

Zion Chapel Church of Christ (Holiness) U.S.A.

2020 Vacation Bible School

Adult Class

Facilitator: Brother Sherwyn Davis

Class Outline

- The Mind of God: Do We Understand Him?
- The Spirit of Truth: God's Connection to Believers
- The Word of Truth: The Believer's Connection to God
- God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ
- We Have the Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person
- Transforming the Mind: The Ongoing Exchange
- Practical Growth: Rightly Dividing The Word of Truth



The Mind of God

Do We Understand Him?

The Mind of God: Do We Understand Him?

- **Why does God allow bad things to happen to good people? Explain.**
- **Why does God allow good people to die young, and bad people to live long? Explain.**
- **How could a loving God allow COVID 19 to kill so many people? Explain.**

- ***Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...***

- **Why did God allow David, a man after his own heart, to live on the run, in fear of being killed by a jealous Saul approximately 7 years? Explain.**
- **Why did God allow Job, a man he called “perfect” to suffer the loss of all his children, possessions, and be severely afflicted in his body? Explain.**
- **Why did God allow Paul, the Apostle he sent to us (Gentiles), to be beaten, spend years in jail, and live in fear of assassination everywhere he went? Explain.**
- ***Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...***

The Mind of God: Do We Understand Him?



The Mind of
God: Do We
Understand
Him?

**So the question
becomes...**

**Can we
understand
God?**

Counselors For Jehovah

The Bible Questions This Possibility

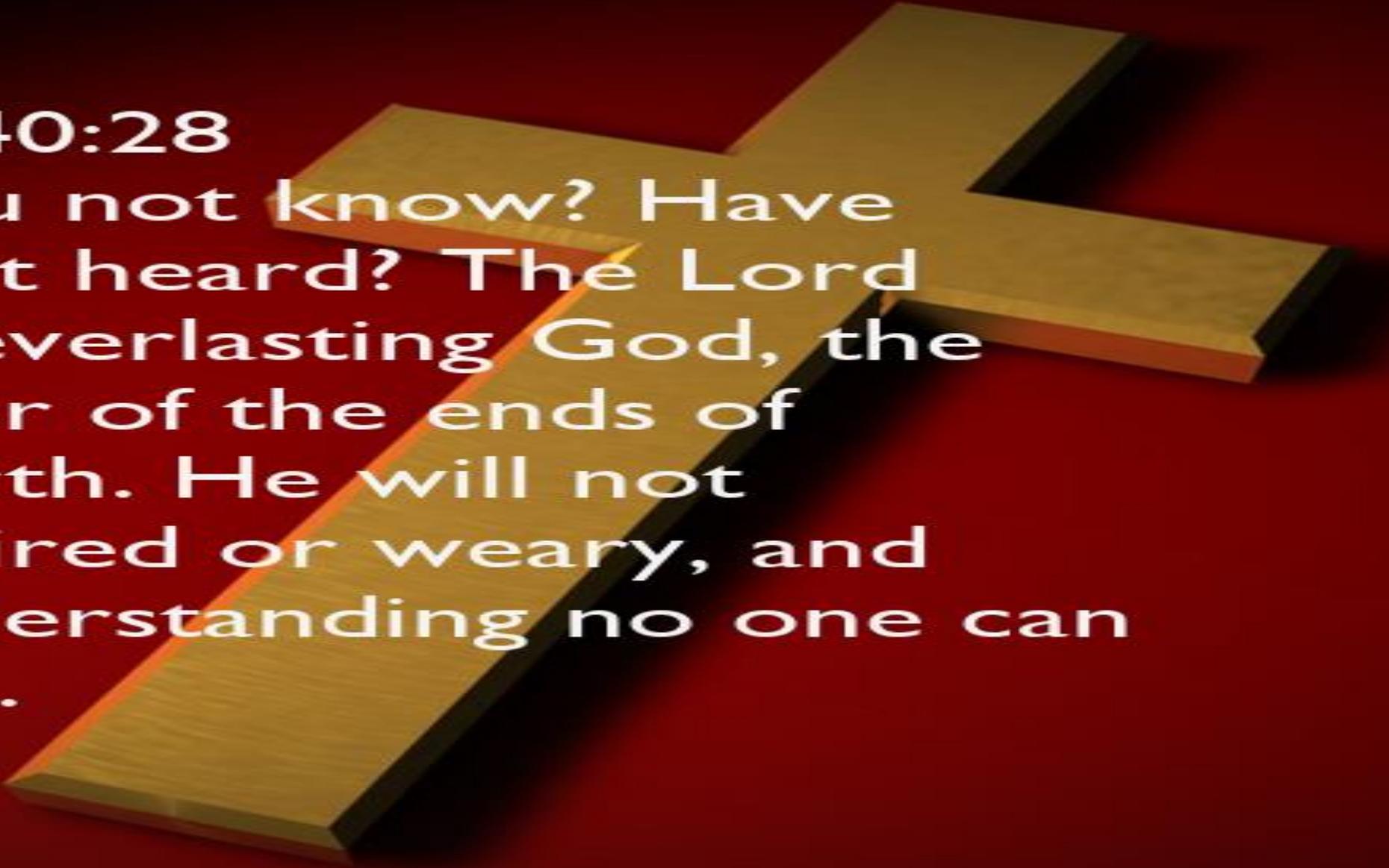
Isaiah 40:13-14

**“Who hath directed the Spirit of the LORD,
or being his counsellor hath taught him? 14
With whom took he counsel, and who
instructed him, and taught him in the path
of judgment, and taught him knowledge,
and shewed to him the way of
understanding?”**

GOD IS OMNISCIENT

ISAIAH 40:13–14 (NLT)

*Who is able to advise the Spirit of the LORD?
Who knows enough to give him advice or teach him?
Has the LORD ever needed anyone's advice?
Does he need instruction about what is good?
Did someone teach him what is right
or show him the path of justice?*



Isaiah 40:28

Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.

God - the omni...

Omniscient

Who has instructed Him?

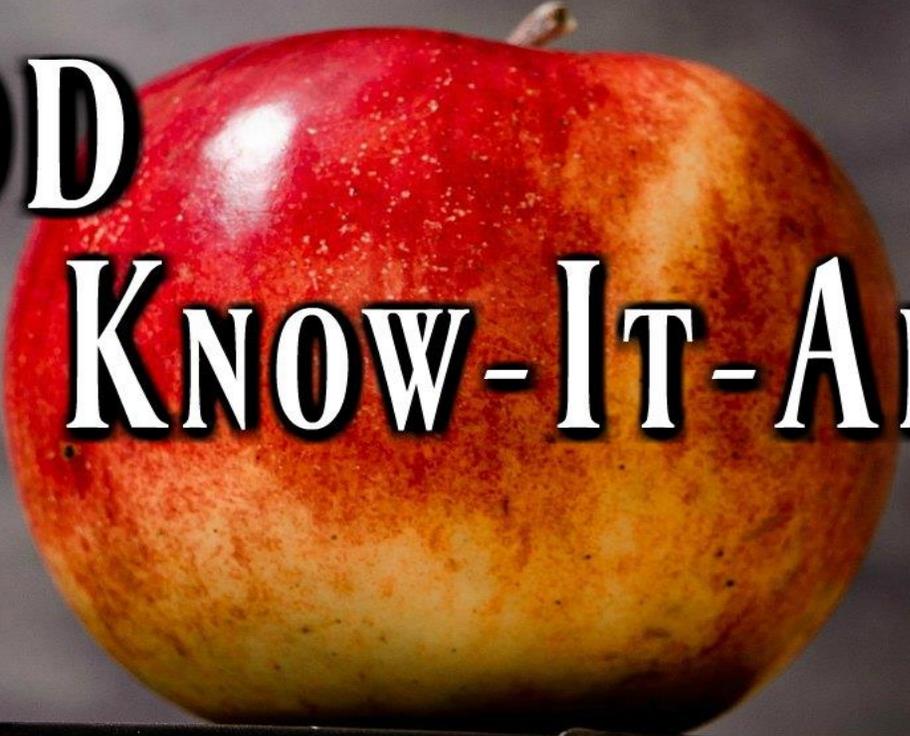
Who was it that taught Him?

Isaiah 40: 13-14

Has it ever occurred to you
that nothing
has ever occurred to God?

EVEN BEFORE THERE IS A WORD ON MY TONGUE, BEHOLD, O LORD, YOU KNOW IT ALL.
~ PSALM 139:4

GOD
THE ULTIMATE KNOW-IT-ALL



GOD NEVER HAS TO LEARN ANYTHING. EVER.

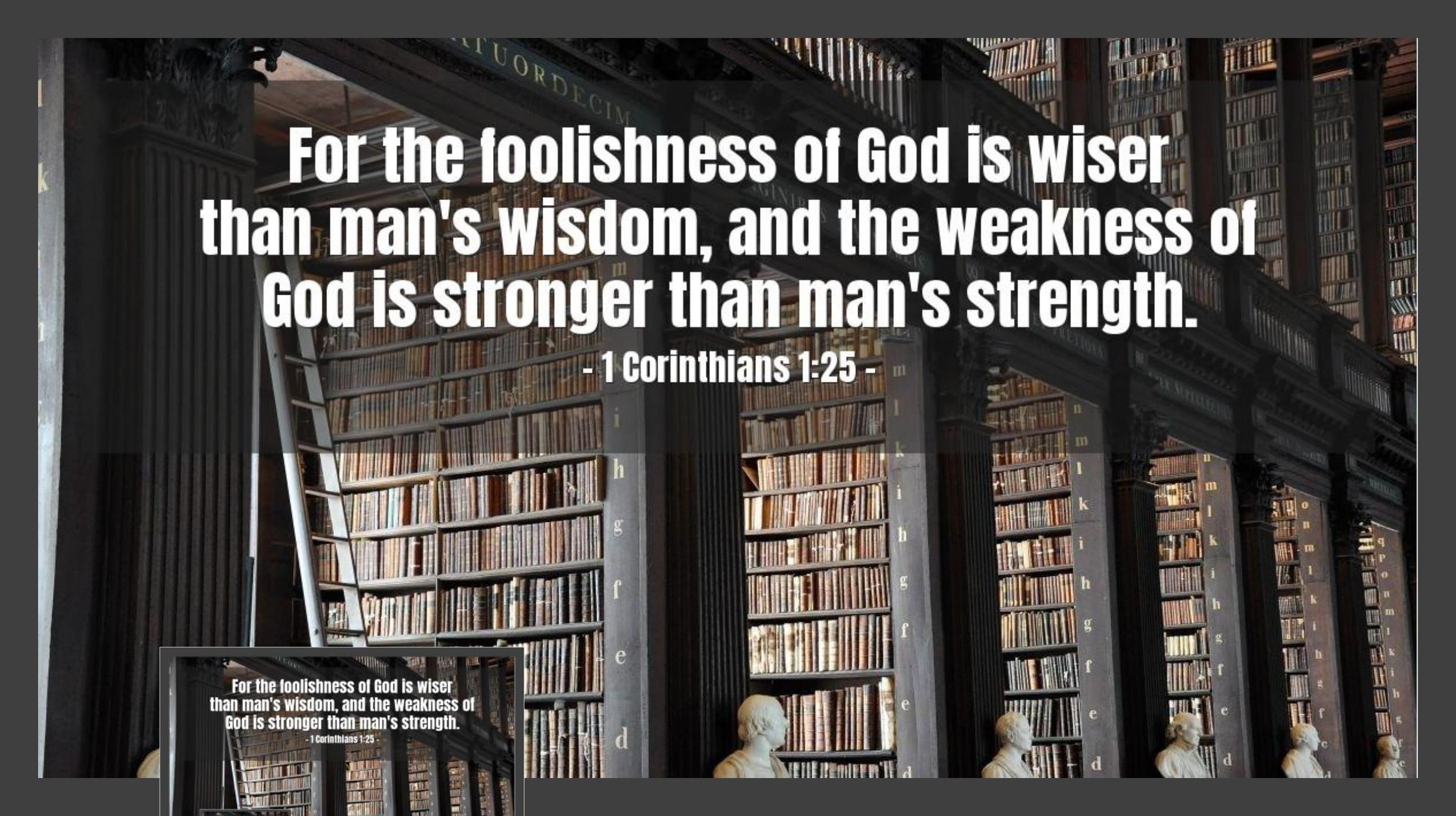
The Mind of God: Do We Understand Him?

- **Given the passage we just read, can we understand the mind of God? Explain.**
- **Given the passages we just read, are we intelligent enough to think the thoughts of God? Explain.**
- **Given the passages we just read, are we wise enough to judge and discern correctly on both spiritual and natural matters? Explain.**
- ***Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...***

Note to Mankind:
"You Are Not On My Level"

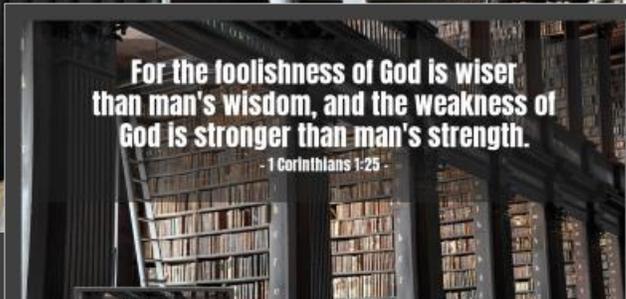
"For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
neither are your ways my ways,"
declares the LORD.

"As the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts."
(Isaiah 55:8-9)



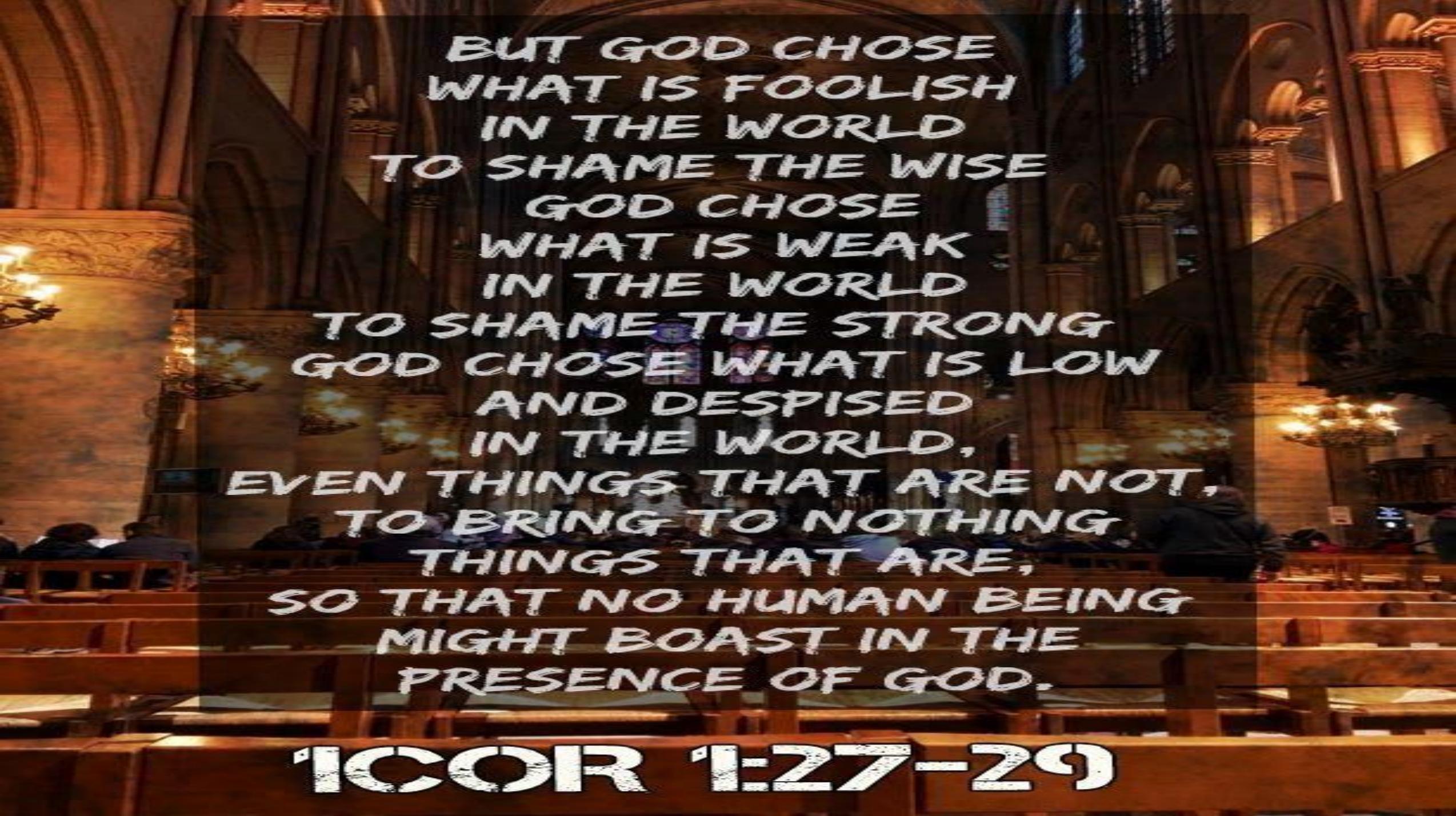
**For the foolishness of God is wiser
than man's wisdom, and the weakness of
God is stronger than man's strength.**

- 1 Corinthians 1:25 -



**For the foolishness of God is wiser
than man's wisdom, and the weakness of
God is stronger than man's strength.**

- 1 Corinthians 1:25 -



BUT GOD CHOSE
WHAT IS FOOLISH
IN THE WORLD
TO SHAME THE WISE
GOD CHOSE
WHAT IS WEAK
IN THE WORLD
TO SHAME THE STRONG
GOD CHOSE WHAT IS LOW
AND DESPISED
IN THE WORLD,
EVEN THINGS THAT ARE NOT,
TO BRING TO NOTHING
THINGS THAT ARE,
SO THAT NO HUMAN BEING
MIGHT BOAST IN THE
PRESENCE OF GOD.

1COR 1:27-29

The Mind of God: Do We Understand Him?

- *So how can I get into the mind of God?*
- *How can I as a believer think like God, make decisions like God, perceive like God, and judge wisely like God?*
- *During the break, provide your opinion about the above questions in the chat or in the following discussion.*

The Spirit of Truth (Holy Spirit)

God's Connection To Believers

1 Corinthians 2:9-11

⁹ But as it is written:

**"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for
those who love Him."**

**¹⁰ But God has revealed them to us
through His Spirit. For the Spirit
searches all things, yes, the deep things
of God.**

The Holy Spirit : His Personality and Nature

1. MIND

HE SEARCHES AND KNOWS

1 COR. 2:10-11 ~ ¹⁰ BUT GOD HAS REVEALED THEM TO US THROUGH HIS SPIRIT. FOR THE SPIRIT SEARCHES ALL THINGS, YES, THE DEEP THINGS OF GOD. ¹¹ FOR WHAT MAN KNOWS THE THINGS OF A MAN EXCEPT THE SPIRIT OF THE MAN WHICH IS IN HIM? EVEN SO NO ONE KNOWS THE THINGS OF GOD EXCEPT THE SPIRIT OF GOD.

