



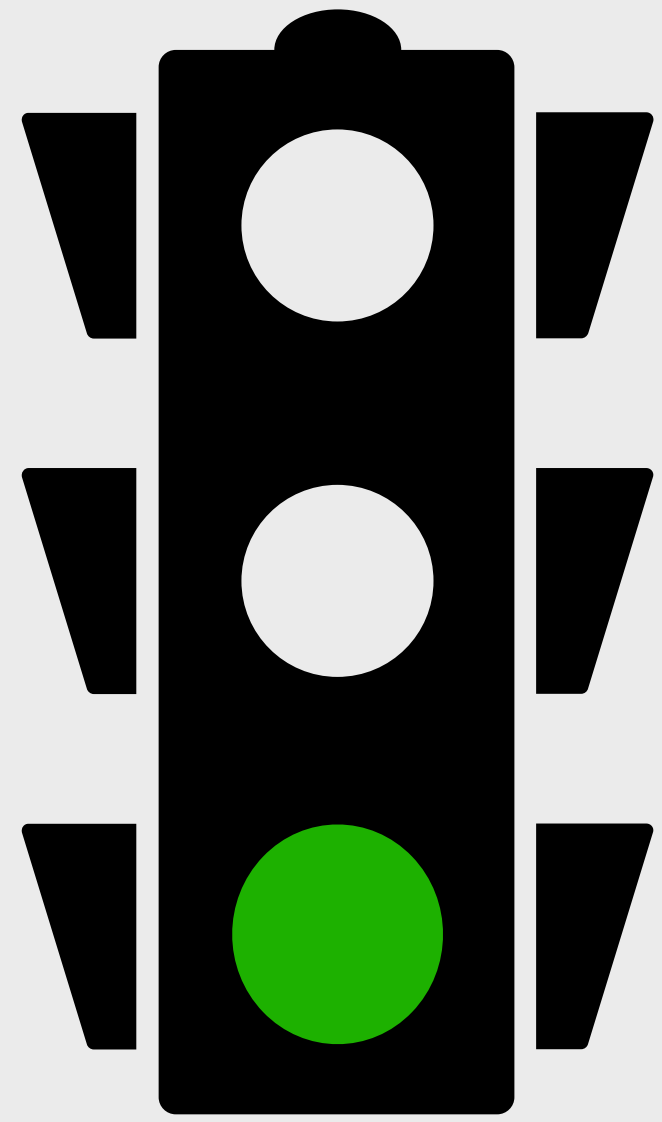
**KEEPING**  
UP WITH GOD

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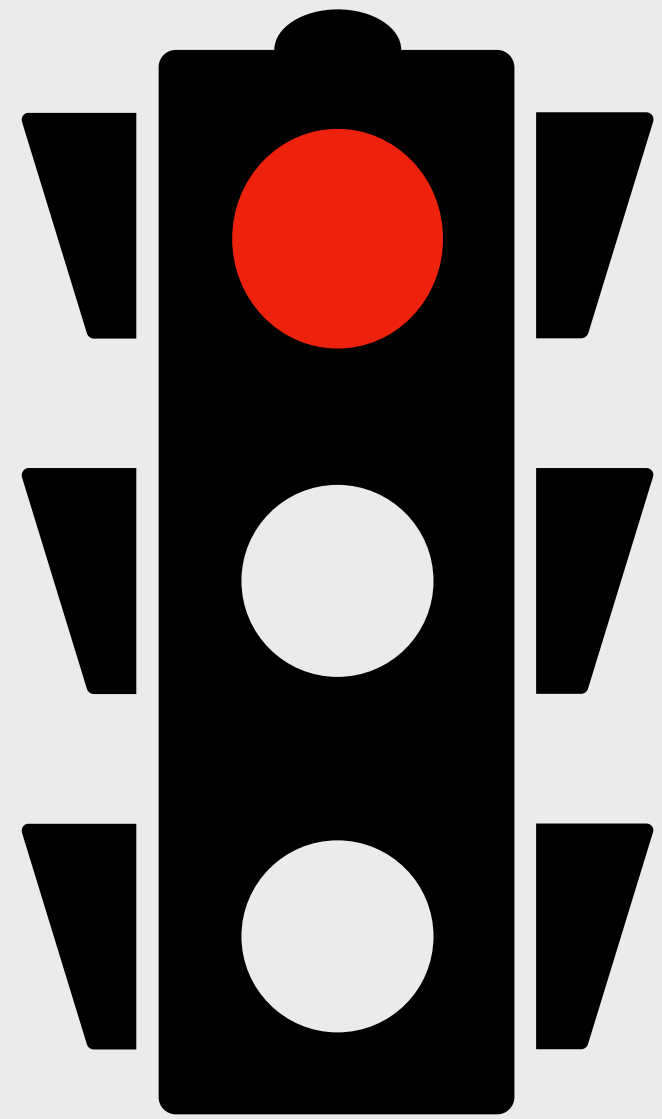




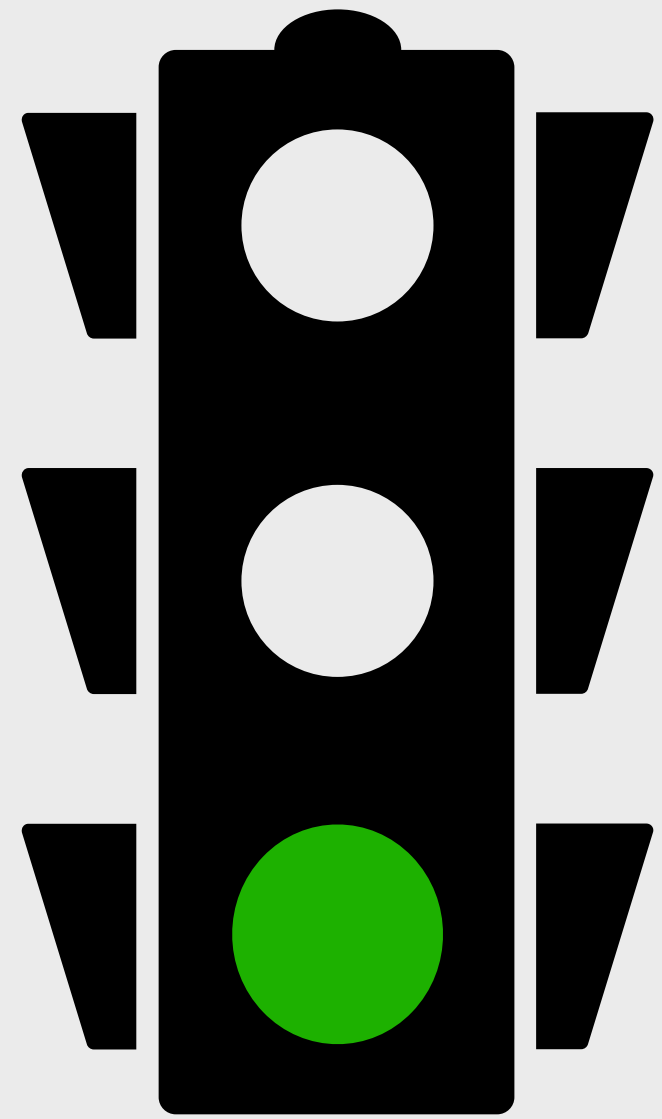




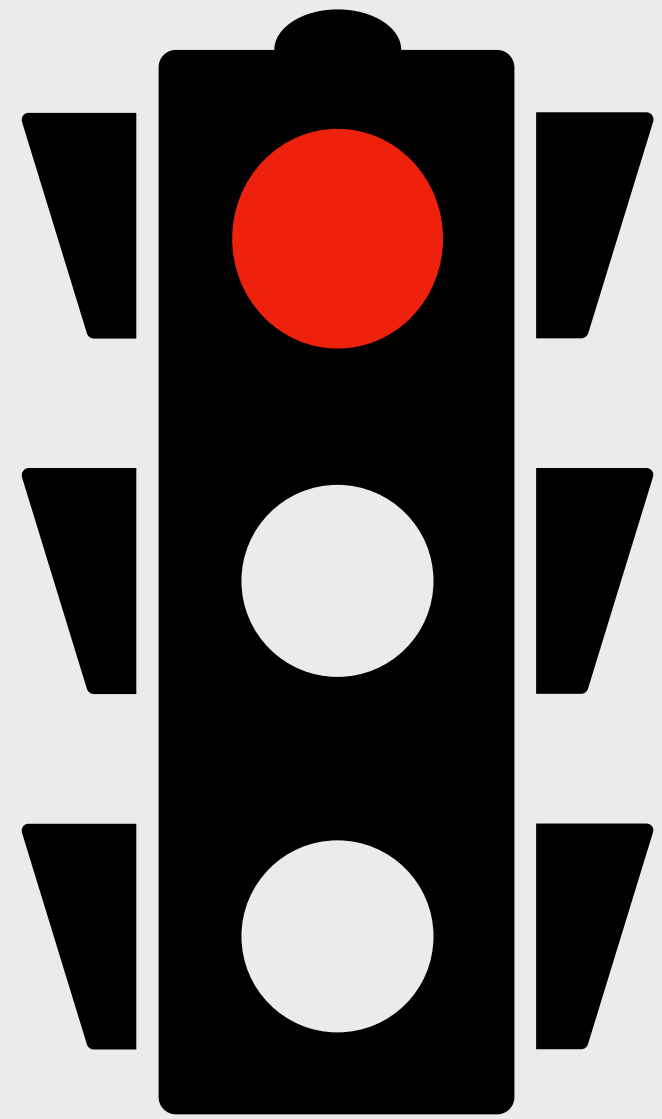
Now the LORD had said to Abram:  
“Get out of your country, from your family and from your father’s house, to a land that I will show you. I will make you a great nation... So Abram departed as the LORD had spoken to him...



