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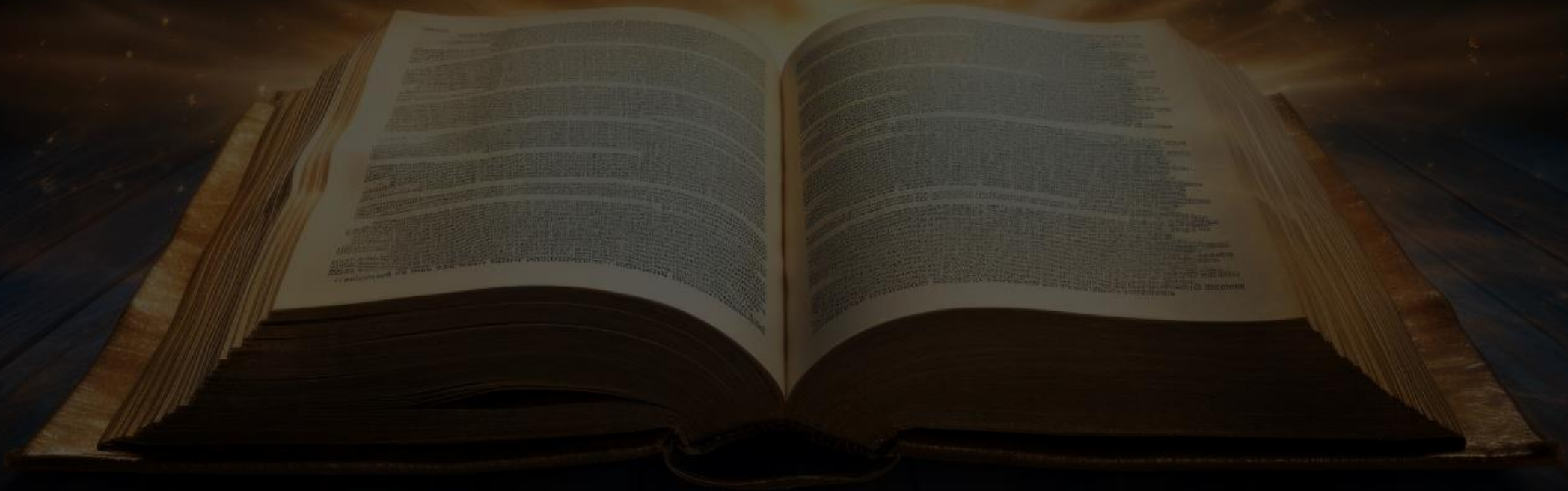
Pleasant Hill
CHRISTIAN
CHURCH

The background of the slide features a close-up, slightly blurred image of an open Bible. The pages are a light cream color, and the dark binding is visible in the center. A bright red bookmark is placed in the upper right corner of the right page. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent teal filter.

Why I Believe the Bible

BUT HE ANSWERED AND SAID, IT IS WRITTEN, MAN SHALL NOT LIVE BY BREAD ALONE, BUT BY EVERY WORD THAT PROCEEDETH OUT OF THE MOUTH OF GOD. MATTHEW 4:4

► "The Bible is the bestselling book of all time with over five billion copies sold and distributed. Eighty-eight percent of American homes own a Bible and over 180 million users worldwide have downloaded a Bible app for their mobile device."



Questions about the Bible

- ▶ Is the Bible the word of men or the very words of God?
- ▶ Is the Bible full of myths, legends, and fairy tales, or is it historically reliable?
- ▶ Is all of the Bible true and trustworthy or only portions of it?
- ▶ Can a Bible that has been translated so many times over so many years really be accurate?
- ▶ What makes the Bible so different from all the other religious writings and their claims to truth?

