




LOVE REIGNS

LIVING IN THE HOPE OF EASTER



Easter Was
the Day
Jesus
Proved He
Has **ALL**
Authority



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Love Reigns Over Our **PAST**



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Love Reigns Over Our **PRESENT**



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Love Reigns Over Our **FUTURE**



**Worry wastes
our time,
energy and
attention on
things we can't
control.**

**The only CURE
is trusting
God.**



“That is why I tell you not to worry about everyday life—whether you have enough food and drink, or enough clothes to wear. Isn’t life more than food, and your body more than clothing? **26** Look at the birds. They don’t plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And aren’t you far more valuable to him than they are?

Matthew 6:25–27 (NLT)

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27 Can all your worries add a single moment to your life?"

Matthew 6:25–27 (NLT)

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1. God Sees You




Jesus points us to birds...

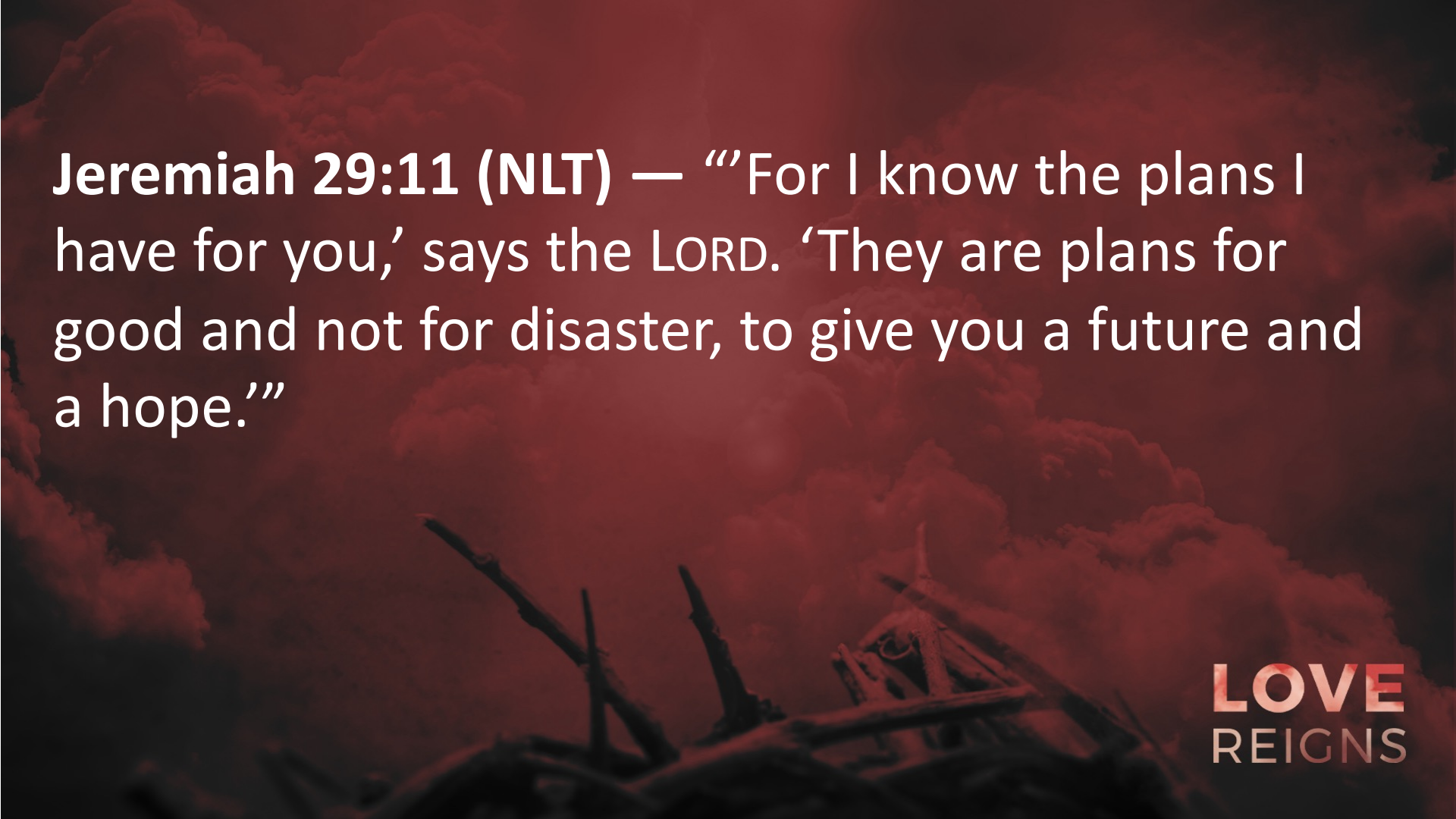


Matthew 6:26 (NLT) — “Look at the birds. They don’t plant or harvest or store food in barns, for your heavenly Father feeds them. And **aren’t you far more valuable to him than they are?**”

