

# Story of My Life

**2 Corinthians 11:23-12:10**  
**March 6, 2022**













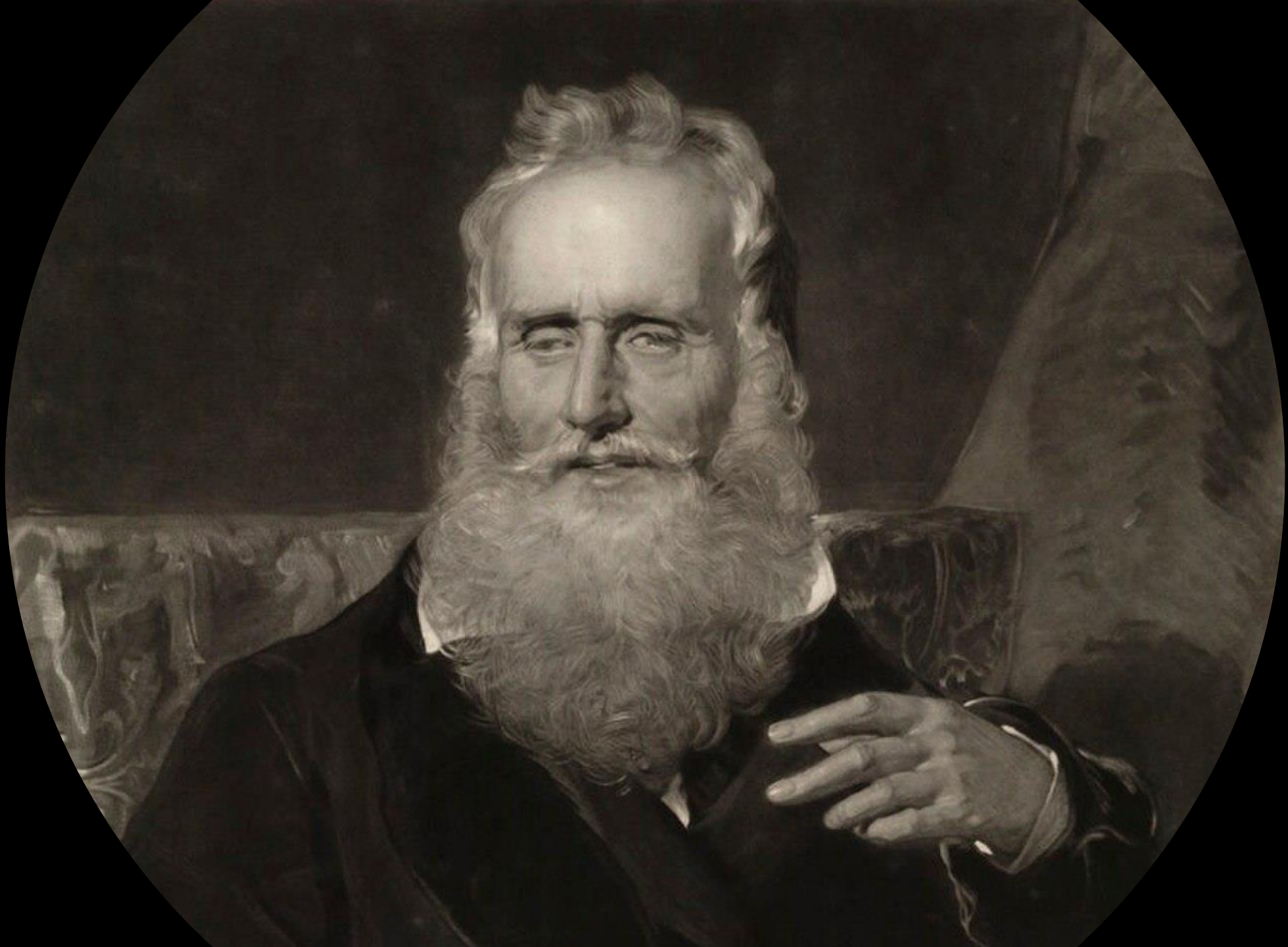




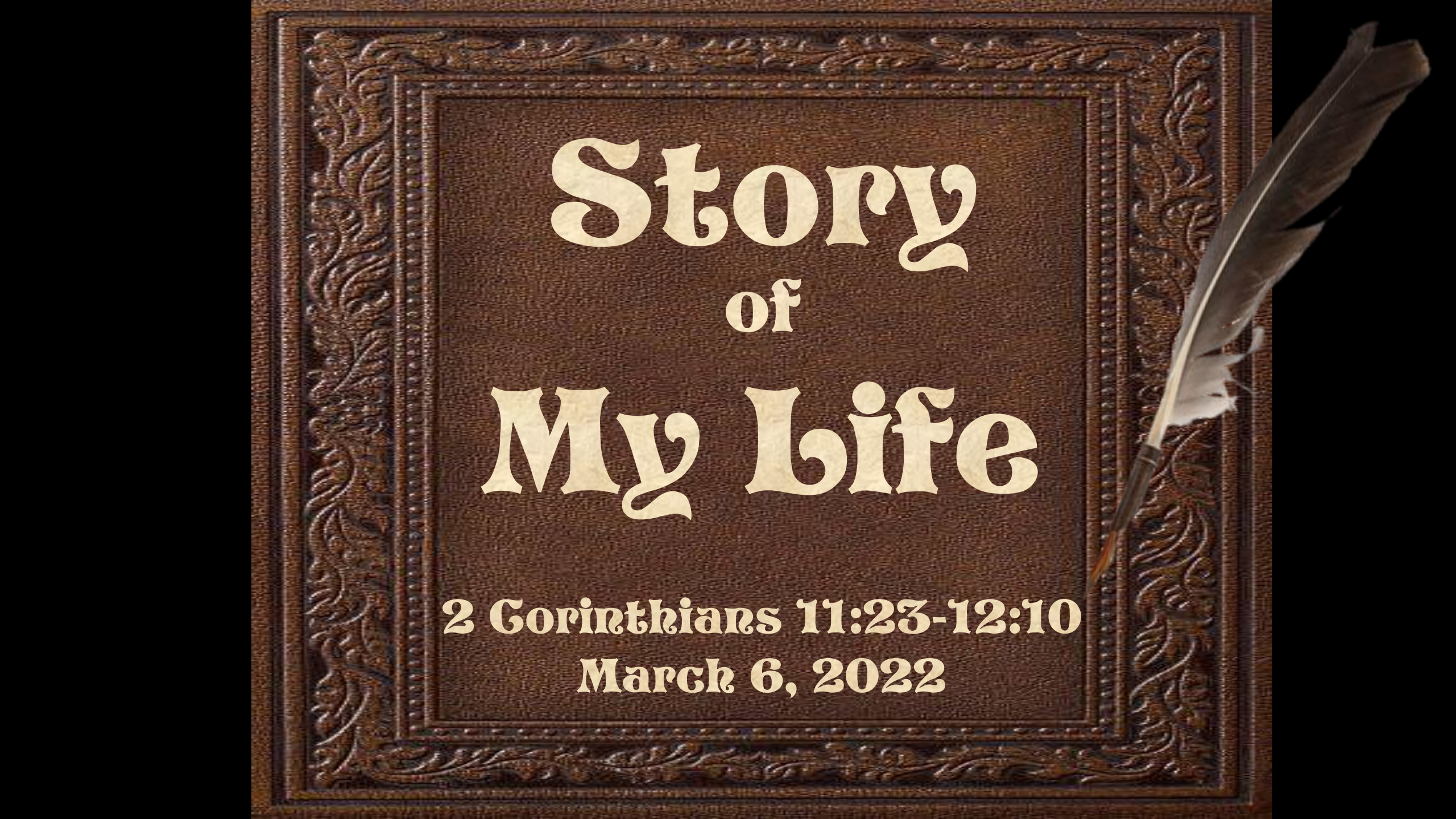


“History has bestowed the title of ‘World’s Greatest Traveler’ to many people...But Holman beat them all. By his death at 70 in 1857, the blind man had walked, climbed, ridden, hiked, and sailed a total distance equal to traveling to the moon. In terms of mileage and the number of cultures he encountered, Holman died as the most well-traveled explorer in world history.”

