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# Enduring Tribulation for the King and the Kingdom

## Revelation 1:9



# **Revelation 1:9 (AV)**

**I John, who also am your brother,  
and companion in tribulation, and in  
the kingdom and patience of Jesus  
Christ, was in the isle that is called  
Patmos, for the word of God, and for  
the testimony of Jesus Christ.**



**Most of us have been consistently taught that this letter has particular application to a future group of Christians who will be alive for “the Great Tribulation.”**

**But the original recipient would not have received it that way.**

**1<sup>st</sup> century Christians knew tribulation was part of life.**



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# Revelation is a Letter Written to the Persecuted Ch



# Agenda

- Brother & Partner
- Tribulation/ Suffering
- Kingdom
- Patient endurance
- Word of God
- Testimony of Jesus

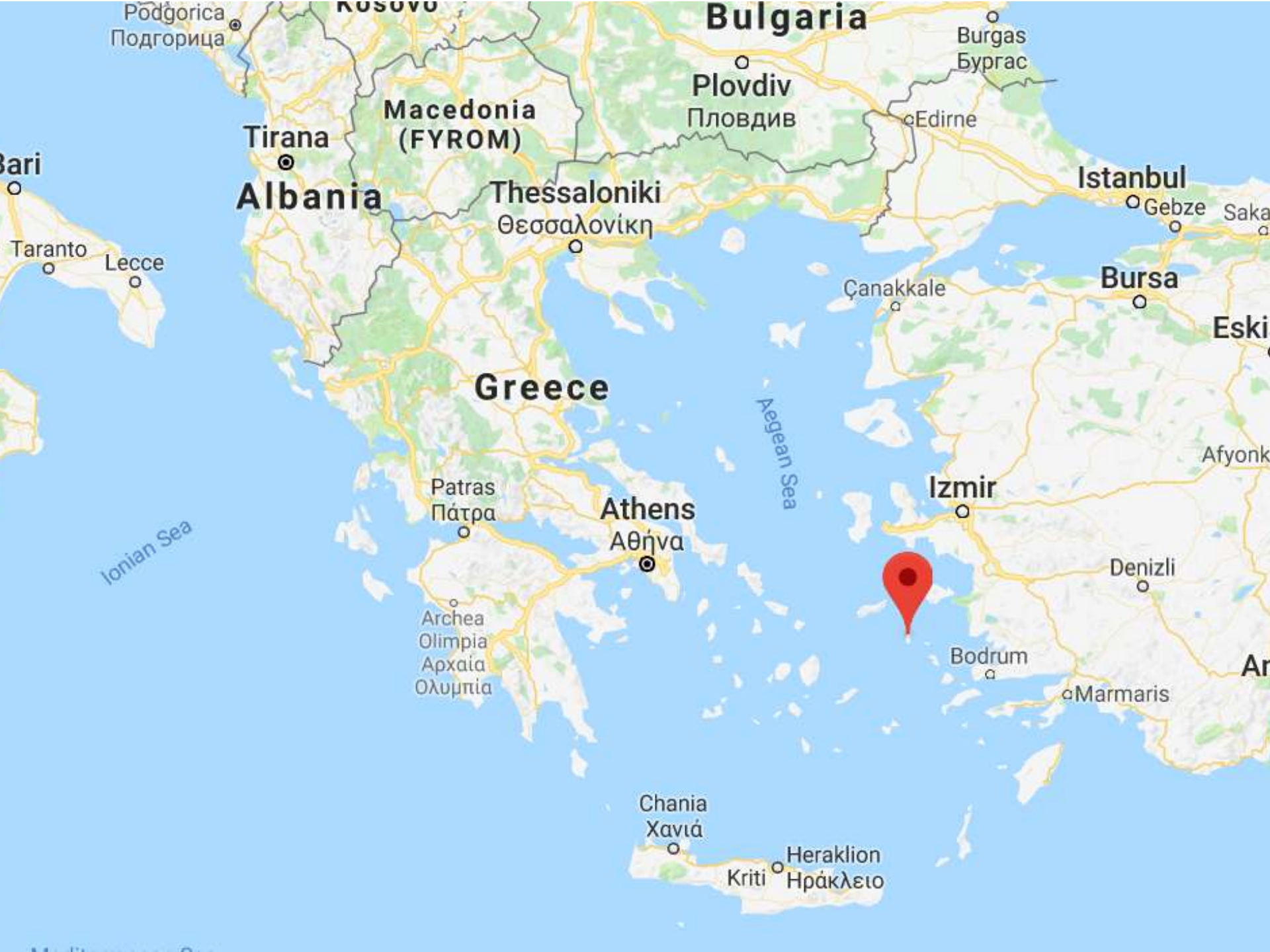


# Revelation 1:9



- I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.





