

A Task Unfinished

1 Peter 5:12-14

Though the work of Christ is complete, we are still facing an unfinished task that will require faithfulness to the mission, firmness in grace, and love for one another.

1. Be faithful to the mission.
 - a. _____ one another in the gospel.
 - b. _____ to the gospel.
2. Stand firm in grace.
 - a. _____ self-righteousness.
 - b. _____ to receive God's gift.
3. Love one another.
 - a. Love _____ church.
 - b. Love _____ church.

THE TASK UNFINISHED



**Declaring and Displaying
the Gospel Together.**

1 Peter 5:12-14

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Through Silvanus, our faithful brother
(for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly,
exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God.

Stand firm in it!

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you,
sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.

Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace be to you all who are in Christ.

Big Idea:

Though the work of Christ is complete, we are still facing an unfinished task that will require faithfulness to the mission, firmness in grace, and love for one another.



The Task Unfinished

Be faithful to the mission.

1 Peter 5:12

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother
(for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly,
exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God.
Stand firm in it!

Our Mission

Exhort one another in the gospel.

1 Peter 5:12

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother
(for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly,

exhorting and testifying **that this is the true grace
of God.**

Stand firm in it!



Peter exhorted them through his letter.

His exhortation was that we have a salvation given to us by the God of all grace, and we stand *because* of His grace and *by* His grace.

Peter's Exhortation

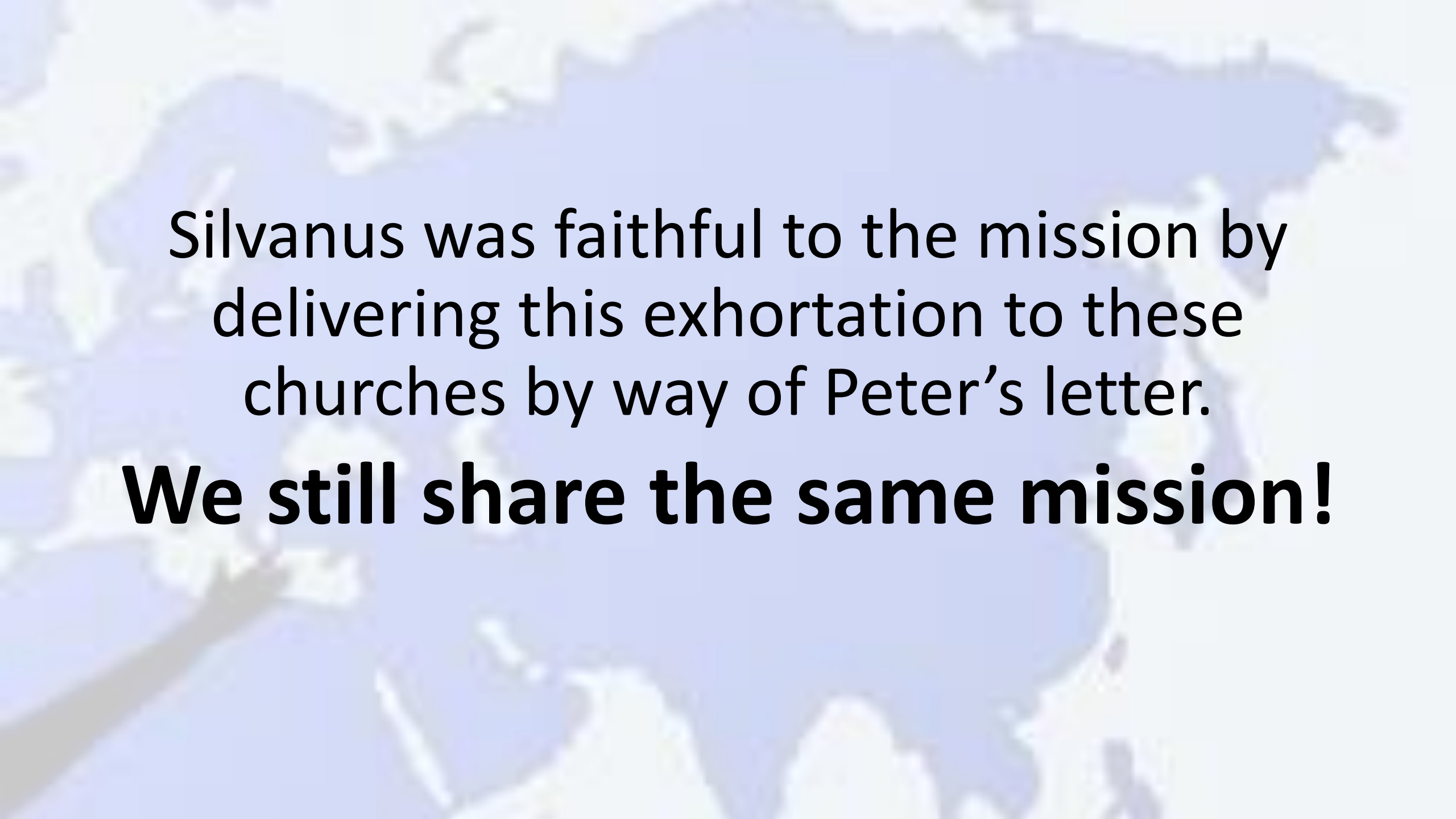
1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who according to His great mercy
has caused us to be born again to a living hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,
to obtain an inheritance which is imperishable and
undefiled and will not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,
who are protected by the power of God through faith
for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

