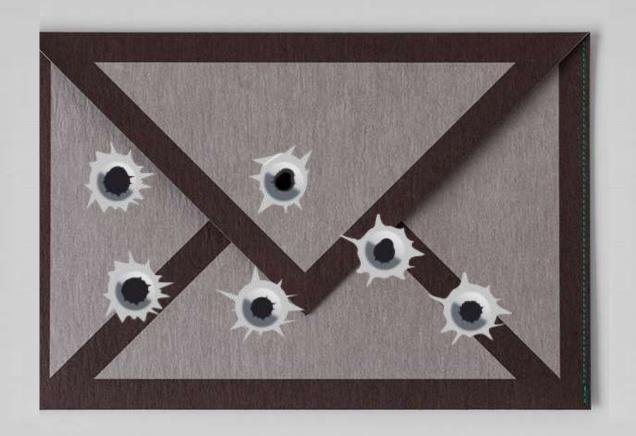


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2 Samuel 25:2-14, 18-26, 32-39 (ESV): "There was a man in Maon whose business was in Carmel. The man was very rich; he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. He was shearing his sheep in Carmel. 3 Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife Abigail. The woman was discerning and beautiful, but the man was harsh and badly behaved; he was a Calebite. 4 David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep...."

"... 5 So David sent ten young men. And David said to the young men, 'Go up to Carmel, and go to Nabal and greet him in my name. 6 And thus you shall greet him: 'Peace be to you, and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have. 7 I hear that you have shearers. Now your shepherds have been with us, and we did them no harm, and they missed nothing all the time they were in Carmel...."

"...8 Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let my young men find favor in your eyes, for we come on a feast day. Please give whatever you have at hand to your servants and to your son David.' 9 When David's young men came, they said all this to Nabal in the name of David, and then they waited. 10 And Nabal answered David's servants, 'Who is David? Who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants these days who are breaking away from their masters...."

"...11 Shall I take my bread and my water and my meat that I have killed for my shearers and give it to men who come from I do not know where?' 12 So David's young men turned away and came back and told him all this. 13 And David said to his men, 'Every man strap on his sword!' And every man of them strapped on his sword. David also strapped on his sword. And about

four hundred men went up after David, while two hundred remained with the baggage...."

"...14 But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, 'Behold, David sent messengers out of the wilderness to greet our master, and he railed at them.'...18 Then Abigail made haste and took two hundred loaves and two skins of wine and five sheep already prepared and five seahs of parched grain and a hundred clusters of raisins and two hundred cakes of figs, and laid them on donkeys...."

"...19 And she said to her young men, 'Go on before me; behold, I come after you.' But she did not tell her husband Nabal. 20 And as she rode on the donkey and came down under cover of the mountain, behold, David and his men came down toward her, and she met them. 21 Now David had said, 'Surely in vain have I guarded all that this fellow has in the wilderness, so that nothing was missed of all that belonged to him, and he has returned me evil for good...."

"...22 God do so to the enemies of David and more also, if by morning I leave so much as one male of all who belong to him.' 23 When Abigail saw David, she hurried and got down from the donkey and fell before David on her face and bowed to the ground. 24 She fell at his feet and said, 'On me alone, my lord, be the guilt. Please let your servant speak in your ears, and hear the words of your servant...."

"...25 Let not my lord regard this worthless fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he. Nabal is his name, and folly is with him. But I your servant did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent. 26 Now then, my lord, as the LORD lives, and as your soul lives, because the LORD has restrained you from bloodguilt and from saving with your own hand, now then let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be as Nabal...."

