



Of First Importance

1 Corinthians 15:3-5

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For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.

Main Idea

Nothing is more important than to believe that Christ died for our sins, was buried, and was raised again on the third day in fulfillment of the Scriptures.

A photograph of a white cloth draped over a stone structure, likely a tomb. The cloth is pulled down to reveal a person's legs sticking out from underneath. The background is a light-colored, textured wall.

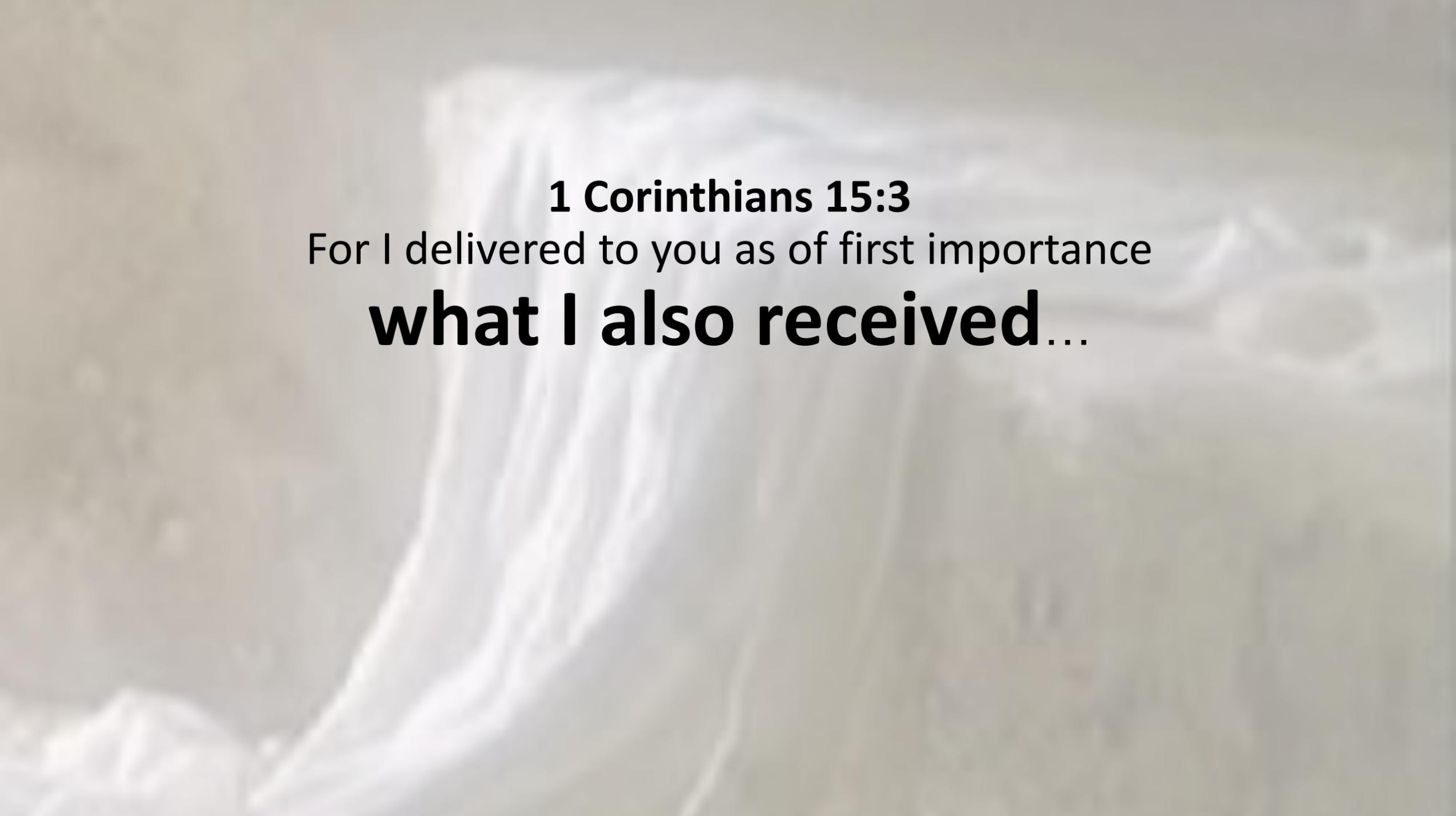
1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance
what I also received...

A white cloth is draped over a stone monument, symbolizing resurrection. The cloth is pulled down to the ground, leaving the top of the monument empty. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with green grass and a blue sky.

1 Corinthians 15:3

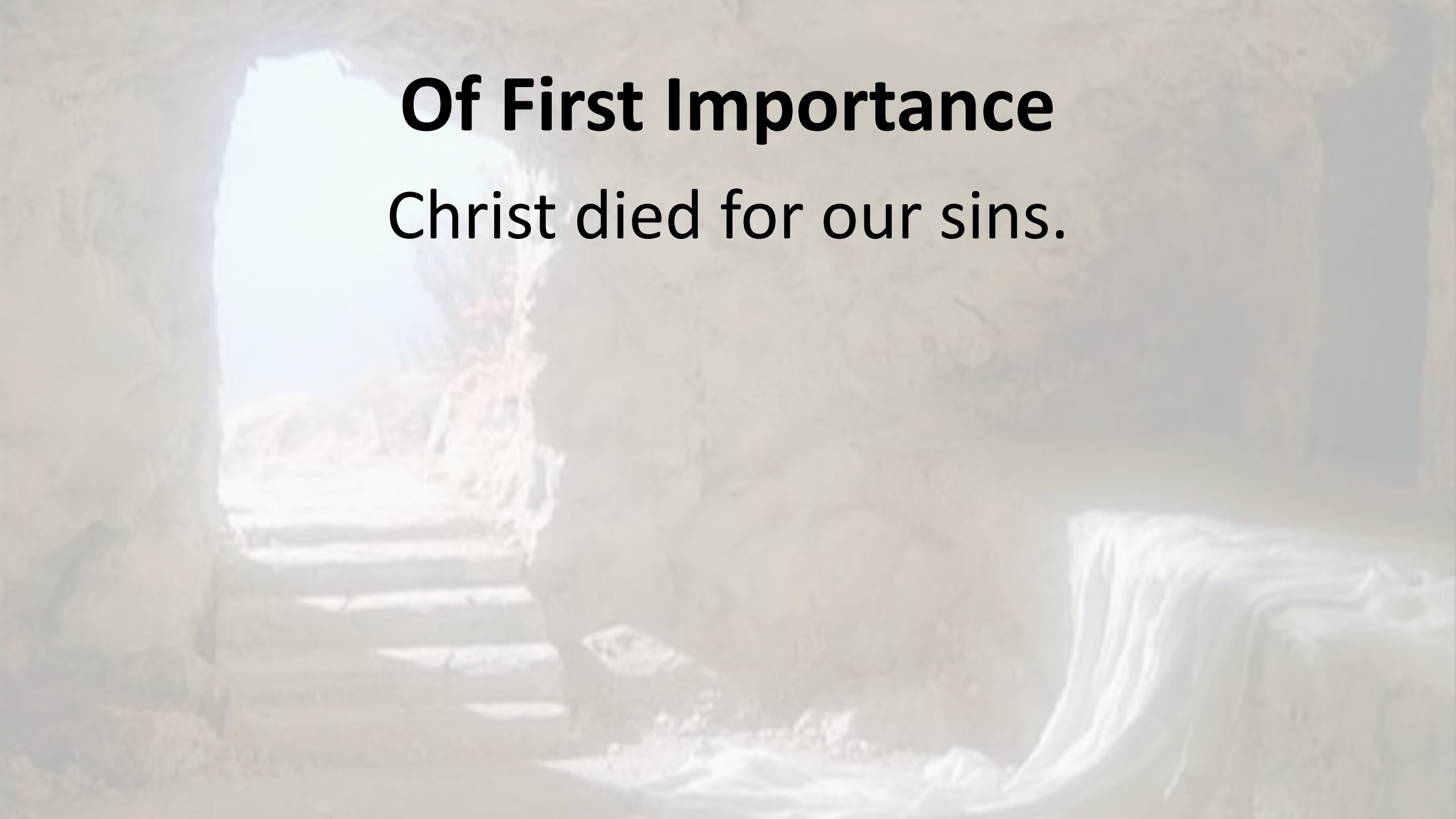
For I delivered to you as **of first importance**
what I also received...



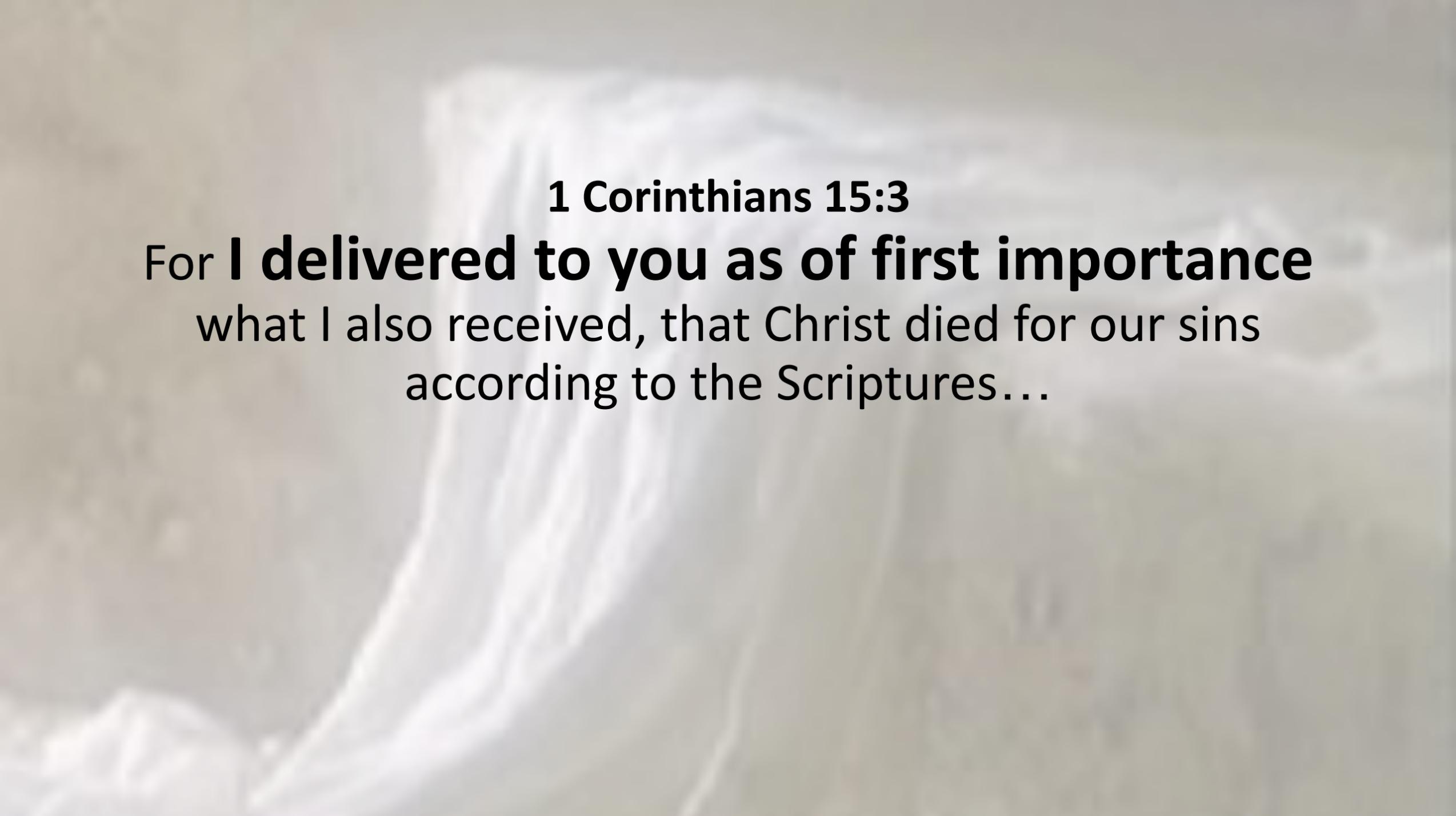
1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance

what I also received...



