Who am I?

Galatians 2:20

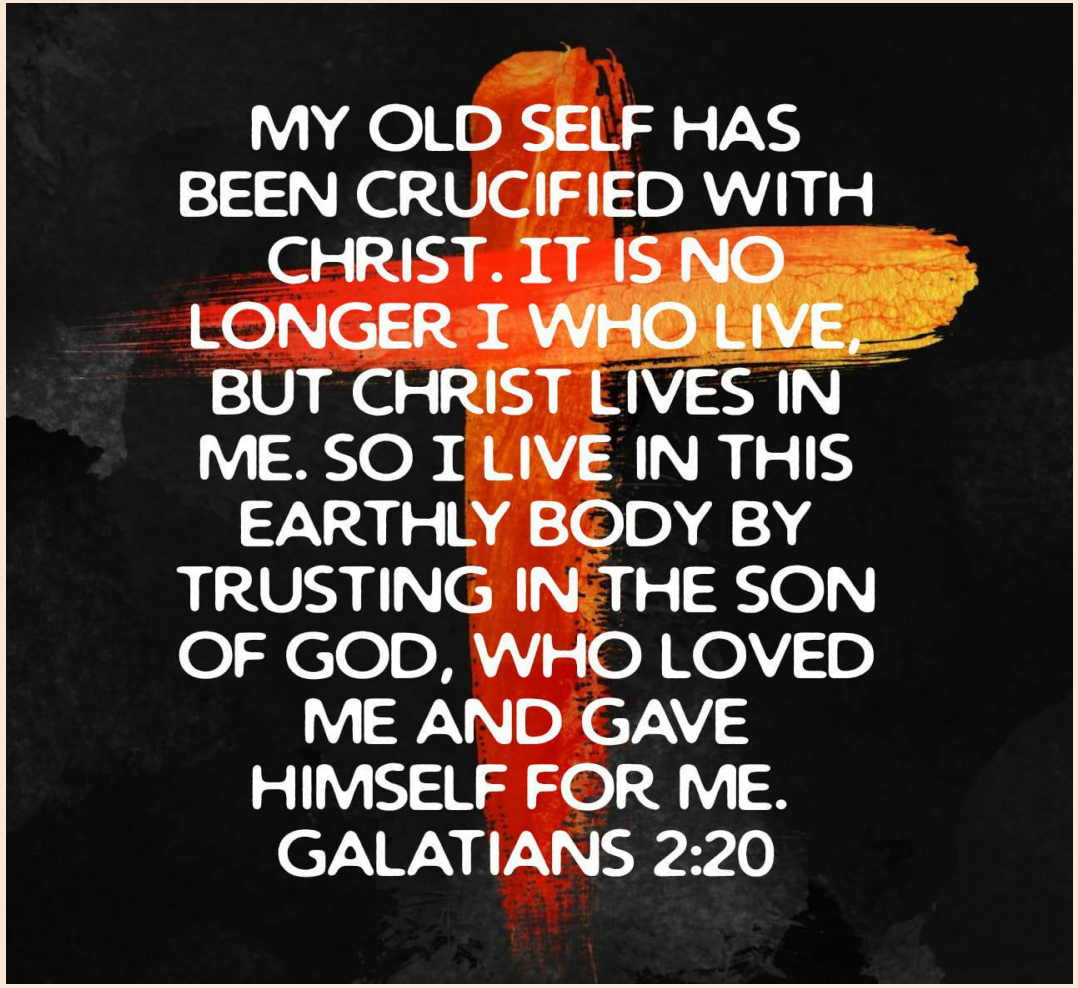
- Who am I as a Malaysian?
- Who am I born into a family?
- Who am I as a Christian?

Who am I…in Christ?

- **20** I have been crucified
  with Christ and I no
  longer live, but Christ
  lives in me. The life I now
  live in the body, I live by
  faith in the Son of
  God, who loved me and
  gave himself for me.

Who am I?

- Old I…old self (NLT)
- Old I have been crucified….I no longer live/dead
- New I…Christ live in me…new life of faith/trust



Context 1 (2:1-10)

- Paul and Barnabas (with Titus) went to Jerusalem to consult the leaders about the gospel…Jerusalem council (Acts 15)
- Jews from Jerusalem came to Antioch Church… taught that Gentiles must be circumcised to receive salvation (threat to the Gospel)
- Decision by James, Peter and John…salvation by faith only and recognized Paul as being an apostle to the Gentiles (2:8)

Context 2 (2:11-19)

- **11** When Cephas(Peter) came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood condemned. **12** For before certain men came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But when they arrived, he began to draw back and separate himself from the Gentiles because he was afraid of those who belonged to the circumcision group. **13** The other Jews joined him in his hypocrisy, so that by their hypocrisy even Barnabas was led astray.

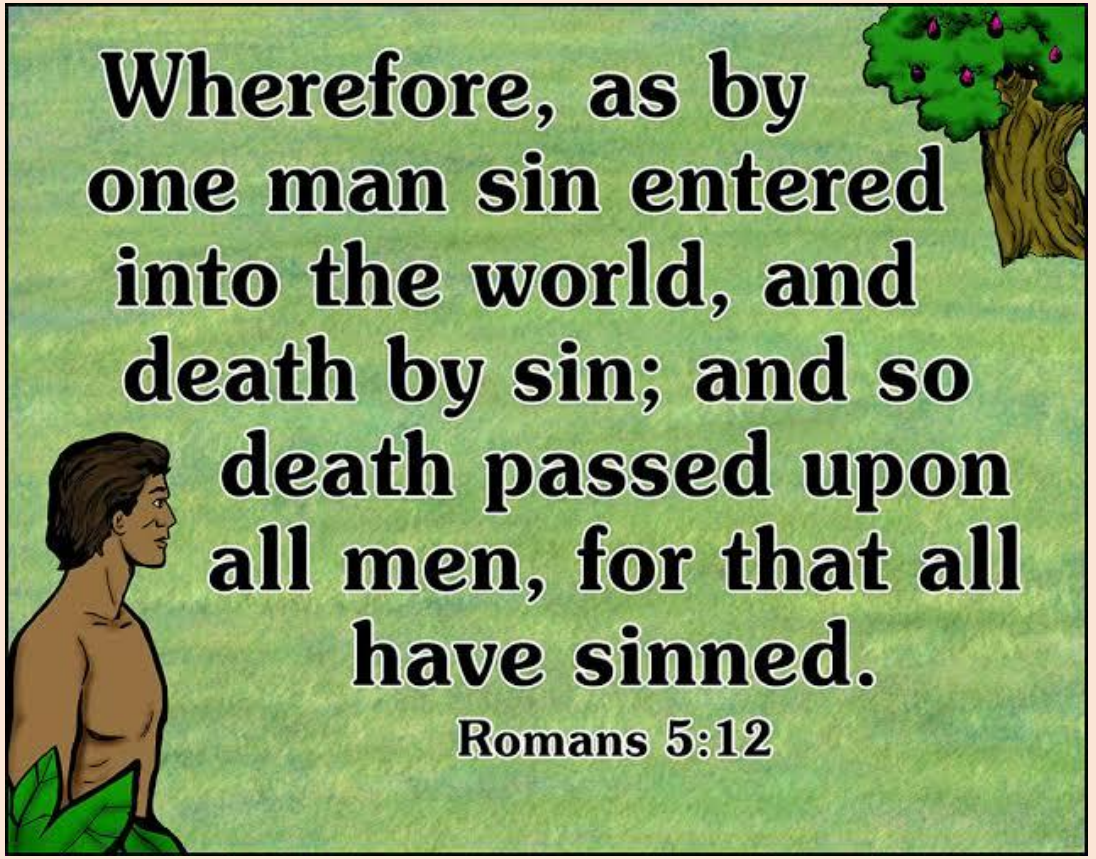
- **14** When I saw that they were not acting in line with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas in front of them all, “You are a Jew, yet you live like a Gentile and not like a Jew. How is it, then, that you force Gentiles to follow Jewish customs?
- **15** “We who are Jews by birth and not sinful Gentiles **16** know that a person is not justified by the works of the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be justified.

