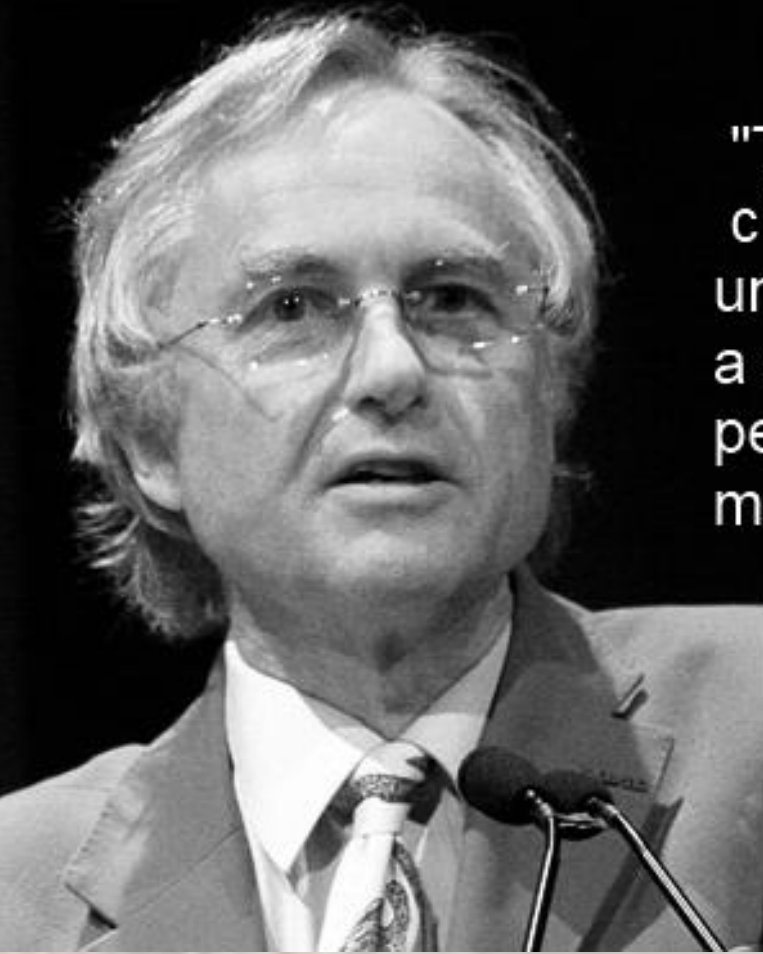


ANDY STANLEY

the
Grace
of
God

THE GIFT WE DON'T DESERVE.
THE LOVE WE CAN'T BELIEVE.



"The God of the Old Testament is arguably the most unpleasant character in all fiction: jealous and proud of it; a petty, unjust, unforgiving control-freak; a vindictive, bloodthirsty ethnic cleanser; a misogynistic, homophobic, racist, infanticidal, genocidal, filicidal, pestilential, megalomaniacal, sadomasochistic, capriciously malevolent bully."

- Richard Dawkins

The Old Testament God of Grace

(The Crimson Cord of Mercy – the story of Rahab)

Joshua 6:20 When the trumpets sounded, the army shouted, and at the sound of the trumpet, when the men gave a loud shout, the wall collapsed; so everyone charged straight in, and they took the city. ²¹ They devoted the city to the Lord and destroyed with the sword every living thing in it—men and women, young and old, cattle, sheep and donkeys.

A red cord is draped over a stone wall, symbolizing the 'Crimson Cord of Mercy'. The cord is a deep red color and is positioned diagonally across the upper right portion of the image. The background is a textured, light-colored stone wall with a dark, rectangular opening or shadow in the center.

The Old Testament God of Grace

(The Crimson Cord of Mercy – the story of Rahab)

Genesis 15:16 ... the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure.”

The Old Testament God of Grace

(The Crimson Cord of Mercy – the story of Rahab)

Joshua 2:4 “Yes, the men came to me, but I did not know where they had come from. ⁵ At dusk, when it was time to close the city gate, they left. I don’t know which way they went. Go after them quickly. You may catch up with them.” ⁶ (But she had taken them up to the roof and hidden them under the stalks of flax she had laid out on the roof.)

The Old Testament God of Grace

(The Crimson Cord of Mercy – the story of Rahab)

Joshua 2:9 “I know that the Lord has given you this land and that a great fear of you has fallen on us, so that all who live in this country are melting in fear because of you. ¹⁰ We have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two kings of the Amorites east of the Jordan, whom you completely destroyed. ¹¹ When we heard of it, our hearts melted in fear and everyone’s courage failed because of you, for the Lord your God is God in heaven above and on the earth below.

The Old Testament God of Grace

(The Crimson Cord of Mercy – the story of Rahab)

2:12 “Now then, please swear to me by the Lord that you will show kindness to my family, because I have shown kindness to you. Give me a sure sign ¹³ that you will spare the lives of my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them—and that you will save us from death.”

The Old Testament God of Grace

(The Crimson Cord of Mercy – the story of Rahab)

Joshua 6:3 March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have the whole army give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the army will go up, everyone straight in.”

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a thick, vibrant red cord against a light-colored, textured stone wall. The cord is draped and held taut, creating a strong visual contrast with the stone. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the stone and the smooth surface of the cord.

The Old Testament God of Grace

(The Crimson Cord of Mercy – the story of Rahab)

*Oh my Jesus, Rock of my Salvation
Who bore the weight of Calvary's wood and shame
And cleansed my sin in the crimson flow of mercy
Precious Jesus, Rock of my salvation.*