




Triumph In Trying Times

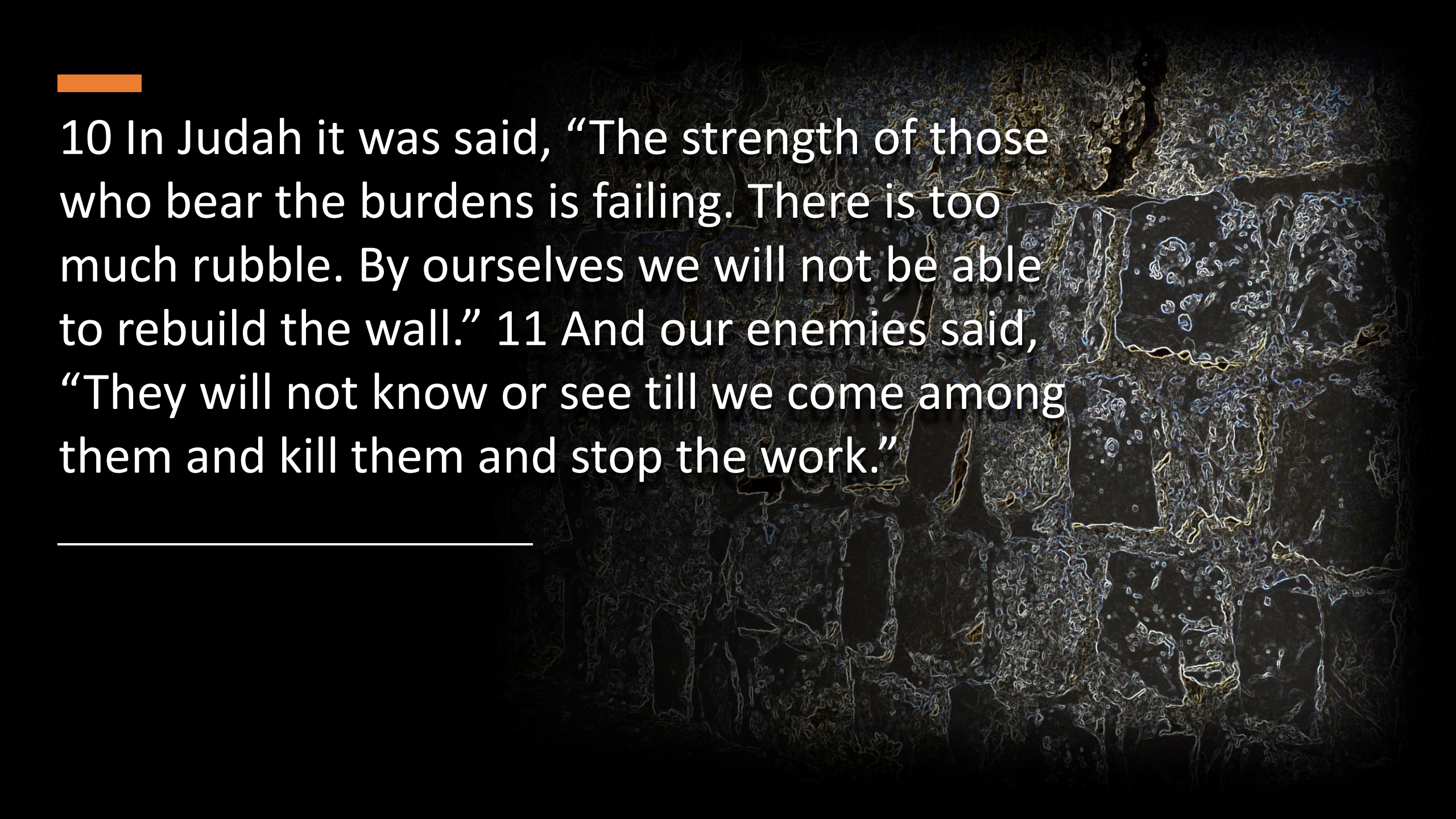




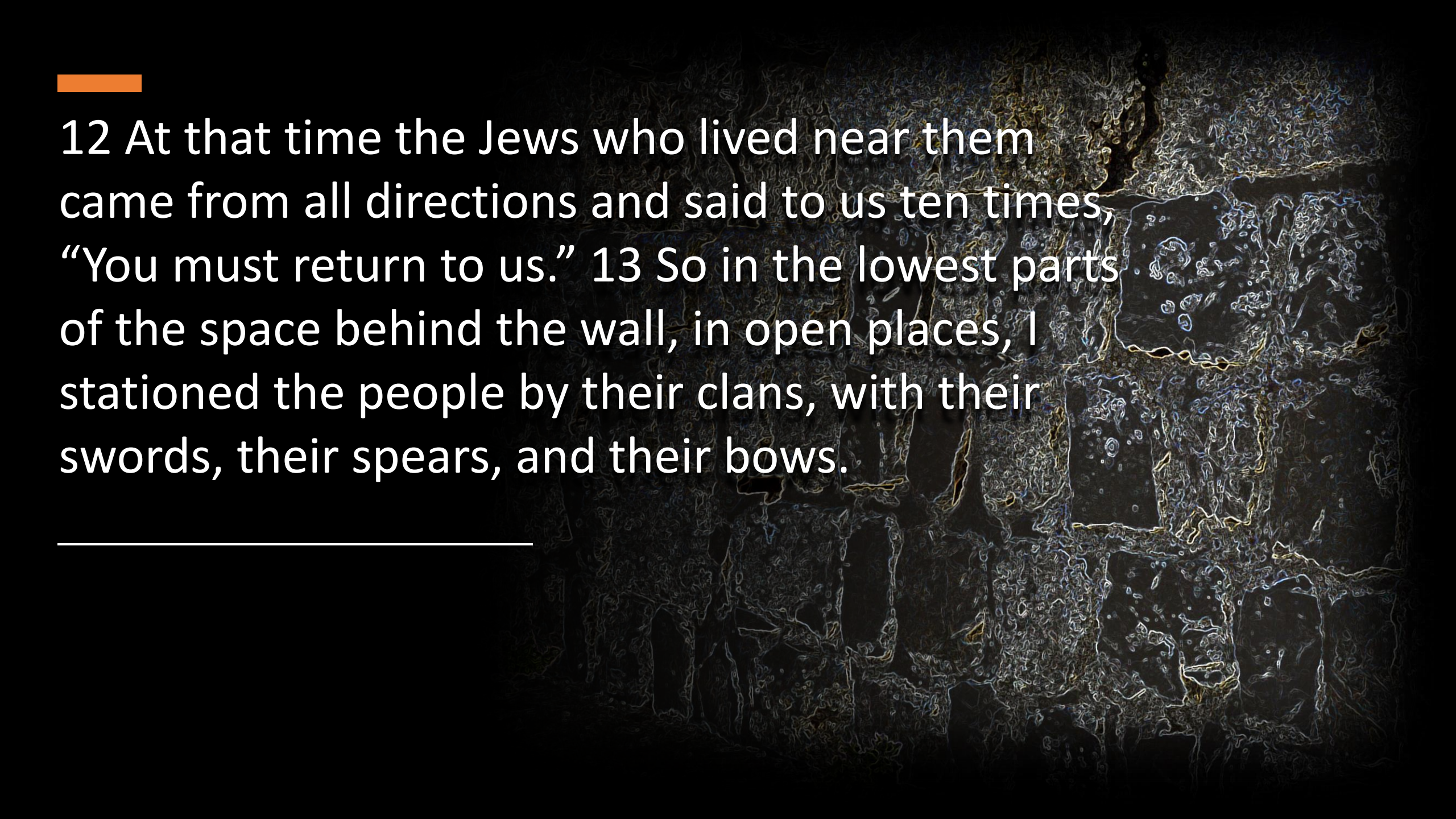
Triumph In Trying Times

Nehemiah 4:10-14

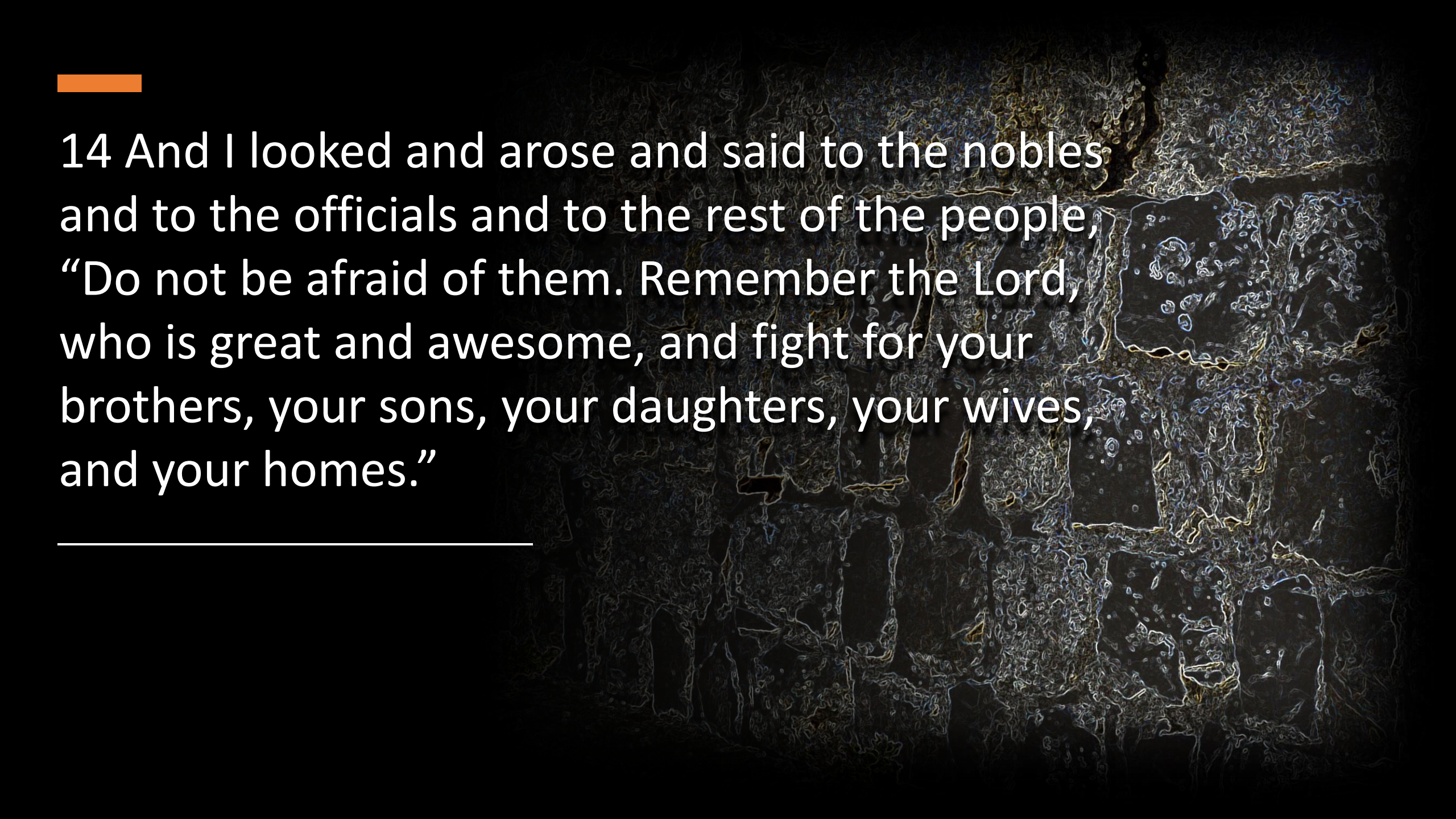




10 In Judah it was said, “The strength of those who bear the burdens is failing. There is too much rubble. By ourselves we will not be able to rebuild the wall.” 11 And our enemies said, “They will not know or see till we come among them and kill them and stop the work.”



12 At that time the Jews who lived near them came from all directions and said to us ten times, "You must return to us." 13 So in the lowest parts of the space behind the wall, in open places, I stationed the people by their clans, with their swords, their spears, and their bows.




14 And I looked and arose and said to the nobles
and to the officials and to the rest of the people,
“Do not be afraid of them. Remember the Lord,
who is great and awesome, and fight for your
brothers, your sons, your daughters, your wives,
and your homes.”




The Trials of Nehemiah






