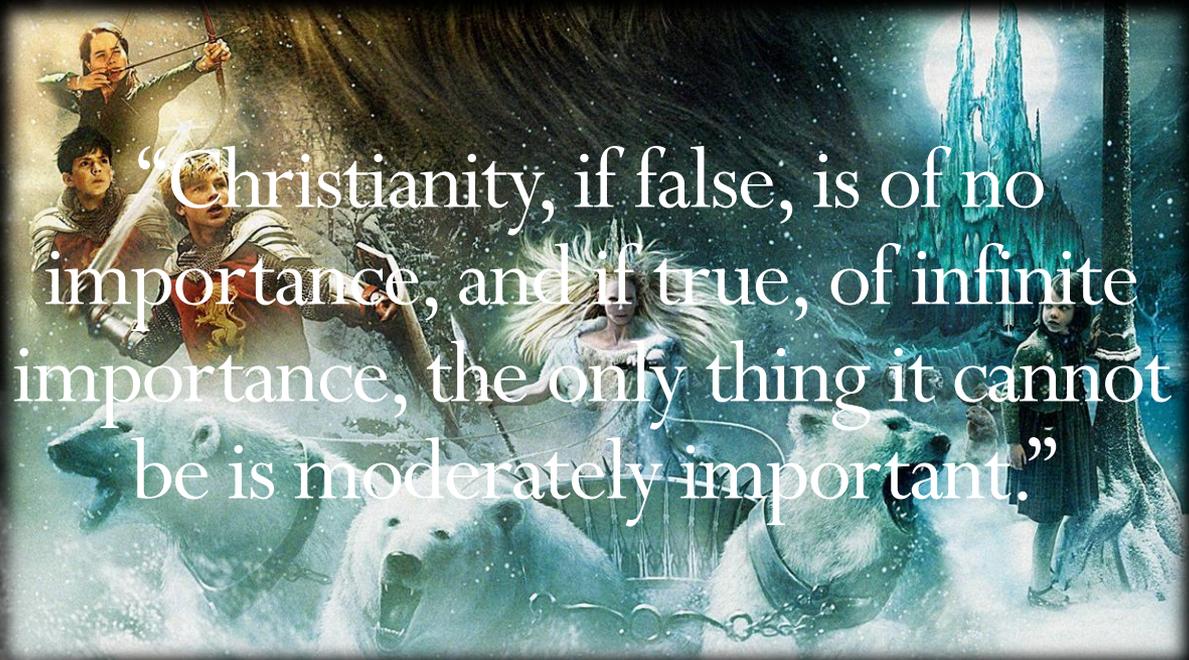




**apologetics: no apologies,
but it begins in
the church!**

The term "apologetics" derives from the Ancient Greek word *apologia* (to speak in defense of). In the Classical Greek legal system, two key technical terms were used: the prosecution delivered the *kategoria*, and the defendant replied with an *apologia*. To deliver an *apologia* meant making a formal speech or giving an explanation in reply to or rebuttal of charges made against them. It had nothing to do with the modern day usage of *apology*, as in an expression of regret.



“Christianity, if false, is of no importance, and if true, of infinite importance, the only thing it cannot be is moderately important.”

C.S. Lewis 1898-1963

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

LEE STROBEL

AND GARRY POOLE

THE
CASE
FOR
FAITH

*A Six-Session Investigation of the
Toughest Objections to Christianity*

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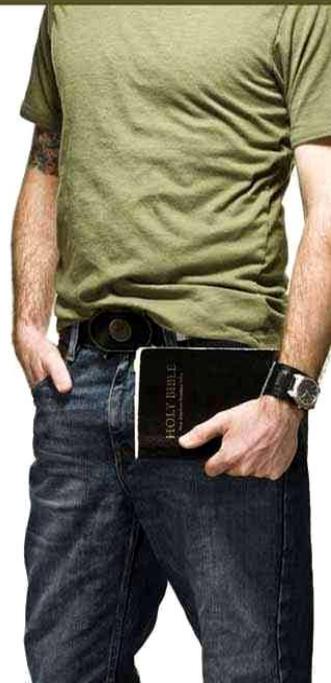


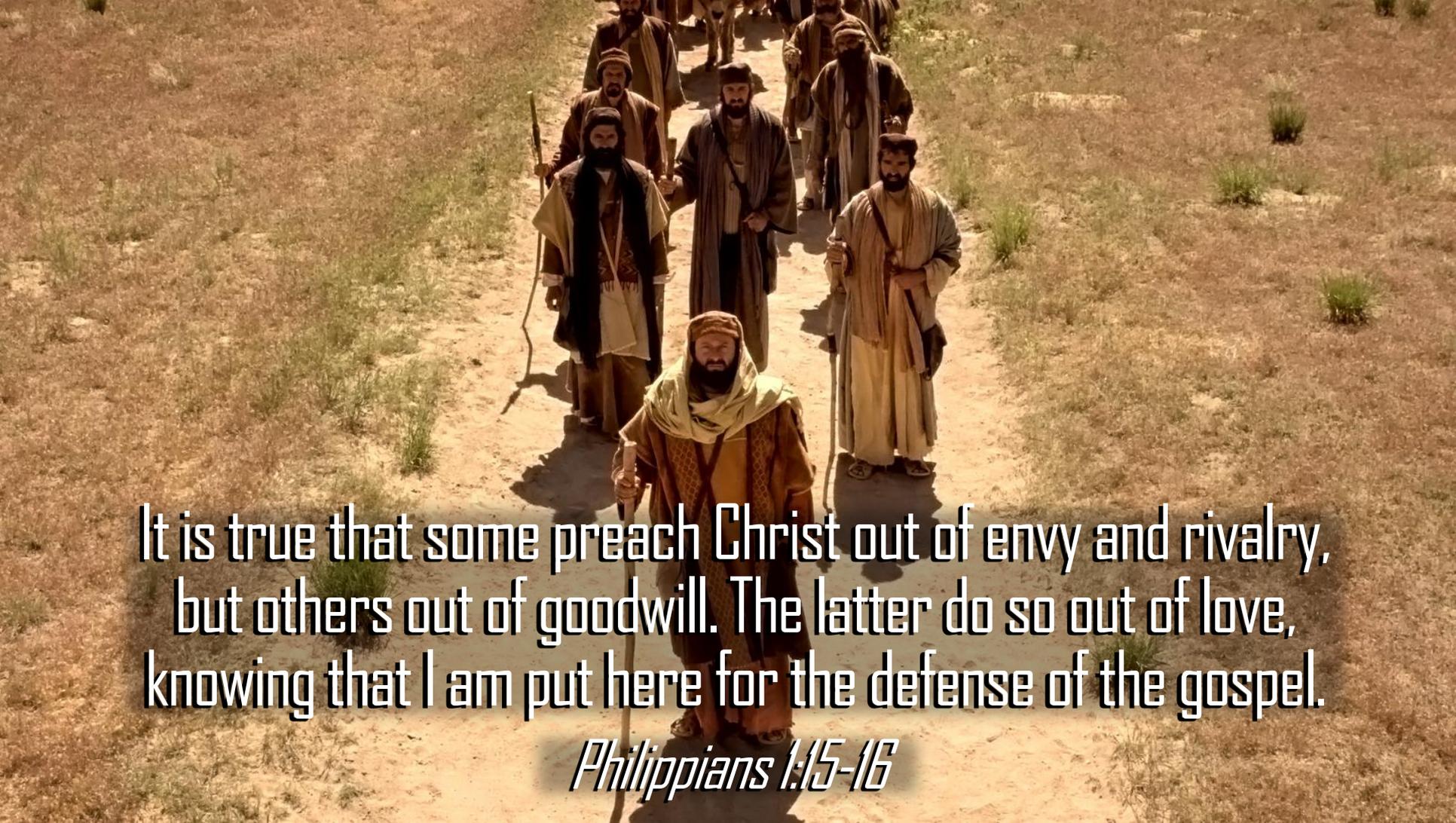
Foreword by David Kinnaman
Author of *unChristian*

