



Be

Uncompromising

Hebrews

Dr. Rick Griffith • Crossroads International Church Singapore
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Some love running.



Some quit.



The Christian life is a race



Some are running well but...



Some quit the Christian race



Why should you be **uncompromising
in your faith in Jesus?**





Press On!

A Study of Hebrews

HEBREWS



Author
Recipients
Origin
Destination

UNKNOWN

Rome

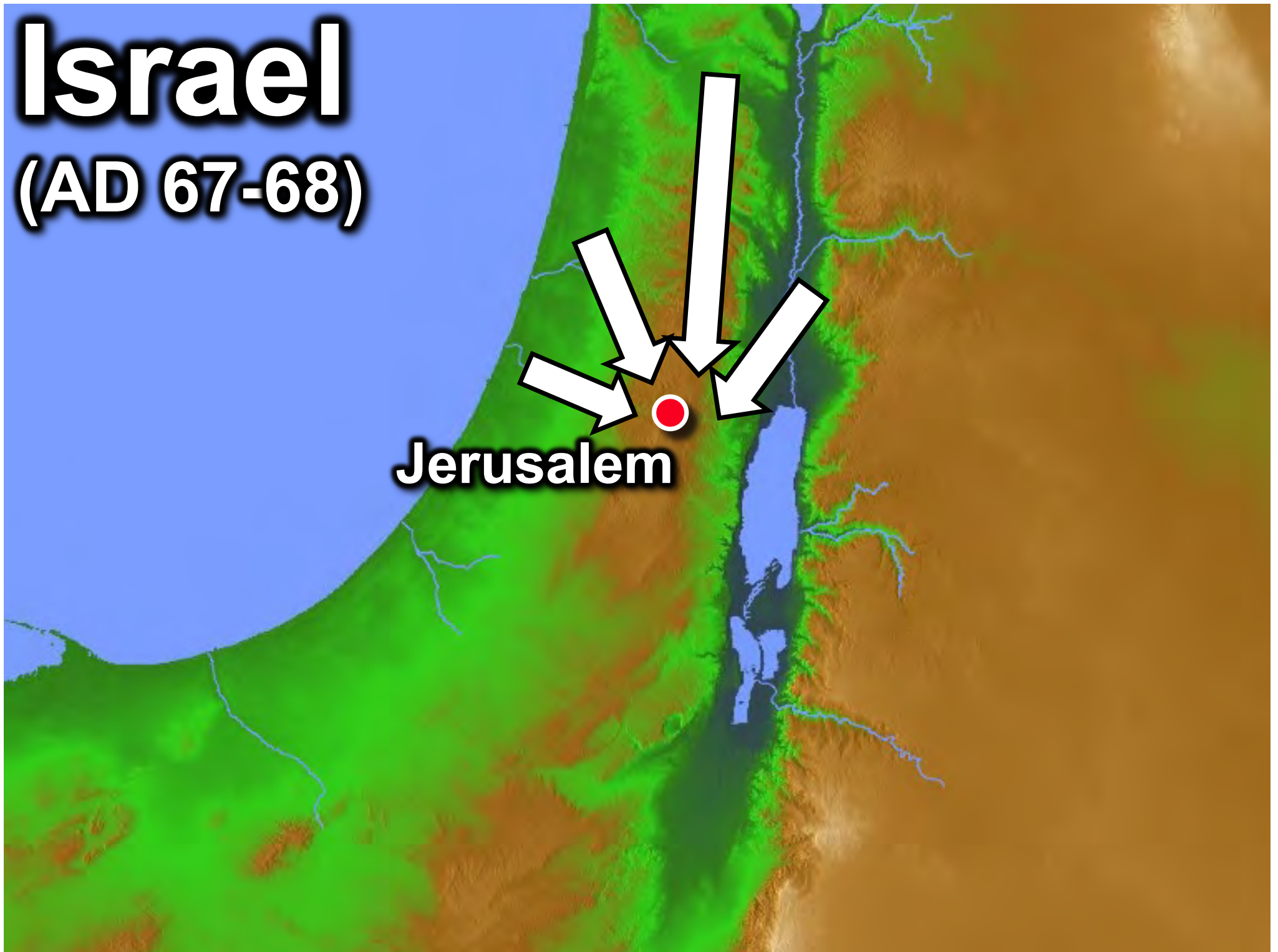
Israel

**I think they lived
in Israel**



Israel
(AD 67-68)

Jerusalem



A Jewish Community Under Stress



"You suffered along with those who were thrown into jail, and when all you owned was taken from you, you accepted it with joy. You knew there were better things waiting for you that will last forever" (10:34 NLT).

The readers were Jewish Christians

"**brothers and sisters**
who belong to God
and are partners with
those called to
heaven" (3:1)

"...dear **brothers and sisters**, we can boldly
enter heaven's Most
Holy Place because
of the blood of Jesus"
(10:19)

"...let us hold firmly
to **what we believe**.
This High Priest of
ours understands..."
(4:14b-15a)

"...those early days
when you first learned
about Christ...**you**
remained faithful even
though it meant terrible
suffering" (10:32)

The issue at hand...



**"Should I
go back?"**

**"So we must listen very carefully to the truth
we have heard, or we may drift away from it"
(2:1 NLT).**

The background of the slide is a vibrant, abstract composition of many thin, overlapping, curved lines in a wide range of colors including red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple. These lines create a sense of movement and depth. In the center of the slide, the word "BETTER" is written in a large, bold, white, sans-serif font. A solid green cross is positioned over the letter 'T' in "BETTER".

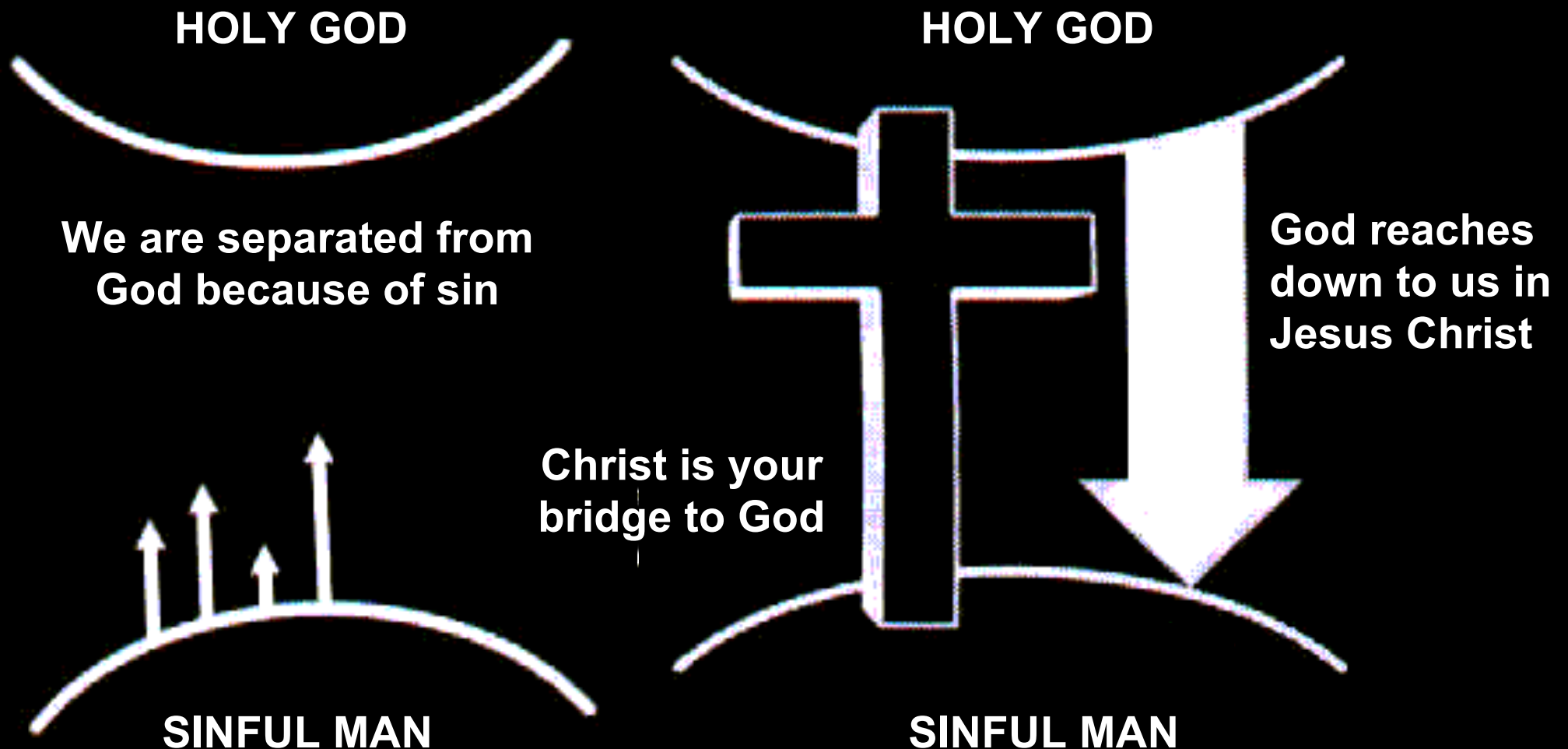
BETTER

The supremacy of Jesus in the book of Hebrews

Why should you be **uncompromising
in your faith in Jesus?**



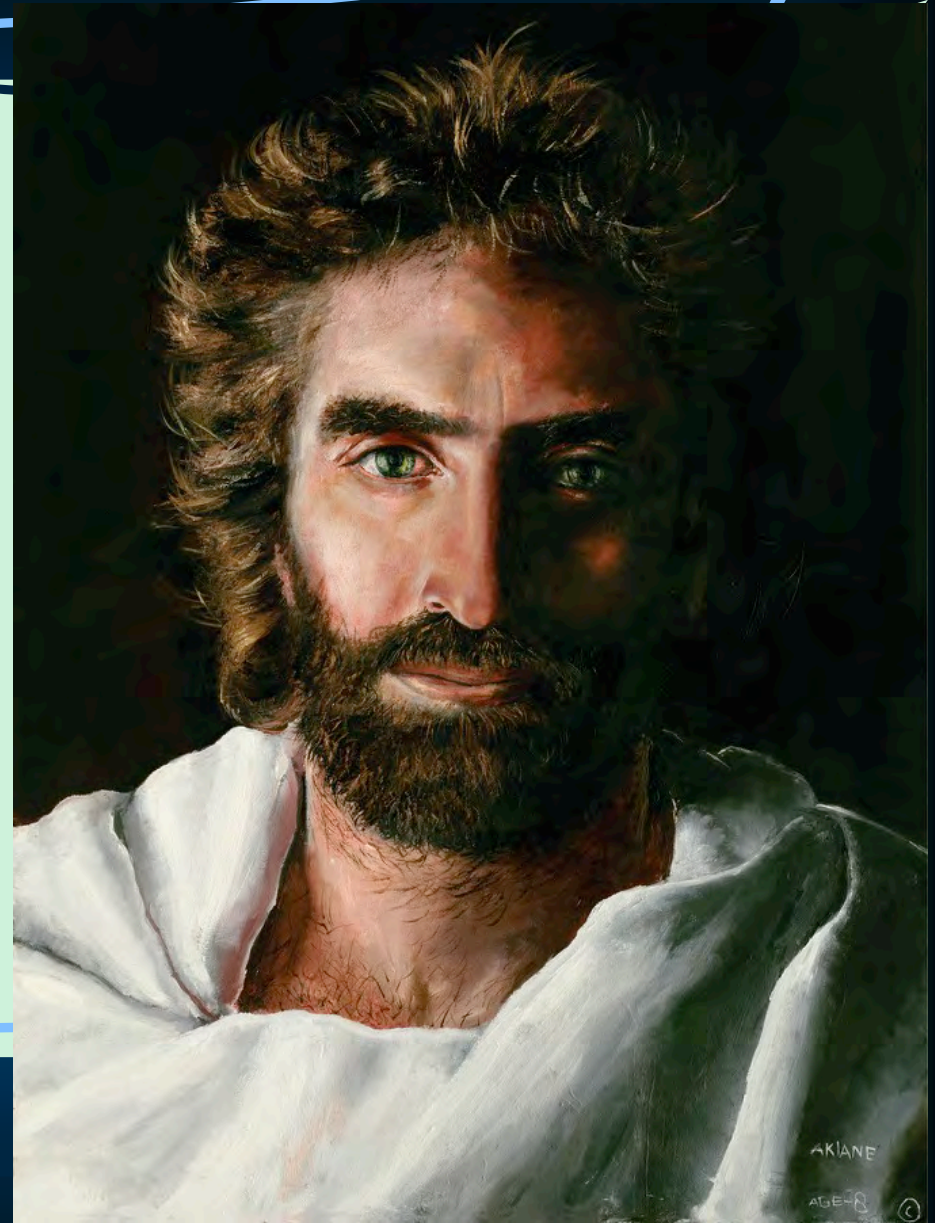
I. Jesus is **better** than anyone or anything (1:1–10:18).



