

error of the
gainsaying of
acts of charity.

The Book

REVELATION

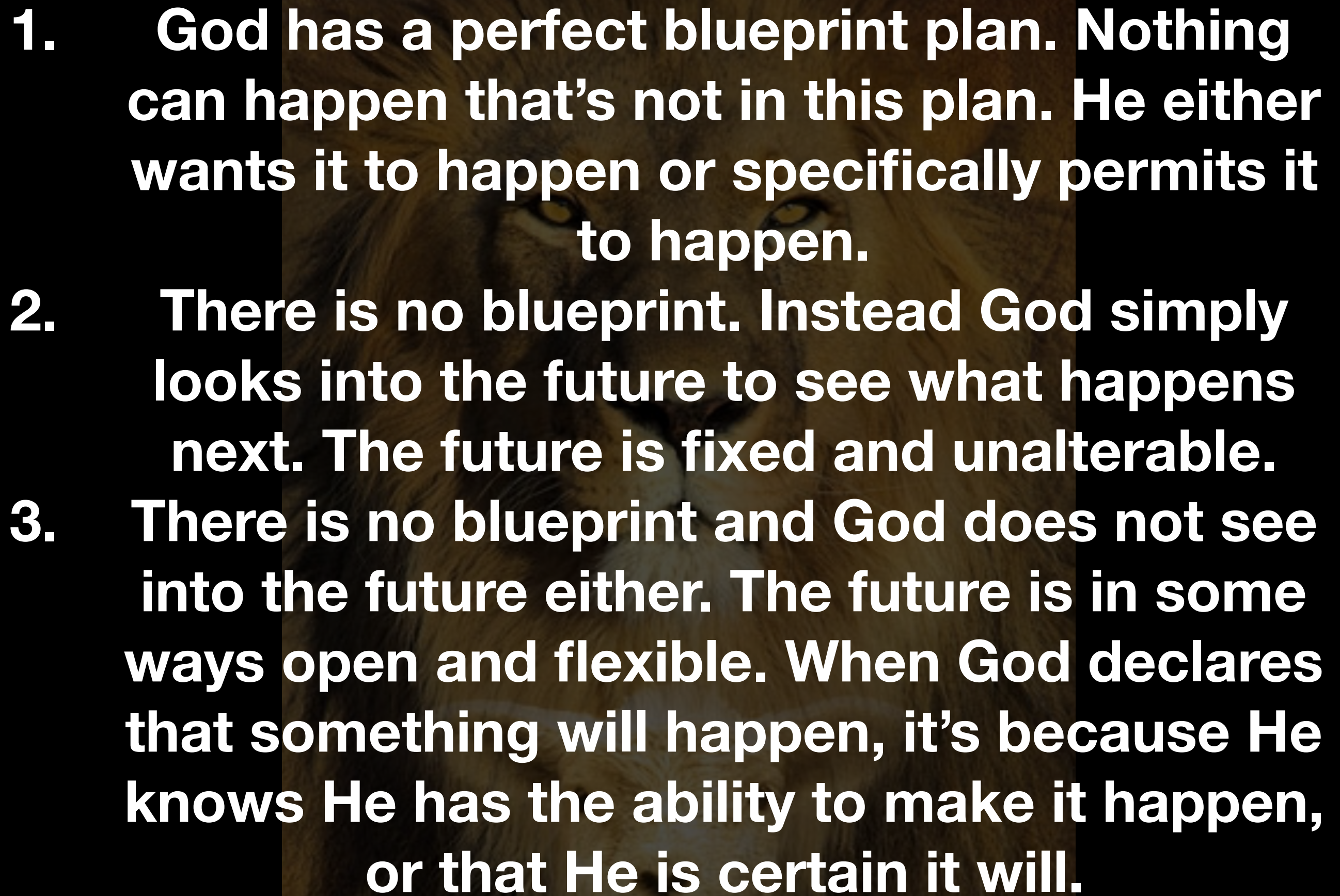
Christ, which God
servants things
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6 and have
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A composite image of a lion's head with a lamb's face, symbolizing the 'Lion and the Lamb' from the Book of Revelation. The lion's body and mane are visible, while the face and eyes are those of a lamb.