Now Sarai, Abram's wife, had borne him no children. And she had an Egyptian maidservant whose name was Hagar. So Sarai said to Abram, "See now, the LORD has restrained me from bearing children. Please, go in to my maid; perhaps I shall obtain children by her." And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai.

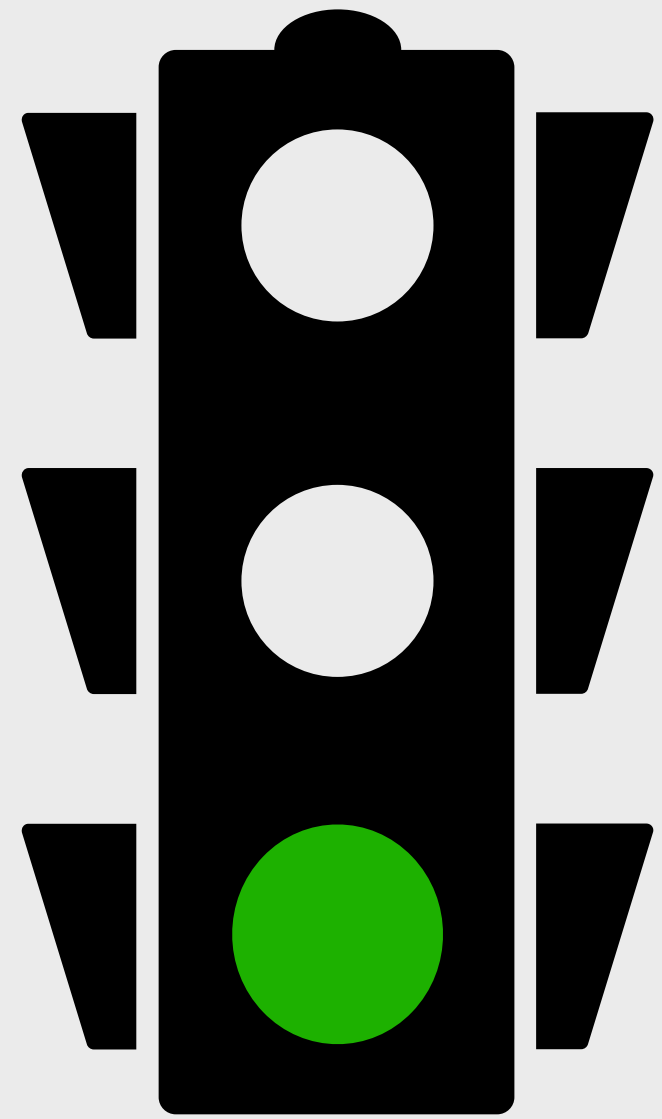


Then Caleb quieted the people before Moses, and said, “**Let us go up at once** and take possession, for we are well able to overcome it.”

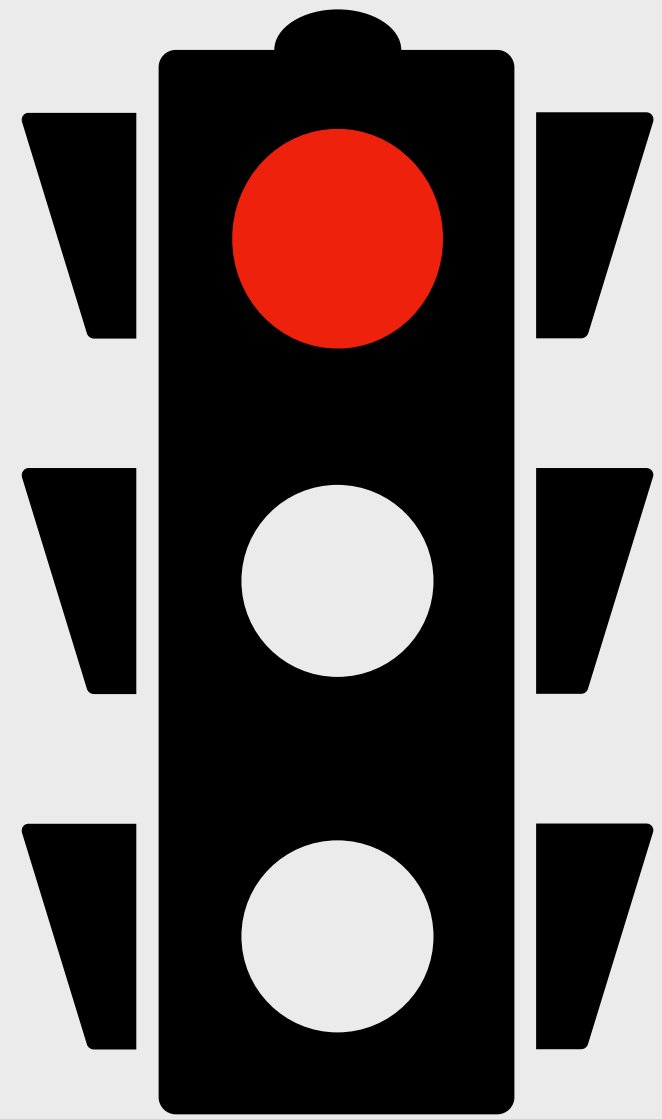


And they rose early in the morning and went up to the top of the mountain, saying, “Here we are, and **we will go** up to the place which the LORD has promised, for we have sinned!”  
And Moses said, “Now why do you **transgress the command** of the LORD? For this will not succeed.”

Numbers 14:40-41



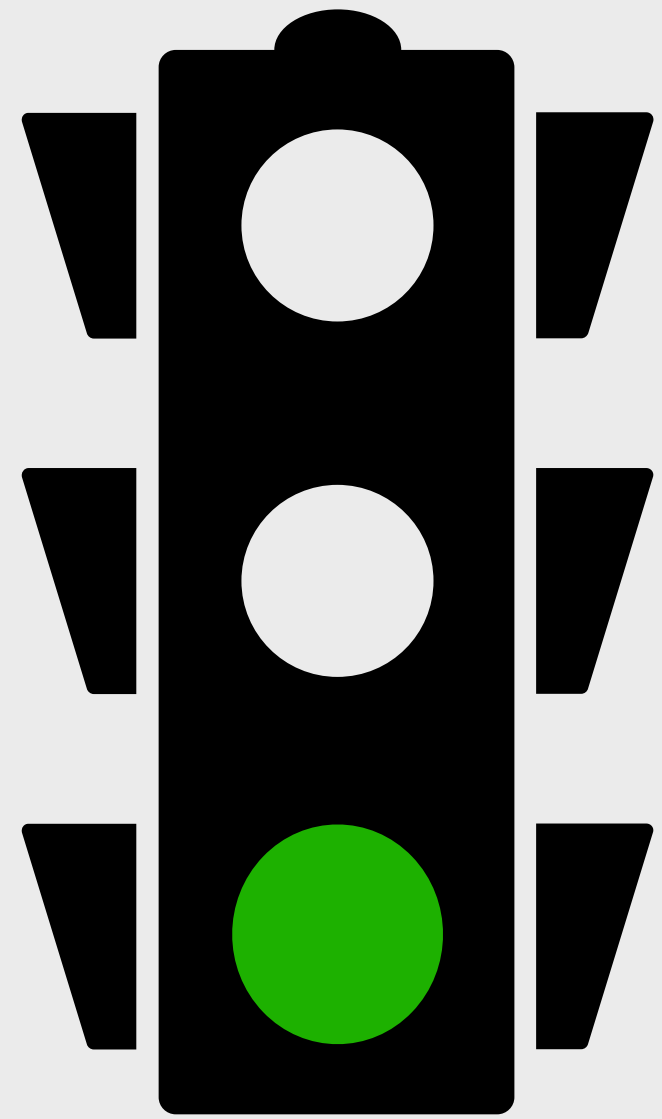
Then the word of the LORD came to him [Elijah], saying, “**Get away from here** and turn eastward, and hide by the Brook Cherith, which flows into the Jordan. And it will be that you shall drink from the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to feed you there.”