# Revelation 1:9



- I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus,



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# John is not Vacationing

## On the Island of Patmos



# Revelation 1:9 (ESV)



- I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.

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## **Bottom Line**

**John is on this island in  
exile because he is a  
Christian**



**John plainly tells us why he was on the isle living in exile.**

**1. On account of the Word of God**

**2. And the Testimony of Jesus Christ.**



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**Do you believe**

**This book, the Bible, is the  
Word of God?**



**What do we mean when we say,**

**Hear the Word of the Lord**

**This is the Word of God**

**We believe that God spoke through prophets and apostles in a supernatural superintending way such that the words God wanted recorded were recorded and preserved for His people in a collection of 66 books called the Bible.**





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# What Is The Testimony of Jesus Christ?



- 1. Jesus is the one and only eternal Son of the true and Living God.**
- 2. His conception was supernatural while his birth was as natural as any other birth.**
- 3. He is the God-Man (Fully Divine and Fully Human; perfectly united).**



- 4. He lived a sinless life, perfectly kept the law, and performed signs and miracles beyond what any prophet had ever done validating His claim to be sent from God and to be His Son.**
- 5. He suffered a horrific death on a cross as an innocent man to save from their sin and hell all who would believe the gospel.**



**6. He was buried in a tomb that no man had ever used.**

**7. On the third day, He physically rose from the dead just as He promised.**

**8. After 40 days of showing Himself alive, He ascended to heaven.**



**9. On the right hand of God, He is the one and only mediator between our Holy God and sinful humanity.**

**10. He is coming again to raise the dead, judge the world, and establish His Kingdom.**



# Revelation 1:9



- I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation



**The construct that  
Christians are or will be  
exempt from tribulation  
is utterly unbiblical.**

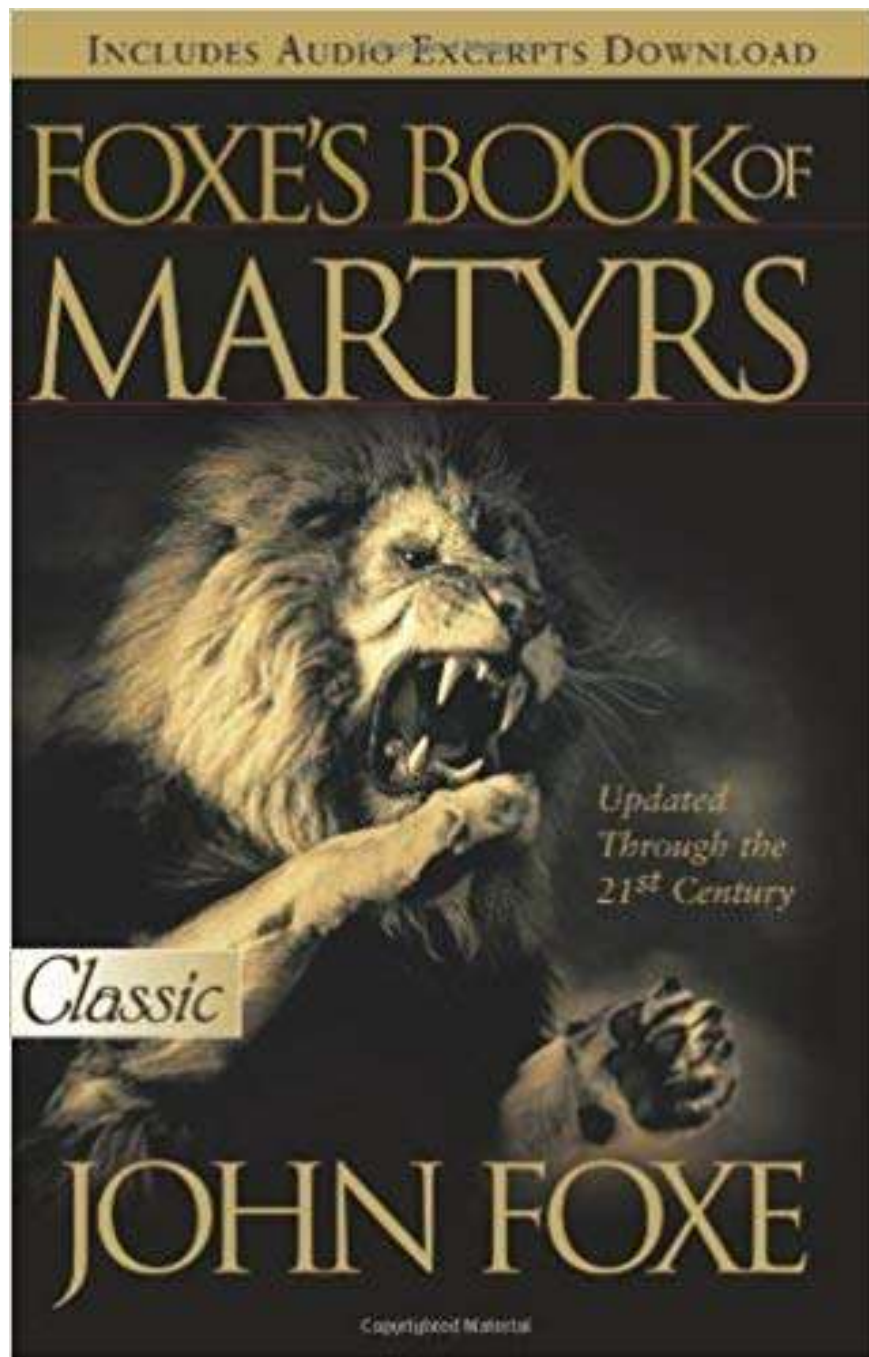


**No one is exempt from potential tribulation or persecution.**

**Don't let anyone tell you that the church is being raptured so it does not have to go through "the tribulation."**

**From its conception the church has been in tribulation.**





**Foxe's Book of Martyrs is the history of the church under persecution and tribulation.**



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# John Foxe

Begins his history of the  
persecution w/

**Matthew 16:18**



# Matthew 16:18

- And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.



# **John Foxe writes concerning Matthew 16**

**Three things are to be noted from this passage:**

- 1. Christ will have a church in this world.**
- 2. The same church should mightily be impugned [to fight] not only by the world but also by the strength and powers of hell.**
- 3. That the same church notwithstanding the uttermost of the devil and all his malice should continue.**





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**Look w/ me @**  
**John 21:18-19**



## To Peter Jesus says:

- Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you used to dress yourself and walk wherever you wanted, but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will dress you and carry you where you do not want to go.”<sup>19</sup>

(This he said to show by what kind of death he was to glorify God.) And after saying this he said to him, “Follow me.”



**At this point, Peter asks  
about what kind of death  
John will experience.**

**Note Jesus' reply.**



# John 21:22

- Jesus said to him,

“If it is my will that he  
remain until I come,  
what is that to you?  
You follow me!”



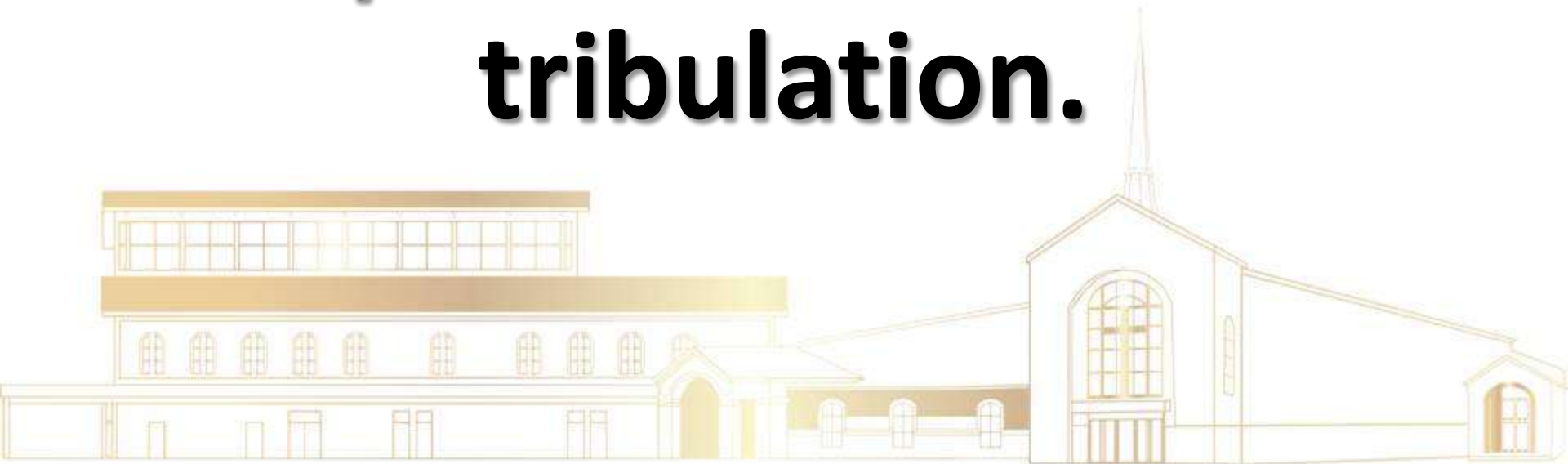
# John 21:23

- So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; **yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die**, but, “If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?”