Of First Importance
Christ died for our sins.



1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance
what I also received, that Christ died for our sins
according to the Scriptures...

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For I delivered to you as of first importance

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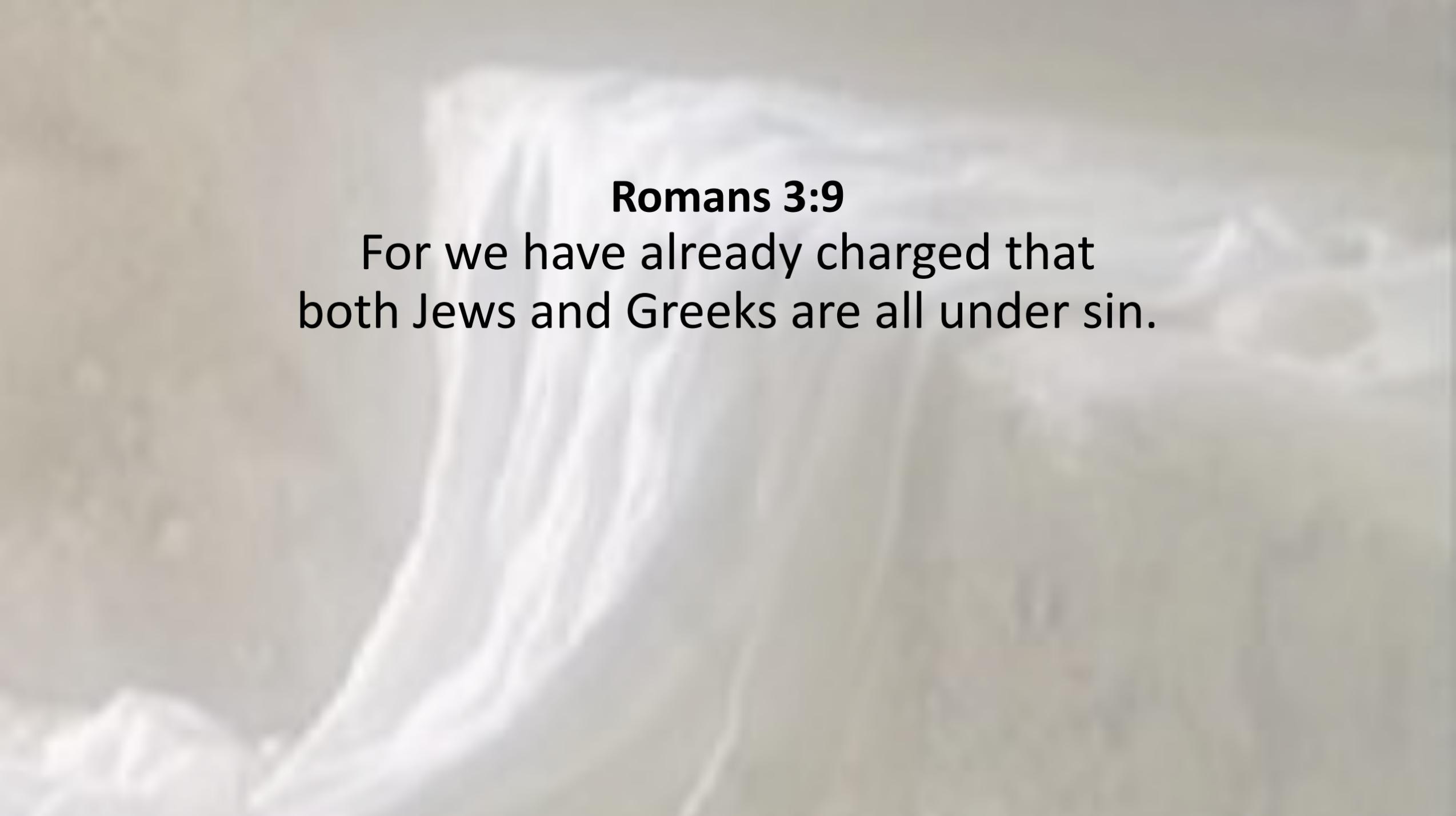


Christ died *for our sins*.

We have broken the law.

1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance
what I also received, that Christ died **for *OUR* sins**
according to the Scriptures...



Romans 3:9

For we have already charged that
both Jews and Greeks are all under sin.

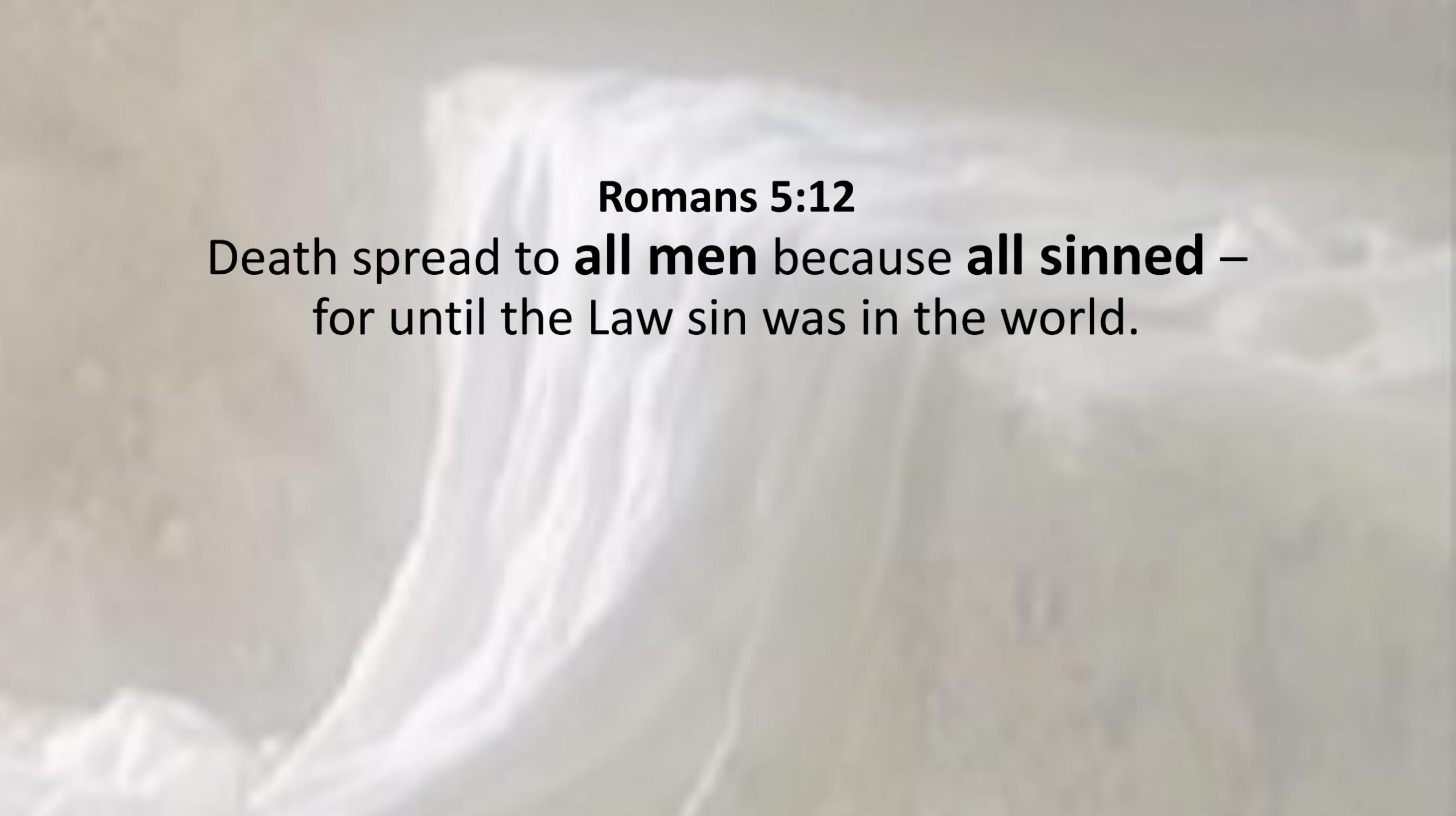
Romans 3:9

For we have already charged that

both Jews and Greeks are **all** under sin.

Romans 3:23

For **all** have sinned...



Romans 5:12

Death spread to **all men** because **all sinned** –
for until the Law sin was in the world.

The background of the image is a faded, grayscale photograph of the Ten Commandments stone tablets. The tablets are arranged in two rows, with the top row showing the first five tablets and the bottom row showing the last five. The text is overlaid on this background.

Romans 5:12

Death spread to all men because all sinned –

for until the Law sin was in the world.

People were sinning before
the Law was given to Moses,
before the Ten Commandments were
written on stone tablets.

Romans 2:14-15

For when Gentiles who do not have the Law
do instinctively the things of the Law,
these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves,
in that they show the work of the Law
written in their hearts.

Romans 2:14-15

For when Gentiles who do not have the Law
do instinctively the things of the Law,
these, not having the Law, are a law to themselves,

in that **they show the work of the Law
written in their hearts.**

And we have all broken this law!



