

ONE BODY

saints standing side by side

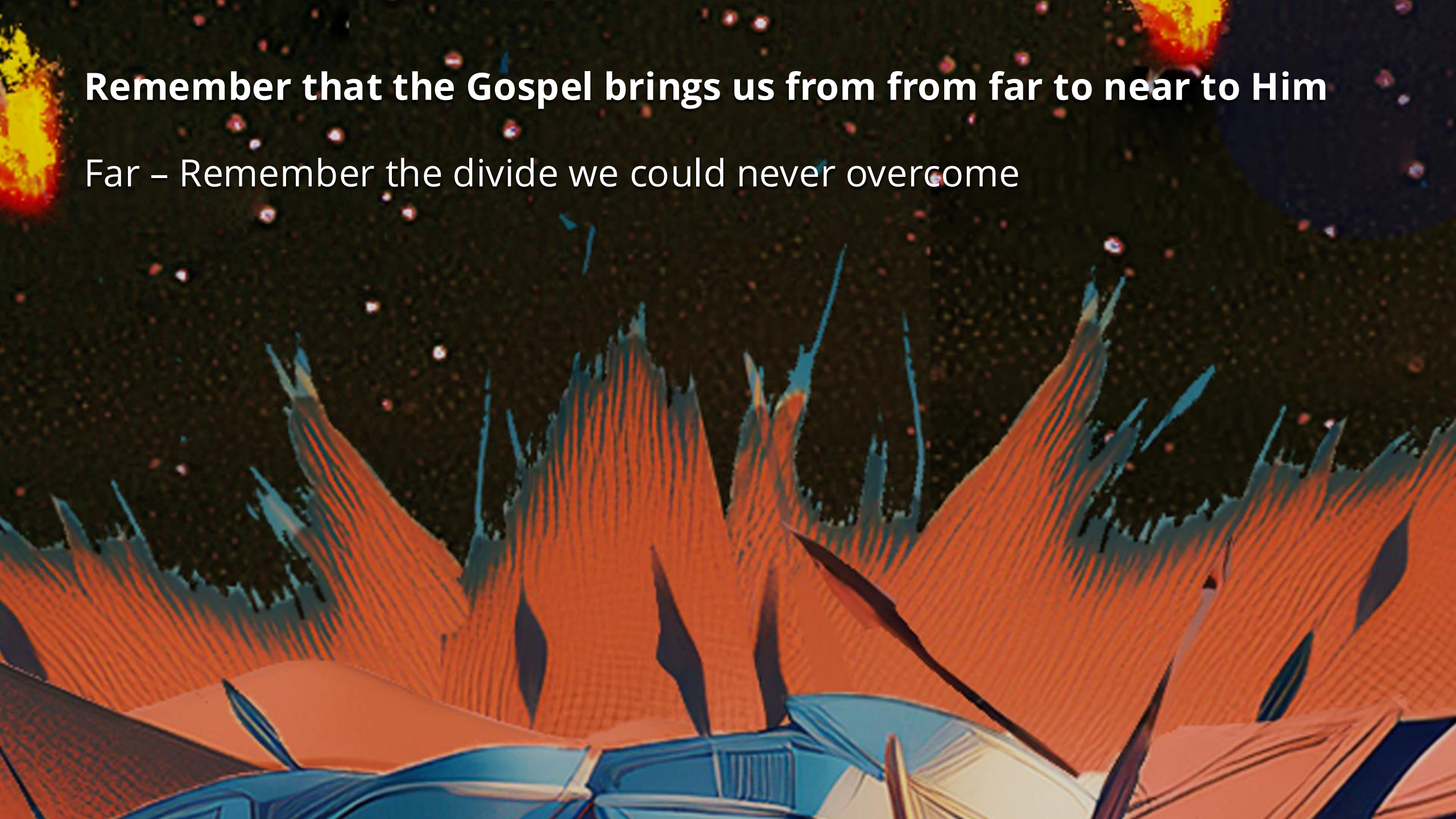


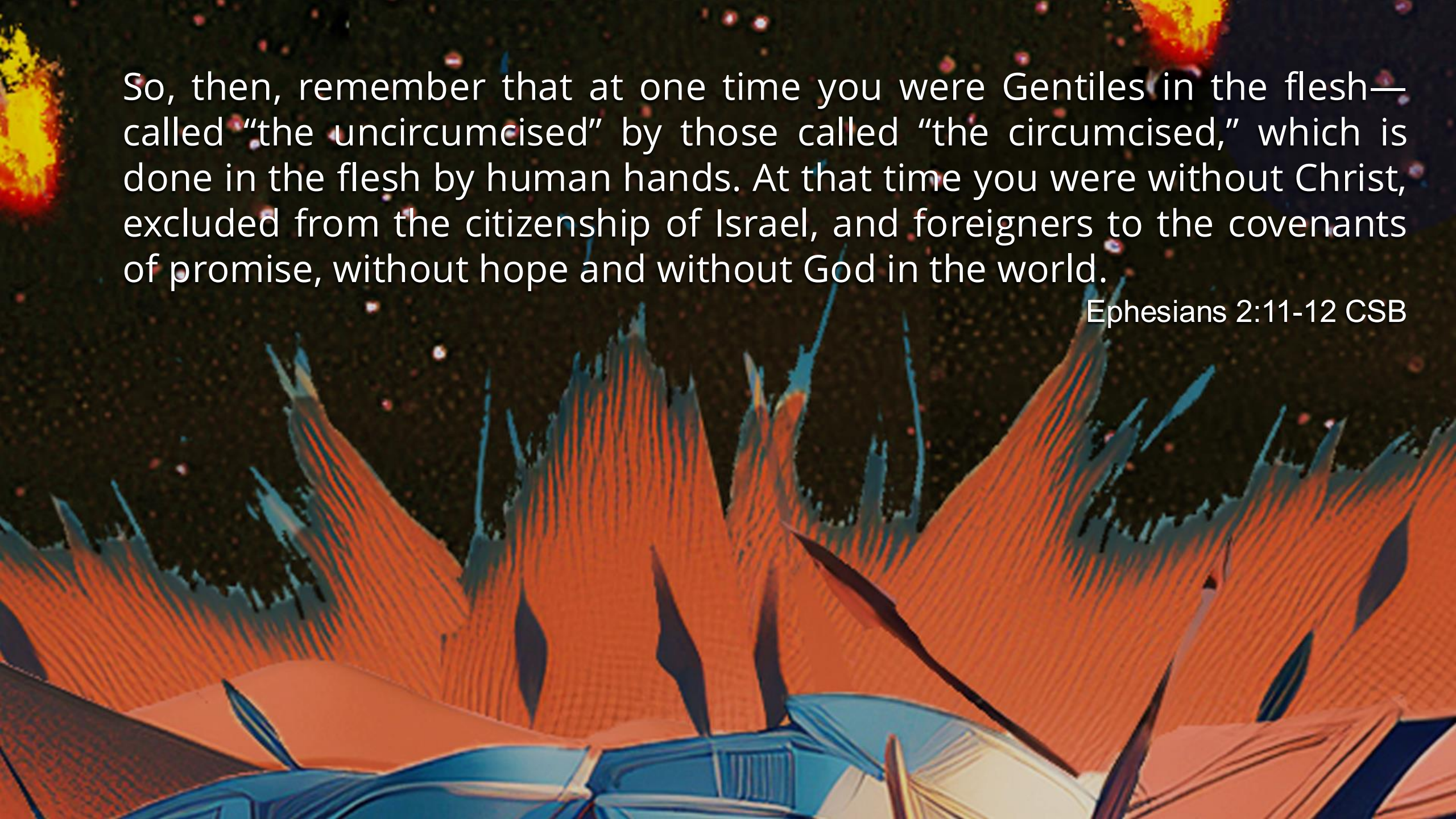
Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him



Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him

Far – Remember the divide we could never overcome





So, then, remember that at one time you were Gentiles in the flesh—called “the uncircumcised” by those called “the circumcised,” which is done in the flesh by human hands. At that time you were without Christ, excluded from the citizenship of Israel, and foreigners to the covenants of promise, without hope and without God in the world.

