

John 13

Scripture Reading

John 13:3 Jesus, knowing that the Father had given all things into His hands, and that He had come from God and was going to God, ⁴ rose from supper and laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. ⁵ After that, He poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe *them* with the towel with which He was girded. ⁶ Then He came to Simon Peter. And *Peter* said to Him, "Lord, are You washing my feet?" ⁷ Jesus answered and said to him, "What I am doing you do not understand now, but you will know after this." ⁸ Peter said to Him, "You shall never wash my feet!" Jesus answered him, "If I do not wash you, you have no part with Me." ⁹ Simon Peter said to Him, "Lord, not my feet only, but also *my* hands and *my* head!" ¹⁰ Jesus said to him, "He who is bathed needs only to wash his feet, but is completely clean; and you are clean, but not all of you." ¹¹ For He knew who would betray Him; therefore He said, "You are not all clean." ¹² So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you?" ¹³ "You call me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. ¹⁴ "If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. ¹⁵ "For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. ¹⁶ "Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. ¹⁷ "If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.

ACTIVE CASES	
19,543	
Currently Infected Patients	
19,479 (100%)	64 (0%)
in Mild Condition	Serious or Critical

CLOSED CASES	
426	
Cases which had an outcome:	
147 (35%)	279 (65%)
Recovered / Discharged	Deaths

PRE-EXISTING CONDITION	DEATH RATE confirmed cases	DEATH RATE all cases
Cardiovascular disease	13.2%	10.5%
Diabetes	9.2%	7.3%
Chronic respiratory disease	8.0%	6.3%
Hypertension	8.4%	6.0%
Cancer	7.6%	5.6%
<i>no pre-existing conditions</i>		0.9%

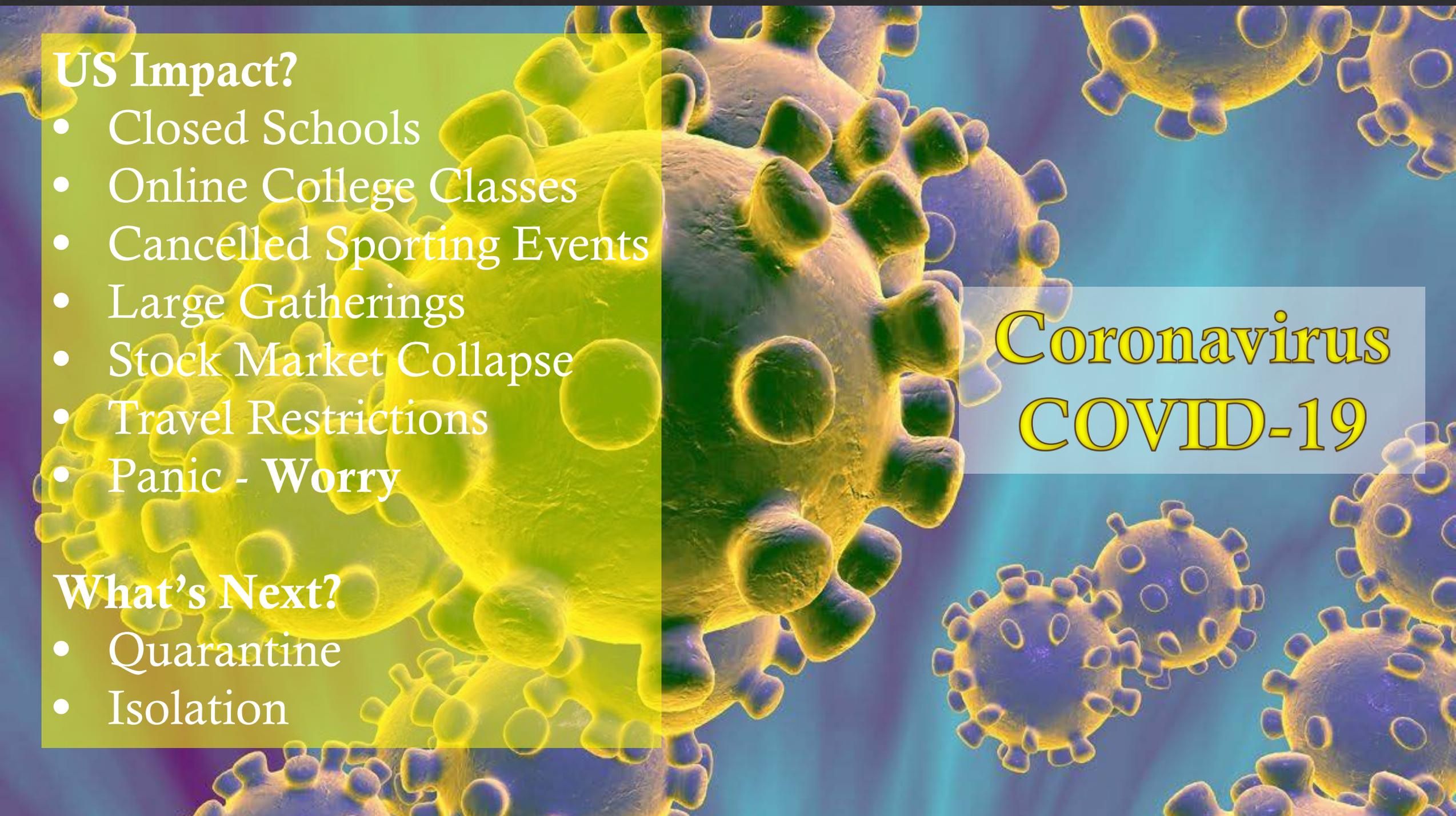
Coronavirus COVID-19

AGE	DEATH RATE confirmed cases	DEATH RATE all cases
80+ years old	21.9%	14.8%
70-79 years old		8.0%
60-69 years old		3.6%
50-59 years old		1.3%
40-49 years old		0.4%
30-39 years old		0.2%
20-29 years old		0.2%
10-19 years old		0.2%
0-9 years old		no fatalities

