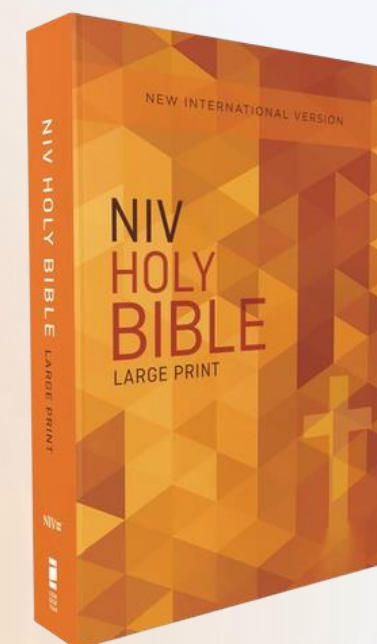




PREPARE THE WAY FOR THE LORD

THE GOSPEL OF LUKE



1:1-25

**PAGE
956**

PASTOR RANDY BRAINARD

21 SEPTEMBER 2025

Books of the Bible

Old Testament

New Testament

Genesis
Exodus
Leviticus
Numbers
Deuteronomy

Law

Joshua
Judges
Ruth
1 Samuel
2 Samuel
1 Kings
2 Kings
1 Chronicles
2 Chronicles
Ezra
Nehemiah
Esther

History

Job
Psalms
Proverbs
Ecclesiastes
Song of Songs
Isaiah
Jeremiah
Lamentations
Ezekiel
Daniel

Poetry

Major Prophets

Hosea
Joel
Amos
Obadiah
Jonah
Micah
Nahum
Habakkuk
Zephaniah
Haggai
Zechariah
Malachi

