

Proverbs
2022



FIRST MELISSA

First Melissa's passion is to **make disciples of Jesus** who:

REACH INTENTIONALLY

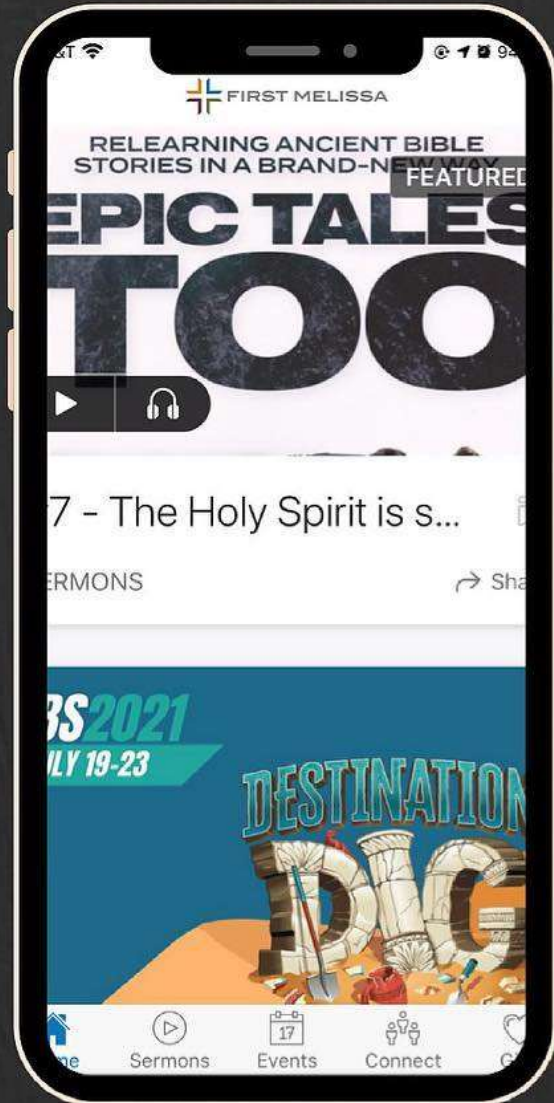
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CONTINUOUSLY

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FIRST MELISSA



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Grades 6-12



DNOW 2022 >>>>

<<<< FEB 11-13

@ Mt. Lebanon >>>>

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6:00 to 7:30 PM

*grateful
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\$5 per person | register at firstmelissa.com/womens

MONDAY NIGHTS - JANUARY 2022
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The Four Voices
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Precept Upon Precept Inductive Study of 1 Thessalonians
begins January 10

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begins January 24

FEBRUARY 5, 2022



STEVE **SONDERMAN**

AFSHIN **ZIAFAT**

LARRY **OSBORNE**

DERWIN **GRAY**

DAVE **FERGUSON**

EFREM **SMITH**

JERRAD **LOPES**

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STUDY THE WEEKLY TORAH PORTION WITH PASTOR TREY GRAHAM

EVERY TUESDAY MORNING AT 7:00 AM

**Next
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JANUARY 9, 2022



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Monday – Friday

10:00 am

Marty Guin, Producer



Sunday

4:00 pm

Vanesa Rhodes Bonham, Producer



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FIRST MELISSA
REACH. CONNECT. EQUIP. LIVE.

As the world fears Coronavirus, join us in praying Psalm 91
Security of the One Who Trusts in the LORD



FIRST MELISSA

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust!" For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper and from the deadly pestilence. He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you may seek refuge; His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark. You will not be afraid of the terror by night, or of the arrow that flies by day; of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, or of the destruction that lays waste at noon. A thousand may fall at your side and ten thousand at your right hand, but it shall not approach you. You will only look on with your eyes and see the recompense of the wicked. For you have made the LORD, my refuge, even the Most High, your dwelling place. No evil will befall you, nor will any plague come near your tent. For He will give His angels charge concerning you, to guard you in all your ways. They will bear you up in their hands, that you do not strike your foot against a stone. You will tread upon the lion and cobra, the young lion and the serpent you will trample down. "Because he has loved Me, therefore I will deliver him; I will set him securely on high, because he has known My name. He will call upon Me, and I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble; I will rescue him and honor him. With a long life I will satisfy him and let him see My salvation."