Peter’s old self…affected behavior

- Gospel: Justification is by faith in Jesus Christ only, not by the law and circumcision (2:15-16)
- Peter’s behavior was not consistent with this belief. His old self reappeared and affected his behavior
- Other Jews and even Barnabas was swayed
- Paul confronted Peter to ‘preserve the gospel’(2:5)

Sin…rebel against God's rule.
(Independent of God)

Old self…in Eden



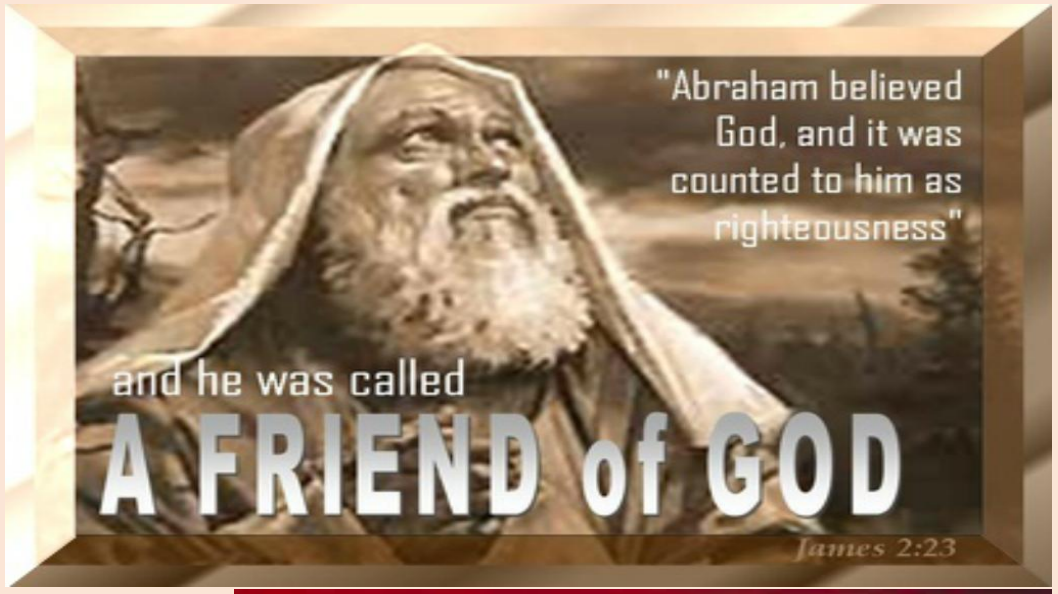
Rebellion against God continued

Noah and the flood

- The LORD saw how great the wickedness of the human race had become on the earth, and that every inclination of the thoughts of the human heart was only evil all the time (Gen 6:5)

Genesis 11 Babel rebellion

- God's command to Noah, "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth" (9:1)
- They gathered in the plains of Shinar (11:1) to built a tower that reaches to the heavens and make a name for themselves (11:4)
- God confused their language and scattered them(11:9)



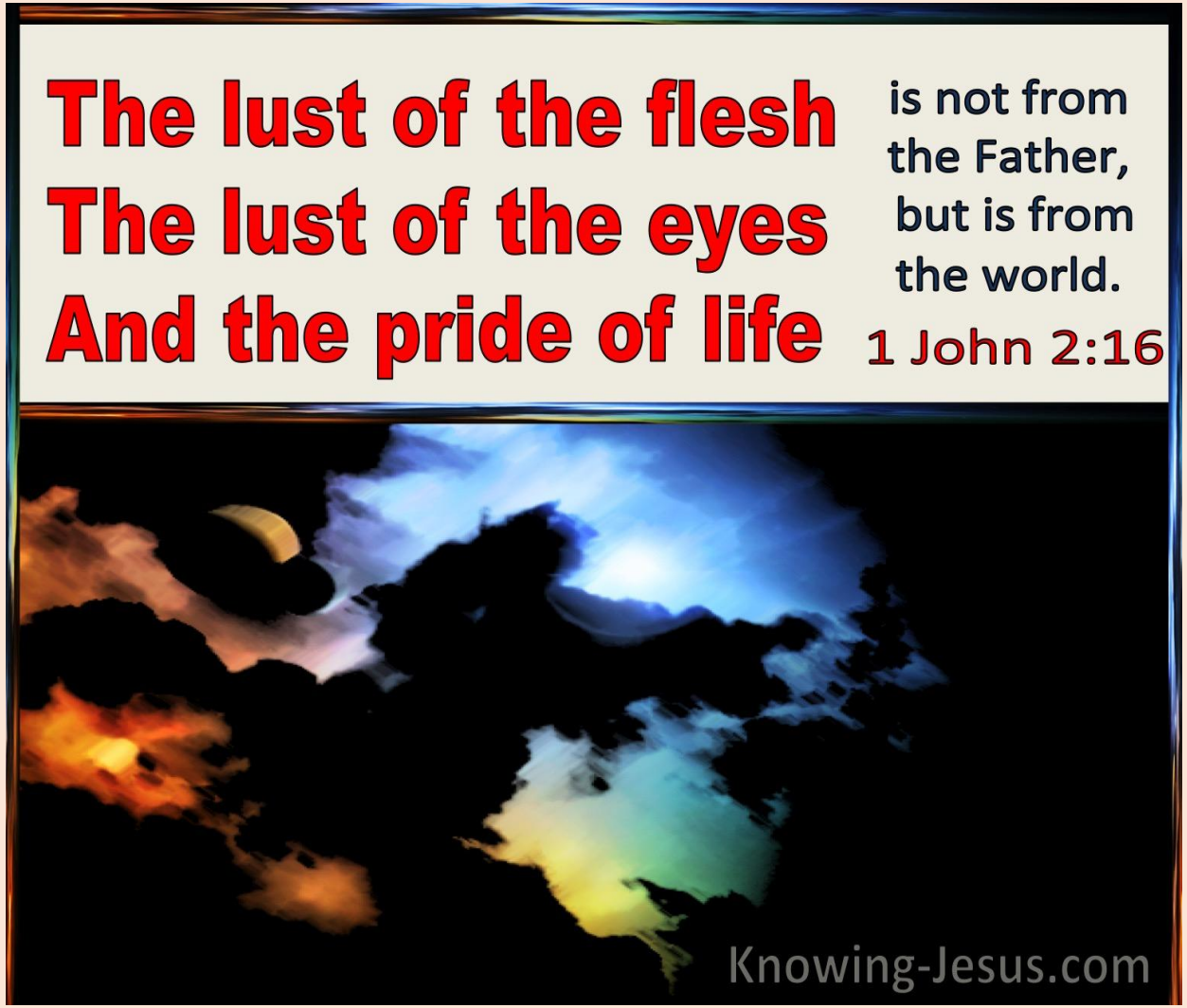
Israel's rebellion

As for you,
you were dead in your
transgressions and sins,
in which you used to live
when you followed the
ways of this world and of
the ruler of the kingdom
of the air, the spirit
who is now at work in
those who are disobedient.
Ephesians 2:1-2

Old self…rebel

- was dead in transgressions and sins
- followed the ways of the world and the ruler of the kingdom of the air
- Disobedient…physically alive but spirituality dead.

