

Sermon Notes
December 21, 2025
“The Light Has Overcome”
John 1:1-18

A wooden cross is the central focus, constructed from two weathered wooden beams. It is adorned with a string of warm white LED lights that are strung in a crisscross pattern around the beams. Evergreen branches are tucked behind the cross, adding a natural, festive touch. The entire scene is set against a light gray background with a subtle horizontal wood grain texture.

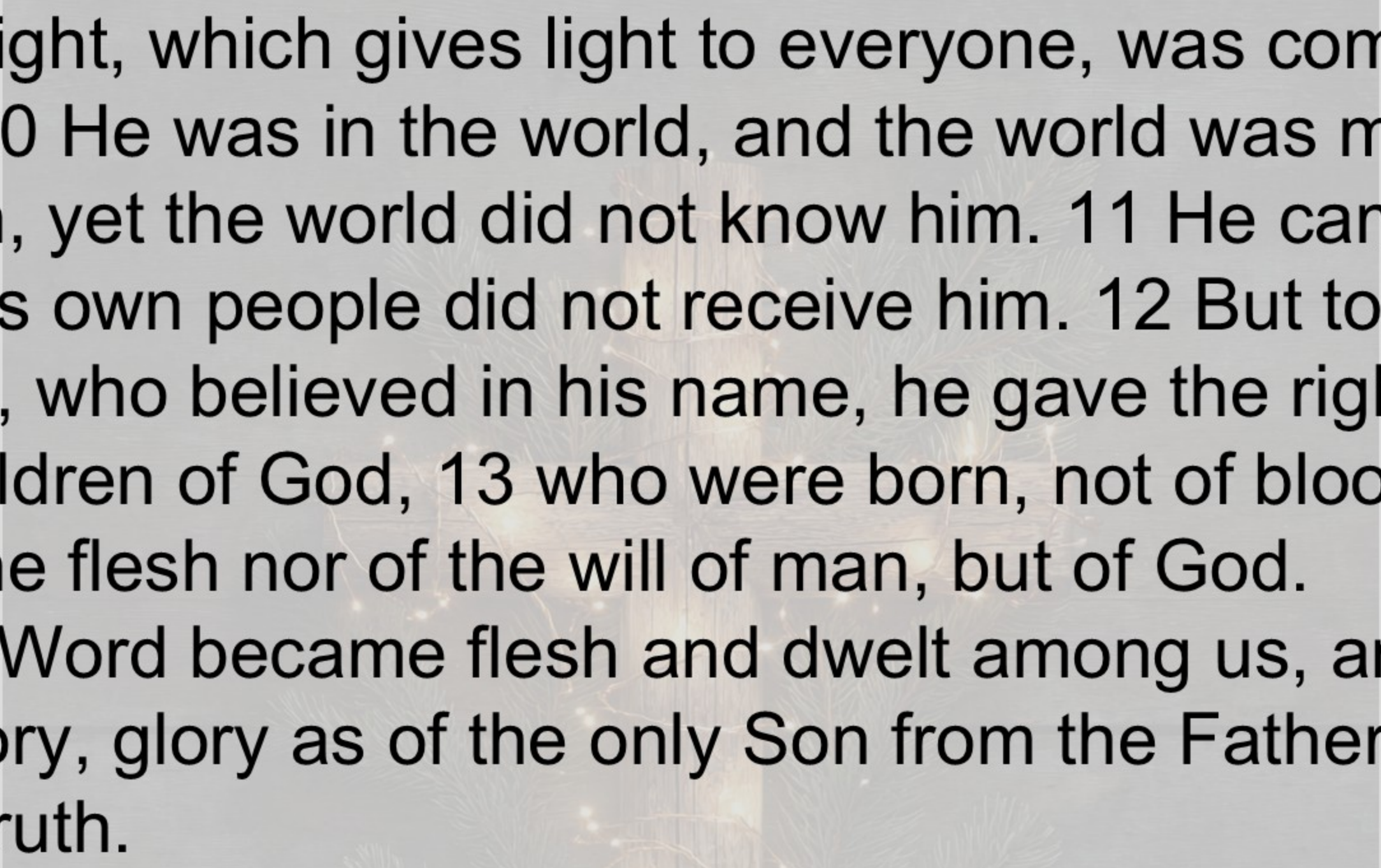
The Light Has Overcome

Matthew 2:1-2

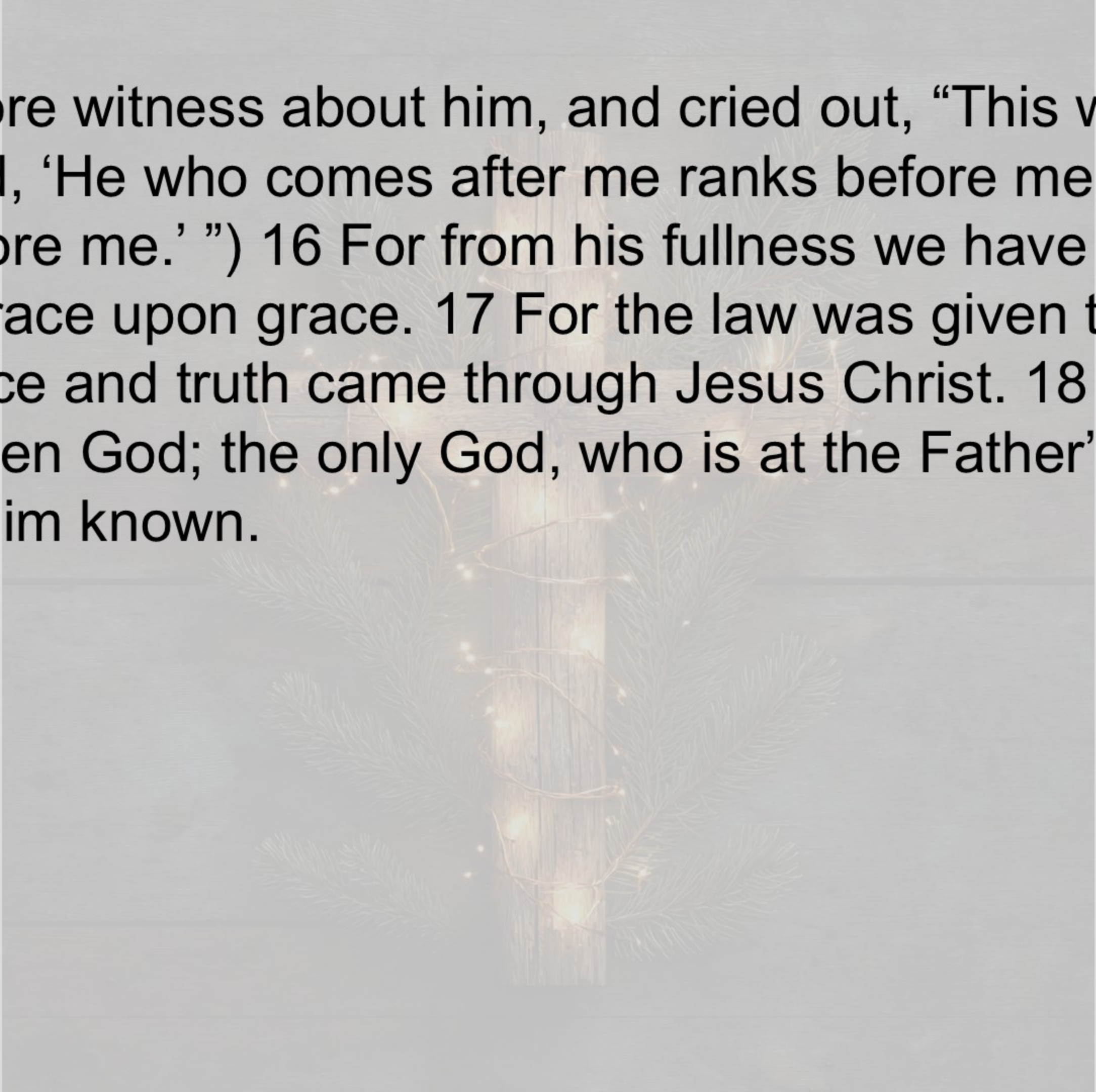
2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, 2 saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.”

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. 4 In him was life, and the life was the light of men. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. 8 He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.



