



THE DANGER OF A HARDENED HEART

PHILADELPHIA CHURCH

JULY 12, 2026

PASTOR DEREK FORSETH

Jeremiah 17:9

***9 “The heart is deceitful above all things,
And desperately wicked;
Who can know it?”***

Jeremiah 17:10 NKJV

***10 I, the Lord, search the heart,
I test the mind,
Even to give every man according to his ways,
According to the fruit of his doings.***

Jeremiah 17:10 NLT

***10 But I, the Lord, search all hearts
and examine secret motives.
I give all people their due rewards,
according to what their actions deserve.”***

Matthew 21:33-44

33 “Hear another parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country.³⁴ Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. ³⁵ And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. ³⁷ Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸ But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, ‘This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance.’ ³⁹ So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him.

40 “Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers?”

Matthew 21:33-44 cont.

41 They said to Him, “He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons.”

42 Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

***‘The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone.
This was the Lord’s doing,
And it is marvelous in our eyes’?***

43 “Therefore I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a nation bearing the fruits of it. 44 And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder.”

objects of parable:

***1. landowner-* God the Father.**

objects of parable:

1. landowner- God the Father.

2. vineyard- Israel or Kingdom of God.

objects of parable:

1. landowner- God the Father.

2. vineyard- Israel or Kingdom of God.

3. tenants- religious authorities.

objects of parable:

1. *landowner*- God the Father.

2. *vineyard*- Israel or Kingdom of God.

3. *tenants*- religious authorities.

4. *servants*- Old testament prophets who were rejected.

objects of parable:

1. *landowner*- God the Father.

2. *vineyard*- Israel or Kingdom of God.

3. *tenants*- religious authorities.

4. *servants*- Old testament prophets who were rejected.

5. *son*- Jesus Christ, the Messiah

objects of parable:

