



# BEST TO BE SURE ... “NAILING DOWN YOUR SALVATION”

## PART 1: TAKING THE TEST



Part 1: Taking the test

Part 2: The test

Part 3: Failing the test and can one lose their salvation



**“The Best Inoculation  
against the Gospel IS the  
Gospel – heard but not  
heeded!”** Greg Laurie



2024July7 Dan Fisher – Best to be sure

Charles T



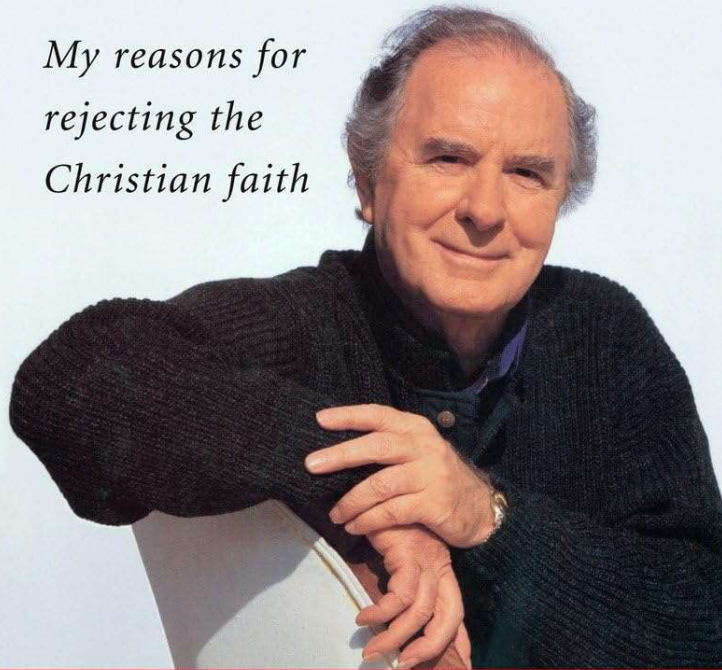
2024July7 Dan Fisher - Best to be sure



2024July7 Dan Fisher – Best to be sure

# FAREWELL TO GOD

*My reasons for  
rejecting the  
Christian faith*



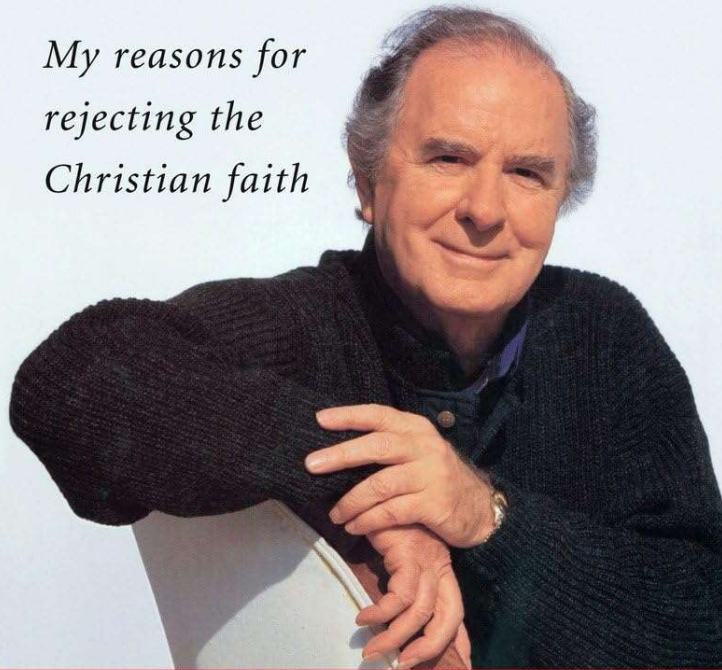
Charles Templeton

Templeton walked away from  
the faith in 1957

Wrote *Farewell to God* in  
1995

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Charles Templeton

Interviewed by Lee Strobel in 1998

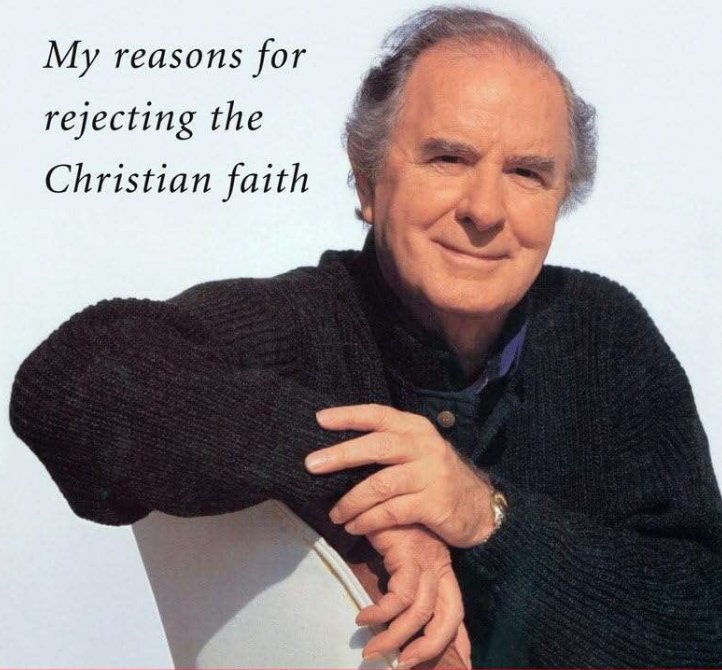
“In my view he is the most important human being who has ever existed. And if I may put it this way,’ he said as his voice began to crack, ‘I ... miss ... him!’

Tears flooded his eyes. He turned his head and looked downward, raising his left hand to shield his face from me. His shoulders bobbed as he wept.



