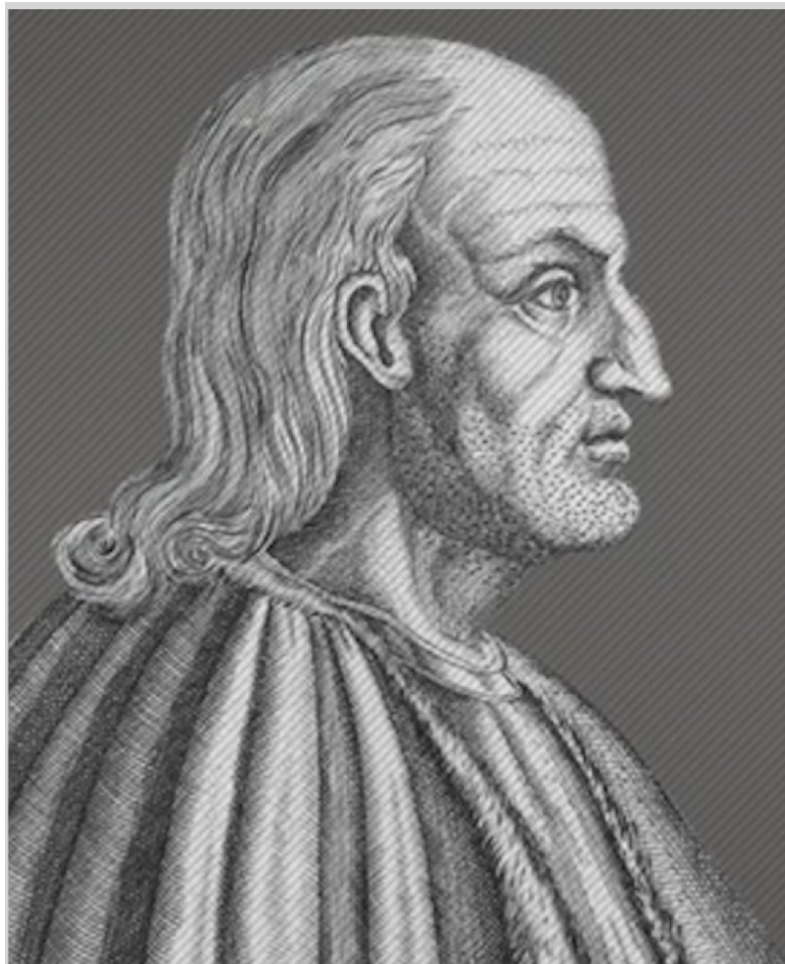
Pope Sylvester III



Pope Gregory VI



King Henry III



ANSELM

1033–1109

“Come along now, little man,  
Leave your daily work for awhile,  
Get away for awhile from the swirling storm of  
your thoughts.

Put those heavy anxieties to one side,  
Free yourself for God for a little while,  
And rest for a little while in Him.

“Retreat into the innermost room of your soul,  
Block out everything else except God  
And whatever can aid you in seeking Him;  
And when you have closed the door,  
Then seek Him.

“Now, my whole heart, say to God,  
‘I seek Your face;  
Lord, it is Your face I am seeking ...’  
I confess O Lord, with thanksgiving,  
That you have made me in Your image,  
So that I can remember You,  
Think of You,  
And love You.

“But Your image in me is so worn away,  
So blotted out by faults,  
So darkened by the smoke of sin,  
That it cannot do the thing it was made for,  
Unless you renew it and remake it.

“Lord, I am not trying to climb up to your height;

My understanding is simply not equal to that.  
But I do want to understand a little of your truth

Which my heart already believes and loves.

“I do not seek to understand so I may believe;  
I believe so that I may understand.  
More than that,  
I believe that unless I do believe  
I will not understand.”

Anselm of Canterbury

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Leave your daily work for awhile,  
Get away for awhile from the swirling storm of  
your thoughts.

Put those heavy anxieties to one side,  
Free yourself for God for a little while,  
And rest for a little while in Him.”

“Comfort, comfort my people,  
says your God.” (1)

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“But they who wait for the LORD shall renew  
their strength;” (31)

# Three Voices of Comfort

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- My Word is continuing. (6-8)
- My power is carrying. (9-11)

# Three Invitations to Behold

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- “Behold your God” (9)
- “Behold, the Lord GOD” (10a)
- “Behold, his reward” (10b)

BYG Comfort

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**B**ehold

**Y**our

**G**od

1. God is **big**. (12-14)

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- He measures everything.

