

23. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the **true worshipers** will worship the Father in spirit and truth, **for the Father is seeking such people to worship Him.**

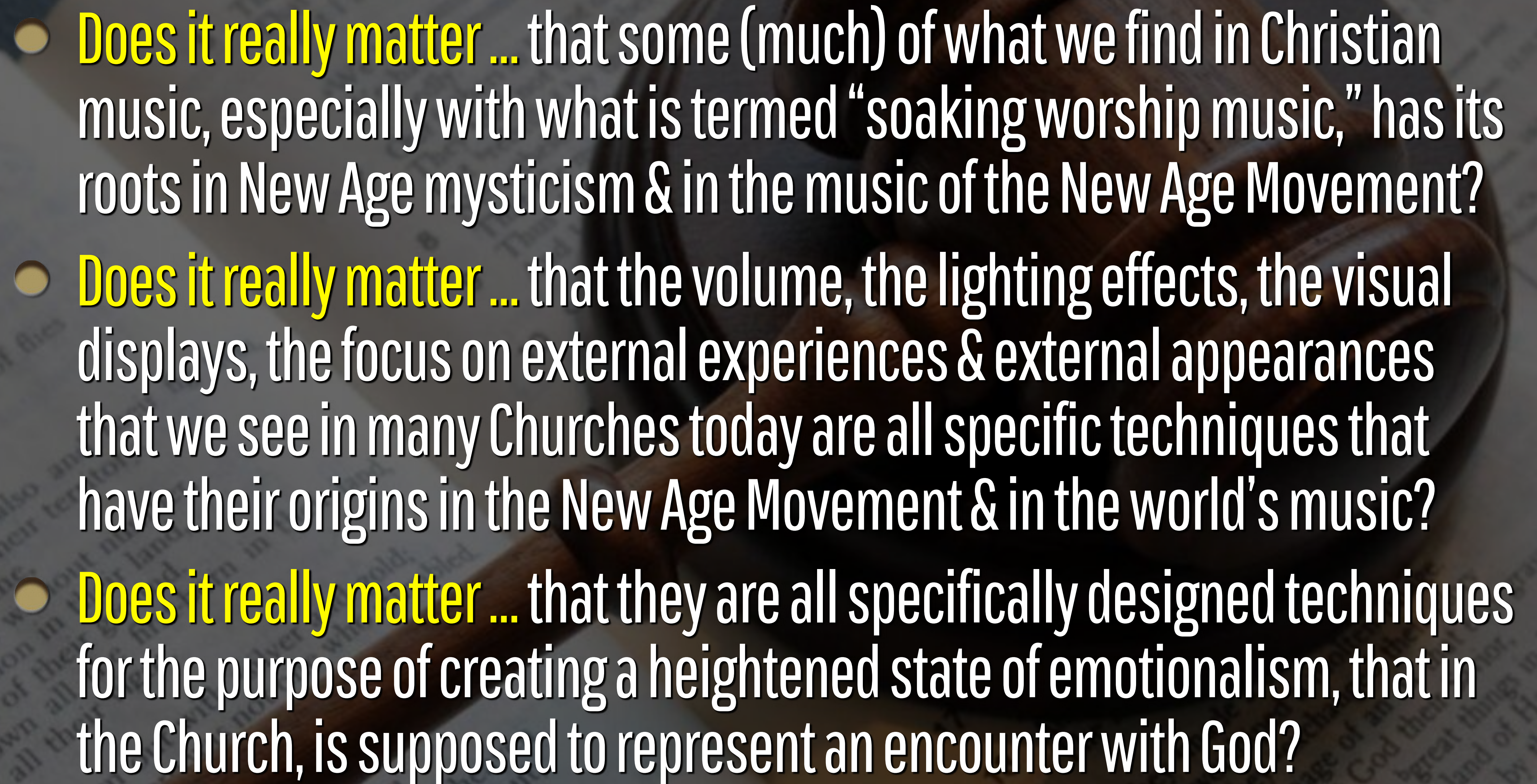
24. God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.”

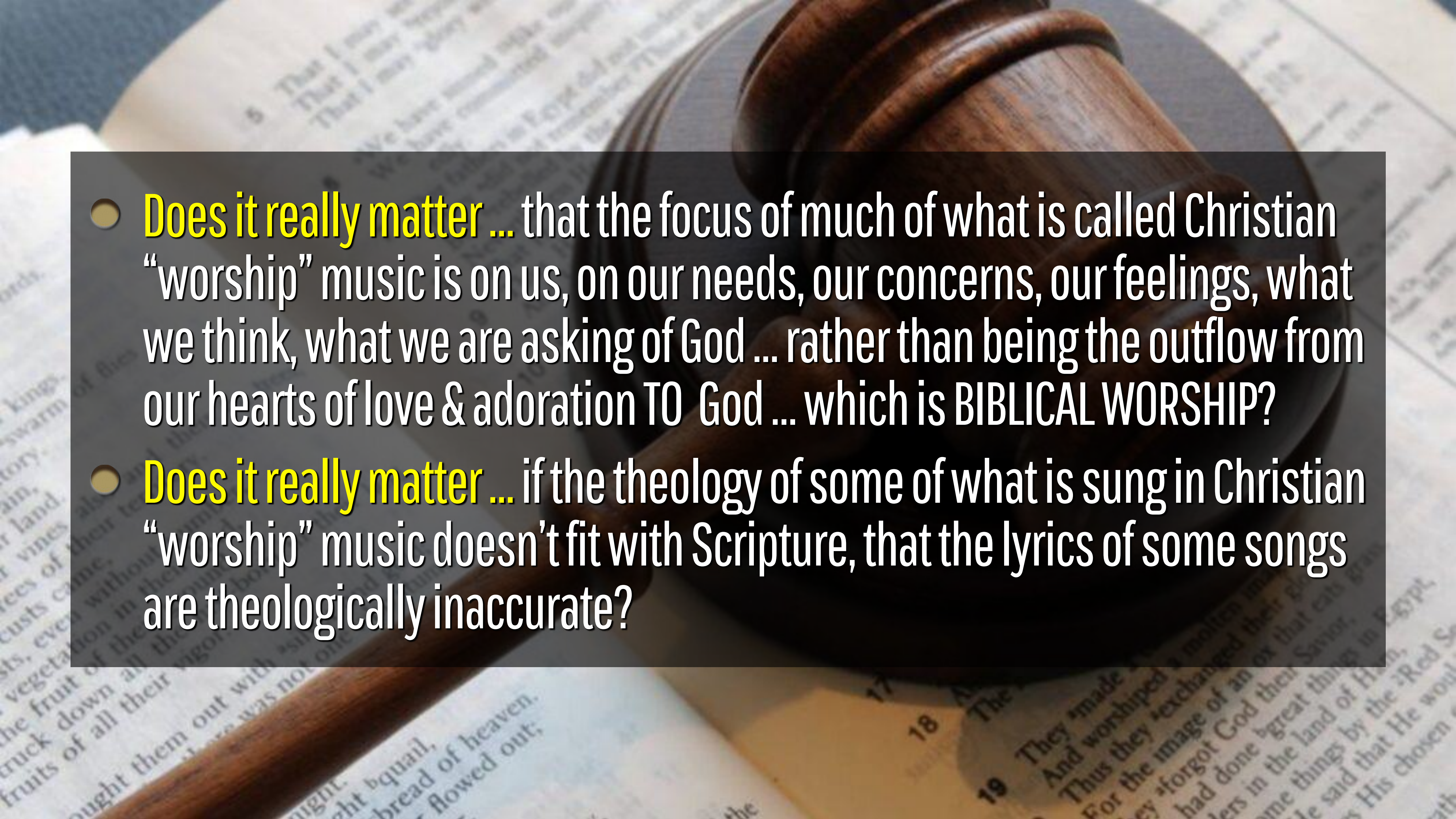
John 4:23-24



The Restoration of
BIBLICAL

Worship
(8)

