

The background of the image is a dark blue grid with faint, light-colored architectural blueprints. The blueprints include various lines, rectangles, and circles, representing a building plan. Some text from the blueprints is visible, such as 'RAIL' at the top left, 'ION' on the left side, and '8'-0"' in several places. A cross is drawn in the bottom right corner. The overall theme is architectural and structural.


GOD'S


Plan for His
CHURCH


REVELATION 2-3




modern day
TURKEY

 Pergamos

 Smyrna

 Ephesus

 Laodicea

Isle of 
Patmos

Each letter has a
word of wisdom
and application
for all churches
throughout history



Pergamos



Thyatira



Smyrna



Sardis



Philad



Ephesus



Laodicea



**THE
SEVEN
CHURCHES
OF
REVELATION**

The Greater **REWARD**

Revelation 2:8-11

Revelation 2:8-11

“To the angel of the church in Smyrna write:
These are the words of him who is the First
and the Last, who died and came to life again.
I know your afflictions and your poverty—yet
you are rich! I know about the slander of those
who say they are Jews and are not, but are a
synagogue of Satan.

Revelation 2:8-11

Do not be afraid of what you are about to suffer. I tell you, the devil will put some of you in prison to test you, and you will suffer persecution for ten days. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who is victorious will not be hurt at all by the second death.

Afflictions

Poverty

Slander

Suffering & Testing

Persecution & Death

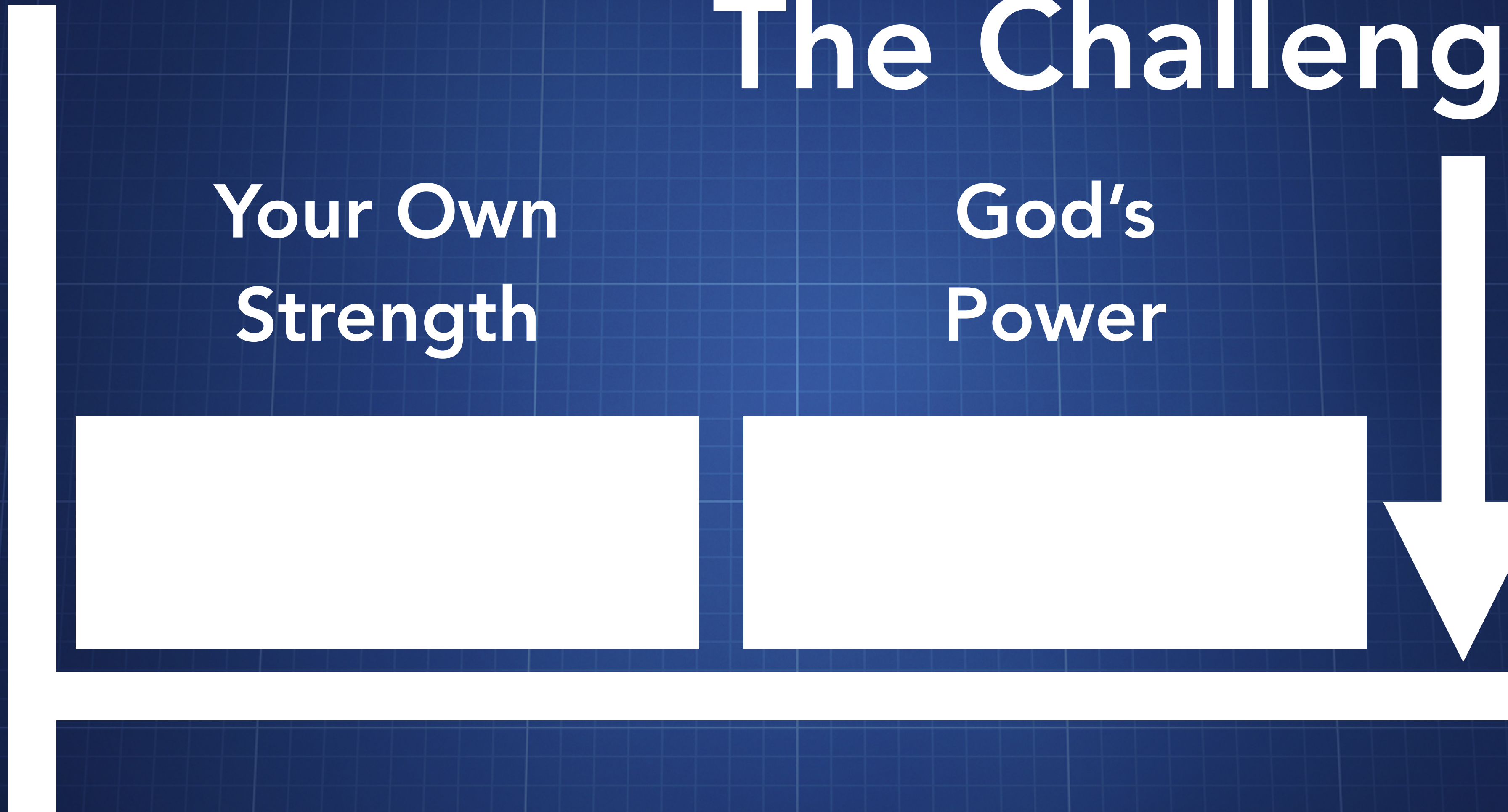
**Dear Church in Smyrna:
I know that what you're
going through right now
is hard. Really hard.**

