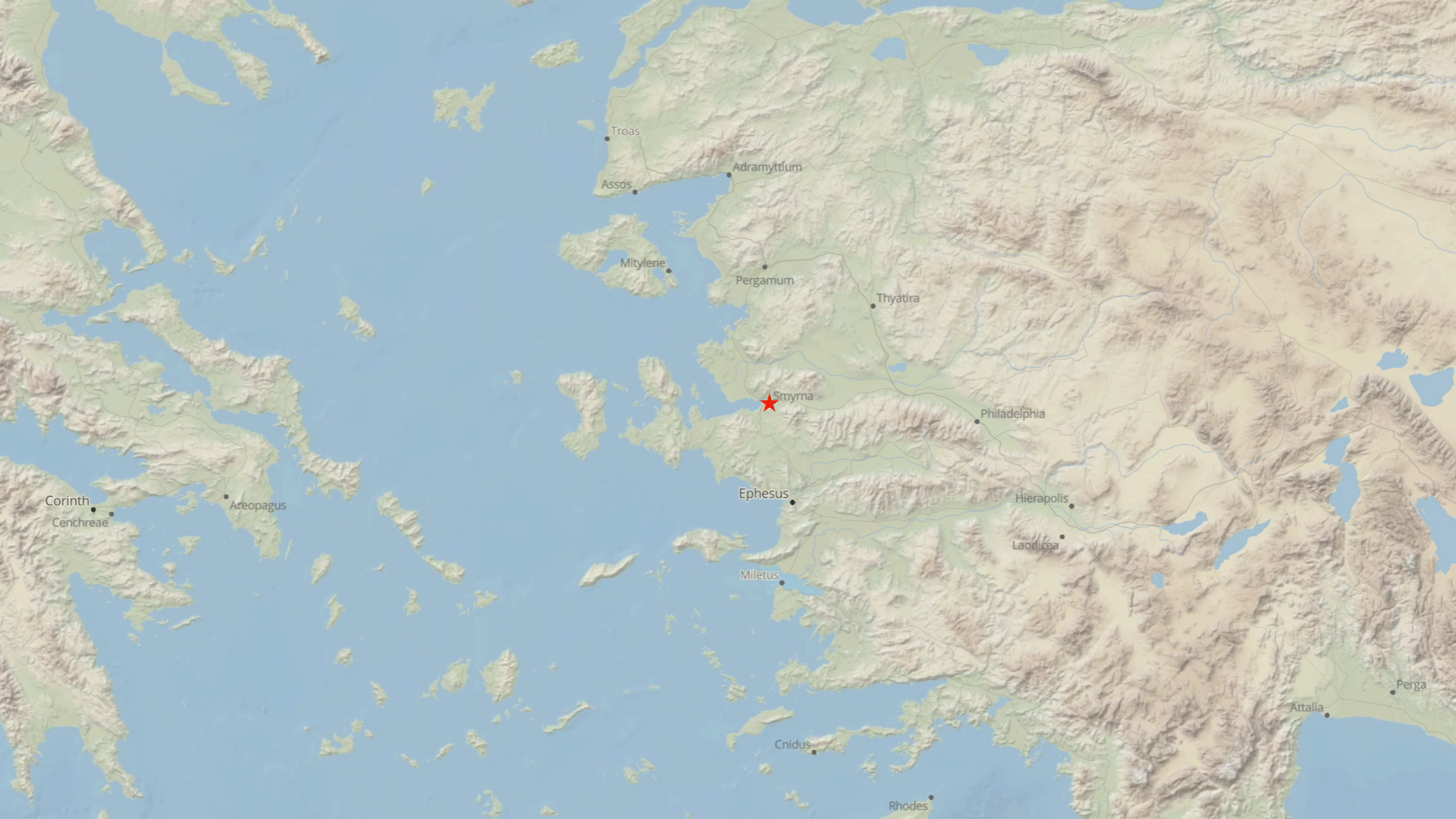


The background of the image shows the ruins of an ancient Greek temple, likely the Temple of Apollo at Delphi. Several tall, fluted columns stand prominently, with some showing signs of damage and missing sections. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The overall scene is captured in a cinematic style with soft lighting.

HEAR & CONQUER

3: FEARLESS TO THE END



Troas

Assos

Mitylene

Adramyttium

Pergamum

Thyatira

Smyrna

Philadelphia

Corinth

Cenchreae

Areopagus

Ephesus

Hierapolis

Laodicea

Miletus

Cnidus

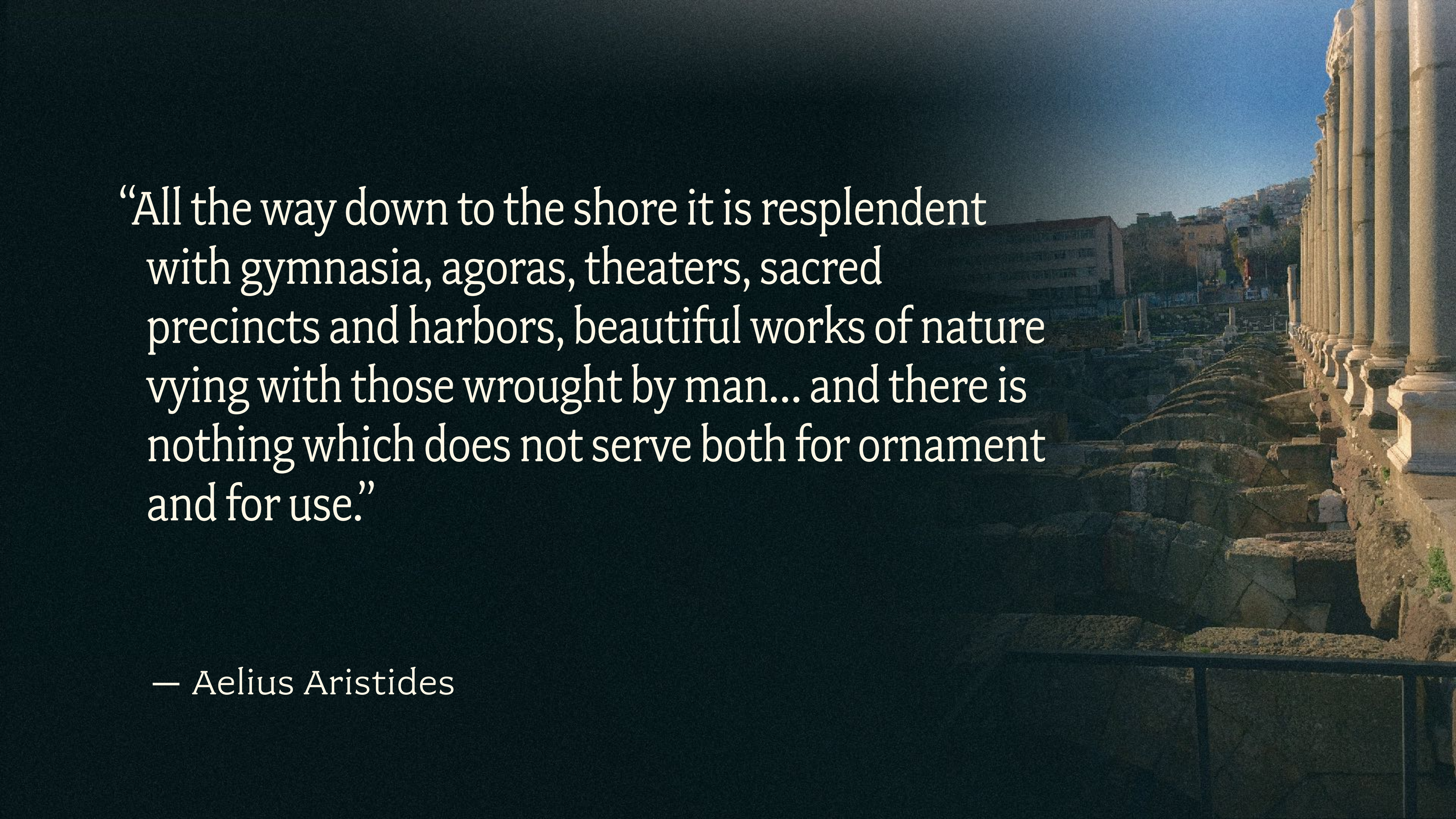
Rhodes

Attalia

Perga

IZMIR, TURKEY





“All the way down to the shore it is resplendent with gymnasia, agoras, theaters, sacred precincts and harbors, beautiful works of nature vying with those wrought by man... and there is nothing which does not serve both for ornament and for use.”

