

# BONE



A cheerful look brings joy to the heart and good news gives health to the bones. (*Proverbs 15:30*)

So Joseph made his brothers swear an oath and said, “God will surely come to your aid, and then you must carry my bones up from this place.”

*(Genesis 50:25)*

These are the regulations for the Passover ... It must be eaten inside the house. Take none of the meat outside of the house. Do not break any of the bones. (*Exodus 12:46*)

Bones are framework, scaffolding,  
cage, and support.

Bone is power. It is bone to which soft parts cling, from which they are strung and held aloft to the sun, lest man be but another slithering earth-noser. *Richard Selzer*

The function of bone is an illustration of **GOD**.

Absent his indwelling presence, I have no **rule**, no **rigidity**, no **reinforcement**.

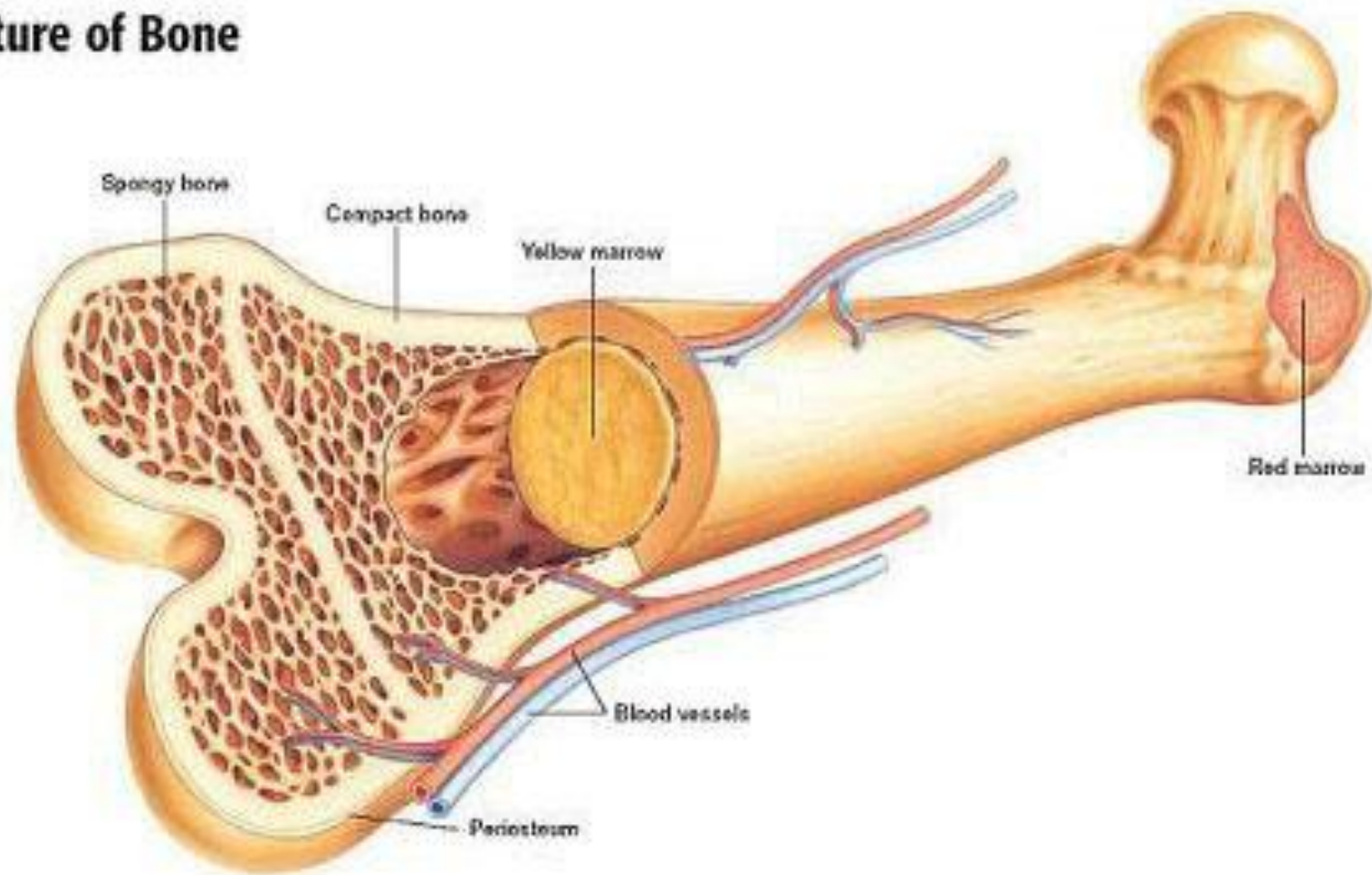
Only when God is the framework  
of life can I stand, walk, or leap.