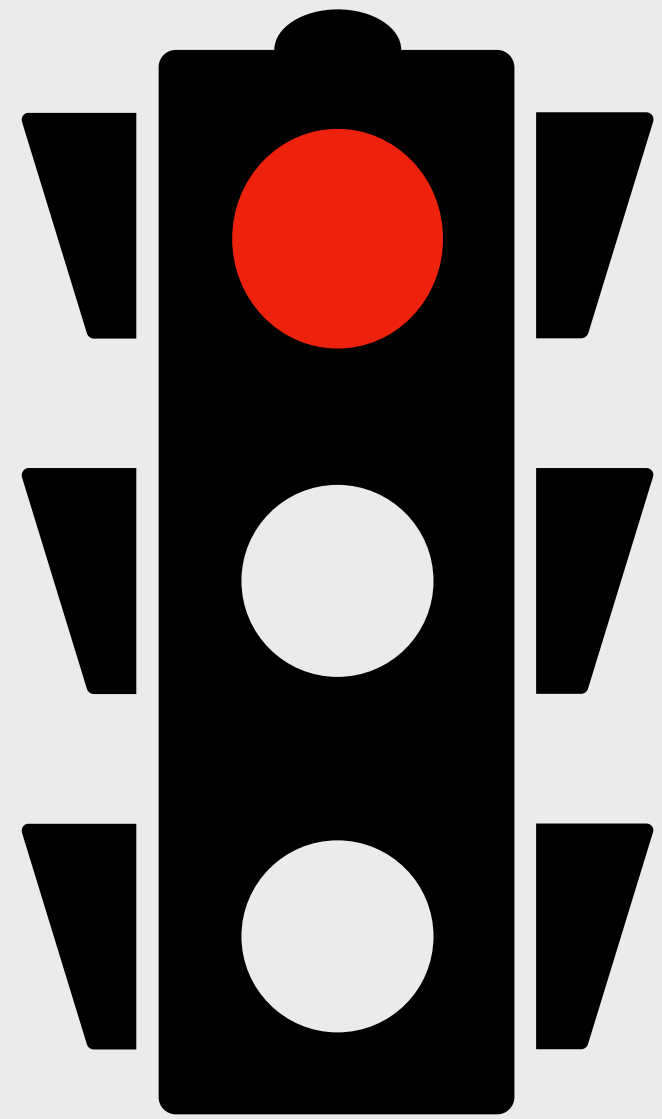
**And it happened after a while that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.**

**1 Kings 17:7**



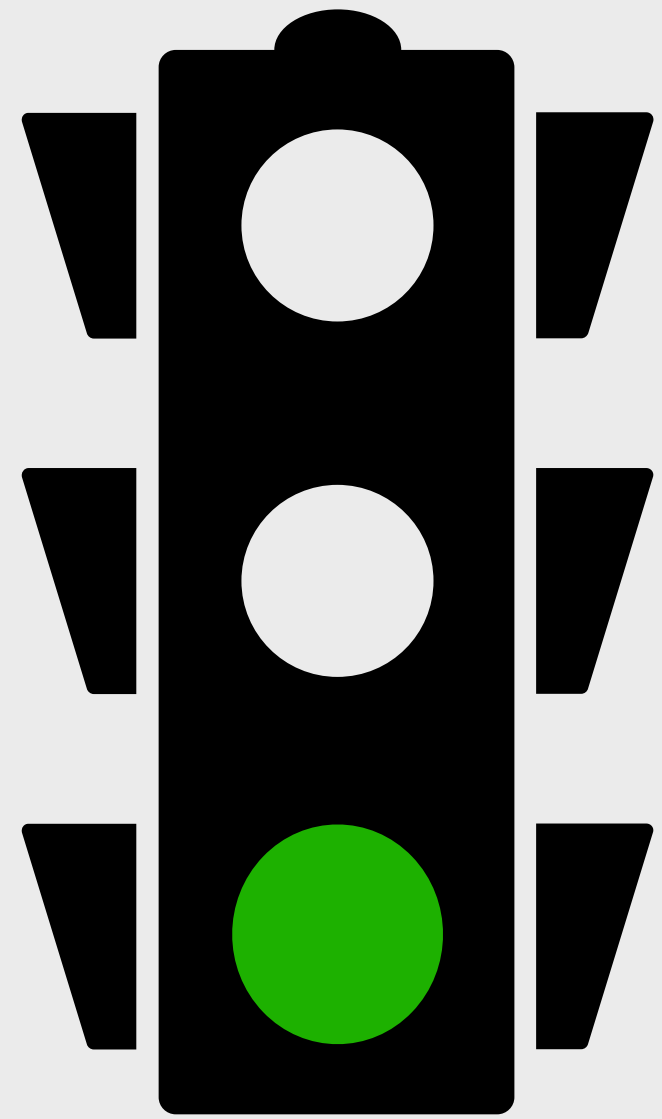


And it came to pass after many days that the word of the LORD came to Elijah, in the third year, saying, “Go, present yourself to Ahab, and I will send rain on the earth.”

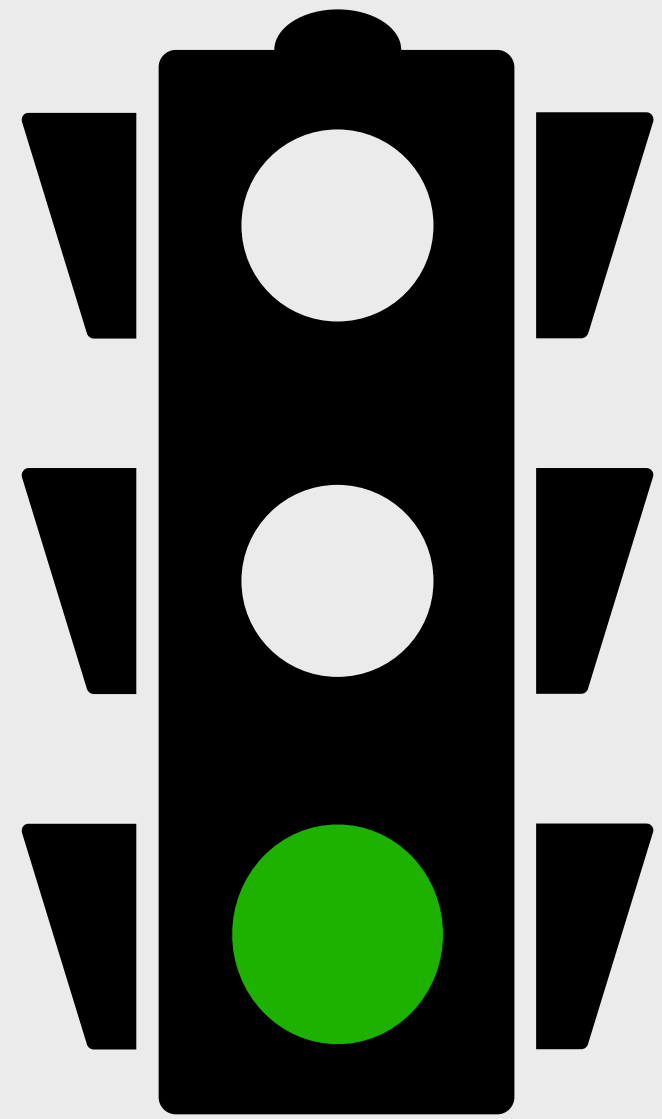


So it was, when Elijah heard it, that he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood in the entrance of the cave. Suddenly a voice came to him, and said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”



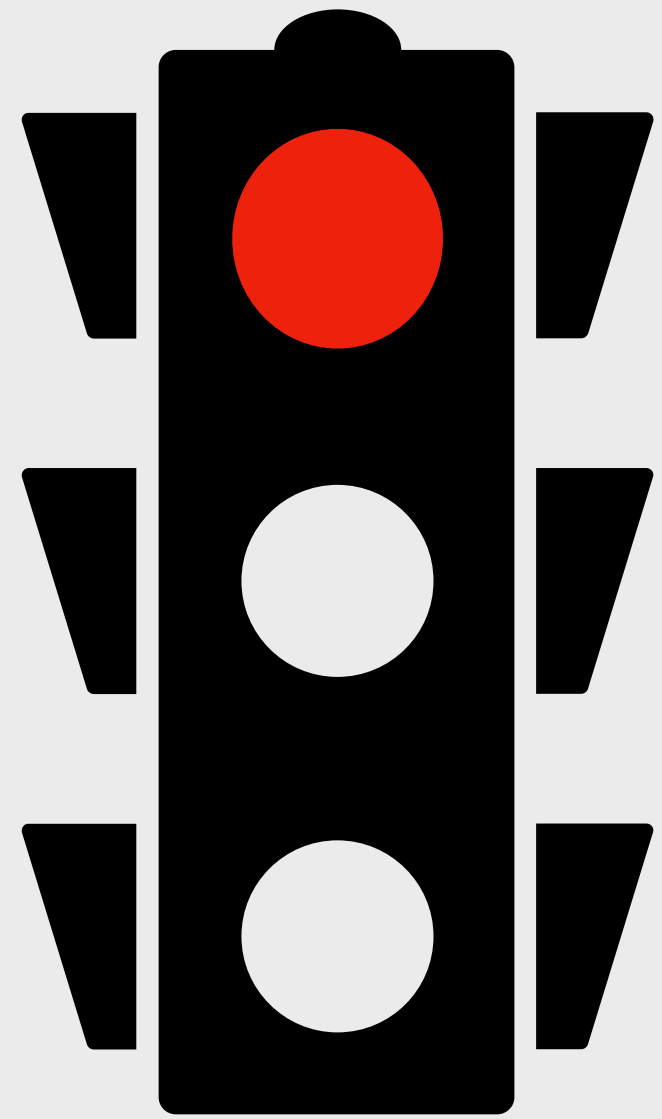


Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before Me.” But Jonah arose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD.