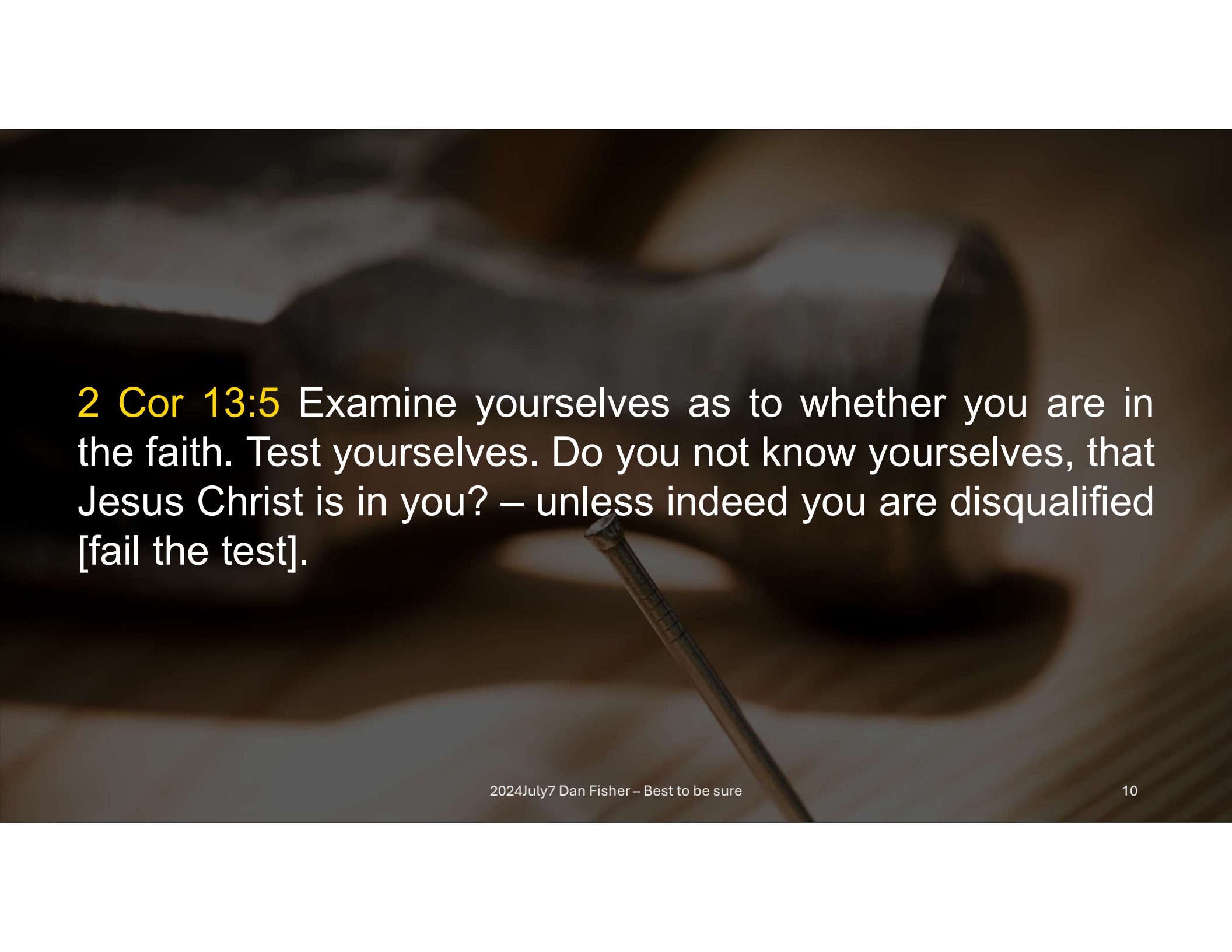
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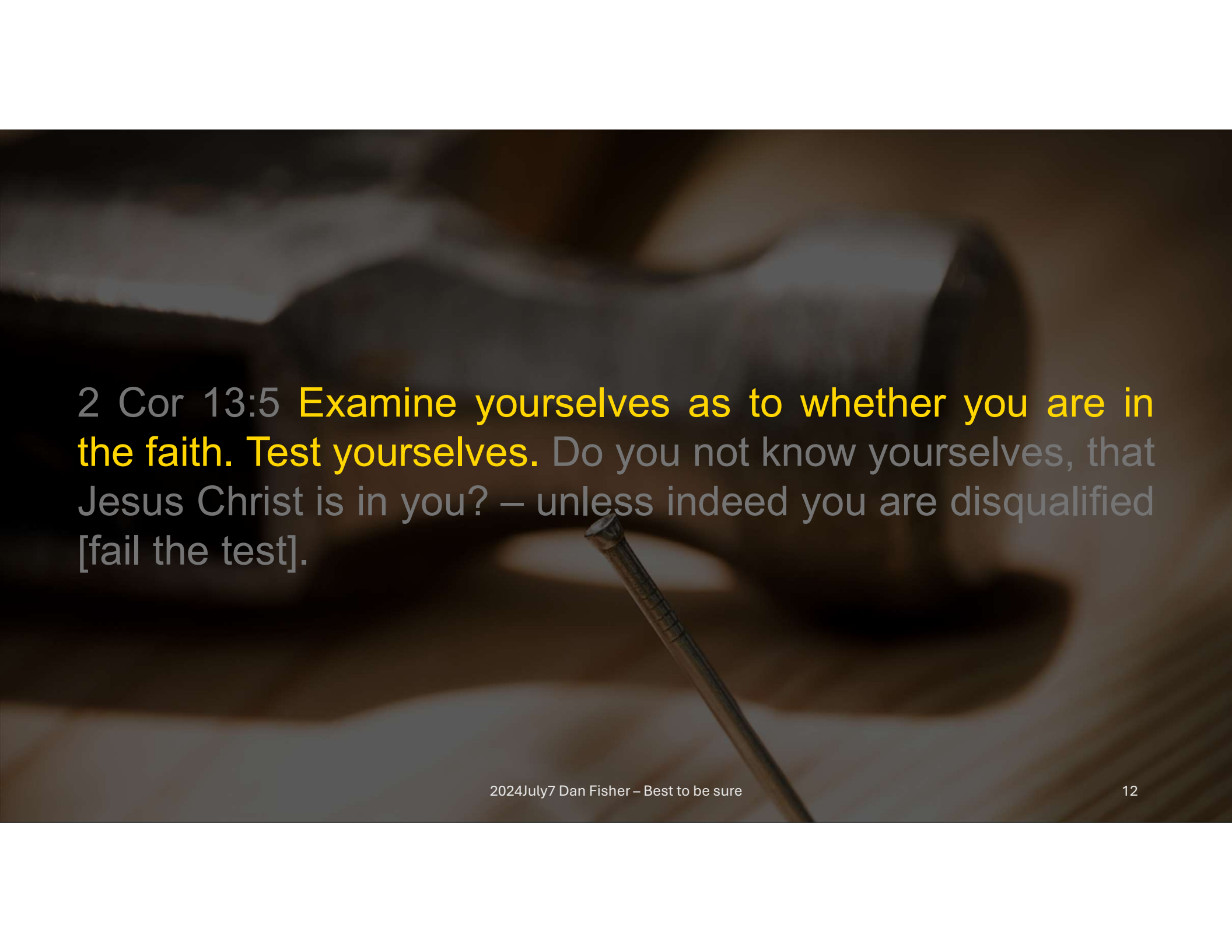
Templeton fought to compose himself. He sighed deeply and wiped away a tear. After a few more awkward moments, he waved his hand dismissively. Finally, quietly but adamantly, he insisted: ‘Enough of that.’”



