

# GOD INCARNATE



A D V E N T 2 0 1 9

# JOHN 1:1-18

—

In the beginning the Word already existed.

The Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

He existed in the beginning with God.

God created everything through him,  
and nothing was created except through him.

The Word gave life to everything that was created,  
and his life brought light to everyone.

The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness can never extinguish it.

...

# JOHN 1:1-18

—

God sent a man, John the Baptist, to tell about the light so that everyone might believe because of his testimony. John himself was not the light; he was simply a witness to tell about the light. The one who is the true light, who gives light to everyone, was coming into the world.

He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.

So the Word became human and made his home among us. He was full of unfailing love and faithfulness. And we have seen his glory, the glory of the Father's one and only Son.

...

# JOHN 1:1-18

—

John testified about him when he shouted to the crowds, "This is the one I was talking about when I said, 'Someone is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for he existed long before me.'" From his abundance we have all received one gracious blessing after another. For the law was given through Moses, but God's unending love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. But the unique One, who is himself God, is near to the Father's heart. He has revealed God to us.

# JOHN 1:6-9

—

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## LUKE 3:3-6

—

Then John went from place to place on both sides of the Jordan River, preaching that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven.

Isaiah had spoken of John when he said,

“He is a voice shouting in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord’s coming!

Clear the road for him!

The valleys will be filled,

and the mountains and hills made level.

The curves will be straightened,

and the rough places made smooth.

And then all people will see

the salvation sent from God.’”

# ISAIAH 40:3-11

—

Listen! It's the voice of someone shouting,  
"Clear the way through the wilderness  
for the Lord!  
Make a straight highway through the wasteland  
for our God!  
Fill in the valleys,  
and level the mountains and hills.  
Straighten the curves,  
and smooth out the rough places.  
Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed,  
and all people will see it together.  
The Lord has spoken!"  
A voice said, "Shout!"  
I asked, "What should I shout?"

...

# ISAIAH 40:3-11

—

"Shout that people are like the grass.  
Their beauty fades as quickly  
as the flowers in a field.  
The grass withers and the flowers fade  
beneath the breath of the Lord.  
And so it is with people.  
The grass withers and the flowers fade,  
but the word of our God stands forever."  
O Zion, messenger of good news,  
shout from the mountaintops!  
Shout it louder, O Jerusalem.  
Shout, and do not be afraid.  
Tell the towns of Judah,  
"Your God is coming!"

...



# ISAIAH 40:3-11

—

Yes, the Sovereign Lord is coming in power.

He will rule with a powerful arm.

See, he brings his reward with him as he comes.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd.

He will carry the lambs in his arms,  
holding them close to his heart.

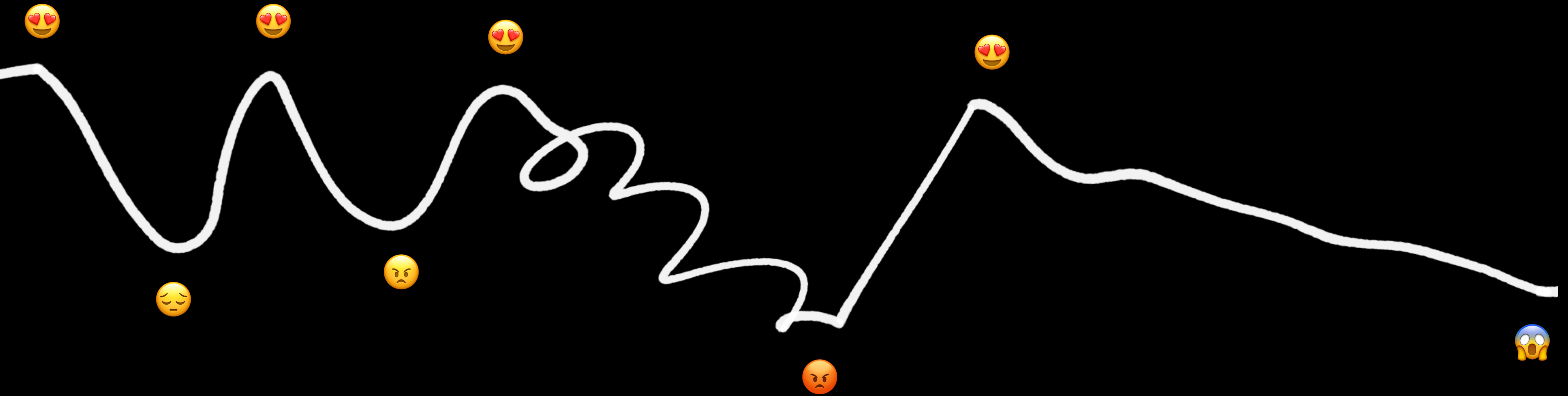
He will gently lead the mother sheep with their young.