Posted to our church's social media accounts on March 5, 2020

Annual Theme Verses

Every January, we choose a scripture passage to guide us through the year, hoping that God will use that passage to teach us and guide us and use us to help others meet Jesus as Savior.

Theme verse for 2018

Mary Magdalene came, announcing to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord,” and that He had said these things to her.

John **20:18**

Theme Verse for 2019

“I am the Lord your God; walk in My statutes and keep My ordinances and observe them.”

Ezekiel 20:19



Theme Verse for 2020

Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid; for God has come in order to test you, and in order that the fear of Him may remain with you, so that you may not sin.”

Exodus **20:20**

Theme Verse for 2021

So Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

John **20:21**

Theme Verse for 2022???

Theme Verse for 2022 is NOT

(people asked Jesus)

“Is it permissible for us to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?”

Luke 20:22

**Good advice for
the new year**

Proverbs 20

Good advice for the new year

Wine is a mocker, strong drink [beer] a brawler, and whoever is intoxicated by it is not wise. The terror of a king is like the growling of a lion; he who provokes him to anger forfeits his own life. Proverbs 20:1-2

Good advice for the new year

Keeping away from strife is an honor for a man, but any fool will quarrel. The sluggard does not plow after the autumn, so he begs during the harvest and has nothing. A plan in the heart of a man is like deep water, but a man of understanding draws it out. Proverbs 20:3-5

*A discerning person can help another bring to the surface his true thoughts, intentions, or motives. Often a wise counselor can help a person examine his true motives-thoughts he may not fully understand otherwise. – Bible Knowledge Commentary

Good advice for the new year

Many a man proclaims his own loyalty [*חֶסֶד chesed*], but who can find a trustworthy man? A righteous man who walks in his integrity— how blessed are his sons after him. A king who sits on the throne of justice [as a judge] disperses all evil with his eyes. Proverbs 20:6-8

Good advice for the new year

Who can say, “I have cleansed my heart, I am pure from my sin”? Proverbs 20:9

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God
Romans 3:23

Indeed, there is not a righteous man on earth who continually does good and who never sins.

Ecclesiastes 7:20

Good advice for the new year

Differing weights and differing measures, both of them are abominable [offensive] to the Lord. It is by his deeds that a lad distinguishes himself if his conduct is pure and right. The hearing ear and the seeing eye, the Lord has made both of them.

Proverbs 20:10-12

*What type of businessperson will we be in 2022?

Good advice for the new year

Do not love sleep [laziness], or you will become poor; open your eyes [awake... diligence], and you will be satisfied with food. “Bad, bad,” says the buyer, but when he goes his way, then he boasts. There is gold, and an abundance of jewels; but the lips of knowledge are a more precious thing. Take his garment when he becomes surety for a stranger; and for foreigners, hold him in pledge.

Proverbs 20:13-16

Good advice for the new year

Bread obtained by falsehood is sweet to a man,
but afterward his mouth will be filled with gravel.

Proverbs 20:17

*This contrasts the short-range pleasure of sin with its long-range consequences. Sin, usually attractive in its immediate payoff, ultimately turns on its host. - Bible Knowledge Commentary

Good advice for the new year

Prepare plans by consultation [advice], and make war by wise guidance. He who goes about as a slanderer reveals secrets, therefore do not associate with a gossip. Proverbs 20:18-19

*A contrary man spreads conflict, and a gossip separates close friends. Proverbs 16:28

Good advice for the new year

He who curses his father or his mother, his lamp will go out in time of darkness. An inheritance gained hurriedly at the beginning will not be blessed in the end. Proverbs 20:20-21

*Who asked for an inheritance hurriedly (early)?
The younger (prodigal) son in Luke 15.