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We must allow ourselves to trade
what we **DON'T** know about the
future, for what we **DO** know about
the love of God for us



Jeremiah 29:11 (NLT) — “For I know the plans I have for you,’ says the LORD. ‘They are plans for good and not for disaster, to give you a future and a hope.’”

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**Worrying
causes us to
become
paralyzed
by fear.**



Principles for Knowing God's Will:

1. Walk in obedience to light you already have.

2.

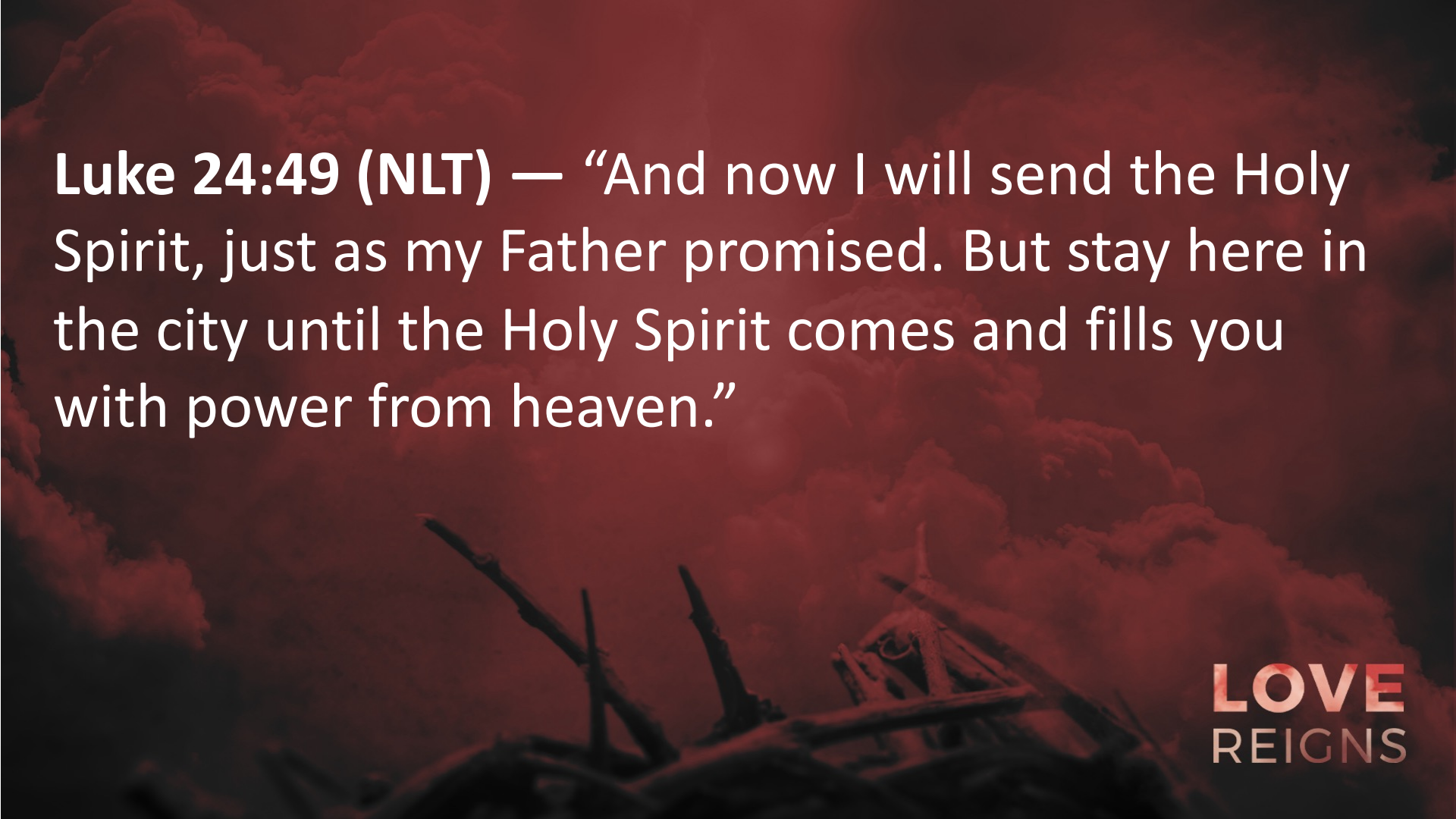
3.

