

A stylized world map with a network overlay. The map is rendered in shades of gray and light blue, with a network of lines and nodes connecting various points across the globe. The word "ACTS" is written in large, bold, black, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the map.

# ACTS

CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



# Almost Persuaded?

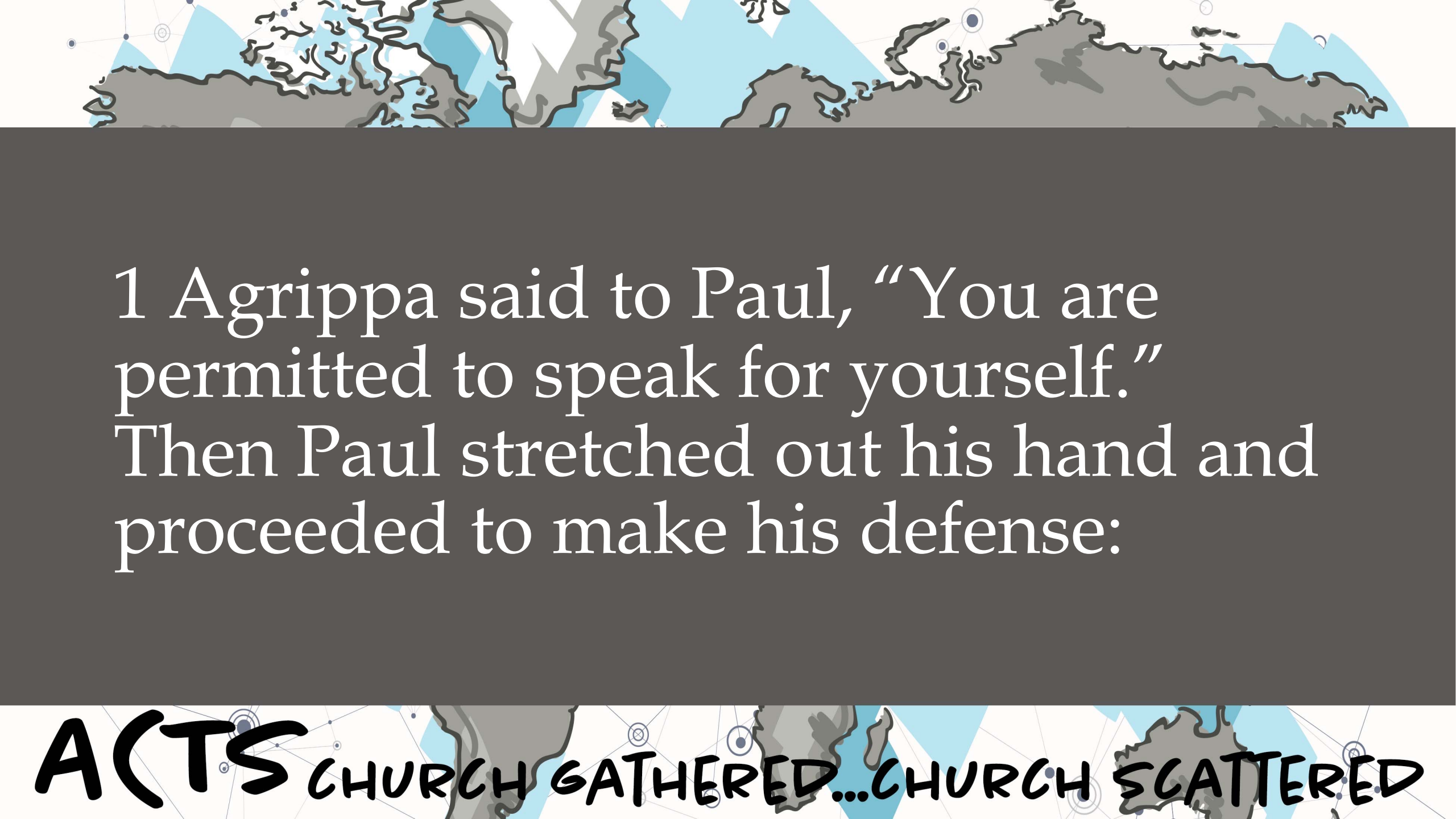
Acts 26

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



*“You can kill us, but you cannot harm us.”*  
Justin Martyr

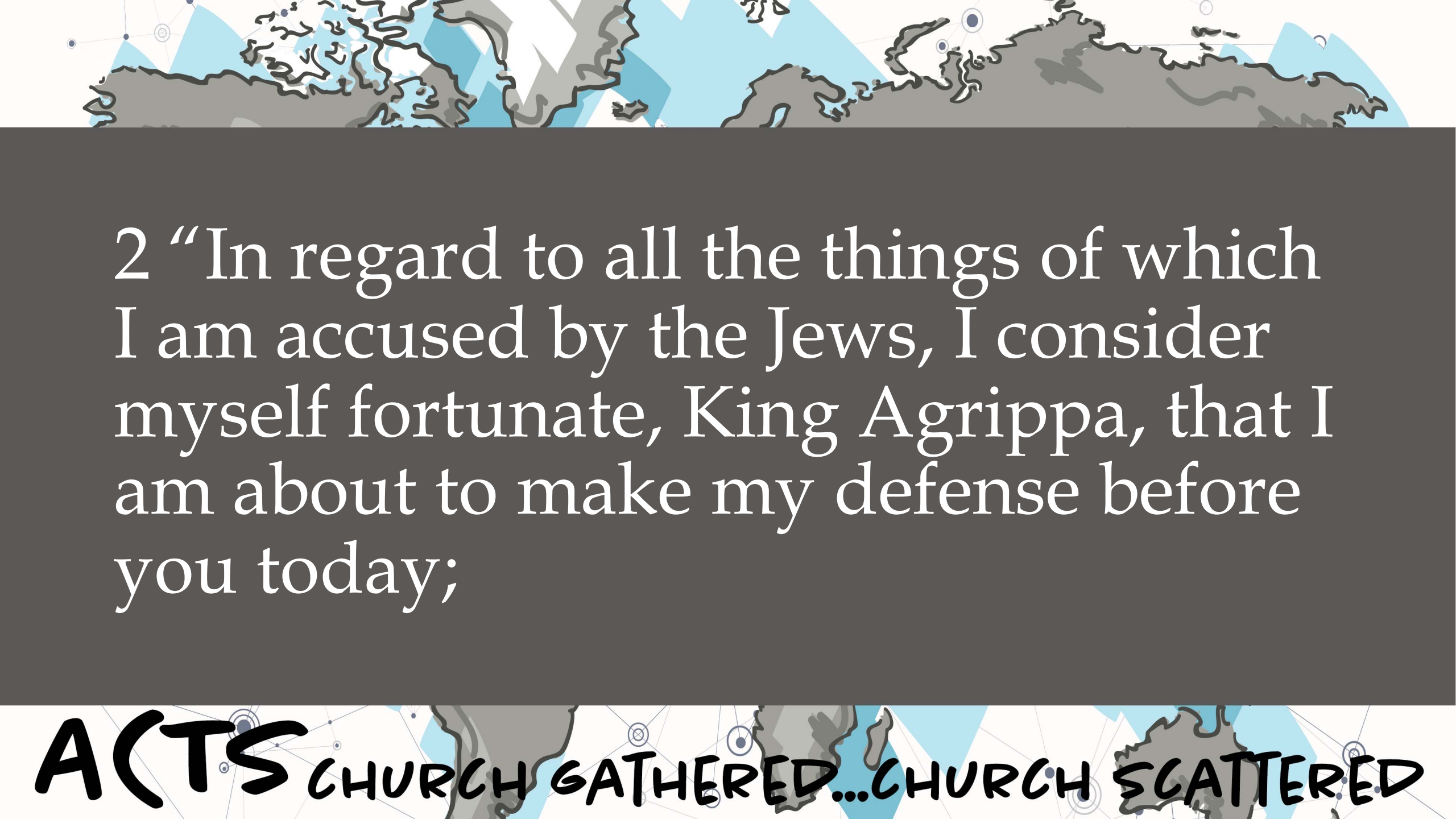
**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**



1 Agrippa said to Paul, “You are permitted to speak for yourself.”  
Then Paul stretched out his hand and proceeded to make his defense:

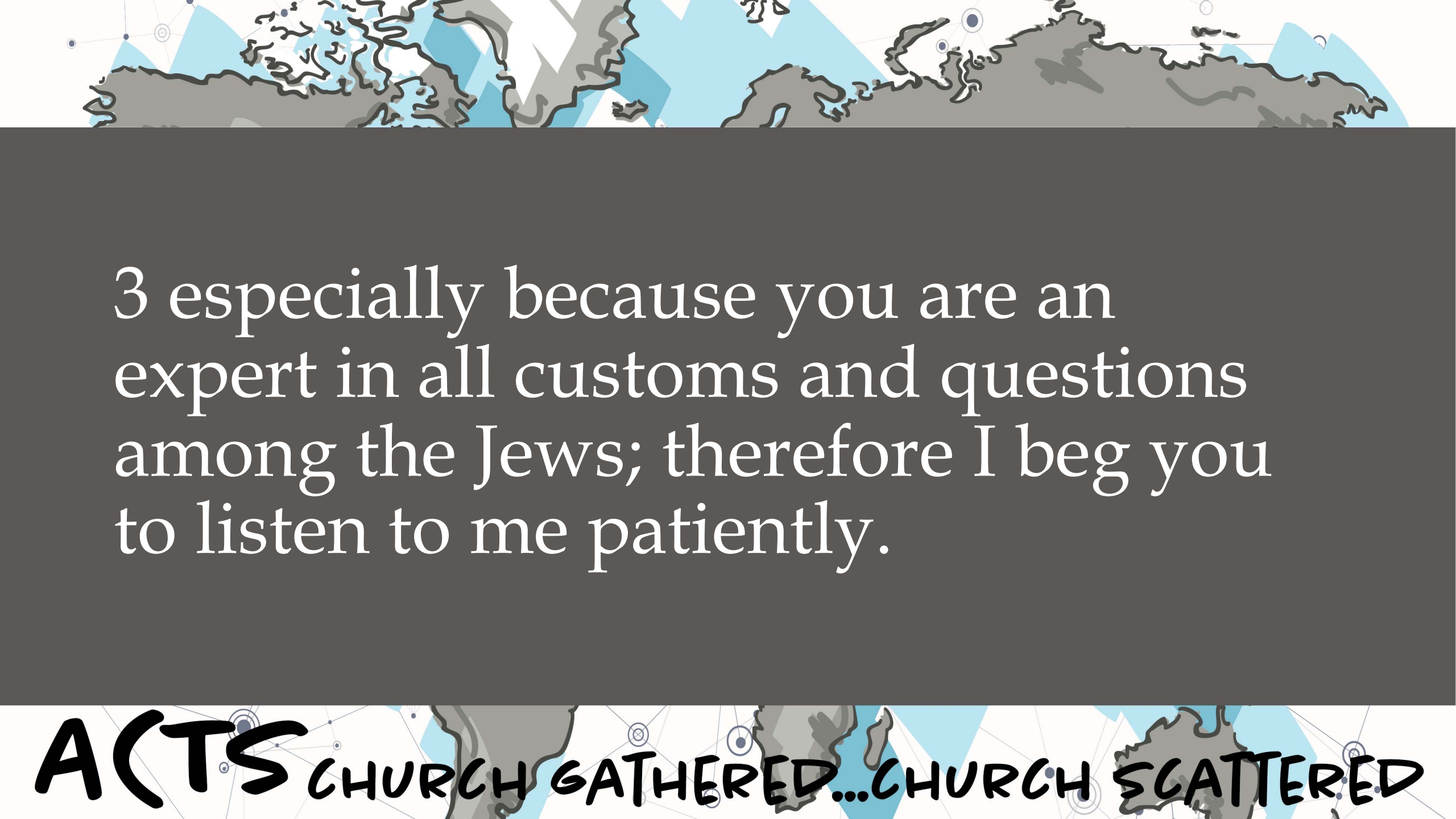
**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED





2 “In regard to all the things of which I am accused by the Jews, I consider myself fortunate, King Agrippa, that I am about to make my defense before you today;

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



3 especially because you are an expert in all customs and questions among the Jews; therefore I beg you to listen to me patiently.