Good advice for the new year

Do not say, “I will repay evil”; wait for the Lord, and He will save you. Differing weights are an abomination to the Lord, and a false scale is not good. Proverbs 20:22-23

*We can't really measure our own sin or the sin of others, so who are we to bring judgment on them?

Good advice for the new year

Man's steps are ordained by the Lord, how then can man understand his way? It is a trap for a man to say rashly, "It is holy!" And after the vows to make inquiry. Proverbs 20:24-25

*The steps of a man are established by the Lord, and He delights in his way. Psalm 37:23

Good advice for the new year

A wise king winnows [scatters] the wicked, and drives the threshing wheel over them. Proverbs 20:26

What does American society need right now?

Kings are responsible to separate the wicked from the righteous and to try to correct the behavior of the wicked by inflicting punishment. The first of these responsibilities is suggested by winnowing and the second by threshing. In farming, grain is threshed before it is winnowed. In threshing, a sledge with spikes is pulled over the stalks of grain to separate the grain from the stalks and to free the seeds from the seed coverings (the chaff). In winnowing the farmer tosses up the grain so that the wind can carry away the unwanted chaff. A king (or other ruler) should see that the wicked are detected and punished. This is important in maintaining order and justice. – Bible Knowledge Commentary

Good advice for the new year

The spirit of man is the lamp of the Lord, searching all the innermost parts of his being. Loyalty [חֶסֶד *chesed*] and truth [אֱמֶת *emet*] preserve the king, and he upholds his throne by righteousness. The glory of young men is their strength, and the honor of old men is their gray hair. Stripes that wound scour away evil, and strokes reach the innermost parts. Proverbs 20:27-30

*What is required to be an effective leader / ruler?

Loyalty and Truth

Theme Verse for 2022

Do not say, “I will repay evil”; wait
for the Lord, and He will save you.

Proverbs **20:22**

In today's culture, we see lots of evil, possibly more than ever. For many who seek righteousness, the desire is to fight and repay/avenge evil. That is not our calling as followers of Jesus.

- We are not called to defeat or destroy.
- We are called to believe and bless.
- We are not called to defeat the darkness, we are called to spread the light.
- We are called to be patient. We cannot and will not save ourselves or anyone else. Only God can save.

Do not say

Proverbs 20:22a

- Verb “say” is 2nd person singular
- Each person receives this instruction from God
- This is not a suggestion or a good idea
- This is a guide for godliness

“I will repay evil” רַע *ra'*

Proverbs 20:22b

- We want to pay back evil. We want to solve society's problems ourselves by punishing wrongdoers.
- What is our calling in the middle of all this? Repay evil or tell the story of Jesus?
- Our world is filled with hate and a desire to exact revenge. God wants forgiveness and humility.
- If your enemy is hungry, give him food to eat; and if he is thirsty, give him water to drink; for you will heap burning coals on his head, and the Lord will reward you. Proverbs 25:21-22

Did God really mean this? He said it often.

- He who returns evil for good, evil will not depart from his house. Proverbs 17:13
- Vengeance is Mine, and retribution, in due time their foot will slip; for the day of their calamity is near, and the impending things are hastening upon them.
Deuteronomy 32:35
- Never take your own revenge, beloved, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord. Romans 12:19

wait for the Lord

Proverbs 20:22c

Wait קָוָה *qavah* to wait, look for, hope, expect

- Trust that God is aware of my needs and my hurts and my situation
- Trust that God is always at work
- Trust that God is capable of anything, including fighting my battles

Is waiting an act of faith?

