

- Our Father has provided us with a great salvation.
- We've been talking about what it means that Jesus bore our sins, in particular dealing with some misconceptions about what it means.
- Today, I'll share with you what I think it means.
- We're going to start in Ezra! (ch. 9)

Ezra's Prayer

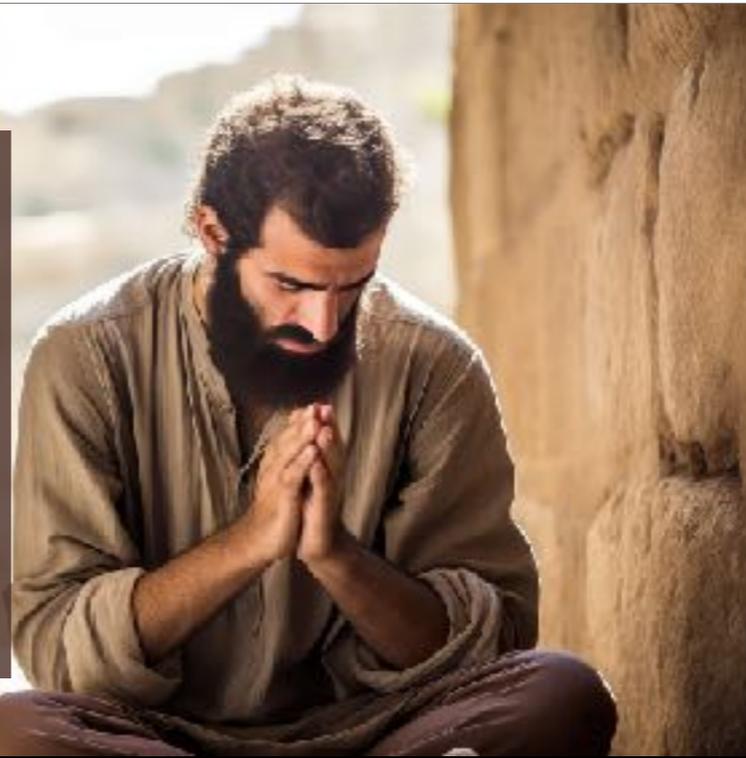


- Ezra's prayer for Israel's Faithfulness
- No part in sins of father's more than 70 years ago.
- No part in sins of current Israelites, mixed marriages.
- Speaks of "our" iniquities; "our" guilt:
- Listen!

Ezra's Prayer

O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to you, my God, for **our iniquities** have risen higher than our heads, and **our guilt** has mounted up to the heavens.

Ezra 9:6



- 6: “O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift my face to you, my God, for our iniquities have risen higher than our heads, and our guilt has mounted up to the heavens.

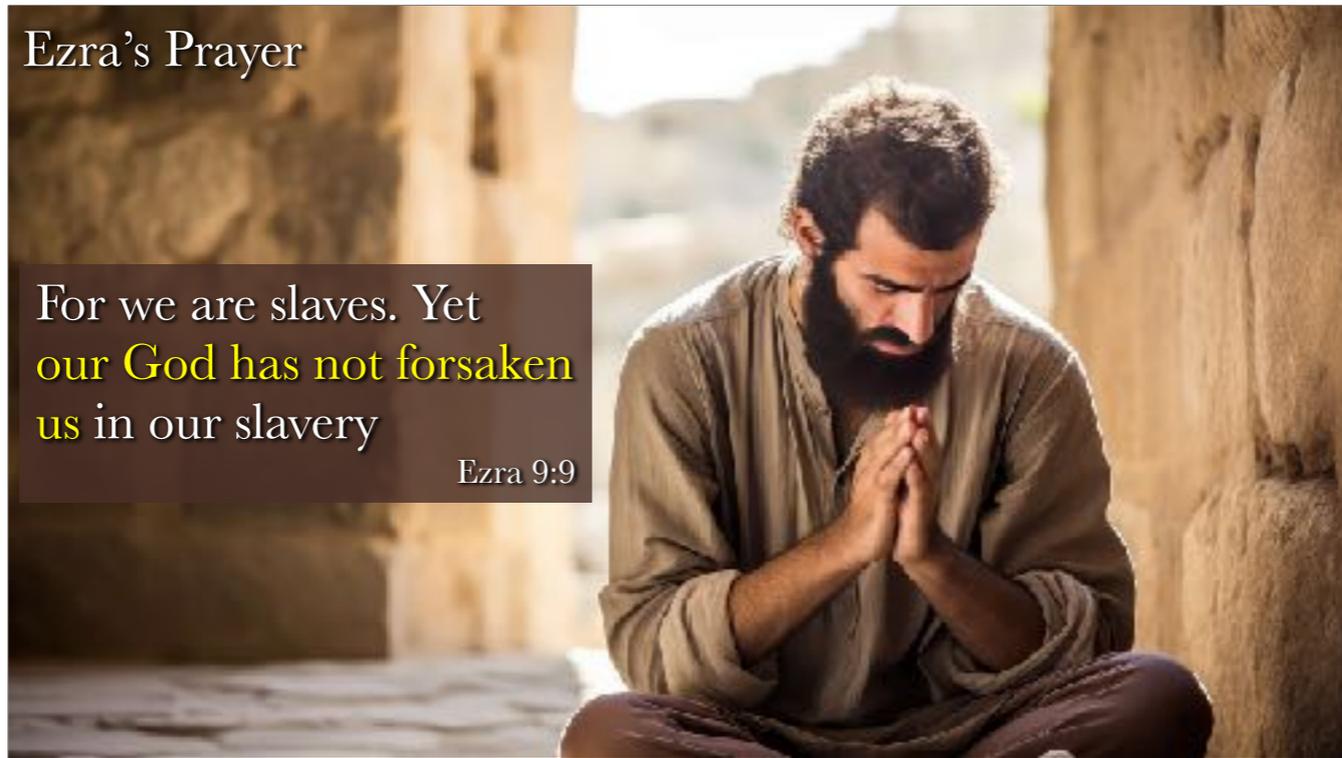
Ezra's Prayer

From the days of our fathers to this day **we** have been in great guilt. And for **our** iniquities **we**, our kings, and our priests have been given into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, to plundering, and to utter shame, as it is today.

Ezra 9:7



- 7: From the days of our fathers to this day we have been in great guilt. And for our iniquities we, our kings, and our priests have been given into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, to plundering, and to utter shame, as it is today.



- 9: For we are slaves. Yet our God has not forsaken us in our slavery, but has extended to us his steadfast love before the kings of Persia, to grant us some reviving to set up the house of our God, to repair its ruins, and to give us protection in Judea and Jerusalem.

Ezra's Prayer

And now, O our God,
what shall **we** say after
this? For **we** have forsaken
your commandments

Ezra 9:10

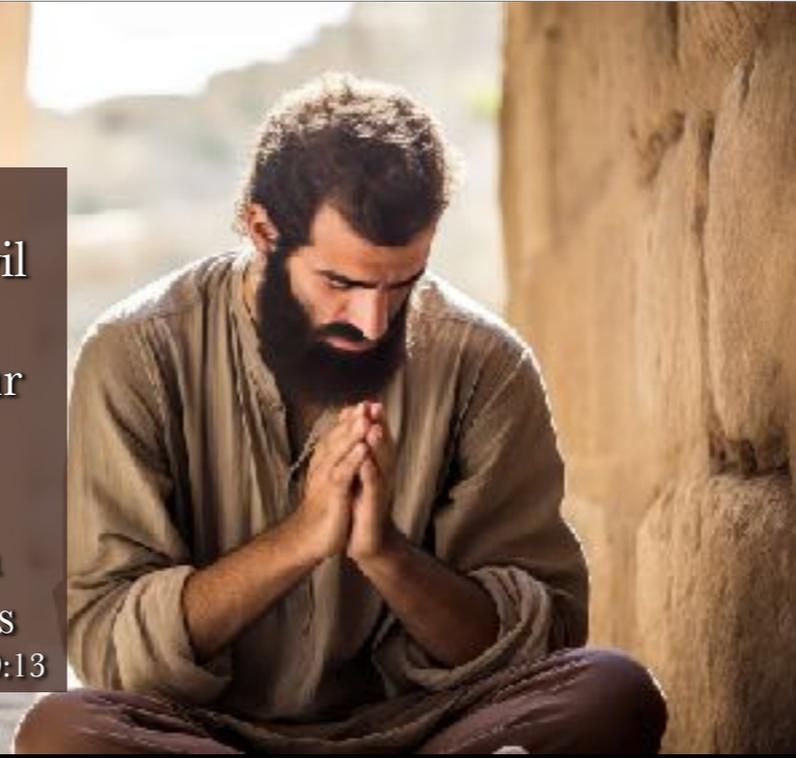


- 10: And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? For we have forsaken your commandments

Ezra's Prayer

And after all that has come upon **us** for **our** evil deeds and for **our** great guilt, seeing that you, our God, have punished **us** less than **our** iniquities deserved and have given **us** such a remnant as this

Ezra 9:13

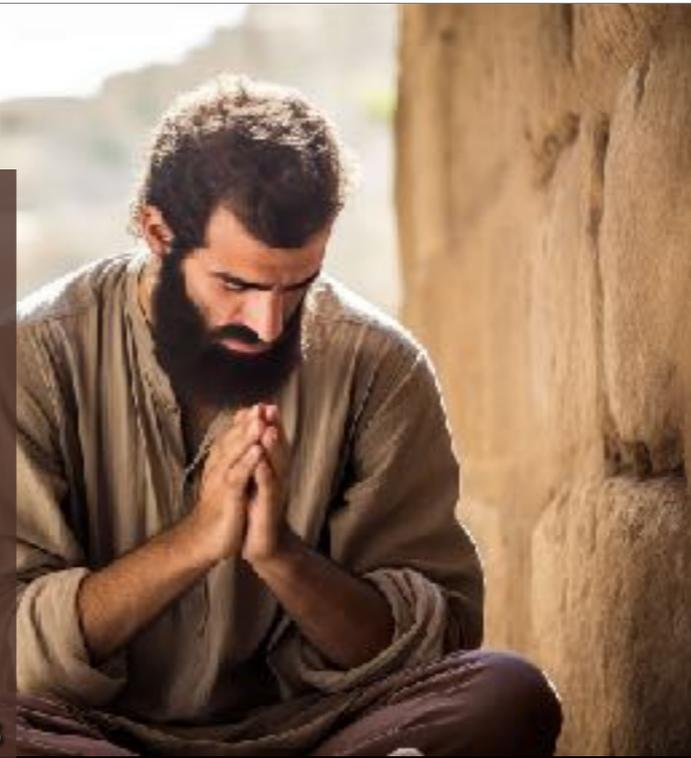


- 13: And after all that has come upon us for our evil deeds and for our great guilt, seeing that you, our God, have punished us less than our iniquities deserved and have given us such a remnant as this,

Ezra's Prayer

shall **we** break your commandments again and intermarry with the peoples who practice these abominations? Would you not be angry with **us** until you consumed **us**, so that there should be no remnant, nor any to escape?

Ezra 9:13

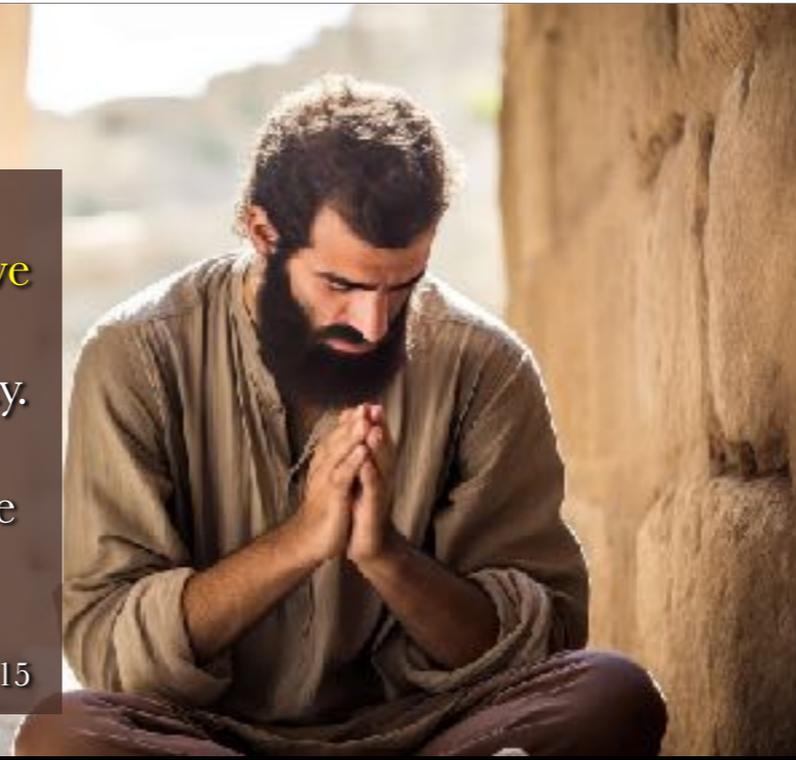


- 14: shall we break your commandments again and intermarry with the peoples who practice these abominations? Would you not be angry with us until you consumed us, so that there should be no remnant, nor any to escape?

Ezra's Prayer

O LORD, the God of Israel, you are just, for **we** are left a remnant that has escaped, as it is today. Behold, **we** are before you in **our** guilt, for none can stand before you because of this.

Ezra 9:15



- 15: O LORD, the God of Israel, you are just, for we are left a remnant that has escaped, as it is today. Behold, we are before you in our guilt, for none can stand before you because of this.”

Ezra's Prayer



- What is Ezra doing using “we” and “our” so much?
- Is this humility? Certainly! But it’s much more.
- He is not simply ashamed of the sins of the Israelites.
- He is appalled at the sins of his brothers and sisters; knows that he’s a part of this family that has sinned so egregiously.

Ezra's Prayer



- The sin isn't just something that "THEY" have done; it's "OUR" sin (even though, technically, he hadn't done it at all).
- Sees himself as guilty, not personally, but as a member of a family/nation that committed sin.
- He identifies himself as a part of this sinful family.

Ezra's Prayer

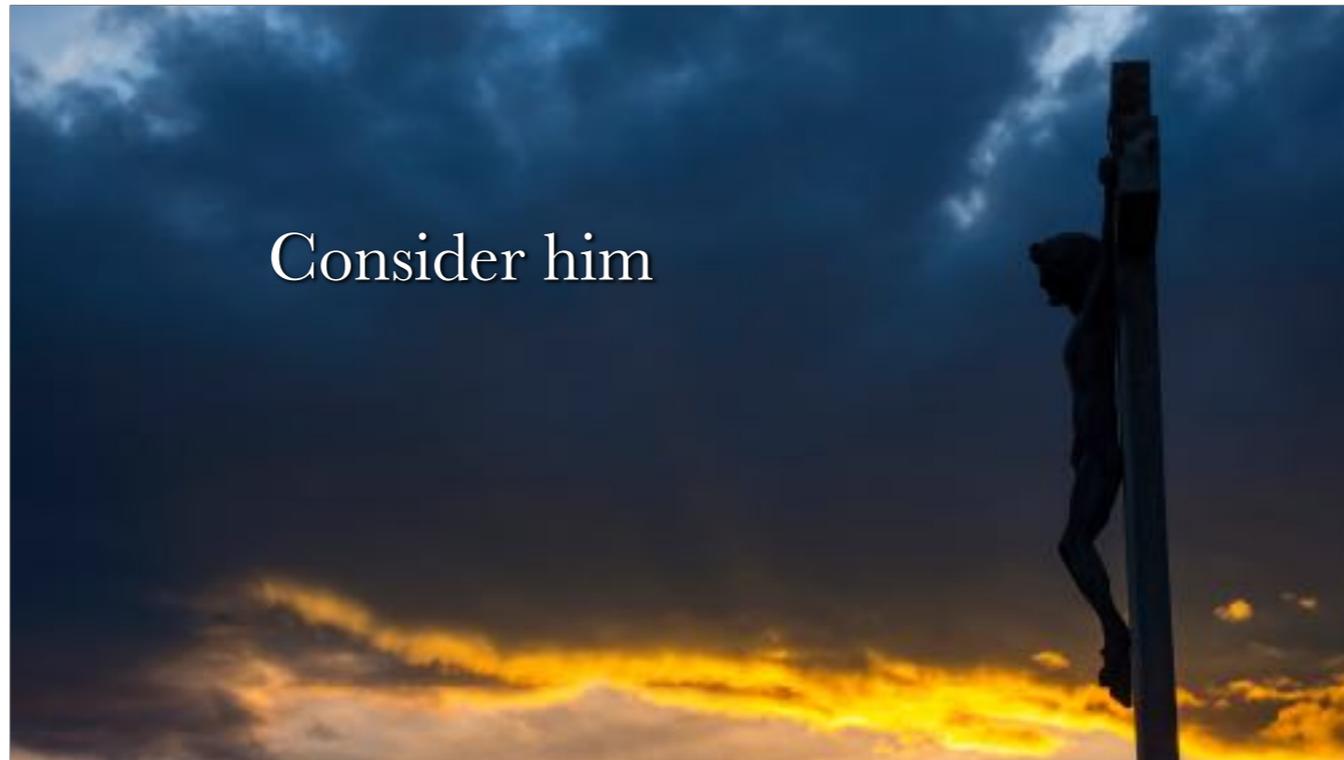


- This is very difficult for us (societally) because we are so firmly individualistic.
- We struggle with the idea of family/community/national sinfulness; and especially church.
- It's so much easier to point at THEM.
 - Those people outside the church.
 - Or those bad ones in the church.

