

# THE TWO WAYS

Matthew 7:13-29

Charles Hodge said,

*“Familiar passages should be read more carefully”.*



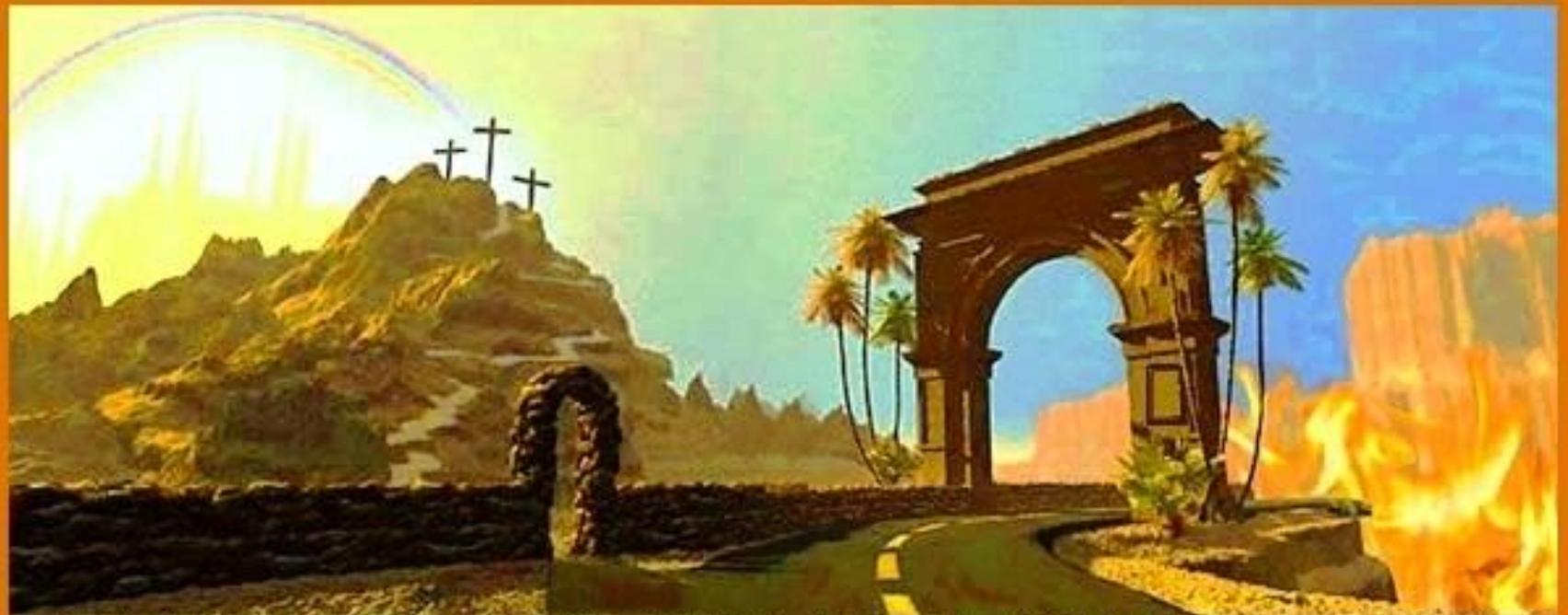
*"When I was a boy, my father, a baker, introduced me to the wonders of song. He urged me to work very hard to develop my voice. Arrigo Pola, a professional tenor in my hometown of Modena, Italy, took me as a pupil. I also enrolled in a teachers' college. On graduating, I asked my father, 'Shall I be a teacher or a singer?'"*  
*"'Luciano,' my father replied, 'if you try to sit on two chairs, you will fall between them. For life, you must choose one chair.' I chose one. It took seven years of study and frustration before I made my first professional appearance. It took another seven to reach the Metropolitan Opera. And now I think whether it's laying bricks, writing a book—whatever we choose—we should give ourselves to it. Commitment, that's the key. Choose one chair."*

