



The Person & the Work of the

Holy Spirit

*The Holy Spirit
& God's Divine Purposes*

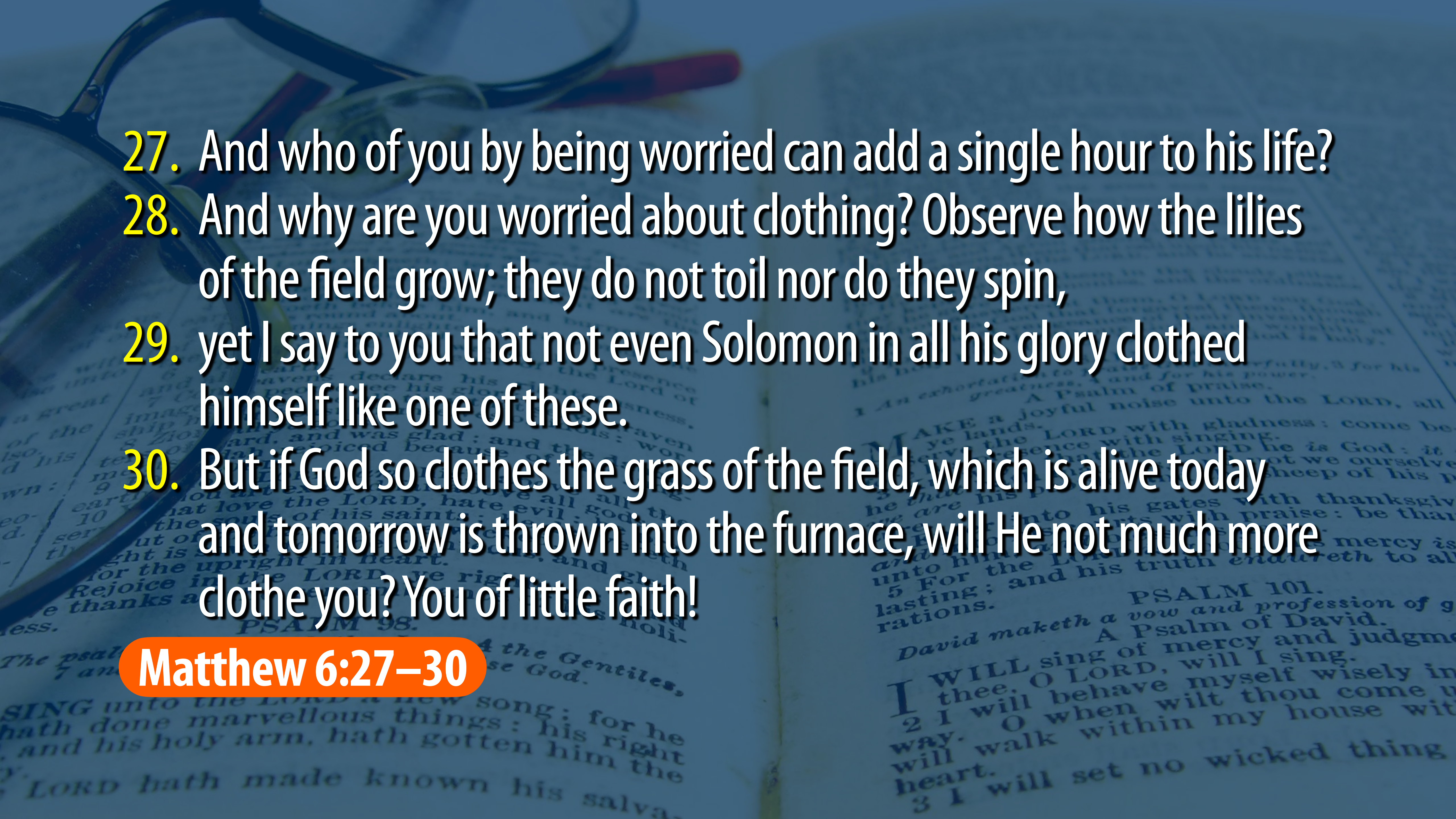
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- ▶ The false prosperity gospel & the Word of Faith movement
 - ▶ Dangers & effects beyond this false gospel & movement that impact the way God's plans & purposes are perceived by much of the Church
 - ▶ The Holy Spirit & God's divine purposes

24. No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.

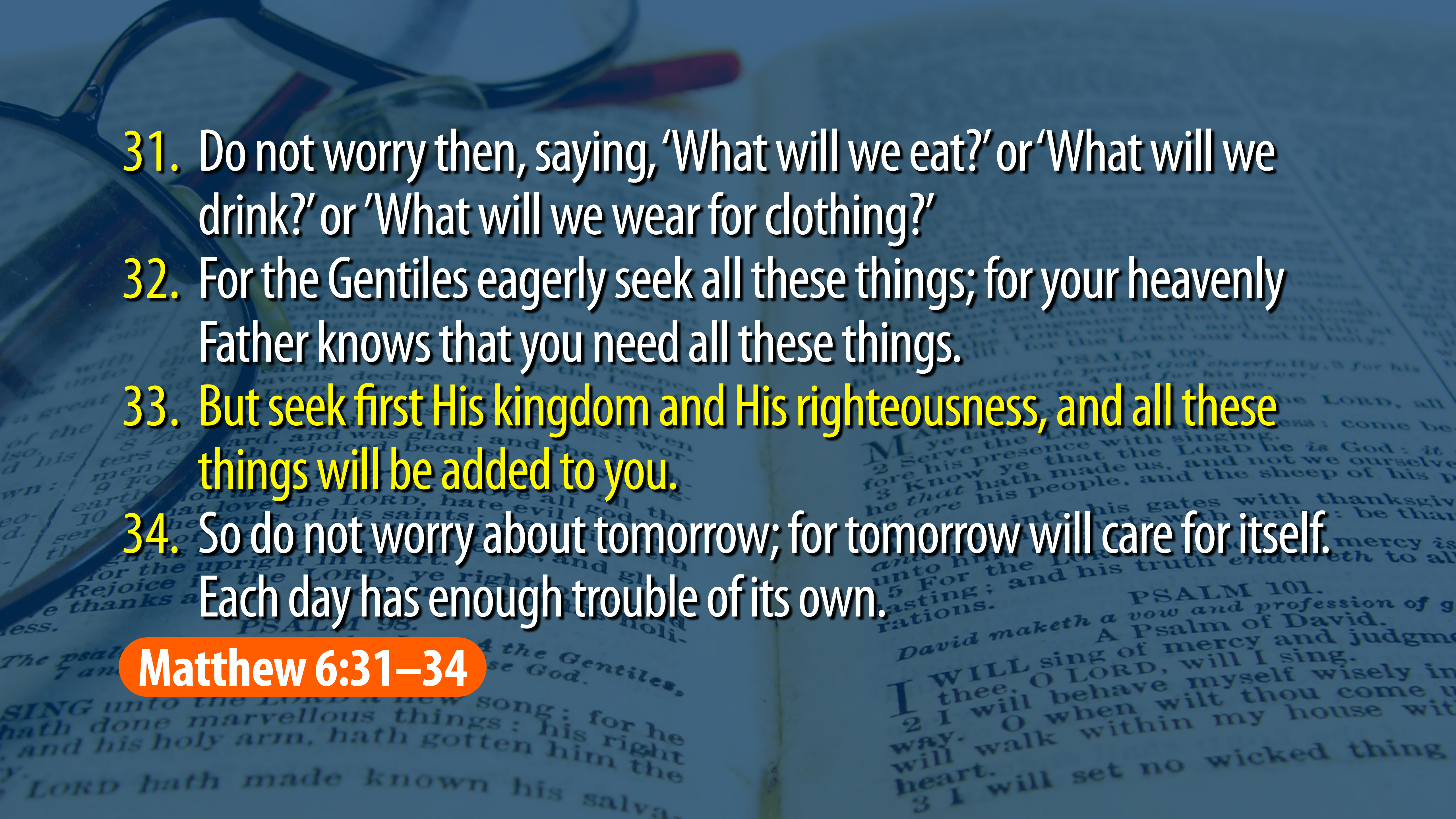
25. For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, as to what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, as to what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?

26. Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they?

Matthew 6:24–26

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27. And who of you by being worried can add a single hour to his life?
28. And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin,
29. yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these.
30. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, will He not much more clothe you? You of little faith!

Matthew 6:27–30

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31. Do not worry then, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear for clothing?'
32. For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.
33. But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.
34. So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Matthew 6:31–34

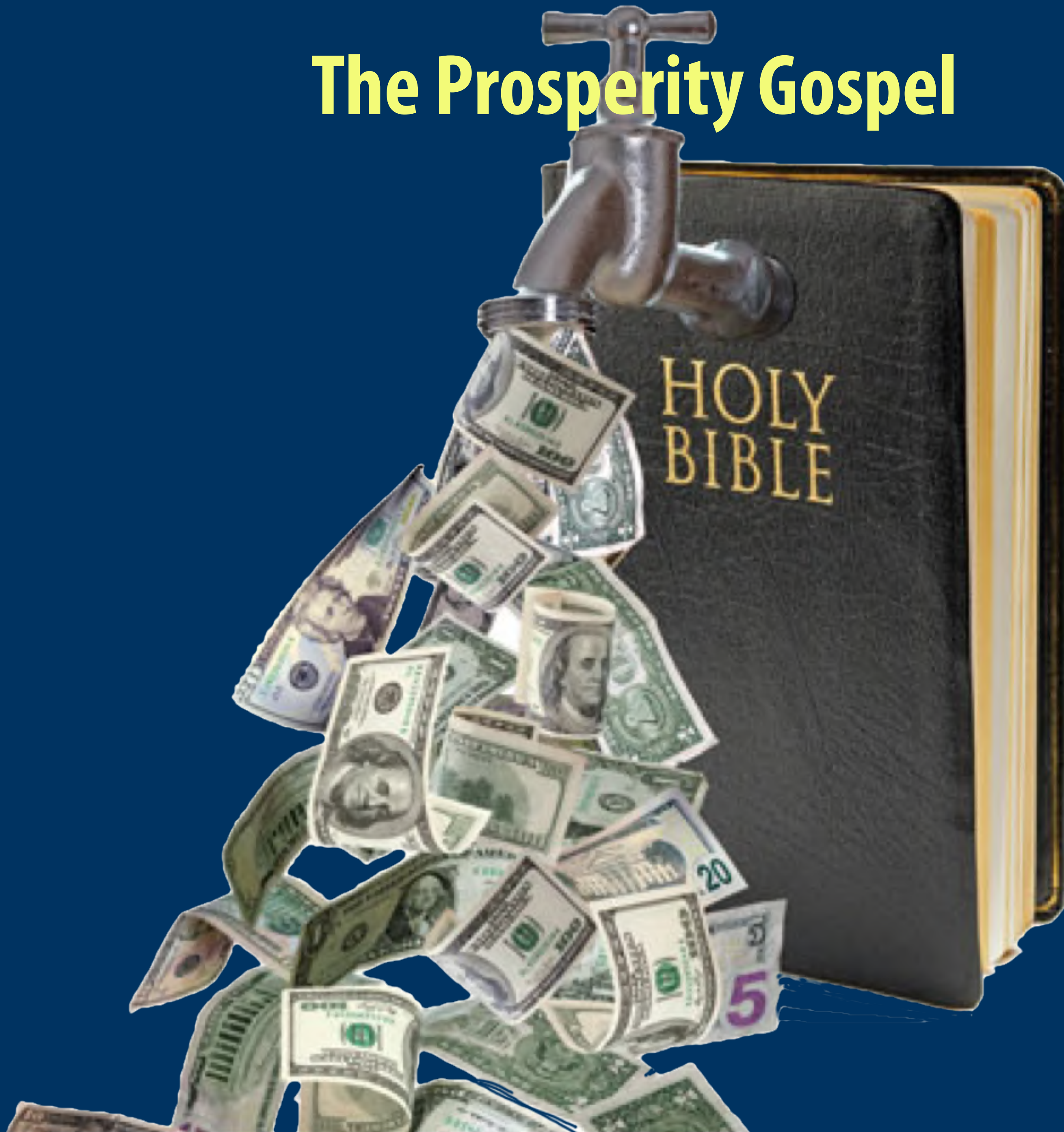


▶ The false prosperity gospel & the Word of Faith movement

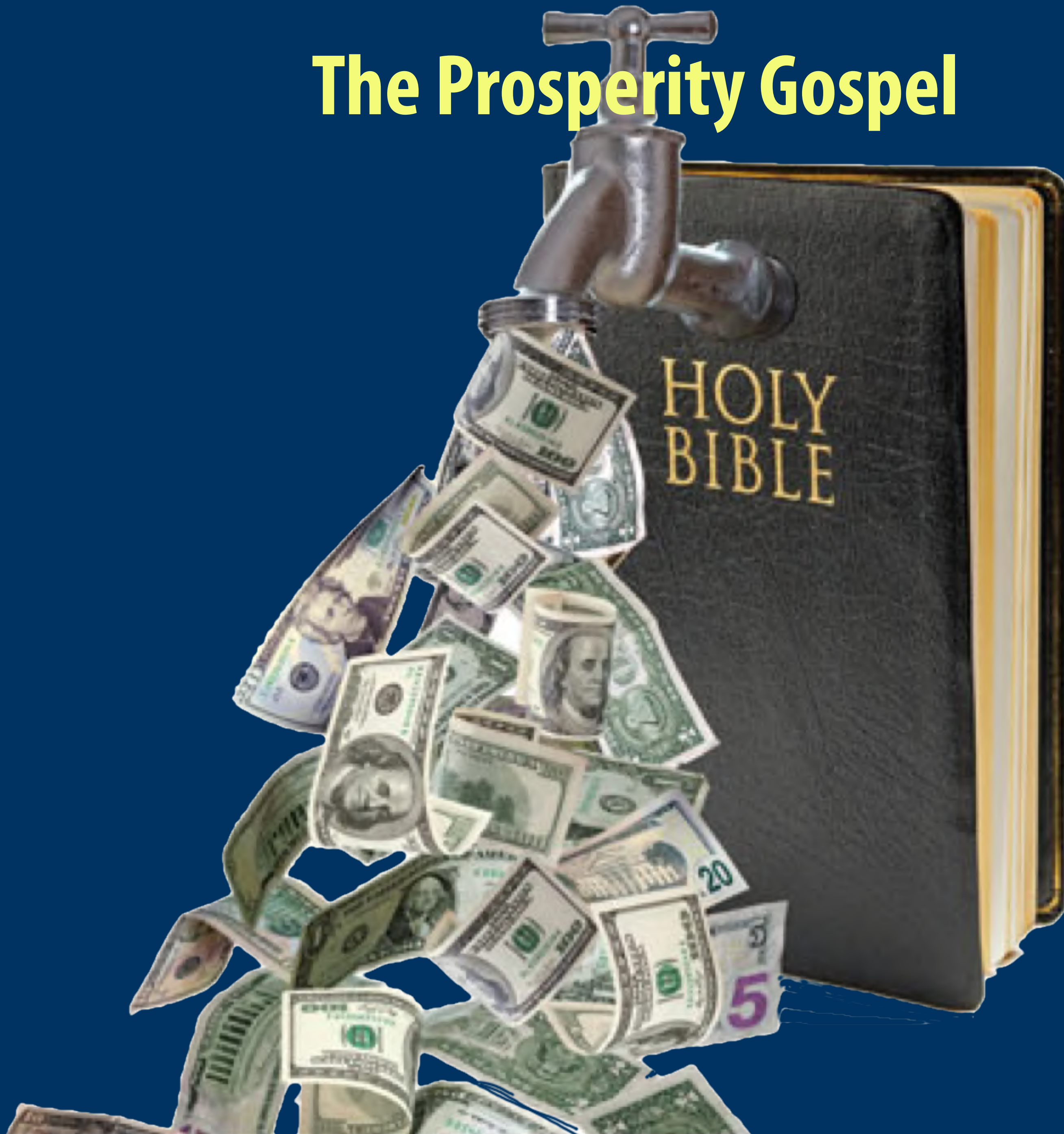
The Prosperity Gospel

The prosperity gospel is a religious belief that teaches God rewards faith, positive declarations, and financial donations with health, wealth, and happiness. Proponents argue that material and physical blessings are a divine right, and that poverty and illness stem from a lack of faith.

