

Not for women only
living in a Christ-like way
in an ungodly world

Proverbs 31:10-13

***Something is wrong
with the world today!***









***At the same time...
there is much that is
good too!***











Willard on character

- *The pervasive direction of our will that embeds itself in all dimensions of our life*
- *Habits of our heart*
- *Our “defaults”*
- *It shows up EVERYWHERE!*

The Proverbs 31 person

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Valuable | Trustworthy |
| Hard-working | Thinks ahead |
| Productive | Generous & kind |
| Puts others 1st | Wise |
| Healthy relationships | |
| Good reputation | Thoughtful |

***10 Who can find a virtuous
and capable wife?***

***She is more precious
than rubies.***

***She/he is VALUABLE &
TREASURED***

11-12 Her husband can trust her, and she will greatly enrich his life. She brings him good, not harm all the days of her life.

She/he is TRUSTWORTHY

***13-14 She finds wool & flax
and busily spins it. She is
like a merchant's ship,
bringing her food from afar.
She/he is HARD-WORKING***

15-16 She gets up before dawn to prepare breakfast for her household & plan the day's work for her servant girls. She goes to inspect a field and buys it...

***15-16 with her earnings she
plants a vineyard.***

She/he THINKS AHEAD

17-19 She is energetic & strong, a hard worker. She makes sure her dealings are profitable; her lamp burns into the night...

***17-19 Her hands are busy
spinning thread, her
fingers twisting fiber.***

She/he is PRODUCTIVE

***20 She extends a helping
hand to the poor and
opens her arms to the
needy.***

***She/he is GENEROUS
& KIND***

21-22 She has no fear of winter for her household, for everyone has warm clothes. She makes her own bedspreads. She dresses in fine linens & purple gowns.

She/he PUTS OTHER 1st

23 Her husband is well known at the city gates, where he sits with other civic leaders.

She/he has HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

24-25 She makes belted linen garments & sashes to sell to the merchants. She is clothed with strength & dignity, & she laughs without fear of the future.

***She/he is THOUGHTFUL,
NOT ANXIOUS***

26-27 When she speaks, her words are wise, & she gives instructions with kindness. She carefully watches everything in her household & suffers nothing from laziness.

She/he is WISE

28-31 Her children stand & bless her. Her husband praises her: “There are many virtuous & capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!”

***28-31 Charm is deceptive and
beauty does not last; but a
woman who fears the Lord
will be greatly praised...***

***28-31 Reward her for all she
has done. Let her deeds
publicly declare her praise.***

***She/he has a GOOD
REPUTATION***

Matthew 5 (NLT)

16 In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

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1st Question “trick question”

Jesus on the cross:

*“Father, forgive them...they
do not know what they are
doing...”*

Luke 23:34

2nd Question...

Q: How do I become a person of strong character?

***A: You are ALREADY developing your own strong character...
one choice at a time***

3rd Question...

Q: Can I do this alone?

A: NO

The way God sees it...

***We are ALL responsible
BOTH for ourselves &
for one another...
to God, Himself***

Galatians 6 (NLT)

***¹ Dear brothers and sisters,
if another believer is
overcome by some sin, you
who are godly should
gently and humbly help
that person back onto...***

Galatians 6 (NLT)

... the right path. And be careful not to fall into the same temptation yourself.

² Share each other's burdens, and in this way obey the law of Christ.

Galatians 6 (NLT)

³ If you think you are too important to help someone, you are only fooling yourself. You are not that important.

4th Question...

Q: Who are my partners in all this?

A: the Holy Spirit & your brothers & sisters in Christ

5th Question...

Q: How do I start?

***A: SOLO WORK =
connecting with God
& His people***

5th Question...

Q: How do I start?

