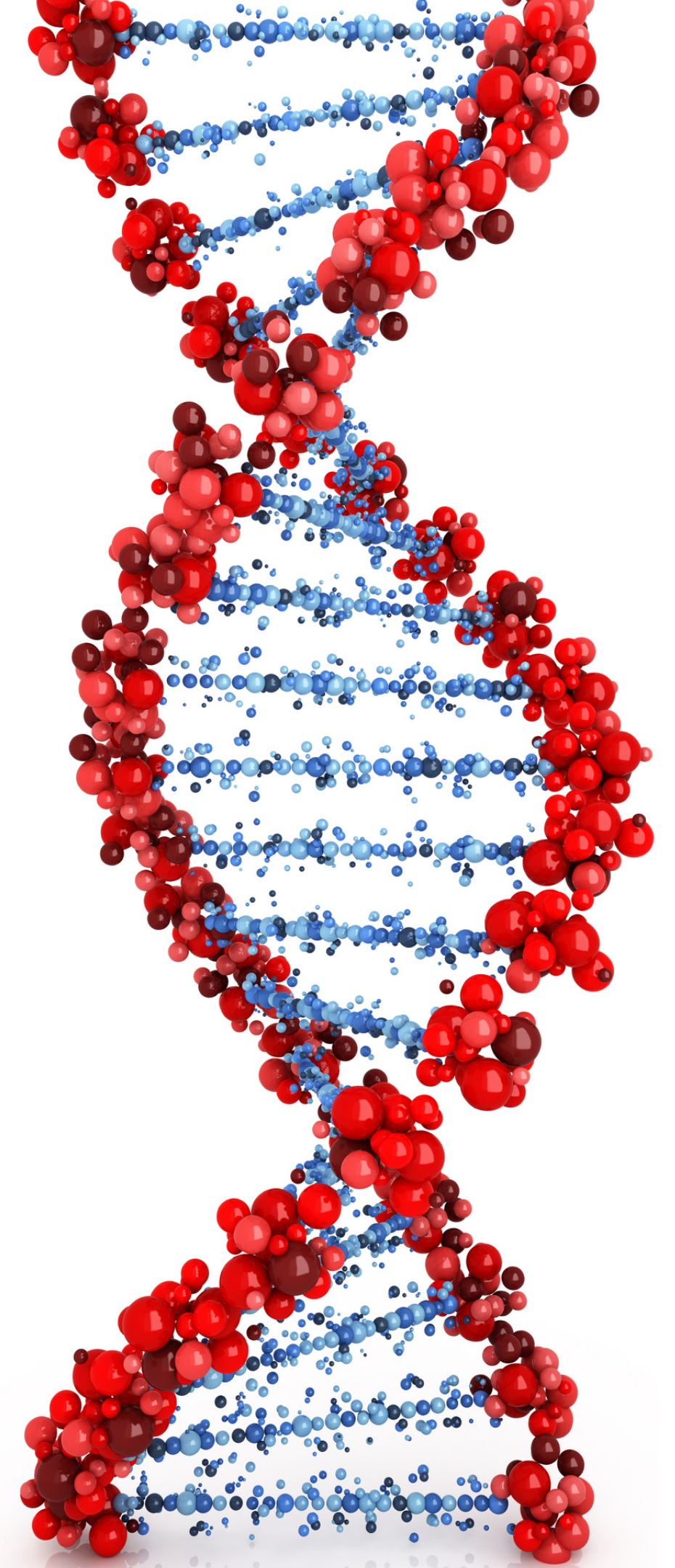


WE ARE

A Multicultural Church

A SERMON SERIES ON THE SPIRIT FORMED CHURCH
WEEK 7



GENESIS 1:26

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

GENESIS 1:27-28

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it,

Lord,

We've come together as one, to worship you, the one true God, and to be in community with one another. As we listen to the words being spoken this afternoon, open up our spiritual minds, ears and hearts, so that we can be attentive to your voice and what you want to speak into our lives.

In Jesus name,
Amen.



**Cultural difference
and diversity were
always part of God's
plan.**

MERRIAM WEBSTER'S DEFINITION OF DIVERSITY

The quality or condition of having or being composed of **differing elements**.

