

BULLETIN

VOL. 52 | 31 JANUARY 2021

THE YEAR OF INTEGRITY

2020
REFLECTION

LEARN TO FOLLOW GOD'S
GUIDANCE FOR CAREER DECISIONS

MONTHLY
PLAYLIST

Bethany International Church
The World of Prayer for All Nations



Vision

To be a "House of Prayer for all nations"
Isaiah 56 :7b

Mission

A praying and witnessing church who have a
close personal relationship with The Lord, to
change the world for the glory of the Lord.



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Ps Hemah Demak Panjaitan

Ps Suzana Tahir

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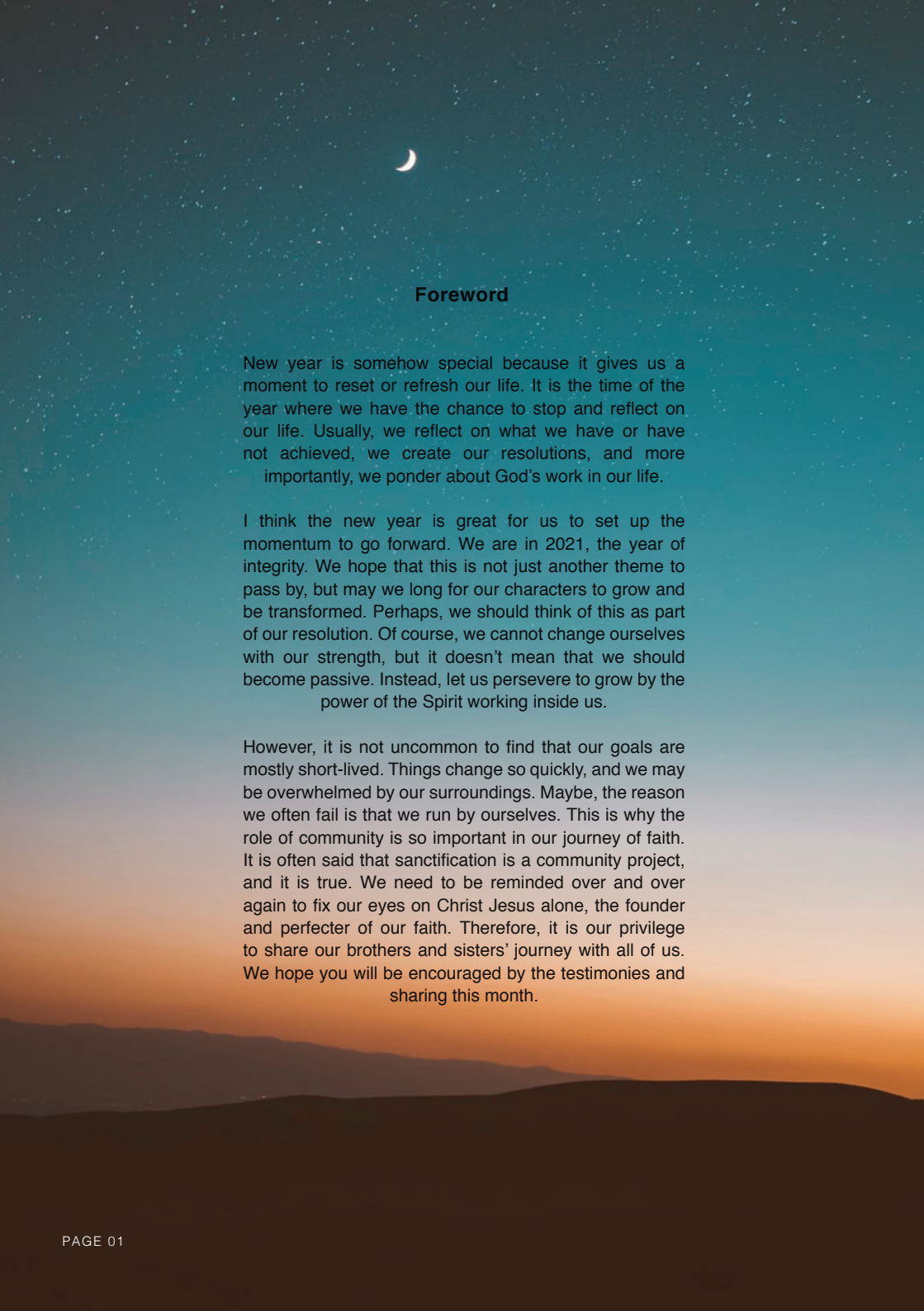
Ps Gideon Gunawan

Pastoral Care

Ps Lily Karto

Office Manager

Ps Suzana Tahir

A crescent moon is visible in the upper center of the page, set against a deep blue night sky filled with numerous small, white stars. The bottom of the image shows a dark, silhouetted landscape with rolling hills or mountains under a gradient of blue and orange light.

