



Bearing Good Fruit

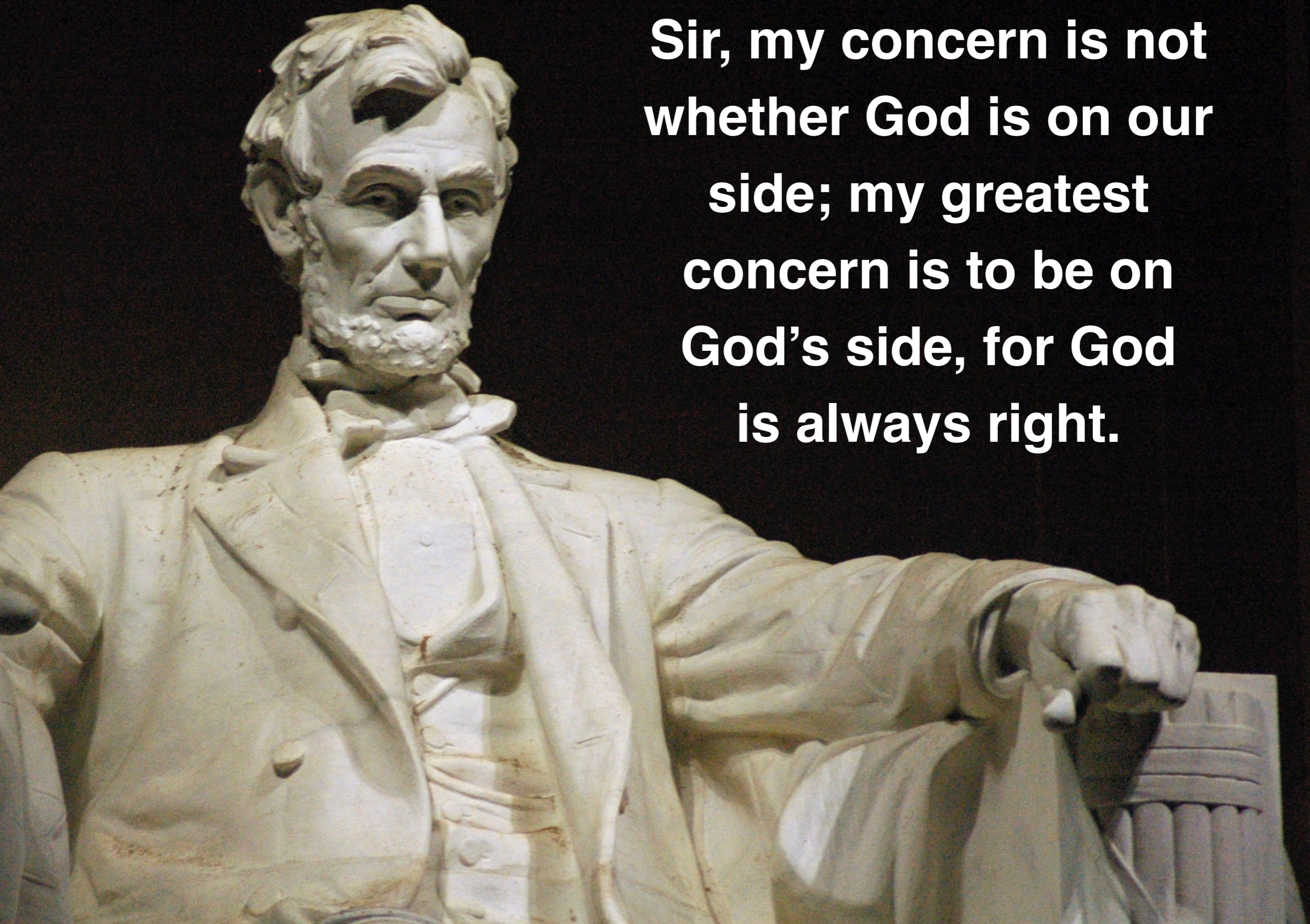
— The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19 —



THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY FOR ALL PEOPLE





Sir, my concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right.





The chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people were seeking to destroy him, but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were hanging on his words.

— The Gospel of Luke 19:47-48 —



Bearing Good Fruit

— The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19 —

The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

9 And he began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a **vineyard** and let it out to tenants and went into another country for a long while.

10 When the time came, he sent a servant to the tenant, so that they would give him some of the **fruit** of the **vineyard**....”

Pop Quiz: National Symbols





**You brought a vine out of Egypt;
you drove out the nations and planted it.**

**You cleared the ground for it;
it took deep root and filled the land.**

— Psalm 80:8 —

**“The vineyard of the Lord Almighty
is the house of Israel.”**

— Isaiah 5:7 —

“Israel is a luxuriant vine...

“...a choice vine....”

— Hosea 10:1 & Jeremiah 2:21 —

The vineyard / Israel connection was so much a part of their national consciousness that the very temple in which Jesus was standing sported a richly carved grapevine, seventy cubits high, sculpted around the door that led from the porch to the Holy Place.



**The branches, tendrils, and leaves
were of finest gold. The bunches of
grapes hanging upon the golden
limbs were costly jewels....**

**This vine had immense sacred
meaning in the eyes of the Jews.**

— R. Kent Hughes —



**Israel is the
vineyard.**

The Owner of the Vineyard is God our Creator



The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

9 And he began to tell the people this parable: “A man planted a **vineyard** and let it out to **tenants** and went into another country for a long while.



**The Tenant Farmers are the
Spiritual Leaders of Israel**

The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

10 When the time came, he sent a **servant** to the tenants, so that they would give him some of the **fruit** of the **vineyard**....

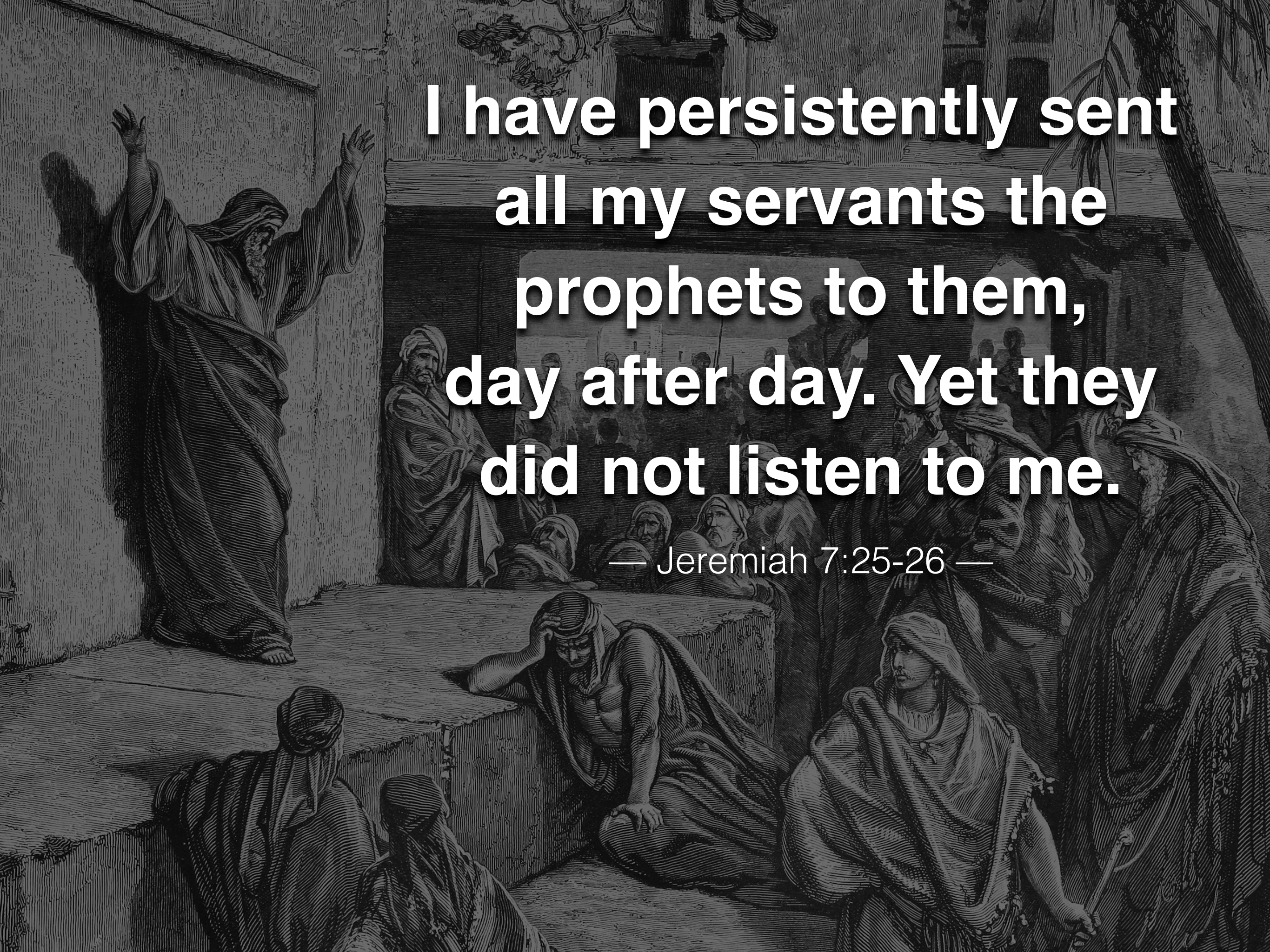


**“...My servants
the prophets...”**

— Zechariah 1:6 —

The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

10 But the tenants beat him and sent him away empty-handed. 11 And he sent another servant. But they also beat him and treated him shamefully, and sent him away empty-handed. 12 And he sent yet a third. This one also they wounded and cast out....



**I have persistently sent
all my servants the
prophets to them,
day after day. Yet they
did not listen to me.**

— Jeremiah 7:25-26 —

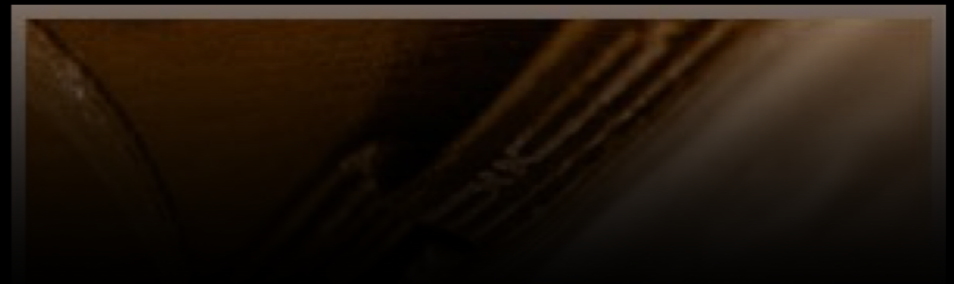


Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One.

