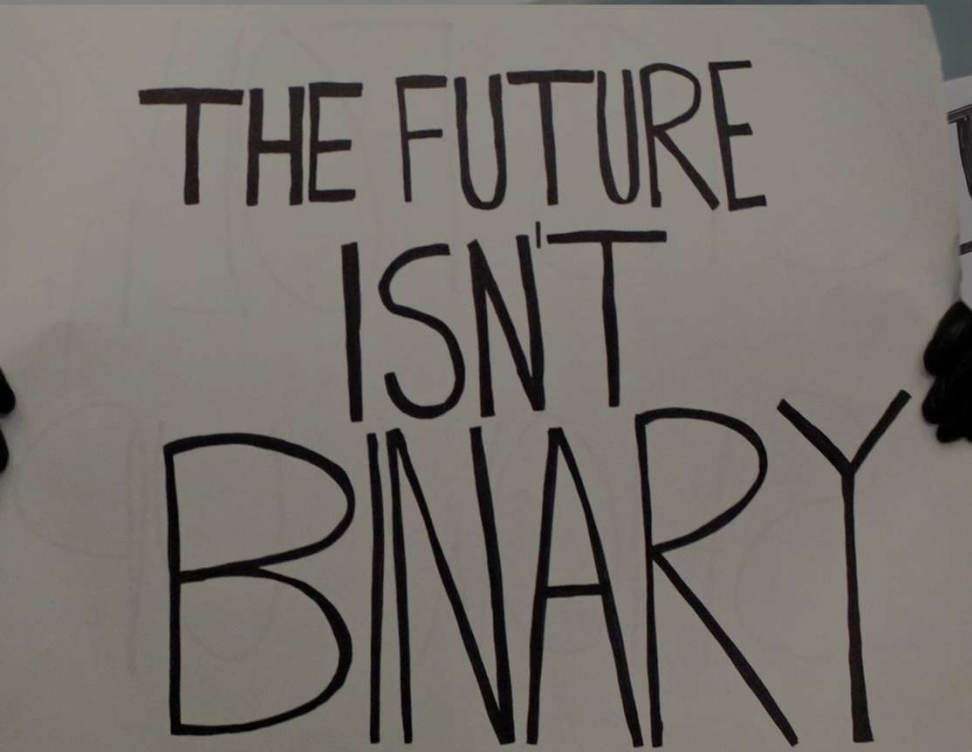
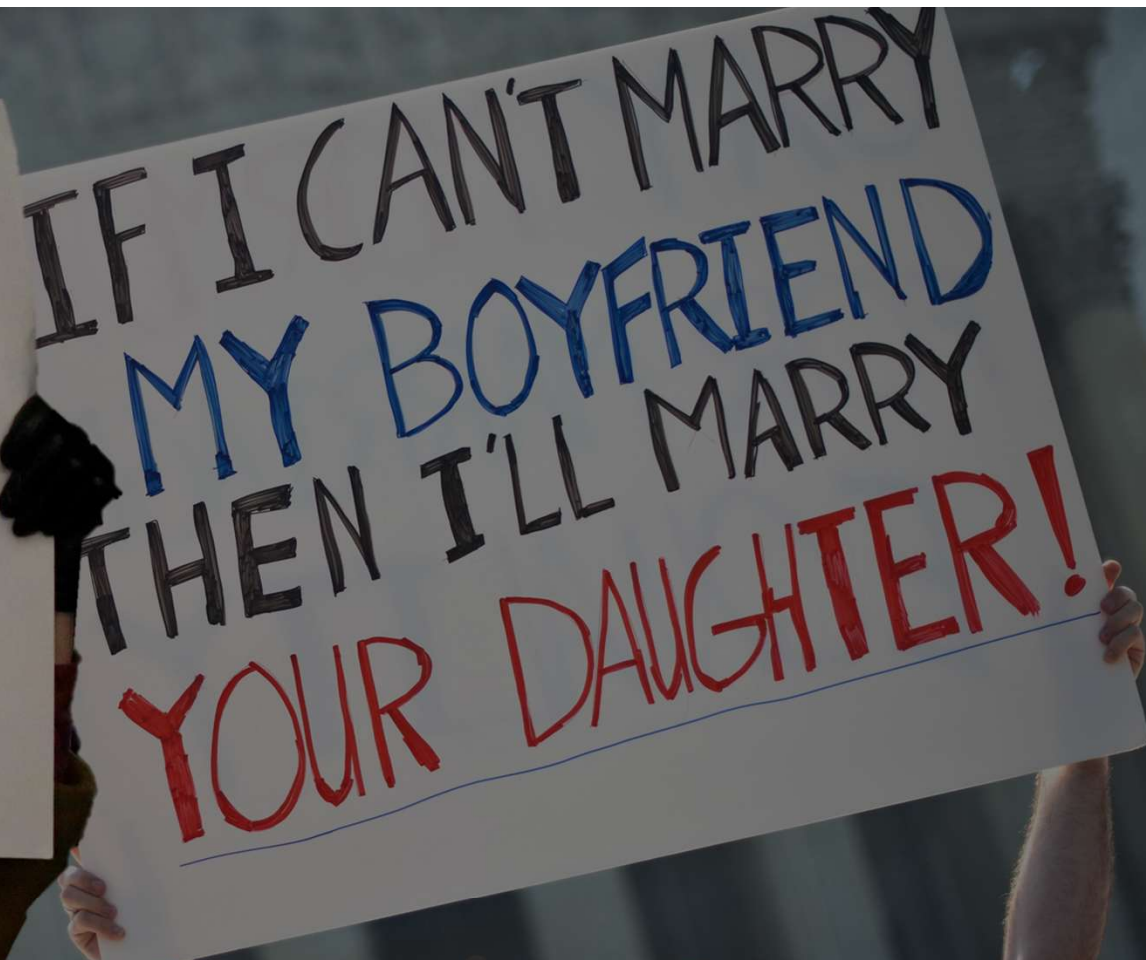


