

Robots

by Tricia Berg

I always say that if God wanted robots, He would have made them--but He didn't. He gave us free will--which we LOVE when we are getting our way and HATE when others are getting their way that negatively affects us. But another thought about robots is this: How could a robot possibly be made in His image? Is God a cold, calculating machine? NO! He is a consuming fire. He doesn't say He wants ALL to be saved and then "program" only some for salvation. The fact that not all ARE saved doesn't contradict His desire that they all be saved. (1 Timothy 2:4, 2 Peter 3:9, 2 Corinthians 5:18-21, 1 John 2:2) No one has "overpowered" Him by rejecting His plan. They have simply chosen to use a gift He gave them (free will) to harm themselves. His decision not to force us to do His will does not make Him any "less sovereign," but rather, it shows how serious He is about having a TRUE love relationship with us that He would allow us to cause Him unimaginable pain and anguish as we use our free will to rebel against Him, our Maker, without whom there would be NOTHING.

We all need the spiritual Bread of Life (John 6:33-35, 40, 63, John 15:3, Ephesians 5:25-27), but God doesn't force feed us. He OFFERS it and if we prefer to starve ourselves, then that is our choice. I have heard some say that's like making some "savable" if not all Jesus died for are actually saved, but all have the opportunity to be saved. Some say having to accept it amounts to "works." No, the Bread is ready to consume--all of Jesus' work is FINISHED--we don't "make" the Bread. If someone refuses to EAT the Bread, then that doesn't make it any less finished and ready to consume, any less offered for the salvation of ALL men. If we offer bread to a homeless person and they refuse to accept it because they prefer cash to buy alcohol with, does that mean we didn't want to save them from their hunger and we didn't offer them a way to be saved? Is offering them a loaf of bread the same as offering them materials to use in making their own? (No.) Does it make them "stronger" than us if they reject our offer? No--just foolish, the same way that people are who hear the Good News about Jesus but choose to go their own way rather than following Him. ALL are invited, but they must respond, and there is ONE way to do that (clothe yourselves in Jesus' righteousness, and keep that clothing ON - Romans 6, Revelation 7:14, 16:15, 19:6-8, 1 Corinthians 6:9-20).

And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, 'Tell those who are invited, "See,

I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.” But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.” Matthew 22:1-14

God lets us choose whether to believe in Him, accept His Son's sacrifice to pay for our sins, to honor Him in all we do, or not. If we were robots, then we wouldn't need all of the exhortations throughout the Bible to believe and be saved, and to seek to please Him first in all we do, think and say. (Some of them are: Mark 1:15, 16:16, Luke 8:9-15, 13:24, John 1:12, John 3:14-21, 36, John 4:39-42, John 5:24, 45-47, John 6:27-29, 35, 40-47, John 7:37-39, John 9:35-41, John 10:37-38, John 11:25-27, John 12:35-50, John 13:19-20, John 14:1, 11, 20:29-30, Acts 10:43, Acts 13:38-39, Acts 16:31, Acts 19:4, Romans 3:21-26, Romans 4:3-8, Romans 9:33, Romans 10:4, 9-17, 1 Corinthians 1:21, 2 Corinthians 5:20-21, Philippians 3:14-20, Colossians 3, Hebrews 11:6, James 4:7-10, 2:22-23, 1 Peter 2:6-8, 1 John 3:23, 5:1, 10-13; Titus 3:8, Matthew 6:31-34, 1 Corinthians 15:33-34, 2 Corinthians 5:14-15, 2 Timothy 2:3-7, Ephesians 4-5, 1 John 1:5-2:6) Failure or refusal to heed God's commands results in all kinds of suffering, big and small, on the part of mankind and also on God's part.