**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**

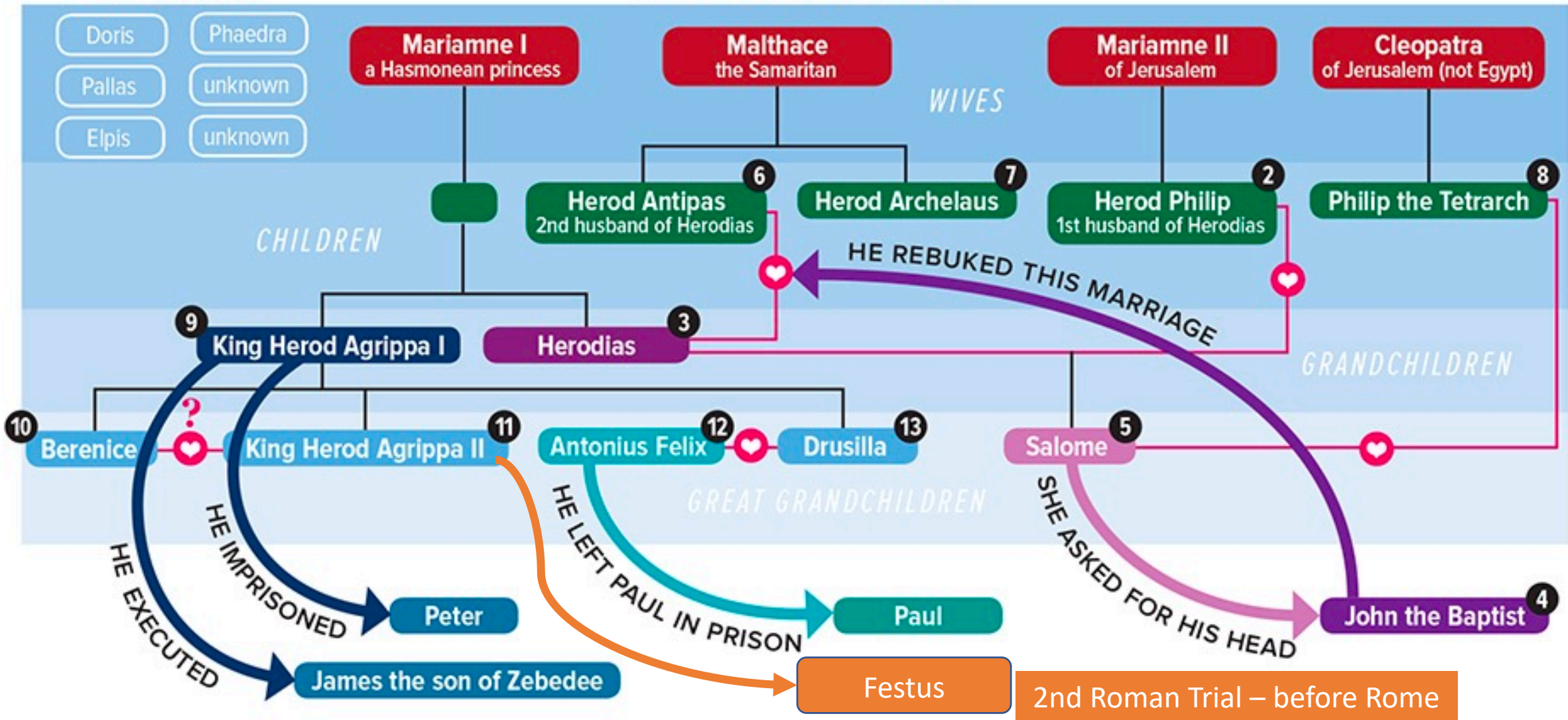
**Herod the Great**  
Governor of Galilee (r. 47–37 B.C.E.)  
King of the Jews (r. 37–4 B.C.E.)

**Jesus**  
HE TRIED TO KILL

*OTHER WIVES*

- Doris
- Phaedra
- Pallas
- unknown
- Elpis
- unknown

**Herod the Great's Family Tree**







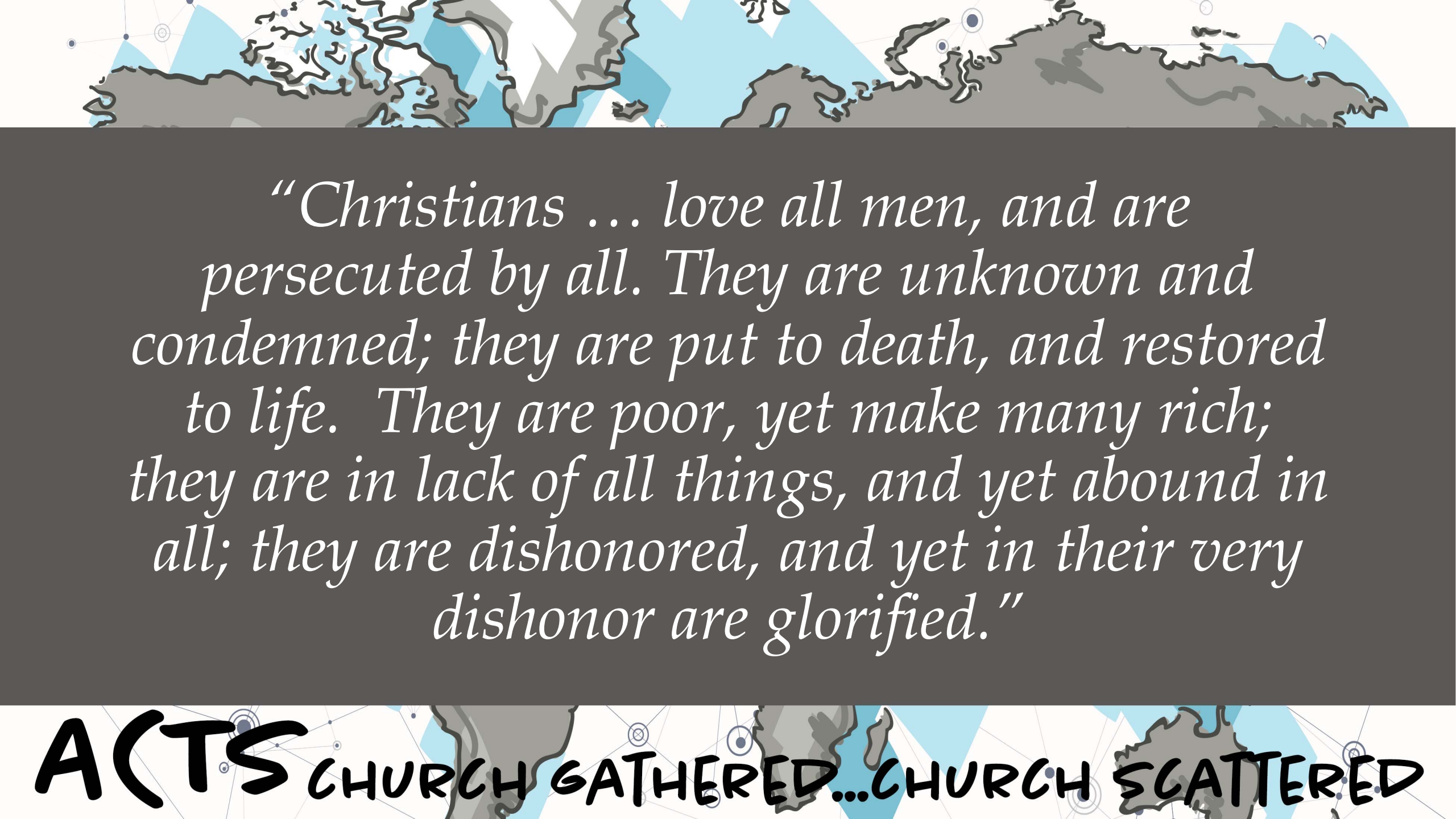
## Who I was vss 1-3

- Paul repeats his qualifications
- Jew of good standing - as you well know!



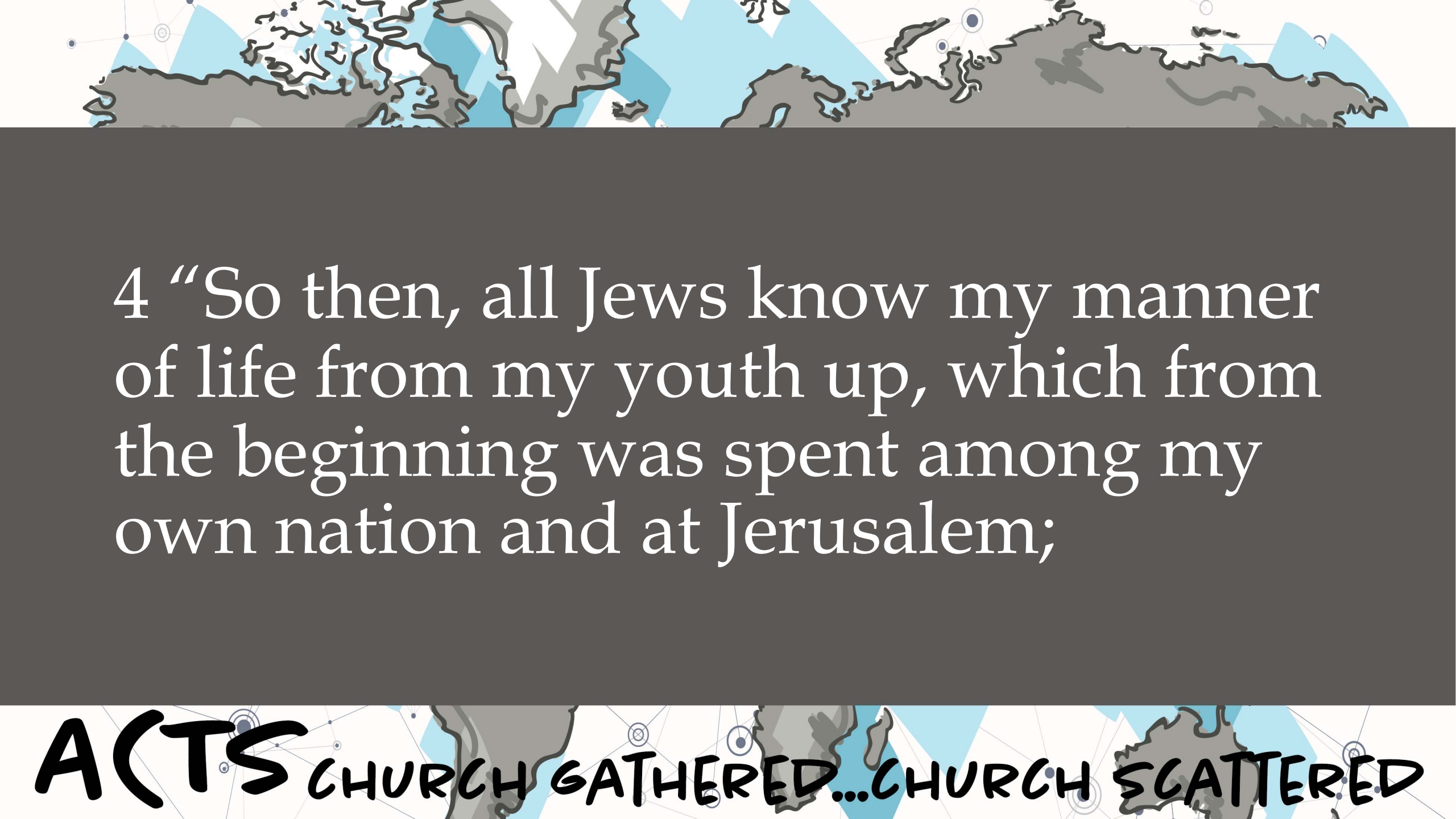
**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED





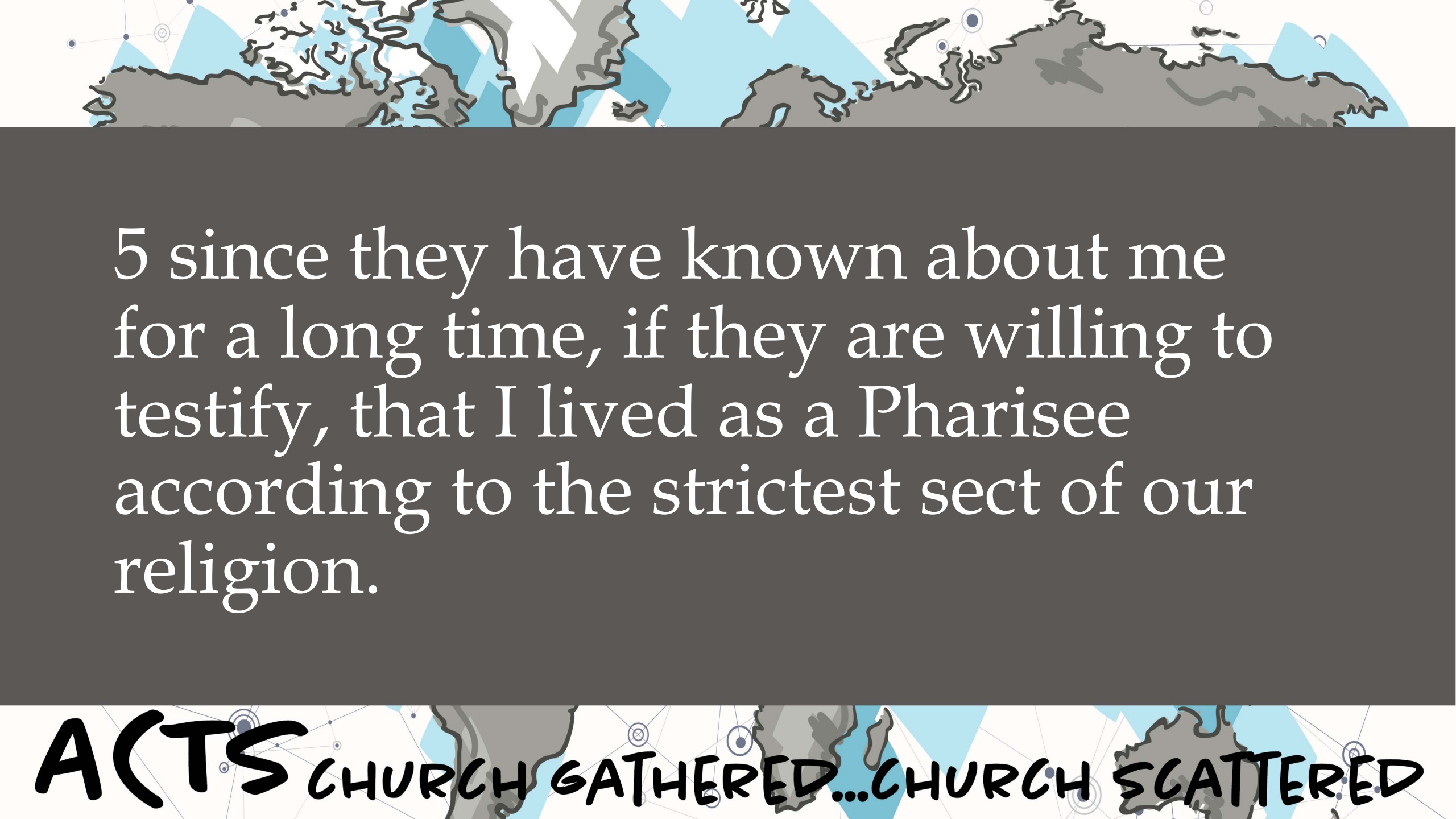
*“Christians ... love all men, and are persecuted by all. They are unknown and condemned; they are put to death, and restored to life. They are poor, yet make many rich; they are in lack of all things, and yet abound in all; they are dishonored, and yet in their very dishonor are glorified.”*

**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**



4 “So then, all Jews know my manner of life from my youth up, which from the beginning was spent among my own nation and at Jerusalem;

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



5 since they have known about me for a long time, if they are willing to testify, that I lived as a Pharisee according to the strictest sect of our religion.

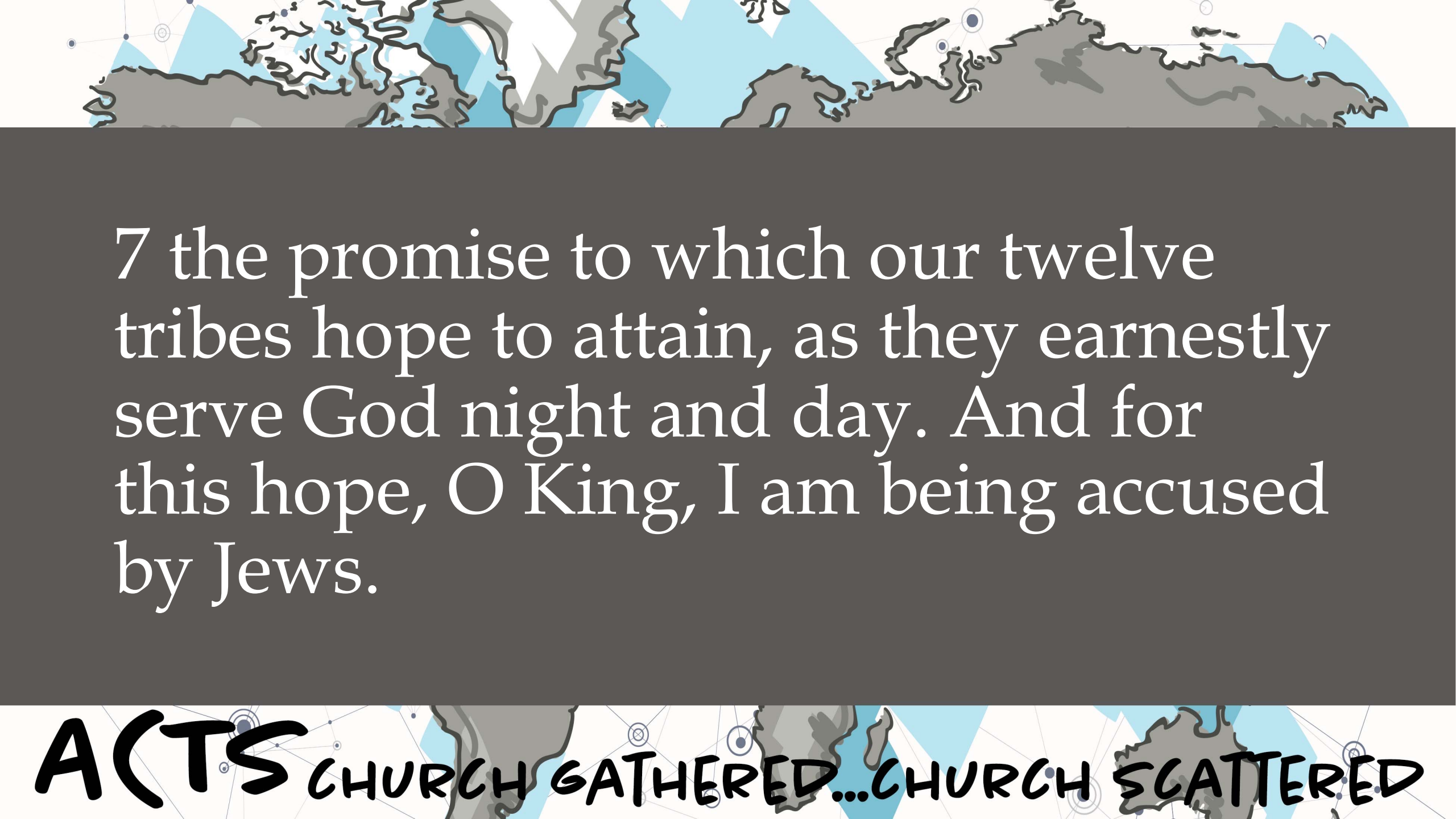
**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**





6 And now I am standing trial for the hope of the promise made by God to our fathers;

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



7 the promise to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly serve God night and day. And for this hope, O King, I am being accused by Jews.

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



8 Why is it considered incredible among you people if God does raise the dead?

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



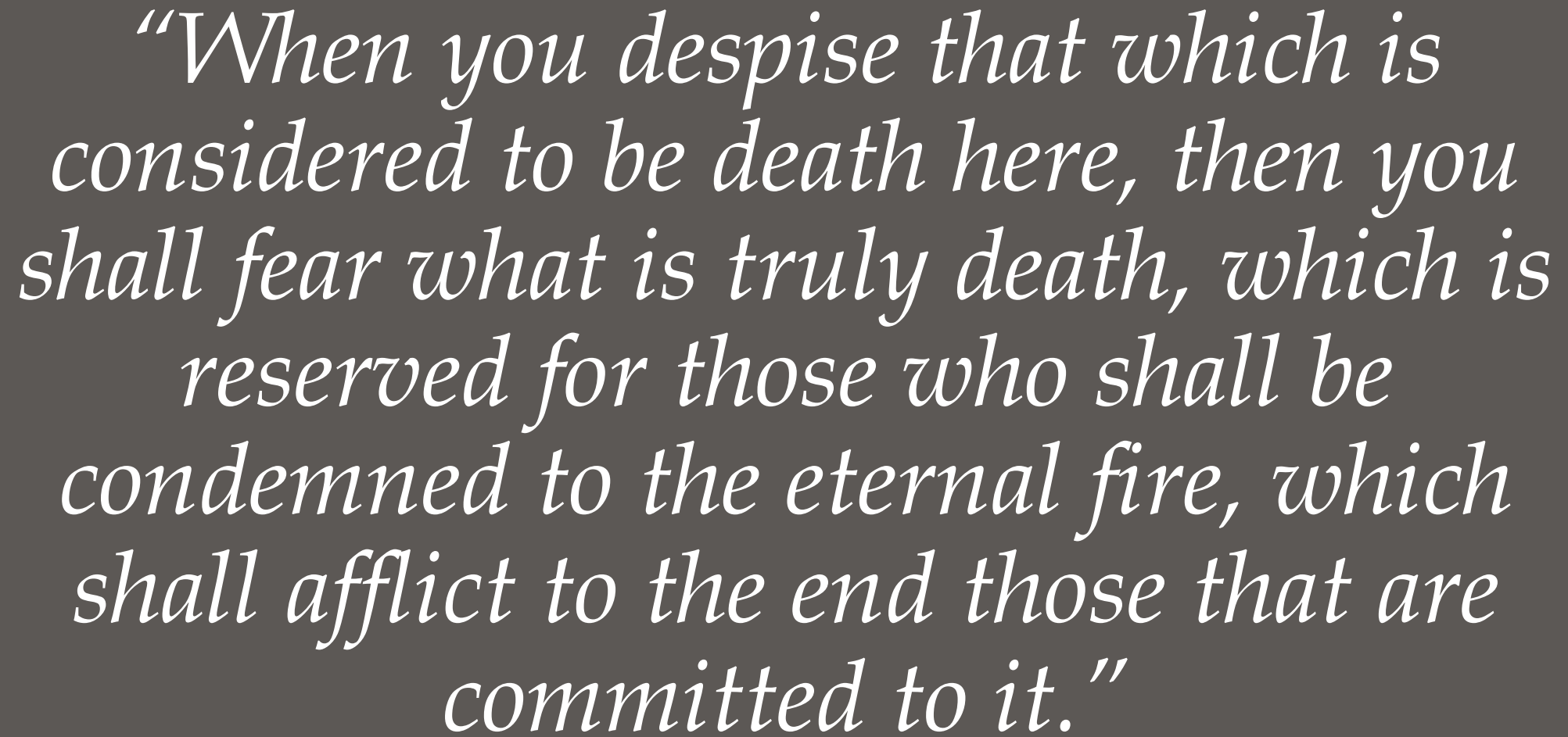


## Who I am vss 4-8

- Jew of good testimony
- Pharisee of good testimony
- Student of good testimony
- Mortal of good testimony
- Not about how good I am – how good is God!

