

PART 2 | ACTS 7:54-60 | JULY 5, 2026

—AN OPEN—

Heaven

Principle 1

The Prelude to an Open Heaven



Acts 6:1-3

And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration. 2 Then the twelve called the multitude of the disciples [unto them], and said, It is not reason that we should leave the word of God, and serve tables. 3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

Acts 6:5

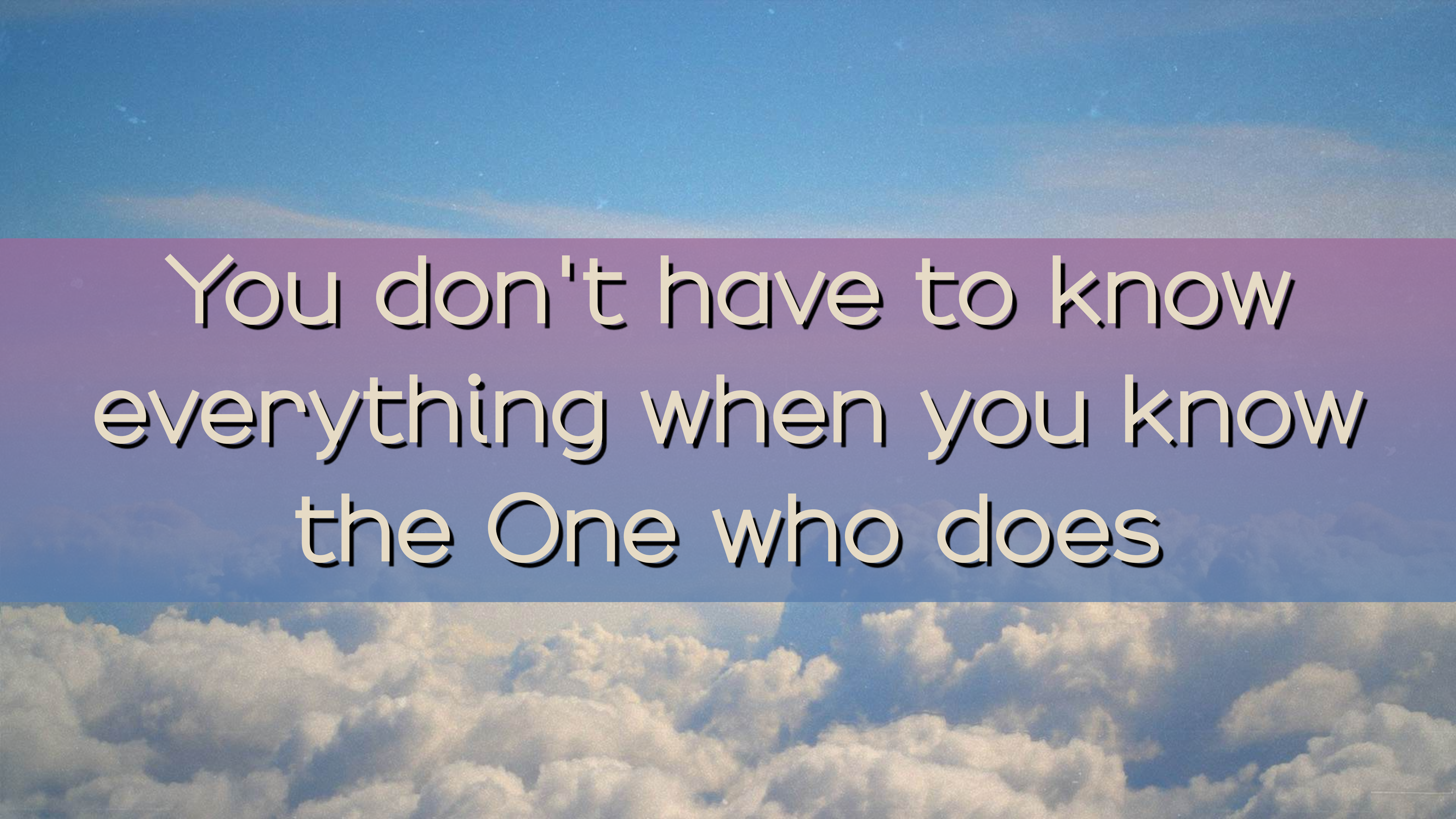
...and they chose
Stephen, a man full
of faith and of the
Holy Ghost

Acts 6:8

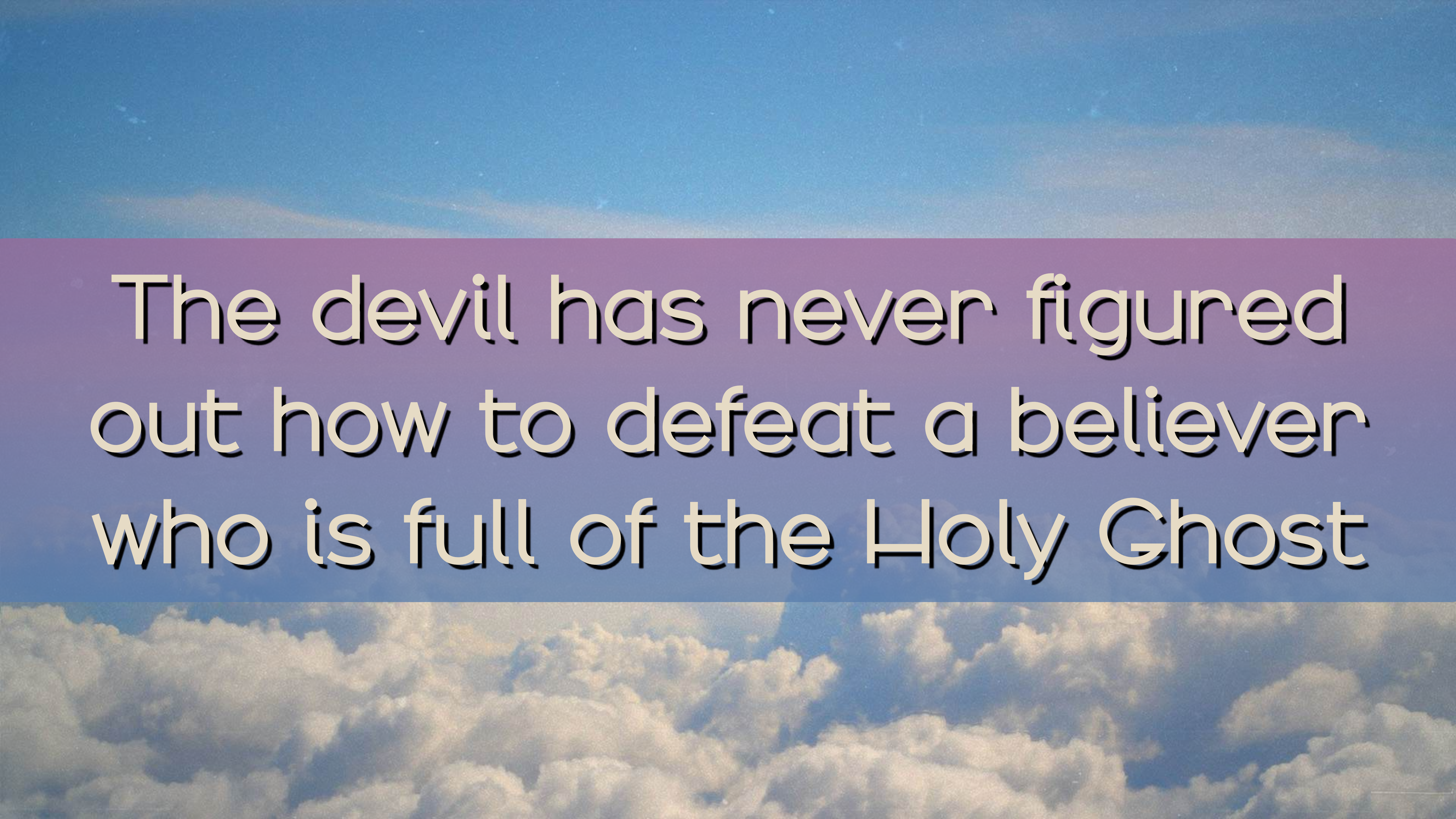
And Stephen, full of faith
and power, did great
wonders and miracles
among the people.