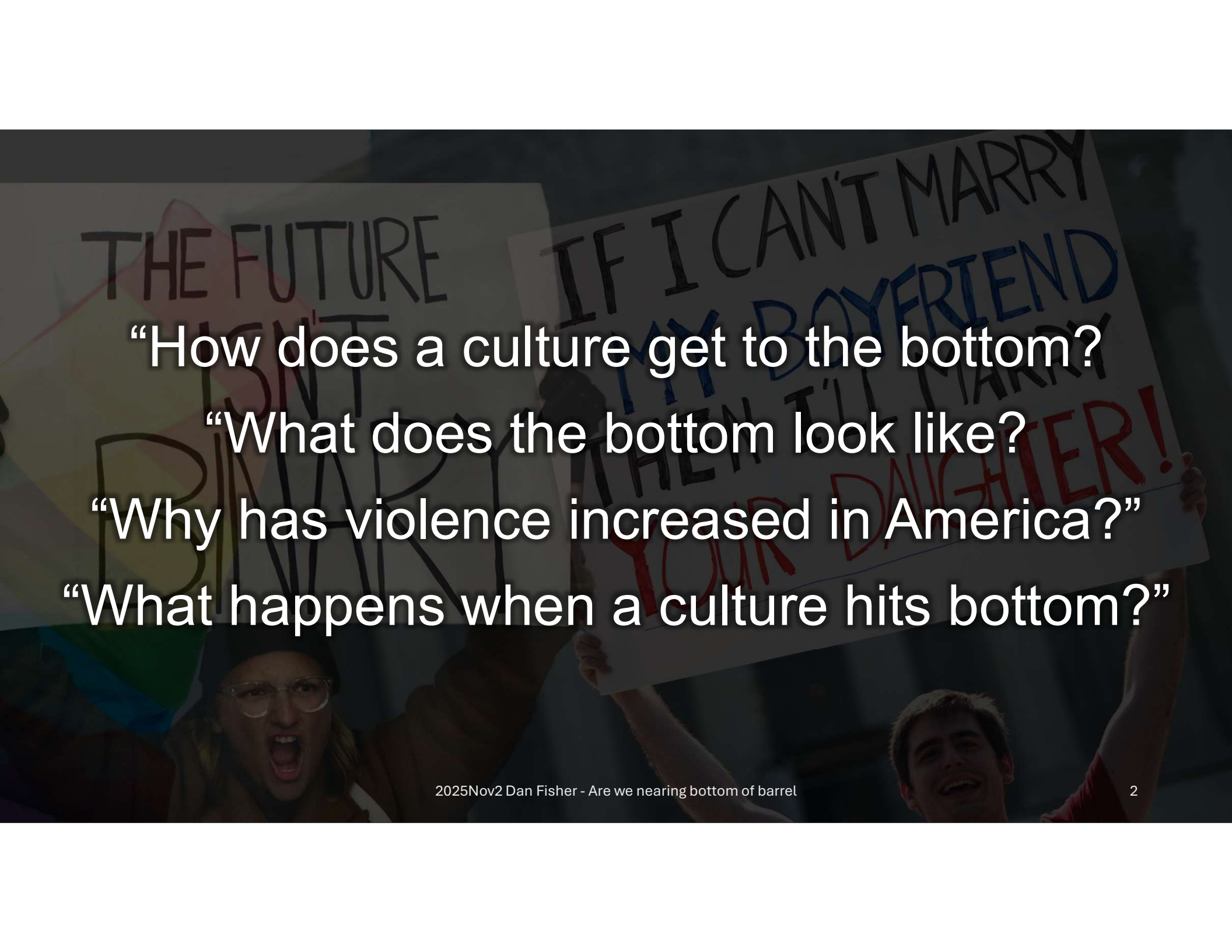


THE FUTURE
ISN'T
BINARY

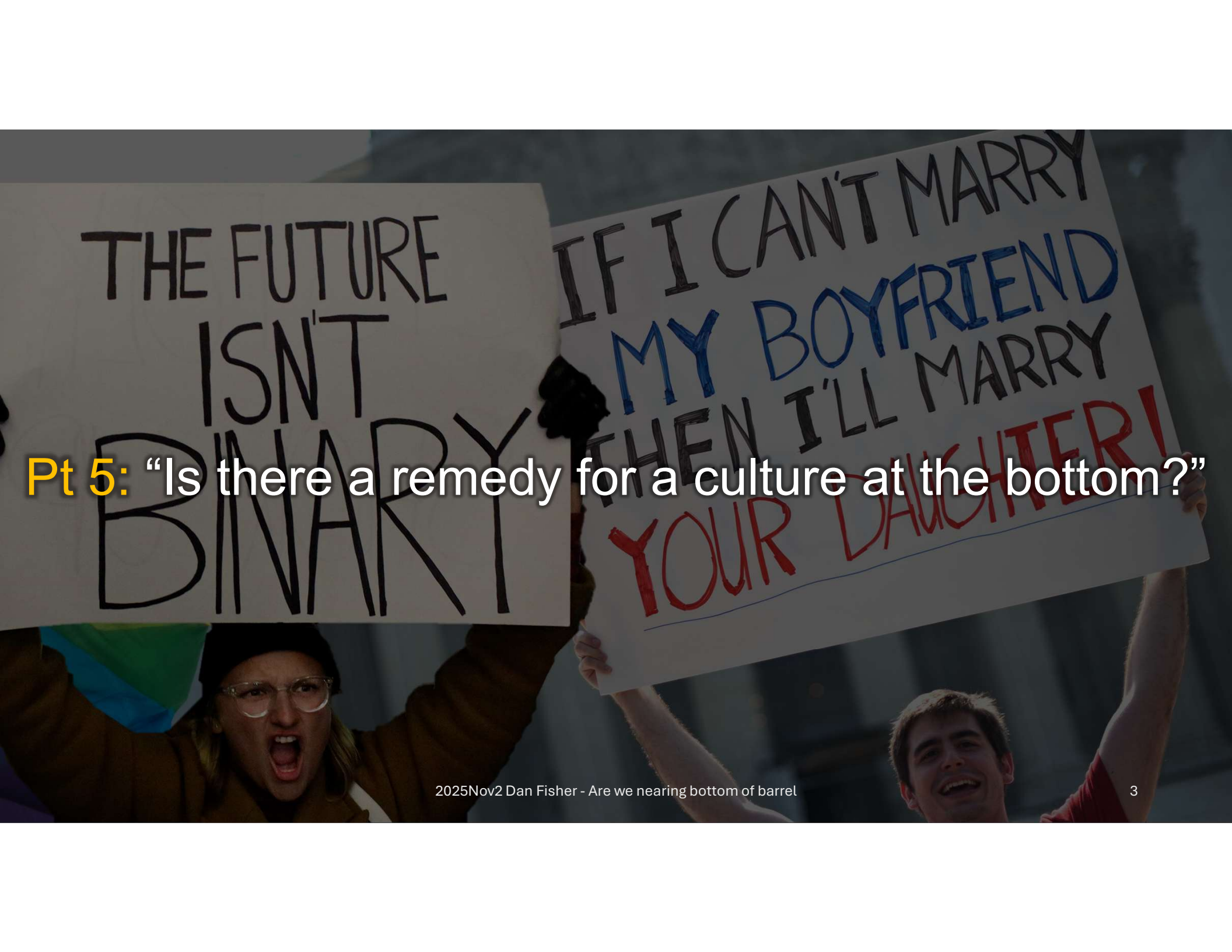


IF I CAN'T MARRY
MY BOYFRIEND
THEN I'LL MARRY
YOUR DAUGHTER!

Are we nearing the bottom of the barrel?



“How does a culture get to the bottom?”
“What does the bottom look like?”
“Why has violence increased in America?”
“What happens when a culture hits bottom?”



Pt 5: “Is there a remedy for a culture at the bottom?”



1854 Washington Glass hymn, "The Sinner's Cure"

There is balm in Gilead,
