

ISYOURLIFEINFOCUS?



CAN

YOU

SEE

HEAVEN

FROM

HERE?

## WEEK4 PAIN: PROBLEM & PROMISE

# C.S.LEWIS THE PROBLEM OF PAIN

GEOFFREY BLES: THE CENTENARY PRESS

GEO MANSEL

#### PAIN - A DEFINITION

### ANY EXPERIENCE, WHETHER PHYSICAL OR MENTAL, WHICH THE CREATURE DISLIKES

#### I. VISION IMPAIRMENT: PAIN MAKES MY FAITH <u>FUZZY</u>

\*THE PROBLEM OF PAIN - A CREATURE'S LOGIC

THE PROBLEM OF PAIN - A <u>CREATURE'S</u> LOGIC

PREMISE 1 - IF GOD WERE GOOD, HE WOULD WISH TO MAKE HIS CREATURES PERFECTLY HAPPY.

#### THE PROBLEM OF PAIN - A CREATURE'S LOGIC

PREMISE 1 - IF GOD WERE GOOD, HE WOULD WISH TO MAKE HIS CREATURES PERFECTLY HAPPY.

PREMISE 2 - IF GOD WERE ALMIGHTY, HE WOULD BE ABLE TO DO WHAT HE WISHED (MAKE HIS CREATURES PERFECTLY HAPPY).

#### THE PROBLEM OF PAIN - A CREATURE'S LOGIC

PREMISE 1 - IF GOD WERE GOOD, HE WOULD WISH TO MAKE HIS CREATURES PERFECTLY HAPPY.

PREMISE 2 - IF GOD WERE ALMIGHTY, HE WOULD BE ABLE TO DO WHAT HE WISHED (MAKE HIS CREATURES PERFECTLY HAPPY).

OBSERVED AND PERSONAL REALITY- THE CREATURES ARE NOT HAPPY.

#### THE PROBLEM OF PAIN - A CREATURE'S LOGIC

PREMISE 1 - IF GOD WERE GOOD, HE WOULD WISH TO MAKE HIS CREATURES PERFECTLY HAPPY.

PREMISE 2 - IF GOD WERE ALMIGHTY, HE WOULD BE ABLE TO DO WHAT HE WISHED (MAKE HIS CREATURES PERFECTLY HAPPY).

OBSERVED AND PERSONAL REALITY- THE CREATURES ARE NOT HAPPY.

CONCLUSION - GOD LACKS EITHER GOODNESS OR POWER, OR BOTH.

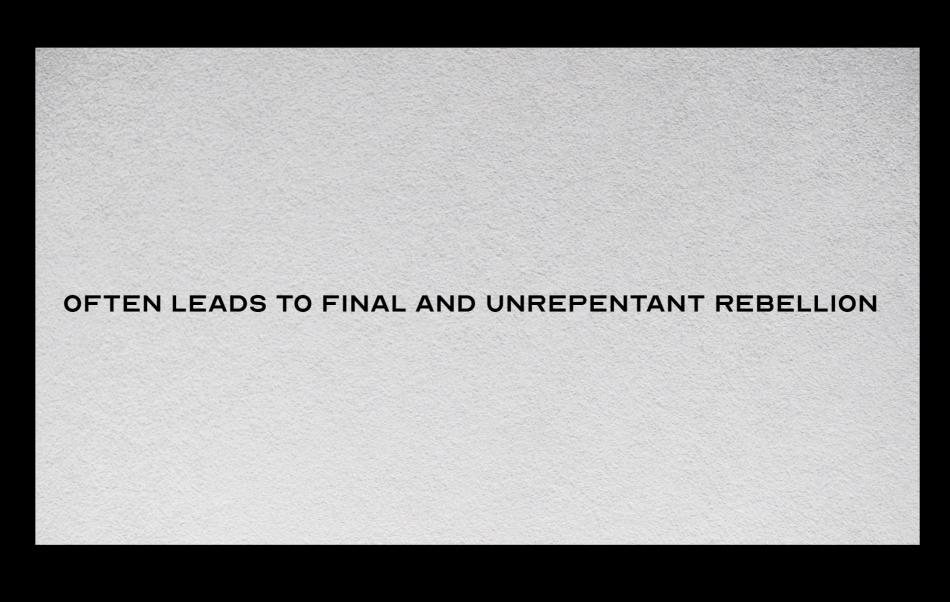
-THIS IS THE PROBLEM OF PAIN, IN ITS SIMPLEST FORM-

