

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

Genesis 39

1 Meanwhile, Joseph had been taken down to Egypt, where an Egyptian named Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh and captain of the guard, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had taken him there.

2 And the LORD was with Joseph, and he became a successful man, serving in the household of his Egyptian master.

Genesis 39

3 When his master saw that the LORD was with him and made him prosper in all he did,

4 Joseph found favor in his sight and became his personal attendant.

Potiphar put him in charge of his household and entrusted him with everything he owned.



Genesis 39

5 From the time that he put Joseph in charge of his household and all he owned, the LORD blessed the Egyptian's household on account of him.

The LORD's blessing was on everything he owned, both in his house and in his field.

6 So Potiphar left all that he owned in Joseph's care; he did not concern himself with anything except the food he ate.

Genesis 39

6...Now Joseph was well-built and handsome,

7 and after some time his master's wife cast her eyes on Joseph and said, "Sleep with me."

8 But he refused.



Genesis 39

**8 ...“Look,” he said to his master’s wife,
“with me here, my master does not concern
himself with anything in his house, and he has
entrusted everything he owns to my care.**

**9 No one in this house is greater than I am.
He has withheld nothing from me except you,
because you are his wife.**

**So how could I do such a great evil and sin
against God?”**



Genesis 39

10 Although Potiphar's wife spoke to Joseph day after day, he refused to go to bed with her or be with her.

11 One day, however, Joseph went into the house to attend to his work, and not a single household servant was inside.

12 She grabbed Joseph by his cloak and said, "Sleep with me!" But leaving his cloak in her hand, he escaped and ran outside.



Genesis 39

13 When she saw that he had left his cloak in her hand and had run out of the house,

14 she called her household servants.

“Look,” she said, “this Hebrew has been brought to us to make sport of us.

He came to me so he could sleep with me, but I screamed as loud as I could.

15 When he heard me scream for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house.”

Genesis 39

16 So Potiphar's wife kept Joseph's cloak beside her until his master came home.

17 Then she told him the same story:

"The Hebrew slave you brought us came to me to make sport of me,

18 but when I screamed for help, he left his cloak beside me and ran out of the house."



Genesis 39

19 When his master heard the story his wife told him, saying, "This is what your slave did to me," he burned with anger.

20 So Joseph's master took him and had him thrown into the prison where the king's prisoners were confined.



Genesis 39

**While Joseph was there in the prison,
21 the LORD was with him and extended kindness to
him.**

**He granted him favor in the eyes of the prison
warden, 22 who put all those held in the prison
under Joseph's authority, so that he was responsible
for all that was done there.**

**23 The warden did not concern himself with
anything under Joseph's authority,
because the LORD was with him and gave him
success in whatever he did.**

Two Major Themes in this Chapter

The Blessings of God

Trials & Temptations



Is God's Blessing on Joseph for Us?

1. Joseph was a type of Christ

- so God blesses Joseph like He blesses Christ
- but God has also blessed us "in Christ"
- we receive "trickle-down" blessing from Christ



Ephesians 1

**3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ with every
spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms.**



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- but God has also blessed us "in Christ"
- we receive "trickle-down" blessing from Christ

2. It is to be received by faith

3. It is seen primarily through our salvation



Ephesians 1

4 For He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in His presence.

In love 5 He predestined us for adoption as His sons through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of His will,

6 to the praise of His glorious grace, which He has freely given us in the Beloved One.

Ephesians 1

7 In Him we have redemption through His blood,

the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace

8 that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

9 And He has made known to us the mystery of His will according to His good pleasure, which He purposed in Christ

Ephesians 1

10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to bring all things in heaven and on earth together in Christ.

11 In Him we were also chosen as God's own, having been predestined according to the plan of Him who works out everything by the counsel of His will,

12 in order that we, who were the first to hope in Christ, would be for the praise of His glory.