We were born with a sinful nature, through no fault of our own, but we are still without excuse to remain in the sins we inevitably commit, because He sent His only begotten Son to pay the penalty for ALL of our sins. (Romans 5, John 8:24) All we have to do to *accept* this FREE gift is humble ourselves by admitting we are sinners in need of a Savior, and that He is Lord and we are not. (Romans 10:8-10) So in other words, we STOP rebelling against Him, and CEASE trying to save ourselves, after which we discontinue doing the evil works we formerly did when we were in darkness since we now live in the light of the truth. (John 14:6, 8:2, 12:35, Ephesians 5:8-17, 1 John 1:5-10) Is He our Lord or not? Doesn't that imply He has power over us and we do as He says? We

can't DO ANYTHING to save ourselves, but He will not *force* us to believe OR obey Him. Eventually, everyone WILL see and believe and be forced to bow down and confess He is Lord, but that will not happen until the offer of salvation has ended. (Isaiah 45:22-23, Romans 14:11, Philipians 2:9-11)

Does God leave it up to chance who comes to Him and who doesn't? Definitely not! There is no such thing as chance to God, because that involves not knowing something and there is NOTHING He doesn't know, from beginning to end. Nothing happens without His either causing or allowing it. At one time only Jews were beneficiaries of salvation, but now we have received a precious, incredibly valuable gift we could NEVER DO ANYTHING to earn or deserve--but those who reject Him cannot blame Him (2 Thessalonians 2:10, contrast John 8:21-25 with John 14), and the rest of us must treat everyone as potentially having their names are in the Book of Life. Jesus died for the sins of ALL and commissioned us to tell the Good News to everyone. (Matthew 28:16-20) Blessed are those with "an ear to hear." (Matthew 13:1-43, Mark 4:1-33, Luke 8:4-18, 14:34-35, John 10:27, Acts 28:28, Revelation 2-3) God doesn't harden someone's heart and cause someone to "stop hearing" Him for no reason. He eventually leaves them to go their own way because they insist upon it. (Romans 8:18-32)

How amazing is it that God would prefer to suffer because of His creation rather than having an end result that is not genuine? (John 4:23, Matthew 15:7-11, Isaiah 40:6, 1 Chronicles 28:9, Matthew 22:36-37) Talk about pain and anguish not "only" on the cross, but in all that led up to it, plus every time we make a choice using our free will to go against His will and His way, grieving Him. He is perfect in every way, including wisdom, power and love. He is all good, and His nature is not too much or too little of any virtue. We can trust Him. Putting our trust in anyone or anything but Him is utter folly. If we disobey out of ignorance, that's sad. If we do it out of rebellion, that's evil. (Luke 12:47-48, James 4:17)

The children of God were not meant to live in ignorance, accepting the wicked ways of the world and loving those ways. (2 John 2:15-17, James 4:4, 1 John 4:5-6, 2 Timothy 3:12-17) We were meant to be set apart, gradually conformed to the image of Jesus by the inner working of the Holy Spirit. When we yield to Him, He makes us fit for honorable service to God. (Romans 8:29-30, 12:1-2, 2 Corinthians 5:17, 2 Corinthians 4:10-11, 2 Corinthians 6:14-18, 2 Timothy 2:19-26, 1 Peter 1:13-19) When we resist Him, then discipline may be necessary to accomplish God's purposes and plans for us. (Hebrews 12:5-8, Revelation 3:19) If we reject that discipline, we hurt ourselves (and quite probably those around us). Now would be a good time to really examine

ourselves to be sure that we understand God's will and confirm that we are abiding IN Christ. (2 Corinthians 13:5, 2 Peter 1:5-12)

Jesus is the vine and we are the branches. (John 15, Matthew 7:15-27, Hebrews 6:7-9) The branches that bear no fruit [of the Spirit*] will be cut off and burned, and those are not my words, but God's. Does He mean burned in hell or does He mean burned in the furnace of affliction, trial by fire, refined like gold? (Isaiah 48:10, Daniel 12:10, Revelation 3:18-19, Romans 8:16-18, 1 Peter 1:6-7**) Does either one sound pleasant? If you don't believe in Jesus, then you can be sure that the fire is eternal. (Revelation 20:11-15, Matthew 9:42-48, Matthew 18:6-9, Matthew 25:41-46, John 3:18, 2 Thessalonians 1:8-10, Romans 1:21-32) If you do believe, then behave like you are the child of God that you claim to be. (1 John 3:6-10, Galatians 6:7-10) Wake up and be ready for Jesus' return!

