



God created the heavens and the earth.

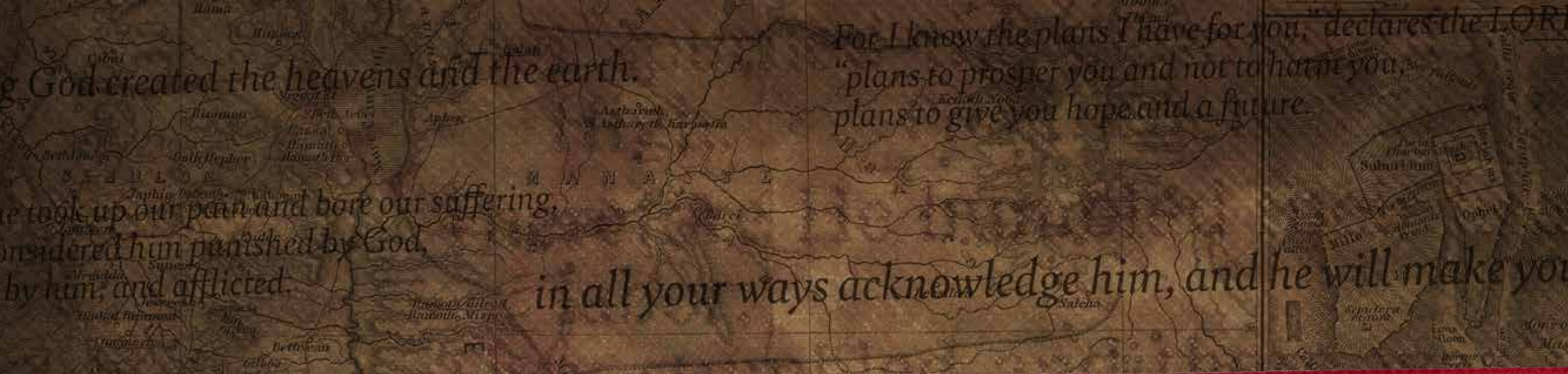
For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Peace**MAKERS**,
Not Peace**FAKERS**