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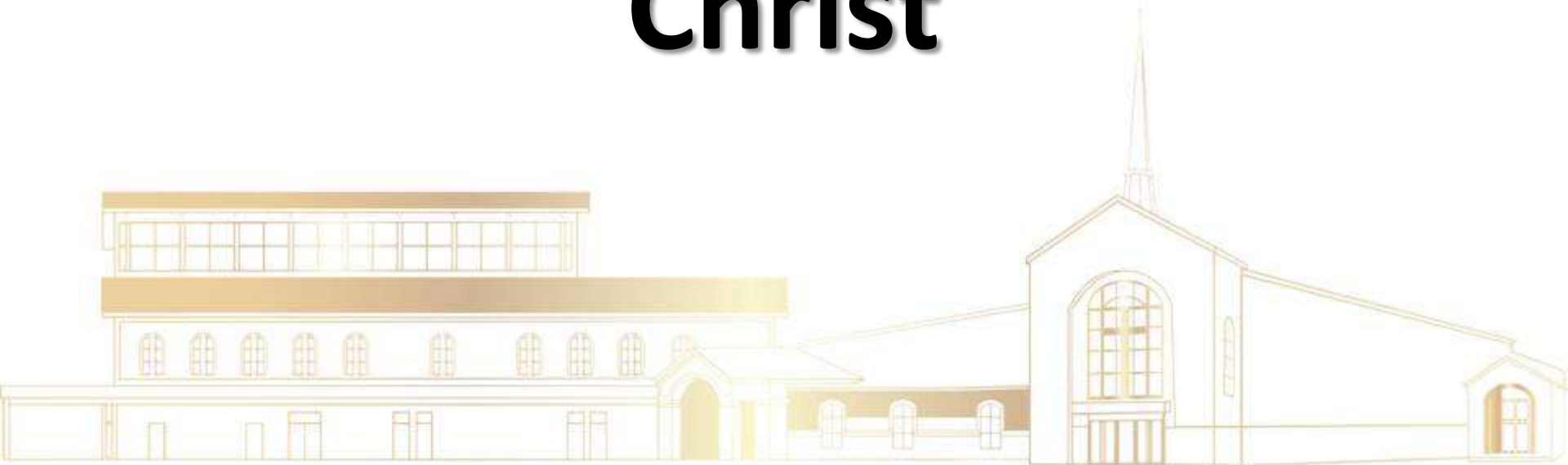
**The point is clear  
everyone does NOT  
experience the same  
tribulation.**





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# **The Apostles Rejoiced when they suffered for Christ**



# Acts 5:40-41

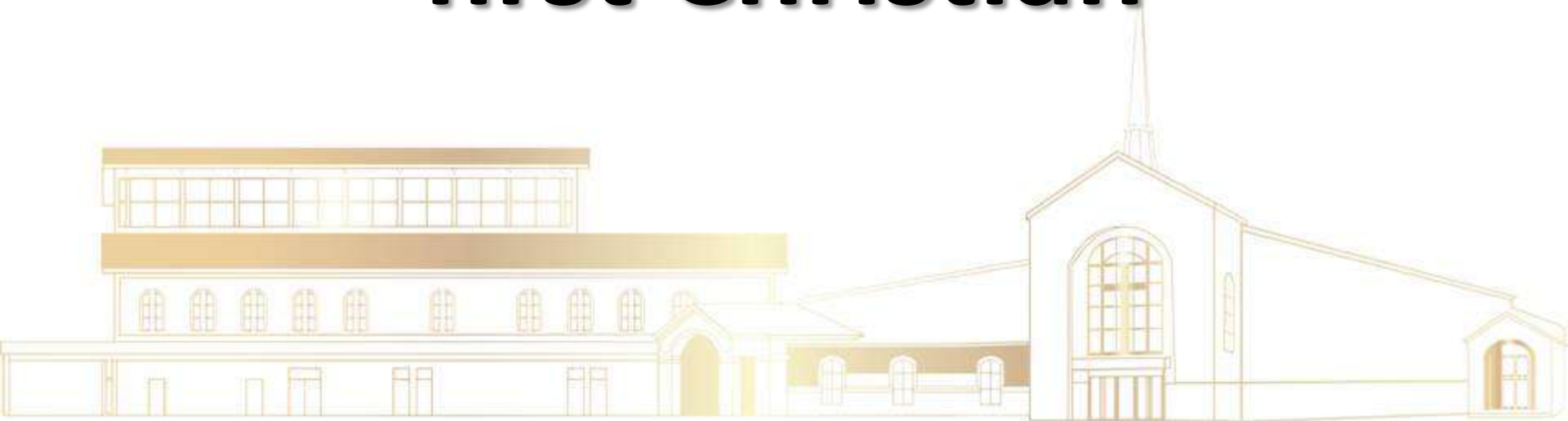
- and when they had called in the apostles, **they beat them** and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. <sup>41</sup>
- Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name.