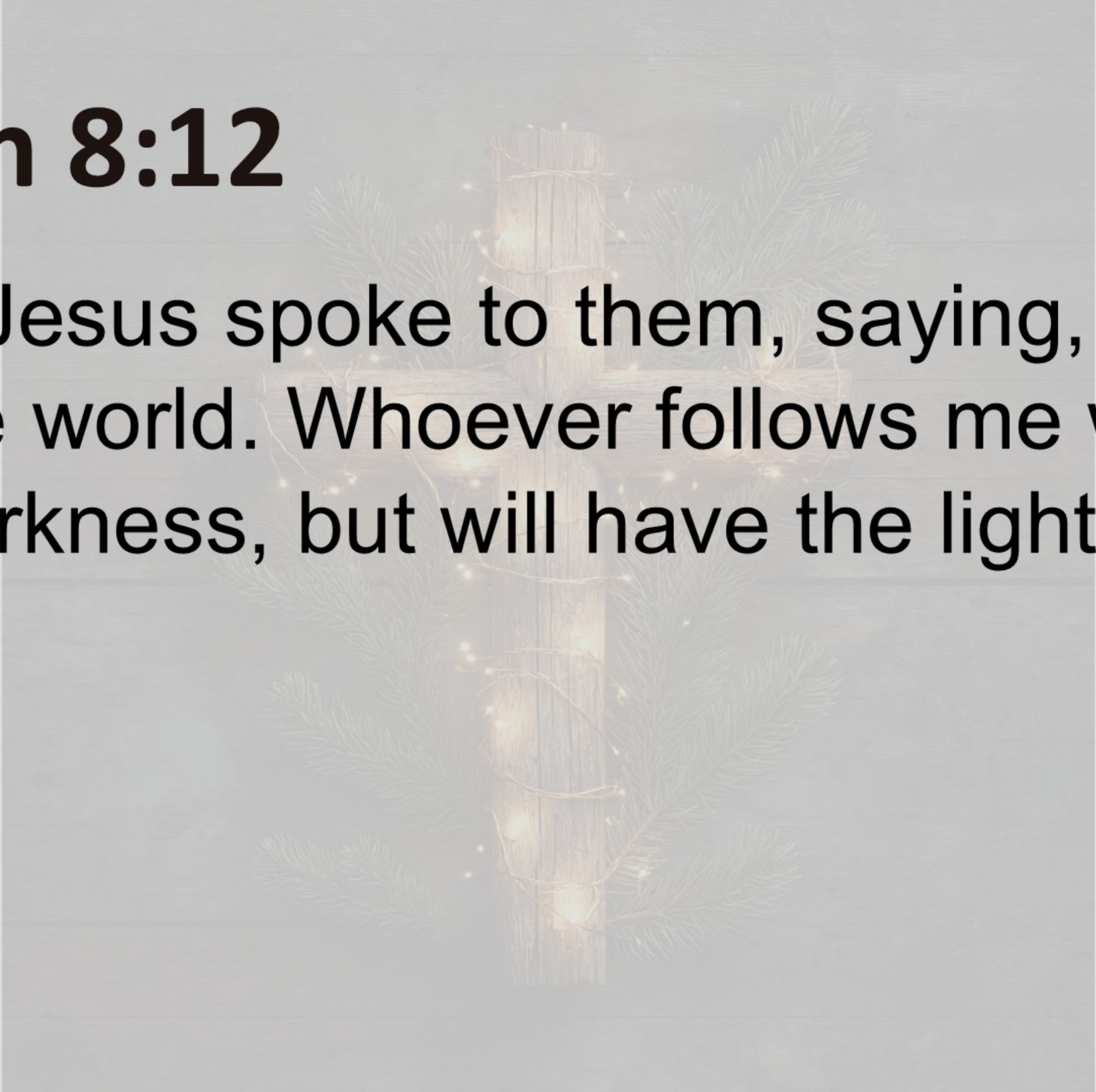
9 The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. 12 But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. 14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.



15 (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’ ”) 16 For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

John 8:12

12 Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”



Comfort

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God.