— Aelius Aristides

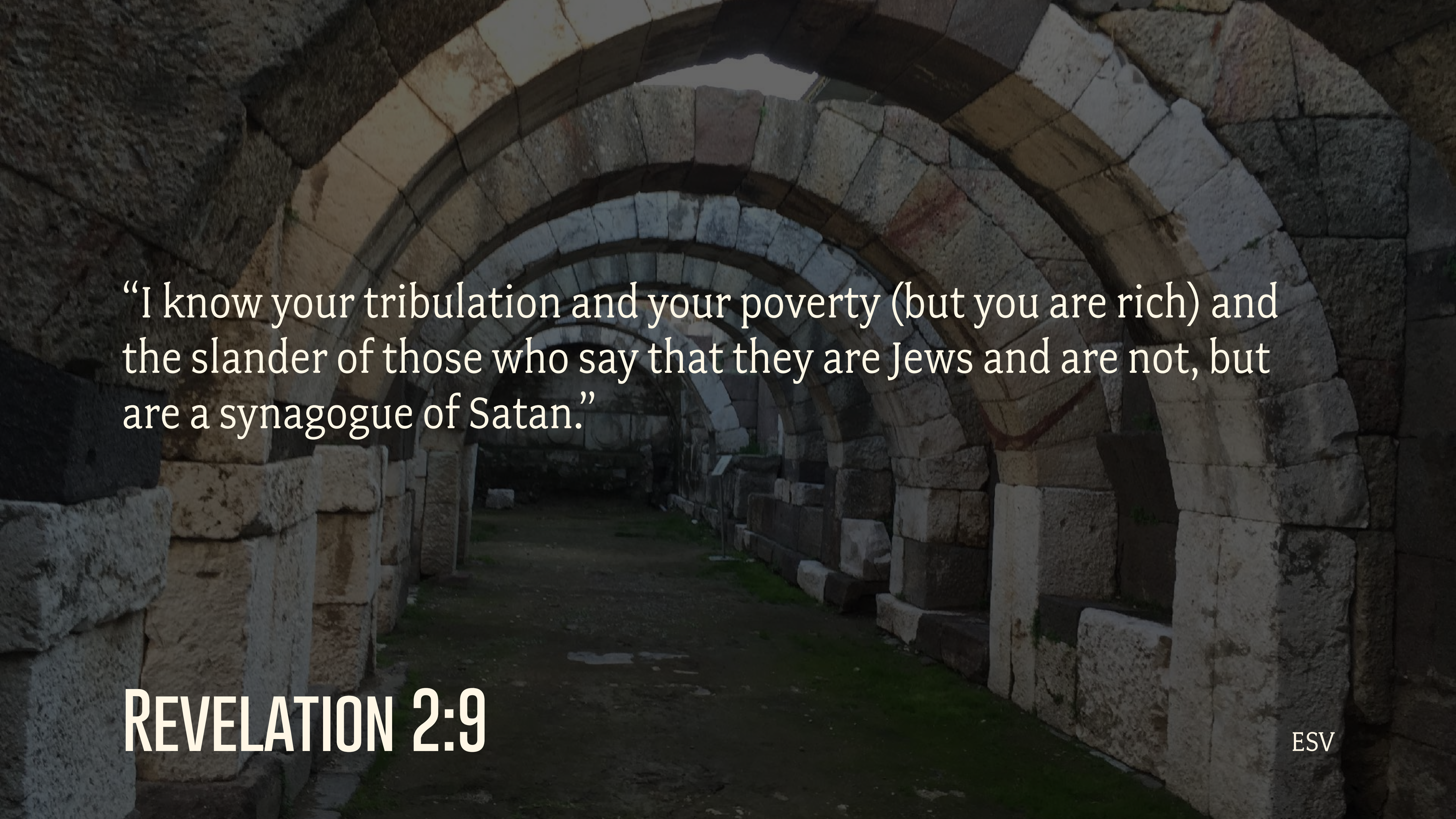


“And to the angel of the church in Smyrna write: The words of the first and the last, who died and came to life.

“I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan. Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.”

REVELATION 2:8-11

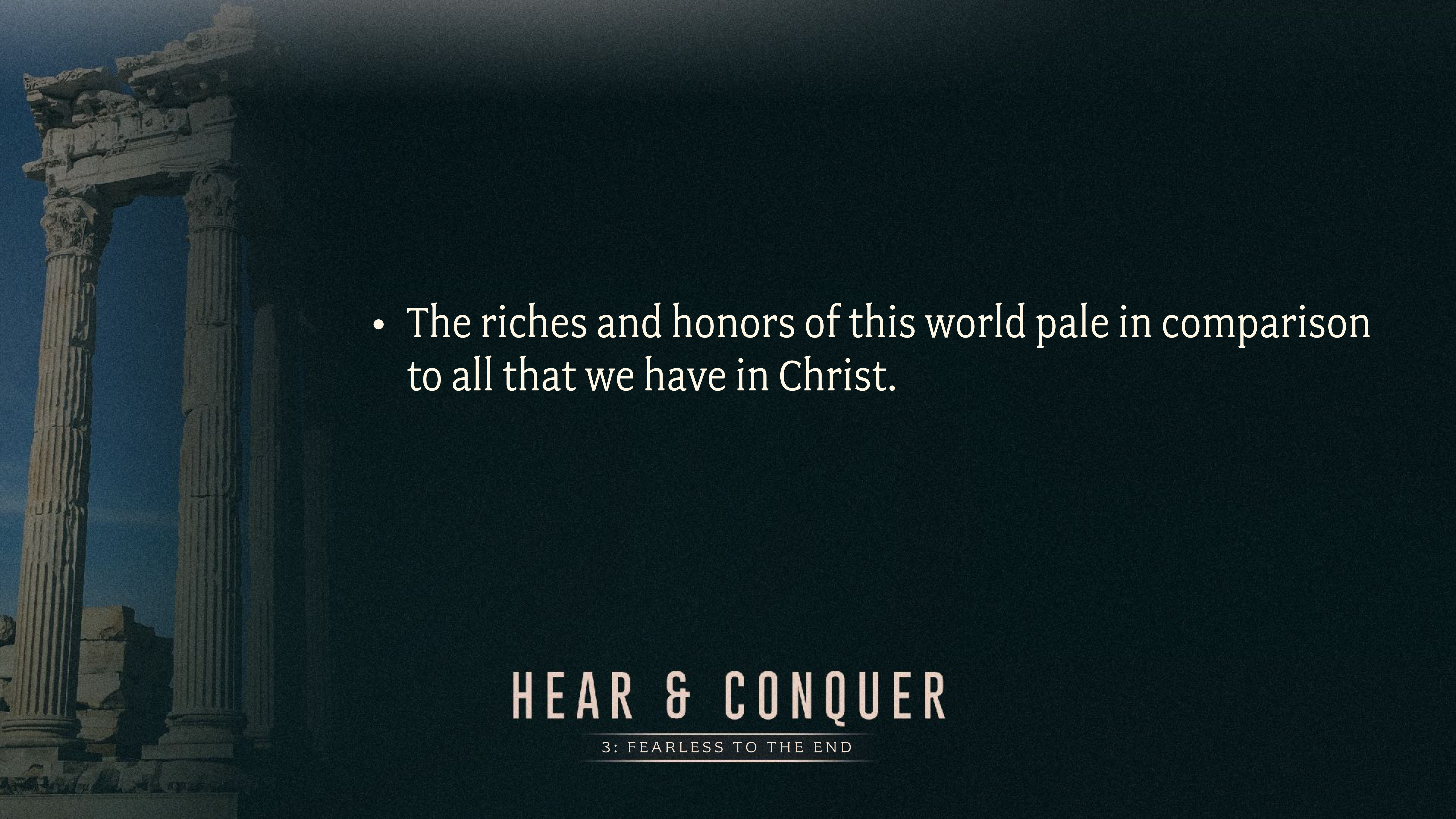
ESV



“I know your tribulation and your poverty (but you are rich) and the slander of those who say that they are Jews and are not, but are a synagogue of Satan.”