***1. landowner-* God the Father.**

***2. vineyard-* Israel or Kingdom of God.**

***3. tenants-* religious authorities.**

***4. servants-* Old testament prophets who were rejected.**

***5. son-* Jesus Christ, the Messiah**

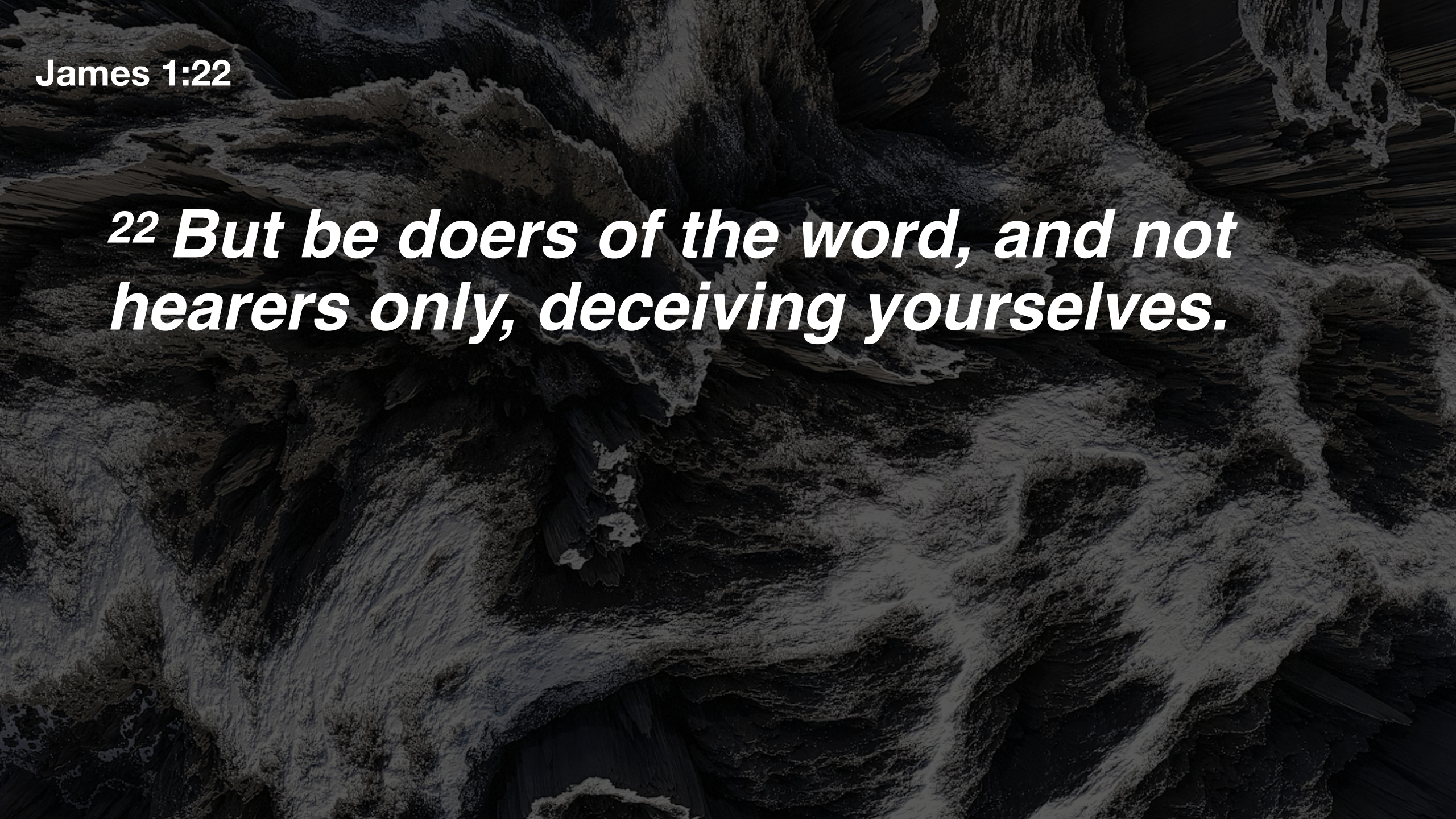
***6. the new tenants-* God's new church of Jews and gentiles.**

Matthew 21:42

42 Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the Scriptures:

***‘The stone which the builders rejected
Has become the chief cornerstone.
This was the Lord’s doing,
And it is marvelous in our eyes’?***

***CORNERSTONE* - was the most crucial stone that was used to align and anchor the entire structure in ancient times.**



James 1:22

22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.

Hebrew 4:12

12 For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

Do we change the Bible?

**No, the Bible
should change us!**

Heart Check:

Do we hunger for God's word?

Heart Check:

Do we hunger for God's word?

Do we depend on prayer?

Heart Check:

Do we hunger for God's word?

Do we depend on prayer?

Do we receive or resist correction?

Heart Check:

Do we hunger for God's word?

Do we depend on prayer?

Do we receive or resist correction?

Do we serve others or are we self-seeking?

Heart Check:

Do we hunger for God's word?

Do we depend on prayer?

Do we receive or resist correction?

Do we serve others or are we self-seeking?

