

# WHEN THE HEAT IS ON

— The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12 —





# THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY FOR ALL PEOPLE





**"What? Am I not allowed  
to have my own beliefs?"**

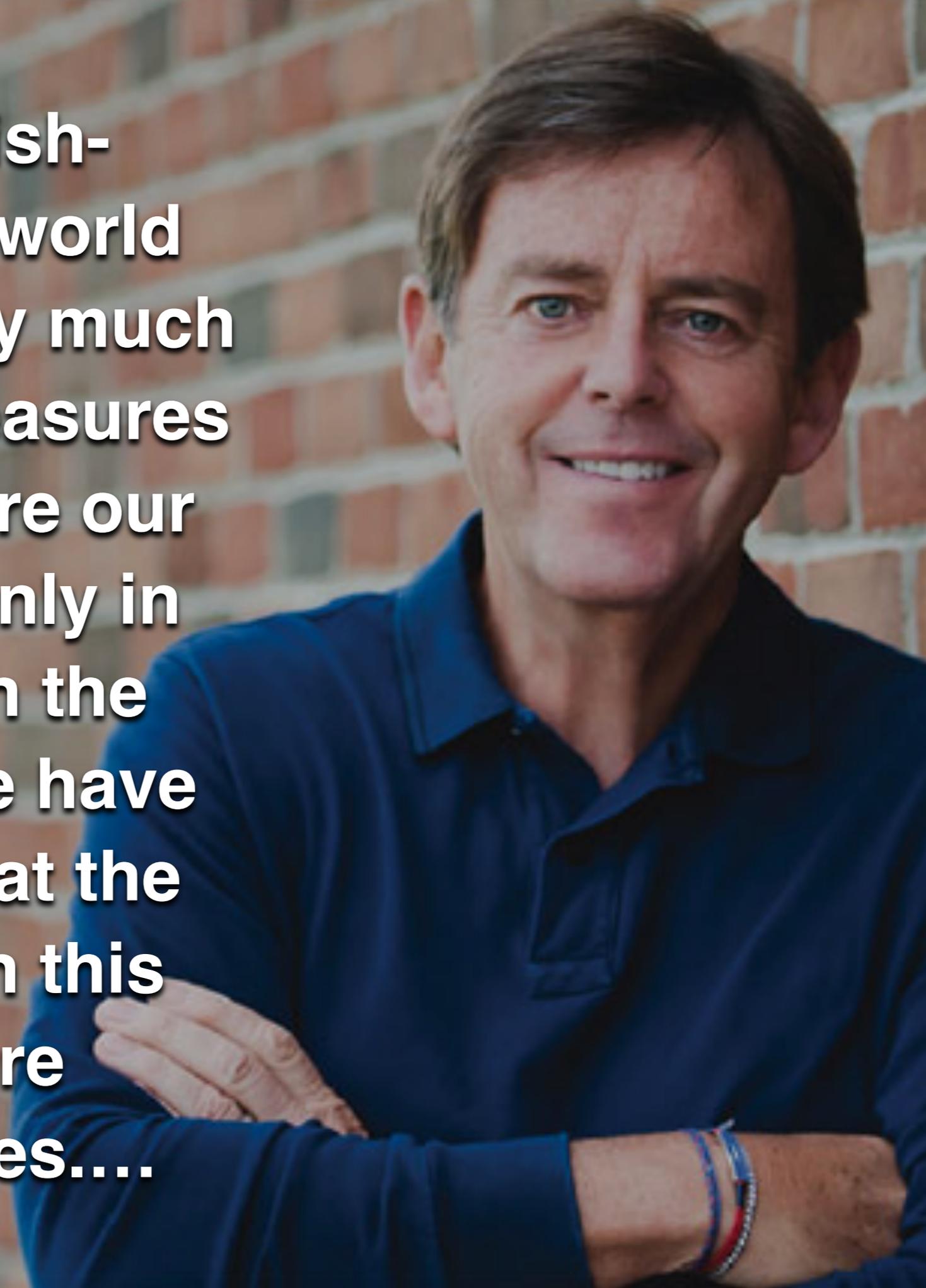
— Shelby —



**“Not those ones.”**

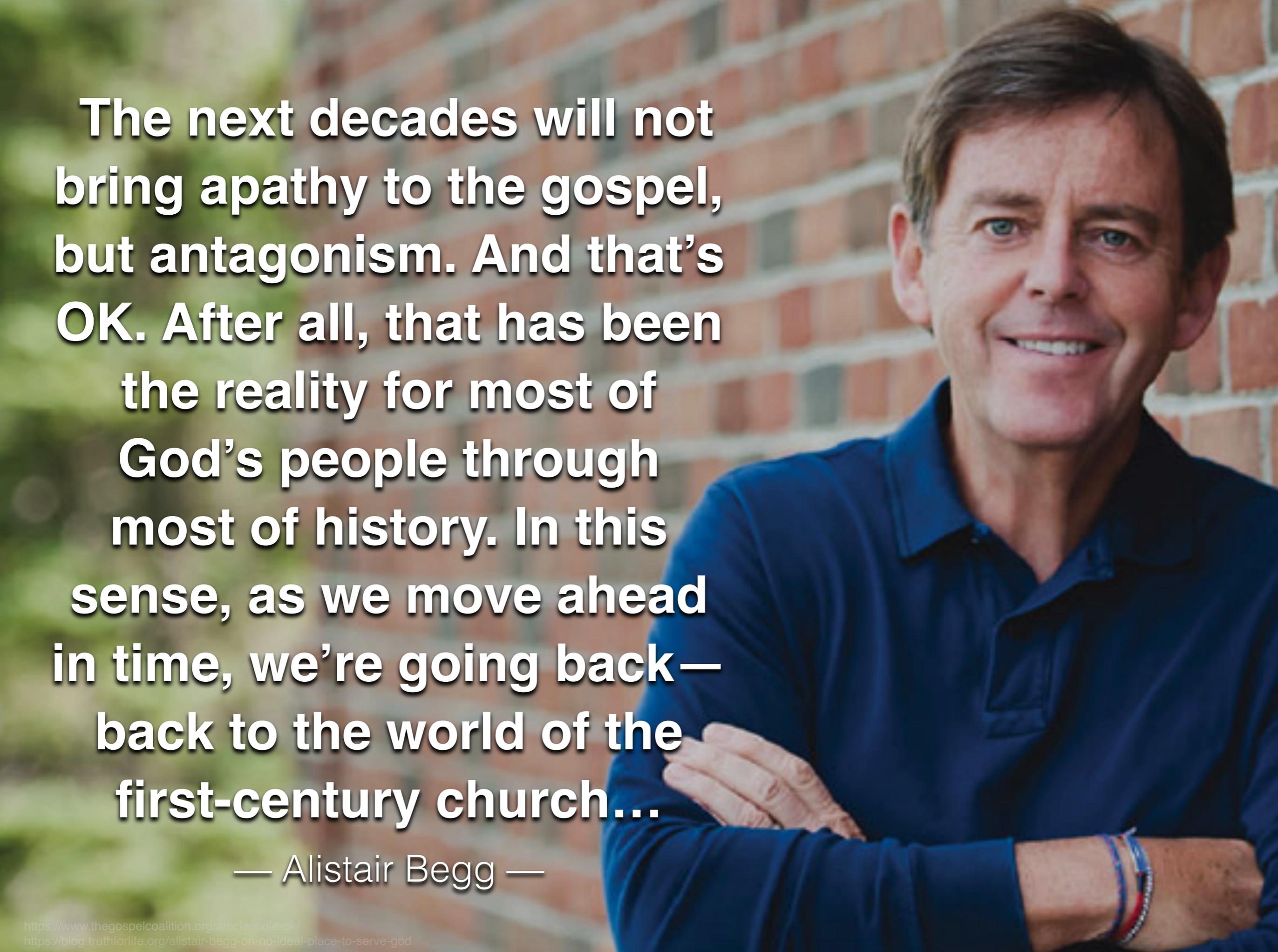
— Dot —

**For us in the English-speaking West, this world has tended to feel very much like home, and our treasures have been right before our eyes. Perhaps it is only in the last few years in the United States that we have finally faced that what the Bible says is true: in this world we really are sojourners and exiles....**



A man with short brown hair and a slight smile, wearing a blue polo shirt, stands in front of a brick wall. He has his arms crossed and is wearing a red, white, and blue beaded bracelet on his left wrist. The background is a blurred brick wall with some greenery on the left side.

