



# ADVENT

*THROUGH THEIR EYES*



**Advent 2023**

“Through Their Eyes” – Gabriel



# **Three key concepts to understand Advent:**



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## **1. Messianic Hope**



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1. Messianic Hope
2. “Progressive Revelation”
3. Redemptive History: (Creation, Fall, Redemption, Restoration)



## **1 Peter 1:10-12**

Concerning this salvation, the prophets, who spoke of the grace that was to come to you, searched intently and with the greatest care, trying to find out the time and circumstances to which the Spirit of Christ in them was pointing when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow. ... **Even angels long to look into these things.**





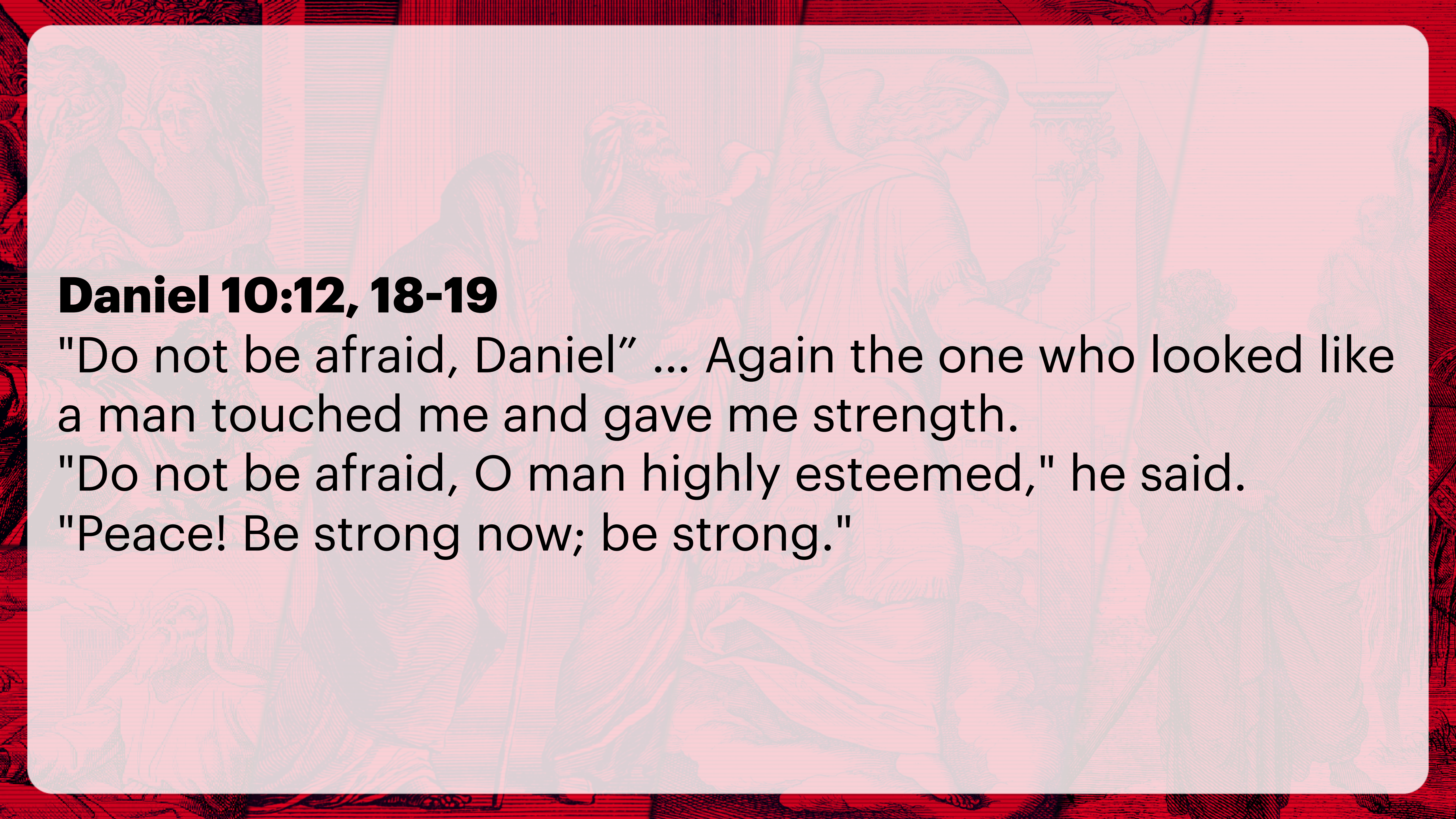
# **Gabriel Appears to Daniel**

## **Daniel 8:1-8, 15-17**

While I, Daniel, was watching the vision and trying to understand it, there before me stood **one who looked like a man**. And I heard a man's voice from the Ulai calling, "**Gabriel, tell this man the meaning of the vision.**" As he came near the place where I was standing, I was **terrified** and fell prostrate. "Son of man," he said to me, "understand that the vision concerns the time of the end."

## **Daniel 9:20-23**

While I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin and the sin of my people Israel and making my request to the Lord my God for his holy hill—**while I was still in prayer, Gabriel, the man I had seen in the earlier vision, came to me in swift flight about the time of the evening sacrifice. He instructed me** and said to me, “Daniel, **I have now come to give you insight and understanding.** As soon as you began to pray, an answer was given, which I have come to tell you, for **you are highly esteemed.** Therefore, **consider the message and understand** the vision:



## **Daniel 10:12, 18-19**

"Do not be afraid, Daniel" ... Again the one who looked like a man touched me and gave me strength.

"Do not be afraid, O man highly esteemed," he said.

"Peace! Be strong now; be strong."



# Gabriel Appears to Zechariah

## **Luke 1:5-20**

In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron. Both of them were upright in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commandments and regulations blamelessly. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren; and they were both well along in years. Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense...

And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside. Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was **startled and was gripped with fear**. But the angel said to him: "**Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard.** Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to give him the name John. He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even from birth...

Many of the people of Israel will he bring back to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous--to make ready a people prepared for the Lord." Zechariah asked the angel, "How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years." The angel answered, "**I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news.** And now you will be **silent** and not able to speak until the day this happens, **because you did not believe my words,** which will come true **at their proper time.**"





# Gabriel Appears to Zechariah



***How do we know God will be  
faithful today & tomorrow?  
Yesterday.***



## **Luke 1:19**

"I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news."





# **Gabriel Appears to Mary**



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## **Luke 1:26-37**

In the sixth month, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a town in Galilee, to a virgin pledged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of David. The virgin's name was Mary. The angel went to her and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you." ...

"Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favor with God."

...

"For nothing is impossible with God."

## **Ephesians 1:5-8**

He predestined us to be adopted through Jesus Christ for Himself, according to His favor and will, to the praise of His glorious grace that He **avored** us with in the Beloved. In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace that He lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.