4.

5.

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Luke 24:49 (NLT) — “And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.”

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Acts 1:4 (NLT) — “Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, ‘Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before.’”

Acts 1:12 (NLT) — “Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile.”

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Principles for Knowing God's Will:

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- 2. Be in fellowship with other Believers.**
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

“When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying. Here are the names of those who were present: Peter, John, James, Andrew, Philip, Thomas, Bartholomew, Matthew, James (son of Alphaeus), Simon (the zealot), and Judas (son of James). **14**

They all met together and were constantly united

Acts 1:13-15 (NLT)

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in prayer, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus. **15** During this time, when about **120 believers were together in one place**, Peter stood up and addressed them.”

Acts 1:13-15 (NLT)

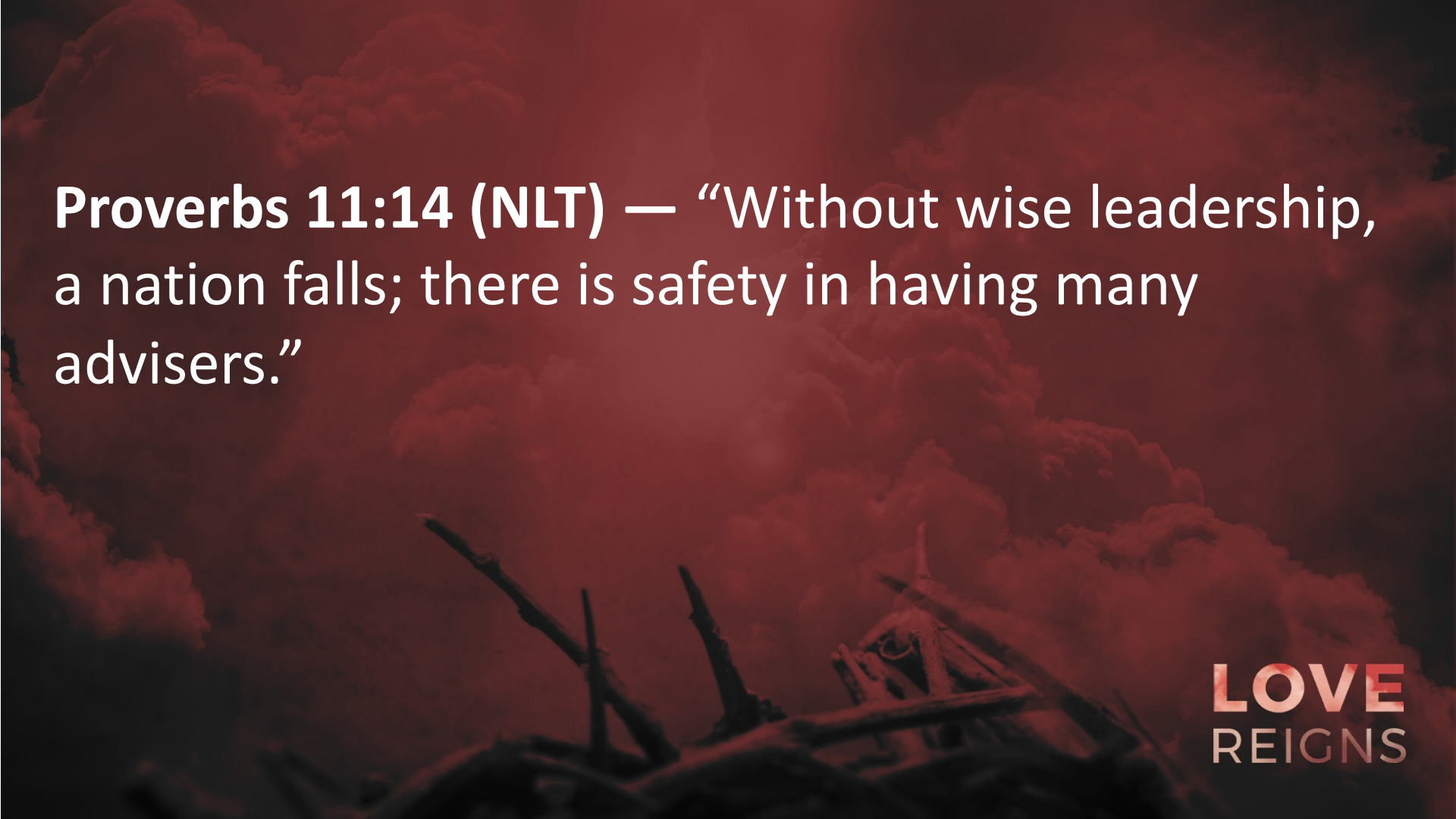
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Being committed in
fellowship is **VITAL** to
your spiritual life.