His Exhortation

1 Peter 1:13

Therefore, gird your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.



Silvanus was faithful to the mission by delivering this exhortation to these churches by way of Peter's letter.

We still share the same mission!

Exhort one another!

1 Thessalonians 5:11

Therefore **exhort one another**,
and build up one another, just as you also are doing.

Exhort one another!

Hebrews 3:13

But **exhort one another** day after day,
as long as it is still called "Today," lest any one of you
be hardened by the deceitfulness of sin.

Exhort one another!

Hebrews 10:24-25

And let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but **exhorting one another**; and all the more, as you see the day drawing near.

Our Mission

Exhort one another in the gospel.

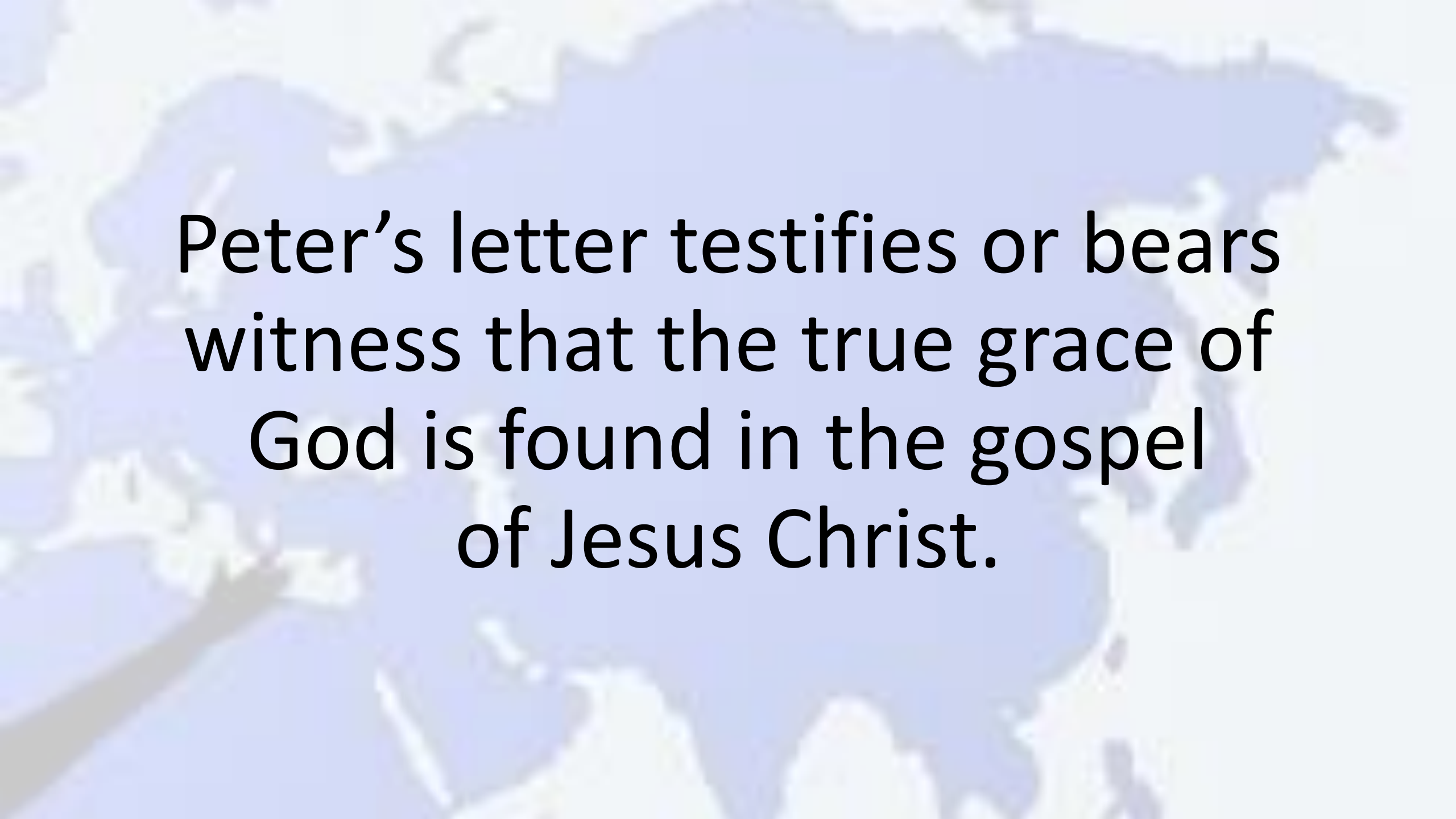
Testify to the grace of God.