Foreword

New year is somehow special because it gives us a moment to reset or refresh our life. It is the time of the year where we have the chance to stop and reflect on our life. Usually, we reflect on what we have or have not achieved, we create our resolutions, and more importantly, we ponder about God's work in our life.

I think the new year is great for us to set up the momentum to go forward. We are in 2021, the year of integrity. We hope that this is not just another theme to pass by, but may we long for our characters to grow and be transformed. Perhaps, we should think of this as part of our resolution. Of course, we cannot change ourselves with our strength, but it doesn't mean that we should become passive. Instead, let us persevere to grow by the power of the Spirit working inside us.

However, it is not uncommon to find that our goals are mostly short-lived. Things change so quickly, and we may be overwhelmed by our surroundings. Maybe, the reason we often fail is that we run by ourselves. This is why the role of community is so important in our journey of faith. It is often said that sanctification is a community project, and it is true. We need to be reminded over and over again to fix our eyes on Christ Jesus alone, the founder and perfecter of our faith. Therefore, it is our privilege to share our brothers and sisters' journey with all of us. We hope you will be encouraged by the testimonies and sharing this month.

COOL LIST

MAIN

Canaan — Kezia, Freddie
Ephratah — Steven, Henry
Berea - Bethesda — Romy
Bethlehem — Felix, Fransisca
Jordan — Sony, Wilfred
Horeb — Ferry, Febria
Bethany — Paulus, Erina
Bethel — Adel, Patricia
Cana — Bobby
Philadelphia - Pniel — Dwi, Vero
Moriah — Elve, Calista
Ephraim — Sonia, Kendrew
Ekklesia — Edo, Ica
Emmaus — Fabian, Priska
Galilee — Kevin Y, Corine
Gennesaret — Reinetta, Albert
Gilgal - Carmel — Erika, Mike
Hebron - Philippi — Yoseph, Rian
Zion — Monica, Raymond
Eden — Jennifer

FAMILY

Antioch — Andy, Iwan
Tiberias — Andre, Albert
Gethsemane — Michael, Rudy
Jerusalem — Hestu
Mt Hermon — Lily, Unggul
Phillipi — Hariyanto, Ivan
Shekinah — Alice
Tabernacle — Sandi
Westal — Michael

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Macedonia — Eric, Alicia
Shiloh — Daniel, Clarissa

NEXT GEN

Judea — Valentina, Sylvio
Judah — Aldo, Kezia M.
Israel — Catherine, Jerry
Jeremiah — Sinta, Kevin W.
Heaven — Pauline



Learn to follow God's guidance for career decisions

By Kartika Dewi

In a world that we live today, career decisions can seem overwhelming because of the available options in front of us, more than at any other time in history. To further complicate the situation, we want to make the “right” decision, the choice that proves to be good for us and that is the one we believe God would have us make. So how do we take His will into account when contemplating a career choice or change? Is it up to God to guide or up to us to decide? The key to resolving this dilemma is realizing that it is both: God promises to guide and we are called to decide.

As far as I understand, the Bible does not address the career choice specifically. It is likely that in biblical times, career choice was not an issue. People usually went into family business or had their occupation determined by the situation God allowed them to be in. We can refer

to Joseph, Daniel, and many others. However, the Bible does show us that God guides his people toward the kind of occupation and calling that pleasing Him.

Some principles from Kevin & Kay Marie Brennfleck (Christian Career Centre), advises to make wiser career decision by:

- getting closer to God until we desire to seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness (Matthew 6:33)
- using the minds, particular skills He has given us to the best of our ability (Romans 12:6-8) and with the inclination toward particular interests
- learning to take risks and trust God (Matthew 24:14-30)

When I reflect on my story, I also have many struggles, as I had to work in several different roles throughout

the years (some of them were not quite the same as my educational background). At once, I thought it was not an ideal path. However, one thing I can testify is that God has always guided me through all of those times and it is more than enough for me to be grateful.

