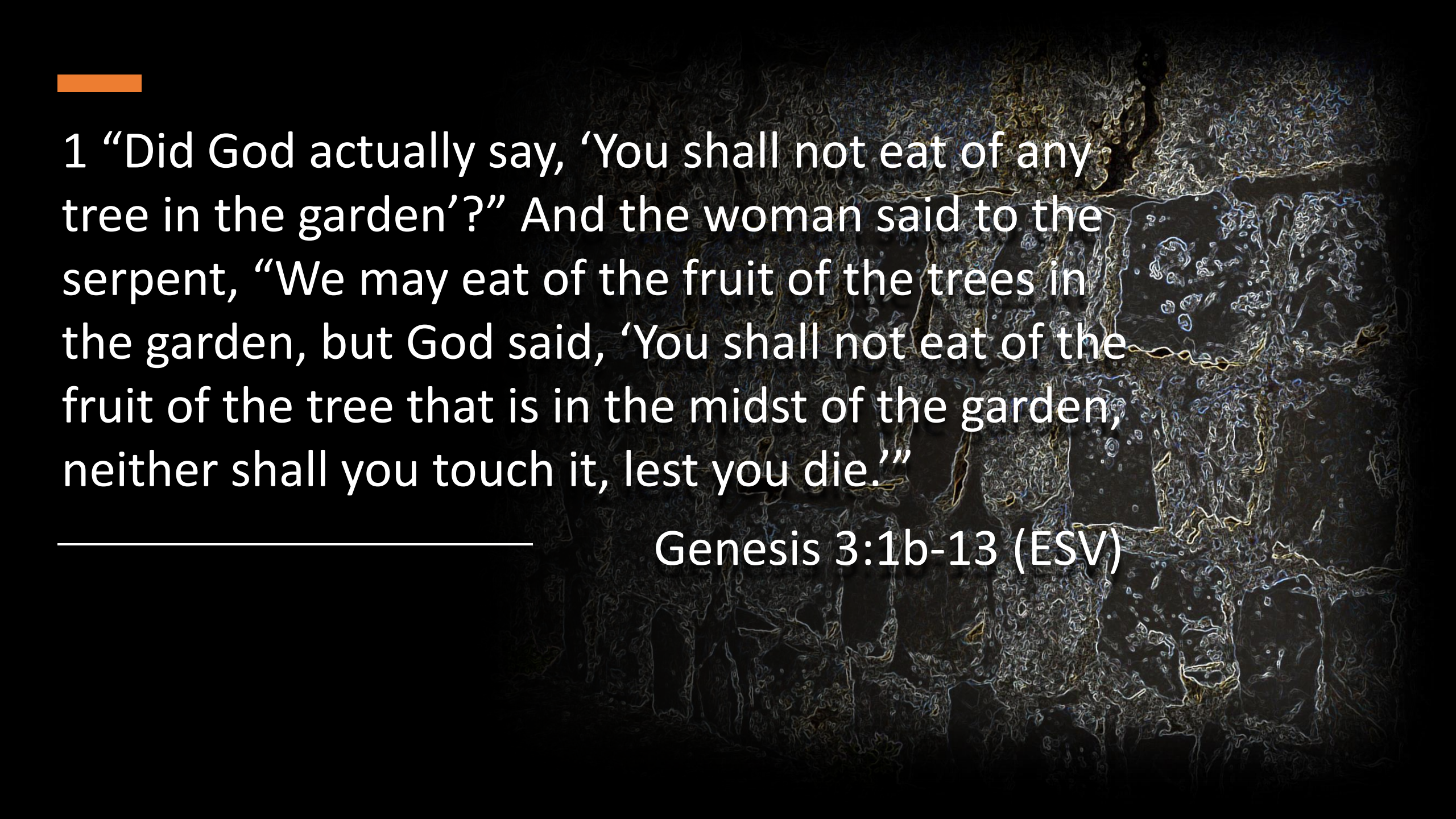


How to Guard a City, Part 1

Nehemiah 7:1-4

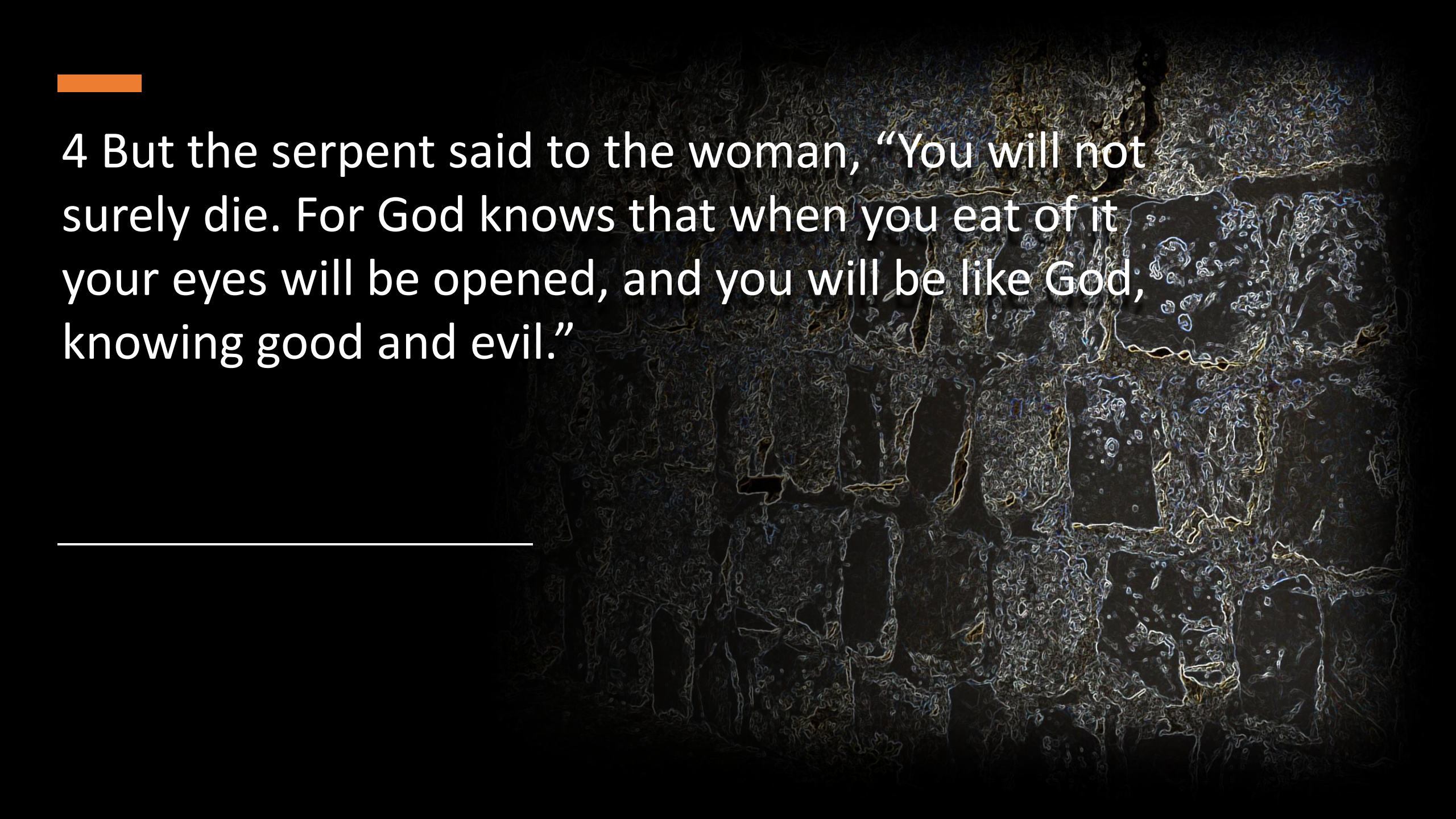







1 “