

Be Persevering



Dr. Rick Griffith • Crossroads International Church Singapore
BibleStudyDownloads.org

Many who followed Jesus...



...don't follow him today.



Apostasy.

“a turning away by rejecting”



"For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will reject the truth and chase after myths" (2 Timothy 4:3-4 NLT).

They will “turn away their ears (*apostrepho*) from the truth” (2 Timothy 4:4 NAU).

Crosses Replaced with Islamic Symbols to Make them Feel More at Ease

22 August 2019

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FLASHBACK



Decisions like these have unexpected consequences. The first wave of Sharia Islamists are within their rights to take the lesbian bishop and throw her off the steeple. After all, in their eyes she is an infidel, a woman speaking in public and a homosexual, all crimes that are deserving of death to them.

The church targeted is the Seamen's mission church in Stockholm's eastern dockyards. The Bishop held a meeting there and challenged the priest to explain what he'd do if a ship's crew came into port who weren't Christian, but wanted to pray.

Calling Muslims guests to the church "angels," the Bishop later took to her blog to explain that removing Christian symbols from the church and preparing the building for Muslim prayer doesn't make a priest any less a defender of the faith. Rather, to do any-

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LifeNews.com

SEARCH MENU

Christian and Jewish Clergy Bless Abortion Clinic, Claim “God is Present in This Space”

STATE MICAHILBILGER JUL 11, 2019 | 4:56PM AUSTIN, TX



15K

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Calling killing unborn babies “sacred work,” a group of clergy gathered Tuesday to bless an Austin, Texas abortion facility.

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Investigation Shows Televangelists Living Lavish Lifestyle



Bill Cosby's Been Behind Bars for a Year: Today on Inside Edition

INVESTIGATIVE 2:53 PM PDT, May 3, 2019 - Inside Edition Staff



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News

Osteen Celebrates LGBTQ Pride at Lady Gaga Event

Posted by [Jeff Maples](#)

How can you **persevere**
amidst apostasy?



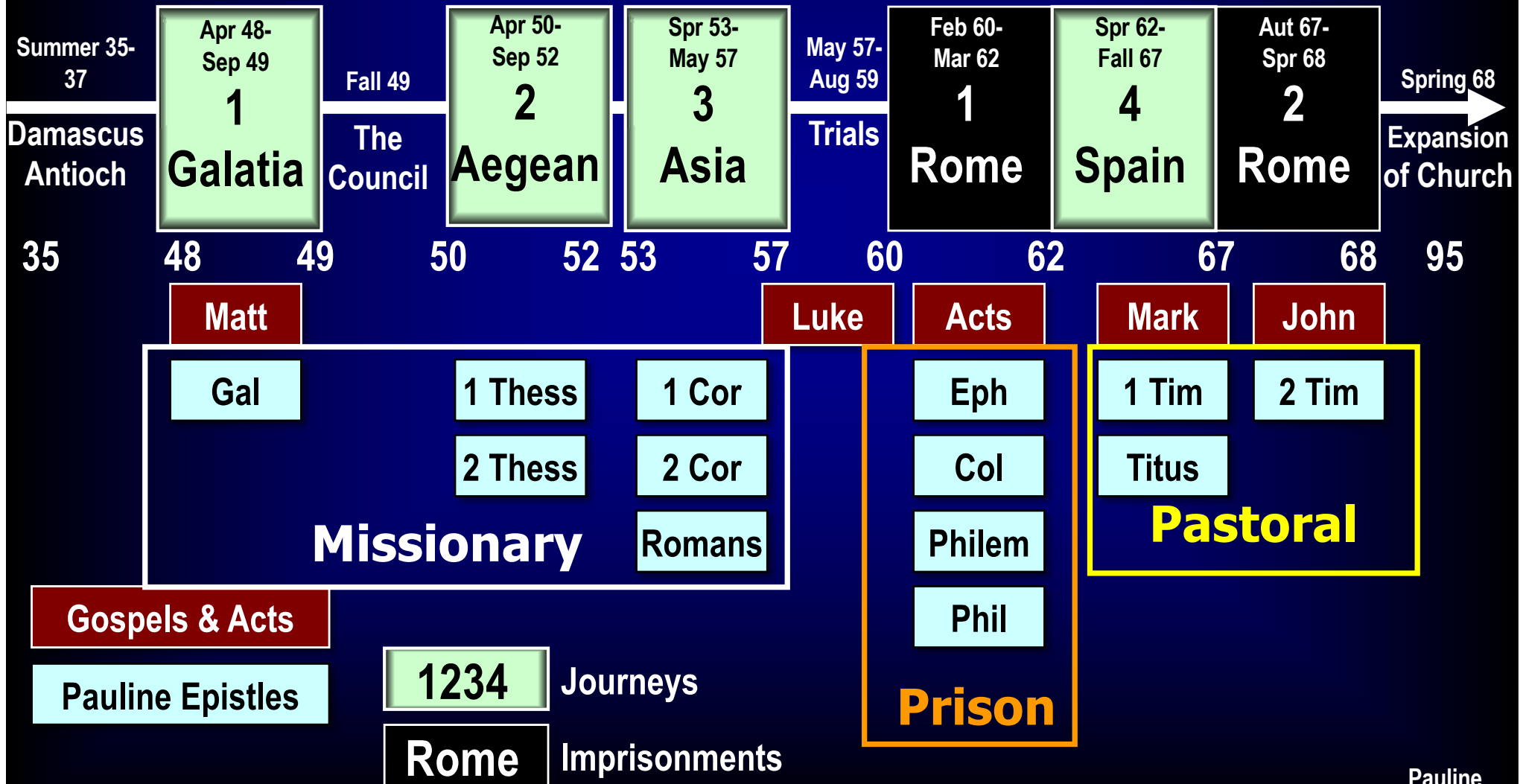
2 Timothy

Overview of Paul's Letters

38
124
39-41

"To the remotest part of the earth" (Acts 1:8)

Acts 9 13 14 15 16 18 21 27 28





Fourth Missions Trip
1-2 Timothy & Titus After Acts
Spring 62 – Fall 67

Contrasting the Roman Imprisonments

38
124
39-41

Feb 60- Mar 62 1 Rome	Spr 62- Fall 67 4 Spain	Aut 67- Spr 68 2 Rome	
60	62	67	68

Eph

2 Tim

Col

Philem

Phil



Pauline Epistles

1234

Journeys

Rome

Imprisonments

Contrasting the Roman Imprisonments

38
124
39-41

Feb 60- Mar 62 1 Rome	Spr 62- Fall 67 4 Spain	Aut 67- Spr 68 2 Rome	
60	62	67	68

Nero's Mental Health

Stable



Insane

AD 64 Fire of Rome

Before

After

View of Christians

Jewish Sect

Mostly Gentiles

Tolerance by Rome

Protected

No restraints

Persecution by Rome

Infrequent

Widespread

Result for Paul

Released

Beheaded

Second Roman Imprisonment (AD 67-68)

"As you know, everyone from the province of Asia has deserted me—even Phygelus and Hermogenes" (2 Tim. 1:15 NLT)

**"Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.
¹³But evil people and impostors will flourish. They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived" (2 Tim. 3:12-13 NLT)**

Friends of Paul's Second Roman Imprisonment (AD 67-68)

"~~T~~~~imo~~thy, please come as soon as you can.
¹⁰~~D~~~~ionys~~ has deserted me because he loves the things of this life and has gone to Thessalonica. ~~C~~~~res~~ens has gone to Galatia, and ~~T~~~~itus~~ has gone to Dalmatia. ¹¹Only **Luke** is with me. Bring ~~M~~~~ark~~ with you when you come, for he will be helpful to me in my ministry. ¹²I sent ~~T~~~~ychicus~~ to Ephesus. ¹³When you come, be sure to bring the coat I left with ~~C~~~~aius~~ at Troas. Also bring my books, and especially my papers. ¹⁴~~A~~~~lexander~~ the coppersmith did me much harm, but the Lord will judge him for what he has done. ¹⁵Be careful of him, for he fought against everything we said" (2 Tim. 4:9-15 NLT).



"The first time I was brought before the judge, no one came with me. Everyone abandoned me. May it not be counted against them. ¹⁷But the Lord stood with me and gave me strength so that I might preach the Good News in its entirety for all the Gentiles to hear. And he rescued me from certain death" (2 Tim. 4:16-17 NLT).

**Mamertine
Prison**

**Close
Locations!**

**Curia (Senate
"Court")**





**View of the Forum from the
Mamertine Prison (AD 4th cent.)**

VIA
S. PIETRO
IN CARCERE

"Peter in Prison Street"



