

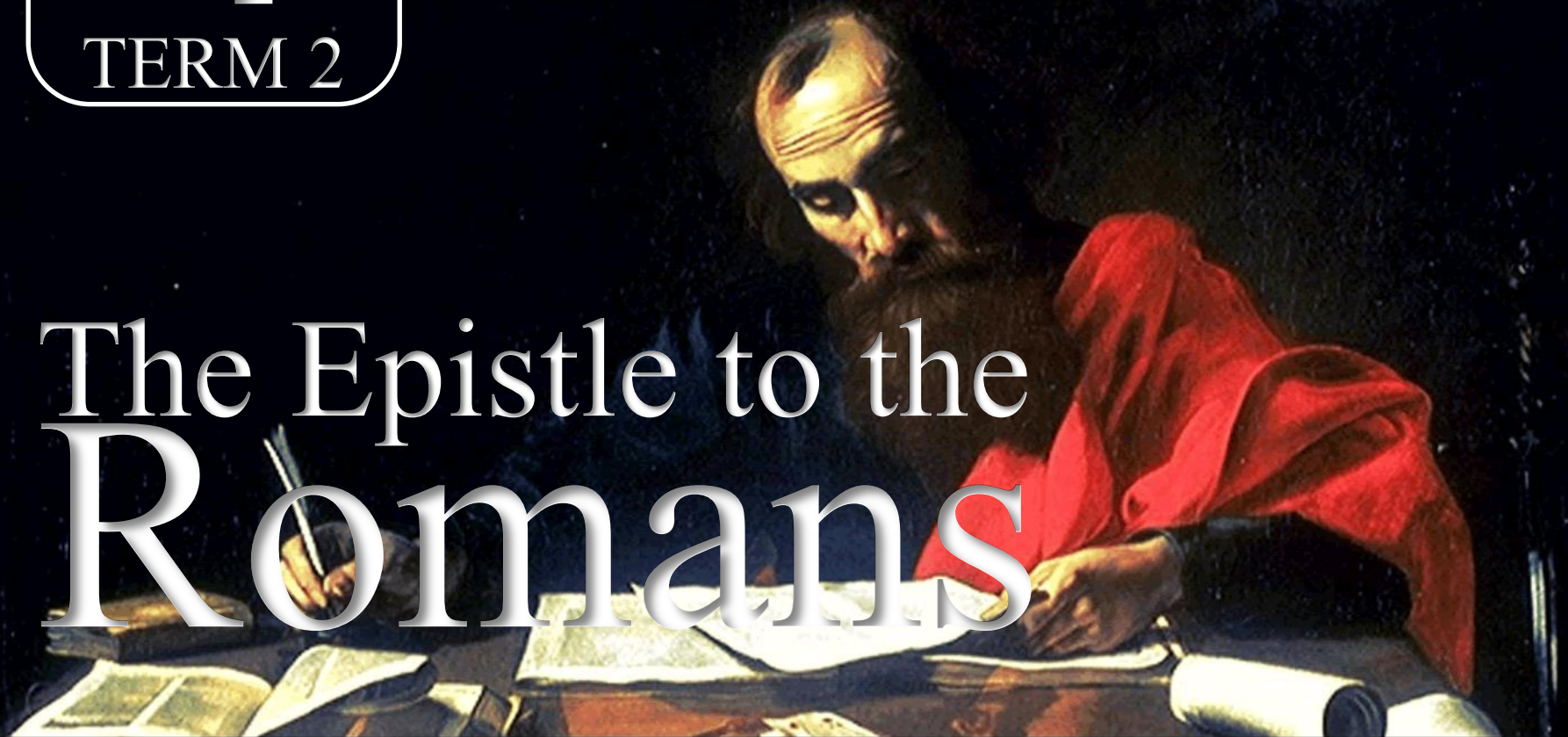


WHAT THE
BIBLE
IS ABOUT

2021
SESSION
4
TERM 2

WHAT THE
BIBLE
IS ABOUT

The Epistle to the
Romans



Romans Chapters 1-8 – Salvation:

- Justification
- Sanctification
- Glorification

Romans

Romans Chapters 9-11 – Israel

Romans Chapters 12-16 – Practical

Key Theme

ROMANS

GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS REVEALED

“For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

“For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written,

‘The just shall live by faith.’”

ROMANS 1:16-17

Epistle to the Romans

SIN

Righteousness
Demanded

- The Gentiles guilty—1:18–32
- The Jews guilty—2:1–3:8
- The whole world guilty—3:9–20

SALVATION

Righteousness
Declared

- Justification stated—3:21–31
- Justification illustrated in Abraham—4
- Justification explained in Adam—5

SANCTIFICATION

Righteousness
Defended

- Victory—the flesh—6
- Liberty—the Law—7
- Security—the Spirit—8

SOVEREIGNTY

Righteousness
Declined

- Israel's past riches—9
- Israel's present rejection—10
- Israel's future restoration—11

SERVICE

Righteousness
Demonstrated

- In the church body—12
- In society—13
- Toward the weaker believer—14:1–15:6

Paul the Theological Architect/Engineer



The Courthouse



The Power Plant



The Synagogue



The Church

Paul the Theological Architect/Engineer



The Courthouse

Romans 1-5 introduced the concept of justification by faith, but in order to show us our great need of salvation, Paul spent the first five chapters showing how we are all guilty before God.



The Courthouse Docket



"Revelation and not reason is the guide to faith."
Lewis Sperry Chafer (1871-1952)

Sin

demands
righteousness

The Gentiles guilty against God's law.
Romans 1:18–32

The Jews guilty against God's law.
Romans 2:1–3:8

The whole world guilty (no not one)
Romans 3:9–20

Salvation

declares
righteousness

What is "Justification"? Role of Christ.
Romans 3:21–31

Justification illustrated in Abraham.
Romans 4

Justification explained in Adam.
Romans 5

Key terms

righteousness

- a condition acceptable to God
- integrity, virtue, purity of life, rightness

justification

- To be legally declared or rendered righteous

sanctification

- To make holy (set apart)
- to separate from profane things and dedicate to God

Romans

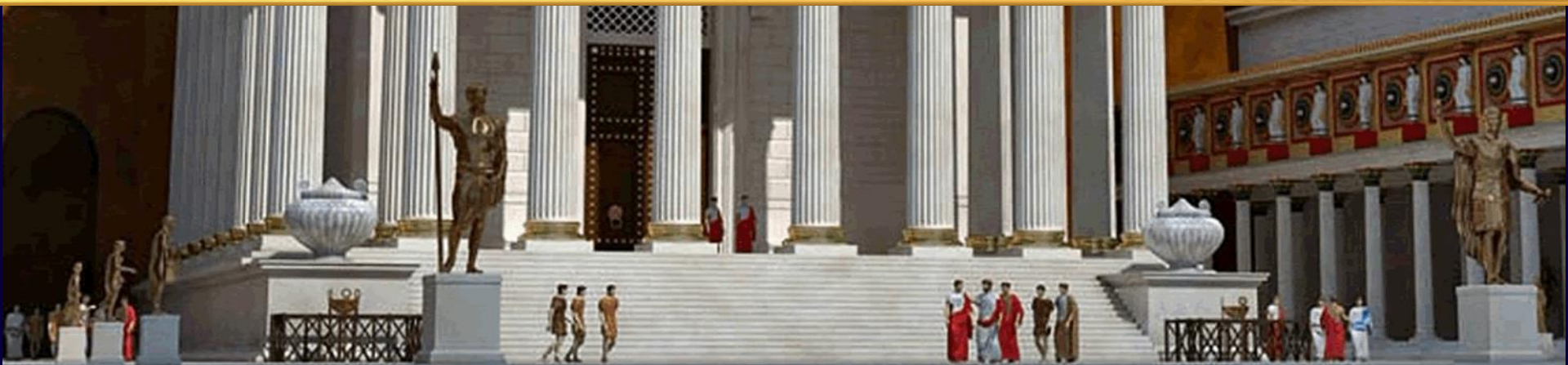
1
Part

INTRODUCTION

(Romans 1:1-17)




INTRODUCTION





Chapter 1



ROMANS





Paul presents his credentials.

- A bondservant of Christ called to present the gospel of God.

Paul expresses his concern.

- “I thank God for you... (and) long to see you.”
- “I pray for you unceasingly.”

Paul affirms his confidence.

- “I am not ashamed of the [origin, operation, outcome, or outreach of the] gospel.”
- “The just shall live by faith.”

The **gospel of God**
can be defined as
the revelation of
the **righteousness of God**
to bring about
the **obedience of faith** in
the lives of people.

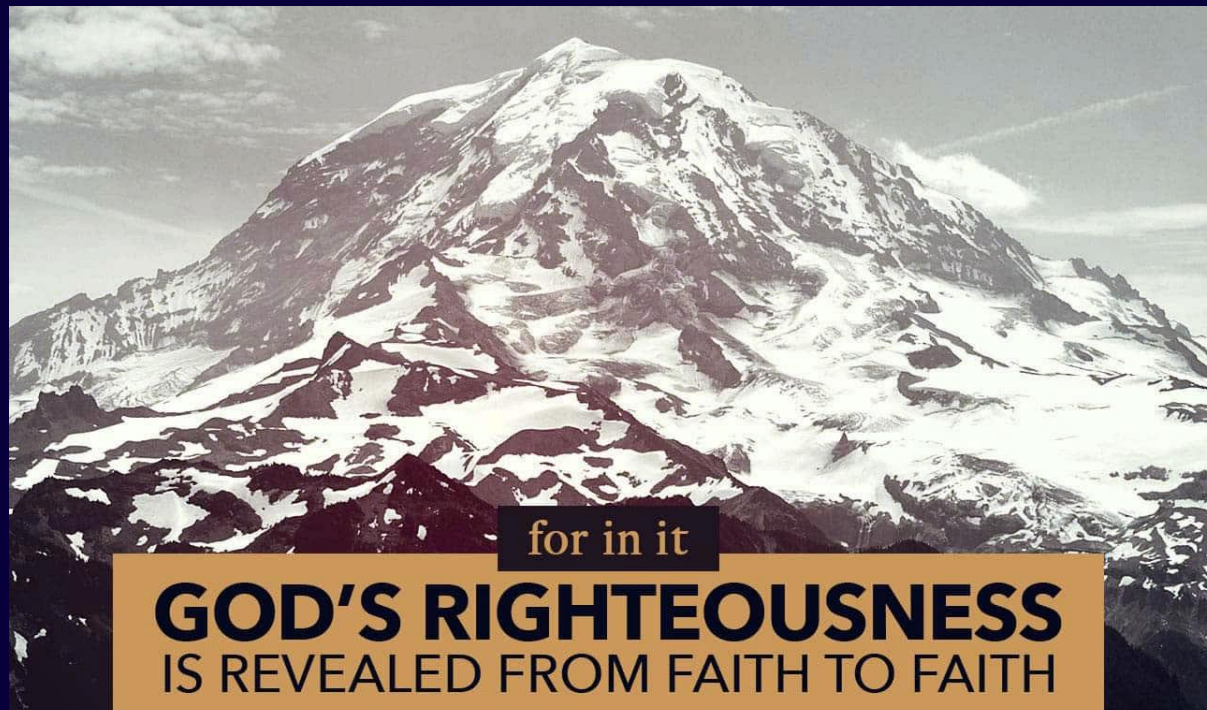
The Essence of the Gospel of God



• His righteous standards have been revealed

and

• the means to righteousness have been revealed.



for in it

GOD'S RIGHTEOUSNESS
IS REVEALED FROM FAITH TO FAITH

just as it is written:

THE JUST WILL LIVE BY
FAITH

ROMANS 1:17

Romans

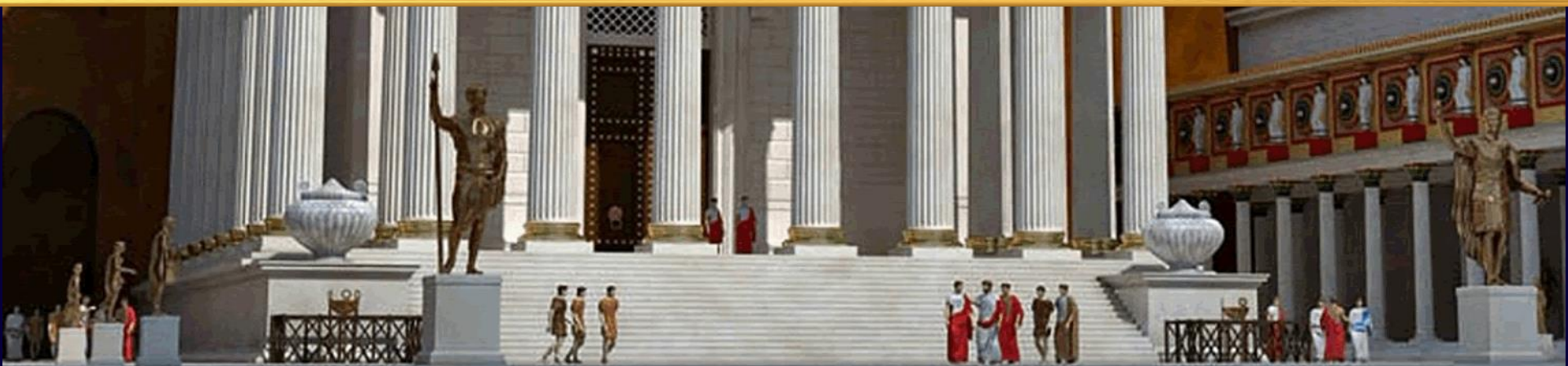
Part
2

SIN

(Romans 1:18-3:20)