1 Peter 5:12-14

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother
(for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly,

exhorting **and testifying** that this is the true grace of God.

Stand firm in it!



Peter's letter testifies or bears witness that the true grace of God is found in the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Peter's Testimony

1 Peter 1:18-21

...knowing that you were not redeemed with perishable things like silver or gold from your futile way of life inherited from your forefathers, but with precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless, the blood of Christ. For He was foreknown before the foundation of the world, but has appeared in these last times for the sake of you who through Him are believers in God, who raised Him from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

What about Testimonies?

Your mission is to testify to the true grace of God found in the death and resurrection of Christ Jesus.

1 Corinthians 2:1-2

And when I came to you, brethren,
I did not come with superiority of speech or of wisdom,
proclaiming to you **the testimony of God.**

For I determined to know nothing among you
except **Jesus Christ**, and Him **crucified.**

Revelation 6:9

And when He broke the fifth seal,
I saw underneath the altar the souls of those
who had been slain because of the word of God,
and because of the testimony which they had maintained.

A Task Unfinished

Be faithful to the mission.

Stand firm in grace.

1 Peter 5:12

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother
(for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly,
exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God.

Stand firm in it!

Stand Firm in Grace

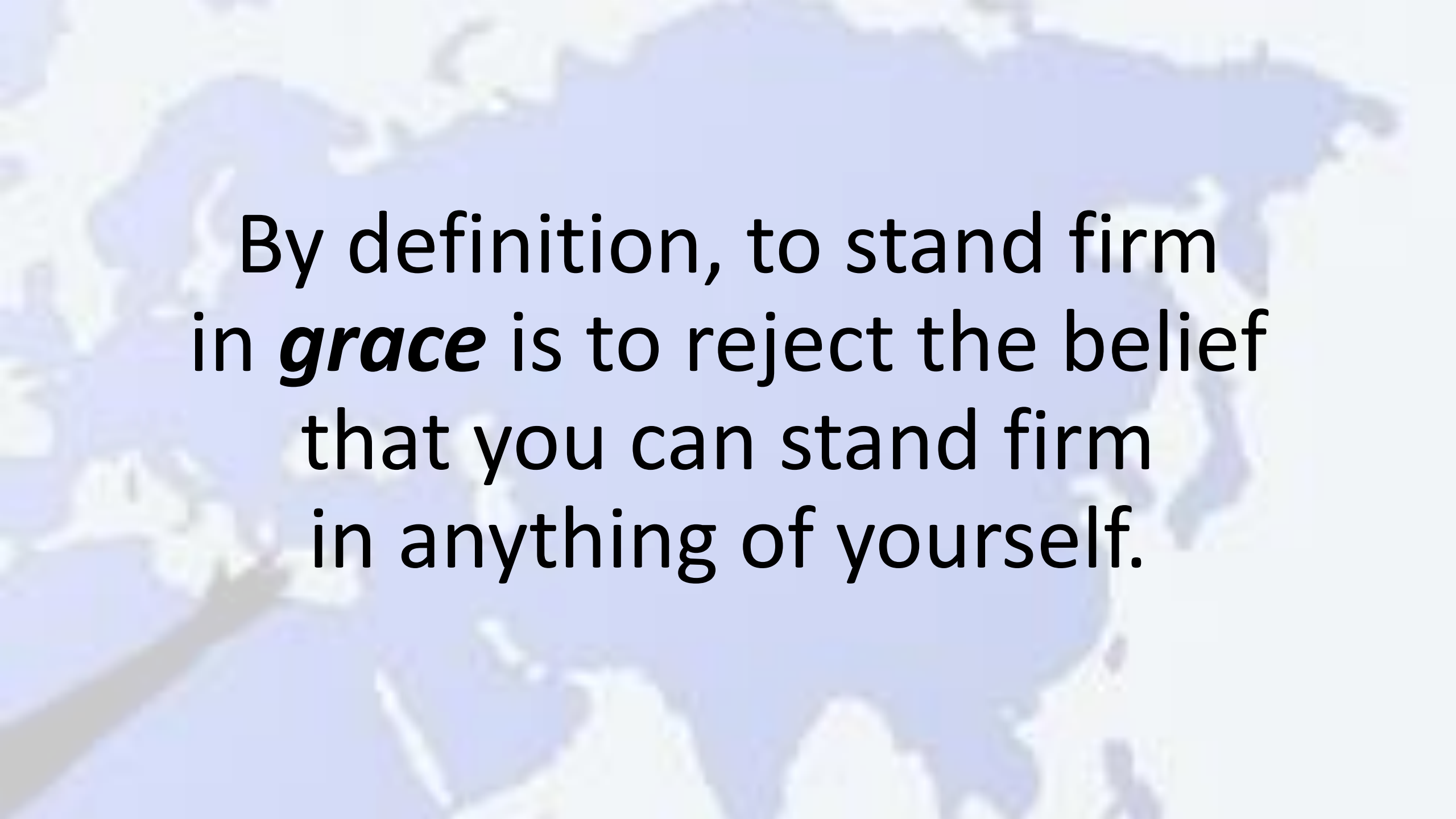
Resist self-righteousness.

1 Peter 5:12

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother
(for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly,
exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God.

Stand firm in it!

Stand firm in grace!