Why I Believe the Bible

- ▶ Reason #1: Archaeology
- ▶ Reason #2: Revelation
- ▶ Reason #3: Origin
- ▶ Reason #4: Authenticity
- ▶ Reason #5: Jesus





Why I Believe the Bible

- ▶ Reason #1:
Archaeology

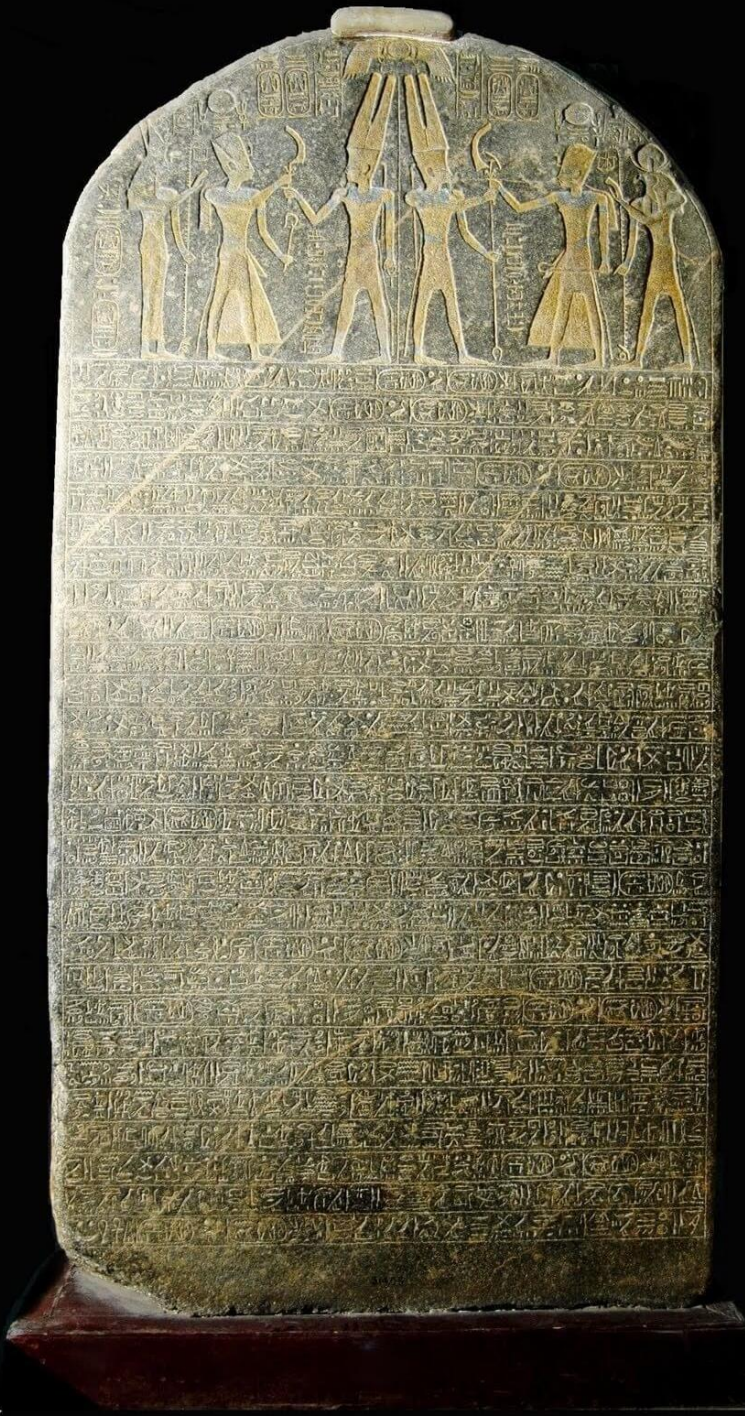


Why I Believe the Bible

► Hittite Civilization: Archaeological discoveries over the last 150 years have uncovered Hittite ruins, artifacts, and ten thousand clay tablets from the royal archives, confirming the existence of the Hittite civilization

