

CHOSEN FOR MISSION

2023 ANNUAL COUNCIL • OCTOBER 7, 2023 • TED N.C. WILSON





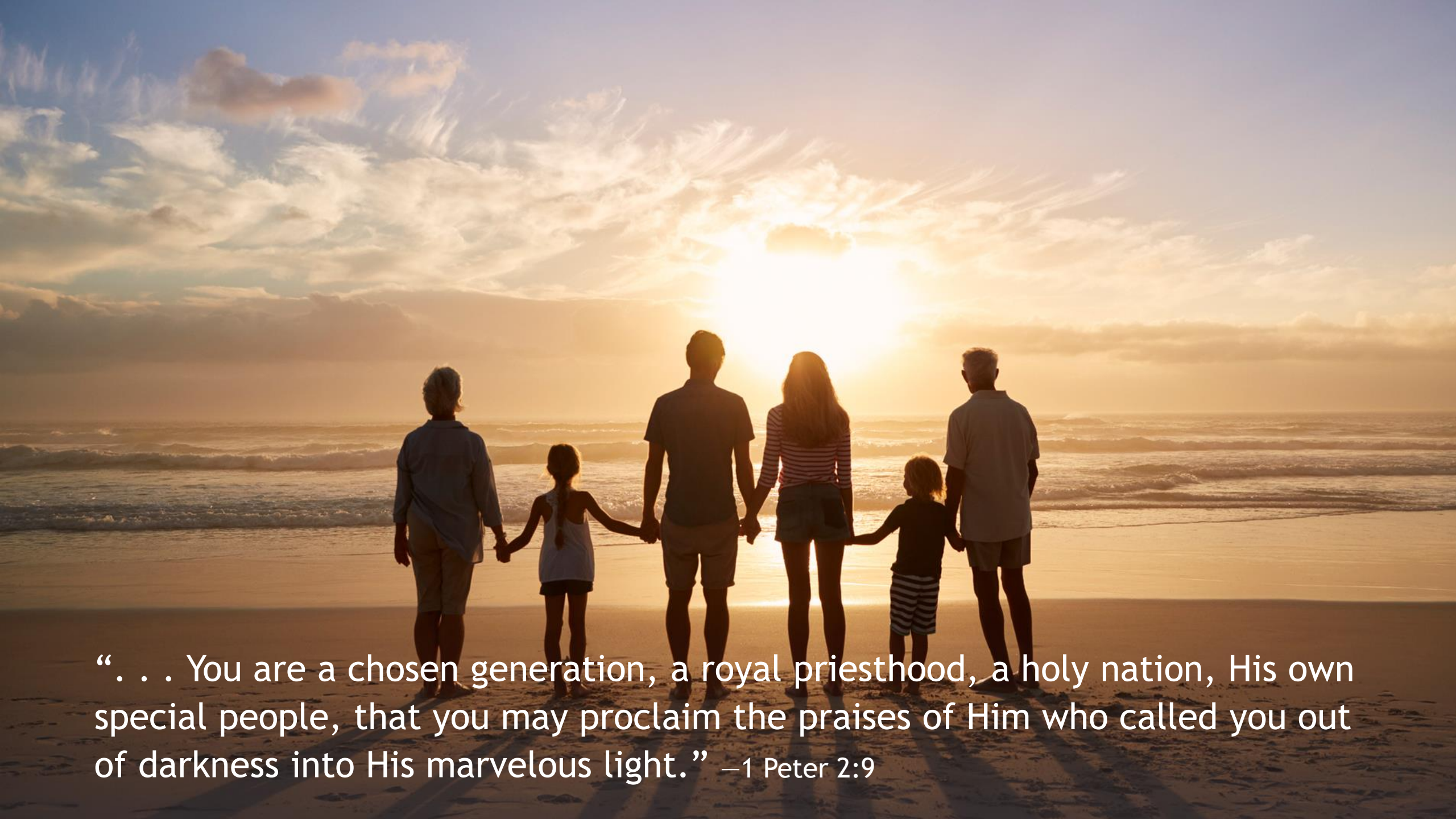
“And the dragon was wroth with the woman, and went to make war with the remnant of her seed, which keep the commandments of God, and have the testimony of Jesus Christ.”

—Revelation 12:17

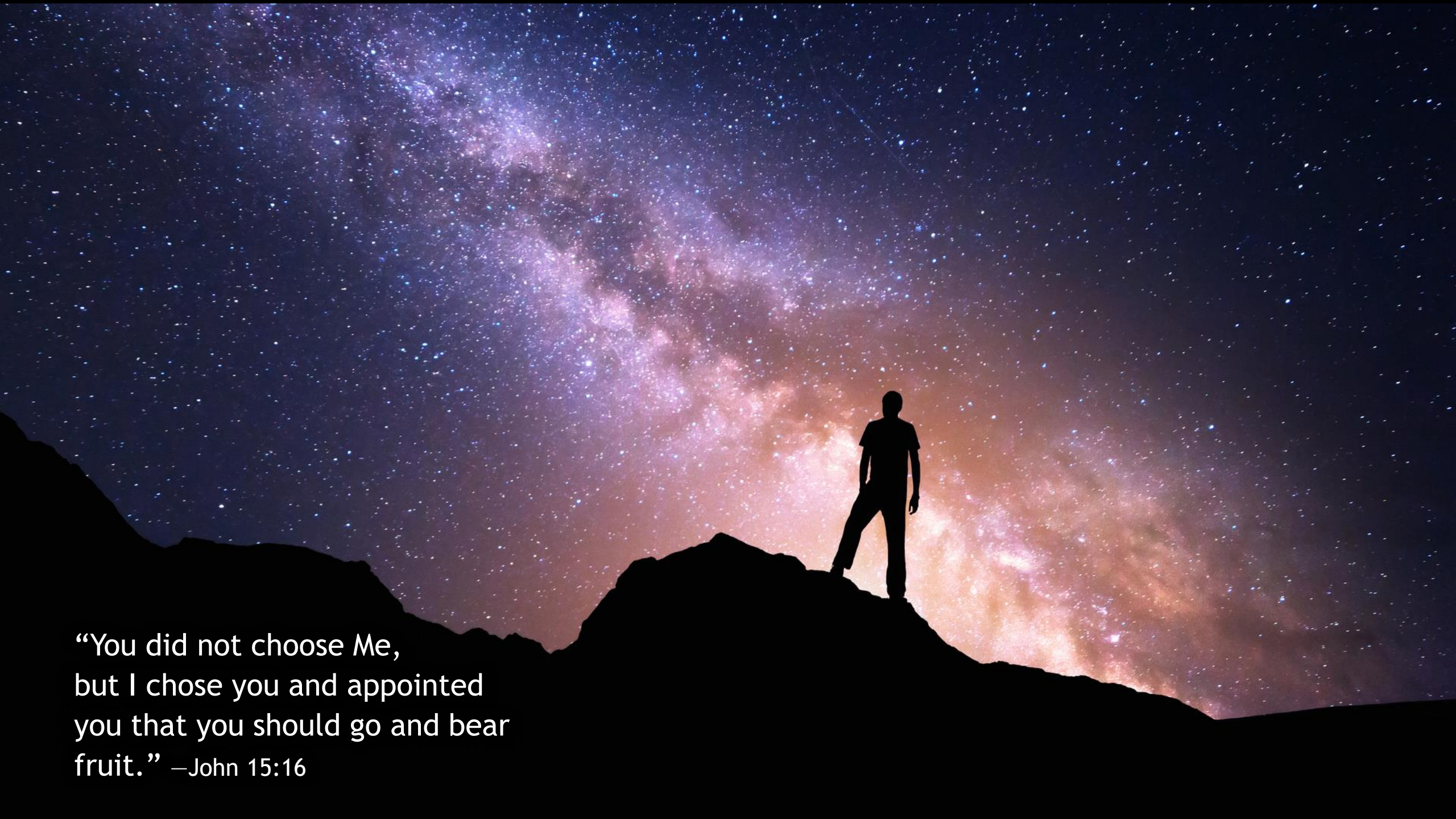


“... those who are with Him are called, chosen, and faithful.”