(From Lucas Reilly’s article *The Blind Traveler* at [mentalfloss.com](http://mentalfloss.com), August 28, 2017)





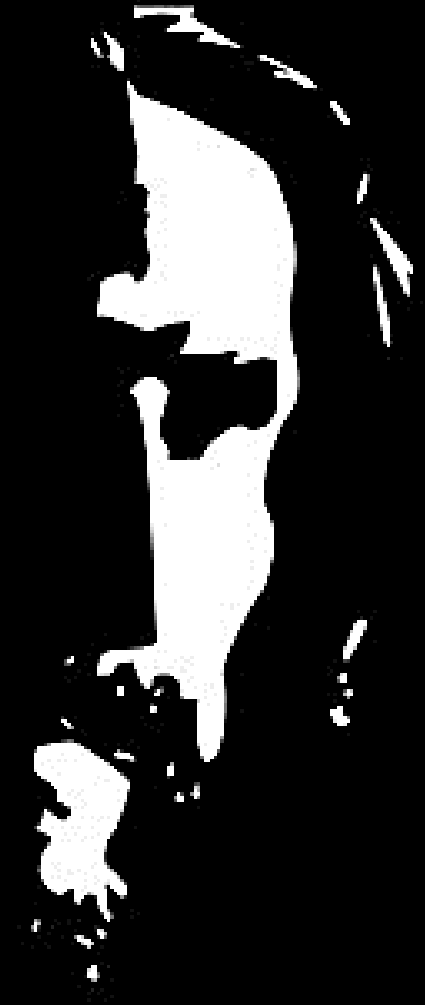


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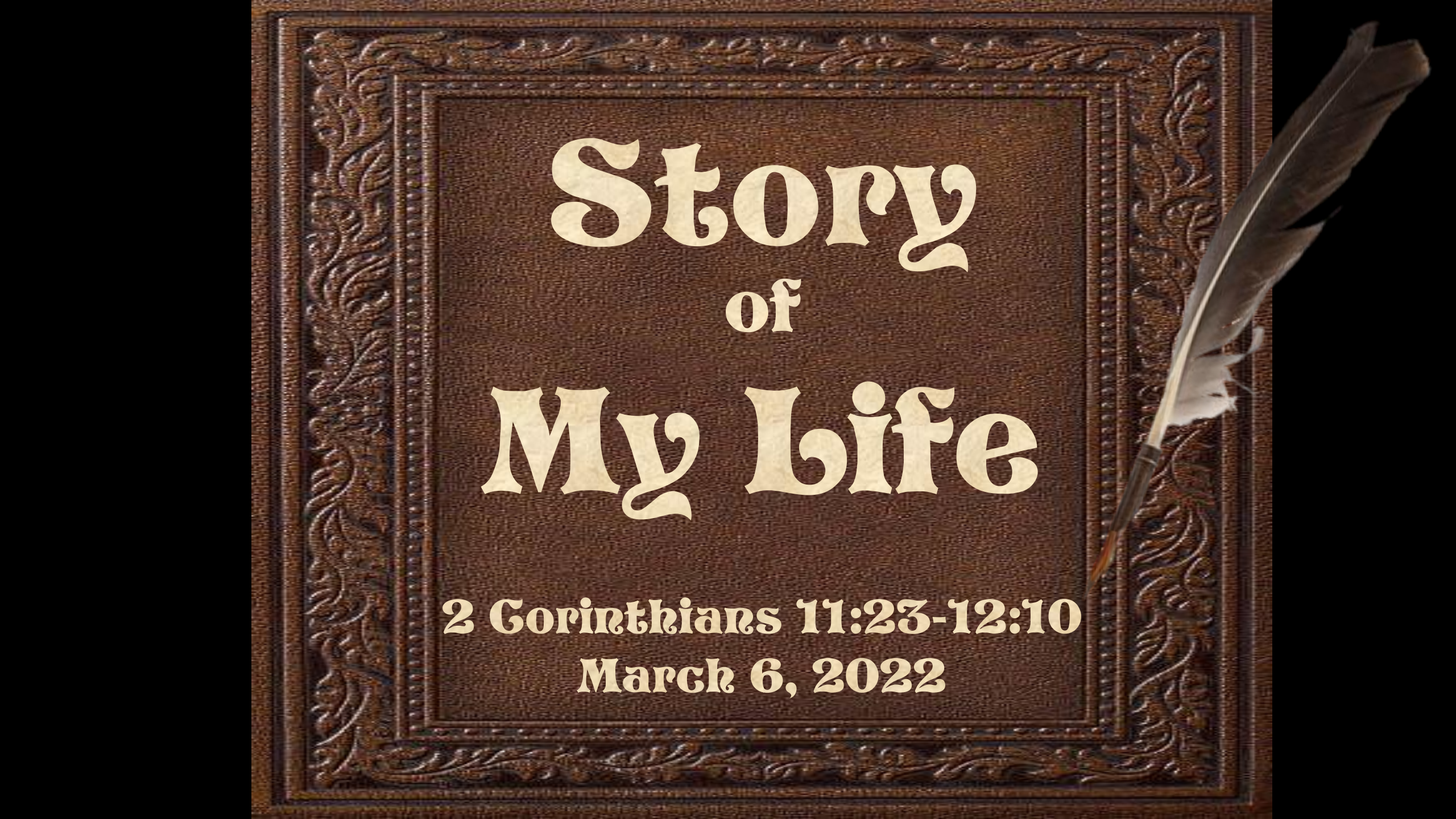
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# THE JESUS LIFE

