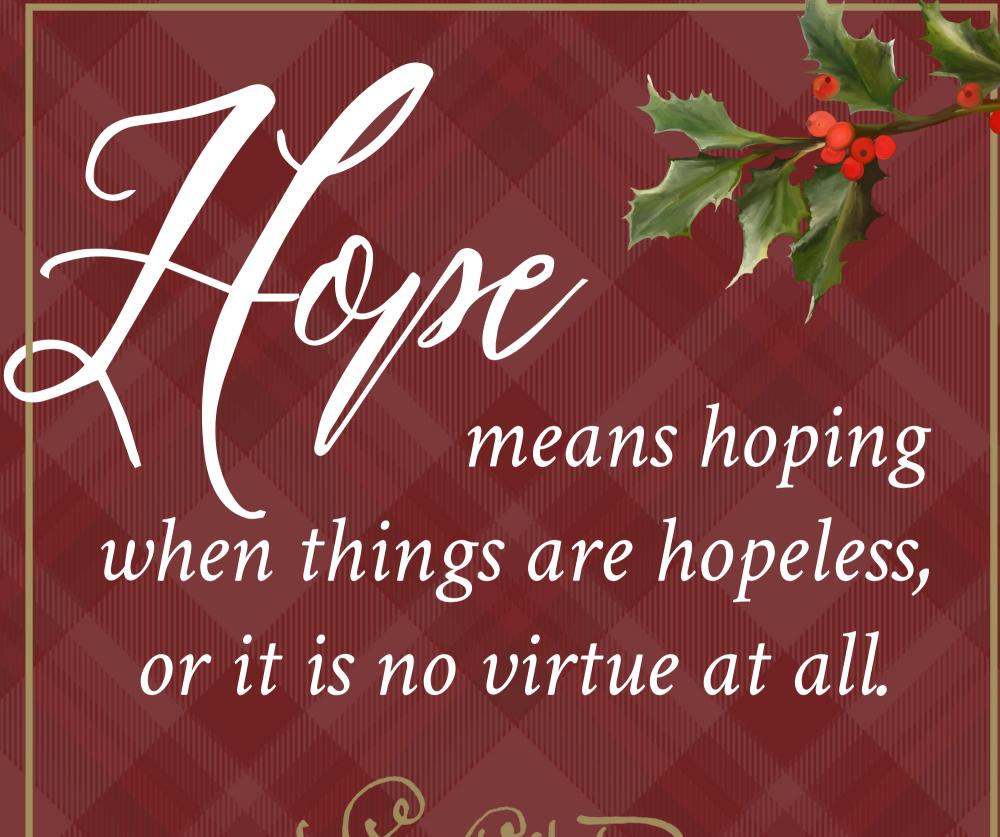
The Thrill of

Celebrating the season with

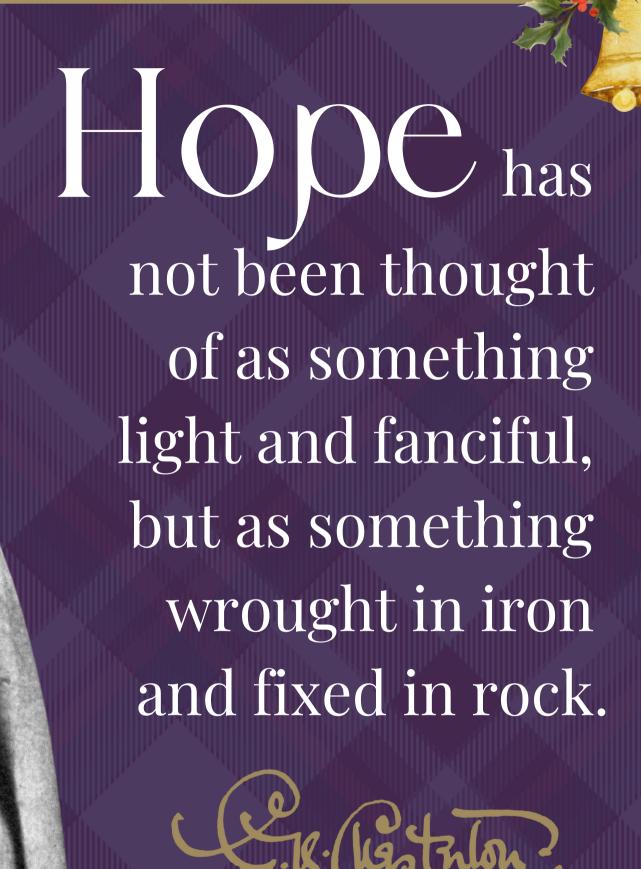






As long as matters are really hopeful, hope is a mere flattery or platitude; it is only when everything is hopeless that hope begins to be a strength at all.





