



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

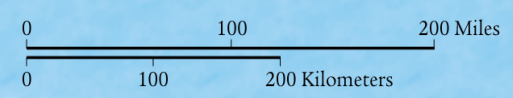
**Big Idea: Are you looking forward
to the return of Christ?**





LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —



PAUL'S FIRST AND SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEYS

- City
- ← 1st missionary journey: outbound
- ← 1st missionary journey: inbound
- ← 2nd missionary journey: outbound
- ← 2nd missionary journey: inbound



LOOKING
FORWARD

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1 Thessalonians 1:1a (NLT)

This letter is from Paul, Silas, and Timothy. We are writing to the church in Thessalonica, to you who belong to God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

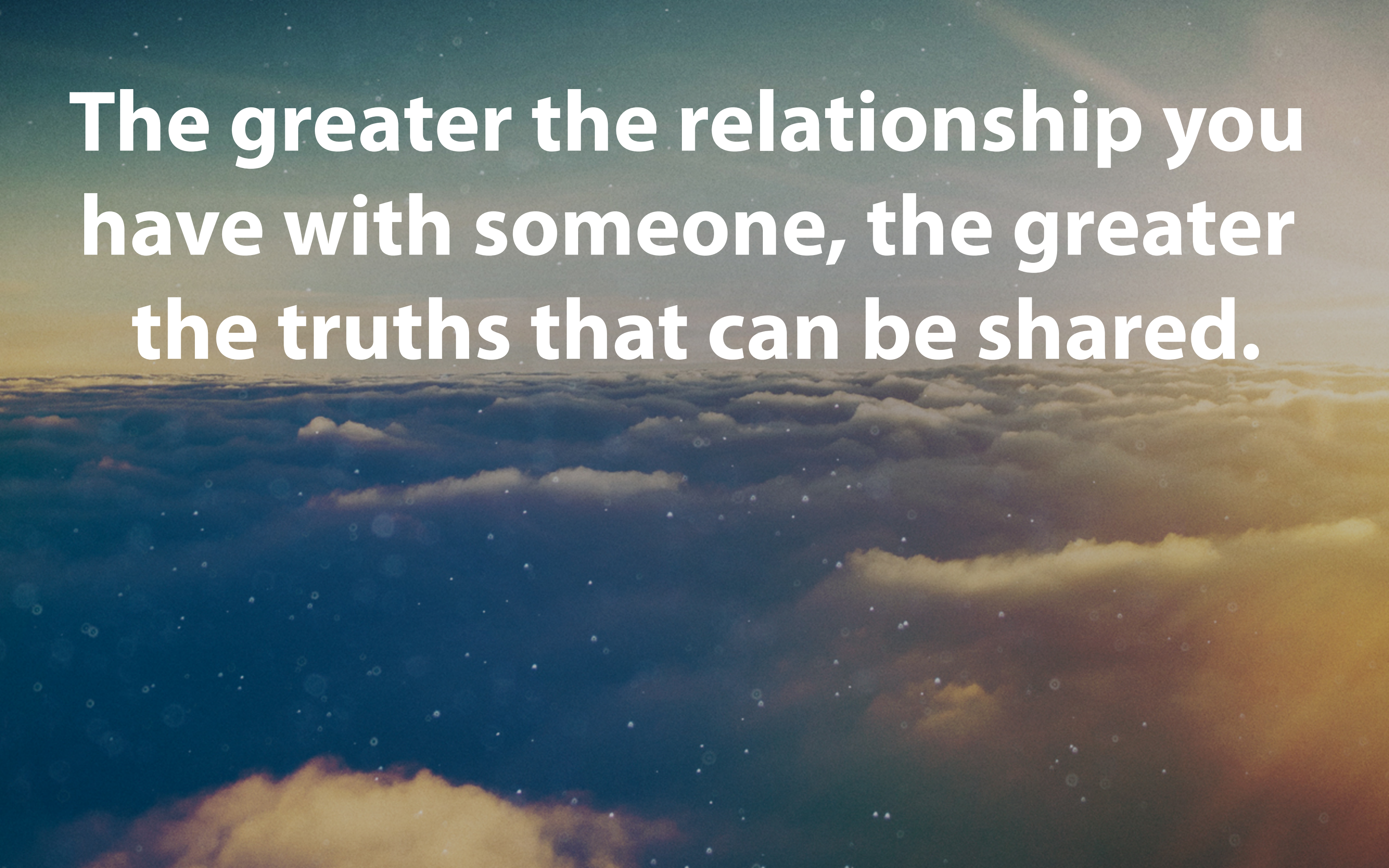
1 Thessalonians 1:1b (NLT)

**May God give you grace and
peace.**



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —



The greater the relationship you have with someone, the greater the truths that can be shared.



LOOKING
FORWARD

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1 Thessalonians 1:2 (NLT)

We always thank God for all of you and pray for you constantly.