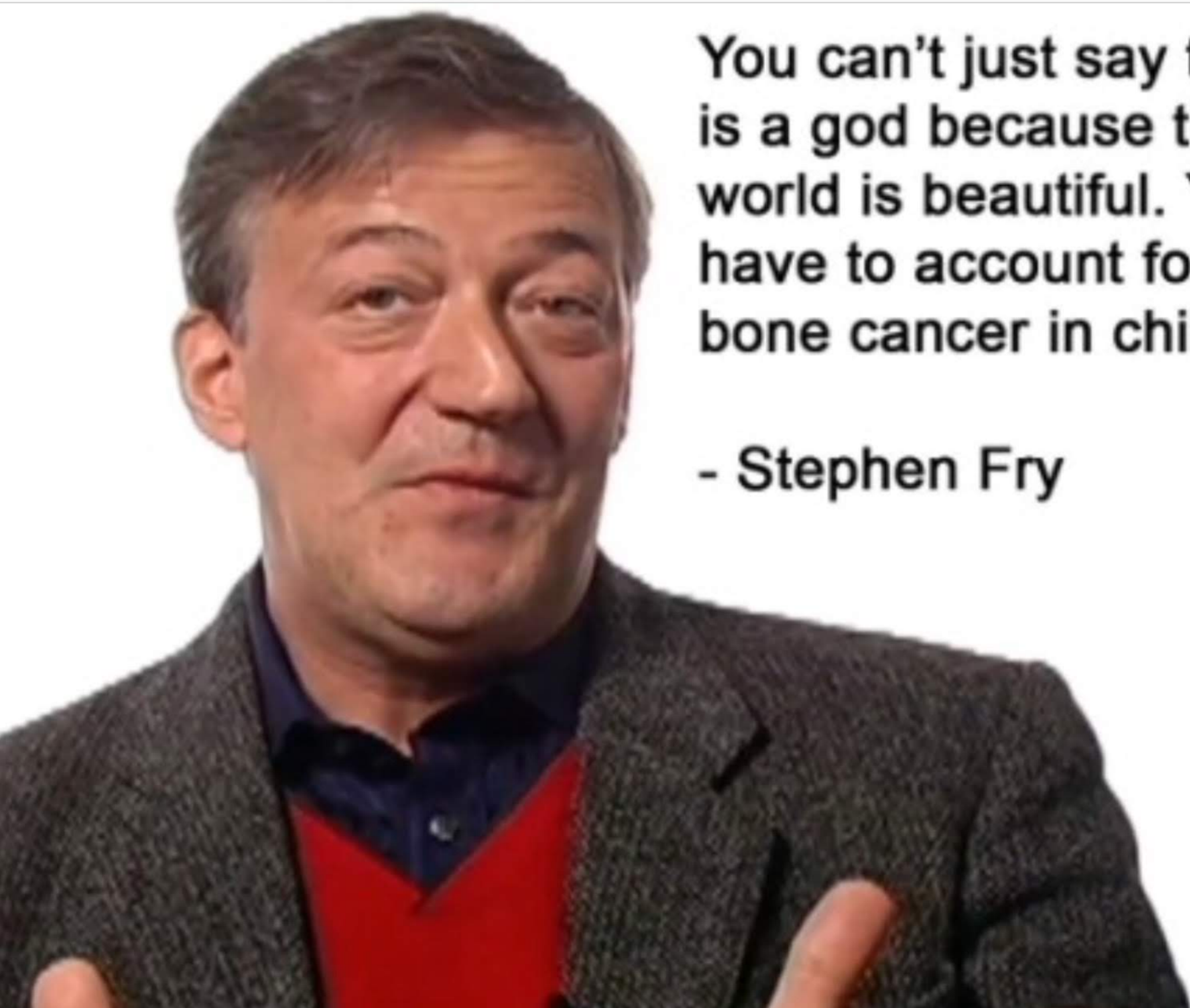
Revelation 1:1 NIV

[1] The revelation from Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show his servants what must soon take place.