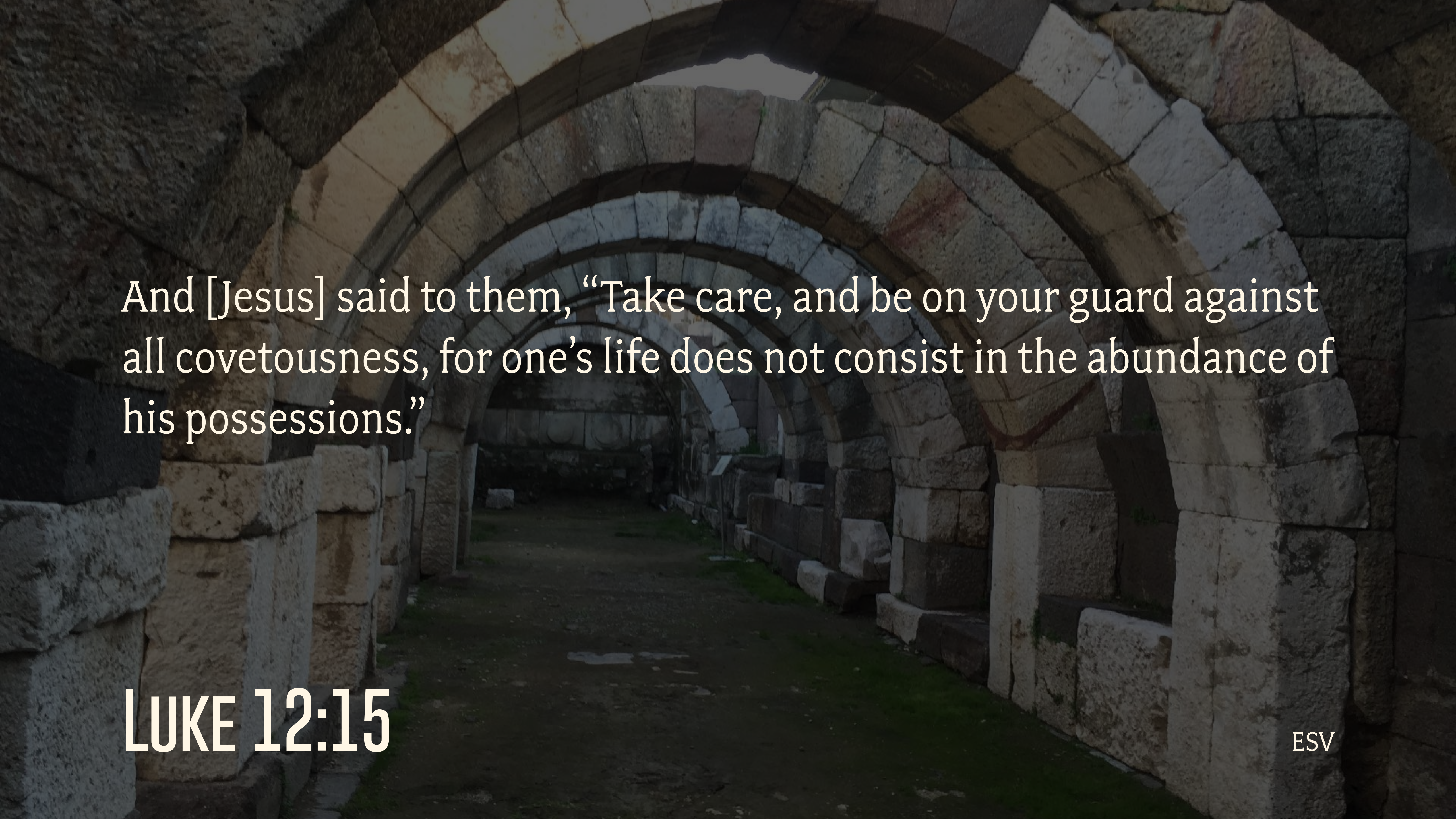
REVELATION 2:9

ESV

- 
- The background of the slide features a photograph of ancient Greek temple ruins, specifically the Temple of Apollo at Delphi. The image shows several tall, fluted columns supporting a partially collapsed entablature against a clear blue sky. The lighting is bright, suggesting a sunny day.
- The riches and honors of this world pale in comparison to all that we have in Christ.

HEAR & CONQUER

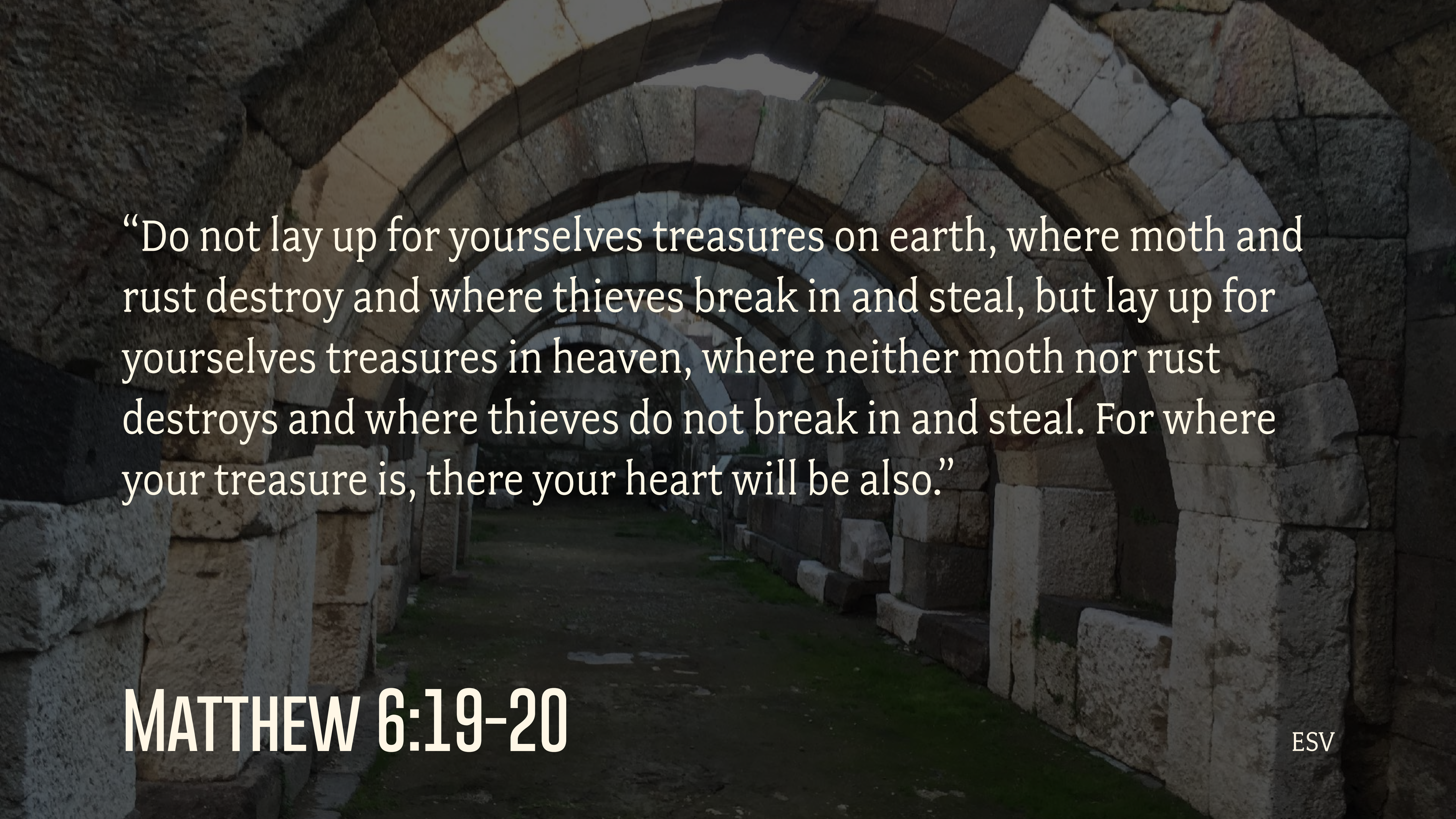
3: FEARLESS TO THE END



And [Jesus] said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.”

LUKE 12:15

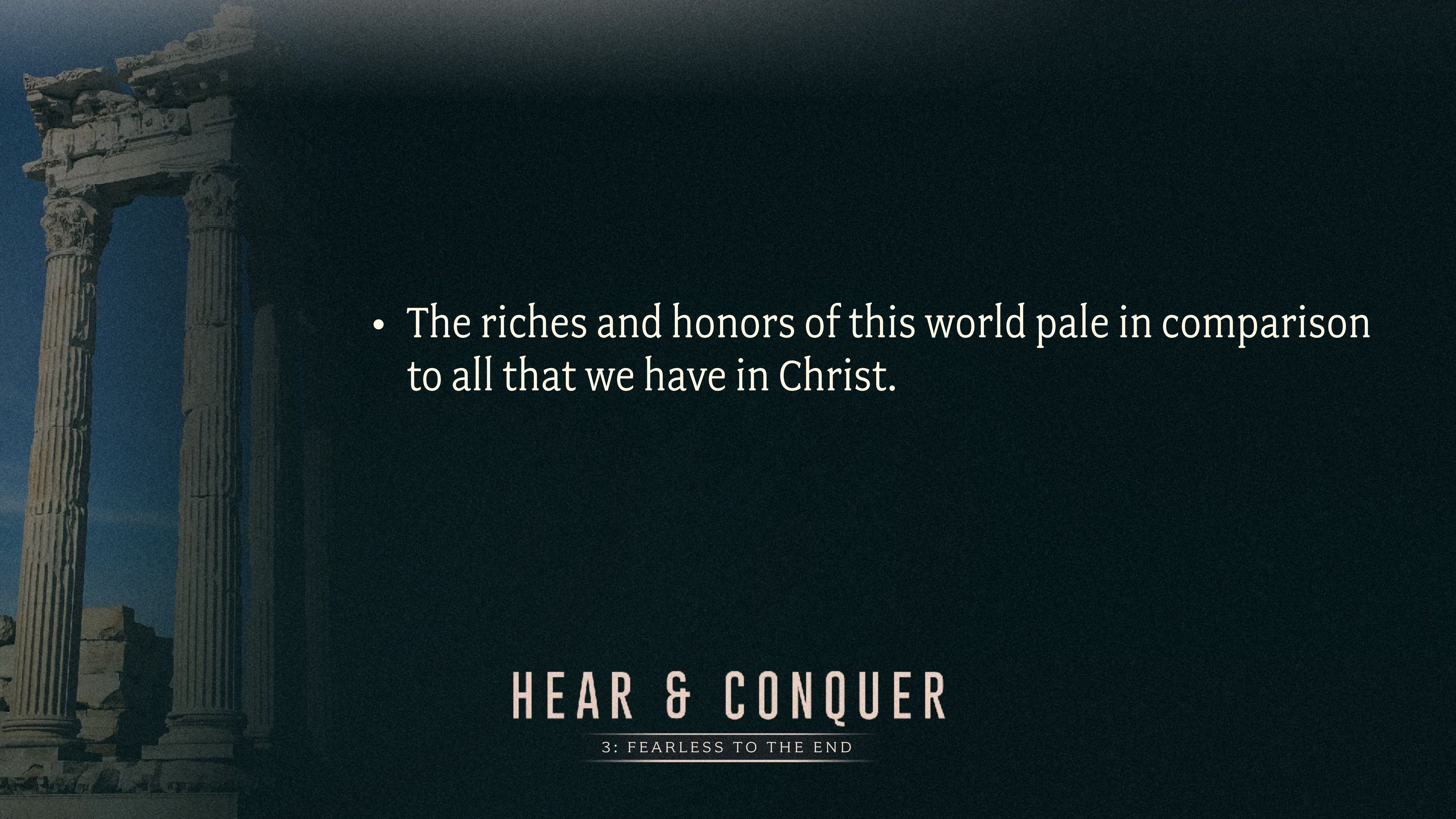
ESV

A photograph of a stone archway leading into a tunnel. The arch is made of large, light-colored stone blocks. The tunnel walls are also made of stone and have several smaller arches along the side. The floor is dark and appears to be made of stone or concrete. The lighting is dim, creating a sense of depth and mystery.

