

**JESUS:** *“I am going to die”*  
**Disciples:** *“We want position”*

**Matthew 20: 17-28**

**March 12, 2023**

Verse 17 - 19

**Jesus knows what is coming**

**Jesus is facing crucifixion;** this would send  
chills up anyone's spine!

**Jesus is God for sure!**

**Jesus is man for sure!**

***The GOD/MAN!***

The hypostatic union teaches that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine, that there is no mixture or dilution of either nature, and that He is one united Person, forever.

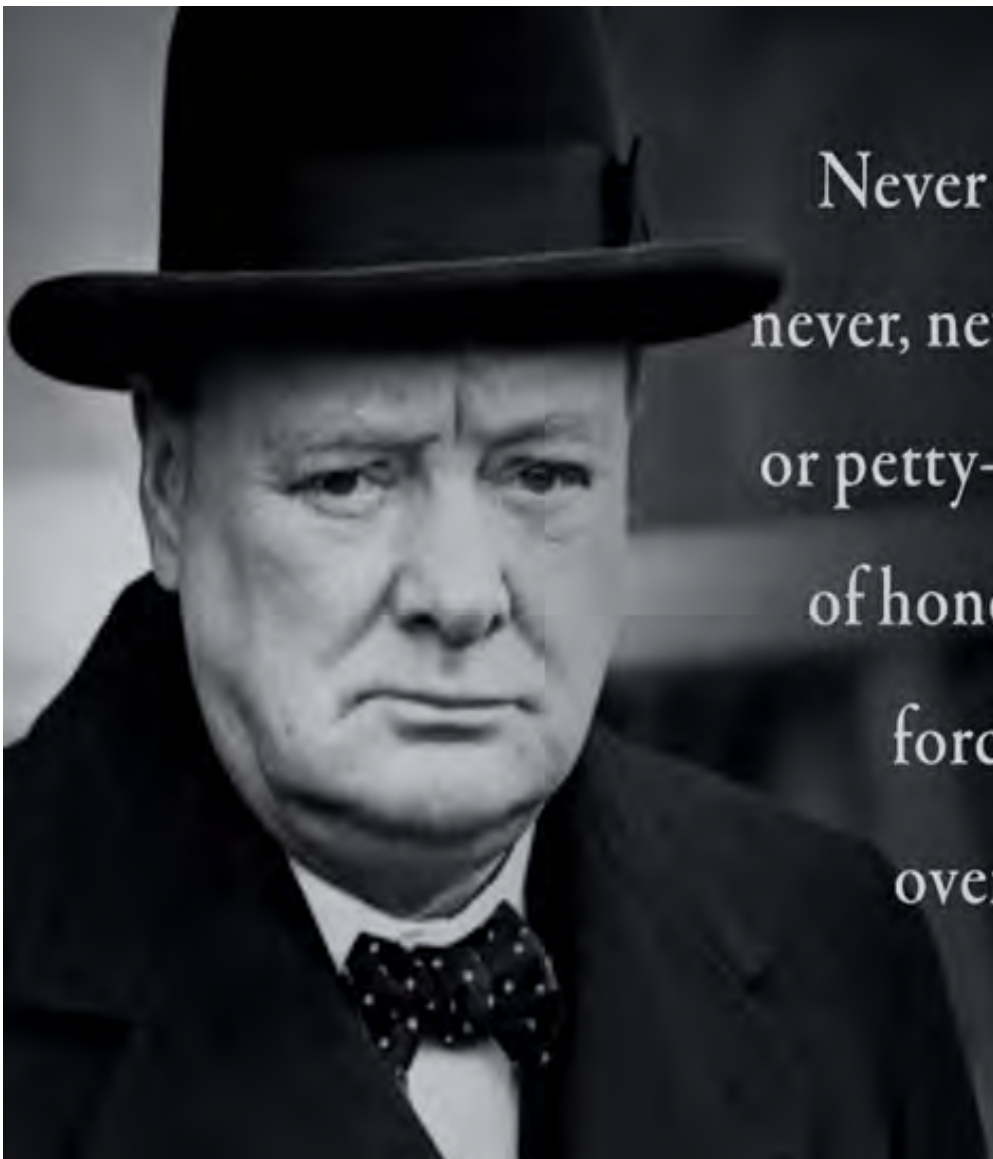


**Jesus is on a mission to do the Father's will;  
hear the honest heart of Jesus – John 12: 27**

**Our mission will be over one day**

**Until then, *STAY ON MISSION!***



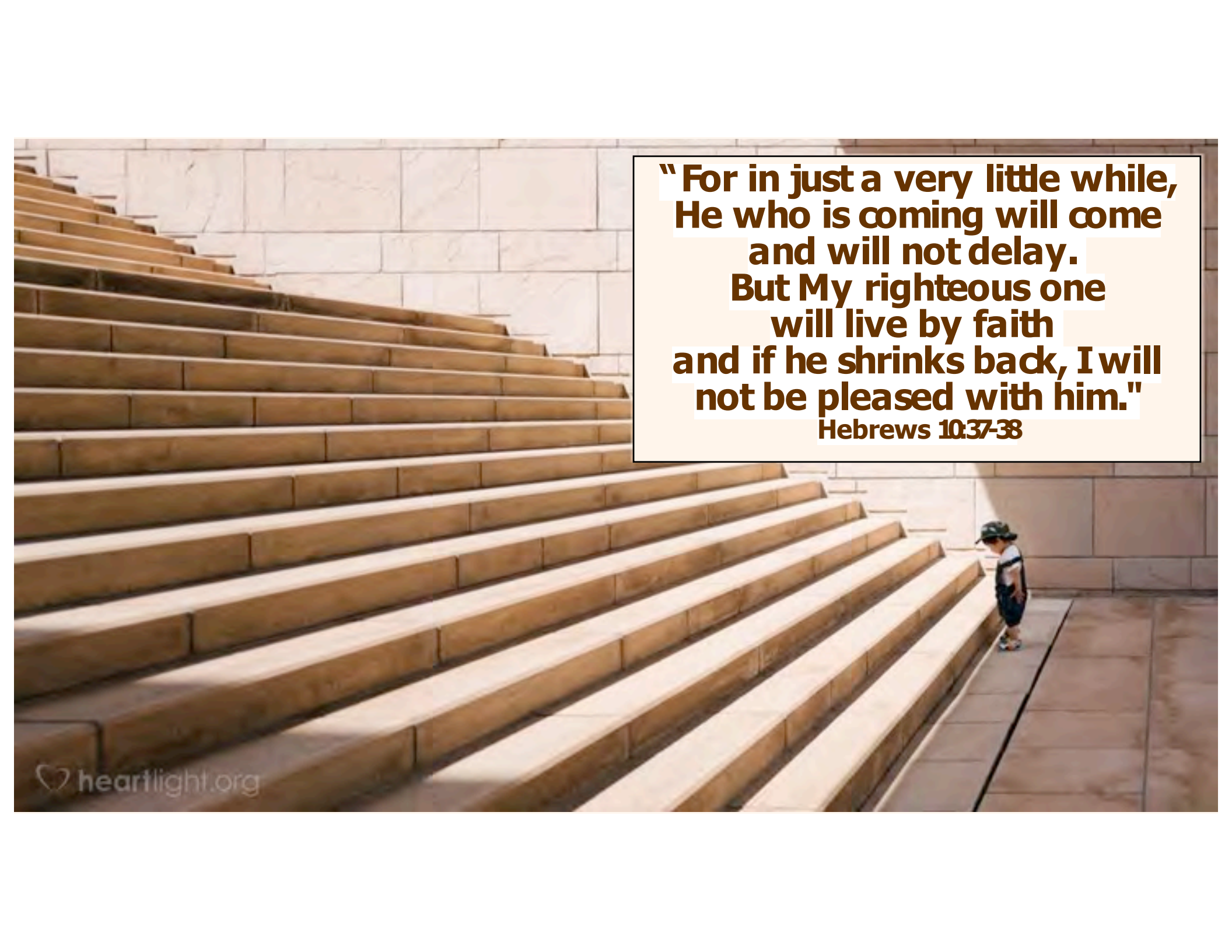


Never give in, never give in, never, never,  
never, never—in nothing, great or small, large  
or petty—never give in except to convictions  
of honour and good sense. Never yield to  
force; never yield to the apparently  
overwhelming might of the enemy.

Winston Churchill / @InspiringThinkn

**With pressure to conform to this world,  
how can I finish strong?**





**“For in just a very little while,  
He who is coming will come  
and will not delay.  
But My righteous one  
will live by faith  
and if he shrinks back, I will  
not be pleased with him.”  
Hebrews 10:37-38**

Faith is the key:

2 Corinthians 5: 7

Galatians 3: 11

The grave did not contain Jesus and *the grave will not contain you!*

***YOU WILL RISE AGAIN!*** - John 14: 19

Verse 20 – 21

*“I want to be first”*

**James and John, the elite of the elite, still don't get it – “*Give me position!!*”**

**Self-promotion is common for fallen humanity – we've learned from the master of self-promotion**

**Lucifer's self-promotion:**

**Ezekiel 28: 15**

***How you are fallen from heaven,  
O Lucifer, son of the morning!  
How you are cut down to the ground,  
You who weakened the nations!  
For you have said in your heart:  
I will ascend into heaven,  
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;  
I will also sit on the mount of the congregation  
On the farthest sides of the north;  
I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,  
I will be like the Most High.***