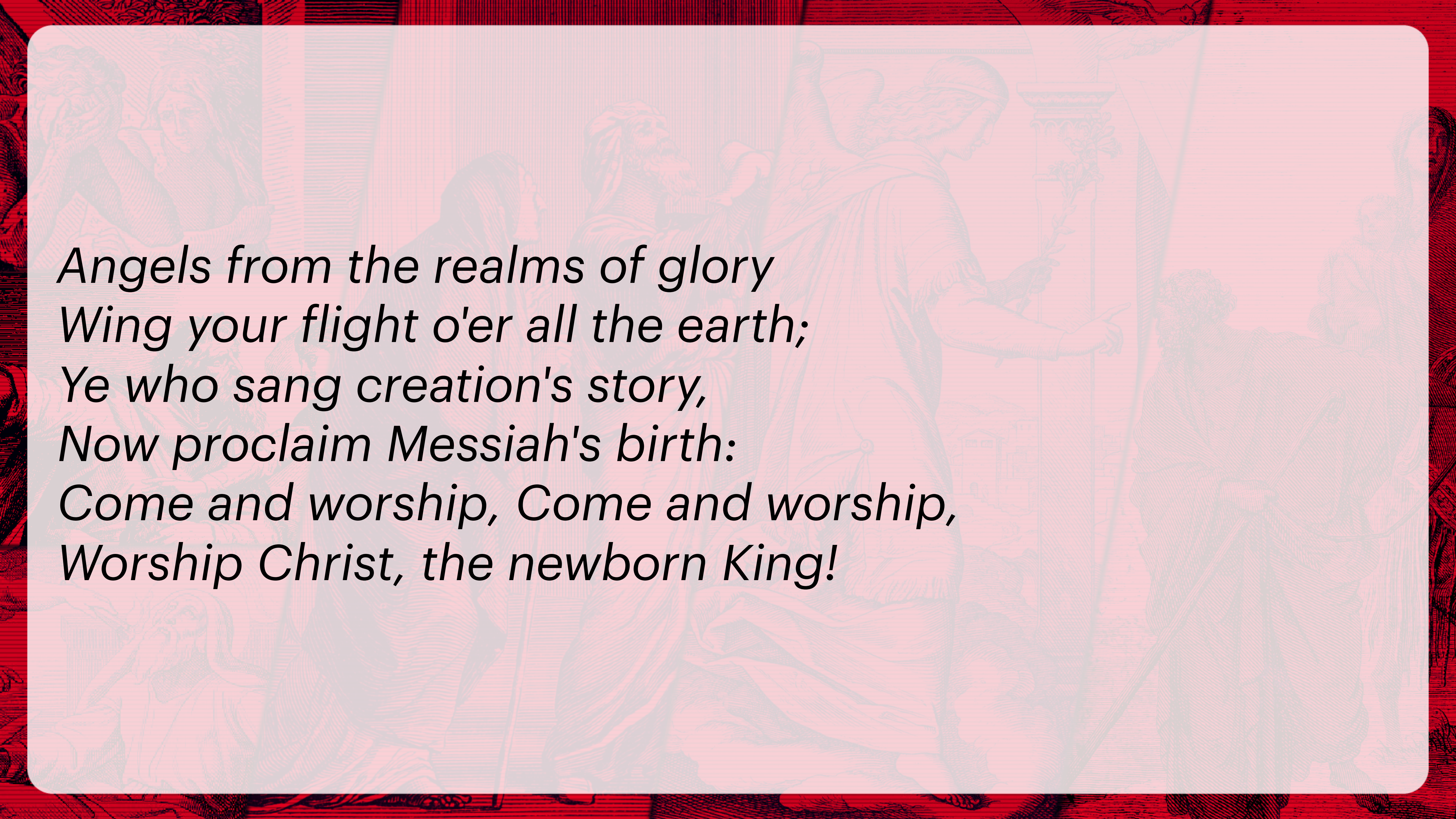


**Gabriel (?)**  
**Appears to the Shepherds**

## **Luke 2:8-14**

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "**Do not be afraid.** I bring you **good news of great joy that will be for all the people.** Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth **peace** to men on whom his **favor** rests."