Susan & Rick free because of Peter's & Paul's imprisonment





**"Mamertine Prison of the
Apostles Peter & Paul"**



**Mamertine Doors Depict
Peter & Paul**

carcere di San Pietro

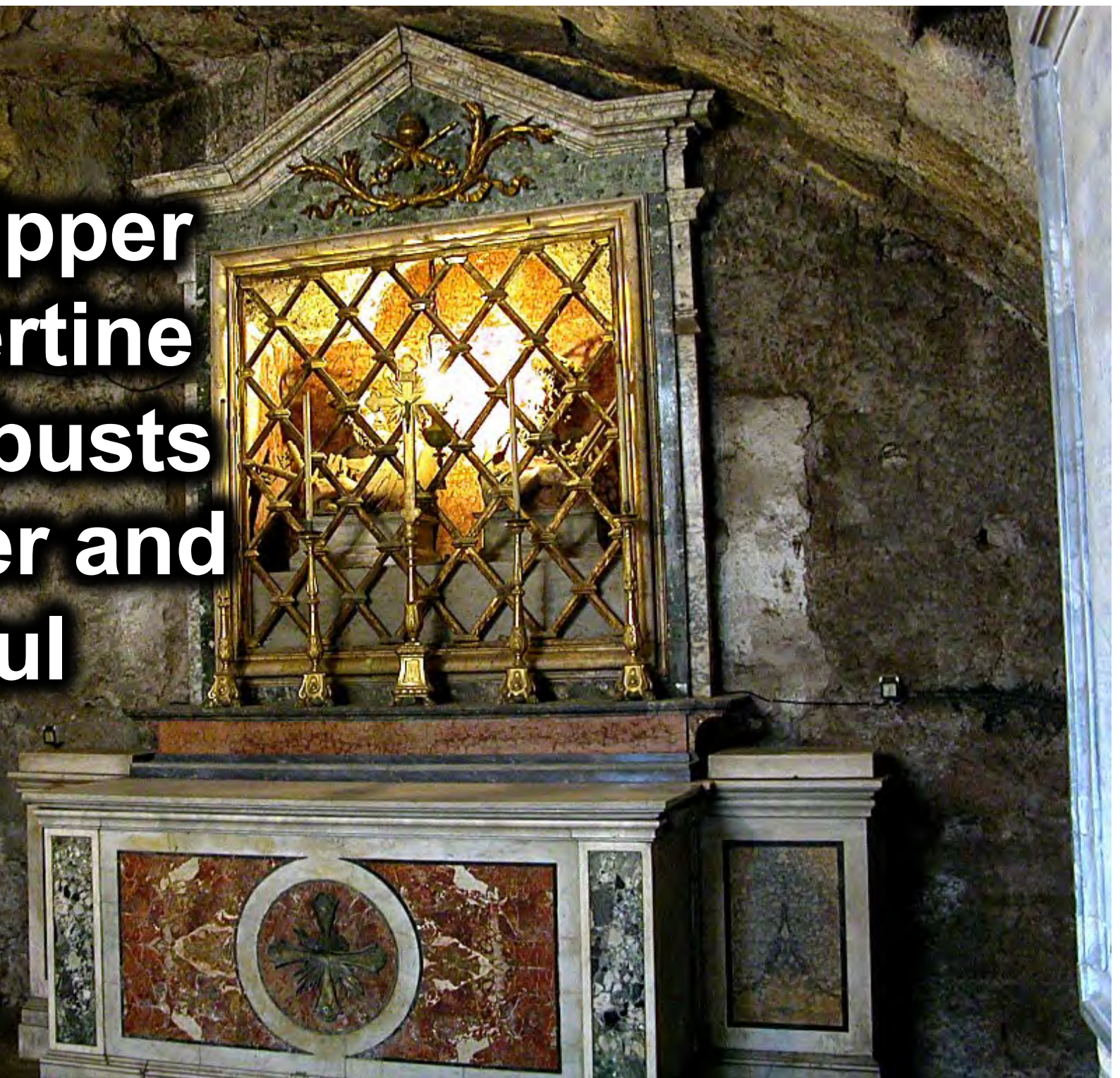
St. Peter's prison



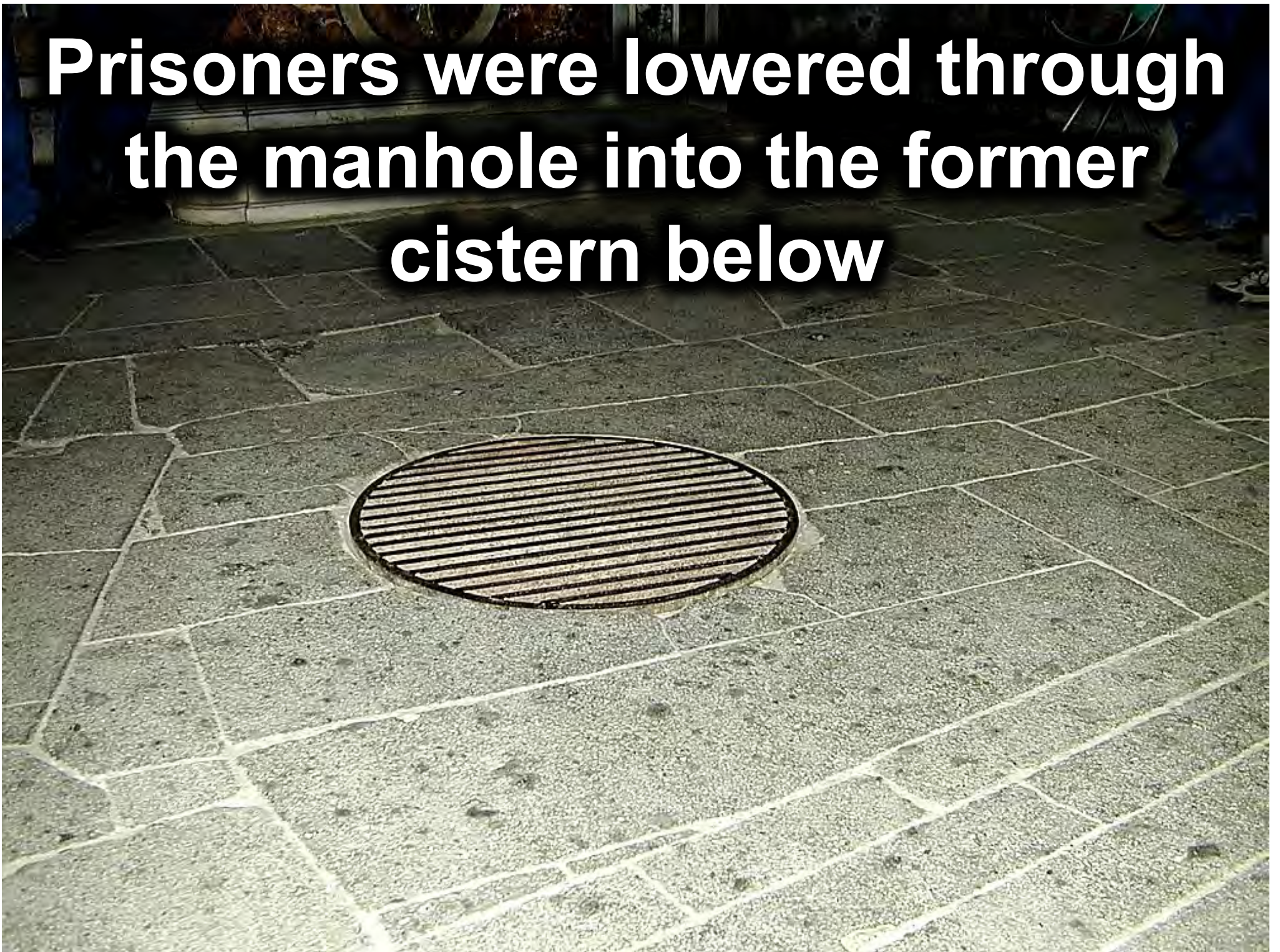
RCER - TULLIANUM

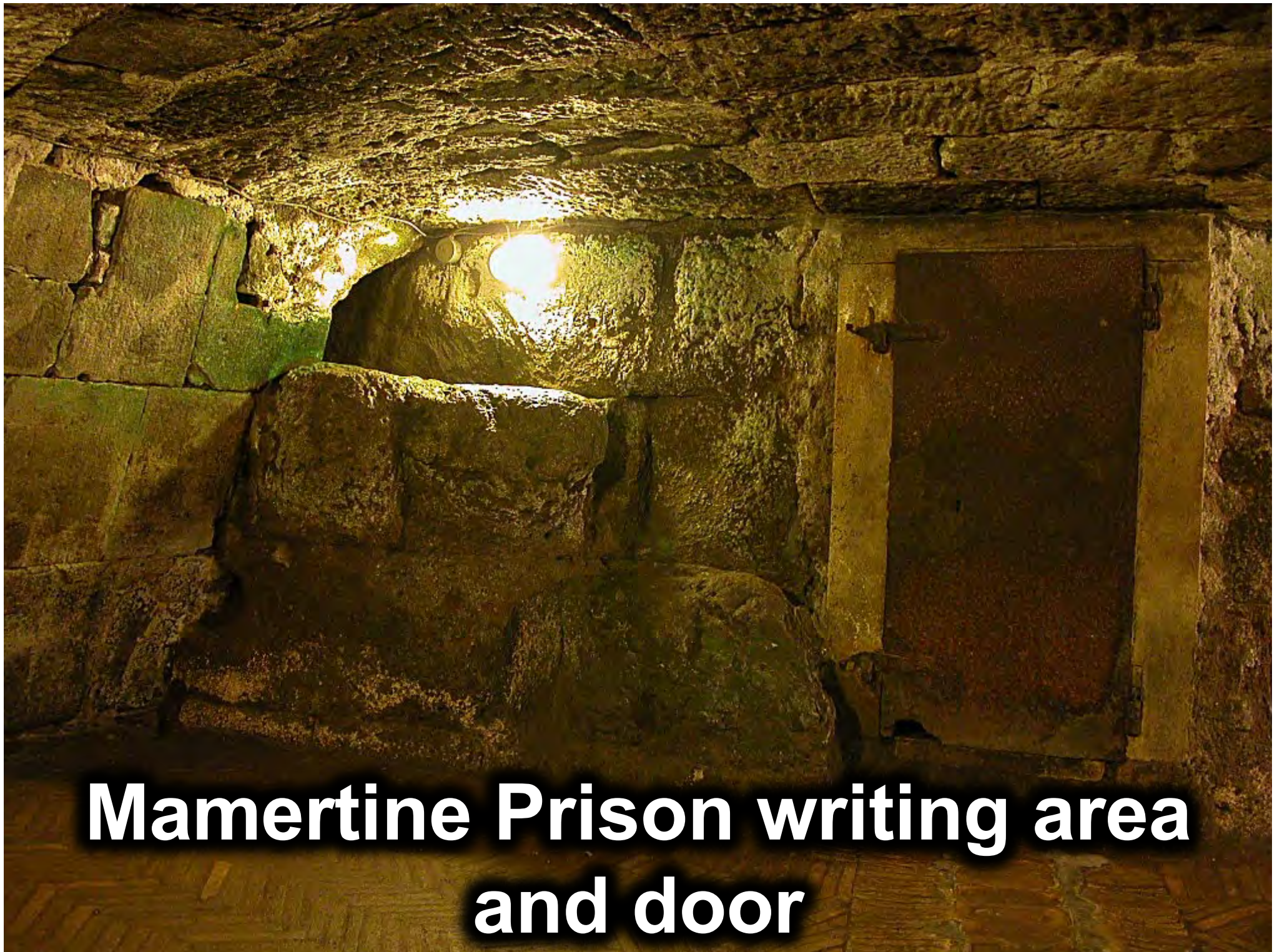
The Mamertine Tour

**The Upper
Mamertine
room busts
of Peter and
Paul**



**Prisoners were lowered through
the manhole into the former
cistern below**



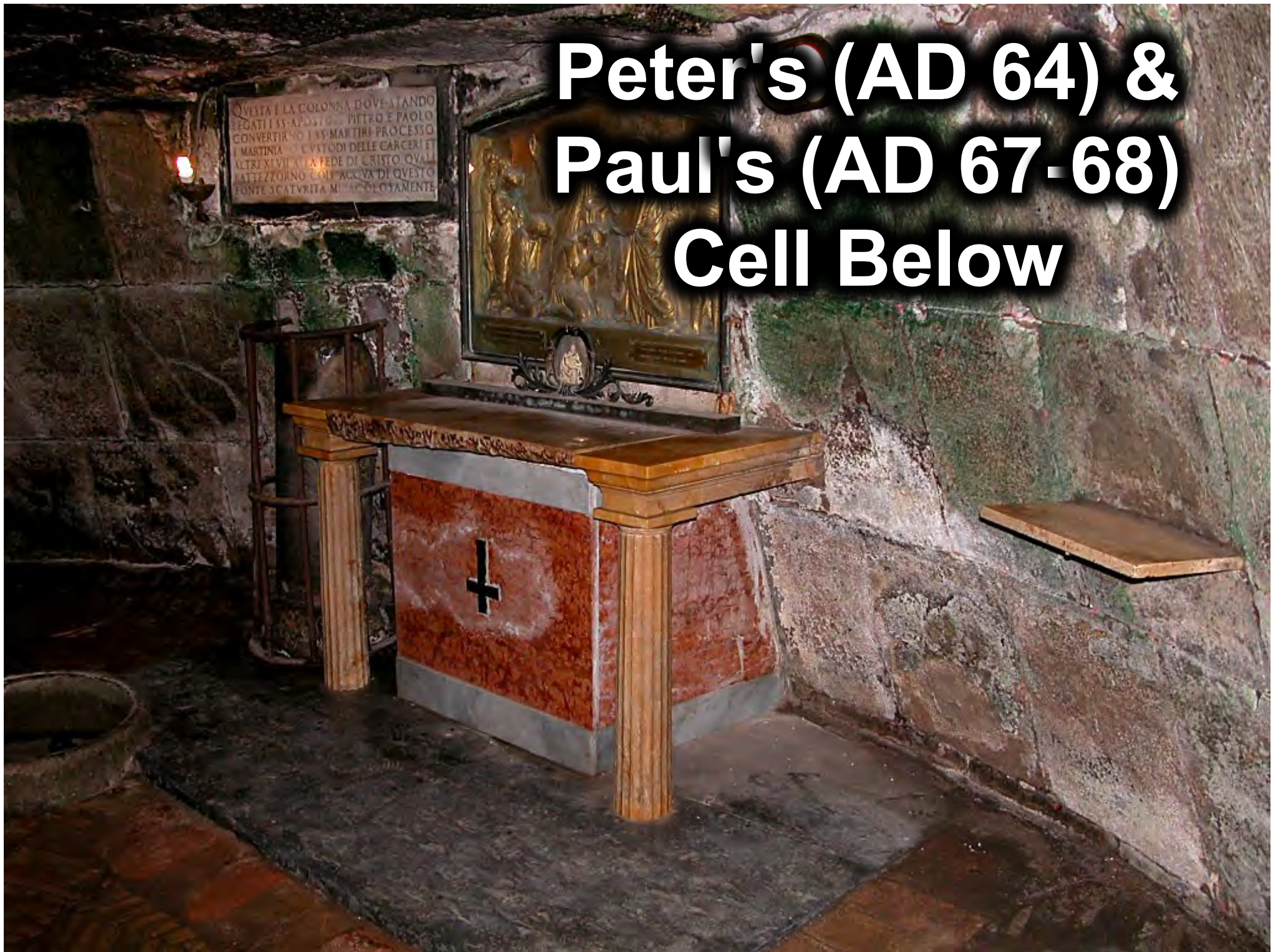


**Mamertine Prison writing area
and door**

Down the Steps



Peter's (AD 64) & Paul's (AD 67-68) Cell Below



How can you **persevere** amidst apostasy?

2 ways...



2 Timothy

How to hang in there: Faithfully...

**Obey
God's
Word**

***2 Timothy
1–2***

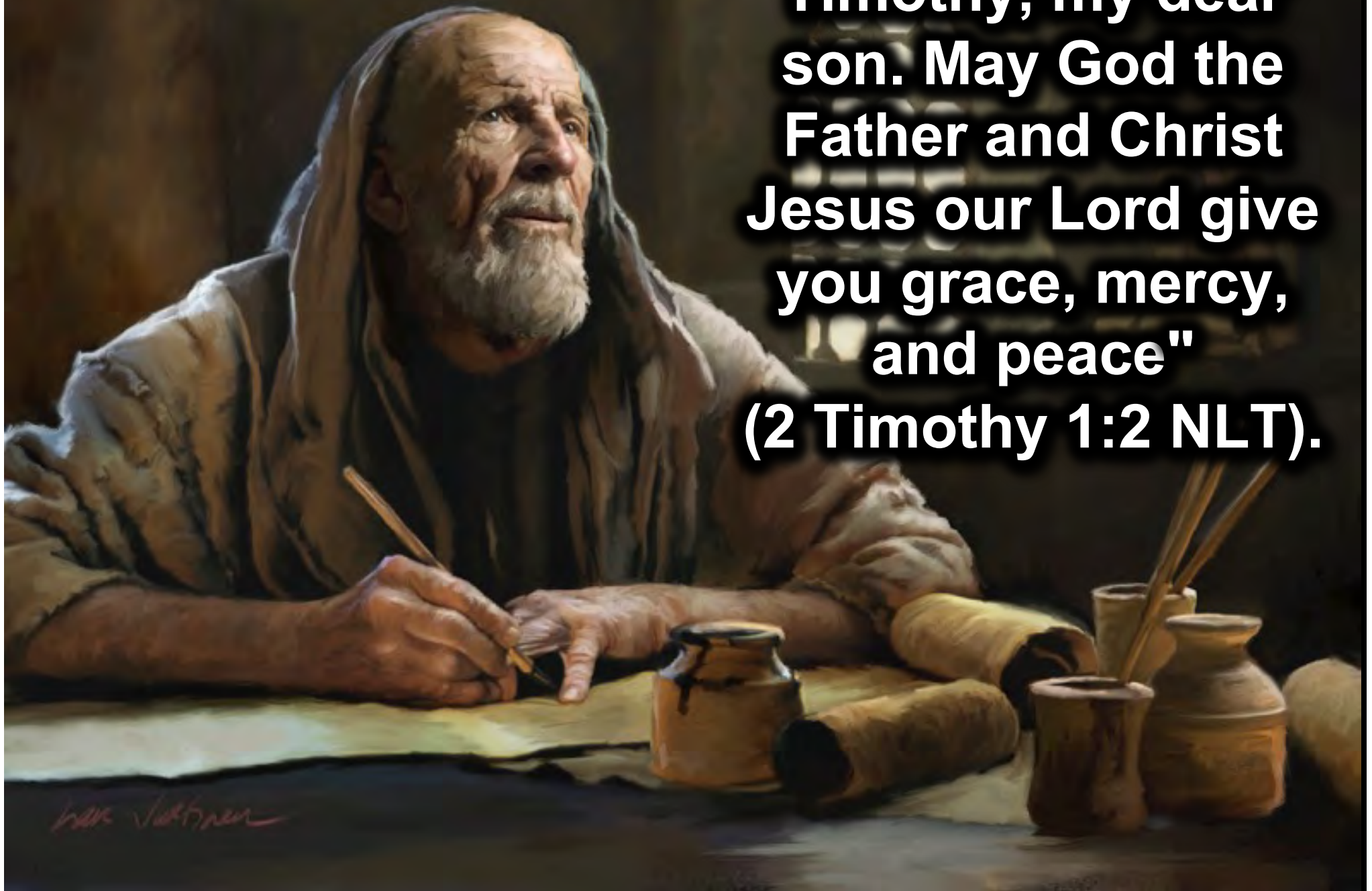
2 Timothy 1

