

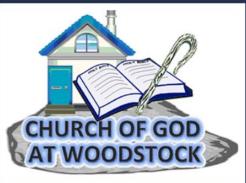


#### TRUTH ON THE WEB MINISTRIES

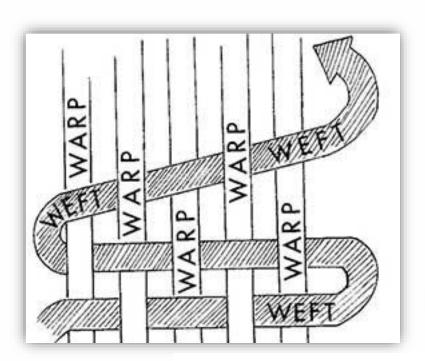
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EPH 6:17 AND TAKE...THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD

A CHURCH OF GOD IN WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS



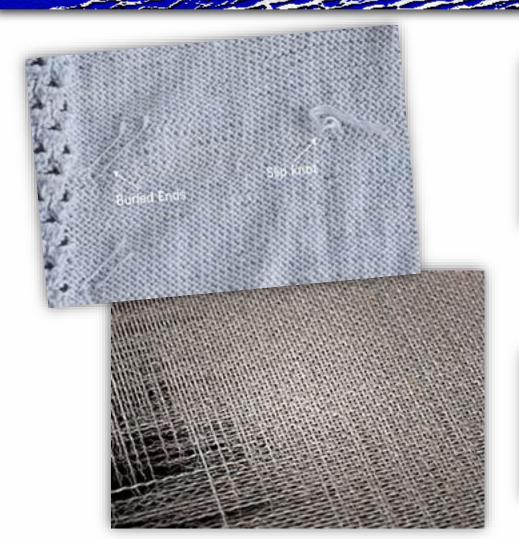
### THE WEFT OF LUFE

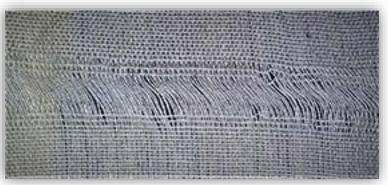
















#### Proverbs 31:19

She layeth her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff.

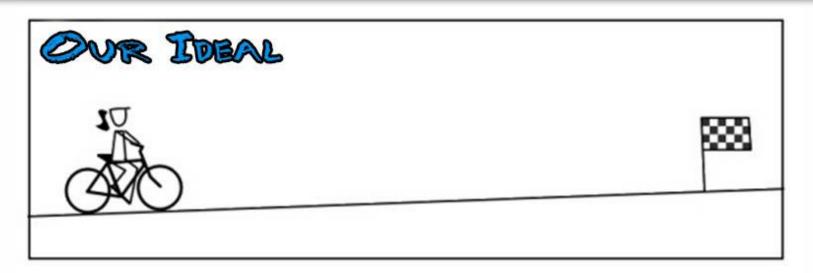
#### Job 7:6

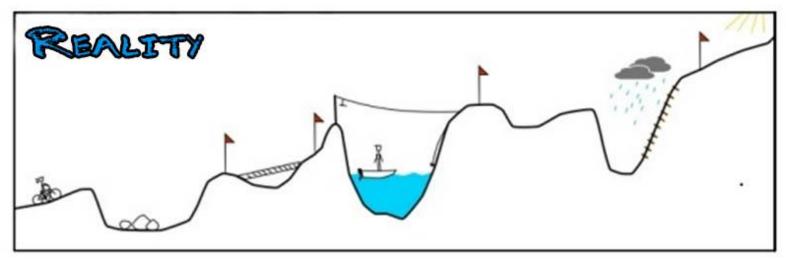
My days are swifter than a weaver's shuttle, and are spent without hope.

#### **Ecclesiastes 3:1**

To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:









#### Habakkuk 3:18

Yet I will **rejoice** in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation.

#### **Philippians 4:4**

Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

1 Thessalonians 5:16

Rejoice evermore.





#### Matthew 26:36–39

Then cometh Jesus with them unto a place called Gethsemane, and saith unto the disciples, Sit ye here, while I go and pray yonder. And he took with him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and began to be sorrowful and very heavy. Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death: tarry ye here, and watch with me. And he went a little further, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me: nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt.

I will give you just one mark of the difference between a man or woman who is *content in a natural* way and one who is *content in a spiritual* way:

Those who are content in a natural way, when outward afflictions befall them are just as content when they commit sin against God. When they have outward crosses or when God is dishonored, it is all one to them whether they themselves are crossed or whether God is crossed...

...but a gracious heart that is <u>contented with its own</u> <u>affliction</u> will rise up strongly when God is dishonored.

The Rare Jewel of Christian Contentment Jeremiah Burroughs



Four areas where the Weft of Life can be difficult

- Chastisement
- Persecution
- Non-deserved Abuse / Offense
- Time and Chance





### Chastisement

#### **Hebrews 12:5–8**

And ye have forgotten the exhortation which speaketh unto you as unto children, My son, despise not thou the chastening of the Lord, nor faint when thou art rebuked of him: For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth. If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you as with sons; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not? But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons.



