

9 a valley means a

wrong turn

Cling to the Cross

Endurance

Perseverance

Maturity

Character

When people believe  
that the life of  
a disciple of Christ  
leads only to

**Mountain Top  
Experiences**

in this life...



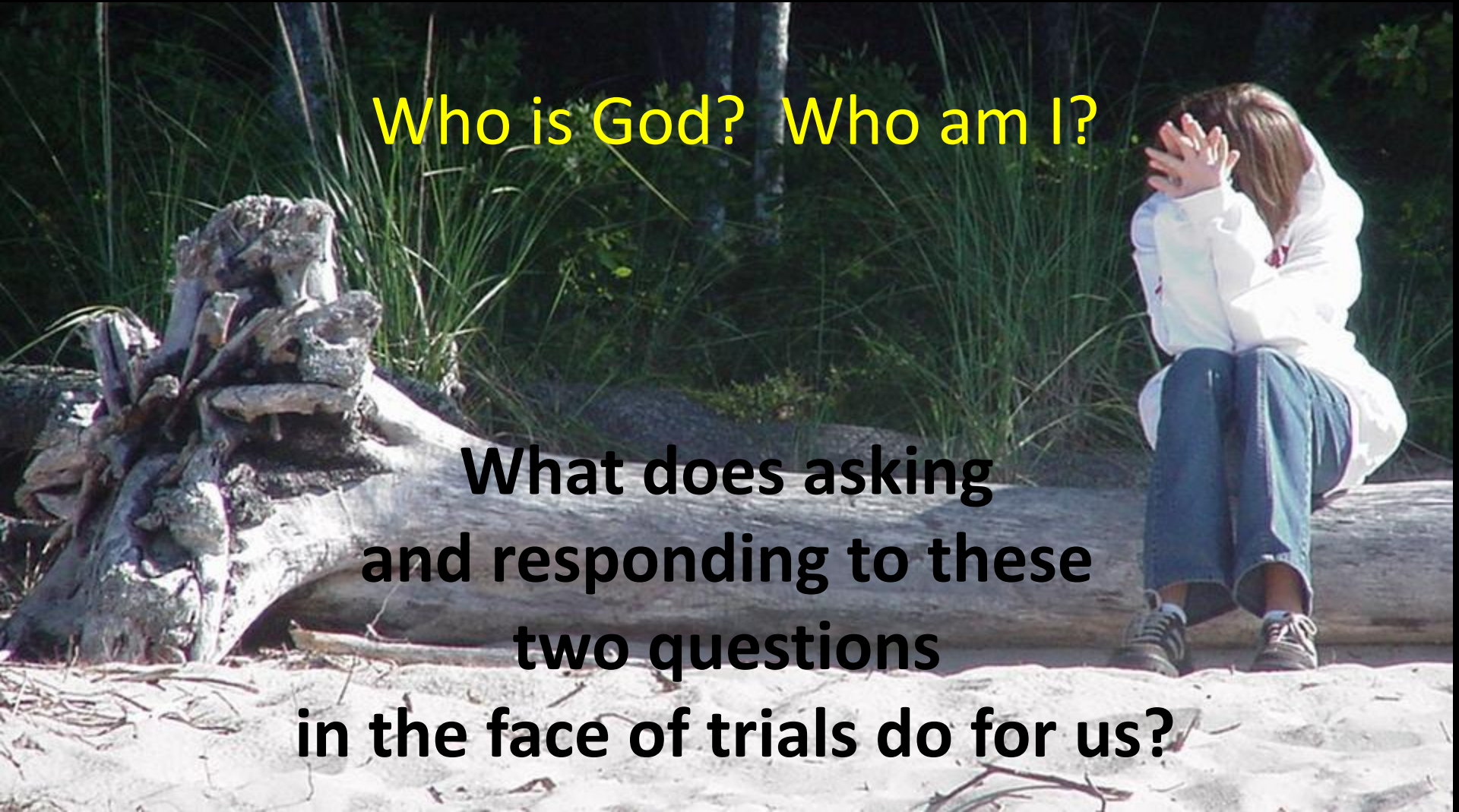
Before  
we ask  
**“WHY?,”**

let us ask  
**“WHO?”**

Whenever we face a valley in our life journey,  
we need to remember to ask and answer  
these two questions first:

Who is God? Who am I?

