

COMMON ERRORS IN BIBLE INTERPRETATION

Ignoring Theology

"I saw a bark in the park."

*"The waves crashed against
the bark as I sat in the park."*

2 Meanings of **Bark**

The thick **bark** of the oak tree helps protect it from harsh weather.



She heard a **bark** in the distance and immediately knew it was her neighbour's dog.



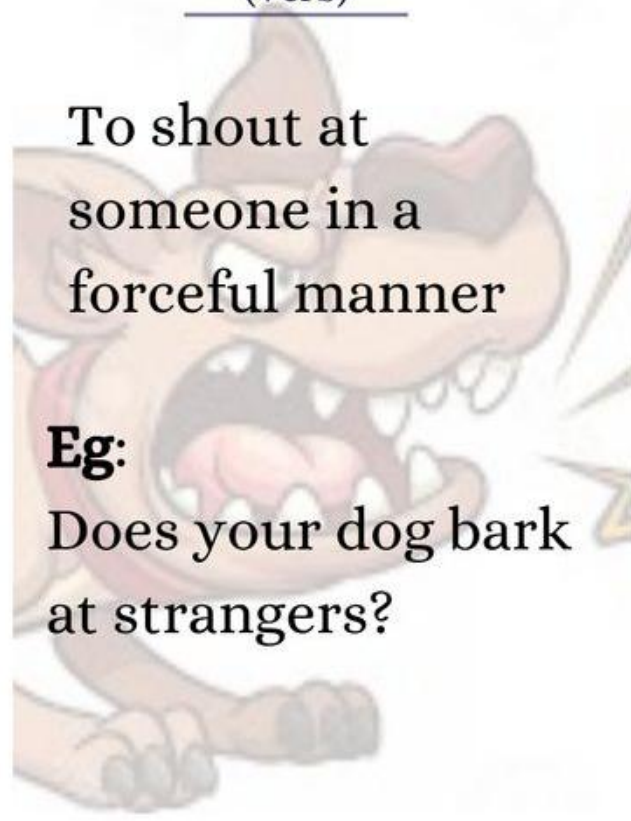
Bark

(Verb)

To shout at someone in a forceful manner

Eg:

Does your dog bark at strangers?

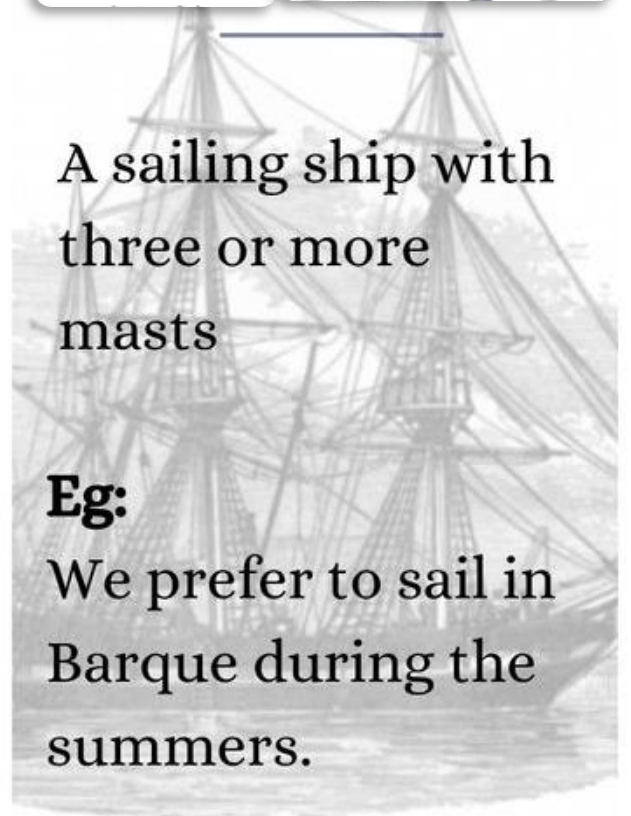


Bark Barque

A sailing ship with three or more masts

Eg:

We prefer to sail in Barque during the summers.