I have always had a passion for building construction since I was 13 years old, before I decided to study architecture after finishing high school. It was not a smooth sailing process, as I was not prepared for the requirements of the course. As soon as I started, I felt the pressure to always come up with creative ideas. Coupled with the desire to be the best in my area to please God and the tendency to compare myself with some talented classmates, soon resulting in diminished passion that I no longer enjoyed my study. During those times, I prayed to God and the way God's guidance unfolds

during my struggle was through encouragement from several spiritual mentors and lecturers. He put a personal conviction in my heart that He wanted me to stay on this path, so I decided to stay until graduation.

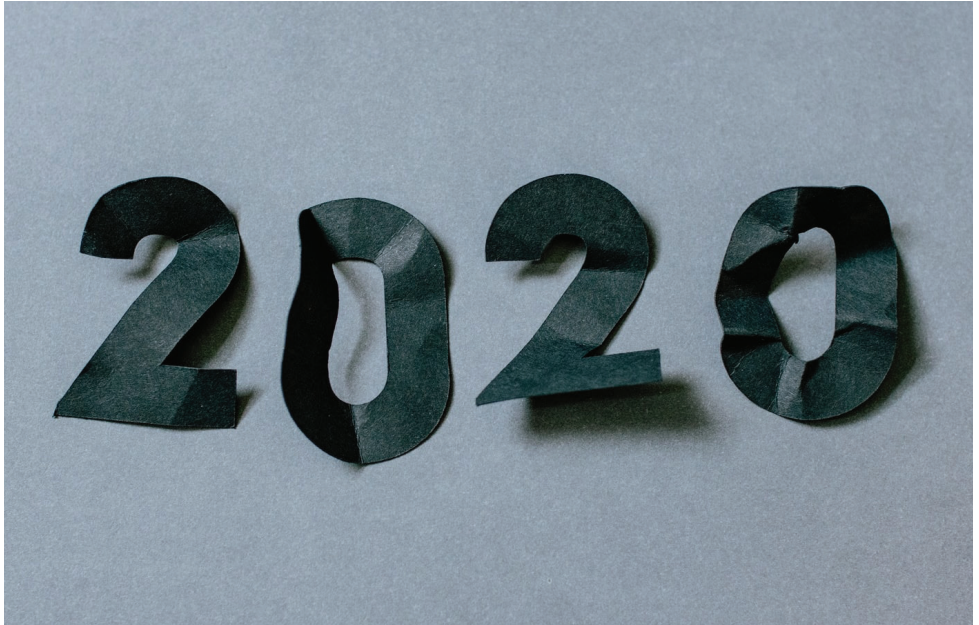
Graduating from the university in a crisis time made the job seeking process even harder. However, by God's grace, He opened an opportunity through a job offered by one of my lecturers when I was asking an opinion for my career plan. Working in the same field, I repeated the same struggle I experienced in the university. Until one day, a manager suggested that I take a new role which was more suited to my passion and skill set. I followed the advice and took two post graduate programs to prepare me better in this new area. Those days were not easy as I had to move to two different countries, while managing work and study at the same time, but today I

can testify that God is gracious, and in His grace, He showed me that He knew my struggles and guided me through the people that He placed surrounding me.

The story did not stop when I found a better role that I have been enjoying for many years. God has something greater than only to guide me to that direction. He has a far better plan for me, which is to transform my character. This process had led me to my knees and cried before the Lord more often than finding the right job. I cannot remember how many times my family and friends had to listen to my complaints on working with certain personalities while being under constant pressure of deadlines. The consideration to give up the job or stay for some more years seemed very daunting. On those moments, I remembered what God said to Israelites in Deuteronomy 8:2-3: “And you shall remember the

whole way that the Lord your God has led you these forty years in the wilderness, that he might humble you, testing you to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not.”

Through all the process, I was not lost, I was being led. God did not leave me to find my own way, but He orchestrated the circumstances in my career journey to keep me close to the ground. Looking at the big picture leads to this conclusion: our struggles throughout our career journey are not permanent, but those are God's plan for our lives. That may not sound encouraging, but remember God is leading and teaching vital lessons — humility, obedience, and dependence on Him day by day.



