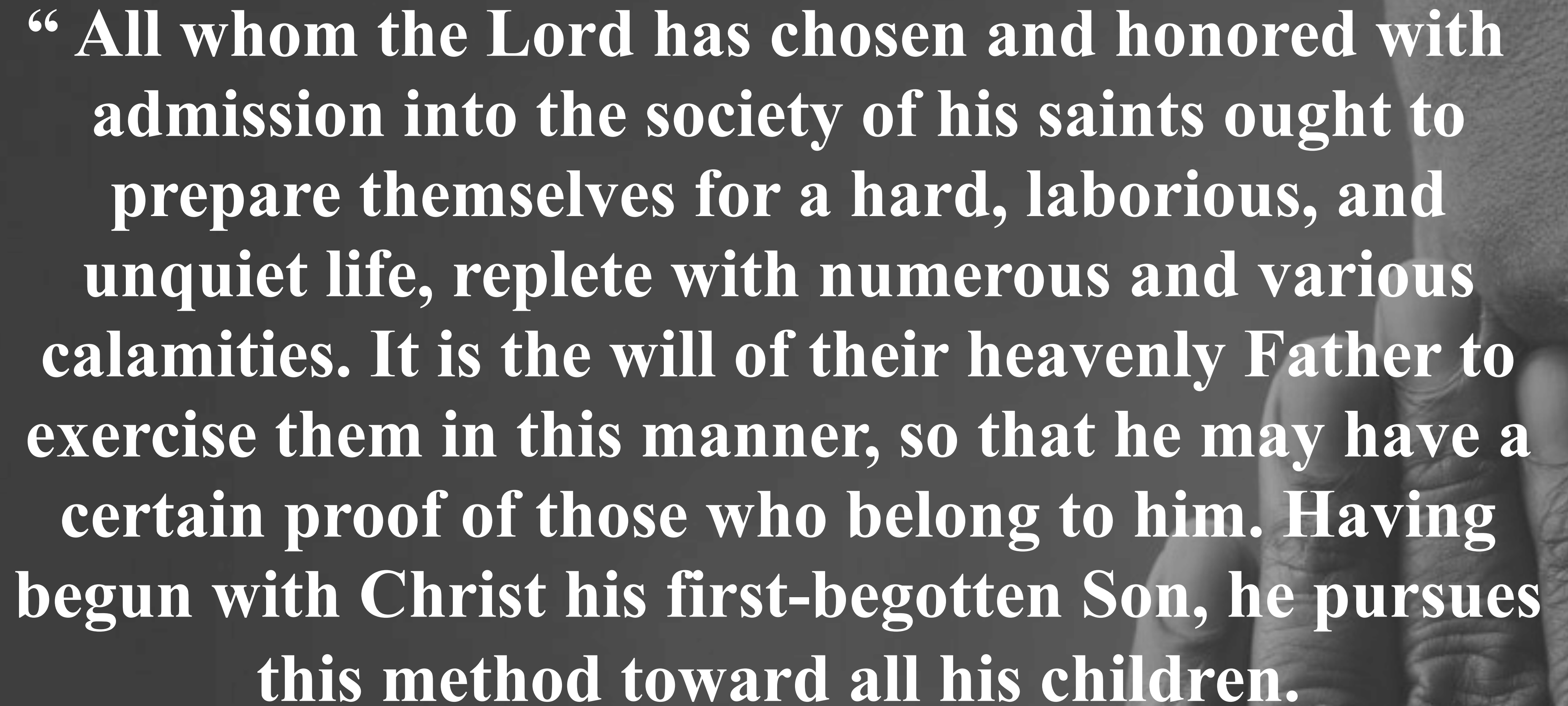


# JOY IN SUFFERING




VERSE BY VERSE MINISTRY  
INTERNATIONAL





**“ All whom the Lord has chosen and honored with admission into the society of his saints ought to prepare themselves for a hard, laborious, and unquiet life, replete with numerous and various calamities. It is the will of their heavenly Father to exercise them in this manner, so that he may have a certain proof of those who belong to him. Having begun with Christ his first-begotten Son, he pursues this method toward all his children.**

**Quote from John Calvin:**



**The viewer will understand how believers in Christ should view their suffering in light of their current and future affliction in this world.**

**Objective:**



**How should a believer in Jesus respond to suffering  
in this world and in their personal lives?**

**Essential Question:**



**James 1:1** James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.

**James 1:2** Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,

**James 1:3** knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance.

**James 1:4** And let endurance have *its* perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

**Scripture**



Secular Worldview

Biblical Worldview

# World Views



# God is Holy

## **Absolute Truth**



## Numbers 23:19

**“God is not a man, that He should lie,  
Nor a son of man, that He should repent;  
Has He said, and will He not do it?  
Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?”**

**Scripture**





## 1 John 1:5

**This is the message we have heard from Him and  
announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him  
there is no darkness at all.**

**Scripture**






Secular Worldview

Biblical Worldview

# World Views



- 
1. Atheism/ Mechanistic Universe
  2. God as less than omnipotent
  3. The Diest God
  4. Pantheism

Source: Carson, D. A. (2006). How long, O Lord?: Reflections on suffering and evil. Grand Rapids, Mich: Baker Academic.

# Secular Worldview





Secular Worldview

Biblical Worldview

# World Views





**Why do bad things happen to good people?**

**Romans 3:10**

**as it is written, “There is none righteous, not even one;**

**Scripture**



**Psalm 13:1 How long, O Lord? Will You forget me forever?  
How long will You hide Your face from me?**

**Psalm 13:2 How long shall I take counsel in my soul,  
*Having* sorrow in my heart all the day?  
How long will my enemy be exalted over me?**

**Psalm 13:3 Consider *and* answer me, O Lord my God;  
Enlighten my eyes, or I will sleep the *sleep of* death,**

**Psalm 13:4 And my enemy will say, “I have overcome him,”  
*And* my adversaries will rejoice when I am shaken.**

**Scripture**

**John 9:31 As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth.**

**John 9:2 And His disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?”**

**John 9:3 Jesus answered, “It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him.”**

## Scripture



**James 1:1** James, a bond-servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, To the twelve tribes who are dispersed abroad: Greetings.

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**How should a believer in Jesus  
respond to suffering in this world  
and in their personal lives?**

**Essential Question:**