



Create  
in Me  
a Pure  
Heart

– Psalm 51:10-12 –



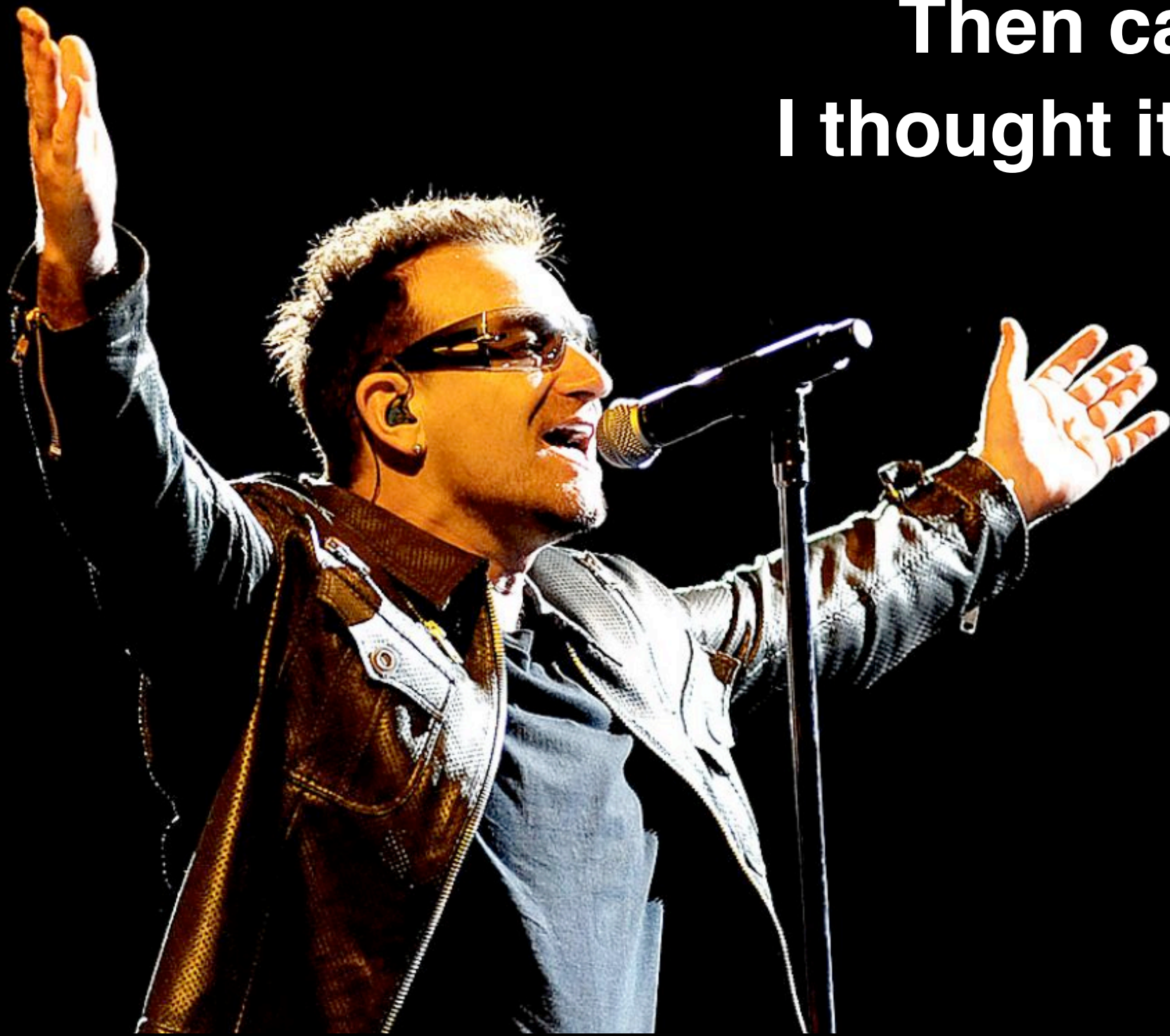
# “White As Snow”

— U2 —



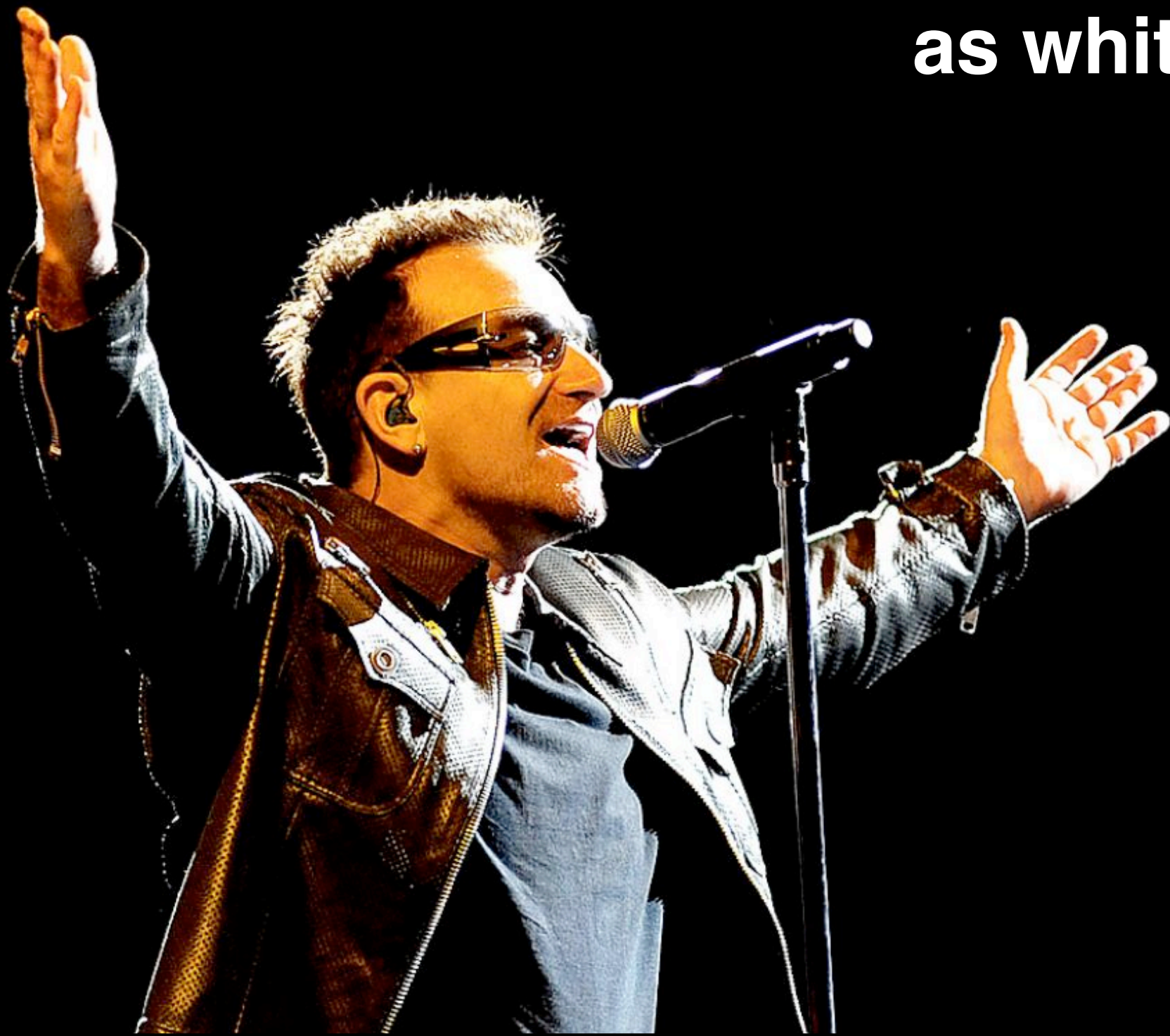


**Once I knew there  
was a love divine  
Then came a time  
I thought it knew me not**





**If only a heart could be  
as white as snow**







# Psalm 51

— King David —

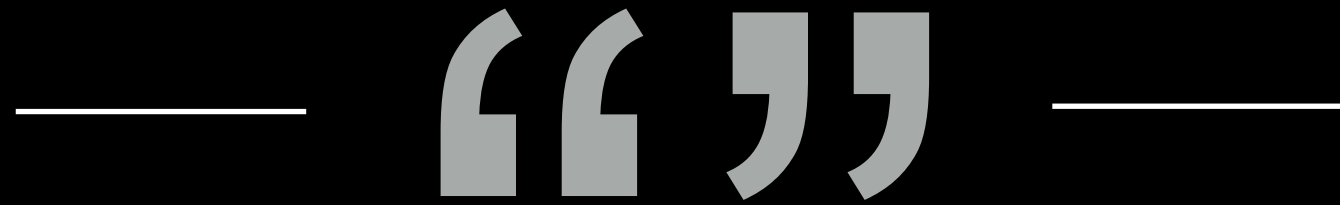




Create  
in Me  
a Pure  
Heart

– Psalm 51:10-12 –





**BLESSED ARE  
THE PURE IN HEART,  
FOR THEY SHALL SEE GOD.**

**Jesus of Nazareth**

— The Gospel of Matthew 5:8 —



## Psalm 51

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***To the choirmaster. A psalm of David,  
when Nathan the Prophet went to him,  
after he had gone into Bathsheba.***



## Psalm 51

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- 1 Have mercy on me, O God,  
according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy  
blot out my transgressions.**
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,  
and cleanse me from my sin.**



## Psalm 51

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- 3 For I know my transgressions,  
and my sin is ever before me.**
- 4 Against you, you only, have I sinned  
and done what is evil in your sight,  
so that you may be justified in your  
words, and blameless in your  
judgment.**



## Psalm 51

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**5 Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,  
and in sin did my mother conceive  
me.**

**6 Behold, you delight in truth in the  
inward being,  
and you teach me wisdom in the  
secret heart.**

## Psalm 51

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- 7 Purge me with hyssop, and I shall  
be clean  
wash me and I shall be whiter than  
snow.**
- 8 Let me hear joy and gladness;  
let the bones you have broken  
rejoice.**



## Psalm 51

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**9 Hide your face from my sins,  
and blot out my iniquities.**





**We are learning that we are  
more broken, messed up,  
rebellious—and yes—sinful  
than we often have  
the courage to admit,  
AND YET AT THE SAME  
TIME IN CHRIST  
we are more loved,  
forgiven, pursued, and  
embraced by our Heavenly  
Father than we ever  
dared to dream possible.**



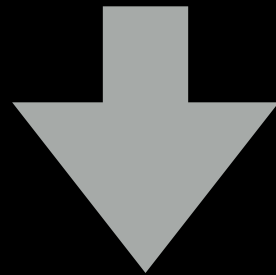
## Psalm 51

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10 **Create** in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.