What does asking  
and responding to these  
two questions  
in the face of trials do for us?



# I Am

Mark Schultz

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c-HIKxnSZSA&feature=related>

Who is God?

Who am I?

**Hebrews 5:8**

The writer of Hebrews  
speaks about Jesus' obedience  
to the call of His Father.

Jesus showed His Obedience  
even in the midst of  
His great Passion!

## **In Gethsemane..., On Calvary...**

So deeply did the suffering affect Him;  
He cried to God His Heavenly Father...



His Father possesses  
Almighty Power and  
Infinite resources **and...**

**Jesus continued in His Passion**

Christ Jesus always kept His

**Focus on You and Me—**

**carrying out the counsel of God's Love  
to the end!**

Jesus passed through suffering, death—  
death on a cross, hell, **and gained**  
**Salvation for all men!**

He was crowned with honor and glory,  
Exalted to the right hand of God.

**We learn from this verse that  
God the Father gave His Son...**

**the cup to drink the very DREGS,**

**to accomplish great work for  
which He was appointed.**

# Sacrificial Obedience

Learn Obedience  
from things which he suffered,  
having been perfected,  
Jesus becomes  
to all who obey Him,  
the source of eternal salvation.

The guarantee that the  
work of redemption  
is complete!

**It is the source of  
comfort for our faith  
under all circumstances!**

A dramatic painting depicting the biblical scene of the Red Sea parting. Moses, seen from behind, stands on a rocky ledge, wearing a purple robe and a white head covering. He holds a long, dark staff in his right hand and has his left hand raised towards the sky. The sea is split into two channels, with water cascading down the sides. In the distance, a small island with a tower is visible under a bright, hazy sky. The overall color palette is dominated by greens, blues, and yellows, with a strong sense of light and atmosphere.

**God Sent Me Here**

**Exodus 14**

*God Sent Me Here*

# Valley Characteristics

According to Osborne:

**Obedience that appears to have Backfired.**

**When Obeying God puts us in deep weeds.**

**We are right where God wants us to be.**

*God Sent Me Here*

# Valley Our Response

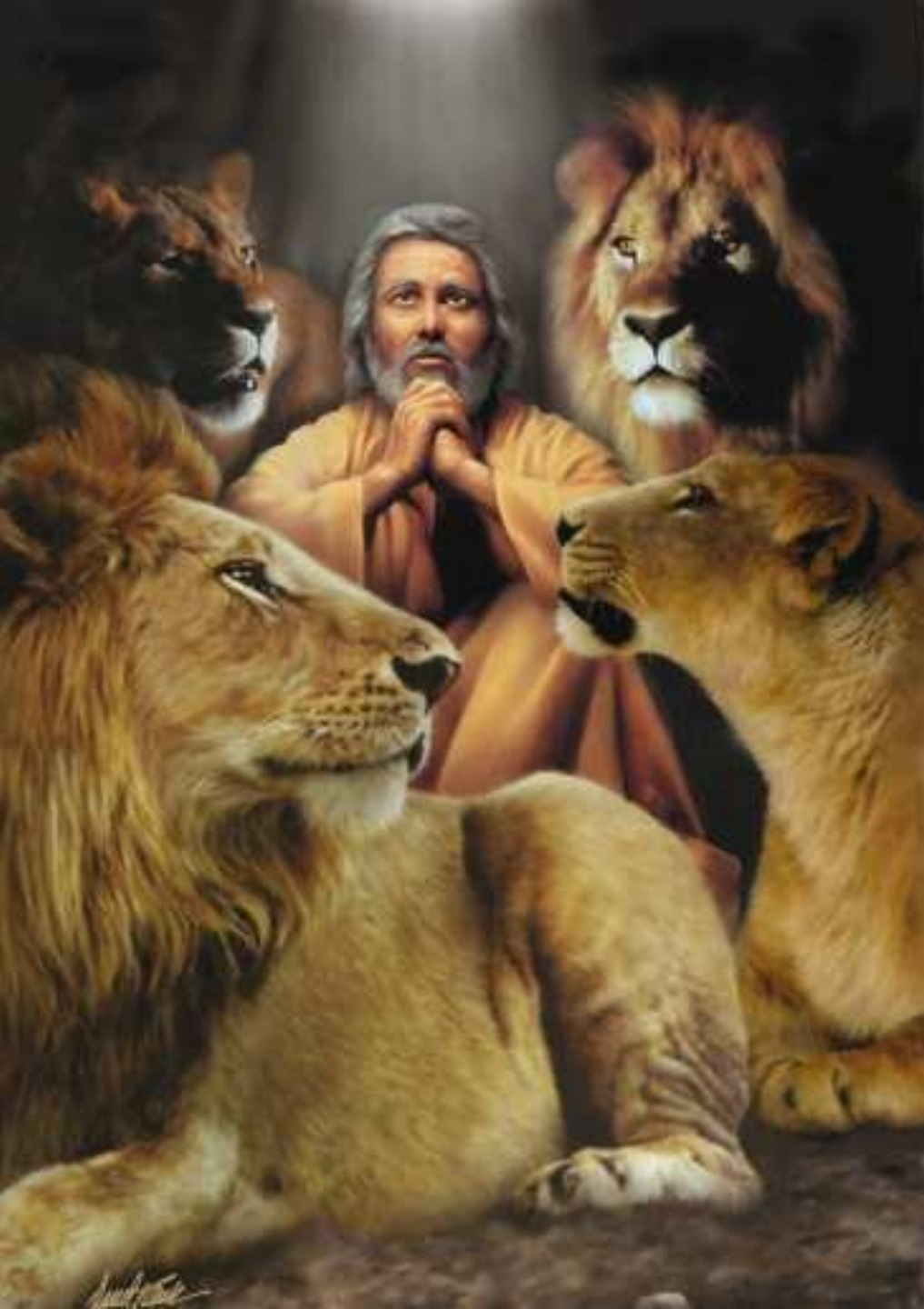
According to Osborne:

