

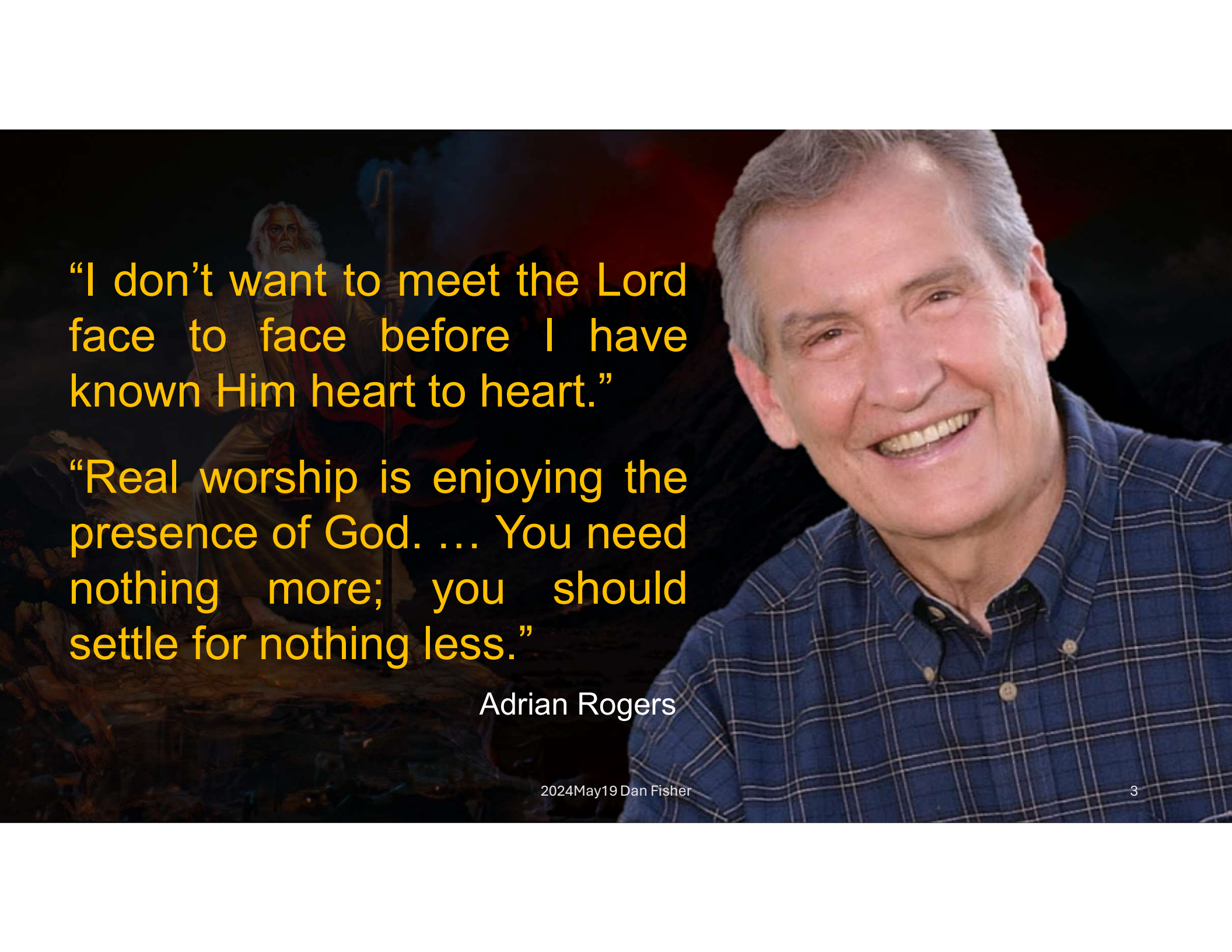
2024May19 Dan Fisher



# Experiencing God

Part 2: "Is God's presence real to you?"