**That reality has been clouded and obscured by the size and legal protection of the church in most of the Western world. But this world is not actually our home... Christians are increasingly going to be seen as different, and not in a good way. We are increasingly going to have to choose between obedience and comfort.**



**The next decades will not bring apathy to the gospel, but antagonism. And that's OK. After all, that has been the reality for most of God's people through most of history. In this sense, as we move ahead in time, we're going back—back to the world of the first-century church...**

— Alistair Begg —



**People have often thought Christianity was a bit quaint, you know? “There, there — you’ve got your little faith-kind-of thing.” But increasingly, what we’re seeing in a more secular context is people actually saying to us, “Your faith is a danger to society.” And that’s a new space for us.**



**We're used to being looked down on and slightly patronized. I don't think we're used to feeling like we are the enemy. People used to say, "I don't like Christianity because it's too moral." Now, they're saying, "I don't like Christianity because it's too immoral."**



“ ”

**Christianity  
is definitely  
extremely  
dangerous,  
even in small  
doses.**

Aron Ra, Regional Director  
American Atheists

**What if what  
I believe about  
Jesus costs  
me everything**



# WHEN THE HEAT IS ON

— The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12 —





## **Remember the Context**

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**Jesus is preparing  
His disciples for the  
high cost they're going  
to pay for following Him &  
proclaiming His Gospel**

“

**I tell you, my friends, do not  
fear those who kill the body,  
and after that have nothing  
more that they can do.**

Jesus of Nazareth  
The Gospel of Luke 12:4

”

## The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12

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**8 And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges me before men, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, 9 but the one who denies me before men will be denied before the angels of God.**

## The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12

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8 And I tell you, everyone who acknowledges **me** before men, **the Son of Man** also will acknowledge before the angels of God, 9 but the one who denies **me** before men will be denied before the angels of God.

...behold, with the  
clouds of heaven  
there came one  
like a **Son of Man,**  
and He came to the  
Ancient of Days  
and was presented  
before Him.



**And to Him was  
given dominion  
and glory and  
a kingdom,  
that all peoples,  
nations, and  
languages  
should serve Him;**



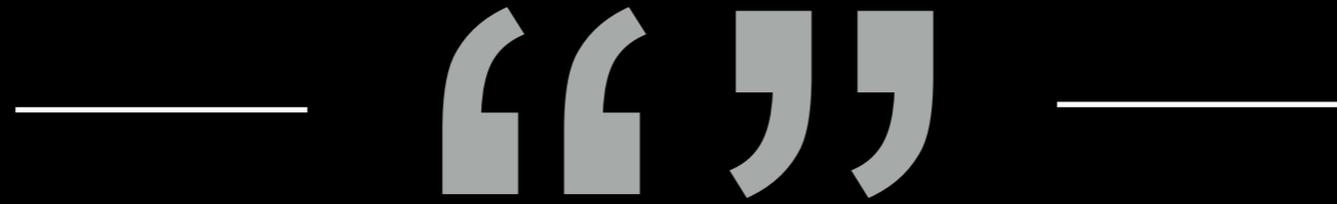
**His dominion is  
an everlasting  
dominion which  
shall not pass away,  
and His kingdom  
one that shall not  
be destroyed.**

**— Daniel 7 —**



When we hear Jesus claim  
the title of **the Son of Man** over and over,  
we need to hear Jesus saying...

**I am that figure of Daniel 7.  
I am the world's true Lord and King.  
To me is given dominion and glory  
and God's kingdom which shall  
never be destroyed.**



**All authority in heaven  
and on earth has been  
given to me.**

**Jesus of Nazareth**

— The Gospel of Matthew 28:18 —

**...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved.**

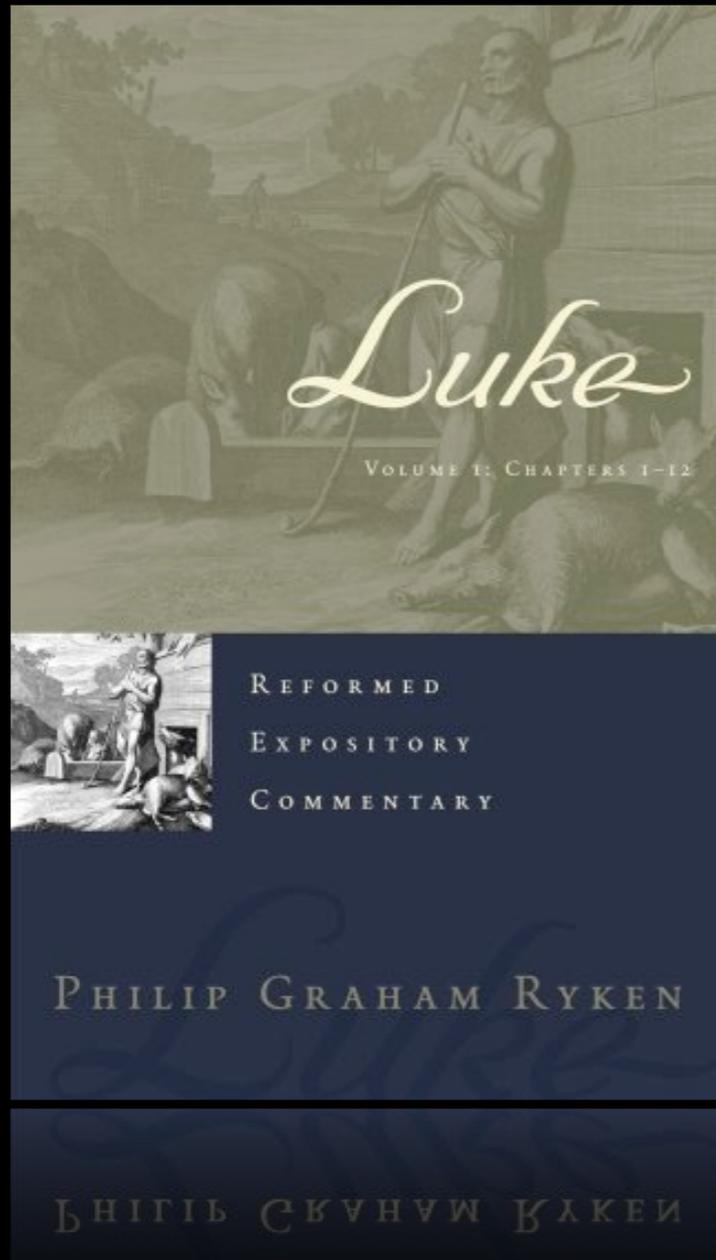


The Apostle Paul  
Romans 10

**For the Scripture says,  
“Everyone who believes  
in him will not be put to  
shame.” For there is no  
distinction between Jew  
and Greek; for the same  
Lord is Lord of all,  
bestowing his riches on  
all who call on him. For  
“everyone who calls on  
the name of the Lord  
will be saved.”**



**The Apostle Paul  
Romans 10:9-13**



**To acknowledge  
Jesus before men is  
to be open and  
honest about our  
total life-commitment  
to him as our Saviour  
and Lord.**



Lesslie Newbigin  
(1909-1998)

**I am—in Pascal’s  
famous phrase—  
wagering my life on  
the faith that Jesus  
is the ultimate  
authority. My answer  
is a confession:  
I believe....**



Lesslie Newbigin  
(1909-1998)

**The Christian  
commitment is  
distinguished in that  
it is a commitment to  
a belief about the  
meaning of the whole  
of human experience  
in its entirety—**



Lesslie Newbigin  
(1909-1998)

**...namely, the belief that this meaning is to be found in the person of Jesus Christ, incarnate, crucified, risen, and destined to reign over all things.**

## The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12

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8 And I tell you, **everyone who acknowledges me before men**, the Son of Man also will acknowledge before the angels of God, 9 but **the one who denies me before men** will be denied before the angels of God.

**When it starts to cost you to follow  
Jesus, the heat tells you what you  
really believe about reality.**



## The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12

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**10 And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.**

## The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12

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10 And everyone who speaks a word  
against the Son of Man will be for-  
given, but the one who blasphemes  
against the Holy Spirit will not be  
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## The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12

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10 And everyone who speaks a word  
against the Son of Man will be for-  
given, but the one who blasphemes  
against the Holy Spirit will not be  
forgiven.



**“Father, forgive them, for they  
know not what they are doing.”**

— Jesus in Luke 23:34 —

## The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12

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10 And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who **blasphemes** against **the Holy Spirit** will not be forgiven.

