

What in the World, God?

Sunday, October 11, 2026

"Still" by Steven Curtis Chapman

*The sky was clear, Kentucky blue
You led me high up the mountain to show me the view
And said "Wherever this journey takes you
Just trust me, I'm already there"
I had no way of knowin' then
Just how hard the rain would fall and how fierce would be the wind
It's been beautiful and terrible, more painful, more wonderful
Than I ever could have known, but even so*

*Still, I'm gonna sing
About the One who's given life to me
Oh, His love is unchanging, His grace is amazing
Still, I'm gonna praise
The Only One who always stays the same
Oh, I know He is good, I know He is faithful
Still*

*Don't get me wrong, I'm still a mess
And I've still got a heart with doubts and fears poundin' in my chest
And I've wrestled and I've rested and I've trusted, then I've tested
God's patience, like a foolish man
When I surrender once again
And I come like a little child reachin' out my hands
He lifts me every time and He tells me He loves me*

All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. It is by his great mercy that we have been born again, because God raised Jesus Christ from the dead. Now we live with great expectation, 4 and we have a priceless inheritance--an inheritance that is kept in heaven for you, pure and undefiled, beyond the reach of change and decay. 5 And through your faith, God is protecting you by his power until you receive this salvation, which is ready to be revealed on the last day for all to see. 6 So be truly glad.

*There is wonderful joy ahead, **even though you must endure many trials for a little while. 7 These trials will show that your faith is genuine. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold--though your faith is far more precious than mere gold.** So when your faith remains strong through many trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world.*
1 Peter 1:3-7 NLT

Pure gold (24-karat, 99.9% fine) is valued for being soft, heavy, non-toxic, and completely immune to tarnish or corrosion.

1. 1. I've got some idols that need to be exposed.

Definition of idol - anything that takes the central place of God in my life or is trusted for ultimate security & satisfaction.

*Their idols are merely things of silver and gold, shaped by human hands. 5 They have mouths but cannot speak, and eyes but cannot see. 6 They have ears but cannot hear, and noses but cannot smell. 7 They have hands but cannot feel, and feet but cannot walk, and throats but cannot make a sound. 8 **And those who make idols are just like them, as are all who trust in them.***
Psalms 115:4-8

2. 2. I tend to rely on myself instead of God - whether I know it or not. And God's desire is for me to trust completely in Him.

*We think you ought to know, dear brothers and sisters, about the trouble we went through in the province of Asia. We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it. 9 In fact, we expected to die. But **as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God,** who raises the dead.*
2 Corinthians 1:8-9

3. 3. I've got some impure motives - even if I don't know it.

People may be pure in their own eyes, but the LORD examines their motives.

Proverbs 16:2

4. 4. Unbelief

We can rejoice, too, when we run into problems and trials, for we know that they help us develop endurance. 4 And endurance develops strength of character, and character strengthens our confident hope of salvation. 5

And this hope will not lead to disappointment.

Romans 5:3-4

5. 5. Pride

Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see.

Hebrews 1:1 NLT