Paul greeted Timothy with his own persevering attitude in the face of death (1:1-2).



"This letter is from Paul, chosen by the will of God to be an apostle of Christ Jesus. I have been sent out to tell others about the life he has promised through faith in Christ Jesus" (2 Timothy 1:1 NLT).

**"I am writing to
Timothy, my dear
son. May God the
Father and Christ
Jesus our Lord give
you grace, mercy,
and peace"
(2 Timothy 1:2 NLT).**



**Timothy should imitate others'
faithfulness despite many who
fell away (1:3-18).**

He learned faithfulness from his mother and grandmother shown at his ordination (1:3-7).

2 Timothy

MAJOR THEME 1: Faithfulness

Examples of Faithfulness:

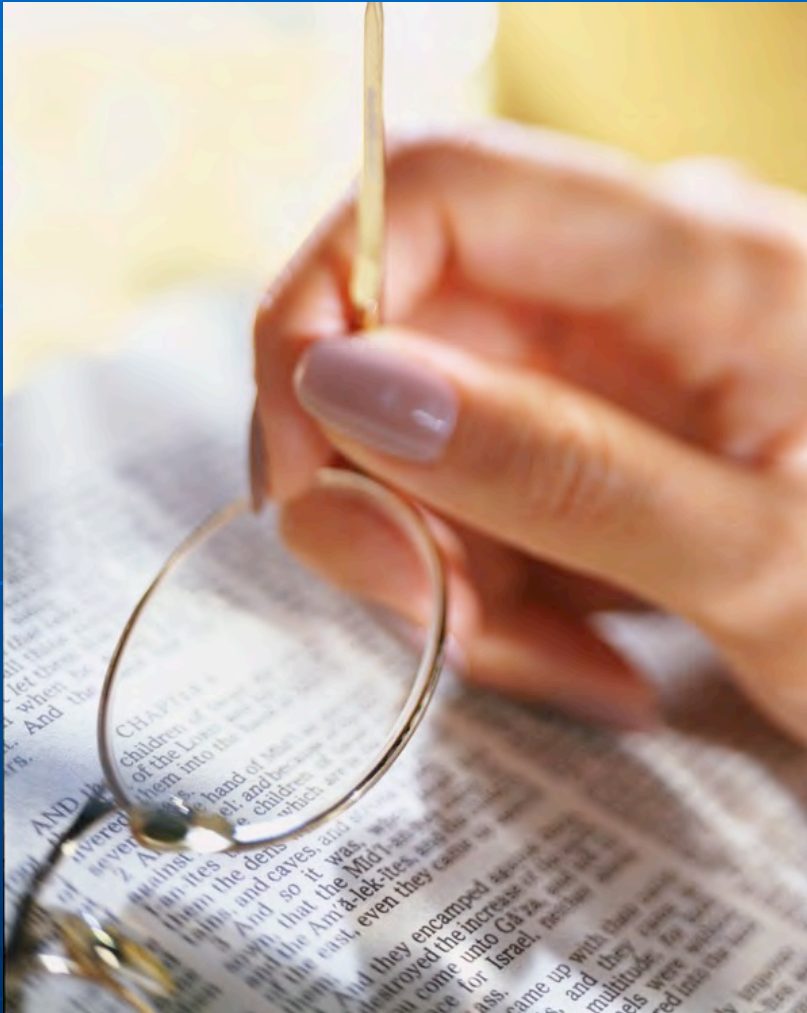
- a. Learned from mother Eunice & grandmother Lois (1:3-7)

Timothy learned in his own mixed-parentage home, with the women in his life setting the example of faithfulness in daily dealings.



