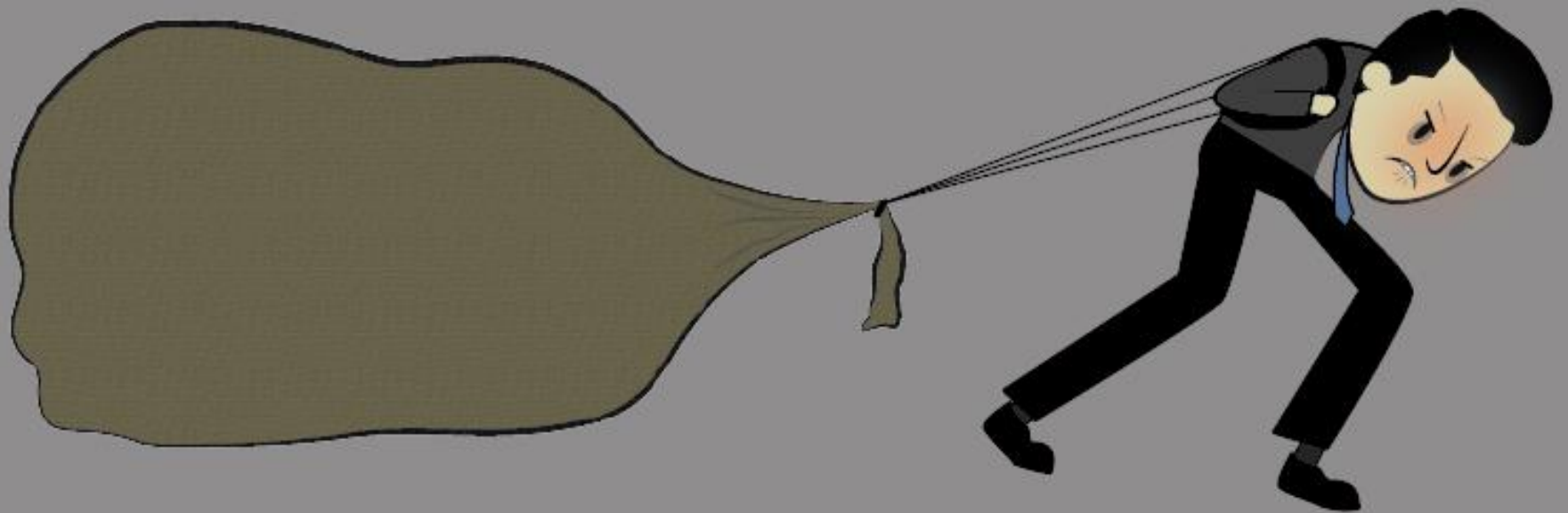
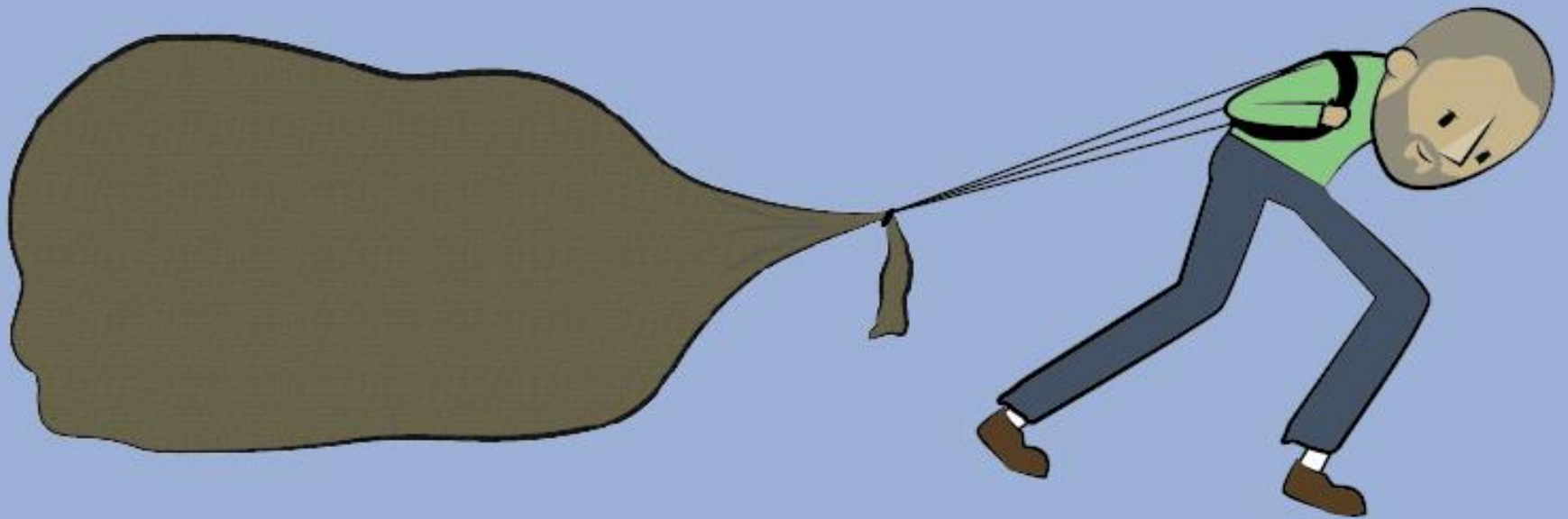


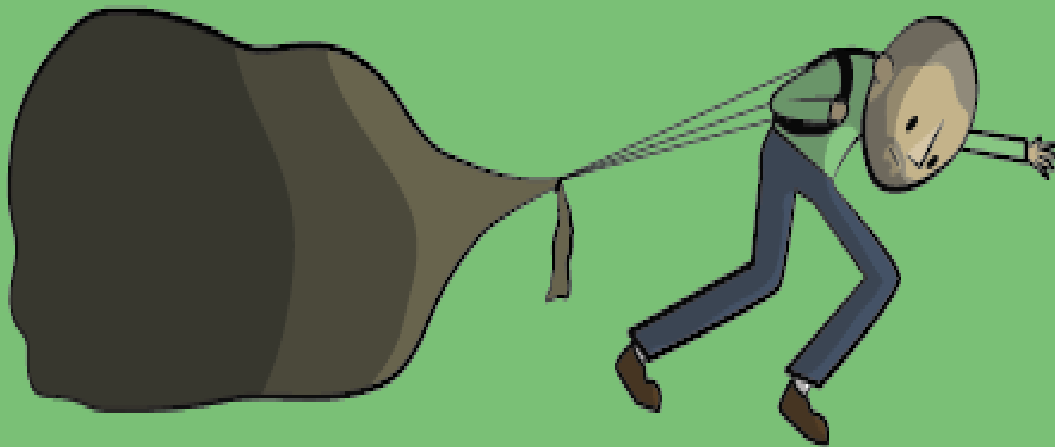
Glorifying God does not mean obeying him
only because you have to.



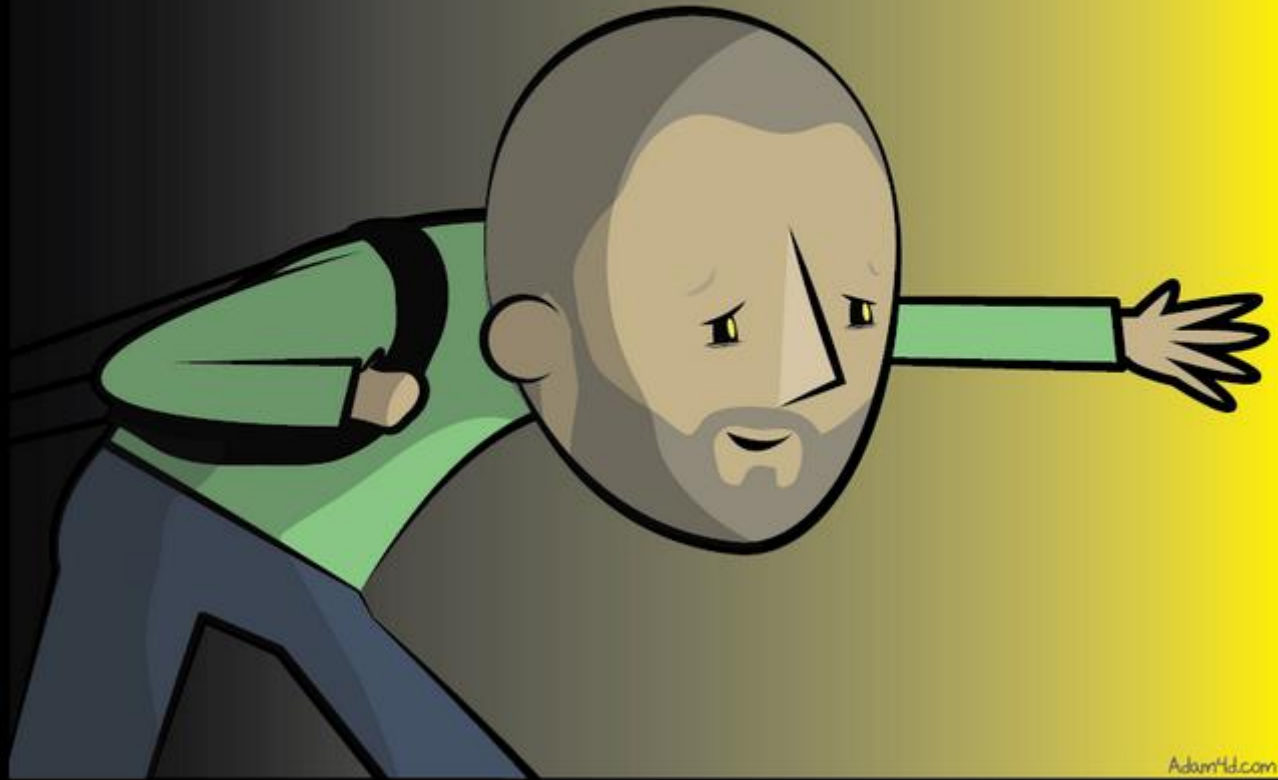
It means to obey him because you want to.



Because you are attracted to him.



Because you delight in him.

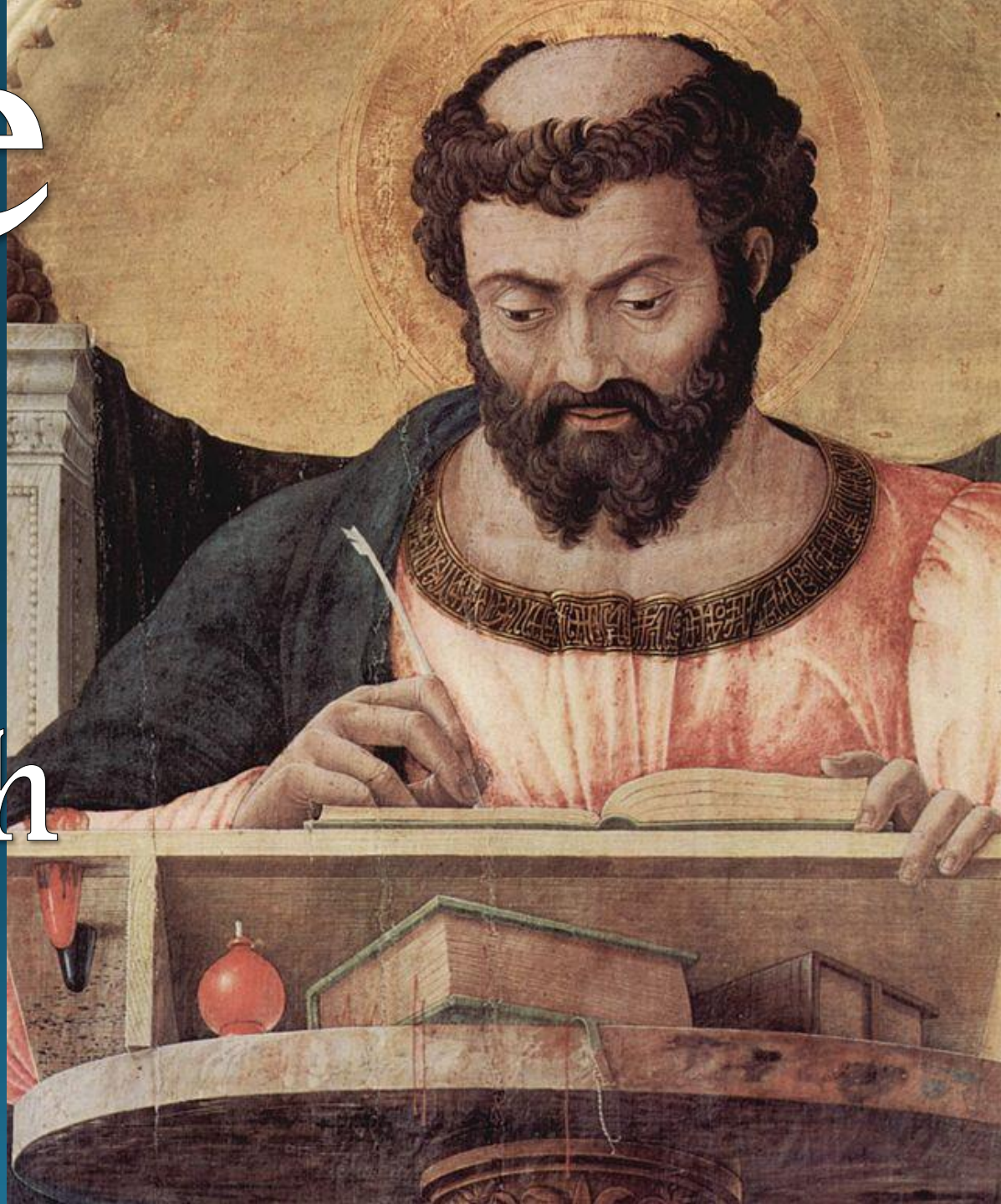


Words by Tim Keller, *Walking with God through Pain and Suffering* (New York, N.Y.: Dutton), 170. Illustrations by adam4d.com.

Luke

Mary and Elizabeth

Luke 1:39–56



Experiencing the Joy of God's Blessing

- Blessing comes to those who are sensitive to signs of God's activity (1:39–40, 45; 1:41–44)
- Blessing comes to the humble who are surprised by the grace shown to them (1:43; 1:48–49; 1:51–53)

Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven.

Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.

—Jesus
Mt 19:23-24

How many of us react to this:



I'm glad I just make an average income.

Man, can you imagine how weird it would be to read these verses if you were one of those rich 1%-ers?

How 50% of the world could react to this:



Man, can you imagine how weird it would be to read these verses if you were one of those rich people earning more than \$2 per day!

Experiencing the Joy of God's Blessing

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- Blessing comes to the humble who are surprised by the grace shown to them (1:43; 1:48–49; 1:51–53)
- Blessing comes to those who rely on God's promises (1:54–55)

Putting it into Practice

- Practice spiritual disciplines in order to develop habits of the heart that make us more capable sensing God's activity
- Cultivate an attitude of thankfulness by appreciating the many blessings of God we experience (Col 3:15–16)
- Trust God to be faithful to vindicate us for living faithfully for Him (1 Pet 4:12–14)

