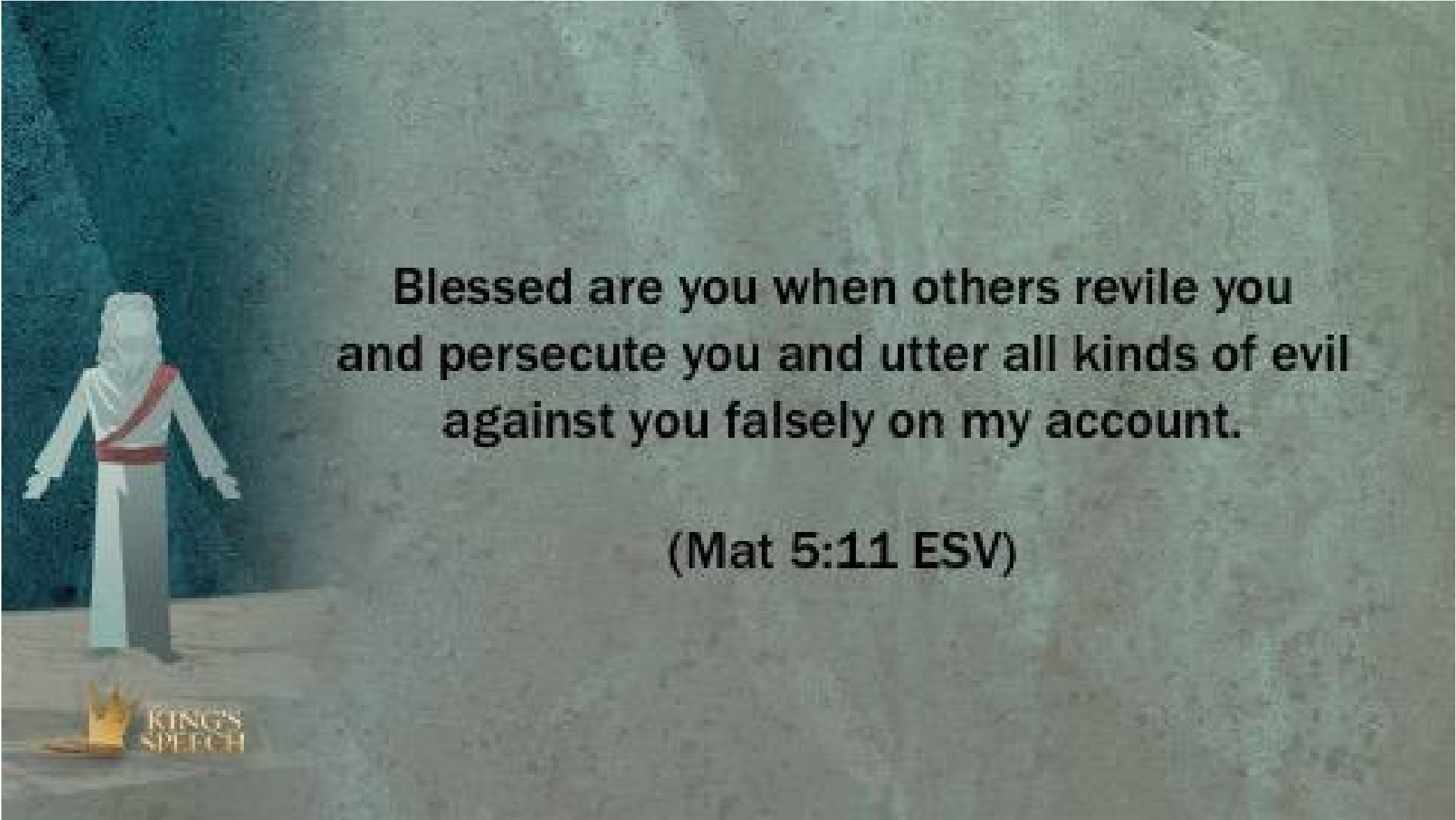




**Blessed are those who are
persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven**


(Mat 5:10 ESV)





**Blessed are you when others revile you
and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil
against you falsely on my account.**

(Mat 5:11 ESV)

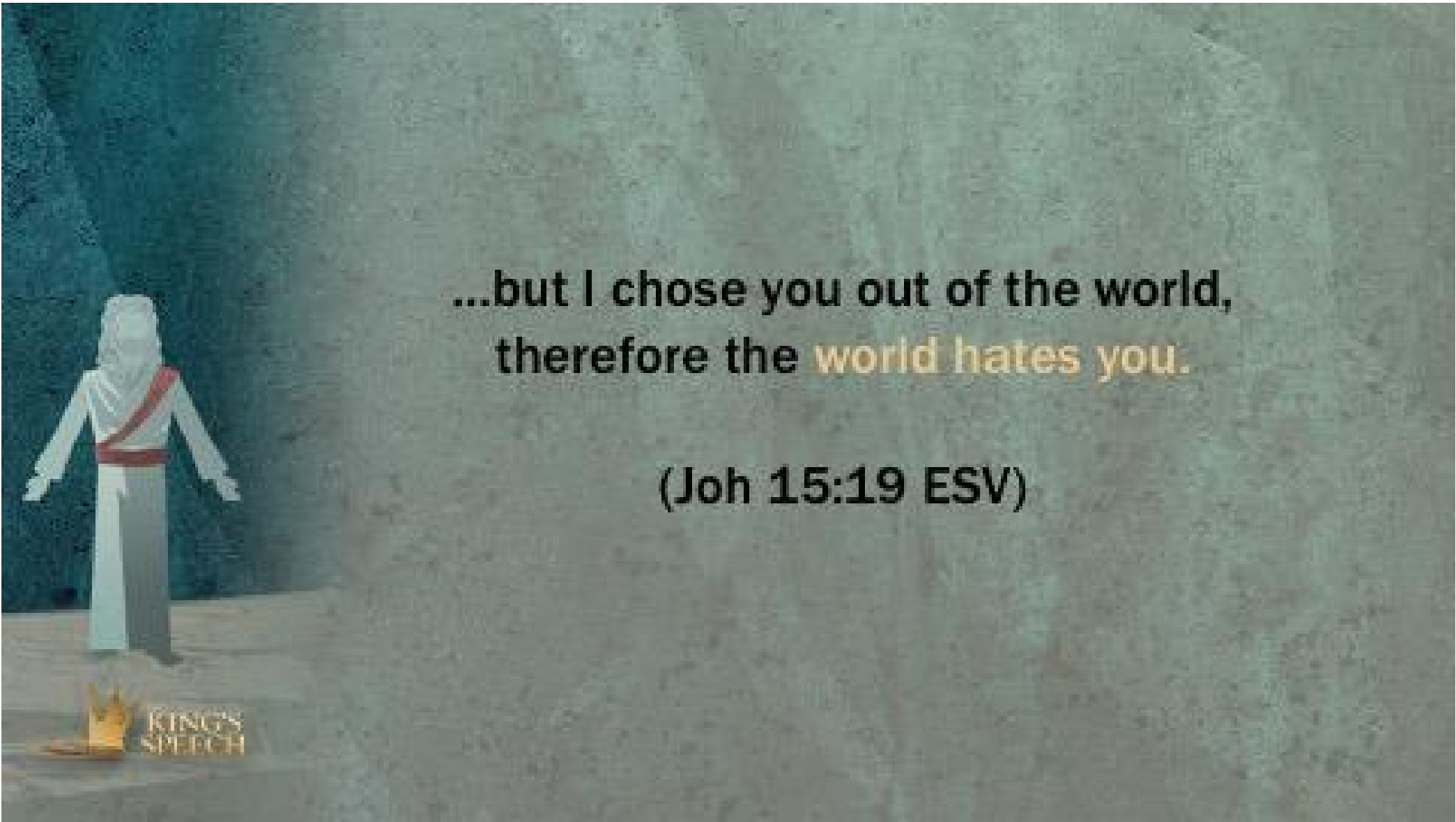


**Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward is great in heaven, for so they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.**

(Mat 5:12 ESV)