Christ's Superiority Over Judaism as High Priest

Superior in His Person to...			Superior in His Priestly Work to...					Endurance Through Faith					
1:1–4:13			4:14–10:18					10:19–13:25					
Prophets	Angels	Moses	Aaron	Melch	Old Cov.	Taber-nacle	Sacri-fices	Will-ful Sin	Models	Endure as Sons	Ethics	Ignoring God	Exhort
1:1-3	1:4–2:18	3:1–4:13	4:14–6:20	7	8	9:1-10	9:11–10:18	10:19-39	11:1–12:3	12:4-13	12:14-17	12:18-29	13
Christ's Majesty			Christ's Ministry					Christian's Manifestation					
Theology								Practice					
Unknown Author, Recipients, Origin, and Destination!													
AD 67-68													

**Christ as
Superior in
His Person
(1:1–4:13)**



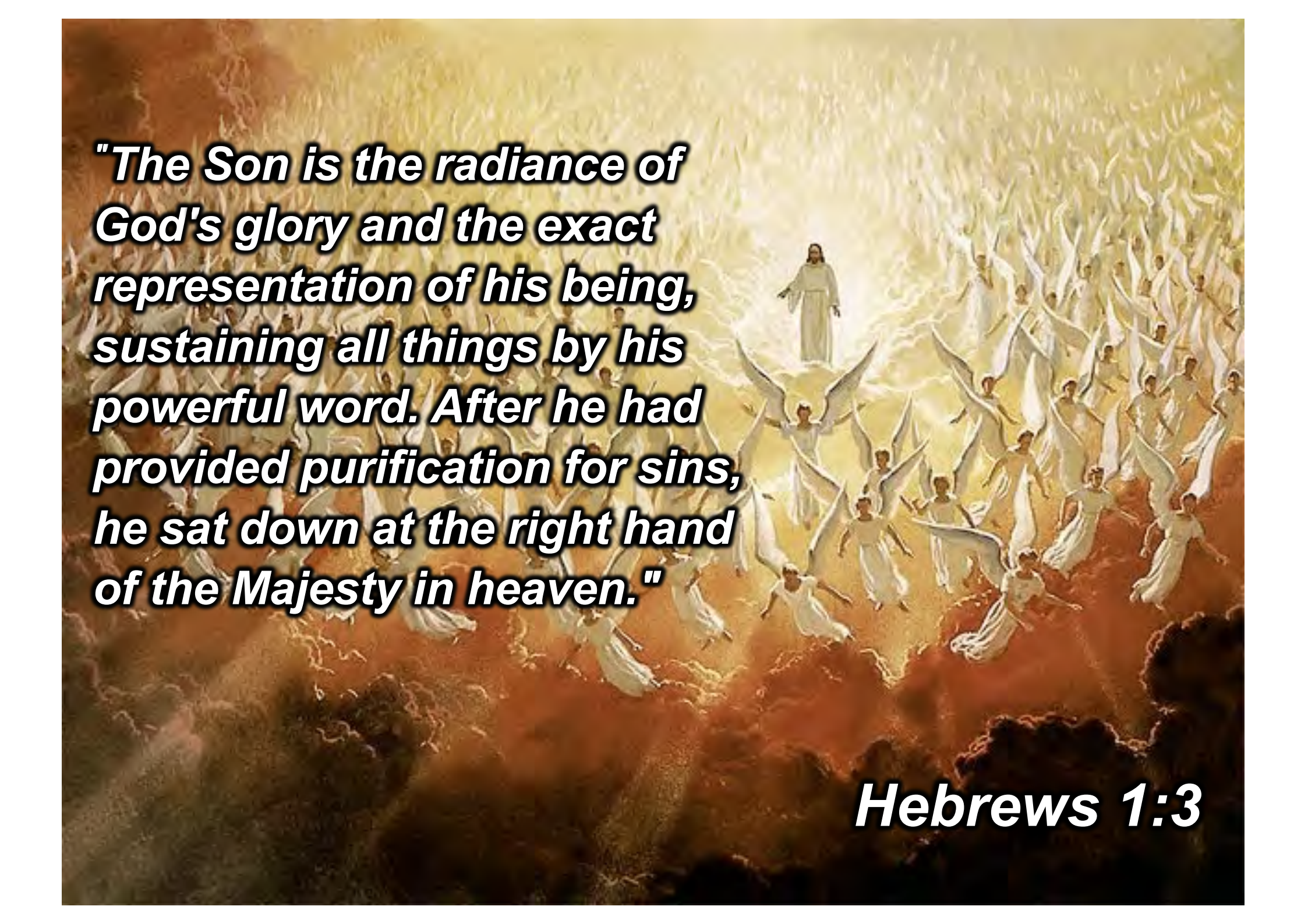
Hebrews 1

**He is better than *the OT*
prophets, so follow him (1:1-3).**

Hebrews 1:1-2

¹ In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets at many times and in various ways,

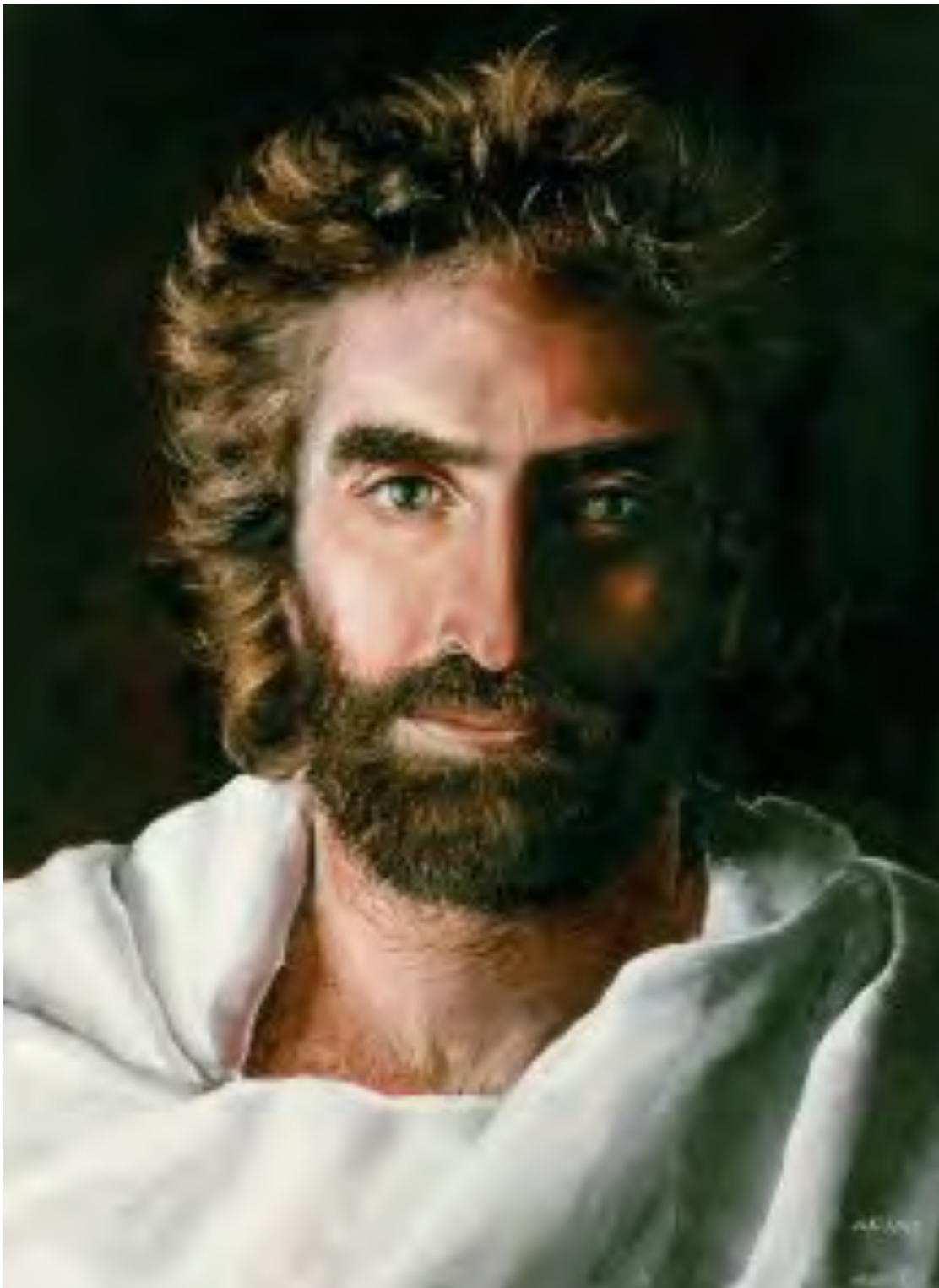
² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom he made the universe.



***"The Son is the radiance of
God's glory and the exact
representation of his being,
sustaining all things by his
powerful word. After he had
provided purification for sins,
he sat down at the right hand
of the Majesty in heaven."***

Hebrews 1:3

**He is better than *the angels* as
God and man, so respect him as
Creator (1:4–2:18).**



**1. Jesus is
God
worthy of
worship
(1:4-14).**

"But to the Son he says,

**'Your throne, O God,
endures forever and ever.**

You rule with a scepter of justice.

⁹You love justice and hate evil.

**Therefore, O God, your God has
anointed you, pouring out the oil of joy
on you more than on anyone else."**

(1:8-9 NLT).

Hebrews 2



Warning 1

**Abandoning Jesus
brings discipline
(2:1-4).**



Hebrews 2:1-2

"We must pay more careful attention, therefore, to what we have heard, so that we **do not drift away**.

For if the message spoken by angels was binding, and every violation and disobedience received its just punishment, how shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation?"



3. Jesus is a **man worthy to rule (2:5-18).**

"For in one place the Scriptures say, 'What are mere **mortals** that you should think about them, or **a son of man** that you should care for him?

⁷Yet you made **them** only a little lower than the angels and crowned them with glory and honor.