# DIGGING DEEPER IN HEBREW

“create” = bârâ (בָּרָא)

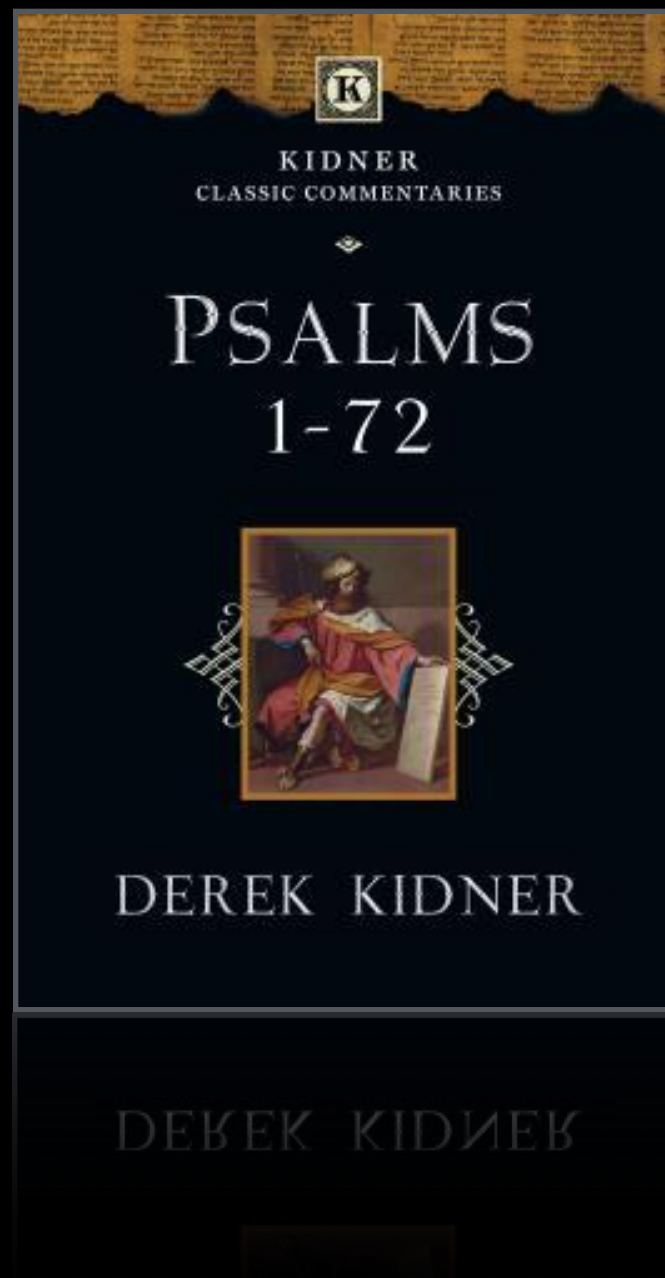


**To create from nothing**

“...used in Genesis 1 for the creation of the heavens and the earth by God. Strictly used, this word describes what only God can do; to create *ex nihilo*, out of nothing.”

— James Montgomery Boice, *Psalms Vol. 2* —





“

**With the word *create* he asks  
for nothing less than a miracle.**

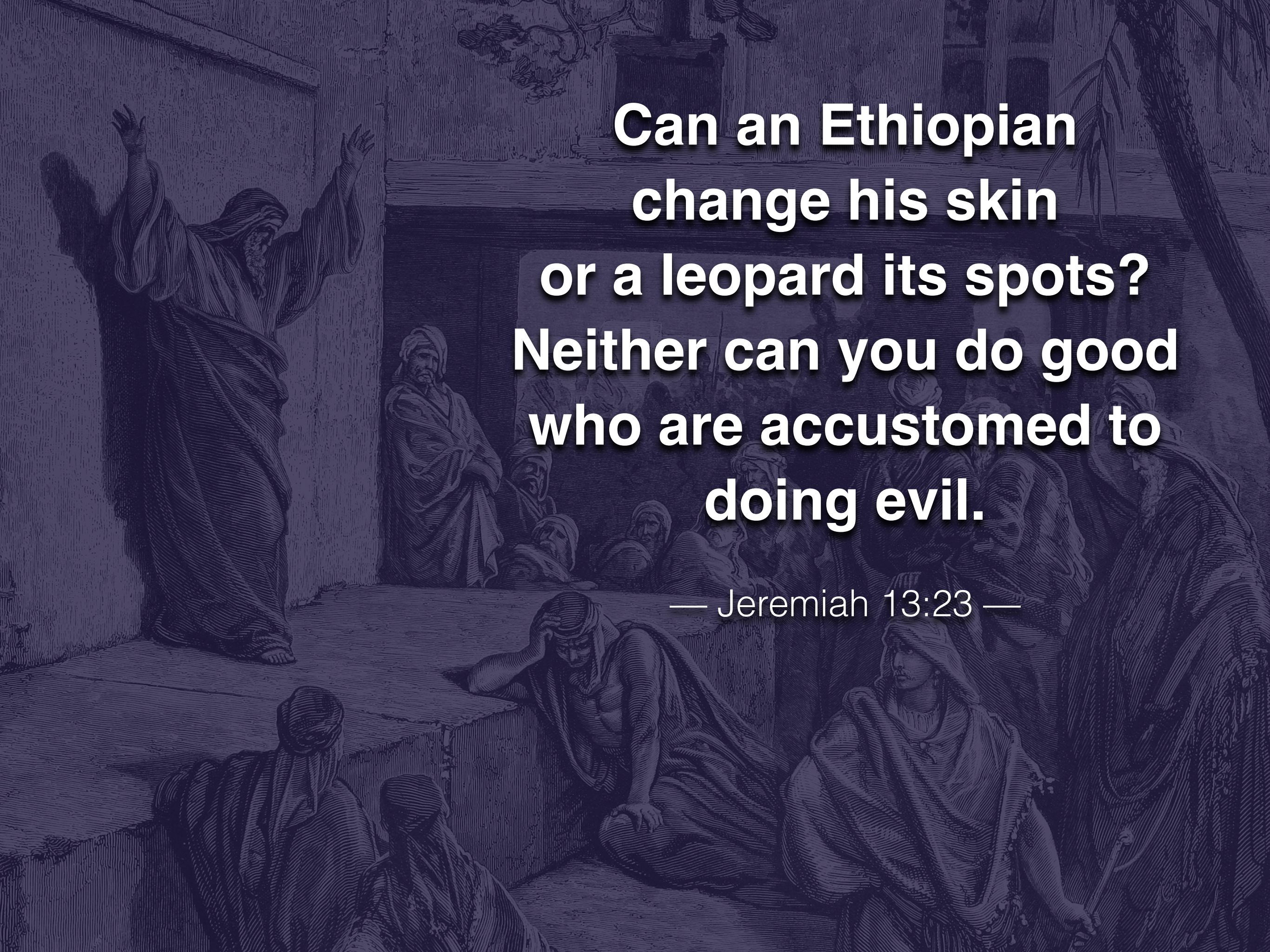
”

**What! Has sin so  
destroyed us, that  
the Creator must be  
called in again?  
What ruin then  
does evil work  
among mankind!**

**Charles H. Spurgeon**  
— The Treasury of David, Vol. 2—







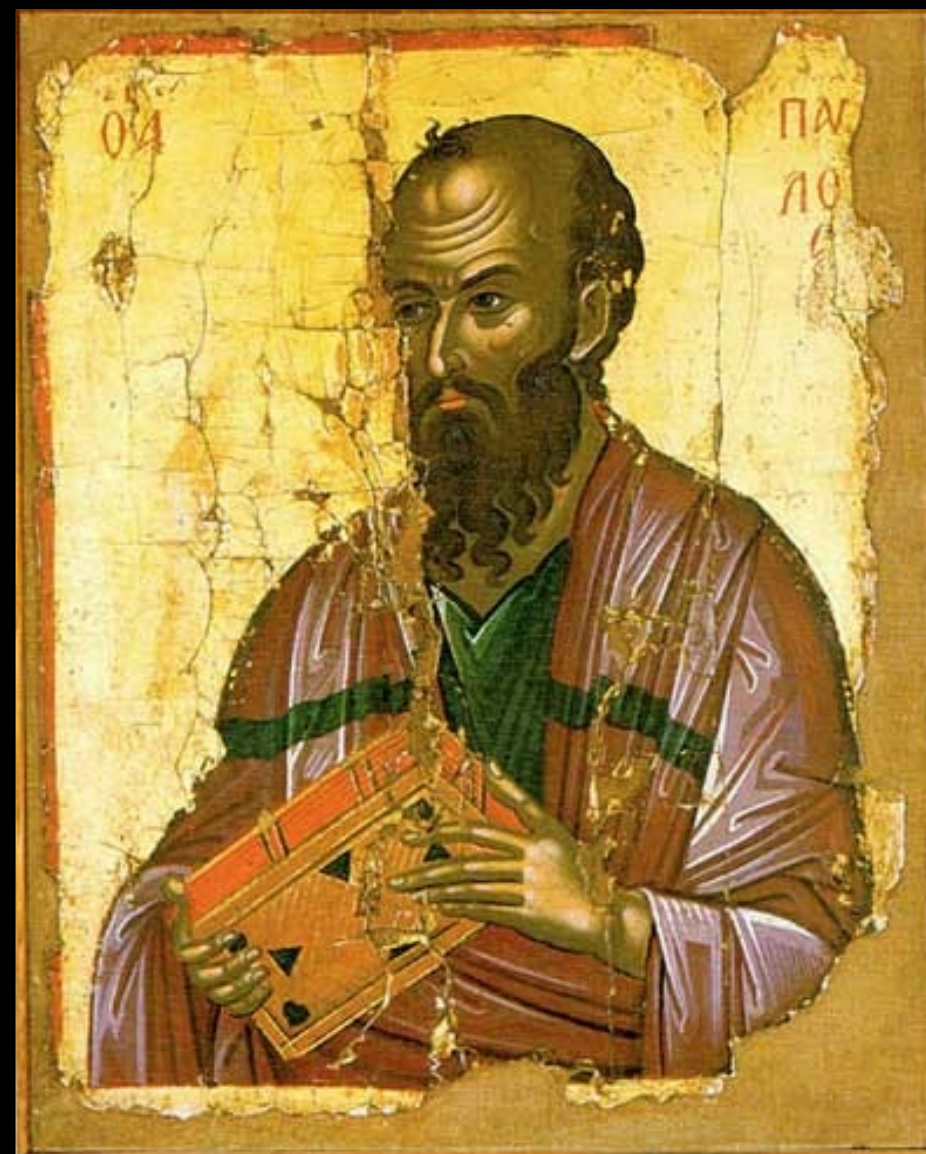
**Can an Ethiopian  
change his skin  
or a leopard its spots?  
Neither can you do good  
who are accustomed to  
doing evil.**