Minor Prophets

Matthew
Mark
Luke
John
Acts

Gospels

Church History

Romans
1 Corinthians
2 Corinthians
Galatians
Ephesians
Philippians
Colossians

Letters

Philemon
Titus
2 Timothy
1 Timothy
2 Thessalonians
1 Thessalonians

Letters

Revelation
Jude
3 John
2 John
1 John
2 Peter
1 Peter
James
Hebrews

Letters

Prophecy

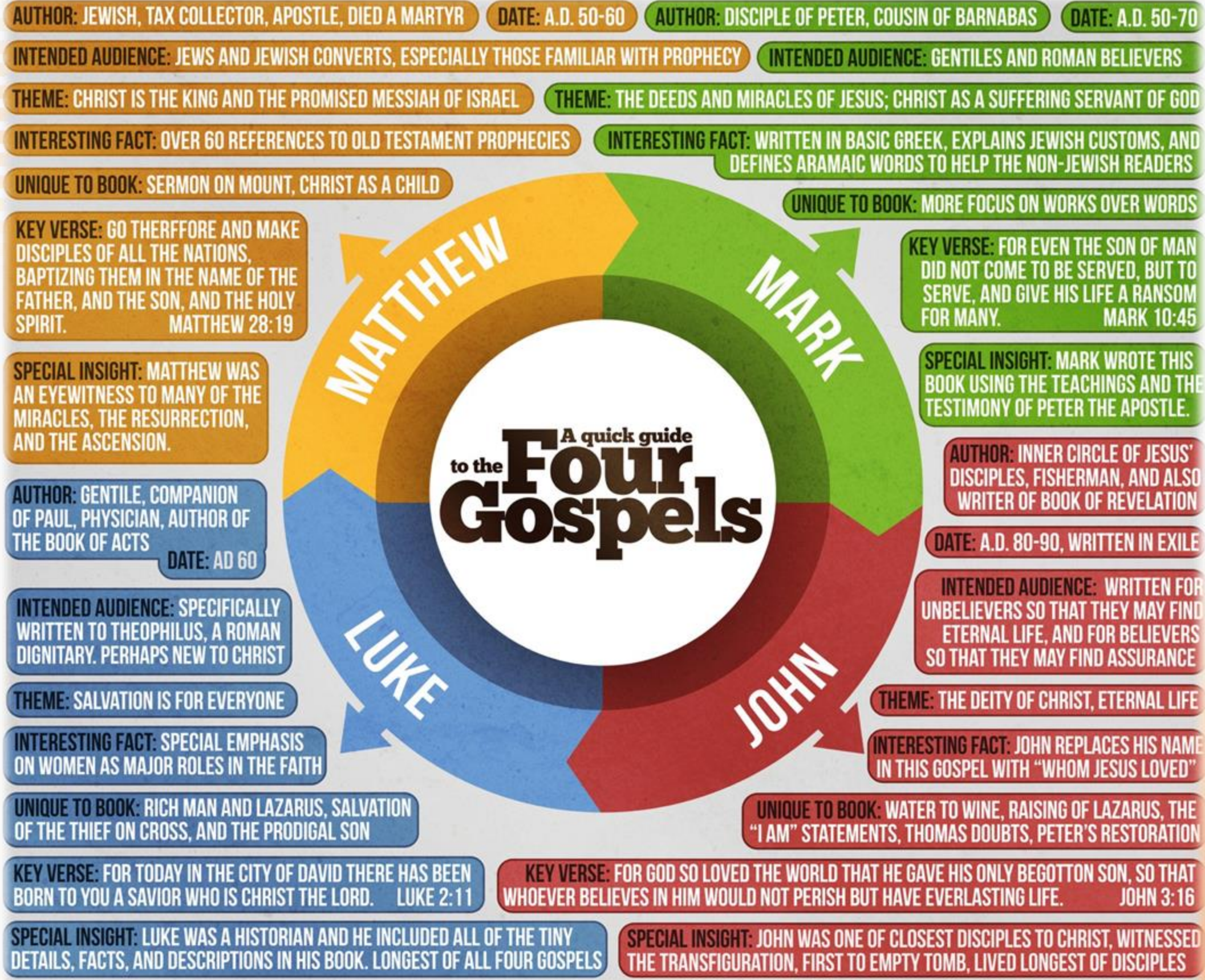
**GREEK
TRANSLATION**

Gospel

εὐαγγέλιον

“good news,”

**GREEK
TRANSLATION**



Theophilus

(the one who loves God)

Theos: God
Philos: Love



ACTS 1:1–3

“In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.”