#### Psalm 119:67

Before I was **afflicted** I went astray: but now have I kept thy word.

#### Psalm 119:71

It is good for me that I have been **afflicted**; that I might learn thy statutes.

#### Proverbs 29:1

He, that being often reproved hardeneth his neck, shall suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy.



#### Luke 22:31-34

And the Lord said, Simon, Simon, behold, **Satan hath** desired to have you, that he may sift you as wheat: But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren. And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death. And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.

#### **Luke 22:61**

And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

## THE WEFT OF LIFE

#### Mark 16:7

But go your way, tell his disciples and Peter that he goeth before you into Galilee: there shall ye see him, as he said unto you.





### Persecution

### THE WEFT OF LIFE

#### 2 Timothy 3:12

Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

#### Philippians 1:29

For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

#### 1 Peter 4:12

Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:



#### John 15:18-20

If the world hate you, ye know that it hated me before it hated you. If ye were of the world, the world would love his own: but because ye are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world, therefore the world hateth you. Remember the word that I said unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord. If they have persecuted me, they will also persecute you; if they have kept my saying, they will keep yours also.

#### 1 John 3:13

Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you.



#### Acts 6:8-10

And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people. Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called the synagogue of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen. And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.

#### **Acts 7:59**

And they **stoned Stephen**, calling upon God, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.





### Non-deserved Abuse/ Offense

#### **Luke 17:1**

Then said he unto the disciples, It is impossible but **that offences will come**: but woe unto him, through whom they come!

#### **Exodus 22:22**

Ye shall not afflict any widow, or fatherless child.

#### Isaiah 10:1-2

Woe unto them that decree unrighteous decrees, and that write grievousness which they have prescribed; To turn aside the needy from judgment, and to take away the right from the poor of my people, that widows may be their prey, and that they may rob the fatherless!

#### 1 Thessalonians 4:1

Furthermore then we **beseech you**, brethren, and exhort you by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to please God, so ye would abound more and more.

#### 1 Thessalonians 4:6-7

That no man go beyond and defraud his brother in any matter: because that the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also have forewarned you and testified. For God hath not called us unto uncleanness, but unto holiness.



#### 2 Samuel 11:2-5

And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose from off his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman was very beautiful to look upon. And David sent and enquired after the woman. And one said, Is not this Bathsheba, the daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite? And David sent messengers, and took her; and she came in unto him, and he lay with her; for she was purified from her uncleanness: and she returned unto her house. And the woman conceived, and sent and told David, and said, I am with child.

#### 2 Samuel 11:11

And Uriah said unto David, The ark, and Israel, and Judah, abide in tents; and my lord Joab, and the servants of my lord, are encamped in the open fields; shall I then go into mine house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? as thou livest, and as thy soul liveth, I will not do this thing.

#### 2 Samuel 11:17

And the men of the city went out, and fought with Joab: and there fell some of the people of the servants of David; and **Uriah the Hittite died also**.





### **Time and Chance**

#### **Ecclesiastes 9:11**

I returned, and saw under the sun, that the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, neither yet bread to the wise, nor yet riches to men of understanding, nor yet favour to men of skill; but time and chance happeneth to them all.

Strong's **H6294** - פֶּגֵע pega' [peh'-gah] impact (casual): - chance, occurrent.

#### 1 Kings 5:4

But now the LORD my God hath given me rest on every side, so that there is neither adversary nor evil occurrent.

### THE WEFT OF LIFE

**God's Word Translation** 

**Ecclesiastes 9:11** 

...But time and unpredictable events overtake all of them.

#### 1 Kings 5:4

But the LORD my God has surrounded me with peace. I have no rival and **no trouble**.



#### **Deuteronomy 22:6**

If a bird's nest **chance** to be before thee in the way in any tree, or on the ground, whether they be young ones, or eggs, and the dam sitting upon the young, or upon the eggs, thou shalt not take the dam with the young:

#### 1 Corinthians 15:37

And that which thou sowest, thou sowest not that body that shall be, but bare grain, it may chance of wheat, or of some other grain:



Indonesian Sabtu Bosnian Subota Armenian Shabat Ukranian Subota Somali Sabti Latin Sabbatum Spanish Sabado Russian Subbota Georgian Sabati Arabic Sabet Czech Sobota Greek Savvato Italian Sabato Romanian Sambata Bulgarian Sabota

#### Four areas where the Weft of Life can be difficult

- Chastisement
  - √ Happens to all
- Persecution
  - √ Happens to all
- Non-deserved Abuse / Offense
  - √ Happens to all
- Time and Chance
  - √ Happens to all



#### **Buddhism**

### 'Four Noble Truths' [not really]

- 1. All existence involves suffering.
- 2. All suffering is caused by indulging in inherently insatiable desires [all desires].
- 3. Therefore all suffering will cease upon the suppressing of these desires.
- 4. And the way leading to the cessation of suffering is the 'middle-path' or the 'noble eight-fold path': right views, right aims, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, right contemplation

#### Hebrews 12:11-13

Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby. Wherefore lift up the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees; And make straight paths for your feet, lest that which is lame be turned out of the way; but let it rather be healed.