The Spirit Reveals God's Secrets

“... No one has ever imagined what God has prepared for those who love him. But God has shown us these

things through the Spirit. **The Spirit**

searches out all things, **even**

the deep secrets

of God.” | Corinthians 2:9-10c NCV



PrayerThoughts.com

HOMELAND STUDIO & MEDIA

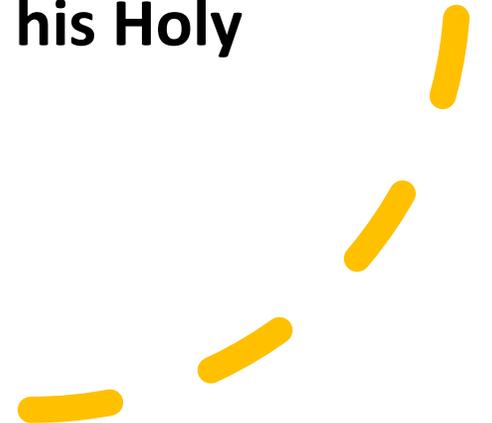


The Spirit of Truth (Holy Spirit):

God's Connection to Believers

- **There is only one way in which God's wisdom is revealed to us and that is by his Spirit.**
- **The Holy Spirit has exact knowledge of all things by entering into the very depths of God and penetrating into his most secret counsel.**
- **As no man can come to the knowledge of what is in another man's mind until he communicates and reveals it, so neither can we know the secret counsels and purposes of God until they are made know to us by his Holy Spirit.**

(Notes by Matthew Henry)

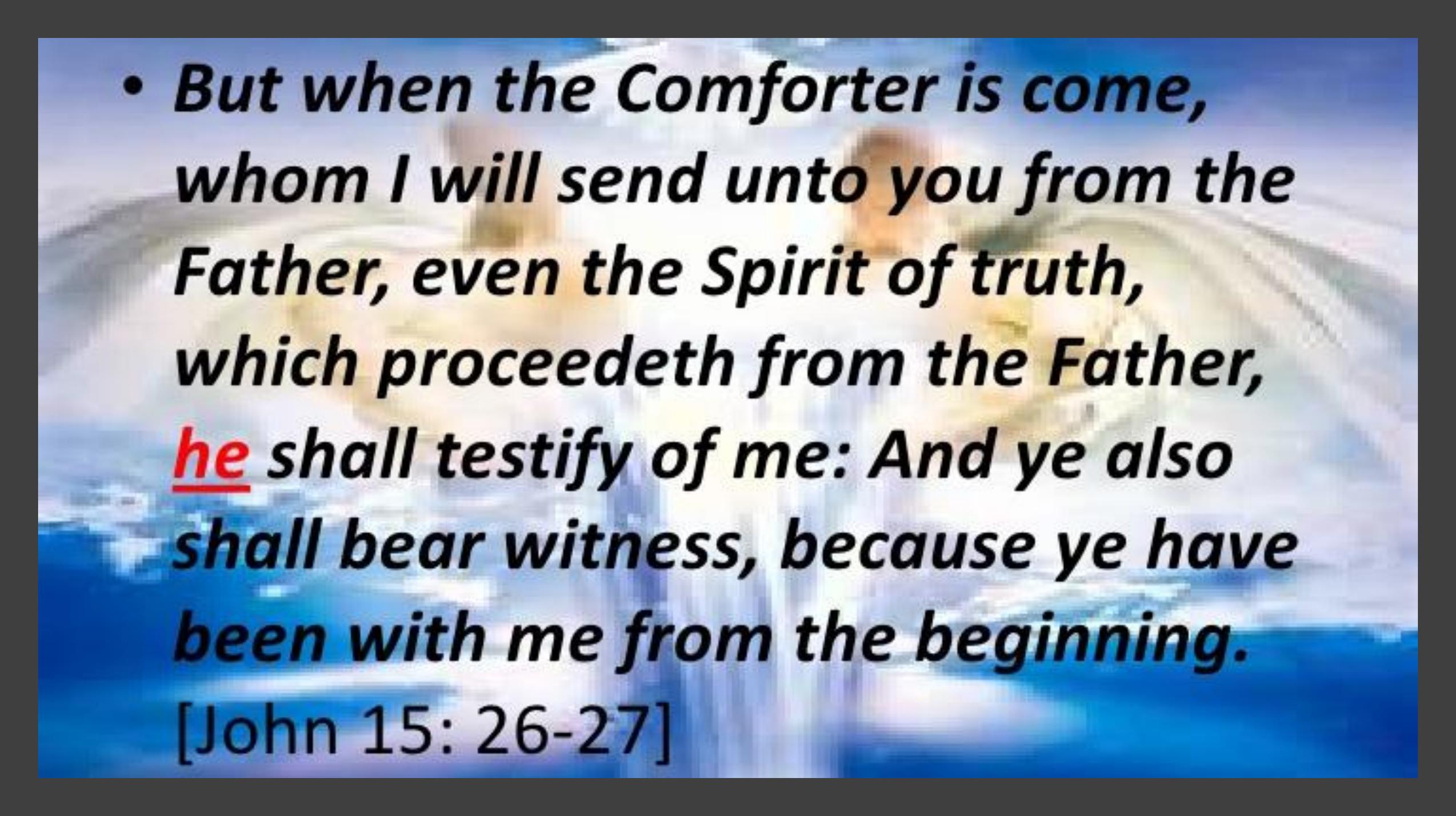


The Spirit of Truth: God's Connection to Believers

- How important is the Spirit of God in the life of the believer? Explain.
- What role does the Spirit of God play in the revelation of the mind of God? Explain
- How much influence has the Spirit of God had on fulfilling the purposes of God? Explain.
- *Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...*

John 14:25-26

“All this I have spoken while still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”



- *But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me: And ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with me from the beginning.*

[John 15: 26-27]

John 16:13, The Holy Spirit's Ministry, Purpose And Work

- John 16:13-15, 13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will **guide you** into all the truth; for He will **not speak on His own** initiative, but **whatever He hears, He will speak**; and **He will disclose** to you what is to come. 14 "He shall **glorify Me**; for **He shall take of Mine**, and shall **disclose it to you**.



Right Decision

Wrong Decision

**But when he, the Spirit of truth,
comes, he will guide you into all truth.
He will not speak on his own;
he will speak only what he hears,
and he will tell you what is yet to come.**

(John 16:13)

The Spirit of Truth: God's Connection to Believers

The Spirit of Truth - Summary

- *He searches the deep things of God.*
- *He reveals God's secrets to believers.*
- *He teaches believers all things.*
- *He brings things to our remembrance.*
- *He testifies about Jesus.*
- *He guides believers into all truth.*
- *He speaks only what he hears from the Father.*
- *He glorifies Christ.*
- *He shares what he knows with believers.*

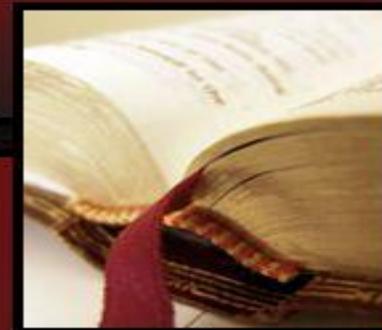
The Word of Truth (Holy Scriptures)

The Believer's Connection to God

Ephesians 1:13-14 NKJV

13. In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, **you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,**
14. **who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.**

Colossians 1:5-6



Because of the hope which is laid up for you in heaven, of which you heard before in **the word of the truth of the gospel,** ⁶ which has come to you, as it has also in all the world, and is bringing forth fruit, as it is also among you since the day you heard and knew the grace of God in truth.

Not mere suggestions, but TRUTH

John 17:17-19 (NKJV)

17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world.

19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.

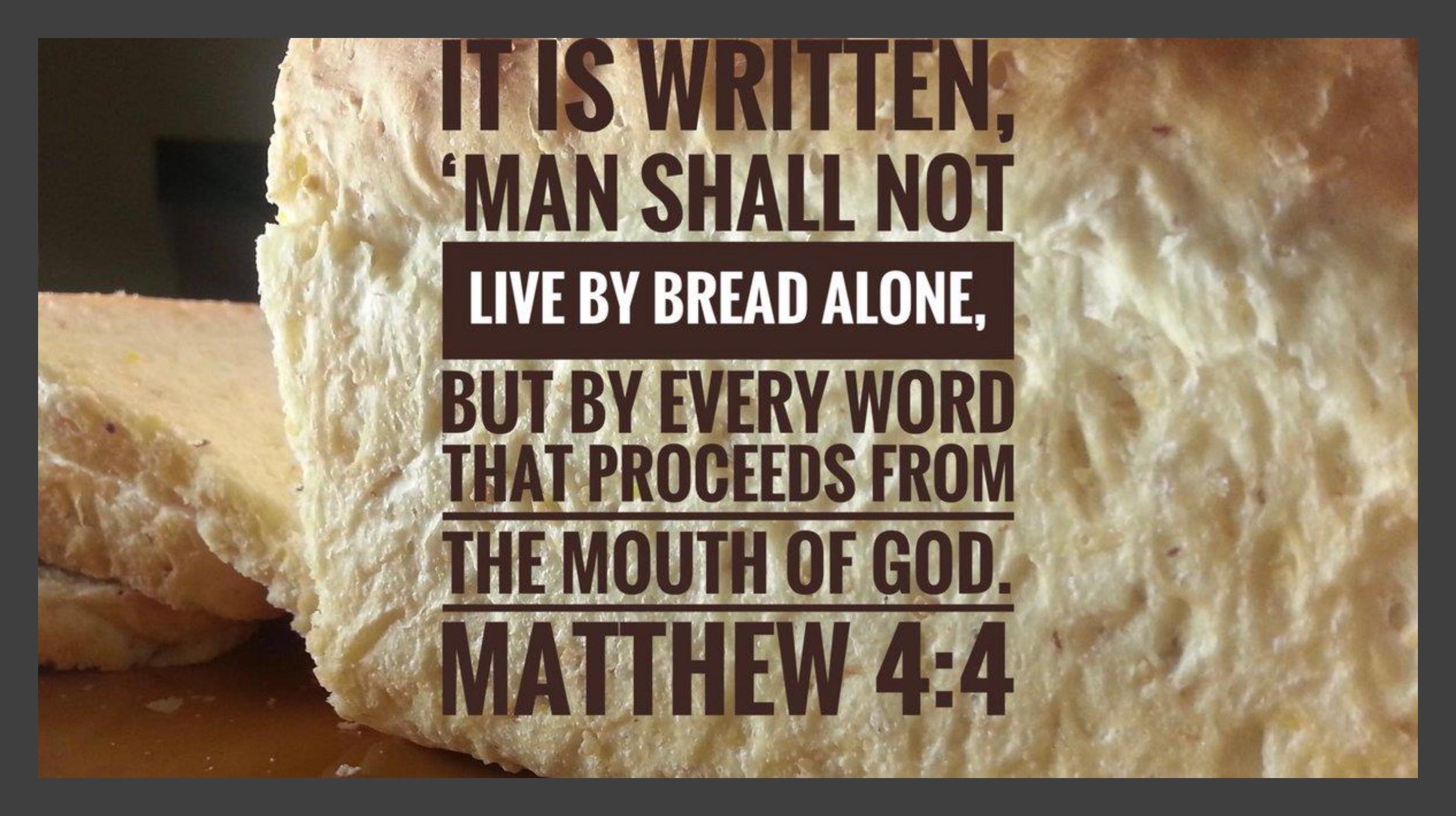
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Sanctify them by
the truth; your
word is truth.

- John 17:17 -

The Word of Truth: The Believer's Connection to God

- **Given the passage we just read, how important to the believer is the Word of God? Explain.**
- **Given the passages we just read, what benefits does the believer gain from believing the Word of God? Explain.**
- **Given the passages we just read, what connects the Word of God to the Spirit of God? Explain.**
- *Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...*



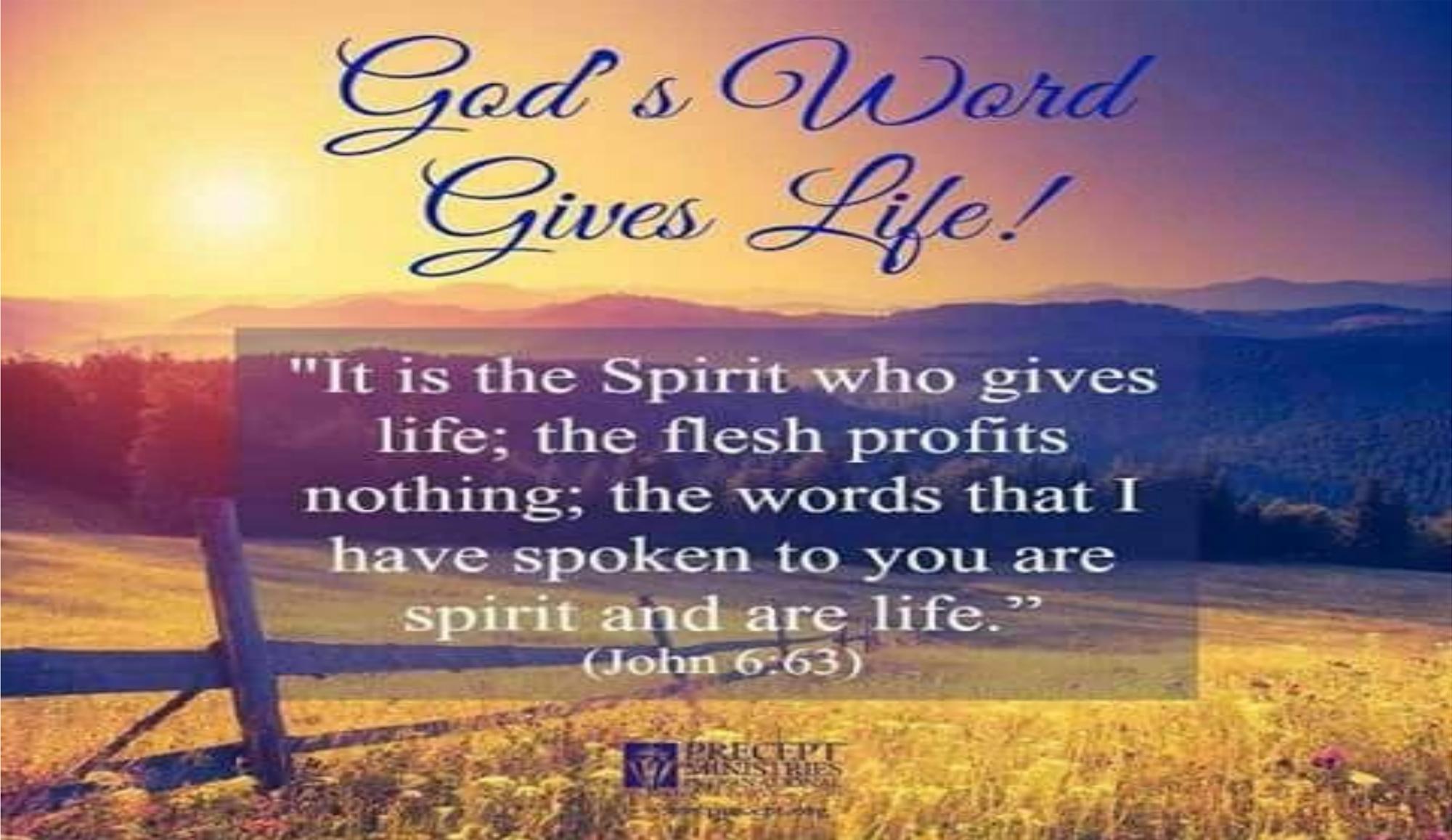
**IT IS WRITTEN,
'MAN SHALL NOT**

LIVE BY BREAD ALONE,

**BUT BY EVERY WORD
THAT PROCEEDS FROM**

THE MOUTH OF GOD.

MATTHEW 4:4



*God's Word
Gives Life!*

"It is the Spirit who gives
life; the flesh profits
nothing; the words that I
have spoken to you are
spirit and are life."
(John 6:63)

The Word of Truth: The Believer's Connection to God

- **So how did the Word of God become a source of spiritual life?
(Open Discussion)**

Heb. 1:1-2

- God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds;

GOD HAS SPOKEN

God Has *SPOKEN*

Hebrews 1:1-2

1 God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets,

2 has in these last days **spoken** to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds...

GOD HAS SPOKEN...

THROUGH PROPHETS

ANGELS

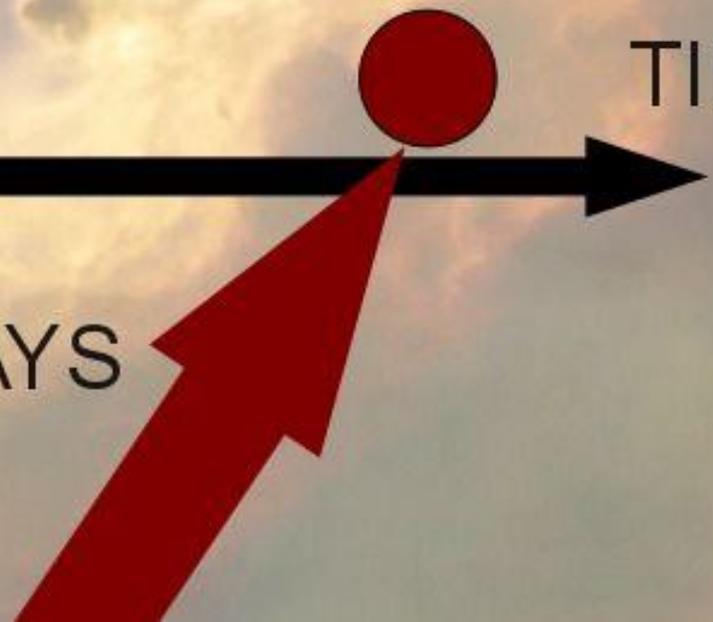


GOD'S SON

TIME

THE PAST

LAST DAYS



God Has Spoken! Hebrews 1:1-2

- Hebrews begins with a reference to God's communication with mankind. The letter is primarily written to Jewish believers, who placed great importance on the prophets of the Old Testament. Verses 1 and 2 explain that God spoke through prophets in the past, and speaks now through Jesus Christ.



God Has
Spoken!
Hebrews 1:1-2

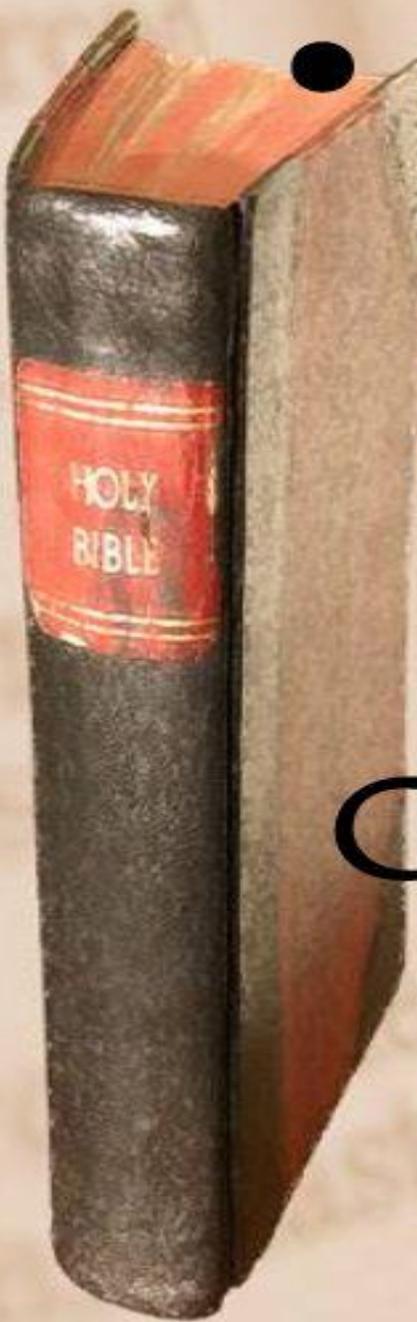
- This reminds us that the Old Testament and New Testament are not contradictory. The message of God given by the prophets is not different than the message of God given through Christ. The same God is speaking, continuing to show us more and more of His plans.

HOLY SPIRIT AND APOSTLES

He would teach them all things

John 15:26

"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."



- 2 Peter 1:21 – “For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.”

2 TIM 3:16:

ALL SCRIPTURE IS

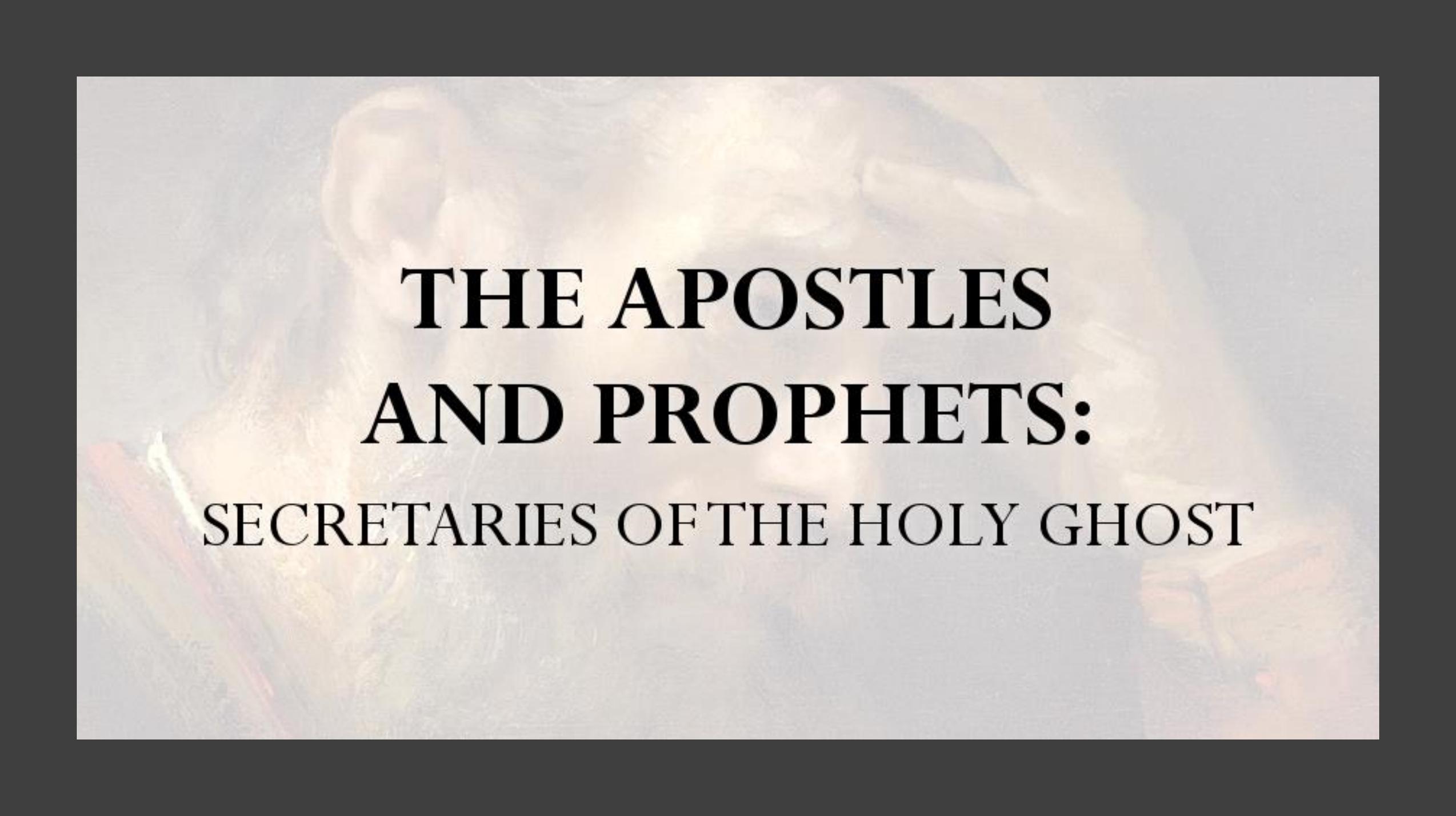
GOD-BREATHED

AND IS USEFUL FOR

TEACHING, REBUKING, CORRECTING
AND TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

The Bible is inspired
by God.

