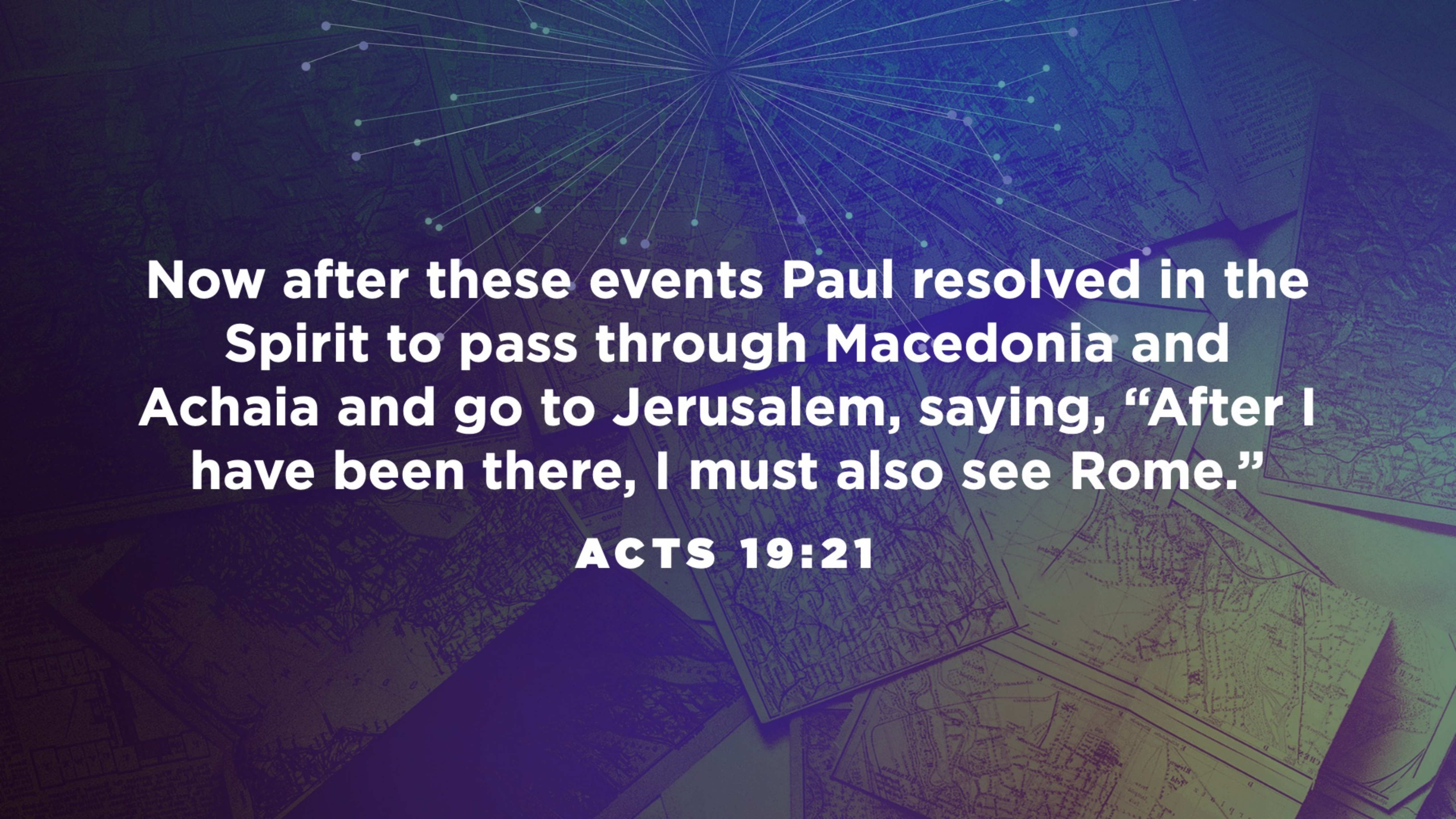


The background features a collage of historical maps in sepia tones, overlaid with a dark blue gradient. A network of white lines connects various glowing blue and white dots across the image, creating a sense of global connectivity.

