



REVELATION

WHAT WAS, WHAT IS, AND WHAT IS TO COME.





The Two-edged Sword Pergamum - Satan

Rev 2:12-17

“Alpha — Omega”

“Things...seen”

“Beginning — End”

PAST

PRESENT

FUTURE

Son of Man in Heaven

The 7 Churches

The Cosmic Crisis

(After removal of true church and before the coming of Christ to creation)

“I am he that liveth”

“I was dead”

“the things which thou hast seen”

“Behold, I am alive”
“the things which are”

“I have the keys of hell and of death”
“the things about to be after these things [*meta tauta*]”

Revelation 1
Christ in Glory



Revelation 2, 3
Church in the World

Revelation 4 — 22
Crisis in the Future



Ephesus

Smyrna

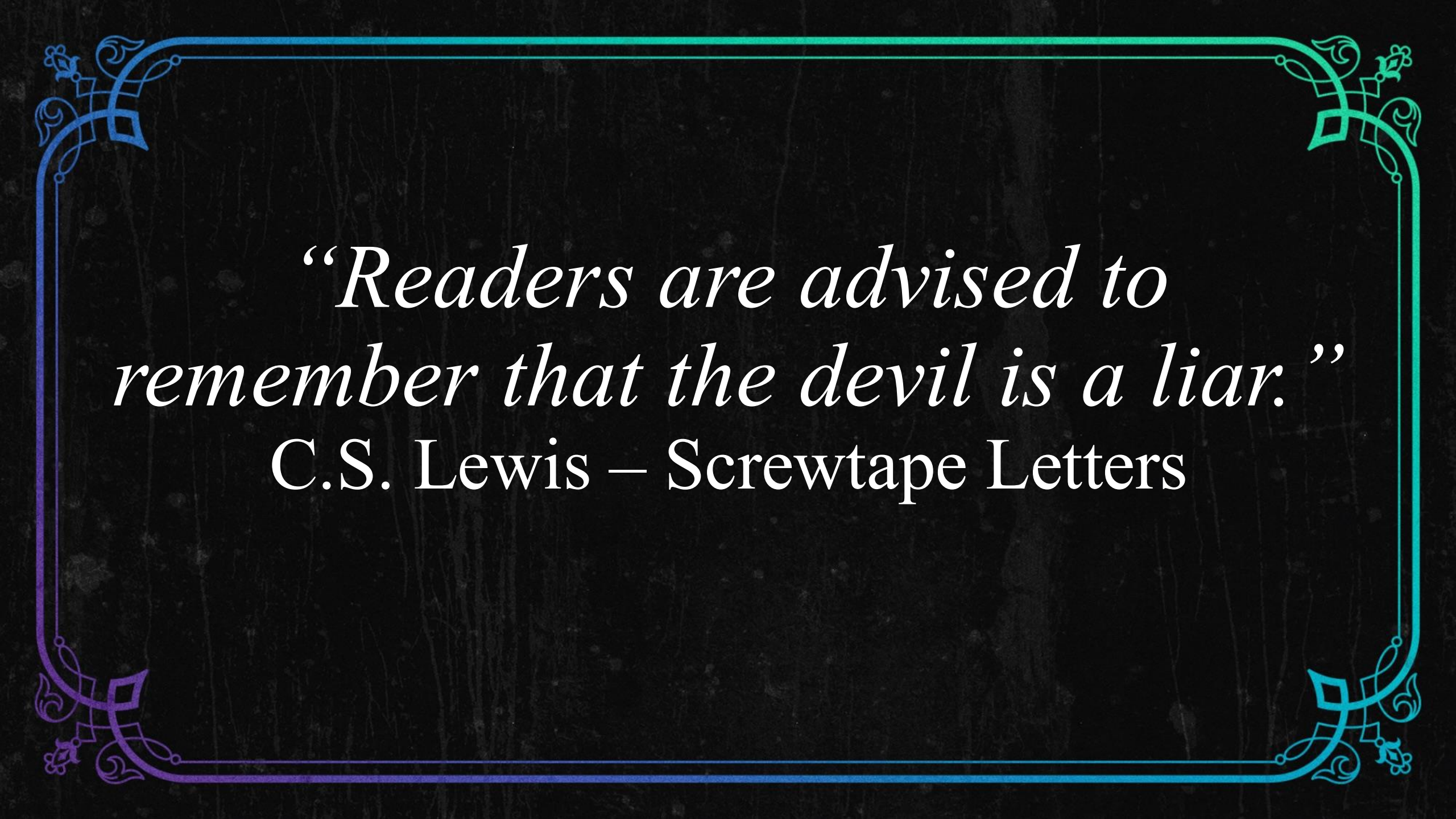
Pergamum

Thyatira

Sardis

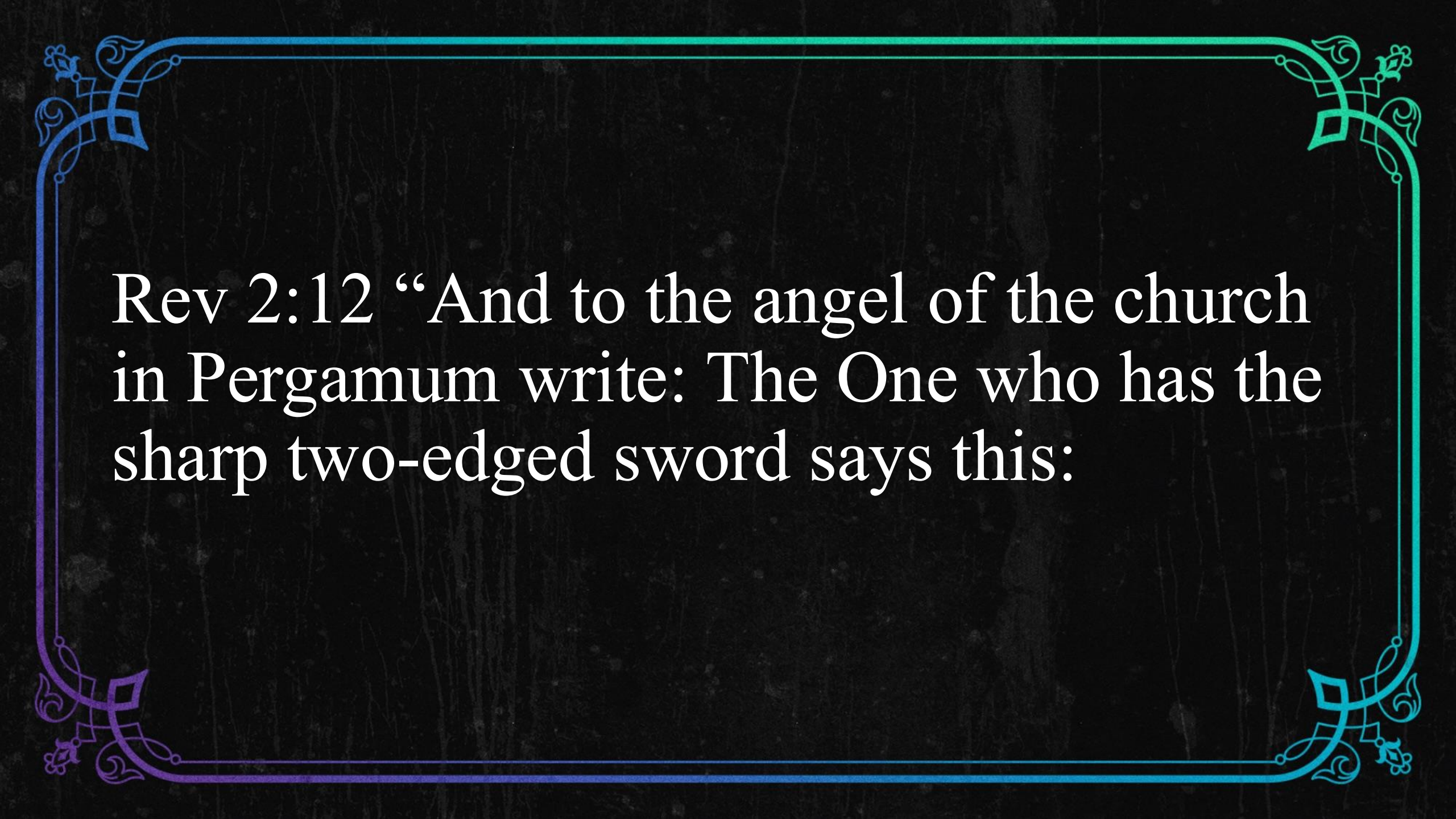
Philadelphia

Laodicea



*“Readers are advised to
remember that the devil is a liar.”*

C.S. Lewis – Screwtape Letters



Rev 2:12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:

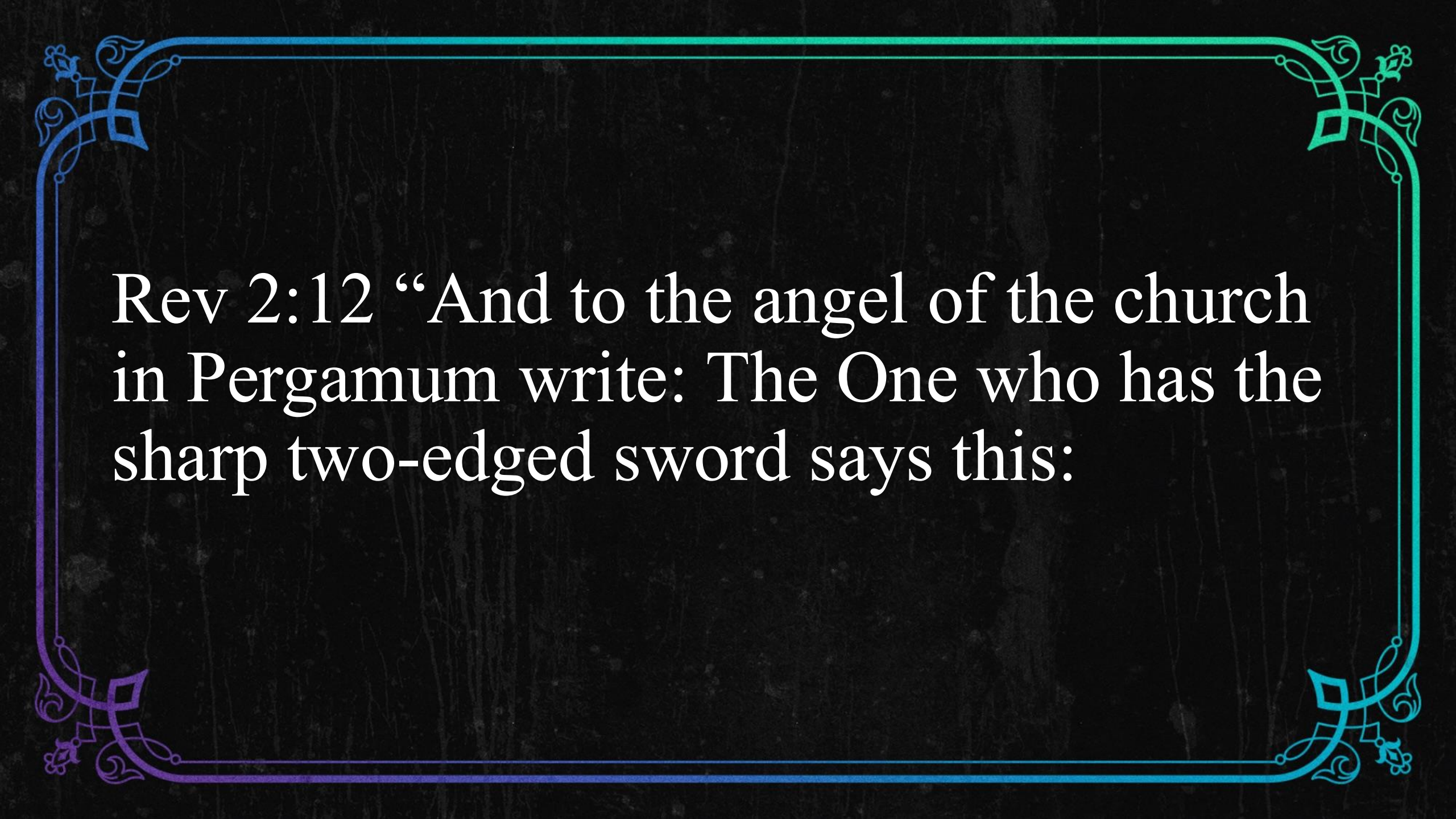
Church – City – 12

- Pergamum – ‘citadel’
 - Capital of Asia Minor
 - First City to build a Temple to living Caesar
 - Grandest Library in Roman Empire – Alexandria
 - Zeus – Dionysos – Asclepius (soter)

