RUN from SIN

Sound Mind Ministries
DIANA KETTERMAN



RUN to JESUS

Run for Your Life

David Wilkerson's First Sunday after 9/11/01



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VRTTHwFRIJQ

- **Jeremiah** was known as “**the weeping prophet**”.
- **Jeremiah** had witnessed **many changes** taking place in his nation.
- **And so have we.**
- **So much has changed in the Body of Christ since I was a child.**
- I can truly say that **I can relate to the prophet Jeremiah**!
- His **heart was broken** over the spiritual condition of God’s people in his day; and **so is mine**.
- We see the **mass confusion** and **comprise** that is **pervading** the church.



- Jeremiah's nation, the southern kingdom of Judah, had **turned from the living God to worship idols.**
- Soon after the consequent fall of Jerusalem and the destruction of its glorious temple by the armies of King Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon, around 586 BC, Jeremiah penned these words.
  - How **doth the city sit solitary**, *that was* full of people! ***how* is she become as a widow**! she *that was* great among the nations, *and* princess among the provinces, *how* is she become tributary!
  - She **weepeth sore in the night**, and her tears *are* on her cheeks: **among all her lovers she hath none to comfort *her***: all her **friends** have dealt treacherously with her, **they are become her enemies**.
  - **Judah is gone into captivity** because of affliction, and because of great servitude: she dwelleth among the heathen, she findeth no rest: **all her persecutors overtook her between the straits**.
  - The ways of Zion do mourn, because none come to the solemn feasts: **all her gates are desolate**: her priests sigh, her virgins are afflicted, and **she *is* in bitterness**.
  - Her adversaries are the chief, **her enemies prosper**; **for the LORD hath afflicted her for the multitude of her transgressions**: her **children are gone into captivity** before the enemy.
  - And **from the daughter of Zion all her beauty is departed**: her princes are become like harts *that* find no pasture, and they are gone **without strength before the pursuer**.
  - Jerusalem **remembered** in the days of her affliction and of her miseries **all her pleasant things that she had in the days of old**, when **her people fell into the hand of the enemy**, and **none did help her: the adversaries saw her, *and* did mock at her** sabbaths.
  - Jerusalem **hath grievously sinned**; **therefore she is removed**: all **that honoured her despise her, because they have seen her nakedness: yea, she sigheth, and turneth backward.**
  - **Her filthiness *is* in her skirts**; she remembereth not her last end; **therefore she came down wonderfully**: she had no comforter. O LORD, behold my affliction: **for the enemy hath magnified *himself***. Lamentations 1:1-9



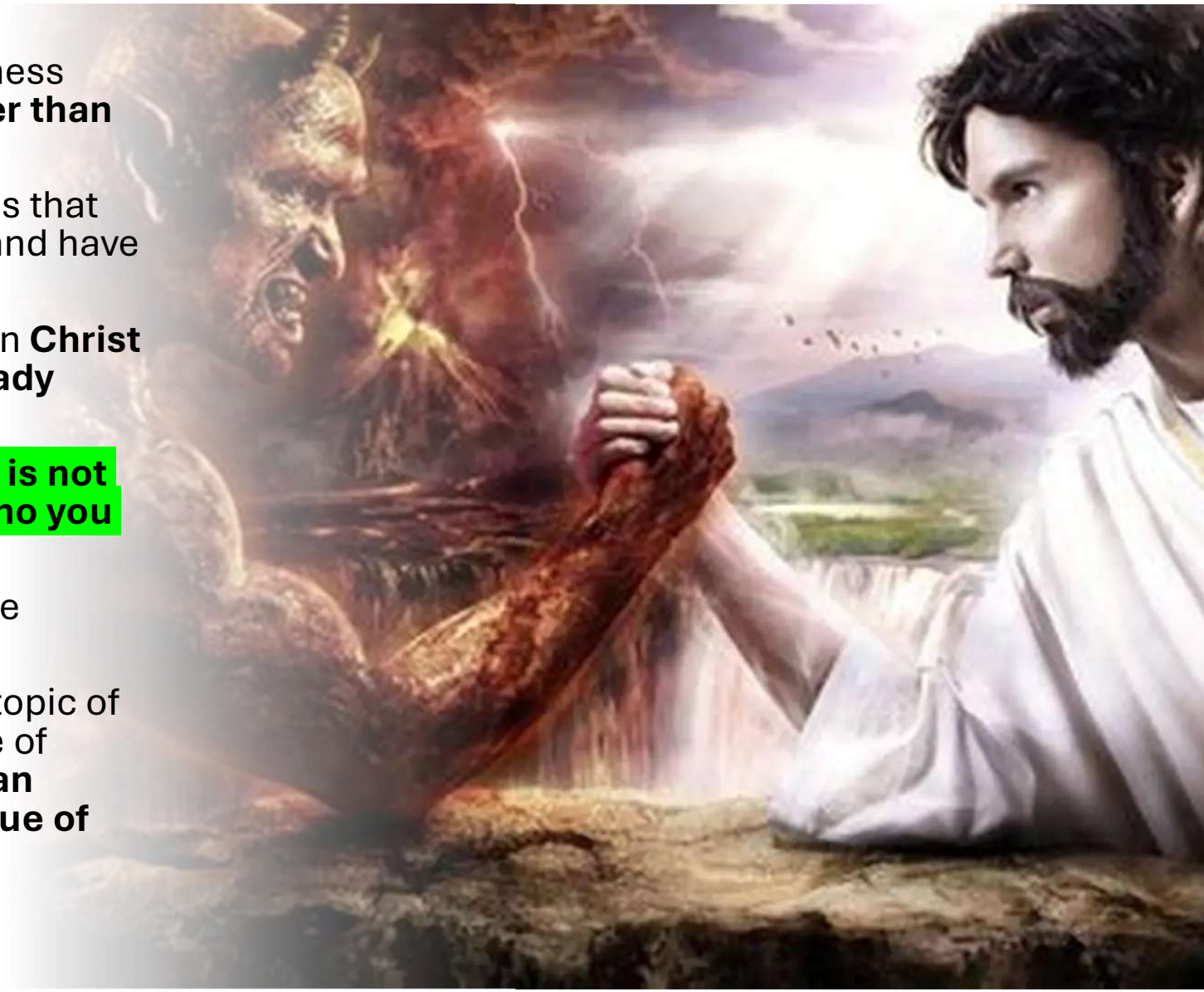
- **Lamentations** is a book that is rarely taught.
- The verses of the book are **gut-wrenching**.
- It isn't a book for "devotional study"; yet, the words of Jeremiah are **in alignment with the hour**.
- After hearing his lament over the ancient people of God, and seeing the **spiritual condition** of the post-modern Church, I can say with Jeremiah
  - **For these *things* I weep; mine eye, mine eye runneth down with water**… Lamentations 1:16



- Paul describes his suffering for the Church in Colossians 1:24-29
  - Who now **rejoice in my sufferings for you**, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:
  - Whereof **I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God** which is given to me for you, **to fulfil the word of God**;
  - *Even* the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, **but now is made manifest to his saints:**
  - To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; **which is Christ in you, the hope of glory**:
  - Whom we **preach**, **warning every man**, and **teaching** every man in all wisdom; that we may **present every man perfect in Christ Jesus**:
  - Whereunto I also labour, striving **according to his working**, **which worketh in me** mightily.