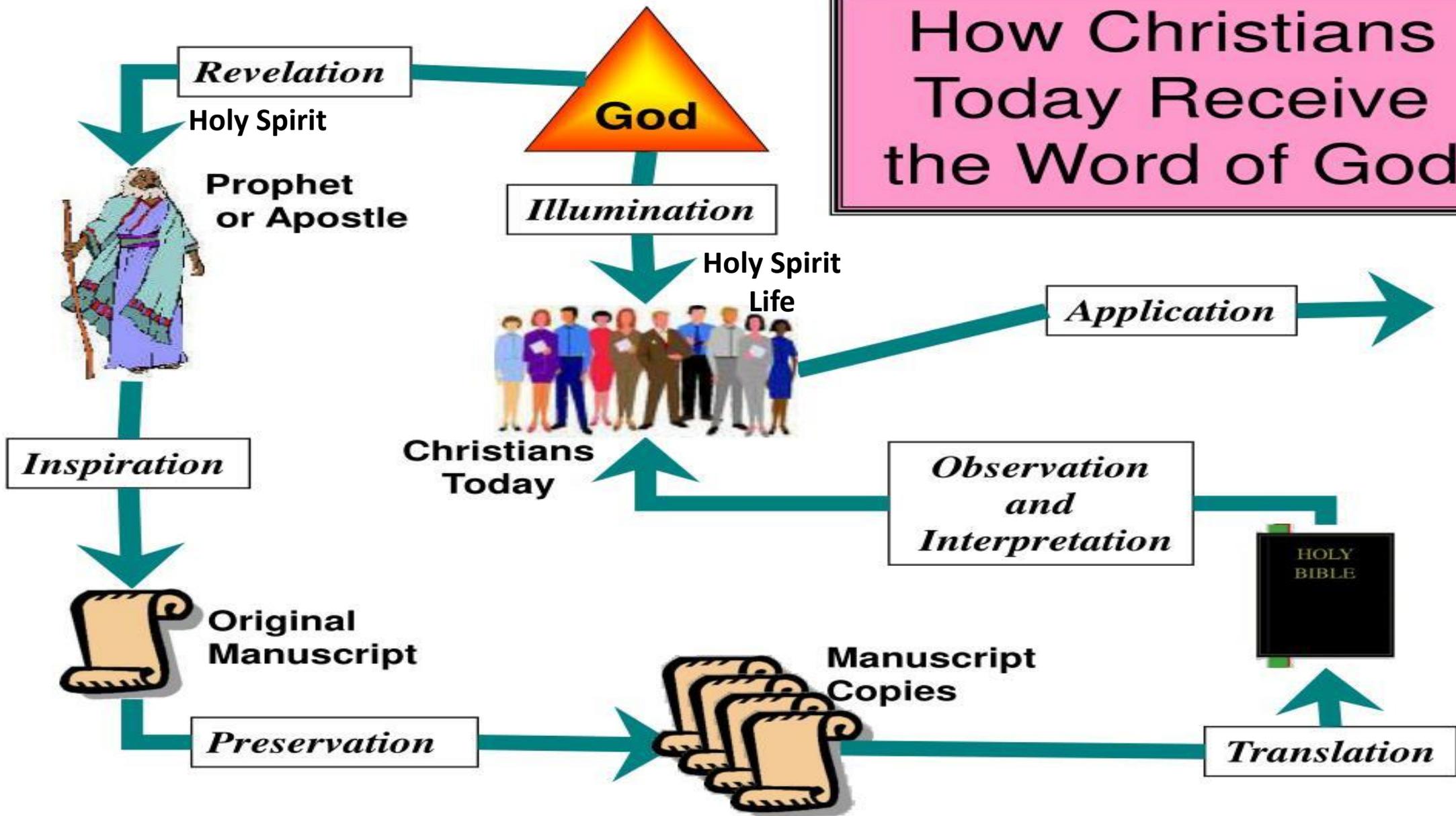
"Inspired" = God
breathed



**THE APOSTLES
AND PROPHETS:**

SECRETARIES OF THE HOLY GHOST

How Christians Today Receive the Word of God



Ephesians 3:2-5 esv
“...the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you... the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ... as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit.”
- Paul, apostle of Christ

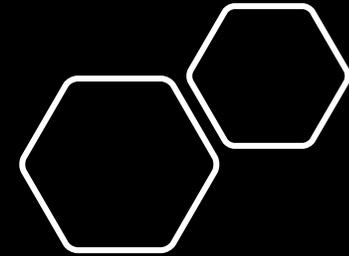
• **GOD**



apostles & prophets



US



The Word of Truth: The Believer's Connection to God

The Word of Truth - Summary

- *The only source of saving faith.*
- *The only source of eternal life.*
- *The only source of purifying truth.*
- *The words are “God breathed”.*
- *Scripture writers were inspired by the Holy Spirit*
- *Every word sustains life.*
- *Every word gives life.*

The Spirit of Truth: God's Connection to Believers

The Spirit of Truth - Summary

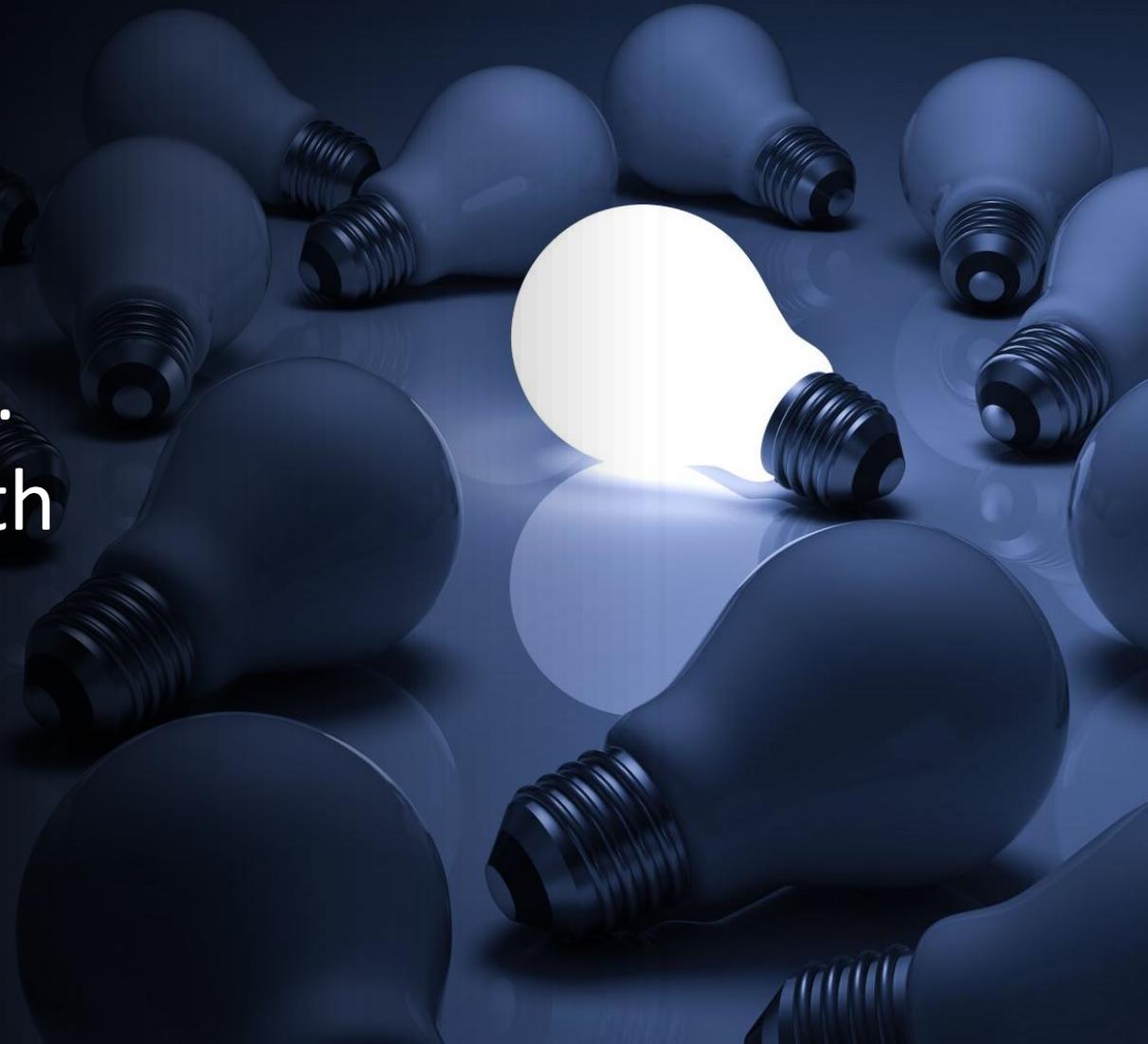
- *He searches the deep things of God.*
- *He reveals God's secrets to believers.*
- *He teaches believers all things.*
- *He brings things to our remembrance.*
- *He testifies about Jesus.*
- *He guides believers into all truth.*
- *He speaks only what he hears from the Father.*
- *He glorifies Christ.*
- *He shares what he knows with believers.*

How Does the Spirit of Truth and the Word of Truth Interact?

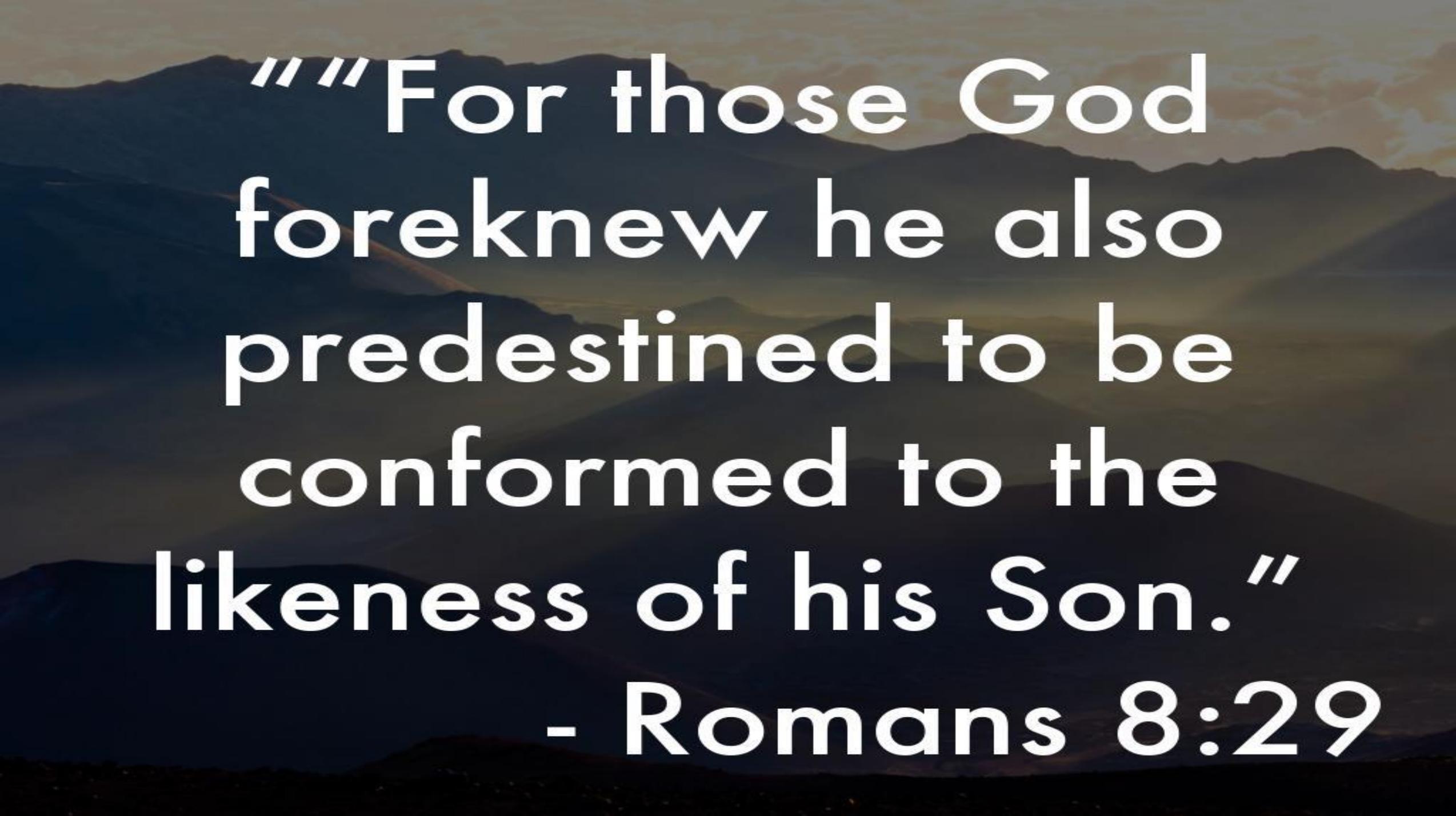
- *The Spirit of Truth searches the mind of God, even the deep things of God.*
- *The Spirit of Truth revealed the will, plan, and purpose of God to the writers of scripture.*
- *The things that God chose to reveal about himself, even the deep things, are revealed in the pages of scripture.*
- *There is no more “revelation” going on.*
- *There is only “illumination”.*

What is Illumination?

- Illumination (def.):
 - The act of supplying the light.
 - To enlighten intellectually with knowledge or grace.

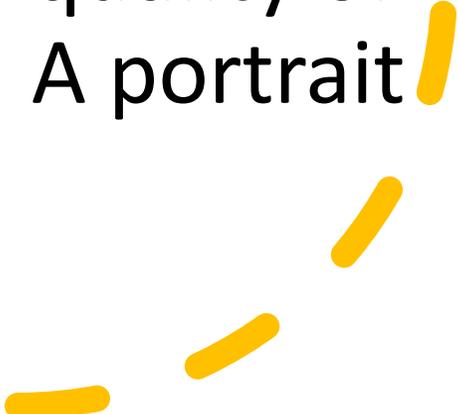


God's Predestined Plan: *The Image of Christ*



““For those God
foreknew he also
predestined to be
conformed to the
likeness of his Son.”
- Romans 8:29

God's
Predestined
Plan: The
Image of
Christ

- **Predestined** (def.): An outcome (or course of events) determined in advance by divine will.
 - **Conformed** (def.): To be similar in form or type.
 - **Likeness** (def.): the fact or quality of being alike; resemblance. A portrait or representation.
- 

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

- **Given the passage we just read, what do we really know about Christ? In your own opinion, explain what you know about the character, perspective, values, and actions of Christ.**
- **Provide a list of Christ's traits that you think are important to copy.**
- ***Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...***

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

- **First, the believer is to be conformed to the image of Christ in character.**

- *Christ was humble.*

- *Christ was meek and lowly in heart.*

- *Christ was a servant among servants.*

❖ **We must cast away:**

- *Self-conceit*

- *Self-Pride*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

- **First, the believer is to be conformed to the image of Christ in character.**

- *Christ was diligent in his father's business*

- *He went about doing good taking very little time for rest.*

❖ **We must:**

- *Conquer our entitled mentality of laziness, softness of ease.*

- *Be good soldiers and bear the hard work of kingdom building.*

- *We must spend whatever time and energy necessary to accomplish the purposes of God and rest later.*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

- **First, the believer is to be conformed to the image of Christ in character.**
 - *Christ was full of love (true and honest).*
 - *His love was not in words, but in deeds.*
 - *His love gave its whole self up to the object chosen.*
- ❖ **We must:**
 - *Have faithful love*
 - *Have love that is so true and so deep that we would prefer to be sacrificed in the most painful manner rather than the object of our affection should be made to suffer.*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

- **First, the believer is to be conformed to the image of Christ in character.**
 - *Christ was devoted and prayerful.*
 - *When he finished preaching, he began to pray.*
- ❖ We can never be like Christ until not only in public, but in private we are God's own.

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

- **You do not see all of Christ until you see his cross.**
 - *Christ was despised and rejected of men.*
 - *He not only died, he died a menial death*
 - *He died outside the camp as a thing accursed and unclean.*
- ❖ **We must:**
 - *Bear the cross of suffering to be conformed to the image of Christ.*
 - *Be crucified to the flesh and its affections and lust.*
 - *Bear the shame of persecution and ridicule of men.*
 - *Be dead to the world and the world dead to us*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

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 - *He died outside the camp as a thing accursed and unclean.*

❖ **We must:**

- *Bear the cost of being a Christian.*
 - *Loss of friends because of our convictions.*
 - *Loss of reputations.*
 - *Bear fiery trials that come upon him/her.*
- *We must have fellowship with Christ in his suffering that in bearing the cross of Christ we may be conformed to his image.*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

- **Christ is the wearer of the Crown.**

- *Christ himself came not to his crown except by his cross.*
- *Christ earned his dignity by his suffering.*

- ❖ **We must:**

- *Bear the image of the sorrowful Christ so that afterwards we then will bear the image of the Glorious Christ.*
- *Fight if we are to reign.*
- *Endure, if we would win.*
- *Run the race, if we would obtain the reward.*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

In summary, we are predestined to be conformed to the image of Christ in character, in suffering, and afterwards, in glory.

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

Summary

- *Christ was humble.*
- *Christ was meek and lowly in heart.*
- *Christ was a servant among servants.*
- *Christ was diligent in his father's business*
 - *He went about doing good taking very little time for rest.*
- *Christ was full of love (true and honest).*
 - *His love was not in words, but in deeds.*
 - *His love gave its whole self up to the object chosen.*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

Summary

- *Christ was despised and rejected of men.*
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- *Christ himself came not to his crown except by his cross.*
- *Christ earned his dignity by his suffering.*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

Summary

- We must cast away self conceit and pride.
- *We must conquer our entitled mentality of laziness, softness of ease.*
- *We must be good soldiers and bear the hard work of kingdom building.*
- *We must spend whatever time and energy necessary to accomplish the purposes of God and rest later.*
- *We must have faithful love; love that is so true and so deep that we would prefer to be sacrificed in the most painful manner rather than the object of our affection should be made to suffer.*
- *We must be devoted and prayerful*
- *We must bear the cost of being a Christian.*
 - *Loss of friends because of our convictions.*
 - *Loss of reputations.*
 - *Bear fiery trials that come upon him/her.*

God's Predestined Plan: The Image of Christ

What Does Conformity Look Like?

Summary

- *We must have fellowship with Christ in his suffering that in bearing the cross of Christ we may be conformed to his image.*
- *We must bear the image of the sorrowful Christ so that afterwards we then will bear the image of the Glorious Christ.*
- *Fight if we are to reign.*
- *Endure, if we would win.*
- *Run the race, if we would obtain the reward.*

The Mind Of
Christ

Through the Spirit

"...we have the mind of Christ"

1 Corinthians 2:16

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

- **What does it mean to have the mind of Christ?**
- **What values and beliefs does Christ have that we should seek to adopt? Explain.**
- ***Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...***

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

- The Mind (Def.):
- The mind is:
 - *The seat of consciousness (awareness/knowledge)*
 - *The ability or power to perceive, discern and judge.*
 - *The element of a person that enables them to be aware of the world and their experiences, to think, and to feel.*
 - *The ability or power to be aware, know, and think.*

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

- The Mind of Christ (Def.):
- We look at life from Christ's point of view, having his values and desires in mind at all times.
- To think God's thoughts and not think as the world thinks.
- It is a shared perspective of humility, compassion, and dependence on God.
- It is an understanding of God's plan for the world and his purpose for us.