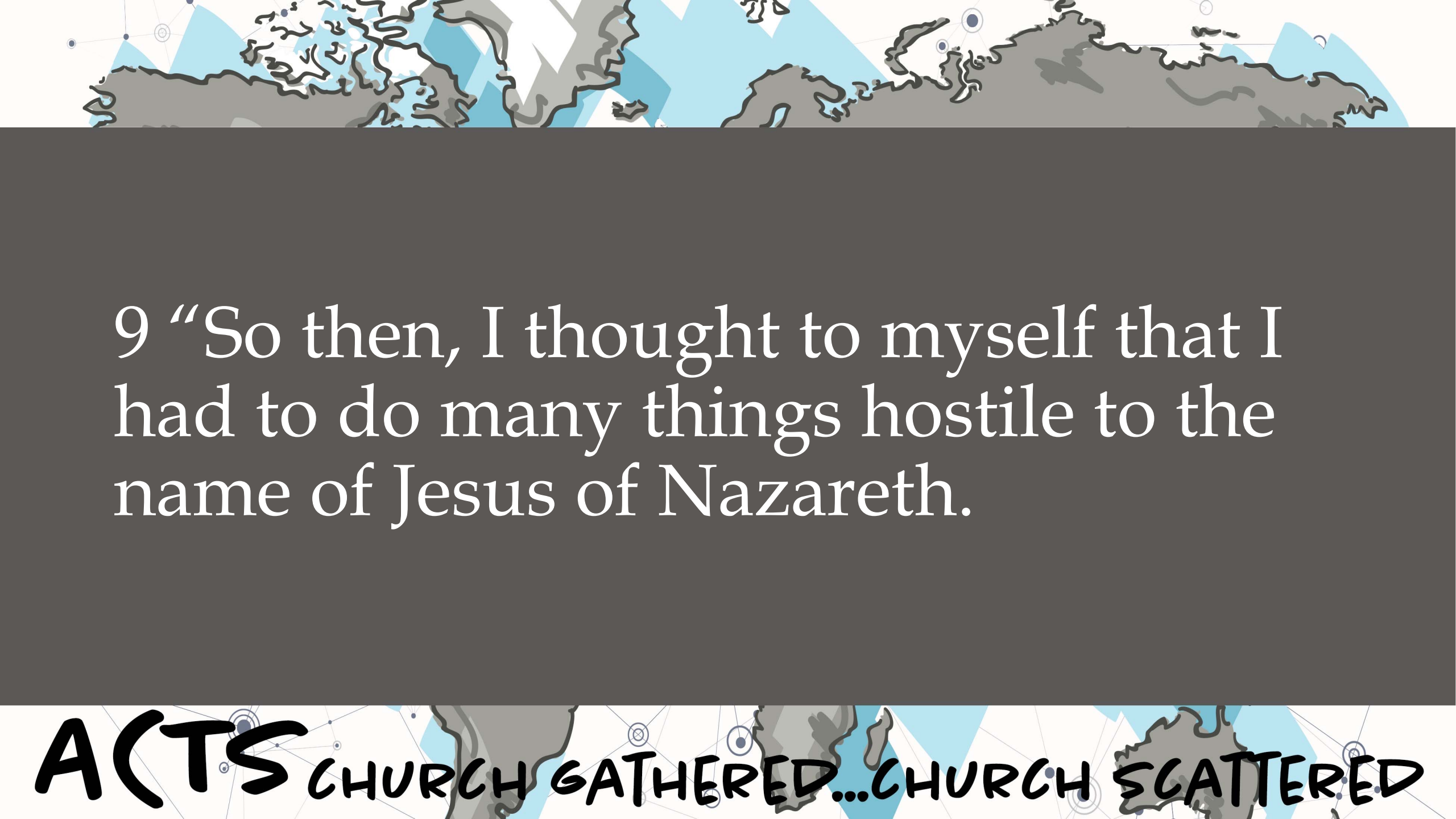


**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



*“When you despise that which is considered to be death here, then you shall fear what is truly death, which is reserved for those who shall be condemned to the eternal fire, which shall afflict to the end those that are committed to it.”*

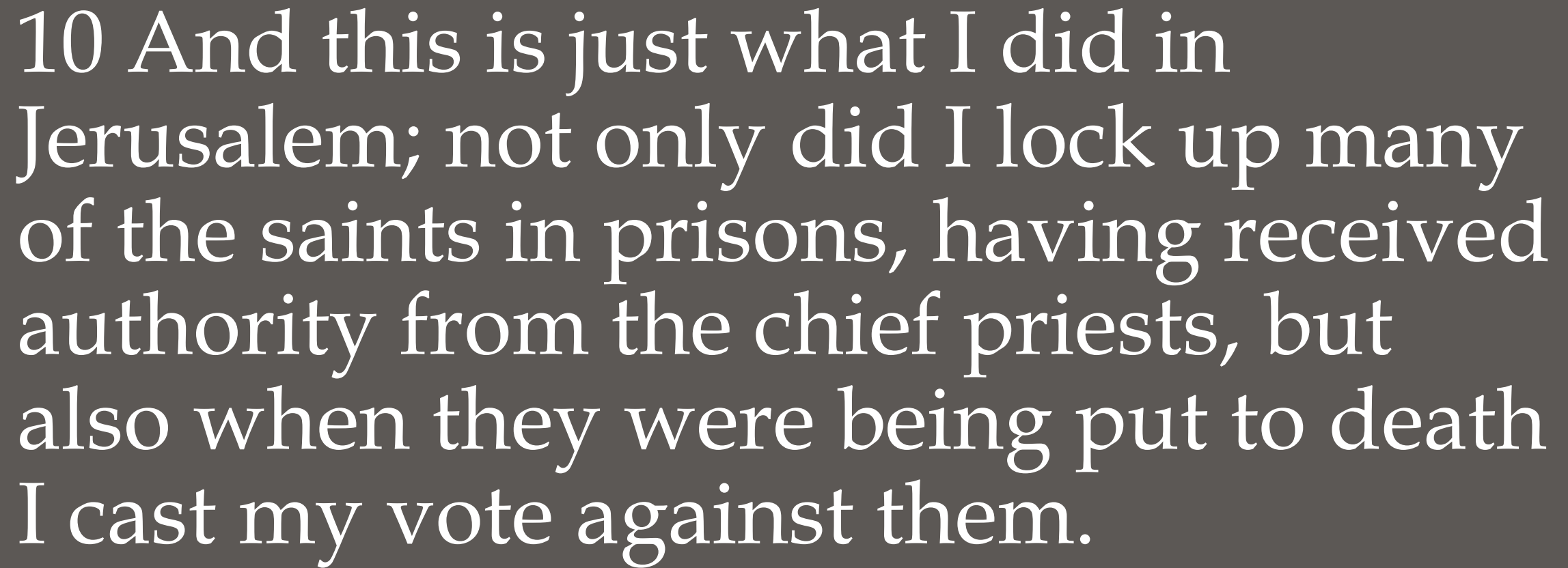
**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**



9 “So then, I thought to myself that I had to do many things hostile to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.

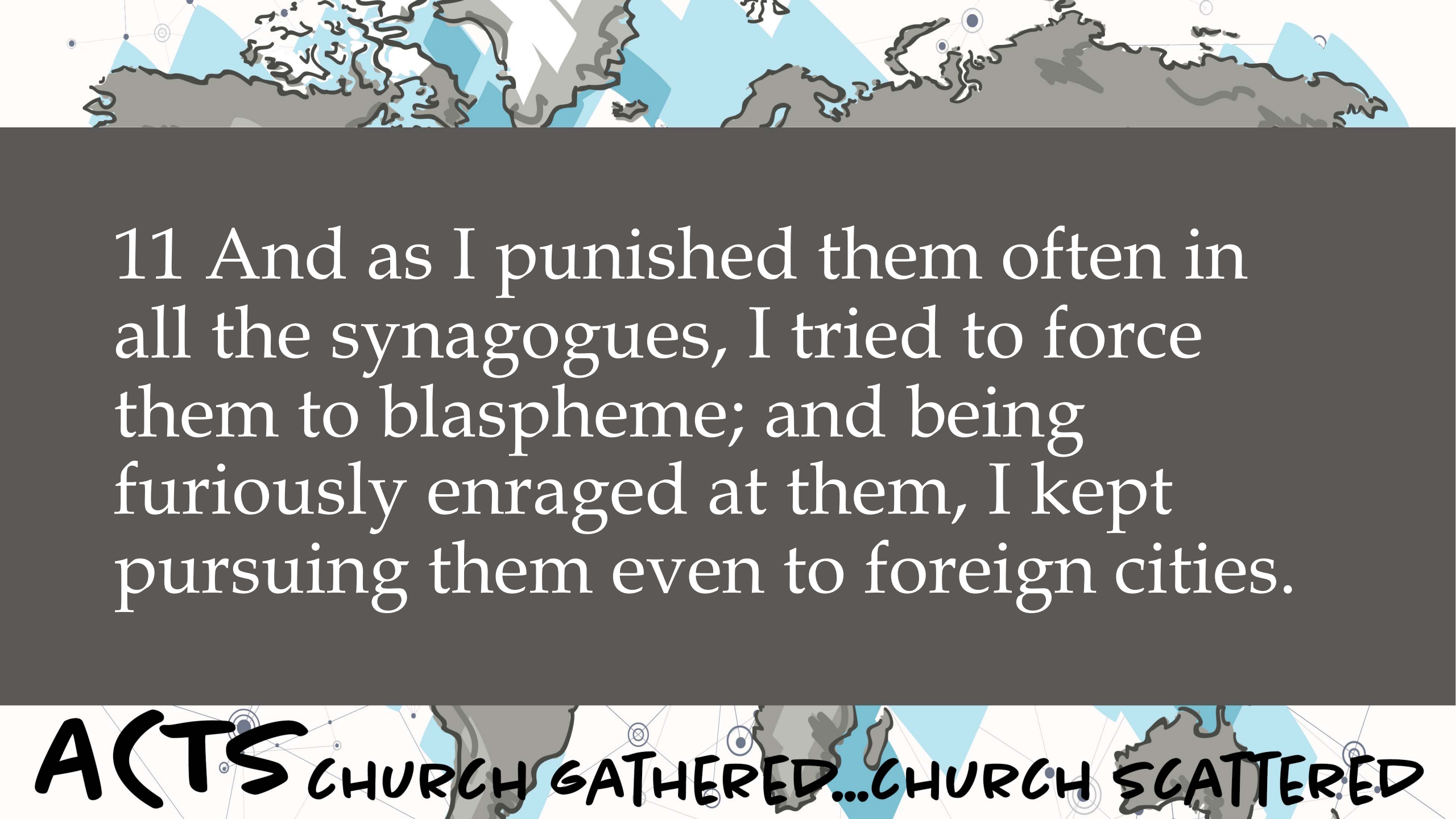
**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED





10 And this is just what I did in Jerusalem; not only did I lock up many of the saints in prisons, having received authority from the chief priests, but also when they were being put to death I cast my vote against them.