- I am a teacher of righteousness with **a focus on Jesus rather than the devil.**
- One of the major concerns is that **many are double minded** and have a **spirit of duality**.
- We must know who we are in **Christ based** on what **he has already done.**
- **The finished work of Jesus is not who you used to be, but who you are IN HIM.**
- This is the **Good News** of the **Gospel of the Kingdom**.
- One may not think that the topic of SIN doesn't fit with this type of thinking; however, **there is an urgency to address the issue of SIN.**



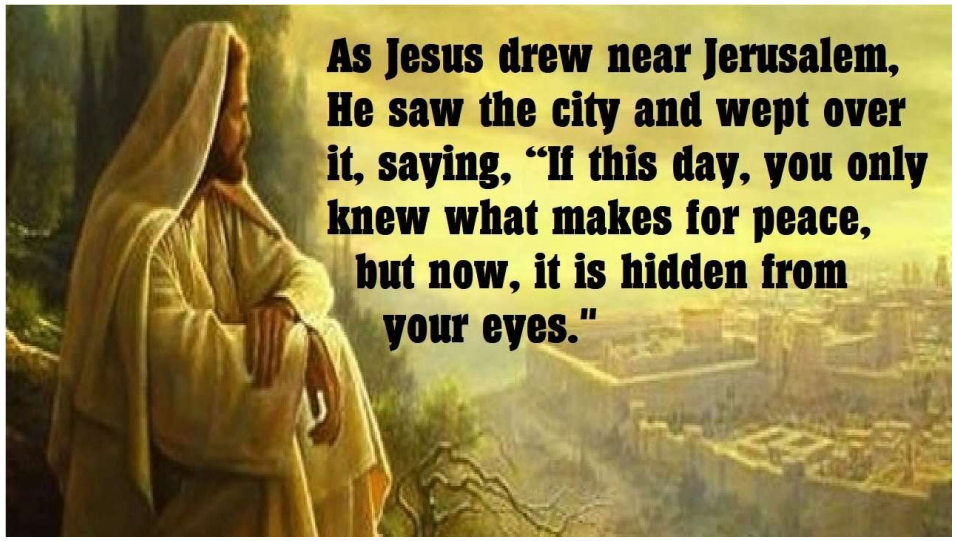
- **Sin aborts the Seed of destiny.**
- This message is **not to judge you** or to **denounce** your “heathen ways” or to “straighten you out”.
- I have my own weaknesses that I am working on bringing under the full jurisdiction of the King of glory.
- **But, I am WEEPING**…
  - So **the spirit lifted me up, and took me away**, and **I went in bitterness**, in the **heat of my spirit**; **but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me**.
  - Then I came to them of the **captivity** at Telabib, that **dwelt by the river of Chebar**, and **I sat where they sat**, and **remained there astonished among them** seven days. Ezekiel 3:14-15
- This was **Ezekiel** in the days of **Babylonian captivity**.
- **I am weeping for all of us.**



- **Jesus** was called "**the son of man**" throughout the four Gospels (34 times in Matthew alone) because **He totally identified with the human situation.**
- The prophet **Ezekiel** was known as well by that name (over 90 times).
- I'm not pointing my finger at anyone, because I have sat where many of you sit.
- Like **Nehemiah** and **Daniel**, I am not ashamed to identify myself **with the people or our problem**.
- **WE HAVE ALL SINNED….**
  - Catalogue of Sins



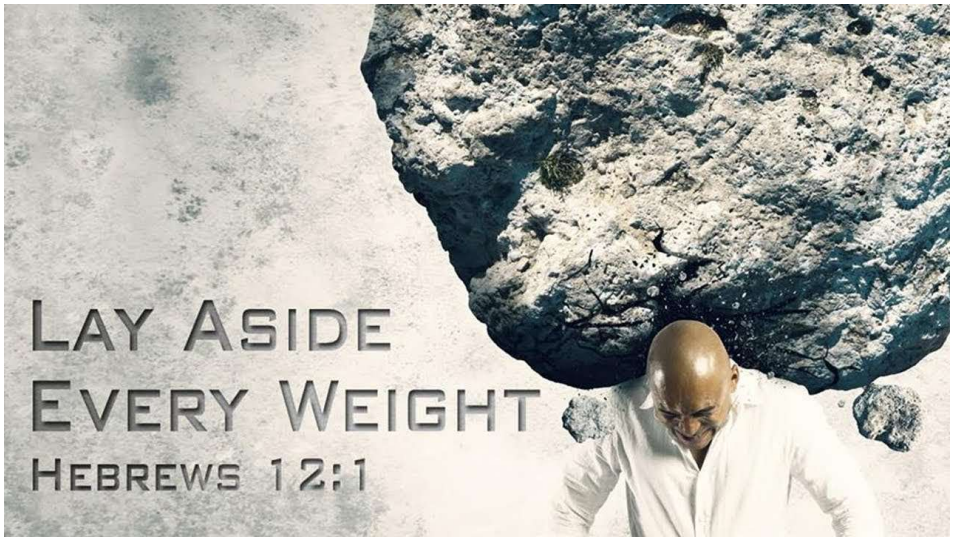
- Following His triumphal entry into Jerusalem, **King Jesus** “**wept over it**” because the people of God did not recognize or discern the time of their “visitation”.
  - And **when he was come near, he beheld the city, and wept over it,**
  - Saying, **If thou hadst known, even thou, at least in this thy day, the things *which belong* unto thy peace! but now they are hid from thine eyes.**
  - **For the days shall come upon thee, that thine enemies shall cast a trench about thee, and compass thee round, and keep thee in on every side,**
  - And shall lay thee even with the ground, and thy children within thee; and they shall not leave in thee one stone upon another; because thou **knewest not the time of thy visitation**. Luke 19:41-44



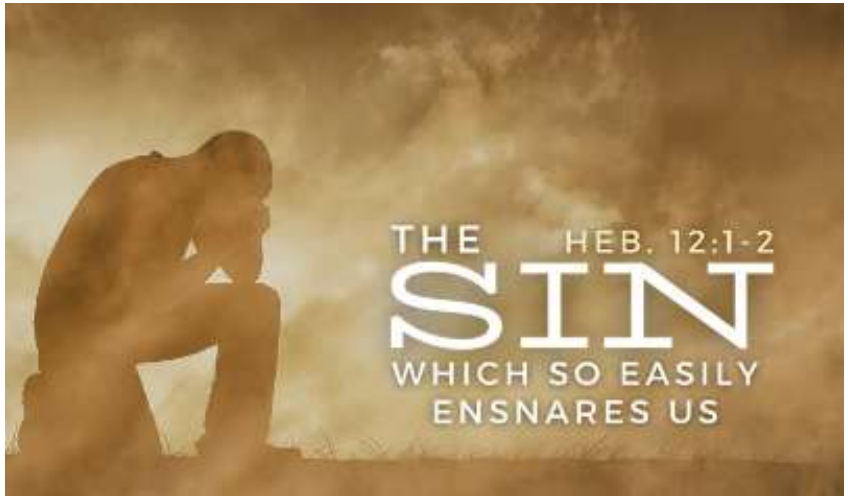
For these *things* I weep...