— Stephen in Acts 7:52 —

**O Jerusalem,
Jerusalem,
the city that kills
the prophets and
stones those who
are sent to it.**

— Jesus of Nazareth —
The Gospel of Matthew 23:37

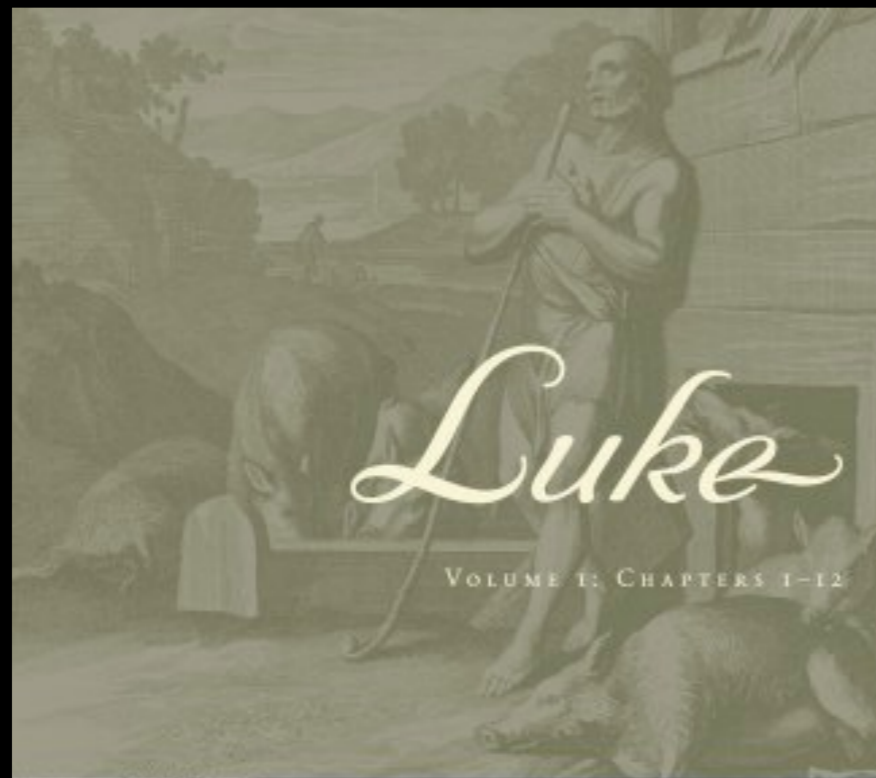


The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

13 Then the owner of the vineyard said, 'What shall I do? I will send **my beloved son**, perhaps they will respect him.'

— “ ” —

...my beloved son...



REFORMED
EXPOSITORY
COMMENTARY

PHILIP GRAHAM RYKEN

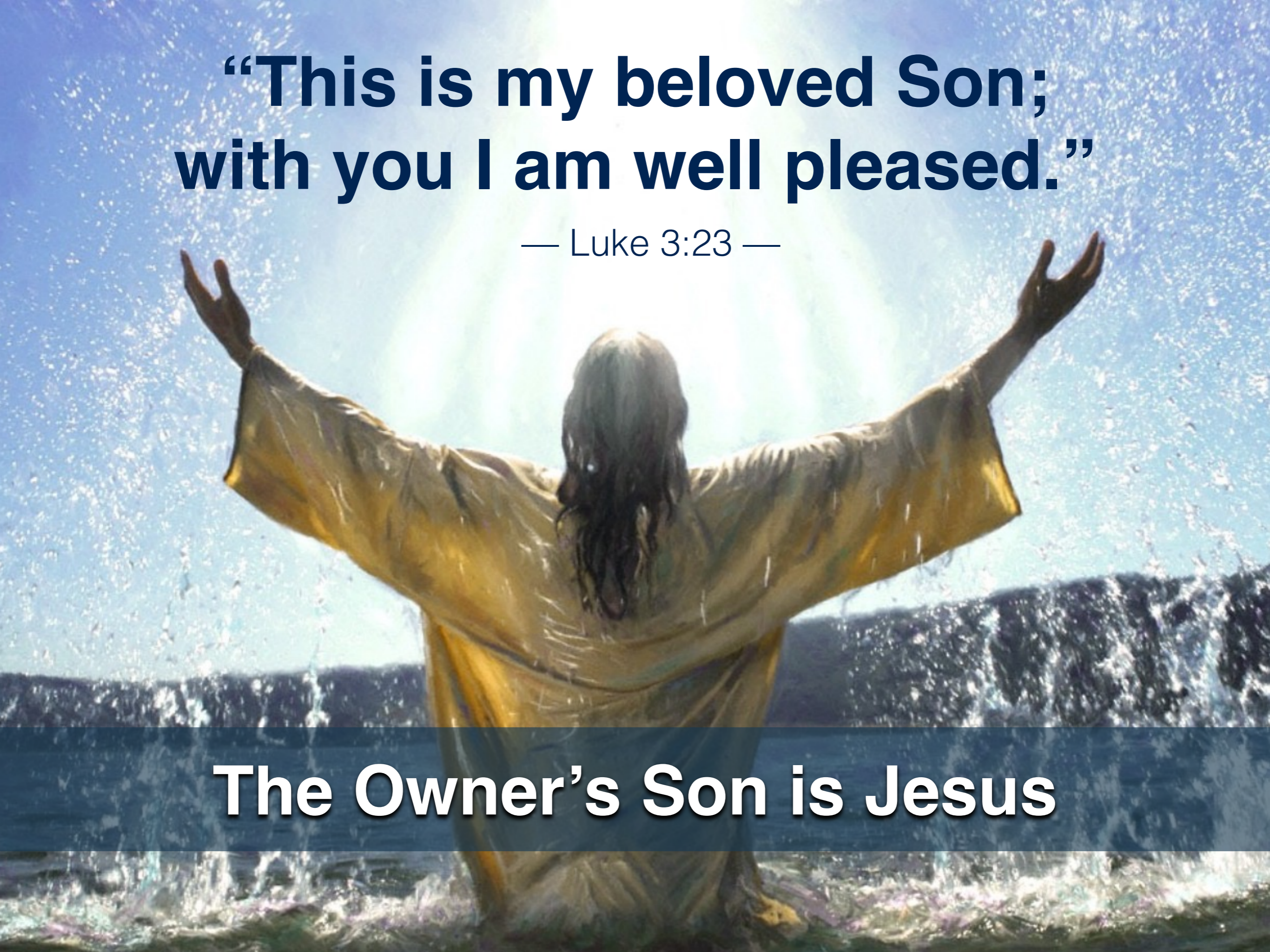
БНІГІТЬ СВЯНУМ РҮКЕНІ

**As soon as we
hear these words,
we know that we
are standing on
the holy ground
at the heart of
the universe.**

**“This is my beloved Son;
with you I am well pleased.”**

— Luke 3:23 —

The Owner's Son is Jesus



Important Point

Jesus is more than the last in a great line of prophets. He is claiming to be God's Son, the promised royal figure to whom all authority in heaven and earth would be given.



**Long ago, at many times and
in many ways, God spoke to
our fathers by the prophets,
but in these last days he has
spoken by his Son.**

— Hebrews 1:1-2 —



The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

14 But when the tenants saw him, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Let us kill him, so that the inheritance may be ours.' **15 And they threw him out of the vineyard and killed him.**

**A Parable
about the
Murder of
God's Son**



The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

15 “What will the owner of the vineyard do to them? 16 He will come and **destroy** those tenants and give the vineyard to others.” When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!”



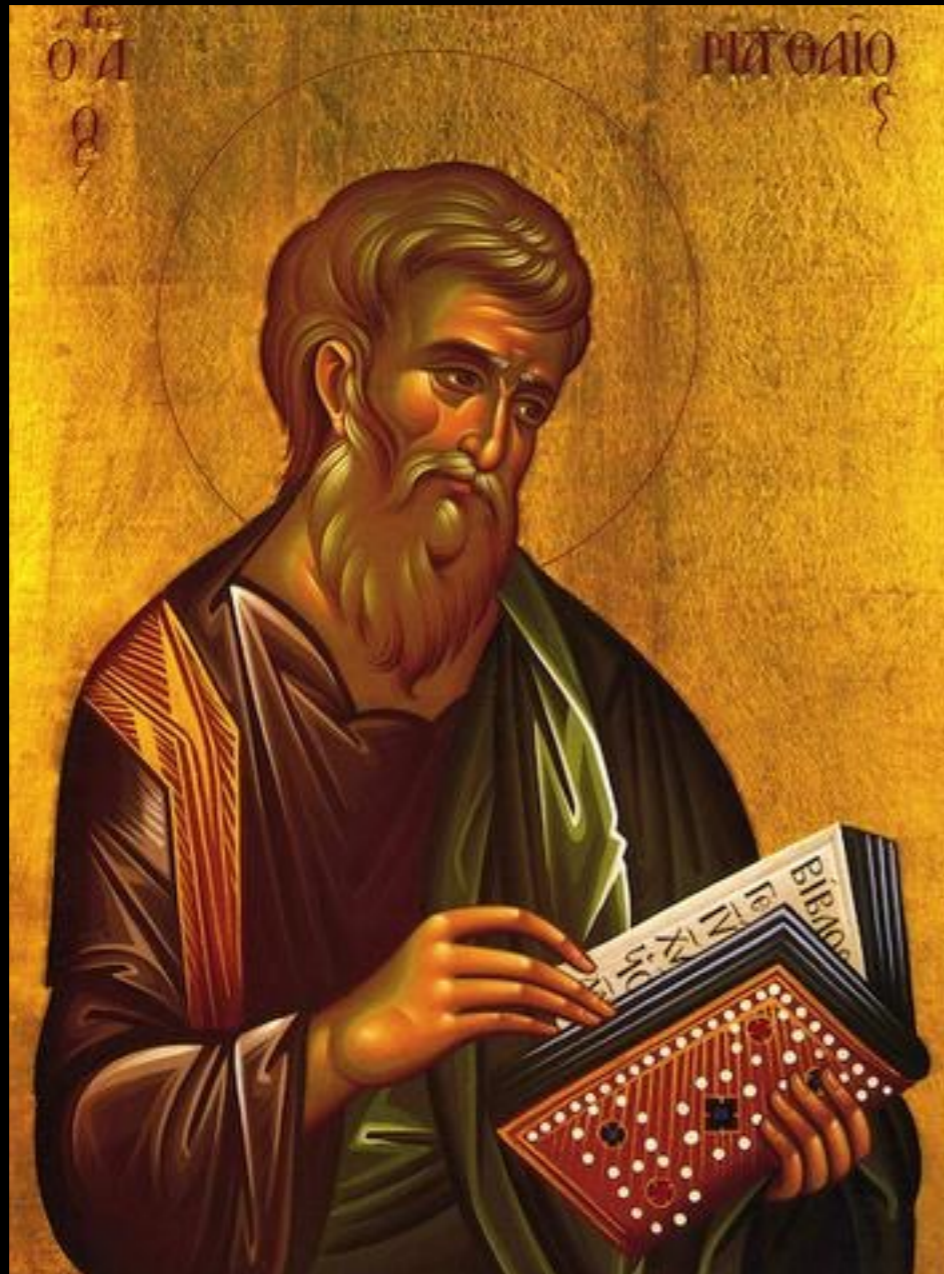
**The chief priests and the scribes and
the principal men of the people were
seeking to destroy him....**

— The Gospel of Luke 19:47 —



There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, 'Thy will be done,' and those to whom God says, in the end, 'Thy will be done.'