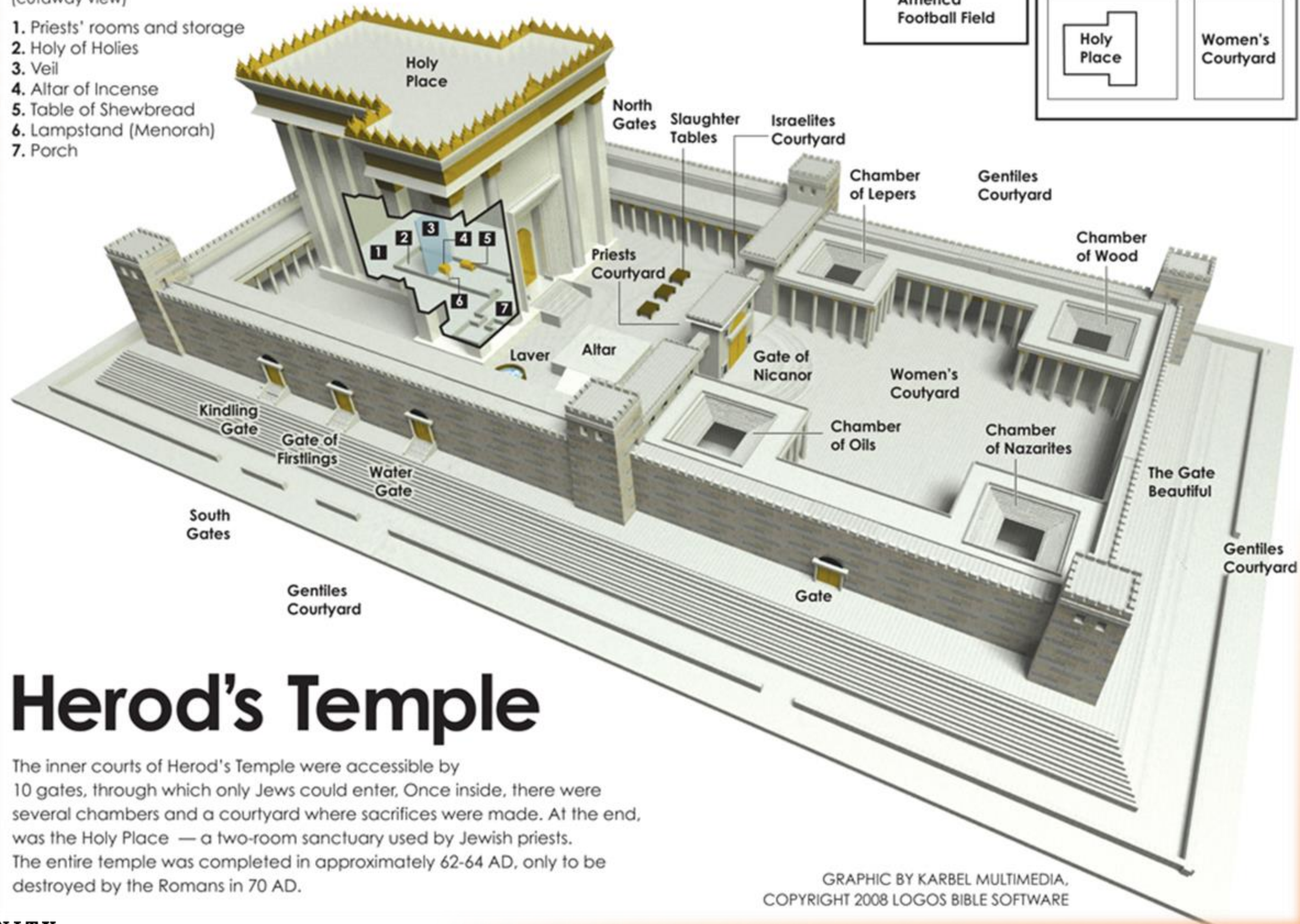


hope COMMUNITY
CHURCH

INSIDE THE HOLY PLACE

(cutaway view)

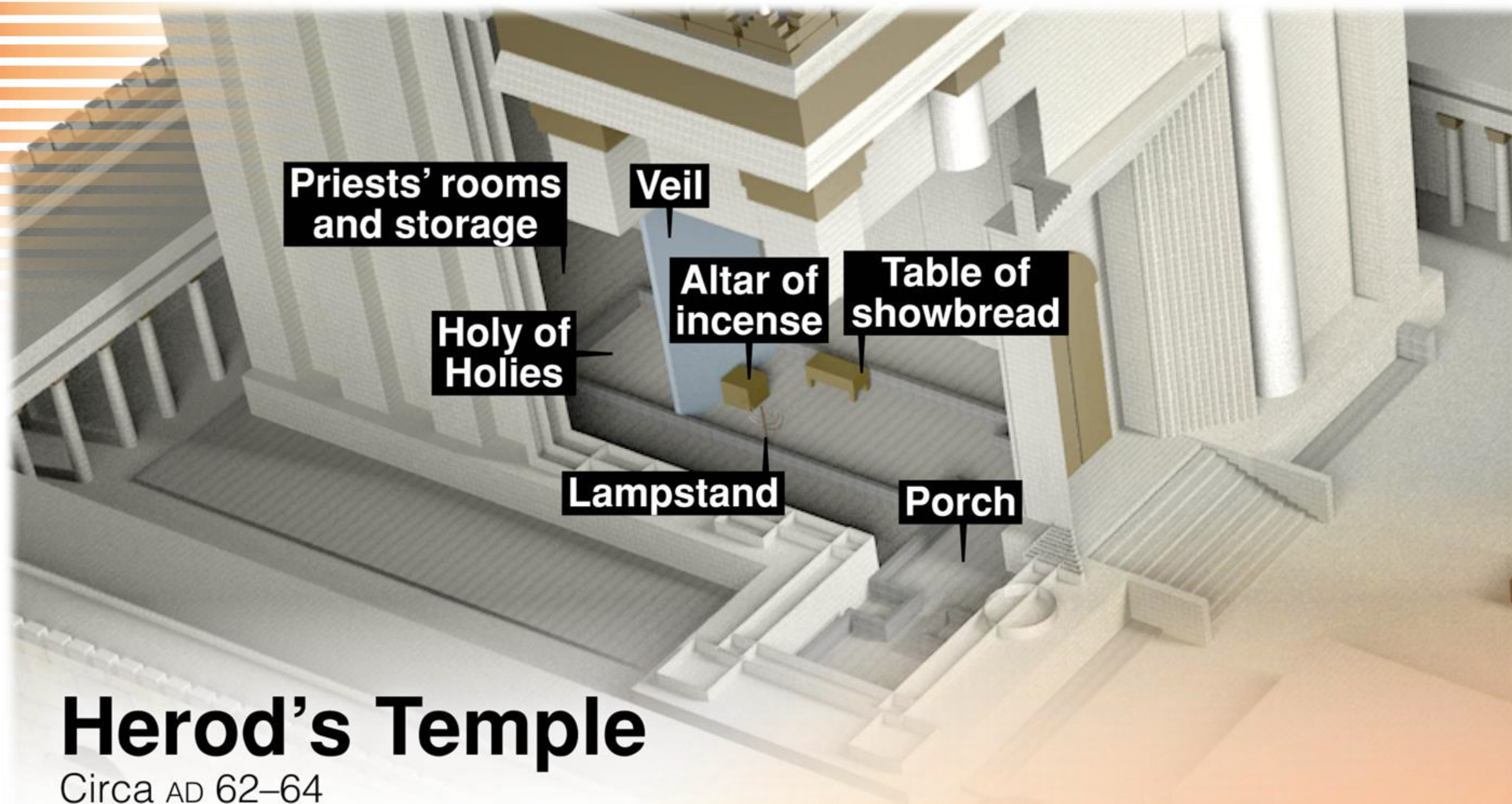
1. Priests' rooms and storage
2. Holy of Holies
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Table of Shewbread
6. Lampstand (Menorah)
7. Porch



