

Reaching For The Hem Free Webclass



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Why Bad Things Happen To Good People (Part 1)

with **Ameerah Lewis**

www.hem-of-his-garment-bible-study.org

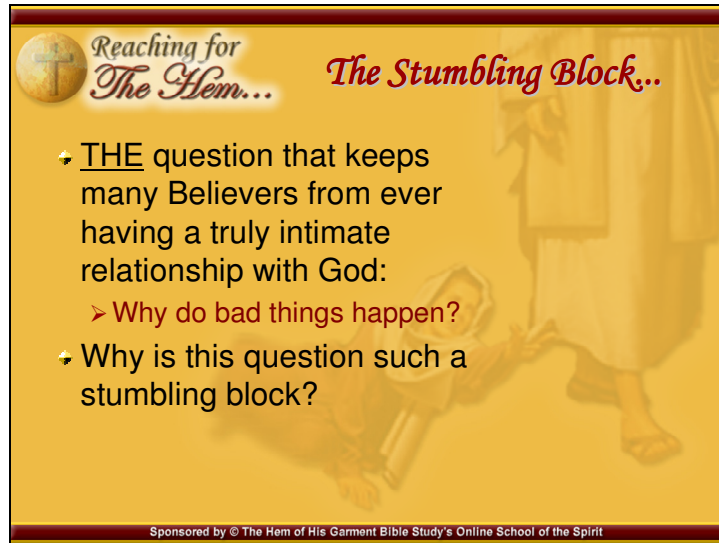
Slide 1



Slide 2



Slide 3

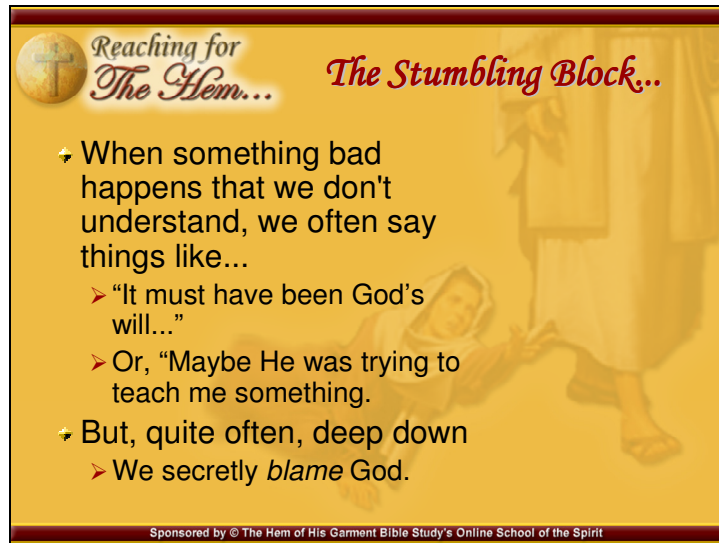
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Reaching for
The Hem... **The Stumbling Block, ..**

- THE question that keeps many Believers from ever having a truly intimate relationship with God:
 - Why do bad things happen?
- Why is this question such a stumbling block?

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Slide 4

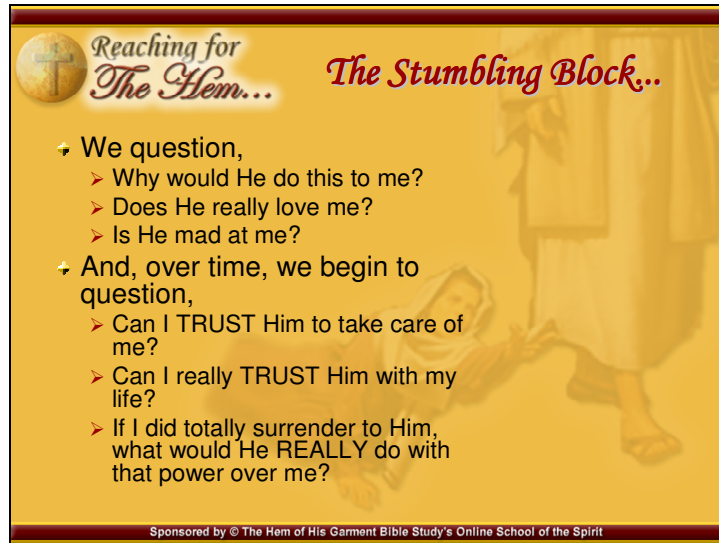
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Reaching for
The Hem... **The Stumbling Block, ..**

- When something bad happens that we don't understand, we often say things like...
 - "It must have been God's will..."
 - Or, "Maybe He was trying to teach me something."
- But, quite often, deep down
 - We secretly *blame* God.

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Slide 5

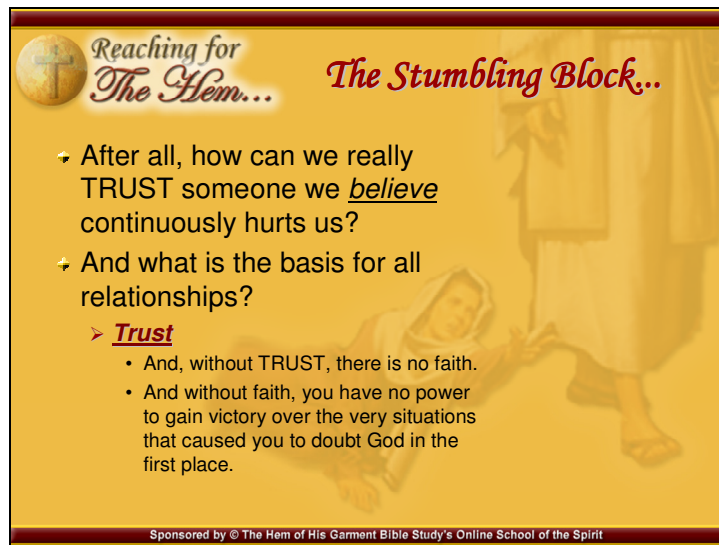
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Reaching for
The Hem... **The Stumbling Block...**

- We question,
 - Why would He do this to me?
 - Does He really love me?
 - Is He mad at me?
- And, over time, we begin to question,
 - Can I TRUST Him to take care of me?
 - Can I really TRUST Him with my life?
 - If I did totally surrender to Him, what would He REALLY do with that power over me?