Encyclopedia Britannica



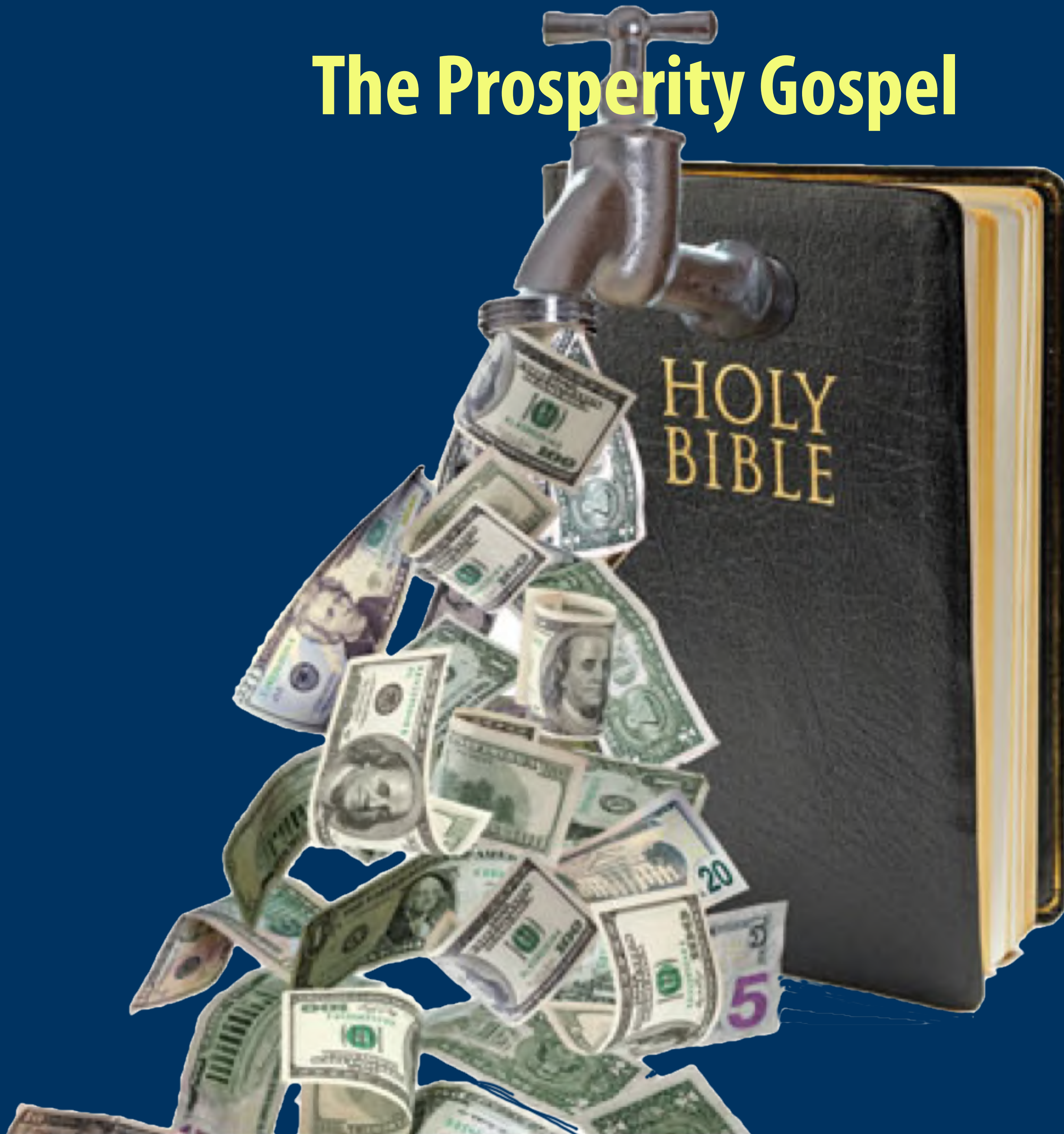
The Prosperity Gospel



In the forefront is the doctrine of the assurance of “divine” physical health and prosperity through faith. In short, this means that “health and wealth” are the automatic divine right of all Bible-believing Christians and may be procreated by faith as part of the package of salvation, since the Atonement of Christ includes not just the removal of sin, but also the removal of sickness and poverty.

Stephen Hunt

The Prosperity Gospel



God's overarching purpose
is to make people . . .
healthy, wealthy, and happy

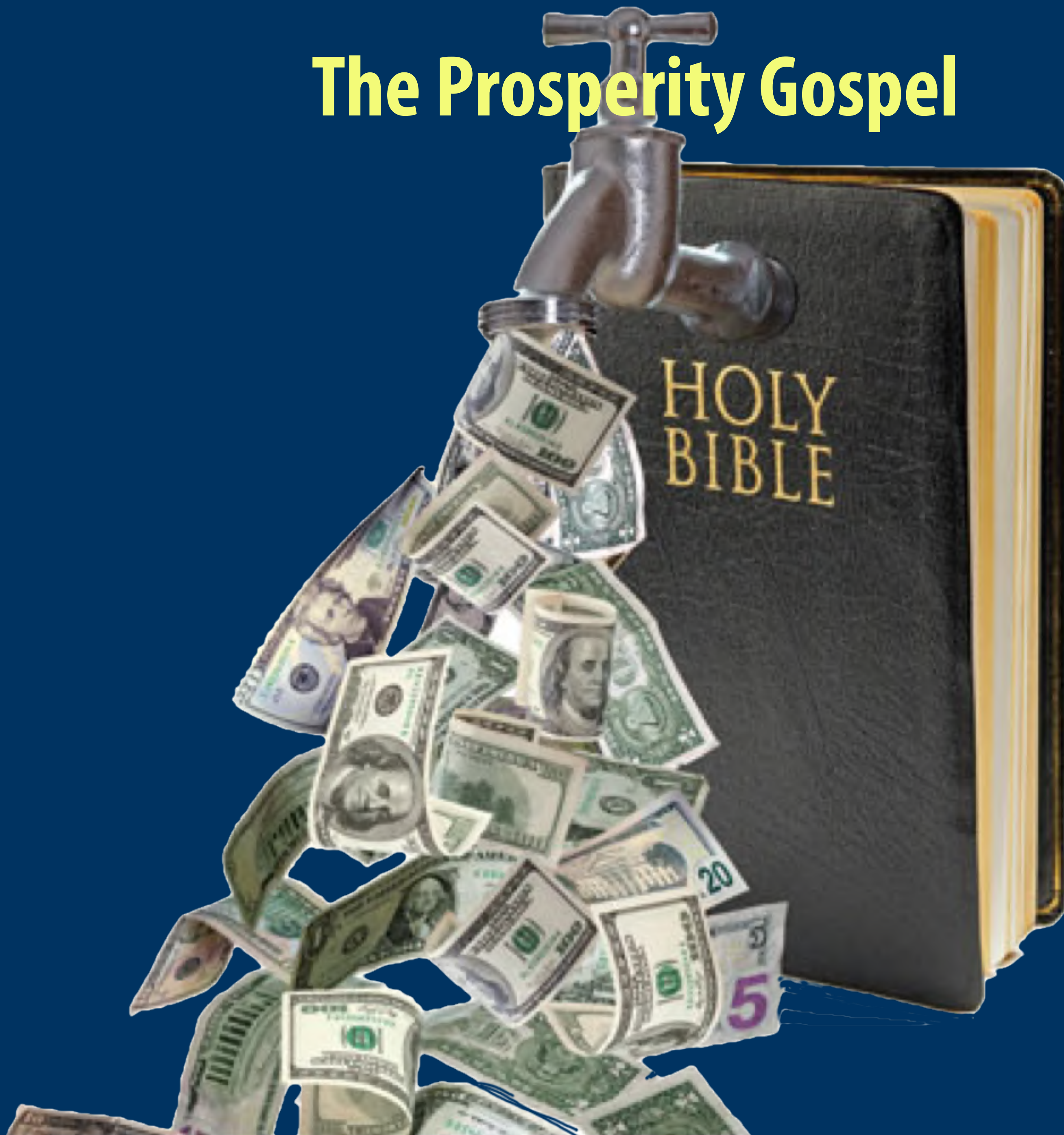
The theology of the
Word of Faith Movement

The Prosperity Gospel

Prosperity theology sees the Holy Spirit as a power to be put to use for whatever the believer wills.

