



SHOCK & AWE

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.”

John 14:12



The parable **enacted** in a tree (12-14)

The parable **embodied** in a temple (15-19)

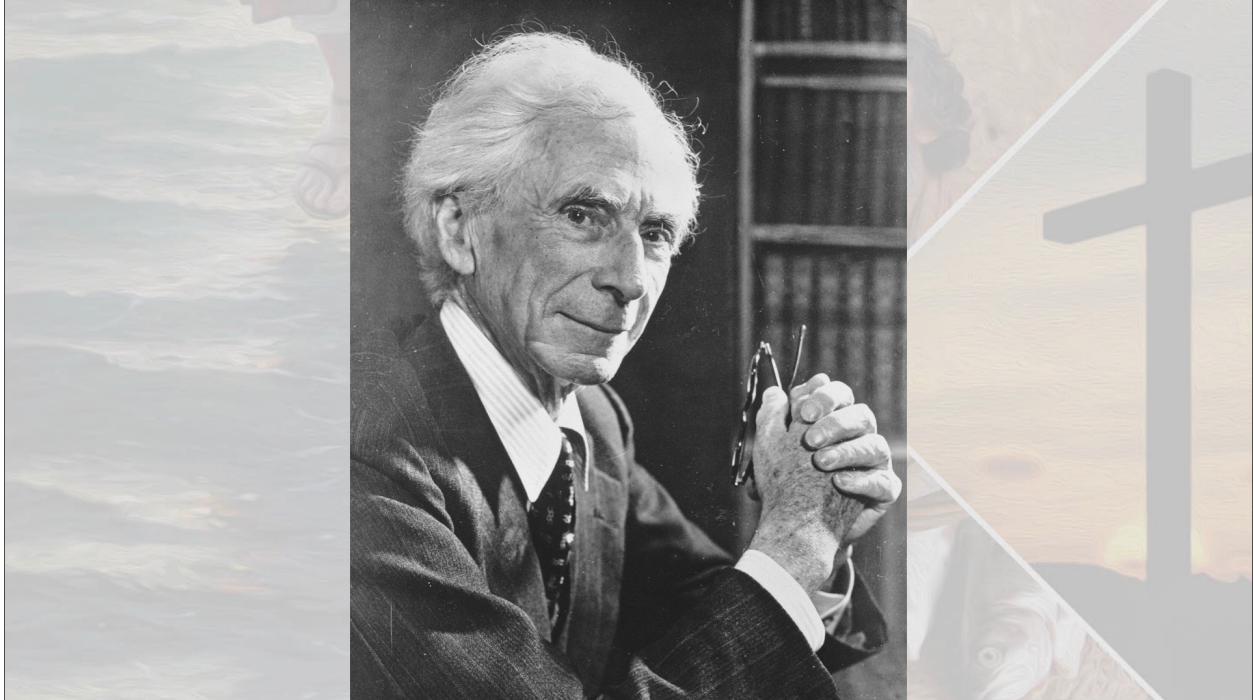
The parable **explained** from a tree (20-25)

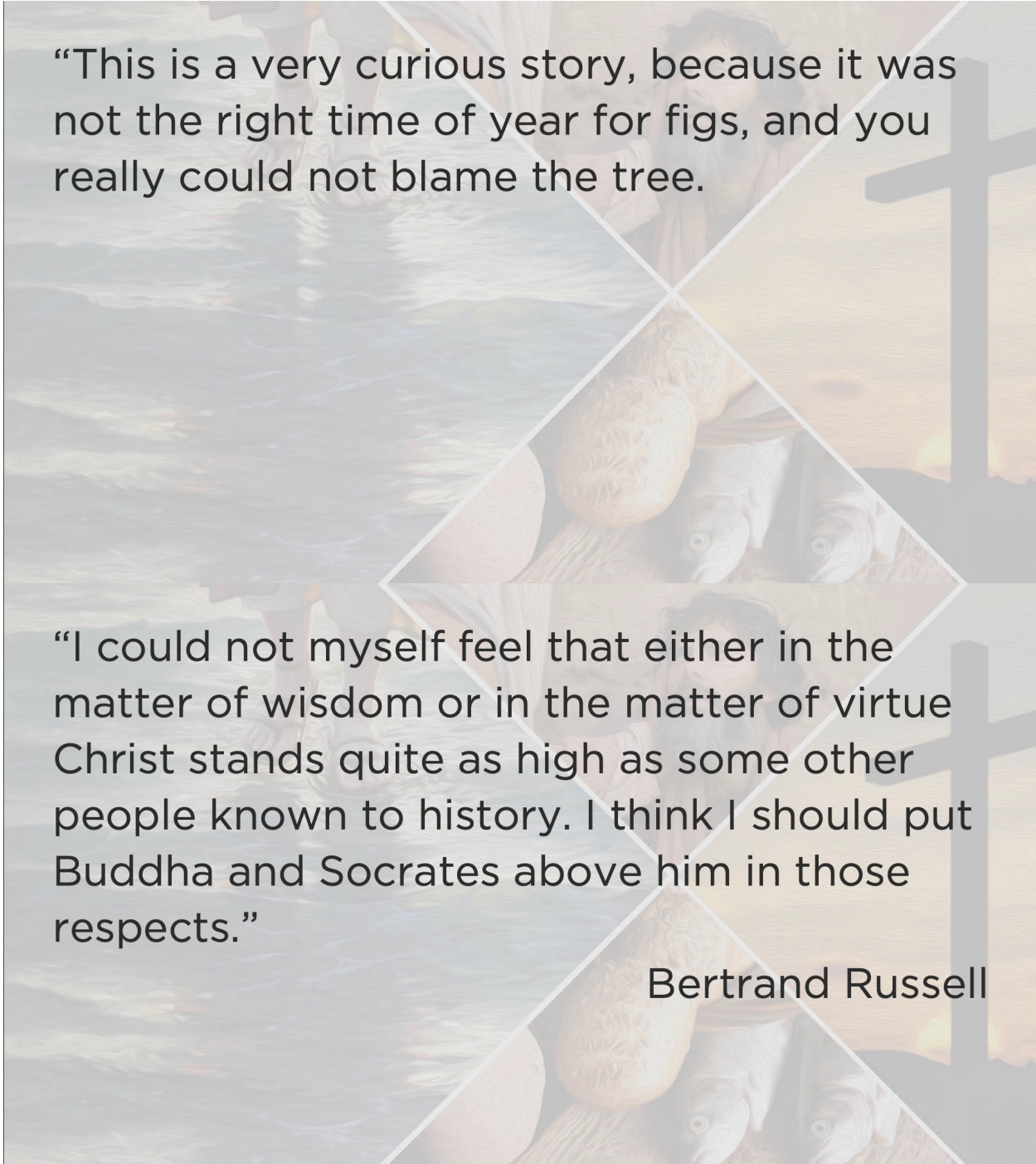


1. The parable **enacted** in a tree (12-14)

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“When he came to it, he found nothing but leaves, for it was not the season for figs.” (13)