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden’?” And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.’”


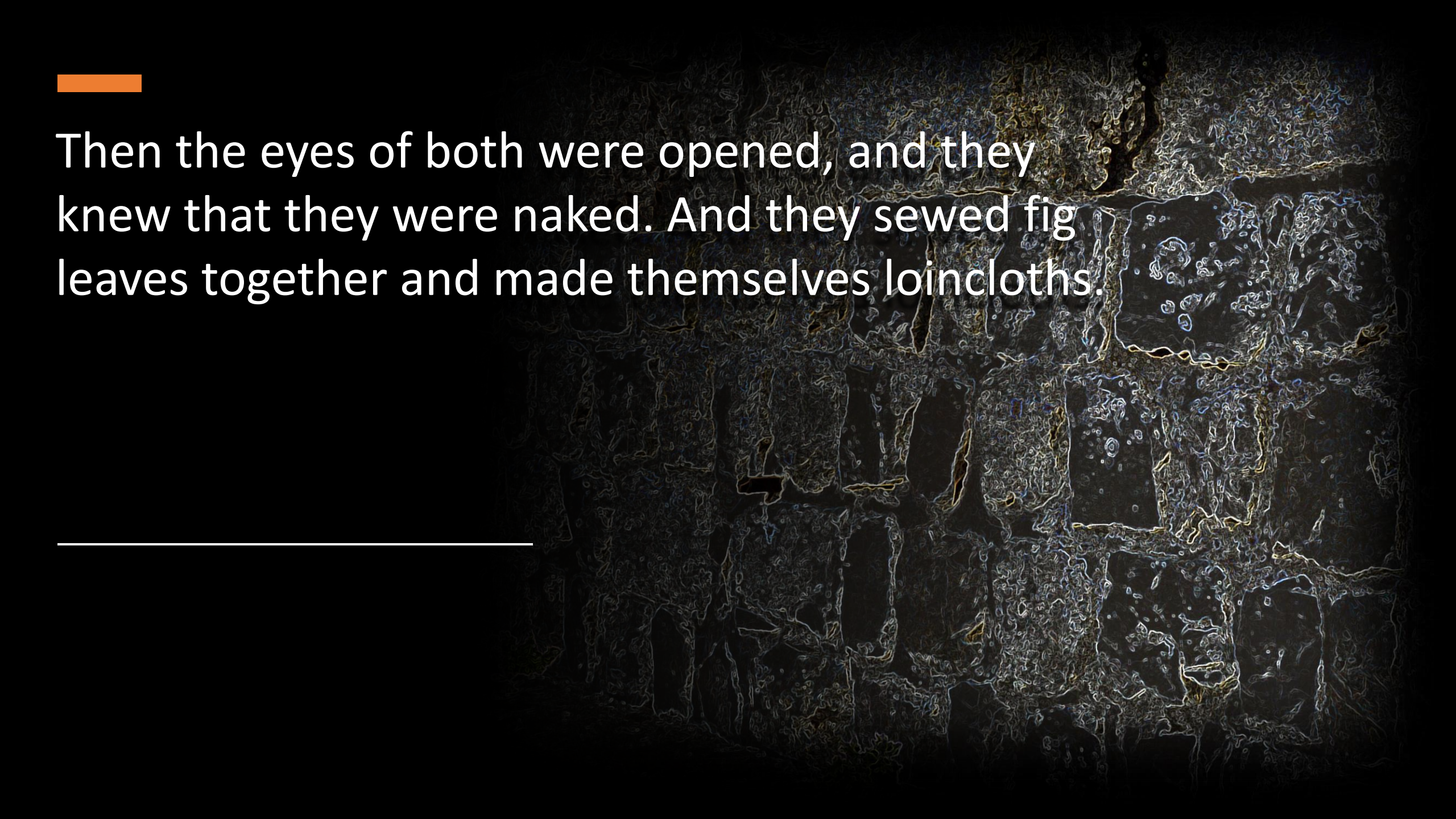
Genesis 3:1b-13 (ESV)