The Bible teaches that the Holy Spirit is a Person who enables the believer to do God's will.

[got questions.com](http://gotquestions.com)



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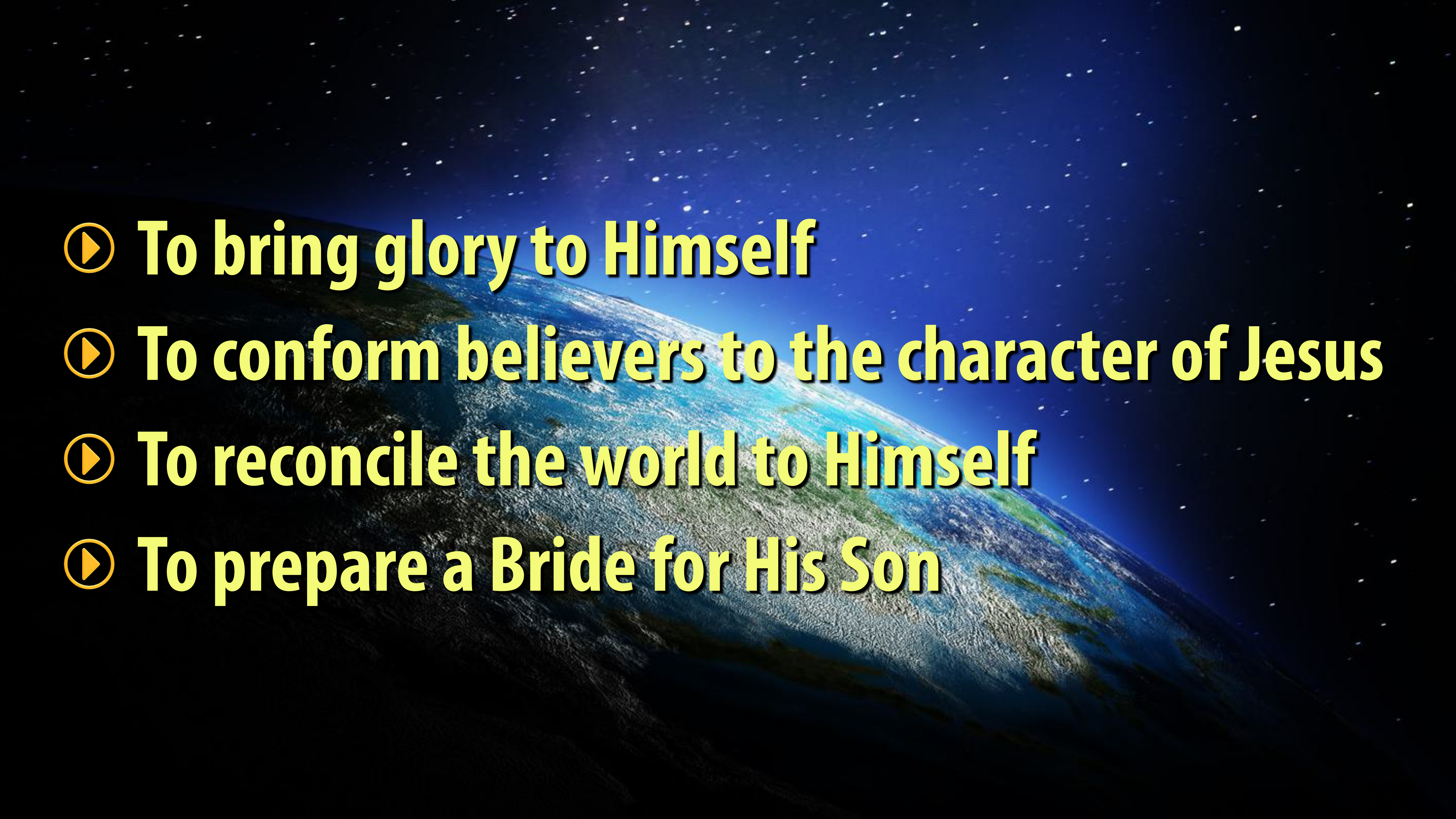
• **Healthy** • **Wealthy** • **Happy**



• Holy • Faithful
• Spiritually Mature • Fruitful



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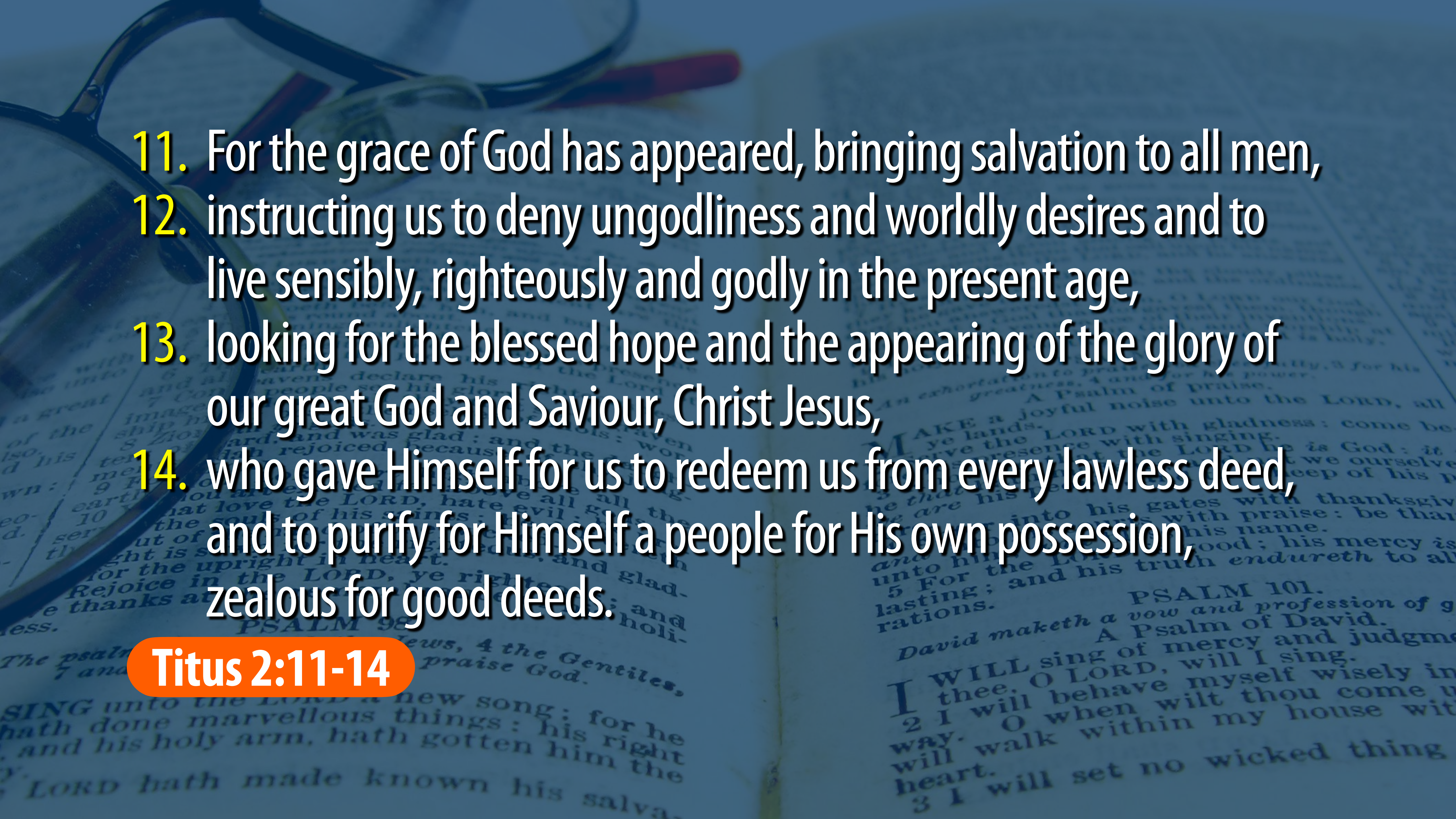
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- ④ **To bring glory to Himself**
 - ④ **To conform believers to the character of Jesus**
 - ④ **To reconcile the world to Himself**
 - ④ **To prepare a Bride for His Son**