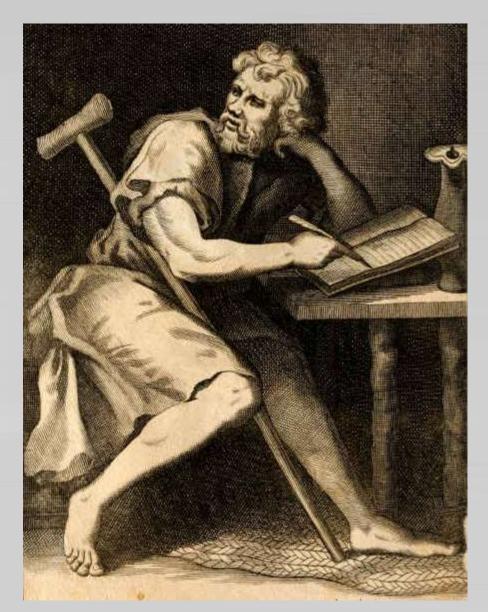
"...32 And David said to Abigail, 'Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who sent you this day to meet me! 33 Blessed be your discretion, and blessed be you, who have kept me this day from bloodguilt and from working salvation with my own hand! 34 For as surely as the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there had not been left to Nabal so much as one male.'..."

"...35 Then David received from her hand what she had brought him. And he said to her, 'Go up in peace to your house. See, I have obeyed your voice, and I have granted your petition.' 36 And Abigail came to Nabal, and behold, he was holding a feast in his house, like the feast of a king. And Nabal's heart was merry within him, for he was very drunk. So she told him nothing at all until the morning light...."

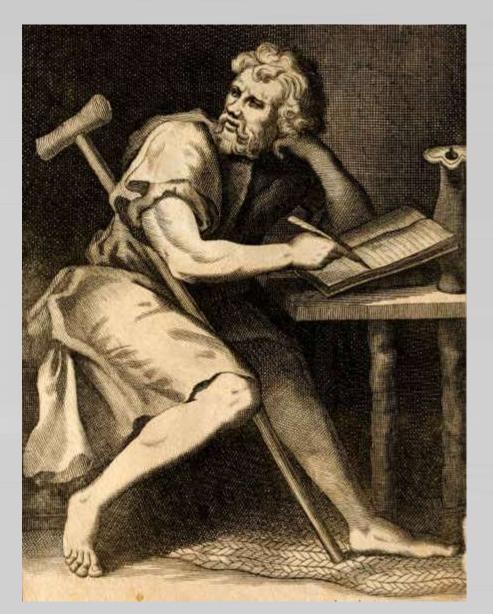
"...37 In the morning, when the wine had gone out of Nabal, his wife told him these things, and his heart died within him, and he became as a stone. 38 And about ten days later the LORD struck Nabal, and he died. 39 When David heard that Nabal was dead, he said, 'Blessed be the LORD who has avenged the insult I received at the hand of Nabal, and has kept back his servant from wrongdoing. The LORD has returned the evil of Nabal on his own head.' Then David sent 🔔 and spoke to Abigail, to take her as his wife."



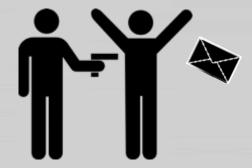




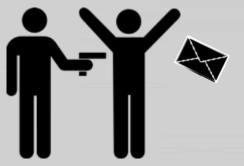




"Don't demand that things happen as you wish, but wish that they happen as they do happen, and you will go on well." (Epictetus in his work The Enchiridon, chapter 8)



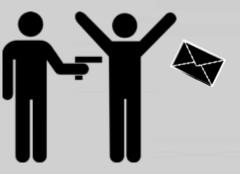
Philippians 4:11 (ESV): "I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content."