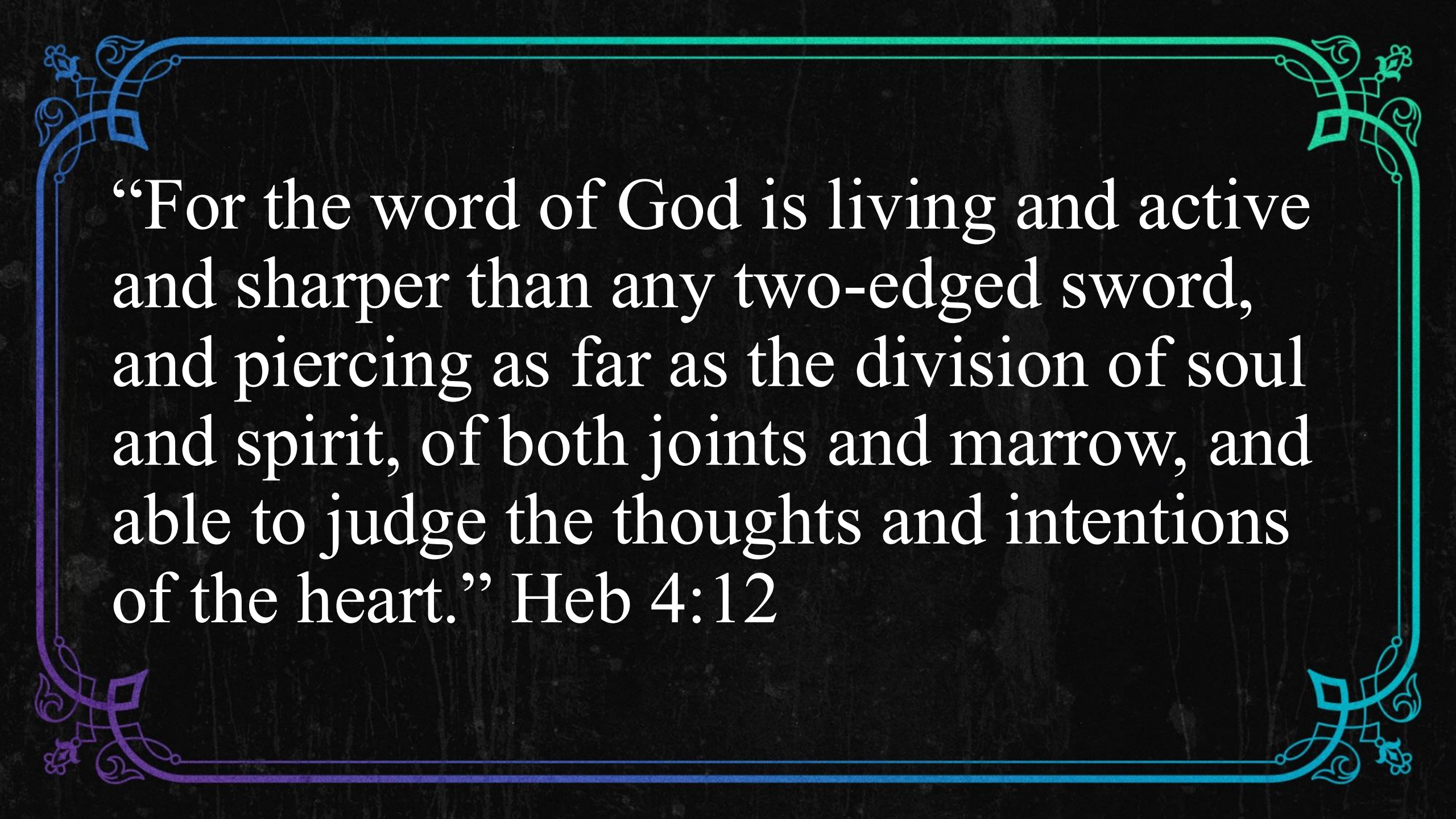


*“Tortured fear and stupid confidence
are both desirable states of mind.”*

C.S. Lewis – Screwtape Letters



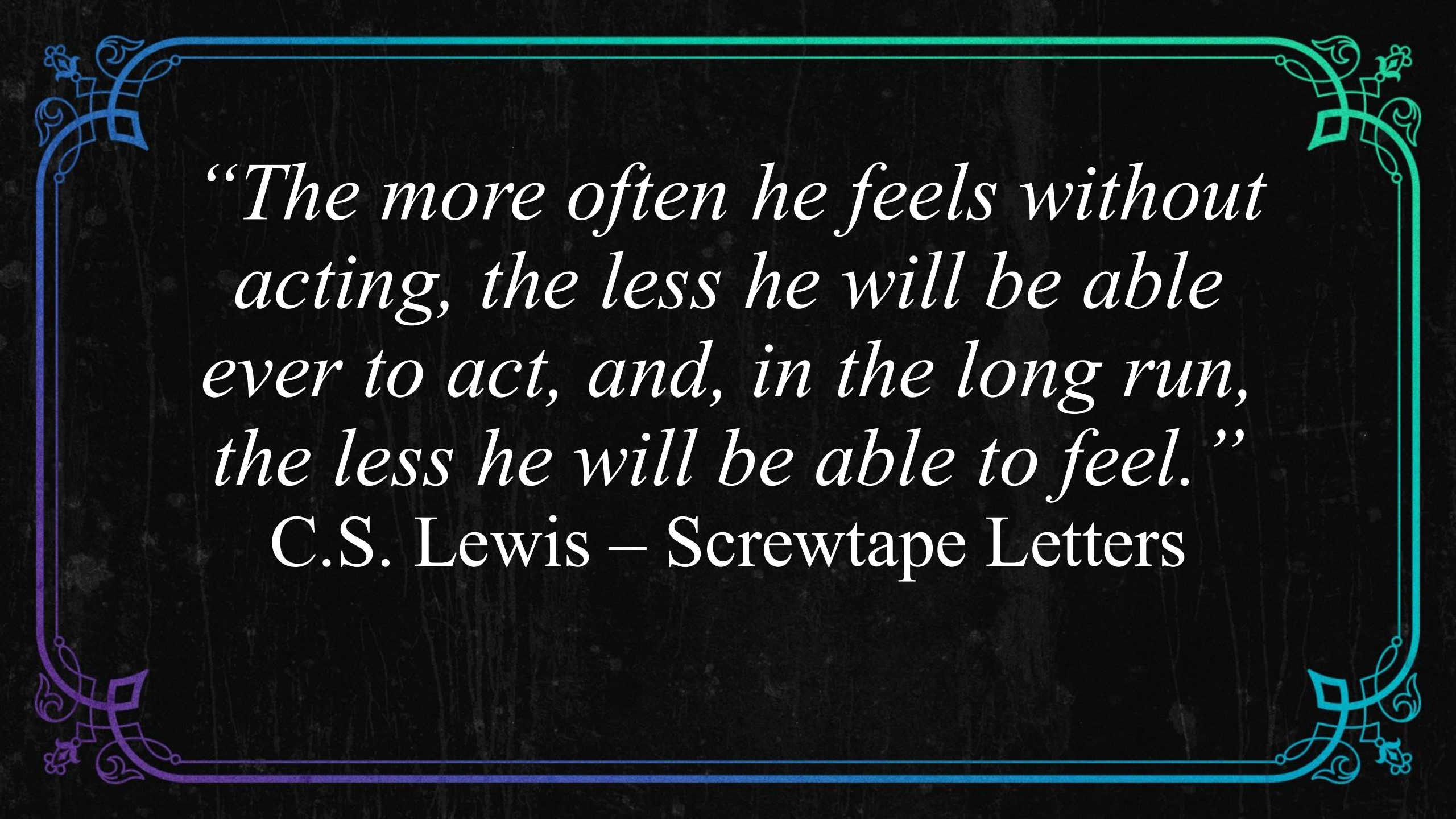
Rev 2:12 “And to the angel of the church in Pergamum write: The One who has the sharp two-edged sword says this:



