

The image features a large, 3D, pink and orange title '2 CORINTHIANS' that is slanted upwards from left to right. The background is a photograph of an ancient archaeological site with stone ruins and a prominent, rocky mountain in the distance under a clear blue sky.

2 CORINTHIANS

Key Word

162

Apostleship

2 Corinthians

Theme

23

Defense of Apostolic Authority

2 Corinthians

Key Verse

162

"For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ" (4:5-6).

2 Corinthians

Summary Statement

Paul *defends his apostleship* against attacking false teachers to assure both the Corinthians' *doctrinal foundation* and their promise to give to Jerusalem saints, thus providing an example of respect for and giving to church leaders today.

Kingdom Statement

27b

Paul shares events about his kingdom work that would otherwise not be known: his persecutions and hardships not recorded in Acts (11:23-27), extra details of his escape from Damascus (11:32-33), God's revelation of Paradise to him in a vision (12:1-7), and his “thorn in the flesh” (12:7-10).

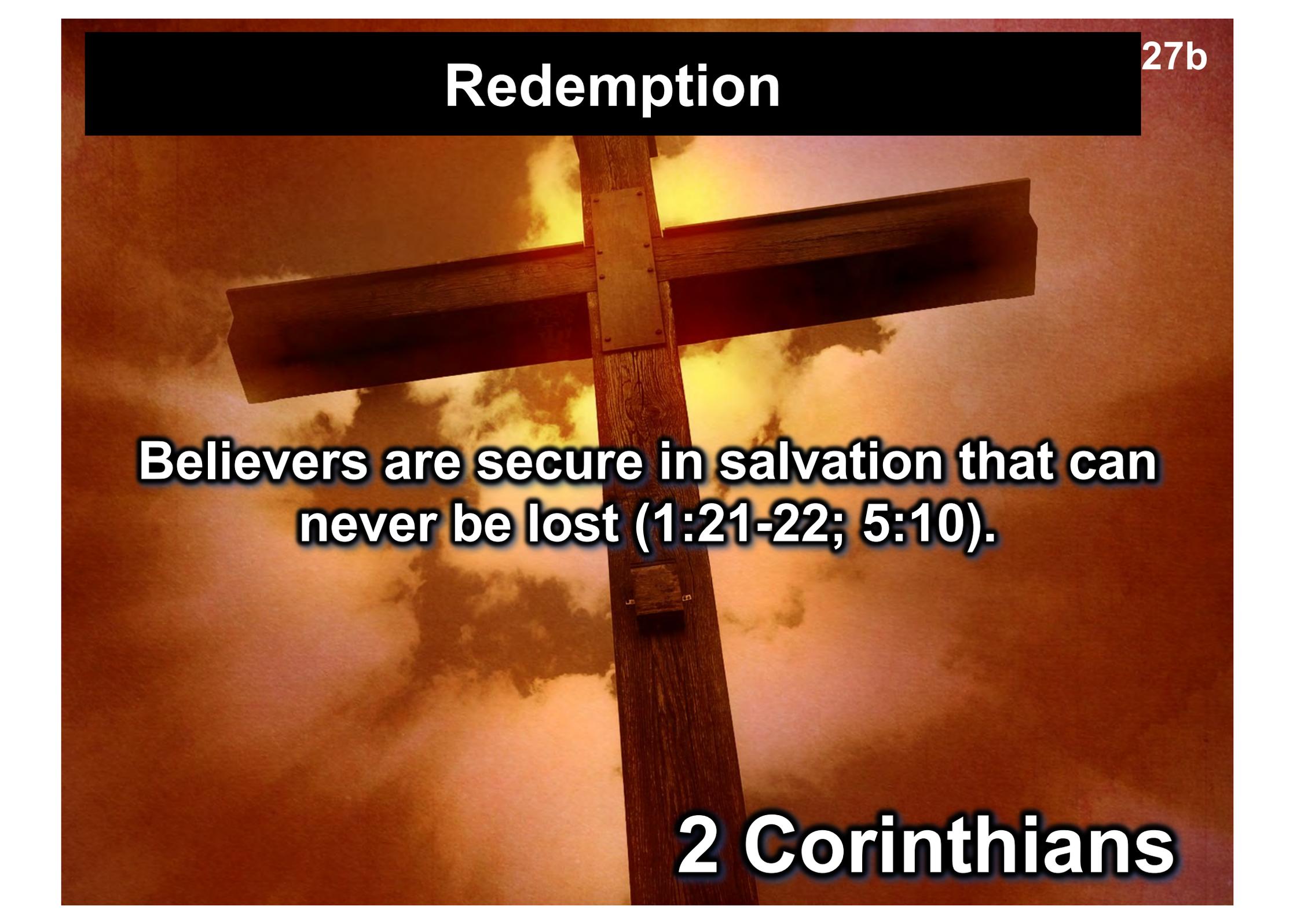
2 Corinthians

Paul and the apostles serve as ministers of the new covenant (3:1–6:10), which is one of the longest new covenant sections in the NT.

2 Corinthians

Redemption

27b

A wooden cross is centered in the image, set against a dramatic sky with warm, golden light and soft clouds. The cross is made of dark wood and is the central focus of the slide.

Believers are secure in salvation that can never be lost (1:21-22; 5:10).

2 Corinthians

Prophecy (Lord, Deity)

27a

“For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus’ sake. For God, who said, ‘Let light shine out of darkness,’ made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ” (4:5-6).

2 Corinthians

Ministry Sincerity				Giving				Ministry Authority			
Chapters 1–7				Chapters 8–9				Chapters 10–13			
Defense of Paul's Motives				Defense of Paul's Worth				Defense of Paul's Traits			
Character of Paul				Collection for Saints				Credentials of Paul			
Greetings	Defends Conduct	Defends Ministry	Restore Confidence	Example	Purpose	Arrangements	Benefits	Defense	Offense	Warning	Closing
1:1-11	1:12– 2:16	3:1– 6:10	6:11– 7:16	8:1-9	8:10 -16	8:16– 9:5	9:6- 15	10	11:1– 12:18	12:19– 13:10	13:11- 14

Macedonia

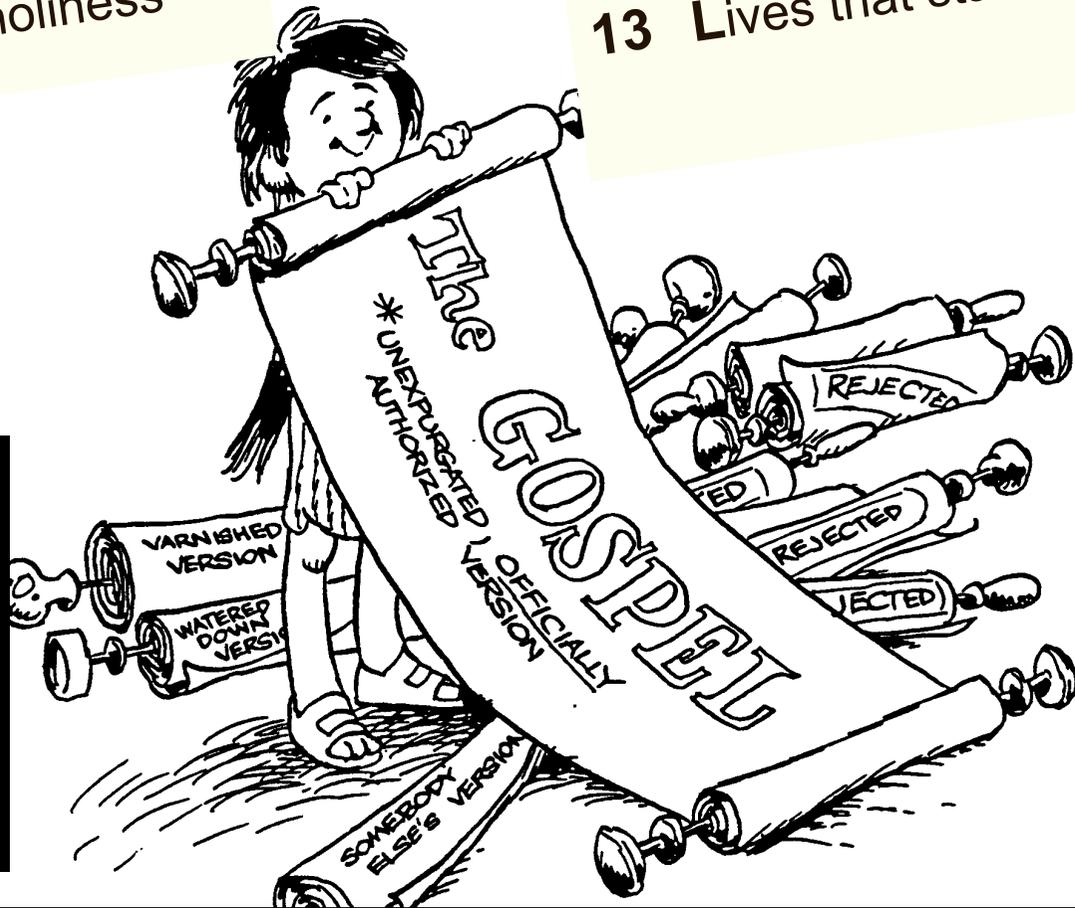
Fall AD 56

2 Corinthians

- 1 Testimony to Paul's sincerity
- 2 Heaviness of Paul's heart
- 3 Excellence of new covenant
- 4 Temporal versus eternal ministry
- 5 Reconciliation offered to all
- 6 Union with unbelievers forbidden
- 7 Exhortation to perfect holiness

- 8 Generosity of the Macedonians
- 9 Opportunity for cheerful giving
- 10 Spiritual authority of Paul
- 11 Paul's boasting in Christ
- 12 Experience of Paul's thorn
- 13 Lives that stand test

Outline of 2 Corinthians



Barry Huddleston, *The Acrostic Bible*



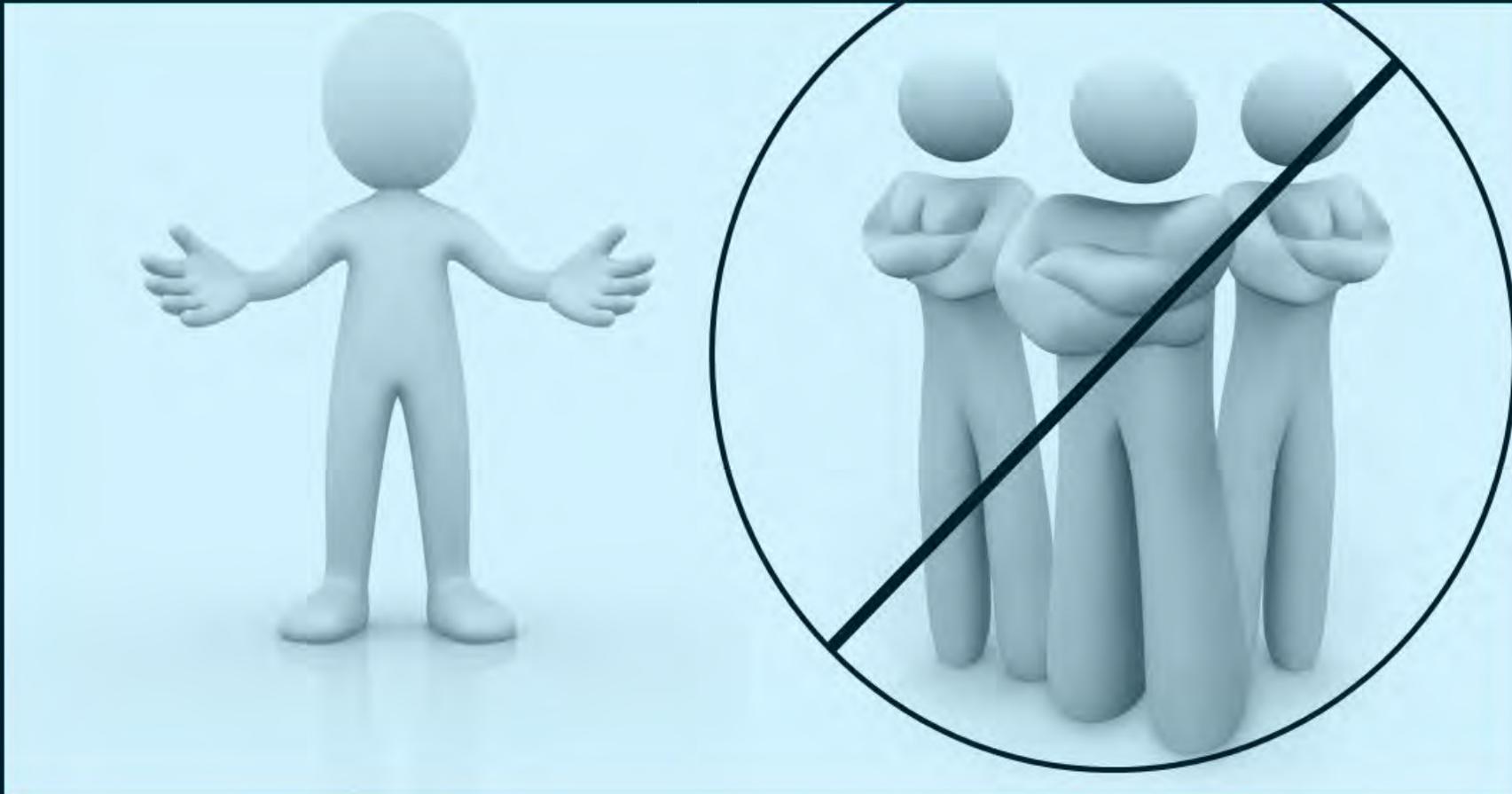
RESPONSIVE

2 Corinthians

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OPEN

CLOSED



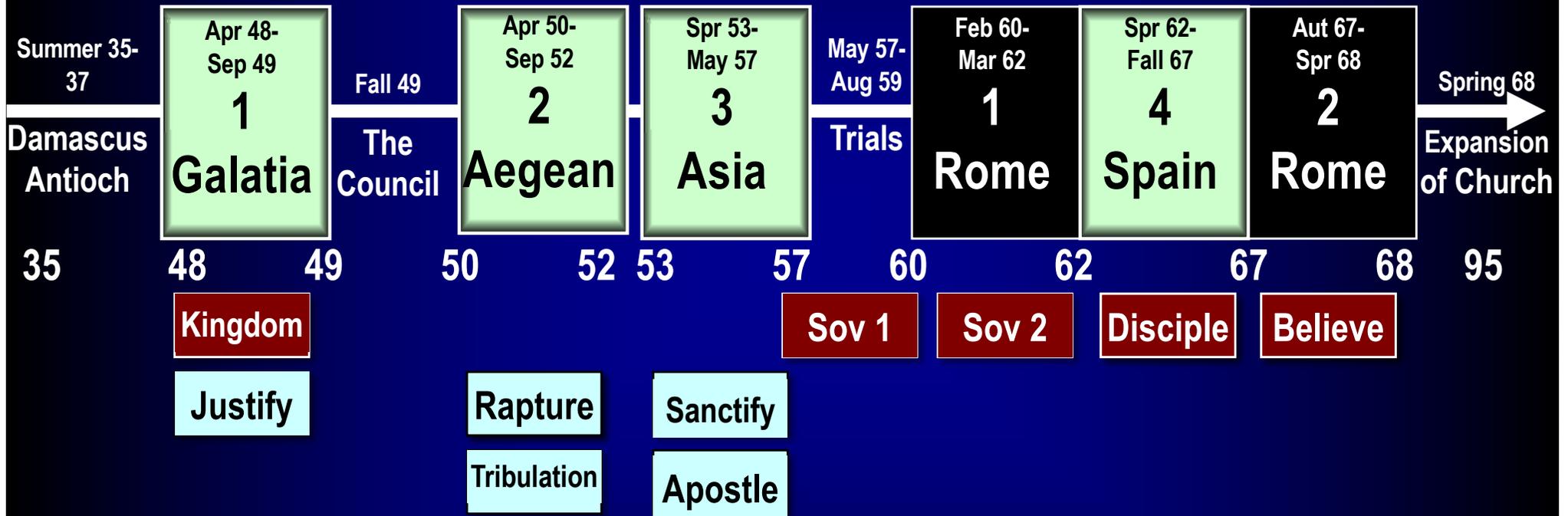
2 Corinthians

NT Overview (Missionary Key Words)

38
124
39-41

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

Acts 9 13 14 15 16 18 21 27 28



Gospels & Acts

Pauline Epistles

1234

Journeys

Rome

Imprisonments

God is not apathetic about you.



2 Corinthians

How can you
be responsive
to God's heart for you?



2 Corinthians

Open your heart to...

your **leaders**

(1–7)

God

(10–13)

the **needy**

(8–9)

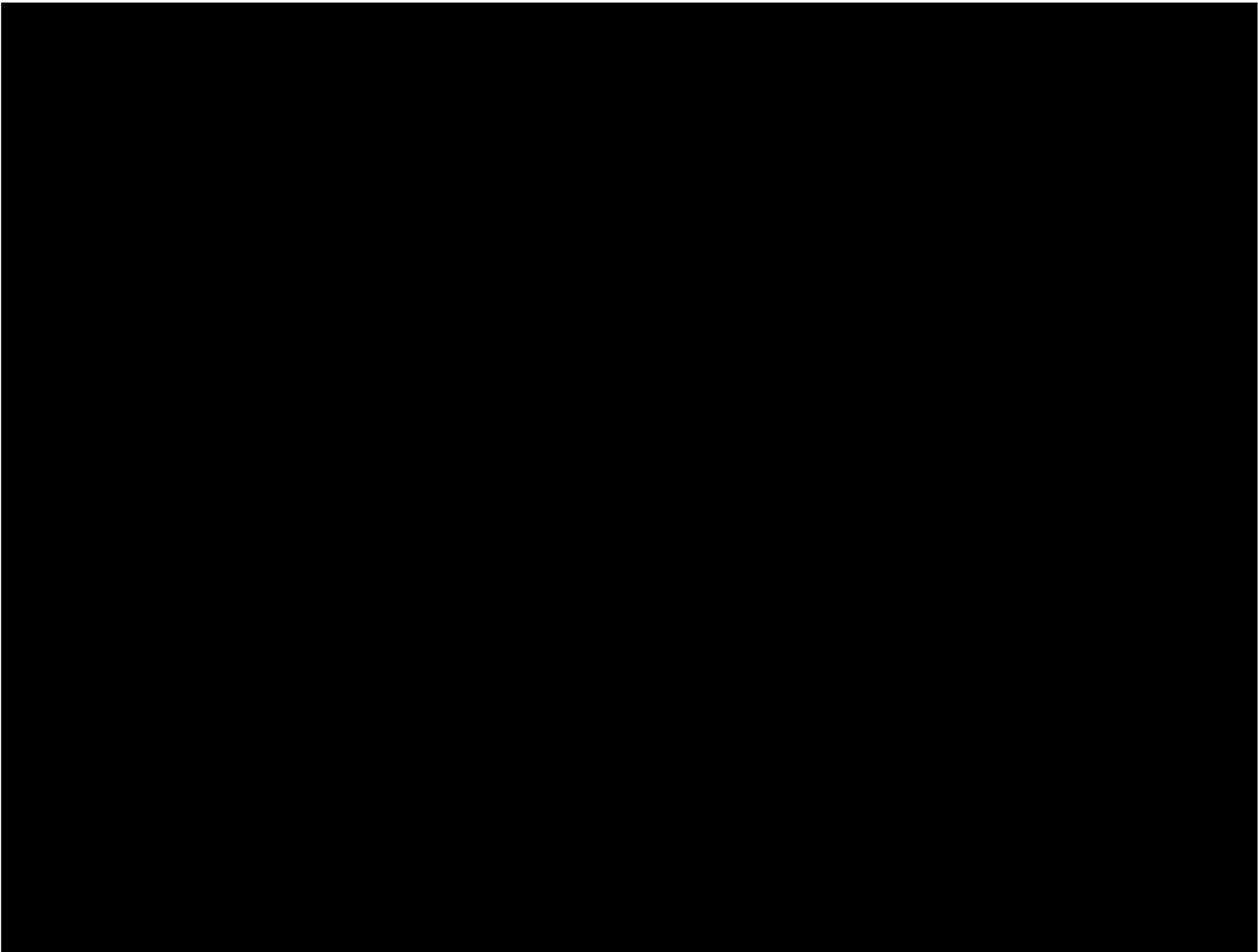
Main Idea of 2 Corinthians



I can best open my heart to God by...



Applying 2 Corinthians



The Books of the Bible

Old Testament

LAW

GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY

HISTORY

JOSHUA
JUDGES
RUTH
I SAMUEL
II SAMUEL
I KINGS
II KINGS
I CHRONICLES
II CHRONICLES

POETRY

EZRA
NEHEMIAH
ESTHER
JOB
THE PSALMS
PROVERBS
ECCLESIASTES
THE SONG OF SOLOMON

ISAIAH

ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
LAMENTATIONS
EZEKIEL
DANIEL

PROPHETS

HOSEA
JOEL
AMOS
OBADIAH
JONAH
MICAH
NAHUM
HABAKKUK

ISIZOBY

ZEPHANIAH
HAGGAI
ZECHARIAH
MALACHI

New Testament

MATTHEW
MARK
LUKE
JOHN
THE ACTS

HISTORY

ROMANS
I CORINTHIANS
II CORINTHIANS
GALATIANS
EPHESIANS
PHILIPPIANS
COLOSSIANS

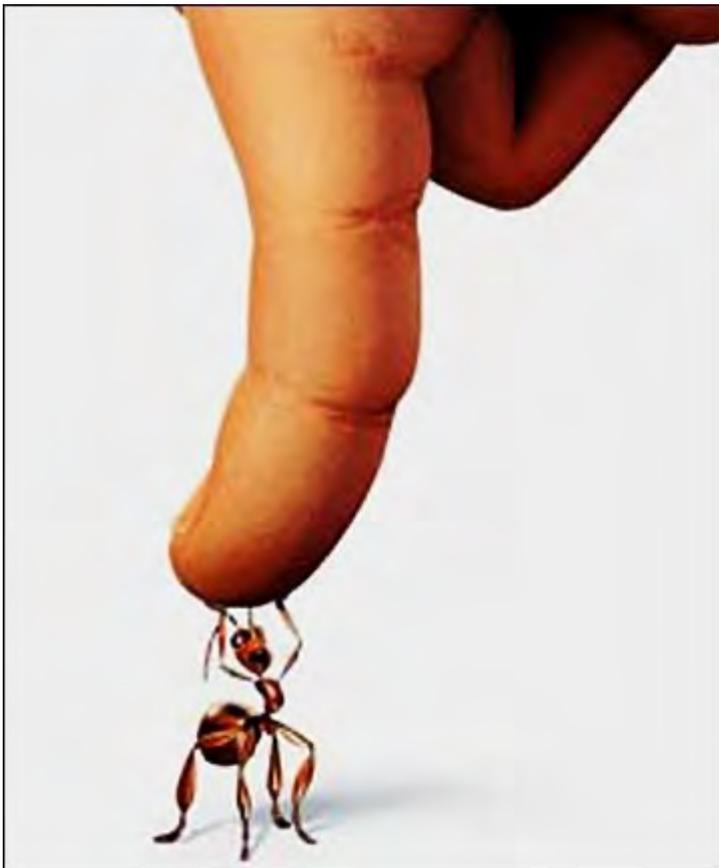
EPISTLES

I THESSALONIANS
II THESSALONIANS
I TIMOTHY
II TIMOTHY
TITUS
PHILEMON
HEBREWS

GEN EPISTLES

JAMES
I PETER
II PETER
I JOHN
II JOHN
III JOHN
JULI
REVELATION

QUESTIONS TO PONDER



- **When should you defend yourself when criticized?**
- **On what issue(s) should you just "let it go"?**

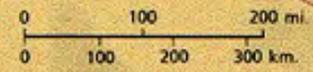


Macedonia

Corinth

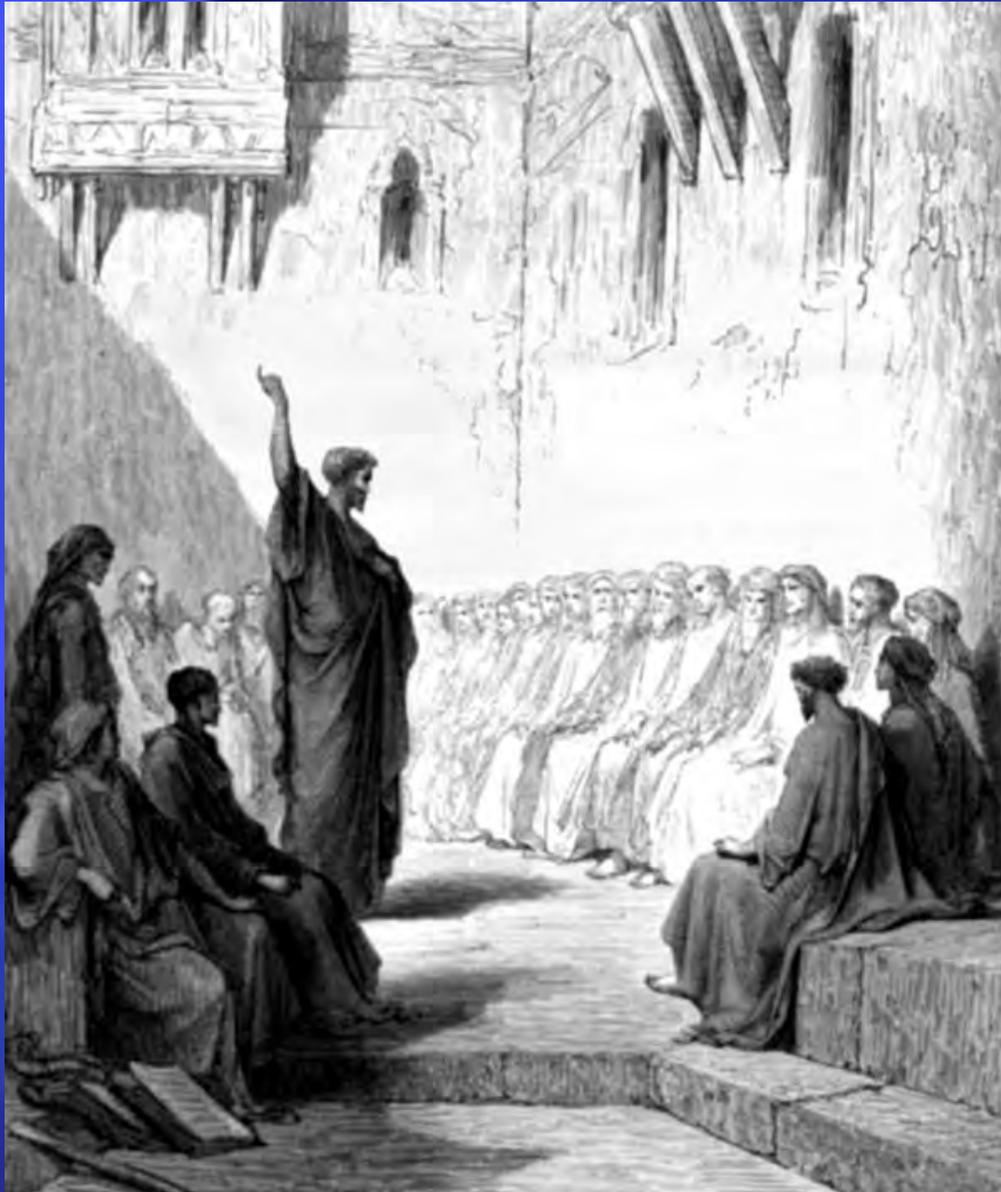


- First Missionary Journey (A.D. 46–48)
- Second Missionary Journey (A.D. 49–52)
- Third Missionary Journey (A.D. 53–57)
- Trip to Rome (A.D. 59–60)



Author: **PAUL**

Date:



AD 56

2 Corinthians

Key Word Apostleship

Key Verse

"For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ" (2 Corinthians 4:5-6).