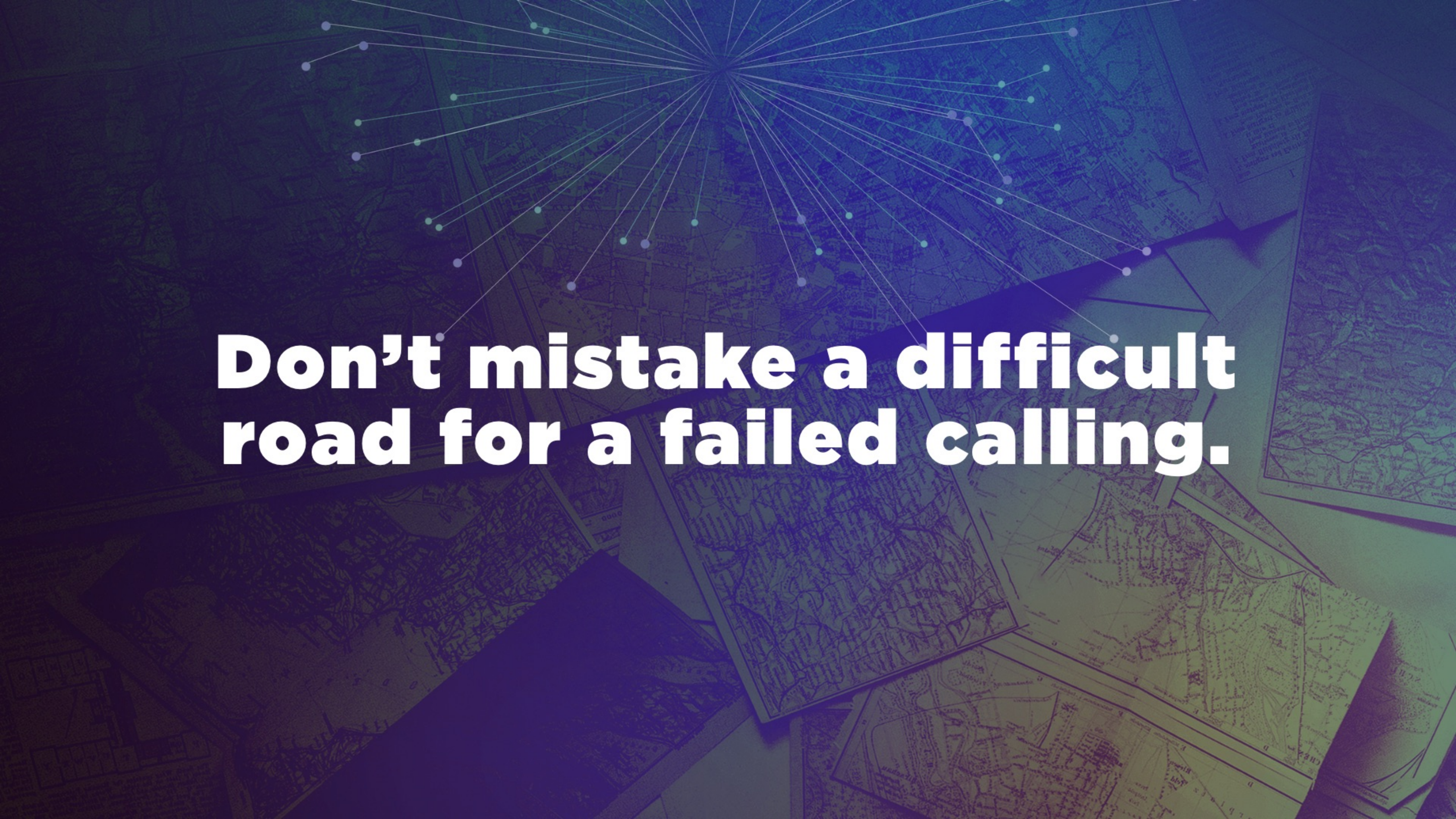
the monetary downfall of religion

A C T S 1 9 : 2 1 - 4 1



Now after these events Paul resolved in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem, saying, “After I have been there, I must also see Rome.”