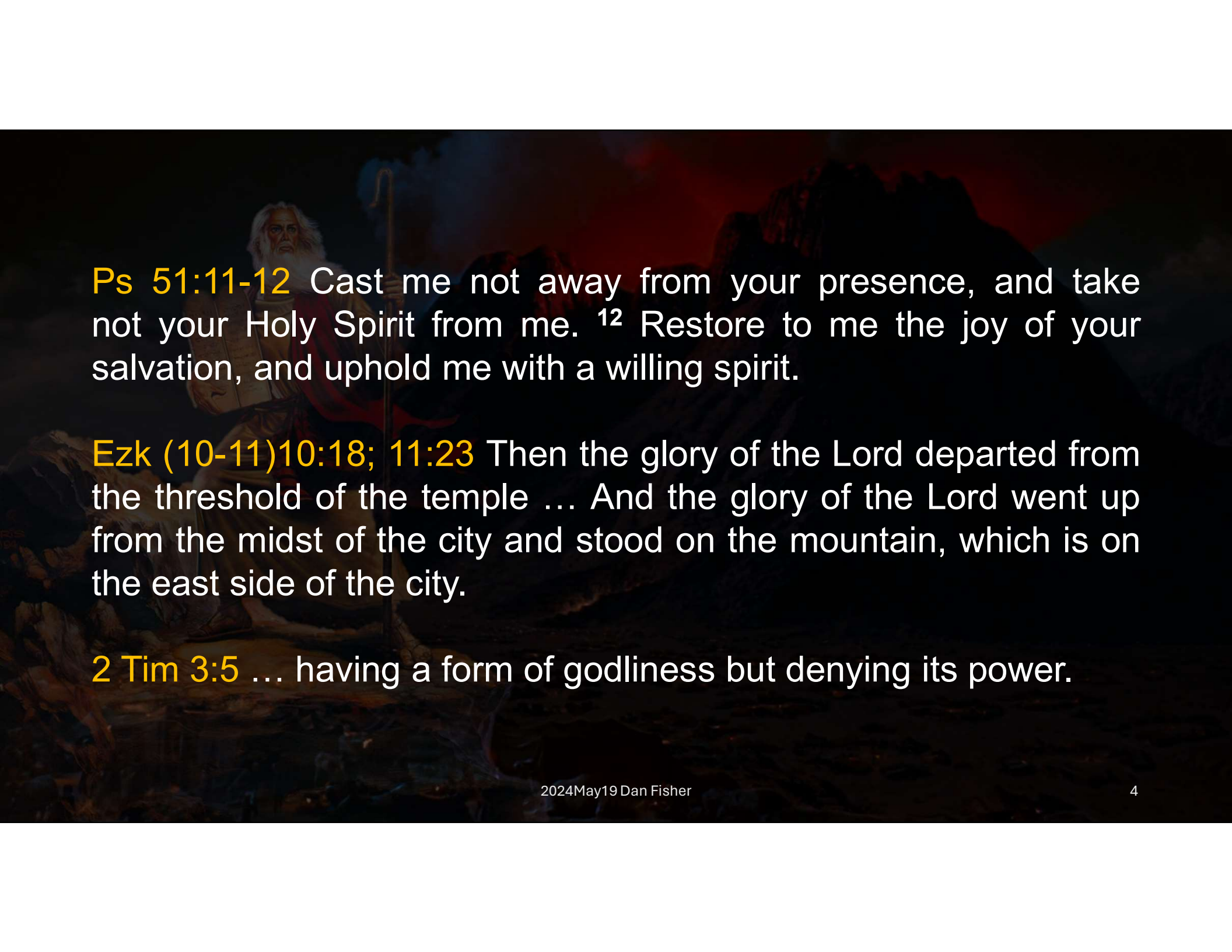




“I don’t want to meet the Lord face to face before I have known Him heart to heart.”

“Real worship is enjoying the presence of God. ... You need nothing more; you should settle for nothing less.”

Adrian Rogers



**Ps 51:11-12** Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. <sup>12</sup> Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

**Ezk (10-11)10:18; 11:23** Then the glory of the Lord departed from the threshold of the temple ... And the glory of the Lord went up from the midst of the city and stood on the mountain, which is on the east side of the city.

**2 Tim 3:5** ... having a form of godliness but denying its power.



“All word and no Spirit – you dry up.  
All Spirit and no word – you blow up.  
A balance of word and Spirit – you grow up.”



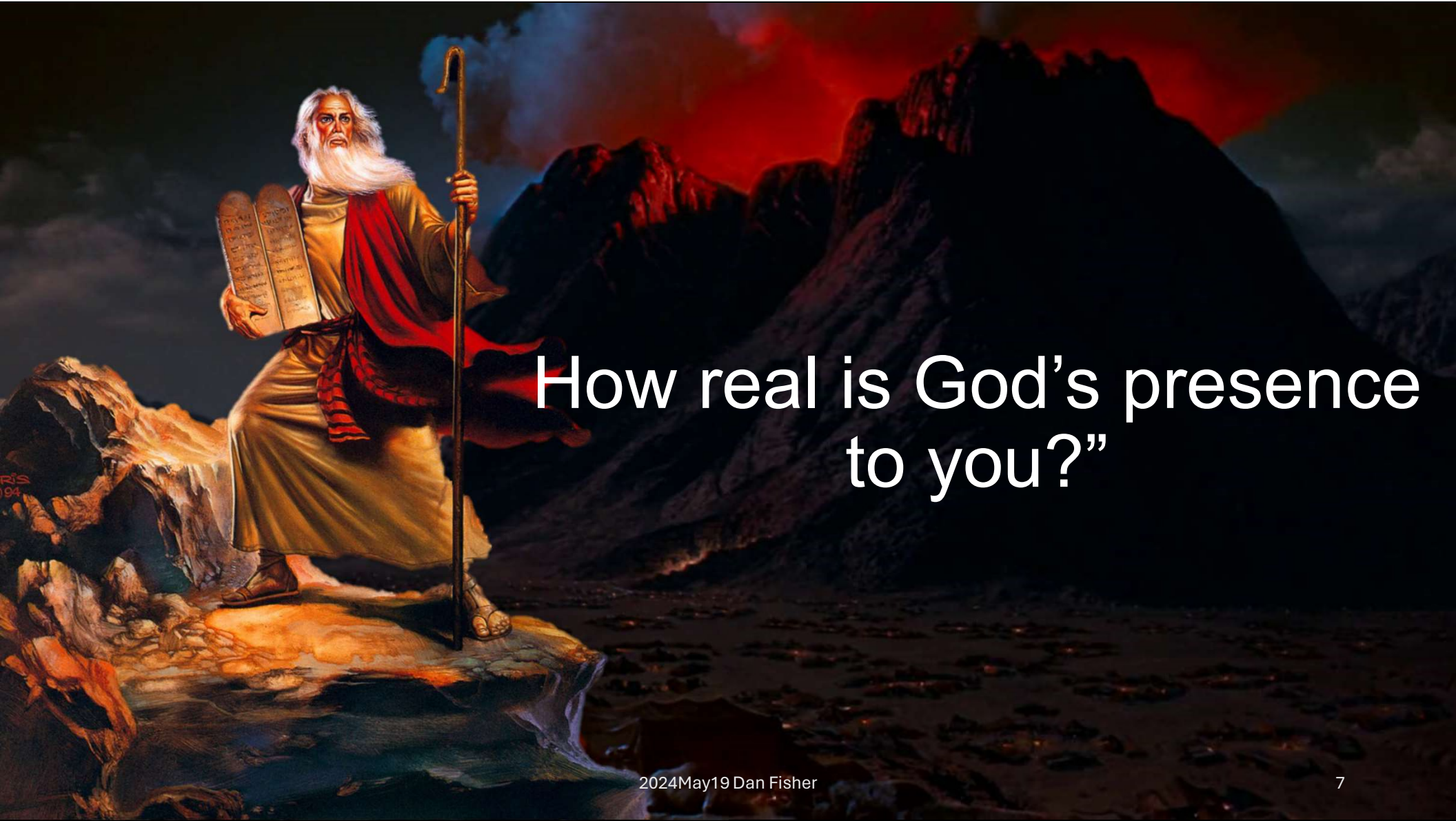
Dr. William Bennett





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How real is God's presence to you?"