Ezra's Prayer



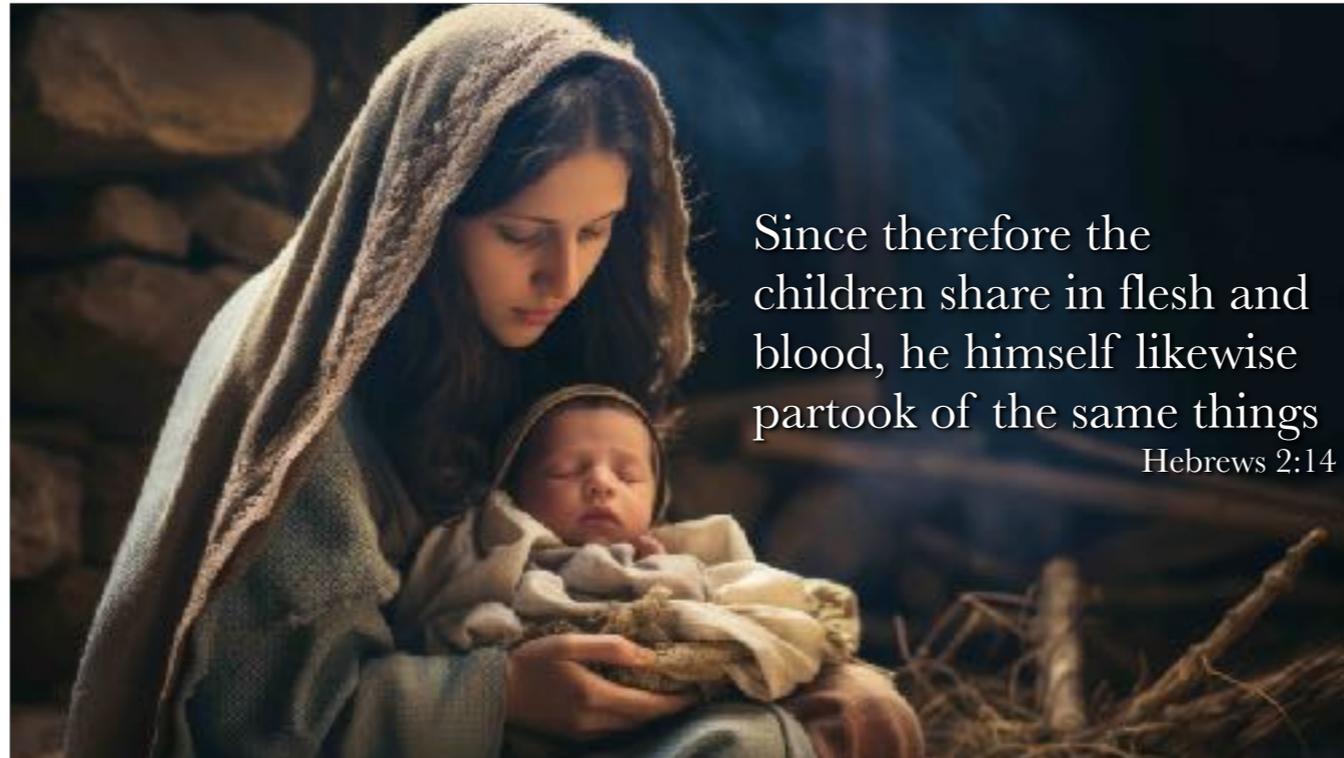
- “We have sinned against You”
- “We are before you in our guilt”
- “None can stand before You.”



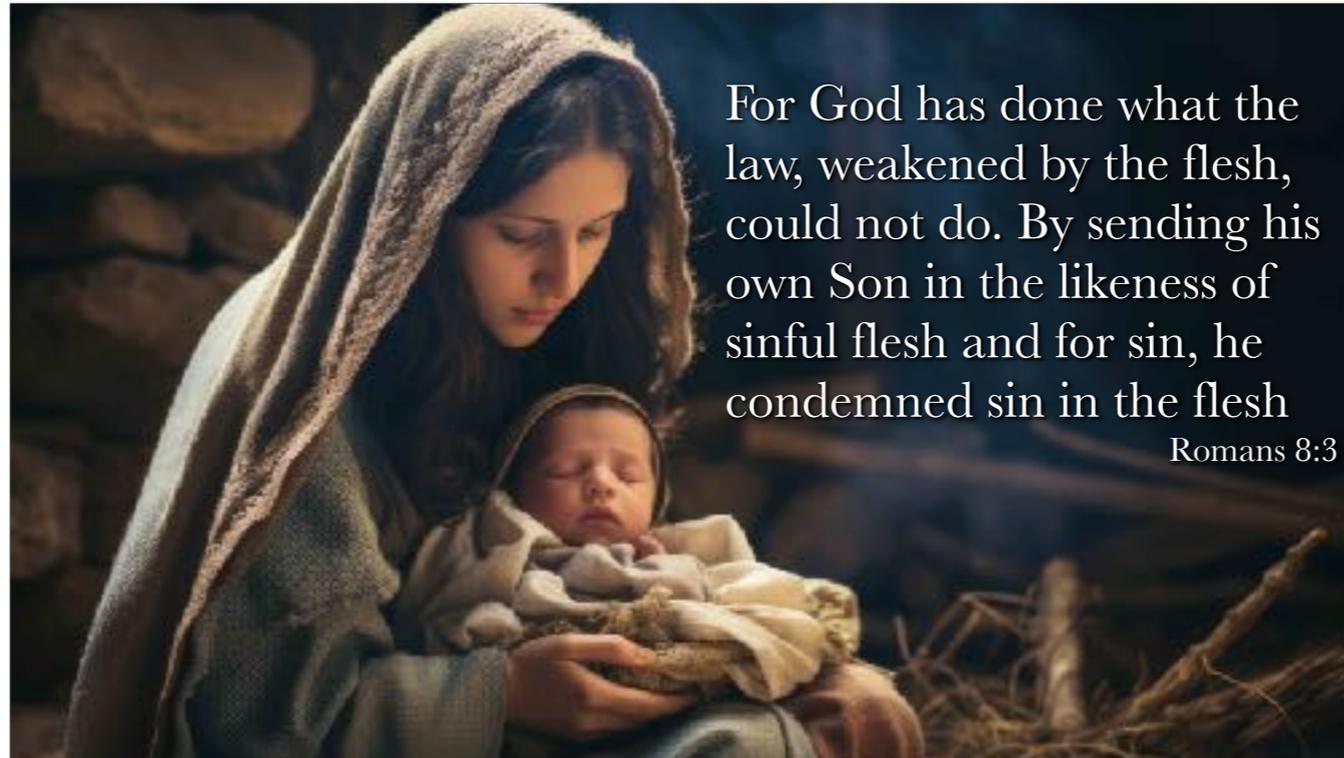
- Hebrews 12:3: Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.
 - This is why it's important we spend time learning about Jesus
- How did Jesus bear our sins on the cross?
- All good stories start at the beginning...



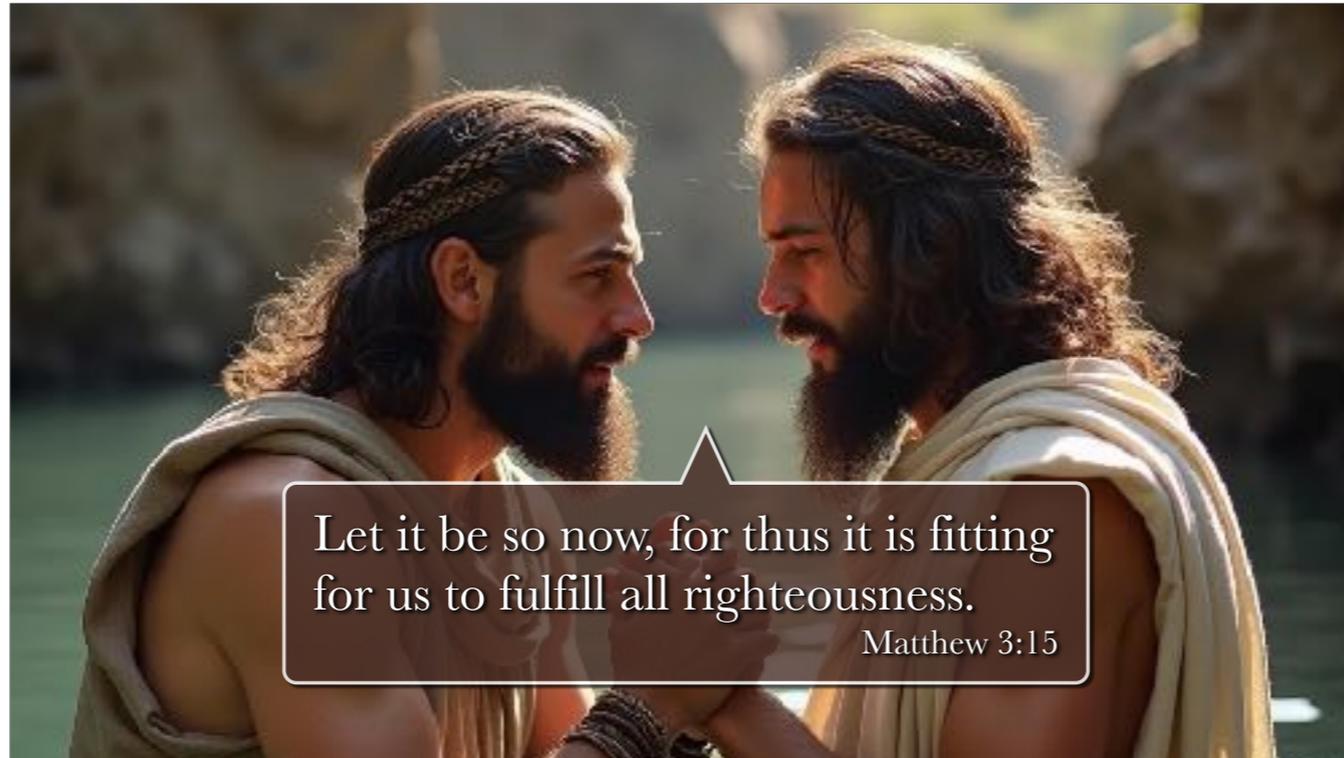
- John 1:14: The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.



- Hebrews 2:14-15: Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

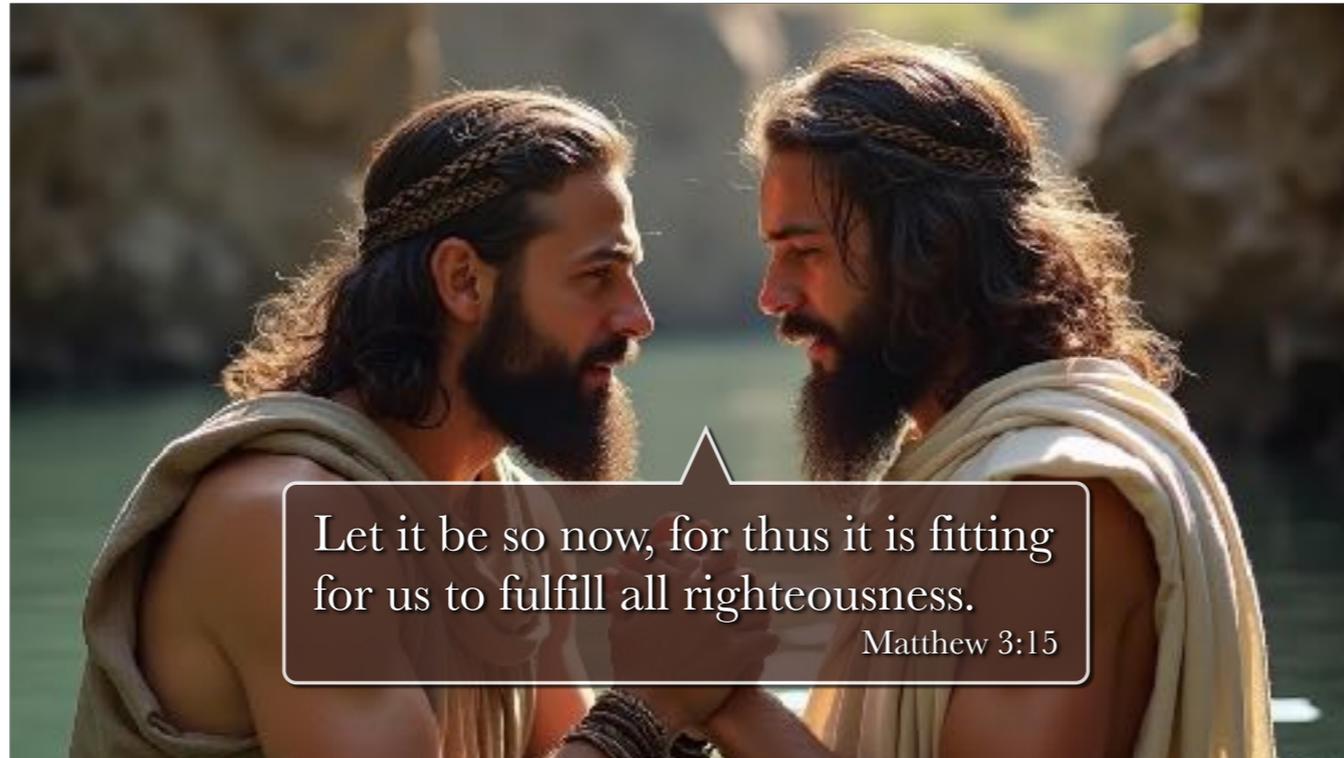


- Romans 8:3: For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,
- Jesus joined a family (human) that was sinful; old in sin and rebellion.