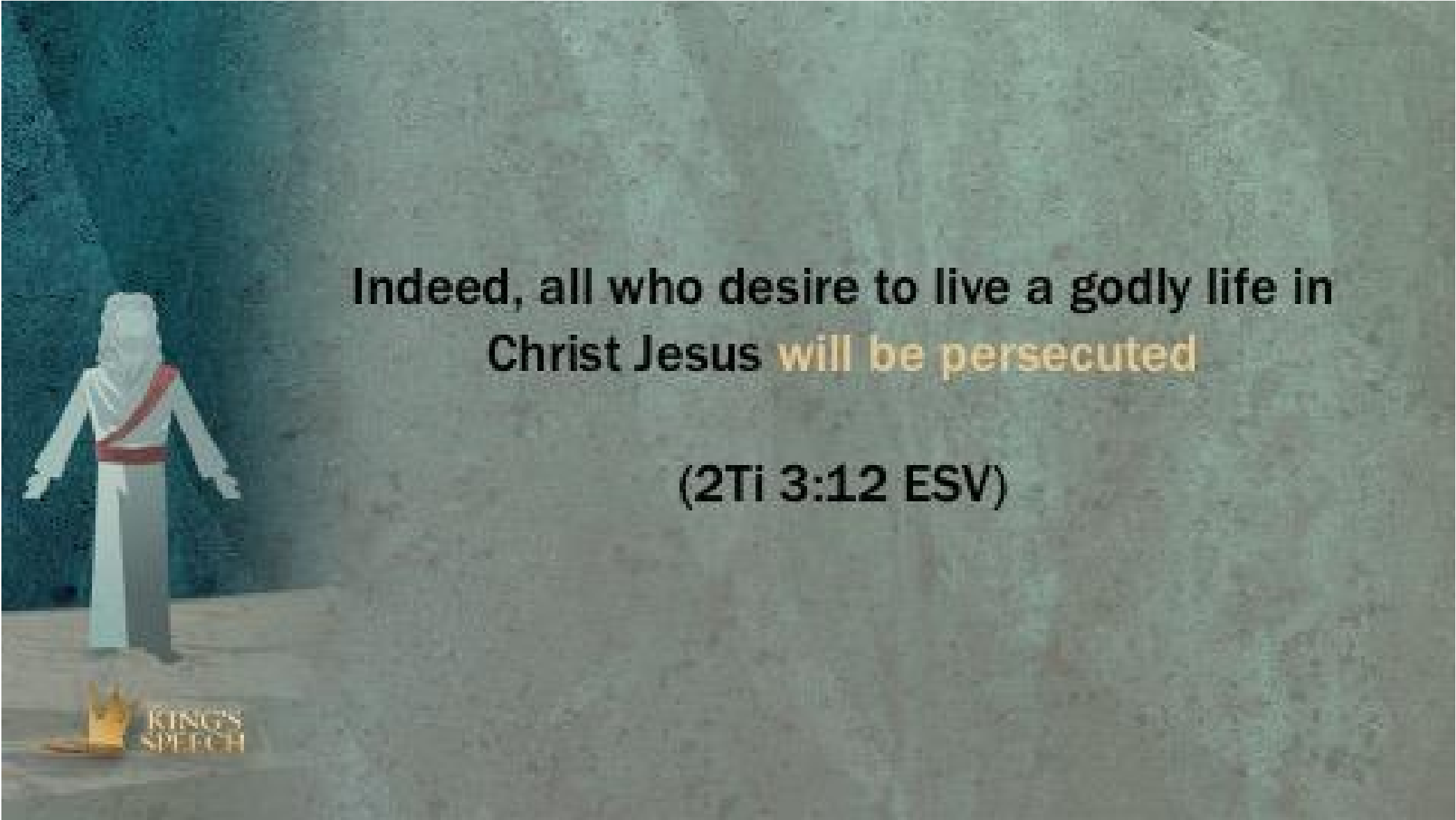


**KING'S
SPEECH**



...but I chose you out of the world,
therefore the world hates you.

(Joh 15:19 ESV)



Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in
Christ Jesus **will be persecuted**

(2Ti 3:12 ESV)

KING'S
SPEECH

how did the APOSTLES die?

We did not follow closely defined paths...
but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty.
- Paul Peter 1:8

Bartholomew

Flayed to death by whips in Asia Minor



Andrew

Crucified on X-shaped cross in Greece



Matthew

Impaled by spears in Ethiopia



Simon

Crucified in Persia



James'

Thrown off wall then clubbed to death
("Son of Zebedee")



James'

Behemoth & Palmative
("James the Lesser")



Jude

Crucified by imp in Persia



Thomas

Skilled with a spear in India



John

Died in exile on island of Patmos



Peter

Crucified upside down by Rome



Matthias

Beheaded and beheaded



Philip

Blug by arch looks upside down





www.opendoorsusa.org

- According to The Pew Research Center, over 75% of the world's population lives in areas with severe religious restrictions (and many of these people are Christians).

www.opendoorsusa.org

- According to The Pew Research Center, over 75% of the world's population lives in areas with severe religious restrictions (and many of these people are Christians).
- Also, according to the United States Department of State, Christians in more than 60 countries face persecution from their governments or surrounding neighbors simply because of their belief in Jesus Christ.

RESTRICTIONS ON RELIGIOUS FREEDOMS AROUND THE WORLD

Government restrictions on or social hostilities towards religions:



WHO ARE THE VICTIMS?



Christians

130

Faced abuse in



Muslims

117



Jews

75



Buddhists

16



Hindus

27

countries

The law qualifies or contradicts religious freedom in

157

countries

Public preaching is limited by the state in

131

countries

Converting to a different religion is limited by the state in

38

countries

Wearing religious symbols is regulated by law in

53

countries

Religious groups have been formally banned in

40

countries

There was mob violence relating to religion in

53

countries

Terrorist groups relating to religion are active in

74

countries

Women were harassed for violating religious dress codes in

33

countries

Source: Pew Research Center's Forum on Religion & Public Life



2015 WORLD WATCH LIST

The World Watch List is a listing of the top 50 countries where the persecution of Christians is most acute.

Open Doors works in the world's most oppressive countries, where growing Christian persecution is most acute, in the face of government and religious leaders who oppose Christ's light in these places.



Country	Region	Persecution Level	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
1. North Korea	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
2. China	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
3. Iran	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
4. Saudi Arabia	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
5. Cuba	Latin America	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
6. North Macedonia	Europe	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
7. Myanmar	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
8. Russia	Europe	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
9. Turkey	Europe	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
10. Uzbekistan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
11. Vietnam	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
12. Ethiopia	Africa	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
13. Eritrea	Africa	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
14. Somalia	Africa	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
15. Nigeria	Africa	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
16. Pakistan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
17. Egypt	Africa	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
18. Iraq	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
19. Syria	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
20. Afghanistan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
21. Bangladesh	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
22. India	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
23. Indonesia	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
24. Kazakhstan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
25. Kyrgyzstan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
26. Laos	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
27. Maldives	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
28. Oman	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
29. Qatar	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
30. Tajikistan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
31. Turkmenistan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
32. Yemen	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
33. Zimbabwe	Africa	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
34. Belarus	Europe	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
35. Azerbaijan	Europe	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
36. Georgia	Europe	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
37. Armenia	Europe	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
38. Uzbekistan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
39. Turkmenistan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work
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50. Kazakhstan	Asia	Very High	Government	Religious Leaders	Churches	Christians	Open Doors Work