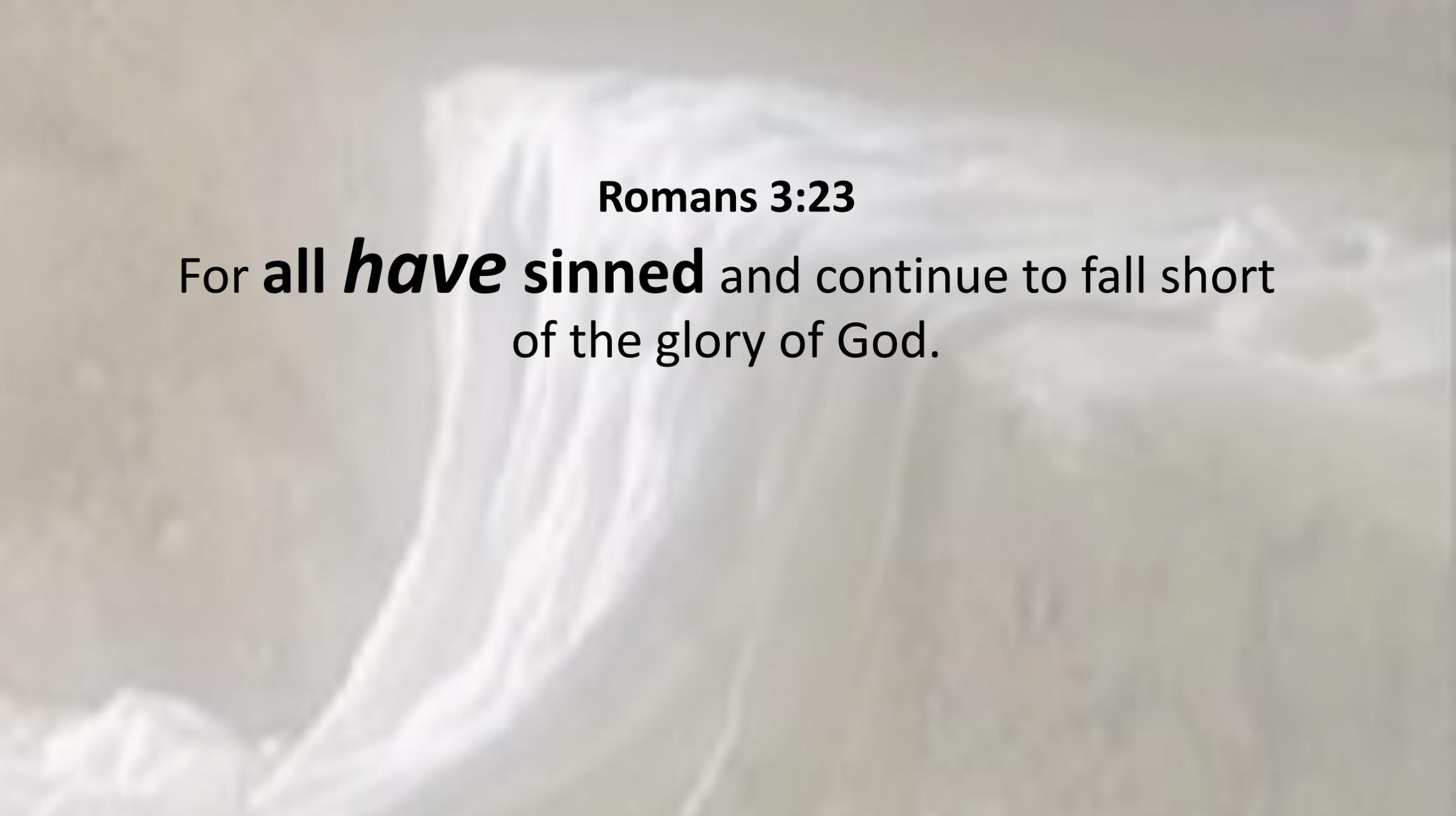
Christ died for our sins.

We have broken the law.

**And we continue to fall short
of the standard.**

1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance
what I also received, that Christ died **for our *sins***
according to the Scriptures...



Romans 3:23

For **all *have* sinned** and continue to fall short
of the glory of God.



Romans 3:23

For all have sinned **and continue to fall short**
of the glory of God.

Romans 3:23

For all have sinned **and continue to fall short
of the glory of God.**

We continue to fall short of the standard
set for God's image bearers.

Do not murder = Be kind

Do not commit adultery = Be faithful

Do not steal = Be generous

Do not bear false witness = Be a truth teller

Do not covet = Be grateful

Have you done *all* that you could?

Christ died for our sins.

We have broken the law.

We continue to fall short of the standard.

Sin carries a penalty.

1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance
what I also received, that **Christ *died* for our sins**
according to the Scriptures...

A photograph of a white sheet draped over a stone structure, likely a tomb. A wooden plank is leaning against the sheet. The scene is outdoors with a blurred background.

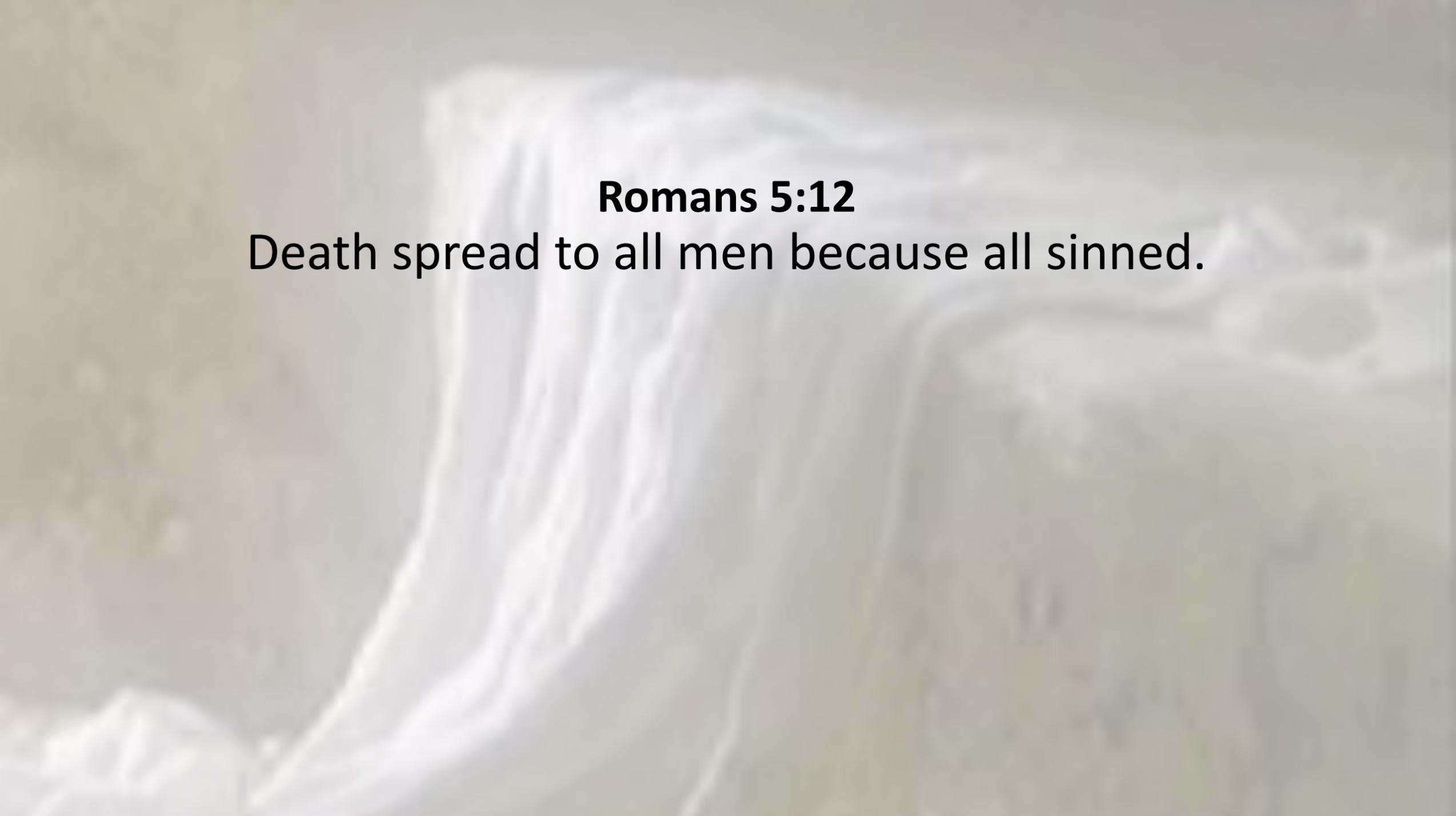
Romans 6:23
For the wages of sin is death.



Romans 6:23

For **the *wages* of sin** is death.

Death is what sin earns.



Romans 5:12

Death spread to all men because all sinned.