***A: TEAMWORK =
connecting with & supporting
one another***

***GOD'S GRACE is NOT
opposed to EFFORT...***

***GRACE is opposed to
EARNING!***

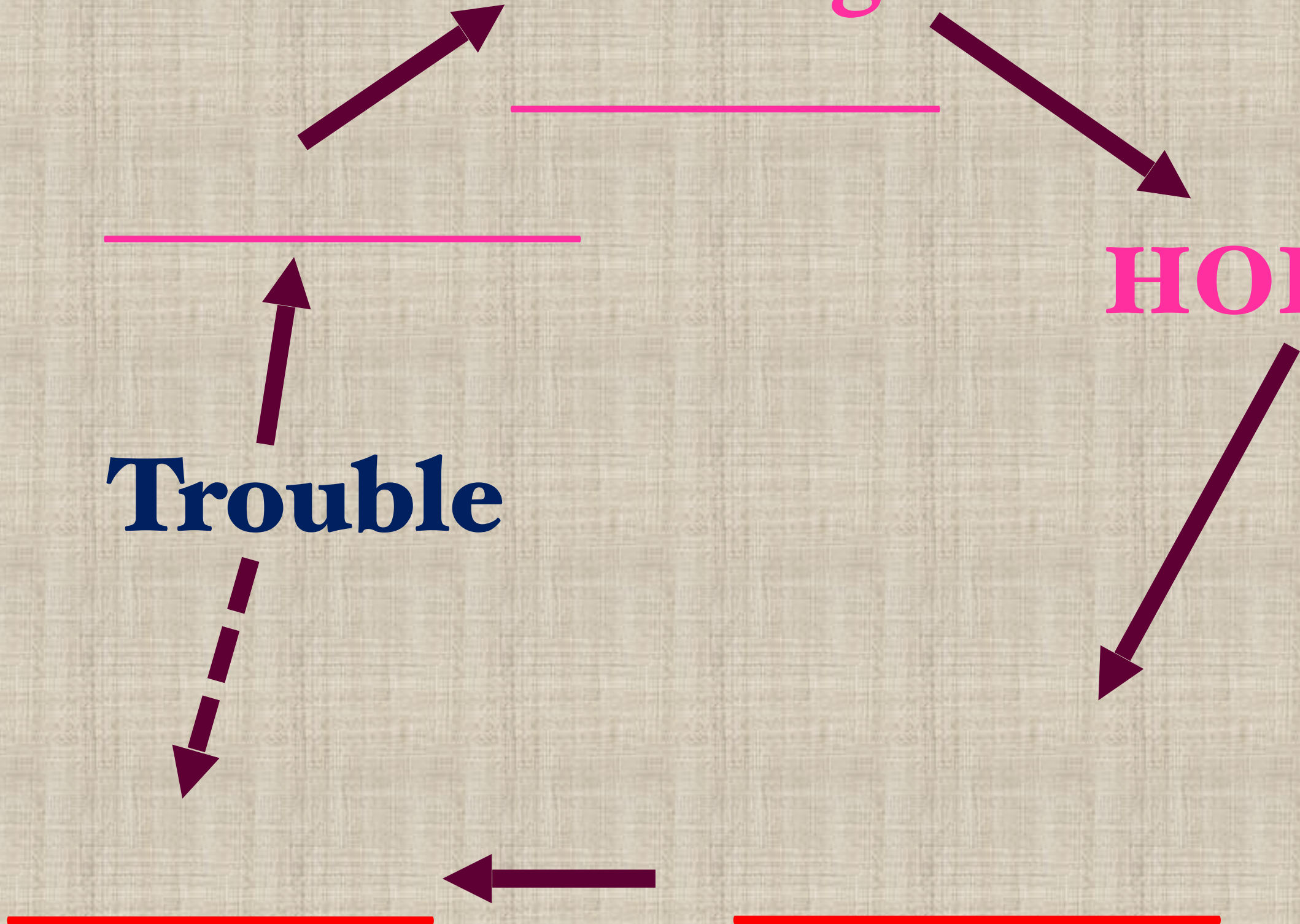
Romans 5:3

“We can rejoice too when we run into troubles & trials for we know that they help us develop endurance...”