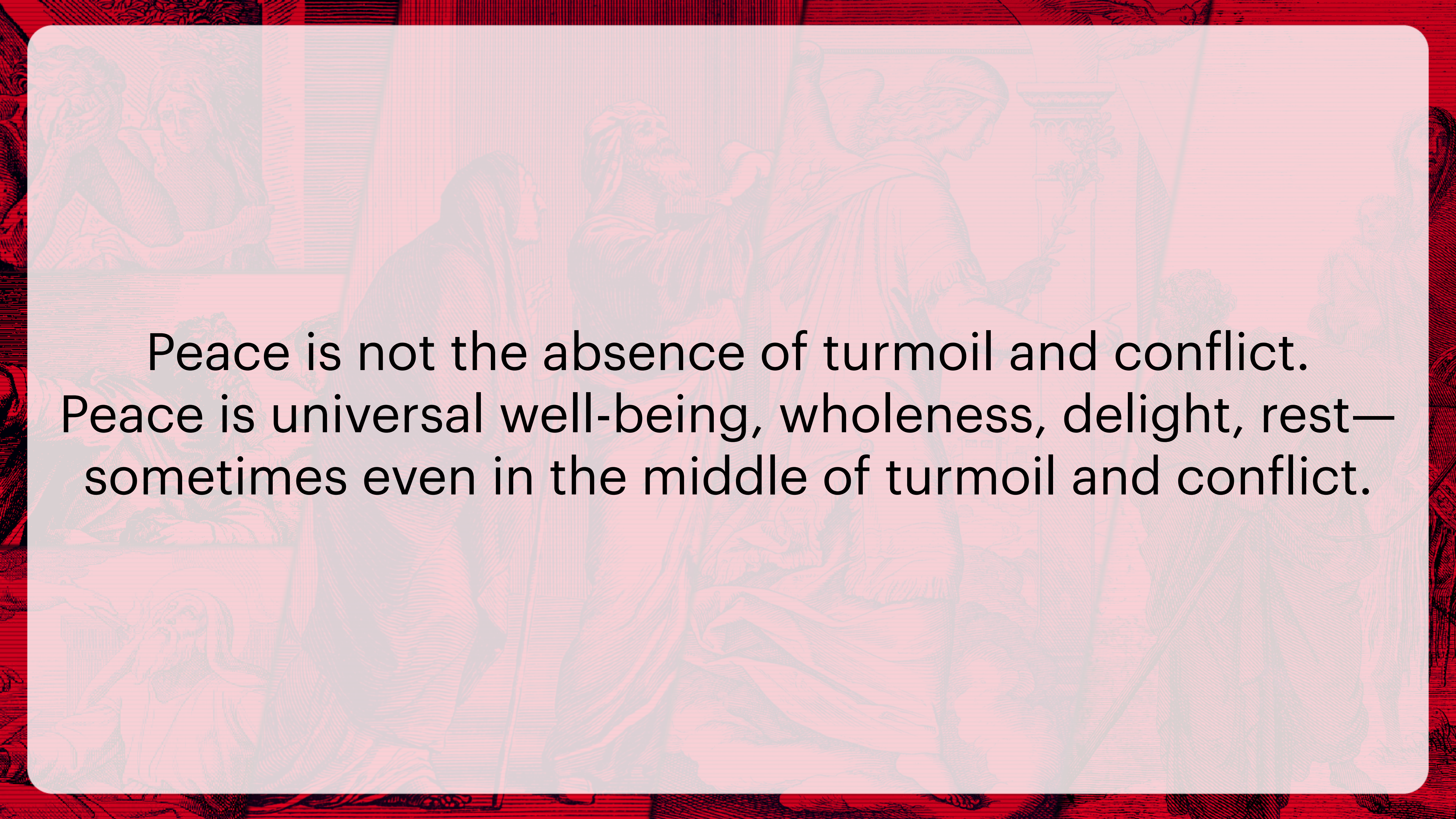


*Angels from the realms of glory  
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
Ye who sang creation's story,  
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:  
Come and worship, Come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King!*