To make the wounded whole;
There's power enough in heaven,
To cure a sin-sick soul.



Is God's love unconditional?

Jn 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

1 Tim 2:3-4 This is good, and pleases God our Savior, ⁴who wants all people to be saved and to come to a knowledge of the truth.

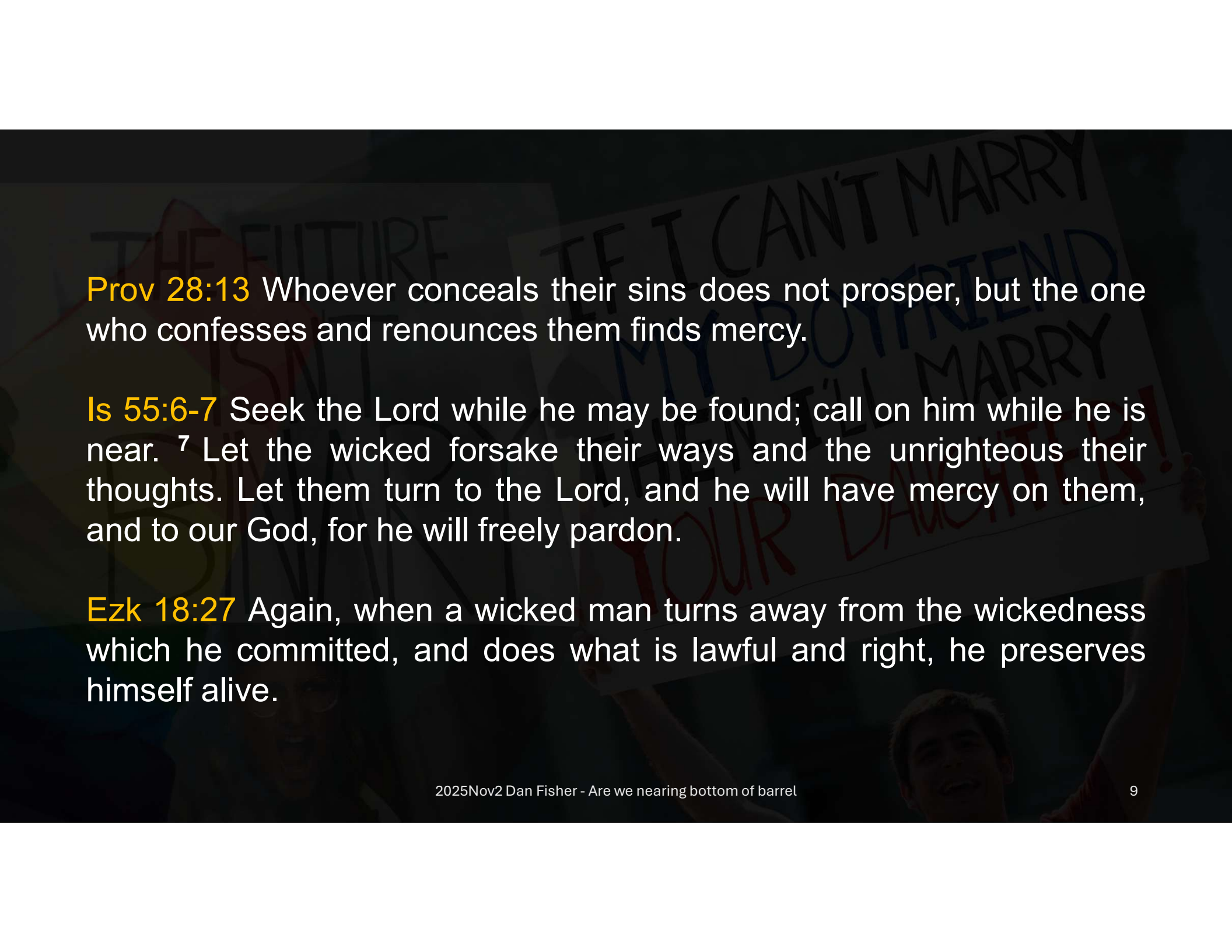
Jn 3:36 He who believes in the Son has everlasting life; and he who does not believe the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him.”