Ephesians 2:11-12 CSB



Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him

Far – Remember the divide we could never overcome

Excluded from citizenship

Foreigners to the covenants of promise

Unable by the Torah to enter the temple, own land, or fully participate

Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him

Far – Remember the divide we could never overcome

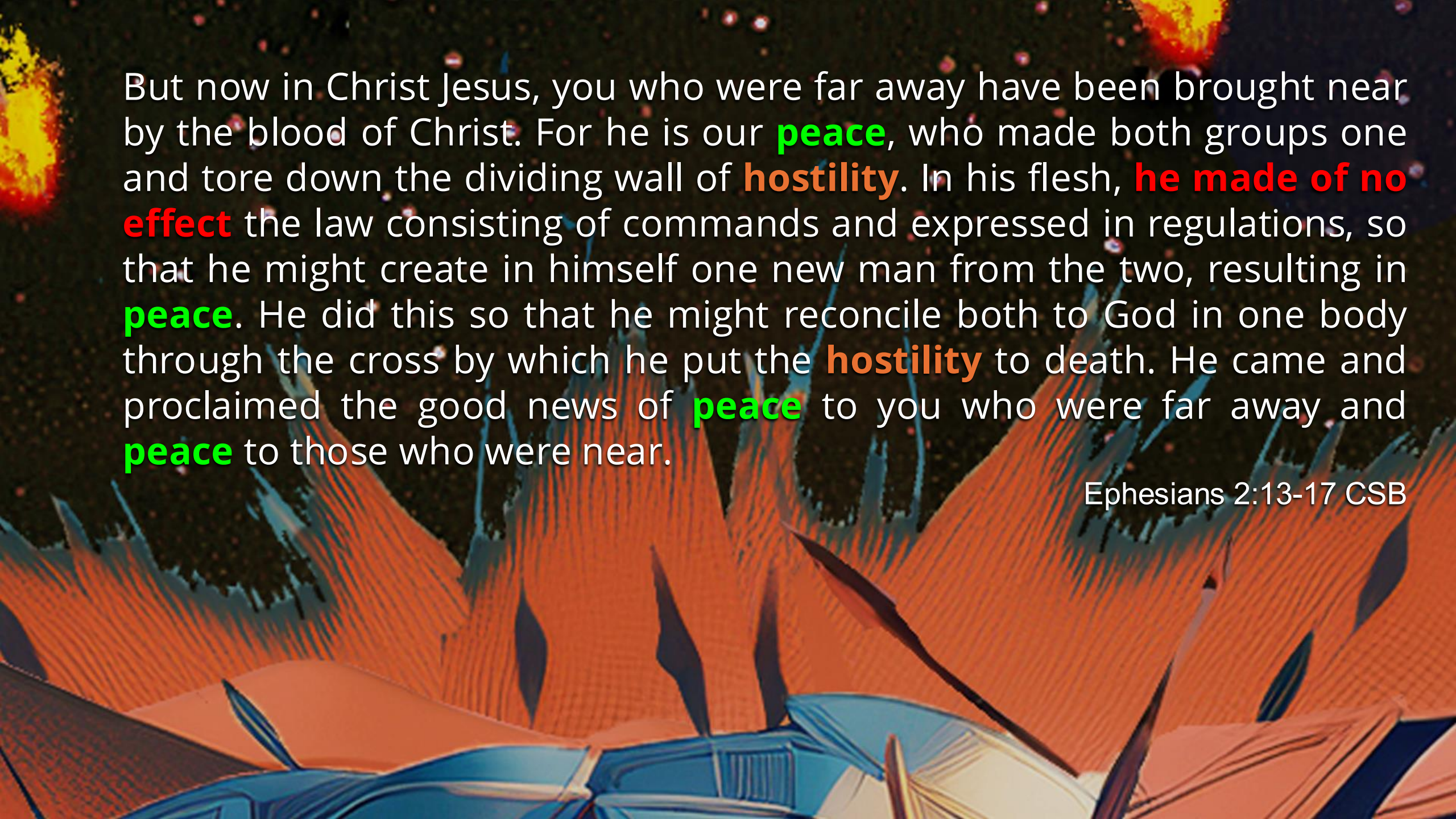




Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him

Far – Remember the divide we could never overcome

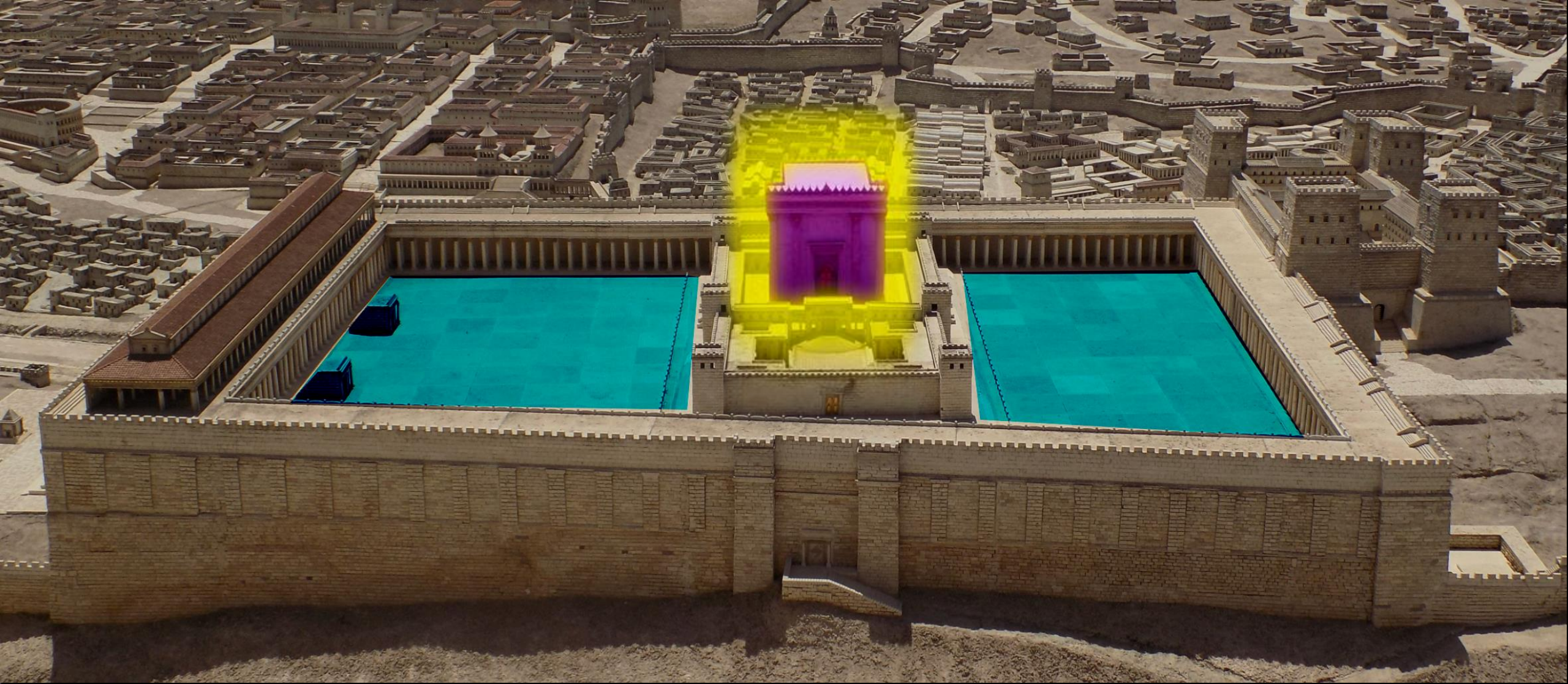
Near – Remember His work does not settle for a mere piece of peace

