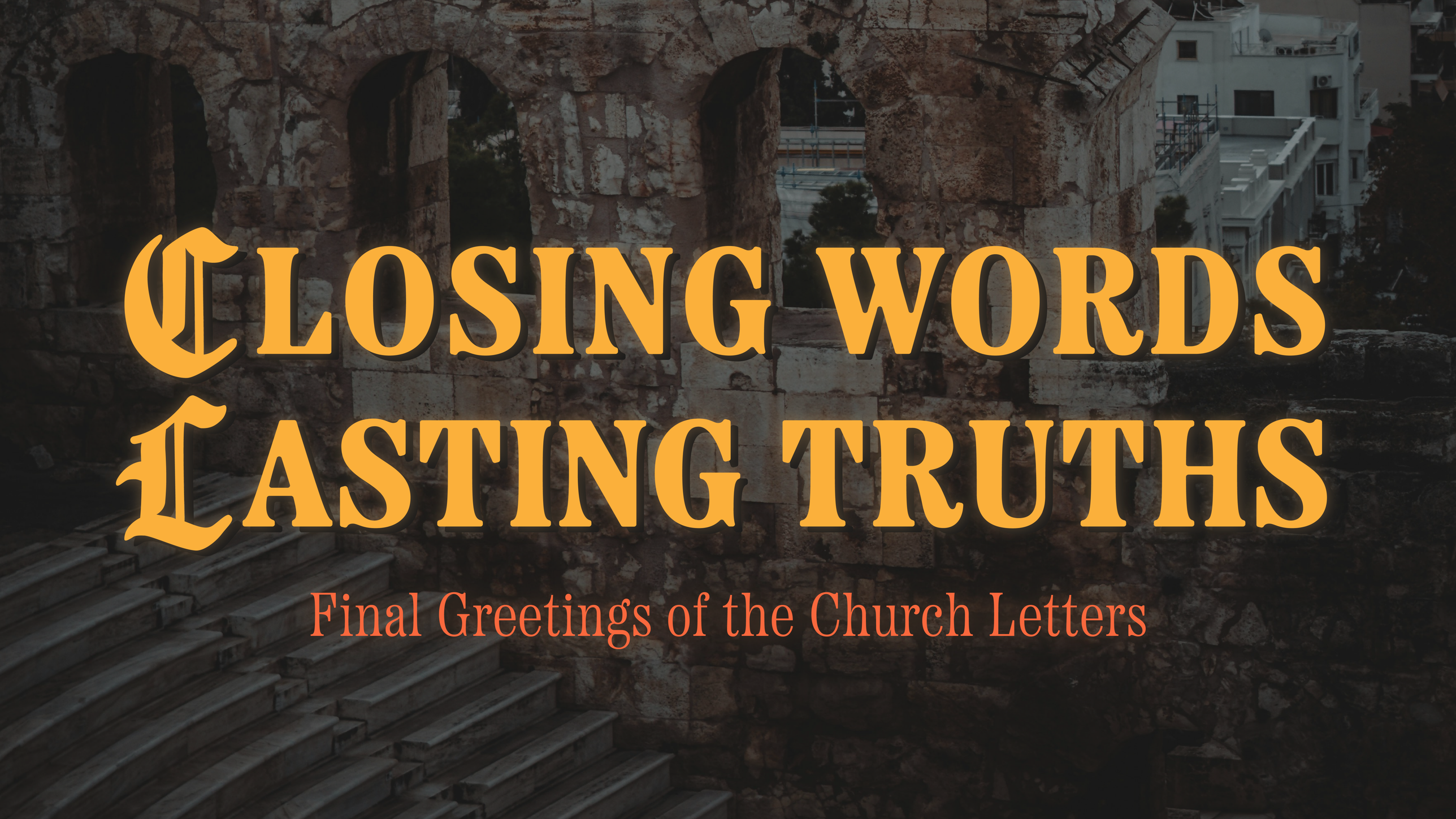
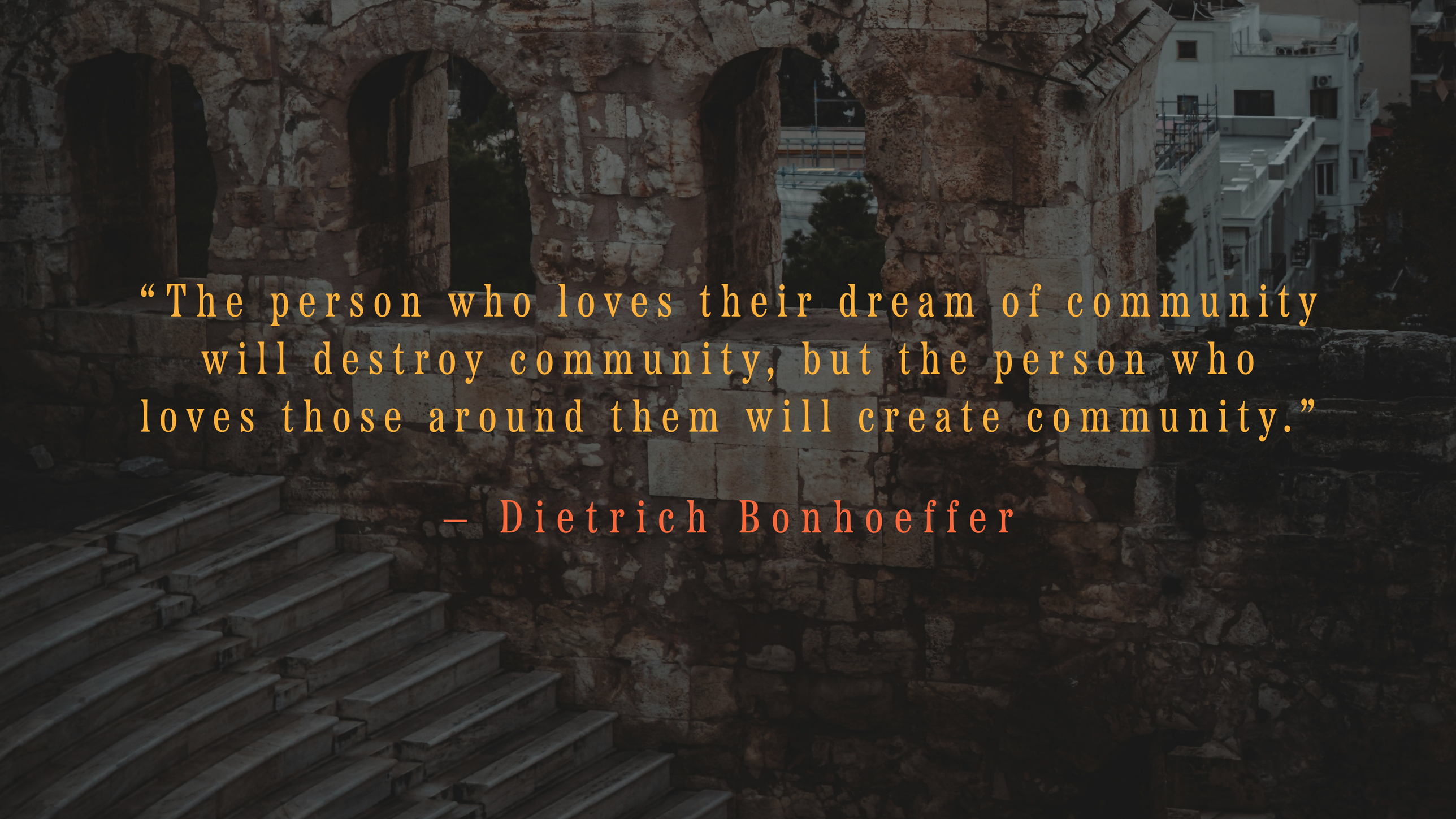