# What is blasphemy against the Holy Spirit?

**Blasphemy against the Holy Spirit seems to be attributing the work and witness of the Spirit of God in Jesus to Satan.**

**It is to definitively reject Jesus as being in league with the Devil.**

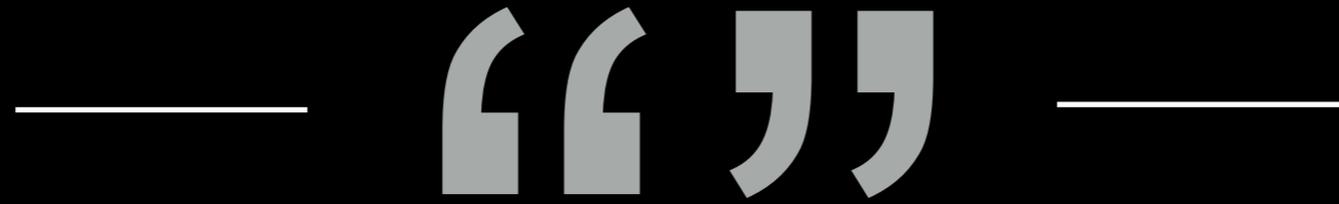
**It is to have such a warped perception of Jesus to insist that He is really satanic.**

*“...guilty of an eternal sin.” - Mark 3:29*

## The Gospel of Luke 12:8-12

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11 And **when** you are brought to trial in the synagogues and before rulers and authorities, don't worry about how to defend yourself or what to say, 12 for **the Holy Spirit** will teach you at that time what needs to be said.



**Remember the word I said  
to you: ‘A servant is not  
greater than his master.’  
If they persecuted me,  
they will also persecute you.**

**Jesus of Nazareth**

— The Gospel of John 15:20 —

**For you have been  
given not only the  
privilege of trusting  
in Christ but also  
the privilege of  
suffering for him.**

**The Apostle Paul**  
— Philippians 1:29 —





**...the Holy Spirit will teach you  
at that time what needs to be said.**

# Important Question

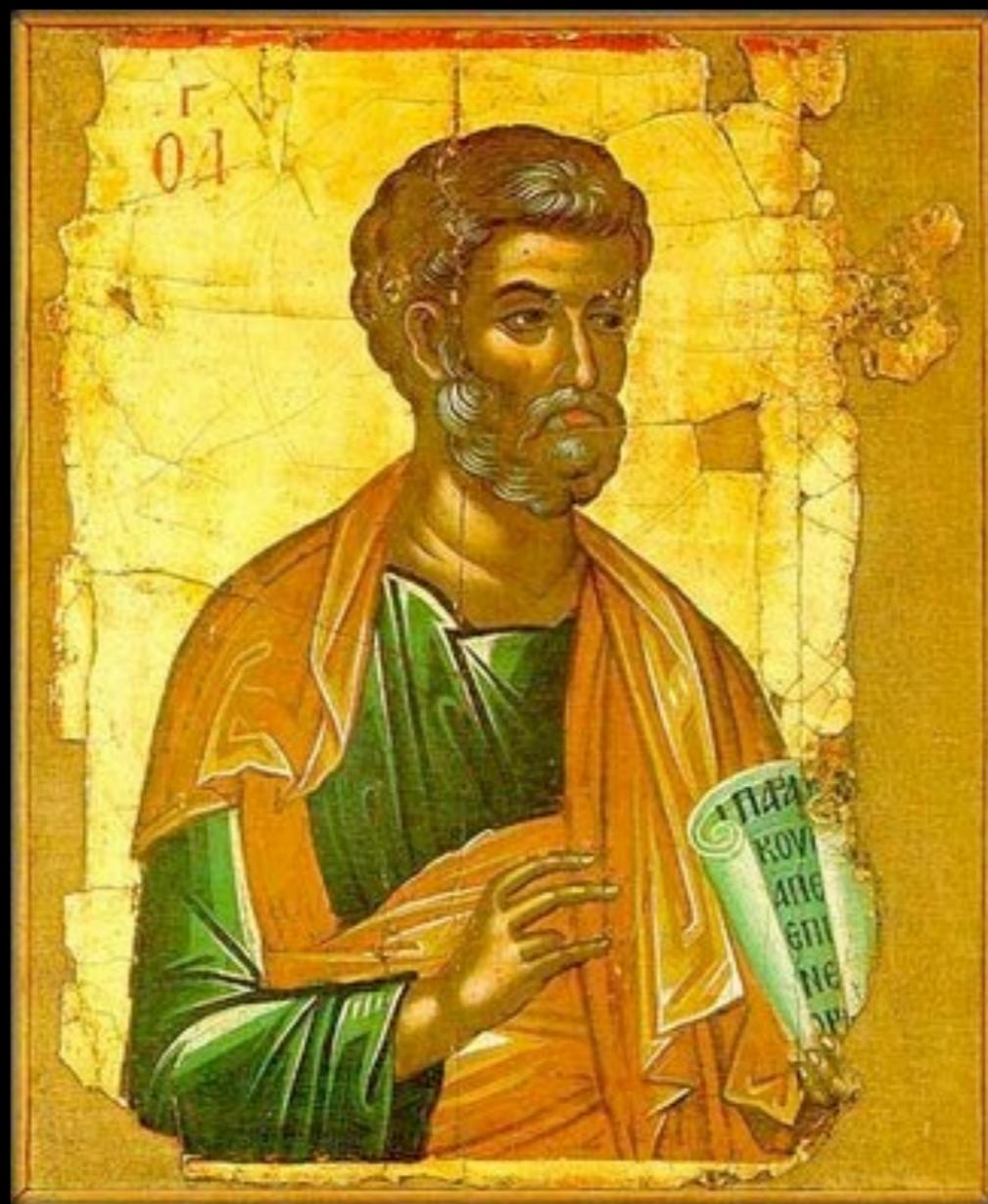
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**Why does Luke record this teaching in his historical biography of Jesus?**

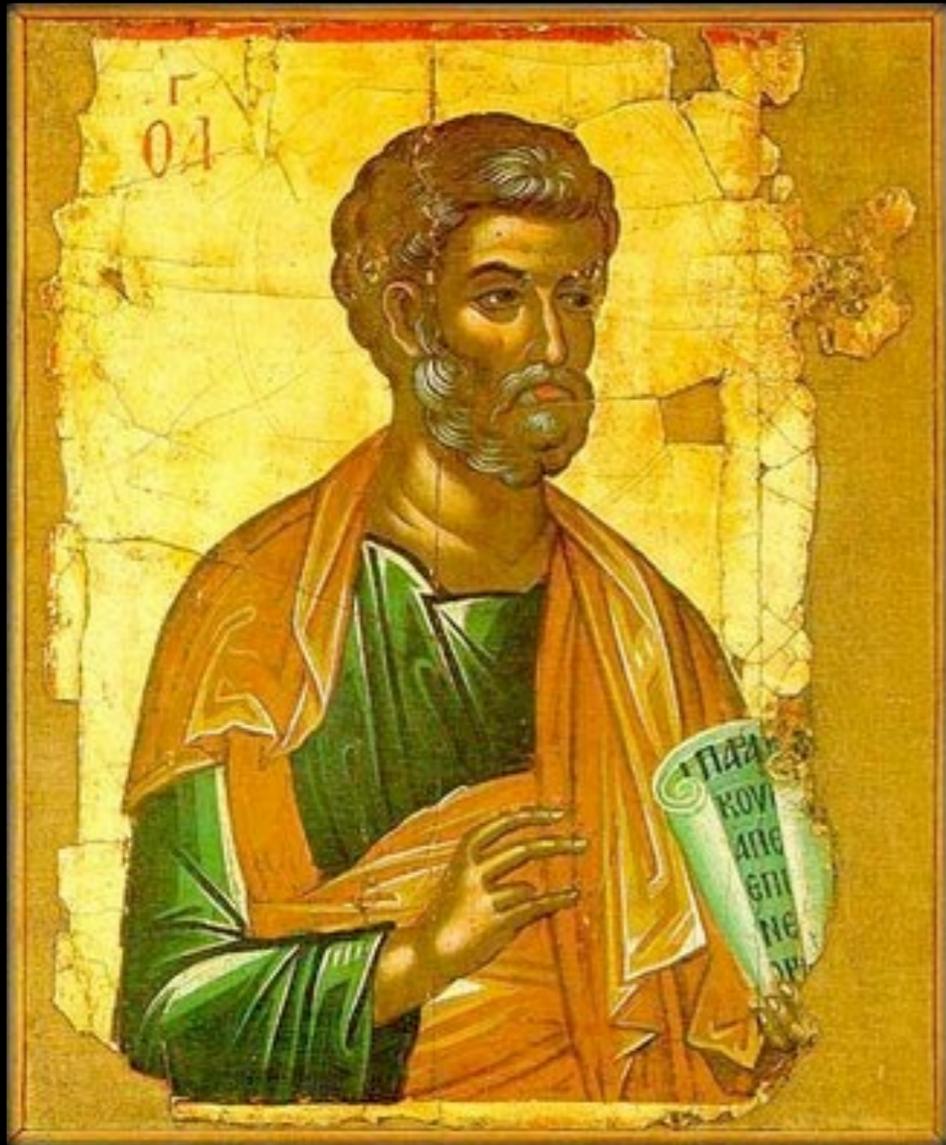
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**JESUS' ROYALTY  
DESERVES  
OUR LOYALTY**