Why I Believe the Bible

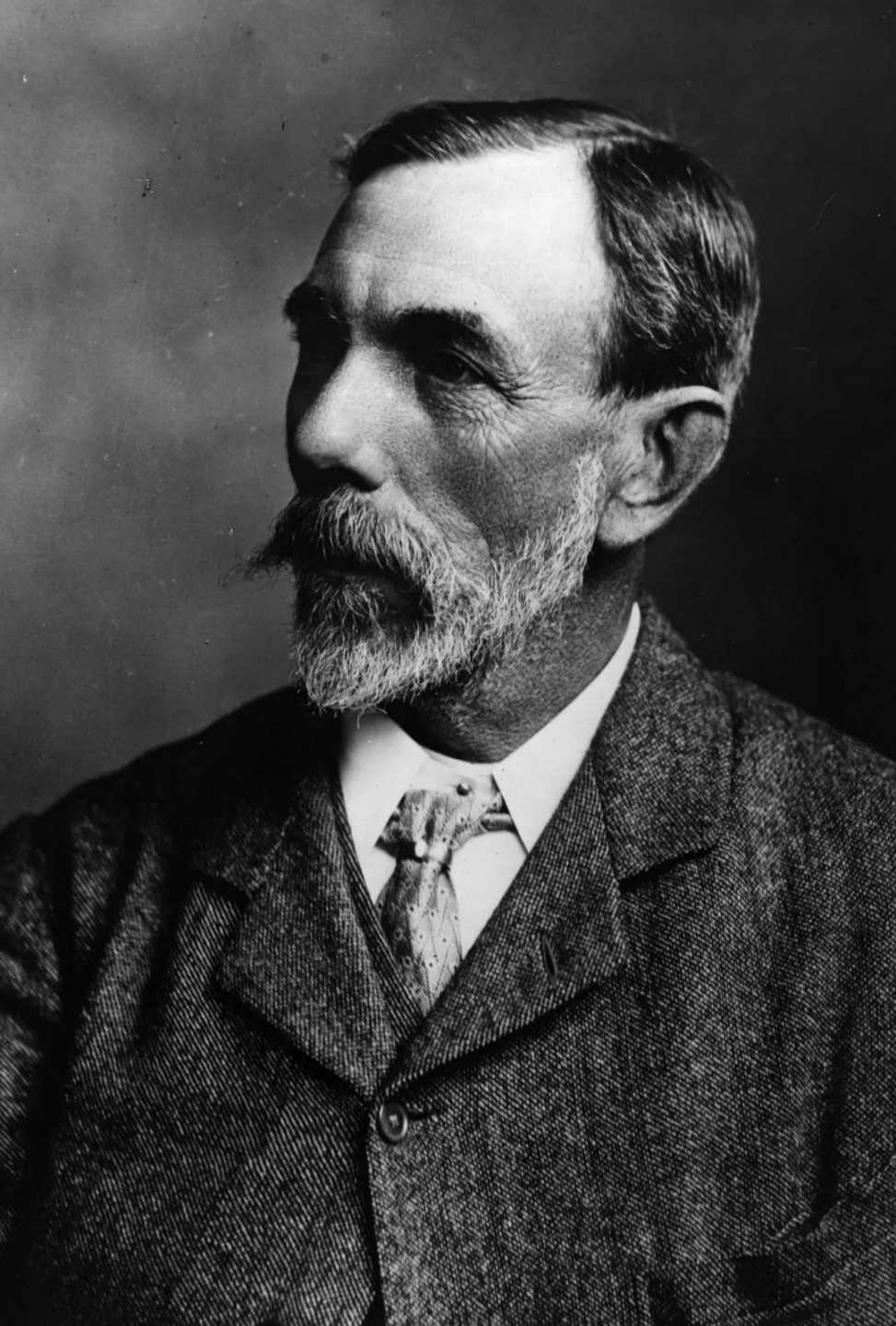
► Merneptah Stele: This inscription by an ancient Egyptian king, dating back to 1207 BC, was discovered in 1896. It is the earliest connection between archaeology and the Bible, verifying that a people called "Israel" existed and lived in the land of Canaan following the Exodus