PAUL'S SECOND EPISTLE  
TO THE CORINTHIANS



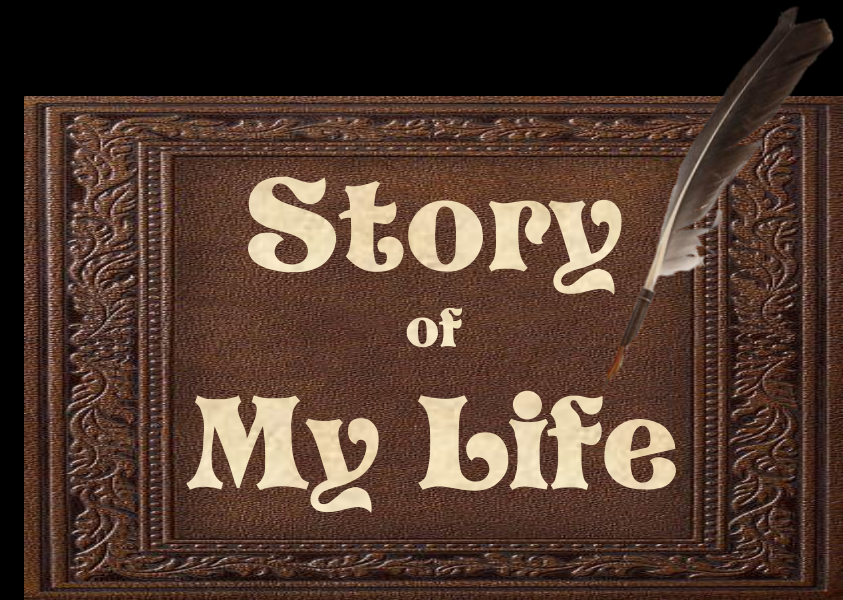
YOU WERE MADE TO LIVE LIKE THIS



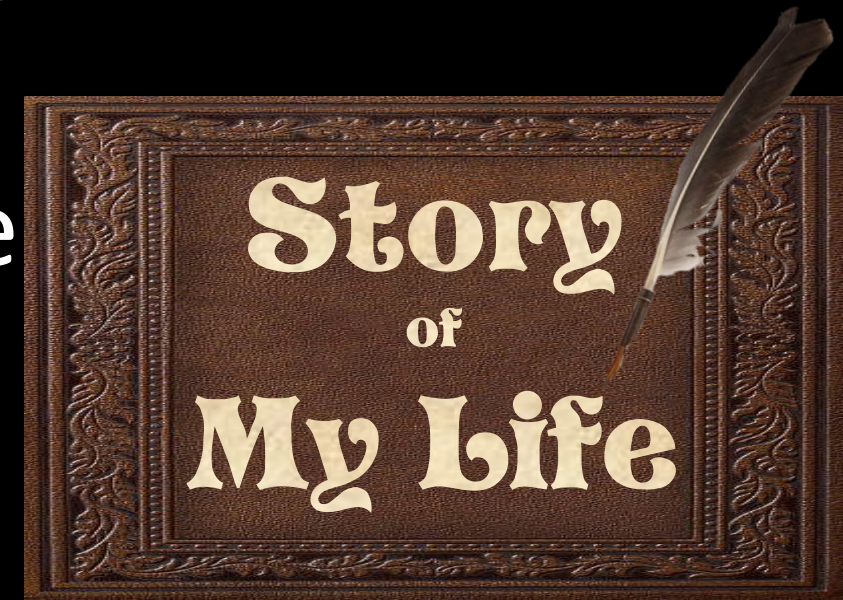
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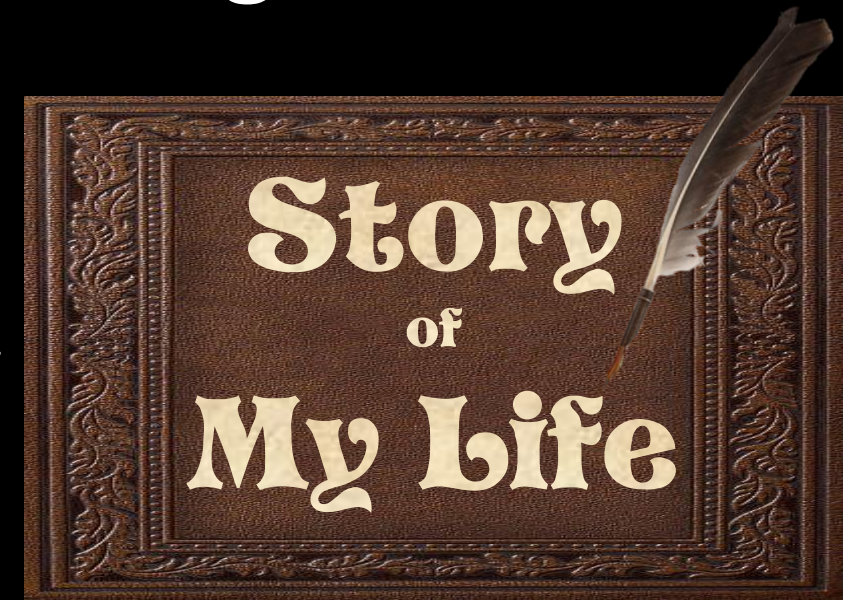
2 Corinthians 11:23-33 (ESV): “Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one – I am talking like a madman – with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. **24** Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. **25** Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea;...”