1 Thessalonians 1:3 (NLT)

As we pray to our God and Father about you, we think of your faithful work, your loving deeds, and the enduring hope you have because of our Lord Jesus Christ.



LOOKING
FORWARD


— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —



**Marks of Following Jesus:
Faith, that works**



**Marks of Following Jesus:
Love, that labors**



**Marks of Following Jesus:
Hope, that endures**



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

1 Thessalonians 1:4 (NLT)

4 We know, dear brothers and sisters, that God loves you and has chosen you to be his own people.

1 Thessalonians 1:5a (NLT)

For when we brought you the Good News, it was not only with words but also with power, for the Holy Spirit gave you full assurance that what we said was true.

1 Thessalonians 1:5b (NLT)

And you know of our concern for you from the way we lived when we were with you.

1 Thessalonians 1:6 (NLT)

So you received the message with joy from the Holy Spirit in spite of the severe suffering it brought you. In this way, you imitated both us and the Lord.

1 Thessalonians 1:7 (NLT)

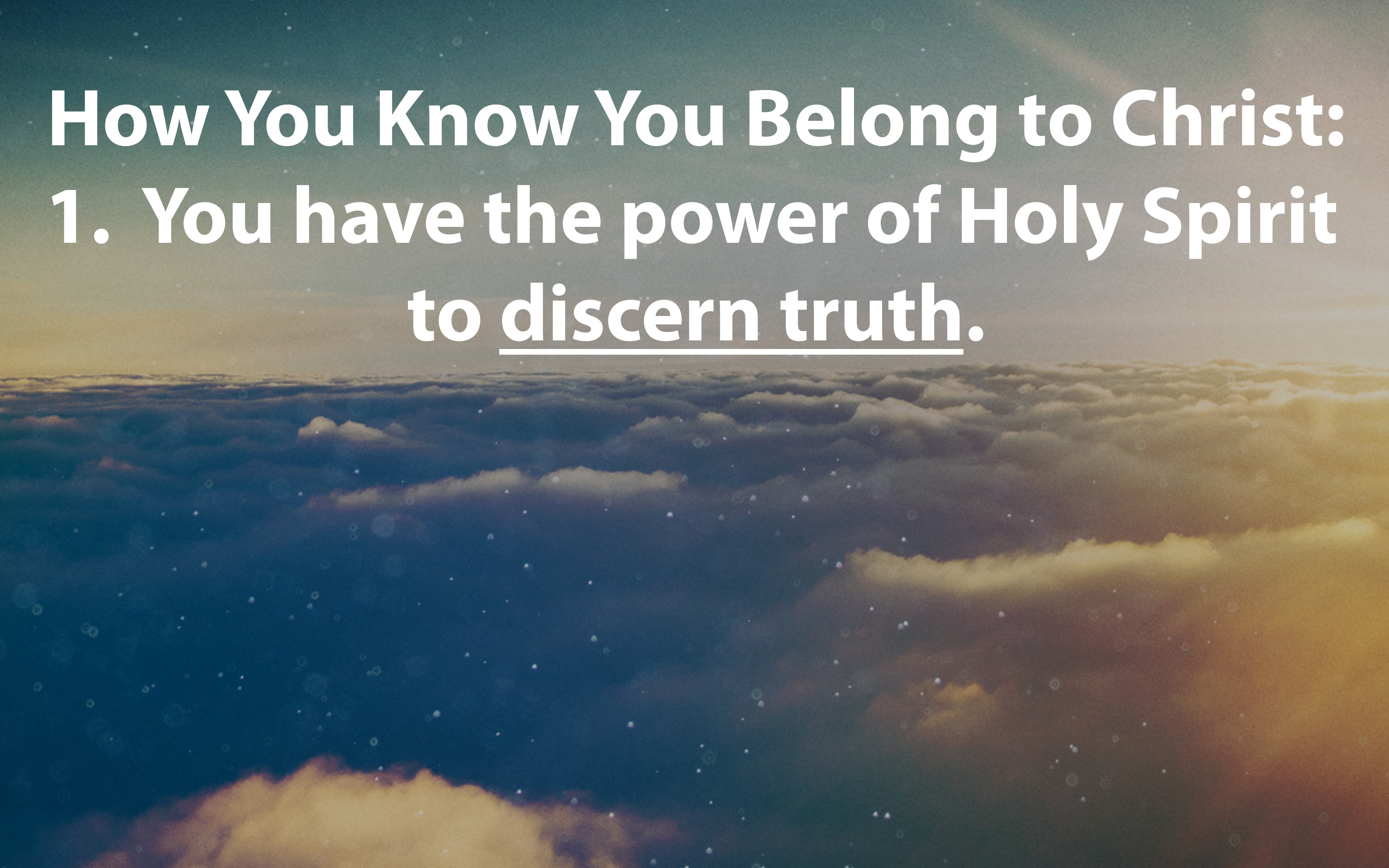
As a result, you have become an example to all the believers in Greece—throughout both Macedonia and Achaia.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

How You Know You Belong to Christ:
1. You have the power of Holy Spirit
to discern truth.