**“LISTEN...”**

Do you hear the voice of hope?

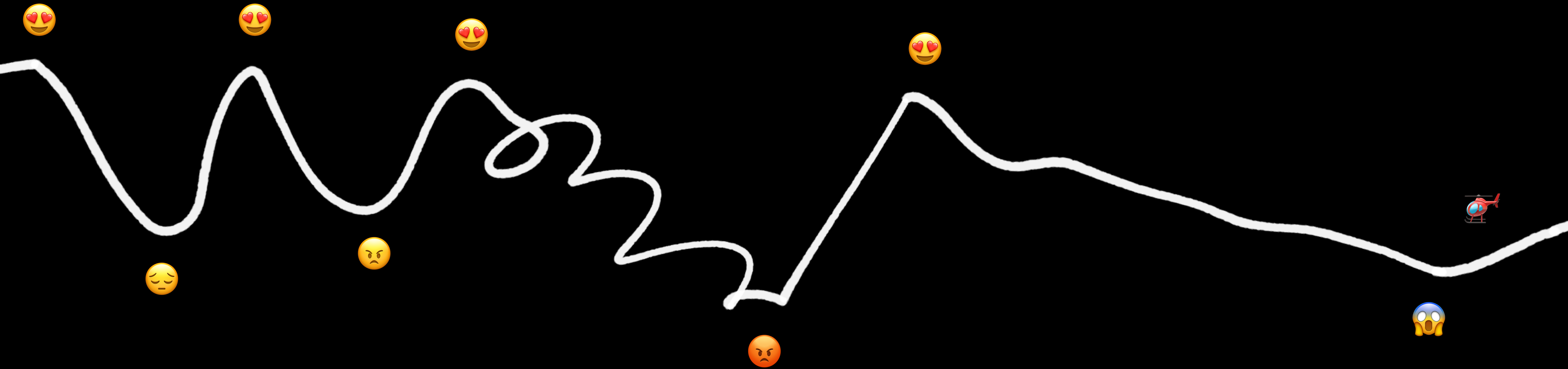


# ROM-COM PLOTLINE



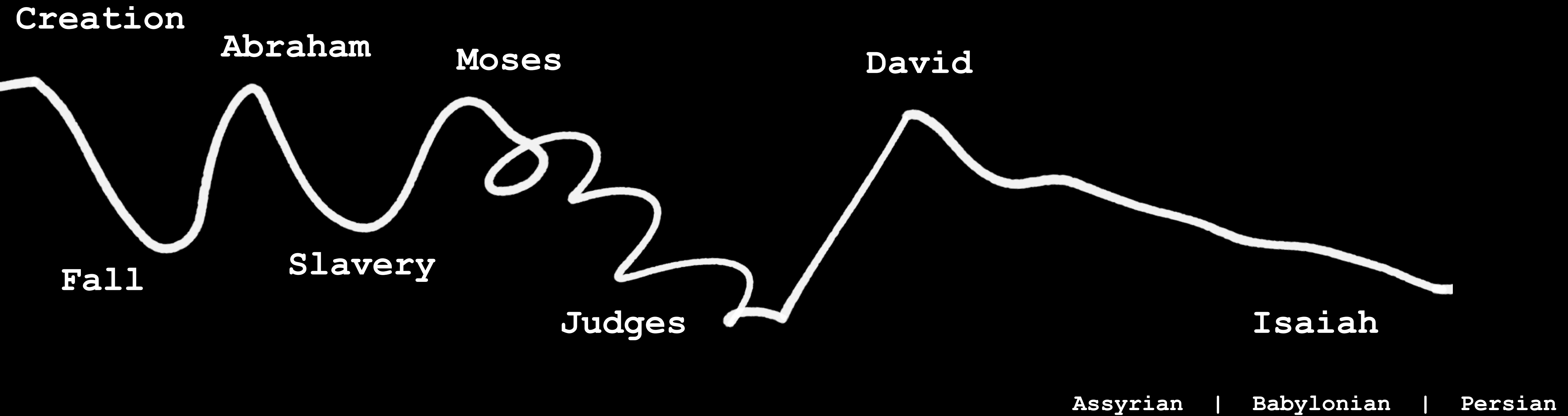
**“LISTEN! DO YOU HEAR THAT?...”**

# ROM-COM PLOTLINE





# OLD TESTAMENT PLOTLINE



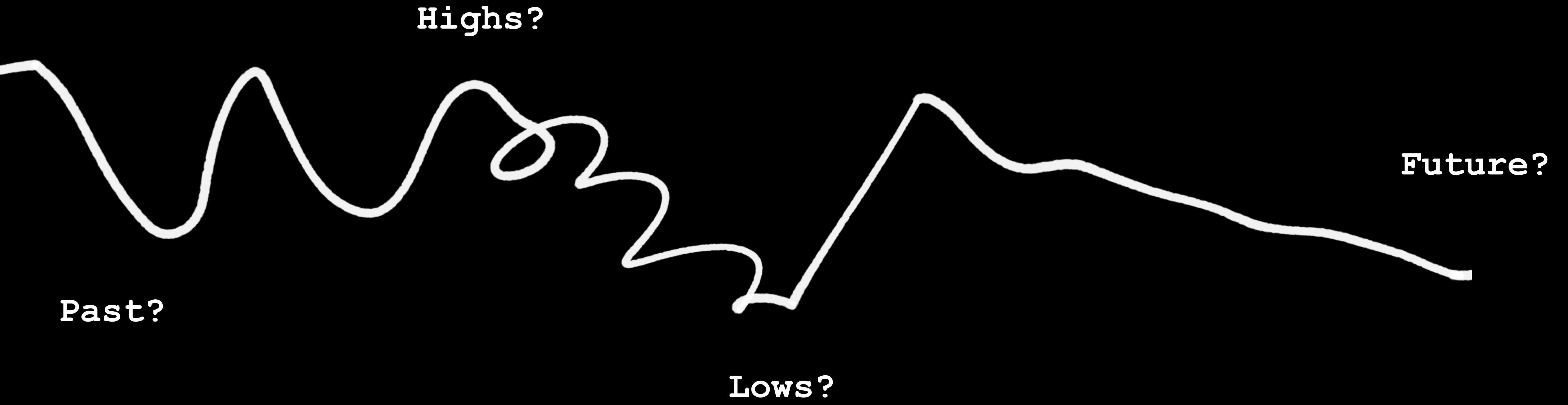


**“LISTEN! DO YOU HEAR THAT?...”**

# OUR LIVES



# OUR LIVES



NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF *CHASING THE SCREAM*

**JOHANN HARI**

**LOST  
CONNECTIONS**

UNCOVERING THE REAL CAUSES  
OF DEPRESSION – AND  
THE UNEXPECTED SOLUTIONS





# JOHAN HARI

—

“You need your nausea. You need your pain. It is a message, and we must listen to the message. All these depressed and anxious people, all over the world—they are giving us a message. They are telling us something has gone wrong with the way we live. We need to stop trying to muffle or silence or pathologize that pain. Instead, we need to listen to it, and honor it. It is only when we listen to our pain that we can follow it back to its source—and only there, when we can see its true causes, can we begin to overcome it.”