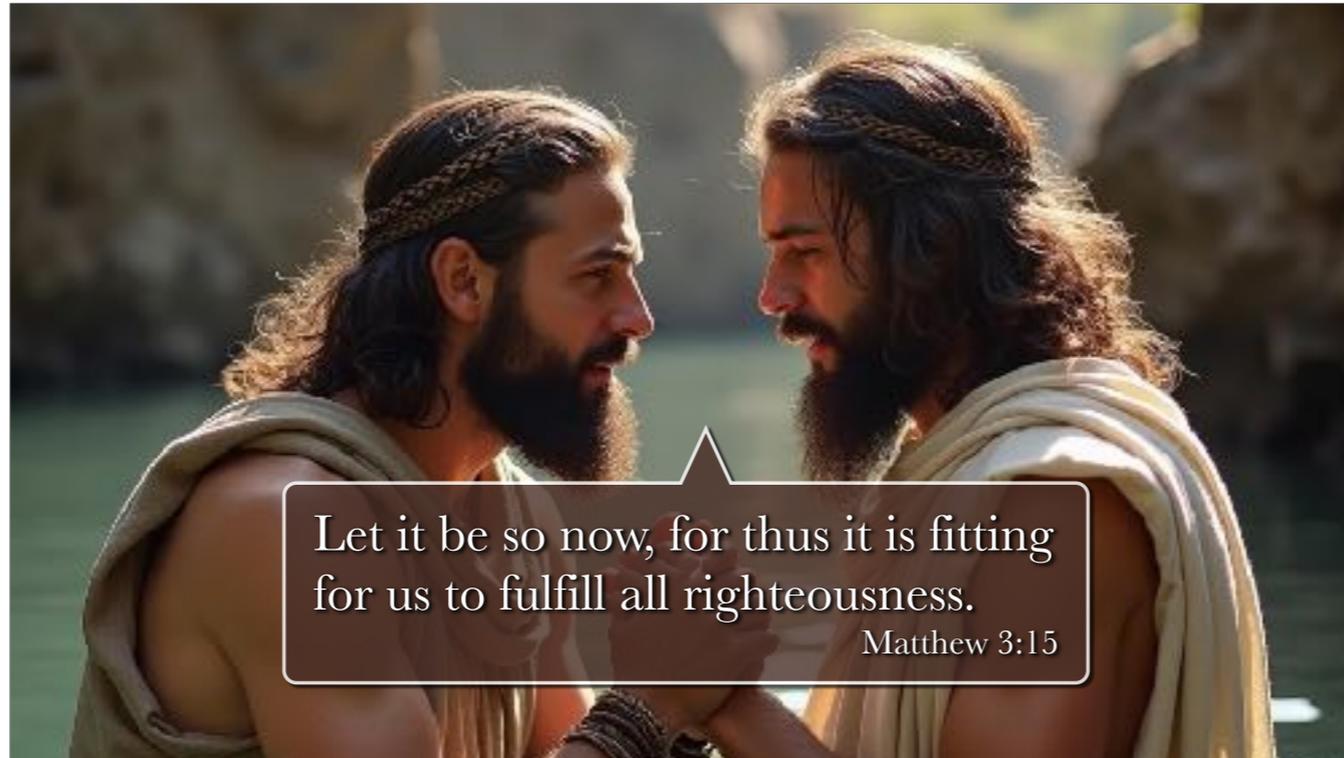


Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting
for us to fulfill all righteousness.
Matthew 3:15

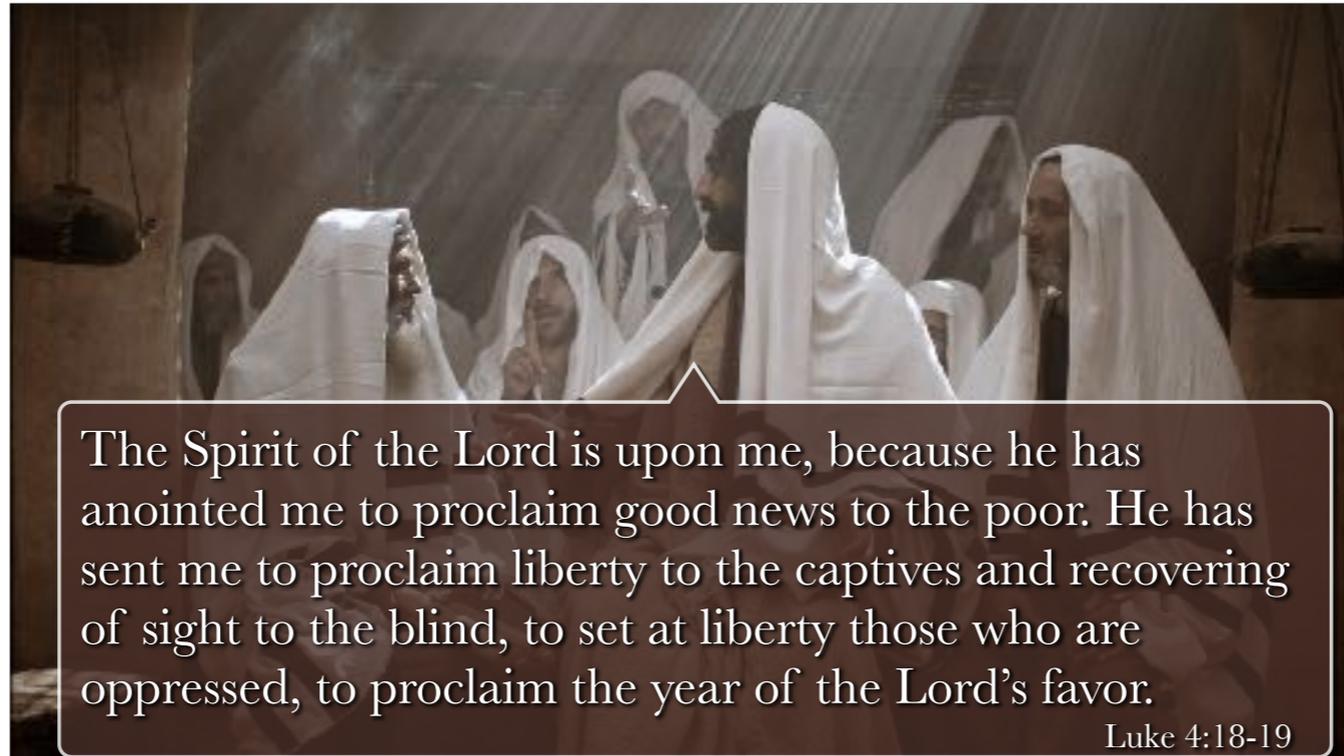
- Matthew 3:13-15: Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented.



- John is baptizing at the Jordan, calling for the people to repent. The people come, confessing their sins.
- Jesus comes to be baptized by John.
- I don't know if Jesus stood in line with the others who came to John, or if Jesus came alone.
- But either way, Jesus put himself in exactly the same place as the rest of the Jews.



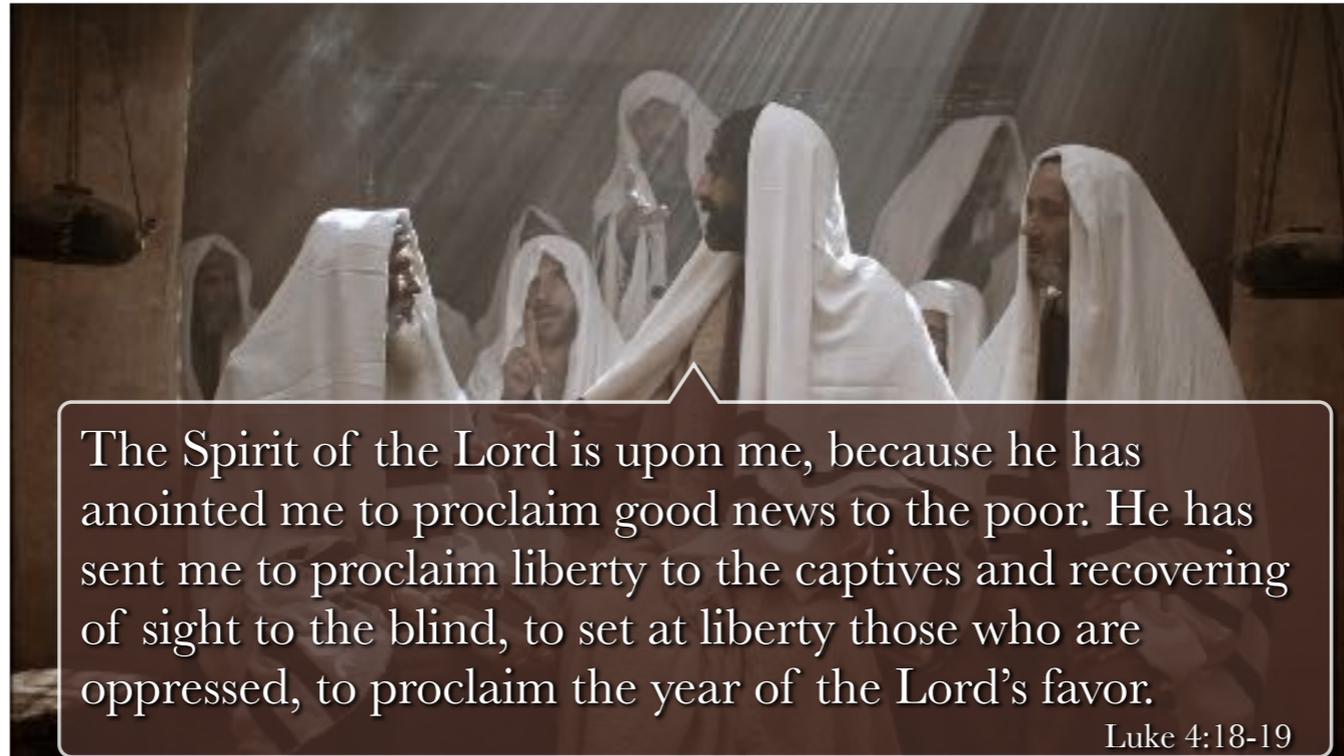
- John: “I have need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”
- Jesus: ”Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.“
- What does this say about Jesus? He was doing what all of Israel needed to do; He joined in with the nation demonstrating righteousness.



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

Luke 4:18-19

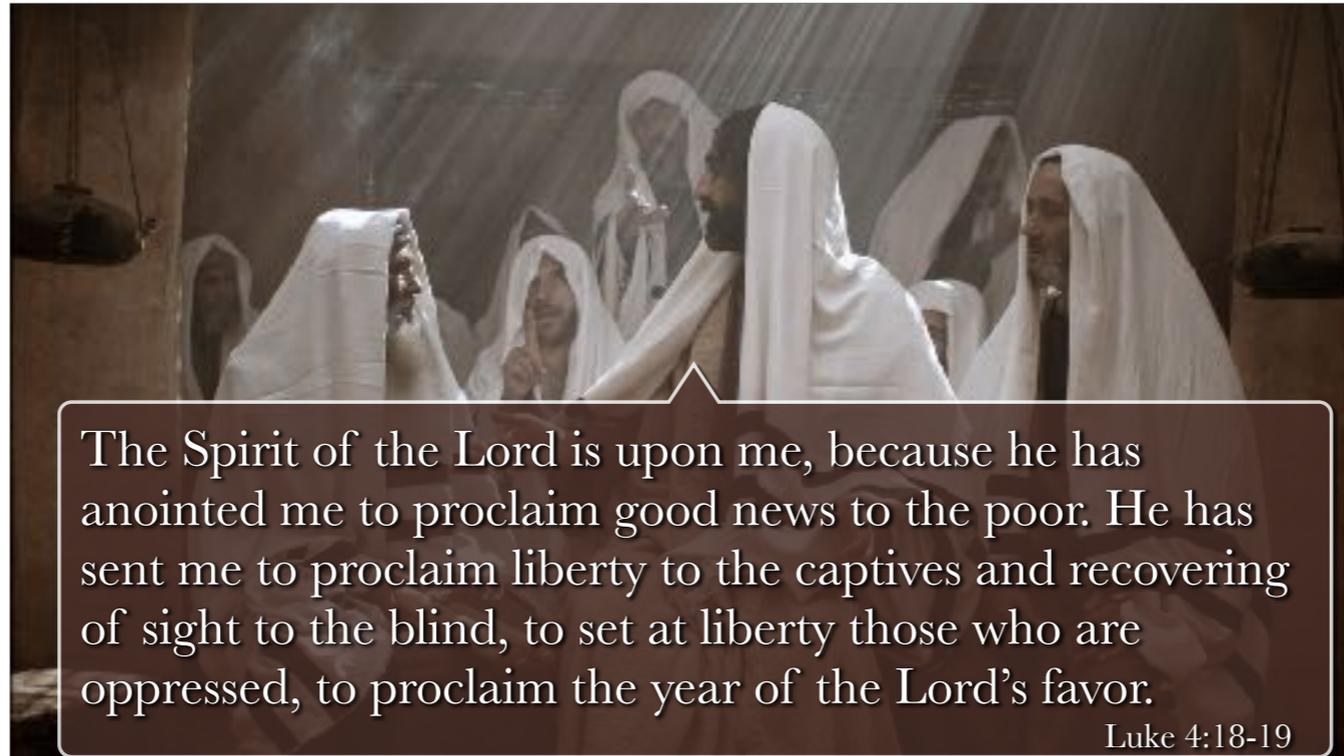
- Jesus in the Synagogue, reads Isaiah: fulfilled!
- Luke 4:18-19: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."



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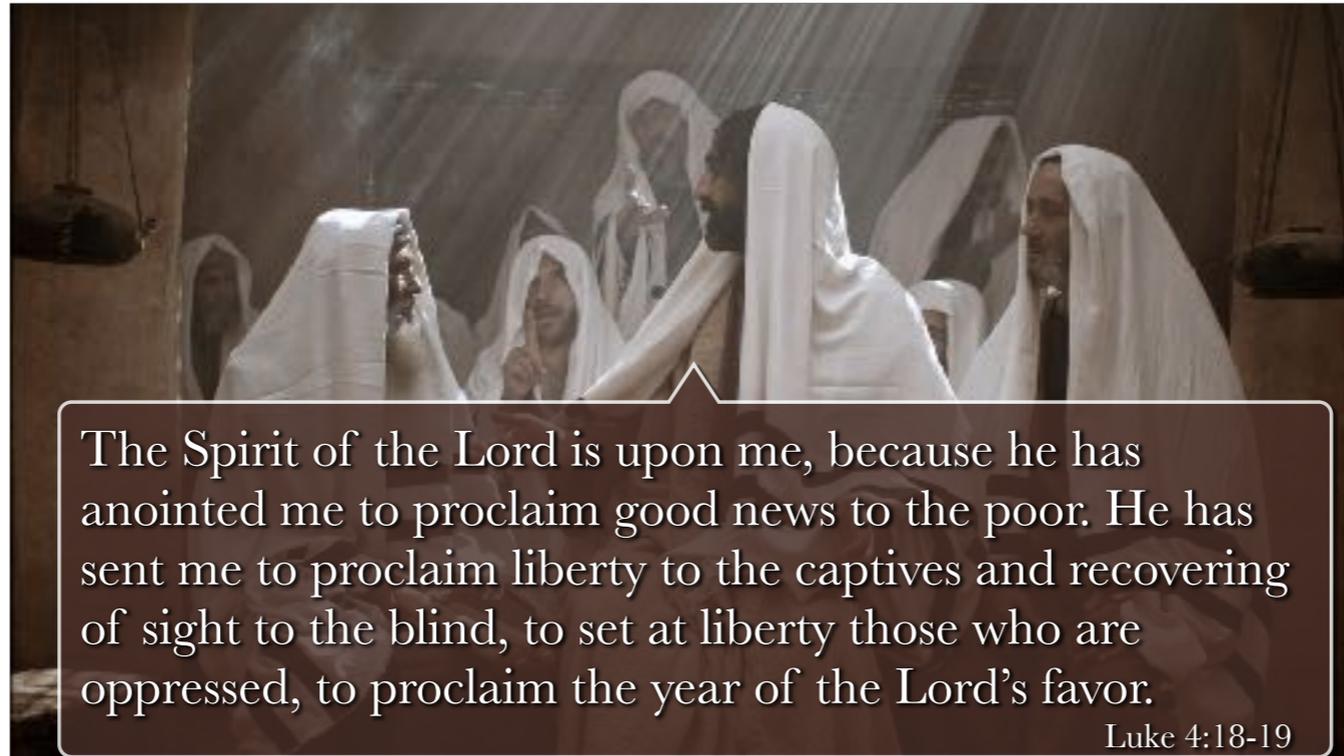
- We are the poor, captives, blind, oppressed