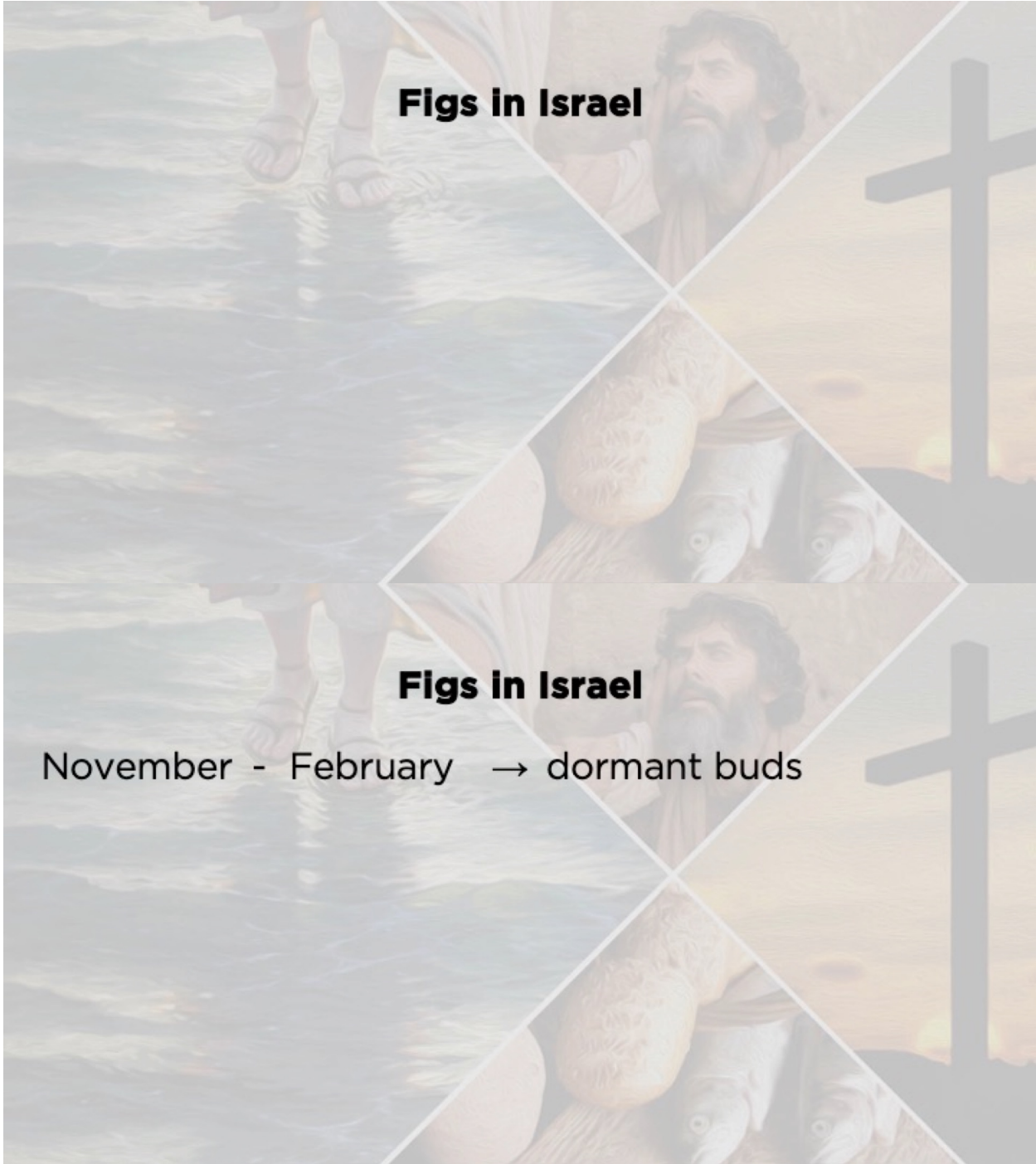




“This is a very curious story, because it was not the right time of year for figs, and you really could not blame the tree.

“I could not myself feel that either in the matter of wisdom or in the matter of virtue Christ stands quite as high as some other people known to history. I think I should put Buddha and Socrates above him in those respects.”

Bertrand Russell



Figs in Israel

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November - February → dormant buds



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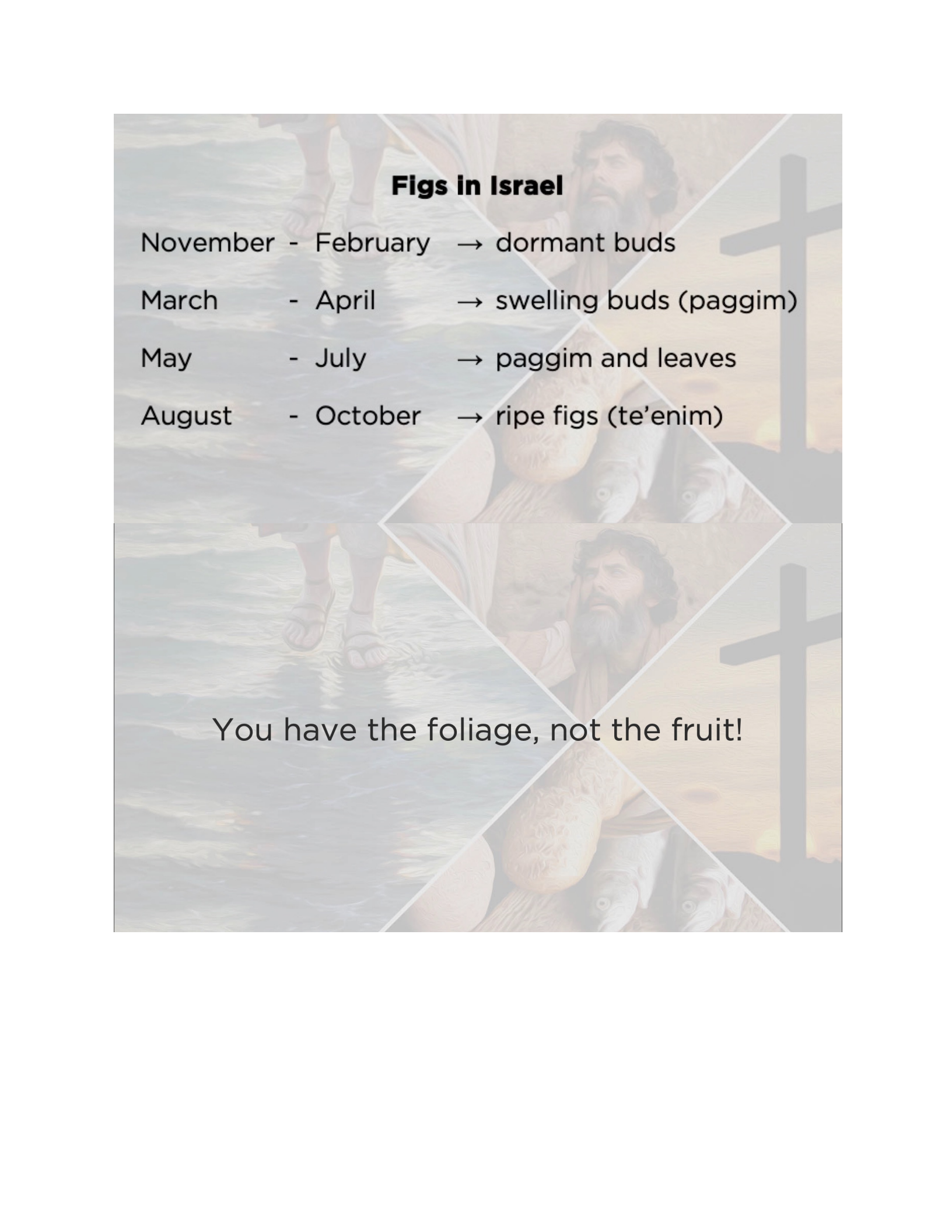
March - April → swelling buds (paggim)

Figs in Israel

November - February → dormant buds

March - April → swelling buds (paggim)

May - July → paggim and leaves



Figs in Israel

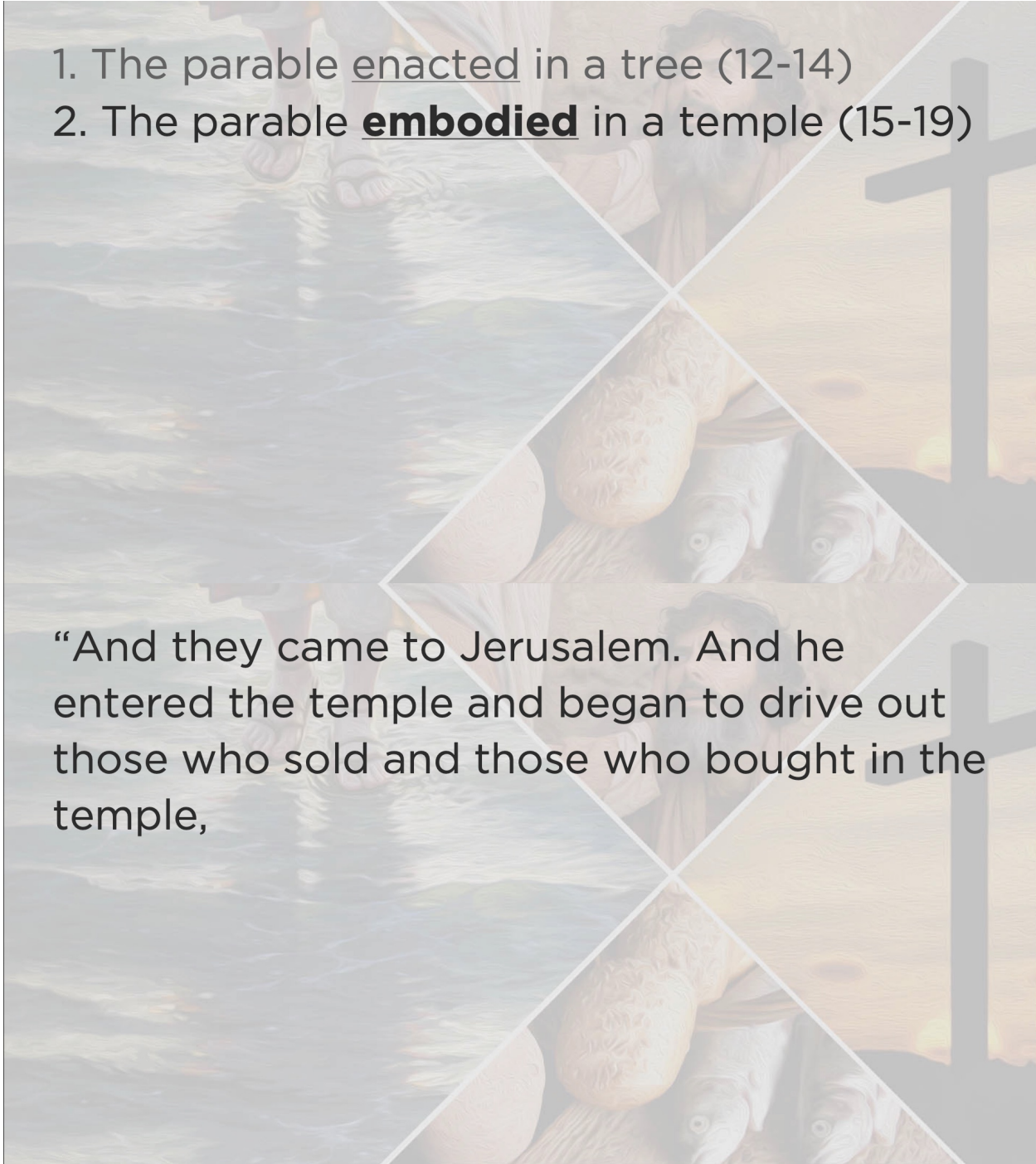
November - February → dormant buds

March - April → swelling buds (paggim)

May - July → paggim and leaves

August - October → ripe figs (te'anim)

You have the foliage, not the fruit!