“For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.” Heb 4:12

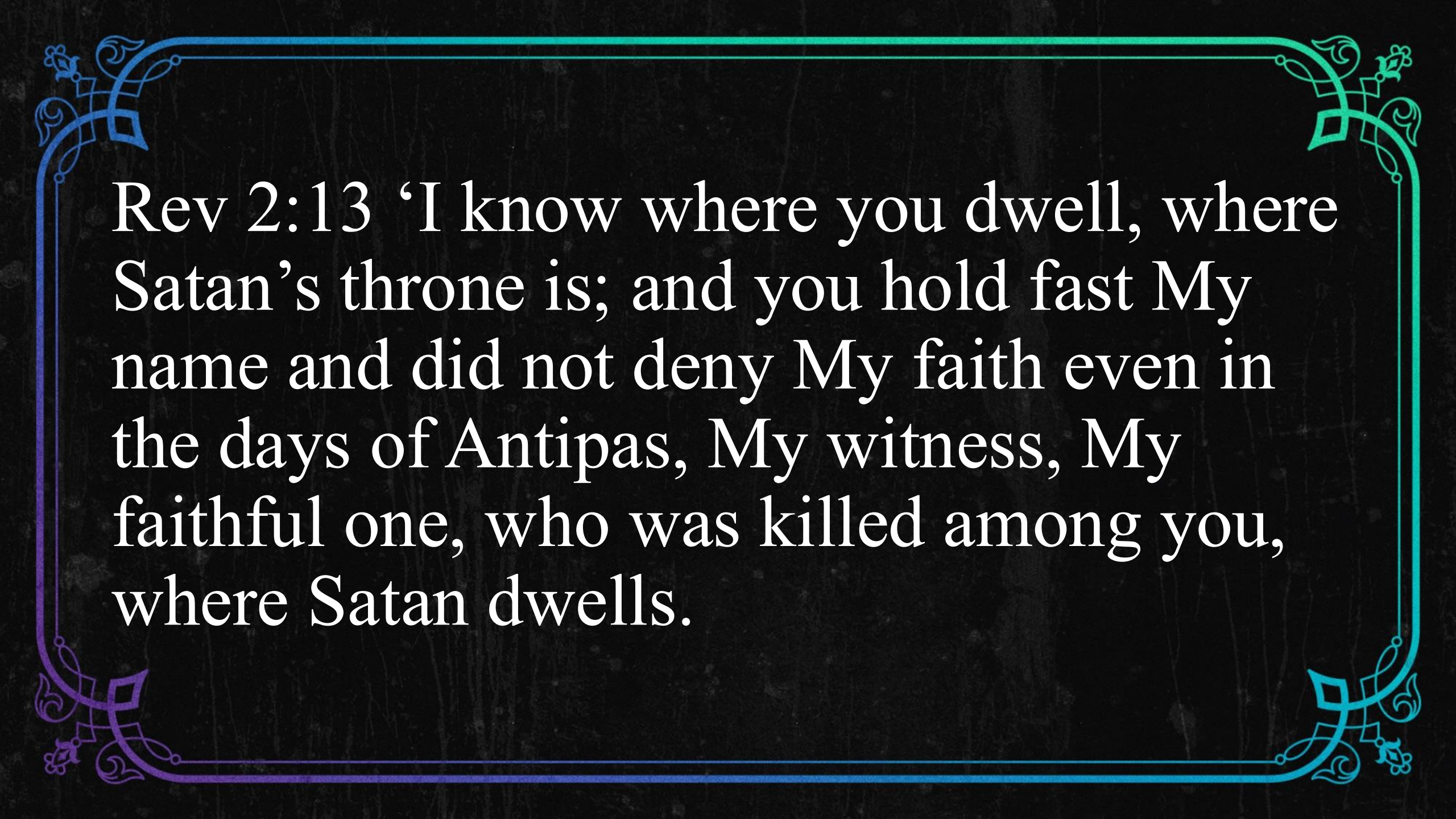
Christ – 12

- ‘double edged sword’ 1:16
- Jesus as the Living Word
- Scripture as the Written Word
- ‘Sword’ divides soul - sword divides body



“The more often he feels without acting, the less he will be able ever to act, and, in the long run, the less he will be able to feel.”

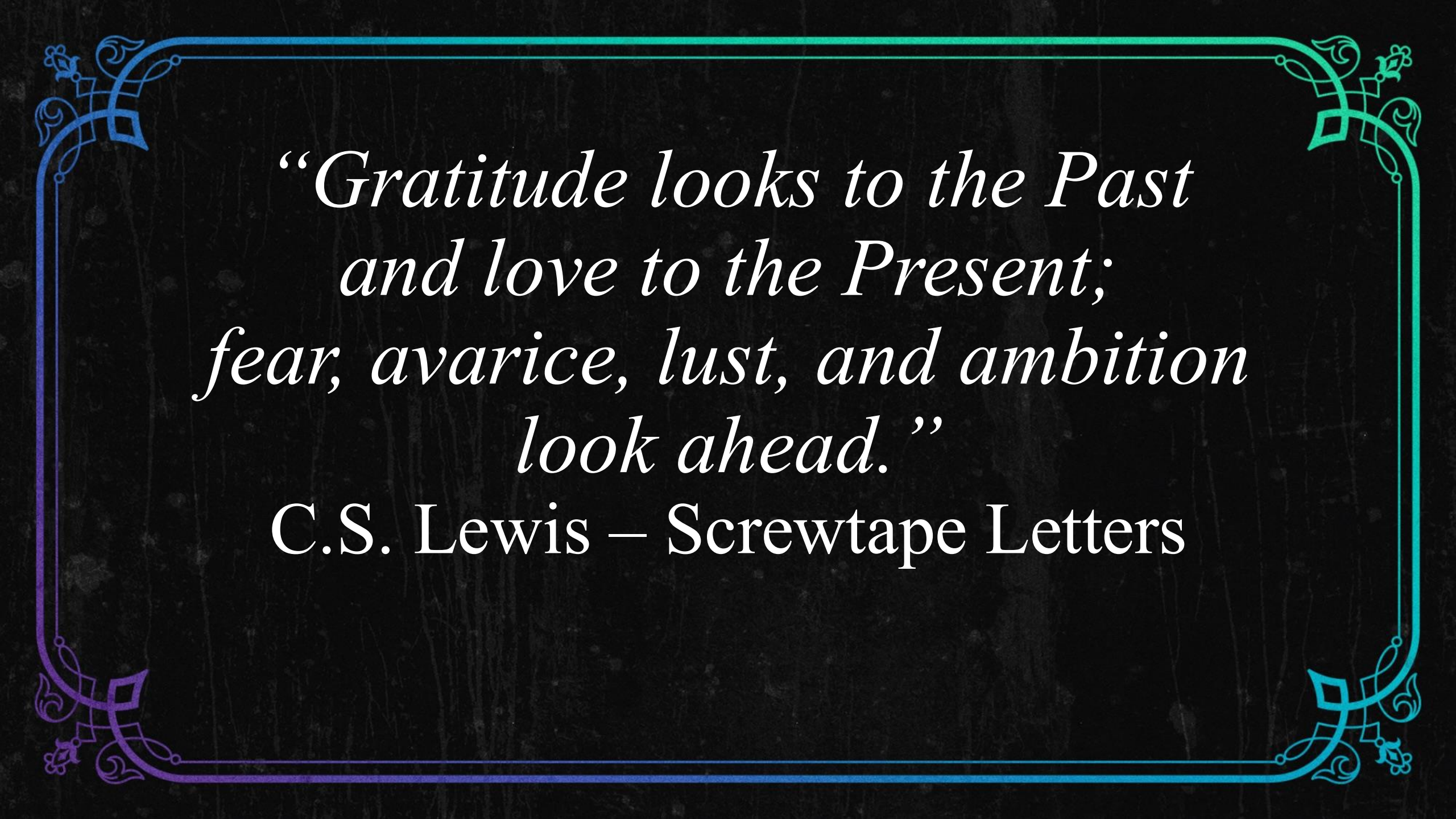
C.S. Lewis – Screwtape Letters



Rev 2:13 'I know where you dwell, where Satan's throne is; and you hold fast My name and did not deny My faith even in the days of Antipas, My witness, My faithful one, who was killed among you, where Satan dwells.