“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.”


MATTHEW 6:19-20

ESV

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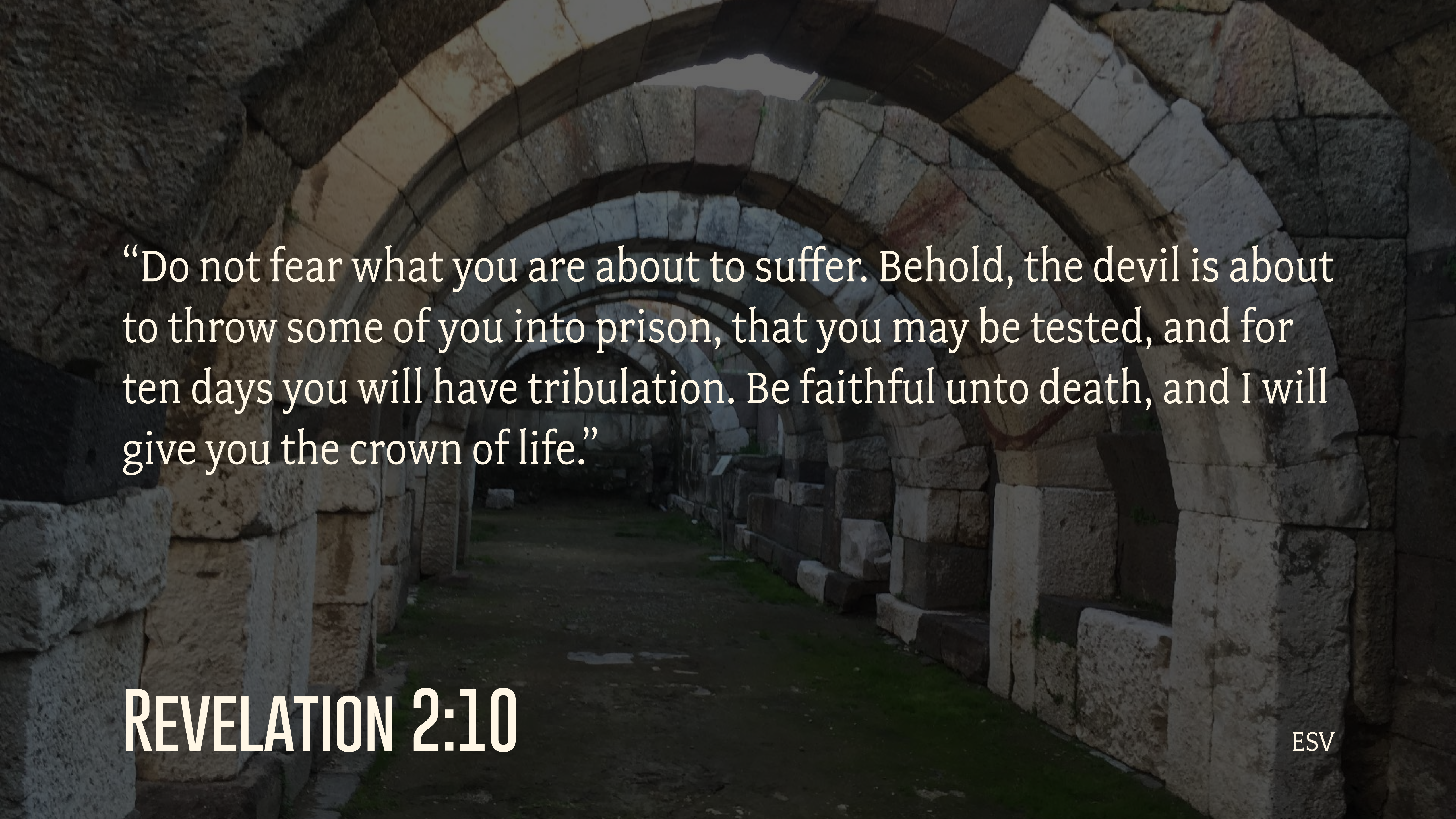
HEAR & CONQUER

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HEAR & CONQUER

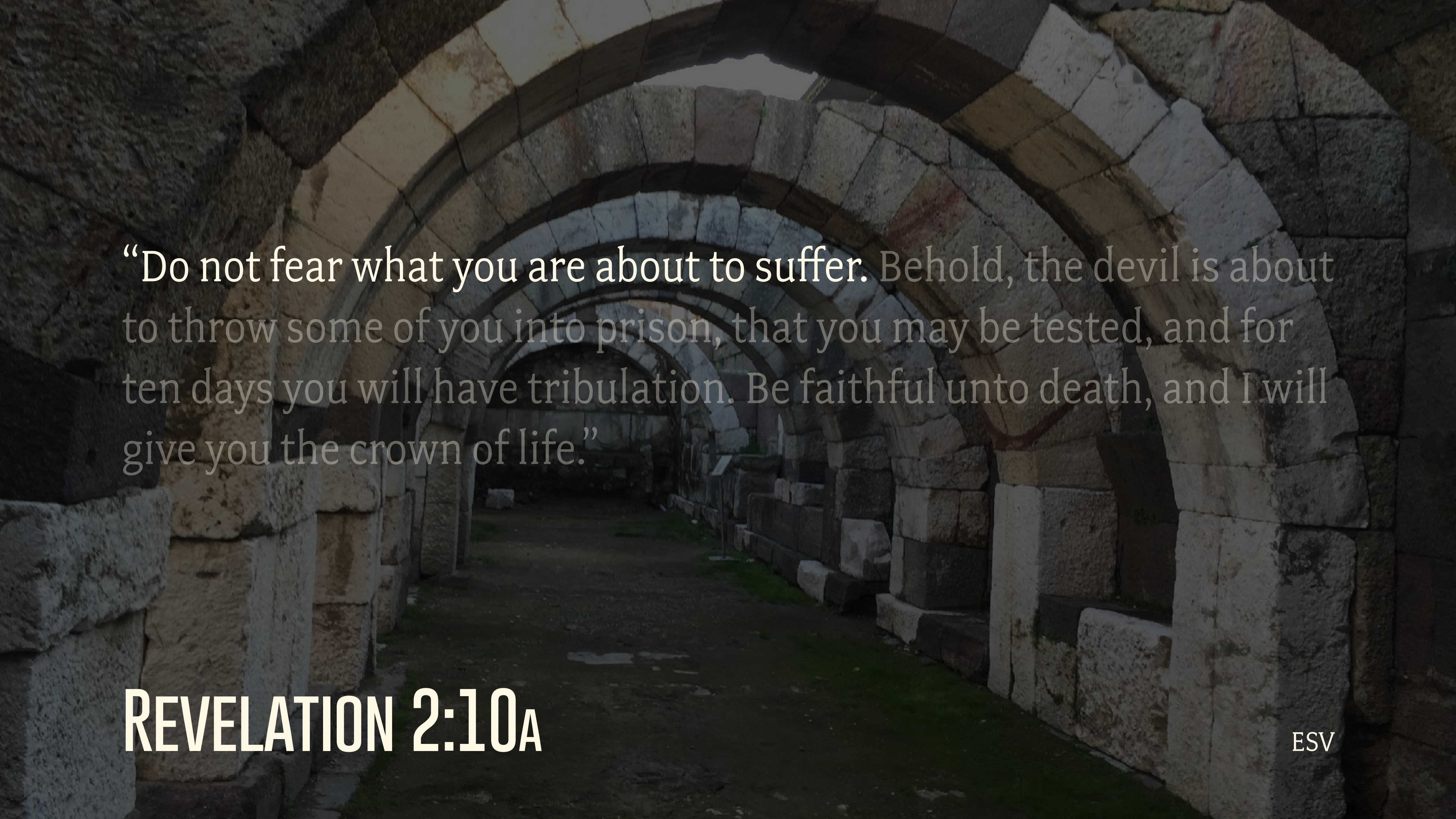
3: FEARLESS TO THE END

A long, dimly lit stone tunnel with a series of arches receding into the distance. The stone is weathered and the lighting is dramatic, with light coming from the far end of the tunnel.

“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

REVELATION 2:10


ESV

A long, dimly lit stone tunnel with a series of arches receding into the distance. The arches are made of large, rough-hewn stone blocks. The floor is dark and appears to be made of stone or concrete. The lighting is low, creating a somber and ancient atmosphere.