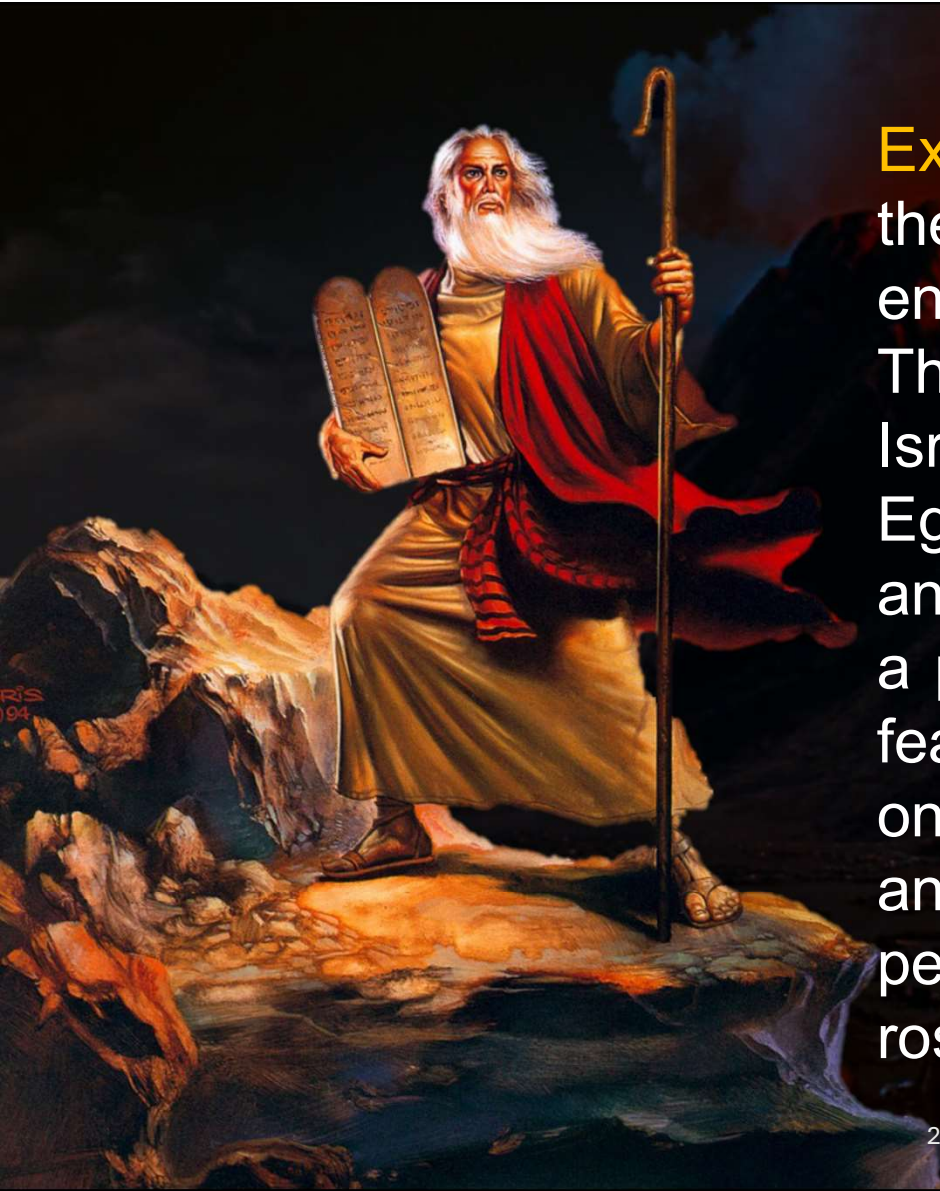


**Jn 14:21** He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him.”



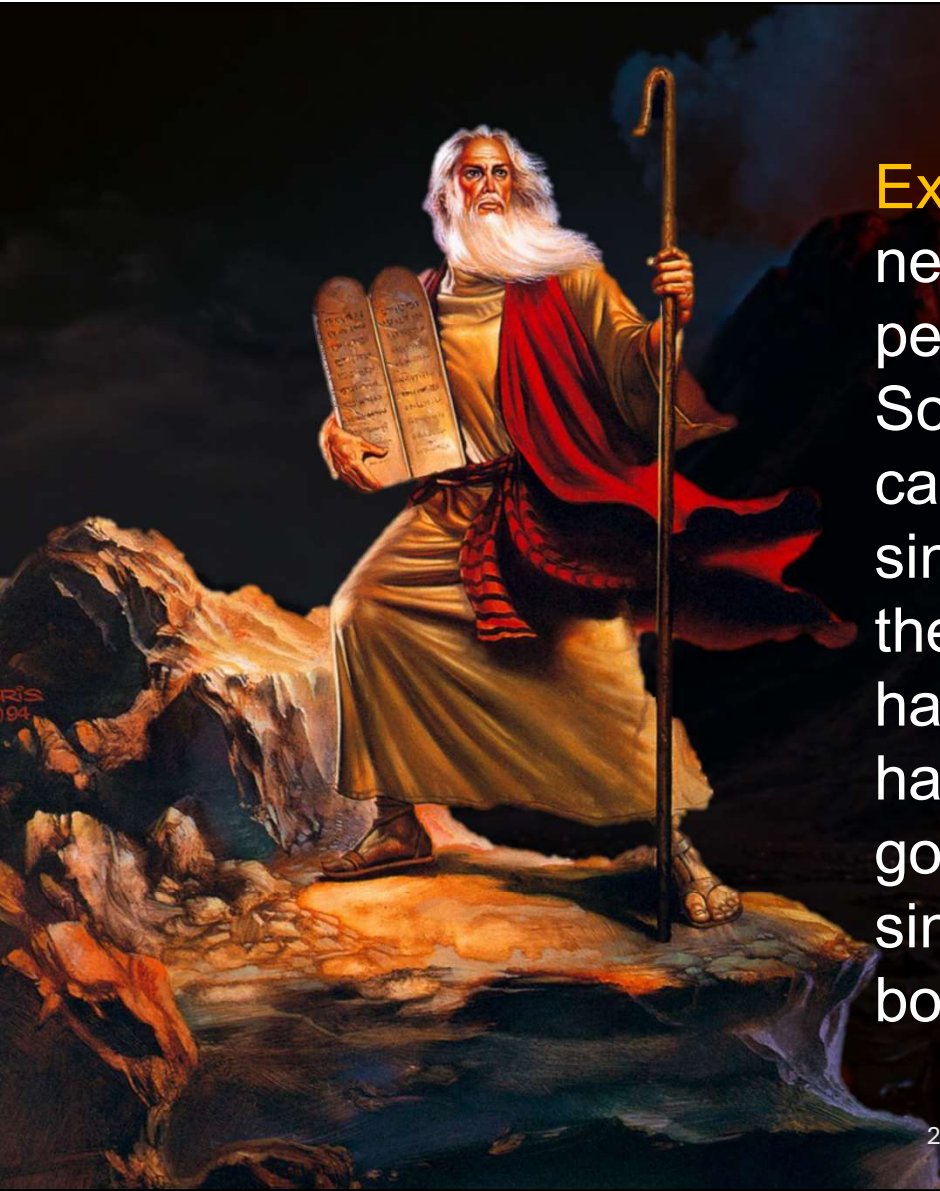


**Ex 33:1-3** Then the Lord said to Moses, “Depart and go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, ‘To your descendants I will give it.’<sup>2</sup> And I will send My Angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanite and the Amorite and the Hittite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite.<sup>3</sup> Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; for I will not go up in your midst, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people.”