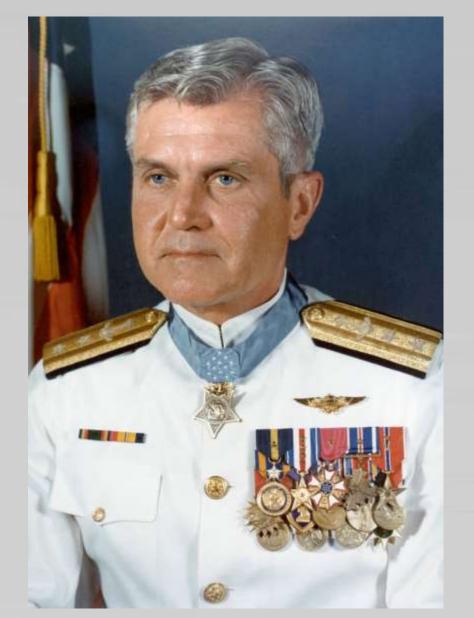


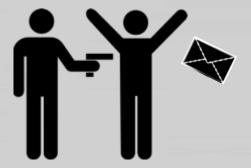
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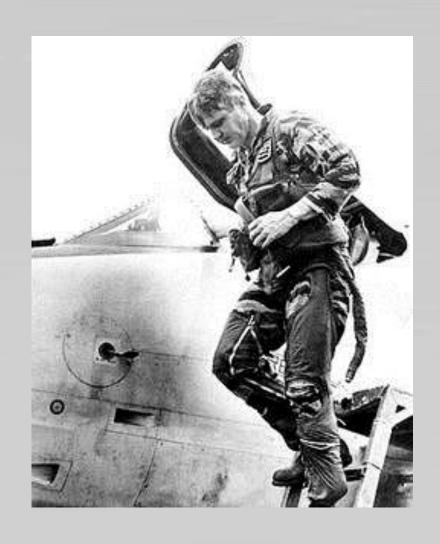
Romans 5:3-4 (ESV): "We rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, **4** and endurance produces character, and character produces hope."

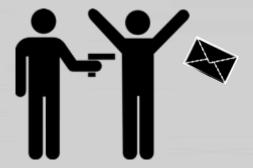




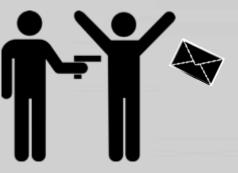


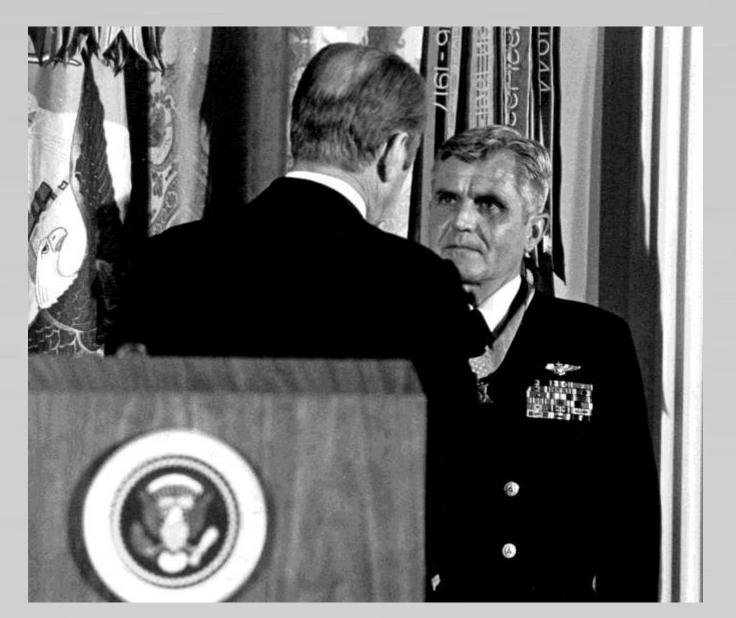














"I never lost faith in the end of the story, I never doubted not only that I would get out, but also that I would prevail in the end and turn the experience into the defining event of my life, which, in retrospect, I would not trade."