*For starters on what pleases God, see Galatians 5:16-26, 2 Peter 1:5-12, Romans 12 (all), Colossians 1:9-10, Hebrews 13:15-17, Matthew 5:13-16 ("salt" must include God's truth or it has lost its saltiness just as a lamp under a bushel doesn't give light to the darkness), Matthew 7 (do not "choose" between Matthew 7:1 and Matthew 7:5, 18:15-17), Luke 6:20-49 (do not ignore Luke 17:3 in favor of Luke 6:37), Romans 6, 1 Corinthians 6, 2 Corinthians 9:6-12, Luke 17:1-10, Ephesians 2:10, 1 Timothy 6:17-19, Titus 2 (all), Titus 3:8-11, James (whole book), 1 Peter 3:1-17, 1 Peter 2:11-24. (Or just read the whole New Testament.)

Notice how much of the Bible we would have to disregard if we want to support a position that God doesn't expect obedience from His children. No, He has told us repeatedly that IF we are His (and the Bible is written to believers) that we will show our love for Him by obeying Him. See John 14-15, 1 John (whole book). Faith comes by hearing the word. (Romans 10:17) We come to faith through God's grace this way and we abide IN Jesus by remaining IN the word and obeying, which is what is meant by abiding in His love. (John 15:3 and entire chapter, pay attention to John 15:9-10.) This is not "works" to save ourselves or legalism, but respect and love for our Savior. This is showing that we mean what we say--that we're not hypocrites trying to fool God. (Galatians 6:7-10, 2 Timothy 2:19-26, James 2:14, Hebrews 11:17-31, James 2:19-26, 2 Corinthians 5:9-10)

**There is a difference between trials, tribulations, persecutions, etc. and God's wrath. The first is for the good of believers for their refinement and purification (to the extent NECESSARY in each case according to God's perfect evaluation--God will not allow anyone to be tried beyond their endurance - 1

Peter 5:6-10, 1 Corinthians 10:9-15 - relying on His strength is the key to overcoming - 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, Philippians 4:13). The second (God's wrath) is for destruction of the ungodly, of the children of the devil (like in Egypt when the Israelites were spared the killing of the firstborn and Jesus is our Passover Lamb - John 1:29). We do not suffer GOD'S wrath. (1 Thessalonians 5:9)

Everyone will be salted with fire. (Mark 9:42-50, Hebrews 10:23-39) Did you know that in Old Testament times, salt was offered on the altar with each sacrifice? (Leviticus 2:13, Ezekiel 43:24) We now offer living, spiritual sacrifices and they must STILL include salt. (Romans 12:1, 1 Peter 2:1-5, Matthew 5:13-16) We must pursue peace and holiness to see the Lord. (All of Hebrews 12, Matthew 5:1-12) God hasn't changed (Malachi 3:6, Hebrews 13:8)-He still hates sin, but now that the time has come, we have a way to be forgiven and to overcome-ALL His doing. (Galatians 4:4-5) All we have to do is use His gift of free will to cooperate with Him instead of using it to fight against Him as we did before we were saved. The only thing anyone has to boast about is what God has done for them. (Romans 3:27, 1 Corinthians 1:27-31, Galatians 6:14, Ephesians 2:8-10)

There is coming a time when there will be such great signs and wonders that EVERYONE whose name is not written in the Book of Life will be deceived into worshiping a false god ("beast") and taking a mark in order to buy and sell (i.e. survive). (Revelation 13, 2 Thessalonians 2:9-12, Matthew 24:24) Those people who do so will be thrown in the Lake of Fire at the end of the age. (Revelation 14:9-13) This coming time period is called "the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world, to try those who dwell on the earth." (Revelation 3:10, Revelation 17:12-14) Out of seven churches in Revelation 2-3, Jesus told ONE that He would keep them from the hour of trial, because they had ALREADY endured, not denying Him despite persecution for His sake. Notice in Revelation 17:14 that Jesus will be returning WITH those who are called, faithful and chosen to destroy the beast. (Revelation 19, Revelation 20:1-6)