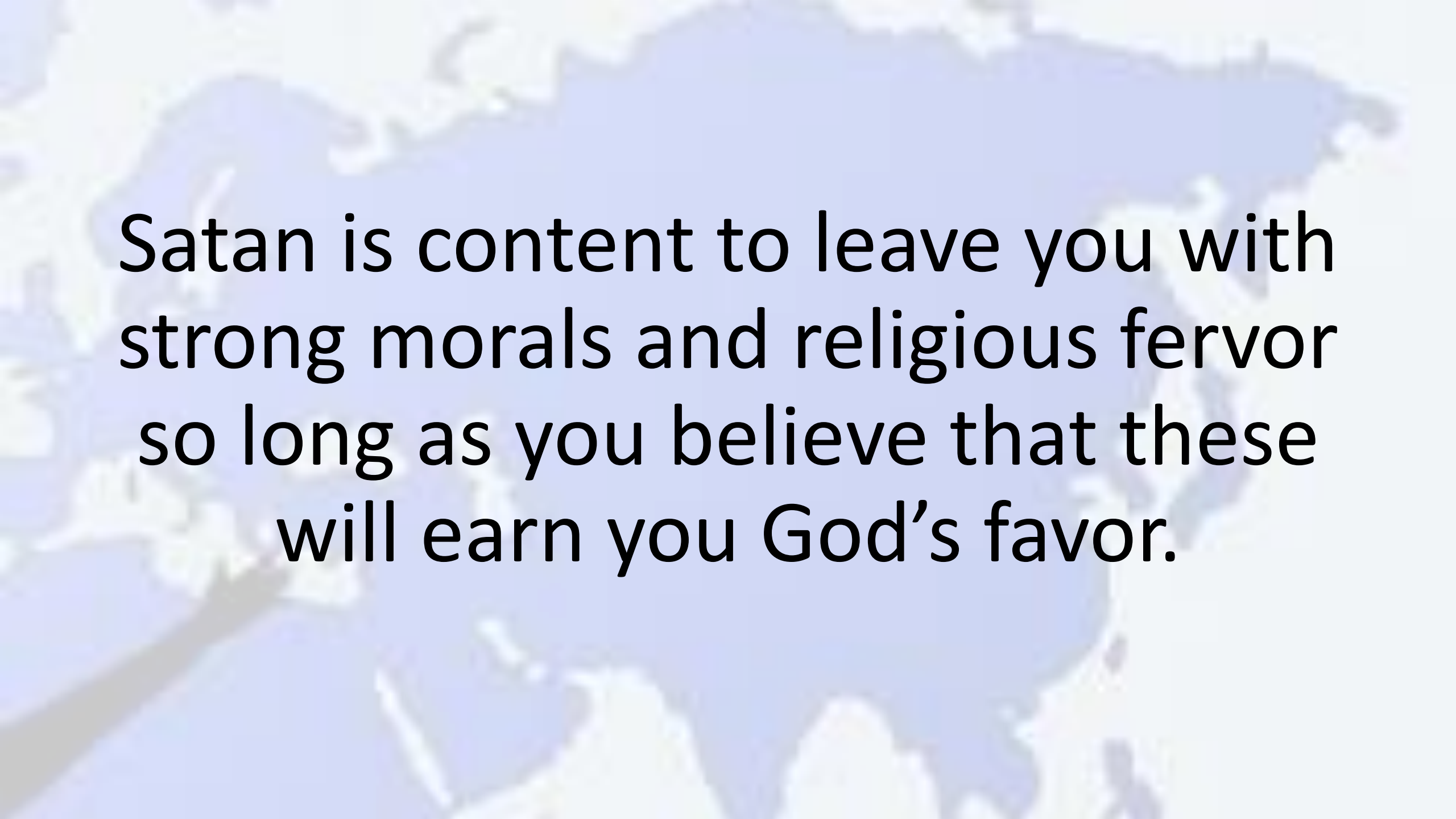
By definition, to stand firm
in *grace* is to reject the belief
that you can stand firm
in anything of yourself.

Luke 18:11-12

The Pharisee stood and was praying thus to himself,
“God, I thank You that I am not like other people:
swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax-gatherer.
I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.”

Isaiah 64:6

For all of us have become like one who is unclean,
And **all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment;**
And all of us wither like a leaf,
And our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.



Satan is content to leave you with strong morals and religious fervor so long as you believe that these will earn you God's favor.

Stand Firm in Grace

Resist self-righteousness.

Resolve to receive God's gift.

1 Peter 5:12

Through Silvanus, our faithful brother
(for so I regard him), I have written to you briefly,
exhorting and testifying that this is the true grace of God.

Stand firm in it!

