



THE FAITH AND WORK OF THE SAINTS

THEIR CALLING

“The faith which was once delivered unto the saints”

For dust thou art, and unto dust
shalt thou return. Genesis 3:19

The condemnation of mankind

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered
into the world, and death by sin; and so
death **passed upon all men**, for that all
have sinned:

Romans 5:12

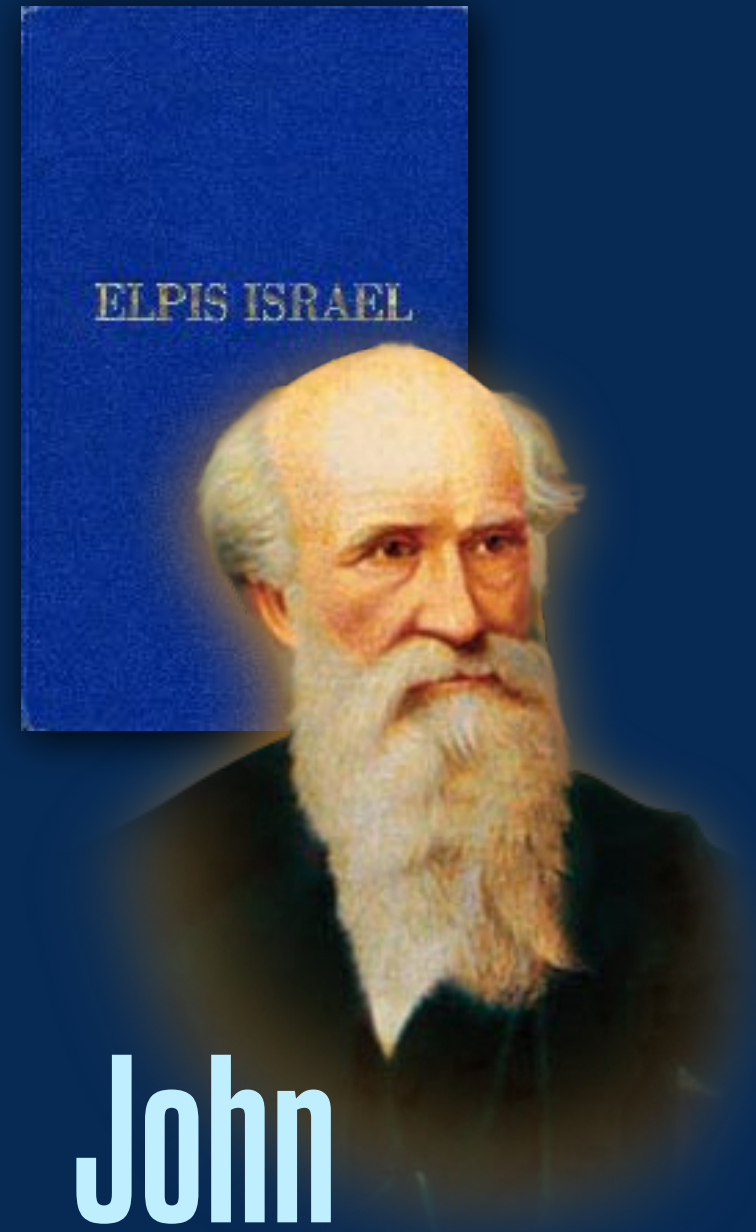
Therefore as by the offence of one judgment
came upon all men to condemnation... For as by
one man's disobedience **many were made**
(constituted) sinners

Romans 5:18, 19



The Constitution of Sin

This is the constituted order of things. It is the constitution of the world; and as the world is sin's dominion, or the kingdom of the adversary, it is the constitution of the kingdom of sin. The word sin is used in two principal acceptations in the scripture. It signifies in the first place, "the transgression of the law"; and in the next, it represents that physical principle of the animal nature, which is the cause of all its diseases, death, and resolution into dust. It is that in the flesh "which has the power of death" and it is called sin, because the development, or fixation, of this evil in the flesh, was the result of transgression.