How You Know You Belong to Christ:
2. You have the power of the Holy Spirit to produce joy in the face of suffering.


How You Know You Belong to Christ:

3. As you follow Jesus, others
believers follow your example.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —



1 Thessalonians 1:6b (NLT)
you imitated both us and the
Lord.

1 Thessalonians 1:7 (NLT)

As a result, you have become an example to all the believers in Greece—throughout both Macedonia and Achaia.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

1 Thessalonians 1:8a (NLT)

And now the word of the Lord is ringing out from you to people everywhere, even beyond Macedonia and Achaia,

1 Thessalonians 1:8b (NLT)
for wherever we go we find
people telling us about your faith
in God. We don't need to tell
them about it,

1 Thessalonians 1:9 (NLT)

9 for they keep talking about the wonderful welcome you gave us and how you turned away from idols to serve the living and true God.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

1 Thessalonians 1:10a (NLT)

And they speak of how you are looking forward to the coming of **God's Son from heaven—Jesus, whom God raised from the dead.**

1 Thessalonians 1:10b (NLT)

He is the one who has rescued us
from the terrors of the coming
judgment.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

**Big Idea: Are you looking forward
to the return of Christ?**





LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —



**What is preventing you from
looking forward to the return of
Christ?**



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

**What is preventing you from
looking forward to the return of
Christ?**

1. Seems too distant and not real.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

**Read Matthew 24 for signs of the
End Times**

The background of the image is a composite of two sky scenes. The upper portion shows a sunset or sunrise with a gradient from light yellow to pale blue. Below this is a thick, horizontal layer of white and grey clouds. The lower portion of the image is a dark, deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, bright white stars, suggesting a starry night or a celestial theme.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

ISIS video appears to show beheadings of Egyptian Coptic Christians in Libya

By CNN Staff

Updated 7:34 AM ET, Mon February 16, 2015 | Video Source: CNN



BREAKING NEWS

ISIS RELEASES MURDEROUS NEW VIDEO



22:00 CET

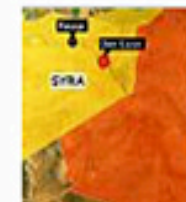
ISIS: Full coverage



'A few dozen Americans' in ISIS ranks



Report: Indonesian pilots may have been radicalized by ISIS



ISIS wives playing key role in operations



Officials: 'Recent indications' ISIS executioner 'Jihadi John' alive



Iraqis prepare for battle on ISIS frontline



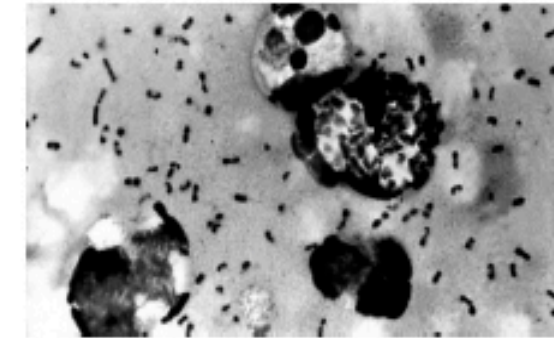
Who must be killed to beat ISIS and al Qaeda?

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New Mexico confirms case of plague

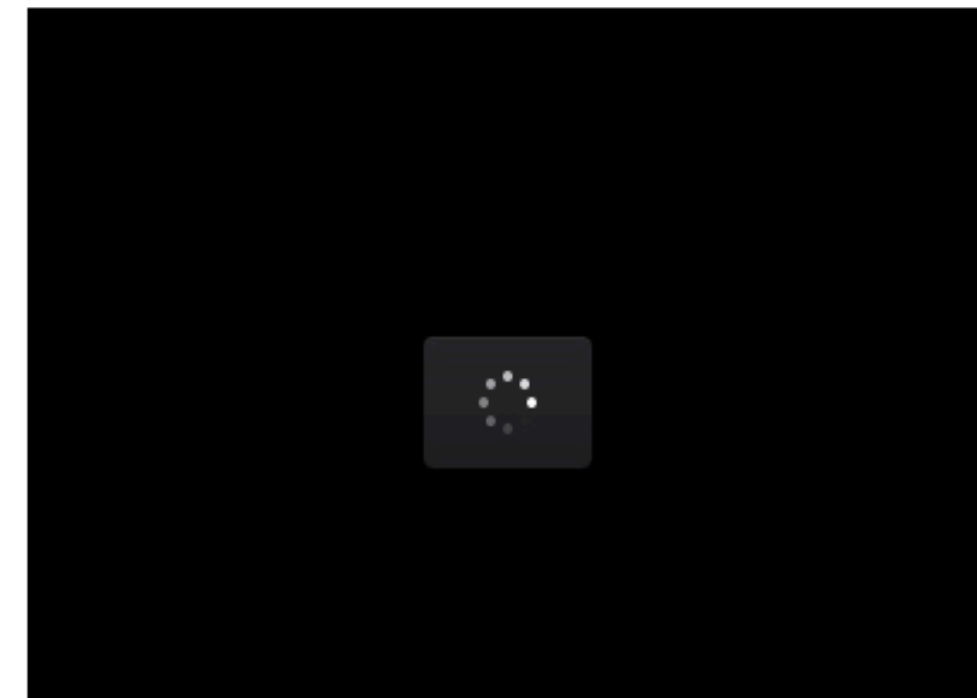
Kidnapped Priest Killed, Chopped Up by ISIS as 'Christians Become a Form of Currency' in Mid-East War, Says Aid to the Church in Need