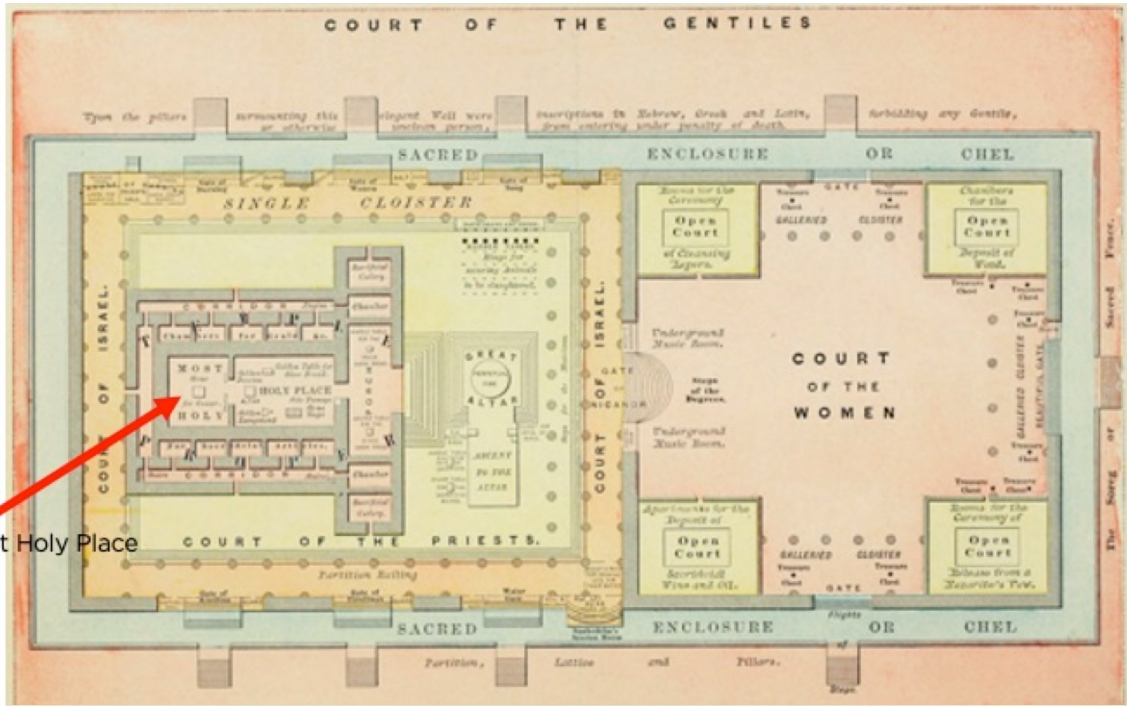
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1. The parable enacted in a tree (12-14)
 2. The parable **embodied** in a temple (15-19)

“And they came to Jerusalem. And he entered the temple and began to drive out those who sold and those who bought in the temple,

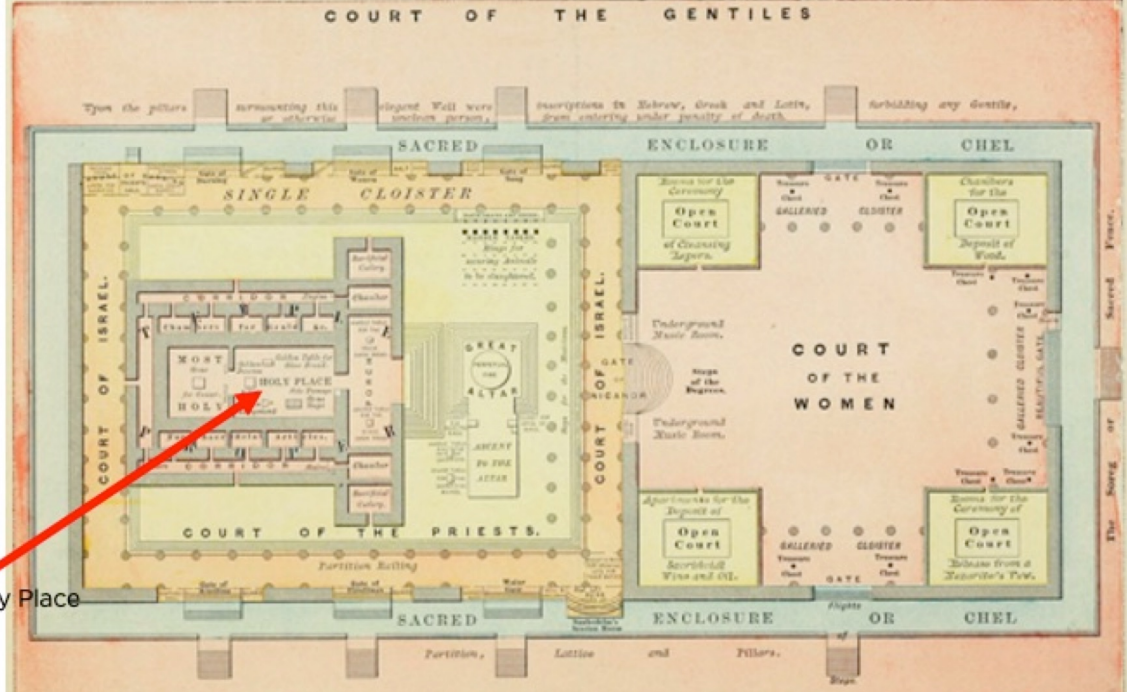
“and he overturned the tables of the money-changers and the seats of those who sold pigeons. And he would not allow anyone to carry anything through the temple.”

Mark 11:15-16

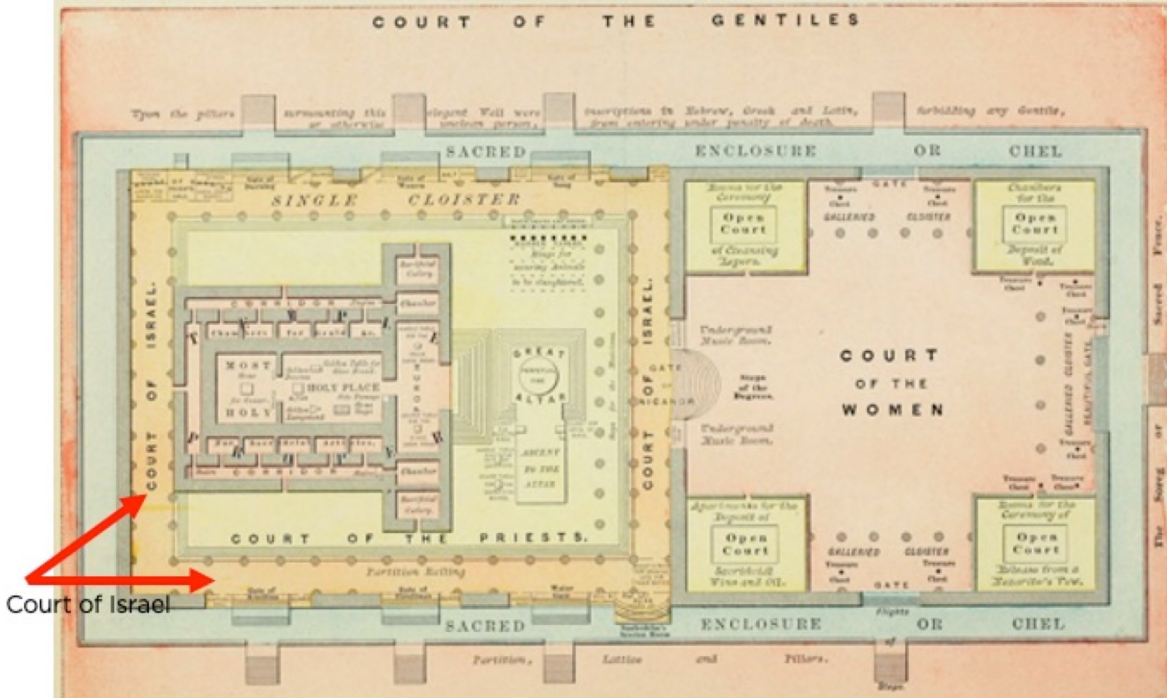
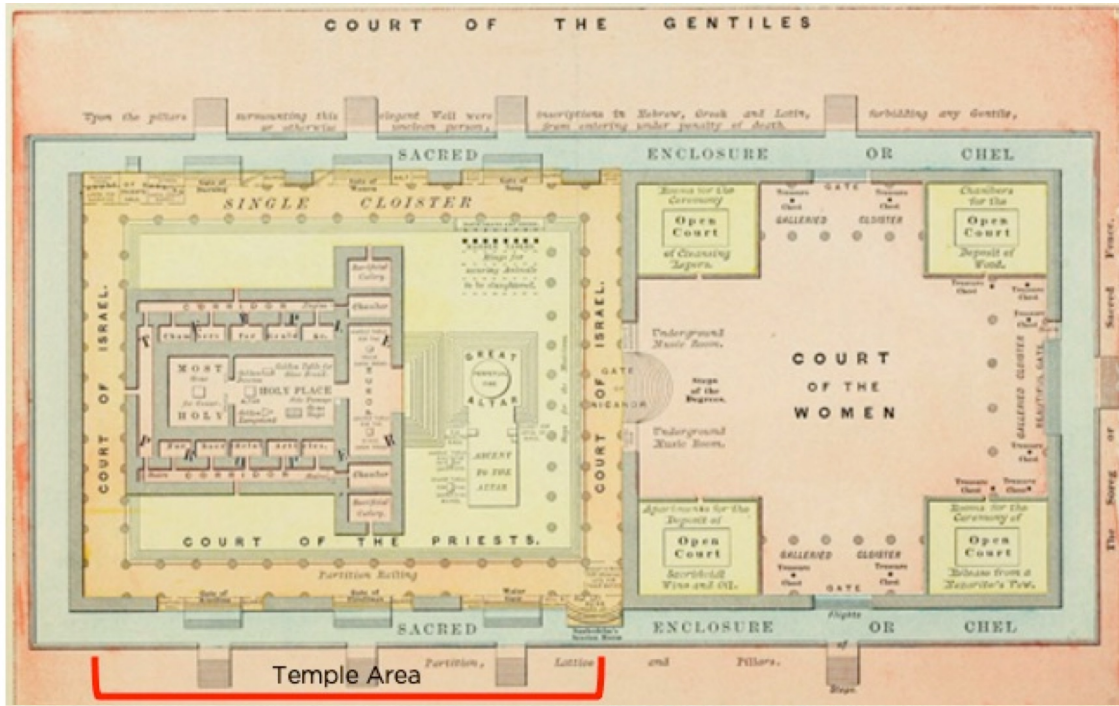