RIGHTEOUSNESS DEMANDED



BUT FIRST, THE BAD NEWS

ROMANS 1:18-32

wickedness
godlessness




DARKNESS

revealed

<<<< shedding light on the heart of humanity >>>>

Romans 1:18-32





Chapter 2

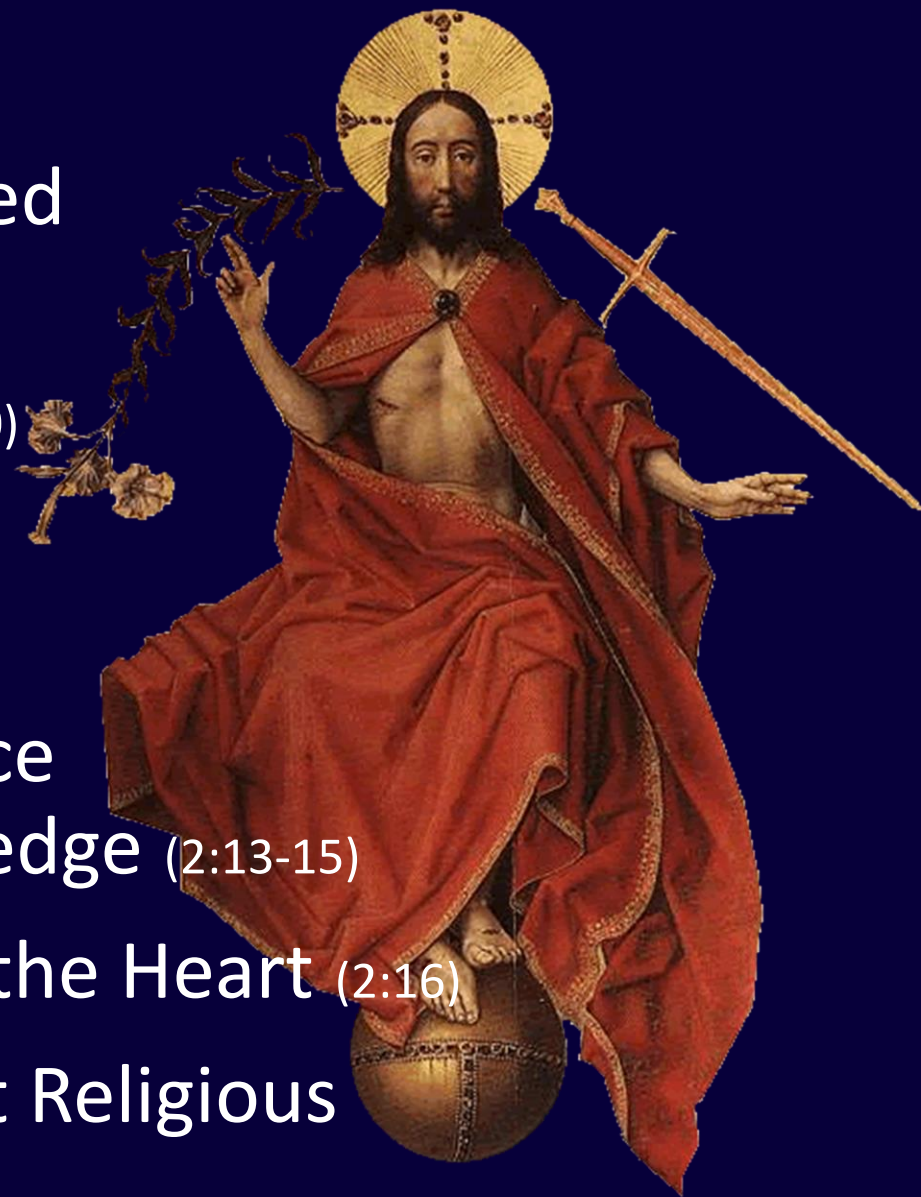


ROMANS



Principles of God's Judgement (vv. 2:2-29)

1. According to Truth (2:2-4)
2. According to Accumulated Guilt (2:5)
3. According to Works (2:6-10)
4. Without Respect of Persons (2:11-12)
5. According to Performance [Obedience], not Knowledge (2:13-15)
6. Reaching the Secrets of the Heart (2:16)
7. According to Reality, Not Religious Profession (2:17-29)





Chapter 3



ROMANS



Aren't the Jews Already Chosen?

YES - as a nation

- The Jews received, recorded, and preserved the Word of God.
- Their unfaithfulness didn't nullify the faithfulness of God to them.
- God does not lie.

NO – individually

- Individually there is none righteous, no not one.
- Everyone, Jew and Gentile alike, will be held accountable to God unless they repent and trust in Christ.
- Our best works cannot justify us.





**Man is unjust, but God is just;
And finally justice will triumph.**

IF YOU
RELY ON
THE
LAW,

YOU
WILL BE
FOUND
GUILTY!

Romans

Part
3

SALVATION

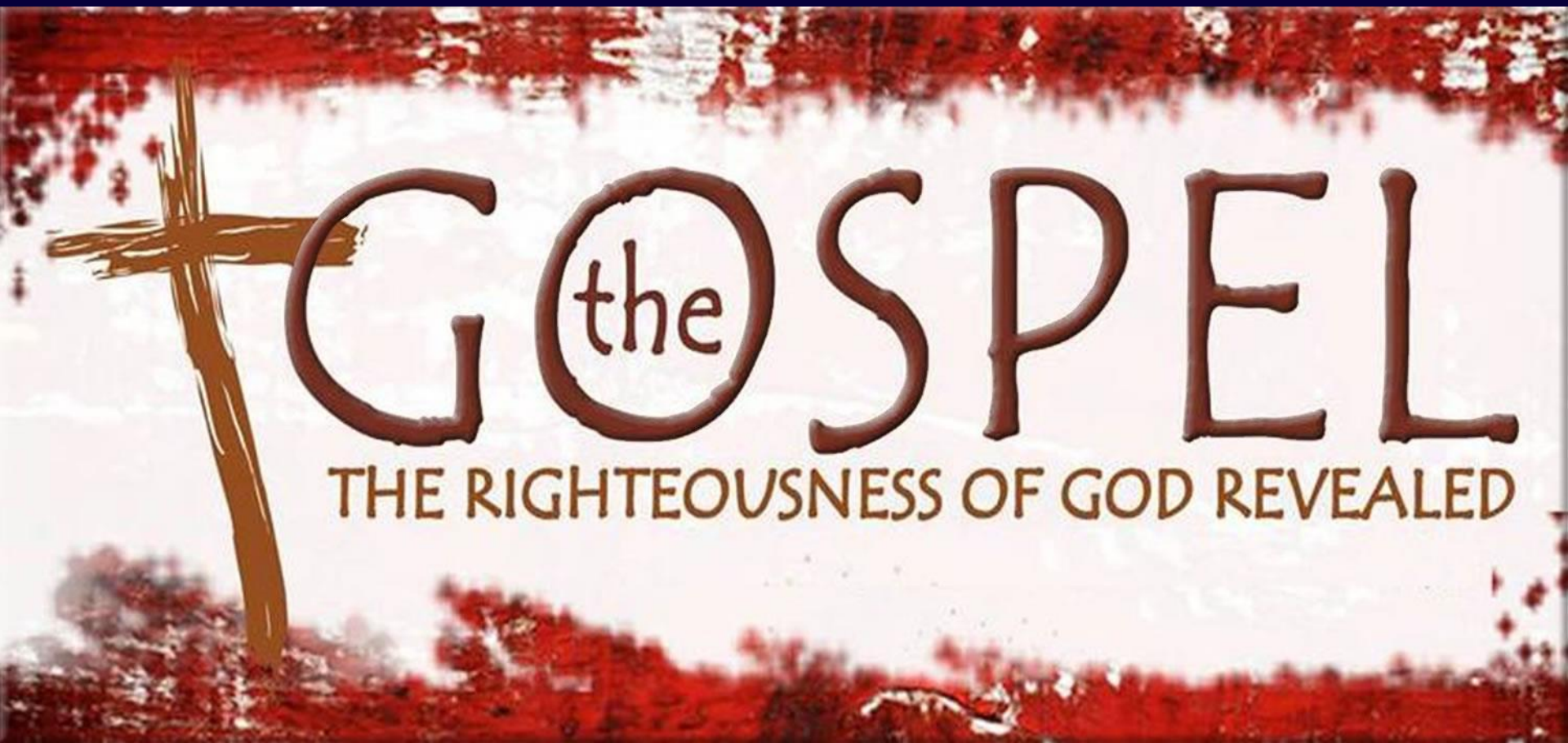
(Romans 3:21-5:21)




RIGHTEOUSNESS DECLARED

God's Righteousness Through Faith

²¹ But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets,
²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe.



For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

A close-up photograph of a person's hands covering their face, suggesting shame or despair. The person's hands are pressed against their forehead and eyes, with fingers spread. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the texture of the skin and the tension in the hands. The background is dark, making the hands and face the central focus.

**All have
sinned and
fall short of
the glory of
God.**

ROMANS 3:23

³¹ Do we then make

void the law through faith?

Certainly not! On the contrary,
we establish the law.

~ *Romans 3:31* ~





Chapter 4

ROMANS

- Abraham was justified by faith, not works
- Abraham was justified by grace, not law
- Abraham was justified by resurrection power

An illustration of a grand Roman temple facade. The temple features a prominent portico with a pediment supported by columns. The roofline is adorned with a series of statues. The sky is a clear blue with light clouds. The text "Chapter 5" is written in a large, gold, serif font across the middle of the image.

Chapter 5

An illustration of a Roman temple facade, similar to the one above but with a darker, more dramatic lighting. The text "ROMANS" is written in a large, gold, serif font across the middle of the image.

ROMANS



Romans

Part
4

SANCTIFICATION

(Romans 6-8)



RIGHTEOUSNESS DEFENDED

Paul the Theological Architect/Engineer



The Power Plant

Romans 6-8 help us understand the power to live out this Christian life God is calling us to. These are some of the most, well, powerful chapters in Scripture, and for many, some of the most rewarding.



Chapter 6



ROMANS



Paul Changes Focus

FROM SINS

Romans 3:21—5:21

- Substitution:
Jesus died for Me
- He died *for* my sins
- He paid sin's penalty
- Justification:
righteousness

TO SIN

Romans 6—8

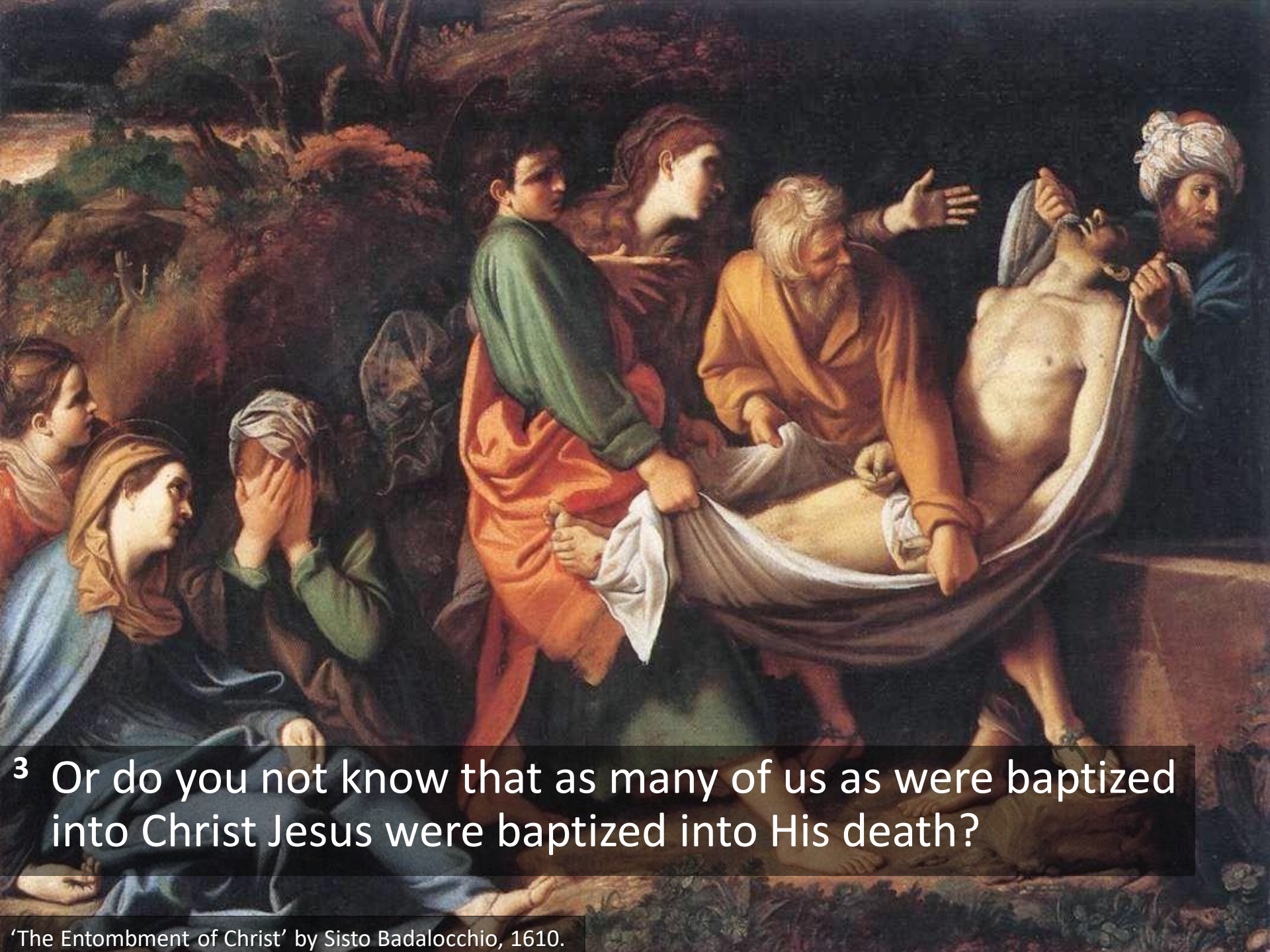
- Identification:
I died with Jesus
- He died *unto* sin
- He broke sin's power
- Sanctification:
righteousness

Dead to Sin, Alive to God

6 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? ² Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it?