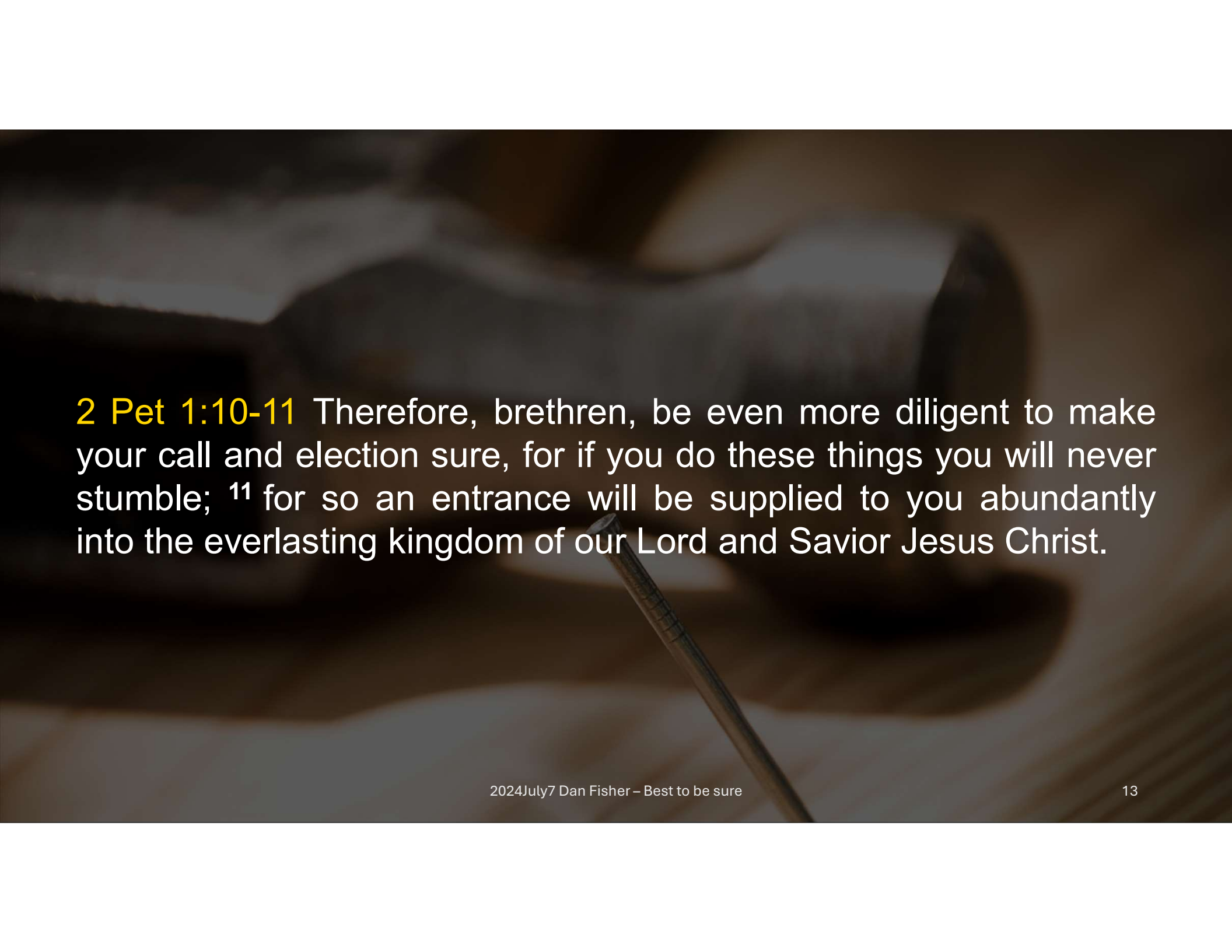
**2 Cor 13:5** Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? – unless indeed you are disqualified [fail the test].