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- A wooden gavel with a dark, polished head and a lighter-colored handle lies diagonally across an open book. The book's pages are filled with text, some of which is visible in the background. The gavel's head is positioned towards the top right, and its handle extends towards the bottom left. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the wood and the paper.
- **Does it really matter ...** that some (much) of what we find in Christian music, especially with what is termed “soaking worship music,” has its roots in New Age mysticism & in the music of the New Age Movement?
 - **Does it really matter ...** that the volume, the lighting effects, the visual displays, the focus on external experiences & external appearances that we see in many Churches today are all specific techniques that have their origins in the New Age Movement & in the world’s music?
 - **Does it really matter ...** that they are all specifically designed techniques for the purpose of creating a heightened state of emotionalism, that in the Church, is supposed to represent an encounter with God?

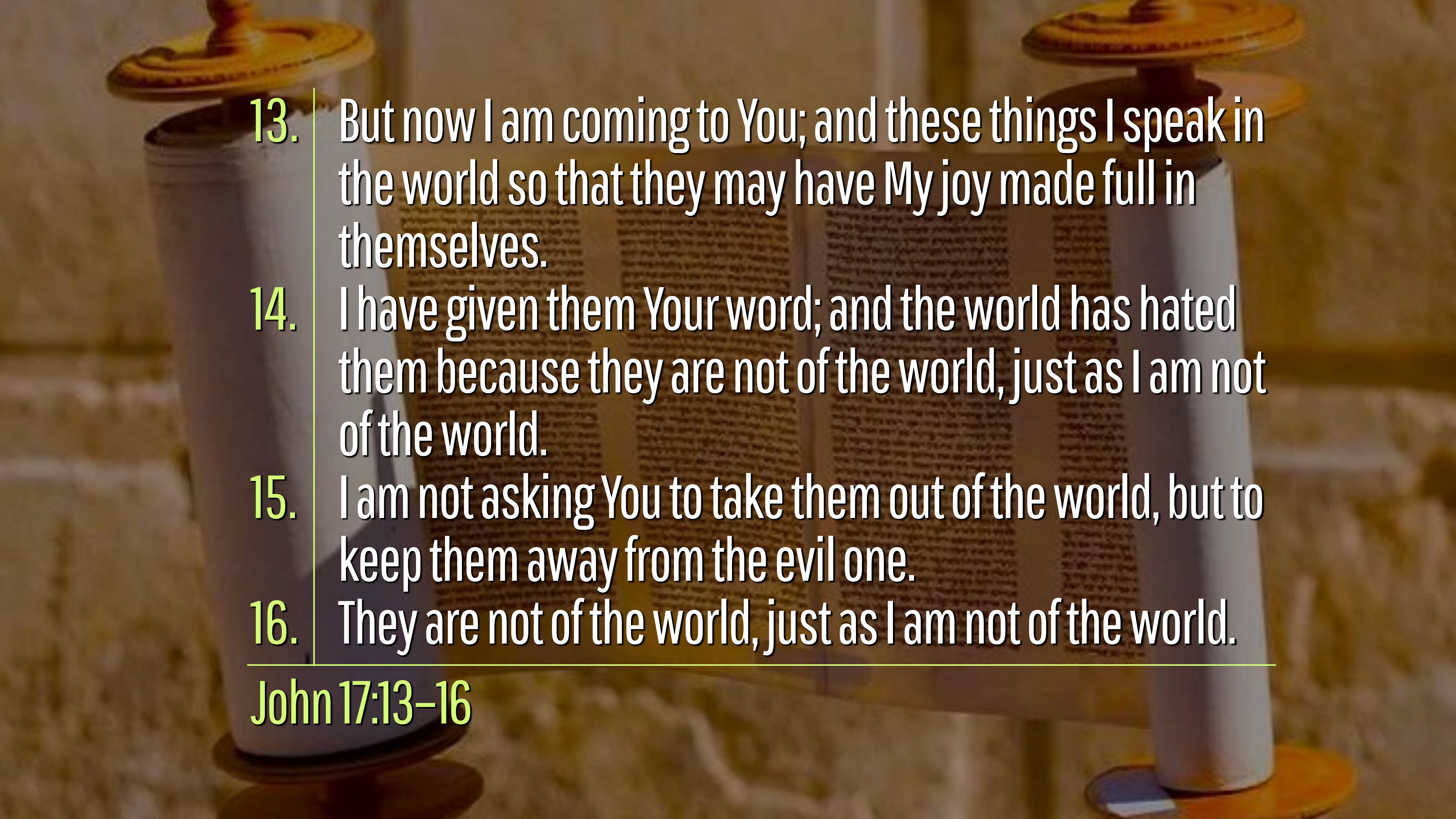
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- **Does it really matter ...** that the focus of much of what is called Christian “worship” music is on us, on our needs, our concerns, our feelings, what we think, what we are asking of God ... rather than being the outflow from our hearts of love & adoration TO God ... which is BIBLICAL WORSHIP?
 - **Does it really matter ...** if the theology of some of what is sung in Christian “worship” music doesn’t fit with Scripture, that the lyrics of some songs are theologically inaccurate?

A wooden gavel with a dark, polished head and a lighter-colored handle lies diagonally across an open Bible. The Bible's pages are filled with text, and the gavel's head is positioned over the right page. The background is slightly blurred, emphasizing the gavel and the text on the Bible.

Does it really matter?

Isn't it enough that we are singing about God?

Isn't it enough that the unsaved feel comfortable with what happens musically in our services?