THEME

Paul's defense of his

APOSTLESHIP

MESSAGE

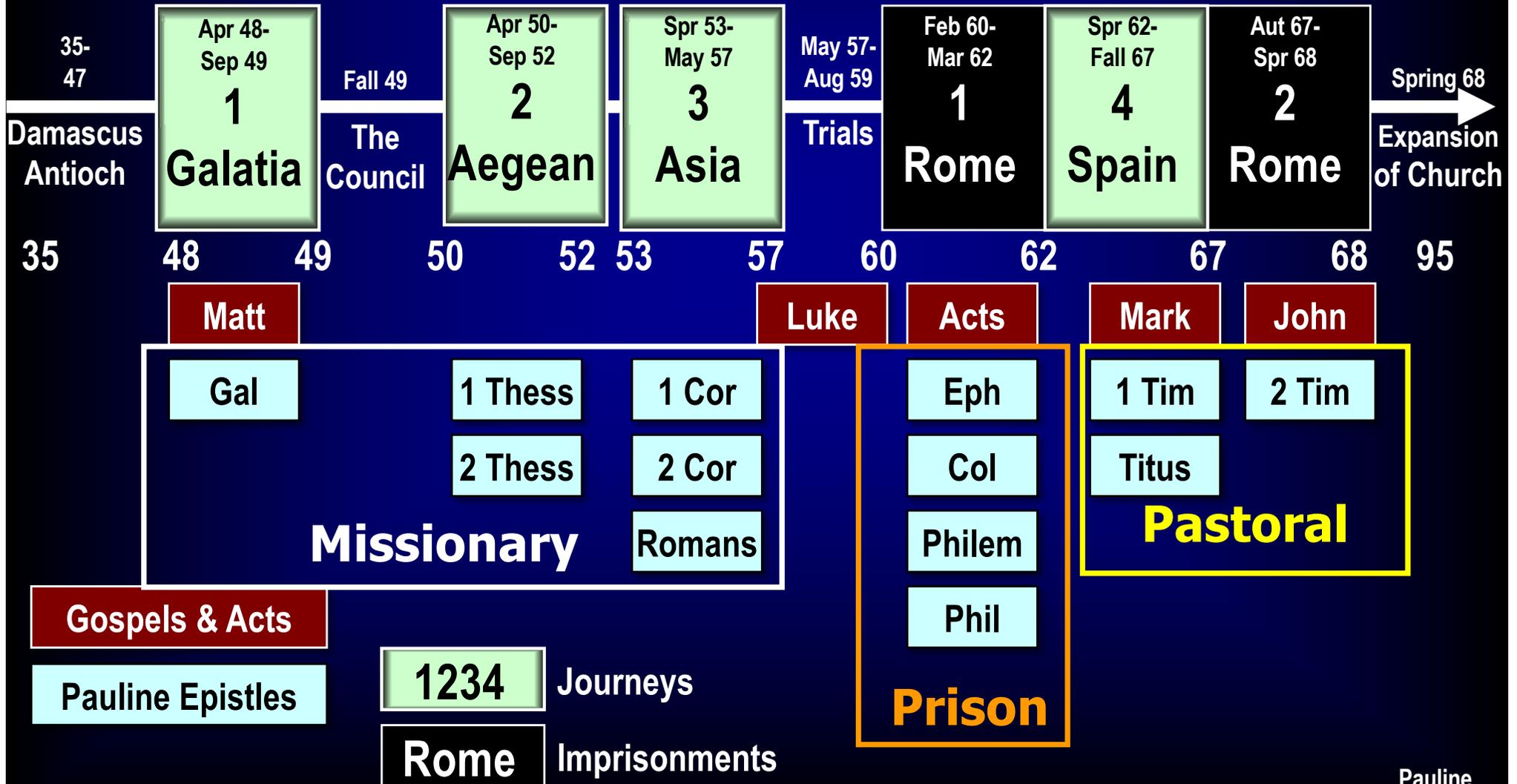
INTEGRITY

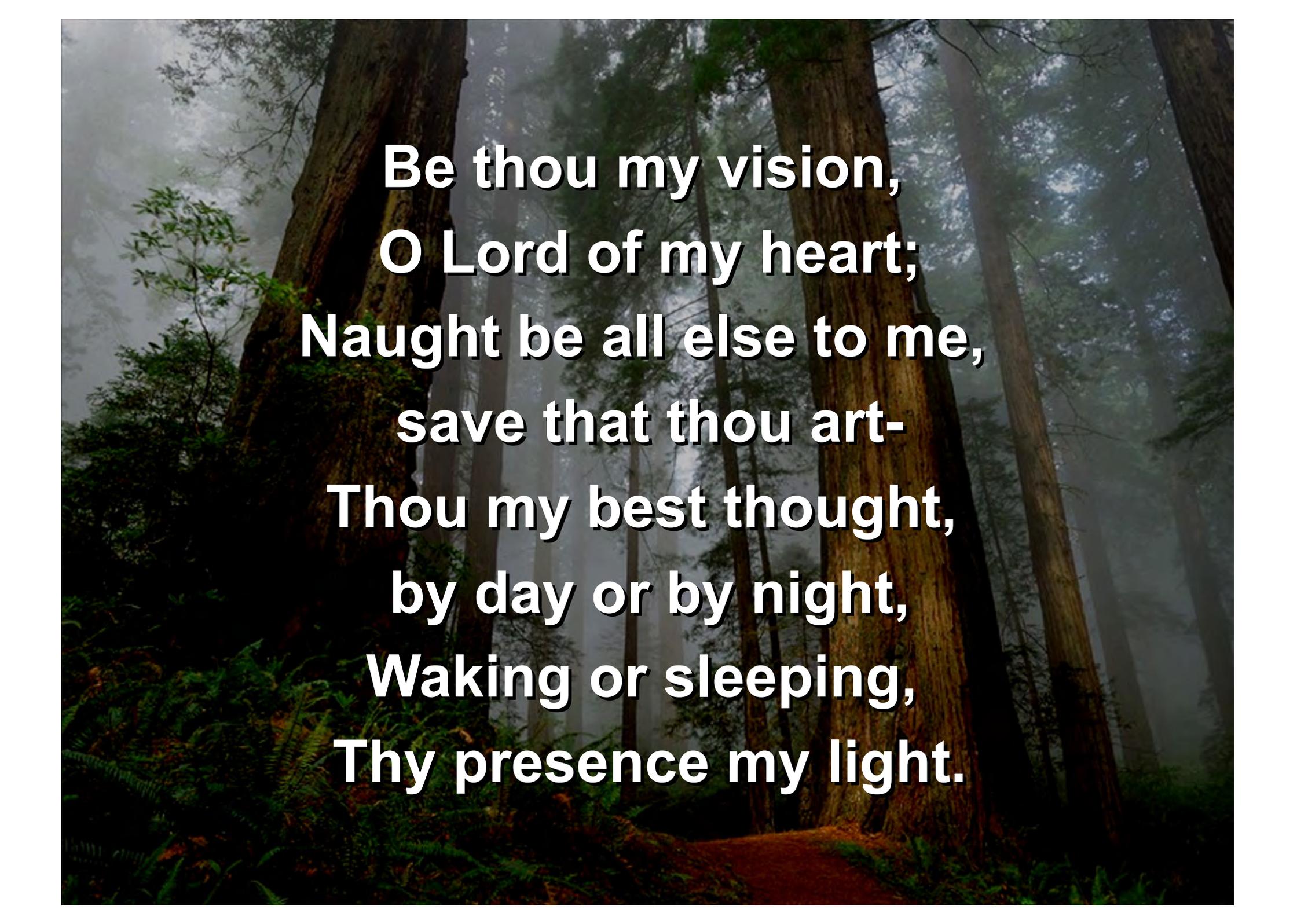
Overview of Paul's Letters

38
124
39-41

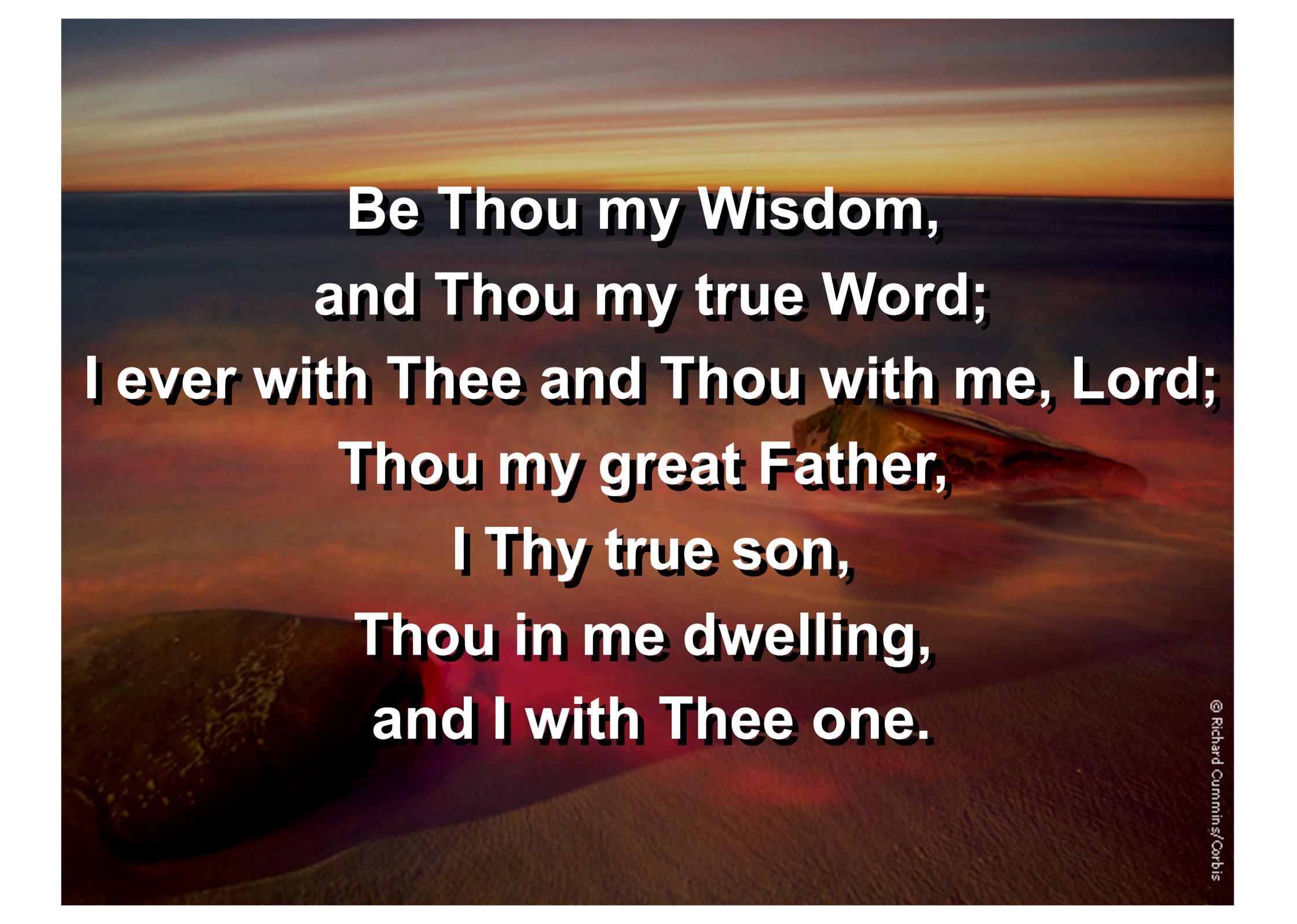
"To the remotest part of the earth" (Acts 1:8)

Acts 9 13 14 15 16 18 21 27 28



A misty forest scene with tall, slender trees and a dirt path leading through ferns. The text is overlaid in white with a black outline.

**Be thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me,
save that thou art-
Thou my best thought,
by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping,
Thy presence my light.**



**Be Thou my Wisdom,
and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father,
I Thy true son,
Thou in me dwelling,
and I with Thee one.**



**Riches I heed not nor
man's empty praise,
Thou my inheritance,
now and always;
Thou and thou only,
first in my heart,
High King of heaven,
my treasure Thou art.**

**High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys,
O bright heav'ns Son!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O ruler of all!**



2 Corinthians: Defense of Apostolic Authority

162

Ministry Sincerity				Giving				Ministry Authority			
Chapters 1–7				Chapters 8–9				Chapters 10–13			
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Macedonia											

Fall AD 56

Summary Statement

Paul *defends his apostleship* against attacking false teachers to assure both the Corinthians' *doctrinal foundation* and their promise to give to Jerusalem saints, thus providing an example of respect for and giving to church leaders today.

1. For Church Lay People:

**Do you often criticize your spiritual leaders?
(In other words, do you have a problem
submitting to authority?)**

2. For Spiritual Leaders:

**Are you fearful of defending your God-given
spiritual authority?**

External Evidence

Support for Pauline authorship is upheld by even the most imaginative critics since the patristic evidence is so early. The early church writers who advocated Paul as author include Polycarp and others, including the second century Muratonian Fragment.

Internal Evidence

The book argues strongly for Pauline authorship as it specifically claims to be written by Paul (1:1).

Within a year of Paul writing 1 Corinthians, false teachers infiltrated the church. They stirred up the people by accusing Paul of being proud, fickle, unimpressive in appearance and speech, dishonest, and unqualified as an apostle.

This threat motivated Paul to visit the church personally, and he refers to this second visit as a "painful visit" (2 Cor. 2:1).

After leaving the church this second time, Paul wrote a sorrowful letter (his third letter to the church) to urge them to discipline the leader of the opposition. Titus delivered the letter, then met Paul in Macedonia with the good news that most of the Corinthians had repented of rebelling against Paul's apostolic authority.

Nevertheless, Paul still felt it necessary to write 2 Corinthians to defend himself against the minority opposition.

Characteristics

2 Corinthians reveals Paul's character, motives, priorities, desires, and emotions more than any other NT writing.

This is probably the least taught and least preached Pauline epistle in the church today.

2 Corinthians is also probably Paul's most unsystematic epistle.

This letter expands upon Paul's former command for a contribution (1 Cor. 16:1-4) in a passage offering the most extended teaching on giving in the New Testament (2 Cor. 8–9).

Paul's Argument

Paul penned 2 Corinthians to defend his apostolic authority against slanderous false teachers. This was accomplished by:

- a) communicating the **genuineness** of his ministry so that the believers can really trust him (1–7)
- b) assuring accountability as they finish collecting the **offering** they had pledged the year before (8–9), and
- c) giving a defensive and offensive proclamation of the **proofs** of his apostleship (10–13).

Therefore, this letter contains personal information necessary to uphold his integrity before the church so that it would not be lost to the enemy.

Number of letters and visits

Colin Kruse	David K. Lowery
1st visit to Corinth (2nd missionary journey)	1st visit to Corinth (2nd missionary journey)
1st letter _ The letter implied in 1 Cor. 5:9 (now lost)	1st letter – The letter implied in 1 Cor. 5:9 (now lost)
2nd letter – 1 Corinthians	2nd letter – 1 Corinthians
2nd visit to Corinth ("painful visit" – 2 Cor. 2:1)	2nd visit to Corinth ("painful visit" – 2 Cor. 2:1)
3rd letter – The "severe" letter implies in 2 Cor. 2:3-4; 7:8,12 (now lost)	3rd letter – The "severe" letter implies in 2 Cor. 2:3-4; 7:8,12 (now lost)
4th letter – 2 Cor 1–9	4th letter – 2 Corinthians
5th letter – 2 Cor 10–13	
3rd visit to Corinth	3rd visit to Corinth

Paul's First Visit

**1st letter to the Corinthian church
= "previous" letter (1 Cor. 5:9)**

**2nd letter to the Corinthians
= 1 Corinthians**



Paul's Second Visit

"PAINFUL VISIT" (2 Cor. 2:1)

Then wrote 3rd
letter, called the
"severe" letter

Then his 4th letter
was 2 Corinthians



Paul's Third Visit

Paul anticipated this visit while penning 2 Corinthians

OUTLINE

I. Paul's Defense of His Conduct and Apostolic Ministry (1:1–7:16)

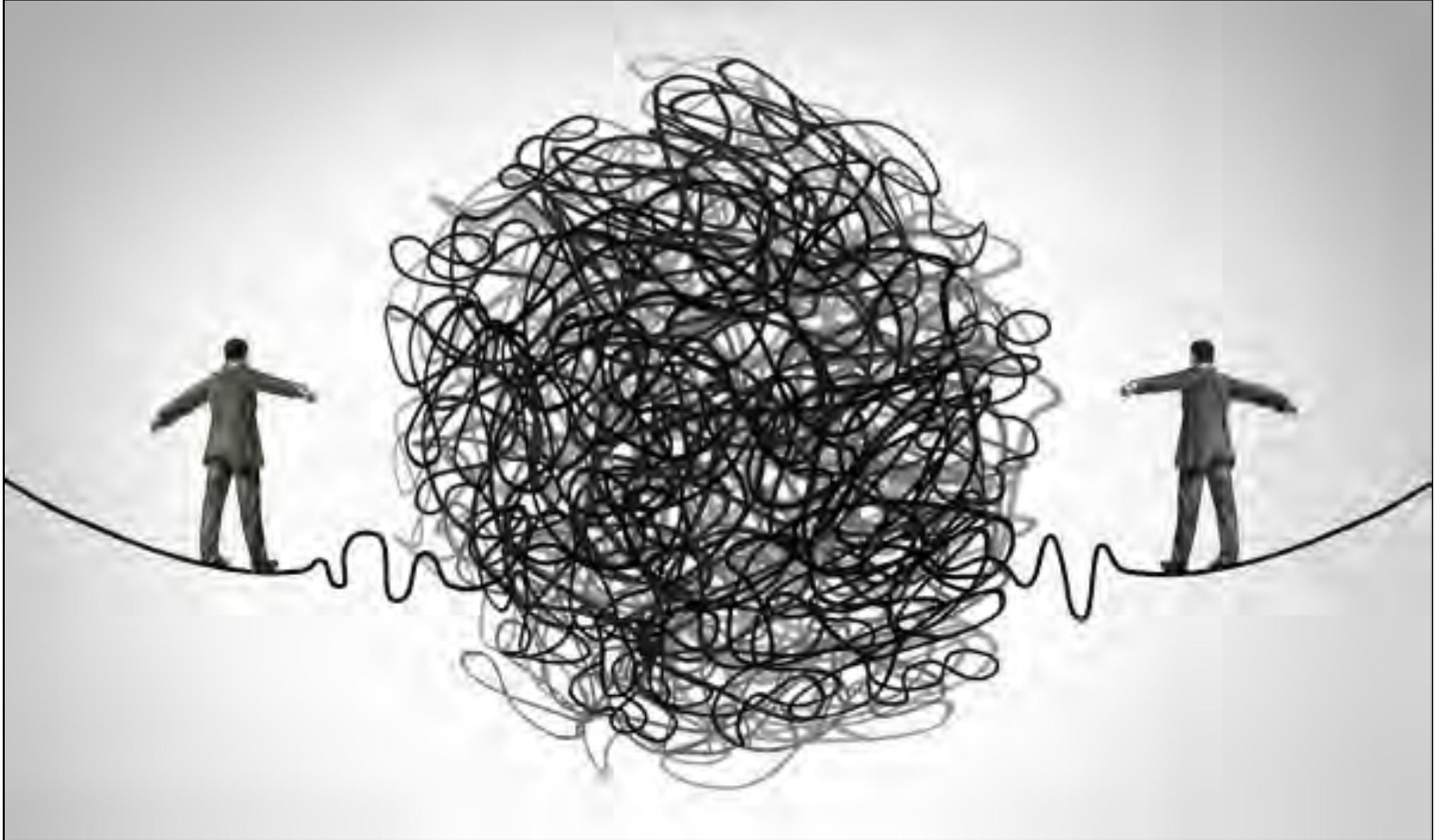
A. Introduction (1:1-11)

B. Paul's Conduct Explained (1:12–2:13)

C. Major Digression--The Apostolic Ministry Described (2:14–7:4)

D. Paul's Reconciliation With the Corinthians (7:5-16)

Be Responsive





Be Responsive



It is not the strongest species that survive, nor the most intelligent, but the most responsive to change.



RESPONSIVE

2 Corinthians

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Hi!

OPEN

CLOSED



God is not apathetic about you.



How can you
be responsive
to God's heart for you?



Background to 2 Corinthians

2 Corinthians was written in AD 56



Divorce (7)

Gifts (12-14)

What was the
early church *really*
like?

1 Corinthians

Idolatry (8-10)

Incest (5)

NT Overview (Missionary Key Words)

38
124
39-41

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

Acts 9 13 14 15 16 18 21 27 28



Kingdom Sov 1 Sov 2 Disciple Believe

Justify Rapture Sanctify
Tribulation Apostle

Gospels & Acts
Pauline Epistles

1234 Journeys
Rome Imprisonments

Be Different



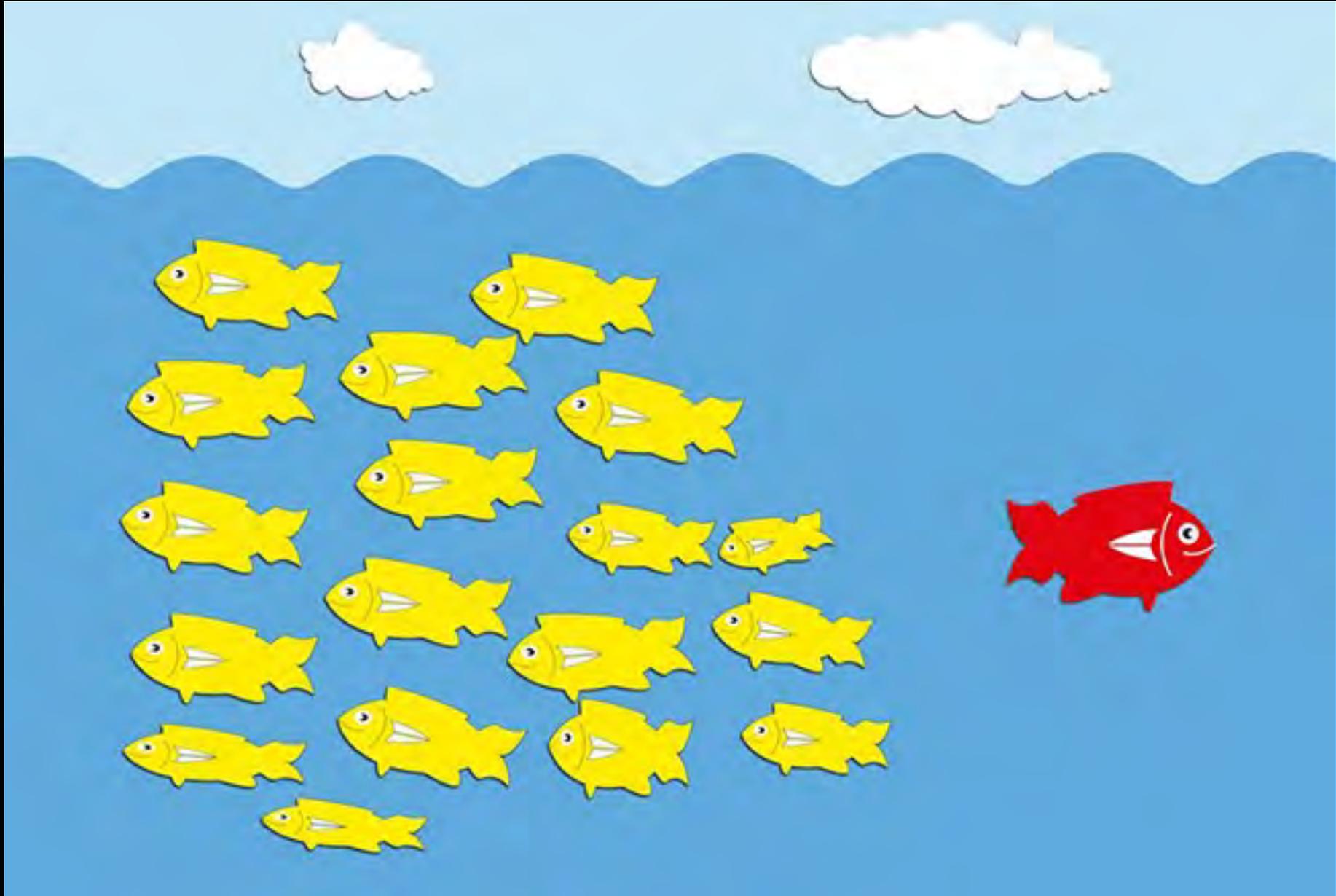
1 Corinthians

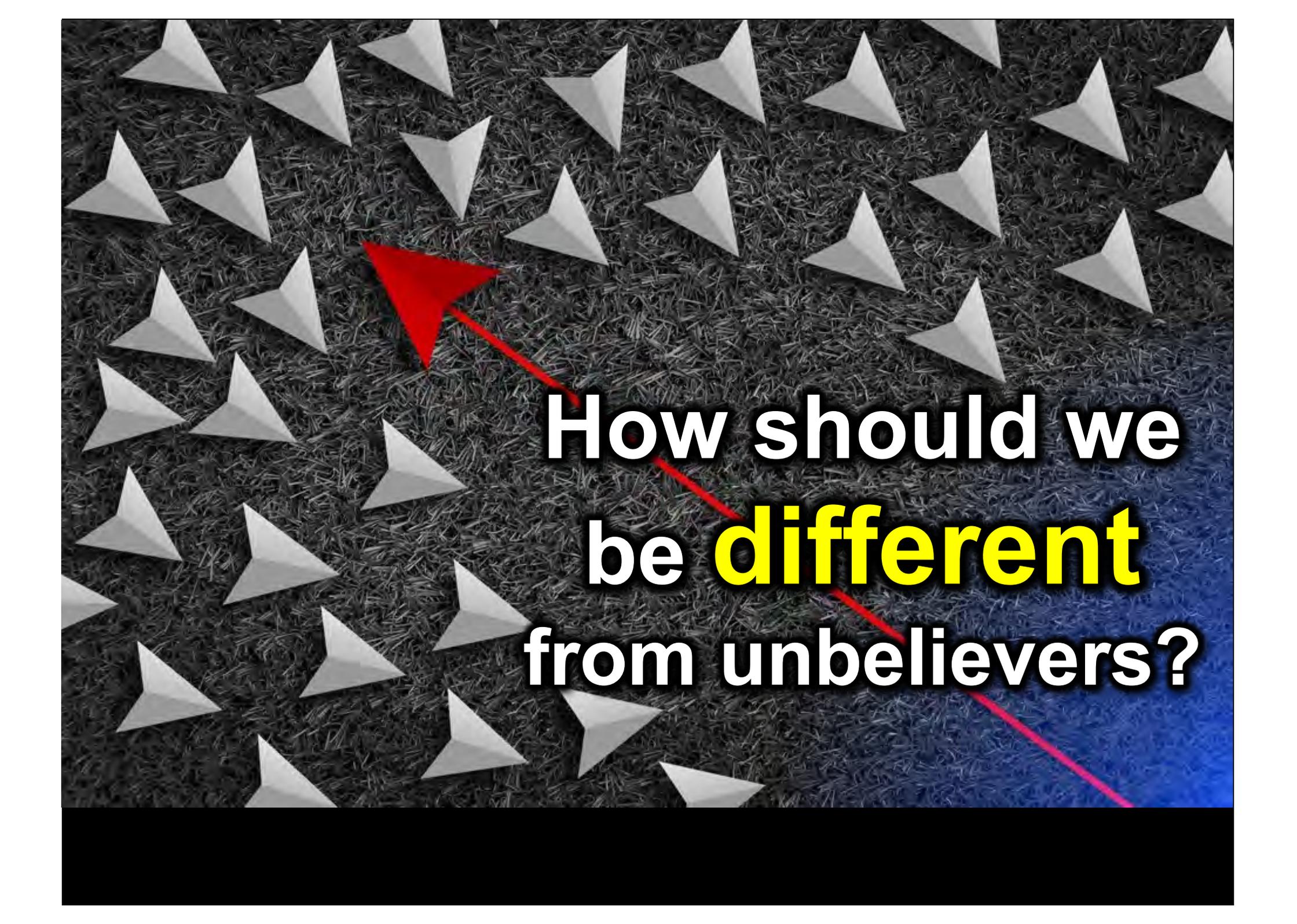
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Herd Mentality



Be Different





How should we
be **different**
from unbelievers?

How should we...

**BE
UNITED**
(1-4)

**BE
MORAL**
(5-6)

**BE
DIFFERENT**

**BE
SELFLESS**
(7-16)

1 Corinthians

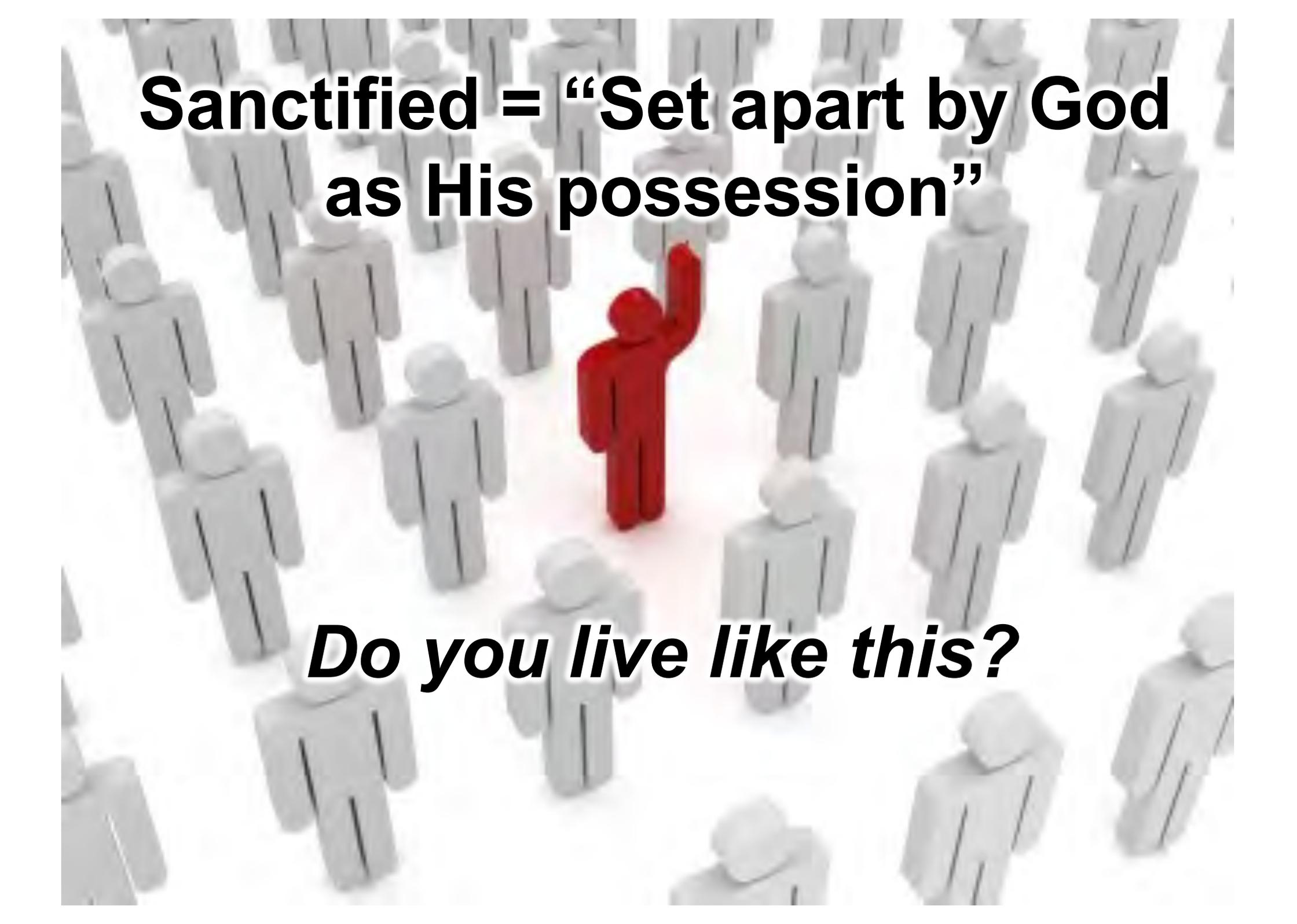
...from unbelievers?

Main Idea

A collection of light bulbs, with one glowing yellow in the center, symbolizing an idea or inspiration.

Be **different** by being
united, moral and selfless

1 Corinthians



**Sanctified = “Set apart by God
as His possession”**

Do you live like this?

Review of 1 Corinthians

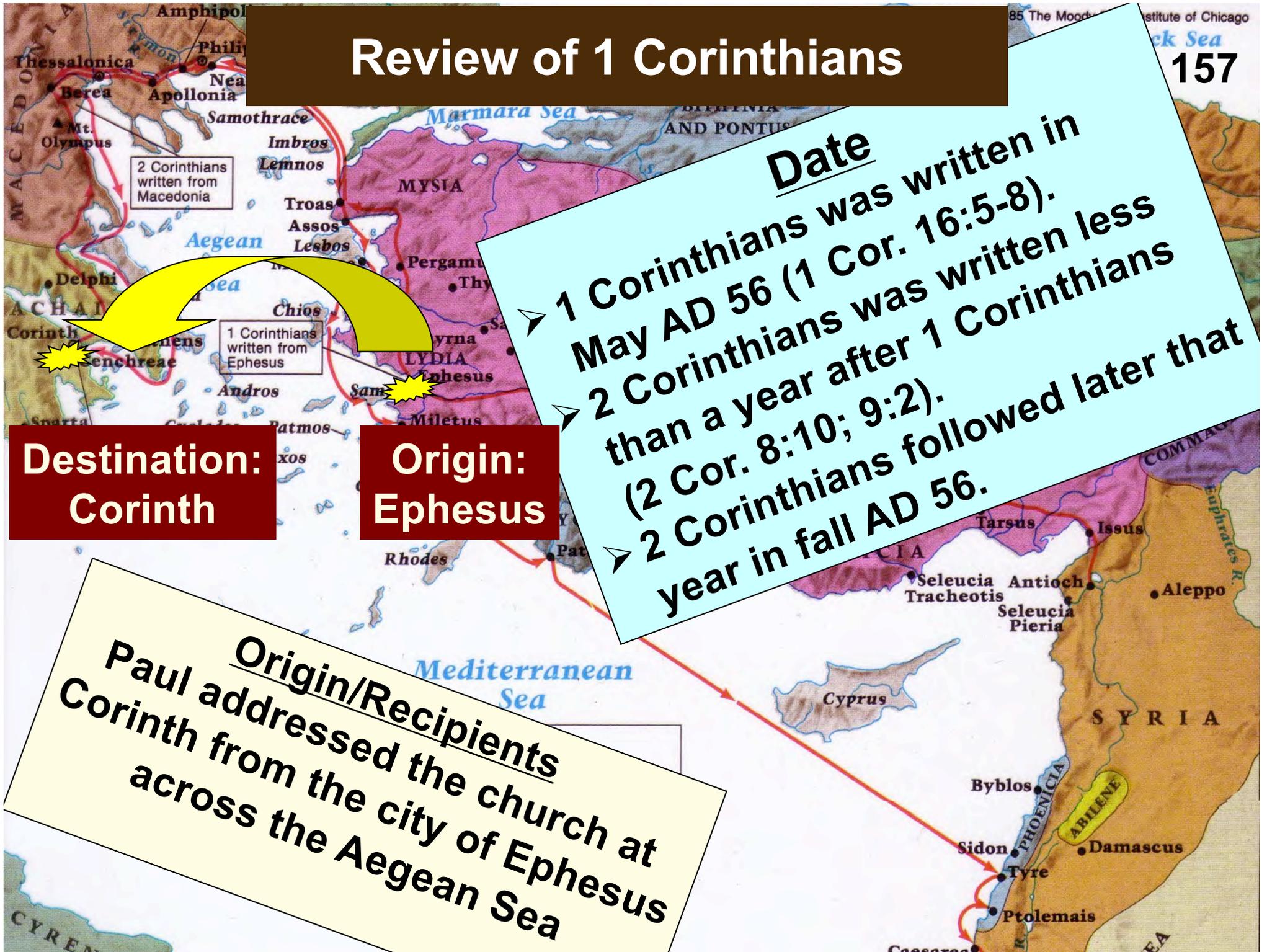
Date

- 1 Corinthians was written in May AD 56 (1 Cor. 16:5-8).
- 2 Corinthians was written less than a year after 1 Corinthians (2 Cor. 8:10; 9:2).
- 2 Corinthians followed later that year in fall AD 56.