The Trials of Nehemiah

- remember who God is




The Lord, the Lord, a God merciful and
gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in
steadfast love and faithfulness, 7 keeping
steadfast love for thousands,



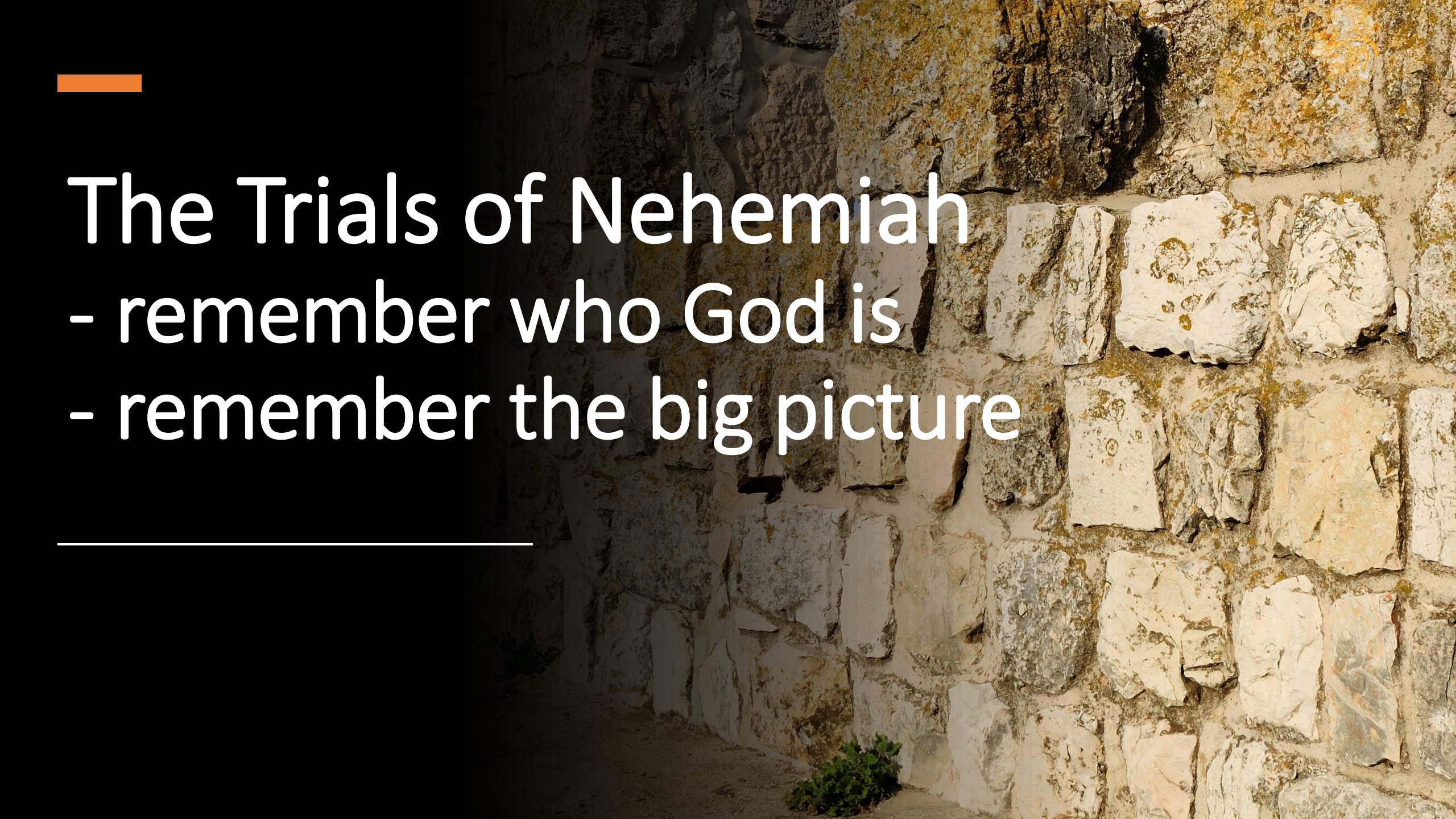
forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin,
but who will by no means clear the guilty,
visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the
children and the children's children, to the
third and the fourth generation.

Exodus 34:6-7




The Trials of Nehemiah

- remember who God is

The background of the slide is a photograph of a stone wall made of irregular, light-colored stones. A dark, narrow path leads away from the wall into the distance. The lighting is dramatic, with the wall on the right being brightly lit and the path on the left being in deep shadow.

The Trials of Nehemiah

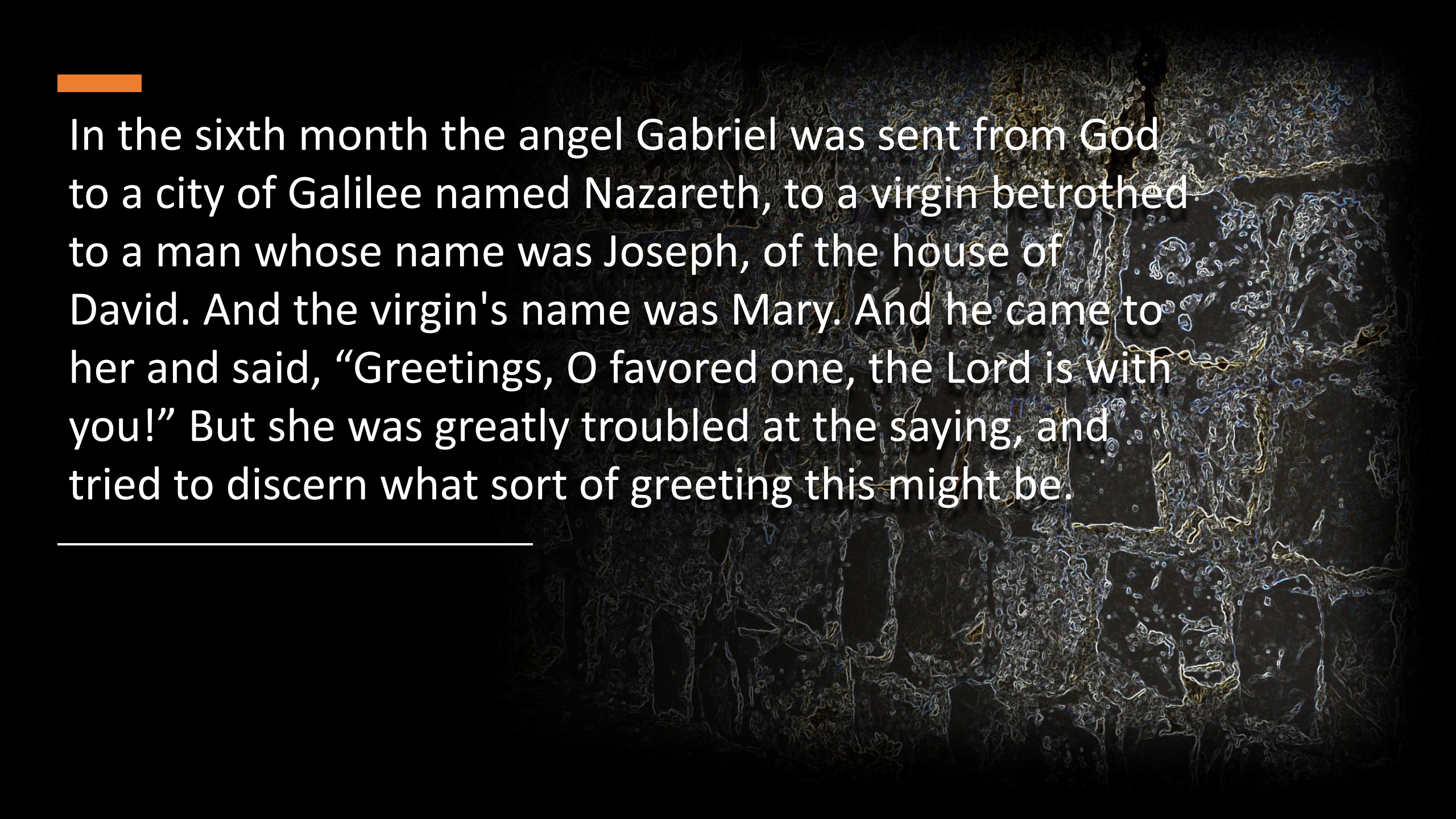
- remember who God is
- remember the big picture




The Trials of Mary

Luke 1:26-38





In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be.