Lamentations 1:16

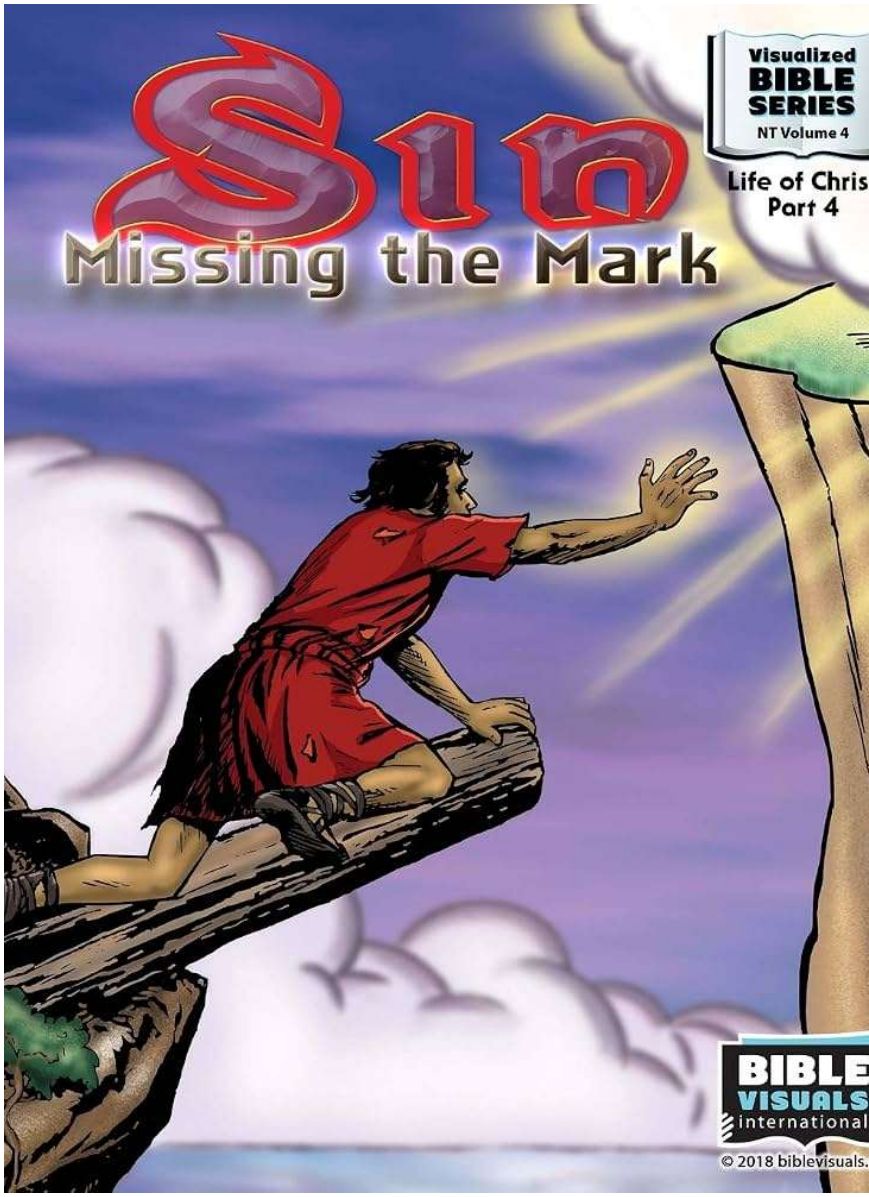
- Know ye not that **they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize**? **So run, that ye may obtain**. 1 Corinthians 9:24
- Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, **forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,**
- I **press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling** of God in Christ Jesus. Philippians 3:13-14
- Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us*,** and let us run with patience the race that is set before us,
- Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; **who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross,** despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:1-2



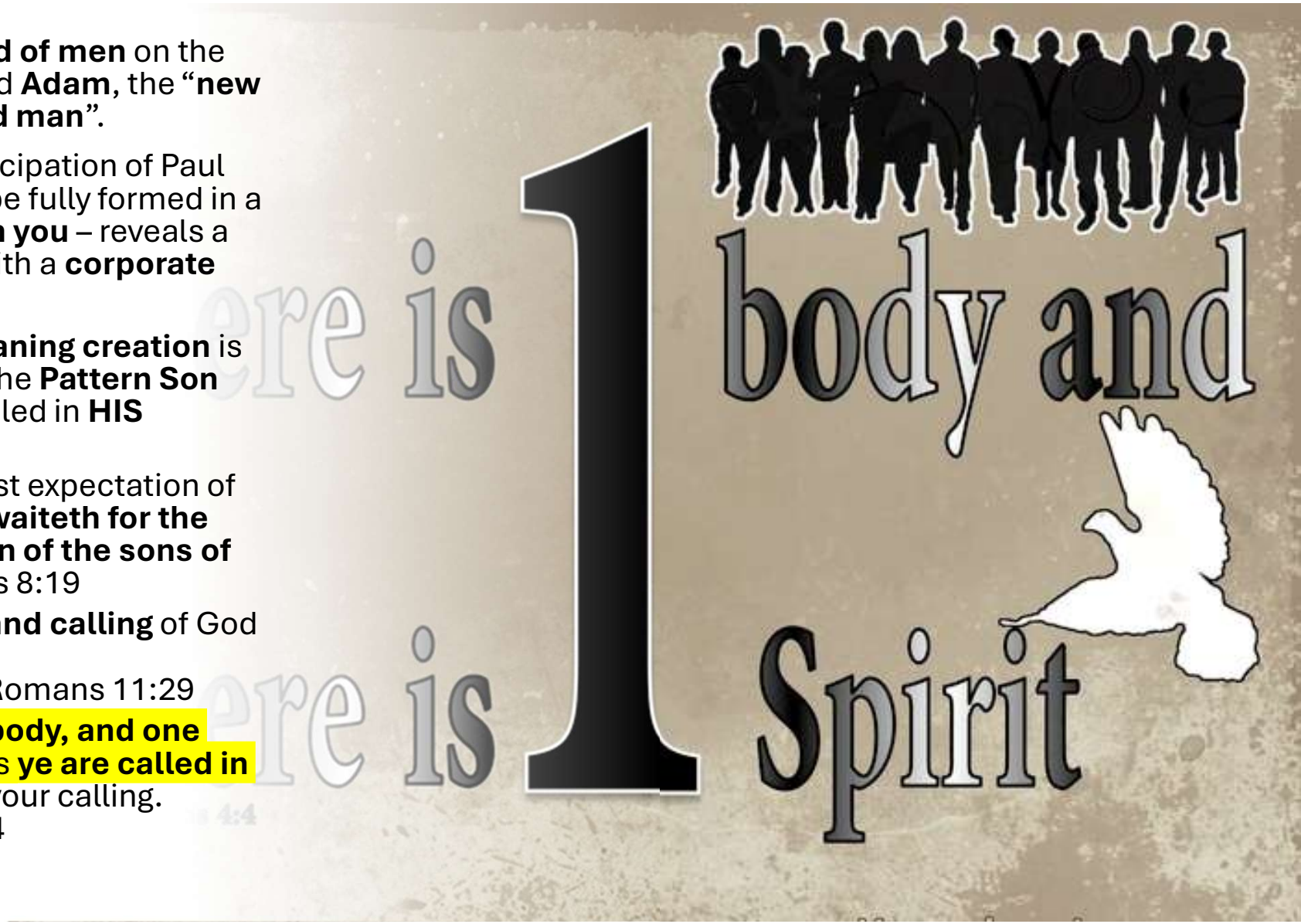
- **Paul** uses the metaphor of the **runner** in the games who reaches the **goal** and wins the **prize**.
- Moreover, the **Lord** emphasized that the **goal** or **destination** of this **race** – our ***destiny*** - is contained in the **Seed of the Word** of the **Kingdom**.
- **Sin has distorted and aborted that Seed.**
- **Obstacles** and **impediments** are strewn along our path.
- We must watch out for them and **hurdle** them **in Jesus' name**!
- Although there is much to be said about running this race of faith, it remains that **we must beware the sin which "does so easily beset" us**.
- This describes **sin** as having an **advantage** in favor if its **prevailing**.
- The **danger** to us who run the race is that **we will "miss the mark".**