- ① While God does bless people and provide for their needs, earthly comfort, physical health, and financial prosperity are not guaranteed rights or the main goal of the faith.
- ① God's ultimate purpose is not to guarantee material wealth, physical health, or circumstantial happiness but rather to foster spiritual maturity, holiness, and an enduring relationship with Him.
- ① Faith serves to align human hearts with God's will which is to make people holy, faithful, spiritually mature and fruitful in outworking His redemptive purposes.



sanctified
set apart
holy
faithful
spiritually mature
prepared for eternity
transformed to be like Jesus

equipped for His purposes
empowered by the Holy Spirit
functioning in His Church
fruitful witnesses
disciple-makers
encouragers
one another people

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11. For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all men,
12. instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age,
13. looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Saviour, Christ Jesus,
14. who gave Himself for us to redeem us from every lawless deed, and to purify for Himself a people for His own possession, zealous for good deeds.

Titus 2:11-14

5. [Come] and, like living stones, be yourselves built [into] a spiritual house, for a holy (dedicated, consecrated) priesthood, to offer up [those] spiritual sacrifices [that are] acceptable and pleasing to God through Jesus Christ.

9. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, (so) that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

1 Peter 2:5 & 9 (Amplified Bible)

8. “For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,” declares the Lord.
9. “For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts.
10. For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there without watering the earth and making it bear and sprout, and furnishing seed to the sower and bread to the eater;
11. So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; it will not return to Me empty, without accomplishing what I desire, and without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.”