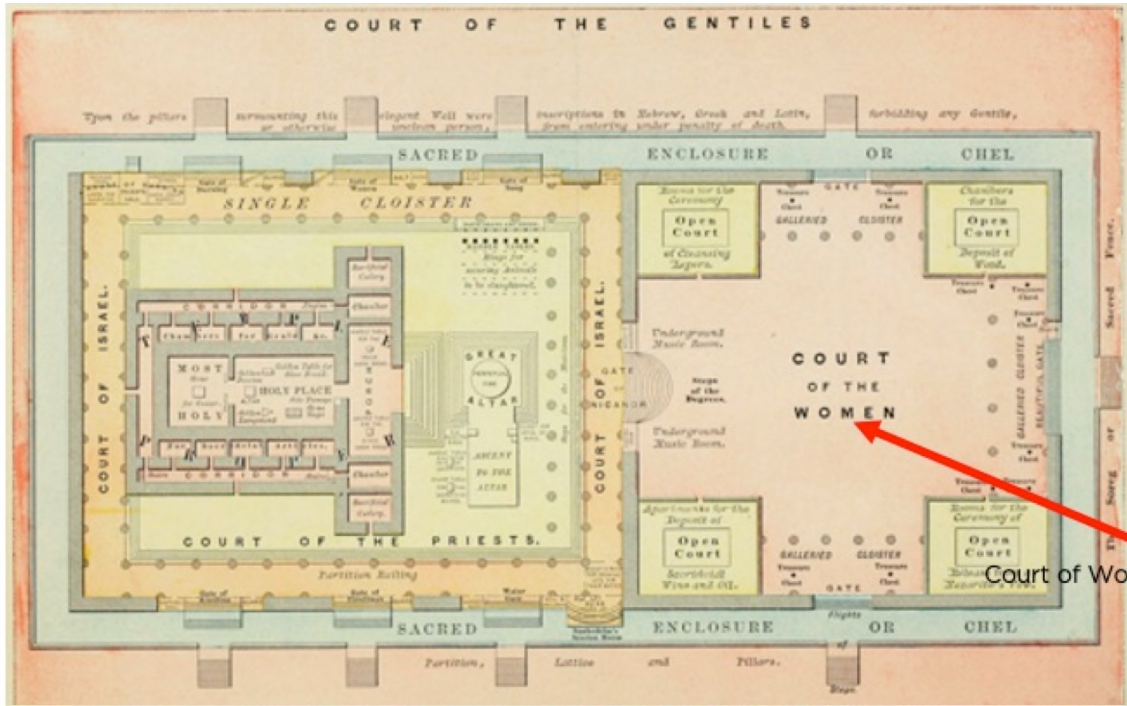


Most Holy Place

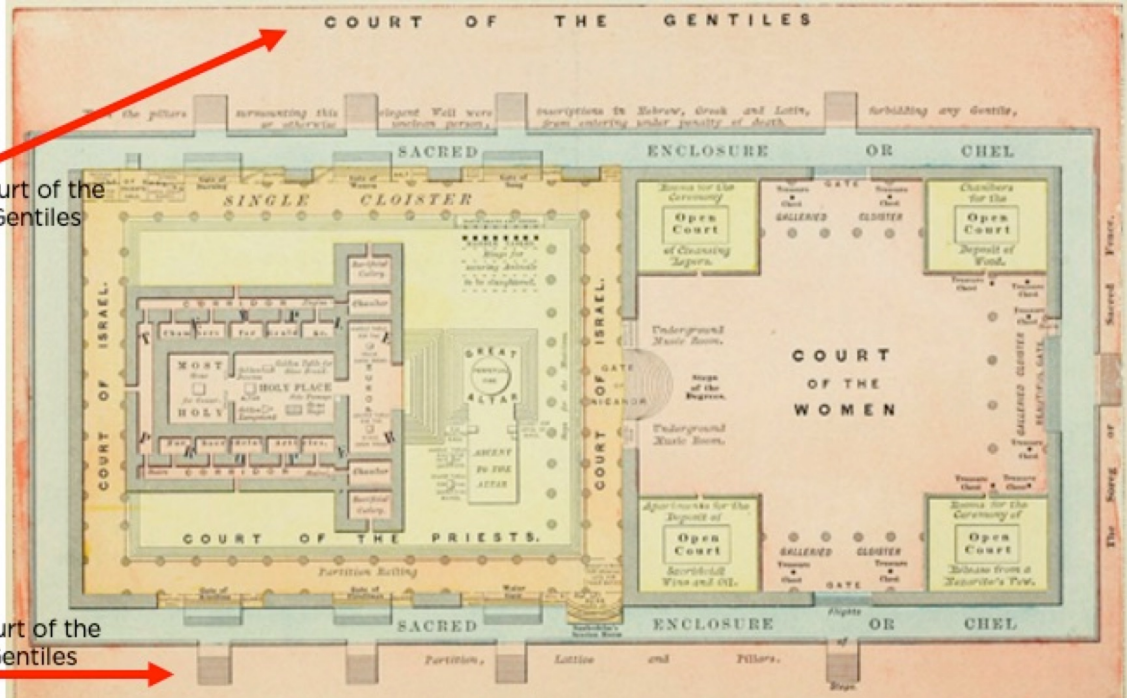


Holy Place



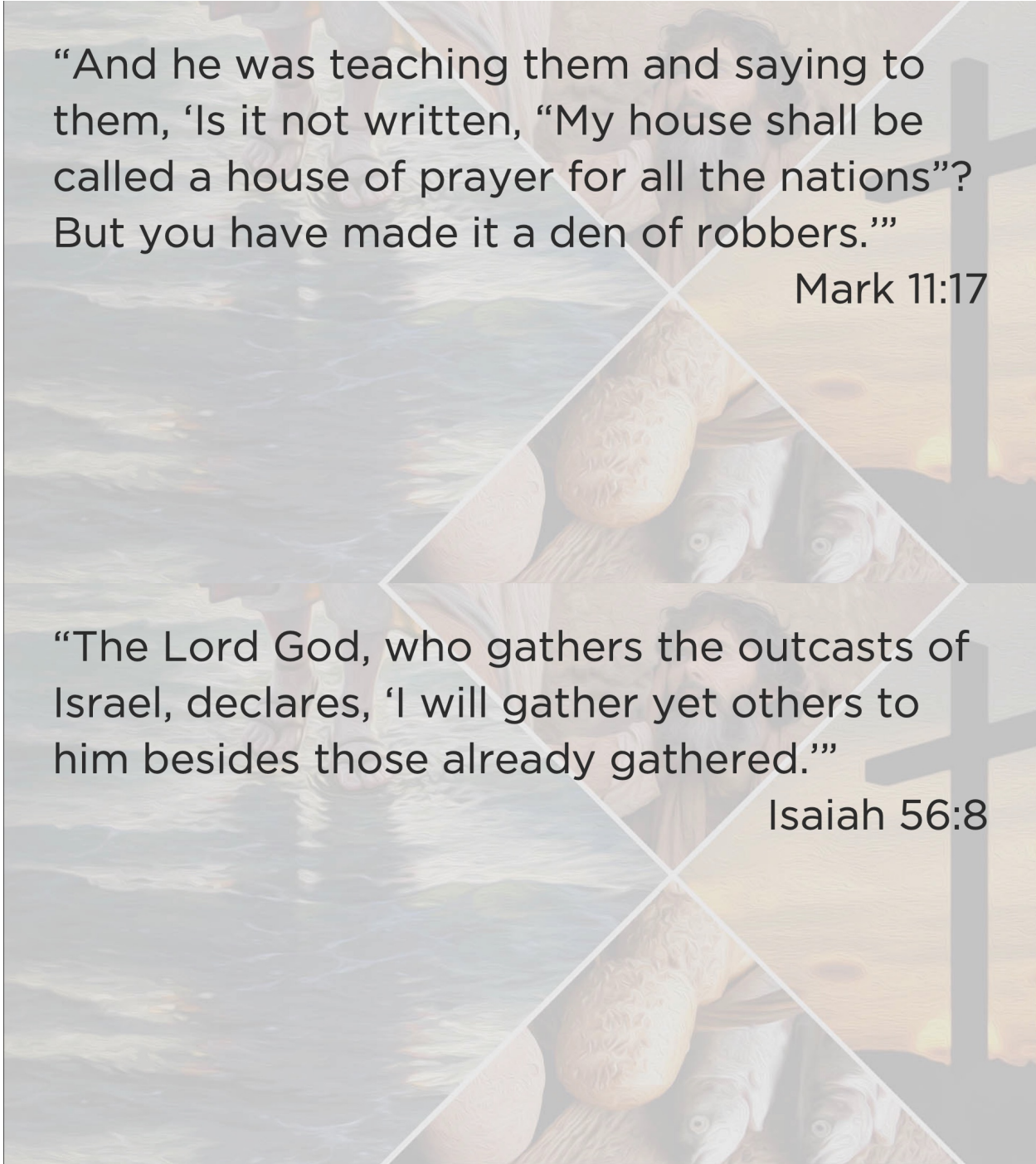


Court of Women



Court of the Gentiles

Court of the Gentiles

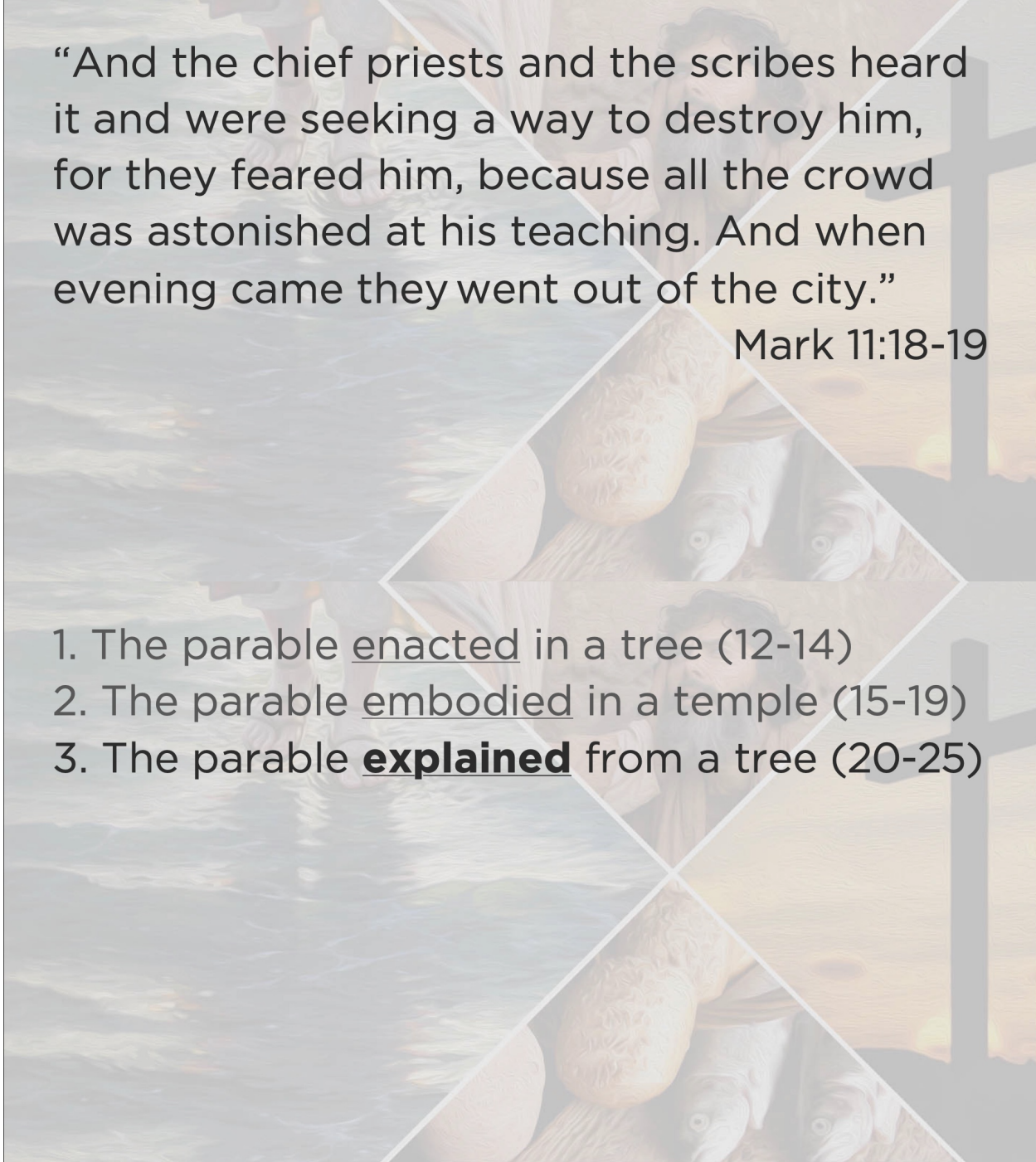


“And he was teaching them and saying to them, ‘Is it not written, “My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations”? But you have made it a den of robbers.’”