EACH MONTH

322 CHRISTIANS ARE
KILLED FOR THEIR FAITH

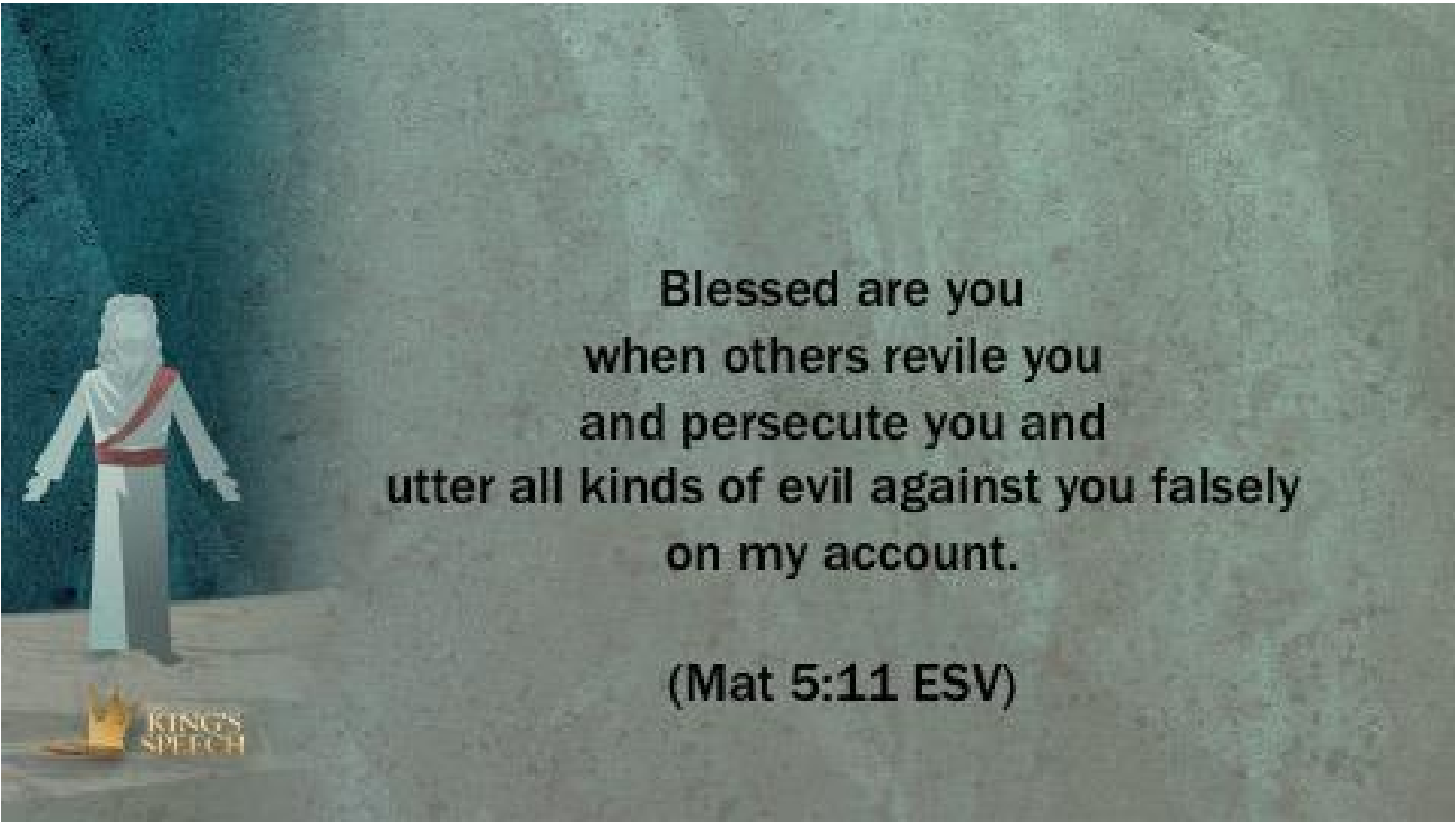


214 CHURCHES AND
CHRISTIAN **PROPERTIES**
ARE DESTROYED




772 FORMS OF **VIOLENCE**
ARE COMMITTED AGAINST
CHRISTIANS (SUCH AS BEATINGS, ABDUCTIONS,
RAPE, ARRESTS AND FORCED MARRIAGES)





**Blessed are you
when others revile you
and persecute you and
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely
on my account.**

(Mat 5:11 ESV)




Blessed are you
when others **revile** you
and persecute you and
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely
on my account.

(Mat 5:11 ESV)



KING'S
SPEECH




Blessed are you
when others revile you
and **persecute** you and
utter all kinds of evil against you falsely
on my account.

(Mat 5:11 ESV)



KING'S
SPEECH



**Blessed are you
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**KING'S
SPEECH**

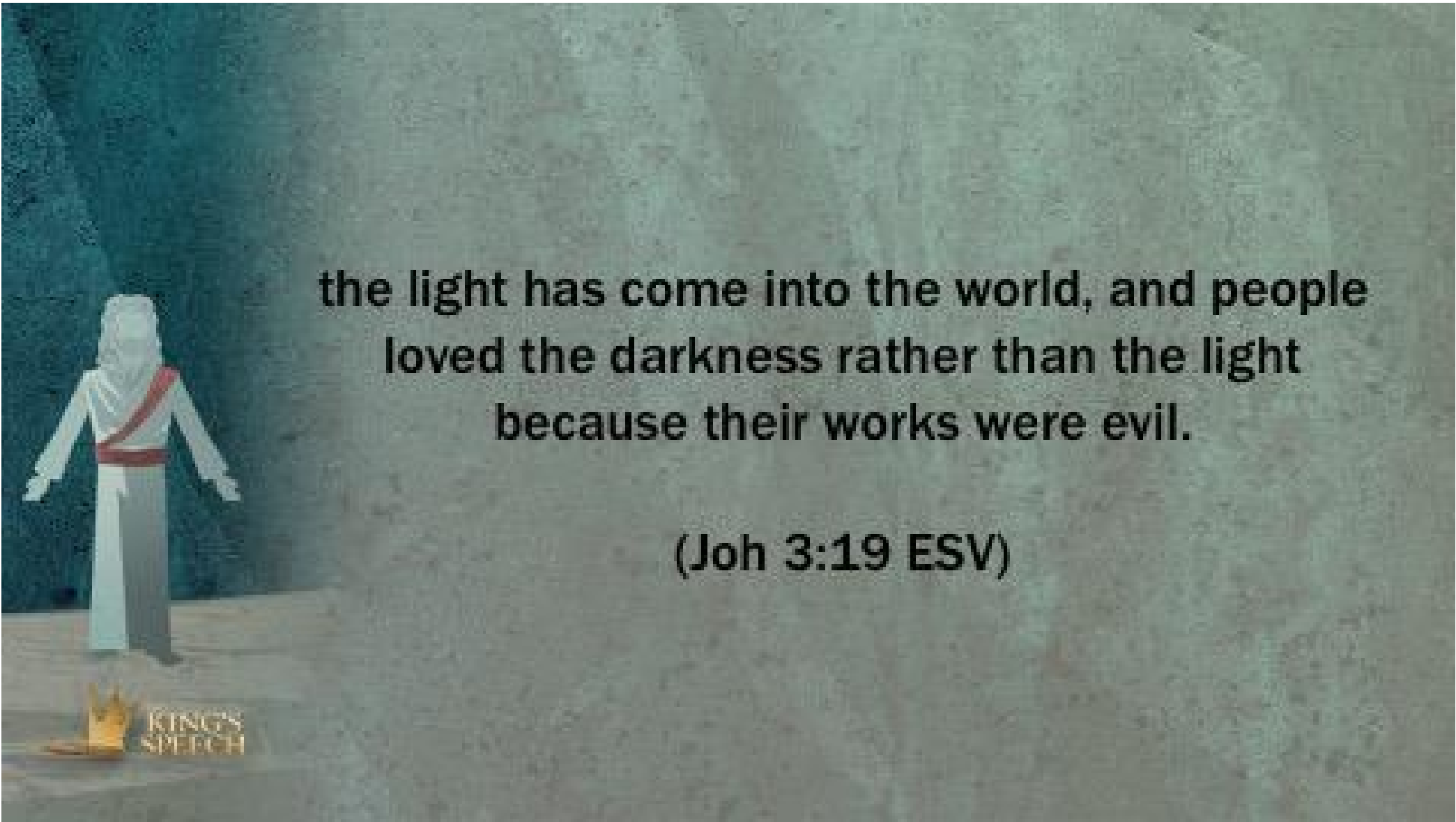


If the world hates you,
know that it has **hated me** before it hated you.