“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

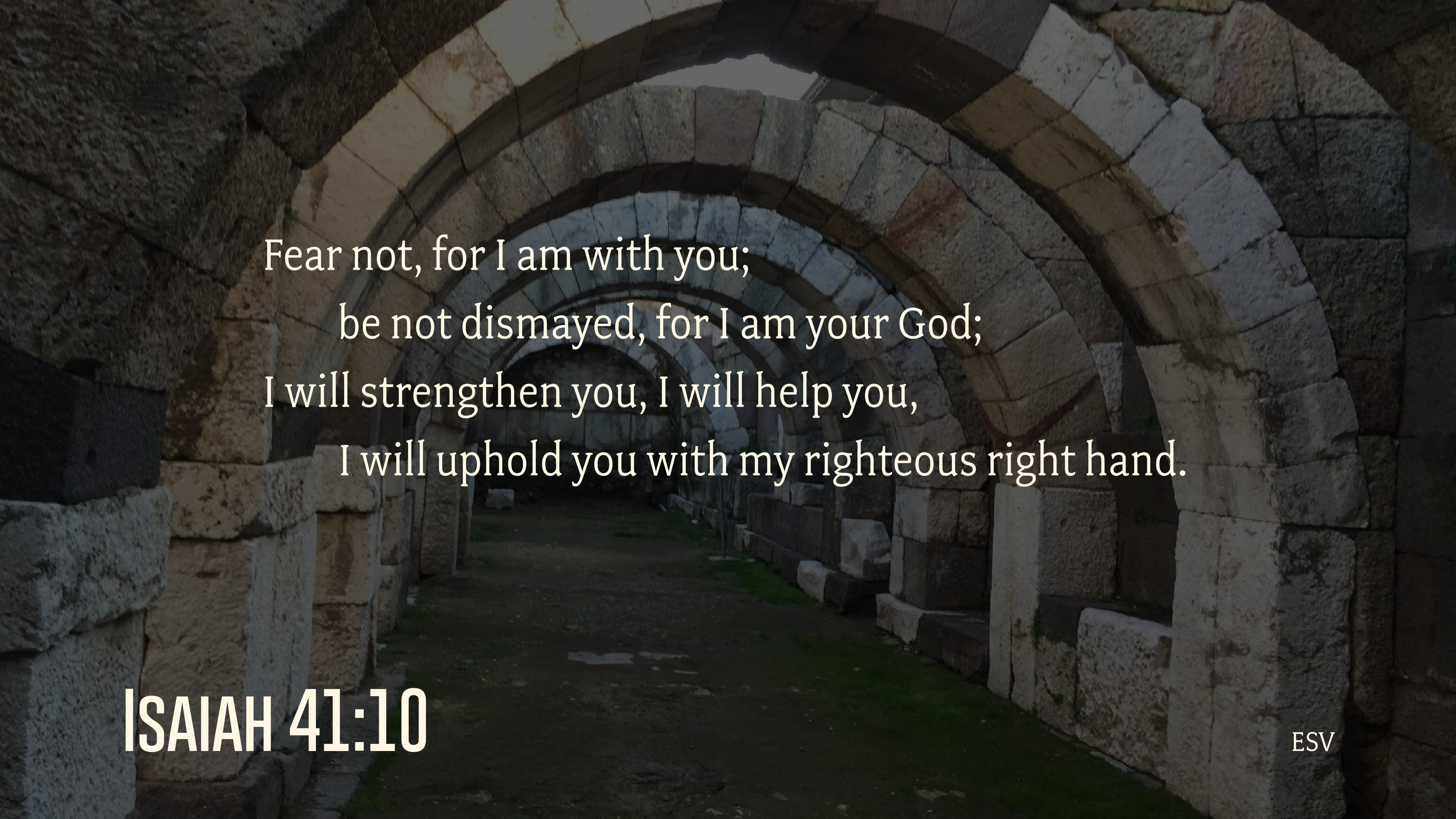
REVELATION 2:10A

ESV

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HEAR & CONQUER


3: FEARLESS TO THE END

A long, dimly lit stone tunnel with a series of arches receding into the distance. The stone is a mix of light and dark tones, and the lighting is soft, creating a sense of depth and mystery.

Fear not, for I am with you;
be not dismayed, for I am your God;
I will strengthen you, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