— CS Lewis —



**Therefore I tell you,
the kingdom of
God will be taken
from you and given
to a people produc-
ing its fruit.**

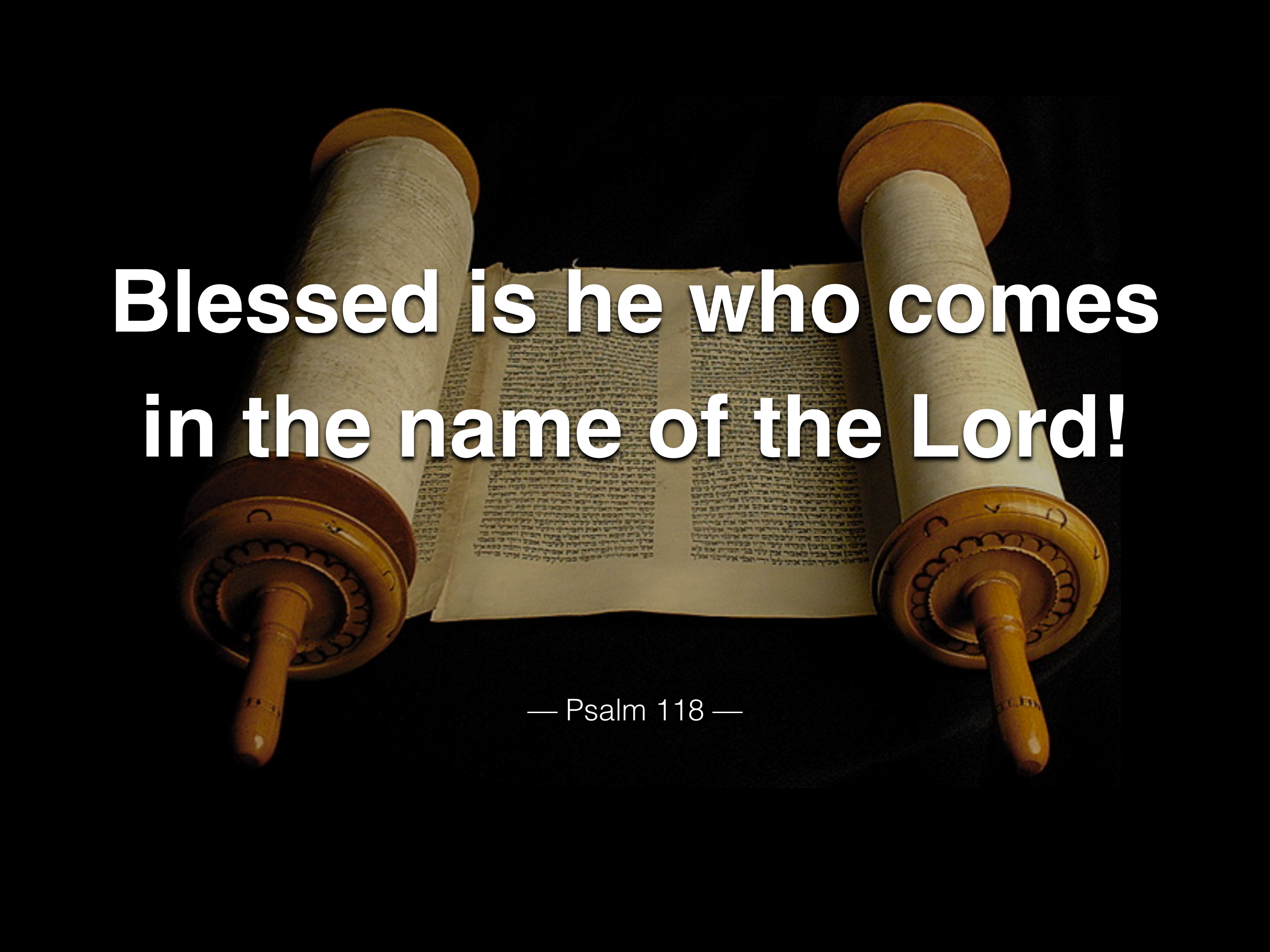
The Words of Jesus
according to Matthew in
Gospel of Matthew 21:43



When they heard this, they said, “Surely not!”

The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

17 But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’?

An open scroll of parchment with Hebrew text, flanked by two wooden rollers. The scroll is unrolled in the center, showing two columns of text. The rollers are made of light-colored wood and have a decorative circular pattern on their ends. The background is dark, making the scroll and rollers stand out.

**Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord!**

— Psalm 118 —



**The stone that the builders
rejected has become
the cornerstone.**

— Psalm 118 —

The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

17 But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’? 18 Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.





“...the stone that struck the image became a great mountain and filled the whole earth.... And in the days of those kings the God of heaven will set up a kingdom that shall never be destroyed or conquered. It shall break in pieces all these kingdoms and bring them to an end, and it shall stand forever.”

— Daniel 2:35, 44-45 —

The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

17 But he looked directly at them and said, “What then is this that is written: **‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone’?** 18 **Everyone who falls on that stone will be broken to pieces, and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him.**

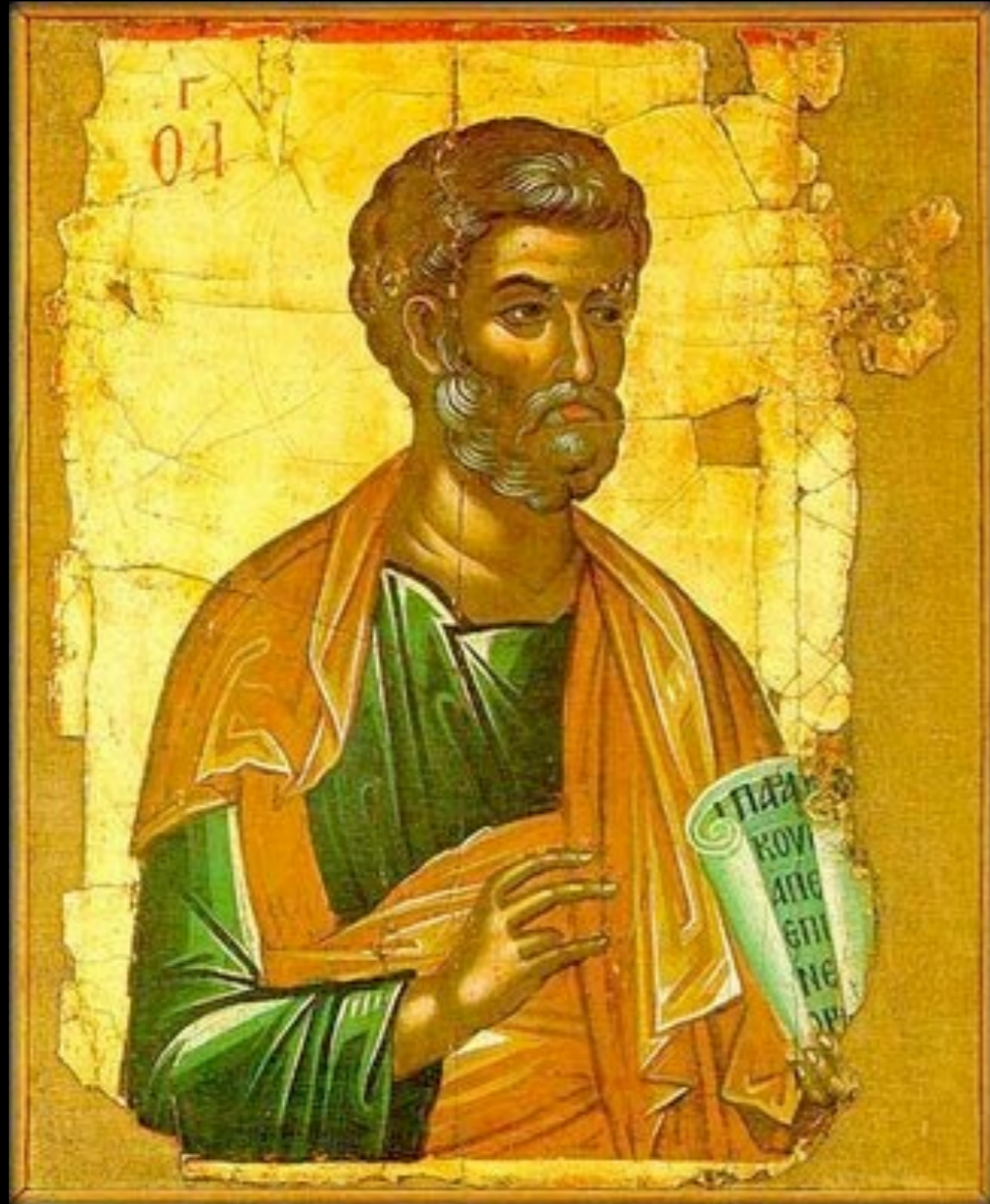
The Gospel of Luke 20:9-19

19 The scribes and the chief priests sought to lay hands on him at that very hour, for they perceived that he had told this parable against them, but they feared the people.