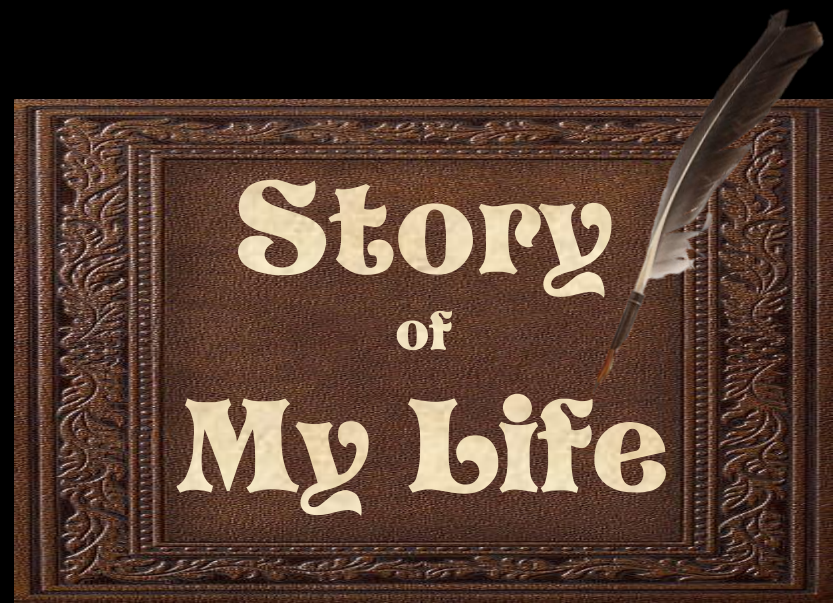


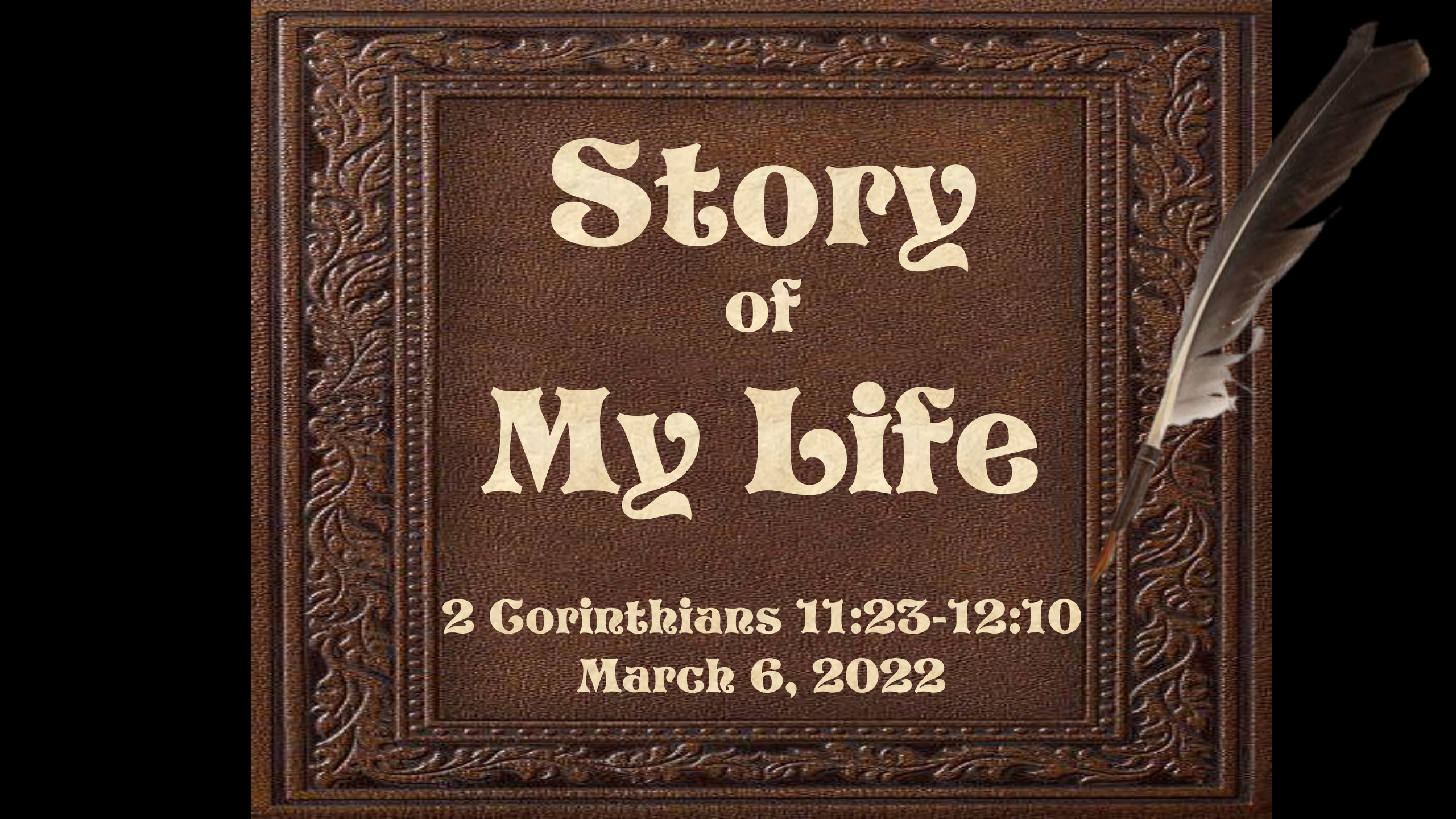
“...**26** on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brothers; **27** in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. **28** And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure on me of my anxiety for all the churches....”



“...**29** Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? **30** If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. **31** The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed forever, knows that I am not lying. **32** At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas was guarding the city of Damascus in order to seize me, **33** but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall and escaped his hands.”







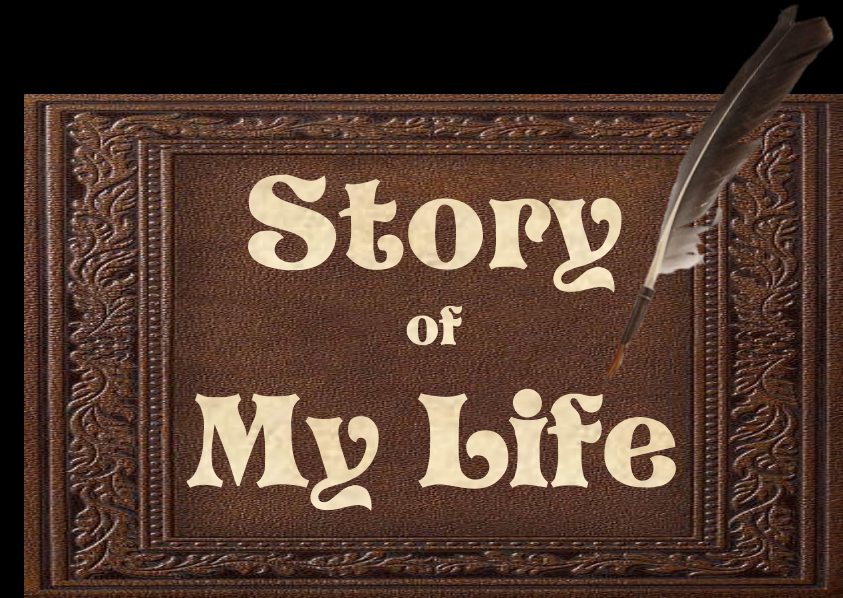
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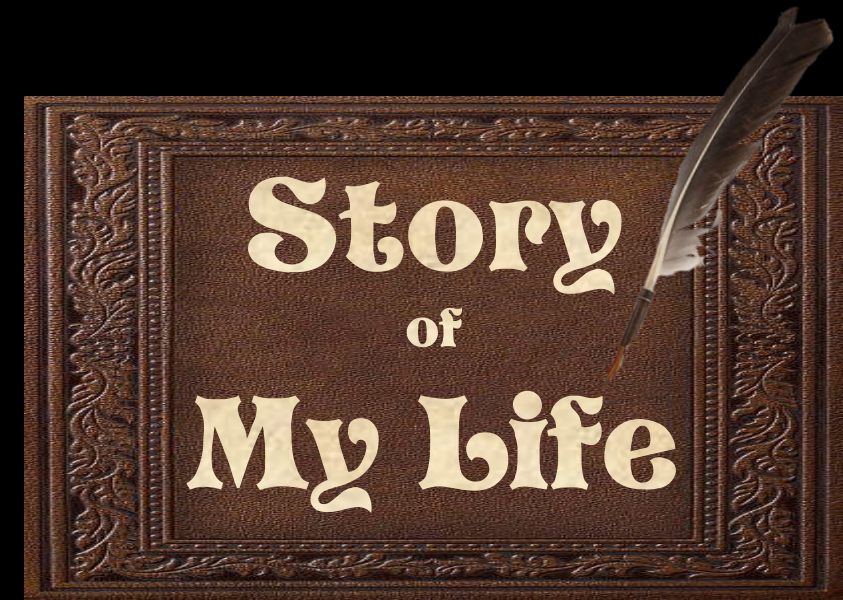
JESUS EMBRACES YOUR  
WHOLE STORY  
AND MAKES IT A  
HOLY STORY.



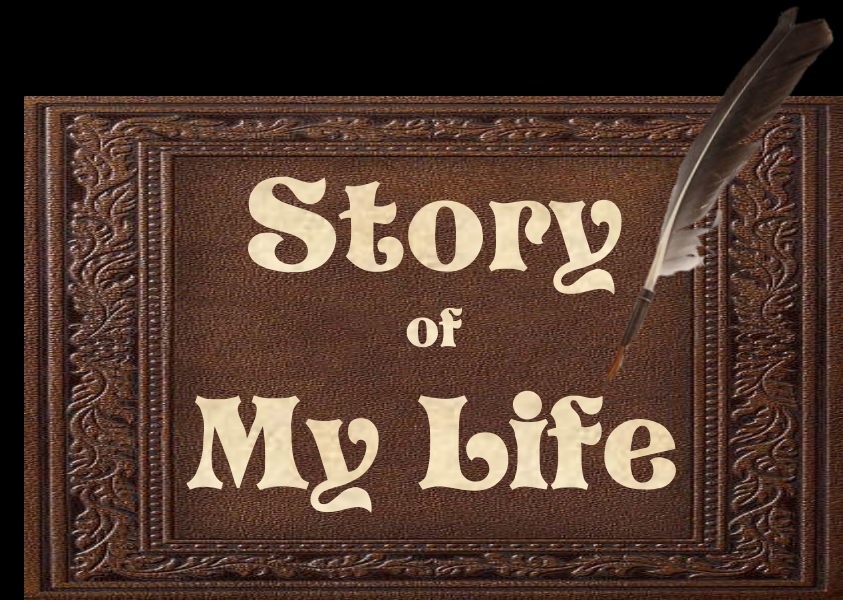
Psalm 139:16 (ESV): “Your eyes saw my unformed substance; in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed for me, when as yet there was none of them.”