2 Timothy

MAJOR THEME 1: Faithfulness



**b. Learned from Paul
(1:8-14)**

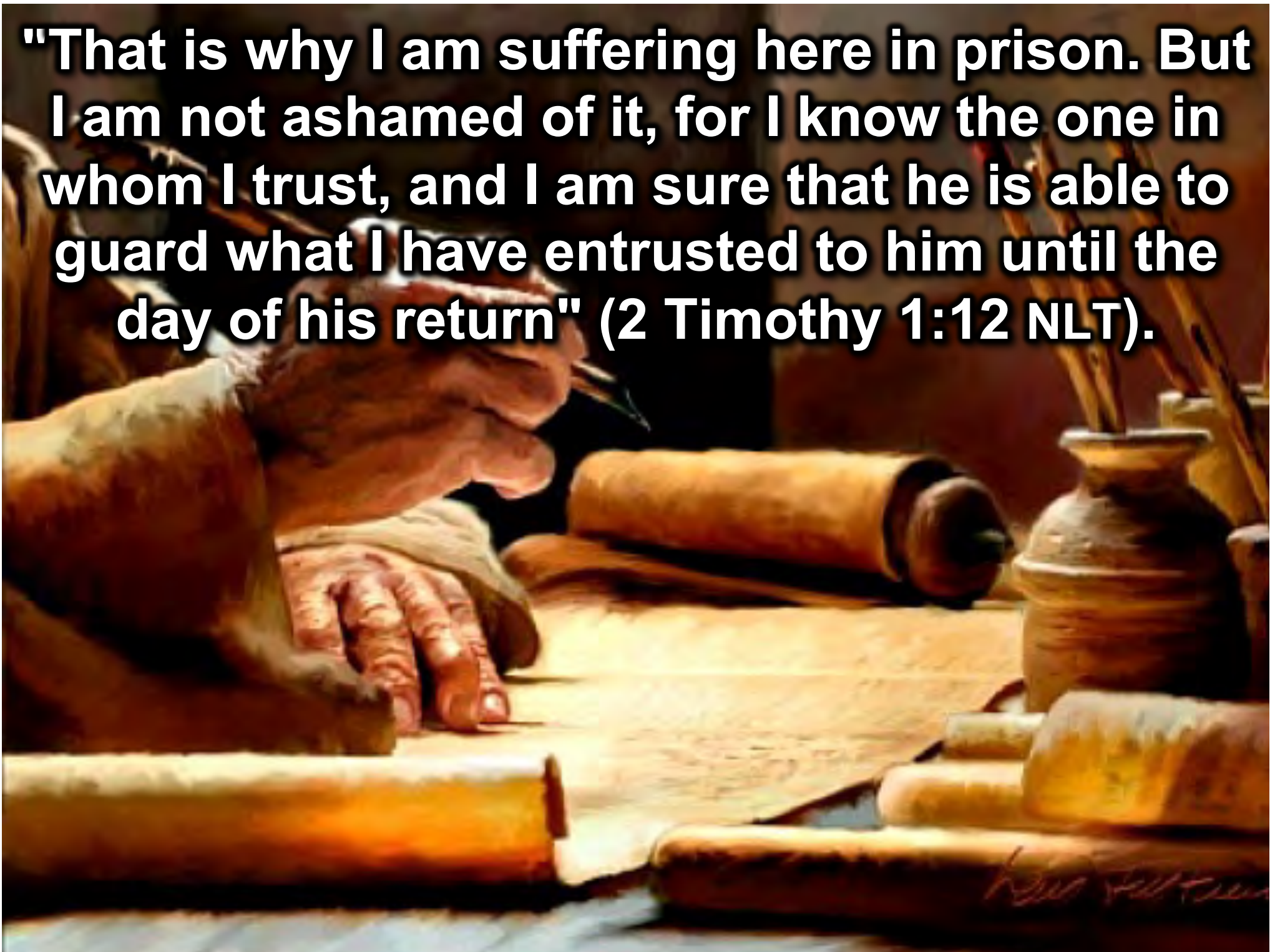
Paul remained faithful in difficult times because he believed and trusted God to keep him till the end (1:11-12).

**He should bravely suffer Nero's
tortures like Paul through the
gospel's power (1:8-14).**

"So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord. And don't be ashamed of me, either, even though I'm in prison for him. With the strength God gives you, be ready to suffer with me for the sake of the Good News.

⁹ For God saved us and called us to live a holy life. He did this, not because we deserved it, but because that was his plan from before the beginning of time—to show us his grace through Christ Jesus"
(2 Timothy 1:8-9 NLT).

"That is why I am suffering here in prison. But I am not ashamed of it, for I know the one in whom I trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until the day of his return" (2 Timothy 1:12 NLT).



**Asian believers deserted Jesus
but Onesiphorus set a faithful
example (1:15-18).**

Second Roman Imprisonment (AD 67-68)

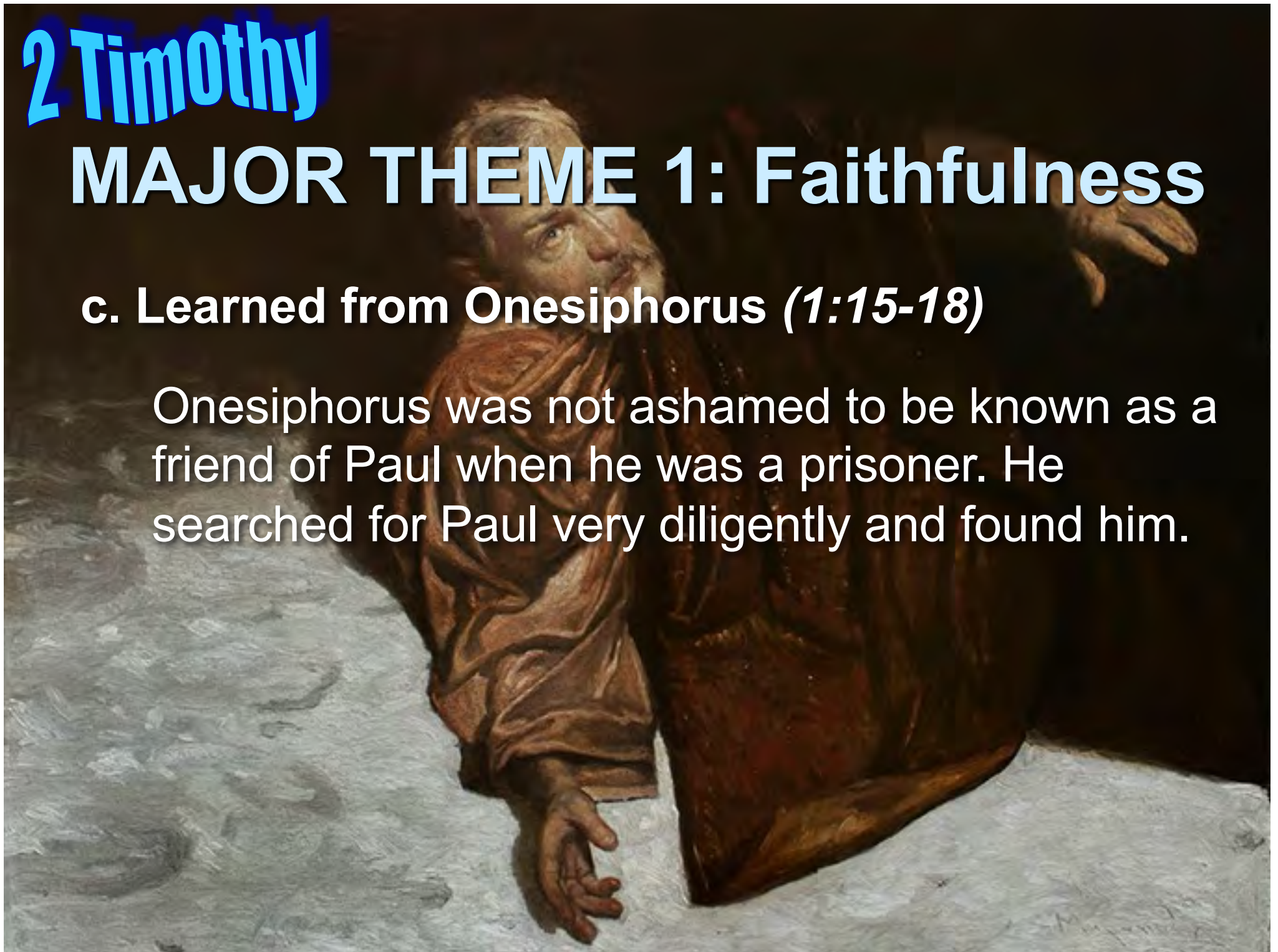
"As you know, everyone from the province of Asia has deserted me—even Phygelus and Hermogenes" (2 Tim. 1:15 NLT)

2 Timothy

MAJOR THEME 1: Faithfulness

c. Learned from Onesiphorus (1:15-18)

Onesiphorus was not ashamed to be known as a friend of Paul when he was a prisoner. He searched for Paul very diligently and found him.



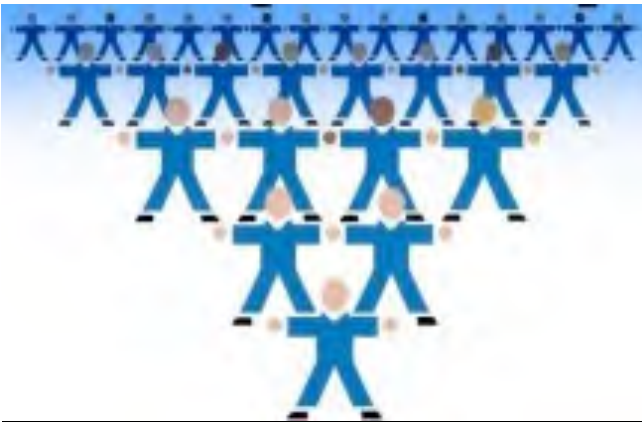
2 Timothy 2

**Knowing what faithfulness looks
like helps us persevere under
trial (2 Tim 2).**

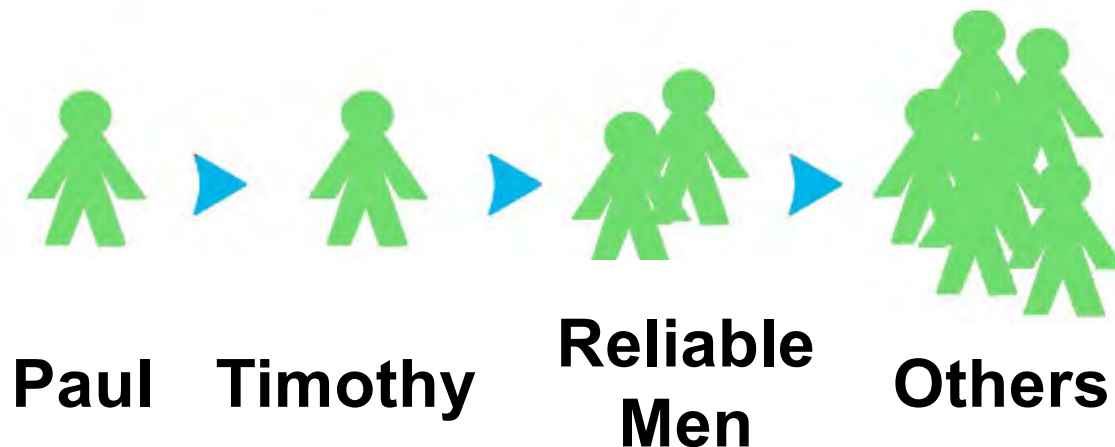
**Like a discipling teacher, invest
in others the teaching you
received (2:1-2).**

Multiply Yourself into Trustworthy Men!