**“Stand firm” is a command
yet grace is a gift!**

Grace is a Gift

Romans 3:24

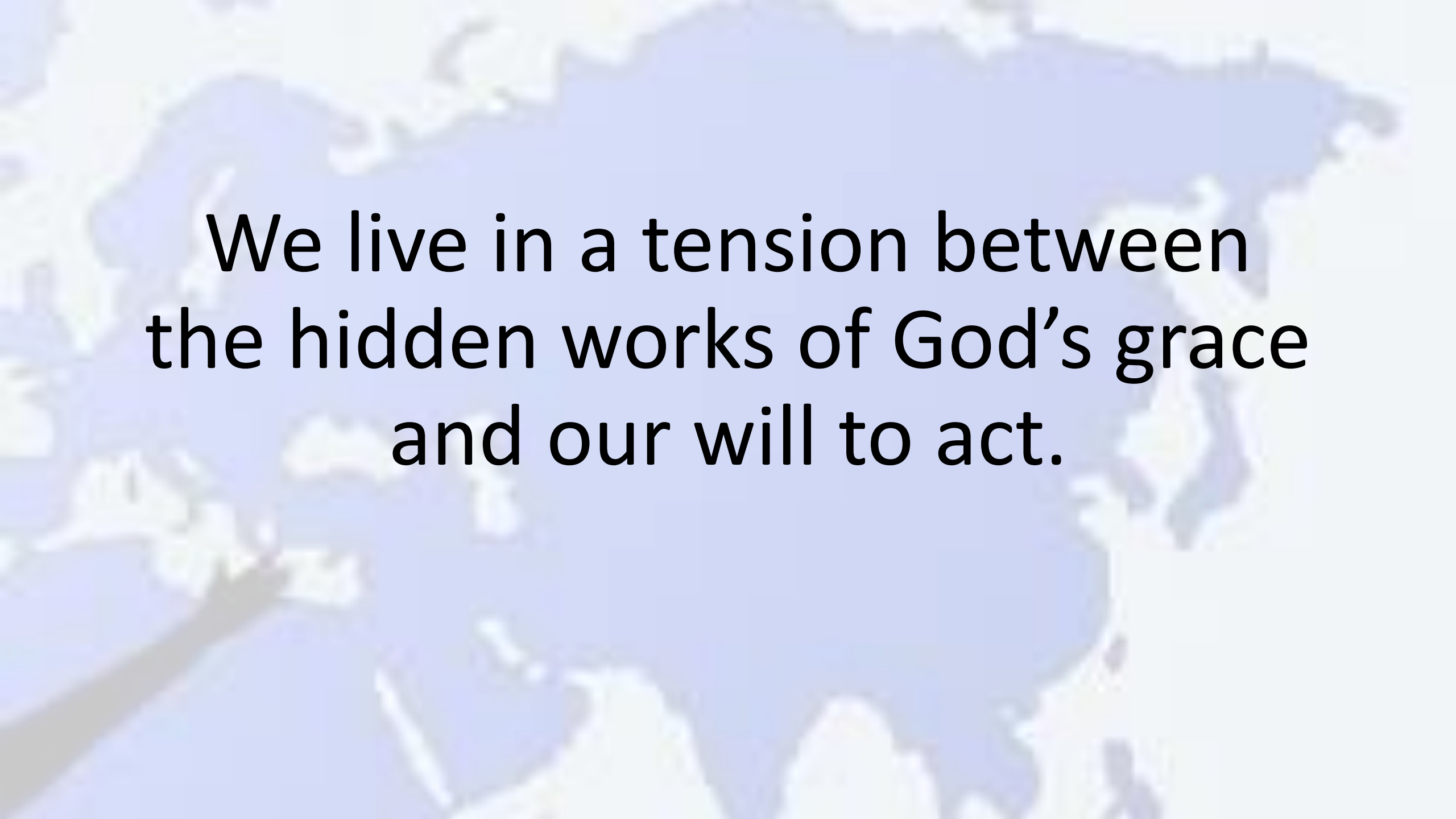
...being justified as **a gift by His grace**
through the redemption which is in Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:8

For **by grace** you have been saved through faith;
and that not of yourselves, **it is the gift of God.**

Ephesians 4:7

But to each one of us **grace** was given
according to the measure of Christ's **gift.**



We live in a tension between
the hidden works of God's grace
and our will to act.

