

becoming
who you are



“The Law’s Inability”

Romans 7:14-25

“O to grace how great a
debtor; daily I’m
constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a
fetter bind my wandering
heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I
feel it, prone to leave the
God I love;
Here’s my heart; O take
and seal it; seal it for thy
courts above.”



Robert Robinson
27 Sept 1735 - 9 June 1790

⁶ *All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned -every one-
to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.*

Isaiah 53:6

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“Sanctification is an antipathy against sin. ... A hypocrite may leave sin, yet love it; as a serpent casts it out, but keeps its sting; but a sanctified person can say he not only leaves sin, but loathes it.



Thomas Watson
1 March 1637 – 3 June 1717

...God has not only chained up sin, but changed thy nature, and made thee as a king's daughter, all glorious within. He has put upon thee the breastplate of holiness, which, though it may be shot at, can never be shot through”



Thomas Watson
1 March 1637 – 3 June 1717

“The difference between an unconverted and a converted man, is not that one has sins and the other has none. But the one takes part with his cherished sins against a dreaded god and the other takes part with his reconciled God against his hated sin”



William Arnot

6 Nov 1808 – 3 June 1875

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 6. Paul's punctuation in vs. 15

KEY POINT:

It is right to acknowledge and lament the internal struggle between sin and obedience.

I. Human Lamenting About Sin (vs. 14-24)

A. The First Lament (vs. 14-17) - “I am acting carnally.”

1. Our Condition (vs. 14)

²⁵ *The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.*

I Timothy 1:25

“Sin is so wretched and powerful that, even in a redeemed person, it hangs on and contaminates his living and frustrates his inner desire to obey the will of God.”



John MacArthur
19 June 1939 –

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1. Our Condition (vs. 14)

2. The Evidence of Our Condition (vs. 15)

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart!

Try me and know my thoughts!

*²⁴ And see if there be any grievous way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting!*

Psalm 139:23-24

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1. Our Condition (vs. 14)

2. The Evidence of Our Condition (vs. 15)

3. Where Does It Come From? (vs. 16-17)

Old Man, Sin Nature and Flesh

1. **Old Man** - *all that we were in Adam, which has been crucified with Christ*
2. **Sin Nature** - *the predisposition to evil; our capacity to sin*
3. **Flesh** - *the remnants of the old man or sin nature*

KEY POINT:

It is right to acknowledge and lament the internal struggle between sin and obedience.