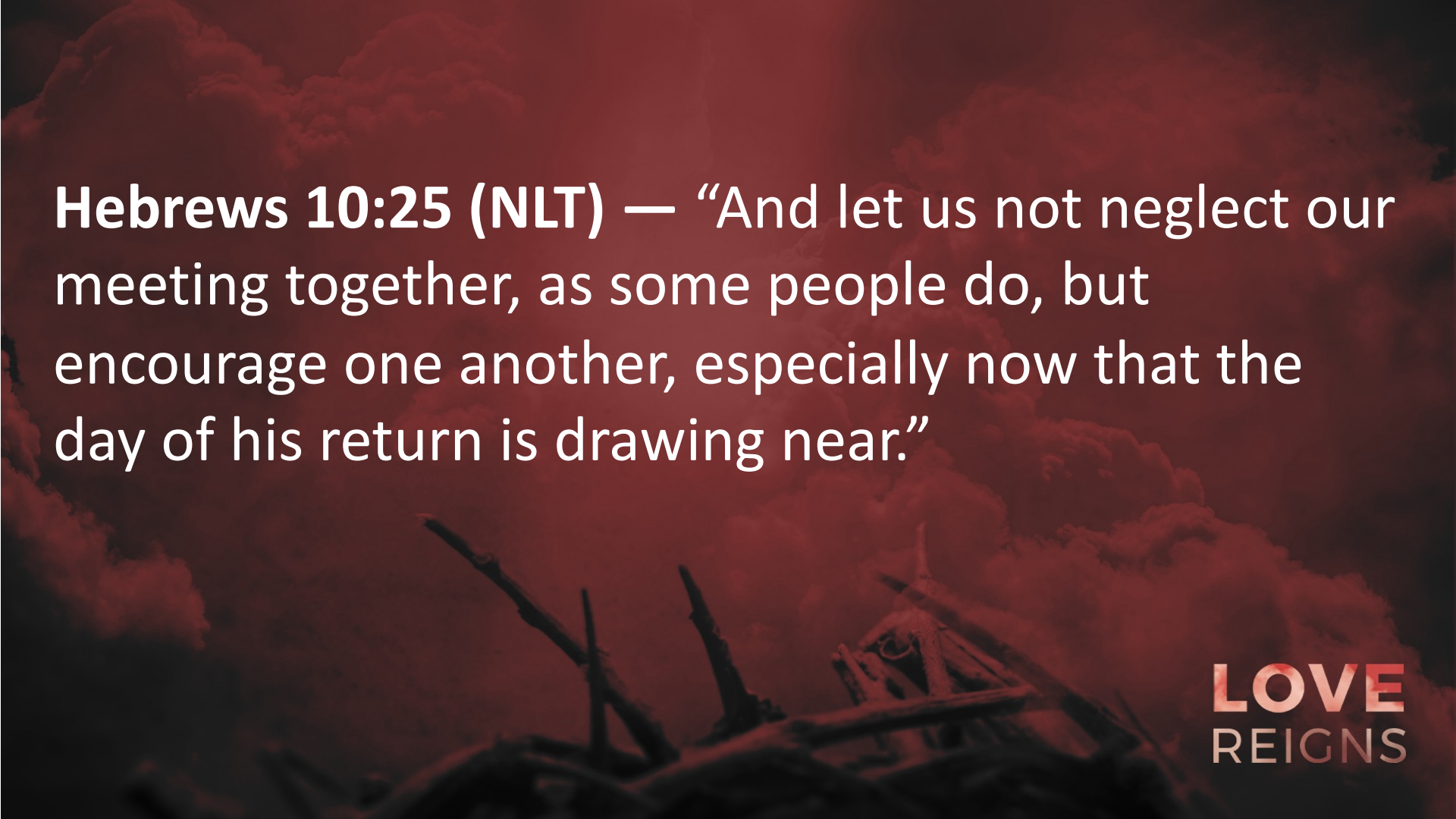
Ephesians 4:11–12 (NLT) — “Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. **12** Their responsibility is to equip God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.”