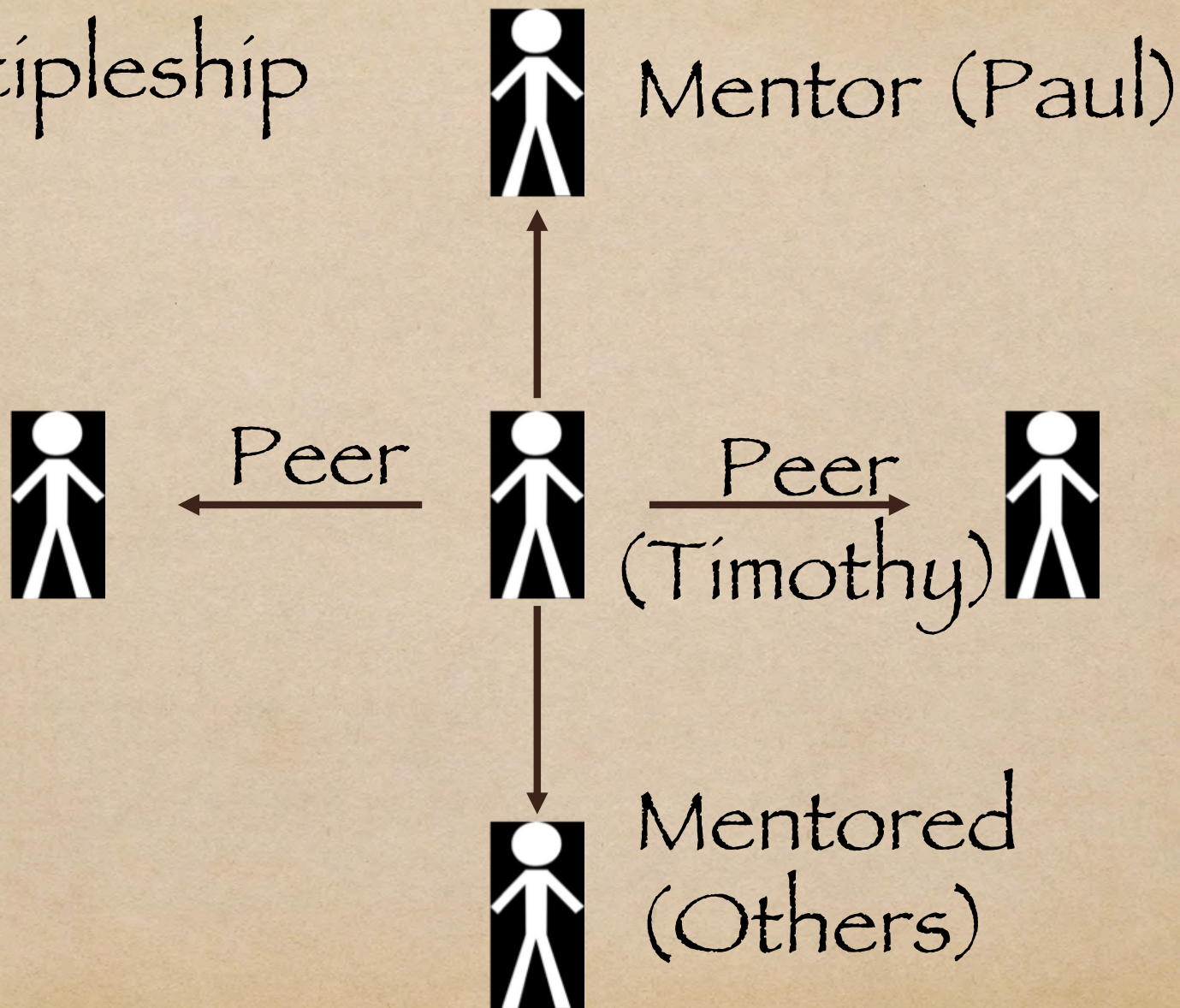
Discipleship



"You have heard me teach things that have been confirmed by many reliable witnesses. Now teach these truths to other trustworthy people who will be able to pass them on to others" (2 Tim. 2:2 NLT).



Levels of Discipleship



Life Transformation Groups



The Commitment: Meet one hour a week with 1-2 others of the same sex to provide accountability in 3 areas

1. **Confess** sin around 10 questions
2. **Read** 3 Bible chapters daily
3. **Pray** for lost friends

**Like a good soldier, show
unswerving commitment to
please your superior, Jesus
(2:3-4).**

**"Endure suffering
along with me, as a
good soldier of Christ
Jesus. ⁴ Soldiers don't
get tied up in the
affairs of civilian life,
for then they cannot
please the officer who
enlisted them"
(2 Timothy 2:3-4 NLT).**





**Like a successful athlete,
obey the rules in God's Word
(2:5).**

2 Timothy

Characteristics of Faithfulness

2. Athlete (2:5) – An athlete has to **follow the rules** to win the race.



**Like a diligent farmer, have the
joy of spiritual fruit like Jesus
after he was raised (2:6-13).**

2 Timothy

Characteristics of Faithfulness

3. Farmer (2:6-13) – A farmer must **work hard** to achieve a good harvest.



**Faithfulness = loyal to Christ, our commander,
to follow the law of God and work hard**

2 Timothy 2:11–13 (NIV)

¹¹ Here is a trustworthy saying:

**If we died with him,
we will also live with him;**

¹² if we endure,

we will also reign with him.

If we disown him, he will also disown us;

**¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful,
for he cannot disown himself.**

**Like an unashamed workman,
fight heresy with Scripture—not
human words (2:14-19).**

DO YOUR BEST TO PRESENT YOURSELF TO

GOD

AS ONE APPROVED

A WORKER

WHO HAS NO NEED

TO BE ASHAMED

RIGHTLY HANDLING

THE WORD OF

TRUTH

2 TIMOTHY 2:15

How can you **persevere**
amidst apostasy?



2 Timothy

How to hang in there: Faithfully...

Obey
God's
Word

&

Preach
God's
Word

2 Timothy
1–2

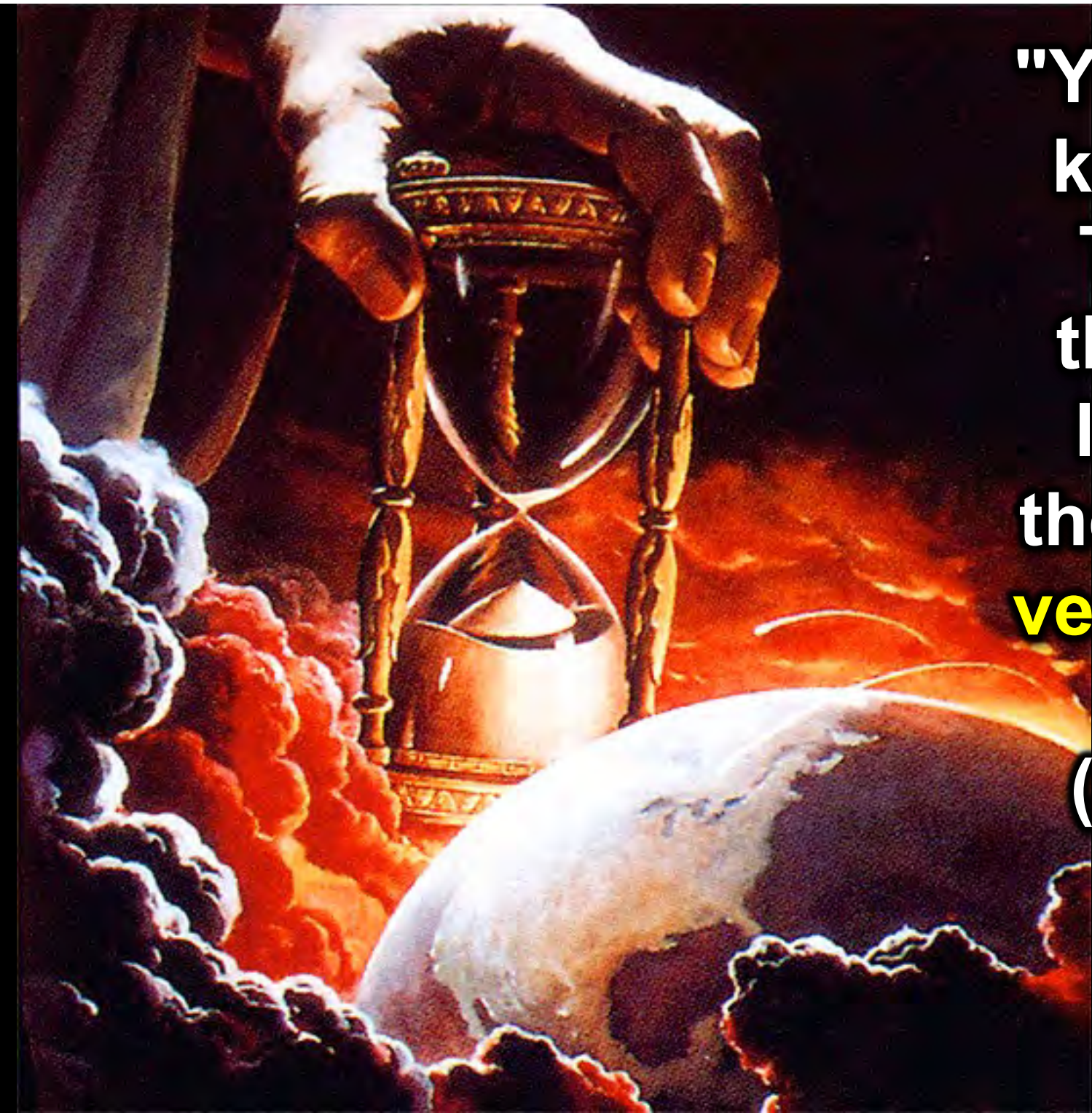
2 Timothy
3–4

2 Timothy 3

Before Jesus returns, avoid false teachers who are smooth-tongued but godless (3:1-9).

**Avoid
godless
teachers
(3:1-9).**



A dramatic illustration featuring a hand holding a large, ornate hourglass. The hourglass is positioned over a globe of the Earth, which is partially obscured by dark, swirling clouds. The background is a fiery, orange-red sky, suggesting a sunset or a scene of divine judgment. The overall mood is one of urgency and the passage of time.

"You should know this, Timothy, that in the last days there will be **very difficult times**" (3:1 NLT).