— Jeremiah 13:23 —



**I know nothing good  
lives in me, that is,  
in my sinful nature.**

**The Apostle Paul**  
— Romans 7:18 —



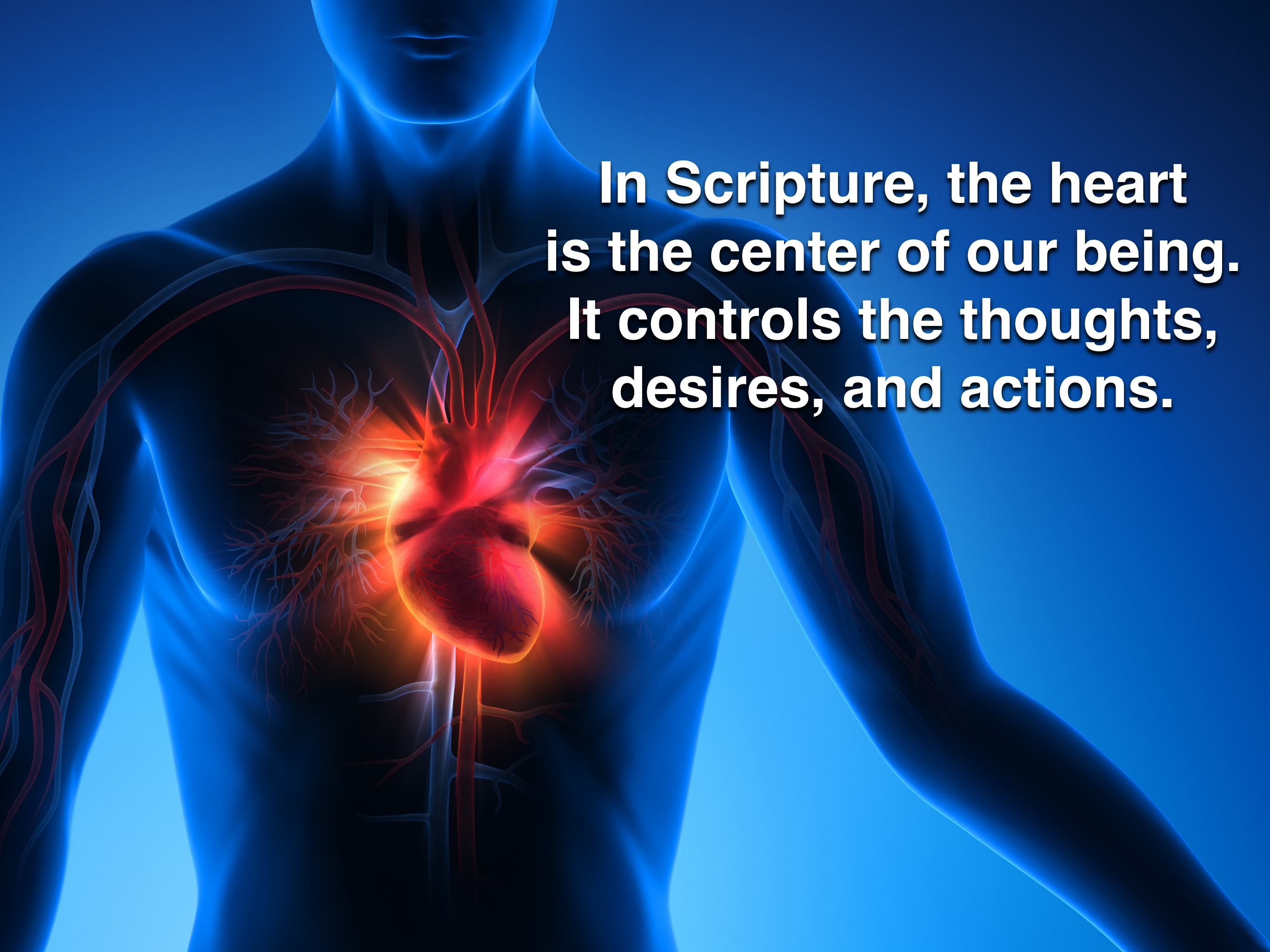


## Psalm 51

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**10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,**  
**and renew a right spirit within me.**



A blue-tinted illustration of a human torso, showing the internal organs and a network of blood vessels. The heart is highlighted in a bright, glowing orange-red color, positioned centrally in the chest. The background is a solid blue gradient.

**In Scripture, the heart  
is the center of our being.  
It controls the thoughts,  
desires, and actions.**



**The heart is the rudder  
of the soul, and till  
the Lord take it in hand,  
we steer it in a false  
and foul way. O Lord,  
You did once make me,  
be pleased to make me  
new, and in my most  
secret parts renew me.**

**Charles H. Spurgeon**

— The Treasury of David, Vol. 2—



## Psalm 51

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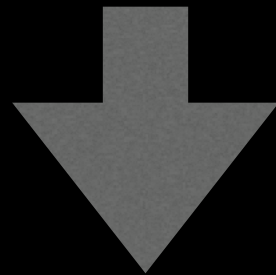
**10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.**



## Psalm 51

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10 Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a **right** spirit within me.



