

A stylized world map with a network overlay. The map is rendered in shades of gray and light blue, with a network of gray 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



Saying Goodbye

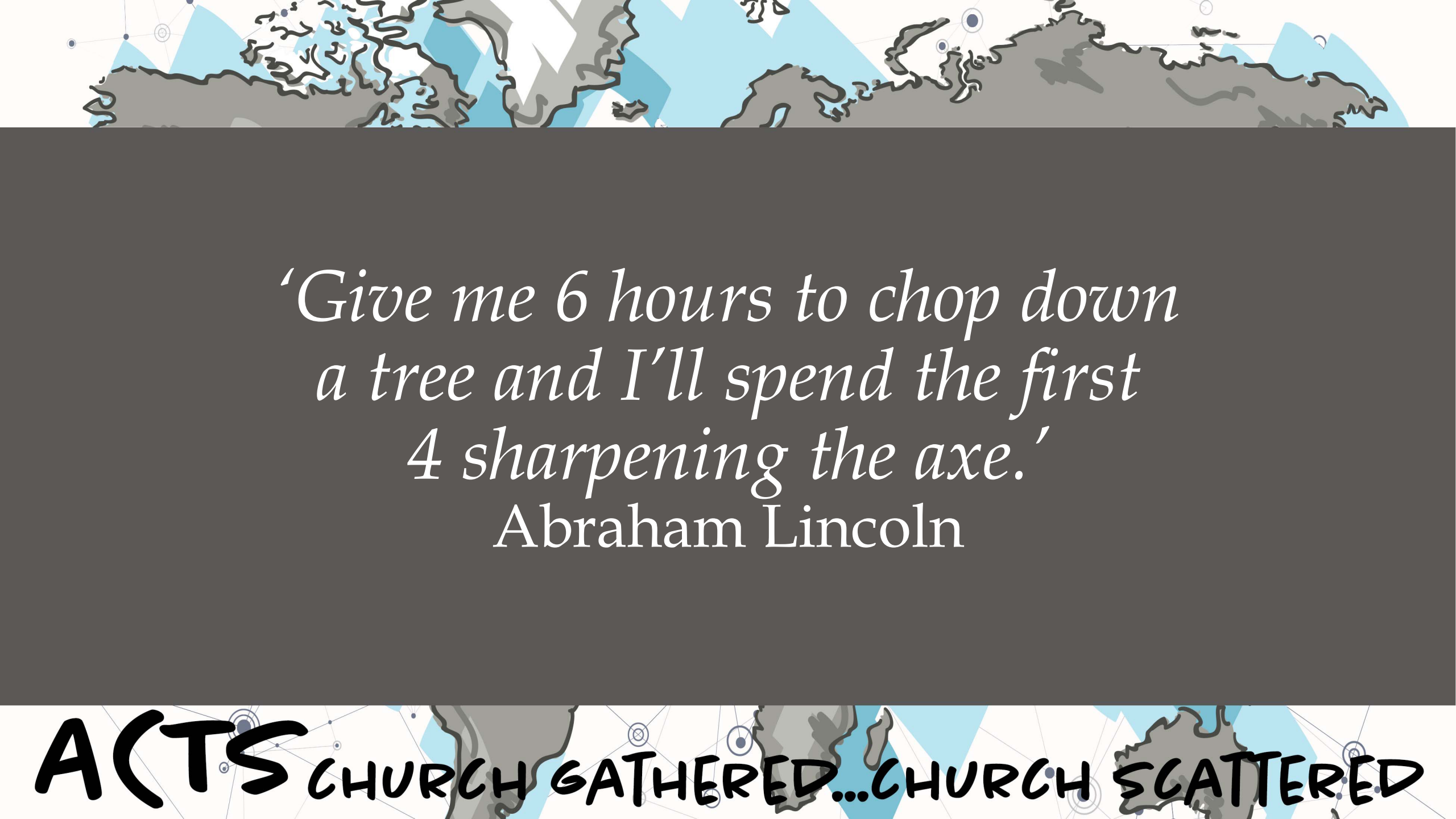
Acts 20



ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED

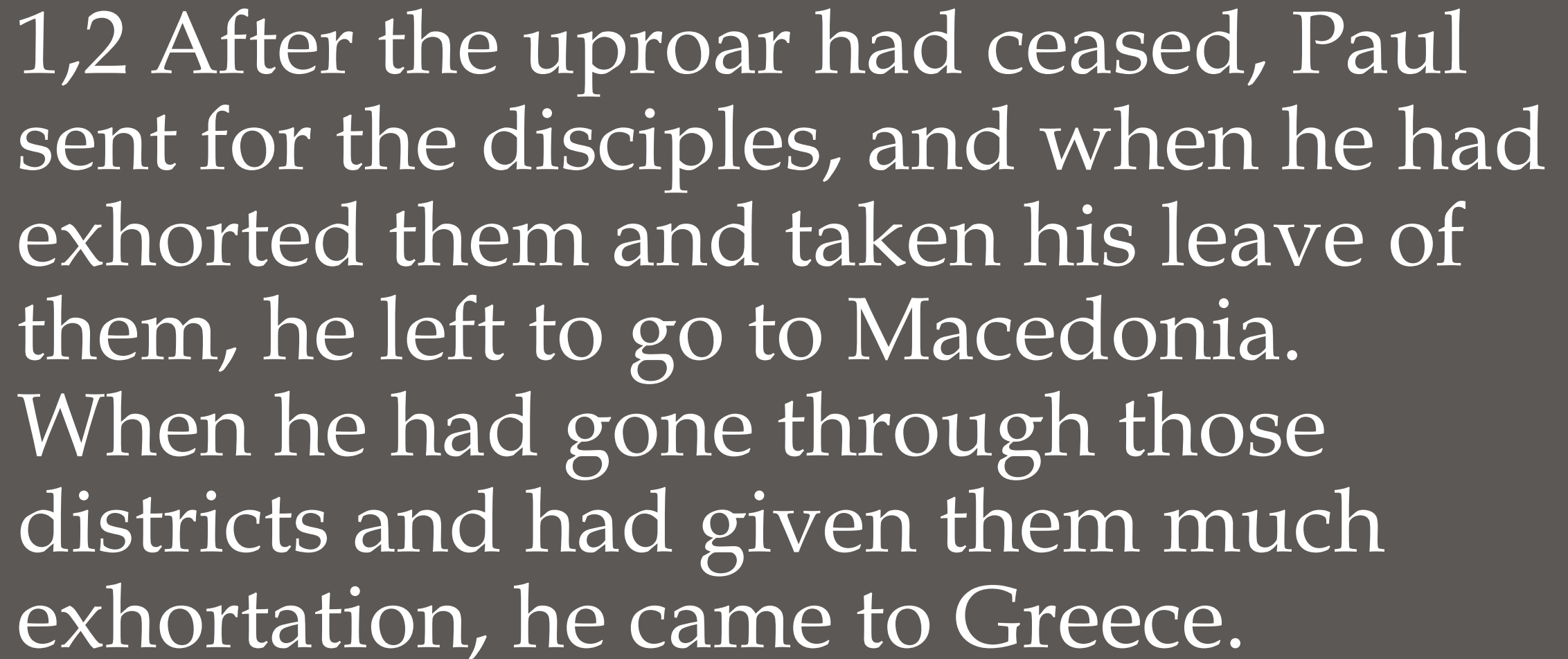
*“The test of a sermon is not what we heard
but what we do!”*

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



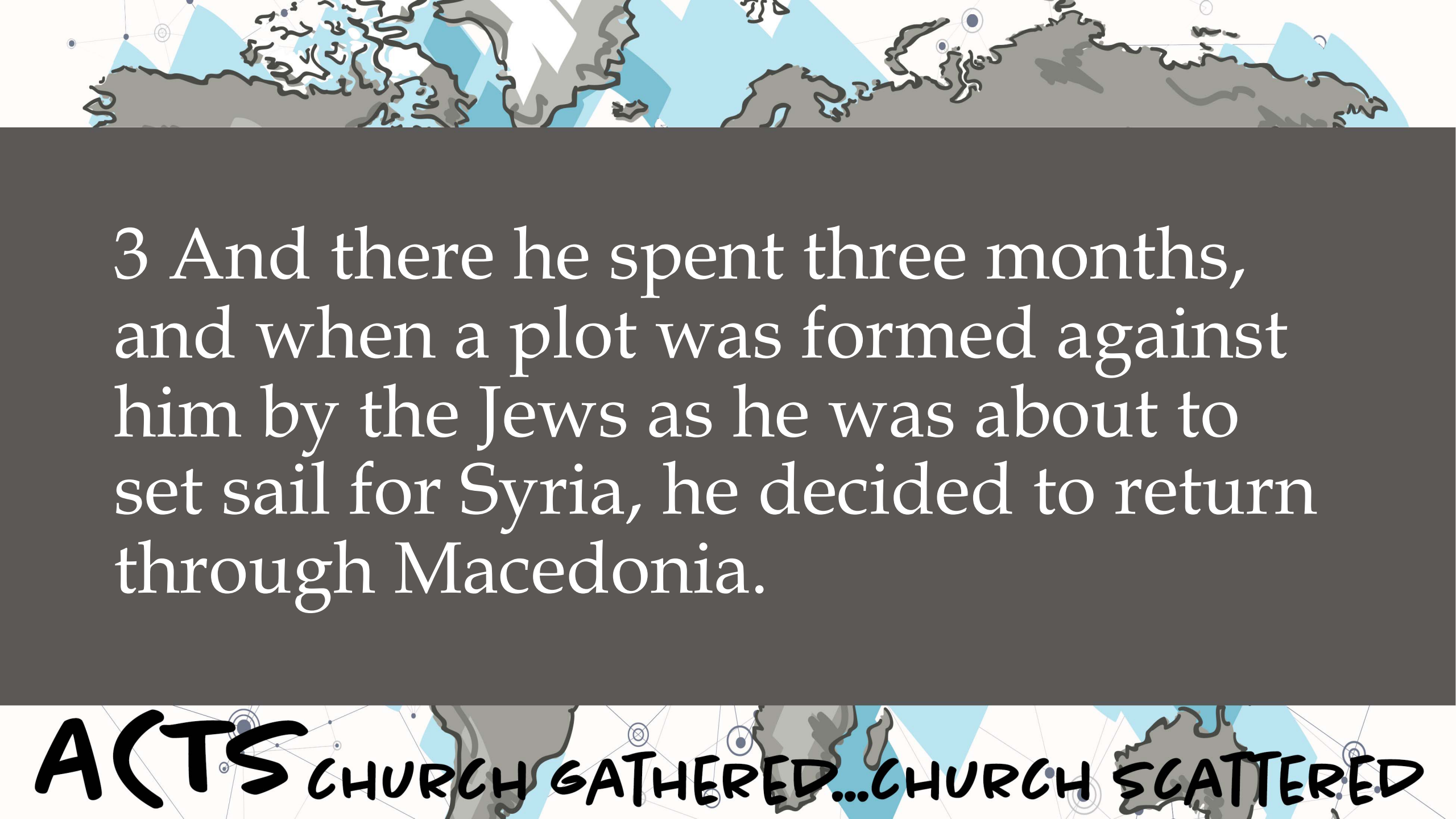
*'Give me 6 hours to chop down
a tree and I'll spend the first
4 sharpening the axe.'*
Abraham Lincoln

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED




1,2 After the uproar had ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and when he had exhorted them and taken his leave of them, he left to go to Macedonia. When he had gone through those districts and had given them much exhortation, he came to Greece.

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3 And there he spent three months,
and when a plot was formed against
him by the Jews as he was about to
set sail for Syria, he decided to return
through Macedonia.