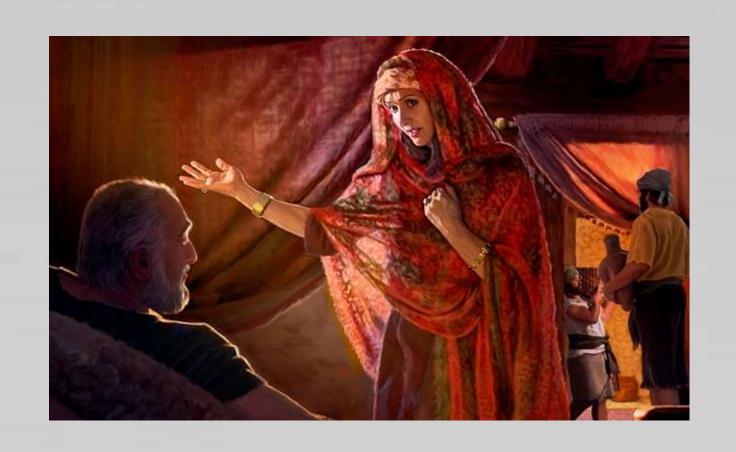
(James Stockdale, as quoted by Jim Collins in his book Good to Great)



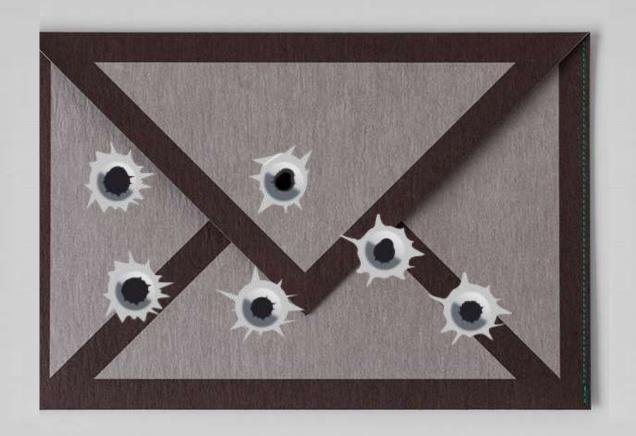
"You must never confuse faith that you will prevail in the end - which you can never afford to lose - with the discipline to confront the most brutal facts of your current reality, whatever they might be."

(From Jim Collins' book *Good to Great*)









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#### MAINPOINT

EVERY CIRCUMSTANCE FALLS INTO
ONE OF TWO CATEGORIES:
THOSE THINGS GOD PREORDAINS
AND
THOSE THINGS THAT WE CAN CHANGE.

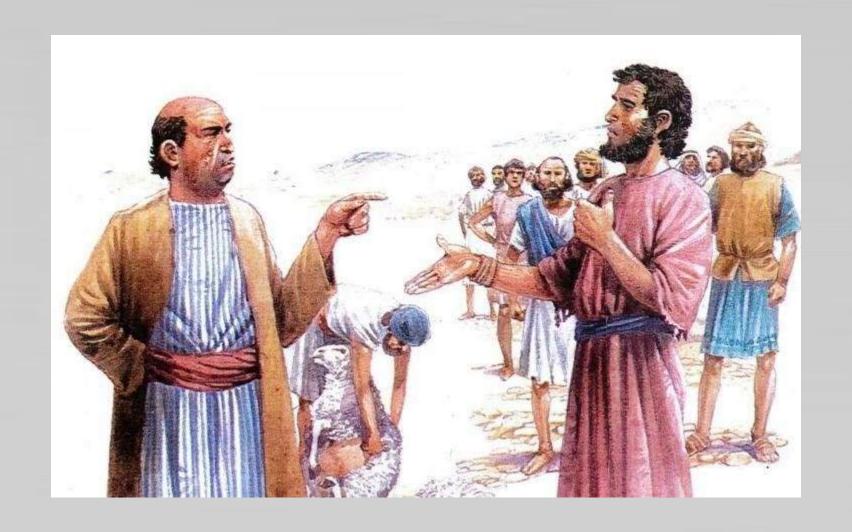


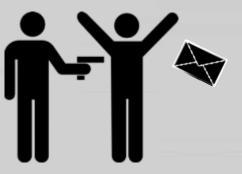
- Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV):
- Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.
- 6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.