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Slide 6

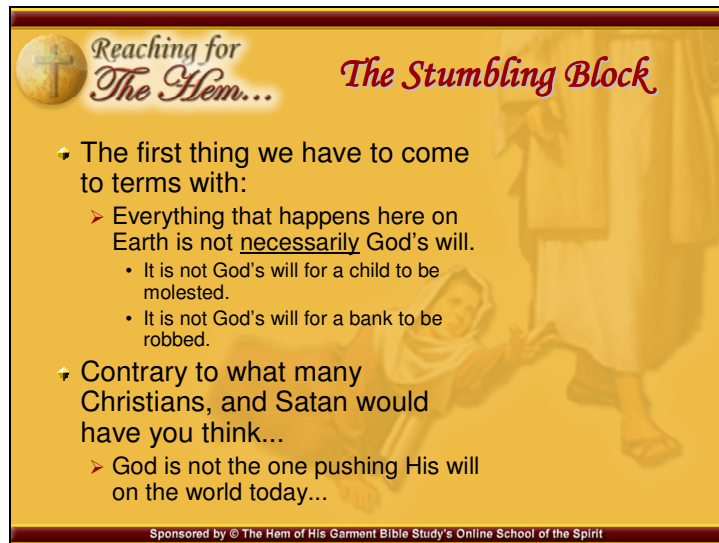
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Reaching for
The Hem... **The Stumbling Block...**

- After all, how can we really TRUST someone we believe continuously hurts us?
- And what is the basis for all relationships?
 - Trust
 - And, without TRUST, there is no faith.
 - And without faith, you have no power to gain victory over the very situations that caused you to doubt God in the first place.

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Slide 7

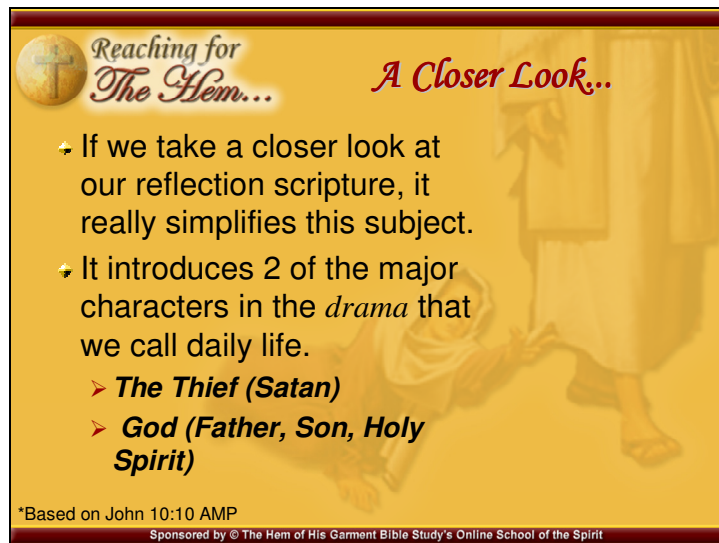


Reaching for
The Hem... **The Stumbling Block**

- ✦ The first thing we have to come to terms with:
 - Everything that happens here on Earth is not necessarily God's will.
 - It is not God's will for a child to be molested.
 - It is not God's will for a bank to be robbed.
- ✦ Contrary to what many Christians, and Satan would have you think...
 - God is not the one pushing His will on the world today...

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Slide 8



Reaching for
The Hem... **A Closer Look...**

- ✦ If we take a closer look at our reflection scripture, it really simplifies this subject.
- ✦ It introduces 2 of the major characters in the *drama* that we call daily life.
 - **The Thief (Satan)**
 - **God (Father, Son, Holy Spirit)**

*Based on John 10:10 AMP

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Slide 9

A slide with a yellow background and a dark red border. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon with a cross and the text "Reaching for The Hem...". In the top right corner, the text "A Closer Look..." is written in a red, cursive font. The main content consists of two bullet points, each with a sub-bullet. The first bullet point is about "The Thief" and the second is about "God". At the bottom, there is a small text line: "*Based on John 10:10 AMP" and "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit".

Reaching for The Hem... *A Closer Look...*

- **The Thief:** He comes only in order to steal and kill and destroy.
 - That's it!
 - That's his "role" in your life.
- **God:** He comes that you may have and enjoy life, and have it in abundance (to the full, till it overflows).
 - That's it!
 - That's God's role in your life.

*Based on John 10:10 AMP
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Slide 10

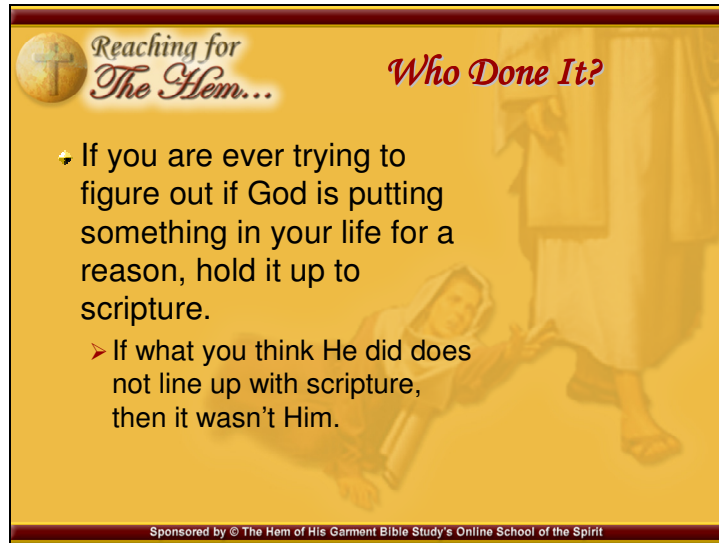
A slide with a yellow background and a dark red border. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon with a cross and the text "Reaching for The Hem...". In the top right corner, the text "Who Done It?" is written in a red, cursive font. The main content consists of two bullet points, each with sub-bullets. The first bullet point is about discerning the source of events, and the second is about how to do that. At the bottom, there is a small text line: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit".