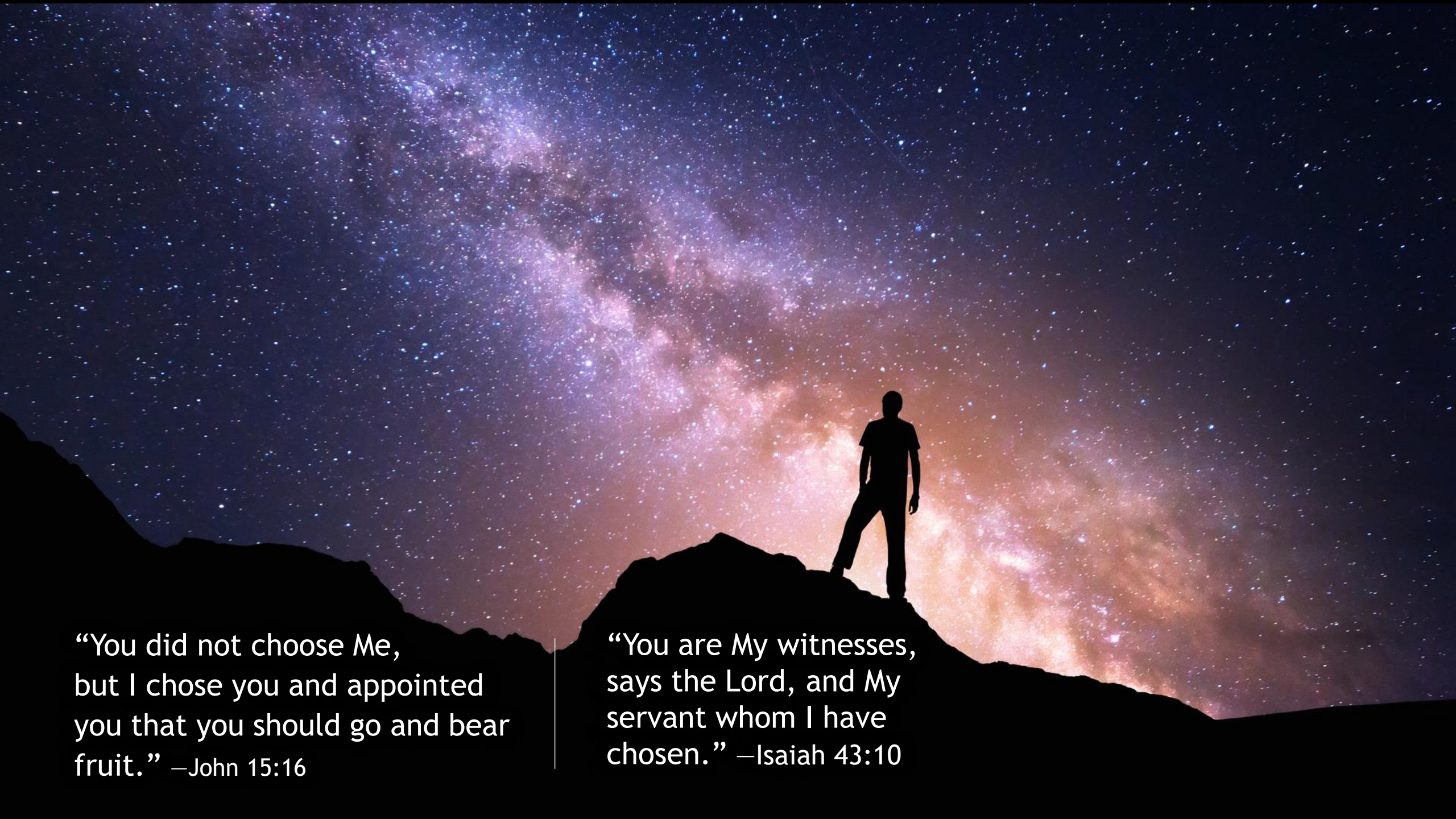
—Revelation 17:14



“ . . . You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.” —1 Peter 2:9



“You did not choose Me,
but I chose you and appointed
you that you should go and bear
fruit.” —John 15:16

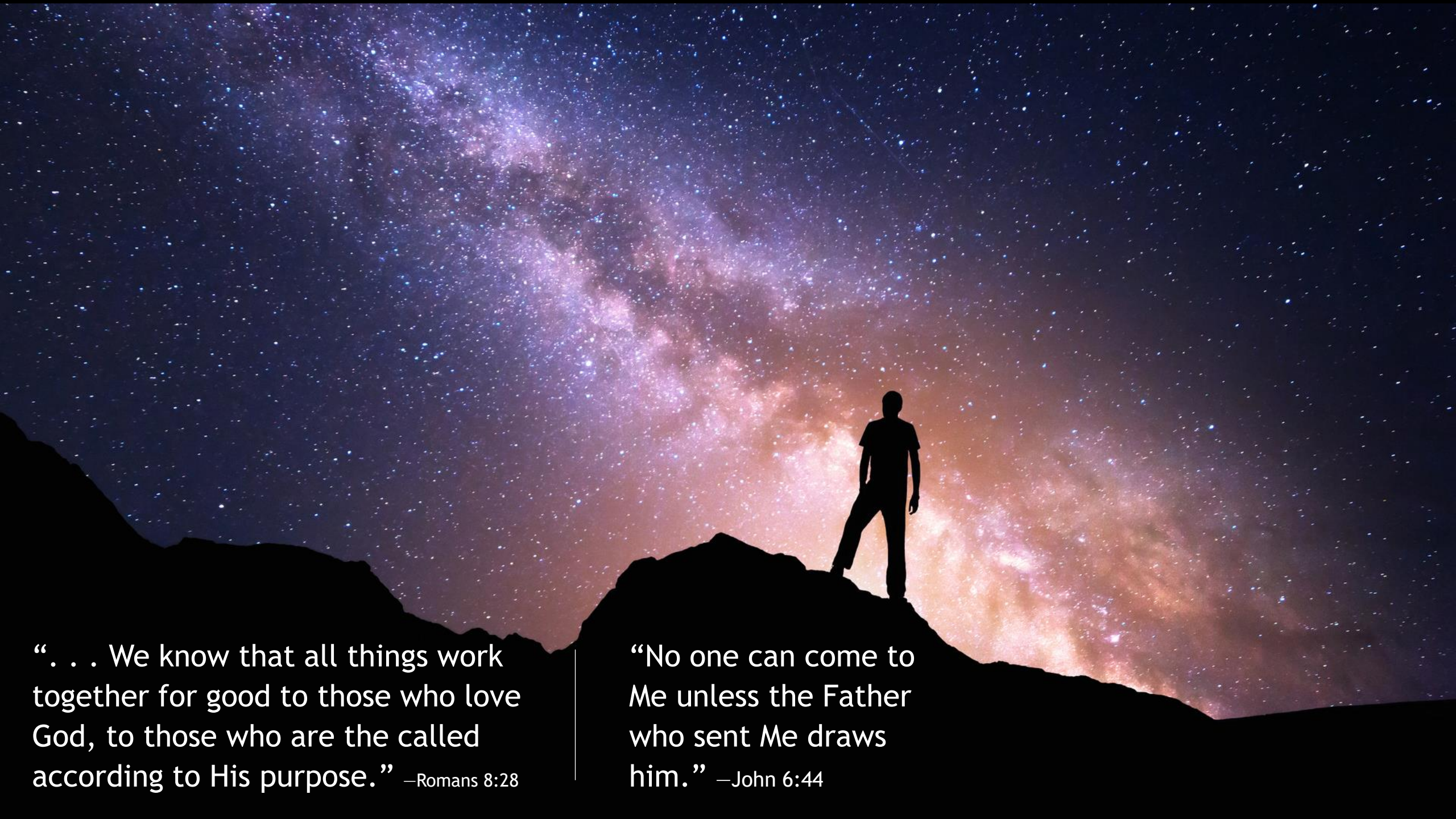
A silhouette of a person stands on a dark, rocky peak, looking up at a vast night sky. The Milky Way galaxy is prominently displayed, stretching diagonally across the frame from the upper left to the lower right. The sky is filled with numerous stars, and the galaxy's core glows with a mix of pink, orange, and purple hues. The person's shadow is cast on the rock they are standing on.