COMMON ERRORS IN BIBLE INTERPRETATION

- (#1)** *IGNORING THE GENRE*
- (#2)** *IGNORING LINGUISTICS*
- (#3)** *IGNORING TRANSLATIONS*
- (#4)** *IGNORING CONTEXT*
- (#5)** *IGNORING FIGURES OF SPEECH*
- (#6)** *IGNORING HISTORY*
- (#7)** *IGNORING CULTURE*
- (#8)** *IGNORING THEOLOGY (SCRIPTURE)*



THE INTERPRETER
MAKES THE
SCRIPTURE
SAYS **WHAT HE**
WANTS IT TO SAY.

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THE INTERPRETER
MAKES THE
SCRIPTURE
SAYS **WHAT GOD**
HAS TO SAY.

Biblical Interpretation

Immediate
Context



What is
happening in
this portion of
the book?

+

Historical
Context



Five questions to
ask to determine
the historical
context of a
passage:

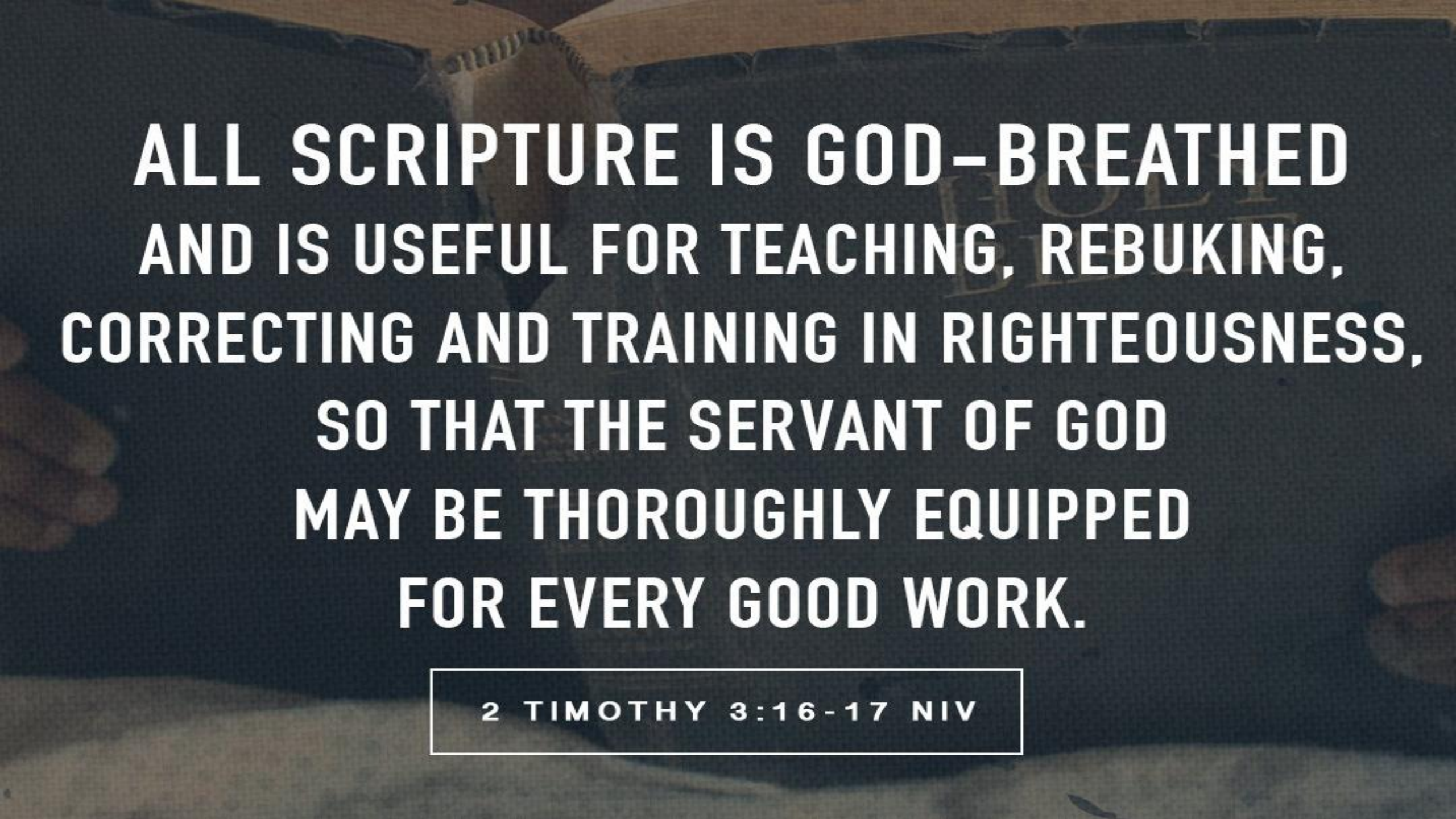
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Scriptural
Context



