

A black and white portrait of Ralph Waldo Emerson, an American essayist, poet, and philosopher. He is shown from the chest up, wearing a dark suit, a white shirt, and a dark bow tie. His hair is dark and receding. He has a serious, contemplative expression, looking slightly to the left of the viewer. The background is dark and indistinct.

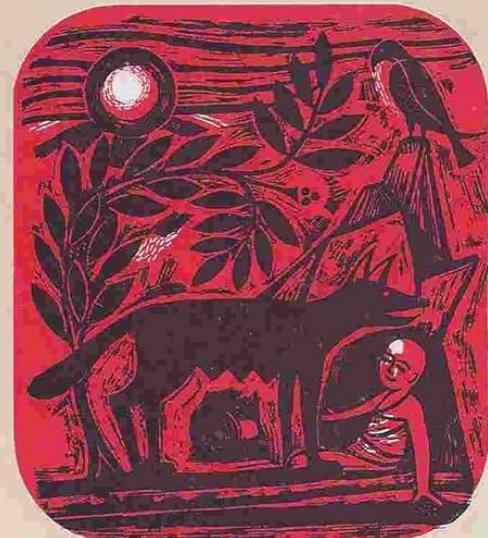
Trust thyself: every heart  
vibrates to that iron string.

~ Ralph Waldo Emerson

# SELF- RELIANCE

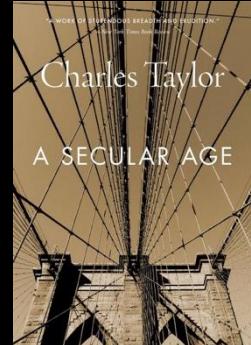
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*Ralph Waldo Emerson*



The understanding of life which emerges with the romantic expressivism of the late 18th century, that each of us has his/her own way of realizing our humanity, and that it is important to find and live out one's own, as again surrendering to conformity with a model imposed on us from outside, by society, or the previous generation, or religious or political authority.

Taylor, Charles. 2018. *A Secular Age*. London, England: Belknap Press. 475.



*when you realize that you only trust  
yourself;*



## Mark 6:53-56

53 When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. 54 As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. 55 They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. 56 And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

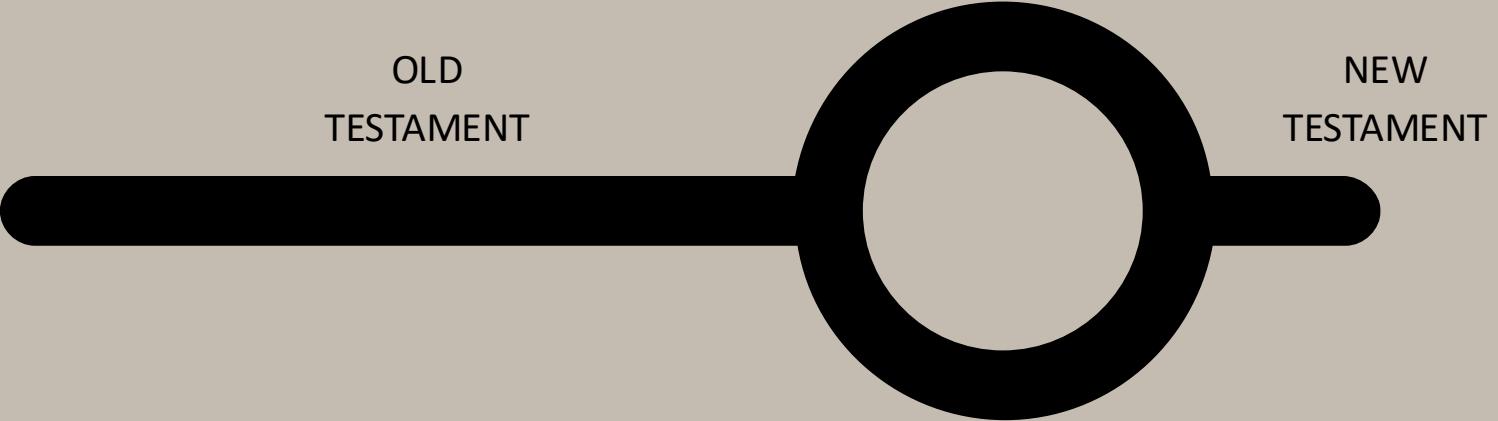
A close-up shot of a man with light brown hair, wearing a dark, high-collared coat. He has a surprised or shocked expression, with his mouth slightly open. Another man is visible in profile behind him, also wearing a dark coat. The background is blurred, showing what appears to be a hallway or a room with vertical stripes.