**Look to God for help.**

**Wait and see and Trust God to deliver you.**

**God provides a Door leading to the next.**

**As we are patient in our sufferings,  
we may find that God is using us  
to reach others.**



Read  
Daniel 6

# **What we Learn from the** *God Sent Me Here Valley*

**No matter what the cause of our valley...**

**There is always something to learn  
and the opportunity to build character!**

**Prepares us to empathize & support others**

**Teaches obedience and trust**

**Helps us identify with sufferings of Christ**

I messed up

Proverbs 19:3



**I messed up**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 11:1-12:15**



*I messed up*

# Valley Characteristics

According to Osborne:

Rebellious thinking → believing → action

Foolish thinking → believing → action

Someone took a wrong turn willfully

Often leads to many sins (cover up)

Consequences are evident

God does not HIDE what is happening,

He wants us to know and get back to HIM

*I messed Up*

# Valley Our Response

According to Osborne:

**REPENT...**

**...Take personal responsibility**

**...Make serious changes**

**...Head in a different direction**

**Look to God for help!**

*I messed Up*

# Valley Our Response

continued:

**Refuse to take  
the short cut out!**

**Take the way of escape  
that God provides!**

# What we Learn from the

*I messed up Valley*

According to Osborne:

No matter what the cause of our valley...

There is always something to learn  
and the opportunity to build character!

**NEVER GO THERE AGAIN!**

**Who knows why?**

**Job 1-2**



*Who knows why?*

# Valley Characteristics

According to Osborne:

**Is this beyond my understanding?**

**There is no evident link to:**

- 1. Steps of obedience**
- 2. Steps of disobedience**

**IT MAKES NO SENSE  
THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN**

*Who knows why?*

# Valley Our Response

According to Osborne:

Look to God for help.

Wait and see & Trust God to deliver you.

Ask for Wisdom to know

how to respond & what you should learn!

Ask for forgiveness!

Ask for mercy!

Ask for peace!

# How do we respond to valleys?

**1 Corinthians 10:13**

**Hebrews 1:2-5**

**James 1:2-5**

**James 4:7**

**Psalm 15**



# Praise You in this Storm

Casting Crowns

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uHdcyue0bSw>

**What can  
we learn  
from  
valleys?**



# Cry Out to Jesus

Third Day

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VeGNgBwPTMA>