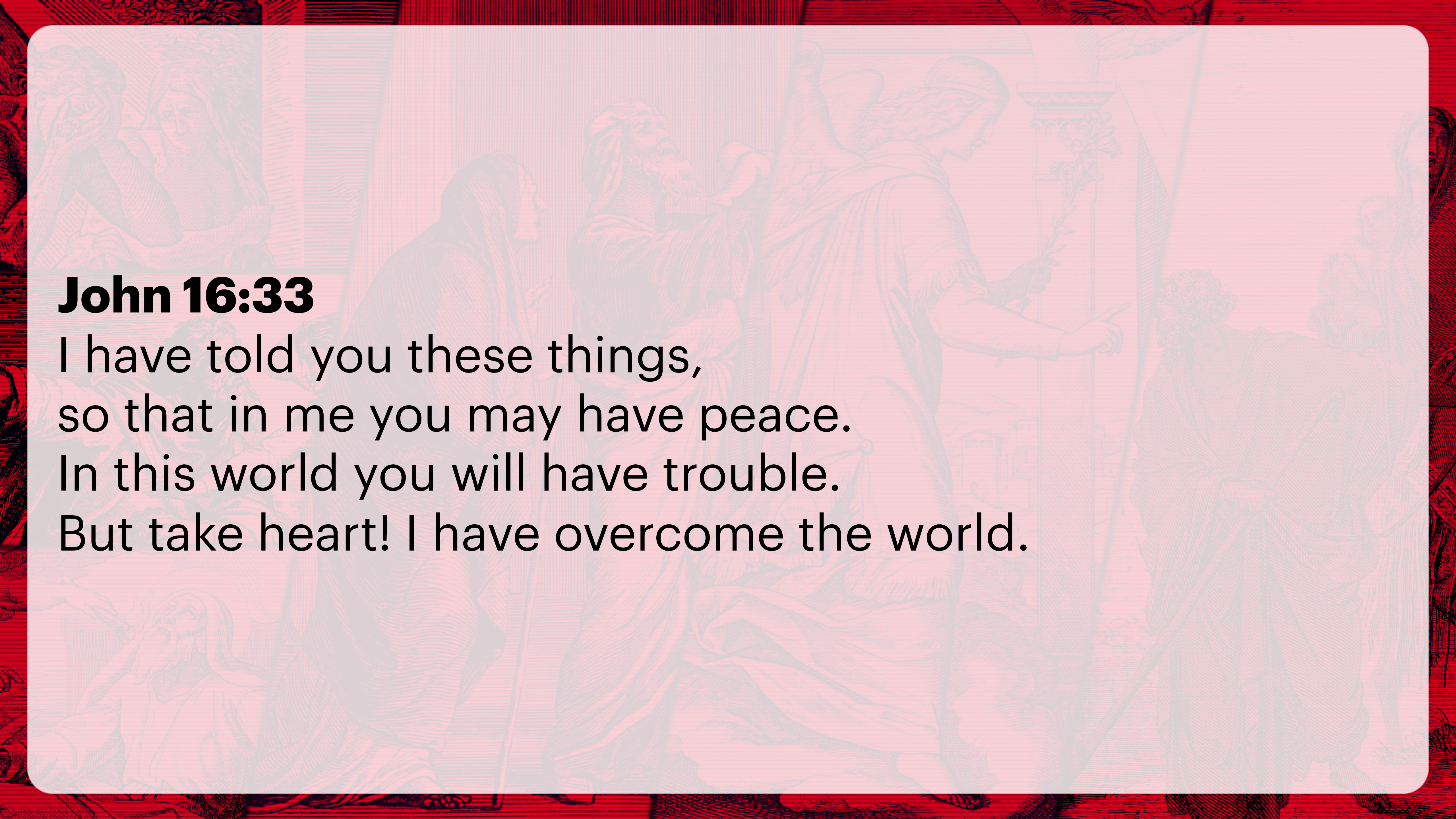


## **John 14:27**

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you.  
I do not give to you as the world gives.  
Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.



Peace is not the absence of turmoil and conflict.  
Peace is universal well-being, wholeness, delight, rest—  
sometimes even in the middle of turmoil and conflict.



## **John 16:33**

I have told you these things,  
so that in me you may have peace.  
In this world you will have trouble.  
But take heart! I have overcome the world.



**Hearing all these stories, what  
can we know, feel, and do?**



**Know**





## **Know**

-God is wise, just, sovereign, good, & loving.



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- God is wise, just, sovereign, good, & loving.
- God is Creator, Redeemer. He will work out his plans.



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- God's Grace & Favor means my courage, strength, peace.

**Feel**







**Feel**  
-Profound Peace



## **Feel**

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-Don't need to worry; fear; stress.



## **Feel**

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-Don't need to worry; fear; stress.

-We can Receive the Peace of Christ



## **Feel**

-Profound Peace

-Don't need to worry; fear; stress.

-We can Receive the Peace of Christ

-We can Rest at Ease in the Comfort of the Holy Spirit.