2 Timothy

19 Traits of Apostates (3:1-5)

lovers of themselves

lovers of money

boastful

proud

abusive

disobedient to their parents

ungrateful

unholy

without love



unforgiving

slandorous

without self-control

brutal

not lovers of the good

treacherous

rash

conceited

lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God

having a form of godliness but denying its power

**"Avoid such men as these"
(2 Timothy 3:5b NAU).**

**"Stay away from people like that!"
(2 Timothy 3:5b NLT).**

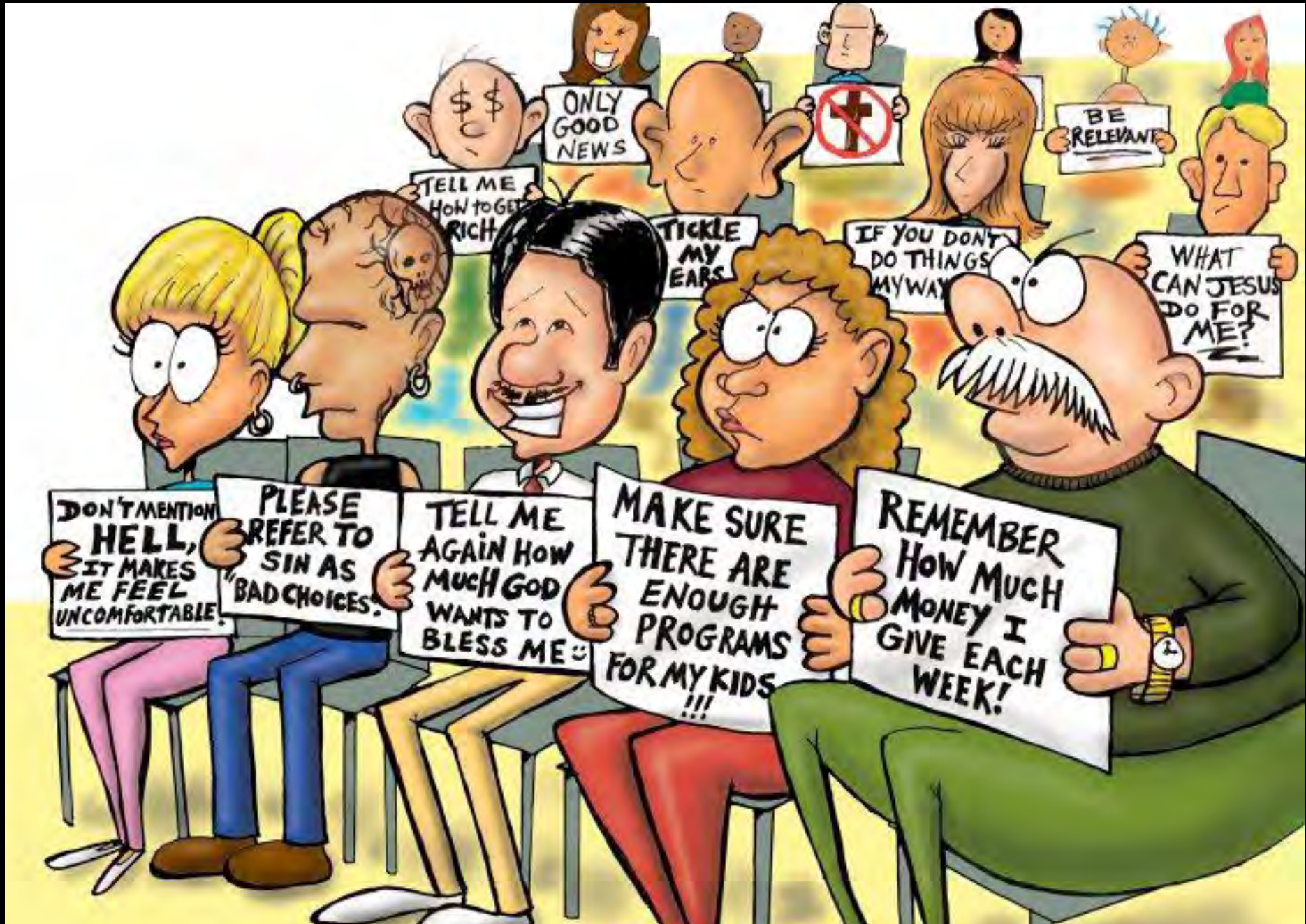


Avoid godless leaders

"They are the kind who work [lit. *creep*] their way into people's homes and win the confidence of vulnerable women who are burdened with the guilt of sin and controlled by various desires. ⁷(Such women are forever following new teachings, but they are never able to understand the truth.)" (2 Timothy 3:6-7 NLT).



People-Pleasing Preaching





"These teachers oppose the truth just as Jannes and Jambres opposed Moses. They have depraved minds and a counterfeit faith. ⁹But they won't get away with this for long. Someday everyone will recognize what fools they are, just as with Jannes and Jambres" (3:8-9 NLT).

**Accept and preach the Word of
God as well as fulfill all ministry
duties (3:10–4:5).**

Accept truth (3:10-17).



a. Follow God's **servants** (3:10-13)



"But you, Timothy, certainly know what I teach, and how I live, and what my purpose in life is. You know my faith, my patience, my love, and my endurance. ¹¹You know how much persecution and suffering I have endured. You know all about how I was persecuted in Antioch, Iconium, and Lystra—but the Lord rescued me from all of it" (2 Timothy 3:10-11 NLT).



"Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. ¹³But evil people and impostors will flourish. They will deceive others and will themselves be deceived" (2 Timothy 3:12-13 NLT).



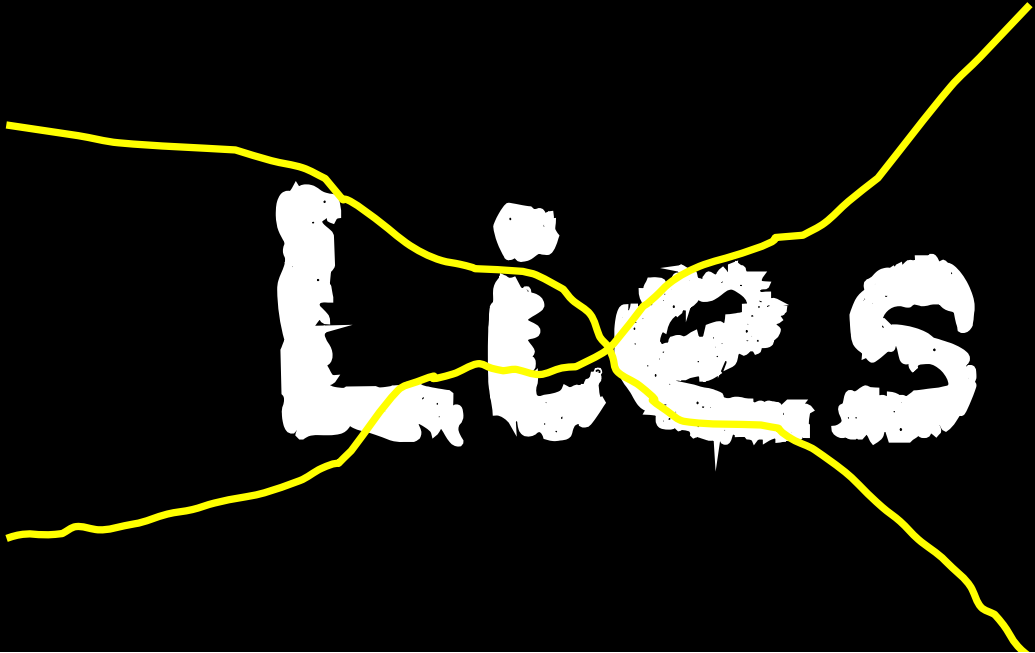
"Yes, and everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution" (2 Timothy 3:12 NLT).



**How can we accept truth
instead of lies?**

Truth

Lies

A thick, hand-drawn yellow line strikes through the word 'Lies' from the top-left to the bottom-right, crossing it diagonally.

b. Follow God's **Word** (3:14-17)



**"All Scripture is God-breathed..."
(2 Timothy 3:16a NIV).**

**"All Scripture is God-breathed..."
(2 Timothy 3:16a NIV).**



Four Results of God's Word

Rebuking

Correcting

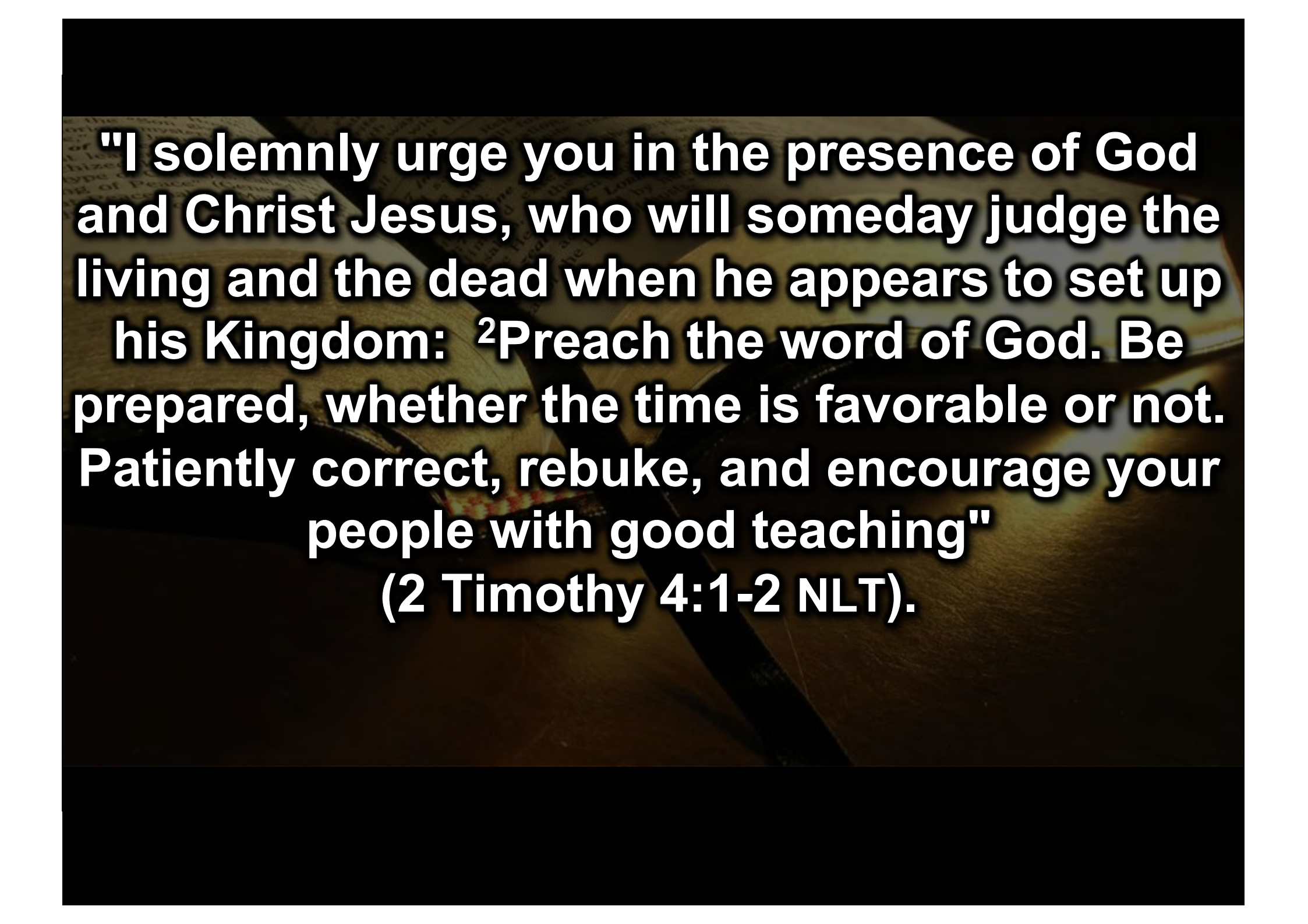
Teaching

Training
(in Righteousness)