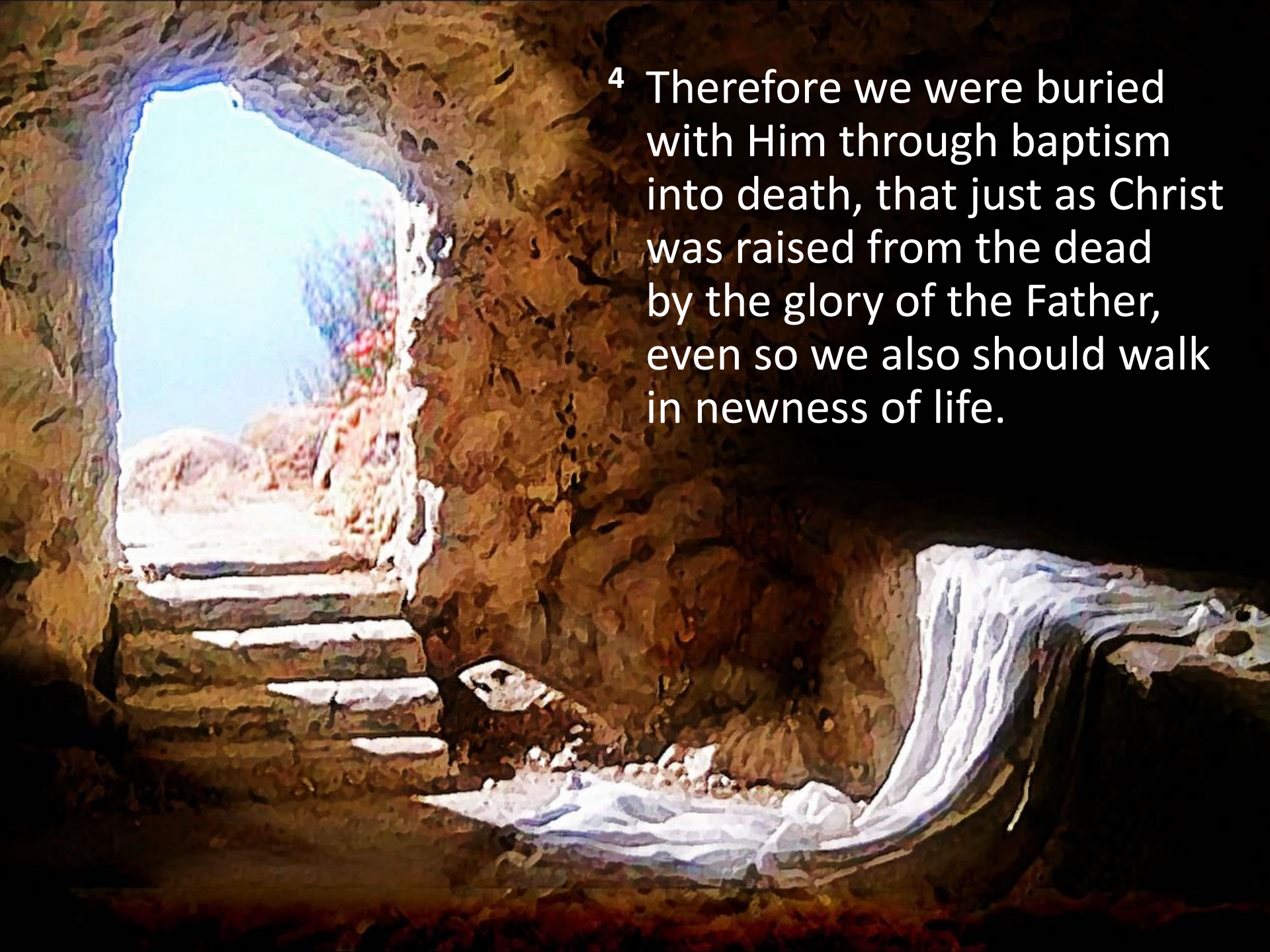
'Roman Orgy in the Time of Caesars' by Henryk Hector Siemiradzki, 1872.



³ Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?

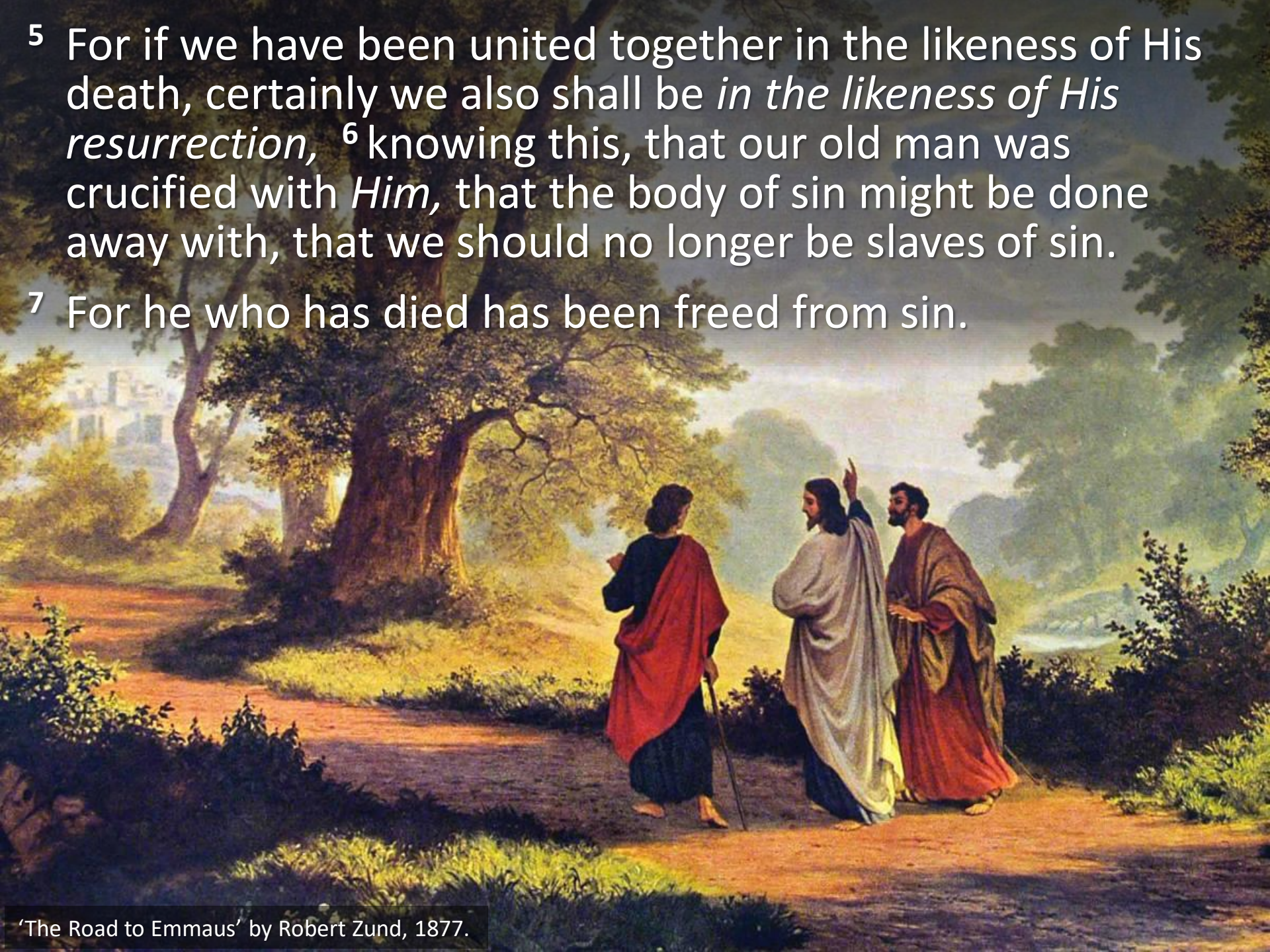
'The Entombment of Christ' by Sisto Badalocchio, 1610.

4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.



⁵ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness of His resurrection*, ⁶ knowing this, that our old man was crucified with *Him*, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.

⁷ For he who has died has been freed from sin.



'The Road to Emmaus' by Robert Zund, 1877.



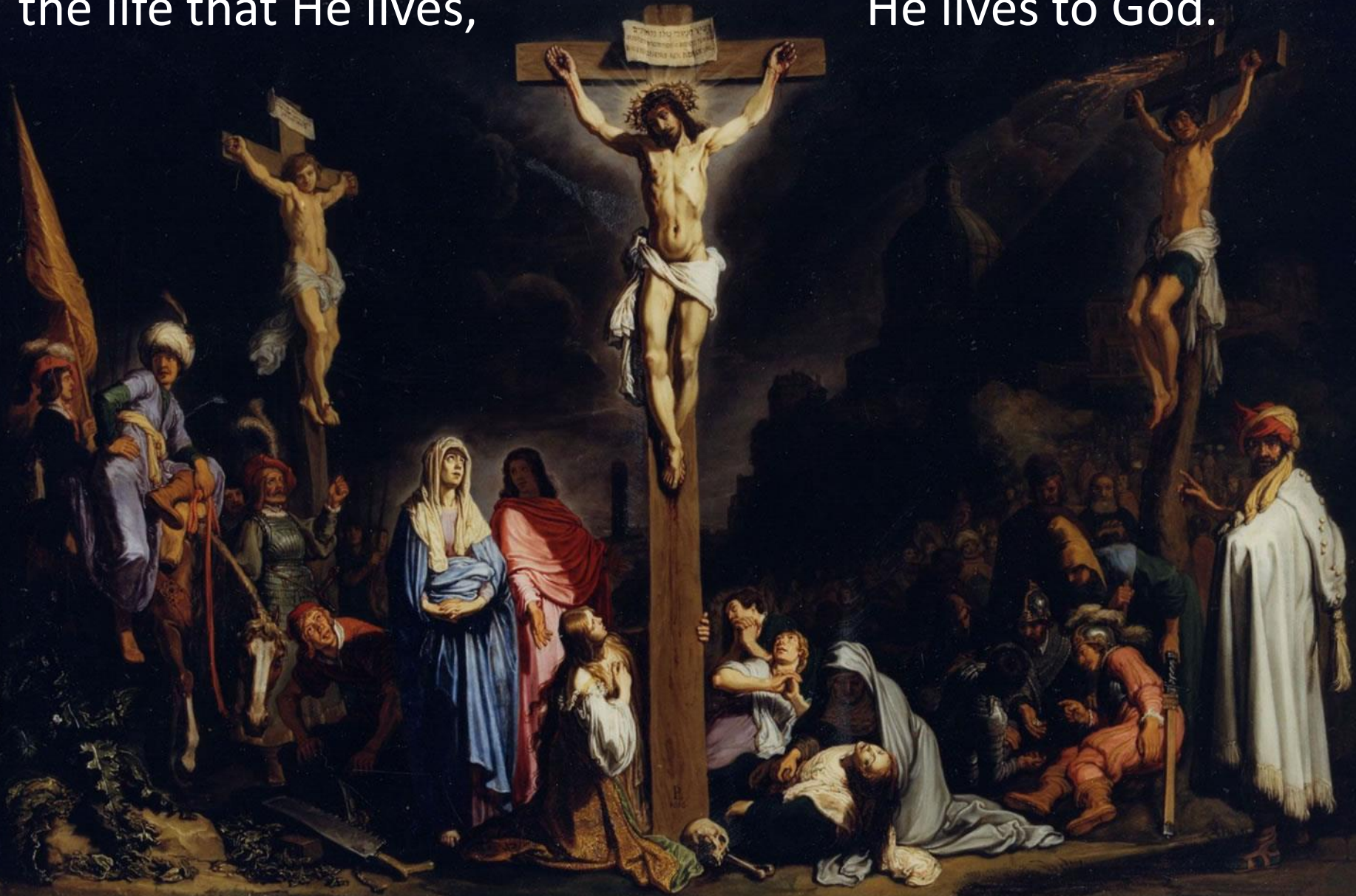
'A Christian Martyr' by Edmund Blair Leighton, 1884.

**NOW IF WE DIED
WITH CHRIST,
WE BELIEVE
THAT WE SHALL
ALSO LIVE
WITH HIM
ROMANS 6:8**

⁹ knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more.

