



The Death & Burial of Jesus

— The Gospel of Luke 23:44-56 —



THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

GOOD NEWS OF GREAT JOY FOR ALL PEOPLE

**When young the
Christians told me
how we pinned Jesus
like a lovely butterfly
against the wood,
and I wept beside
paintings of Calvary
at velvet wound and
delicate twisted feet.**

— Leonard Cohen —

“For Wilf and His House”







The Death & Burial of Jesus

— The Gospel of Luke 23:44-56 —



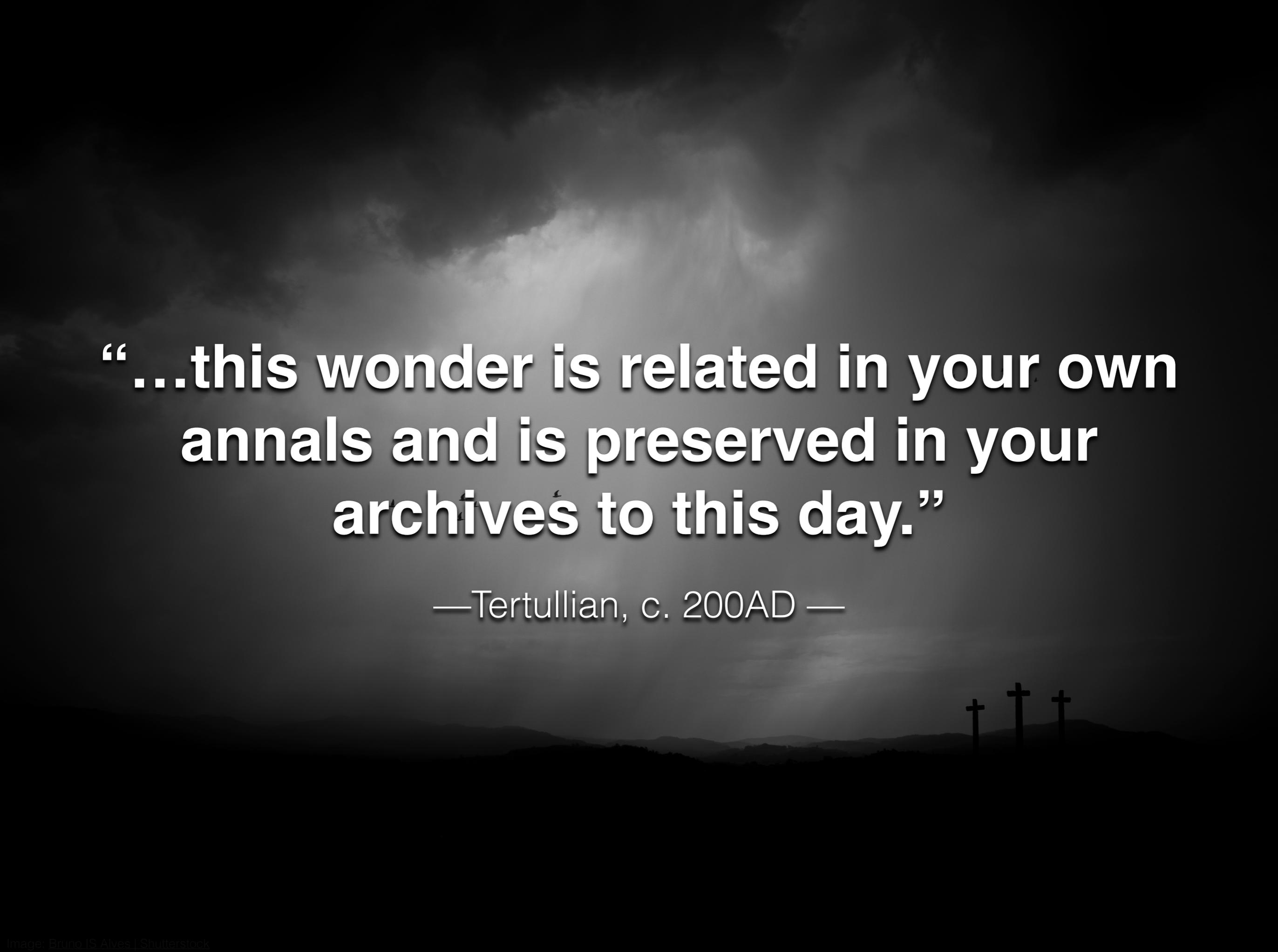
Three Crucifixion Miracles

— Phillip Graham Ryken —

The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

44 It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, 45 while the sun's light failed.





**“...this wonder is related in your own
annals and is preserved in your
archives to this day.”**

—Tertullian, c. 200AD —



DARKNESS AS A SYMBOL OF EVIL / DARKNESS

At his arrest, Jesus said, “Am I leading a rebellion, that you have come with swords and clubs?...

**But this is your hour —
when darkness reigns.”**

— The Gospel of Luke, 23:53 —

DARKNESS AS A SYMBOL OF REJECTION

“This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.”

— The Gospel of John, 3:19 —



DARKNESS AS A SYMBOL OF JUDGMENT

**“We all, like sheep, have gone astray,
each of us has turned to our own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.”**

— Isaiah 6:6 —



DARKNESS AS A SYMBOL OF SORROW

“And on that day,” declares the Lord God, ‘I will make the sun go down at noon and darken the earth in broad daylight.... I will make it like the mourning for an only son and the end of it like a bitter day.’”