APOLOGETICS
FOR A
New Generation

A BIBLICAL &
CULTURALLY
RELEVANT
APPROACH
TO TALKING
ABOUT GOD

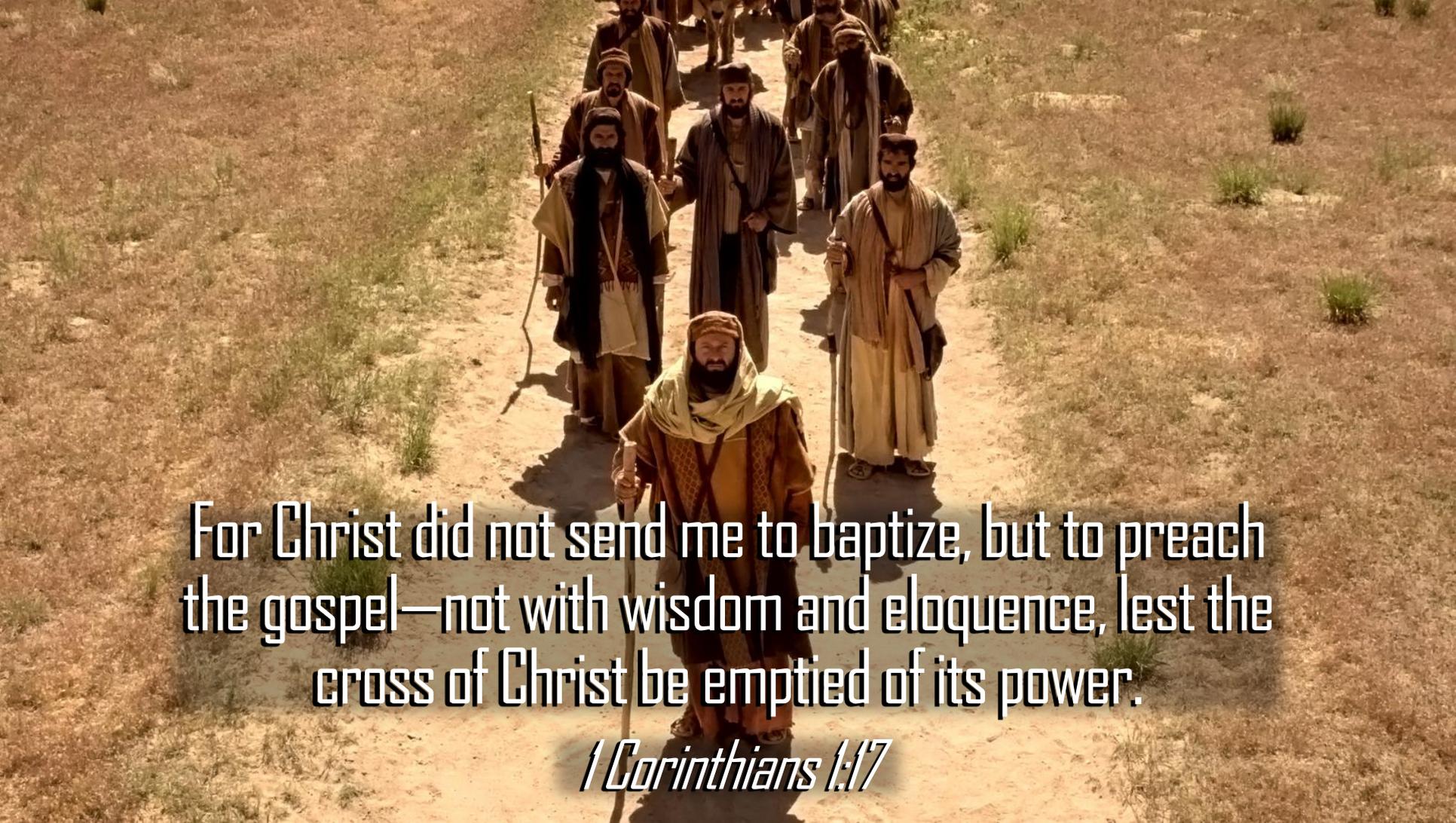
Sean
McDowell
GENERAL EDITOR



A group of men in traditional Middle Eastern attire, including long robes and head coverings, are walking along a dirt path in a dry, hilly landscape. The men are dressed in various shades of brown, tan, and beige. Some are holding walking sticks. The path is flanked by sparse, dry vegetation and small green plants. The overall scene suggests a journey or pilgrimage in a rural, arid setting.

It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry,
but others out of goodwill. The latter do so out of love,
knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.

Philippians 1:15-16

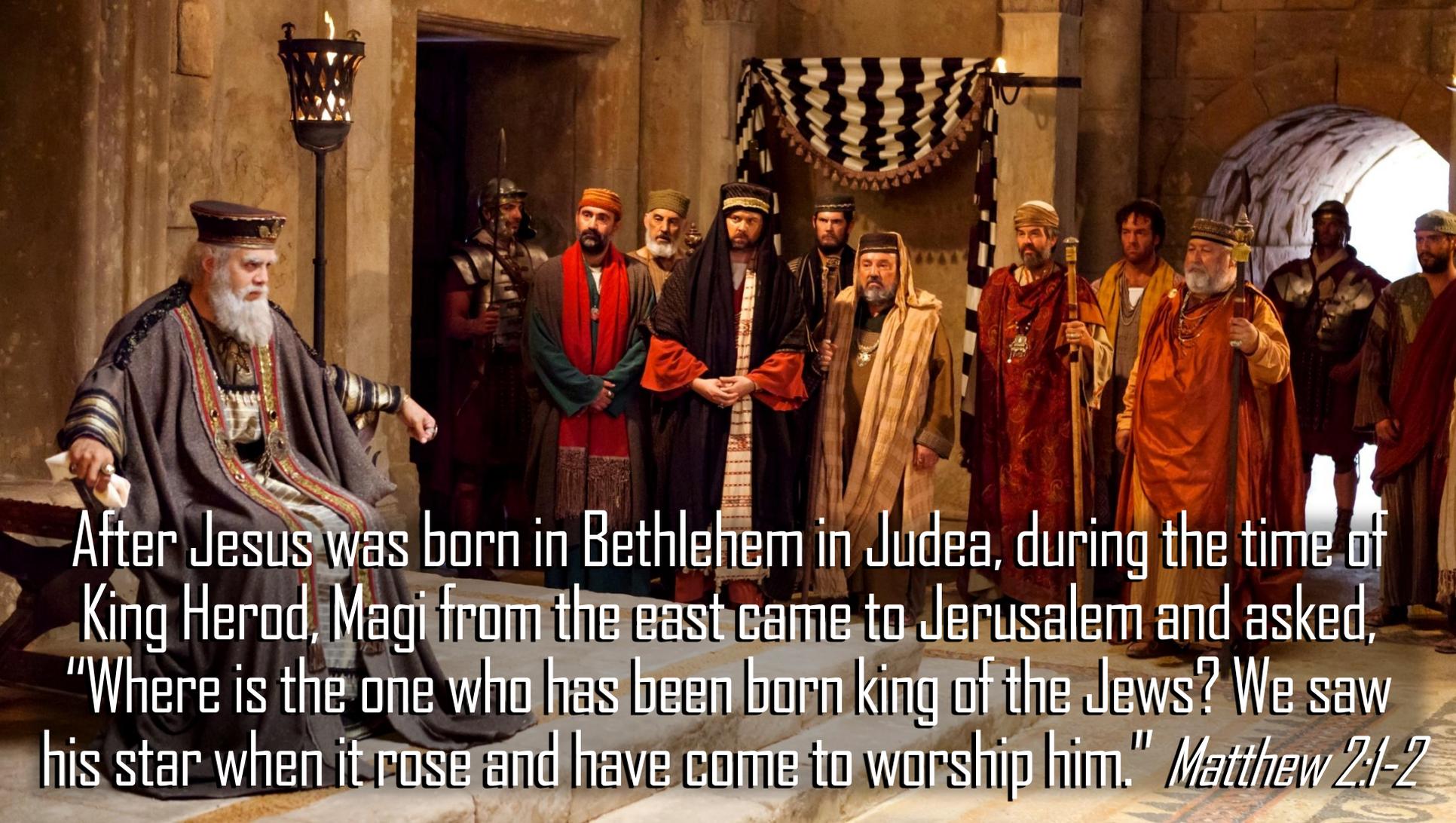
A group of men in traditional Middle Eastern attire, including long robes and head coverings, are walking along a dirt path in a dry, hilly landscape. The men are dressed in earthy tones like brown, tan, and beige. Some are holding staffs or walking sticks. The terrain is arid with sparse, dry vegetation. The scene is captured from a high angle, looking down the path.

For Christ did not send me to baptize, but to preach
the gospel—not with wisdom and eloquence, lest the
cross of Christ be emptied of its power.