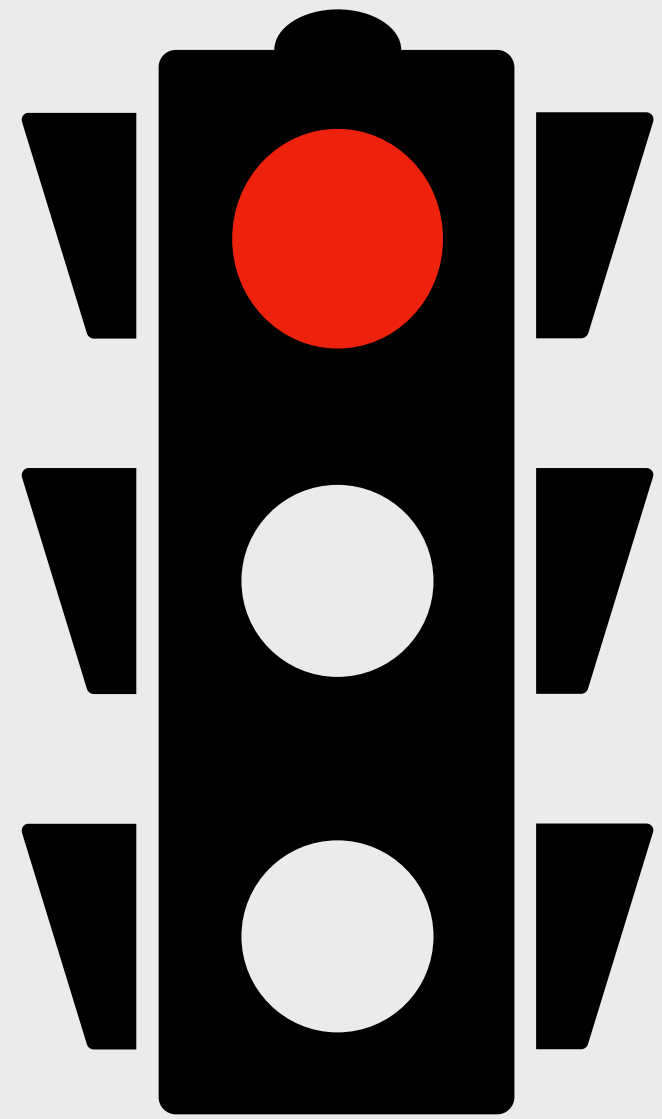


Now the LORD had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.





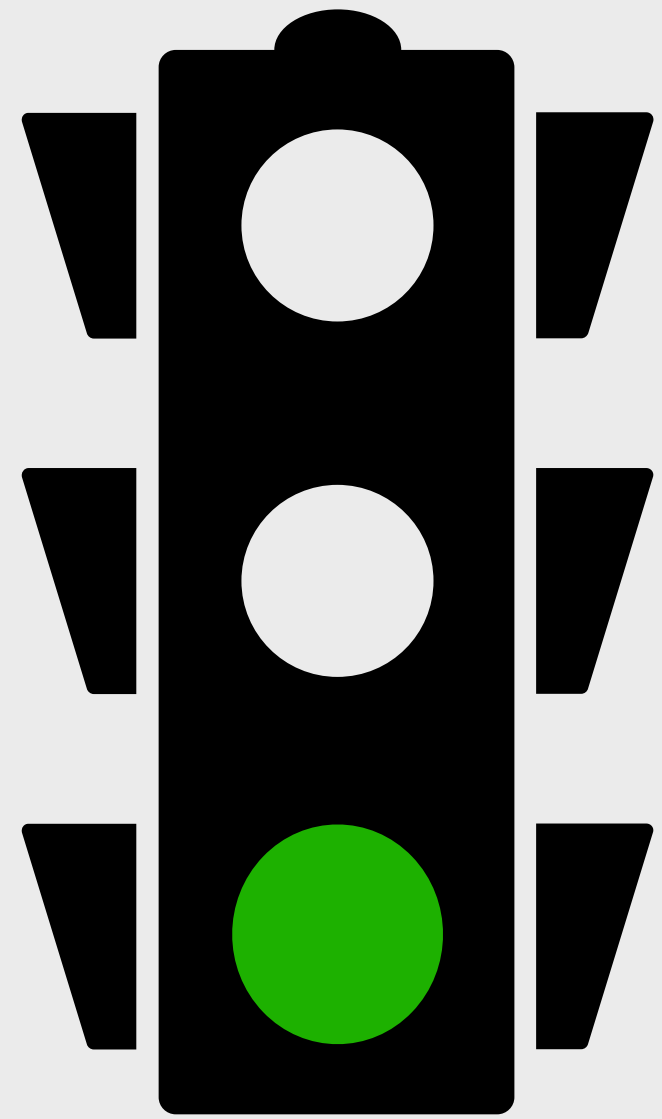
And Samuel said, “What have you done?”  
Saul said, “When I saw that the people were scattered from me, and that you did not come within the days appointed, and that the Philistines gathered together at Michmash, then I said, ‘The Philistines will now come down on me at Gilgal, and I have not made supplication to the LORD.’  
Therefore I felt compelled, and offered a burnt offering.”



And Samuel said to Saul, “**You have done foolishly.** You have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you. For now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. **But now your kingdom shall not continue.** The LORD has sought for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has commanded him to be commander over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you.”