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## **Acts 7**

**records the death of the  
first Christian**



# Acts 7:60 (ESV)

- And falling to his knees he [Stephen] cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.”
- And when he had said this, he fell asleep.



# Acts 8:1

- And Saul approved of his execution. **And there arose on that day a great persecution against the church in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles.**



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## **Acts 12**

**James is killed and  
Peter is imprisoned  
again**



# Acts 12:1-3

- About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. <sup>2</sup> He killed James the brother of John with the sword, <sup>3</sup> and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also.

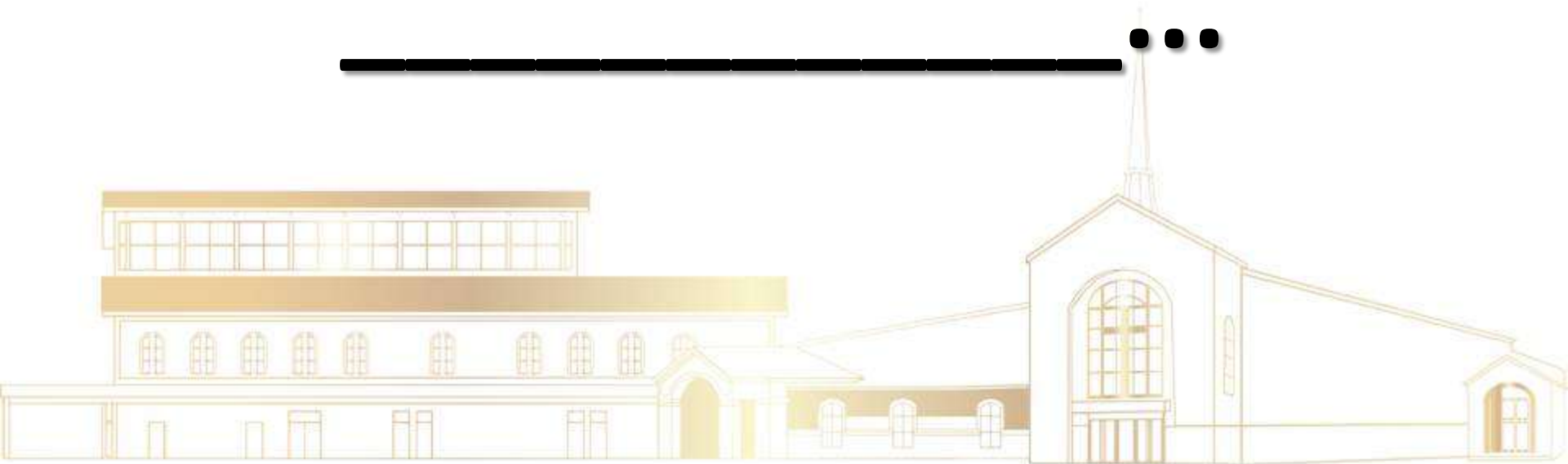




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# **Revelation 20:4 describes James &**

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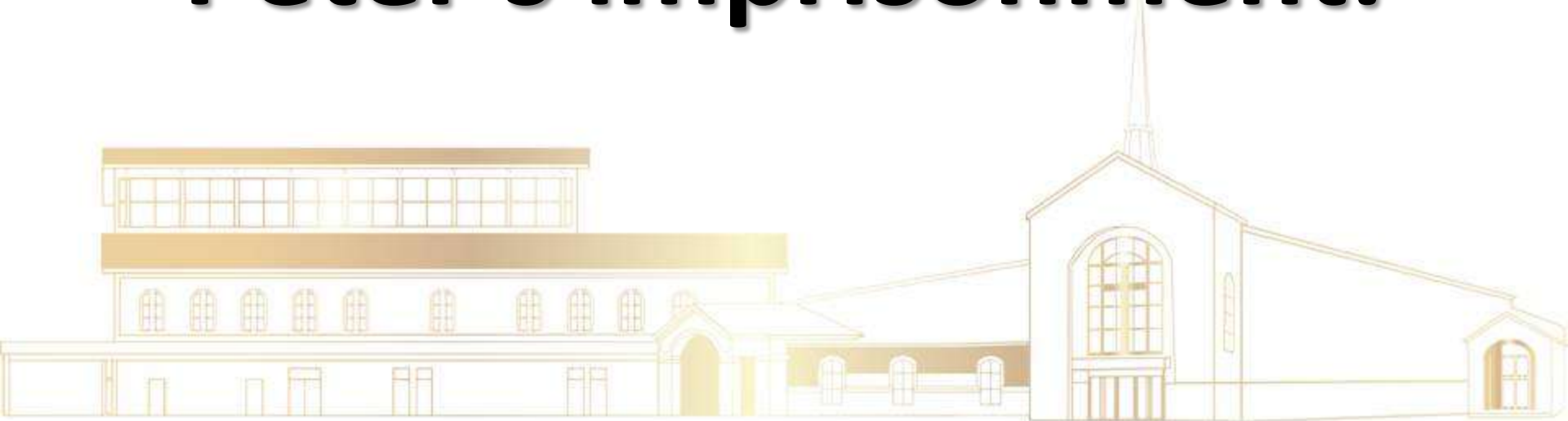
# Revelation 20:4



- Then I saw thrones, and seated on them were those to whom the authority to judge was committed. Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years.