Mark 11:17

“The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares, ‘I will gather yet others to him besides those already gathered.’”

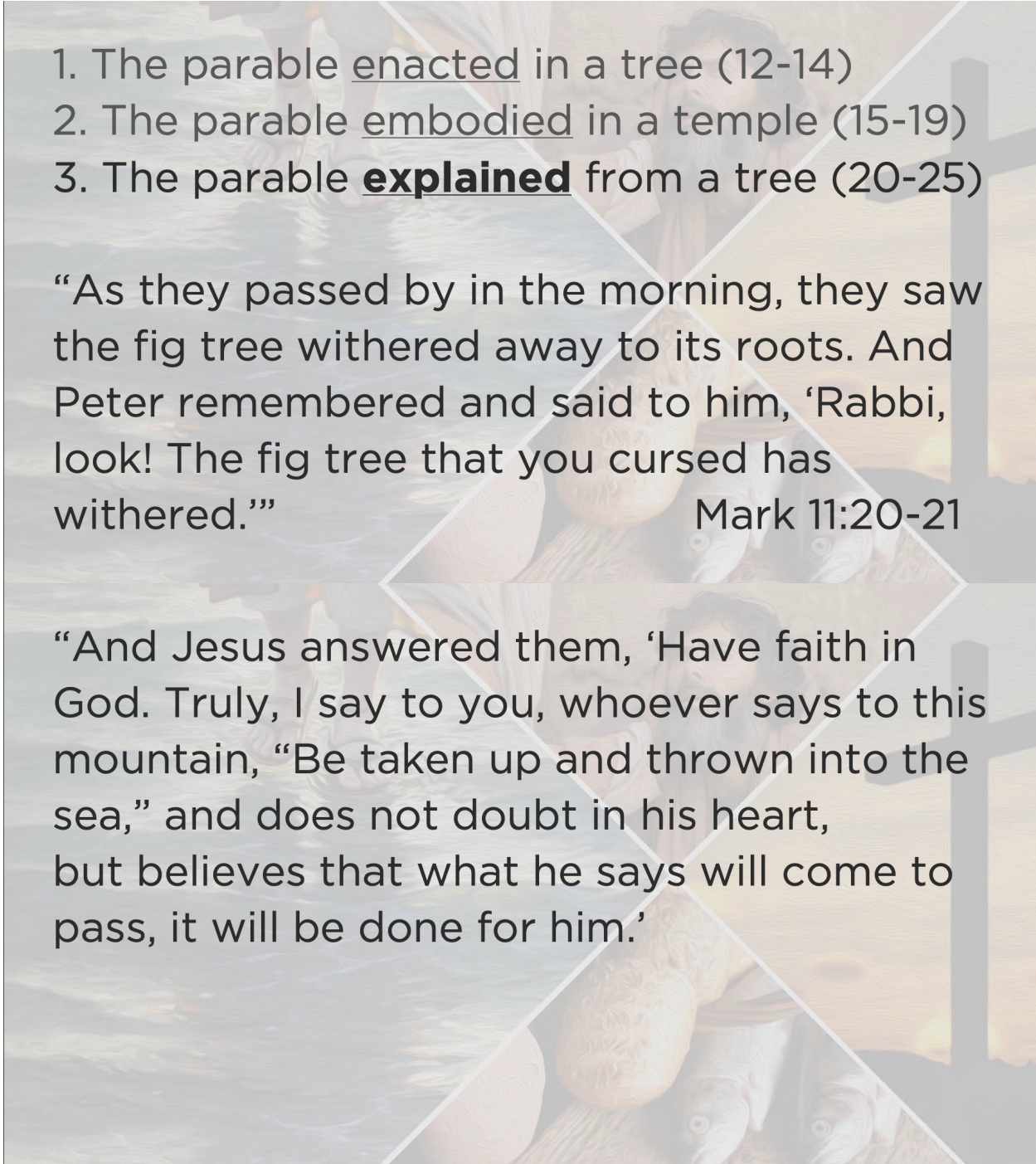
Isaiah 56:8



“And the chief priests and the scribes heard it and were seeking a way to destroy him, for they feared him, because all the crowd was astonished at his teaching. And when evening came they went out of the city.”

