

— THE GOSPEL OF —
JOHN

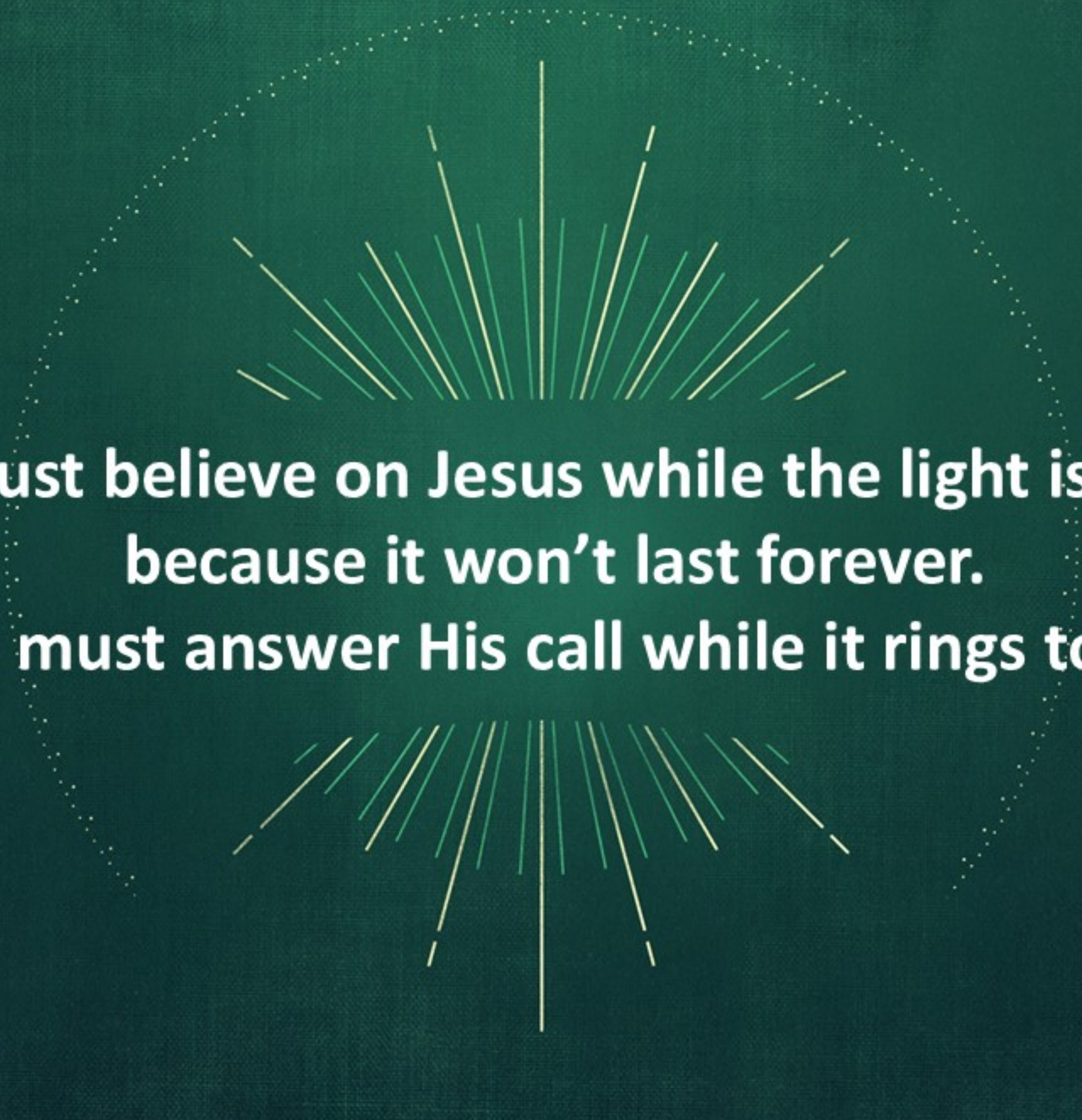
“The Final Notice”

John 12:34-50

4 Themes to Jesus' last public appeal

1. Jesus doesn't fit into my theology:

Israel's Messianic ideas didn't include suffering and death. (v.34-36)



**We must believe on Jesus while the light is there,
because it won't last forever.**

We must answer His call while it rings to us.