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Proverbs 11:14 (NLT) — “Without wise leadership, a nation falls; there is safety in having many advisers.”

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Hebrews 10:25 (NLT) — “And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

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Principles for Knowing God's Will:

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- 3. Pray to know God and His will.**
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

Acts 1:14 (NLT) — “They all met together and were **constantly united in prayer**, along with Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, and the brothers of Jesus.”

Acts 1:24 (NLT) — “Then **they all prayed**, ‘O Lord, you know every heart. Show us which of these men you have chosen.’”

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Matthew 7:7–8 (NLT) — “Keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. **8 For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.**”

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Principles for Knowing God's Will:

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- 3. Pray to know God and His will.**
 - Ask.

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Principles for Knowing God's Will:

1. Walk in obedience to light you already have.
2. Be in fellowship with other Believers.
- 3. Pray to know God and His will.**
 - Ask.
 - Ask with the right motives.

Principles for Knowing God's Will:

1. Walk in obedience to light you already have.
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3. Pray to know God and His will.
4. **Search God's Word.**
- 5.
- 6.

“During this time, when about 120 believers were together in one place, Peter stood up and addressed them. **16** ‘Brothers,’ he said, ‘**the Scriptures had to be fulfilled** concerning Judas, who guided those who arrested Jesus. **This was predicted long ago** by the Holy Spirit, speaking through King David. **17** Judas was one of us and

Acts 1:15-20 (NLT)

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shared in the ministry with us.' **18** (Judas had bought a field with the money he received for his treachery. Falling headfirst there, his body split open, spilling out all his intestines. **19** The news of his death spread to all the people of Jerusalem, and they gave the place the Aramaic name Akeldama, which means 'Field of Blood.') **20** Peter

Acts 1:15-20 (NLT)

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continued, **‘This was written in the book of Psalms**, where it says, ‘Let his home become desolate, with no one living in it.’ It also says, ‘Let someone else take his position.’”

Acts 1:15-20 (NLT)

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Psalm 119:6 (NLT) — “Then I will not be ashamed **when I compare my life with your commands.**”

Psalm 119:7 (NLT) — “**As I learn your righteous regulations,** I will thank you by living as I should!”

Psalm 119:105 (NLT) — “**Your word is a lamp** to guide my feet and a light for my path.”

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Let God's Word be Your Acid Test



Be attentive to the RHEMA Word.

rhema = “utterance”



Principles for Knowing God's Will:

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- 6.

Acts 1:23–26 (NKJV) — “And they proposed two: Joseph called Barsabas, who was surnamed Justus, and Matthias. **24** And they prayed and said, ‘You, O Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which of these two You have chosen **25** to take part in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas by transgression fell, that he might go to his own place.’ **26** And they cast their lots, and the lot fell on Matthias. And he was numbered with the eleven apostles.”

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Psalm 37:3–5 (NLT) — “**Trust** in the LORD and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper. **4** Take **delight** in the LORD, and he will give you your heart’s desires. **5** **Commit** everything you do to the LORD. Trust him, and he will help you.

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Psalm 37:23 (NLT) — “The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives.”

Proverbs 3:5–6 (NLT) — “Trust in the LORD with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. **6** Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.”

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Psalm 32:8–9 (NKJV) — “I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; **I will guide you with My eye.** 9 Do not be like the horse or like the mule, Which have no understanding, Which must be harnessed with bit and bridle, Else they will not come near you.”

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Principles for Knowing God's Will:

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5. Trust God to guide you.
6. **Fast to know His will.**

Acts 10:30-32 (NLT) - “So Cornelius said, ‘Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing, **31** and said, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your alms are remembered in the sight of God. **32** Send therefore to Joppa and call Simon here, whose surname is Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea. When he comes, he will speak to you.’”