“You did not choose Me,
but I chose you and appointed
you that you should go and bear
fruit.” —John 15:16

“You are My witnesses,
says the Lord, and My
servant whom I have
chosen.” —Isaiah 43:10

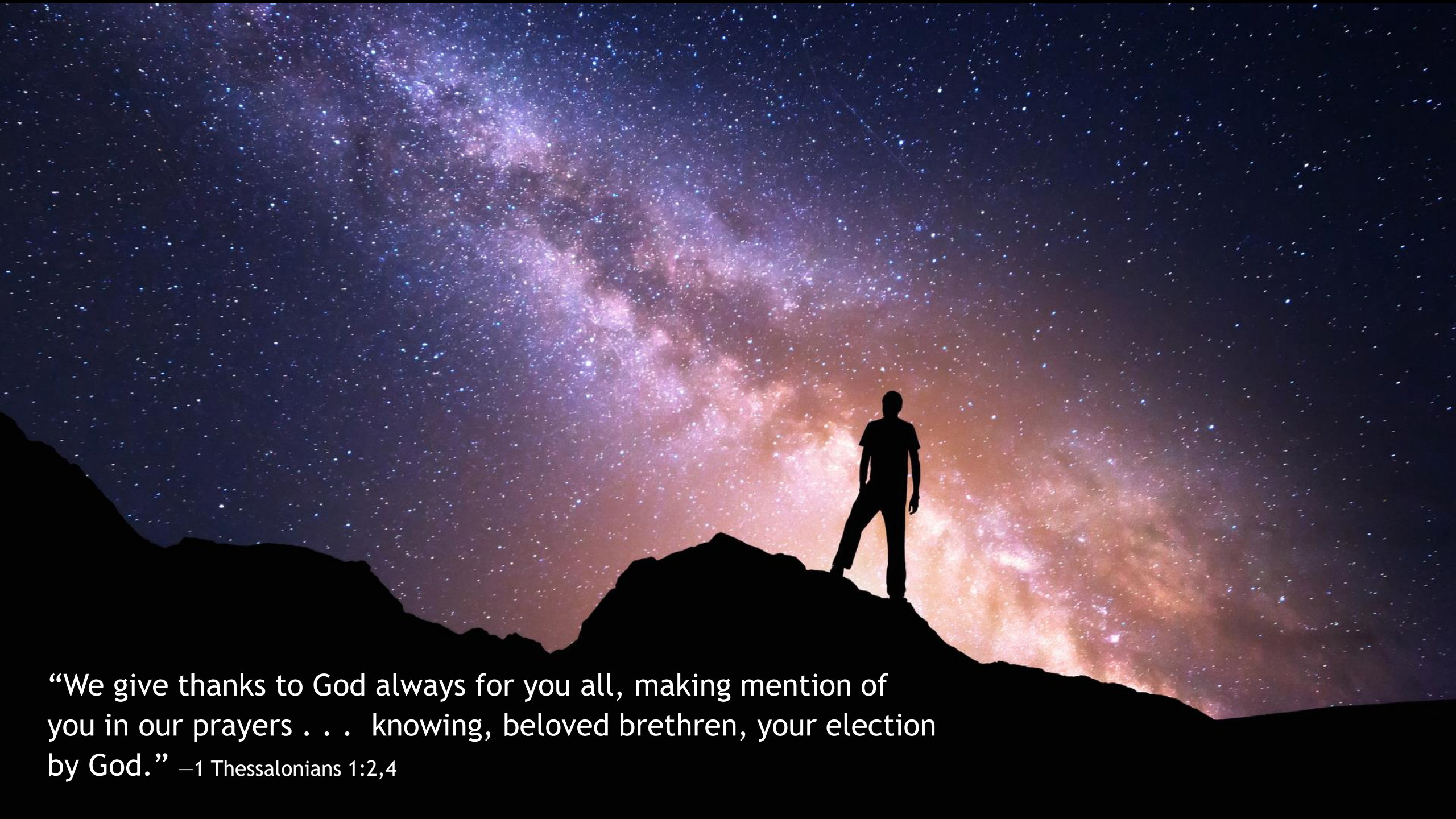


“ . . . We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.” —Romans 8:28



“ . . . We know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.” —Romans 8:28

“No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him.” —John 6:44



“We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers . . . knowing, beloved brethren, your election by God.” —1 Thessalonians 1:2,4

“Seventh-day Adventists have been chosen by God as a peculiar people, separate from the world. By the great cleaver of truth He has cut them out from the quarry of the world and brought them into connection with Himself. He has made them His representatives and has called them to be ambassadors for Him in the last work of salvation. The greatest wealth of truth ever entrusted to mortals, the most solemn and fearful warnings ever sent by God to man, have been committed to them to be given to the world.”

—*Testimonies for the Church*,
vol. 7, p. 138



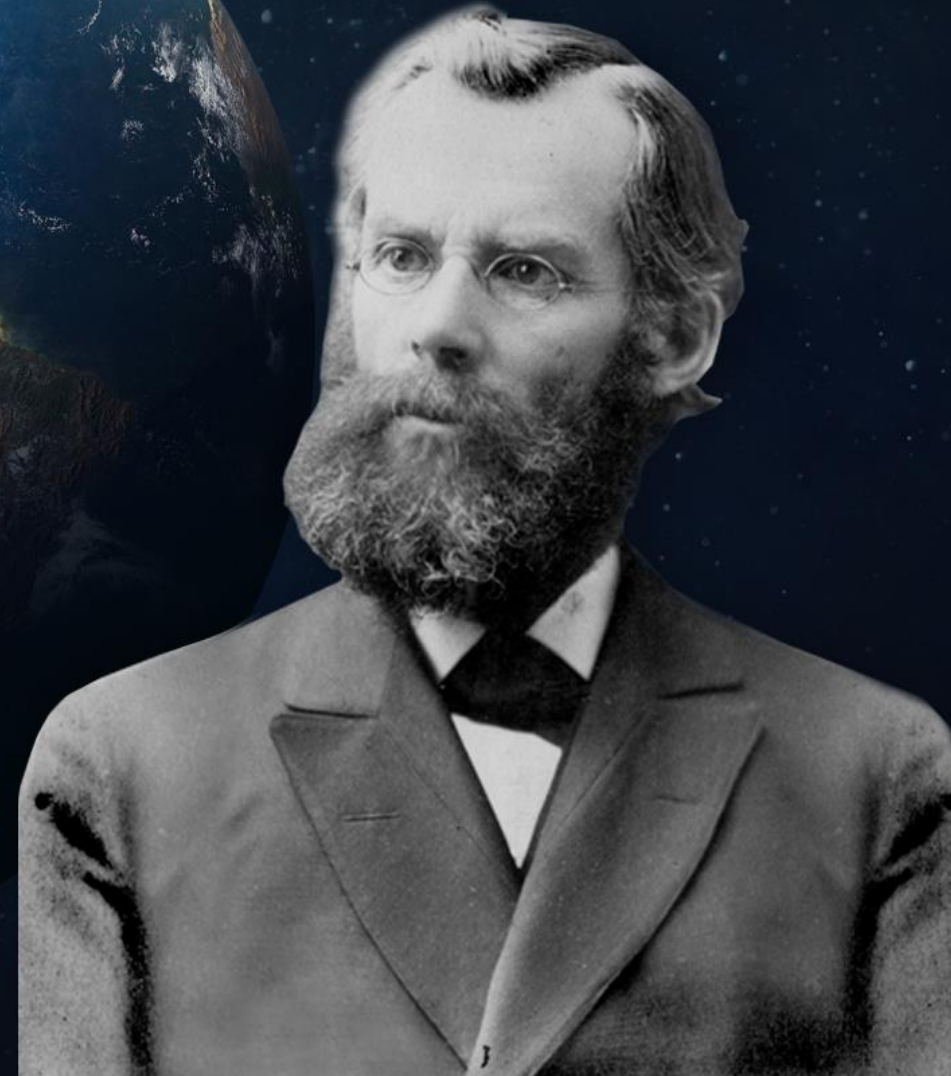
“In a special sense Seventh-day Adventists have been set in the world as watchmen and light bearers. To them has been entrusted the last warning for a perishing world. On them is shining wonderful light from the word of God. They have been given a work of the most solemn import—the proclamation of the first, second, and third angels’ messages. There is no other work of so great importance. They are to allow nothing else to absorb their attention.”