Herod's Temple

The inner courts of Herod's Temple were accessible by 10 gates, through which only Jews could enter. Once inside, there were several chambers and a courtyard where sacrifices were made. At the end, was the Holy Place — a two-room sanctuary used by Jewish priests. The entire temple was completed in approximately 62-64 AD, only to be destroyed by the Romans in 70 AD.

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Herod's Temple

Circa AD 62–64

THE ANGEL TELLS ZECHARIAH...

- **His prayers have been answered. He will have a son named John.**
- **This son will be great in the eyes of the Lord.**
- **This son will not have time for wine and will be filled with the Spirit (even before he is born in the womb).**
 - **Ps 139:13-16 & Jeremiah 1:4-5**
- **This son will bring repentance, make people ready, and precede the coming of the Lord.**
- **He will be like Elijah!**



MARK 11:28–33

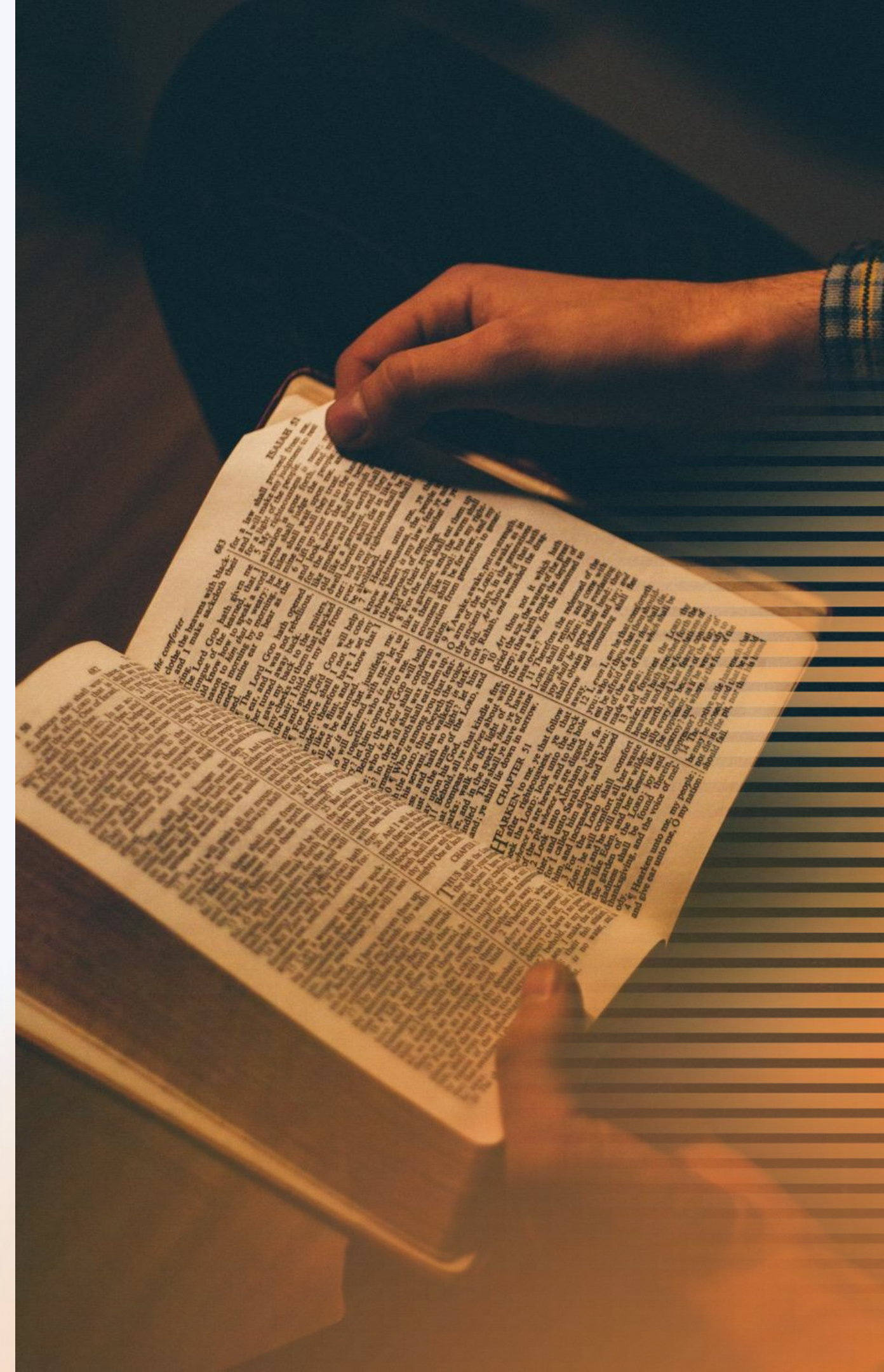
“By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you authority to do this?” Jesus replied, “I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John’s baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin? Tell me!”...

MARK 11:28–33

... They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’ ...” (They feared the people, for everyone held that John really was a prophet.) So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.” Jesus said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.””