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- 1. God has a perfect blueprint plan. Nothing can happen that's not in this plan. He either wants it to happen or specifically permits it to happen.**
 - 2. There is no blueprint. Instead God simply looks into the future to see what happens next. The future is fixed and unalterable.**
 - 3. There is no blueprint and God does not see into the future either. The future is in some ways open and flexible. When God declares that something will happen, it's because He knows He has the ability to make it happen, or that He is certain it will.**

How dare you? How dare you create a world in which there is such misery that is not our fault? It's not right, it's utterly, utterly evil. Why should I respect a capricious, mean-minded, stupid god who creates a world that is so full of injustice and pain?

— *Stephen Fry* —



You can't just say there is a god because the world is beautiful. You have to account for bone cancer in children.

- Stephen Fry

And those who were seen dancing
were thought to be insane
by those who could not hear
the music.

Friedrich Nietzsche

THE TRUE STORY OF A VERY SPECIAL FRIENDSHIP

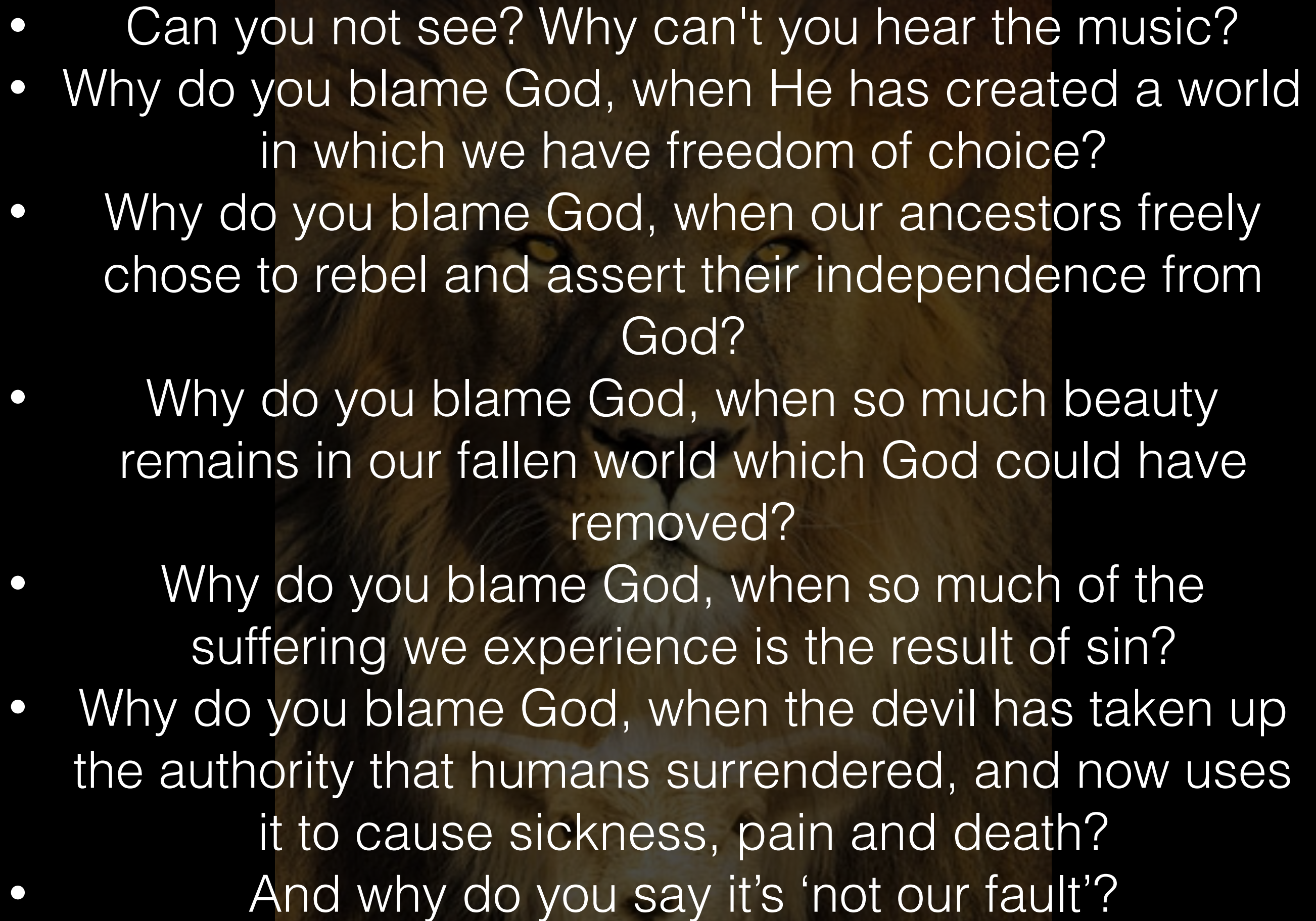
MISTER GOD, THIS IS

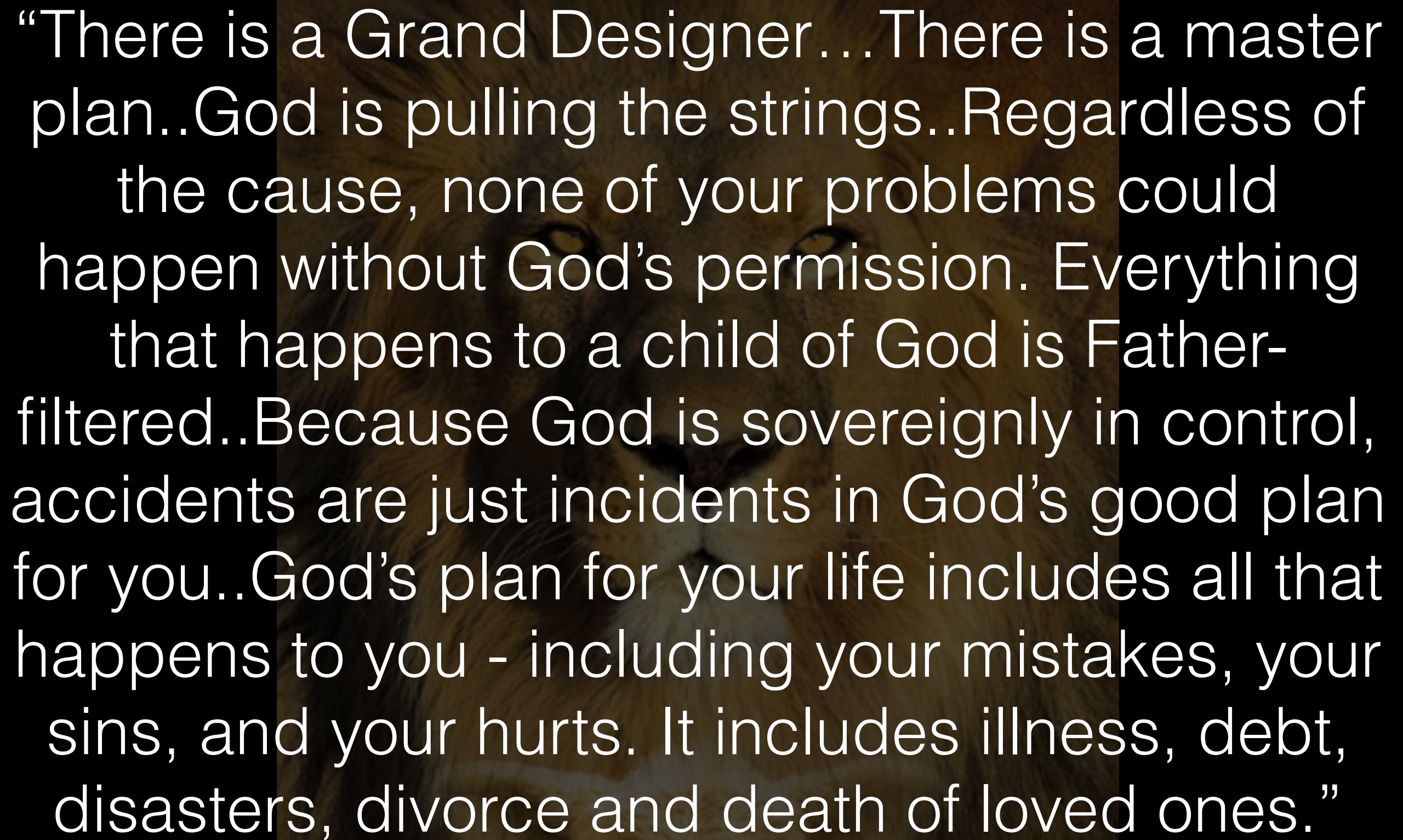
anna



Fynn

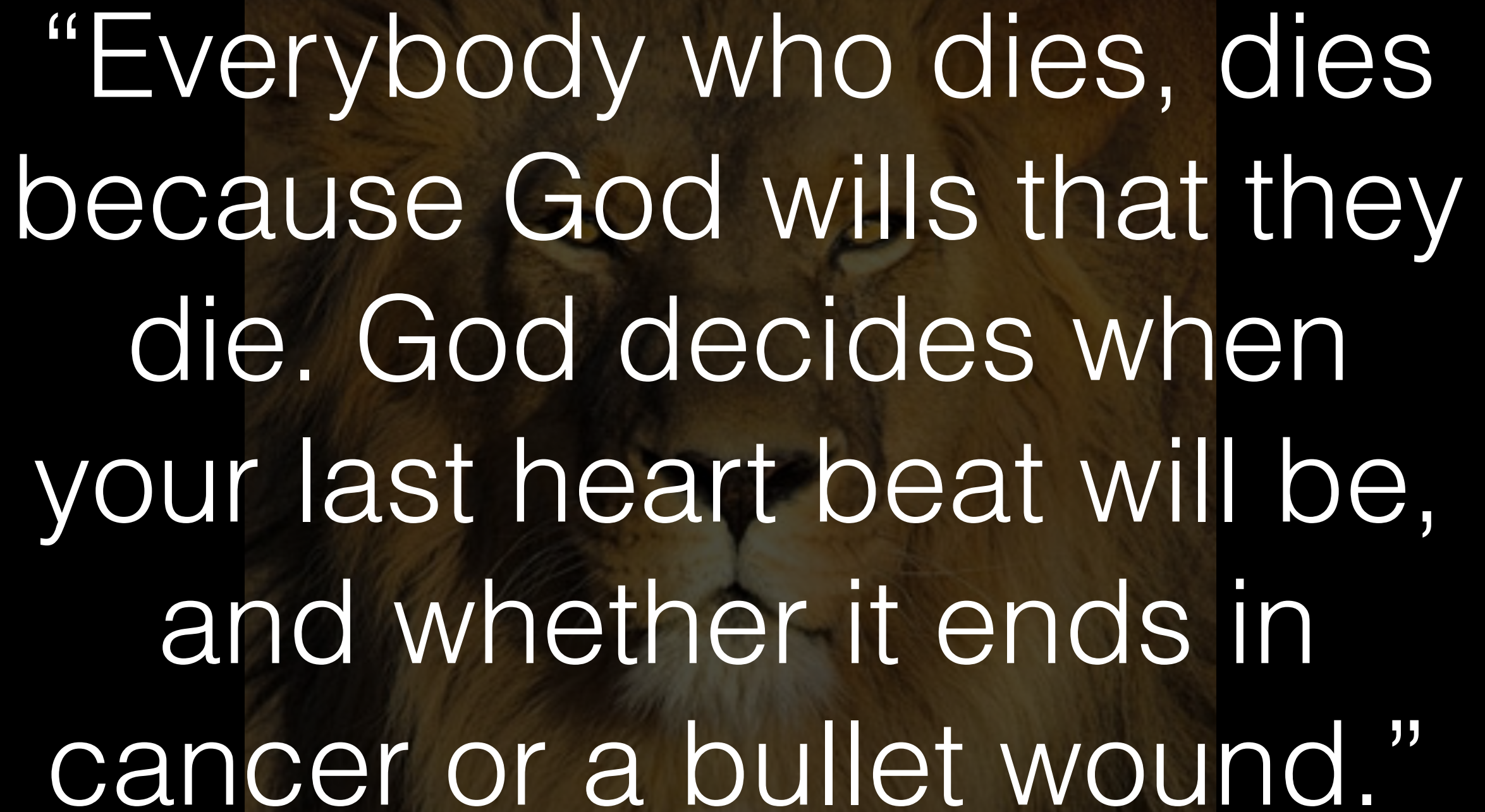
FOREWORD BY
DR ROWAN WILLIAMS

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- Can you not see? Why can't you hear the music?
 - Why do you blame God, when He has created a world in which we have freedom of choice?
 - Why do you blame God, when our ancestors freely chose to rebel and assert their independence from God?
 - Why do you blame God, when so much beauty remains in our fallen world which God could have removed?
 - Why do you blame God, when so much of the suffering we experience is the result of sin?
 - Why do you blame God, when the devil has taken up the authority that humans surrendered, and now uses it to cause sickness, pain and death?
 - And why do you say it's 'not our fault'?



“There is a Grand Designer...There is a master plan..God is pulling the strings..Regardless of the cause, none of your problems could happen without God’s permission. Everything that happens to a child of God is Father-filtered..Because God is sovereignly in