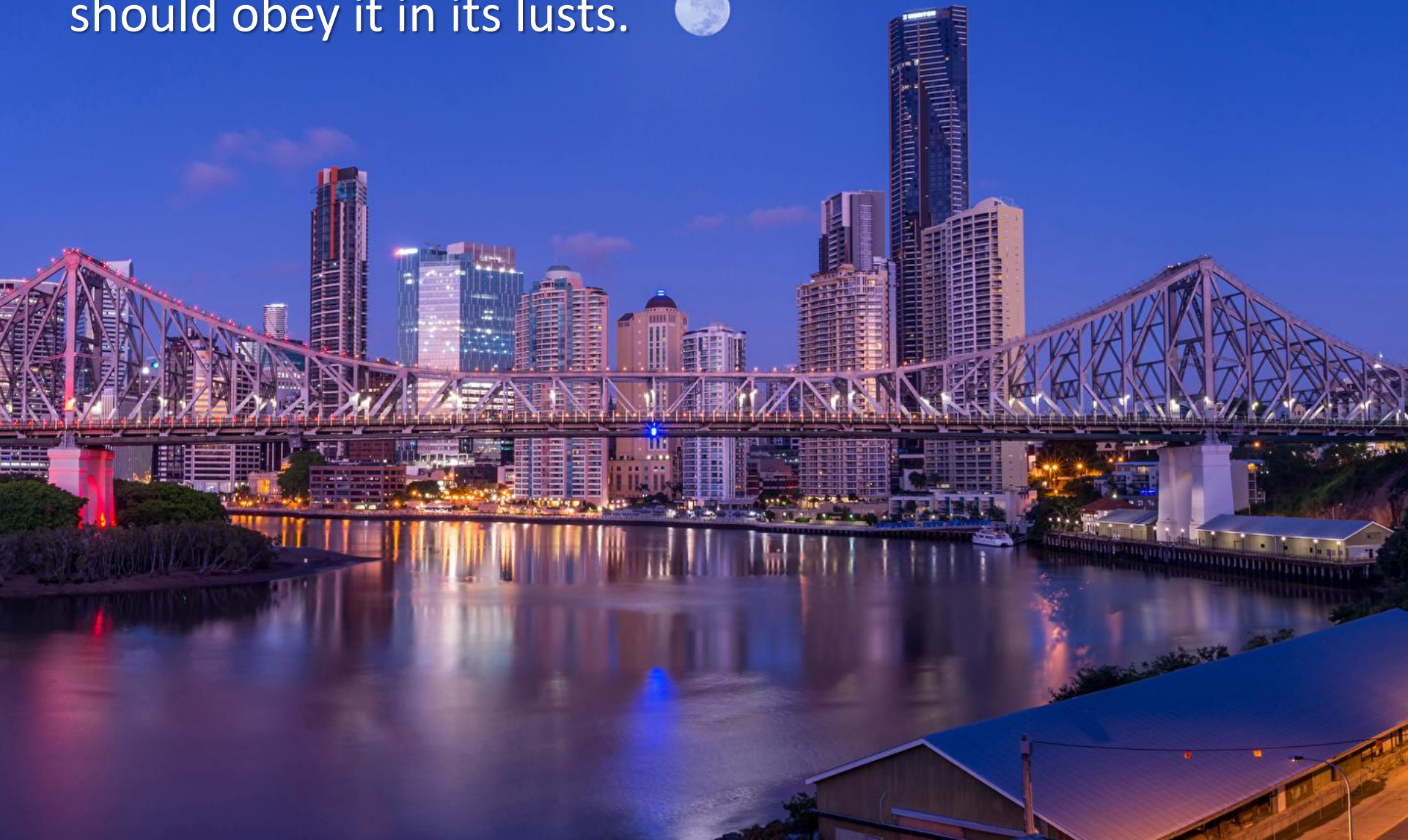
Death no longer has dominion over Him.

¹⁰ For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but
the life that He lives, He lives to God.




'The Crucifixion' by Pieter Lastman, 1616.

- 11 Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. 🌕



¹³ And do not present your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.

14 For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.

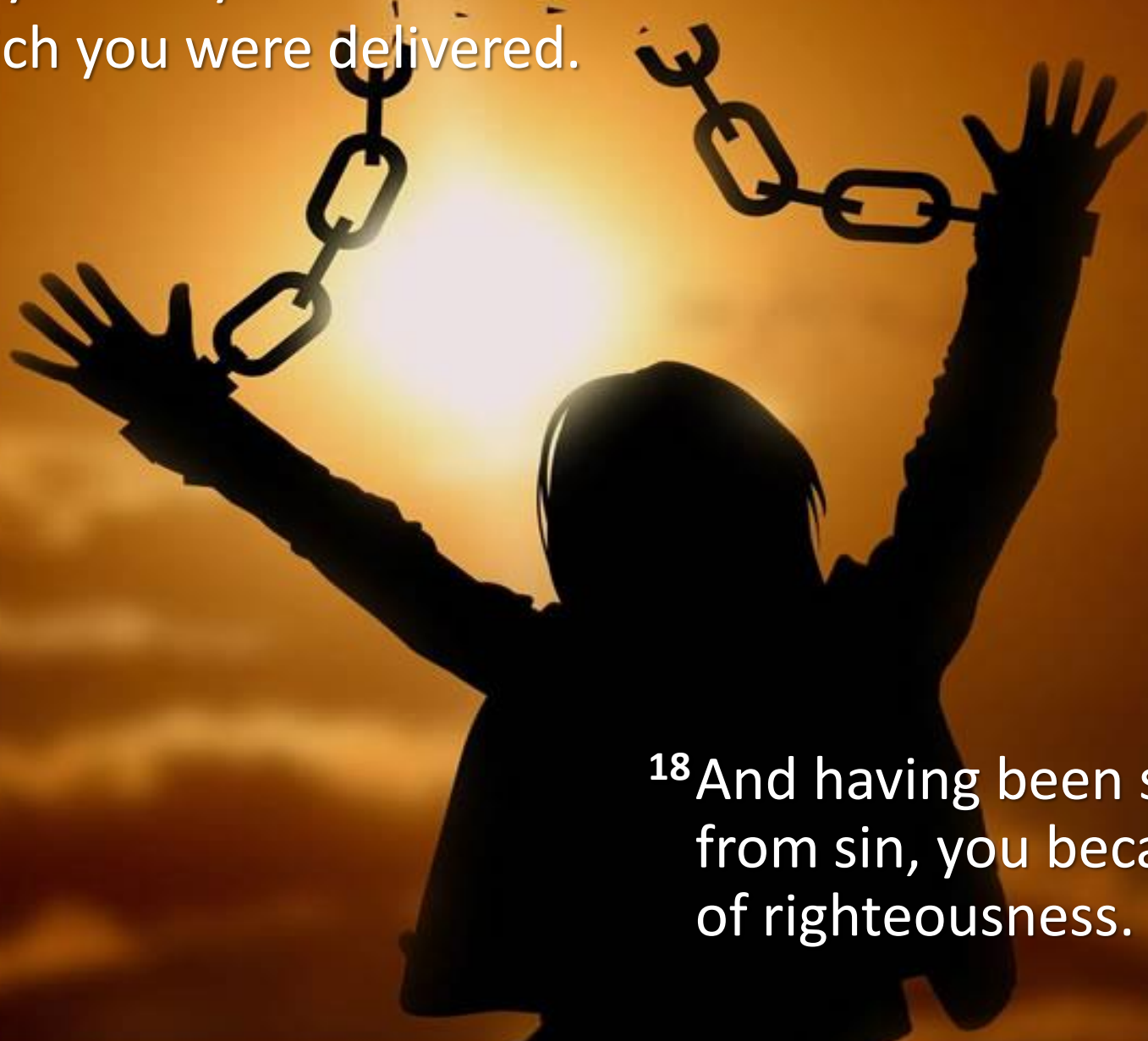
A night cityscape featuring a prominent steel truss bridge spanning a river. The city skyline is illuminated with various lights, and the lights reflect on the water. A full moon is visible in the dark blue sky. The overall scene is a vibrant urban night view.

¹⁵ What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not! ¹⁶ Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin *leading* to death, or of obedience *leading* to righteousness?



A
Slave
to
SIN

¹⁷ But God be thanked that *though* you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.



¹⁸ And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.

¹⁹ I speak in human *terms* because of the weakness of your flesh. For just as you presented your members *as* slaves of uncleanness, and of lawlessness *leading* to more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves of righteousness for holiness.

Slaves
of

SIN

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Slaves
of

CHRIST

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DEATH

**ETERNAL
LIFE**

²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

²¹ What fruit did you have then in the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things *is* death.

²² But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness, and the end, everlasting life. ²³ For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.




DEATH

**ETERNAL
LIFE**



Chapter 7



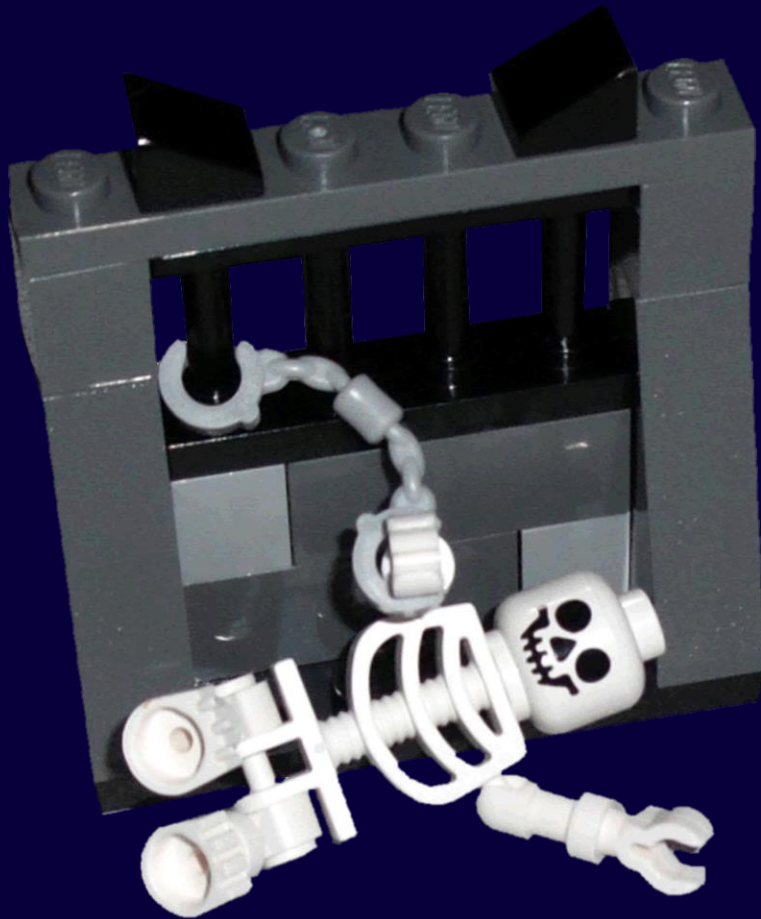
ROMANS



LAW SCHOOL

Freed From the Law

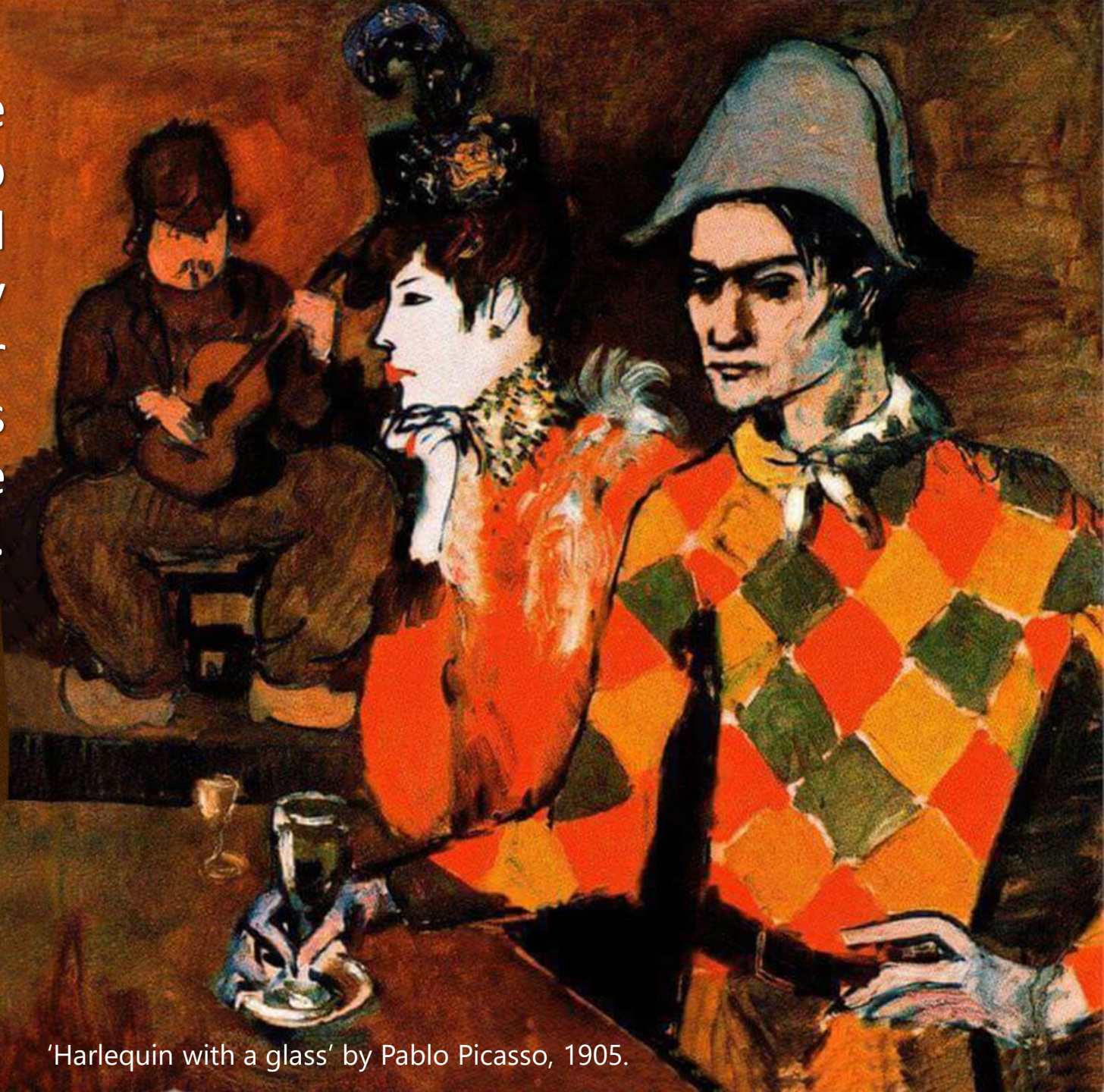
7 Or do you not know, brethren (for I speak to those who know the law), that the law has dominion over a man as long as he lives?