And the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.”



And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?”

And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.”

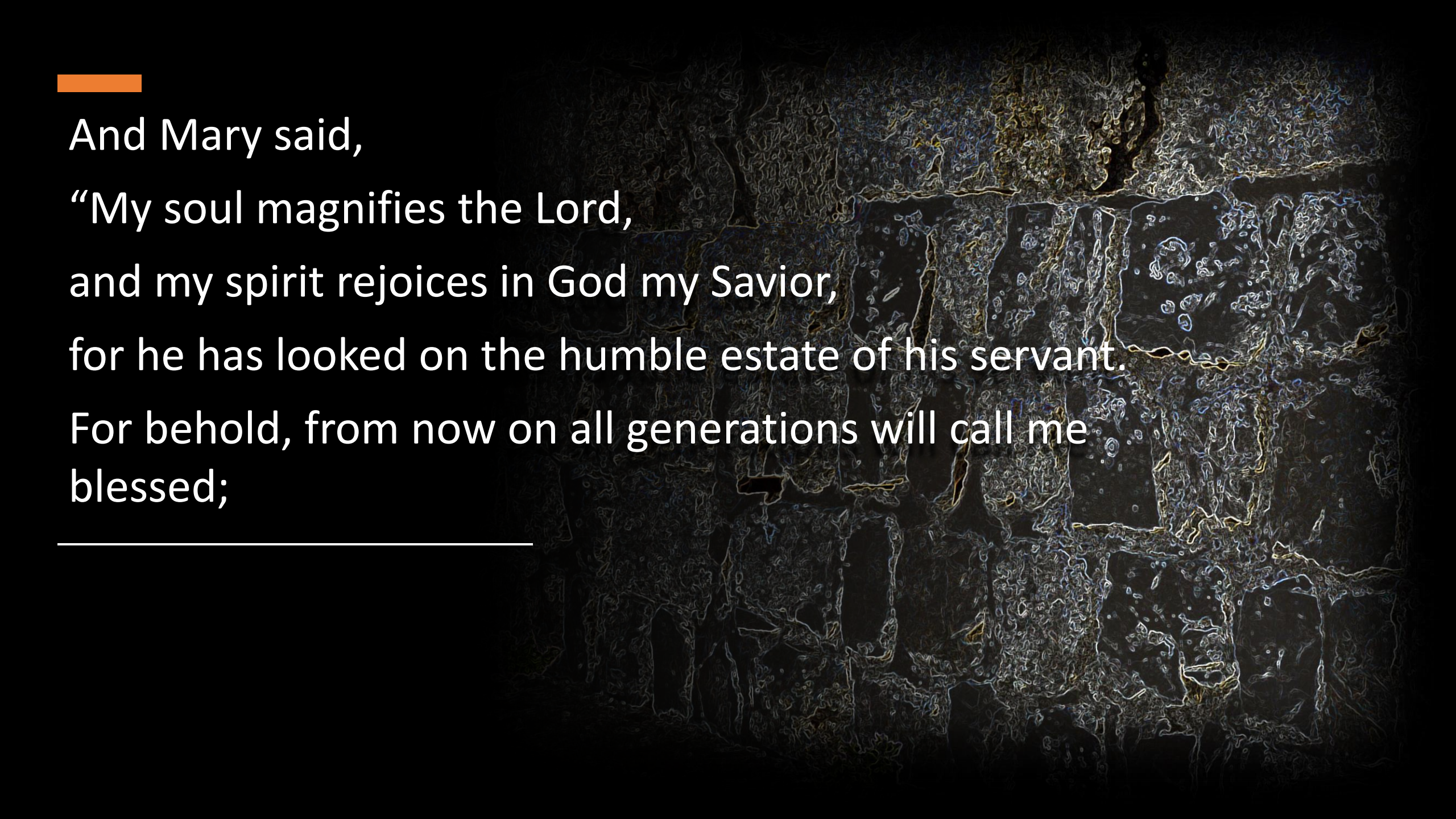


And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” And Mary said, “Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.


Luke 1:26-38



The Trials of Mary




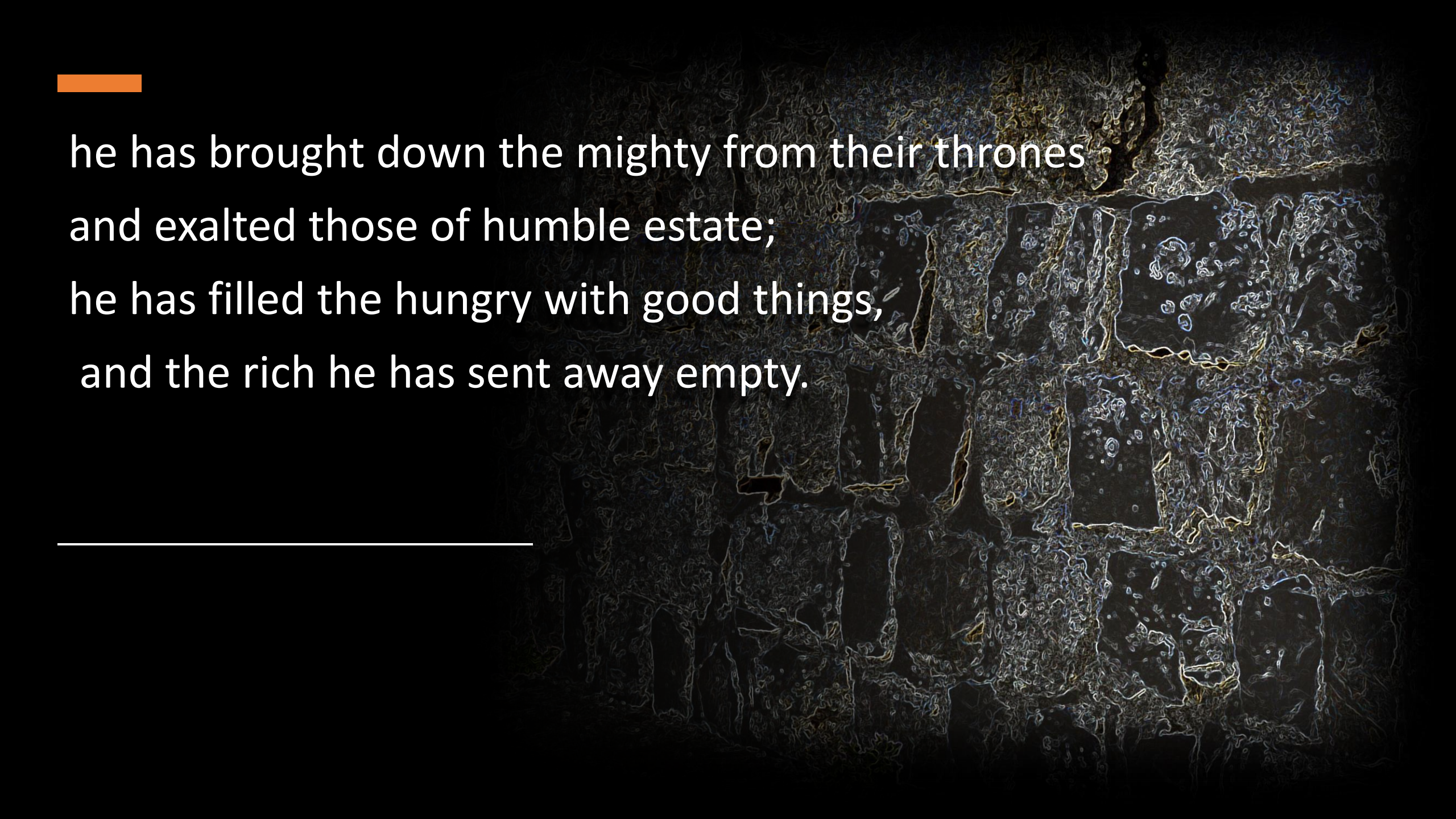
And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.
For behold, from now on all generations will call me
blessed;