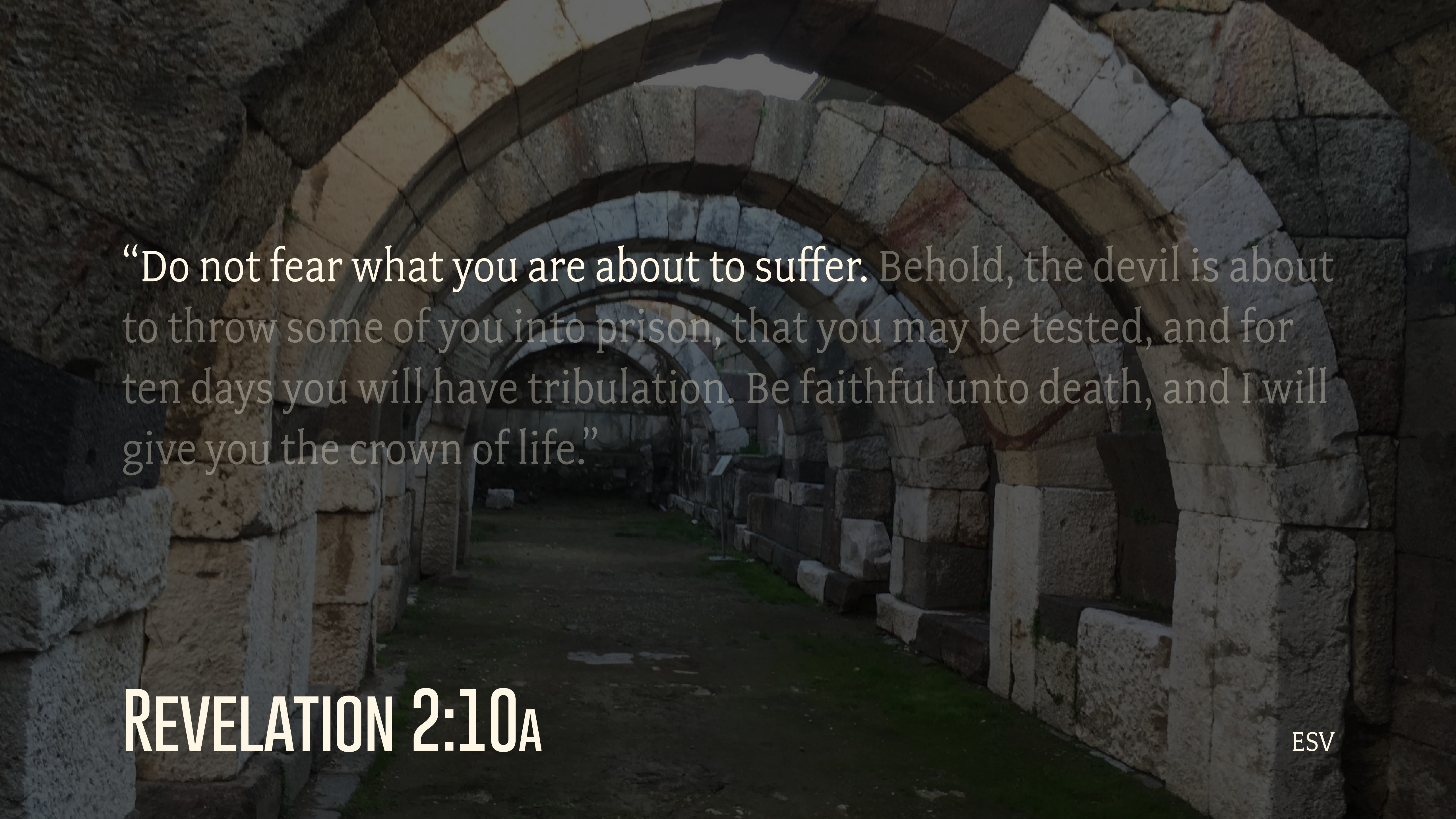
ISAIAH 41:10

ESV

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HEAR & CONQUER

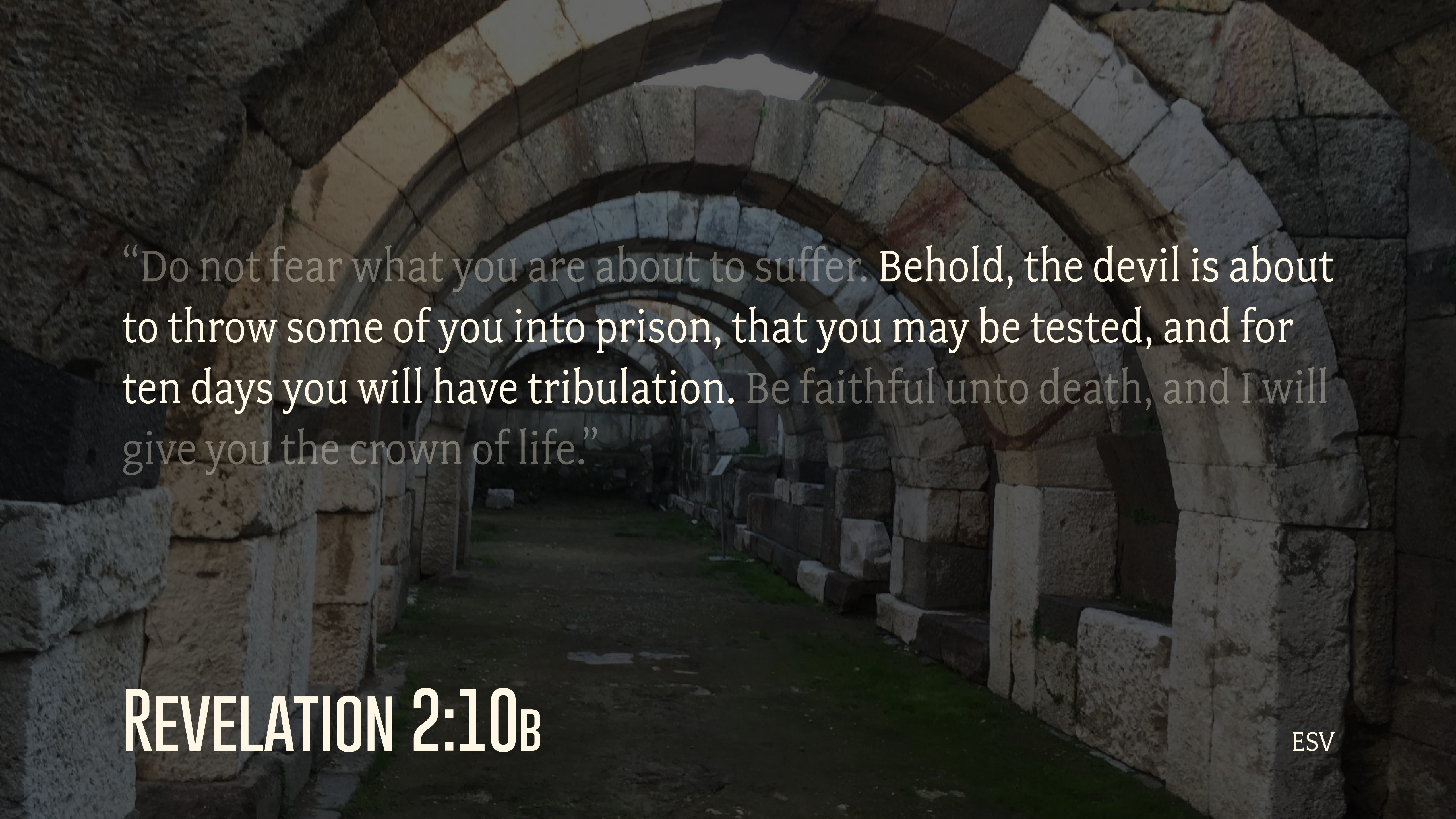
3: FEARLESS TO THE END

A long, dimly lit stone tunnel with a series of arches receding into the distance. The stone is weathered and the lighting is dramatic, with the arches creating a strong sense of perspective.

“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

REVELATION 2:10A

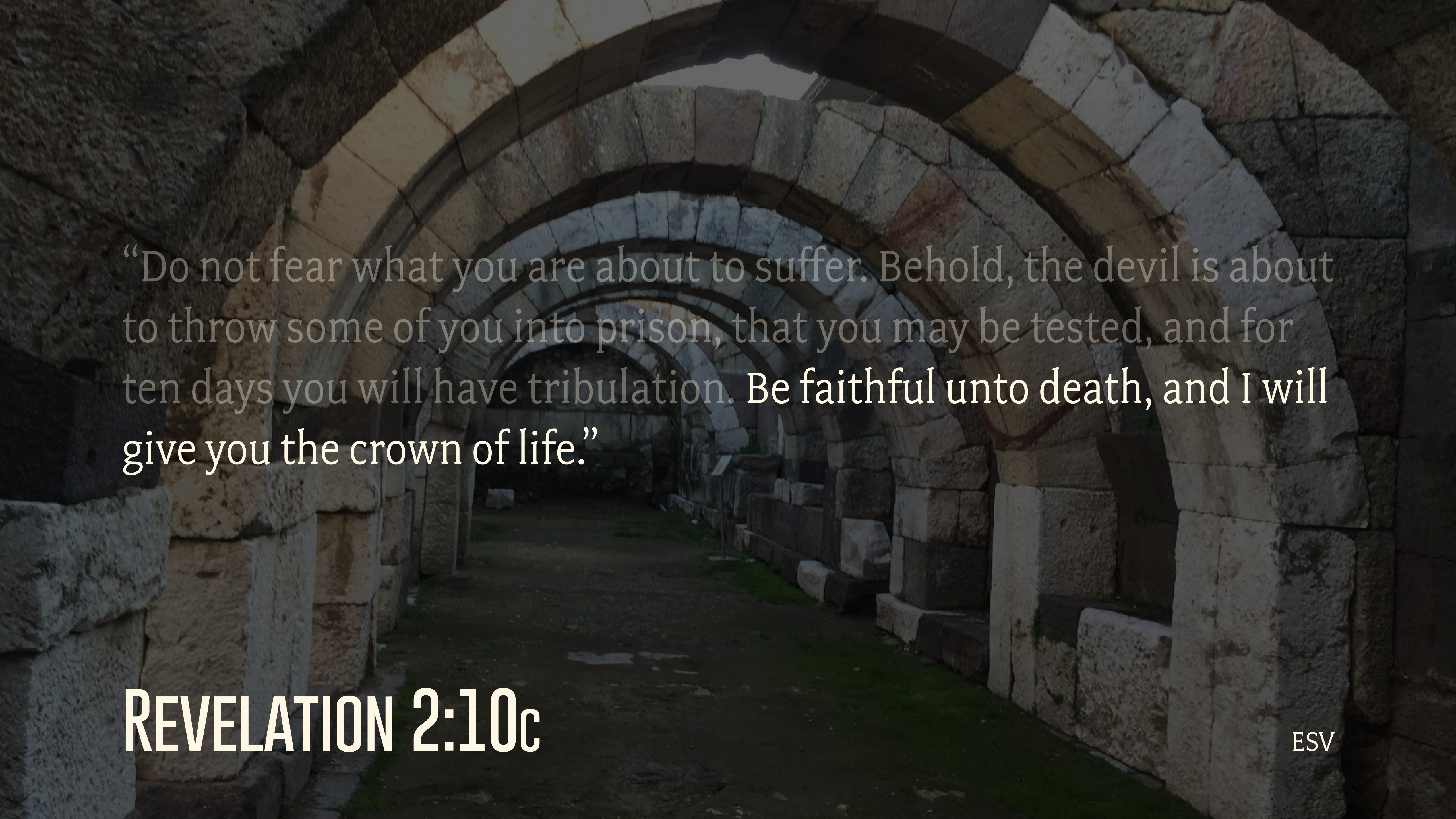
ESV

A long, dimly lit stone tunnel with a series of arches receding into the distance. The stone is weathered and the lighting is dramatic, with light coming from the far end of the tunnel.

“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”

REVELATION 2:10_B


ESV

A long, dimly lit stone tunnel with a series of arches receding into the distance. The stone is weathered and the lighting is dramatic, with light coming from the far end of the tunnel.

“Do not fear what you are about to suffer. Behold, the devil is about to throw some of you into prison, that you may be tested, and for ten days you will have tribulation. Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life.”


REVELATION 2:10c

ESV

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HEAR & CONQUER

3: FEARLESS TO THE END

- 
- The background of the slide features a photograph of ancient Greek temple ruins, specifically several tall, fluted columns and a portion of a pediment, set against a clear blue sky. The image is slightly faded and serves as a backdrop for the text.
- The riches and honors of this world pale in comparison to all that we have in Christ.
 - Whatever hardship we must endure, Jesus calls us and empowers us to face it fearlessly.
 - When we listen to God's Word and choose to rely on his strength, we can replace fear with faith.