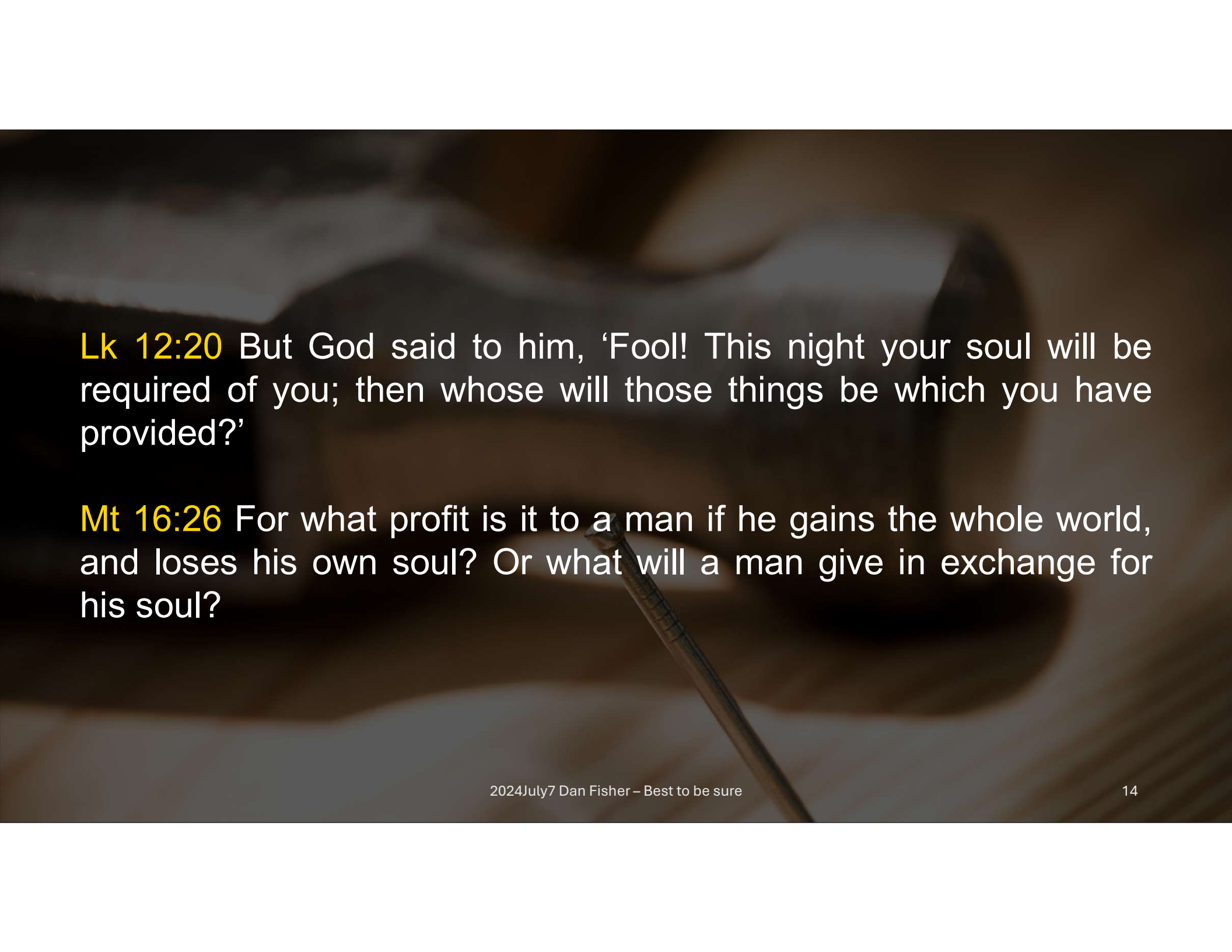
1. There is an examination to be performed



2 Cor 13:5 **Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves.** Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? – unless indeed you are disqualified [fail the test].



**2 Pet 1:10-11** Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble; <sup>11</sup> for so an entrance will be supplied to you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.



**Lk 12:20** But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?’

**Mt 16:26** For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?



## 2. There is an expectation to be met

# Can a person really know for certain that they are saved?

**1 Jn 5:13** These things I have written to you who believe in the name of the Son of God, that you may know that you have eternal life, and that you may continue to believe in the name of the Son of God.



We don't trust the "plan" of salvation  
We trust the "Man" of salvation – Jesus  
Salvation is based on facts – not feelings

“Your emotions are the shallowest part of your nature. Salvation is the deepest work of God. God doesn't do the deepest work in the shallowest part. Put your confidence in the unshakeable power of God, not in your reasoning and not in your emotions.” Adrian Rogers



How can they know?

- 
- Was there a time when I remember giving my life to Christ?

