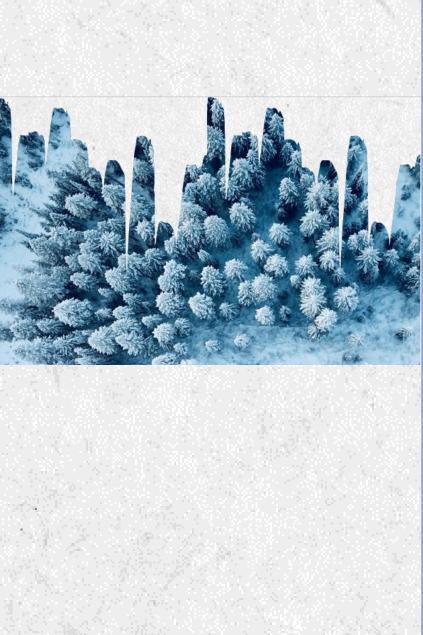


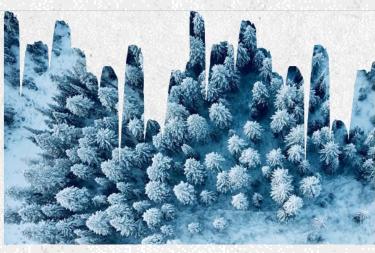
# HIGHER GLORY

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Higher Glory that is set "to bring a good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners. It is the year of the LORD's favour, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort and provide for those who mourn in Zion. To give everyone a beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint or heavy spirit. We will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display His glory. **HIGHER GLORY!** 

"Diligently bring whatever you desire to God and He will do it."



# TEXTS: HAGGAI 2:9 (NIV)

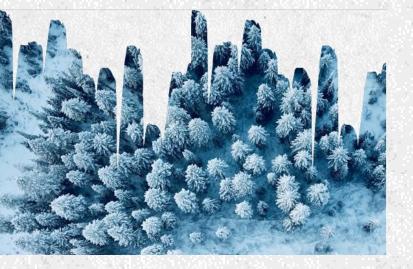
<sup>9</sup> 'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the LORD Almighty. 'And in this place I will grant peace,' declares the LORD Almighty."

# 2 CORINTHIANS 3:18

<sup>18</sup> But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

#### Ephesians 3:20-21

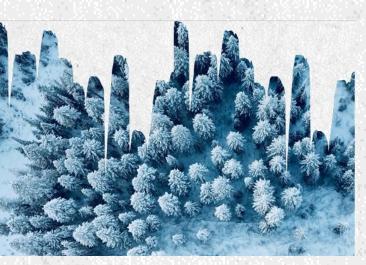
"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, <u>according to His power that is at work within us</u>, be the glory throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen"



# FEB 27, 2022, HIGHER GLORY (Part 3):

## "IN THIS PLACE I WILL GRANT PEACE" Haggai 2:9

"... 'And **in this place I will grant peace**,' declares the LORD Almighty."



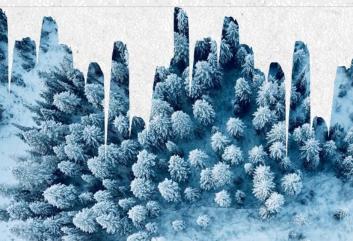
## What is peace?

- freedom from disturbance;
- tranquillity;
- freedom from fear.

**Psalm 30:5 says: "**For His anger is but for a moment, but His favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may endure for a night, but joy comes in the morning."

Whatever happens to a child of God is permitted by God. What God has not permitted will never happen to us.

Sometimes, what He permits is painful. The pain depend on lessons He wants to teach or He wants us to learn. But the peace/joy that comes after that pain is greater.



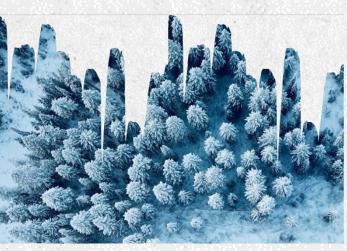
#### Some pains are not due to our sins

**In Job 1:1** "Job was blameless - a man of complete integrity, upright, fearing God and shunning evil." God blessed him a lot and he had a lot of wealth. Yet at God's will, God permitted the devil to put him through pains JUST TO PROVE to the devil that Job's faith is unstoppable – he lost all his wealth. But after the proof, God restored him and made him greater than ever before **- High Glory!** 

<sup>8</sup> The LORD said to Satan, , "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one on earth like him; he is blameless and upright, a man who fears God and shuns evil."

<sup>9</sup> "Satan said, Does Job fear God for nothing?" ... <sup>11</sup> ...stretch out your hand and strike everything he has, and he will surely curse you to your face." <sup>12</sup> The LORD said to Satan, "Very well, then, everything he has is in your power, but on the man himself do not lay a finger."

Job lost everything. Yet, "<sup>22</sup> in all this, Job did not sin by charging God with wrongdoing."



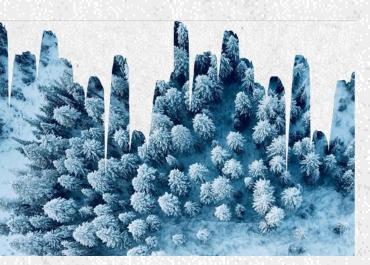
## By Job 42:10-17

<sup>10</sup> The LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he prayed for his friends, and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

#### How about Abraham?

**Genesis 11: 10-32,** gives the genealogy of Abraham. For generations, barrenness was not in the family. Yet when it came to Abraham, Sarah became barren and for over 90 years she had no child.