UPDATE: Two people quarantined in Belmont County home with COVID-19

LOCAL NEWS ST. CLAIRSVILLE — The presence of coronavirus in Belmont County has been confirmed.

MAR 13, 2020

The background of the slide features a 3D rendering of several coronavirus particles. These particles are spherical with a textured surface and are covered in numerous small, rounded protrusions, which represent the spike proteins. The particles are scattered across the frame, with some appearing larger and more detailed than others. The overall color palette is a mix of light blue, teal, and yellowish-green, giving it a clinical and scientific appearance.

US Impact?

- Closed Schools
- Online College Classes
- Cancelled Sporting Events
- Large Gatherings
- Stock Market Collapse
- Travel Restrictions
- Panic - **Worry**

What's Next?

- Quarantine
- Isolation

Coronavirus
COVID-19

Christian and Non-Christian Response to Epidemics

AD 249 to 262

If the non-Christian response to the plague was characterized by self-protection, self-preservation, and avoiding the sick at all costs, the Christian response was the opposite. According to Dionysius, the plague served as a “schooling and testing” for Christians. In a detailed description of how Christians responded to the plague in Alexandria, he writes of how “the best” among them honorably served the sick until they themselves caught the disease and died:

Most of our brother-Christians showed unbounded love and loyalty, never sparing themselves and thinking only of one another. Heedless of the danger, they took charge of the sick, attending to their every need and ministering to them in Christ, and with them departed this life serenely happy; for they were infected by others with the disease, drawing on themselves the sickness of their neighbours and cheerfully accepting their pains.

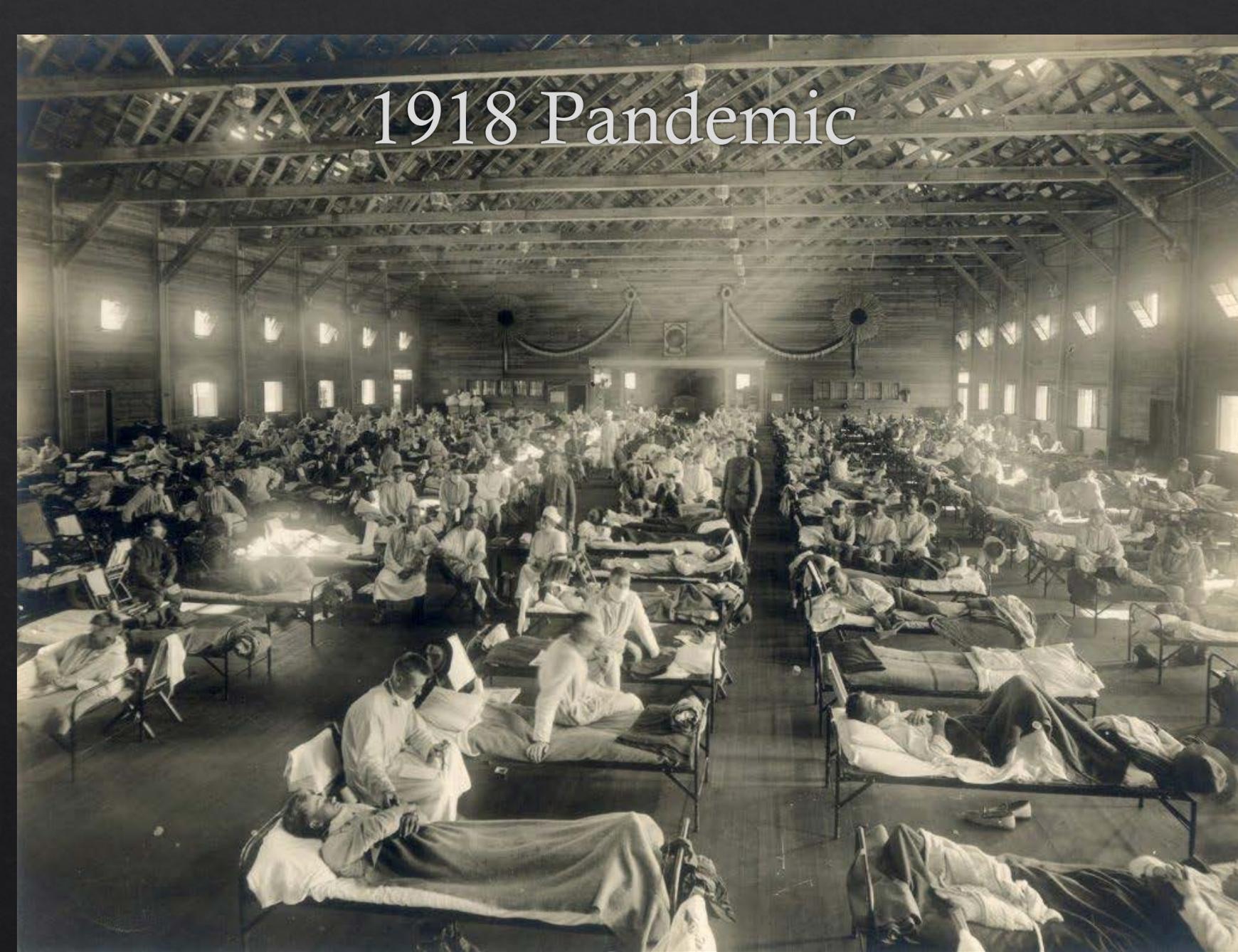
The impact of this service was twofold: (1) Christian sacrifice for their fellow believers stunned the unbelieving world as they witnessed communal love like they'd never seen (John 13:35), and (2) Christian sacrifice for non-Christians resulted in the early church experiencing exponential growth as non-Christian survivors, who benefited from the care of their Christian neighbors, converted to the faith en masse.