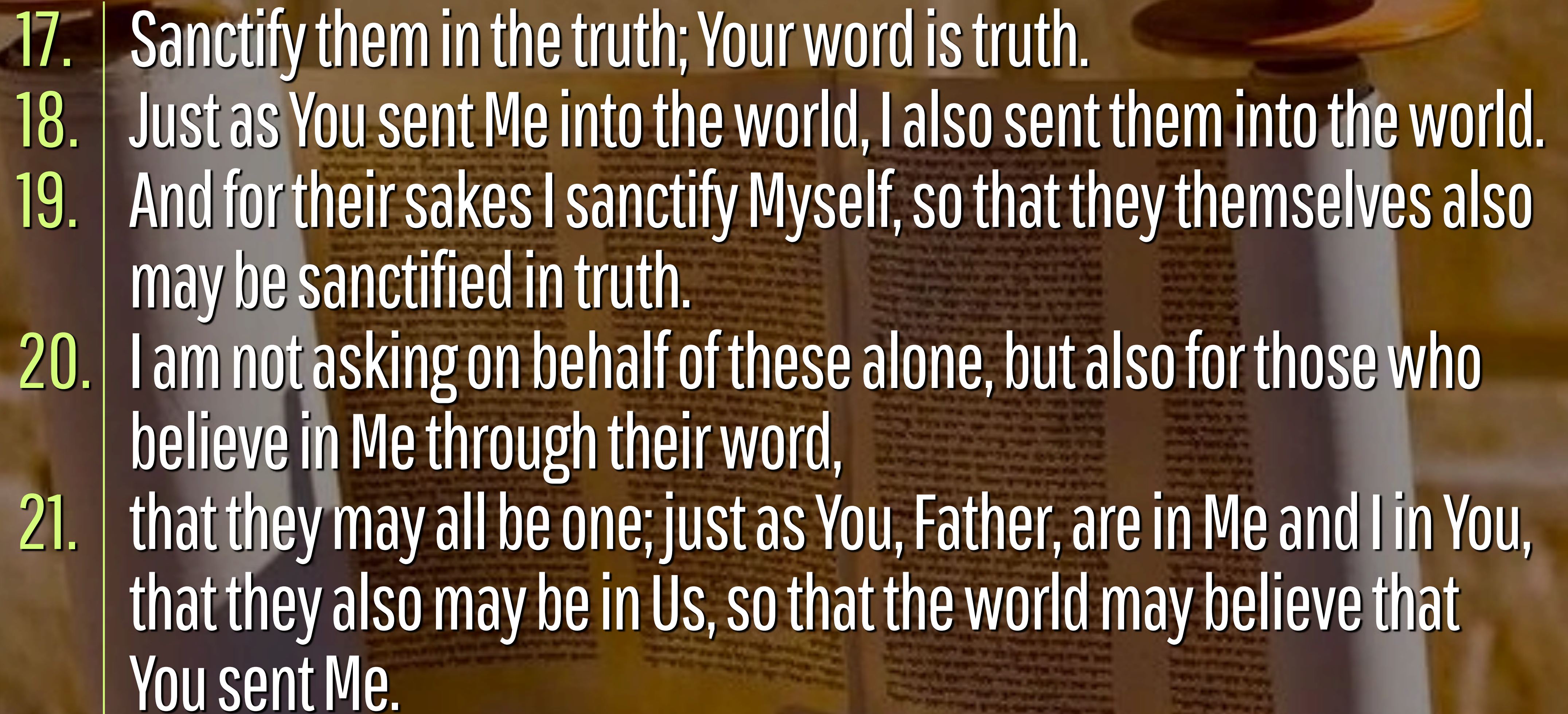
13. But now I am coming to You; and these things I speak in the world so that they may have My joy made full in themselves.

14. I have given them Your word; and the world has hated them because they are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

15. I am not asking You to take them out of the world, but to keep them away from the evil one.

16. They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world.

John 17:13–16

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17. Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.
18. Just as You sent Me into the world, I also sent them into the world.
19. And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, so that they themselves also may be sanctified in truth.
20. I am not asking on behalf of these alone, but also for those who believe in Me through their word,
21. that they may all be one; just as You, Father, are in Me and I in You, that they also may be in Us, so that the world may believe that You sent Me.

John 17:17–21

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- A close-up photograph of a wooden gavel resting on an open Bible. The gavel is made of dark wood and has a circular head with a flared top. The Bible is open to a page with text in English, including verses from the Book of Exodus. The text is slightly blurred, but the words "God hates mixture & God hates compromise" are clearly visible in a white font on a dark rectangular background.
- God hates mixture & God hates compromise



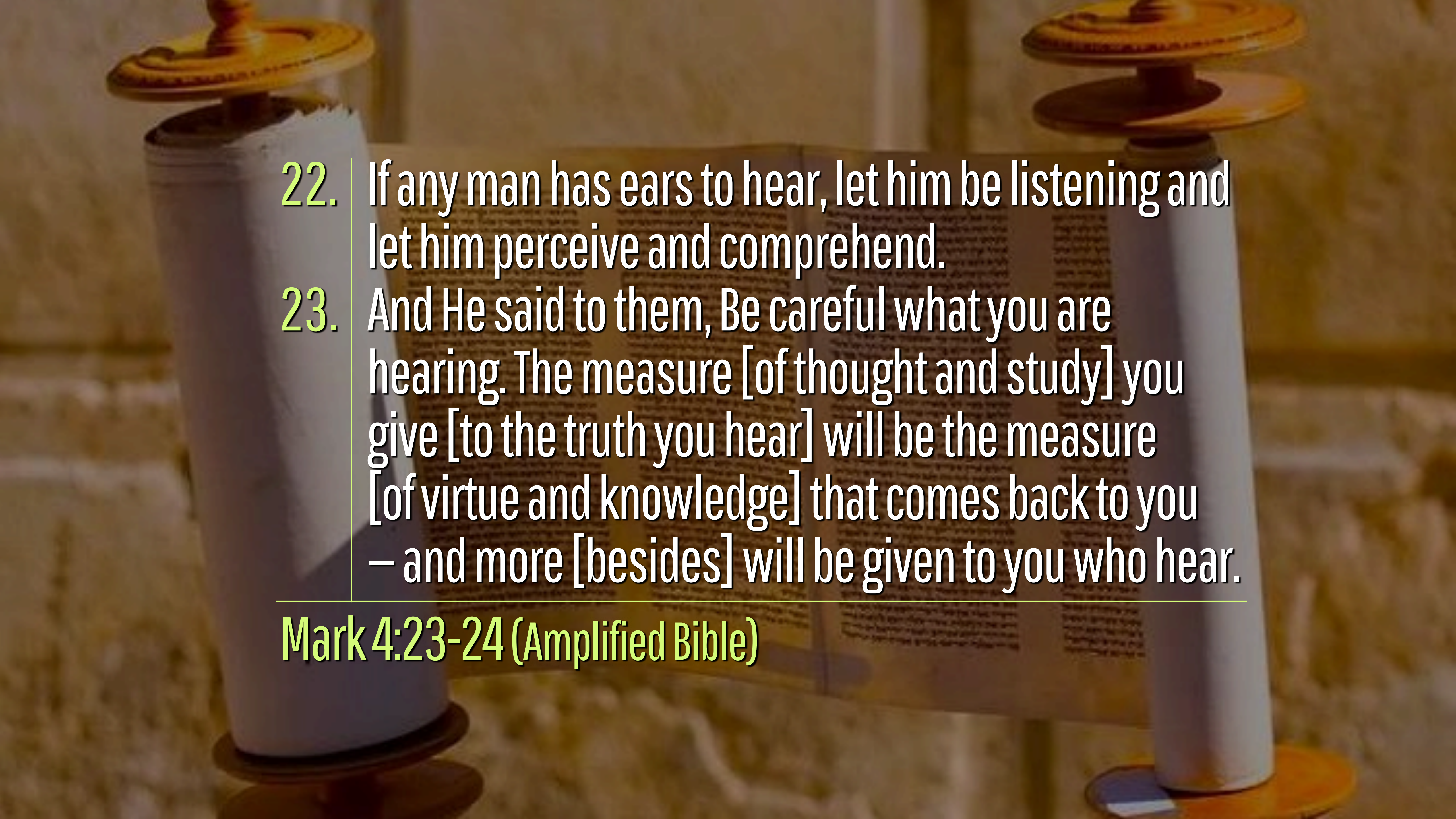
The church's mightiest influence is felt when she is different from the world in which she lives. Her power lies in her being different, rises with the degree in which she differs and sinks as the difference diminishes. This is so fully and clearly taught in the Scriptures and so well illustrated in Church history that it is hard to see how we can miss it. But miss it we do, for we hear constantly that the Church must try to be as much like the world as possible, excepting, of course, where the world is too, too sinful.