—*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 9, p. 19

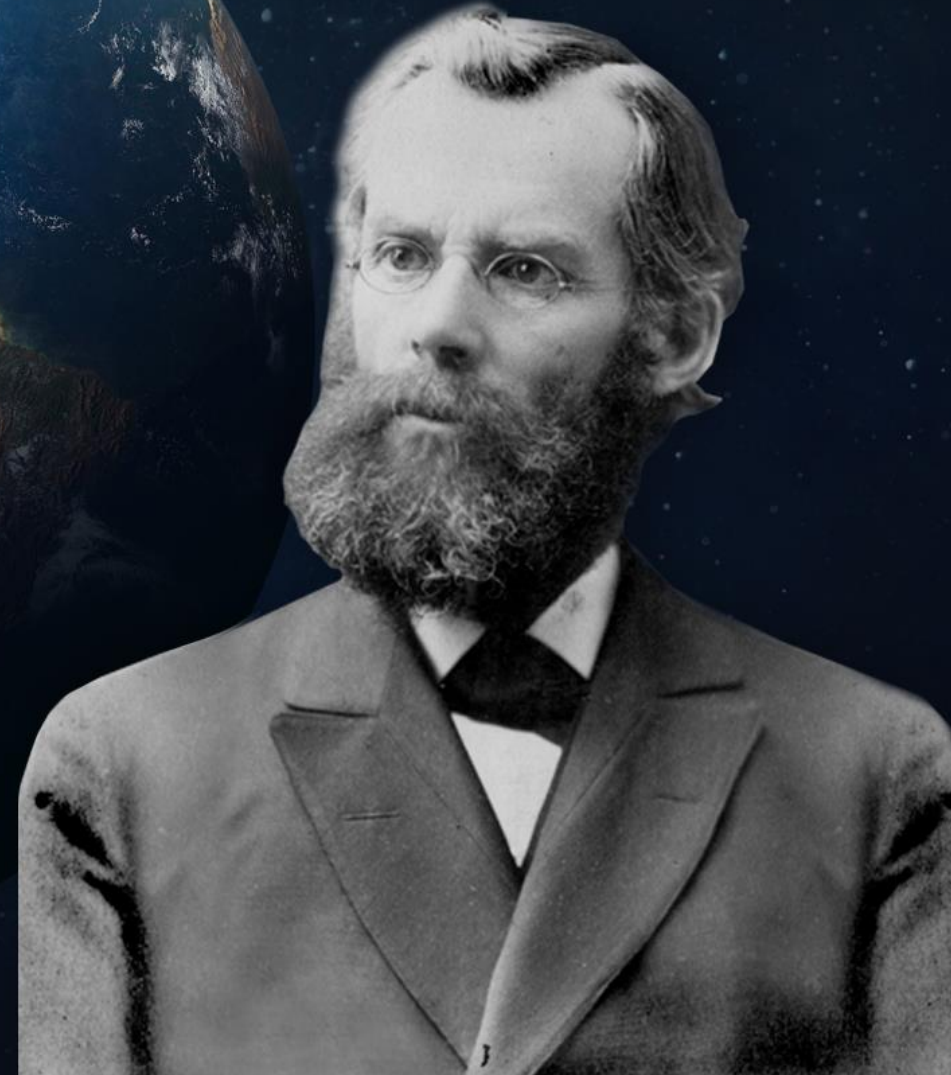




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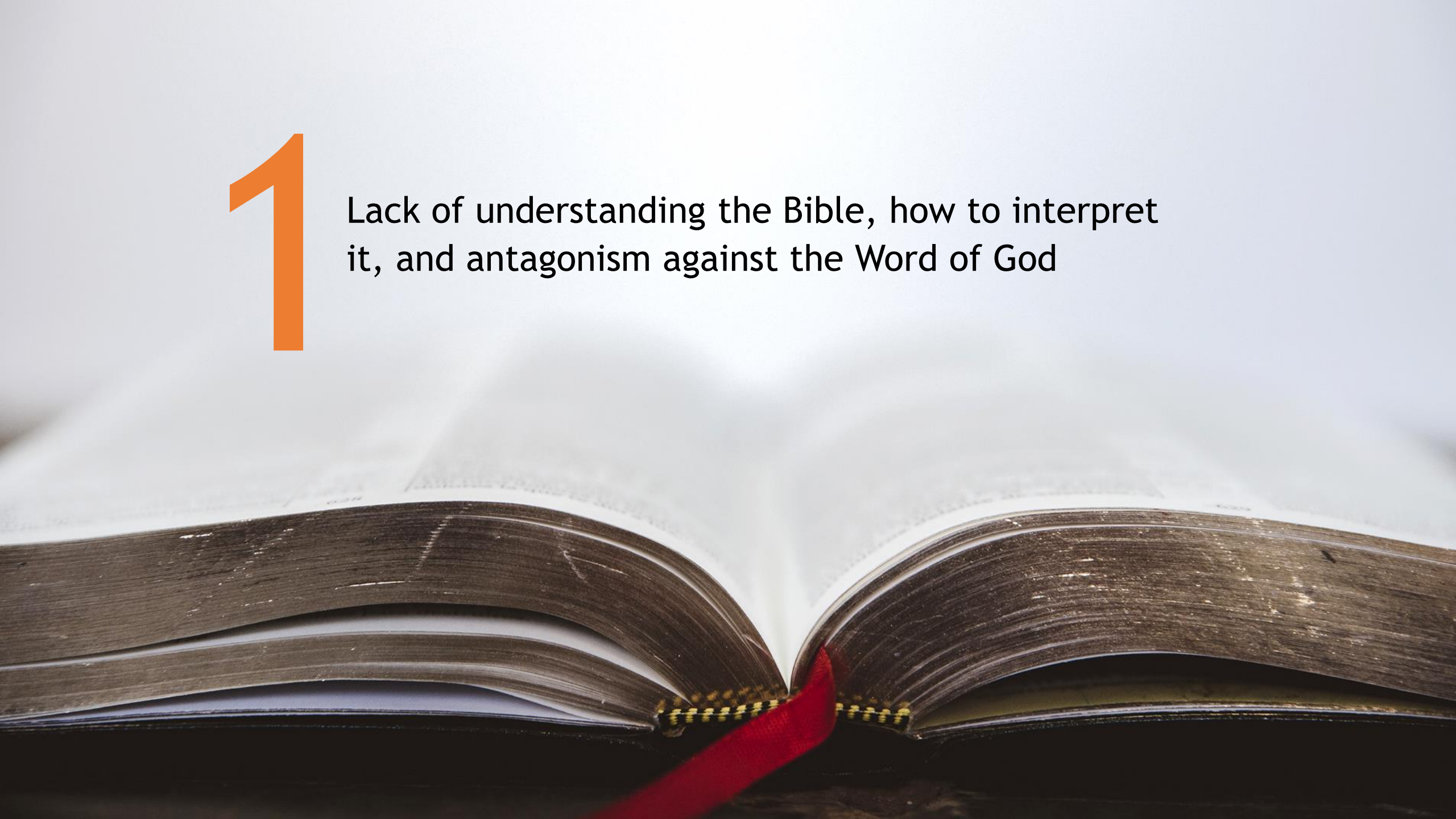


“So shall My word be that goes forth
from My mouth; it shall not return to
Me void, but it shall accomplish what I
please, and it shall prosper in the
thing for which I sent it.” —Isaiah 55:11



1

Lack of understanding the Bible, how to interpret it, and antagonism against the Word of God



“God has given sufficient evidence upon which to base faith if he wish to believe. In the last days the earth will be almost destitute of true faith. Upon the merest pretense, the Word of God will be considered unreliable, while human reasoning will be received, though it be in opposition to plain Scripture facts.”