**The law only
has authority
on the living!**

For the woman who has a husband is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives.

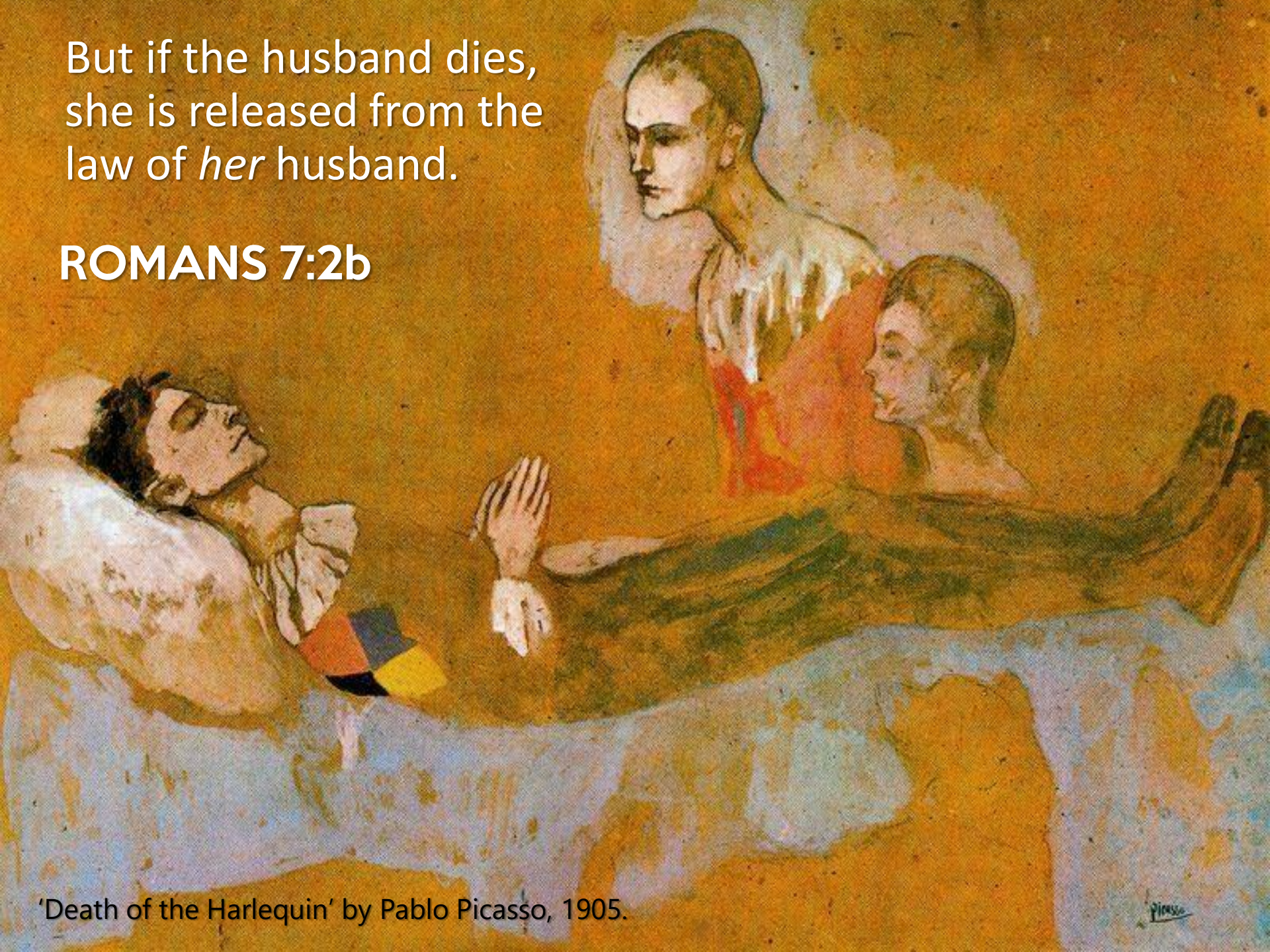
ROMANS 7:2



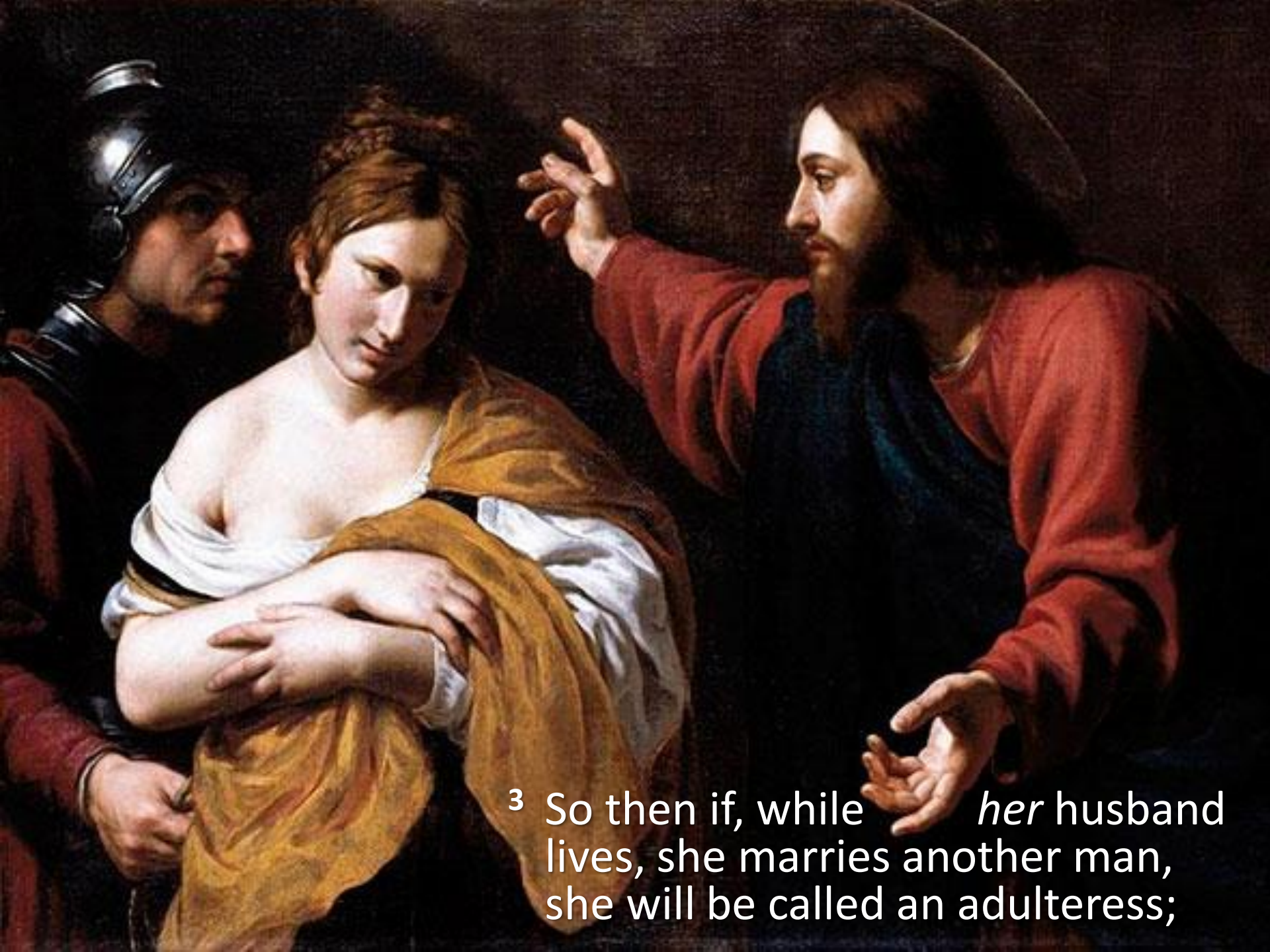
'Harlequin with a glass' by Pablo Picasso, 1905.

But if the husband dies,
she is released from the
law of *her* husband.

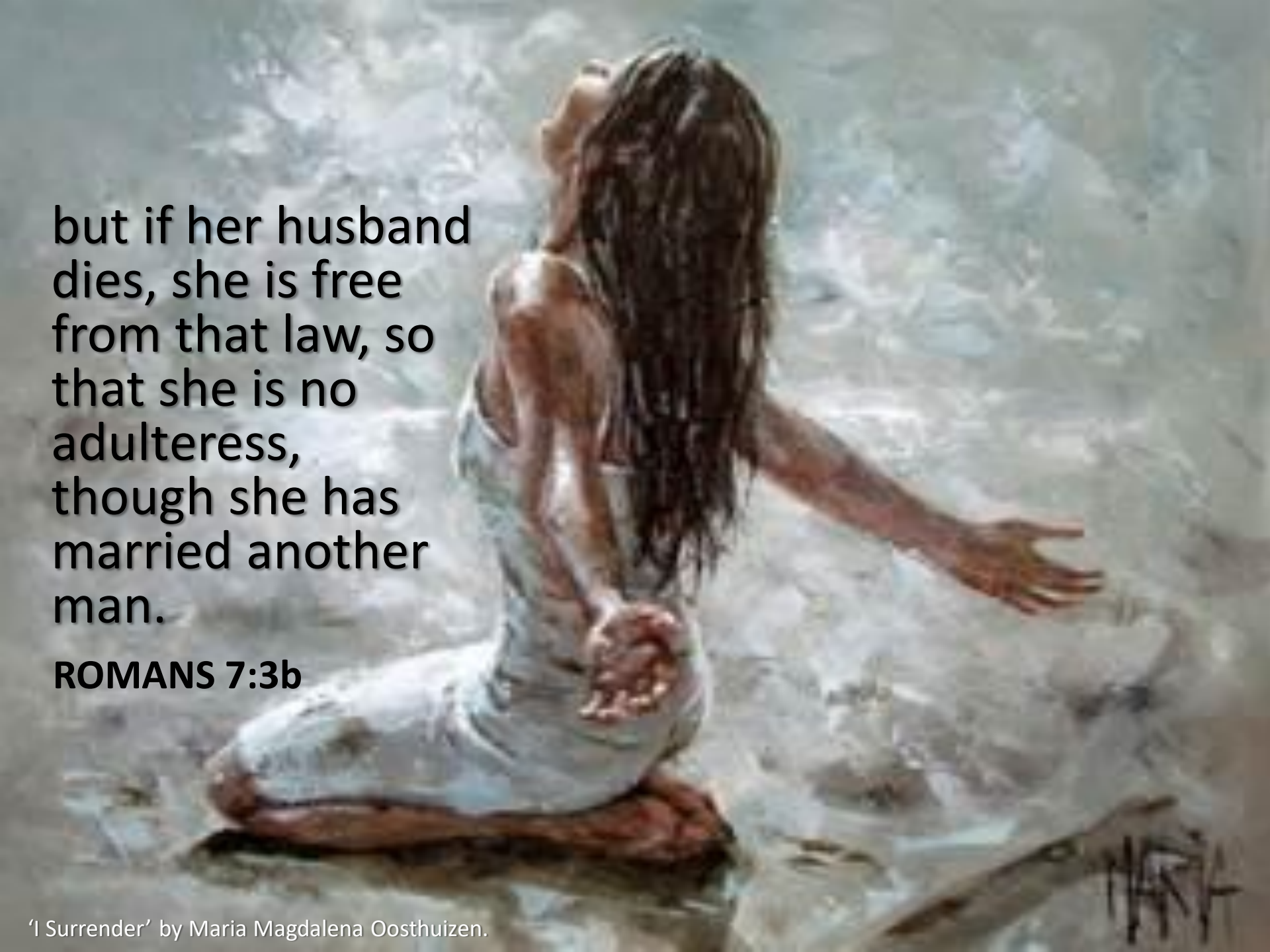
ROMANS 7:2b



'Death of the Harlequin' by Pablo Picasso, 1905.



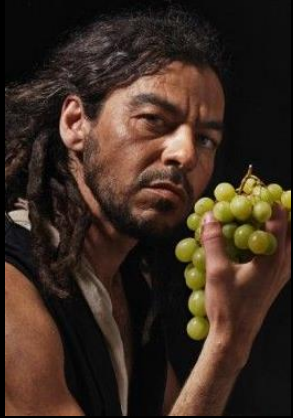
³ So then if, while *her* husband lives, she marries another man, she will be called an adulteress;



but if her husband
dies, she is free
from that law, so
that she is no
adulteress,
though she has
married another
man.

ROMANS 7:3b

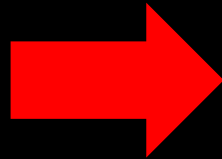
What is Romans 7:2-3 Really About?



HUSBAND



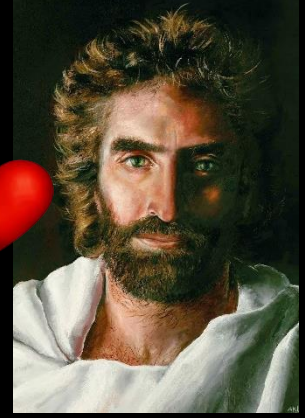
WIFE



HUSBAND



WIFE



2nd MAN



- A married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives.
- If she is joined to another man while her husband lives, she is an adulteress.
- If her husband dies, she is released from the law concerning husbands.
- And she is free from the law to be joined to another man.

