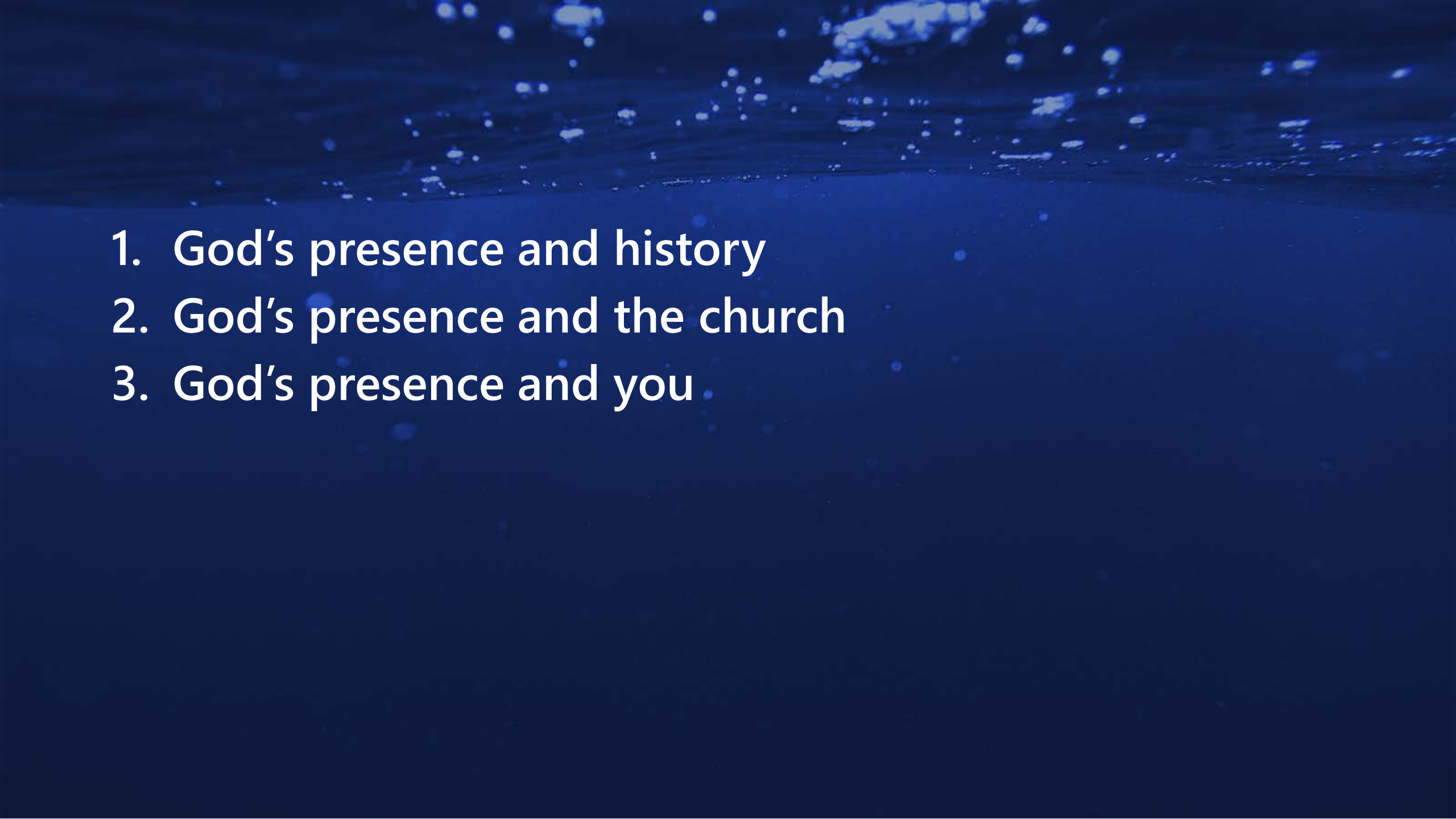




EPHESIANS

>IN<

HIS FAMILY, HIS PRESENCE

- 
1. God's presence and history
 2. God's presence and the church
 3. God's presence and you