Worldly ways

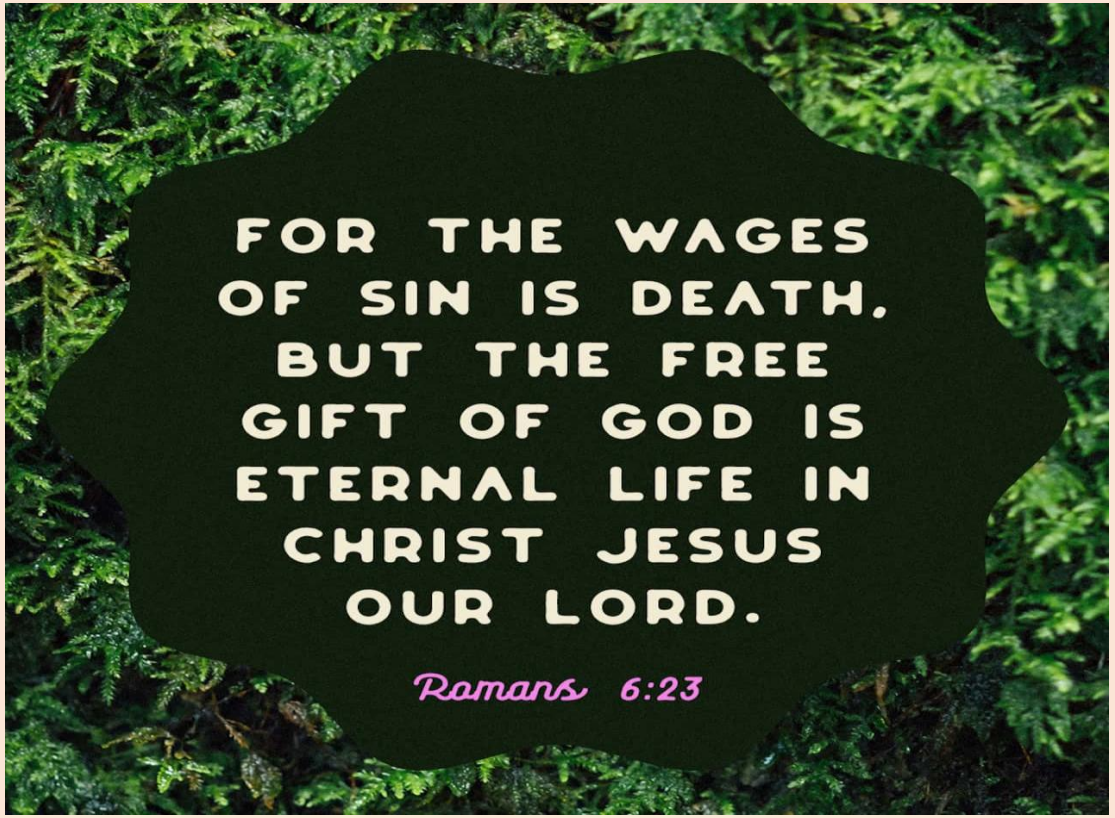


Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

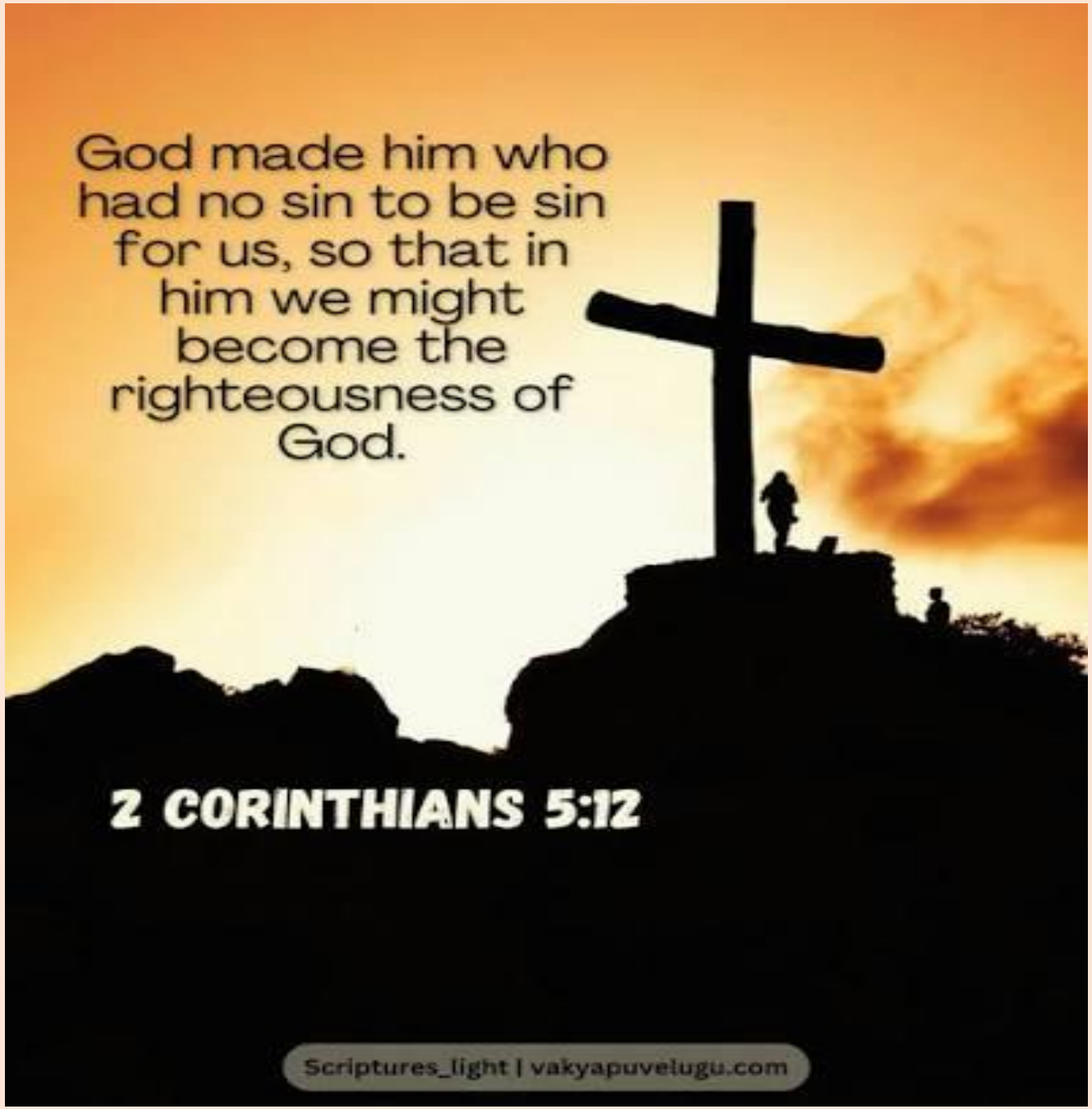
Galatians 5:19-21

- Sexual perversion
- Worship of idols and evil spirits
- Relationship troubles
- Drunk with wine