control, accidents are just incidents in God’s good plan for you..God’s plan for your life includes all that happens to you - including your mistakes, your sins, and your hurts. It includes illness, debt, disasters, divorce and death of loved ones.”

The Purpose Driven Life by Rick Warren



“Everybody who dies, dies
because God wills that they
die. God decides when
your last heart beat will be,
and whether it ends in
cancer or a bullet wound.”

John Piper in Podcast Q&A 27.2.2010

2 Kings 20:1-6 NIV

[1] In those days Hezekiah became ill and was at the point of death. The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz went to him and said, "This is what the Lord says: Put your house in order, because you are going to die; you will not recover." [2] Hezekiah turned his face to the wall and prayed to the Lord, [3] "Remember, Lord, how I have walked before you faithfully and with wholehearted devotion and have done what is good in your eyes." And Hezekiah wept bitterly. [4] Before Isaiah had left the middle court, the word of the Lord came to him: [5] "Go back and tell Hezekiah, the ruler of my people, 'This is what the Lord, the God of your father David, says: I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you. On the third day from now you will go up to the temple of the Lord. [6] I will add fifteen years to your life. And I will deliver you and this city from the hand of the king of Assyria. I will defend this city for my sake and for the sake of my servant David.' "

A close-up, dark, and moody photograph of a lion's face. The lion's eyes are yellow and looking directly at the camera. In the lower center of the image, a small, white lamb's face is superimposed over the lion's chest, looking forward. The overall tone is somber and dramatic.

Exodus 32:14 NLT

**[14] So the LORD changed his mind
about the terrible disaster he had
threatened to bring on his people.**

1 Samuel 15:27-29 NIV

[27] As Samuel turned to leave, Saul caught hold of the hem of his robe, and it tore. [28] Samuel said to him, “The Lord has torn the kingdom of Israel from you today and has given it to one of your neighbors---to one better than you. [29] He who is the Glory of Israel does not lie or change his mind; for he is not a human being, that he should change his mind.”