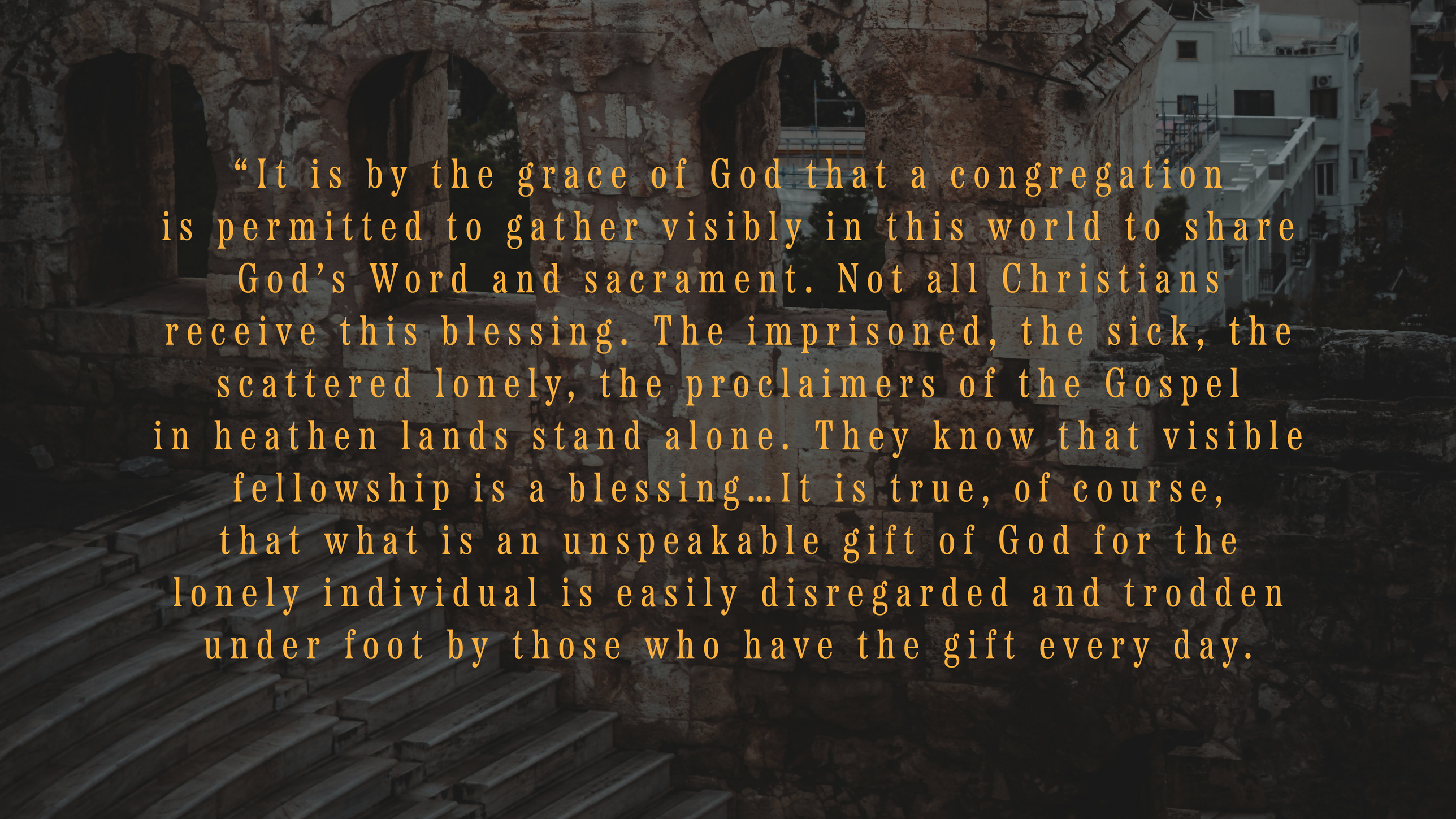