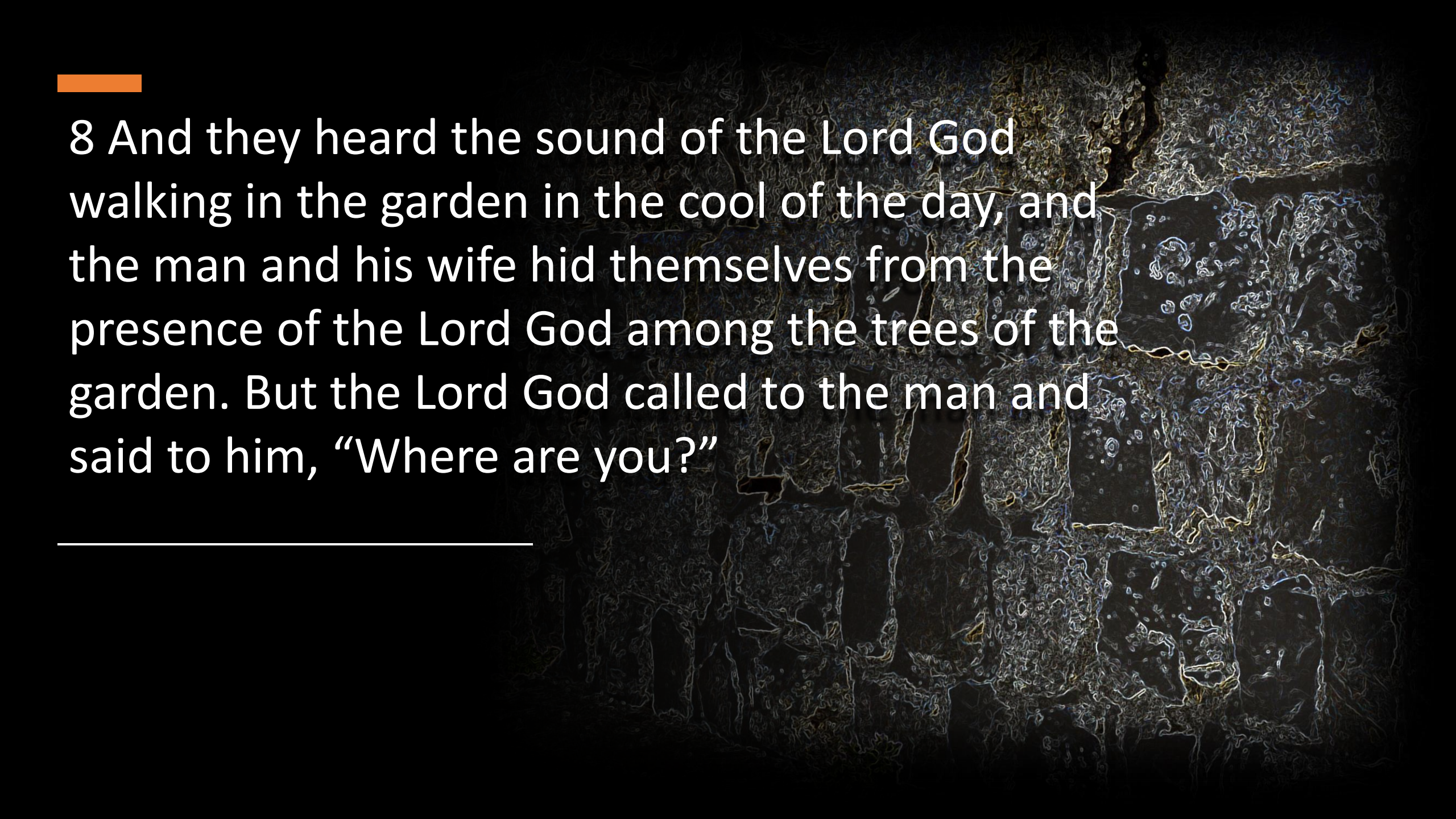
4 But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”



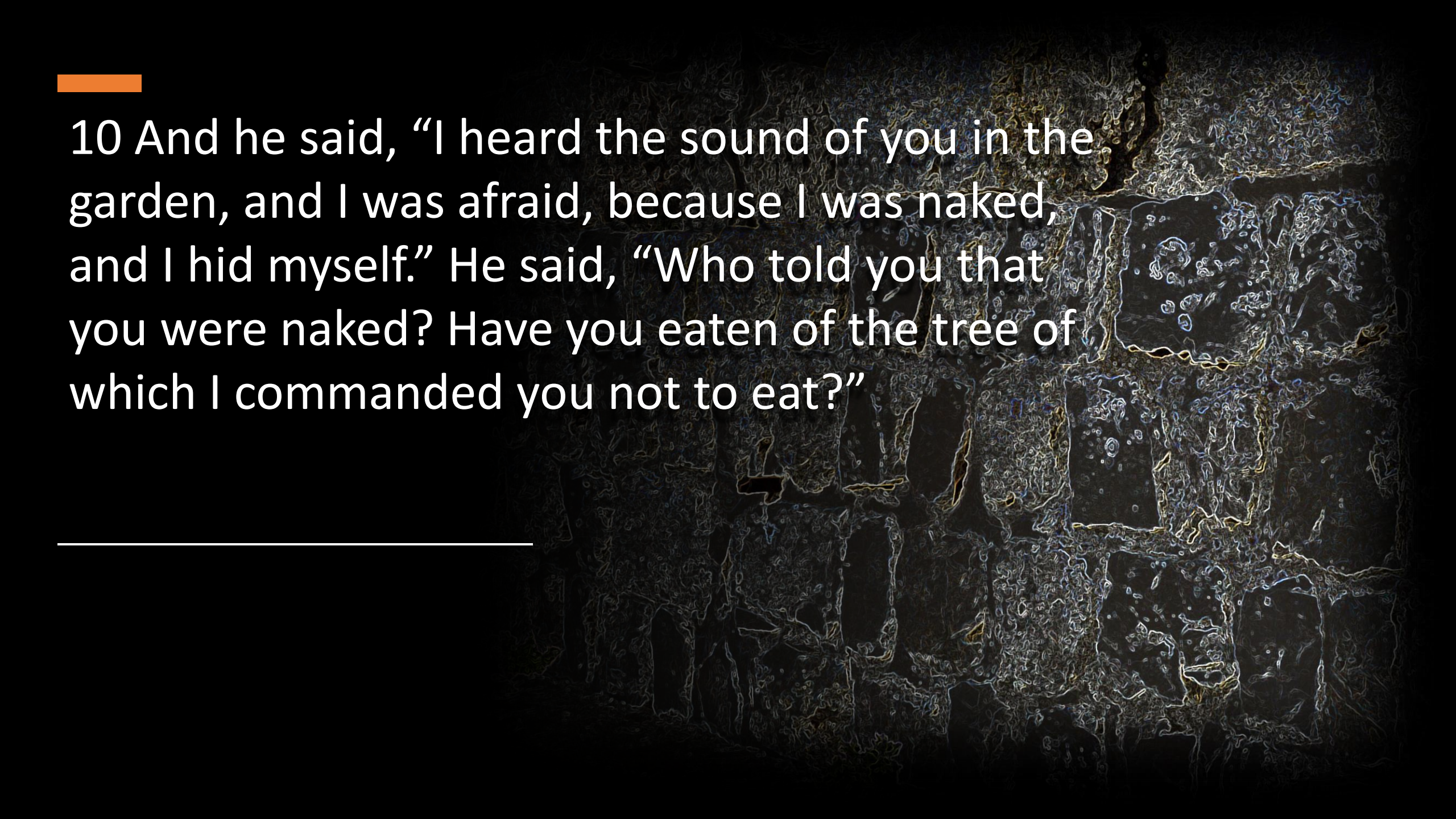
So when the woman saw that the tree was good
for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and
that the tree was to be desired to make one wise,
she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave
some to her husband who was with her, and he
ate.




Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.



8 And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"




10 And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?"



12 The man said, “The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate.” Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What is this that you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

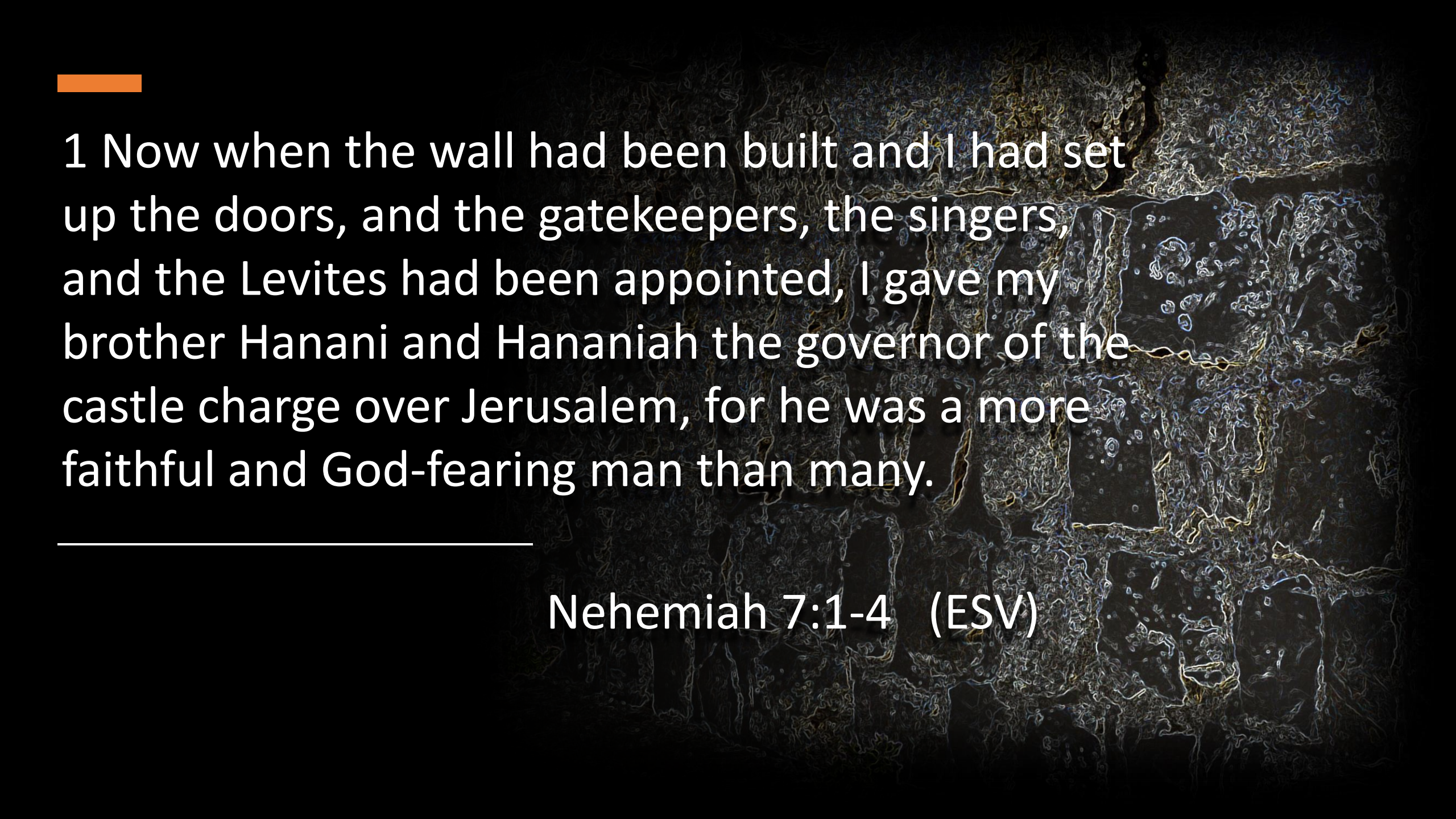
Genesis 3:1b-13 (ESV)