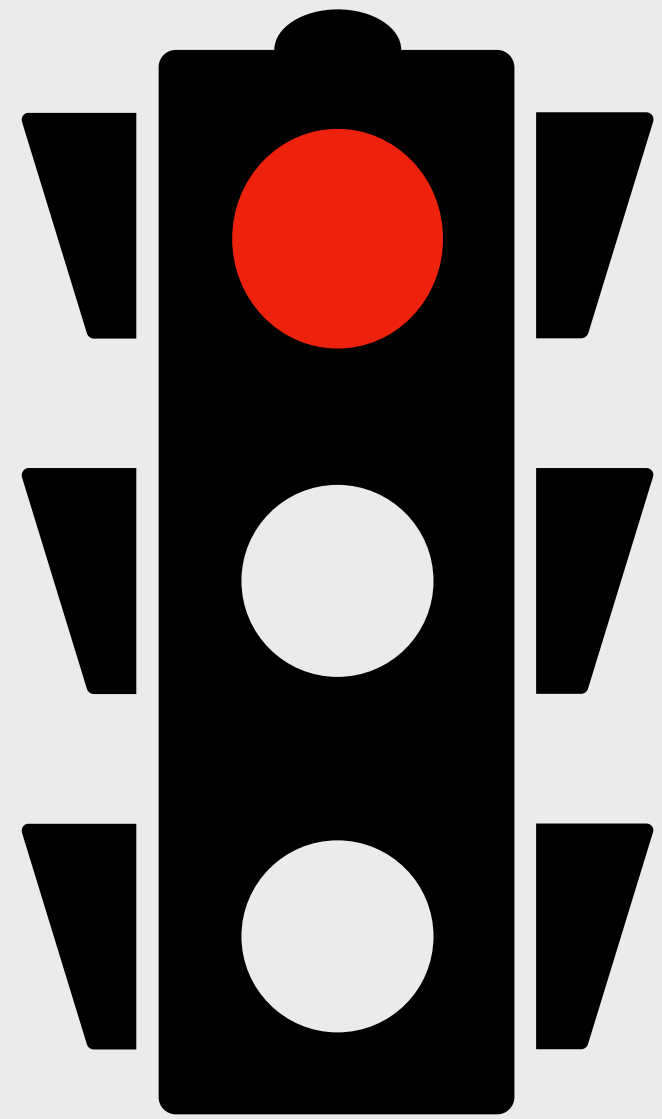
1 Samuel 13:13-14





**Go therefore** and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen.

**Matthew 28:19-20**

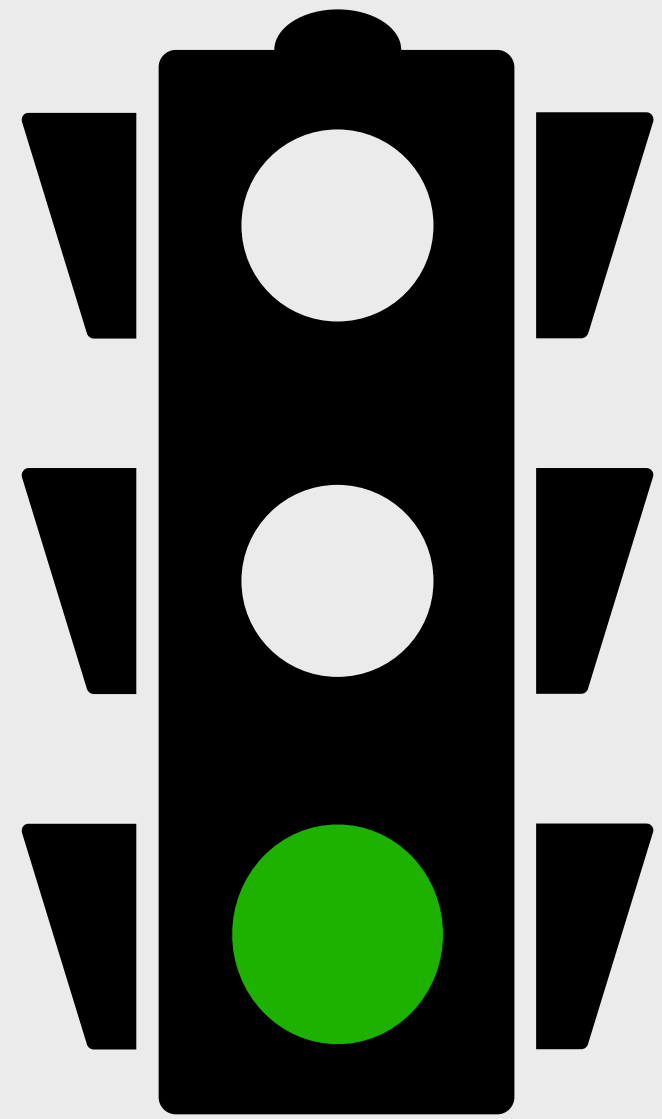


And being assembled together with them,  
He commanded them not to depart from  
Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of  
the Father... But you shall receive power  
when the Holy Spirit has come upon you;  
and you shall be witnesses to Me in  
Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria,  
and to the end of the earth.

Acts 1:4-8



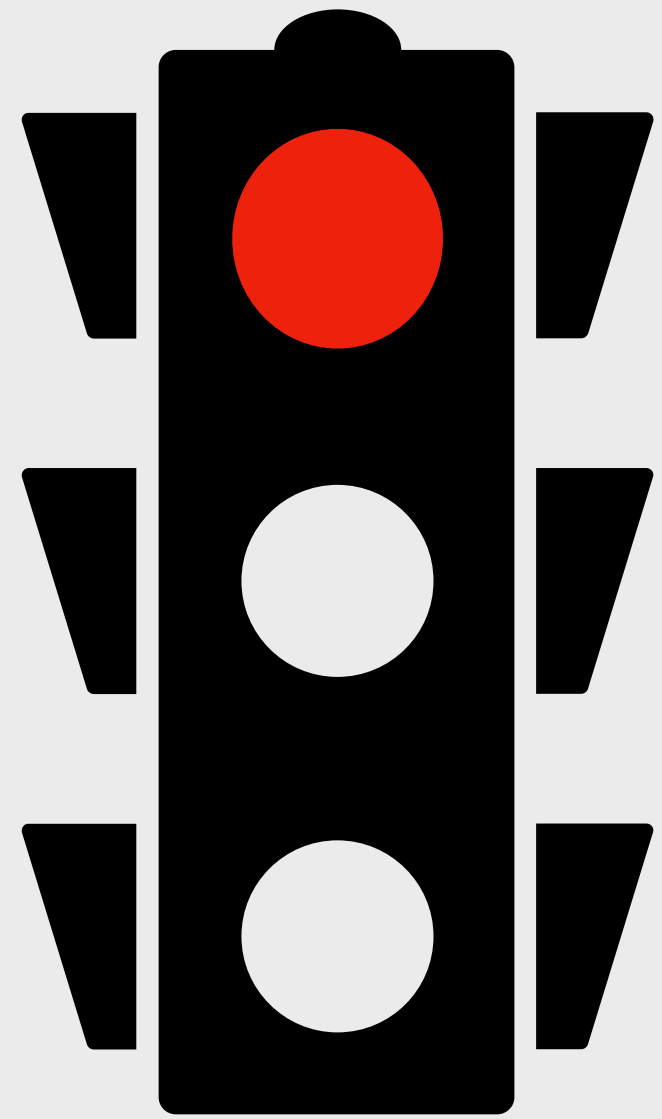
We ought not **run ahead** and not **fall behind**. We need to keep up with God!



If you have run with the footmen, and they have wearied you, then how can you contend with horses? And if in the land of peace, in which you trusted, they wearied you, then how will you do in the floodplain of the Jordan?

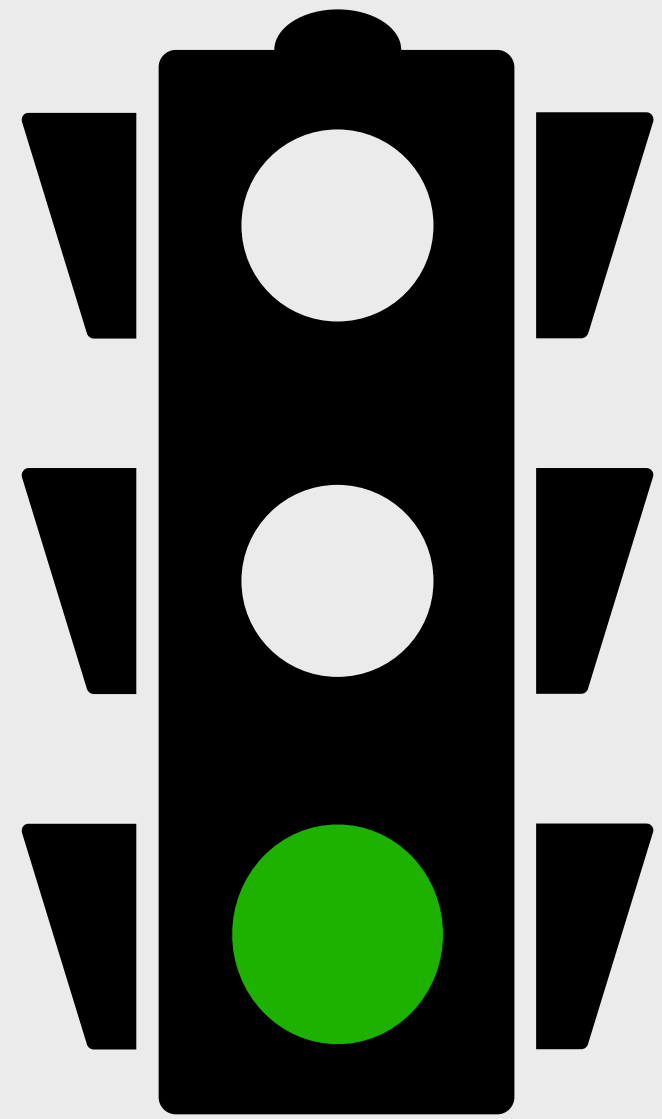
**Jeremiah 12:5**





I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran. I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