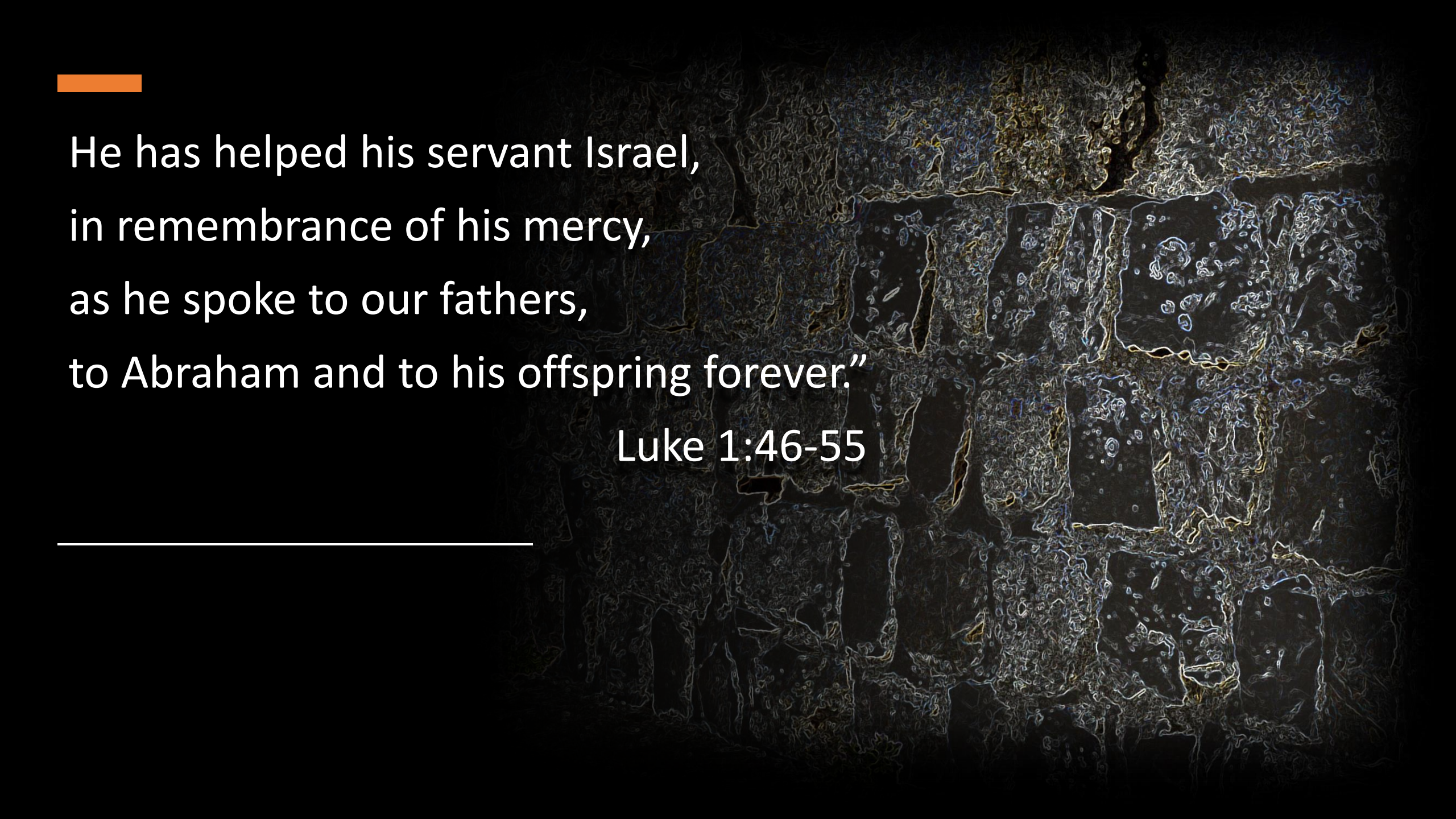
for he who is mighty has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.

And his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;



he has brought down the mighty from their thrones
and exalted those of humble estate;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he has sent away empty.




He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers,
to Abraham and to his offspring forever.”

Luke 1:46-55



The Trials of Mary

- remember who God is

The background of the slide is a photograph of a rough, light-colored stone wall. A dark, narrow path leads away from the wall towards the left side of the frame. A small green plant is growing at the base of the wall in the lower right corner.

The Trials of Mary

- remember who God is
- remember the big picture




The Trials of Jesus





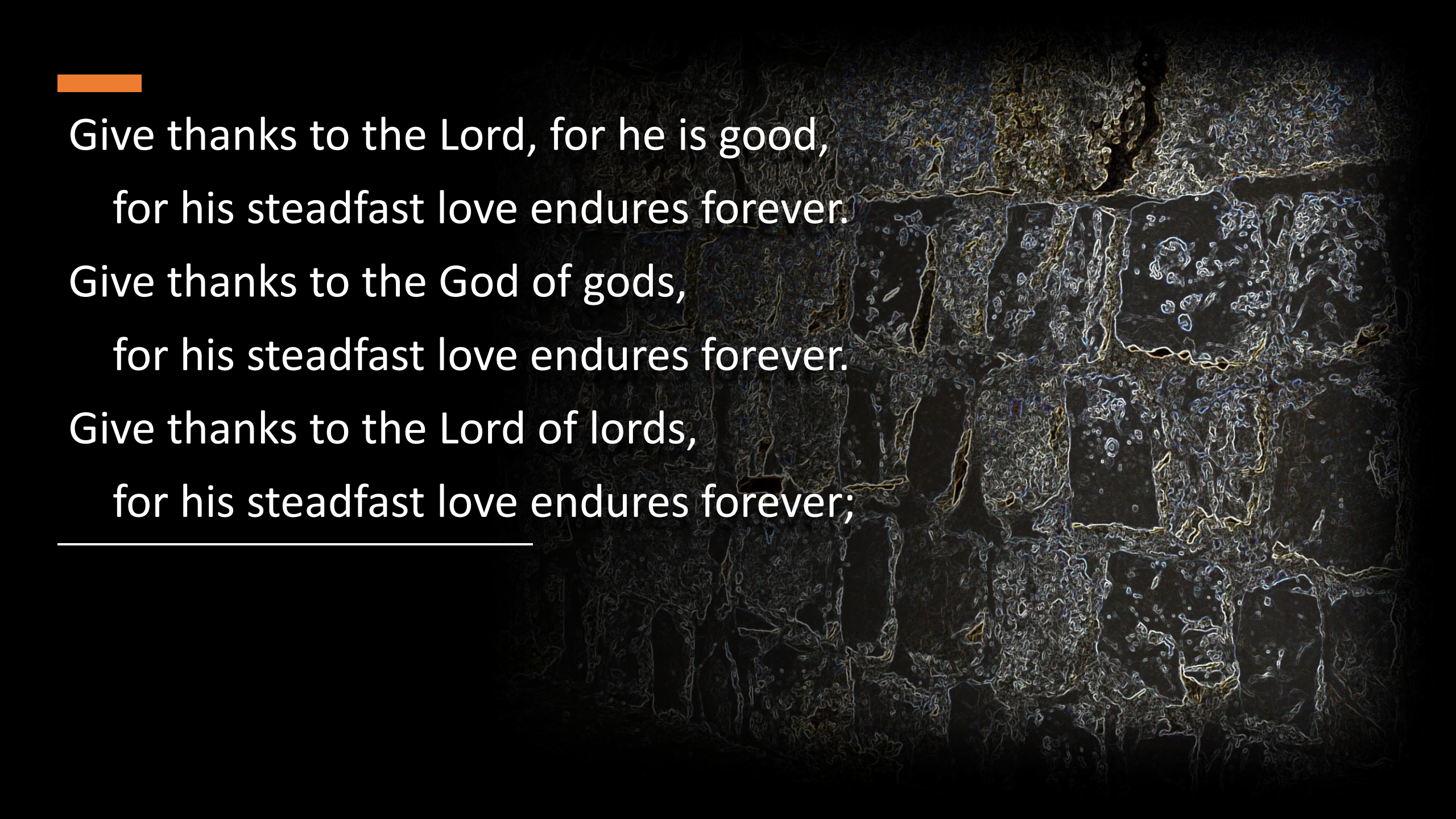

The Trials of You and Me

A close-up photograph of a rough, textured stone wall. The wall is composed of irregular, light-colored stones with visible mortar joints. The lighting is dramatic, with the right side of the wall being brightly lit and the left side fading into deep shadow. A small, dark, rectangular opening or niche is visible in the wall, partially in shadow. At the bottom center, a small patch of green foliage is growing from the base of the wall.