A.W. Tozer

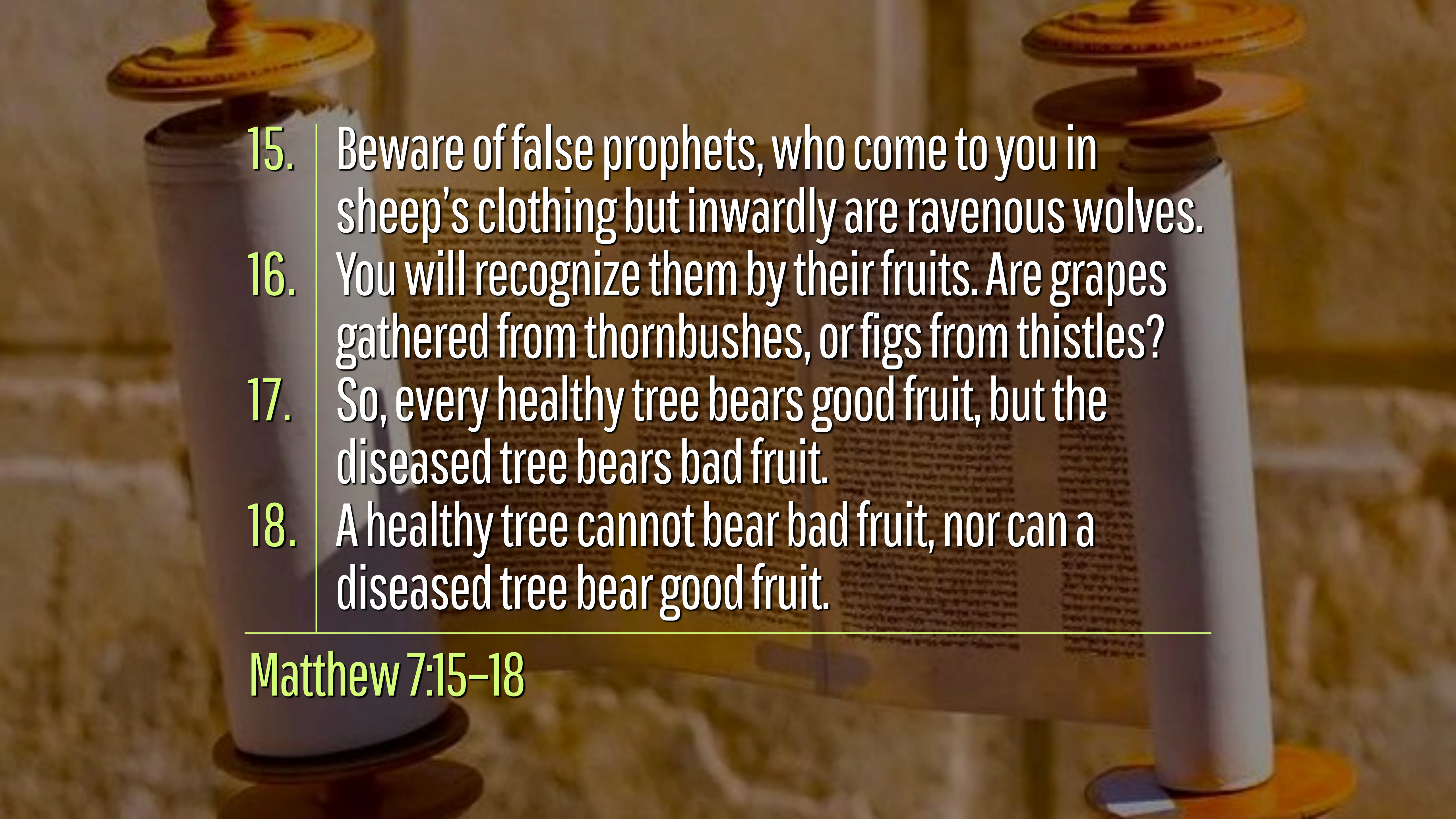


The church must seek to be biblical rather than relevant. We are not going to leave a mark upon our culture because we have studied its ways and adapted ourselves to it. We are relevant when we reject the world outright and are its polar opposite! This present darkness provides a great opportunity for the church to be the salt of the earth, but if we mix with the very impurities we are supposed to expose ... we are as useless as our culture already believes us to be.

Paul Washer

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- The background of the image shows a large, unrolled scroll resting on two ornate wooden stands. The scroll is light-colored with dark, illegible text written on it. The stands have decorative, circular tops. The overall lighting is warm and slightly dim, creating a sense of an ancient or sacred text.
22. If any man has ears to hear, let him be listening and let him perceive and comprehend.
23. And He said to them, Be careful what you are hearing. The measure [of thought and study] you give [to the truth you hear] will be the measure [of virtue and knowledge] that comes back to you – and more [besides] will be given to you who hear.

Mark 4:23-24 (Amplified Bible)

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15. Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing but inwardly are ravenous wolves.
16. You will recognize them by their fruits. Are grapes gathered from thornbushes, or figs from thistles?
17. So, every healthy tree bears good fruit, but the diseased tree bears bad fruit.
18. A healthy tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a diseased tree bear good fruit.
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Matthew 7:15–18

An open Bible with two rolled-up scrolls on either side, set against a background of wheat. The scrolls are white with gold-colored caps and bases. The Bible is open to a page with text in two columns. The background is a close-up of wheat stalks, creating a warm, golden-brown texture.

... for even Satan disguises himself
as an angel of light.

2 Corinthians 11:14

But while his men were sleeping,
his enemy came and sowed weeds
among the wheat, and left.