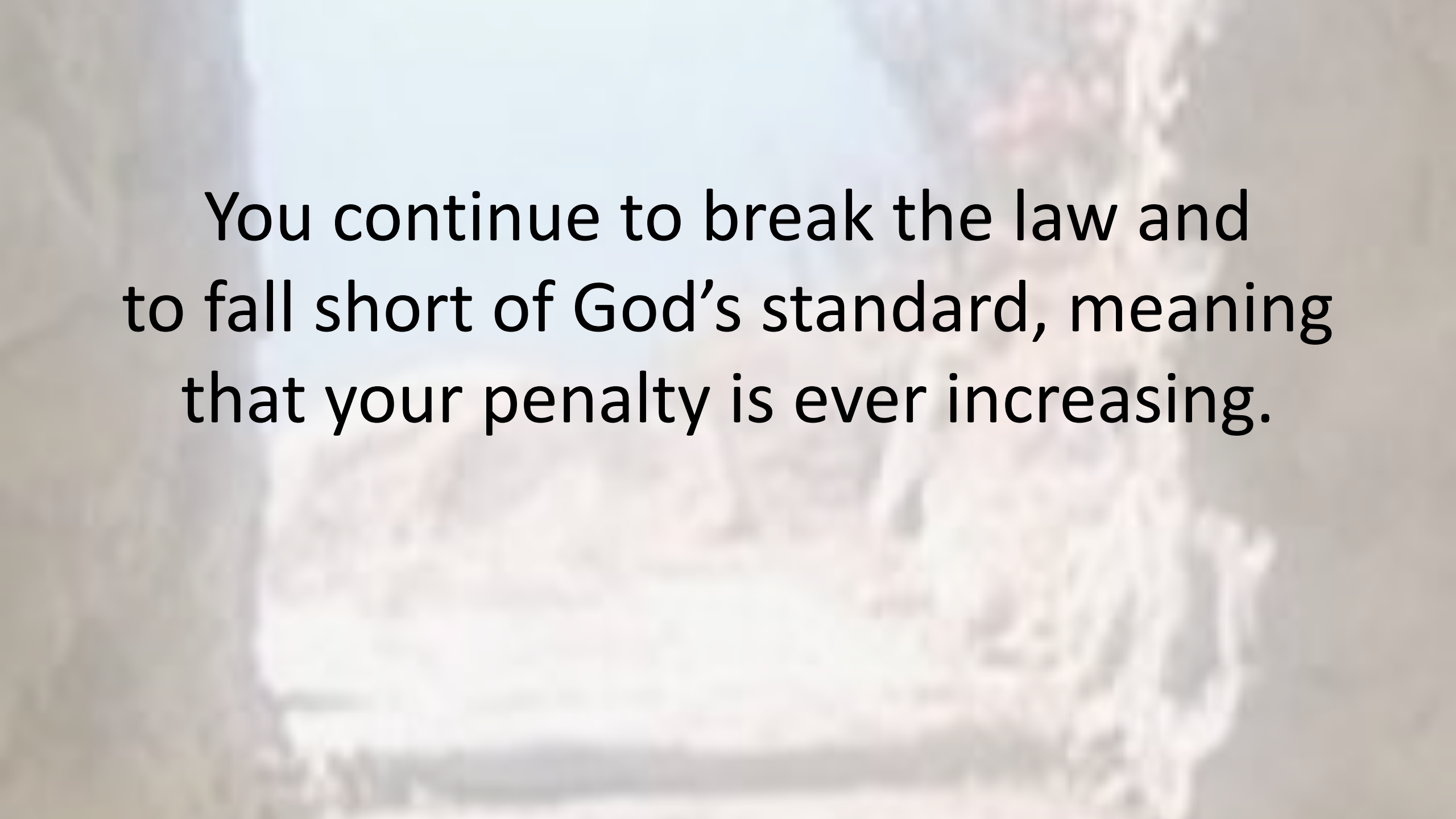


Romans 5:12

Death spread to *all* men because all sinned.

Romans 5:12

Death spread to all men ***because*** all sinned.



You continue to break the law and
to fall short of God's standard, meaning
that your penalty is ever increasing.



Christ died for our sins.

We have broken the law.

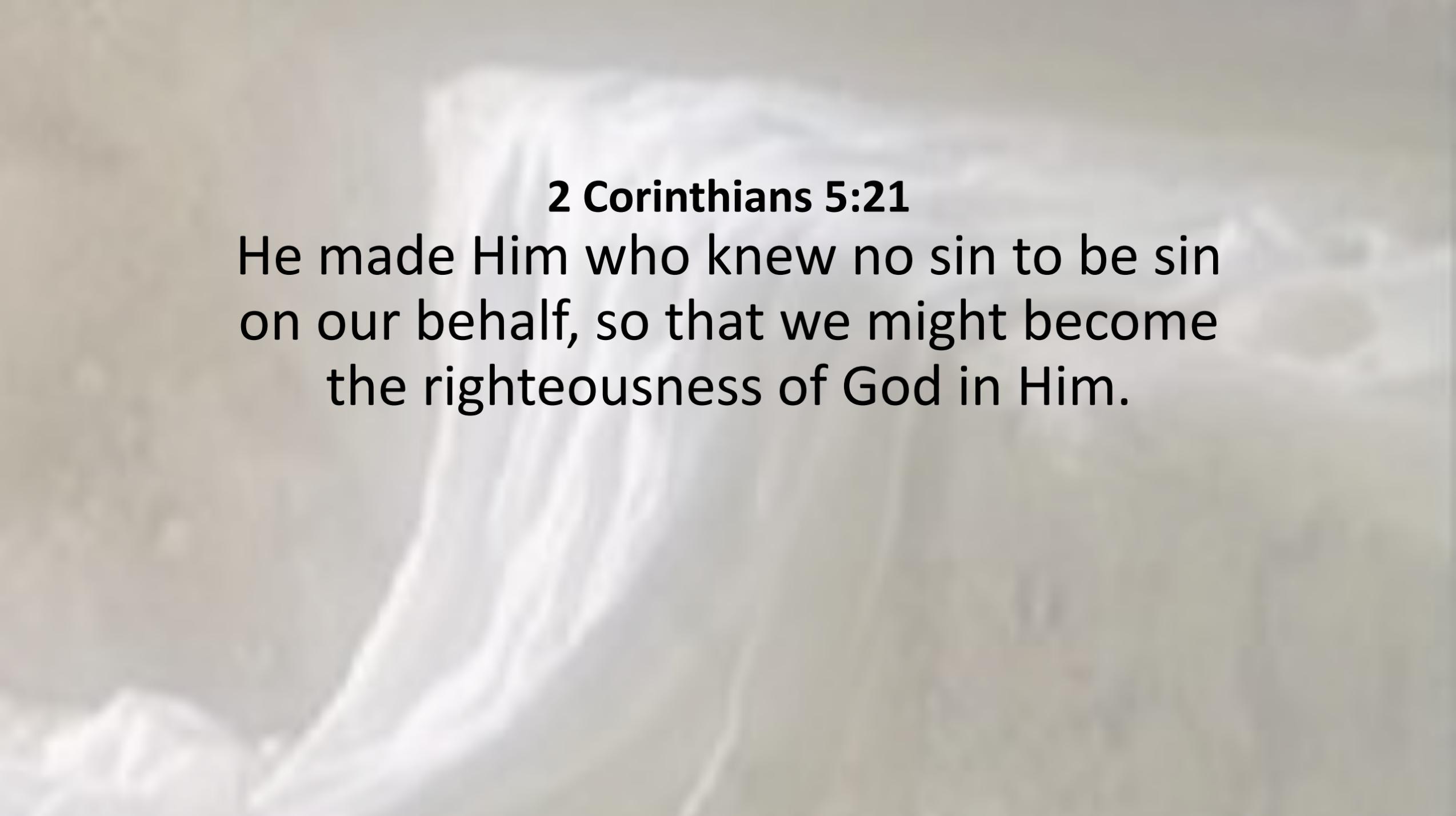
We continue to fall short of the standard.

Sin carries a penalty.

Christ paid our penalty.

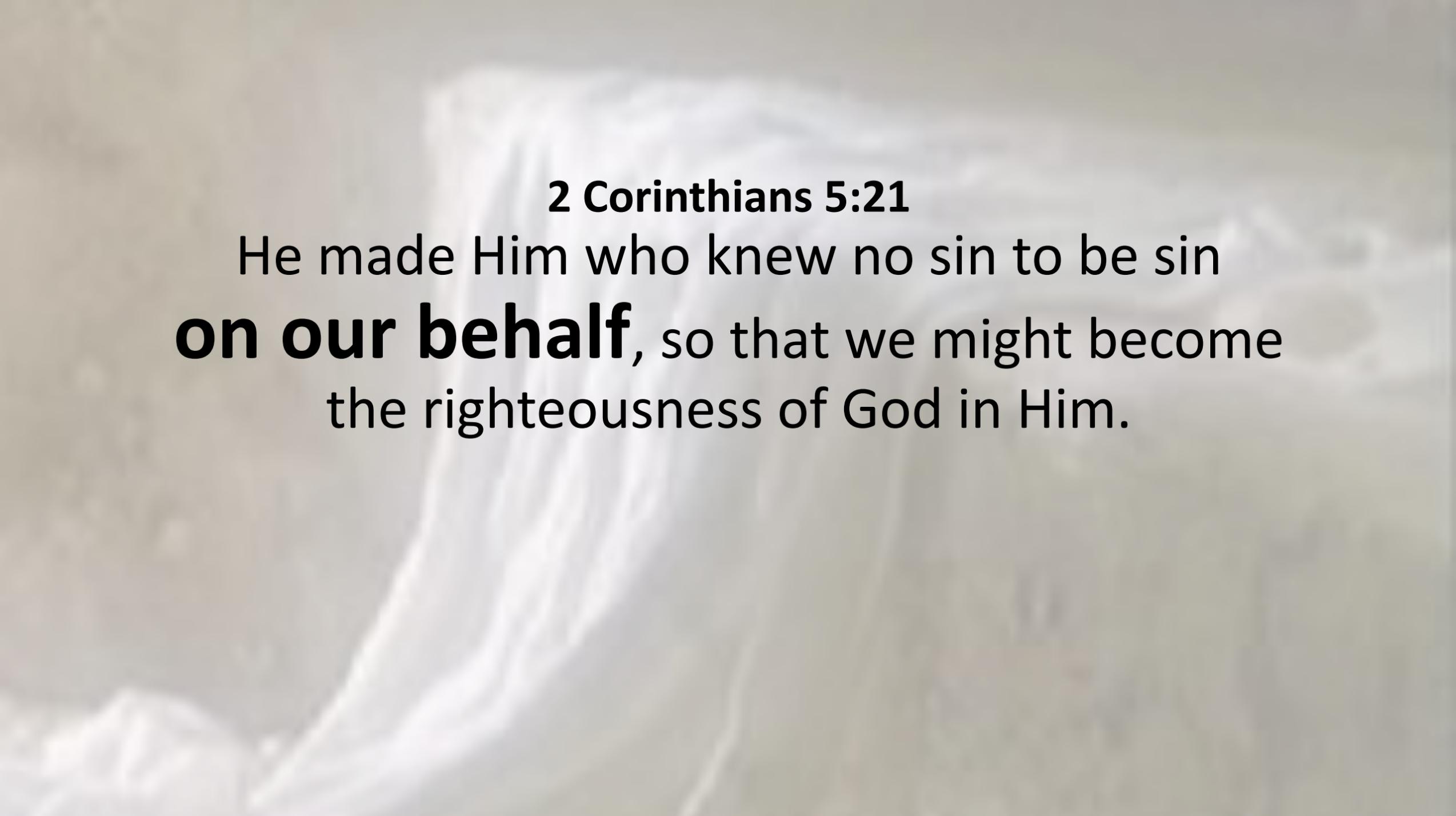
1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance
what I also received, that **Christ died *for* our sins**
according to the Scriptures...



2 Corinthians 5:21

He made Him who knew no sin to be sin
on our behalf, so that we might become
the righteousness of God in Him.