**Destination:
Corinth**

**Origin:
Ephesus**

Origin/Recipients
Paul addressed the church at Corinth from the city of Ephesus across the Aegean Sea

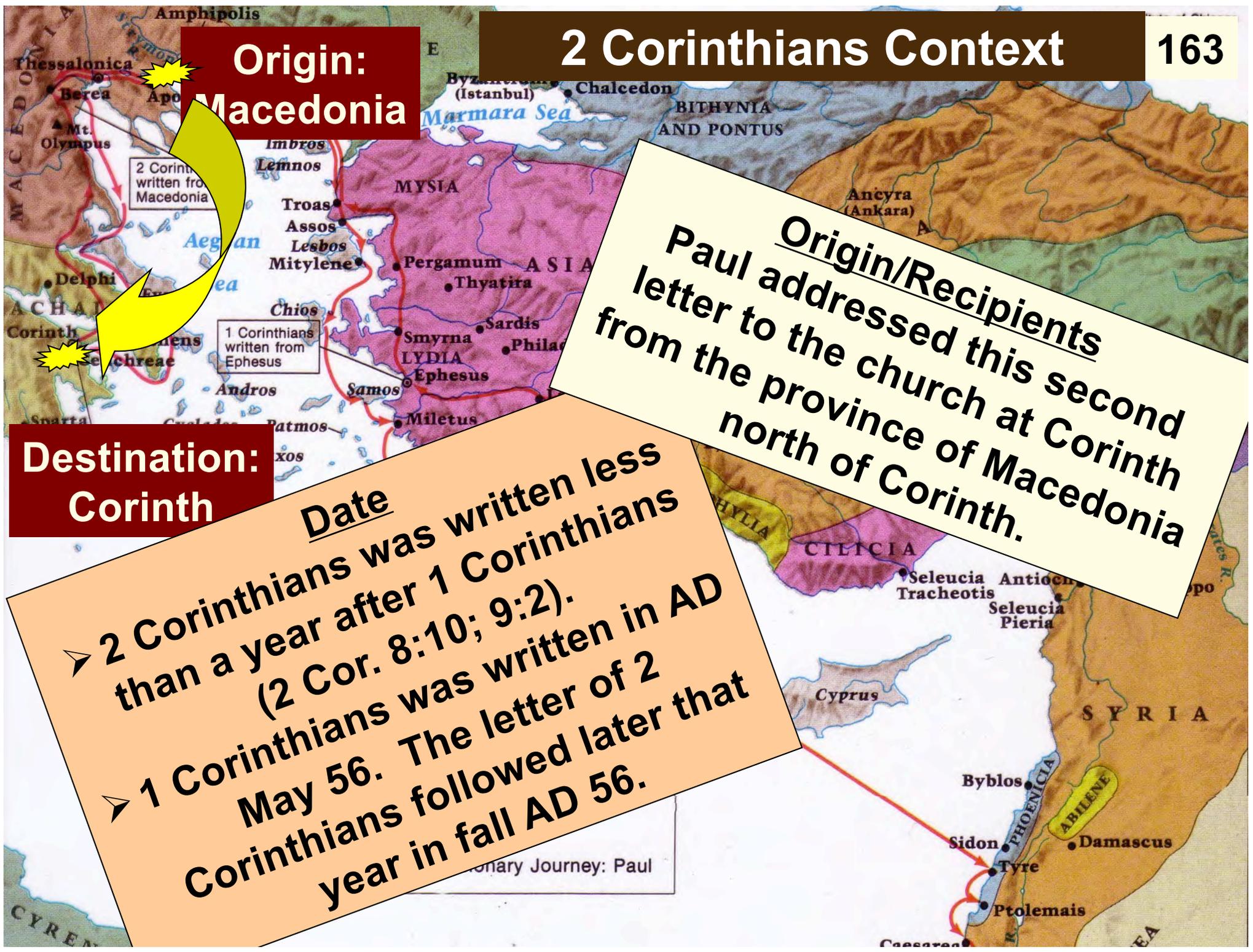


**Origin:
Macedonia**

Origin/Recipients
Paul addressed this second letter to the church at Corinth from the province of Macedonia north of Corinth.

**Destination:
Corinth**

Date
➤ 2 Corinthians was written less than a year after 1 Corinthians (2 Cor. 8:10; 9:2).
➤ 1 Corinthians was written in AD May 56. The letter of 2 Corinthians followed later that year in fall AD 56.



How can you
be responsive
to God's heart for you?

3 ways



Open your heart to...

your **leaders**

(1-7)



2 Corinthians

Corinth should open their hearts to Paul since God cared for them through him (2 Cor 1–7).

2 Corinthians 1



—God of Comfort—

2 Cor 1:3-11

³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort.

⁴He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

2 Cor 1:3-4 (NLT)

⁵For the more we suffer for Christ, the more God will shower us with his comfort through Christ.

2 Cor 1:5 (NLT)

⁶ Even when we are weighed down with troubles, it is for your comfort and salvation! For when we ourselves are comforted, we will certainly comfort you. Then you can patiently endure the same things we suffer.

⁷ We are confident that as you share in our sufferings, you will also share in the comfort God gives us.

2 Cor 1:6-7 (NLT)

⁸ We think you ought to know, dear brothers and sisters, about the trouble we went through in the province of Asia. We were crushed and overwhelmed beyond our ability to endure, and we thought we would never live through it.

⁹ In fact, we expected to die. But as a result, we stopped relying on ourselves and learned to rely only on God, who raises the dead.

2 Cor 1:8-9 (NLT)

¹⁰ And he did rescue us from mortal danger, and he will rescue us again. We have placed our confidence in him, and he will continue to rescue us.

¹¹ And you are helping us by praying for us. Then many people will give thanks because God has graciously answered so many prayers for our safety.

2 Cor 1:10-11 (NLT)

Suffering



2 Cor. 1:1-11

2 Corinthians 2

SUFFERING

- *Paul's Suffering*
- *Paul's Attitude Toward*
- *Christ's Experience*



- C
- H



2 Corinthians 3

The New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)



Four Unconditional Biblical Covenants

ABRAHAMIC
Genesis 12:1-3

LAND

SEED

BLESSING

LAND
Deut. 30:1-10

DAVIDIC
2 Sam. 7:12-16

NEW
Jer. 31:31-34

The new covenant is God's unconditional amplification of the blessing promise in the Abrahamic Covenant where Judah and Israel will experience national and spiritual redemption.

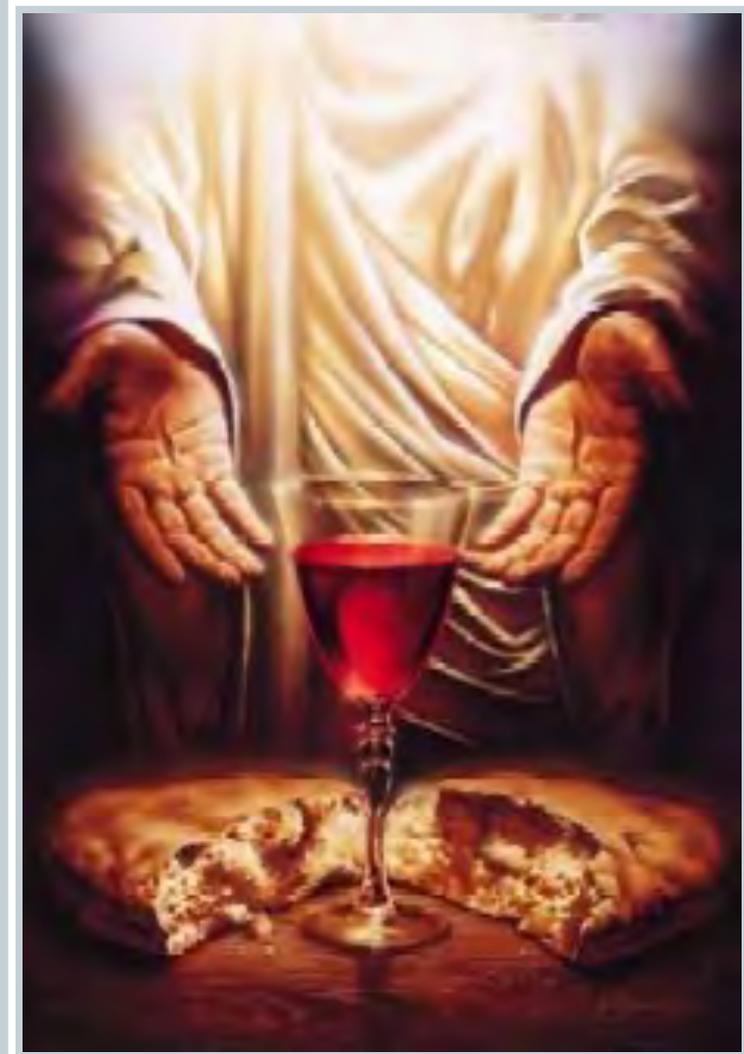
The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34

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.

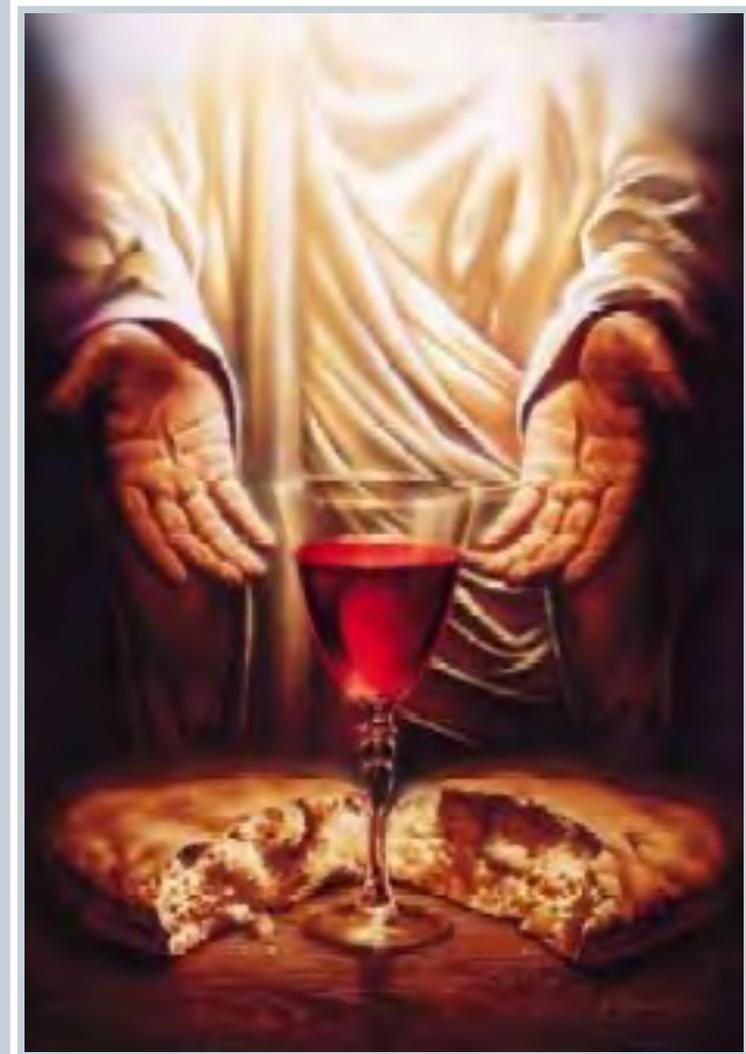
³³"This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time," declares the LORD.



The New Covenant

Jeremiah 31:31-34

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. 34 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."



Unconditional Nature



"God's love is unconditional. But you must act now. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Void where prohibited by law."

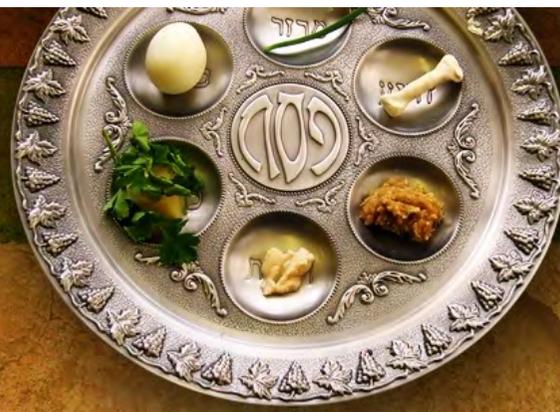
- A. Eternal (Jer. 31:36, 40; 32:40; 50:5; Isa 61:2. 8-9; 24:5; Ezek. 37:26)**
- B. Amplification of the Abrahamic Covenant, which is unconditional**
- C. Unqualified "I will" statements of God**



***The cup (not baptism) is
the new covenant sign***

***... This cup is the
NEW COVENANT
in my blood, which is
POURED OUT
for you.***

LUKE 22:20



How could Jesus apply the new covenant promises to his disciples when the other provisions were not fulfilled then?

**(What about Israel and Judah reunified?
What about all people knowing God?)**

HOW TO RECONCILE?

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (for Israel)

'everlasting covenant'

'a new heart'

'a new spirit'

'a covenant' *'a covenant of peace'*

Luke 22:20 (for church)

Provisions

FULFILLED

- Indwelling of the Holy Spirit (Jer. 31:33 with Ezek. 36:27)
- New nature, heart & mind (Jer. 31:33; Isa. 59:21)
- Forgiveness of sins (Jer. 31:34b)

NOT YET FULFILLED

- Everyone will know the Lord (Jer. 31:34a)
- Israel and Judah will be reunited (Jer. 31:31)



Views on the Time of Fulfillment⁴⁷⁷



Amillennialists often say all of the provisions of the New Covenant are being realized now in the church which they consider the “new Israel.” But are they?

1. Partial Fulfillment in the present church age

- a. Only one New Covenant for Israel (Darby)
- b. Two New Covenants: one for Israel and one for the church (Chafer)
- c. One New Covenant with a two fold- application: primarily to Israel, secondarily to the Church

2. Complete fulfillment after the return of Christ

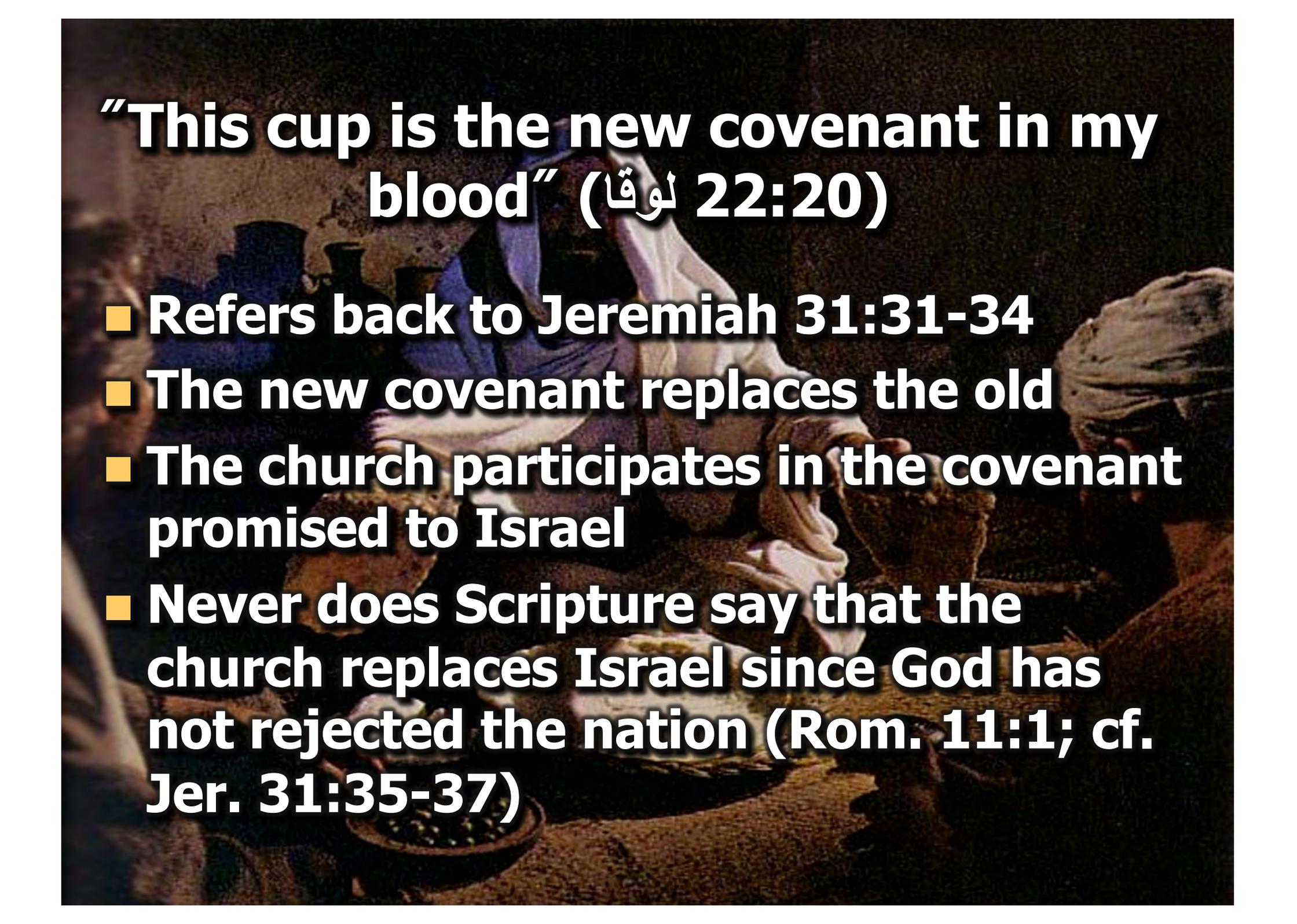


Views on the New Covenant

View	Explanation	Group	Problems
Restated Mosaic	There is no new Covenant	Critical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OC/NC distinction in text ignored • OC=conditional, NC= unconditional • OC=temporal, NC=eternal • OC=external, NC=internal • OC=no enablement, NC=enablement • NC=peace, prosperity, sanctuary and Spirit
Church Alone	No Israel Participation	Amil / Postmil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ignores OT data - Israel =Church • NC introduced not equal to fulfilled to Israel • Present need to know YHWH • AD 70 Jerusalem vs. Jer. 31:40

Views on the New Covenant (2)

View	Explanation	Group	Problems
Israel Alone	No Church Participation	Misc/ Classical Dispensational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ignores NT Data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Christ's Last Supper words ○ Paul's statements in Romans ○ Hebrews application to Church • Ignores present work of Spirit
Two New Covenants	NC for Israel NC for Church	Early 1900s Dispensational	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same terminology for OT & NT NCs • Israel/Church distinction too sharp • Basis of forgiveness is the same • If 2NCs then there's no OC for Church • Church doesn't possess Israel's promises
Church Participation	Primarily for Israel Secondarily for the Church	Misc / Present Dispensational	<p><u>Support</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary fulfillment future – Rom 11 • Deals with both OT and NT data • Forgiveness/ Spirit = Blessings now • NC has new law • Rebuttals to above views



“This cup is the new covenant in my blood” (لوقا 22:20)

- **Refers back to Jeremiah 31:31-34**
- **The new covenant replaces the old**
- **The church participates in the covenant promised to Israel**
- **Never does Scripture say that the church replaces Israel since God has not rejected the nation (Rom. 11:1; cf. Jer. 31:35-37)**

Contrasting the Covenants (2 Cor. 3-4)**Old Covenant****New Covenant****166c**

initiated by Moses (3:8)

initiated by Christ (3:4)

of the letter (3:6a)

of the Spirit (3:6a, 18b)

kills (3:6b, 7a)

gives life (3:6b)

engraved on stone (3:3b, 7a)

engraved on hearts (3:3b; Jer. 31:33)

glorious (3:7a)

more glorious (3:8, 10)

glory faded (3:7b, 11a, 13b)

glory ever-increases (3:11b, 18)

condemns men (3:9a)

brings righteousness (3:9b)

deception (3:13)

boldness (3:12)

veiled face of Moses (3:13b)

unveiled faces (3:13a, 18a)

veiled minds (3:14a)

unveiled minds (3:14b; 4:3-6)

veiled hearts (3:15)

unveiled hearts (3:16)

dullness (3:14a)

freedom (3:17)

Moses reflected God's glory

all believers reflect Son's glory (3:17)

non-transforming (3:7)

transforming (3:18)

lack of zeal (3:13)

confidence, steadfastness (3:4-5; 4:1)

deception (3:13)

sincerity (4:2)

Signs of the Covenants

166e

<i>Covenant</i>	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Promise</i>	<i>Fulfillment</i>	<i>Sign</i>
Noahic	Unconditional promise not to flood earth again	Gen. 9:12-17	No more sea (Rev. 21:1)	Rainbow (Gen. 9:12-17)
Abrahamic	Promise to provide Israel a land, rule, and spiritual blessing	Gen. 12:1-3; 15:13-18	Continues at present (Gal. 3:17) but Israel still has a future (Rom. 11:25-27)	Circumcision (Gen. 17:11)
Mosaic	Conditional stipulations for blessing on Israel	Exod. 19-31; Deut. 28	Death of Christ (Rom. 7:4-6)	Sabbath (Exod. 31:13)
Land	Promise of <u>physical</u> land from the Wadi of Egypt to the River Euphrates	Deut. 30:1-10	Land blessed (Amos 9:13-15)	No sign (that I know of)
Davidic	Promise of eternal, <u>political</u> rule of a descendant of David	2 Sam. 7:12-17	Rule renewed (Amos 9:11-12)	Christ seated at the Father's right hand (Acts 2:34-36)
New	Promise of <u>spiritual</u> indwelling of the Spirit ("law written on hearts"), forgiveness, and total evangelization of Israel	Jer. 31:31-34	Paul & the Apostles (2 Cor. 3-4) All Israel saved (Rom. 11:26-27)	Cup of the Lord's Supper (Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25)

“Old” Replaced by “New”

Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 521

“What then is the 'old covenant' in contrast with the 'new covenant' in Christ? It is not the whole of the Old Testament, because the covenants with Abraham and David are never called 'old' in the New Testament. Rather, only the covenant under Moses, the covenant made at Mount Sinai (Ex. 19-24) is called the 'old covenant' (2 Cor. 3:14; cf. Heb. 8:6, 13), to be replaced by the “new covenant” in Christ (Luke 22:20; 1 Cor. 11:25; 2 Cor. 3:6; Heb. 8:8, 13; 9:15; 12:24).”

Kingdom & Covenants Timeline



Dr. Rick Griffith • BibleStudyDownloads.org

Kingdom Teaching...

Adam rules with God (Gen. 1:26, 28; 2:19)

Satan begins rule as god of this world (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 4:4)

God covenants with Abraham to reestablish man's rule via Israel as a "kingdom of priests" (Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:6)

Israel's failure to witness to nations as a kingdom of priests is judged via exile under foreign rule

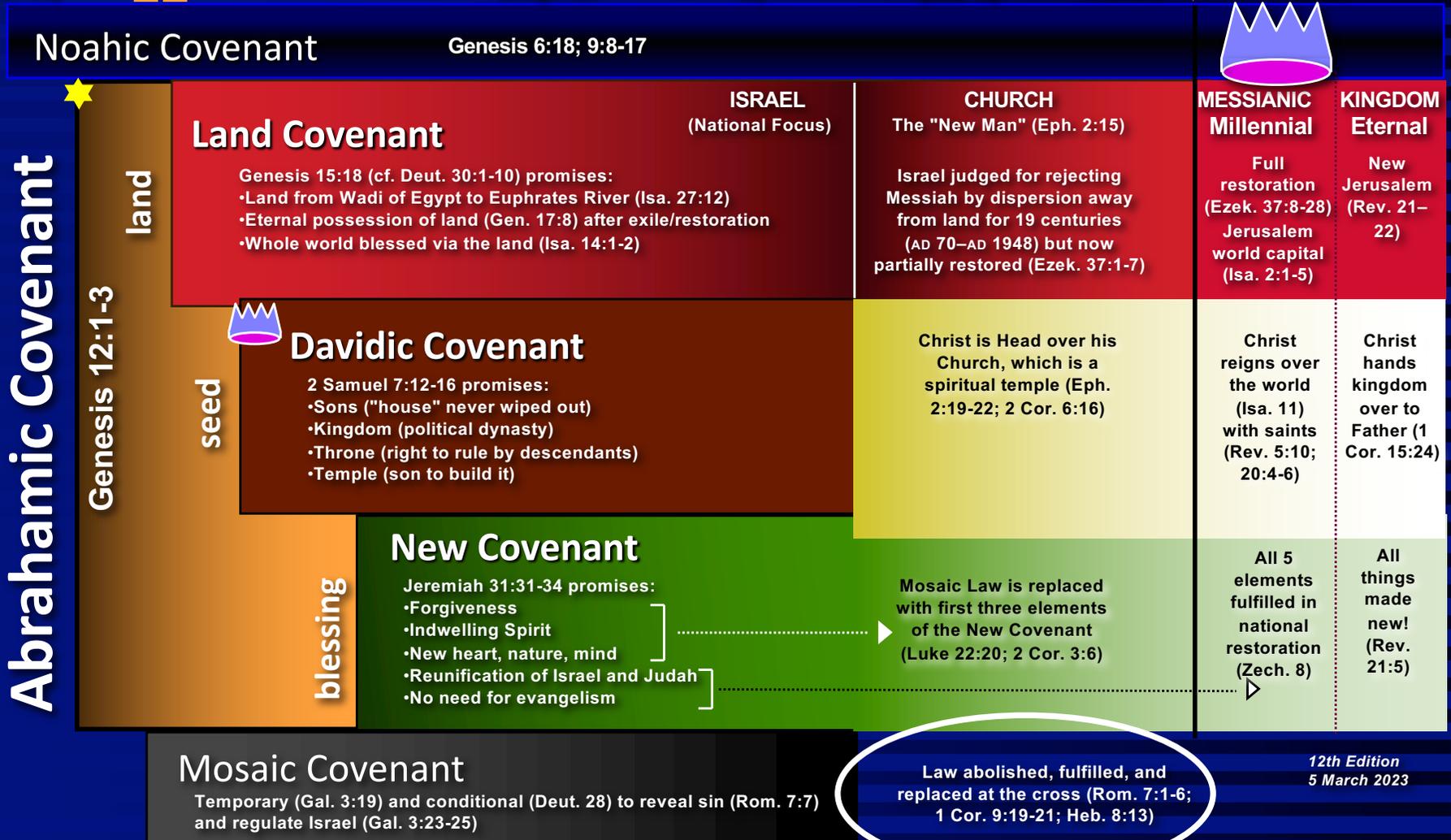
Israel rejects Messiah's offer of kingdom (Matt. 12:41-42; 23:37-39)

Jesus extends His kingdom in mystery form to the Church (Matt. 13)

Christ subdues Israel's enemies and nation believes (Rom. 11:26-27)

Christ rules over everything with saints (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 20:1-6; 22:5b)

Fall of Man (Gen. 3)



12th Edition
5 March 2023

Scripture has a dual kingdom-covenant theme. Israel's role from Abraham to Christ expands to include the Church (continuity) yet the Church never replaces the nation as the "new Israel" (discontinuity). Israel will enjoy world prominence after trusting Christ at His second coming.

2 Corinthians 4

The background of the slide is a photograph of a sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with dark, textured clouds, with a bright, golden glow emanating from the horizon. The light reflects on the surface of the water in the foreground. A dark, silhouetted landmass is visible along the horizon line.

How to Beat the Blues

2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Are you *discouraged* today?



**How can you
benefit
discourage?**

A photograph of a person with long hair looking down in a dark room. The room is illuminated by bright green laser lights that create a hazy, atmospheric effect. A dark red rectangular box is overlaid on the image, containing the text "Was Paul discouraged?".