## THE WEFT OF LIFE

#### Proverbs 15:13

A merry heart maketh a cheerful countenance: but by sorrow of the heart the spirit is broken.

Proverbs 18:14

The spirit of a man will sustain his infirmity; but a wounded spirit who can bear?

Proverbs 17:22

A merry heart doeth good like a medicine: but a broken spirit drieth the bones.



# I may be murmuring if I find myself often dwelling on an affliction...

...and find no room for the ever-present mercy and grace of God

...and it prevents me from performing my duties

...and it prevents me from experiencing joy for others who either do not suffer from it or have been delivered from it (not jealous)



# I may be murmuring if I know my own sin is the source of the affliction...

...if taking away the affliction is the focus, rather than the taking away of the sin.

[We should find no peace if our affliction were taken away but our sin remained.]

...if I do not have a great desire to not commit more sin (the same or others sins)



# I may be murmuring if I claim a great injustice has been done to me...

...and find no room for God's sovereignty in the thing.

...and find no chance for mercy for the oppressor, seeing they have the worse end of it. [It is far better to bear wrong than to wrong others]



# I may be murmuring if I think my affliction is exceeding great, much greater than others...

...and I fail to realize that anything I may suffer is far less than I deserve

...and I fail to realize that others have [and are] suffering greater than myself

...and I fail to realize that at least some of the severity of my affliction may be caused by my own murmuring

...and I believe it is not fair that I must suffer so [much] as compared to others

...and I do not see every opportunity to bear His grace as an example of Him

"Despair is like irritated children, who when you take away one of their playthings, angrily throw the rest into the fire."

### **Revelation 2:4**

Nevertheless I have somewhat against thee, because thou hast left thy first love.



Job 31:1

I made a covenant with mine eyes; why then should I think upon a maid?

Likewise, I encourage all of us to make a covenant with our hearts, to not hold such ideas of despair and disapointment, bitterness or resentment, no, not even for one instant!



#### Hebrews 11:23-28

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

#### Hebrews 12:14-15

Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord: Looking diligently lest any man fail of the grace of God; lest any root of bitterness springing up trouble you, and thereby many be defiled;



#### Lamentations 3:18–23

And I said, My strength and my hope is perished from the LORD: Remembering mine affliction and my misery, the wormwood and the gall. My soul hath them still in remembrance, and is humbled in me. This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope. It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.



### **Deuteronomy 29:18**

Lest there should be among you man, or woman, or family, or tribe, whose heart turneth away this day from the LORD our God, to go and serve the gods of these nations; lest there should be among you a root that beareth gall and wormwood;

**Ephesians 4:26–27** 

Be ye angry, and sin not: **let not the sun go down upon your wrath**: Neither give place to the devil.



### 2 Peter 3:1-13 [1-5]

This second epistle, beloved, I now write unto you; in both which I stir up your pure minds by way of remembrance: That ye may be mindful of the words which were spoken before by the holy prophets, and of the commandment of us the apostles of the Lord and Saviour: Knowing this first, that there shall come in the last days scoffers, walking after their own lusts, And saying, Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. For this they willingly are ignorant of, that by the word of God the heavens were of old, and the earth standing out of the water and in the water:



### 2 Peter 3:1-13 [6-9]

Whereby the world that then was, being overflowed with water, perished: But the heavens and the earth, which are now, by the same word are kept in store, reserved unto fire against the day of judgment and perdition of ungodly men. But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.



### 2 Peter 3:1-13 [10-13]

But the day of the Lord will come as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are therein shall be burned up. Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness, Looking for and hasting unto the coming of the day of God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat? Nevertheless we, according to his promise, look for new heavens and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

#### Hebrews 6:13

For when God made **promise** to Abraham, because he could swear by no greater, he sware by himself,

#### Hebrews 6:18-19

That by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us: Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the veil;



#### Hebrews 10:23-25

Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for he is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

#### Hebrews 12:2

Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

#### 1 Corinthians 10:13

There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but **God is faithful, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able**; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, **that ye may be able to bear it.** 

#### 2 Thessalonians 3:3

But the Lord is faithful, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.



### Jesus

Discontentment separates us from Jesus – the primary focus and source of hope and power for the Christian

### **O**thers

Discontentment reduces or eliminates our ability to serve others. Discontentment not only pushes others away, it dishonors God in their eyes

### Yourself

God has only our best in mind



### Matthew 5:3-12 [3-8]

Blessed are the **poor in spirit**: for theirs is the **kingdom of heaven**.

Blessed are they that **mourn**: for they shall be **comforted**.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.



### Matthew 5:3-12 [9-12]

Blessed are the **peacemakers**: for they shall be **called the children of God**.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for my sake.

Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven: for so persecuted they the prophets which were before you.





#### Colossians 3:1–2

If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.



ENJOY THE REST OF THE SABBATH