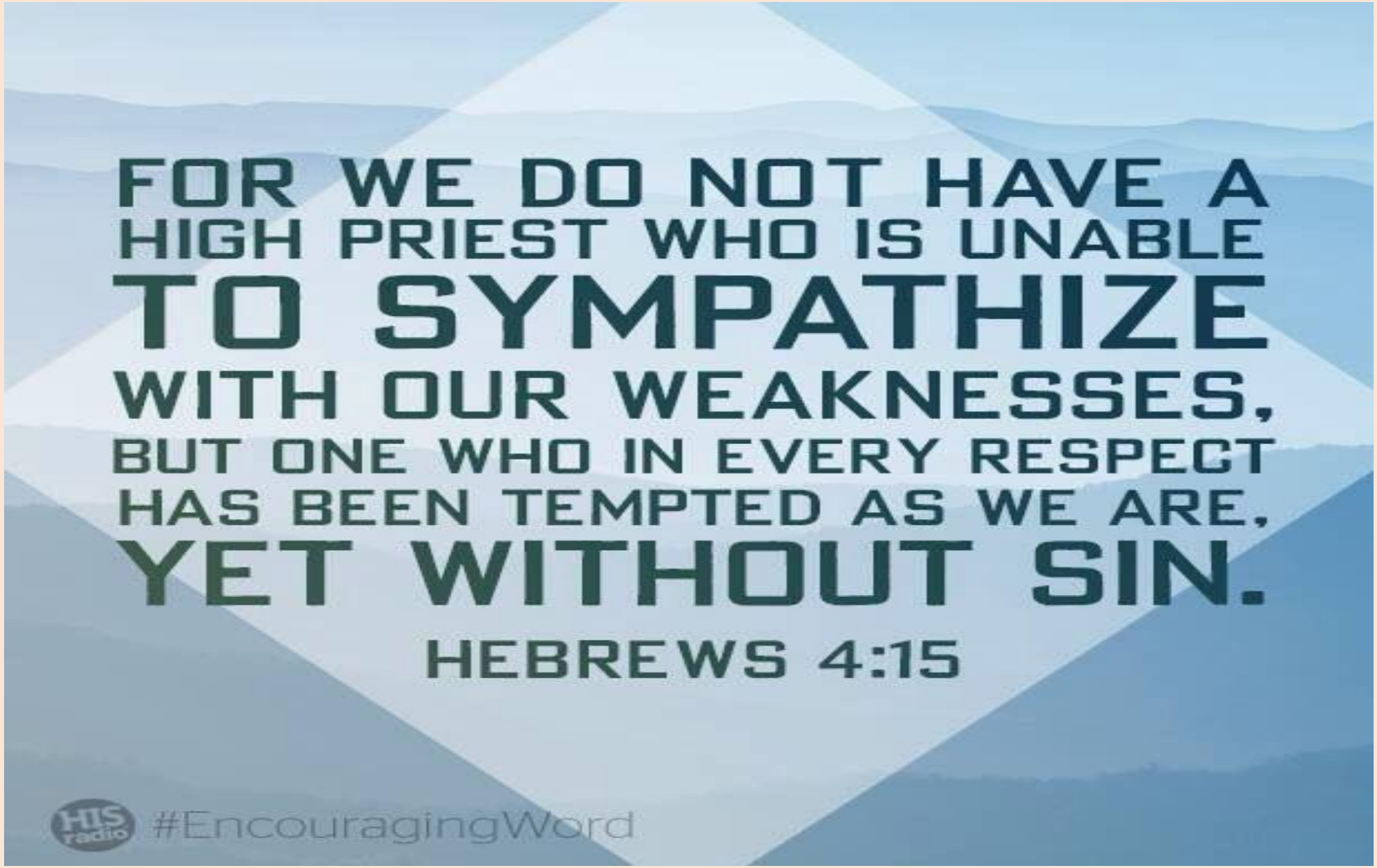
Old self condemned



Need a Savior

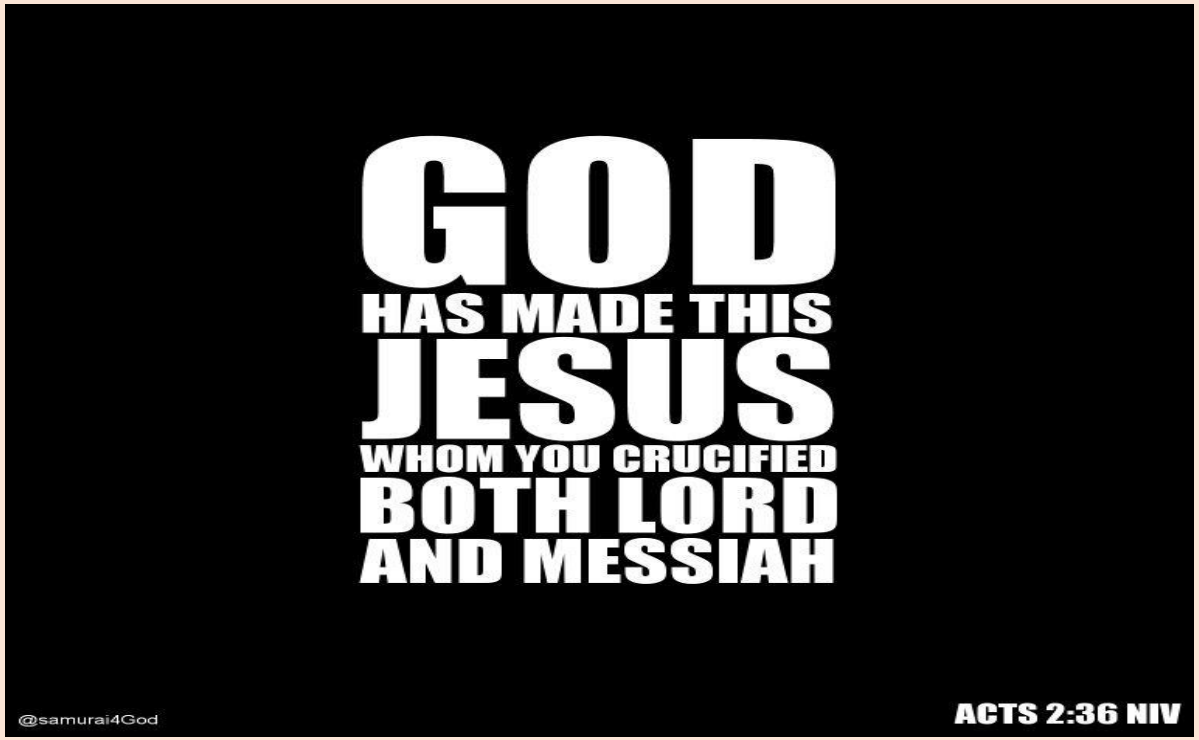


Jesus Christ was crucified on the cross to be our Savior

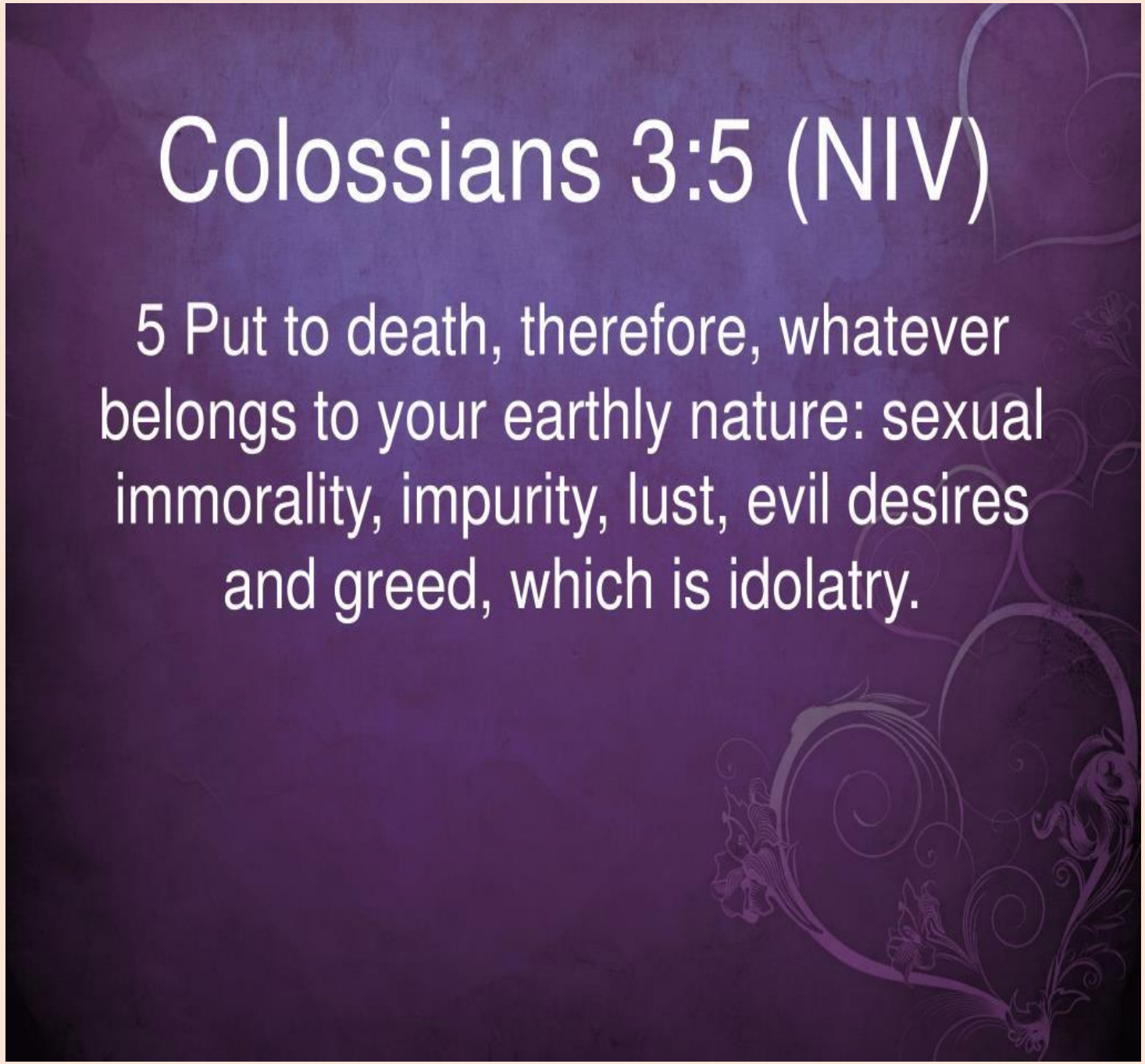

FOR WE DO NOT HAVE A
HIGH PRIEST WHO IS UNABLE
TO SYMPATHIZE
WITH OUR WEAKNESSES,
BUT ONE WHO IN EVERY RESPECT
HAS BEEN TEMPTED AS WE ARE,
YET WITHOUT SIN.
HEBREWS 4:15
HIS radio
#EncouragingWord