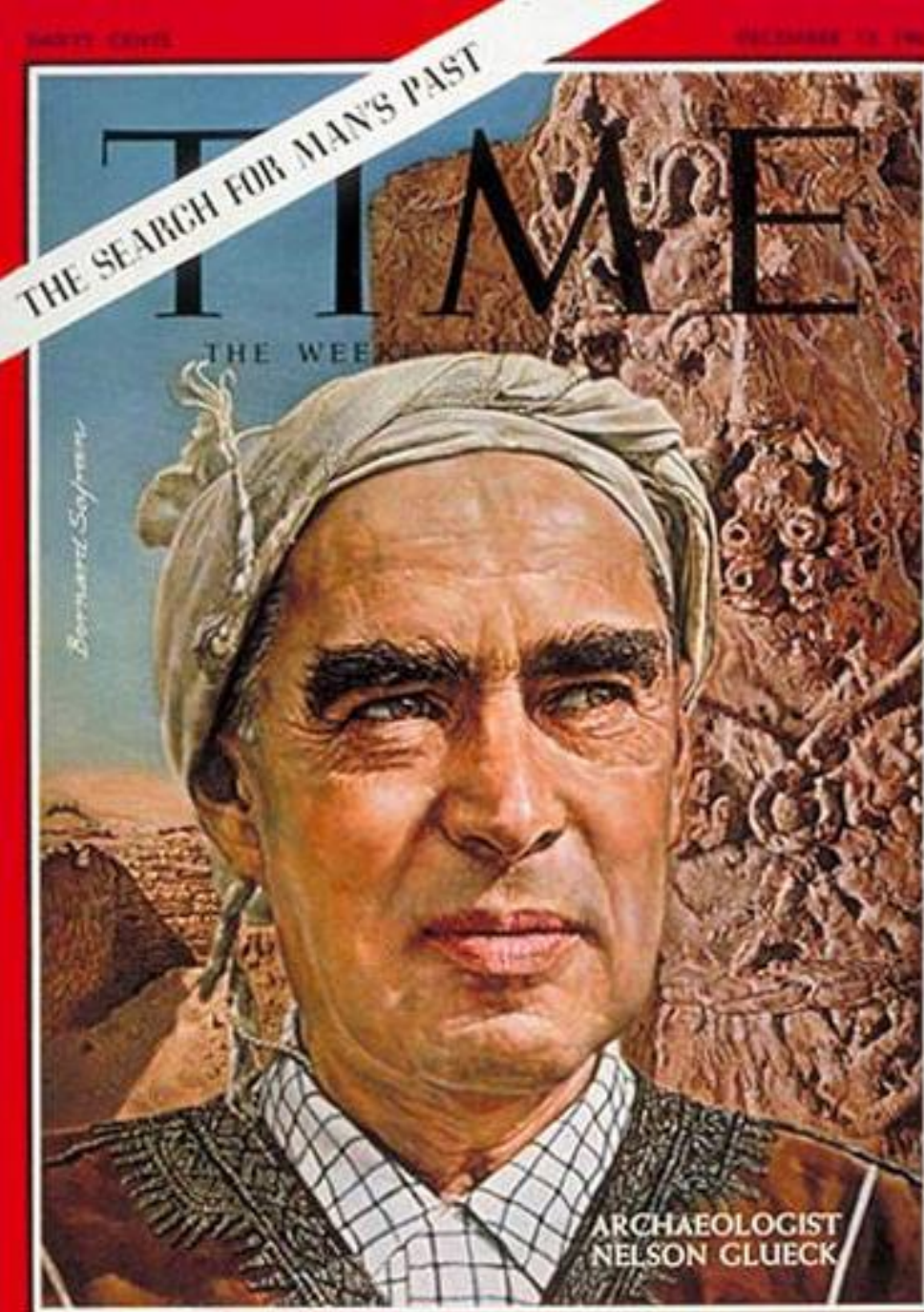
Why I Believe the Bible

► Tel Dan Inscription:
Discovered in 1993 by an Israeli archaeologist, this ninth-century stone tablet commemorates an Aramean king's defeat of his southern enemies, including the "king of Israel" and the "king of the House of David." This inscription confirms that King David was a real person.



Why I Believe the Bible

► Sir William Ramsay: A famous archaeologist and historian who initially set out to disprove the historical reliability of the New Testament. After fourteen years of research, he concluded that "Luke is a historian of the first rank" and that his statements of fact are trustworthy.




Why I Believe the Bible

► Dr. Nelson Glueck: An American rabbi and archaeologist who discovered over 1,500 ancient sites in Israel. He stated that no archaeological discovery has ever contradicted a Biblical reference and that many findings confirm historical statements in the Bible.