Reaching for The Hem... *Who Done It?*

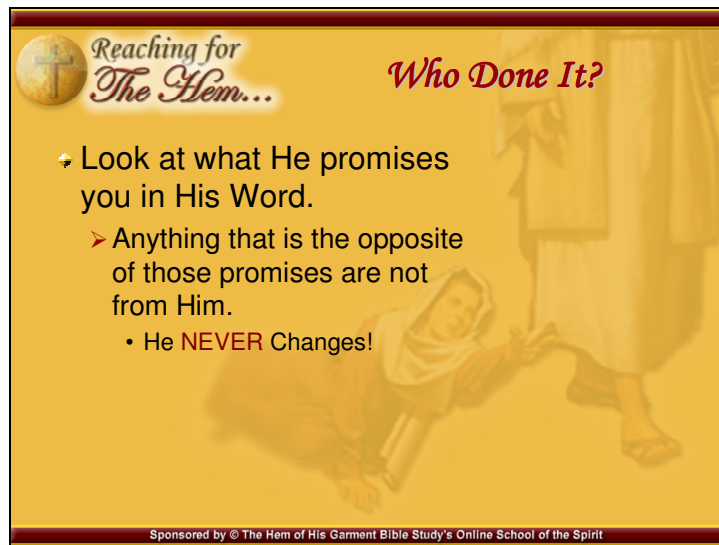
- When things happen, we must discern if it is something from our Father, or our enemy.
- How do we do that?
 - We compare the circumstance with the character description.
 - Who's handiwork does it really look like?

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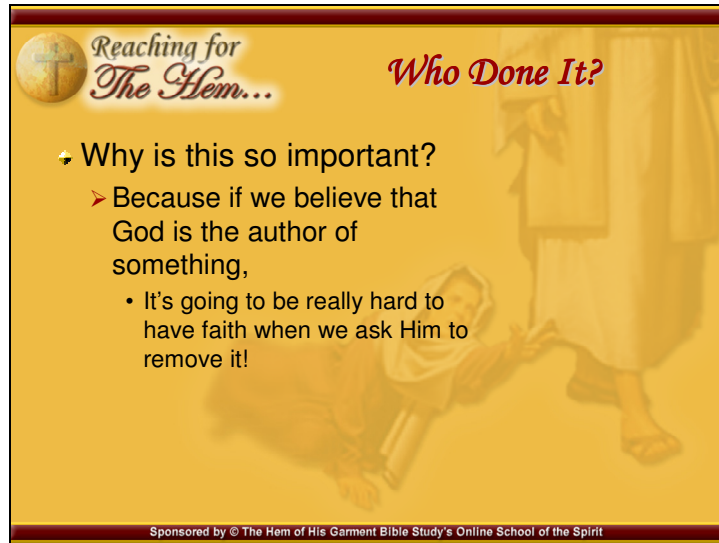
Slide 11

A presentation slide with a yellow background and a dark red border. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon containing a cross, followed by the text "Reaching for The Hem..." in a cursive font. In the top right corner, the text "Who Done It?" is written in a red, serif font. The main body of the slide contains two bullet points: a blue arrow pointing to the right followed by "If you are ever trying to figure out if God is putting something in your life for a reason, hold it up to scripture." and a red arrow pointing to the right followed by "If what you think He did does not line up with scripture, then it wasn't Him." In the bottom left corner, there is a small line of text: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit". The background features a faint, stylized illustration of a person in a white garment.

Slide 12

A presentation slide with a yellow background and a dark red border. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon containing a cross, followed by the text "Reaching for The Hem..." in a cursive font. In the top right corner, the text "Who Done It?" is written in a red, serif font. The main body of the slide contains two bullet points: a blue arrow pointing to the right followed by "Look at what He promises you in His Word." and a red arrow pointing to the right followed by "Anything that is the opposite of those promises are not from Him." Below the second bullet point, there is a sub-bullet point: a black dot followed by "He NEVER Changes!". In the bottom left corner, there is a small line of text: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit". The background features a faint, stylized illustration of a person in a white garment.

Slide 13

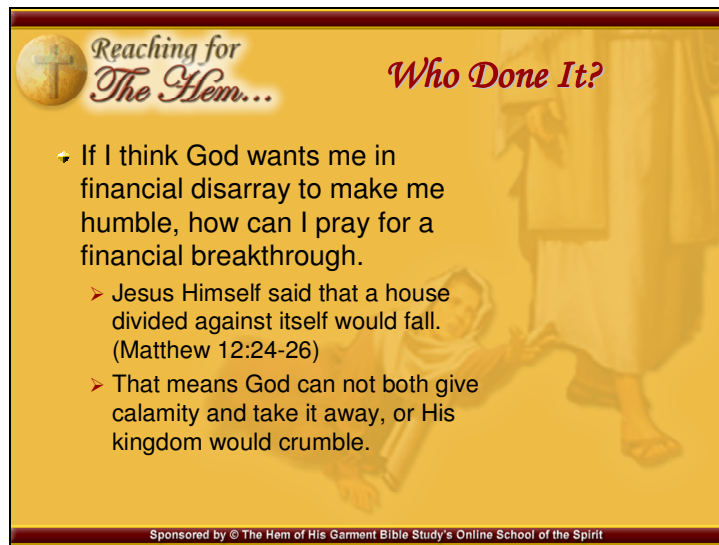
The slide has a yellow background with a faint image of a person in prayer. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon with a cross and the text "Reaching for The Hem...". In the top right corner, the text "Who Done It?" is written in a red, cursive font. The main text is a bulleted list. At the bottom, there is a small line of text: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit".