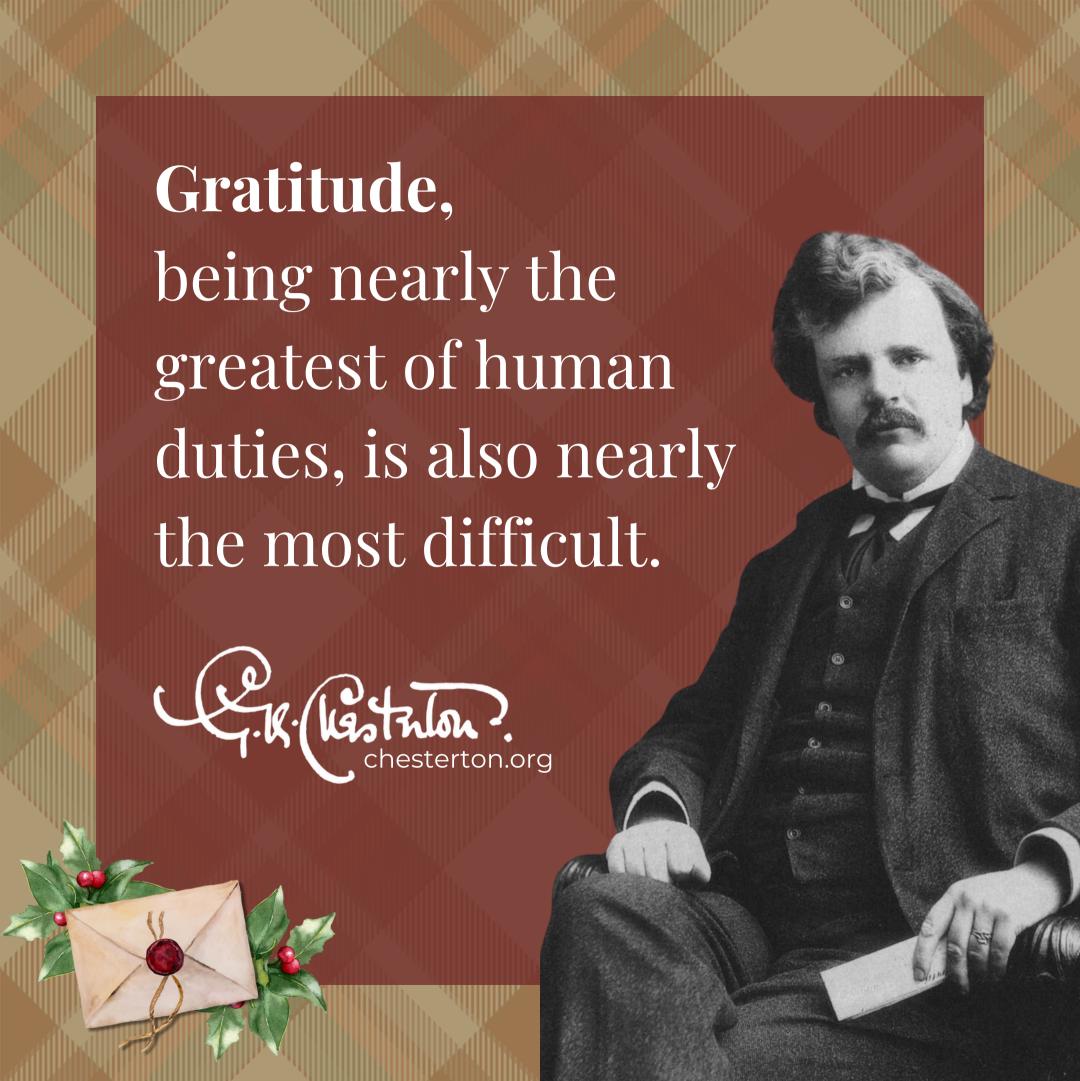
Unlearn that sinister learning that you think so clear; deny that deadly knowledge that you think you know. Surrender the very flower of your culture; give up the very jewel of your pride; abandon hopelessness, all ye who enter here.