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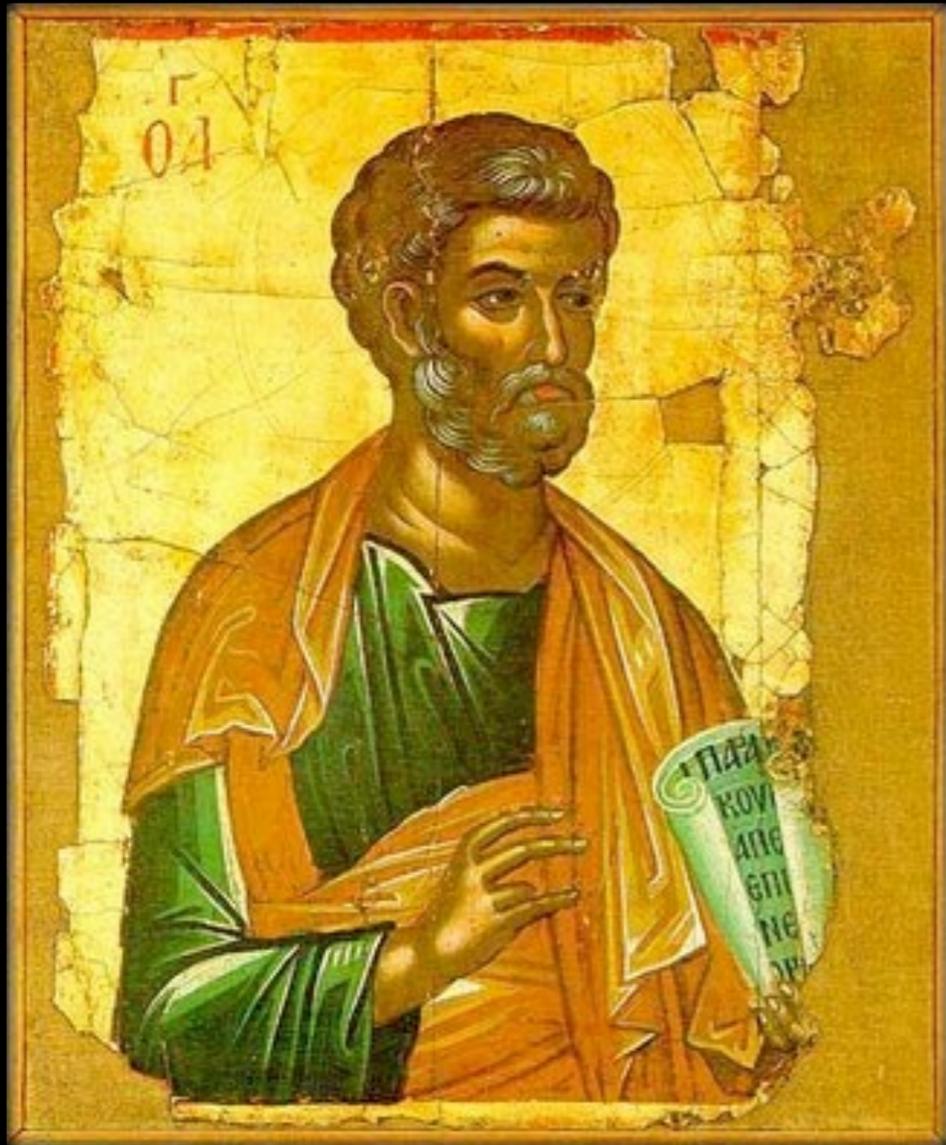
**The Apostle Peter**



The Apostle Peter

1 Peter 4:12-14

Beloved, do not be surprised at **the fiery trial** when it comes upon you **to test you**, as though something strange were happening to you. But **rejoice** insofar as **you share Christ's sufferings**, that you may also **rejoice** and be glad when his **glory is revealed**.



The Apostle Peter

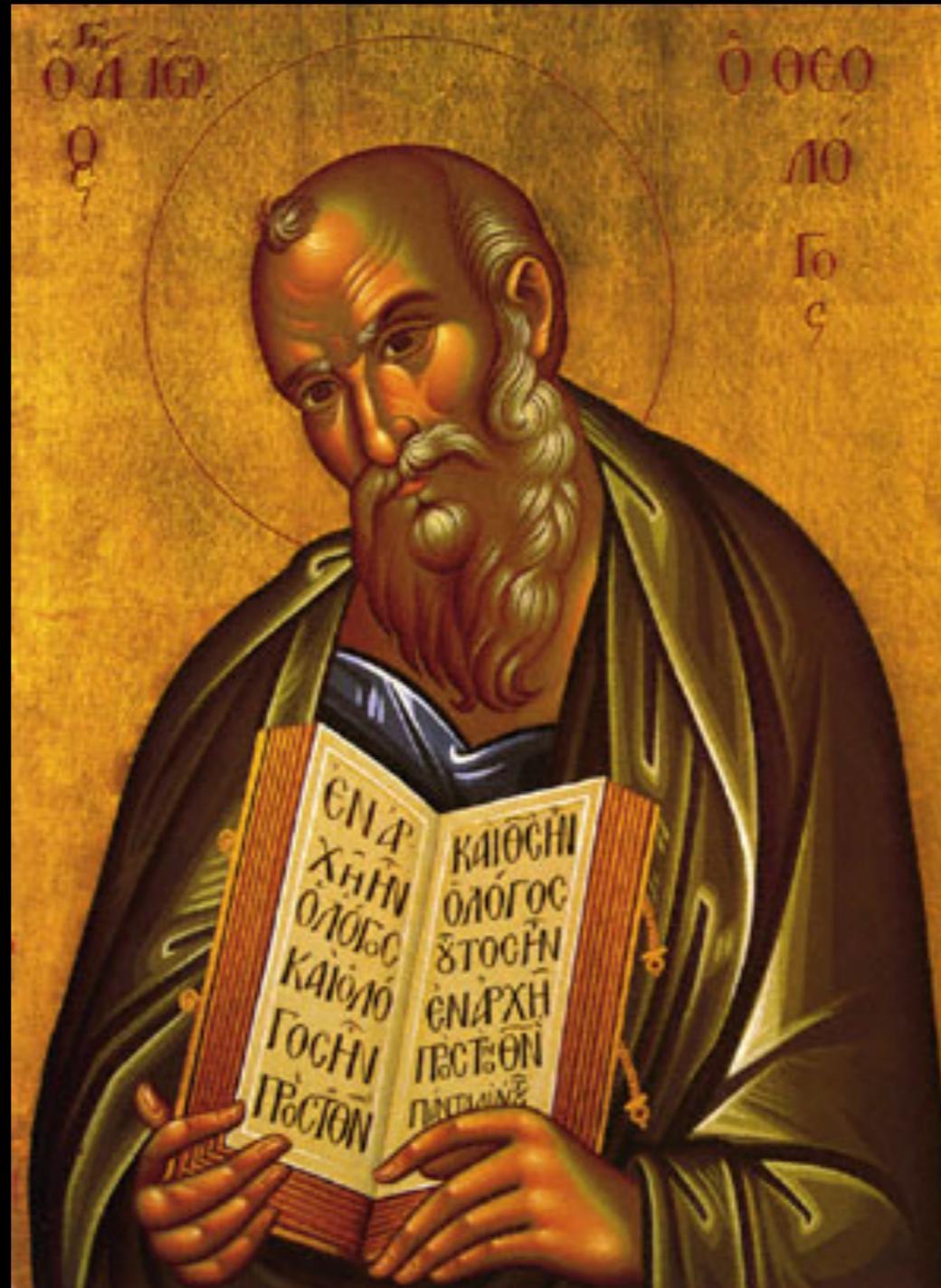
1 Peter 4:12-14

If you are **insulted** for the name of Christ, **you are blessed**, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you....Yet if anyone suffers as a **Christian**, let him **not be ashamed**, but let him glorify God in that name.