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



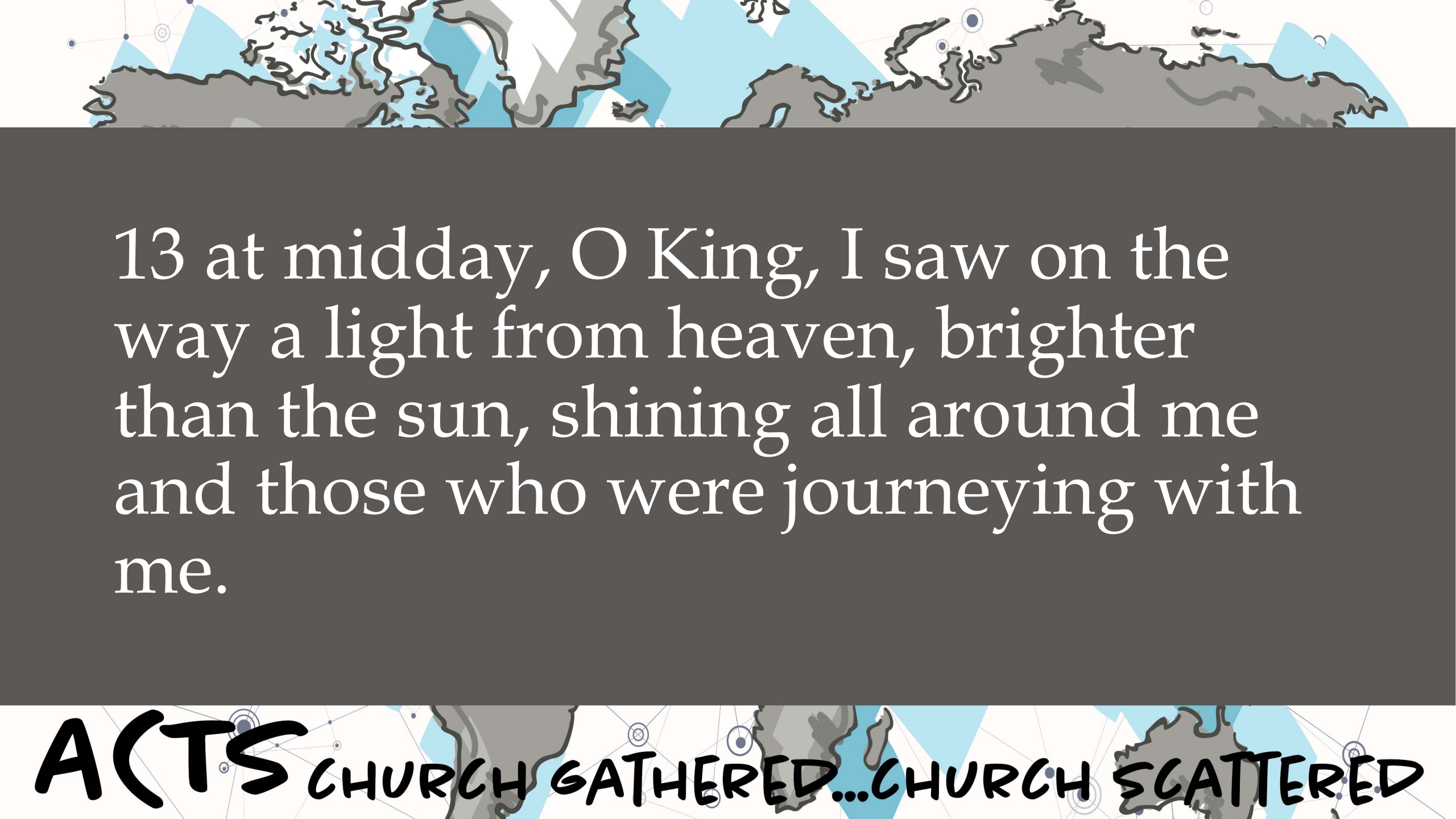
11 And as I punished them often in all the synagogues, I tried to force them to blaspheme; and being furiously enraged at them, I kept pursuing them even to foreign cities.

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



12 “While so engaged as I was  
journeying to Damascus with the  
authority and commission of the  
chief priests,

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



13 at midday, O King, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, shining all around me and those who were journeying with me.

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



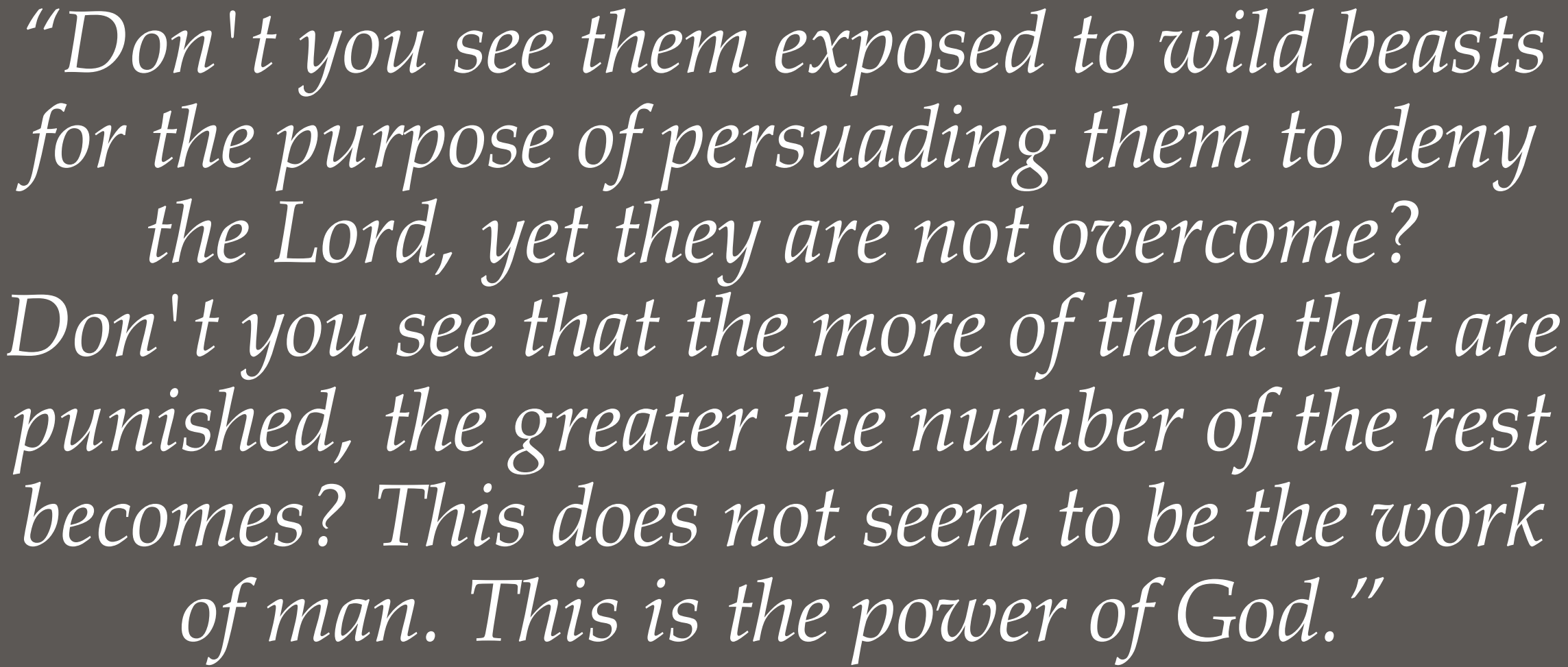


## Who Jesus is vss 9-19

- I persecuted the 'name of Jesus of Nazareth'
- I prosecuted them
- I punished them
- I pursued them
- I met Him!



**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



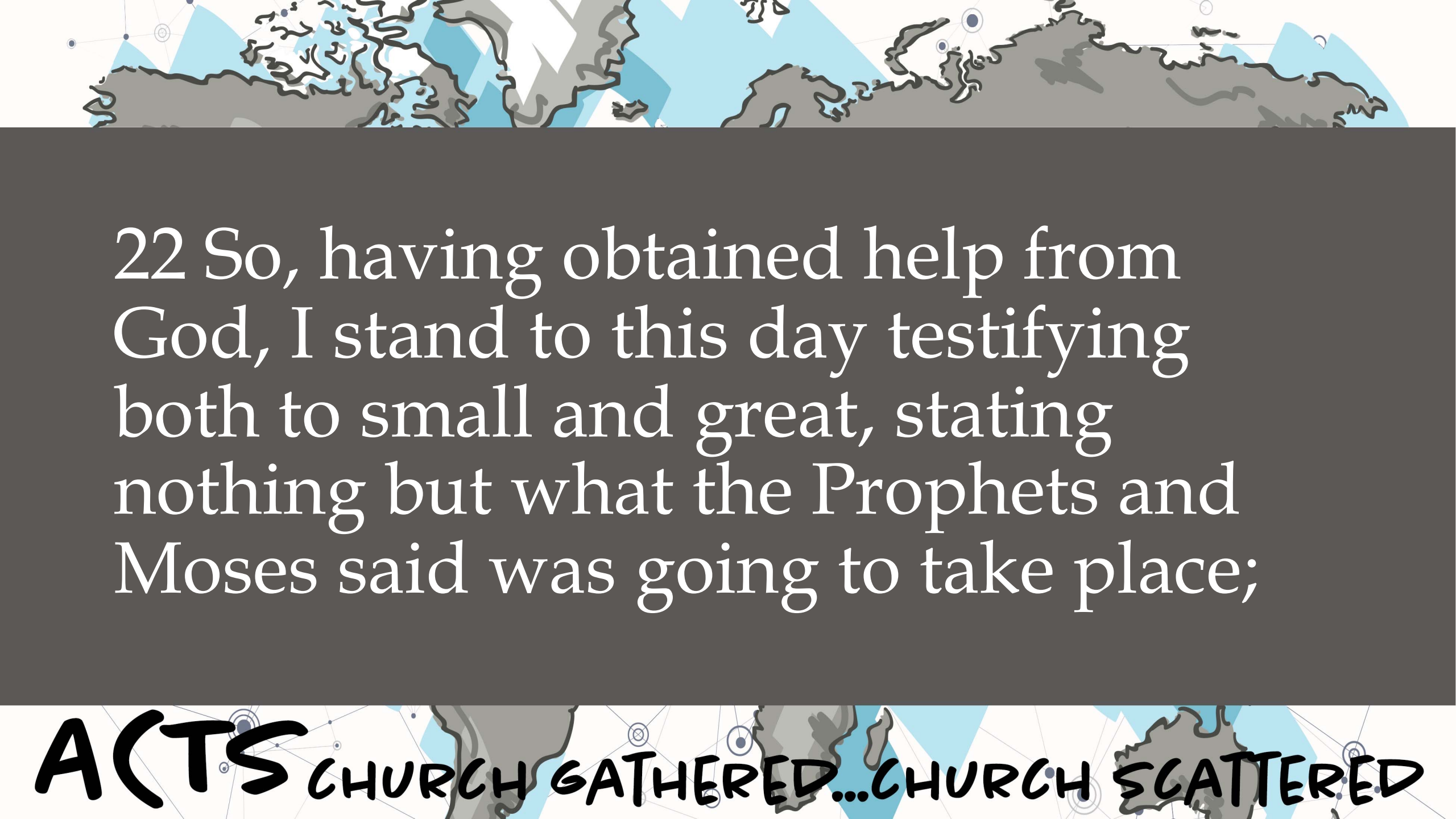
*“Don't you see them exposed to wild beasts for the purpose of persuading them to deny the Lord, yet they are not overcome? Don't you see that the more of them that are punished, the greater the number of the rest becomes? This does not seem to be the work of man. This is the power of God.”*