1918 Pandemic

How Churches of Christ responded when the 1918 'Spanish flu' killed millions
Many congregations canceled services, and some Christians focused on feeding and nursing the poor.

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Nashville saw its first case of the "Spanish flu" in late September 1918. By November, 1,300 had died — 1 percent of the city's population.

The influenza would kill almost 700,000 in the United States and 50 million globally. It was the worst pandemic in modern history.



1918 Pandemic

As the flu spread across the U.S. in the late fall and early winter of 1918, theaters, schools, businesses and churches closed their doors for weeks. The Tennessee Health Department advised churches to suspend their Sunday meetings for Oct. 20 and 27. No one protested, and 92 churches complied.

However, the Russell Street Church of Christ in Nashville did not close its doors.

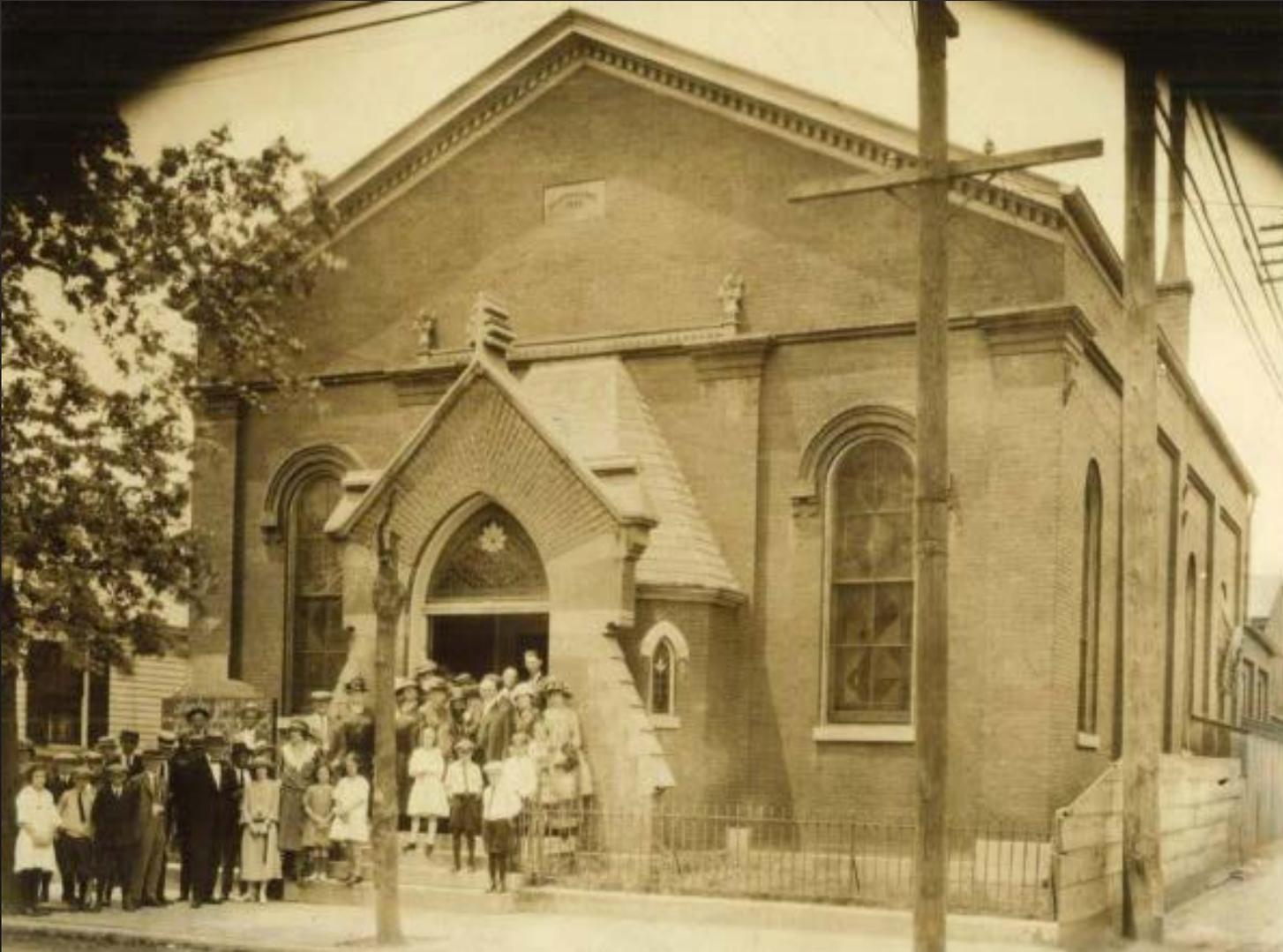
The church approached the Red Cross with an offer of help. Their building became a temporary hospital because the city hospitals were turning away people. The Russell Street members, along with the Eleventh Street and Chapel Avenue congregations, poured their monetary and human resources into feeding and nursing the poor. The influenza epidemic, as A. B. Lipscomb wrote in the *Gospel Advocate*, had "opened up a way for the enlargement of the sympathies of Christian people."