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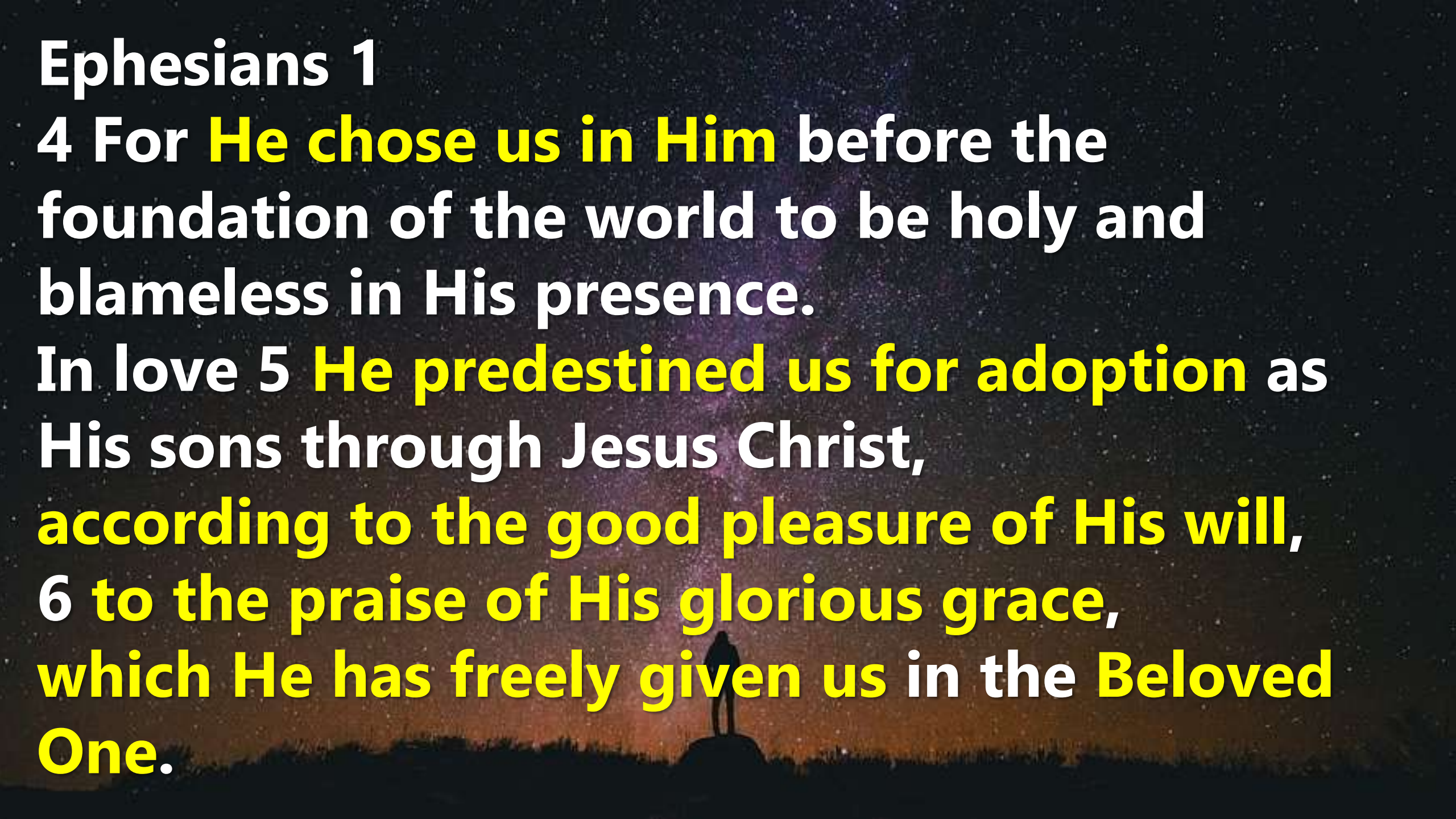
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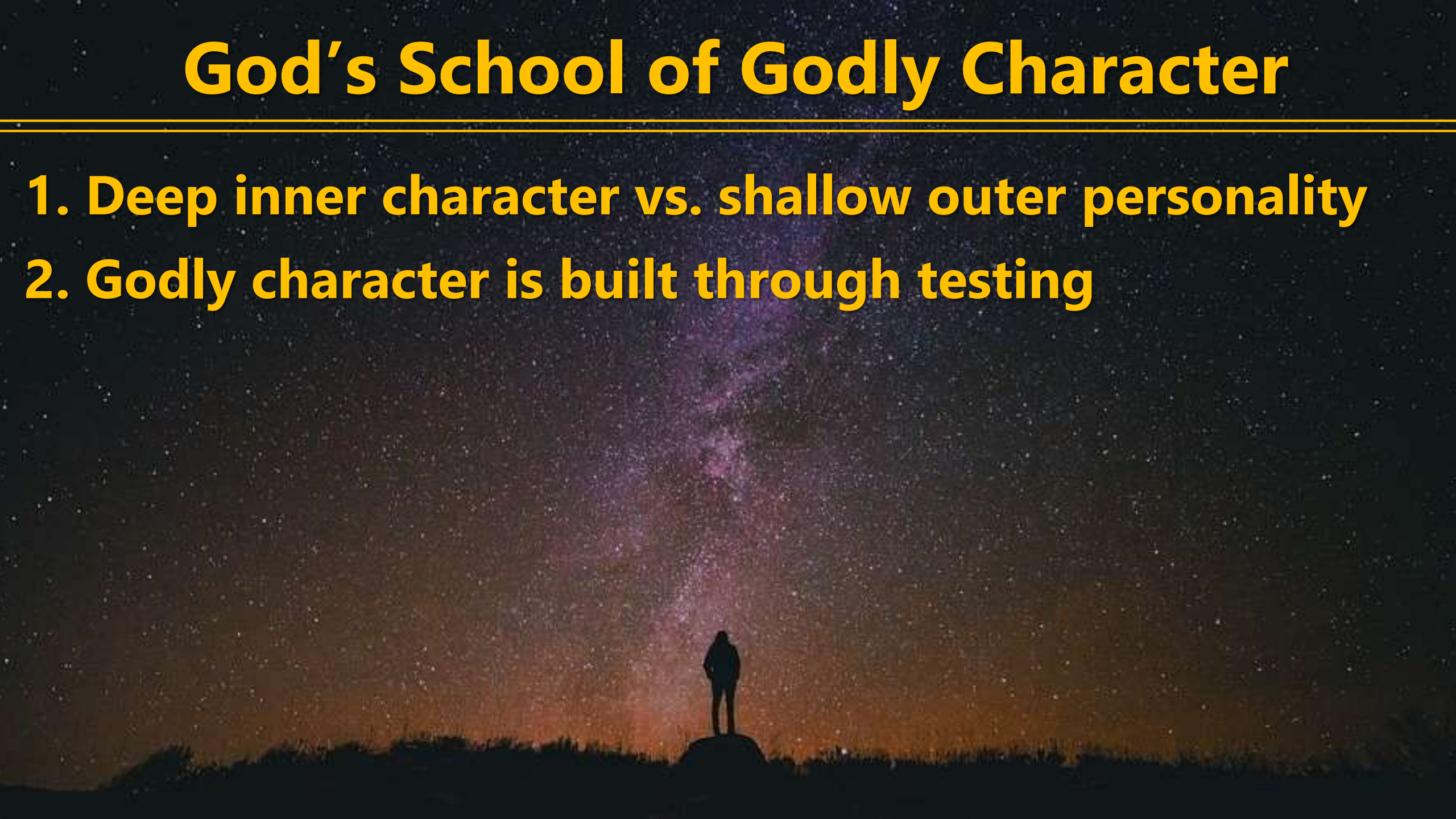
A person is silhouetted against a night sky filled with stars. The Milky Way galaxy is visible, stretching across the sky. The person is standing on a small rock or mound of earth. The overall scene is dark and atmospheric, with the stars providing a soft glow.

**“Should we accept from God
only good and not adversity?”**

Job 2:10

God's School of Godly Character

1. Deep inner character vs. shallow outer personality
2. Godly character is built through testing



Romans 5

3 Not only that, but we also rejoice in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;

4 perseverance, **character**; and **character**, hope.

5 And hope does not disappoint us, because God has poured out His love into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us.

2 Corinthians 2

9 My purpose in writing you was to see if you would stand the **test** and be obedient in everything.

1 Peter 1

6 In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in various trials

7 so that the **proven character** of your faith—more precious than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory, and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

God's School of Godly Character

1. Deep inner character vs. shallow outer personality
2. Godly character is built through testing
3. Testing comes in the form of trials AND temptations



James 1:2 Consider it pure joy, my brothers, when you encounter **trials** of many kinds,
3 because you know that the testing of your faith develops perseverance.

4 Allow perseverance to finish its work, so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.

James 1:13 When **tempted**, no one should say, "God is **tempting** me."

For God cannot be **tempted** by evil, nor does He **tempt** anyone.



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4. It is the grace of God that builds godly character
 - God's grace empowers



Ezekiel 36

25 I will also sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean.

I will cleanse you from all your impurities and all your idols.

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you;

I will remove your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.

27 And I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes and to carefully observe My ordinances.



Philippians 2

12 ... continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling.

13 For it is God who works in you to will and to act on behalf of His good purpose.



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Titus 2

11 For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men.

12 It **instructs** us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live sensible, upright, and godly lives in the present age,



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Lamentations 3


22 Because of the loving devotion of the LORD we are not consumed, for His mercies never fail.

23 They are new every morning; great is Your faithfulness!

24 "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in Him."



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 - God's grace forgives
 5. Godly character is linked to God's eternal purpose
- 

1 Timothy 4

16 Pay close attention to your **life** and to your **teaching**.

Persevere in **these things**,
for by so doing you will save both yourself
and those who hear you.



Romans 8

28 And we know that God works all things together for the good of those who love Him, who are called according to His purpose.

29 For those God foreknew, He also predestined **to be conformed to the image of His Son**, so that He would be the firstborn among many brothers.

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