2 Corinthians 5:21

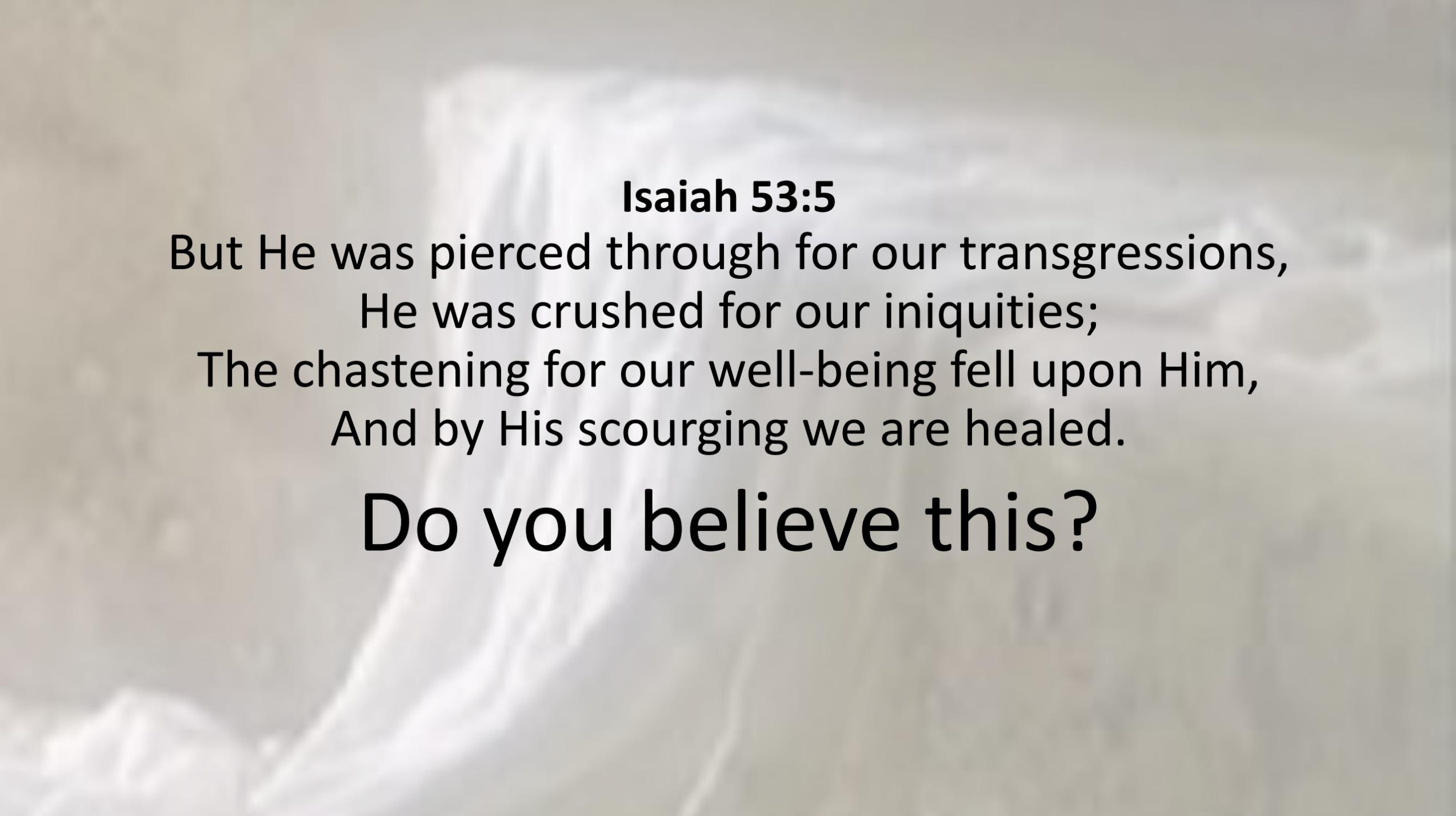
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1 Corinthians 15:3

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1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance
what I also received, that Christ died for our sins
according to the Scriptures...



Isaiah 53:5

But He was pierced through for our transgressions,
He was crushed for our iniquities;
The chastening for our well-being fell upon Him,
And by His scourging we are healed.

Do you believe this?



Of First Importance

Christ died for our sins.

Christ was buried.

1 Corinthians 15:3

For **I delivered to you as of first importance** what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried.

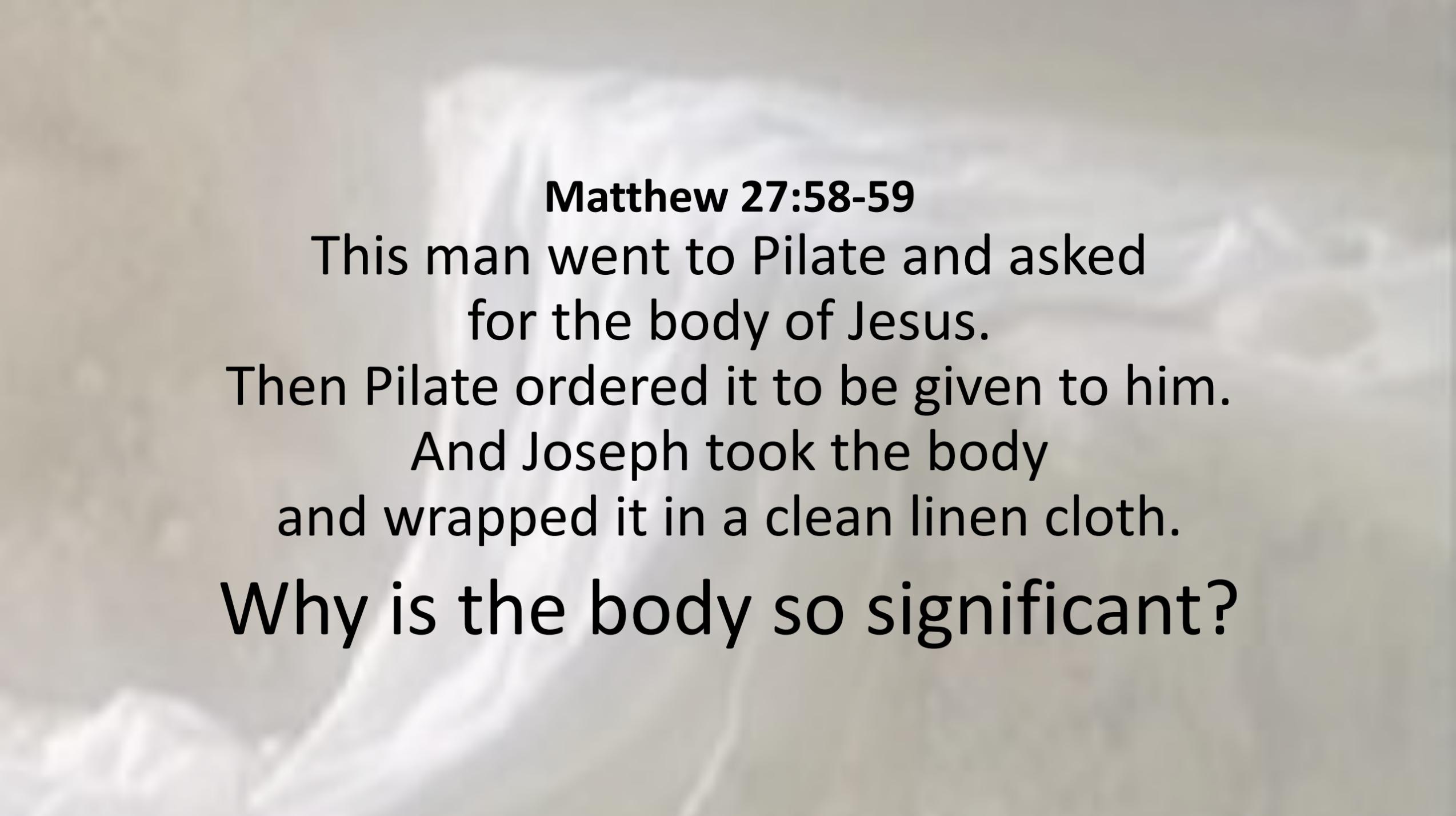
1 Corinthians 15:3

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and **that He was buried.**



Christ was buried.

There was a body.



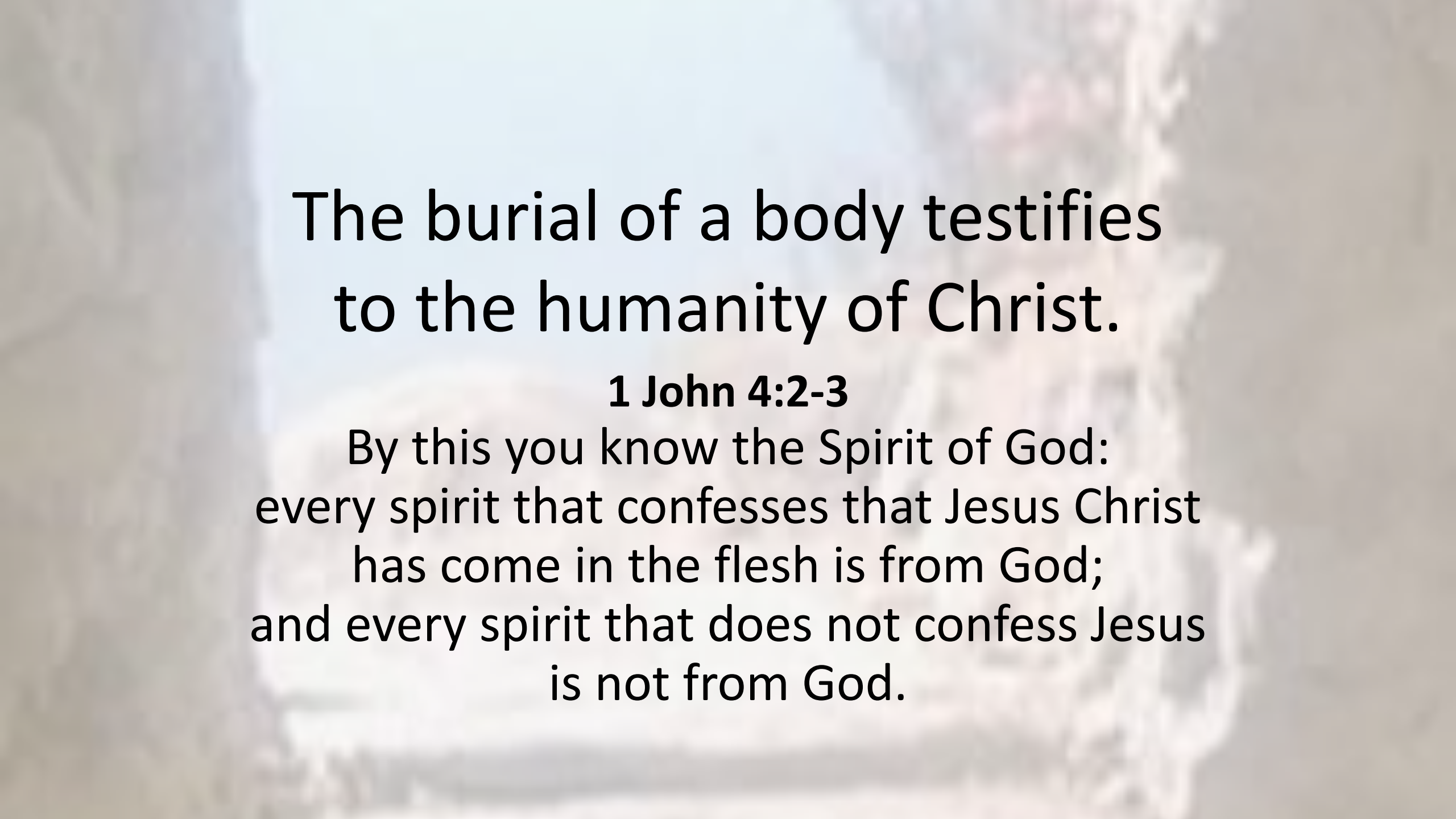
Matthew 27:58-59

This man went to Pilate and asked
for the body of Jesus.

Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him.

And Joseph took the body
and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth.

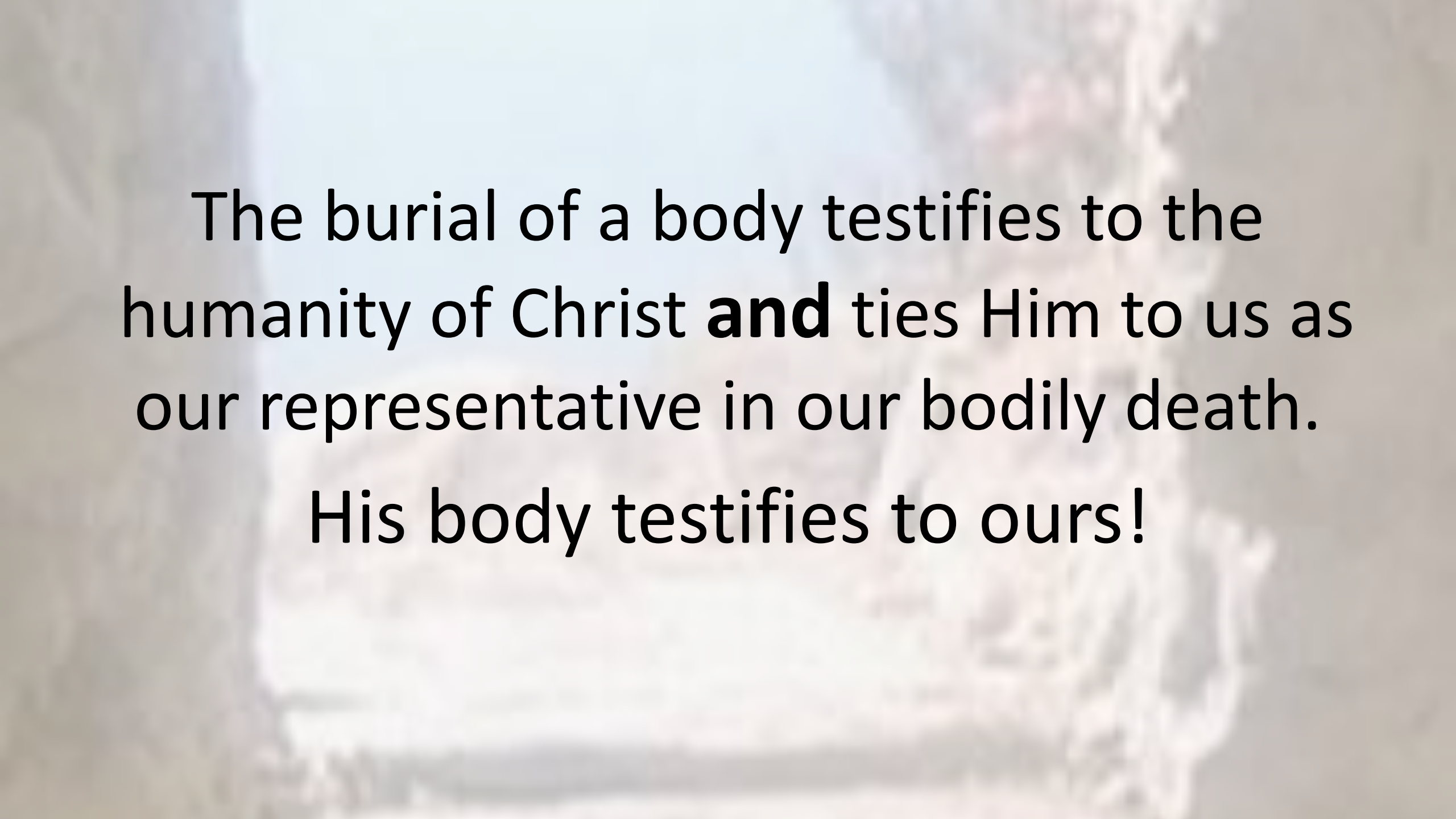
Why is the body so significant?



The burial of a body testifies
to the humanity of Christ.

1 John 4:2-3

By this you know the Spirit of God:
every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ
has come in the flesh is from God;
and every spirit that does not confess Jesus
is not from God.



The burial of a body testifies to the
humanity of Christ **and** ties Him to us as
our representative in our bodily death.

His body testifies to ours!



Christ was buried.

There was a body.

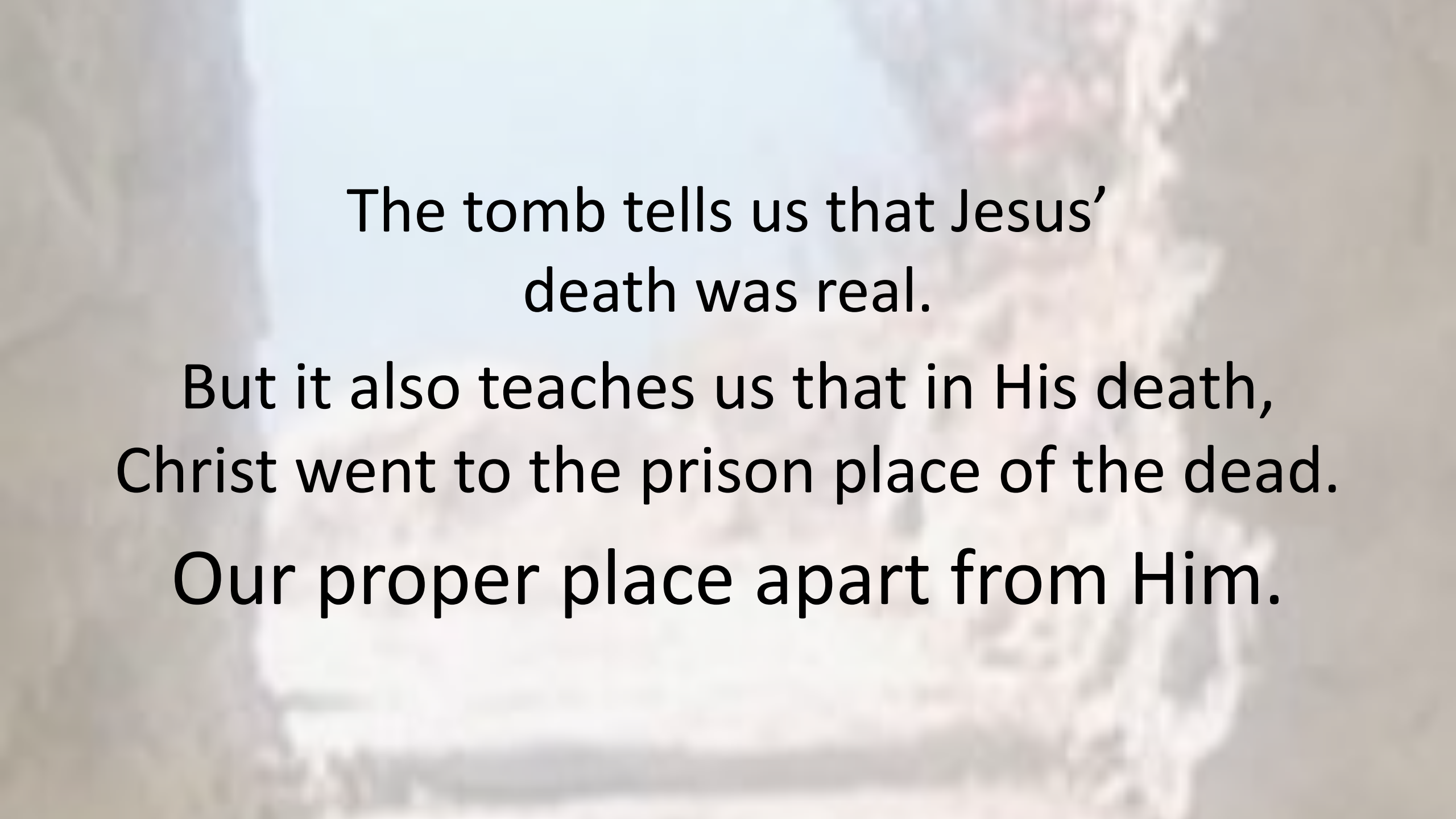
There was a tomb.



Matthew 27:59-60

And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen cloth, and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out in the rock; and he rolled a large stone against the entrance of the tomb and went away.

The tomb tells us that there was a bodily burial.

The background is a soft-focus photograph of a tomb entrance. A large, light-colored stone has been rolled away from the entrance, revealing a dark interior. The surrounding rock walls are textured and weathered. The overall tone is somber and historical.

The tomb tells us that Jesus'
death was real.

But it also teaches us that in His death,
Christ went to the prison place of the dead.