Exactly at the instant when hope ceases to be reasonable it begins to be useful.







## Humilty

is a permanent necessity as a condition of effort and self-examination.



The Mother of God is in a rather special sense connected with things visible; since she is of this earth, and through her bodily being God was revealed to the senses.

Chesterton.org



The ideal of gratitude should not change: for gratitude is the first virtue of living things.





One weapon from the armoury of the saints is, even in a worldly sense, stronger than the world. That weapon is humility.





Until we see the background of darkness we cannot admire the light as a single and created thing...

All light is lightening, sudden, blinding, and divine.



It is true that there is a state of hope which belongs to bright prospects and the morning; but that is not the virtue of hope.

The virtue of hope exists only in earthquake and eclipse.





believing the incredible, or it is no virtue at all.



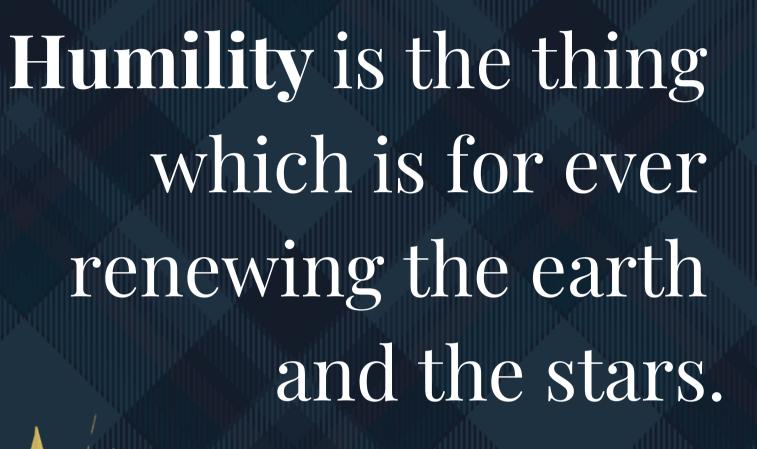


Hope is the power of being cheerful in circumstances which we know to be desperate.





Who is proud when the heavens are humble, Who mounts if the mountains fall, If the fixed stars topple and tumble And a deluge of love drowns all...?