The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

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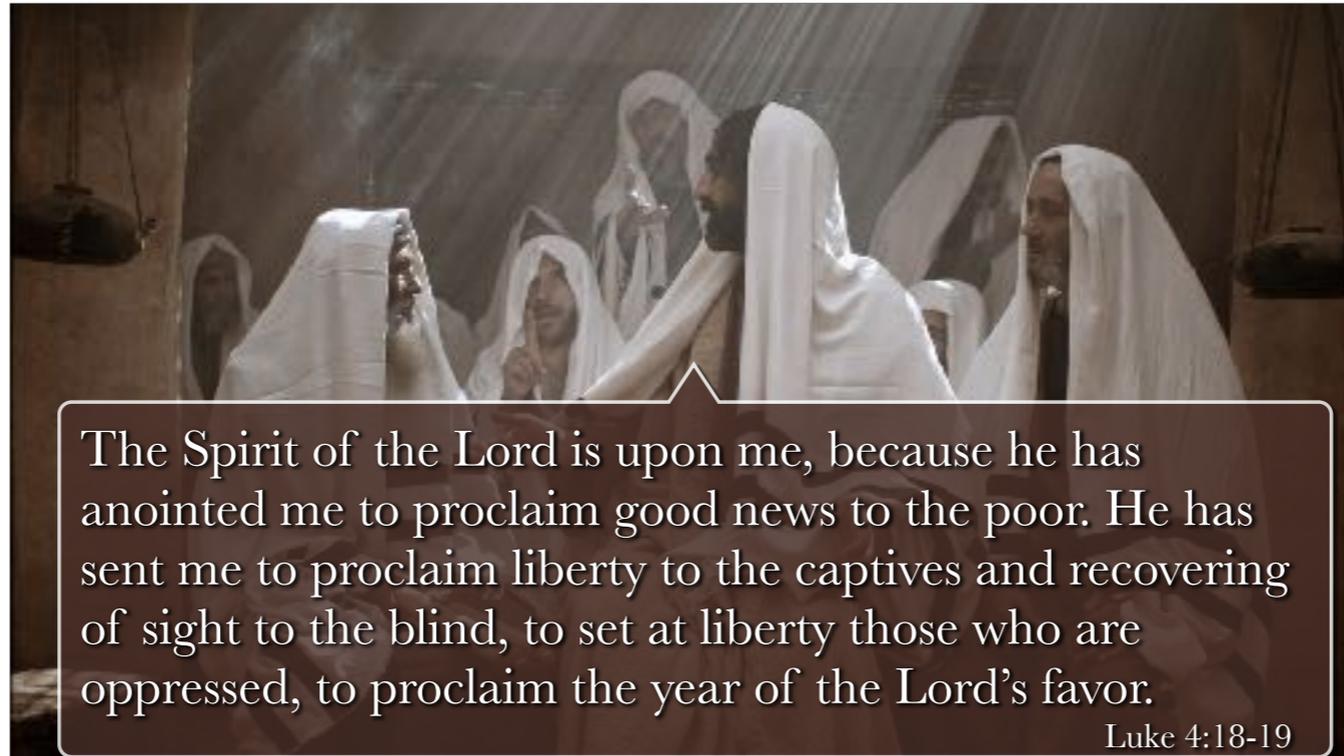
- Good news, liberty (deliverance, freedom), sight (light), liberty (release)



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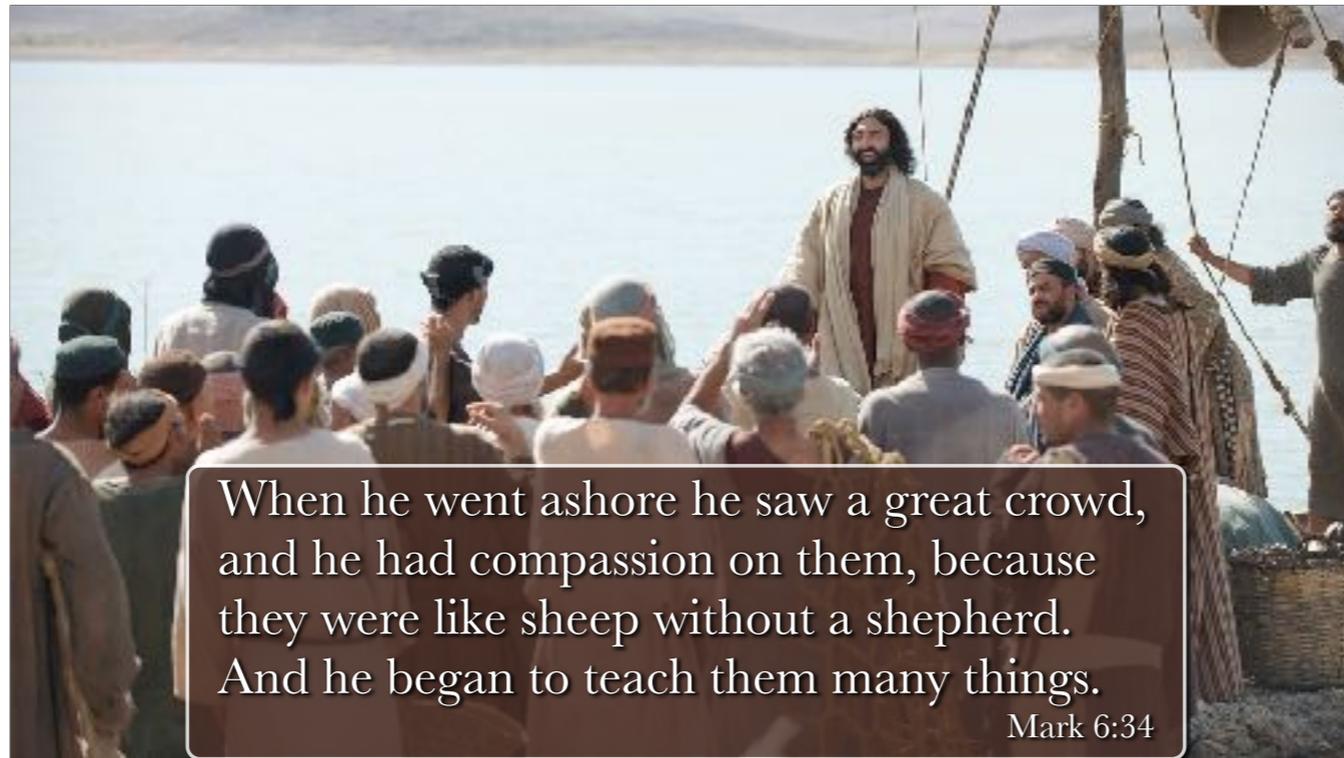
- the Lord's favor!
- Why do we need His Favor?
- Jesus didn't come thinking everything was alright, or that we needed just a little tweaking here and there.
- He came because we needed to be saved: saved from ourselves.



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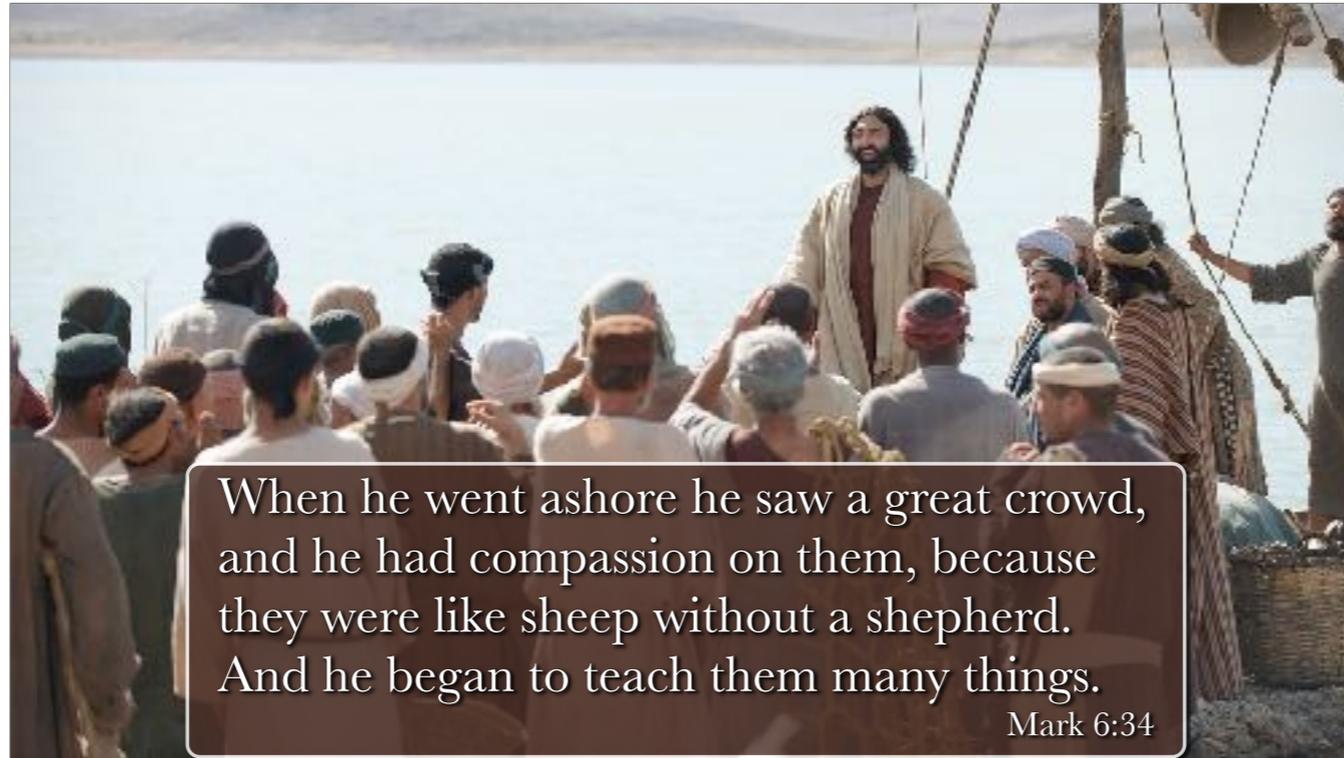
- The physical suffering in the world is proof of our rebellion;
- yet Jesus joins us; and has compassion even in this connection with sin.
- He saw all the bad in us, yet came to redeem us from these things.



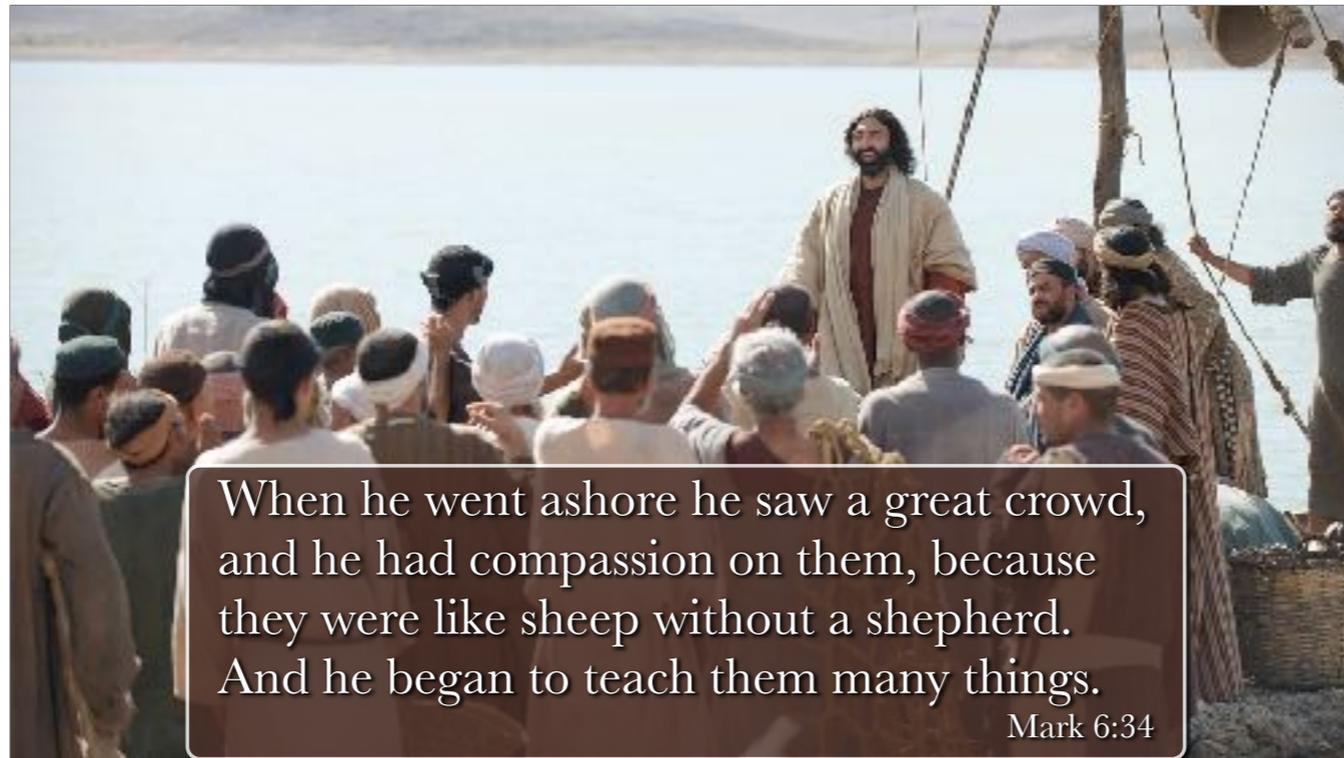
When he went ashore he saw a great crowd,
and he had compassion on them, because
they were like sheep without a shepherd.
And he began to teach them many things.

Mark 6:34

- Feeding of 5000: Mark 6
- Jesus and disciples need rest. People coming and going, no time to eat. Get in boat to go to an isolated place and rest.
- People follow them around the lake on foot.



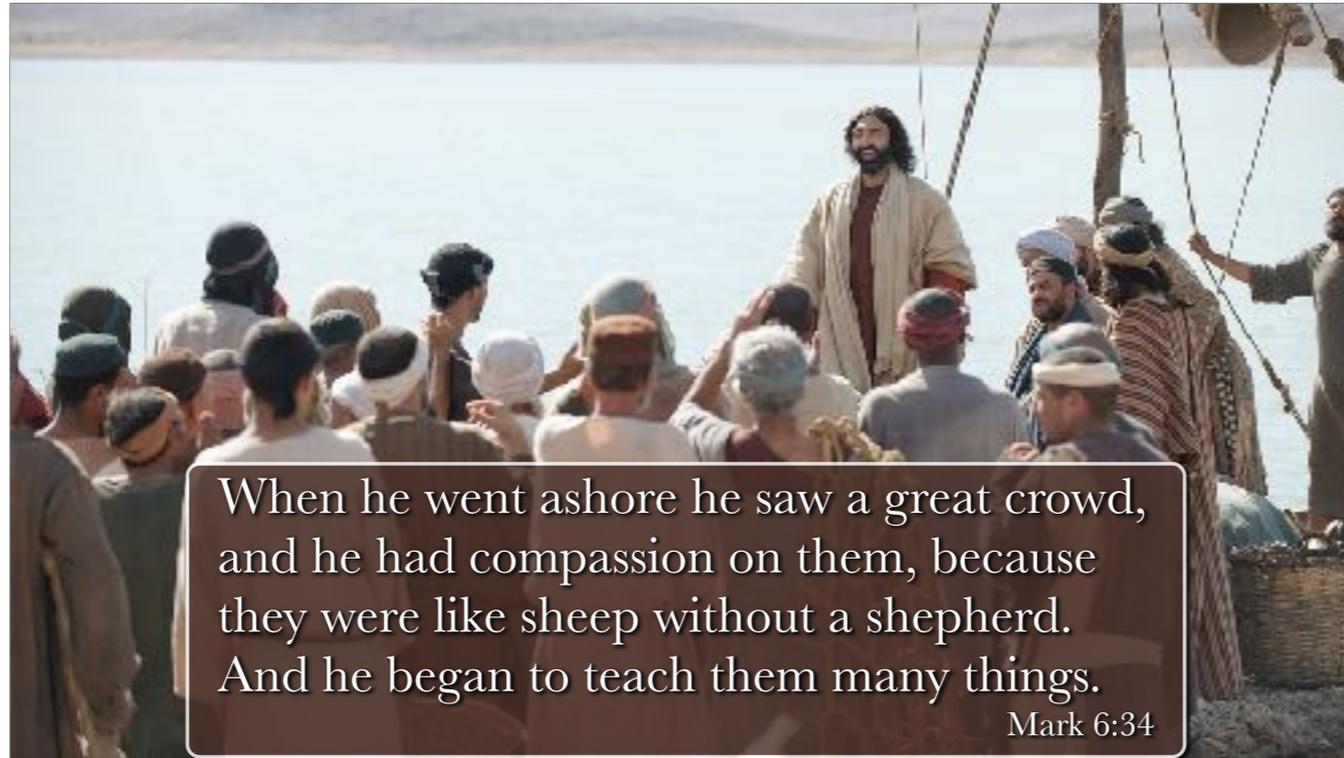
- Mark 6:34: When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began to teach them many things.
- Matthew 14:14: When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick.