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fasting

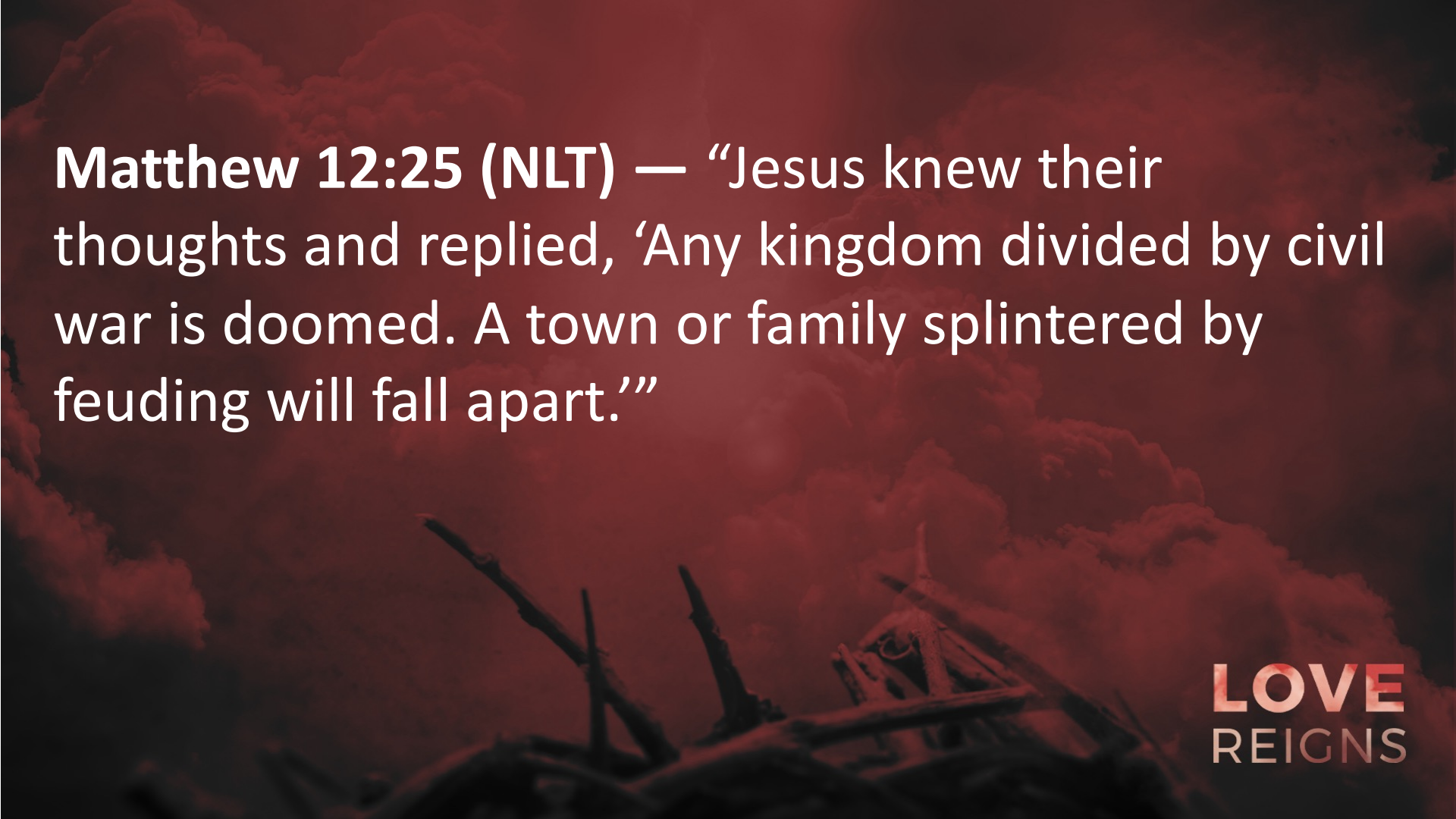
- Separating yourself unto the Lord
- Denying fleshly desires
- Quieting all other voices in order to hear the voice of God

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When Discerning God's Will:

- Be guided by the PEACE in your heart.
- If married, walk in UNITY.

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Matthew 12:25 (NLT) — “Jesus knew their thoughts and replied, ‘Any kingdom divided by civil war is doomed. A town or family splintered by feuding will fall apart.’”