So, what is God's remedy for a culture at the bottom?



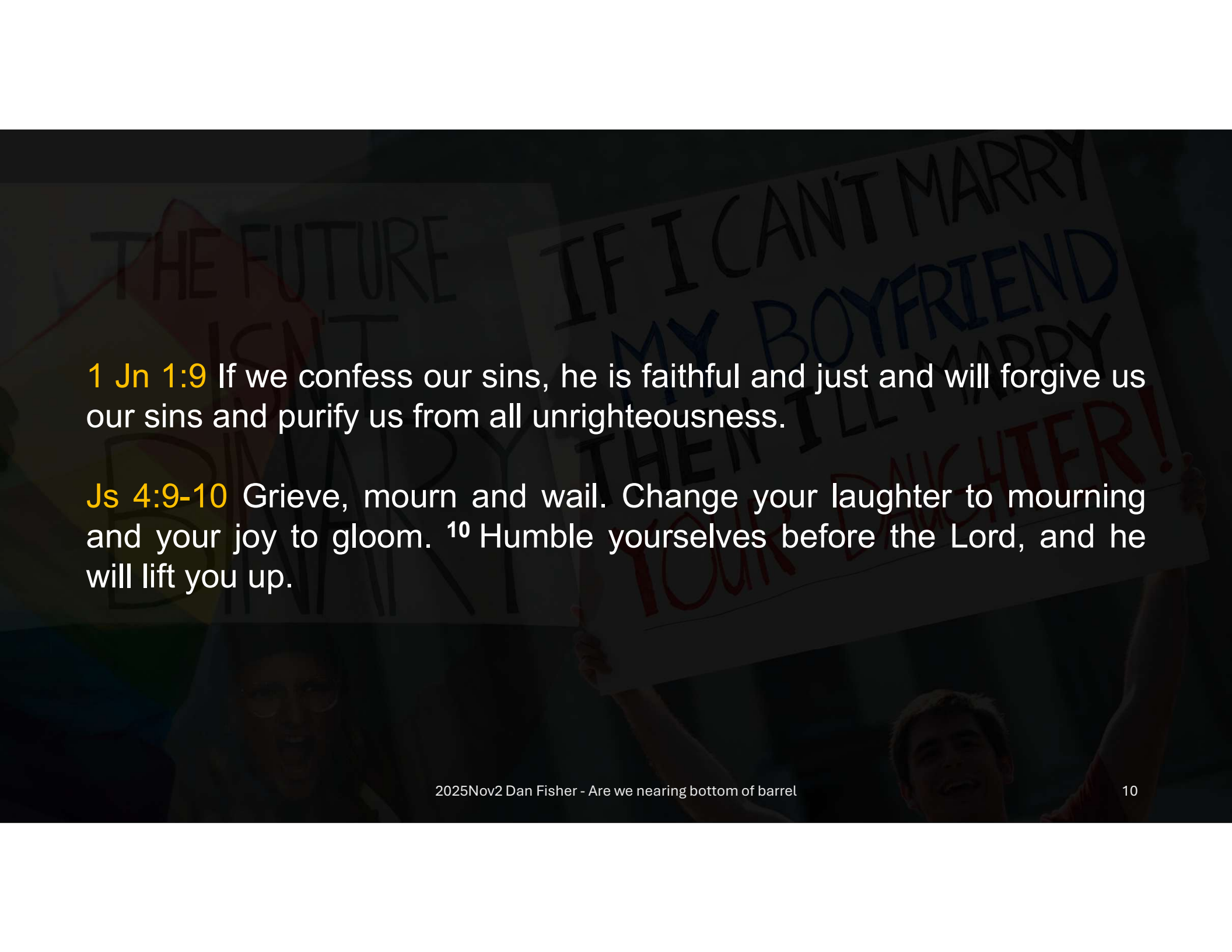
2 Chron 7:14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.



Prov 28:13 Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

Is 55:6-7 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. ⁷ Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

Ezk 18:27 Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness which he committed, and does what is lawful and right, he preserves himself alive.

The background of the slide is a dark, low-key photograph of a protest. Several people are visible, holding up large, hand-drawn signs. One prominent sign in the upper right reads "IF I CAN'T MARRY MY BOYFRIEND THEN I'LL MARRY YOUR DAUGHTER!" in blue and red marker. To the left, another sign partially shows the words "THE FUTURE ISN'T". The overall tone is somber and activist.