Now I know that people like to point out the distinction between the church and Israel. It is true that two great mysteries of the ages are that God would save the Gentiles AND indwell believers with His Holy Spirit. (Colossians 1:27, Ephesians 3:6, 4:3-6, Romans 8:9, 1 Peter 1:10-12, 1 Peter 2:10, Revelation 10:5-7) We are members of His body (Romans 12:5, 1 Corinthians 12:12, 27, Ephesians 5:23, Colossians 1:18) However, Gentiles (people not born Jews, "wild olive tree branches") are GRAFTED IN to Israel's "cultivated olive tree." (Romans 9-11) The original tree doesn't become the kind of the branches that were grafted into it, does it? The result is ONE cultivated olive tree, or ONE new

man. (Ephesians 2:11-22) We are adopted as God's children, not to replace His other children, but to become part of the same family. (Romans 8:12-23, 9:4-5, Galatians 4:3-9, Ephesians 1:3-14) The kingdom in this age was given to people who would produce its fruit after Israel refused to shine her light as God intended and worse yet, rejected Jesus as Messiah. We are blessed due to their disobedience and because of the grace shown to us, they will also be blessed after the fullness of the Gentiles comes in. (John 10:16, Acts 28:28, Matthew 21:43, John 12:34-50, Romans 10:16-21, Isaiah 53, Isaiah 65, Isaiah 49:4-6, Romans 15:18-21, 1 Peter 2:7-10, Romans 11:11-32)

Great promises were made to the overcomers in the other six churches in the letters of Revelation 2-3--who were NOT told they would be spared the "hour of trial," but which calls for great endurance. (Revelation 13:9-10, 14:9-13, Daniel 7:25-27, 11:32-35, Revelation 15:2) God tells His children to "Come out of Babylon!" and to "escape to Zion." (Zechariah 2:7, Jeremiah 50:28-32, Jeremiah 51:45, Revelation 18:4, Jeremiah 51:35, Revelation 17:6, Revelation 6:9-11, Jeremiah 51:41, Revelation 18:9-20, Jeremiah 51:48-49, Revelation 18:6, 24) Notice how God has made sure we can understand that this is not only historical because of the reference in Revelation 18, which was written that we may know what is *going to* happen. (Matthew 24:25, Amos 3:7, Revelation 1:1-3) We can clearly see that there are many prophecies as yet unfulfilled. For example, Revelation 20 refers to Jesus reigning over an earthly kingdom for 1,000 years of peace. This is the same time period mentioned by the Old Testament prophets in Isaiah 11, Isaiah 65, Zechariah 8, Zechariah 14, to name a few passages.

Jesus has overcome the world and death. (John 16:33, Romans 6:9) However, only those who are IN Him (do not claim Romans 8:1 apart from Romans 8:9, John 15:8-14, 1 John 2:28-29) will receive glorified bodies prior to the millennium (the first resurrection, Revelation 20), and by His power, everyone CAN overcome. We don't need to rely on our own strength to hold on to Him, but that doesn't mean that He won't LET us go if we prefer our own way even after tasting how good He is. (John 10:28-30, Hebrews 6:4-12) If we love God (as He is, from His own words in the Bible) and our brothers and sisters in the Lord, we have nothing to fear. (1 John 4:16-21, 2 Timothy 4:7-8) Jesus will return and reign until all of His enemies are at His feet, including the last to be completely vanquished, death. (1 Corinthians 15:12-28) Since there is still some death during the millennial reign, we can see that there is a gap between the first resurrection and the end when Jesus hands over the Kingdom to His Father and the "eternal day" begins (2 Peter 3:18, Revelation 22:5)--just as there is a gap between Jesus' victory and ascension to heaven and His return to reign. (Revelation 11:15-19)