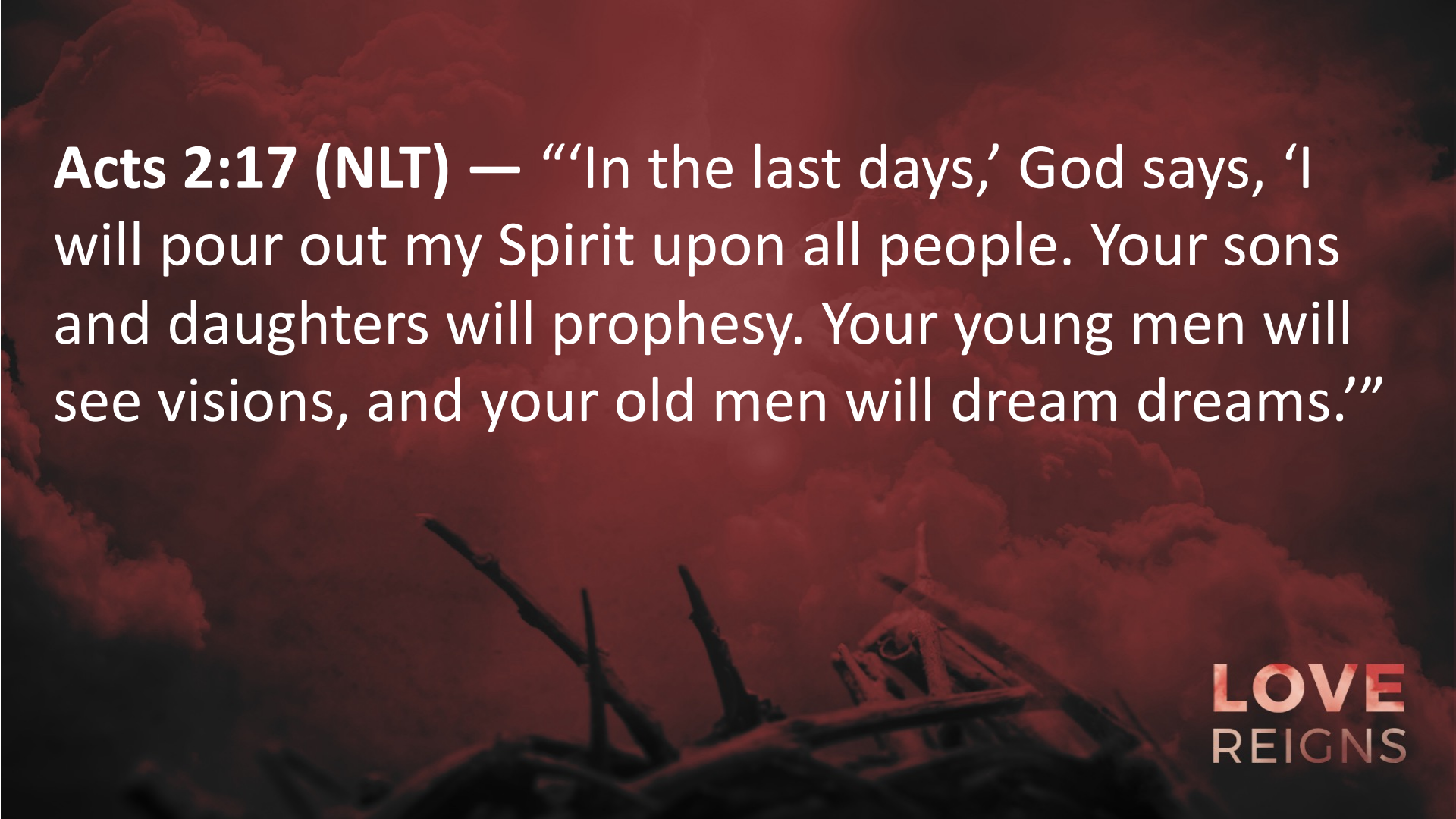
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Principles for Knowing God's Will:

7. God still speaks in dreams and visions.

8.