Crucified with Christ

- **20** I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live



- Old self crucified…
- Repent of our sins /rebellion and acknowledge Jesus as Savior and Lord (Acts 2:36)
- Dead to old self

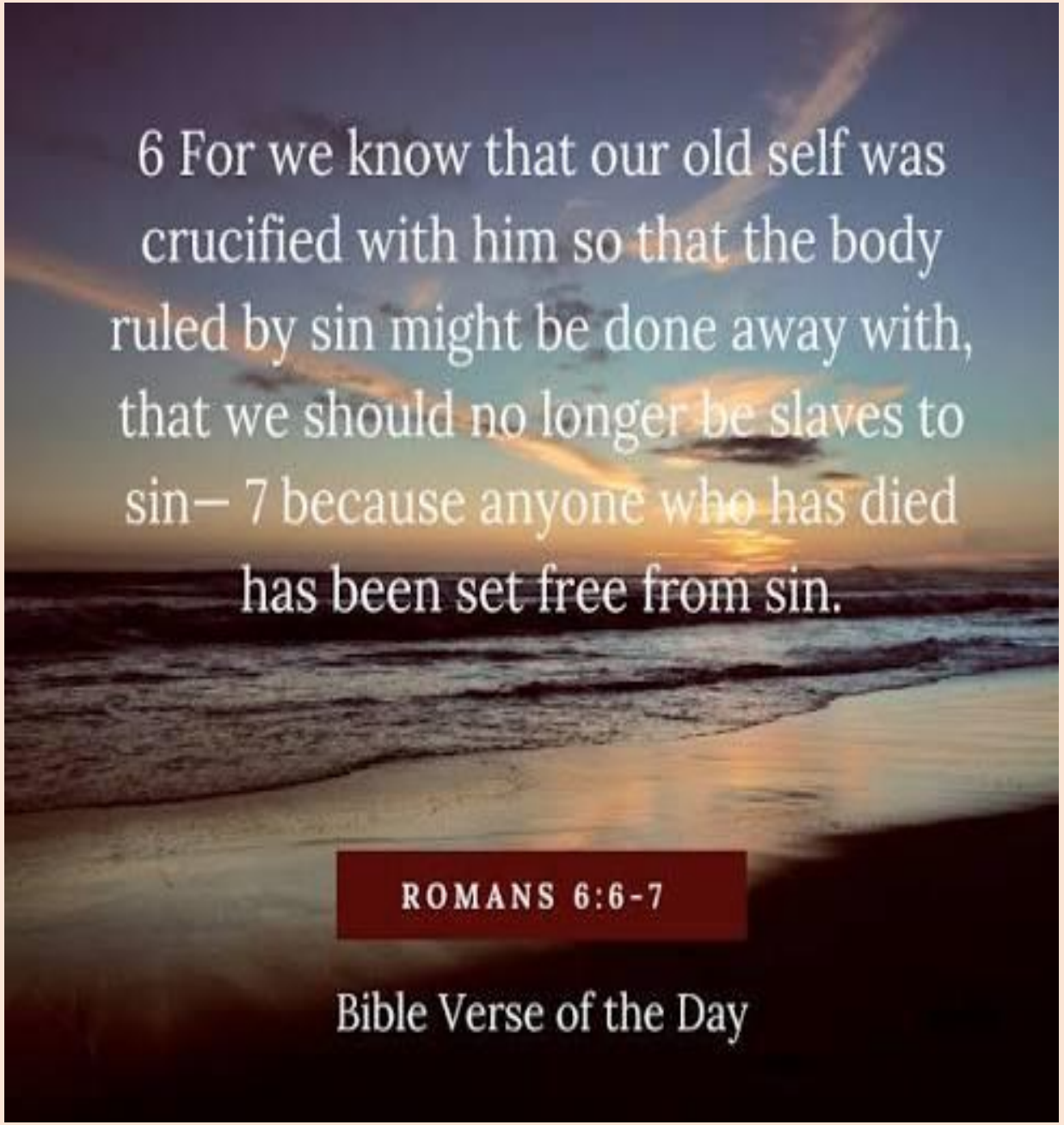


- Put to death….belong to earthly sinful nature
- Be radical…cutoff all that cause us to sin (Matt5:29-30)

Matthew 5:29-30

If your right eye makes you stumble, tear it out and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. 30 If your right hand makes you stumble, cut it off and throw it from you; for it is better for you to lose one of the parts of your body, than for your whole body to go into hell.

- Principle: How to deal with old self/sinful habits
- Need to be brutally honest in facing old self
- like Paul who had to confronted Peter to defend the gospel



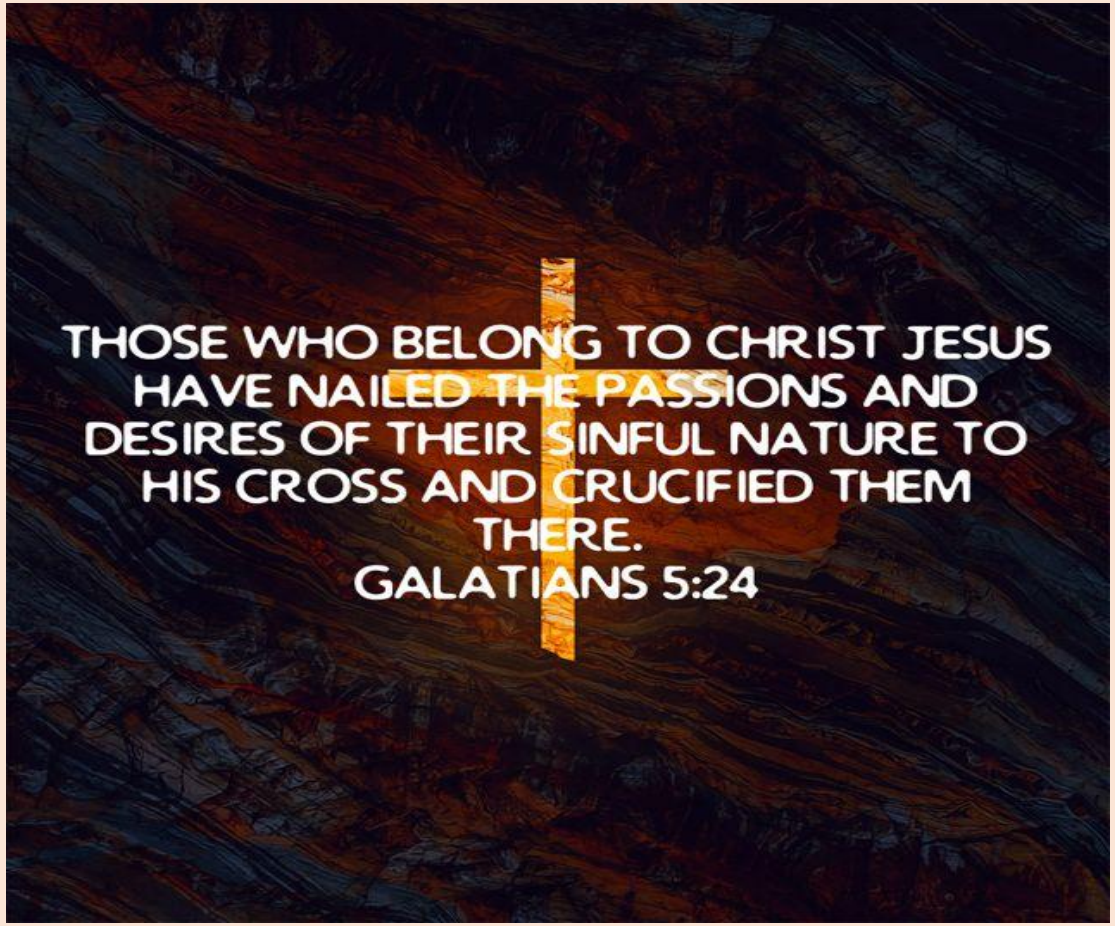
- Old self…body ruled by sin(enslaved) was crucified