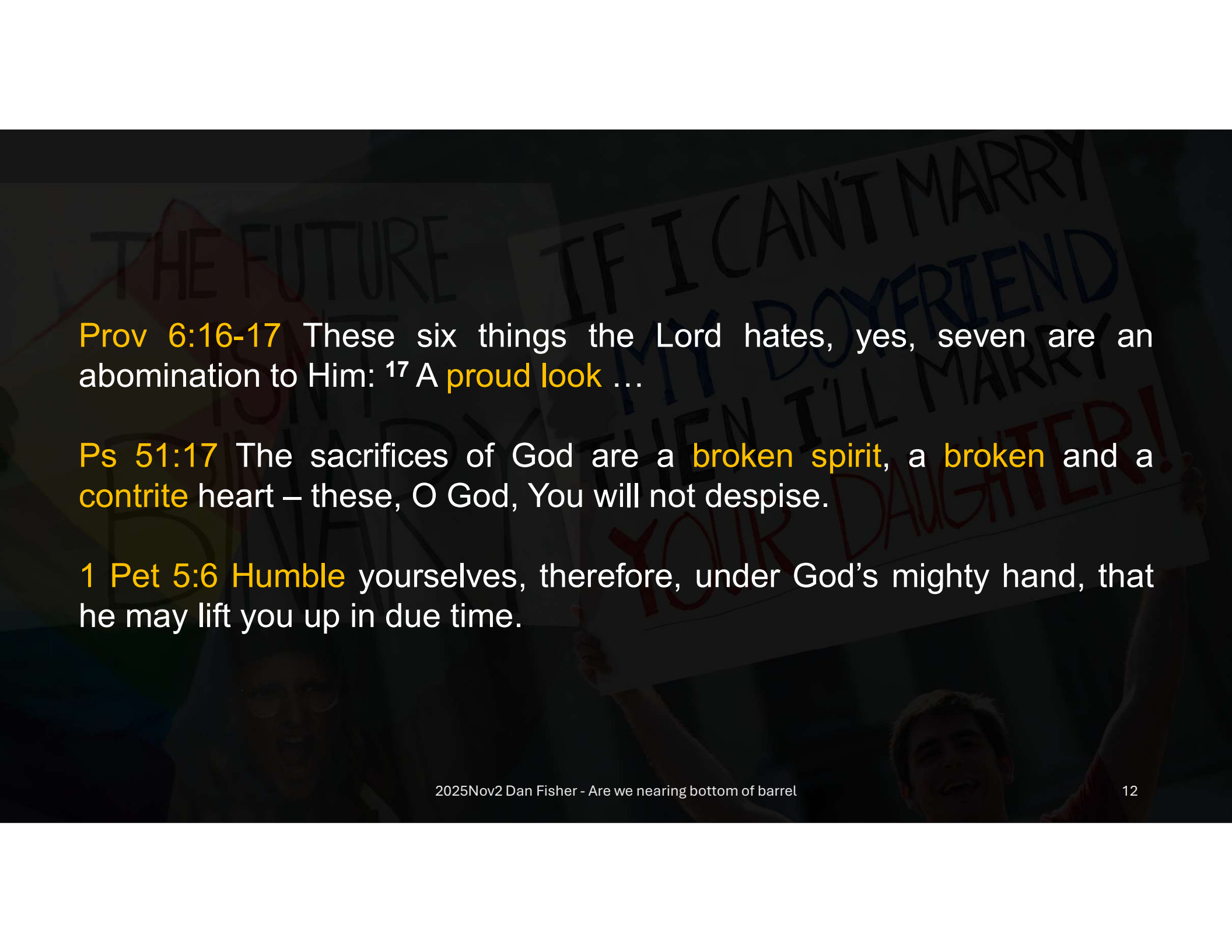
1 Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

Js 4:9-10 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom. ¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up.

The background of the slide is a dark, low-key photograph of a protest. Several people are visible, holding up large white signs with black and red lettering. One prominent sign in the upper right reads "IF I CAN'T MARRY MY BOYFRIEND THEN I'LL MARRY YOUR DAUGHTER!". Another sign to the left partially shows "THE FUTURE ISN'T...". The overall tone is serious and activist.

Step 1: Humility before the Lord

2 Chron 7:14 if my people, who are called by my name, will **humble themselves** and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.



Prov 6:16-17 These six things the Lord hates, yes, seven are an abomination to Him: ¹⁷ A **proud look** ...

Ps 51:17 The sacrifices of God are a **broken spirit**, a **broken** and a **contrite** heart – these, O God, You will not despise.

1 Pet 5:6 **Humble** yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.

The background of the slide is a dark, low-key photograph of a protest. Several people are visible, holding up large white signs with handwritten text in black and red ink. One prominent sign in the upper right reads "IF I CAN'T MARRY MY BOYFRIEND THEN I'LL MARRY YOUR DAUGHTER!". Another sign to the left partially reads "THE FUTURE ISN'T...". The overall tone is somber and activist.

Step 2: Hunger for the Lord

2 Chron 7:14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and **seek my face** and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Jer 29:13-14 You will **seek** me and find me when you **seek** me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you,” declares the Lord,

Mt 6:33 But **seek** first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Mt 7:7-8 “Ask and it will be given to you; **seek** and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives; the one who **seeks** finds; and to the one who knocks, the door will be opened.

Acts 17:27 so that they should **seek** the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us;

Heb 11:6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently **seek** Him.