Reaching for The Hem... *Who Done It?*

- Why is this so important?
 - Because if we believe that God is the author of something,
 - It's going to be really hard to have faith when we ask Him to remove it!

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Slide 14


The slide has a yellow background with a faint image of a person in prayer. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon with a cross and the text "Reaching for The Hem...". In the top right corner, the text "Who Done It?" is written in a red, cursive font. The main text is a bulleted list. At the bottom, there is a small line of text: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit".

Reaching for The Hem... *Who Done It?*

- If I think God wants me in financial disarray to make me humble, how can I pray for a financial breakthrough.
 - Jesus Himself said that a house divided against itself would fall. (Matthew 12:24-26)
 - That means God can not both give calamity and take it away, or His kingdom would crumble.

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Slide 15


 *Reaching for
The Hem...* **Enter: Evil and Calamity**

- ➔ But, isn't God controlling everything?
 - Actually, God did not create this Earth for His own dominion:

God said, Let Us [Father, Son, and Holy Spirit] make mankind in Our image, after Our likeness, and let them have **complete authority** over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air, the [tame] beasts, **and over all of the earth,** and over everything that creeps upon the earth.
Genesis 1:26 AMP

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Slide 16

 *Reaching for
The Hem...* **Enter: Evil and Calamity**

- ➔ And what did mankind do with that authority...
 - In our unwillingness to follow the loving instruction of a protective Father,
 - We opened the door for evil and calamity to enter into our world.

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Slide 17

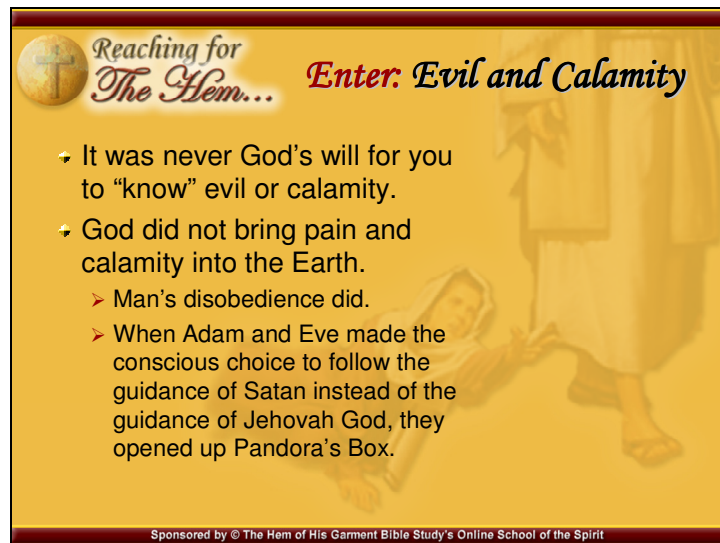


Reaching for
The Hem... **Enter: Evil and Calamity**

And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil and blessing and calamity you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.
-Genesis 2:16-17 AMP

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Slide 18

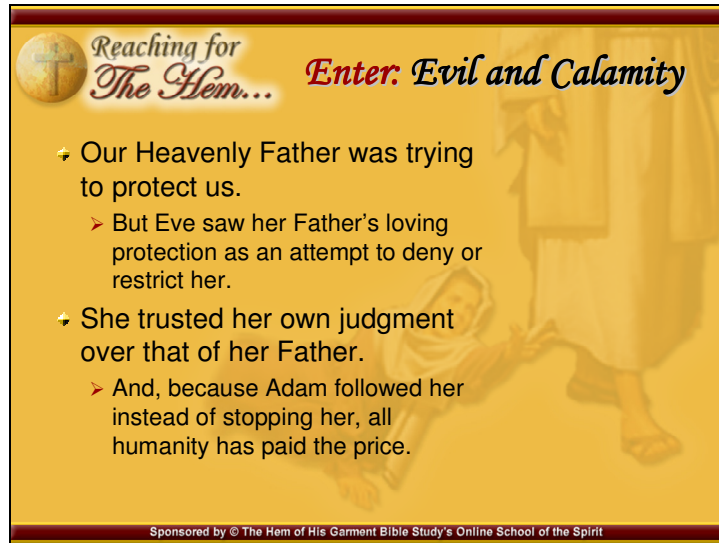


Reaching for
The Hem... **Enter: Evil and Calamity**

- ✦ It was never God's will for you to "know" evil or calamity.
- ✦ God did not bring pain and calamity into the Earth.
 - Man's disobedience did.
 - When Adam and Eve made the conscious choice to follow the guidance of Satan instead of the guidance of Jehovah God, they opened up Pandora's Box.

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Slide 19

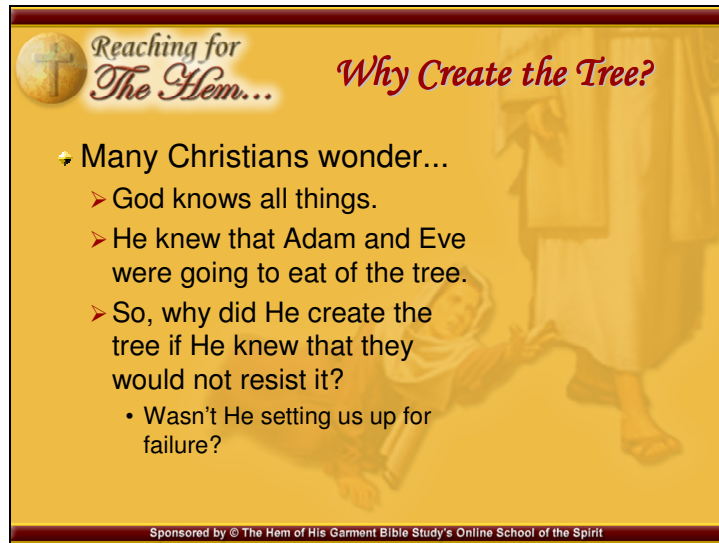


Reaching for
The Hem... **Enter: Evil and Calamity**

- ✦ Our Heavenly Father was trying to protect us.
 - But Eve saw her Father's loving protection as an attempt to deny or restrict her.
- ✦ She trusted her own judgment over that of her Father.
 - And, because Adam followed her instead of stopping her, all humanity has paid the price.