- **Did this experience have a lasting impact?**

**2 Cor 5:17** Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

“Thus assured, hell-deserving sinners are coming in droves to ‘accept’ Christ for what they can get of Him; and though one now and again may drop a tear as proof of his sincerity, it is hard to escape the conclusion that most of them are stooping to patronize the Lord of glory much as a young couple might fawn on a boresome but rich old uncle in order to be mentioned in his will later on.” A.W. Tozer



- Does the Holy Spirit give me assurance and peace?

**Jn 6:47** Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me has everlasting life.

**Rom 8:16** The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,

- How do I feel about sin? (Do I live as worldly as I can and try to get away with sin?)

**Js 4:4** Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

**1 Jn 1:6** If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.



“It’s not how high you jump, it’s how straight you walk when you land. It’s the fruit that comes from it.”

Tim Beougher, pastor of West Broadway Baptist Church, professor Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

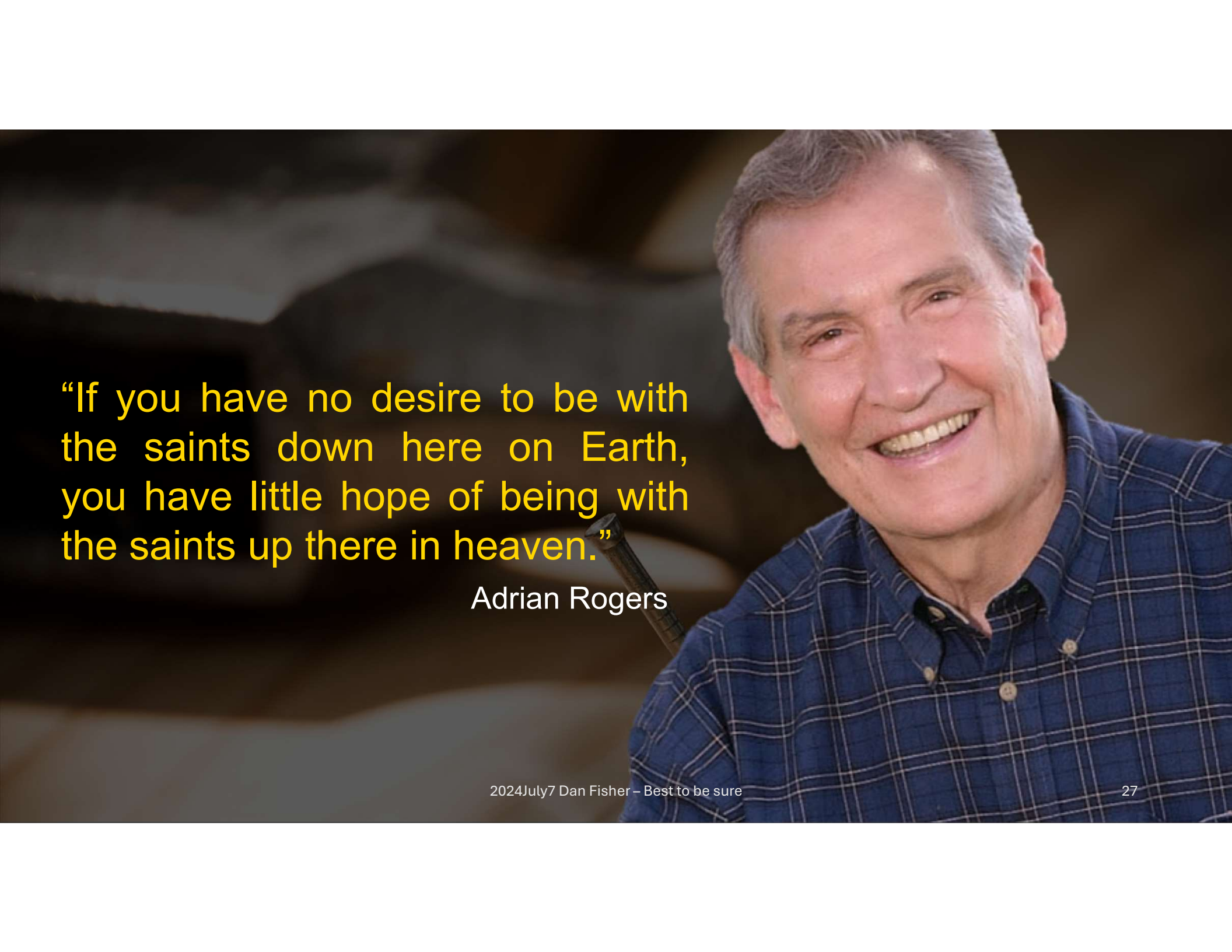


- Do I love the things of God (Bible, prayer, worship, etc.) and prove it by the priority I give them in my life?