Acts 6:9-10

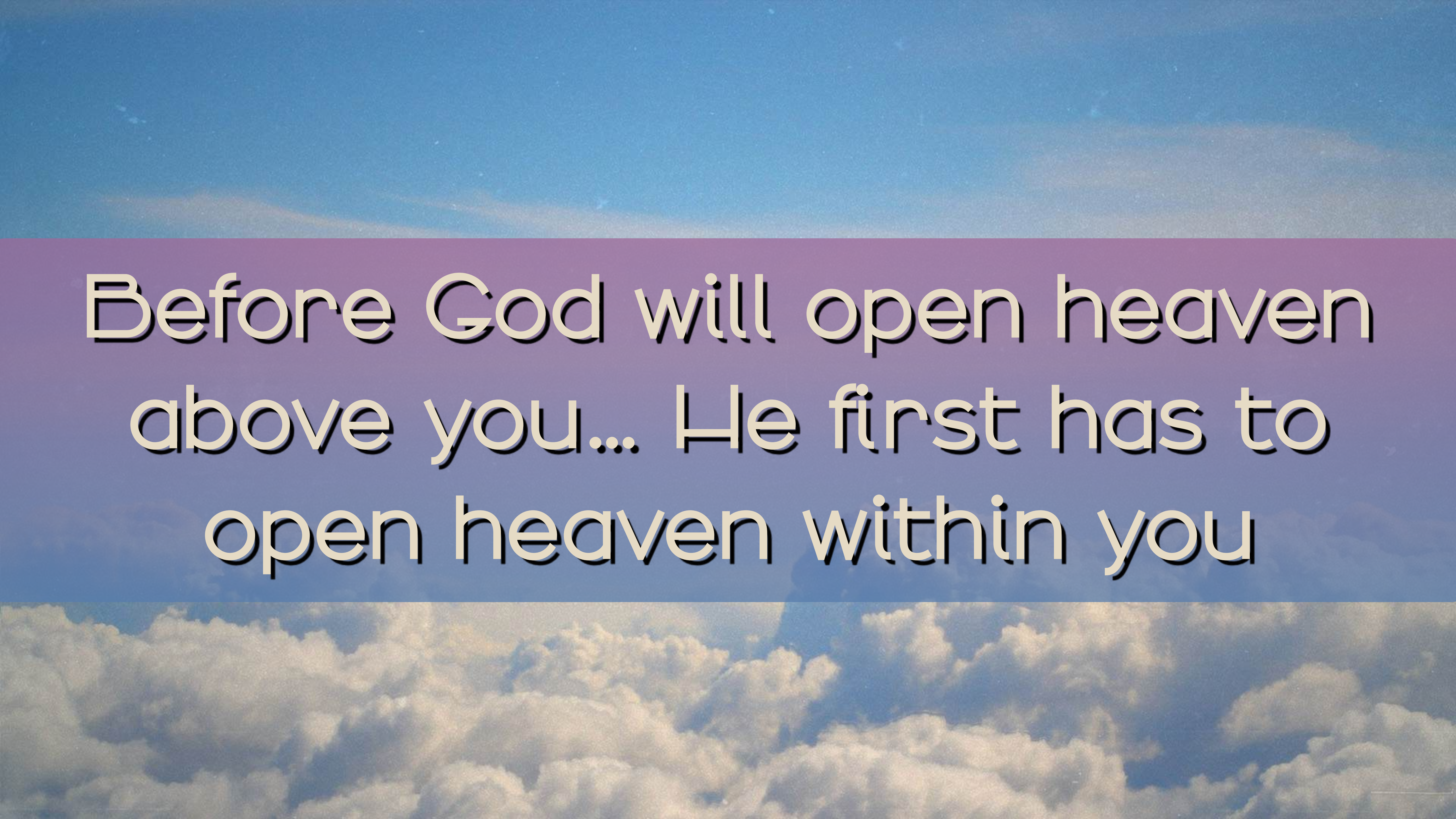
Then there arose certain of the synagogue, which is called [the synagogue] of the Libertines, and Cyrenians, and Alexandrians, and of them of Cilicia and of Asia, disputing with Stephen. 10 And they were not able to resist the wisdom and the spirit by which he spake.