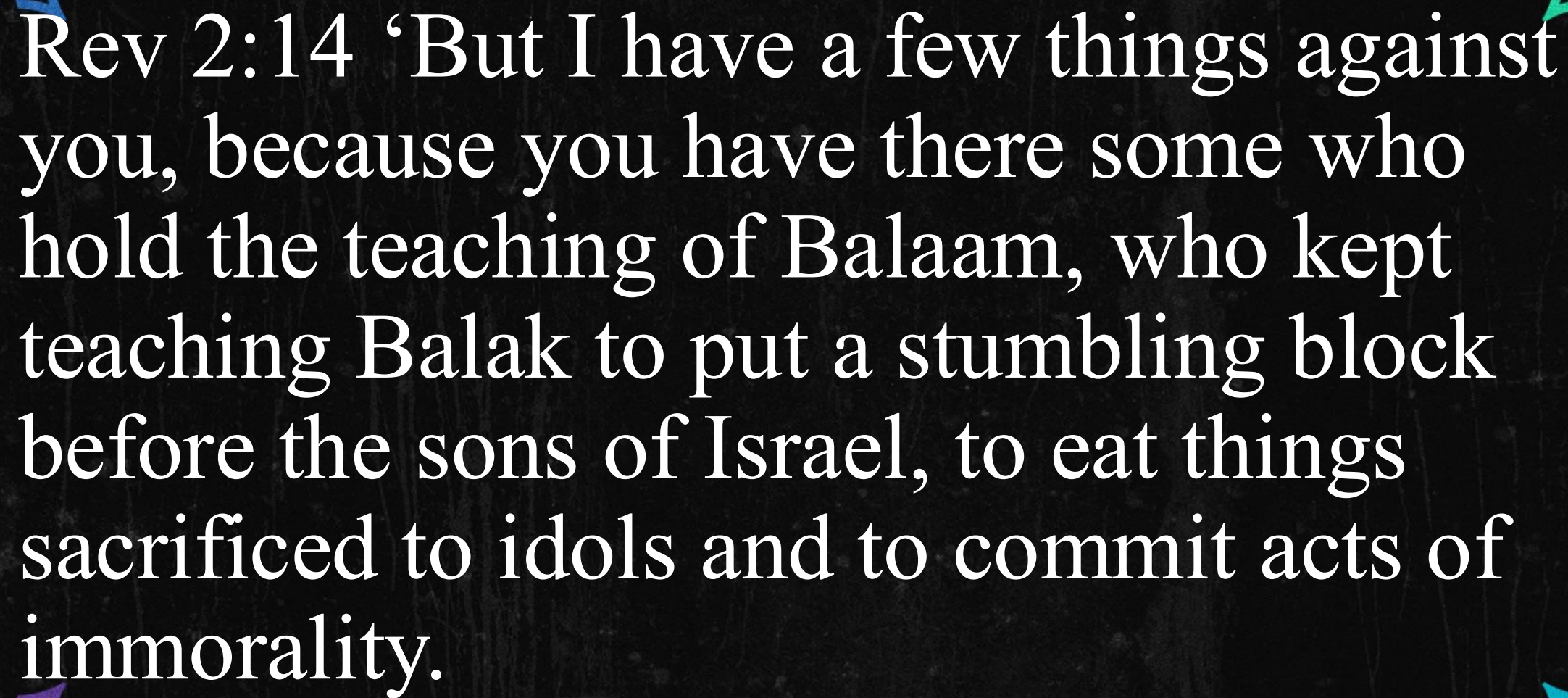
Commendations - 13

- ‘I know where you dwell’ – ‘Satan’s Throne’
- ‘you hold fast My name’
- ‘did not deny My faith even ...’
- Antipas – ‘against all’
 - ‘My witness’ ‘My faithful one’

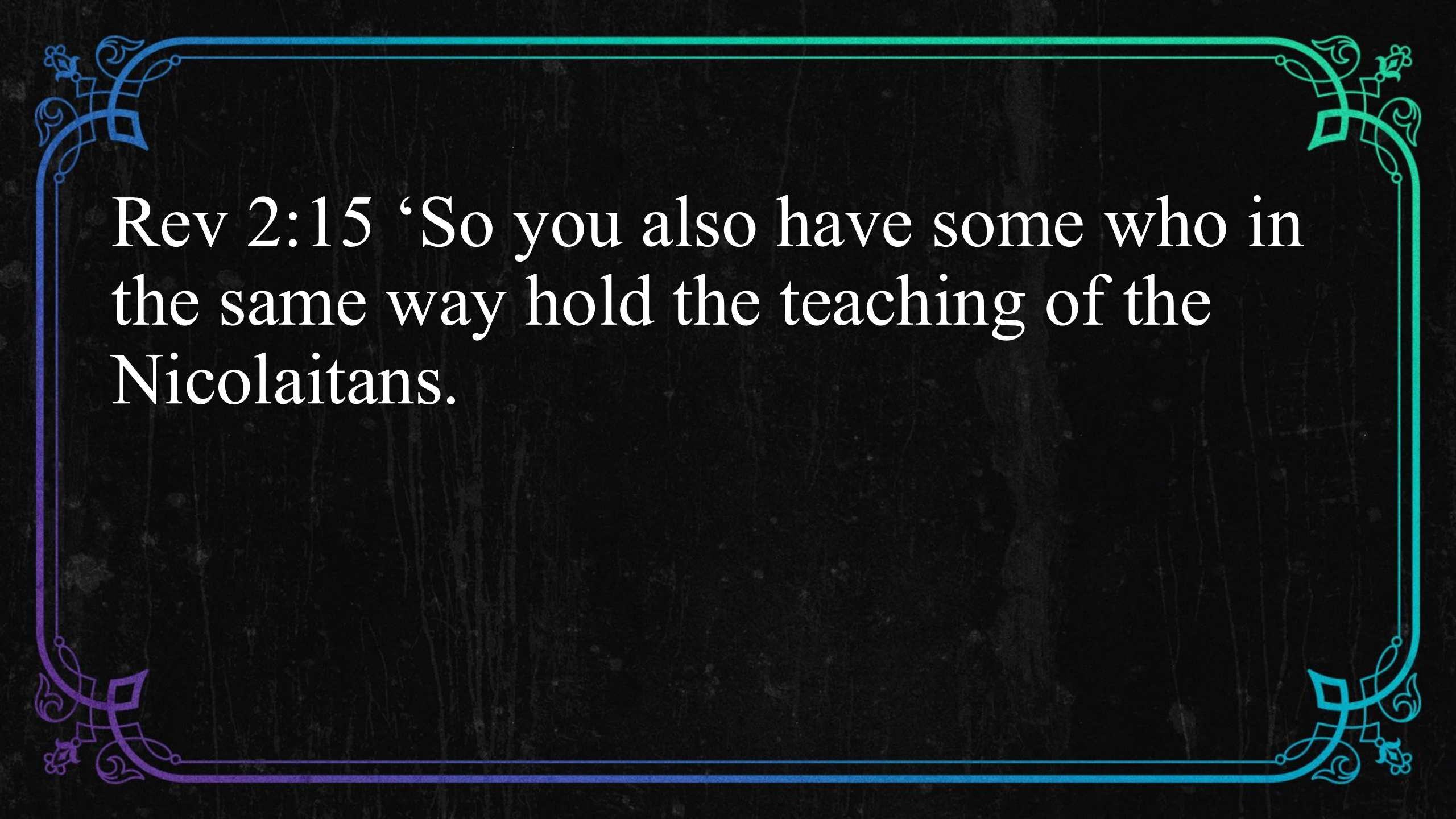


*“Gratitude looks to the Past
and love to the Present;
fear, avarice, lust, and ambition
look ahead.”*