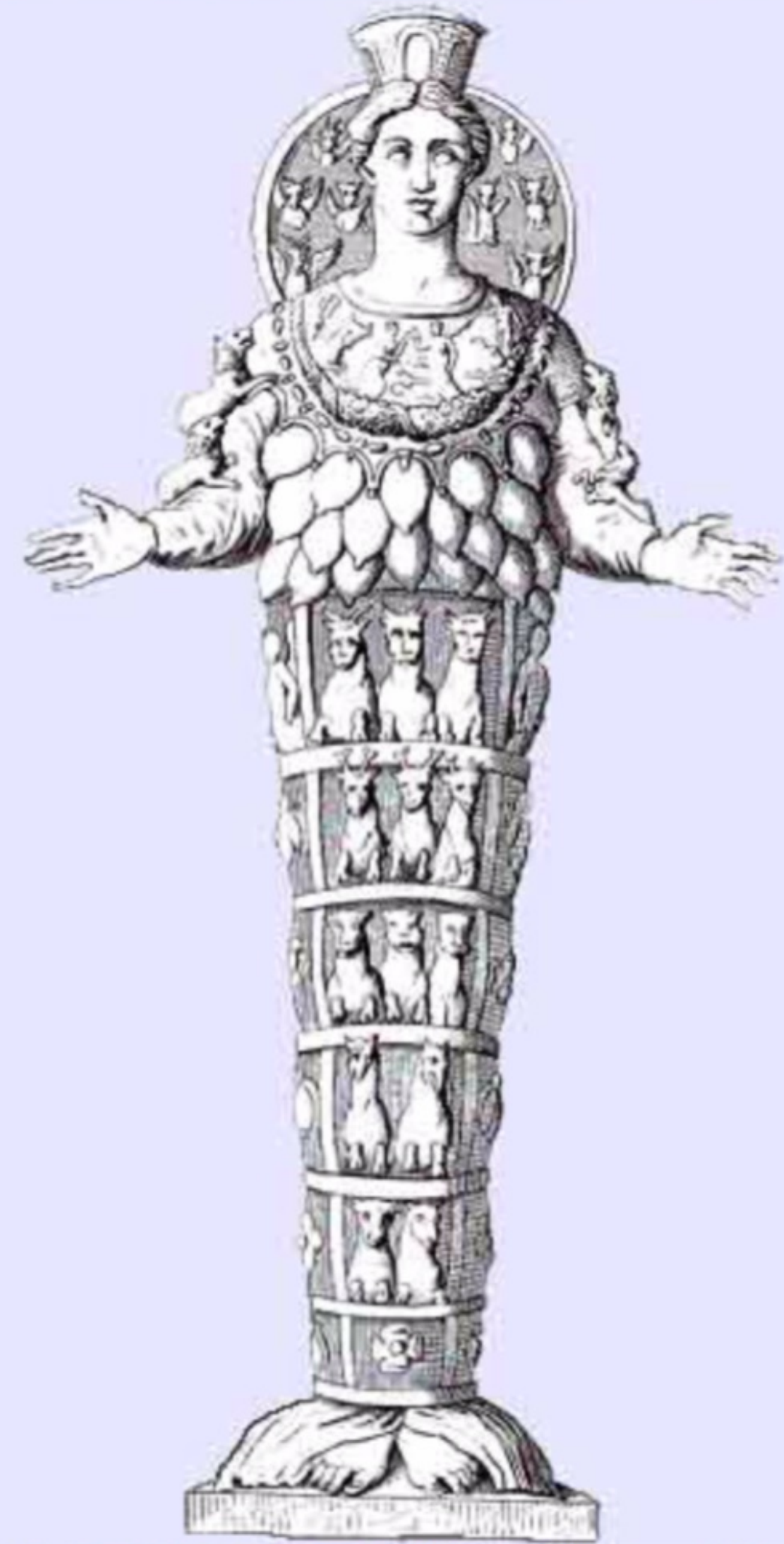
ACTS 19:21



**Don't mistake a difficult
road for a failed calling.**

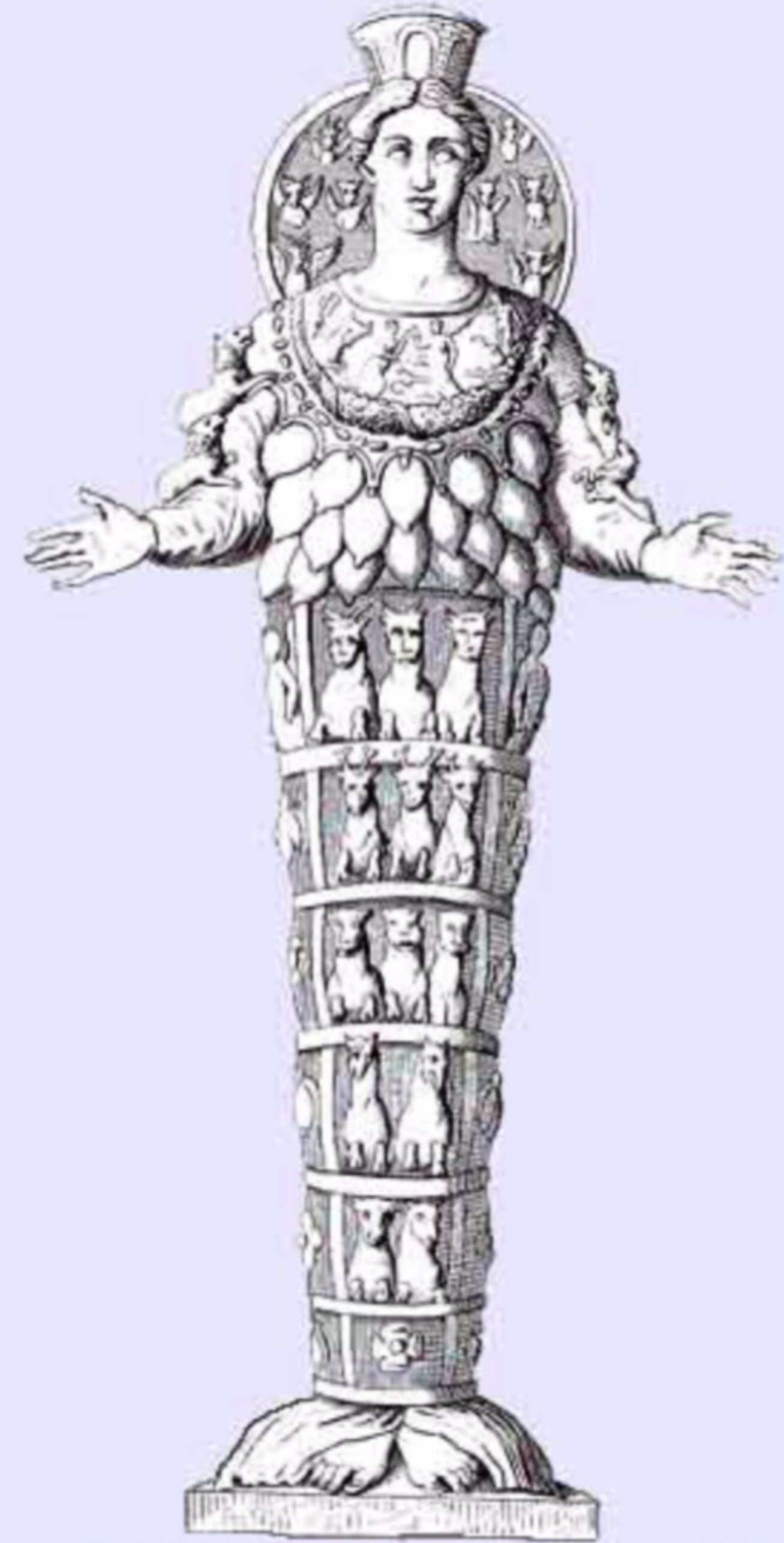
**For a man named
Demetrius, a silversmith,
who made silver shrines of
Artemis, brought no little
business to the craftsmen.**

ACTS 19:24



These he gathered together, with the workmen in similar trades, and said, “Men, you know that from this business we have our wealth. And you see and hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost all of Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods. And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship.”

ACTS 19:25-27



The background features a dark blue gradient with a network diagram of white lines and dots at the top. Below this, several historical maps are layered, showing streets and geographical features in a sepia tone. The text is centered in a large, bold, white font.

**Christ calls us to turn from
our idols and follow Him
with the whole of our lives.**









The believers who burned their costly books give us another picture. They did not set them aside in case the old life became useful again. They turned from what had held them because Christ was worth more. Paul later praised the Thessalonians because they had “turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God.” That turning is open to you this morning. You do not have to keep defending what cannot save you. Repent of your sin and trust the risen Christ. And if you already belong to Him, take a searching question home: what choice would look different this week if you believed Jesus was enough? Perhaps it concerns money. Perhaps it is an apology, an act of generosity, or a habit you have been unwilling to release. Follow the Way.