You don't have to know
everything when you know
the One who does



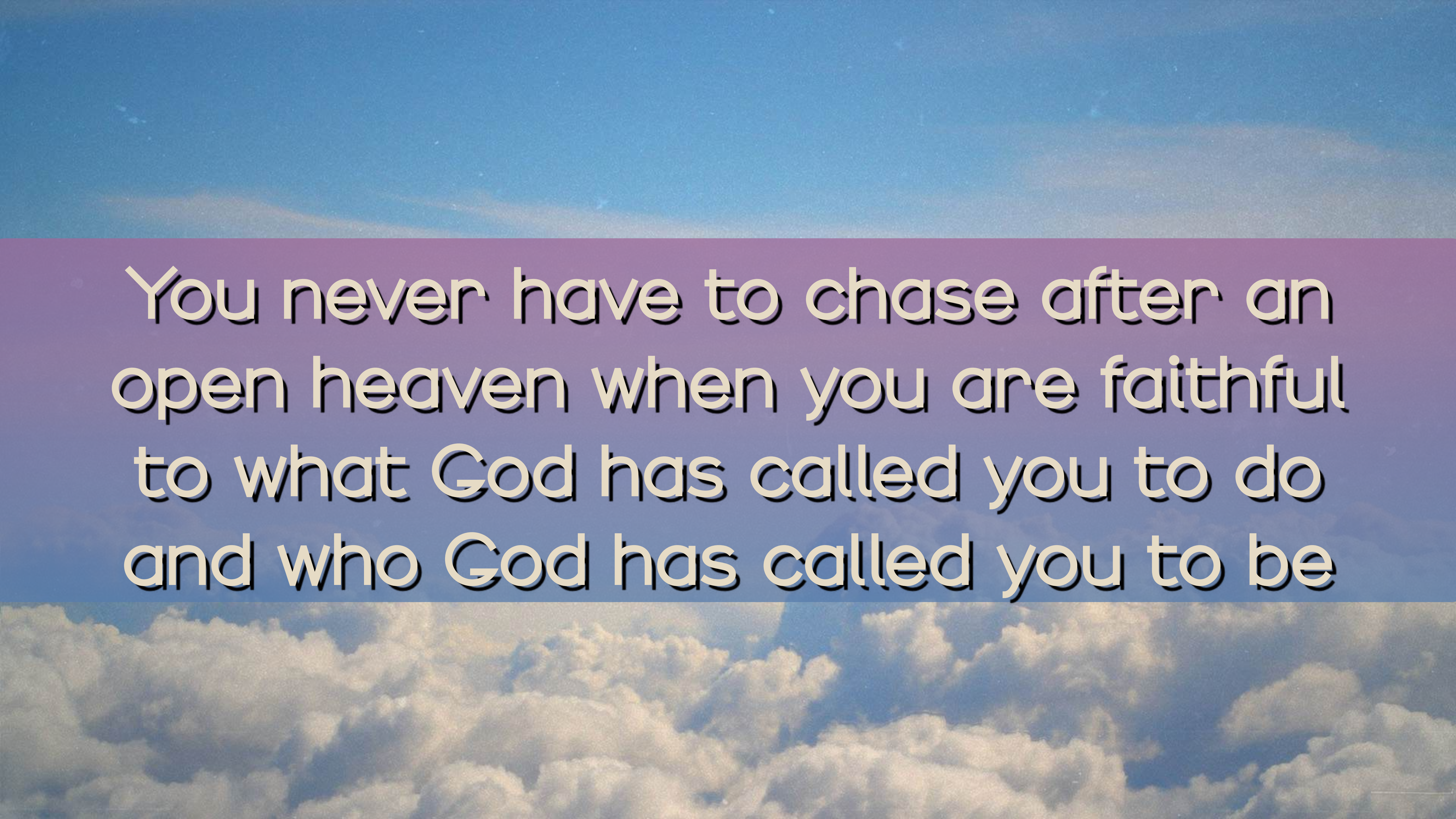
The devil has never figured
out how to defeat a believer
who is full of the Holy Ghost



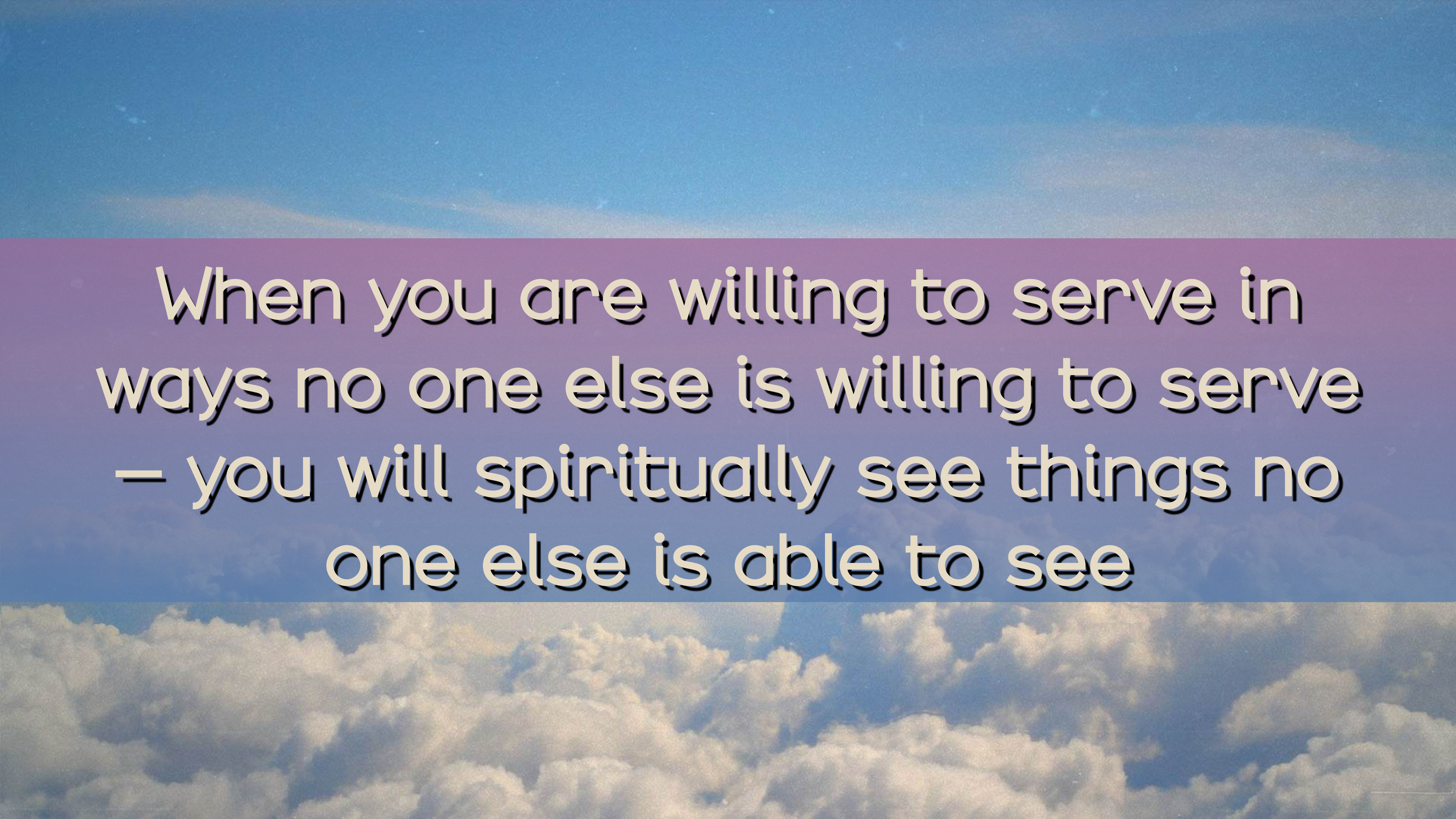
Before God will open heaven
above you... He first has to
open heaven within you