(Joh 15:18 ESV)




KING'S
SPEECH



**the light has come into the world, and people
loved the darkness rather than the light
because their works were evil.**

(Joh 3:19 ESV)

**KING'S
SPEECH**

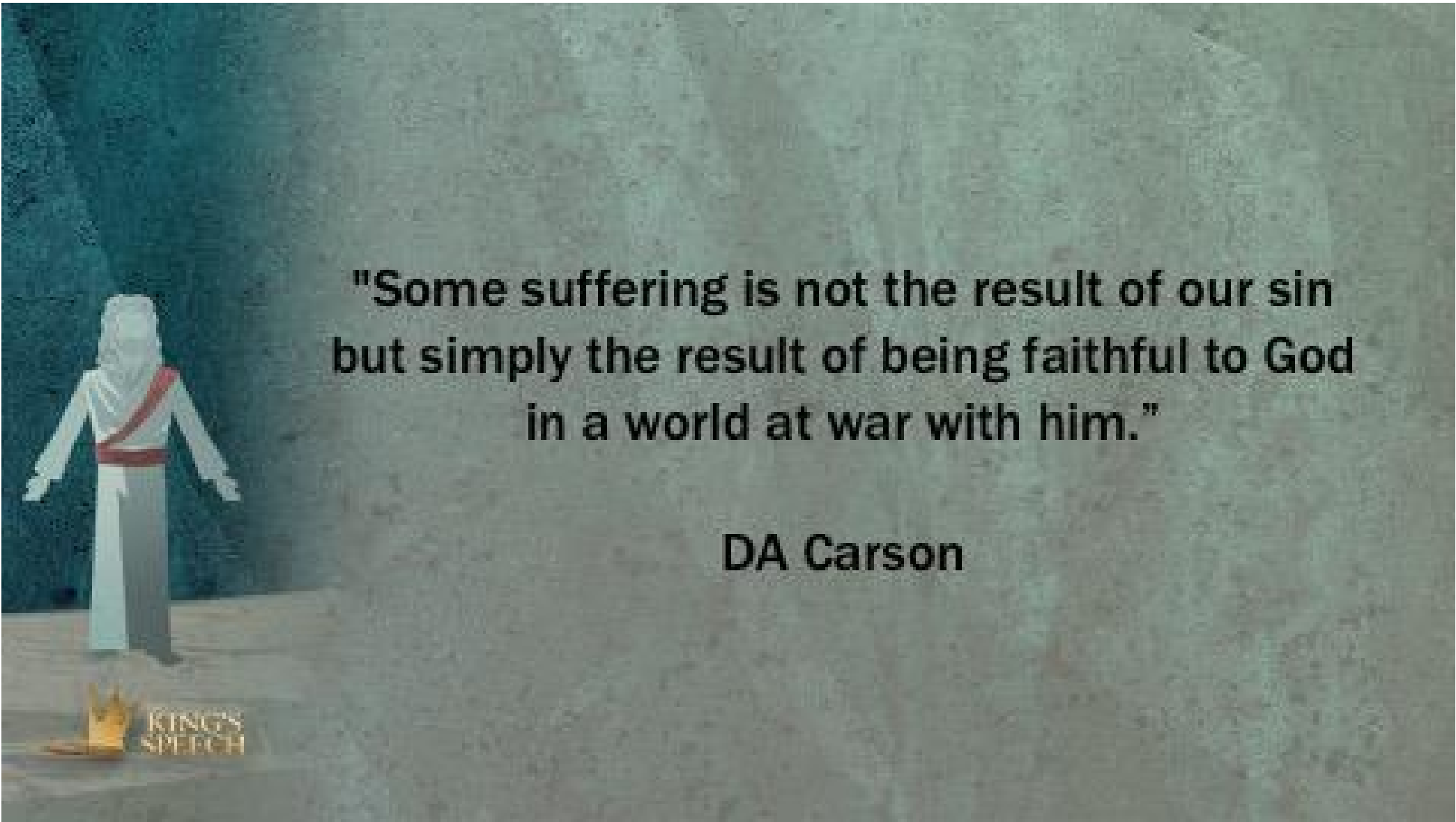


If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

(Joh 15:19 ESV)



KING'S
SPEECH



**"Some suffering is not the result of our sin
but simply the result of being faithful to God
in a world at war with him."**


DA Carson

**KING'S
SPEECH**

Blessed are those who are
persecuted for **righteousness' sake**,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

(Mat 5:10 ESV)






Blessed are you when others revile you
and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil
against you falsely **on my account.**

(Mat 5:11 ESV)



KING'S
SPEECH




Blessed are you when others revile you
and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil
against you falsely **on my account.**

(Mat 5:11 ESV)



KING'S
SPEECH




But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler.
Yet if anyone **suffers as a Christian**,
let him not be ashamed...

(1Pe 4:15,16 ESV)

Rejoice and be glad,

(Mat 5:12 ESV)






**Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward is great in heaven, for so they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.**

(Mat 5:12 ESV)



**KING'S
SPEECH**

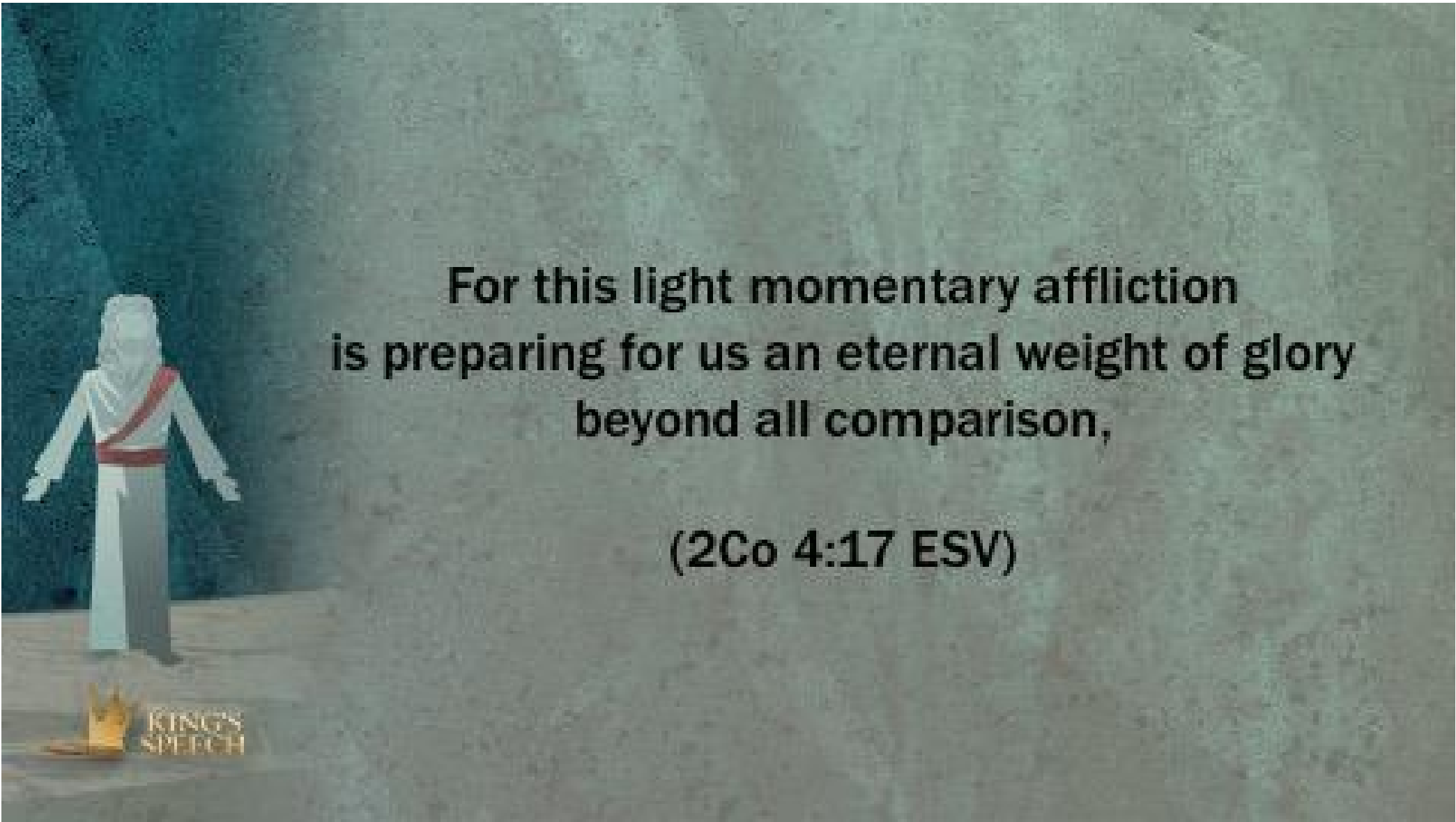


Then they left the presence of the council,
rejoicing that they were counted worthy to
suffer dishonor for the name.