Islamic State Continues to Kidnap, Ransom and Kill Thousands of Christians to Fund Their Terror Campaign Across the Middle East

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56,662,169 Abortions in America Since Roe vs. Wade in 1973

NATIONAL RANDY O'BANNON, PH.D. JAN 12, 2014 | 5:11PM WASHINGTON, DC



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40 Days of Prayer and Fasting



"This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting."
— MARK 9:29

AUGUST 4 – SEPTEMBER 12, 2015

Will you stand for life?

Add your name to our **Pro-Life Declaration.**



Is Another Bear Market Around the Corner?

If you have a \$500,000 portfolio, you should download the latest report by *Forbes* columnist Ken Fisher's firm. It tells you where we think the stock market is headed and why. This must-read report includes our latest stock market forecast, plus research and analysis you can use in your portfolio right now.

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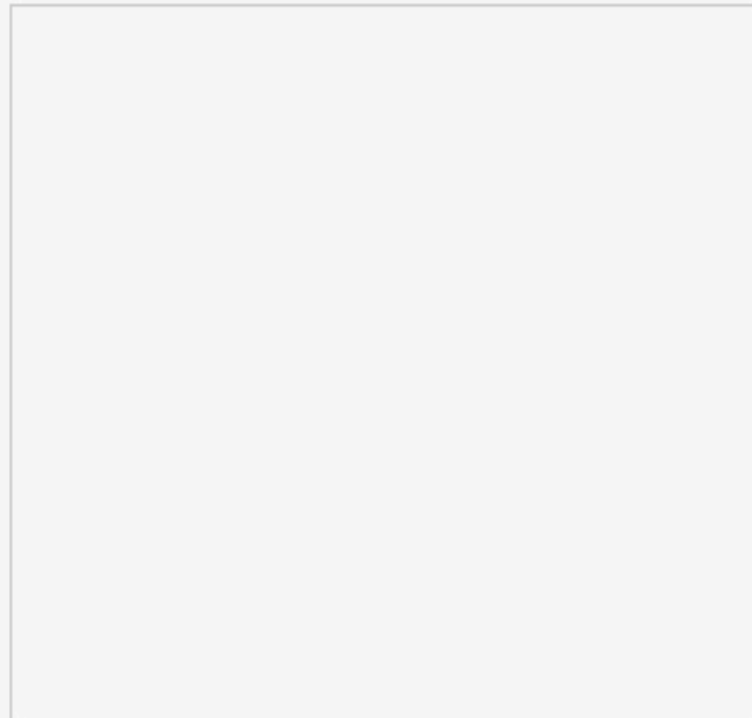
UPDATE: Porn industry's billion-dollar new frontier

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07/20/15 02:58 PM EDT

By Jennifer Booton, MarketWatch

X-rated movies to be No. 3 virtual-reality market by 2025, but former performers aren't big fans