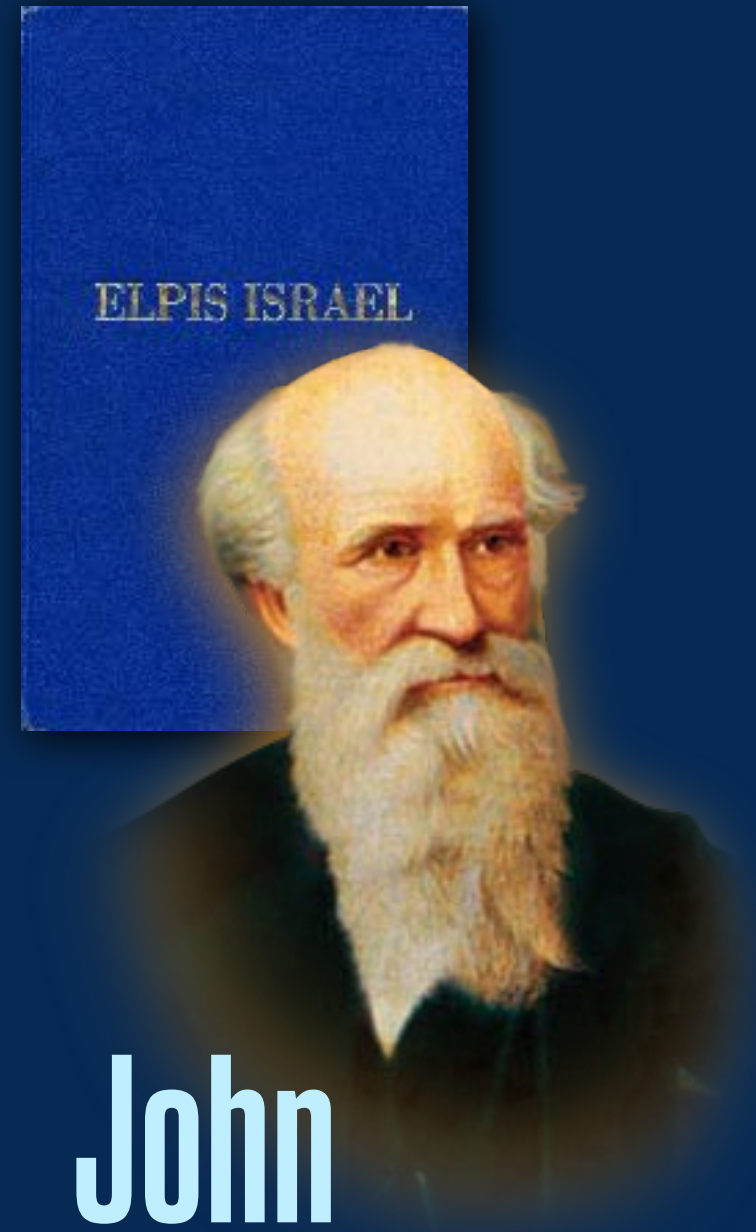


**John
Thomas**

ELPIS ISRAEL, 1849

The Constitution of Sin

Inasmuch as this evil principle pervades every part of the flesh, the animal nature is styled "sinful flesh," that is, "flesh full of sin"; so that sin, in the sacred style, came to stand for the substance called man. In human flesh "dwells no good thing" (Rom. 7:17,18); and all the evil a man does is the result of this principle dwelling in him. Operating upon the brain, it excites the "propensities", and these set the "intellect" and "sentiments" to work. The propensities are blind, and so are the intellect and sentiments in a purely natural state; when therefore, the latter operate under the sole impulse of the propensities, "the understanding is darkened through ignorance, because of the blindness of the heart" (Eph. 4:18).



**John
Thomas**

ELPIS ISRAEL, 1849

Born
'in Adam'