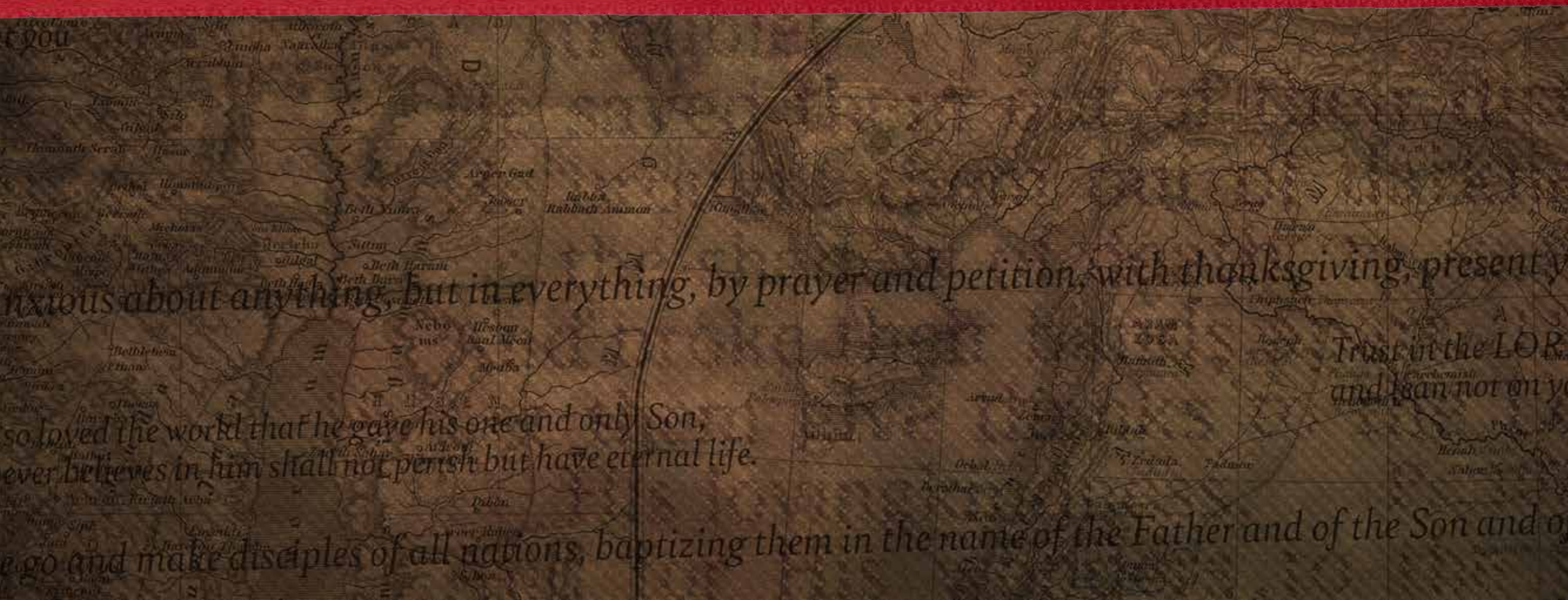
MATTHEW 5:9

Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they shall be called sons and
daughters of God.