⁸You gave **them** authority over all things"
(2:6-8a NLT).

Hebrews 3

**He is better than Moses, so don't
forfeit Canaan in the millennial
kingdom (3:1–4:13).**

Superior to Moses (3:1–4:7)



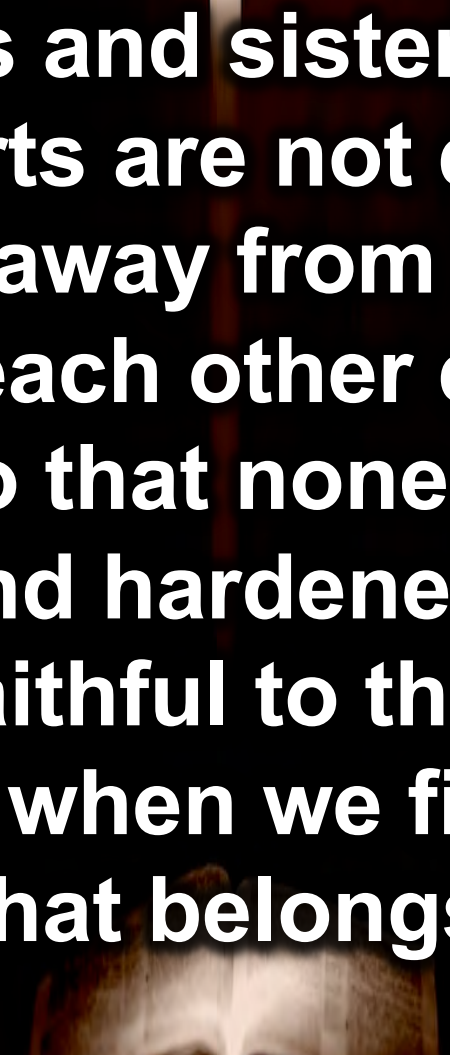


Warning 2

**Abandoning Jesus
forfeits our future rule
(3:7-19).**

Hebrews 3:12-14 (NLT)

Be careful then, dear brothers and sisters. Make sure that your own hearts are not evil and unbelieving, turning you away from the living God. ¹³You must warn each other every day, while it is still "today," so that none of you will be deceived by sin and hardened against God. ¹⁴For if we are faithful to the end, trusting God just as firmly as when we first believed, **we will share** in all that belongs to Christ.

A lit candle stands vertically in the background, casting a warm glow. In the foreground, an open book lies flat, its pages illuminated by the candlelight. The background is dark, making the light from the candle and book stand out.

Hebrews 4

"There remains, then, a Sabbath-rest for the people of God; ¹⁰ for anyone who enters God's rest also rests from his own work, just as God did from his. ¹¹ Let us, therefore, make every effort to enter that rest, so that no one will fall by following their example of disobedience" (4:9-11 NIV)



Two Types of Inheritance

"Now if we are children, then we are heirs—
heirs of God and **co-heirs with Christ**, if
indeed we share in his suffering in order that
we may also share in his glory"
(Rom. 8:17 NIV).

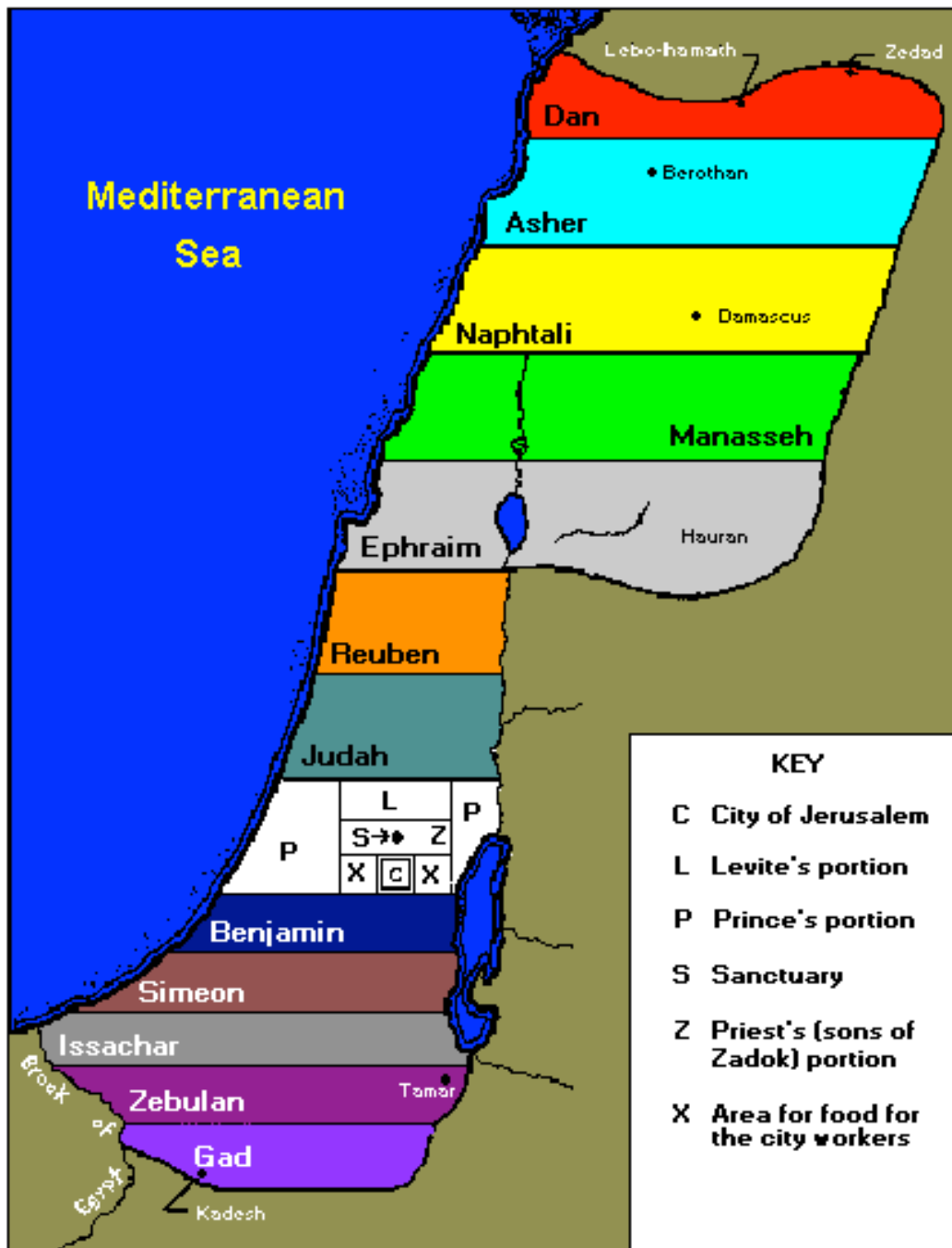


= Salvation



= Reward

LAND ALLOTMENT IN THE MILLENNIUM ACCORDING TO EZEKIEL

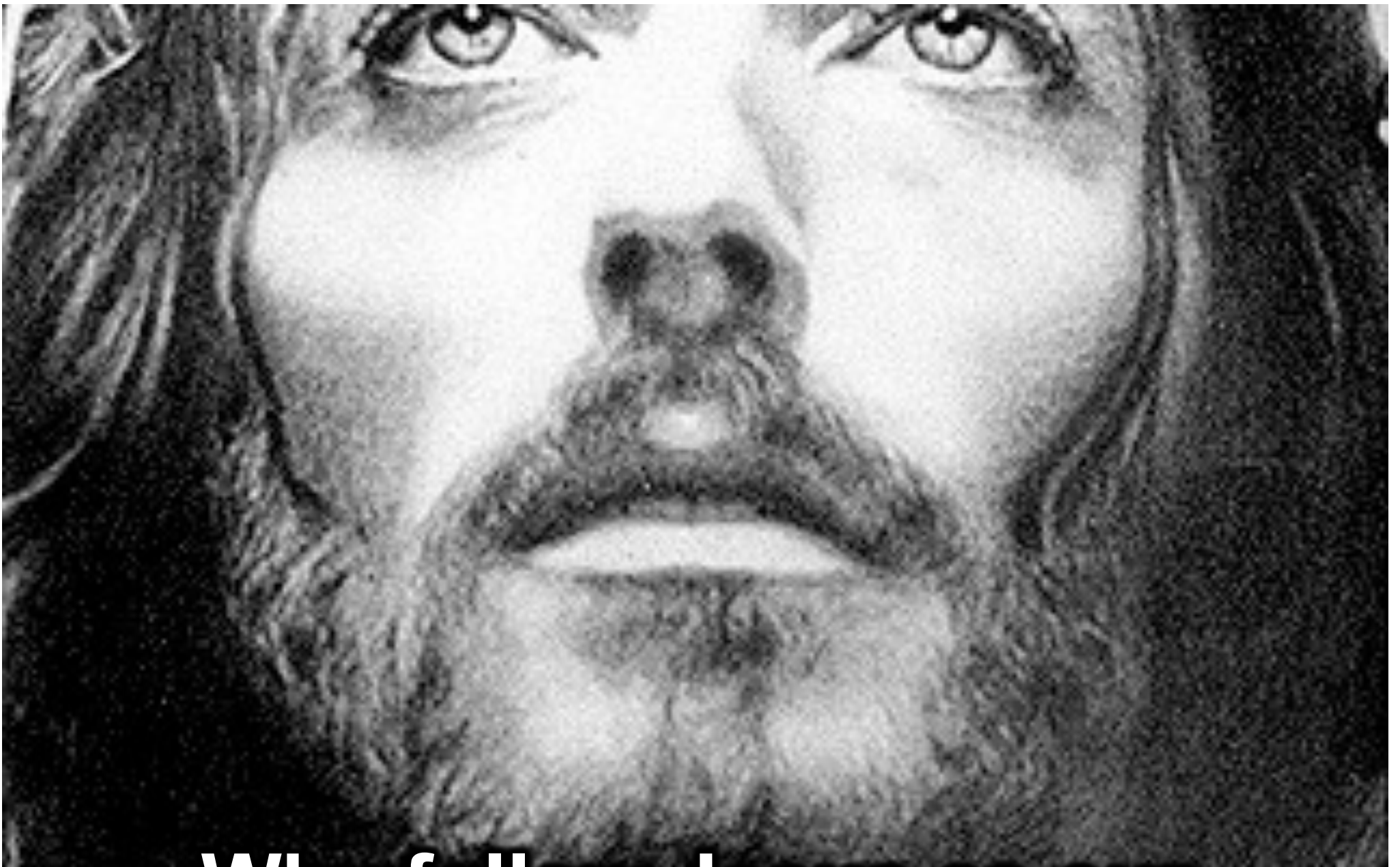


Adapted from map prepared by Lambert Dolphin © 1996

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Support for the Future Millennial Rest in Hebrews 4

1. The context
2. The land promise
3. Other Scripture
4. Extra-biblical references
5. Hebrews 4:8 time period
6. An objection rebuffed