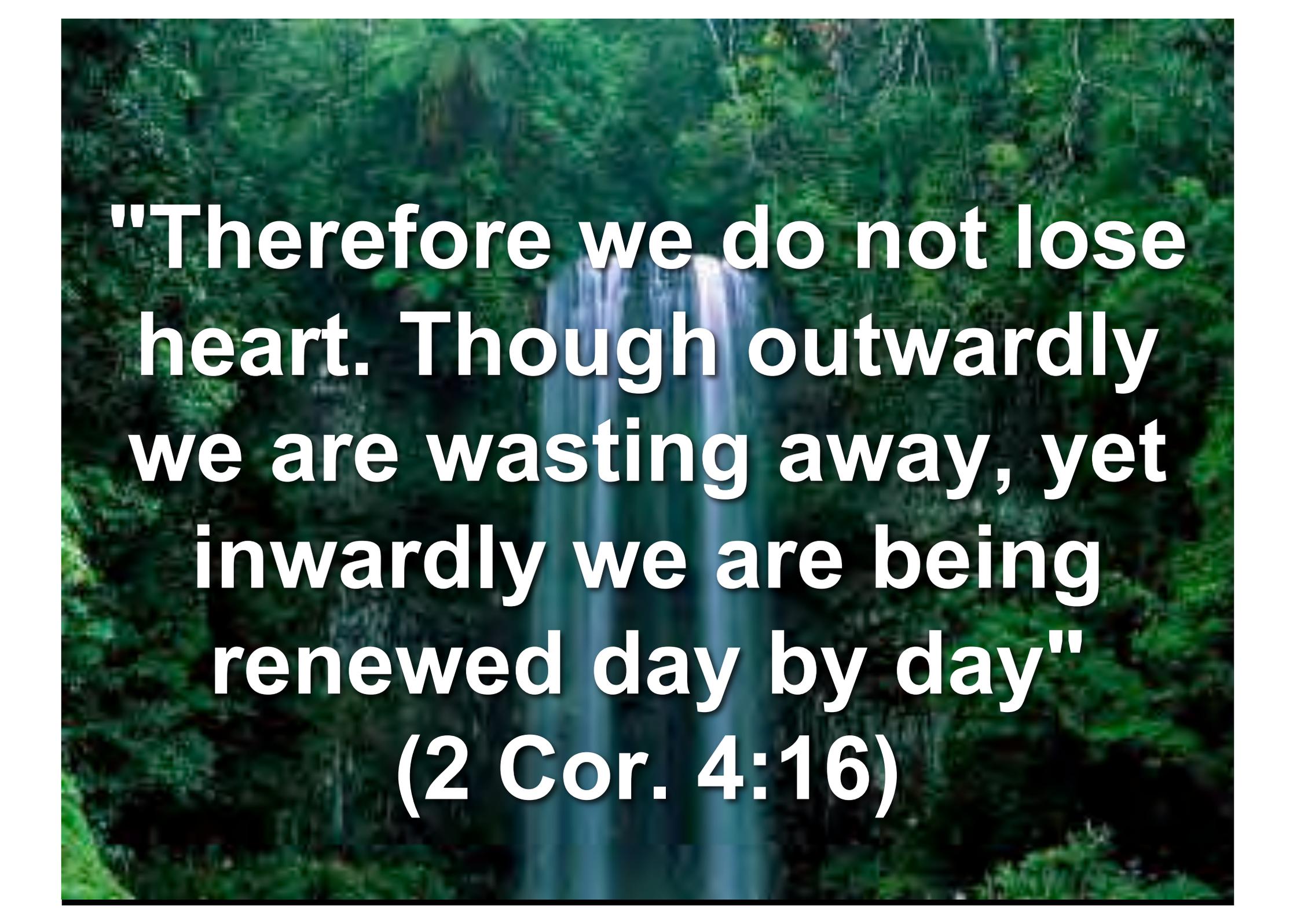
Was Paul discouraged?

Paul's Sacrifices...

2 Corinthians 11:23-28 I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been **flogged** more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴Five times I received from the Jews the **forty lashes minus one**. ²⁵Three times I was **beaten with rods**, once I was **stoned**, three times I was **shipwrecked**, I spent a night and a day **in the open sea**, ²⁶I have been constantly **on the move**. I have been in danger from **rivers**, in danger from **bandits**, in danger from my own

Paul's Sacrifices...

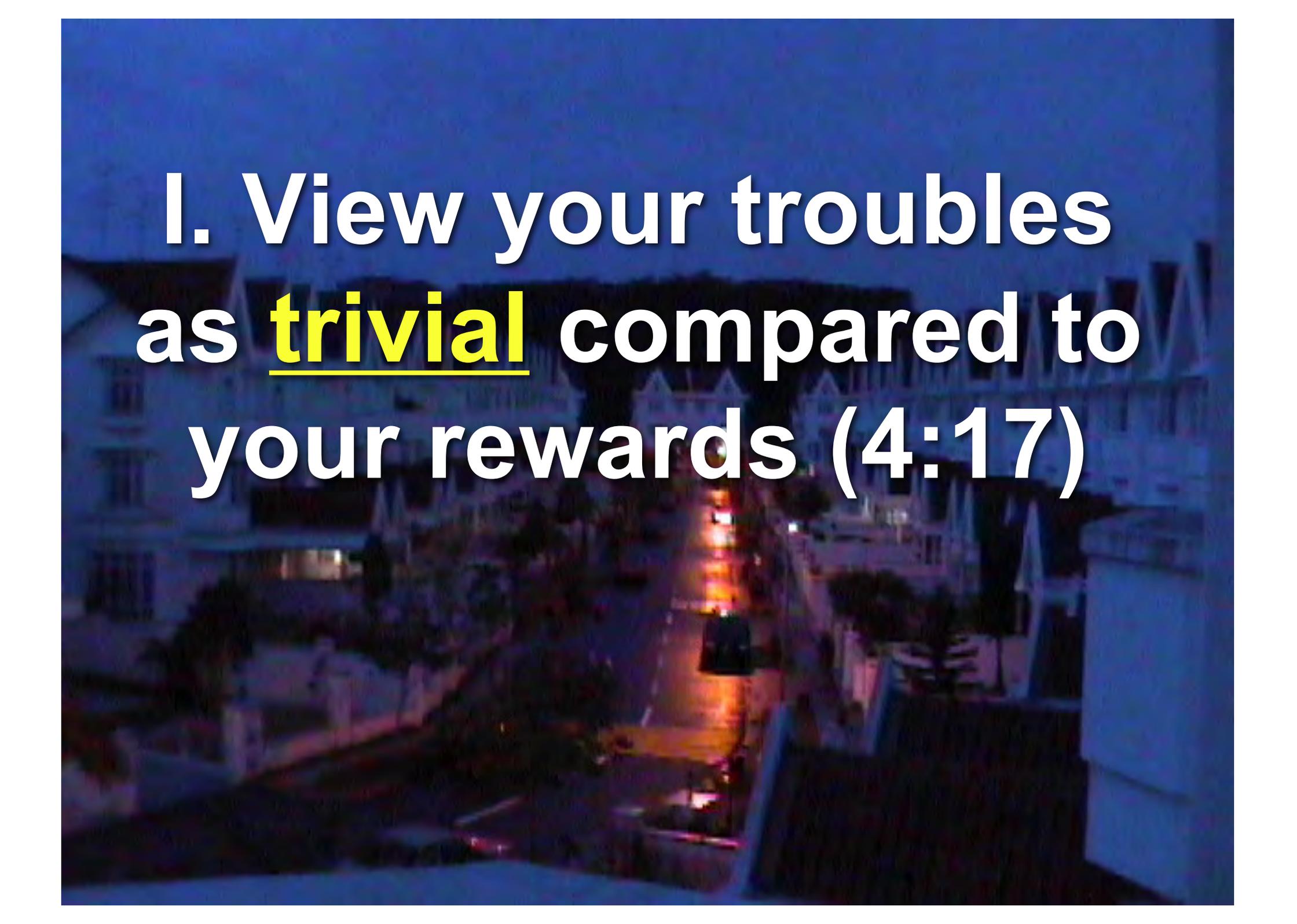
countrymen, in danger from **Gentiles**; in danger in the **city**, in danger in the **country**, in danger at **sea**; and in danger from **false brothers**. ²⁷I have labored and toiled and have often gone **without sleep**; I have known **hunger** and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been **cold and naked**. ²⁸Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my **concern for all the churches**.

A lush green forest with a waterfall cascading down a rocky ledge. The water is white and frothy as it falls, surrounded by dense green foliage and trees. The scene is bright and vibrant, with sunlight filtering through the leaves.

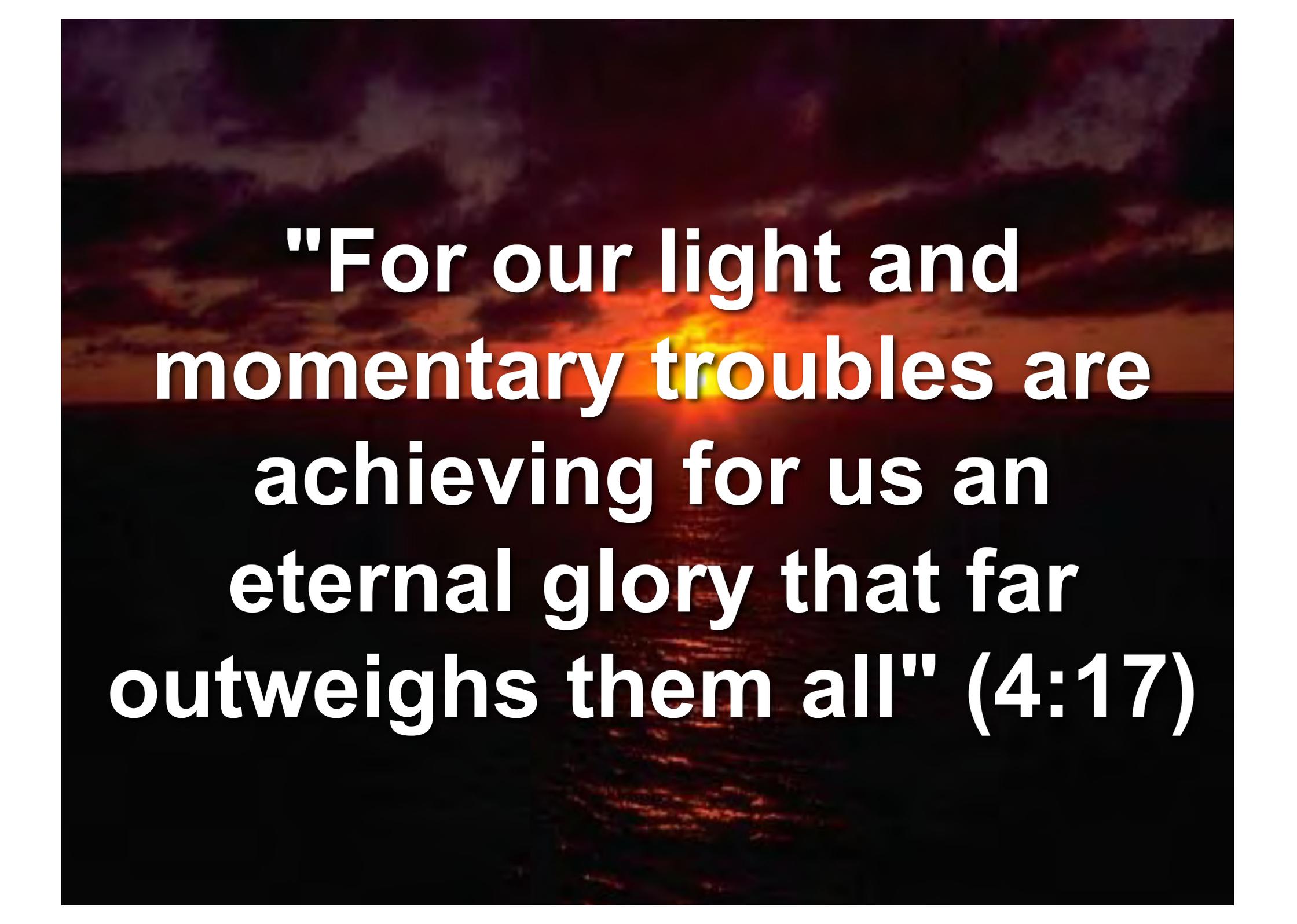
**"Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day"
(2 Cor. 4:16)**

**Let's see
Paul's two
ways to
beat the
blues...**





I. View your troubles
as trivial compared to
your rewards (4:17)

A sunset or sunrise over a dark sea with a bright sun low on the horizon. The sky is dark purple and blue, and the sun is a bright yellow-orange glow on the horizon line. The water is dark with some reflections of the sun.

**"For our light and
momentary troubles are
achieving for us an
eternal glory that far
outweighs them all" (4:17)**

Paul's light & momentary troubles...

2 Corinthians 11:23-28 I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been **flogged** more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. 24 Five times I received from the Jews the **forty lashes** minus one. 25 Three times I was **beaten with rods**, once I was **stoned**, three times I was **shipwrecked**, I spent a night and a day **in the open sea**, 26 I have been constantly **on the move**. I have been in danger from **rivers**, in danger from **bandits**, in danger from my own **countrymen**, in danger from **Gentiles**; in danger in the **city**, in danger in the **country**, in danger at **sea**; and in danger from **false brothers**. 27 I have labored and toiled and have often gone **without sleep**; I have known **hunger** and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been **cold and naked**. 28 Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my **concern for all the churches**.

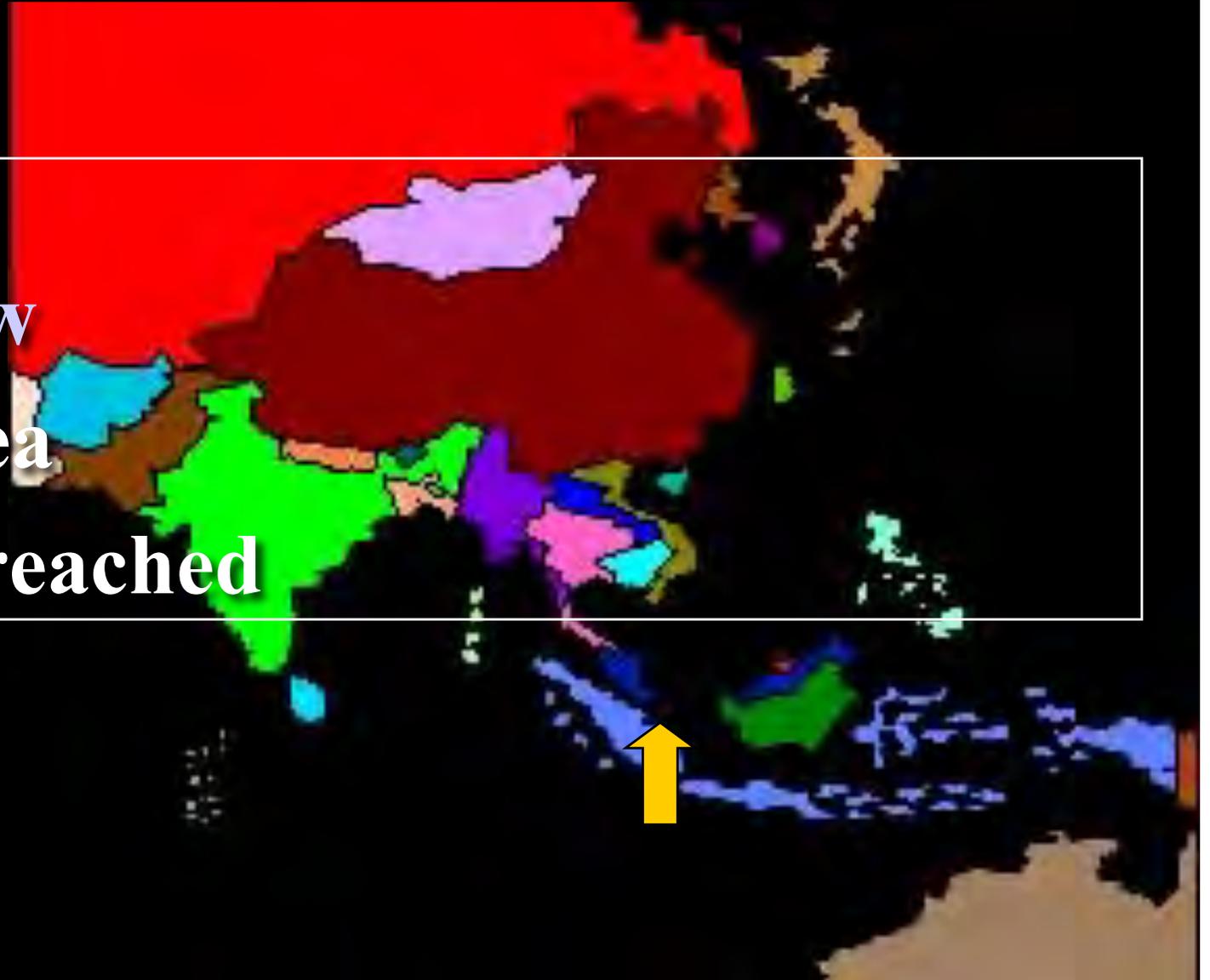
The City-State of Singapore



Singapore's Strategic Location

10/40 Window

- **Poorest Area**
- **97% of Unreached**



II. Focus on
invisible,
eternal
realities
(4:18)



See the invisible!

***"So we fix our eyes
not on what is **seen**,
but on what is **unseen**.
For what is **seen is temporary**,
but what is **unseen is eternal**"
(2 Corinthians 4:18)***

Focus on things of real value

- Everything we can see is ultimately worthless
- Things that we can't see are priceless

What is eternal?

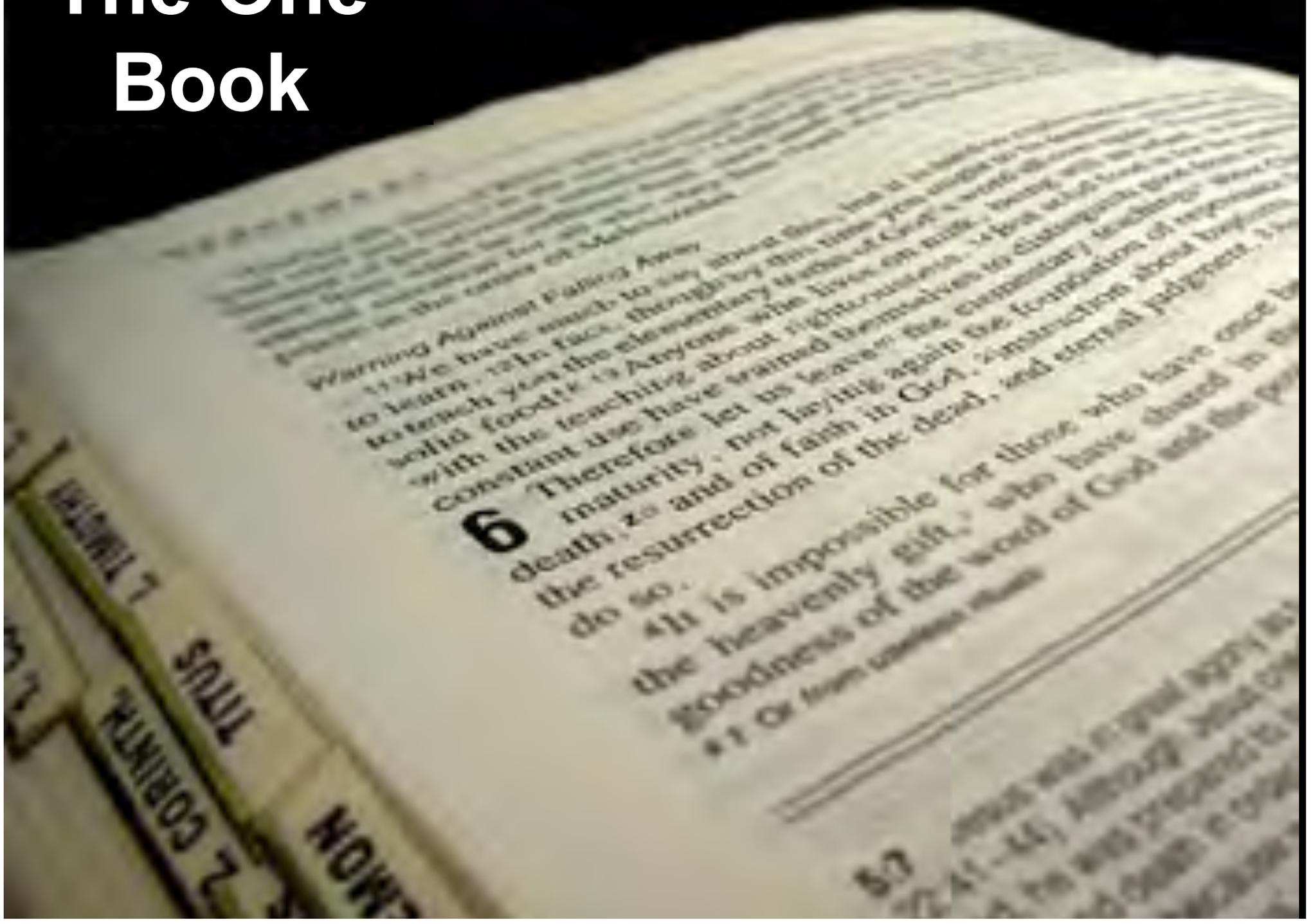
1. God

2. God's Word

3. Souls of People



The One Book



Warning Against Pasting Away
11 We have much to say about this, but it is forbidden to learn. 12 In fact, though by this time you ought to be able to teach your fellow slaves on these things, you need to be taught the elementary truths of God's word so that you will have no stumbling block for those who are new believers in the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ.

6

Therefore let us leave the elementary teachings of Christ and go on to maturity, not laying again the foundation of repentance from death, 20 and of faith in God. 21 It is impossible for those who have once been baptized into Christ's death, and who have shared in the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment, 22 to be brought back to the elementary teachings of the word of God and the precepts of men.

23 It is impossible for those who have once been baptized into Christ's death, and who have shared in the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment, 24 to be brought back to the elementary teachings of the word of God and the precepts of men.

Singapore: Aaron Chan

Indonesia: Sylvia



Ministry Up North



源于基督的得胜 7-10节
 蒙恩是照主的恩赐 7
 成就经上预言 (因果) 8
 主的得胜经历 (说明) 9-10
 下事奉的职位 (关联) 11
 使徒, 先知, 传福音 12
 牧师, 教师 (因果) 12-14
 职位的功用
 建立基督身体
 使圣灵在真道上合一
 使根基稳固 (因果) 15-16
 事奉的实践: 实话
 同心说诚实话
 在于元首基督

基督所赐的恩赐 4:7
 一、照基督所量量恩 7
 二、蒙恩的因由 (因果) 8-11
 三、五种恩赐的职分: 4:11
 四、赐恩赐的目的:

恩赐的功用
 各人蒙恩
 基督身体
 基督性
 圣灵充满

Get
 Involved!



You can defeat
discouragement by
following God's **priorities**
(Main Idea)

Eternal Priorities

1. God

2. God's Word

3. Souls of People







Five
More
Homes





Two Key Questions

1. **The eternal priority of God that I must pursue with passion is...**
2. **The way God is telling me to do this is...**

2 Corinthians 5

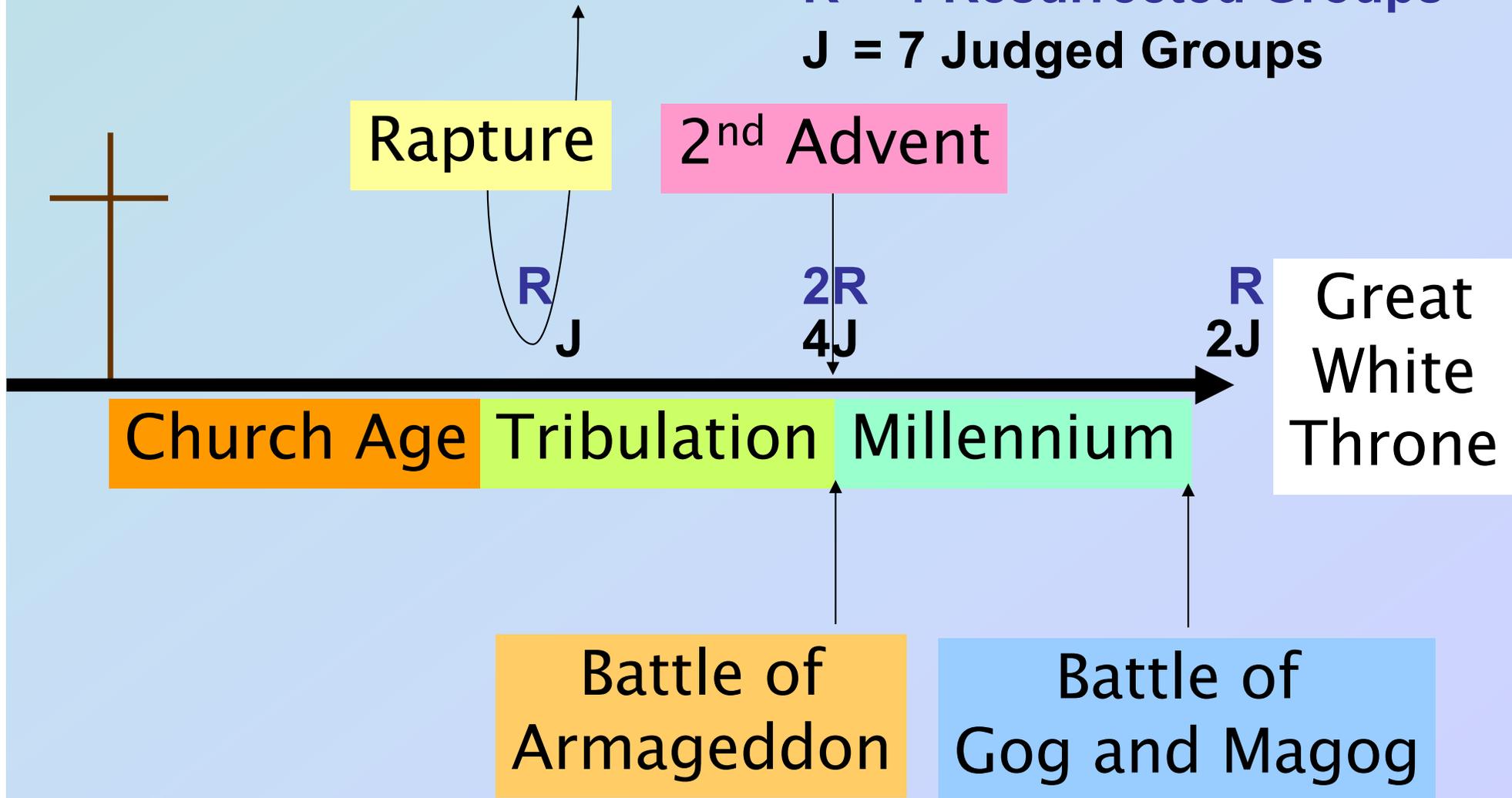
The Resurrected Body



Resurrections & Judgments

R = 4 Resurrected Groups

J = 7 Judged Groups



Judgment Seat of Christ



- **Believers Rewarded by Christ (2 Cor. 5:10)**
- **At the Rapture (1 Thess. 4:17)**
- **Reward or loss of rewards (not salvation)**

**We will join him in the clouds
(1 Thess. 4:17)**



**We will put away
"this present tent"
(2 Cor. 5:1)**



New bodies





THE JUDGMENT SEAT OF CHRIST

*Is this a judgment to
determine salvation?*

Or is it to reward believers?

The Bema Still Exists





Bema with Acrocorinth in Distance

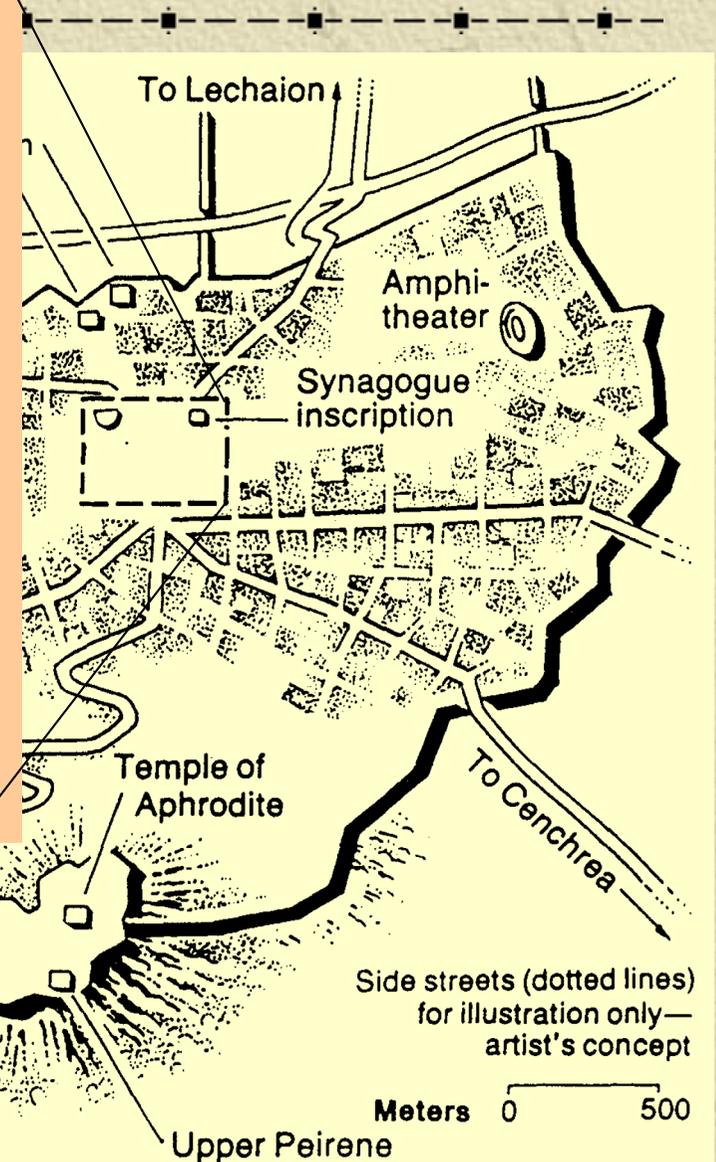
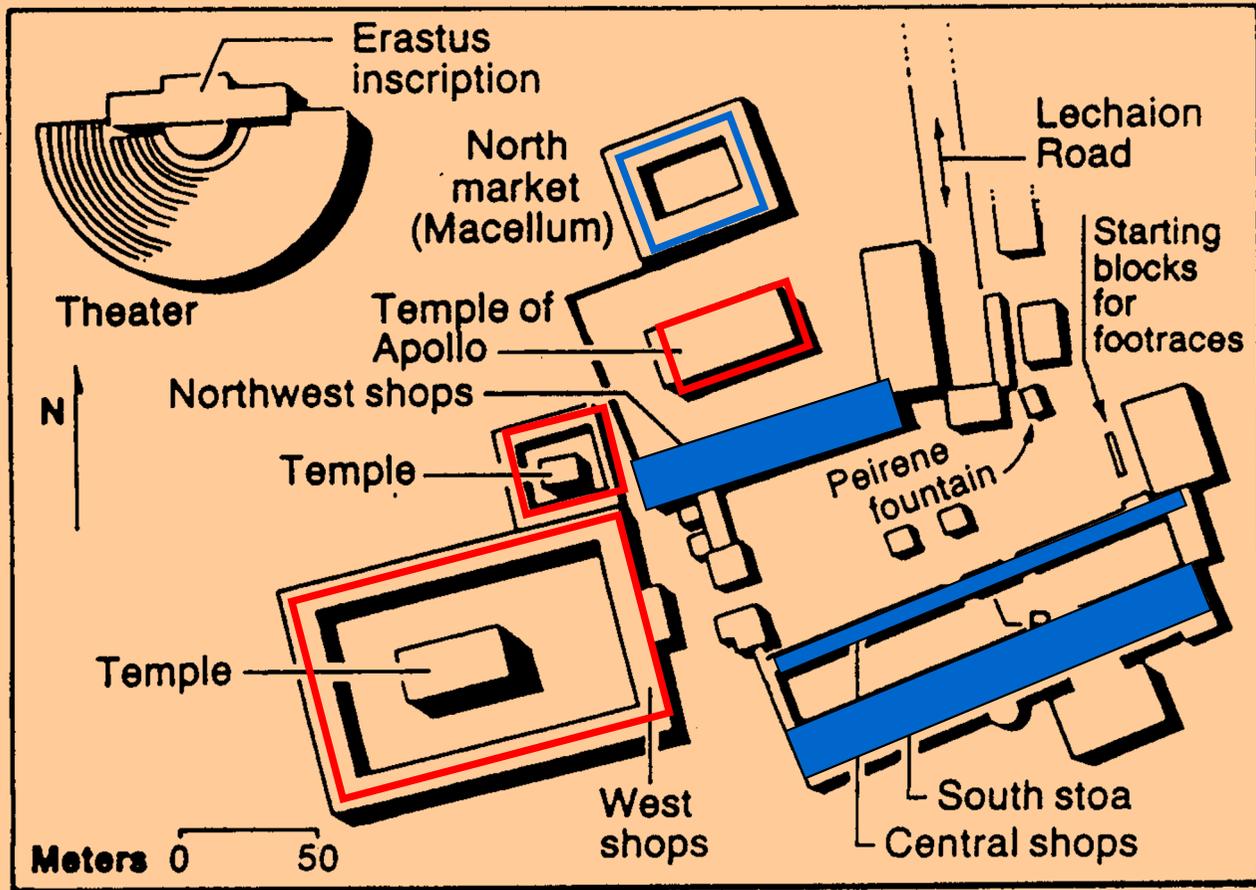
View from Acrocorinth