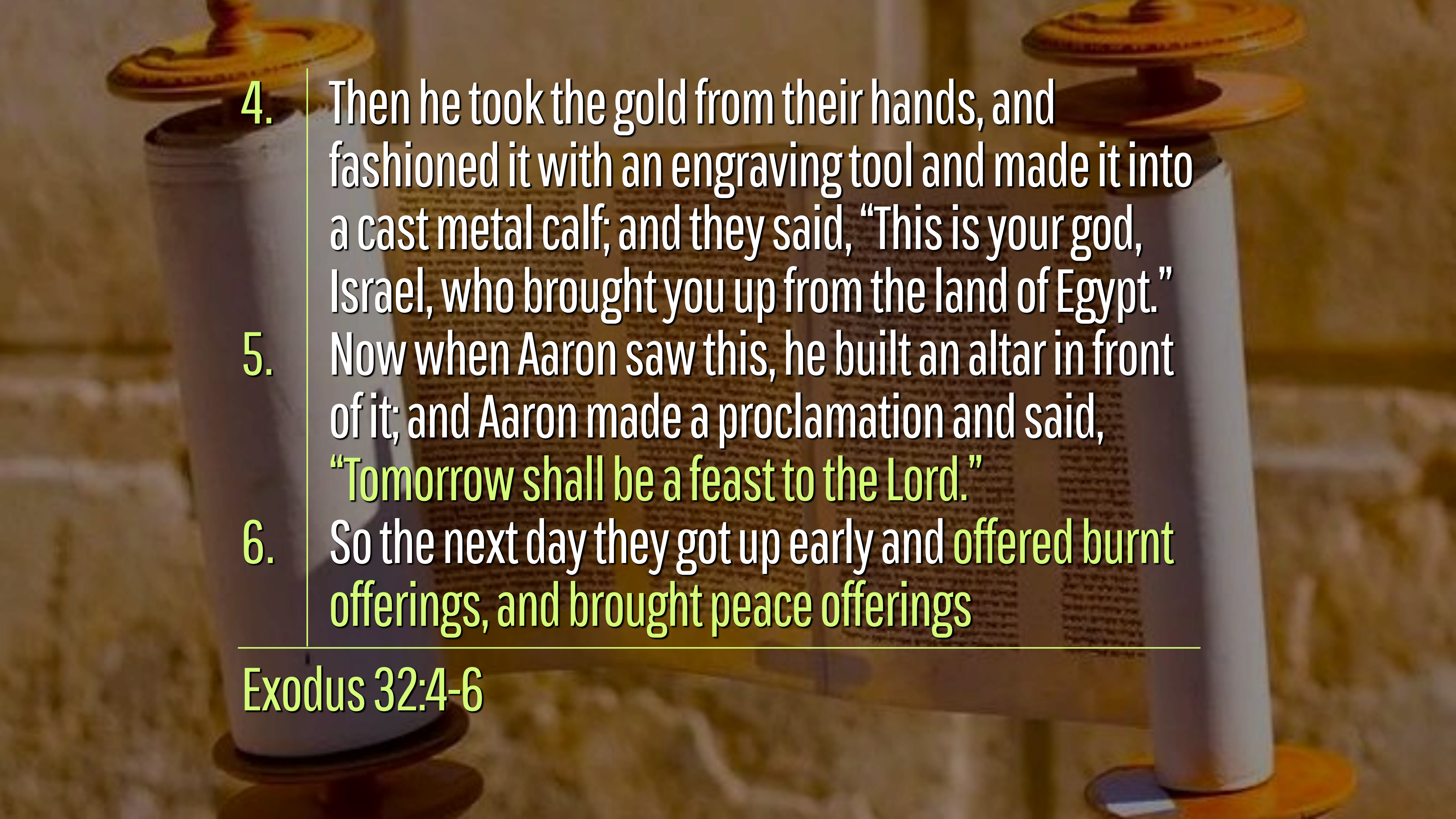
Matthew 13:25



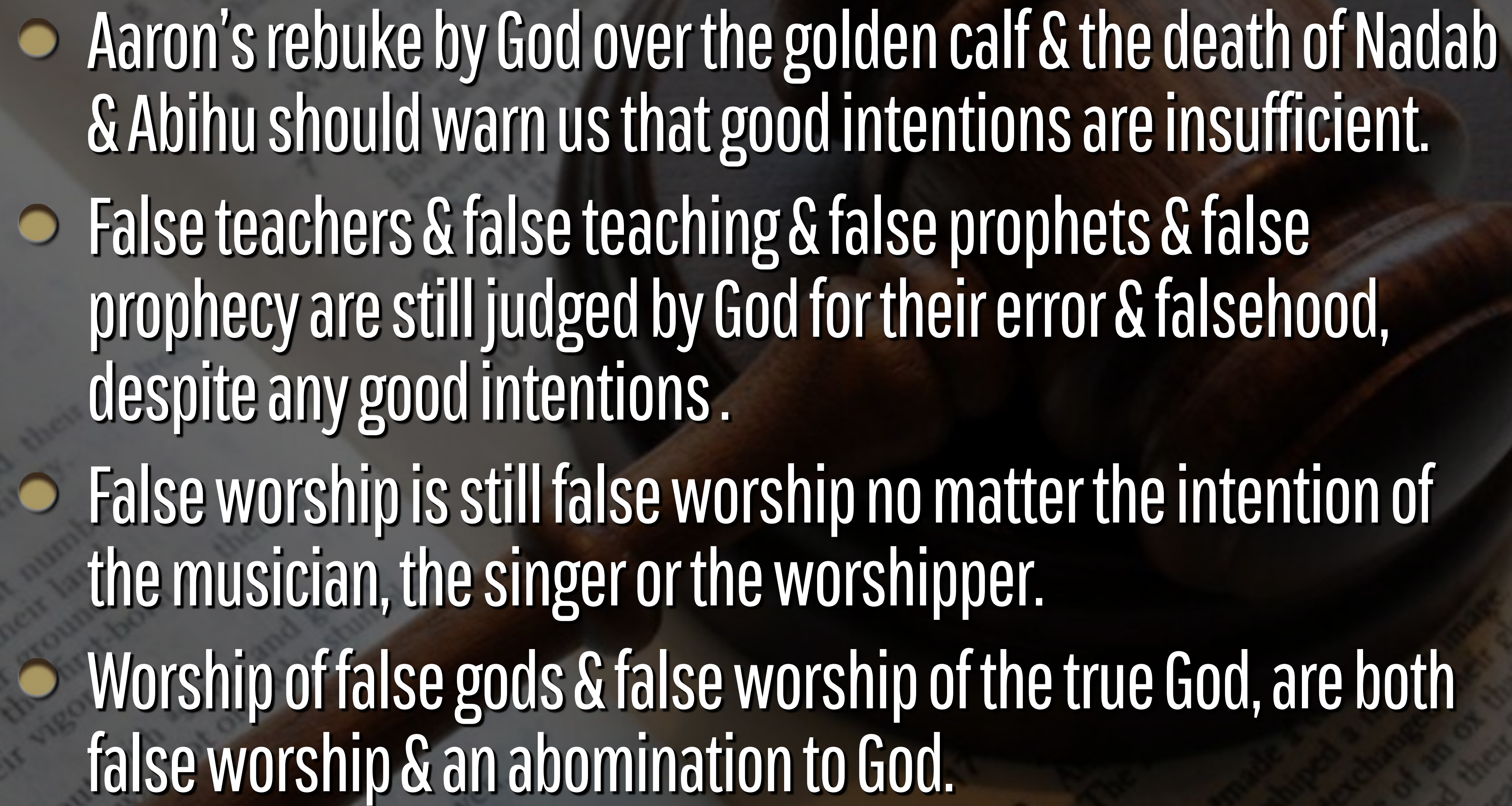
GOD HATES MIXTURE!