Ephesians 3:20

Now unto him that is able
to do exceeding abundantly
above all that we ask or
think, according to the
power that worketh in us,



You never have to chase after an open heaven when you are faithful to what God has called you to do and who God has called you to be



When you are willing to serve in
ways no one else is willing to serve
– you will spiritually see things no
one else is able to see

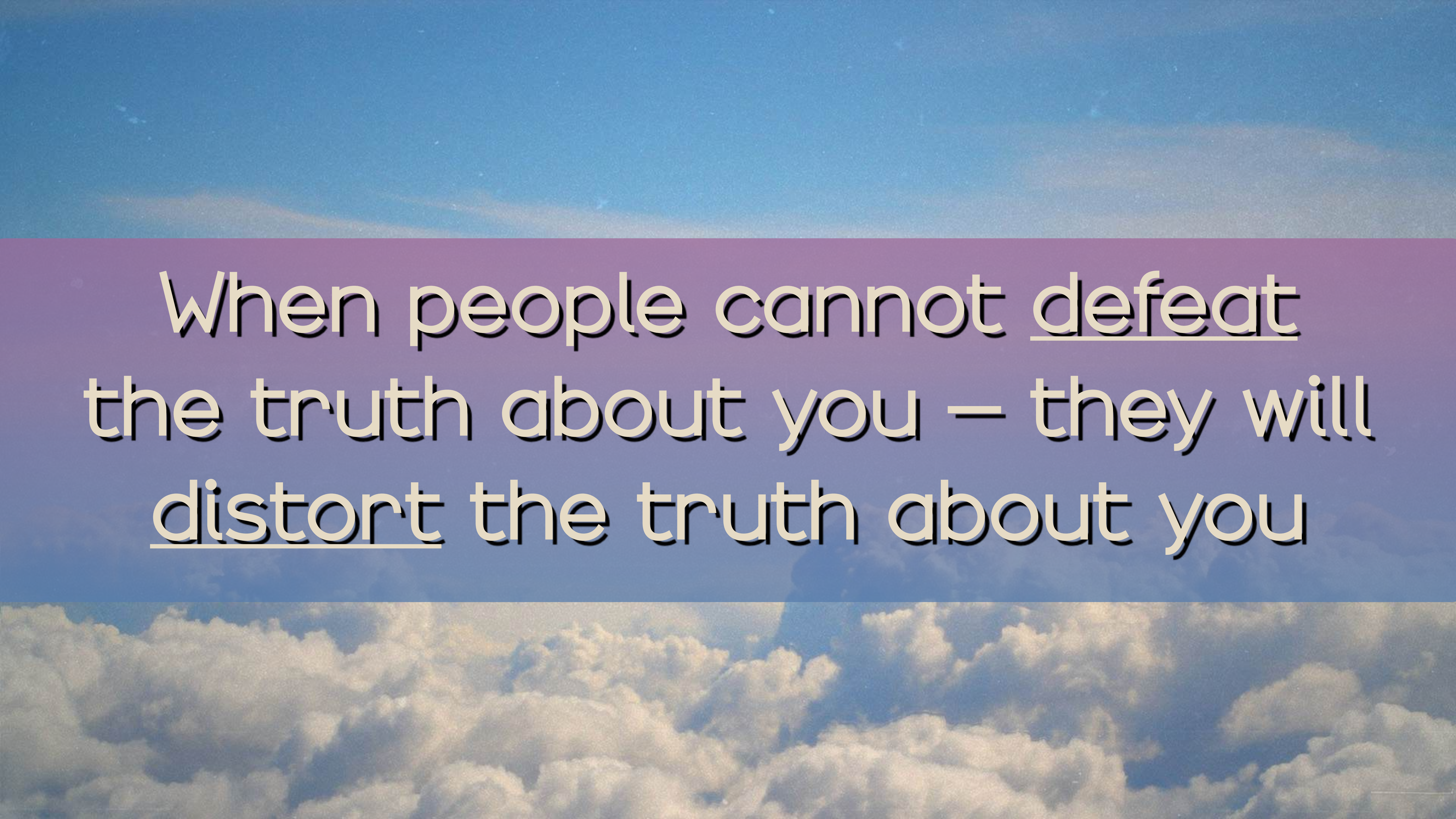
Acts 6:12-14

And they stirred up the people, and the elders, and the scribes, and came upon [him], and caught him, and brought [him] to the council, 13 And set up false witnesses, which said, This man ceaseth not to speak blasphemous words against this holy place, and the law: 14 For we have heard him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth shall destroy this place, and shall change the customs which Moses delivered us. Be/tephen's ministry attracted opposition.