The Trials of You and Me

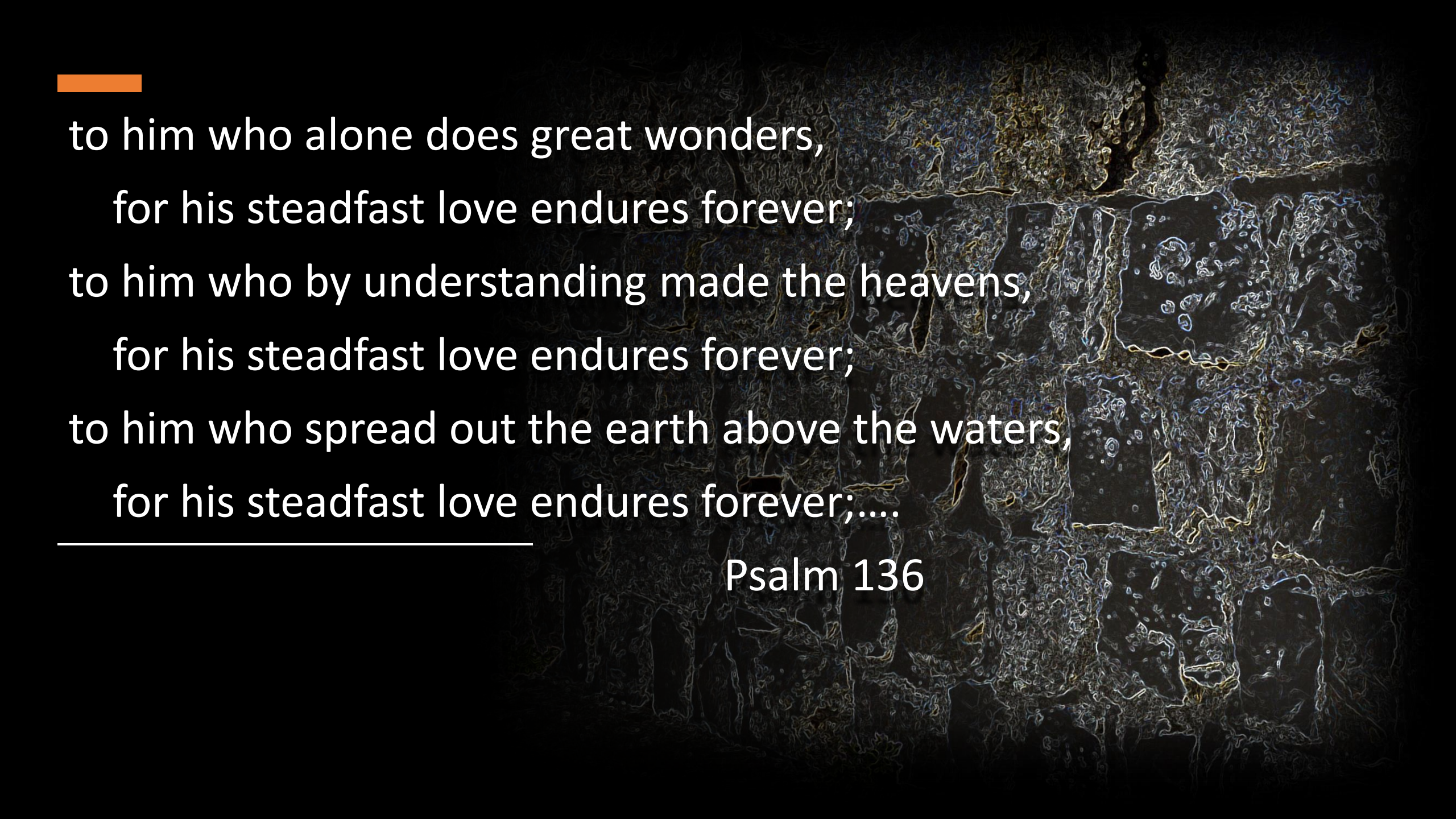
- remember who God is



Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.


Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever;



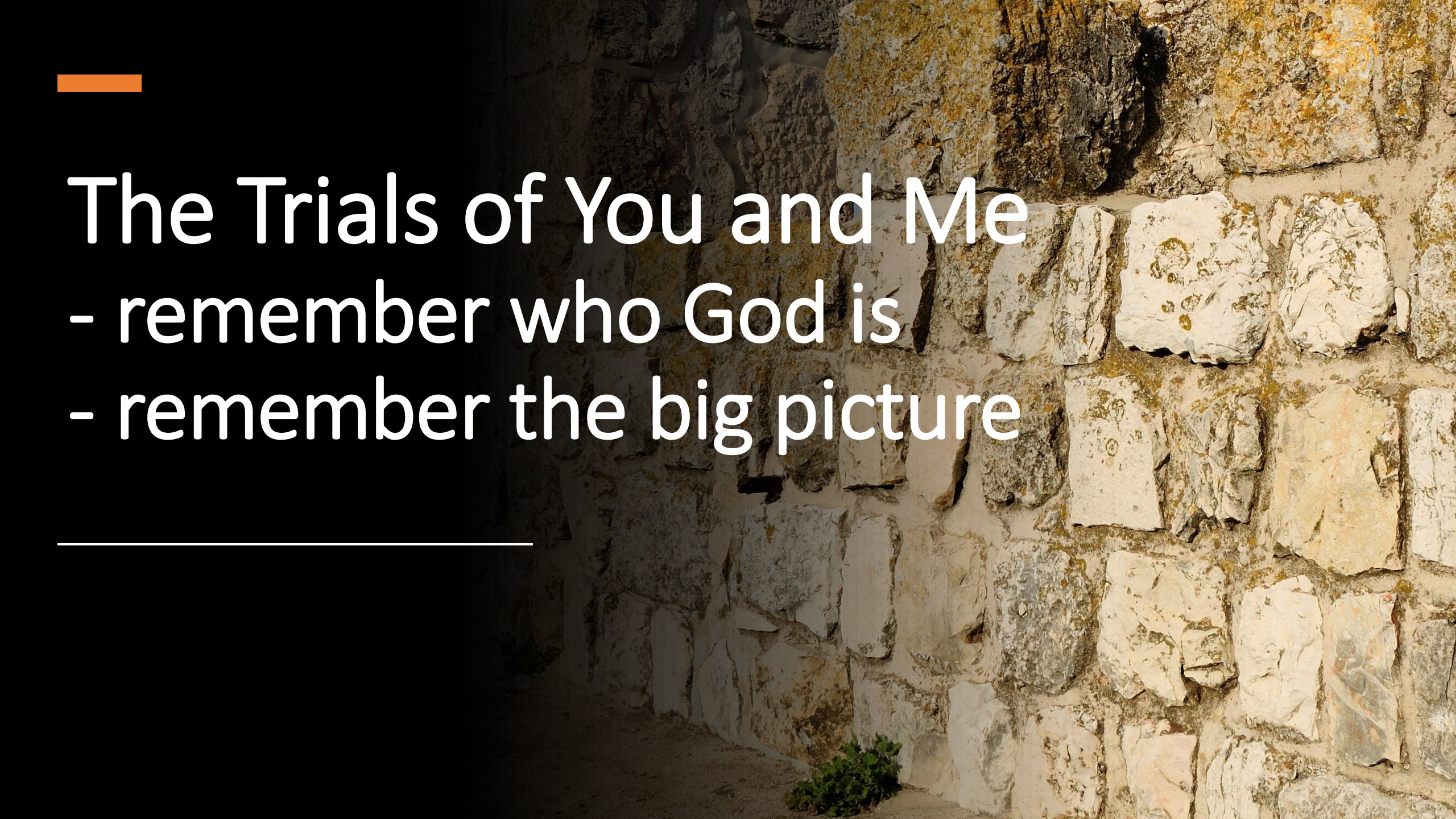
to him who alone does great wonders,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
to him who by understanding made the heavens,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
to him who spread out the earth above the waters,
for his steadfast love endures forever;....

Psalm 136



The Trials of You and Me

- remember who God is

The background of the slide is a photograph of a rough, light-colored stone wall. A dark, narrow path leads away from the wall towards the left side of the frame. A small green plant is growing at the base of the wall in the lower right corner.

The Trials of You and Me


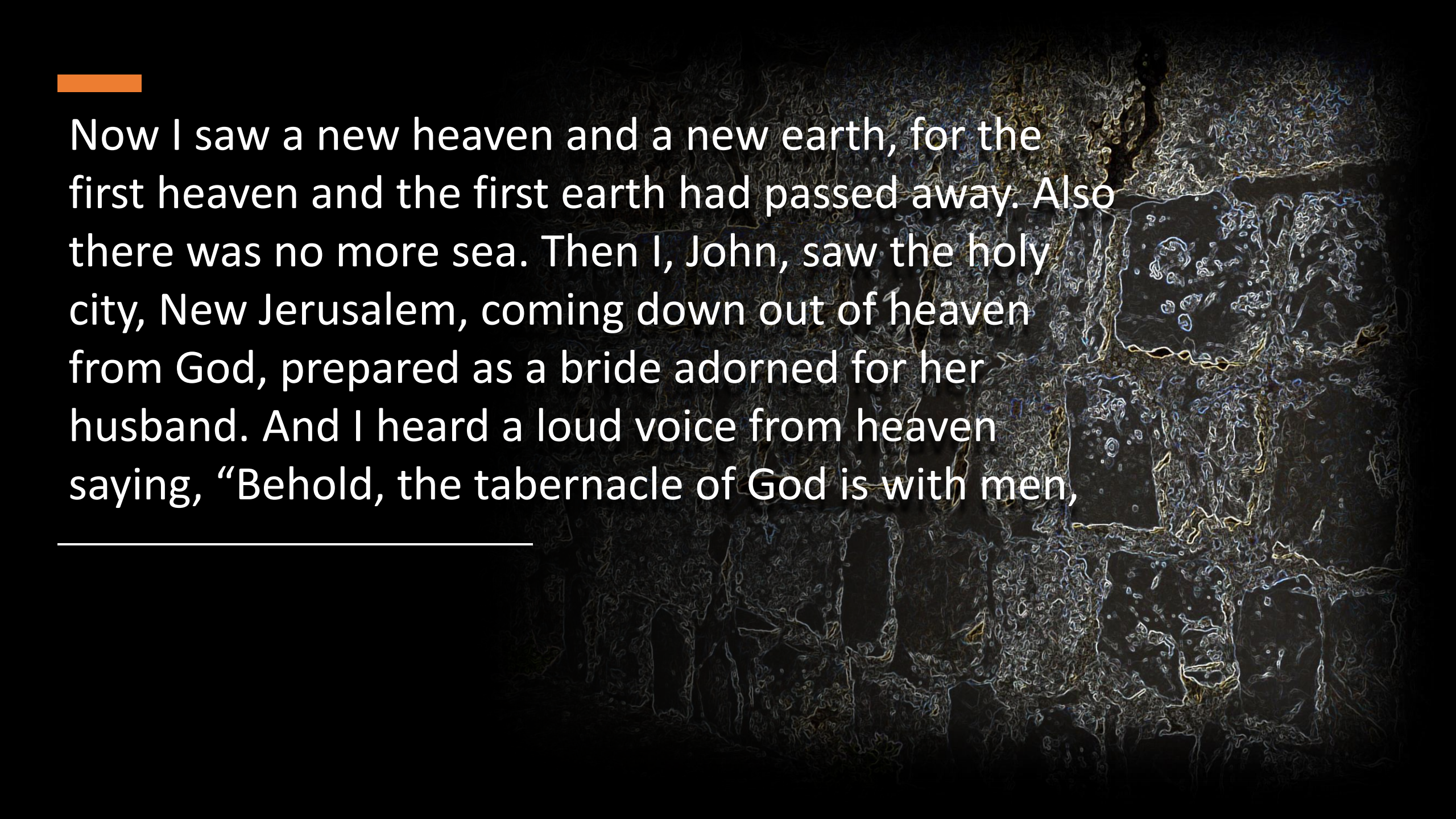
- remember who God is
- remember the big picture