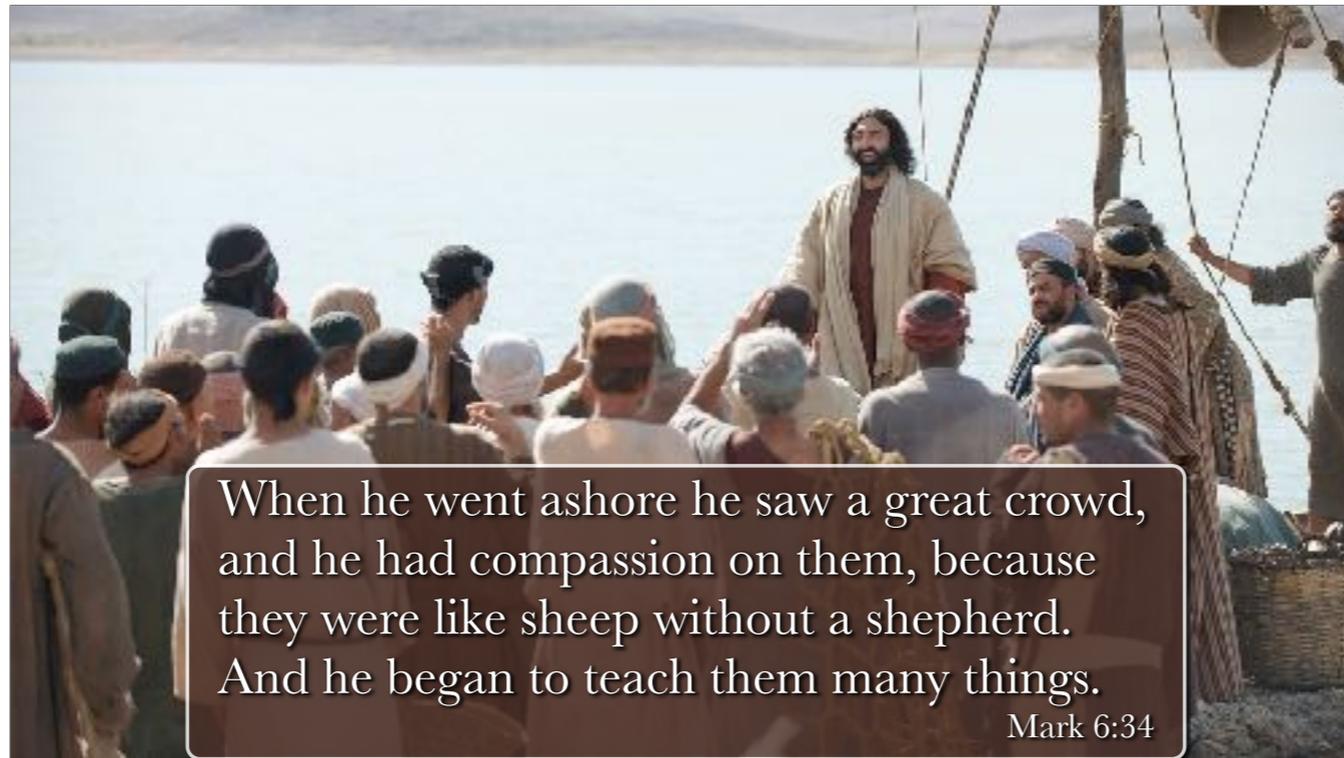
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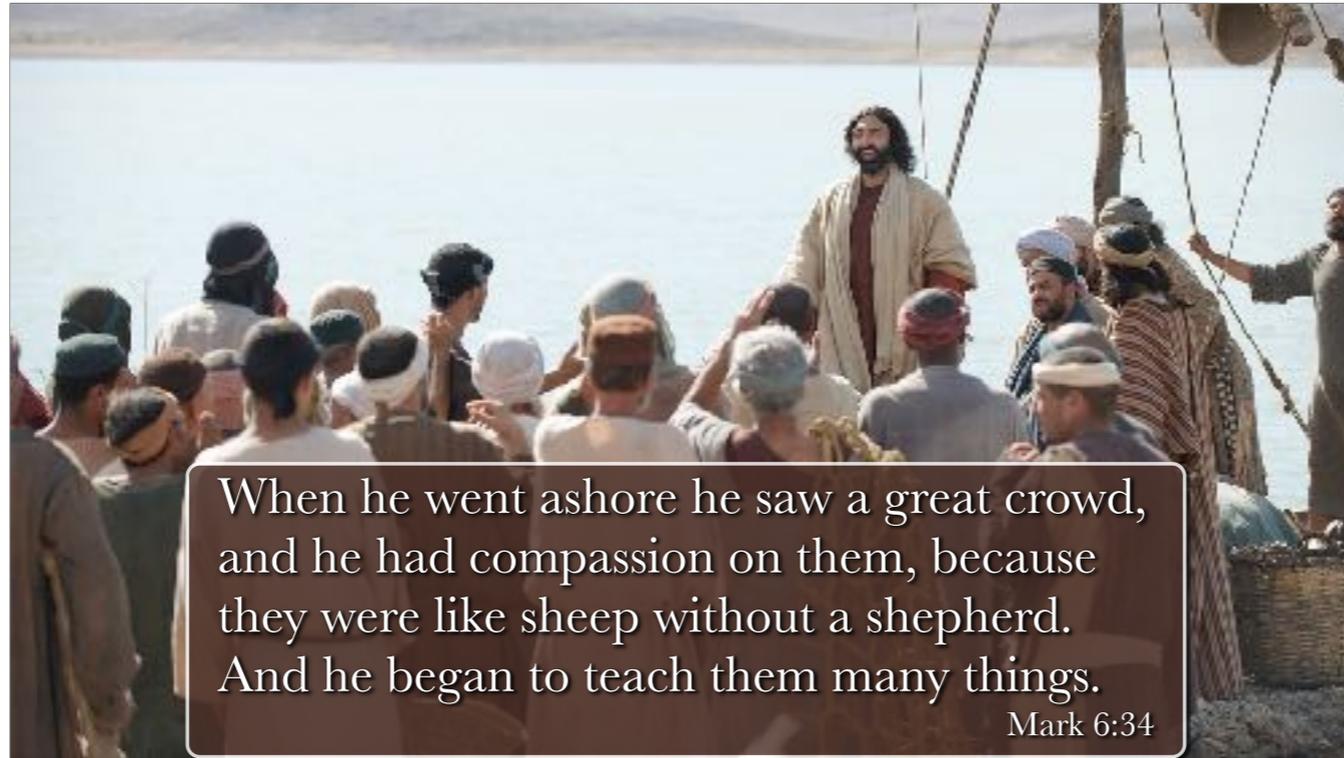
- We tend to focus on the miraculous feeding (not wrong)
 - but there's much more happening.
- Jesus gets off the boat, and sees the crowd of over 5000.
- What does He see as He looks at them, and they look at Him?



- Mt. 9:36: Harassed and Helpless
- Sheep without a shepherd.



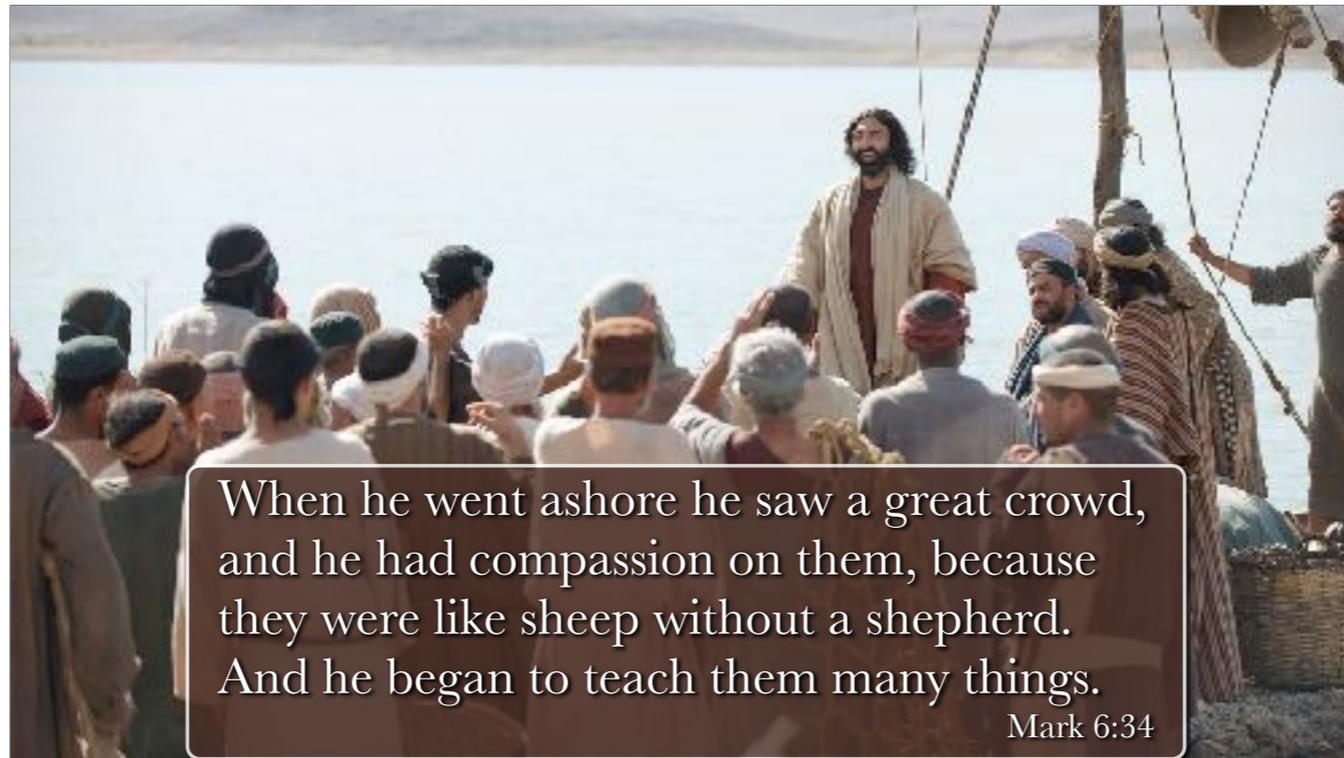
- Were all of those people there with pure motives? Were they all good people?
- Some desperate, holding a sick child, waiting, hoping that Jesus will do something. Maybe some wondering why Jesus didn't do more, or do it faster, or take care of my child first.



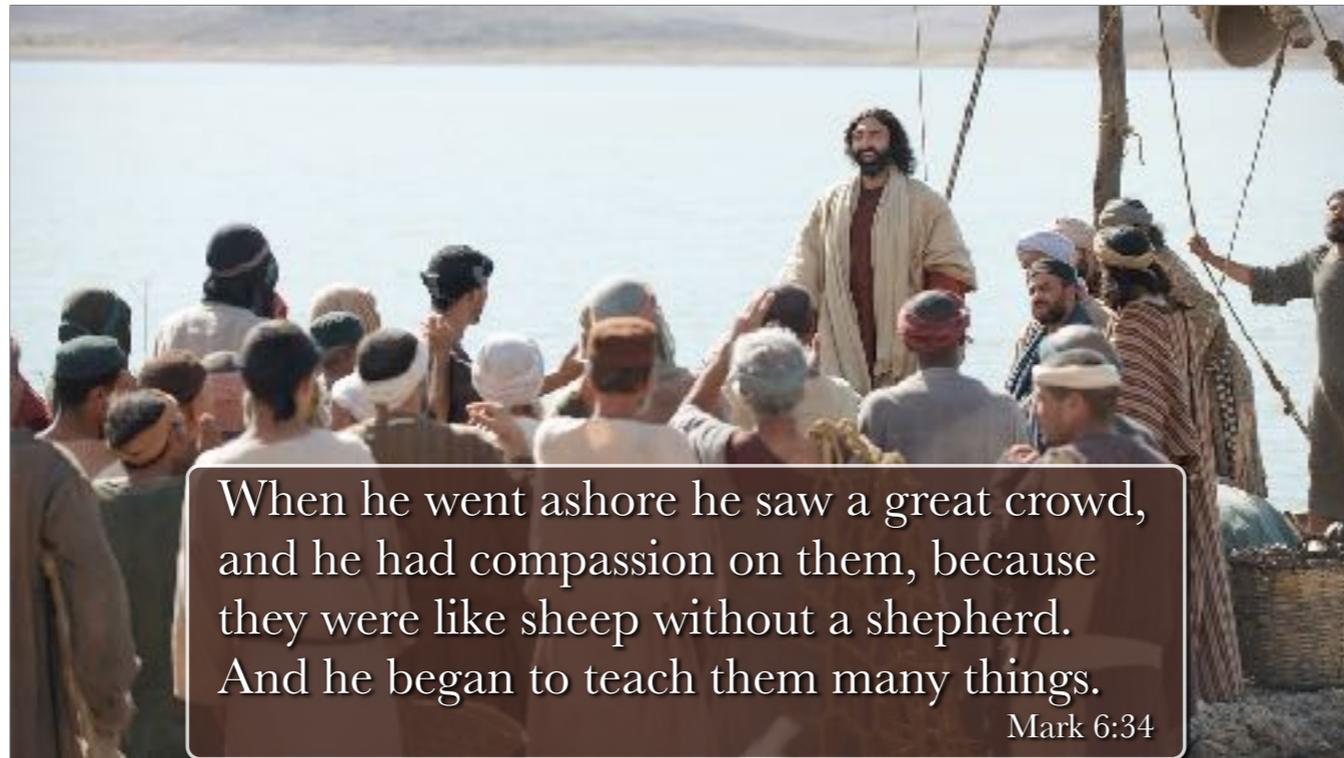
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Mark 6:34

- Was there any cynicism? liars? holding grudges? selfish? cruel mean heart?
- Were some just hoping for a little mercy.



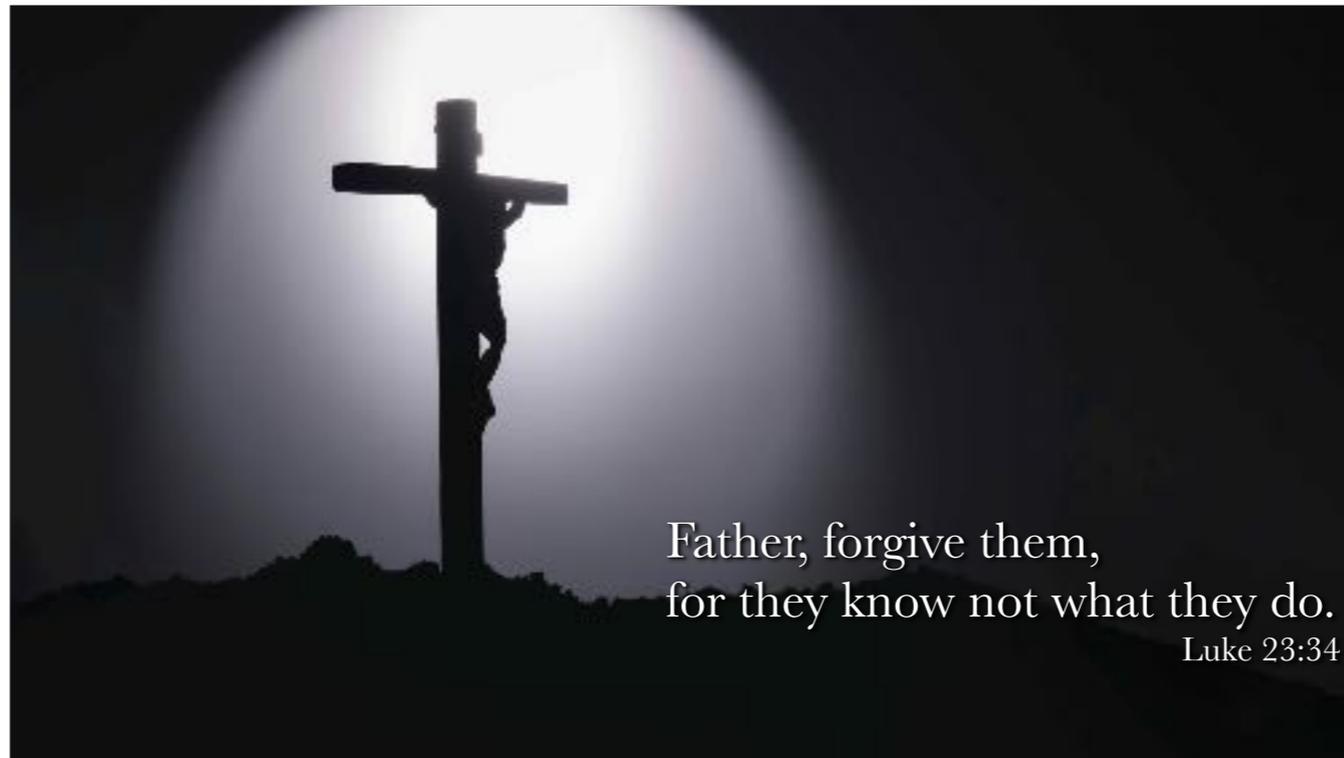
- To Jesus, all their needs and all their true attitudes were obvious: He saw clearly the good, the bad and the ugly.
- Why were they following? Why so interested? Where else could they go?
- Their need was so great that they followed him until they hadn't eaten for hours and were close to perishing if Jesus hadn't acted on their behalf.