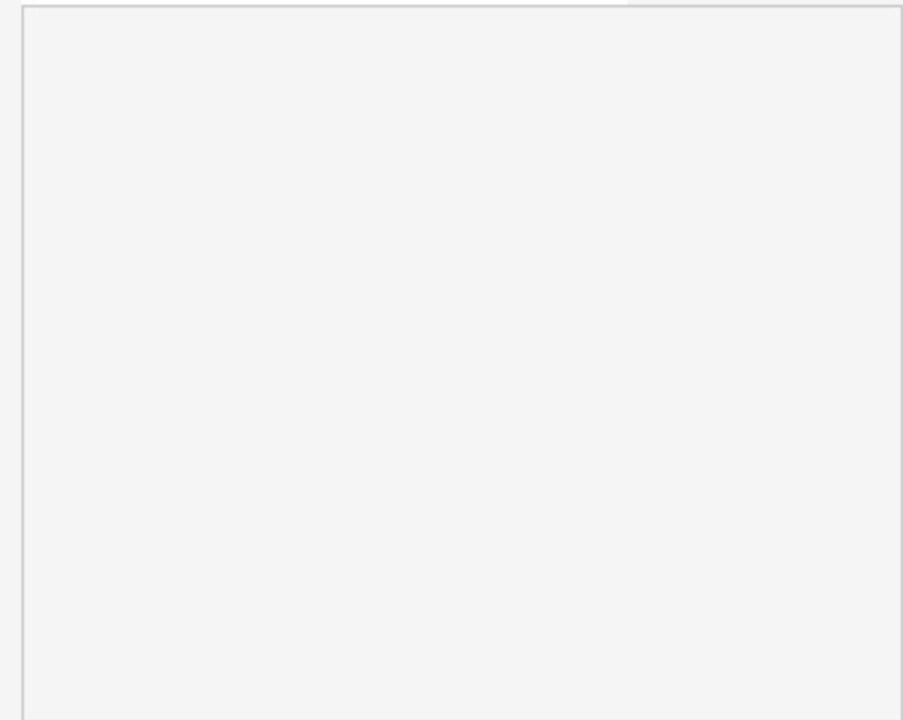


Your eyes open to a beautiful woman, scantily clad in red lace lingerie. She bats her eyes flirtatiously, then slowly makes her way over to you.

But this is not a flesh-and-blood woman; it's a three-dimensional performer in a 360-degree immersive video so convincing you can barely tell the difference. In virtual reality, as nowhere else, donning a pair of clunky goggles allows you to pursue your wildest sexual fantasies.

For virtual reality to become a viable business, pornography, which tends to rank among any new technology's

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How a pornography obsession can be as addictive as drugs

By Amy Unrau on Feb 12, 2015 at 10:43 p.m.

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Fargo, ND (WDAY TV) - It's a multi-billion dollar problem that's tearing apart relationships and causing physical and emotional disorders. And it's inside almost every home and school.

Porn addiction is a rising issue growing alongside the startling amount of sexually explicit websites.

WDAY 6 Reporter Amy Unrau has this special report on what's being called the new drug. A warning, some of the video may not be appropriate for young viewers.

Joe/Porn Addict, "For me it was the intense allure of mental fantasy."

He used to think it was an innocent interest.

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4. Afternoon News Update (8/20)
5. Twin Cities incident prompting families to have 'end of life' conversation

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Family of MN Fulbright Scholar killed in DUI crash convince judge to spare driver from prison

1 min ago

Extra DWI patrols will start Friday in Becker County

31 min ago



Supreme Court rules in favor of same-sex marriage nationwide



By [Ariane de Vogue](#) and [Jeremy Diamond](#), CNN

Updated 11:04 AM ET, Sat June 27, 2015



17 photos: U.S. reacts to same-sex marriage ruling



1951 World Map



Anima Mundi



1957 World Map



World Map



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Ferguson riots: Ruling sparks night of violence

🕒 25 November 2014 | [US & Canada](#)



Police were heavily armed but say they did not use their firearms during the rioting overnight

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Documents tell story of military murder



Pyongyang rocks

What was the setlist at North Korea's first western rock gig?





Scenes of Chaos in Baltimore as Thousands Protest Freddie Gray's Death

By SHERYL GAY STOLBERG and STEPHEN BABCOCK APRIL 25, 2015



The Economist Executive Education Navigator

Enhance your executive career

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BALTIMORE — A largely peaceful protest over the death of [Freddie Gray](#), a 25-year-old black man who suffered a spinal cord injury in police custody, gave way to scattered scenes of chaos here on Saturday night, as demonstrators smashed a downtown storefront window, threw rocks and bottles and damaged police cruisers, while officers in riot gear broke up skirmishes and made 12 arrests near Camden Yards.

smh.com.au

The Sydney Morning Herald

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Home > World > Asia Tsunami > Article

Tsunami death toll passes 283,000

January 28, 2005



The number of people presumed dead in last month's Asian tsunamis rose to more than 283,000 yesterday, with Indonesian authorities announcing a further increase in the number of dead and missing.

Indonesia was hardest-hit by the December 26 quake and tsunamis, with a total 230,261 people listed as dead or missing, the health ministry said.



The US Geological Survey said the earthquake west of the Indonesian island of Sumatra measured 9.0 on the Richter scale, making it the largest quake worldwide in four decades.

Death toll

Indonesia: 230,261

Sri Lanka: 30,957

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Haiti earthquake: death toll may hit 200,000

Anger has turned to violence on the streets of Haiti as survivors lose patience with the painfully slow process of getting international aid after the earthquake that authorities say may have killed 200,000 people.