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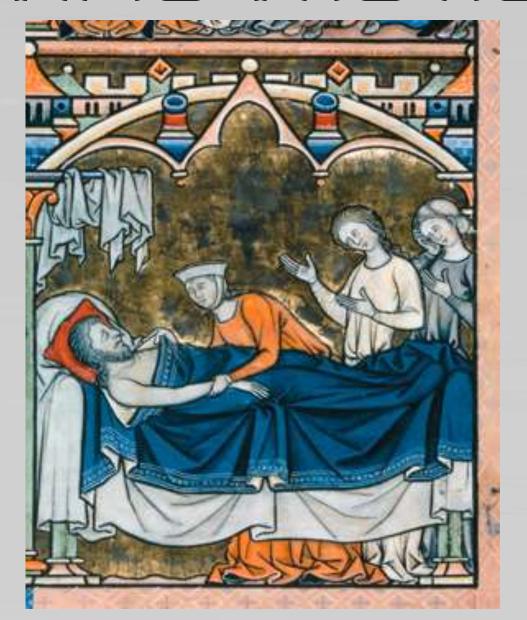
Matthew 6:34 (ESV): "Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble."

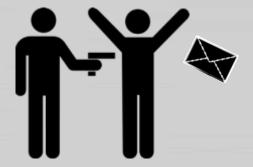






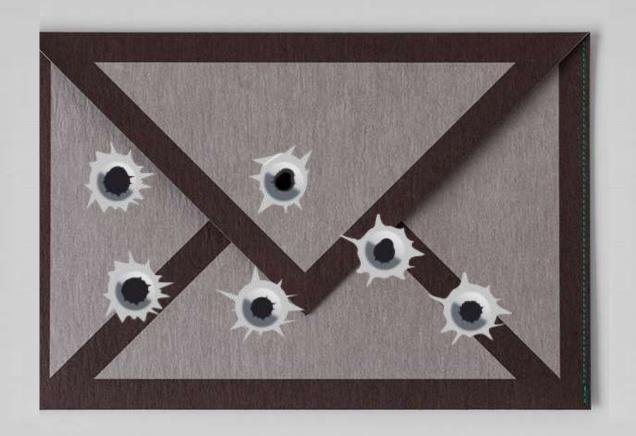








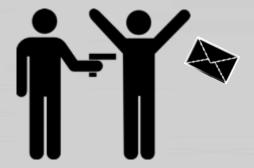




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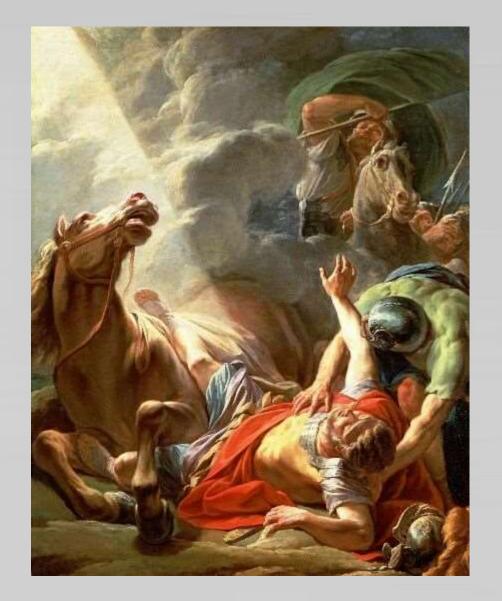
#### APPLICATION

- SEE YOUR LIFE IN <u>3-D</u>:
  GOD WORKS THROUGH
  - 1) DIVINE INTERVENTION,
  - 2) YOUR DEALINGS, AND
  - 3) EVEN YOUR DEFICIENCIES.