Stand Firm Is a Command

1 Peter 1:13

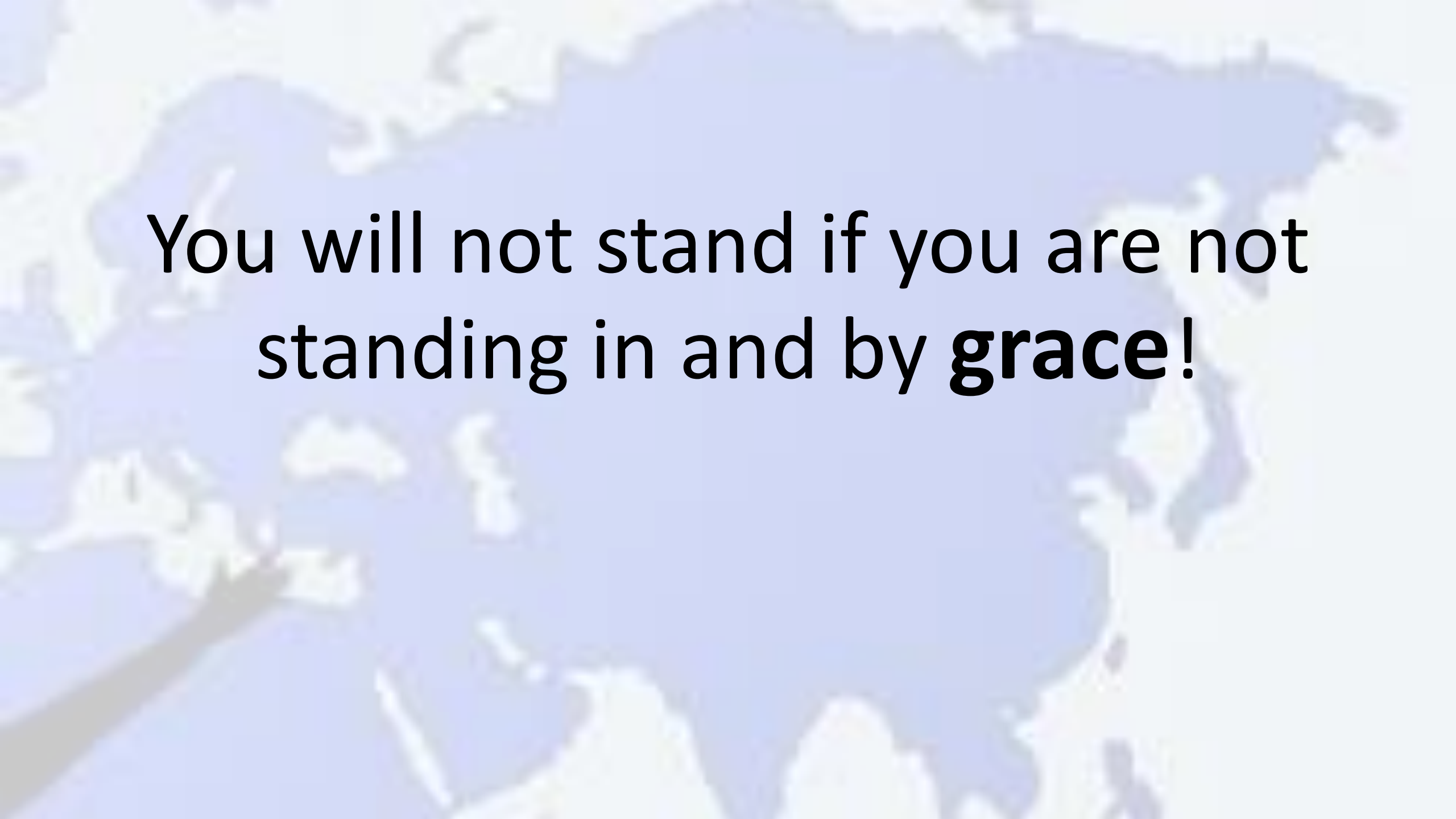
Therefore, gird your minds for action, keep sober in spirit, fix your hope completely on the grace to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

A Gift!

1 Peter 1:13

Therefore, gird your minds for action, keep sober in spirit,

fix your hope completely **on** the **grace** to be brought
to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.



You will not stand if you are not
standing in and by **grace!**

A Task Unfinished

Be faithful to the mission.

Stand firm in grace.

Love one another.

Love is the Reason

1 Peter 5:13-14

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you,
sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.

Greet one another with a kiss of **love**.

Peace be to you all who are in Christ.

The Theme of Love

1 Peter 1:22

Since you have in obedience to the truth purified your souls for a sincere love of the brethren, fervently **love one another** from the heart.

1 Peter 4:8


Above all, keep fervent in your **love for one another**.

Love One Another!

Love THE church.

1 Peter 5:13-14

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you,
sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.
Greet one another with a kiss of love.
Peace be to you all who are in Christ.



Every church should have warm regard for every other church because we are knitted together by grace.

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sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.
Greet one another with a kiss of love.
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Love One Another!

Love the church.

Love YOUR church.

Here and now!