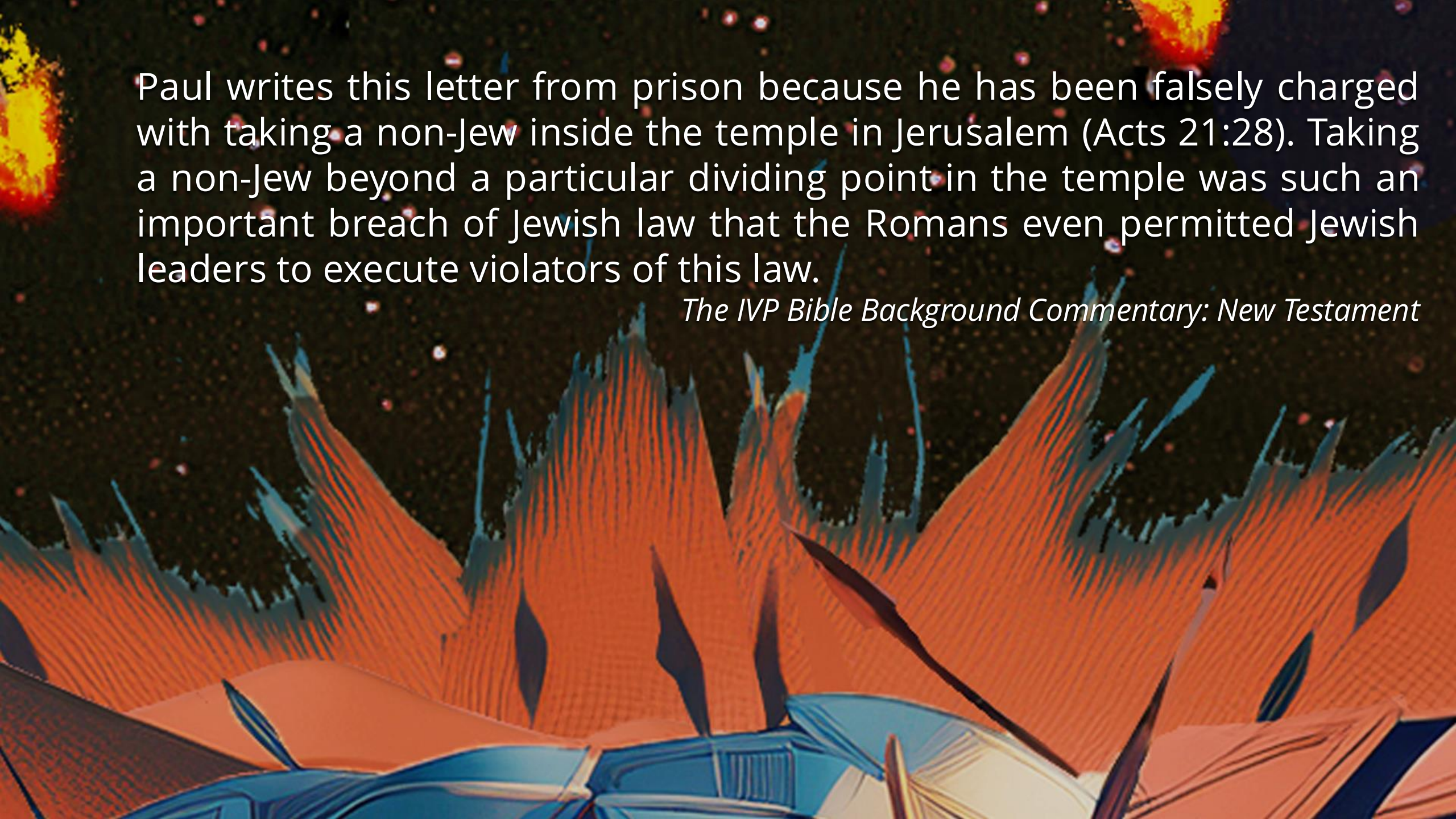


But now in Christ Jesus, you who were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our **peace**, who made both groups one and tore down the dividing wall of **hostility**. In his flesh, **he made of no effect** the law consisting of commands and expressed in regulations, so that he might create in himself one new man from the two, resulting in **peace**. He did this so that he might reconcile both to God in one body through the cross by which he put the **hostility** to death. He came and proclaimed the good news of **peace** to you who were far away and **peace** to those who were near.