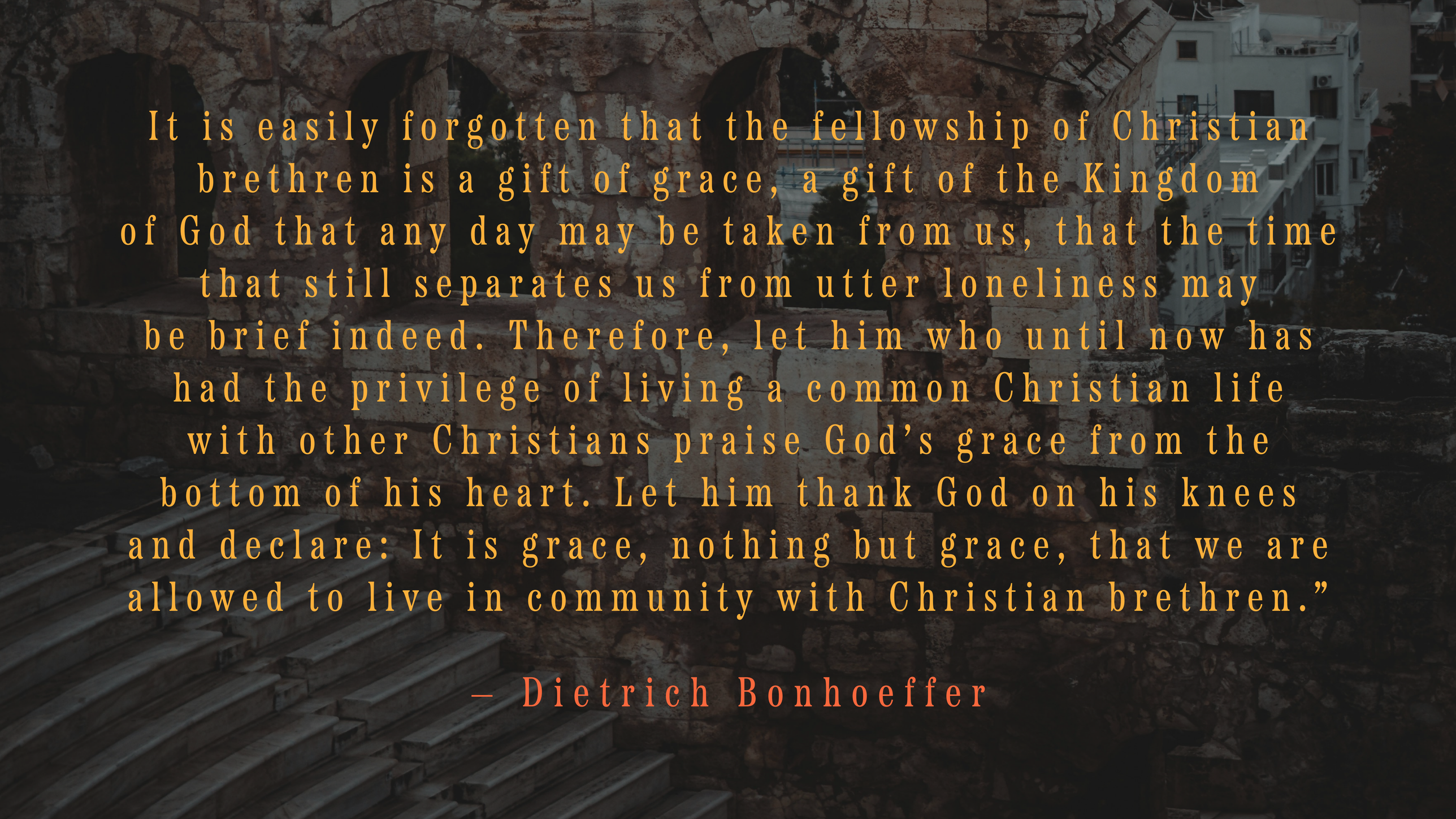
Closing Words Lasting Truths

Final Greetings of the Church Letters


“The person who loves their dream of community
will destroy community, but the person who
loves those around them will create community.”
– Dietrich Bonhoeffer



“It is by the grace of God that a congregation is permitted to gather visibly in this world to share God’s Word and sacrament. Not all Christians receive this blessing. The imprisoned, the sick, the scattered lonely, the proclaimers of the Gospel in heathen lands stand alone. They know that visible fellowship is a blessing…It is true, of course, that what is an unspeakable gift of God for the lonely individual is easily disregarded and trodden under foot by those who have the gift every day.