Related to sin &
death & destined
to die with no hope

For as in Adam all die
1 Cor 15:22

For the wages of sin is death
Romans 6:23



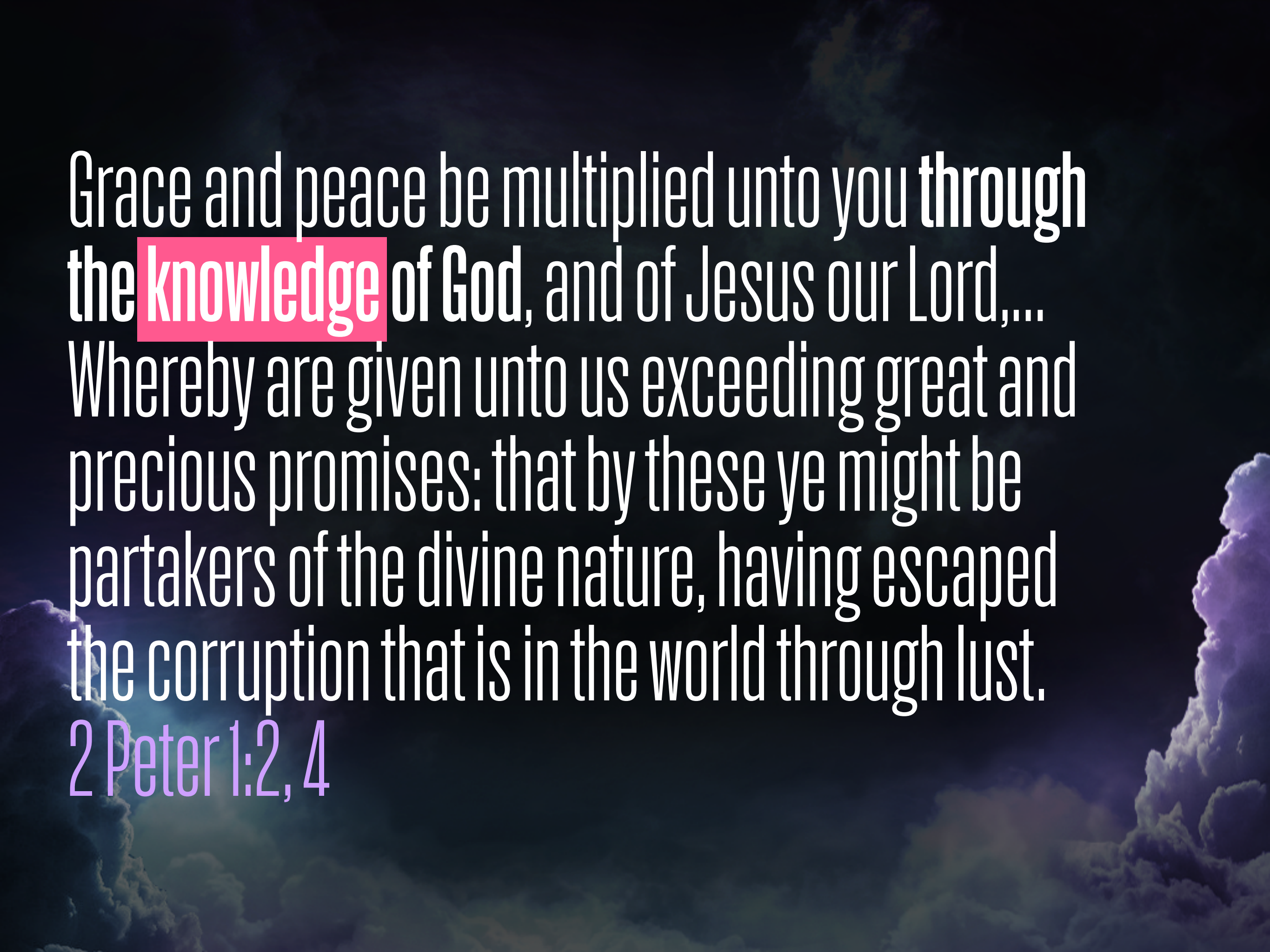
Death

The purpose of God

But as truly as I live, all the earth shall
be filled with the glory of Yahweh.

Numbers 14:21

See also Psa 72:19 & Hab 2:14



Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through
the **knowledge** of God, and of Jesus our Lord,...
Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and
precious promises: that by these ye might be
partakers of the divine nature, having escaped
the corruption that is in the world through lust.

2 Peter 1:2, 4

Knowledge

epignōsis

“precise and
correct
knowledge”

2 Peter 1:2, 3, 2:20

gnōsis

“general
intelligence,
understanding”

2 Peter 1:5, 6, 3:18

eidō

“to perceive:
be aware,
behold,”

2 Peter 1:12, 14, 2:9

Precious promises

Genesis 3

In Eden

Reconciliation in Christ.

Genesis 12-22

To Abraham

Resurrection, forgiveness of sins, Israel to be a great nation, reconciliation in Christ.

2 Samuel 7

To David

Christ on the throne, Kingdom of Israel restored on earth, resurrection, Christ's second coming.

“And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.”

Galatians 3:29

'Calling' in Romans

1:1&6-7

Calling to be saints.
Invited.

8:28-30

The process of calling
and election.

9

Examples of the
purpose of God
according to election

For I am not ashamed of
the **gospel of Christ**: for it
is the **power of God** unto
salvation to every one
that believeth

Romans 1:16

And he said unto them, Go ye
into all the world, and **preach**
the **gospel** to every creature.
He that believeth and is
baptized shall be saved;
but he that believeth not
shall be damned.

Mark 16:15-16

Knowledge brings responsibility

John 12:46-28, 15:22 9:41, Luke 13:24-28, Matt 8:10-12, Luke 10:9-16 9:41, Romans 2:12-16



The Man of Sin

2 Thess 2:3-12

vs



The Truth

2 Thess 2:13-14

Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, to
the strangers scattered throughout
Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia,
and Bithynia, **Elect** according to the
foreknowledge of God the Father,
through sanctification of the Spirit,
unto obedience and sprinkling of
the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace
unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

1 Peter 1:1-2

ELECT
eklektos

—
picked out, chosen

The principle of calling and election

Knowing, brethren beloved, your election of God. For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.
1 Thessalonians 1:4-5

Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;
Colossians 3:12

The destiny of the ignorant

The man that wandereth
out of the way of
understanding shall
remain in the
congregation of the dead.
Proverbs 21:16

Man that is in
honour, and
understandeth not,
is like the
beasts that perish.
Psalm 49:20