—*Spiritual Gifts*, p. 94





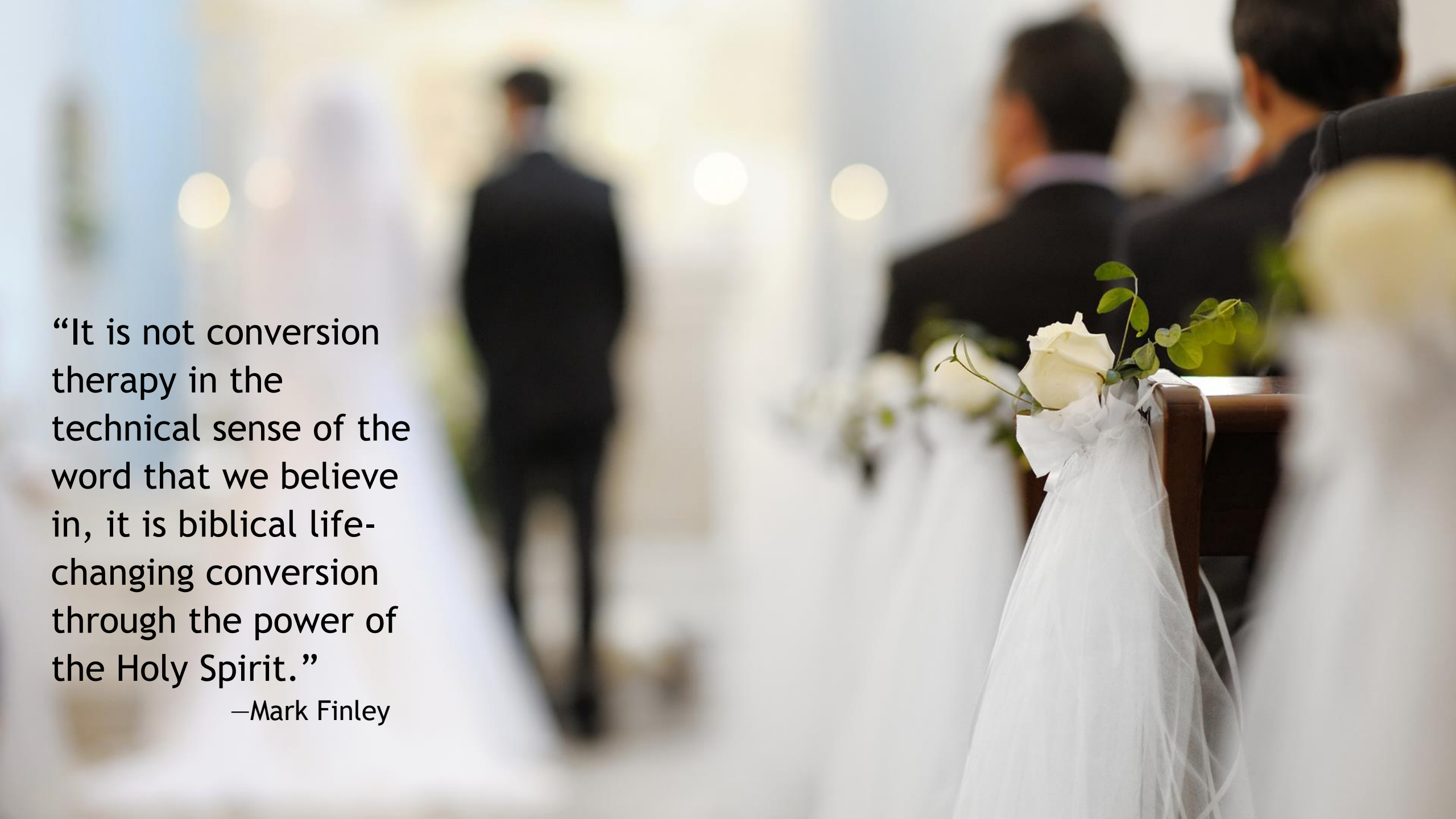
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Confusion and misinformation
about the Godhead/Trinity



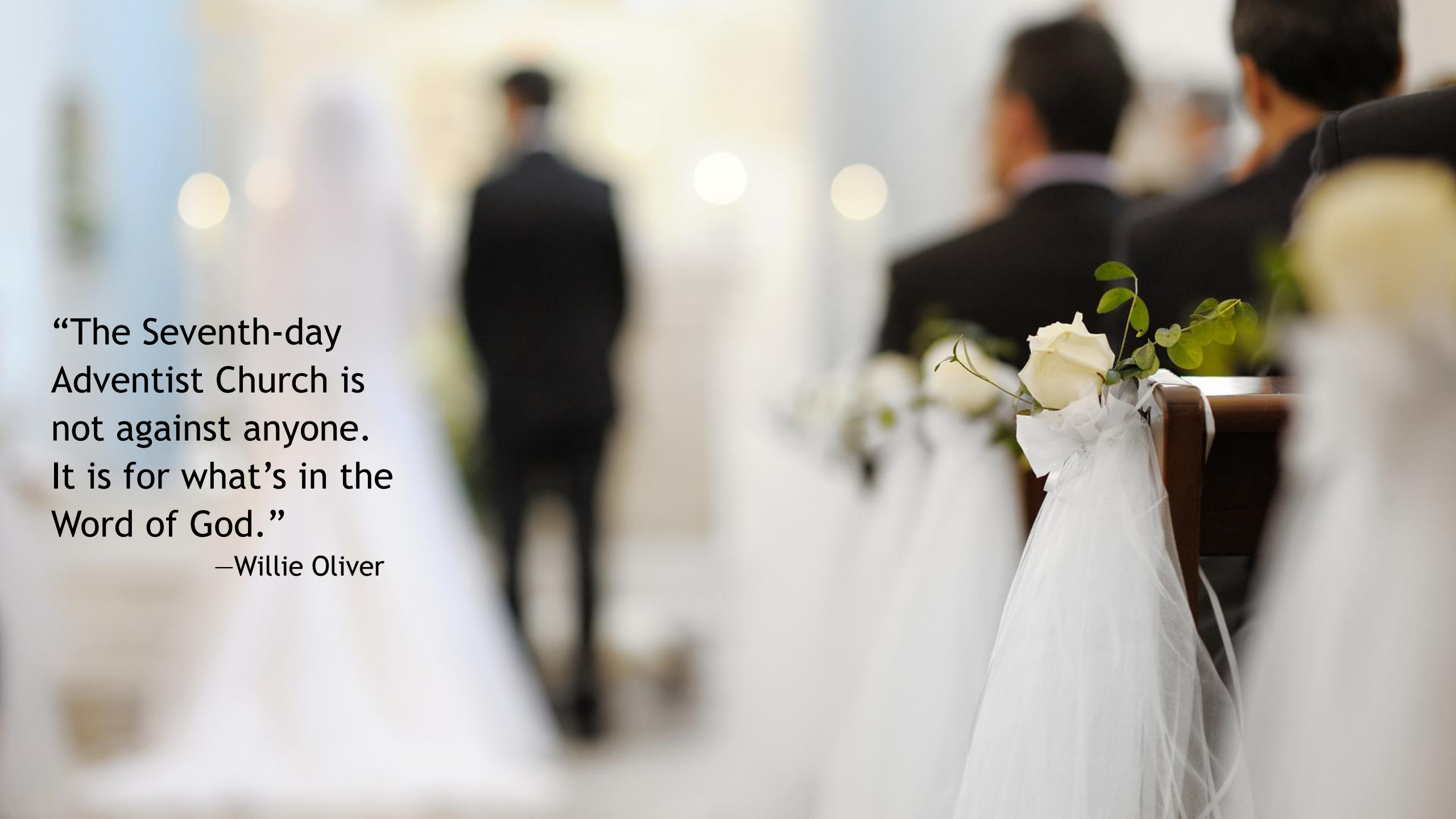
3

Misunderstanding
about human
sexuality



“It is not conversion therapy in the technical sense of the word that we believe in, it is biblical life-changing conversion through the power of the Holy Spirit.”

—Mark Finley



“The Seventh-day
Adventist Church is
not against anyone.
It is for what’s in the
Word of God.”

—Willie Oliver

4

Confusion on
the Sanctuary
service and
righteousness
by faith





5

Misconceptions about Biblical Creation

A high-resolution image of Earth from space, showing the Western Hemisphere. The Americas are visible, surrounded by the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The Earth's surface is covered in blue oceans, green landmasses, and white clouds. The background is a deep black space filled with numerous small, distant stars.

6

False doctrines circulating



7

Loss of the sense of urgency in the Advent Movement

A photograph of a church with a tall, dark steeple and a white body, situated on a hill. The church is illuminated from within, and its lights are visible. In the background, a city is visible at night, with many lights from buildings and streets. The sky is dark with some clouds, and the sun is setting or rising, creating a warm glow. The overall scene is a mix of natural and man-made elements, with the church as the central focus.