2 Timothy 3:16-17

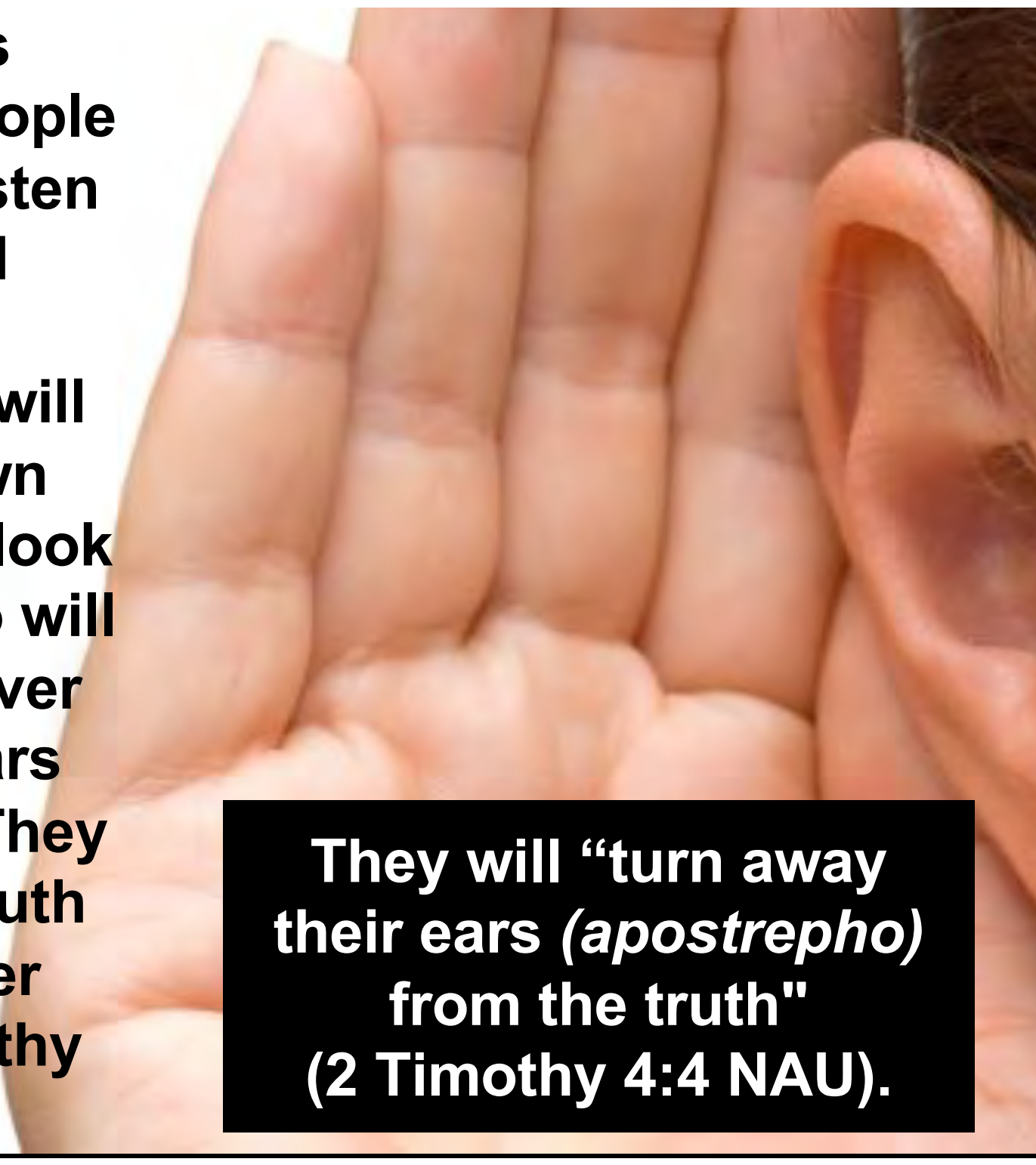
2 Timothy 4

**Preach and live the truth by
hardship, rebuking, encouraging,
and evangelizing (4:1-5).**



**"I solemnly urge you in the presence of God and Christ Jesus, who will someday judge the living and the dead when he appears to set up his Kingdom: ²Preach the word of God. Be prepared, whether the time is favorable or not. Patiently correct, rebuke, and encourage your people with good teaching"
(2 Timothy 4:1-2 NLT).**

"For a time is coming when people will no longer listen to sound and wholesome teaching. They will follow their own desires and will look for teachers who will tell them whatever their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will reject the truth and chase after myths" (2 Timothy 4:3-4 NLT).



They will “turn away their ears (*apostrepho*) from the truth” (2 Timothy 4:4 NAU).



"But you should keep a clear mind in every situation. Don't be afraid of suffering for the Lord. Work at telling others the Good News, and fully carry out the ministry God has given you" (2 Timothy 4:5 NLT).

**Hope in God until death despite
betrayals by friends (4:6-18).**



"And now the prize awaits me—the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give me on the day of his return. And the prize is not just for me but for all who eagerly look forward to his appearing" (2 Timothy 4:8 NLT).

**Do not be conquered by death,
but victorious in it and relational
through every trial (4:19-22).**

How can you **persevere**
amidst apostasy?



2 Timothy

Main Idea

**Faithfully obey and preach
God's Word.**



2 Timothy

How to hang in there: Faithfully...