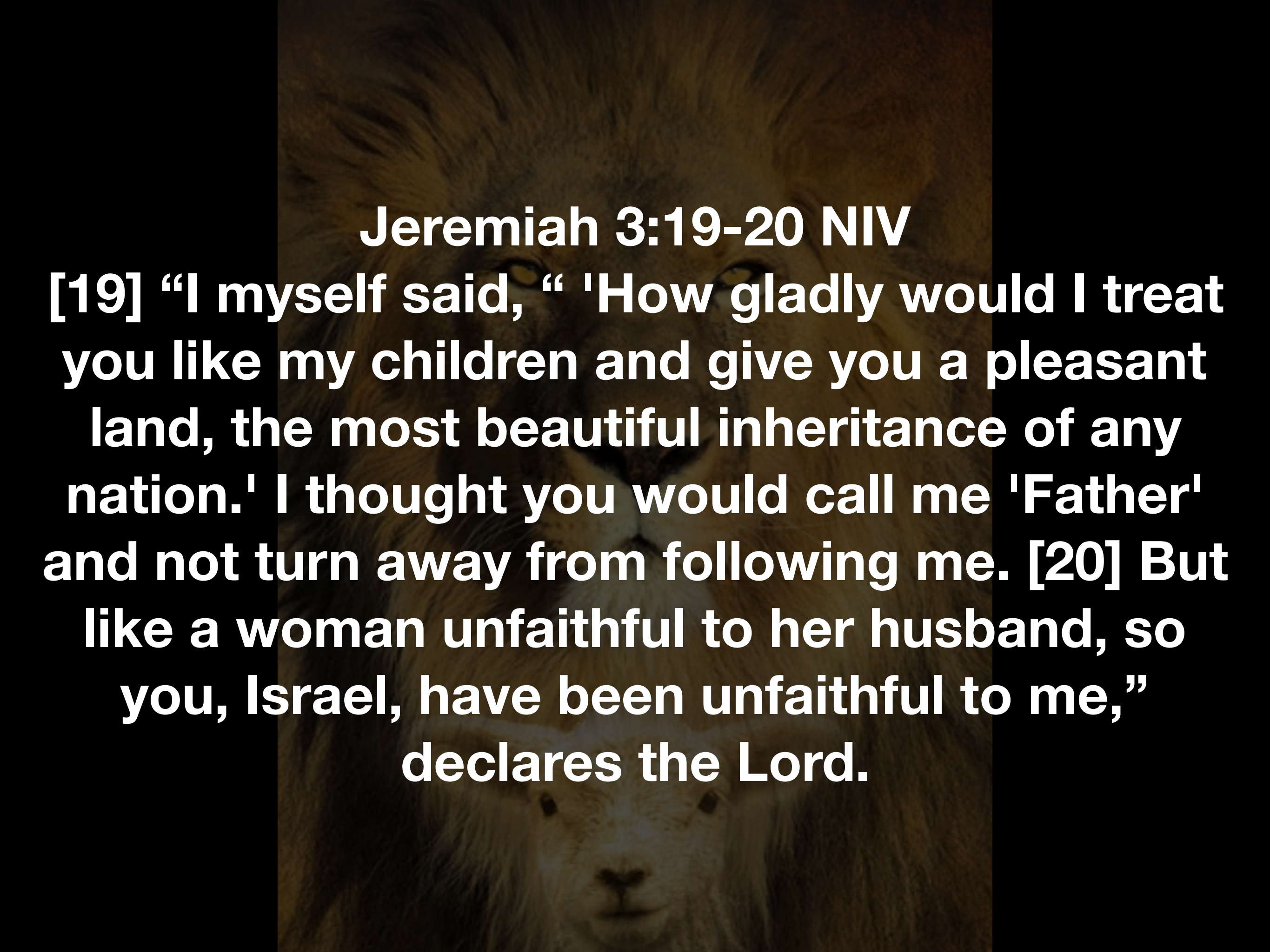
Hosea 11:8-9 NIV

[8] “How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, Israel? How can I treat you like Admah? How can I make you like Zeboyim? My heart is changed within me; all my compassion is aroused. [9] I will not carry out my fierce anger, nor will I devastate Ephraim again. For I am God, and not a man---the Holy One among you. I will not come against their cities.

A close-up, slightly blurred image of a lion's face, looking directly at the camera. The lion's eyes are yellow and its fur is a mix of light and dark brown. The image is used as a background for the text.

Zephaniah 3:7 NIV

[7] Of Jerusalem I thought, 'Surely you will fear me and accept correction!' Then her place of refuge would not be destroyed, nor all my punishments come upon her. But they were still eager to act corruptly in all they did.



Jeremiah 3:19-20 NIV

[19] “I myself said, “ 'How gladly would I treat you like my children and give you a pleasant land, the most beautiful inheritance of any nation.' I thought you would call me 'Father' and not turn away from following me. [20] But like a woman unfaithful to her husband, so you, Israel, have been unfaithful to me,” declares the Lord.