**Why follow Jesus as our
mediator between God and us?**

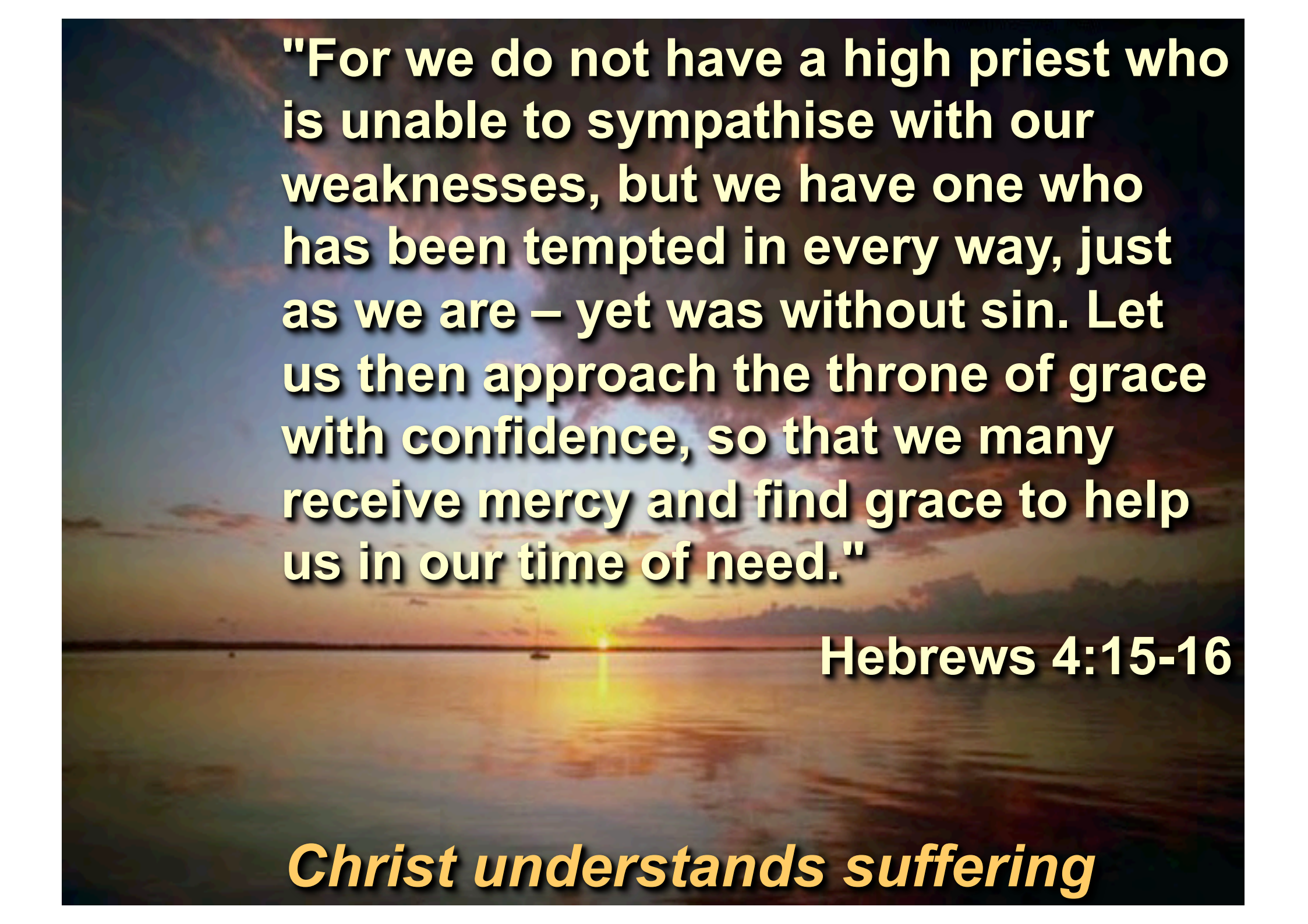
He is better than Judaism's *high priest*, so go to him (4:14–6:20).

Theme

23

Christ's Superiority Over Judaism as High Priest

Hebrews

The background of the slide is a photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water's surface. A small boat is visible on the horizon line. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds.

"For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathise with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin. Let us then approach the throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need."

Hebrews 4:15-16

Christ understands suffering

Hebrews 5



Turban: "Holy to the Lord"

The Day of Atonement (Lev. 16)



High Priest Requirements

1. Man (5:1-3)
2. Called by God (5:4)





"And no one can become a high priest simply because he wants such an honor. He must be called by God for this work, just as Aaron was" (5:4 NLT).

"That is why Christ did not honor himself by assuming he could become High Priest. No, he was chosen by God, who said to him,



**'You are my Son.
Today I have become your Father'"
(5:5 NLT).**

Hebrews 6



Warning 3

**Rejecting Christ can
lead to **physical death**
(6:4-8).**

An Impossibility (Heb. 6:4-6 NLT)

"For it is **impossible to bring back to repentance** those who were once enlightened—those who have experienced the good things of heaven and shared in the Holy Spirit, ⁵who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the power of the age to come— ⁶and who then turn away from God. It is **impossible to bring such people back to repentance**; by rejecting the Son of God, they themselves are nailing him to the cross once again and holding him up to public shame."

What is the danger in 6:4-8?

1. A Christian who **loses** his salvation?
2. A **hypothetical**, impossible situation that could never happen?
3. A **profession** that really wasn't genuine and thus results in hell?
4. A Christian who is disqualified for Christian service and will never again return to Christian commitment due to **death** has the best evidence

Following a lesser **mediator** than Jesus can lead to death



Main Idea of 4:14–6:20

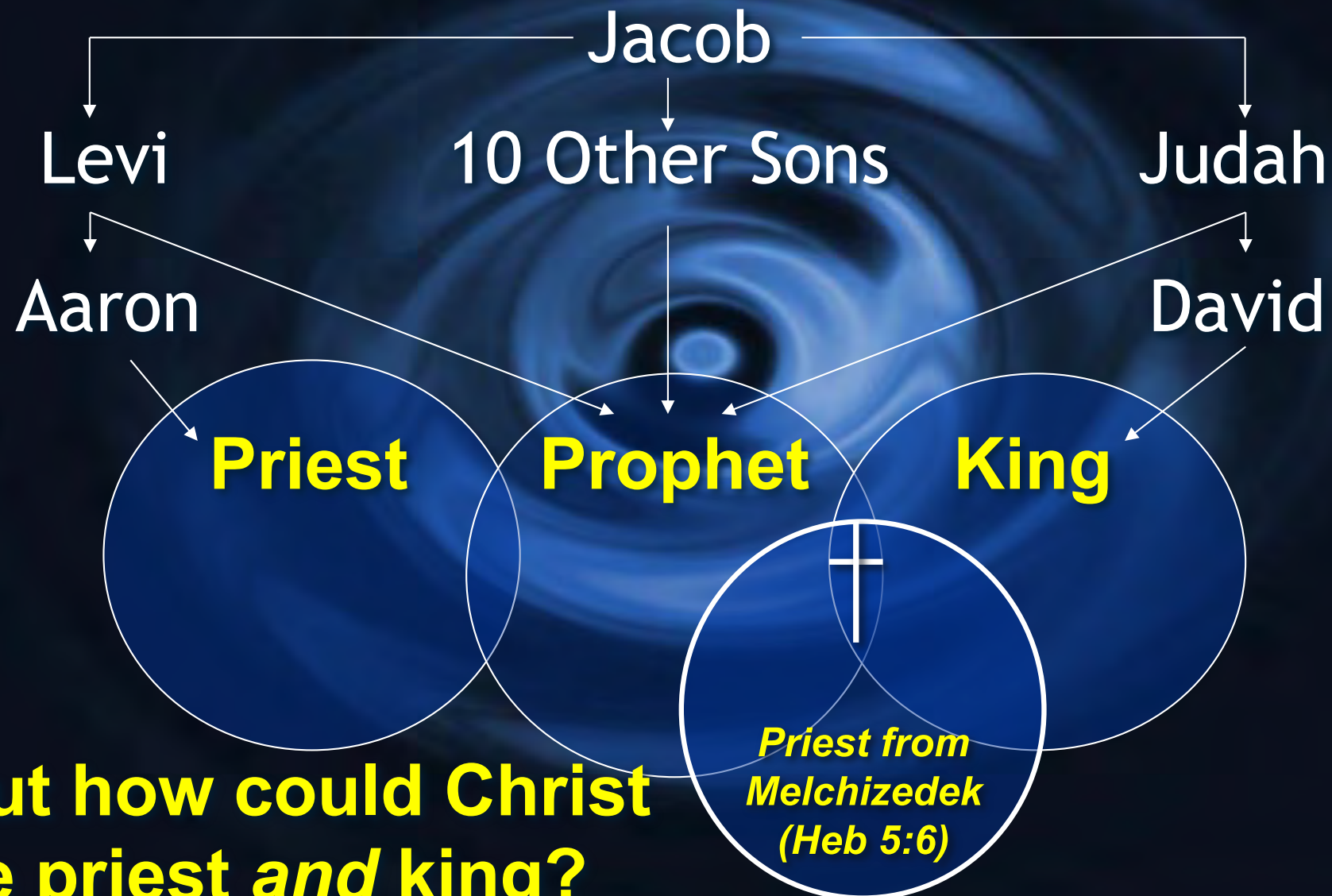
Hebrews 7

He is better than *Abraham and Levi* as a Melchizedek Priest, so follow him (Heb 7).

Who *really* was Melchizedek? **(Gen. 14)**

- **"King of righteousness"**
- **King of Jerusalem (cf. Ps. 76:2)**
- **Priest of God Most High**

Christ as Priest, Prophet, & King



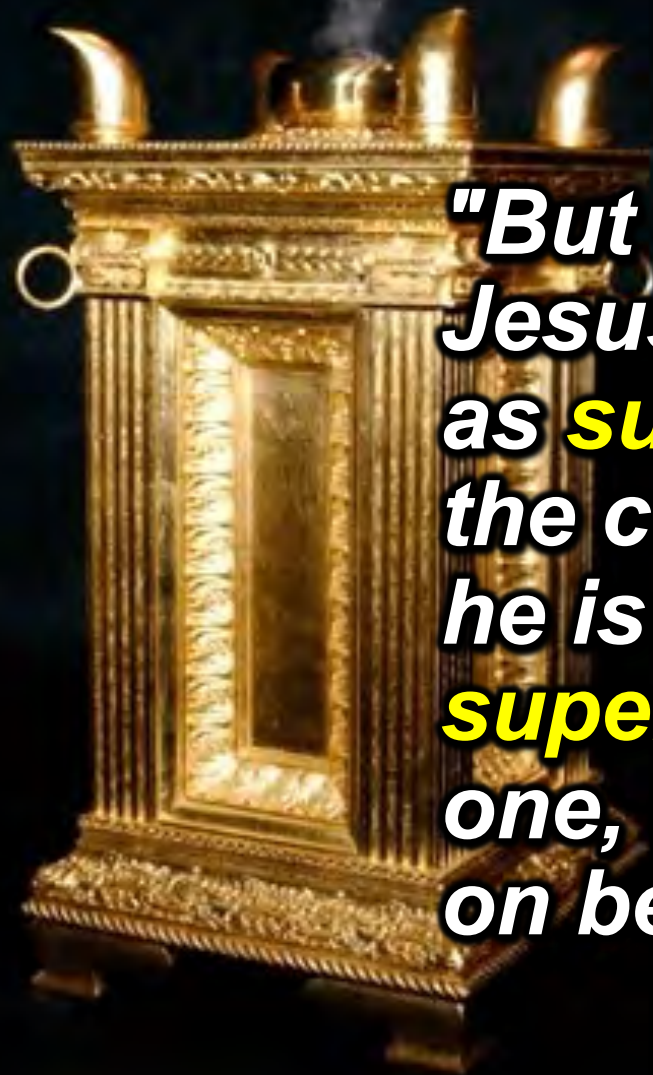
**But how could Christ
be priest and king?**