The background of the slide is a dark, low-key photograph of a protest. Several large, hand-drawn signs are visible. One prominent sign in the upper right reads "IF I CAN'T MARRY MY BOYFRIEND THEN I'LL MARRY YOUR DAUGHTER!". To its left, another sign partially shows the words "THE FUTURE ISN'T". The protesters are mostly in shadow, with some faces visible in the lower half of the frame, looking upwards or towards the camera.

Step 3: Hatred for sin

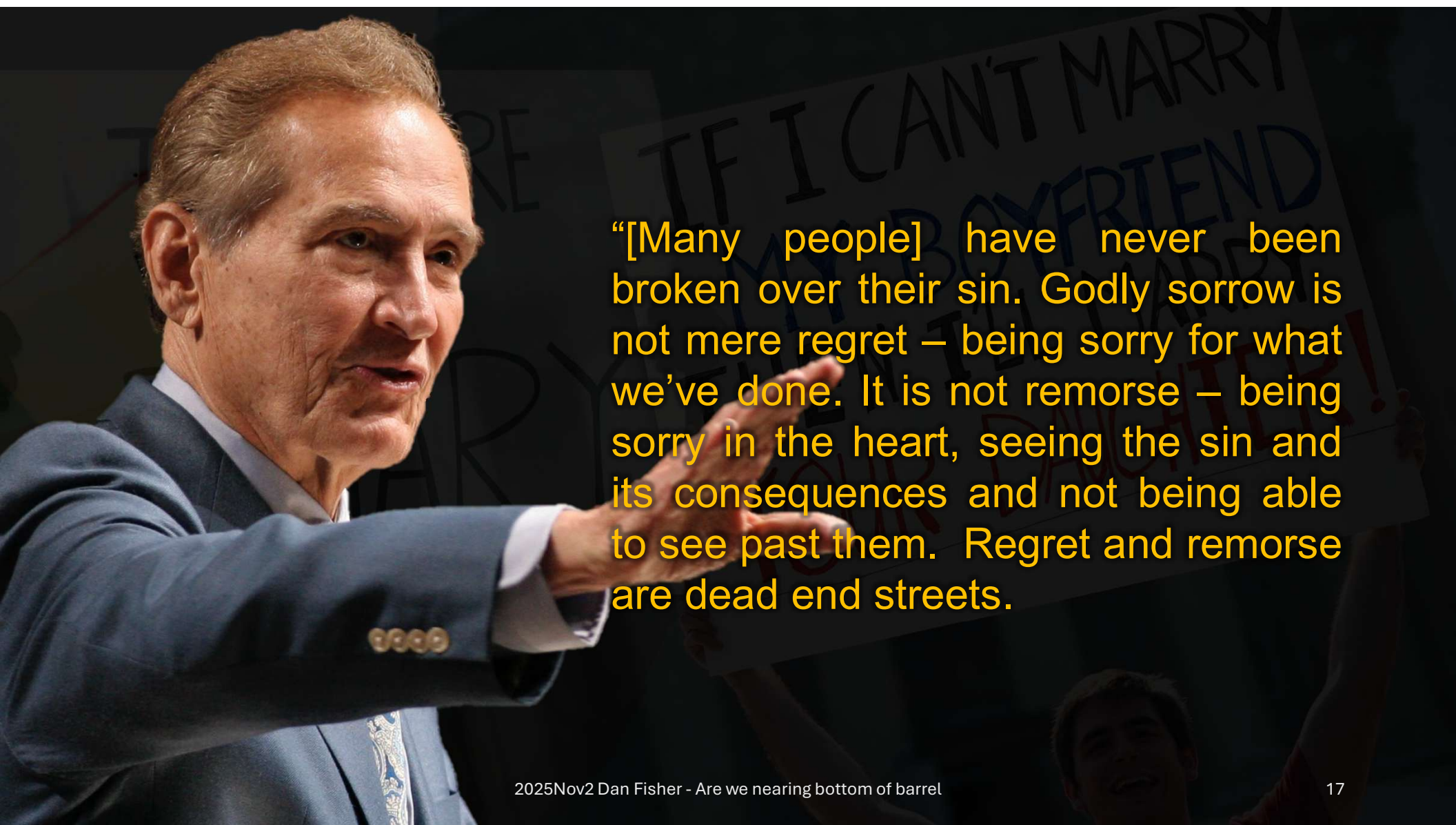
2 Chron 7:14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and **turn from their wicked ways**, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

Prov 6:16-17 These six things the Lord **hates** ...