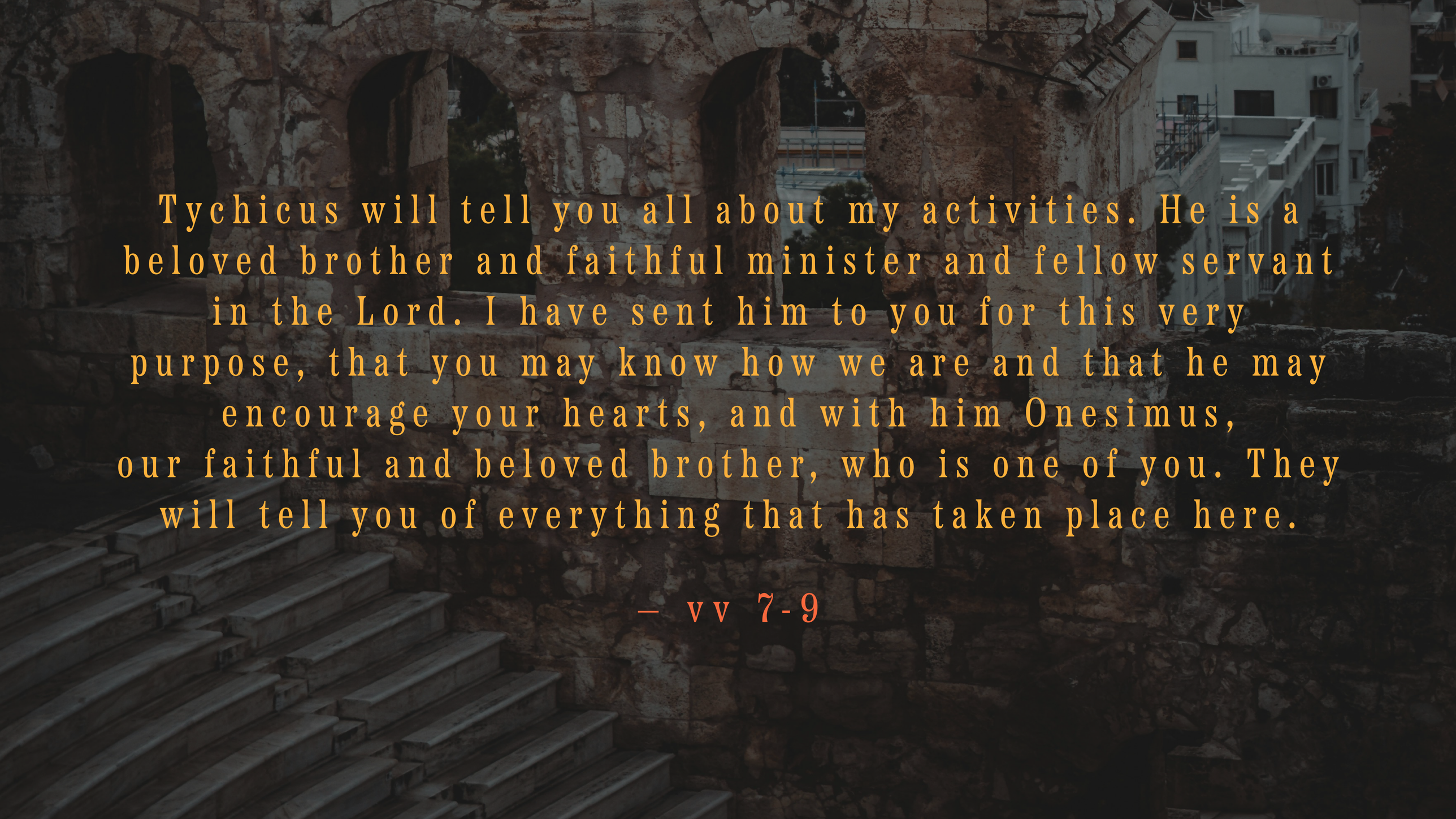
It is easily forgotten that the fellowship of Christian brethren is a gift of grace, a gift of the Kingdom of God that any day may be taken from us, that the time that still separates us from utter loneliness may be brief indeed. Therefore, let him who until now has had the privilege of living a common Christian life with other Christians praise God's grace from the bottom of his heart. Let him thank God on his knees and declare: It is grace, nothing but grace, that we are allowed to live in community with Christian brethren."