— Amos 8:9-10 —

DARKNESS AS DE-CREATION

**The same God who once said,
“Let there be light,” now says,
“Let there be darkness.”**



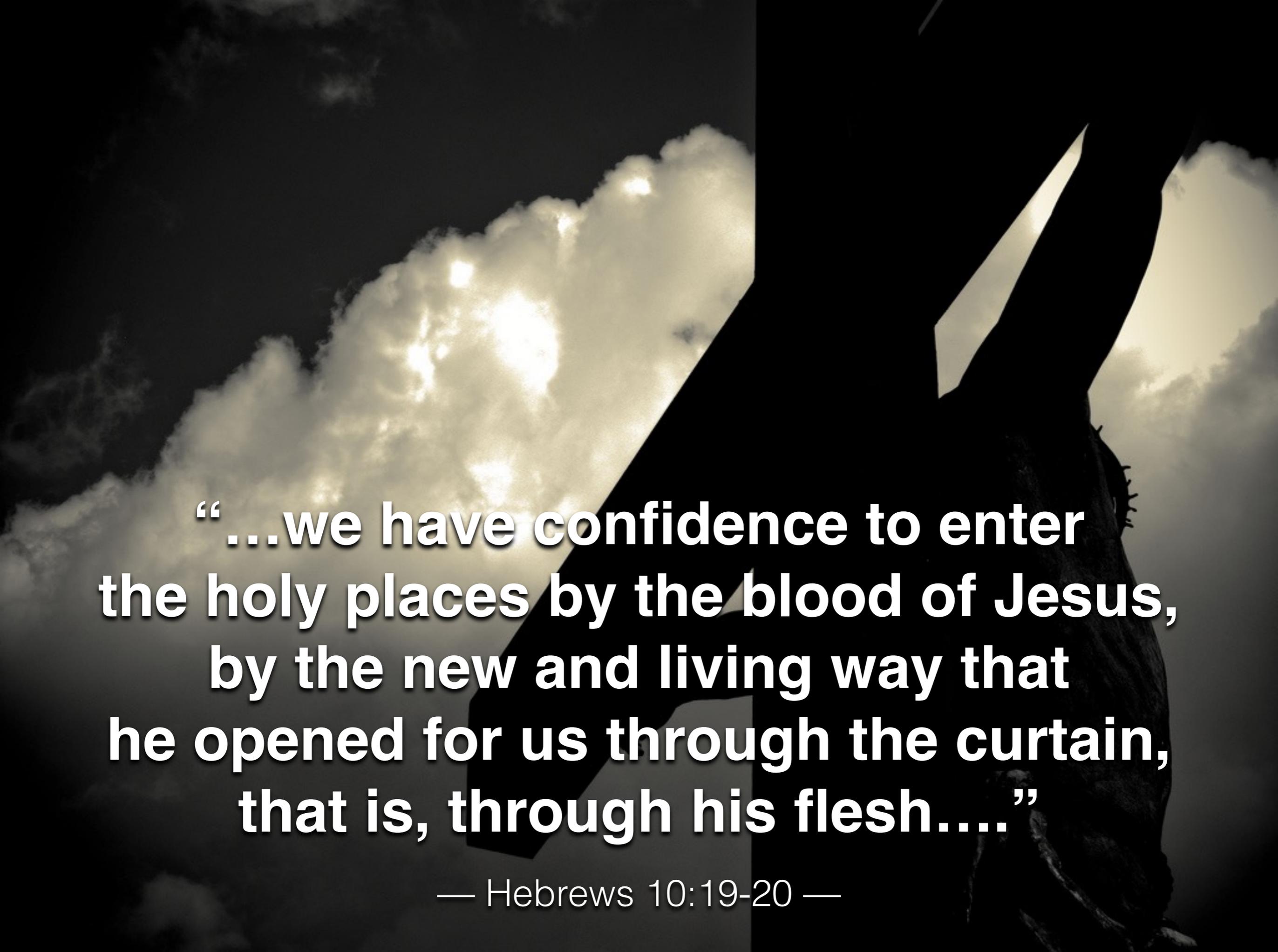
The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

45 And the curtain of the temple was torn in two.



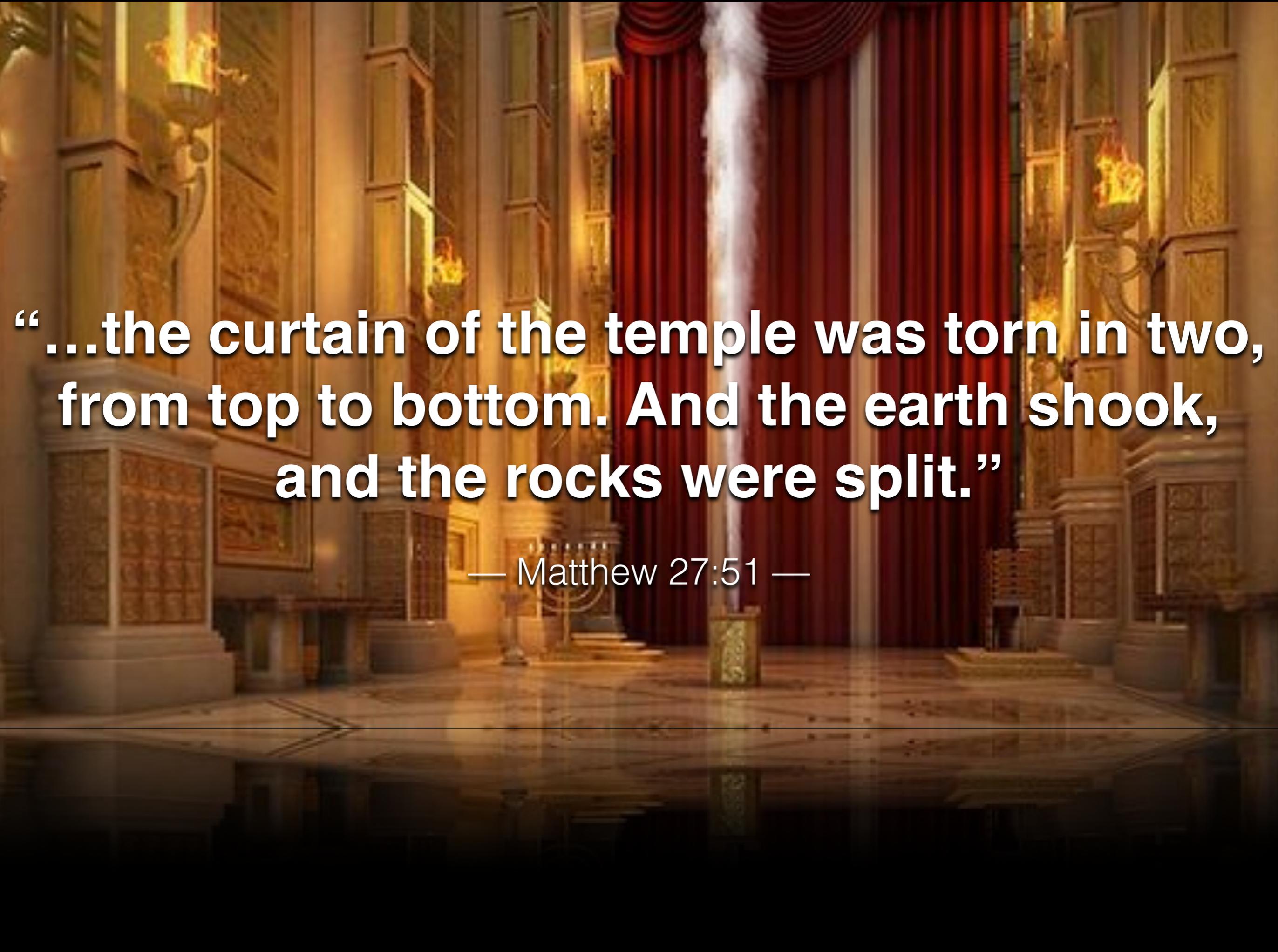






**“...we have confidence to enter
the holy places by the blood of Jesus,
by the new and living way that
he opened for us through the curtain,
that is, through his flesh....”**