1918 Pandemic

Churches in California, Minnesota, West Virginia, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Texas and all across the country suspended their regular services. Ben West of Ennis, Texas, informed the *Gospel Advocate* that "Sunday was the first day for twelve years that I have failed to attend service," and then added, "We had three funerals here Sunday." Though the church was not assembling, they were "busy attending the sick."

Some died caring for others. The *Gospel Advocate* reported that J. D. Northcut, an evangelist from Tracy City, Tennessee, fell ill with "influenza followed by pneumonia" and died at the age of 43. He had given "almost continual attention to sufferers near him."

1918 Pandemic



M.C. Kurfees, the minister of the Campbell Street Church of Christ in Louisville, Ky., sent a letter to his members announcing the congregation's compliance with the Kentucky State Board of Health. "It behooves us," he wrote, "to cheerfully submit to this order and to exert all our energies in an earnest and sympathetic effort to cooperate with the benevolent purpose of our government to check the deplorable disease."

Though churches suspended their large assemblies, they did not cease to worship. Rather, as E. D. Shelton, in Fayette City, Pa., wrote, "We worshipped God from house to house." H. E. Winkler, of Adairville, Ky., and his wife "worshipped in our home" for three weeks. Kurfees recommended his congregants worship in their homes "as was sometimes done in the days of the apostles."

1918 Pandemic

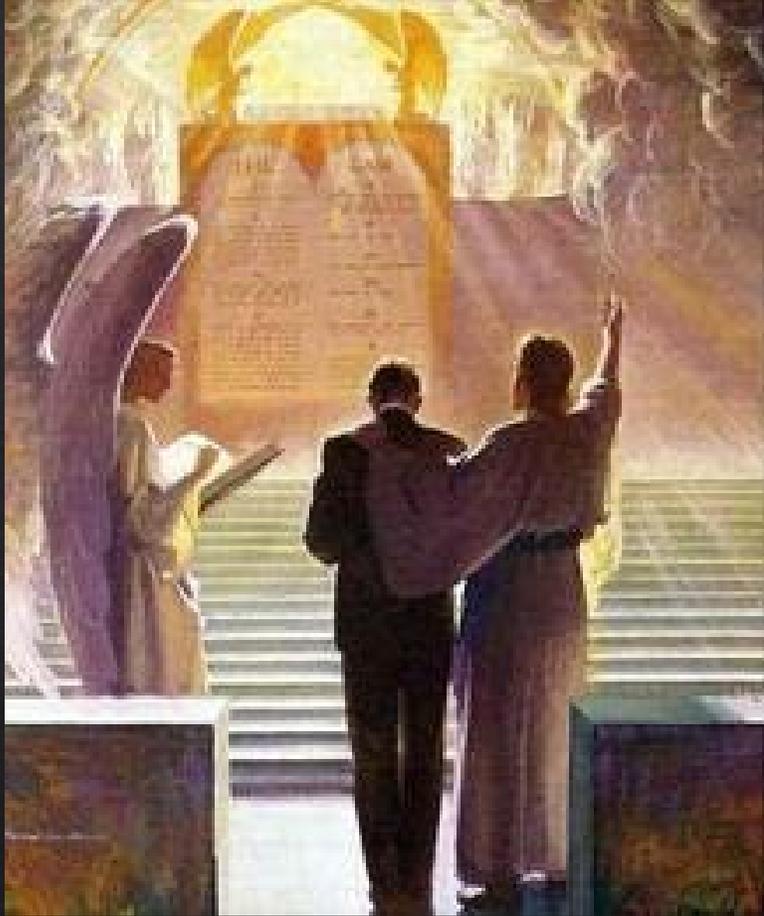


J.C. McQuiddy, editor of the *Gospel Advocate*, also felt strongly about weekly assembly. However, this duty was superseded by mercy at times. Just as it was a matter of mercy to care for the sick at home instead of attending the weekly service, it is also merciful to forego meeting with the saints if it "would jeopardize the lives of members of not only their families, but the families also of many other people." McQuiddy thought it unnecessary to "assemble in large crowds to break bread in the face of the proclamation of the government." Indeed, Christians, while meeting with a few in homes, should observe the restrictions "cheerfully, seeking to lead quiet, holy, and unblameable lives."