**“steadfast”**

**dedicated, resolute, single-minded,  
staunch, unflinching, unwavering**

**Let's cry out  
for new hearts**







**The heart is deceitful  
above all things,  
and desperately sick;  
who can understand it?**

**“I the LORD search  
the heart and  
test the mind....”**

— Jeremiah 17:9-10 —



**What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.**

**Jesus of Nazareth**

The Gospel of Mark 7:20-23

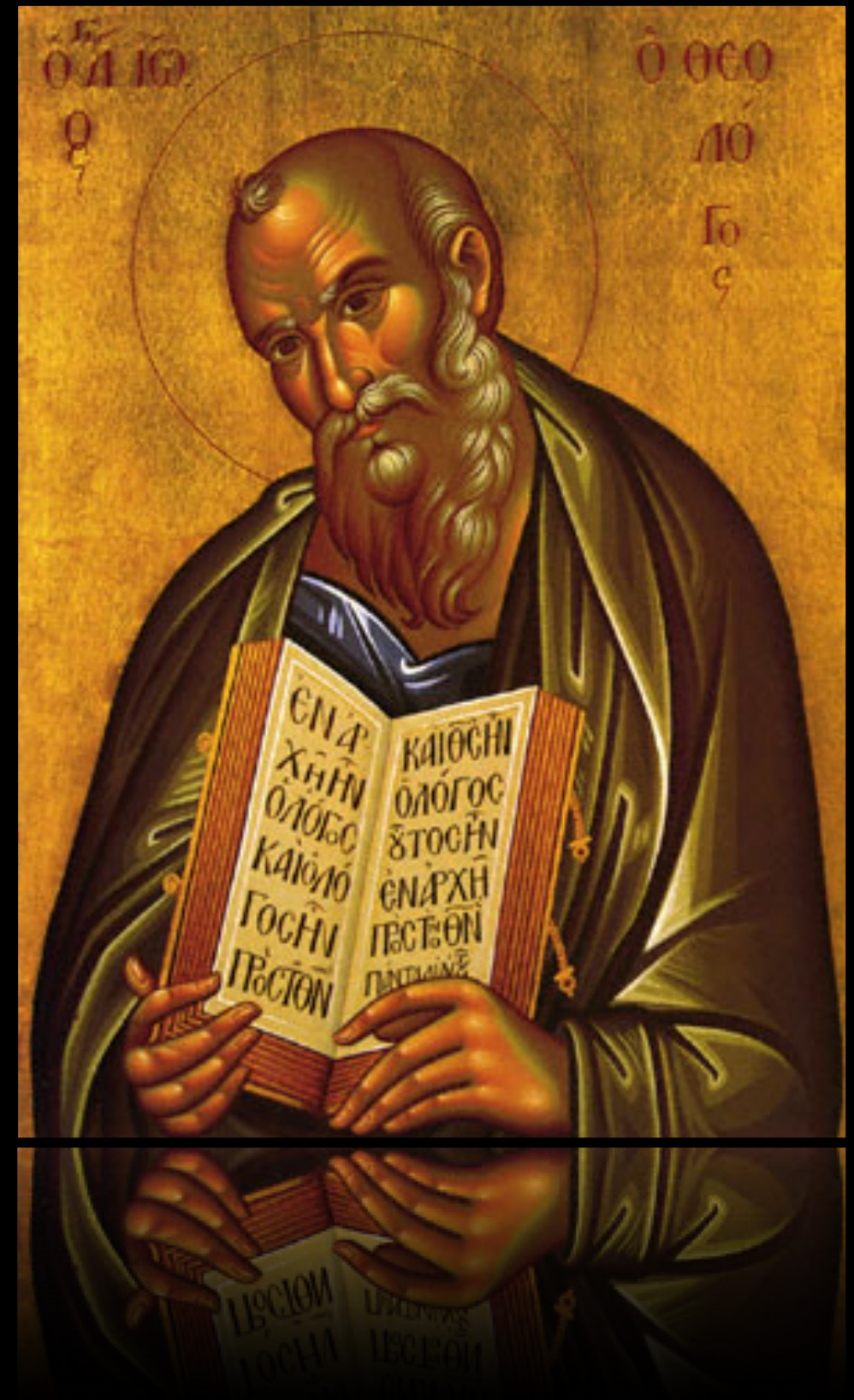




**Twenty-one year old Georgia shooter  
murders eight women in order  
“to eliminate” a temptation.**

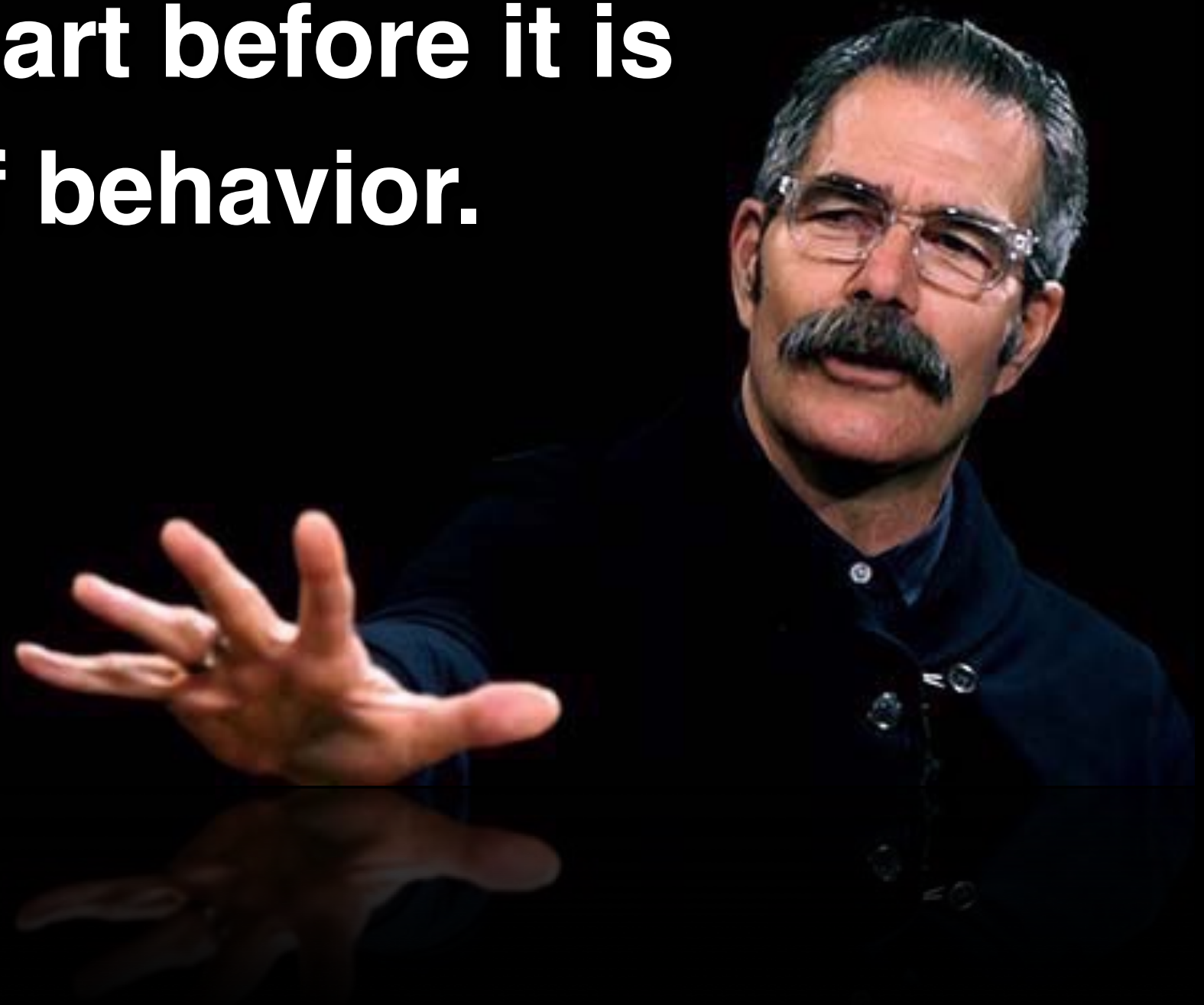
**Everyone who hates  
his brother is a  
murderer, and you  
know that no  
murderer has eternal  
life abiding in him.**

**The Apostle John**  
1 John 3:15



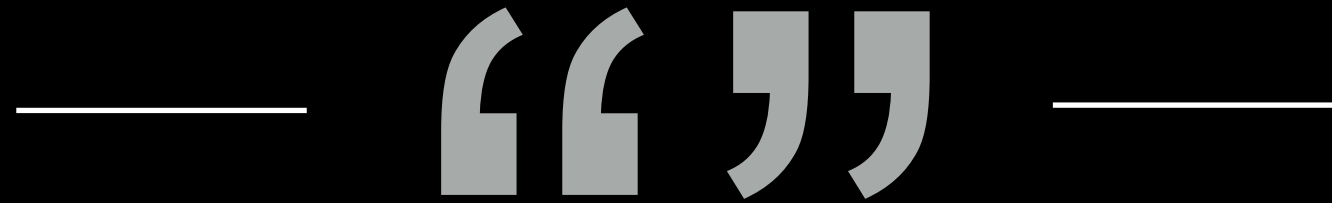


**People, locations, situations, don't  
cause me to sin; they're where the sin  
of my heart gets revealed.... Sin is a  
matter of the heart before it is  
ever an issue of behavior.**



**Paul David Tripp**

*New Morning Mercies*



**It is not the healthy who need  
a doctor, but the sick. I have  
not come to call the righteous,  
but sinners to repentance.**

**Jesus of Nazareth**

— The Gospel of Luke 5:31-32 —



**If anyone is in Christ,  
he is a new creation.  
The old has passed away,  
and the new has come.**

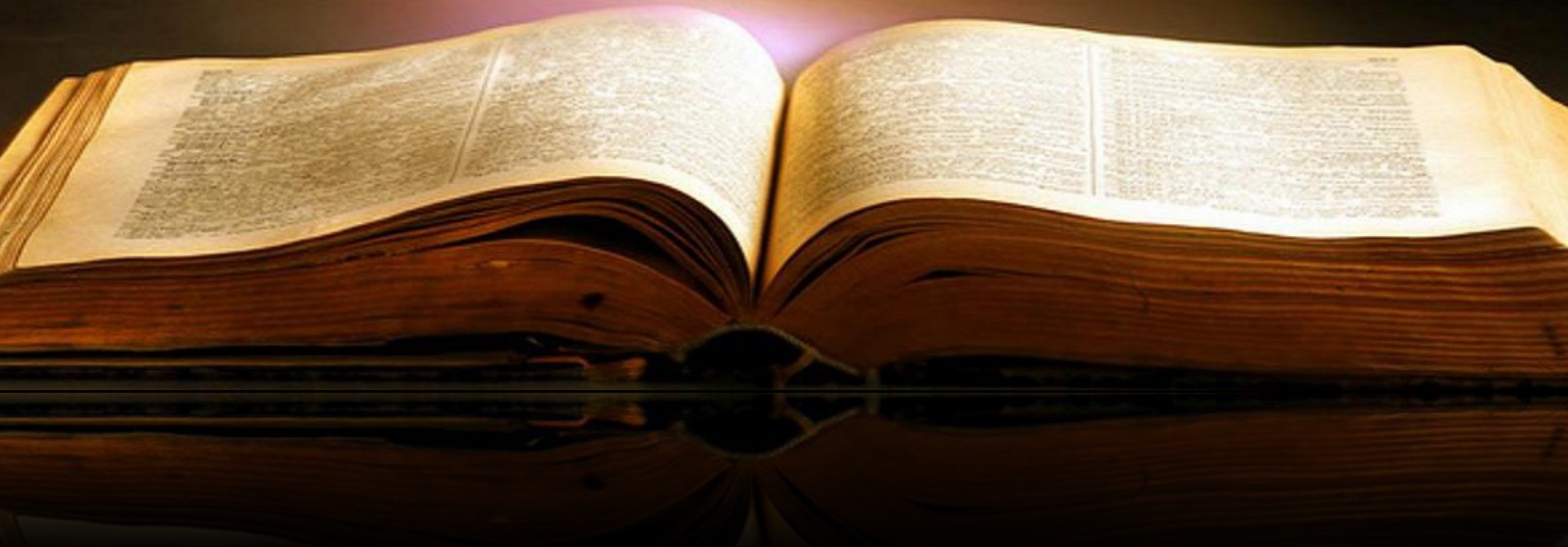
**The Apostle Paul**  
— 2 Corinthians 5:17 —





**...let us throw off everything that hinders  
and the sin that so easily entangles. And let  
us run with perseverance the race marked  
out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus....**