— Hebrews 10:19-20 —



**“...the curtain of the temple was torn in two,
from top to bottom. And the earth shook,
and the rocks were split.”**

— Matthew 27:51 —





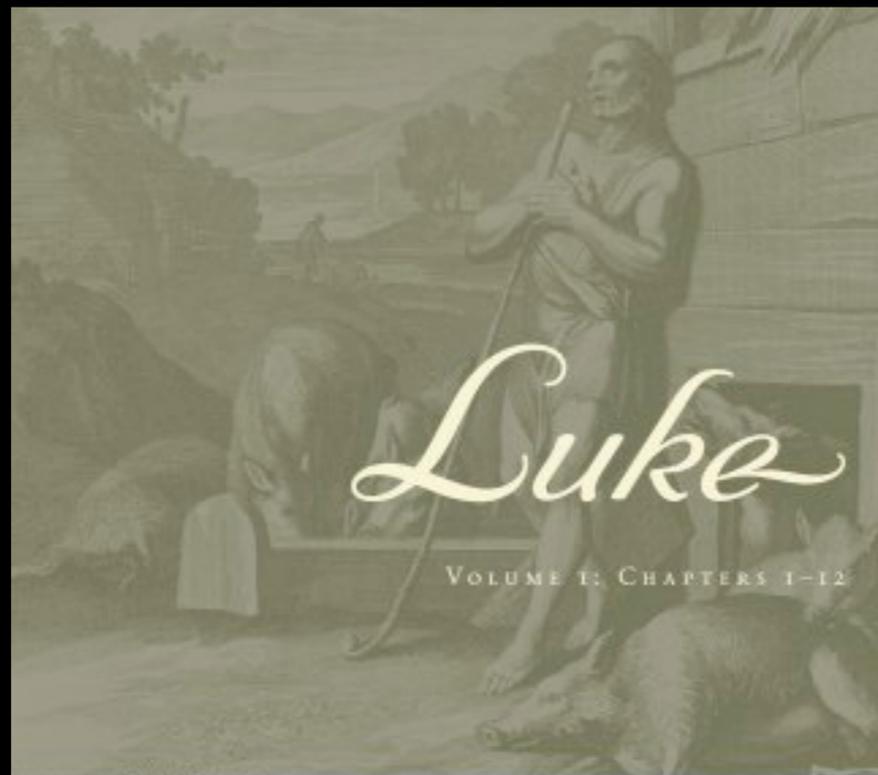
So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Luke the Evangelist

— Acts 6:7 —

The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

46 Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!” And having said this he breathed his last.

