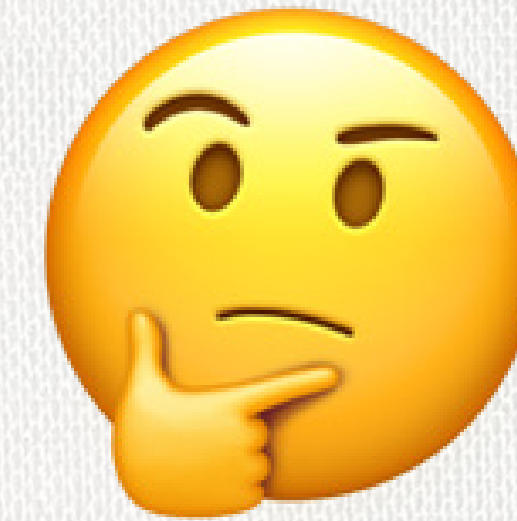


Who We *Wrestle*



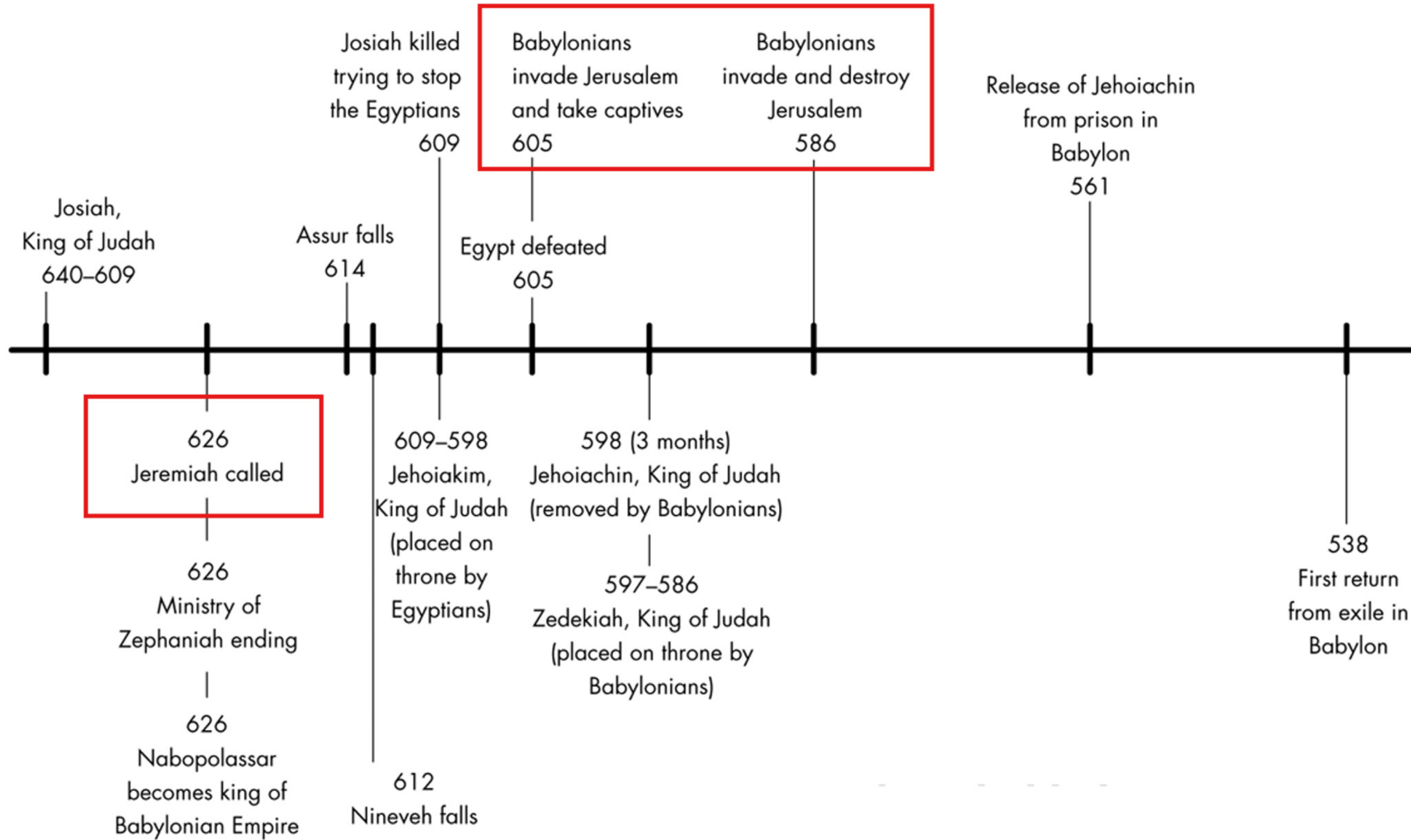
What do we *do*?