(Acts 5:41 ESV)




KING'S
SPEECH



**For this light momentary affliction
is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory
beyond all comparison,**

(2Co 4:17 ESV)

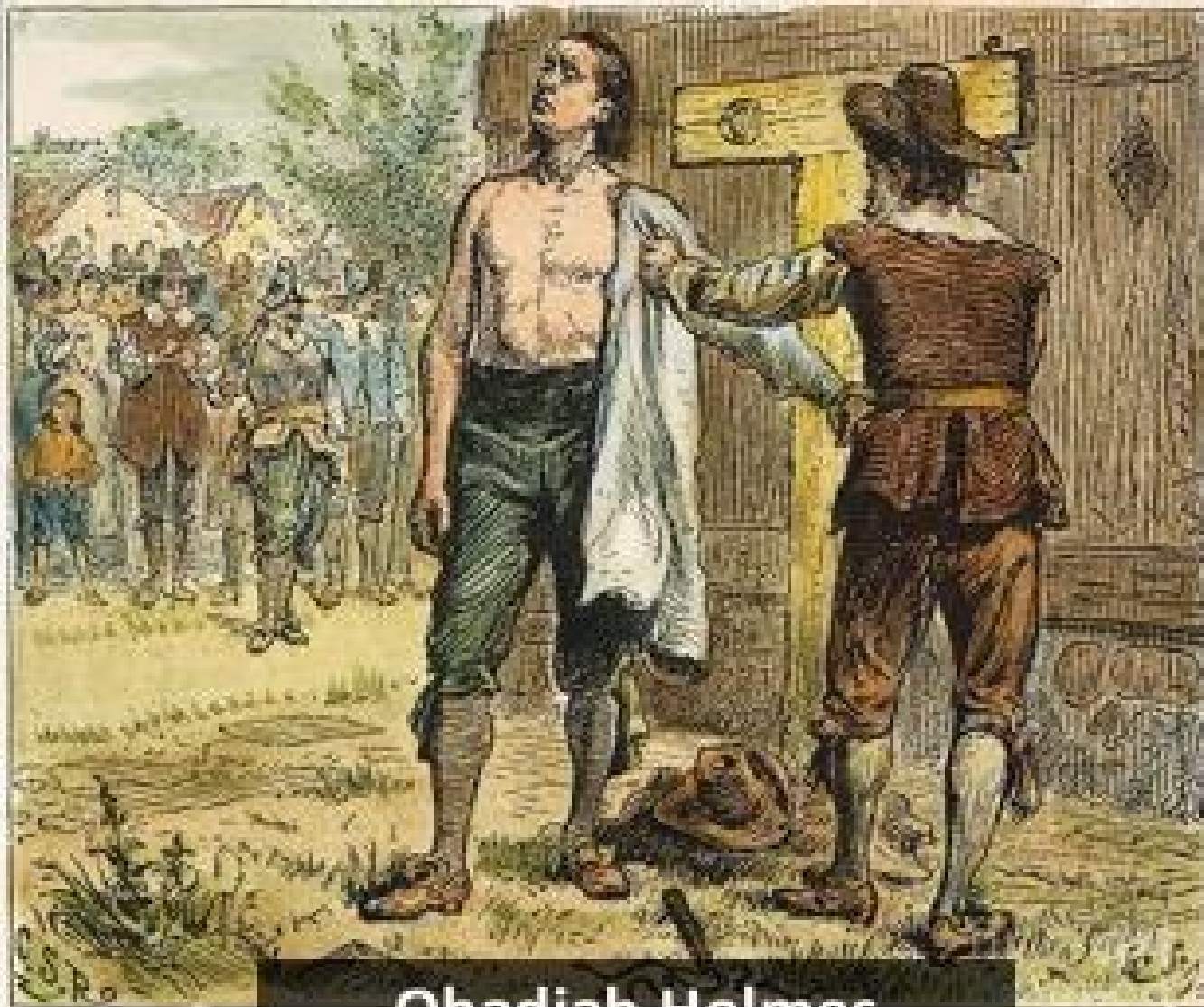


He considered the reproach of Christ
greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt,
for he was **looking to the reward.**

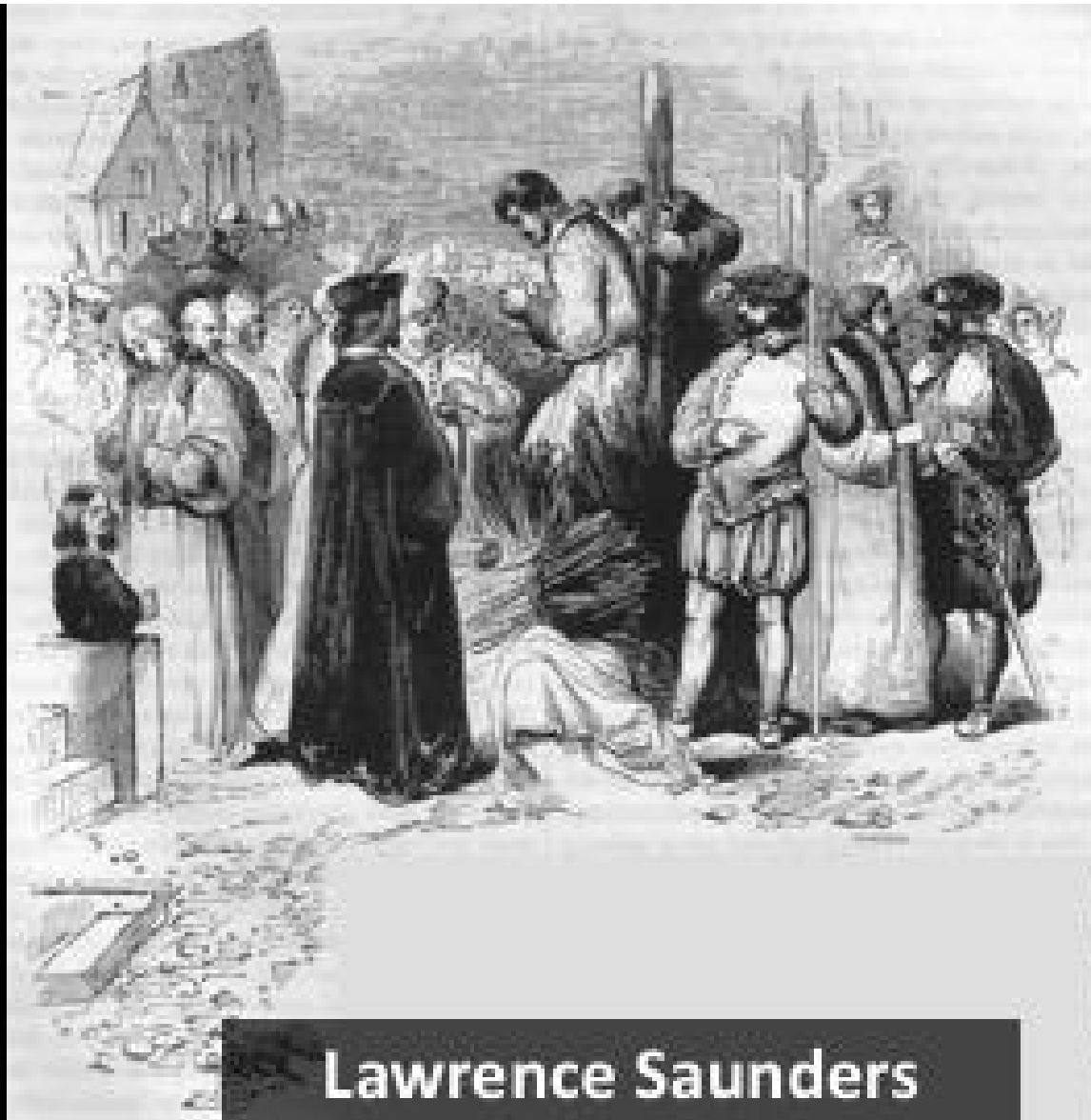
(Heb 11:26 ESV)