— Hebrews 12:1-2 —





## Psalm 51

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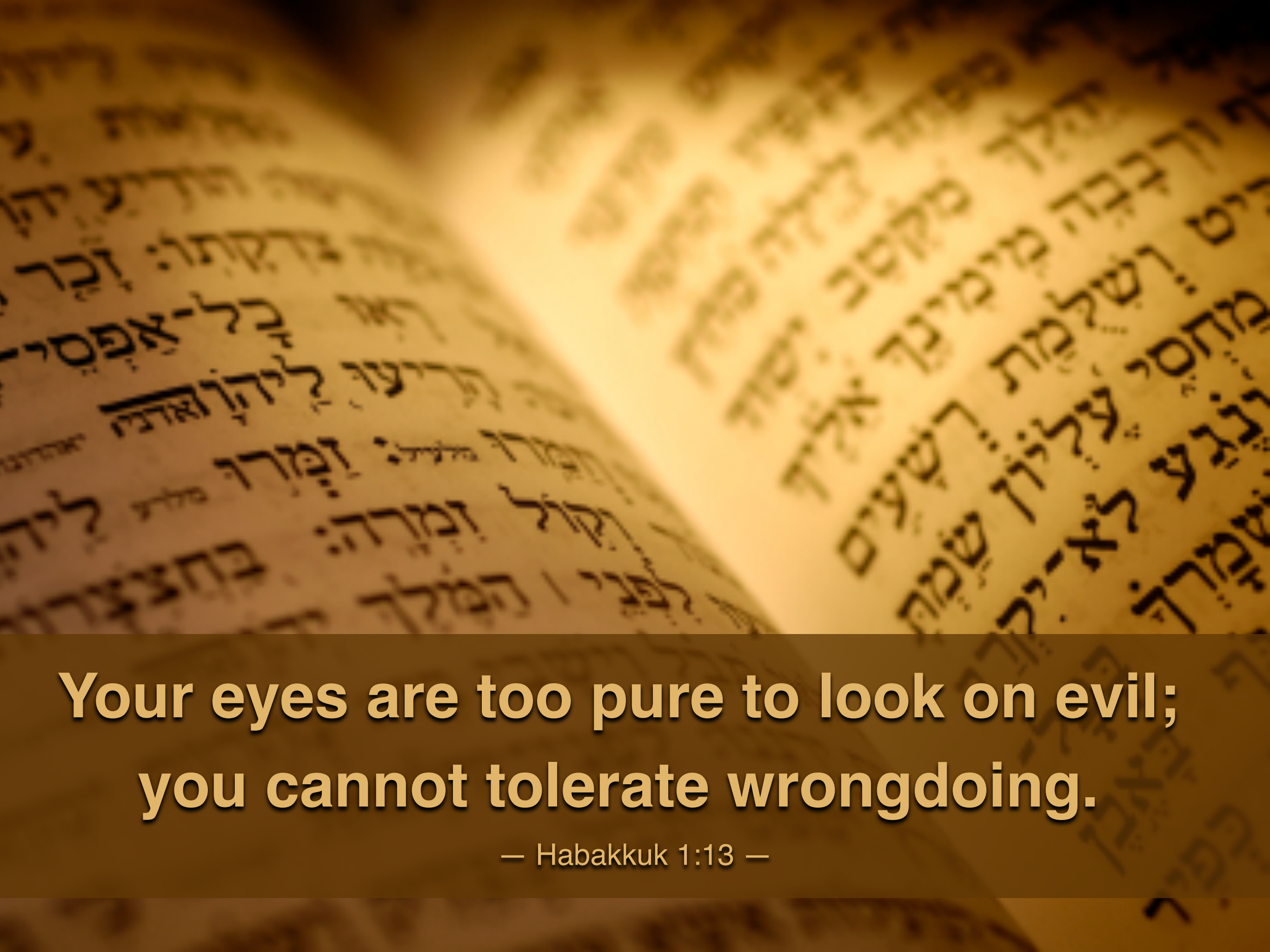
**11 Cast me not away from your  
presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit  
from me.**

## Psalm 51

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**11 Cast me not away from your  
presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit  
from me.**





**Your eyes are too pure to look on evil;  
you cannot tolerate wrongdoing.**

— Habakkuk 1:13 —




**...your iniquities have  
made a separation  
between you and your God,  
and your sins have  
hidden his face from you  
so that he does not hear.**

— Isaiah 59:2 —





A close-up, low-angle shot of a sandy beach. A series of dark, wet footprints leads from the bottom left towards the top left, receding into the distance. The sand is a warm, golden-brown color, and the lighting creates soft shadows, emphasizing the texture of the sand and the depth of the prints.

**Sin gives you  
what you want:  
relational distance  
from God.**



**It is natural that saints,  
when they have fallen  
into sin, should feel  
anxiety at this point....**

— John Calvin, 1509-1564 —





## Psalm 51

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**11 Cast me not away from your  
presence,  
and take not your Holy Spirit  
from me.**