Genesis 6:5-6 NIV

[5] The Lord saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time. [6] The Lord regretted that he had made human beings on the earth, and his heart was deeply troubled.

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Revelation 1:1 NIV

**[1] The revelation from Jesus Christ, which
God gave him to show his servants what
must soon take place.**

GREGORY A. BOYD

IS GOD TO BLAME?

BEYOND PAT ANSWERS TO
THE PROBLEM OF SUFFERING

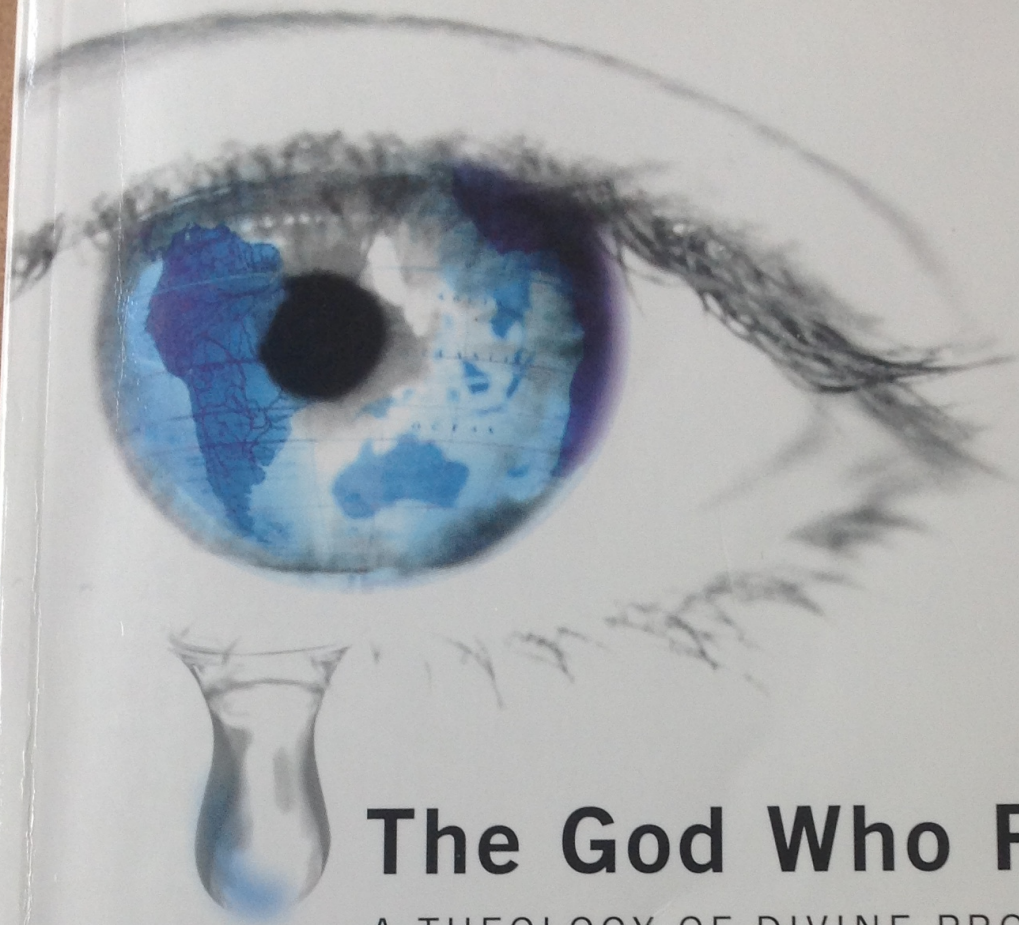


Lord Willing?

Wrestling with
God's Role in
My Child's Death



Jessica Kelley



The God Who Risks

A THEOLOGY OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE

JOHN SANDERS

REVISED EDITION



- **God loves you. No ifs or buts.**



- **God loves you. No ifs or buts.**
- **Prayer really matters.**