Doing easy is easy.
It's when we do hard
that we must absolutely
depend on the grace &
strength of God.

The Challenge

Your Own
Strength

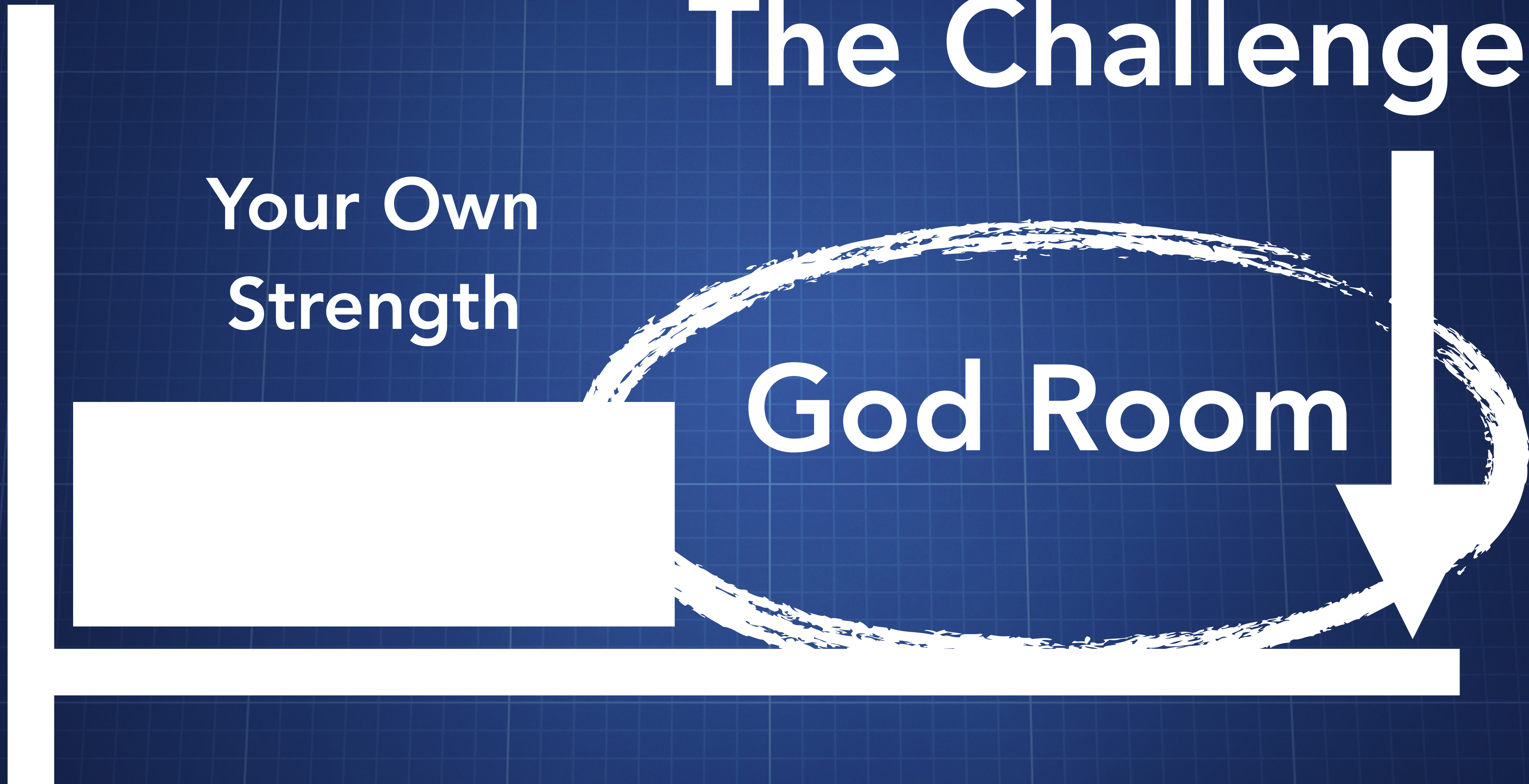
God's
Power



The Challenge

Your Own
Strength

God Room





God Room

Pierce taught Graham a principle he called "God room." He explained: "God room is when you see a need and it's bigger than your human abilities to meet it. But you accept the challenge. You trust God to bring in the finances and the materials to meet that need. Many times, I went to places like Vietnam, where I'd see people who needed help. I would commit a hundred thousand dollars to the project. Then I'd go home, knowing that Samaritan's Purse didn't have the money. I certainly didn't have the money. But I believed that through praying and trusting God, He would provide."

The Challenge

Your Own
Strength

God Room



2 Cor. 12:1-10

Your Own
Strength

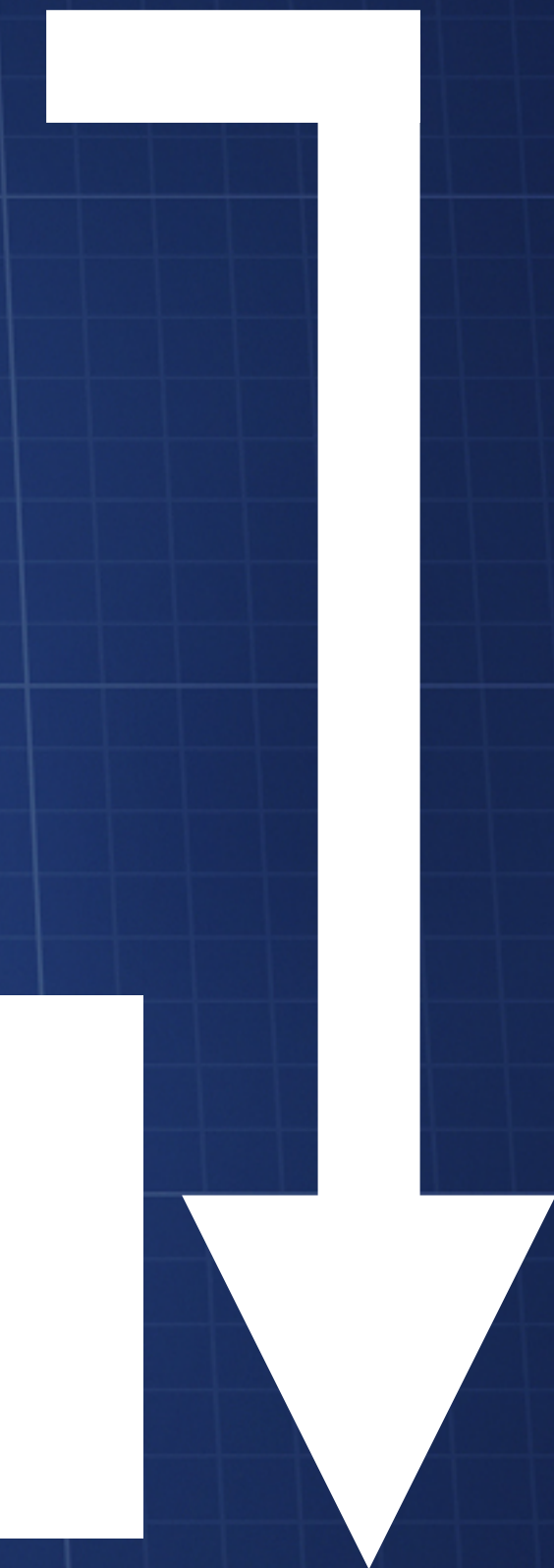
God's
Strength



Matt. 5:43-48

Your Own
Strength

God's
Strength

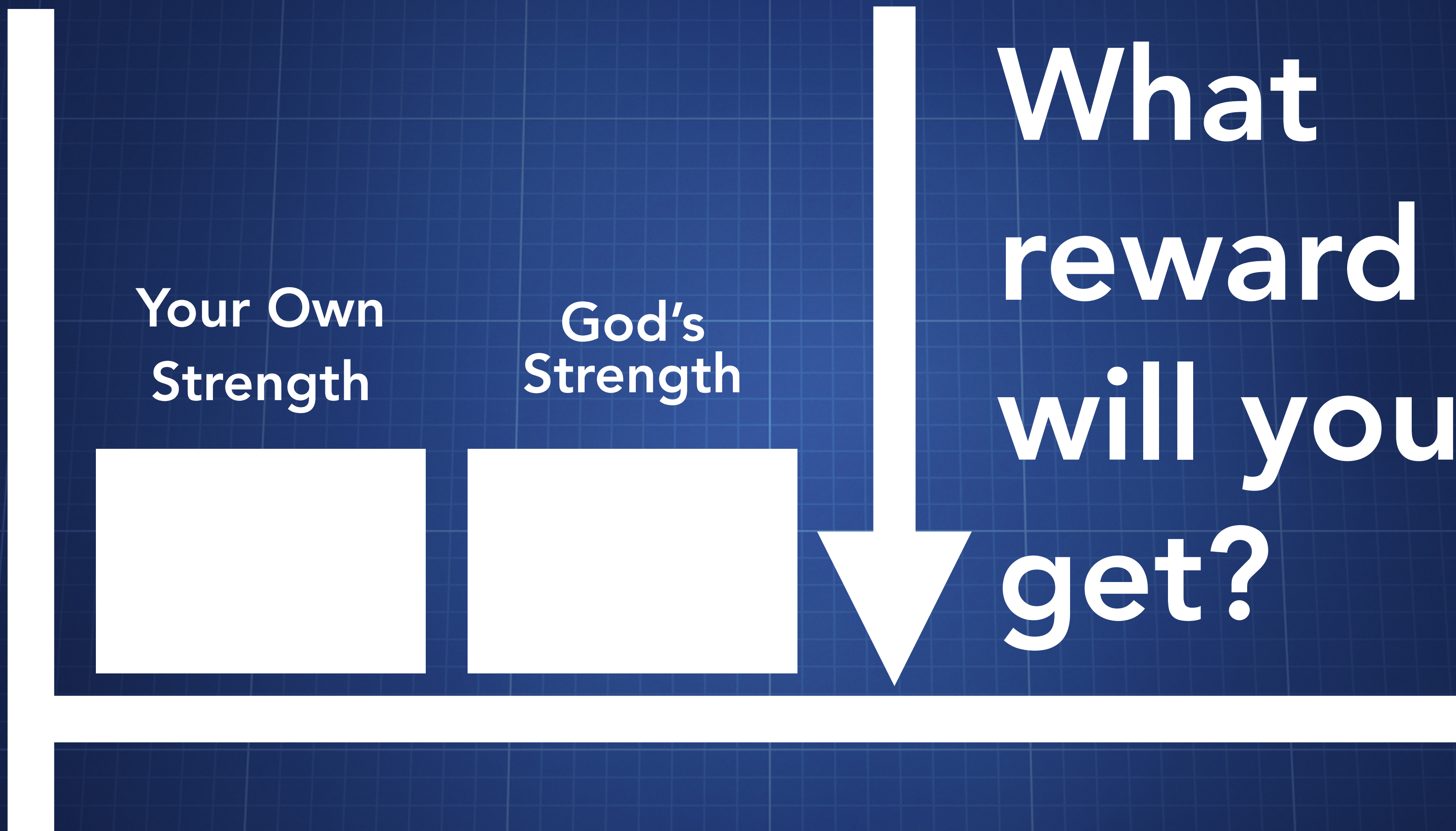


v. 46

Your Own
Strength

God's
Strength

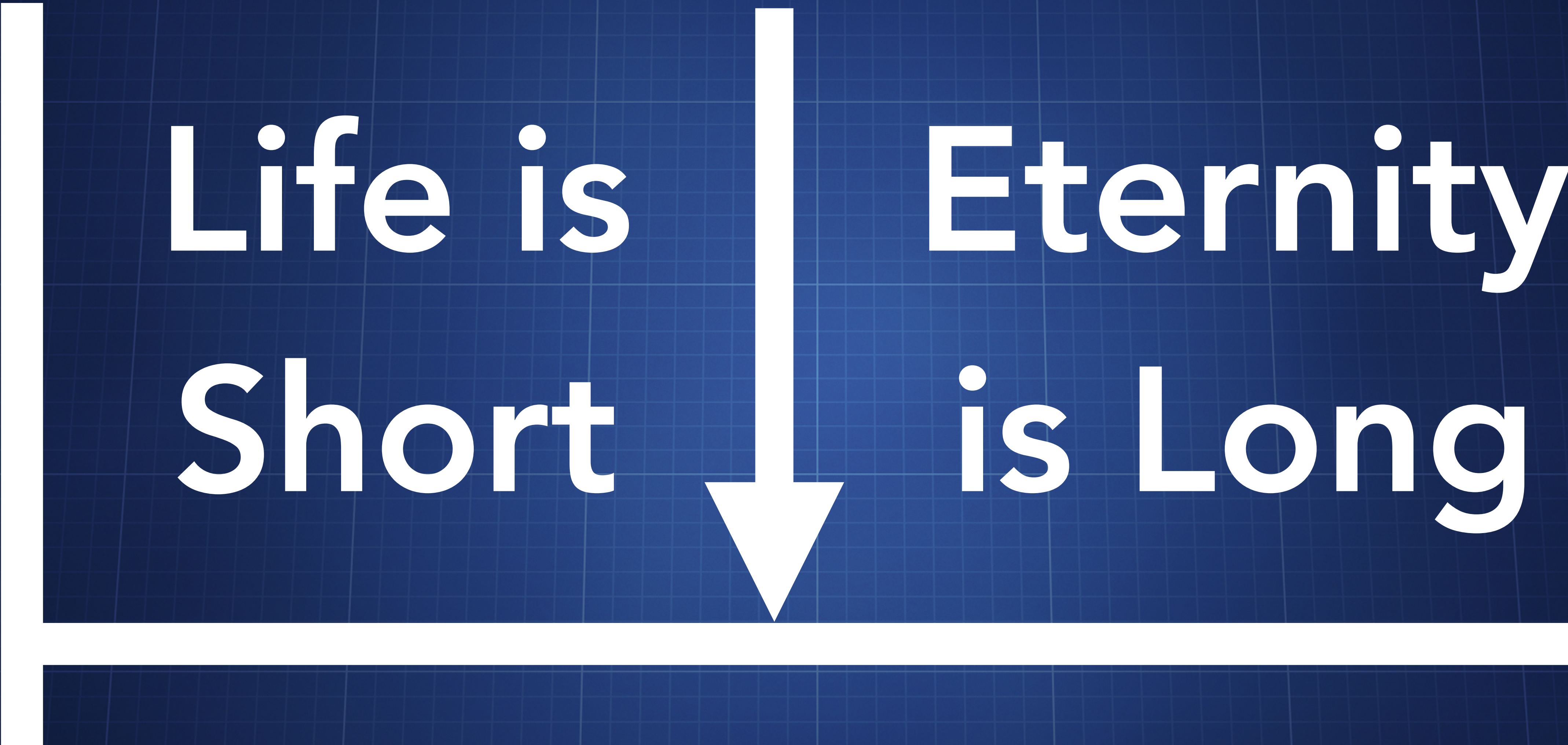
What
reward
will you
get?



Your Own
Strength

God's
Strength

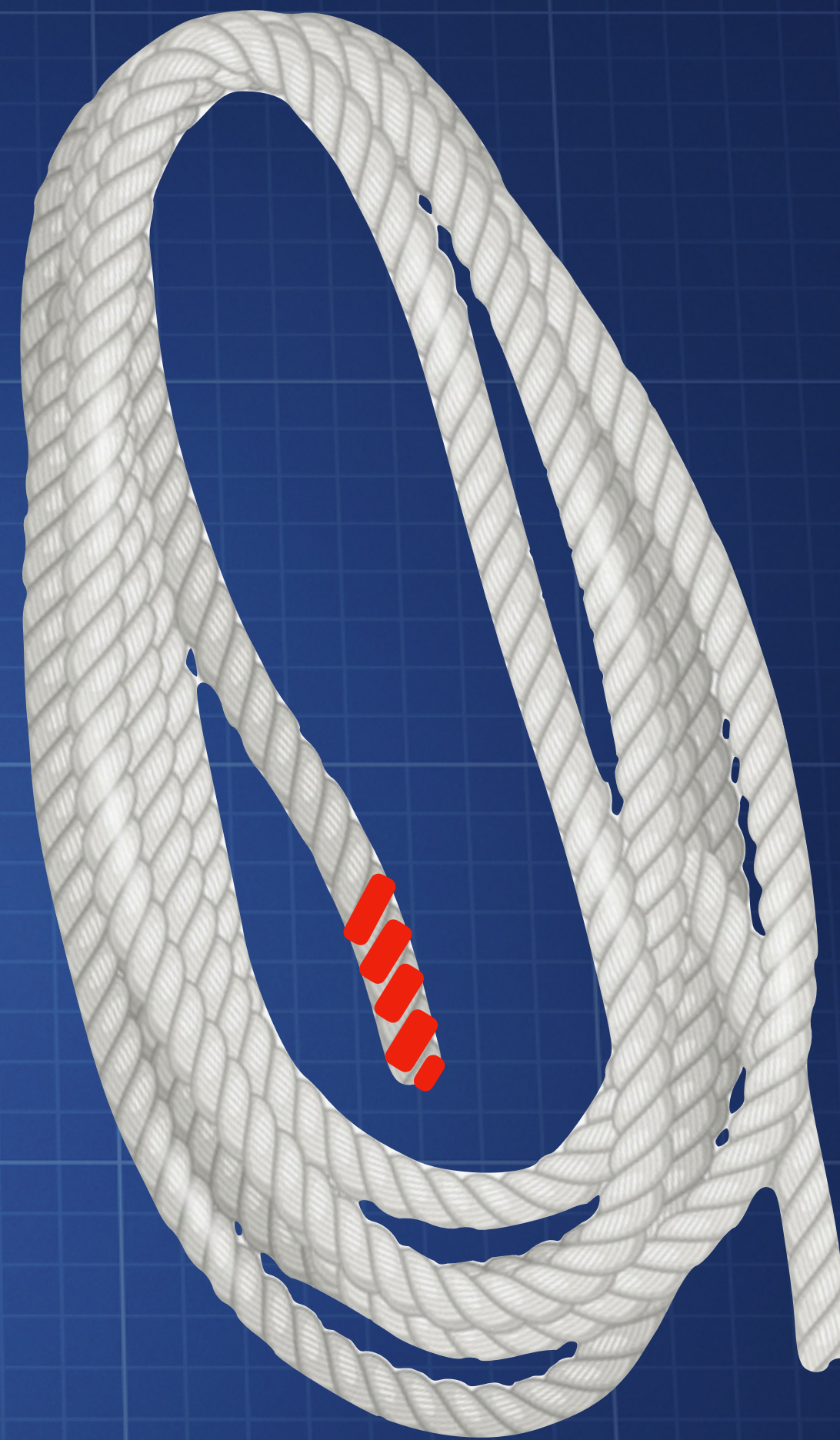
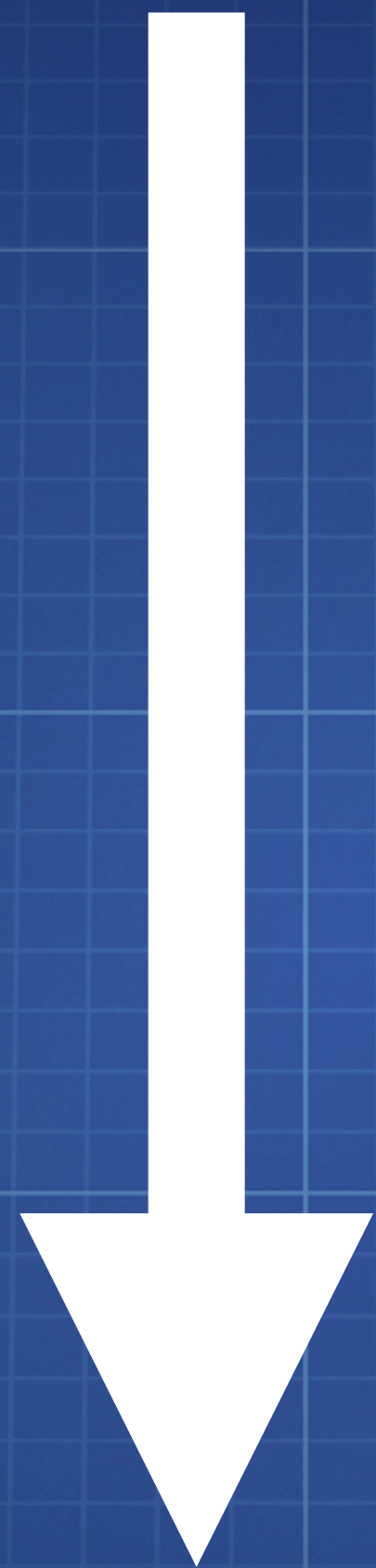
Expect
the
Greater
Reward



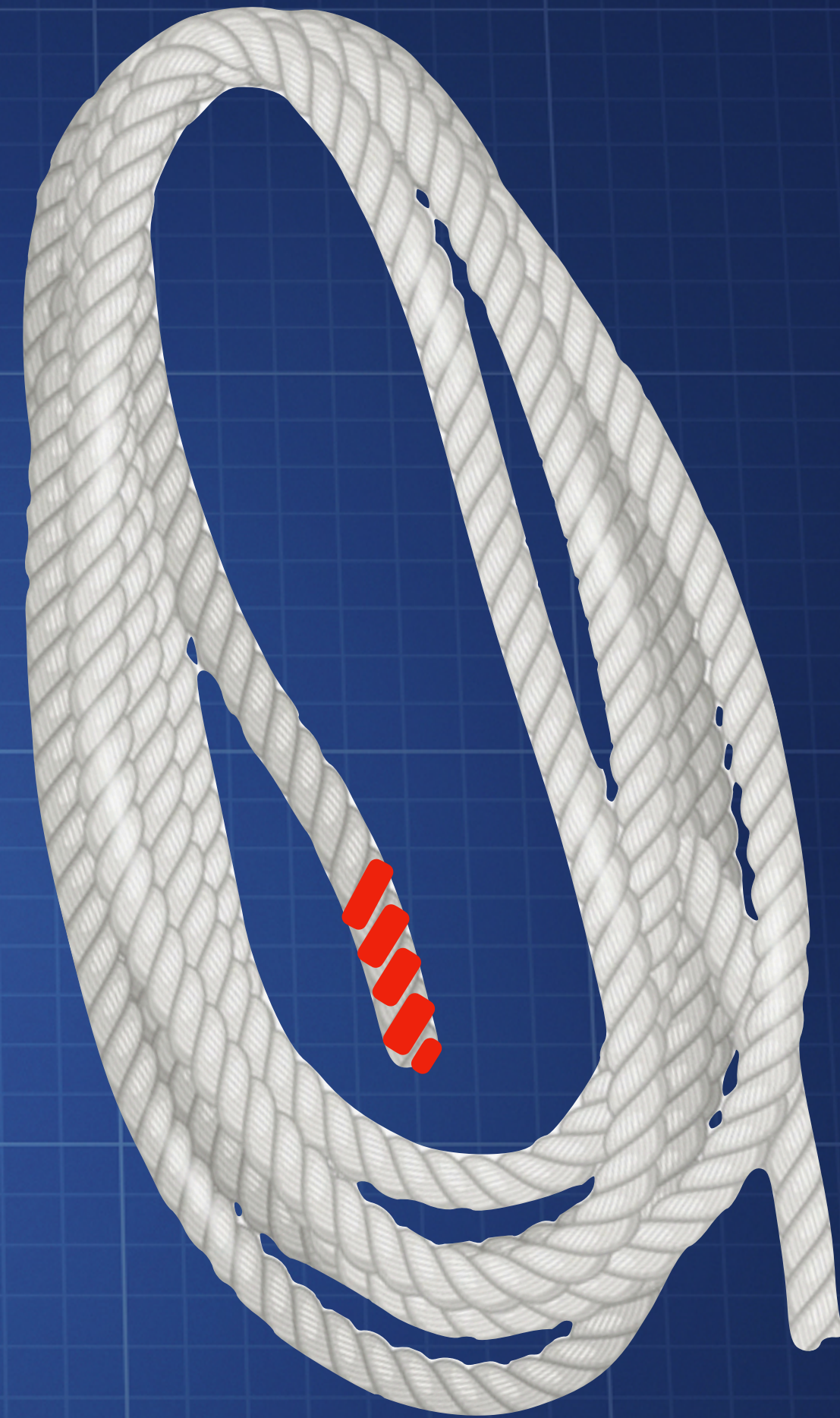
Life is
Short

Eternity
is Long

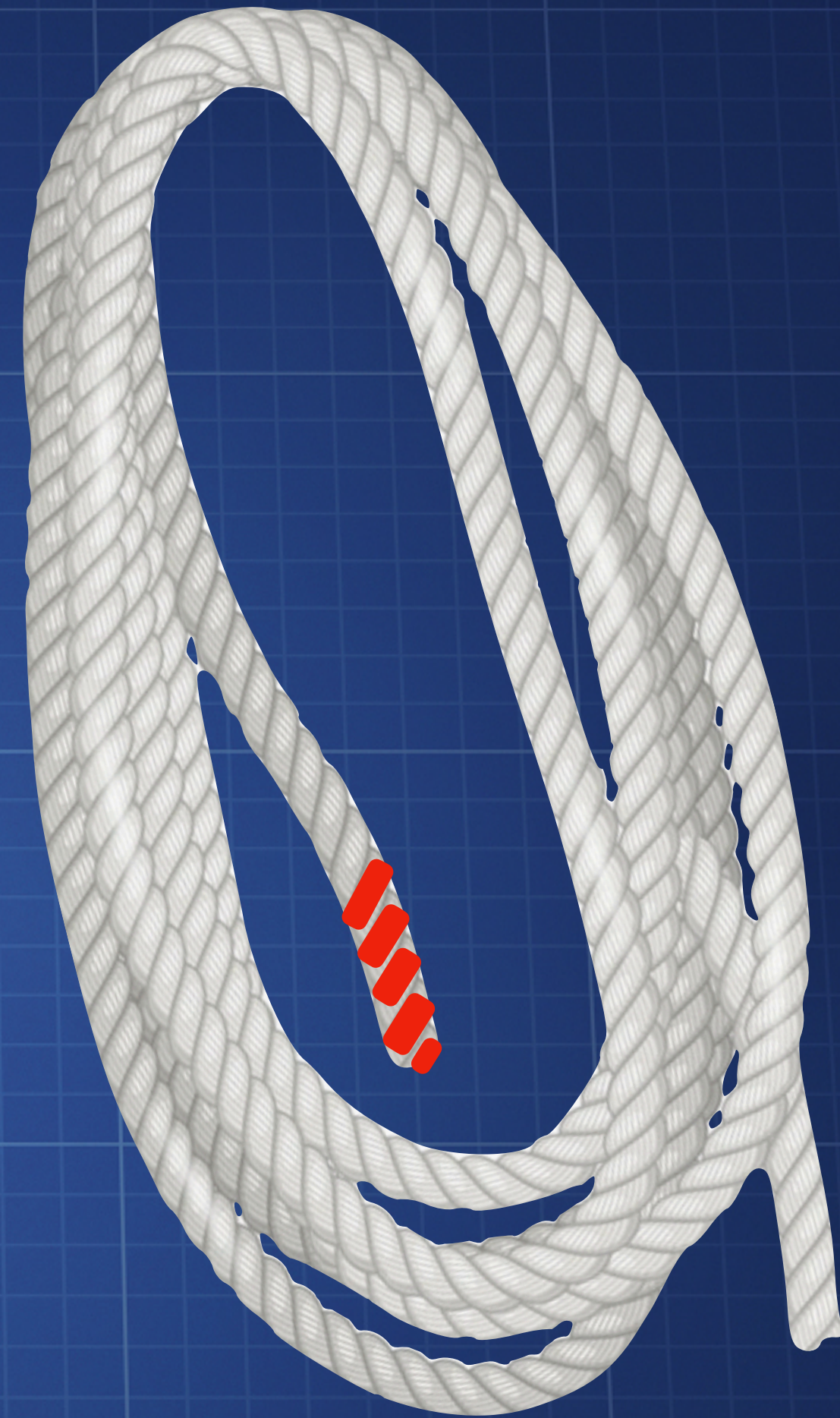
Life is
Short



God has a
purpose for
the trials
we face.



Doing easy is easy.
It's when we do
hard that we must
absolutely depend
on the grace &
strength of God.



1. Death is not the end of things.

v. 8

**2. Affliction & Poverty aren't
what they appear. v. 9**

3. Real life is eternal life. v. 10



**Roger
Youderian**

**Pete
Fleming**

**Jim
Elliot**

**Nate
Saint**

**Ed
McCully**

**“He is no fool who gives
what he cannot keep to
gain that which he
cannot lose.”**

Jim Elliot

**Expect the Greater
Reward**

Your Own
Strength

God Room

?

