



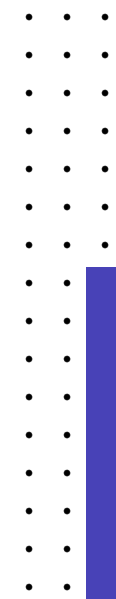
MY FEET  
HAD  
ALMOST  
SLIPPED

**PSALM 37**

# INTRO ASAPH

1 CHRONICLES 6:39,  
15:17-19, 16:4-7

- Led music during the reign of King David and Solomon
- One of the Chief musicians, composers and poets in the Tabernacle and Temple
- Wrote Psalm 50, 73-83



# 2 DILEMMAS

**Job's Dilemma: Why do bad things happen to good people?**

Premise: *The outcome of goodness must be prosperity;*

Premise:

*the effect of sin must be misery.*

**Asaph's Dilemma: Why do good things happen to bad people?**

Habakkuk: "How long, Lord, must I call for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "violence" and you will not save?" (Habakkuk 1:2) "...Why are you silent while the wicked swallow up those more righteous than themselves?" (Habakkuk 1:13)

Why does the way of the wicked prosper? Why do all the faithless live at ease?" (Jeremiah 12:1)

# INTRODUCING "THE WICKED"

(4) No pains, fat and sleek

(5) No trouble, not stricken

(6) They are proud and violent,

(7) Eyes swell out, hearts overflow with folly

(8) They scoff, speak with malice, threaten oppression

(9) Disregard heaven, boast

(10) Amass followers who agree with them

(11) God doesn't know or is absent

(12) Always at ease, increase wealth



# A LESSON FROM THE PRODIGAL SON'S OLDER BROTHER

(28) But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, (29) but he answered his father, 'Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. (30) But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!' (31) And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.'"

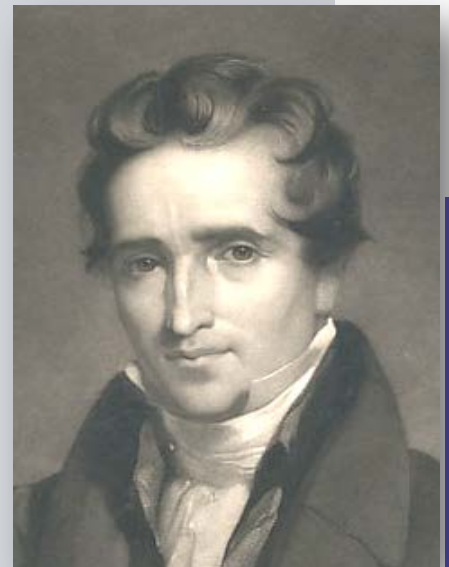
~ Luke 15:28-31



# ALBERT BARNES

“To instill such objections in other believers could be disastrous for them, causing their feet to actually slip. I don't want to implant in their minds grounds for distrust or shake up their confidence in God. It would not be kind to suggest thoughts to others that would harass their minds like my mind had been...

...He knew how [these objections] might be regarded by others; how others might be led to feel as if no confidence was to be placed in God; how this might suggest thoughts to them which would not otherwise occur to them, and which would only tend to fill their minds with distress; how such thoughts might unsettle the foundations of their faith, their peace, their hope, and their joy.”





# THE OVERVIEW EFFECT

Describes the profound cognitive shift that many astronauts experience when they see Earth from space. It leads them to a heightened sense of interconnectedness, a deeper understanding of the planet's fragility and the pettiness of human conflicts.



# THE OVERVIEW EFFECT

"You leave Earth in a spaceship, and it's really noisy, and then you arrive in space, and it's so silent. You can hear your own heart beating and your breath in your helmet."