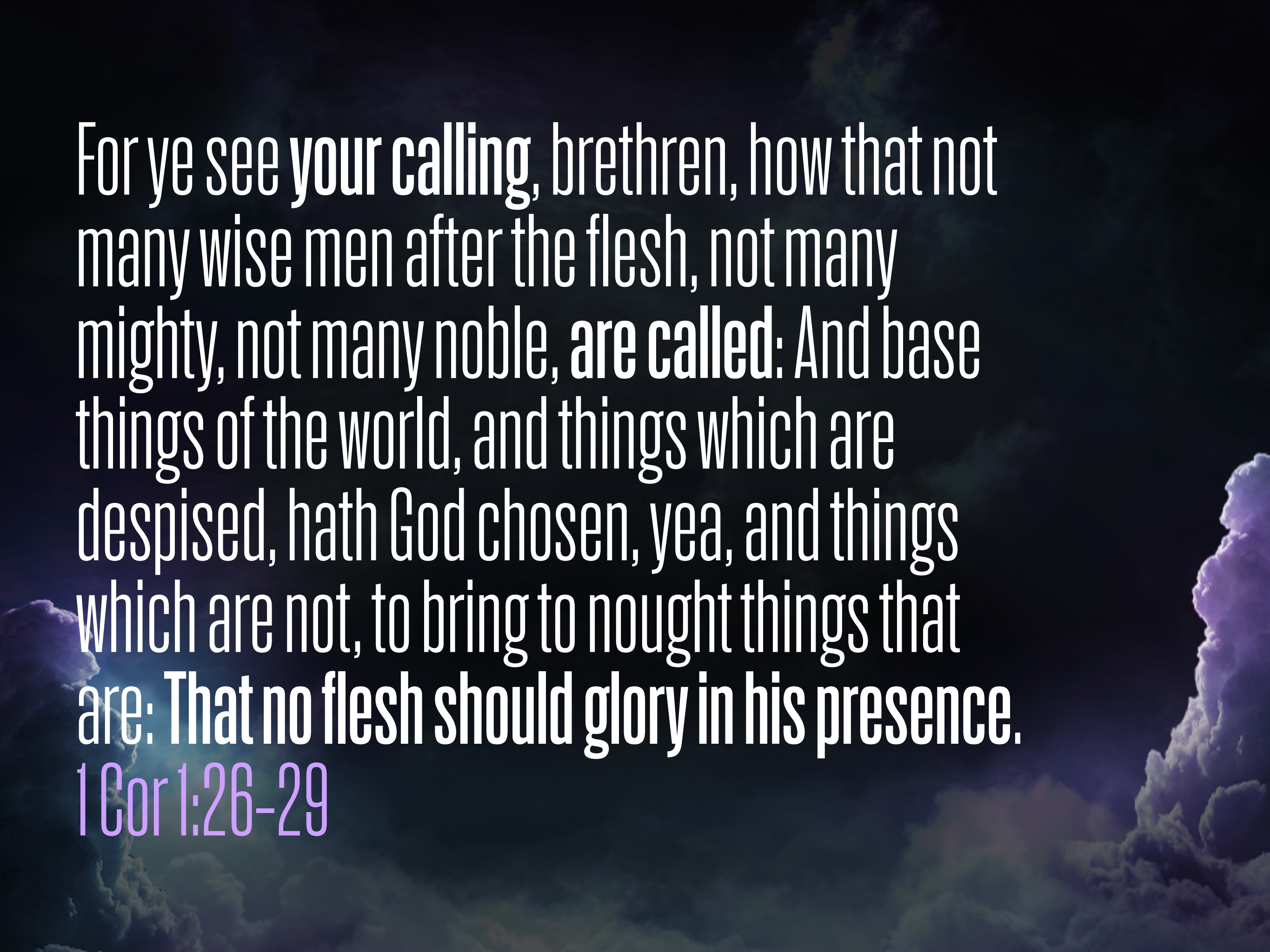
Does God want everyone to be saved?

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

2 Peter 3:9

For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour; Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

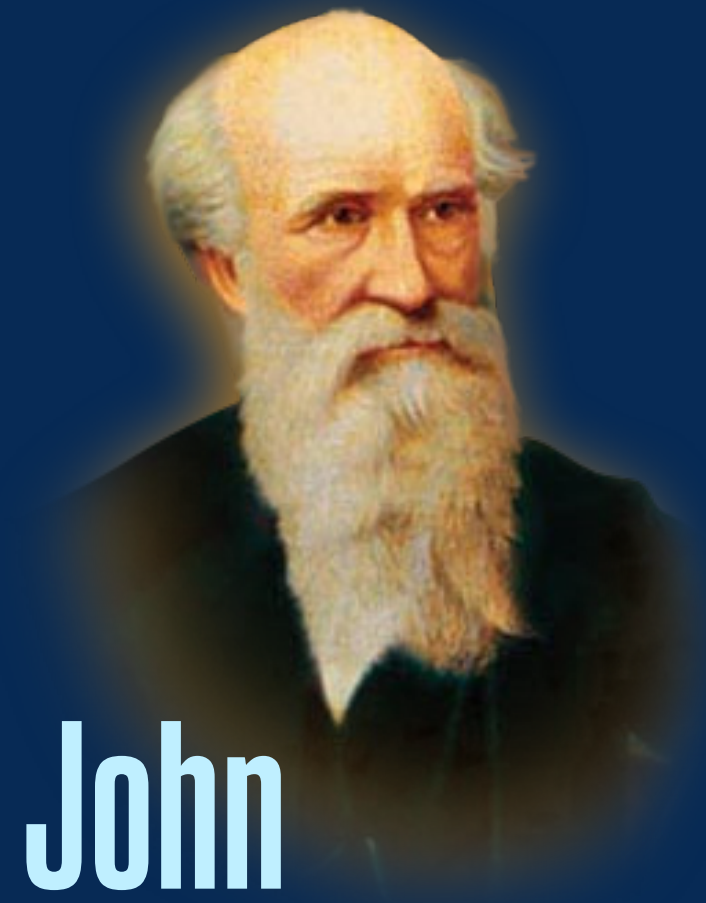
1 Timothy 2:3-4



For ye see your calling, brethren, how that not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called: And base things of the world, and things which are despised, hath God chosen, yea, and things which are not, to bring to nought things that are: That no flesh should glory in his presence.

1 Cor 1:26-29

Men were not ushered into being for the purpose of being saved or lost. **God-manifestation, not human salvation, was the grand purpose of the Eternal Spirit.** The salvation of a multitude is incidental to the manifestation, but it was not the end proposed. The Eternal Spirit intended to enthrone himself on the earth, and, in so doing, to develop a Divine Family from among men, every one of whom shall be spirit because born of the Spirit, and that this family shall be large enough to fill the earth, when perfected, to the entire exclusion of flesh and blood.



**John
Thomas**

Herald of the Kingdom & Age
to Come,, 1858.

What is the gospel?

...when they believed Philip
preaching the things
concerning the kingdom of
God, and the name of Jesus
Christ, they were baptized
Acts 8:12

17. That the Gospel consists of "The things concerning the Kingdom of God and the Name of Jesus Christ."

References: Acts 8:12; 19:8, 10, 20; 28:30-31.