Why I Believe the Bible

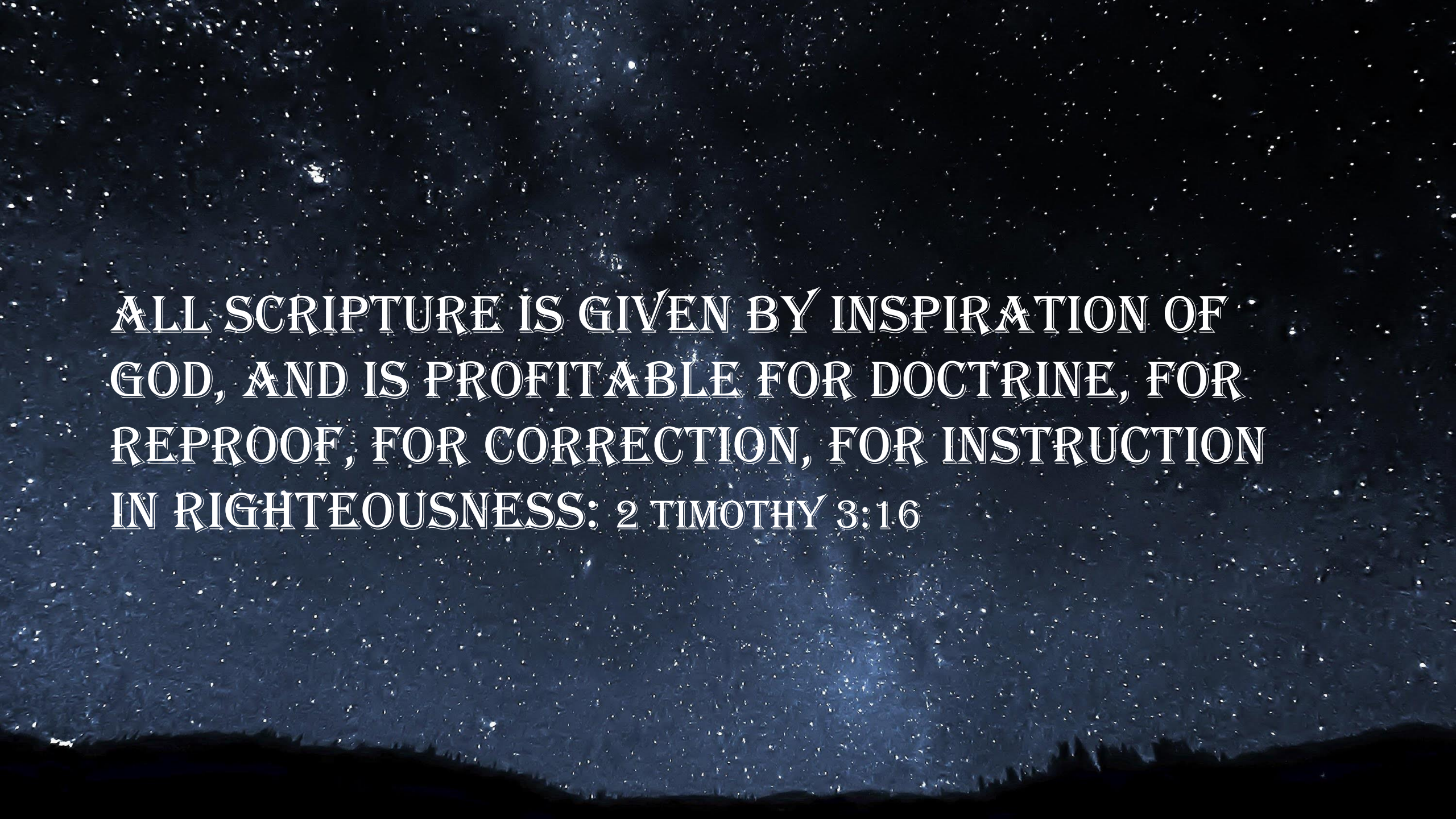
► Reason #2: Revelation





THE HEAVENS
DECLARE THE
GLORY OF GOD;
AND THE
FIRMAMENT
SHEWETH HIS
HANDYWORK.