 236  1  0  0  237  Email



Image 1 of 6

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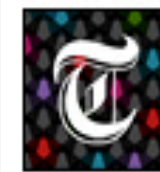
Haiti

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In Haiti



Tropical storm Isaac

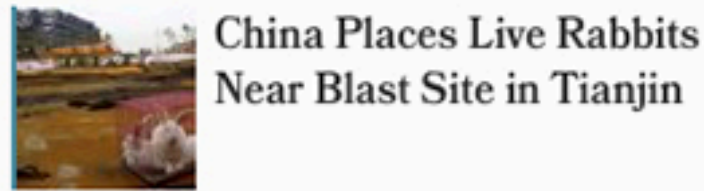


The Telegraph 

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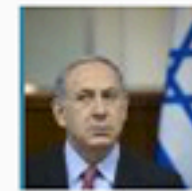
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Thousands of Israeli Arabs Can't See Gaza Relatives Because of New Israeli



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Benjamin Netar Economic Failu

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Nepal Earthquake Updates Official Death Toll Passes 5,000

All Everest climbers brought to safety, says official; 21 Israelis rescued from Langtang region, a further seven from Totpani; 250 people feared missing after mudslide in isolated village.

Yaniv Kubovich | Apr 29, 2015 12:13 AM



Jagot Kumari Rana, 79, is led through the rubble of collapsed homes by her grandson in Paslang village near the epicenter of the massive earthquake, Gorkha District, Nepal, April 28, 2015. Credit: AP



Six Reasons to Worry About Bibi's Man at the United Nations



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VIDEO

China earthquake death toll rises to 69,016

www.chinaview.cn 2008-06-02 14:20:20

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China actively involves in rescue work in Haiti 



China News 2010.1.14 

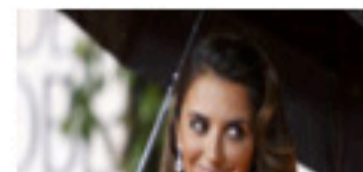
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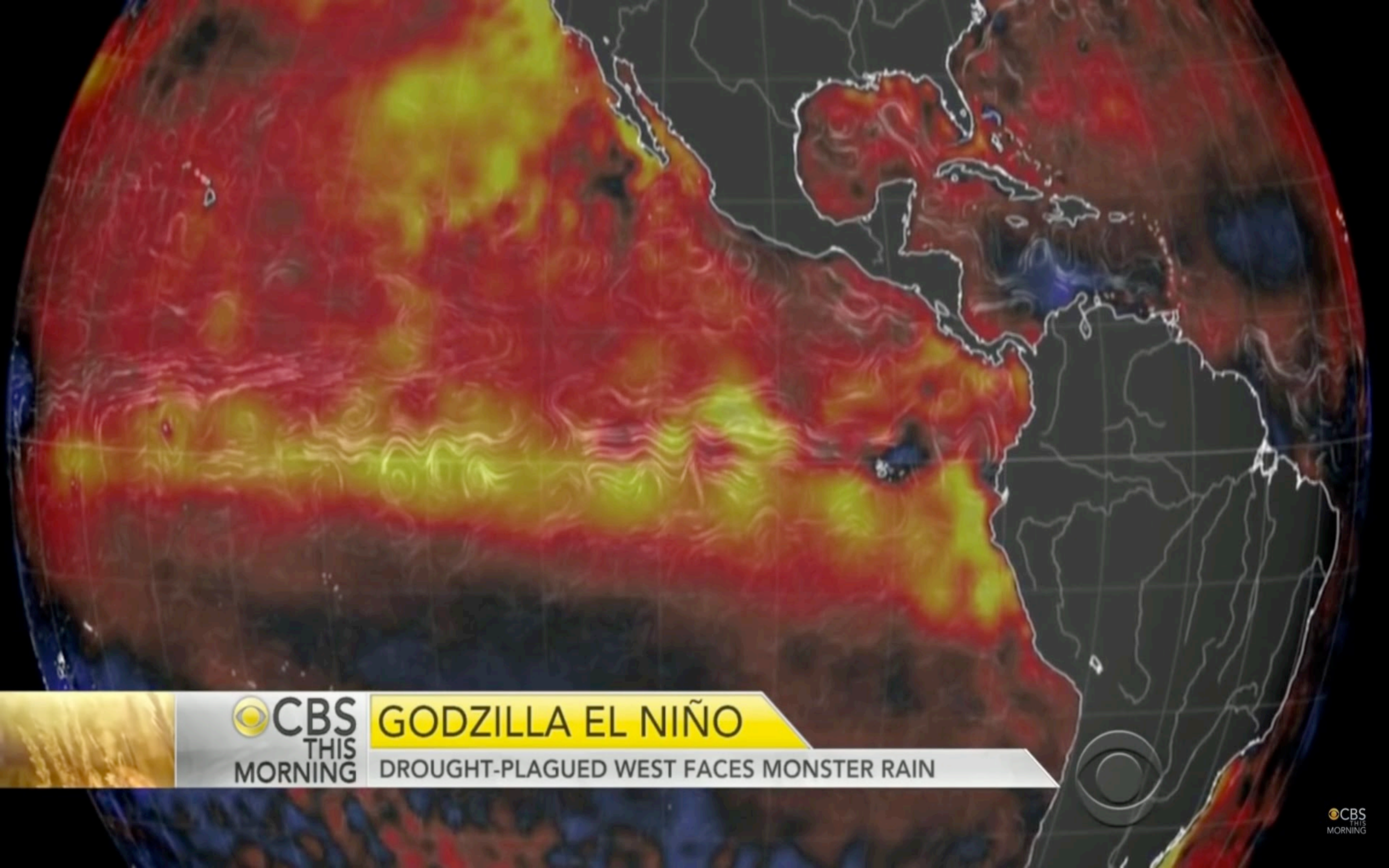
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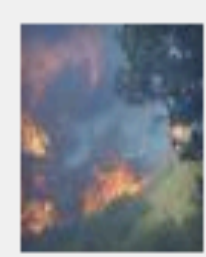