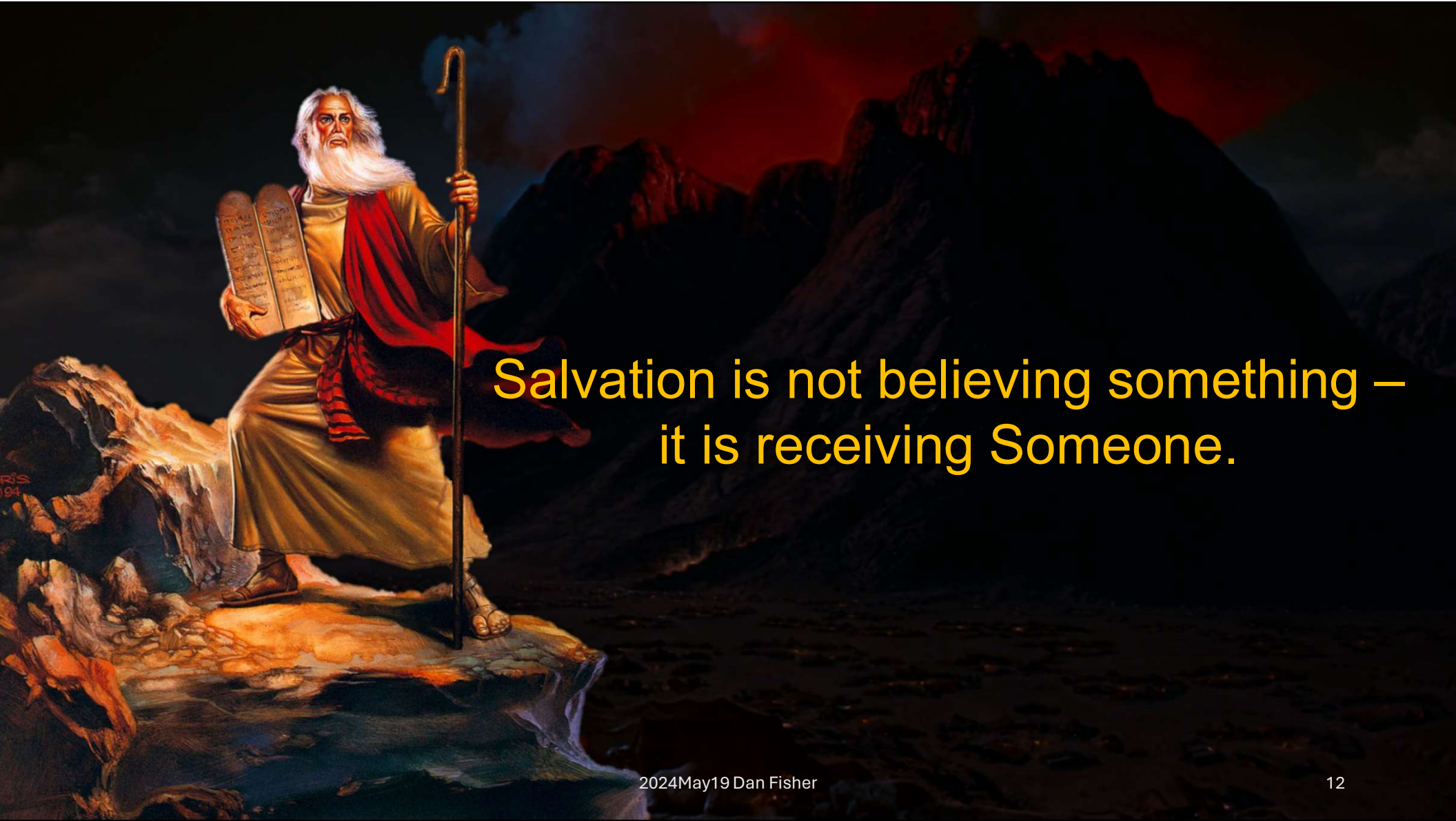


**Ex 32:4-6** And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. Then they said, “This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!” <sup>5</sup> So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, “Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord.” <sup>6</sup> Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.





**Ex 32:30-32** Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, “You have committed a great sin. So now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.”<sup>31</sup> Then Moses returned to the Lord and said, “Oh, these people have committed a great sin, and have made for themselves a god of gold!<sup>32</sup> Yet now, if You will forgive their sin – but if not, I pray, blot me out of Your book which You have written.”



Salvation is not believing something –  
it is receiving Someone.