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer



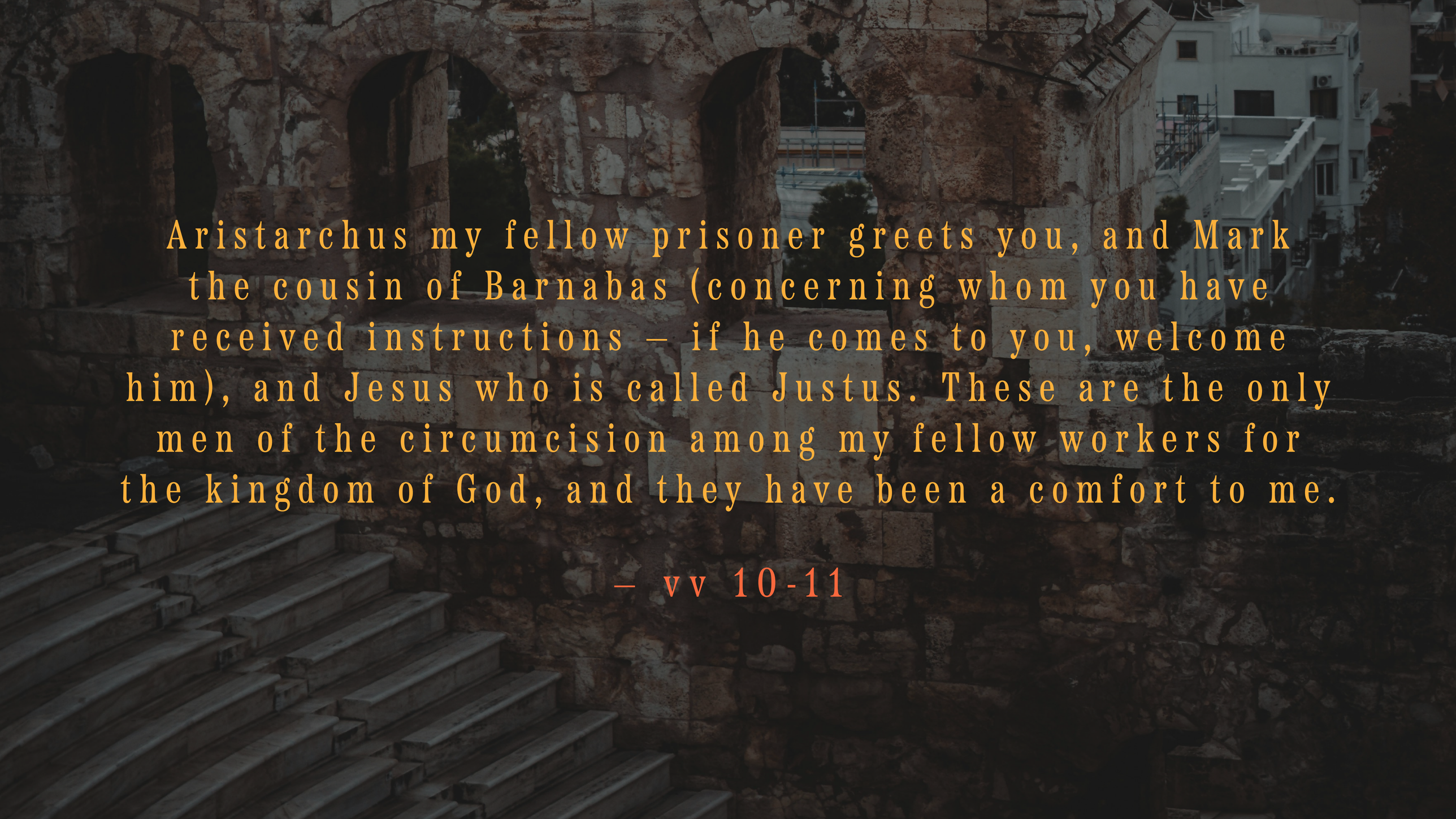
STANDING MATURE FULLY ASSURED

Colossians 4:7-18



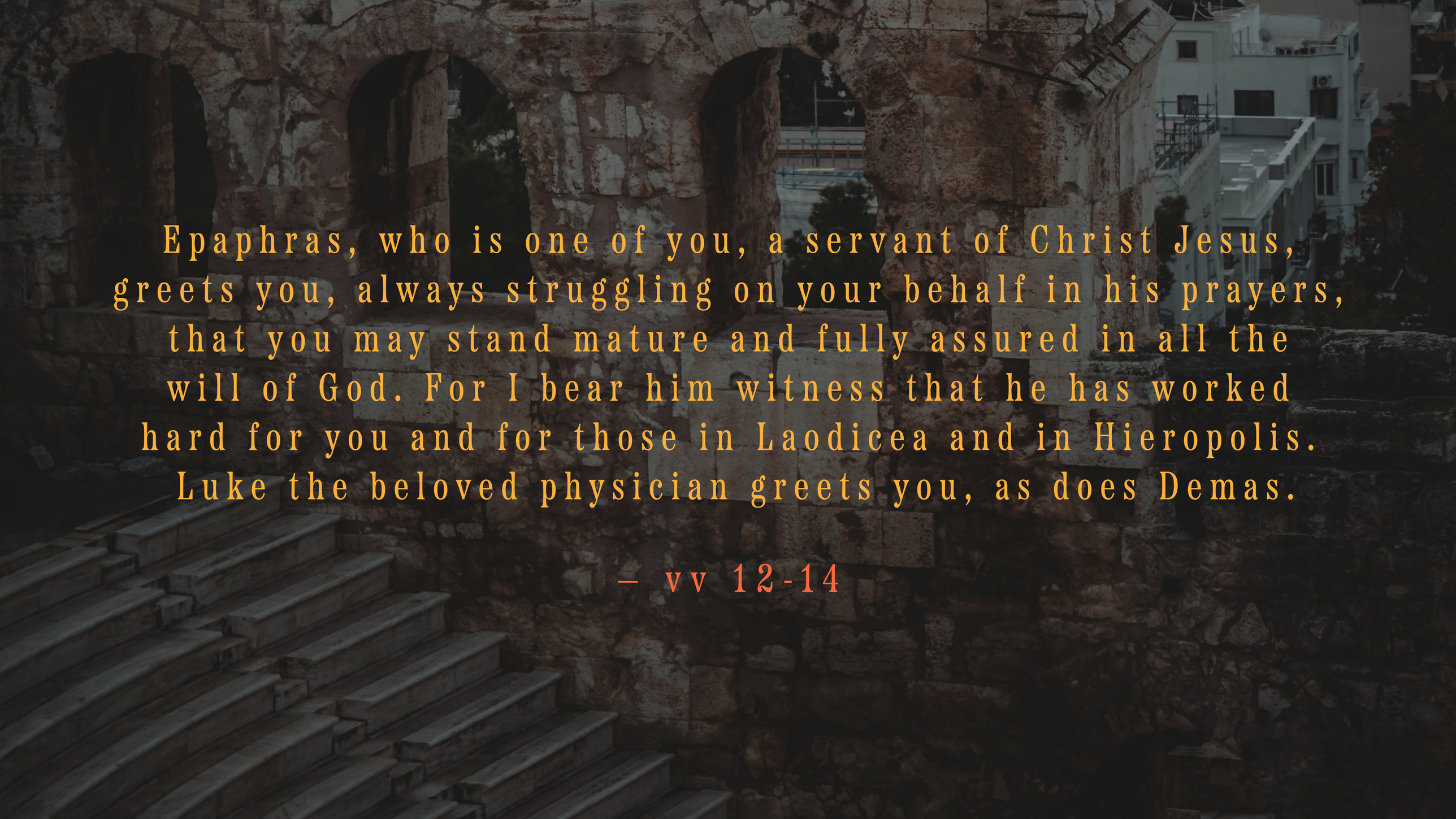
Tychicus will tell you all about my activities. He is a beloved brother and faithful minister and fellow servant in the Lord. I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know how we are and that he may encourage your hearts, and with him Onesimus, our faithful and beloved