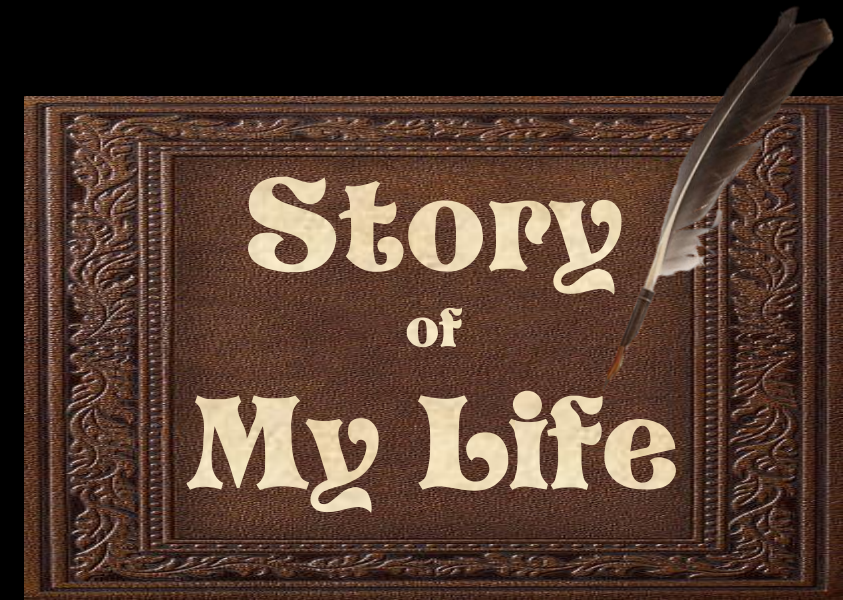
Ephesians 1:7 (ESV): “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace.”



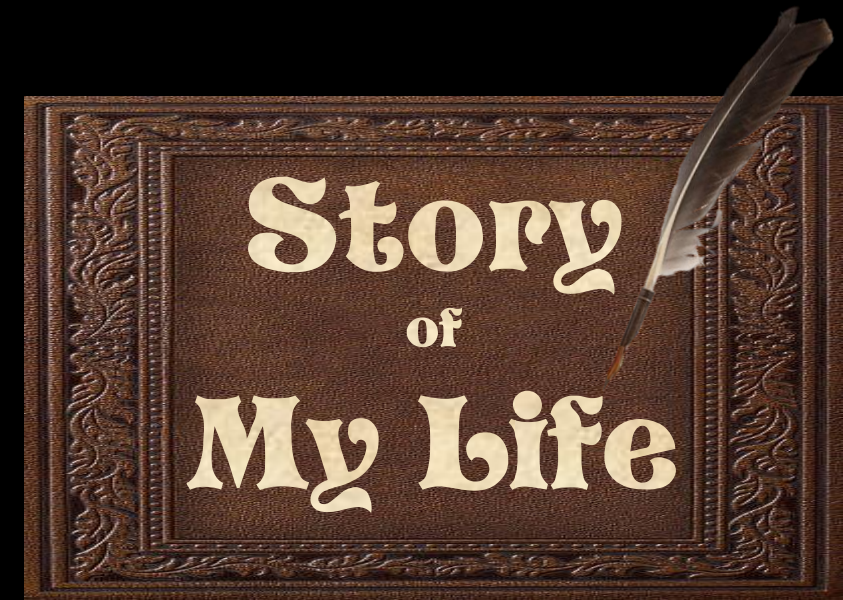
Isaiah 44:23 (ESV): “For the LORD has redeemed Jacob and will be glorified in Israel.”



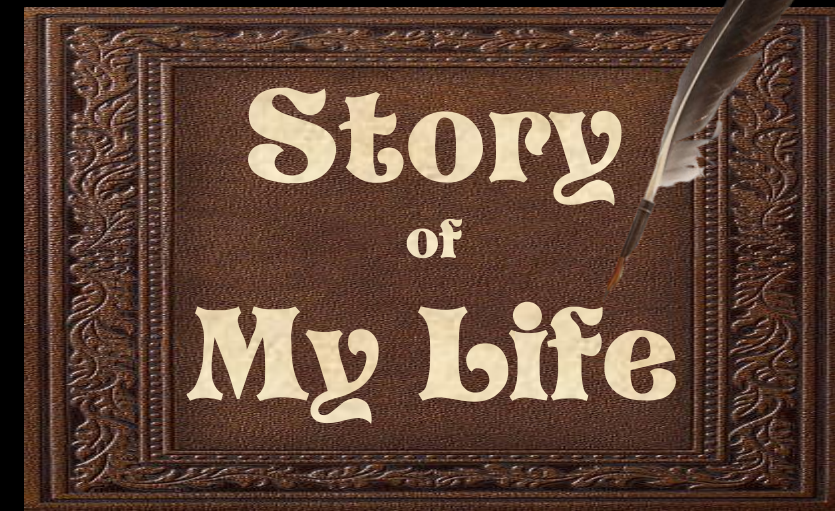
John 6:40 (ESV): “For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.”



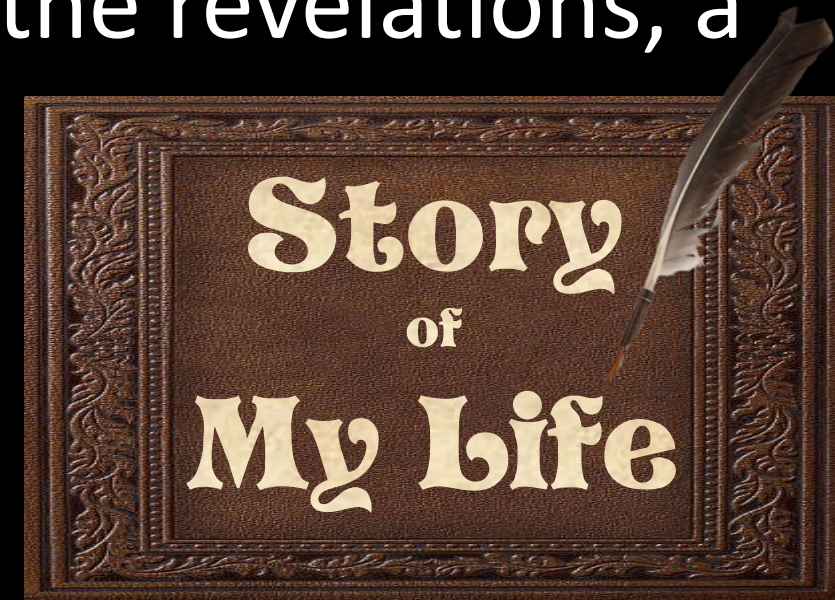
Psalm 56:8 (ESV): “You have kept count of my tossings; put my tears in your bottle. Are they not in your book?”