8

Loss of identity as God's Remnant Church



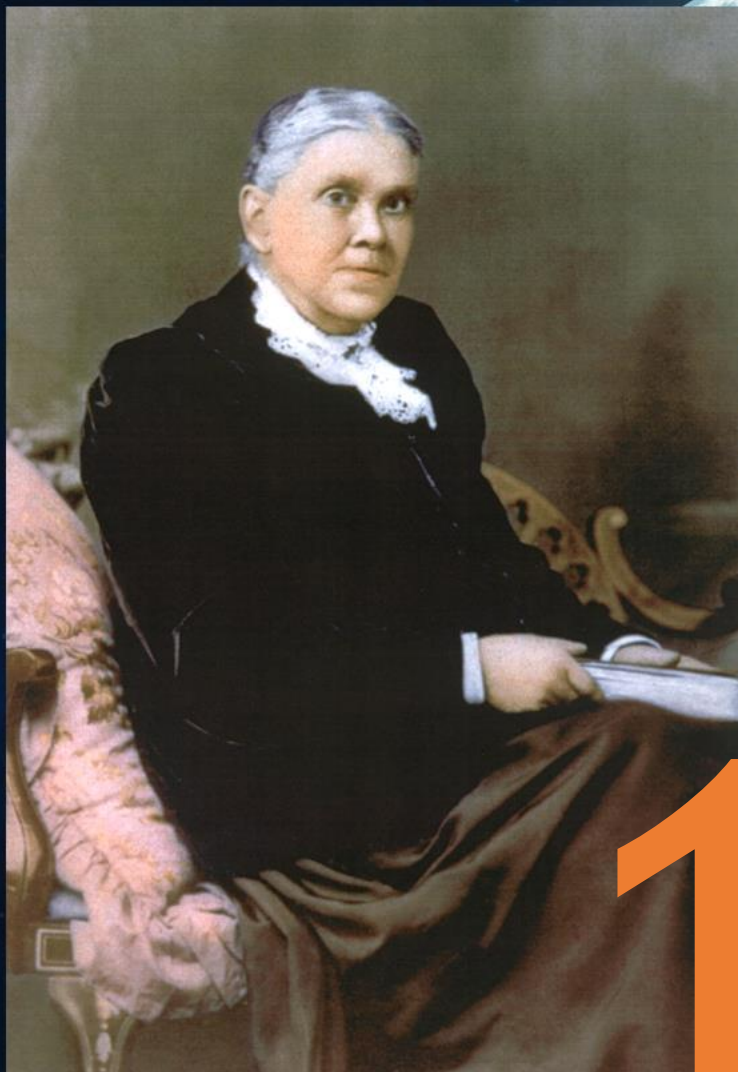
9

False accusations about the
Church's relationship to ecumenism

10

Challenges to the authority of the church





11

Misunderstandings about the role of the Spirit of Prophecy as given by God through the writings of Ellen G. White



12

Lack of understanding of the true meaning of the
Seventh-day Sabbath as God's sign of His Creatorship
and Redemptive Power in our lives

A black and white photograph of a cemetery. In the foreground, several tombstones are visible, including a large cross-shaped one on the right. The background is filled with more tombstones and bare, leafless trees, creating a somber and misty atmosphere. The fog is thick, obscuring the details of the distant graves and trees.

13

Confusion regarding the state of the dead

14

Derision regarding the well-accepted Seventh-day Adventist understanding of the last-day prophetic events outlined in Daniel, Matthew, and Revelation and the book, *The Great Controversy*

DANIEL

Four Young Israelites at the
Babylonian Court
(Cp 2 Kings 24.10-17)

1 In the third year of the reign of
King Je-hol'a-kim of Judah, King
Je-bu-chad-nez'zar of Babylon came
to Jerusalem and besieged it. ²The
king let King Je-hol'a-kim of Judah
know his power, as well as some of
the power of the house of God. These
were the four young men of the land of Shi'nar,^a and
they were in the treasury of his

sight, and competent to serve in the
king's palace; they were to be taught
the literature and language of the
Chal-de'ans. ⁵The king assigned them
a daily portion of the royal rations of
food and wine. They were to be edu-
cated for three years, so that at the end
of that time they could be stationed in
the king's court. ⁶Among them were
Daniel, Han-a-ni'ah, Mish'a-el, and
Az-a-ri'ah, from the tribe of Judah.
⁷The palace master gave them other
names: Daniel he called Bel-te-shaz'
zar, Han-a-ni'ah he called Shad'ra-
bush, Mish'a-el he called Me'shach,
Az-a-ri'ah he called A-bed'ne-gö.
⁸ But Daniel resolved that he
would not defile himself with the



15

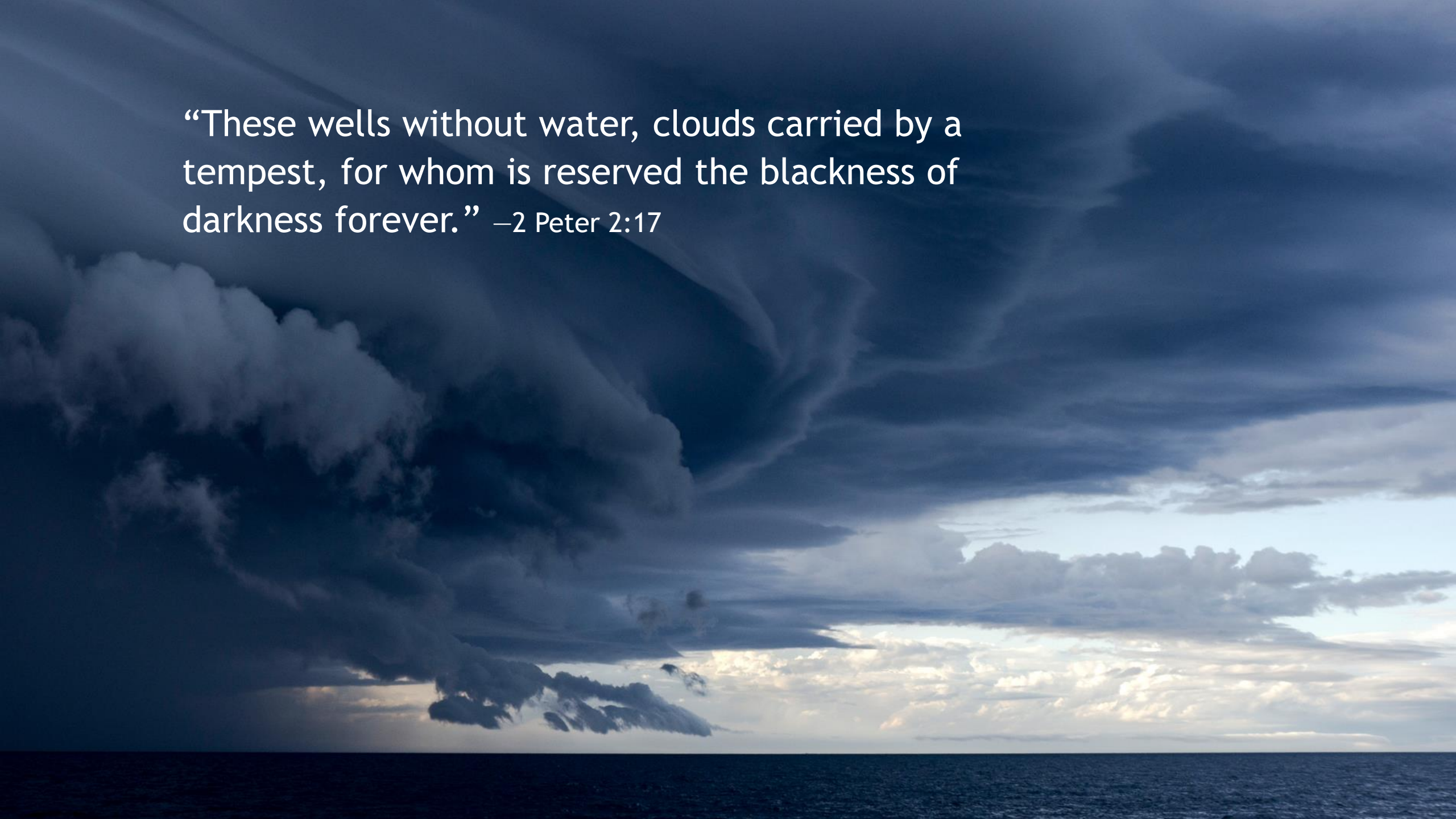
Lack of enthusiasm for direct personal
and public evangelistic outreach

16

Neutralization of personal Christian lifestyle and church comportment through worldly influence