C.S. Lewis – Screwtape Letters



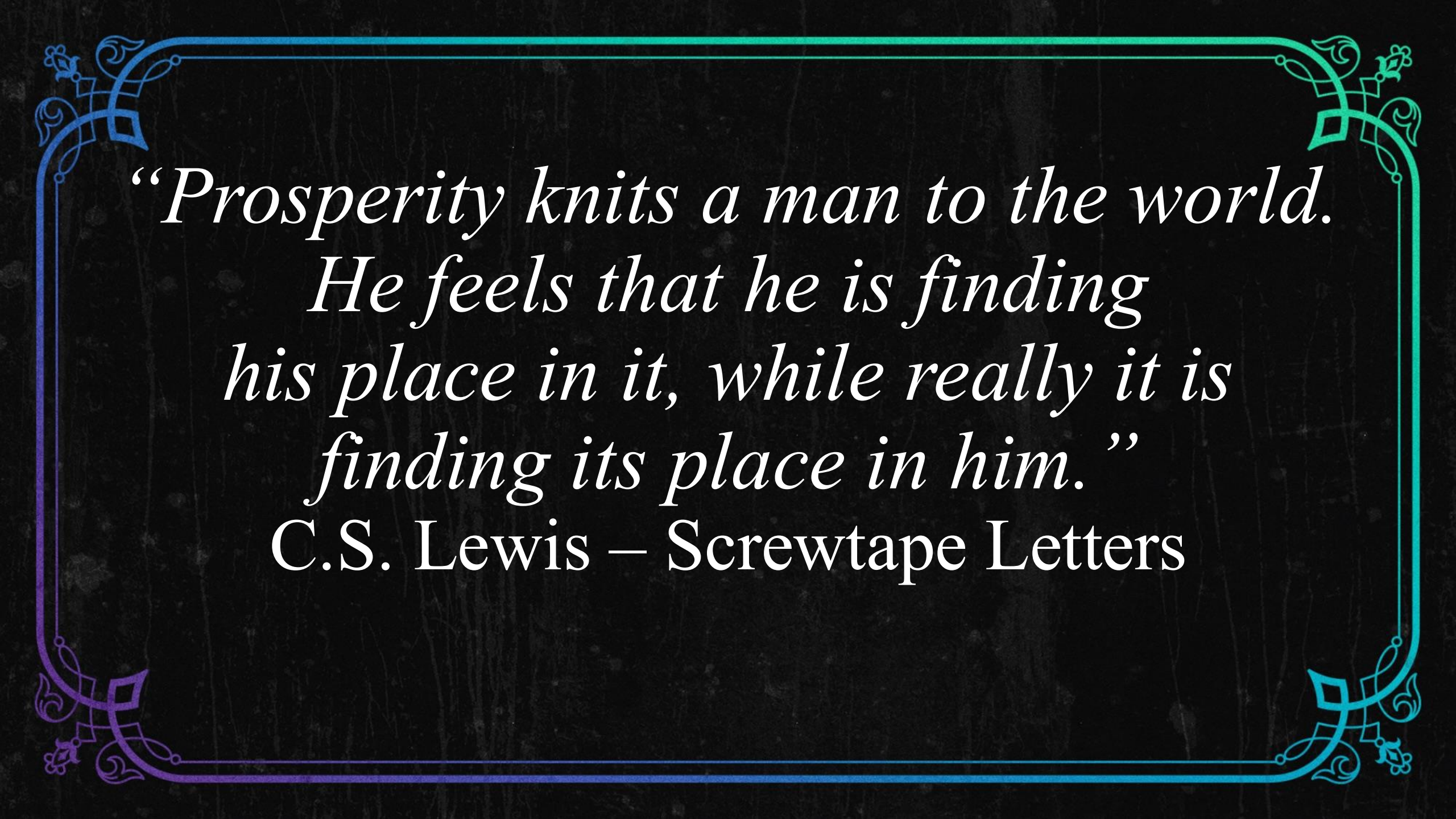
Rev 2:14 'But I have a few things against you, because you have there some who hold the teaching of Balaam, who kept teaching Balak to put a stumbling block before the sons of Israel, to eat things sacrificed to idols and to commit acts of immorality.'



Rev 2:15 ‘So you also have some who in the same way hold the teaching of the Nicolaitans.