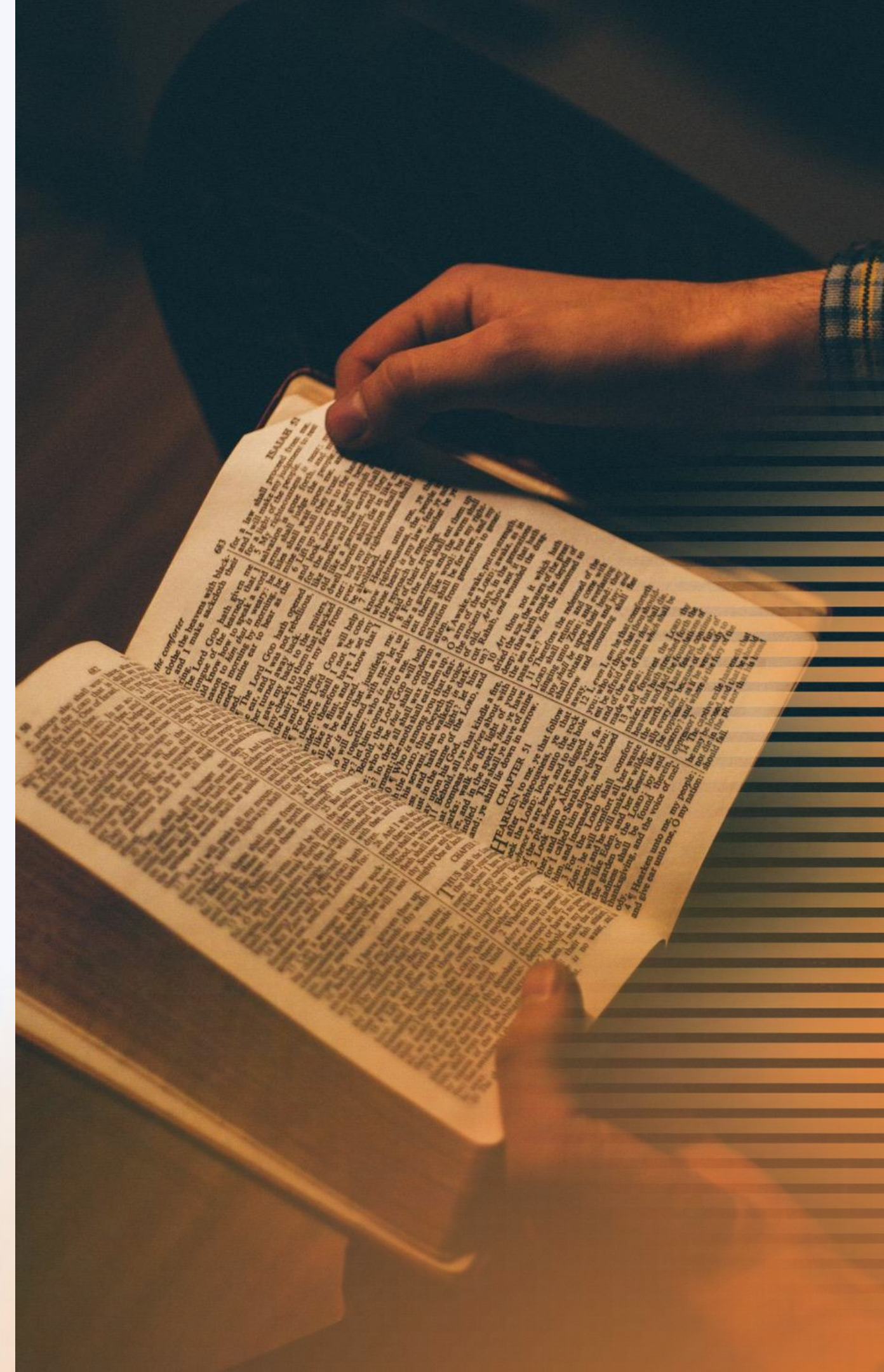
Isaiah 40:3

“A voice of one calling: “In the wilderness prepare the way for the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.”