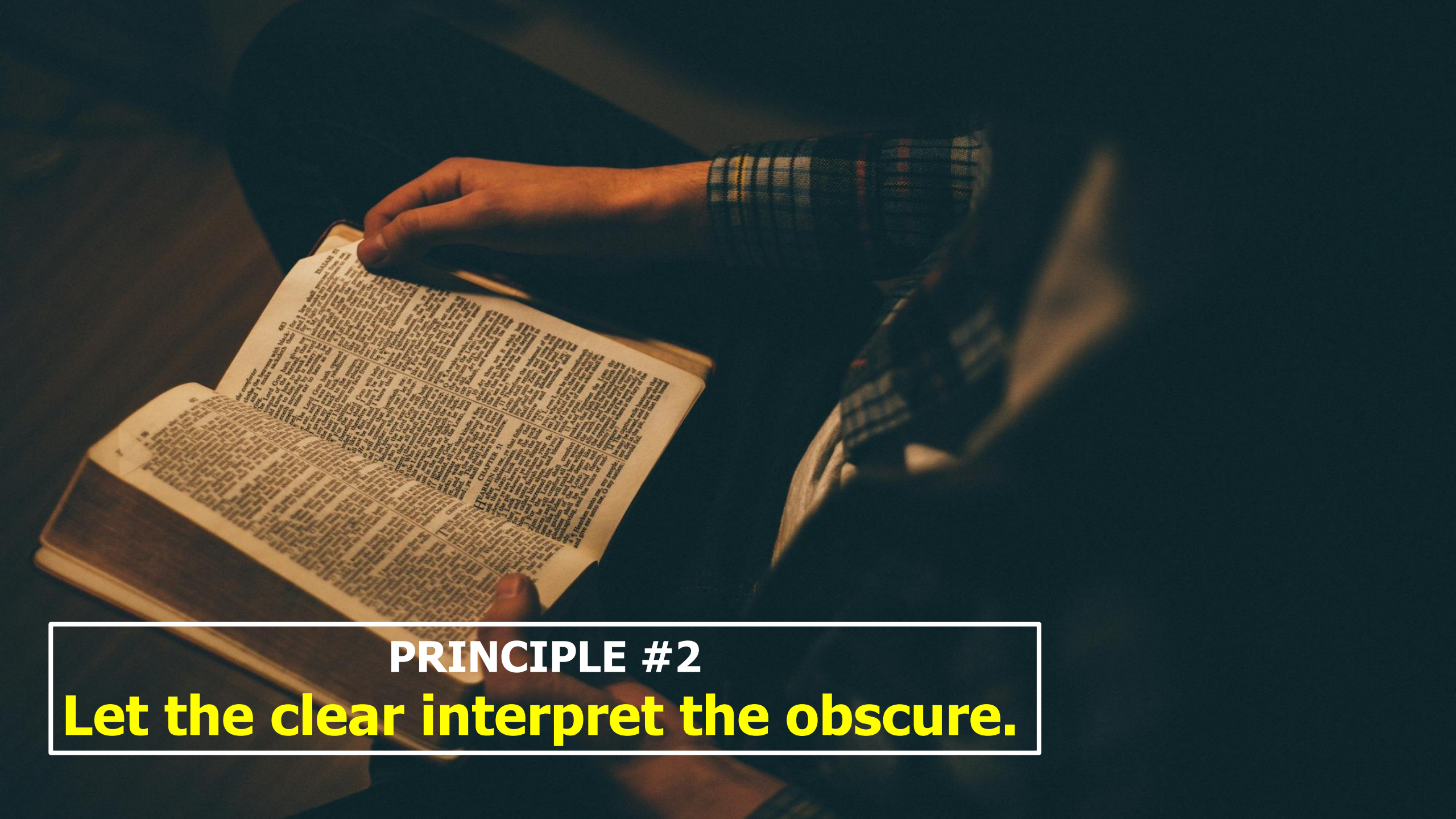
What does the rest
of Scripture have
to say about the
subject?