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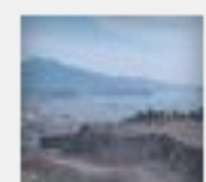
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Japanese city gets a boost -- literally

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Heavy U.S. weapons for



THE ISRAEL-PALESTINE CONFLICT



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DECEMBER 5, 2014 | CIVIC AND ECONOMIC LITERACY, DEBT AND DEFICIT, TAXES

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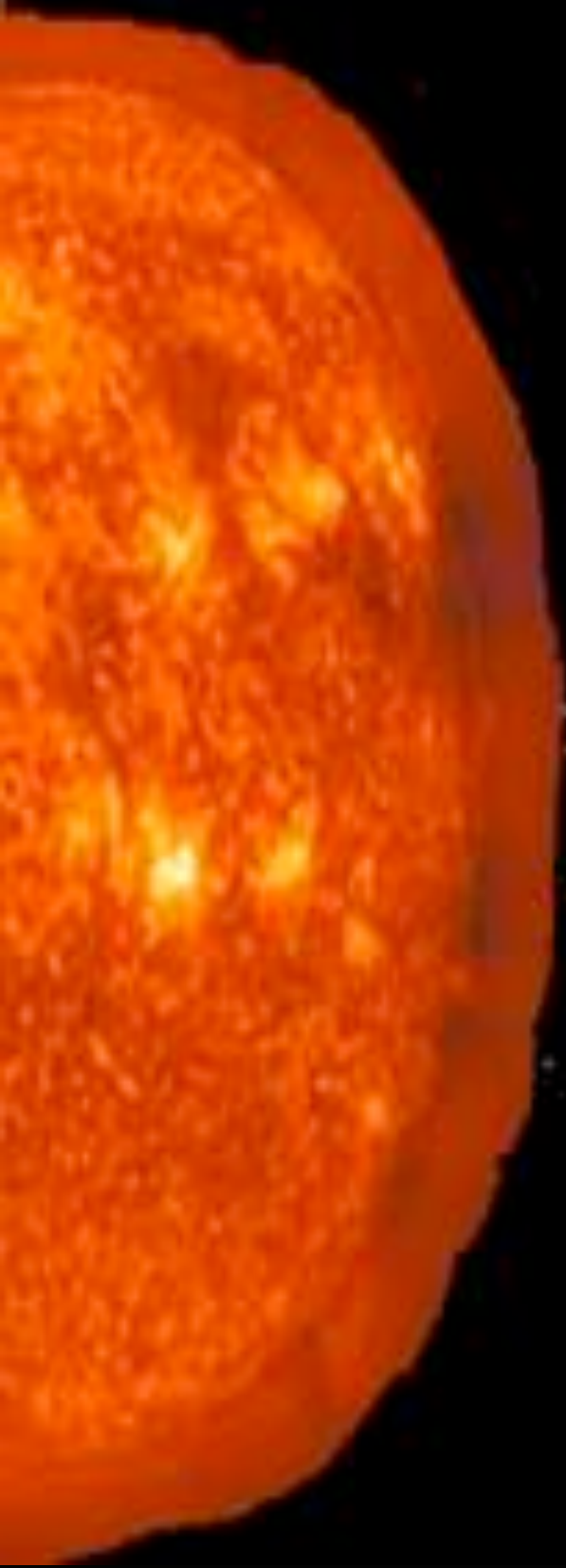
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EN ESPAÑOL



The Sun



Sunrays



The Earth



**Atmosphere
of the earth**



The Moon



**The moon
turns red**

2014-2015 Blood Moon Tetrad



Passover
4/15/14



Sukkot
10/08/14



Solar Eclipse
3/20/2015



Passover
4/04/15



Sukkot
9/28/15



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Joel 2:31 (ESV)


**The sun shall be turned into
darkness, and the moon into
blood, before the great and
terrible day of the LORD come.**




LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —


1. 162-163 C.E. (Common Era)




2. 795-796 C.E.