MATTHEW 5:9



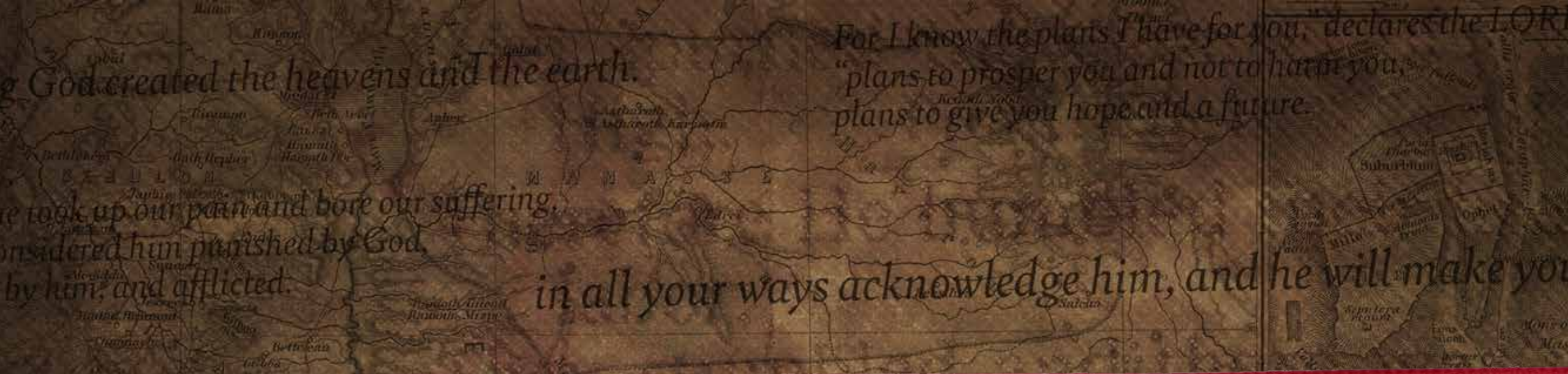
1. THE REALITY OF CONFLICT



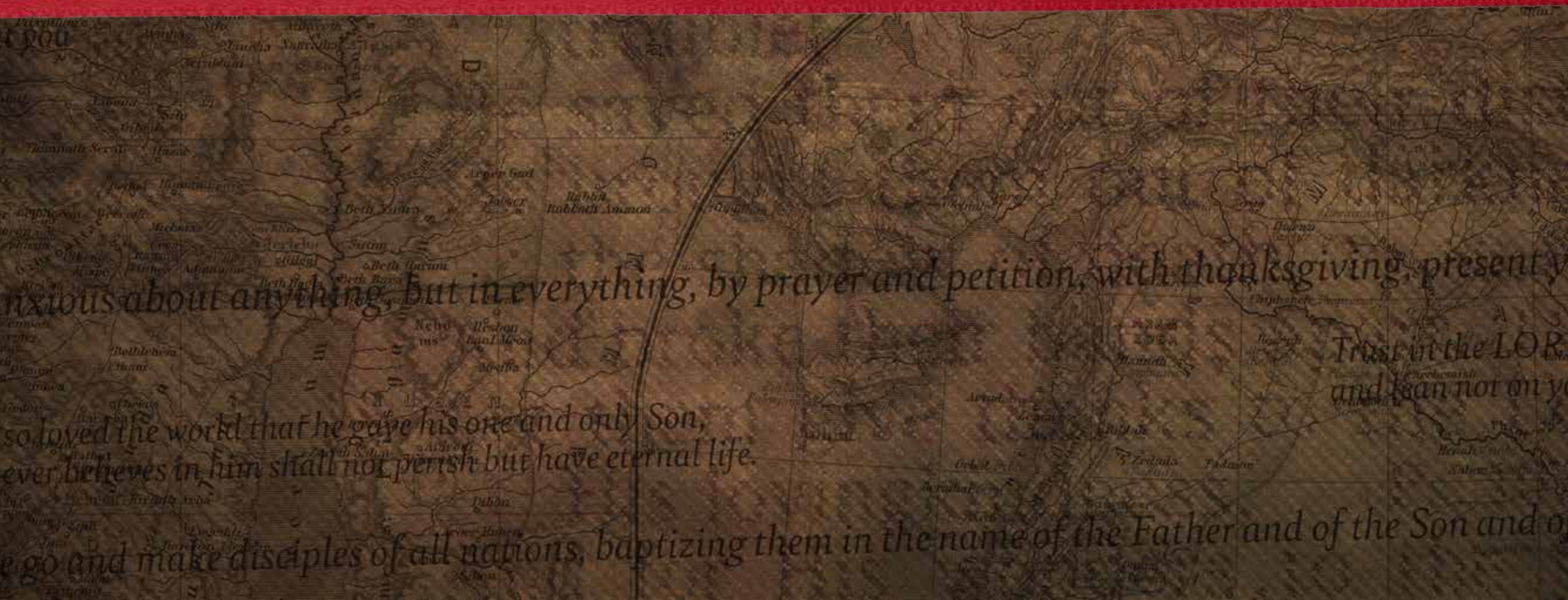
1. THE REALITY OF CONFLICT

What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

— *James 4:1-4*



2. THE RESPONSES TO CONFLICT





God created the heavens and the earth.

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



who loved the world that he gave his only Son, that ever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

I go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

2. THE RESPONSES TO CONFLICT

I say this to your shame. Can it be that there is no one among you wise enough to settle a dispute between the brothers, but brothers goes to law against brother, and that before unbelievers? To have lawsuits at all with one another is already a defeat for you. Why not rather suffer wrong? Why not rather be defrauded? But you yourselves wrong and defraud—even your own brother and sisters!