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

Christ's Values:

- 1. A Desire to Bring
Glory to God***

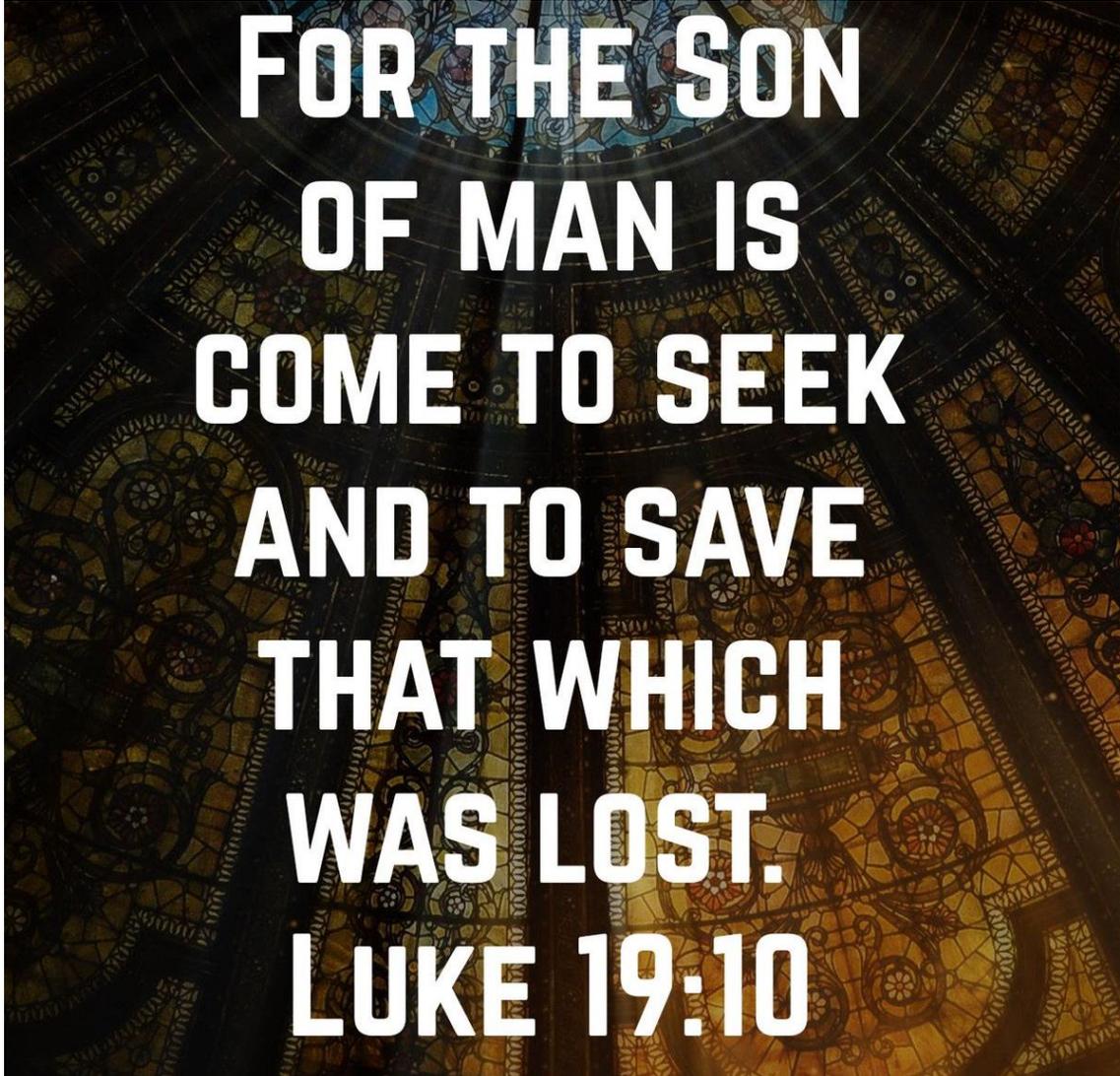
John 17:4,5

I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. 5 And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

Christ's Values:

- 2. A Longing to Provide Salvation to Sinners*



**FOR THE SON
OF MAN IS
COME TO SEEK
AND TO SAVE
THAT WHICH
WAS LOST.
LUKE 19:10**

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

Christ's Values:

3. *A Perspective on Humility and Obedience*

Humility

is not thinking less of
YOURSELF,

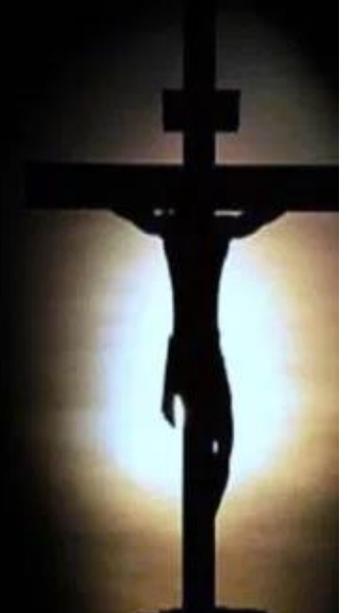
but thinking of yourself

LESS.

C.S. LEWIS

Philippians 2:5-8

“Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, ⁷ but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross”



The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

Matthew 9:36-37

But when He saw the multitudes, He was moved with compassion for them, because they were weary and scattered, like sheep having no shepherd. ³⁷ Then He said to His disciples, "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the laborers are few."

Christ's Values:

4. A Compassionate Heart

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

¹⁵ But the news about Him was spreading even farther, and large crowds were gathering to hear Him and to be healed of their sicknesses. ¹⁶ But Jesus Himself would often slip away to the wilderness and pray.

- Luke 5:15-16

Christ's Values:

5. Prayerful Dependence on God

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

Christ's Values Summarized

- 1. He has a desire to bring glory to God.**
- 2. He has a longing to provide salvation to sinners.**
- 3. He has a perspective on humility and obedience.**
- 4. He has a compassionate heart.**
- 5. He has prayerful dependence on God.**

THE UNLIMITED MIND

- **1 Corinthians 2:16 (KJV)**
- *16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? **But we have the mind of Christ.***

A black and white illustration of a skeleton sitting at a desk. The skeleton is leaning forward, looking at a laptop. The laptop screen displays the words "HOLY SPIRIT". Above the skeleton's head is a thought bubble containing the text "None of this makes sense to me!". The skeleton is sitting on a chair, and the desk is ornate with a decorative base.

None of this makes sense to me!

The natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

1Cor 2:14

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

- **How does a believer receive the mind of Christ? Explain.**
- **What is a believer capable of doing while operating in the mind of Christ? Explain.**
- ***Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...***

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

1 JOHN 5:11–12

1 JOHN

“11 And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. 12 He who has the Son has life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have life.”

**JESUS SAID TO HIM,
"I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH,
AND THE LIFE.**

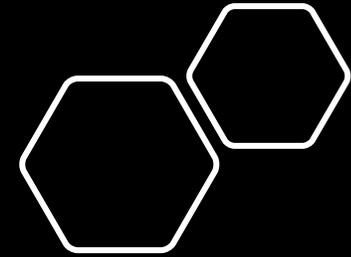
**NO ONE COMES TO THE FATHER
EXCEPT THROUGH ME."**

JOHN 14:6

**THOSE THAT
RECEIVE CHRIST
RECEIVE LIFE.**

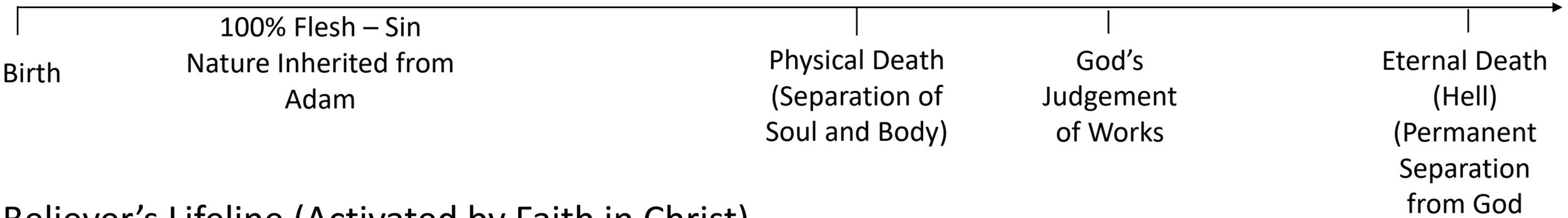
QUOTE-ID.COM

Nick Hines

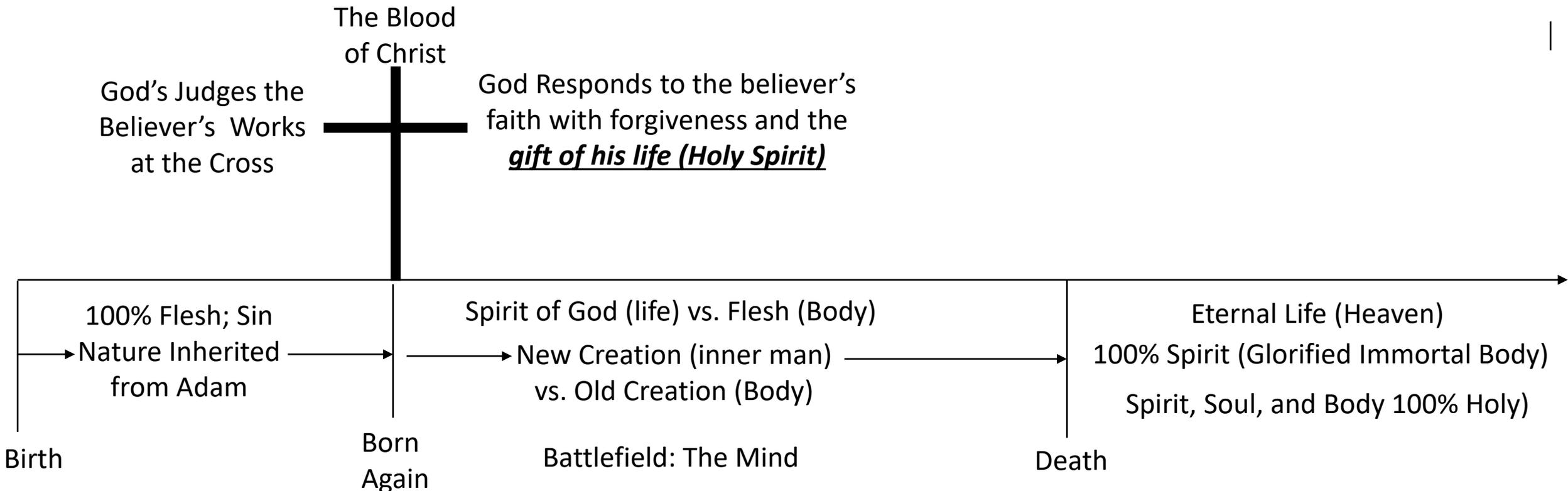


RECEIVE CHRIST – RECEIVE LIFE!

Unbeliever's Lifeline



Believer's Lifeline (Activated by Faith in Christ)

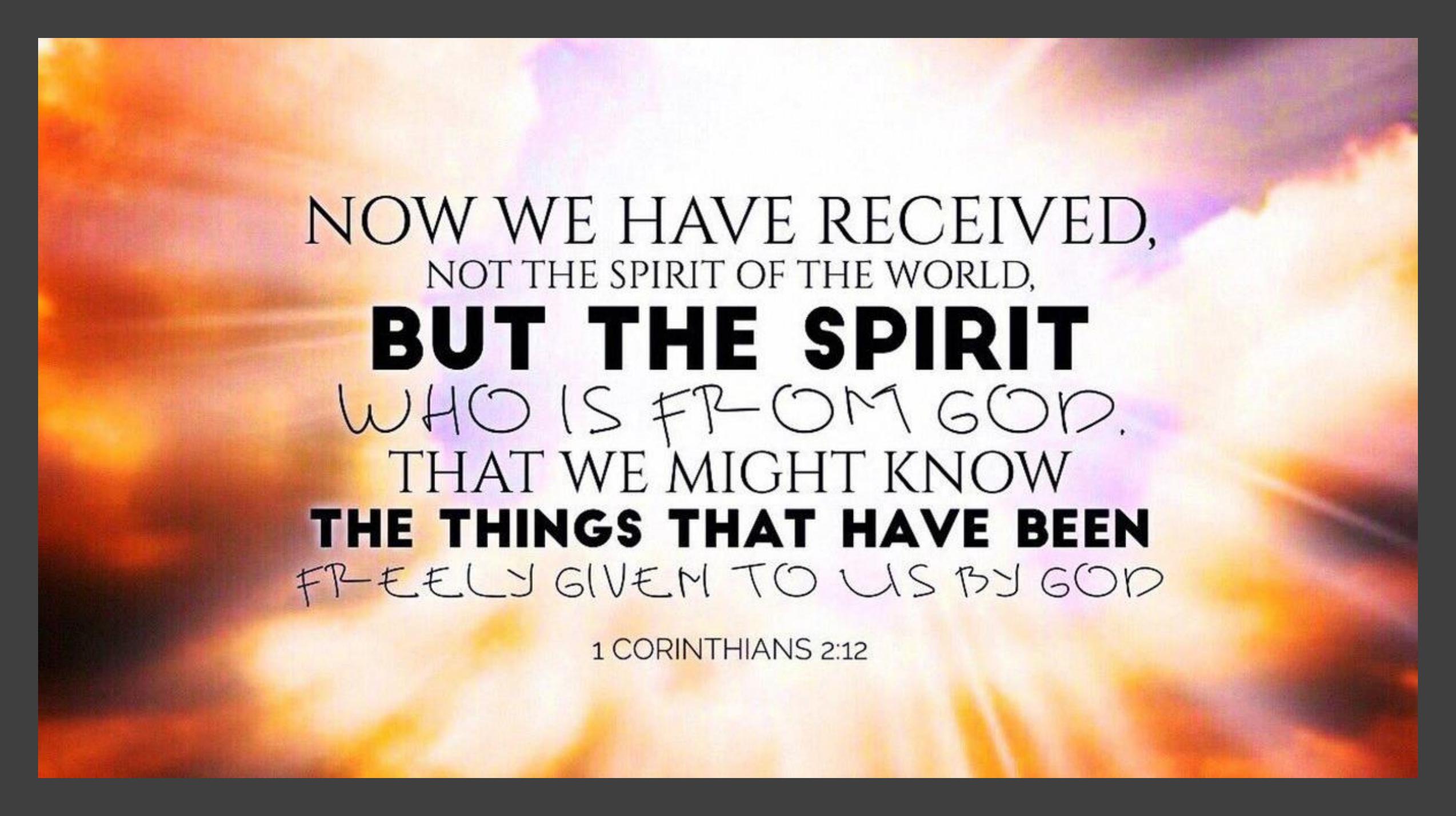


The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

MEMORY VERSES

EPHESIANS 2:4-5

But God, who is rich in mercy, for His great love wherewith He loved us, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved).



NOW WE HAVE RECEIVED,
NOT THE SPIRIT OF THE WORLD,
BUT THE SPIRIT
WHO IS FROM GOD.
THAT WE MIGHT KNOW
THE THINGS THAT HAVE BEEN
FREELY GIVEN TO US BY GOD

1 CORINTHIANS 2:12

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

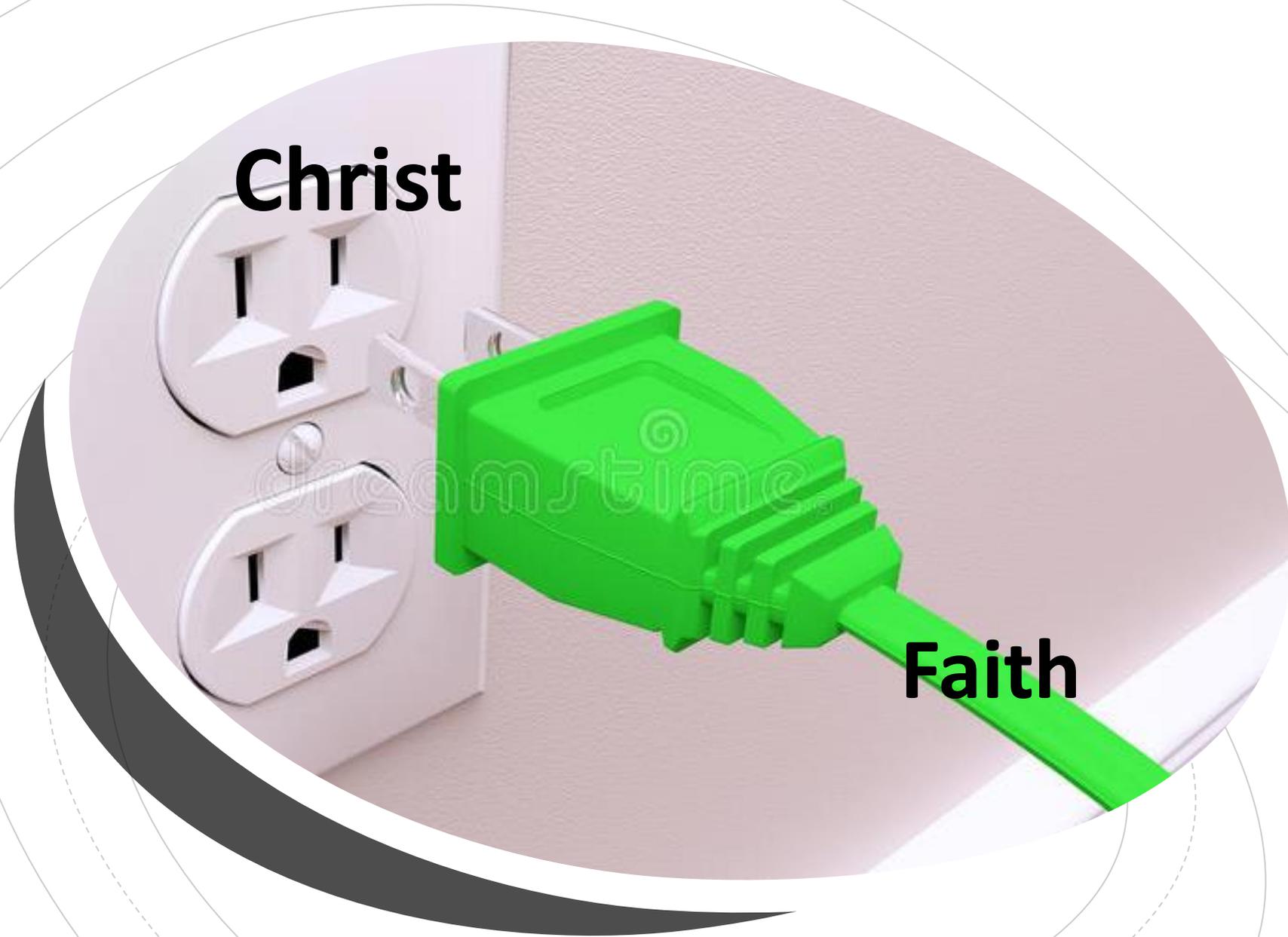
- **We cannot know or believe God's truth's until he enlightens our mental faculties, opens the eye of our mind, and gives us such a knowledge and faith in them (his truth's).**
- **It is the quickening life of the Spirit of God that must help our mind to discern the excellency of truth and holiness, and to be thoroughly convicted as to receive and embrace them.**

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

(Rom 8:8-9) So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God. But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. **Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**



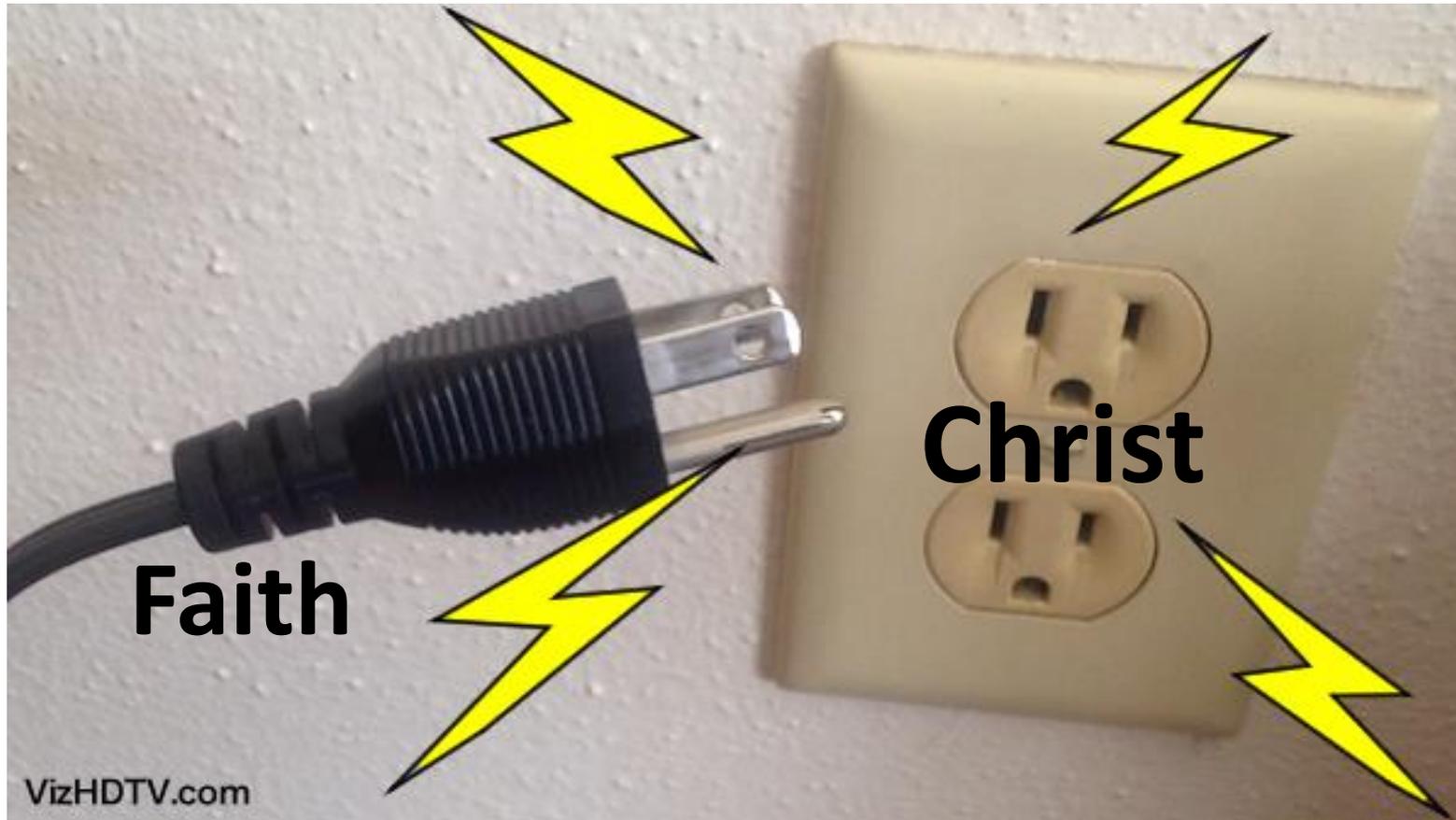
**Saved or
Unsaved?**



Christ

Faith

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person



*Saved or
Unsaved!*

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person



*Faith in Christ =
Spiritual Life!!*

***Access to the Holy Spirit power comes only through
plugging our faith (belief) into Christ!***

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person



God responds to the believer's faith in Christ by downloading the Holy Spirit into his/her spirit and making them alive!



