

“CHOOSE WISELY”*

James 1:12-18

Some choices we make are obvious life and death choices. Other life and death choices may not seem so obvious. What choices are you making in response to life’s challenges? More importantly, what are the consequences?

I. _____ REQUIRE LIFE & DEATH CHOICES.

A. _____ Brings Life 12

B. _____ Brings Death 13-15

II. _____ REQUIRES LIFE & DEATH CHOICES.

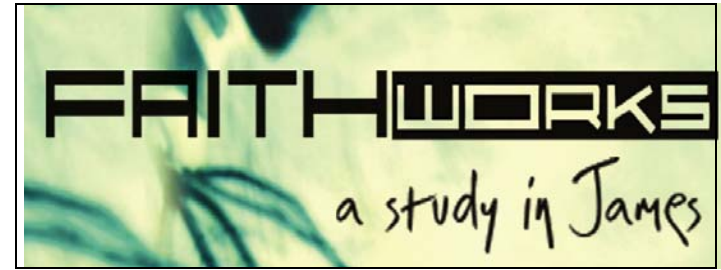
A. The _____ of Temptation 14

B. The _____ in Temptation 14-15

C. The _____ to Temptation 16-18

FAITH WORKS WHEN WE CHOOSE LIFE.

*3rd message in the series, *James: Faith Works!*, by Danny Box, 4-15-07
This message can be heard at www.hbcpcf.com or as an iTunes podcast.



Use the following questions to reflect on lessons from the Series, *James: Faith Works!* Ponder these during your quiet times, or use them as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends or REALife Group.

1. Think of some examples of how you have seen people blame God or others for their own sins. What sins do you blame on others?
2. Following the cycle of temptation to death in each of the following biblical accounts: Adam and Eve (Gen. 3:1-7), Achan (Joshua 7:20-21), and David (2 Samuel 11:2-5).
3. Based on James 1:17-18, what can we expect from God? (Hint: see 1:2-4 also). Are trials good gifts? What trials are you experiencing now? Is your attitude right about those trials?
4. Look at the following verses: Jeremiah 31:3-34; John 3:3-8; Ephesians 4:22-24; 2 Corinthians 5:17; Philippians 1:6. Has God given you this new life only to see you fail? How can we overcome temptation? See Colossians 3:1-17.



FAITHWORKS

a study in James



CHOOSE WISELY

James 1:12-18

FAITHWORKS

a study in James

I. TRIALS REQUIRE LIFE & DEATH CHOICES.

A. FAITH Brings Life.

FAITHWORKS

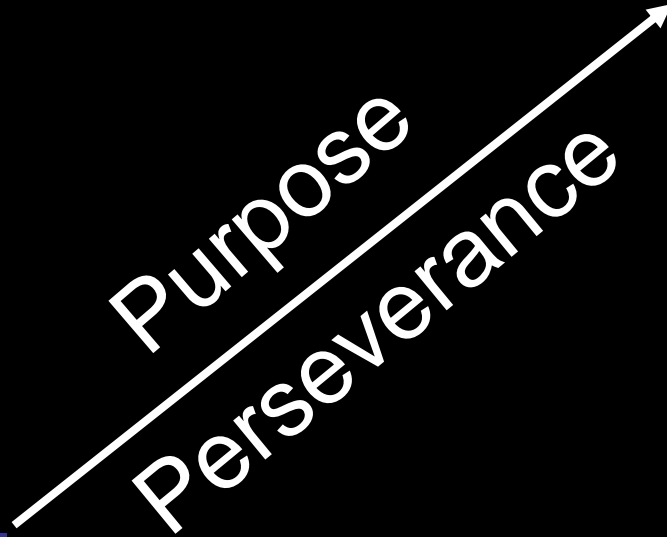
a study in James

James 1:12-15

OPPORTUNITY
FOR FAITH

LIFE

TRIAL



I. TRIALS REQUIRE LIFE & DEATH CHOICES.

A. FAITH Brings Life.

B. FAILURE Brings Death.

FAITHWORKS

a study in James

James 1:12-15

OCCASION FOR
THE FLESH

LIFE

TRIAL

No to Faith
Yes to Flesh

DEATH

II. TEMPTATION REQUIRES LIFE & DEATH CHOICES.

FAITHWORKS

a study in James

James 1:13-14

“Temptation appeals to the worst part of man, with the wish that he may yield and do the wrong. To be tested is to appeal to the better part of man, with the desire that he should stand.