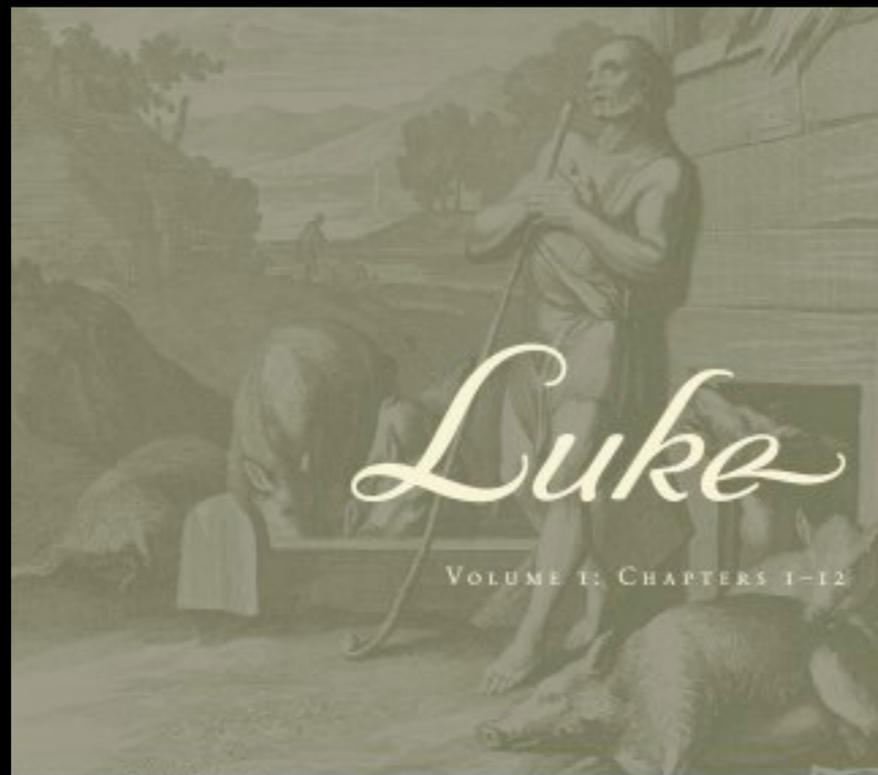


REFORMED
EXPOSITORY
COMMENTARY

PHILIP GRAHAM RYKEN

ФІЛІП ГРАНАМ РІКЕН

**These are the dying
words of a dying
man—a man
forsaken by God....
Yet there was light
at the end of the
Cross....**

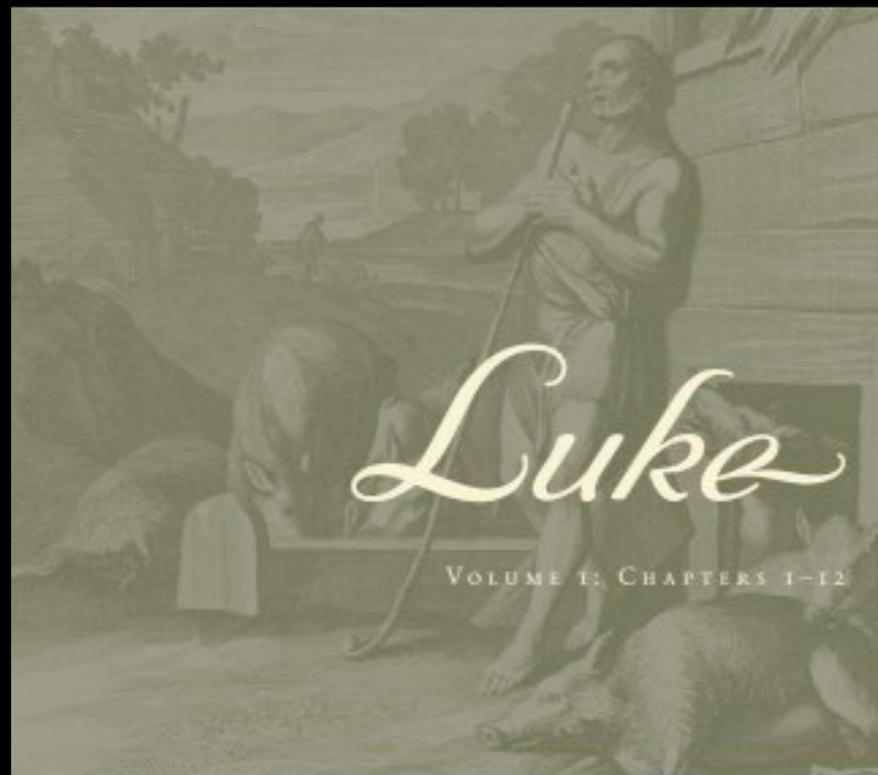


REFORMED
EXPOSITORY
COMMENTARY

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БНІГІТЬ СВЯНУМ РҮКЕН

When Jesus put his spirit into his Father's hands, he was expressing full confidence that death was not the end for him. He believed that there was life beyond the grave; his spirit would survive.

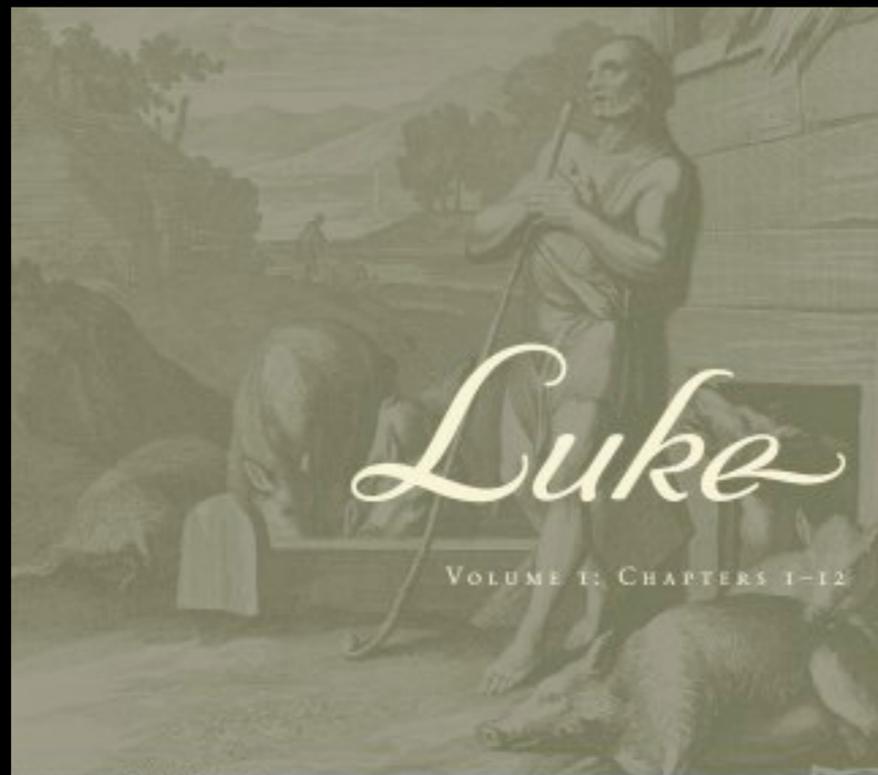


REFORMED
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БНІГІТЬ СВЯНАМ РЛКЕН