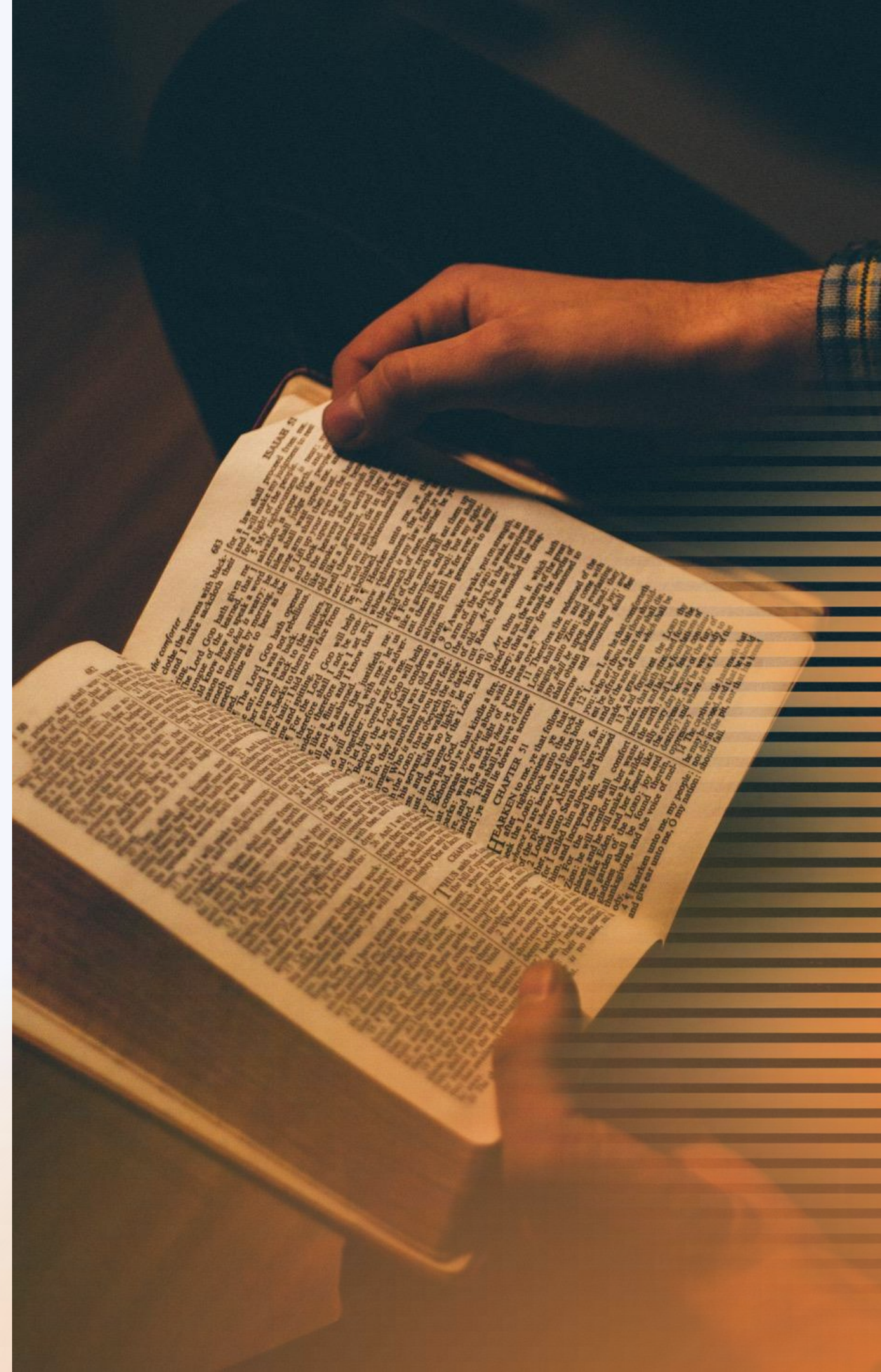
Malachi 3:1

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come...”



Malachi 4:5

“See, I will send the prophet
Elijah to you before that
great and dreadful day of
the LORD comes.”



MATTHEW 11:14-15

“And if you are willing to accept it, he
is the Elijah who was to come.
Whoever has ears, let them hear.”

MATTHEW 17:11-13

“Jesus replied, “To be sure, Elijah comes and will restore all things. But I tell you, Elijah has already come, and they did not recognize him, but have done to him everything they wished. In the same way the Son of Man is going to suffer at their hands.” Then the disciples understood that he was talking to them about John the Baptist.”

CS LEWIS



I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher.

CHURCH
MERELY

CS LEWIS



He would either be a lunatic – on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg – or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse.