CROWD  
DISCIPLES



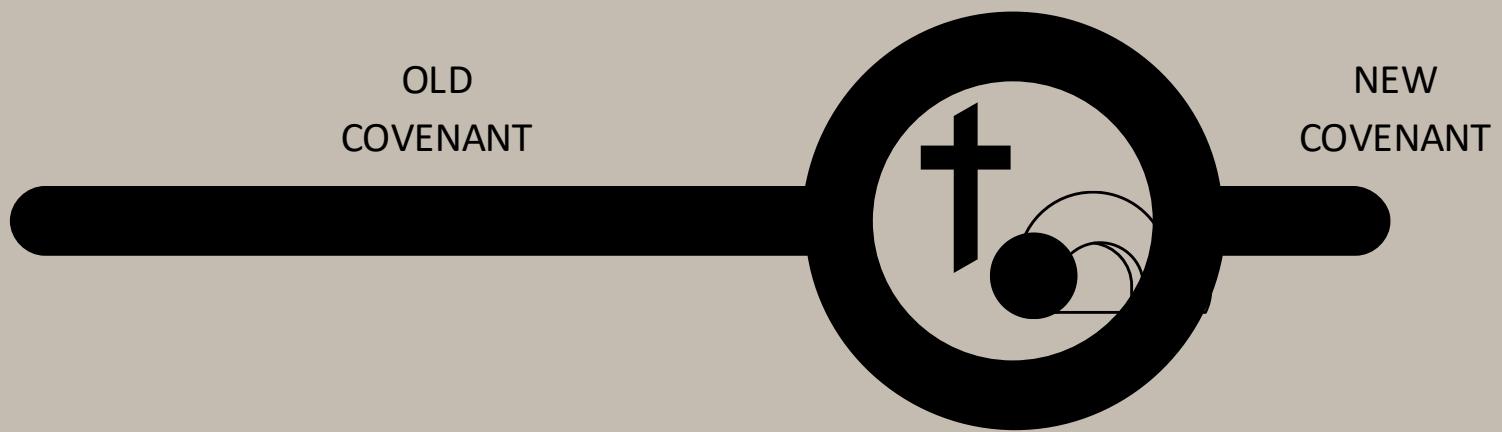
# WHO IS JESUS?

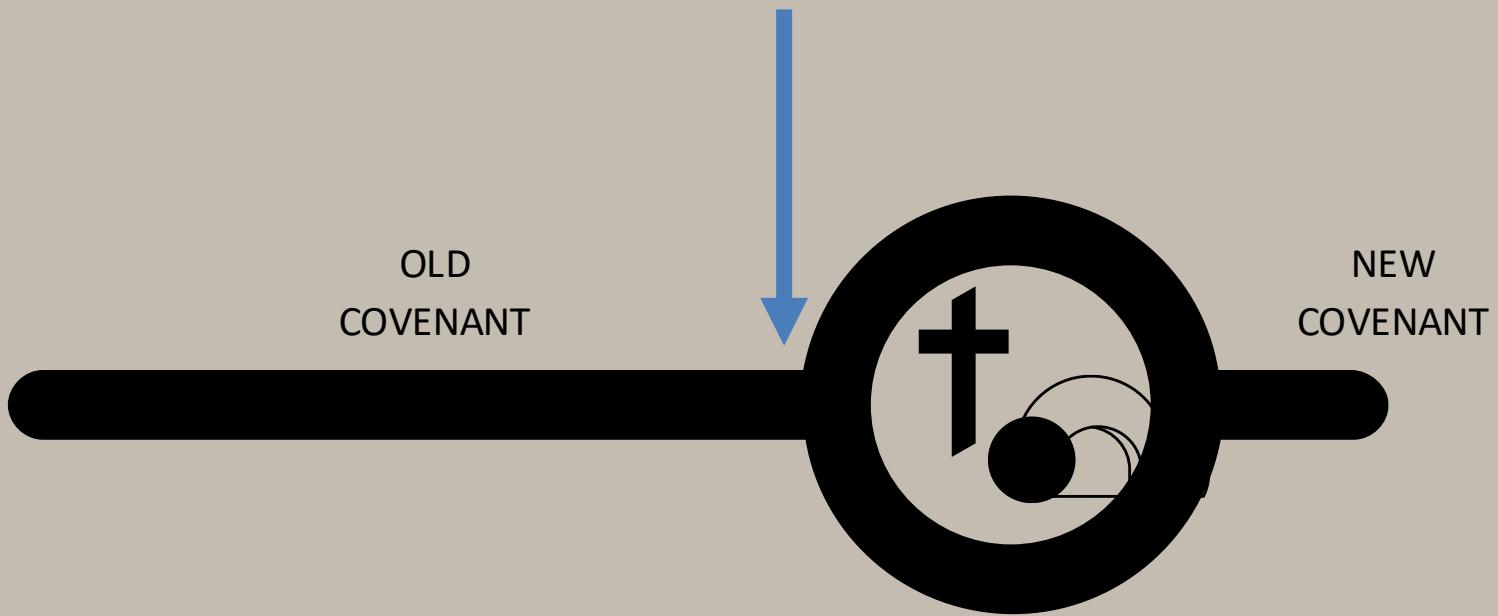




OLD  
TESTAMENT

NEW  
TESTAMENT





# Mark 6:45-52

1. Backs which row
2. Eyes which see
3. Hearts which feel

# Backs which row

Mark 6:45-48

<sup>45</sup> Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup> After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. <sup>47</sup> Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. <sup>48</sup> He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. <sup>48</sup> Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them...