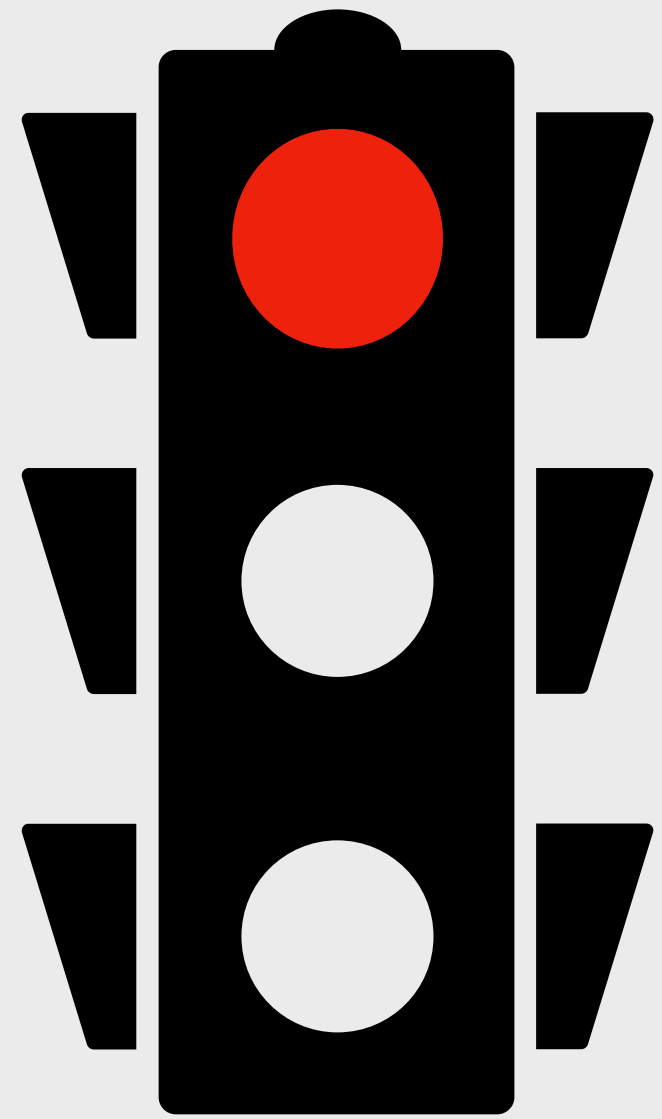
**Jeremiah 23:21**



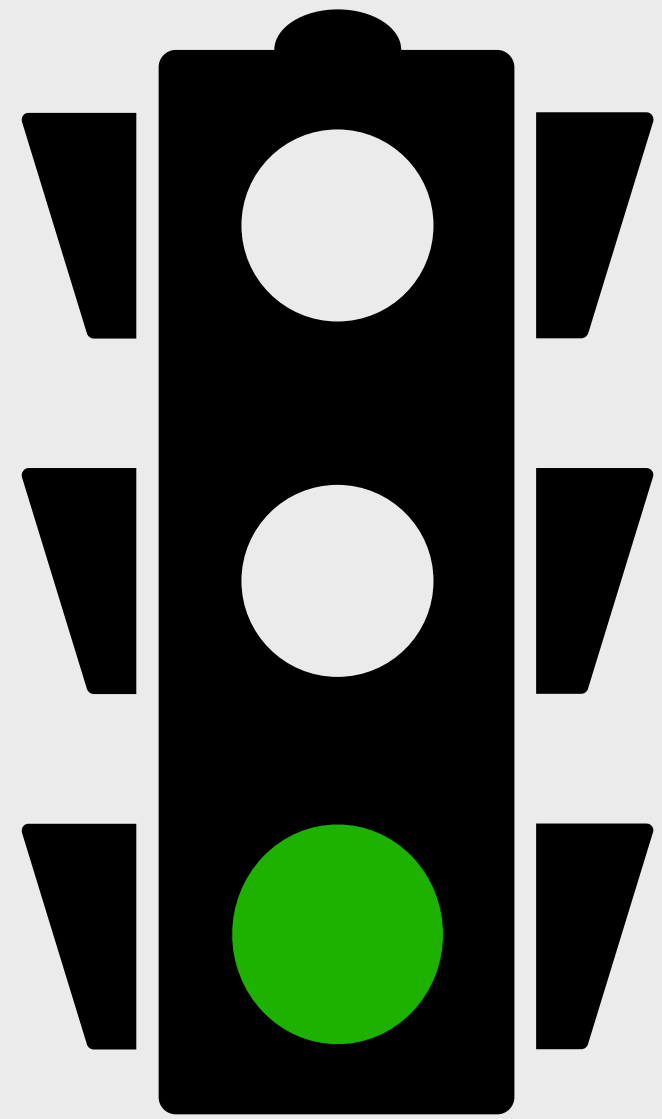
And the LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to Me? Tell the children of Israel to **go forward.**”

**Exodus 14:15**

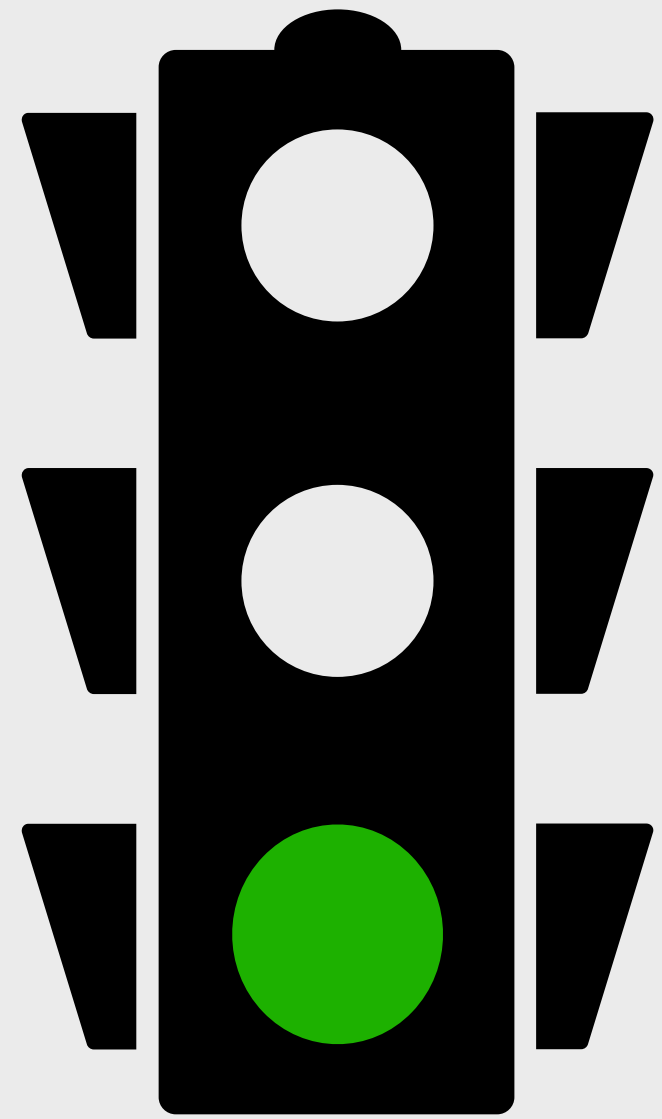




‘You will not need to fight in this battle. Position yourselves, **stand still** and see the salvation of the LORD, who is with you, O Judah and Jerusalem!’ Do not fear or be dismayed; tomorrow go out against them, for the LORD is with you.”

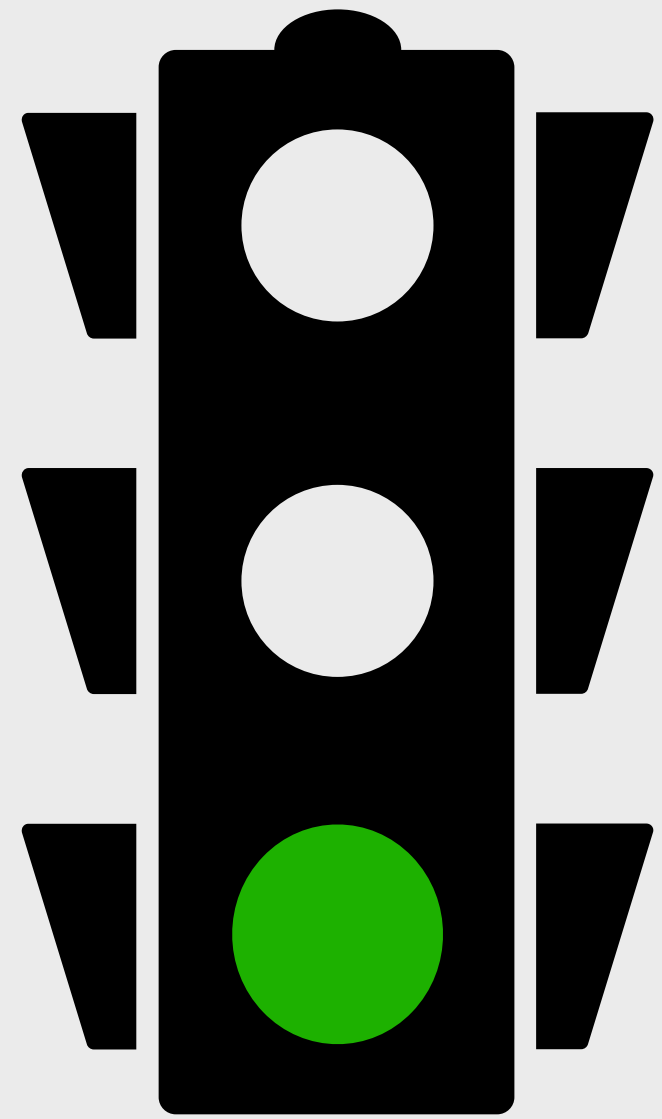


**Men of stamina** are wanted, men who **will not wait** to have their way smoothed and every obstacle removed, men who will inspire with fresh zeal the flagging efforts of dispirited workers, men whose hearts are warm with Christian love and whose hands are strong to do their Master's work.