Examples provided are:

- Linguistic *diversity*
- An island with great *diversity* in plant life
- *Diversity* of opinion on a matter

GENESIS 1:28 a

28 And **God blessed them**. And
God said to them, “Be fruitful
and multiply and **fill the earth**
and subdue it,



The mandate to multiply

and fill the earth

ONLY came **AFTER**

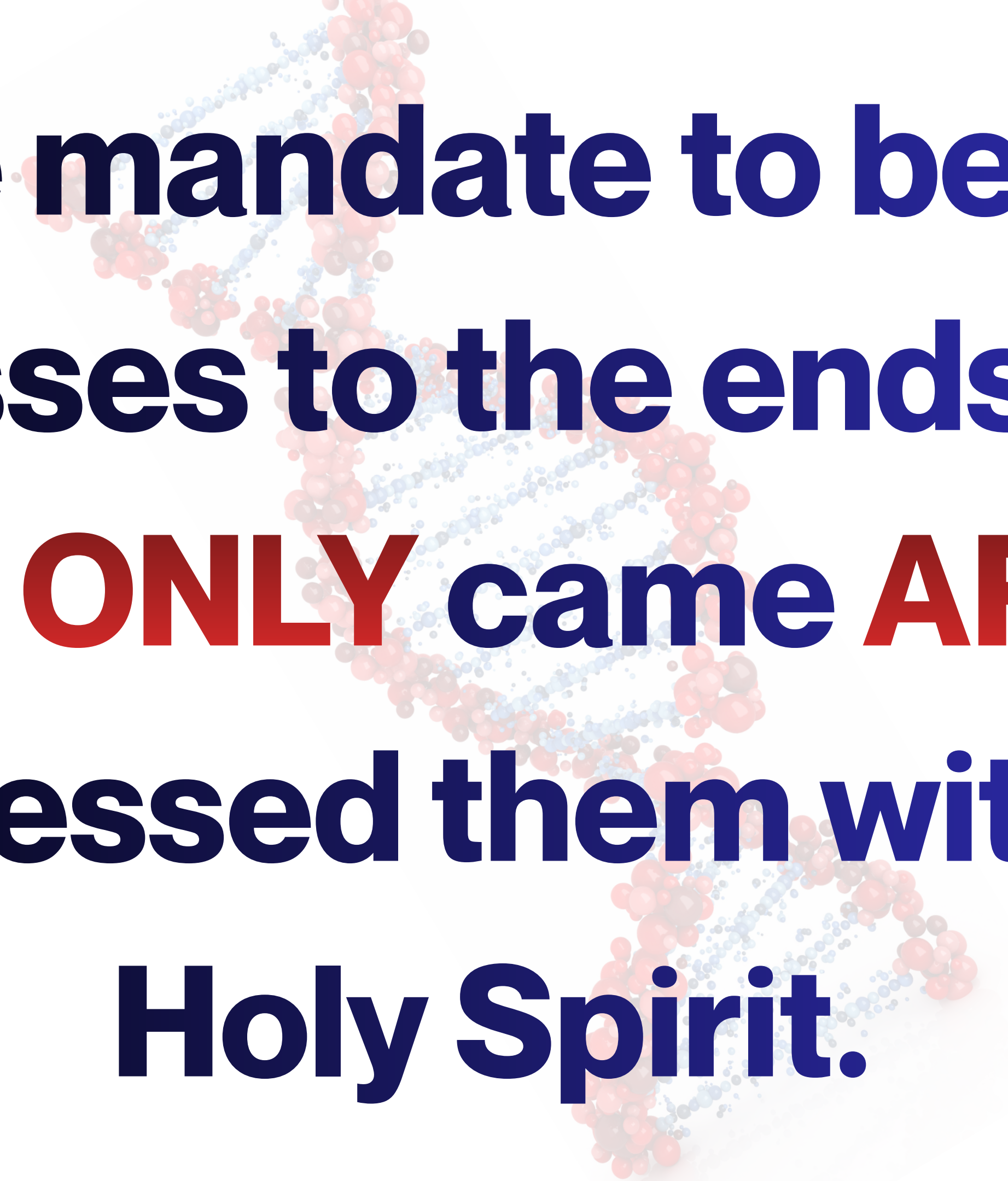
He blessed them.