The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

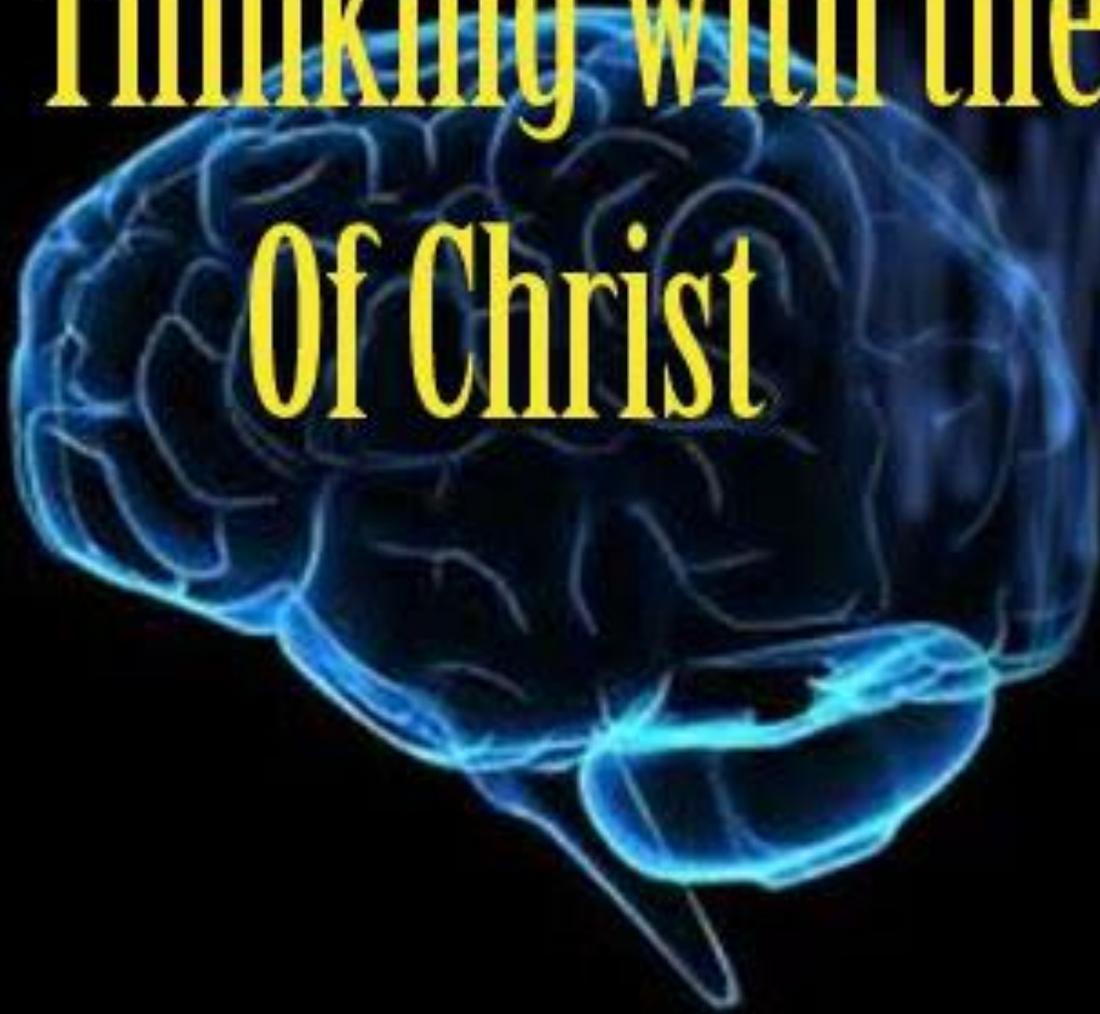
- Once the Holy Spirit is downloaded and rewrites the hard drive of our hearts, we are then capable of understanding, and interfacing with God.
- Having the mind of Christ means that aided by the Holy Spirit, believers have been given access to the thoughts of Christ.
- Those who have the mind of Christ are able to discern spiritual things that the natural man/woman (unbeliever) cannot understand or see.

The Mind of Christ: The Spiritual Person

- *The spiritual man/woman (believer) is capable of judging about matters of human wisdom and also gets great enjoyment in consuming divine truths.*
- *The spiritual man/woman (believer) sees divine wisdom, and experiences divine power in gospel revelations and mysteries, which the carnal and unsanctified mind looks upon as weakness and foolishness.*

Thinking with the mind

Of Christ



Renewing Our Mind

The Believers Mind Renewal Project

- **So how do I renew my mind and begin thinking with the mind of Christ that I have? Explain.**
- **How do I transform (recreate) my thinking, views, perceptions, and decisions to be aligned with the mind of Christ that I have? Explain.**
- ***Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...***

Thinking with the Mind of Christ

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires.

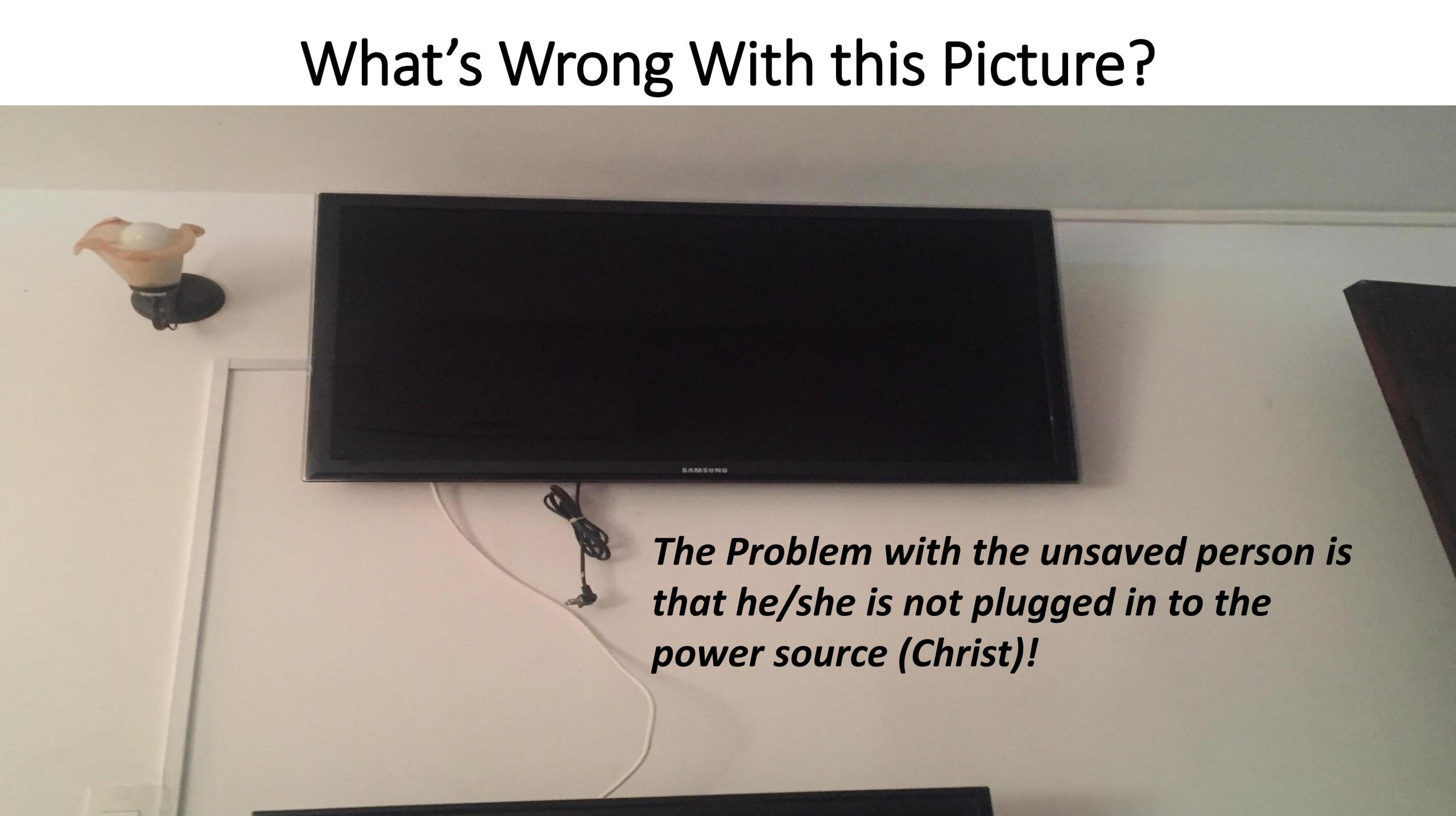
Romans 8:5

Who Controls You?

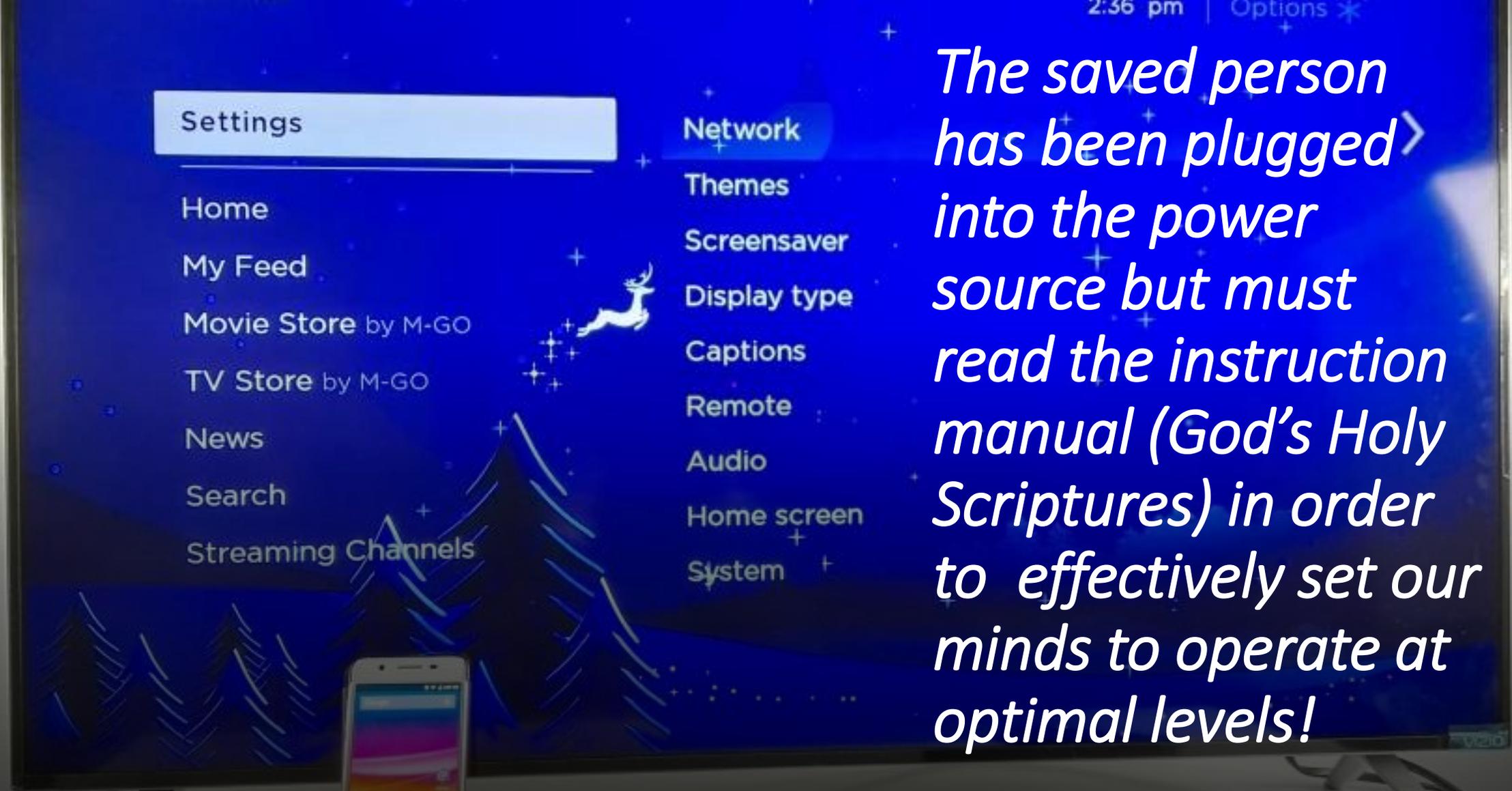
- Romans 8:5 NLT -



What's Wrong With this Picture?

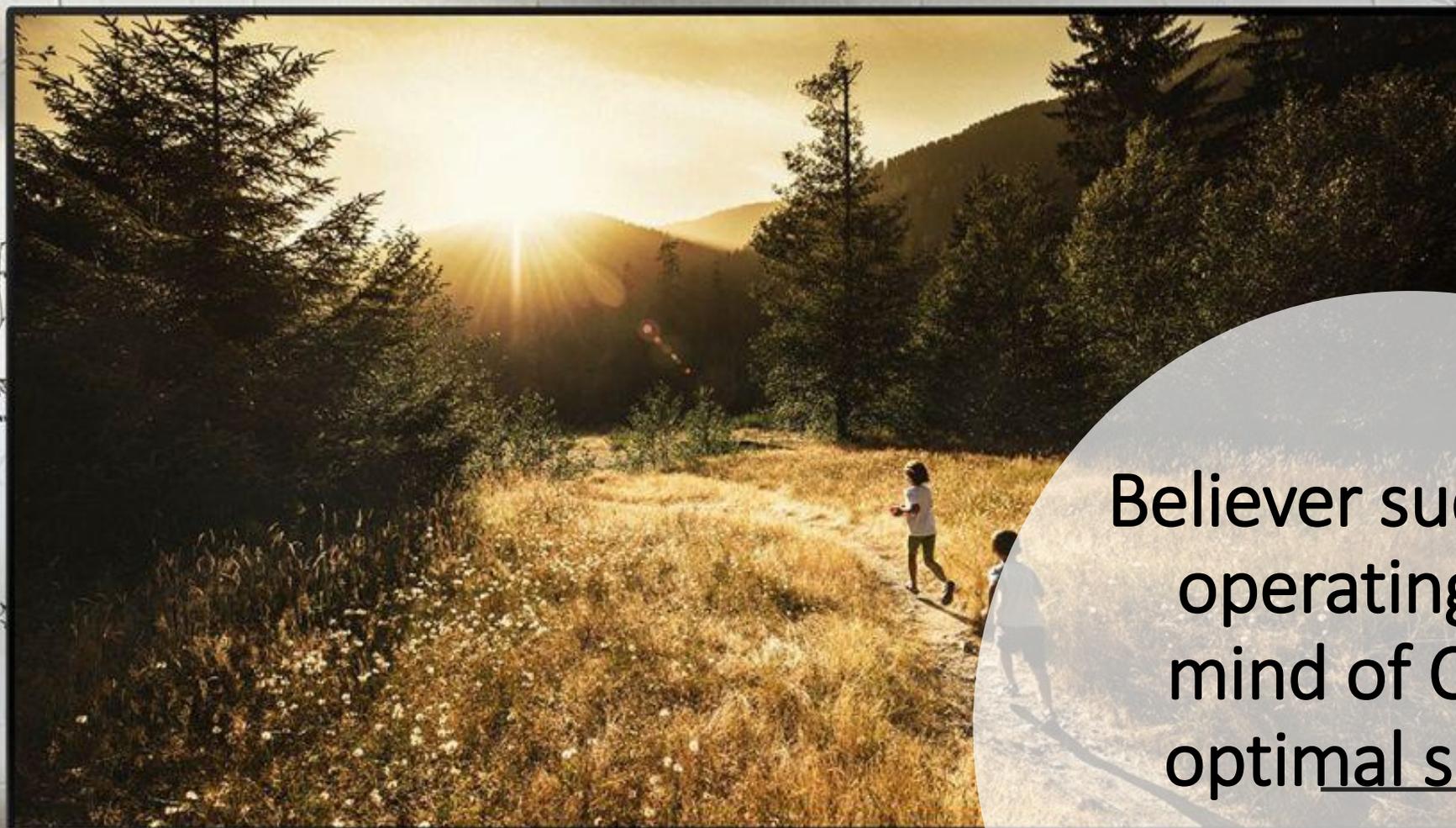
A photograph of a desk setup. On the left, there is a small lamp with a white shade and a black base. In the center, a black Samsung monitor is mounted on the desk. A white power cord runs from the monitor down to a power outlet on the wall. The cord is plugged into the outlet, but the power source is not visible. The text overlay explains that the monitor is not plugged in, symbolizing an unsaved person.

The Problem with the unsaved person is that he/she is not plugged in to the power source (Christ)!



The saved person has been plugged into the power source but must read the instruction manual (God's Holy Scriptures) in order to effectively set our minds to operate at optimal levels!





ULTRA HD
4K ULTRA HD
CONNECTED

Believer successfully
operating in the
mind of Christ at
optimal settings!

A person is kneeling in a field of tall grass, with their arms raised high towards a bright, glowing sunset sky. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a strong lens flare and illuminating the scene with warm, golden light. The person's silhouette is dark against the bright background. The overall mood is one of hope, prayer, and seeking.

You will seek Me and find Me
when you *seek Me with all
your heart.*

Jeremiah 29:13

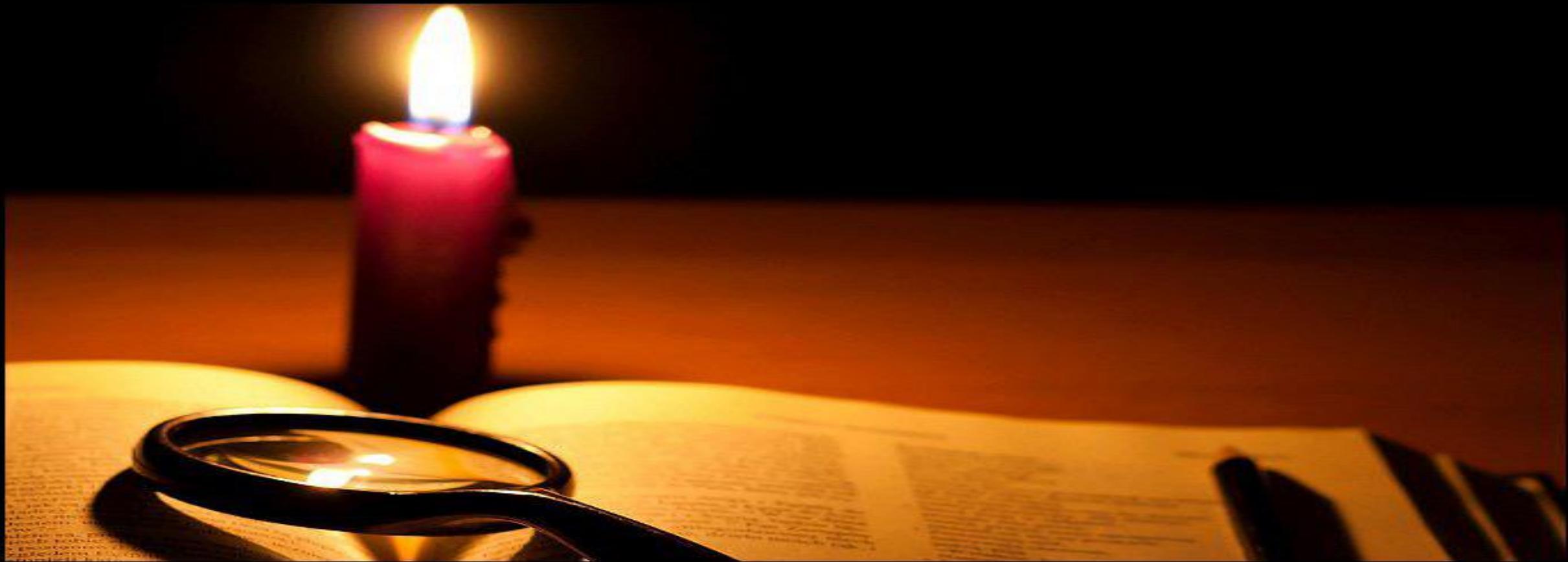
~Deuteronomy 4:29



(KJV)~



But if from thence thou shalt seek the LORD thy God, thou shalt find him, if thou seek him with all thy heart and with all thy soul.