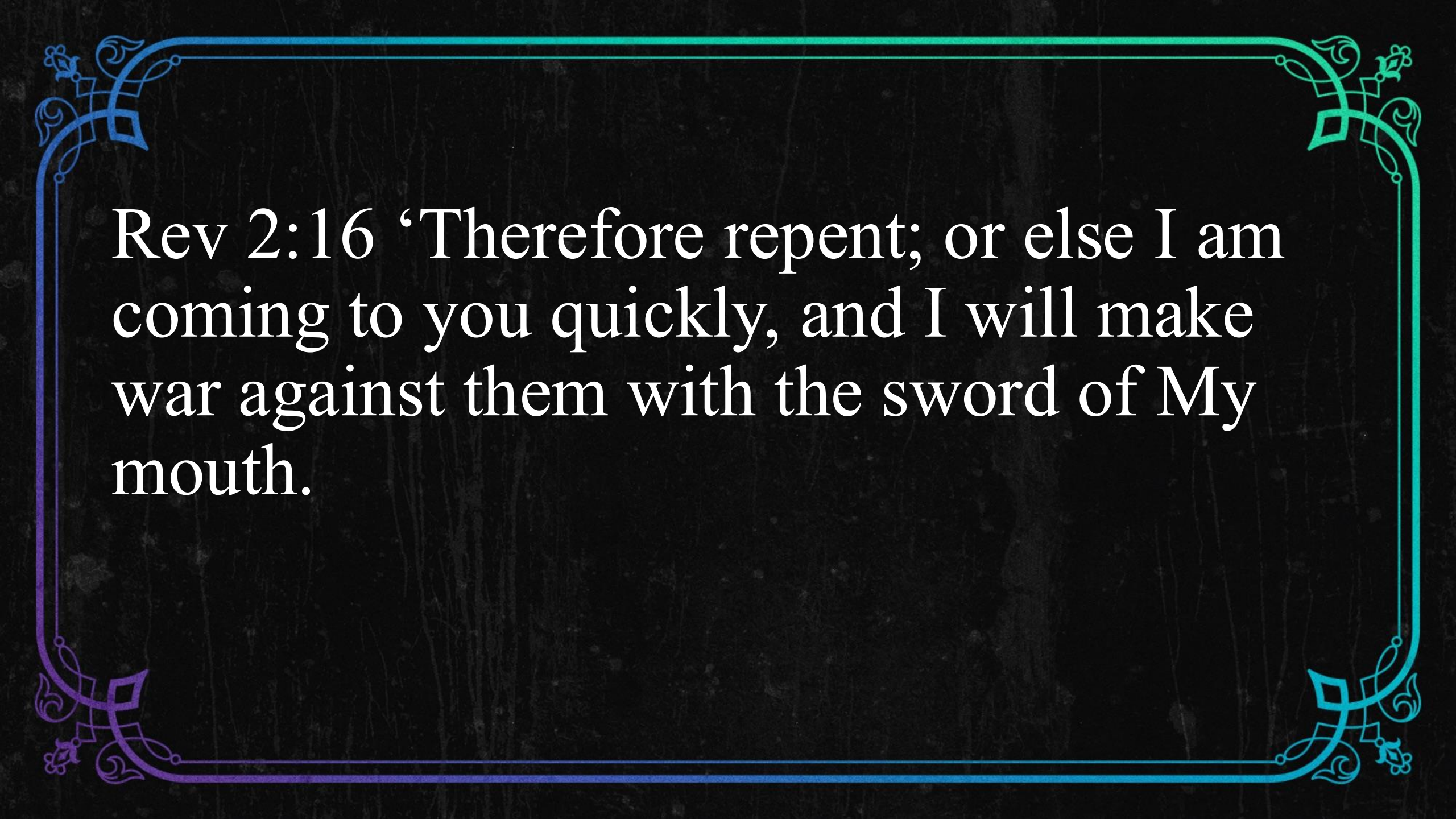
Criticisms – 14,15

- ‘holding the teaching of Balaam’ – heresy!
- ‘hold to the Nicolaitans’ – 2:6 – (nike/laos)
- What is worth fighting about?
- What is worth opposition?
- What is worth warnings?



*“Prosperity knits a man to the world.
He feels that he is finding
his place in it, while really it is
finding its place in him.”*

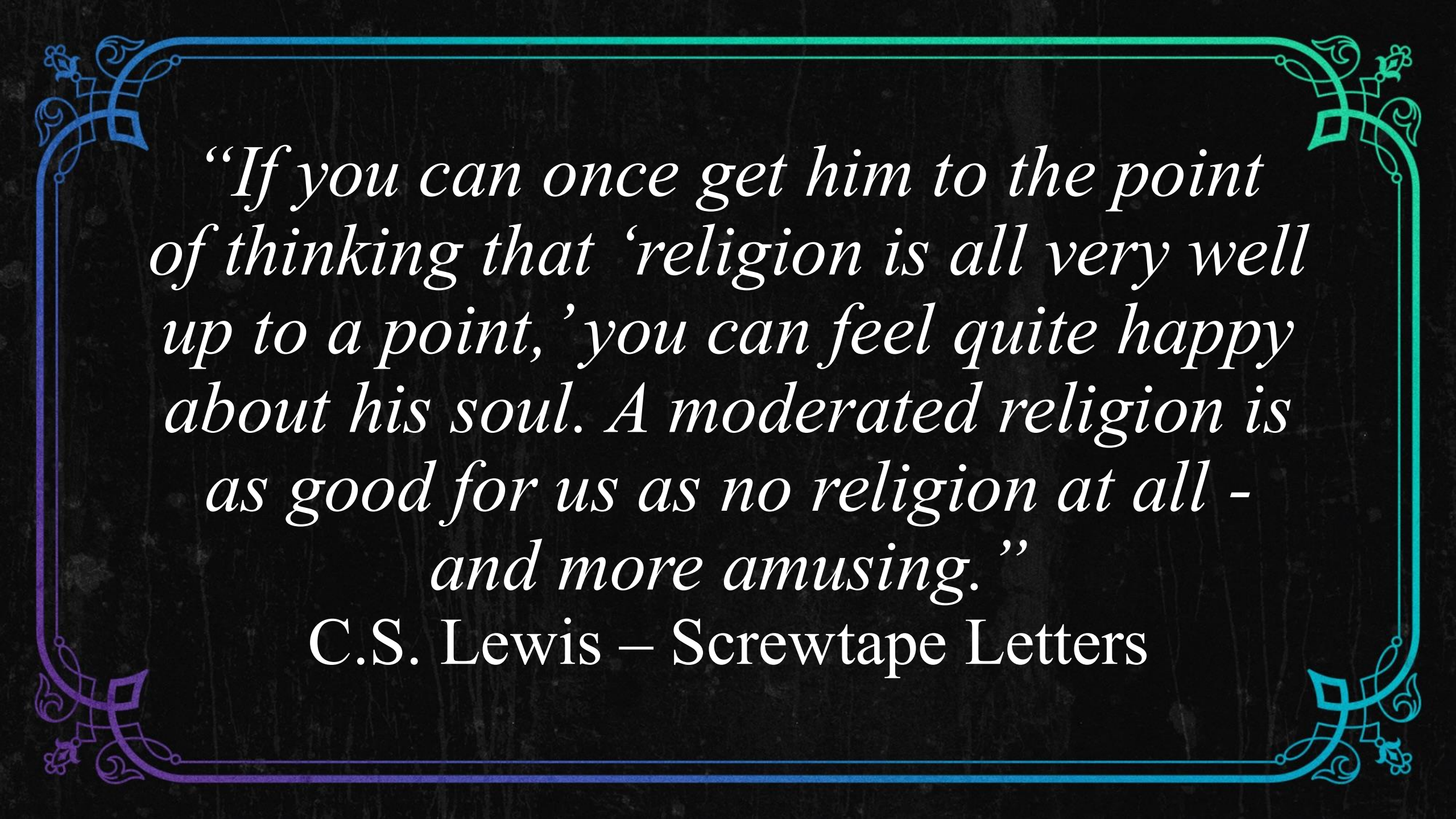
C.S. Lewis – Screwtape Letters



Rev 2:16 ‘Therefore repent; or else I am coming to you quickly, and I will make war against them with the sword of My mouth.’