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**Let me show you what  
one author wrote about  
Peter's imprisonment.**



**Narrow** – The text describes a narrow alley through which Peter and the angel pass. Jesus spoke of the way that leads to salvation as a narrow way (e. g., Mat 7:14). Why is this so? Because the narrow way is the cross! Most are not interested in this difficult path, the one that is steep and narrow. Most look for the broad highway through the valley, the easy way. The world still insists that we live in paradise (which Adam rejected) and that life should be easy. It is a lie; the path now is over the hill of Calvary. It is a narrow and steep path, but it is the only way to glory. Avoid preachers who never mention sin, who never speak of repentance, who never speak of struggles and difficulties. Avoid them! The tuning fork, the A440 of the Gospel is the cross. There are glories and joys in this life to be sure, but the fundamental path to Heaven and glory is through the cross; it cannot be avoided. Walk the narrow way, the way of the cross. Do not listen to "prosperity preachers," who exaggerate one truth and exclude all others.

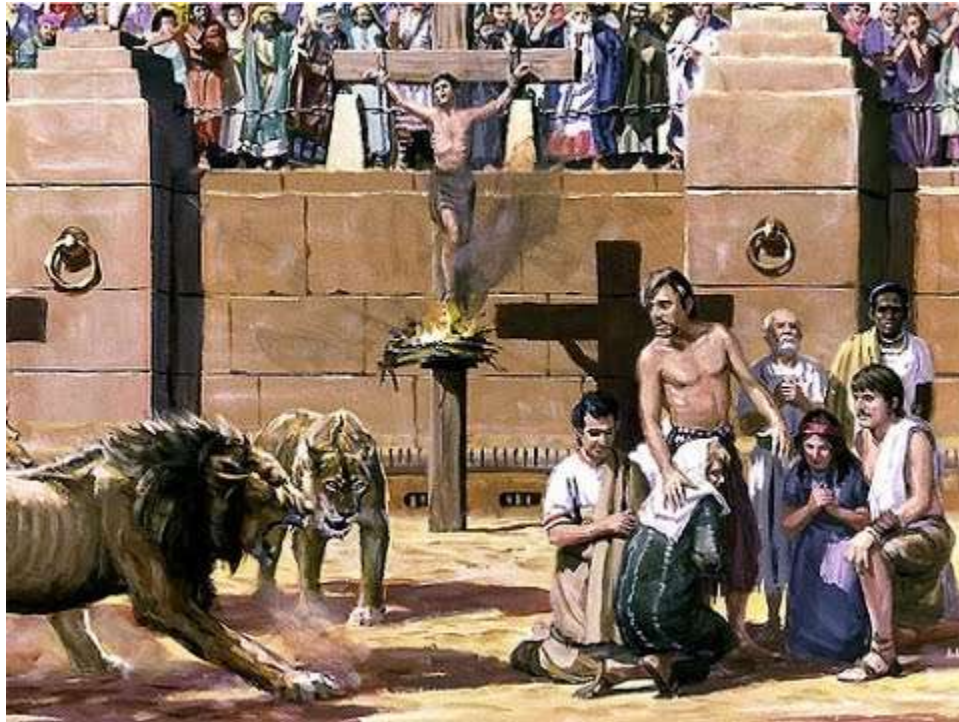


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# Prosperity Gospel Taught to 4 in 10 Evangelical Churchgoers

Survey finds most Protestants believe God wants them to prosper financially. But views diverge on whether they must tithe to receive it.





**Jesus said to His  
Disciples:**



# Matthew 10:22-24

- and you will be hated by all for my name's sake. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup> When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next, for truly, I say to you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes. <sup>24</sup> “A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.





# John 16:33

- These things I have spoken unto you, that in me ye might have peace. **In the world ye shall have tribulation:** but be of good cheer; I have overcome the world.