Hebrews 8

**He is better than *the old covenant* in his new covenant,
so follow him (Heb 8).**

Hebrews 8:6

*"But the ministry
Jesus has received is
as **superior** to theirs as
the covenant of which
he is mediator is
superior to the old
one, and it is founded
on better promises."*



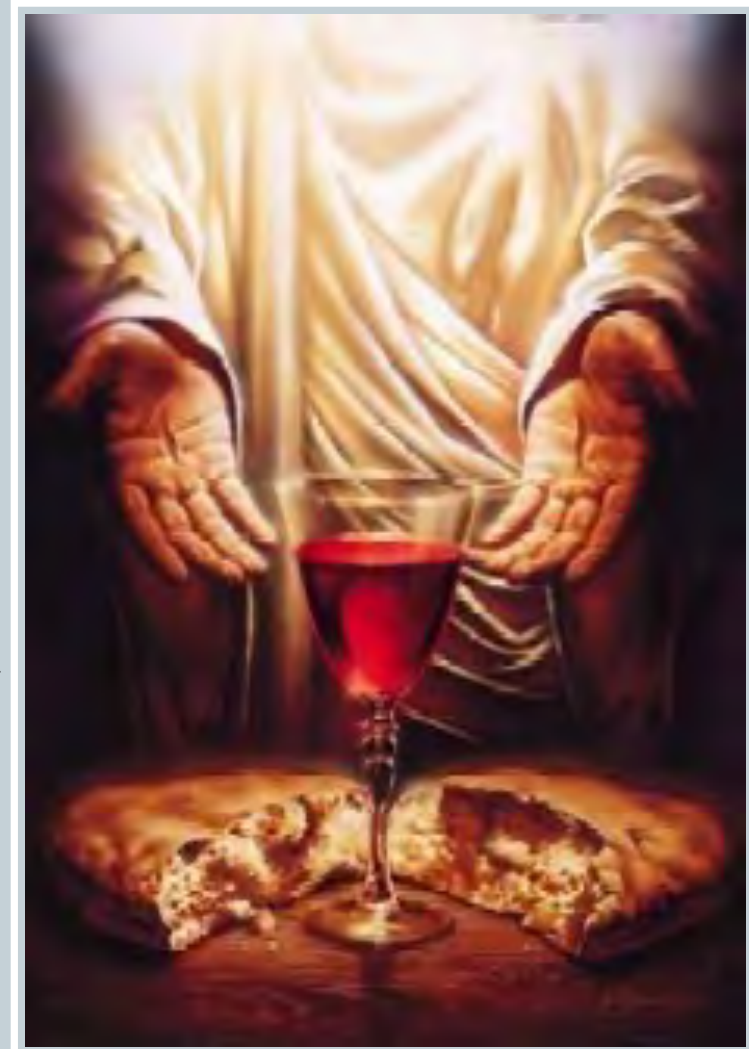
The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 quoted in Hebrews 8:8-12

³¹"The time is coming," declares the LORD, "when I will make a new covenant **with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah.**

³²It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they broke my covenant, though I was a husband to them," declares the LORD.

³³"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD.



The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34 quoted in Hebrews 8:8-12

33b "I will put my **law within them**, and I will write it on their hearts. And **I will be their God**, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the LORD,' for **they shall all know me**, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will **forgive** their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."



Hebrews 9

**He is better than *the tabernacle*
by his sacrifice, so follow him
(9:1–10:18).**



**What was wrong
with the OT
sacrifices?**



**How was Jesus'
death better?**

Two questions to consider

**1. Tabernacle sacrifices
were temporary (9:1-10).**





**2. Christ's death saves us
permanently (9:11–10:18).**

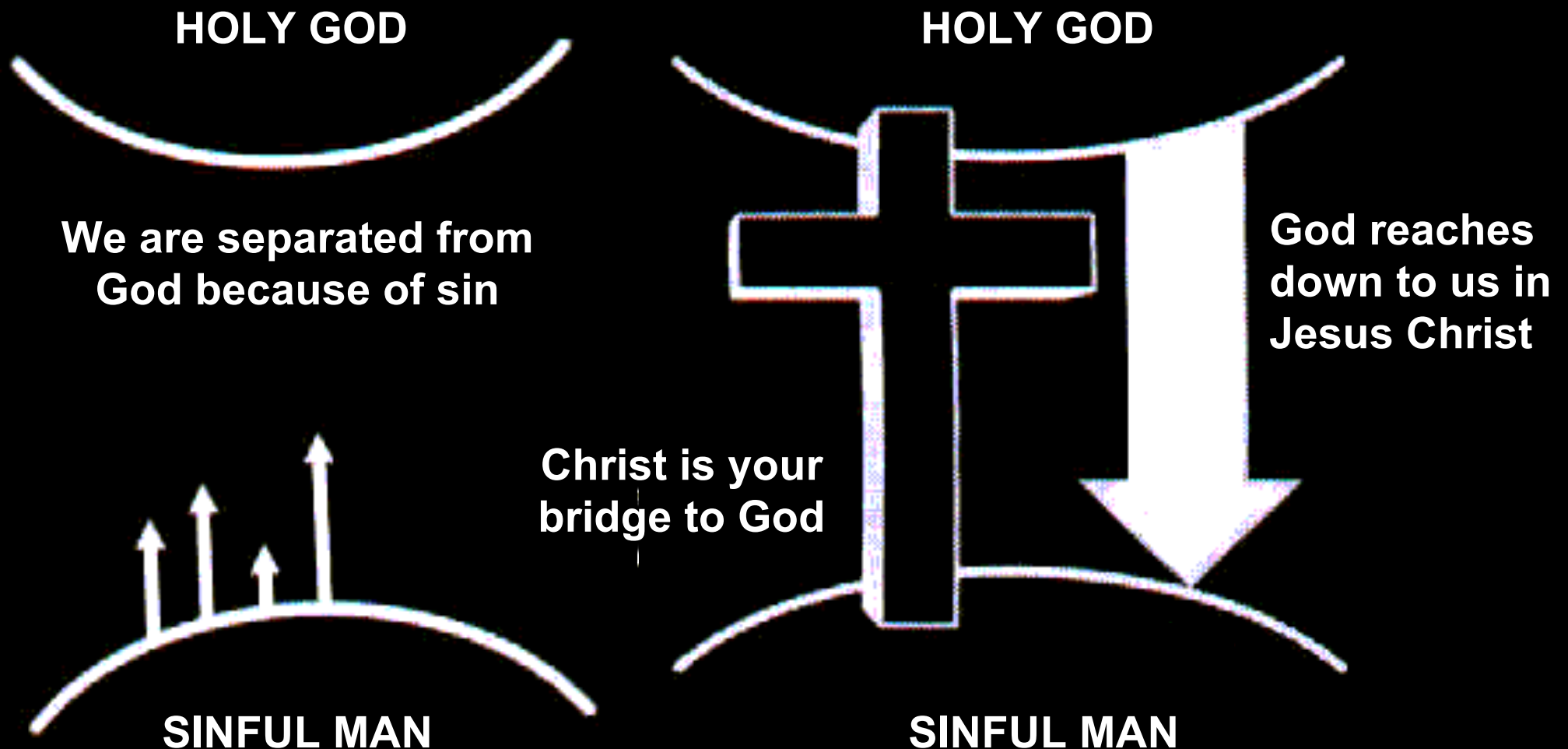
Hebrews 9:11

*“When Christ came as high priest of the good things that are already here, he went through the greater and more perfect **tabernacle** that is not man-made, that is to say, not a part of his creation.”*

Why should you be **uncompromising
in your faith in Jesus?**



I. Jesus is **better** than anyone or anything (1:1–10:18).



Hebrews 10

II. Don't compromise but **persevere**
by faith (10:19–13:25).



**Stubborn unbelief can even kill
you—so press on (10:19-39).**



Warning 4

**Willful sin can lead to
physical death
(10:26-31).**

"...if we deliberately
continue sinning after we
have received knowledge
of the truth, there is no
longer any sacrifice that
will cover these sins.

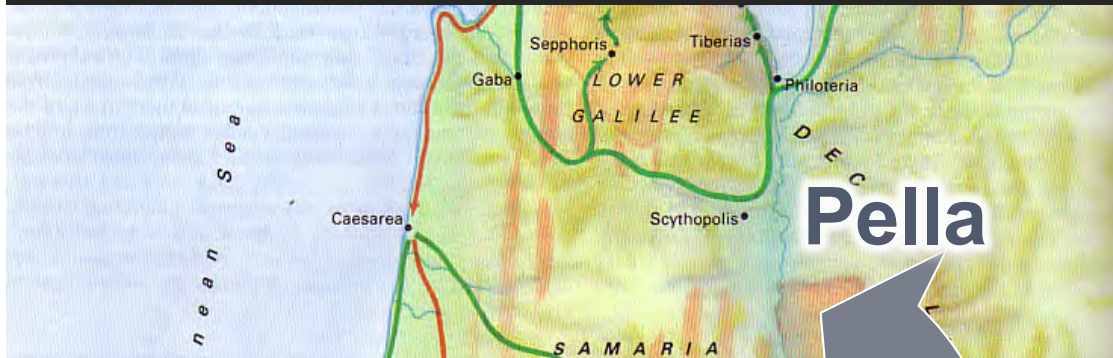
²⁷There is only
terrible expectation of
God's judgment and the
raging fire that will
consume his enemies"

(10:26-27 NLT).

ARE THESE
PEOPLE
CHRISTIANS?

YES!

What happened to the Christians in Jerusalem?



A revelation told them to find protection in Pella.





Jerusalem Christians left

The Fire

"Dear friends, if we deliberately continue sinning after we have received knowledge of the truth, there is no longer any sacrifice that will cover these sins. ²⁷ There is only the terrible expectation of God's judgment and the raging fire that will consume his enemies" (Heb. 10:26-27 NLT).

Hell fire?