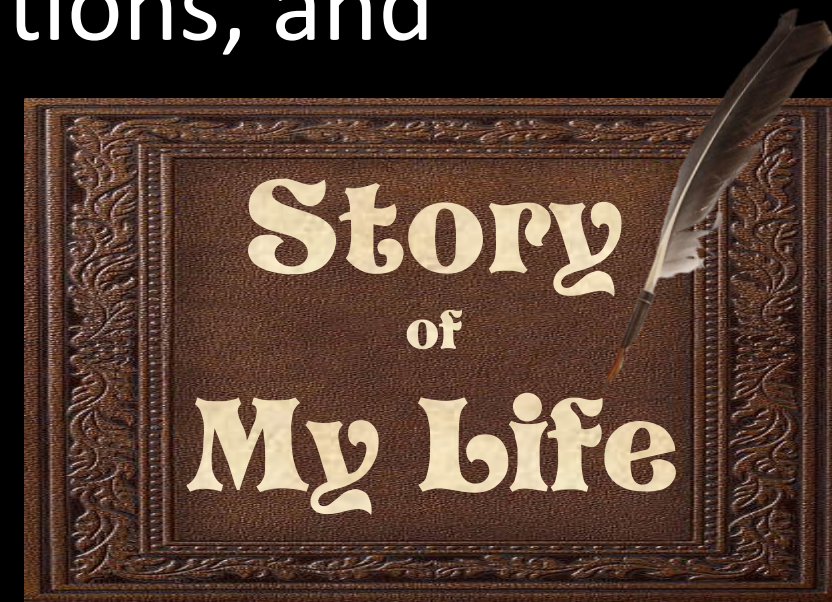
2 Corinthians 12:1-10 (ESV): “I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. **2** I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. **3** And I know that this man was caught up into paradise – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows – **4** and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter....”



“...5 On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses – 6 though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. 7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited....”

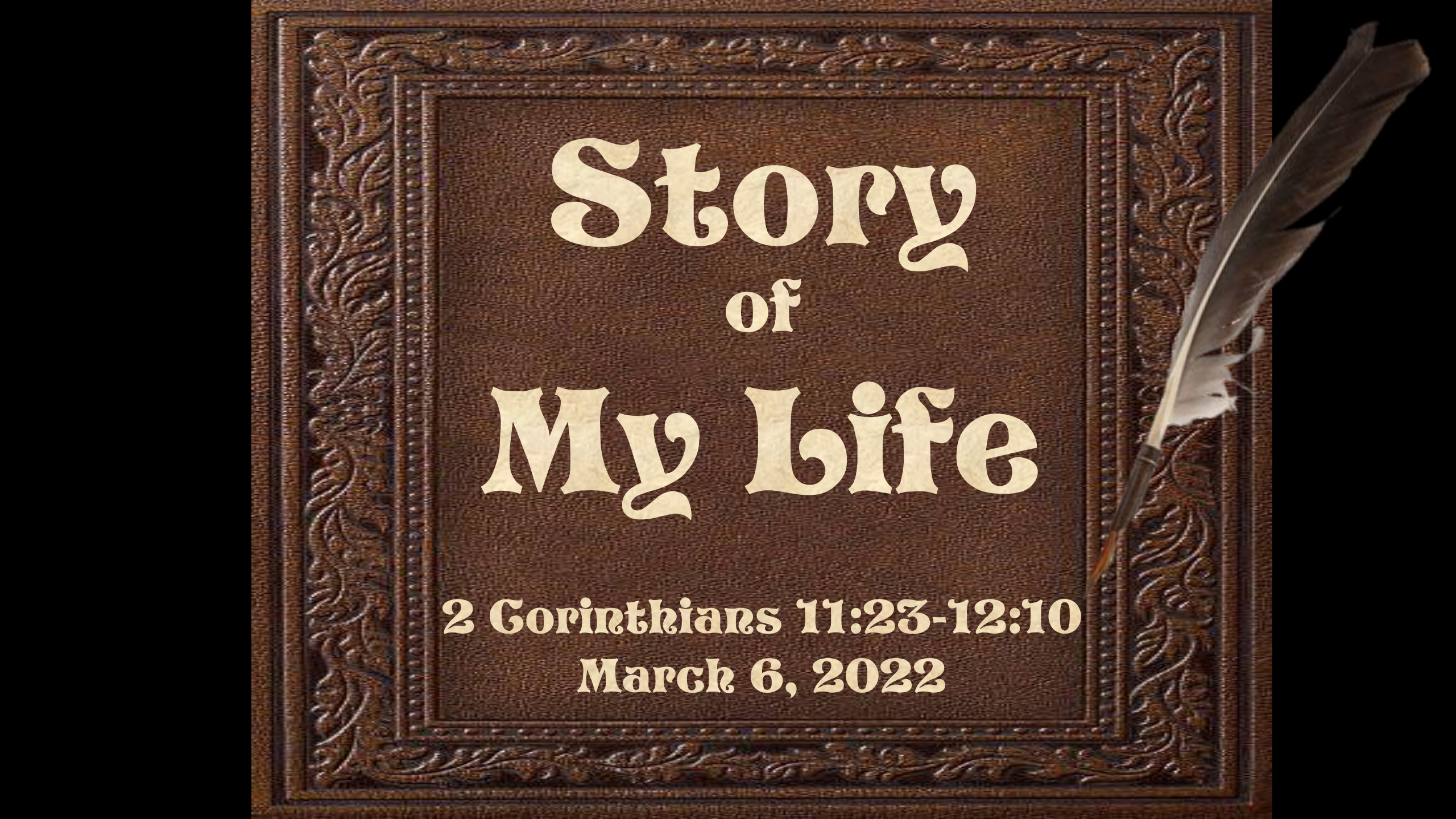


“... **8** Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. **9** But he said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.’ Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. **10** For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.”





Story  
of  
My Life



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**2 Corinthians 11:23-12:10**  
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EXPECT

JESUS TO DO MORE;

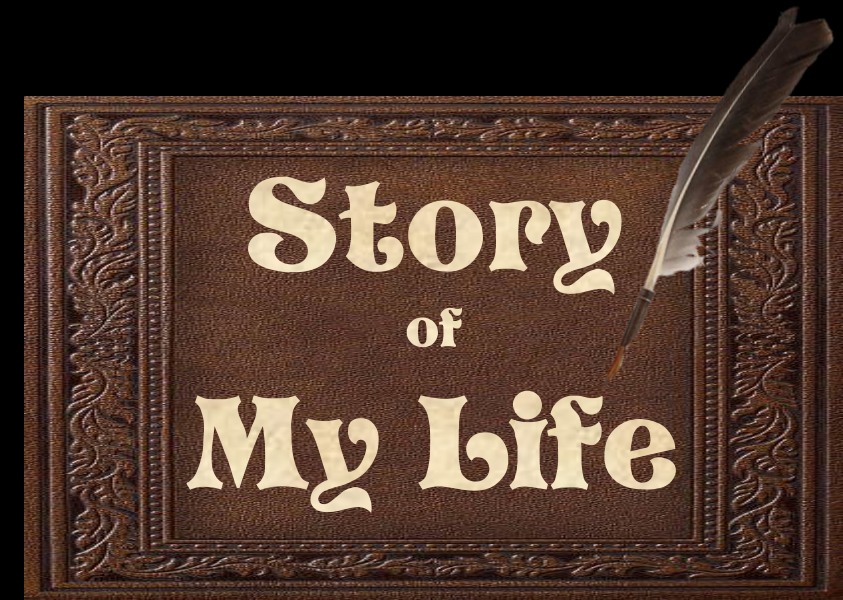
ACCEPT

WHAT HE HAS ALREADY DONE.