- **Wait** for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; yes, **wait** for the Lord. Psalm 27:14
- Rest in the Lord and **wait** patiently for Him; do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, because of the man who carries out wicked schemes. Cease from anger and forsake wrath; do not fret; it leads only to evildoing. For evildoers will be cut off, but those who **wait** for the Lord, they will inherit the land. Psalm 37:7-9
- I **waited** patiently for the Lord; and He inclined to me and heard my cry. Psalm 40:1
- I **wait** for the Lord, my soul does **wait**, and in His word do I hope. My soul **waits** for the Lord more than the watchmen for the morning; indeed, more than the watchmen for the morning. O Israel, hope in the Lord; for with the Lord there is lovingkindness, and with Him is abundant redemption. Psalm 130:5-7
- Yet those who **wait** for the Lord will gain new strength; they will mount up with wings like eagles, they will run and not get tired, they will walk and not become weary. Isaiah 40:31

While You Are Waiting On God...

1. Prepare your heart
2. Learn all you can
3. Watch for His activity
4. Stay active with what you know to be doing
5. Listen for His voice or the voice of others He sends
6. Heal from past hurts if needed
7. Pray without ceasing

Do we have a scriptural role model to follow?

- Jesus said, “For the coming of the Son of Man [the last days] will be just like the days of Noah.” Matthew 27:39
- These are the records of the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless in his time; Noah walked with God. Genesis 6:9
- Noah was called a righteous man and was called to obey God and wait for His miracle, not repay the evil.
- He was given an assignment by the Lord to build the ark, not avenge evildoers.

He will save you

Proverbs 20:22d

Save יָשַׁע *yasha'*

to save, be saved, be delivered

He will save you

*We are being
saved from the
POWER of sin*
SANCTIFICATION

JUSTIFICATION
*We have been
saved from the
PENALTY of sin.*

GLORIFICATION
*We will be
saved from the
presence of sin.*

He will save you

Proverbs 20:22d

Save **יָשָׁא** *yasha'*

to save, be saved, be delivered

- Pronoun “you” is 2nd person singular
- Each person is on a different spiritual journey

**Would God ask us to do something
that is impossible to do?**

Can anyone really live like this?

Can anyone really live like this?

- Joseph saw his brothers' offenses under God's sovereignty and did them no harm, though he had them in his power (Genesis 45:5; 50:20).
- Abigail kept David from foolish revenge against Nabal (1 Samuel 25:23-35), and he let Shimei curse, believing God would hear (2 Samuel 16:5-14).
- David left Saul to God, though he could have killed him. What was the result? Saul fearfully consulted a witch, killed himself, was beheaded and hung up for display by Philistines, was cremated, had his bones buried under a tree, and his family cut off from the throne!
- Moses was wickedly confronted by his sister and Korah. Rather than punishing these arrogant and profane rebels himself, he left the matter to the LORD. Miriam was sharply rebuked by the Lord, became white with leprosy, and was quarantined outside the camp (Numbers 12:1-15). What of Korah? He was swallowed alive by the earth (Numbers 16:1-40)!