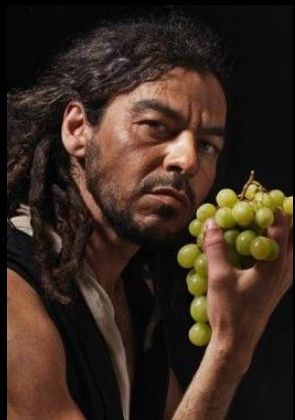


WIFE



HUSBAND

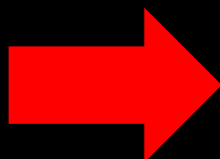
The Allegory of Romans 7:2-3



SIN



MANKIND



SIN



MANKIND



MESSIAH

- People are under authority of sin while sin is alive in their lives.
- Once faith comes, sin is confronted and revealed as sin, giving a choice.
- Man dies to sin; Grace regenerates her heart, producing life in the Spirit.
- Freed from bondage of sin; the Bride of Christ becomes justified and the beloved of God.



BRIDE
(MANKIND)



NEW HUSBAND
(CHRIST)

“Sin and hell are
married unless
repentance
proclaims the
divorce.”

Charles Spurgeon
(1834 - 1892)

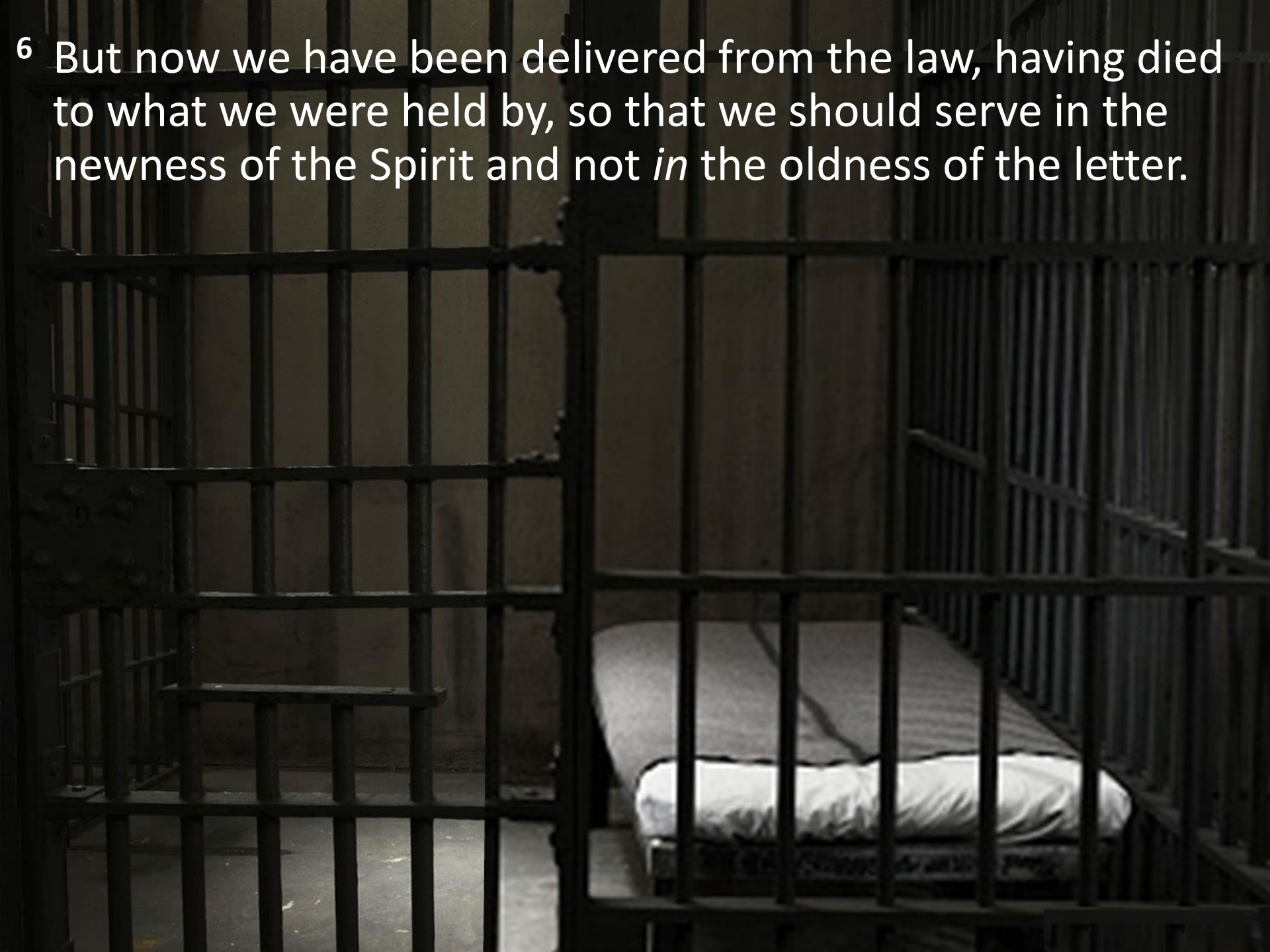


4 Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another—to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

5 For when we were in the flesh, the sinful passions which were aroused by the law were at work in our members to bear fruit to death.



⁶ But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not *in* the oldness of the letter.



Letter of the Law

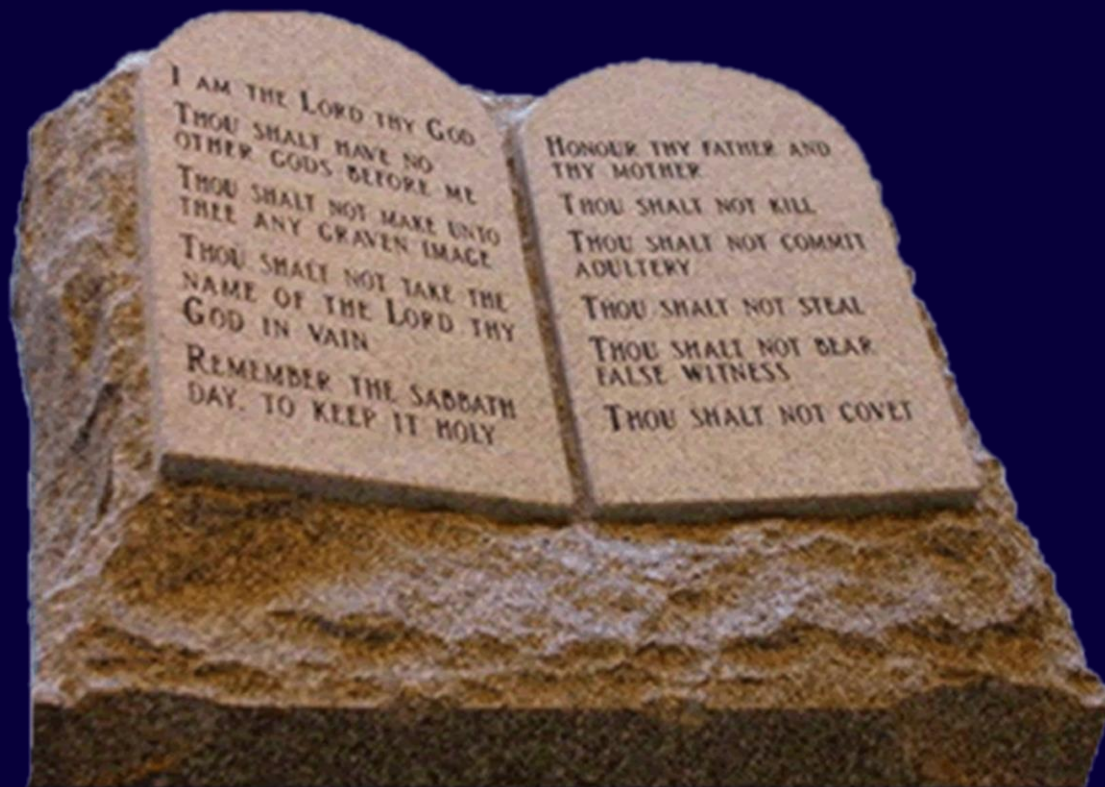
- Depends on the flesh
(Rom 8:3)
- Produces rebellion
(Rom 7:8)
- Results in more sin
(Rom 5:20)
- Brings wrath
(Rom 4:15)
- Not of faith
(Gal 3:12)
- Kills
(2 Cor 3:4-6; Gal 3:21)

The Spirit

- Depends upon God's power
(Luke 23:49; Acts 1:8)
- Produces God's desires
(Phil 2:13)
- Righteousness
(Rom 8:4)
- Brings joy, peace, production
(Gal 5:22, 23)
- By faith
(Gal 5:5; 2 Cor 5:7)
- Gives life...

Sin's Advantage in the Law

7 What shall we say then? Is the law sin?



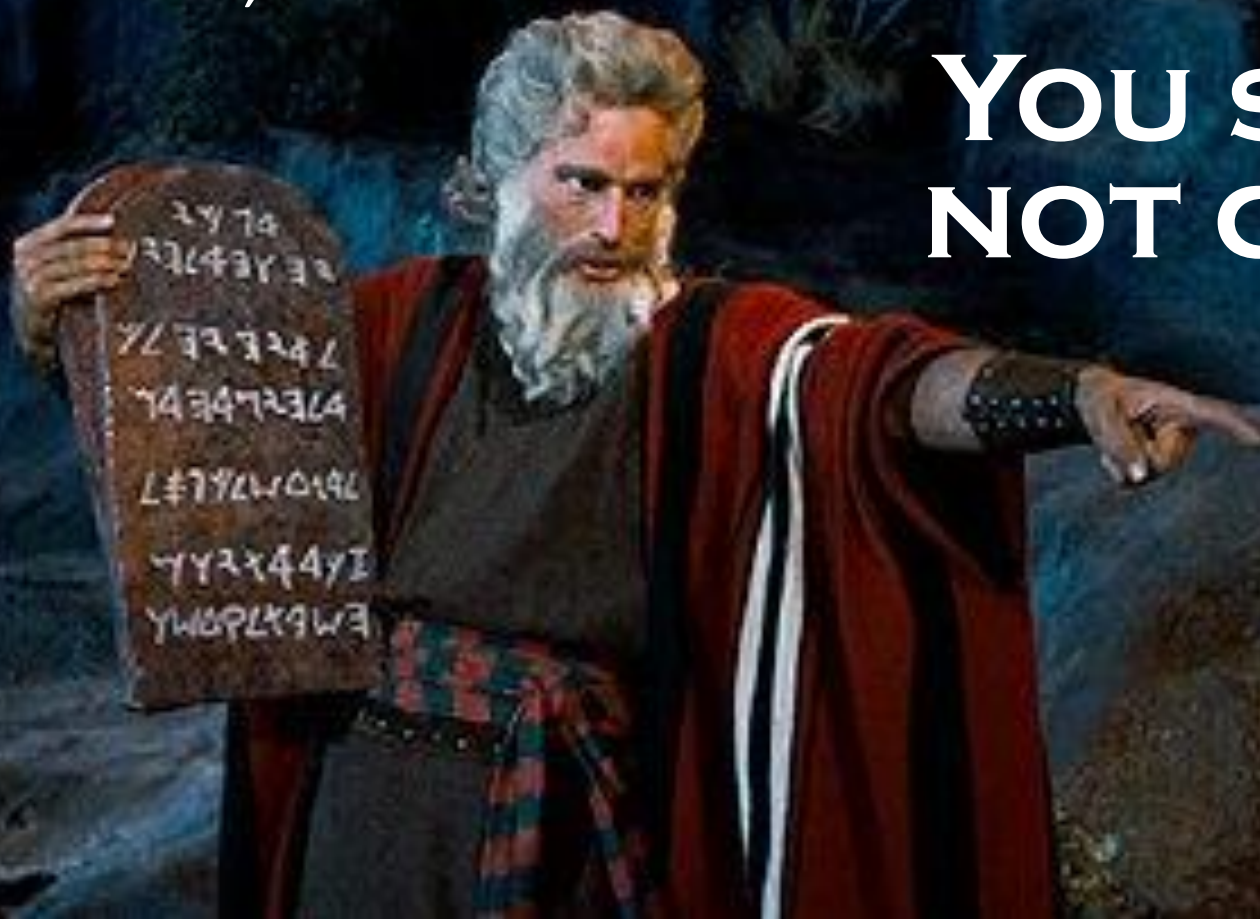
Certainly not!

On the contrary, I would not have known sin except through the law.

For I would not have known covetousness unless the law had said,

**YOU SHALL
NOT COVET!**

[Exodus 20:17]



8 But sin, taking opportunity by the commandment, produced in me all *manner of evil* desire. For apart from the law sin *was* dead.

⁹ I was alive once without the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died.

Alive



¹⁰ And the commandment, which was to *bring* life, I found to *bring* death.

¹¹ For sin, taking occasion by the commandment, deceived me, and by it killed *me*.

SIN

“THEREFORE THE LAW IS
HOLY
AND THE COMMANDMENT
HOLY AND JUST
AND GOOD.”

¹² Therefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just and good.

13 Has then what is good become death to me?

Certainly not!

Law Cannot Save From Sin

But sin, that it might appear sin, was producing death in me through what is good, so that sin through the commandment might become exceedingly sinful.



Human trafficking – the new face of slavery in America.

“By the commandment sin became **exceedingly sinful.**”

¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual, but I am carnal, sold under sin. ¹⁵ For what I am doing, I do not understand.

For what I will to do, that I do not practice; but what I hate, that I do.

Detail from 'The Apostle Paul' by Rembrandt van Rijn, c1675.