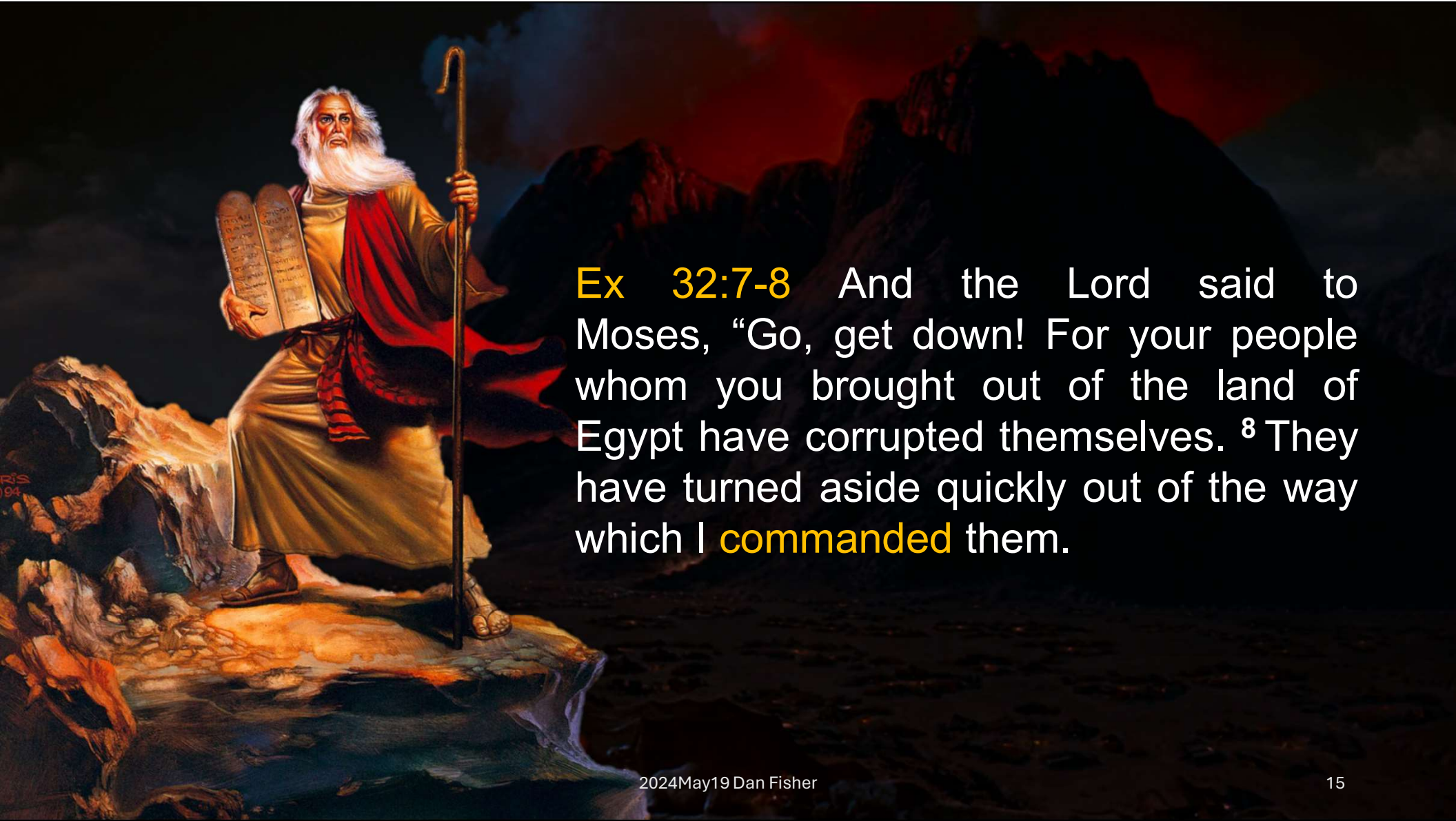


# Reasons why God's presence may not be real:



# 1. A gutted command





Ex 32:7-8 And the Lord said to Moses, “Go, get down! For your people whom you brought out of the land of Egypt have corrupted themselves. <sup>8</sup> They have turned aside quickly out of the way which I **commanded** them.