Strong

HOPE

Trouble

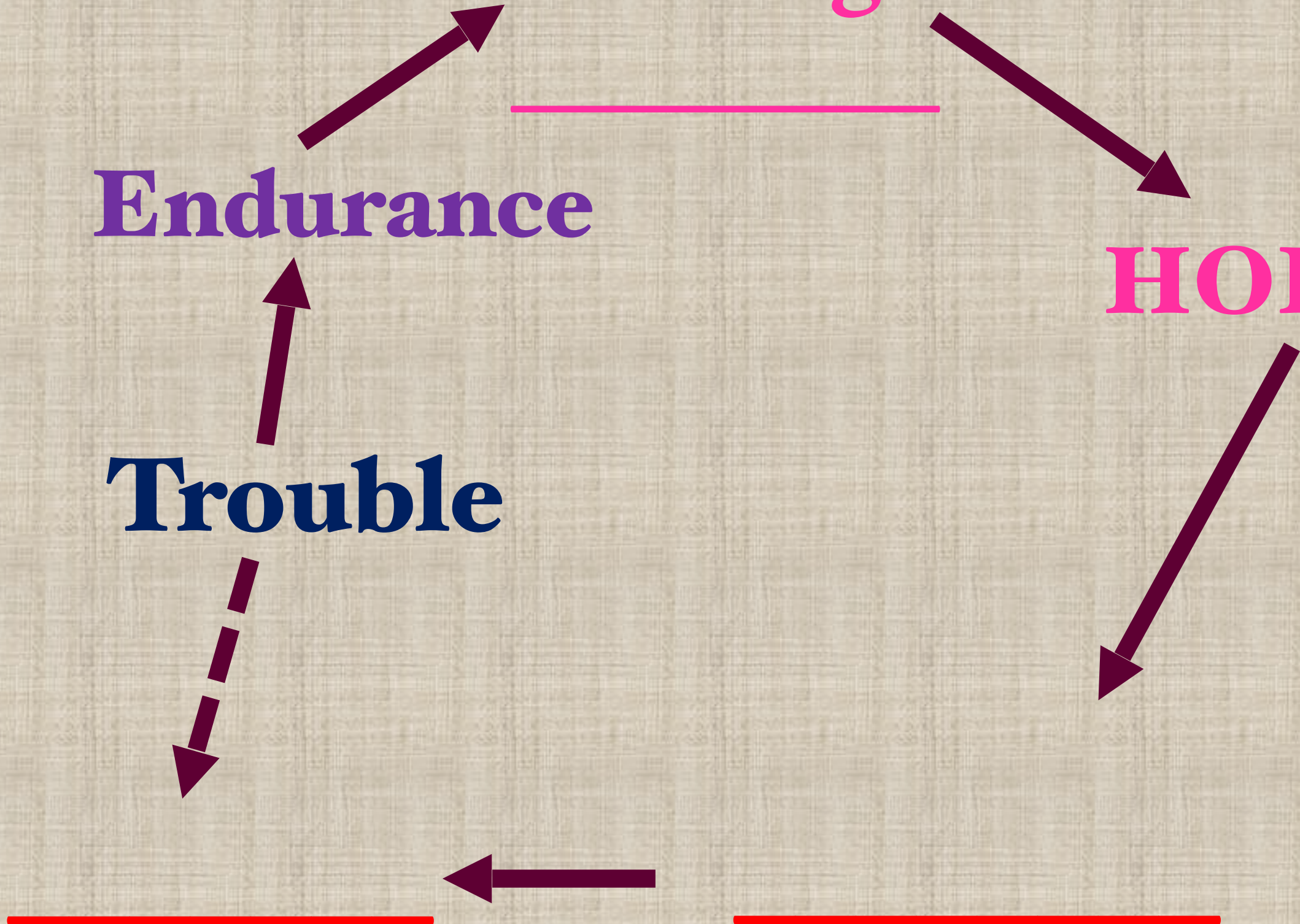


Strong

Endurance

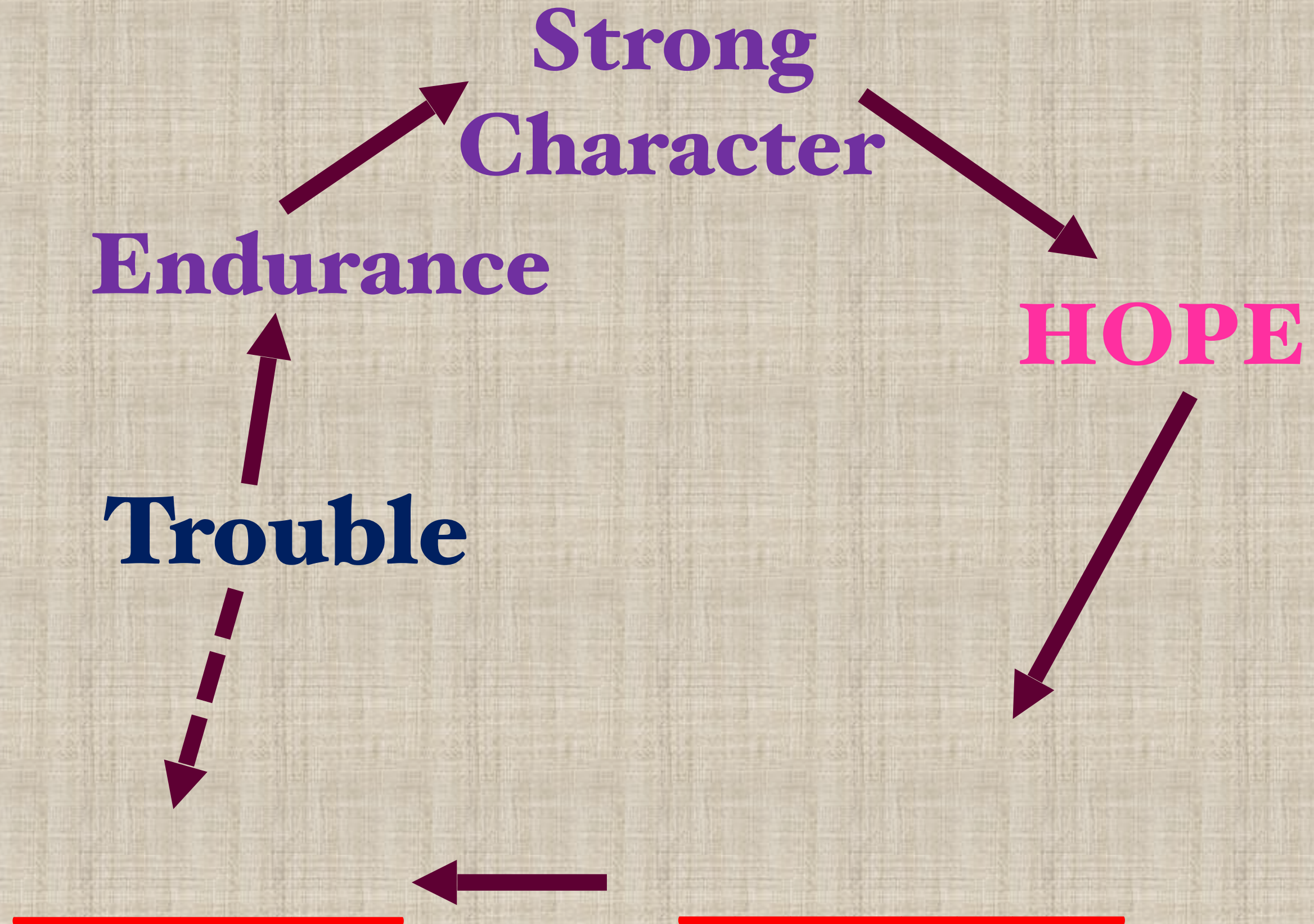
HOPE

Trouble