Psalms 19:1



ALL SCRIPTURE IS GIVEN BY INSPIRATION OF
GOD, AND IS PROFITABLE FOR DOCTRINE, FOR
REPROOF, FOR CORRECTION, FOR INSTRUCTION
IN RIGHTEOUSNESS: 2 TIMOTHY 3:16

FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS QUICK, AND
POWERFUL, AND SHARPER THAN ANY
TWOEDGED SWORD, PIERCING EVEN TO THE
DIVIDING ASUNDER OF SOUL AND SPIRIT, AND OF
THE JOINTS AND MARROW, AND IS A DISCERNER
OF THE THOUGHTS AND INTENTS OF THE HEART.
HEBREWS 4:12

FOR THE SCRIPTURE SAITH, THOU SHALT NOT
MUZZLE THE OX THAT TREADETH OUT THE
CORN. AND, THE LABOURER IS WORTHY OF HIS
REWARD. 1 TIMOTHY 5:18



AND ACCOUNT (CONSIDER) THAT THE
LONGSUFFERING OF OUR LORD IS SALVATION; EVEN
AS OUR BELOVED BROTHER PAUL ALSO ACCORDING
TO THE WISDOM GIVEN UNTO HIM HATH WRITTEN
UNTO YOU; AS ALSO IN ALL HIS EPISTLES,
SPEAKING IN THEM OF THESE THINGS; IN WHICH
ARE SOME THINGS HARD TO BE UNDERSTOOD,
WHICH THEY THAT ARE UNLEARNED AND
UNSTABLE WREST, AS THEY DO ALSO THE OTHER
SCRIPTURES, UNTO THEIR OWN DESTRUCTION.

2 PETER 3:15-16

Why I Believe the Bible

► Reason #3: Origin



It had to be the strangest publishing project of all time. No editor or publishing house was responsible for forty independent authors representing twenty occupations, living in ten countries during a fifteen-hundred-year span, working in three languages with a cast of two thousand nine hundred and thirty characters in fifteen hundred and fifty places. And together they produced sixty-six books containing eleven hundred and eighty-nine chapters. And from every conceivable form: prose, poetry, romance, mystery, biography, science, and history. What was the final product? The Bible. One evidence that the Bible is a supernatural book is the unity that it displays, despite such wide differences among authors, cultures, and forms of expression.⁶

Terry Hall, "How We Got Our Old Testament," *Moody Monthly Journal*, January 1987, 32.