I. Human Lamenting About Sin (vs. 14-24)

A. The First Lament (vs. 14-17) - “*I am acting carnally.*”

B. The Second Lament (vs. 18-20) - “*I keep on acting carnally.*”

1. Our Condition (vs. 18a)

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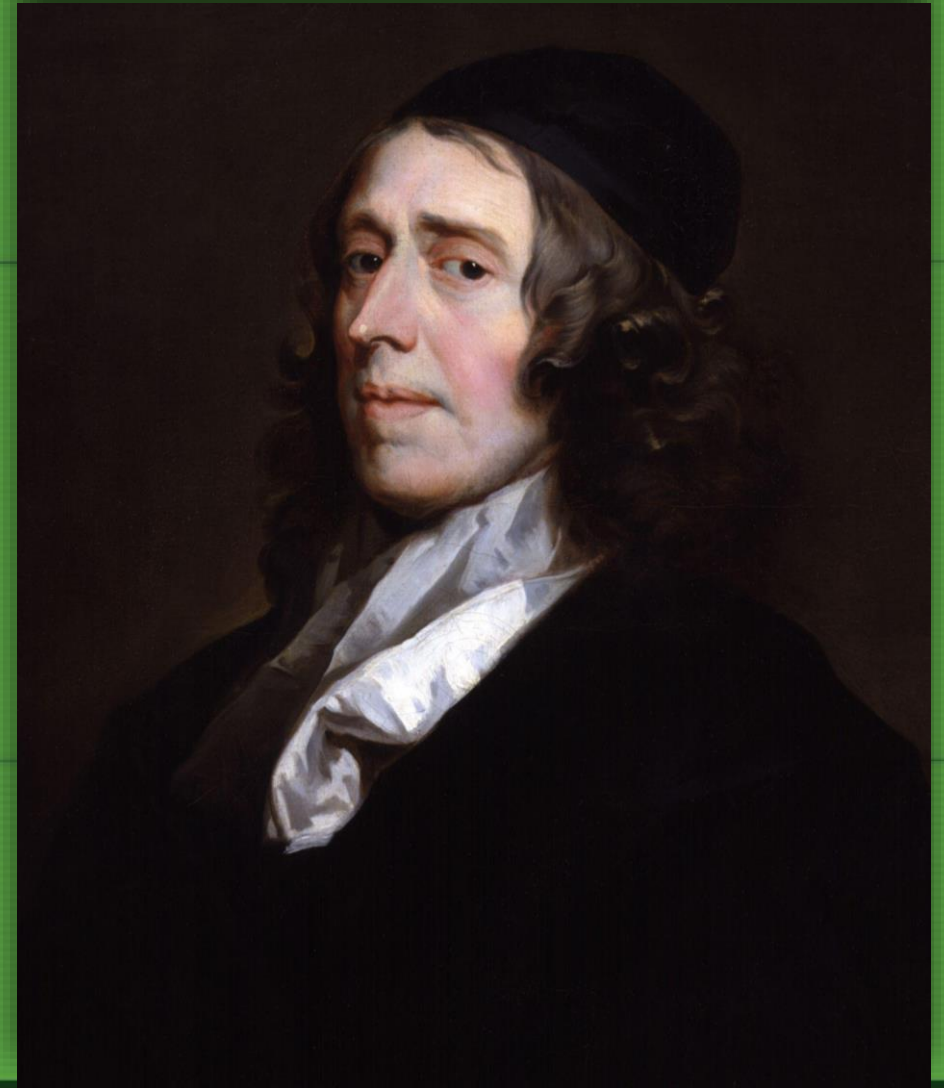
B. The Second Lament (vs. 18-20) - *“I keep on acting carnally.”*

1. Our Condition (vs. 18a)

2. The Evidence of Our Condition (vs. 18b-19)

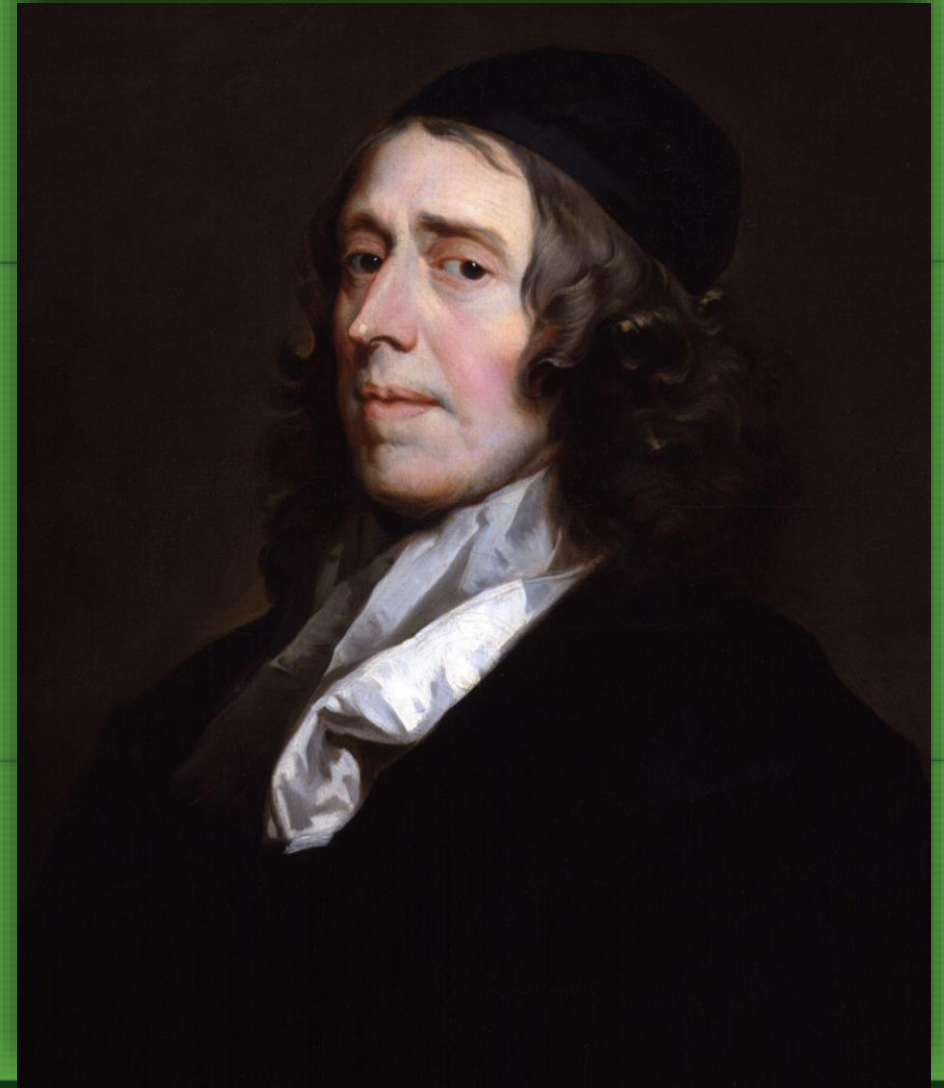
3. Where Does It Come From? (vs. 20)