**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**



21 For this reason some Jews seized me in the temple and tried to put me to death.

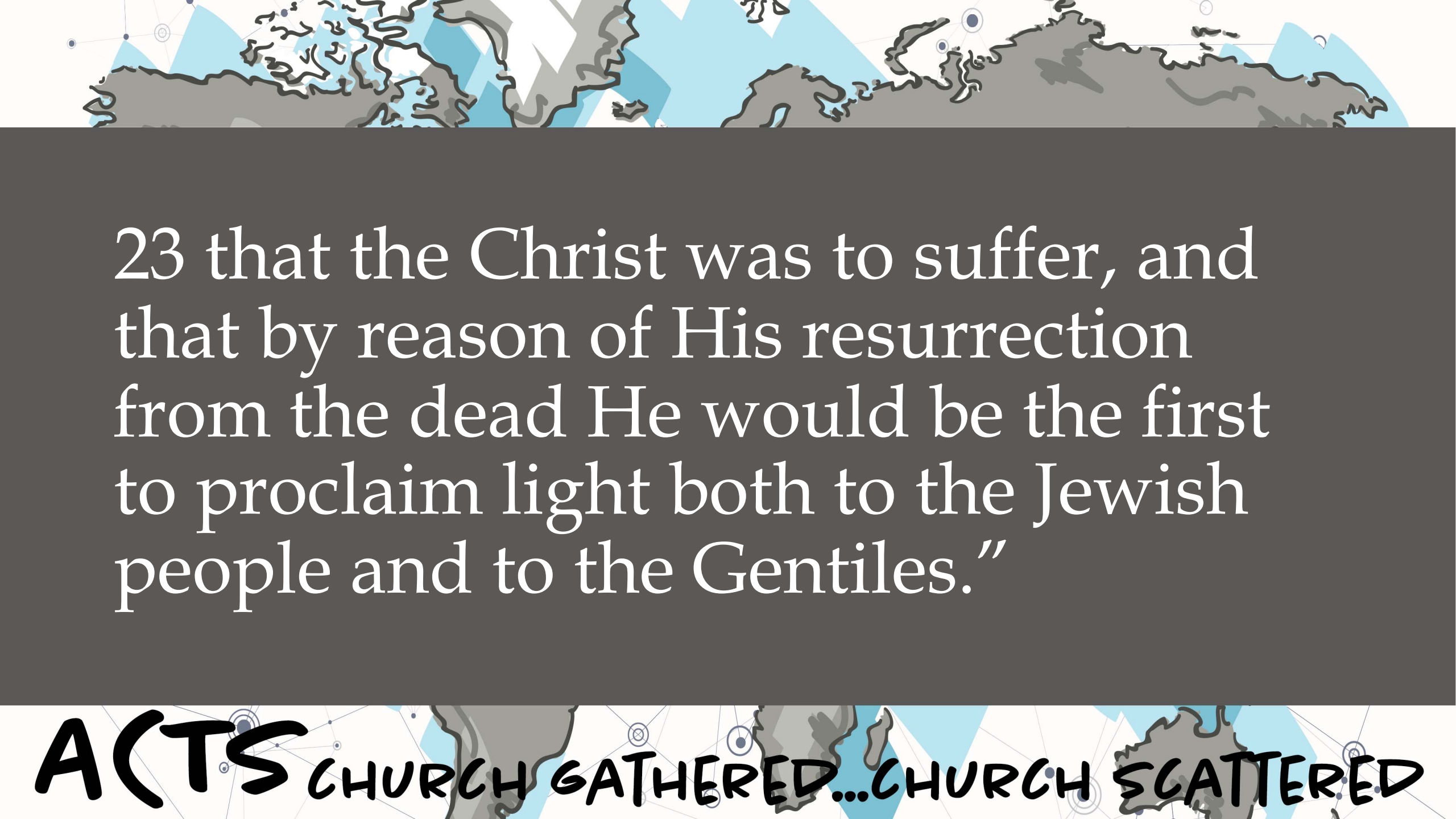
**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



22 So, having obtained help from God, I stand to this day testifying both to small and great, stating nothing but what the Prophets and Moses said was going to take place;

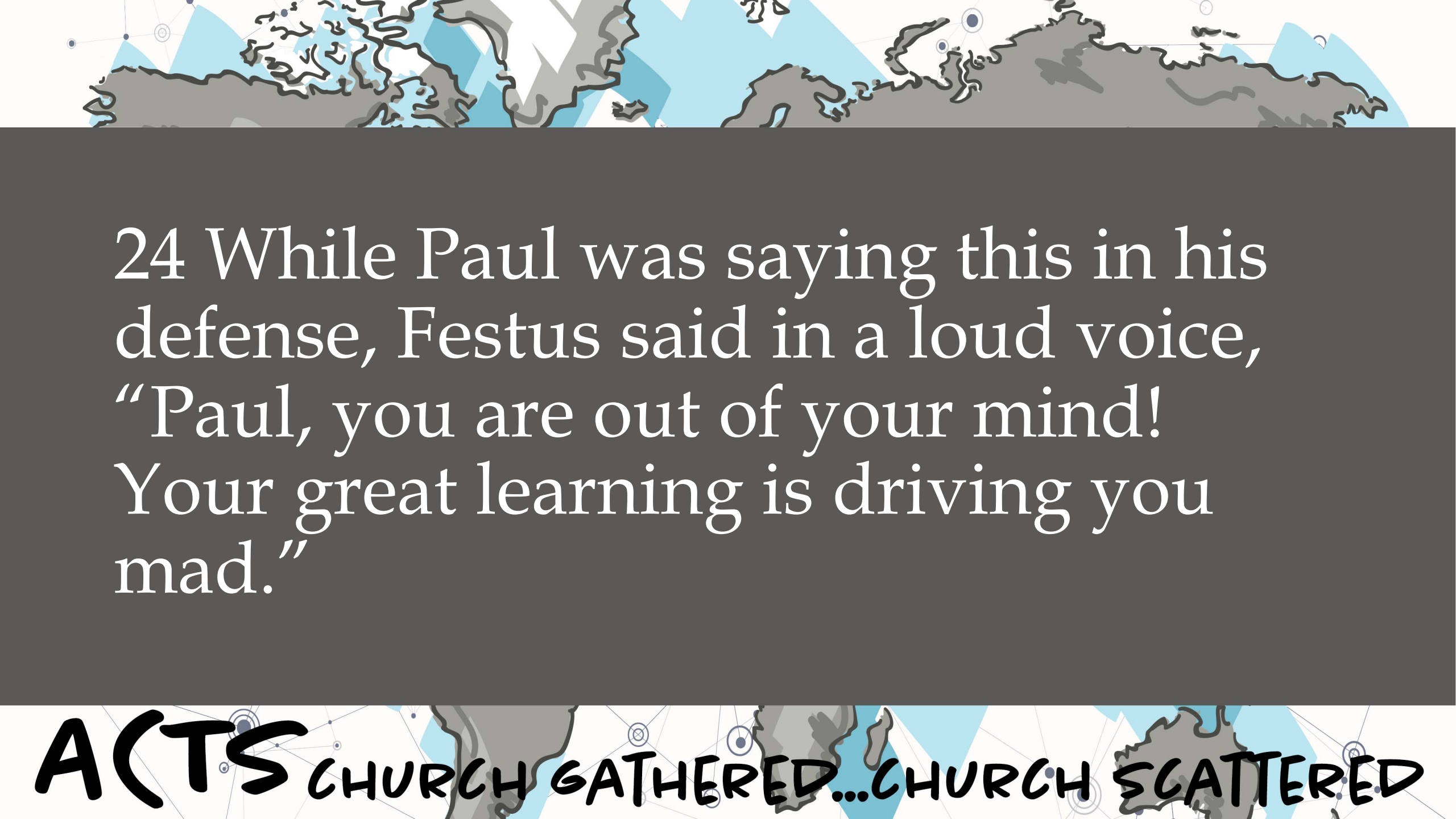
**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED





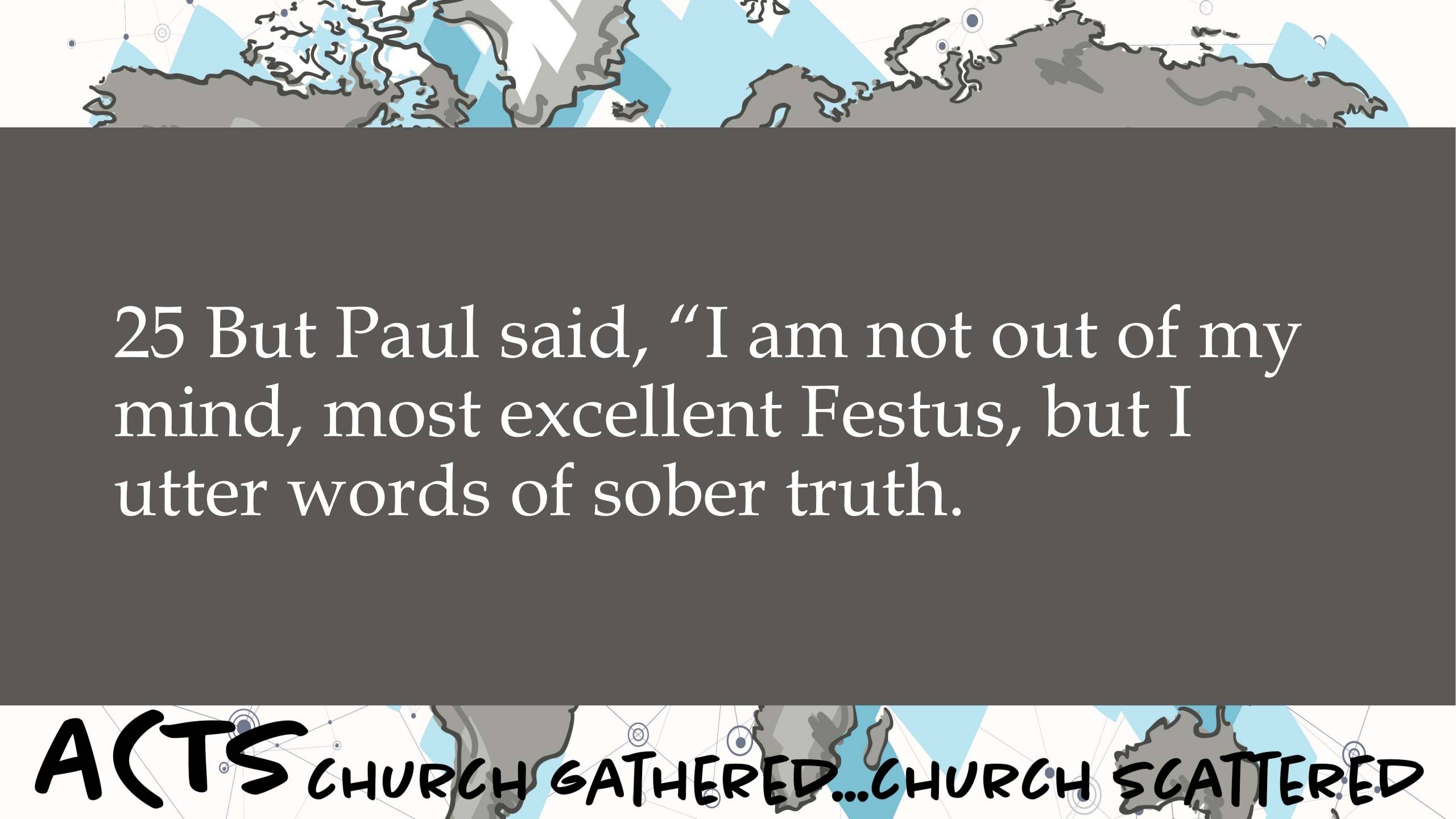
23 that the Christ was to suffer, and that by reason of His resurrection from the dead He would be the first to proclaim light both to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles.”

**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**




24 While Paul was saying this in his defense, Festus said in a loud voice, “Paul, you are out of your mind! Your great learning is driving you mad.”