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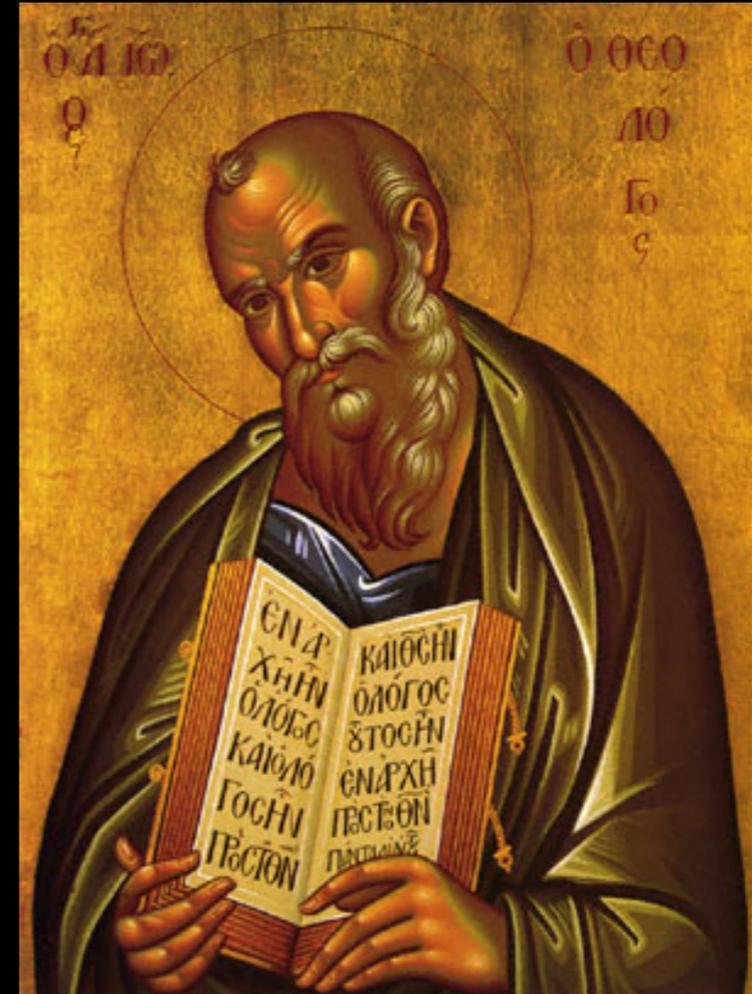
**JESUS' ROYALTY  
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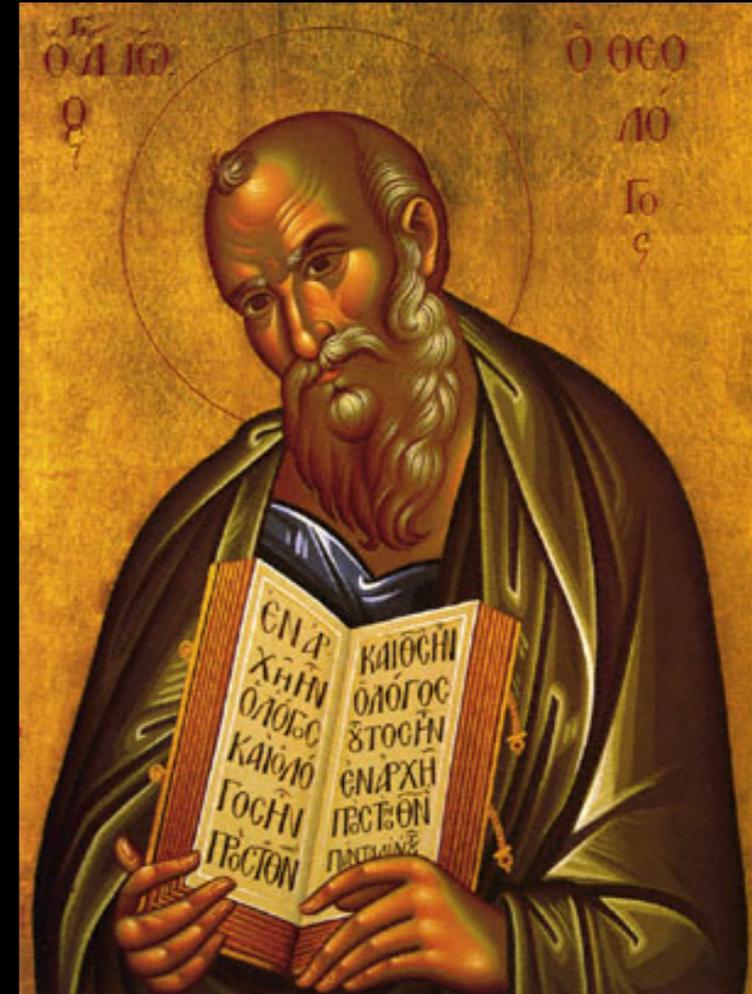
— The Apostle John —

Then I heard a loud  
voice shouting across  
the heavens, 'It has  
come at last— **salvation**  
and **power** and the  
**Kingdom** of our God,  
and **the authority of**  
**his Christ.**



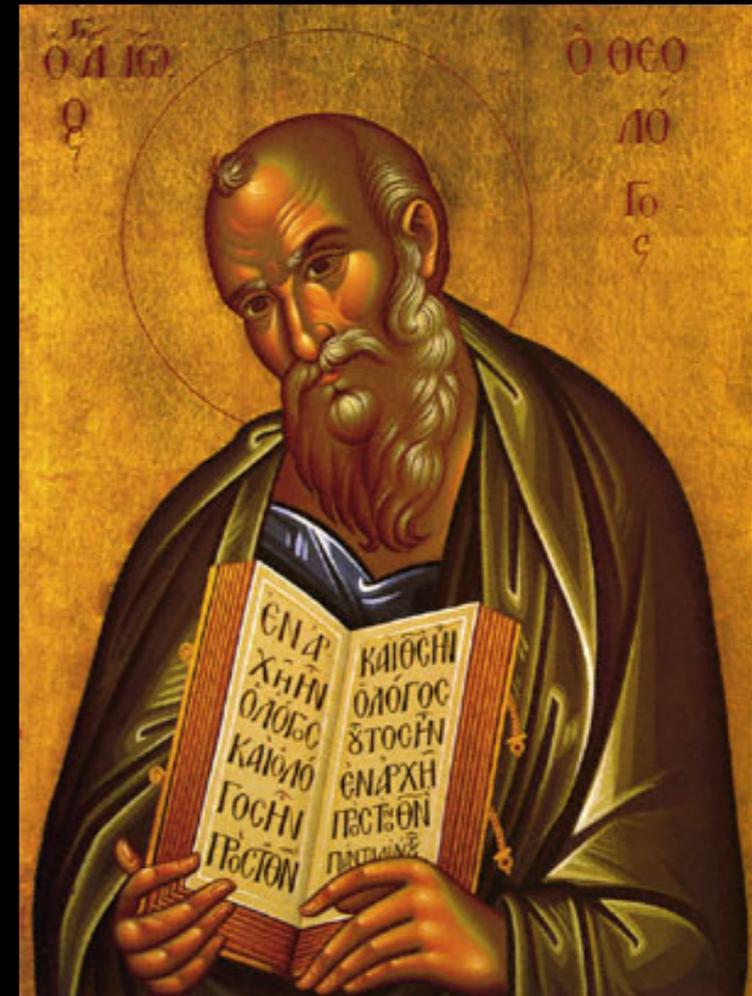
The Apostle John  
Revelation 12:10-11

For the **accuser** of our brothers and sisters has been thrown down to earth—the one who **accuses** them before our God day and night.



The Apostle John  
Revelation 12:10-11

And they have  
**defeated him by the  
blood of the Lamb and  
by their testimony.**  
And they did not  
**love their lives so  
much that they were  
afraid to die.**



The Apostle John  
Revelation 12:10-11

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**JESUS' ROYALTY  
DESERVES  
OUR LOYALTY**

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# Assignment

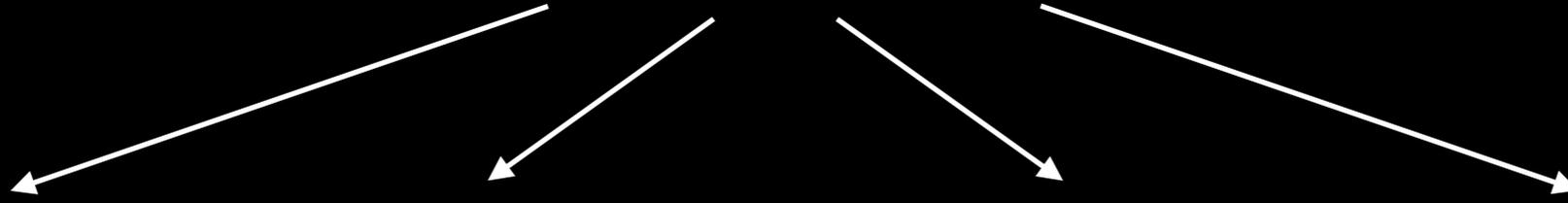
**In your hearts, set apart  
Christ as Lord.**