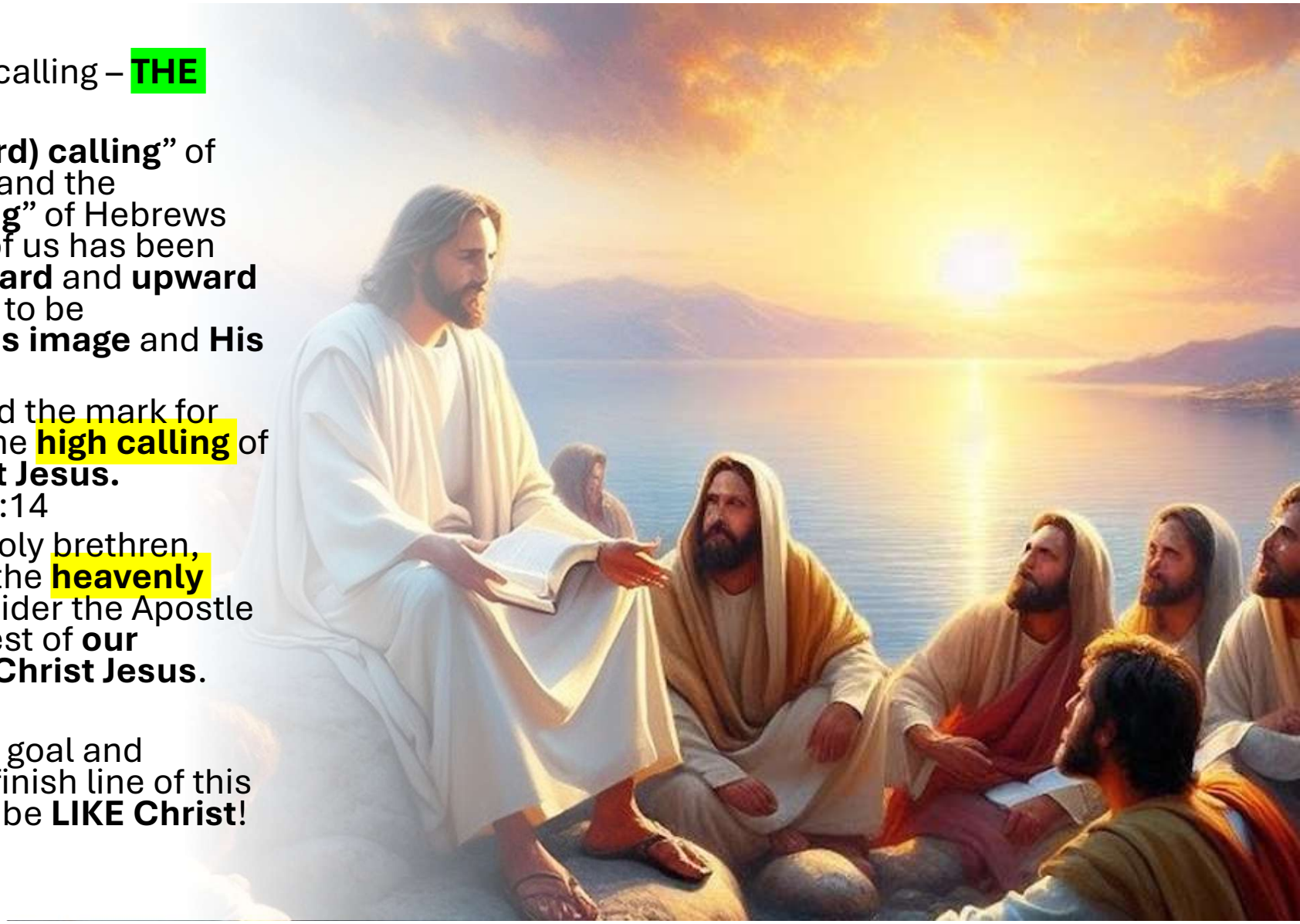
- Another Greek word for "**mark**" can be translated as "**character**".
- "**miss the mark**" is "**miss the character**"!
- **To sin is to fall short of the character of Christ**!
- Sinners **do not know who they are in Christ** as the **Seed of Abraham** and the **Seed of David**.
- The Bible declares that **Christ "is the image of God**".
  - the **light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God**. 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Therefore, **the spirit of antichrist is any other image**!



