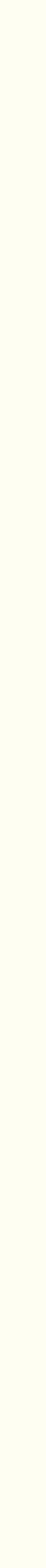


Acts.



But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

MATTHEW 14:30 NIV



About an hour later another asserted, “Certainly this fellow was with him, for he is a Galilean.”

⁶⁰ Peter replied, “Man, I don’t know what you’re talking about!” Just as he was speaking, the rooster crowed. ⁶¹ The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: “Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times.” ⁶² And he went outside and wept bitterly.

LUKE 22:59-62 NIV



The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance.

ACTS 12:6 NIV

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Calm in the Crisis

- + Before the Crisis
- + During the Crisis
- + Through the Crisis
- + Beyond the Crisis

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Calm in the Crisis

- + **Before the Crisis**
- + **During the Crisis**
- + **Through the Crisis**
- + **Beyond the Crisis**



It was about this time that King Herod arrested some who belonged to the church, intending to persecute them.

ACTS 12:1 NIV



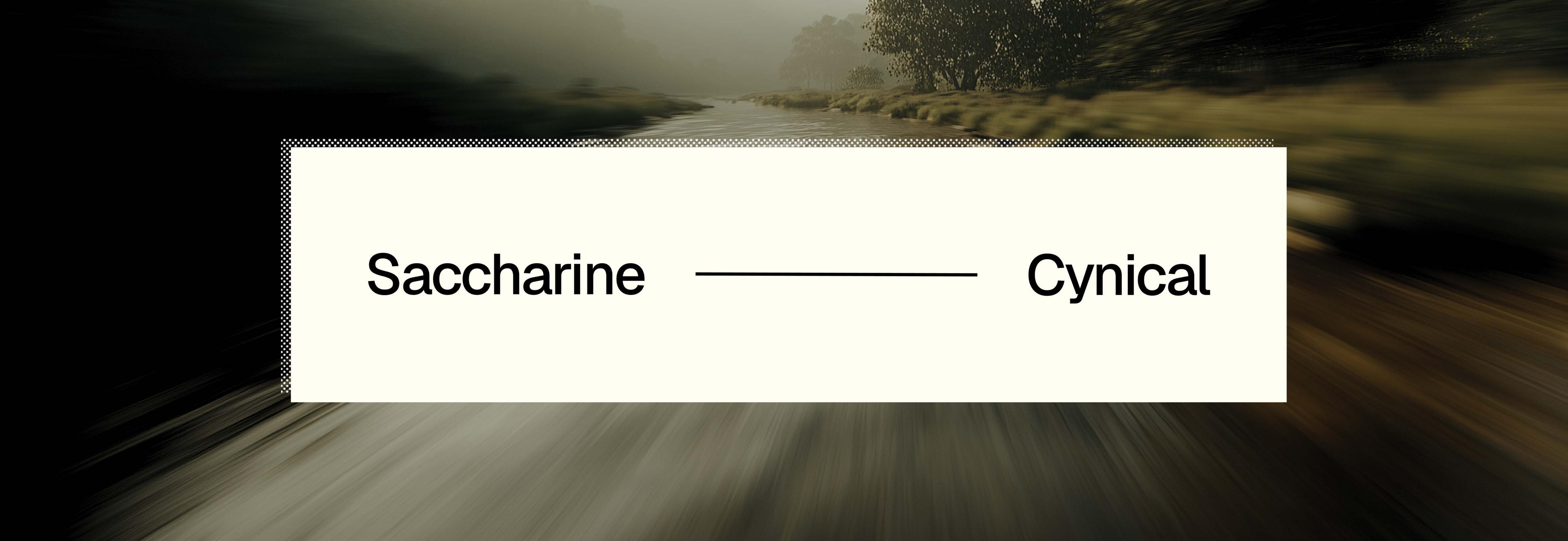
He had James, the brother of John, put to death with the sword.
³ When he saw that this met with approval among the Jews, he proceeded to seize Peter also. This happened during the Festival of Unleavened Bread. ⁴ After arresting him, he put him in prison, handing him over to be guarded by four squads of four soldiers each. Herod intended to bring him out for public trial after the Passover.

ACTS 12:2-4 NIV



Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

1 PETER 4:12 NIV



A landscape painting of a river flowing through a forested area. The foreground shows a sandy bank with some low-lying plants. The river flows from the background towards the foreground. The background is filled with dense green trees and foliage, with a misty atmosphere. The overall color palette is earthy tones of green, brown, and grey.

Saccharine — Cynical

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Calm in the Crisis

- + Before the Crisis
- + During the Crisis
- + Through the Crisis
- + Beyond the Crisis



So Peter was kept in prison, but the church was **earnestly praying to God** for him.

