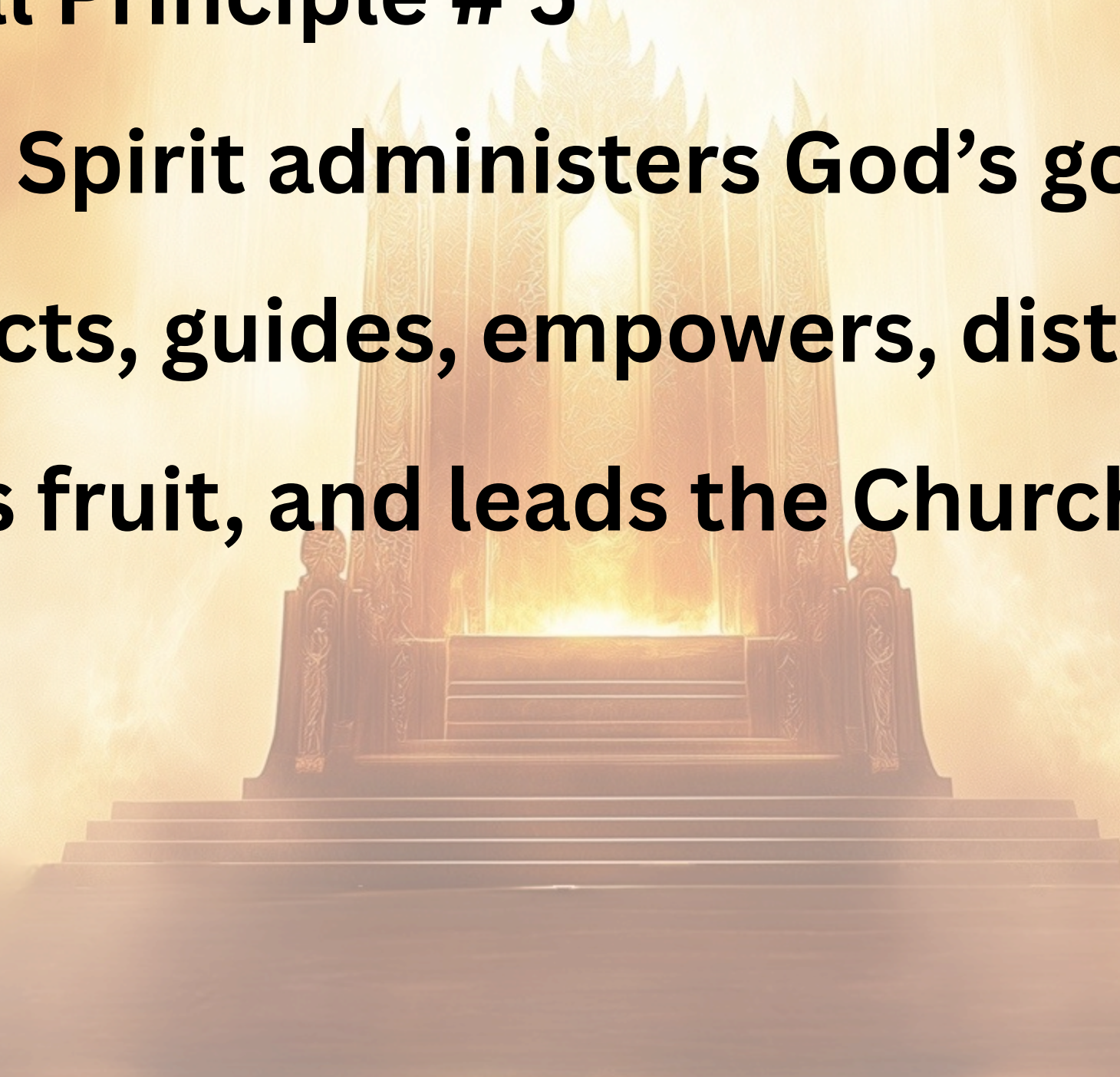


God's Government

- **Foundational Principle # 5**
 - **The Holy Spirit administers God's government.**
 - **He convicts, guides, empowers, distributes gifts, produces fruit, and leads the Church.**



God's Government

- The Holy Spirit does not establish an independent government. He communicates and implements the will of the King.
 - John 16:13 (NKJV) – *However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.*