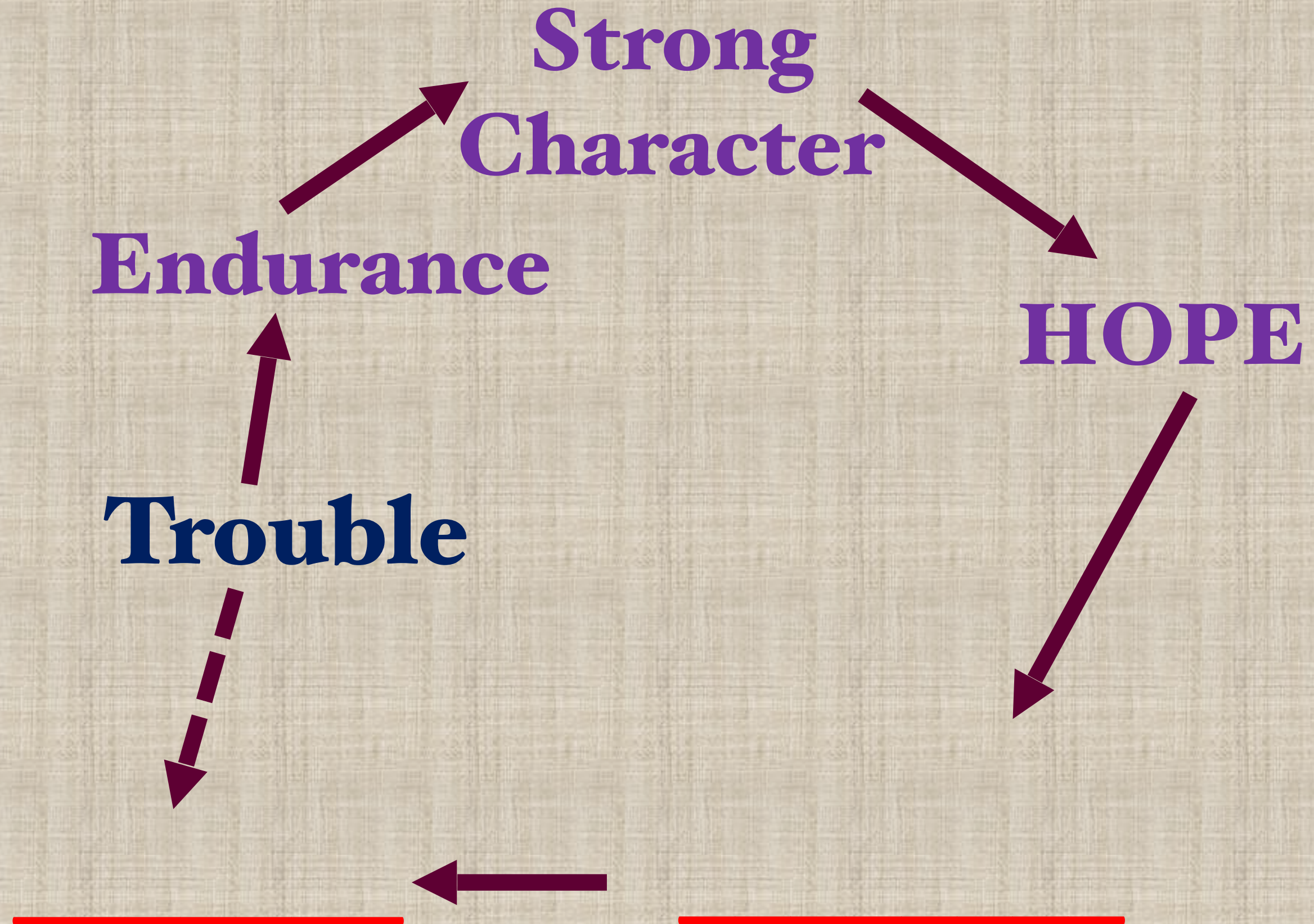
Romans 5:4a

***“And endurance
develops strength of
character...”***



Romans 5:4b