**"But seek ye first the kingdom of
God, and his righteousness; and
all these things shall be added
unto you."**

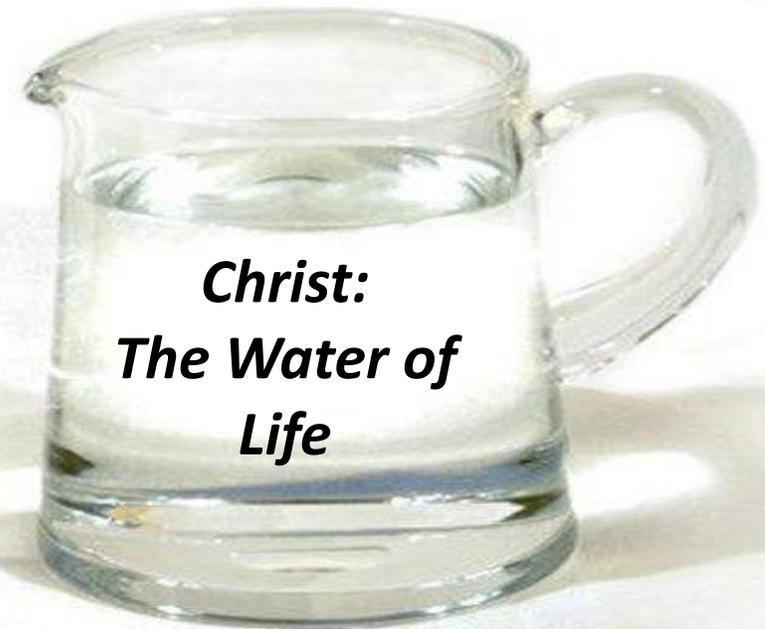
Matthew 6:33 (KJV)

Blessed are those who
hunger and thirst for
righteousness,
for they will be filled.

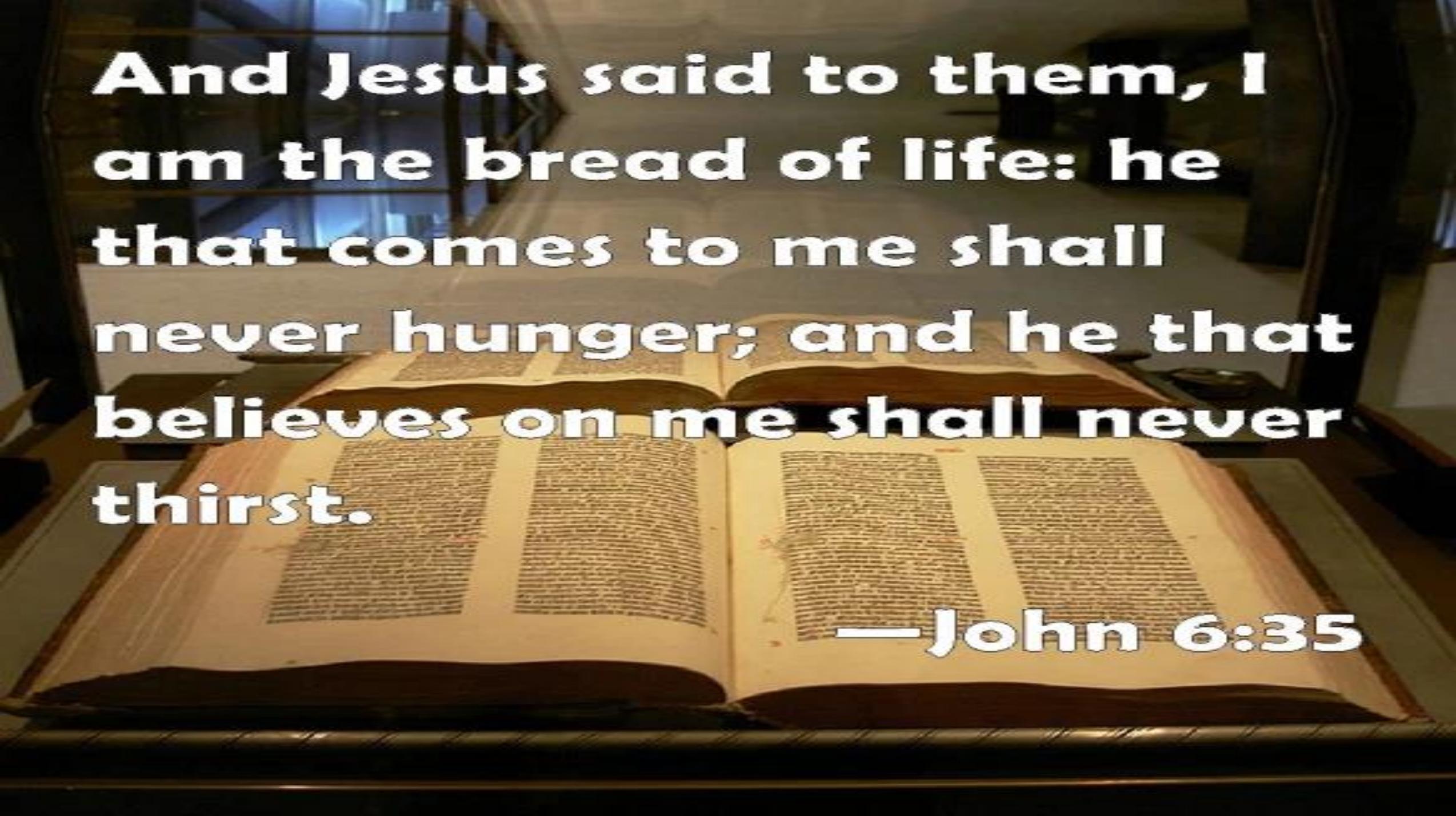
- Matthew 5:6



***Christ:
The Bread
of Life***



***Christ:
The Water of
Life***

An open Bible is placed on a wooden desk. The pages are yellowed with age and contain dense, small text. In the background, a window with a grid pattern is visible, showing a glimpse of the outdoors. The lighting is warm and focused on the Bible.

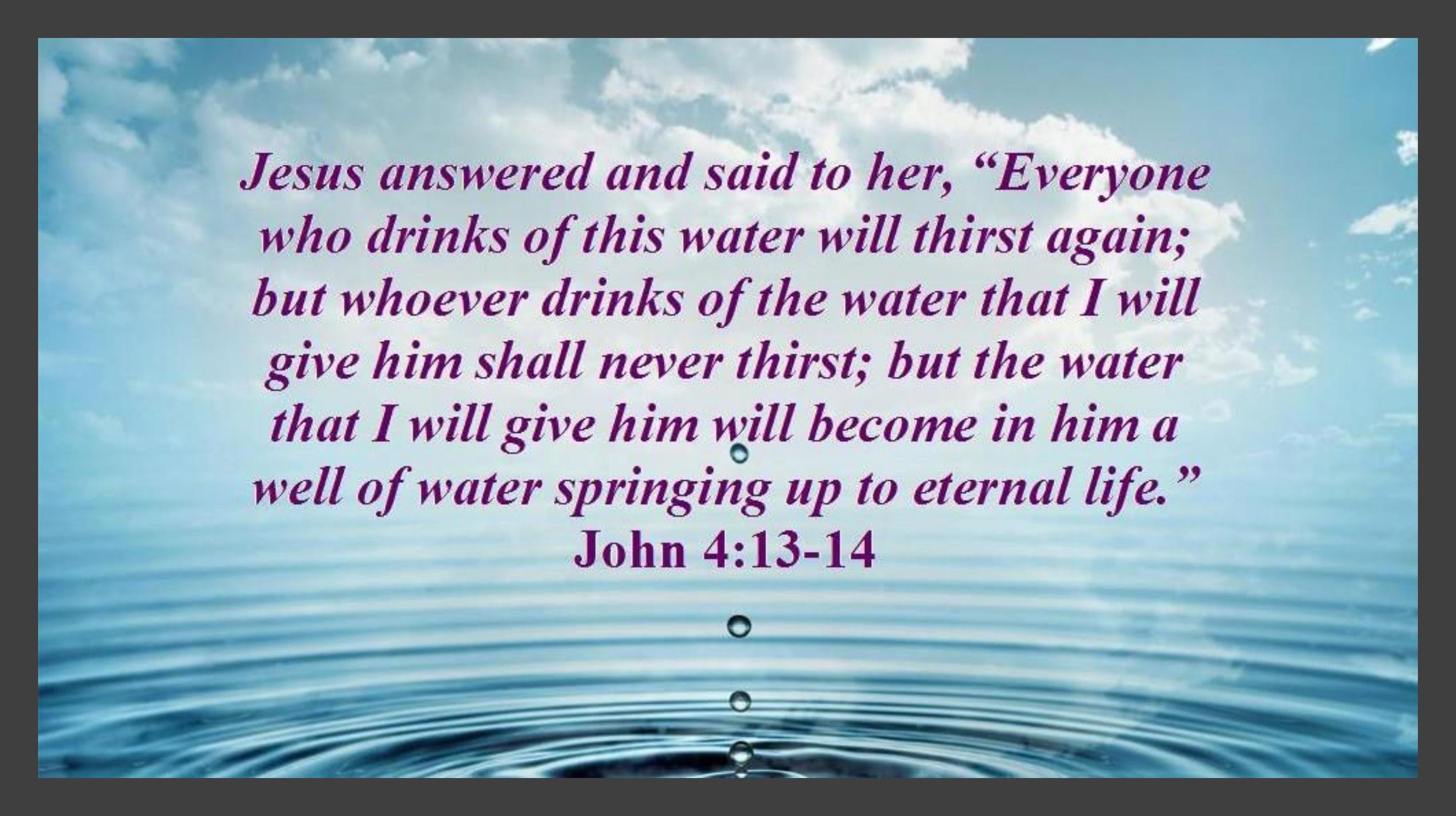
**And Jesus said to them, I
am the bread of life: he
that comes to me shall
never hunger; and he that
believes on me shall never
thirst.**

—John 6:35

John 6:57-58

As the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me.⁵⁸ This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like the bread the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.”

My third declaration of belief to embrace:
Jesus is My Life Sustainer!



Jesus answered and said to her, “Everyone who drinks of this water will thirst again; but whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life.”

John 4:13-14

First Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project “Abiding (Holding Fast) to His Word”

IF YOU ABIDE IN MY WORD,
YOU ARE MY DISCIPLES
INDEED. AND YOU
SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH, &
THE TRUTH SHALL
MAKE YOU FREE.



from
JOHN 8:31-32

**IF YOU HOLD TO MY TEACHING,
YOU ARE REALLY MY DISCIPLES.**

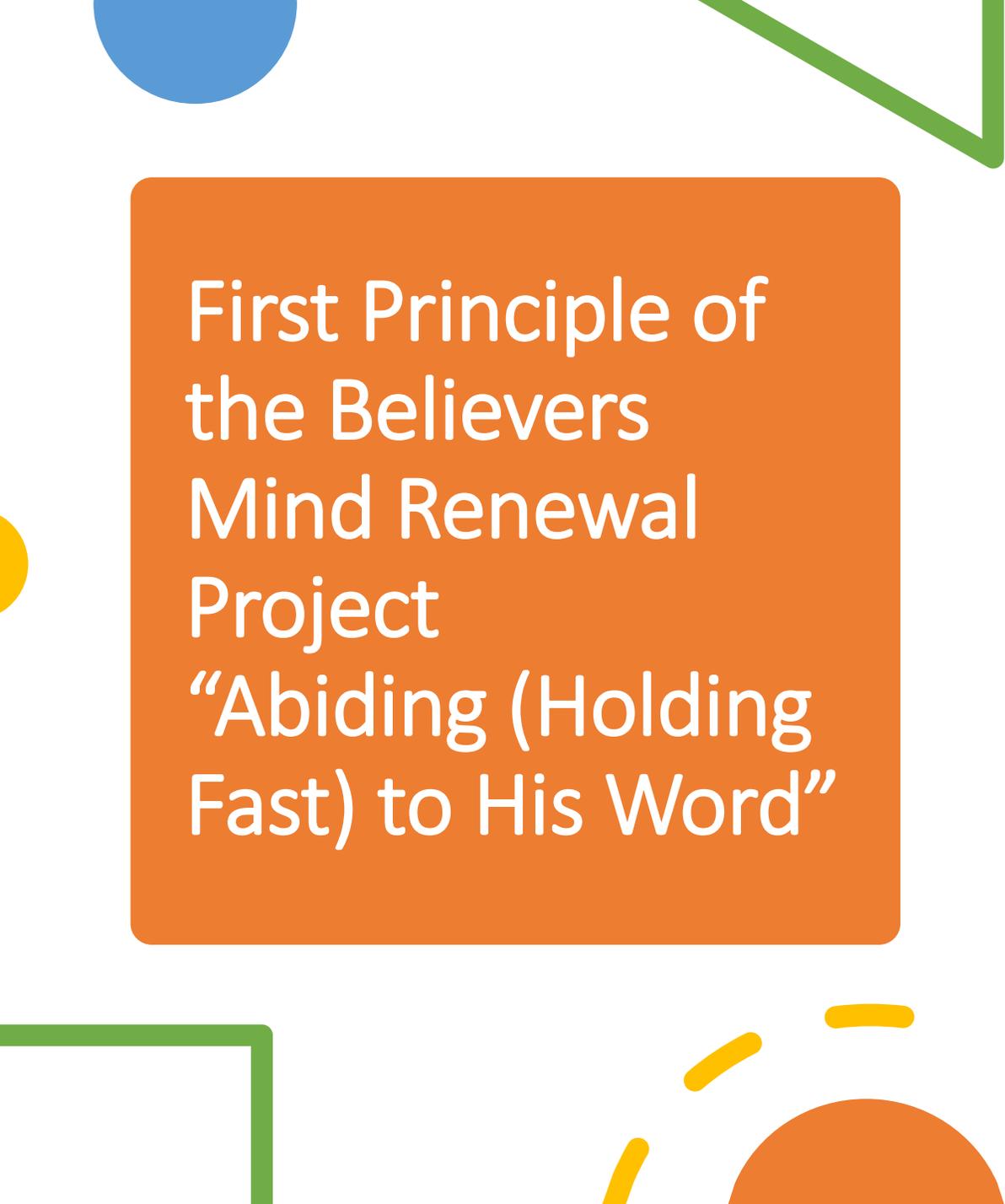
First Principle of the Believers Mind
Renewal Project

**THEN YOU WILL KNOW THE TRUTH,
AND THE TRUTH WILL SET YOU FREE
-JOHN 8:31-32**

First Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project

“Abiding (Holding Fast) to His Word”

- **Considering the passage we just read, what does it mean to abide in his word? Explain**
- **What does it mean to know the truth? Explain**
- **How does the truth set us free? Explain.**
- ***Take 5 minutes to think about the questions above and provide your honest opinion either in the chat or in the discussion that follows...***



First Principle of
the Believers
Mind Renewal
Project
“Abiding (Holding
Fast) to His Word”

- ***“If you abide in My word,***
- *To “abide” in Jesus’ word is a **test** to determine the strength of their faith.*
- *The word “abide” means to remain.*
- *The issue here is adherence to Jesus’ word or teaching.*
- *People who adhere to Jesus’ word direct their life by it. They have no casual attitude toward revelation of Himself.*

First Principle of
the Believers
Mind Renewal
Project
“Abiding
(Holding Fast)
to His Word”

- ***you are My disciples indeed*** [truly].
- *A disciple is literally a learner. A disciple “indeed” or truly is a disciple who faithfully believes his teacher’s word.*
- *There is a difference between a mere disciple and a disciple “indeed.” This is a person who lets the word of Christ take **hold** on his or her soul.*
- *Jesus did not lay down a condition for becoming a believer here but simply indicated what **characterizes** a growing believer. The person who fully engages with the truth that Christ communicates is a disciple “indeed.”*



First Principle of
the Believers
Mind Renewal
Project
“Abiding
(Holding Fast) to
His Word”



- **PRINCIPLE:**
- Full engagement with Jesus' word produces a dynamic faith.
- **APPLICATION:**
- There are those people today who are inclined to think that Jesus may be true but cannot bring themselves to fully believe Him; they cannot accept the revelation of Himself to men.
- Dynamic faith produces growth in Christ. Growing believers personally engage with the truth that is in Jesus.

First Principle
of the
Believers
Mind Renewal
Project
“Abiding
(Holding Fast)
to His Word”

- ³² ***And you shall know the truth,***
- *If a person does engage with the truth, with the reality of who Jesus is, then something **genuine** will happen to them. These people will go beyond the mechanics of religion and will enter the liberating power of “the truth.”*
- *“Know” is **experiential** knowledge of the truth. It is truth about Jesus. It is one thing to know about Christ **academically**, but it is another to experience His saving grace in one’s life.*
- *John refers to “truth” seven times (vv. 32 [two times], 40, 44, 45, 46). Truth and Jesus are closely **associated** so that knowledge of the truth is connected to growing as a disciple.*

First Principle
of the
Believers
Mind Renewal
Project
“Abiding
(Holding Fast)
to His Word”

- **and the truth shall make you free.”**
 - Truth liberates. It will make the will unfettered.
 - Genuine engagement with Christ will free the soul to do the will of God. This **freedom** comes from without.
 - Truth can only be validated by itself. Either it is real, or it is not. Truth in this context is Christ Himself.
- 

First Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project

“Abiding (Holding Fast) to His Word”

- **PRINCIPLE:**

- *Becoming a growing believer means appropriating the revelation of Christ to experience.*

- **APPLICATION:**

- *Faith alone does not save a soul. It is what we place our faith in that saves. It is the object of what we believe that gives us eternal life. In a generation of skepticism, it is refreshing that we can “know the truth.” Others live in despair and hopelessness.*
- *The truth will set people free from spiritual slavery. Freedom biblically refers to liberty to do what one should do, not what one wishes to do. This person is no longer under slavery to sin. There is liberty in Christ (2 Cor. 3:17; Gal. 5:1, 13; cf. 4:4–7; James 1:25).*

Second
Principle of the
Believers Mind
Renewal Project
“Getting an
Understanding”

BUT HE WHO RECEIVED SEED ON THE GOOD GROUND

**IS HE WHO HEARS THE WORD
AND UNDERSTANDS IT**

WHO INDEED BEARS FRUIT AND PRODUCES:
SOME A HUNDREDFOLD, SOME SIXTY, SOME THIRTY

**MATTHEW
13:23**

COP 
ORTHODOX

Second Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project

“Getting an Understanding”

- **Matthew 13:3-9**

- ³ And he spake many things unto them in parables, saying, Behold, a sower went forth to sow;
- ⁴ And when he sowed, some seeds fell by the way side, and the fowls came and devoured them up:
- ⁵ Some fell upon stony places, where they had not much earth: and forthwith they sprung up, because they had no deepness of earth:
- ⁶ And when the sun was up, they were scorched; and because they had no root, they withered away.
- ⁷ And some fell among thorns; and the thorns sprung up, and choked them:
- ⁸ But other fell into good ground, and brought forth fruit, some an hundredfold, some sixtyfold, some thirtyfold.
- ⁹ Who hath ears to hear, let him hear.

Second Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project

“Getting an Understanding”

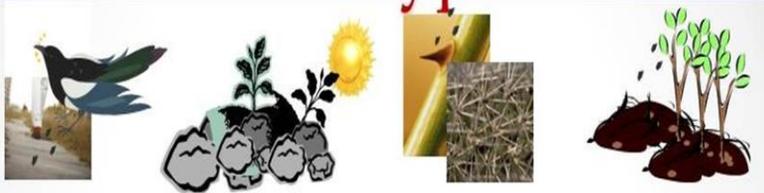
- **Matthew 13:18-23**
- *18 Hear ye therefore the parable of the sower.*
- *19 When any one heareth the word of the kingdom, and understandeth it not, then cometh the wicked one, and catcheth away that which was sown in his heart. This is he which received seed by the way side.*
- *20 But he that received the seed into stony places, the same is he that heareth the word, and anon with joy receiveth it;*
- *21 Yet hath he not root in himself, but dureth for a while: for when tribulation or persecution ariseth because of the word, by and by he is offended.*
- *22 He also that received seed among the thorns is he that heareth the word; and the care of this world, and the deceitfulness of riches, choke the word, and he becometh unfruitful.*
- *23 But he that received seed into the good ground is he that **heareth the word,** and **understandeth it;** which also **beareth fruit,** and bringeth forth, some an hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.*

Second Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project

“Getting an Understanding”

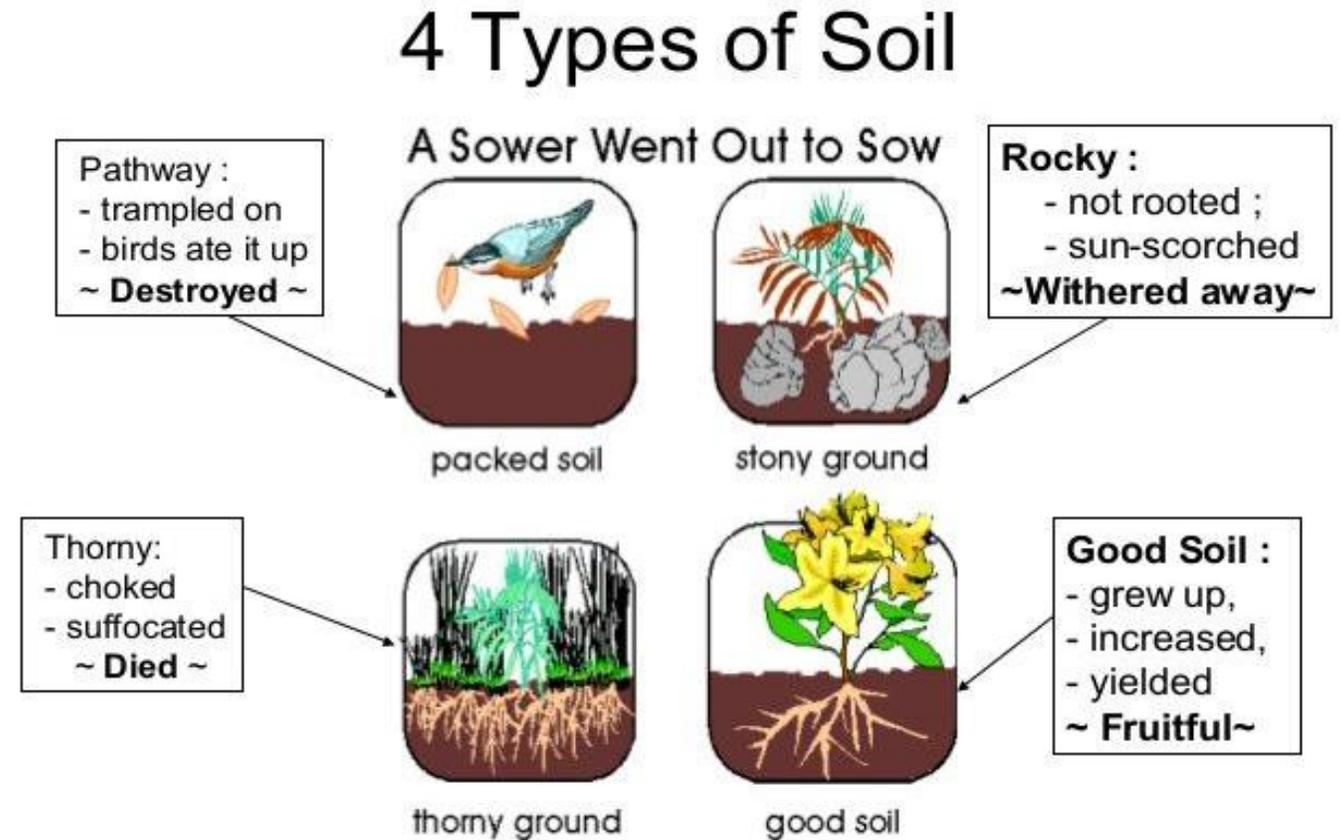
Parable of the Sower

Faith Types



Faith Blinders	Faith Rocky	Faith Rebel	Remaining Faith
Value of God's Message not understood, and is disregarded.	Contentment in surface faith in God, skips dedication to depth needed to stand firm.	Destructively allows worldly priorities to compete with faith in God as primary.	Enduring faith in Jesus, fruitfully understands and practices God's Word.