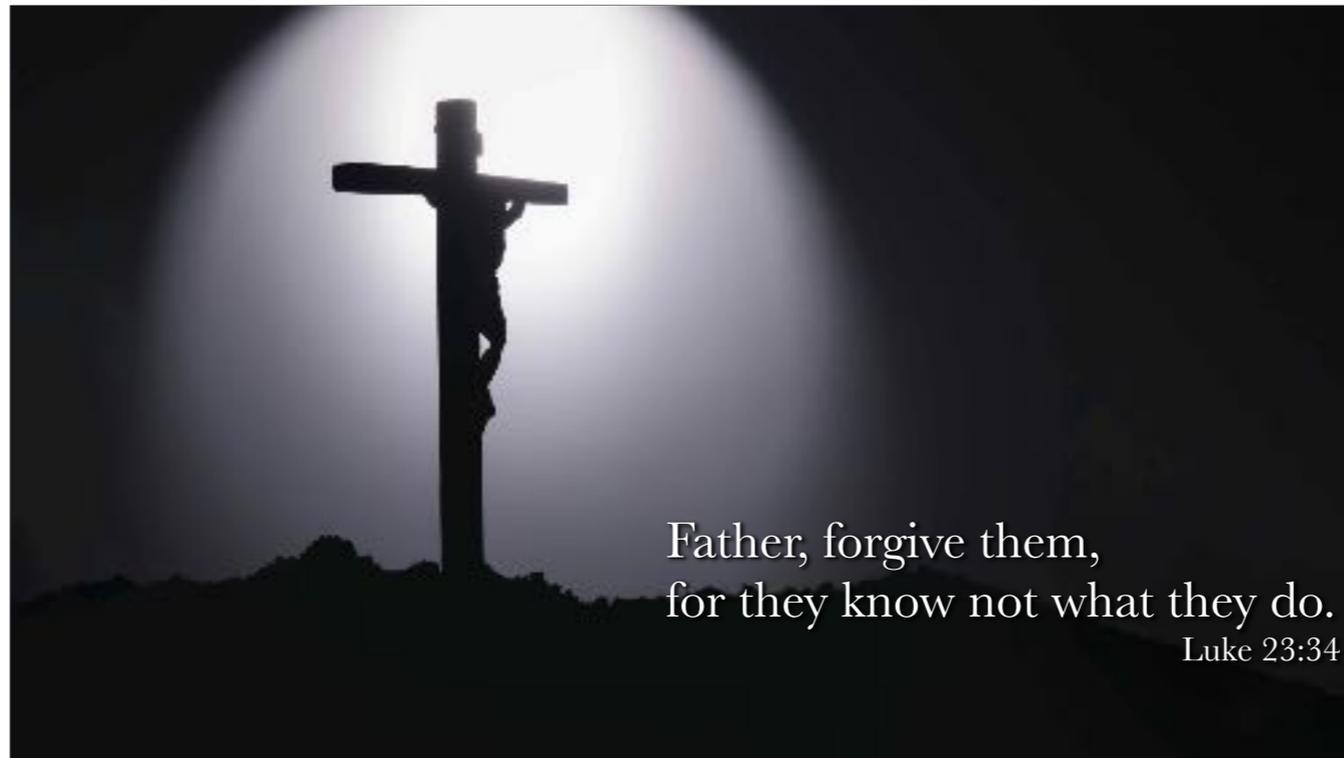
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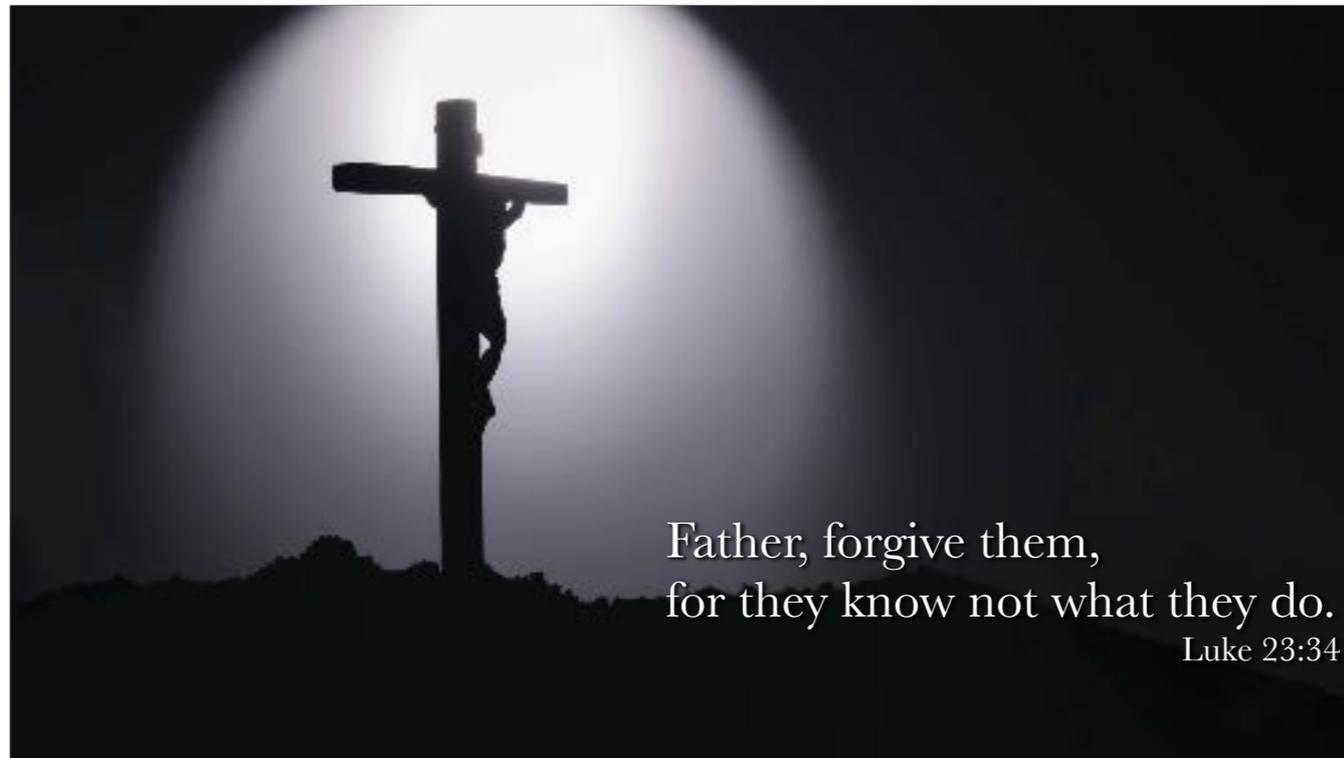
- Jesus is full of compassion!
- He sees everything, misses nothing!
 - They were all sinners. Desperate, needy
- Heals the sick (Mt. 14), teaches the lost, feeds the hungry.



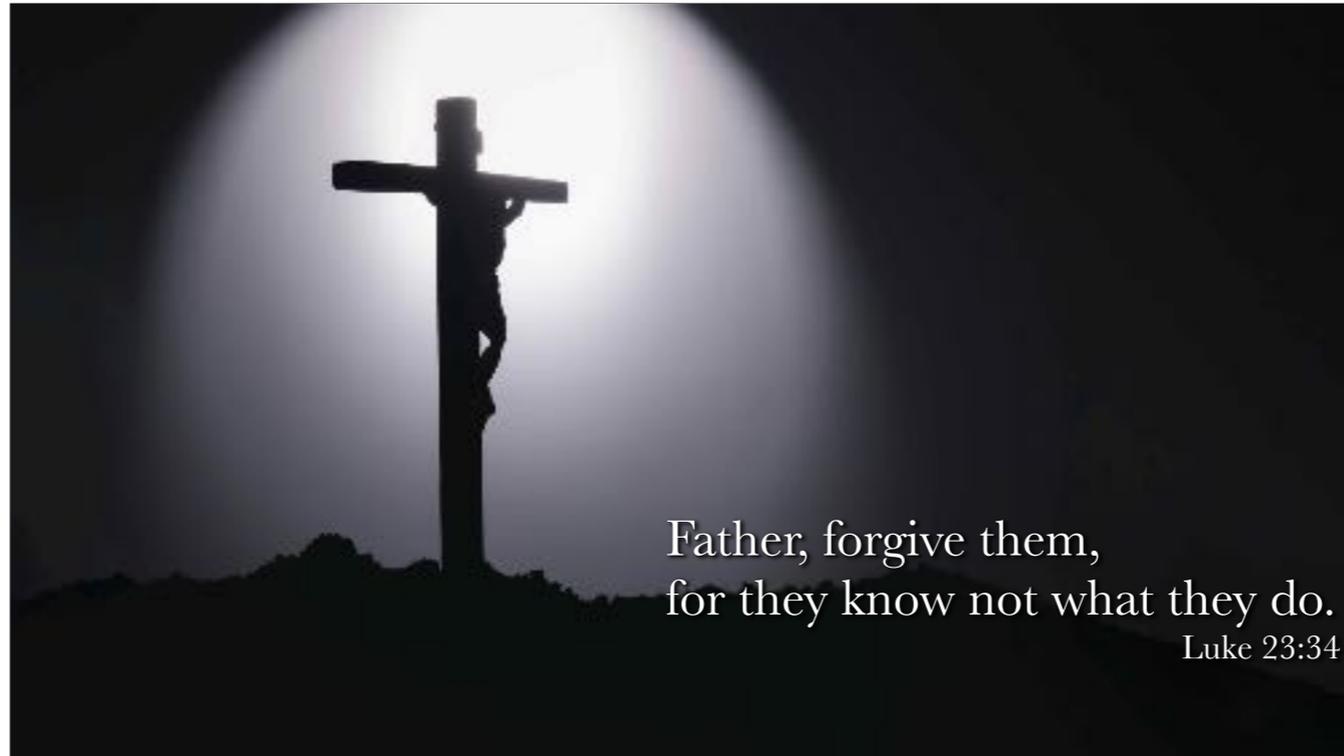
- Luke 23:34: And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide his garments.



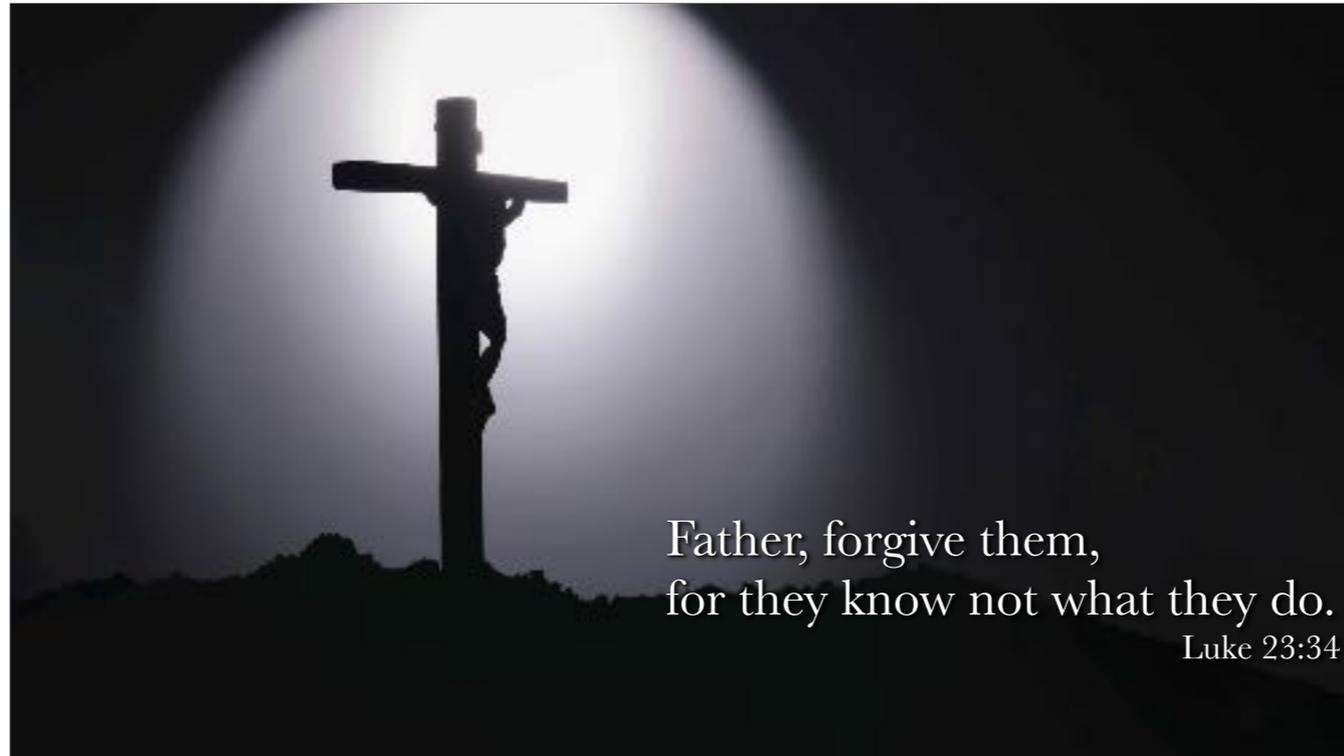
- So what was happening when Jesus went to the cross?
- Isaiah 53:12: Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong, because he poured out his soul to death and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.



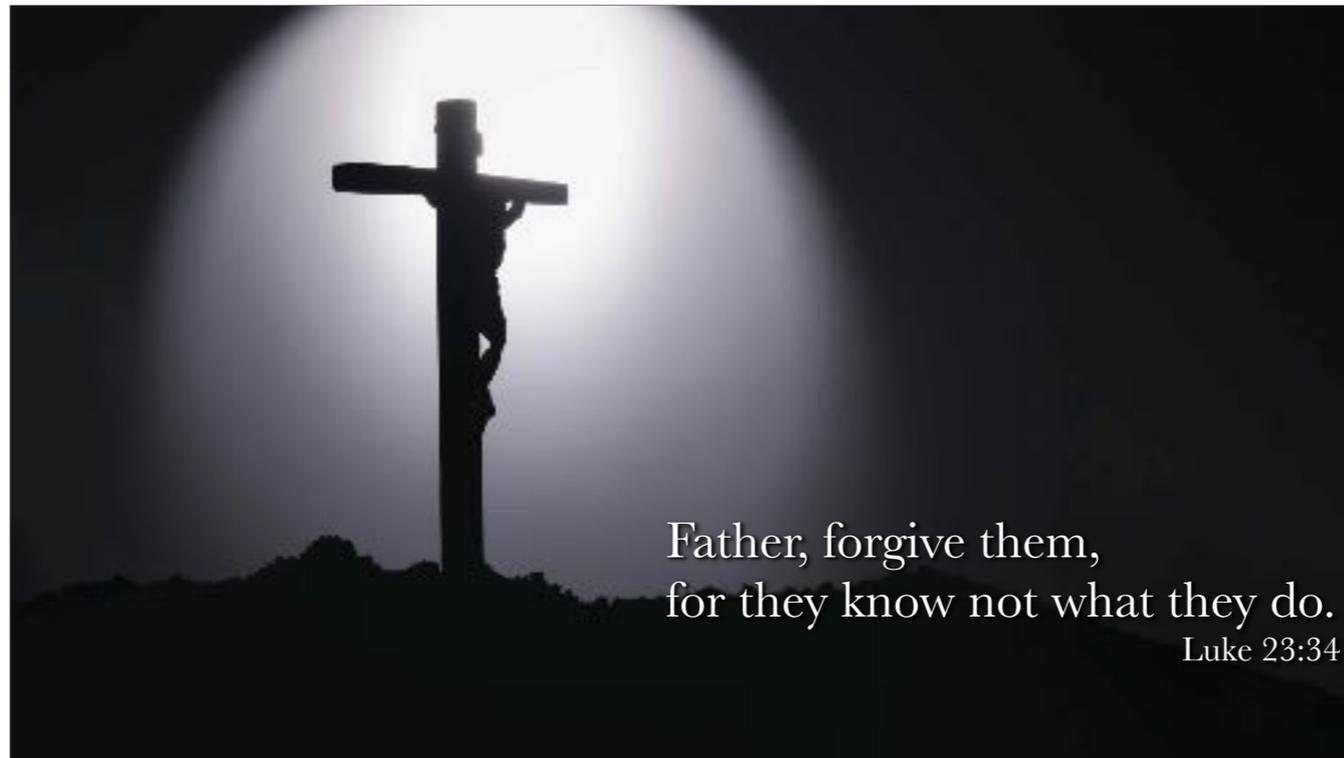
- Jesus was doing exactly what he had been doing all of his life: He was being one of us, and from love and compassion he chose to help us.