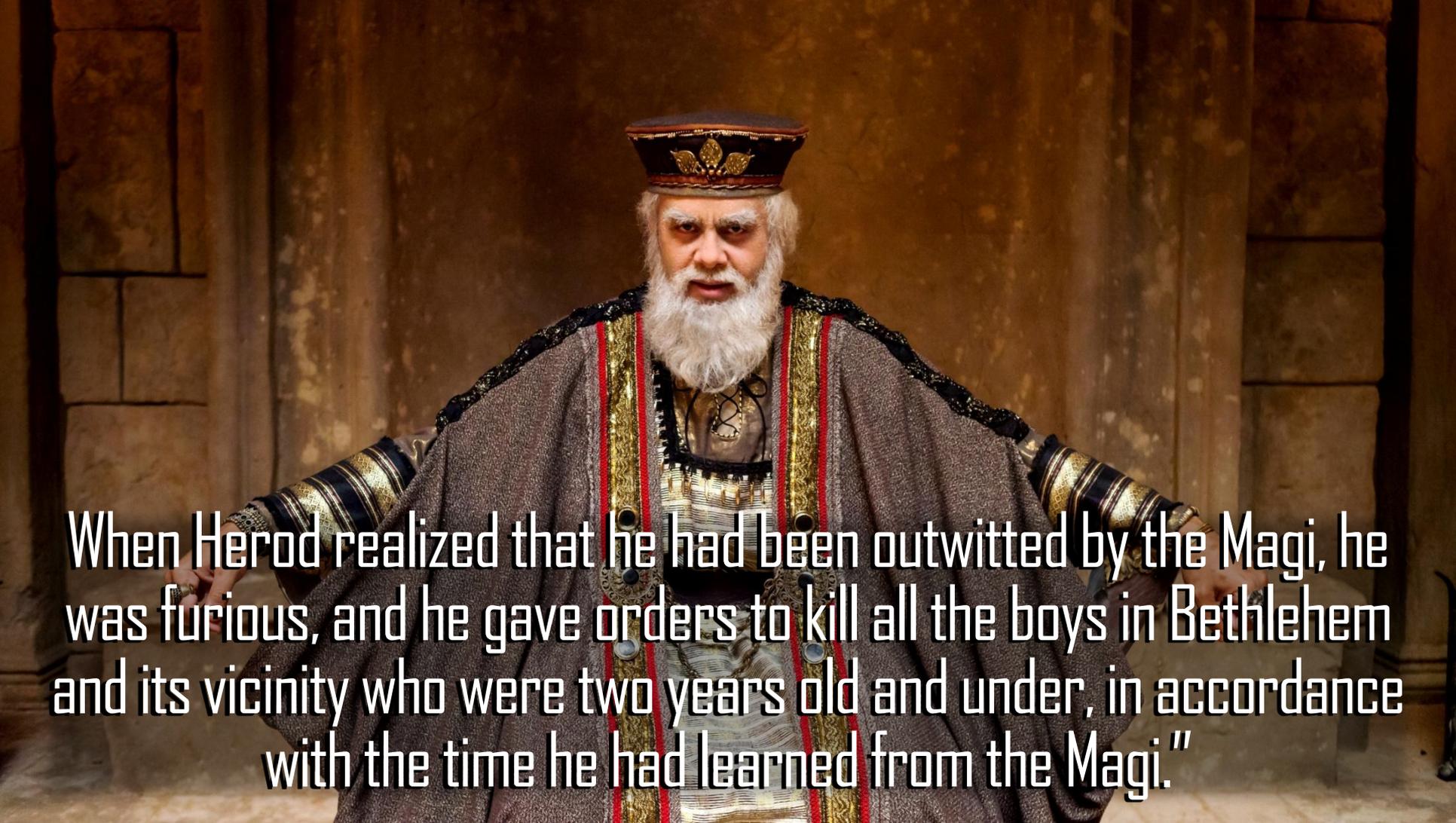
1 Corinthians 1:17



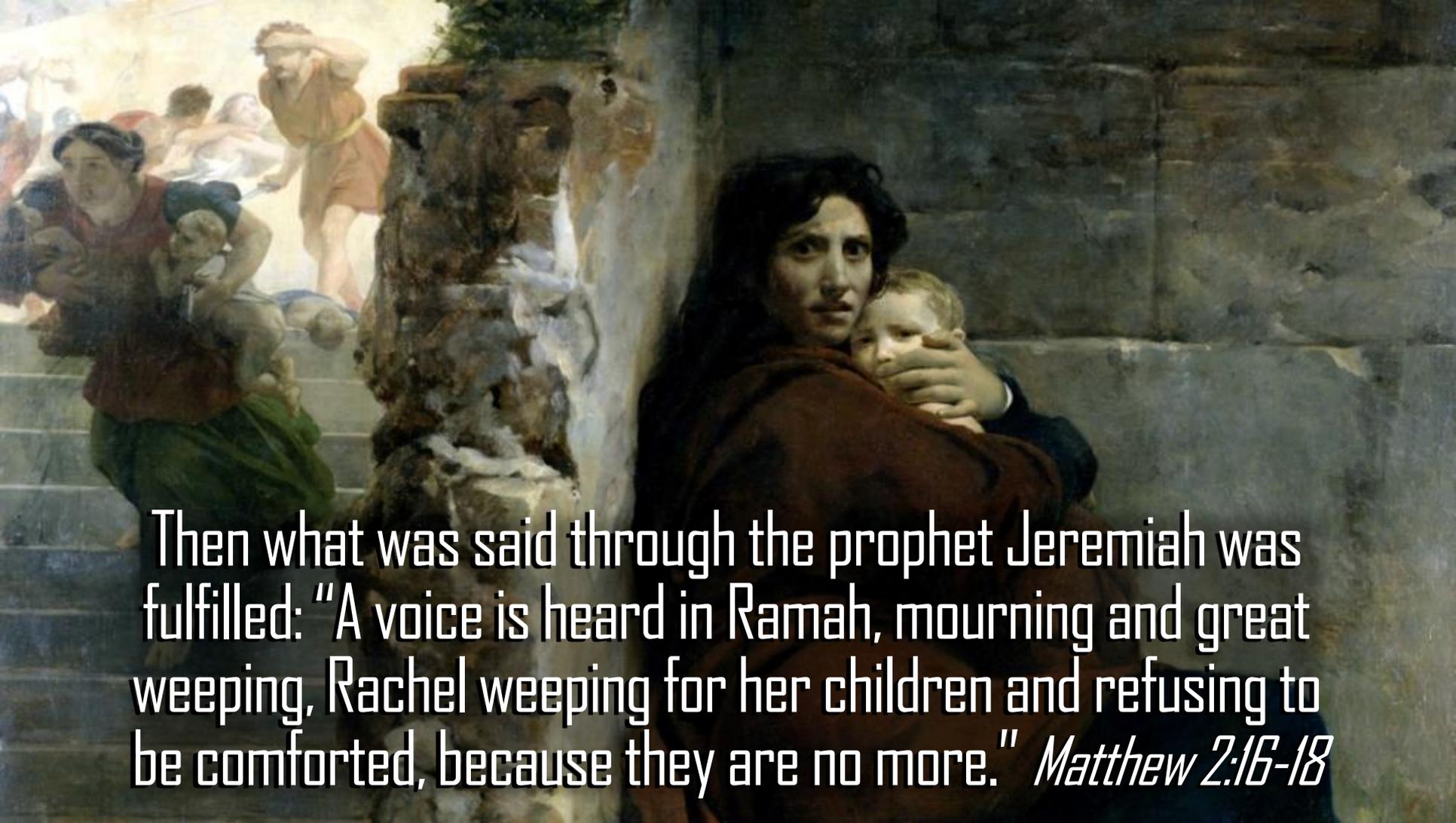
This is what the Lord says: "A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." *Jeremiah 31:15*



After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, "Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." *Matthew 2:1-2*



When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi."



Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: "A voice is heard in Ramah, mourning and great weeping, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." *Matthew 2:16-18*

Mediterranean Sea



Sea Of Galilee

WESTBANK

Ramah

Jerusalem

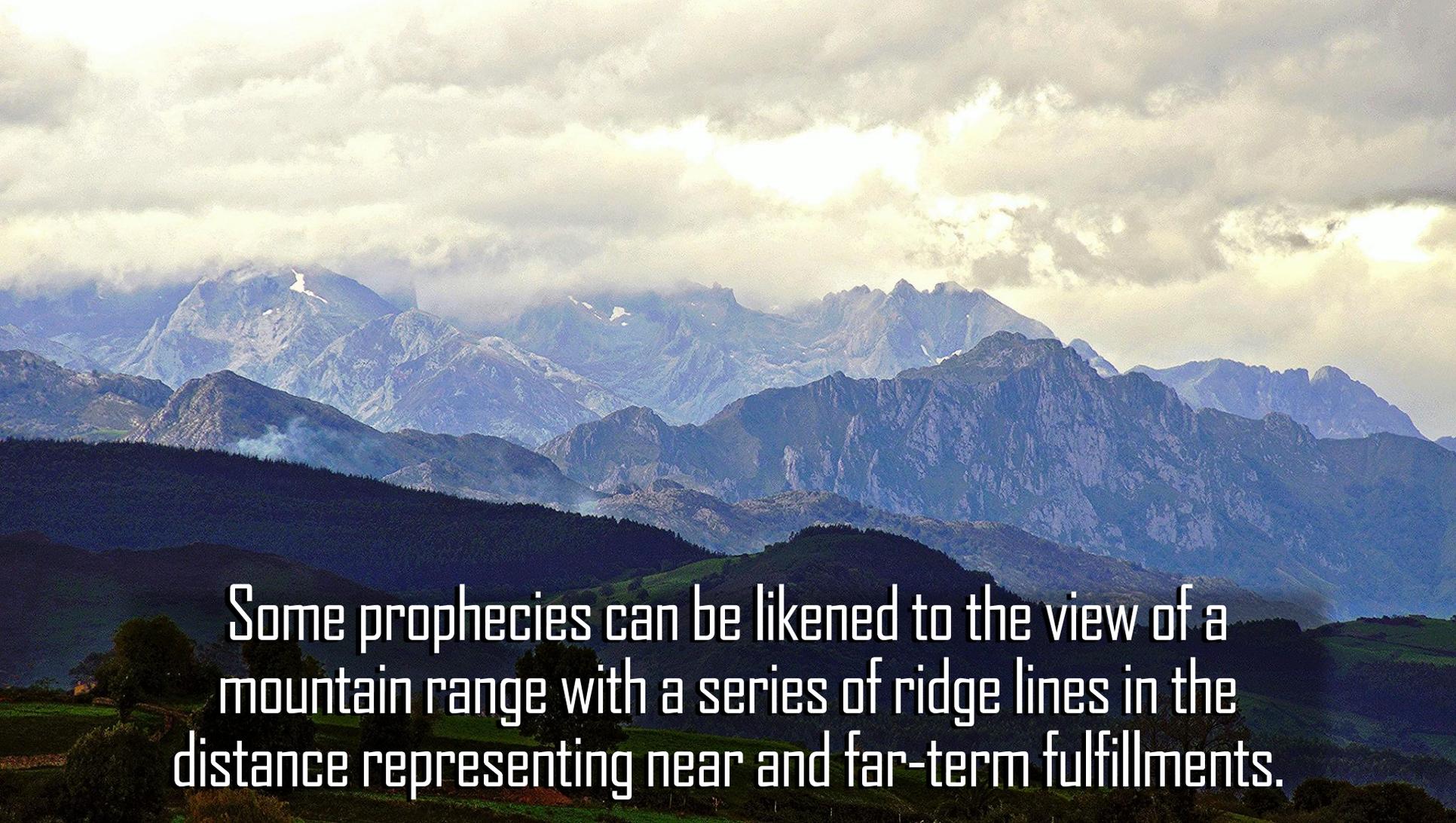
Bethlehem

Babylon →

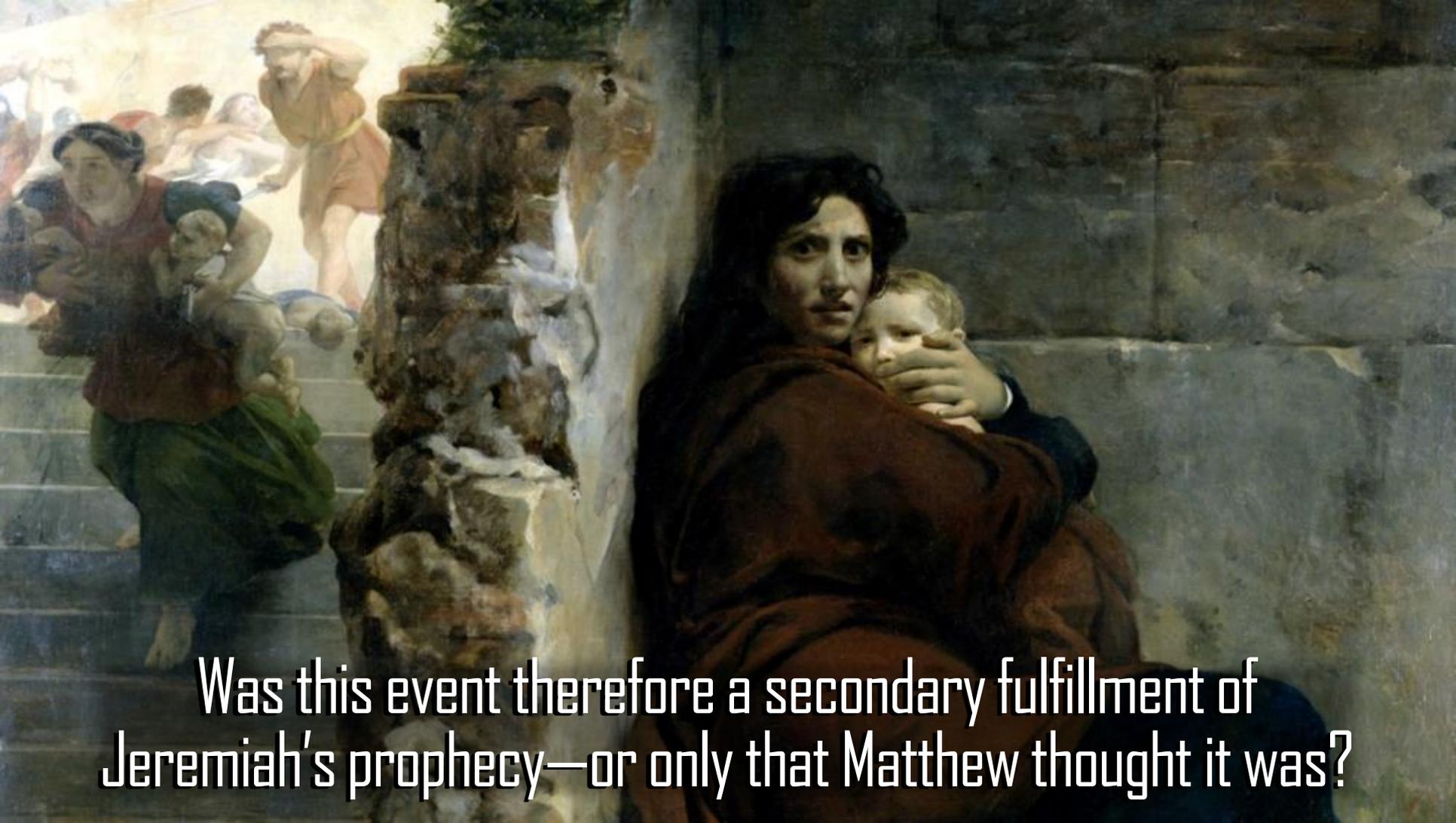
Dead Sea



Daniel Interpreting Nebuchadnezzar's Dream



Some prophecies can be likened to the view of a mountain range with a series of ridge lines in the distance representing near and far-term fulfillments.



Was this event therefore a secondary fulfillment of Jeremiah's prophecy—or only that Matthew thought it was?

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page 23

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KIDS & TEENS / FAITH



On Oct. 5, thousands of students from across the country will celebrate religious freedom and share God's truth and hope by bringing their Bibles to school and talking about this book with their friends! Be a part of this nationwide, student-led movement! Visit BringYourBible.org

equipping kids to defend the bible

Answers to some of the most common questions about God's Word

WITH ERIC METAXAS

IN 2014, Florida father Paul Rubeo got a troubling voicemail from his son's fifth-grade teacher: "I noticed that he has a book—a religious book," the teacher said. "He's not permitted to read those books in my classroom."

That book was the Bible. Paul's son, Giovanni, told his dad that the teacher saw him reading his Bible during a free reading time and

ordered the boy to put it on her desk.