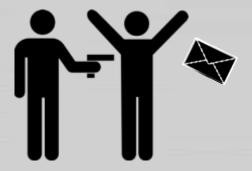


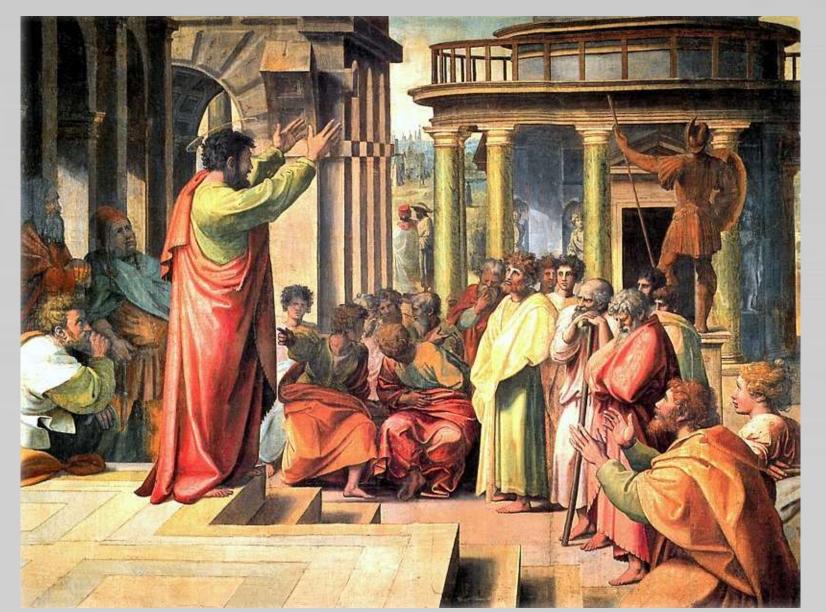
Philippians 1:12-18 (ESV): "I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, 13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. 14 And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear...."

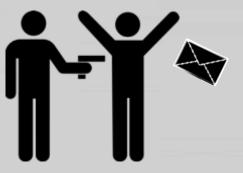
"...15 Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. 16 The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice."

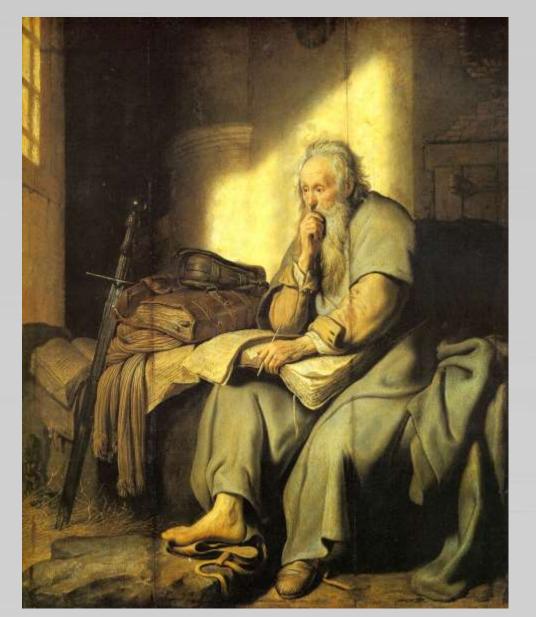


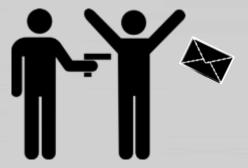
Acts 22:21 (ESV): "And he said to me, 'Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles."

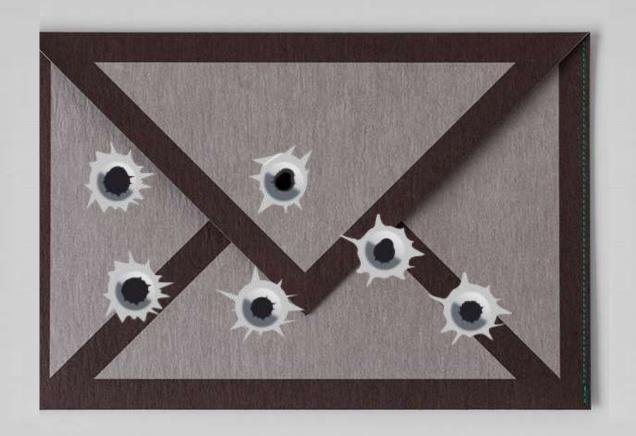












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# ANTIHERO

The Chronicles of David

Next Week: 2 Samuel 2-5