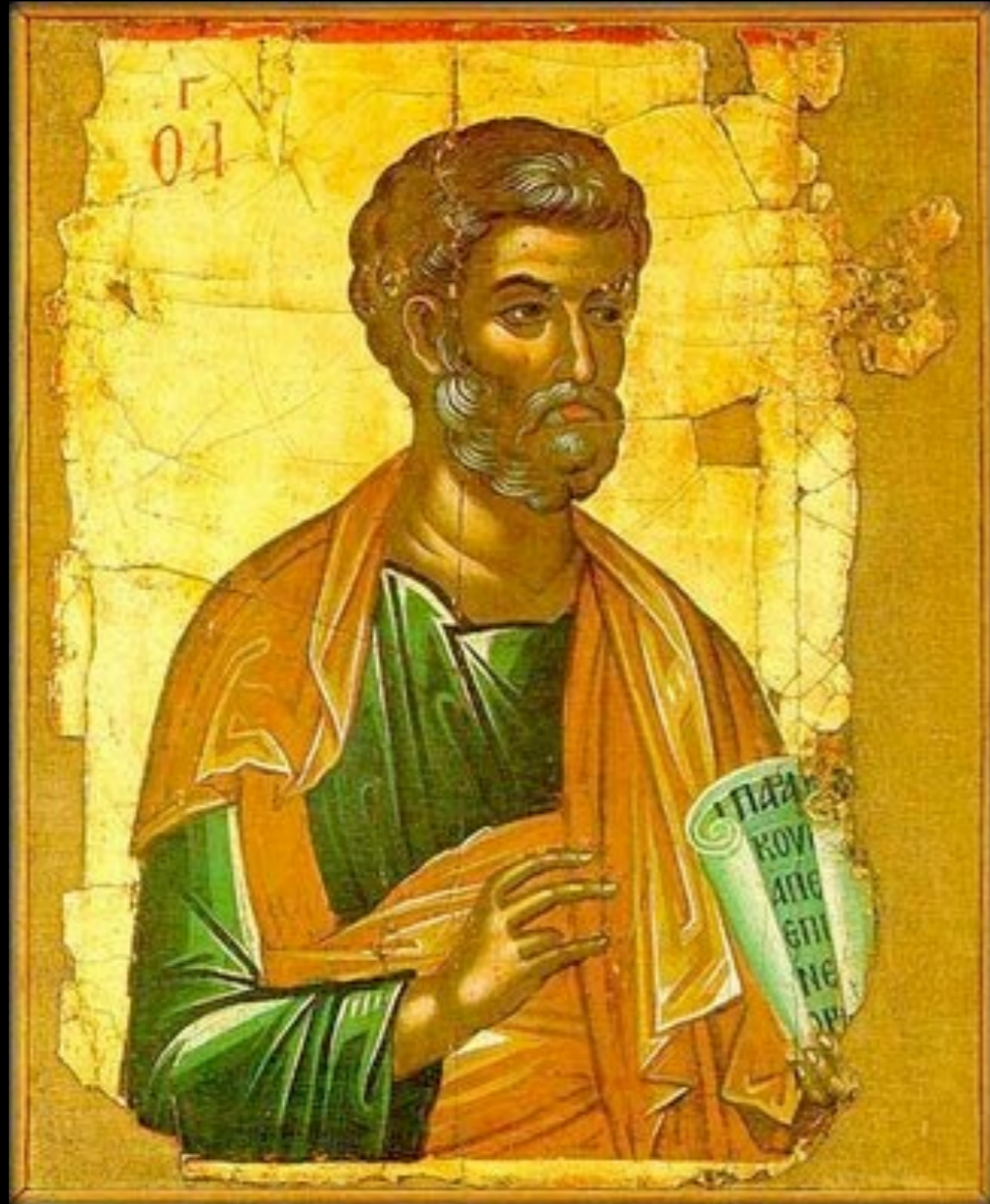
**Let's marvel at
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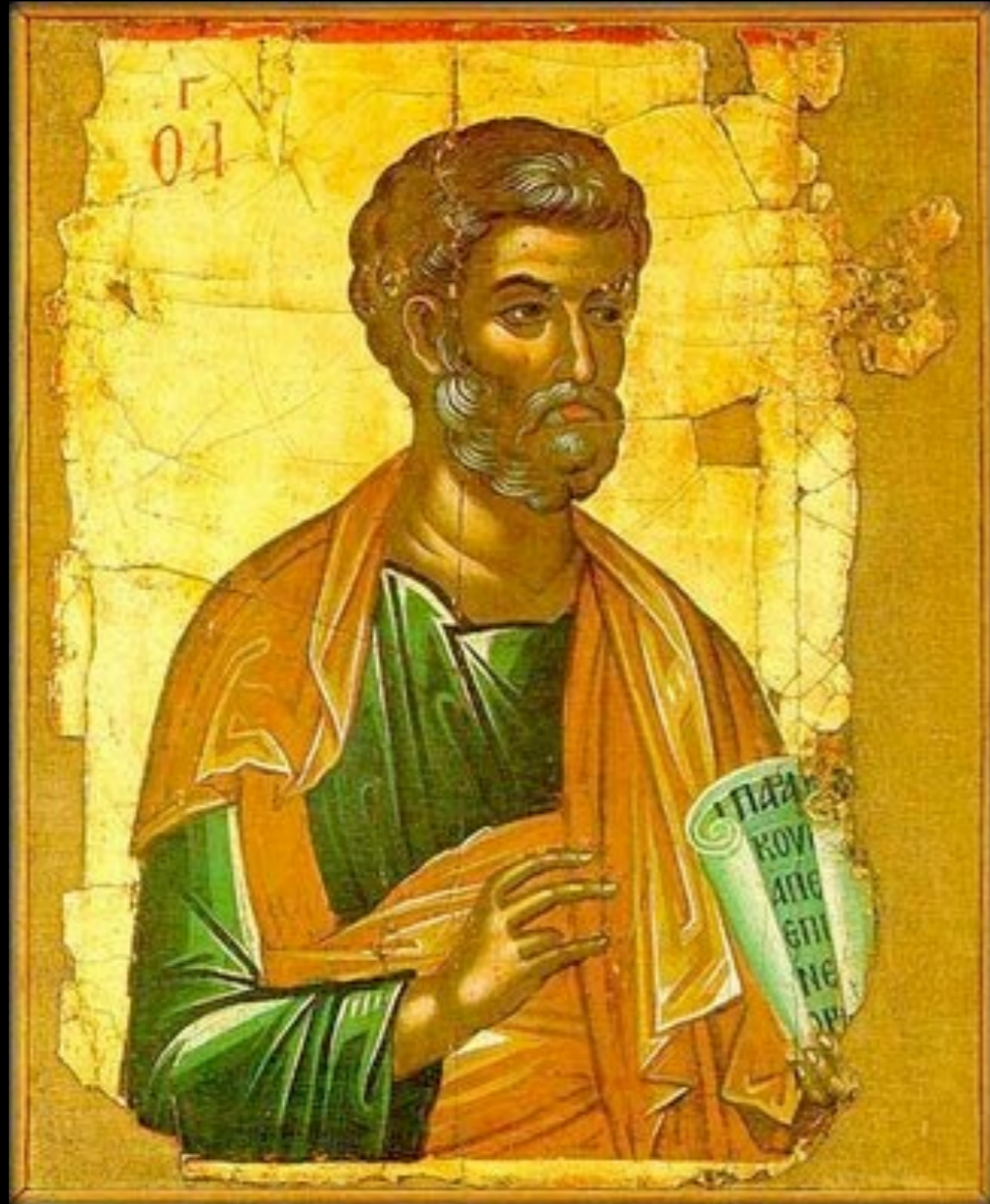
The Apostle Peter
— Acts 2:23-24 —

...this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.



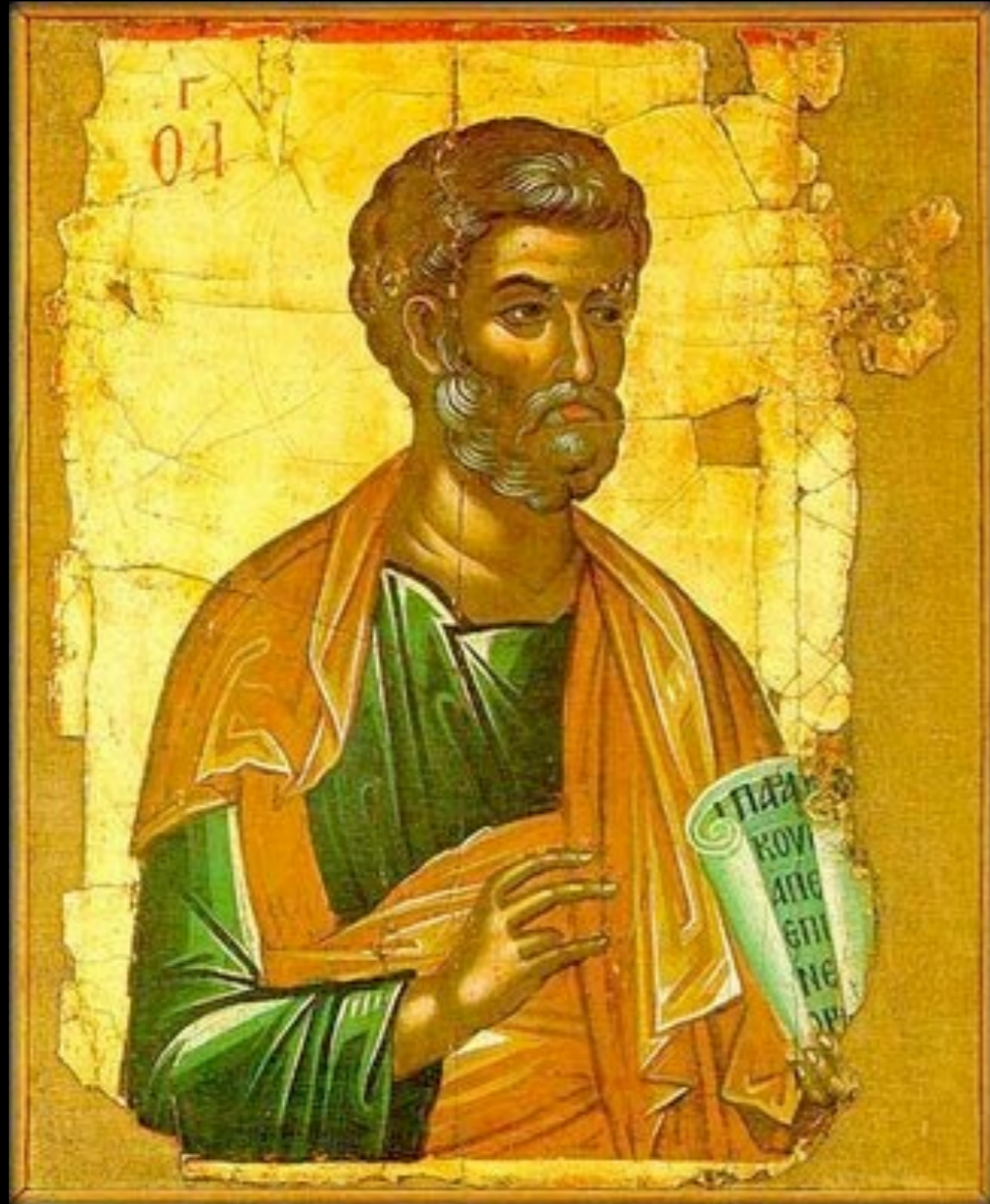
The Apostle Peter
— Acts 2:32 & 36 —

This Jesus God raised up, and we are all witnesses.... Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.