PRINCIPLE #1
The Bible is a unified story.



**ALL SCRIPTURE IS GOD-BREATHED
AND IS USEFUL FOR TEACHING, REBUKING,
CORRECTING AND TRAINING IN RIGHTEOUSNESS,
SO THAT THE SERVANT OF GOD
MAY BE THOROUGHLY EQUIPPED
FOR EVERY GOOD WORK.**

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17 NIV

A person is shown from the chest down, sitting and reading an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The room is dark, with a warm, low-key light source illuminating the Bible and the person's hands. The Bible is open to a page with dense text, and the person's fingers are visible turning the pages. The overall mood is contemplative and focused.

PRINCIPLE #2

Let the clear interpret the obscure.

"Very truly I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you."

John 6:53

"For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life..."

John 6:40

PRINCIPLE #3

Use the New Testament to unlock the Old.

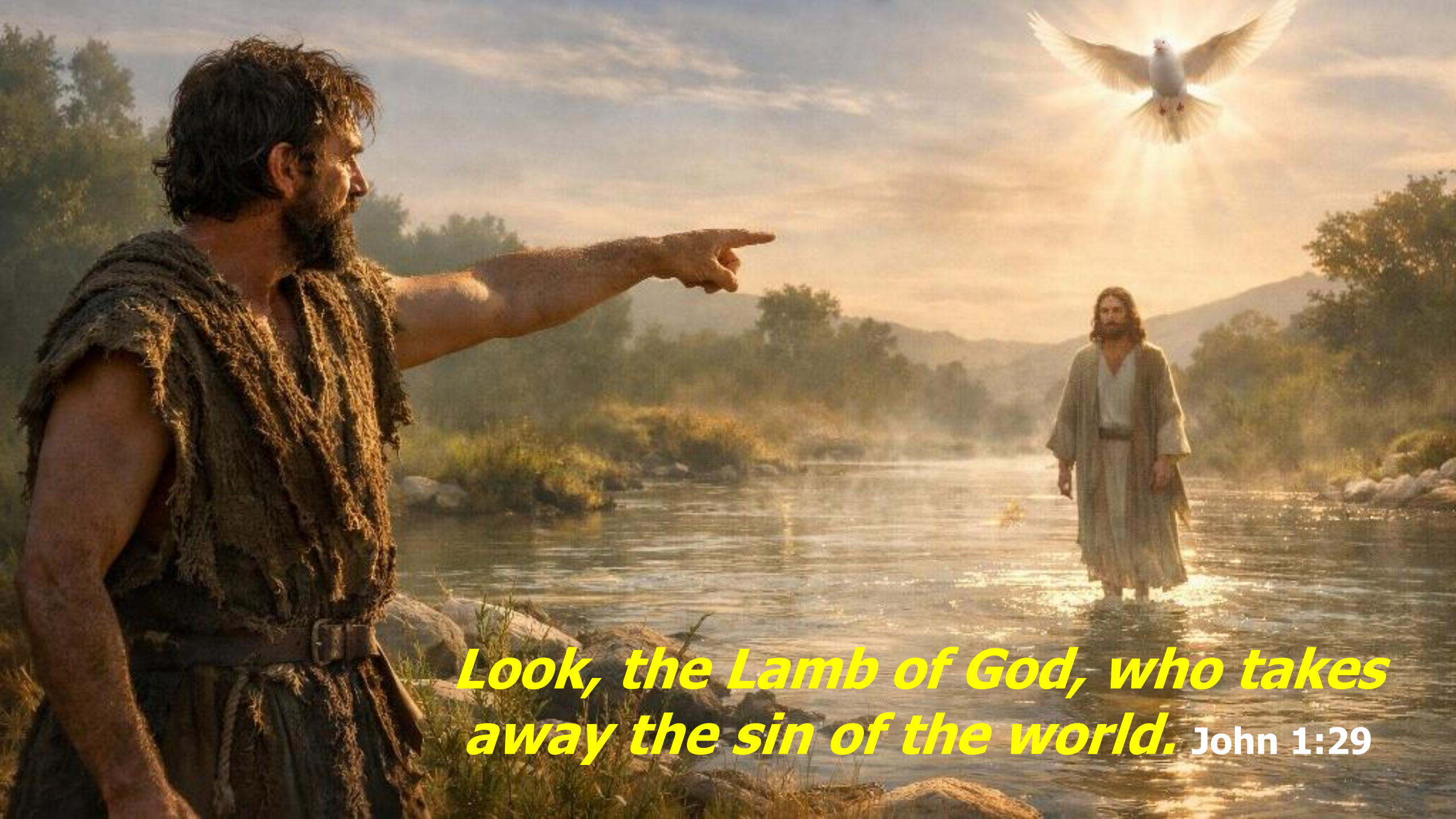


"See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes."

Malachi 4:5

"For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John. And if you are willing to accept it, he is the Elijah who was to come."

Matthew 11:13-14



Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. John 1:29

A man with a beard, wearing a red cap and a red robe with white stripes on the sleeves, is shown from the side. He is holding a small metal bowl in his right hand and a bundle of dry reeds or straw in his left hand. He is applying a thick, red, paint-like substance to the top and sides of a wooden door frame. The door is made of vertical wooden planks. The background is a rough, textured wall made of mud-brick or stone. The lighting is warm and focused on the man and the door.

The blood (of the lamb) will be a sign for you on the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you. No destructive plague will touch you when I strike Egypt. Exodus 12:13