— 1 Peter 3:15 —



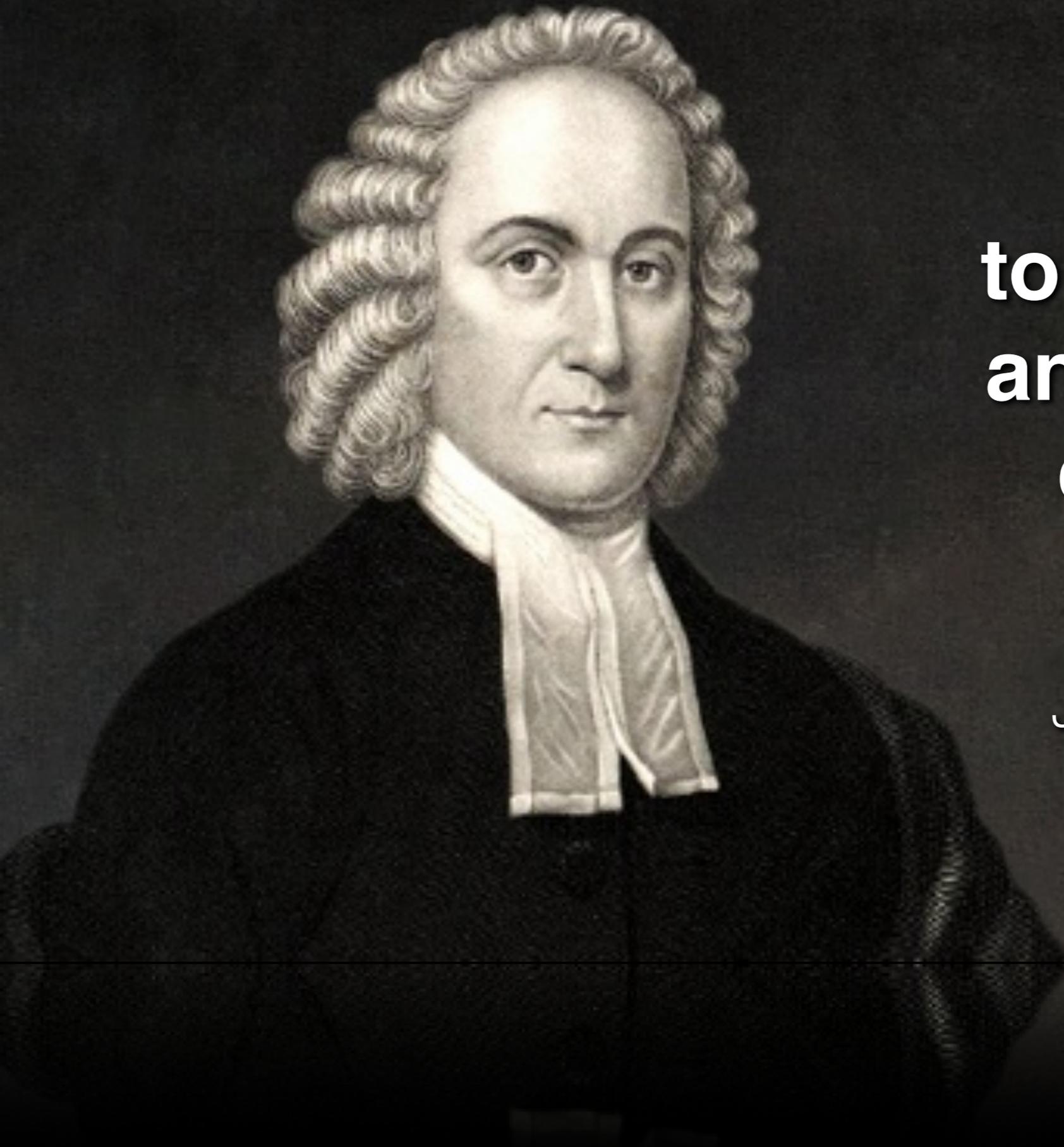
# ALLIEGANCE

al·le·giance



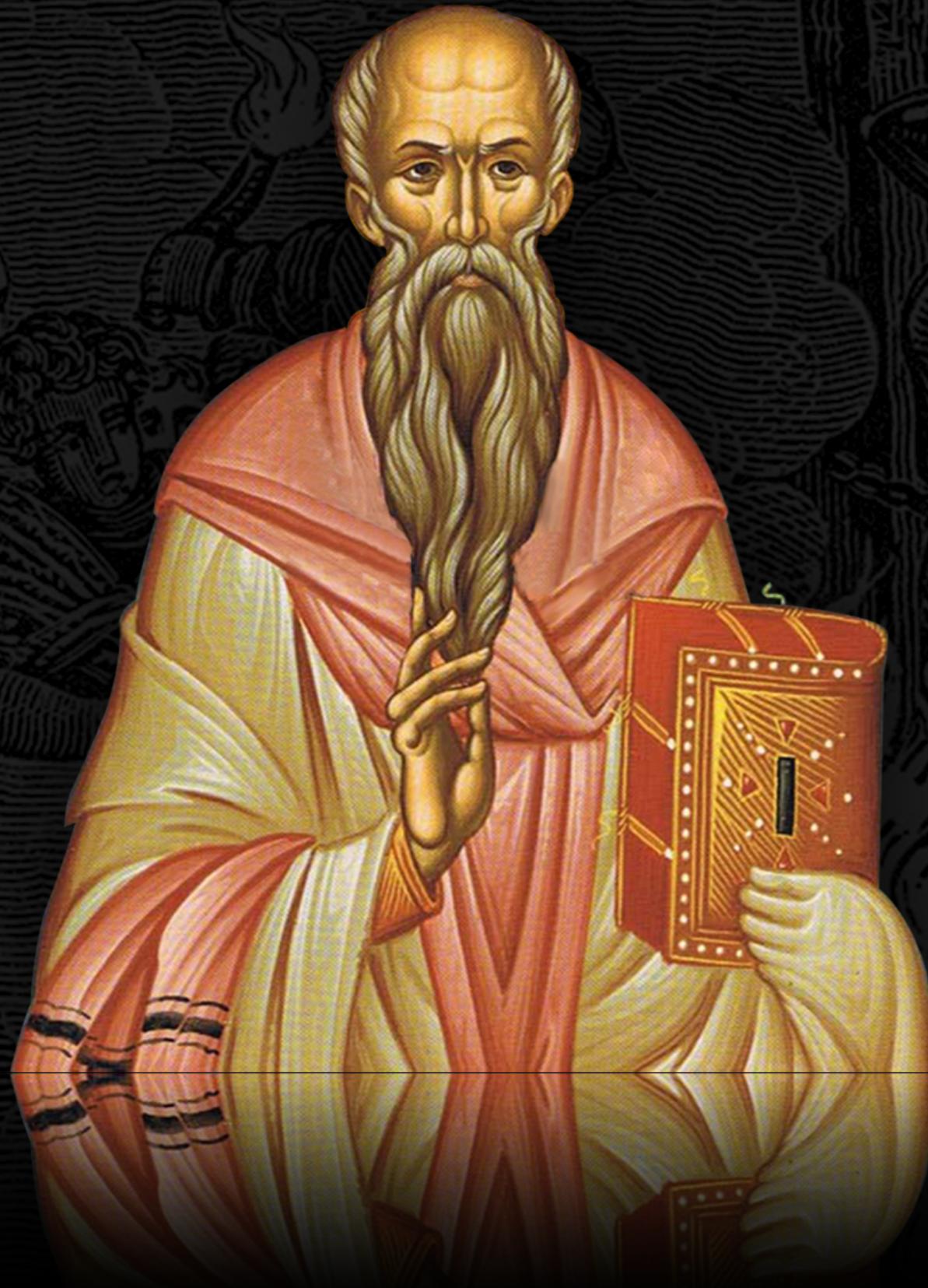
**Loyalty**   **Devotion**   **Dedication**   **Faithfulness**