Nevertheless, some experienced this as government interference. They resented the government's orders to shut their doors on Sunday mornings. "We must obey God rather than man," a few argued. J. W. Dunn of Paris, Texas, for example, applauded "one of our faithful ones" who "approached the mayor and explained to him our convictions of duty on Lord's-day services." The mayor consented but only if a few gathered; no large meetings were permitted. At the same time, Dunn noted, "Paris has had a heavy toll."

Other ministers accepted the quarantines and restrictions without complaint because they recognized one could obey both God and the government. E. C. Fuqua of Fort Collins, Colo., keenly felt the obligation to meet weekly on the Lord's Day. "Carefully observing [government] restrictions, we feel free to meet a few brethren in a private home and worship according to the New Testament teaching." In this way, "the assembly thus formed is not unlawful, and the worship rendered is lawful to God," which demonstrates "loyalty to both."

We all Have to Give Account



Romans 14:¹⁰ But why dost thou judge thy brother? or why dost thou set at nought thy brother? for we shall all stand before the judgment seat of Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:⁹ Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

I must love and serve other Christians



How do we not know that this is our opportunity to be a light to others. They have the greater fear. Maybe this is the type of thing that will enable us to reach others.

Mark 10:43 ... whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. 44 "And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. 45 "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

Galatians 5:13 For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not *use* liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

John 13:35 "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

I must love and serve other Christians



Philippians 2:3 Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. 4 Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,

John 13:35 "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

How do we not know that this is our opportunity to be a light to others. They have the greater fear. Maybe this is the type of thing that will enable us to reach others.

I must love the Church



Matthew 6:33 "But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Hebrews 10:24 And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: **25** Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

1 Corinthians 12:23 And those members of the body which we think to be less honorable, on these we bestow greater honor; and our unpresentable parts have greater modesty, **24** but our presentable parts have no need. But God composed the body, having given greater honor to that part which lacks it, **25** that there should be no schism in the body, but that the members should have the same care for one another. **26** And if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it; or if one member is honored, all the members rejoice with it.

I must love the Church



1 Thessalonians 5:14 Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all. 15 See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.



Esther 3:5 And when Haman saw that Mordecai bowed not, nor did him reverence, then was Haman full of wrath. 6 And he thought scorn to lay hands on Mordecai alone; for they had shewed him the people of Mordecai: wherefore Haman sought to destroy all the Jews that were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus, even the people of Mordecai.

12 Then were the king's scribes called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and there was written according to all that Haman had commanded unto the king's lieutenants, and to the governors that were over every province, and to the rulers of every people of every province according to the writing thereof, and to every people after their language; in the name of king Ahasuerus was it written, and sealed with the king's ring. 13 And the letters were sent by posts into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to cause to perish, all Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, even upon the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month Adar, and to take the spoil of them for a prey.



Esther 4:13 Then Mordecai commanded to answer Esther, Think not with thyself that thou shalt escape in the king's house, more than all the Jews. 14 For if thou altogether holdest thy peace at this time, then shall there enlargement and deliverance arise to the Jews from another place; but thou and thy father's house shall be destroyed: and **who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**



16 Go, gather together all the Jews that are present in Shushan, and fast ye for me, and neither eat nor drink three days, night or day: I also and my maidens will fast likewise; and so will I go in unto the king, which is not according to the law: and if I perish, I perish.