KING'S
SPEECH



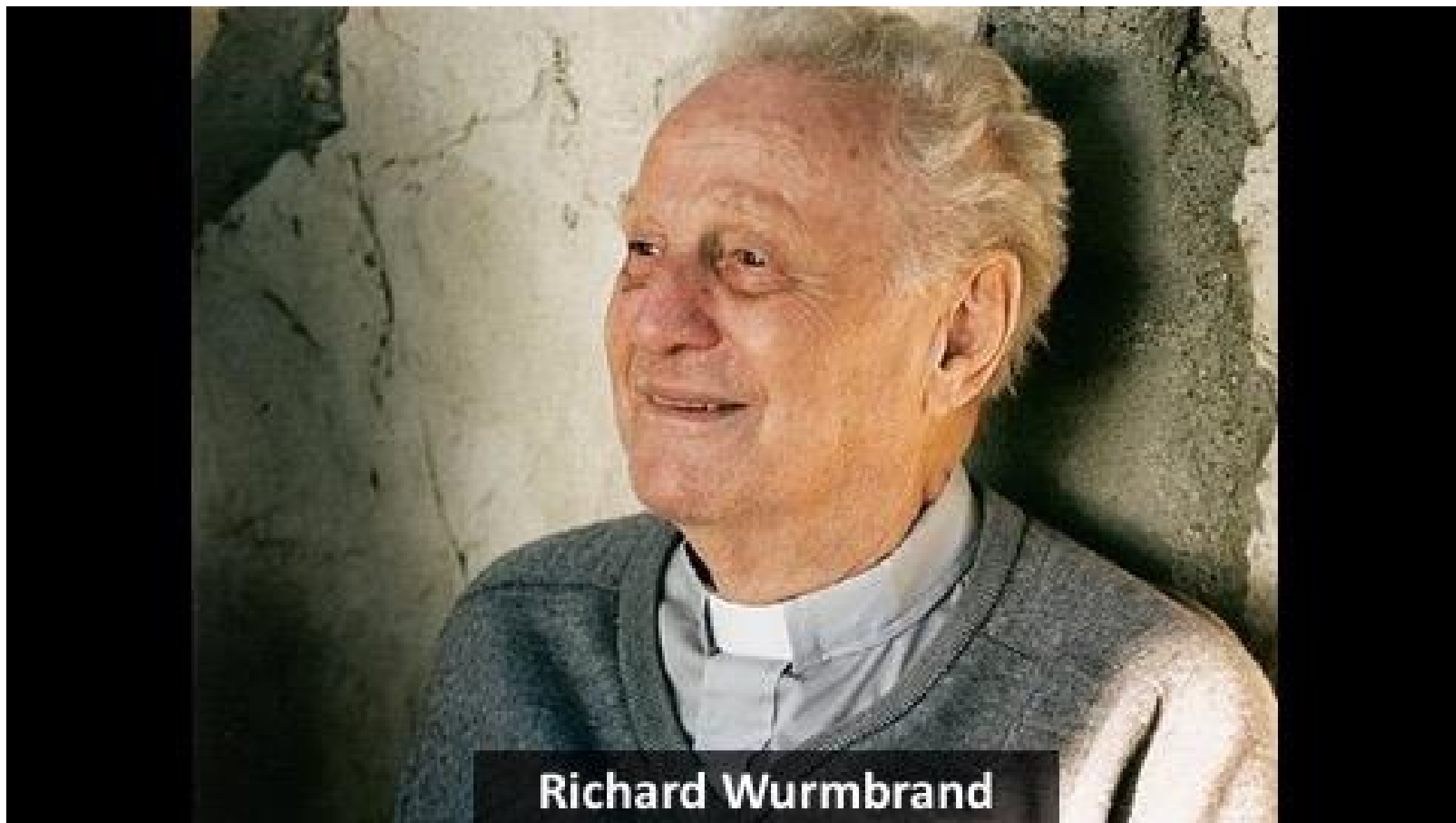
Obadiah Holmes




Lawrence Saunders



Dietrich Bonhoeffer



Richard Wurmbrand



**Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward is great in heaven, for so they
persecuted the prophets who were before you.**


(Mat 5:12 ESV)



**KING'S
SPEECH**



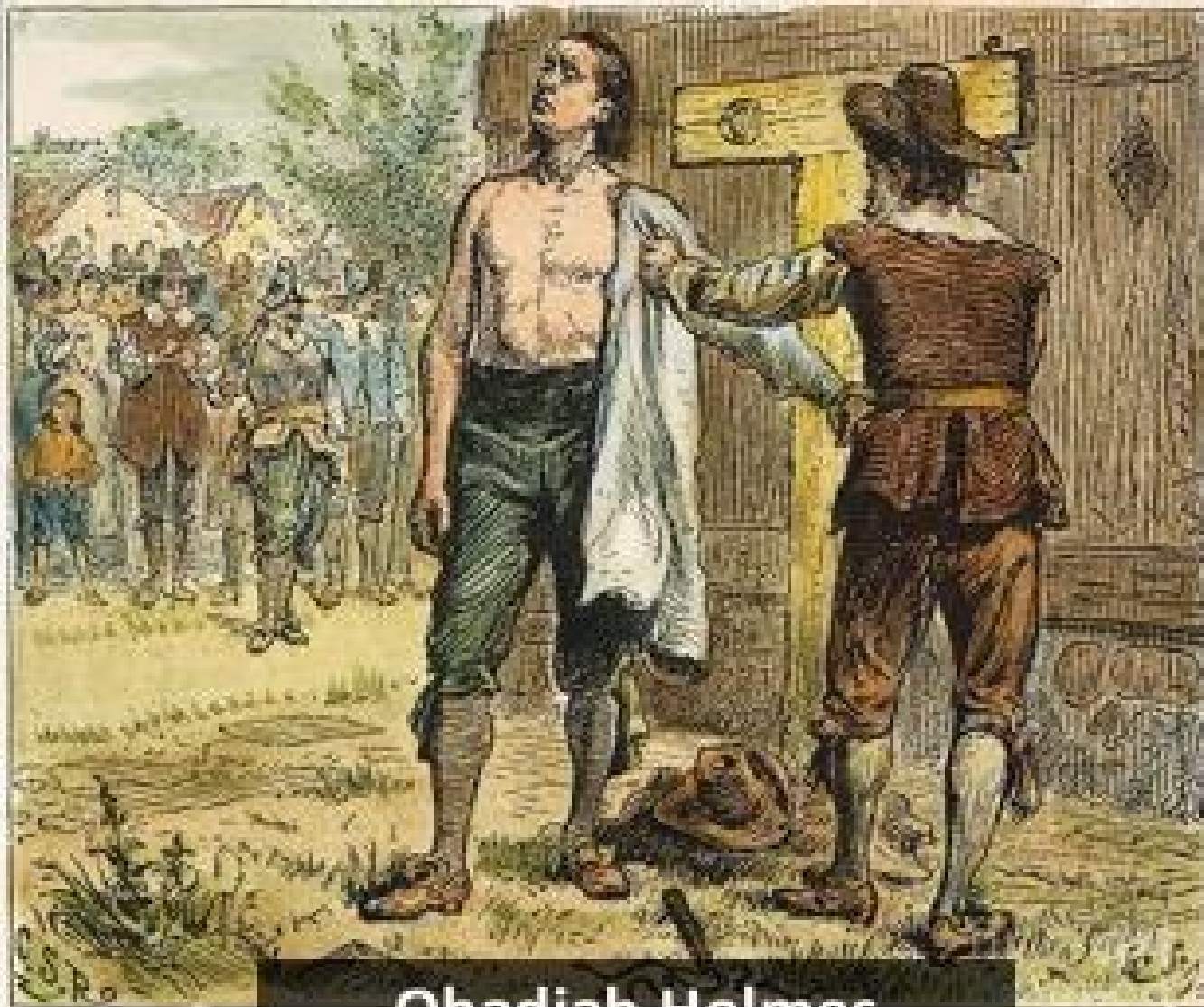
**Suffering...
is the badge of the true Christian.**