God's Government

- Jesus said of the Holy Spirit in John 16:14 (NKJV) – *He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.*
 - *There is a beautiful governmental order here: The Father purposes → the Son possesses and reigns → the Spirit reveals and applies.*

God's Government

- One of the functions of the Holy Spirit in God's government is communication. He helps God's people understand:
 - What the King desires
 - What Scripture means
 - Where God is leading
 - What is true
 - And how we should respond

God's Government

- When Jesus departed from the Earth, He sent the Holy Spirit in His stead.
 - John 16:7 (NKJV) – *Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you.*

God's Government

- According to John 16:8, the Holy Spirit's job is to:
 - Convict the world of sin because they do not believe in Jesus.
 - Convict the world of righteousness because Jesus is in heaven interceding for us at the right hand of the Father.
 - Convict the world of judgment because Satan has been judged.

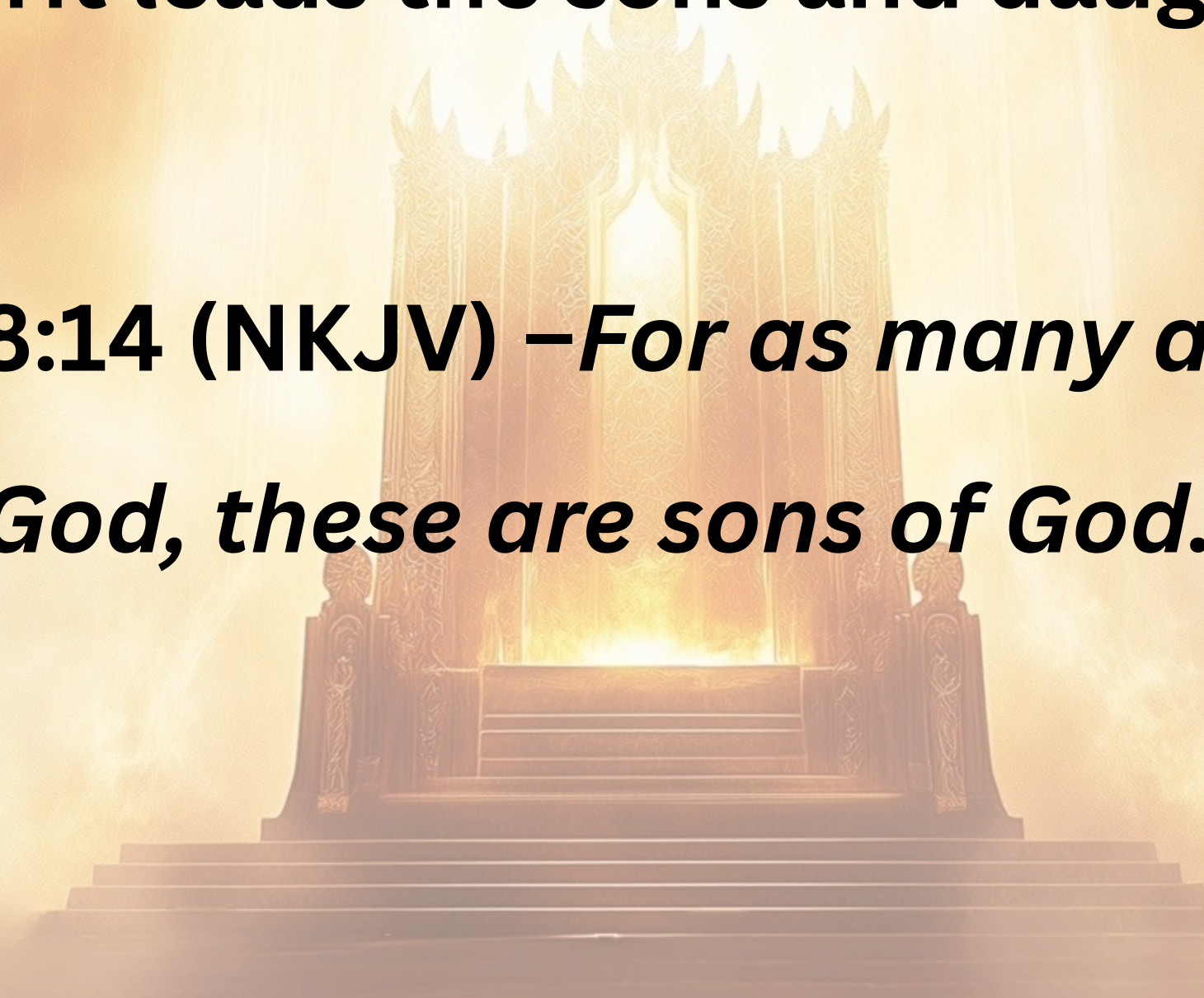
God's Government

- Sin, righteousness, and judgment are related to three persons:

- Sin is related to Adam.
- Righteousness is related to Christ.
- Judgment is related to Satan.

God's Government

- The Holy Spirit leads the sons and daughters of the kingdom.
 - Romans 8:14 (NKJV) –*For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*