brother, who is one of you. They will tell you of everything that has taken place here.

– vv 7-9



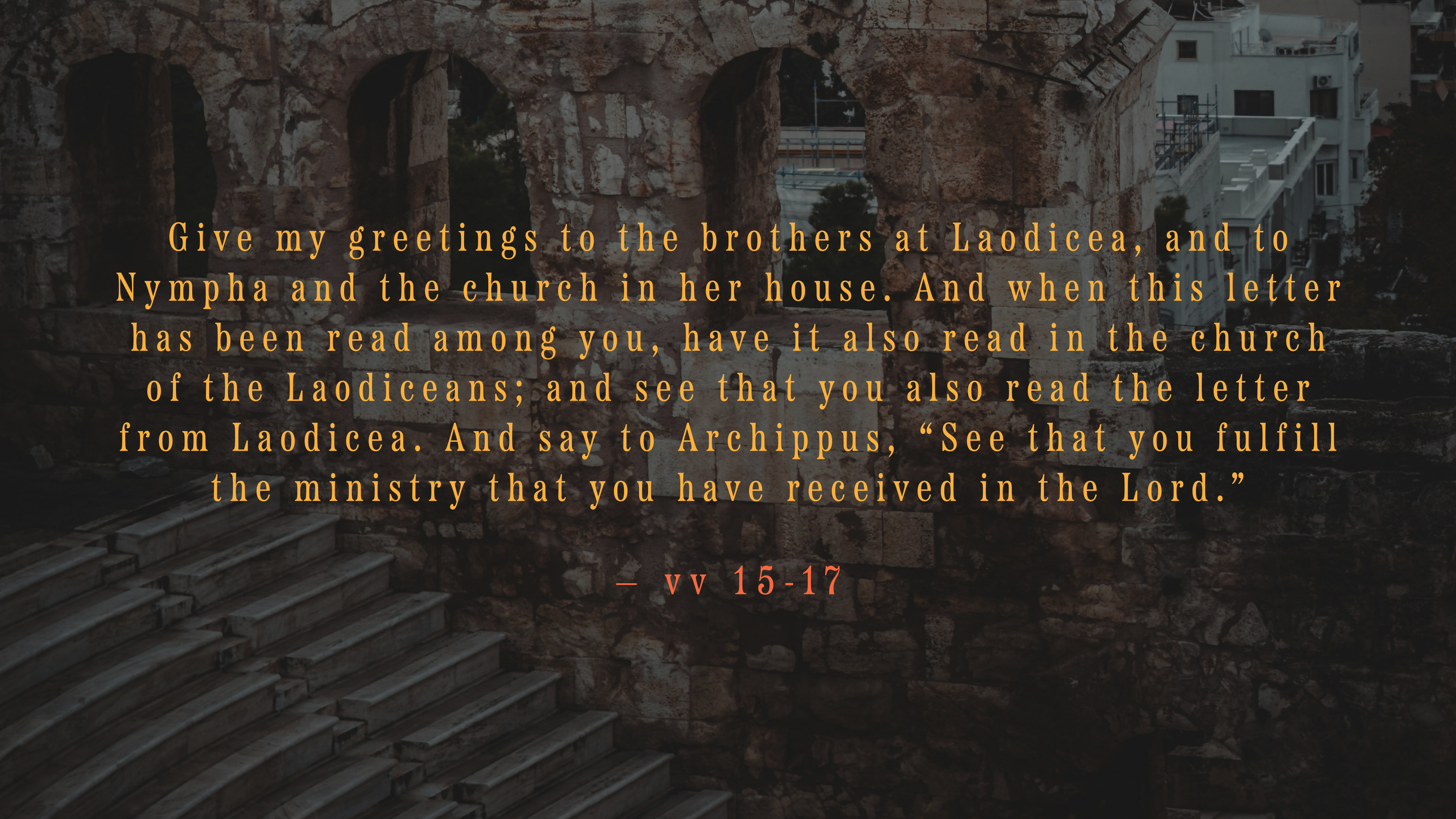
Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and Mark the cousin of Barnabas (concerning whom you have received instructions – if he comes to you, welcome him), and Jesus who is called Justus. These are the only men of the circumcision among my fellow workers for the kingdom of God, and they have been a comfort to me.