¹⁶ If, then, I do what I will not to do, I agree with the law that *it is* good. ¹⁷ But now, *it is* no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells in me.



Help! I know that I have been regenerated and born again, but the Law shows me that I ***still*** sin. I don't want to, and I try not to, but I still sin **and I hate it!**

Despite my best intentions, the **sin in me** sometimes **overwhelms** them.


¹⁸ For I know that in me (that is, in my flesh) nothing good dwells; for to will is present with me, but *how* to perform what is good I do not find. ¹⁹ For the good that I will *to do*, I do not do; but the evil I will not *to do*, that I practice.

WHY DO I DO
EVIL

?

WHEN WHAT I
WANT IS TO DO
GOOD



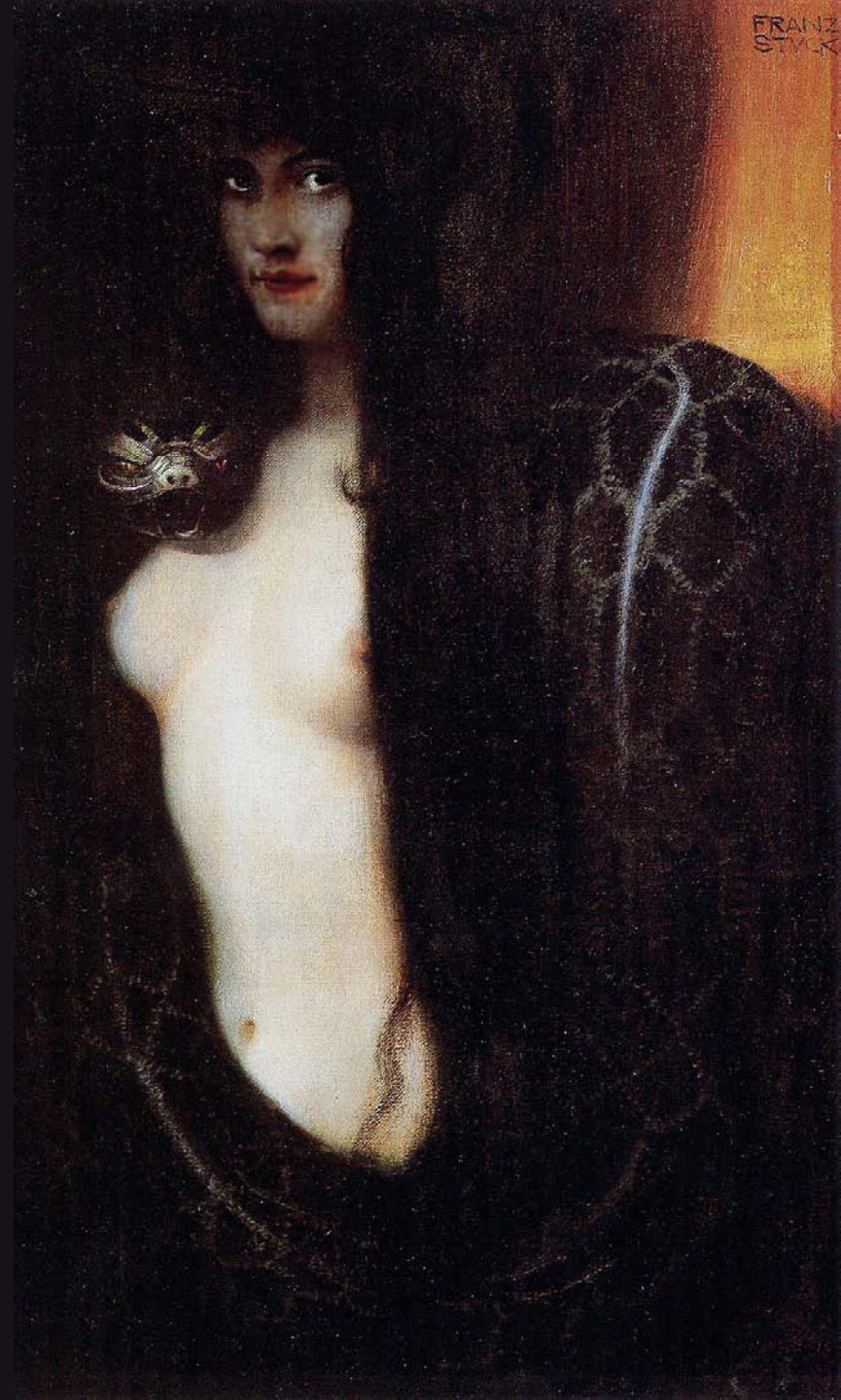


²⁰ Now if I do what
I will not *to do*, it
is no longer I who
do it, but sin that
dwells in me.

'The Wild Hunt' by Franz von Struck, 1889.

²¹ I find then a law,
that **evil** is
present with **me**,
the one who
wills to do good.

'The Sin' by Franz von Struck, 1893.



²² For I delight in the **law of God** according to the inward man.

²³ But I see **another law** in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the **law of sin** which is in my members.



'Sin' by Franz von Struck, 1899.

²² For I delight in the law of God according to the inward man.

²³ But I see another law in my members, warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members.

FLESH VS SPIRIT



THE STRUGGLE IS REAL

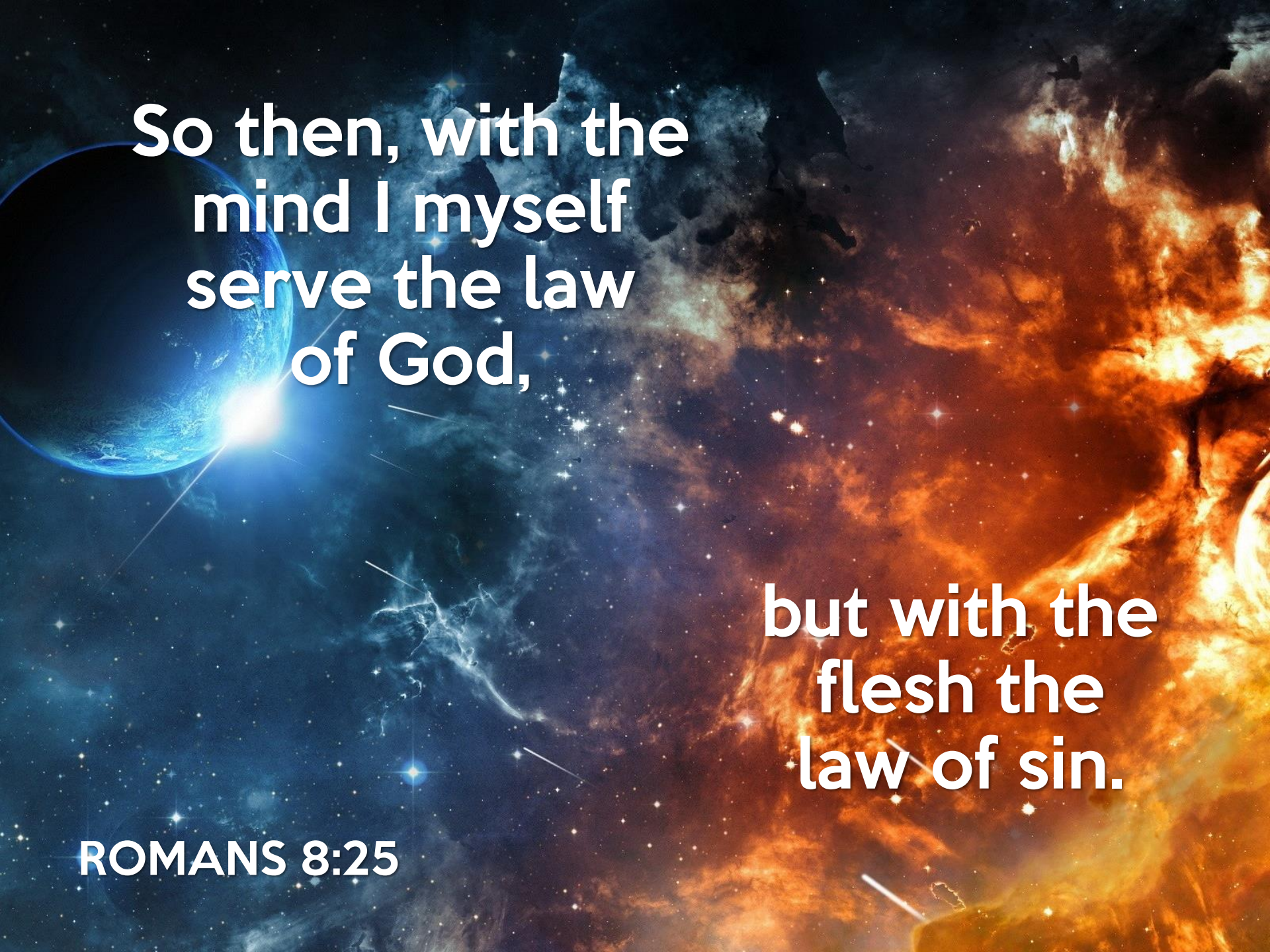
24 O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death?

25 I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!



What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God — through Jesus Christ our Lord!

- Romans 7:24-25 -



**So then, with the
mind I myself
serve the law
of God,**

**but with the
flesh the
law of sin.**

ROMANS 8:25

The background of the entire image is a detailed view of the interior of a large, ornate dome, likely St. Peter's Basilica. The dome's surface is covered in intricate architectural details, including a central oculus with a sunburst design, surrounded by a grid of ribs and smaller circular motifs. The color palette is dominated by deep blues, gold, and earthy tones. The text is overlaid in a golden, serif font with a slight shadow effect.

Chapter 8

ROMANS

THE TREASURE

Free From Indwelling Sin

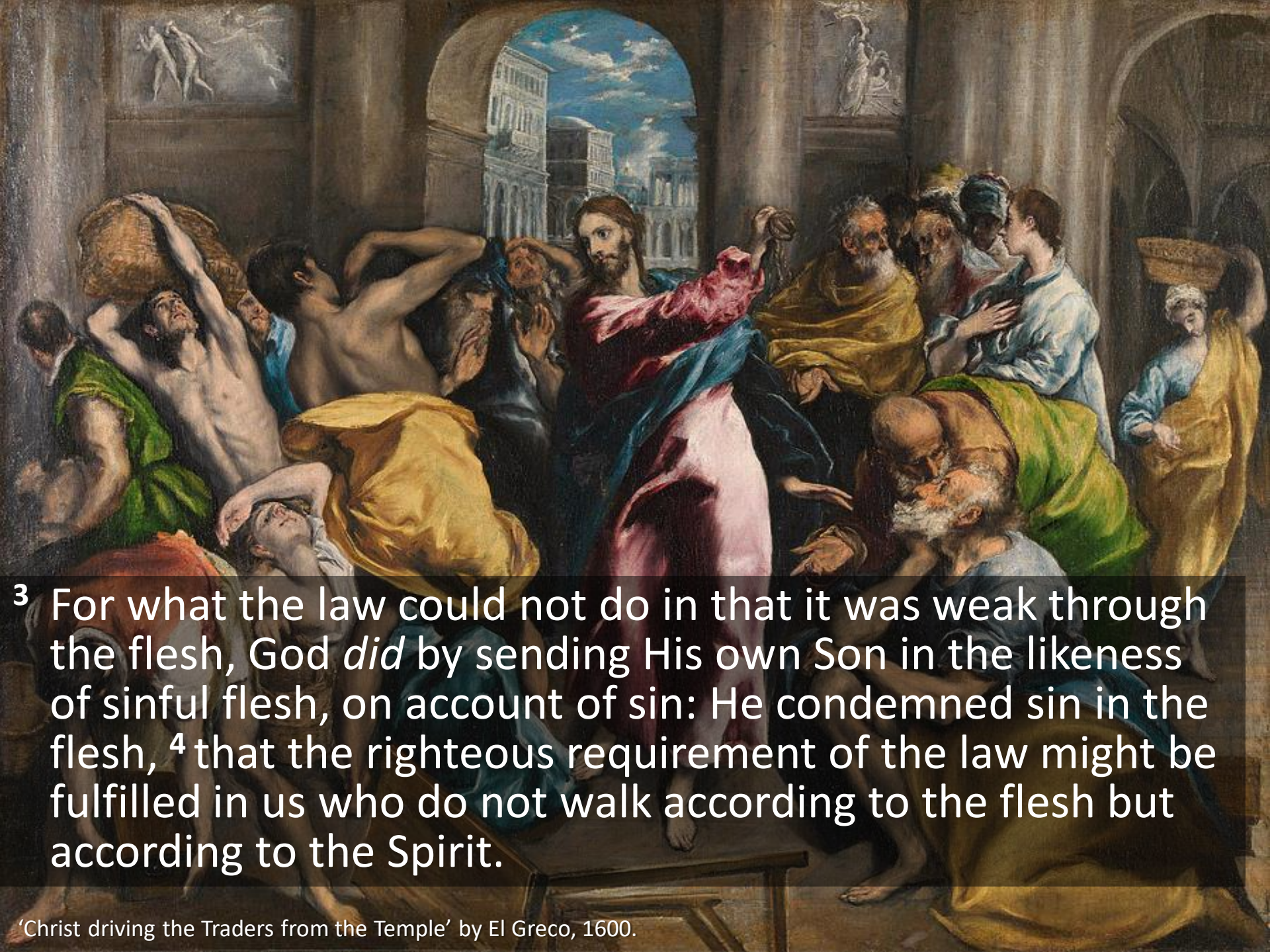
8 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to the flesh, but according to the Spirit.



I SAY THEN:
**WALK IN
THE SPIRIT,
& YOU SHALL NOT FULFILL
THE LUST OF THE FLESH.**

Galatians 5:16

2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death.