- **Persecution**
- **Suffering**
- **Brokenness**
- **Heartache**
- **Sorrow**
- **Grief**
- **Pain**
- **Tribulation**

**Don't let  
anyone tell  
you  
otherwise.**

**Are all part of the Christian experience.**



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# Turn to Acts 14:22

(look what the apostles believed)



# Acts 14:22

- strengthening the souls of the disciples, **encouraging them to continue in the faith,** and saying that **through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.**



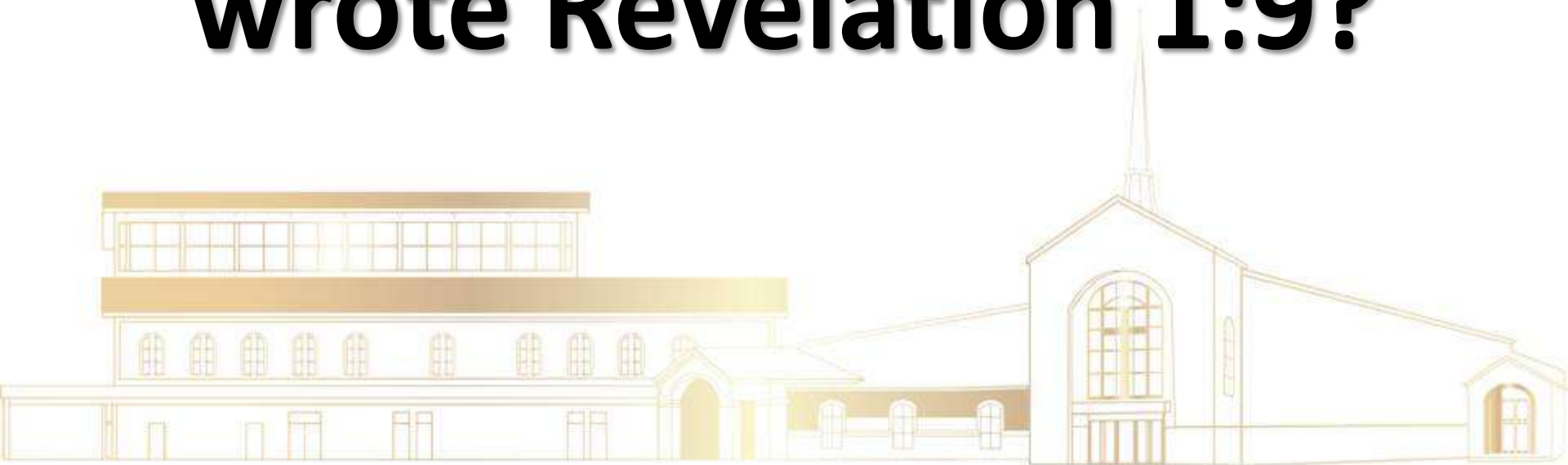
# Revelation 1:9 (NET)



- I, John, your brother and the one who shares with you in the persecution, kingdom, and **endurance that are in Jesus,** was on the island called Patmos because of the word of God and the testimony about Jesus.

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**Did John remember the  
words of Jesus when he  
wrote Revelation 1:9?**