18. That the "Things of the Kingdom of God" are the facts testified concerning the Kingdom of God in the writings of the prophets and apostles, and definable as in the next 12 paragraphs.

19. That God will set up a Kingdom in the earth, which will overthrow all others, and change them into "the kingdoms of our Lord and His Christ."

References: Dan. 2:44; 7:13-14; Rev. 11:15; Isa. 32:1, 16; 2:3-4; 11:9-10.

20. That for this purpose God will set up a Kingdom on earth at the close of the times.

References: Acts 3:20-21; Psa. 102:13; Dan. 7:13 [Publisher's Note: A. 11:25-26].

21. That the Kingdom which he will set up in Israel restored, in the territory bequeathed for an everlasting possession to the people (the Christ) by covenant.

References: Mic. 4:5-8; Amos 9:11-12; Gen. 13: 14-17; Heb. 11:8-9; Gal. 3:14.

The Birmingham Amended Statement of Faith

A statement of the doctrines forming the Cornerstone basis of
Birmingham Baptist Church (formerly the Birmingham Baptist Church)
Cornerstone of Christ



Born
'in' Adam

Related to sin &
death & destined
to die with no hope

Called

Baptism

'in' Christ



Death

The “one body” of Christ in Ephesians

(God)... hath put all things under his (Christ's) feet, and gave him to be the head over all things to the ecclesia, **Which is his body**, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Ephesians 1:22-23

That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of **the same body**, and partakers of his promise in Christ **by the gospel**:

Ephesians 3:6

There is **one body**, and one Spirit, even as ye are **called in one hope of your calling**; One Lord, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

Ephesians 4:4-6

Fellowship in the gospel

Always in every prayer of mine for you
all making request with joy, for your
fellowship in the gospel from the first
day until now

Philippians 1:4-5

The definition of a saint

Hebrew: **חַסִּיד** [khä·sēd]

faithful, kind, godly, holy one, saint, pious

saints (19x), holy (3x), merciful (3x), godly (2x), good (1x), godly man (1x), Holy One (1x), holy one (1x), ungodly [with H3808] (1x).

Hebrew: **קָדוֹשׁ** [kä·dōshe']

sacred, holy, Holy One, set apart

holy (65x), Holy One (39x), saint (12x)

Greek: **ἅγιος** [hagios]

most holy thing, a saint

holy (65x), Holy One (39x), saint (12x)



Gather my saints [khä·sēd] together unto me;
those that have made a covenant with me
by sacrifice. Psalm 50:5

The eyes of your
understanding being
enlightened; that ye may
know what is the hope of
his calling, and what the
riches of the glory of his
inheritance in the saints

Ephesians 1:18

Now therefore ye
are no more
strangers and
foreigners, but
fellowcitizens with
the saints, and of the
household of God;

Ephesians 2:19

Unto the ecclesia of God
which is at Corinth, to
them that are sanctified
in Christ Jesus,
called to be saints, with
all that in every place
call upon the name of
Jesus Christ our Lord...

1 Corinthians 1:2

For God is not the
author of confusion,
but of peace, as in all
ecclesias of
the saints.