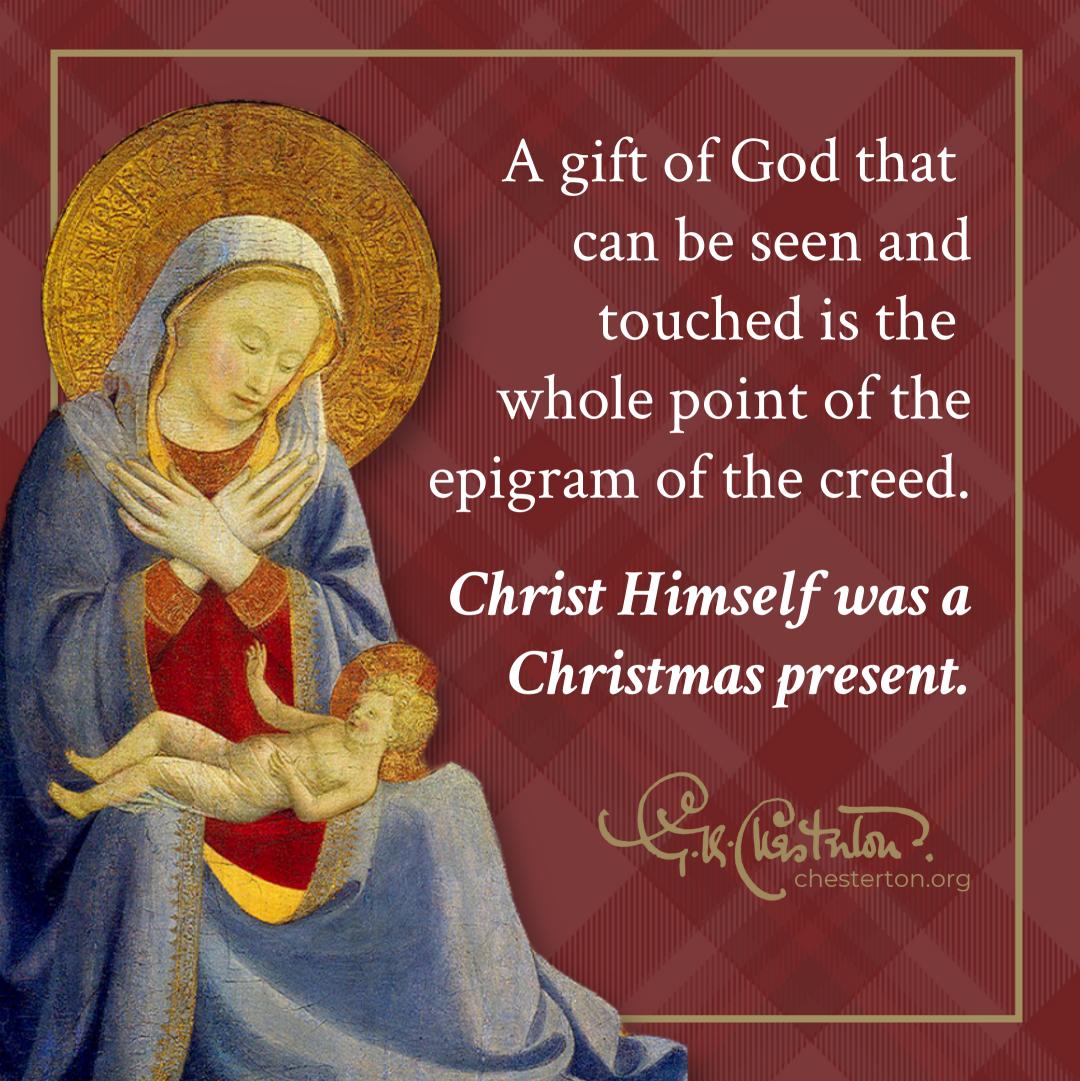


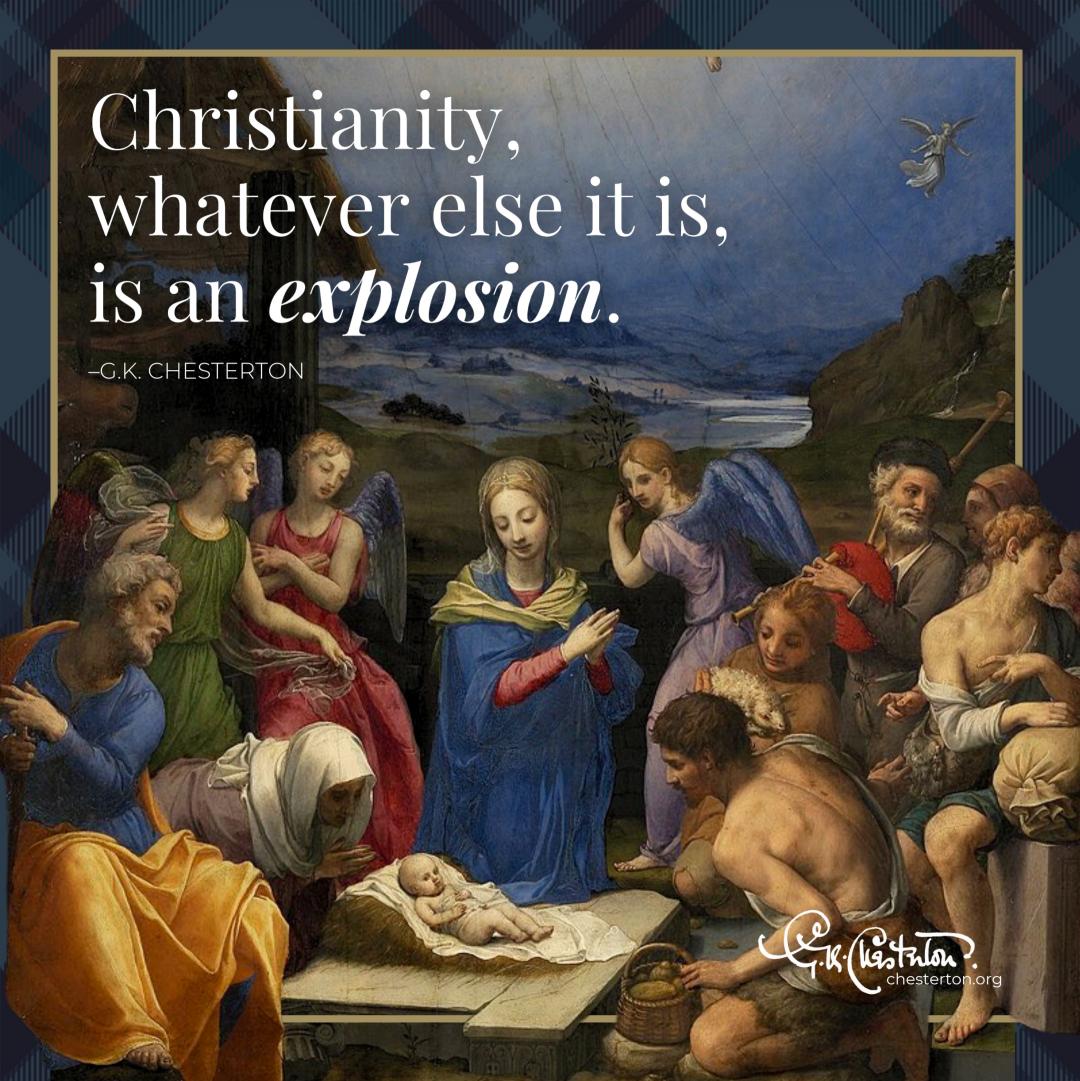


All **courage** is the courage of the forlorn hope: you must first accept the forlornness; you must yourself create the **hope**.









to be faced the only thing we can do is to make it glorious to face them.



St. Stephen, Protomartyr





When the test of triumph is men's test of everything, they never endure long enough to triumph at all.