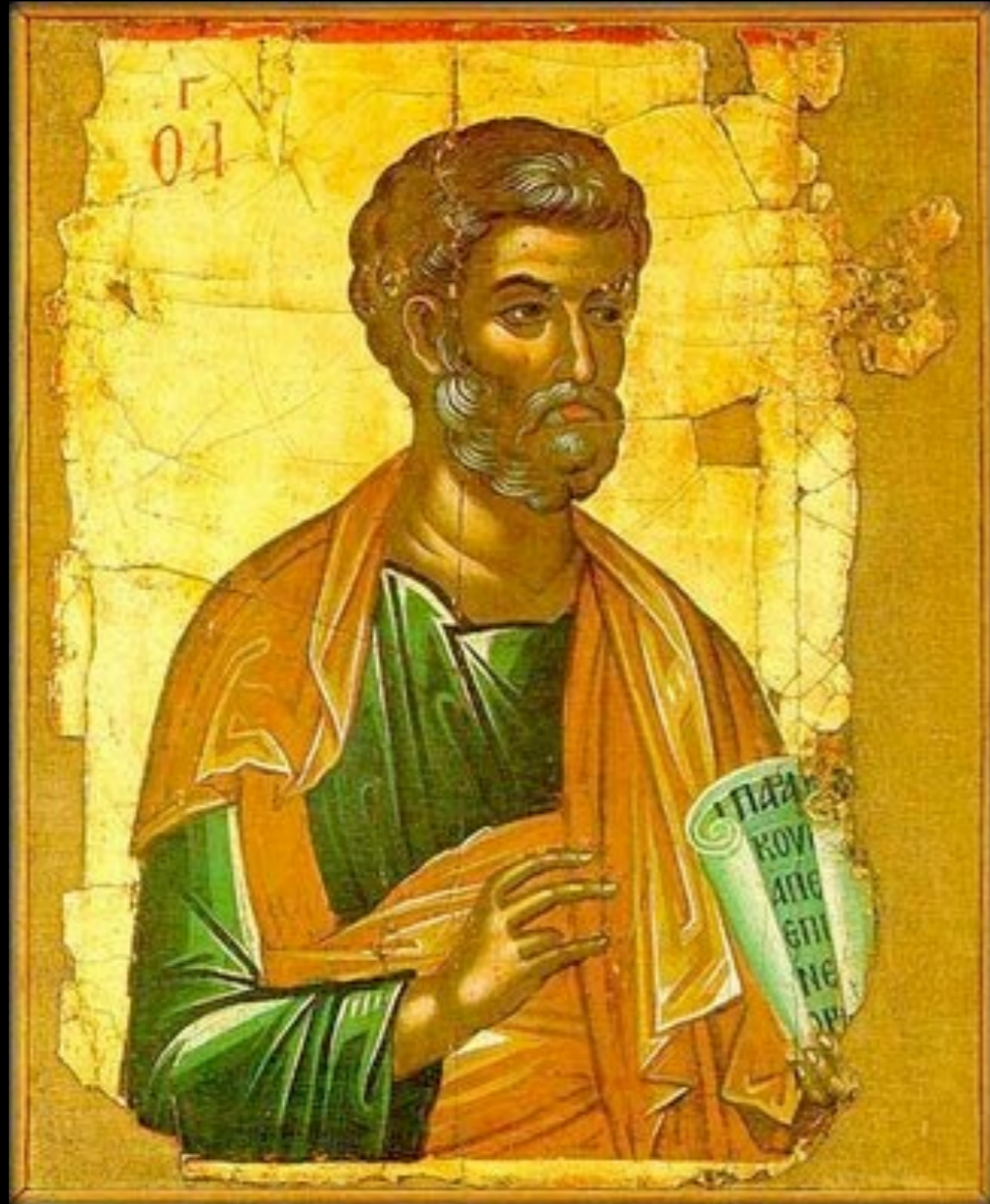
Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

The Apostle Peter
— Acts 2:37-38 —



**And Peter said to them,
“Repent and be
baptized everyone of
you in the name of
Jesus Christ for the
forgiveness of sins, and
you will receive the gift
of the Holy Spirit....”**

The Apostle Peter
— Acts 2:37-38 —



The Apostle Peter
— Acts 4:11-12 —

This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.



Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One.

— Stephen in Acts 7:52 —

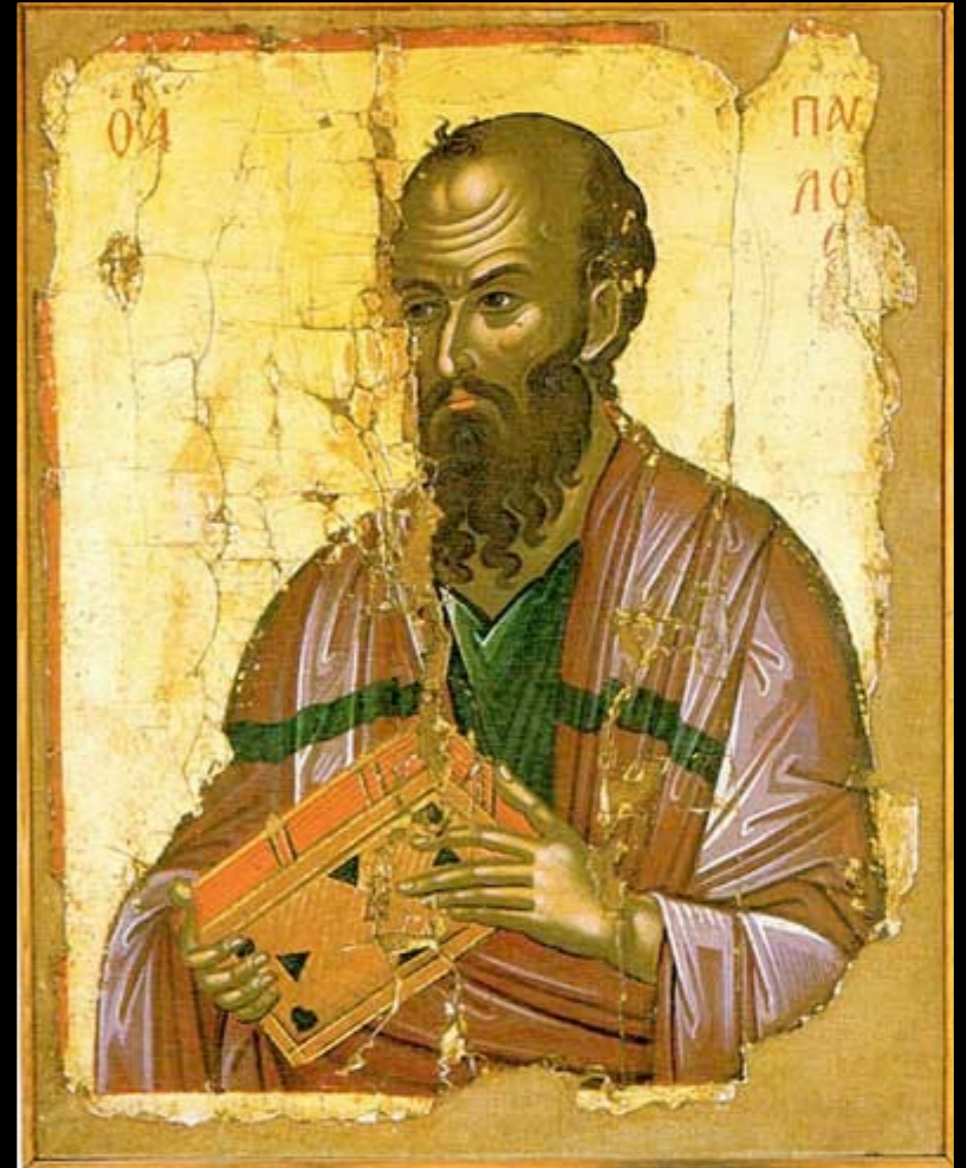
**I thank him who has
given me strength,
Christ Jesus our Lord,
because he judged me
faithful, appointing me
to his service, though
formerly I was a
blasphemer, perse-
cutor, and insolent
opponent.**



The Apostle Paul

— 1 Timothy 1:12-16 —

**But I received mercy
because I had acted
ignorantly in unbelief,
and the grace of our
Lord overflowed for me
with the faith and love
that are in Christ
Jesus.**



The Apostle Paul

— 1 Timothy 1:12-16 —

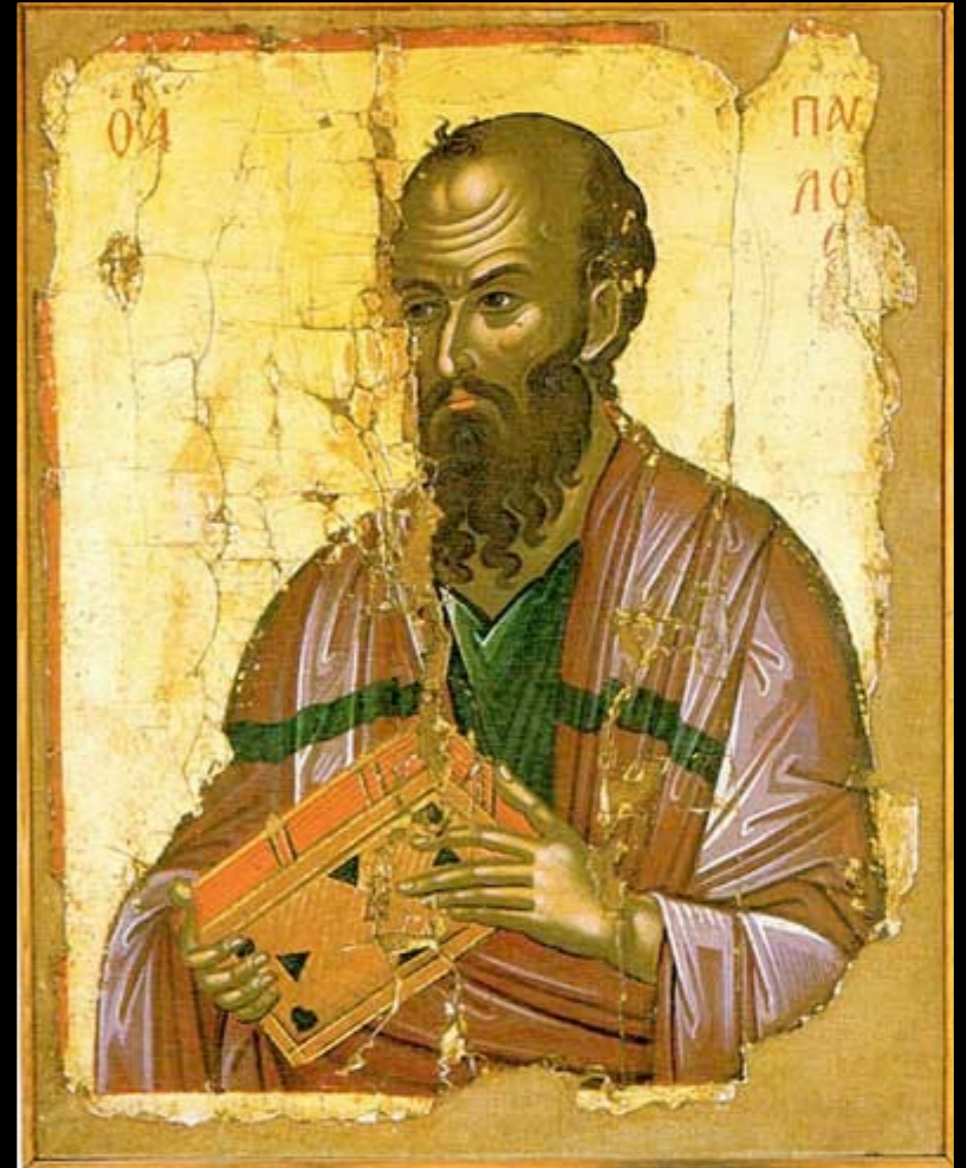
The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost.