– vv 10-11



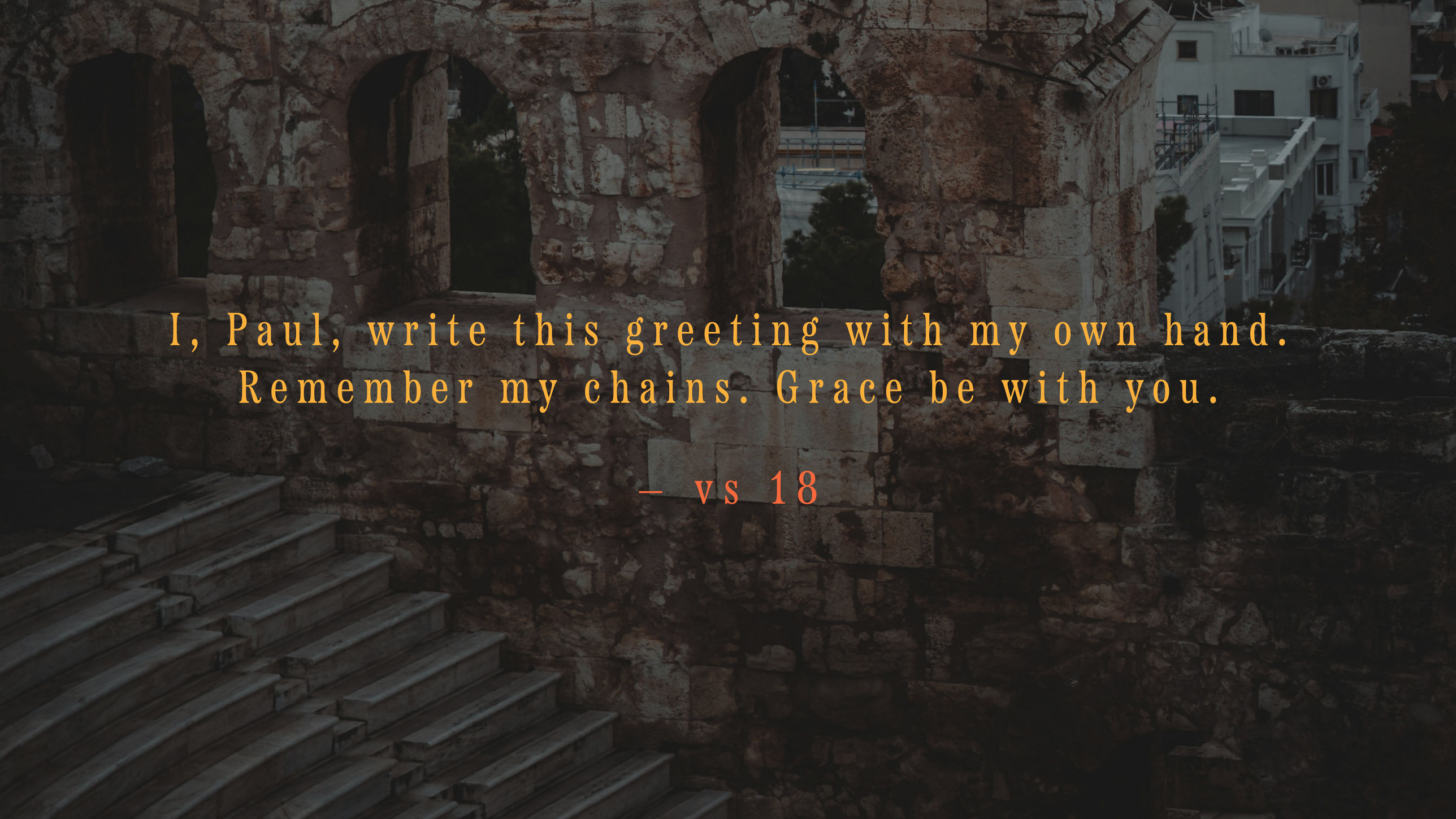
Epaphras, who is one of you, a servant of Christ Jesus,
greets you, always struggling on your behalf in his prayers,
that you may stand mature and fully assured in all the
will of God. For I bear him witness that he has worked
hard for you and for those in Laodicea and in Hieropolis.
Luke the beloved physician greets you, as does Demas.