Why I Believe the Bible

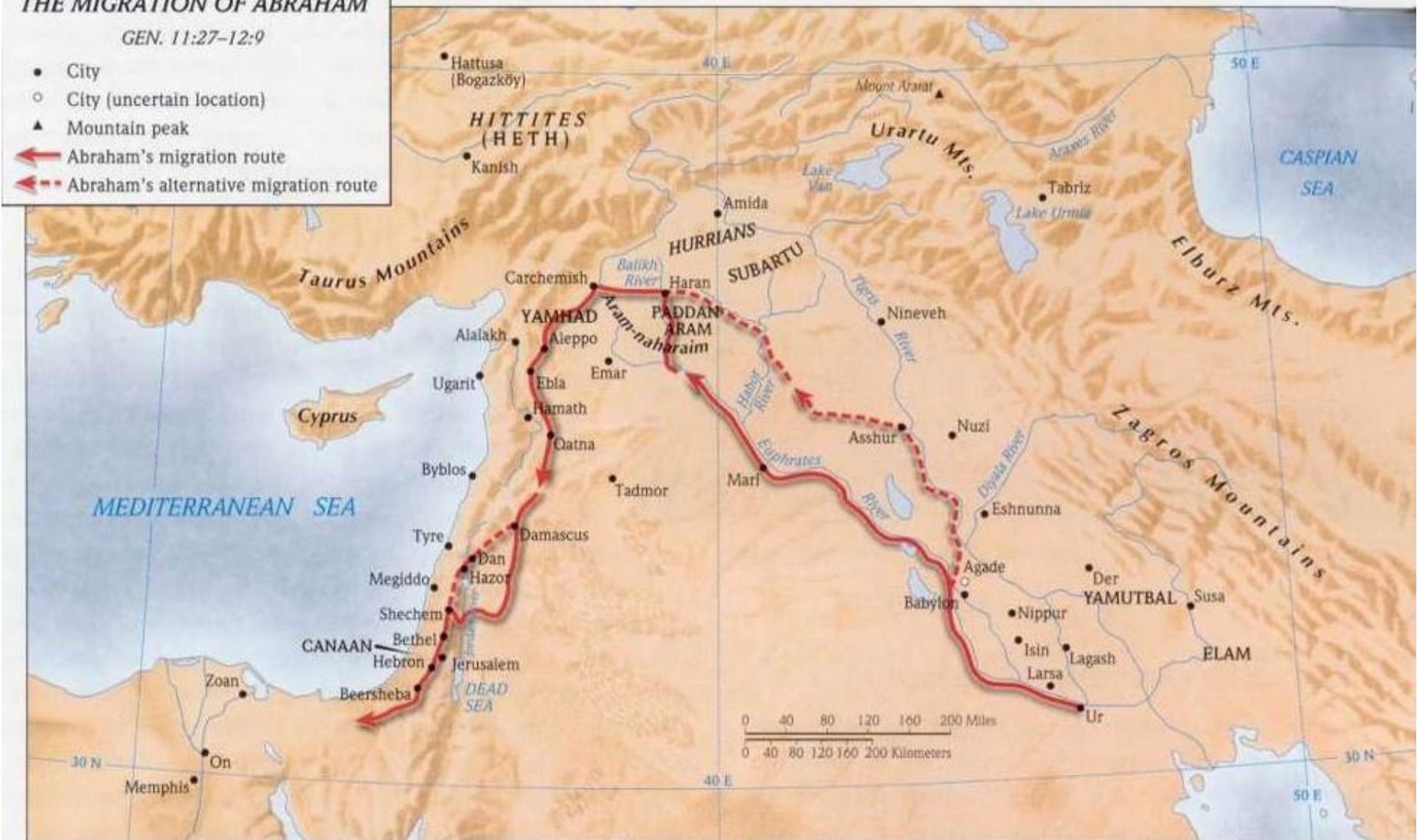
► Reason #4: Authenticity



THE MIGRATION OF ABRAHAM

GEN. 11:27-12:9

- City
- City (uncertain location)
- ▲ Mountain peak
- Abraham's migration route
- - -→ Abraham's alternative migration route



David

Peter

Paul



Why I Believe the Bible

► Reason #5: Jesus



1- It was divinely inspired—Matt. 22:31–32; 43.

2- It was without error and infallible—John 10:35; 17:17; Matt. 22:29.

3- It is the final authority—Matt. 4:4, 7, 10.

4- It is historically reliable. Jesus believed in a literal Adam and Eve—Matt. 19:4–5; Noah and the ark and a worldwide flood—Matt. 24:37; the literal life and faith of Abraham—John 8:56; the destruction of Sodom—Luke 17:29, 32; the law as given by Moses—John 7:19; Matt. 19:18; manna given in the wilderness—John 6:31–51; as well as the historical life of David, the queen of Sheba, Solomon, Elijah, and even the story of Jonah and the great fish.

5- The Scripture was sufficient for life and faith—Luke 16:31

Jesus believed the
extent of the Old
Testament authority
included

The very words of
Scripture—Luke 24:44.

The specific tenses of
verbs—Matt. 22:32.

The smallest portion of
the letters in words were
inspired—Matt. 5:17–18





THINK NOT THAT I AM COME
TO DESTROY THE LAW, OR
THE PROPHETS: I AM NOT
COME TO DESTROY, BUT TO
FULFIL. FOR VERILY I SAY
UNTO YOU, TILL HEAVEN
AND EARTH PASS, ONE JOT
OR ONE TITTLE SHALL IN NO
WISE PASS FROM THE LAW,
TILL ALL BE FULFILLED.