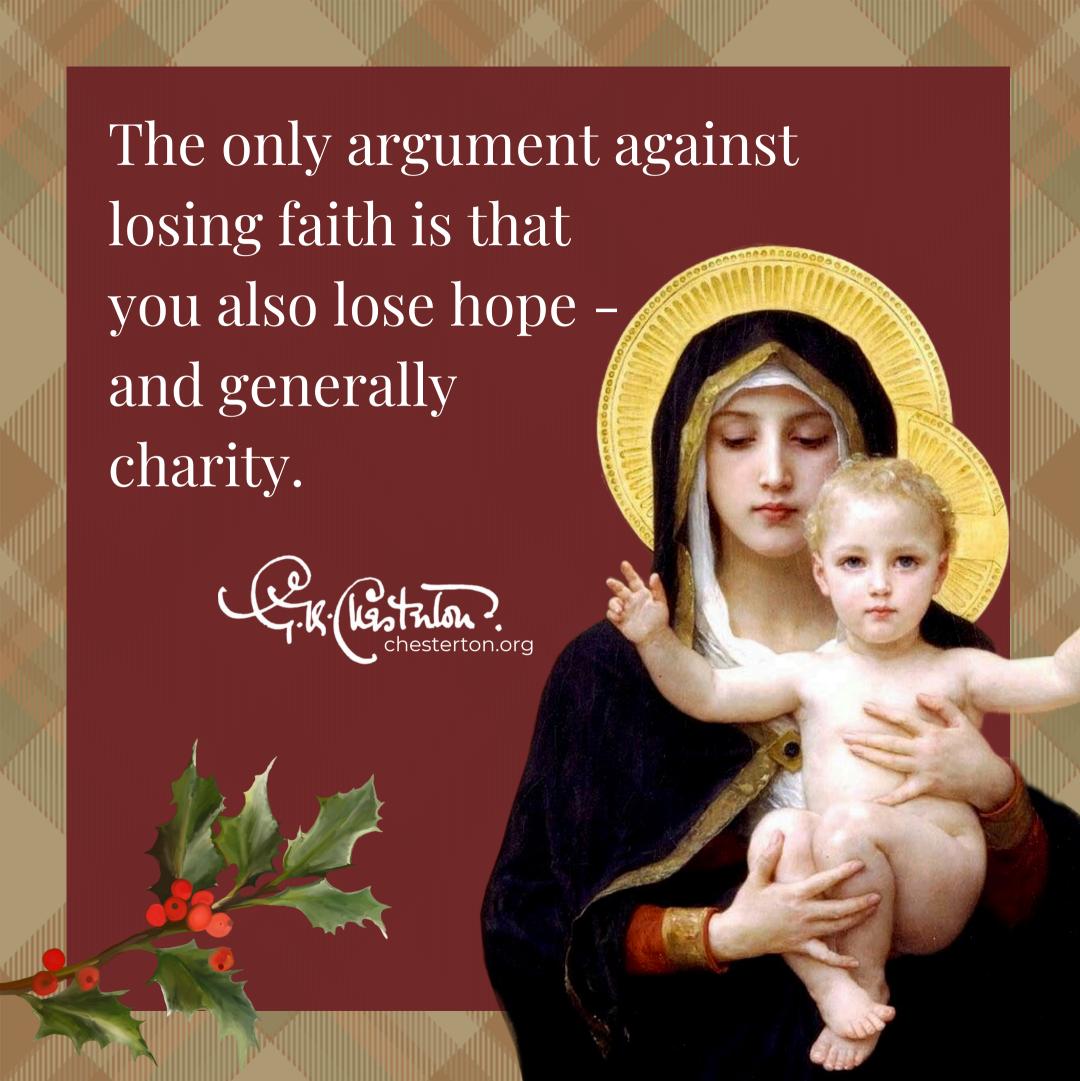


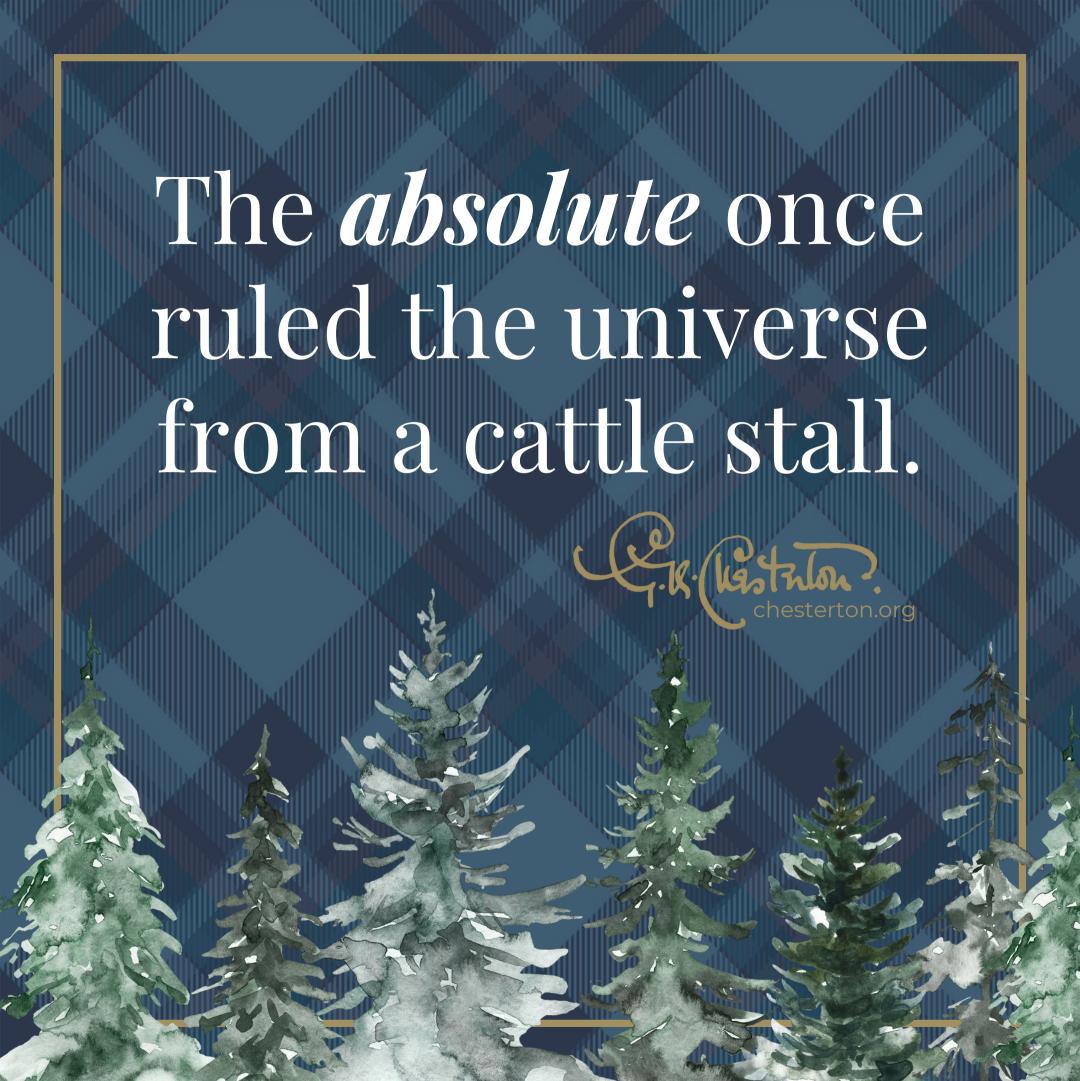
But in the riddle of Bethlehem it was heaven that was under the earth.



Human nature simply cannot subsist without a hope and aim of some kind; as the sanity of the Old Testament truly said, where there is no vision the people perisheth.







A word came forth in Galilee, a word like to a star; It climbed and rang and blessed and burnt wherever brave hearts are; A word of sudden secret hope, of trial and increase Of wrath and pity fused in fire, and passion kissing peace.



And even those to whom Christmas can hardly be an occasion for merrymaking, will assuredly find it an occasion for thanksgiving.





Every human being who is in any sense human must desire *peace* for all humanity.