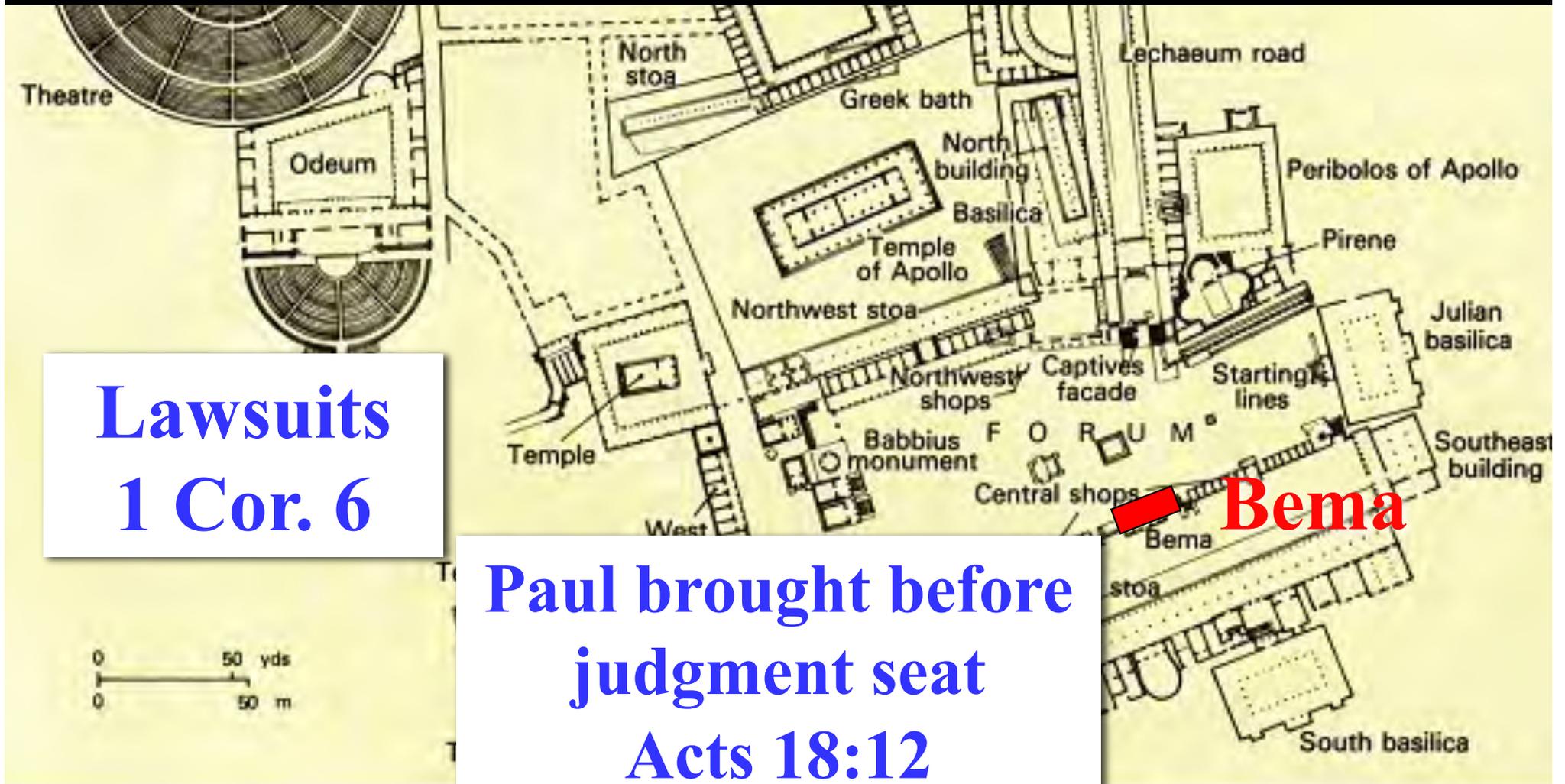
The Main City Below



The Corinthian Marketplace



"But while Gallio was proconsul of Achaia, the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat [bema]" (Acts 18:12)

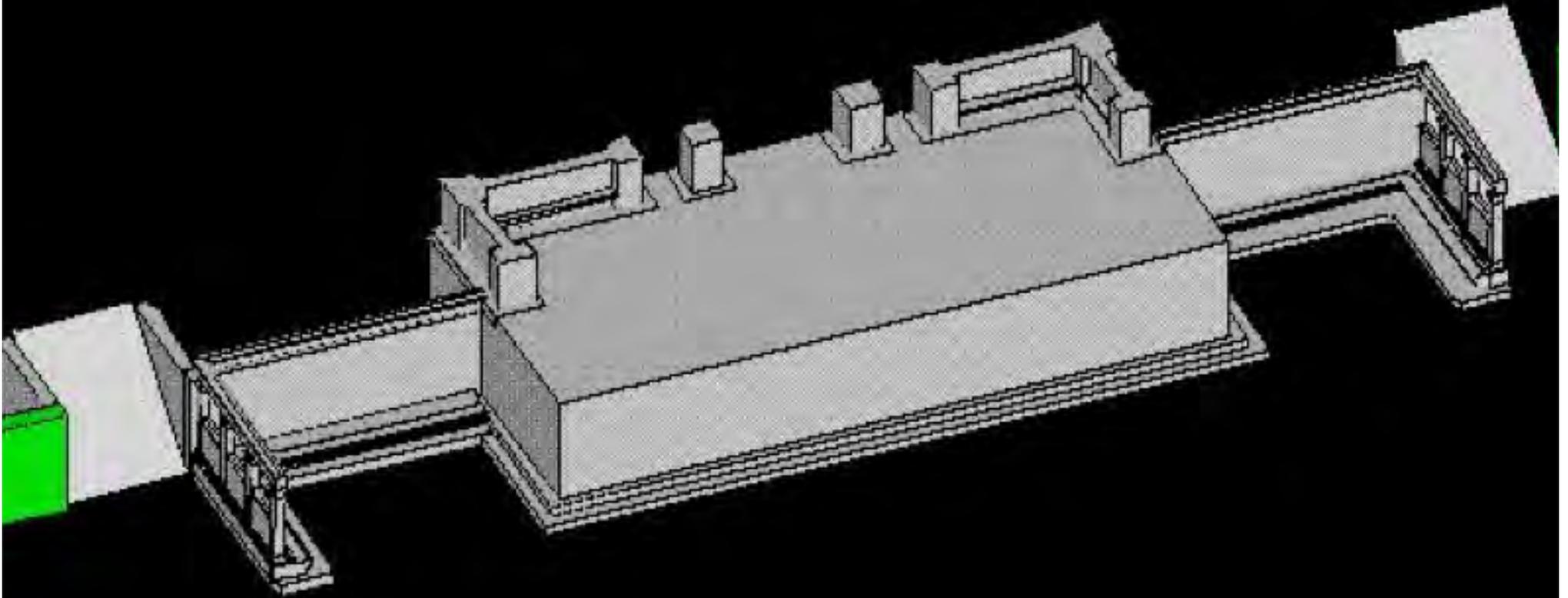


Lawsuits
1 Cor. 6

**Paul brought before
judgment seat**
Acts 18:12

The Bema at Corinth

Bema Close-up



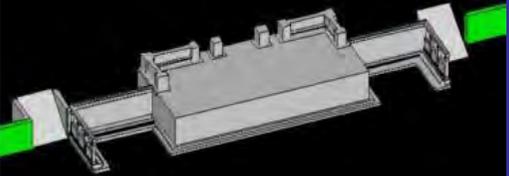
“So we make it our goal to please him, whether we are at home in the body or away from it. ¹⁰For **we must all appear before the judgment seat [bema] of Christ**, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad” (2 Cor. 5:9-10 NIV).

The Speaker or Judge Above



The One Being Judged or Rewarded Stood Below





Bema for Rewards

"In Grecian games in Athens, the old arena contained a raised platform on which the president or umpire of the arena sat. From here he rewarded all the contestants; and here he rewarded all winners. It was called the '*bema*' or '*reward seat*.' It was never used of a judicial bench."

L. Sale-Harrison, *Judgment Seat of the King*,
cited by Pentecost, *Things to Come*, 220

REALITY?

Bema is Used of Jesus Before Pilate



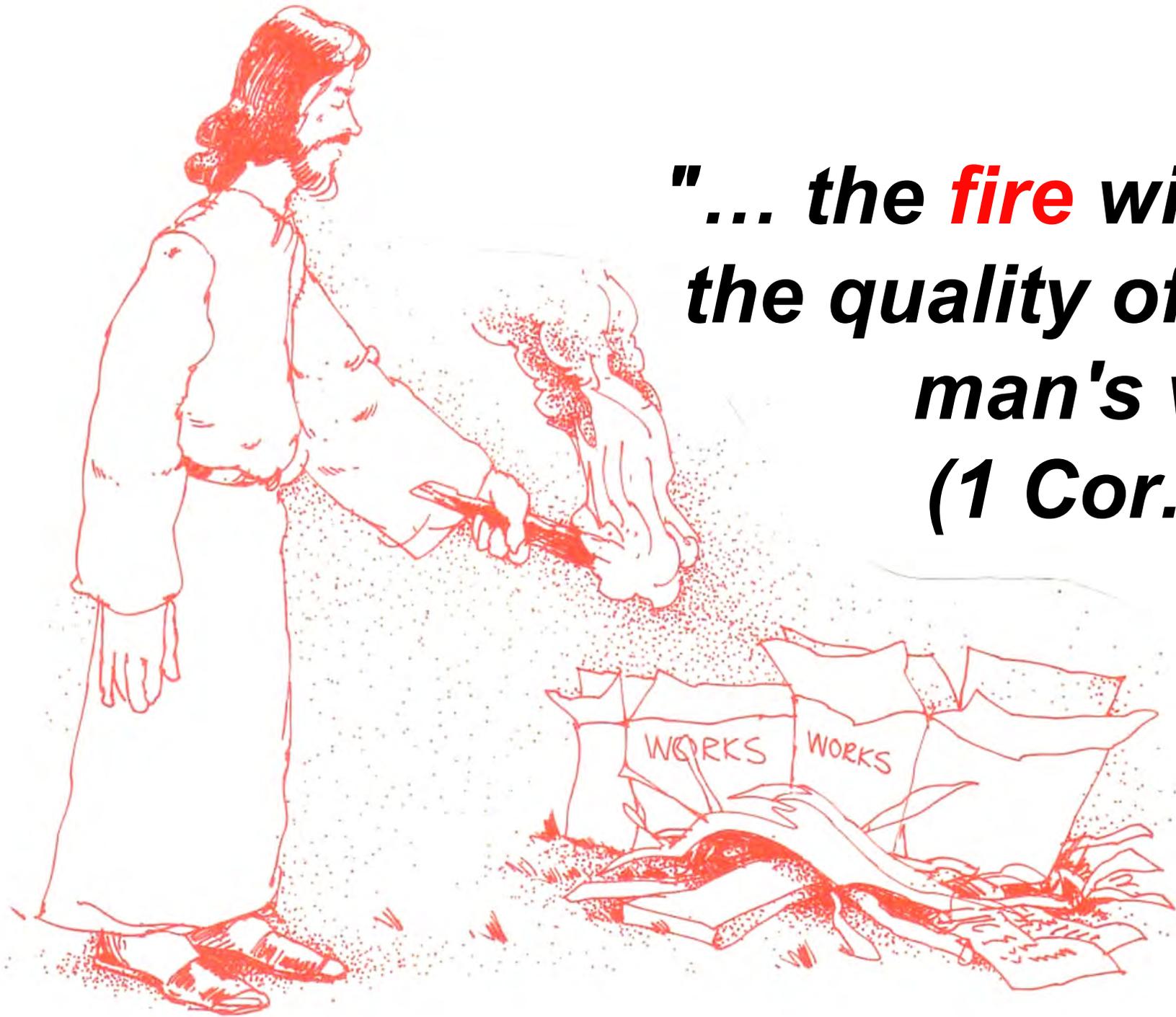


The Bema is a Reward Seat And a Judgment Seat

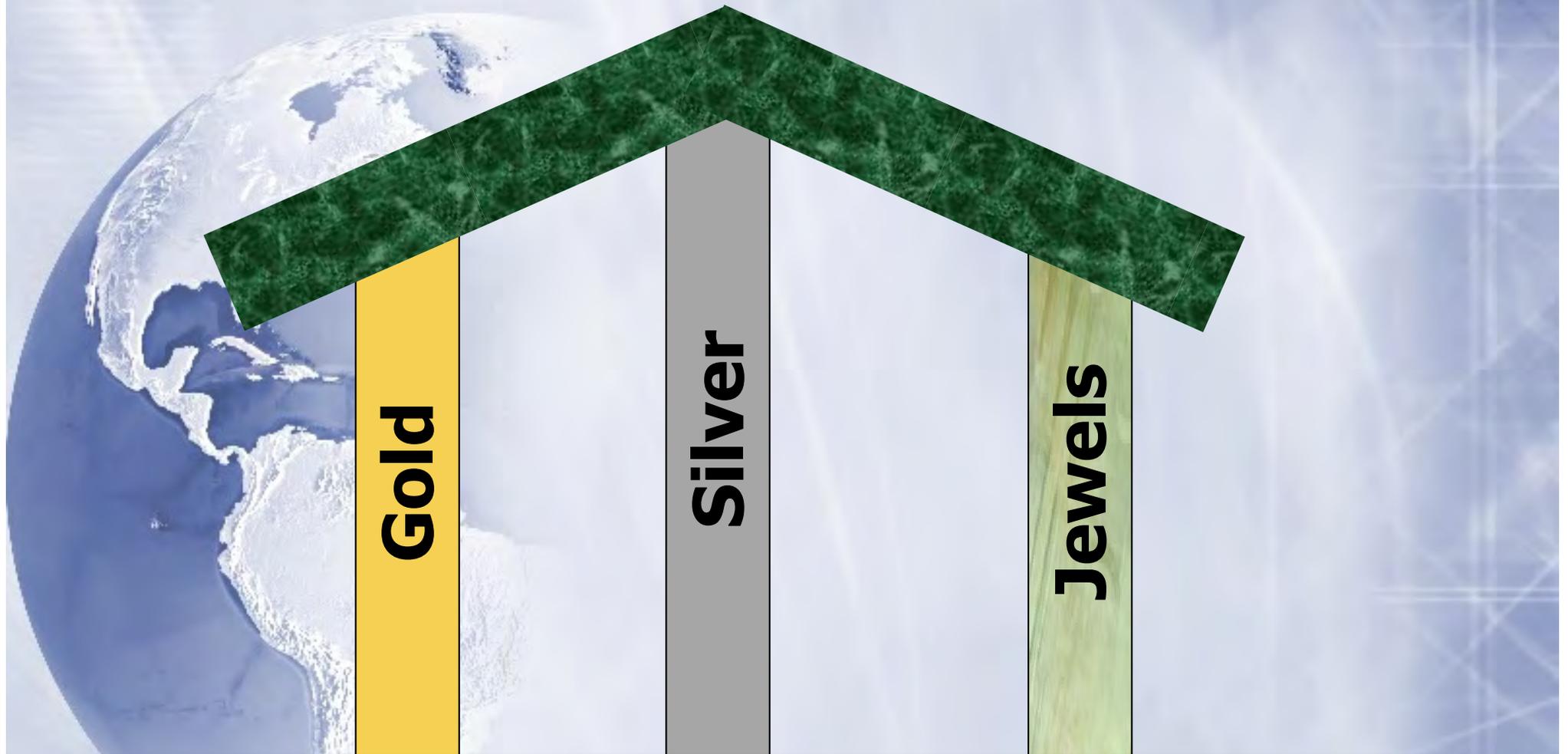


D. Hill

**"... the *fire* will test
the quality of each
man's work"
(1 Cor. 3:13)**



Lasting Building Materials (3:12a)



Foundation: Apostles & Prophets (Eph. 2:20)

Foundation: The Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:11)

Perishable Building Materials (3:12b)

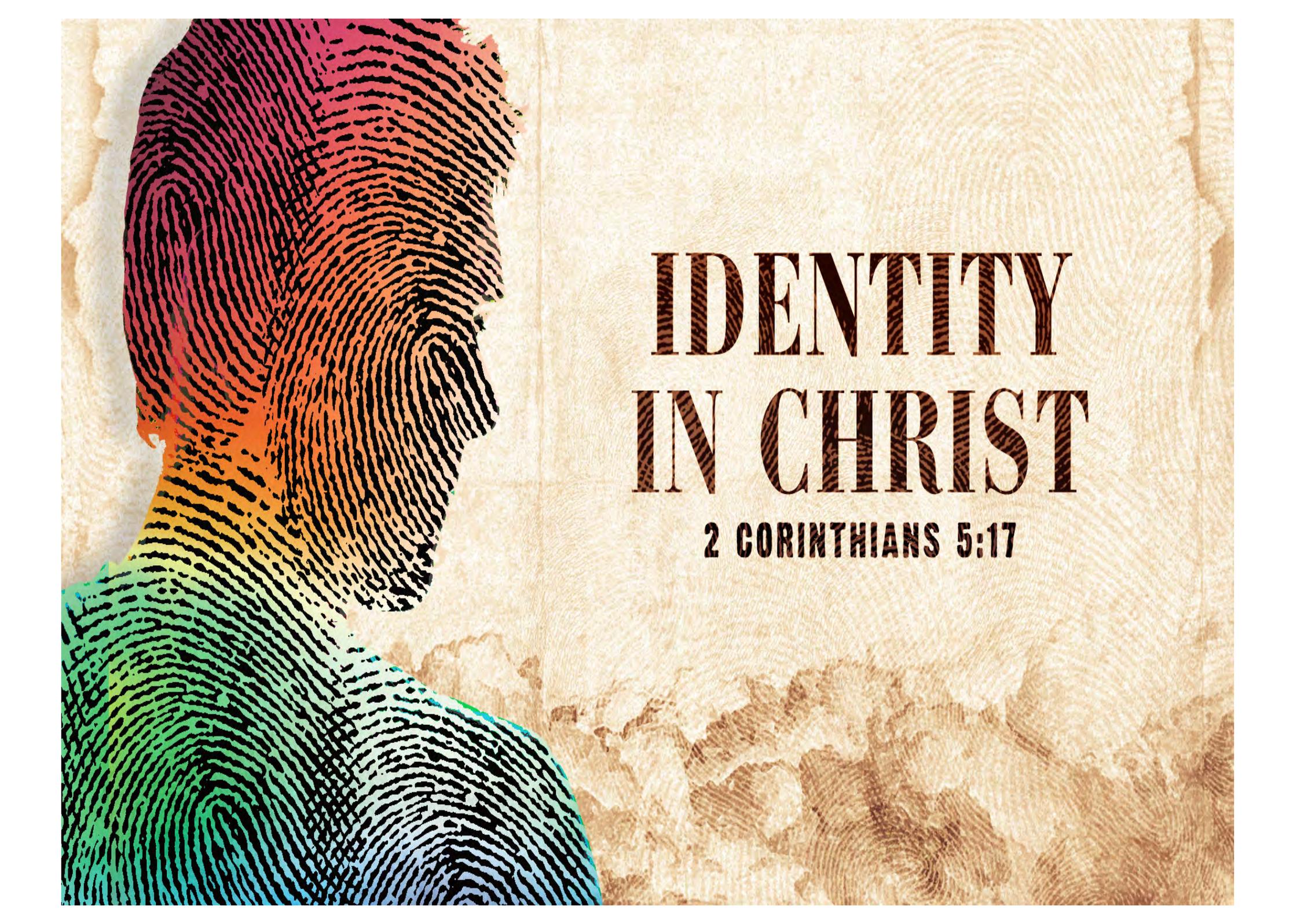


Foundation: Apostles & Prophets (Eph. 2:20)

Foundation: The Lord Jesus Christ (1 Cor. 3:11)

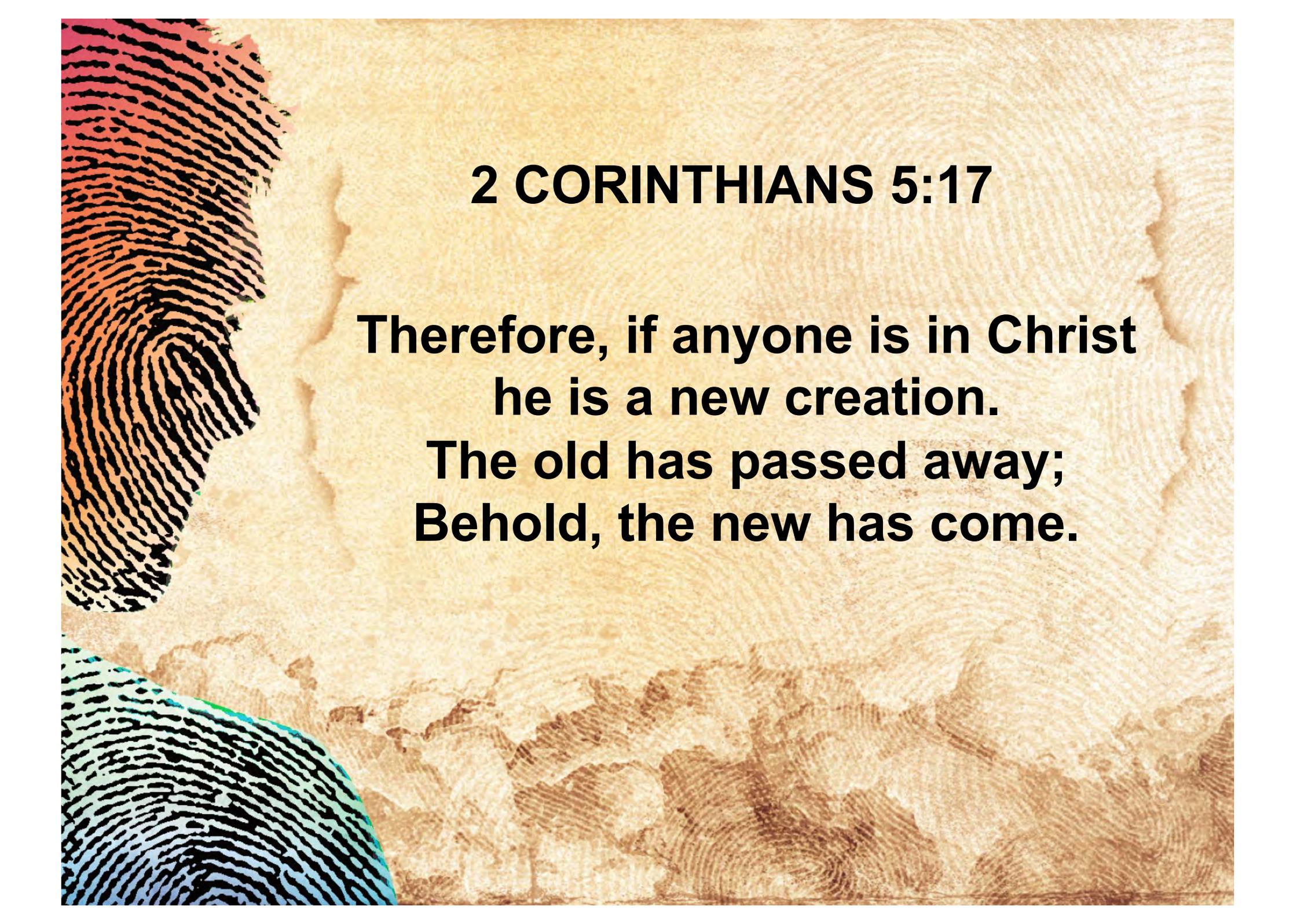


**"saved
as
through
fire..."
(1 Cor
3:15)**



IDENTITY IN CHRIST

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

The background features a textured, beige surface with a subtle, repeating pattern of fingerprint ridges. On the left side, there are two distinct fingerprint patterns: one in the upper left corner with a color gradient from red to orange, and another in the lower left corner with a color gradient from blue to green. The text is centered on the right side of the image.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

**Therefore, if anyone is in Christ
he is a new creation.**

**The old has passed away;
Behold, the new has come.**

OUTLINE

II. The Collection for the Saints at Jerusalem (8:1–9:15)

A. The Need for Generosity (8:1-15)

B. The Mission of Titus and His Companions (8:16–9:5)

C. The Results of Generosity (9:6-15)



2 Corinthians 6

**"I am asking you to respond as if
you were my own children. Open
your hearts to us!"
(2 Cor 6:13 NLT).**



Association with non-believers



2 Cor. 6:14-18

Reasons for Separation

UNEQUALLY YOKED

Giving up of control over one's activities and the loss of freedom to act in obedience to God.

What does 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1 mean?

"Don't team up with those who are unbelievers. How can righteousness be a partner with wickedness? How can light live with darkness? ¹⁵What harmony can there be between Christ and the devil? How can a believer be a partner with an unbeliever? ¹⁶And what union can there be between God's temple and idols? For we are the temple of the living God."

What does 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1 mean?

"As God said:

**'I will live in them
and walk among them.
I will be their God,
and they will be my people.**

**¹⁷Therefore, come out from among
unbelievers, and separate yourselves
from them, says the Lord'**

(2 Cor. 6:16-17)

What does 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1 mean?

"Don't touch their filthy things, and I will welcome you. ¹⁸And I will be your Father, and you will be my sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty."

¹Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God"

(2 Cor. 6:17–7:1)

Association with non-believers

Paul's Instructions



Separation Texts

<u>Text</u>	<u>Issue</u>	<u>Command</u>
-------------	--------------	----------------

2 Th 3:6-15	?	?
-------------	---	---

Rom 12:1-2	?	?
------------	---	---

Rom 16:17	?	?
-----------	---	---

Eph 5:11	?	?
----------	---	---

1 Th 5:21	?	?
-----------	---	---

Separation Texts

Text

Issue

Command

1 Tim 6:3-5

?

?

2 Tim 2:16-21

?

?

Titus 3:10

?

?

2 John 7-11

?

?

Jude 3

?

?

ROMANS 15

9 And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and sing unto thy name.

10 And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people.

11 And again, Praise the Lord, ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye Gentiles.

12 And again, Esai'as saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust.

13 Now the God of hope shall fill you with all manner of blessing and comfort through the power of the Holy Ghost.

14 And I myself also am persuaded of you, my brethren, that ye also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, able also to admonish one another.

15 Now therefore, brethren, let us lay one another on as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God.

16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

17 In that which I desire, I may glory through Jesus Christ in those things which pertain to God.

18 For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me to make the Gentiles obedient by the word and doctrine of the gospel of Christ, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jeru-

240

usalem and round about to Illyr'ium, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

20 Yea, so have I strived to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build upon another man's foundation:

21 But as it is written, Whom he was not spoken of, shall see: and they that have not heard shall understand.

22 For which cause also I have been much hindered from coming to you.

23 But now having no more place in these parts, and having a great desire these many years to come unto you;

24 Whosoever I take my journey into Spain, I will come to you: for I trust to see you in my journey, and to be brought on my way thitherward by you, if so be that I may somewhat be refreshed.

25 But now I go unto Jerusalem to minister unto the saints.

26 For it hath pleased them of Macedonia and Acha'ia to make a certain contribution for the poor saints which are at Jerusalem.

27 It hath pleased them verily, and their debtors they are. For if the Gentiles have been made partakers of their spiritual things, their duty is also to minister unto them in carnal things.

28 When therefore I have performed this, and have sealed to them this fruit, I will come by you into Spain.

29 And I am sure that when I shall come unto you, I shall come in the fulness of the blessing of the gospel of Christ.

30 Now I beseech you, brethren, for the Lord Jesus Christ's

ROMANS 16

1 Salute Apol'l'es approved in the Lord, and for the love of the spirit, that ye strive together with me in your prayers to God for me;

2 That I may be delivered from them that do not believe in the Lord; and that my service for Jerusalem may not be fruitless.

3 And the saints of the province of Asia greet you, as do the saints of the province of Macedonia. Greet the beloved Persis, which laboured much in the Lord.

CHAPTER 16

COMMEND unto you Ph'e'b'e, my sister, which is a servant of the church which is at Cenchr'e'a:

2 That ye receive her in the Lord, as becometh saints, and that ye assist her in whatsoever business she hath need of you: for she hath been a supporter of many, and of myself also.

3 Greet Priscilla and Aquila my helpers in Christ Jesus:

4 Who have for my life laid down their own necks; unto whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

5 Likewise greet the church that is in their house. Salute my wellbeloved Ep'e'thus, who is the firstfruits of Acha'ia unto Christ.

6 Greet Mary, who bestowed much labour on us.

7 Salute Andro'n'icus and Jun'ia, my kinsmen, and my fellow-labourers, who are of note among the apostles, who also were in prison for Christ before me.

8 Greet Ampli'as my beloved in the Lord.

9 Salute Urbane, our helper in Christ, and Stach'ys my beloved.

241

Association with non-believers

Distinctions between believers and non-believers



What does 2 Cor. 6:14-7:1 mean?

"The direct commands to *separate* from other people are always commands to separate *from unbelievers*, not from Christians with whom one disagrees... There are no direct New Testament commands to separate from Christians with whom one has doctrinal differences (unless those differences involve such serious heresies that the Christian faith itself is denied)."

Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*, 877



CHRISTIANS

and

WORLD STANDARDS



2 Corinthians 7

"Because we have these promises, dear friends, let us cleanse ourselves from everything that can defile our body or spirit. And let us work toward complete holiness because we fear God. ² Please open your hearts to us. We have not done wrong to anyone, nor led anyone astray, nor taken advantage of anyone" (2 Cor 7:1-2 NLT).

“I’m not saying this to condemn you. I said before that **you are in our hearts, and we live or die together with you. ⁴I have the highest confidence in you, and I take great pride in you.**

You have greatly encouraged me and made me happy despite all our troubles”

(2 Cor 7:3-4 NLT).

**We should encourage our
spiritual leaders also.**



How can you
be responsive
to God's heart for you?