Therefore, Jesus rested complete trust in his Father for death and for everything that would come afterwards. From the end of the cross he would see the light of the empty tomb.



REFORMED
EXPOSITORY
COMMENTARY

PHILIP GRAHAM RYKEN

БНІГІЬ СВАНУМ РЛКЕН

He knew the Father had always promised to raise his body from the grave, and that this would happen on the third day. In the meantime, he entrusted his soul to the Father.

The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

47 Now when **the centurion** saw what had taken place, **he praised God**, saying, **“Certainly this man was innocent!”**





And when the centurion,
who stood facing him,
saw that in this way
he breathed his last,
he said, “Truly this man
was the Son of God!”

— The Gospel of Mark 15:39 —

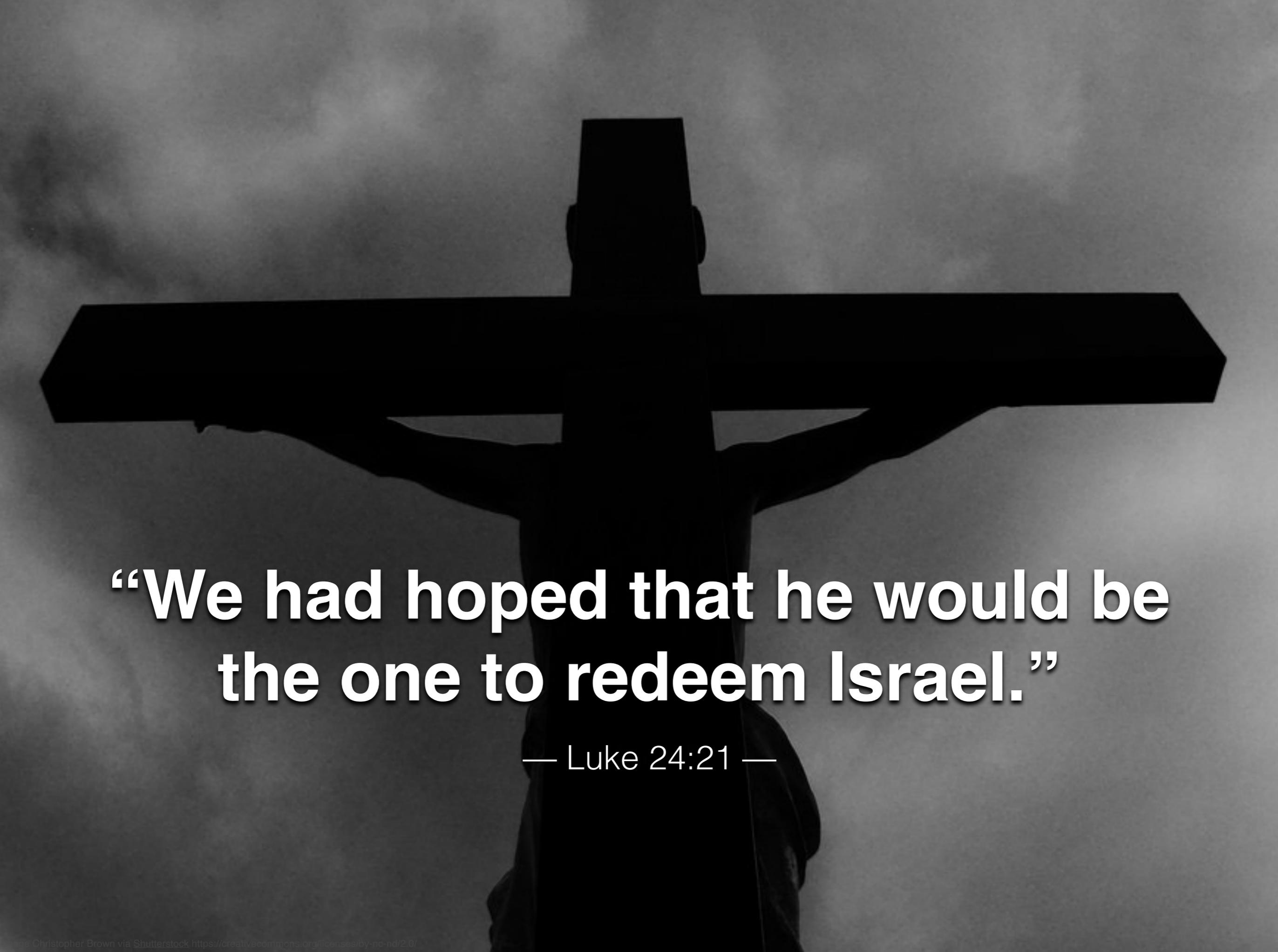
The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