**...do not grieve  
the Holy Spirit of God,  
by whom you were  
sealed for the day  
of redemption.**

**The Apostle Paul**  
— Ephesians 4:30 —



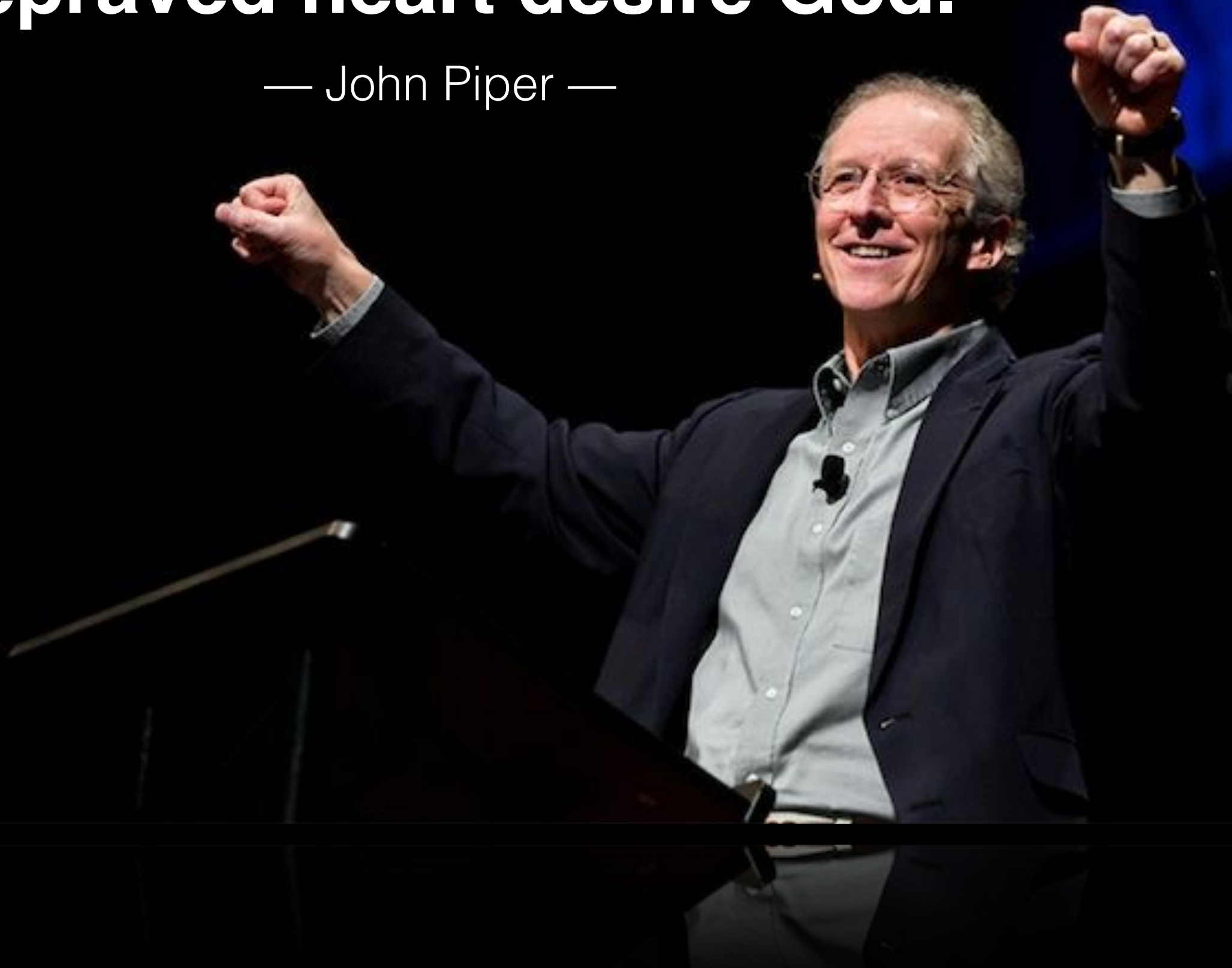


**What have  
you noticed  
about the shift  
in David's  
desires**

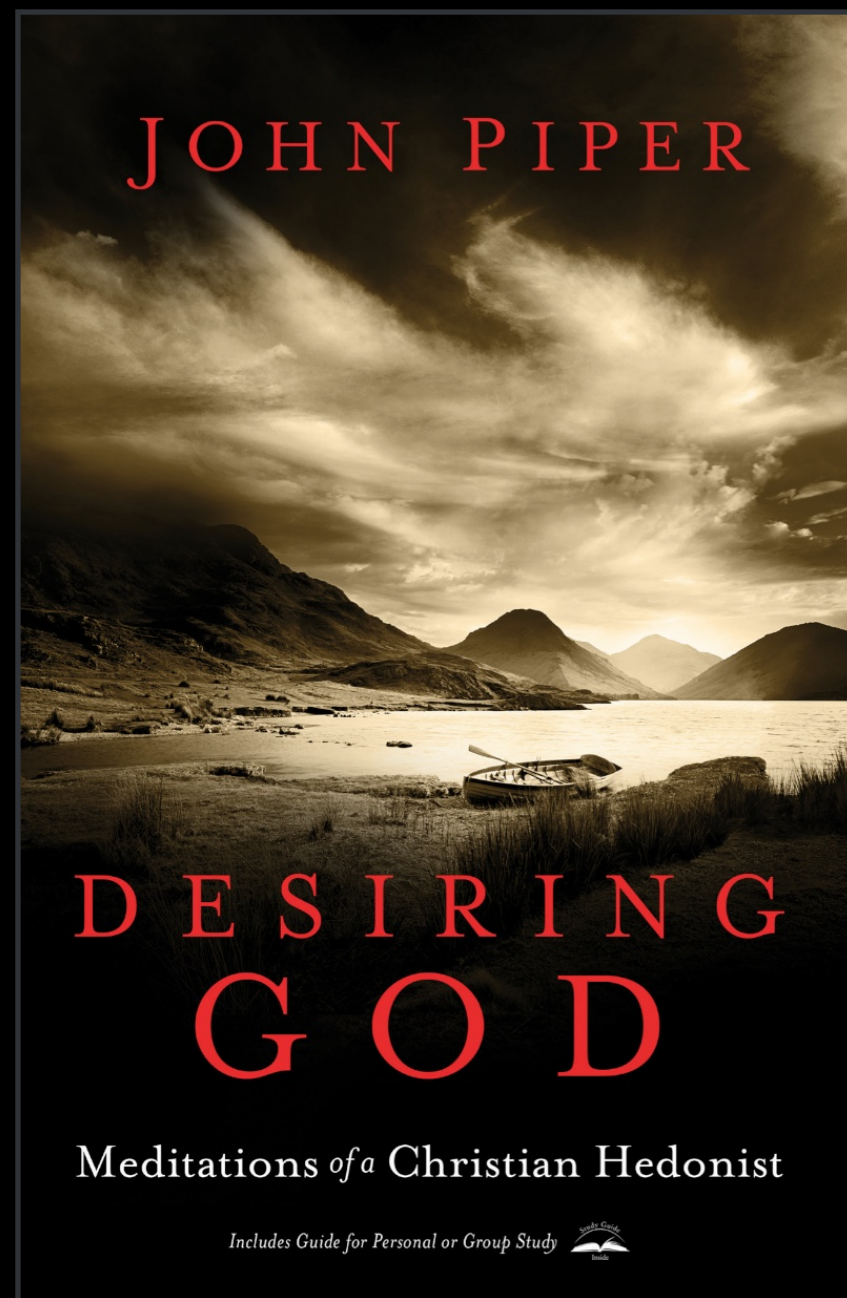


**Only God can make the  
depraved heart desire God.**


— John Piper —







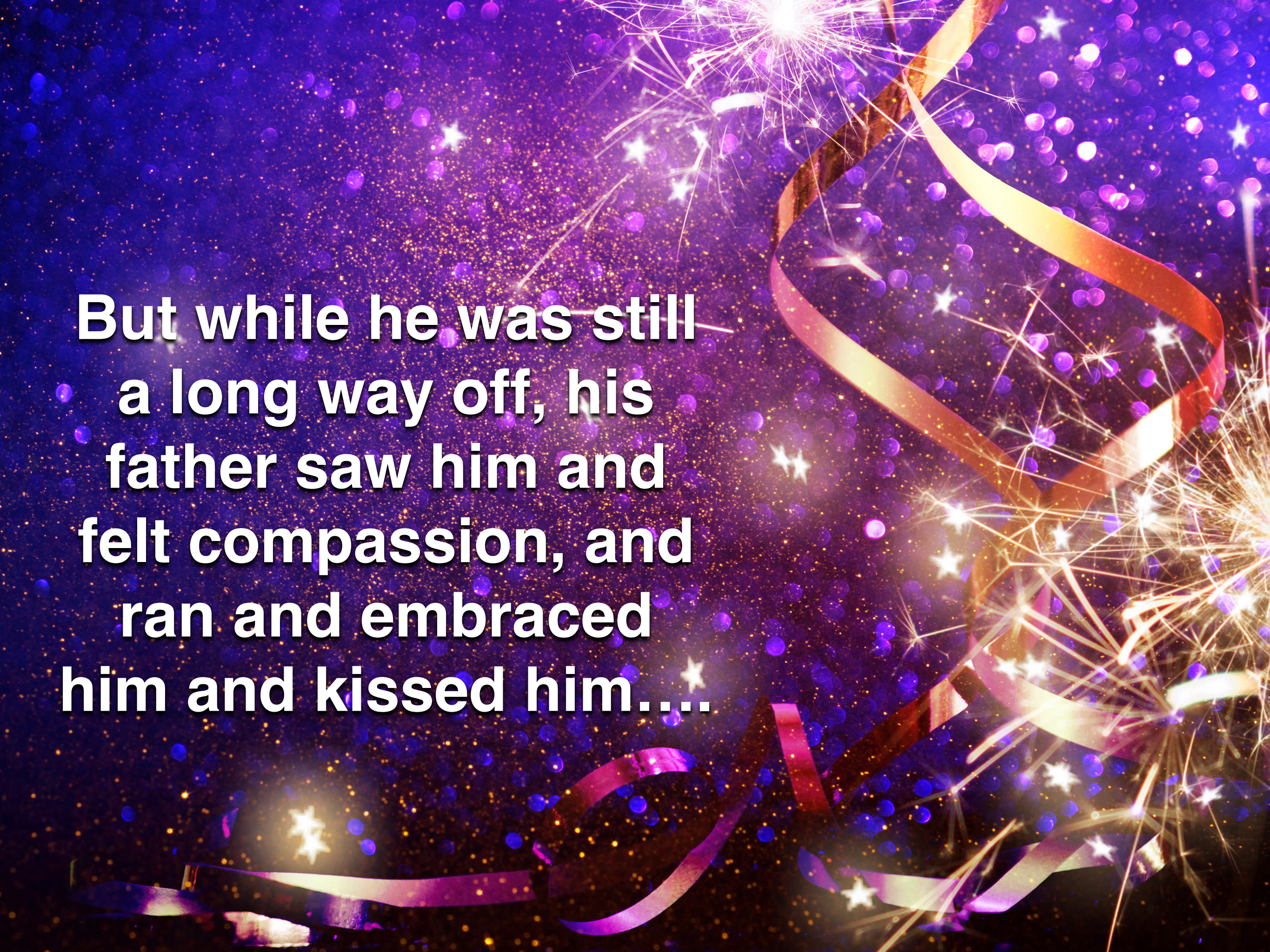
**In the end the heart  
longs not for any of  
God's gifts, but for  
God himself. To  
see him and know  
him and be in his  
presence is the  
soul's final feast.**

A person is lying on their back, with their hands and feet extended towards the camera. The hands are in the foreground, palms up, and the feet are in the background, also with toes pointing towards the camera. The person is wearing a blue long-sleeved shirt. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting an outdoor setting at night or in low light.

**Let us draw near to God,  
and He will draw near to us.**

— James 4:8 —





**But while he was still  
a long way off, his  
father saw him and  
felt compassion, and  
ran and embraced  
him and kissed him....**



**Even the desire  
to want to want  
to draw near God  
is a gift from God.**



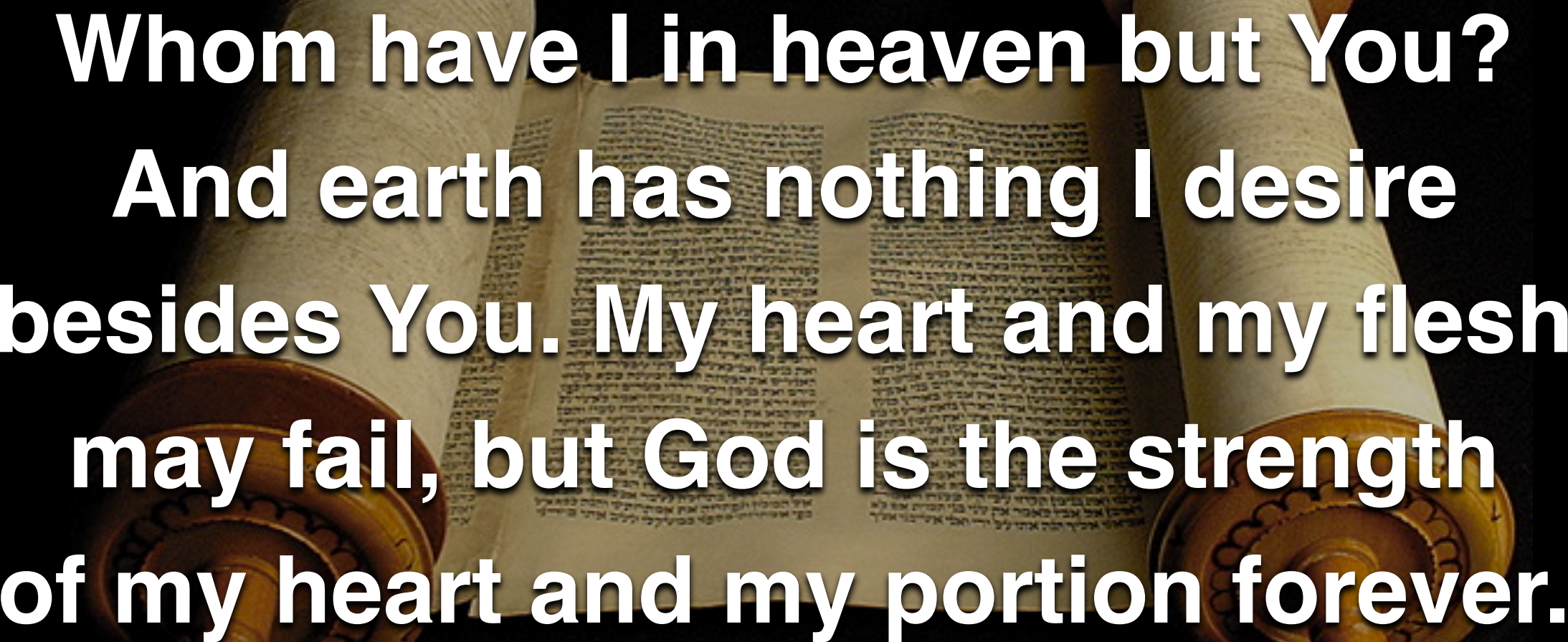




**All that the Father gives to me  
I will never cast out....  
For this is the will of my Father,  
that everyone who looks on  
the Son and believes in him  
should have eternal life....**