ACTS 1:4

4 Gathering them together,
**He commanded them not
to leave Jerusalem**, but to
wait for what the Father
had promised,

ACTS 1:8

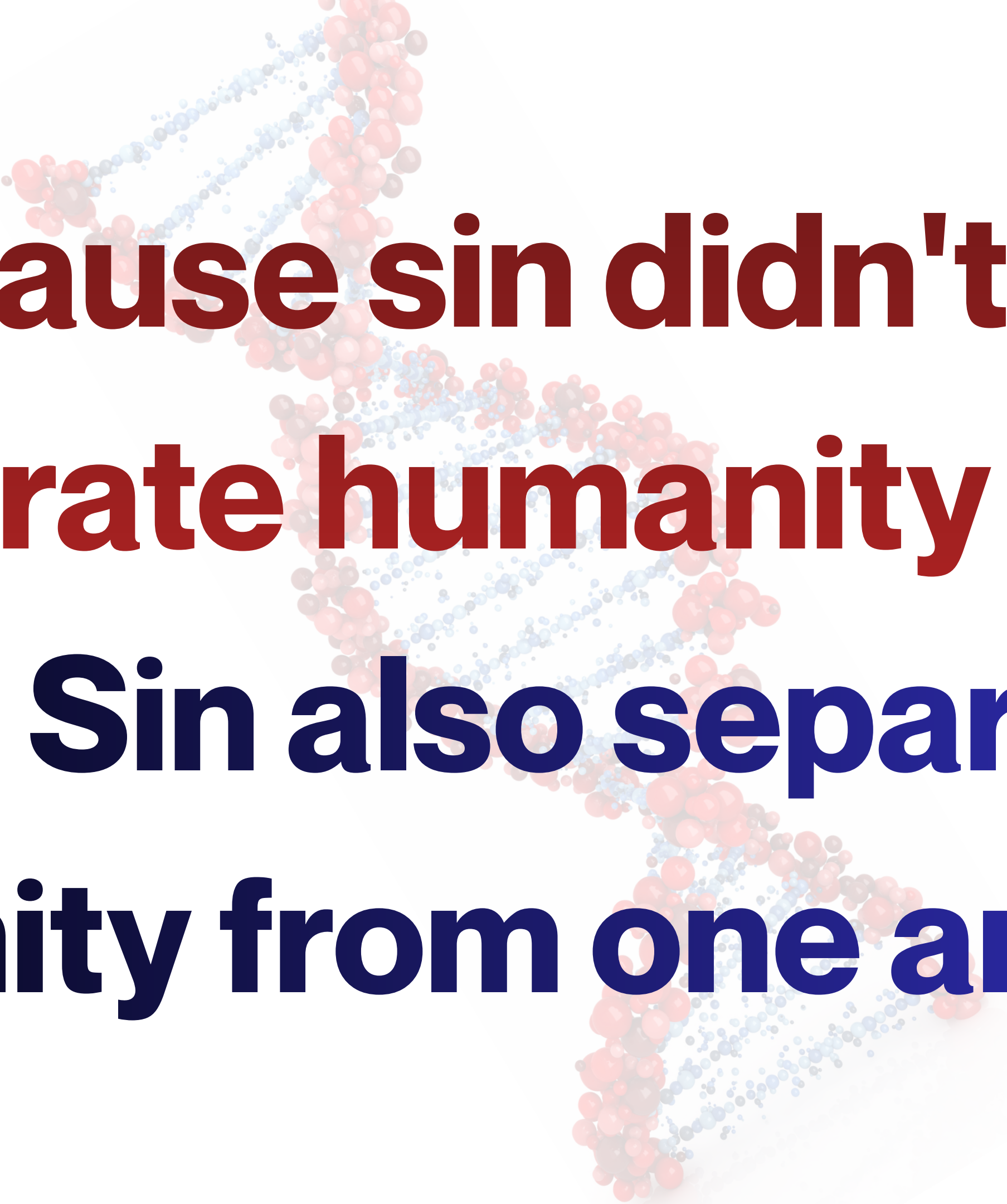
8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and Samaria, and as far as the remotest part of the earth.”



**The mandate to be His
witnesses to the ends of the
earth **ONLY** came **AFTER**
He blessed them with the
Holy Spirit.**



Diversity is at the heart
of God. We were always
meant to be a
multiethnic people.



**Because sin didn't just
separate humanity from
God. Sin also separated
humanity from one another.**

EPHESIANS 2:13-14

13 But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14 For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility

EPHESIANS 2:15-16

15 by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, 16 and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility.

EPHESIANS 2:17-19

17 And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. 18 For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19 So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

EPHESIANS 2:17-19

20 built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. 22 In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

REVELATION 7:9

9 After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands,

REVELATION 7:10

¹⁰ and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!”

**"I am because we are;
and since we are,
therefore I am."**

-John Mbiti

Leader: The gospel crossed cultural boundaries and brought diverse people into one body. The Spirit formed a community that reflected God's heart for all nations.

Church: We are a multiethnic church

All Together:

We reflect the nations.

We pursue unity.

We celebrate every tribe and tongue.