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- He measures everything.
  - **accurately**

**“measured** the waters”

**“measured** the waters”

**“marked off** the heavens”

**“measured** the waters”

**“marked off** the heavens”

**“enclosed** the dust of the earth in a **measure**”

**“measured** the waters”

**“marked off** the heavens”

**“enclosed** the dust of the earth in a **measure**”

**“weighed** the mountains in **scales**”

“**measured** the waters”

“**marked off** the heavens”

“**enclosed** the dust of the earth in a **measure**”

“**weighed** the mountains in **scales**”

“and the hills in a **balance**”

1. God is big. (12-14)

- He measures everything.
  - accurately
  - **easily**

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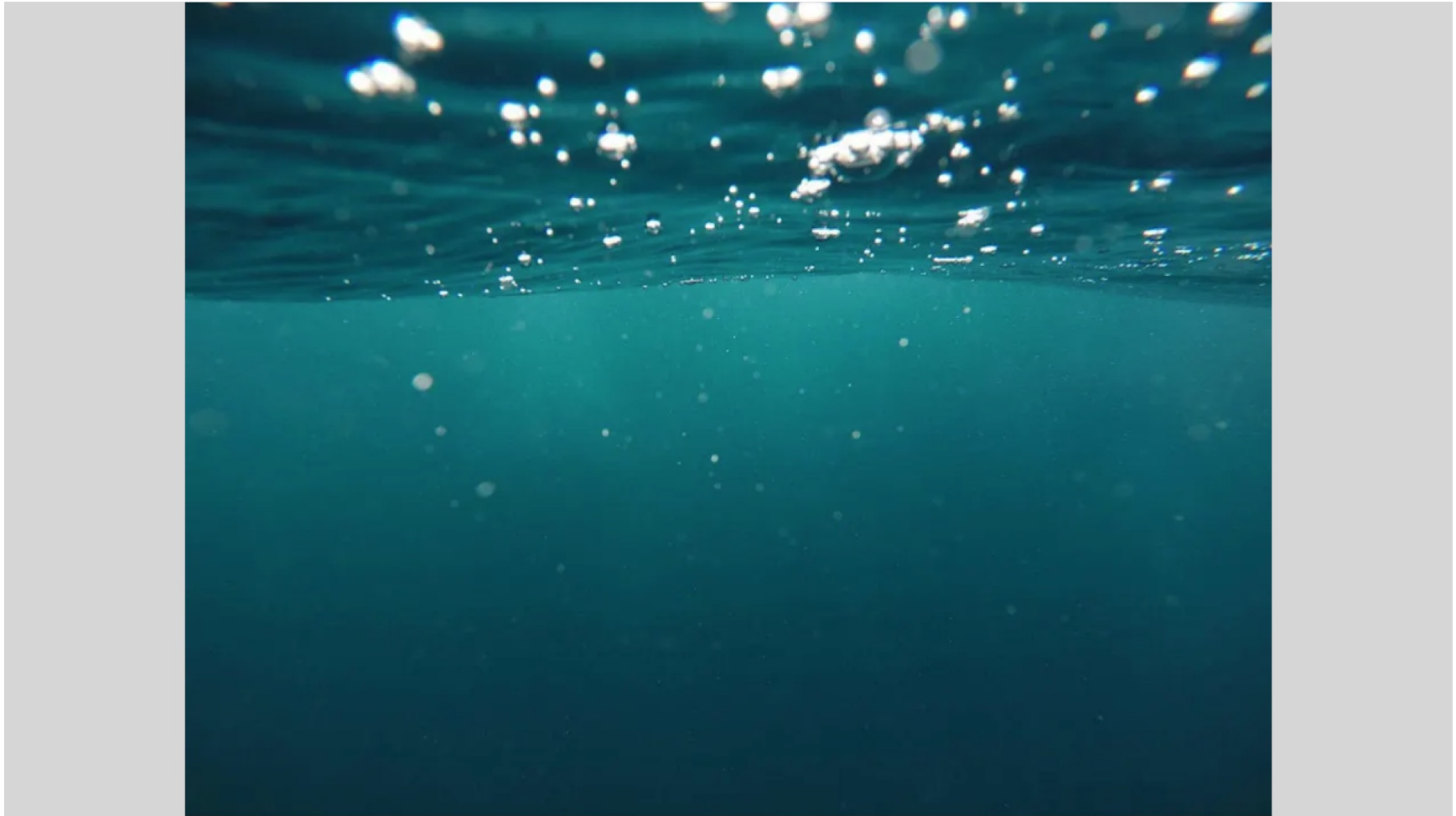
- He measures everything.

- accurately

- **easily**

“who has measured the waters in  
the hollow of his hand”







anthropomorphic language -

anthropomorphic language -  
when we speak of God in human terms

anthropomorphic language

when we speak of God in human terms

anthropos = man

anthropomorphic language

when we speak of God in human terms

anthropos = man

morphe = form

1. God is big. (12-14)

- He measures everything.

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- He measures everything.
- He cannot be **measured by anything**.

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- He measures everything.
- He cannot be **measured by anything**.

“who has measured the Spirit of the LORD”

The One who measures all creation  
cannot be measured by creation!