Principle 2

The Pushback to an Open Heaven

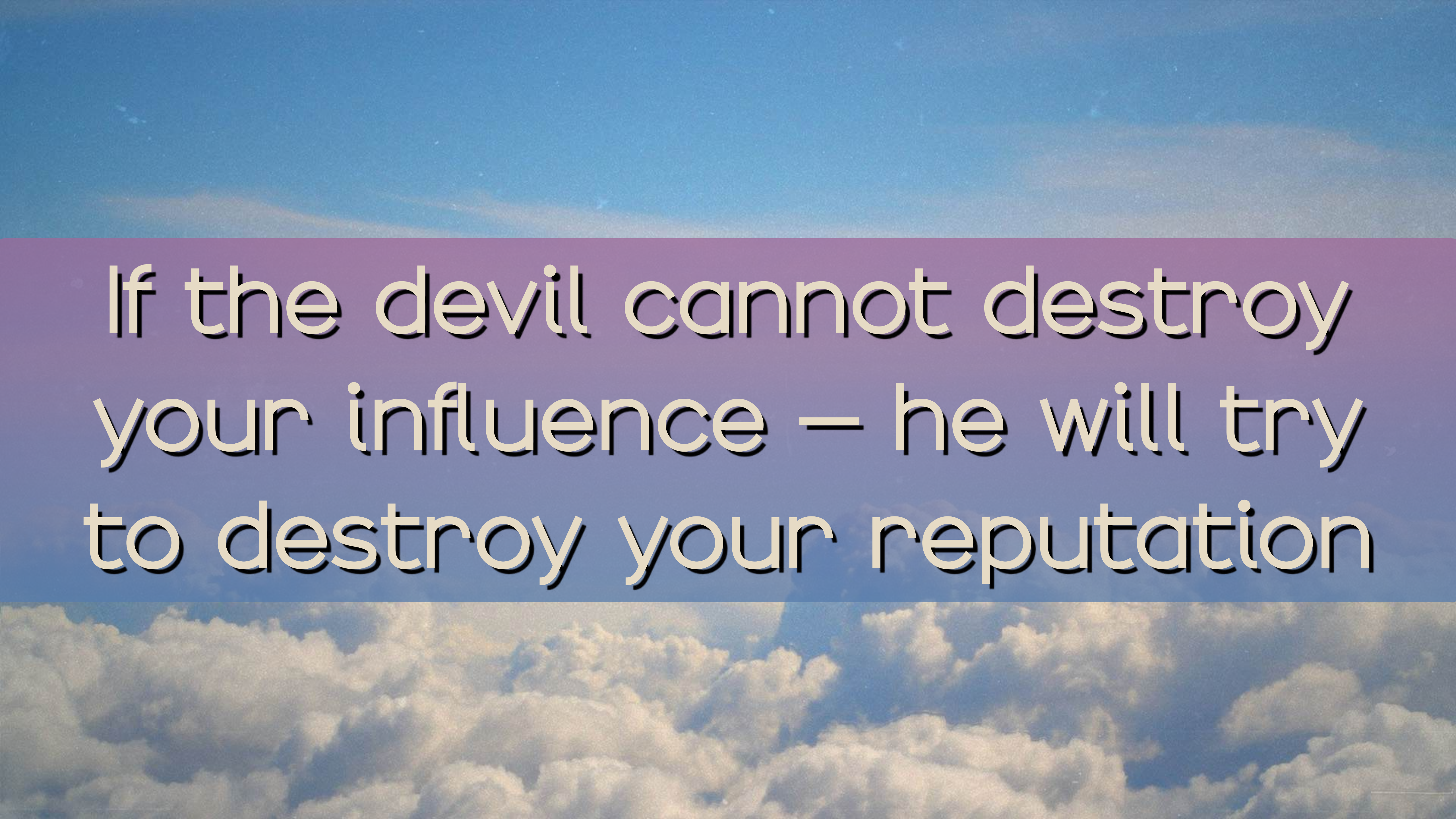




When people cannot defeat
the truth about you – they will
distort the truth about you

Acts 6:13

And set up false witnesses,
which said, This man
ceaseth not to speak
blasphemous words against
this holy place, and the law:



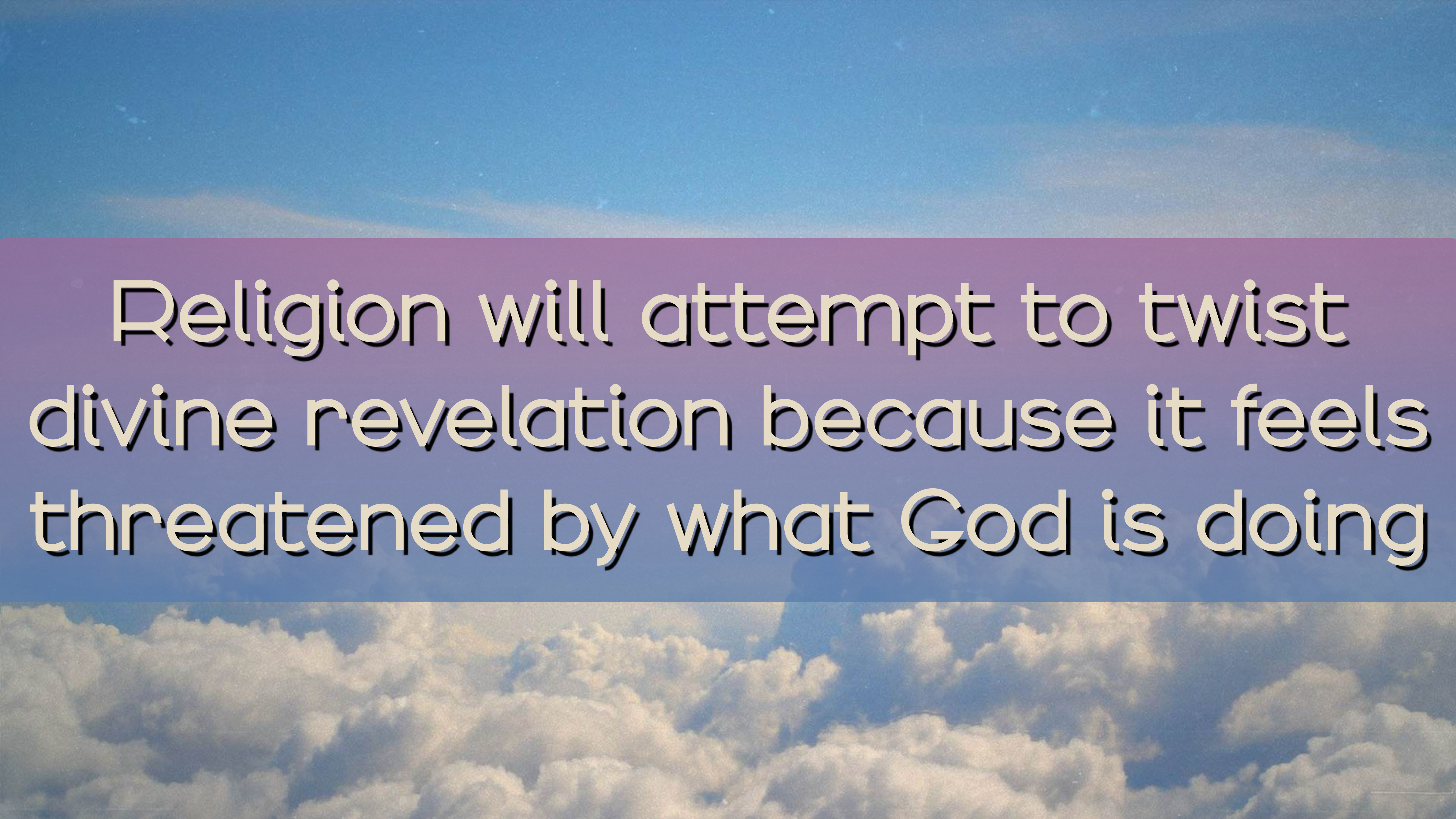
If the devil cannot destroy
your influence – he will try
to destroy your reputation