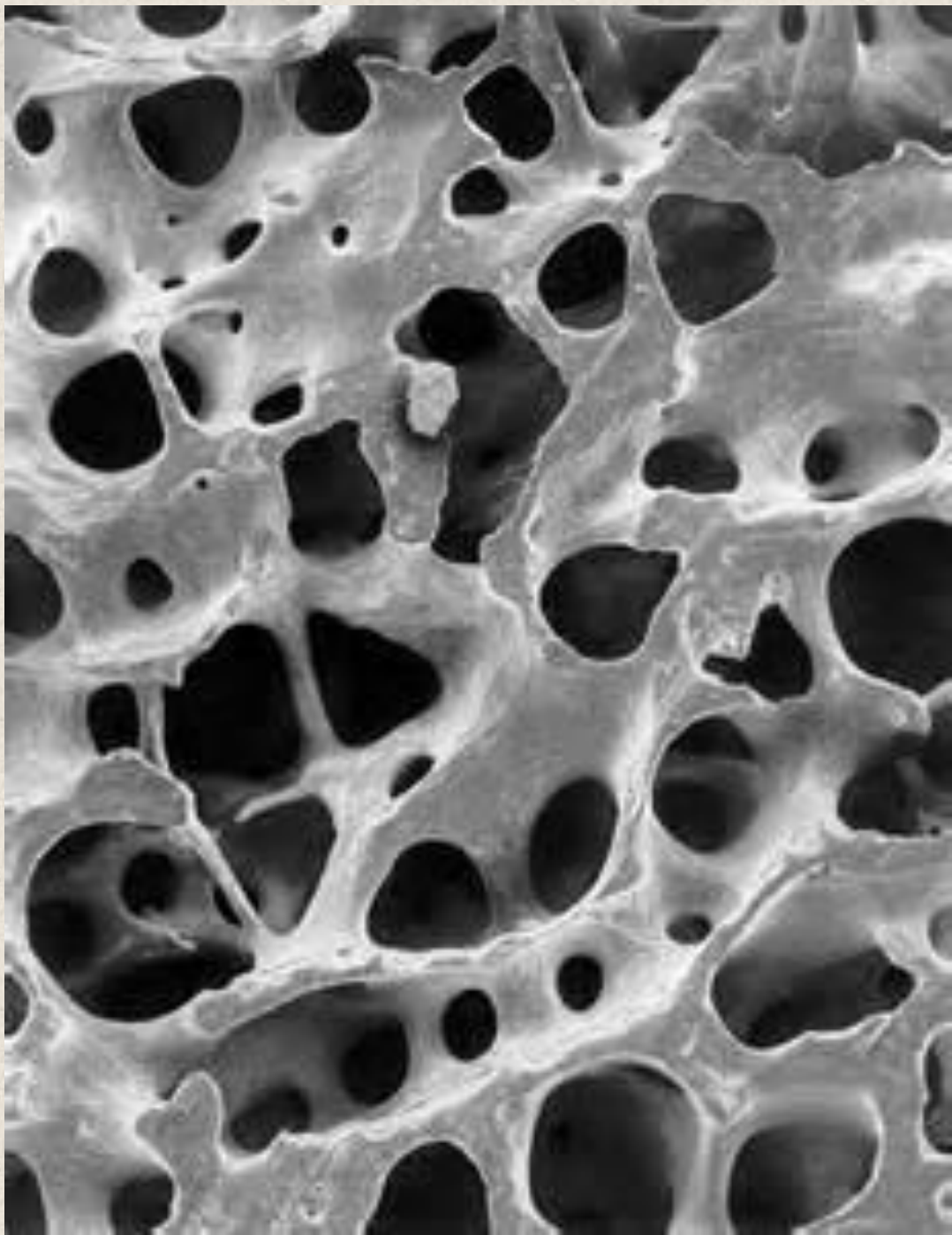


Trust in THE LORD with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding. In ALL YOUR WAYS acknowledge HIM, and he will direct your path. (*Proverbs 3:5-6*)

God's law is perfect ... statutes are trustworthy ... precepts are right ... commands are radiant ... fear is pure ... ordinances are sure ... more precious than gold ... sweeter than honey. By them I am WARNED. In keeping them there is great REWARD. (*Psalms 19:7-11*)