Mark 11:18-19

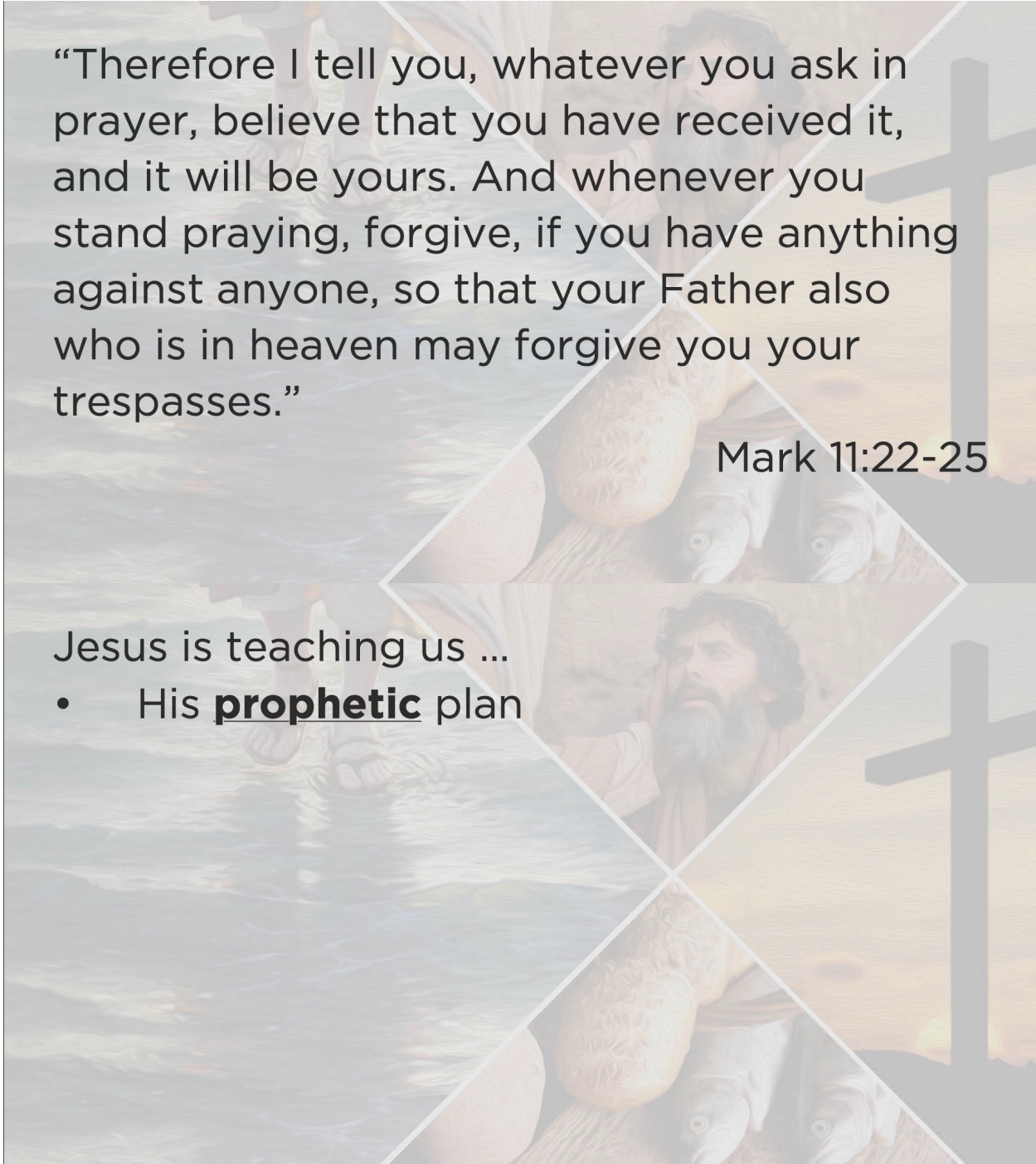
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3. The parable **explained** from a tree (20-25)

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“As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots. And Peter remembered and said to him, ‘Rabbi, look! The fig tree that you cursed has withered.’”

Mark 11:20-21

“And Jesus answered them, ‘Have faith in God. Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, “Be taken up and thrown into the sea,” and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.’”

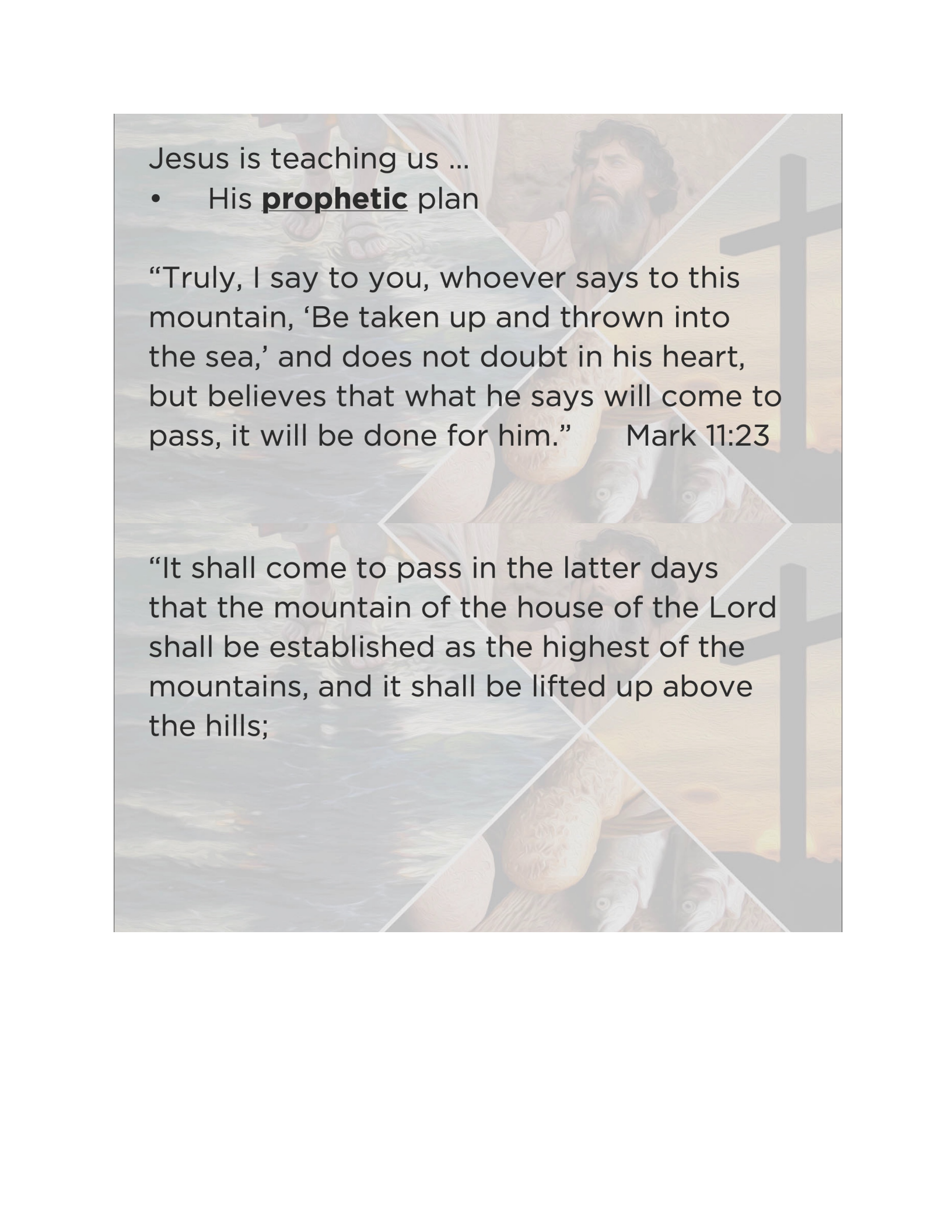


“Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. And whenever you stand praying, forgive, if you have anything against anyone, so that your Father also who is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.”

Mark 11:22-25

Jesus is teaching us ...