**Isaiah 14: 12-14**

Verse 22 - 23

Jesus' response

Jesus answers straight up:

*“You do not know what you ask for”*

*“Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?”*

The answer from these guys is amazing:

*“We are able”*

In their strength – ***NO!!***

In the Holy Spirit’s power – ***YES!!***

## LESSON:

It will cost you to follow Jesus

*“If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, take up his cross daily, and follow Me.”*

Luke 9: 23

This is an invitation to put to death the desires of your soul, to die to the self-life, and follow! (Watchman Nee)



## Verse 24

**The ten are offended**

Satan has his fingers all over this dispute -

[Ephesians 6: 12](#)

**Offense is a tool of the enemy** – *it keeps you distracted from the mission!*

**OFFENSE CHAIN:**

Offense >

**Betrayal** >

Hate >

**Deceived** >

Isolation >

**Withdrawal**

Verse 25 - 27

**Whoever is great, let him be your servant**

***“ . . . . whoever desires to become first among you, let him be your slave”***

**Slave = “*doulos*” = the person’s will consumed with the will of his master**

***We are slaves of Christ, not slaves of our flesh!***

***As slaves of Christ, we willingly submit to Jesus’ way, and put others above ourselves***

**This is not a human thing, *this is supernatural!***

***A GOD THING!!***

## Greatness in God's economy (John MacArthur)

- 1) To withstand criticism without becoming bitter
- 2) To be misjudged without becoming defensive
- 3) To withstand suffering without succumbing to self-pity

## Verse 28

**Jesus modeled what He expects from us**

Jesus came *“to serve and give His life a ransom for many”*

For those set free, the most honorable thing you can do is *serve your KING!*

**What does serving Jesus look like?**

*Service is worship; we ascribe to God the greatest worth of all!*

*God is first in our lives; everything else is after God!*

## CLOSING THOUGHTS:

Jesus rescued us from Satan's jail – this is a violent rescue! Colossians 1: 13-14

Jesus' death paid the price for our freedom

Jesus' resurrection was the victory over Satan and death



**The condition of people of the world imprisoned by Satan is appalling!**



**Satan holds the world captive; Satan owns every person that is not a believer**

Of the **8 billion** people on the planet, **2 billion** claim to be Christian

Of the **2 billion**, it is estimated that *less than 10%* are genuine believers

That's **2 hundred million**, which is **2.5%** of the **8 billion** on earth

- Do absolute moral truths exist?
- Is absolute truth defined by the Bible?
- Did Jesus Christ live a sinless life?
- Is God the all-powerful and all-knowing Creator of the universe, and does He still rule it today?
- Is salvation a gift from God that cannot be earned?
- Is Satan real?
- Does a Christian have a responsibility to share his or her faith in Christ with other people?
- Is the Bible accurate in all of its teachings?

**AMERICA is on a free fall from the light!**



The percentage of people with a biblical worldview **declines**  
in each generation:



#whoisgenz

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<b>Generations</b>	<b>Born</b>	<b>Current Ages</b>
<b>Gen Z</b>	1997 - 2012	11 - 26
<b>Millennials</b>	1981 - 1996	27 - 42
<b>Gen X</b>	1965 - 1980	43 - 58
<b>Boomers II (a/k/a Generation Jones)*</b>	1955 - 1964	59 - 68
<b>Boomers I*</b>	1946 - 1954	69 - 77
<b>Post War</b>	1928 - 1945	78 - 95
<b>WWII</b>	1922 - 1927	96 - 101

This falling away marches lockstep with what Jesus said prior to His return -

[Matthew 24: 37-38](#)

The falling away comes first -

[2 Thessalonians 2: 3](#)

This is the apostasy (*the abandoning of the true faith*), “ . . . . *giving heed to deceiving spirits*”

[1 Timothy 4: 1](#)

**While here, do not be caught up with “*here*”!**

**Do not put all your eggs in the “*here*” basket**

**Look Up, folks! *Look Up!!* - Luke 21: 28**

**It does not make sense to fight for position here  
when we will be leaving here**

**I would suggest that you turn your eyes to Jesus –  
*Look for HIM!!***



***HE IS COMING!***

***IS HE COMING FOR YOU???***

***ARE YOU ONE OF THE 2.5%  
THAT ARE GENUINE??***