**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**



25 But Paul said, “I am not out of my mind, most excellent Festus, but I utter words of sober truth.

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED

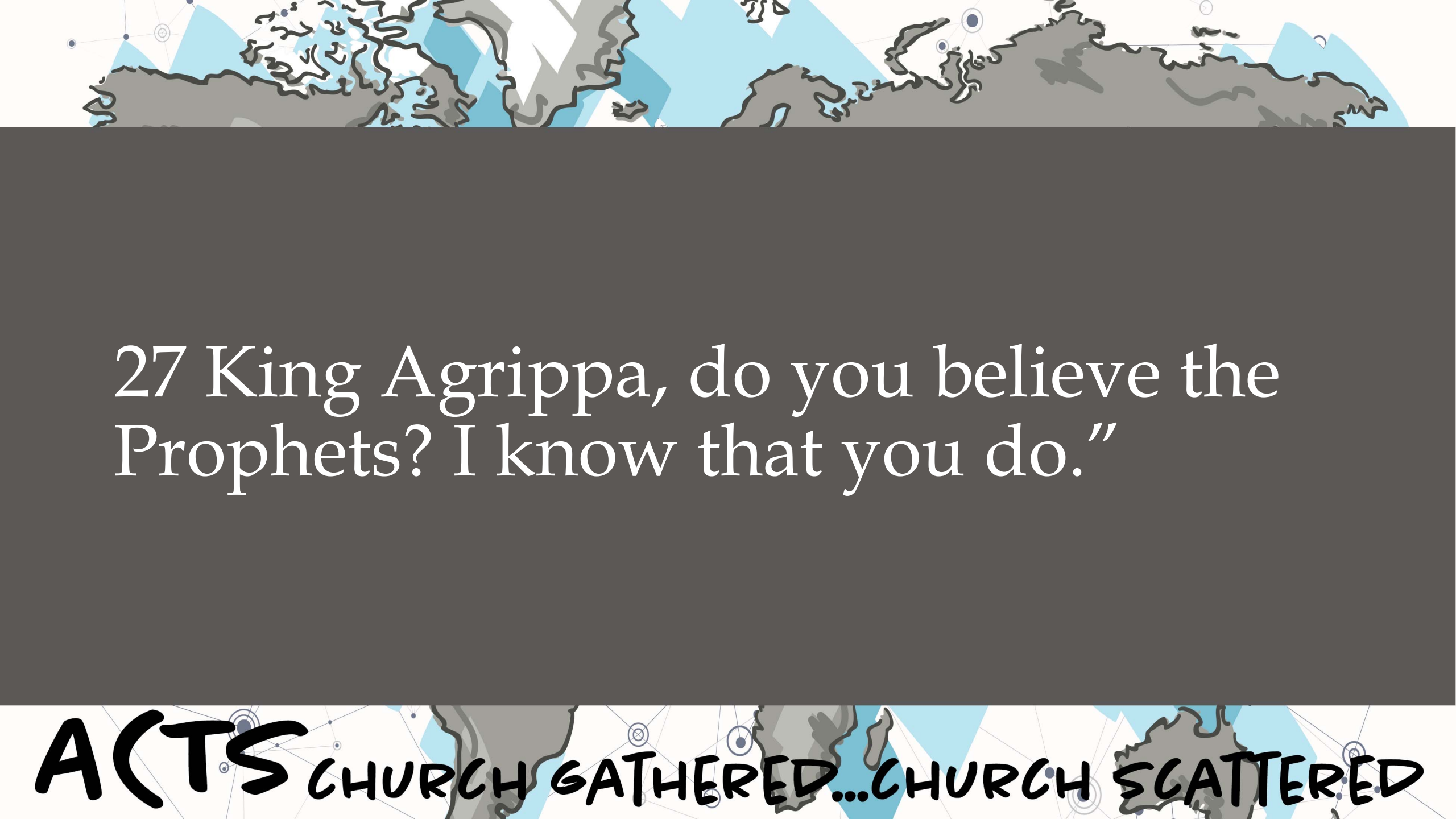


26 For the king knows about these matters, and I speak to him also with confidence, since I am persuaded that none of these things escape his notice; for this has not been done in a corner.

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED

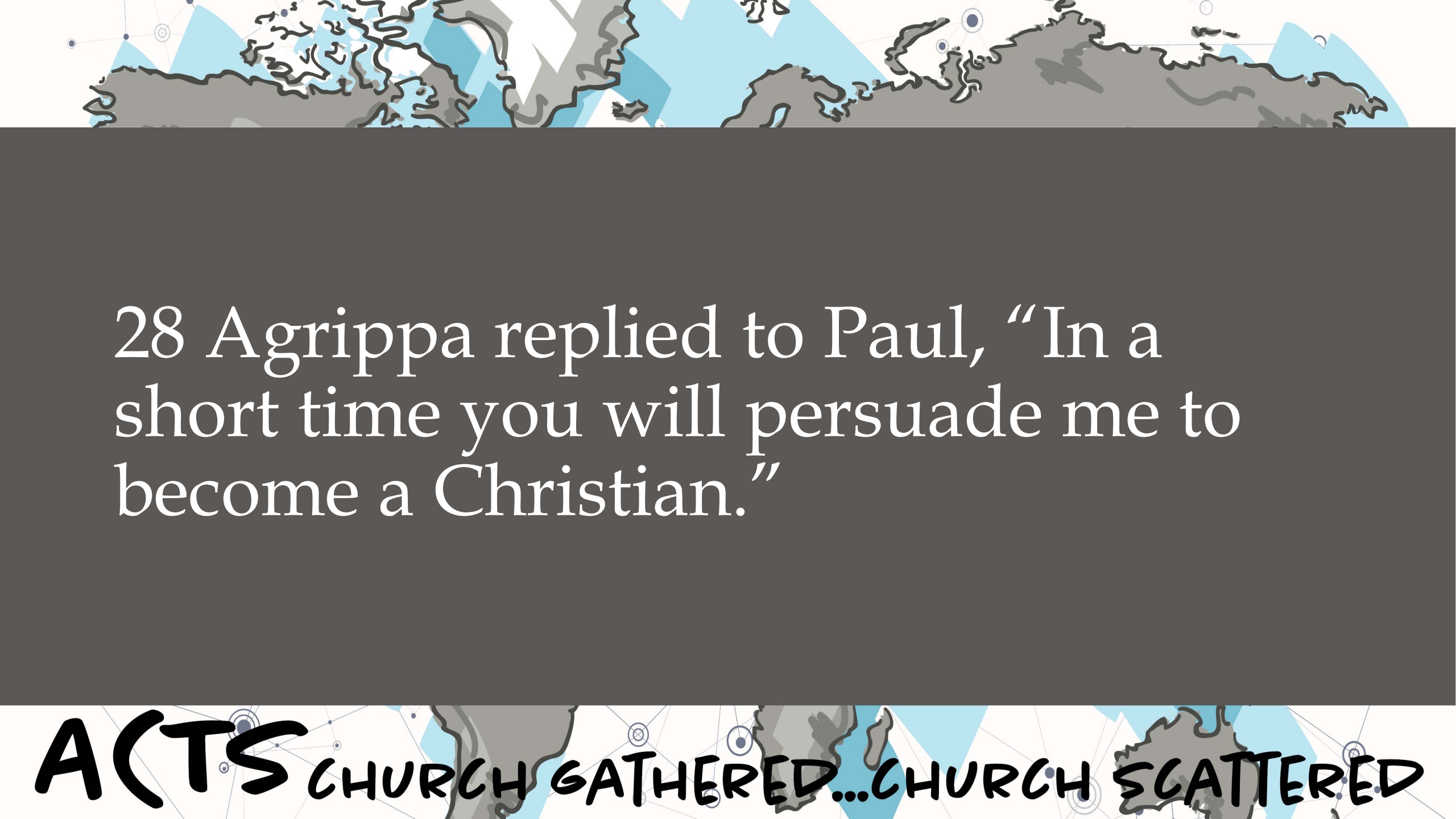






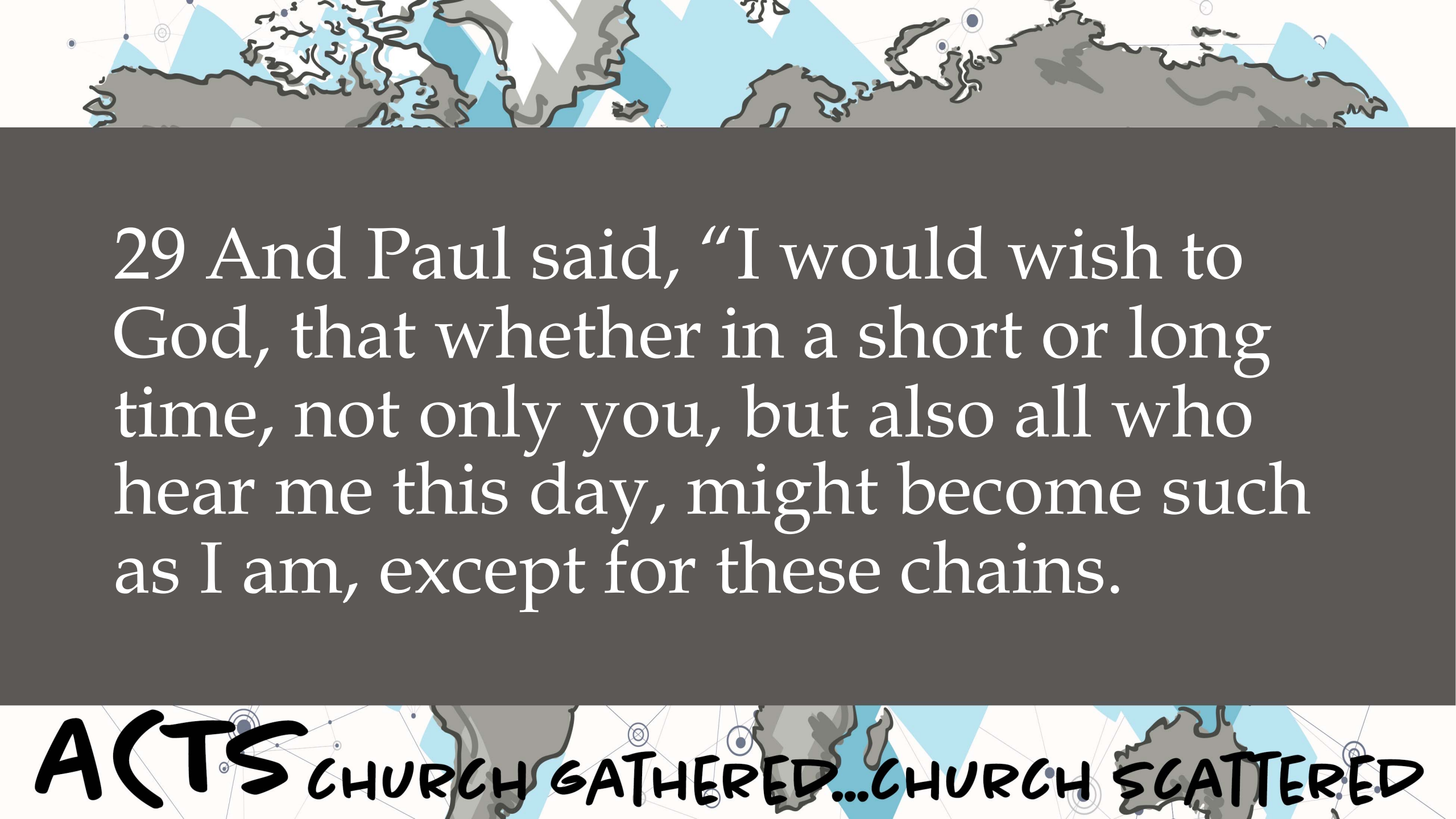
27 King Agrippa, do you believe the Prophets? I know that you do.”

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



28 Agrippa replied to Paul, “In a short time you will persuade me to become a Christian.”

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



29 And Paul said, "I would wish to God, that whether in a short or long time, not only you, but also all who hear me this day, might become such as I am, except for these chains.