Isaiah 55:8-11



GOD IS OMNISCIENT

Perfect knowledge, Infinite knowledge

Perfect wisdom, Infinite wisdom

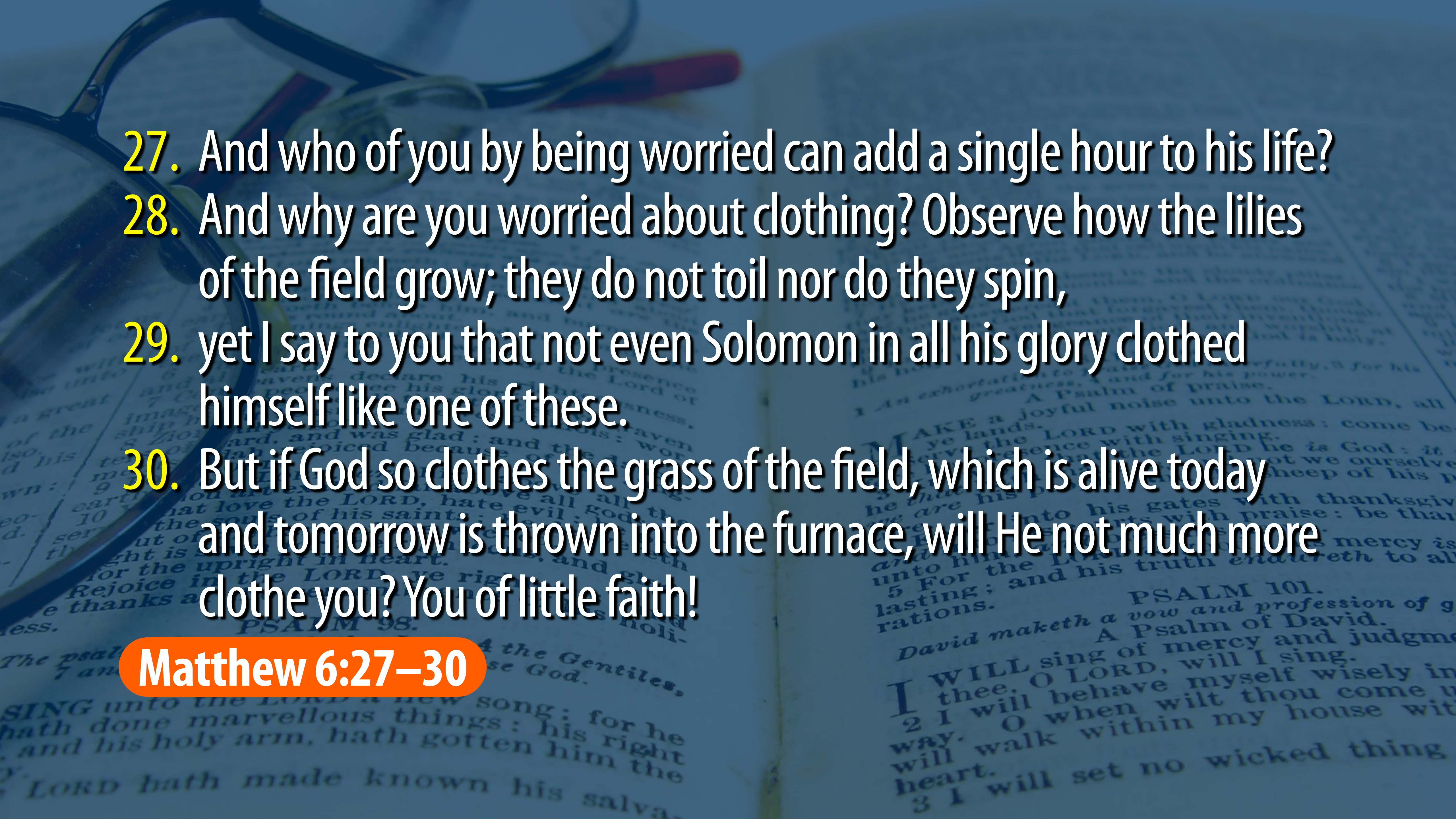
from Eternity past to Eternity future

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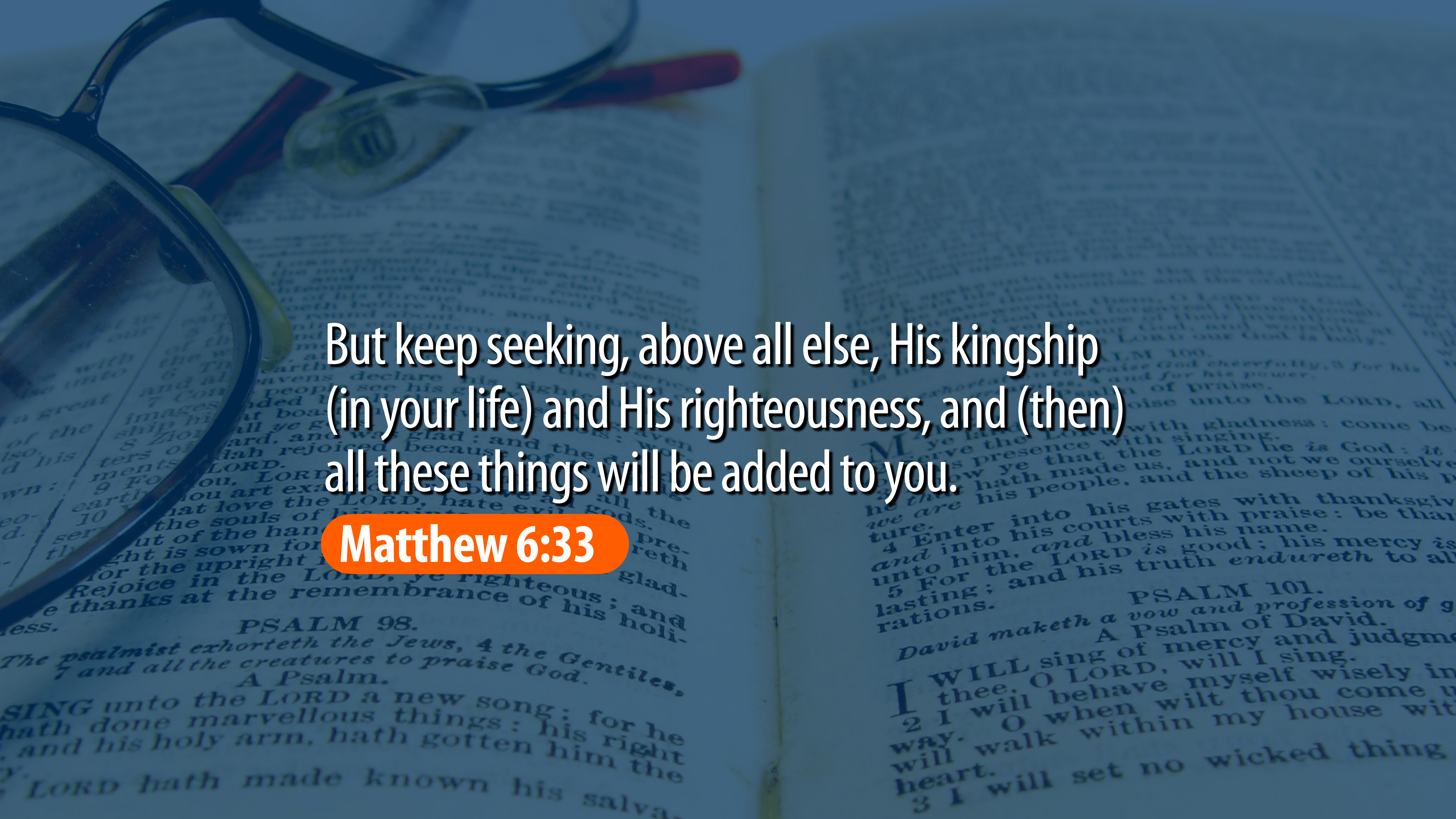
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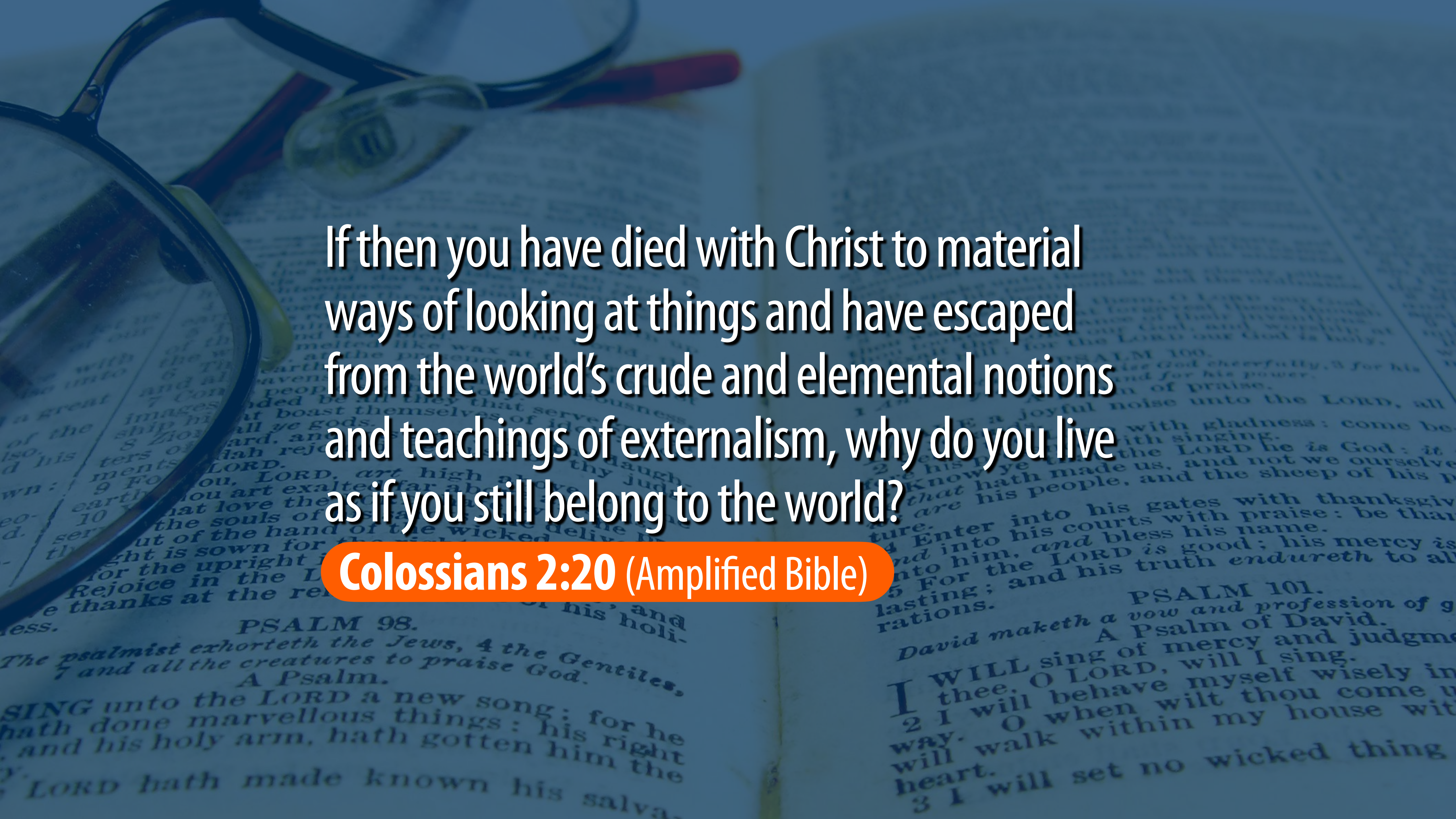
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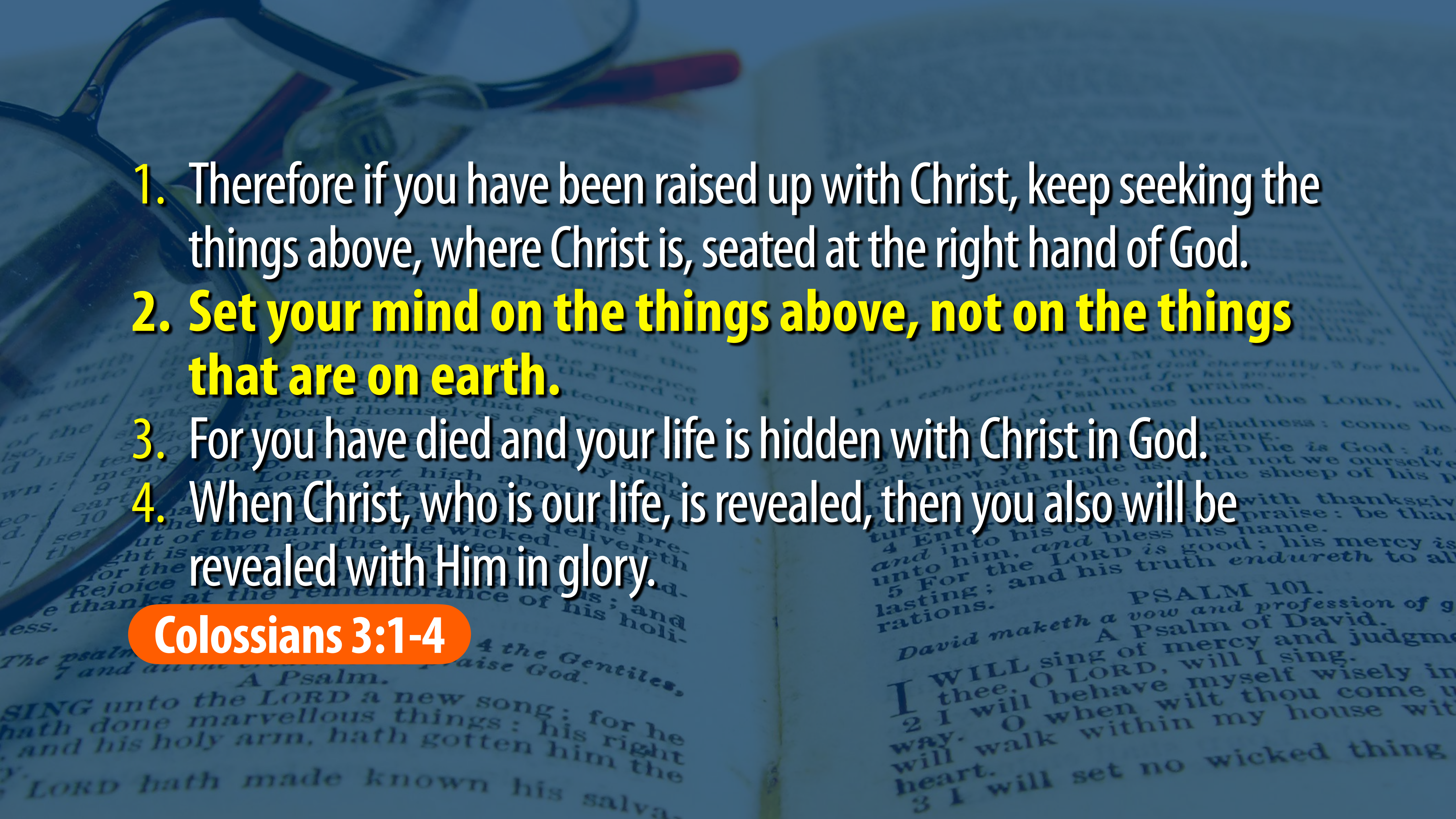
But keep seeking, above all else, His kingship
(in your life) and His righteousness, and (then)
all these things will be added to you.