Paul contacted the school, and after discussions with lawyers, school administrators eventually relented, apologizing for the teacher's actions and formally updating school policy to affirm that students can read Bibles during open reading times.

But Giovanni isn't the first young person to experience hostility toward the Bible at school. Nor will he be the last. Even when reading Scripture isn't outright banned, it is not uncommon for the Bible to be ridiculed by teachers and other students.

As parents, how can we help our children remain confident in the Bible? We need to explain to them the reasons why we know the Bible is accurate, reliable and relevant. And we need to prepare them to respond to the questions and uninformed criticisms they may encounter.

Author and speaker Eric Metaxas has written several books on the

impact of the Christian faith and the Bible throughout history. In his book, *Everything You Always Wanted to Know About God (But Were Afraid to Ask)*, he engages in a Q&A with a skeptic. Here, he responds to common objections that students may hear concerning the Bible.

Q: ISN'T THE BIBLE JUST ONE OF MANY GREAT RELIGIOUS BOOKS? CAN'T THEY ALL BE TRUE?

A: Not according to the Bible itself. The Bible says that it alone is the sacred Word of God. That claim is either true or untrue. Other religious texts do have some wisdom to impart, but on the question of truth, you do ultimately have to choose between the Bible and the others. Logic demands it.

God himself says you have to choose. He emphatically says that we can't have it both ways. He doesn't



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**Isn't the Bible just one of many great religious books?
Can't they all be true?**



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Answers to some of the most common questions about God's Word

The Bible is so old. No one has original copies. Couldn't they have been changed over time?



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Answers to some of the most common questions about God's Word

Isn't it true that people wrote the Bible, not God?



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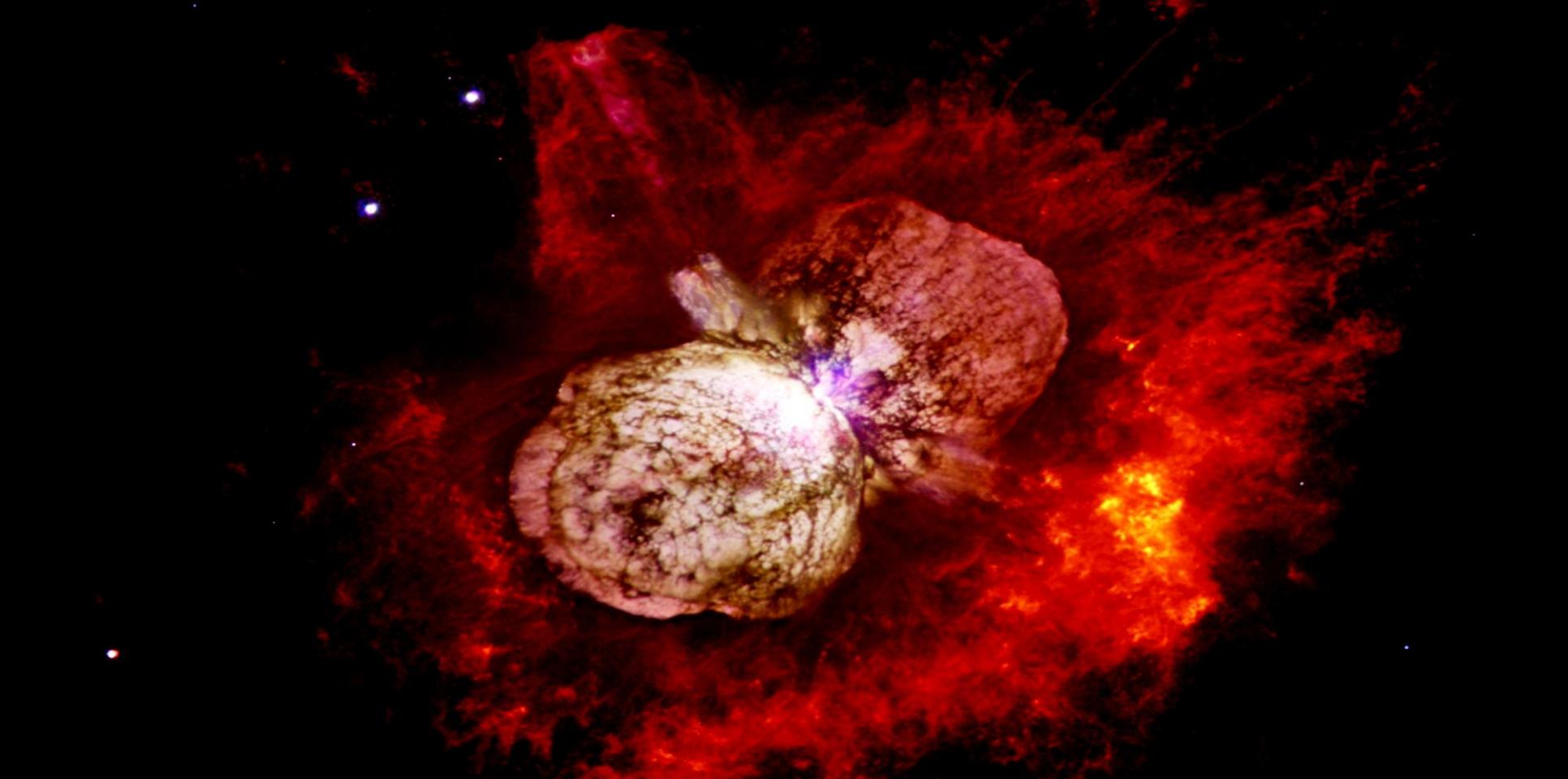
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Answers to some of the most common questions about God's Word

And, where did everything come from?



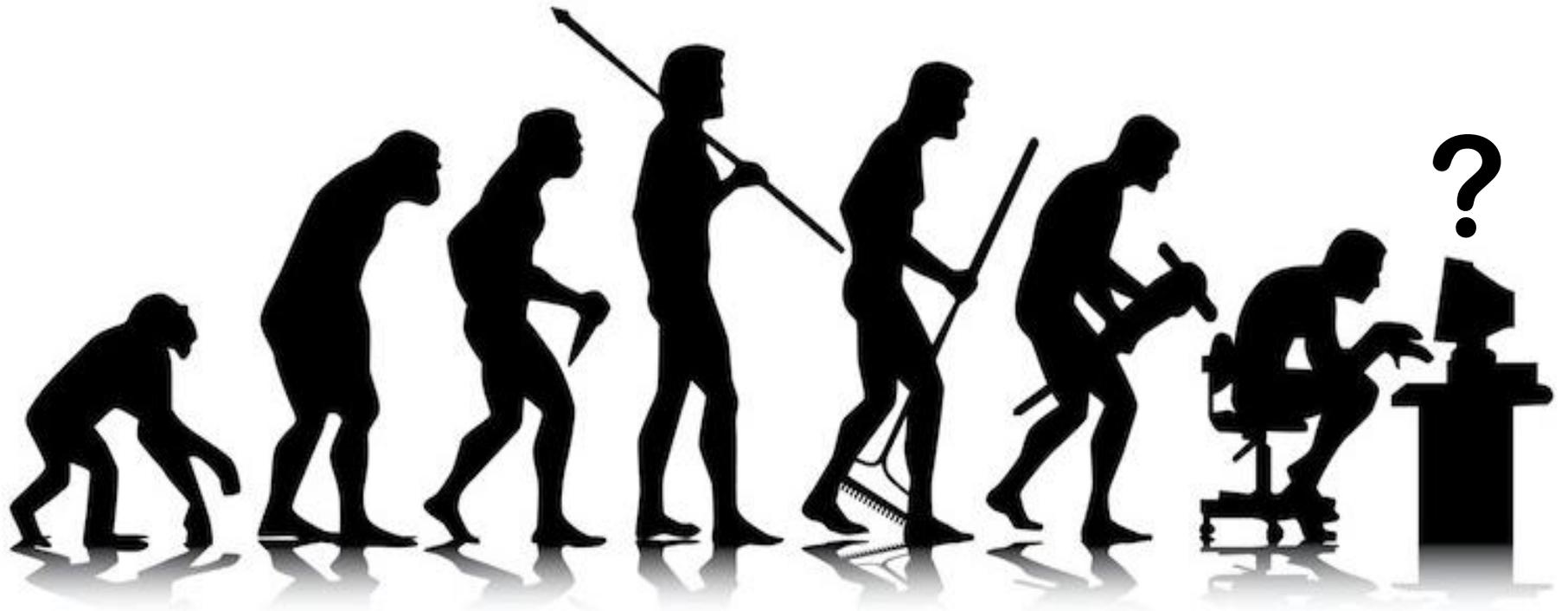
In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth?