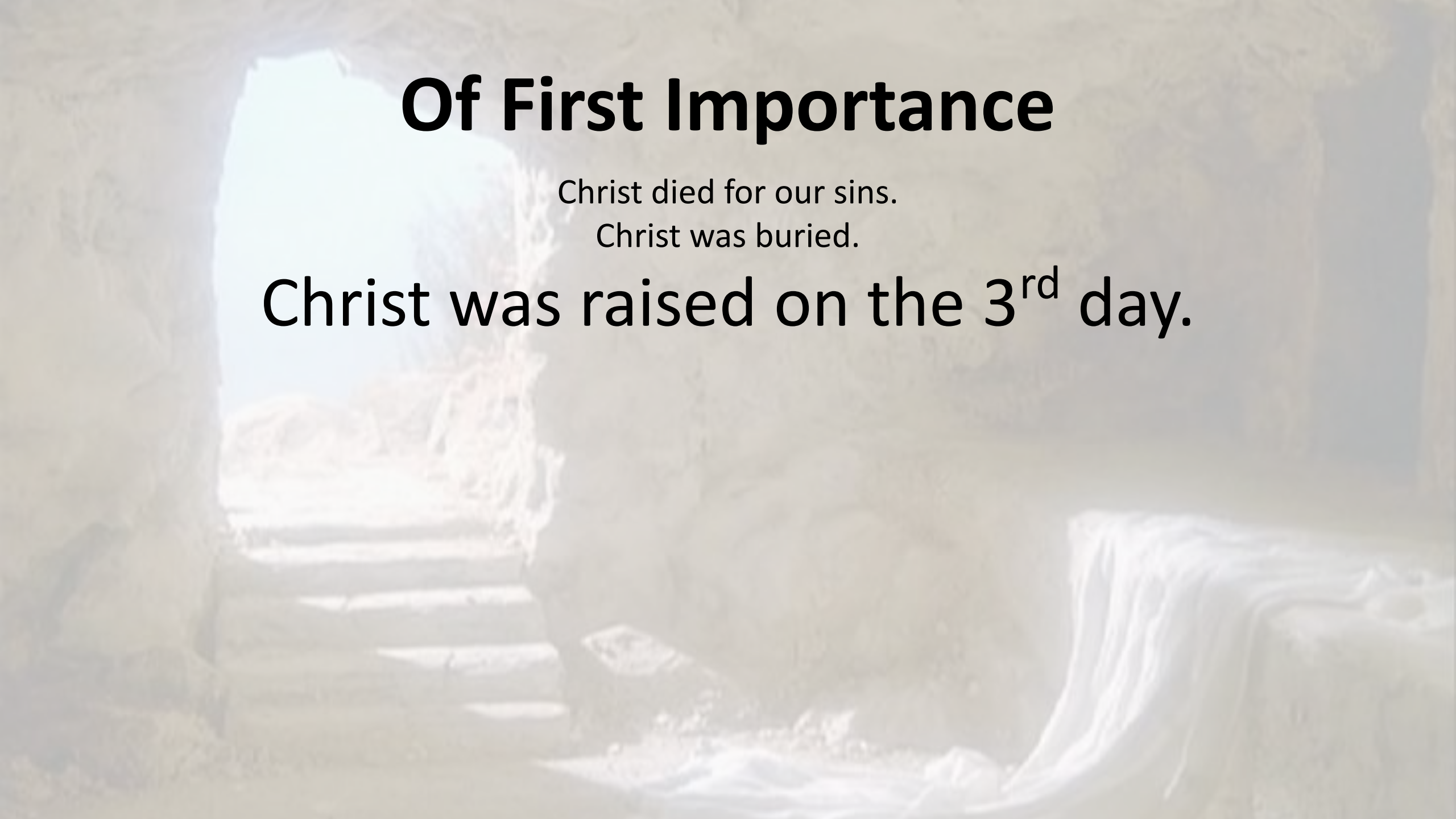
Our proper place apart from Him.

Of First Importance

Christ died for our sins.

Christ was buried.

Christ was raised on the 3rd day.



1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For I delivered to you as of first importance

what I also received, that Christ died for our sins
according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried,
and that He was raised on the third day
according to the Scriptures.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

For I delivered to you as of first importance
what I also received, that Christ died for our sins
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and **that He was raised on the third day**
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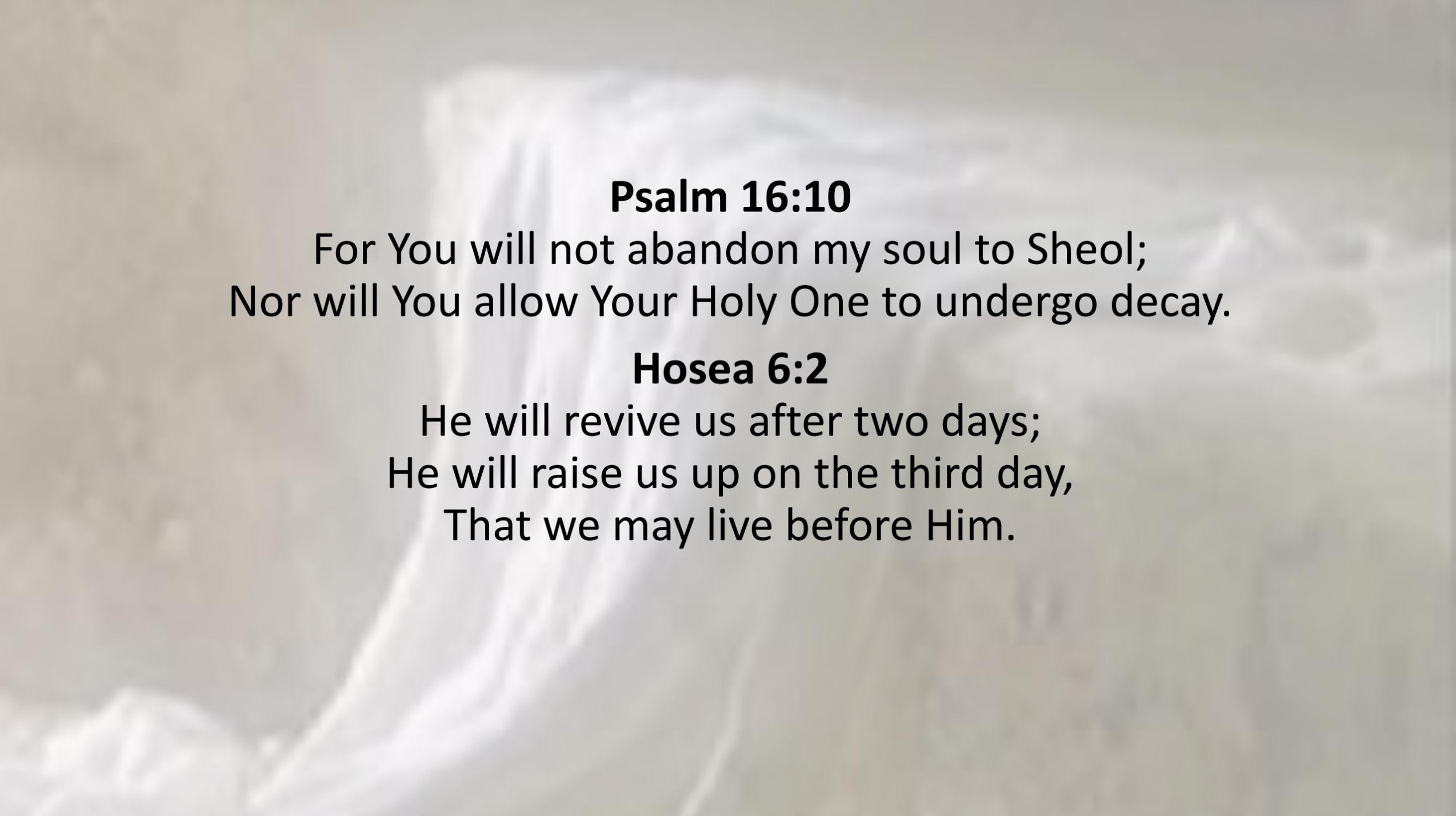
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1 Corinthians 15:3-4

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according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried,
and that He was raised on the third day

according to the Scriptures.



Psalm 16:10

For You will not abandon my soul to Sheol;
Nor will You allow Your Holy One to undergo decay.

Hosea 6:2

He will revive us after two days;
He will raise us up on the third day,
That we may live before Him.

Christ was raised on the 3rd day.

There was a tomb, and it was empty.

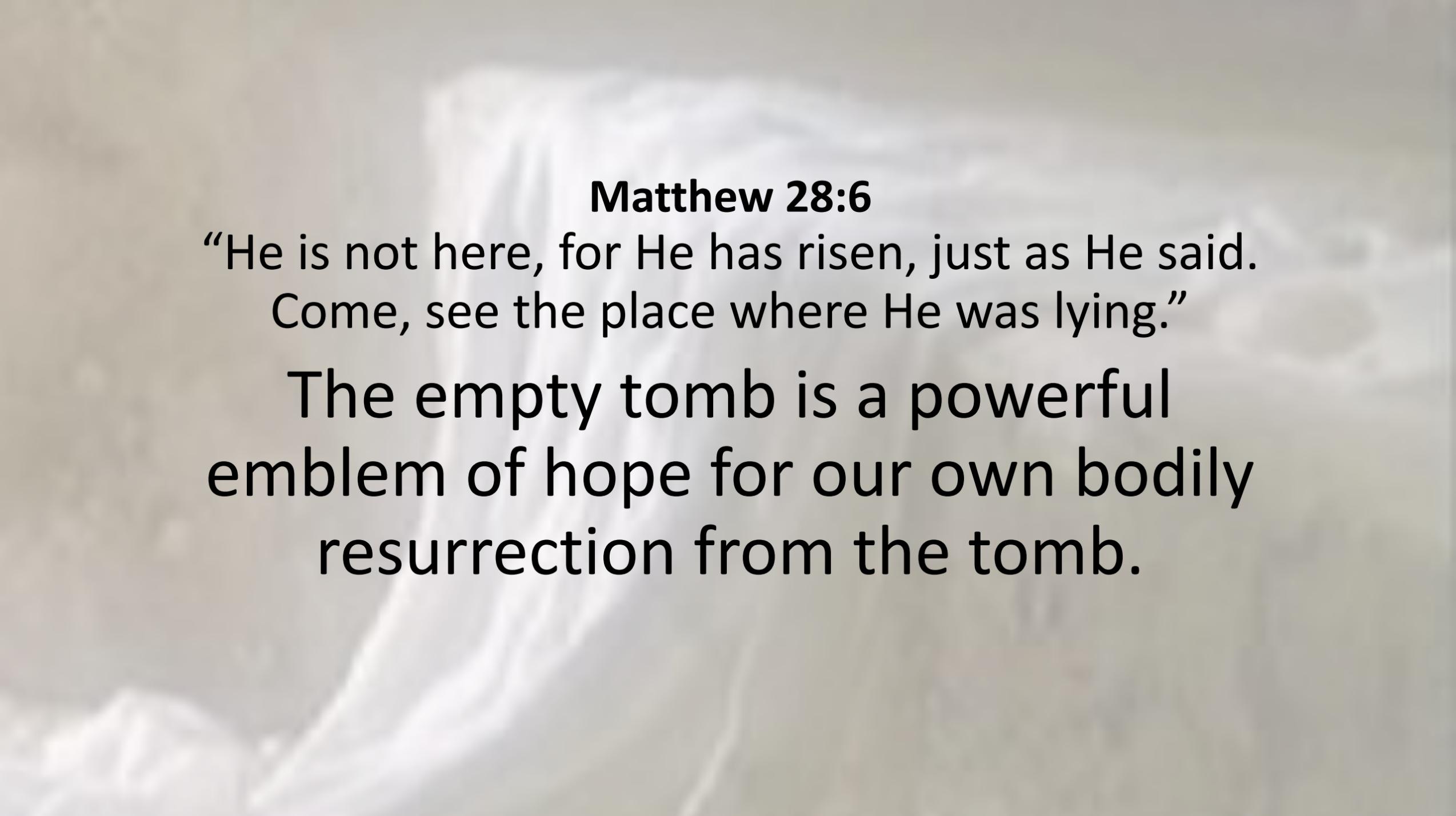


Luke 24:1-3

But on the first day of the week,
at early dawn, they came to the tomb bringing
the spices which they had prepared.
And they found the stone rolled away
from the tomb, but when they entered,
they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.