- There are **two kind of men** on the planet: **Christ** and **Adam**, the "**new man**" and the "**old man**".
- The apostolic anticipation of Paul was for Christ to be fully formed in a **people** – **Christ in you** – reveals a **corporate Man** with a **corporate anointing.**
- The cry of the **groaning creation** is for the **nature** of the **Pattern Son JESUS** to be unveiled in **HIS Church**.
  - For the earnest expectation of the creature **waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God**. Romans 8:19
  - For the **gifts and calling** of God *are* without repentance. Romans 11:29
  - *There is* **one body, and one Spirit**, even as **ye are called in one hope** of your calling. Ephesians 4:4



- There is but one calling – **THE calling**.
- The "**high (upward) calling**" of Philippians 3:14 and the "**heavenly calling**" of Hebrews 3:1 is that each of us has been summoned **forward** and **upward to be like Jesus**, to be **conformed** to **His image** and **His likeness**!
  - I press toward the mark for the prize of the **high calling** of God in **Christ Jesus.** Philippians 3:14
  - Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the **heavenly calling**, consider the Apostle and High Priest of **our profession, Christ Jesus**. Hebrews 3:1
- The **INDIVIDUAL** goal and destination, the finish line of this race of faith is to be **LIKE Christ**!



- Each of us has been **called into His presence to be transformed by His grace, and from thence to be sent to our particular assignments.**
- But our **SINGULAR** calling and our "**blessed hope**" is to **become LIKE HIM.**
  - Looking for that **blessed hope**, and the glorious appearing of the great God and our Saviour Jesus Christ. Titus 2:13
  - Neither **pray I for these alone**, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word;
  - That **they all may be one**; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also may **be one in us**: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.
  - And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, **even as we are one**:
  - **I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one**; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me. John 17:20-23
  - Till **we all come in the unity of the faith**, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **unto a perfect man**, unto the measure of the **stature of the fulness of Christ**. Ephesians 4:13
- Our **CORPORATE** goal and destination, the finish line of this race of faith is "**the unity of the faith**" for which Jesus prayed – **one corporate man**!



We are to become one in Him with a maturity that is marked by LOVE and UNITY.

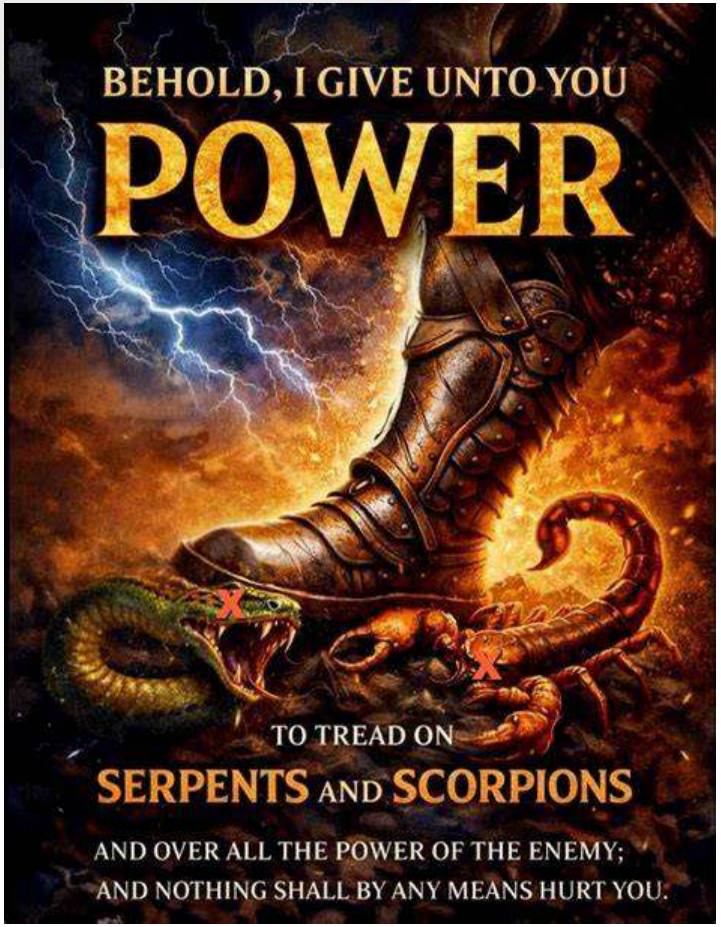
- “**Christ IN YOU**” (Colossians 1:27) is the **divine Seed**, **incorruptible** and **indestructible**, by which we were **born again**.
- We have been “**born again**” (John 3:7) **re-GENE-rated** with the **DNA** of **our Father God**!
- We are partakers of His “**divine nature**”. (2 Peter 1:4)
- His **hope of glory**, which is now our home of **glory is in the Seed within us.**
- We are the **Bride of Christ**, His “**glorious church**” (Ephesians 5:27) and we are marked by the **indwelling Seed** that seed is Christ. (Galatians 3:16)



- The Word tells us that **our adversary the devil is a liar** and was a **murderer** from the beginning.
  - **Ye are of *your* father the devil**, and **the lusts of your father ye will do**. He was a **murderer** from the **beginning**, and abode not in the truth, because **there is no truth in him**. When he speaketh a lie, he speaketh of his own: for **he is a liar, and the father of it**. John 8:44
- **He is an assassin.**
- His **purpose** is simple and singular: **ABORTION** – he wants to **ABORT** – **DESTROY the divine SEED within YOU**!
  - And I will put **enmity** between **thee** and the **woman**, and between **thy seed and her seed**; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. Genesis 3:15



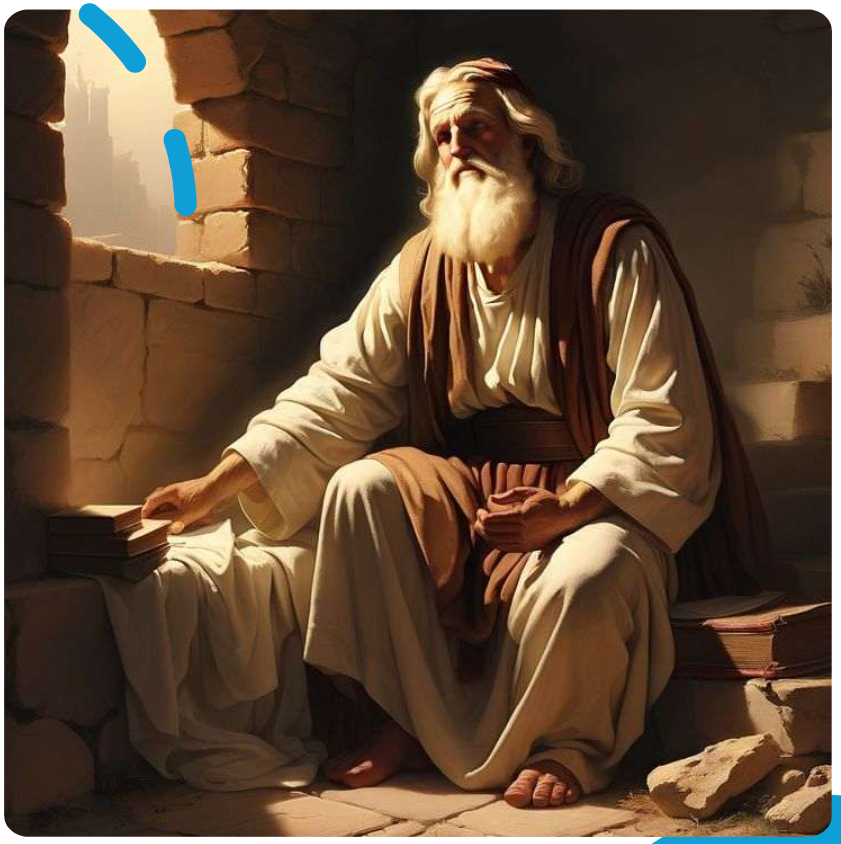
- Throughout the Old Testament and into the New, **the devil attempted and failed to snuff out the Messianic Seed**, the royal lineage of Jesus through Abraham and David.
- **Satan is terrified by the thought of that Seed coming to fruition** and maturation **in and through a people** who will, as did their Elder Brother (Jesus) "bruise" (**crush, completely shatter**) his head.
  - **And the God of peace shall bruise Satan under your feet shortly**. Romans 16:20
- **David** slew **Goliath**.
- **David's mighty men** slew those who **were kin to Goliath**. (1 Samuel 17 and 1 Chronicles 20)
- **Jesus** defeated the **devil**.
- The **Church** has the power to **trample the serpent**!
  - **I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions**, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you. Luke 10:19