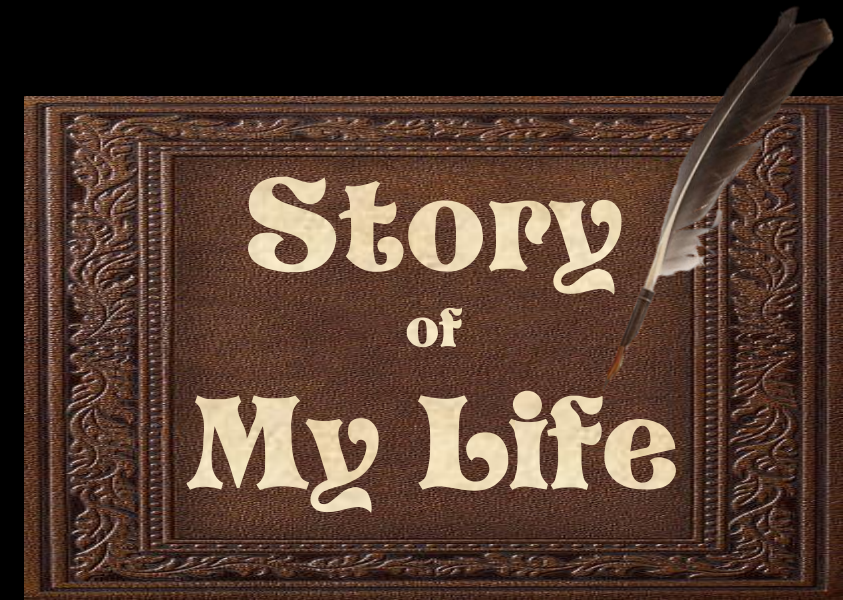


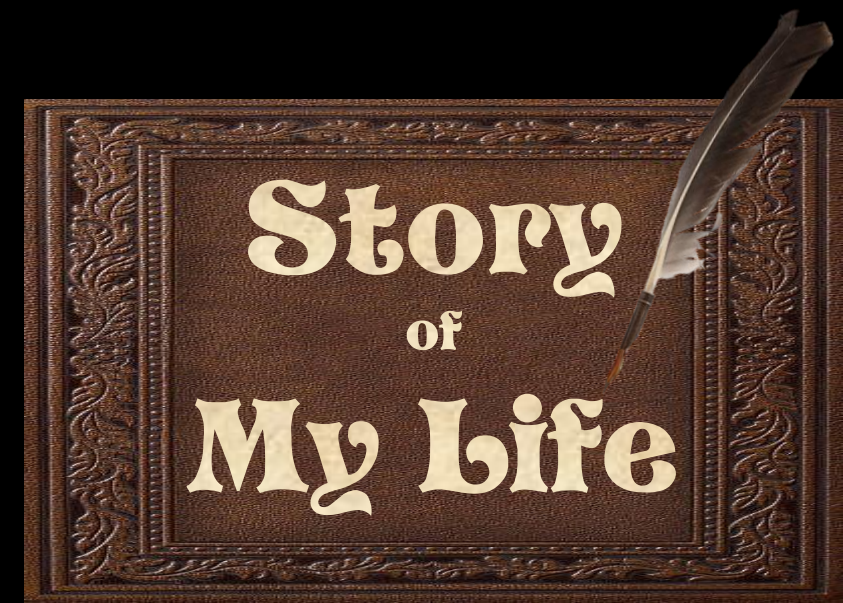
“The suspense which I suffered, during the period when my medical friends were uncertain of the issue...appeared to me a greater misery than the final knowledge of the calamity itself.”

(James Holman, as quoted in Jason Roberts' book *A Sense of Wonder*, page 66.)



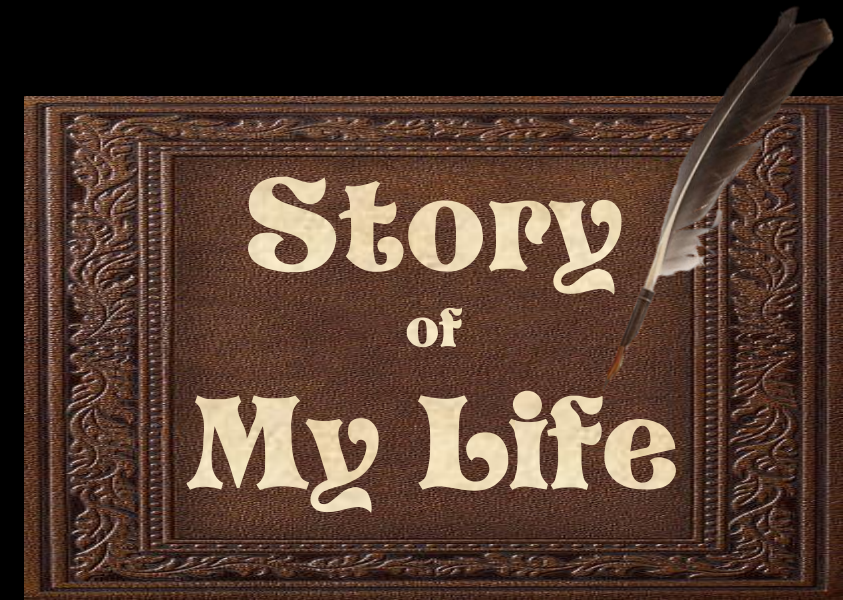
Luke 22:42 (ESV): “Father, if you are willing, remove this cup from me. Nevertheless, not my will, but yours, be done.”



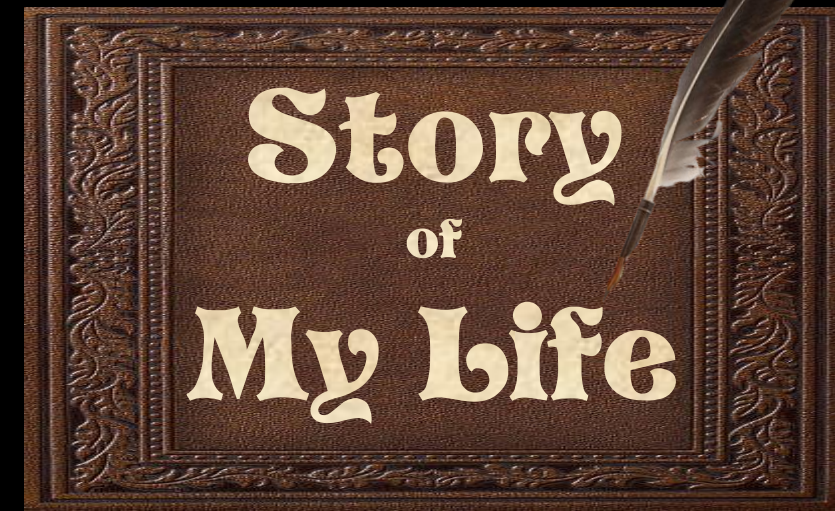


“For there is nothing either good or bad,  
but thinking makes it so.”