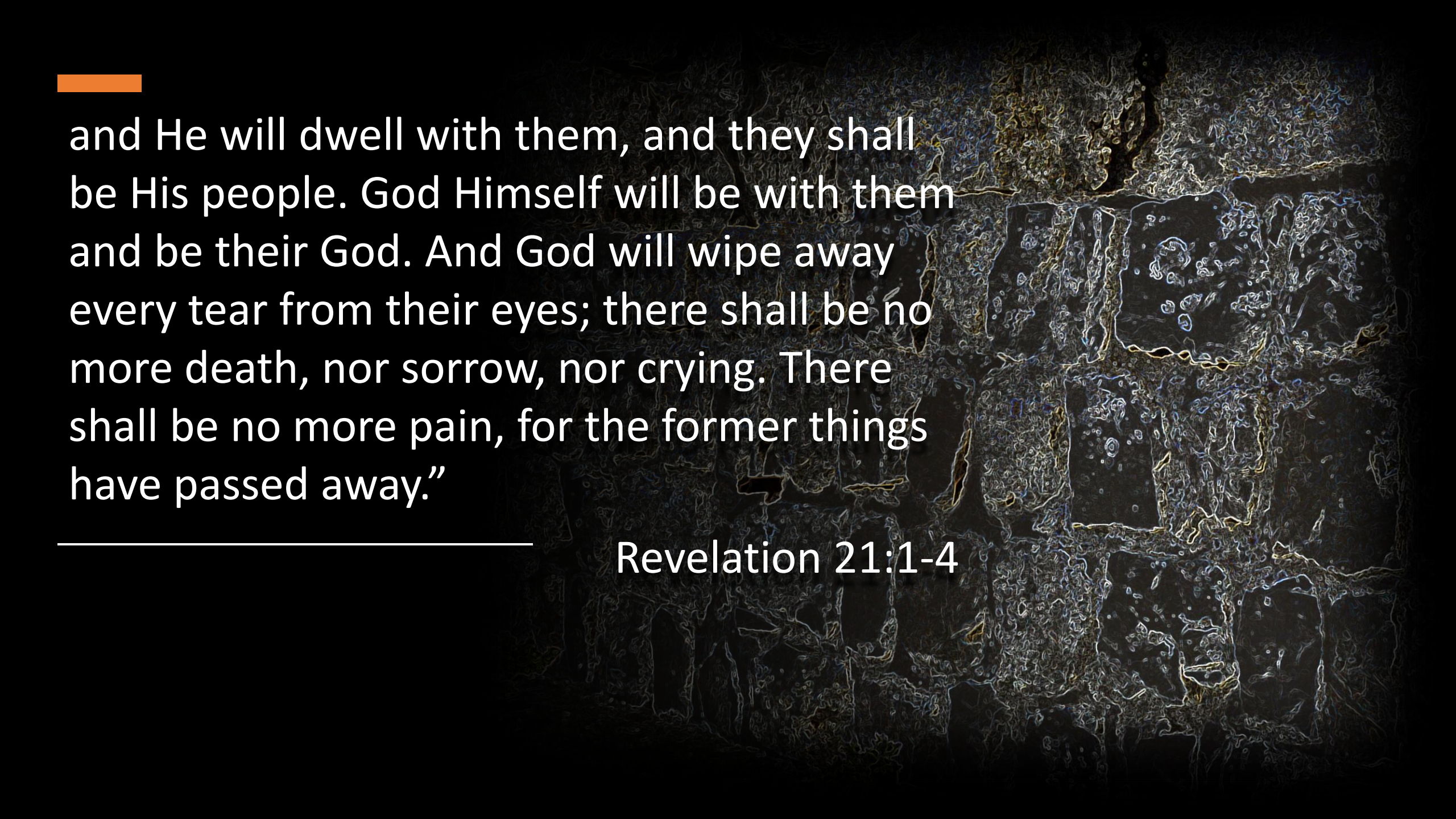
The Big Picture

- The eternal





Now I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away. Also there was no more sea. Then I, John, saw the holy city, New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, “Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,



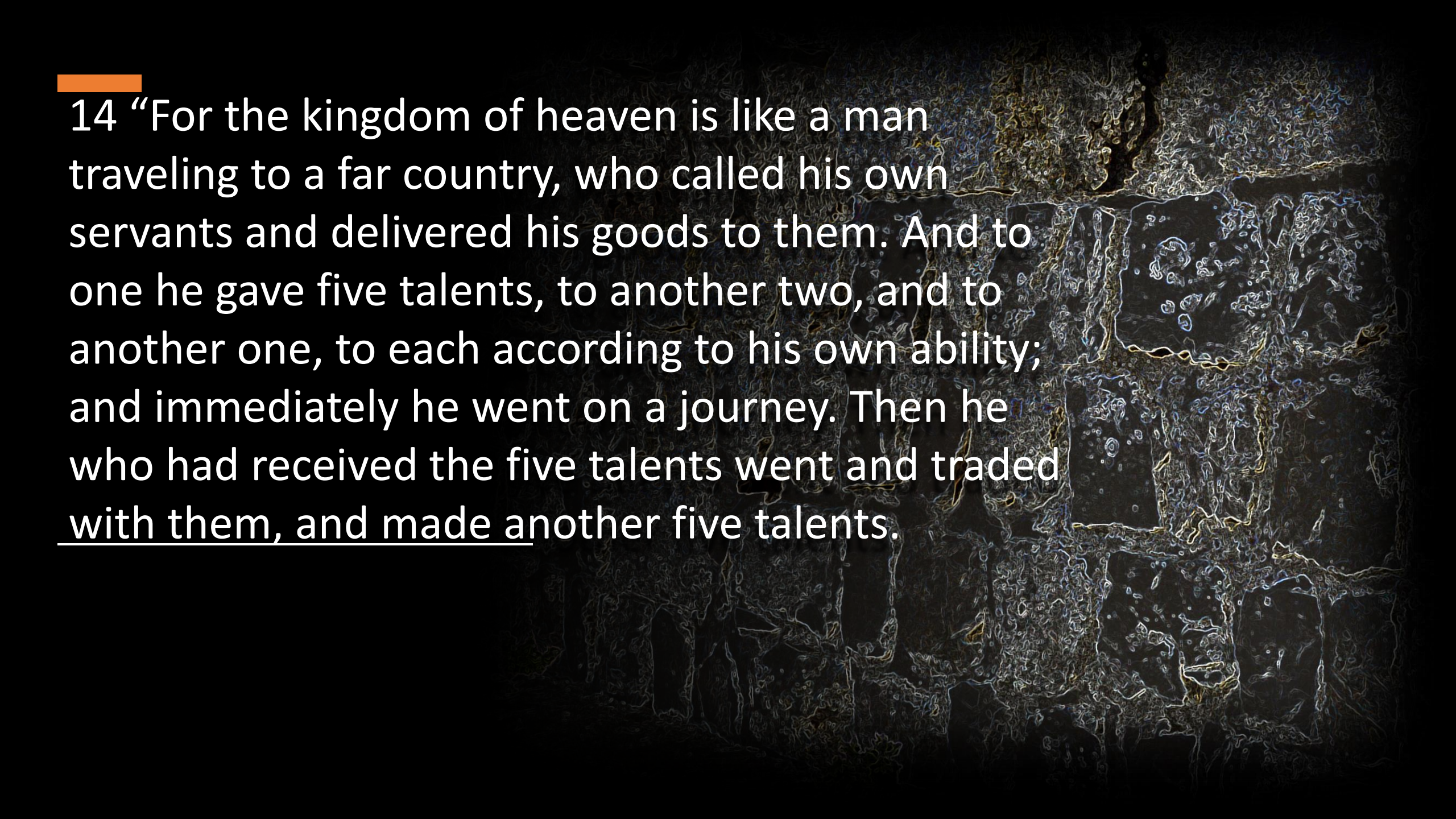
and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:1-4