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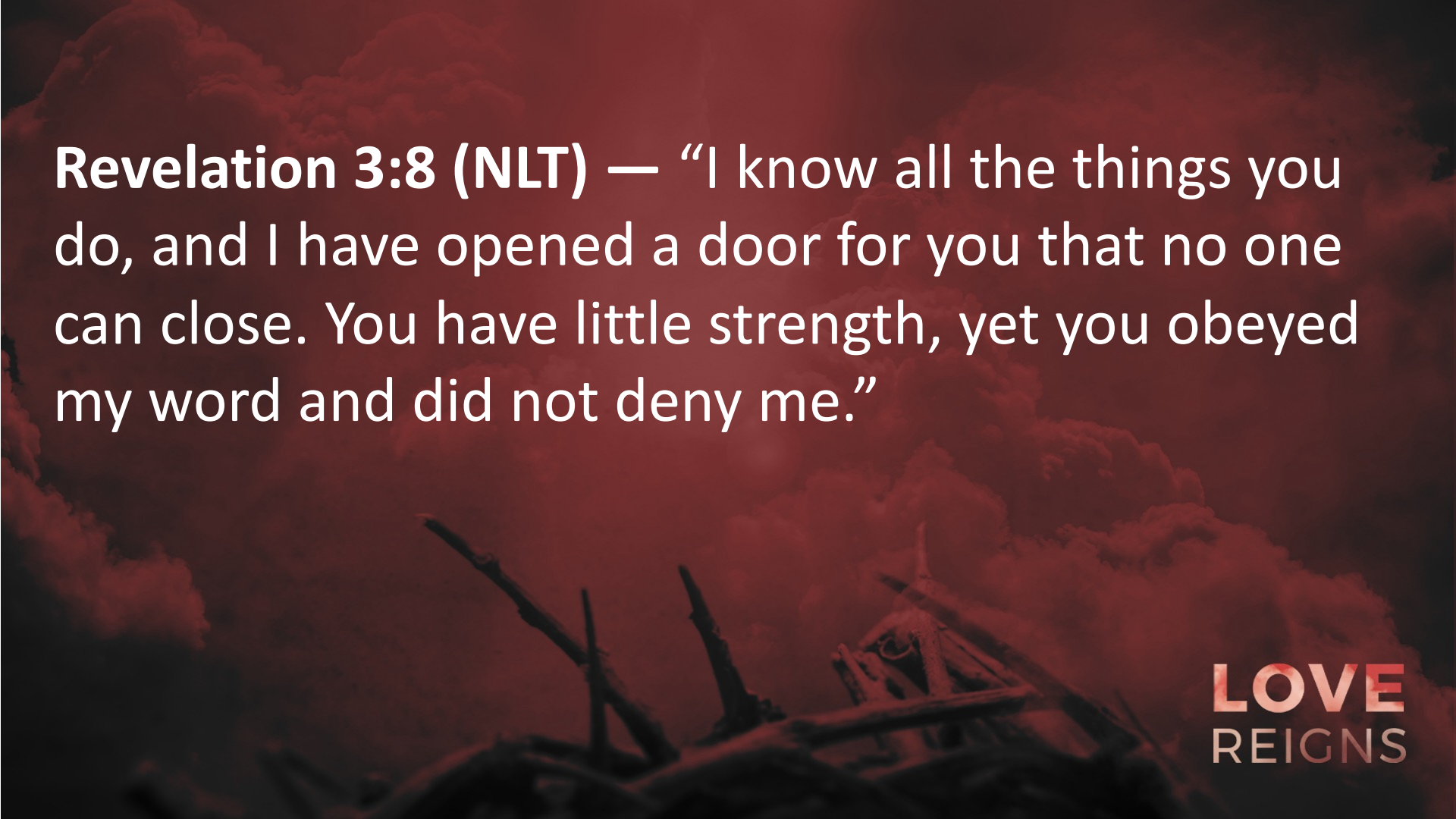
Acts 2:17 (NLT) — “‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.’”

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Principles for Knowing God's Will:

7. God still speaks in dreams and visions.
8. **God speaks through your circumstances.**

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Revelation 3:8 (NLT) — “I know all the things you do, and I have opened a door for you that no one can close. You have little strength, yet you obeyed my word and did not deny me.”

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Submission is the key.



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Principles for Knowing God's Will:

7. God still speaks in dreams and visions.
8. God speaks through your circumstances.

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“Surrender Prayer”

“Lord, help me to hear your voice and know your will, and give me the courage to follow what you speak to my heart. I’ll go anywhere, I’ll do anything, just as long as I know that it’s you that is leading me. Lord, your kingdom come, your will be done in my life, even as your will is being done in heaven. Amen.”

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Love Reigns Over Our **FUTURE**