The Apostle Paul

— 1 Timothy 1:12-16 —

**But I received mercy
for this reason, that in
me, as the foremost,
Jesus Christ might
display his perfect
patience as an example
to those who were to
believe in him for
eternal life.**

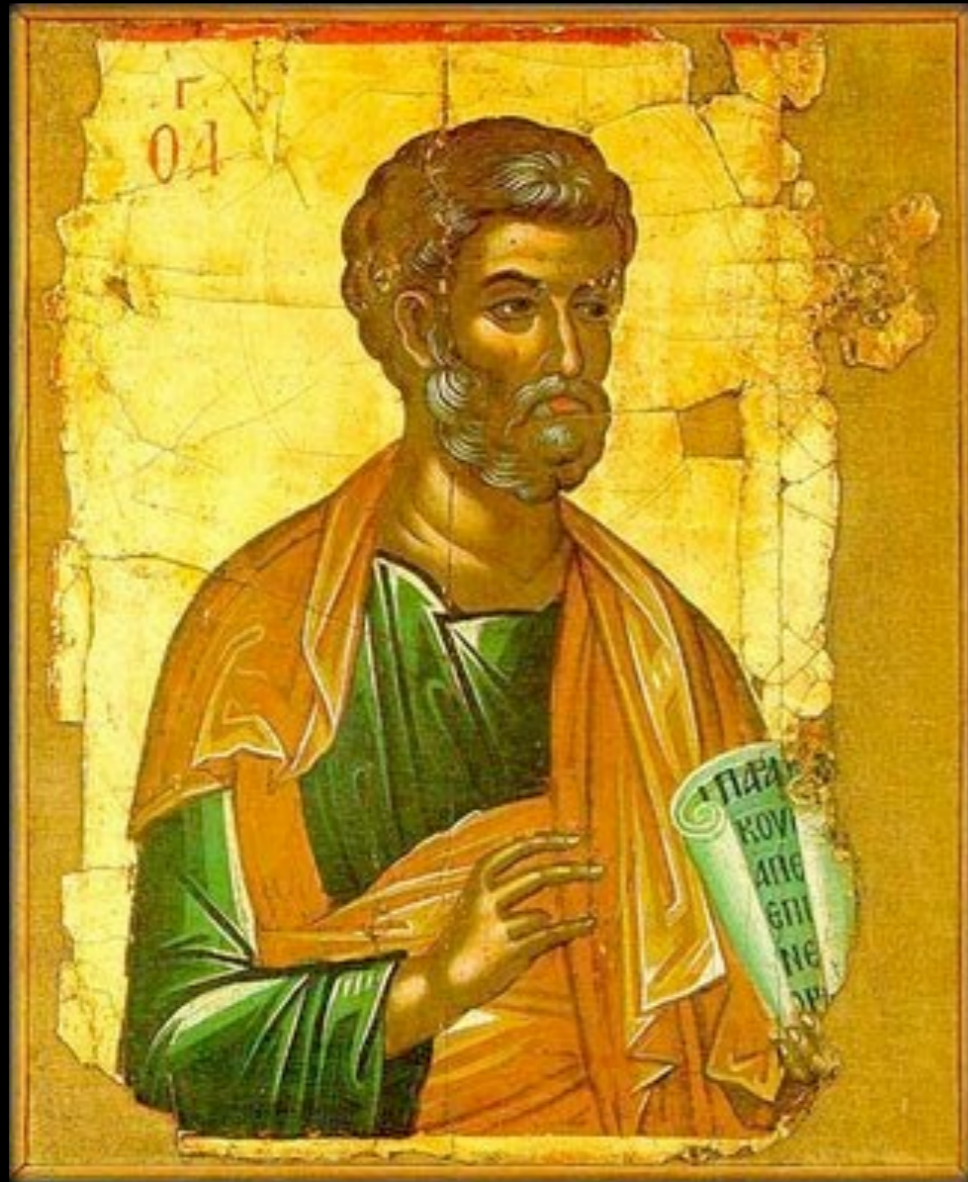


The Apostle Paul

— 1 Timothy 1:12-16 —

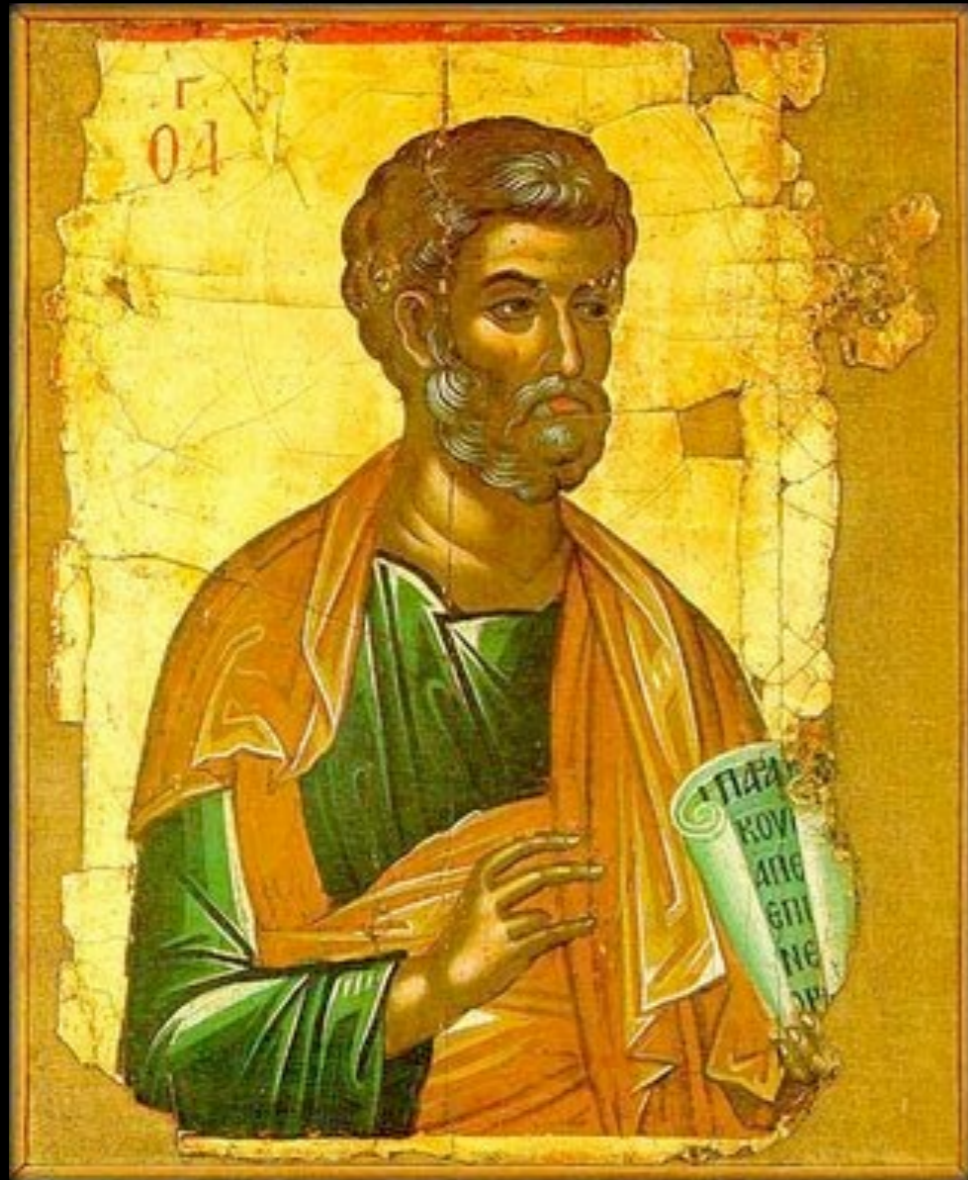


**Let's build our lives upon
Christ the Cornerstone**



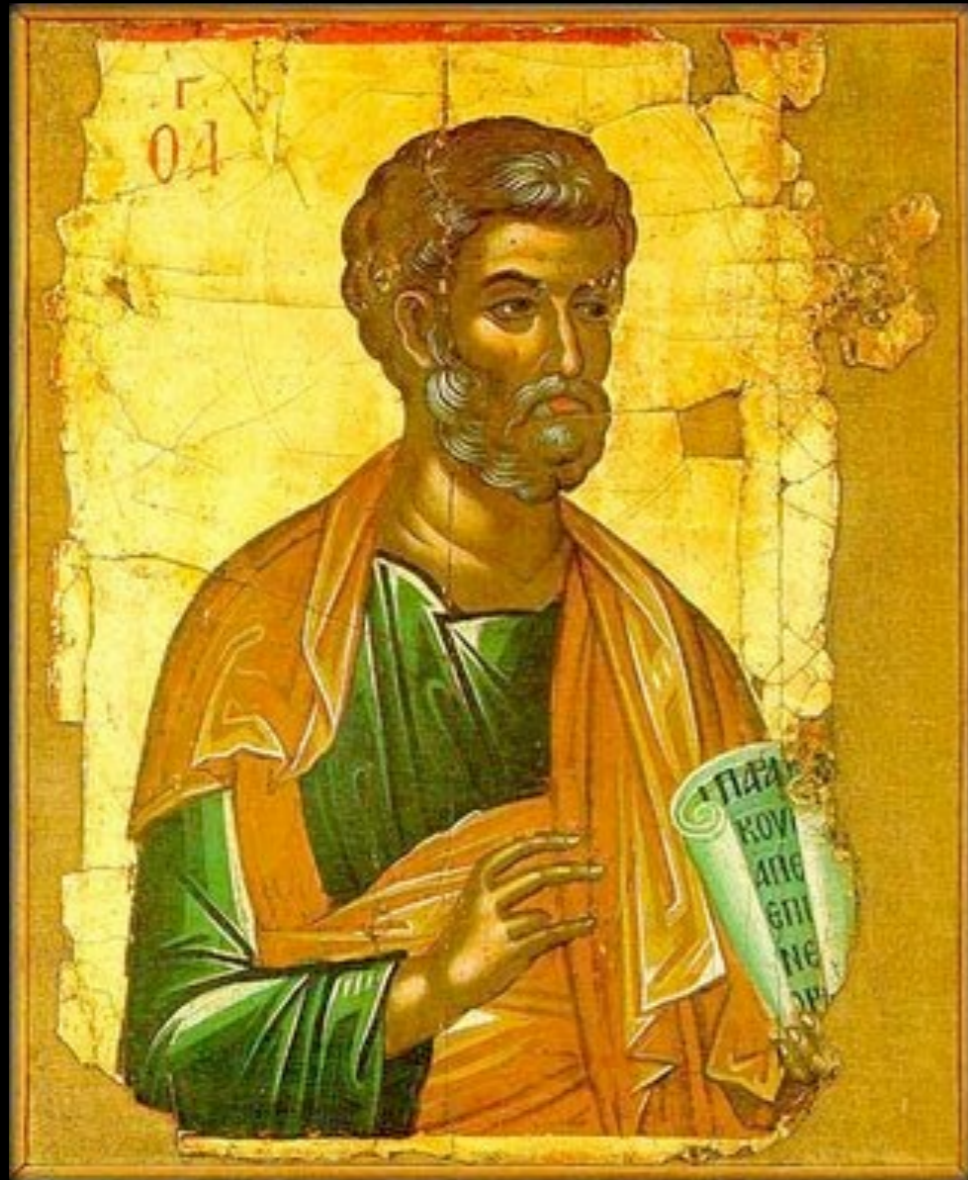
The Apostle Peter
1 Peter 2:4-7, 9-10

As you come to him, a **living stone** rejected by men but in the sight of God precious and chosen, you yourselves like **living stones** are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices **acceptable to God** through Jesus Christ.