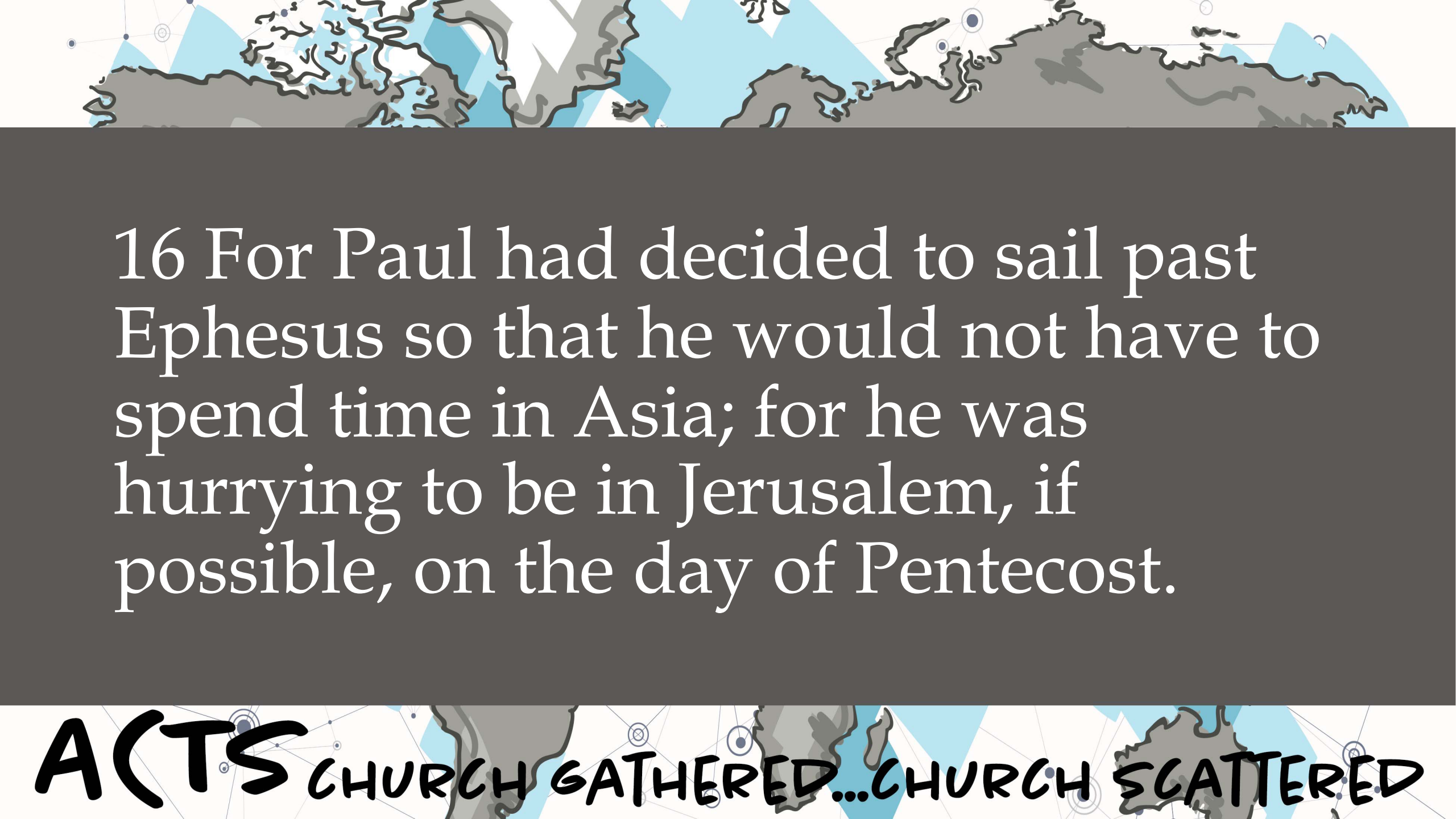
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6 We sailed from Philippi after the days of Unleavened Bread, and came to them at Troas within five days; and there we stayed seven days.

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16 For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be in Jerusalem, if possible, on the day of Pentecost.

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MACEDONIA



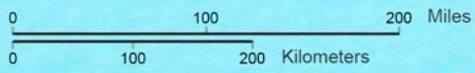
Paul restores life to young Eutychus

John's disciples believe in Jesus
Jewish exorcists fail to reproduce Paul's miracles
Magic books burnt
Demetrius & craftsmen of Diana cause uproar against the Way

Paul exhorts Ephesian elders & says tribulations & chains await him in Jerusalem
Elders weep because they won't see Paul anymore

Disciples warn Paul on the Journey to Jerusalem
Paul determined to do the will of the Lord and go to Jerusalem

Paul arrested in the Temple
Paul defends himself & witnesses to the Jews in Jerusalem



PAUL'S THIRD MISSIONARY JOURNEY
Acts 19:1 - 21:14

- City
- One of the "Seven Churches of Asia" - Rev. 2-3
- ← Paul's Route

ConformingToJesus.com

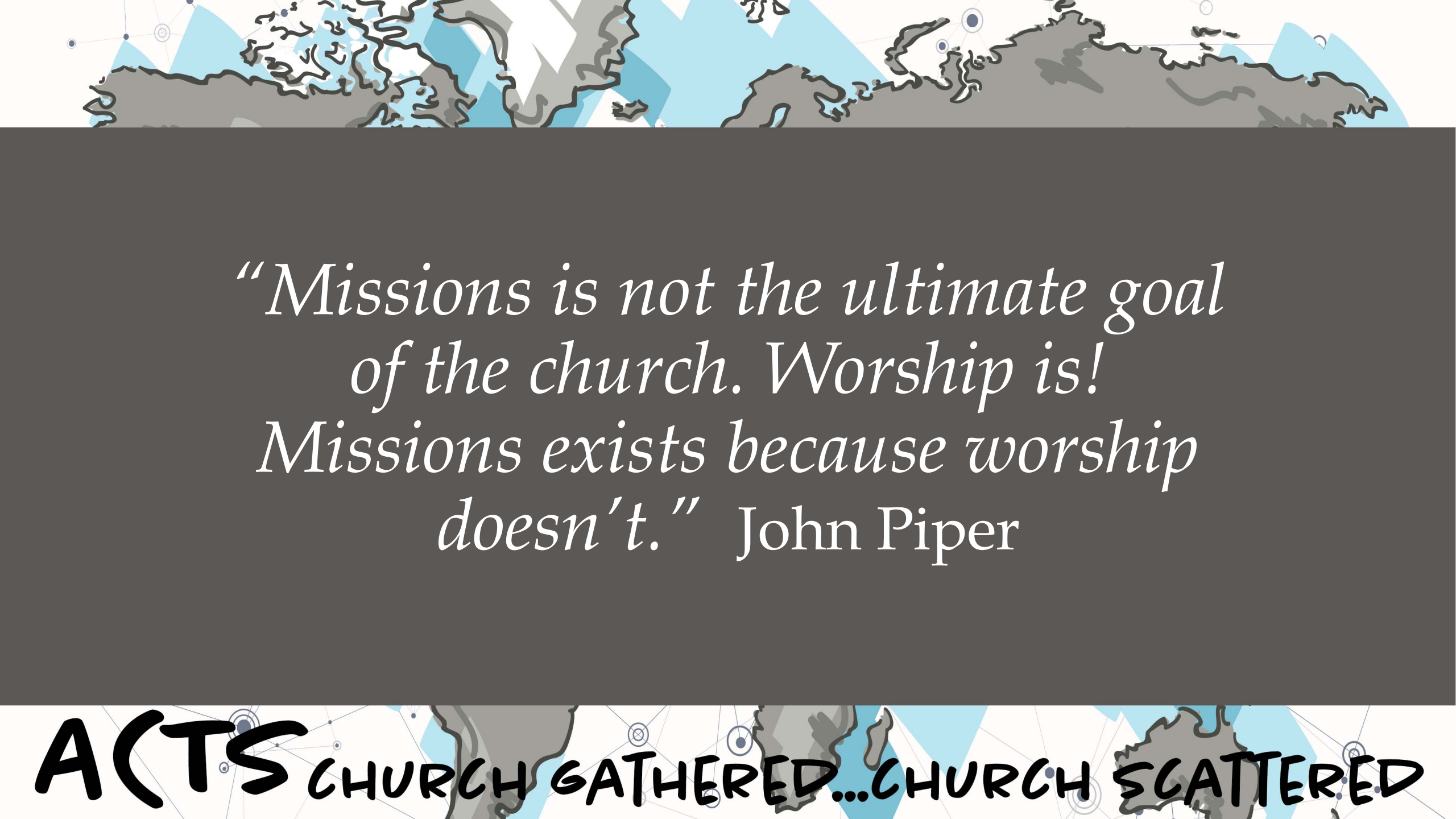


Paul's Ministry 1-16

- Undaunted by opposition
- Undistracted by needs
- Unable to ignore
- Unwilling to delay