*Do we endure trials and tribulations
faithfully?*

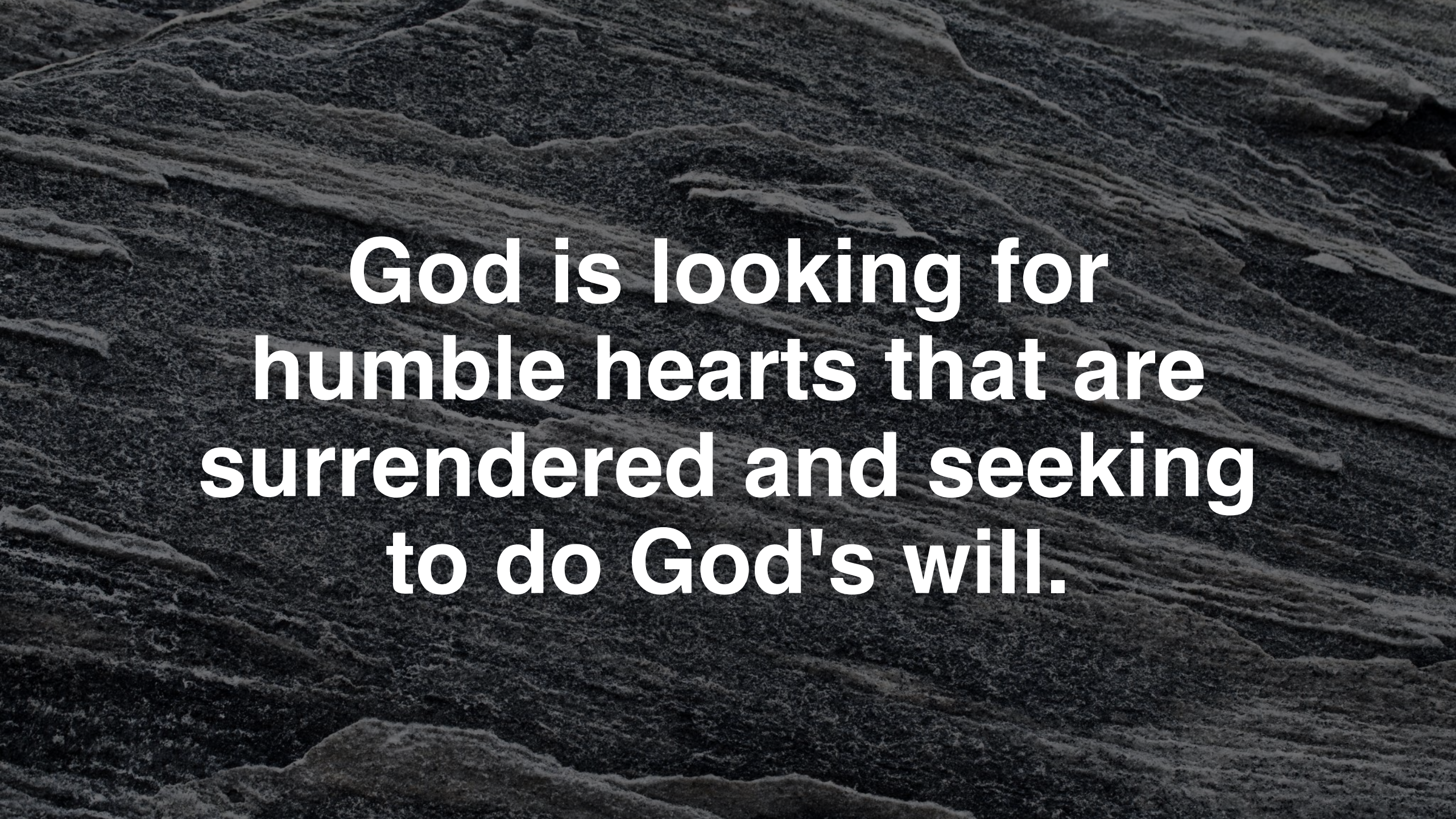
***“The old idol had a carved
face; The new idle has our
own face.” -T.S.***