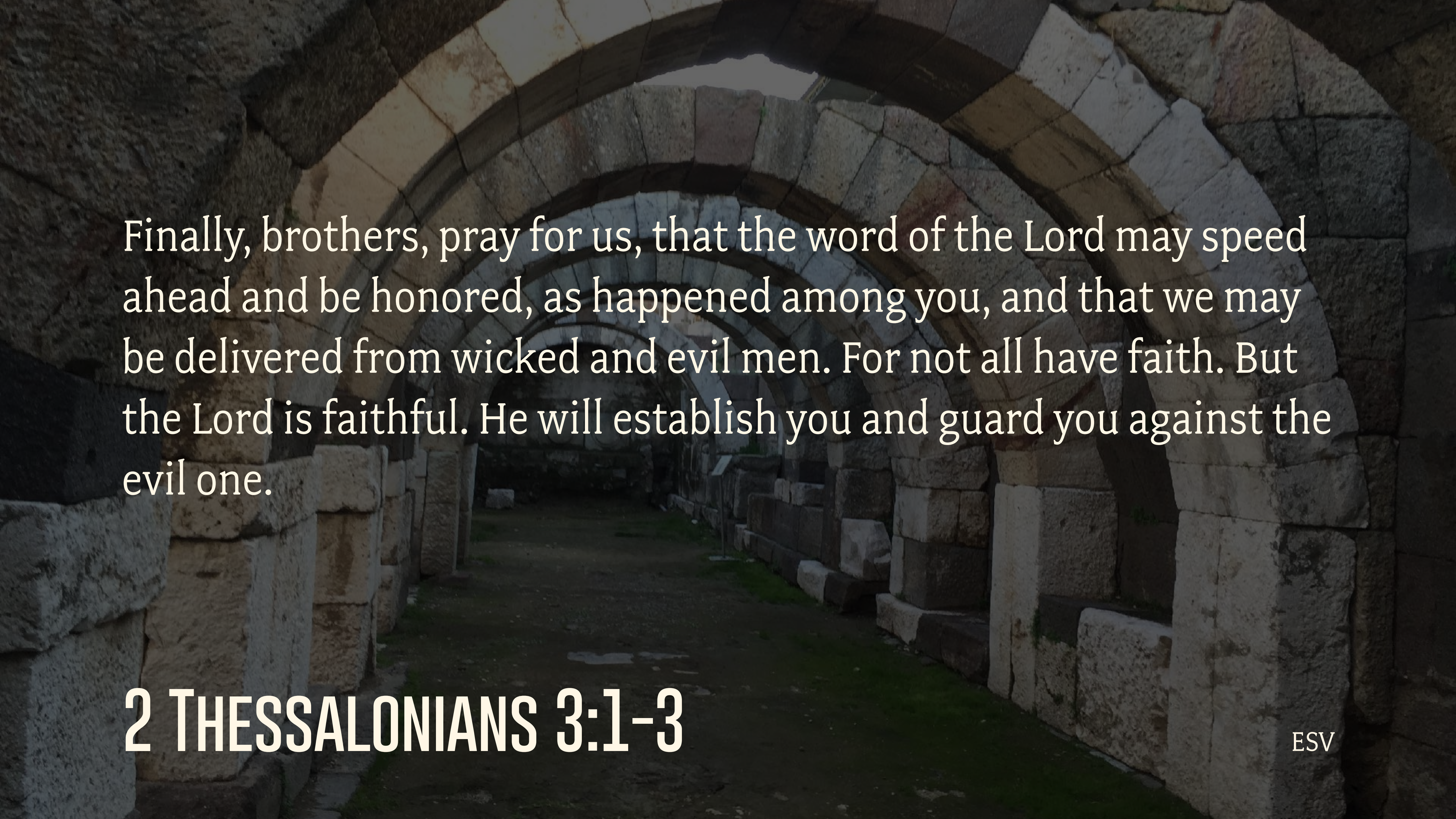
HEAR & CONQUER

3: FEARLESS TO THE END



POLYCARP OF SMYRNA


69—156 AD



Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one.

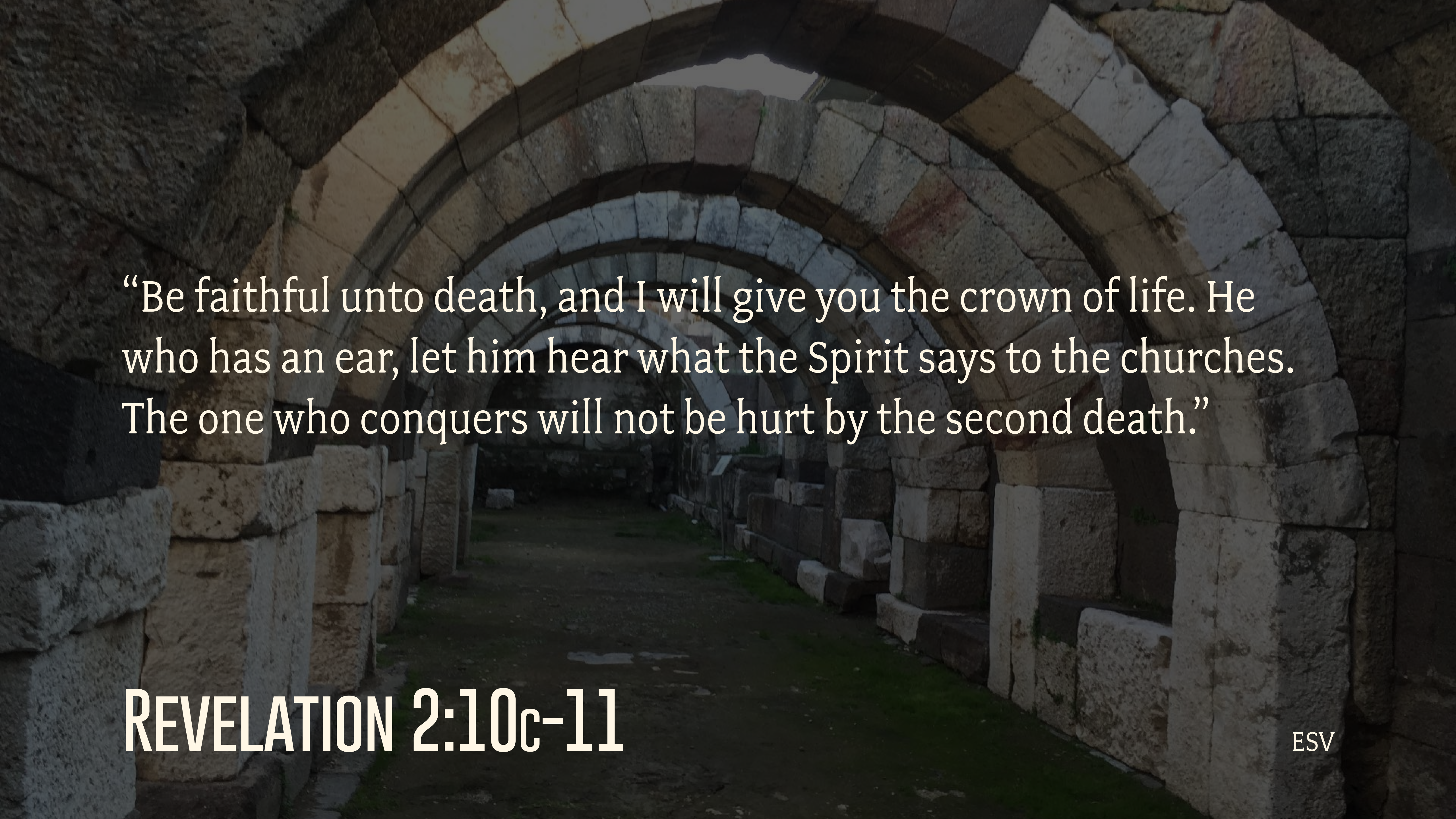
2 THESSALONIANS 3:1-3

ESV

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HEAR & CONQUER

3: FEARLESS TO THE END



“Be faithful unto death, and I will give you the crown of life. He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.”


REVELATION 2:10c-11

ESV




CYBELE

Mother goddess &
guardian of Smyrna

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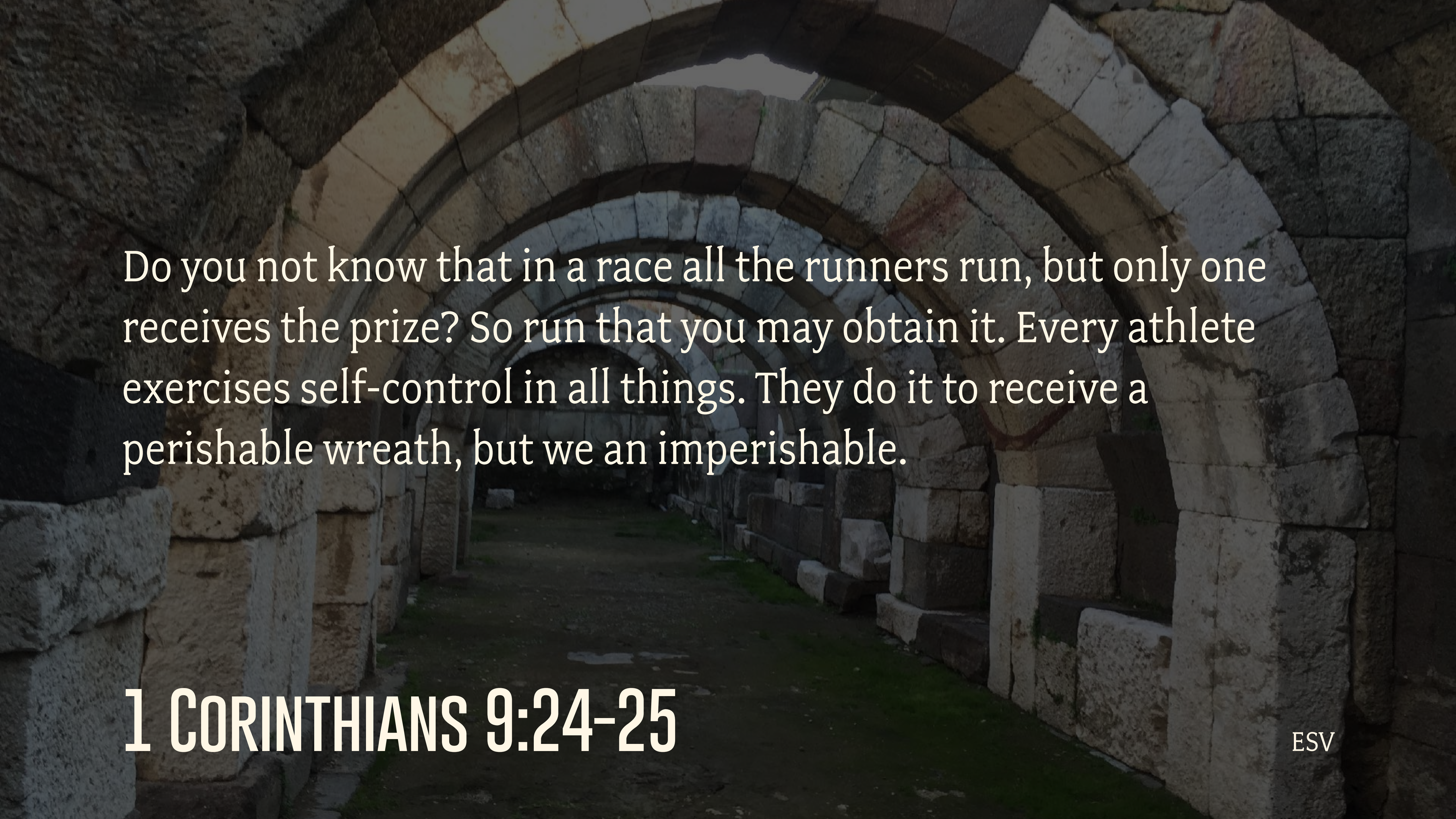
HEAR & CONQUER

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 - Whatever hardship we must endure, Jesus calls us and empowers us to face it fearlessly.
 - When we listen to God's Word and choose to rely on his strength, we can replace fear with faith.
 - All this world can offer any of us at the end of our race is death, but in Christ we receive the crown of life.