The background of the image is a vast, colorful sky. The top portion is a deep, dark blue, transitioning into a lighter, yellowish-green hue towards the horizon. A dense layer of white and yellow clouds stretches across the middle of the frame, creating a textured, layered appearance. Numerous small, white stars are scattered throughout the sky, adding a celestial feel to the scene.


3. 842-843 C.E.




4. 860-861 C.E.




5. 1493-1494 C.E.




6. 1949-1950 C.E.

The background of the slide is a composite image. The upper portion shows a clear sky with a color gradient from a deep teal-blue on the left to a pale yellow on the right. The lower portion is dominated by a thick, undulating layer of clouds, with the tops of the clouds appearing bright yellow and white, while the sides are in shadow, showing darker blue and purple tones. Scattered throughout the sky are many small, bright white stars, giving it a celestial or ethereal appearance.

7. 1967-1968 C.E.



8. 2014-2015 C.E.

The background of the slide features a celestial scene. The upper portion is a dark, deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, bright white stars. Below the stars, a thick layer of white, fluffy clouds stretches across the horizon. These clouds are dramatically lit from the right side, where a bright light source (likely the sun or moon) creates a strong golden-yellow glow that filters through the clouds, casting a warm, ethereal light across the entire scene. The overall effect is one of vastness and beauty.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

1 Thessalonians 5:2 (NLT)

2 For you know quite well that the day of the Lord's return will come unexpectedly, like a thief in the night.

1 Thessalonians 5:3a (NLT)

When people are saying,
“Everything is peaceful and
secure,” then disaster will fall on
them as suddenly as a pregnant
woman’s labor pains begin.



1 Thessalonians 5:3b (NLT)
And there will be no escape.

1 Thessalonians 5:4 (NLT)

But you aren't in the dark about these things, dear brothers and sisters, and you won't be surprised when the day of the Lord comes like a thief.

1 Thessalonians 5:5 (NLT)

For you are all children of the light and of the day; we don't belong to darkness and night.

1 Thessalonians 5:6 (NLT)

So be on your guard, not asleep like the others. Stay alert and be clearheaded.



LOOKING
FORWARD

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What is preventing you from looking forward to the return of Christ?

2. The love of this world and the things of this world (You are not “right” with Jesus).



LOOKING
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1 John 2:15 (NLT)

Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.

1 John 2:16a (NLT)

**For the world offers only a
craving for physical pleasure, a
craving for everything we see,
and pride in our achievements
and possessions.**

1 John 2:16b (NLT)

**These are not from the Father,
but are from this world.**

1 John 2:17 (NLT)

**And this world is fading away,
along with everything that
people crave. But anyone who
does what pleases God will live
forever.**



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

What is preventing you from looking forward to the return of Christ?

2. The love of this world and the things of this world (You are not “right” with Jesus).

What is preventing you from looking forward to the return of Christ?

3. Family and friends who still do not know Jesus.



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Matthew 24:37 (NLT)

When the Son of Man returns, it will be like it was in Noah's day.

Matthew 24:38 (NLT)

**In those days before the flood,
the people were enjoying
banquets and parties and
weddings right up to the time
Noah entered his boat.**

Matthew 24:39 (NLT)

People didn't realize what was going to happen until the flood came and swept them all away. That is the way it will be when the Son of Man comes.

Matthew 24:40 (NLT)

Two men will be working together in the field; one will be taken, the other left.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

What is preventing you from looking forward to the return of Christ?

3. Family and friends who still do not know Jesus.

What is preventing you from looking forward to the return of Christ?

4. Fear.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

1 John 4:15 (NLT)

**All who declare that Jesus is the
Son of God have God living in
them, and they live in God.**

1 John 4:16 (NLT)

**We know how much God loves us,
and we have put our trust in his
love. God is love, and all who live
in love live in God, and God lives
in them.**

1 John 4:17a (NLT)

**And as we live in God, our love
grows more perfect.**

1 John 4:17b (NLT)

So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world.

1 John 4:18a (NLT)

**Such love has no fear, because
perfect love expels all fear.**

1 John 4:18b (NLT)

If we are afraid, it is for fear of punishment, and this shows that we have not fully experienced his perfect love.



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —

Titus 2:12 (NLT)

And we are instructed to turn from godless living and sinful pleasures. We should live in this evil world with wisdom, righteousness, and devotion to God,

Titus 2:13 (NLT)

**while we look forward with hope
to that wonderful day when the
glory of our great God and Savior,
Jesus Christ, will be revealed.**



LOOKING
FORWARD

— TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST —