SCRIPTURE READING

PSALM69







Psalm 69:1 – 3

Save me, O God, for the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in the miry depths, where there is no foothold. I have come into the deep waters; the floods engulf me. I am worn out calling for help; my throat is parched. My eyes fail, looking for my God.

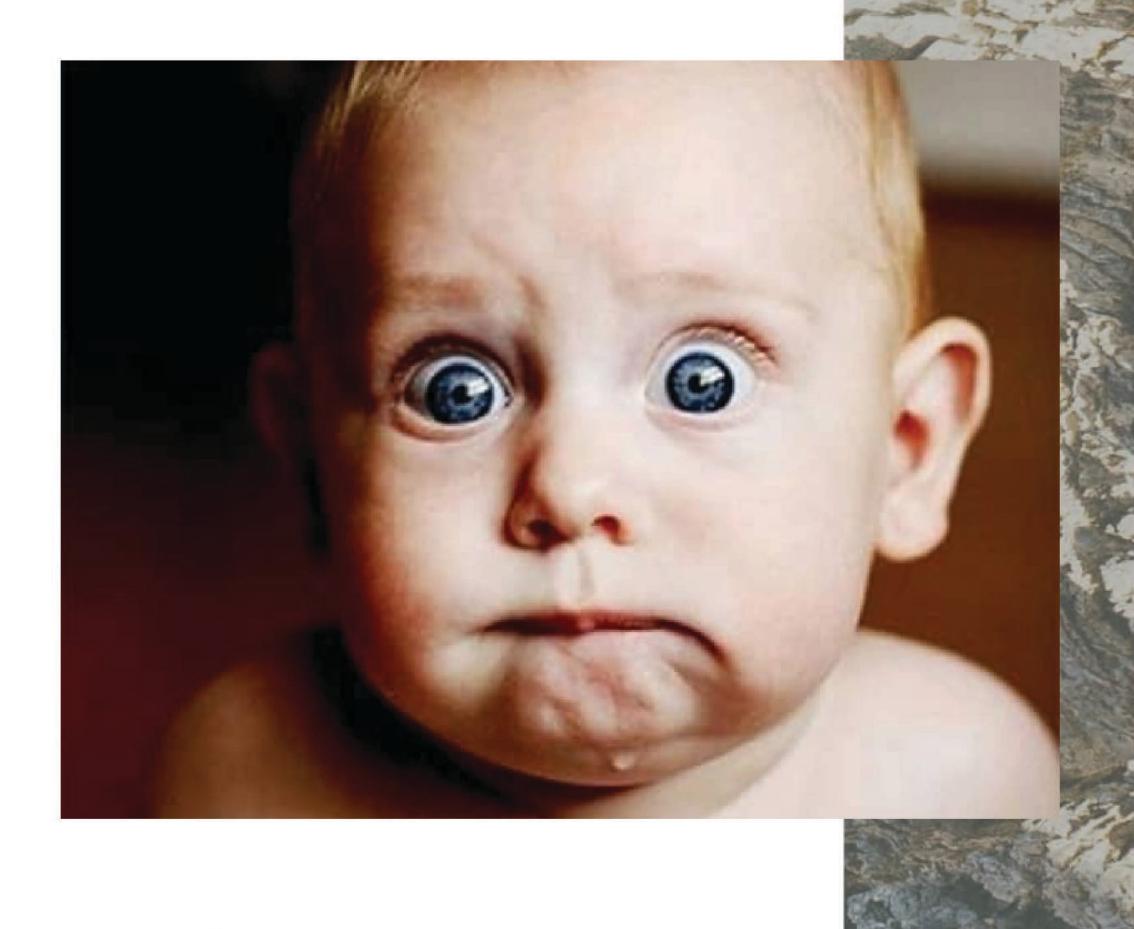


Truth:

Generally in life, some people aren't going to like you.



This is especially true if you have real piety.



Piety

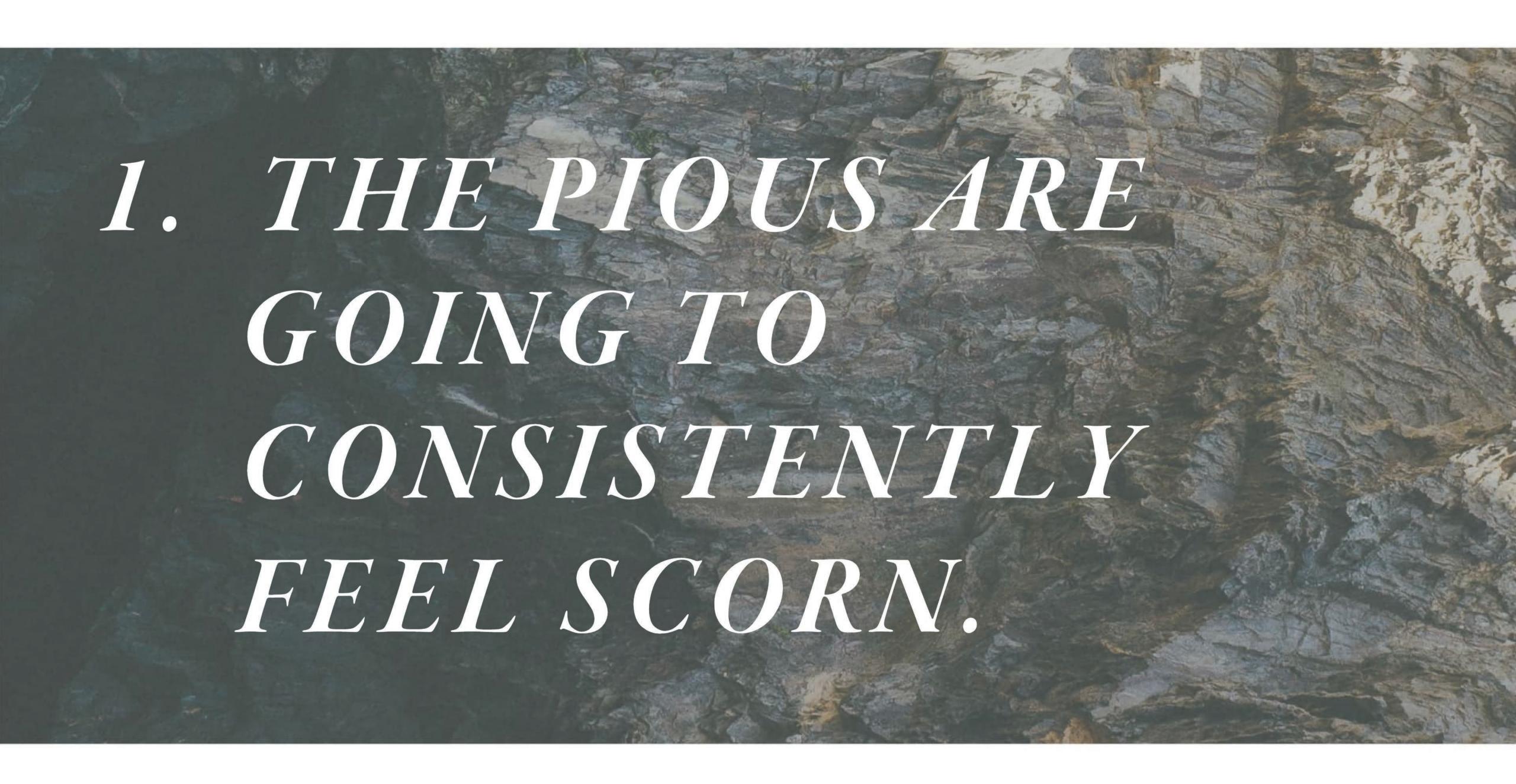
Real devotion to God as he reveals himself, in personal identification, heart passion, doctrinal interest, worshipful practice, and practical obedience.



Piety + Scorn = Persevering Intimacy
or

Scorned piety seeks intimacy.





Where does the scorn come from?

A sampler...

- 1. The self-righteous (vs 4 6)
- 2. The irreligious (vs 8 9)
- 3. The impious religious people (vs 10 11)
- 4. The powerful and cynical (vs 12)
- 5. The sensualists and the foolish (vs 12)



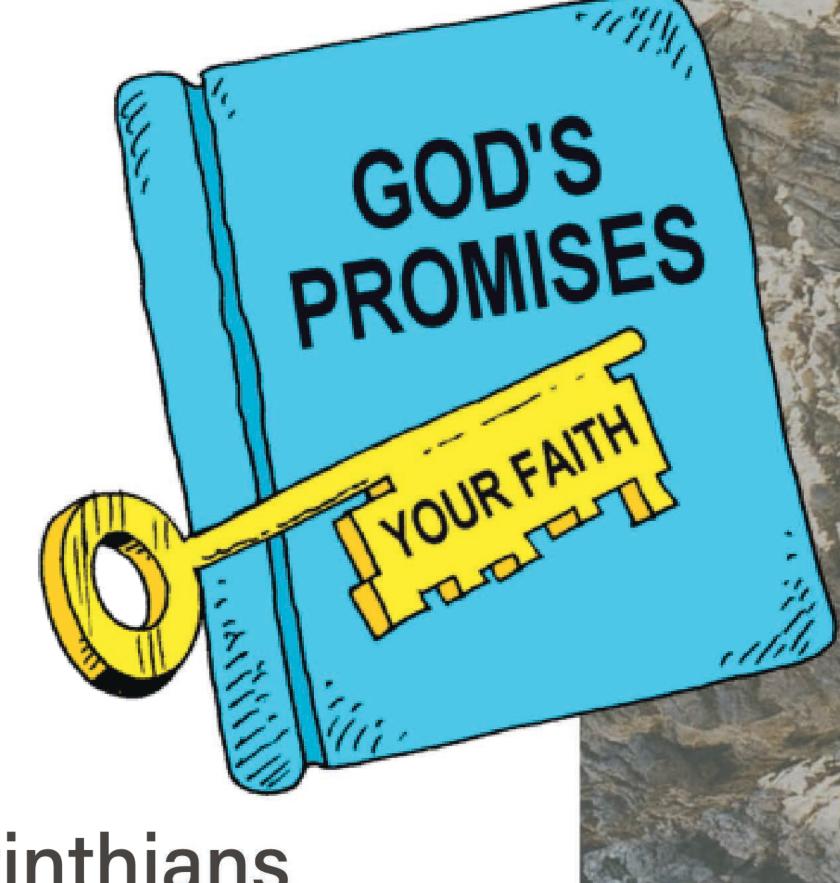
The Result:

"I am scorned, disgraced, and shamed." (verse 19)





Persecution promises:

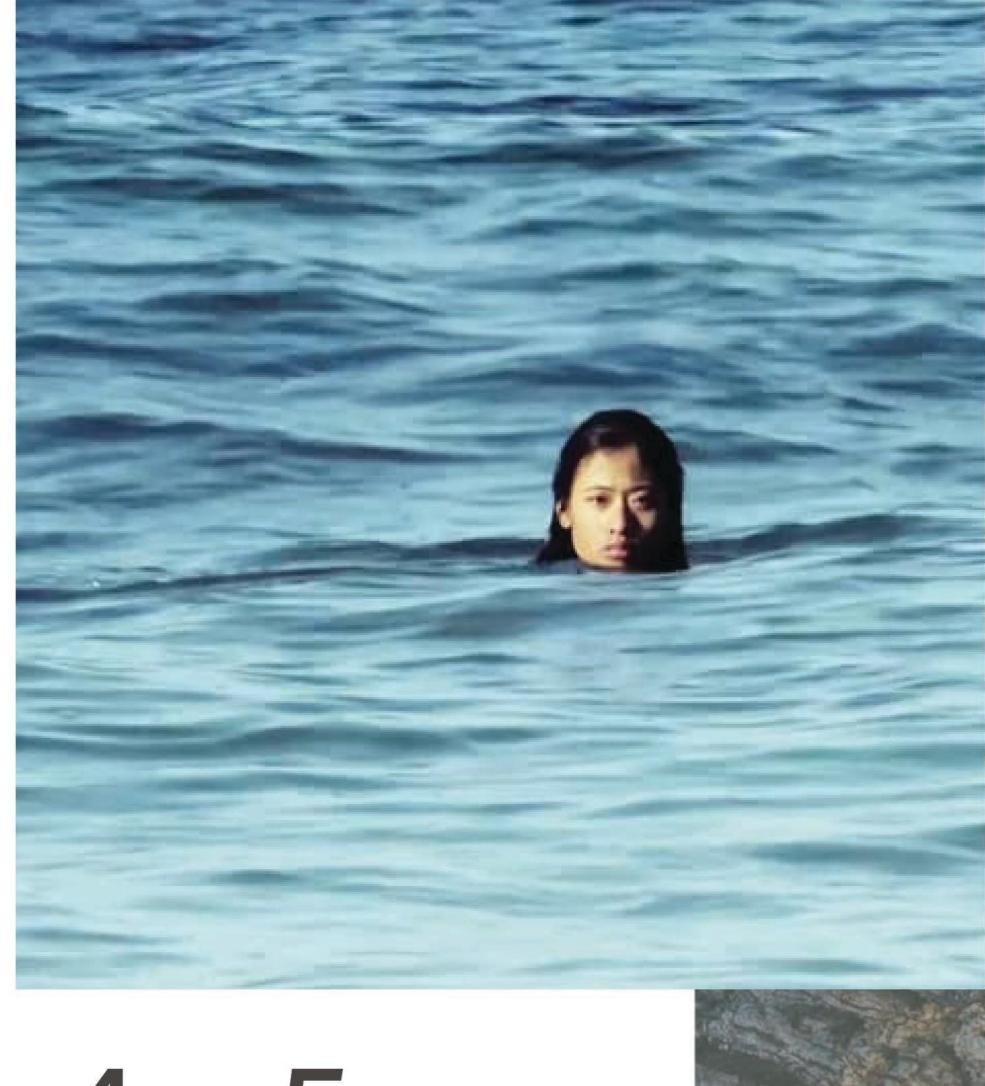


Luke 14:25 – 35, Romans 8:35 – 39, 2 Corinthians 12:10, Psalm 119:84 – 86, John 7:5 – 7, Luke 21:16 – 19, Matthew 5:9 – 16, Romans 12:14, 2 Corinthians 4:7– 11, 1 Thessalonians 3:2 – 4, 2 Timothy 3:10 – 13, Hebrews 10:32 – 35.



The Toll:

- 1. Brokenness-vs. 20
- 2. Alienation—vs. 8
- 3. Anxiety and fear—vs. 4 5



There is no vaccine for scorn, shame and disgrace.



Health vs. Immunity



We overcome WITH piety

turning to God in explicit and personal devotion in prayer, worship and spiritual discipline





Intimacy

The closeness of personal mutuality.

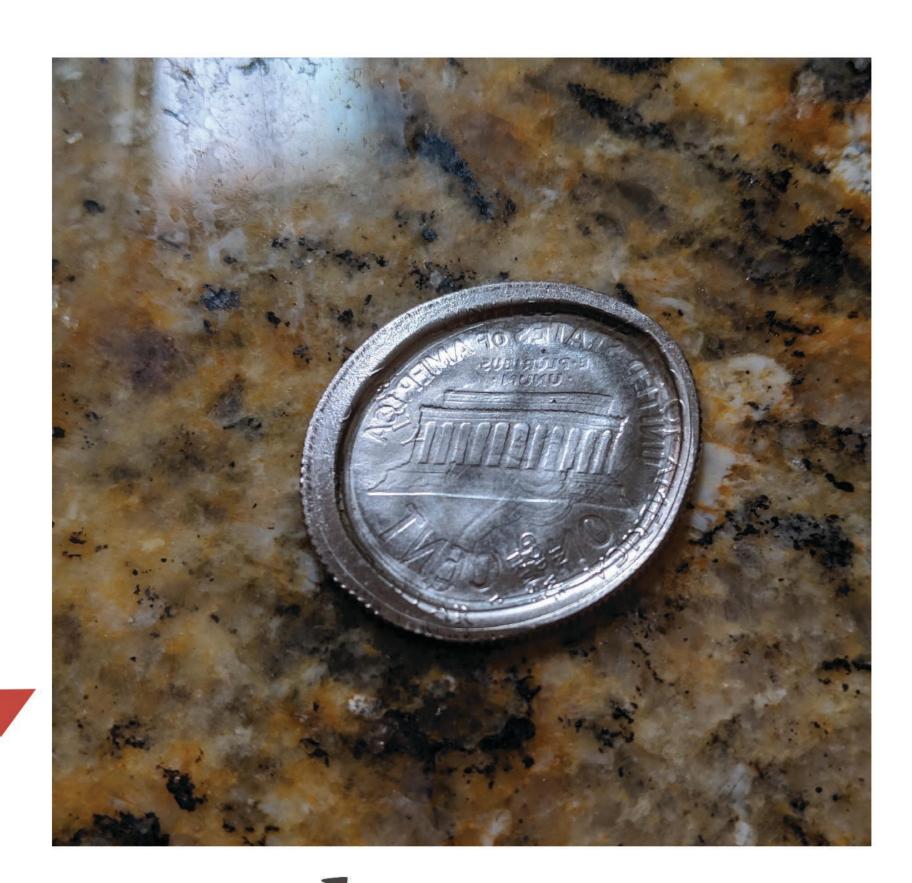
It produces pleasure, comfort, strength, confidence, security, hope, joy...



Pressure and Intimacy

Pitchoff Mountain





penny on a quarter under a train



Who was the perfect sufferer?

God—from the first.

Then, in the extreme in his Christ:

- 1. His piety cost him scorn (John 2:14 17)
- 2. He is pious in the midst of scorn (vinegar)
- His piety carried him through scorn (Romans 15:1 – 3)
- 4. He will answer for all the scorned(2 Thessalonians 1:4 12)



The Difference...

Romans 15:1 - 3

We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. <u>For</u> even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me."