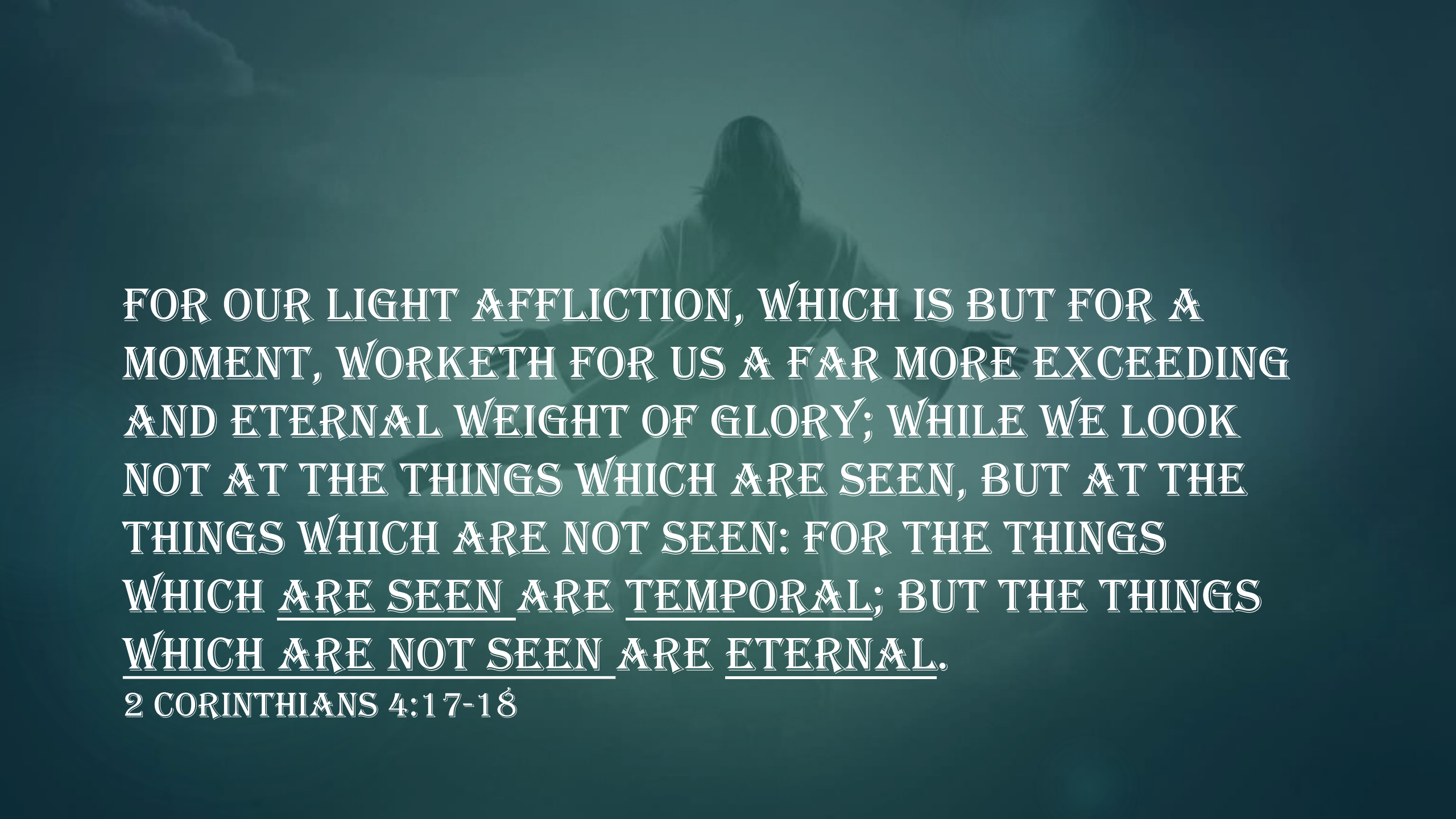
MATTHEW 5:17-18

JESUS ANSWERED AND SAID UNTO THEM, YE DO ERR, NOT KNOWING THE SCRIPTURES, NOR THE POWER OF GOD. FOR IN THE RESURRECTION THEY NEITHER MARRY, NOR ARE GIVEN IN MARRIAGE, BUT ARE AS THE ANGELS OF GOD IN HEAVEN. BUT AS TOUCHING THE RESURRECTION OF THE DEAD, HAVE YE NOT READ THAT WHICH WAS SPOKEN UNTO YOU BY GOD, SAYING, I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB? GOD IS NOT THE GOD OF THE DEAD, BUT OF THE LIVING.

MATTHEW 22:29-32



Are you a Christian?



FOR OUR LIGHT AFFLICTION, WHICH IS BUT FOR A
MOMENT, WORKETH FOR US A FAR MORE EXCEEDING
AND ETERNAL WEIGHT OF GLORY; WHILE WE LOOK
NOT AT THE THINGS WHICH ARE SEEN, BUT AT THE
THINGS WHICH ARE NOT SEEN: FOR THE THINGS
WHICH ARE SEEN ARE TEMPORAL; BUT THE THINGS
WHICH ARE NOT SEEN ARE ETERNAL.

2 CORINTHIANS 4:17-18