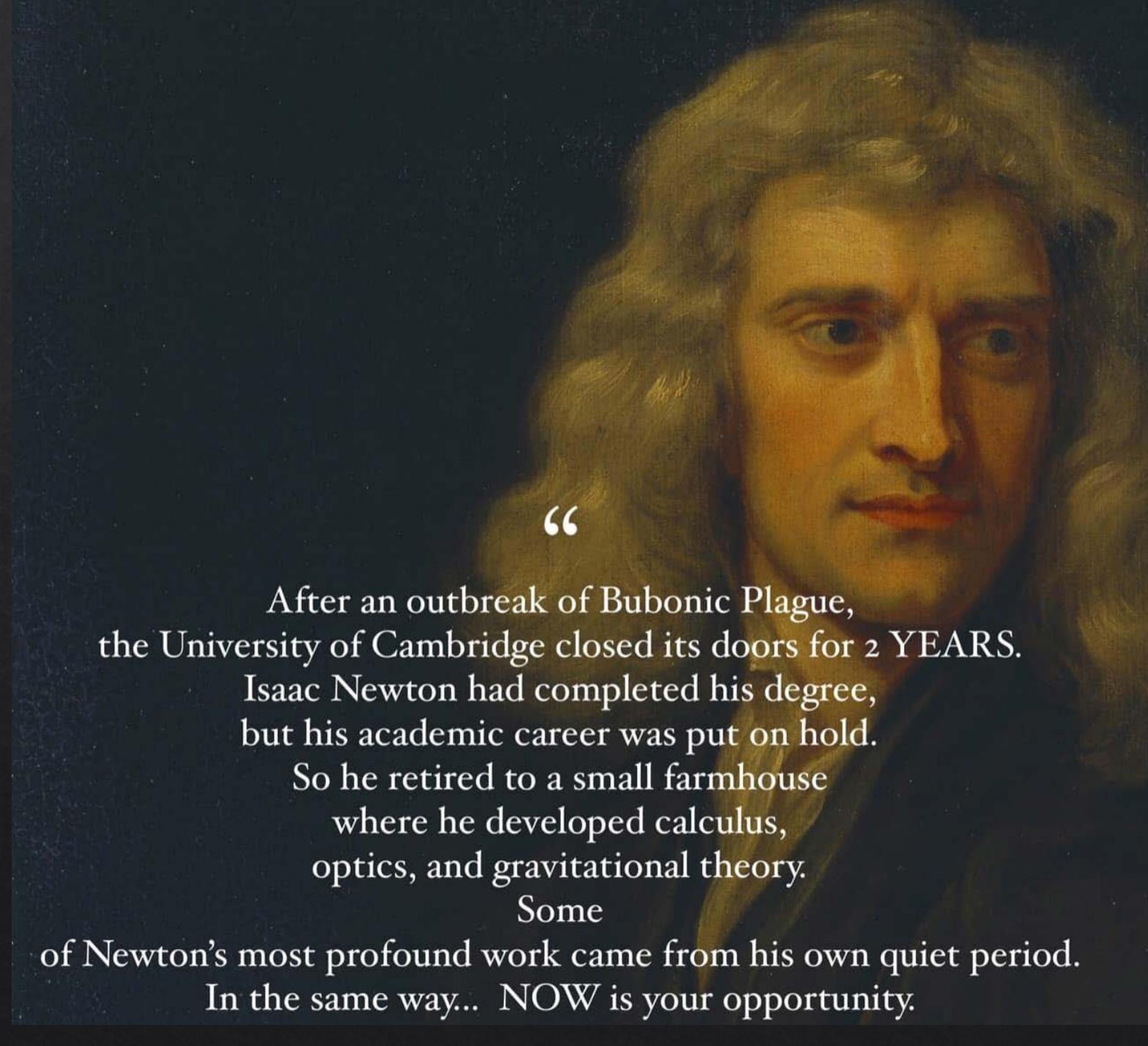


ESTHER

For Such a Time as This



- How do we not know that this is our opportunity to be a light to others.
- They have the greater fear.
- Maybe this is the type of thing that will enable us to reach them.
- For if thou hold thy peace at this time, then shall deliverance arise from another place; but your house shall be destroyed: and who knoweth whether thou art come to the kingdom for such a time as this?
- Now is your time to shine!

A portrait of Isaac Newton, showing him from the chest up. He has long, wavy, light-colored hair and is looking slightly to the right of the viewer. The background is dark and indistinct.

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After an outbreak of Bubonic Plague,
the University of Cambridge closed its doors for 2 YEARS.

Isaac Newton had completed his degree,
but his academic career was put on hold.

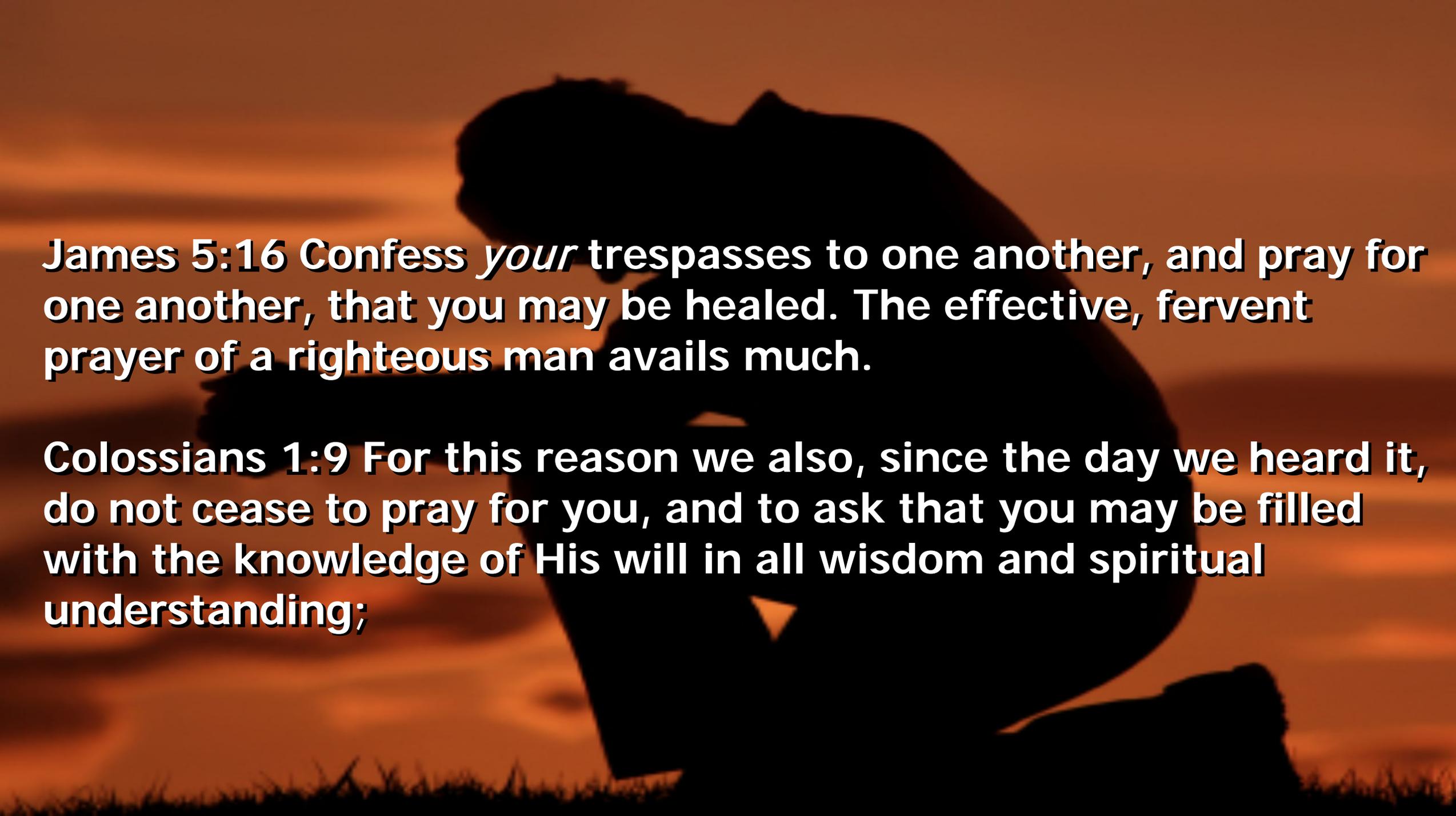
So he retired to a small farmhouse
where he developed calculus,
optics, and gravitational theory.