48 And **all the crowds** that had assembled for **this spectacle**, when they saw what had taken place, **returned home beating their breasts.**

The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

49 And all his acquaintances and the women who had followed him from Galilee stood at a distance watching these things.



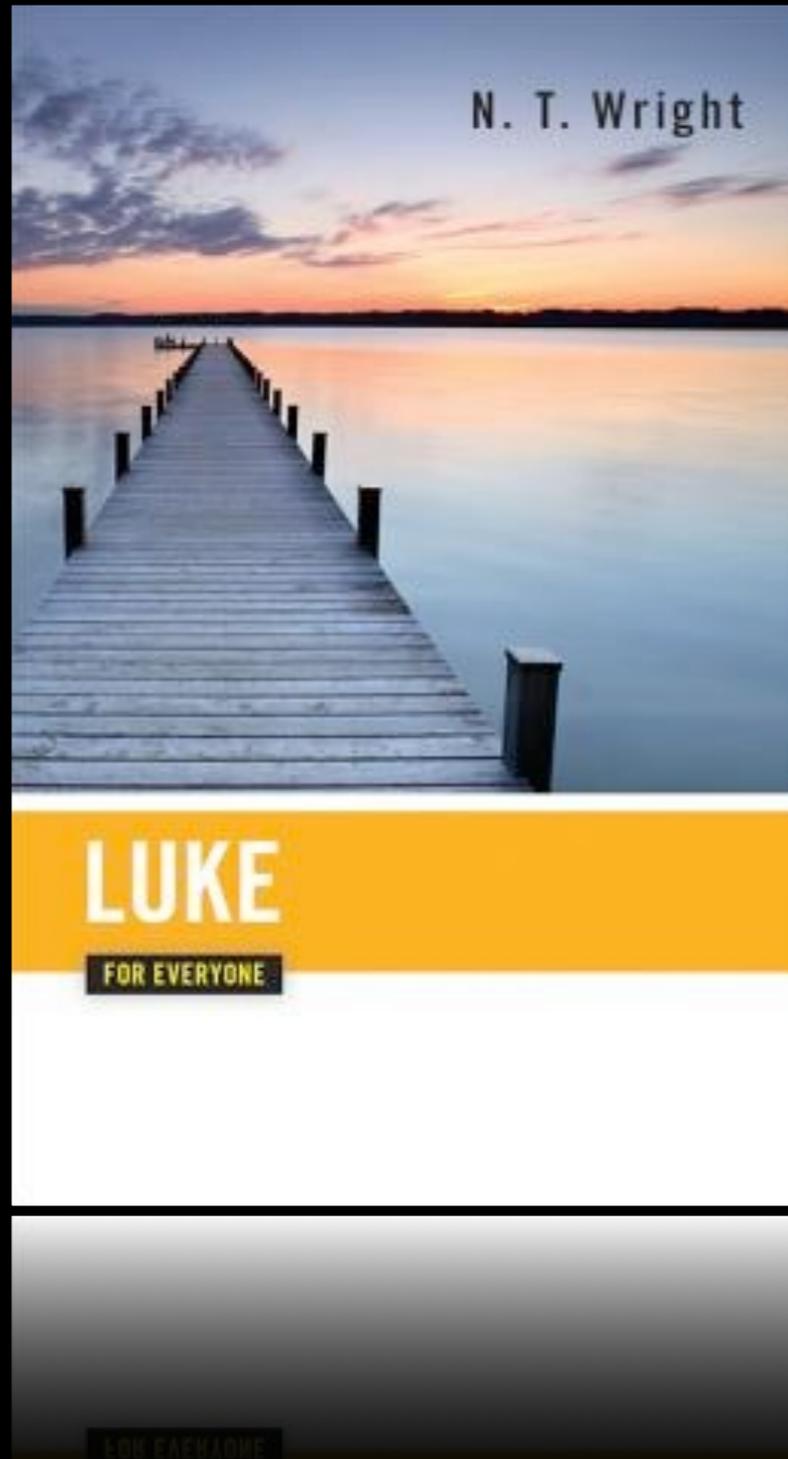


**“We had hoped that he would be
the one to redeem Israel.”**

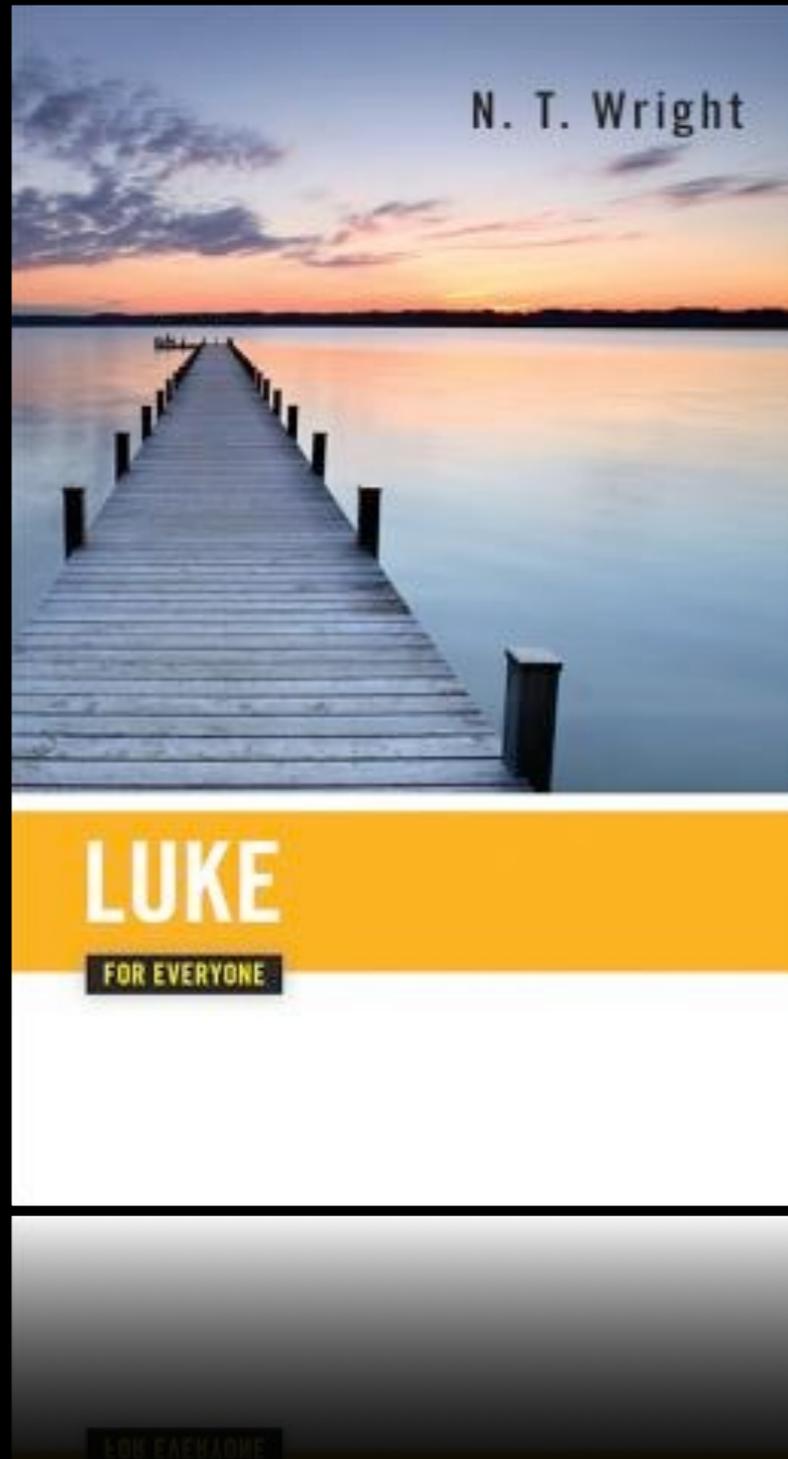
— Luke 24:21 —



If Jesus had simply been a great prophet, his violent death would not have presented his followers with a theological problem. Many prophets died cruel deaths, and were venerated as martyrs.



But Jesus' followers believed he was not just a prophet, but the Messiah; and nobody expected the Messiah to die at the hands of the pagans. He was supposed to defeat them, not succumb to their violence.



The crucifixion might have made Jesus a great martyr, or sealed his career as a great prophet, but by itself it meant that he could not have been God's anointed, the Messiah.



The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

50 Now there was a man named **Joseph**, from the Jewish town of Arimathea. He was a member of the council, a good and righteous man, **51** who had not consented to their decision and action; and he was looking for the kingdom of God. **52** This man went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

53 Then he took it down and wrapped it in a linen shroud and laid him in a tomb cut in stone, where no one had ever yet been laid.



**1st century AD tomb discovered in 2018
in the West Bank city of Hebron.**

— TimesofIsrael.com August 16, 2018 —

The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 23

54 It was the day of Preparation, and the Sabbath was beginning. 55 The women who had come with him from Galilee followed and saw the tomb and how his body was laid. 56 Then they returned and prepared spices and ointments. On the Sabbath they rested according to the commandment.

Important Question

Why does Luke record this brutal execution in his historical biography of Jesus?

**Jesus is the chosen king
sent by God with the mission
to become the savior of the world.
And at the center of that mission
is His death for the atonement
of our sins.**

A pair of hands is shown holding a glowing Earth. The Earth is illuminated from the right, showing a bright horizon and a network of golden city lights across the continents. The background is a dark space filled with numerous small, bright stars and a soft, warm glow on the right side.

**Let's locate the story of Jesus
in the bigger story of God's
renewal of all things.**

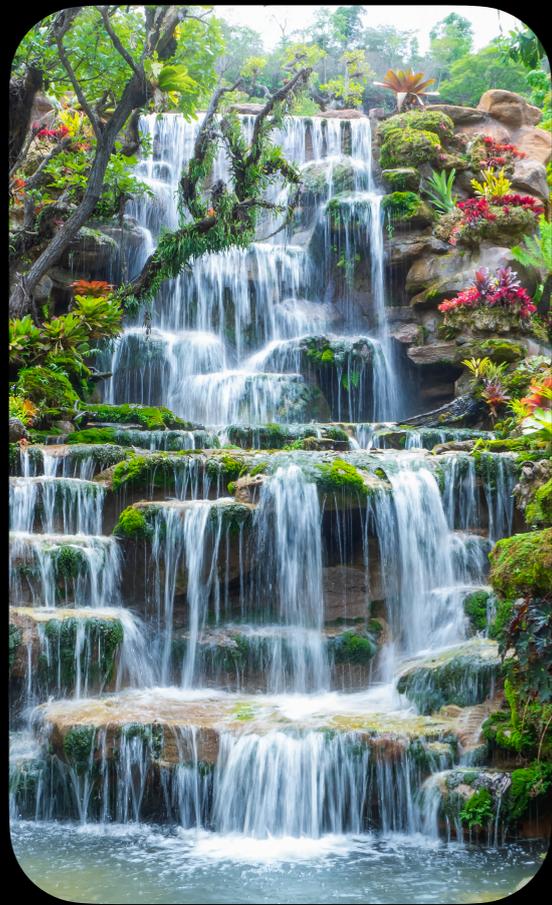
**For I delivered to you as
of first importance what
I also received: that
Christ died for our sins
in accordance with the
Scriptures, that he was
buried, that he was
raised on the third day
in accordance with the
Scriptures....**



