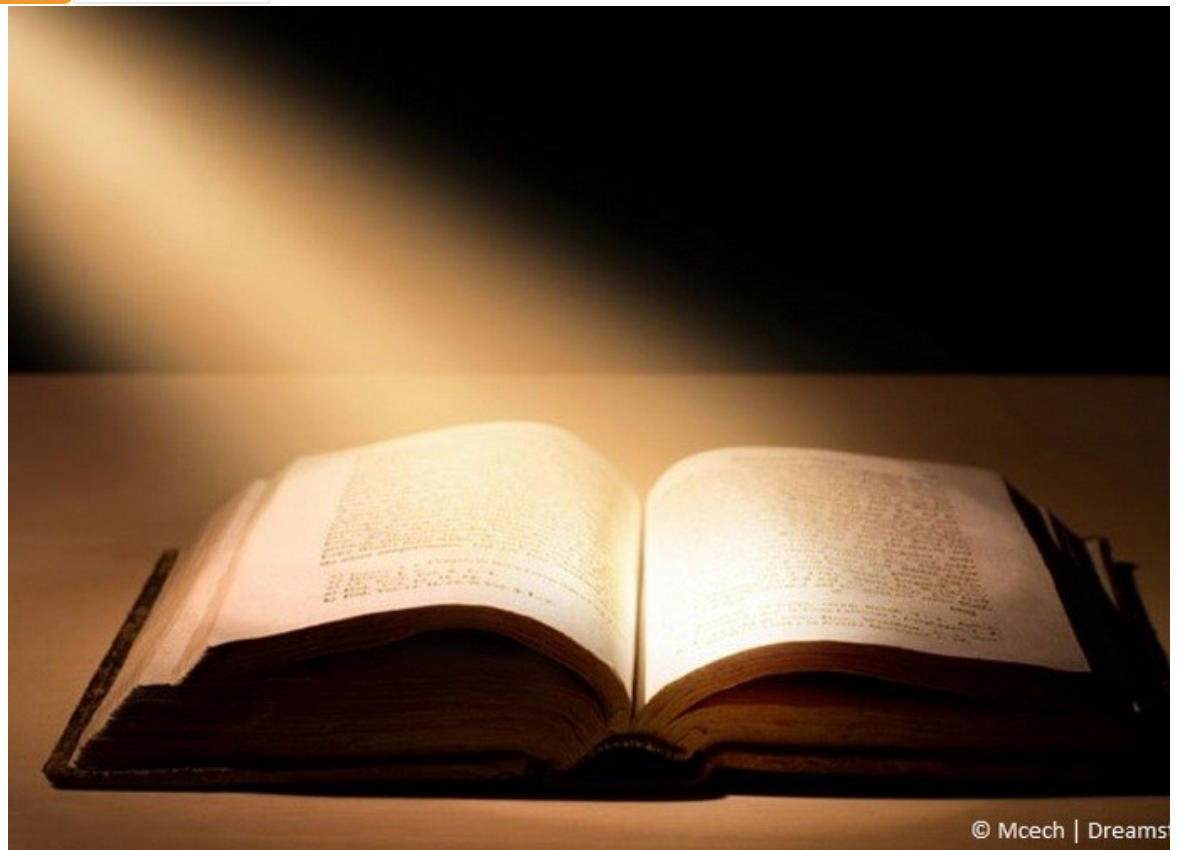


GOSPEL PEARLS

Going through the test

SCHEGGE DI VANGELO

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And all were astonished at the majesty of God. But while they were all marvelling at everything he was doing, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let these words sink into your ears: The Son of Man is about to be delivered into the hands of men." But they did not understand this saying, and it was concealed from them, so that they might not perceive it. And they were afraid to ask him about this saying. (Luke 9: 43b-45)

In order to bear witness to our faith in Jesus' divinity, we must be tested. These trials begin when we have to abandon our human comforts. In fact, it is easier to believe in Jesus when He manifests Himself in His glory. That is why those who seem to have feeble faith, one that is built on sand, cannot suffer any trials and, thus, abandon Jesus. Jesus does not promise to his followers in this earthly life, any exemptions from pain, suffering and death. But he does promise to give the necessary help not to fall into the temptations of fear and anxiety. So what about you? During the day, do you look for human satisfaction and consolation that only temporarily alleviates your suffering? Or do you always turn to and trust to Jesus whenever you feel vulnerable?