(From William Shakespeare’s Hamlet, Act 2, Scene 2)

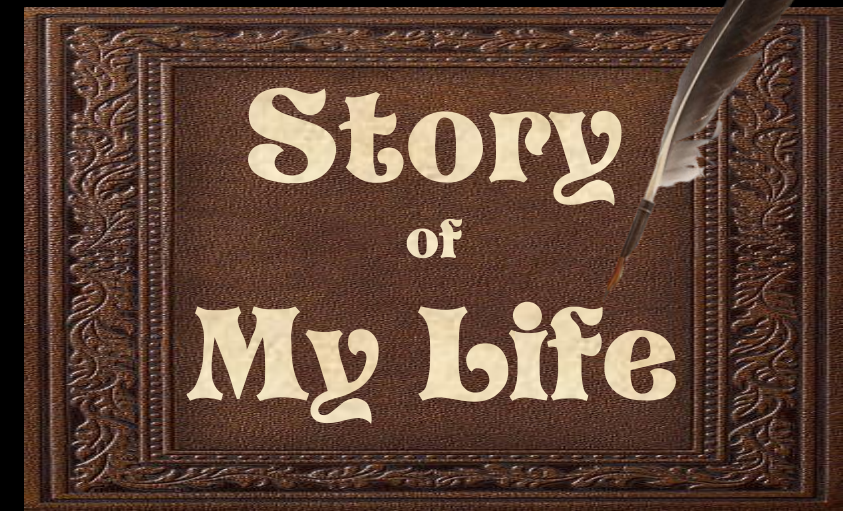


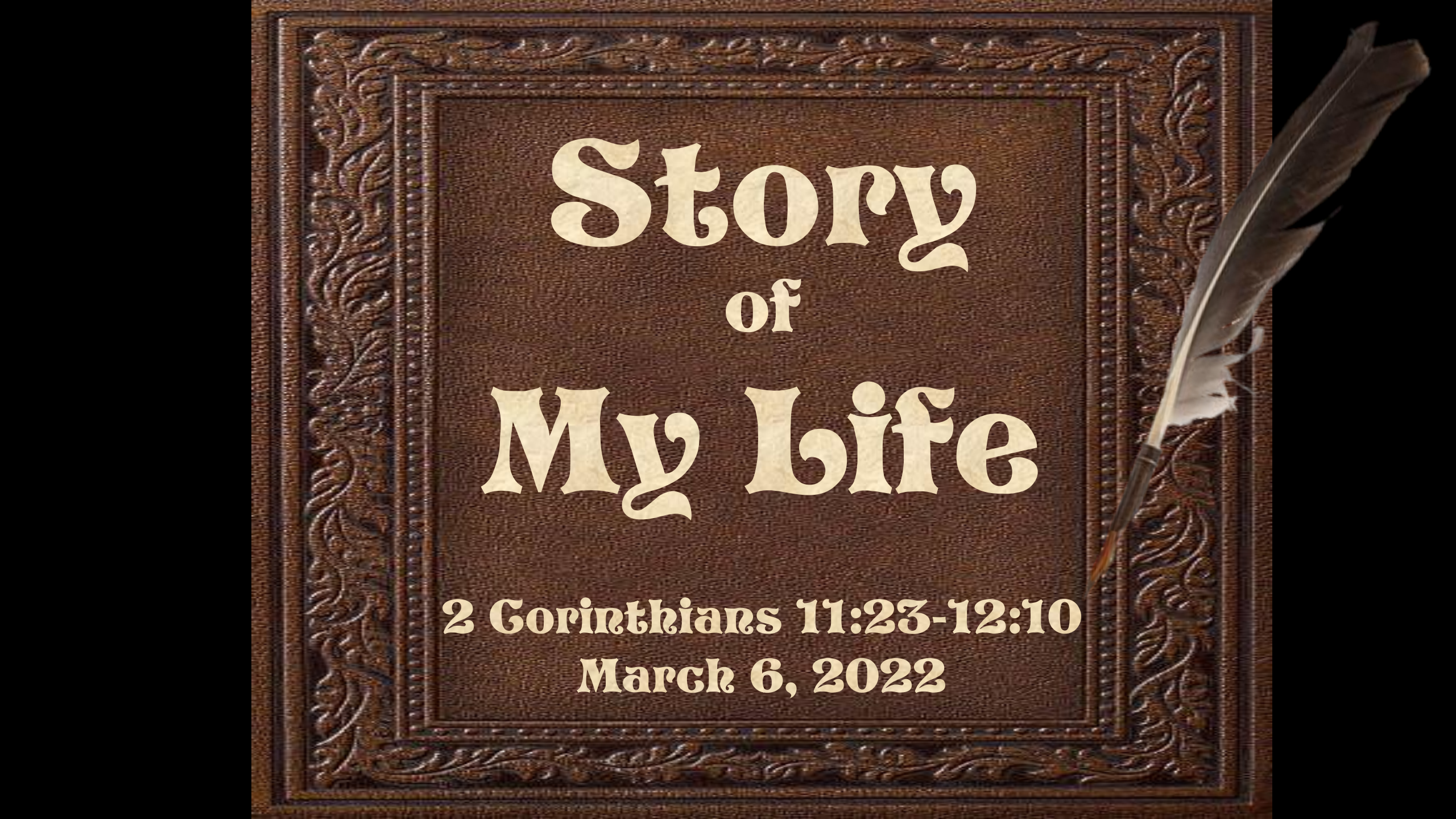
Ecclesiastes 7:13-14 (ESV): “Consider the work of God: who can make straight what he has made crooked? **14** In the day of prosperity be joyful, and in the day of adversity consider: God has made the one as well as the other, so that man may not find out anything that will be after him.”



“The picturesque in nature, it is true, is shut out from me....[B]ut perhaps this very circumstance affords a stronger zest to curiosity, which is thus impelled to a more close and searching examination of details than would be considered necessary to a traveller who might satisfy himself by the superficial view, and rest content with the first impressions conveyed through the eye. Deprived of that organ of information, I am compelled to adopt a more rigid and less suspicious course of inquiry, and to investigate analytically, by a train of patient examination, suggestions, and deductions, which other travellers dismiss at first sight.”

(James Holman, as quoted in Ralph Griffiths' journal *The Monthly Review*, Volume 134)

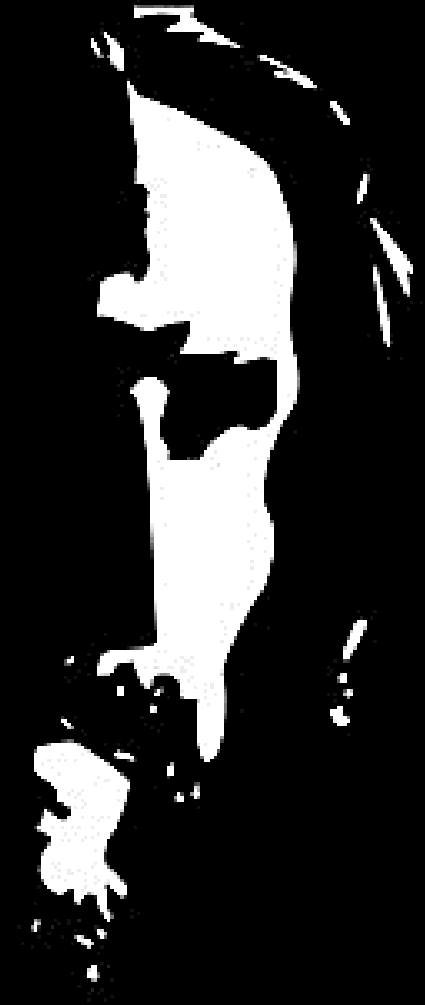




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NEXT WEEK:  
2 CORINTHIANS 12:11-13:21

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