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Slide 20

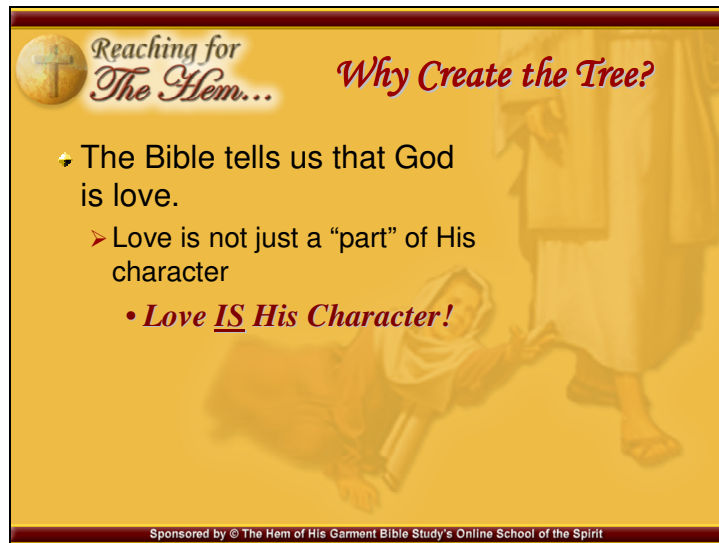


Reaching for
The Hem... **Why Create the Tree?**

- ✦ Many Christians wonder...
 - God knows all things.
 - He knew that Adam and Eve were going to eat of the tree.
 - So, why did He create the tree if He knew that they would not resist it?
 - Wasn't He setting us up for failure?

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Slide 21

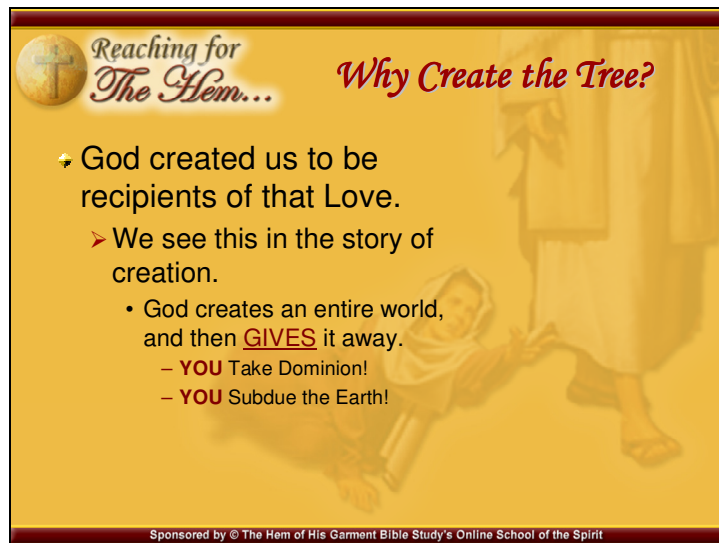
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Reaching for
The Hem... *Why Create the Tree?*

- The Bible tells us that God is love.
 - Love is not just a “part” of His character
 - *Love IS His Character!*

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Slide 22

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Reaching for
The Hem... *Why Create the Tree?*

- God created us to be recipients of that Love.
 - We see this in the story of creation.
 - God creates an entire world, and then GIVES it away.
 - **YOU** Take Dominion!
 - **YOU** Subdue the Earth!

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Slide 23

Reaching for
The Hem... *Why Create the Tree?*

✦ By His actions in the garden before the fall, God reveals His true intentions towards you as His child:

- To Love you and to be Loved by you.
 - Jesus confirms this when He is here on the Earth:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind (intellect). This is the great (most important, principal) and first commandment.
Matthew 22: 36 (AMP)

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Slide 24

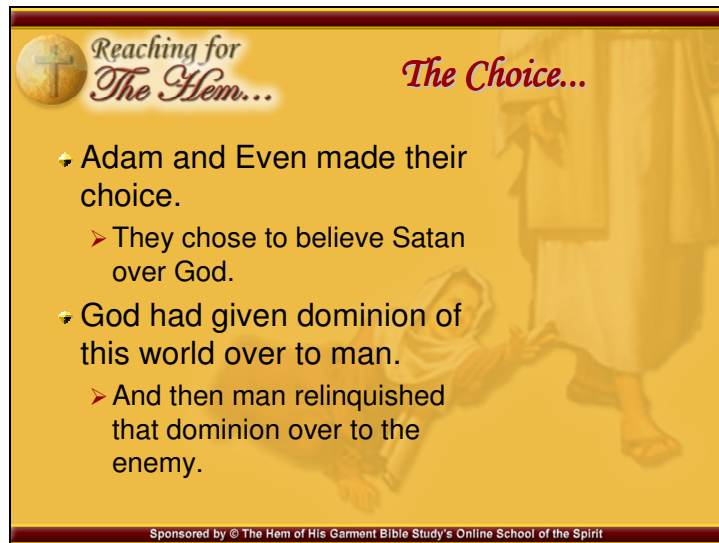
Reaching for
The Hem... *Why Create the Tree?*

✦ But, as we see in God's example, Love is an ACTION word.

- Many times in the Bible the verb, *Agapao* is used instead of just Agape to drive this point home.
- ✦ If God did not give Adam and Eve a **choice**, their affection towards Him would not have been **Real** genuine love.
 - God gave them a way to ACT on their love for Him.