John 8:7

so when they continued asking him, he lifted up himself, and said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her

Acts 6:13-14

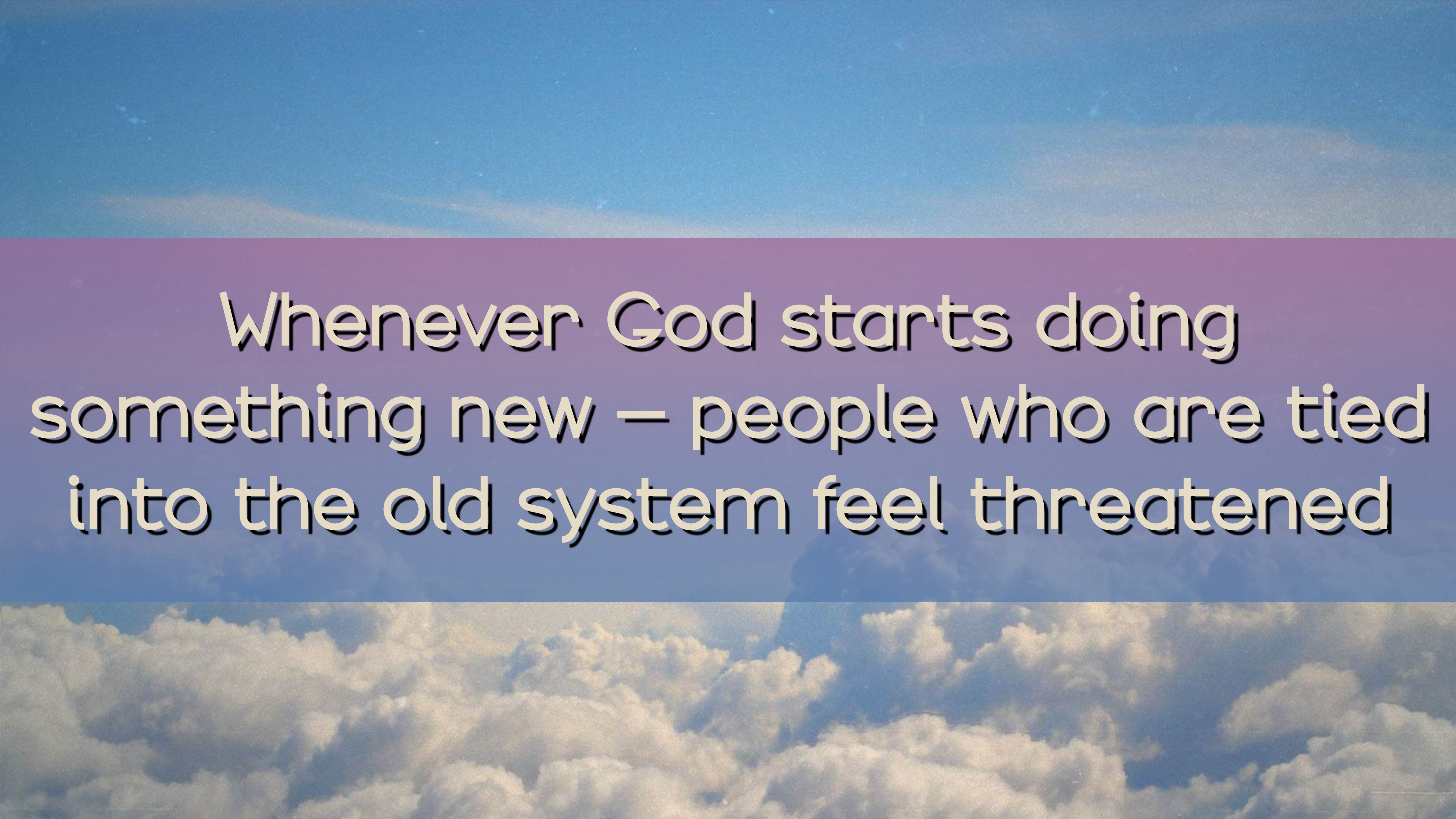
And set up false witnesses, which said,
This man ceaseth not to speak
blasphemous words against this holy
place, and the law: 14 For we have heard
him say, that this Jesus of Nazareth
shall destroy this place, and shall change
the customs which Moses delivered us.