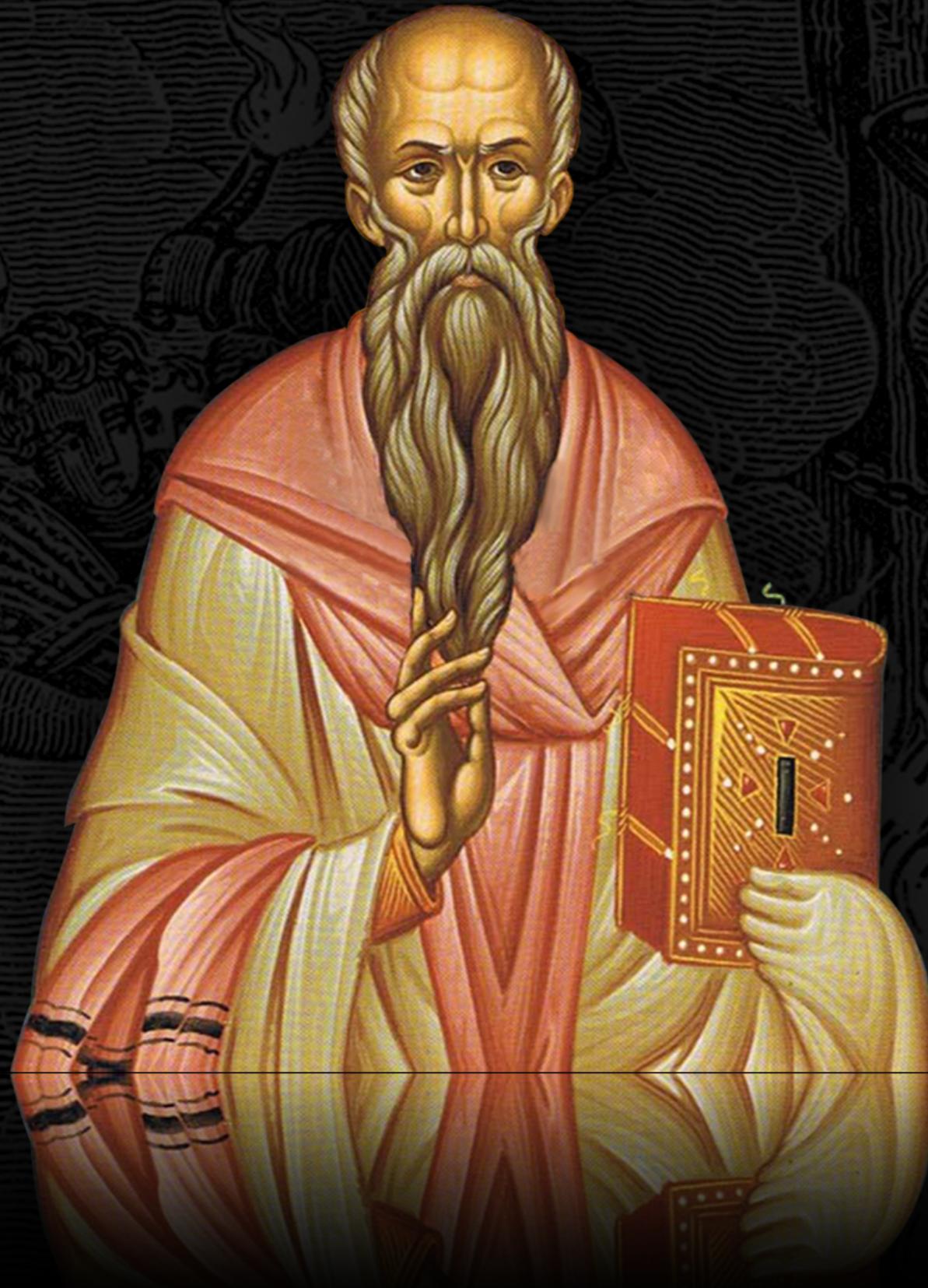
**Resolved,  
to follow God,  
and if nobody  
else does,  
I still will.**