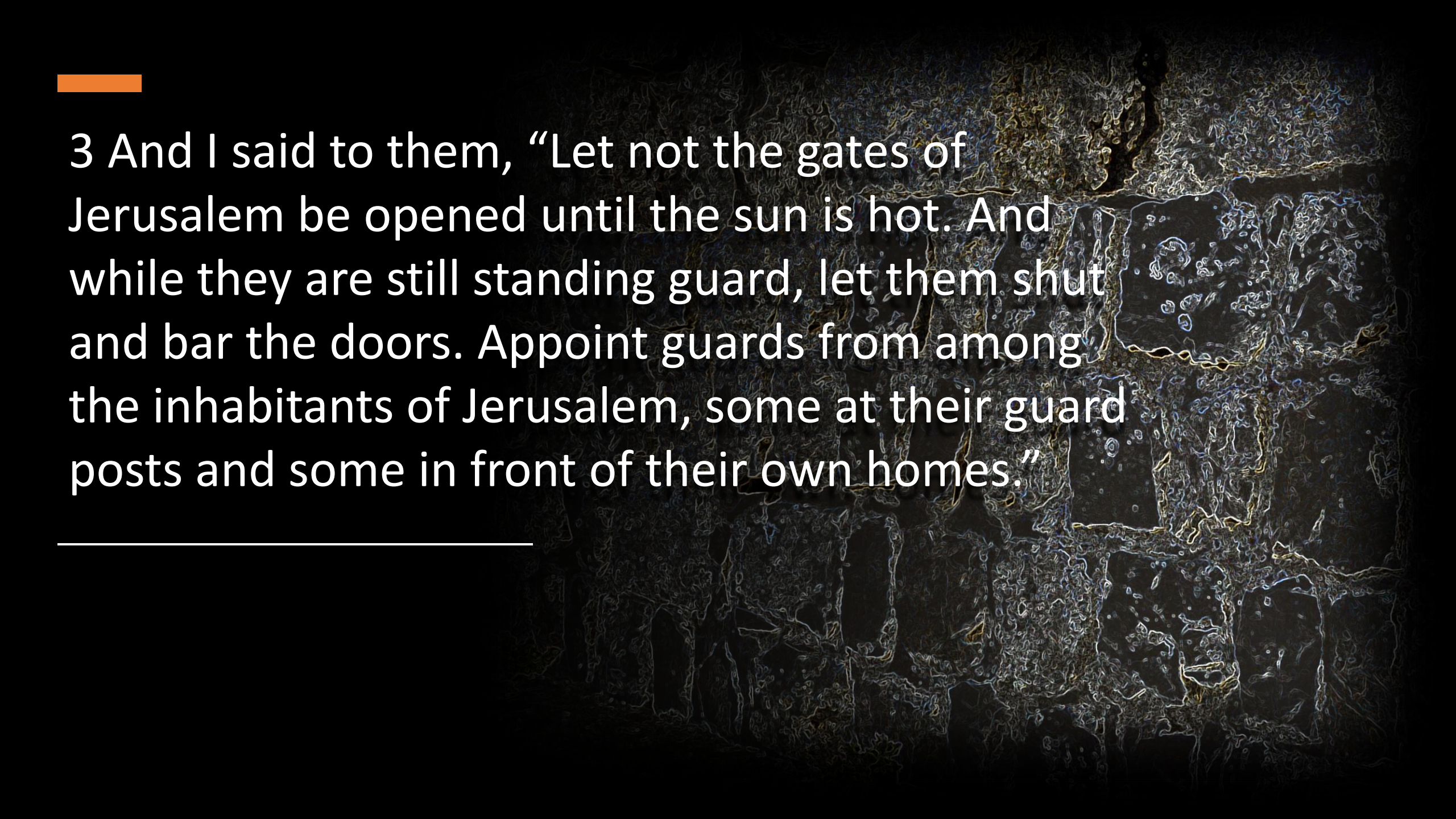
Therefore, just as sin came into the world
through one man, and death through sin, and so
death spread to all men because all sinned

Romans 5:12




1 Now when the wall had been built and I had set up the doors, and the gatekeepers, the singers, and the Levites had been appointed, I gave my brother Hanani and Hananiah the governor of the castle charge over Jerusalem, for he was a more faithful and God-fearing man than many.

Nehemiah 7:1-4 (ESV)



3 And I said to them, “Let not the gates of Jerusalem be opened until the sun is hot. And while they are still standing guard, let them shut and bar the doors. Appoint guards from among the inhabitants of Jerusalem, some at their guard posts and some in front of their own homes.”



4 The city was wide and large, but the people within it were few, and no houses had been rebuilt.

Nehemiah 7:1-4 (ESV)