Matthew 7:13-14 –

**Enter by the narrow gate; for the gate is wide, and the way is broad that leads to destruction, and many are those who enter by it. 14 For the gate is small, and the way is narrow that leads to life, and few are those who find it.**

**JESUS tells of:  
two GATES,  
two WAYS,  
two DESTINATIONS,  
and two GROUPS.**

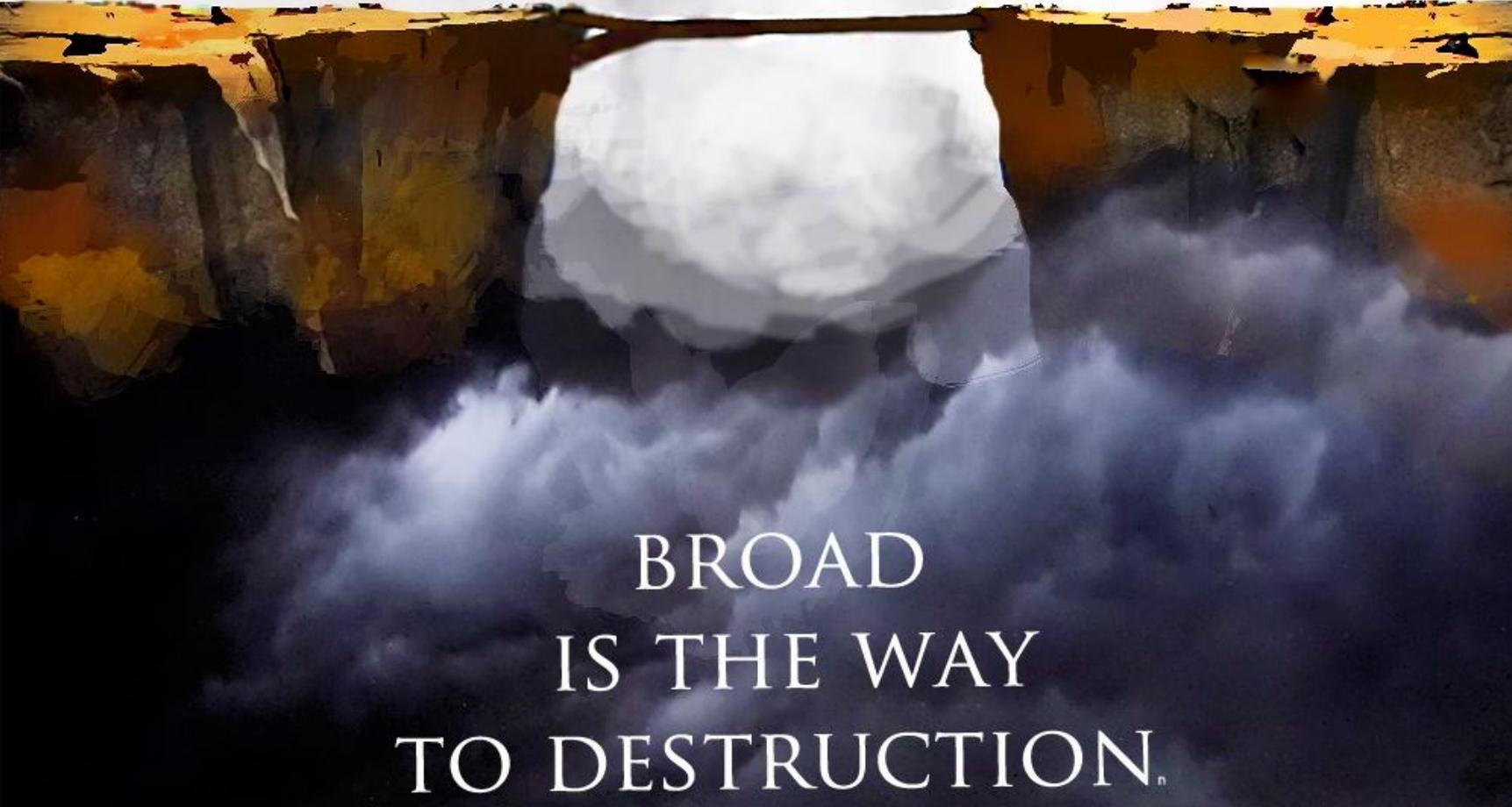
- **A gate** is the entrance point upon a way – a portal that admits one onto the way or road.
- **A way** is a route that is traveled once the gate has been entered.
- **A destination** is what awaits the traveler on the other end of the way.
- The **"few"** and the **"many"** represent the travelers along each way.



**THE NARROW AND THE WIDE GATES**  
**Matthew 7:13-14**



NARROW IS THE PATH TO LIFE

A dramatic landscape with a narrow path leading to a bright light, contrasting with a dark, stormy path leading to destruction. The scene is split horizontally. The top half shows a narrow, rocky path leading to a bright, glowing light. The bottom half shows a dark, stormy path leading to a dark, stormy sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

BROAD  
IS THE WAY  
TO DESTRUCTION.

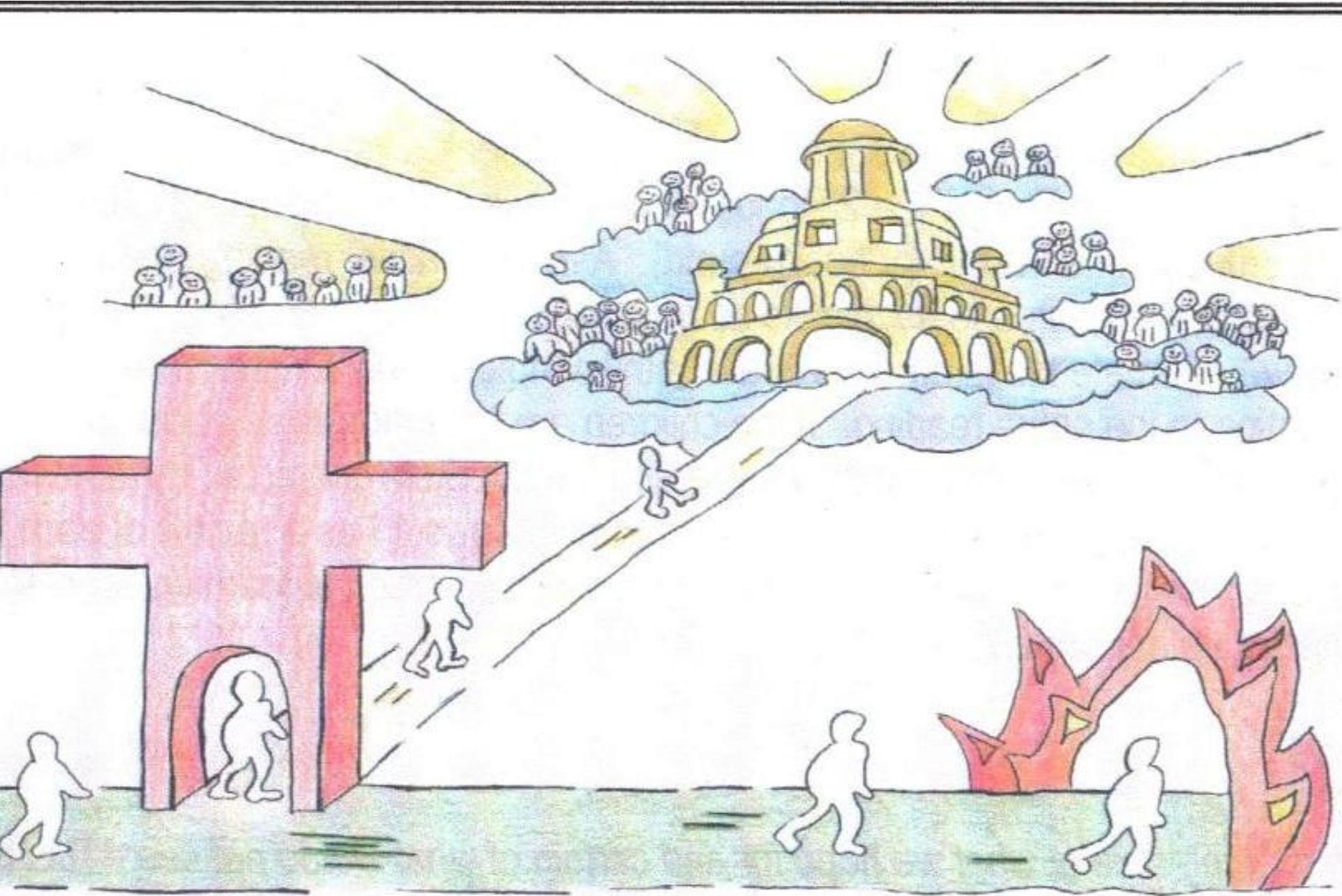


# Two Gates

- Leads to life.
- Matthew 5:20 *"For I say to you, that unless your righteousness surpasses that of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven."*

Matthew 7:21 –

*"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven..."*





# Oprah Winfrey's Pluralism



*I believe that there are many paths to God.... I certainly don't believe that there is only one way.... There couldn't possibly be just one way to God .... I am a Christian who believes that there are certainly many more paths to God other than Christianity” (the Oprah Winfrey Show 1/3/94).*

- Matthew 12:30 *"He who is not with Me is against Me; and he who does not gather with Me scatters."*
- John 14:6 - *"I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father, but through Me."* (notice the context)
- 1 Timothy 2:5-7 - *For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, 6 who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony given at the proper time. NASU*

- John 10:1-2, *"Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter by the door into the fold of the sheep, but climbs up some other way, he is a thief and a robber."*

# The narrow gate that leads to life must be "entered."

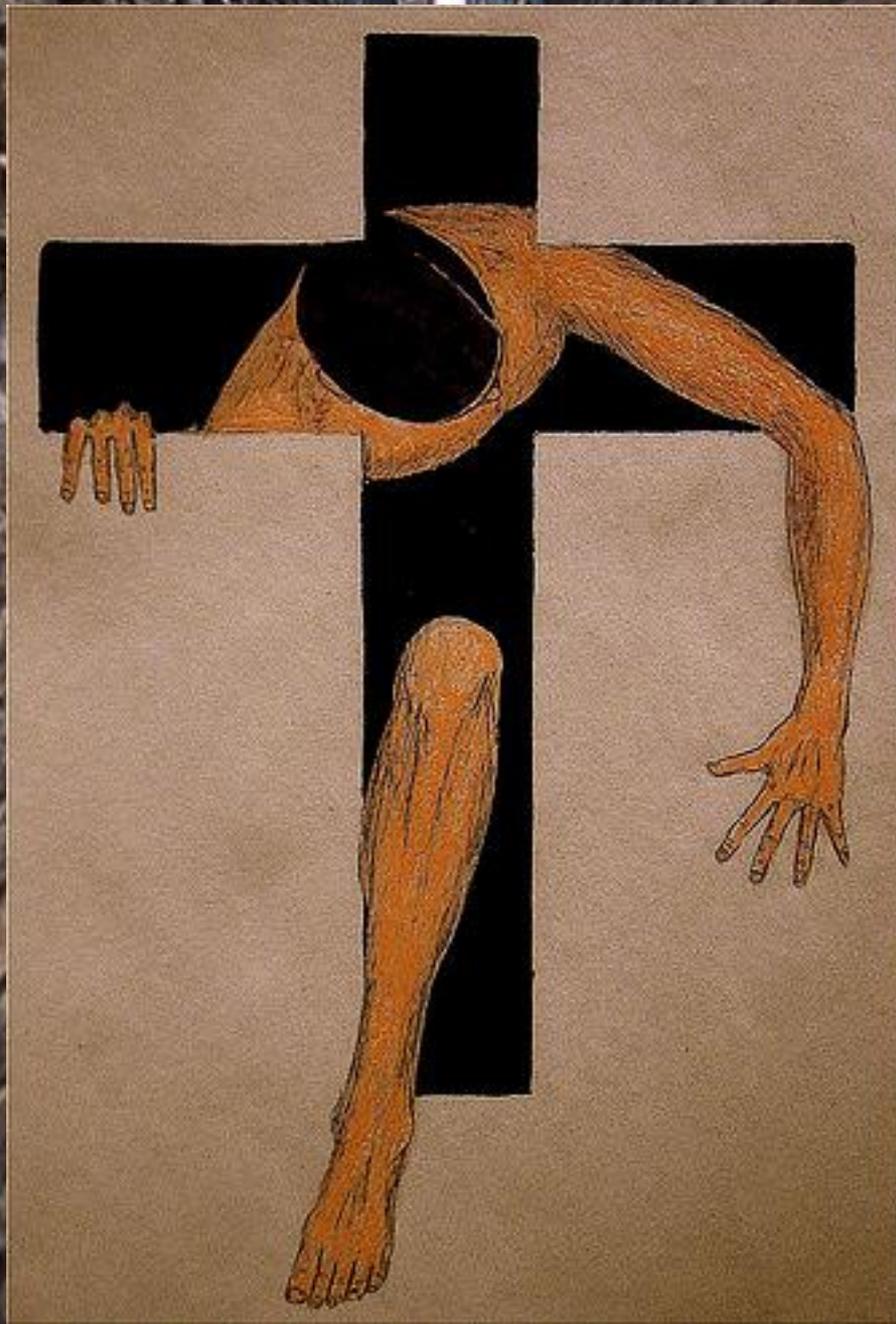
- *"Enter by the narrow gate...."*
- The tense of the verb is **aorist imperative**
- Psalm 51:12-13: *"Restore to me the joy of Thy salvation, and sustain me with a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors Thy ways, And sinners will be converted to Thee."*

Matthew 18:3: *"Truly I say to you, unless you are converted and become like children, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven."*

**The road to hell  
is paved with  
good intentions**

**The gate that leads to life is very  
narrow**

- *"strait is the gate."*



*"few  
are  
those  
who  
find  
it."*

# Two Ways.

- The narrow gate leads to a narrow way.
- The wide gate leads to a broad way.
- *narrow - stenos - stenography - **stenochoreo** "to hem in closely."*

*Blessed are the poor in spirit.*

*Blessed are those who  
mourn.*

*Blessed are the meek,  
those who hunger and  
thirst for righteousness,  
the merciful, the pure in  
heart, the peacemakers.*

1 John 5:3 –

*For this is the love of God,  
that we keep His  
commandments; and His  
commandments are not  
burdensome.*

# Two Destinations

- The narrow way leads to life.
- The broad way leads to destruction.
- *apoleia* - "utter ruin."
- "The term never means annihilation...."

Matthew 25:41-

*Then He will also say  
to those on His left, '  
Depart from Me,  
accursed ones, into  
the eternal fire which  
has been prepared for  
the devil and his  
angels;*

# Two Groups.

- The broad road is the road of the majority or "*many*."
- The narrow road is the road of the minority or "*few*."
- "So how 'few' "

- 1 Peter 3:20: "...*a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water.*"
- ***SODOM AND GOMORRAH- A FEW WAS A FEW!***

- *"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life,"* Jesus said in Revelation 2:10.
- *"My righteous one shall live by faith and if he shrinks back my soul has no pleasure in him."*