“Look to him whom you have pierced, and let it trouble you. Say to your soul, ‘What have I done? What love, what mercy, what blood, what grace have I despised and trampled on! Is this how I pay back the Father for his love? Is this how I thank the Son for his blood?...



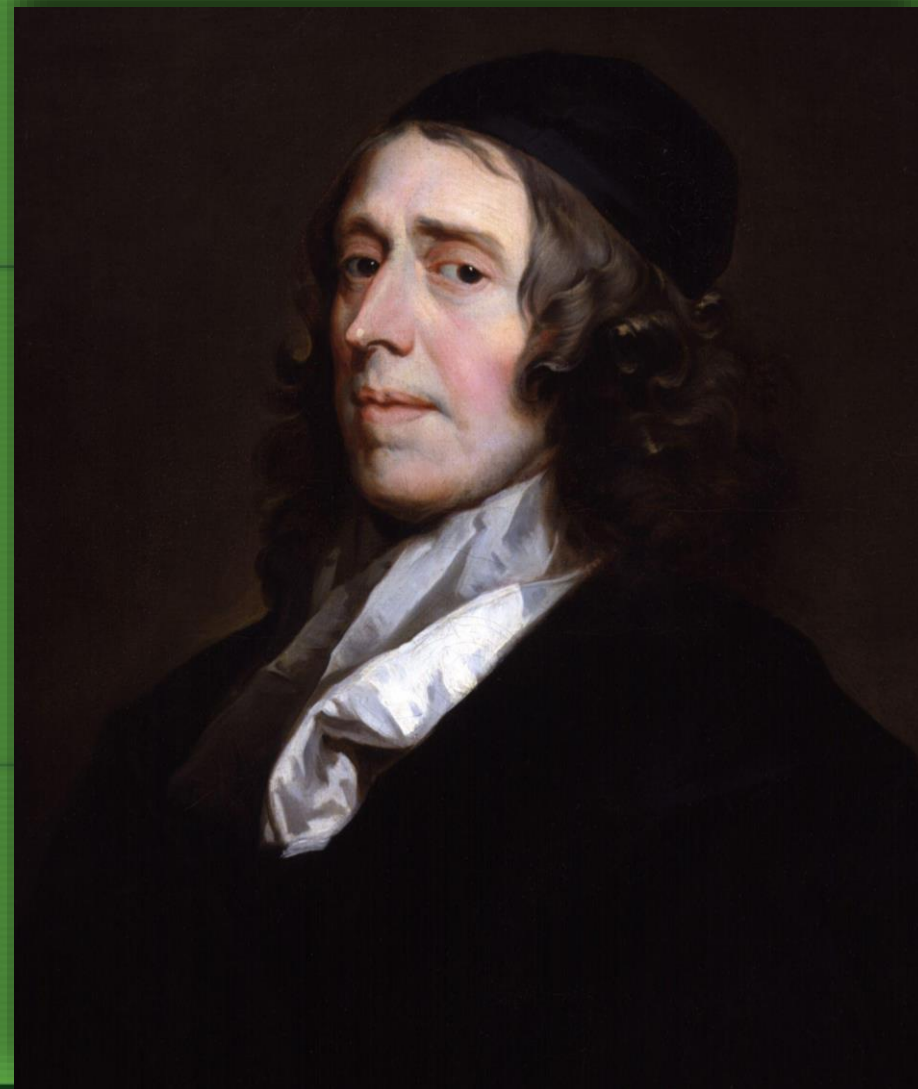
John Owen
1616 – 24 Aug 1683

Is this how I respond to the
Holy Spirit for his grace?
Have I defiled the heart that
Christ died to wash, and the
Holy Spirit has chosen to
dwell in? How can I keep
myself out of the dust? What
can I say to the dear Lord
Jesus? How shall I hold up
my head with any boldness
before him?...