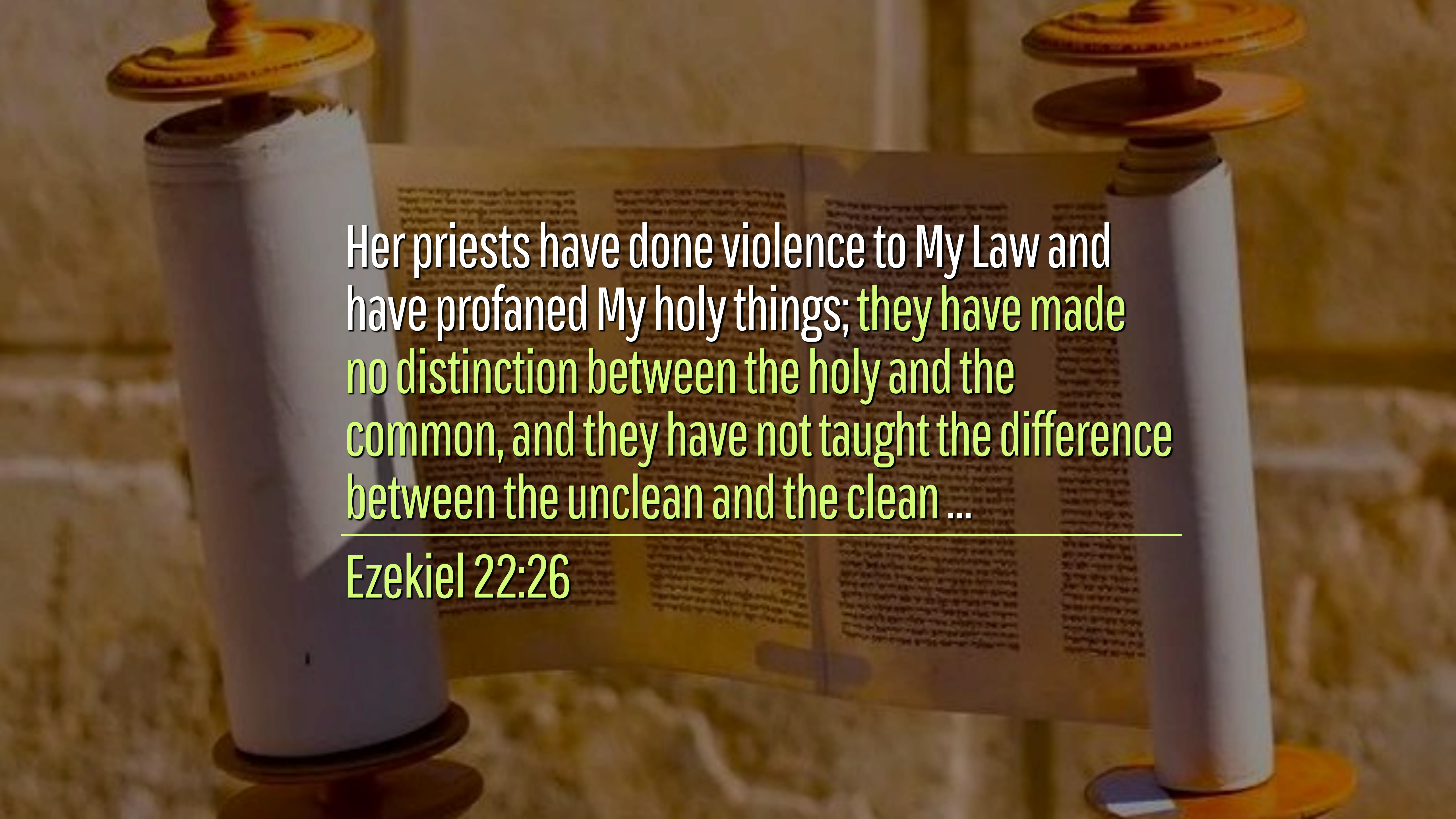
Though many men, even some professing Christians, seem to think that God will tolerate just about anything as long as there seems to be some good in it, nothing could be further from the truth. Both the Old and New Testaments are full of illustrations and warnings about this very thing.

Cornerstone Church Newsletter, 1971

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4. Then he took the gold from their hands, and fashioned it with an engraving tool and made it into a cast metal calf; and they said, "This is your god, Israel, who brought you up from the land of Egypt."
5. Now when Aaron saw this, he built an altar in front of it; and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the Lord."
6. So the next day they got up early and offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings

Exodus 32:4-6

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- Aaron's rebuke by God over the golden calf & the death of Nadab & Abihu should warn us that good intentions are insufficient.
 - False teachers & false teaching & false prophets & false prophecy are still judged by God for their error & falsehood, despite any good intentions.
 - False worship is still false worship no matter the intention of the musician, the singer or the worshipper.
 - Worship of false gods & false worship of the true God, are both false worship & an abomination to God.



Her priests have done violence to My Law and
have profaned My holy things; **they have made
no distinction between the holy and the
common, and they have not taught the difference
between the unclean and the clean ...**