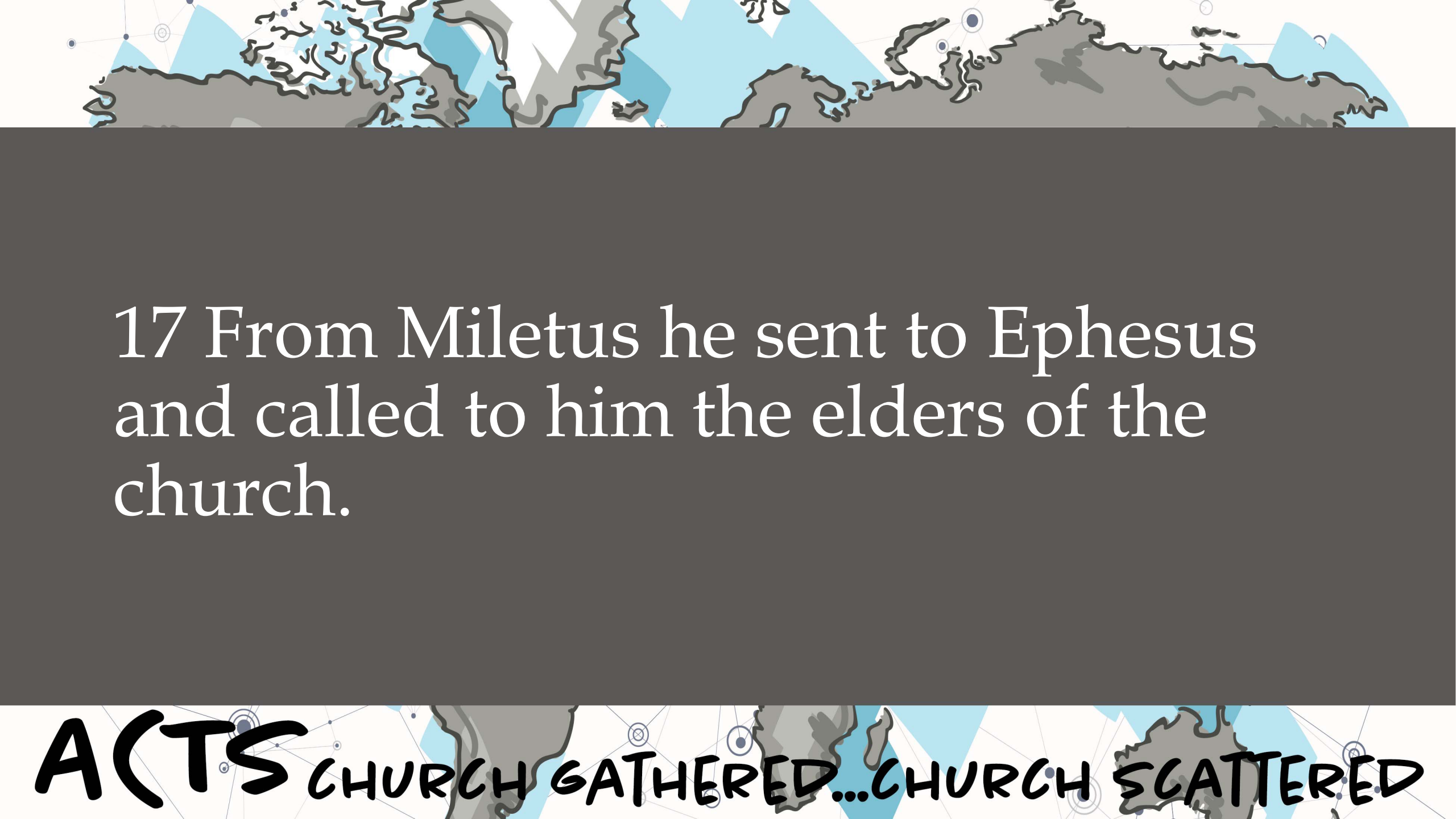


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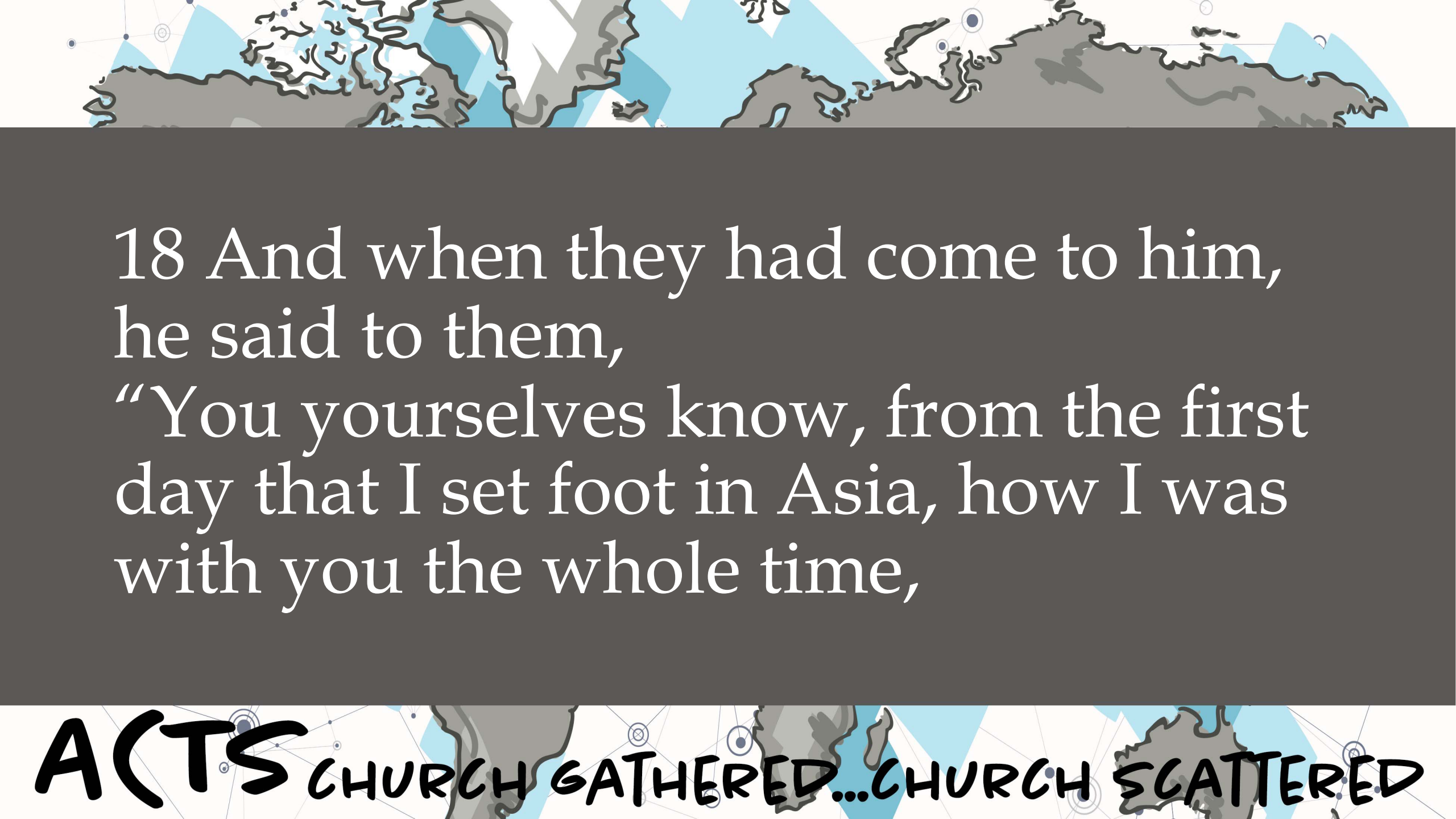
*“Missions is not the ultimate goal
of the church. Worship is!
Missions exists because worship
doesn’t.” John Piper*

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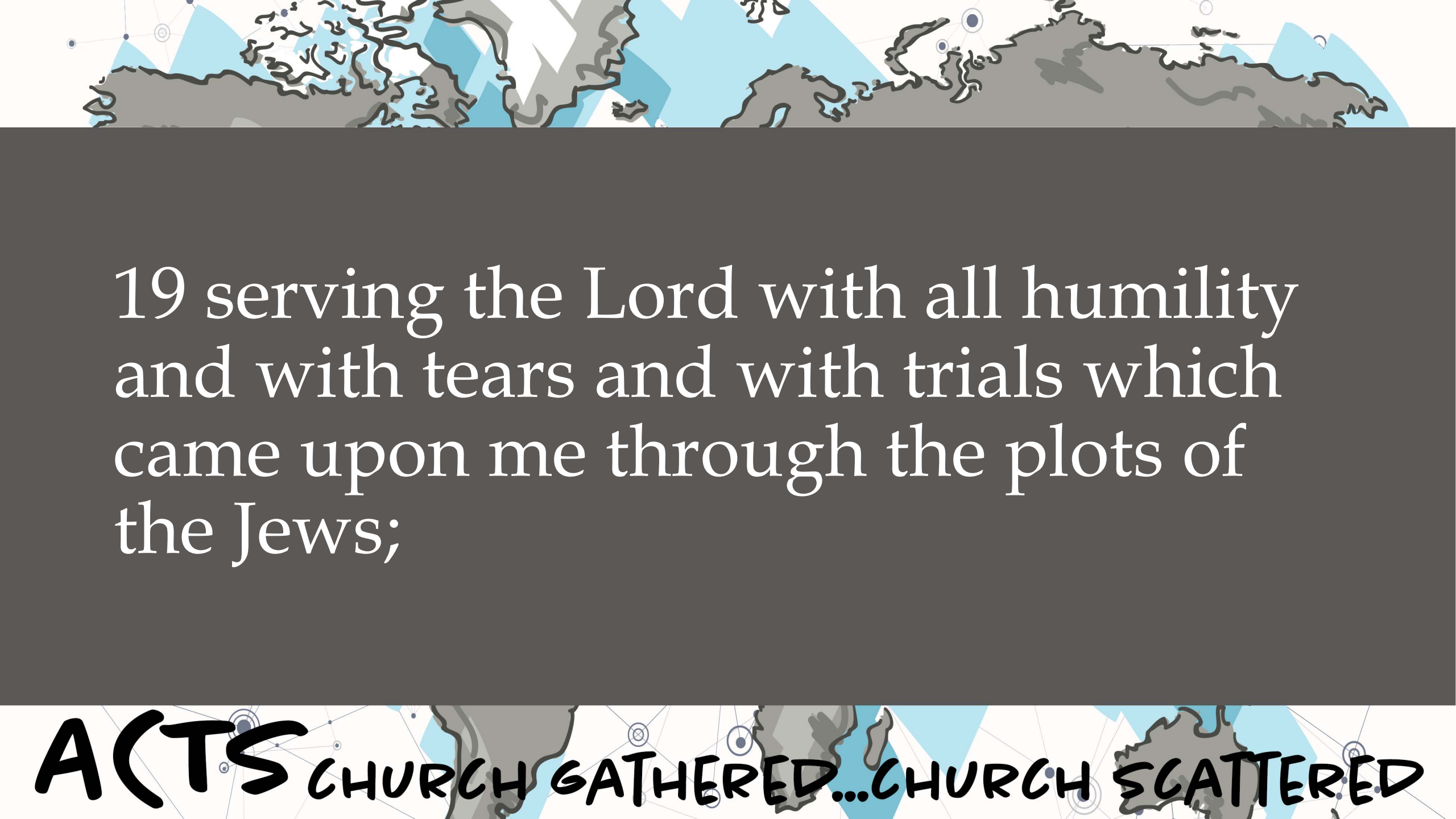
17 From Miletus he sent to Ephesus
and called to him the elders of the
church.

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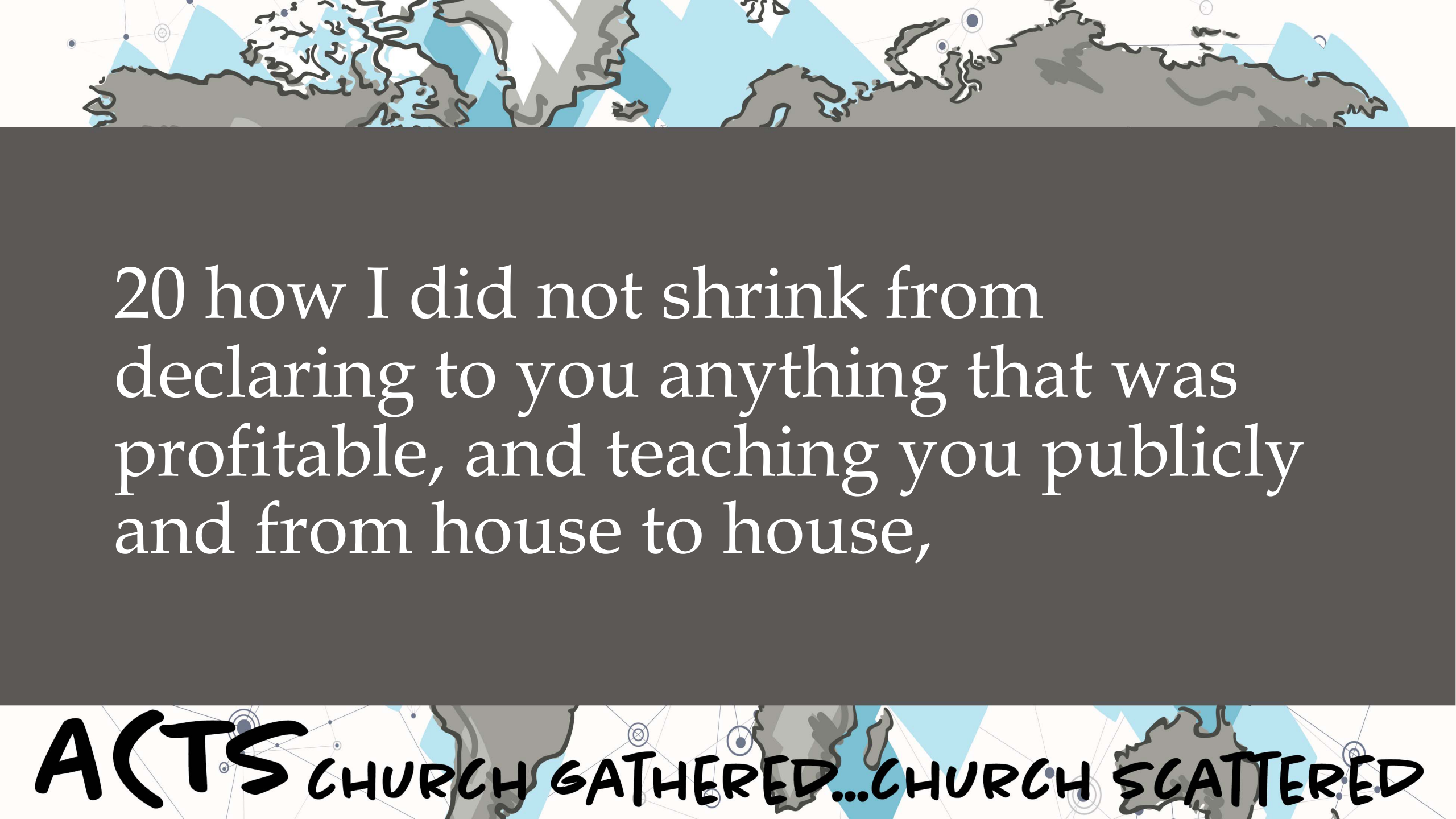
18 And when they had come to him,
he said to them,
“You yourselves know, from the first
day that I set foot in Asia, how I was
with you the whole time,