1 Pet 2:2-3 as newborn babes, desire the pure milk of the word, that you may grow thereby, <sup>3</sup> if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is gracious.

- Do I love the people of God and prove it by the priority I give them in my life?

**Heb 10:25** not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as is the manner of some, but exhorting one another, and so much the more as you see the Day approaching.

A close-up photograph of a middle-aged man with short, graying hair, smiling warmly. He is wearing a dark blue button-down shirt with a white grid pattern. The background is dark and out of focus.


“If you have no desire to be with the saints down here on Earth, you have little hope of being with the saints up there in heaven.”

Adrian Rogers

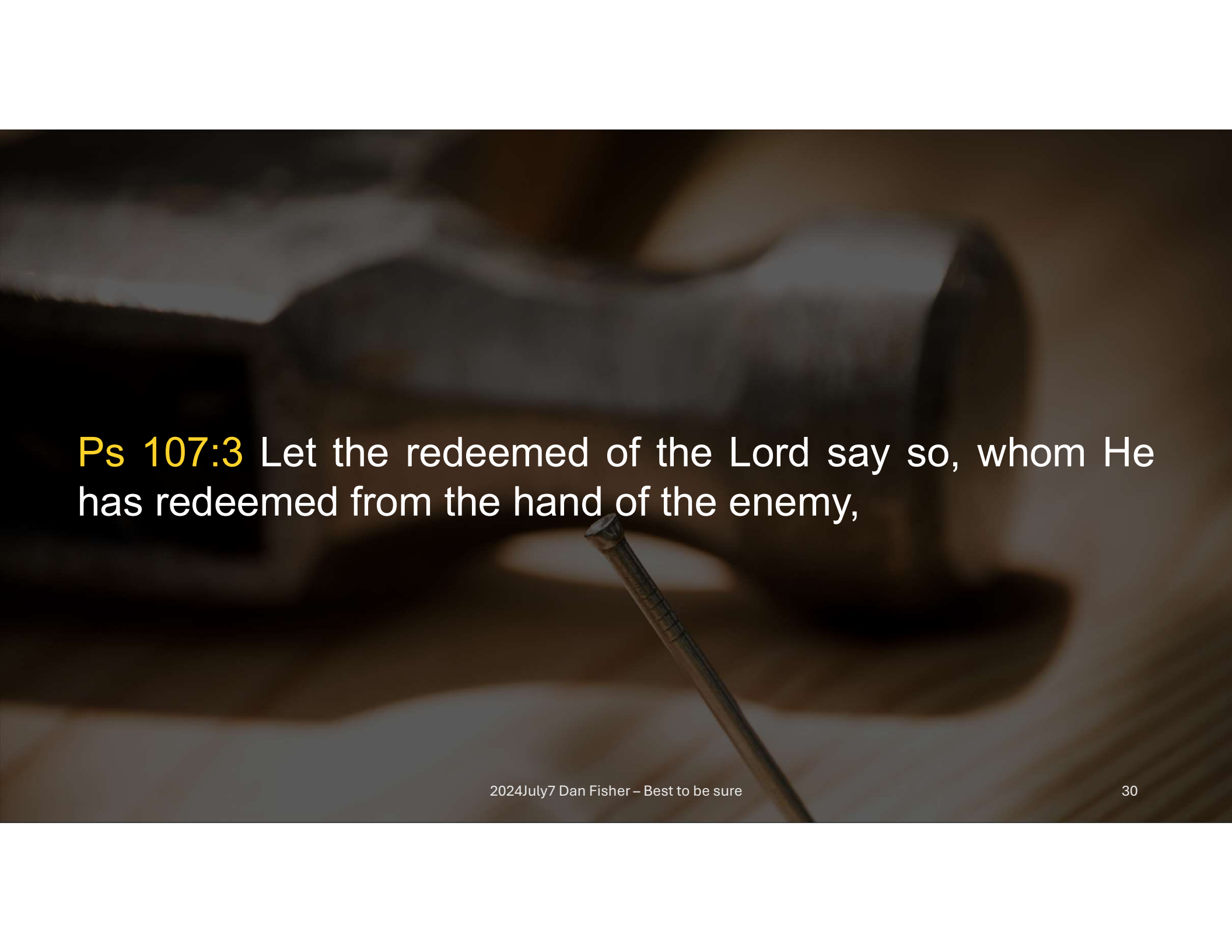
- Am I ashamed of Christ when I am around others (especially unbelievers) or do I boldly show and share my faith?