## 2. A golden calf

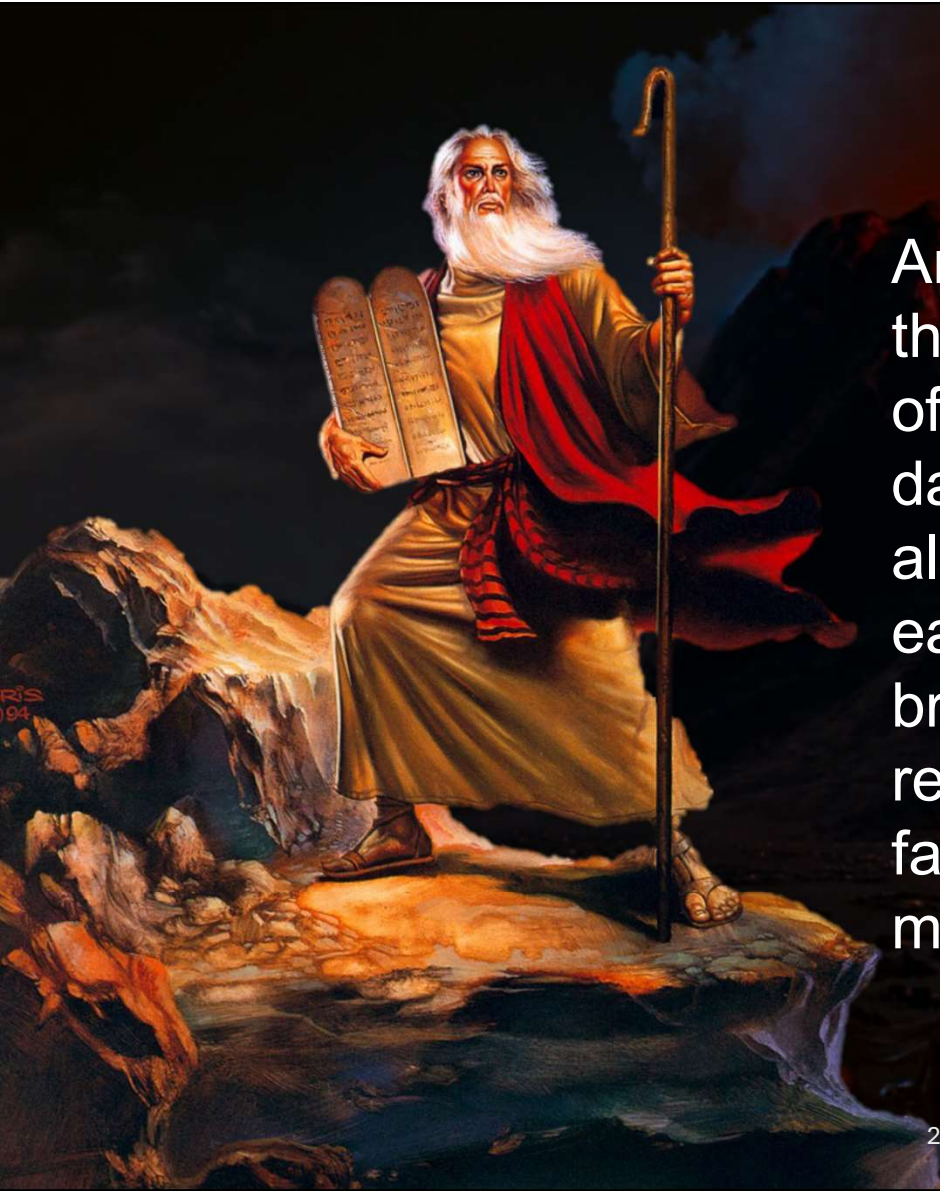




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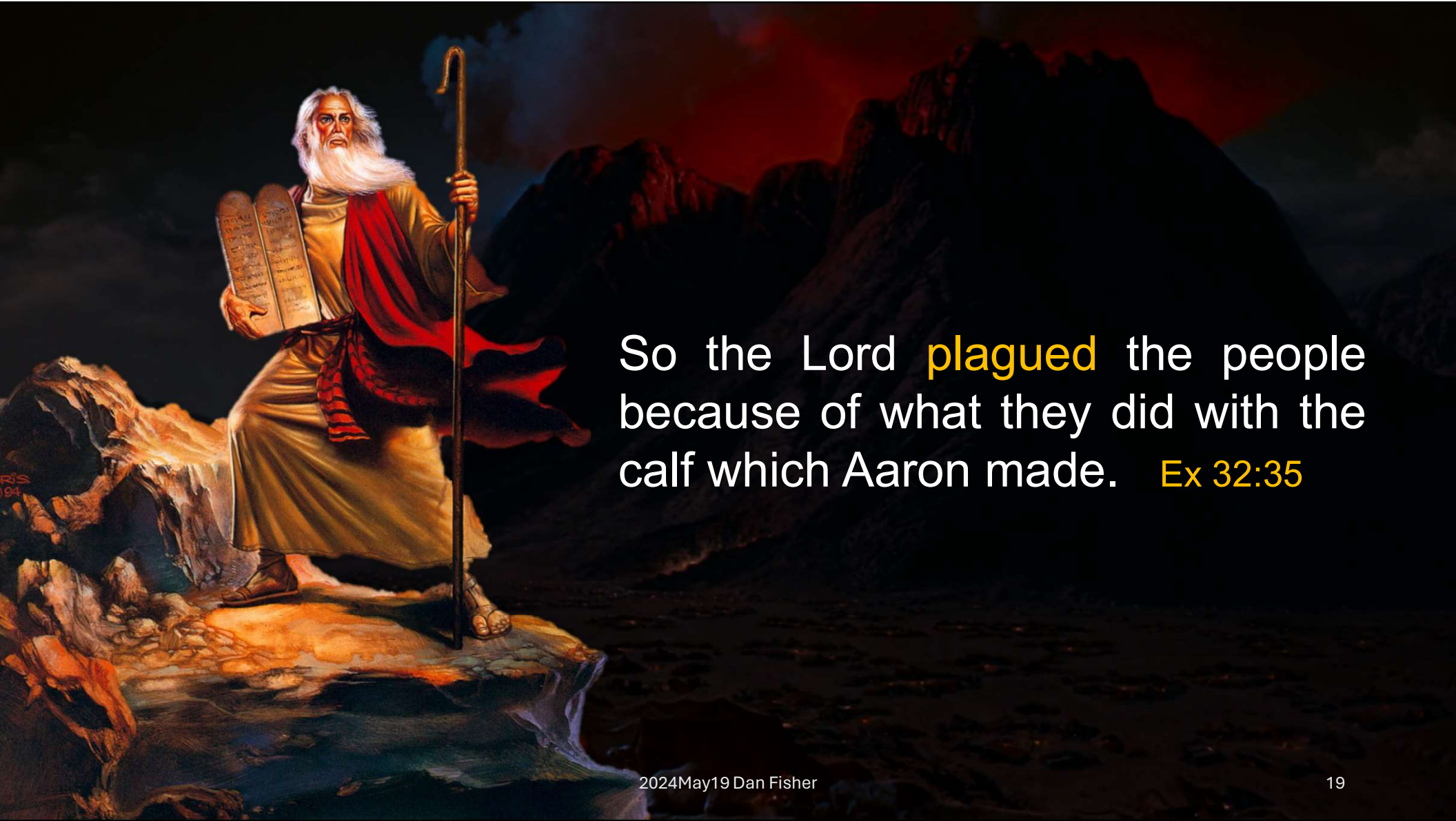
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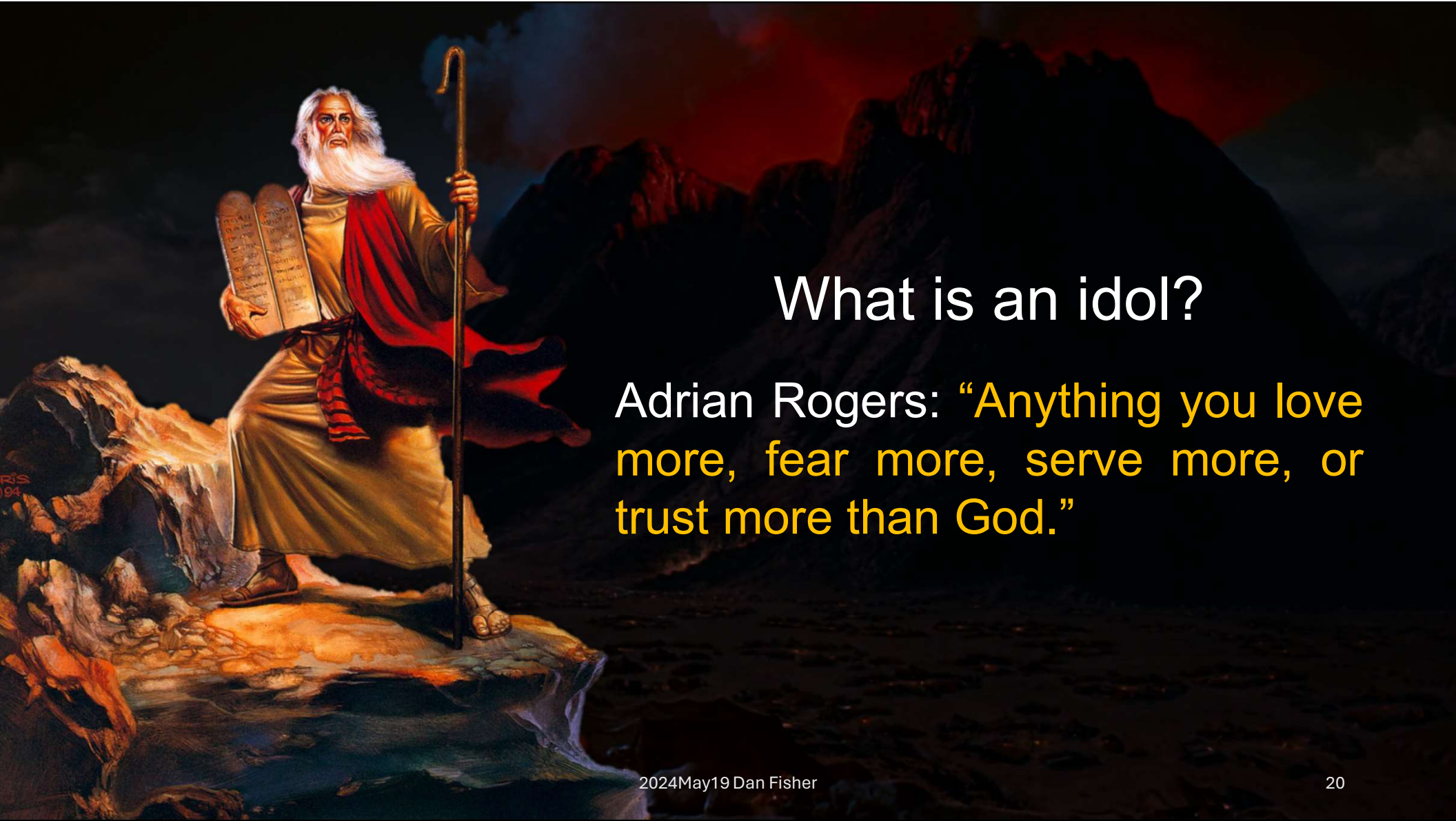