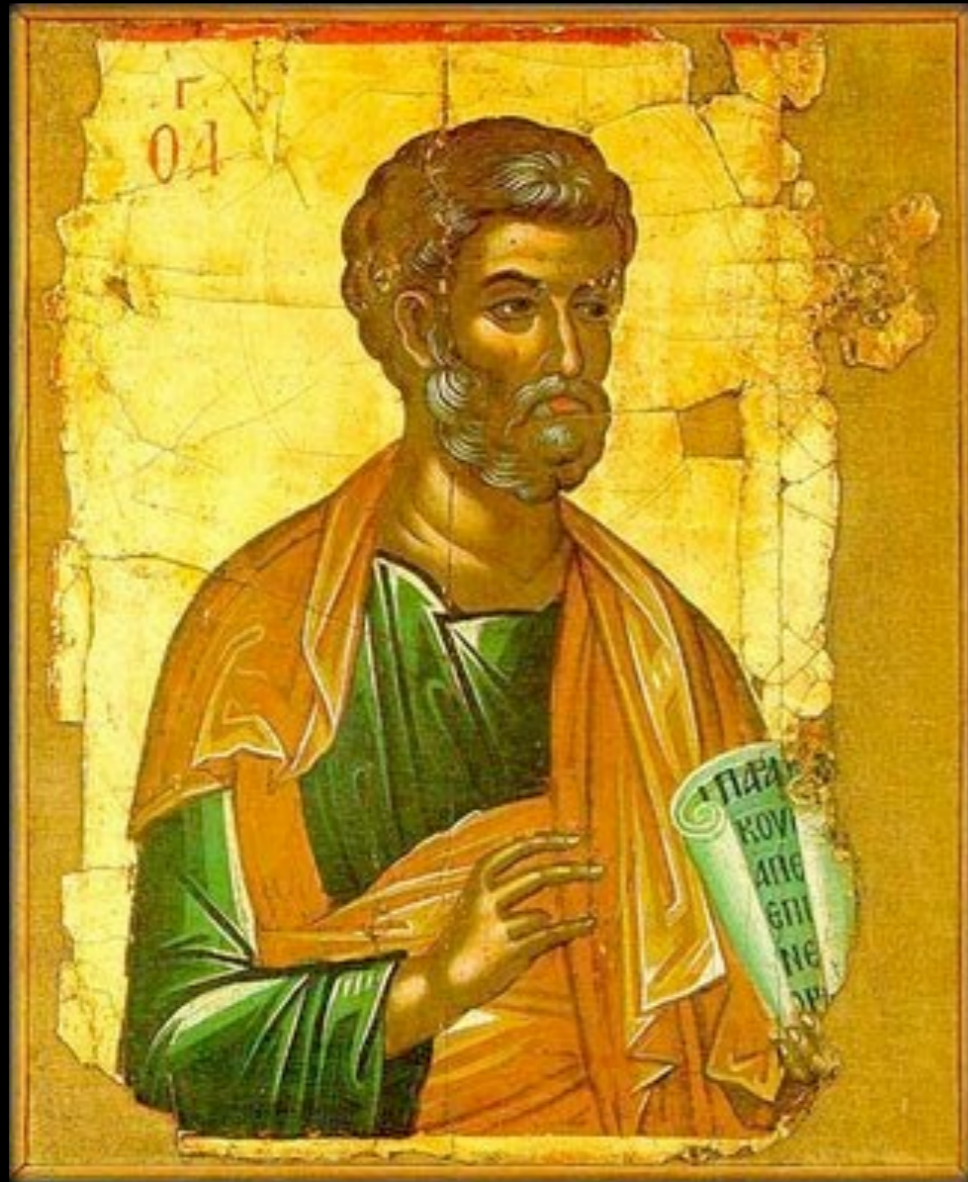
The Apostle Peter
1 Peter 2:4-7, 9-10

**For it stands in
Scripture: ‘Behold,
I am laying in Zion a
stone, a cornerstone
chosen and precious,
and whoever believes
in him will not be put
to shame.’**



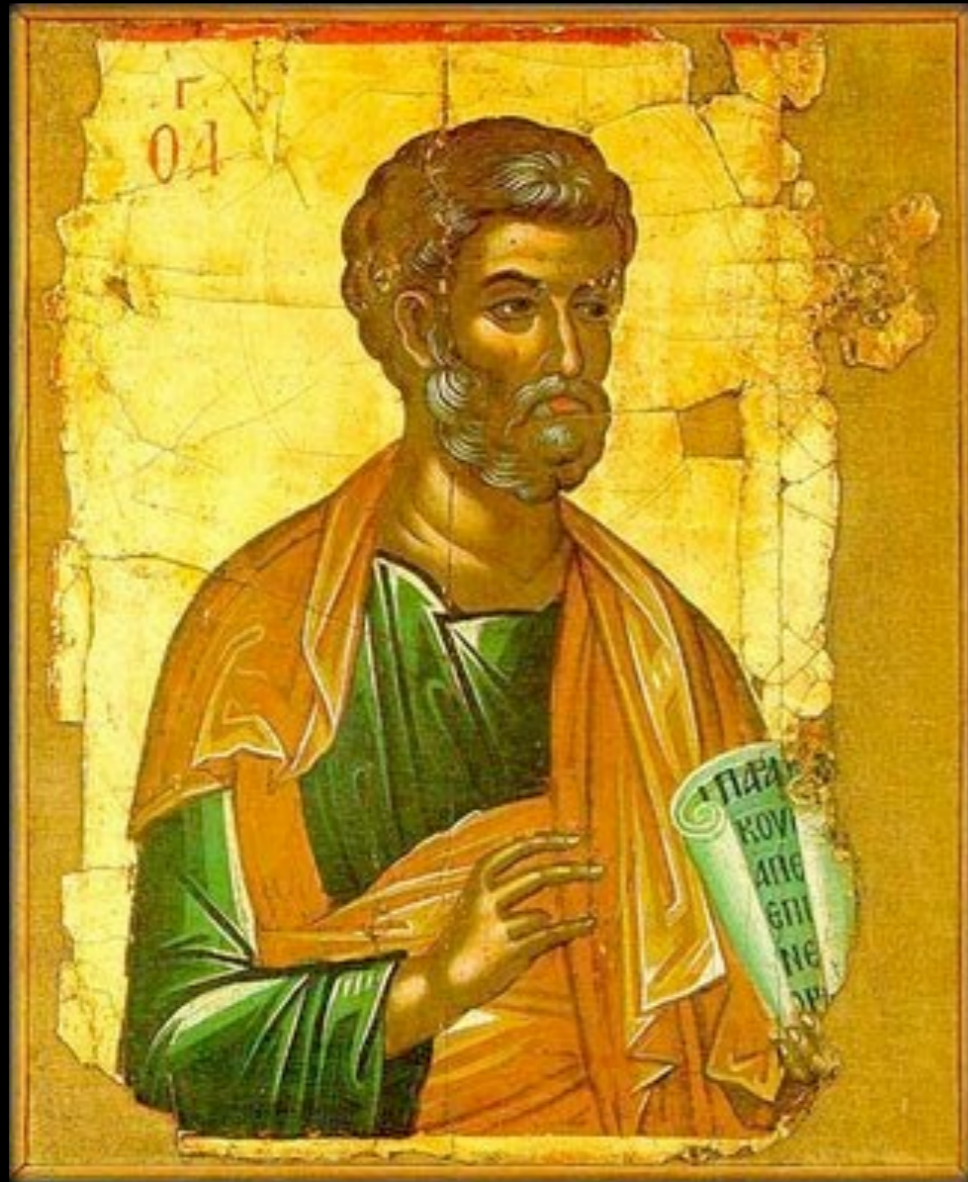
**So honor is for you
who believe, but for
those who do not
believe, ‘The stone
the builders rejected
has become the
cornerstone...’**

The Apostle Peter
1 Peter 2:4-7, 9-10



The Apostle Peter
1 Peter 2:4-7, 9-10

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

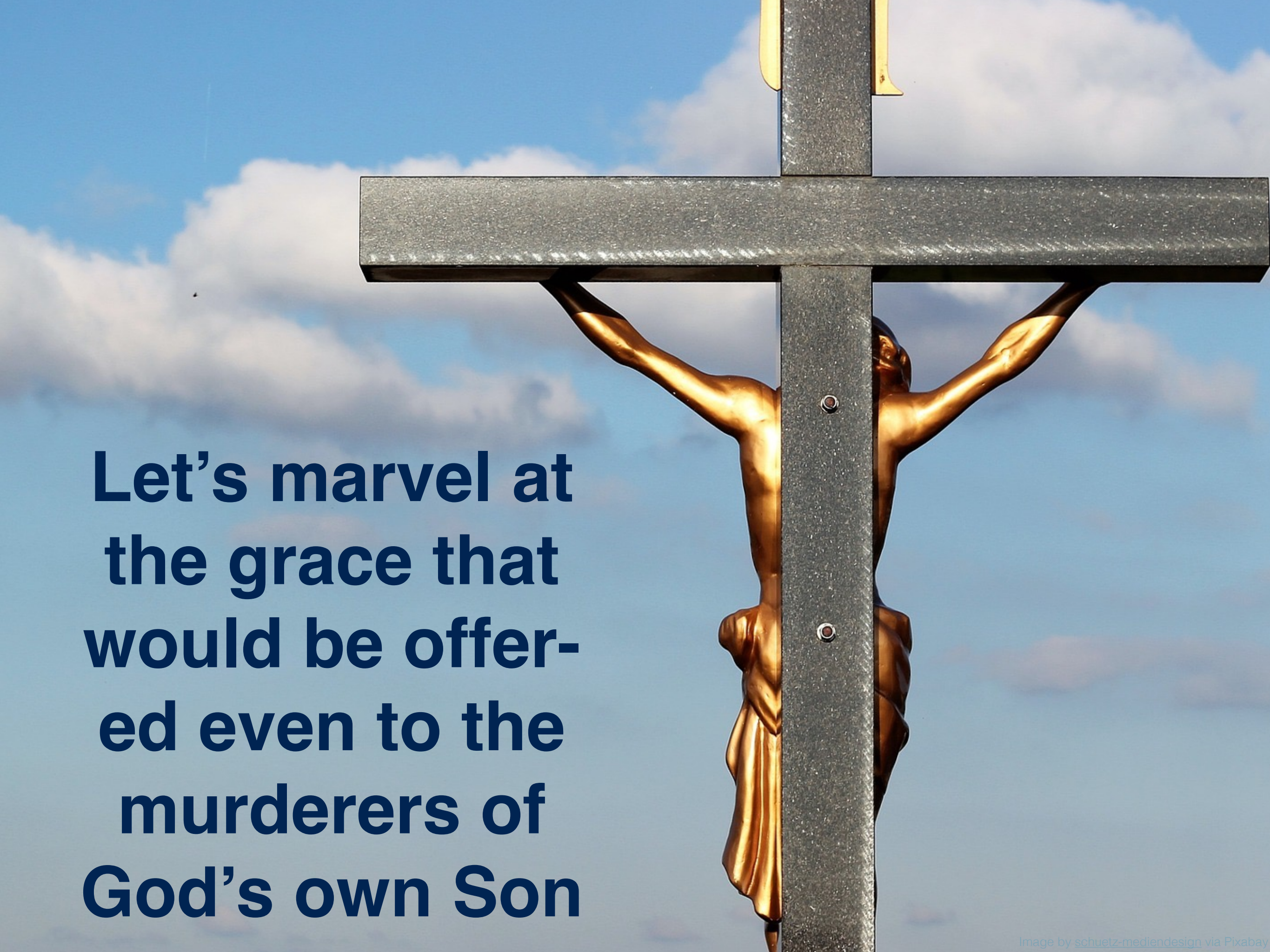


Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Apostle Peter
1 Peter 2:4-7, 9-10

**Father all my earthly aims
in time will turn to dust
Let me learn that loss is gain
for those who know Your love
All the treasures of this world
will never satisfy
You alone are endless joy
so I cling to Christ**



A close-up photograph of a crucifix. The central figure of Jesus is a golden statue with a realistic, muscular physique, showing signs of suffering. The cross is made of dark, textured metal. The background is a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.