A landscape photograph showing rolling hills under a cloudy sky. The hills are dark and appear to be covered in low-lying vegetation or are rocky. The sky is filled with soft, white clouds, and the overall lighting suggests a bright but slightly overcast day. The text "Jeremiah the Prophet" is overlaid on the image, with "Jeremiah" in a serif font, "the" in a smaller serif font, and "Prophet" in a larger, elegant script font.

Jeremiah the *Prophet*





Quick facts: 100

- Among the prophetic books of the Bible, Jeremiah is the longest of the prophetic books (covering 40+ years of history).
- The focal point is the destruction of Jerusalem and the exile to Babylon.
- Among all the other prophetic books, we have a glimpse at the inner life of the prophet.

JEREMIAH 12:1-2 (CSB)

- ¹ You will be righteous, LORD,
even if I bring a case against you.
Yet, I wish to contend with you:
Why does the way of the wicked prosper?
Why do all the treacherous live at ease?
- ² You planted them, and they have taken root.
They have grown and produced fruit.
You are ever on their lips,
but far from their conscience.,



Jeremiah's
Gethsemane'
Moment

JEREMIAH 20:7-8 (CSB)

⁷ You deceived me, LORD, and I was deceived.

You seized me and prevailed.

I am a laughingstock all the time;
everyone ridicules me.

⁸ For whenever I speak, I cry out,
I proclaim, "Violence and destruction!"
so the word of the LORD has become my
constant disgrace and derision.

JEREMIAH 20:9-10 (CSB)

⁹ I say, "I won't mention him or speak any longer in his name." But his message becomes a fire burning in my heart, shut up in my bones. I become tired of holding it in, and I cannot prevail.

¹⁰ For I have heard the gossip of many people, "Terror is on every side! Report him; let's report him!" Everyone I trusted watches for my fall. "Perhaps he will be deceived so that we might prevail against him and take our vengeance on him."

JEREMIAH 20:11-13 (CSB)

¹¹ But the LORD is with me like a violent warrior.

Therefore, my persecutors will stumble and not prevail.

Since they have not succeeded, they will be utterly shamed, an everlasting humiliation that will never be forgotten.

¹² LORD of Armies, testing the righteous and seeing the heart and mind, let me see your vengeance on them, for I have presented my case to you.

¹³ Sing to the LORD!

Praise the LORD, for he rescues the life of the needy from evil people.

JEREMIAH 20:14-16 (CSB)

¹⁴ May the day I was born be cursed.
May the day my mother bore me
never be blessed.

¹⁵ May the man be cursed
who brought the news to my father,
saying,
"A male child is born to you,"
bringing him great joy.

¹⁶ Let that man be like the cities
the LORD demolished without
compassion.
Let him hear an outcry in the
morning and a war cry at noontime

JEREMIAH 20:17-18 (CSB)

¹⁷ because he didn't kill me in the womb
so that my mother might have been my grave,
her womb eternally pregnant.

¹⁸ Why did I come out of the womb
to see only struggle and sorrow,
to end my life in shame?

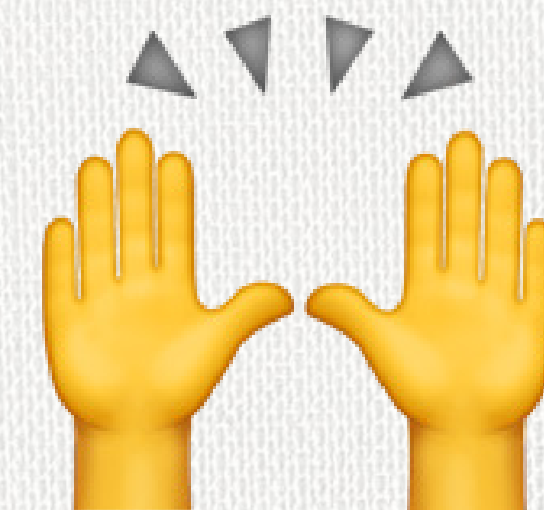
Observations 👁️👁️ & *Applications*

- Jeremiah was stuck between a rock and a hard place. On one hand, he didn't want to be a prophet anymore, but he is still compelled by the 'fire' that burns within him.
- Following God does not necessitate greener pastures. Subsequently, one cannot judge the leading of the Lord based on perceived 'success'.
- This emotional rollercoaster reflects the ups and downs of walking with God.