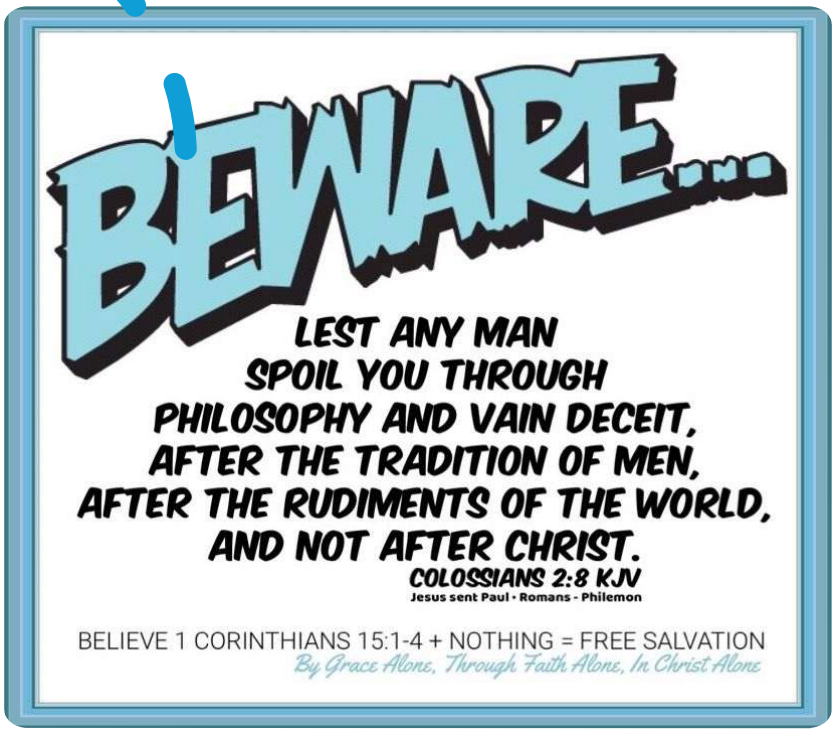
- **Moses' church** in the wilderness was told about "**seven nations**".
  - When the LORD thy God shall bring thee into the land whither thou goest to possess it, and hath cast out many nations before thee, the **Hittites**, and the **Girgashites**, and the **Amorites**, and the **Canaanites**, and the **Perizzites**, and the **Hivites**, and the **Jebusites**, **seven nations greater and mightier than thou**; (Deuteronomy 7:1)
  - And **when he had destroyed seven nations in the land of Chanaan**, he divided their land to them by lot. Acts 13:19
- Each of these "**ITES**" had to be **OVERCOME** for them to **possess** the land of their **inheritance**.
- Additionally, **Joshua** and his army had to **drive out another 31 kings** in order for the tribes to **inherit the Promised Land**.
  - And these *are* the kings of the country which **Joshua** and the children of Israel smote on this side Jordan on the west…**all the kings thirty and one. Joshua** 12:7,24



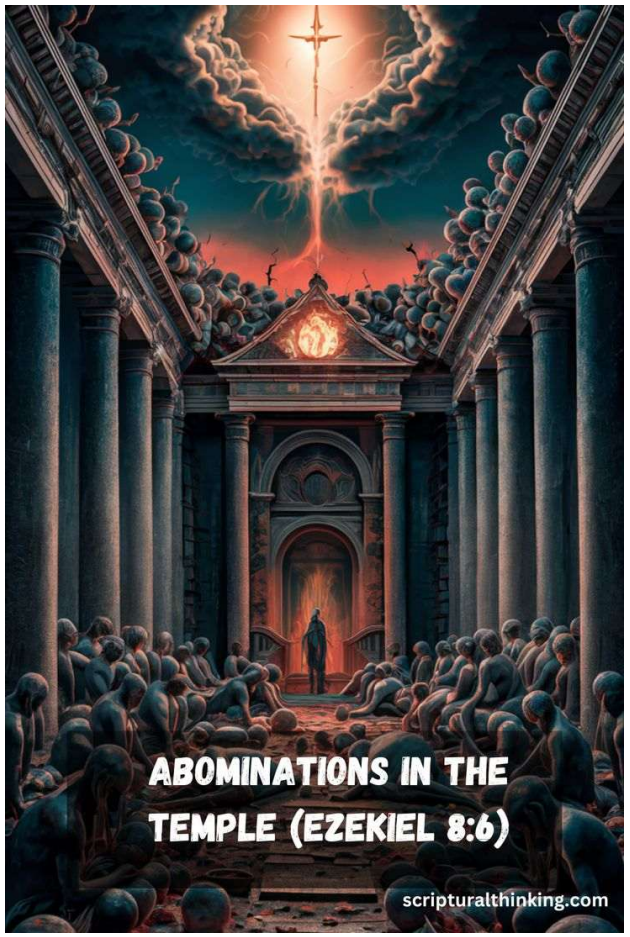
- We must **disinherit** these enemies **or they will disinherit us**.
- As with King Saul, **that which we do not kill will come back and kill us.** (1 Samuel 15:1-23; 2 Samuel 1:1-13)
- Remember, **Satan's goal is to ABORT your DESTINY, the Holy SEED within you.**
- Often his method is through **religious confusion** and **manmade teachings** that have **nothing to do with the Word of God** or the Holy Spirit.
- The prophet **Ezekiel wept** over the fact that his nation **Judah had been carried away by Babylon.**