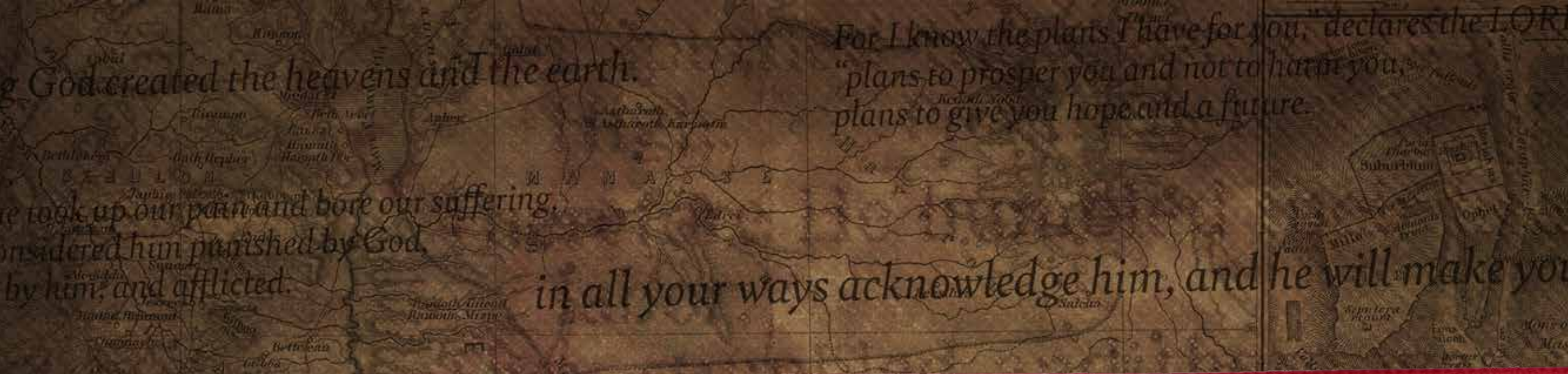
— *1 Corinthians 6:4–8*

2. THE RESPONSES TO CONFLICT

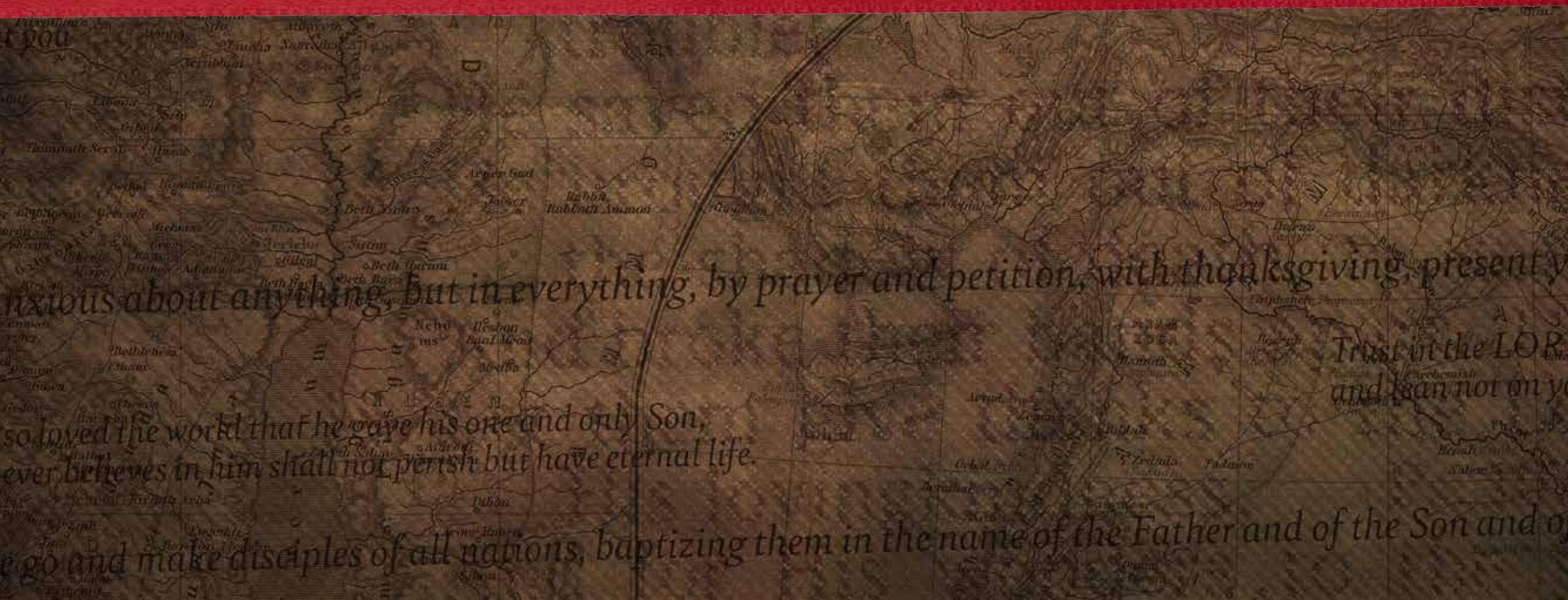
Reconciliation is not **A ministry, it is **THE** ministry!**

All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation. That is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

— *2 Corinthians 5:18–20*



3. THE RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT



3. THE RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

Christ Makes Peace from Both Side of the Conflict

Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. — *Matthew 5:17–19*

3. THE RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

He Ushers in a New Age Marked by Peace

- Heb. 10:20 said “By the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is through his flesh.”
- Col. 1:20 “And through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”



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3. THE RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

He Brings us into God's Family

Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called sons of God."

Sons of — that culture the sons received the inheritance. Kinship relationship, legally adopted.

All those who repent of their sins and enter into that new covenant will be called legally adopted.

Full heirs.

3. THE RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

He Brings us into God's Family

So then you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

— *Galatians 4:7*

3. THE RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

He is Reigning Now from a Throne of Peace

- Christ is near (Ps 23:4).
- At the end of the age, when heaven and earth pass away, God's Word remains (Matt. 24:35).
- Psalm 139:7 says, "Where can I go to escape Your Spirit? Where can I flee from Your presence? If I **ascend to the heavens, You are there**; if I make my bed in Sheol, You are there." He cannot lose his salvation or his Savior, so he has nothing to fear. He is bound by the Spirit of Christ.

How are you embracing the rule of Christ's peace today?

- **Do you have a conflict with a brother or sister in Christ?** Follow Matthew 18, seek that person out, and seek for peace.
- **Is it hard for you to overlook minor offenses?** Ask God for a bigger heart and willingness to show grace.
- **Do you tend to hold onto grudges and resist difficult conversations?** Repent because you're living as if Jesus did not physically come in the flesh and didn't actually rise from the dead.

**How are you embracing the rule
of Christ's peace today?**

Do you view reconciliation as optional?

***Or as THE ministry which Christ has
entrusted to us?***