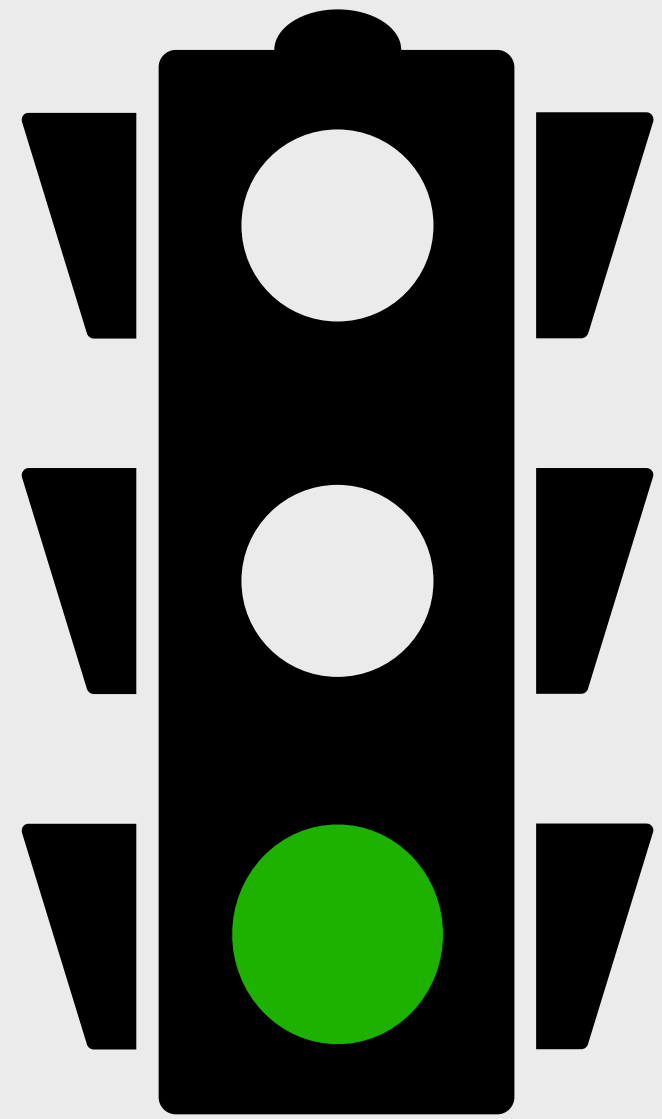


Some who engage in missionary service are weak, nerveless, spiritless, easily discouraged. **They lack push.** They have not those positive traits of character that give power to do something—the spirit and energy that kindle enthusiasm. Those who would win success must be courageous and hopeful. **They should cultivate not only the passive but the active virtues.**

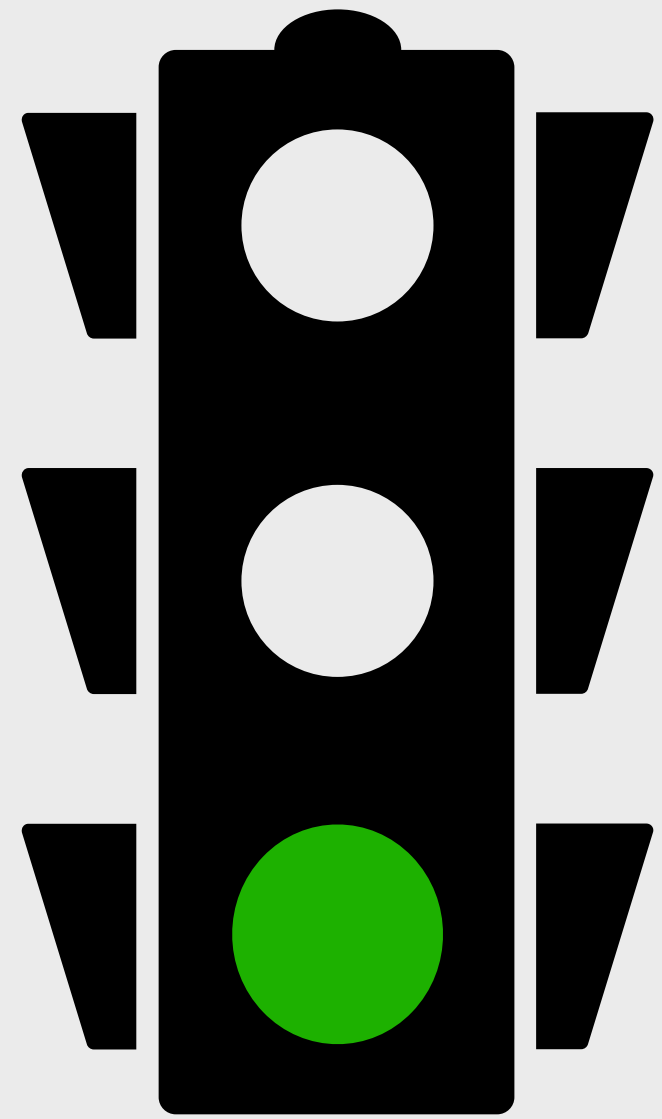




You are in need of vital energy from heaven. We must in our work not only strike the iron when it is hot but **make the iron hot by striking**. Slow, easy, indolent movements will do nothing for us in this work. We must be instant in season, out of season. These are critical times for work. **By hesitation and delay we lose many good opportunities....**

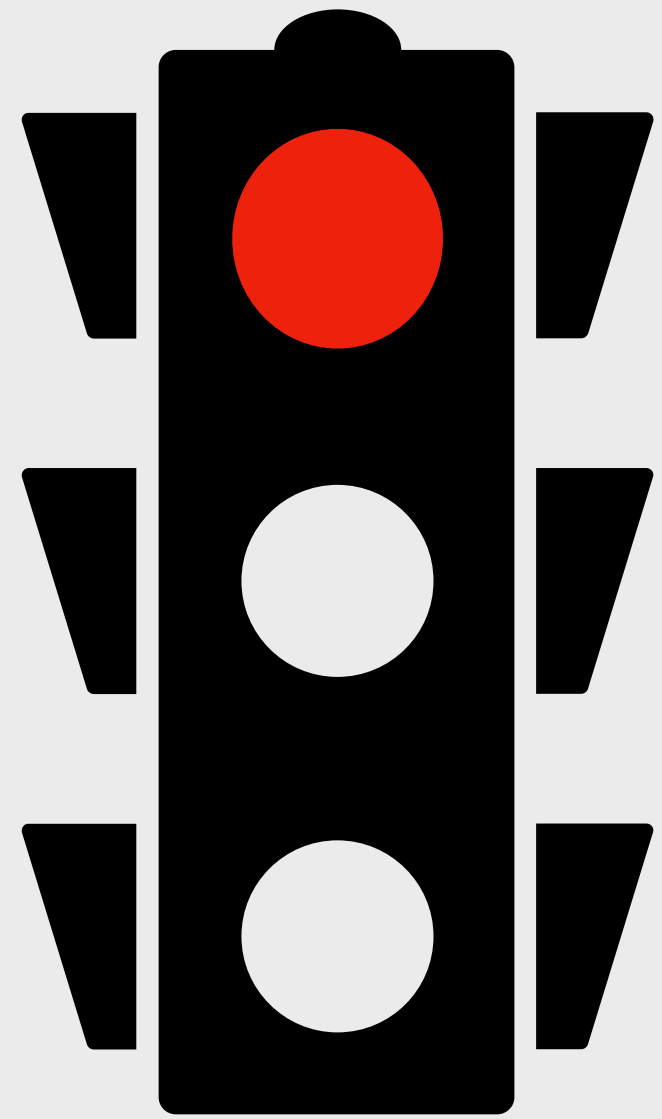


Long delays tire the angels. It is even more excusable to make a wrong decision sometimes than to be continually in a wavering position; to be hesitating, sometimes inclined in one direction, then in another. More perplexity and wretchedness result from thus hesitating and doubting than from sometimes moving too hastily.