MEERE
CHRISTIANITY

CS LEWIS

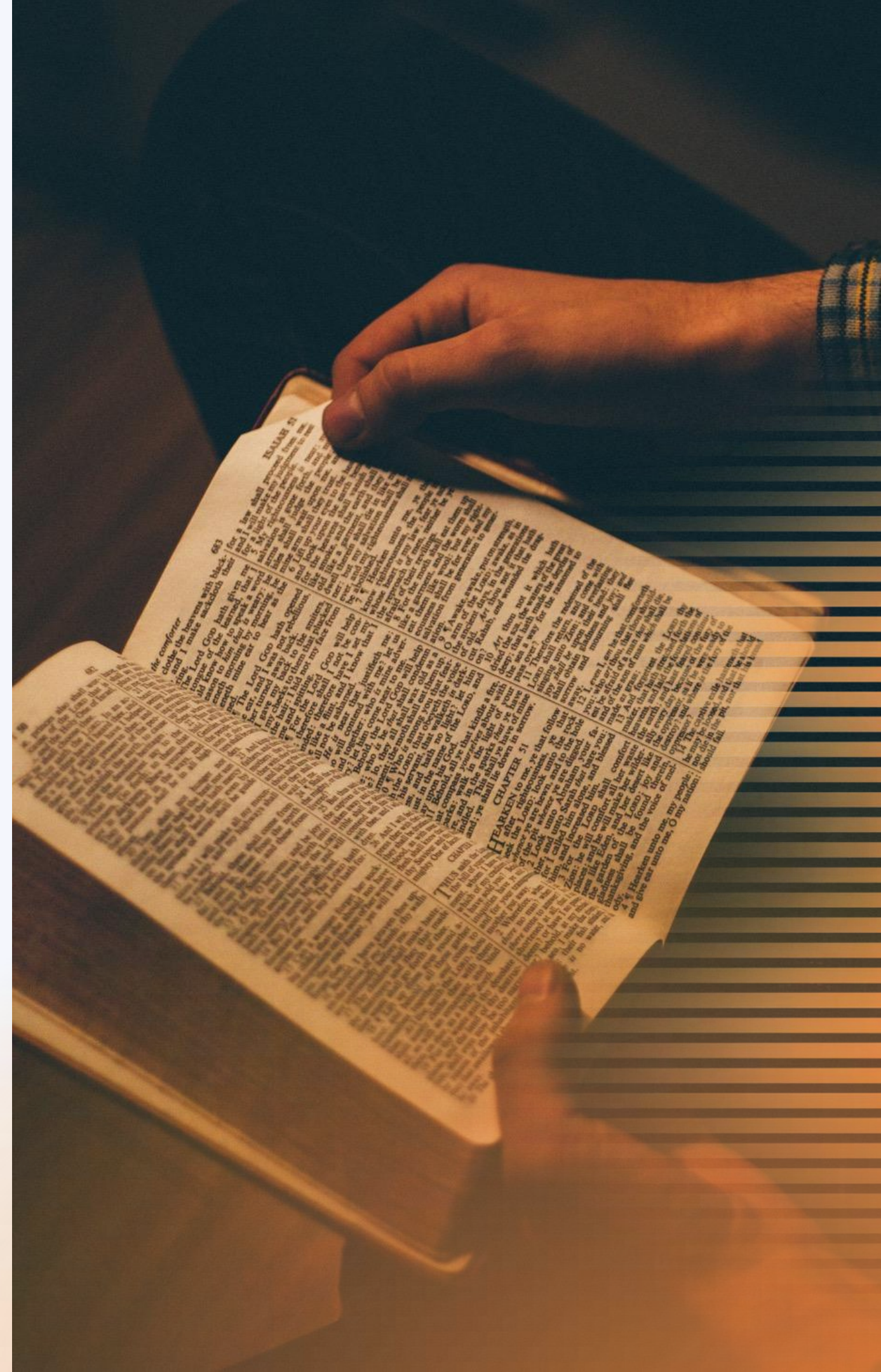


You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to.

CHURCH
CHRISTIANITY

Joshua 24:15

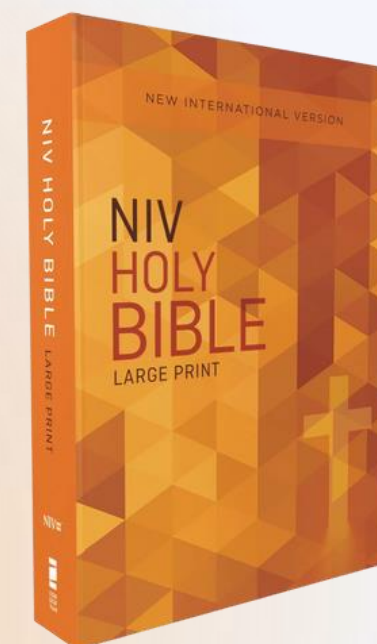
“But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.””





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Homegroup Questions

1) Exploring the author of Luke: What things have you learned about Luke in these passages?

1) Read Colossians 4:11-14

2) 2 Timothy 4:11

3) Philemon 24

4) also notice pronouns Acts 16:10, 20:5...

2) Re-read Luke 1:1-25. What is the importance of the narrative about John the Baptist? Why is this important? Re-read Isaiah 40:3 and Malachi 3:1, 4:5.

3) What does this teach us about God? Is there anything we are called to obey? How is the Lord leading you to apply this? Who is someone you might want to share these things with?