“Left to ourselves, we tend immediately to reduce God to manageable terms. We want to get Him where we can use Him, or at least know where He is when we need Him. We want a God we can in some measure control.”

A.W. Tozer

1. God is big. (12-14)

- He measures everything.
- He cannot be measured by anything.
- He has been **taught nothing**.

“... or what man shows him his counsel?  
Whom did he consult,  
and who made him understand?  
Who taught him the path of justice,  
and taught him knowledge,  
and showed him the way of understanding?”

Isaiah 40:13b-14

God knows everything;  
therefore, he learns nothing.

- He is never confused.

- He is never confused.
- He has never misunderstood.

- He is never confused.
- He has never misunderstood.
- He has never learned what he did not know.

- He is never confused.
- He has never misunderstood.
- He has never learned what he did not know.
- He knows all that was, is, and will be.

- He is never confused.
- He has never misunderstood.
- He has never learned what he did not know.
- He knows all that was, is, and will be.
- He knows everything “instantaneously, simultaneously, and everlastingly.”

“... in your light do we see light.”

Psalms 36:9

1. God is big. (12-14)

1. God is big. (12-14)
2. We are **small**. (15-17)

- We don't **tip the scale.**

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“the nations are like a drop from a bucket”

- We don't tip the scale.  
“the nations are like a drop from a bucket”



- We don't tip the scale.

“the nations are like a drop from a bucket”

“the nations are accounted as the dust on the scales”

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- We don't tip the scale.
- We serve **no necessary purpose**.

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“Lebanon would not suffice for fuel,  
nor are its beasts enough for a burnt  
offering.” (16)



Cedars of Lebanon

Source: CIA Factbook  
Simran Khosla/ GlobalPost

- We don't tip the scale.
- We serve no necessary purpose.
- We add up to **less than nothing**.

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- We add up to **less than nothing**.

“All the nations are as nothing before him,  
they are accounted by him as less than  
nothing and emptiness.” (17)

How do we get BYG comfort?

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- We meditate on the **greatness and goodness** of God.

“Come along now, little man,  
Leave your daily work for awhile,  
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Put those heavy anxieties to one side,  
Free yourself for God for a little while,  
And rest for a little while in Him.”

Anselm

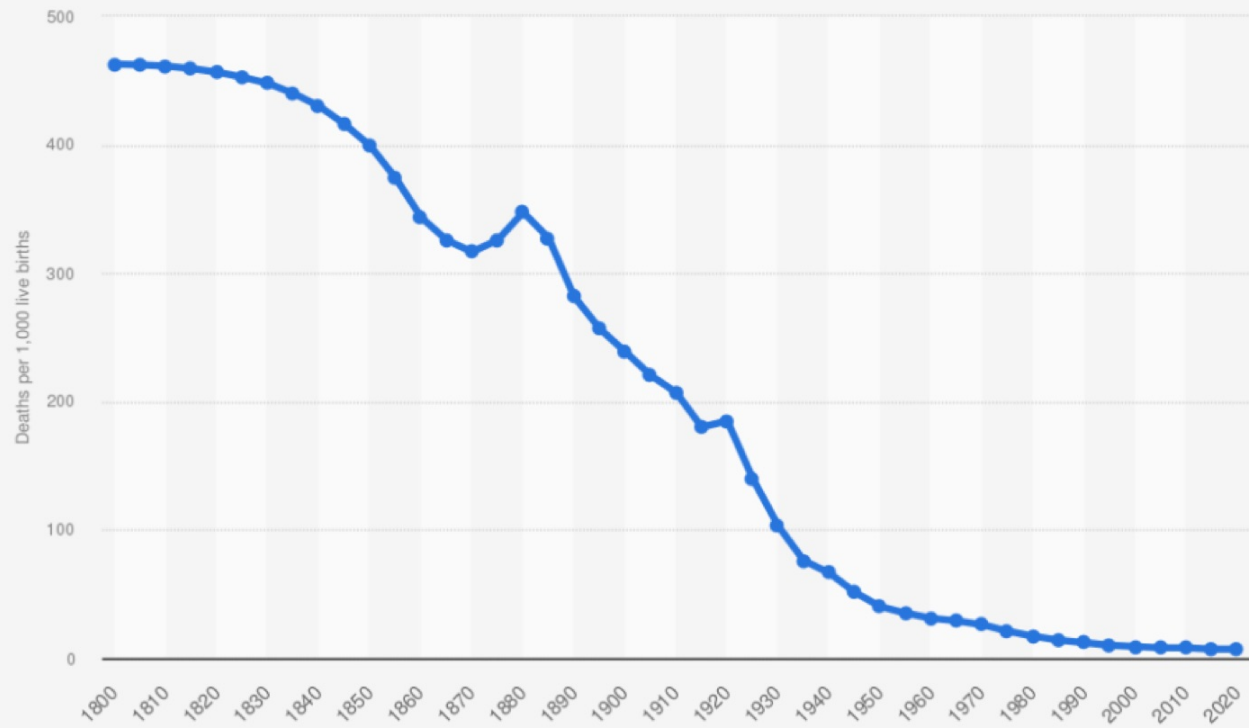
How do we get BYG comfort?