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Slide 25

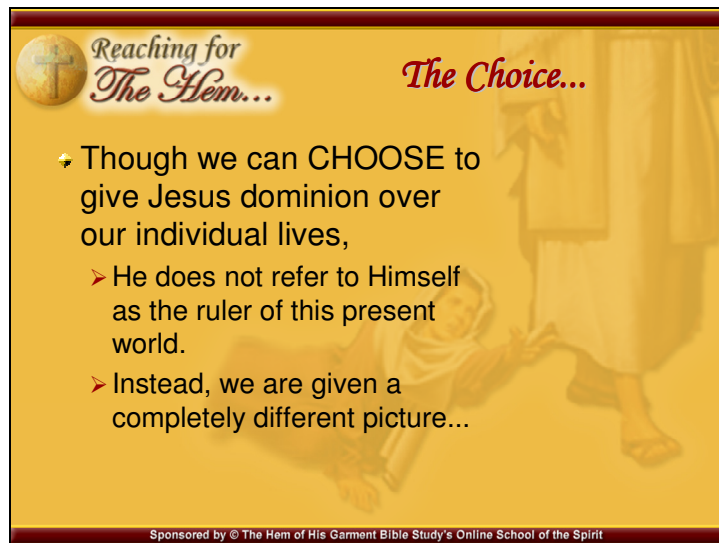
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Reaching for The Hem... *The Choice...*

- Adam and Even made their choice.
 - They chose to believe Satan over God.
- God had given dominion of this world over to man.
 - And then man relinquished that dominion over to the enemy.

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Slide 26

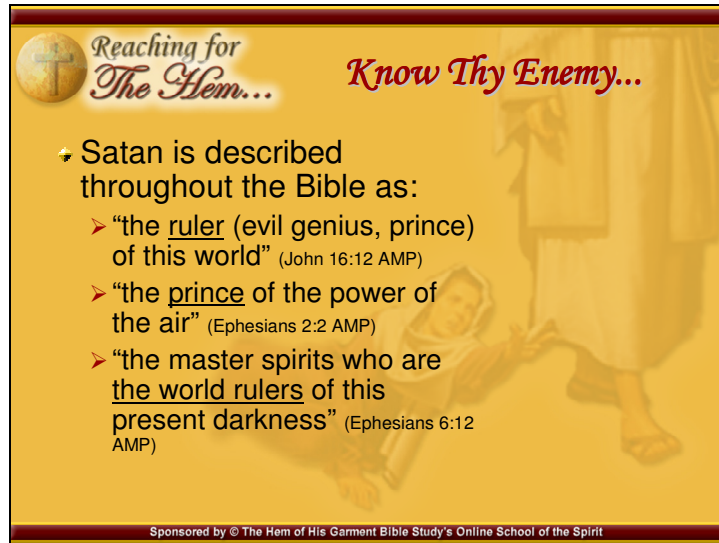
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Reaching for The Hem... *The Choice...*

- Though we can CHOOSE to give Jesus dominion over our individual lives,
 - He does not refer to Himself as the ruler of this present world.
 - Instead, we are given a completely different picture...

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Slide 27

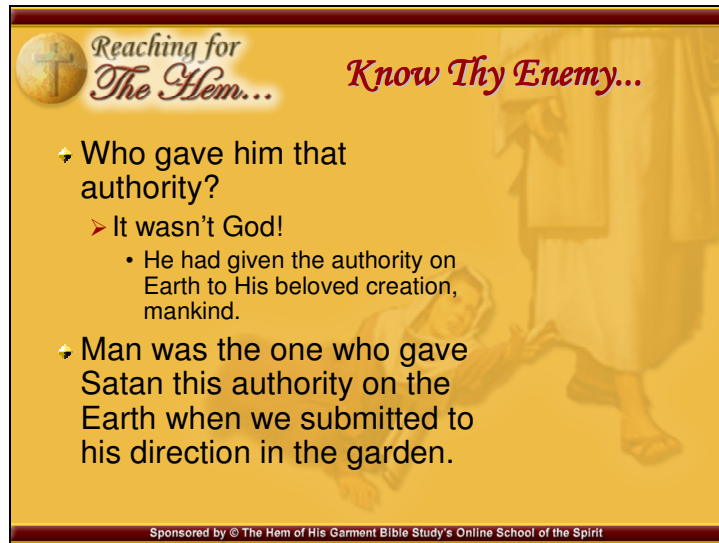
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Reaching for
The Hem... **Know Thy Enemy...**

- Satan is described throughout the Bible as:
 - “the ruler (evil genius, prince) of this world” (John 16:12 AMP)
 - “the prince of the power of the air” (Ephesians 2:2 AMP)
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Slide 28

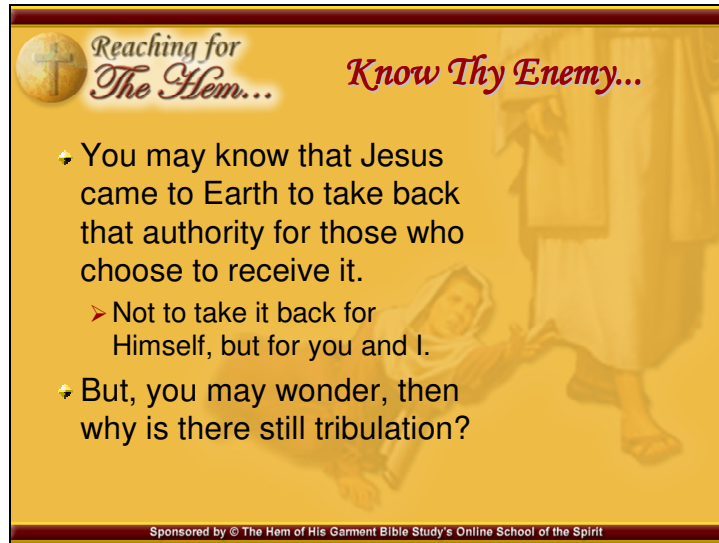
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Reaching for
The Hem... **Know Thy Enemy...**

- Who gave him that authority?
 - It wasn't God!
 - He had given the authority on Earth to His beloved creation, mankind.
 - Man was the one who gave Satan this authority on the Earth when we submitted to his direction in the garden.