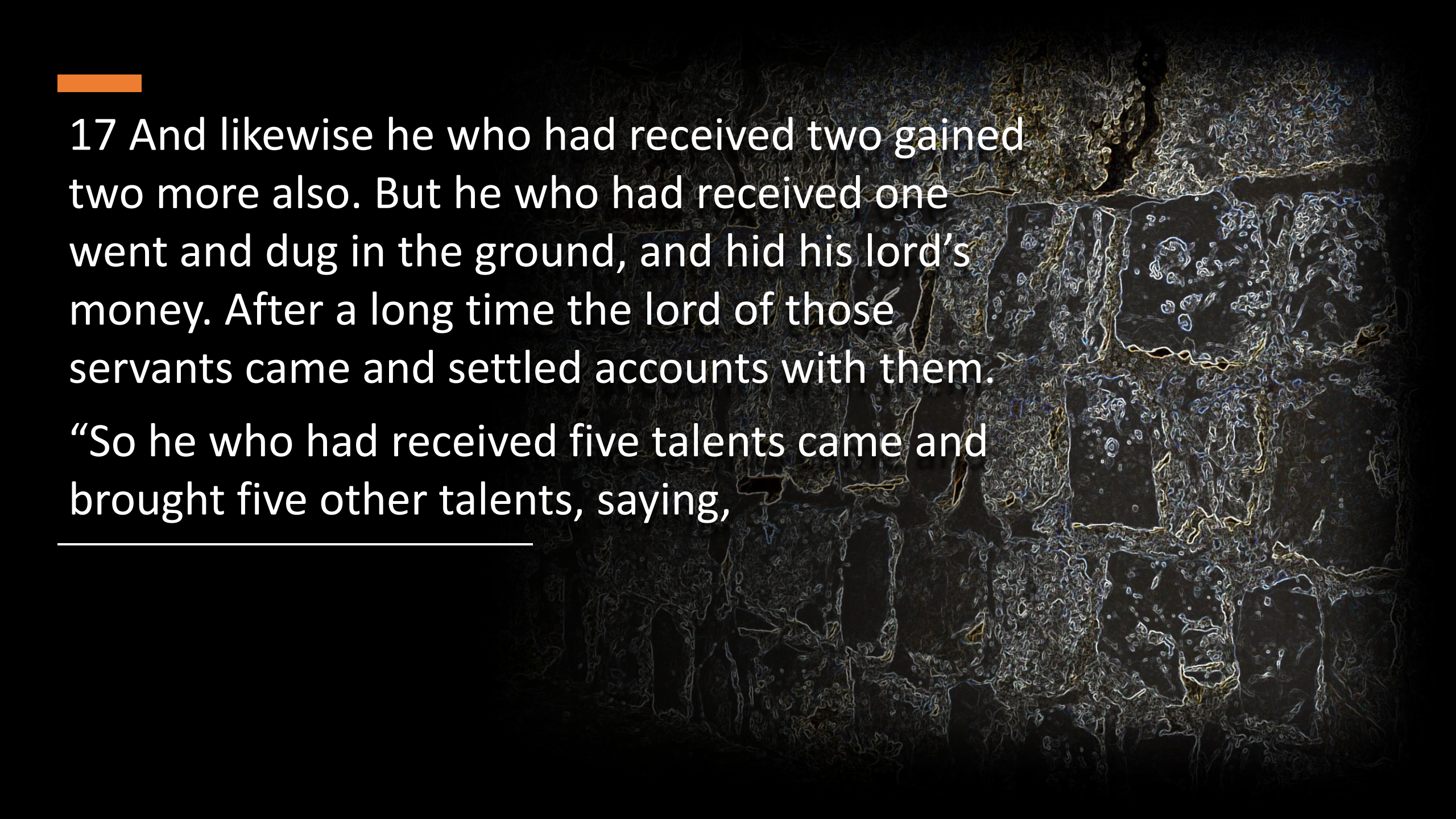
The background of the slide is a photograph of a rough, textured stone wall. The wall is composed of irregular, light-colored stones with some darker patches and moss. On the left side, there is a dark, vertical shadow or crevice. At the bottom center, a small, dark green plant is growing from the base of the wall.

The Big Picture

- The eternal
- your role on earth

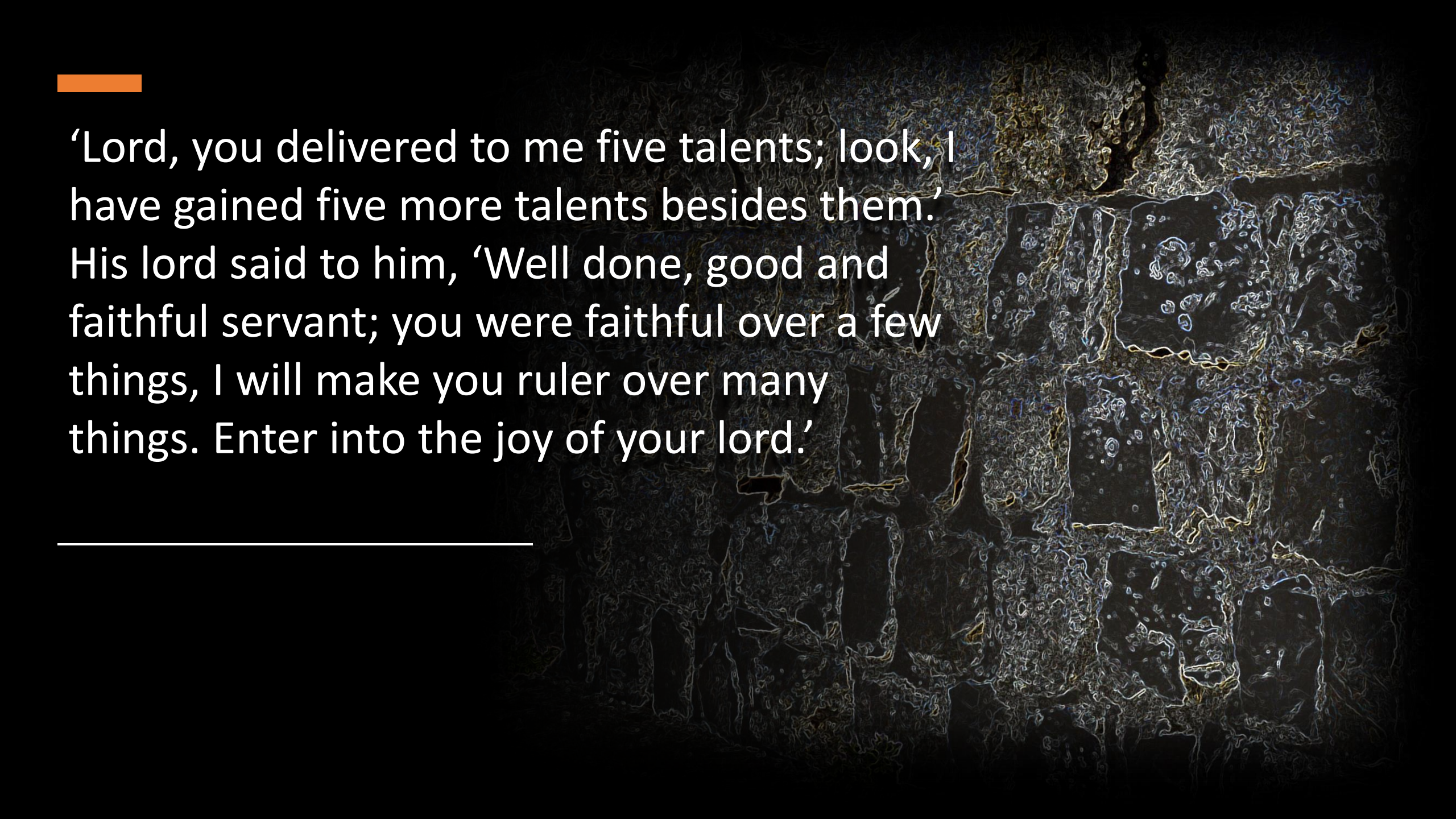


14 “For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents.