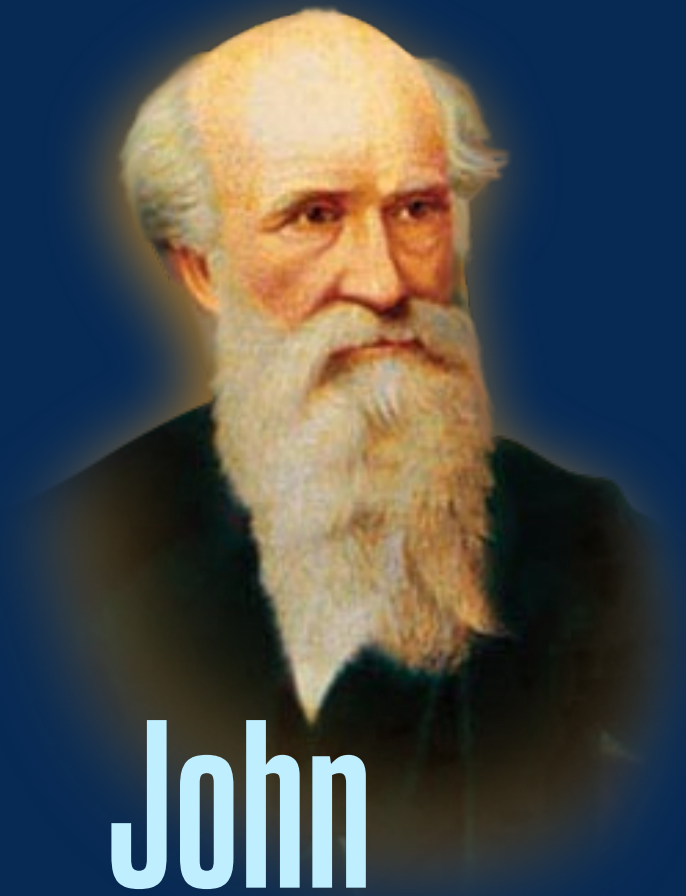
1 Corinthians 14:33

Christadelphians

To the saints and faithful brethren
in Christ. Colossians 1:2

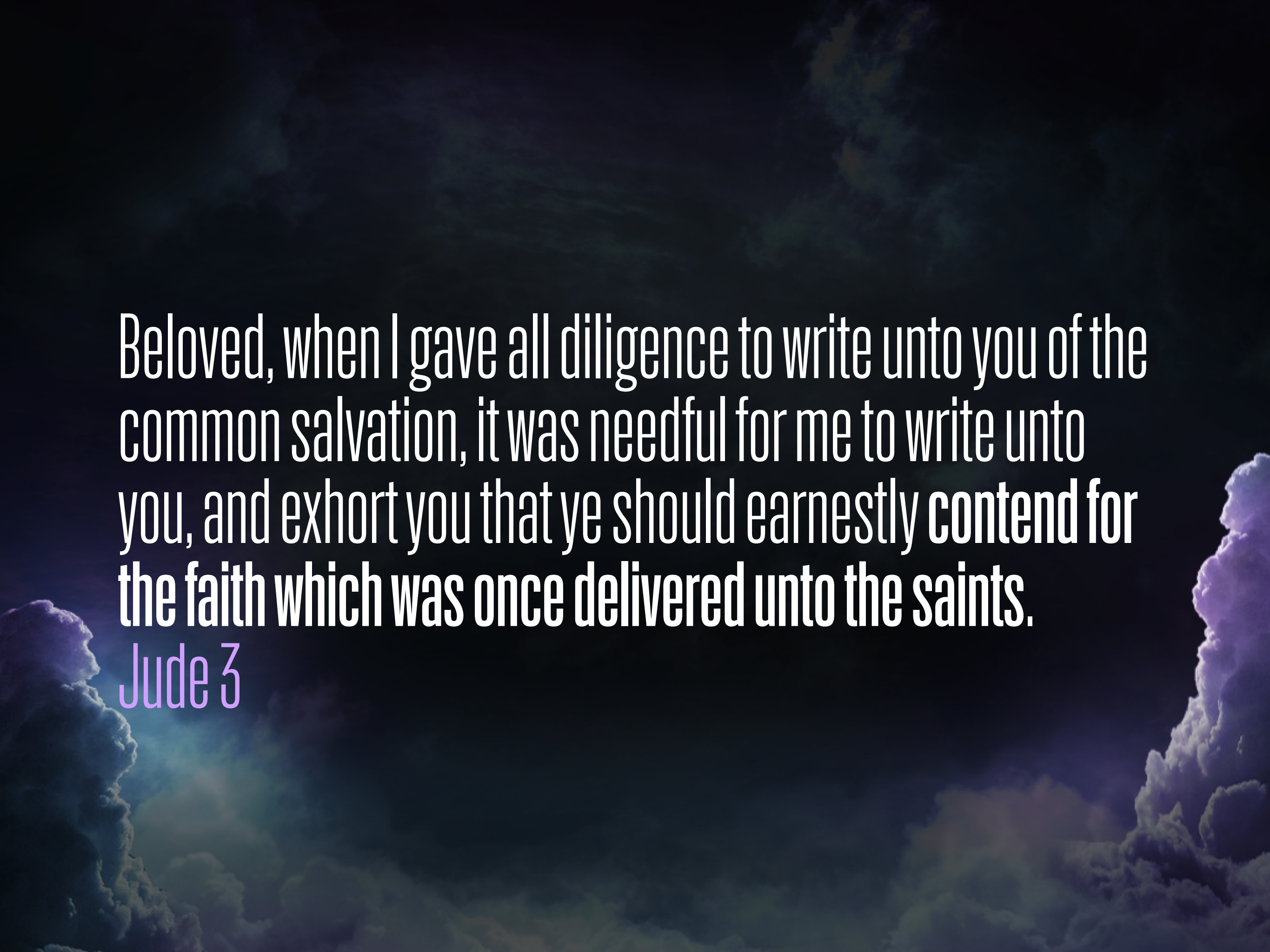
The characteristic of a **true Christadelphian** is "the obedience of faith" and a "walk worthy of God"; in other words, he first understands the things of the Kingdom of God and Name of Jesus Christ; secondly, he believes what he understands, and loves what he believes above every other thing; thirdly, his "faith, working by love" causes him to be immersed into the Divine Name; fourthly, he walks in the Truth, and is careful to do nothing to its injury; and fifthly, he will not fellowship those who do not so believe and do. This is the Christadelphian theory and practice which separates us...

Personally, I might gain by a less rigid and exclusive order of things: but then the truth would suffer; therefore I repudiate it.