**Jesus of Nazareth**

— The Gospel of John 6:37 & 40 —



**Whom have I in heaven but You?  
And earth has nothing I desire  
besides You. My heart and my flesh  
may fail, but God is the strength  
of my heart and my portion forever.**

— Psalm 73 —

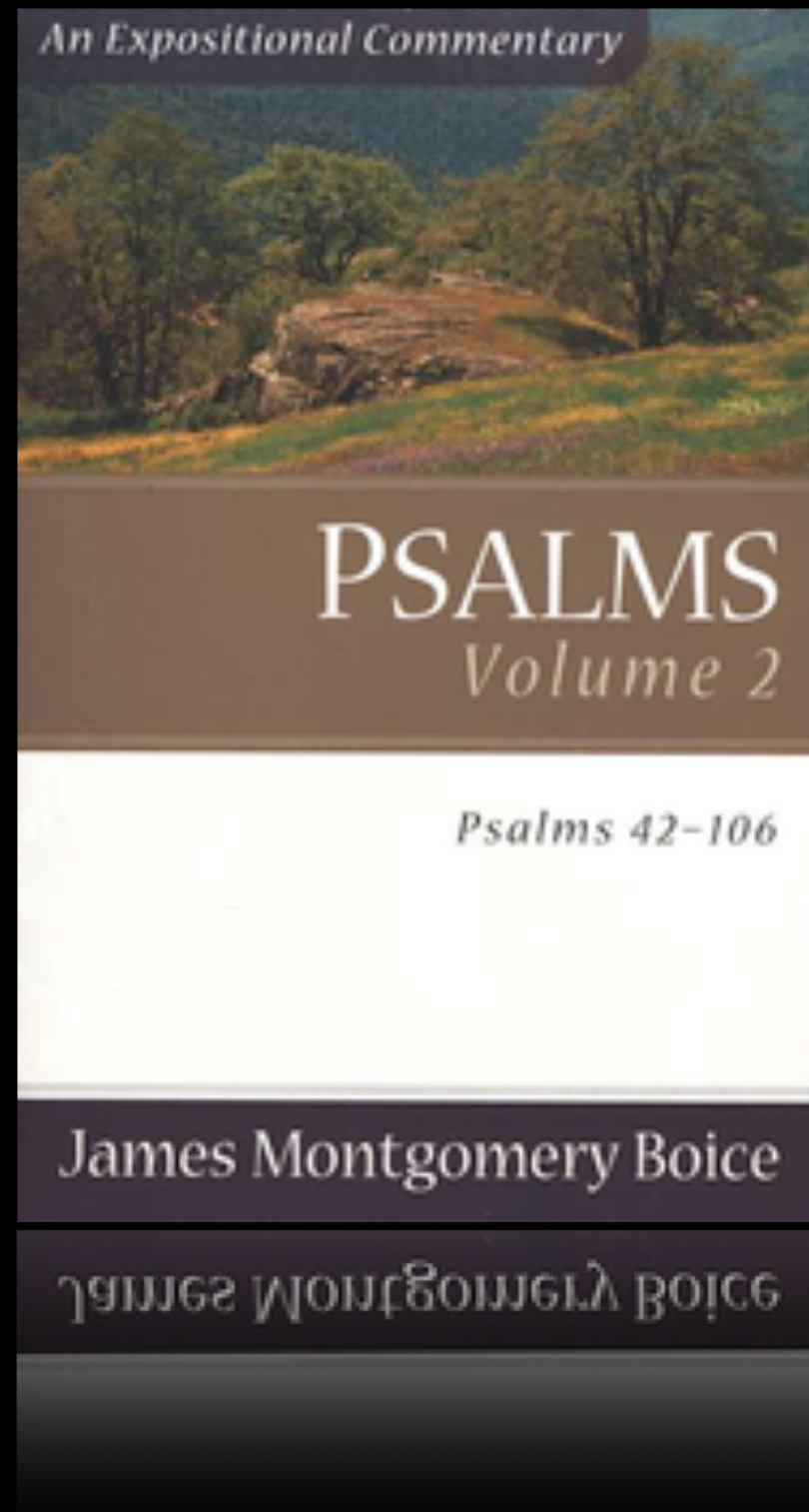


## Psalm 51

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**11 Restore to me the joy of your  
salvation,  
and uphold me with a willing  
spirit.**

**David is not praying  
that God would  
restore his salvation,  
as if he lost it and  
needed to get it back  
again. It is not the  
salvation he had lost,  
but the joy of it.**

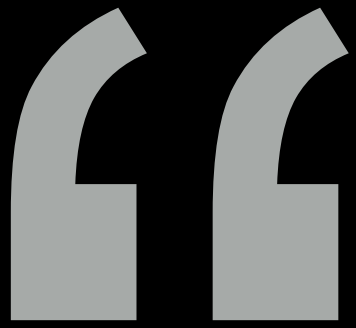




**Stop! You can't be talking  
about joy and Christianity  
in the same breath?!?!  
Christians are some  
of the most joyless  
people I've known.**

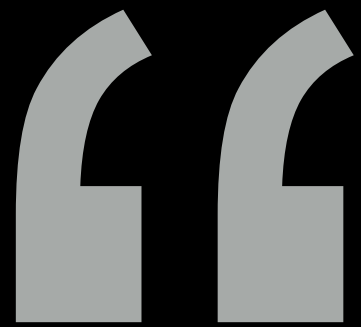






**...the greatest need of the hour is a revived and joyful Church.... Nothing is more important...than that we should be delivered from a condition which gives other people looking at us the impression that to be a Christian means to be unhappy, to be sad, to be morbid....**





**Christian people too often seem to be perpetually in the doldrums and too often give this appearance of unhappiness and lack of freedom and of absence of joy. There is no question at all but that this is the main reason why large numbers of people have ceased to be interested in Christianity.**

Martyn Lloyd-Jones  
*Spiritual Depression*, 1964



**...we work with you  
for your joy....**

**The Apostle Paul**  
— Philippians 1:24 —







**Hearing the word of  
the cross, and preaching  
it to ourselves, is the  
central strategy for  
sinners in the fight  
for joy. Nothing works  
without this. Here is  
where we start.**



**Here we see the glory of  
Christ more clearly than  
anywhere else.... here is  
where we must linger.**

— John Piper —





**“It Is Well”**  
Horatio Spafford

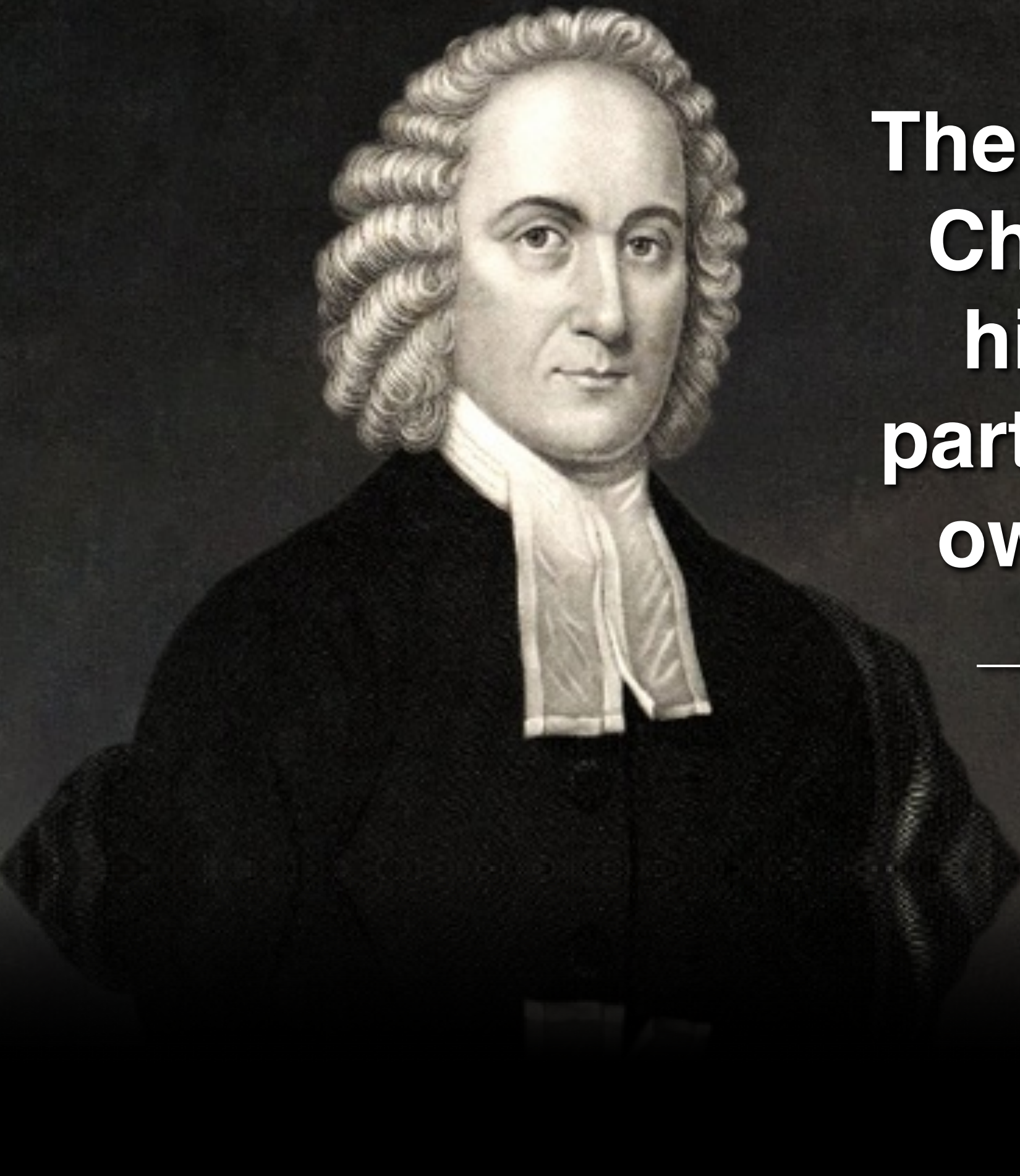
**My sin—O the bliss of  
this glorious thought—  
my sin, not in part  
but the whole  
is nailed to the cross  
and I bear it no more  
Praise the Lord,  
Praise the Lord  
O my soul**