***IDOL* - anything that you
cannot surrender when
God puts His finger on
it.**

Luke 9:23

23 Then He said to them all, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross daily, and follow Me.

**We lose ourselves to
better find *JESUS***



**God is looking for
humble hearts that are
surrendered and seeking
to do God's will.**

Proverbs 28:14

***14 Happy is the man who is always
reverent,
But he who hardens his heart will fall into
calamity.***

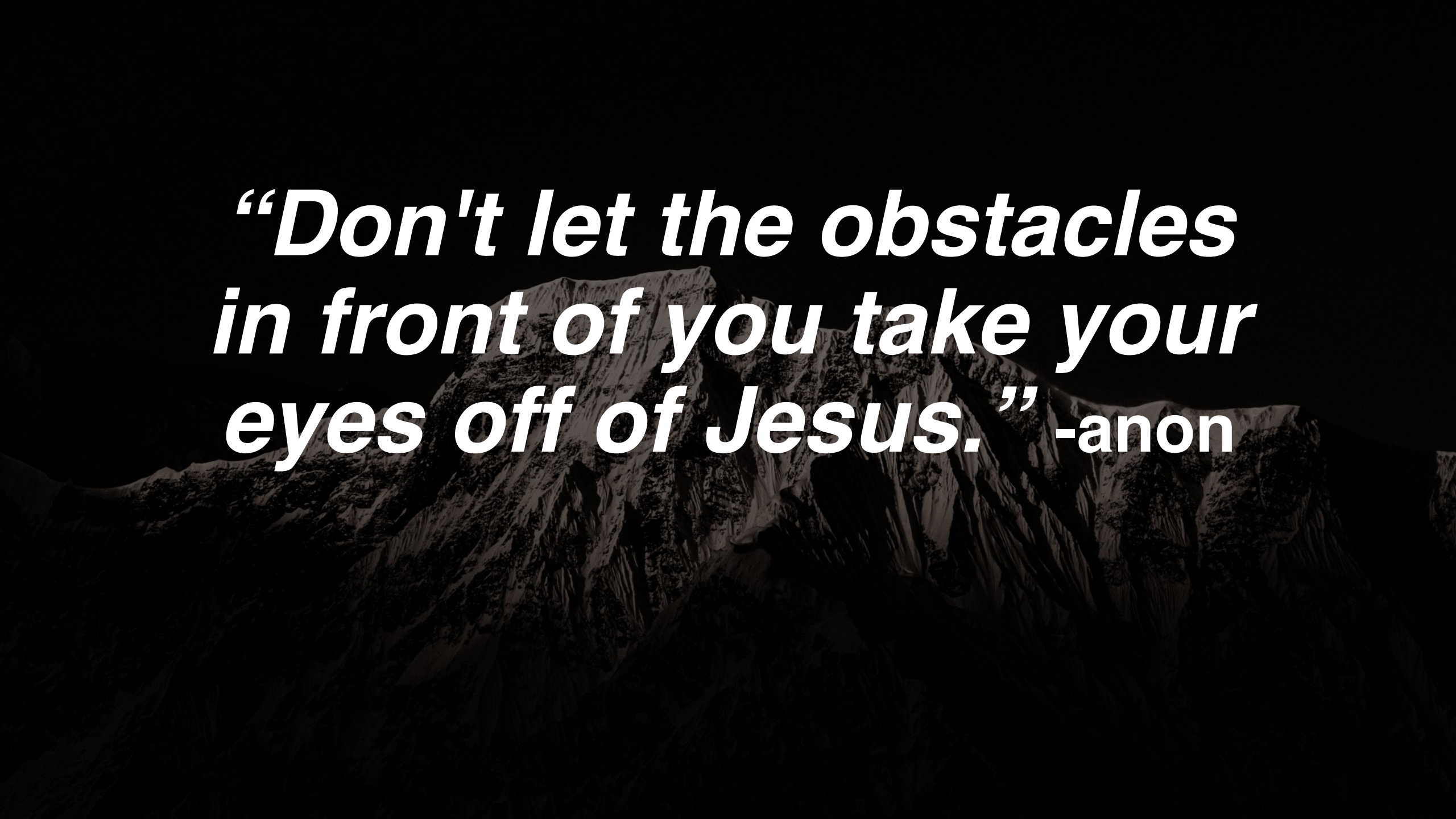
Proverbs 4:23

***23 Keep your heart with all diligence,
For out of it spring the issues of life.***

***“You must learn to let go.
Release the stress. You were
never in control anyway.” -
S.M.***

Ezekiel 36:26

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.



***“Don't let the obstacles
in front of you take your
eyes off of Jesus.” -anon***