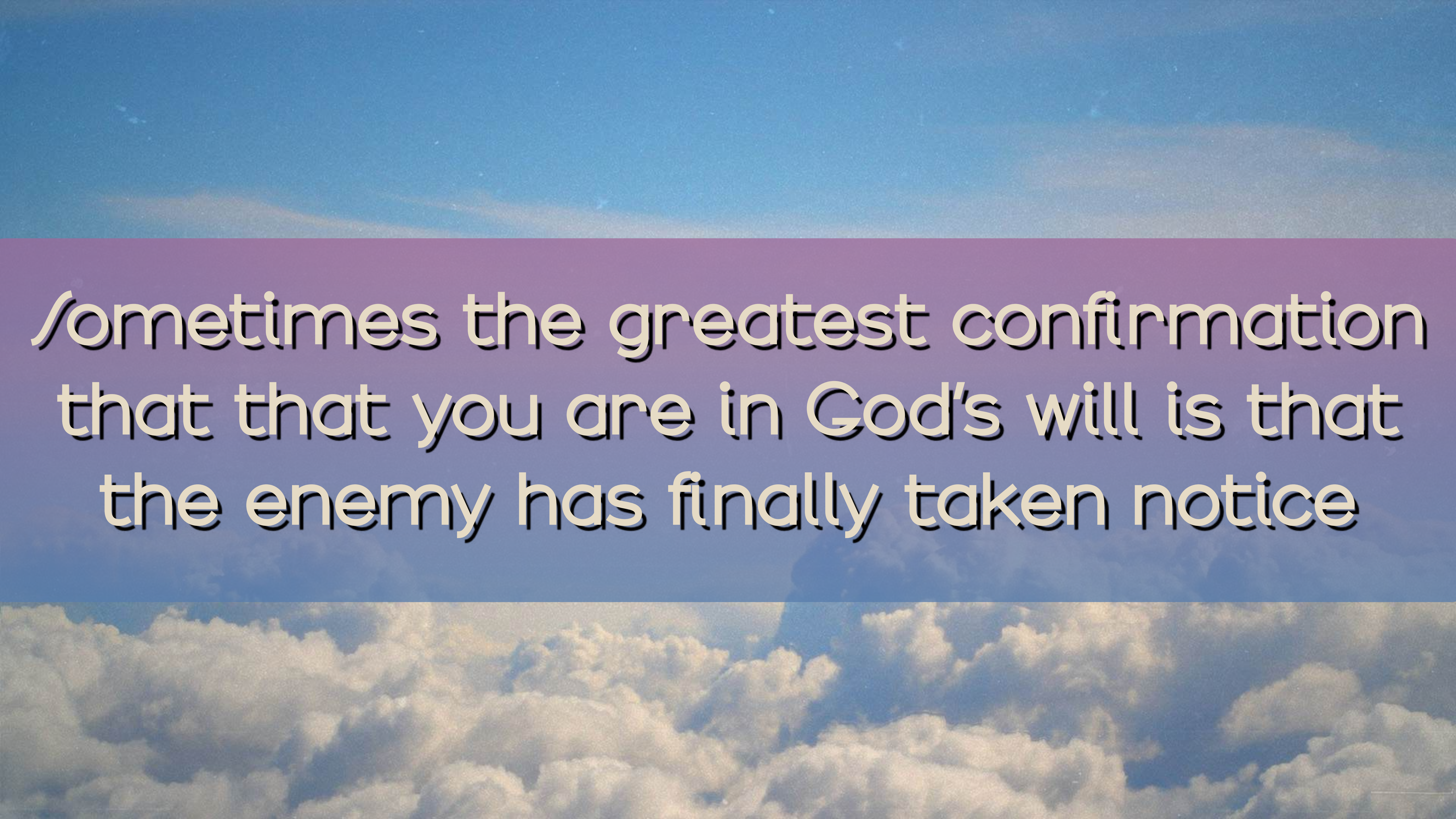
Religion will attempt to twist
divine revelation because it feels
threatened by what God is doing

Acts 6:7-8

And the word of God increased; and the number of the disciples multiplied in Jerusalem greatly; and a great company of the priests were obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people



Whenever God starts doing
something new – people who are tied
into the old system feel threatened



Sometimes the greatest confirmation
that that you are in God's will is that
the enemy has finally taken notice

Acts 6:15

And all that sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel.

Acts 7:54-56

When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with [their] teeth. 55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God, 56 And said, Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of man standing on the right hand of God.

Principle 3

The Product of an Open Heaven



Acts 7:54

When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with [their] teeth.



Religion without God
always become violent

Acts 7:55

But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up steadfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

2 Corinthians 4:18

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen [are] temporal; but the things which are not seen [are] eternal.

Acts 7:56

And said, Behold, I see
the heavens opened, and
the son of man standing
on the right hand of God.

Hebrews 1:3

Who being the brightness of [his] glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Colossians 3:1

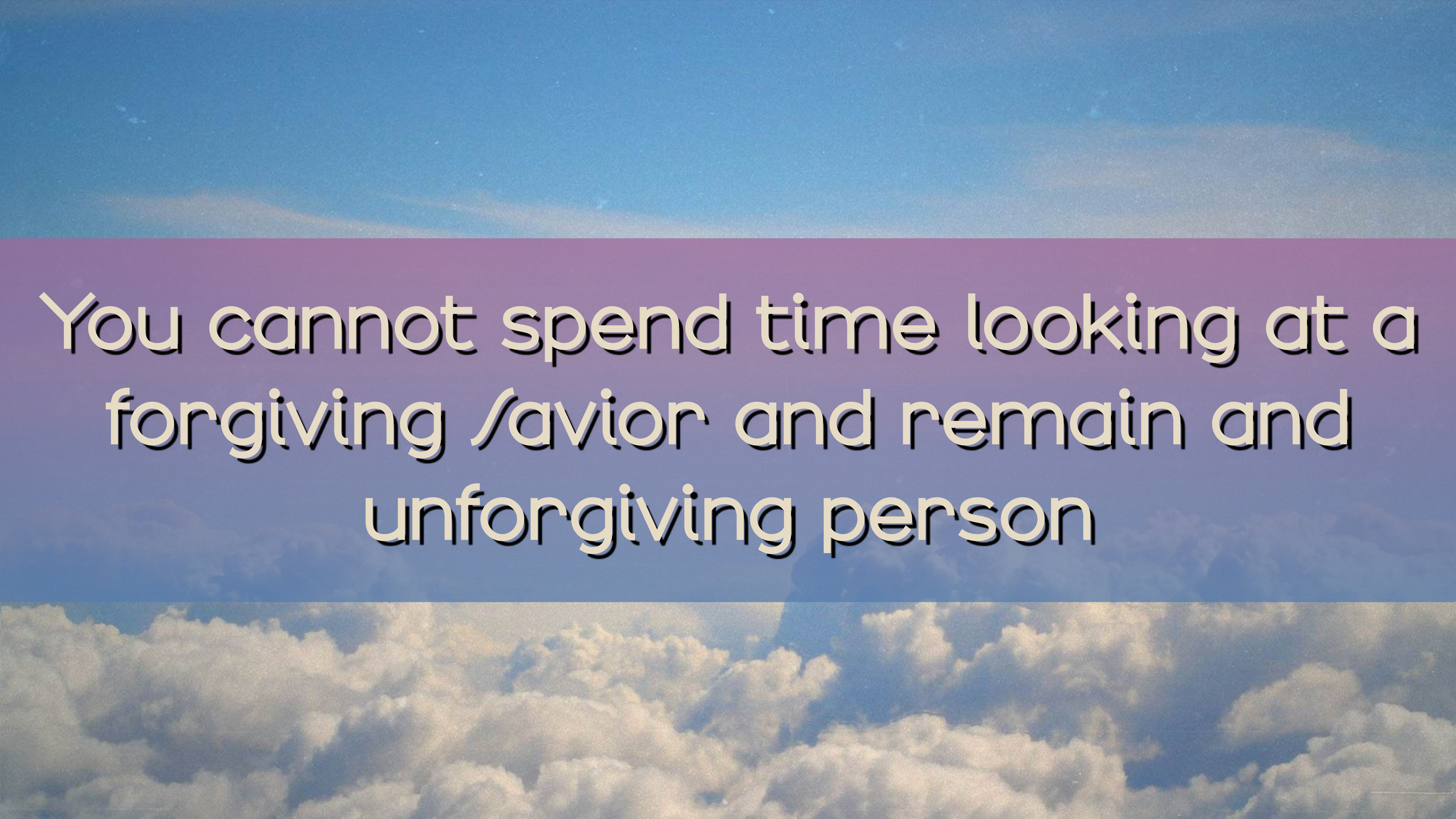
If ye then be risen with
Christ, seek those things
which are above, where
Christ sitteth on the right
hand of God.