1 Peter 5:13-14

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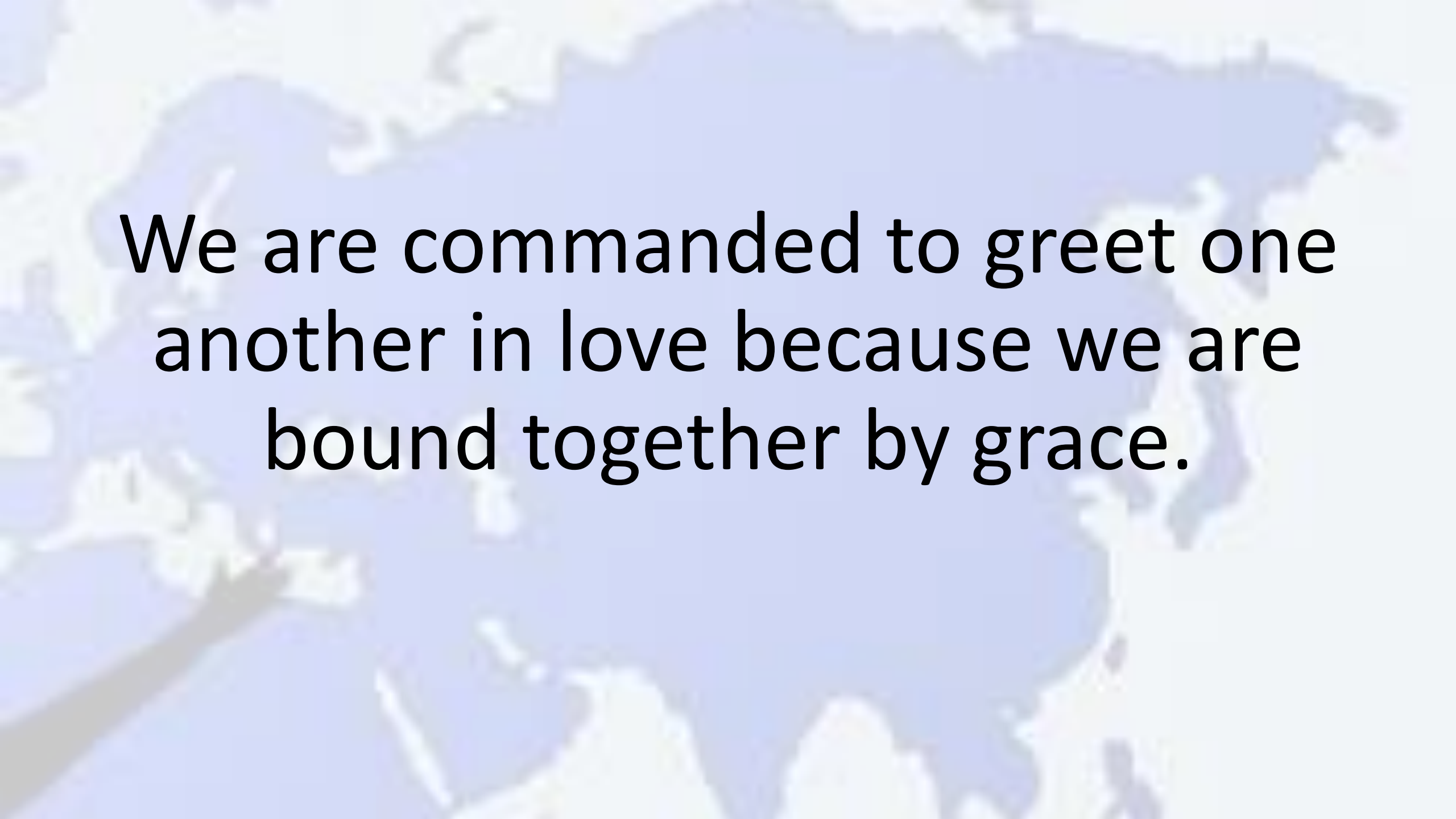
Your Reason

1 Peter 5:13-14

She who is in Babylon, chosen together with you,
sends you greetings, and so does my son, Mark.

Greet one another **with a kiss of love**.

Peace be to you all who are in Christ.



We are commanded to greet one another in love because we are bound together by grace.

Romans 16:16


Greet one another with a holy kiss.

1 Corinthians 16:20

Greet one another with a holy kiss.

Philippians 4:21

Greet every saint in Christ Jesus.



These commands are not just filler phrases or throw away lines.

They are exhortations to display the gospel visibly.

Conclusion

We have an unfinished task to testify to the grace of God found in Christ and to love one another by helping each another stand firm in that grace.