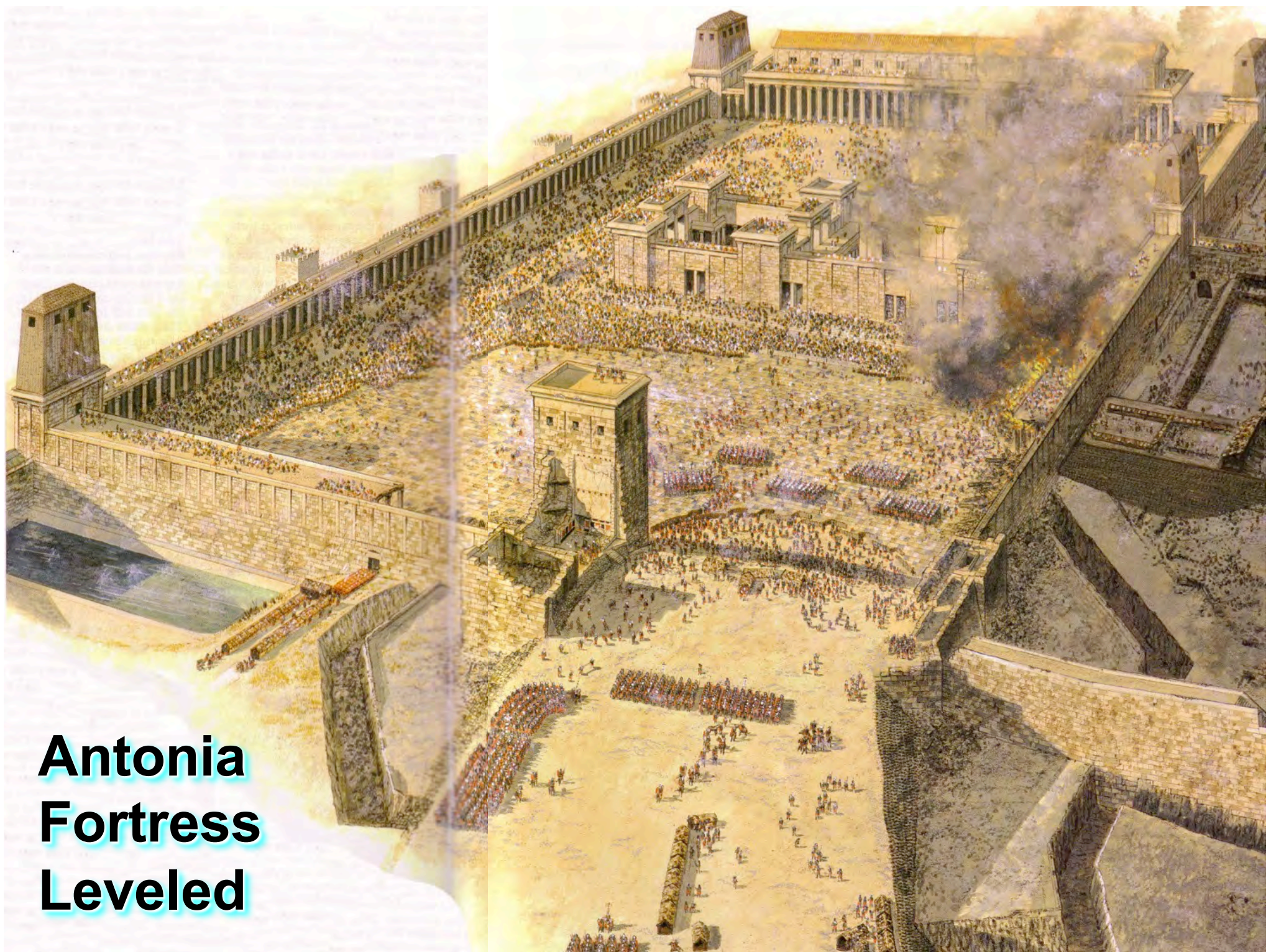
No, Jerusalem fire!

"For anyone who refused to obey the law of Moses was put to death without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses" (Hebrews 10:28; cf. Num. 15:30-36 NLT).



**"Just think how much worse the punishment will be for those who have trampled on the Son of God, and have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy, as if it were common and unholy, and have insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit who brings God's mercy to us"
(Hebrews 10:29 NLT).**





Antonia Fortress Leveled

The Temple Assault



Hebrews 8:13

*"By calling this covenant 'new,'
he has made the first one **obsolete**;
and what is obsolete and aging
will soon **disappear**."*

Obsolete

AD 33

Hebrews Written

AD 67-68

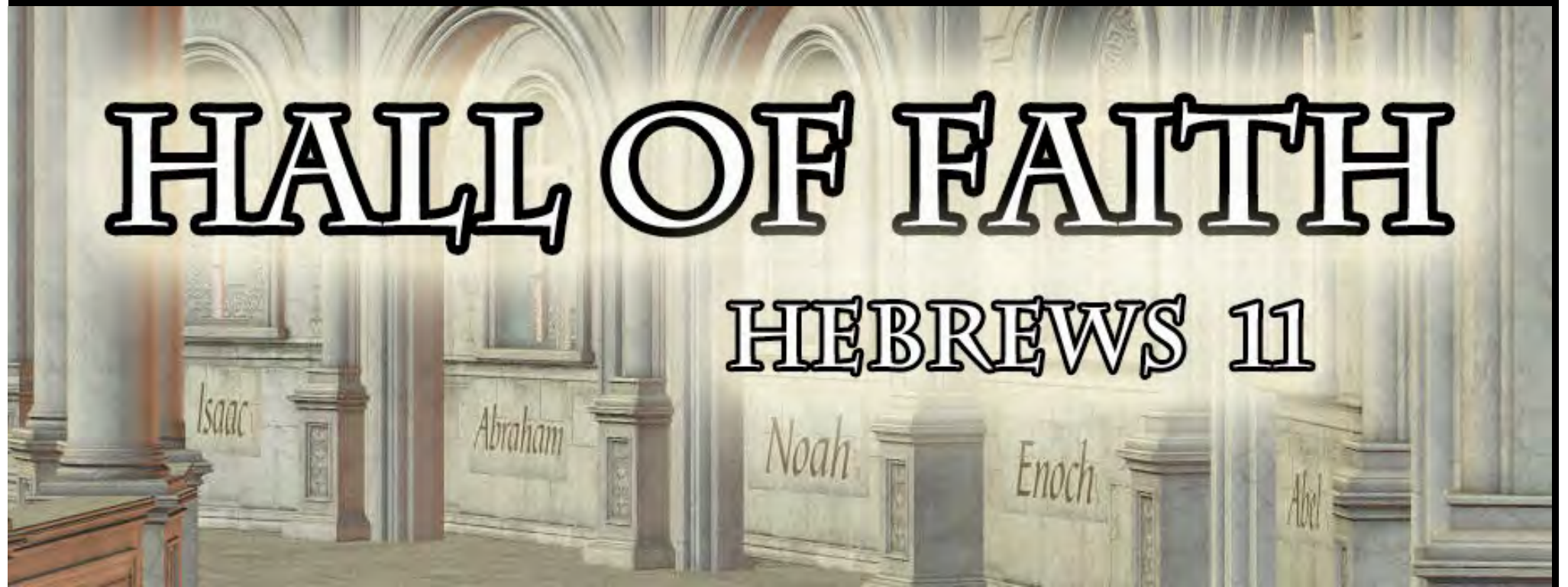
Disappeared

AD 70



Hebrews 11

**Others faithfully endured before
you to give you examples—so
press on (11:1–12:3).**



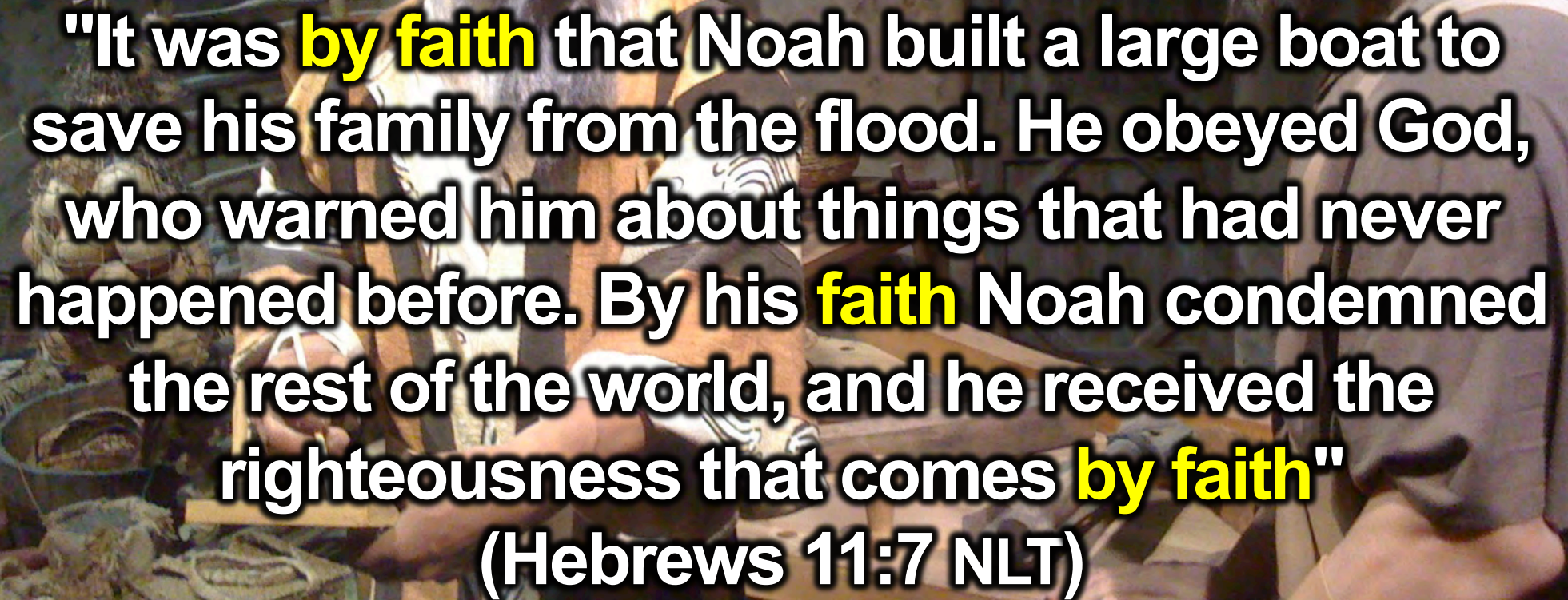
"Faith is the confidence that what we hope for will actually happen; it gives us assurance about things we cannot see" (Heb. 11:1 NLT)



"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)

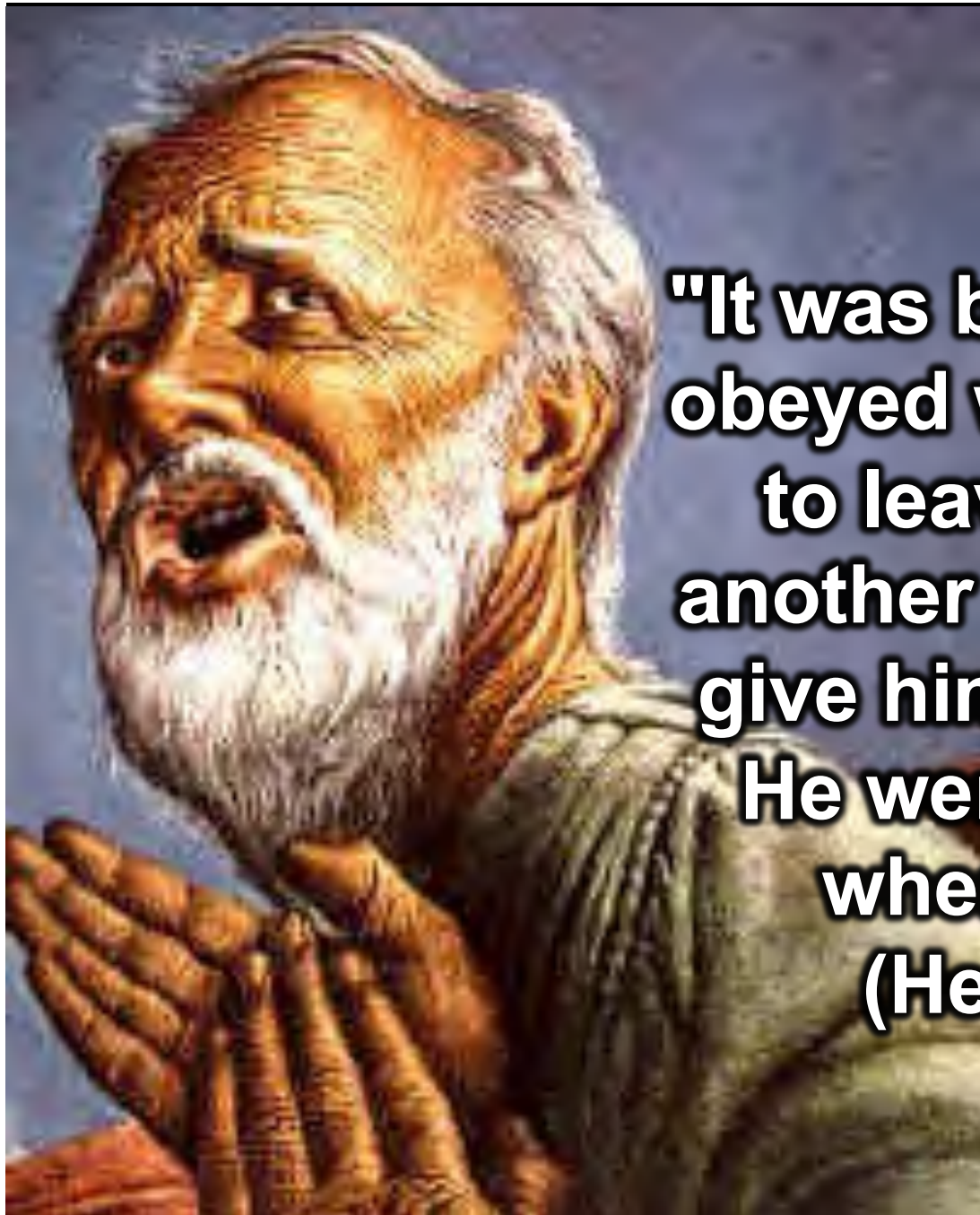


"And it is impossible to please God without **faith. Anyone who wants to come to him must believe that God exists and that he rewards those who sincerely seek him"**
(Hebrews 11:6 NLT)