## **Isaiah 26:3**

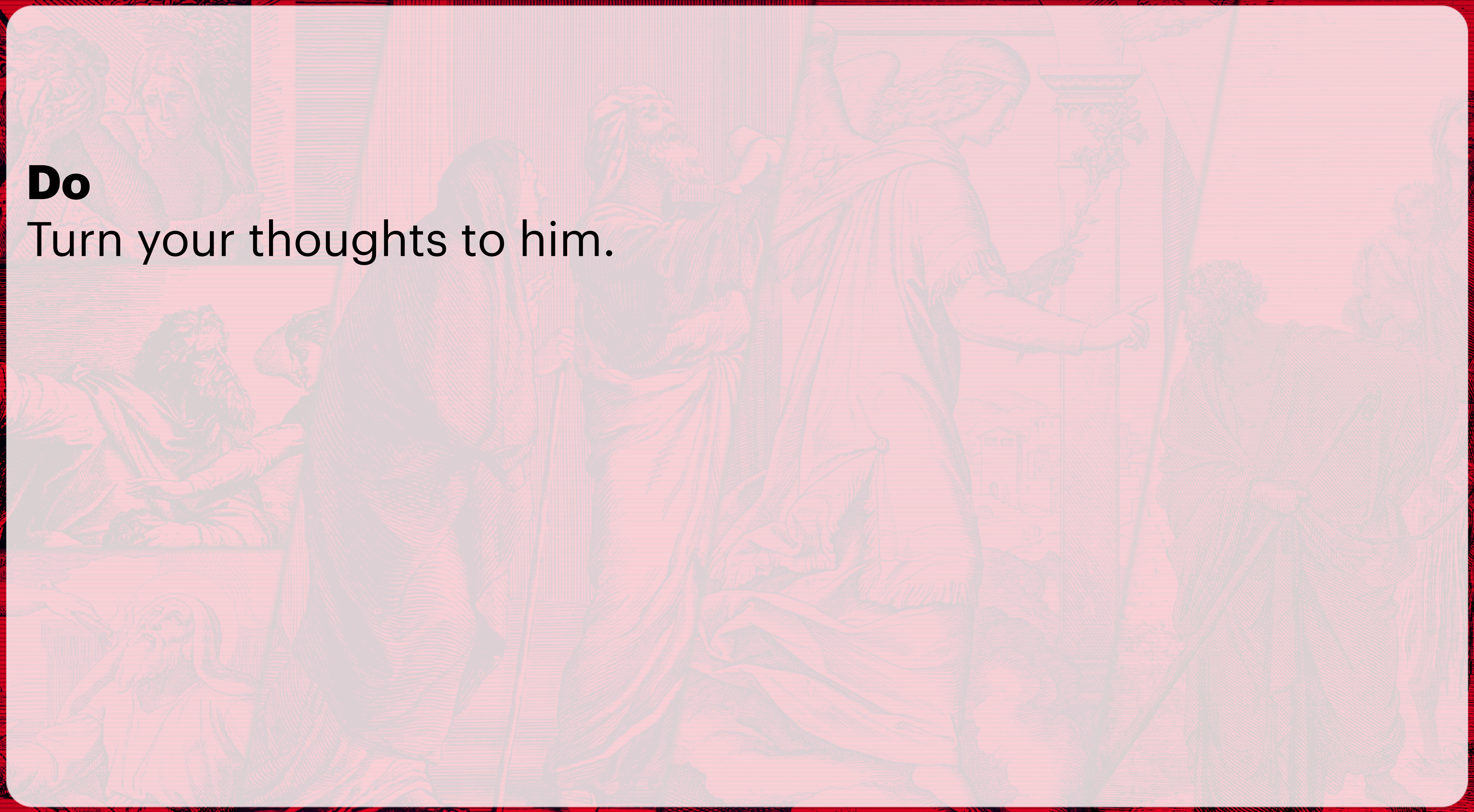
You will keep in perfect peace all who trust in you, whose thoughts are fixed on you!

**Do**



**Do**

Turn your thoughts to him.





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Cast your cares on him. (Ps 55:22; 1 Pet 5:7)





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Ask, "Lord, how can you use my life for your kingdom?"



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