In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth?



And God created man in his own image, in the image of
God he created him, male and female he created them?



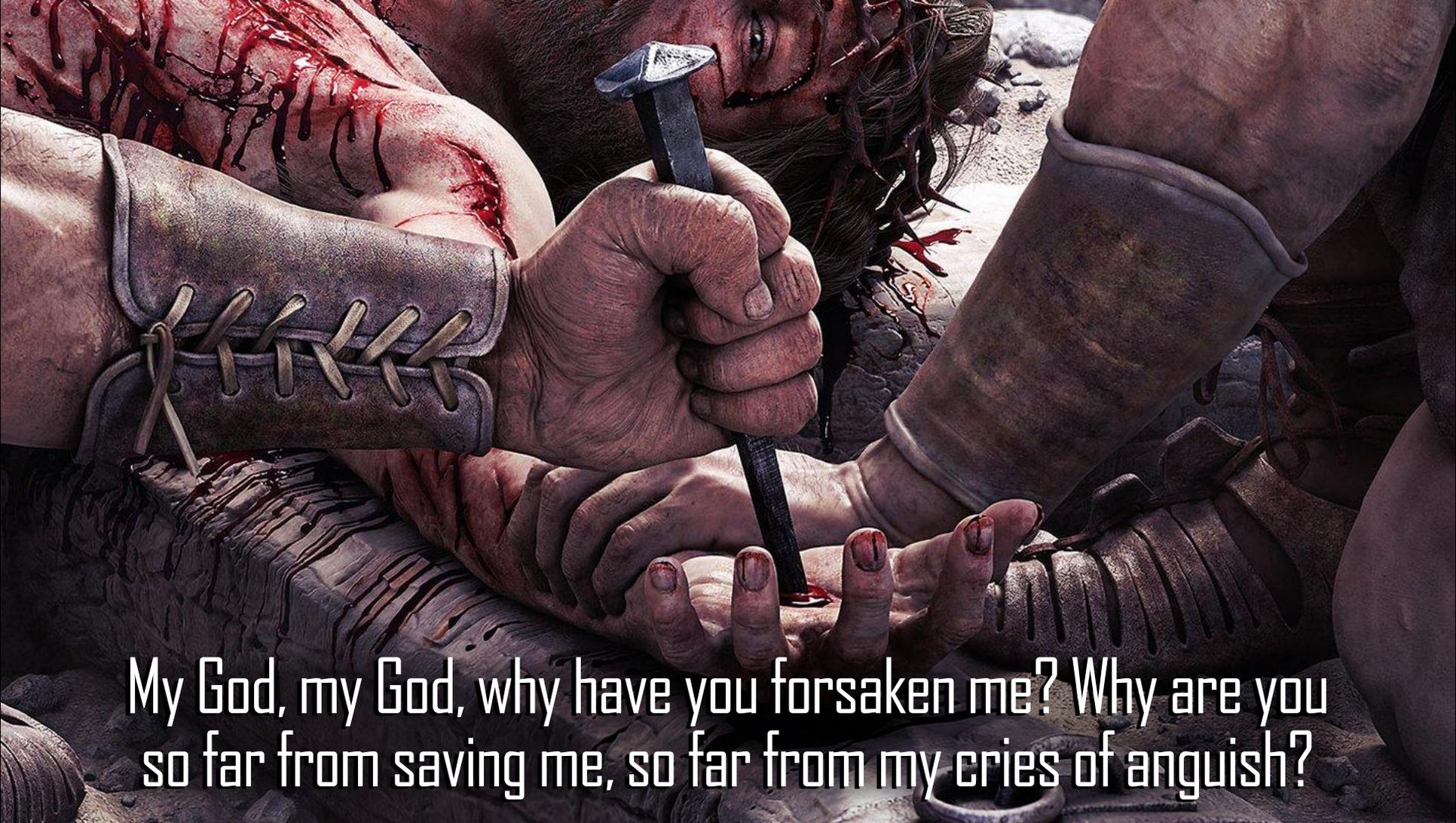
And God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them?

WHO
WROTE THE
BIBLE
GOD @ OR HUMANS





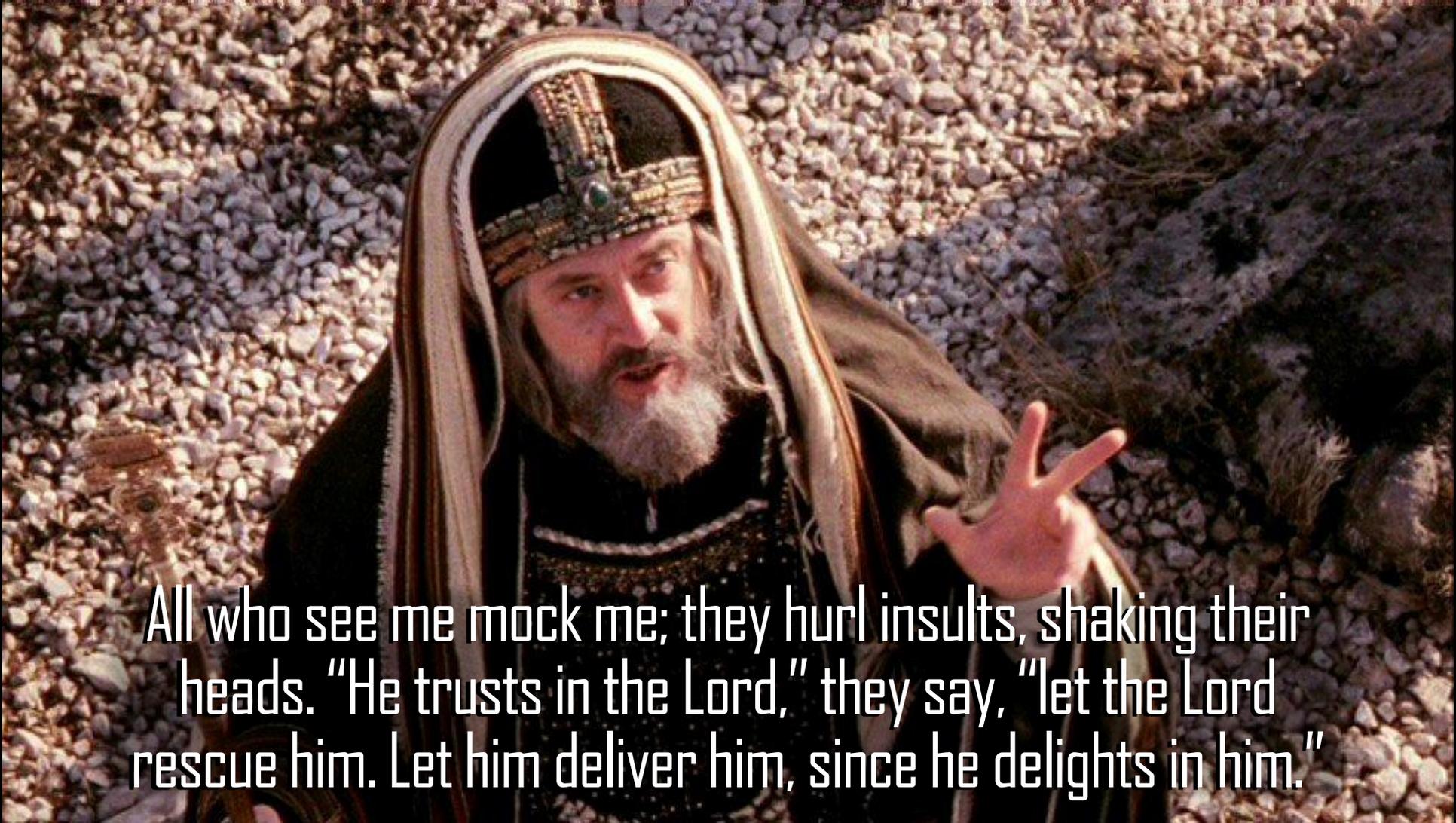
My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you
so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?



My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you
so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish?



Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me;
they pierce my hands and my feet. All my bones
are on display; people stare and gloat over me.

A man with a long white beard and hair, wearing a dark robe and a gold crown with a green gemstone, is shown from the chest up. He is looking slightly to the right and has his right hand raised in a gesture with three fingers extended. The background is a rocky, gravelly ground.