**GOD  
WILL NEVER  
GIVE YOU  
MORE  
THAN YOU CAN  
HANDLE**

# Backs which row

Mark 6:45-48

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## Hosea 1:7

7 Yet I will show love to Judah; and I will save them –  
not by bow, sword or battle,  
or by horses and horsemen,  
but I, the LORD their God, will save them.

# Eyes which see

## Mark 6:49–50

<sup>49</sup> But when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, <sup>50</sup> because they all saw him and were terrified. <sup>50</sup> Immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

Based on data from the YouVersion Bible App, **Isaiah 41:10** was the most searched and "Verse of the Year" for 2025. This verse also holds the record for being the most-engaged verse four times in the last six years (2018, 2020, 2022, and 2025). [🔗](#)

### **The Verse (Isaiah 41:10, NIV):**

*"So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand."*







## Matthew 14:28-31

<sup>28</sup> “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.” <sup>29</sup> “Come,” he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!” <sup>31</sup> Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

For we live by

*Faith,*

Not by sight

- 2 CORINTHIANS 5:7 -

## Job 9:8

God alone stretches out the heavens and  
treads on the waves of the sea.

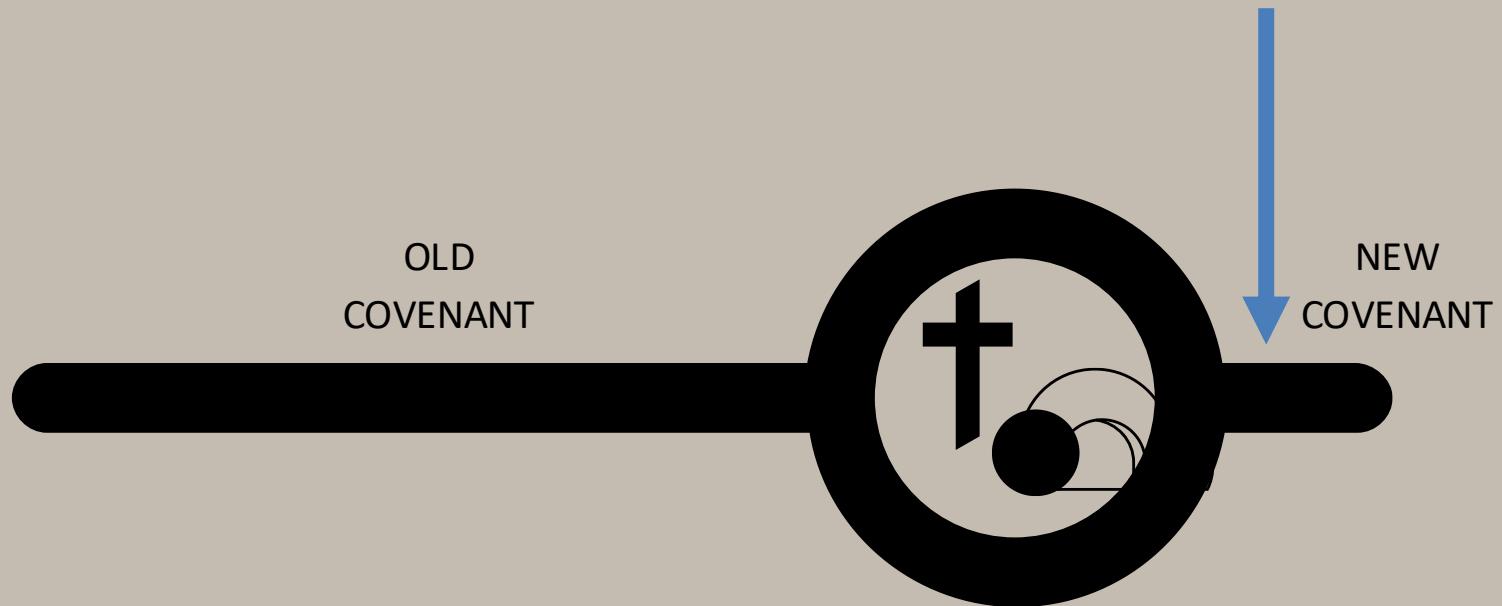
# Hearts which feel

## Mark 6:51-52

<sup>51</sup> Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, <sup>52</sup> for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.









# Gospel Application

Where have I been trusting my own strength –  
my back to row, my eyes to see, my heart to guide?

Today will I trust that Jesus carries me  
safely through the storm?