2020 *reflection*

By Davis Benedict

I think many people would say that 2020 is their worst year in their life. However, I can say that for me, 2020 is the best year in my life so far. At first, it is not easy for me to conclude 2020 as the best year in my life due to many things that happened in the world and in my life personally. At first, I also thought that 2020 was one of my worst years in every aspect of my life. I was starting 2020 with a big hope for my ministry, my study, and also my casual job in Melbourne. However, I started 2020 with a fact that I was no longer called to work on my current casual

job at that moment. Then, because of the pandemic all of my study went online, all of my ministry that I have put much effort at that moment was postponed. I was really disappointed and sad at that time, coupled with the lockdown that made me unable to meet my friends and my COOL, and seeing one by one of my friends going for good. At that moment I was really stressed, and I asked God why all of this should happen. I doubted God's promise that I got at the beginning of the year which asked me to surrender my life to be used more. I thought how I can do more if I even cannot go anywhere and cannot meet anyone.

But, on the other hand God had worked amazingly in my life without me even realising, I was appointed as a COOL leader in April 2021 and I have many amazing opportunities to serve in prayer towers via ZOOM. At that moment I did not realise that His promise still stands, I was standing by my own feet and felt everything of

my plan had failed and I could not do more. However, God is really good, He worked beyond my imagination. I was more broke and stressful when the second wave hit in Melbourne, since at that moment I just felt all of my hope and plan had broken because the situation was getting better then getting even worse than the beginning of the year. The only thing that I could do at that time was crying and asking God why it should happen again.

However, at that moment I got a song called "Give me Faith" by Elevation worship. This song really speaks for me as I had a hard heart at that time, I need God to soften my heart and surrender all to Him, and even though my flesh may fail He never leaves me. Moreover, I also got a verse from 1 Corinthians 2:9 which says, "That is what the Scriptures mean when they say, 'No eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no mind has imagined what God has prepared for those who love him.'". Since that

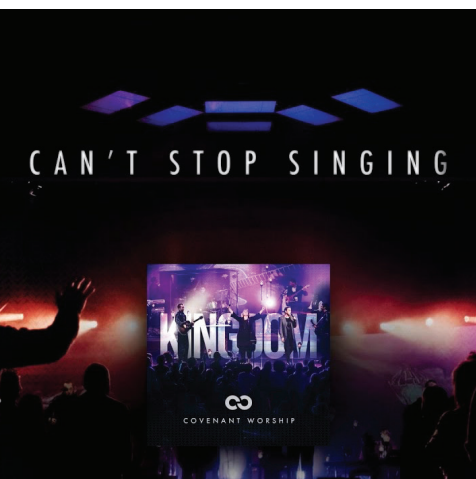
moment, my eyes were open to all of His amazing work on me along the year. That moment made me aware of God's blessings and love which turned out to be very abundant in my life, and God has provided the best for me.

As a human, I still have worries and a lot of anxiety in my life, especially in facing 2021 since this year is a new starting point for me when I need to find a job for living. When I start thinking about 2021 and bring all of my worry and anxiety to God, God gave my peace as I remember a song called "Engkau Setia" by JPCC worship which remind me that He is

the only one that can give peace that the world can never give, and he has proven that He is faithful, and He is always be faithful. Also, one of my friends also gave me a verse from Matthew 6:26 which says "Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they?" which also strengthens myself in order to face 2021. In conclusion. I hope everyone who reads this could also be grateful for His amazing work in 2020 and ready to be facing 2021 by surrendering all to Him and living in His plan.