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Slide 29

The slide features a gold background with a faint image of a person in a white robe. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon with a cross and the text "Reaching for The Hem...". To the right of this icon, the text "Know Thy Enemy..." is written in a red, serif font. The main content consists of three bullet points. The first bullet point is "You may know that Jesus came to Earth to take back that authority for those who choose to receive it." The second bullet point is "Not to take it back for Himself, but for you and I." The third bullet point is "But, you may wonder, then why is there still tribulation?". At the bottom of the slide, there is a small line of text: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit".

Reaching for The Hem... **Know Thy Enemy...**

- You may know that Jesus came to Earth to take back that authority for those who choose to receive it.
 - Not to take it back for Himself, but for you and I.
- But, you may wonder, then why is there still tribulation?

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Slide 30

The slide features a gold background with a faint image of a person in a white robe. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon with a cross and the text "Reaching for The Hem...". To the right of this icon, the text "Know Thy Enemy..." is written in a red, serif font. The main content consists of one bullet point: "There ARE people out there still under the control of the enemy...". Below this bullet point, there is a red-bordered box containing the following text: "Following the prince of the power of the air. ... obedient to and under the control of the [demon] spirit that still constantly works in the sons of disobedience [the careless, the rebellious, and the unbelieving, who go against the purposes of God]. -Ephesians 2:2 AMP". At the bottom of the slide, there is a small line of text: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit".


Reaching for The Hem... **Know Thy Enemy...**

- There ARE people out there still under the control of the enemy...

*Following the prince of the power of the air.
... obedient to and under the control of the
[demon] spirit that still constantly works in
the sons of disobedience [the careless, the
rebellious, and the unbelieving,
who go against the purposes of God].
-Ephesians 2:2 AMP*

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Slide 31

 *Reaching for The Hem...* **Know Thy Enemy...**

- And, Satan is not working alone.
 - He has spiritual helpers that can influence everything from our thinking to our daily lives.
 - We are quite literally in the battle to end all battles!

Be strong in the Lord [be empowered through your union with Him]; draw your strength from Him [that strength which His boundless might provides]...that you may be able successfully to stand up against [all] the strategies and the deceits of the devil.

For we are not wrestling with flesh and blood [contending only with physical opponents], but against the despotisms, against the powers, against [the master spirits who are] the world rulers of this present darkness, against the spirit forces of wickedness in the heavenly (supernatural) sphere. - Ephesians 6:10-12 AMP

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Slide 32

 *Reaching for The Hem...* **Taking Back Authority**

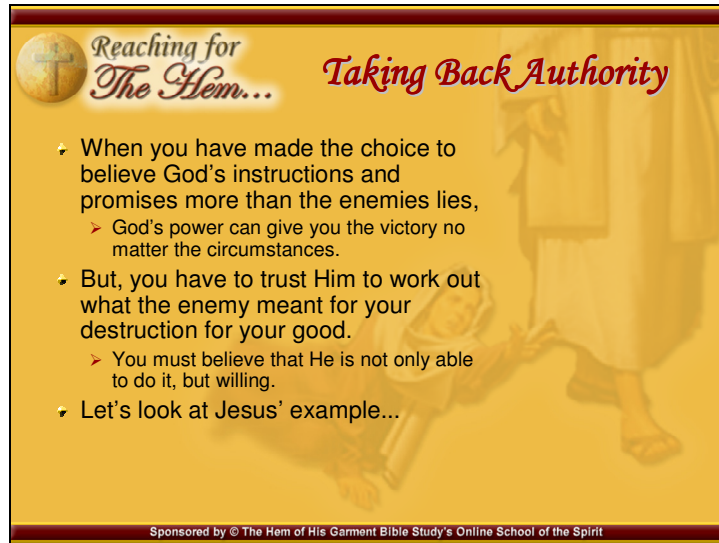
- Though Satan sends people and circumstances to foil the plans of God in your life, **YOU** don't have to be afraid!
 - If you have chosen to give your life back to God as an offering of love, God Himself lives inside of you.

Little children, you are of God [you belong to Him] and have [already] defeated and overcome them [the agents of the antichrist], because He Who lives in you is greater (mightier) than he who is in the world.

-1 John 4:4 AMP

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Slide 33

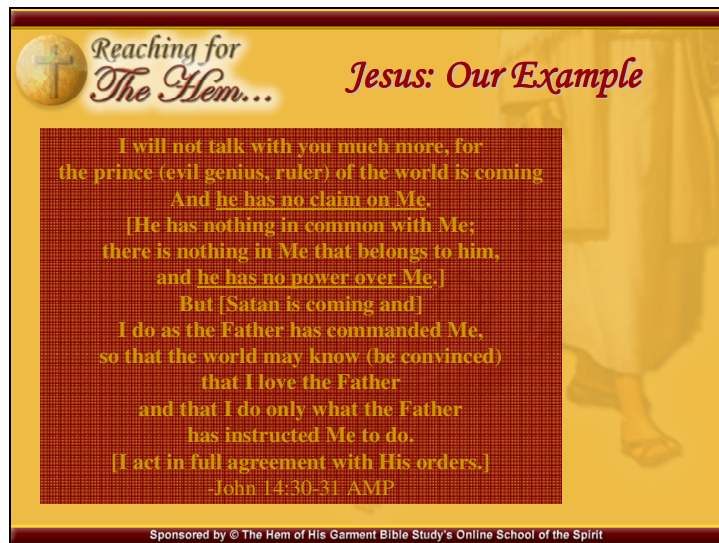


Reaching for
The Hem... *Taking Back Authority*

- When you have made the choice to believe God's instructions and promises more than the enemies lies,
 - God's power can give you the victory no matter the circumstances.
- But, you have to trust Him to work out what the enemy meant for your destruction for your good.
 - You must believe that He is not only able to do it, but willing.
- Let's look at Jesus' example...