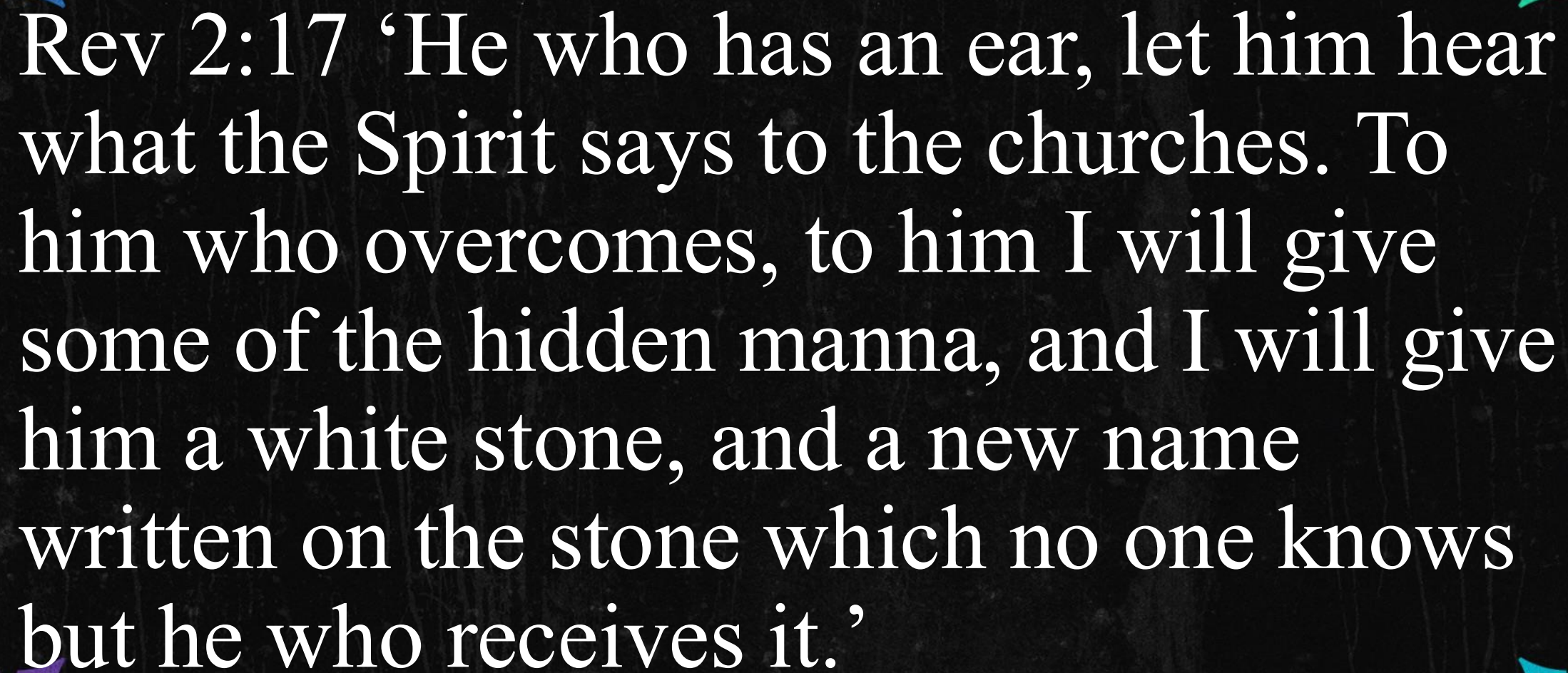
Consequences - 16

- ‘I am coming to you quickly’
- ‘I will make war against them’
- ‘sword of My mouth’ – Heb 4:12
- “the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.” Eph 6



“If you can once get him to the point of thinking that ‘religion is all very well up to a point,’ you can feel quite happy about his soul. A moderated religion is as good for us as no religion at all - and more amusing.”

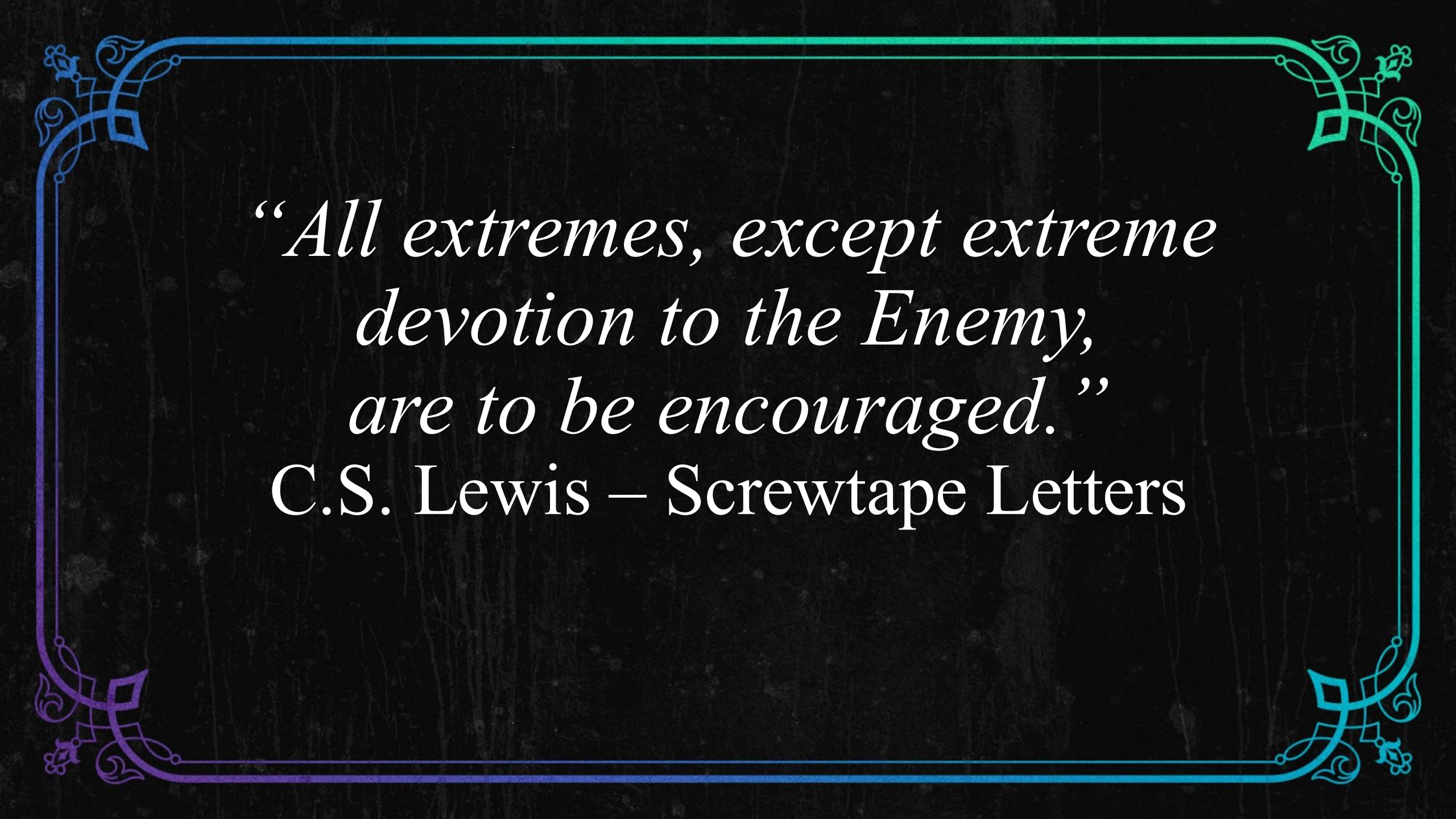
C.S. Lewis – Screwtape Letters



Rev 2:17 'He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To him who overcomes, to him I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, and a new name written on the stone which no one knows but he who receives it.'

Cure – 16,17

- ‘repent’ 16
- ‘let him hear what the Spirit says...’
- ‘hidden manna’ – 1 Cor 1:18; 2 Cor 4:3
- ‘new name’
- ‘white stone’



“All extremes, except extreme devotion to the Enemy, are to be encouraged.”

C.S. Lewis – Screwtape Letters

Pergamum: compromise = catastrophe!

Listen – God’s Word ONLY

Seek the ‘hidden manna’ – ‘search’

Greatest Treasure – ‘white stone’

New Name – What does God call you?



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