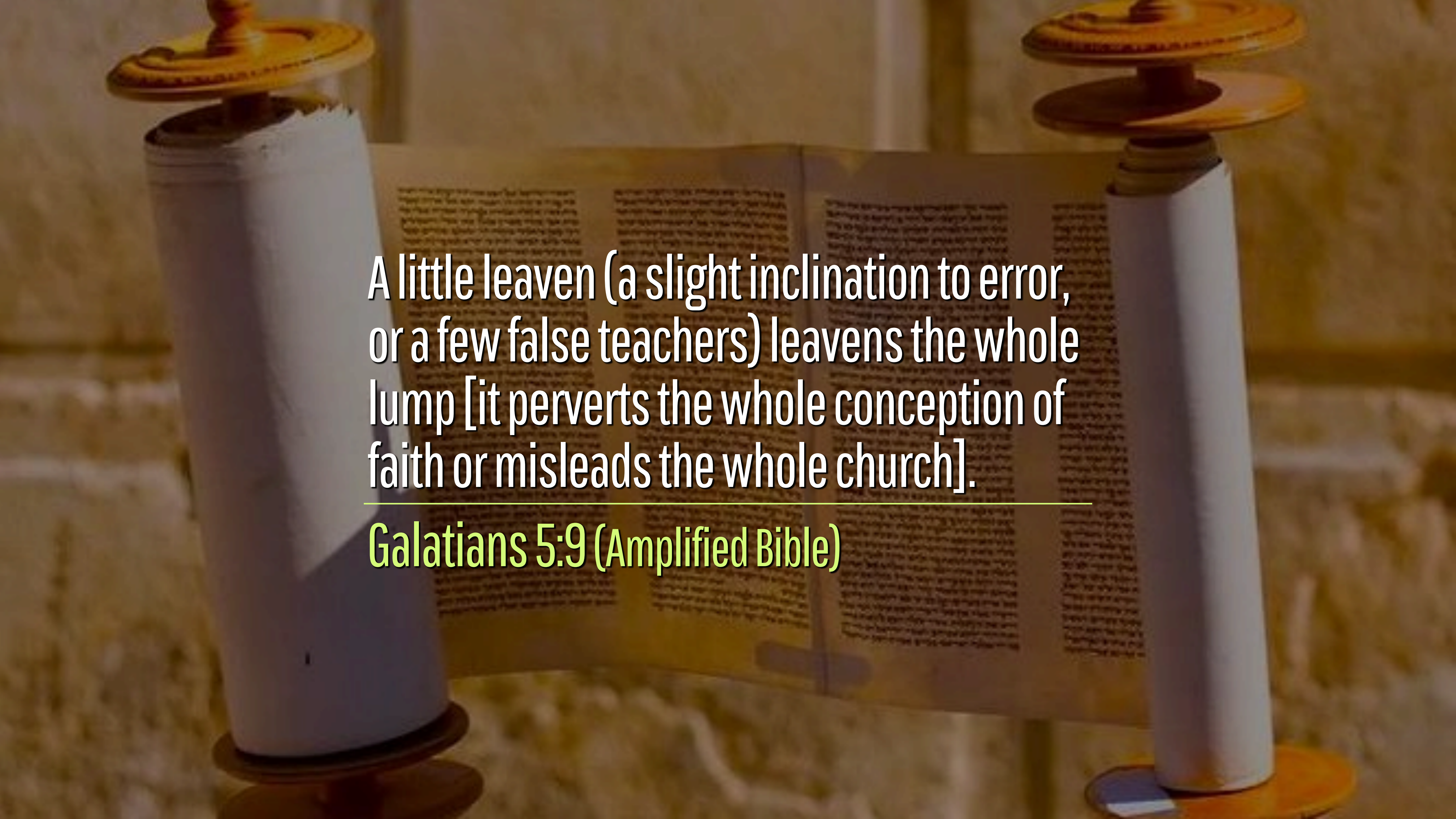
Ezekiel 22:26



... what fellowship has light with darkness?

Therefore go out from their midst, and be
separate from them, says the Lord, **and**
touch no unclean thing

2 Corinthians 6:14–18

An open scroll with text, held by wooden rollers, with a quote overlaid. The scroll is unrolled and held by two wooden rollers with decorative tops. The background is a warm, textured surface. The text on the scroll is in a serif font, and the quote is in a bold, white, sans-serif font with a black outline. The quote is underlined.

A little leaven (a slight inclination to error,
or a few false teachers) leavens the whole
lump [it perverts the whole conception of
faith or misleads the whole church].

Galatians 5:9 (Amplified Bible)



Error is like leaven of which we read, "A little leaven leaveneth the whole lump." Truth mixed with error is equivalent to all error, except that it is more innocent looking and, therefore, more dangerous. God hates such a mixture! Any error, or any truth-and-error mixture, calls for definite exposure and repudiation. To condone such is to be unfaithful to God and His Word and treacherous to imperiled souls for whom Christ died.