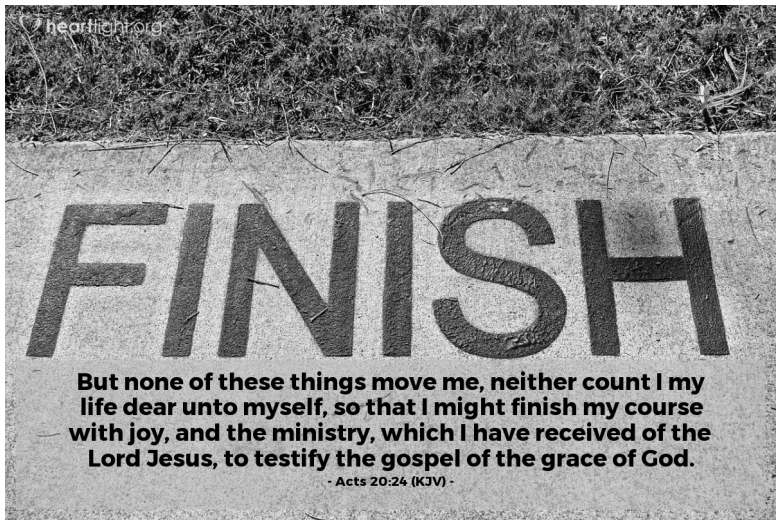
- **Babylon** means "**confusion**"; it also means "**the gate of God**."
- Babylon is a ***religious confusion*.**
- But, God is not the author of confusion (instability, disorder), but of peace.
  - **For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace**, as in all churches of the saints. 1 Corinthians 14:33
- **Our destiny can be aborted by religious confusion and man-made ideas.**
  - **Beware lest any man spoil you through philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world, and not after Christ.** Colossians 2:8



- I want to help you to understand that **the god of this world, the fabricator of all religion, has blinded many people's minds and they do not see the light of Christ nor do they have understanding of the gospel of Christ**.
  - **In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not**, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 2 Corinthians 4:4
- Take a mental walk with me. Let's begin with the **Outer Court** and walk through the **Holy Place** and then into **the Most Holy Place**.
- Let us look through the **eyes of Ezekiel** and see the **SIN** and **IDOLATRY** that is in all **three dimensions**.
  - He said furthermore unto me, **Son of man, seest thou what they do**? ***even*** **the great abominations that the house of Israel committeth here, that I should go far off from my sanctuary? but turn thee yet again, *and* thou shalt see greater abominations**. Ezekiel 8:6
- **There is SIN in every CAMP.**
  - **Israel hath sinned**, and they have also **transgressed** my **covenant** which I commanded them: for **they have even taken of the accursed thing**, and have also **stolen**, and **dissembled** also, and they have **put *it* even among their own stuff**. Joshua 7:11



- My **race**, your race, my **course**, your course **is not finished**, but I pray that my **testimony**, your testimony **will be like that of Paul.**
  - **But none of these things move me**, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might **finish my course** with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God. Acts 20:24
  - I have fought a good fight, I have **finished *my* course**, I have kept the faith: 2 Timothy 4:7
- "**finished my course**", in these two verses means "a race, career, the course of life or of office, to run or walk hastily, **to exert oneself, to strive hard, to incur extreme peril**, which requires the exertion of all of one's effort to overcome.



- We are **running the "course".**
- It is a "**set time**" and God will give us **mercy** and **favor**, but it is a **SERIOUS time.**
  - Thou shalt **arise, *and* have mercy upon Zion**: for **the time to favour her**, yea, **the set time, is come**. Psalms 102:13
- Our running track of faith is strewn with **obstacles** that **compromise** the **Seed** and **hinder our progress**.
- Watch your step!
- Each of the **hindrances** we must overcome is called a "**weight**".
  - Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which doth so easily beset *us***, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. Hebrews 12:1
- "**weight**" means "a mass, bulging by its load, burden, **hindrance**, bulk, an encumbrance"



- And the **LORD** said unto **Joshua**, Get thee up; **wherefore liest thou thus upon thy face?**
- Israel **hath sinned**, and they have also **transgressed** my covenant which I **commanded** them: for they have even **taken of the accursed thing**, and have also **stolen**, and **dissembled** also, and **they have put *it* even among their own stuff**. Joshuah 7:10-11
- **Sin has entered every area of the camp.**
- The **obstacles** we must **overcome** in the race of faith constitute the "**enmity**", the **hostility**, **hatred** between the **serpent** and the **Seed** of the woman.
- These are expressed in **major religious ideas** which usurp the **anointing of the Holy Spirit** and to **abort the Seed**.



- These “**antichrists**”, something “**instead of Christ**” are **weights that encumber us.**
- All along the **Christian journey**, during **childhood**, **adolescence**, and **maturity**, these **seducing mindsets** and **evil spirits** can be at work, **conspiring against the runner**.
- **God hates religion** (and so do I) because it is the **invention of the devil**, the “**god of this world**”.
- These **weights** or **encumbrances** have **weakened the people of God**.
- Like the **woman who was hemorrhaging** with the “**issue**” of blood, the Church is **bleeding to death because of man-made issues**.
    - **And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood**… Mark 5:25
- Remember “**woman**” represents “the **church**”.



- **God hates mixture** (and so do I) because it **always contaminates the Seed and slows us down in our race.**
  - **For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets**, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, **they shall deceive the very elect**. Matthew 24:24
  - That we *henceforth* **be no more children**, tossed to and fro, and **carried** about with **every wind of doctrine,** by the sleight of men, *and* **cunning craftiness**, whereby **they lie in wait to deceive**; Ephesians 4:14
- These **hindrances** are **deceptive** in their workings **to seductively entice** the runner off the divine course onto some **man-made side road** that ultimately comes to a "**dead end**".
  - **Her house *is* the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death**. Proverbs 7:27



- The primary word for "**deceive**" (used over 50 times in the New Testament) means "to cause to **roam from safety**, **truth** or **virtue**); to cause to stray to **lead astray**, to lead aside from the right way; to **wander**; to **roam** about; to **lead away** from the **truth**, to lead into **error**, a **delusion**, a **mental straying** from orthodoxy, error, roving as a tramp, an **impostor**, misleader, corrupter).
- The kinds of people and teachings that have tried to attach themselves to our heavenly assignment are like "**wandering starts**" and planets that have broken loose from the orbit of faith.
    - Raging waves of the sea, foaming out their own shame; **wandering stars**, to whom **is reserved the blackness of darkness for ever**. Jude 1:13



- We have focused on the **INDIVIDUAL** running the race, but it is not exclusively individuals who fall short of the mark God sets for them.
- **Whole churches** sin grievously as do all other **religious entities**, including **mission boards**, evangelistic **agencies**, entire **denominations;** even **nations** are guilty.
- A generation that does not know how to put away **CORPORATE sin** is a generation **in trouble** with **itself** and **with God**.
- The Apostle Paul addresses a **divisive spirit** and **an elevation of man over Christ in the corporate body.**
  - Now this I say, that **every one of you saith**, I am of Paul; and I of Apollos; and I of Cephas; and I of Christ.
  - **Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?** 1 Corinthians 1:12-13