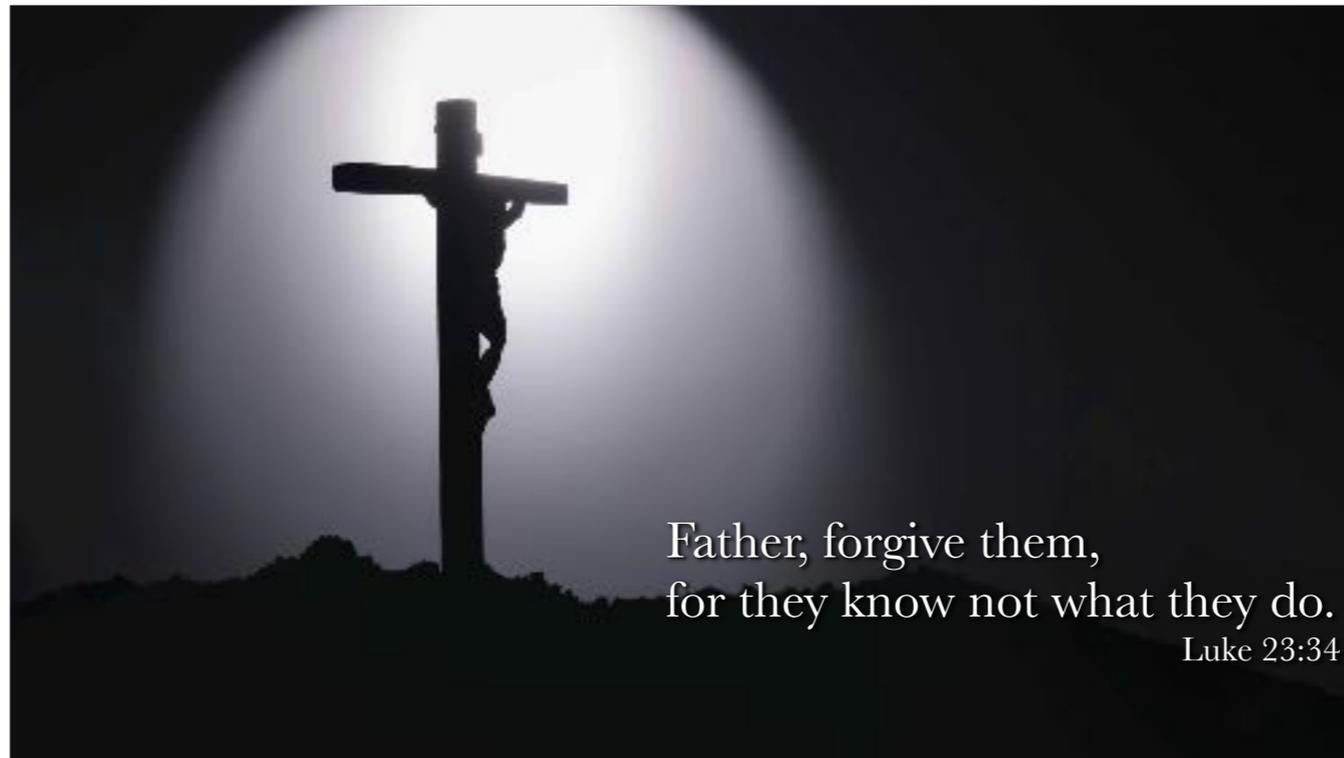
- numbered with the transgressors
- He became one of us to deal with sin, to remove our sin, to heal us spiritually.
- He didn't distance himself from sinners:
 - He didn't say he was holy and then separate himself from us
 - joined us in all ways!
- In living in this world, suffering, and even death.



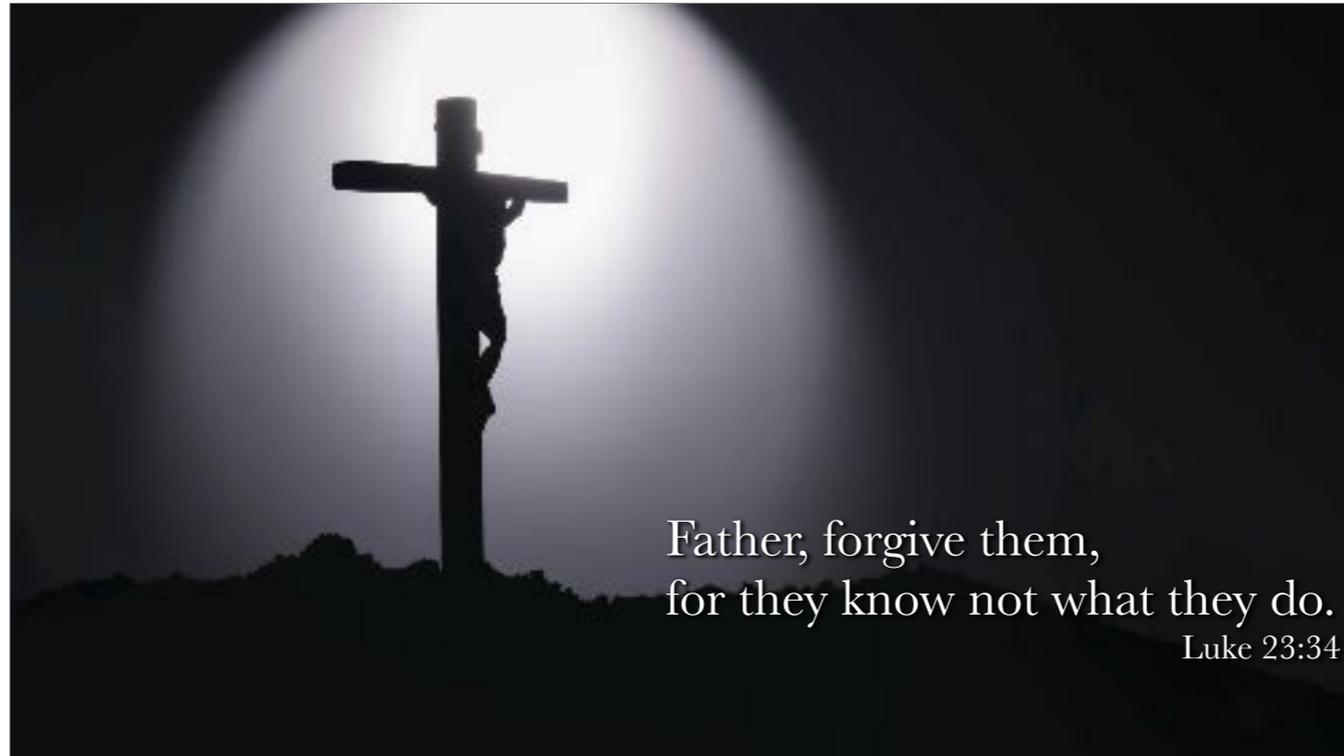
- Like Ezra joined in the sin and guilt of his people,
 - Jesus joined us as man with all the consequences of sin.
- He shares our judgment because He became one of us.
- He identifies himself as one of us, join us in our mutual problem (sin).



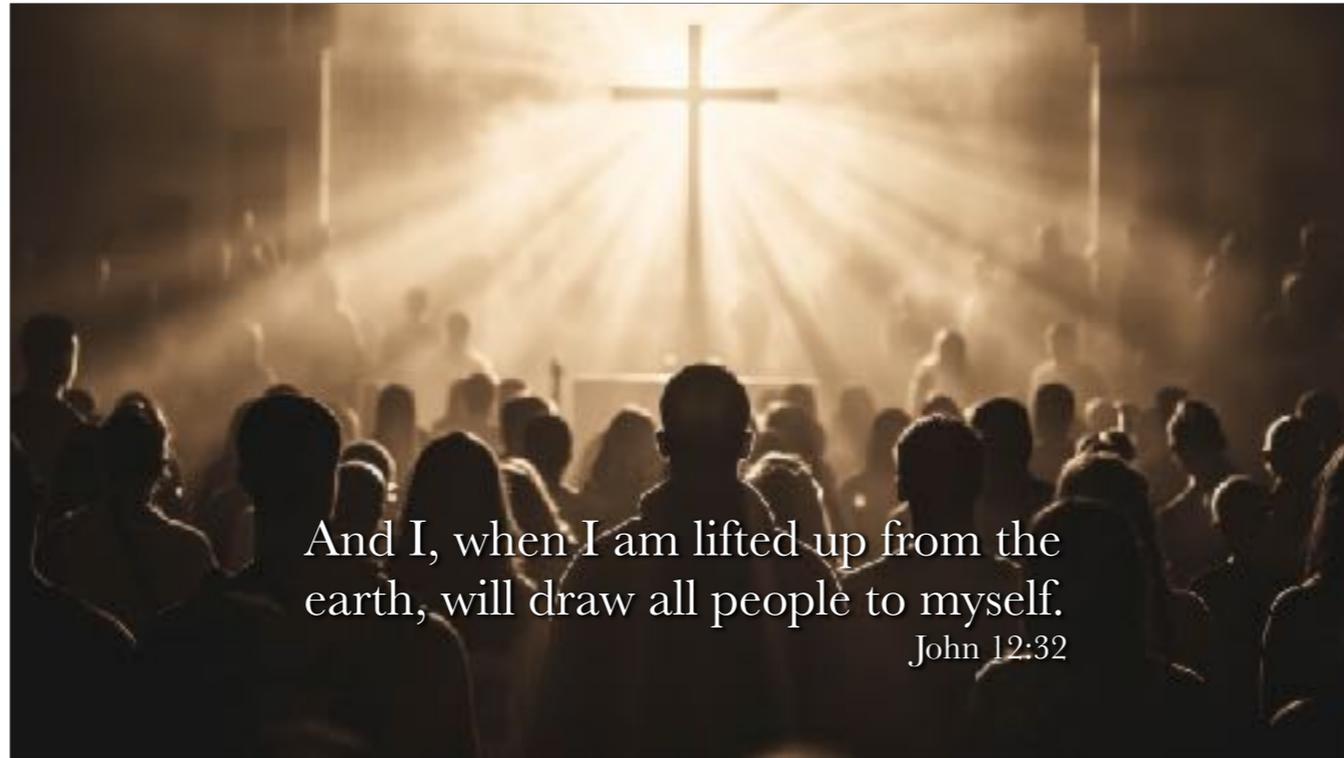
- He shares in all the suffering and hurt of sin.
- He endures with us being our representative, acting in our name and for our benefit.
- He didn't sin our sins, but he is put to grief because of our sin.
- He didn't die because He deserved to die, but because that is the judgment against sinners — and HE IS ONE OF US.



- bears our sins & makes intercession for the transgressors
- He chose to share in the consequences of our sin (death).
- He put himself in harm's way for our sake.



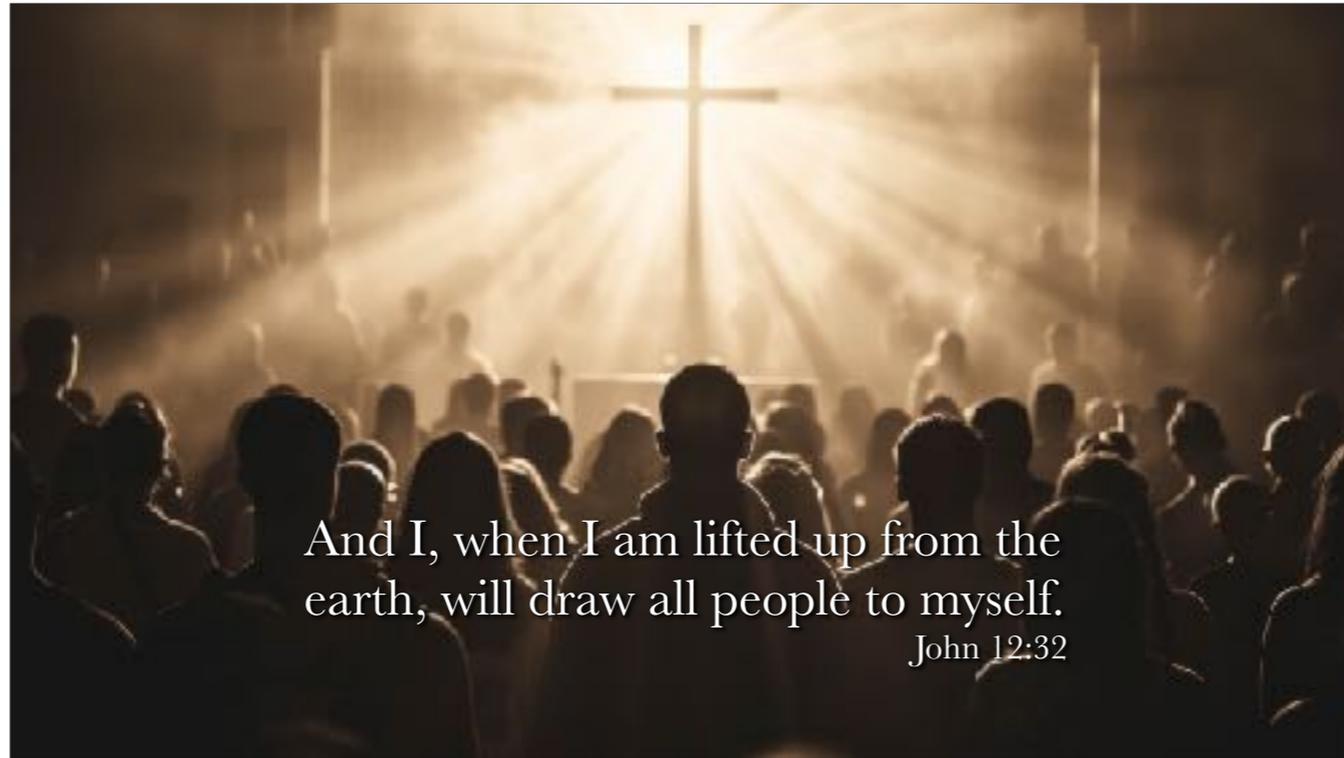
- He chose to be our sin offering
- He was completely obedient, offering himself as a lamb without spot or blemish.
- redeeming us and reconciling us to our Father.
- That's what it means that Jesus bore our sins.



And I, when I am lifted up from the
earth, will draw all people to myself.