Matthew 6:33

A pair of glasses with dark frames and light-colored lenses is resting on an open Bible. The Bible is open to a page with text in a serif font. The glasses are positioned diagonally across the top left of the frame. The text on the Bible page is partially obscured by the glasses and the overlay text.

If then you have died with Christ to material ways of looking at things and have escaped from the world's crude and elemental notions and teachings of externalism, why do you live as if you still belong to the world?

Colossians 2:20 (Amplified Bible)

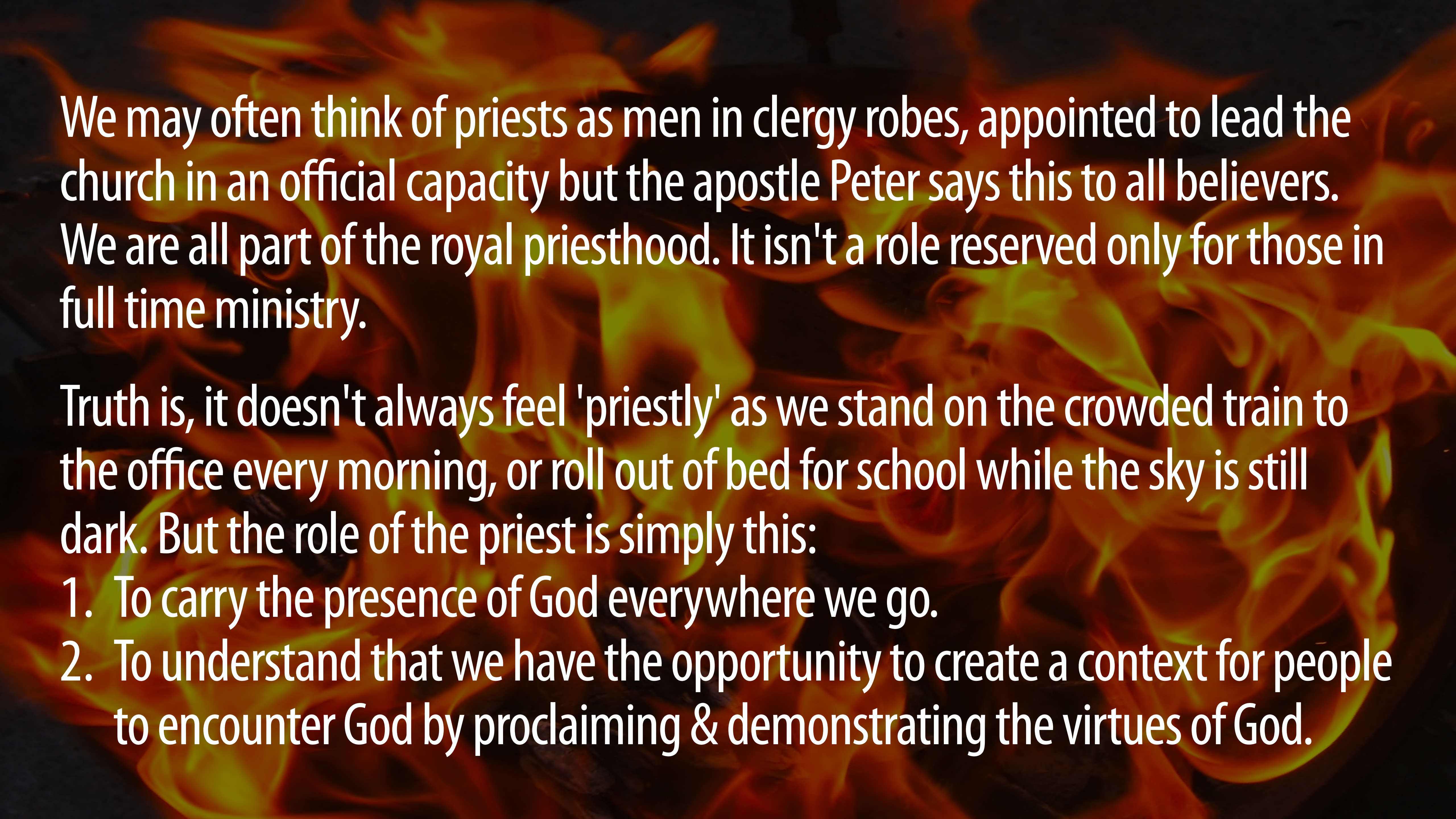
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1. Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.
2. **Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.**
3. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God.
4. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Colossians 3:1-4

5. [Come] and, like living stones, be yourselves built [into] a spiritual house, for **a holy (dedicated, consecrated) priesthood**, to offer up [those] spiritual sacrifices [that are] acceptable and pleasing to God through Jesus Christ.

9. But you are a chosen race, **a royal priesthood**, a dedicated nation, [God's] own purchased, special people, (so) **that you may set forth the wonderful deeds and display the virtues and perfections of Him Who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.**