Result of being crucified:

- Set free from the power of sin
- No longer a slave (powerless) to sin

- Do not let sin control the way you live; do not give in to sinful desires. Do not let any part of your body become an instrument of evil to serve sin.
- Sin is no longer your master, for you no longer live under the requirements of the law. Instead, you live under the freedom of God's grace.

(Romans 6:12,14)



Have been…but

- Old self maybe crucified but is not completely dead
- Daily crucifixion
- Peter's behavior when the Jews arrived…old self resurfaced
- Jesus commanded us to take up our cross (be crucified) daily (Luke 9:23)

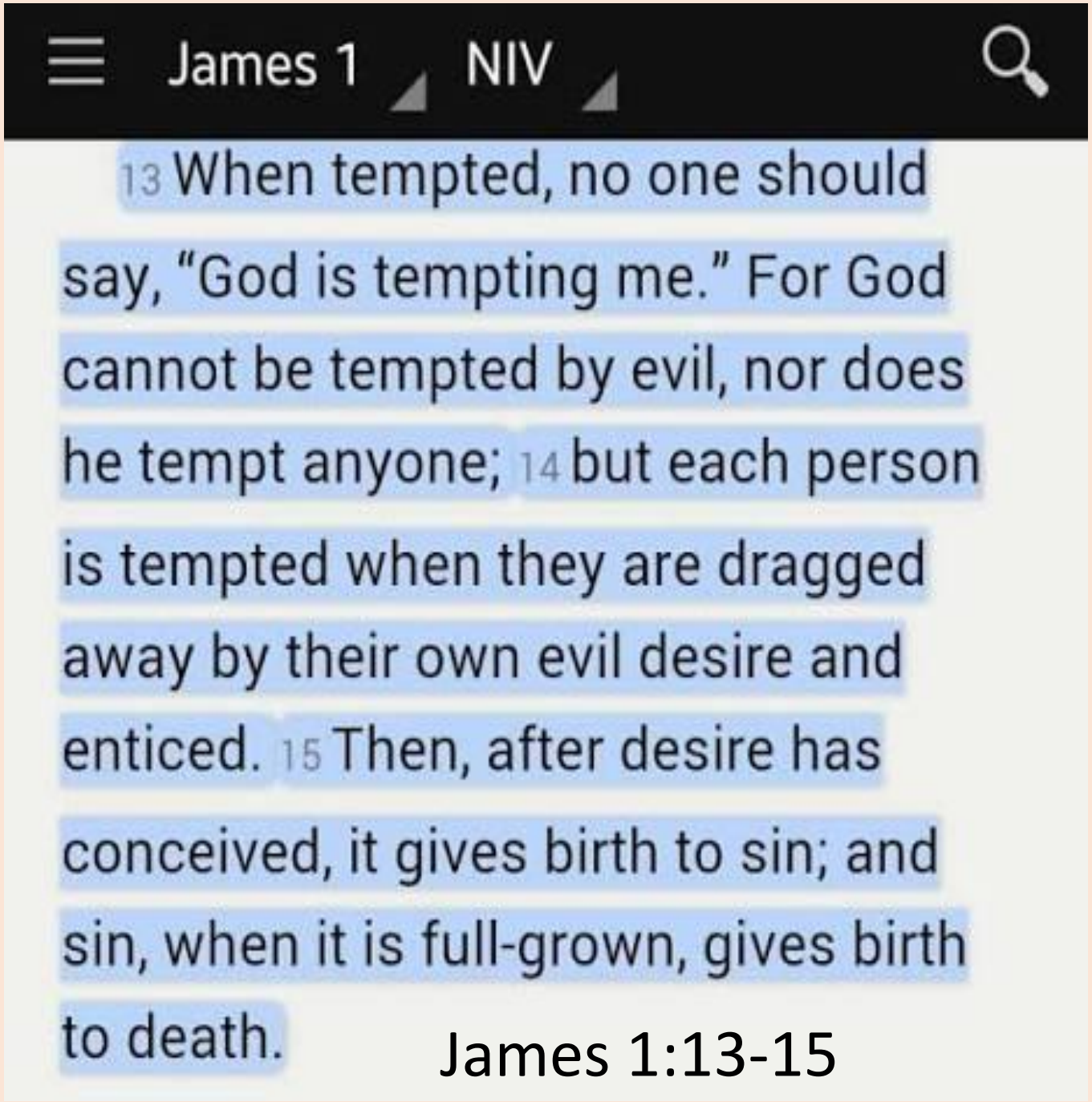
- To follow Jesus we must crucify our old self /old habits daily.
- Deny self of the love of the world…temptations of the flesh and pride.

Old self not completely dead…how?

- Are free from the power of sin/no longer bound as slave to sin.
- Not free from the presence of sin and temptations while alive on earth…can be tempted

Daily deny temptations:

- Do not love the world (1 John 2:15).
- Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness (Romans 6:13)