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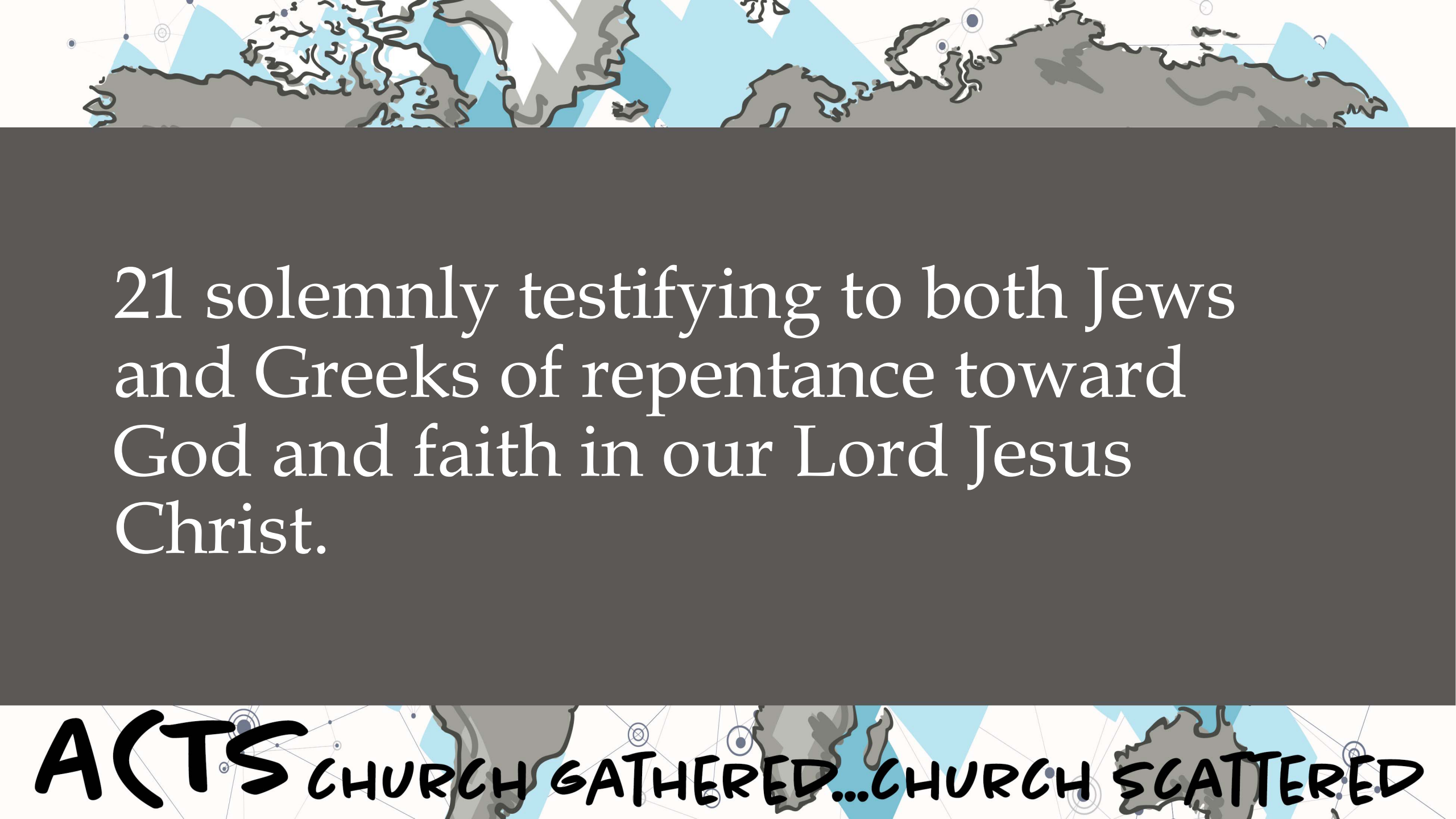
19 serving the Lord with all humility
and with tears and with trials which
came upon me through the plots of
the Jews;

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20 how I did not shrink from
declaring to you anything that was
profitable, and teaching you publicly
and from house to house,

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21 solemnly testifying to both Jews
and Greeks of repentance toward
God and faith in our Lord Jesus
Christ.

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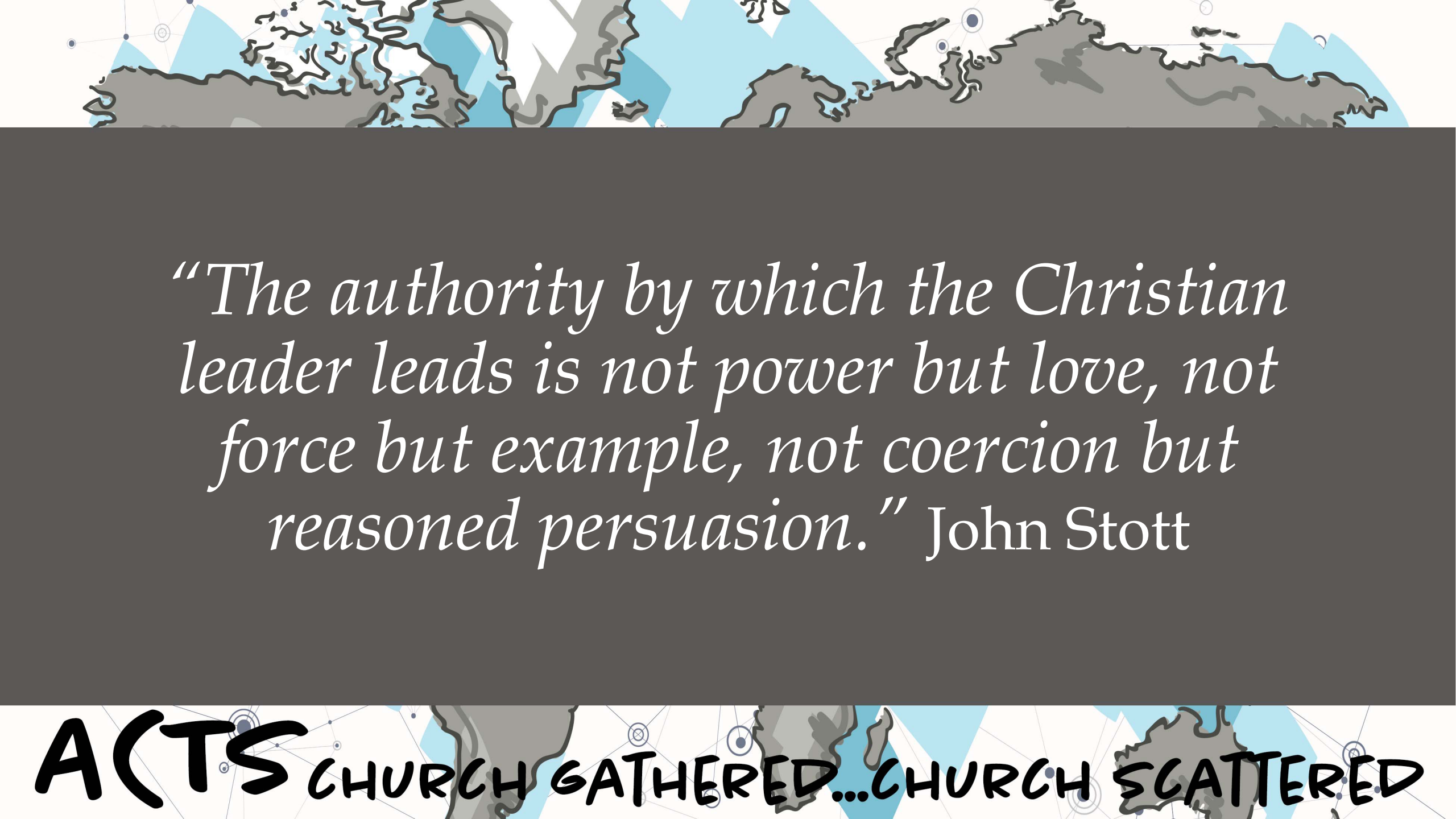


Paul's Message 17-21

- Example – ‘you know’ = w/understand
- Exhortation – ‘serve with humility & tears’
- Expectation – ‘I did not shrink’ (ὑποστέλλω)
- Extension – ‘publicly and house to house’