**As the Father has loved me, so have I  
loved you. Now remain in my love....  
I have told you this so that my joy may be  
in you and that your joy may be complete.**

— Jesus of Nazareth in The Gospel of John 5:9 & 11 —



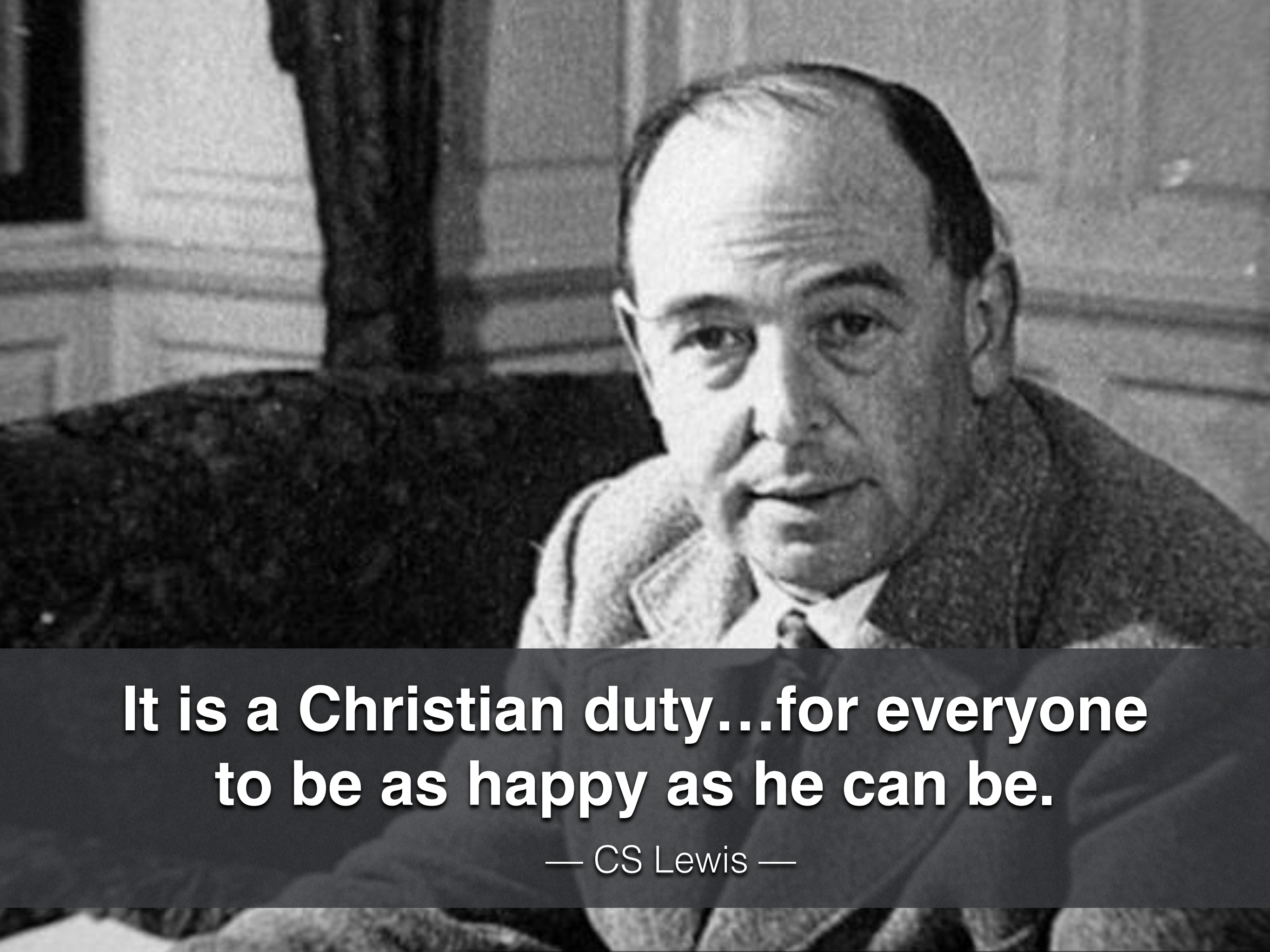




**The happiness that  
Christ's gives to  
his people is a  
participation in his  
own happiness.**

— Jonathan Edwards —



A black and white portrait of C.S. Lewis, a middle-aged man with receding hair, wearing a suit and tie, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is slightly out of focus, showing what appears to be a window or a wall with a textured surface.

**It is a Christian duty...for everyone  
to be as happy as he can be.**

— CS Lewis —



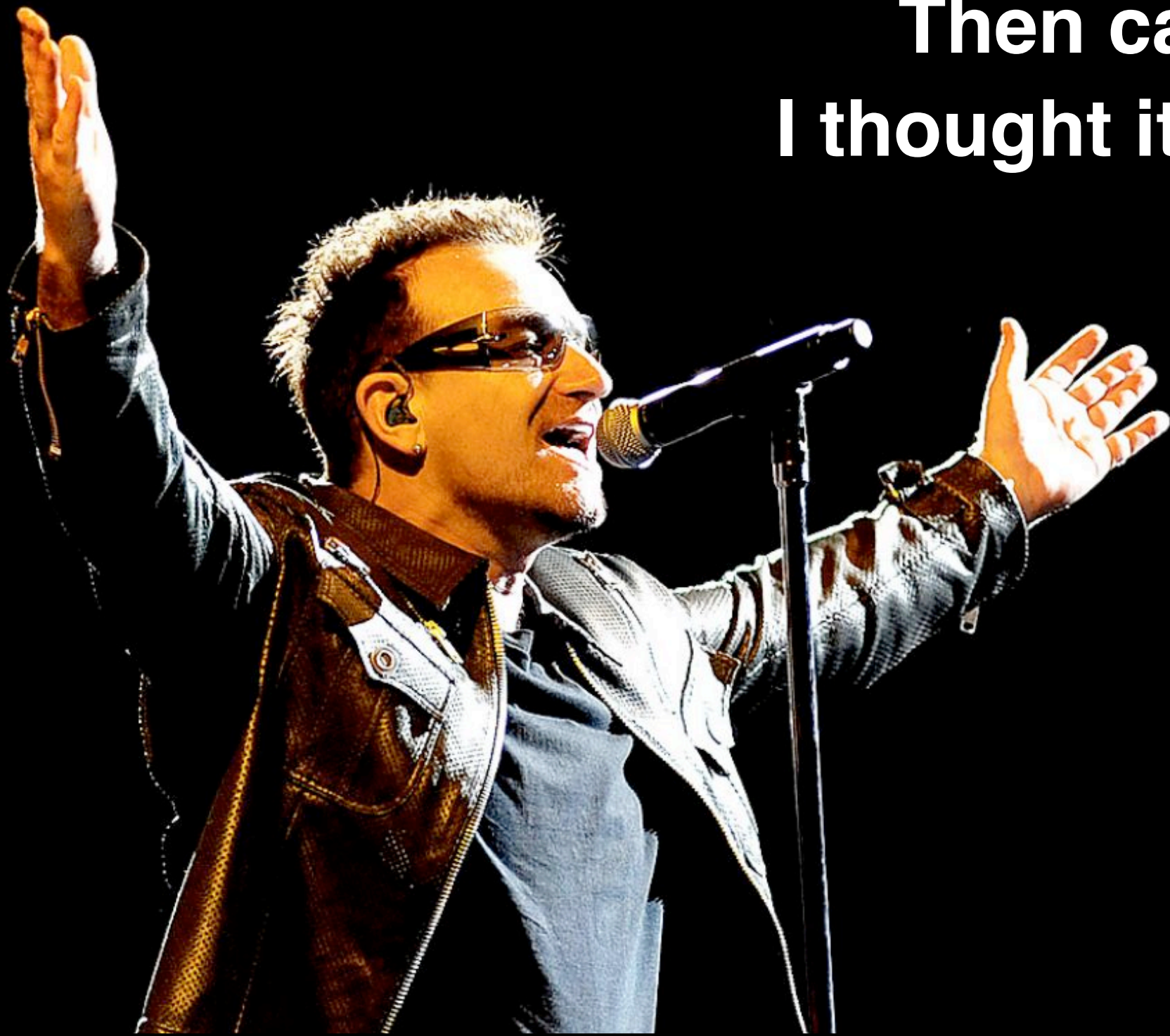


**Let us leave sadness  
to the devil and his angels.  
As for us, what can we be  
but rejoicing and glad?**

**St Francis of Assisi**

1181-1226

**Once I knew there  
was a love divine  
Then came a time  
I thought it knew me not**





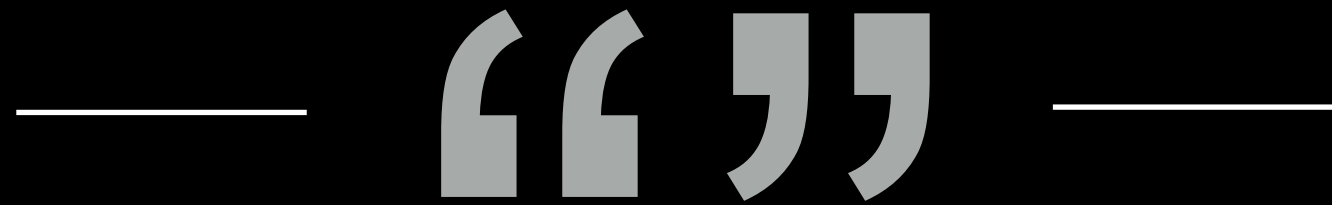
**Who can forgive forgiveness  
where forgiveness is not**



**Who can forgive forgiveness  
where forgiveness is not  
Only the Lamb as white as snow**







**Behold, the Lamb of God,  
who takes away the sin  
of the world!**

**John the Baptist**

— The Gospel of John 1:29 —