Some

of Newton's most profound work came from his own quiet period.

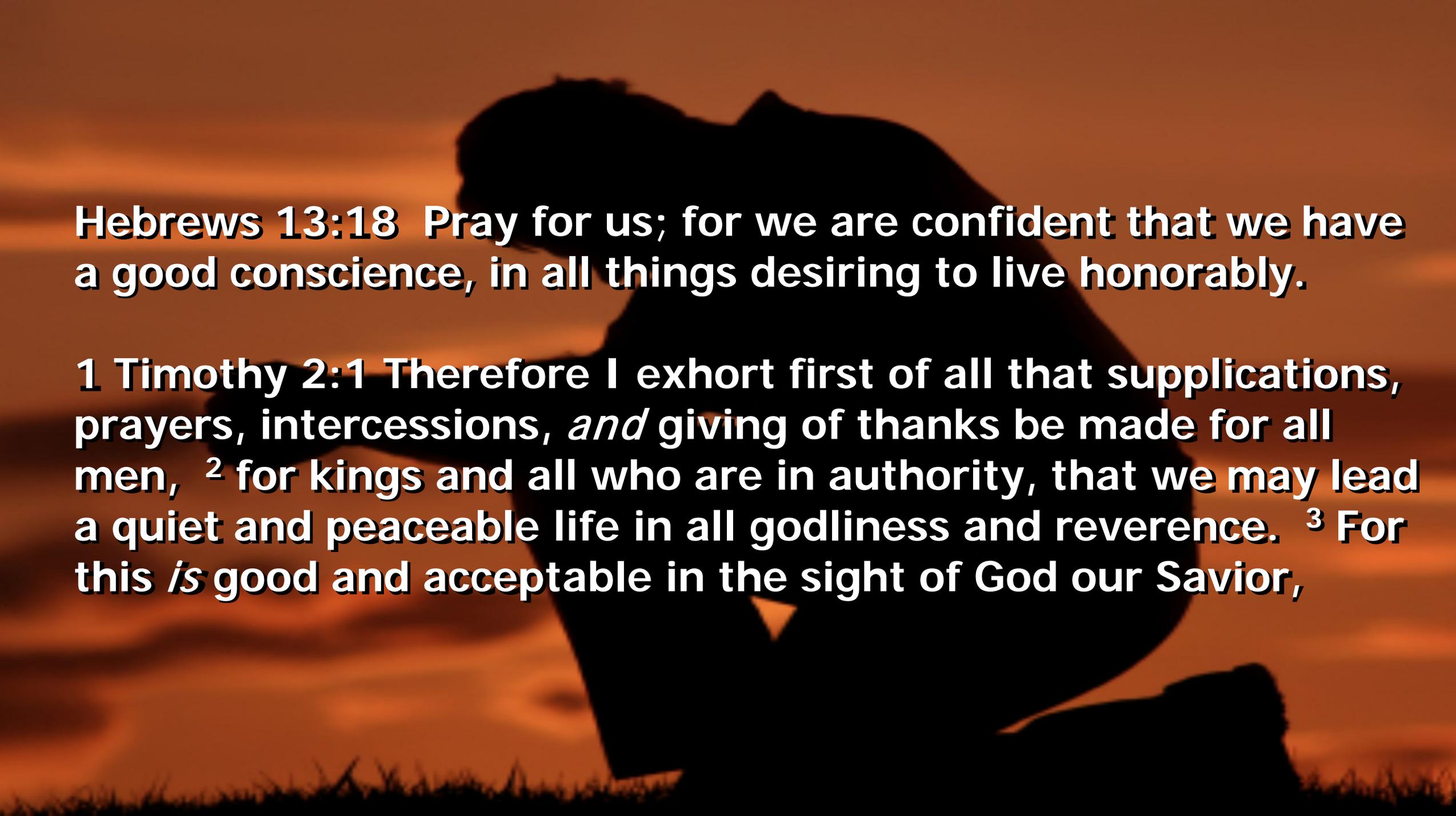
In the same way... NOW is your opportunity.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light
so shine before men, that
they may see your good
works, and glorify your
Father which is in heaven.