We spiritually transfer our "residence" from earthly Babylon to heavenly Zion when we are born of God, and we do not continue "residing" in Babylon or "move back" there. (Philippians 3:17-21, Colossians 1:13-14, Hebrews 11:13-16, Hebrews 12:22-24, Psalm 87 - notice the reference to Rahab who hid the spies at Jericho? Her actions ("works") evidenced her fear of the one, true God. She believed first and then obeyed. If she had merely said she would hide them, but then betrayed them, it would NOT have been counted to her as righteousness. This is true of ALL of the giants of the faith in the Bible). Also Col. 1:9-23 - continue in the faith steadfastly, NOT shifting from the hope of the gospel - does anyone actually think God wants us to prove we are putting all of our hope in Him by behaving like unbelievers? How would that be light and salt? Is it wise to run from him? The father did not run after the prodigal son in the parable Jesus told. Does God contradict Himself or change His mind? Also see Romans 8:14-17, John 1:12-13, Galatians 3:26-27, Philippians 2:12-16, 1 John 3:1-3, 2 Timothy 4:18, Hebrews 3:1-6 - again, if indeed we hold fast our confidence and hope; Revelation 14:1-5 - these [overcomers] follow Jesus, the Good Shepherd, wherever He goes and have His name written on them. John 10:2-16, 1 Thessalonians 4:17, Revelation 3:12, 12:11, 17:14, 19:7-16; firstfruits - Revelation 14:4, Romans 8:23, James 1:18)

There is NO other way to be saved apart from Jesus (John 14:6, 10:9), and AFTER we have received the precious GIFT of faith and salvation, we don't go running back to wallow in the mire, having been cleansed with the precious blood of Jesus, our Savior, the SON OF GOD. (2 Peter 2:17-22, 2 Peter 1:9-11) He didn't say believe and then go back to what we were doing before we believed and wait for His return. (Luke 9:57-62) He said to FOLLOW Him and to stay awake and watch so that we can be ready. (Matthew 24:42, 25:13, 26:41, Mark 13:33-35, Luke 12:37-38, 21:36, Romans 13:11, 1 Corinthians 15:34, 1 Thessalonians 5:6, Revelation 3:2-3, 16:15) If we truly believe, then let's encourage one another to DO what the Bible says.

Therefore, preparing your minds for action, and being sober-minded, set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ. As obedient children, do not be conformed to the passions of your former ignorance, but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of

you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God. Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere brotherly love, love one another earnestly from a pure heart, since you have been born again, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God; for "All flesh is like grass and all its glory like the flower of grass. The grass withers, and the flower falls, but the word of the Lord remains forever." And this word is the good news that was preached to you. 1 Peter 1:13-25

Also if we truly believe, then let's not play games with other people's souls by telling them lies because that's what they like to hear. People these days protect themselves from the truth to preserve the views they embrace. They lobby for laws to label beliefs they don't embrace as "hate speech" and they run to "safe areas" where they will not be "hurt" by anyone's speech that disagrees with their views. They call names and spout "facts" with no basis, relying on the wisdom of men. (Matthew 5:10-12, Luke 6:26, 1 Corinthians 1:18-31, 1 Corinthians 3:18-23) If they claim to be believers, they twist the Bible to say what they want it to say (2 Timothy 3:1-7, 4:3-4, 2 Peter 3:14-18, Romans 1:18, Romans 2:1-11, Philippians 2:14-16, Titus 3:8-11) and accuse anyone who disagrees with their revised version of being archaic. They think God has changed with the times the way that the culture has—the way they would LIKE Him to. (Ephesians 5:8-20, 1 Peter 4:7-8, 2 Timothy 2:22-26, 1 Peter 4:1-5) Their feeble, tired arguments about the Old Testament foreshadows of the new covenant (Colossians 2:17) and the way they even ignore clear passages in the New Testament condemning their evil practices and those they approve of reveal how little of the Scriptures they understand, and apparently, how little they value God's word. They deliberately lump true Christians in with fanatics whose actions do not line up with the Bible in order to discredit everyone who doesn't compromise the truth. (1 Peter 2:15-16, Titus 2:7-8)