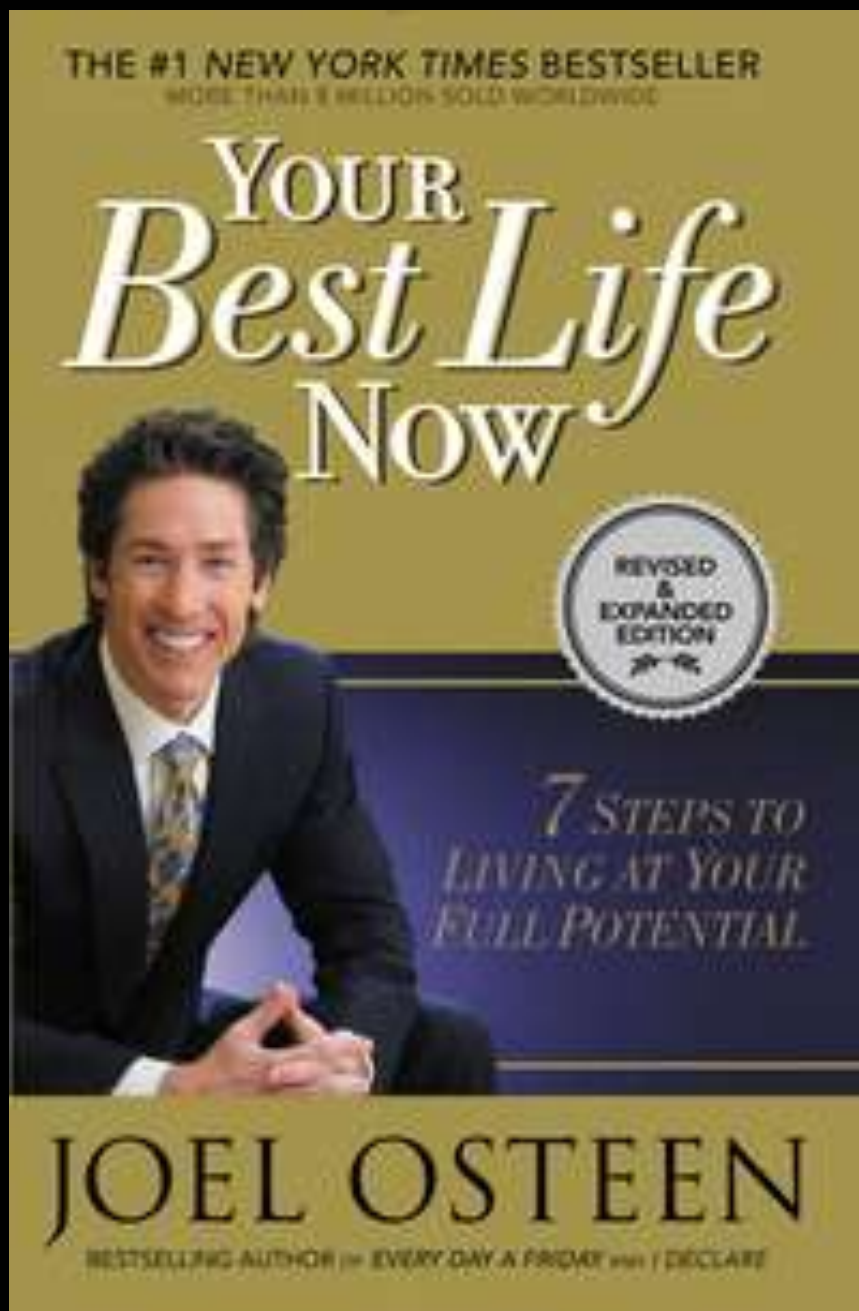


# Matthew 24:13

- But the person who endures to the end will be saved.







Is NOT  
Biblical.

**Where did we come up with  
the idea that we are or  
should be exempt from  
tribulation?**

**Was it from  
2 Corinthians 11:24ff?**



**Five times I [Paul] received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. <sup>25</sup> Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; <sup>26</sup> on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; <sup>27</sup> in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure.**



# 2 Timothy 3:12

- Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus **will be persecuted,**



# Romans 12:12



## ESV

- Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer.

## NET

- Rejoice in hope, endure in suffering, persist in prayer.

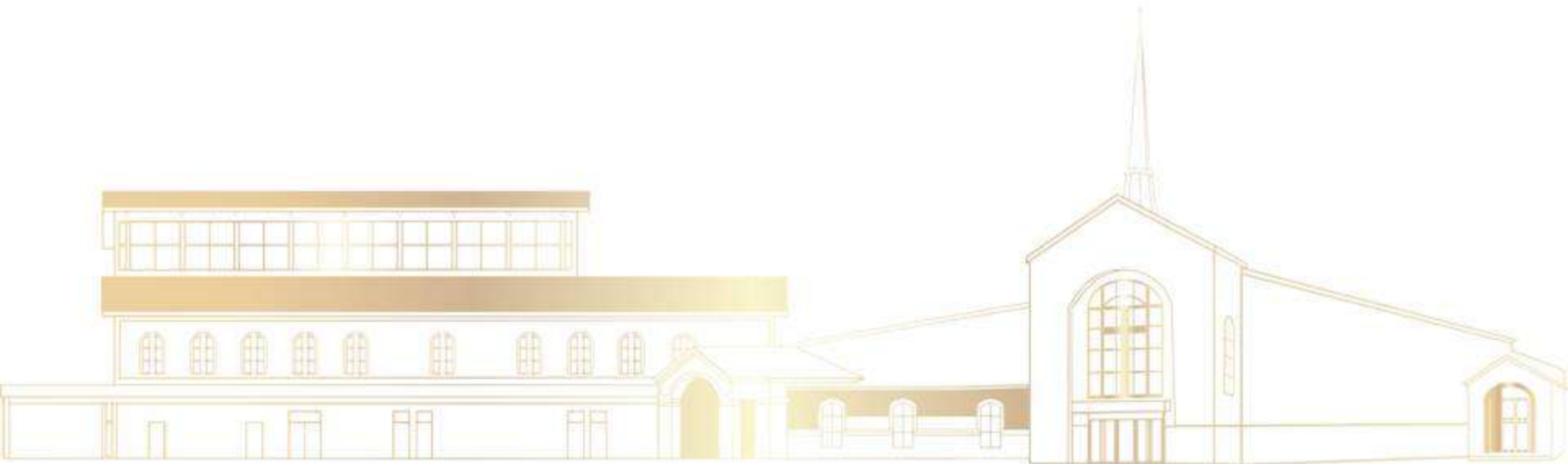
# Philippians 3:10

- that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, **and may share his sufferings,** becoming like him in his death,



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# **Military Expression** **“Embrace the Suck.”**





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**To consciously accept or  
appreciate something that  
is extremely unpleasant  
but unavoidable.**



# Romans 8:18

- For I consider that our present sufferings cannot even be compared to the glory that will be revealed to us.