We know that Abraham served God and was committed to his faith because Genesis 12 record that God spoke to him: "<sup>2</sup>" I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup> I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."



Brethren, when a pain is allowed by God, He never leaves us there. He comes back to give us peace. In Jeremiah 29:11, God said

"I know the thoughts that I think toward you, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end." (KJV)

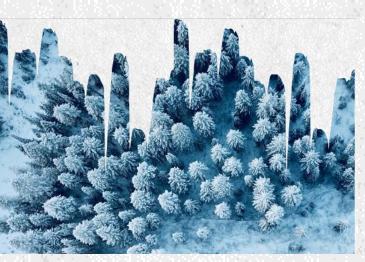
".... thoughts of peace and not of evil, ... (NKJV).

TO ENJOY PEACE, WE MUST BE STABLE IN FAITH AND KNOW THAT GOD IS AT WORK:

#### In Job's case,

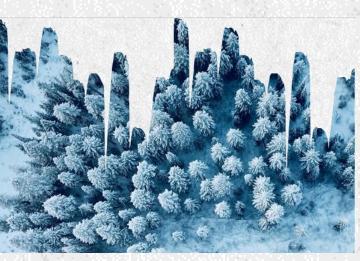
- 1. He never stopped praying and asking God to take the pain away.
- 2. He forgave and prayed for people who offended him.
- 3. Yet he resolved to let God have His way in full.

**In Luke 18:1,** Jesus used the parable of the persistent widow to caution us that "we should always pray and not give up."... <sup>7</sup> Will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day



and night? Will he keep putting them off? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, He will see that they get justice, and quickly."

If a pain is permitted by God, and we keep praying and asking, God will grant us justice and answer us. For Abraham, he continued to believe God's promises even when it was no longer making sense: **Genesis 15:** "the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Do not be afraid, Abram. I am your shield, your very great reward." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "Sovereign LORD, what can you give me since I remain childless and the one who will inherit my estate is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no children; so a servant in my household will be my heir." <sup>4</sup> Then the word of the LORD came to him: "This man will not be your heir, but a son who is your own flesh and blood will be your heir." Abraham looked at his age ---- 99 years --- but he remained faithful.



## SOME PAINS ARE DUE TO OUR SINS. We must, therefore,:

#### 1. Confess our sins consistently

1 John 1:9 "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness."
Psalm 32:5, David said "I acknowledged my sin to You and did not hide my iniquity. I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and You forgave the guilt of my sin."

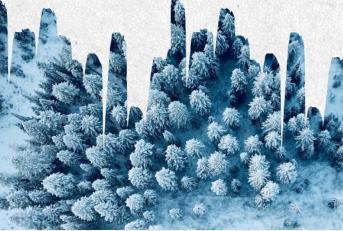
2. "Test all things. Hold fast to what is good. Abstain from every form or appearance of evil." (1 Thessalonians 5: 21-22).

#### 3. Make every effort to protect our salvation

**Galatians 5: 7-8** "7 You were running a good race. Who cut in on you to keep you from obeying the truth? <sup>8</sup> That kind of persuasion does not come from the one who calls you."

Matthew 24:12-13 "<sup>12</sup>Because of the increase of wickedness/ lawlessness, the love of many will grow cold. <sup>13</sup> But the one who stands firm to the end will be saved."

Then Seek, Ask and Knock, you will receive God's peace.



## Brethren, God surely brings PEACE to those who merit it: 2 Chronicles 16:9 says:

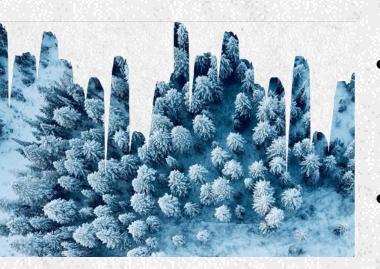
"The eyes of the LORD search the whole earth in order to strengthen those whose hearts are fully committed to Him."

## When Peace Comes, it is Victory on every side:

#### Joshua 21:44-45 records the peace God gave to Israel:

"<sup>44</sup> The LORD gave them peace throughout the land, just as he had promised their ancestors. Not one of all their enemies had been able to stand against them, because the LORD gave the Israelites the victory over all their enemies. <sup>45</sup> The LORD kept every one of the promises that he had made to the people of Israel."

In 2 Chronicles 20, tribes came to wage war against Jehoshaphat. <sup>2</sup> Some people came and told Jehoshaphat, "A vast army is coming against you from Edom. <sup>3</sup> Alarmed, Jehoshaphat resolved to inquire of the LORD, and he proclaimed a fast for all Judah... God caused the enemies to kill themselves. <sup>29</sup> The fear of God came on all the surrounding kingdoms when they heard how the LORD had fought against the enemies of Israel. <sup>30</sup> And the kingdom of Jehoshaphat was at peace, for his God had given him rest on every side.



## Conclusion To attain a Higher Glory,

- "we must focus on the present ("this present house"); not worry about the former (**Part 1**)
- And we must understand that we have "the Lord Almighty" (Lord of hosts, Lord of armies) and Do what God tells us because "God said so." (Part 2)
- Righteously stand firm in faith, knowing that "IN THIS PLACE, GOD WILL GRANT YOU PEACE. (Part 3)

## GOD BLESS YOU!