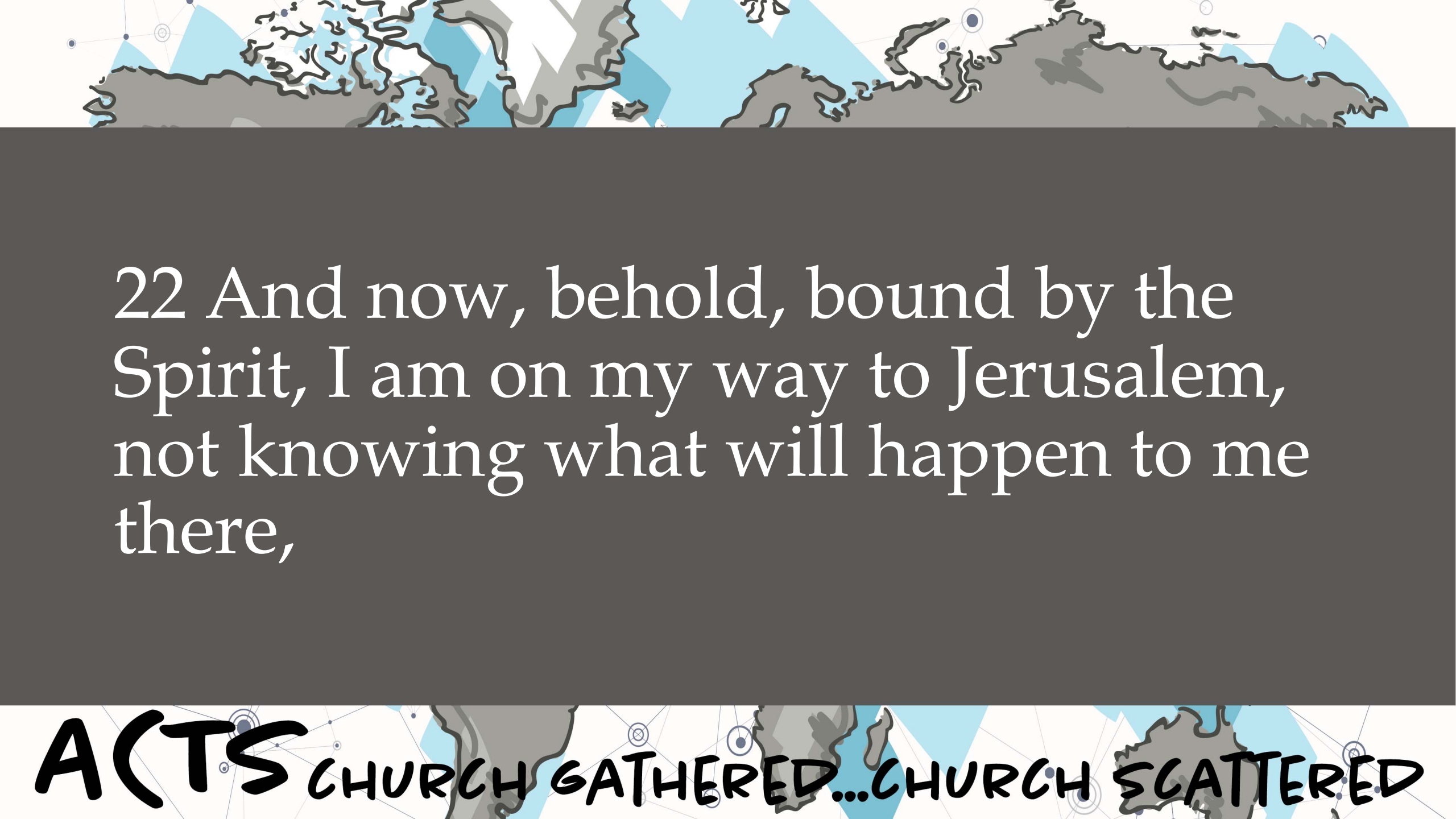


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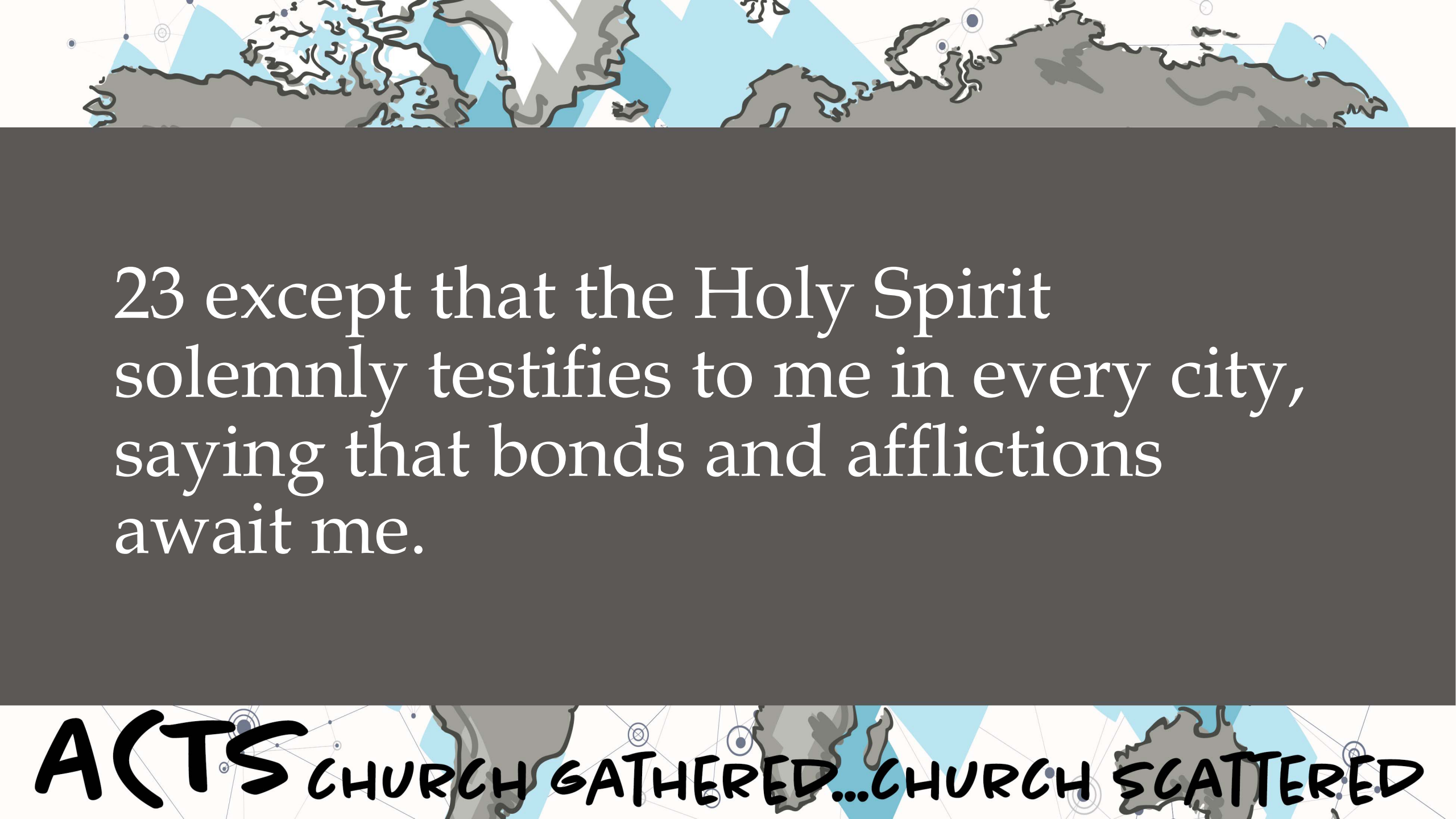
“The authority by which the Christian leader leads is not power but love, not force but example, not coercion but reasoned persuasion.” John Stott

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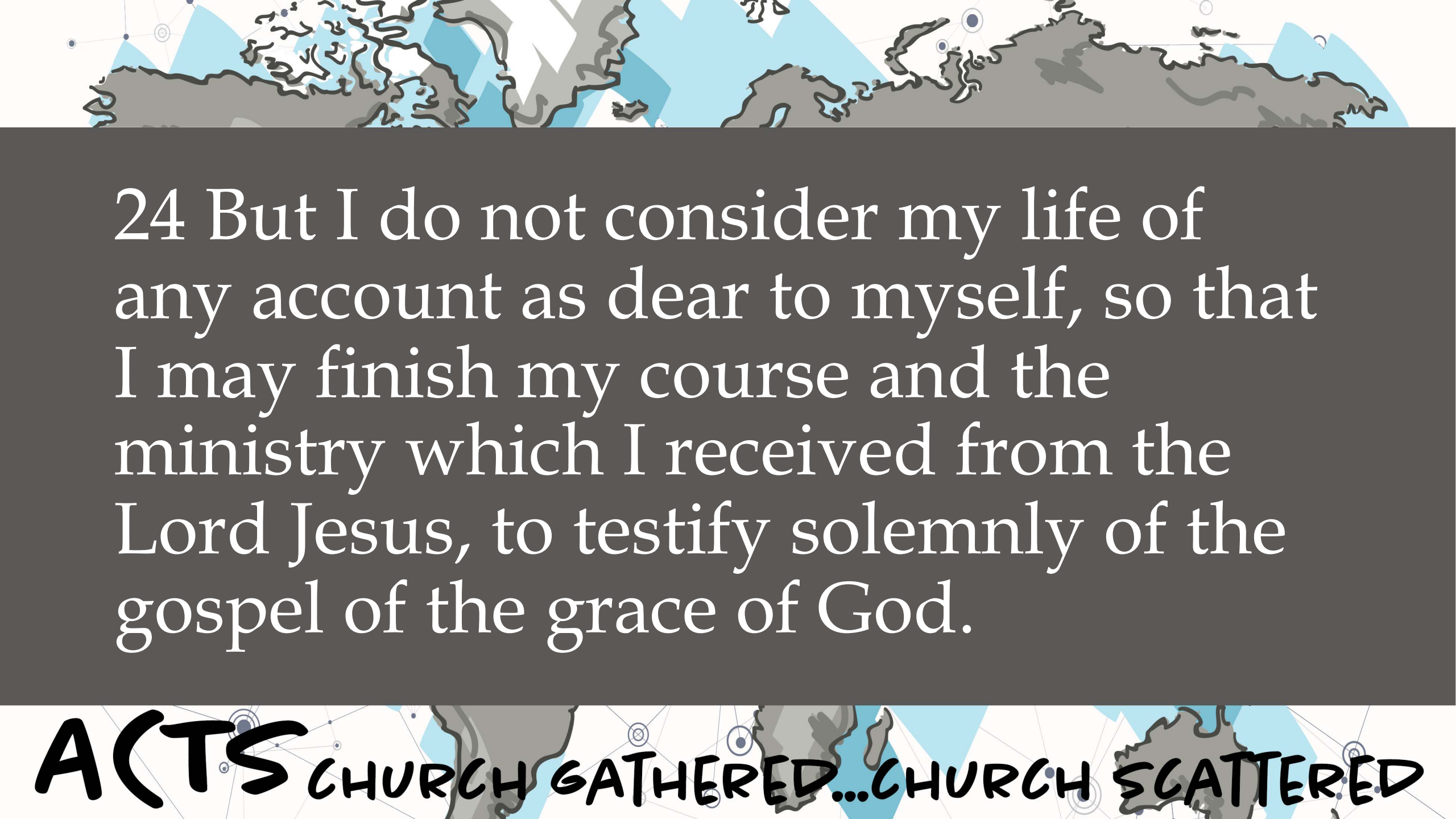
22 And now, behold, bound by the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there,

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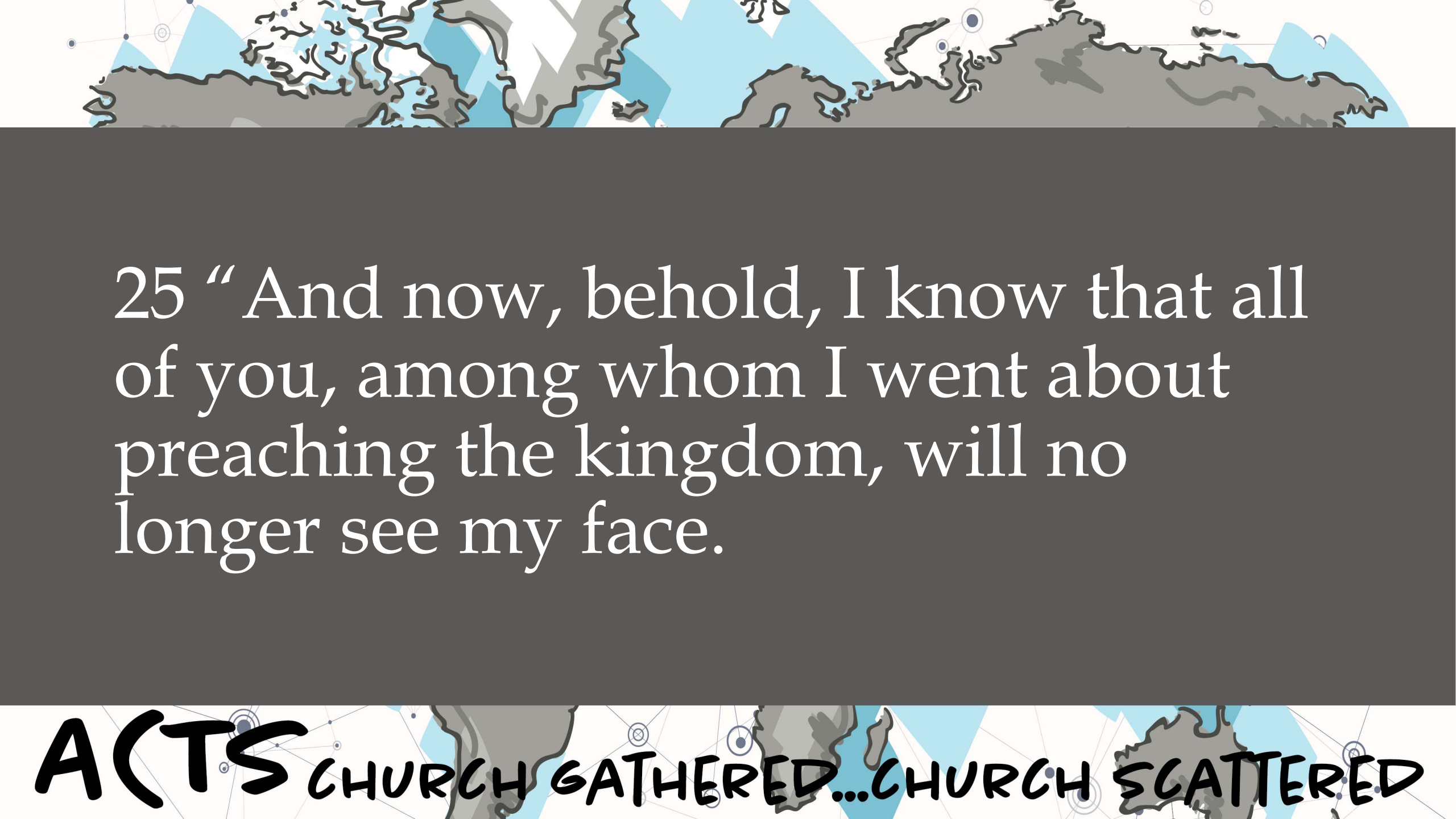
23 except that the Holy Spirit solemnly testifies to me in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions await me.