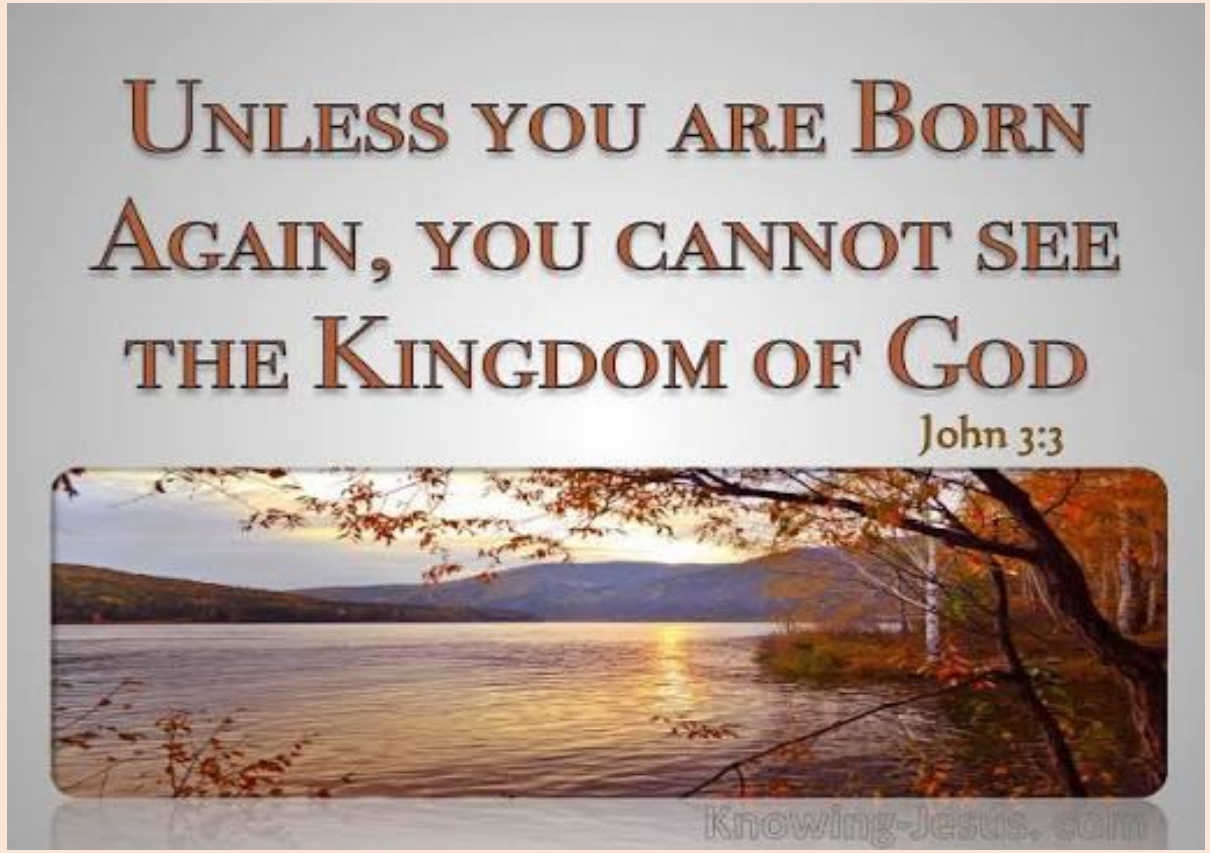
James 1:13-15

- Tempted by our own evil desires
- Must not allow ourselves to be 'dragged away by our sinful desires'…deny ourself
- Old self can still a problem

New ‘I’…Christ lives in me

- **20** Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

- New identity and new self worth
- Live by faith/ trust



New identity

- Reborn of the Spirit…new birth in Christ

Old self dead

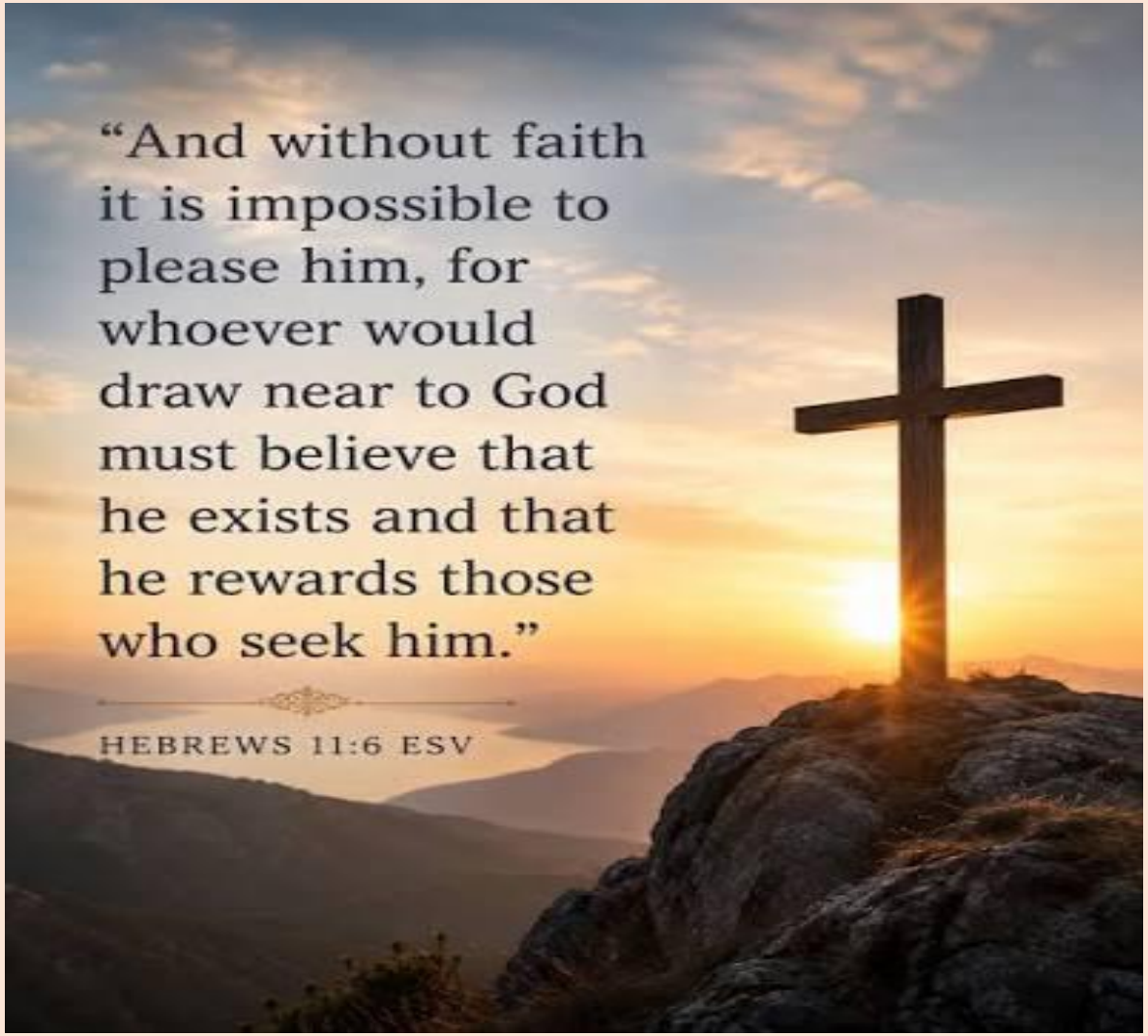
A Child of God

New self worth: child of the King

- No need to feel unloved or unappreciated or alone…God loves you
- No need to feel inferior to anyone…co-heirs with Christ
- No need to feel ashamed of our position in Christ

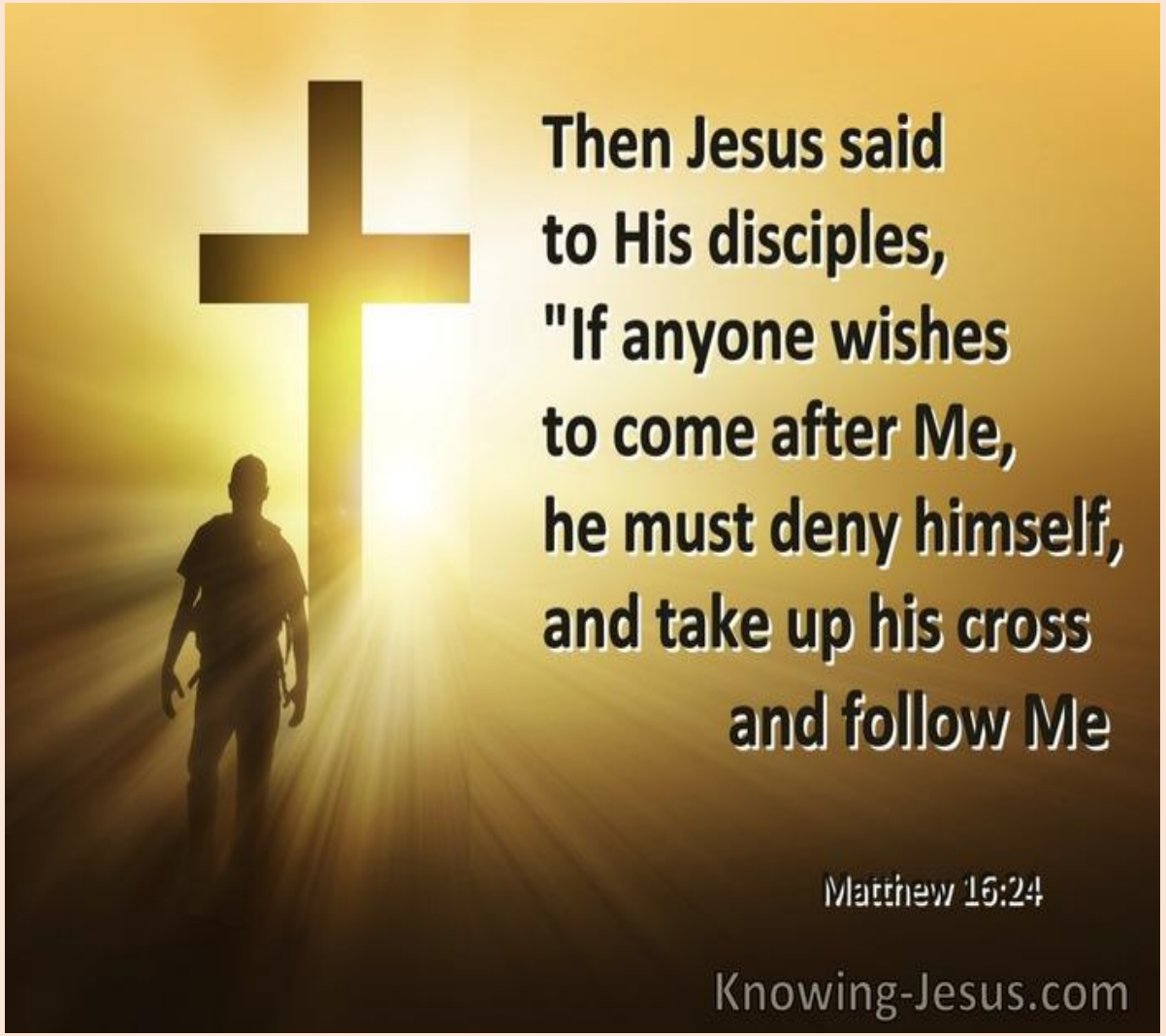
- What else do we need on earth when we have every spiritual blessing in Christ
- We have the greatest gift of all, our salvation which is a gift of grace
- Christ alone is sufficient!