Nicole Stott, Astronaut, Flight Engineer

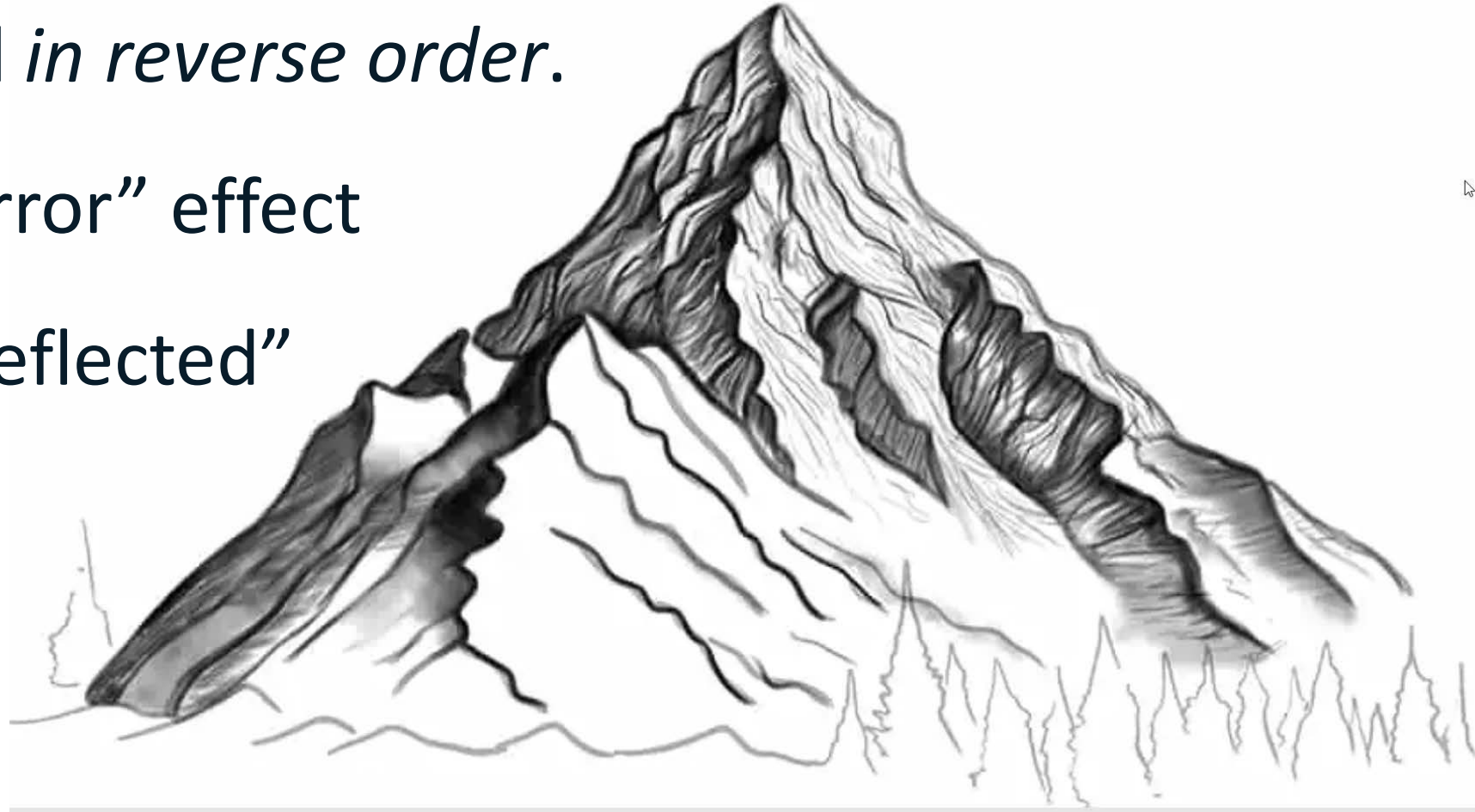




# THE CHIASM

A literary device in which a sequence of ideas is presented and then repeated *in reverse order*.

The result is a “mirror” effect as the ideas are “reflected” back in a passage.



# THE CHIASM (OF PSALM 73)

## Pronouns

Emotion/  
Perception

(1-3)

The Dilemma

I

(4-12) The Blessing of the Wicked

They

(13-16) The Misery of the Believer

I

(17) The Sanctuary

Truth/  
Reality

(18-20) The Truth about the Wicked

You

(21-26) The Blessing of the Believer

I

(27-28) The Resolution

You+I



# PACK AWAY TRUTHS ABOUT GOD FOR THE DAY YOU WILL NEED THEM

- We have eternal life (John 3:16, John 4:14, Rom 6:23)
- We need not be put to shame (Rom 5:5)
- We are free, have no condemnation, live according to the Spirit (Rom 8:1-4)
- Works all things for our good (Rom 8:28)
- Christ is for us (Rom 8:31)
- We are conquerors (Rom 8:37)
- We can't be separated from God's love (Rom 8:38-39)
- We have an inheritance, spiritual blessings (1 Peter 1:4, Eph 1:3)
- We will be satisfied John 10:10
- He gives wisdom when we ask (Jas 1:5)
- He provides a way out of temptation (1 Cor 10:13)
- He will never leave or forsake us (Heb 13:5)
- Will finish the work He began in us (Phil 1:6)
- He is good, loving, gives good gifts, is the Rewarder...



# HEBREWS 11:6

“And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.”