11/30/2011 7



Third Principle of
the Believers Mind
Renewal Project
“Transform (Make
New) Our Thoughts
and Decisions”

And be not conformed
to this

World

but be

TRANSFORMED

by the

Renewing

OF
YOUR MIND

ROMANS 12:2

THE
SAME
OLD
THINKING

THE
SAME
OLD
RESULTS



Do not conform
to the pattern
of this world,
but be
transformed by
the renewing
of your mind.

Romans 12:2

Third Principle
of the Believers
Mind Renewal
Project
“Transform
(Make New)
Our Thoughts
and Decisions”

- The Mind – Playground or Battlefield

- “The mind” (*i.e.*, the mental faculties, reason, or understanding) is in itself neutral.
 - When informed by an evil principle, it becomes an instrument of evil; when informed by the Spirit, it is an instrument of good.
 - It performs the process of discrimination between good and evil, and so supplies the *data* to conscience.
- 

Third Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project

“Transform (Make New) Our Thoughts and Decisions”

- **Holy Spirit Mind Transformation – We Must Let Him In**
 - Truth professed has no transforming power.
 - Truth *received and fed upon* can revolutionize a man’s whole character.
 - The work of the Holy Ghost *first begins in the understanding*, and is carried on to the will, affections, and conversation, till there is a change of the whole man into the likeness of God, in knowledge, righteousness, and true holiness. Thus, to be godly, is to give up ourselves to God.
 - The meaning is, *do not cherish a spirit. devoted to the world*, following its vain fashions and pleasures, but cultivate a spirit attached to God, and his kingdom and cause.

Third Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project “Transform (Make New) Our Thoughts and Decisions”

- Holy Spirit Mind Transformation – We Must Let Him In
- Ephesians 4:17-19: Put Off the Old Way of Thinking
- ¹⁷ So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the *futility of their thinking*.
- ¹⁸ They are *darkened in their understanding* and separated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them due to the *hardening of their hearts*.
- ¹⁹ Having *lost all sensitivity*, they have given themselves over to sensuality so as to *indulge in every kind of impurity*, and they are *full of greed*.

Third Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project “Transform (Make New) Our Thoughts and Decisions”

- Holy Spirit Mind Transformation – We Must Let Him In
- Ephesians 4:17-19: Put Off the Old Way of Thinking; Put on the Mind of Christ
- ²⁰ That, however, is not the way of life you learned
- ²¹ when you *heard about Christ and were taught in him in accordance with the truth that is in Jesus.*
- ²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to *put off your old self*, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires;
- ²³ to *be made new in the attitude of your minds*; ²⁴ and to *put on the new self*, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

Third Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project “Transform (Make New) Our Thoughts and Decisions”

Holy Spirit Mind Transformation – We Must Let Him In

- Ephesians 4:25-28: Put Off the Old Way of Thinking; Put on the Mind of Christ
- ²⁵ Therefore each of you must **put off falsehood** and **speak truthfully** to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.
- ²⁶ “In your **anger do not sin**”: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry,
- ²⁷ and **do not give the devil a foothold**.
- ²⁸ Anyone who has been stealing must **steal no longer**, but **must work, doing something useful with their own hands**, that they may **have something to share with those in need**.

Third Principle of the Believers Mind Renewal Project “Transform (Make New) Our Thoughts and Decisions”

Holy Spirit Mind Transformation – We Must Let Him In

- Ephesians 4:29-32: Put Off the Old Way of Thinking; Put on the Mind of Christ
- ²⁹ Do not let any **unwholesome talk** come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for **building others** up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.
- ³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.
- ³¹ Get rid of all **bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander**, along with **every form of malice**.
- ³² **Be kind and compassionate** to one another, **forgiving each other**, just as in Christ God forgave you.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN OLD AND NEW GARMENTS

OLD GARMENTS (the old man)

**“Therefore put to death your members which are on the earth:
fornication,
uncleanness,
passion,
evil desire
and covetousness, which is idolatry...
anger,
wrath,
malice,
blasphemy,
filthy language out of your mouth.
Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old man with his deeds”**

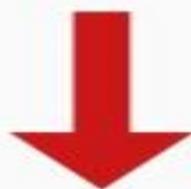
(Colossians, 3: 5-9)

NEW GARMENTS (the new man)

**“Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved,
put on tender mercies,
kindness, humility,
meekness, longsuffering;
bearing with one another,
and forgiving one another...
put on love, which is the bond of perfection.
And let the peace of God rule in your hearts...
be thankful.
Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom,
teaching and admonishing one another,
singing...
do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him”**

(Colossians, 3: 12-17)

**PUT OFF
THE OLD
MAN**



sexual immorality
impurity
passion
evil desire
covetousness



**PUT ON
THE NEW
MAN**



compassion
kindness
humility
meekness
patience

*And above
all these*
**PUT ON
LOVE**
*which binds
everything
together in
perfect harmony.*
Colossians 3:14

...put off concerning the former conversation the old man which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

Eph. 4:22.



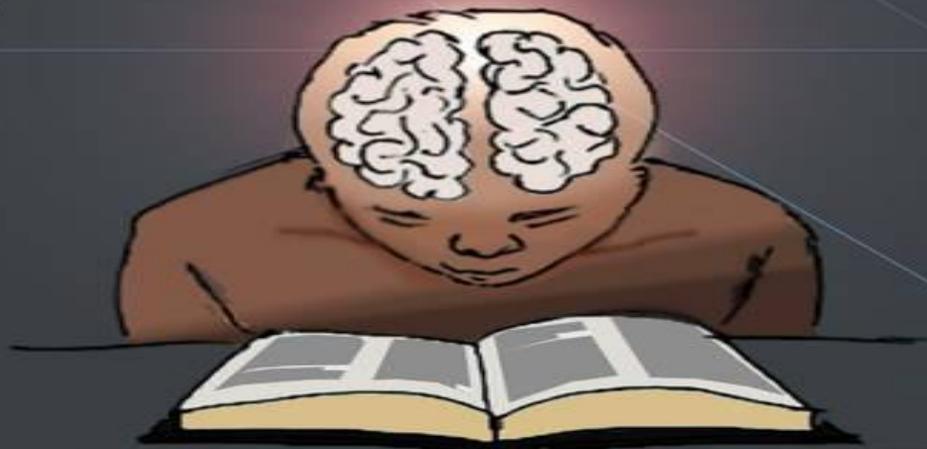
And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Eph. 4:24.



And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

Eph. 4:23.



The reason why you often find yourself back to wearing the old and previously discarded outfit is because you skip or inconsistently engage the intermediary process of mind renewal by the Word.

It takes a renewed mind to sustain the **NEWMAN** Apparel.

To what extent do we have the mind of Christ?

- 1. To the extent that we permit the mind of Christ access to our souls.**
- 2. To the extent that we yield to the mind of Christ.**
- 3. To the extent that we focus on the Will of God.**

Thinking With the Mind of Christ

Summarized

- **Seek God With Our Whole Heart**
- **Hunger and Thirst for Righteousness**
- **Abiding (Holding Fast) to His Word**
- **Getting an Understanding**
- **Transform (Make New) Our Thoughts and Decisions**
 - **Abide (Hold Fast to Christ's Teachings)**
 - **In All Thy Getting, Get an Understanding**
 - **Put off the Old Man; Put on the Mind of Christ**
- **Pray Without Ceasing**

2 TIM 3:16:

ALL SCRIPTURE IS

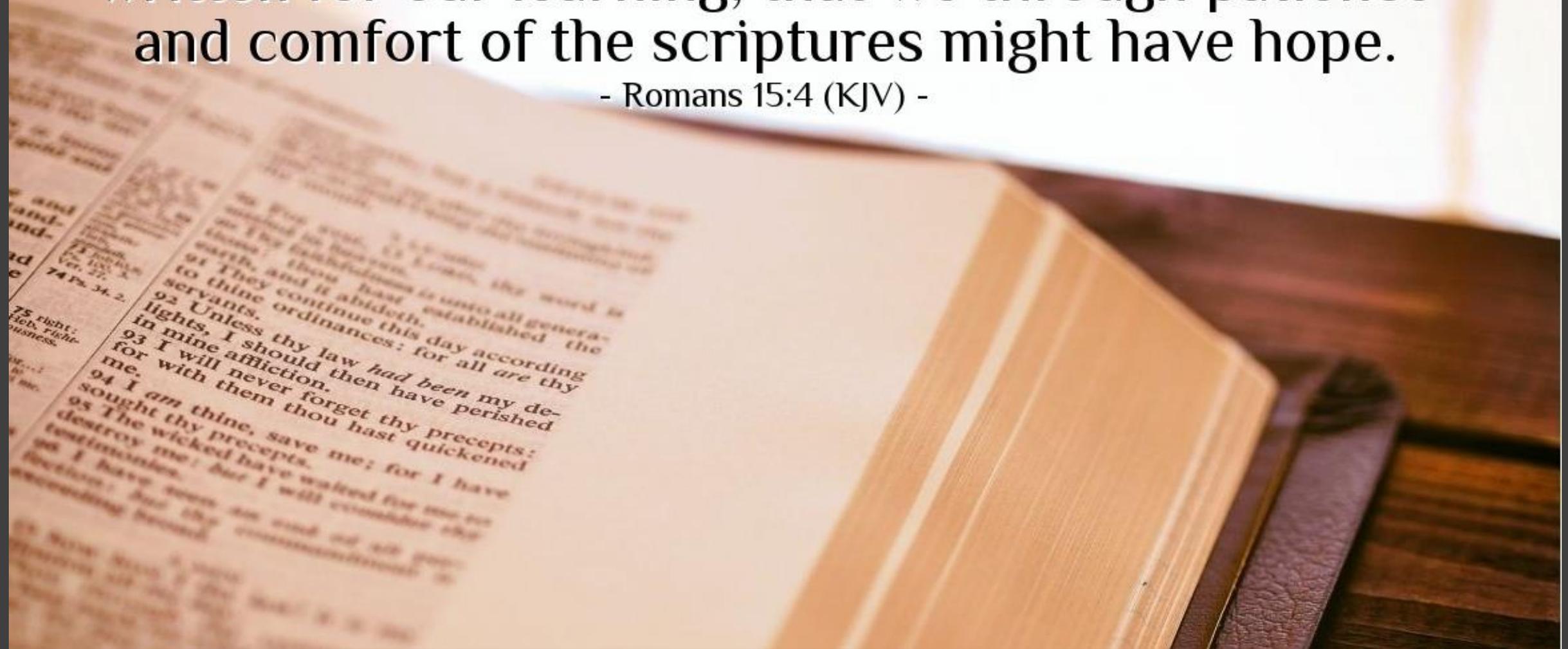
GOD-BREATHED

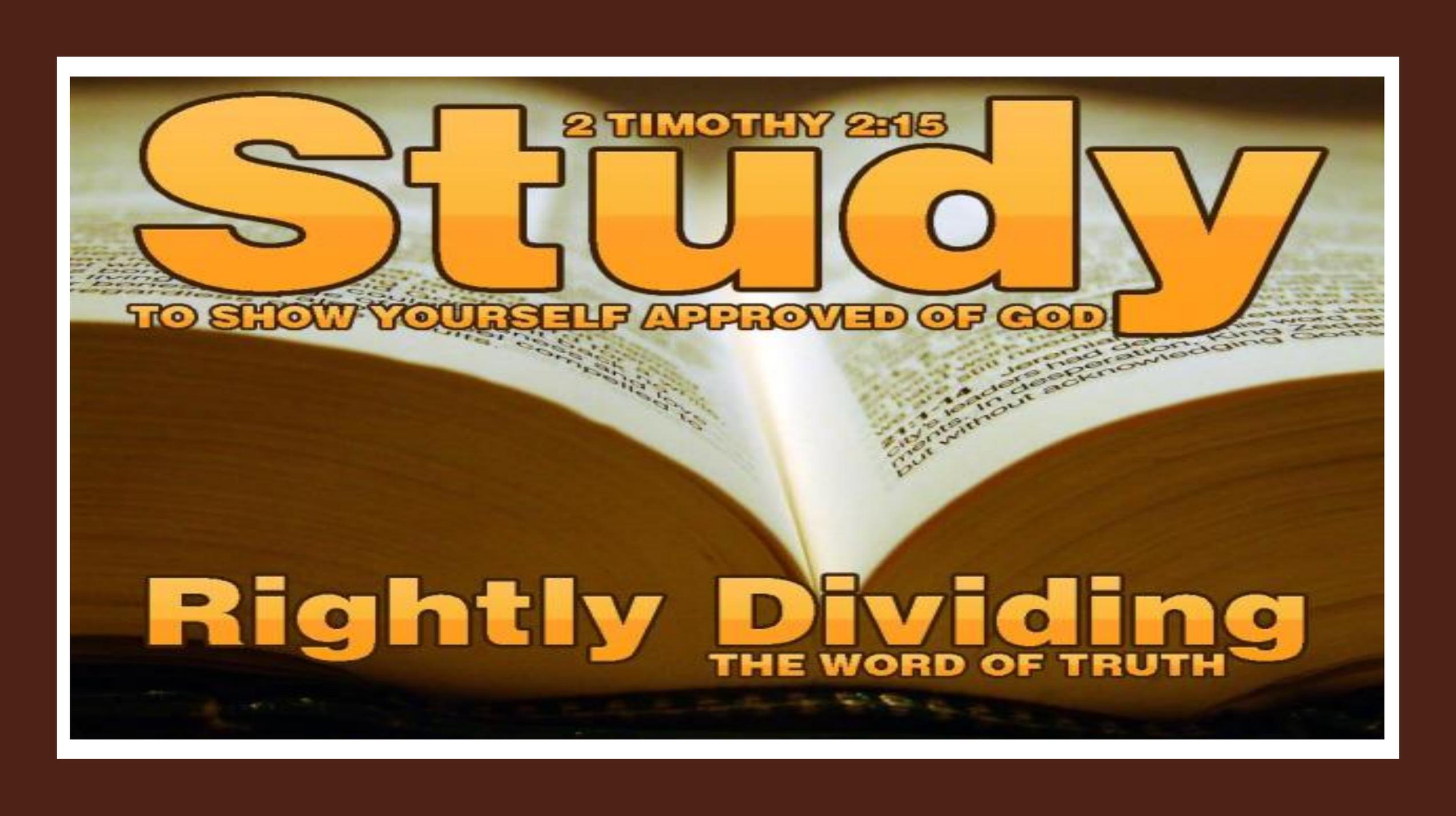
AND IS USEFUL FOR

TEACHING, REBUKING, CORRECTING
AND TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS

For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.

- Romans 15:4 (KJV) -





2 TIMOTHY 2:15

Sturdy

TO SHOW YOURSELF APPROVED OF GOD

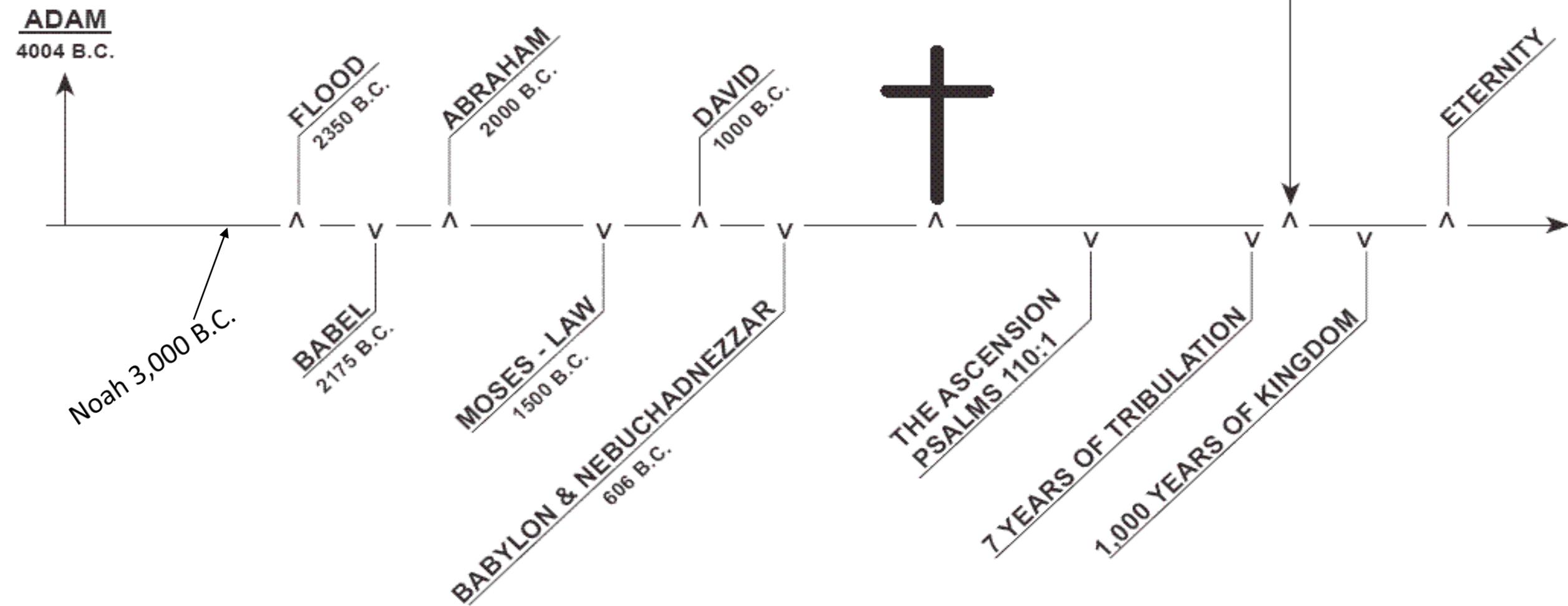
Rightly Dividing
THE WORD OF TRUTH

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth - Bible Study Tips

- You can clearly understand the bible where everything fits, if you study the bible relative to the dispensations of time in which the passage was written.
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 - *What was the circumstances?*
 - *Pray before and after bible study*

Timeline the Old Testament Prophets Saw

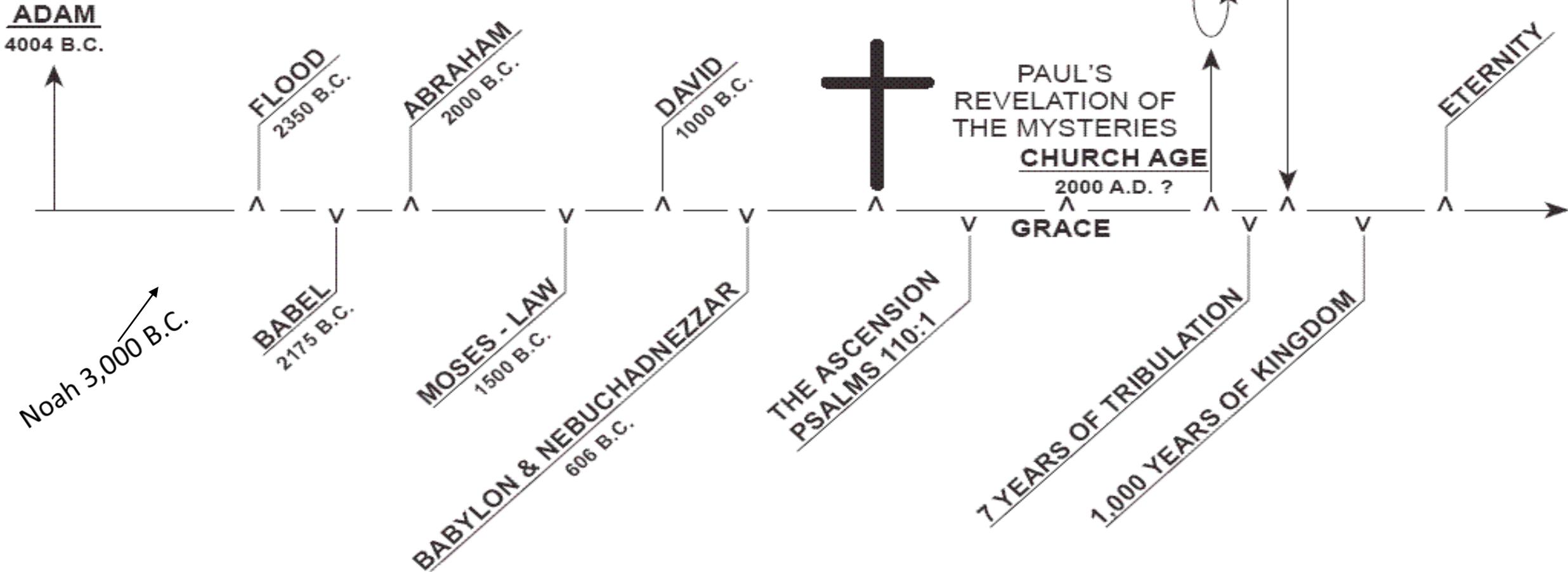
Jew only (with a few exceptions)



TIMELINE WE SEE TODAY IN THE CHURCH AGE

These are approximate dates for ease of remembering.
For more accurate dates, please consult Bishop Ussher.