– vv 12-14



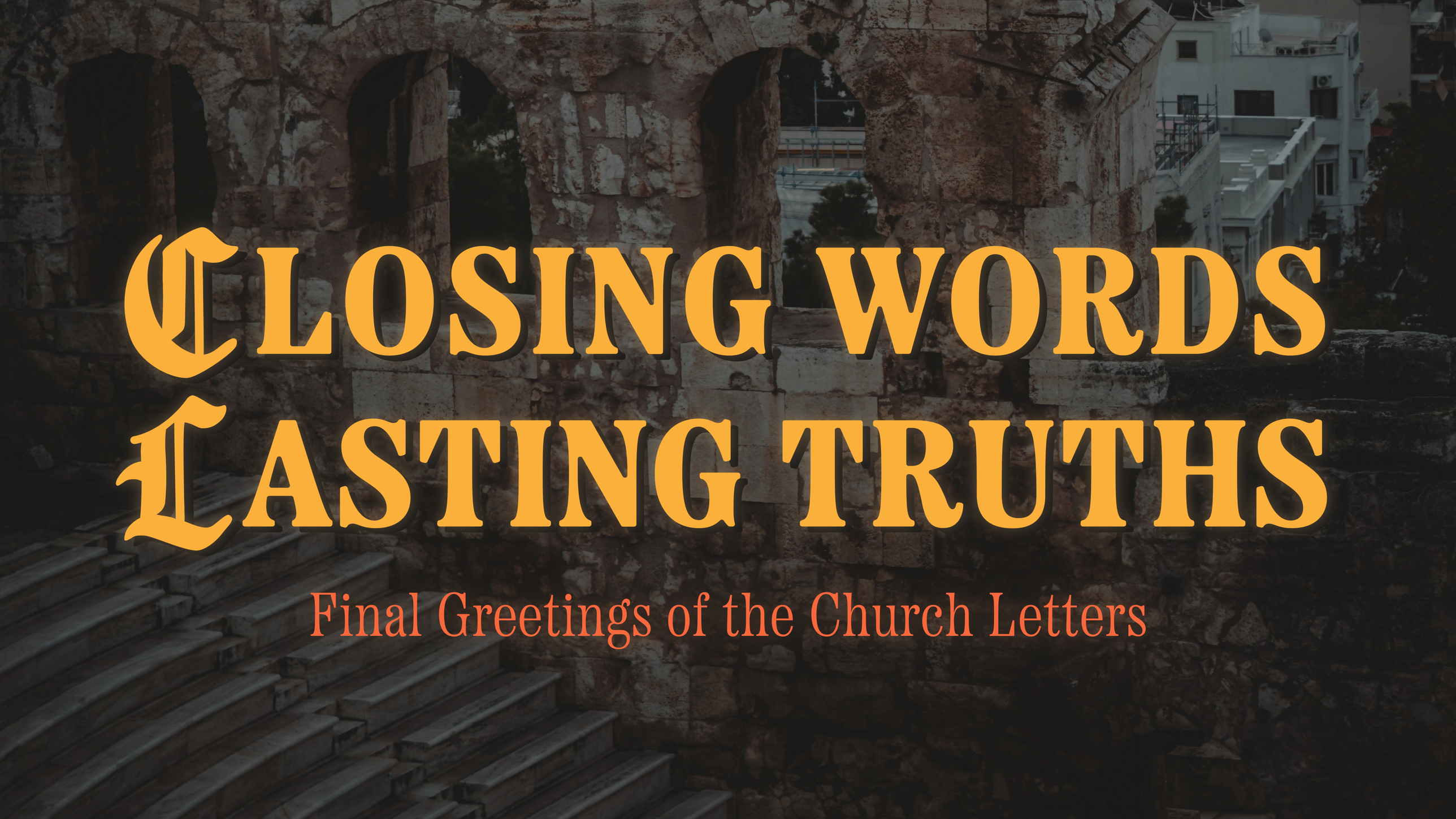
Give my greetings to the brothers at Laodicea, and to Nympha and the church in her house. And when this letter has been read among you, have it also read in the church of the Laodiceans; and see that you also read the letter from Laodicea. And say to Archippus, “See that you fulfill the ministry that you have received in the Lord.”

– vv 15-17



I, Paul, write this greeting with my own hand.
Remember my chains. Grace be with you.

– vs 18



Closing Words Lasting Truths

Final Greetings of the Church Letters