MESQUITE POLICE · DECEMBER 9, 2021 8:33 PM

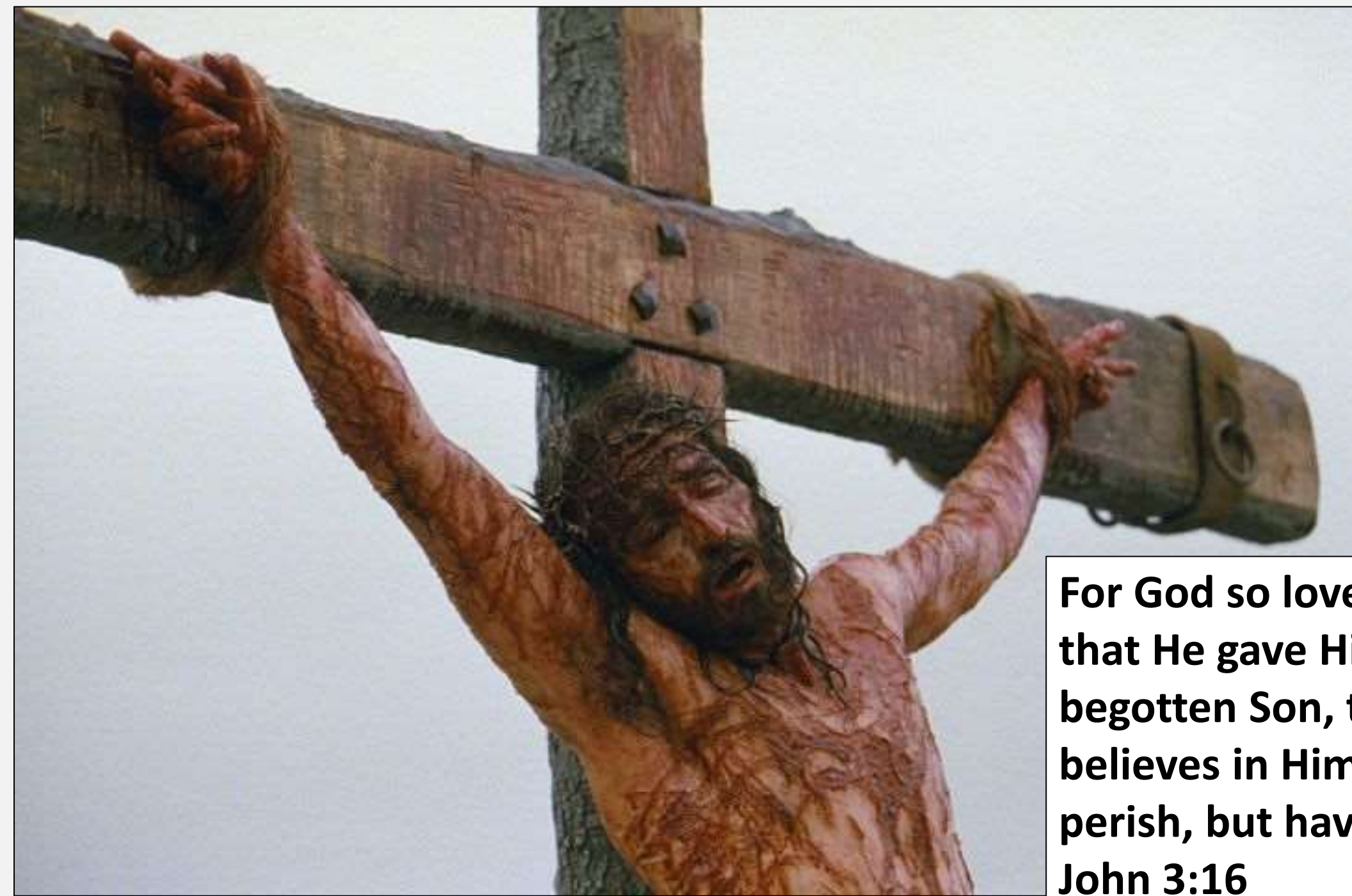
**'18 Years With You Daddy
Was Just Not Enough Time,
Officer's Daughter Speaks
at His Funeral**

<https://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/mesquite-officers-daughter-speaks-at-his-funeral/2835159/>

**Can anyone
really live
like this?**

Shelby Houston, the daughter of slain Mesquite Police Officer Richard Houston, spoke at his funeral Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021.

**What is the ultimate example of
choosing not to repay evil but
instead waiting on God and
allowing Him to save?**



**For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only
begotten Son, that whoever
believes in Him shall not
perish, but have eternal life.
John 3:16**

Proverbs 20/22

DO NOT SAY,
“I WILL REPAY EVIL”;
WAIT FOR THE LORD,
AND HE WILL SAVE YOU.



FIRST MELISSA