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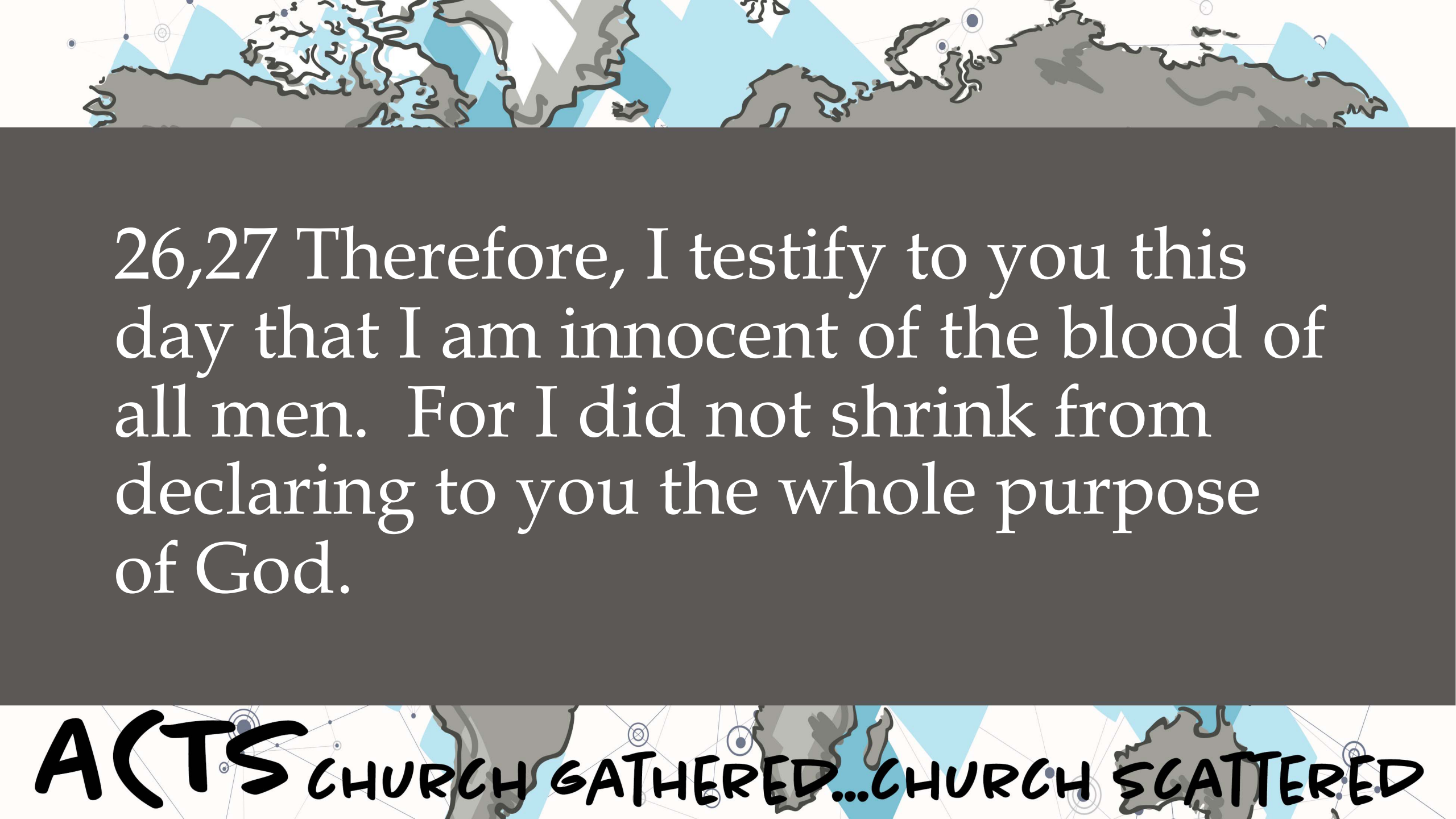
24 But I do not consider my life of any account as dear to myself, so that I may finish my course and the ministry which I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



25 “ And now, behold, I know that all of you, among whom I went about preaching the kingdom, will no longer see my face.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



26,27 Therefore, I testify to you this day that I am innocent of the blood of all men. For I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



Paul's Mission 22-27

- Offering myself to the Spirit's leading
- Offering myself without reservation
- Offering my life without hesitation
- Offering my service without regret



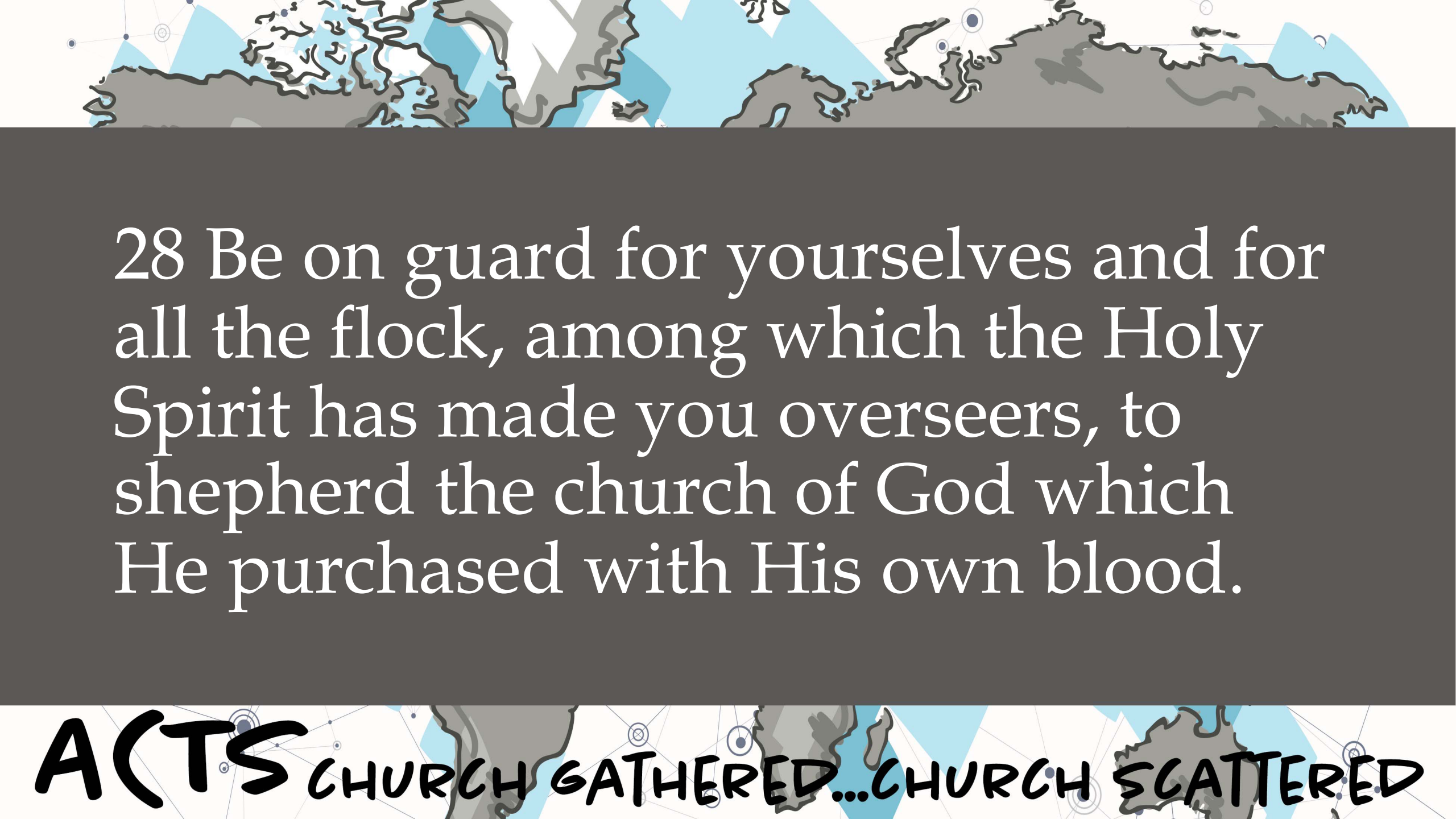
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Paul said

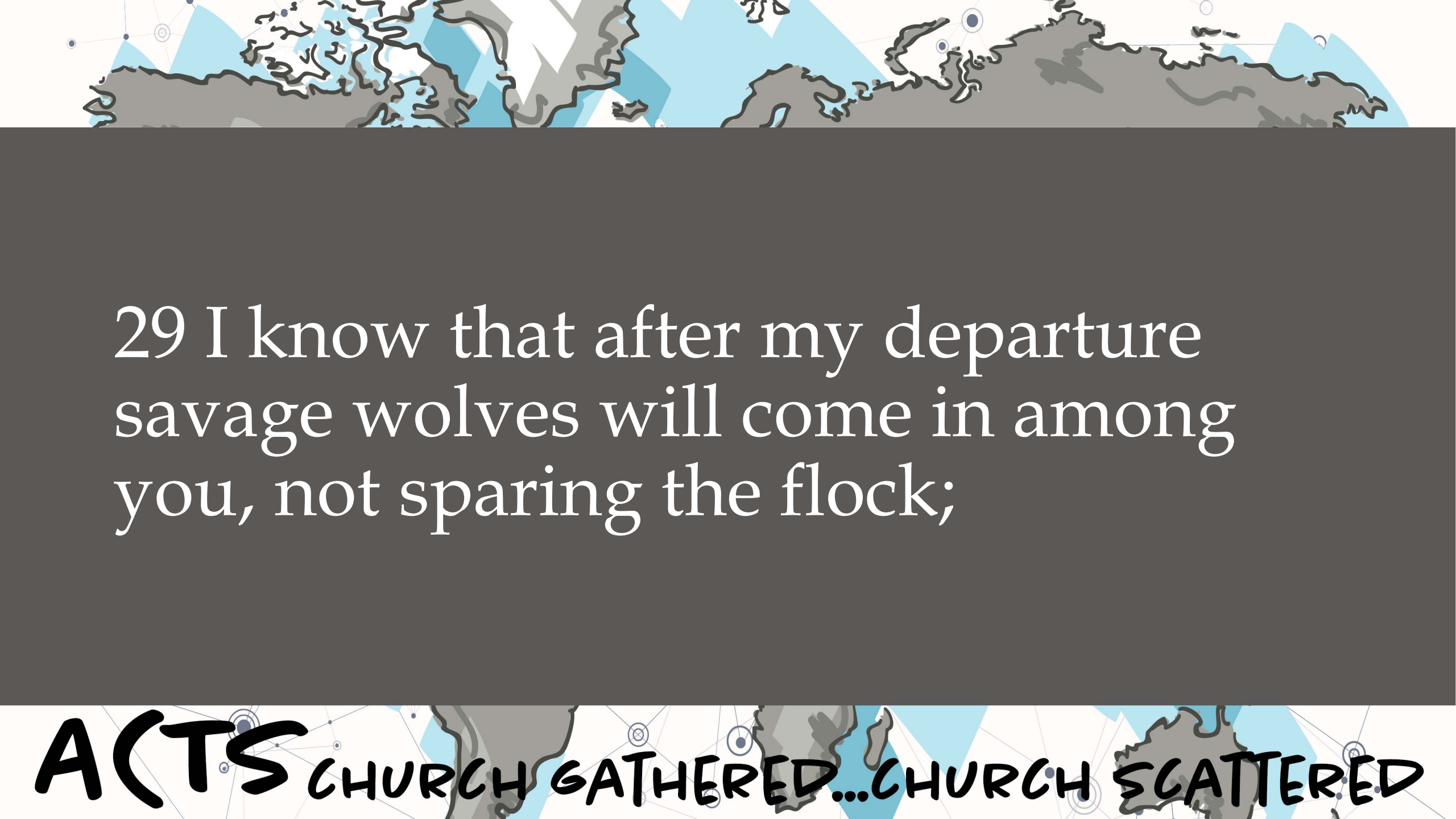
*“Follow me as I follow Christ” –
BUT follow no man no further!
(1 Cor 11:1)*