2 Corinthians 1:3-4

Protect from Danger

3 But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you
and guard you against the evil one

2 Thessalonians 3:3

Shows Us

6 For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 4:5-6

Illuminates a Path

105 Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

106 I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to keep your righteous rules.

107 I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O LORD, according to your word!

108 Accept my freewill offerings of praise,
O LORD, and teach me your rules.

Illuminates a Path

109 I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.

110 The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.

Illuminates a Path

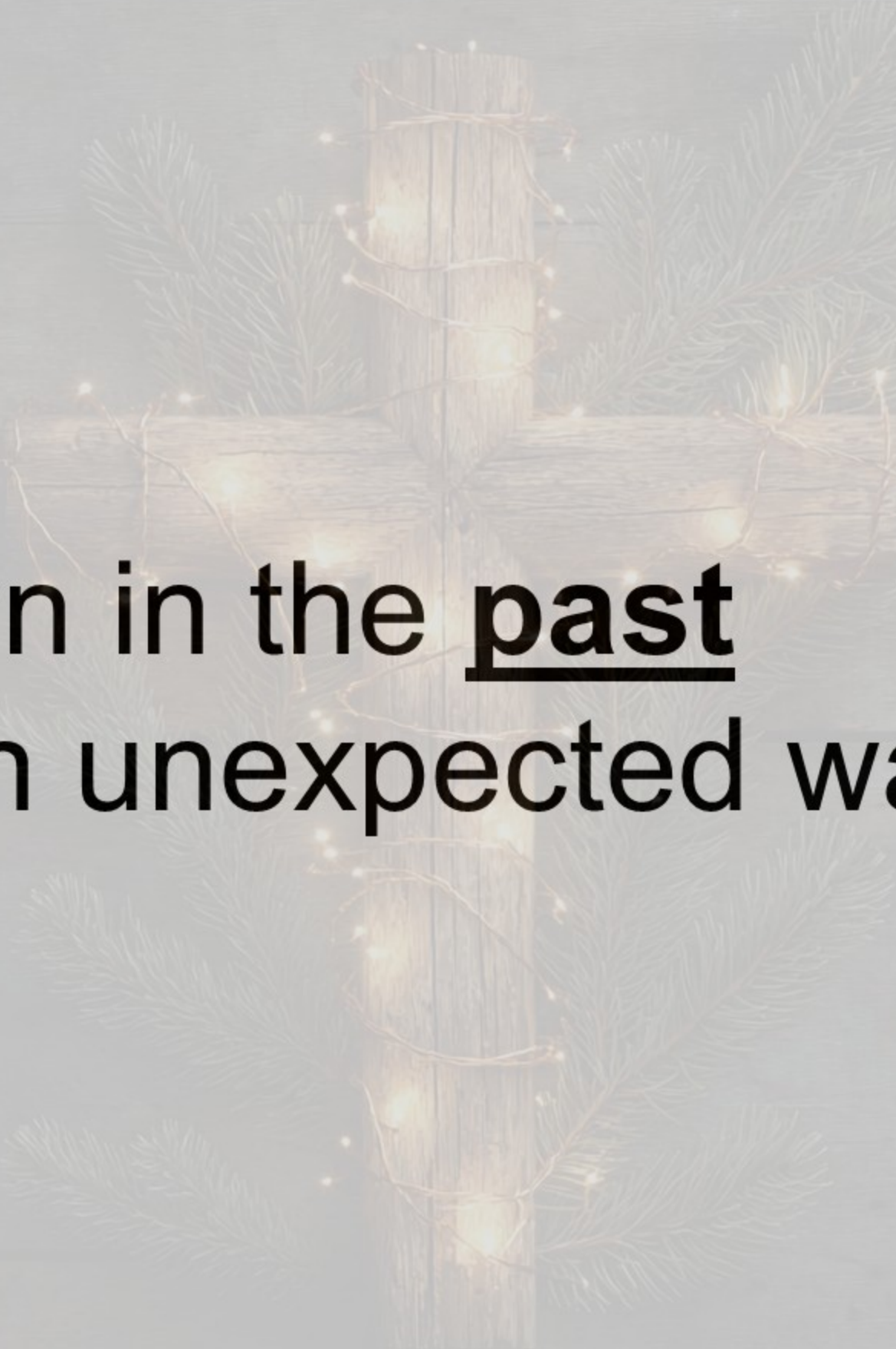
**111 Your testimonies are my heritage forever,
for they are the joy of my heart.**

**112 I incline my heart to perform your statutes
forever, to the end.**

Psalms 119:105-112

Ephesians 5:8-11

8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light
9 (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), 10 and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them.



God has shown in the past
he shows up in unexpected ways.