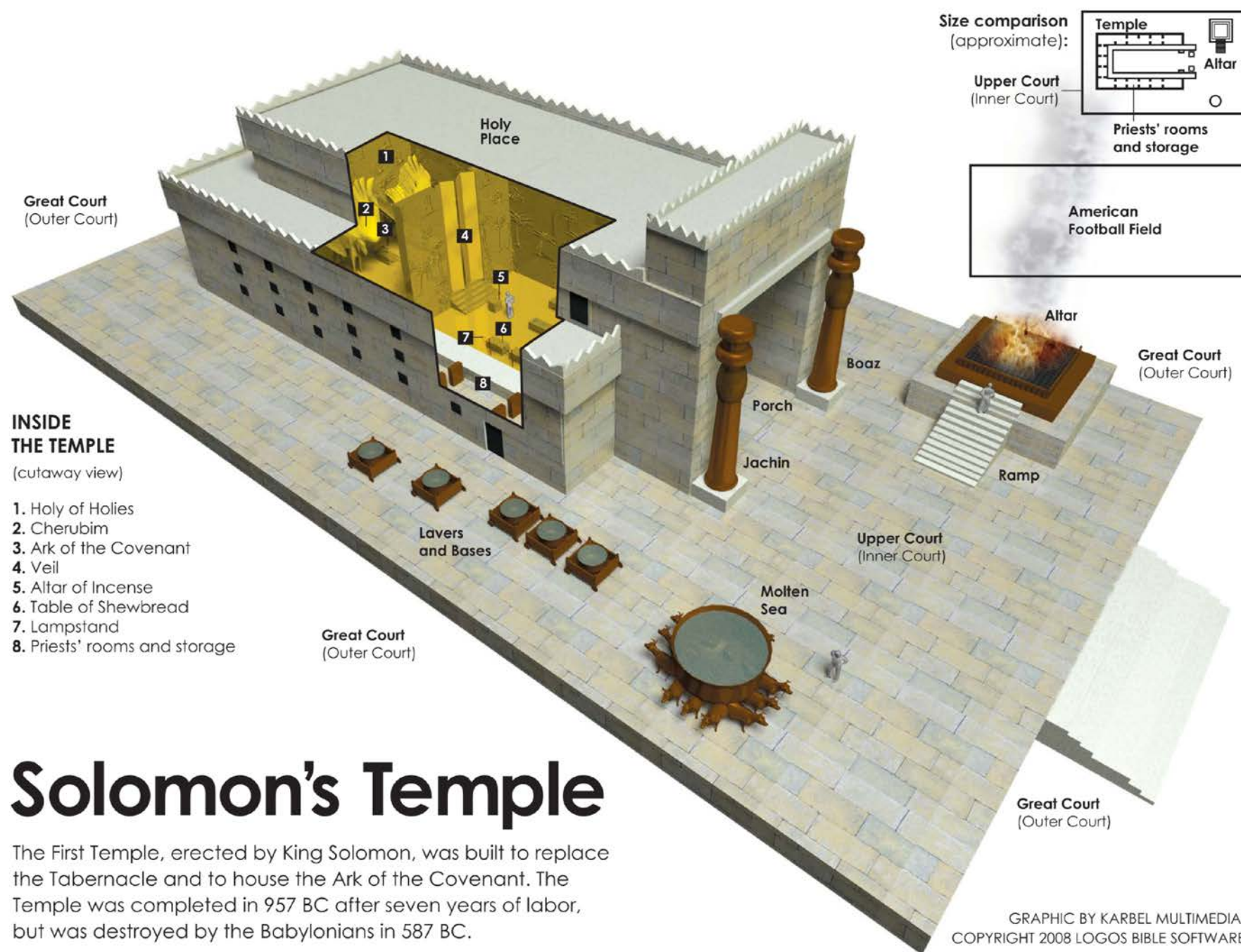
1. God's Presence and History

V19-20

Philippi 5th Century Basilica



So



Solomon's Temple

The First Temple, erected by King Solomon, was built to replace the Tabernacle and to house the Ark of the Covenant. The Temple was completed in 957 BC after seven years of labor, but was destroyed by the Babylonians in 587 BC.