All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads. "He trusts in the Lord," they say, "let the Lord rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him."



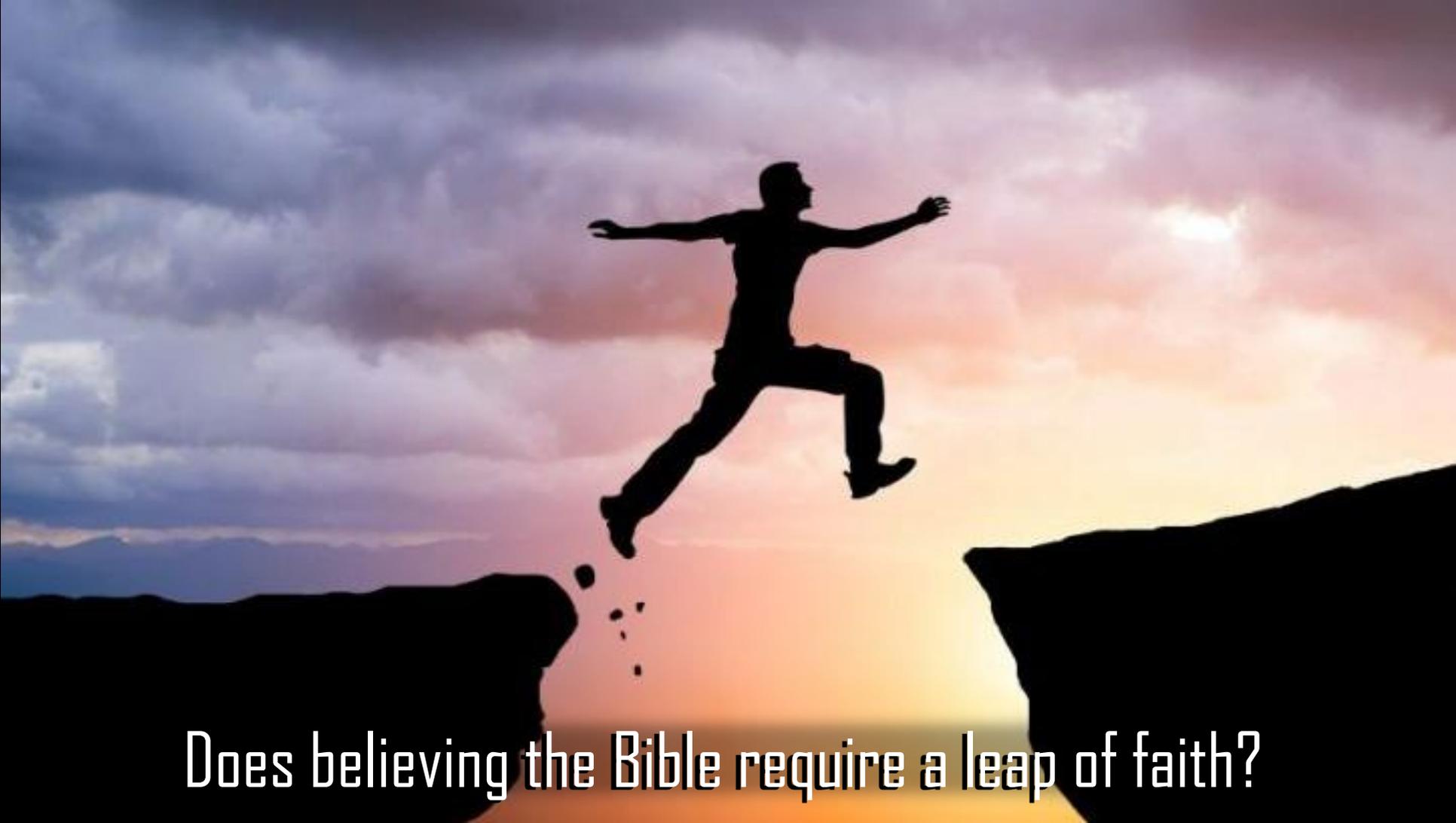
They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment.



Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord. They will proclaim his righteousness, declaring to a people yet unborn: He has done it!

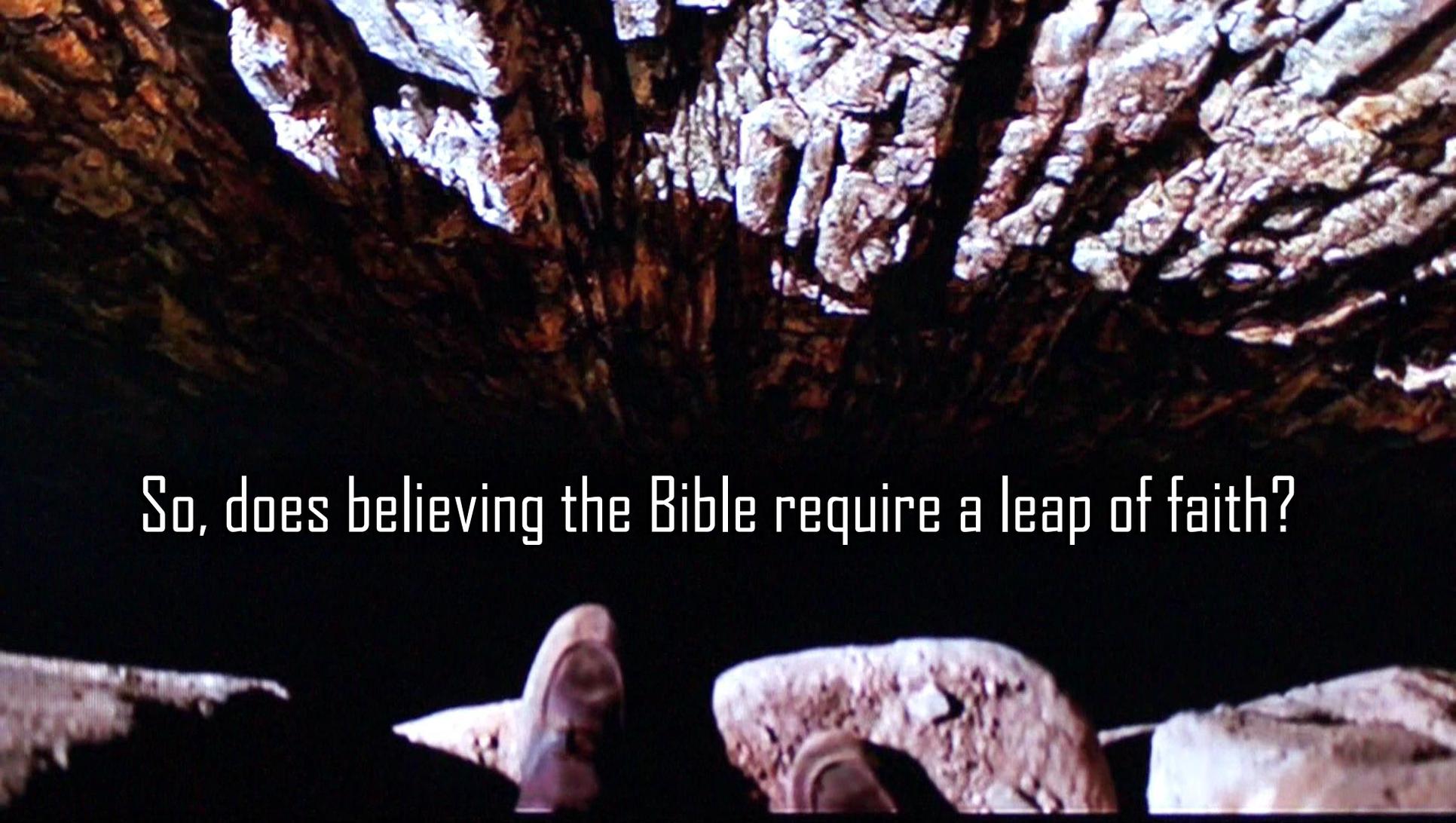
A scroll of aged parchment is unrolled across the center of the frame. In the middle of the scroll, a small, lit oil lamp with a bright flame casts a warm, golden light. The scroll is flanked by two rolled-up sections of parchment. The background is dark and textured, possibly a wooden surface. The overall mood is one of ancient wisdom and illumination.