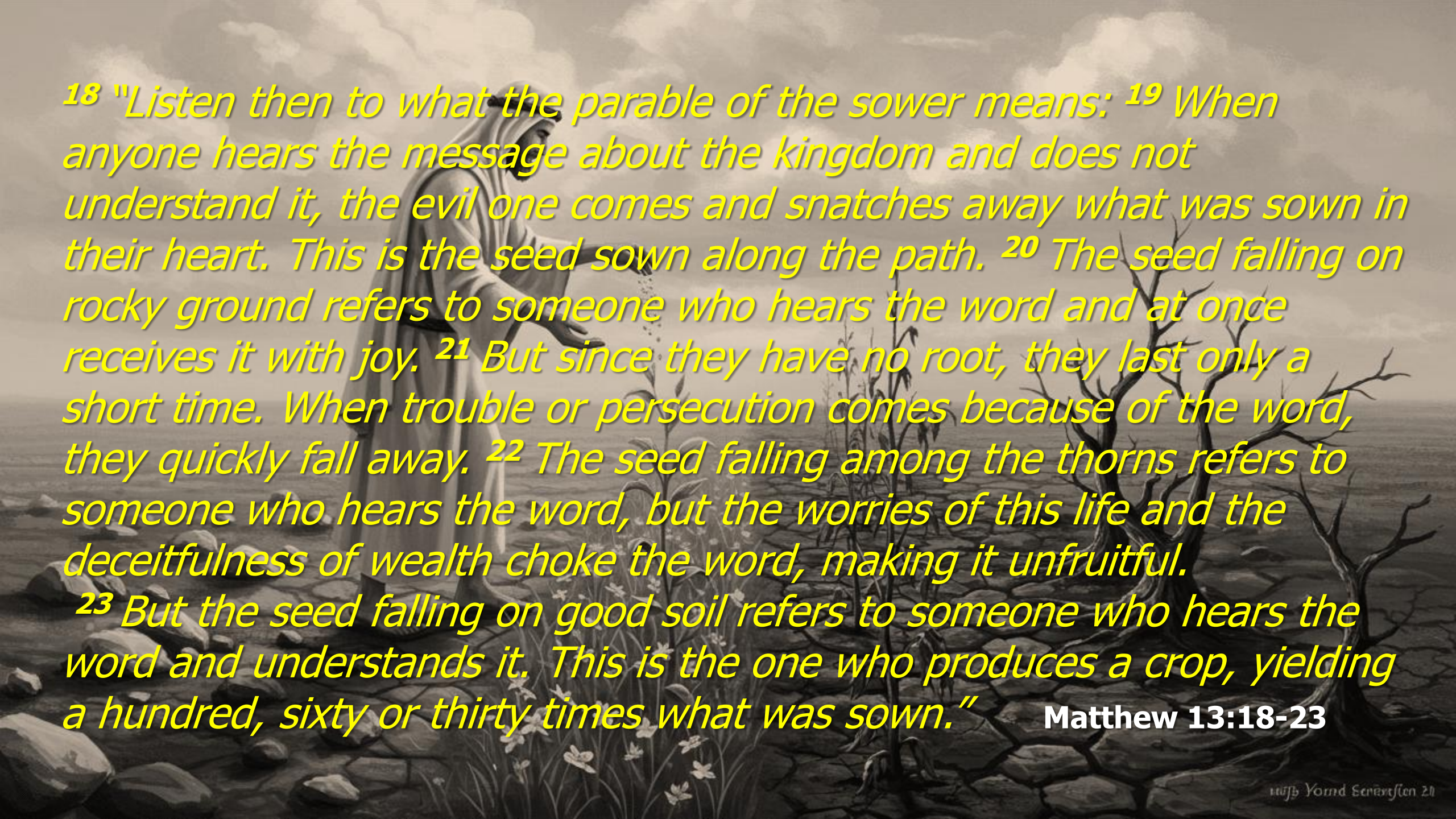
***He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open
his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter,
and as a sheep before her shearers is silent,
so he did not open his mouth.*** Isaiah 53:7



PARABLE OF THE SOWER

³ Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. ⁴ As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds came and ate it up. ⁵ Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. ⁶ But when the sun came up, the plants were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. ⁷ Other seed fell among thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. ⁸ Still other seed fell on good soil, where it produced a crop—a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown. ⁹ Whoever has ears, let them hear."