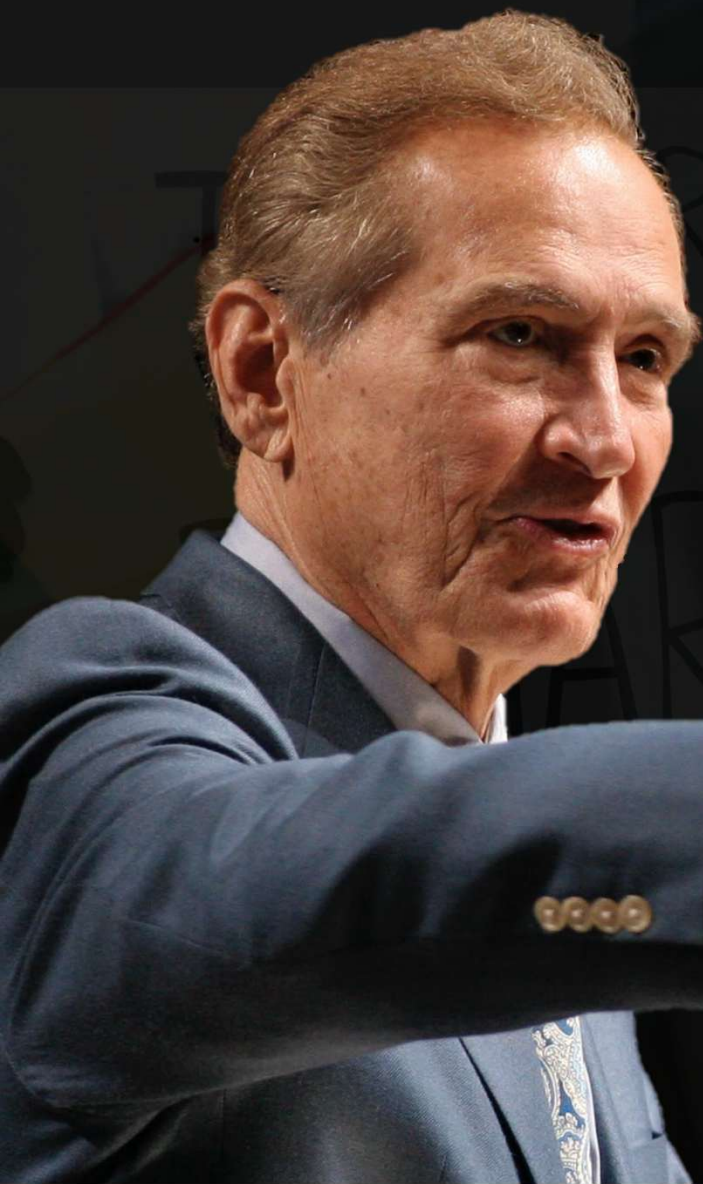
Ps 51:3-4 For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. ⁴ Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is **evil** in your sight; so you are right in your verdict and justified when you judge.

Js 4:9 Grieve, mourn and wail. Change your laughter to mourning and your joy to gloom.

1 Jn 1:9 If we **confess** our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.



“[Many people] have never been broken over their sin. Godly sorrow is not mere regret – being sorry for what we’ve done. It is not remorse – being sorry in the heart, seeing the sin and its consequences and not being able to see past them. Regret and remorse are dead end streets.



In contrast, repentance is a highway that looks beyond the sin to Calvary. A remorseful person loves his sin and hates himself at the same time. A repentant person hates his sin because he loves his Savior. Many people waltz down our church aisles with regret and others come with remorse. But the only true way forward is repentance.” Adrian Rogers

God's 3 Step response:

2 Chron 7:14 if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then **I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.**

- **I will hear from heaven**

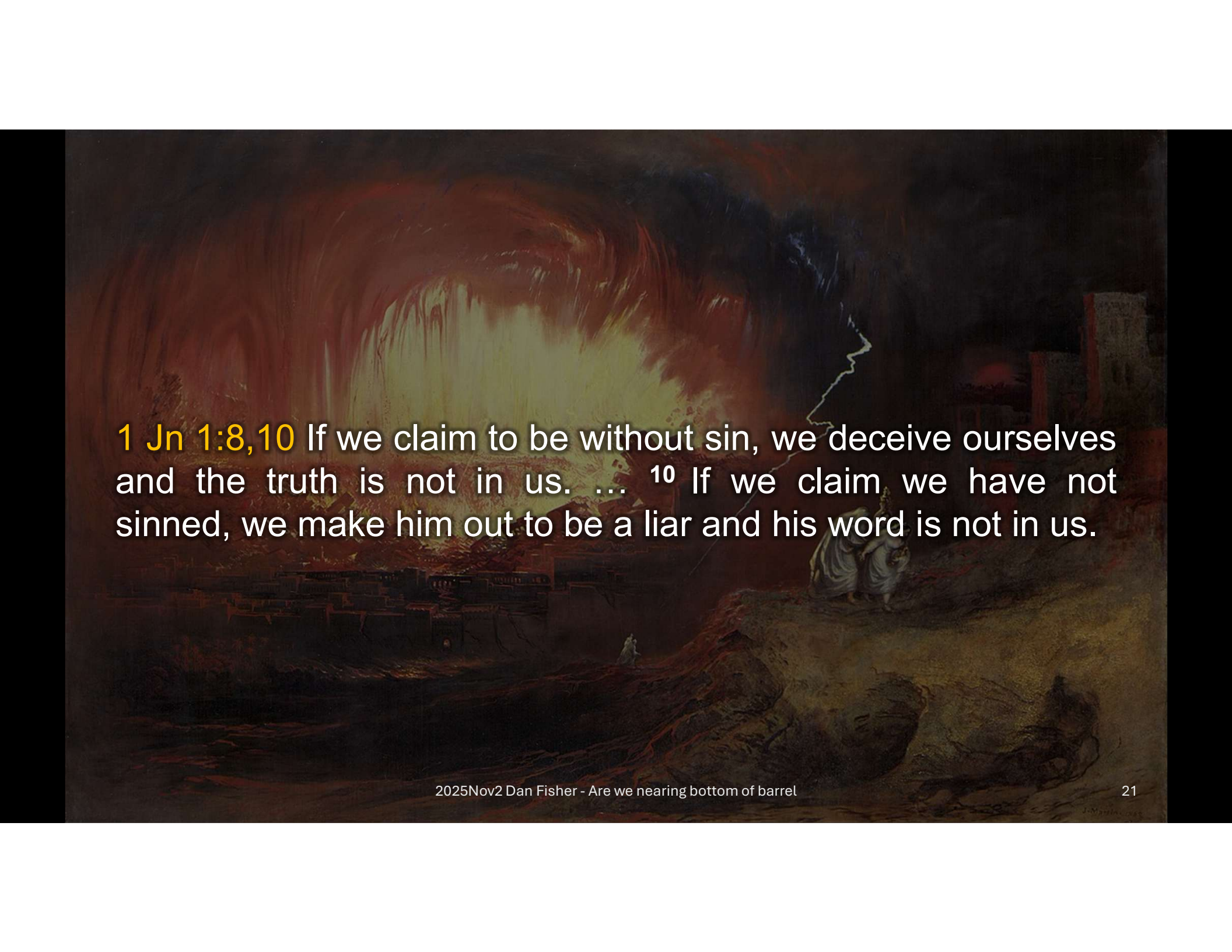
Ps 66:18 If I regard iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear.

