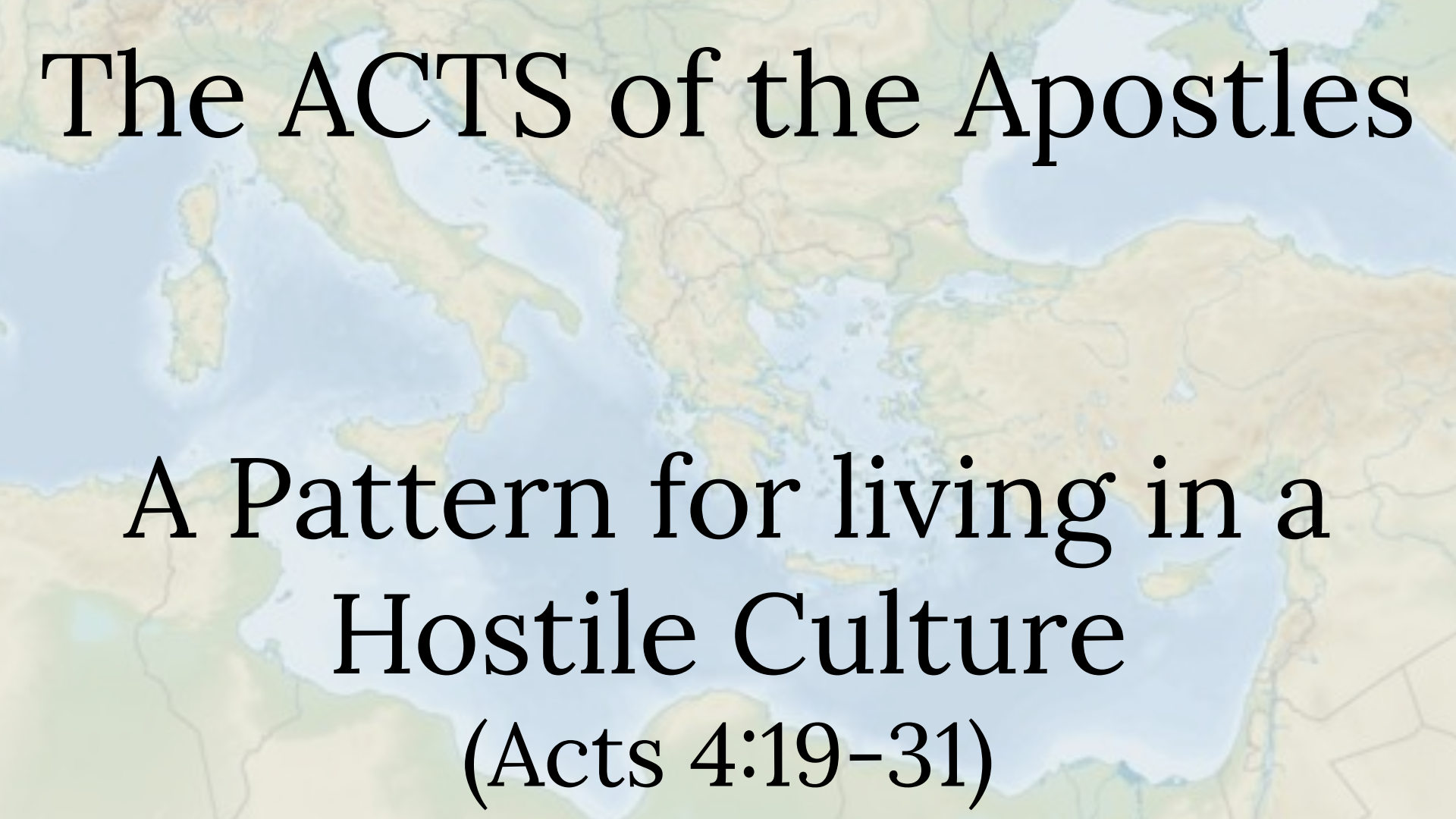


The ACTS of the Apostles

A Pattern for living in a
Hostile Culture

(Acts 4:19-31)



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1 Make Obedience a Priority (Acts 4:19-23)



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This must be a conscious choice

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Your will must surrender to His

“In general, we are very busy people. We have many meetings to attend, many visits to make, many things to lead. Our calendars are filled with appointments, our days and weeks filled with engagements, and our years filled with plans and projects. There is seldom a period in which we do not know what to do, and we move through life in such a distracted way that we do not even take the time and rest to wonder if any of the things we think, say, or do are *worth* thinking, saying, or doing.