Luke 24:1-3

But on the first day of the week,
at early dawn, **they came to the tomb** bringing
the spices which they had prepared.
And they found the stone rolled away
from the tomb, but when they entered,
they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.



Matthew 28:6

“He is not here, for He has risen, just as He said.
Come, see the place where He was lying.”

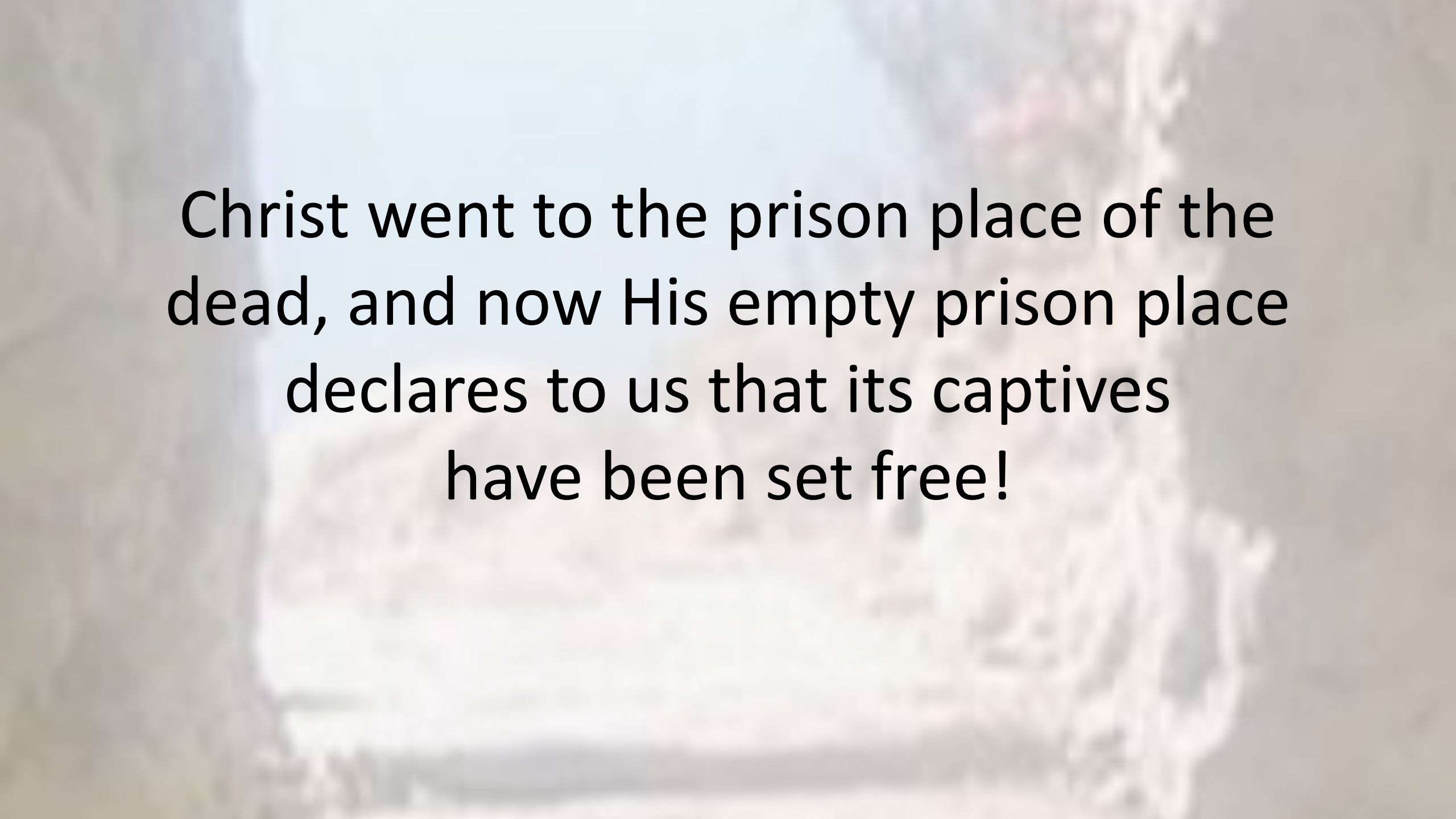
The empty tomb is a powerful
emblem of hope for our own bodily
resurrection from the tomb.

1 Corinthians 15:54-55

“Death is swallowed up in victory.”

“O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?”



Christ went to the prison place of the
dead, and now His empty prison place
declares to us that its captives
have been set free!

A white cloth is draped over a light-colored, textured stone surface, likely representing the stone rolled away from the tomb. The cloth is folded and draped in a way that suggests it has been removed, leaving the surface beneath it visible.

Christ was raised on the 3rd day.

The tomb was empty.

He appeared to many.

1 Corinthians 15:3-5

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received, that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures,

and that **He appeared to Cephas,
then to the twelve.**

1 Corinthians 15:6-8

After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren
at one time, most of whom remain until now,
but some have fallen asleep;
then He appeared to James,
then to all the apostles;
and last of all, as to one untimely born,
He appeared to me also.

The eyewitness testimony testifies
to His real resurrection.



Christ was raised on the 3rd day.

The tomb was empty.

He appeared to many.

Our sins are forgiven.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4

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what I also received, that **Christ died for our sins**
according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried,
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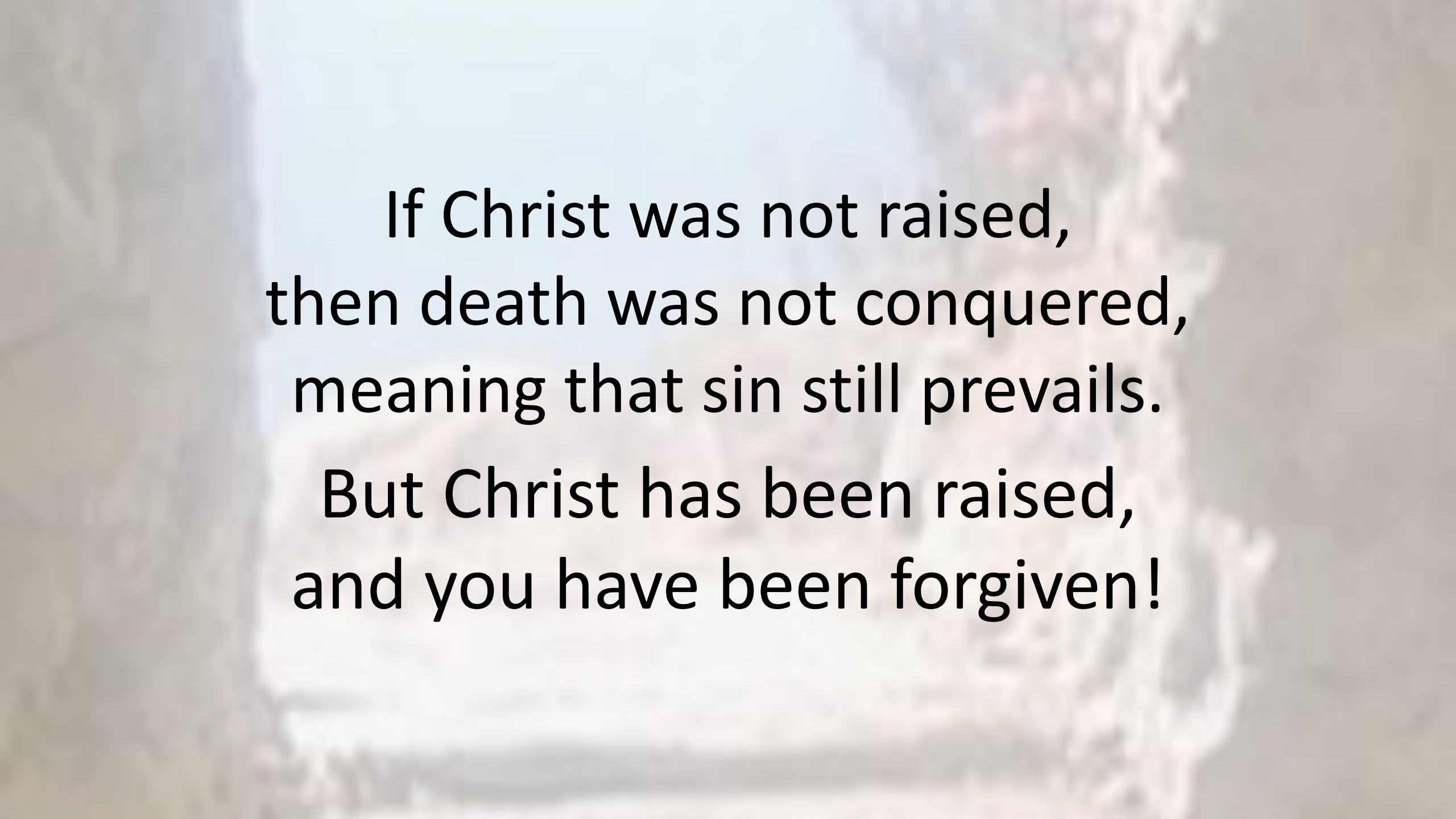
Romans 4:25

He was delivered over because of our transgressions,
and was raised because of our justification.

1 Corinthians 15:17

And if Christ has not been raised,
your faith is worthless...

you are still in your sins.



If Christ was not raised,
then death was not conquered,
meaning that sin still prevails.

But Christ has been raised,
and you have been forgiven!

For Consideration:

Have you acknowledged your sin and own that you fall short of God's standard?

Do you believe that Christ died for you and fully paid your sin debt?

Are you celebrating the resurrection of Christ as your freedom day, looking to that day when you will be finally free?