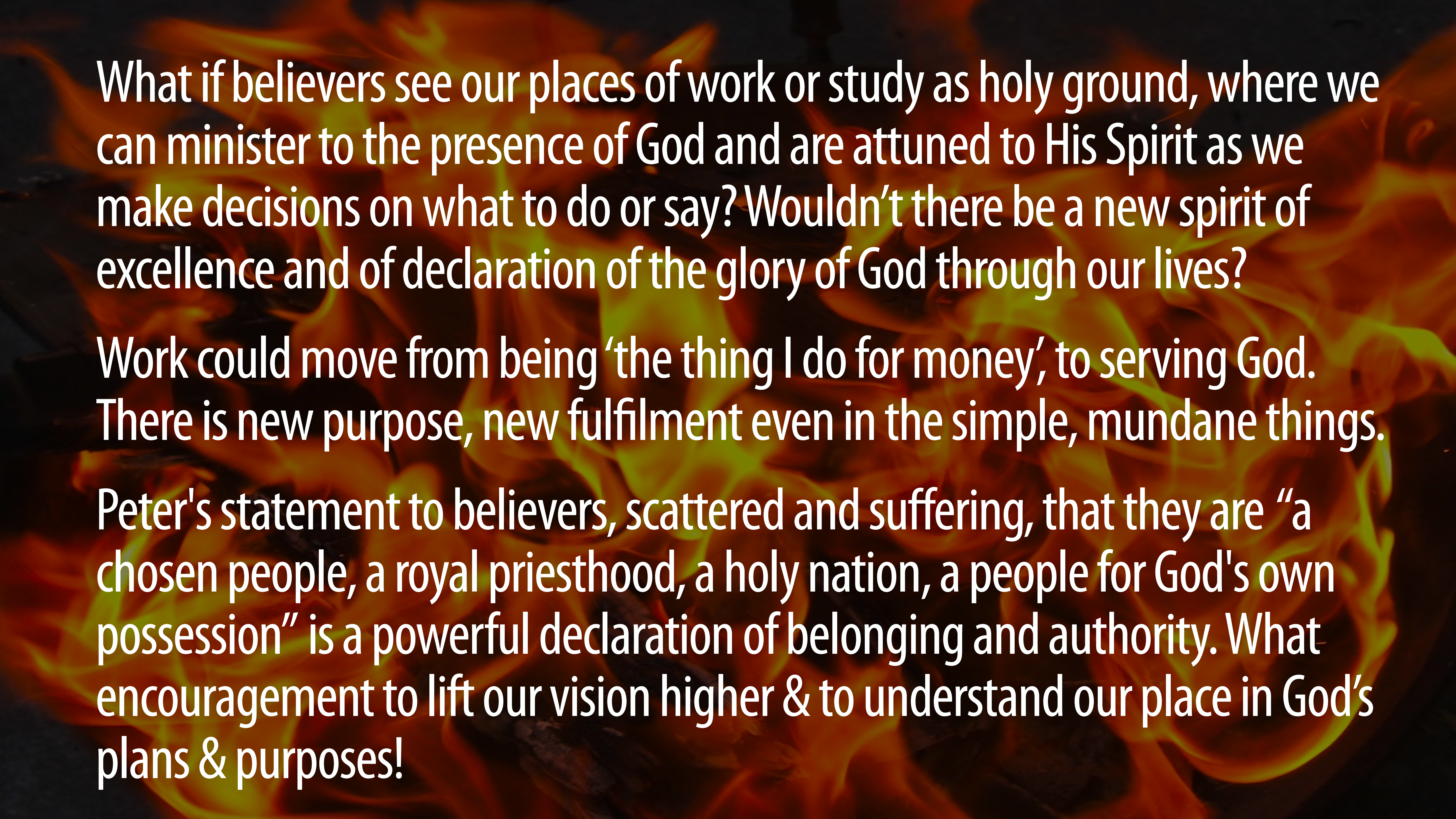
1 Peter 2:5 & 9 (Amplified Bible)

The background of the entire slide is a close-up, high-contrast image of flames. The fire is bright orange and yellow, with dark, swirling patterns of smoke and ash. The flames are intense and appear to be rising, creating a sense of movement and heat. The overall tone is dramatic and powerful, which complements the message of the text.

We may often think of priests as men in clergy robes, appointed to lead the church in an official capacity but the apostle Peter says this to all believers. We are all part of the royal priesthood. It isn't a role reserved only for those in full time ministry.

Truth is, it doesn't always feel 'priestly' as we stand on the crowded train to the office every morning, or roll out of bed for school while the sky is still dark. But the role of the priest is simply this:

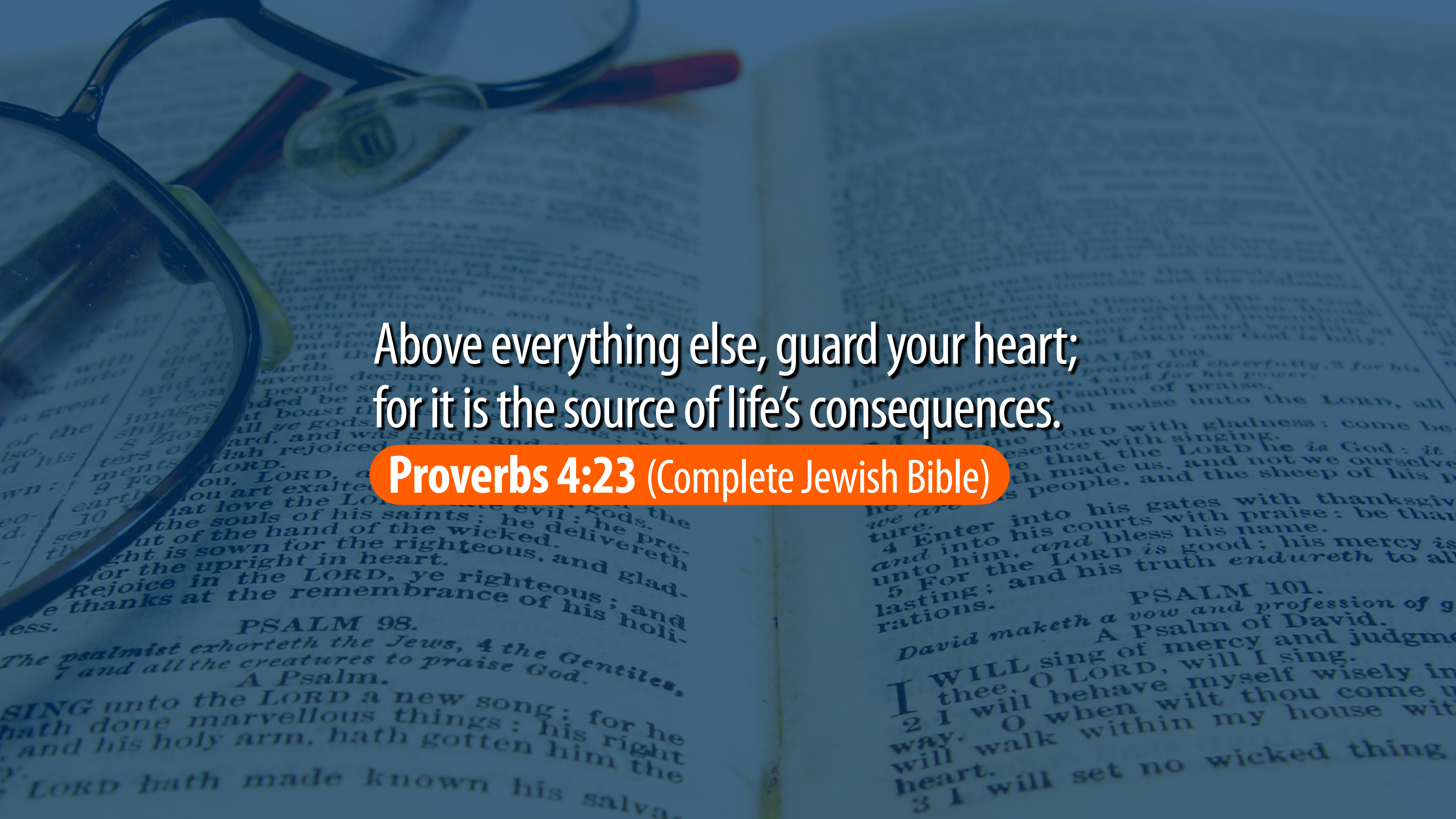
1. To carry the presence of God everywhere we go.
2. To understand that we have the opportunity to create a context for people to encounter God by proclaiming & demonstrating the virtues of God.

The background of the entire image is a close-up, high-contrast photograph of flames. The fire is a mix of bright yellow and orange, with darker, almost black, areas where the flames are more intense or where the smoke is thicker. The flames appear to be rising and swirling, creating a sense of movement and heat. The overall effect is one of intense energy and passion.

What if believers see our places of work or study as holy ground, where we can minister to the presence of God and are attuned to His Spirit as we make decisions on what to do or say? Wouldn't there be a new spirit of excellence and of declaration of the glory of God through our lives?

Work could move from being 'the thing I do for money', to serving God. There is new purpose, new fulfilment even in the simple, mundane things.

Peter's statement to believers, scattered and suffering, that they are "a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession" is a powerful declaration of belonging and authority. What encouragement to lift our vision higher & to understand our place in God's plans & purposes!



Above everything else, guard your heart;
for it is the source of life's consequences.

Proverbs 4:23 (Complete Jewish Bible)