**John
Thomas**

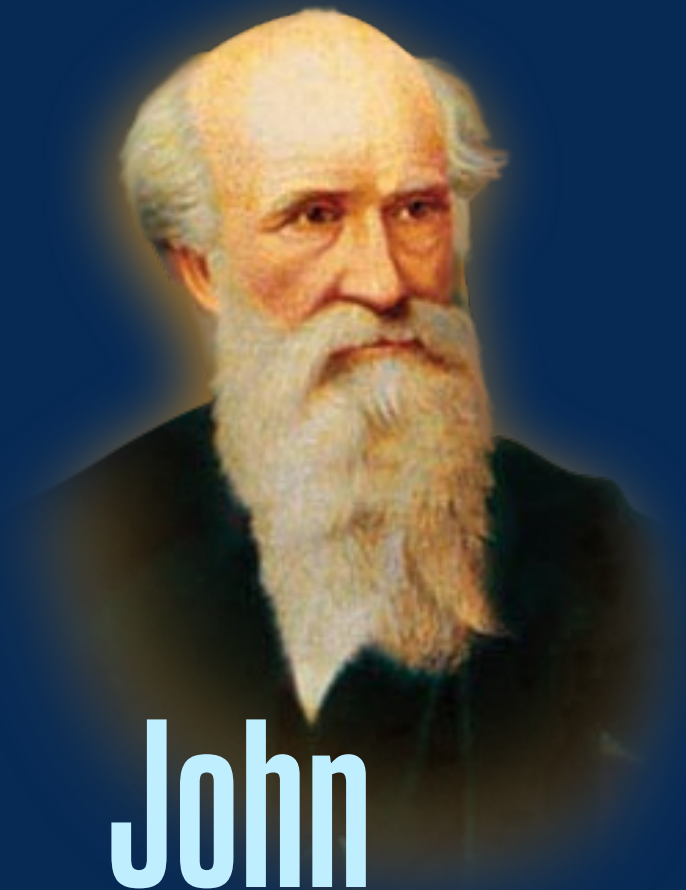
Ambassador of the Age to
Come, 1866



Beloved, when I gave all diligence to write unto you of the common salvation, it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints.

Jude 3

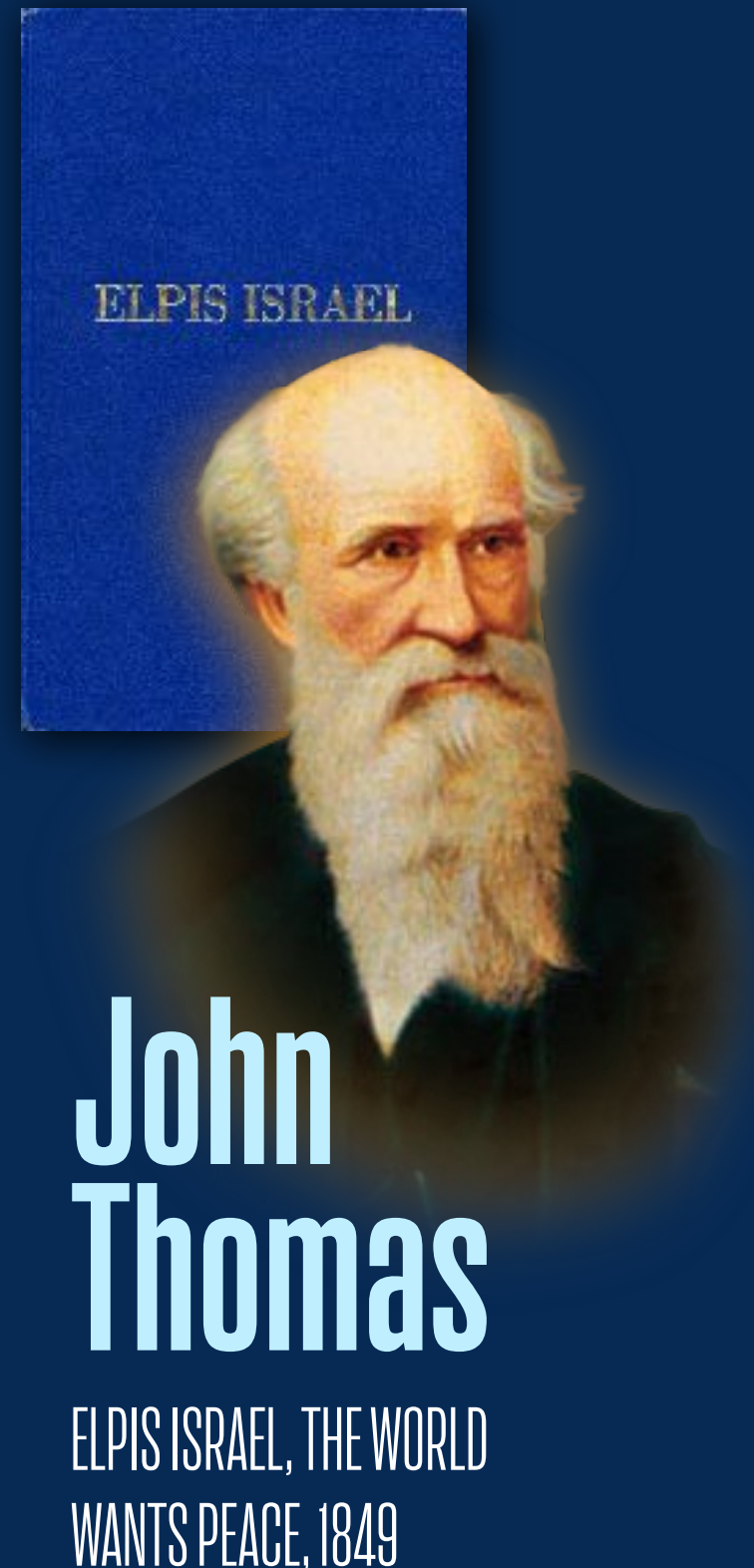
This is the barrier between us and certain in the West who may have obeyed the gospel; they fellowship those who have not; and for us to fellowship them, would be to let in Storrites, Millerites, Adventists, Campbellites, and such like, who, coming in like a flood with their traditions and fanaticisms, would swamp the truth, and in a very short time destroy the labours and conflict of years. I have been endeavouring to get back to apostolic distinctiveness, and to carry back as many with me as possible, and I will not stand by inertly and see knaves, hypocrites, and brethren too "charitable" for the good fight of faith, making void this endeavour. **I lift up my voice against it, and though it may be little heeded, there is a satisfaction in doing the best we can.**