And Aaron said to them, “Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me.” <sup>3</sup> So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron. <sup>4</sup> And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf. **Ex 32:2-4**





So the Lord **plagued** the people because of what they did with the calf which Aaron made. **Ex 32:35**



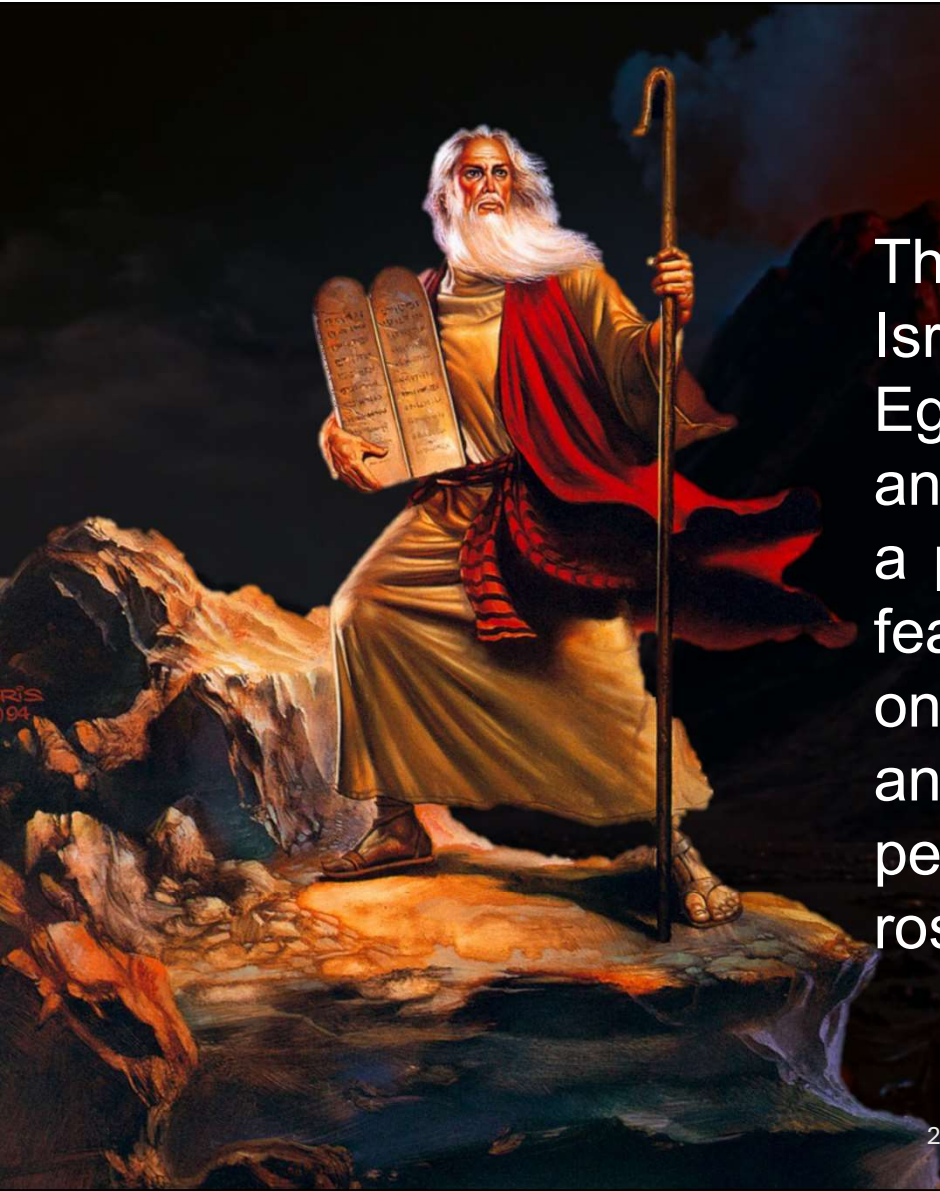
## What is an idol?

Adrian Rogers: “Anything you love more, fear more, serve more, or trust more than God.”