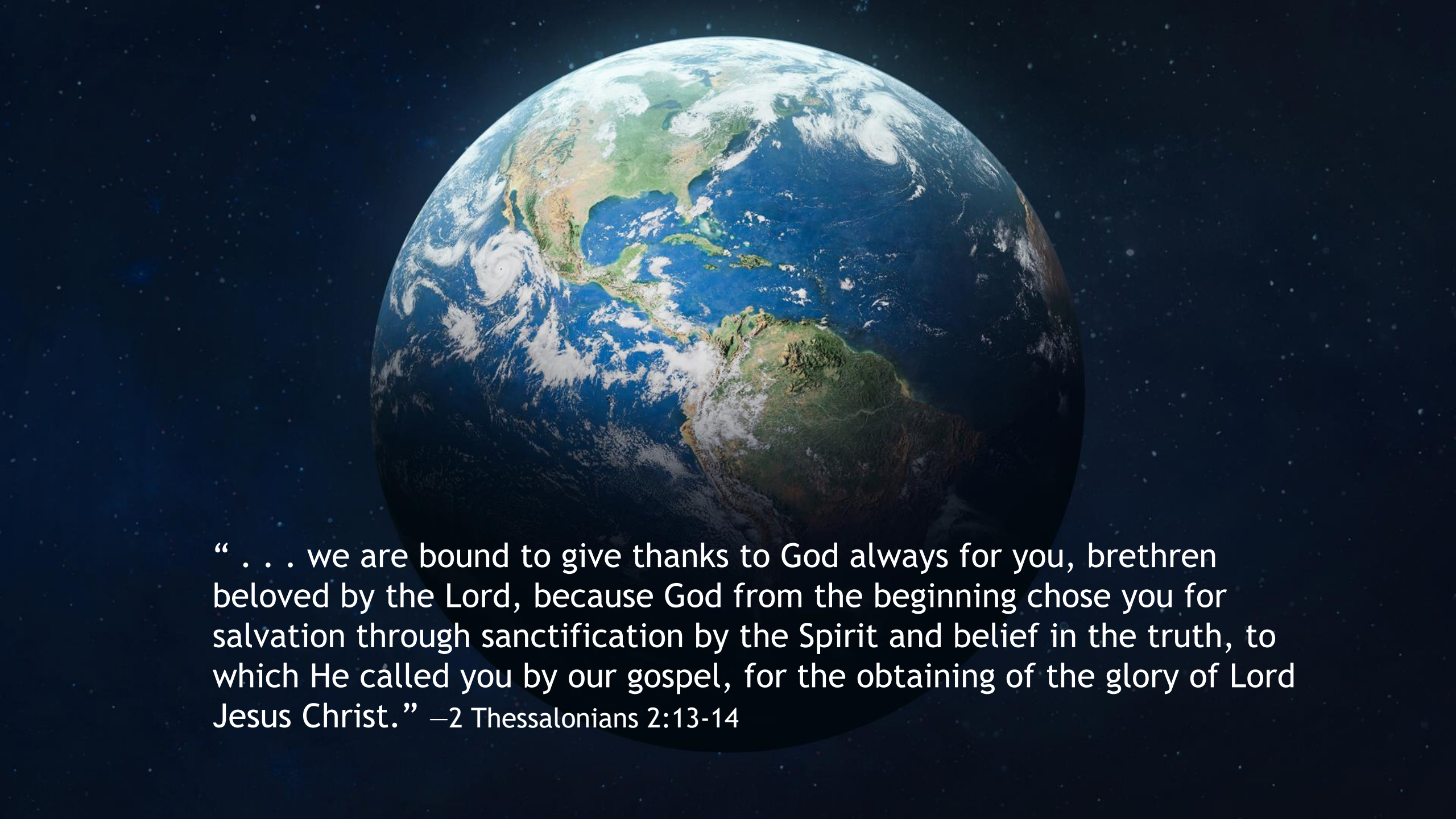


“These wells without water, clouds carried by a tempest, for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever.” —2 Peter 2:17

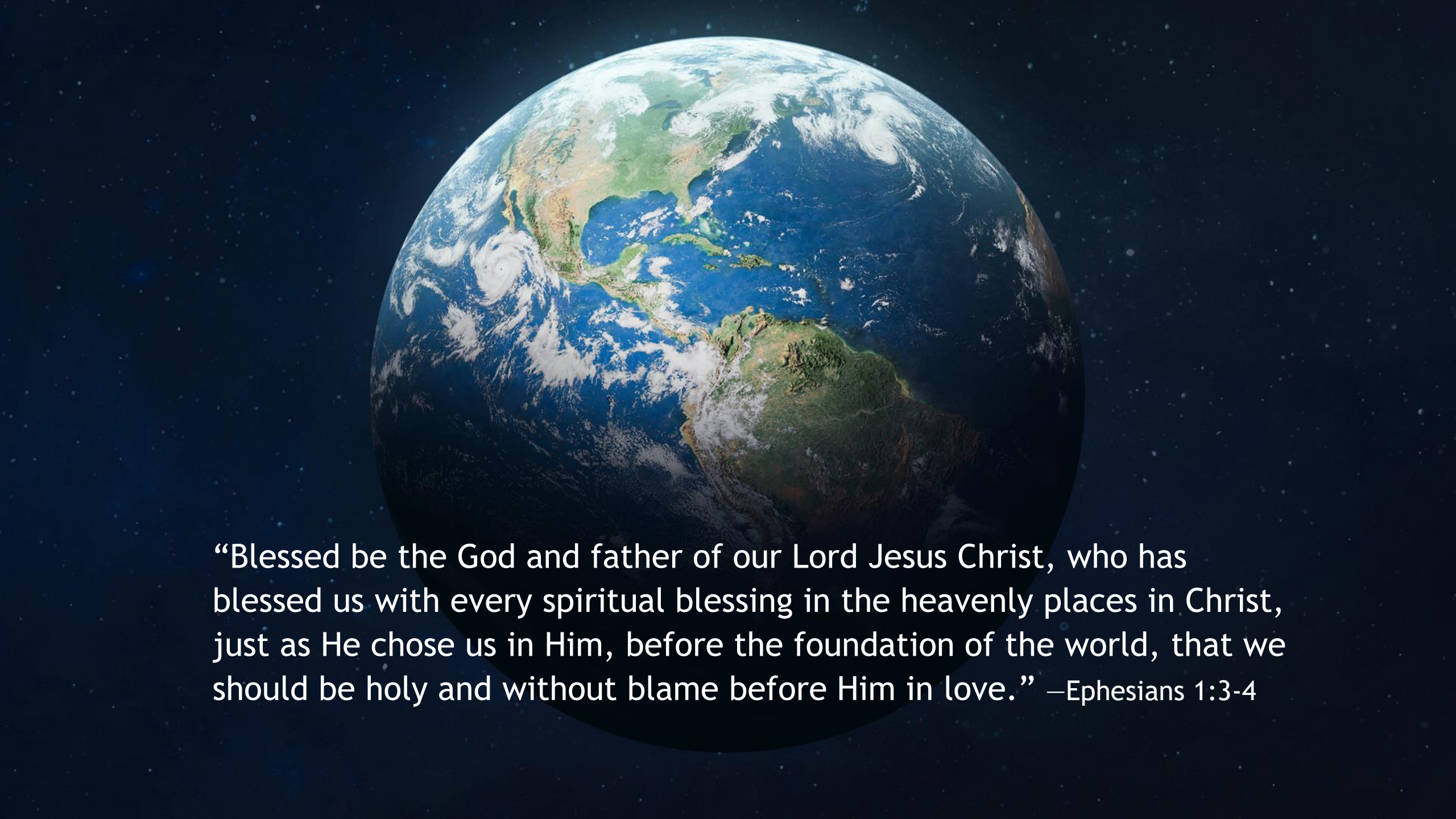




“. . . They are clouds without water . . . late autumn trees without fruit, . . . raging waves of the sea, foaming up their own shame; wandering stars for whom is reserved the blackness of darkness forever . . . grumblers, complainers, walking according to their own lusts; . . . flattering people to gain . . . mockers in the last time . . . sensual persons, who cause divisions, not having the Spirit.” —2 Peter 2:17

A high-resolution image of Earth from space, showing the Western Hemisphere. The Americas (North and South America) are visible in green and brown, surrounded by deep blue oceans and white, swirling clouds. The Earth is set against a dark, star-filled background of space.

“ . . . we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of Lord Jesus Christ.” —2 Thessalonians 2:13-14

A high-resolution image of Earth from space, showing the Western Hemisphere. The Americas are visible, surrounded by the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The Earth's surface is covered in blue oceans, green landmasses, and white clouds. The background is a deep black space filled with distant stars.