**John
Thomas**

Ambassador of the Age to
Come, 1866

If the believer will agree to be silent, or to renounce his faith, there will then be "peace and love" such as the world, that "loves its own," is able to afford. **But the true believers are not permitted to make any compromise of the kind.** They are commanded to "contend earnestly for the faith once for all delivered to the saints" (Jude 3); and so long as they do this, they may lay their account with tribulation of various kinds. There is a vast deal of this false peace and spurious charity in the protestant world. Men have become traitors to Christ, and betray him with their lips. They say, "O how we love the Lord!" and were he here they would doubtless kiss him; but, like Judas they have **colleagued with his enemies**, and are as popular with the world as its god can possibly desire.



Born
'in' Adam

Related to sin &
death & destined
to die with no hope

The
ignorant

Death

Called

Accept

Baptism

Reject

'in' Christ

Brothers & sisters / The one body

"Saints"

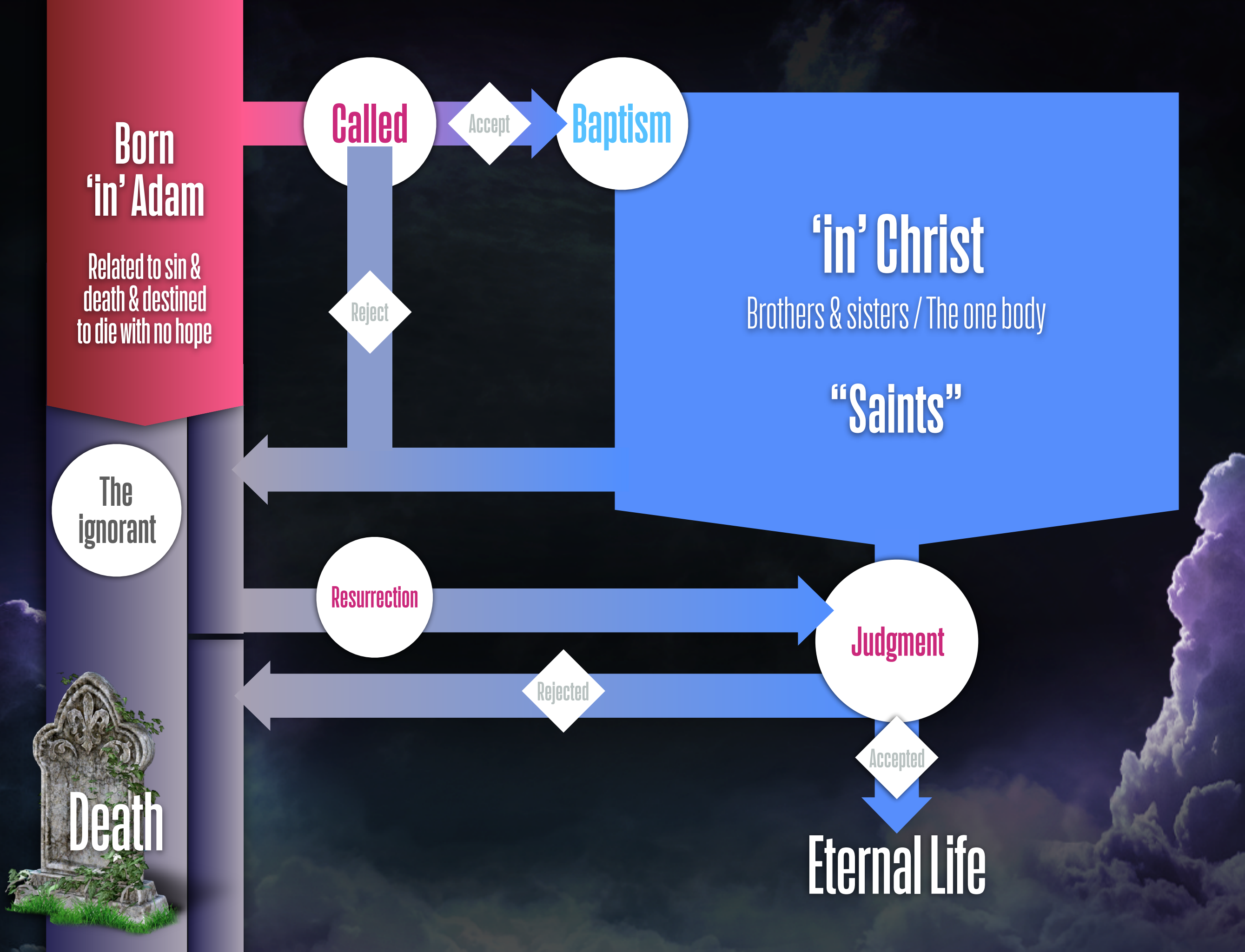
Resurrection

Judgment

Rejected

Accepted

Eternal Life



Give Diligence

Wherefore the rather, brethren, give diligence to make your calling and election sure: for if ye do these things, ye shall never fall: For so an entrance shall be ministered unto you abundantly into the everlasting kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

2 Peter 1:10-11

DILIGENCE
spoudazō

to hasten, make haste, to exert one's self, endeavour, give diligence



THE FAITH AND WORK OF THE SAINTS

THEIR CALLING

“The faith which was once delivered unto the saints”