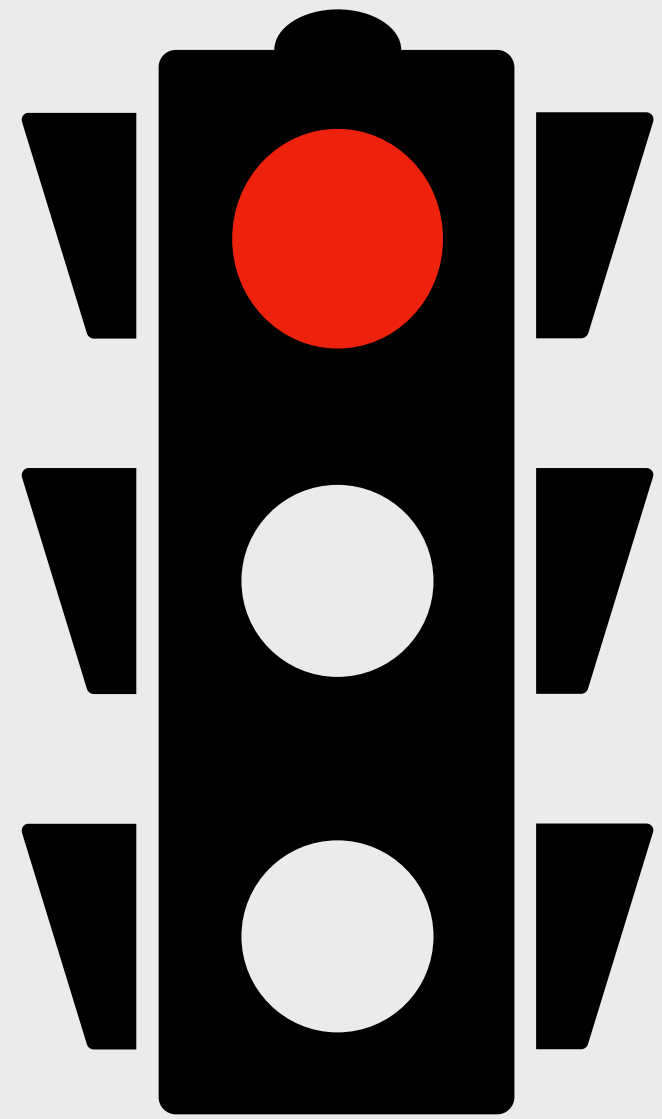


I have been shown that the most signal victories and the most fearful defeats have been on the turn of minutes. **God requires promptness of action.** Delays, doubtings, hesitation, and indecision frequently give the enemy every advantage....

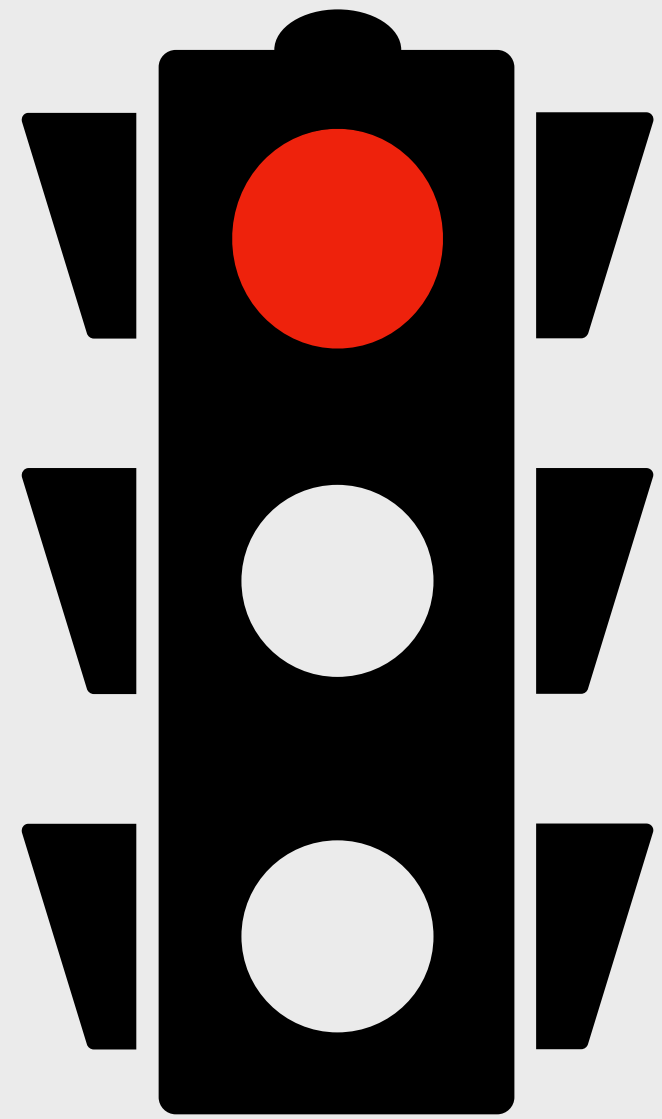




Hitherto Peter had been inclined to act independently. He had tried to plan for the work of God, **instead of waiting to follow out God's plan.** But he could gain nothing by rushing on before the Lord. Jesus bids him, "Follow Me." **Do not run ahead of Me.** Then you will not have the hosts of Satan to meet alone. Let Me go before you, and you will not be overcome by the enemy.

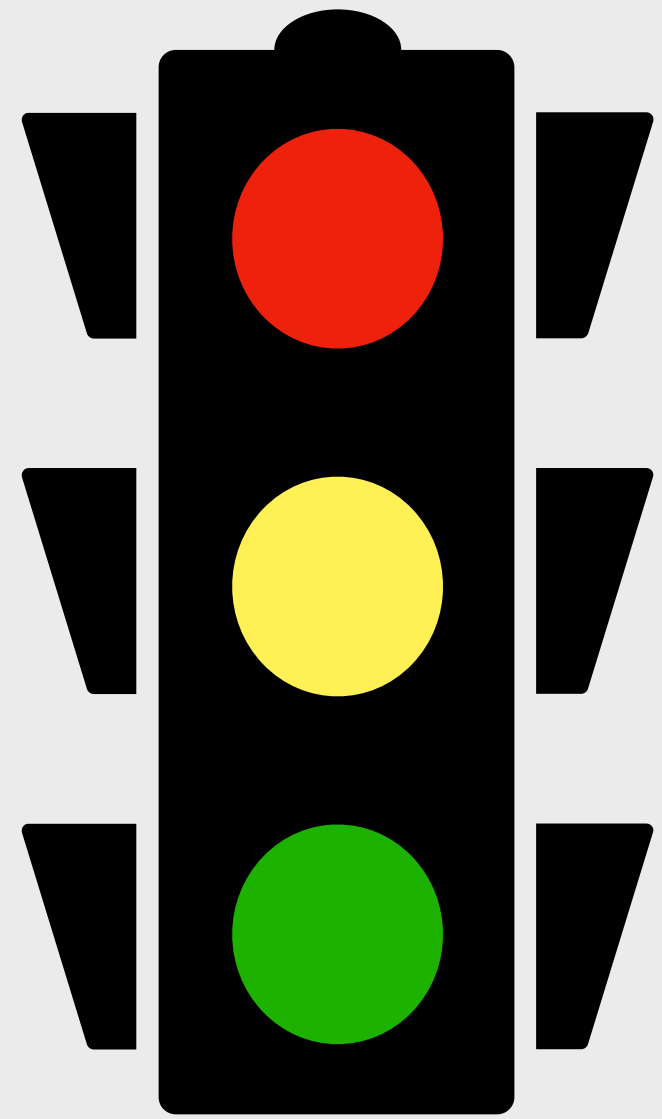


Some run ahead of the angels that are leading this people; but they have to retrace every step, and meekly follow no faster than the angels lead. I saw that the angels of God would lead His people no faster than they could receive and act upon the important truths that are communicated to them. But some restless spirits do not more than half do up their work.



As the angel leads them, **they get in haste for something new, and rush on without divine guidance, and thus bring confusion and discord into the ranks.** They do not speak or act in harmony with the body. I saw that you both must speedily be brought where you are willing to be led, instead of desiring to lead, or Satan will step in and lead you in his way, to follow his counsel.





The enemy moves very slowly and cautiously if he sees that this will deter the work from advancing. **At times, moderation has been a sin of unbelief.** But when he sees that delay will injure his plans, he creates circumstances which apparently make it necessary to **move hastily, without due consideration....**

How do we **keep up with God?**

These are they which were not defiled with women; for they are virgins. **These are they which follow the Lamb whithersoever he goeth.** These were redeemed from among men, being the firstfruits unto God and to the Lamb.

Revelation 14:4



Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. **Take My yoke upon you** and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

**Matthew 11:28-29**



There is a picture representing a bullock standing between a plow and an altar, with the inscription, “Ready for either,” ready to toil in the furrow or to be offered on the altar of sacrifice. This is the position of the true child of God—willing to go where duty calls, to deny self, to sacrifice for the Redeemer's cause.

Then Jesus said to them, “A little while longer the light is with you. **Walk while you have the light, lest darkness overtake you; he who walks in darkness does not know where he is going.**”

**John 12:35**

Men may follow many kinds of lights, but **there is only one Light that it will be safe for them to follow. Be sure that you are following Jesus whithersoever He goeth. Let none run ahead of Christ, but wait for the word of command, "Follow Me."** Let our leaders be distrustful of their own counsel, of their own ambitious fancies. Let them not suppose that the sparks of their own kindling are the true light, or after a while they will find that, instead of following the heavenly guiding Star, they are following an uncertain leader.

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These are they which follow the  
Lamb whithersoever he goeth.







**KEEPING**  
UP WITH GOD

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