³ For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

5 For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those *who live* according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

6 For to be carnally minded is death, but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.



⁷ Because the carnal mind *is* enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be.

⁸ So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

'Bacchus' by Caravaggio, 1596.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.

¹⁰ And if Christ is in you, the body *is* dead because of sin, but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness.

'The Descent of the Holy Ghost'
by Louis Galloche, (1670-1761).



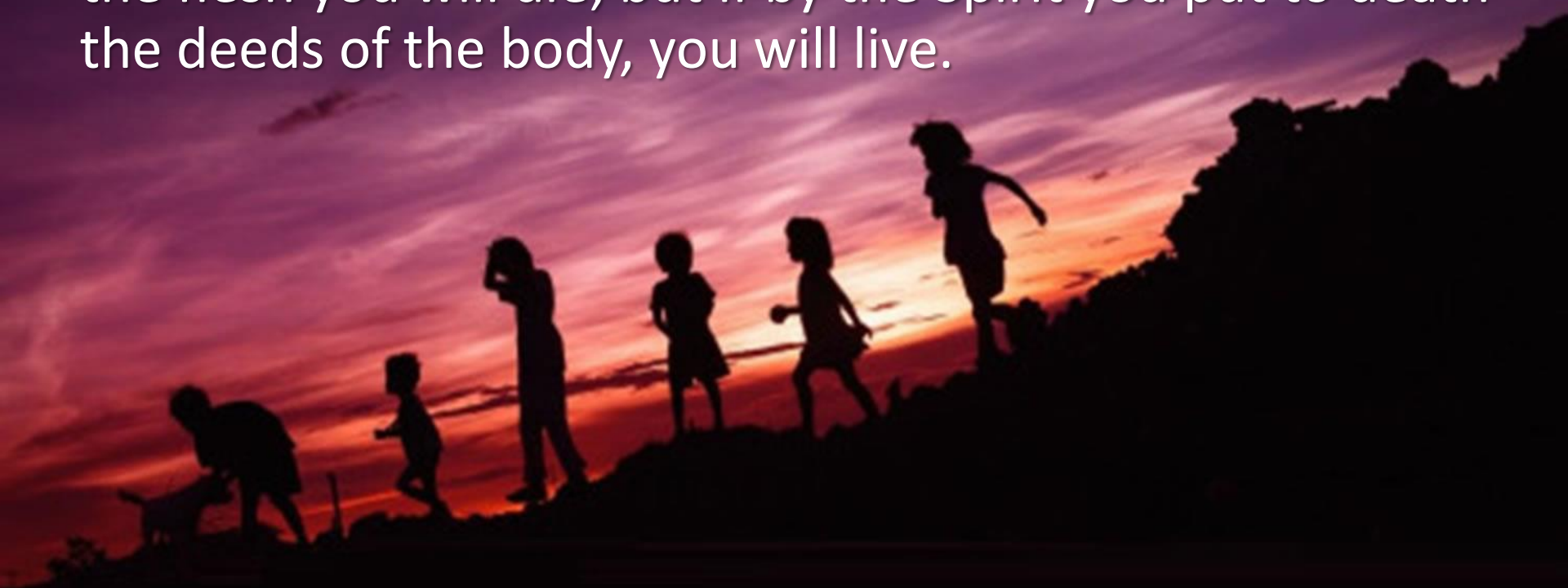


¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Sonship Through the Spirit

¹² Therefore, brethren, we are debtors—not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. ¹³ For if you live according to the flesh you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons [children] of God.





¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.”

LIFE AS A CHILD OF GOD

ROMANS

8:12-17

¹⁶ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

From Suffering to Glory

¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.

The pain that you've been feeling
can't compare to the

JOY

that's coming.

- Romans 8:18 -

¹⁹ For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected *it* in hope; ²¹ because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.



²² For we know that the whole creation groans and labors with birth pangs together until now.

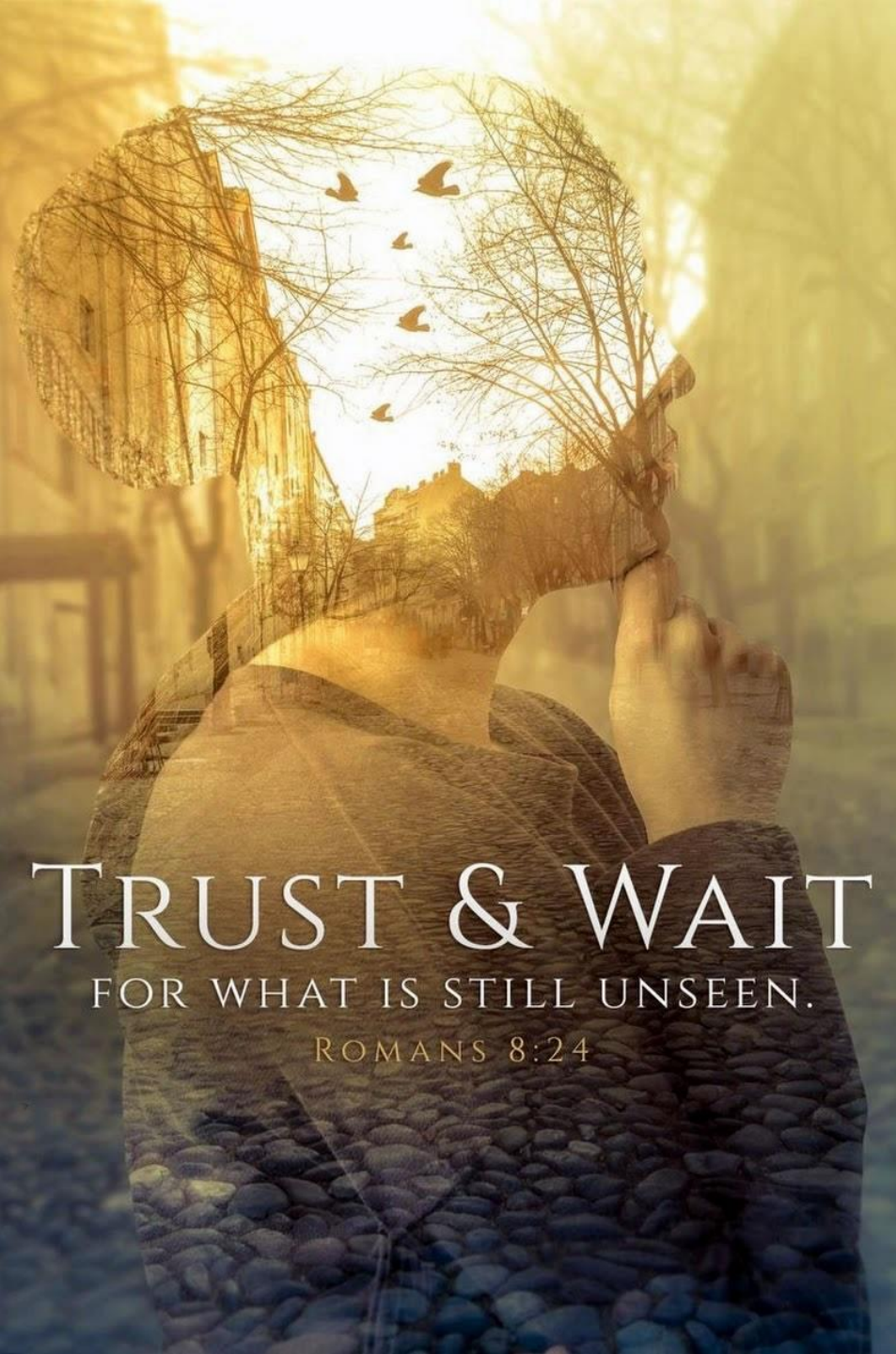


²³ Not only *that*, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body.

The twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit:

- | | |
|-------------|------------------|
| 1. Charity | 7. Generosity |
| 2. Joy | 8. Gentleness |
| 3. Peace | 9. Faithfulness |
| 4. Patience | 10. Modesty |
| 5. Kindness | 11. Self-control |
| 6. Goodness | 12. Chastity |





TRUST & WAIT

FOR WHAT IS STILL UNSEEN.

ROMANS 8:24

²⁴ For we were saved in this hope, but hope that is seen is not hope; for why does one still hope for what he sees?

²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we eagerly wait for *it* with perseverance.

²⁶ Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

²⁷ Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit *is*, because He makes intercession for the saints according to *the will of God*.

THE SPIRIT OF GOD

1 JOHN 4:2

The Holy Spirit Intercedes For Us

Romans 8:26, 27

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.



²⁹ For whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to be* conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. ³⁰ Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.

Whom He foreknew, He

PREDESTINED

Whom He predestined, He

CALLED

Whom He called, He

JUSTIFIED

Whom He justified, He

GLORIFIED

God's Everlasting Love

³¹ What then shall we say to these things?



If **God** is for us,
who can be against us?

³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?

³³ Who shall bring a charge against God's elect?

It is God who justifies.

³⁴ Who *is* he who condemns?

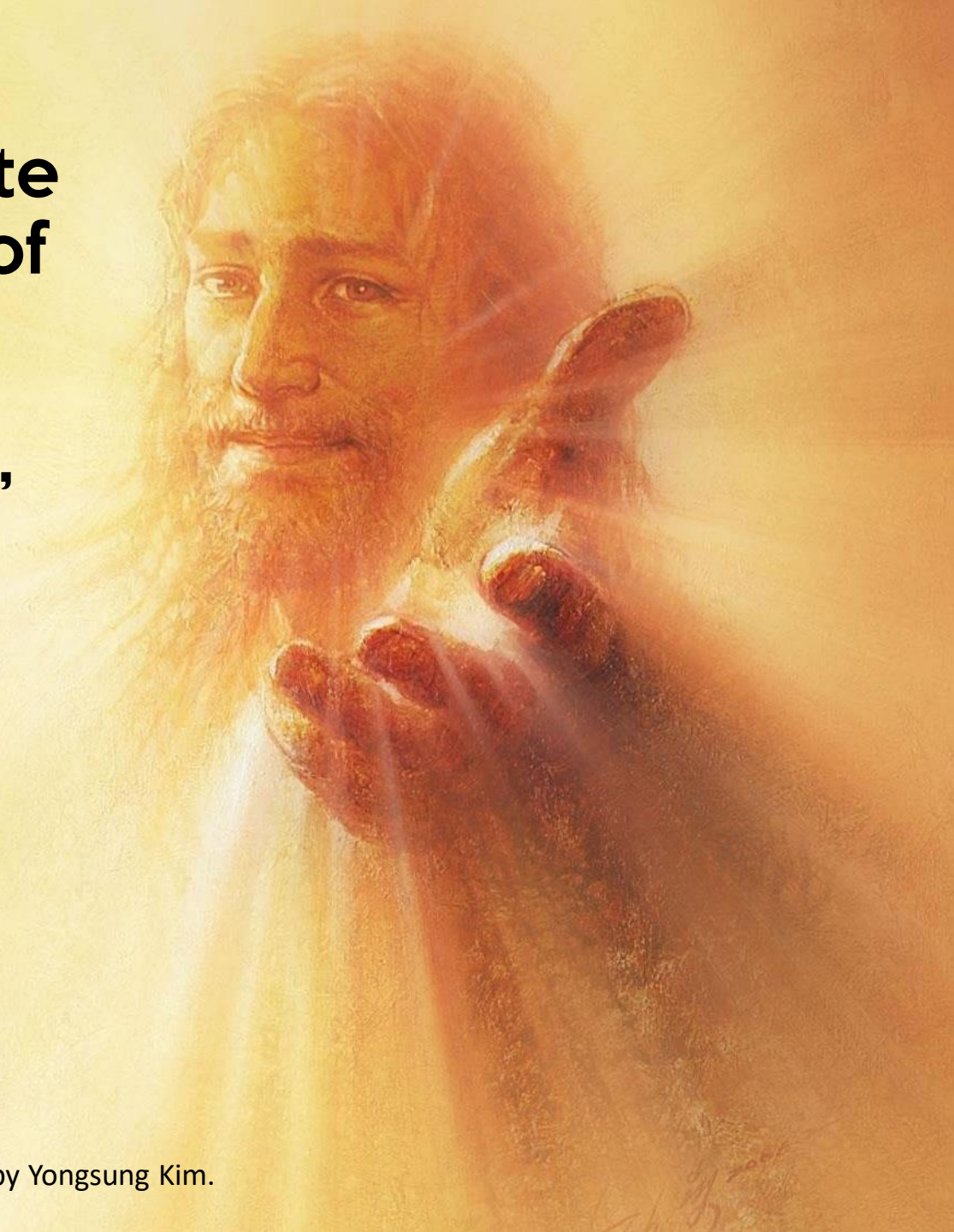
It is Christ who died, and furthermore is also risen, who is even at the right hand of God, who also makes intercession for us.



**35 Who shall separate
us from the love of
Christ?**

***Shall* tribulation,
or distress, or
persecution, or
famine, or
nakedness, or
peril, or sword?**

'His Hand is Stretched Out Still' by Yongsung Kim.





³⁶ As it is written:

**“For Your sake we are killed all day long;
We are accounted as sheep for the slaughter.”**

[Psalm 44:22]

³⁷ Yet in all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us. For I am persuaded that

Neither

death nor life

nor angels nor principalities

nor powers

nor things present

nor things to come

nor height nor depth

nor any other created thing

shall be able to separate us

from the love of God which is in

Christ Jesus our Lord

ROMANS

AND WE KNOW THAT

ALL THINGS

WORK TOGETHER FOR GOOD
TO THOSE WHO LOVE GOD,
TO THOSE WHO ARE THE CALLED
ACCORDING TO HIS PURPOSE.

ROMANS 8:28