- His **prophetic** plan

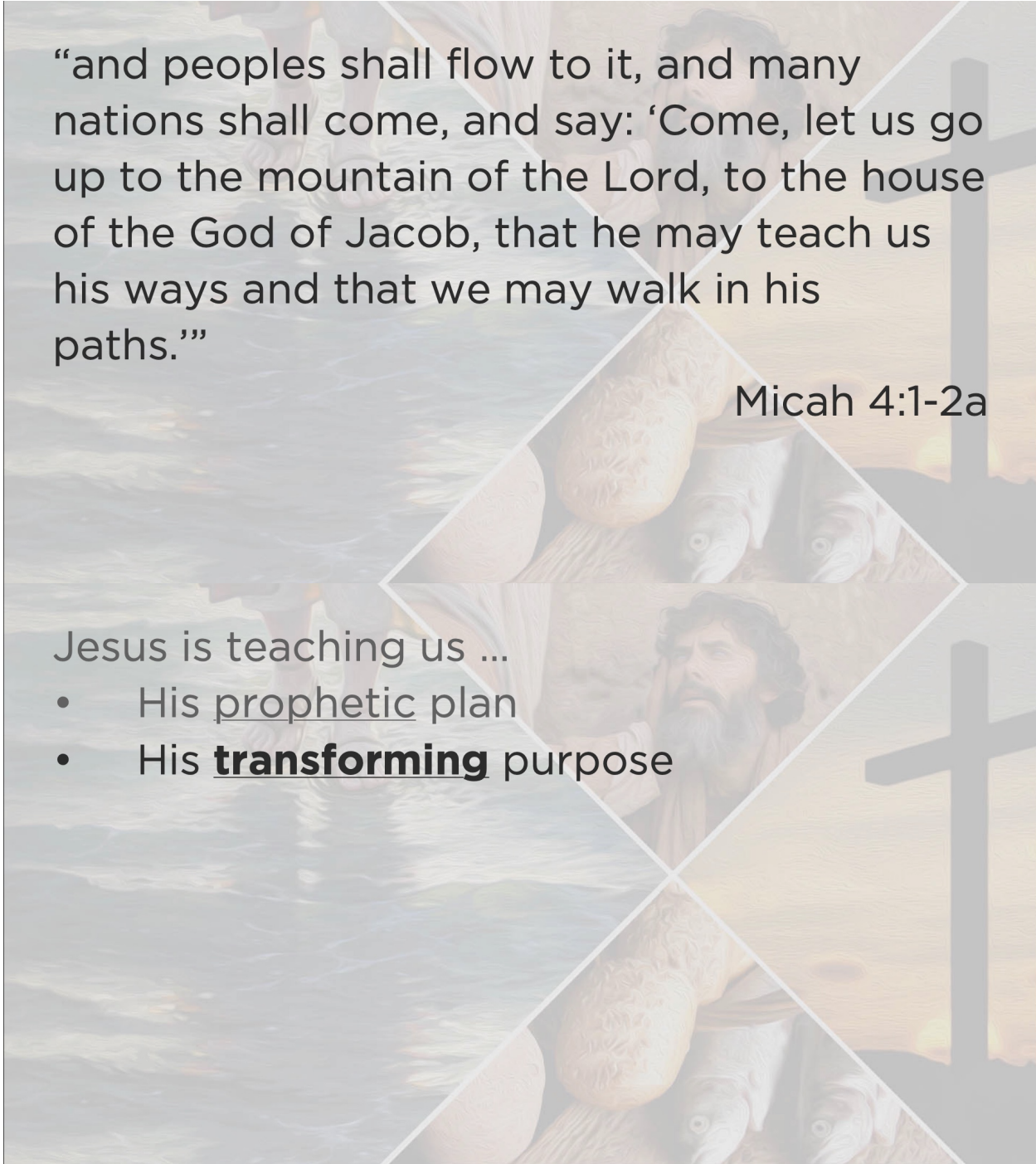
The background of the slide is a composite image. On the left, there's a depiction of a man with a beard and long hair, wearing a white robe, looking upwards. On the right, a large, dark cross is visible against a light, hazy background. In the foreground, there are several fish, possibly loaves of bread, and some other figures, though they are less distinct. The overall tone is religious and solemn.

Jesus is teaching us ...

- His **prophetic** plan

“Truly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be taken up and thrown into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says will come to pass, it will be done for him.” Mark 11:23

“It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the Lord shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and it shall be lifted up above the hills;



“and peoples shall flow to it, and many nations shall come, and say: ‘Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.’”

Micah 4:1-2a

Jesus is teaching us ...

- His prophetic plan
- His **transforming** purpose



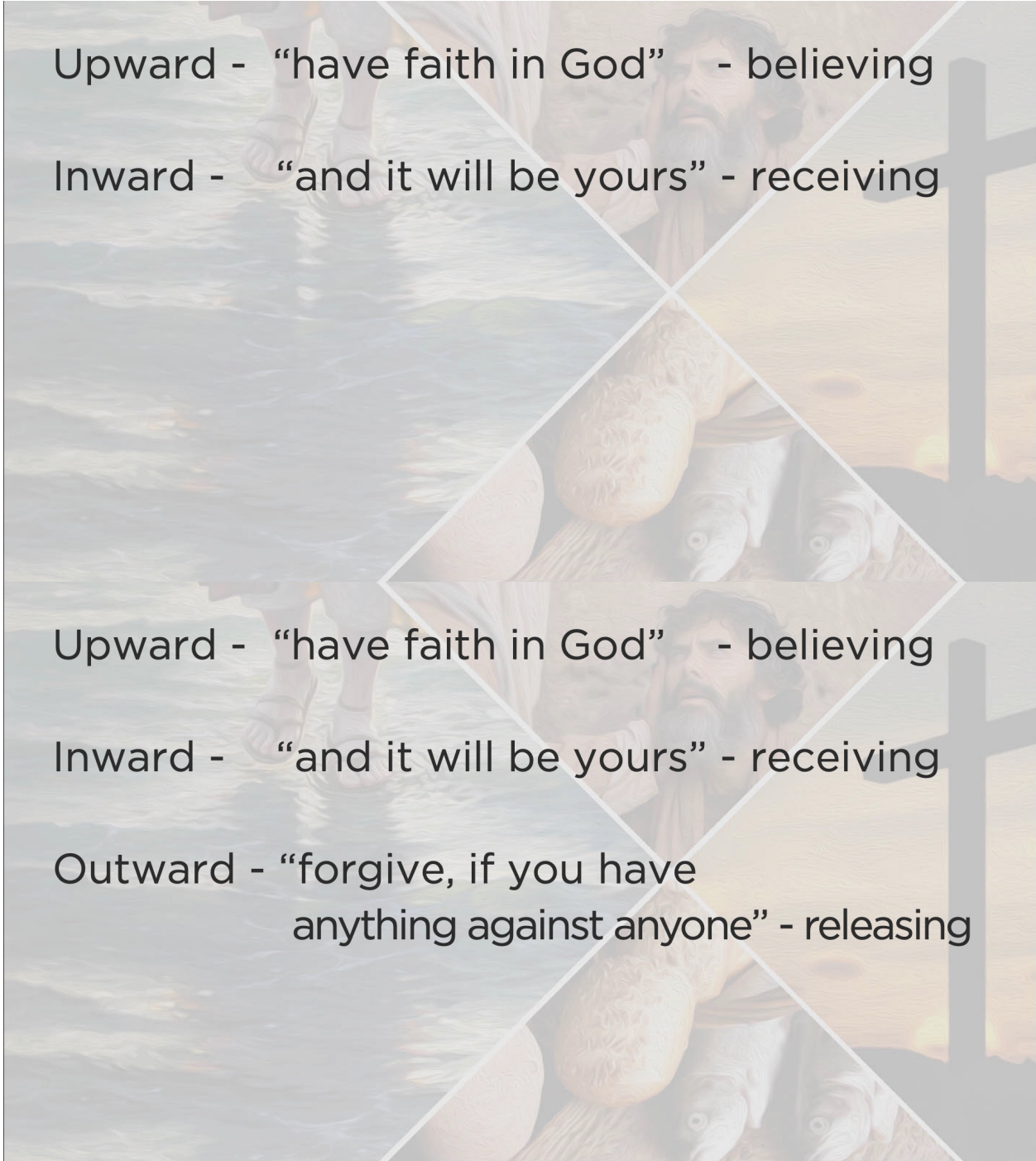
Upward
believing



Outward
releasing

Inward
receiving

Upward - "have faith in God" - believing



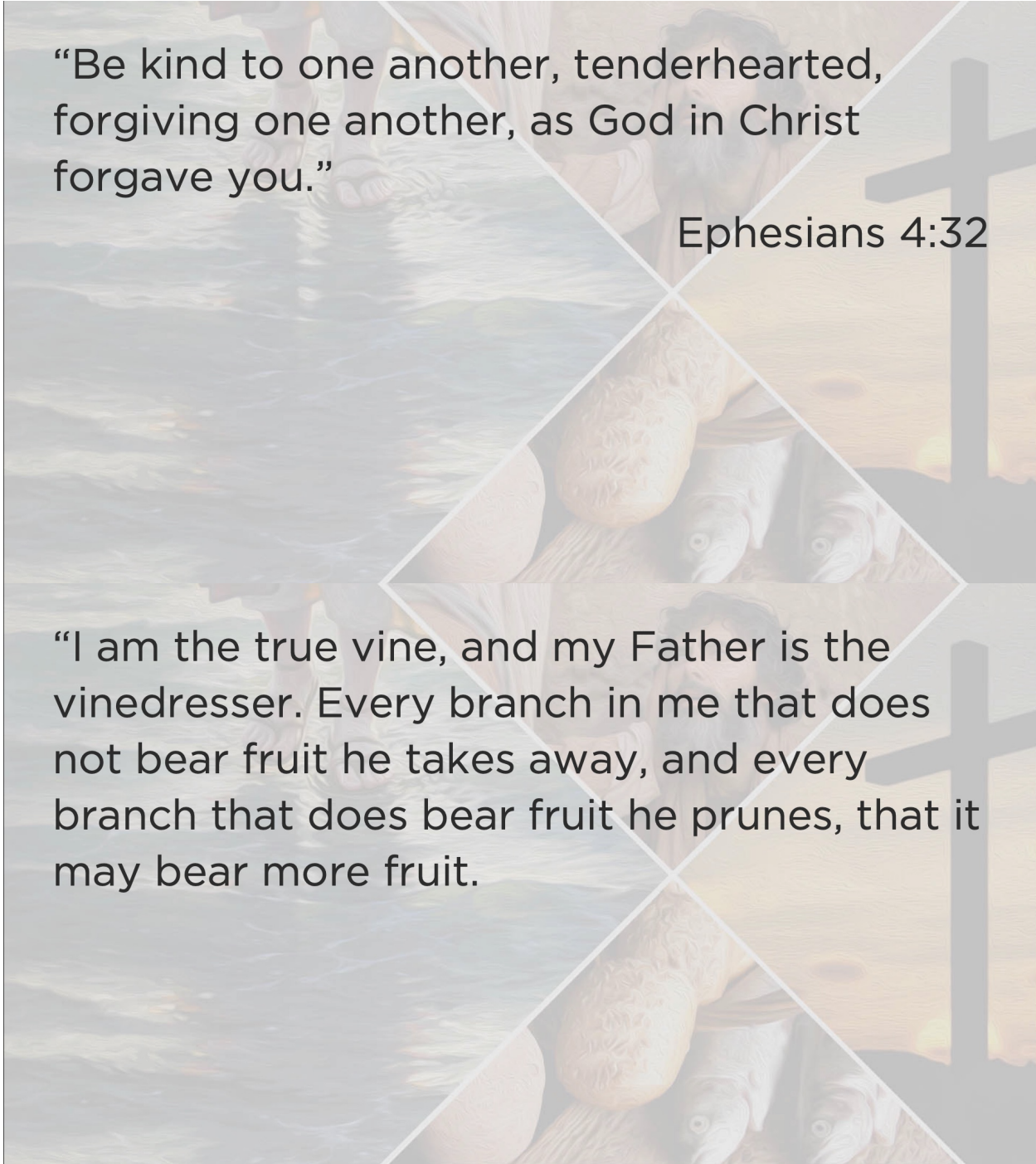
Upward - “have faith in God” - believing