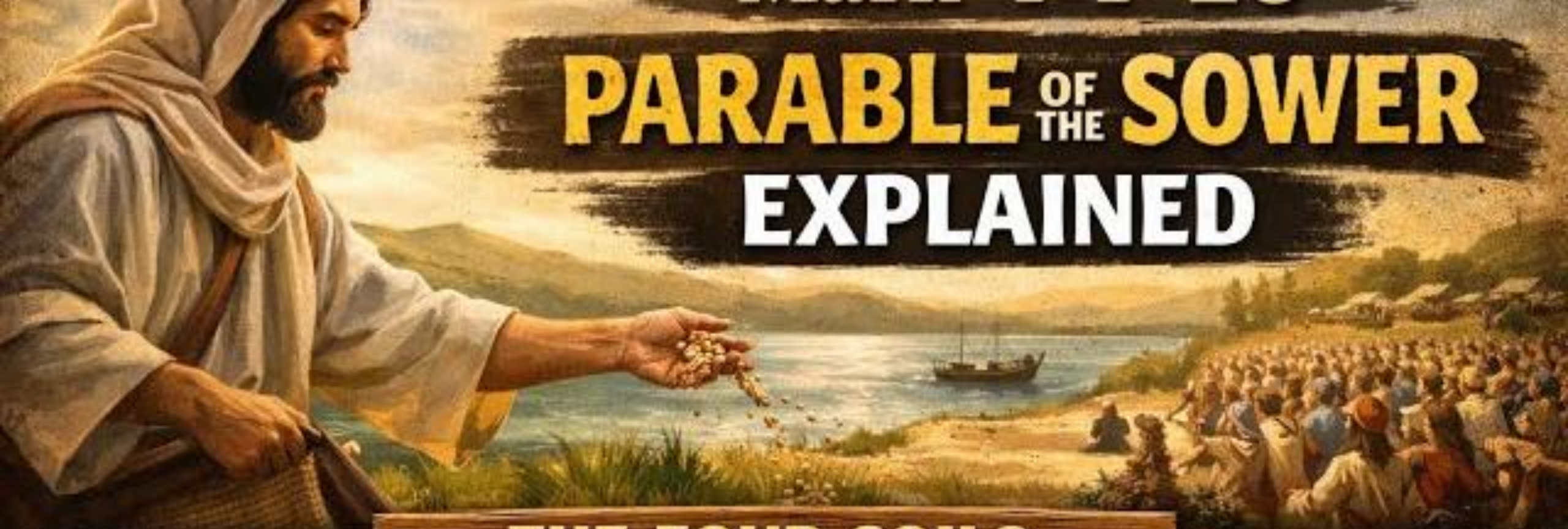
Matthew 13:1-9

A man in a white robe is shown from the side, sowing seeds from a small bag. He is walking across a field with different types of soil. Some areas are rocky, some have small plants, and some have bare, thorny trees. The background is a cloudy sky.

18 "Listen then to what the parable of the sower means: 19 When anyone hears the message about the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what was sown in their heart. This is the seed sown along the path. 20 The seed falling on rocky ground refers to someone who hears the word and at once receives it with joy. 21 But since they have no root, they last only a short time. When trouble or persecution comes because of the word, they quickly fall away. 22 The seed falling among the thorns refers to someone who hears the word, but the worries of this life and the deceitfulness of wealth choke the word, making it unfruitful.

23 But the seed falling on good soil refers to someone who hears the word and understands it. This is the one who produces a crop, yielding a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown."

Matthew 13:18-23

A detailed illustration of Jesus, with a beard and wearing a white robe and a light-colored head covering, sowing seeds from a woven basket into his right hand. He is standing on a grassy hill overlooking a body of water with a small boat and distant mountains. A large crowd of people is gathered on the right side of the hill, watching him.

PARABLE OF THE **SOWER** **EXPLAINED**

THE FOUR SOILS

PATH



ROCKY



THORNS



GOOD SOIL



**UNDERSTAND
GOD'S WORD**

¹⁶ Dogs surround me, a pack of villains encircles me; they pierce my hands and my feet. ¹⁷ All my bones are on display; people stare and gloat over me. ¹⁸ They divide my clothes among them and cast lots for my garment. Psalm 22:16-18





***When they had crucified
Him, they divided up His
clothes by casting lots.***

Matthew 27:35

Scripture Interprets Scripture

One main story to tell!