Open your heart to...

your **leaders**

(1–7)

those in **need**

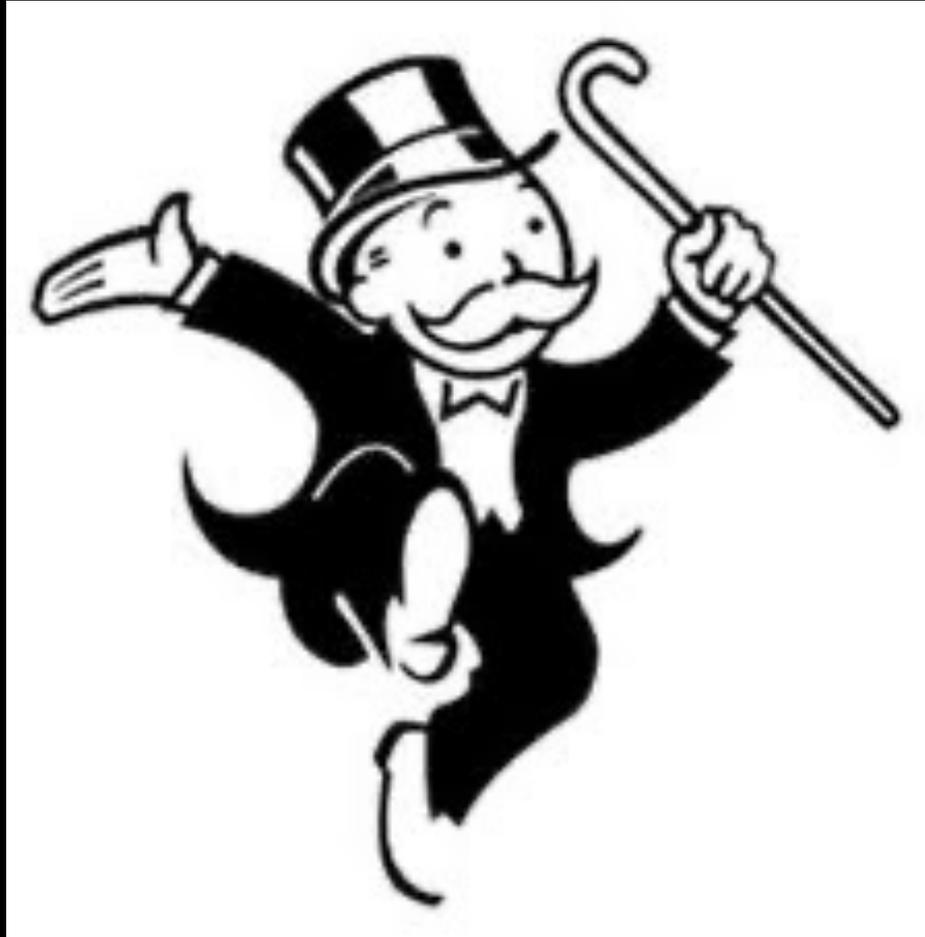
(8–9)

2 Corinthians



**Corinth should respond to
God's care by giving to the
Jerusalem saints
(2 Cor 8–9).**

2 Corinthians 8



How to Get Rich

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

A Revealing Checkbook...



TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION	
Geoff	
max Payoff!	★
overCard #1	★
Discovery Card #1 BY GF!	★
Panda Express #2 Payoff!	★
ave FYM	



Ron Blue on faking...

"You can't fake stewardship. Your checkbook reveals all you really believe about stewardship...your goals, priorities, convictions, relationships, and even the use of your time. A person who has been a Christian even for a short while can fake prayer, Bible study, evangelism, going to church, and so on, but he can't fake what his checkbook reveals"

(Ron Blue, *Master Your Money*, 20)



Jeff Kreisler's

Get Rich Cheating



NO ETHICS NECESSARY!

RECESSION-PROOF SCAMS!

FUN WITH FRAUD!

THE CROOKED PATH
TO EASY STREET

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a thick stack of US dollar bills, likely \$100 bills, tied together with rubber bands. The stack is held against a dark, textured background. The text is overlaid on the image in a large, white, bold font.

**"Vision 2030:
S'poreans to be as
Rich as Americans"**

***The Straits Times* Frontpage 14 Oct 1991**

How we can really



Examples

Principles

I. We become rich by following the examples of those who are **really rich**.





The version of TGR! that makes all others obsolete.

THINK AND GROW RICH!

The Original Version, Restored and Revised™

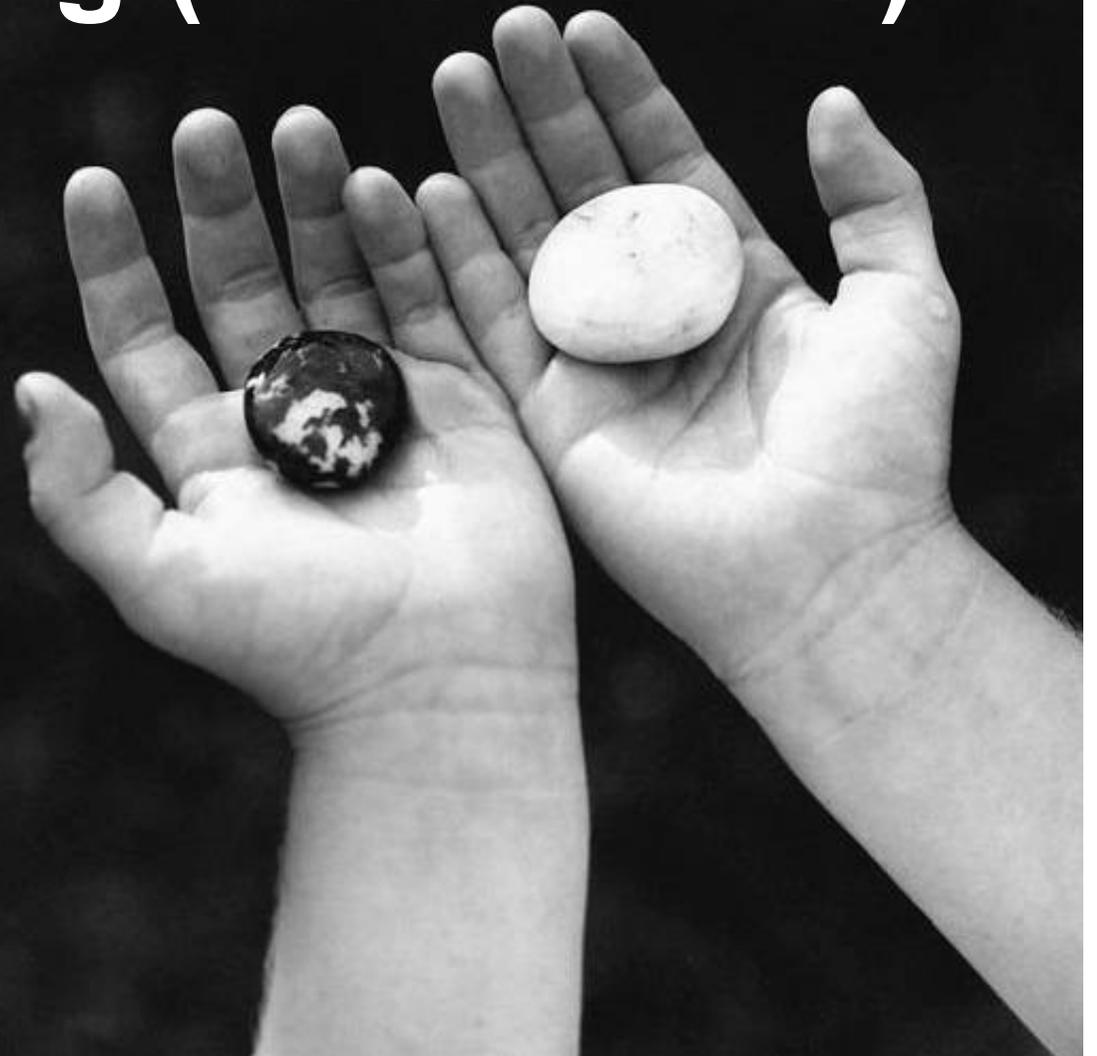
Now fully annotated and indexed

BY NAPOLEON
HILL

"This is the best single book on personal success ever written; it made me a millionaire -- starting from nothing."

-- Brian Tracy, author of *Getting Rich Your Own Way*

A. Paul gives **two examples** of becoming rich through generous giving (2 Cor. 8:1-9).

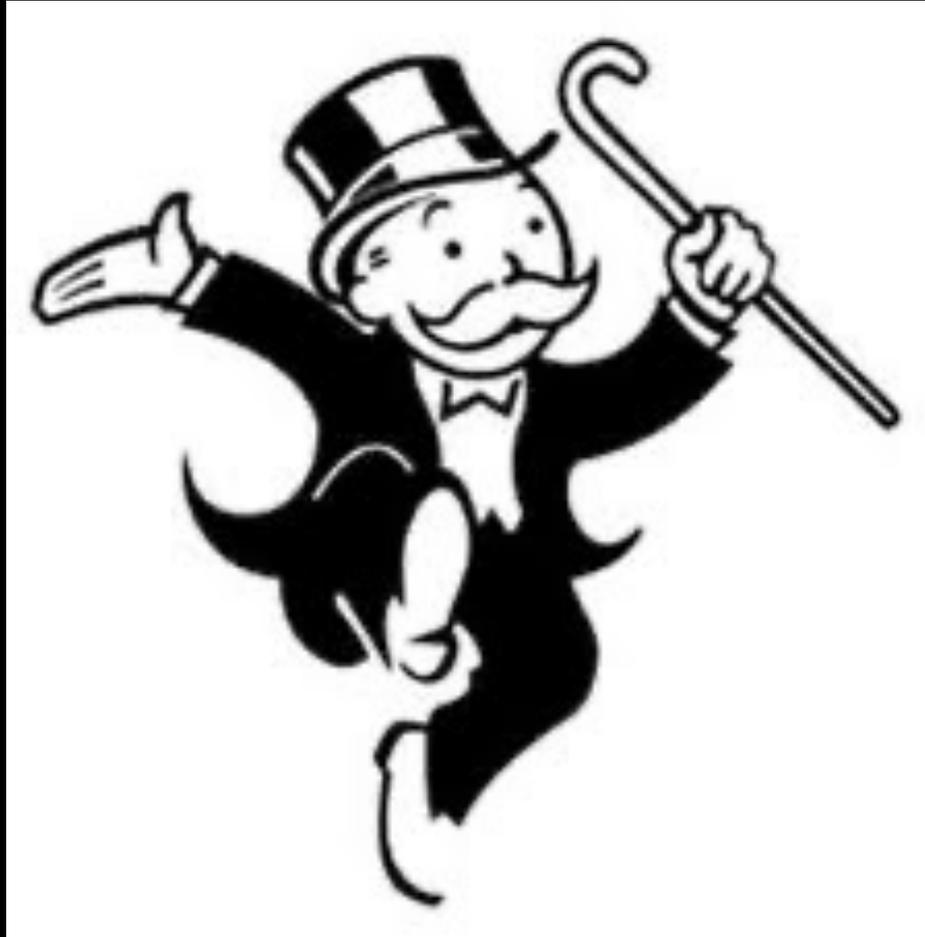


Examples of real wealth...

A Poor "Rich" Area



1. The Rich Macedonians



How to Get Rich

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

"Rich" in 2 Corinthians 8-9



- The Macedonians showed "rich generosity" (8:2).
- The Corinthians are said to be rich through Christ (8:9).
- God promises that those who fulfill certain conditions "will be made rich in every way" (9:11).

Paul redefines true wealth

The Macedonians gave way beyond what their means could support (8:1-3a)

"¹And now, brothers, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. ²Out of the most severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. ³For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability."

Macedonia off the sea lanes



Singapore's Strategic Location



The Crossroads of the Indian & Pacific Oceans



Macedonia off the sea lanes



Mark 12:41-44

Two Mites

Give her credit!



The Macedonians gave of their own initiative (8:3b-4)

"^{3b}Entirely on their own, ⁴they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the saints."

They went beyond money by giving themselves to God and to meet Paul's companions' needs (8:5)

"⁵And they did not do as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then to us in keeping with God's will."

The Corinthians should also give money generously just as they had fully given themselves in other areas (8:6-7)

"⁶So we urged Titus, since he had earlier made a beginning, to bring also to completion this act of grace on your part. ⁷But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving."

Another example of generosity...

Christ also gave sacrificially by laying aside His rights as God to become human (8:8-9).

I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. ⁹For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.

The ***Kenosis*** (Emptying)

Even though he was God...

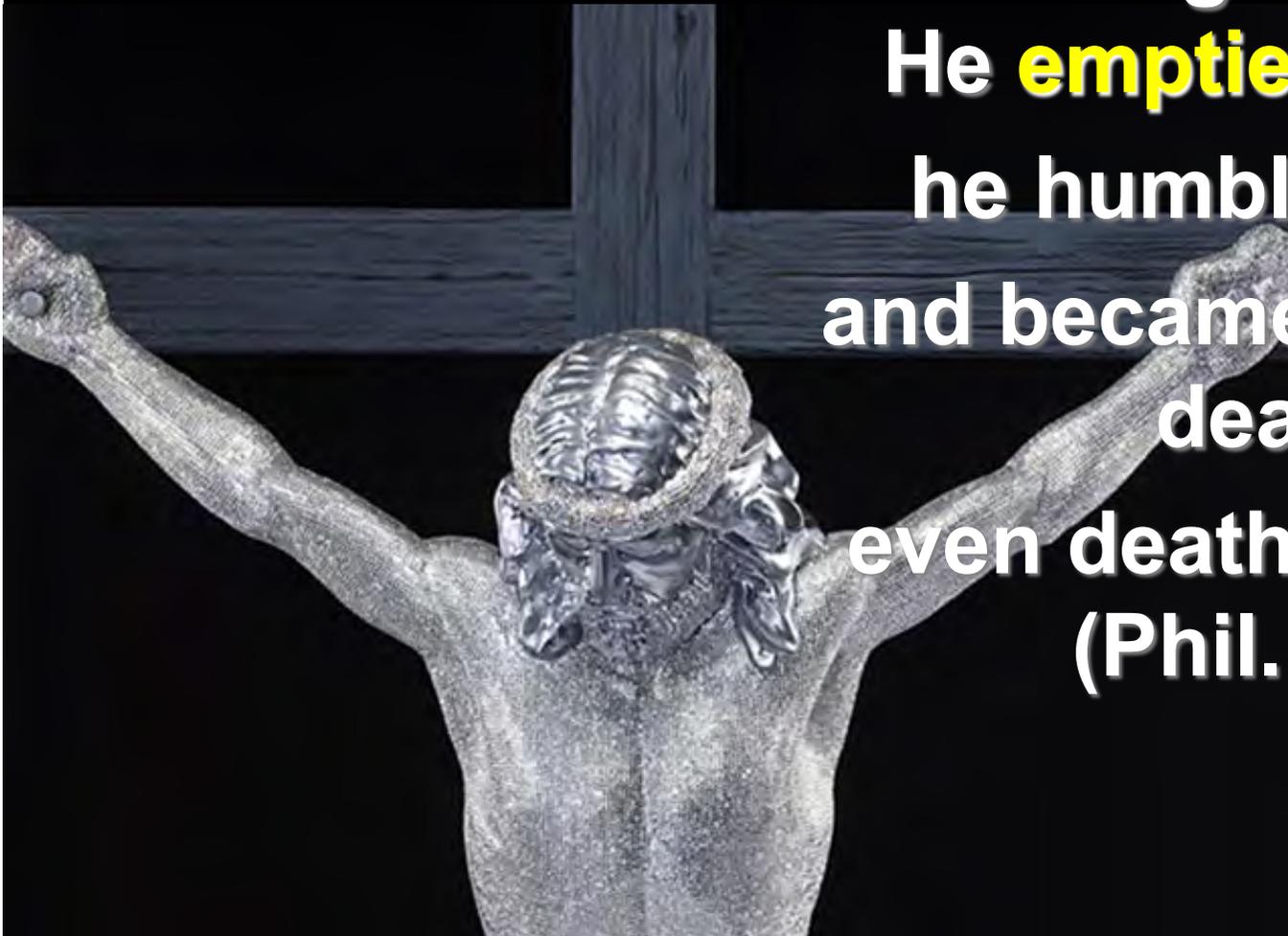
He **emptied** himself...

he humbled himself

and became obedient to
death—

even death on a cross!

(Phil. 2:6, 8)



Modern Examples of Generosity...



THE GENEROSITY FACTOR
IT'S MORE BLESSED TO GIVE THAN TO RECEIVE

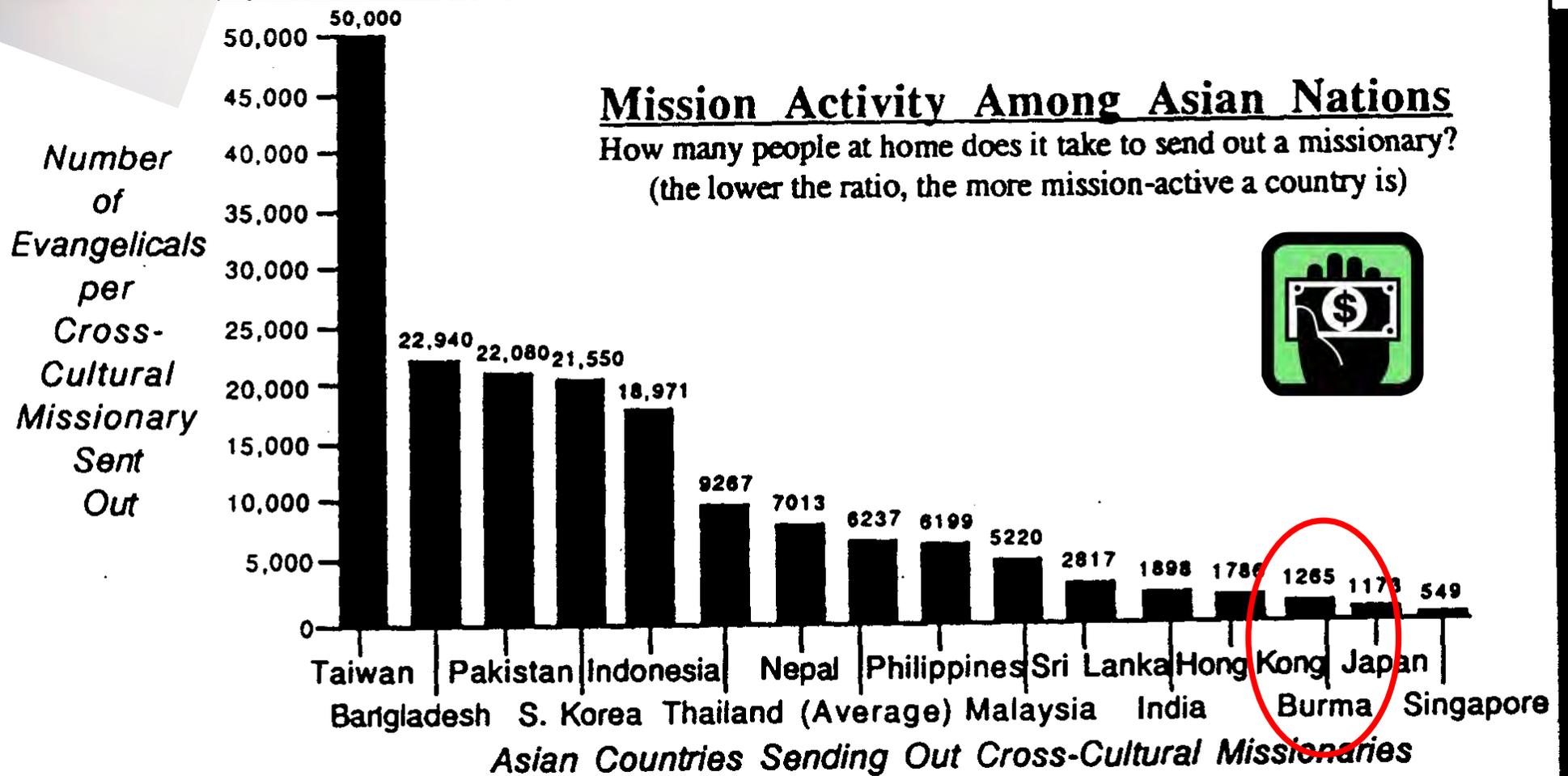
Wealthy

- Ed Sheffield
- Richard Miles
- Christ Chapel

Not Wealthy

- Scott Smith
- Pastor Vijay
- Myanmar saints

Mission Activity Among Asian Nations



Source: Asia Mission Congress '90 Research Track Committee Report, p. 6

What examples of generosity do **you** know?



I. We become rich by following the examples of those who are **really rich**.



**II. Generosity replaces
procrastination with
proportional and purposeful
giving (8:10-15).**



A. Like the Corinthians, we need follow-through—not procrastination!



**Honor the
Lord by
giving him
the first
part of
all your
income.**

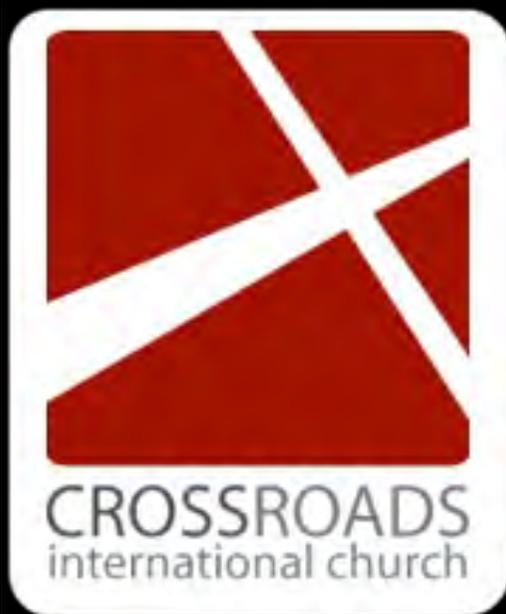
Proverbs 3:9^{U4}

The church at Corinth had promised a gift a year earlier and needed to stop **procrastinating on its promise (8:10-11).**

"¹⁰And here is my advice about what is best for you in this matter: Last year you were the first not only to give but also to have the desire to do so. ¹¹Now finish the work, so that your eager willingness to do it may be matched by your completion of it, according to your means."

**God holds *us* accountable for
promises we've made too.**

\$400



You Can Give Online Now!

For Online Giving to CIC:

United Overseas Bank

Bank Code 7375 (UOB)

Branch Code: 026 (Bukit Timah)

Account Number 347-300-884-8



**B. Like the Corinthians, we need
proportionally generous giving
(8:12)**



"¹²For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what he does not have."



Generosity is Relative

**"God assesses the 'value' of a monetary gift not in terms of the actual amount given, but by comparing what is given with the total financial resources of the giver"
(Harris, *EBC*, 10:369).**

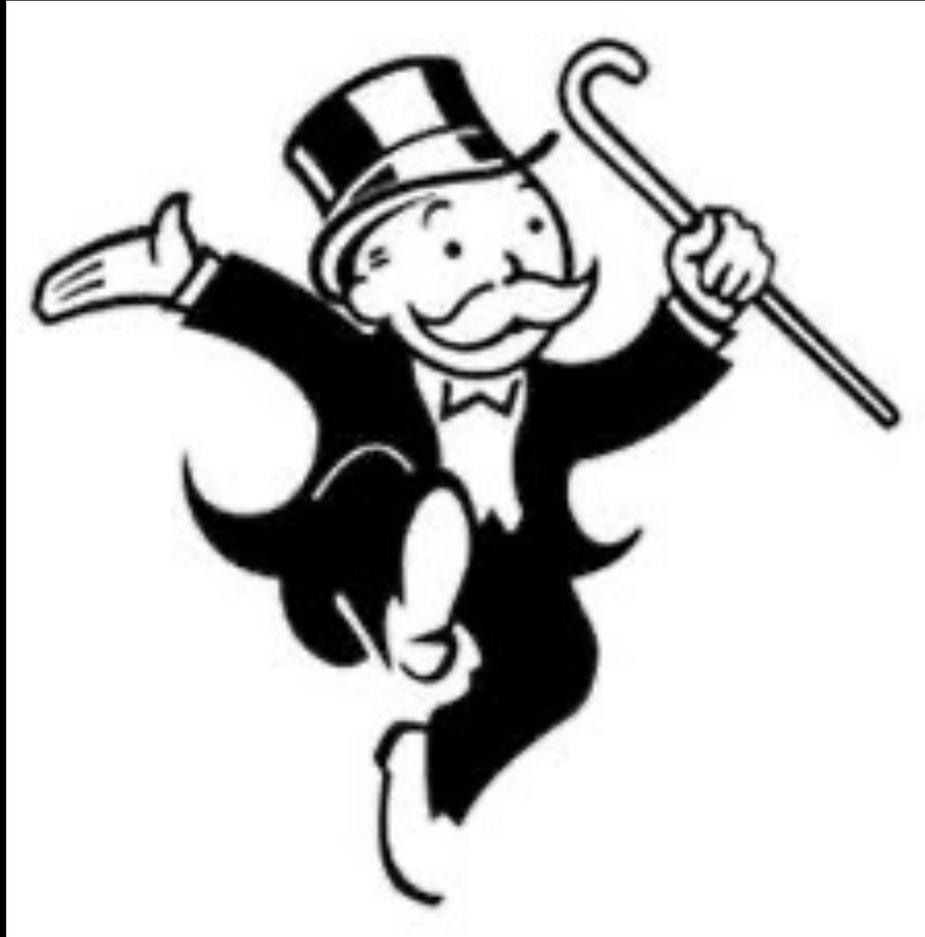
C. Like the Corinthians we need to **purposely** invest in the less fortunate (8:13-15).

"¹³Our desire is not that others might be relieved while you are hard pressed, but that **there might be equality**. ¹⁴At the present time your plenty will supply what they need, so that in turn their plenty will supply what you need. Then **there will be equality**, ¹⁵as it is written: 'He who gathered much did not have too much, and he who gathered little did not have too little.'"

Equality? Really?

Singapore = Pakistan = Mongolia





How to Get Rich

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

Main Idea of 2 Cor. 8:1-15

We become rich when
we **generously give our
money away!**



How we can really



2 Examples

3 Principles

The Three Principles

Procrastination
Proportion
Purpose



What if Jesus saw **your** chequebook?

AMOUNT	DATE	TRANSACTION DESCRIPTION	
1043.87	8/15	Geoff	
87.130	8/15	Amex Payoff!	★
87.130	8/15	DiscoverCard #1	★
87.130	8/15	DiscoverCard #2	★
		Panda Express	★
		AVE FYMMA	



Life

Finances

Forgiveness

Generosity

If I knew the exact amount God wanted me to give, would I give it?

2 Corinthians 9

Sowing Lessons

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

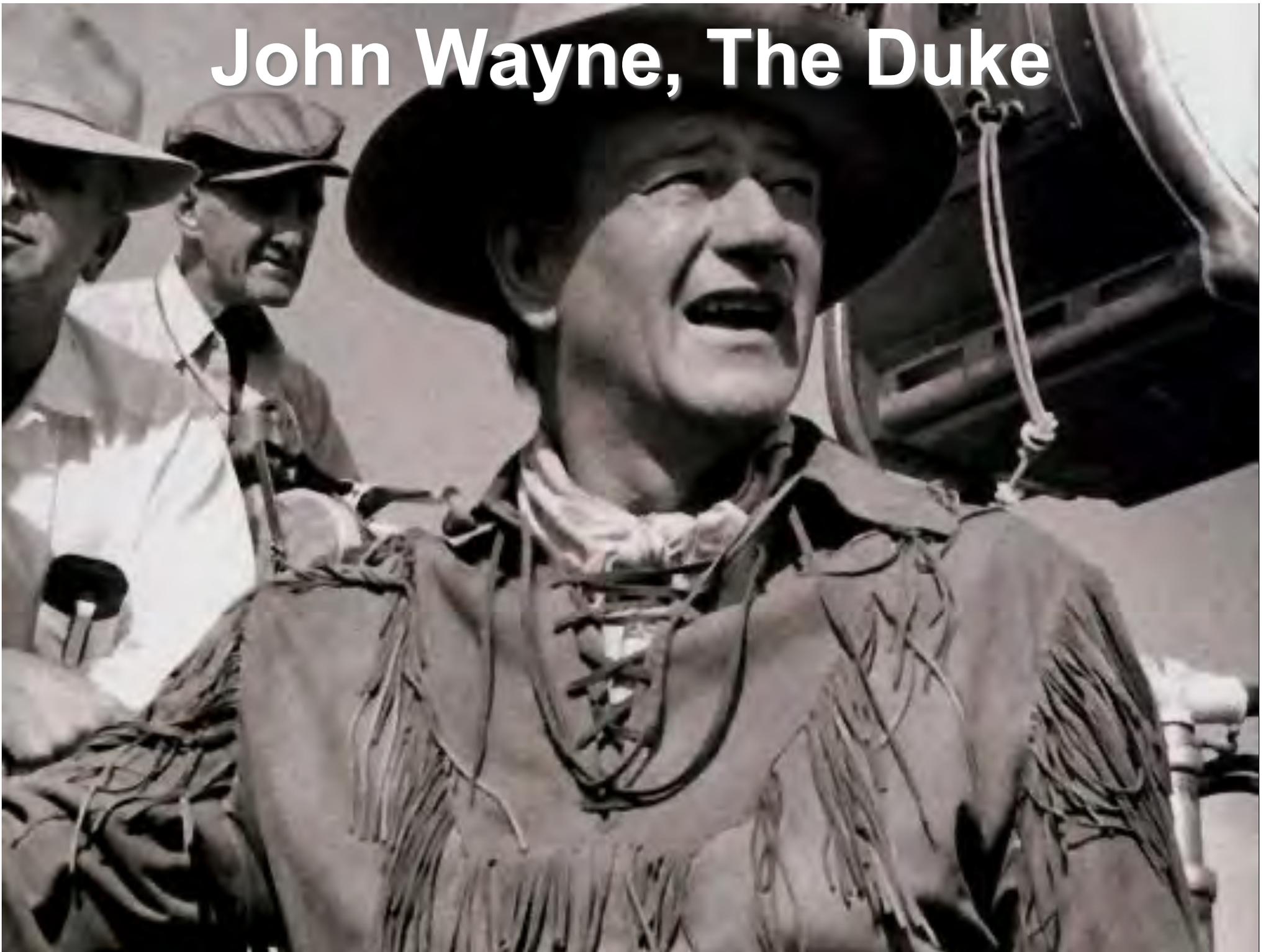


Name what comes to mind when I say...