We simply go along with the many “musts” and “oughts” that have been handed on to us, and we live with them as if they were authentic translations of the Gospel of our Lord... Thus we are busy people just like all other busy people, rewarded with the rewards which are rewarded to busy people.”

–Henri Nouwen

2 Live by the Truth (Acts 4:24-28)





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The Importance of Solid Theology

A background map of the Mediterranean region, showing the Mediterranean Sea, the Aegean Sea, and parts of Europe, Africa, and Asia. The map is rendered in a light, semi-transparent style.

2 Live by the Truth (Acts 4:24-28)

The Importance of Solid Theology

Who is Our God and How Does He Act?

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Who is Our God and How Does He Act?

Who is Man and How Does He Act?

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If you miss this, you are living from
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Rom. 3:23 shouldn't surprise us!

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Our politicians are sinful and fall short of God's glory!



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SHOCKER!

I AM SHOOK!

Rom. 3:23 shouldn't surprise us!

Our politicians are sinful and fall short of God's glory!

our American system is sinful and falls short...

our financial system is full of sinners who fall short...

our cultural values are sinful and fall short...

our nation's priorities are sinful and fall short...

our actors and sports figures are sinful and fall short...

our media outlets are sinful and fall short...

our political allies are sinful and fall short...

our entertainment outlets are sinful and fall short...

our police, legal system and judges are sinful and fall short...

our educational systems are run by sinners who fall short...

Acts 2:23ff

This Man, delivered over by the predetermined plan and foreknowledge of God, you nailed to a cross by the hands of godless men and put Him to death.

Acts 3:13ff

The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, has glorified His servant Jesus, the one whom you handed over and disowned in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. But you disowned the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, but put to death the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, a fact to which we are witnesses.

Acts 4:10ff

Let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel, that by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by this name this man stands here before you in good health. He is the stone which was rejected by you, the builders, but which became the chief cornerstone.

A background map of the Mediterranean region, showing the sea and surrounding landmasses in shades of green, yellow, and blue.

2 Live by the Truth (Acts 4:24-28)

The Importance of Solid Theology

Act on what we clearly know
from Scripture

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The Importance of Solid Theology

Act on what we clearly know
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They don't shrink away

They don't grumble and complain

They don't blame God

3 Depend on Prayer (Acts 4:29-31)



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David: Psalm 73 – Despair was creeping in...



3 Depend on Prayer (Acts 4:29-31)

David: Psalm 73 – Despair was creeping in...

