



Pain is the great teacher of mankind. Beneath its breath souls develop.

(Marie von Ebner-Eschenbach)







### Choosing Kour Buture



## I refuse to be defined by others.



I choose short-term pain for long-term gain.

God blesses those who patiently endure testing and temptation. Afterward they will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love him. (James 1:12, NLT)







### Choosing Kour Buture

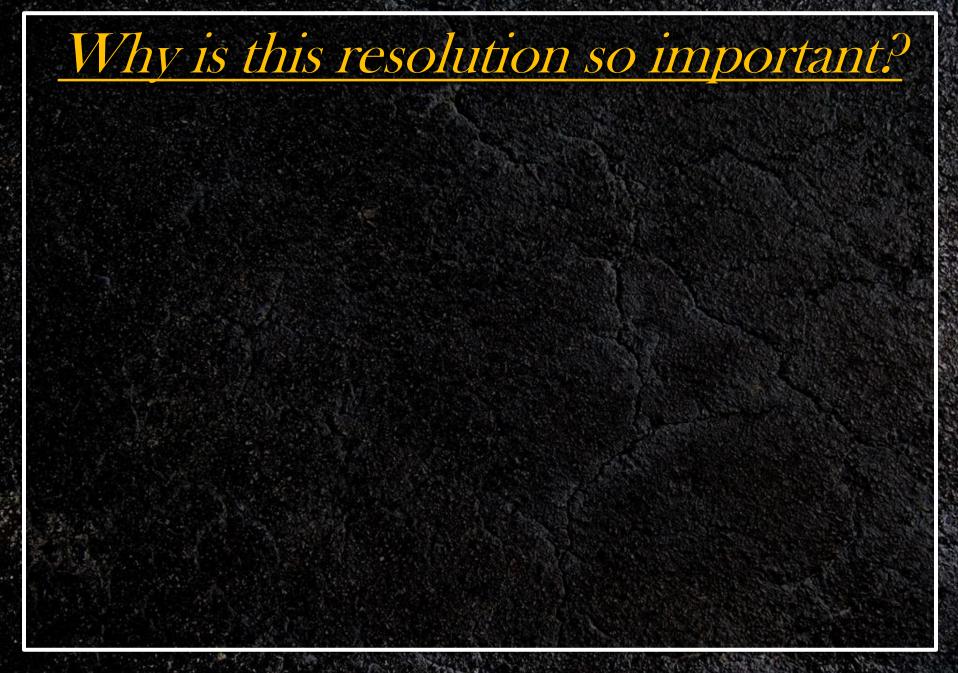
# 1. Moses Accepted Short Term Pain for Long Term Gain



**Choosing Your Future** 

Moses chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. (Hebrews 11:25)

### Following Jesus is saying, "I refuse that but Ichoose this."



### Why is this resolution so important? Because most of our problems come from our inability to delay gratification.

## The right thing to do is usually the hard thing to do.

## God has chosen you. Have you chosen Him?

# 2. Moses Accepted Responsibility for Poor Choices.



**Choosing Your Future** 







#### **Accept Responsibility for Poor Choices**





"Because you did not trust in me enough to honor me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them." (Numbers 20:12)



We see Moses <u>receiving</u> consequences but we don't see him <u>complaining</u> about consequences.

A) You can't blame others for the quality of your life. "Don't point your finger at someone else and try to pass the blame!" (Hosea 4:4, NLT) B.) You are free to choose sin but not free from the consequences.

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"...the pleasures of sin for a short time."

(Hebrews 11:25)

B.) You are free to choose sin but not free from the consequences. You cannot fool God, so don't make a fool of yourself! You will harvest what you plant. (Galatians 6:7, CEV) C.) You're as close to God as you choose to be.

"I came down from heaven to do what God wants me to do,"

(John 6:38, NCV)



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## Where do you need to accept responsibility?

## 3. God's Promises Albout Pain



**Choosing Your Future** 

### The Pain Will Help You Grow

We also have joy with our troubles, because we know that these troubles produce patience. And patience produces character, and character produces hope.