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



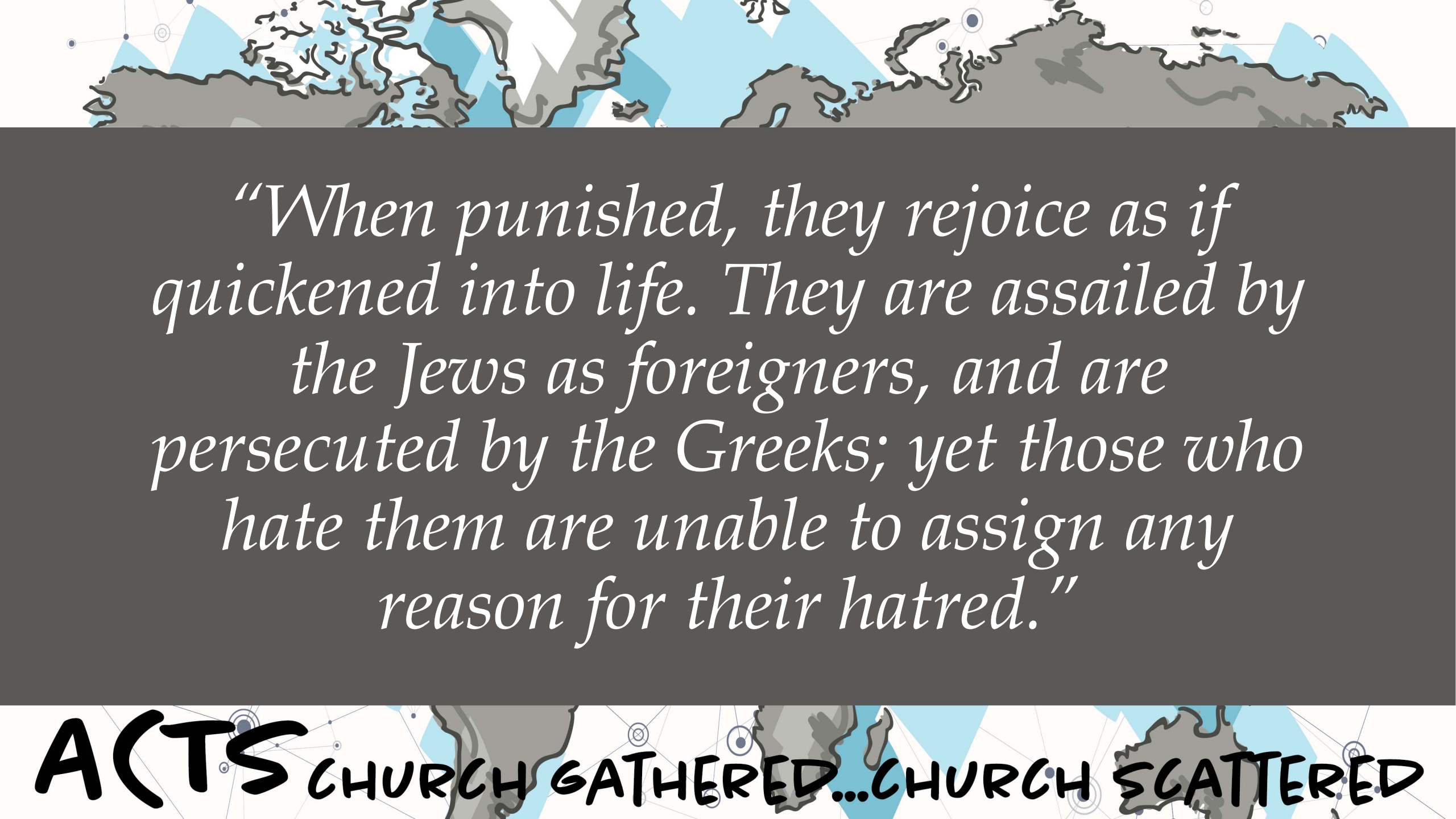
# Who I hope to be vss 20-29

- On Trial - angry Jews
- On Text - Prophets & Moses
- On Truth - empty tomb!
- On Time - this day!



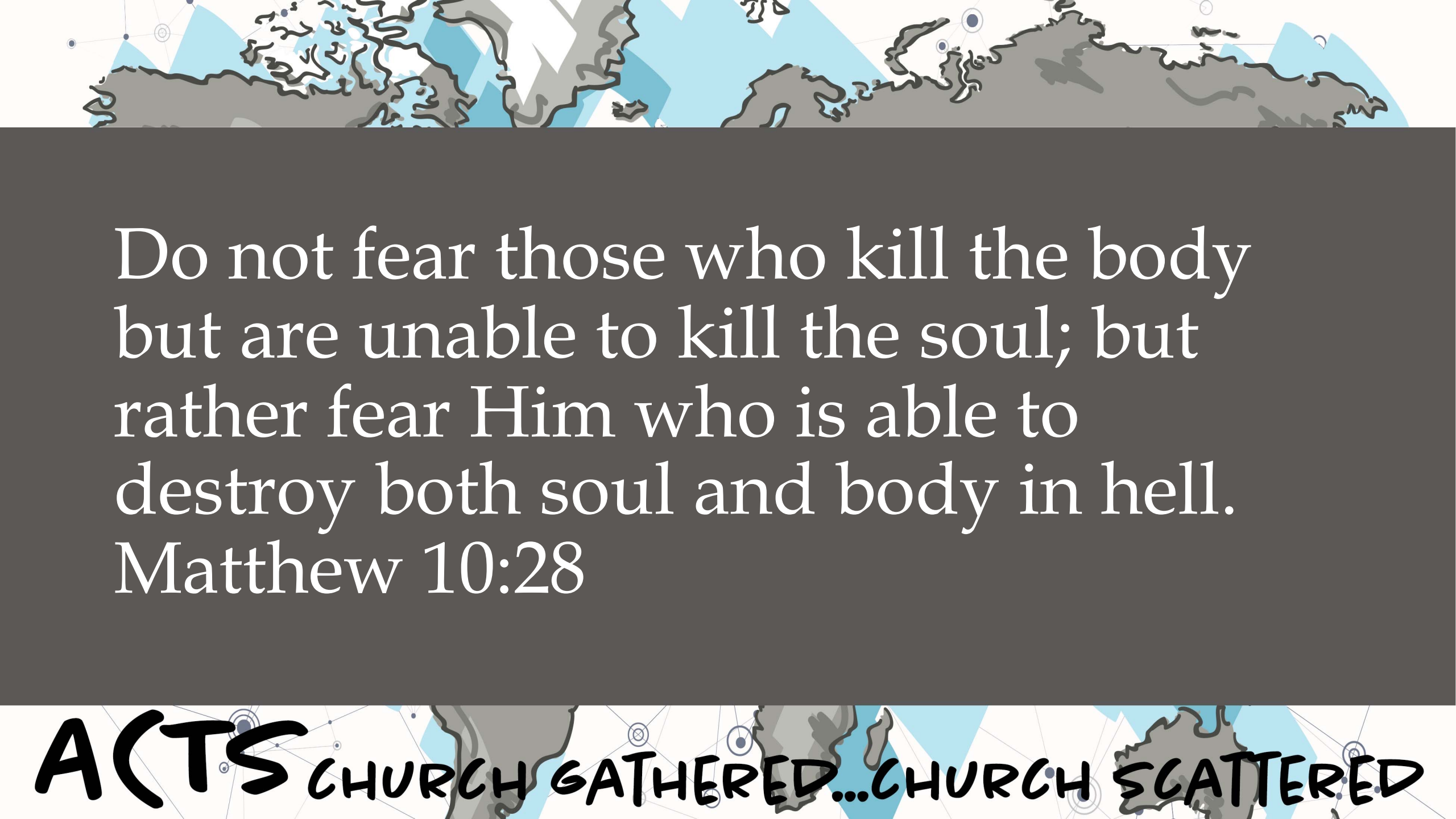
**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED





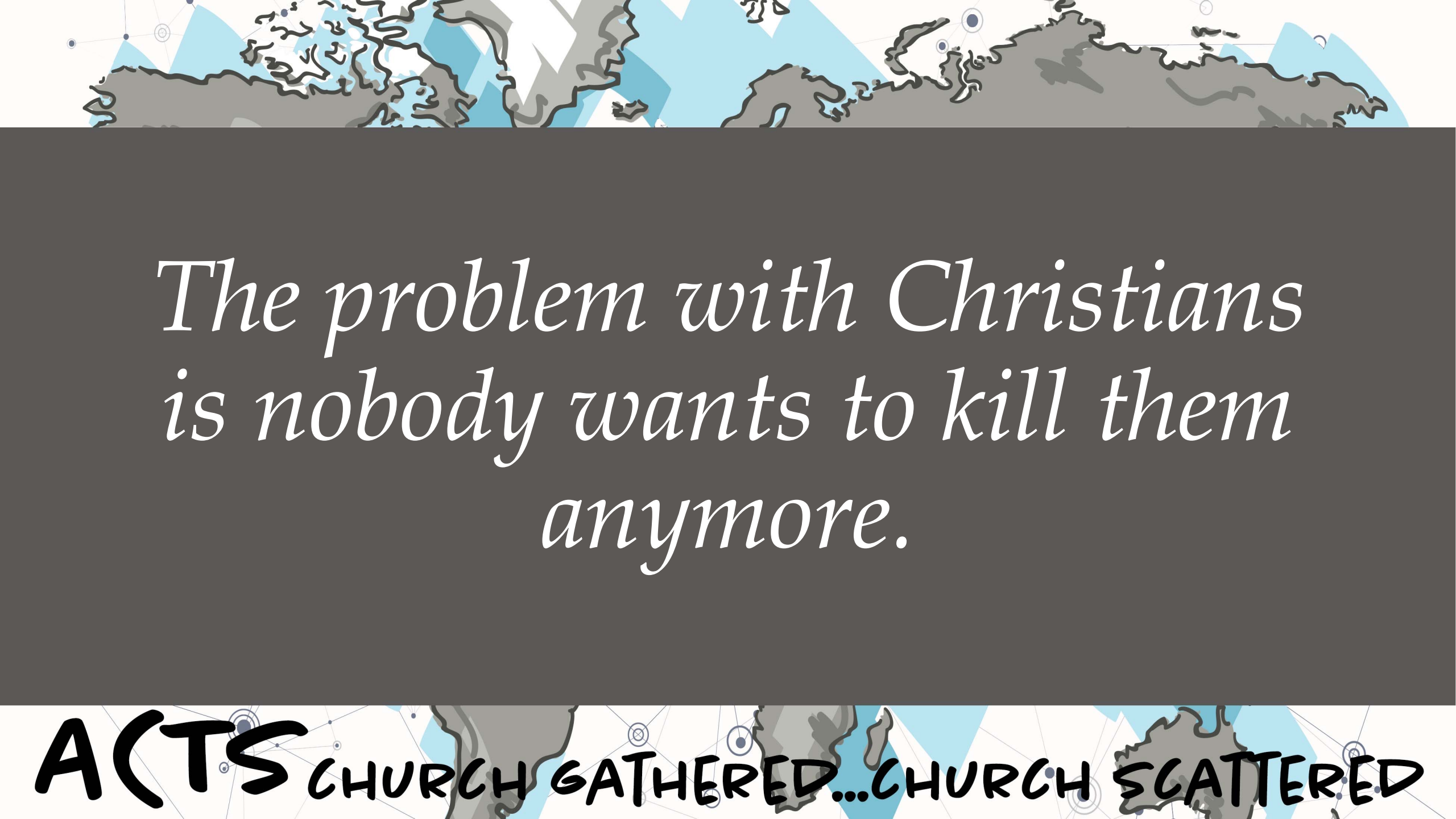
*“When punished, they rejoice as if quickened into life. They are assailed by the Jews as foreigners, and are persecuted by the Greeks; yet those who hate them are unable to assign any reason for their hatred.”*

**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**



Do not fear those who kill the body  
but are unable to kill the soul; but  
rather fear Him who is able to  
destroy both soul and body in hell.  
Matthew 10:28

**ACTS** CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



*The problem with Christians  
is nobody wants to kill them  
anymore.*

**ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED**