The Apostle Paul
— 1 Corinthians 15:3-4 —

— The Four Part Story of the Gospel —

Part 1



Creation

Part 2



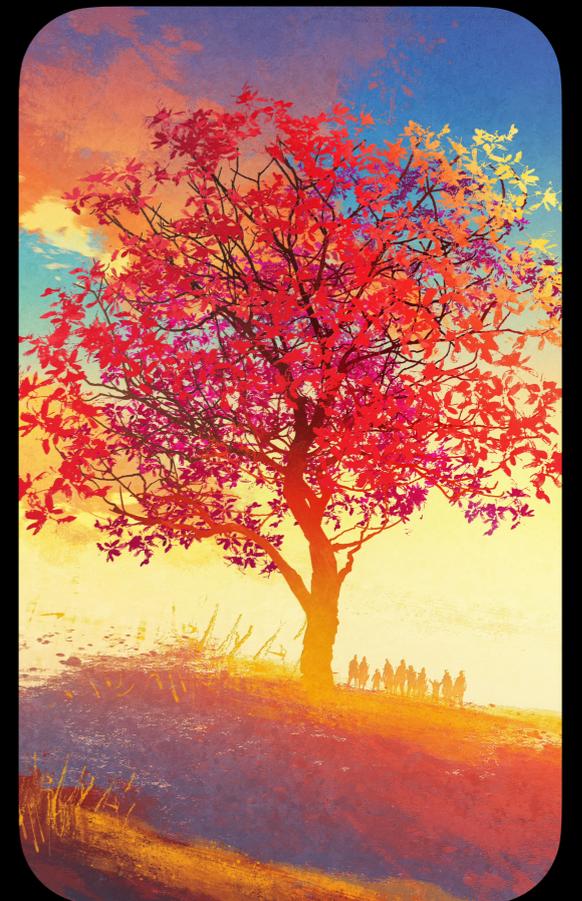
Rebellion
“The Fall”

Part 3



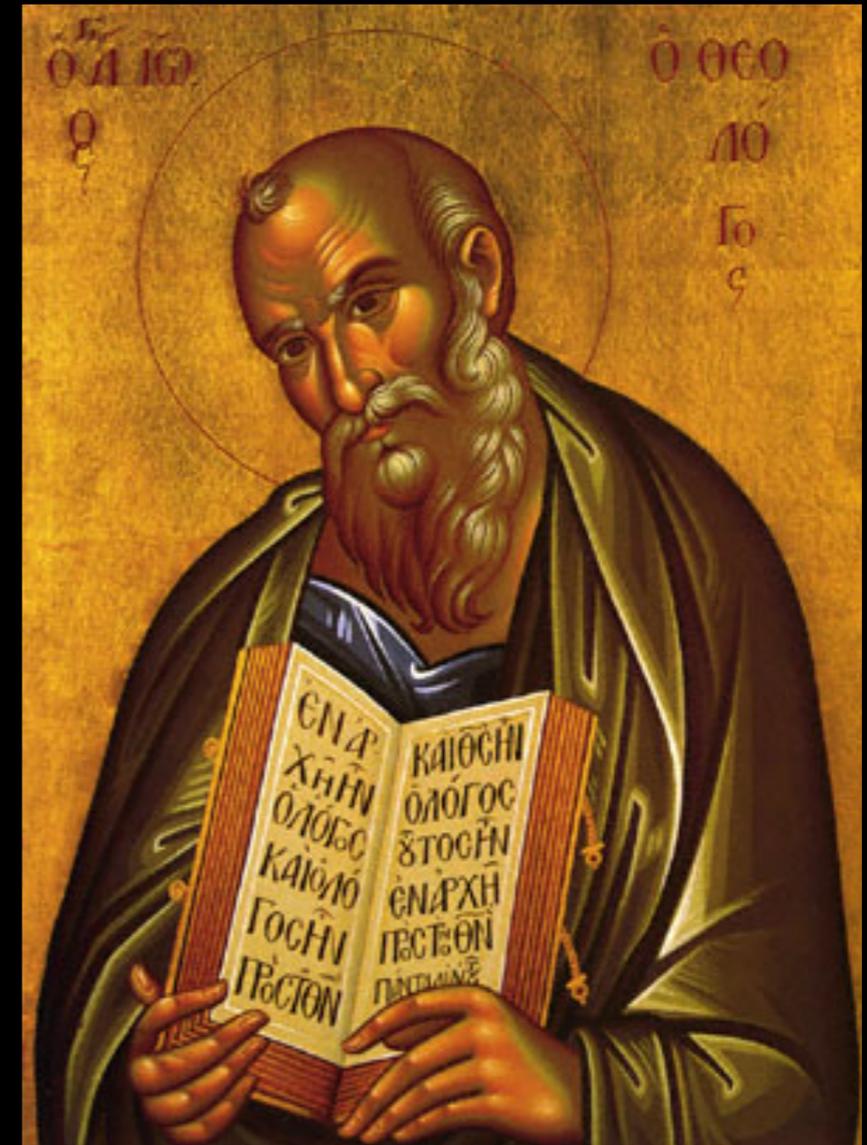
Redemption

Part 4



Restoration

**This is how God showed
his love among us: He
sent his one and only
Son into the world that
we might live through
him. This is love: not
that we loved God, but
that he loved us and
sent his Son as an
atoning sacrifice
for our sins.**