A silhouette of a person kneeling in prayer, set against a warm, orange-hued sunset sky. The person's head is bowed, and their hands are clasped in front of them. The overall mood is one of solemnity and devotion.

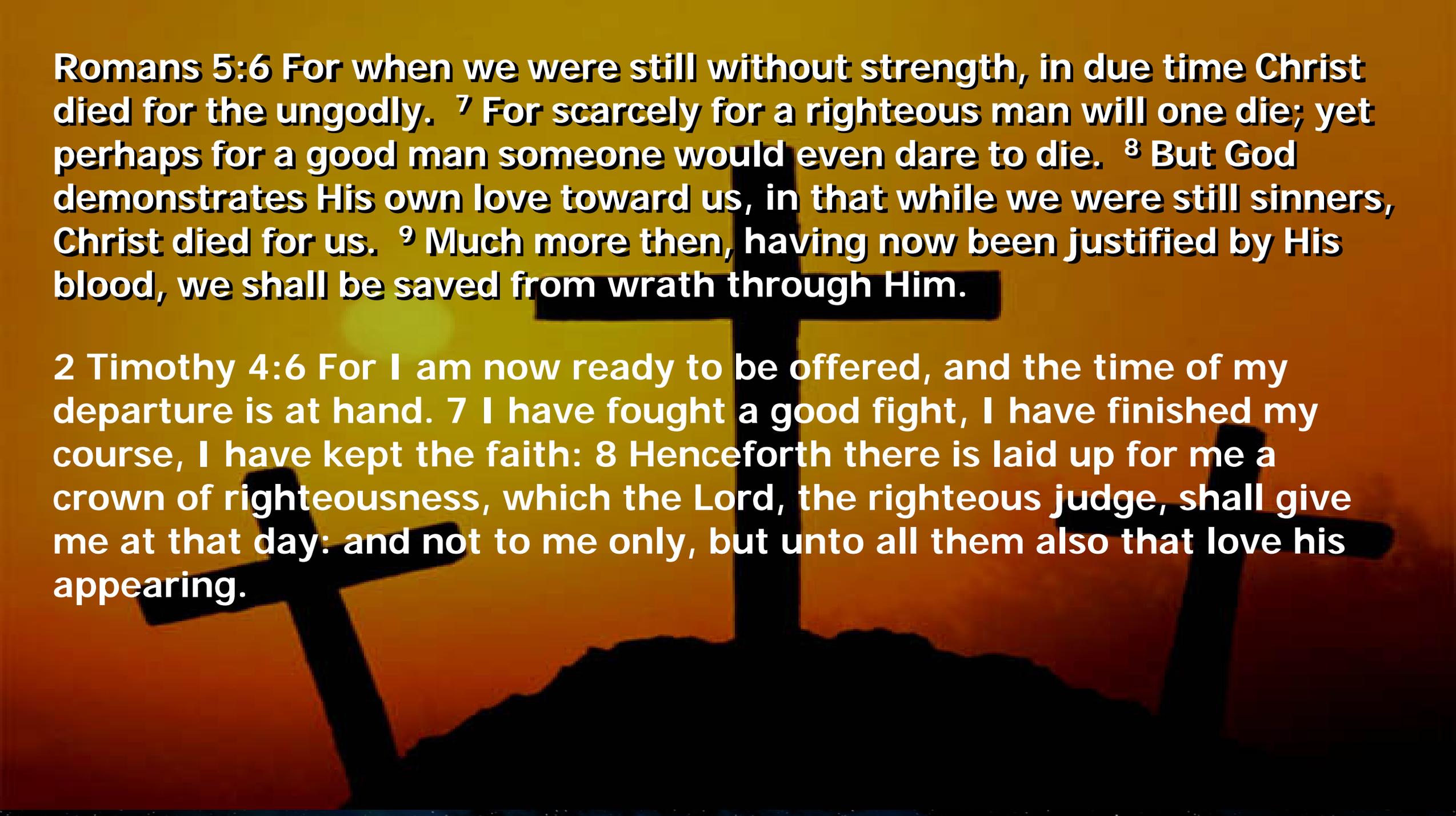
James 5:16 Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.

Colossians 1:9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;

A silhouette of a person kneeling in prayer, set against a warm, orange-hued sunset sky. The person is positioned in the center-right of the frame, with their head bowed and hands clasped in front of them. The background shows a gradient of orange and red tones, suggesting a low sun. The overall mood is one of solemnity and devotion.

Hebrews 13:18 Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably.

1 Timothy 2:1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, *and* giving of thanks be made for all men, ² for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. ³ For this *is* good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior,



Romans 5:6 For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. ⁸ But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him.

2 Timothy 4:6 For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand. ⁷ I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: ⁸ Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing.