



# Sermon



BOOK ONE (Psalms 1-41)  
**1** Oh, the joys of those who do not  
follow the advice of the wicked  
or stand around with mockers,  
or join in with mockers,  
meditating on the law of the Lord,  
They are like trees planted along the  
riverbank,  
bearing fruit each season,  
Their leaves never wither,  
and they prosper in all they do.

**2** But not the wicked;  
They are like worthless chaff,  
scattered by  
the wind.  
They will be condemned at the time  
of judgment.  
Sinners will have no place among the godly,  
for the LORD watches over the path  
of the godly,  
but the path of the wicked leads to  
destruction. †

**3** Why are the nations so angry?  
Why do they waste their time with  
futile plans?  
The kings of the earth prepare for battle,  
they plot together  
against the LORD

to oppose his anointed one,  
to break their chains," they cry,  
to free themselves from slavery

**1** O Lord, I have so many enemies,  
so many are against me.  
**2** So many are saying,  
"God will never rescue him!"

**3** But you, O Lord, are a shield around me,  
you are my glory, the one who holds  
my head high.



**‘One of those days Jesus went out to a mountainside to pray, and spent the night praying to God.’**

**(Luke 6:12)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO FATHER GOD**

**‘When morning came, he called his disciples to him and chose twelve of them...’**

**(Luke 6:13-16)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO DISCIPLES**

**‘He went down with them and...a great number of people from all over...who had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases.’**

**(Luke 6:17-19)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO WORLD**

**UP**



**OUT**

**IN**

# PSALM 148: RELATIONSHIPS

- UP
- OUT
- IN

**‘Let them praise the name of the Lord, for at his command they were created...he has raised up for his people a horn...’ (Psalm 148:5, 14)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO GOD: UP**



**‘Let them praise  
the name of the Lord,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his splendour is above  
the earth and the heavens.’**

**(Psalm 148:13)**

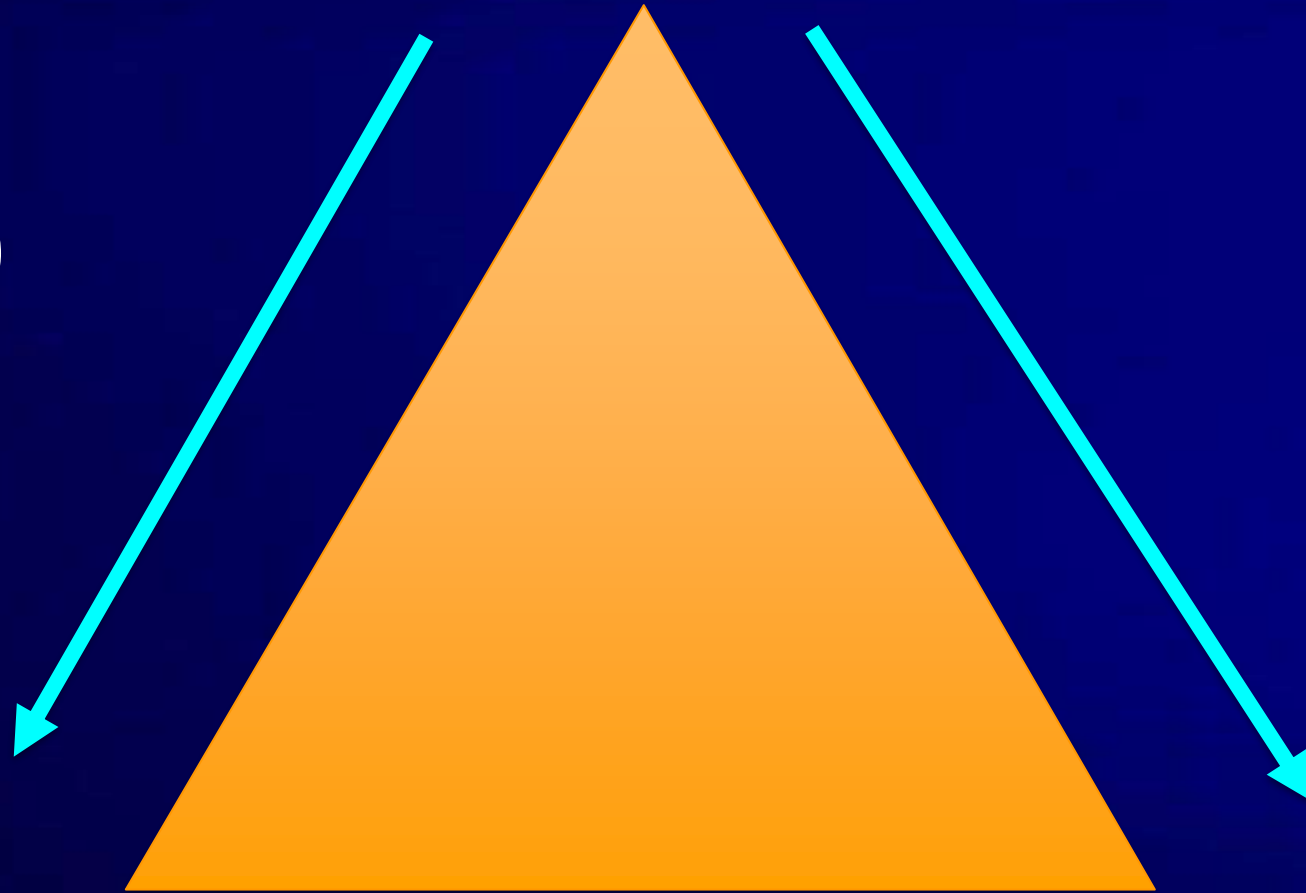
**RELATIONSHIP TO GOD: UP**

**CALL TO ORIENTATE OUR LIVES**



**ALLOWING  
GOD TO  
BE GOD**

**UP**



**OUT**

**IN**

**‘Praise him, sun and moon;  
praise him,  
all you shining stars...  
Praise the Lord from the earth,  
you great sea creatures  
and all ocean depths...’**

**(Psalm 148:5, 7)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO WORLD: OUT**

**‘Let them praise  
the name of the Lord,  
for his name alone is exalted;  
his splendour is above  
the earth and the heavens.’**

**(Psalm 148:13)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO WORLD: OUT**

**OUT: EVANGELISM**



A brown dog with long fur is sitting in a field of tall green grass, looking out over a town and mountains. The dog is wearing a red collar with white stars. The background features a dense line of green trees, a small town with houses, and distant mountains under a blue sky with white clouds.

**OUT: CREATION CARE**

**'To love God means to value what God values. Conversely therefore, to contribute to or collude in the abuse, pollution, and destruction of the natural order, is to trample on the goodness of God...**



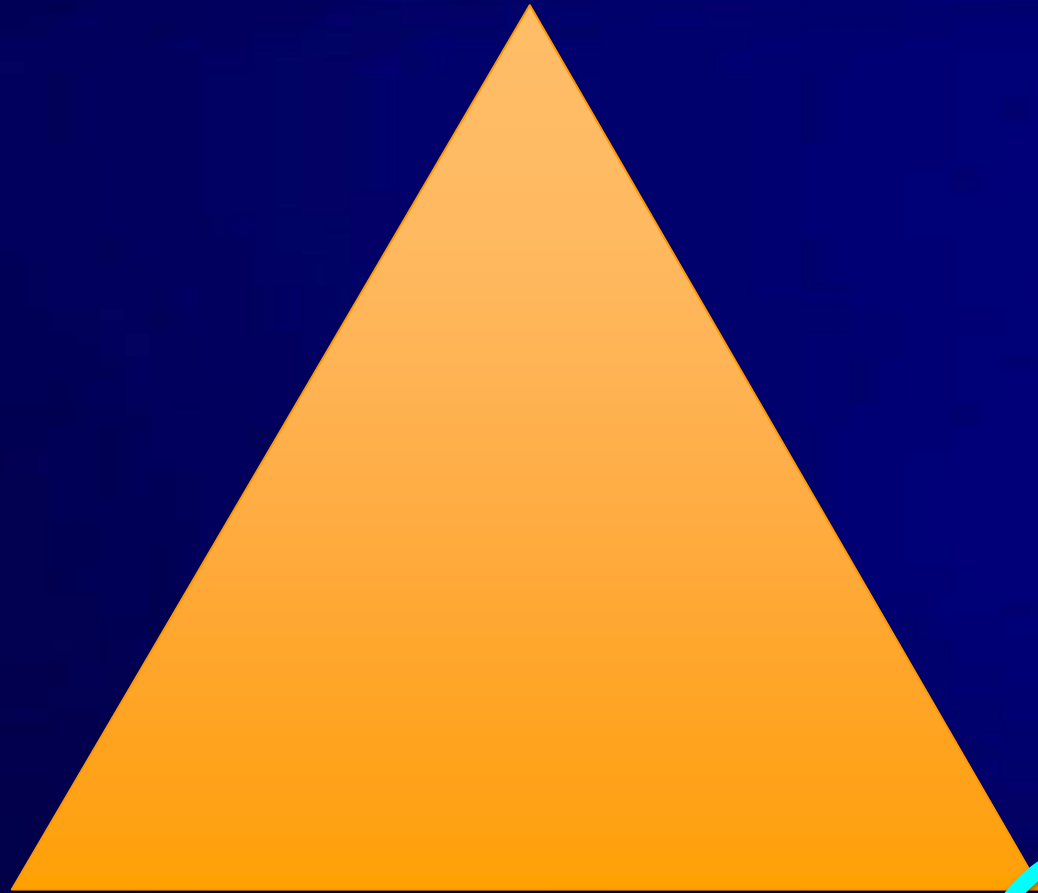
**reflected in creation; it is to devalue what God values; to mute, God's praise and to diminish His glory'.**

***Christopher Wright,  
The Mission of God***

# OUT: CREATION CARE



**UP**



**OUT**



**IN**

**‘Let them praise the name of the Lord...he has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his faithful servants, of Israel, the people close to his heart.’**

**(Psalm 148:13-14)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO DISCIPLES: IN**



**RELATIONSHIP TO DISCIPLES: IN**

**‘...the people close to his heart.’**

**(Psalm 148:14)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO DISCIPLES: IN**

**‘...the people close to his heart.’**

**(Psalm 148:14)**

**‘One of His disciples, whom Jesus loved (esteemed), was leaning against Jesus’ chest...’**

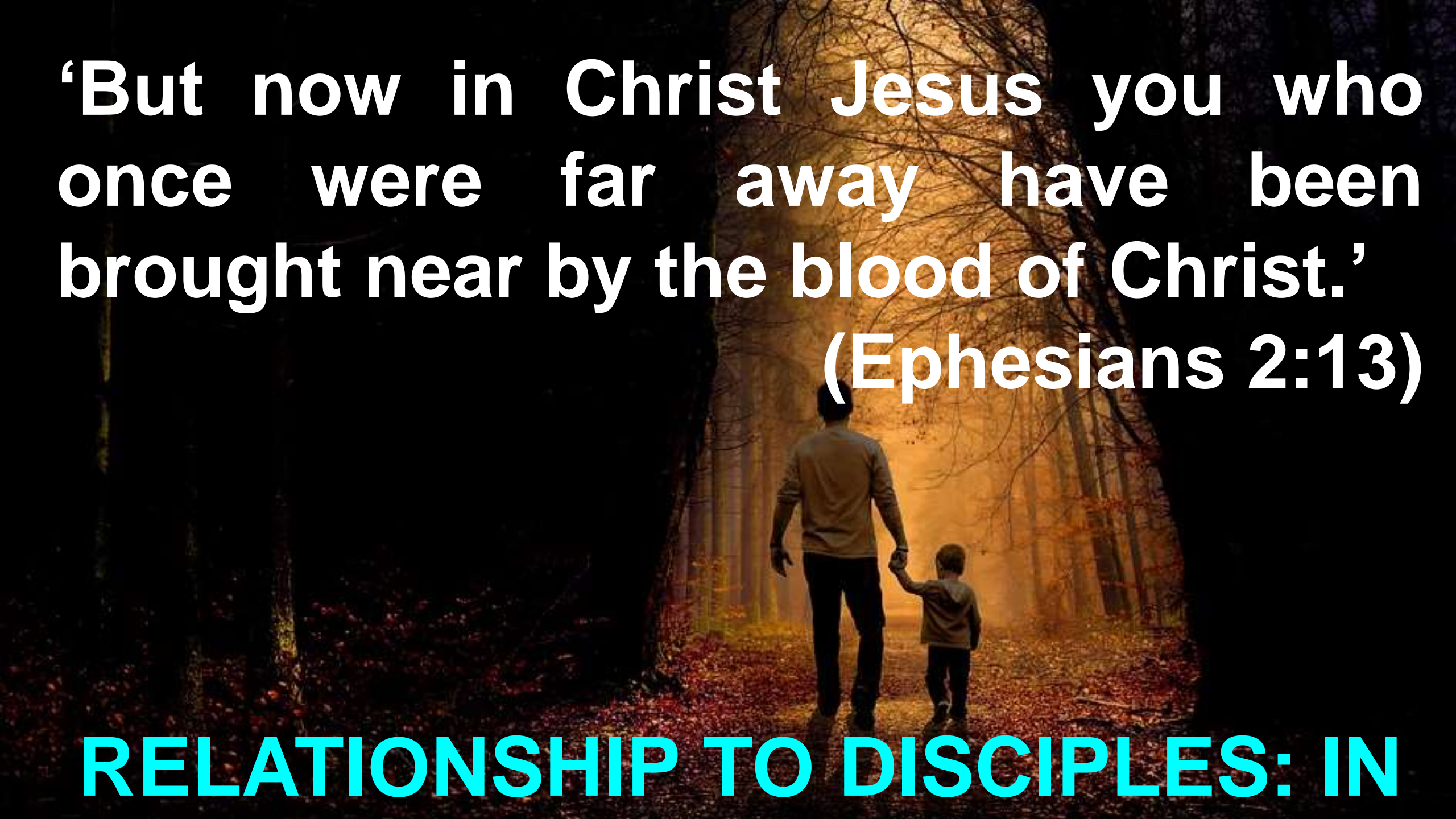
**(John 13:23 Amplified Bible)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO DISCIPLES: IN**



**RELATIONSHIP TO DISCIPLES: IN**



A photograph of a man and a young child walking away from the camera down a path in a forest. The ground is covered in fallen autumn leaves in shades of red, orange, and yellow. The trees are tall and thin, with some bare branches and some with sparse autumn foliage. The lighting is soft and warm, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

**‘But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ.’  
(Ephesians 2:13)**

**RELATIONSHIP TO DISCIPLES: IN**

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They are like trees planted along the  
riverbank,  
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and they prosper in all they do.

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scattered by  
the wind.  
They will be condemned at the time  
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Sinners will have no place among the godly,  
but the path of the wicked leads to  
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**5** Why are the nations so angry?  
Why do they waste their time with  
futile plans?  
The kings of the earth prepare for battle,  
they plot together  
against the Lord  
and his anointed one.  
They break their chains,  
they cry,  
"We will free ourselves from slavery  
never!"

**6** The Lord  
will break their chains,  
he will free them  
from slavery.

**7** The Lord  
will break their chains,  
he will free them  
from slavery.

**8** The Lord  
will break their chains,  
he will free them  
from slavery.

**3**

**1** O Lord, I have so many enemies,  
so many are against me.  
"God will never rescue him!"  
But you, O Lord, are a shield around me,  
you are my glory, the one who holds my  
head high.

**2** So many are against me,  
"God will never rescue him!"  
But you, O Lord, are a shield around me,  
you are my glory, the one who holds my  
head high.

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