**Rom 1:16** For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.

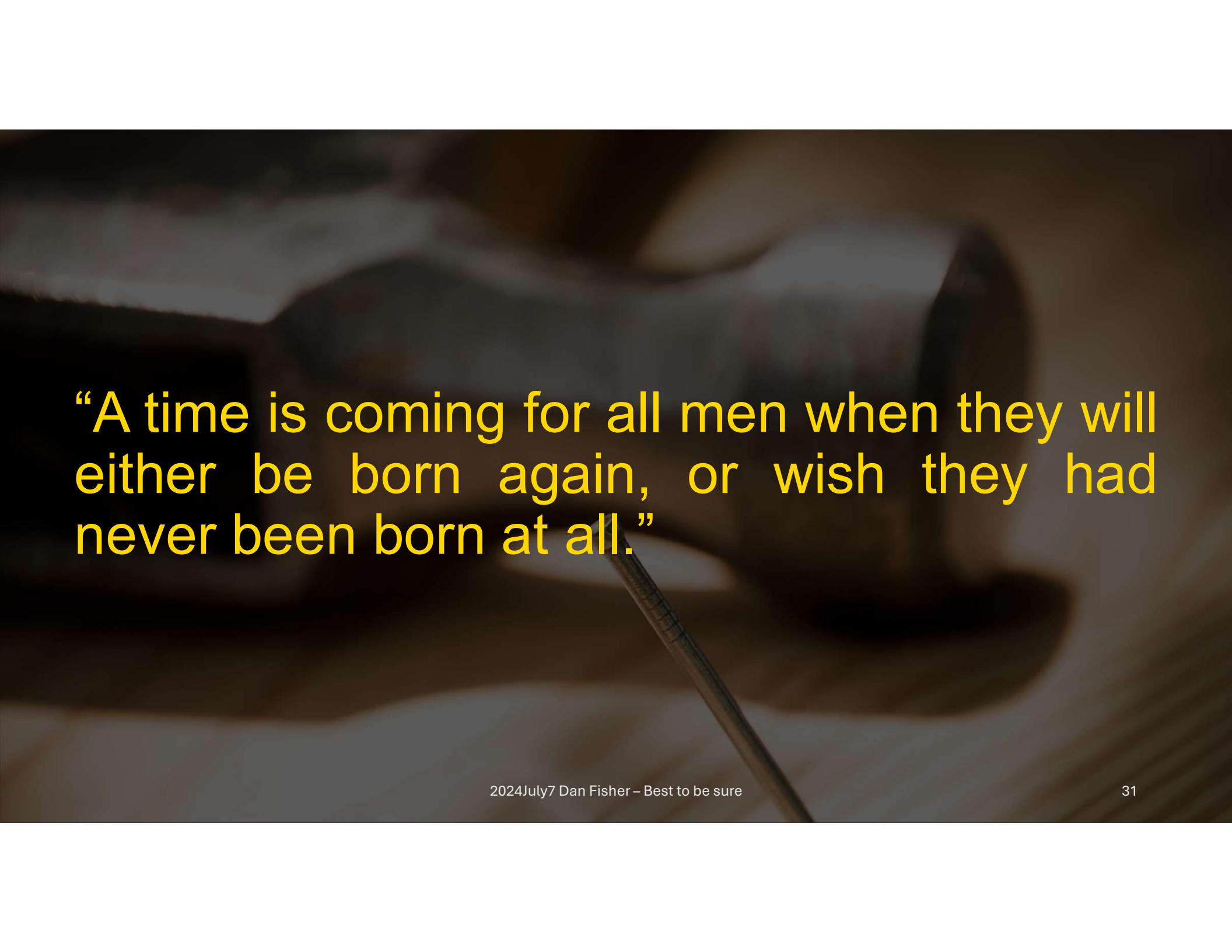
**Lk 9:26** For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words, of him the Son of Man will be ashamed when He comes in His own glory, and in His Father's, and of the holy angels.



# 3. There is an exclamation to be heard



**Ps 107:3** Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom He has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,



“A time is coming for all men when they will either be born again, or wish they had never been born at all.”