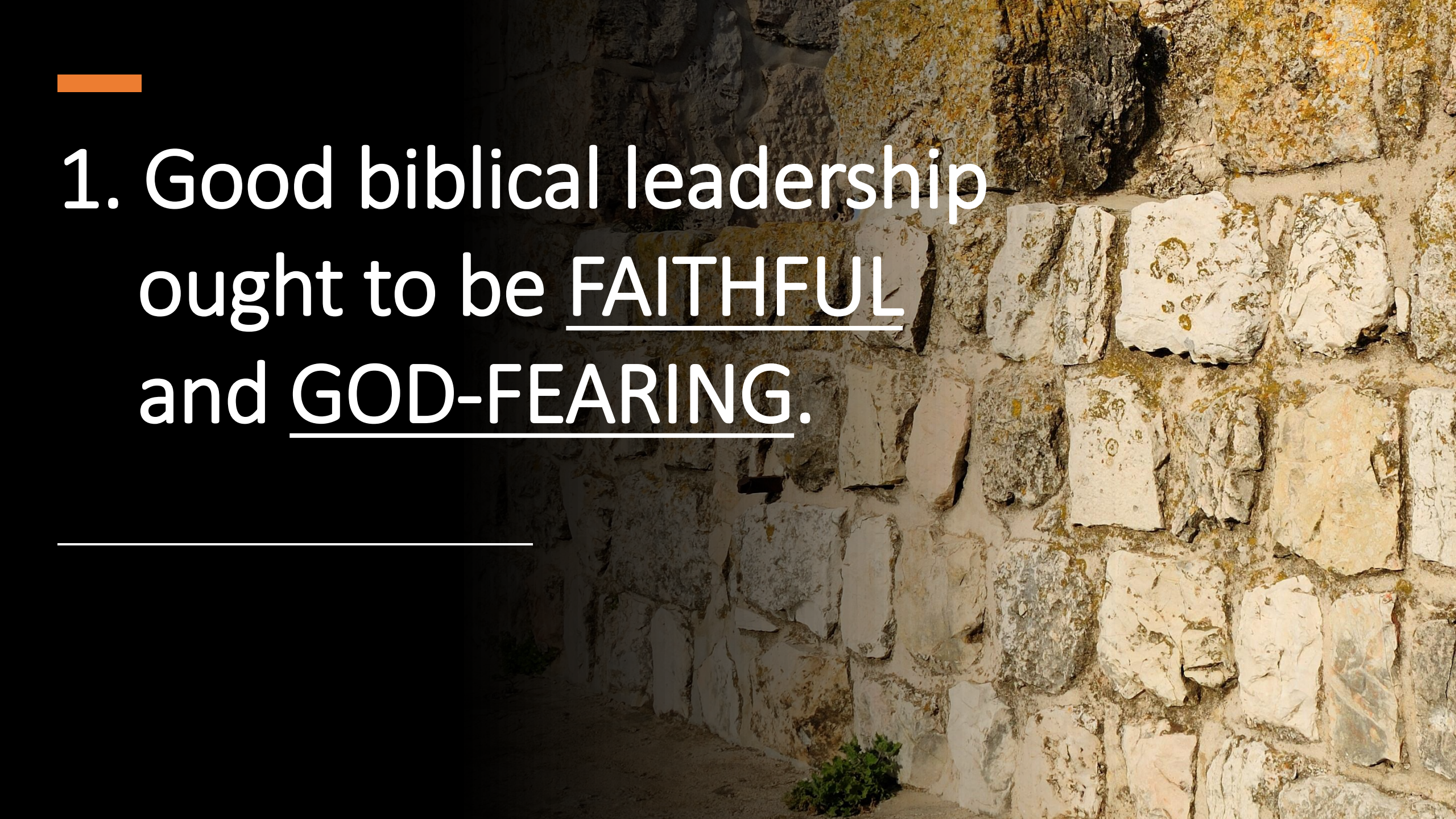


The necessity of GOOD BIBLICAL LEADERSHIP.

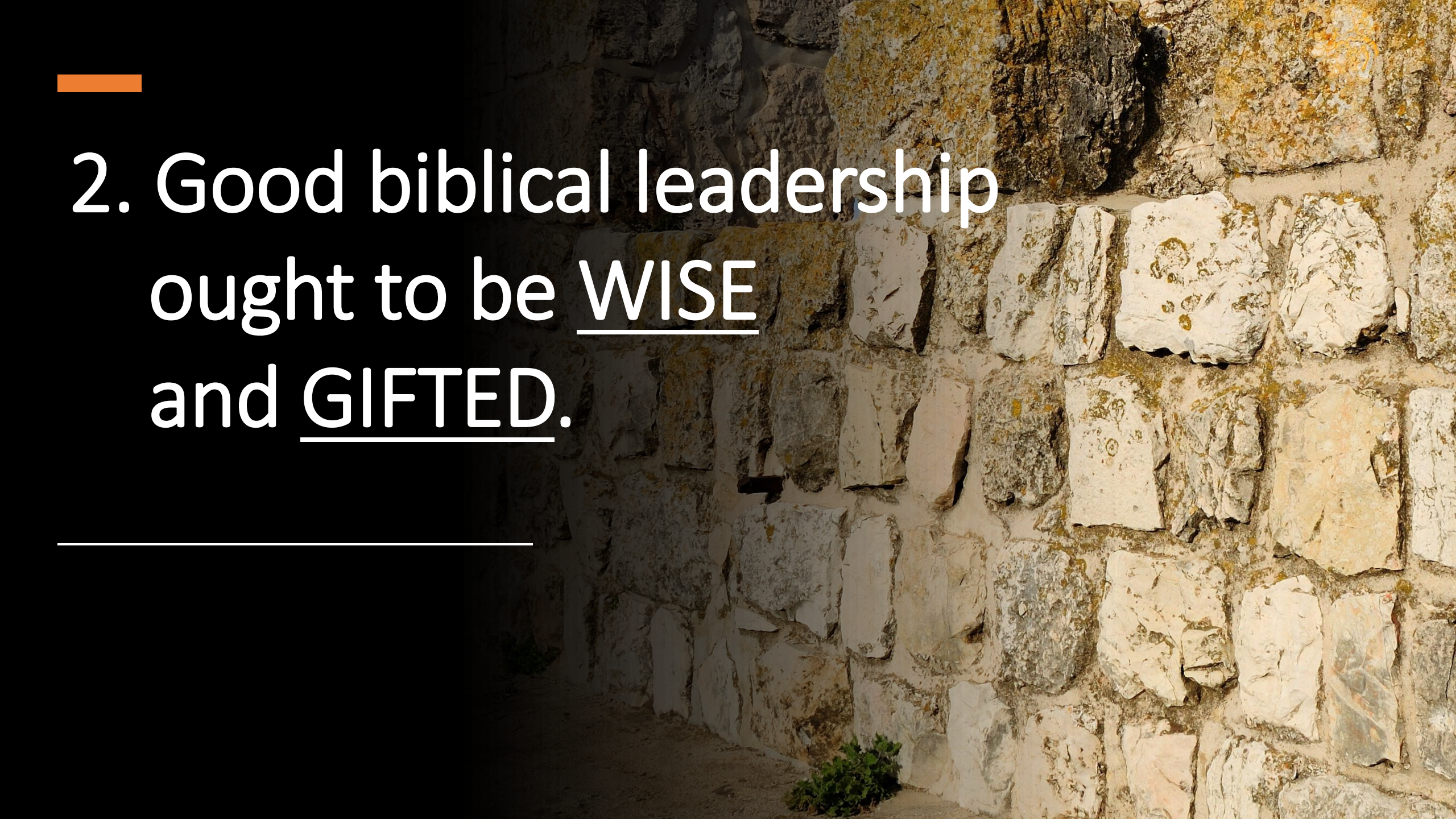


DEFINE good
biblical leadership.