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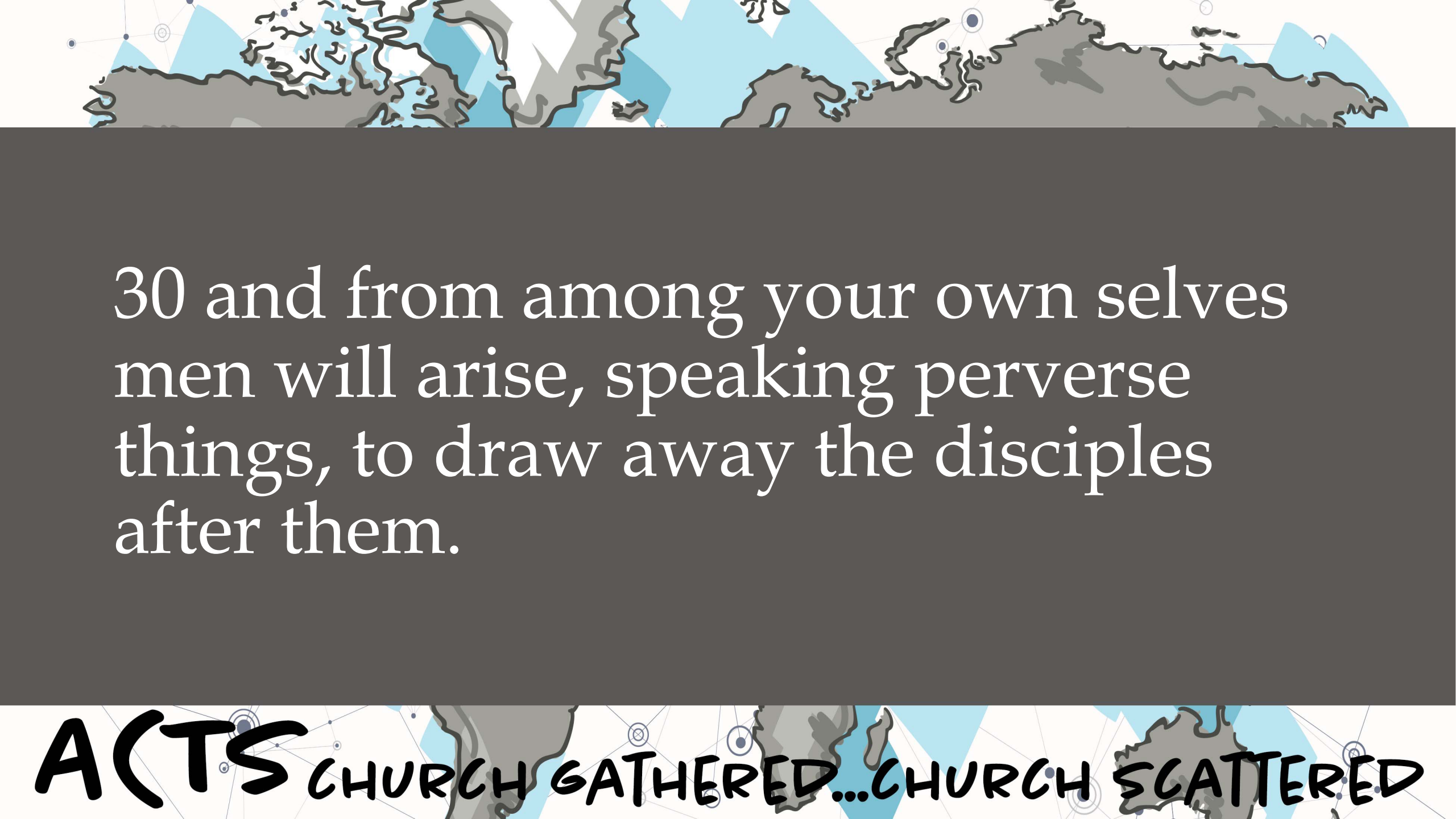
28 Be on guard for yourselves and for all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood.

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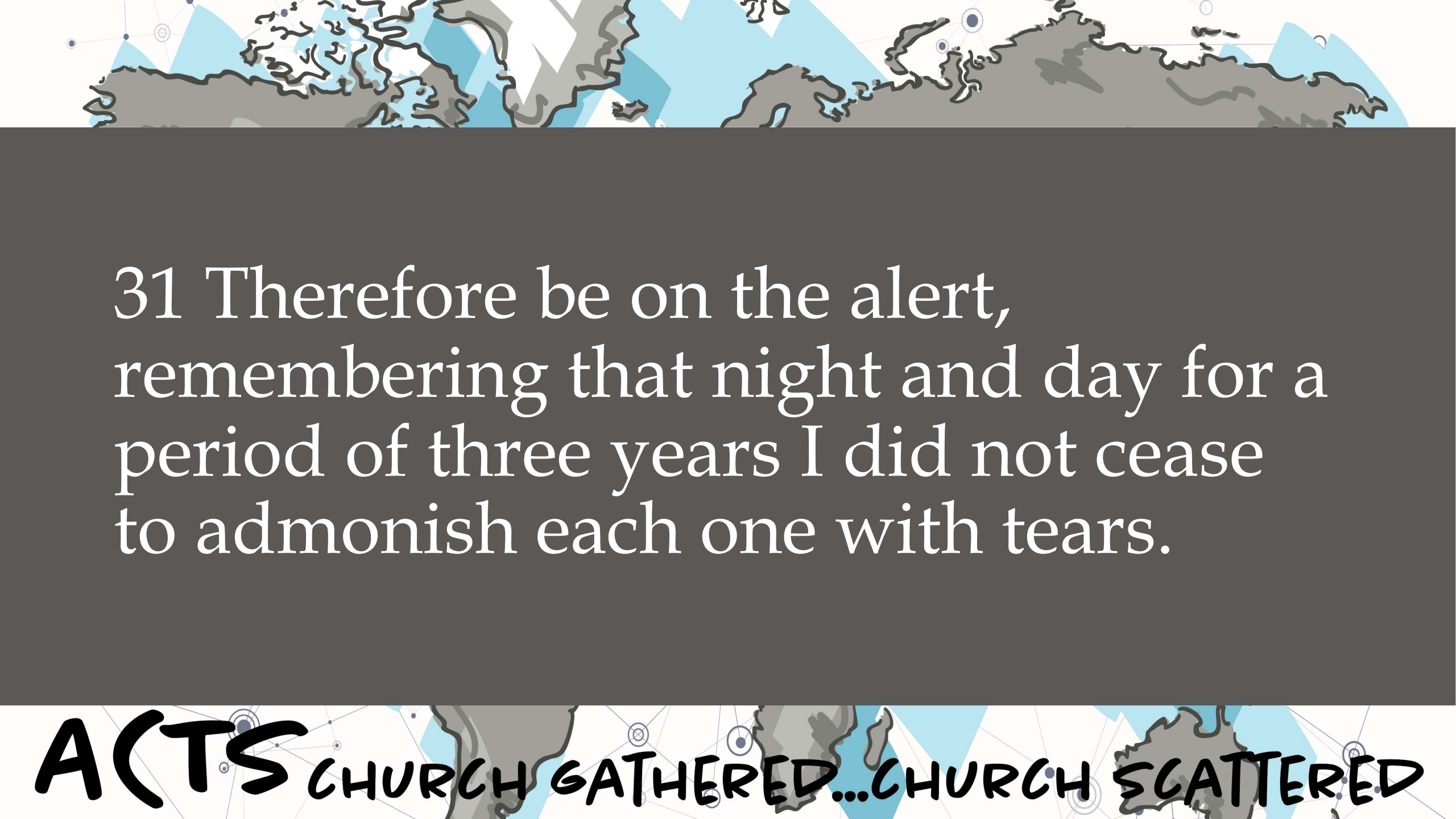
29 I know that after my departure
savage wolves will come in among
you, not sparing the flock;

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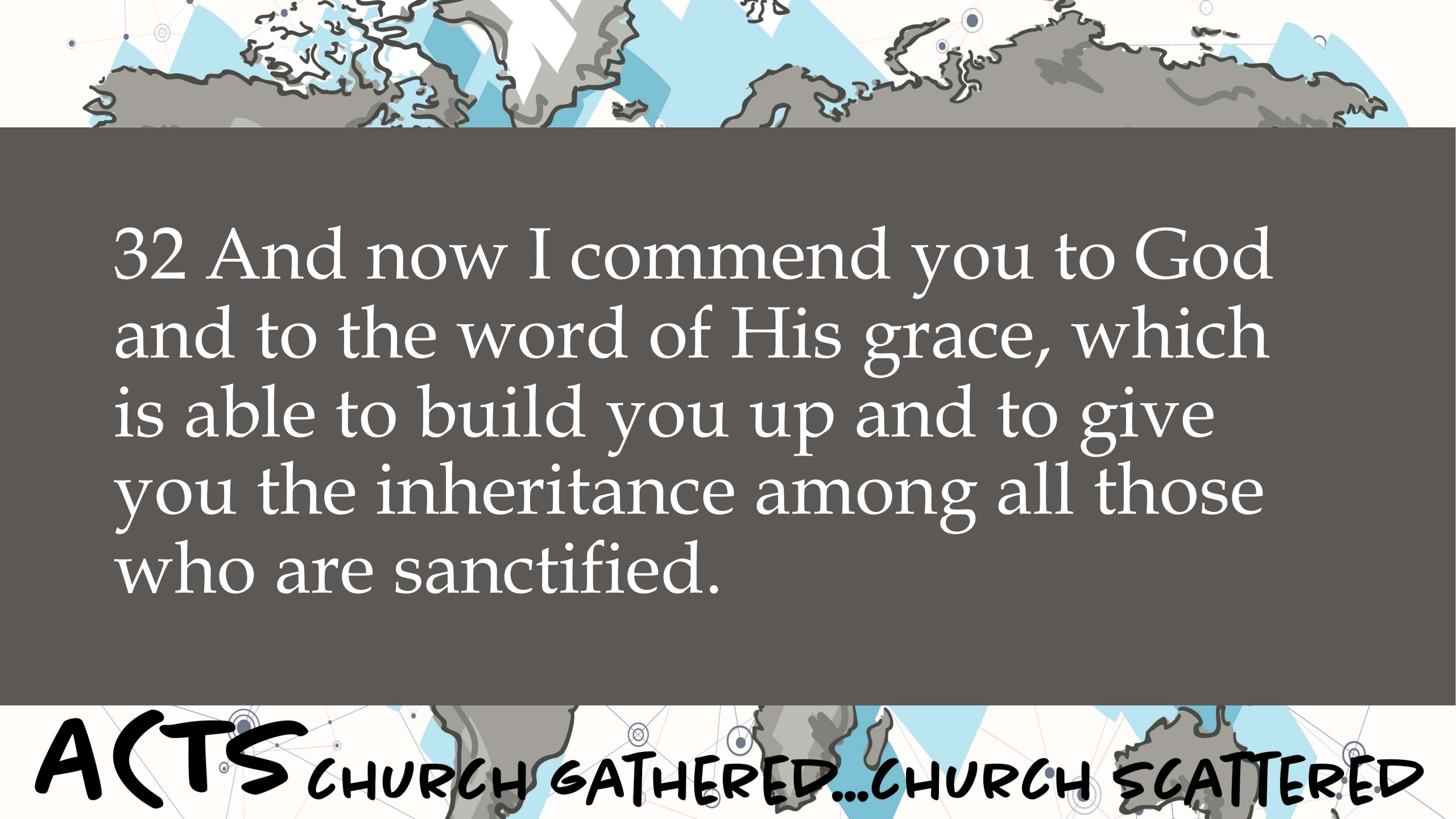
30 and from among your own selves
men will arise, speaking perverse
things, to draw away the disciples
after them.