PURIFY

NDC WORSHIP LIVE RECORDING



THE ULTIMATE LIST OF

NEW YEAR SONGS

#1

Berkat Kemurahanmu

NDC WORSHIP

#2

I Will Bless The Lord

TRUE WORSHIPPERS

#3

Can't Stop Singing

COVENANT WORSHIP

#4

Tuhan Kupercaya

WELYAR KAUNTU

#5

Ujilah Aku Tuhan

SYMPHONY WORSHIP

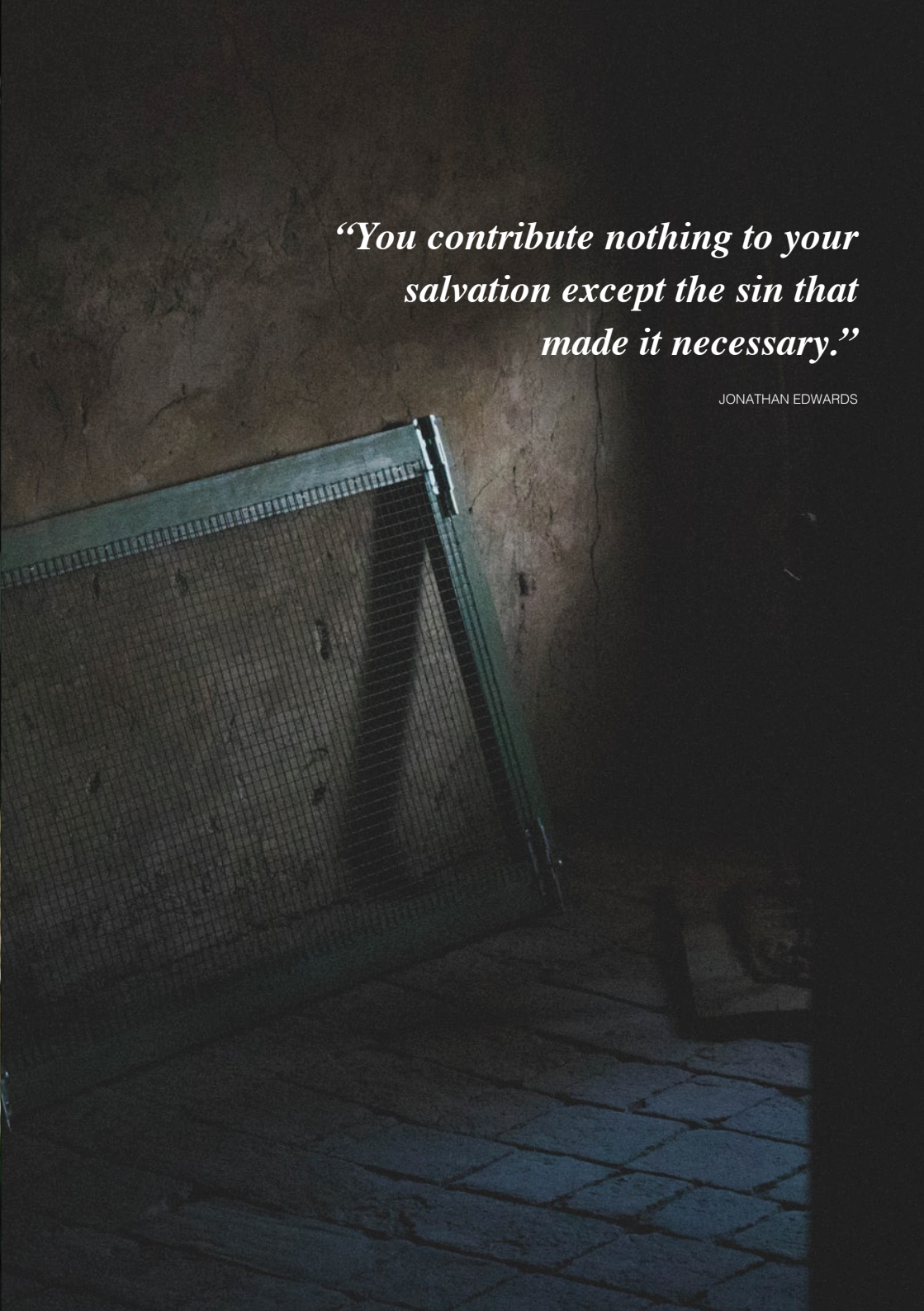
You can find the complete playlist in Spotify



MINISTRY LIST

Vocal — Jessica Sutiono
Musician — Raynaldo Ali
Multimedia — Budi Sendjaja
Lighting — Budi Sendjaja
Sound — Steven Santika
Usher — Elbert Pranoto
Translator — Elbert Pranoto
Caring — Felix Hariyadi
Dancer — Priska Sunaryo
Drama — Jennifer Chandra
Sunday School — Reinetta Tanujaya
Hospitality — Tasmin Ifah
Intercessor — Monica Haryanto
Mission — Felix Chietra
Media Art — Sonia Pranatha
Community Kitchen — Yolanda Tjong
Cultivated Podcast — Ravello Satria
Youth — Rio Susanto



A dark, atmospheric photograph of a stone wall and a wire mesh gate. The wall is made of rough, textured stone with visible cracks and shadows. A wire mesh gate, possibly made of metal or plastic, is leaning against the wall. The floor is made of large, dark stone tiles. The lighting is low, creating a somber and mysterious mood.

*“You contribute nothing to your
salvation except the sin that
made it necessary.”*

JONATHAN EDWARDS