1. Good biblical leadership
ought to be FAITHFUL
and GOD-FEARING.

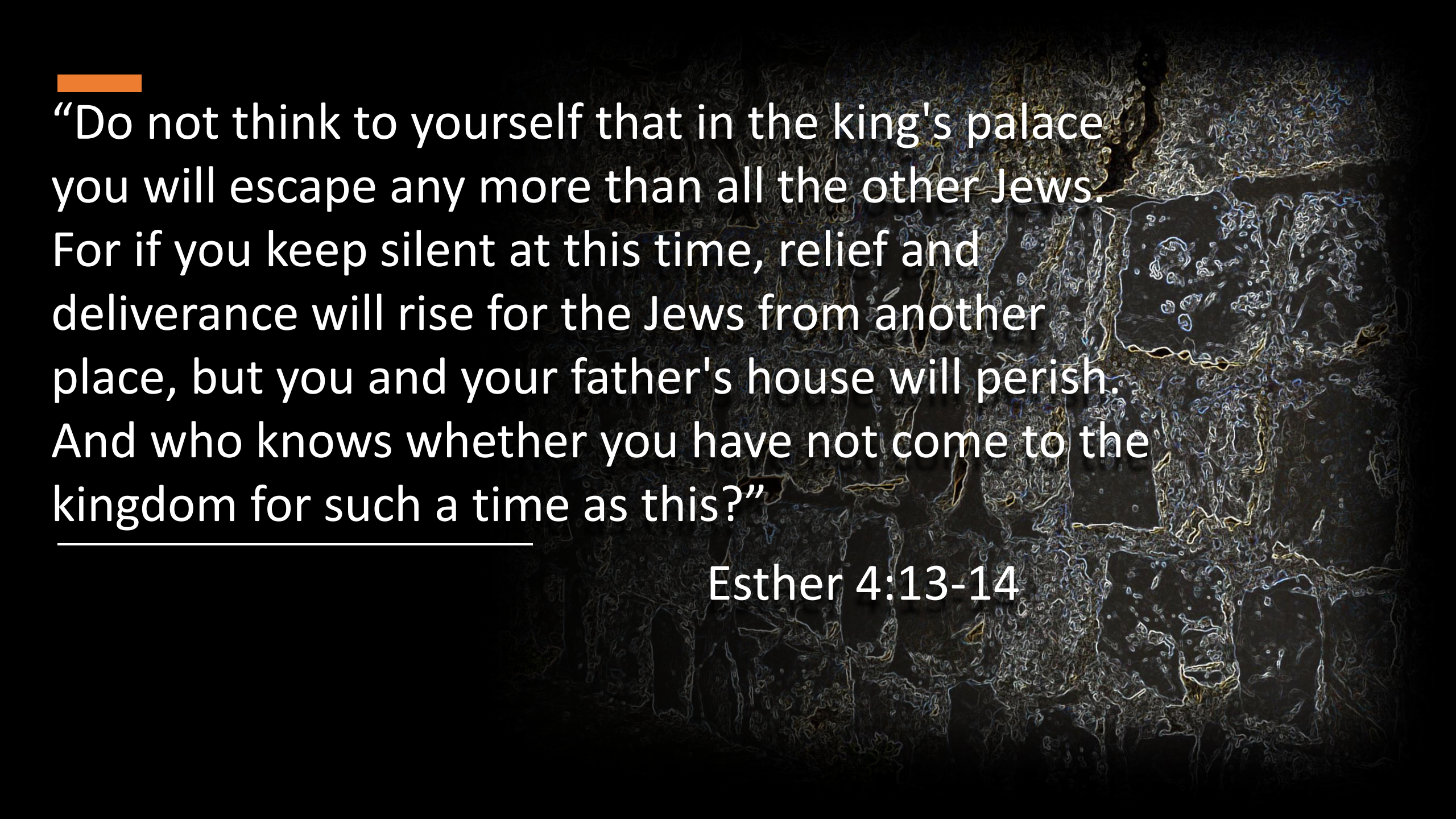


2. Good biblical leadership
ought to be WISE
and GIFTED.



For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them,

Romans 12:4-6a



“Do not think to yourself that in the king's palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. For if you keep silent at this time, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?”