Ephesians 2:13-17 CSB

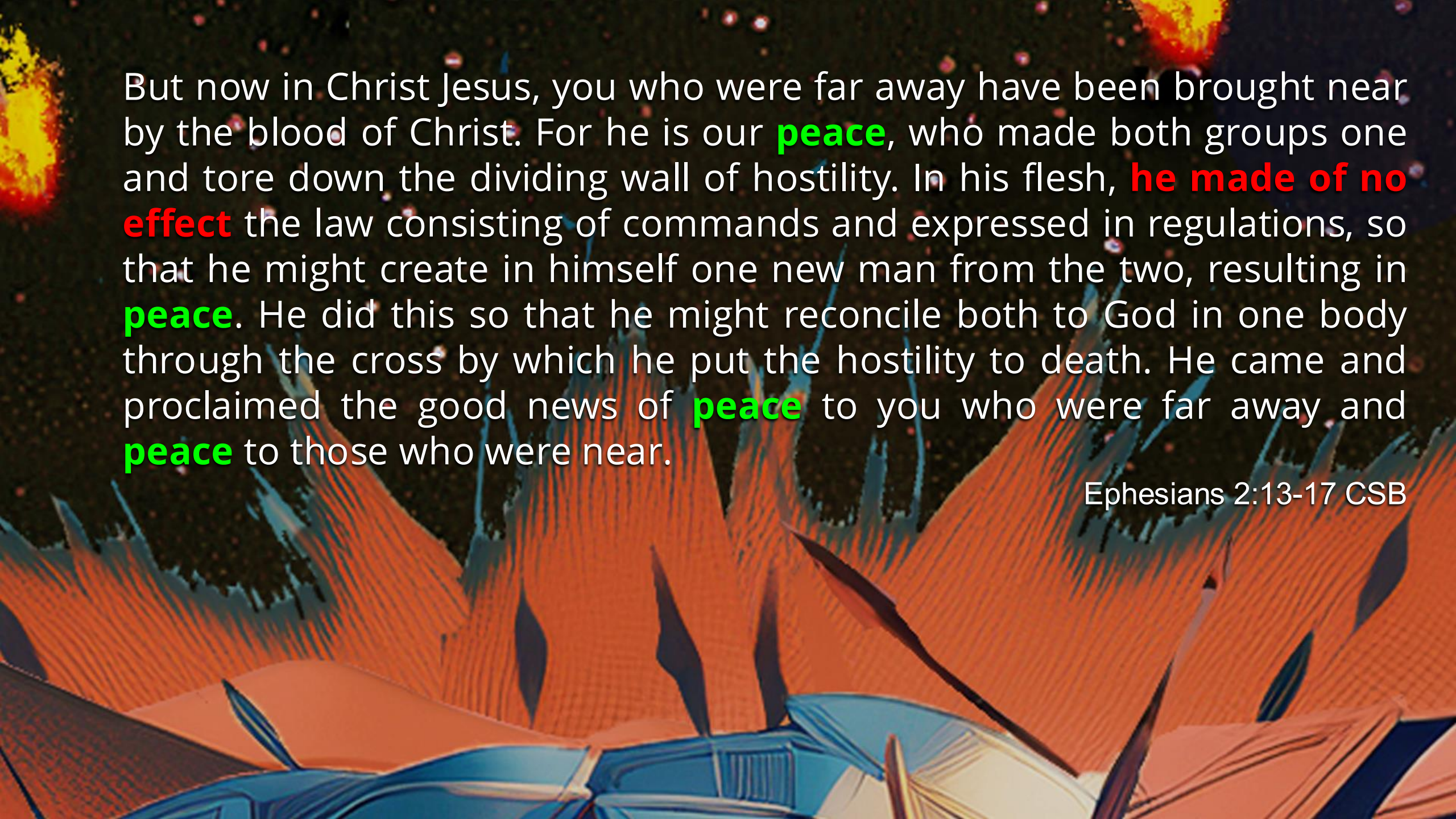






Paul writes this letter from prison because he has been falsely charged with taking a non-Jew inside the temple in Jerusalem (Acts 21:28). Taking a non-Jew beyond a particular dividing point in the temple was such an important breach of Jewish law that the Romans even permitted Jewish leaders to execute violators of this law.

The IVP Bible Background Commentary: New Testament



But now in Christ Jesus, you who were far away have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our **peace**, who made both groups one and tore down the dividing wall of hostility. In his flesh, **he made of no effect** the law consisting of commands and expressed in regulations, so that he might create in himself one new man from the two, resulting in **peace**. He did this so that he might reconcile both to God in one body through the cross by which he put the hostility to death. He came and proclaimed the good news of **peace** to you who were far away and **peace** to those who were near.