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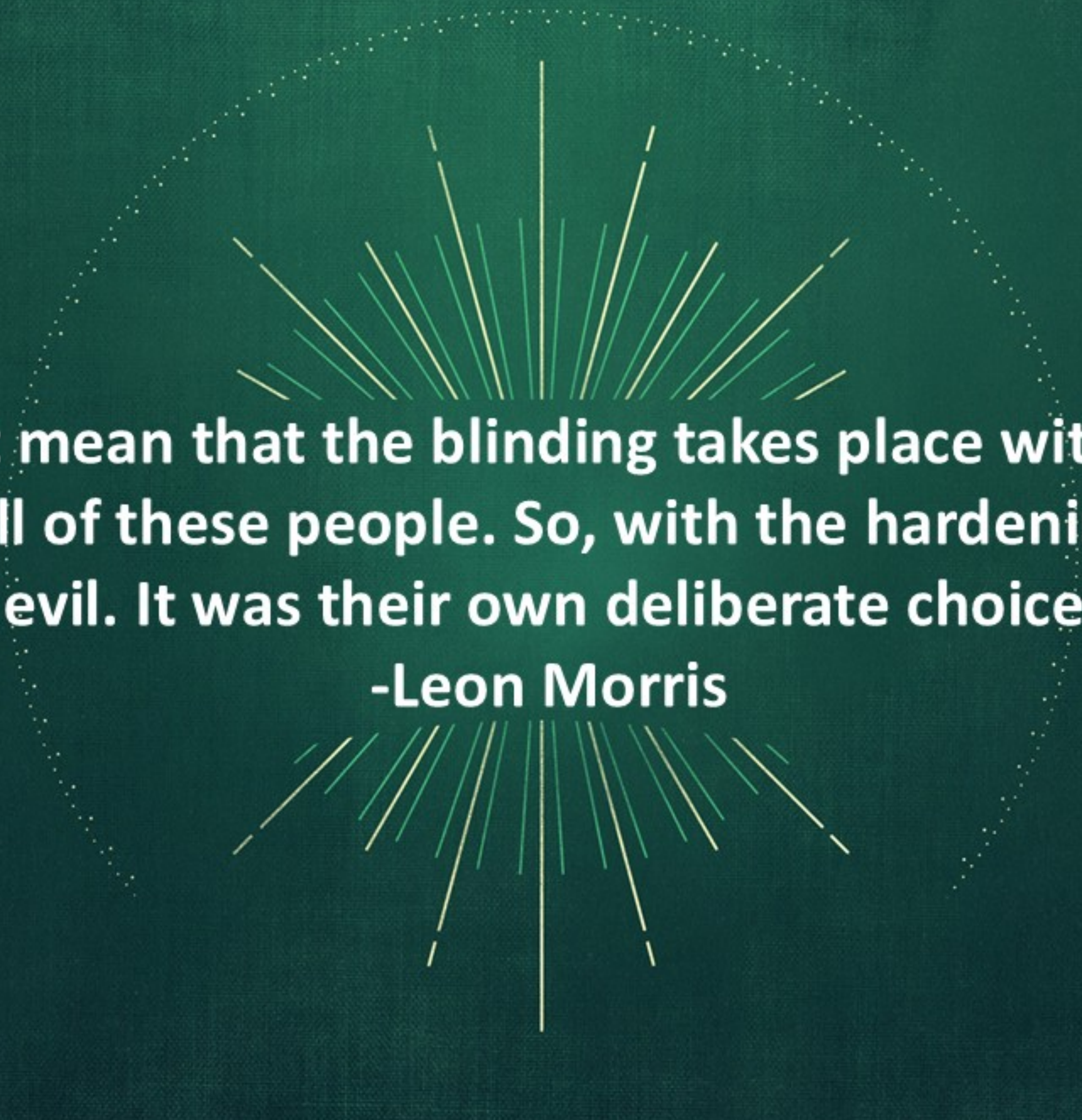
Israel's Messianic ideas didn't include suffering and death. (v.34-36)

2. Why people don't believe in Jesus:

Rejecting God's revelation causes blindness to His truth
and hardness of heart. (v.37-41)

The Gospel of John records 7 distinct signs performed by Jesus:

- 1. Water turned into wine at the wedding in Cana (John 2:1-11)**
- 2. Healing of the royal official's son (John 4:46-54)**
- 3. Healing of the paralytic at Bethesda (John 5:1-15)**
- 4. Feeding of the 5,000 (John 6:1-14)**
- 5. Walking on water (John 6:16-21)**
- 6. Healing of the man born blind (John 9:1-12)**
- 7. Raising of Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1-44)**



“He does not mean that the blinding takes place without the will or against the will of these people. So, with the hardening of their heart. These men chose evil. It was their own deliberate choice, their own fault.”

-Leon Morris

- Just like Pharaoh hardening his own heart made way for the Lord to harden his heart further (lit. “making the hardening stronger”).
- Just like Paul’s warning about teachers whose moral sense had been cauterized—like tissue burned to stop bleeding or deaden feeling—so their conscience has been “seared” in their inner witness no longer responding to God’s truth (1 Tim. 4:2).
- Just like people suppressing the truth of God in unrighteousness that are given over by the Lord to judgement in their depravity (Rom. 1).