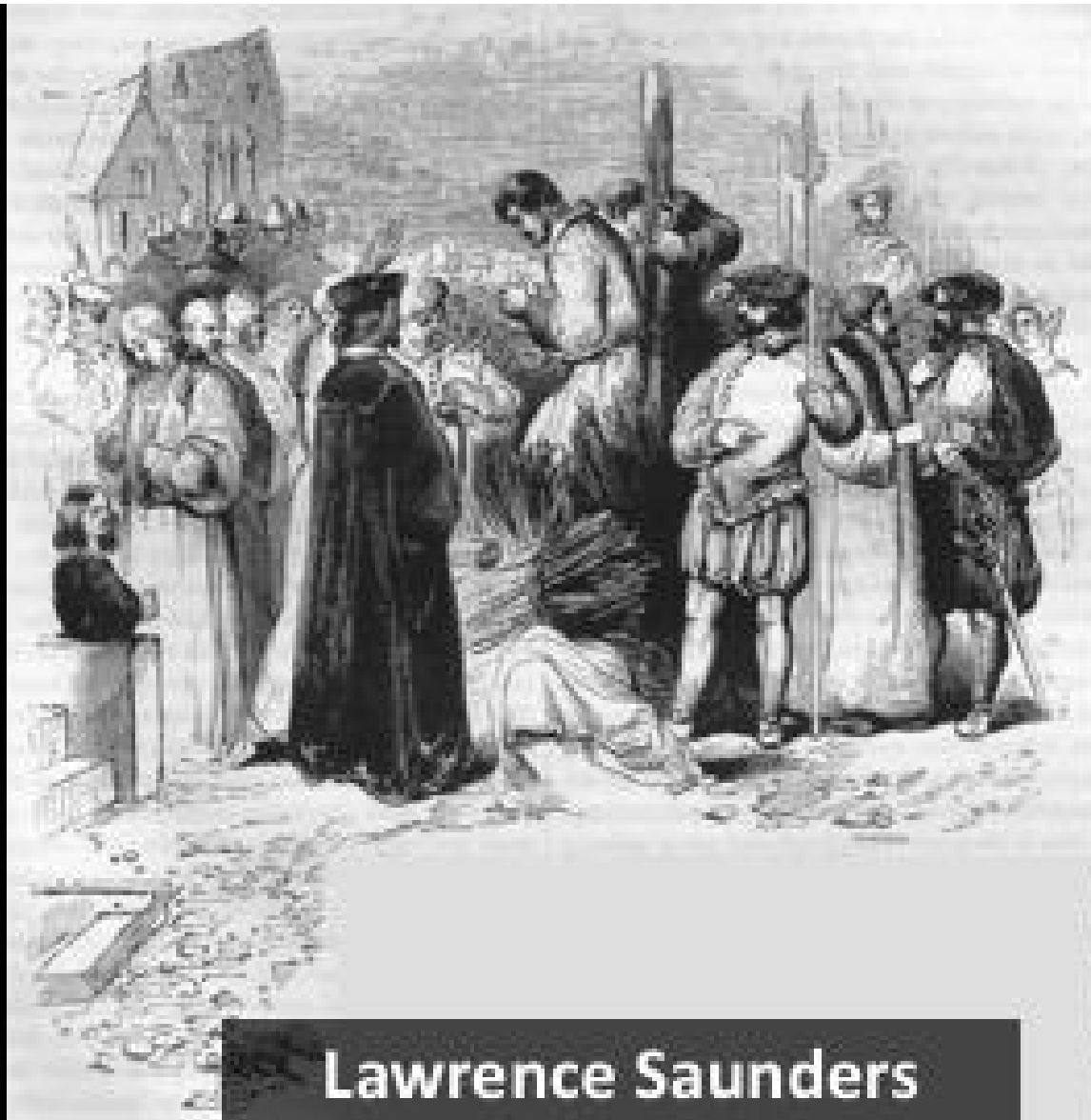
Others suffered mocking and flogging, and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, they were killed with the sword. They went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, afflicted, mistreated

(Heb 11:36,37 ESV)





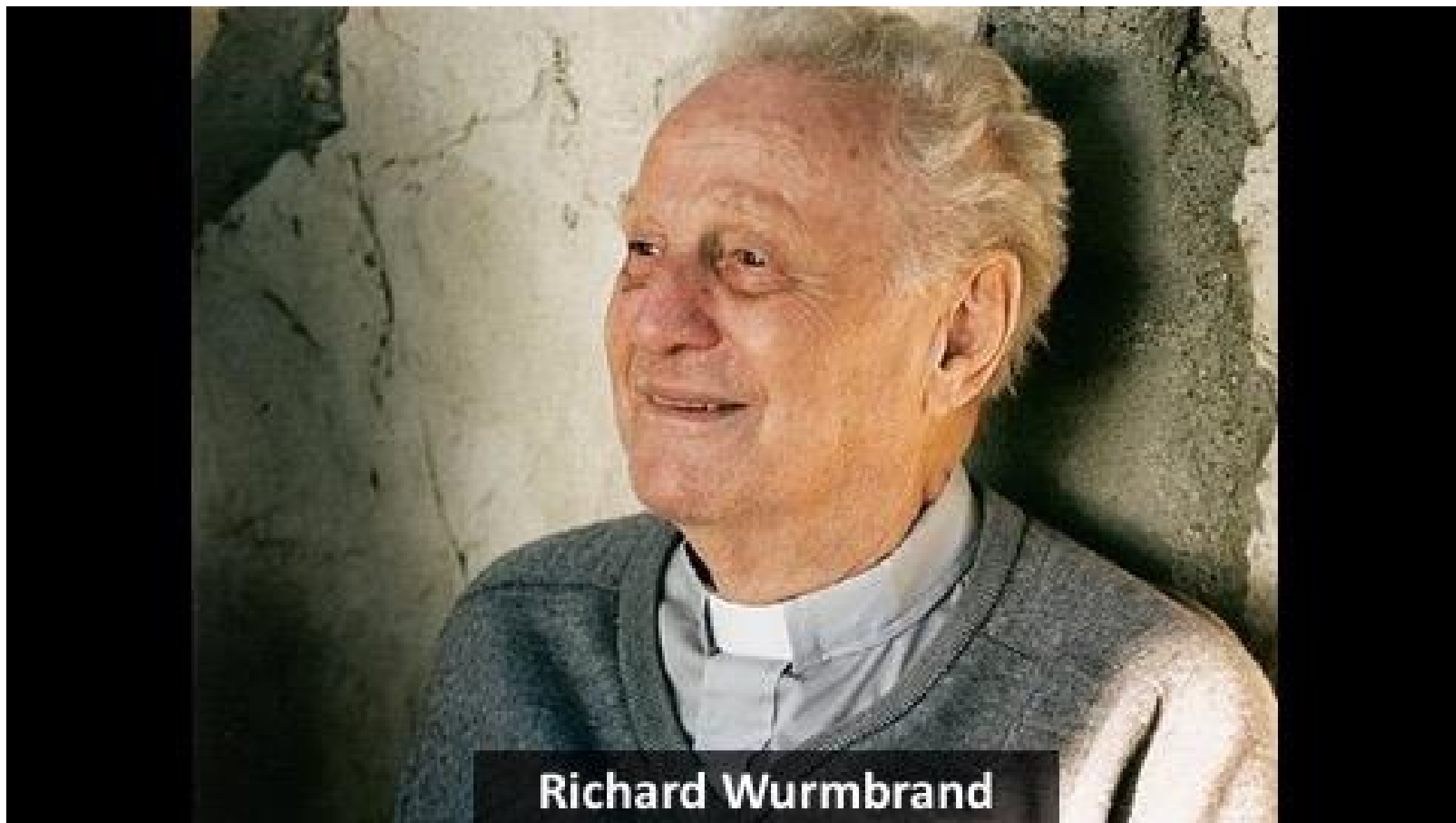
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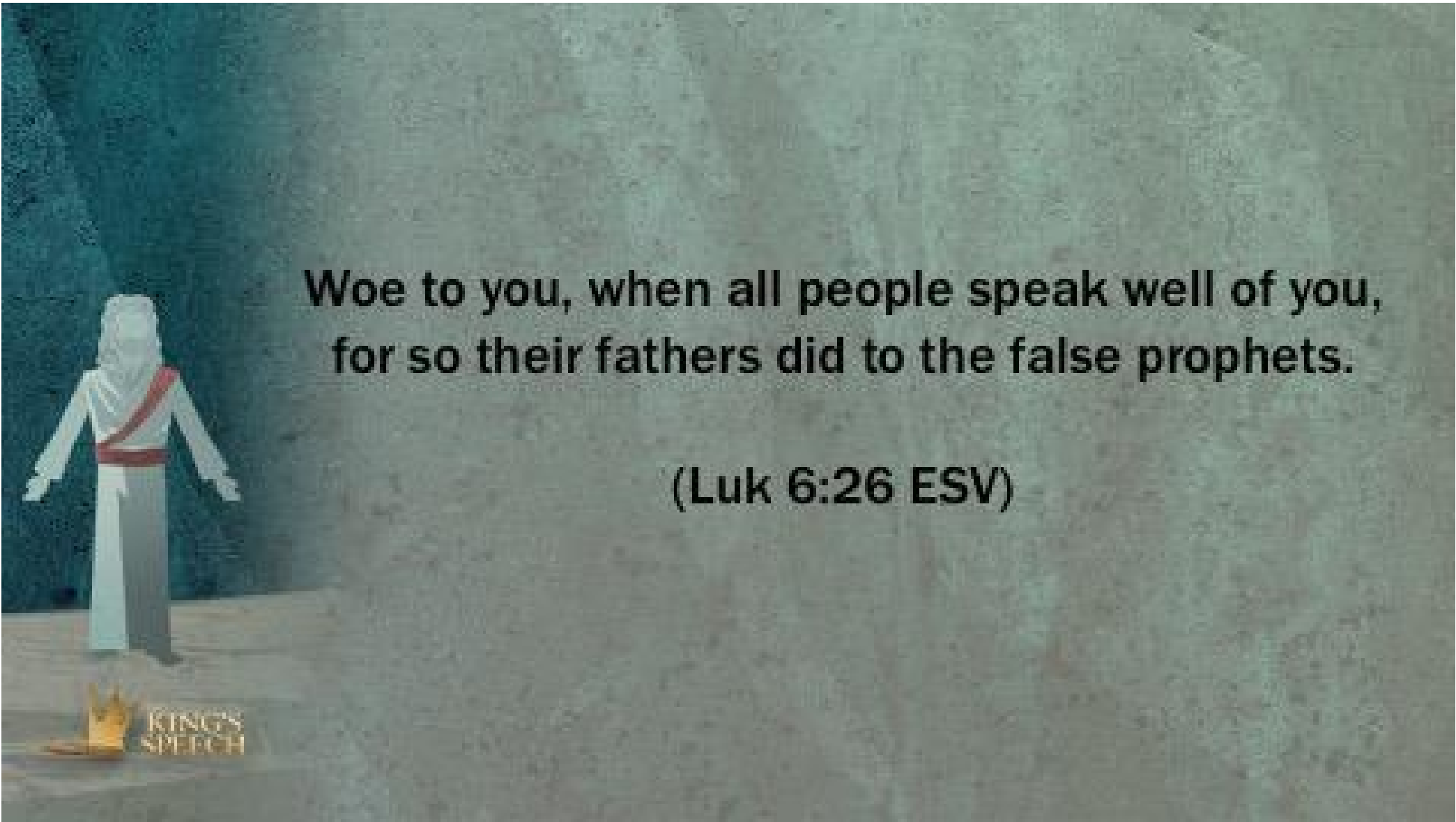


Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony
about our Lord, nor of me his prisoner,
but **share in suffering for the gospel**
by the power of God,

(2Ti 1:8 ESV)




KING'S
SPEECH



**Woe to you, when all people speak well of you,
for so their fathers did to the false prophets.**

(Luk 6:26 ESV)




Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

(Mat 16:24 ESV)



**KING'S
SPEECH**



... encouraging them to continue in the faith,
and saying that through many tribulations
we must enter the kingdom of God.

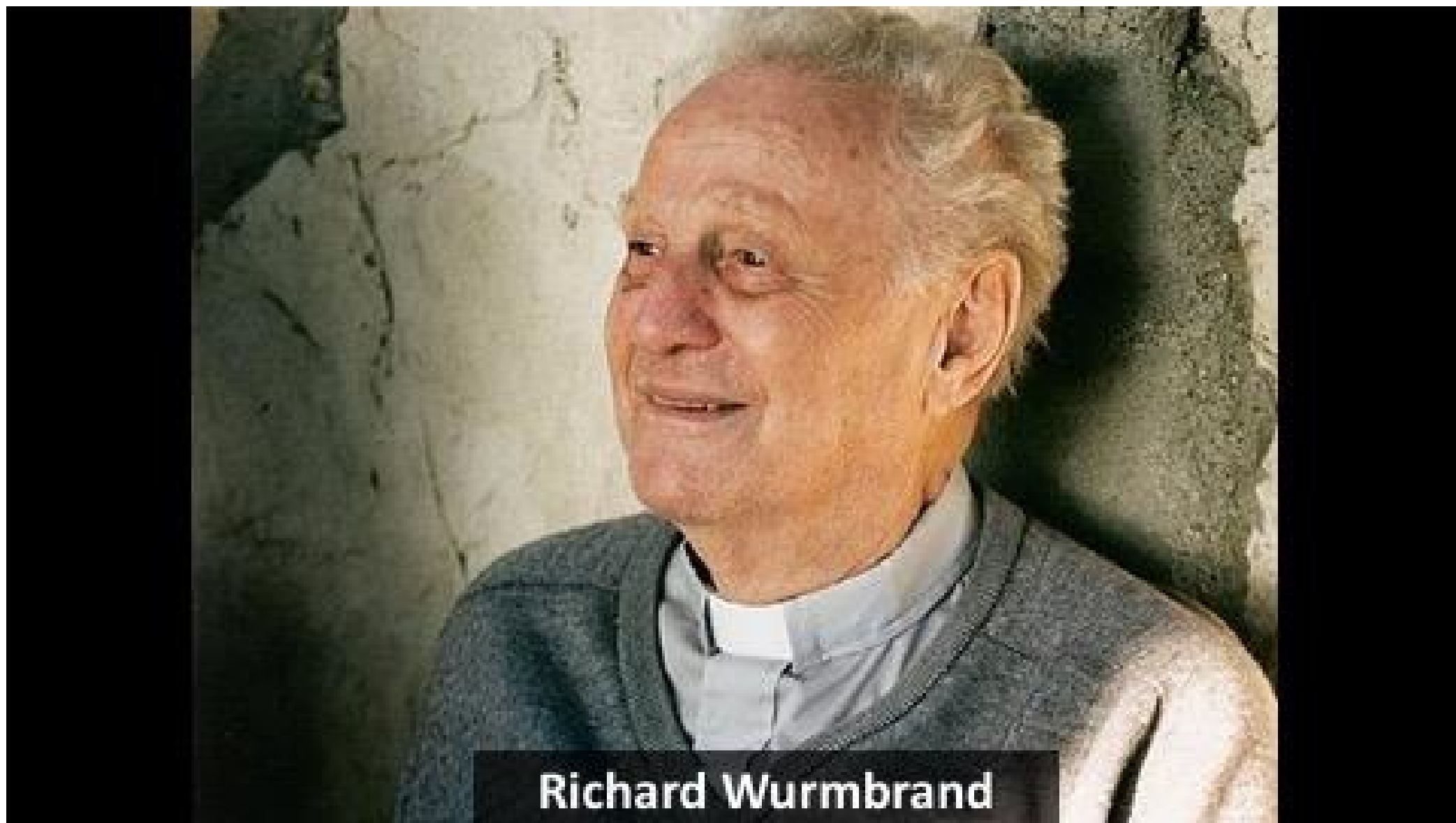
(Act 14:22 ESV)



KING'S
SPEECH



**Suffering...
is the badge of the true Christian.**



Richard Wurmbrand

"I remember my last Sunday School class...I took a group of ten to fifteen boys and girls on a Sunday morning, not to a church, but to the zoo. Before the cage of lions I told them, 'Your forefathers in faith were thrown before such wild beasts for their faith. Know that you also will have to suffer. You will not be thrown before lions, but you will have to suffer at the hands of men who would be much worse than lions. Decide here and now whether you wish to pledge allegiance to Christ'"

Richard Wurmbrand,
The triumphant church

**Blessed are those who are
persecuted for righteousness' sake,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven**

(Mat 5:10 ESV)