Live by Faith



Certainty of God and confidence in His promises

Live by faith in Jesus



Deny self

- Call to die to our flesh and to the world
- Call to die to our will, and surrender to the will of God

Stop our rebellion

Share His glory

- Experience pain because of the sins of others
- Incur loss that is not my doing
- Share the burden of others

(Romans 8:17)

God allow suffering

To produce in us:

- Perseverance
- Character
- Hope
- Experience of His love

- **21** I do not set aside the grace of God, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!

- There is no other gospel than that of grace…Christ crucified for us
- Christ died in vain if we are not crucified with Him
- Old self must be crucified daily…to enable us to live by faith in Jesus Christ

Application

- Am I crucified with Christ?
- Not everyone who claim to be a Christian have been crucified…
- Simon Magus the Magician(Acts 8)…heart not crucified with Christ
- Ethiopian Official (not named)…his immediate obedience…crucified heart

- Examine our hearts to ensure that we have been crucified with Christ
- Have we repented of our sins / acknowledged Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord?

- Christ's death would be meaningless to us if we are not crucified with Him

Am I a new I?

- New identity in Christ…new self worth with security, confidence in Him and experiencing His love.
- Child of God…joint heirs with Christ
- Live by faith/trust in the Son of God who loved me and died for me.

Old self making idols in…

- Family
- Study
- Ambition
- Work
- Hobby

- Good things become idols when we put them before God
- Danger…inclination of our old self

When family quietly become an idol

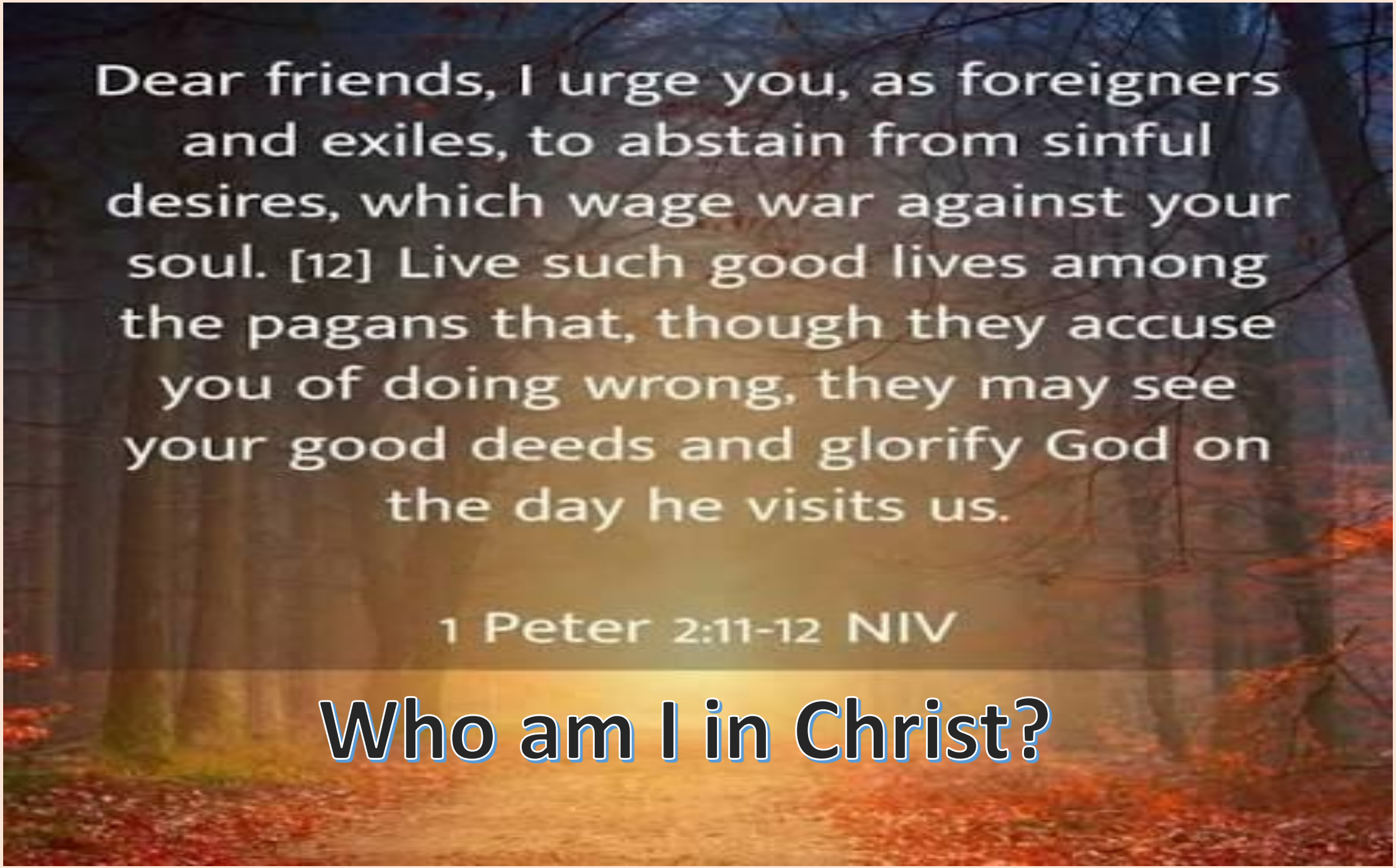
- Singles take risk, moves toward hard places, and treat the mission of God as something worth their whole lives. Then they marry, and the fire turns inward. The same energy that once went toward the harvest now goes towards building and protecting a private life.
- The temptation is to become so inward focused that the family takes God's place. The logic feels reasonable from the inside. Pour everything into the children while they are young, the thinking goes, and return to ministry later once they are grown and safe.

- The instinct toward safety runs straight against the call Jesus describe when he says the harvest is plentiful but the workers are few (Matt 9:37). A faith built mainly around keeping your own people comfortable is not the faith the NT describes. It is something tamer and the children can tell the difference.
- Francis Chan argues that this inward, protective mindset is a major reason so many children raised in the church abandon the faith as adults. They grow up and look at their parents' lives, and do not see anything that matches the adventure they read about in the Scripture (inconsistent faith)

- This is the deep point under the whole challenge. Children rarely inherit the faith their parents talked about. They inherit the faith their parents lived.
- The old wisdom of teaching children to love God as you walk through ordinary lives(Deut 6:7) assumes there is a living faith worth passing on in the first place.

Checklist: If family has become an idol

- Has “protecting my family” quietly become the reason you say no to almost everything God might ask?
- Would your children describe your faith as an adventure with Christ, or as a set of rules and comfortable routine?
- Are you waiting for some future season to take risks for God, while the present keeps slipping by?
- If a stranger watched your week, would they see the Holy Spirit at work or just a well-run household?



Who am I in Christ?