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The

INSIDE THE TEMPLE

(Cutaway view)

1. Holy of Holies
2. Ark
3. Veil
4. Altar of Incense
5. Lampstand (Menorah)
6. Holy Place
7. Table of Shewbread
8. Outer Veil

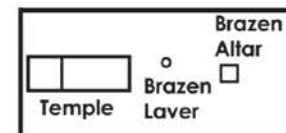
Pillar of
Smoke

The
Temple

Pillar

American
Football Field

Size comparison
(approximate):



Court of the
Tabernacle

TEMPLE COVERINGS AND CURTAINS

9. Outer covering of badger skins
10. Covering of Ram's skin dyed red
11. Curtain of goat's hair
12. Curtain of fine linen

Curtain
enclosure

Court of the
Tabernacle

Brazen
Laver

Brazen
Altar

Slaughter
Tables

Entrance
Curtain

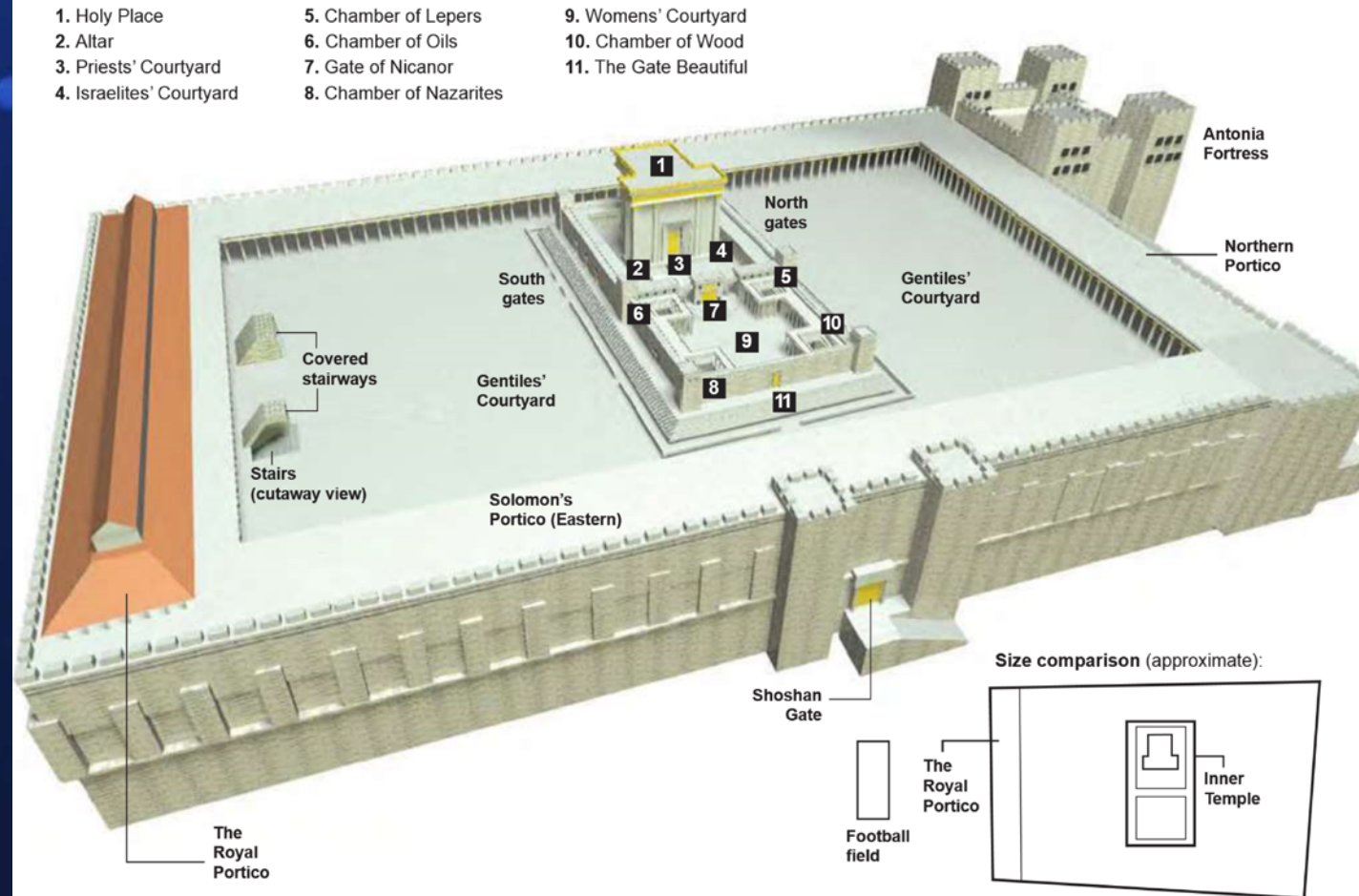
The Tabernacle

This portable temple was built in the wilderness by the Israelites circa 1450 BC after they were freed from Egyptian slavery. The Tabernacle was the first temple dedicated to God and the first resting place of the Ark of the Covenant. It served as a place of worship and sacrifices during the Israelites' 40 years in the desert while conquering the land of Canaan.

Herod

Herod's Temple on the Temple Mount

King Herod the Great began renovations on the Temple in approximately 20–19 BC. The entire temple expansion, including the massive Temple Mount, was not complete until approximately AD 62–64, only to be destroyed by the Romans in AD 70.



2. God's Presence and the Church

V19-22

The Church is ...

... a dwelling place of God in the Spirit. It is his new society, his redeemed people scattered throughout the inhabited world. They are his home on earth. They will also be his home in heaven. For the building is not yet complete. It grows into a holy temple in the Lord. Only after the creation of the new heaven and the new earth will the voice from the throne declare with emphatic finality: 'Behold, the dwelling of God is with men.' John Stott

C S Lewis

"In each of my friends there is something that only some other friend can fully bring out. By myself I am not large enough to call the whole man into activity; I want other lights than my own to show all his facets.

Now that Charles is dead, I shall never again see Ronald's [Tolkien's] reaction to a specifically Charles joke. Far from having more of Ronald, having him "to myself" now that Charles is away, I have less of Ronald...

In this, Friendship exhibits a glorious "nearness by resemblance" to heaven itself where the very multitude of the blessed (which no man can number) increases the fruition which each of us has of God. For every soul, seeing Him in her own way, doubtless communicates that unique vision to all the rest. That, says an old author, is why the Seraphim in Isaiah's vision are crying "Holy, Holy, Holy" to one another (Isaiah 6:3). The more we thus share the Heavenly Bread between us, the more we shall have."