Temptation says, ‘Do this pleasant thing; do not be hindered by the fact that it is wrong.’ Testing says, ‘Do this right and noble thing; do not be hindered by the fact that it is painful.’”

Alexander MacLaren

II. TEMPTATION REQUIRES LIFE & DEATH CHOICES.

A. The SOURCE of Temptation

- Not Our Father
- But Our Flesh

FAITHWORKS

a study in James

James 1:13-14

“A man’s own folly ruins his life, yet his heart rages against the LORD.”

Proverbs 19:3

II. TEMPTATION REQUIRES LIFE & DEATH CHOICES.

B. The SEDUCTION in Temptation

- Arousal of Desire
- Acting on Desire

FAITHWORKS

a study in James

James 1:14-15

II. TEMPTATION REQUIRES LIFE & DEATH CHOICES.

C. The SOLUTION to Temptation

- Confidence in God's Care
- Confidence in God's Consistency

FAITHWORKS

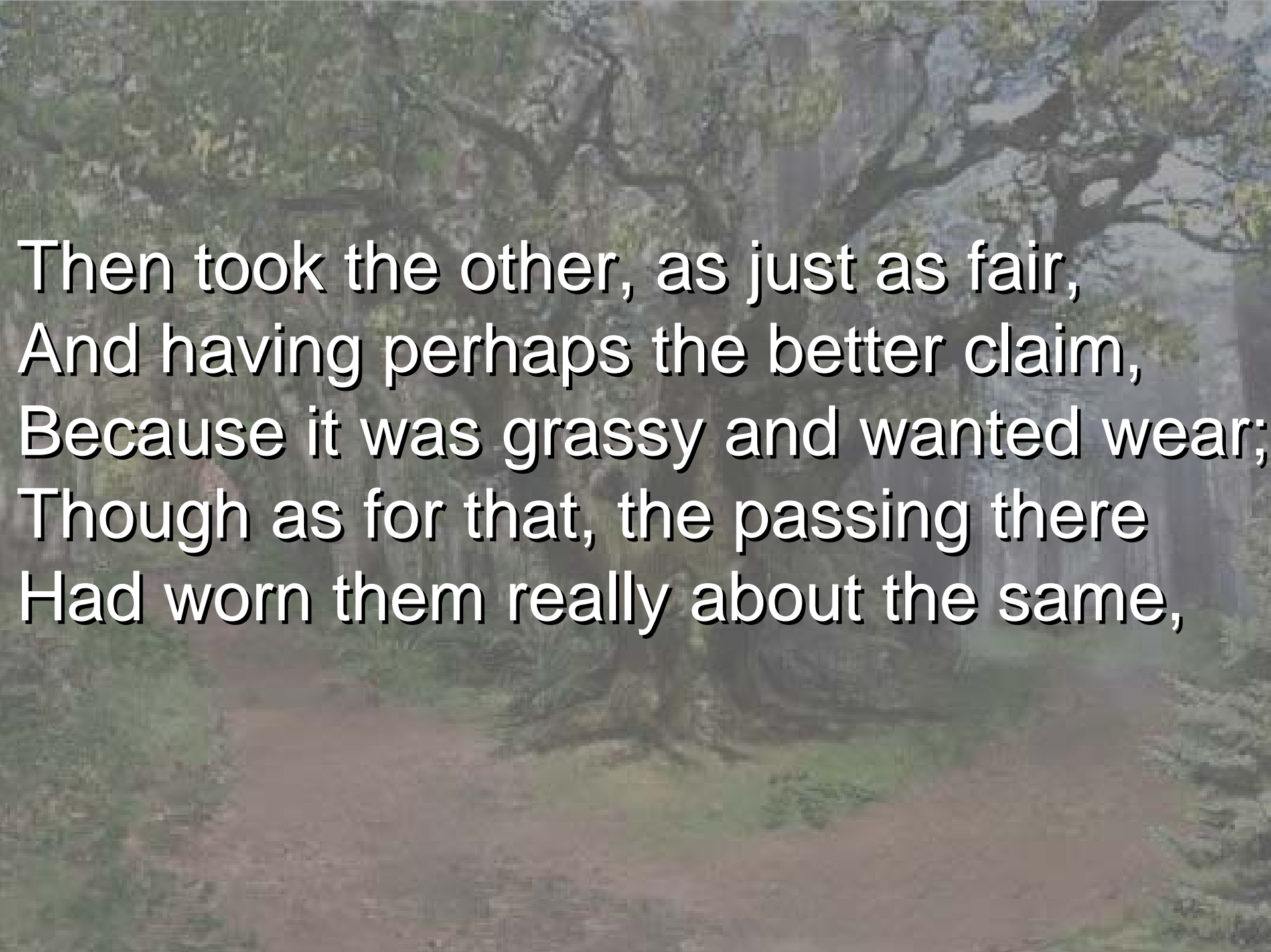
a study in James

James 1:16-18

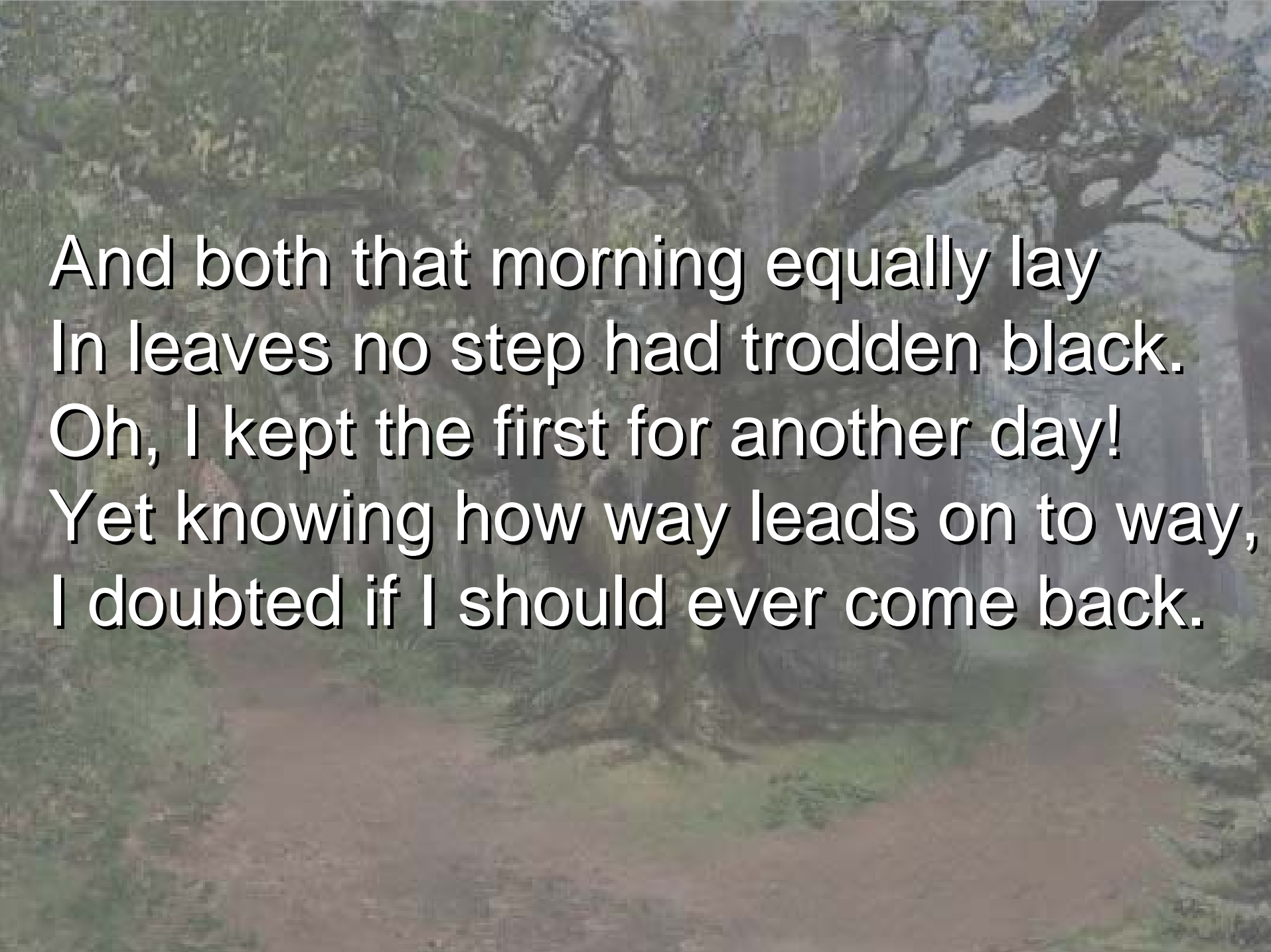
THE ROAD NOT TAKEN

Robert Frost

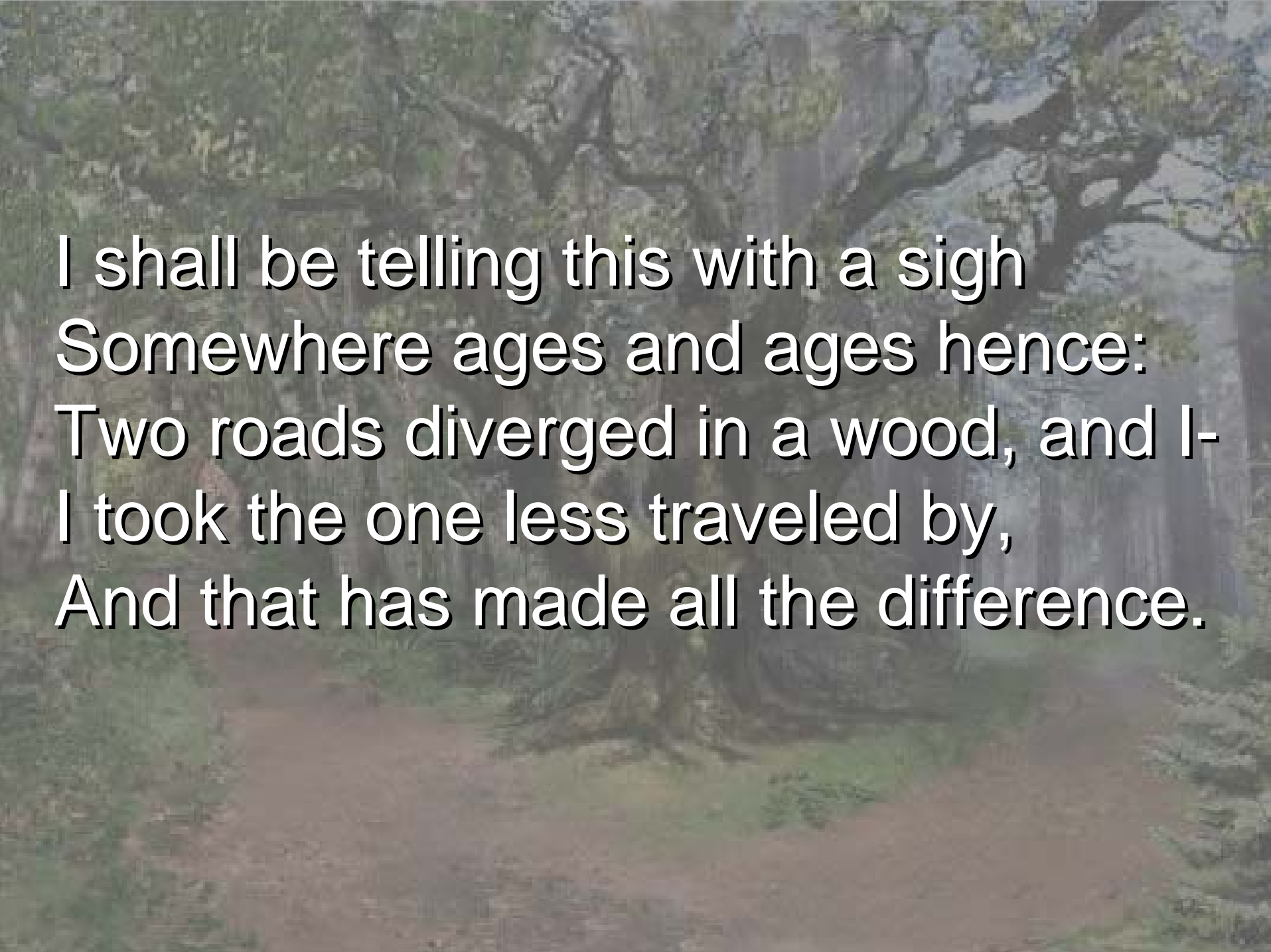
Two roads diverged in a yellow wood,
And sorry I could not travel both
And be one traveler, long I stood
And looked down one as far as I could
To where it bent in the undergrowth;



Then took the other, as just as fair,
And having perhaps the better claim,
Because it was grassy and wanted wear;
Though as for that, the passing there
Had worn them really about the same,



And both that morning equally lay
In leaves no step had trodden black.
Oh, I kept the first for another day!
Yet knowing how way leads on to way,
I doubted if I should ever come back.



I shall be telling this with a sigh
Somewhere ages and ages hence:
Two roads diverged in a wood, and I-
I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference.

FAITH WORKS WHEN
WE CHOOSE LIFE.