Matthew 25:40

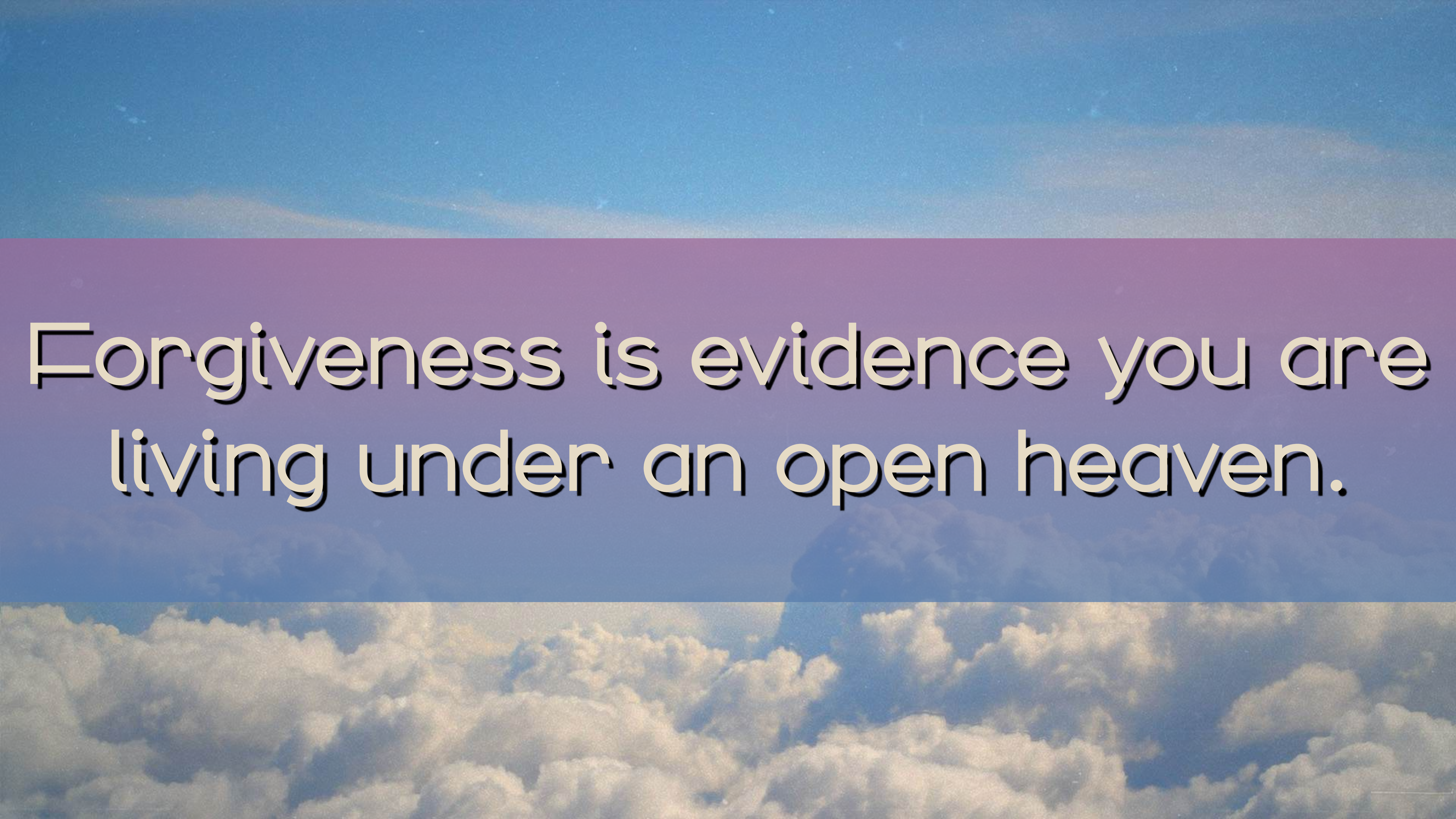
Verily I say unto you,
Inasmuch as ye have done
[it] unto one of the least of
these my brethren, ye have
done [it] unto me.

Acts 7:60

And he kneeled down, and
cried with a loud voice,
Lord, lay not this sin to
their charge. And when he
had said this, he fell asleep.



You cannot spend time looking at a
forgiving savior and remain and
unforgiving person



Forgiveness is evidence you are
living under an open heaven.

PART 2 | ACTS 7:54-60 | JULY 5, 2026

—AN OPEN—

Heaven