V. 17 “Then I entered your sanctuary,
Then I remembered...”

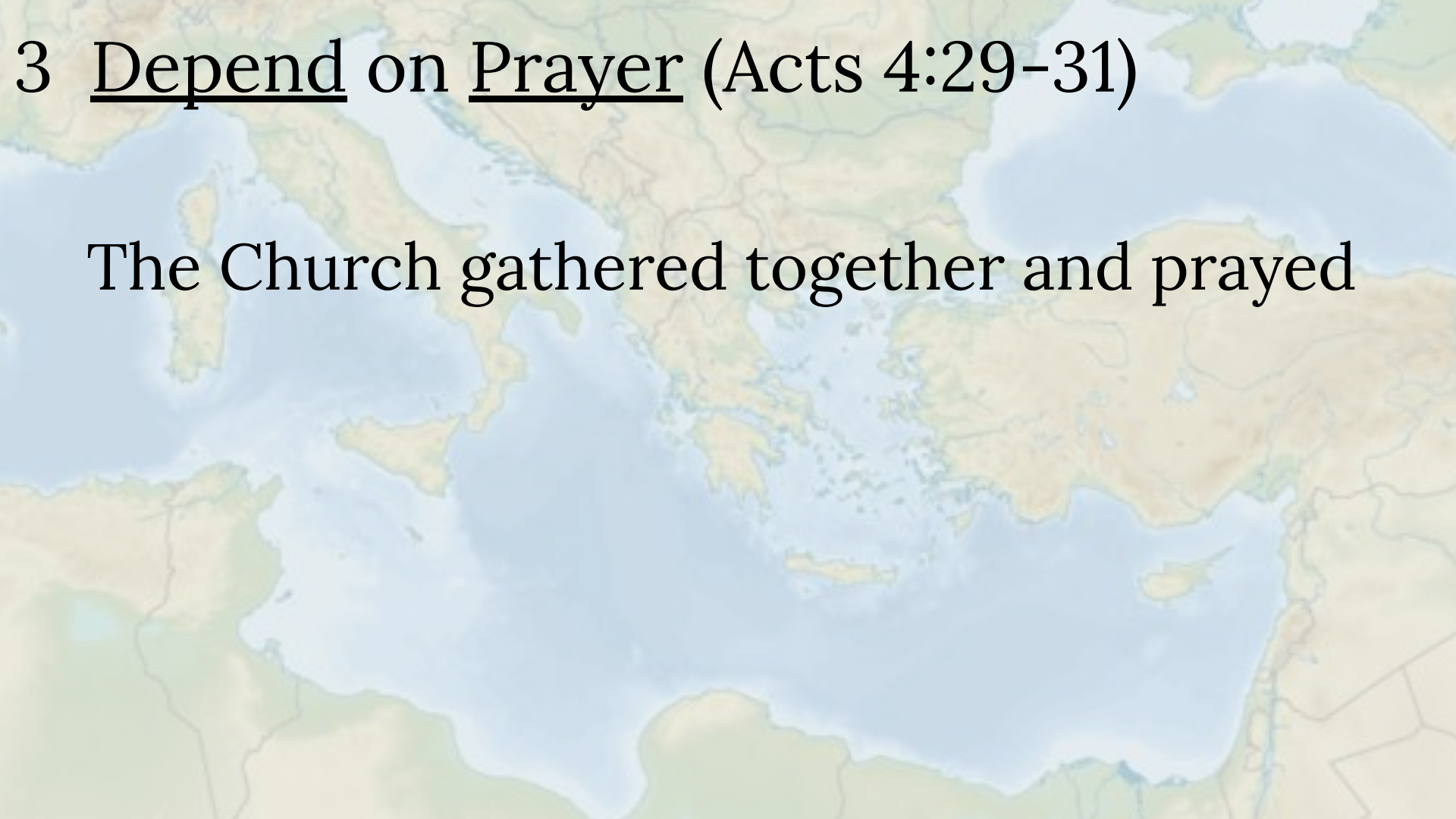
3 Depend on Prayer (Acts 4:29-31)

Paul: Philippians 1:19-20



3 Depend on Prayer (Acts 4:29-31)

The Church gathered together and prayed



APPLICATION:





APPLICATION:

Read Scripture
and meditate on Solid Theology

A background map of the Mediterranean region, showing the sea in light blue and the surrounding landmasses in shades of green and tan. The map is centered on the Mediterranean Sea, with the Iberian Peninsula to the west, the Balkans to the north, and the Arabian Peninsula to the east.

APPLICATION:

Read Scripture
and meditate on Solid Theology

Meditate on Psalm 37 (and Psalm 73)

APPLICATION:

Pray Boldly!





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What “big things” are you asking for?



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What “big things” are you asking for?

“You have not, because you ask not!”

(James 4:2-3)

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How bold are your prayers?

APPLICATION:

Pray Boldly!

What “big things” are you asking for?

“You have not, because you ask not!”

(James 4:2-3)

How bold are your prayers?

How do you pray for your enemies?