## Structure of Bone

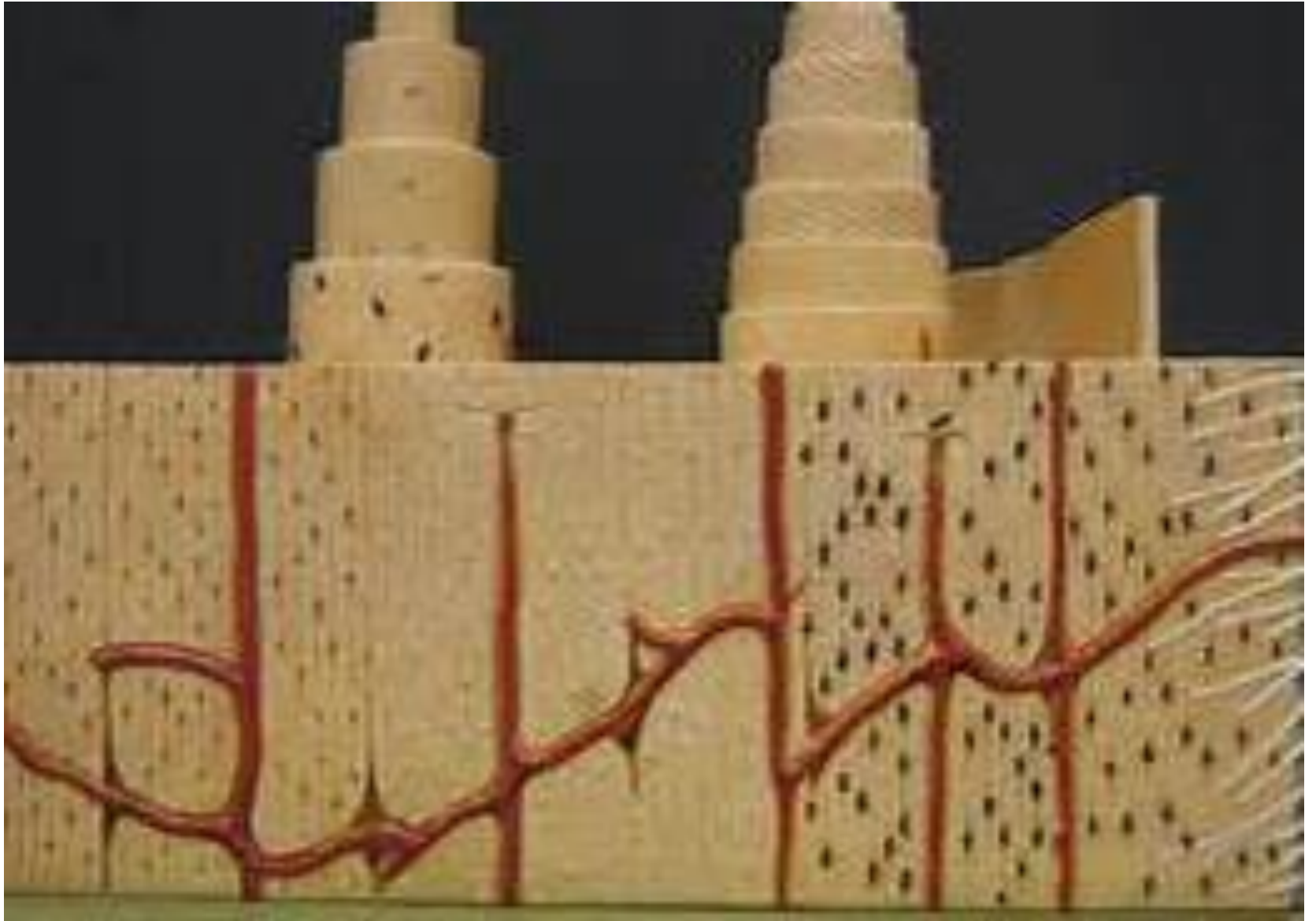






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Bones are **HARD**

Bones carry the load of **weight**  
and bear the burden of **protection.**

The “hardness” of bone illustrates the **laws**, **rules**, **expectations**, or **truth** which God has revealed to us.

On hearing this, many of his disciples said, “This is a hard teaching. Who can accept it?” Aware that they were grumbling, Jesus said, “Does this offend you?” (*John 6:60*)

**Truth cannot depend on the mood of the moment.**

**Reality is rigid. We can accept it or deny it, but we cannot change it.**

I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you really knew me you would know my Father. From now on, you do know him and have seen him. *(John 14:6-7)*

If hard doctrine and rigid rules are worn externally (external skeleton), our **appeal** or witness is not attractive or engaging.









God has placed the hard bones  
**UNDERNEATH** soft muscle, fat,  
and skin

These provide a **surface** to meet  
and greet.

We are more than a bag of bones.  
We breathe and bleed because we  
have **soft tissue**.

The **gospel** is not a list of rules. It is a **gift**.

Though we value the rules, our primary identity should not be “Rule-keeper”.

John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say “He has a demon.” [not a great reputation for witnessing!] I came eating and drinking, and they say, “He is a glutton and drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners” [very good reputation among those he wished to reach] (*Matthew 11:18-19*)

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