"It was **by faith** that Noah built a large boat to save his family from the flood. He obeyed God, who warned him about things that had never happened before. By his **faith** Noah condemned the rest of the world, and he received the righteousness that comes **by faith**"
(Hebrews 11:7 NLT)

"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)



**"It was by faith that Abraham obeyed when God called him to leave home and go to another land that God would give him as his inheritance. He went without knowing where he was going"
(Hebrews 11:8 NLT)**

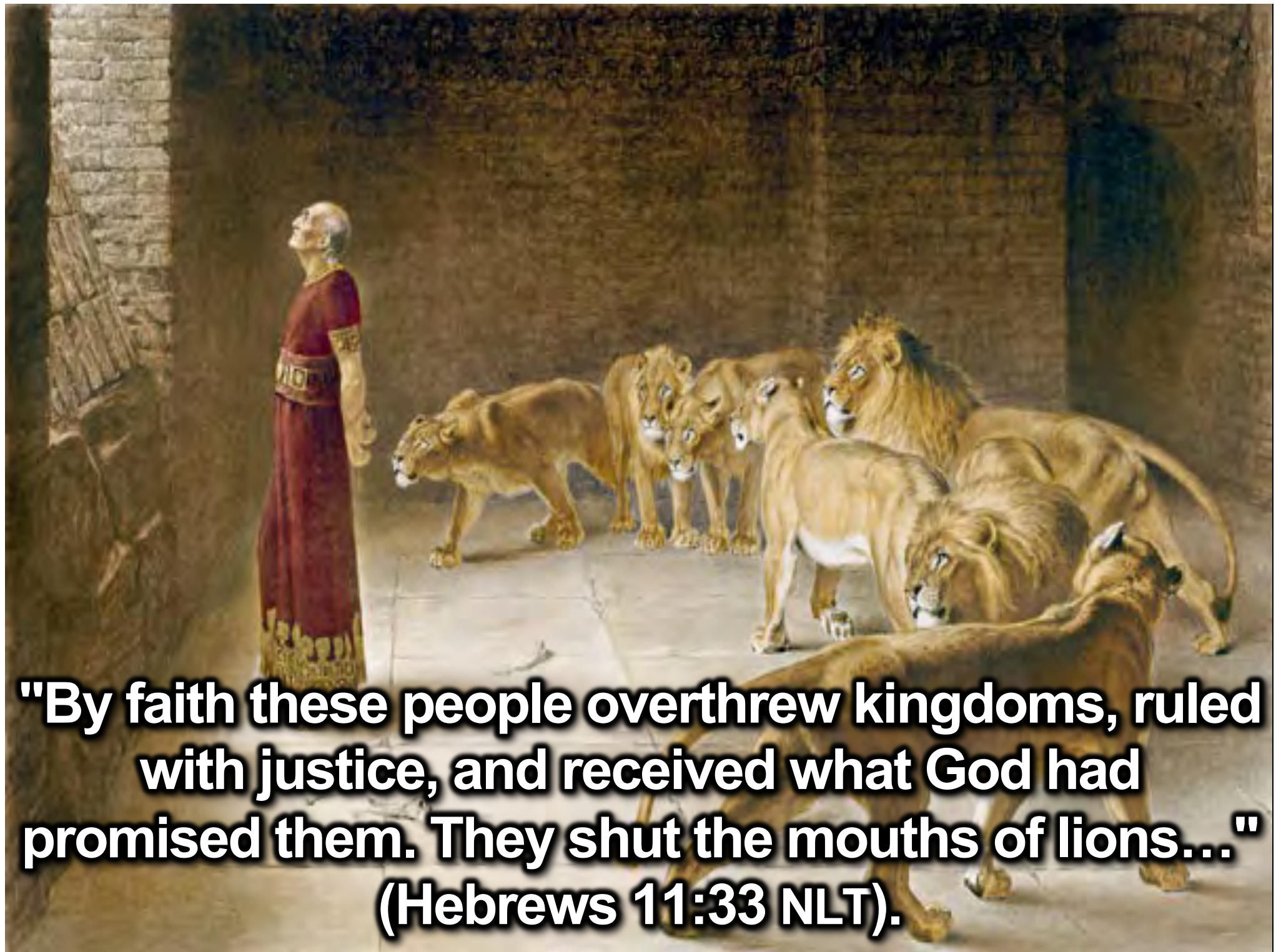
"By Faith..." (Hebrews 11)



**Moses and the conquest generation
acted with certainty on an unseen hope
(Hebrews 11:23-31).**

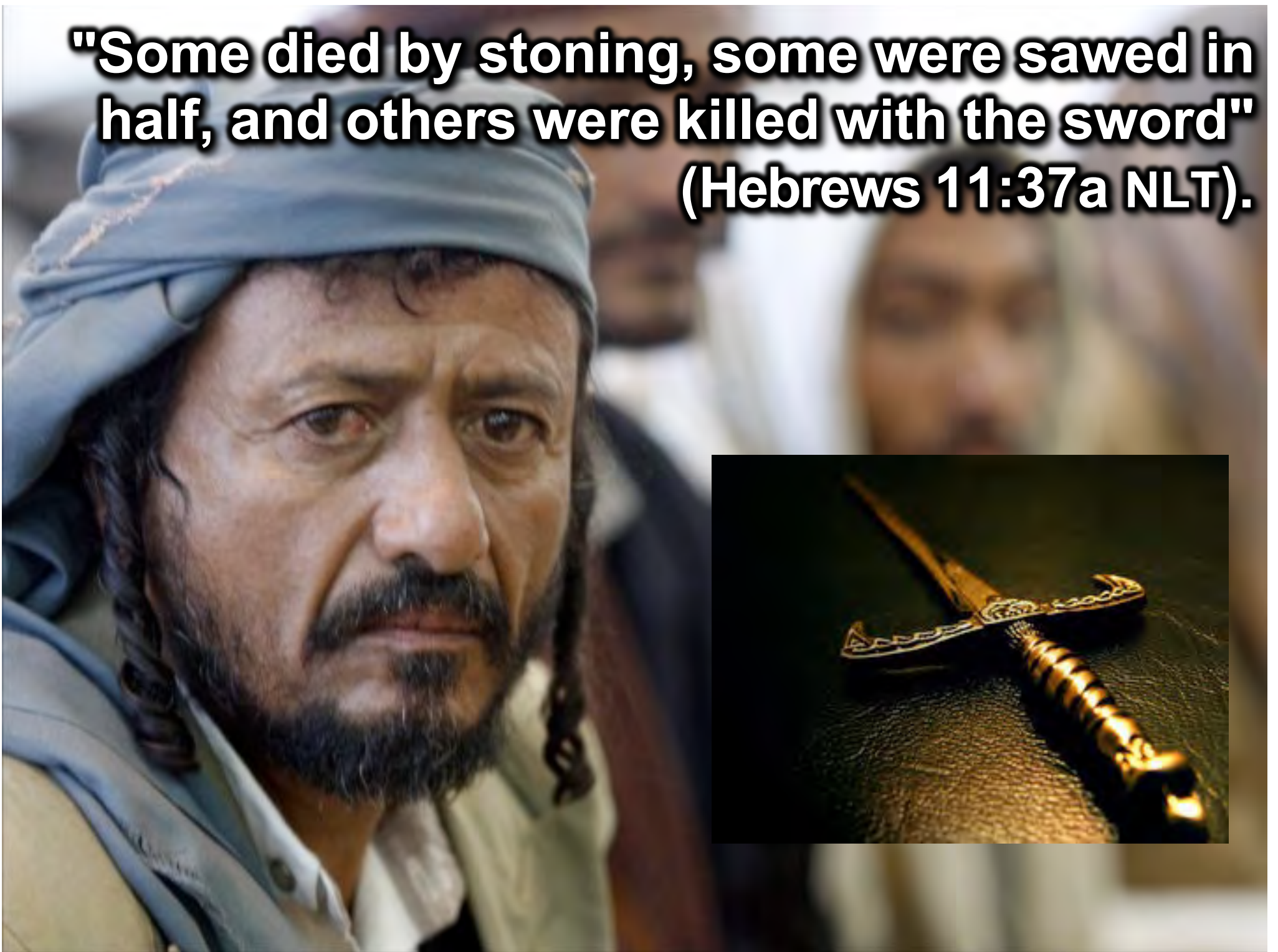


People of many generations acted with certainty on an unseen hope (Hebrews 11:32-38).



**"By faith these people overthrew kingdoms, ruled with justice, and received what God had promised them. They shut the mouths of lions..."
(Hebrews 11:33 NLT).**

**"Some died by stoning, some were sawed in half, and others were killed with the sword"
(Hebrews 11:37a NLT).**



Hebrews 12

KEY VERSE



Hebrews 12:1-2

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him, endured the cross, scorning its shame and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

**God's discipline grows
righteousness, confidence and
relationships—so press on
(12:4-17).**



Loving Discipline (Hebrews 12:5-7 NLT)

"My child, don't make light of the LORD's discipline, and don't give up when he corrects you.

⁶For the LORD disciplines those he loves, and he punishes each one he accepts as his child."

Ignoring God invites his loving discipline of you—so press on (12:18-29).