God's Government

- **Romans 8:14 teaches us the principle of mature sonship.**
 - **God doesn't want His children simply knowing His laws. He wants them led by His Spirit.**
 - **Under the Old Covenant, God's commandments were written on stone, but in the New Covenant, they are written on their hearts.**

God's Government

- The gifts of the Spirit demonstrate Kingdom power and the fruit of the Spirit demonstrates Kingdom character.
 - We need both power and character. Remember in the kingdom, it is both/and, not either/or.
 - Power without character becomes abusive, but character without dependence on God's power leaves the Church operating merely through human ability.

God's Government

- God's government doesn't operate merely through external regulation. It operates through internal transformation and Spirit-led obedience.
- God doesn't just give His citizens laws to obey; He gives them His Spirit so they can live according to His ways.

God's Government

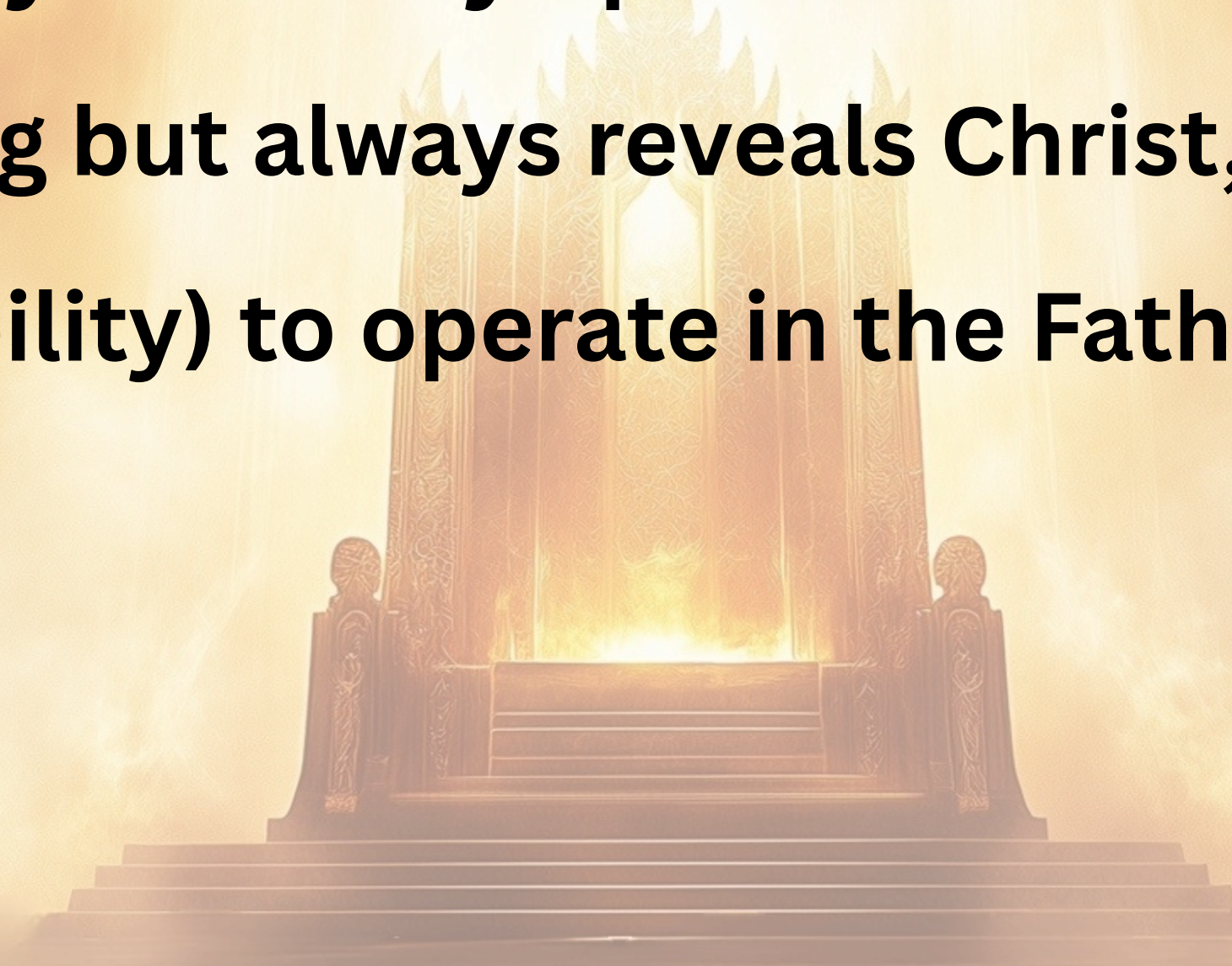
- The Holy Spirit empowers the King's representatives.
 - Jesus gave His disciples an enormous assignment in Matthew 28:19, *“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...”* but He didn't tell them to accomplish it through human ability alone.
 - He told them in Acts 1:8, *“You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me...”*