Inward - “and it will be yours” - receiving

Upward - “have faith in God” - believing

Inward - “and it will be yours” - receiving

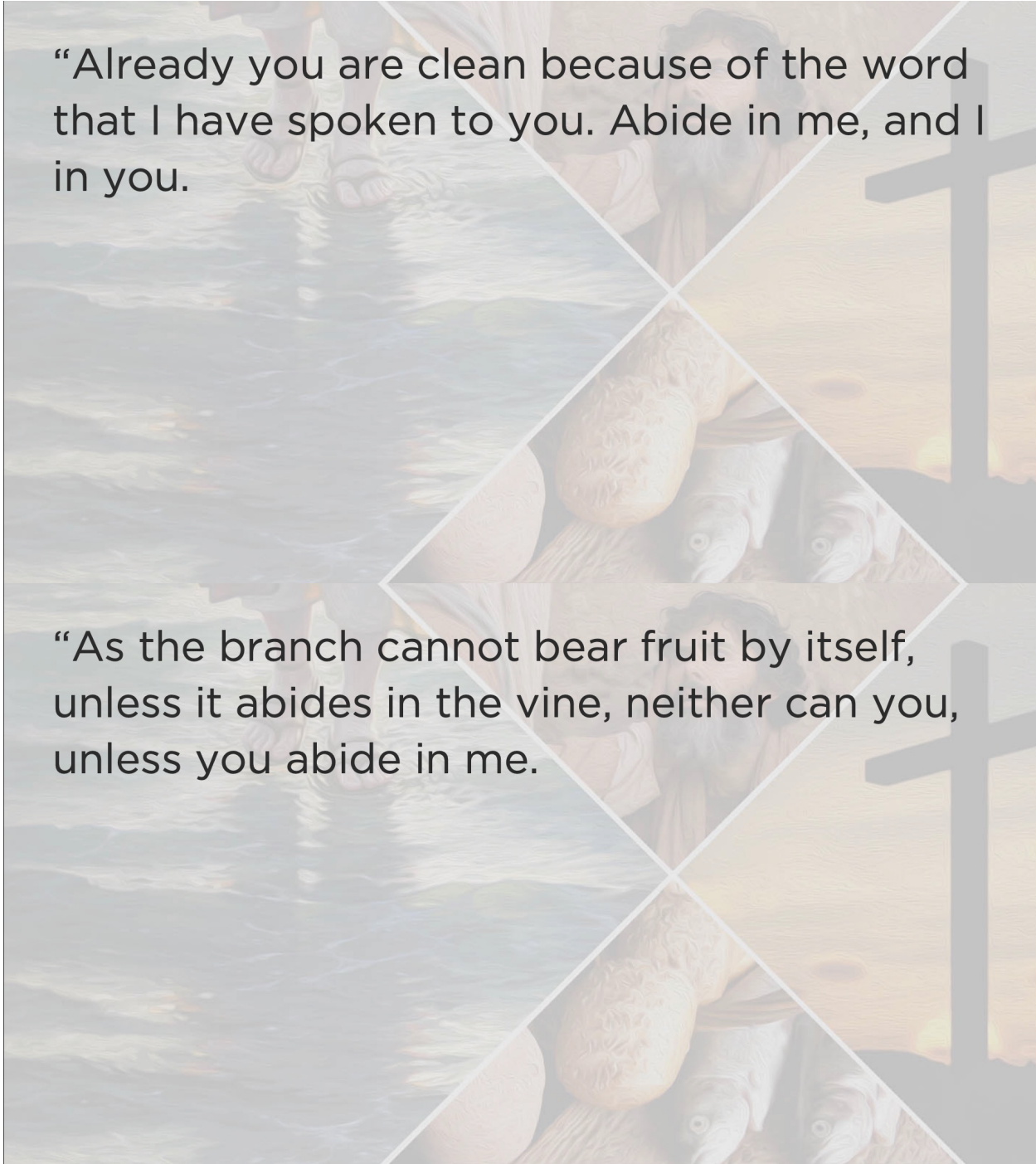
Outward - “forgive, if you have
anything against anyone” - releasing



“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.”

Ephesians 4:32

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit.




“Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you.

“As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.

“I am the vine; you are the branches.
Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is
that bears much fruit, for apart from me you
can do nothing.”

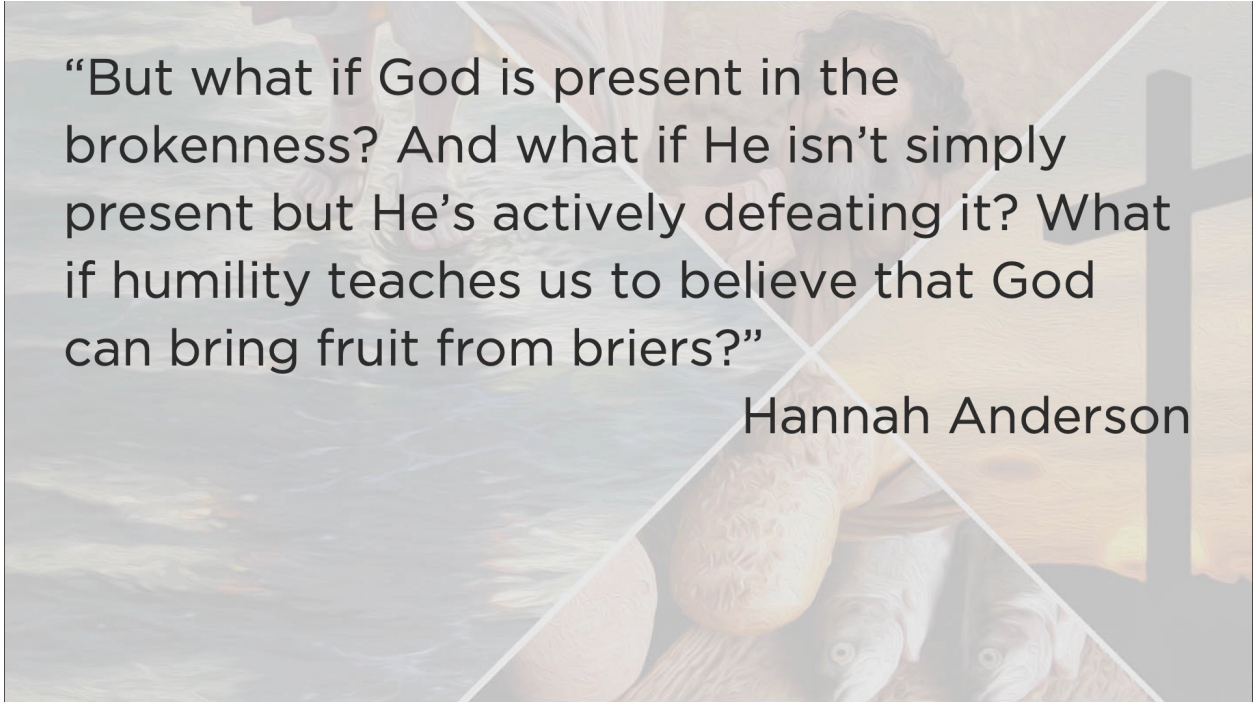
John 15:1-5



The background is a composite image. On the left, there's a scene of a man in a boat on a body of water. On the right, there's a large, detailed fish, possibly a salmon, and a cross. The entire image is overlaid with a large, semi-transparent white 'X' shape.

“Without a strong understanding of God’s presence in our brokenness, without the humility to recognize His power, nothing matters.

“And mundane things like dishwashers and monthly reports and PTA meetings feel especially meaningless.



“But what if God is present in the brokenness? And what if He isn’t simply present but He’s actively defeating it? What if humility teaches us to believe that God can bring fruit from briars?”

Hannah Anderson