Warning 5

**Refusing God has
consequences
(12:25-29).**

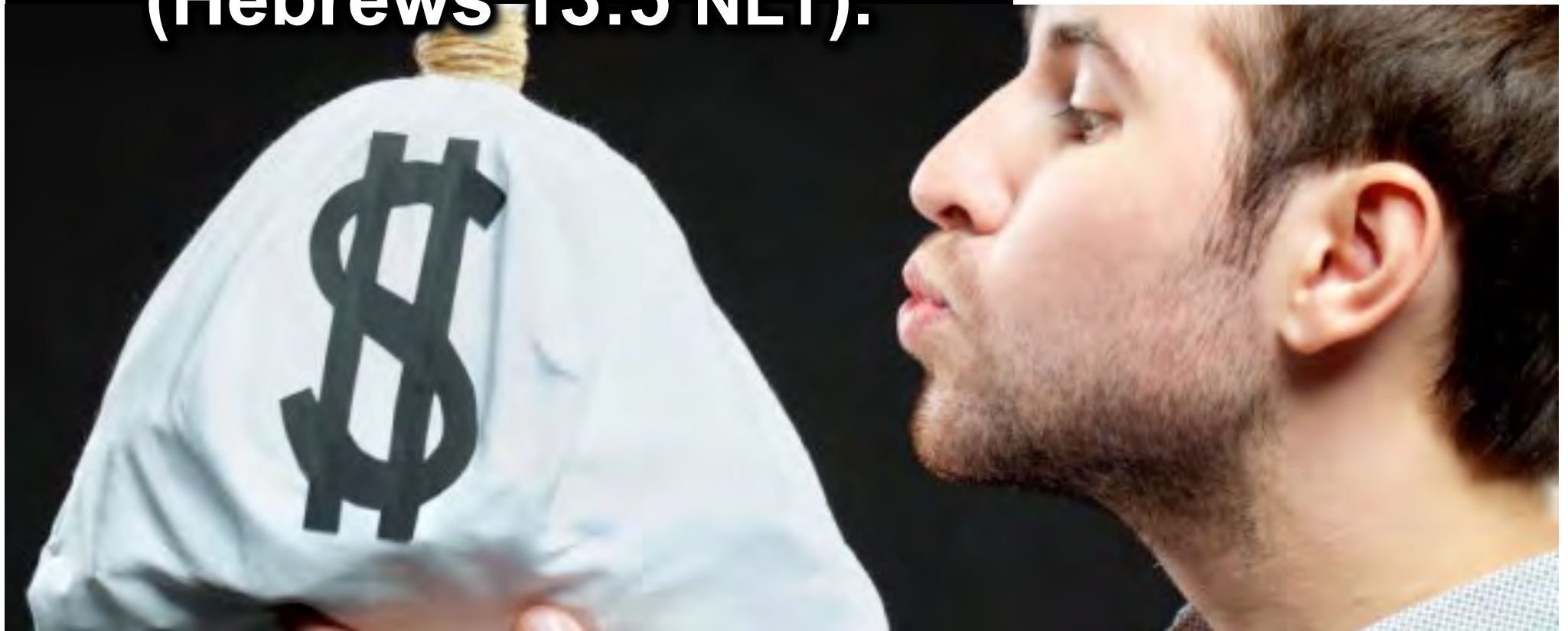
Hebrews 13

**Many practical ways to serve
God exist for you—so press on
(Heb 13).**

do not forget to
show hospitality
to strangers
for in doing so
some have
entertained
angels
without knowing



**"Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, 'I will never fail you. I will never abandon you'"
(Hebrews 13:5 NLT).**



Application: "Leave Jerusalem"



"So also **Jesus suffered and died outside the city gates** to make his people holy by means of his own blood"

(Heb. 13:12 NLT)

¹³ **So let us go out to him, outside the camp, and bear the disgrace he bore"**

(Heb. 13:13 NLT)

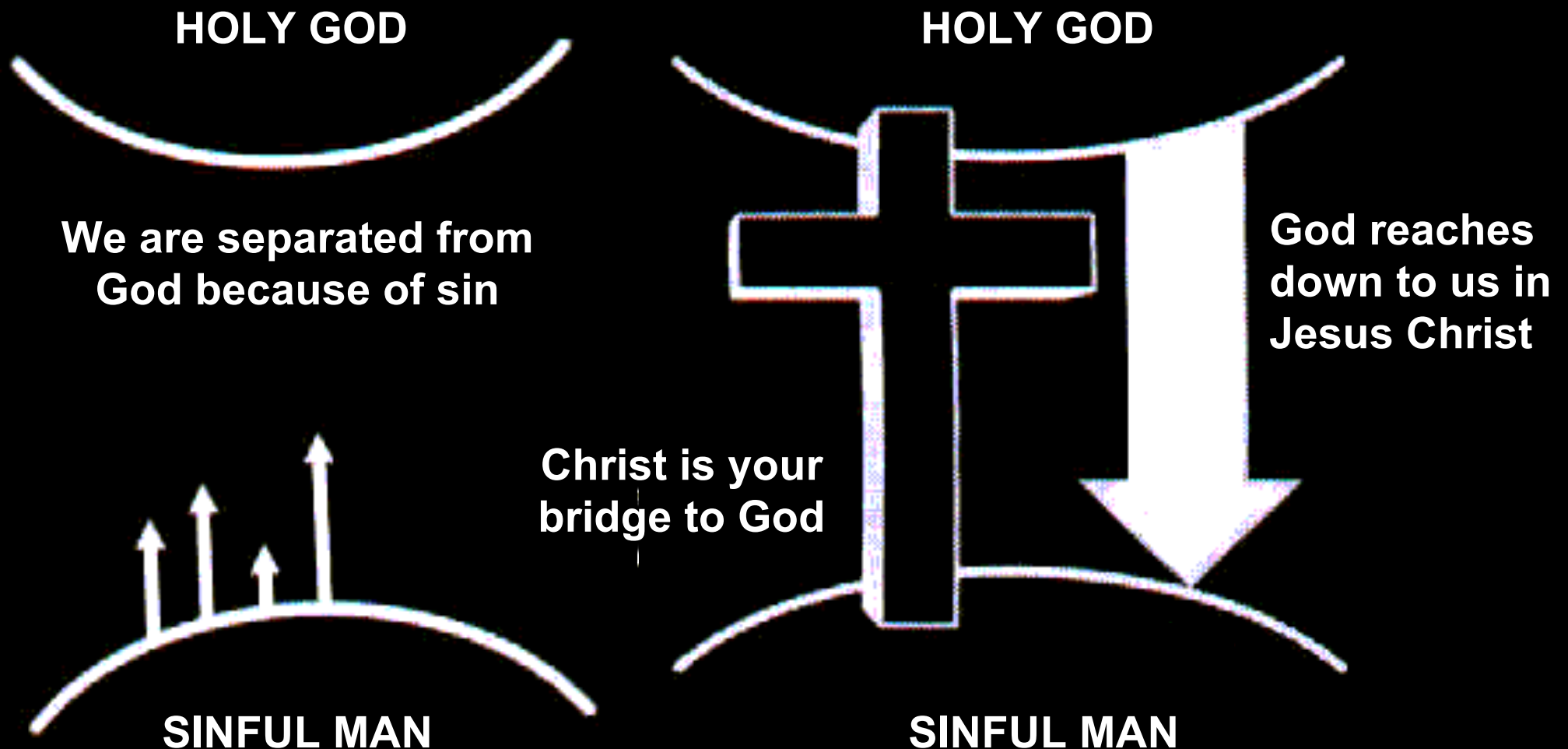
Now may the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, ²¹ equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Hebrews 13:20-21

Why should you be **uncompromising
in your faith in Jesus?**




I. Jesus is **better** than anyone or anything (1:1–10:18).



II. Don't compromise but **persevere**
by faith (10:19–13:25).



Main Idea

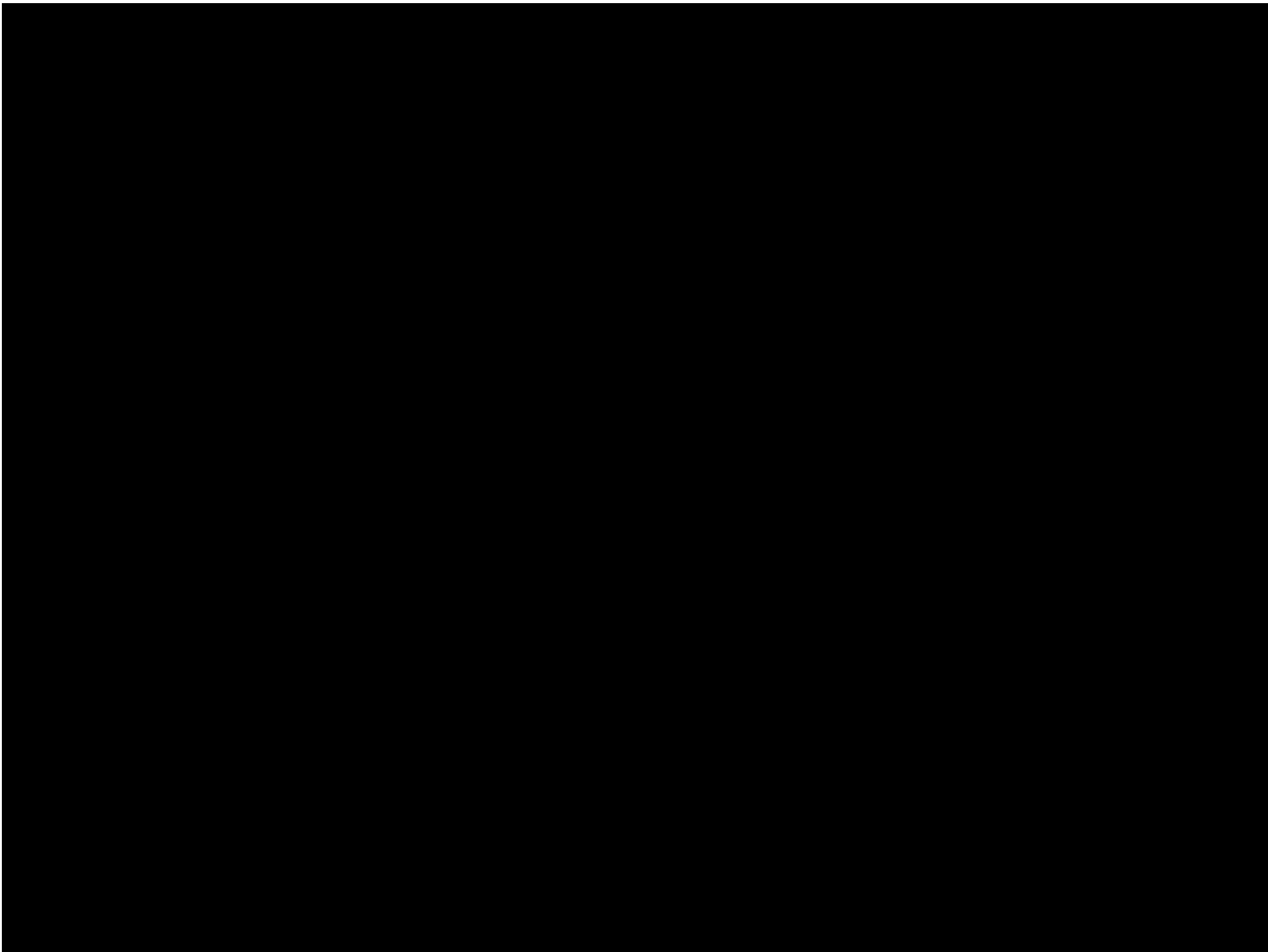
A cinematic still from a film depicting Jesus washing the feet of his twelve apostles. Jesus, with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a green robe, is seated on the right, leaning forward to wash the foot of a disciple. Several other apostles, also with beards and wearing robes, are seated around a low wooden table. On the table are two small clay lamps. The scene is set outdoors at night, with trees and foliage visible in the background under a soft, warm light.

Jesus is your “go-to” **mediator**
between you and God

Hebrews

Where do you need to press on?






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A large background image for the main banner showing a pair of 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 lower left of the image.

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