- We meditate on the greatness and goodness of God.
- We are **honest** about our own **smallness, weakness, and failures.**

How do we get BYG comfort?

- We meditate on the greatness and goodness of God.
- We are honest about our own smallness, weakness, and failures.
- We **see ourselves through** his greatness and goodness.

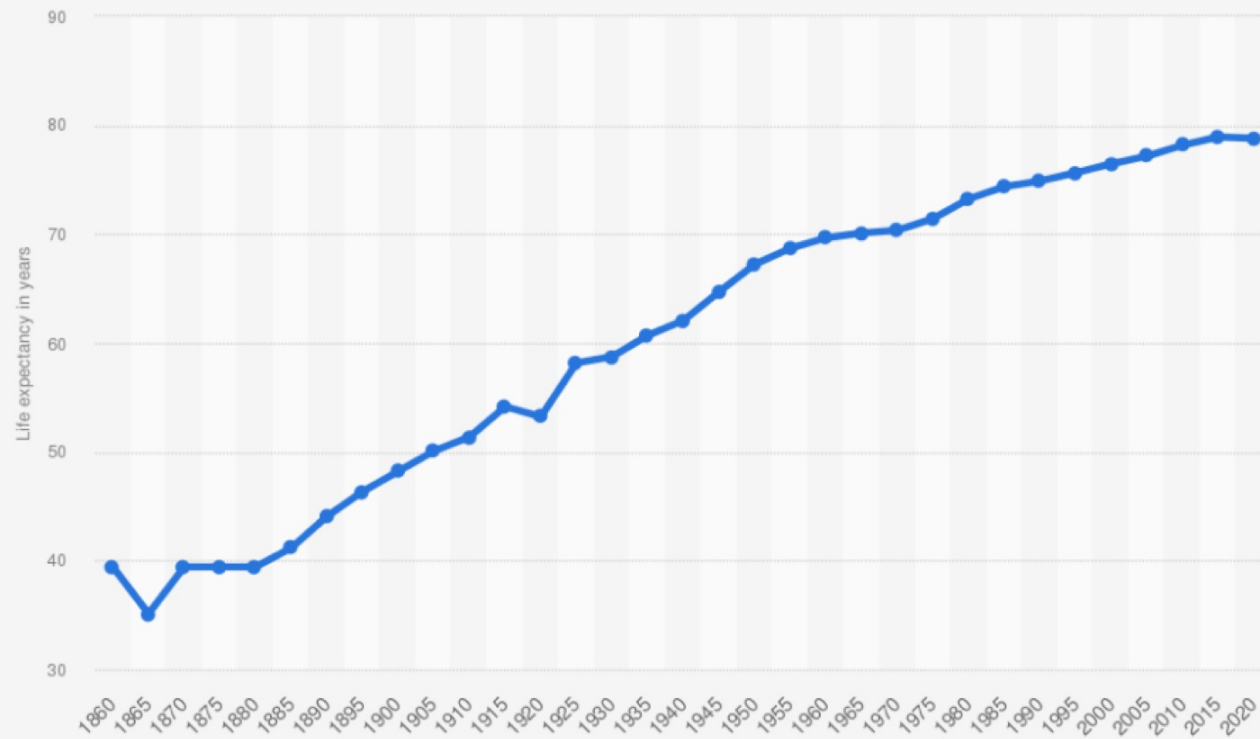
Child mortality rate (under five years old) in the United States, from 1800 to 2020\*



**Sources**  
UN DESA; Gapminder  
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**Additional Information:**  
United States; 1800-2020

**Life expectancy (from birth) in the United States, from 1860 to 2020\***



**Sources**  
UN DESA; Gapminder  
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**Additional Information:**  
United States; 1860 to 2020

“The biblical revelation reminds us that human beings are not self-explanatory. They derive their meaning from outside themselves, from God in whose image they are made.

“We are not autonomous individuals, creating ourselves constantly by the decisions and choices we make. No, we are images, we are reflections.

“The dignity of our humanity is derivative; it comes from him whose image we bear. We are dependent beings.”

John Stott

“If the recognition that we are made in the image of God keeps us from thinking too much of ourselves, then the fact that we are in the image of God prevents us from thinking too little of ourselves.”

Christopher Watkin

“You come of the Lord Adam and the Lady Eve ... and that is both honor enough to erect the head of the poorest beggar, and shame enough to bow the shoulders of the greatest emperor on earth.”

Aslan