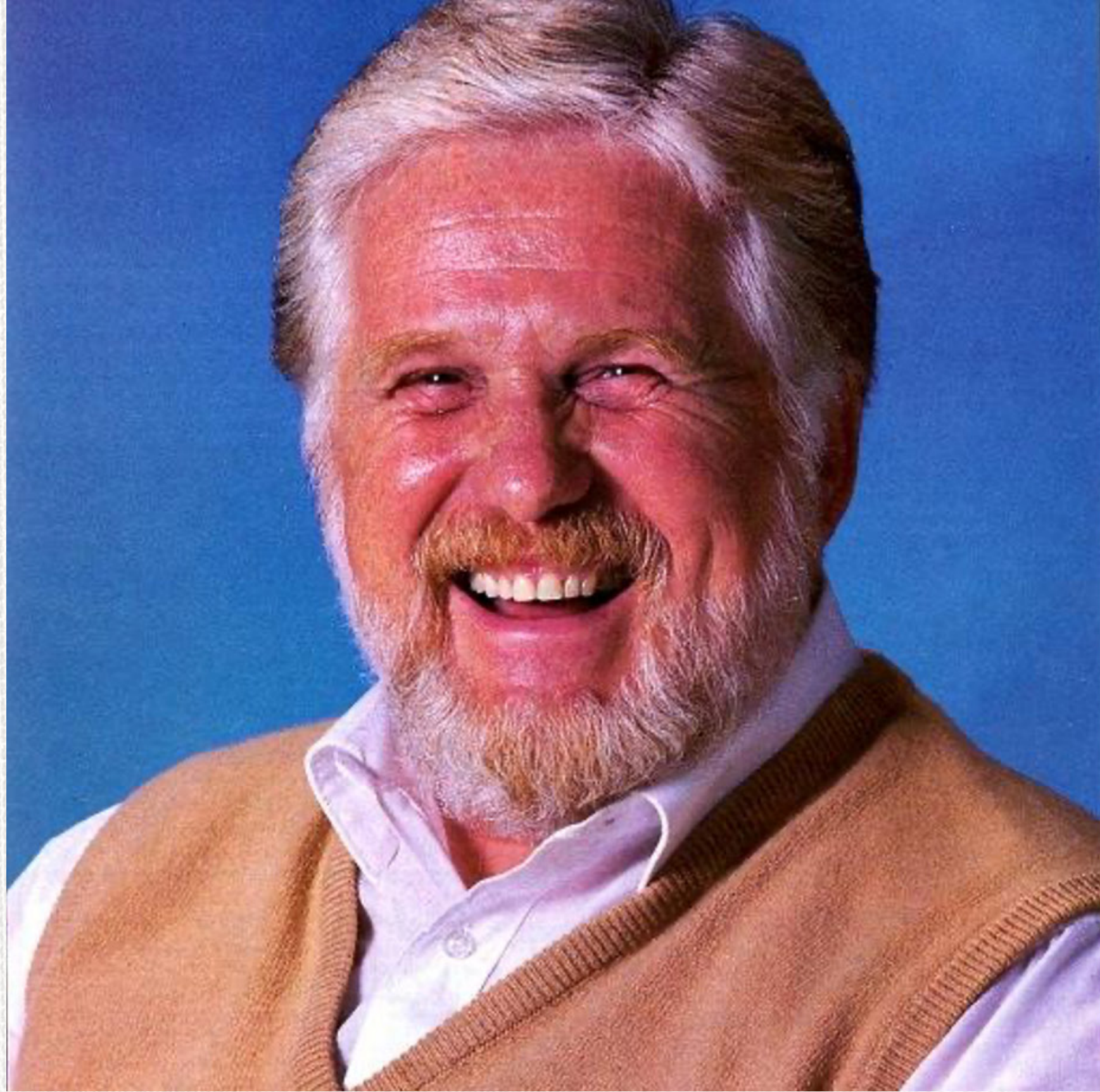
What do we *do*?



We give it all to *God*



Honesty in 🙏 Prayer



vineyard[®]

“

“Don't trust anyone who
doesn't walk with a limp.”

JOHN WIMBER



GENESIS 32:28 (CSB)

²⁸ Your name will no longer be Jacob," he said. "It will be **Israel** because you have struggled with God and with men and have prevailed."

To  walk with God is
to *wrestle with* God,
and to  wrestle with God is
to *walk with* God.