APPLICATION:

Pray for Boldness





APPLICATION:

Pray for Boldness

Pray for Clarity of what to do



APPLICATION:

Pray for Boldness

Pray for Clarity of what to do

Pray for God to show His power

APPLICATION:

CHOOSE OBEDIENCE

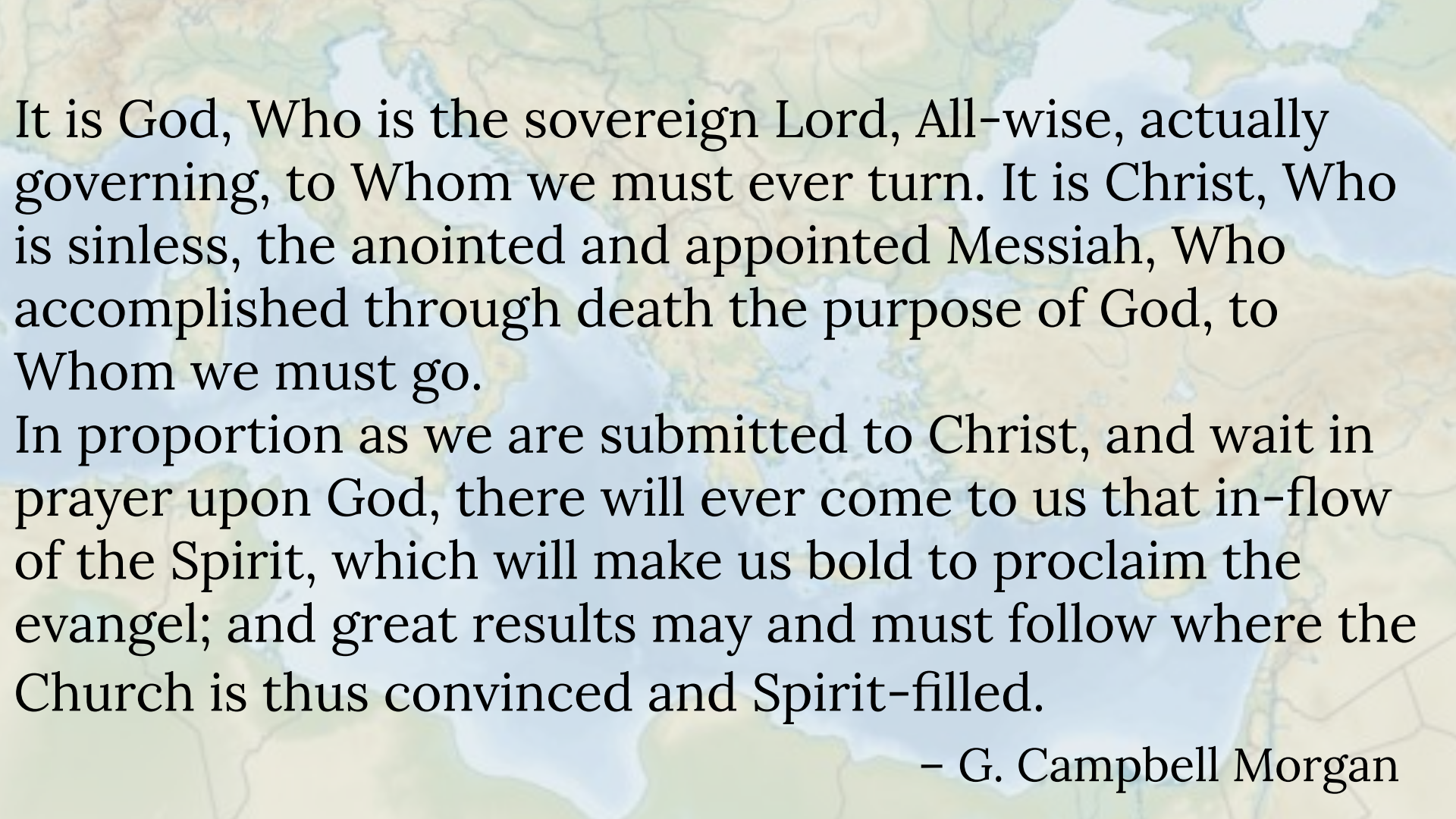




APPLICATION:

CHOOSE OBEDIENCE

(John 2:5 – Great advice!)



It is God, Who is the sovereign Lord, All-wise, actually governing, to Whom we must ever turn. It is Christ, Who is sinless, the anointed and appointed Messiah, Who accomplished through death the purpose of God, to Whom we must go.

In proportion as we are submitted to Christ, and wait in prayer upon God, there will ever come to us that in-flow of the Spirit, which will make us bold to proclaim the evangel; and great results may and must follow where the Church is thus convinced and Spirit-filled.

– G. Campbell Morgan