Psalms 22

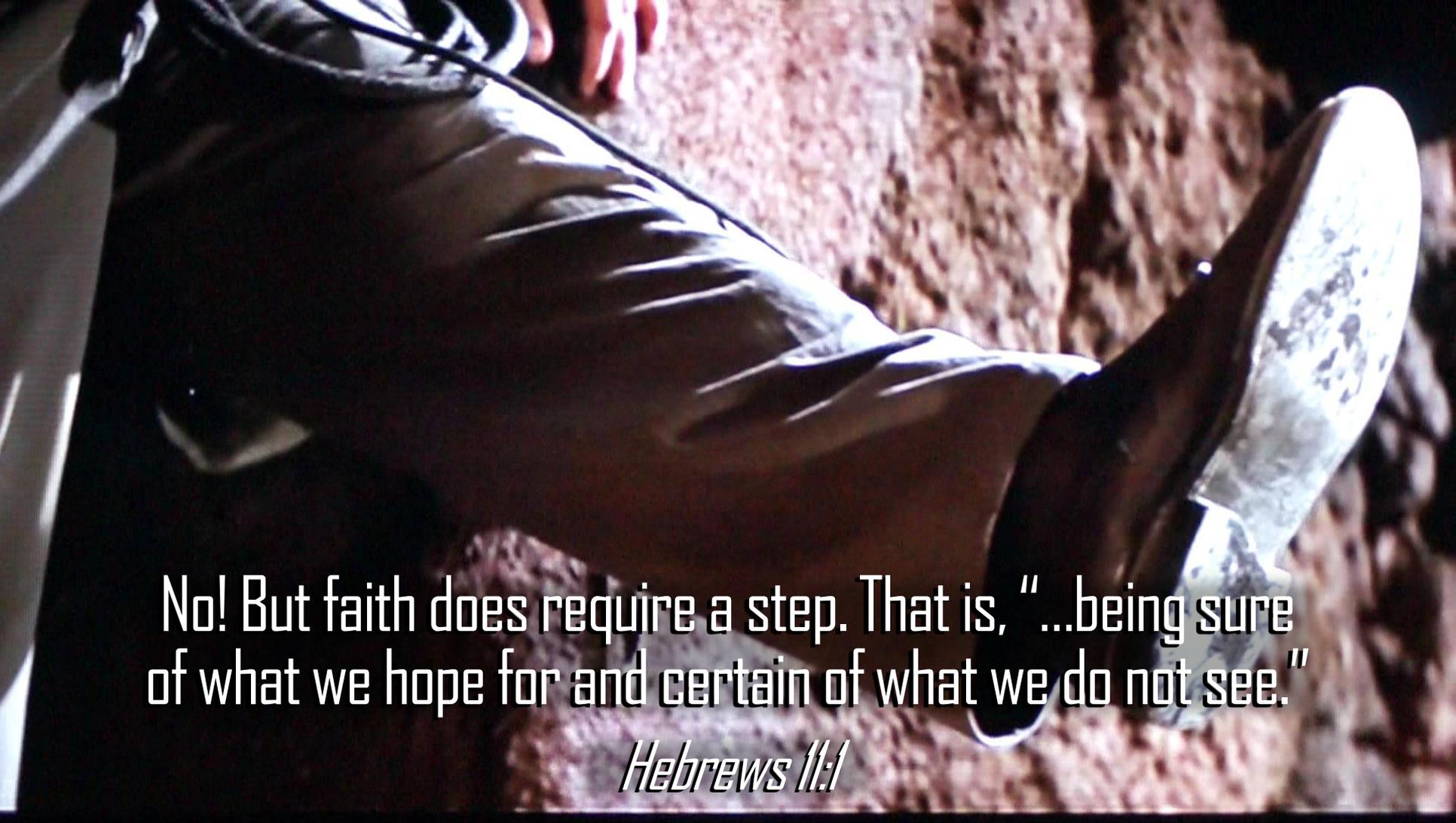


Does believing the Bible require a leap of faith?



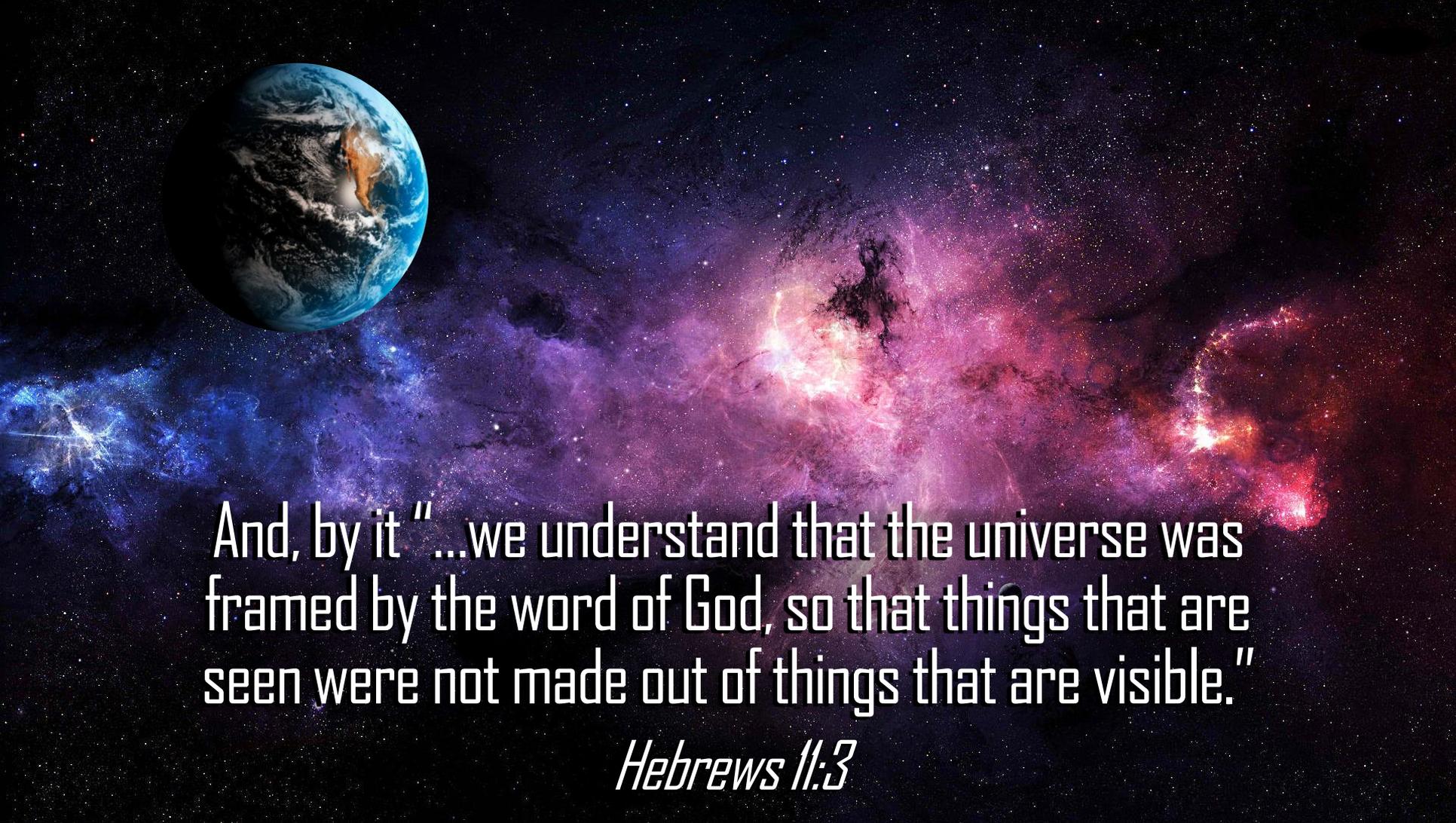


So, does believing the Bible require a leap of faith?



No! But faith does require a step. That is, "...being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see."

Hebrews 11:1

A composite image of Earth and a colorful nebula in space. The Earth is shown in the upper left corner, with blue oceans, white clouds, and brown landmasses. The rest of the image is filled with a vibrant nebula, featuring a mix of purple, pink, red, and orange hues, with bright star clusters and glowing regions. The background is a dark, star-filled space.

And, by it "...we understand that the universe was framed by the word of God, so that things that are seen were not made out of things that are visible."

Hebrews 11:3



Be wise in the way you act toward outsiders; make the most of every opportunity. Let your conversation be always full of grace, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how to answer everyone.

Colossians 4:5-6



But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

1 Peter 3:15



**apologetics: no apologies,
but it begins in
the church!**