***“...and character
strengthens our hope
of salvation.”***



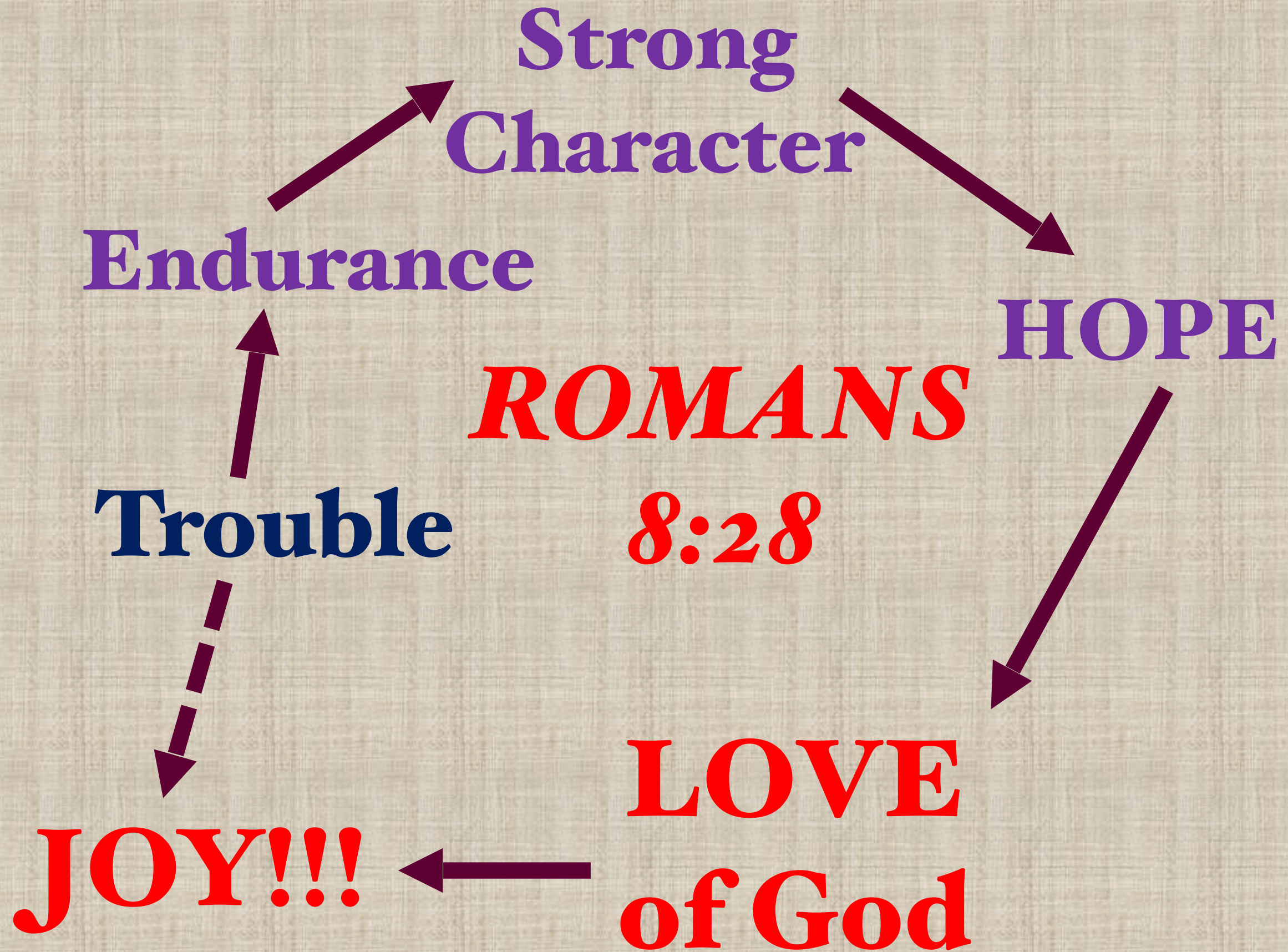


“And this hope will not lead to disappointment. For we know how dearly God loves us, because He has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with His love.” Romans 5:5