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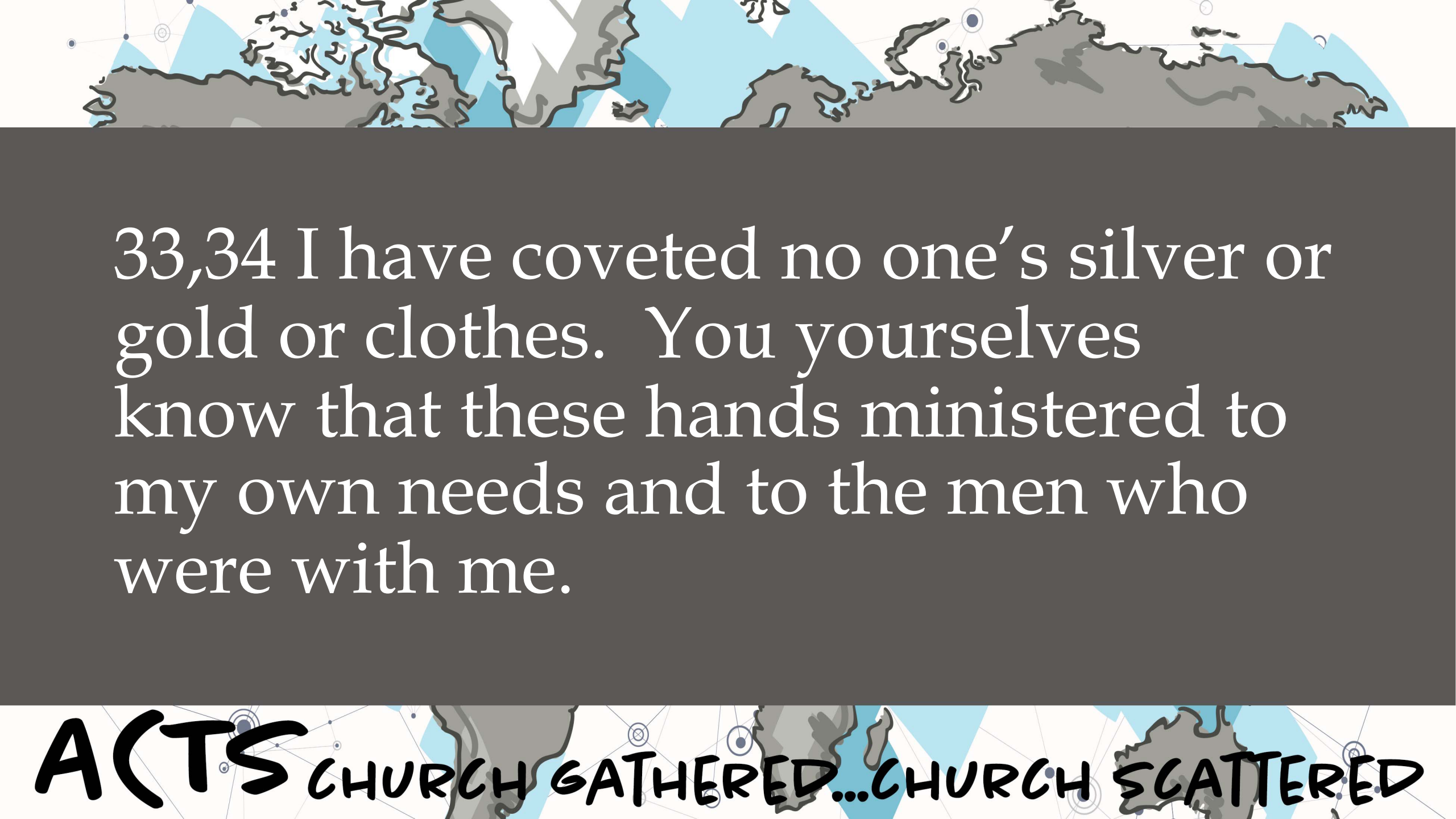
31 Therefore be on the alert,
remembering that night and day for a
period of three years I did not cease
to admonish each one with tears.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



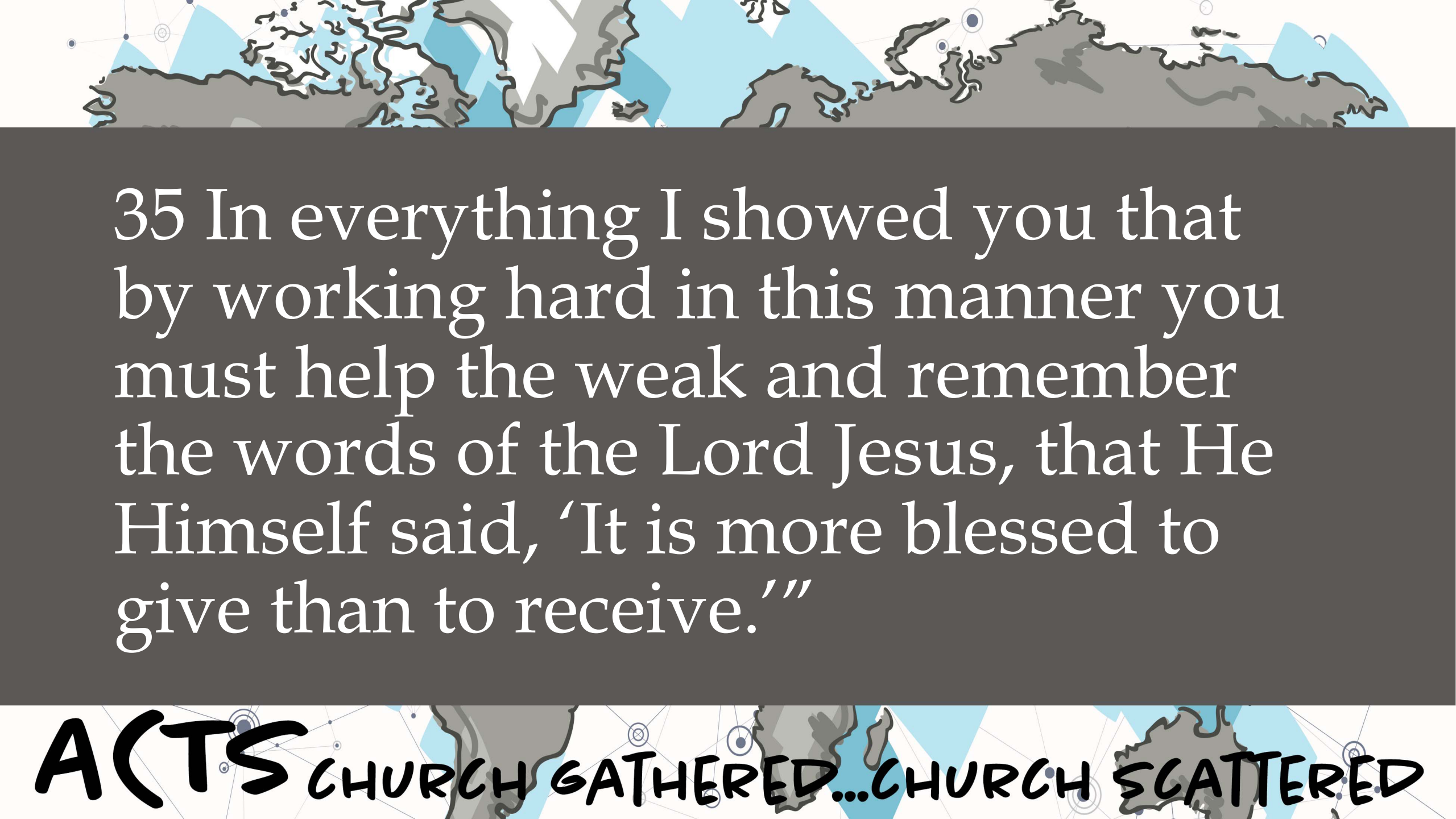
32 And now I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you the inheritance among all those who are sanctified.

ACTS CHURCH GATHERED...CHURCH SCATTERED



33,34 I have coveted no one's silver or gold or clothes. You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my own needs and to the men who were with me.

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35 In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

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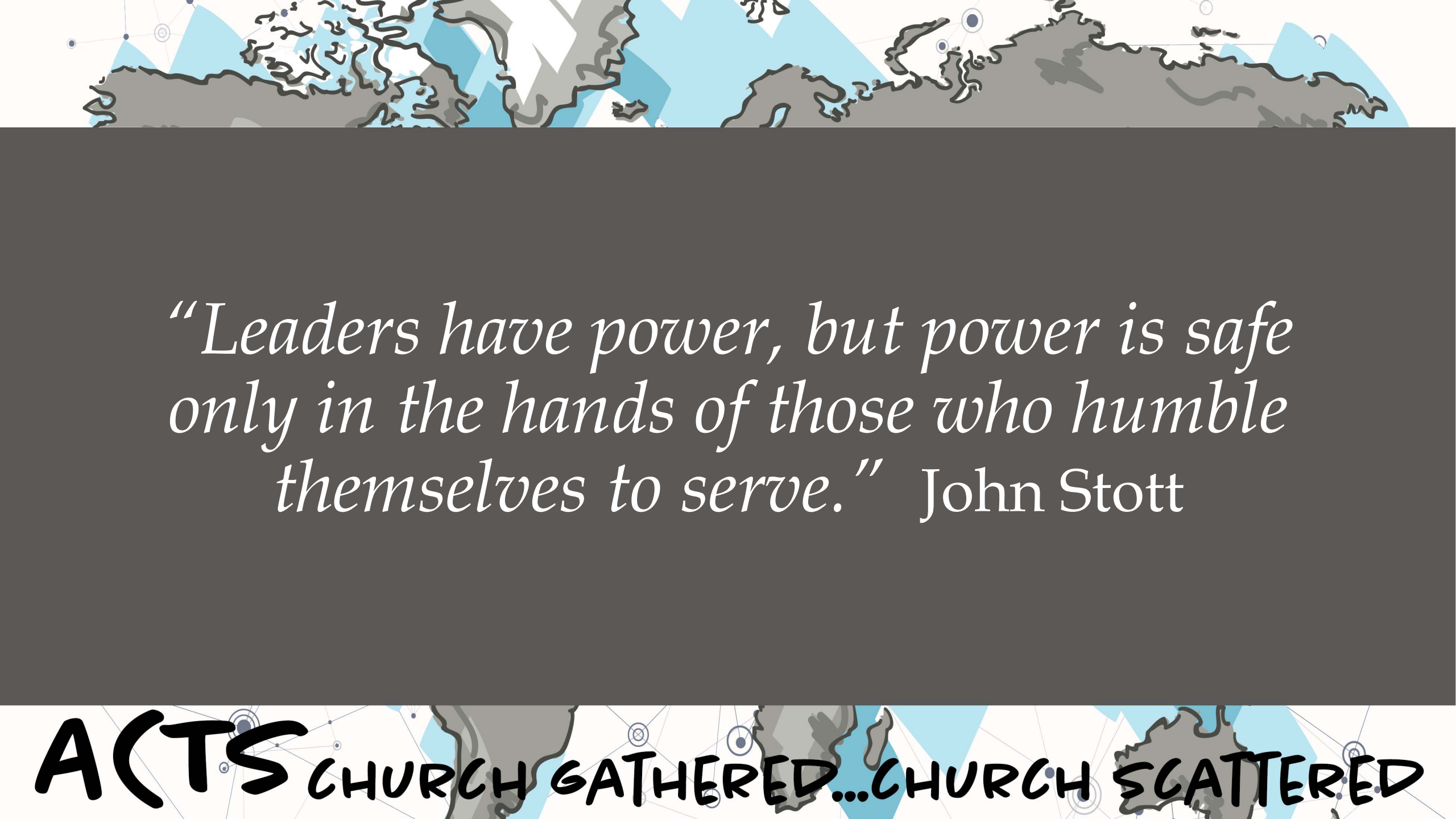


Our Ministry 28-35

- Protect the 'flock'
- Provide for the 'flock'
- Persist with the 'flock'
- Prepare for the 'flock'



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“Leaders have power, but power is safe only in the hands of those who humble themselves to serve.” John Stott

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Our Commission

- Make disciples
- Serve disciples
- Train disciples
- Protect disciples
- Send disciples



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“Go, send, or disobey.” John Piper
(Sending is equipping not just giving!)

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