MONEY

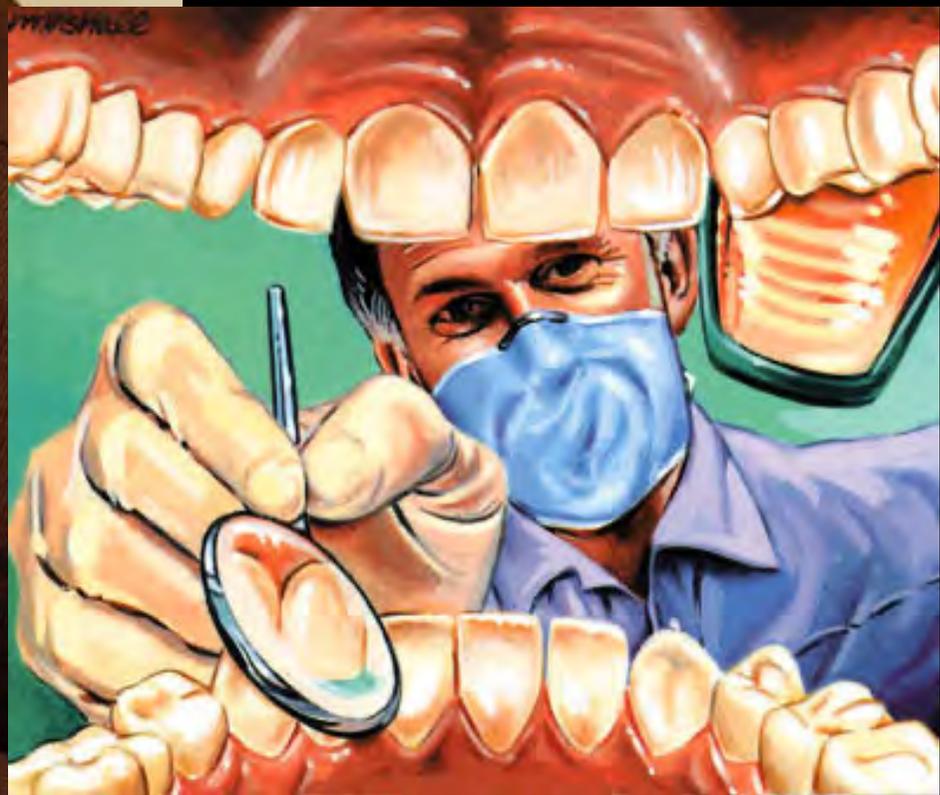


John Wayne, The Duke



The Rich Man & Lazarus



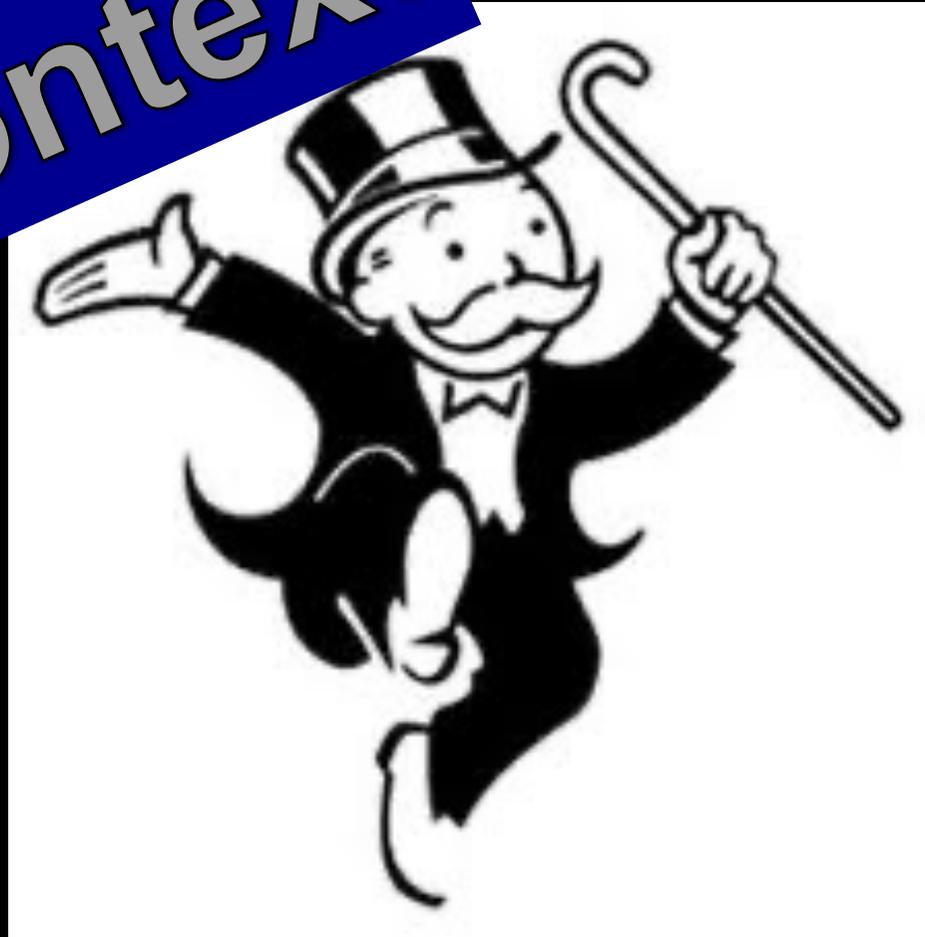


Money & Titles



Yuppies:	Young Urban Professionals
Puppies:	Poor Urban Professionals
Buppies:	Black Urban Professionals
Grumpies:	Grown Urban Professionals
Dinks:	Double Income, No Kids
Silks:	Single Income, Lots of Kids
Woofs:	Well-Off Older Folks
Flyers:	Fun-Loving Youth En Route to Success

The context



How to Get Rich

2 Corinthians 8:1-15

How we can really



2 Examples

3 Principles

Main Idea of 2 Cor. 8:1-15

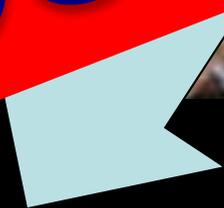
We become rich when
we **generously give our
money away!**



Two questions on giving:



2 Corinthians 9:6



How **much**?

- Key Principle



What **results**?

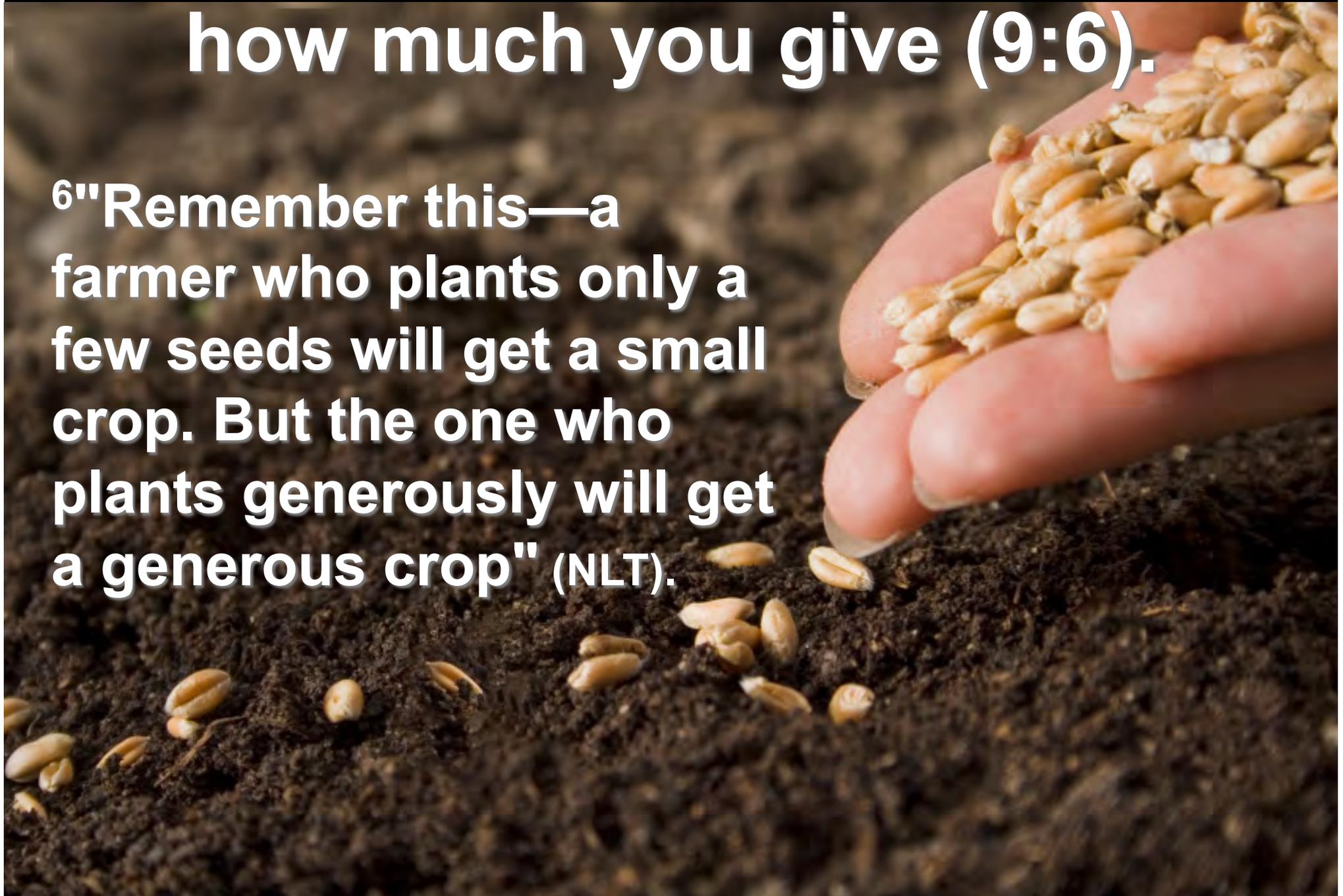
- Benefits

I. **Principle**: You decide how much you want to get blessed (9:6-7a).



A. God blesses you according to how much you give (9:6).

6"Remember this—a farmer who plants only a few seeds will get a small crop. But the one who plants generously will get a generous crop" (NLT).



Rule #1 of Agriculture...

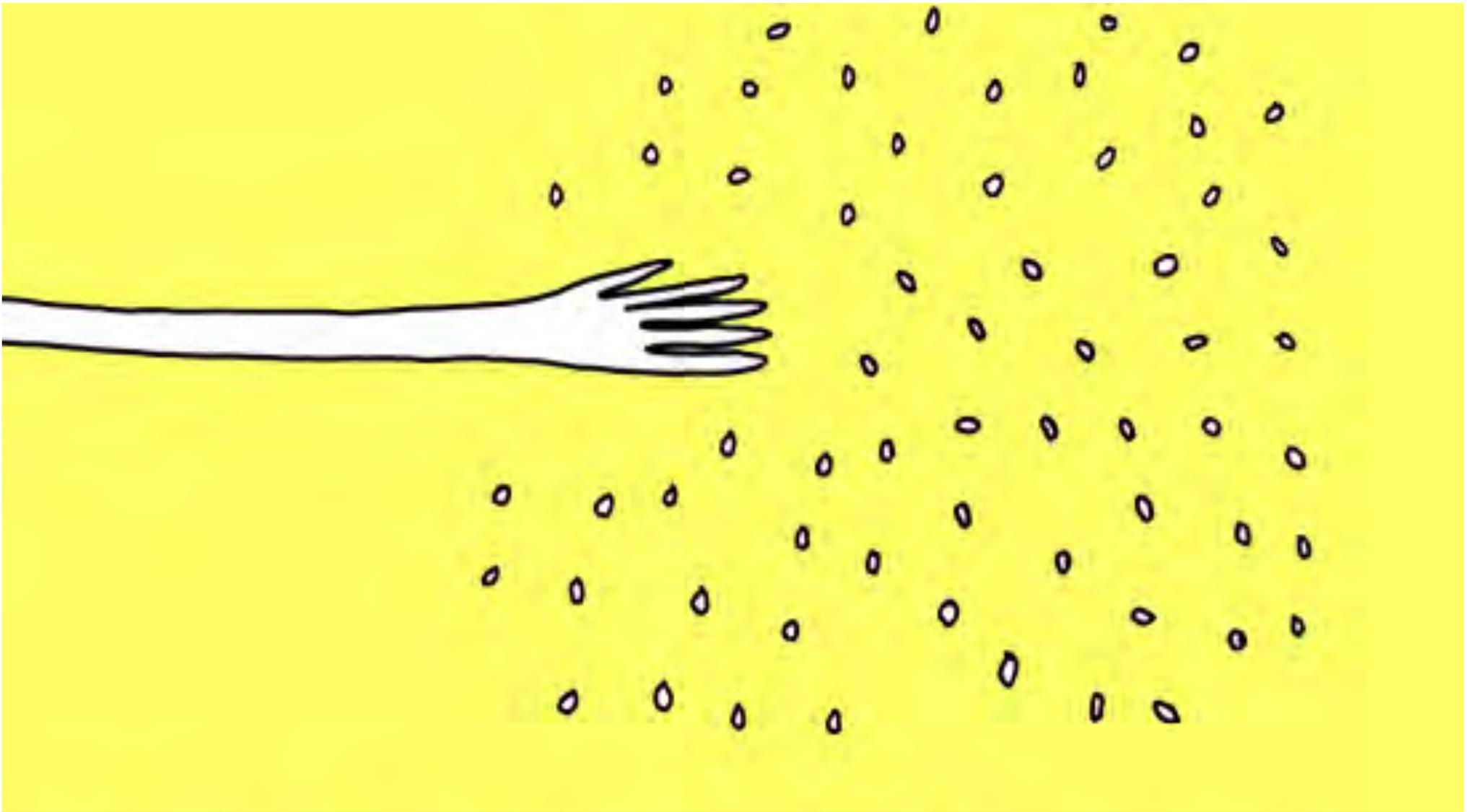
**Plant little, harvest little
Plant much, harvest much**





"The only investments I ever made which have paid constantly increasing dividends, is the money I have given to the Lord."

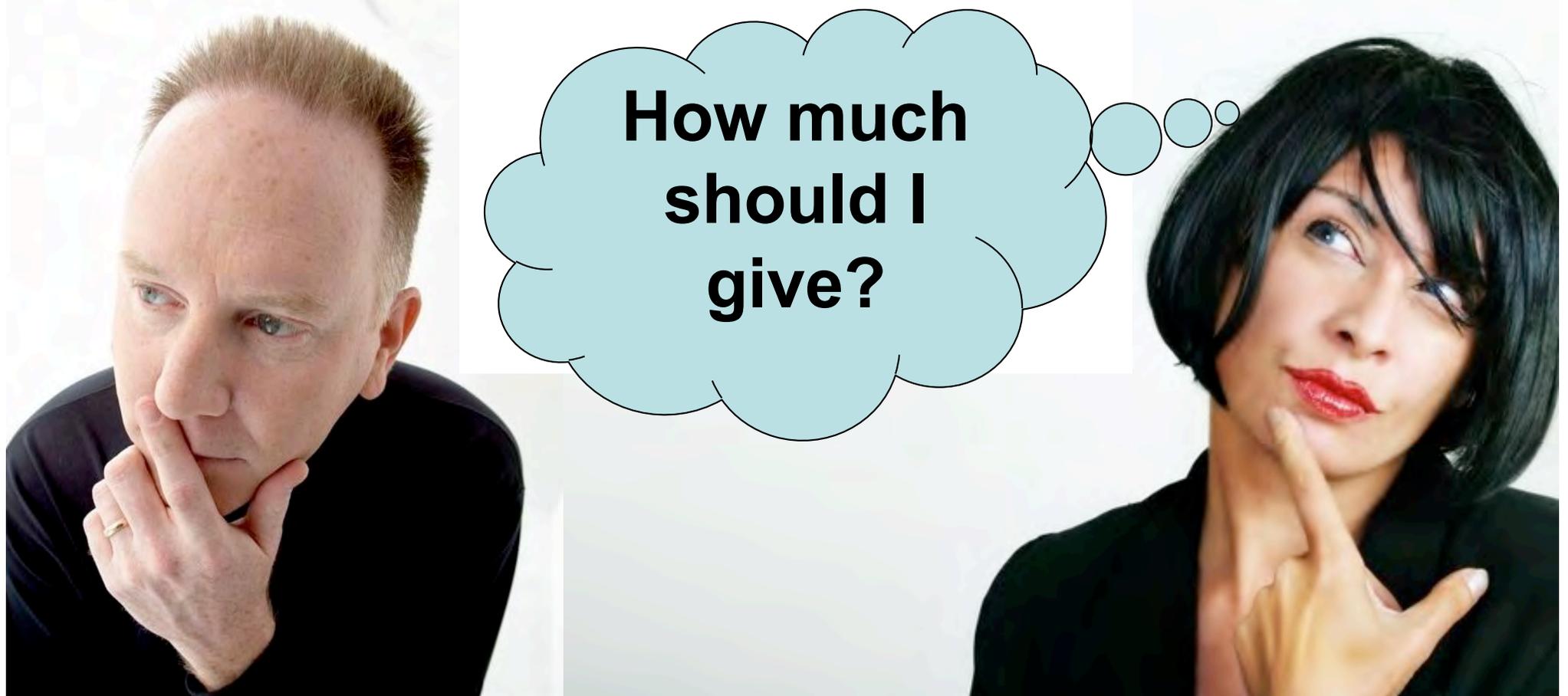




**No one can take away your investments
sent up to heaven ahead of you.**

B. How much you give is a personal decision (9:7a).

⁷ **You must each decide** in your heart how much to give (NLT).



The OT Tithe

Leviticus 27:30—“A tithe of everything from the land, whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD; it is holy to the LORD.”



Malachi 3:10

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. Test me in this," says the LORD Almighty, "and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that you will not have room enough for it."



Is tithing for today?

Tithing....Its Scripture

Luke 8:3; 10:7-8; 2 Corinthians 11:7-9;
and Philippians 4:14-18



The Tithing Hoax

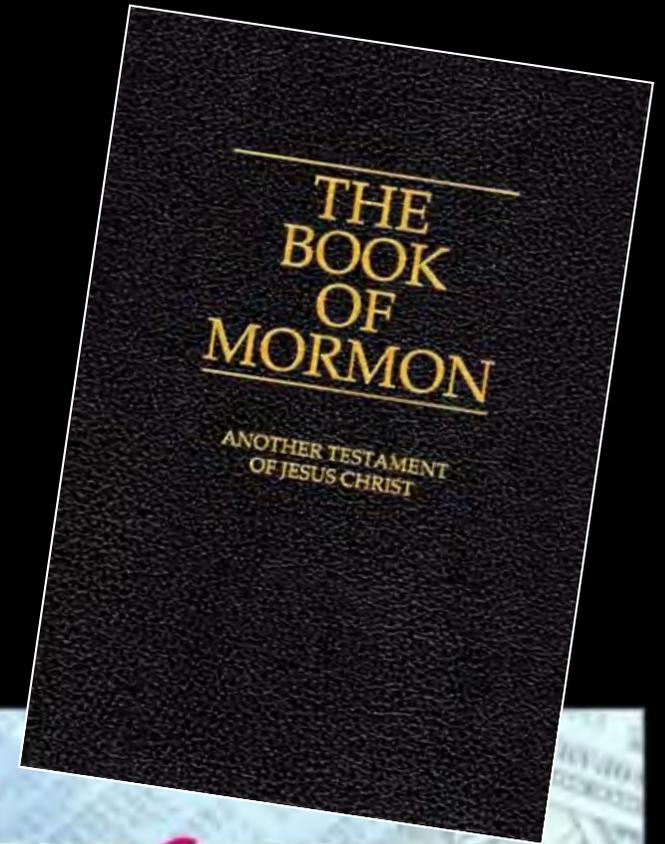
Exposing the Lies, Misinterpretations
& False Teachings about Tithing

R. Renee Cynthia Harper



Many Tithe Today...

TITHING
THE LORD'S LAW



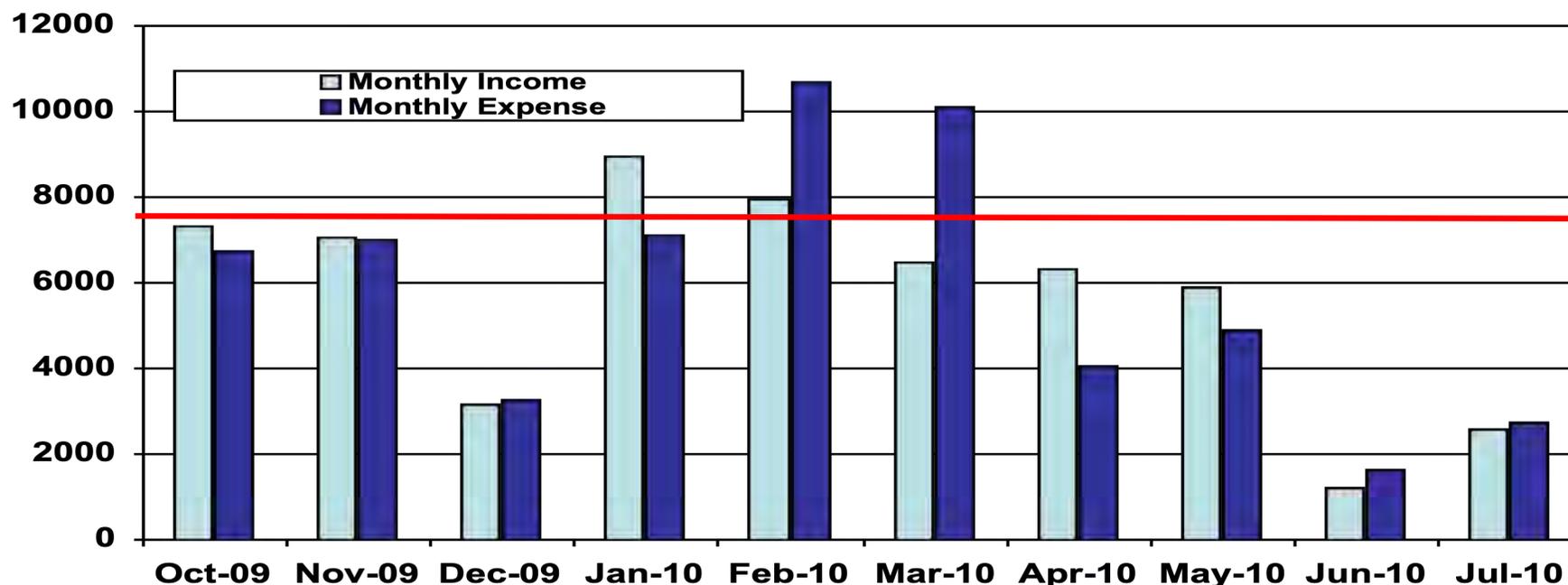
10% of EVERYthing?

Tithing in the new economy



**How come the waitress gets 15%
and God only gets 10%?**

CIC Financials Oct 2009 to Jul 2010

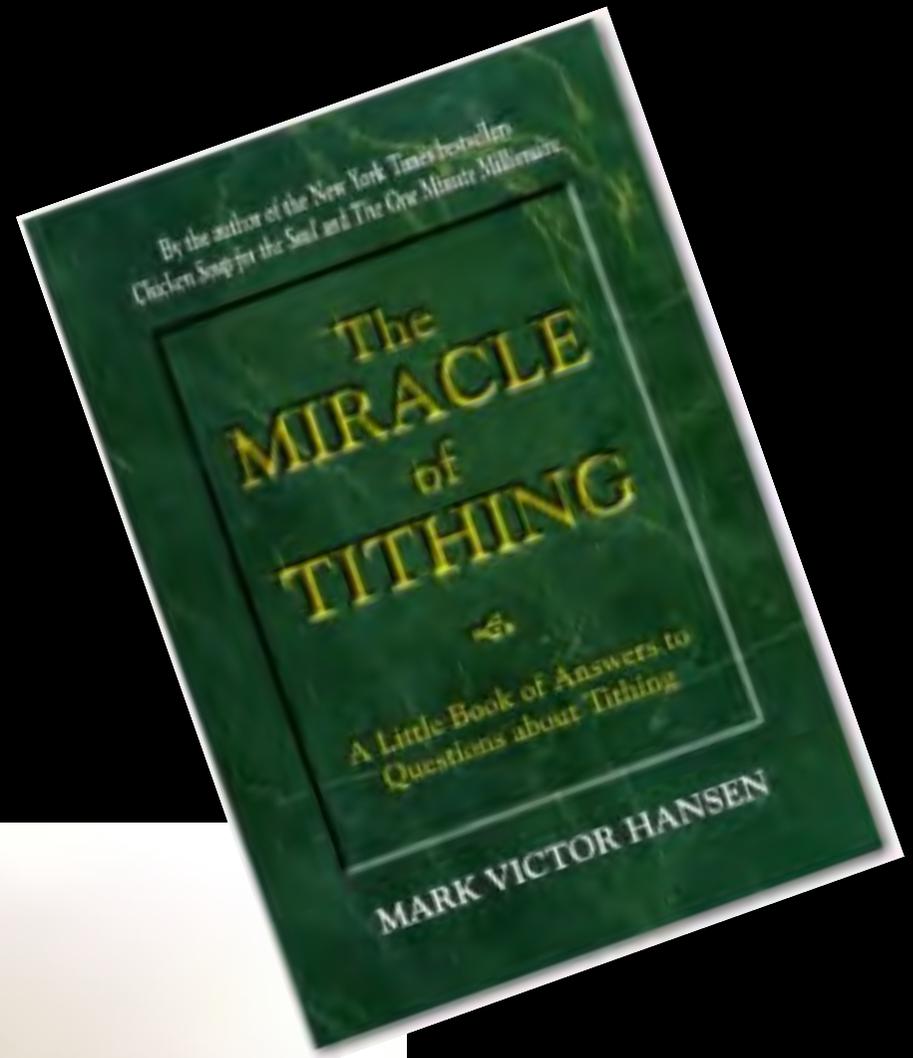


We met the \$7500 budget 2 out of 10 months.

Monthly giving was from \$210 to \$31 per family.



The Math...



Potential Pastors Considered

Blane Hall

Michael Holmes

Dan Jensen

Michael Karpf

David Allen

Russ Bowers

Jack Hanks

Tom Emmons

John Lowrey

Tim Whetstone

Kevin Green

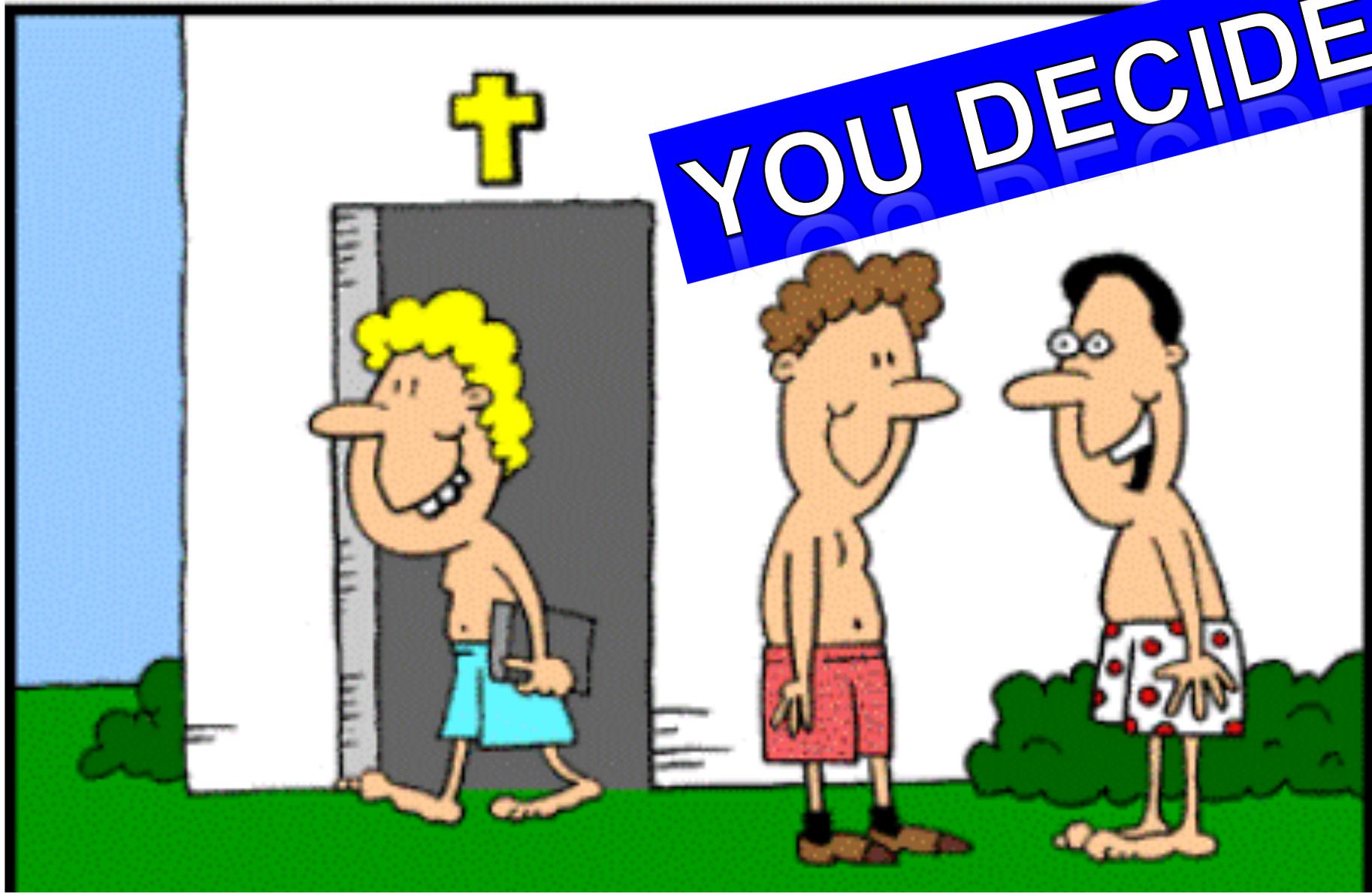
Pastor #12??

2007-2010

But isn't that pledging?

**THE SKINNY
ON
TITHING**

YOU DECIDE!

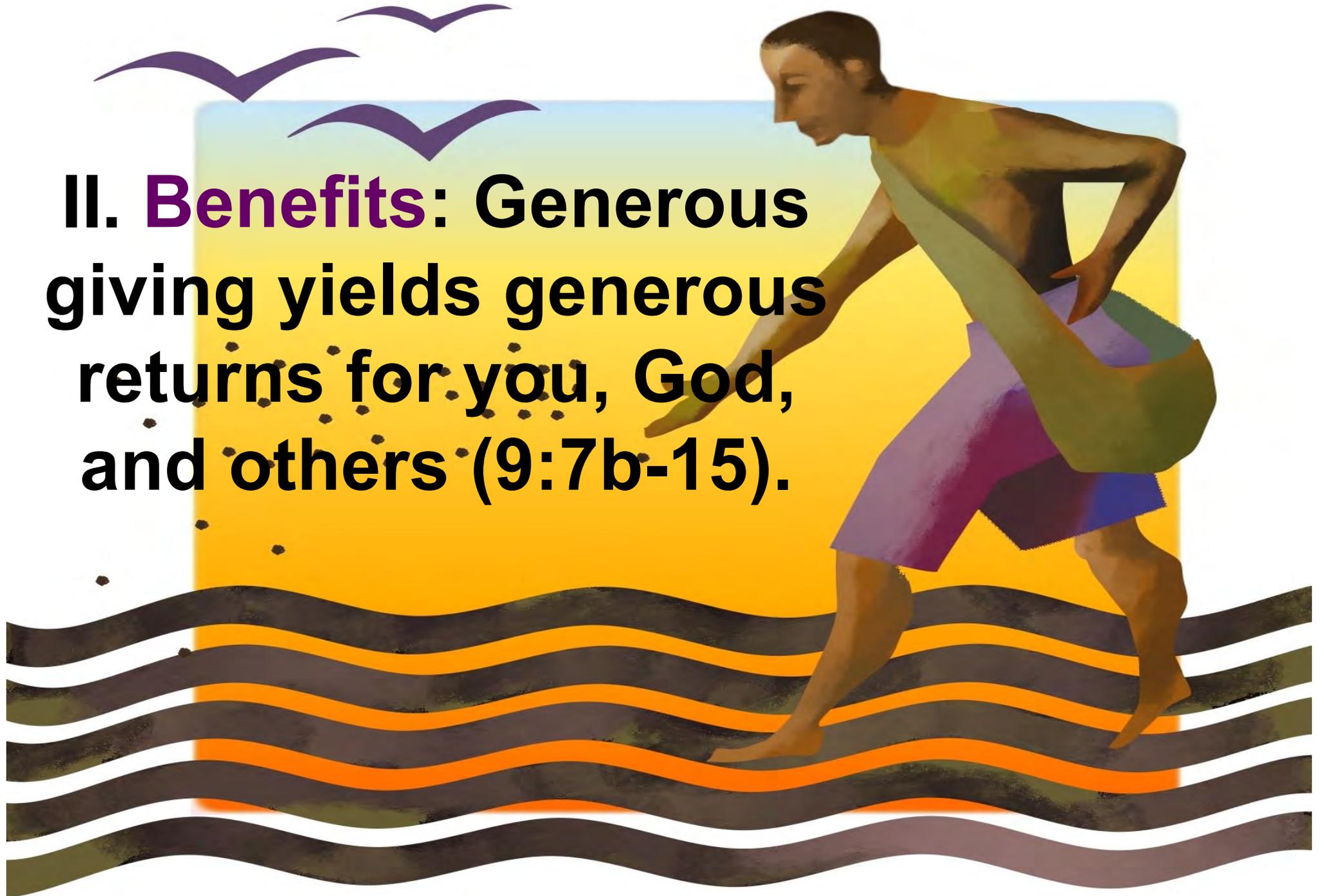


Wow, that was the best sermon on tithing I've ever heard!