### 3. A godless confidence

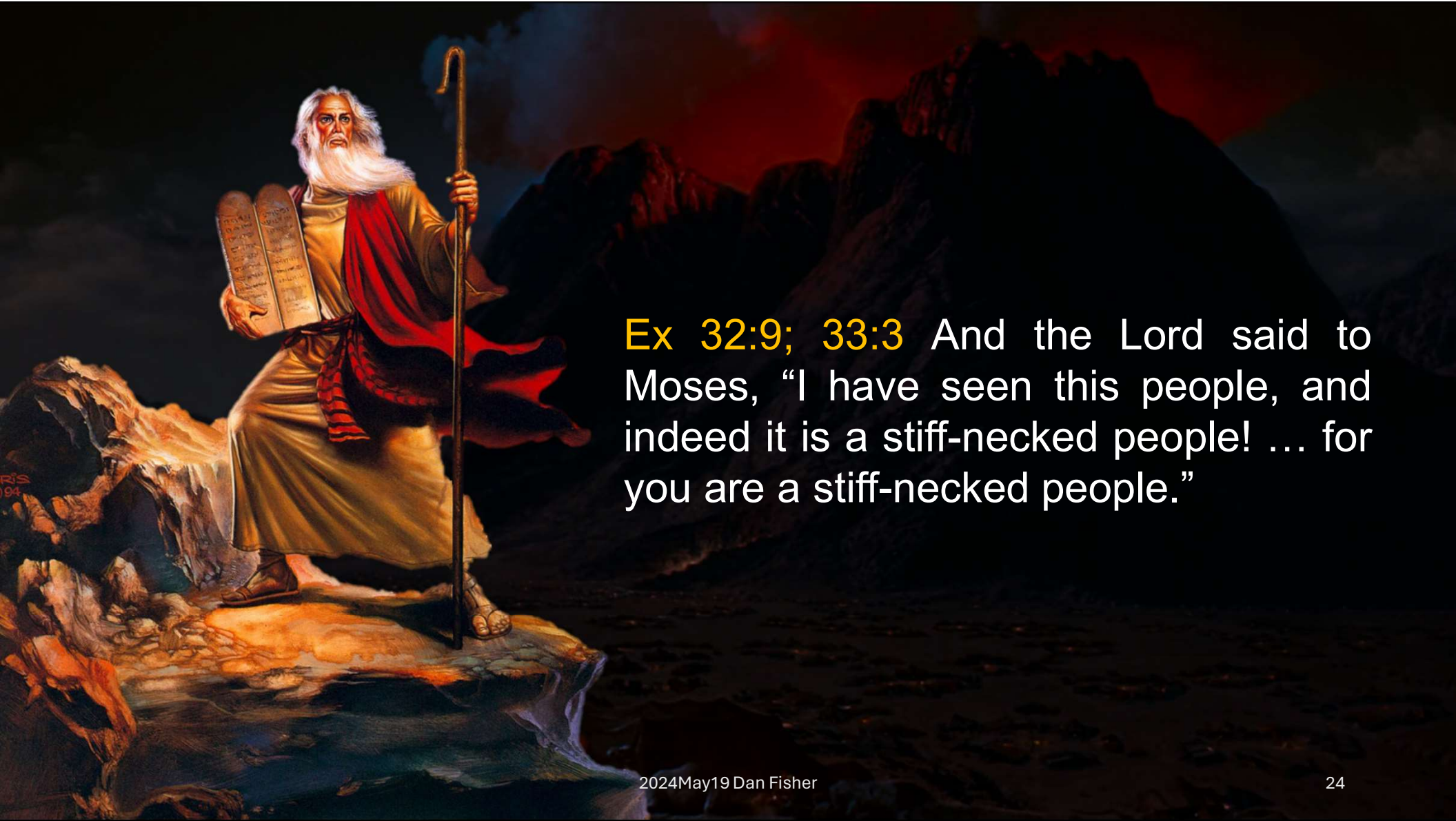


Then they said, “This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!” <sup>5</sup> So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, “Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord.” <sup>6</sup> Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play. **Ex 32:2-6**





# 4. A gratuitous compliance

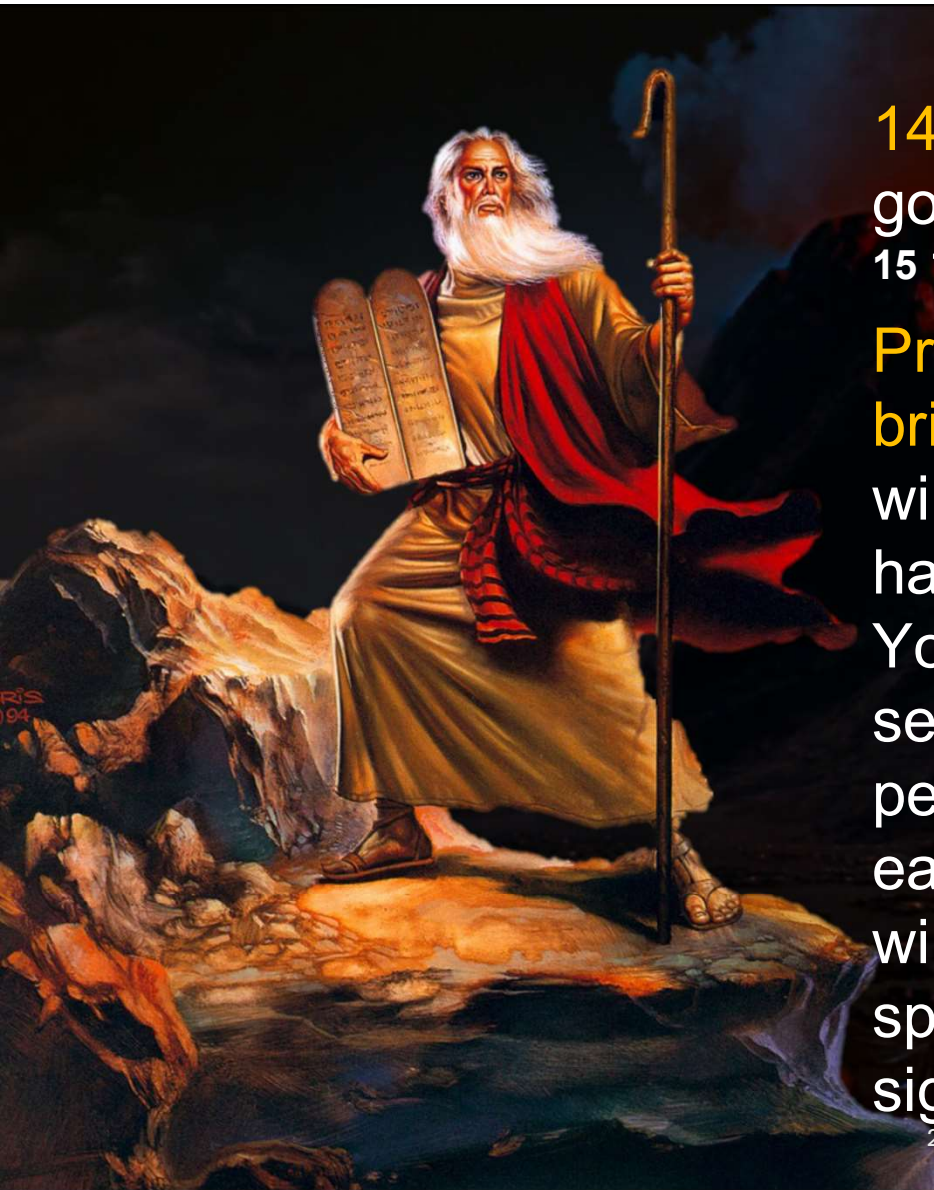


**Ex 32:9; 33:3** And the Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, and indeed it is a stiff-necked people! ... for you are a stiff-necked people.”





How “real” do you want  
God’s presence to be to you?



14-17 And He said, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”  
15 Then he [Moses] said to Him, “If Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here.” 16 For how then will it be known that Your people and I have found grace in Your sight, except You go with us? So we shall be separate, Your people and I, from all the people who are upon the face of the earth.” 17 So the Lord said to Moses, “I will also do this thing that you have spoken; for you have found grace in My sight, and I know you by name.”