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who suppress the truth in unrighteousness, because what may be known of God is manifest in them, for God has shown it to them. For since the creation of the world His invisible attributes are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead, so that they are without excuse, because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Professing to be wise, they became fools, and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things. Therefore God also gave them up...to uncleanness (v.24), vile passions (v.26), a debased mind (v.28).”

Romans 1:18-24a

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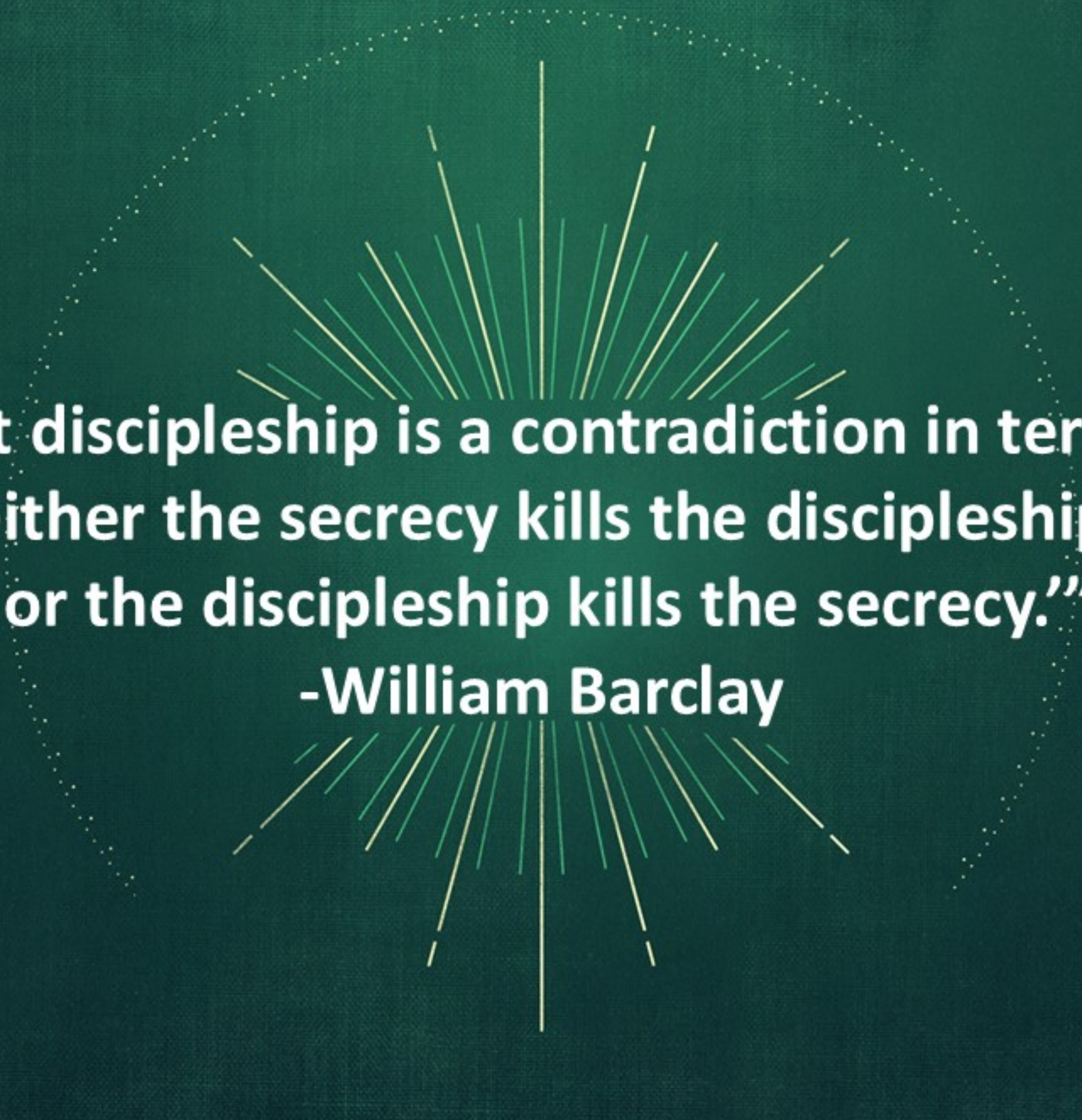
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3. Hiding in plain sight:

Some of the rulers of the Jews have a weak belief in Jesus. (v.42-43)



**“Secret discipleship is a contradiction in terms for,
‘either the secrecy kills the discipleship,
or the discipleship kills the secrecy.’”**

-William Barclay

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4. One last time:

Jesus makes a last, passionate appeal for the multitude to believe.
(v.44-50)

**“Then Jesus spoke to them again,
saying, “I am the light of the world.
He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness,
but have the light of life.”**

John 8:12

**“If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness,
we lie and do not practice the truth.
But if we walk in the light as He is in the light,
we have fellowship with one another,
and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”**

1 John 1:6-7