Romans 5:3

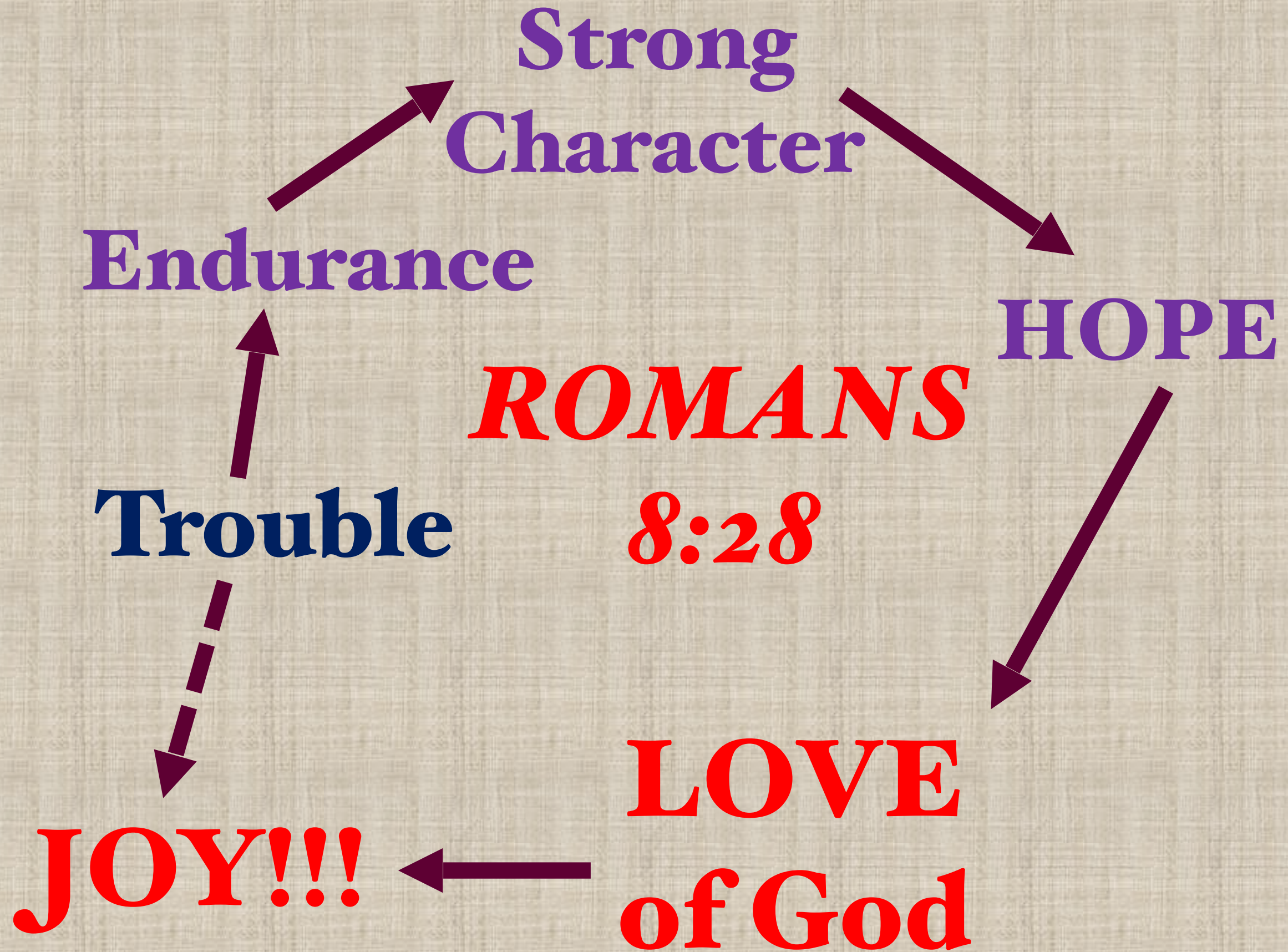
***“We CAN rejoice too
when we run into
troubles & trials ...”***



***“And we know that
God causes
EVERYTHING
to work together....***

Romans 8:28

“And we know that God causes EVERYTHING to work together FOR THE GOOD of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” Romans 8:28



***Gratitude is
the “on-ramp”
to JOY***

***Are you willing...
to partner with
Jesus & His family?***