How do we react? Do we continue speaking the truth in love and stand up for Jesus and our brothers and sisters in the Lord who do the same? (2 Timothy 1:8, 2 Timothy 1:16-17, 1 Peter 4:16-19) No, many of us distance ourselves from anyone who is under attack and we remain silent in order not to draw attention to ourselves. It's much easier. No one likes to be thought of as a "villain." People think we're "nice" if we go along with the flow. Let me just say this: NO ONE who ends up in hell because they relied on a version of God they invented in their own heads who *doesn't exist* will be grateful for that kind of "love" shown to them in this short lifetime as they are sentenced to eternal punishment. They will accuse us of not warning them not to rely on a "god" who is their own invention and cannot save them. We need to look at the big, eternal picture and make sure there is no blood on our hands. "I wish I had not

missed out on so much 'fun' because of making Jesus my highest priority in life," said NO ONE, EVER after they went home to be with Jesus. We need to think of how we'll feel when we stand before Him and explain why we were not willing to suffer for His sake—that we didn't love people's souls the way He did (and still does) and expected (expects) us to do. (Mark 8:38, Luke 9:26, Romans 1:16, 1 John 2:28, Revelation 11:18)

Jesus is the ONLY way (Galatians 1:4, John 10:17-18, 1John 2:23), and those who *truly* believe will show fruits of the Spirit (His Spirit, who dwells IN us - the Holy Spirit does NOT contradict the Bible, EVER, so He will not teach us to approve of sins that God hates! He empowers us to OVERCOME, just as Jesus instructed the churches to do in Revelation 2-3). This is not to say we are lost if we slip, or that we work to retain salvation. It means that if we have been bought with the precious blood of Jesus, then we will live so as to please *Him* now and forever—out of gratitude, respect and love. (1 Corinthians 6:18-20, Acts 20:28, 1 Peter 1:17-19, Revelation 5:9, 1 John 4:18)

We need to examine our motives for every single thing we do or refrain from doing. ALL is to be for the glory of our mighty God. (Colossians 3:23-25) We who belong to Jesus follow Him, not the world or false teachers who claim to be spiritual (anything goes) or religious (legalism, rote, ritual). (John 8:30-47, John 10:24-30, John 15:18-23, Galatians 2:11-14, Galatians 5 - note both legalism and self-indulgence are condemned, Colossians 2:16-23 - see the last part about how outward appearances of godliness do not stop us from indulging our flesh—the point isn't that it's okay to indulge the flesh, but that God wants TRUE faith lived out, not just going through the motions to "look" religious or spiritual, 2 Timothy 3:1-7, 2 Peter 3:1-3, Romans 13:11-14) Fear is NOT an acceptable reason for a Christian to do anything (or fail to do as we should). We are to fear ONLY God and nothing and no one else. (Matthew 10:24-28, Luke 12:5, Acts 5:29, Galatians 1:10) Let's choose to give ALL of our allegiance and devotion to the King of kings. It's easier said than done, but with God's help we CAN overcome.

Finally, all of you, have unity of spirit, sympathy, love of the brethren, a tender heart and a humble mind. Do not return evil for evil or reviling for reviling; but on the contrary bless, for to this you have been called, that you may obtain a blessing. For "He that would love life and see good days, let him keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking guile; let him turn away from evil and do right; let him seek peace and pursue it. For the eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, and his ears are open to their prayer. But the face of the Lord is against those that do evil." Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is right? But even if you do suffer for righteousness' sake, you

will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts reverence Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to make a defense to any one who calls you to account for the hope that is in you, yet do it with gentleness and reverence; and keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are abused, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing right, if that should be God's will, than for doing wrong. 1 Peter 3:8-17

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