John 12:32

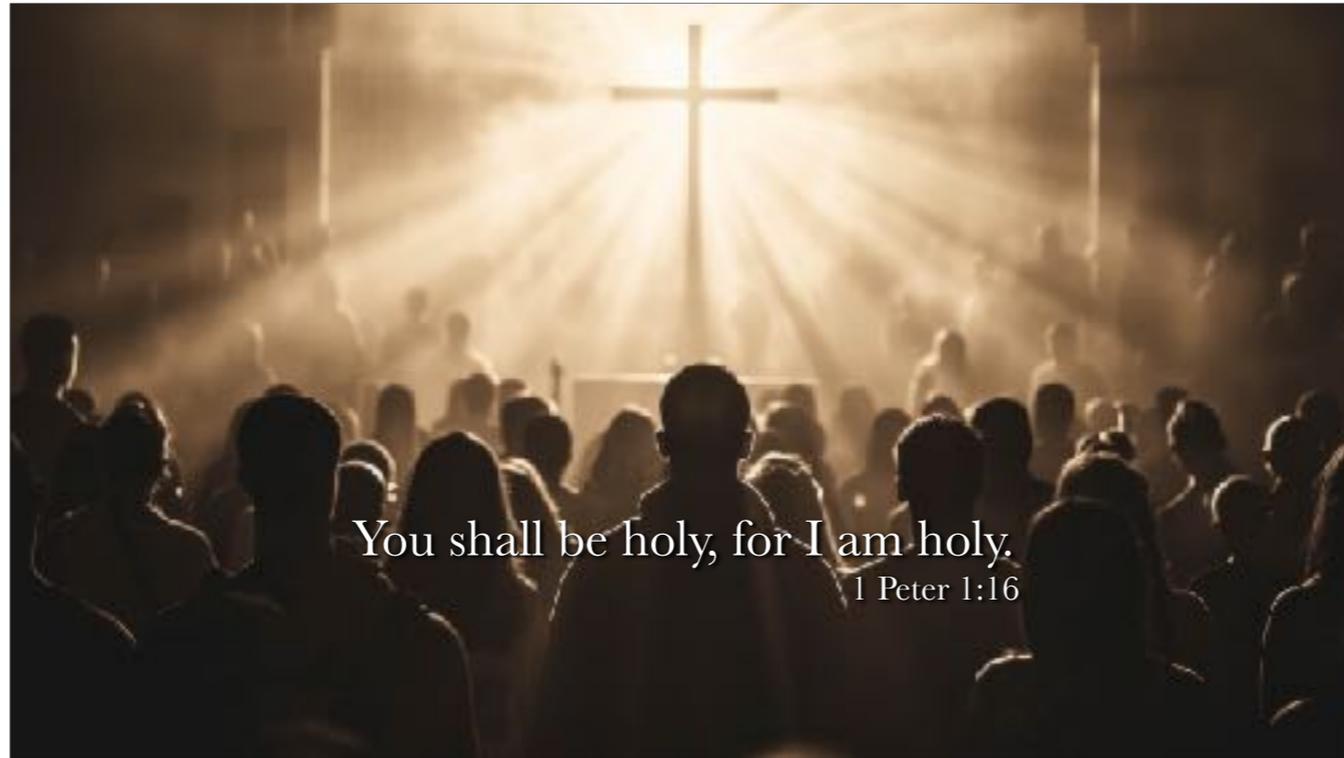
- John 12:32 And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.
- This is God's holiness, Jesus' holiness on our behalf.
- We know sin separates us from God.
- But there's more to holiness than just separation.
- He sees us as we really are; AND wants to do us good.



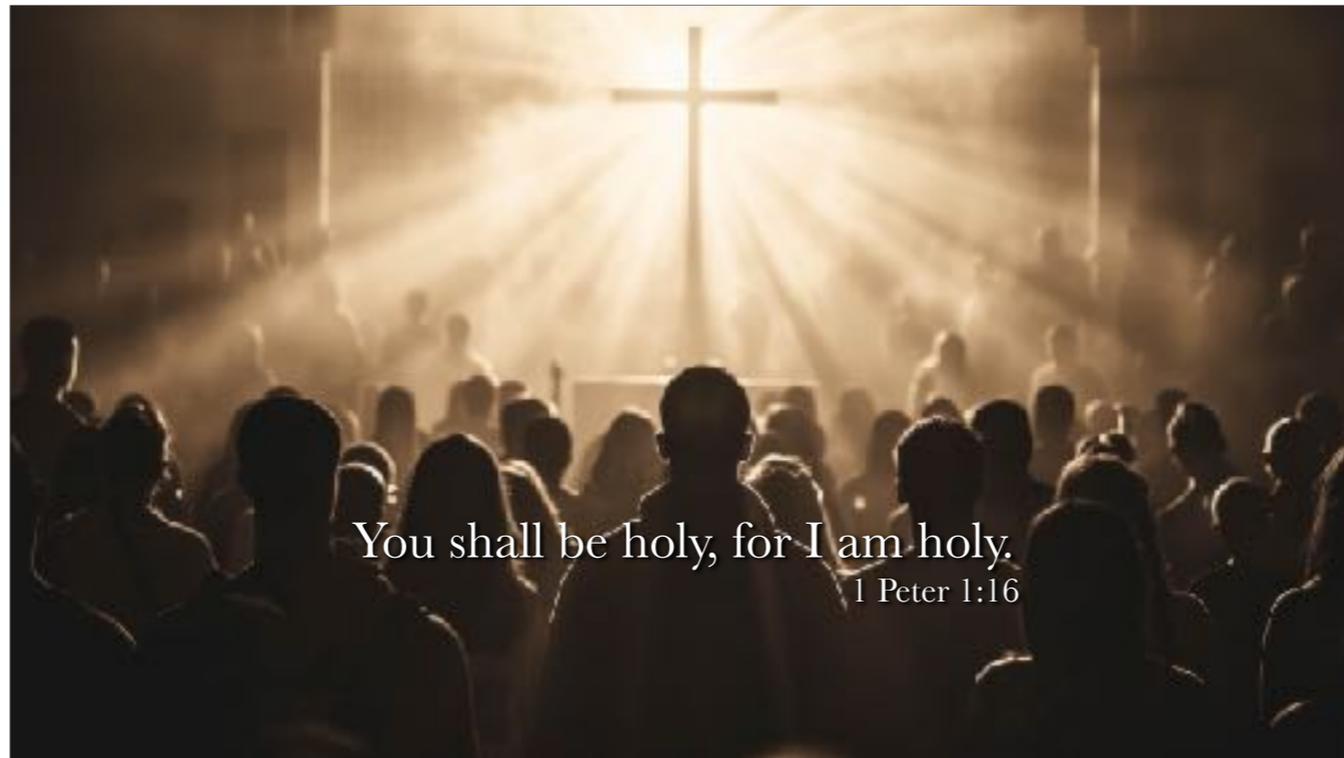
And I, when I am lifted up from the
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John 12:32

- McGuiggan:
 - Astonishing Christ who makes it forever clear that true holiness isn't a firewall against fellowship:
 - who makes it forever clear that true holiness is love's raging fire that burns down all that would come between his Holy Father and us.
- Are you amazed and astonished by the holiness of Jesus?

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• NOOKstudy (David Stewart, fcor1614@yahoo.com). This material is protected by copyright.

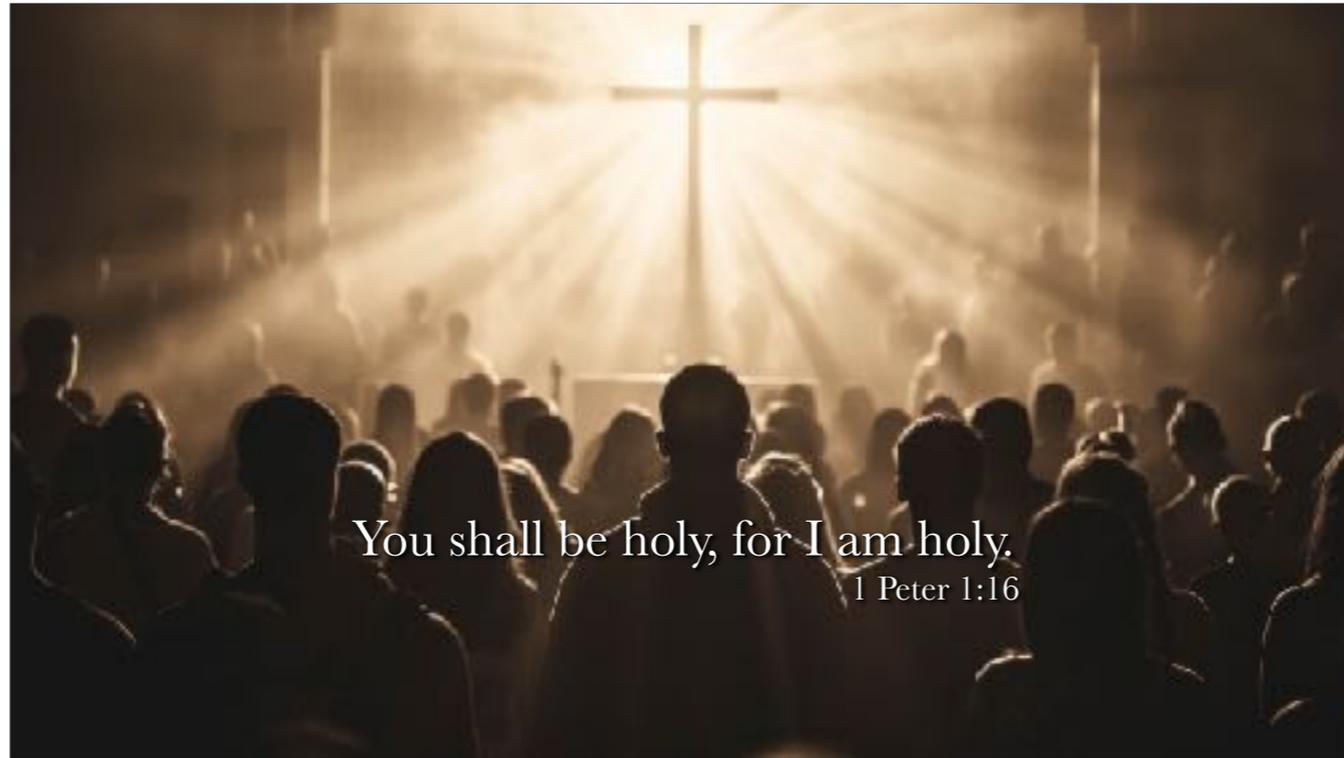


- 1 Peter 1:15-16: but as he who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, since it is written, “You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

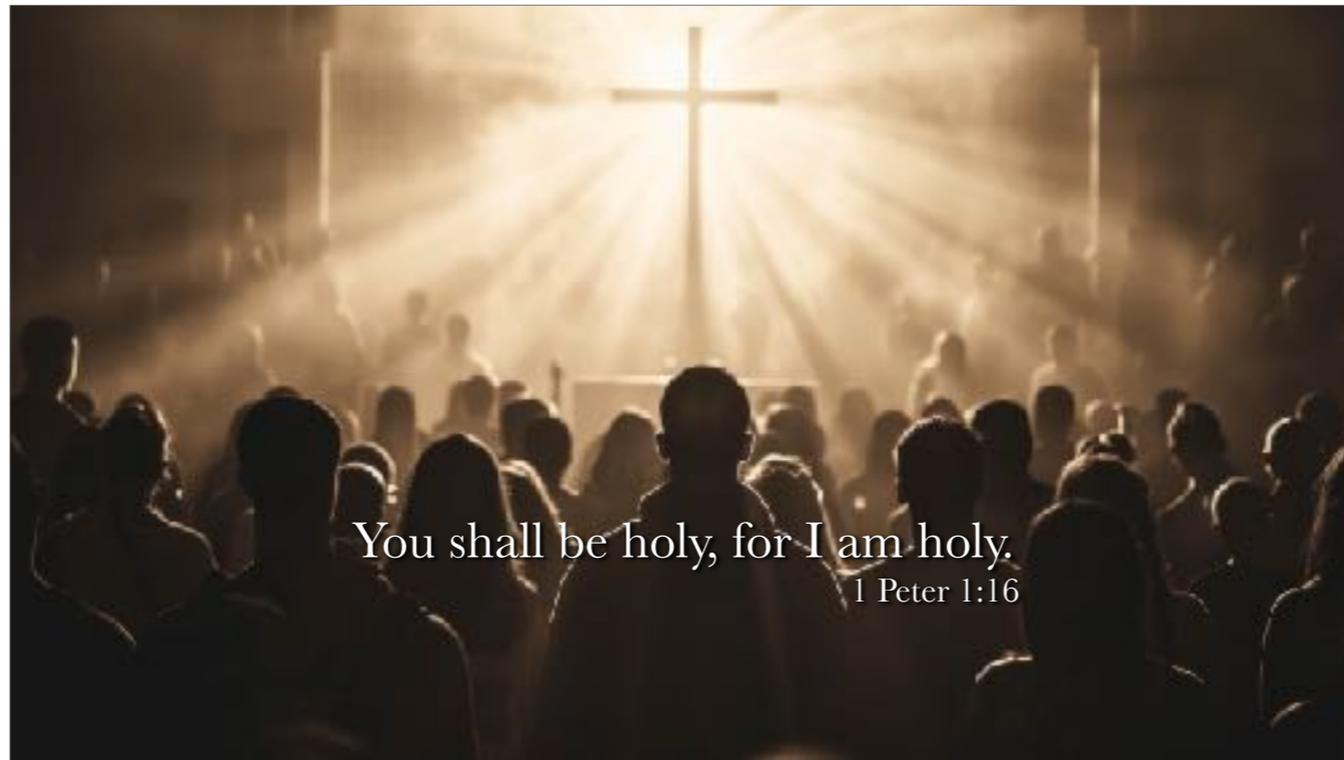


You shall be holy, for I am holy.
1 Peter 1:16

- The Pharisees emphasized a holiness that separated them from sinners, condemned those they didn't approve of (often Jesus).
- Jesus portrayed the priests and the levites as those who would pass by on the other side instead of help some one who was in desperate need of help.
- Is that what holiness is about?



- Tell me, How can I be holy like He is holy???
- Help me to lift up my eyes and see clearly. Let me be holy and seek after that which is clean and pure.
- Certainly, help me to be holy in all my conduct.



You shall be holy, for I am holy.
1 Peter 1:16

- Help me to be holy like Him and still see people with all the ugliness of sin, the unholiness, and see people who are needy: harassed and helpless. Desperate.
- Help me to see sinners as “MY” people, to identify with all their suffering, sorrows, needs.
- Help me to look on the sinners around me and feel compassion, feel what they feel and long to do them good.
- Holy love draws those who are separated closer to God.

We implore you
on behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Call to Action

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JESUS FEEDS 5000

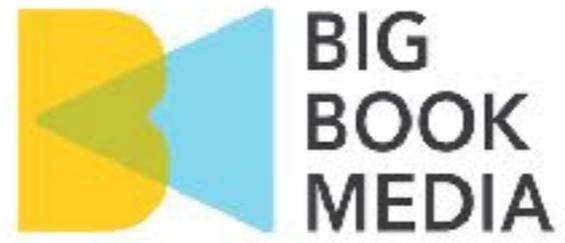
Matthew 14:13-22
Mark 6:31-46
Luke 9:10-17
John 6:1-13

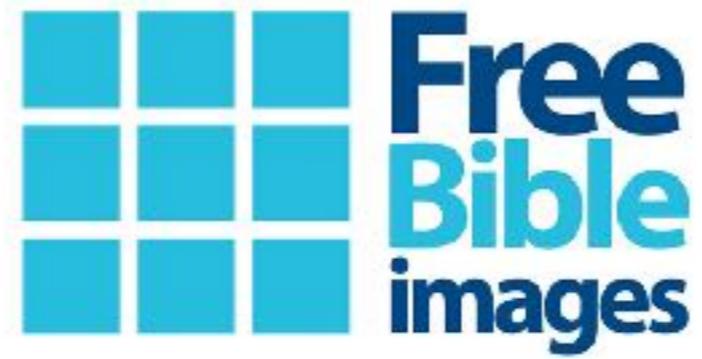


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Jim McGuigan: The Dragon Slayer, Chapter 7: Not Ashamed to be Called their Brother (p. 212-250)

He Bore the Sin of Many

1 Peter 2:24

Synopsis: You'll learn in this lesson what it means that Jesus bore our sins. It is not just what happened on the cross, that's the climax of His holiness. Rather it's everything about Jesus coming to be a man and identify with us in our sin and guilt and through his love and compassion be the sin offering so that we can be reconciled to our Father. This lesson is modified, but almost completely, Jim McGuigan's (Jim McGuigan: The Dragon Slayer, Chapter 7: Not Ashamed to be Called their Brother (p. 212-250)

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“Let all that you do be done with love.”