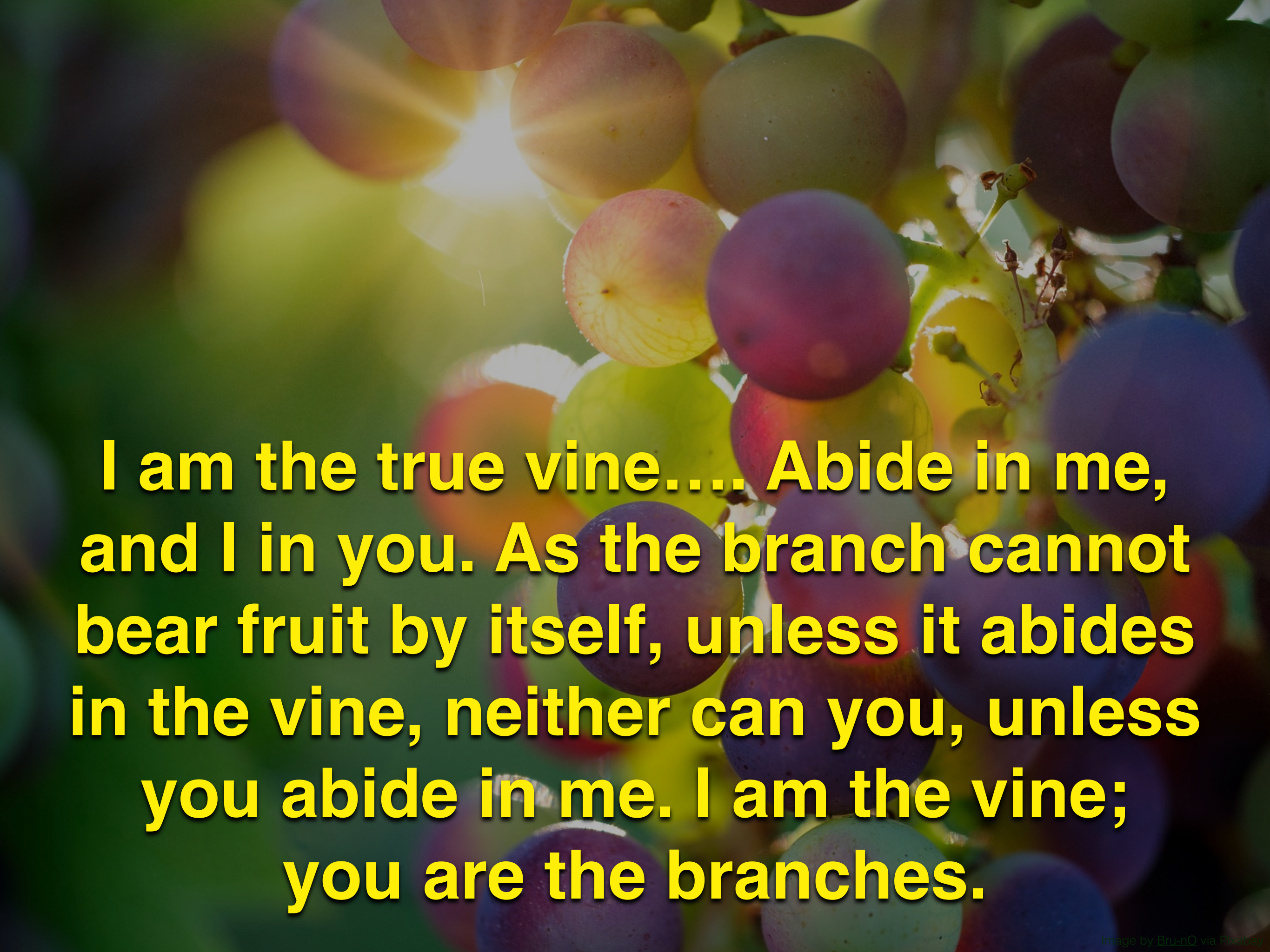
**Let's marvel at
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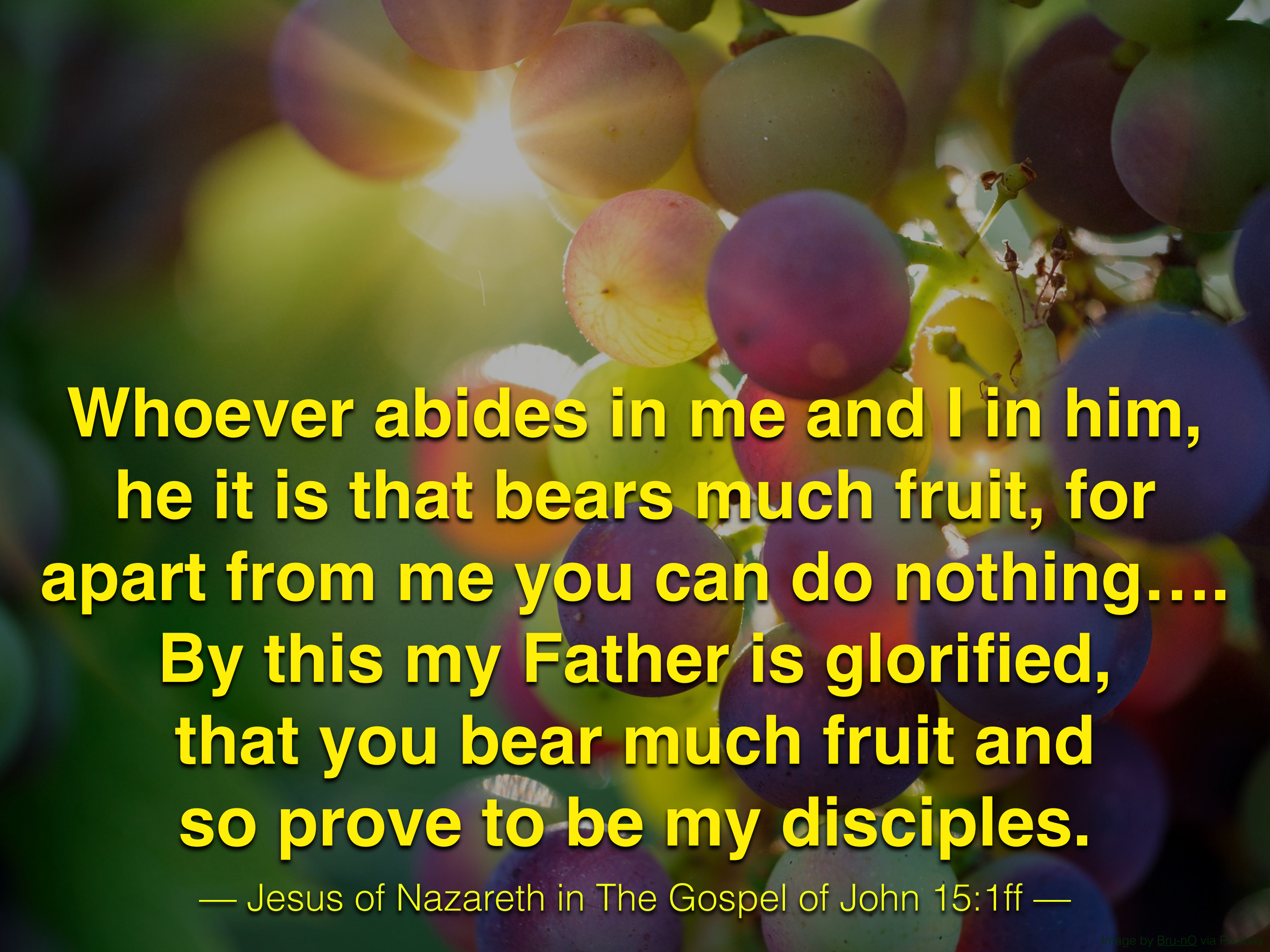
**Let's build our lives upon
Christ the Cornerstone**



**Let's bear
good fruit
in our lives**



**I am the true vine.... Abide in me,
and I in you. As the branch cannot
bear fruit by itself, unless it abides
in the vine, neither can you, unless
you abide in me. I am the vine;
you are the branches.**




**Whoever abides in me and I in him,
he it is that bears much fruit, for
apart from me you can do nothing....
By this my Father is glorified,
that you bear much fruit and
so prove to be my disciples.**

— Jesus of Nazareth in The Gospel of John 15:1ff —


**What would it
look like for you
to abide deeply
in Christ this
week bearing
much fruit**





**The fruit of the Spirit is
love, joy, peace, patience,
kindness, goodness, faithfulness,
gentleness, self-control....**

— Galatians 5:22-24 —



**For we are God's masterpiece.
He has created us anew in
Christ Jesus, so we can do the
good things he planned
for us long ago.**

— Ephesians 2:10 (NLT) —



**“Atheist Activist with Failing Vision
Gets Help from Christians”**

— Christian Post - March 23, 2012 —

Patrick Greene had planned to sue Henderson County, TX, unless it removed a Nativity scene from a courthouse lawn, but dropped his threats when he began losing his vision.



Patrick Greene
“Atheist Activist”

We didn't expect this kind of treatment from these Christians because most Christians don't act this way. But because of the fact that Jesus said 'Love your neighbor as yourself' ..., these people are acting like real Christians.



Patrick Greene
"Atheist Activist"

**Both my wife and I
love them for that,
because they are
actually putting their
actions where their
beliefs are....**



Patrick Greene
“Atheist Activist”

**No Christian has ever
acted like this way
the entire time we've
been married. These
are the first actual
Christians we've ever
met in our lives.**



Patrick Greene
“Atheist Activist”

““

**It was one of those things
I didn't have to think about it.
I didn't have to pray about it.
Jesus already commmand us to
do it, and so I just did it.**

One of the Christians
who helped Patrick Greene

””