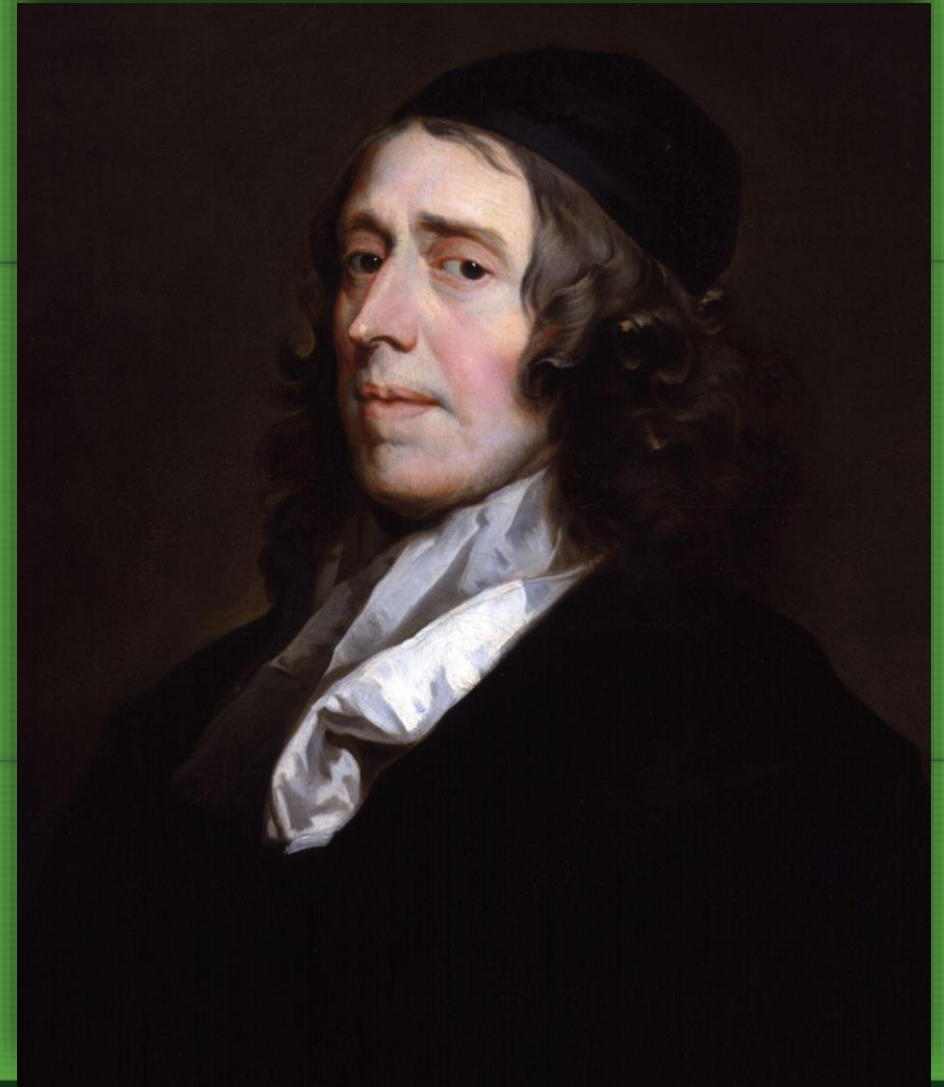
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Do I count fellowship with him of so little value that, for this vile lust's sake, I have hardly left him any room in my heart? How shall I escape if I neglect so great a salvation. What shall I say to the Lord? How love, mercy, grace, goodness, peace, joy, consolation – I have despised all of them!...



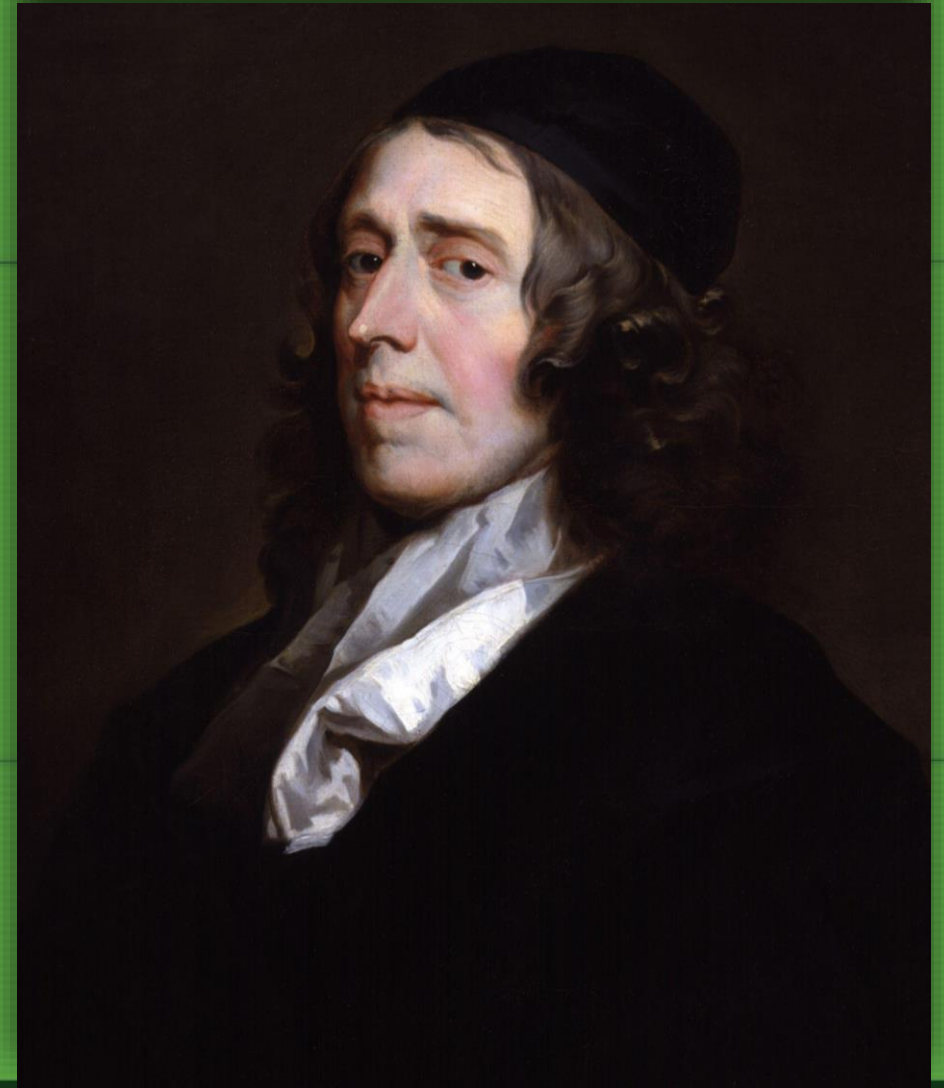
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I have considered them as
nothing, that I might harbor
lust in my heart. Have I seen
God as Father, that I might
provoke him to his face?
Was my soul washed that
there might be room for new
defilements?...



John Owen
1616 – 24 Aug 1683

Shall I seek to disappoint
the purpose of the death of
Christ? Shall I grieve the
Holy Spirit, who sealed me
unto the day of
redemption? Allow your
conscience to consider
these things every day.



John Owen
1616 – 24 Aug 1683

I. Human Lamenting About Sin (vs. 14-24)

A. The First Lament (vs. 14-17) - *“I am acting carnally.”*

B. The Second Lament (vs. 18-20) - *“I keep on acting carnally.”*

C. The Third Lament (vs. 21-23) - *“I want to act righteously.”*

1. Our Condition (vs. 21)

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1. Our Condition (vs. 21)

2. The Evidence of Our Condition (vs. 22-23a)

¹⁴ *But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.*

Romans 13:14

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1. Our Condition (vs. 21)

2. The Evidence of Our Condition (vs. 22-23a)

3. Where Does It Come From? (vs. 23b)

³³ *I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world.*

John 16:33

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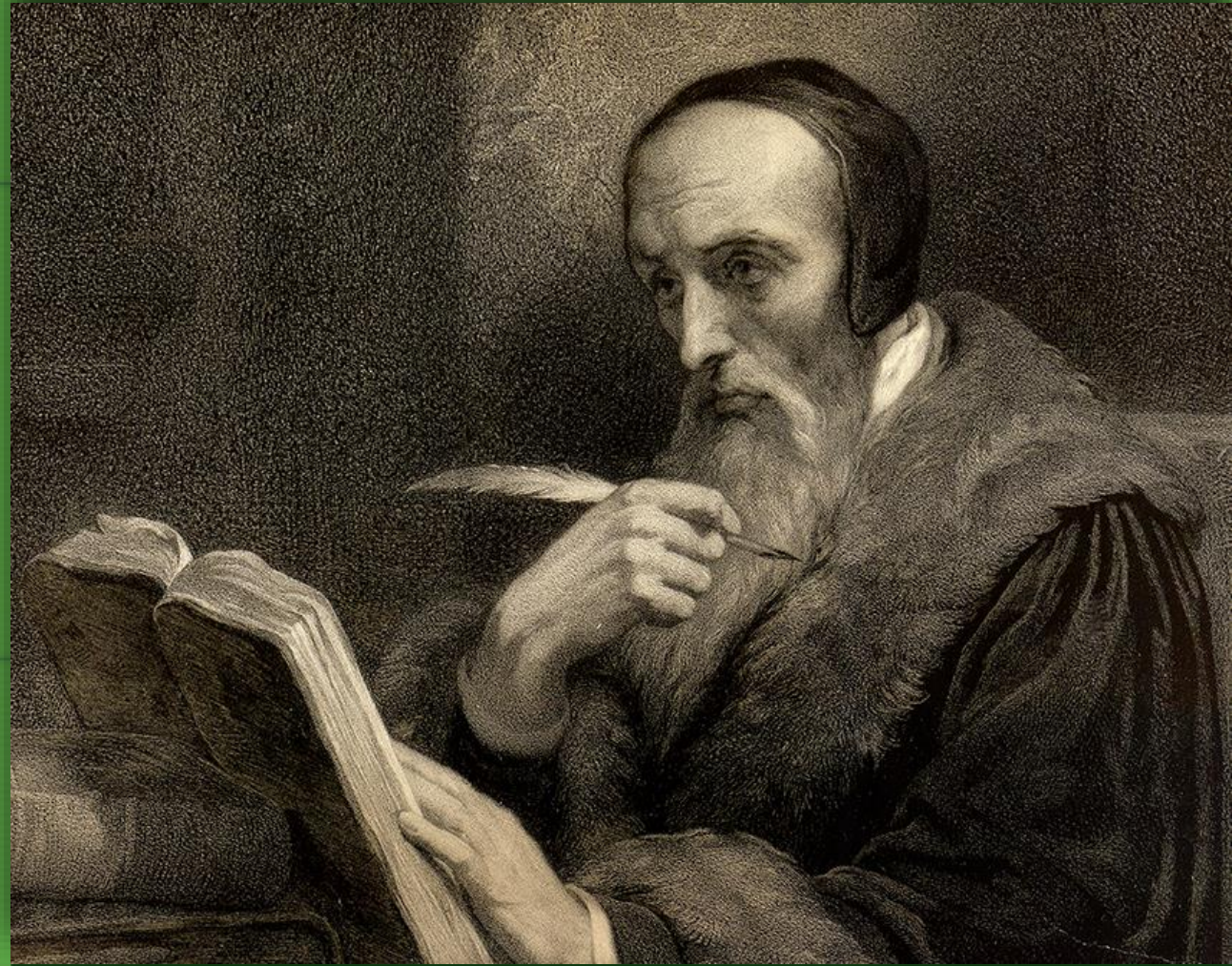
C. The Third Lament (vs. 21-23) - *“I want to act righteously.”*

D. One Final Lament (vs. 24) - *“I need deliverance.”*

I. Human Lamenting About Sin (vs. 14-24)

II. A Divine Answer About Our Deliverance
(vs. 25)

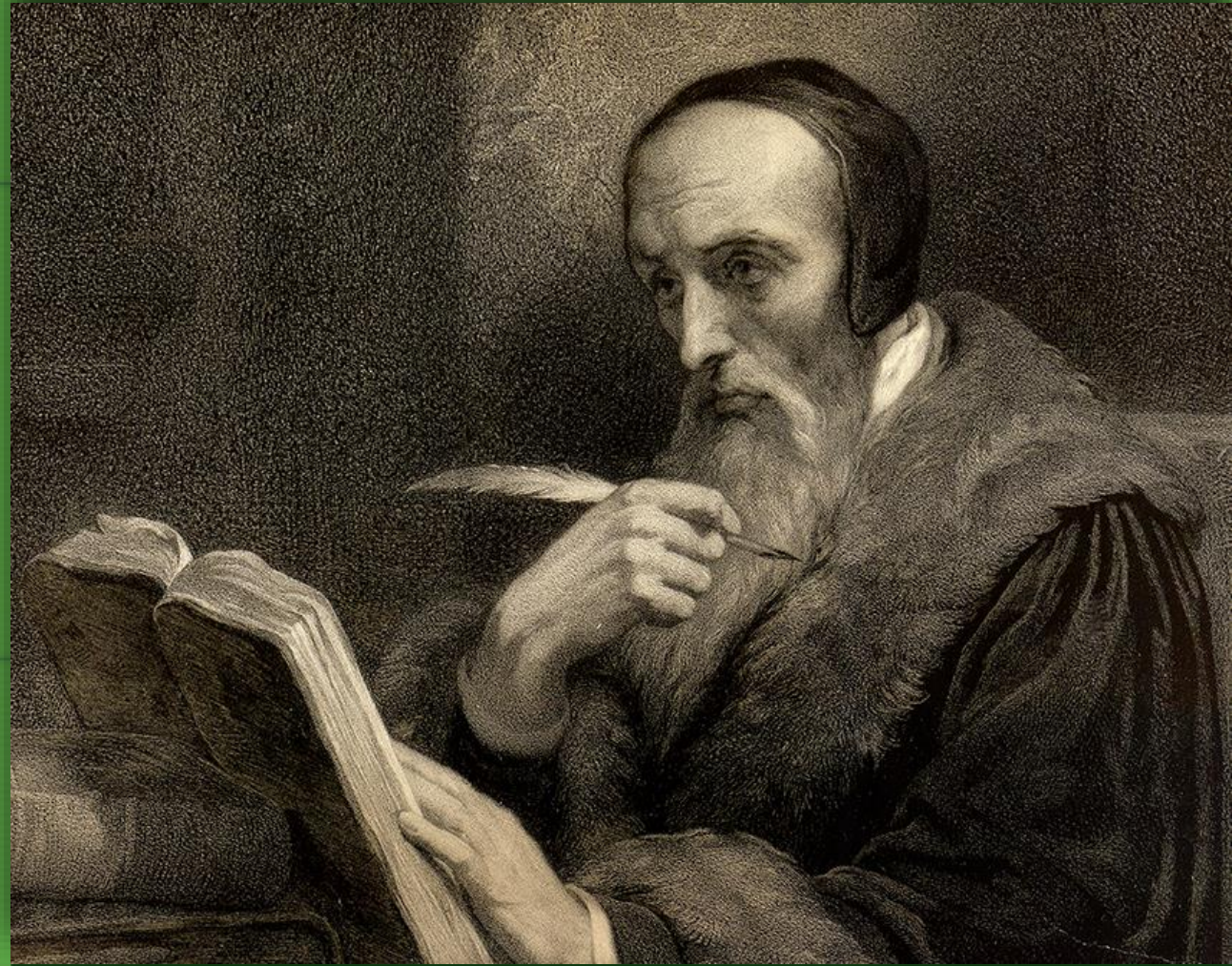
“It is certain that man never achieves a clear knowledge of himself unless he has first looked upon God’s face and then descends from contemplating him to scrutinize himself...



John Calvin

10 July 1509 - 27 May 1564

For we always seem to
ourselves righteous and
upright and wise and holy
- this pride is innate in all
of us - unless by clear
proofs we stand
convinced of our own
unrighteousness,
foulness, folly, and
impurity.”



John Calvin

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