God's Government

- The Greek word for power, *dunamis*, speaks of God's ability, might, and power.
 - The assignment comes from the King, but the ability to accomplish the assignment comes through the Holy Spirit's power.
 - Jesus is essentially telling us, "Don't attempt Kingdom work without Kingdom power."

God's Government

- **Key Takeaway: The Holy Spirit never acts independently from the King but always reveals Christ, and we need His power (or ability) to operate in the Father's kingdom.**



God's Government

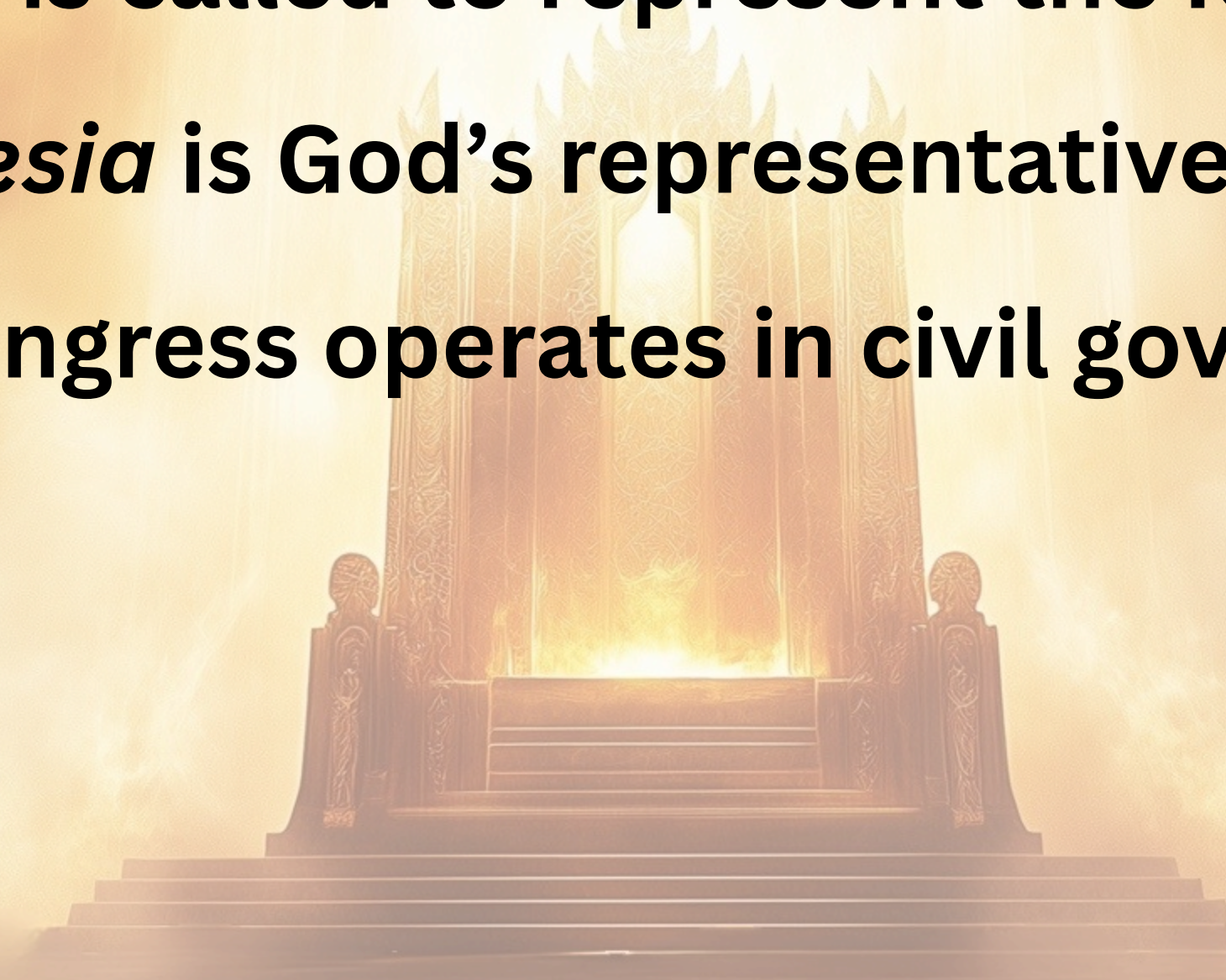
- Foundational Principle # 6
 - The Church (*Ekklesia*) is God's governing assembly on earth.
- The Greek word for Church is *Ekklesia*, which refers to a governing assembly of citizens called together to make decisions.