Ephesians 2:13-17 CSB



Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him

Far – Remember the divide we could never overcome

Near – Remember His work does not settle for a mere piece of peace

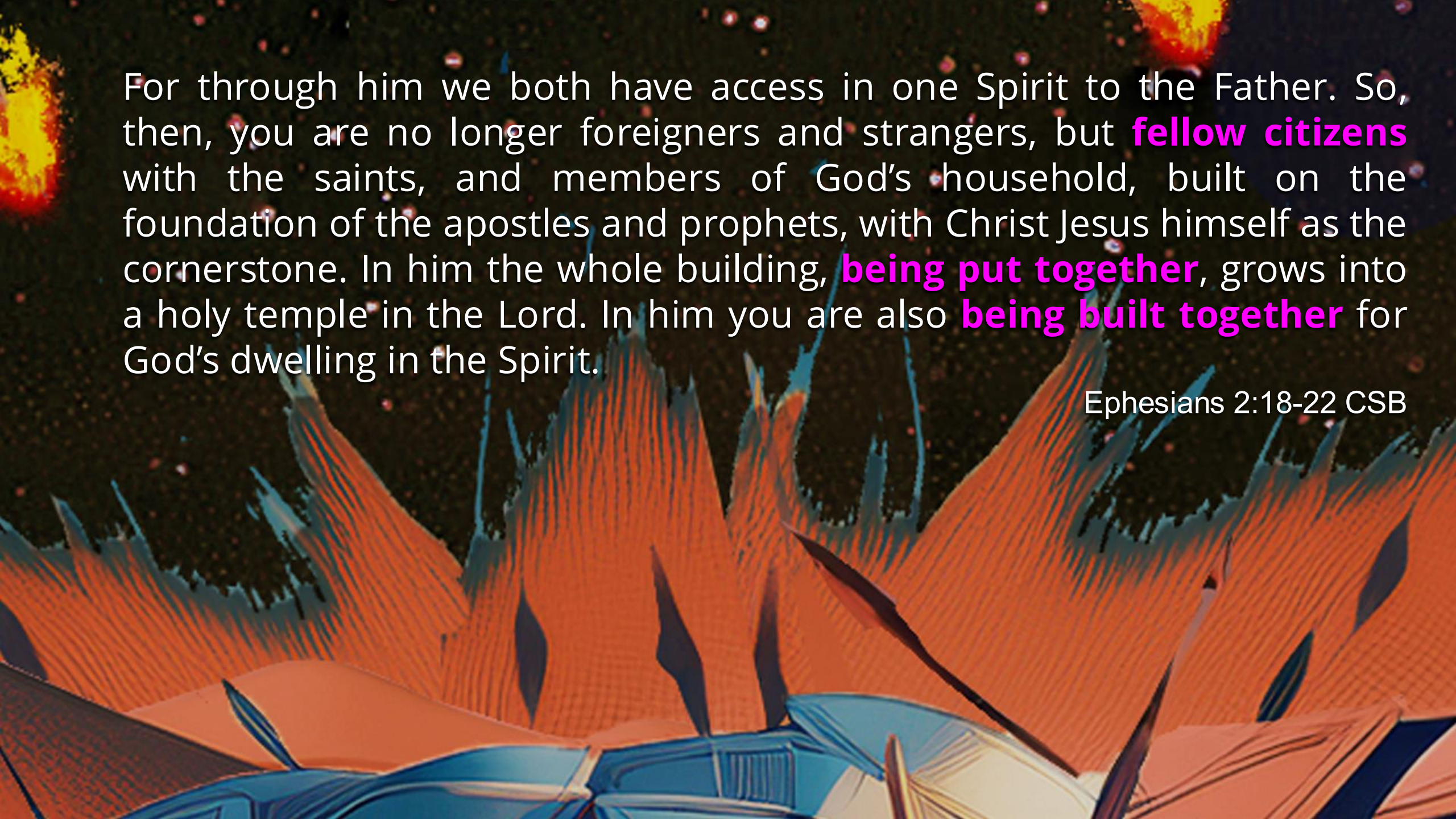


Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him

Far – Remember the divide we could never overcome

Near – Remember His work does not settle for a mere piece of peace

Him - Remember our identity is found in and founded on Christ



For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. So, then, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but **fellow citizens** with the saints, and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole building, **being put together**, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you are also **being built together** for God's dwelling in the Spirit.

Ephesians 2:18-22 CSB



Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him

Far – Remember the divide we could never overcome

Near – Remember His work does not settle for a mere piece of peace

Him - Remember our identity is found in and founded on Christ

Ephesians 1:3-2:10 tells believers that through the work of Christ we are:

- Saints
- Chosen before the foundation of the world
- Adopted as children of God
- Redeemed by the blood of Christ
- Richly covered in His grace
- Reconciled to him
- Given an inheritance
- Sealed by the Spirit
- Assured of His promises for eternity
- Made alive though we were dead
- Raised to be seated with Christ
- Masterpieces (displays of God's immeasurable power and grace)



Remember that the Gospel brings us from far to near to Him

Far – Remember the divide we could never overcome

Near – Remember His work does not settle for a mere piece of peace

Him - Remember our identity is found in and founded on Christ