3. God's Presence and You

Acts 2:1-4

Eugene Peterson

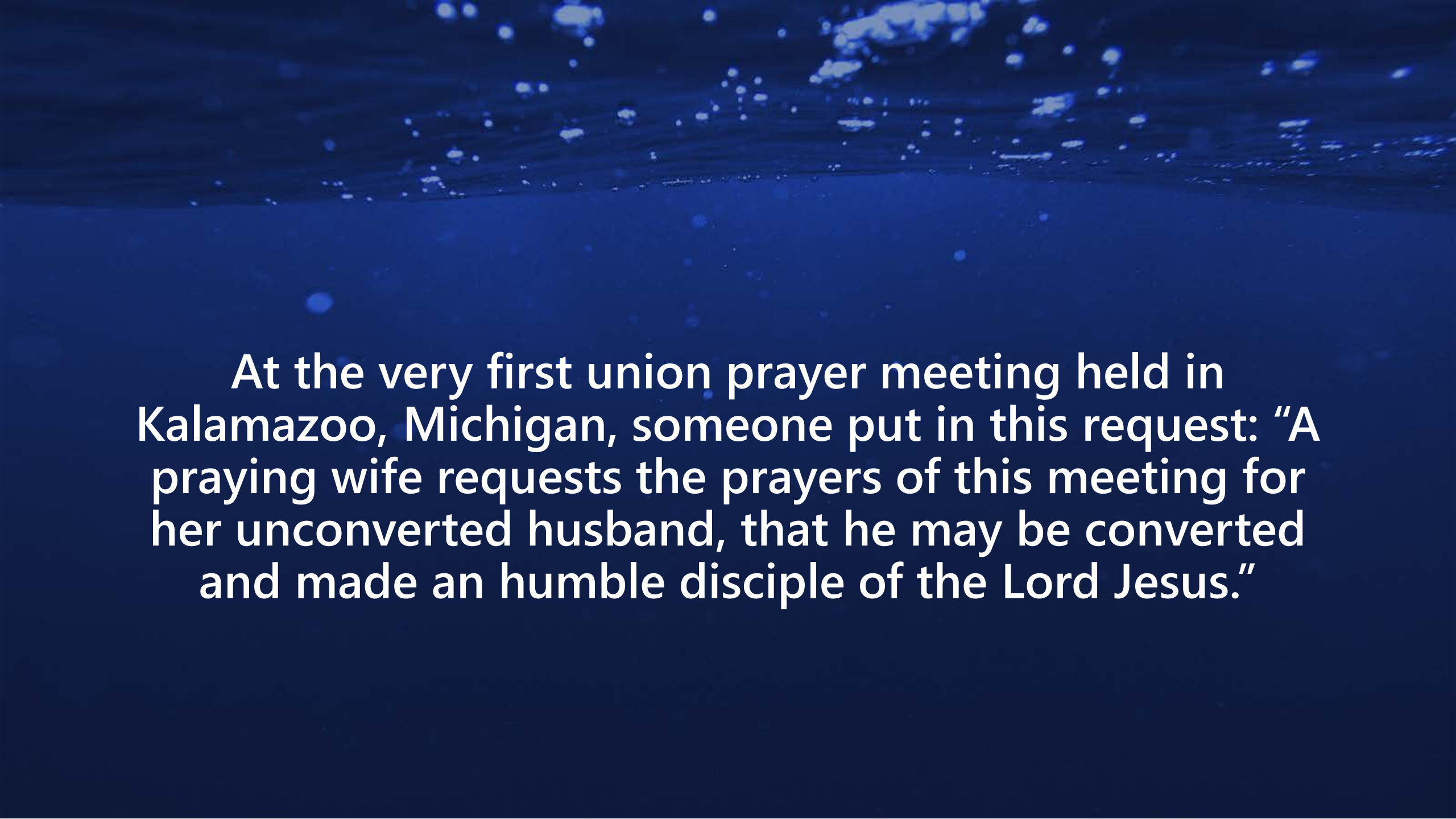
Those gathered in the room that day were part of a tradition in which fire, commonly altar fire, was associated with the presence of God — Abraham at Moriah, Aaron in the tabernacle, Elijah on Carmel. But there was more to it here; this fire was distributed — each person individually was signed with a tongue of fire, each person an altar, visibly on fire with the presence of God. As the breathing of the Genesis creation and the Jesus baptism swelled into a wind, the old altar fires were multiplied into personalized fires burning above each waiting man and woman, each of them now a sign of God alive, God present.

And then, repeating the pattern of Genesis and Jesus, the breath/ wind, that is, the living presence of God that filled each of them, was formed into spoken words by each of them. The tongues of fire became articulate in tongues of speech. The God-breathing that was formed into speech came out of the mouths of men and women speaking in all the languages (sixteen are named) represented in Jerusalem that day, with all the languages expressing essentially the same thing, "God's deeds of power" (v. 11). Everyone, of course, was properly astonished.

The miracle of language is what first caught their attention, the God-originated and God-witnessing speech spoken in sixteen (at least) different languages by ordinary men and women ("Galileans" — that is, provincials who presumably would know only one or two languages). The confusion of languages at Babel (Gen. 11) was reversed. The continuing miracle that continues to astonish is that the same breath (life) of God that created heavens and earth, that validated and blessed Jesus, is now being breathed into ordinary men and women and formed into words that continue to give witness to God's Genesis-creation and Jesus-salvation.

Chicago Newspaper

So far as the effects of the present religious movement are concerned, they are apparent to all. They are to be seen in every walk of life, to be felt in every phase of society. The merchant, the farmer, the mechanic—all who have been within their influence—have been incited to better things; to a more orderly and honest way of life. All have been more or less influenced by this excitement.



At the very first union prayer meeting held in Kalamazoo, Michigan, someone put in this request: "A praying wife requests the prayers of this meeting for her unconverted husband, that he may be converted and made an humble disciple of the Lord Jesus."

At once a stout, burly man arose and said, "I am that man. I have a pious, praying wife, and this request must be for me. I want you to pray for me." As soon as he sat down, another man got up and said, "I am that man. I have a praying wife. She prays for me. And now she asked you to pray for me. I am sure I am that man, and I want you to pray for me." Three, four or five or more arose and said, "We want you to pray for us too." That started a revival that brought at least 500 conversions.