“Blessed be the God and father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ, just as He chose us in Him, before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love.” —Ephesians 1:3-4



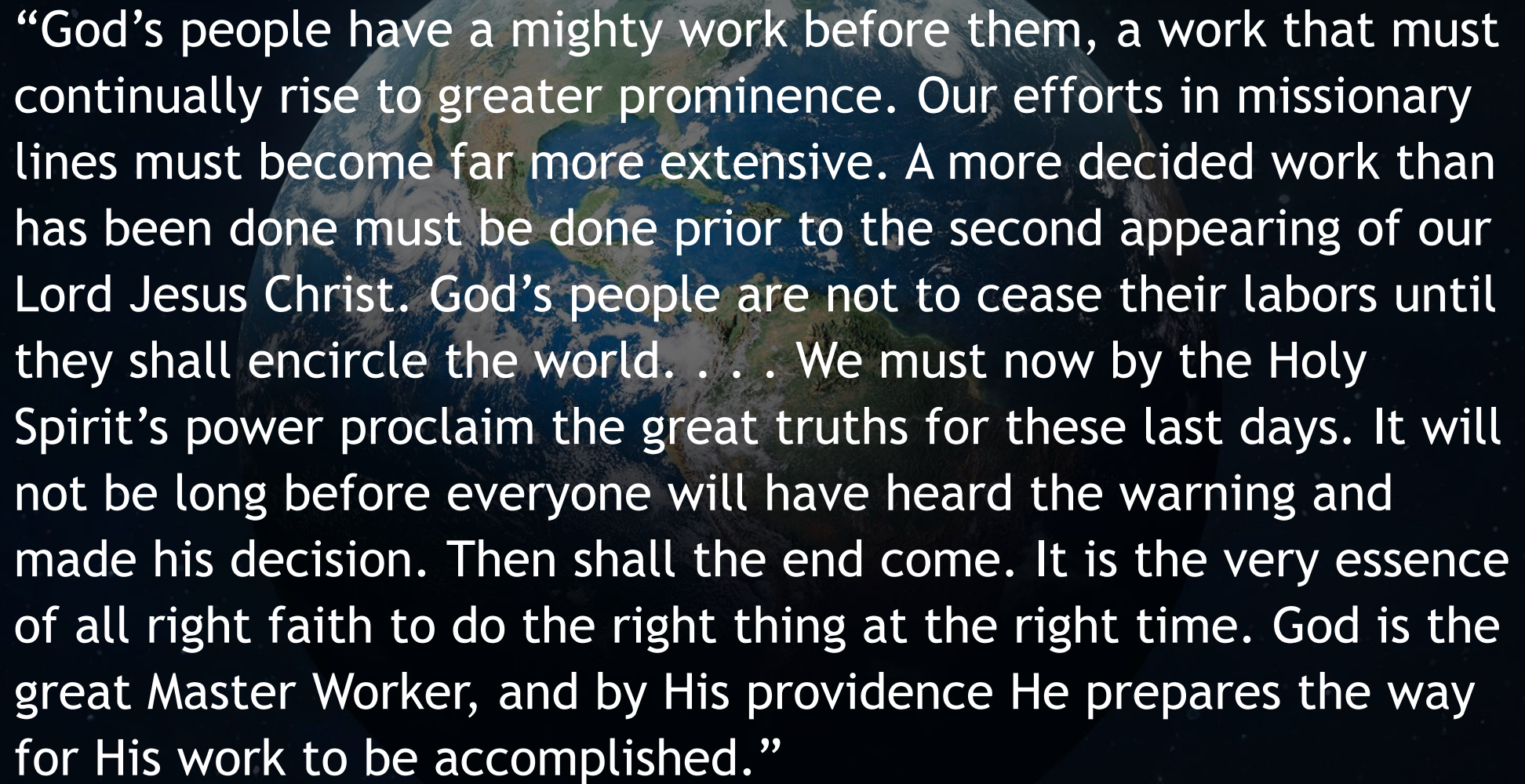


MISSION REFOCUS



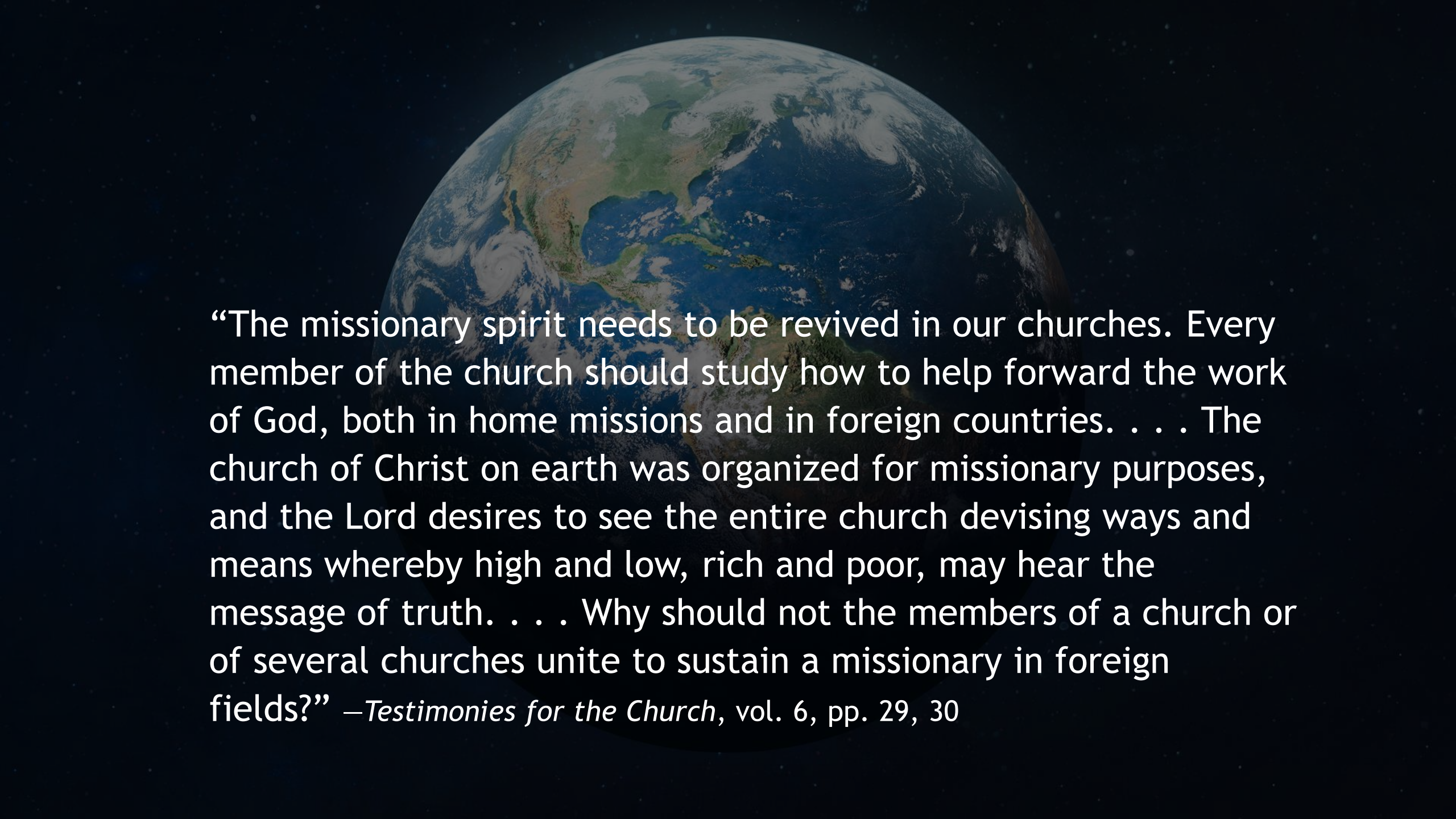
MISSION REFOCUS

“Angels of God will cooperate with those who are engaged in this work, who make every effort to save perishing souls, to give them opportunities which many have never had. There is no other way of reaching them but in Christ’s way. He ever worked to relieve suffering and teach righteousness.” —Welfare Ministry, p. 250



“God’s people have a mighty work before them, a work that must continually rise to greater prominence. Our efforts in missionary lines must become far more extensive. A more decided work than has been done must be done prior to the second appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ. God’s people are not to cease their labors until they shall encircle the world. . . . We must now by the Holy Spirit’s power proclaim the great truths for these last days. It will not be long before everyone will have heard the warning and made his decision. Then shall the end come. It is the very essence of all right faith to do the right thing at the right time. God is the great Master Worker, and by His providence He prepares the way for His work to be accomplished.”

—*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, pp. 23, 24

A high-resolution image of Earth from space, showing the Western Hemisphere. The Americas are visible, surrounded by the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. The image is dark, with the Earth's surface being the primary light source.

“The missionary spirit needs to be revived in our churches. Every member of the church should study how to help forward the work of God, both in home missions and in foreign countries. . . . The church of Christ on earth was organized for missionary purposes, and the Lord desires to see the entire church devising ways and means whereby high and low, rich and poor, may hear the message of truth. . . . Why should not the members of a church or of several churches unite to sustain a missionary in foreign fields?” —*Testimonies for the Church*, vol. 6, pp. 29, 30

“But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life. And on some have compassion, making a distinction; but others save with fear, pulling them out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh. Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling, and to present you faultless before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy, to God our Savior, Who alone is wise, be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and forever. Amen.”

—Jude 20-25



“... God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

—2 Thessalonians 2:13, 14



“Blessed be the God
and Father of our Lord
Jesus Christ, who has
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