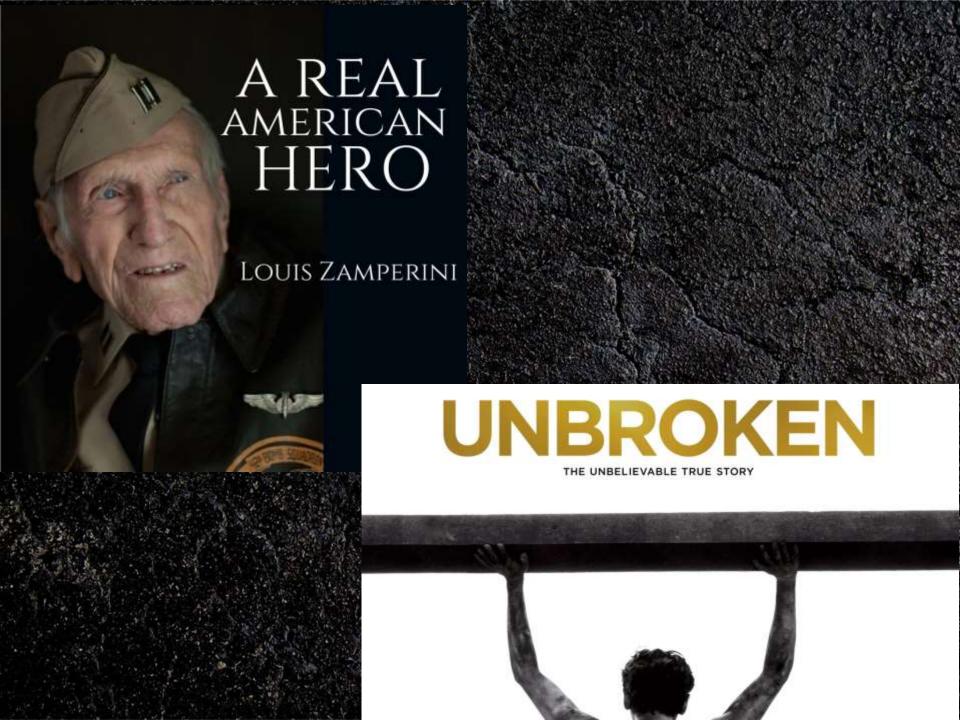
(Romans 5:3-4, NCV)

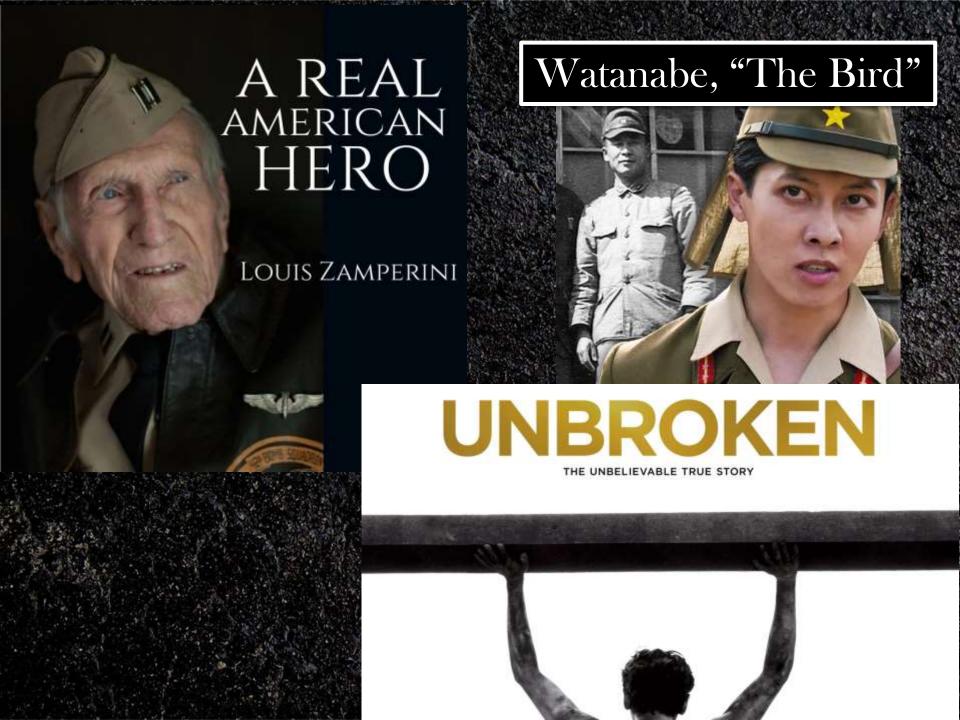
#### God Will Reward You in Heaven

Yet these present troubles are quite small and won't last very long. Yet they produce for us an immeasurably great glory that will last forever!

(2 Corinthians 4:17)

### You Will Understand Why You Went Through the Pain Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. (1 Cor. 13:12, NLT)





He suffered death on the cross. But he accepted the shame as if it were nothing because of the joy that God put before him. (Hebrews 12:2, NCV)







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