Obey
God's
Word

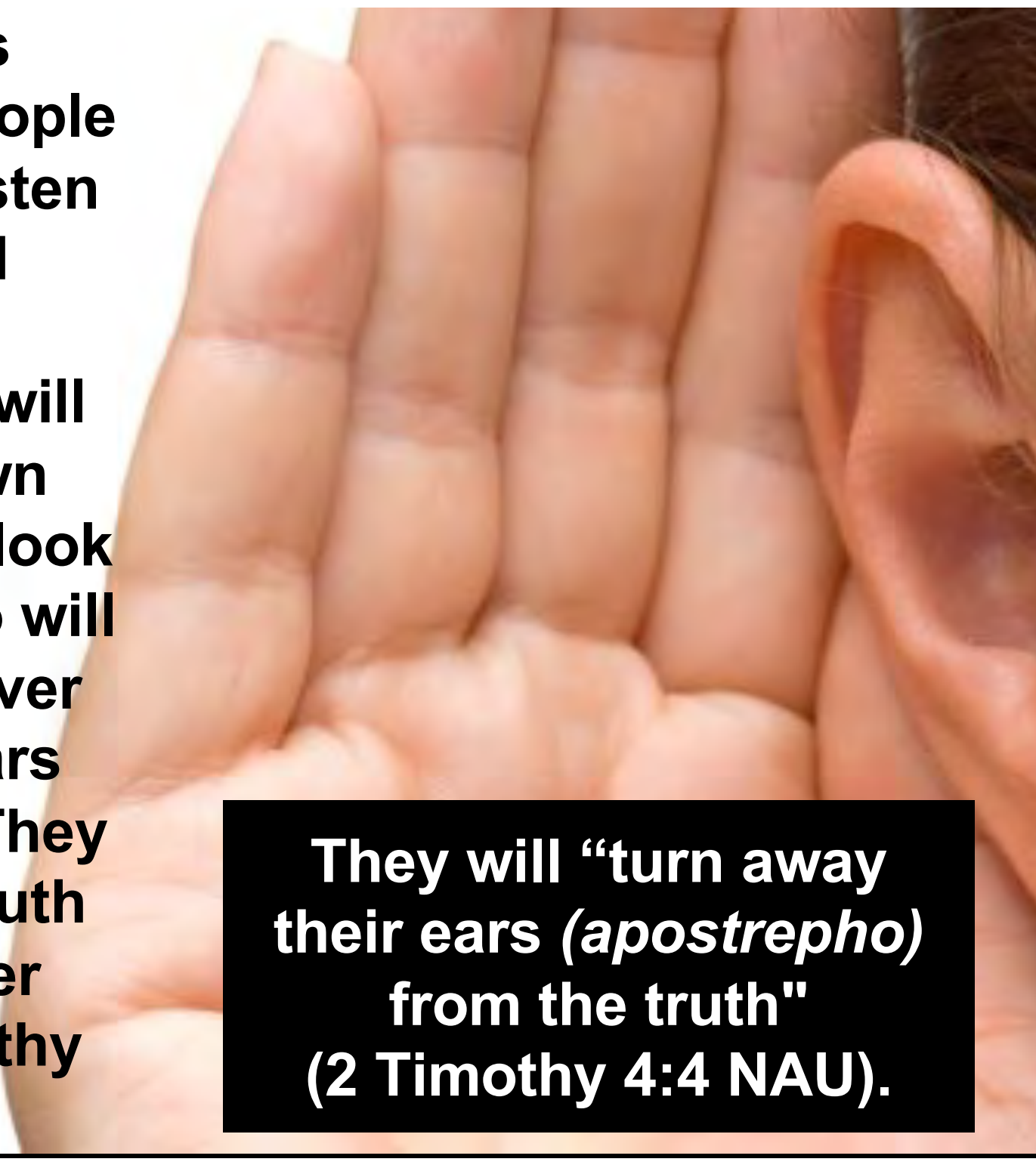
&

Preach
God's
Word

2 Timothy
1–2

2 Timothy
3–4

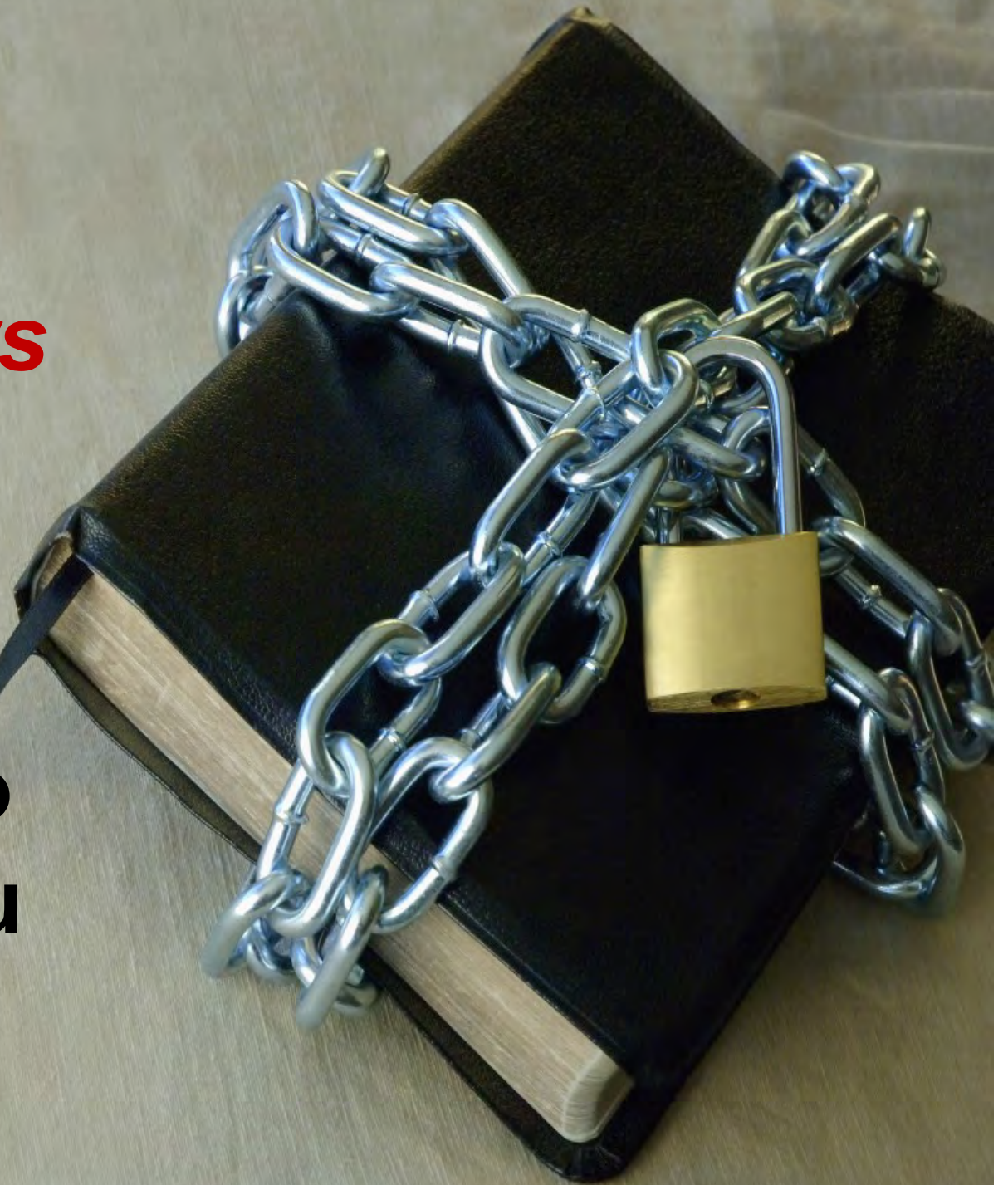
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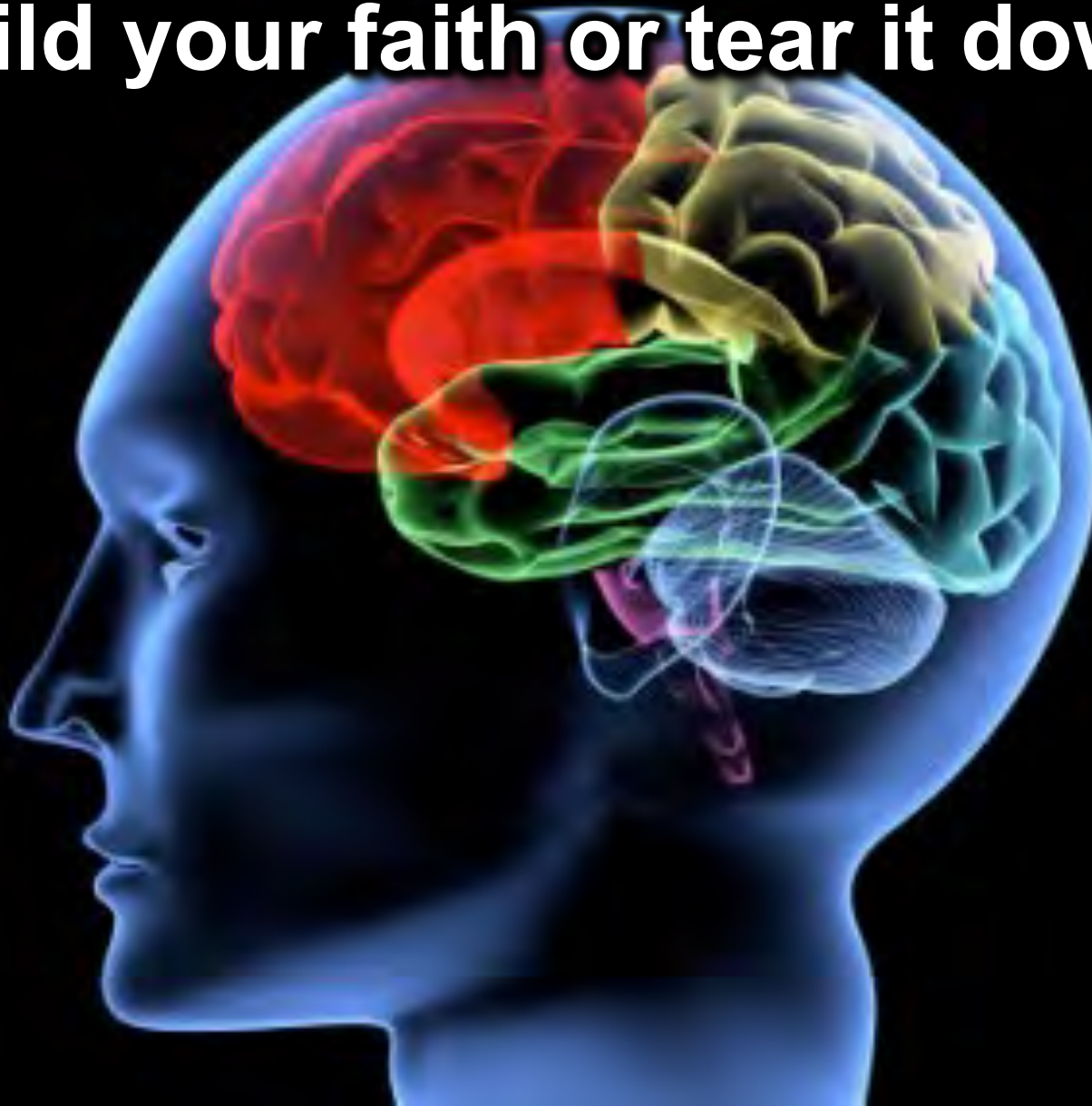
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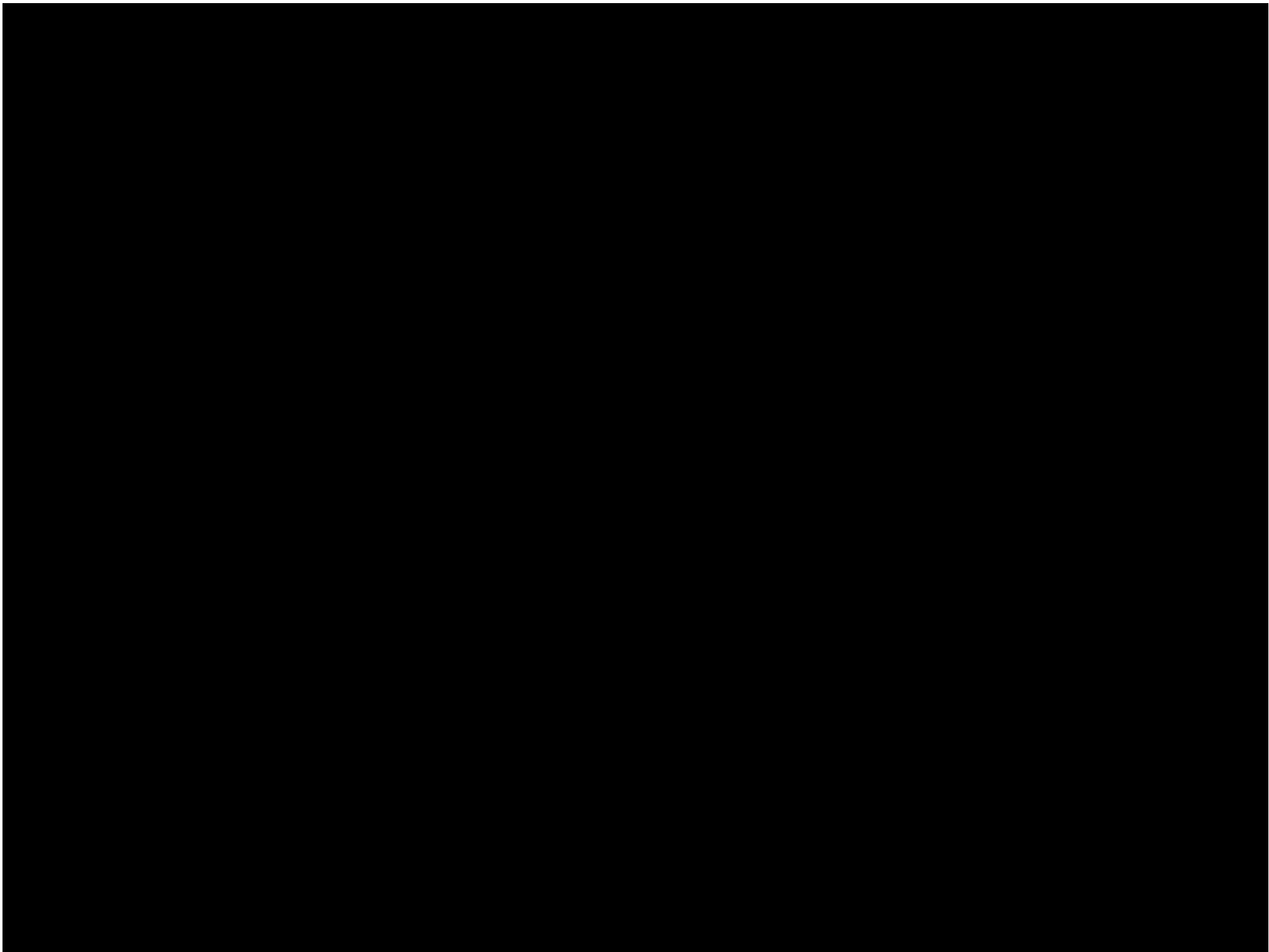
Will you be
walking with
Jesus *ten years*
from now?

What should
you do *now* to
make sure you
are faithful
then?



**Does your reading, news, friends,
movies, TV, and especially the Internet
build your faith or tear it down?**






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A large background image for the main banner showing a close-up of a person's hands holding an open, small, black leather-bound book with yellowed pages. A semi-transparent dark grey box with white text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

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