God's Government

- Jesus intentionally used the word *Ekklesia* when He first described what His Church would look like in Matthew 16.
 - Matthew 16:18 (NKJV) – I will build My church [*Ekklesia*], and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

God's Government

- The *Ekklesia* is called to represent the King on earth.
 - The *Ekklesia* is God's representative body, much like how a Congress operates in civil government.



God's Government

- Citizens of God's Kingdom reflect the King's character.
 - God never intended His people merely to admire His righteousness. He calls us to practice it.
 - Jesus said in Matthew 6:33, *"Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness..."*

God's Government

- Kingdom citizens pursue the values of the King.
 - Micah summarizes God's expectations beautifully in Micah 6:8: *"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"*

God's Government

- God's people are called to reflect the very foundation of His throne:

- Righteousness in personal conduct.
- Justice in how they treat others.
- Mercy in their relationships.
- Humility before God.

God's Government

- The Holy Spirit produces the culture of God's government.
 - The Holy Spirit doesn't merely distribute power; He produces character.
 - Galatians 5:22-23 (NKJV) – *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.*

God's Government

- Galatians 5:22-23 are not simply admirable personality traits. They reflect the culture of the King.
 - If God's government is founded upon righteousness and justice and characterized by love, then those representing that government should increasingly reflect His character.

God's Government

- The Holy Spirit brings order to the body. God's government isn't run by chaos.
 - Paul says in 1 Corinthians 14:33 (NKJV) – *For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.*
 - 1 Corinthians 14:40 (NKJV) – *Let all things be done decently and in order.*

God's Government

- It is interesting to note that these instructions occur in a chapter about manifestations of the Spirit.
 - Paul's answer to disorder wasn't to stop the Holy Spirit. His answer was to learn how the Spirit operates within godly order.
 - Key principle: The Holy Spirit produces freedom, but biblical freedom is not disorder.

God's Government

- As citizens, we have been given keys to administer His kingdom.
 - Jesus said in Matthew 16:19, *“I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven...”*
 - Keys represent delegated authority.
 - The *Ekklesia* has been given the keys of the kingdom to execute God's will on the earth.

God's Government

- **Key Takeaway: The Church doesn't create God's will. It enforces God's will on earth.**