ESV: If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened;

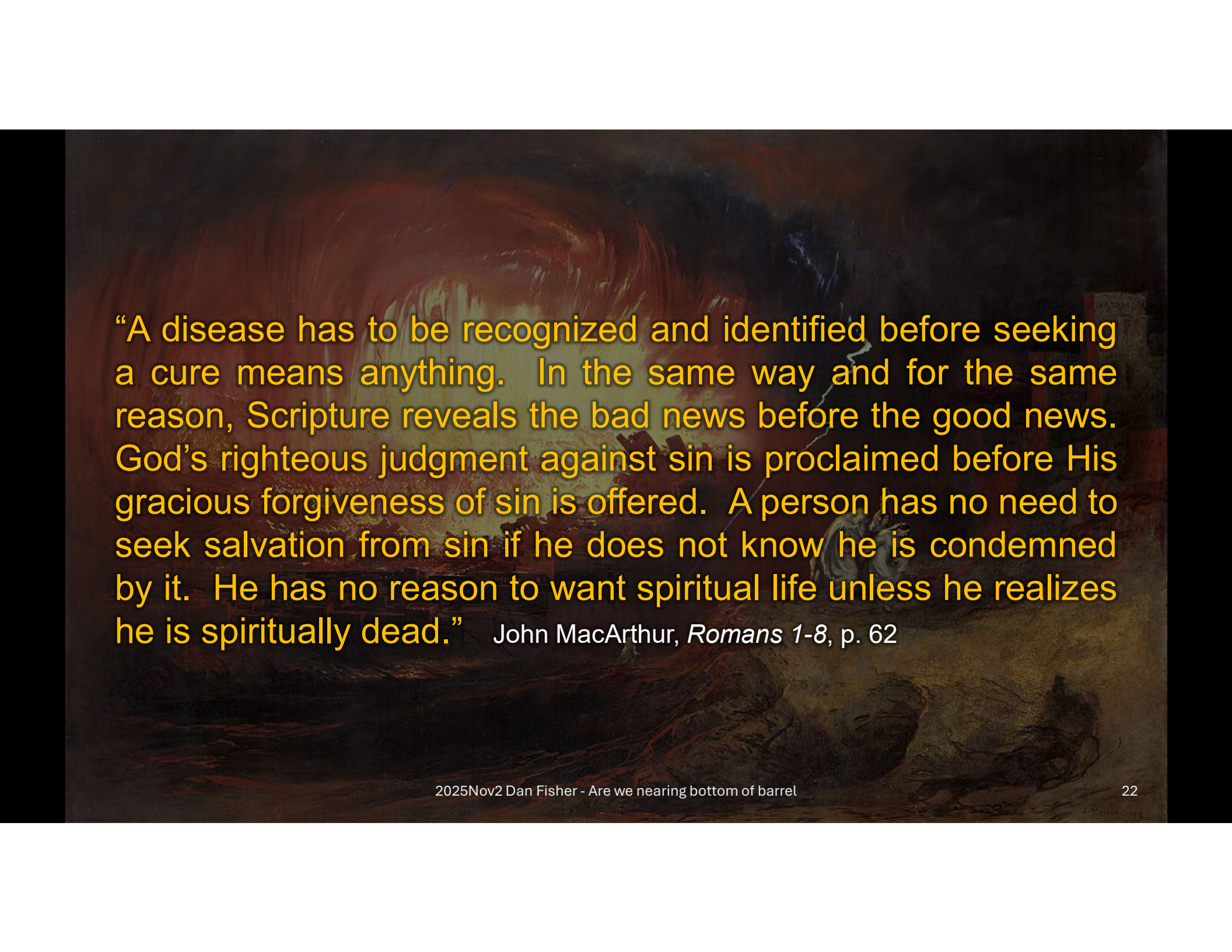
- **I will forgive their sin**
- **I will heal their land**



2025Nov2 Dan Fisher - Are we nearing bottom of barrel

A dramatic painting depicting a city being consumed by a massive fire or volcanic eruption. The scene is dark and apocalyptic, with a large, bright, yellowish-white fire or lava flow dominating the upper center. The city below is in flames, with smoke and fire rising from the buildings. In the foreground, several figures are visible, some standing and some crouching, looking up at the destruction. The overall mood is one of despair and the consequences of sin.

1 Jn 1:8,10 If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. ... ¹⁰ If we claim we have not sinned, we make him out to be a liar and his word is not in us.



“A disease has to be recognized and identified before seeking a cure means anything. In the same way and for the same reason, Scripture reveals the bad news before the good news. God’s righteous judgment against sin is proclaimed before His gracious forgiveness of sin is offered. A person has no need to seek salvation from sin if he does not know he is condemned by it. He has no reason to want spiritual life unless he realizes he is spiritually dead.” John MacArthur, *Romans 1-8*, p. 62