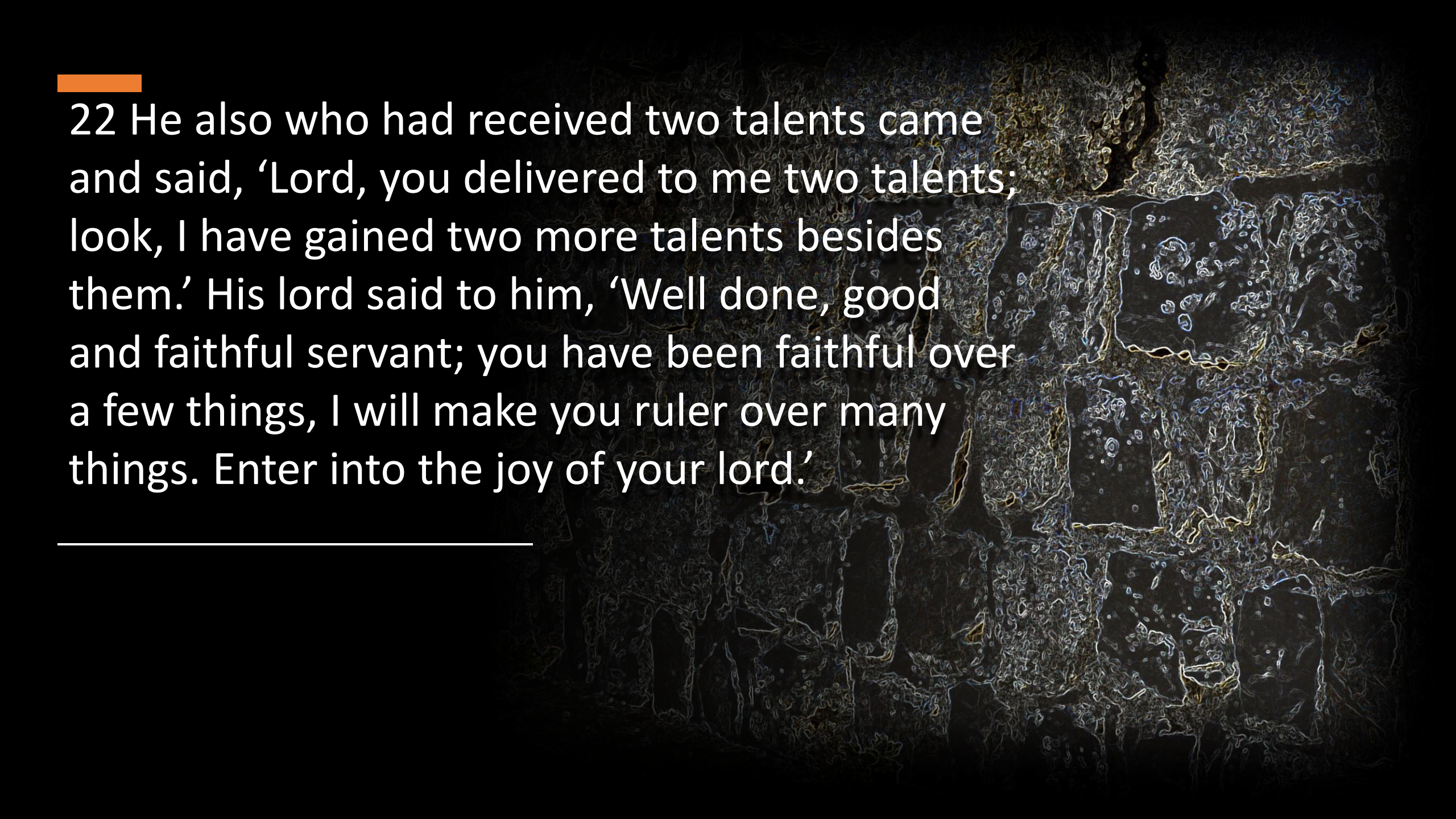


17 And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them.

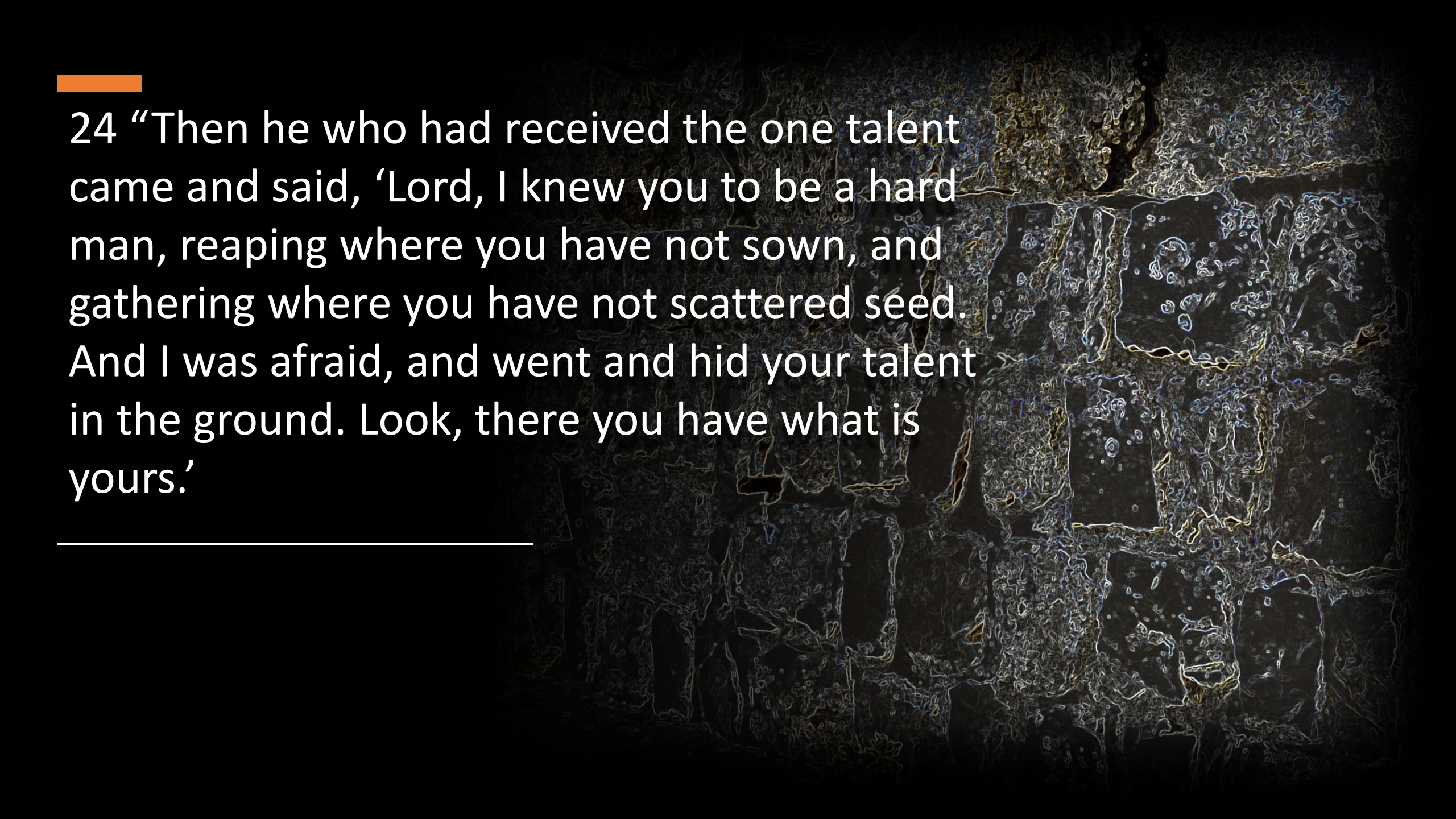
“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying,




‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’




22 He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.'



24 “Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’




26 “But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.’”



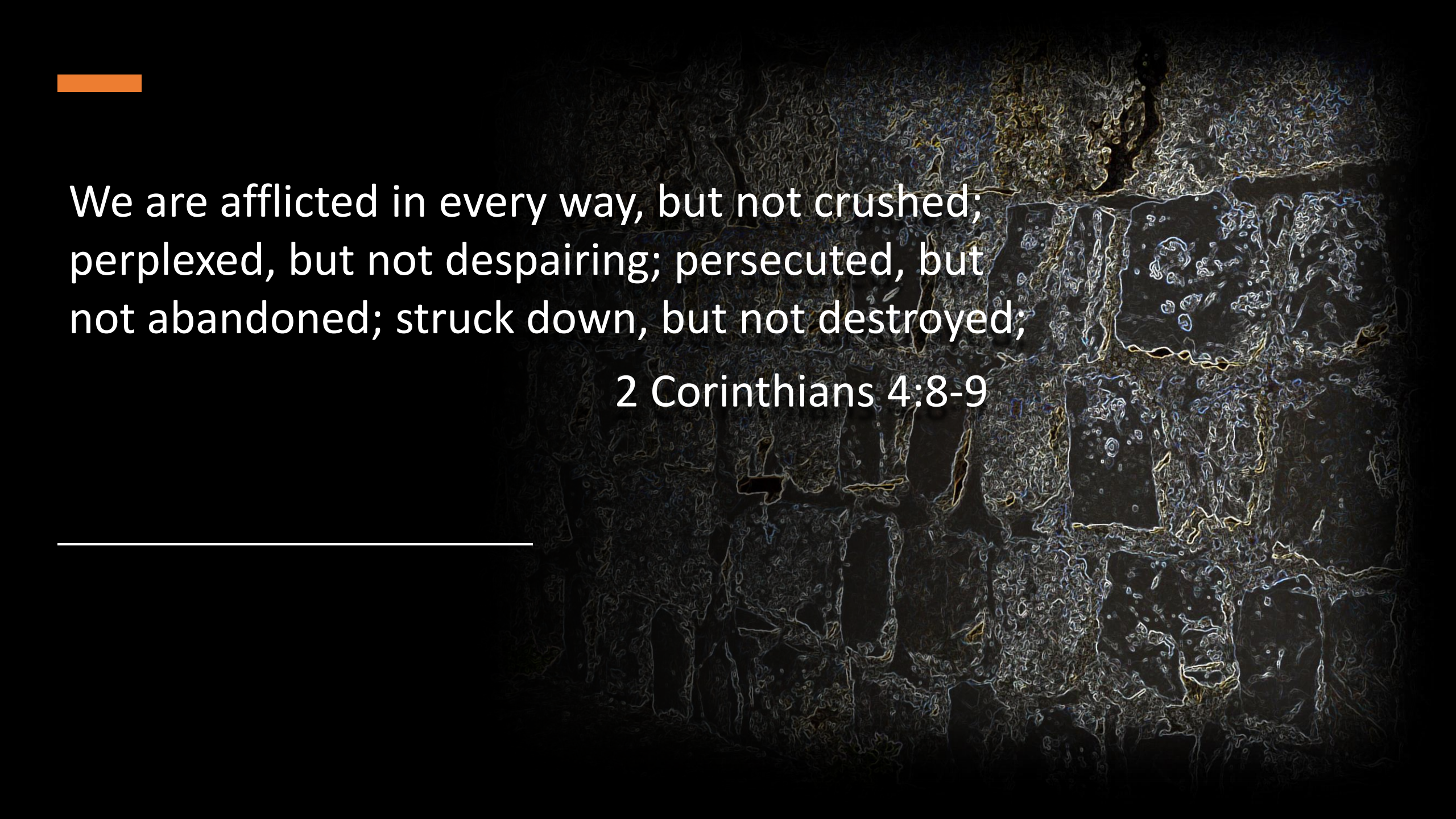

‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Matthew 25:14-30

The background of the slide is a photograph of a rough, textured stone wall. The wall is composed of irregular, light-colored stones with some darker patches and moss. On the left side, there is a large, dark, vertical shadow that fades into the wall. At the bottom center, a small, dark green plant is growing from the base of the wall. The overall lighting is somewhat dim, with the wall's texture being the primary focus.

The Big Picture

- The eternal
- your role on earth



We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed;
perplexed, but not despairing; persecuted, but
not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed;

2 Corinthians 4:8-9



Remember who God is
Remember the big picture