I. **Principle**: You decide how much you want to get blessed (9:6-7a).

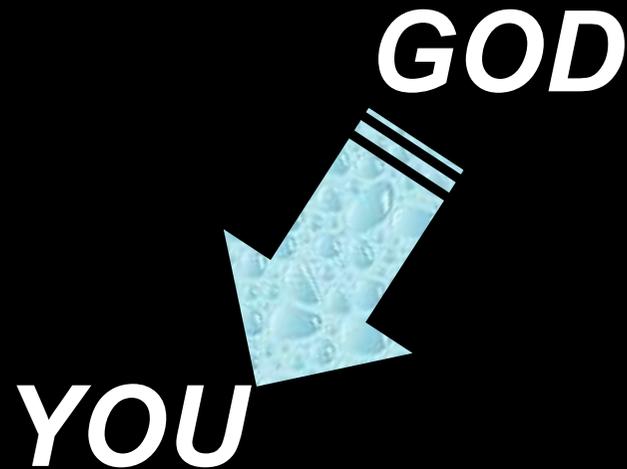


II. Benefits: Generous giving yields generous returns for you, God, and others (9:7b-15).



II. Benefits of Generosity...

*A. God blesses **you** (9:7b-11a).*

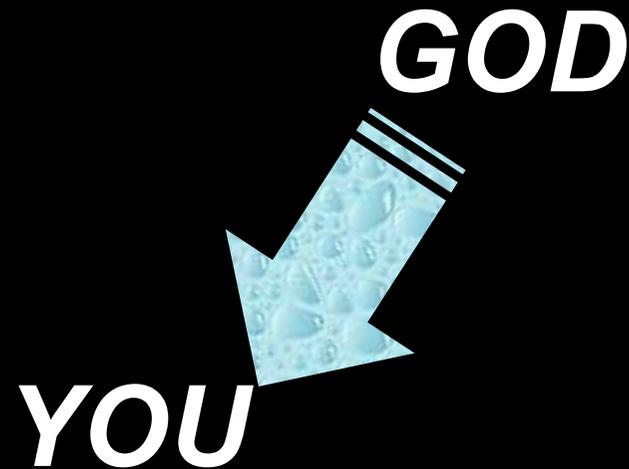


1. God is pleased with you (7b).

"And don't give reluctantly or in response to pressure. 'For God loves a person who gives cheerfully'" (NLT).

II. Benefits of Generosity...

*A. God blesses **you** (9:7b-11a).*

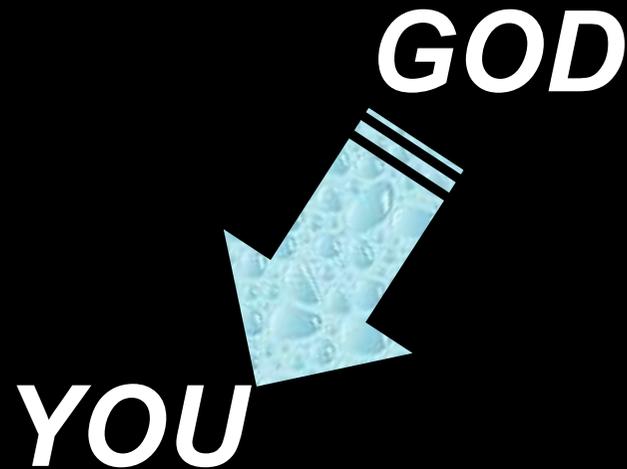


2. God meets your every need (8a).

⁸"And God will generously provide all you need" (NLT).

II. Benefits of Generosity...

A. God blesses **you** (9:7b-11a).

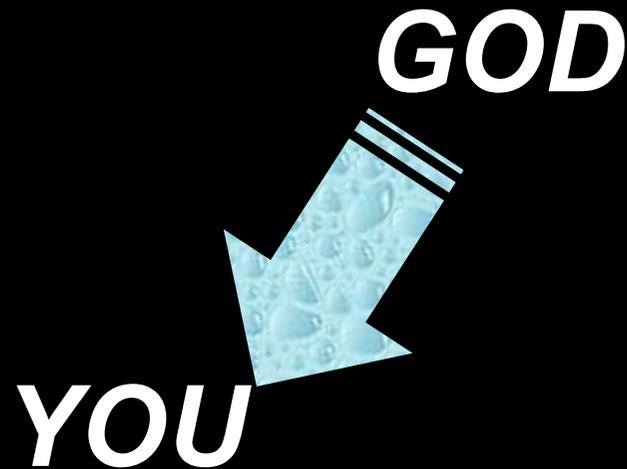


3. God increases your ability to give to others (8b-11a).

"Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others. ⁹As the Scriptures say, 'They share freely and give generously to the poor. Their good deeds will be remembered forever'" (NLT).

II. Benefits of Generosity...

*A. God blesses **you** (9:7b-11a).*



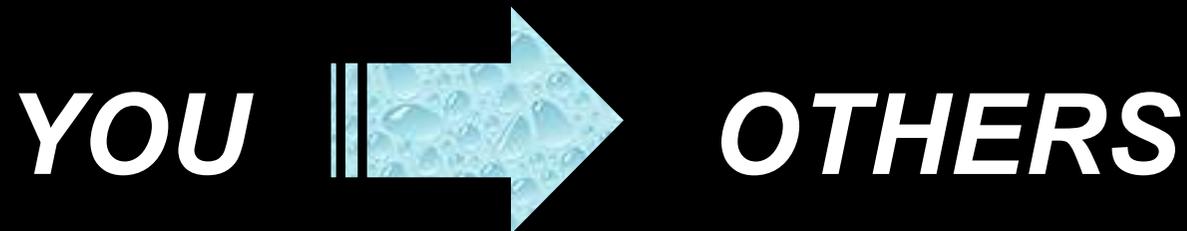
3. God increases your ability to give to others (8b-11a).

"¹⁰For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. ¹¹Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous" (NLT).

II. Benefits of Generosity...

*B. You bless **others** (9:11b-12a).*

GOD



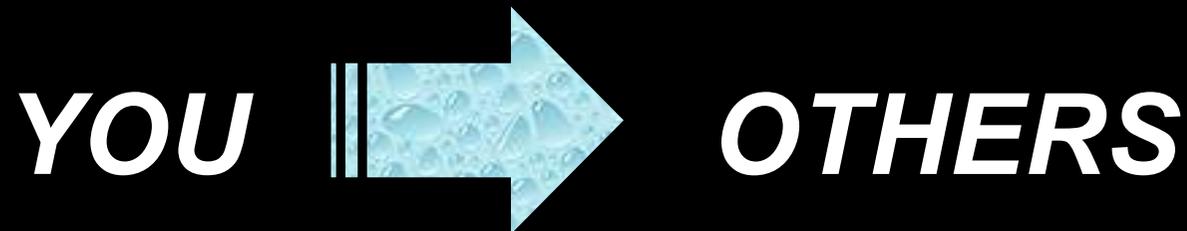
1. Recipients of gifts realize God alone meets their needs (11b).

"And when we take your gifts to those who need them, they will thank God" (NLT).

II. Benefits of Generosity...

*B. You bless **others** (9:11b-12a).*

GOD

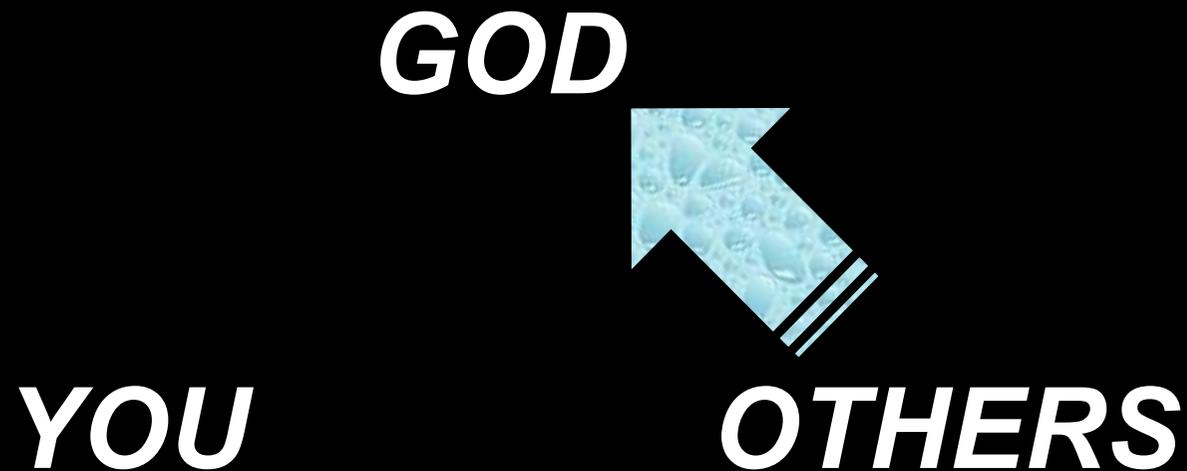


2. The needs of others are met (12a).

"¹²So two good things will result from this ministry of giving—the needs of the believers will be met..."

II. Benefits of Generosity...

*C. Others bless **God** (9:12b-13).*



"and they will joyfully express their thanks to God.

¹³As a result of your ministry, they will give glory to God.

For your generosity to them and to all believers will prove that you are obedient to the Good News of Christ" (NLT).

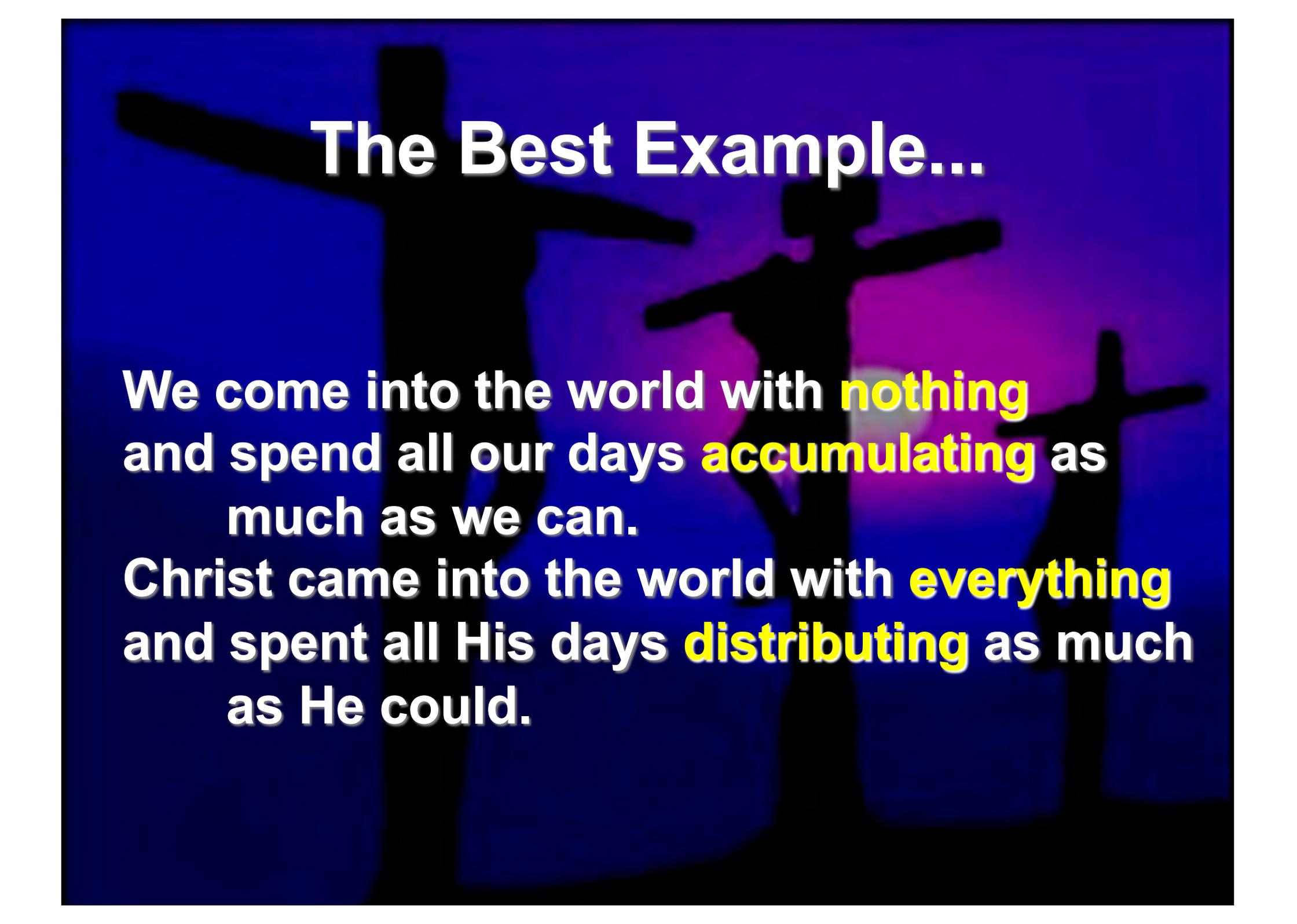
II. Benefits of Generosity...

*D. Others bless **you** (9:14-15).*

GOD



"¹⁴And they will **pray for you** with **deep affection** because of the overflowing grace God has given to you. ¹⁵**Thank God for his gift** too wonderful for words!" (NLT adapted).

The background of the slide features three black silhouettes of figures on crosses, arranged from left to right. The background is a gradient of blue and purple. The text is overlaid on this background.

The Best Example...

We come into the world with **nothing** and spend all our days **accumulating** as much as we can.

Christ came into the world with **everything** and spent all His days **distributing** as much as He could.

The Main Idea of 9:6-15

Decide to **ble**ss God, yourself,
and others by generous giving
—so at least **ti**the.





**"Tithe? You're
kidding!
On what / make?"**

**John D. Rockefeller, Sr., said,
"I never would have been able to
tithe the first million dollars I made
if I had not tithed my first salary,
which was \$1.50 a week."**

**""Test me now,' says the Lord."
See if you can tithe
and still be in need!**



"Risk" titling



MONEY MATTERS



- *Jerusalem Collection*
- *Macedonian Example*
- *God's Grace and Generous Giving*
- *Discipline and Generous Giving*
- *Lessons about wealth*





**OPEN
YOUR
HEART**
TO THE HUNGRY
AND HOMELESS

2 Corinthians 10

Open your heart to...

your **leaders**

(1–7)

God

(10–13)

those in **need**

(8–9)

2 Corinthians

**Corinth should respond to
God's care by submitting to
his authority
(2 Cor 10–13).**

"Now I, Paul, appeal to you with the gentleness and kindness of Christ—though I realize you think I am timid in person and bold only when I write from far away. ²Well, I am begging you now so that when I come I won't have to be bold with those who think we act from human motives" (2 Cor 10:1-2 NLT).

2 Corinthians 11

Paul's Sacrifices...

2 Corinthians 11:23-28 I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been **flogged** more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴Five times I received from the Jews the **forty lashes minus one**. ²⁵Three times I was **beaten with rods**, once I was **stoned**, three times I was **shipwrecked**, I spent a night and a day **in the open sea**, ²⁶I have been constantly **on the move**. I have been in danger from **rivers**, in danger from **bandits**, in danger from my own

Paul's Sacrifices...

countrymen, in danger from **Gentiles**; in danger in the **city**, in danger in the **country**, in danger at **sea**; and in danger from **false brothers**. ²⁷I have labored and toiled and have often gone **without sleep**; I have known **hunger** and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been **cold and naked**. ²⁸Besides everything else, I face daily the pressure of my **concern for all the churches**.

OUTLINE

III. Paul's Vindication of His Apostolic Authority (10:1–13:14)

***A. The Exercise of Apostolic Rights and Authority
(10:1–11:15)***

B. Boasting "As a Fool" (11:16–12:13)

C. The Planned Third Visit (12:14-13:10)

D. Conclusion (13:11-14)

2 Corinthians 12

“This boasting will do no good, but I must go on. I will reluctantly tell about visions and revelations from the Lord. ²I was caught up to the third heaven fourteen years ago. Whether I was in my body or out of my body, I don’t know—only God knows. ³Yes, only God knows whether I was in my body or outside my body. But I do know ⁴that I was caught up to paradise and heard things so astounding that they cannot be expressed in words, things no human is allowed to tell”

(2 Cor 12:1-4 NLT).

The Transfer to Paradise

Eph. 4:8-10

"That is why the Scriptures say, 'When he ascended to the heights, he led a crowd of captives and gave gifts to his people.'
⁹Notice that it says 'he ascended.' This clearly means that Christ also descended to our lowly world. ¹⁰And the same one who descended is the one who ascended higher than all the heavens, so that he might fill the entire universe with himself."

"...today you will be with me in paradise."

Luke 23:43

2 Cor. 12:2-4

"I was caught up to the third heaven...I was caught up to paradise"

S
H
E
O
L

Bliss



"Christ suffered for our sins once for all time. He never sinned, but he died for sinners to bring you safely home to God. He suffered physical death, but he was raised to life in the Spirit."

HADES

1 Pet.
3:18-20

¹⁹So he went and preached to the spirits in prison— ²⁰those who disobeyed God long ago when God waited patiently while Noah was building his boat. Only eight people were saved from drowning in that terrible flood."

Luke 16:26

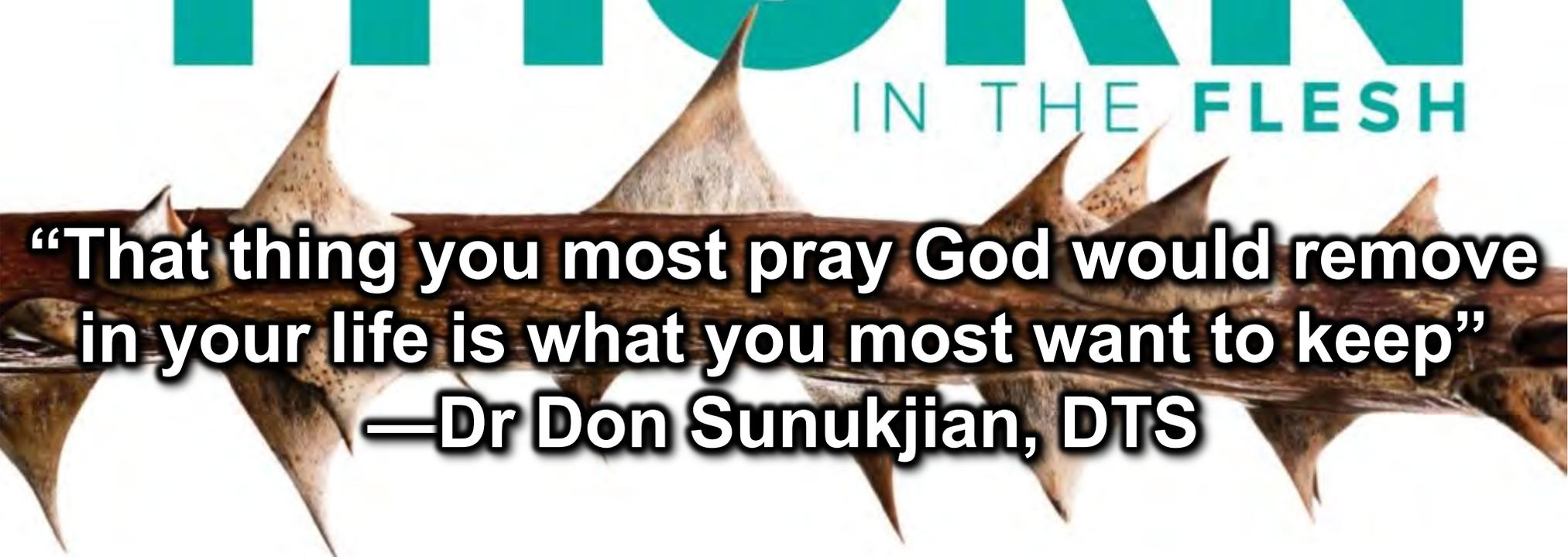
"...there is a great chasm separating us. No one can cross over to you from here, and no one can cross over to us from there."

"Then death and [Hades] were thrown into the lake of fire... ¹⁵And anyone whose name was not found recorded in the Book of Life was thrown into the lake of fire."

PAUL'S

THORN

IN THE FLESH



**“That thing you most pray God would remove
in your life is what you most want to keep”**

—Dr Don Sunukjian, DTS

**“My grace is sufficient for you,
for my power is made perfect in weakness.”**

—Jesus (2 Cor 12:9a)

Thorn in The Flesh

- *Meaning of Thorn*
- *What does these "thorn" refer to?*
 - Spiritual Harassment*
 - Persecution*
 - Physical Ailment*
- *Lessons from Paul*



**Is the word
"boast"**

used as a sign of

PRIDE?

2 Corinthians 13

**“May the grace of the Lord Jesus
Christ, the love of God, and the
fellowship of the Holy Spirit be
with you all”**

(2 Cor 13:14 NLT)

**Do you offer your life to God
with open hands and heart?**



How can you
be responsive
to God's heart for you?



Open your heart to...

your **leaders**

(1–7)

God

(10–13)

the **needy**

(8–9)

Main Idea of 2 Corinthians



Open your heart to...

your **leaders**

(1–7)

God

(10–13)

those in **need**

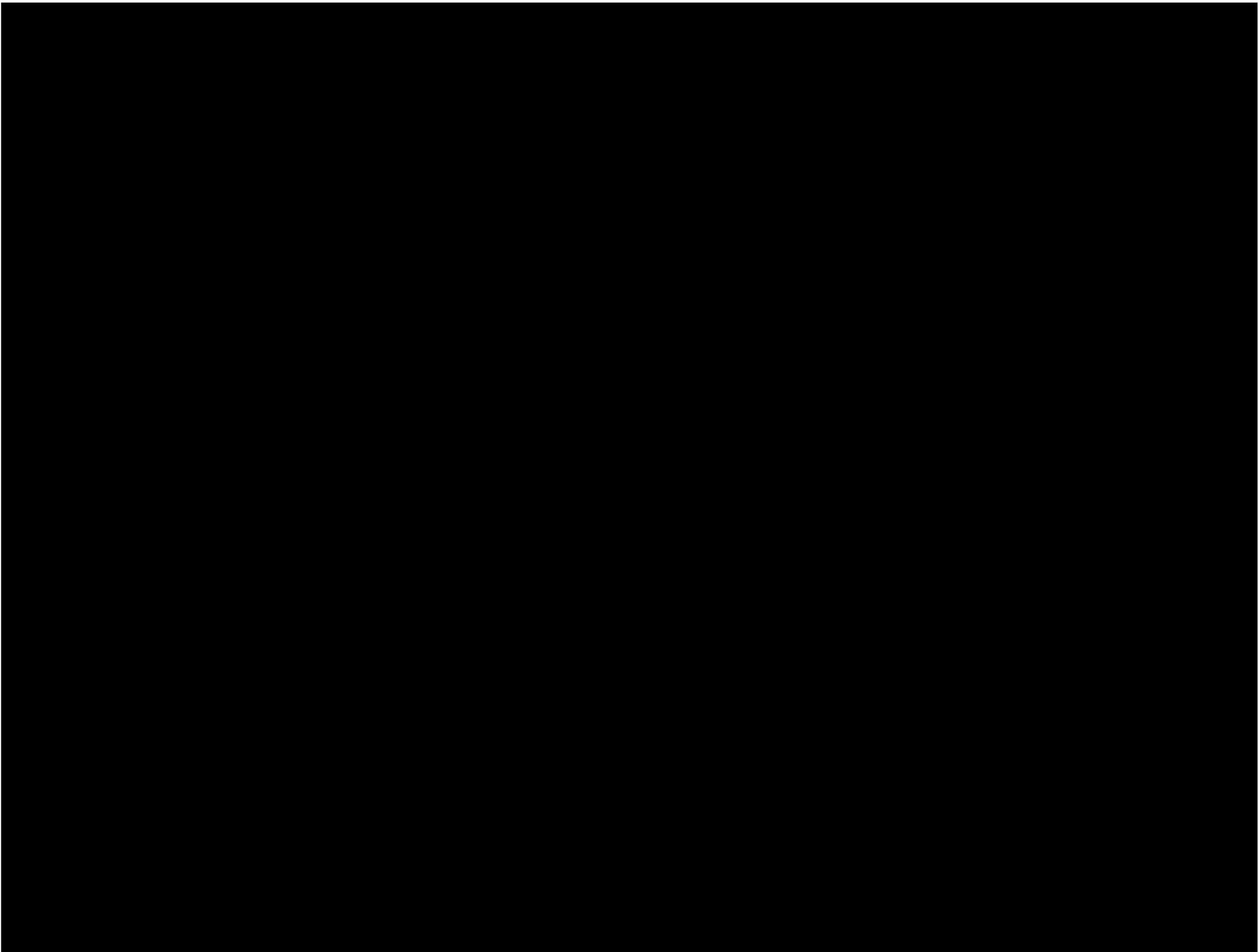
(8–9)

Which relates most to you?

I can best open my heart to God by...



Applying 2 Corinthians



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The image is a vertical split. The left side shows the interior of a Gothic cathedral, characterized by high, pointed arches and a vaulted ceiling. A group of people is gathered in the foreground, looking towards an altar area where a cross is visible. The lighting is warm and focused on the altar. The right side shows a modern building with a prominent, tall, illuminated tower that tapers to a square top. The building is lit up against a clear blue sky, suggesting dusk or dawn. The overall composition contrasts traditional religious architecture with modern architectural design.

What are some church issues that are relevant to us today?

1–7 Ministry sincerity

8–9 Giving

10–13 Ministry authority

(Chs. 1–7) Paul thanks God for His comfort, answers attacks from slanderous false teachers against the sincerity of his ministry, and exhorts restoration of their confidence to assure the foundation he laid at Corinth.

(Chs. 8–9) Paul explains examples, the purpose, arrangements, and benefits of generous giving to the Jerusalem church to encourage the Corinthians to fulfill their promise to help these suffering saints.

(Chs. 10–13) Paul proves his apostolic authority against false teachers so that the Corinthians would respect him for his authority and sacrifices for Christ before he visits the church personally.

2 CORINTHIANS

Presented By

Timothy Sng
Tan

APOSTLES
SHIP

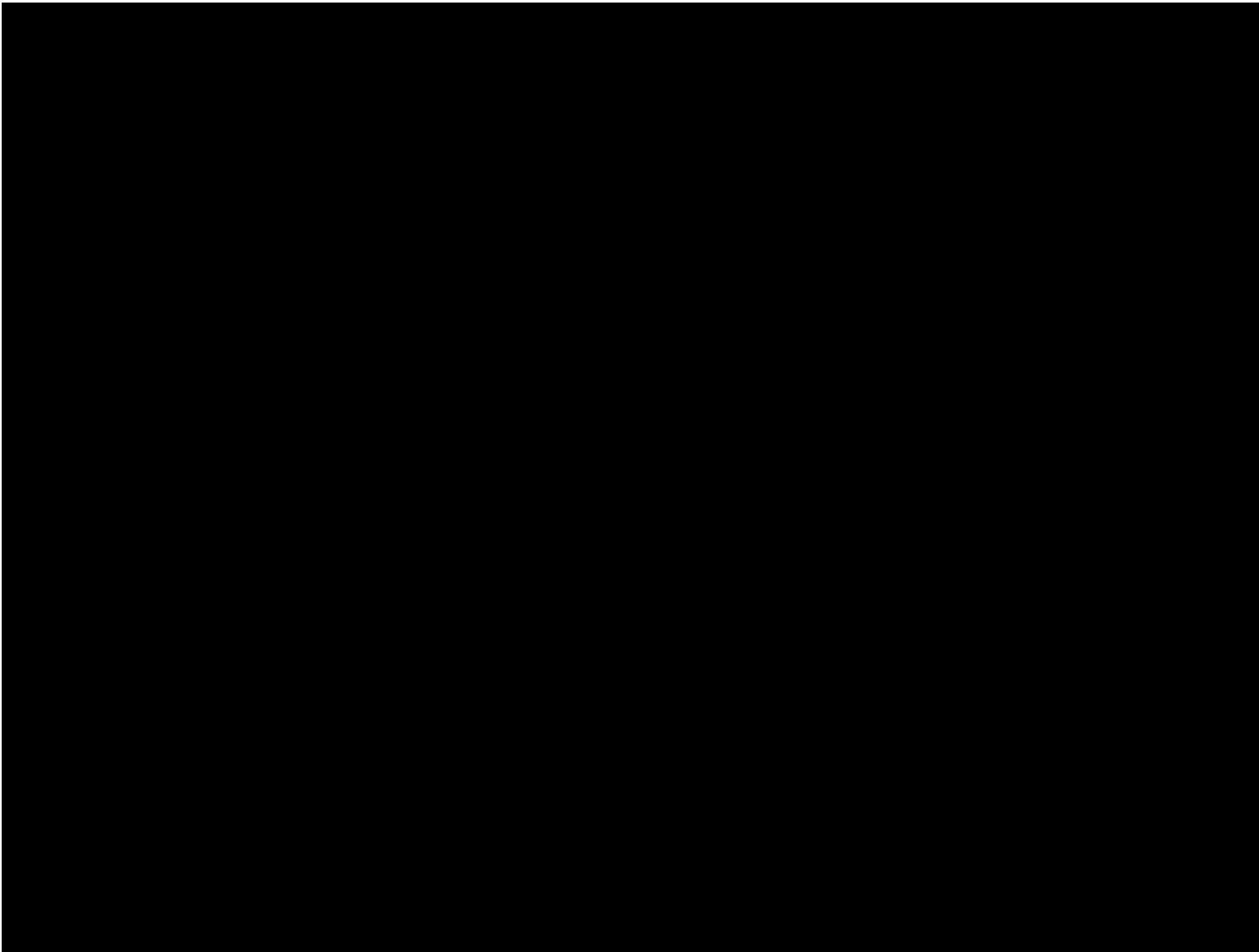
Lochum

Joyce

Vincent Lee

Patrick Fung





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