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Slide 34

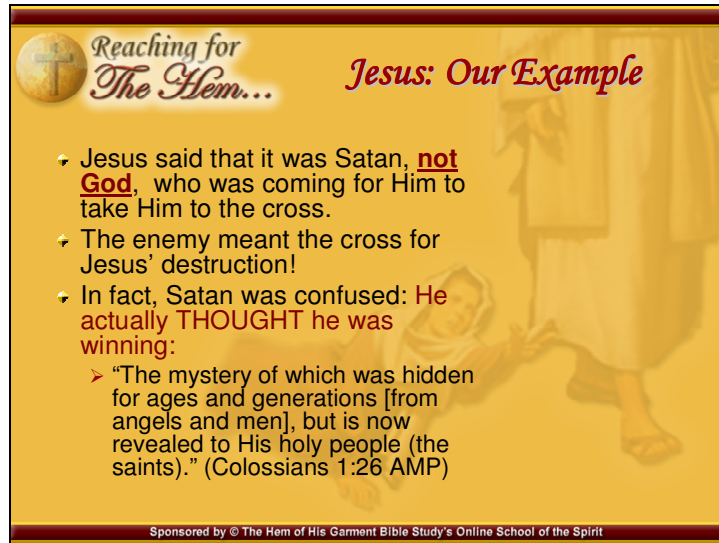


Reaching for
The Hem... *Jesus: Our Example*

I will not talk with you much more, for
the prince (evil genius, ruler) of the world is coming
And he has no claim on Me.
[He has nothing in common with Me;
there is nothing in Me that belongs to him,
and he has no power over Me.]
But [Satan is coming and]
I do as the Father has commanded Me,
so that the world may know (be convinced)
that I love the Father
and that I do only what the Father
has instructed Me to do.
[I act in full agreement with His orders.]
-John 14:30-31 AMP

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Slide 35

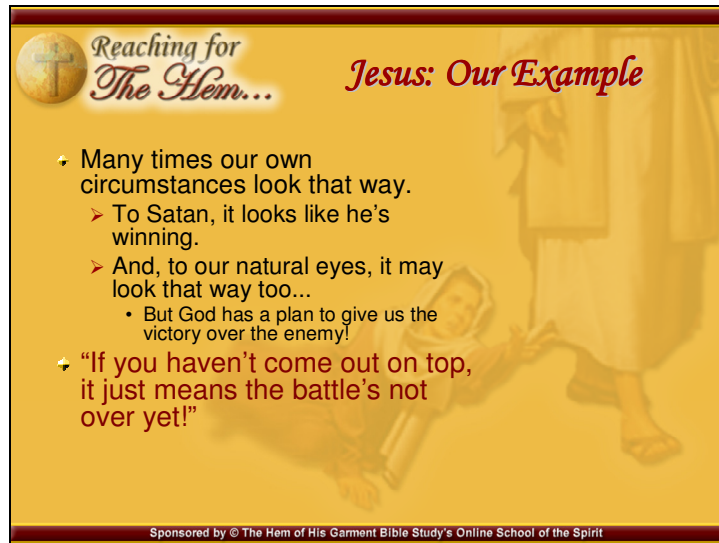
The slide features a yellow background with a faint image of Jesus. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon with a cross. The text "Reaching for The Hem..." is written in a cursive font, and "Jesus: Our Example" is in a bold, red, serif font. The main content is a bulleted list with three main points, each starting with a blue diamond. The first point states that Jesus said it was Satan, not God, who was coming for Him to take Him to the cross. The second point says the enemy meant the cross for Jesus' destruction. The third point states that Satan was confused because he actually thought he was winning, and includes a quote from Colossians 1:26 AMP. At the bottom, there is a small line of text: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit".

Reaching for The Hem... **Jesus: Our Example**

- ✦ Jesus said that it was Satan, **not God**, who was coming for Him to take Him to the cross.
- ✦ The enemy meant the cross for Jesus' destruction!
- ✦ In fact, Satan was confused: He **actually THOUGHT he was winning**:
 - "The mystery of which was hidden for ages and generations [from angels and men], but is now revealed to His holy people (the saints)." (Colossians 1:26 AMP)

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Slide 36

The slide features a yellow background with a faint image of Jesus. In the top left corner, there is a circular icon with a cross. The text "Reaching for The Hem..." is written in a cursive font, and "Jesus: Our Example" is in a bold, red, serif font. The main content is a bulleted list with two main points, each starting with a blue diamond. The first point states that many times our own circumstances look that way, and includes two sub-points: one stating that to Satan it looks like he's winning, and another stating that to our natural eyes it may look that way too, but God has a plan to give us the victory over the enemy. The second main point is a quote: "If you haven't come out on top, it just means the battle's not over yet!". At the bottom, there is a small line of text: "Sponsored by © The Hem of His Garment Bible Study's Online School of the Spirit".

Reaching for The Hem... **Jesus: Our Example**

- ✦ Many times our own circumstances look that way.
 - To Satan, it looks like he's winning.
 - And, to our natural eyes, it may look that way too...
 - But God has a plan to give us the victory over the enemy!
- ✦ "If you haven't come out on top, it just means the battle's not over yet!"

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*Reaching for
The Hem...* **Jesus: Our Example**

- ✦ Jesus trusted that the Father had a plan to work the crucifixion out for His good, and the good of all mankind.
- ✦ **Look at what God did with Jesus' obedience!**
- ✦ The crucifixion was not God's doing.
 - But God masterfully used the work of the enemy against him to bring about His will.

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