- Paul then pinpoints the corporate sin of **tolerance** towards **immorality** in allowing a man to have his father's wife, linking this sin with **corporate arrogance** in **not even mourning** the existence of such wickedness among themselves.
  - It is reported commonly ***that there is*** **fornication among you**, and such fornication as is not so much as named among the Gentiles, **that one should have his father's wife.**
  - And ye are puffed up, and **have not rather mourned**, that he that hath done this deed might be taken away from among you. 1 Corinthians 5:1-2



- Paul then accuses them of **corporate misuse** of the **Lord's Supper** and warns that some have already **suffered** the **righteous judgment of sickness** and **death** because of this **sin of the church body.**
  - But **let a man examine himself**, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup.
  - For **he that eateth and drinketh unworthily**, eateth and drinketh **damnation to himself**, not discerning the Lord's body.
  - **For this cause many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep**. 1 Corinthians 11:28-30
- Sadly, the Corinthian Church even **sinned against the Holy Spirit** in the **misuse** and **abuse** of His spiritual gifts. (1 Corinthians 12, 14)



- **Churches** do not tend to be any more open to rebuke and correction than **individuals** and Paul knew this.
- Paul had great **concern** for the church but also had **apprehension** in sending his second letter, but yet it was necessary.
    - **For though I made you sorry with a letter**, I do not repent, though I did repent: for **I perceive that the same epistle hath made you sorry**, though *it were* but for a season. 2 Corinthians 7:8
- At the same time, he had reason to **rejoice**.
    - Now I rejoice, not that ye were made sorry, but that **ye sorrowed to repentance**: for ye were made sorry after a godly manner, that ye might receive damage by us in nothing. 2 Corinthians 7:9
- He then made a distinction of vast importance that the **sorrow** that is according to the will of God **produces a repentance without regret**.
    - For **godly sorrow worketh repentance** to salvation not to be repented of: but the sorrow of the world worketh death. 2 Corinthians 7:10



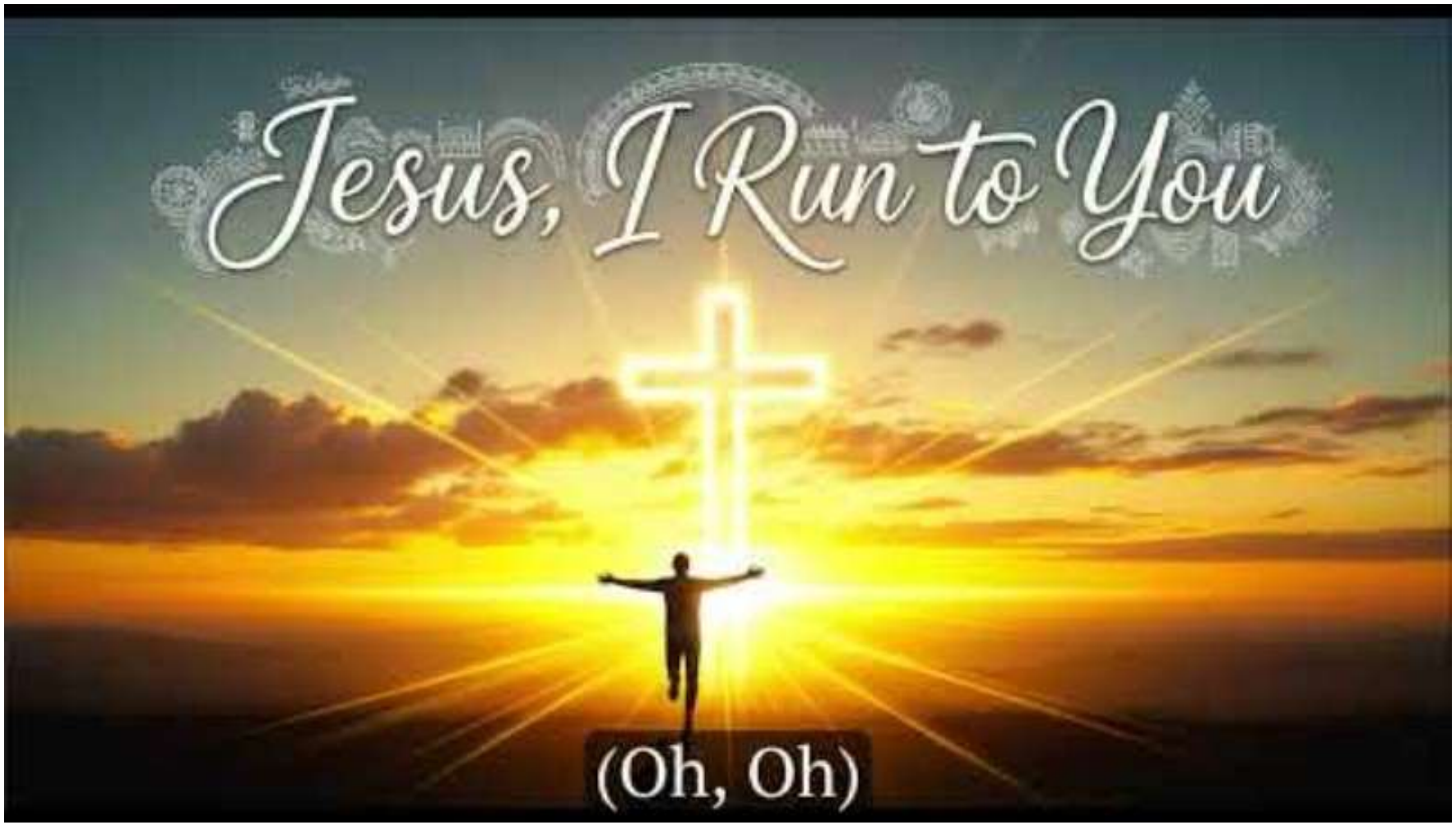
- The prophet Hosea says, “**My people are destroyed (dying, ruined) for lack of knowledge**…” Hosea 4:6
- **Sin is to miss the mark, to fall short of the character of Christ.**
- Religion has **confused** us.
- **We don’t know who we are in Christ.**
- May the Lord **help us to understand that our destiny is in the Seed**!
- It is time to **press into destiny** and **gain freedom from the sins that are besetting** us.
- The Scriptures clearly outline the **rules** that **govern the race run with His faith**.
- The **warning signs** have been given.
- It is time to **continue the race**. The **track has been made ready.**
- **Come and look unto your Goal – He is Jesus, the Author and the Finisher of our race of Faith.**



Let us RUN!
RUN from SIN!
RUN to JESUS!

I Will Run to You – Spoke by Alvin Slaughter




Jesus, I Run to You
(Oh, Oh)