# JOHAN HARI

—

“What if depression is, in fact, a form of grief — for our own lives not being as they should? What if it is a form of grief for the connections we have lost, yet still need?”

# JOHAN HARI

—

## The nine causes of anxiety and depression

1. Disconnection from meaningful work
2. Disconnection from other people
3. Disconnection from meaningful values
4. Disconnection from childhood trauma
5. Disconnection from status and respect
6. Disconnection from the natural world
7. Disconnection from a secure and hopeful future
8. The real role of genes
9. The real role of changes in the brain



# JOHAN HARI

—

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**JOHAN HARI**

—

"A hopeful future is a larger framework  
for living with significance."



**WHAT'S FRAMING YOUR FUTURE?**



A decorative gold-tooled border with floral and leaf motifs frames the cover. The central text is enclosed in a circular wreath of leaves and berries.

CHRISTMAS  
CAROL  
BY  
CHARLES DICKENS

# EBENEZER SCROOGE

—

"I will honour Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, the Present, and the Future. The Spirits of all Three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach!"

**BACK TO ISRAEL...**

**WE KNOW THEIR PAST AND PRESENT –  
BUT, WHAT IS THEIR HOPEFUL FUTURE?**

**WHAT IS FRAMING THEIR SIGNIFICANCE?**

# ISAIAH 40:9

—

“Your God is coming!”

**THE MESSIAH\* IS COMING**

\*The promised deliverer



**WHAT DOES A MESSIAH/DELIVERER DO?**

**TAKES THEM TO WHAT THEY HOPE FOR**

# ISAIAH 60:17-19

—

“Look! I am creating new heavens and a new earth,  
and no one will even think about the old ones anymore.

Be glad; rejoice forever in my creation!

And look! I will create Jerusalem as a place of happiness.

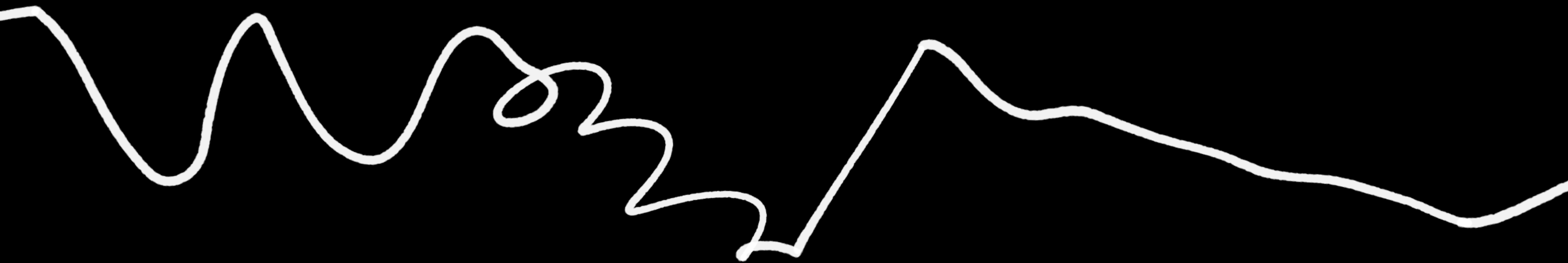
Her people will be a source of joy.

I will rejoice over Jerusalem

and delight in my people.

And the sound of weeping and crying

will be heard in it no more.



Listen! Do you  
hear that?

## REVELATION 21:3-5

—

I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever." And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!"

# JEREMY BEGBIE

—

"We do not hope in the future. We do not hope for the future. We hope from the future."

**ADVENT CONFRONTS OUR HOPELESSNESS  
WITH THE CALL OF HOPE:**

**“LISTEN! DO YOU HEAR THAT?”**



**"YOUR GOD IS COMING!"**