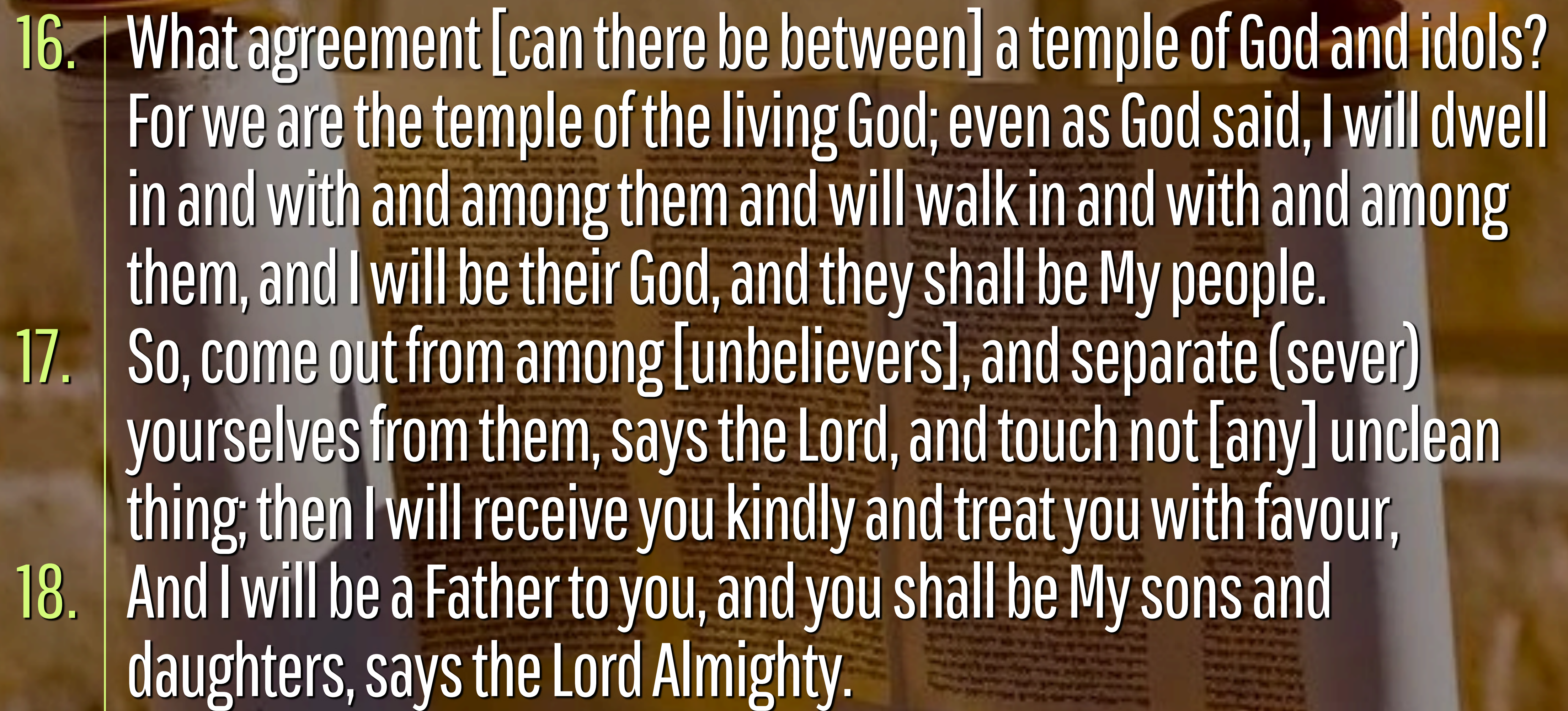
Dr. Harry Ironside



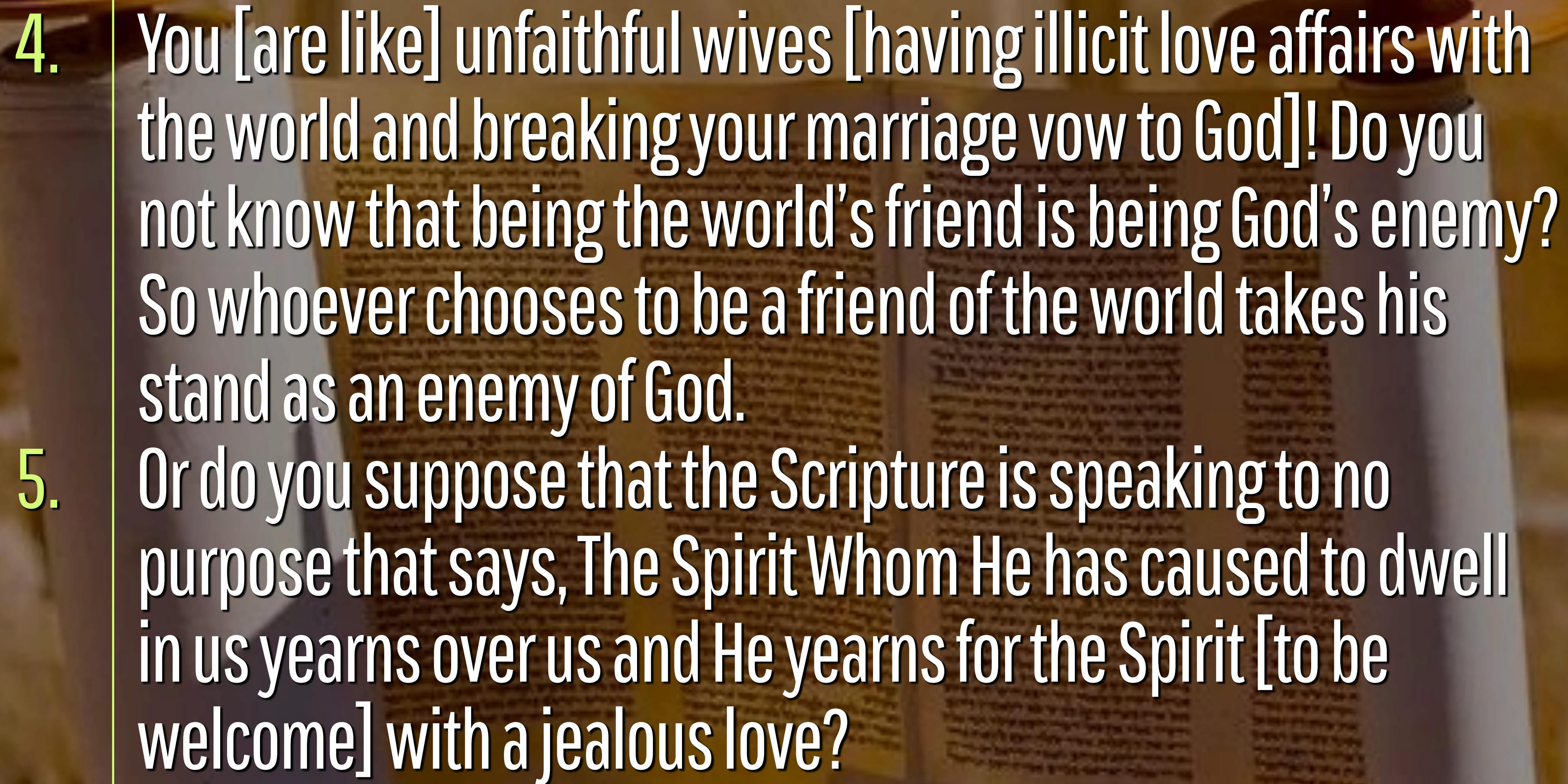
In contemplative prayer “we are entering deeply into the spiritual realms” and “sometimes it is not the realm of God, even though it is supernatural.”

“Christian” writer Richard Foster: (Celebration of Discipline)

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- A close-up photograph of a wooden gavel resting on an open Bible. The gavel is made of dark wood and is positioned diagonally across the frame. The Bible is open to a page with text in a serif font. The text is partially obscured by the gavel and a semi-transparent text box. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the wood and the paper.
- God hates mixture & God hates compromise
 - A congregation learns their theology not only by the preaching they hear but by the songs they sing

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16. What agreement [can there be between] a temple of God and idols? For we are the temple of the living God; even as God said, I will dwell in and with and among them and will walk in and with and among them, and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.
17. So, come out from among [unbelievers], and separate (sever) yourselves from them, says the Lord, and touch not [any] unclean thing; then I will receive you kindly and treat you with favour,
18. And I will be a Father to you, and you shall be My sons and daughters, says the Lord Almighty.
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2 Corinthians 6:16–18 (Amplified Bible)

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4. You [are like] unfaithful wives [having illicit love affairs with the world and breaking your marriage vow to God]! Do you not know that being the world's friend is being God's enemy? So whoever chooses to be a friend of the world takes his stand as an enemy of God.
5. Or do you suppose that the Scripture is speaking to no purpose that says, The Spirit Whom He has caused to dwell in us yearns over us and He yearns for the Spirit [to be welcome] with a jealous love?

James 4:4–5 (Amplified Bible)



We cannot be serving the Lord, and embracing things in the world that may be of a spiritually dubious source while continuing to serve the Lord our God. We cannot have one foot in the world as it were and one foot in the Kingdom of God. A famous preacher once said; “A ship in the water is okay but water in the ship isn’t.” The apostle James tells us that friendship with the ways and things of the world is to be at enmity with God. (James 4:4) God hates the Mixture!

Caleb Greggson



When we presume we can know what will please God,
without having first listened to what he's said in His Word,
the god we are aiming to please is not the true God.

Caleb Greggson

Is our God not worthy of our highest praise? Please church,
let's stop settling for less simply because it's popular.

Unknown



True God-sent revival will return true believers to God's standard of living, Christ Himself in you, the Hope of Glory! Only when the church is willing to allow the Holy Spirit to transform her into what Jesus Christ died for her to become, and lives to insure she will be, will the world feel once again the full impact of quality Christianity. Then, obedience to the Great Commission will overflow out of her worshipping heart, impacting the world in the measure that God intended!

Al Whittinghill