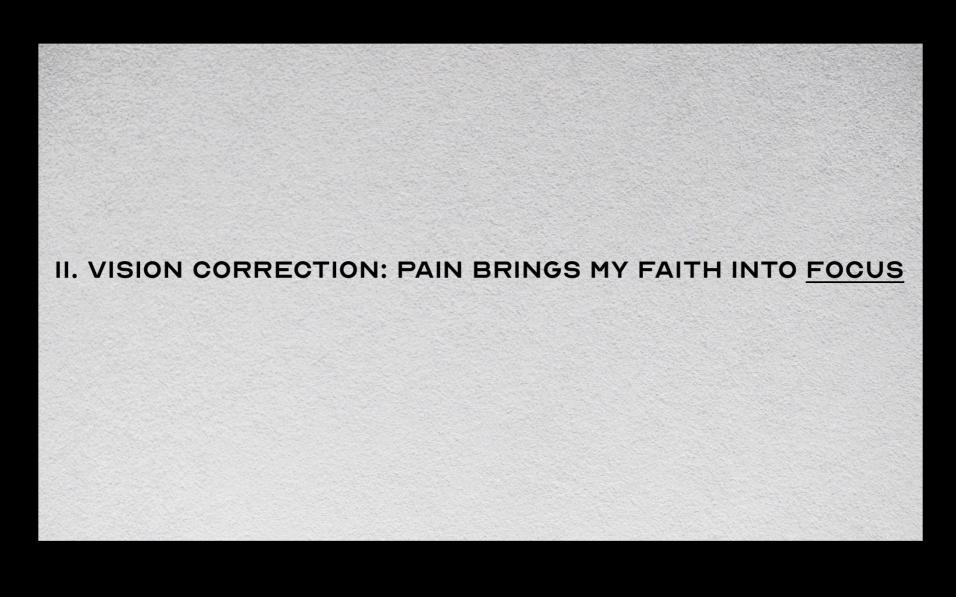
#### \*POTENTIAL <u>DIFFICULTIES</u> WITH THIS LOGIC

#### INVERTS THE CREATOR/CREATURE HIERARCHY

#### INSISTS THAT THIS PLACE BE THAT PLACE

#### IGNORES/MINIMIZES THE REALITY OF PAIN I CAUSE





\*GOD'S <u>PROMISES</u> ROMANS 8:17-18, 28-30

#### \*HE PROVIDES A CALLING TO EMBRACE:

**ROMANS 17-18, 28** 

17 NOW IF WE ARE CHILDREN, THEN WE ARE HEIRS—HEIRS OF GOD AND CO-HEIRS WITH CHRIST, IF INDEED WE SHARE IN HIS SUFFERINGS IN ORDER THAT WE MAY ALSO SHARE IN HIS GLORY.

18 I CONSIDER THAT OUR PRESENT SUFFERINGS ARE NOT WORTH COMPARING WITH THE GLORY THAT WILL BE REVEALED IN US.

28 AND WE KNOW THAT IN ALL THINGS GOD WORKS FOR THE GOOD OF THOSE WHO LOVE HIM, WHO HAVE BEEN CALLED ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.

"THE SON OF GOD SUFFERED UNTO THE DEATH, NOT THAT
MEN MIGHT NOT SUFFER, BUT THAT THEIR SUFFERINGS
MIGHT BE LIKE HIS."
GEORGE MACDONALD

#### \*HE PROVIDES HIS SON AS A PORTAIT:

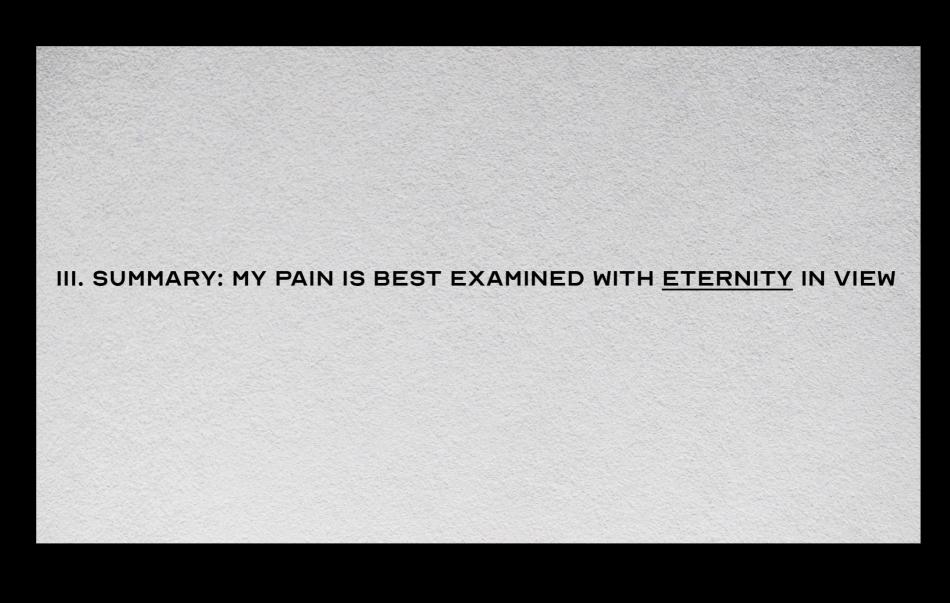
**ROMANS 8:29** 

29 FOR THOSE GOD FOREKNEW HE ALSO PREDESTINED TO BE CONFORMED TO THE IMAGE OF HIS SON, THAT HE MIGHT BE THE FIRSTBORN AMONG MANY BROTHERS AND SISTERS.

#### \*HE PROVIDES MY PATHWAY TO GLORY:

#### **ROMANS 8**

30 AND THOSE HE PREDESTINED, HE ALSO CALLED; THOSE HE CALLED, HE ALSO JUSTIFIED; THOSE HE JUSTIFIED, HE ALSO GLORIFIED.



# I CONSIDER THAT OUR PRESENT SUFFERINGS ARE NOT WORTH COMPARING WITH THE GLORY THAT WILL BE REVEALED IN US. ROMANS 8:18