HEAR & CONQUER

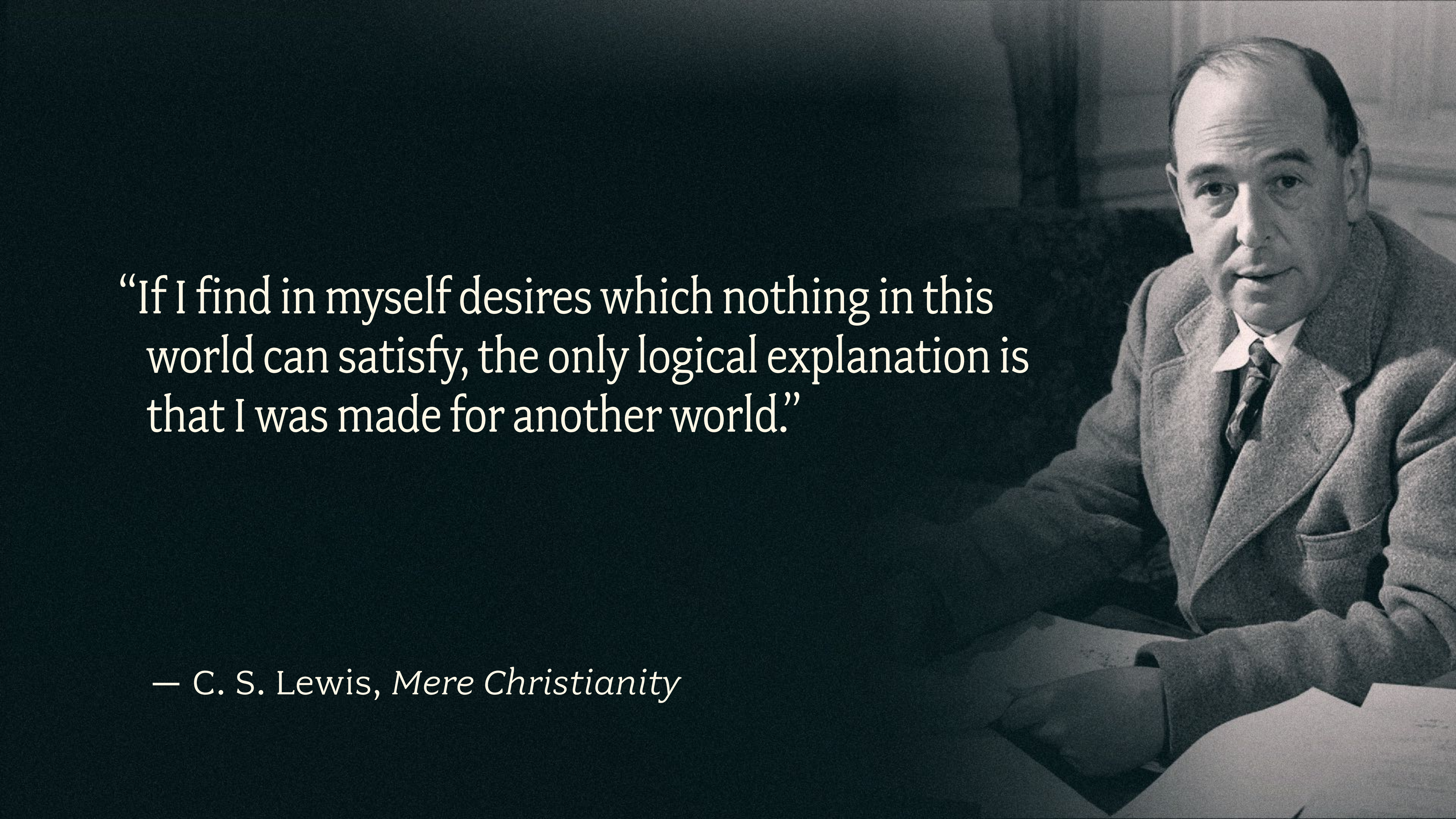
3: FEARLESS TO THE END



Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable.


1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-25

ESV



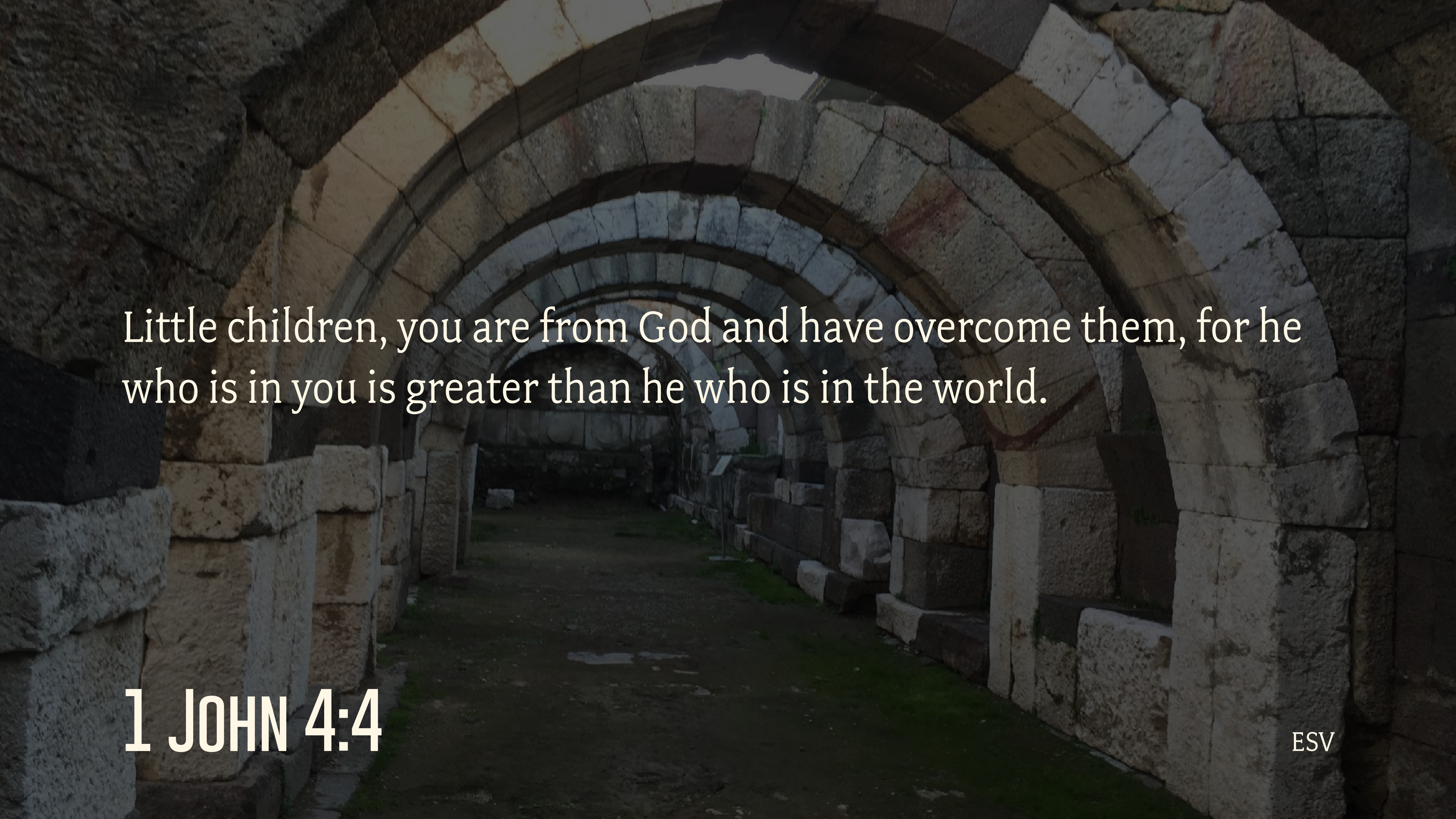
“If I find in myself desires which nothing in this world can satisfy, the only logical explanation is that I was made for another world.”

— C. S. Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

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HEAR & CONQUER

3: FEARLESS TO THE END

A long, dimly lit stone tunnel with a series of arches receding into the distance. The stone is weathered and the lighting is dramatic, with light coming from the far end of the tunnel.

Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world.

1 JOHN 4:4

ESV

The background of the image shows the ruins of an ancient Greek temple, likely the Temple of Apollo at Delphi. Several tall, fluted columns stand prominently, with some showing signs of damage and missing sections. The sky is a clear, deep blue. The overall scene is captured in a cinematic style with a slightly desaturated color palette.

HEAR & CONQUER

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