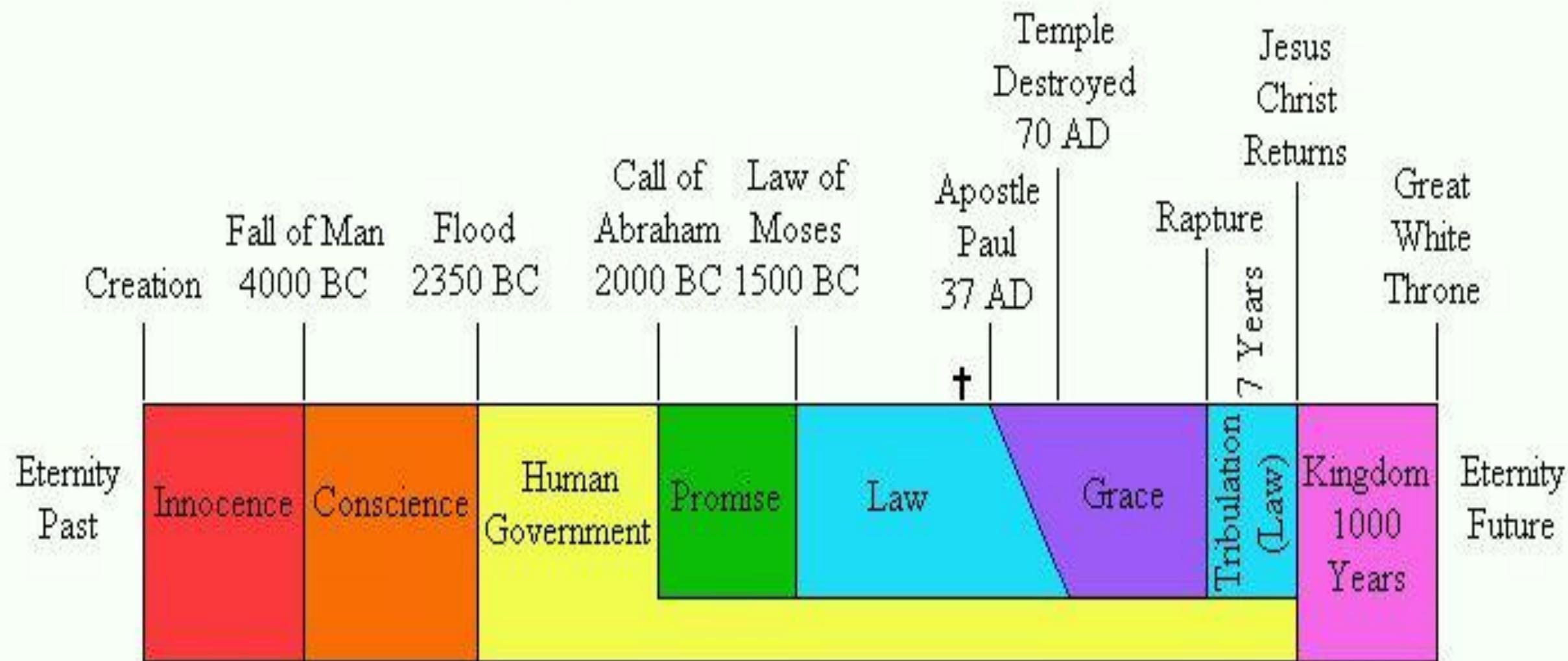
I THESSALONIANS 4:13-18
**RAPTURE OF
THE CHURCH**



"But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

Galatians 4:4,5

Dispensations of the Bible



DISPENSATIONS AND COVENANTS CHART

GENTILES			ISRAEL		ONE NEW MAN	ISRAEL	NEW CREATION
DISPENSATION OF PERFECT ENVIRONMENT	DISPENSATION OF CONSCIENCE	DISPENSATION OF HUMAN GOVERNMENT	DISPENSATION OF THE PATRIARCHS	DISPENSATION OF THE MOAIC LAW	DISPENSATION OF GRACE	DISPENSATION OF THE MILLENNIAL KINGDOM	DISPENSATION OF THE FULLNESS OF TIMES
THE COVENANTS							<p><u>THE ETERNAL STATE:</u></p> <p><u>Eph. 1:9-10</u> . . . he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him</p> <p><u>1 Cor. 15:28</u> . . . that God may be all in all.</p>
EDENIC COVENANT	ADAMIC COVENANT	NOAHIC COVENANT	ABRAHAMIC COVENANT	>MOAIC >PALESTINIAN >DAVIDIC COVENANTS	GENTILES PARTAKE OF THINGS THAT PERTAIN TO ISRAEL	NEW COVENANT	
MAN'S RESPONSIBILITY							
SUBDUE AND "KEEP" THE EARTH	>PROCREATE >SACRIFICES INSTITUTED	FILL THE EARTH	SET APART BY CIRCUMCISION	OBEY THE LAW	FAITH ALONE IN CHRIST ALONE	PROMISE OF THE LAW FULLY REALIZED	
MAN'S FAILURE							
ATE THE FRUIT	ALL FLESH CORRUPTED	CONSTRUCTED ABEL TOWER	ASSIMILATED WITH PAGAN CULTURE	BROKE THE LAW	THE FALLING AWAY	GOG AND MAGOG REVOLT	
DIVINE JUDGMENT							
SPIRITUAL AND PHYSICAL DEATH	THE GREAT FLOOD	LANGUAGES CONFUSED	EGYPTIAN BONDAGE	5 COURSES OF DISCIPLINE: THE DIASPORA	INGRAFTED BRANCHES BROKEN OFF AGAIN	GREAT WHITE THRONE JUDGMENT	

Before the foundation of the world

Time Past

But Now

Ages to Come

Creation
 Adam (Innocence)
 Noah (Human Gov.)
 Abram (Promise)
 Moses (Law)

Kingdom at Hand
Israel
 John the Baptist
 Jesus
 The Twelve
 Jesus Ascends
 Peter & the Twelve

Kingdom Offered
Israel
 Acts 9
 Paul
 Dispensation of the Grace of God
 Kingdom Postponed (Rom. 11:25)
GRACE
 Gospel of Christ
 Gospel of the Grace of God
 Body of Christ

Body of Christ in Heaven
 Gospel of the Kingdom
 Kingdom 1000 Years
 7 years of Tribulation
 Jesus Returns
 Judgement
 New Heaven
 New Earth
 New Jerusalem
 Fullness of Time

Genesis-----Malachi | Matthew-John | Acts

Romans thru Philemon

Hebrews thru Revelation

Prophecy

Mystery

Prophecy

RDGB

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT

THE LAW

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus

Numbers
Deuteronomy

HISTORY

Joshua
Judges
Ruth
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings

2 Kings
1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther

WISDOM

Job
Psalms
Proverbs

Ecclesiastes
Song of Songs

PROPHETS

Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel
Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah

Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

NEW TESTAMENT

THE GOSPELS

Matthew
Mark

Luke
John

CHURCH HISTORY

Acts

PAUL'S LETTERS

Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians

1 Thessalonians
2 Thessalonians
1 Timothy
2 Timothy
Titus
Philemon

GENERAL LETTERS

Hebrews
James
1 Peter
2 Peter

1 John
2 John
3 John
Jude

PROPHECY

Revelation

LAW
King of kings
Repent + Baptism

GOSPEL ONE

12 Tribes of Israel
Prophecy
Israel

Faith + Works

Jesus in the Flesh

12 disciples

Lost sheep of the house of Israel

Earthly Ministry

Kingdom of Heaven

Circumcision

2nd Coming

Millenium Kingdom

Genesis - John

Hebrews - Revelation

"Rightly Divide the Word of Truth" 2 Timothy 2:15c KJV

GRACE
Lord of lords
Believe 1 Cor. 15:1-4

GOSPEL TWO

Body of Christ

Mystery

Gentiles

Faith ONLY

The Risen Christ

The Apostle Paul

Jews & Gentiles

Heavenly Ministry

Seated in Heavenly Places

Un-Circumcision

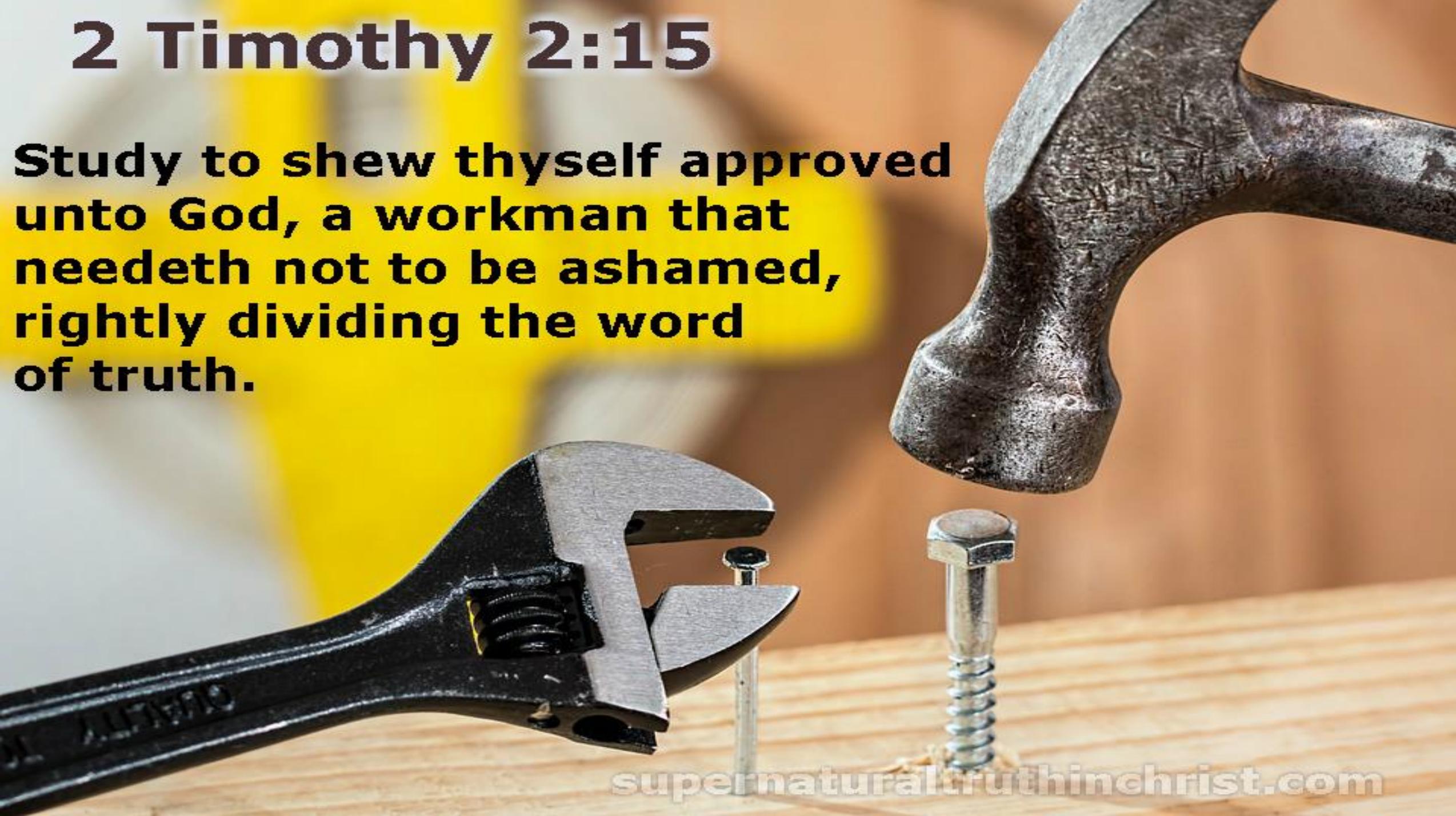
Rapture

Heaven

Romans-Philemon

2 Timothy 2:15

Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.



Bible Study Methods

an invitation to discovery

SURVEY THE BIG PICTURE



Survey the big picture by analyzing the . . .

- Historical Context
- Literary Context
- Redemptive Context

STEPS TO SURVEY

- Consult commentaries to establish the author, audience and date
- Create a book summary
- Consider how your passage fits into God's plan to create a community of redeemed people for his glory through Jesus Christ

EXPLORE THE PASSAGE



Carefully explore the biblical text by applying the interpretive approach that best fits the genre of the passage.

(Different genres require different interpretive steps.)

STEPS TO EXPLORE

The following steps are helpful when studying an epistle:

- Create a structural layout
- Read your passage several times making careful observations
- Ask questions for understanding
- Consider interpretive options
- Compare several translations
- Study the meaning of key words
- Consult commentaries

DISCOVER THE BIG IDEA



Summarize the results of your interpretive journey.

STEPS TO DISCOVER

- Create a textual outline of your passage
- Summarize the big idea of your passage in a single sentence (the author's big idea)

RESPOND TO GOD



Respond to God through his Word.

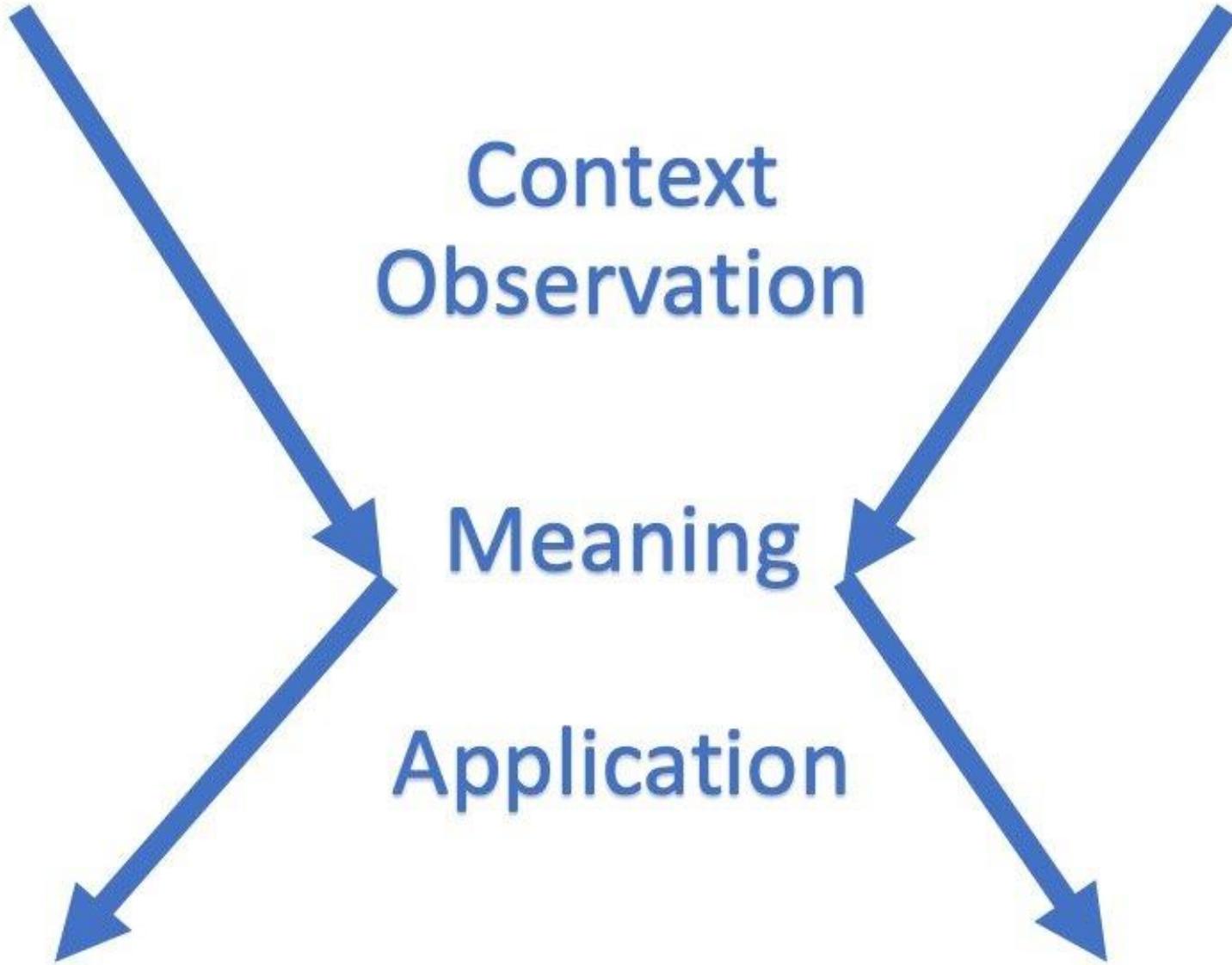
STEPS TO RESPOND

- Determine how the passage applies today by considering how it fits into God's story
- Consider how the passage exposes your fallen condition
- Consider how the passage points you to Christ and his redemptive work
- Determine personal response(s)

Context
Observation

Meaning

Application



Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

C.O.M.A. Bible Study Method

- **CONTEXT:** What sort of writing is this? What circumstances surround the writing? What has come before this? What comes after this? Any other Bible passages connected to this one?
- **OBSERVATION:** How does the text divide into sections? What is the main point or points? Any surprises or ironies? Key words?
- **MEANING:** How does this portion relate to other parts of the book it is in? What does it teach about God, Jesus, man, sin, salvation, the church, etc.? How could we sum up the meaning in a few words?
- **APPLICATION:** How does this change or strengthen my understanding? Is there some attitude I need to change? How must I change the way I live?

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

Context - - Context - - Context

- ²³ For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

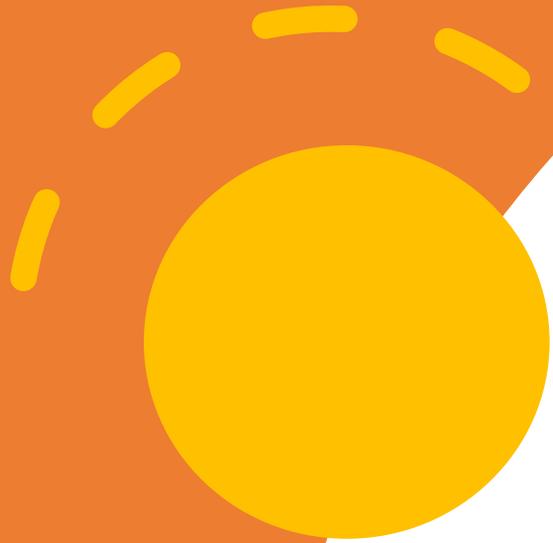
Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

Context - - Context - - Context

- ¹³ And seeing a fig tree afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, he found nothing but leaves; for the time of figs was not yet.
- ¹⁴ And Jesus answered and said unto it, No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever. And his disciples heard it.
- ²⁰ And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.
- ²¹ And Peter calling to remembrance saith unto him, Master, behold, the fig tree which thou cursedst is withered away.
- ²² **And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. (Compare with Proverbs 3:5-6)**
- ²³ For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.
- ²⁴ **Therefore I say unto you**, What things soever ye desire, **when ye pray**, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.
- ²⁵ And **when ye stand praying, forgive**, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.
- ²⁶ But if ye do not forgive, neither will your Father which is in heaven forgive your trespasses.

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth - Summary

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*Vacation Bible School
Adult Class
Week in Reflection*