Esther 4:13-14



3. Our supreme example: JESUS.




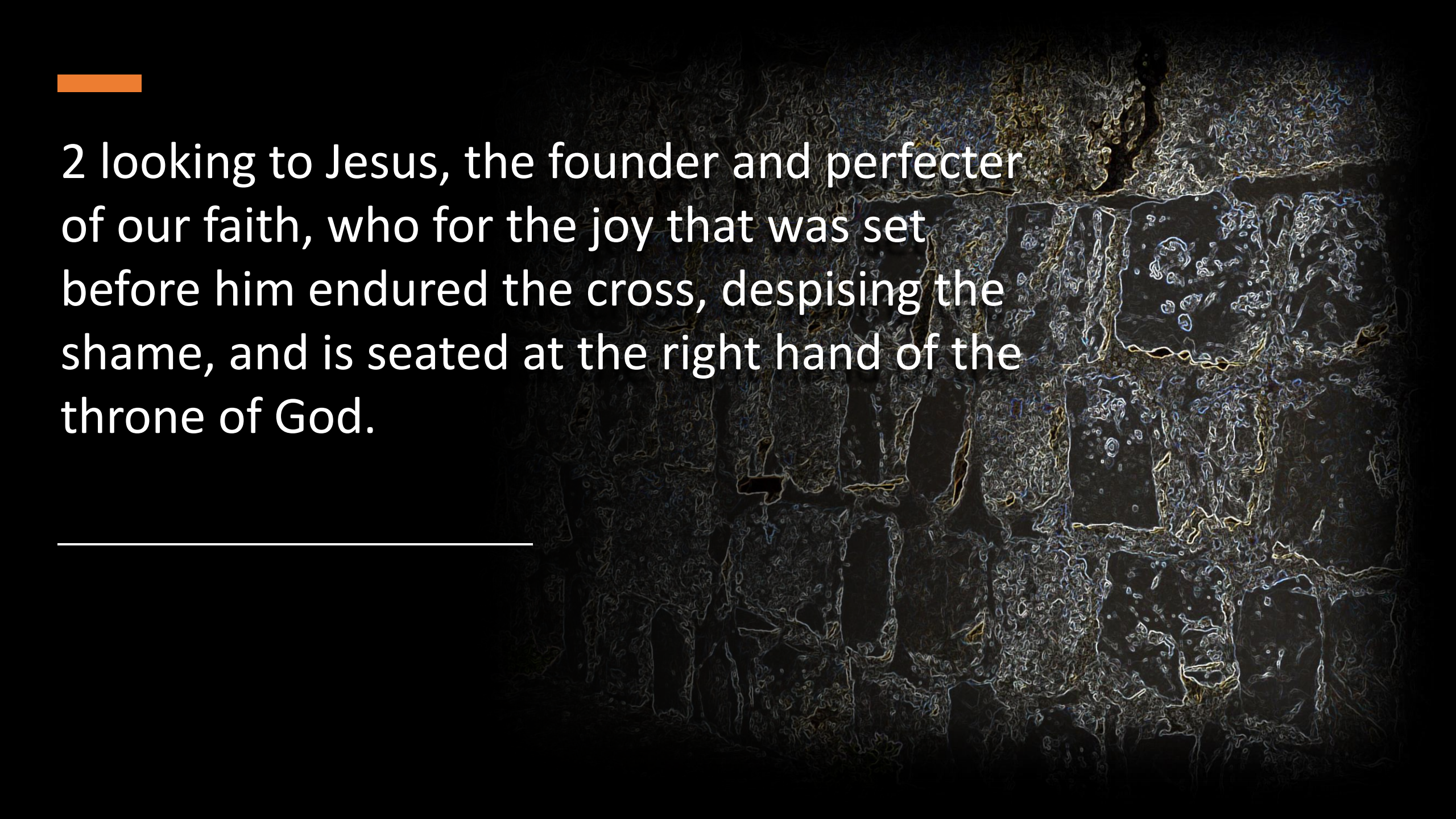
Faithful






Faithful

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,



2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter
of our faith, who for the joy that was set
before him endured the cross, despising the
shame, and is seated at the right hand of the
throne of God.



3 Consider him who endured from sinners
such hostility against himself, so that you may
not grow weary or fainthearted.

Hebrews 12:1-3



God-Fearing





God-Fearing

For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

John 12:49-50



Wisdom





Wisdom

All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.”

John 1:1-3



Wisdom

And we have seen and testify that the Father has
sent his Son to be the Savior of the world.

1 John 4:14



Wisdom

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

Matthew 25:31-32



Gift

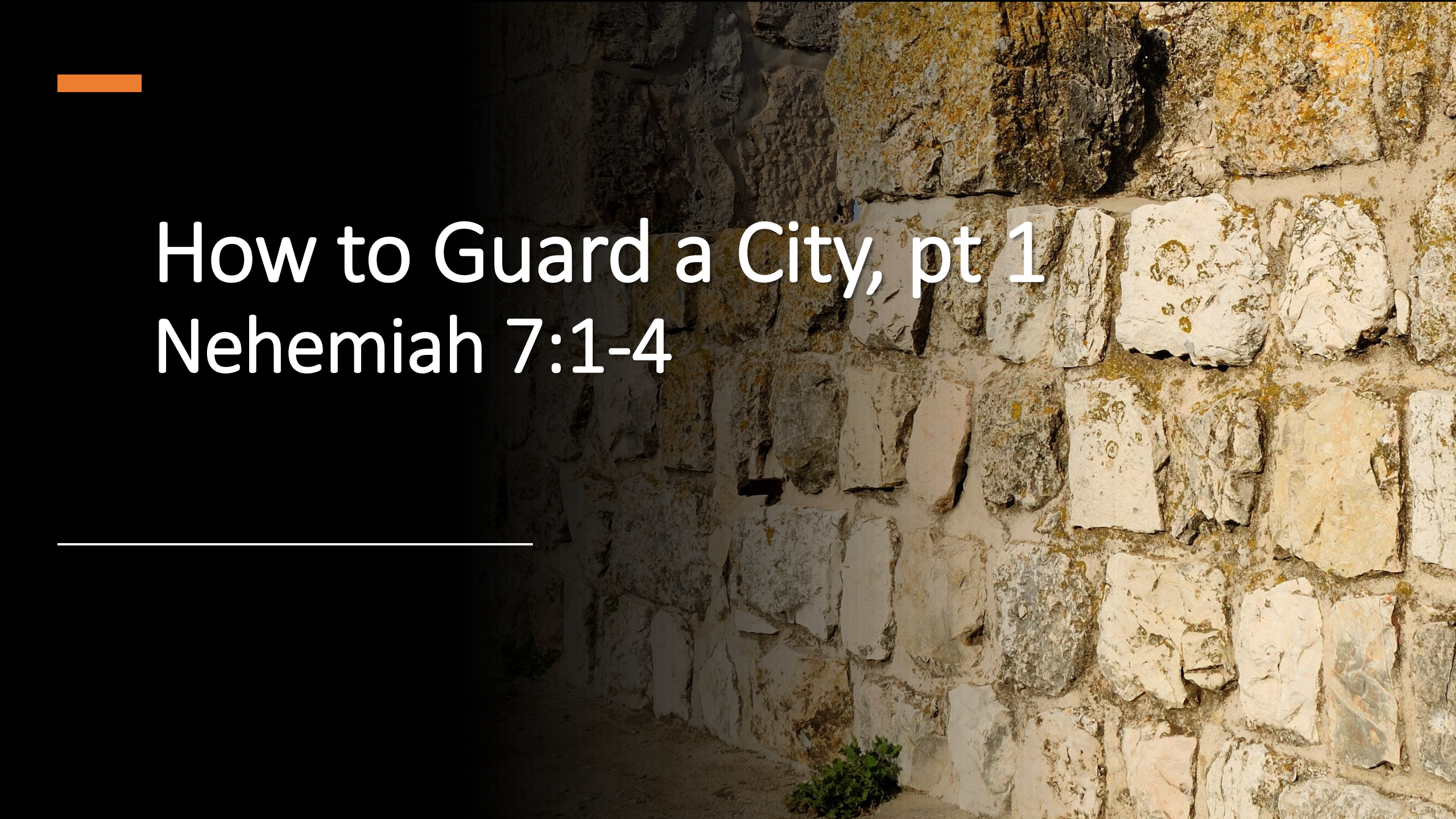




Gifting

And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”

Acts 4:12



How to Guard a City, pt 1

Nehemiah 7:1-4