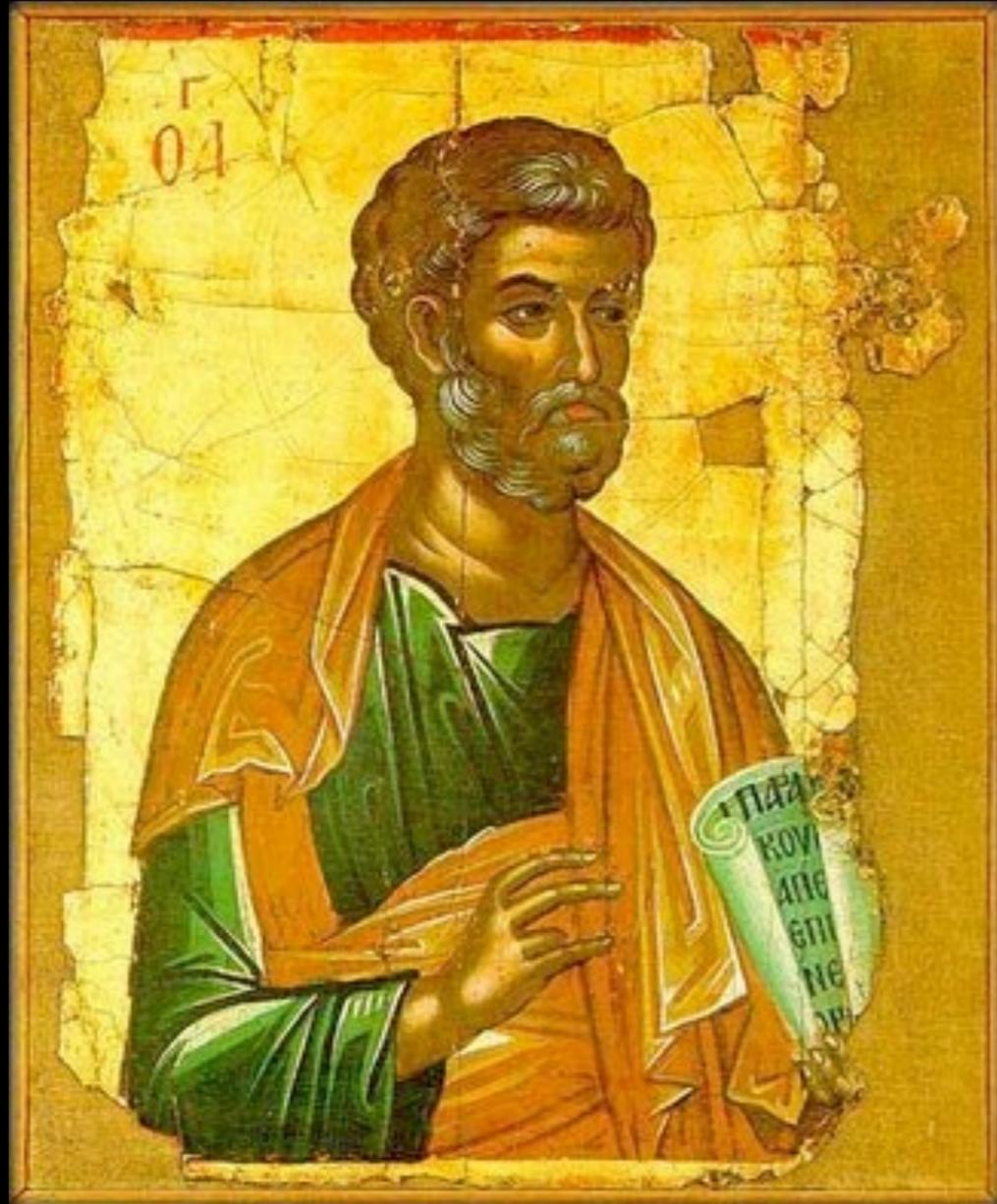


— The Apostle John —
1 John 4:9-10

**God made Him
who had no sin
to be sin for us...**

The Apostle Paul
— 2 Corinthians 5:21 —





**Christ also suffered
once for sins, the
righteous for the
unrighteous, to
bring you to God.**

**The Apostle Peter
— 1 Peter 3:18 —**



**Let's personalize
the death of Jesus:
“for me.”**

**The Son of God
loved me and gave
Himself for me.**

The Apostle Paul
— Galatians 2:20 —



I don't know why I was struck so hard at that moment.... There was nothing fascinating about this particular video....

But watching this depiction of an actor playing Jesus on the cross, it just hit me, harder than I'd ever been hit before.



**Bobby Jindal
Governor of Louisiana**

**If that was really the
Son of God, and he
really died for me,
then I felt compelled
to get on my knees
and worship him.**



**Bobby Jindal
Governor of Louisiana**



**Upon a life I did not live,
upon a death I did not die;
another's life, another's death,
I stake my whole eternity.**

Horatius Bonar

1808-1889

**Alas! And did my Savior bleed?
And did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a worm as I?
Was it for sins that I have done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!**

— Isaac Watts, “Alas and Did My Savior Bleed” —





**My sin—O the bliss of
this glorious thought—
my sin not in part
but the whole
is nailed to the Cross
and I bear it no more
Praise the Lord
Praise the Lord
O my soul**

— Horatio Spafford, “It Is Well With My Soul” —

**When I survey the wondrous Cross
on which the Prince of Glory died
My riches gain I count but loss
And pour contempt on all my pride**

— Issac Watts, “When I Survey The Wondrous Cross” —



The Gospel of Luke, Chapter 24

1 But on the first day of the week....

“It’s Friday. But Sunday’s Coming”

— Originally by Tony Compolo —

**It's Friday. Jesus is praying.
Peter is sleeping. Judas is betraying.
But Sunday's coming.**

**It's Friday. Pilate's struggling.
The Council is conspiring. The crowd is
vilifying. They don't even know that
Sunday's coming.**

**It's Friday. The disciples are running
like sheep without a shepherd.
Mary's crying. Peter is denying. But they
don't know that Sunday's a comin'.**

**It's Friday. The Romans beat my Jesus.
They robe Him in scarlet. They crown
Him with thorns. But they don't know
that Sunday is coming.**

**It's Friday. See Jesus walking to
Calvary. His blood is dripping.
His body is stumbling. And His spirit
is burdened. But, you see, it's only
Friday. Sunday's coming.**

**It's Friday. The world is winning. People
are sinning. And evil is grinning.**

It's Friday. The soldiers nail my Savior's hands to the Cross. They nail my Savior's feet to the Cross. And then they raised Him up next to criminals.

It's Friday. But let me tell you something: Sunday's comin'.

**It's Friday. The disciples are ques-tioning.
What has happened to their king?**

**And the Pharisees are celebrating that
their scheming has been achieved.
But they don't know, it's only Friday.
Sunday's coming.**

**It's Friday. He's hanging on the Cross
feeling forsaken by His Father, left alone
and dying. Can nobody save Him?
O, it's Friday. But Sunday's coming.**

It's Friday. The earth trembles. The sky grows dark. My King yields His spirit.

It's Friday. Hope is lost. Death has won. Sin has conquered. And Satan's just a laughing.

It's Friday. Jesus is buried. Soldiers stand guard. And a rock is rolled into place.

But it is Friday. It is only Friday.

Sunday is a comin'!

**Upon a life you did not live,
upon a death you did not die,
may you stake your
whole eternity.**