Jonathan Edwards  
1703-1758

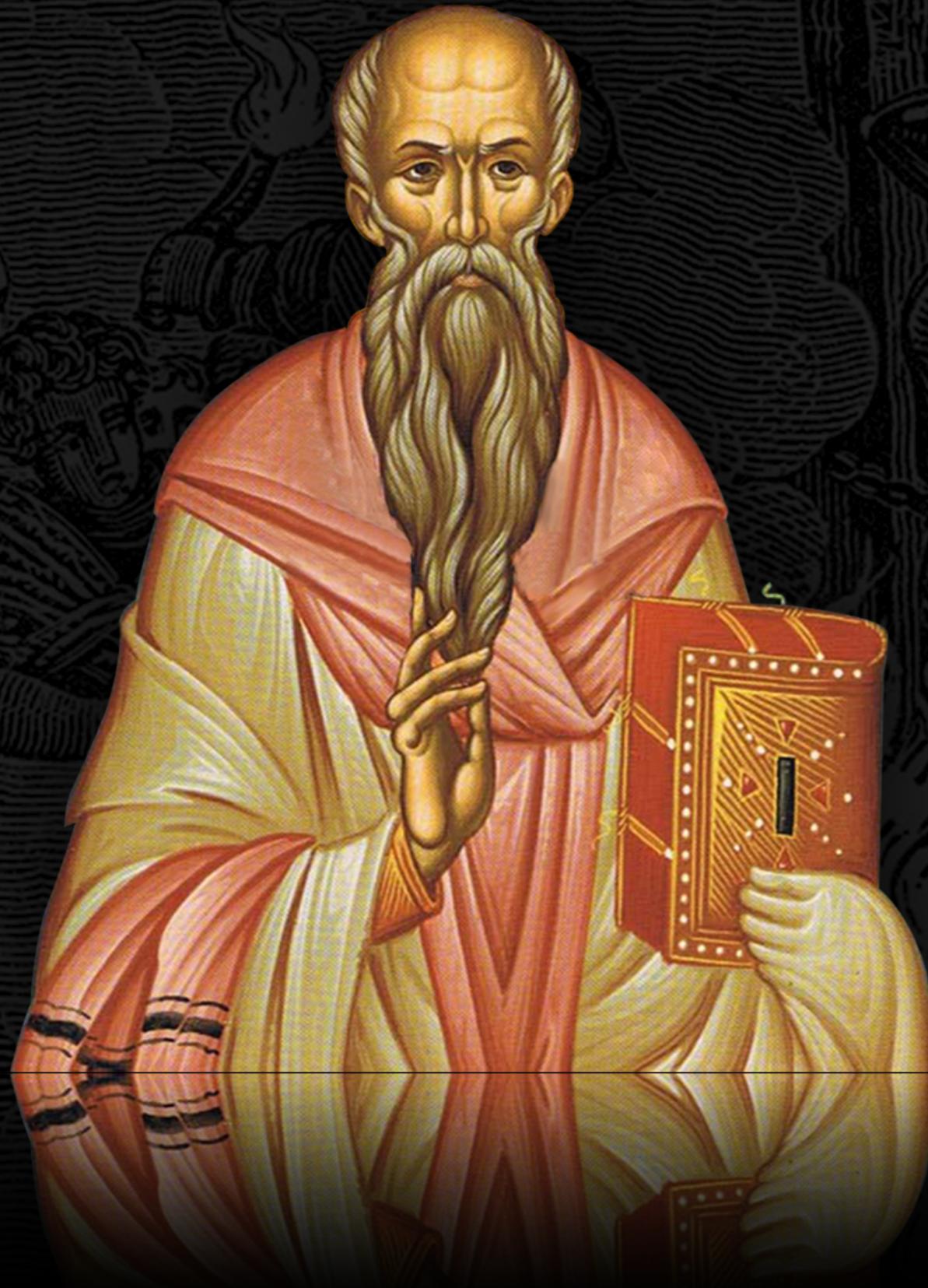


# Polycarpus

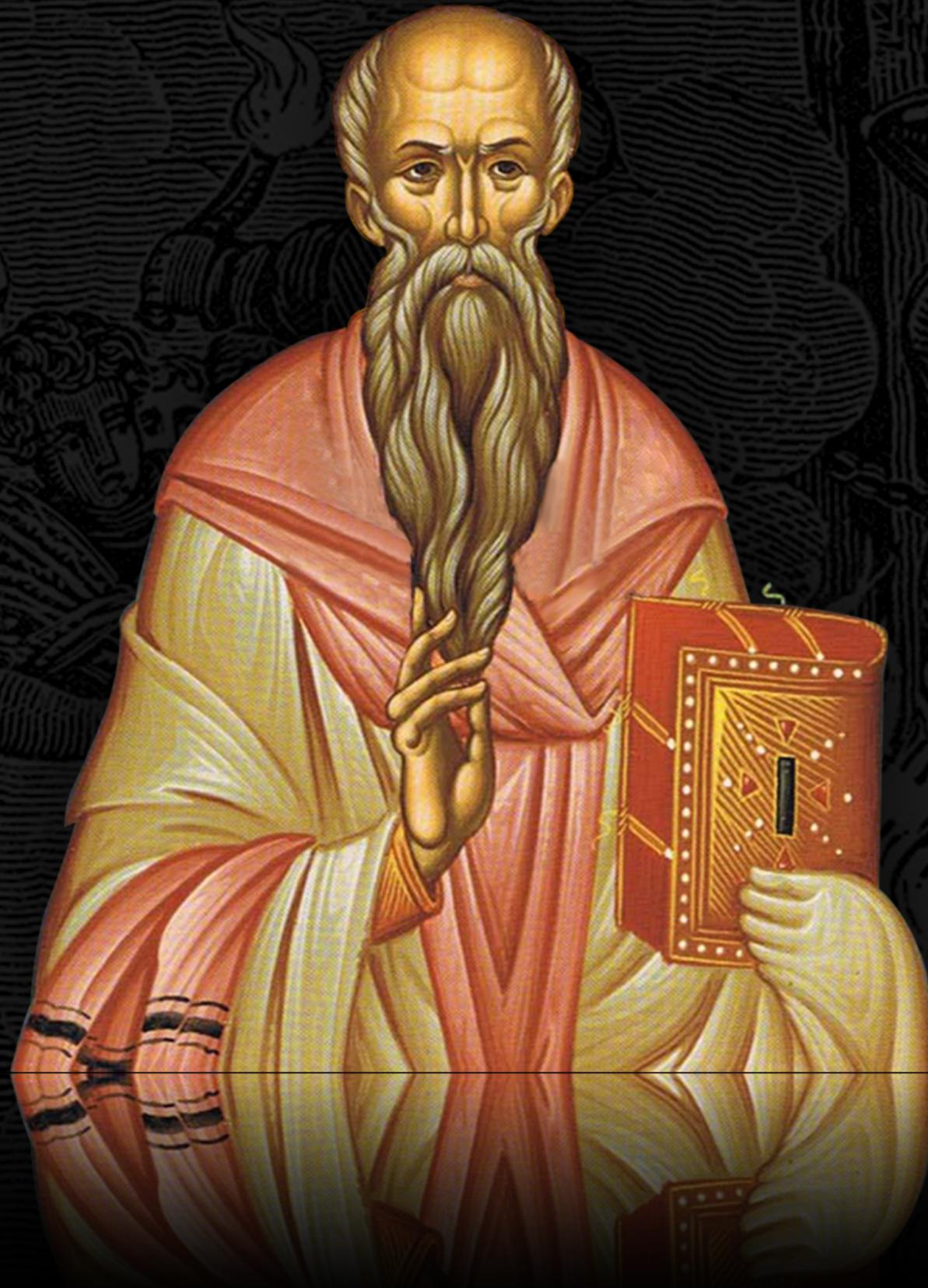
AD 69-155



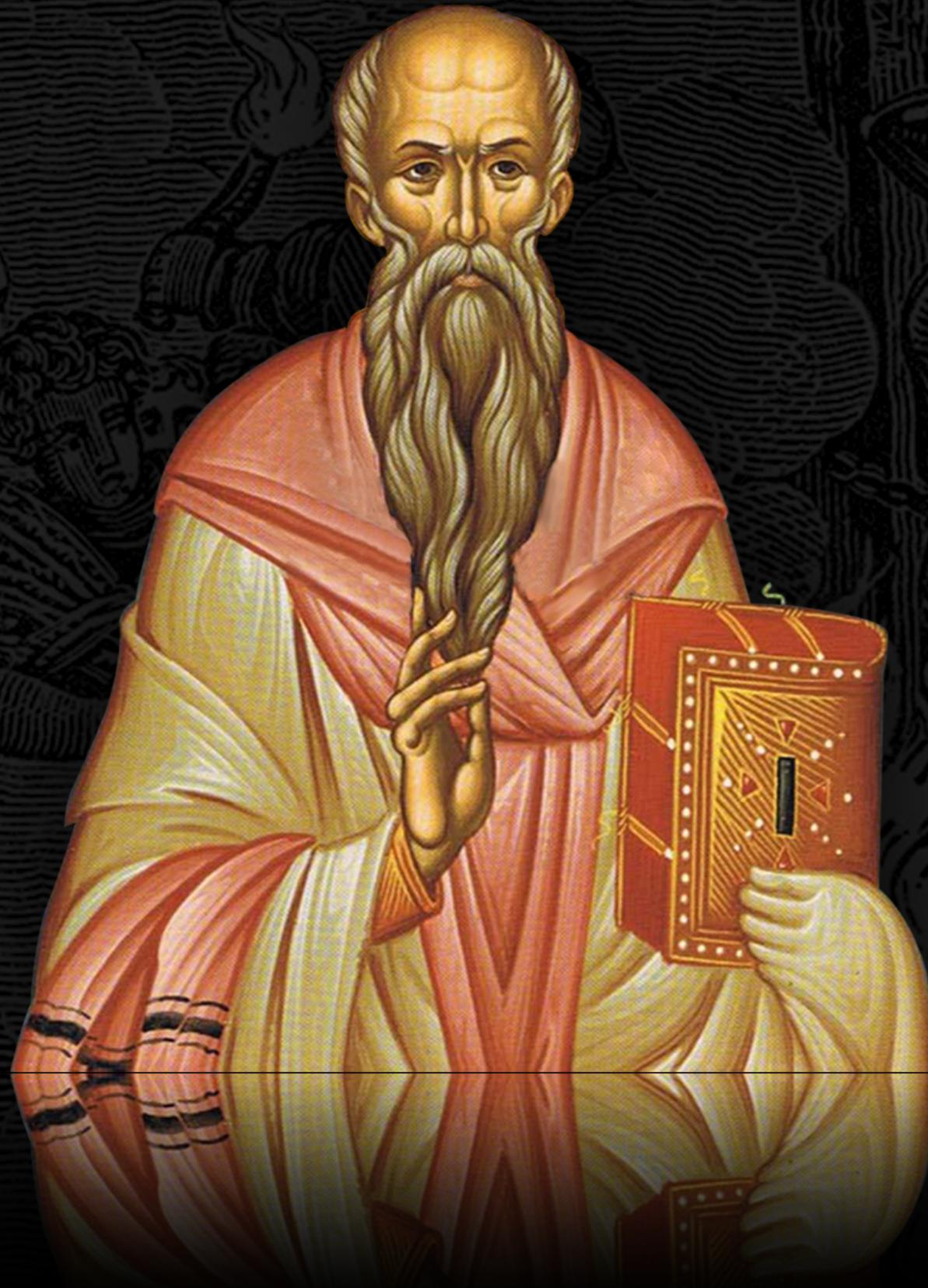
**O Lord God Almighty,  
the Father of your  
beloved and blessed  
Son Jesus Christ, by  
whom we have  
received the know-  
ledge of you, the God  
of angels, powers and  
every creature, and of  
all the righteous who  
live before you,**



**I give you thanks that  
you count me worthy  
to be numbered among  
your martyrs, sharing  
the cup of Christ and  
the resurrection to  
eternal life, both of  
soul and body, through  
the immortality of  
the Holy Spirit.**



**May I be received this day as an acceptable sacrifice, as you, the true God, have predestined, revealed to me, and now fulfilled.**



**I praise you for all  
these things, I bless  
you and glorify you,  
along with the  
everlasting Jesus  
Christ, your beloved  
Son. To you, with him,  
through the Holy  
Spirit, be glory both  
now and forever.  
Amen.**



**FOR ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST,  
AND TO DIE IS GAIN.**

**The Apostle Paul**  
— Philippians 1:2 —





**I am the resurrection and the life.  
Whoever believes in me, though  
he die, yet shall he live, and  
everyone who lives and believes  
in me shall never die.  
Do you believe this?**

**Jesus in The Gospel of John 11:25-26**



**If your hope is  
anchored in Jesus,  
the worst case  
future scenario for you  
is resurrection and  
everlasting life.**

— Scott Sauls —

**IMAGINE: WHAT IF  
WHEN THE HEAT IS ON...**



# Jesus, I My Cross Have Taken

— Henry Francis Lyte —



**Jesus, I my cross have taken  
All to leave and follow Thee  
Destitute, despised, forsaken  
Thou from hence my all shalt be  
Perish every fond ambition  
All I've sought or hoped or known  
Yet how rich is my condition  
God and heaven are still my own**



**Let the world despise and leave me  
They have left my Saviour, too  
Human hearts and looks deceive me  
Thou art not, like them, untrue  
O while Thou dost smile upon me  
God of wisdom, love, and might  
Foes may hate and friends disown me  
Show Thy face and all is bright**



**Man may trouble and distress me  
'Twill but drive me to Thy breast  
Life with trials hard may press me  
Heaven will bring me sweeter rest**

**Oh, 'tis not in grief to harm me  
While Thy love is left to me  
Oh, 'twere not in joy to charm me  
Were that joy unmixed with Thee**



**Go, then, earthly fame and treasure  
Come disaster, scorn and pain  
In Thy service, pain is pleasure  
With Thy favor, loss is gain  
I have called Thee “Abba Father”  
I have stayed my heart on Thee  
Storms may howl, and clouds may gather  
All must work for good to me**



**Soul, then know thy full salvation  
Rise o'er sin and fear and care  
Joy to find in every station  
Something still to do or bear  
Think what Spirit dwells within thee  
Think what Father's smiles are thine  
Think that Jesus died to win thee  
Child of heaven, canst thou repine**



**Haste thee on from grace to glory  
Armed by faith, and winged by prayer  
Heaven's eternal days before thee  
God's own hand shall guide thee there  
Soon shall close thy earthly mission  
Soon shall pass thy pilgrim days  
Hope shall change to glad fruition  
Faith to sight, and prayer to praise**



**MHC, may you recognize  
that Jesus' royalty  
deserves our loyalty,  
even if it costs you everything.**