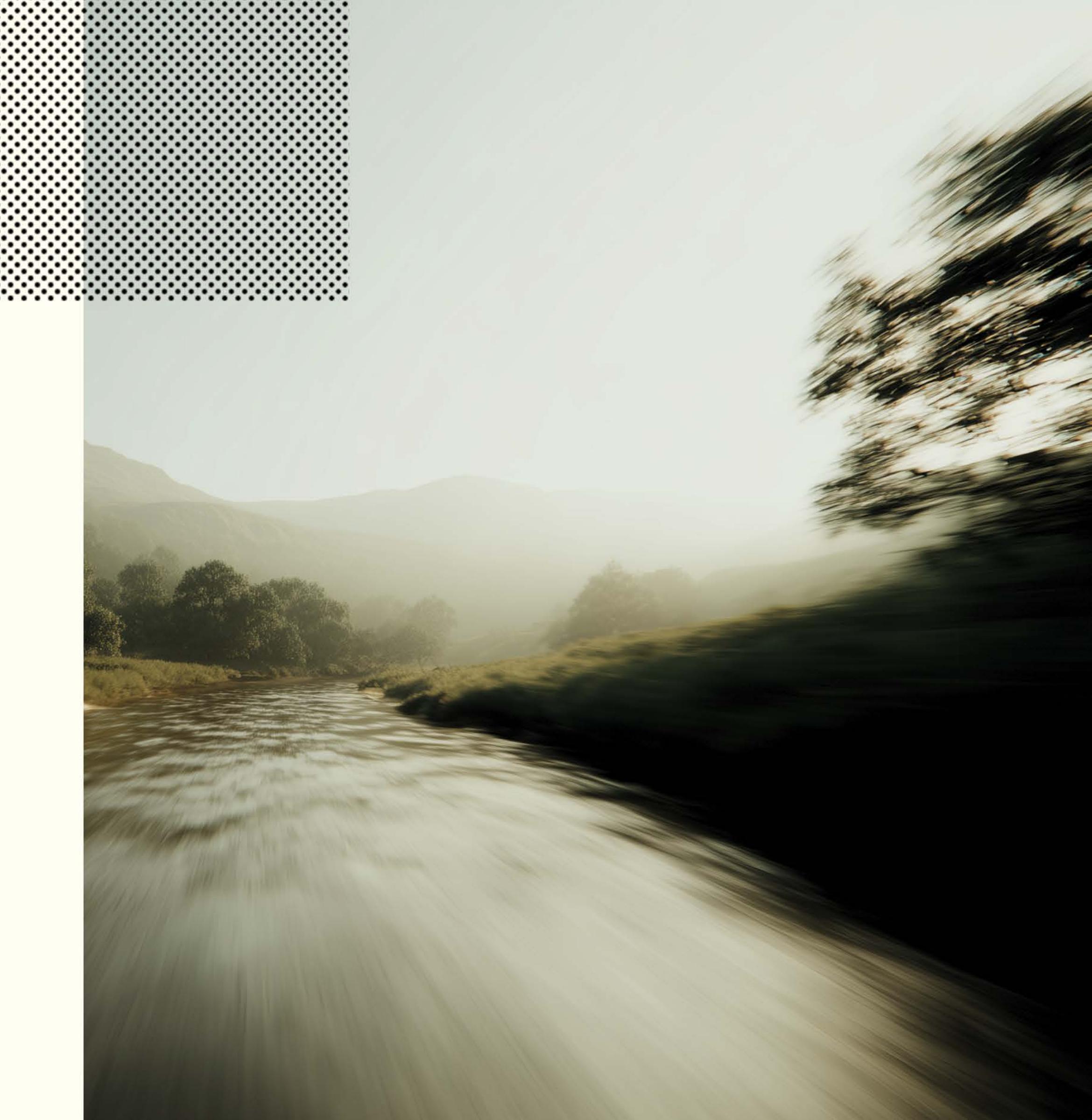
¹² When this had dawned on him, he went to the house of Mary the mother of John, also called Mark, where many people had gathered and were **praying**.

ACTS 12:5, 12 NIV

“ ”

The first and lowest operation of pain shatters the illusion that all is well, the second shatters the illusion that what we have, whether good or bad in itself, is our own and enough for us. Everyone has noticed how hard it is to turn our thoughts to God when everything is going well. We ‘have all we want’ is a terrible saying when ‘all’ does not include God... Now God, who has made us, knows what we are and that our happiness lies in Him.

C. S. LEWIS





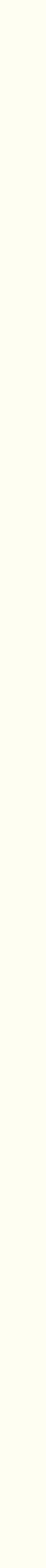
So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

1 PETER 4:19 NIV

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Calm in the Crisis

- + Before the Crisis
- + During the Crisis
- + Through the Crisis
- + Beyond the Crisis



The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance.

ACTS 12:6 NIV



The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was **sleeping** between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance.

ACTS 12:6 NIV



Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. “Quick, get up!” he said, and the chains fell off Peter’s wrists.

⁸ Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” And Peter did so. “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him. ⁹ Peter followed him out of the prison, but **he had no idea** that what the angel was doing was really happening; **he thought he was seeing a vision.**

ACTS 12:7-9 NIV



Peter knocked at the outer entrance, and a servant named Rhoda came to answer the door.¹⁴ When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!"

¹⁵ "You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel."

¹⁶ But Peter kept on knocking...

ACTS 12:13-16a NIV



Then the angel said to him, “Put on your clothes and sandals.” **And Peter did so.** “Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,” the angel told him. ⁹ **Peter followed him** out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. ¹⁰ They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and **they went through it.** When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him.

ACTS 12:8-10 NIV



So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good.

1 PETER 4:19 NIV

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Calm in the Crisis

- + Before the Crisis
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- + Through the Crisis
- + Beyond the Crisis



On the appointed day Herod, wearing his royal robes, sat on his throne and delivered a public address to the people.²² They shouted, “This is the voice of a god, not of a man.”

ACTS 12:21-22 NIV



Immediately, because Herod did not give praise to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died.

²⁴ But the word of God continued to spread and flourish.

ACTS 12:23-24 NIV

“ ”

Jesus paid for our sins so that someday he can end evil and suffering without ending us... God takes our misery and suffering so seriously that he was willing to take it on himself... How can God be a God of love if he does not become personally involved in suffering the same violence, oppression, grief, weakness, and pain that we experience. The answer to that question is twofold. First, God can't. Second, only one major world religion even claims that God does.

TIM KELLER

