

Hymn #26:
A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

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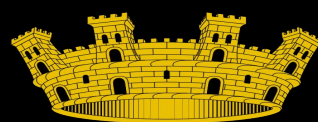


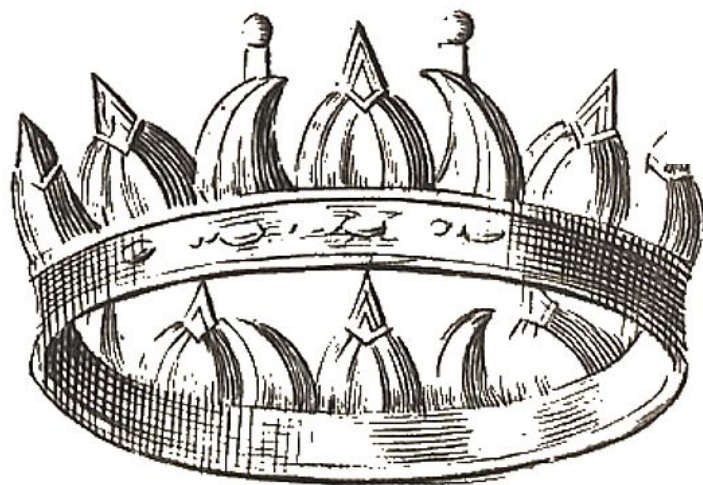
AD 43

Emperor Claudius Invades Britannia









Navalis



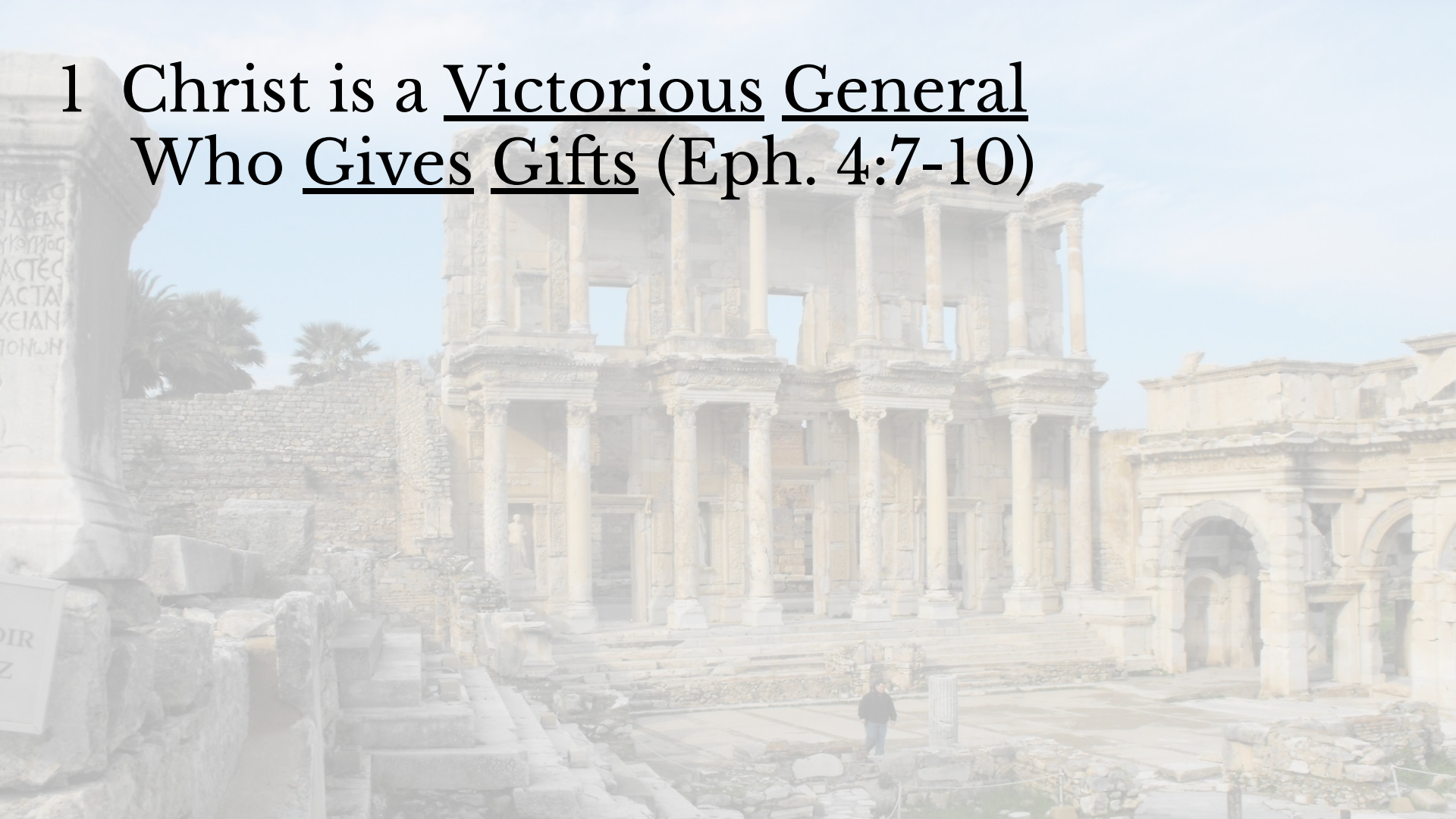




Built in Christ Jesus:

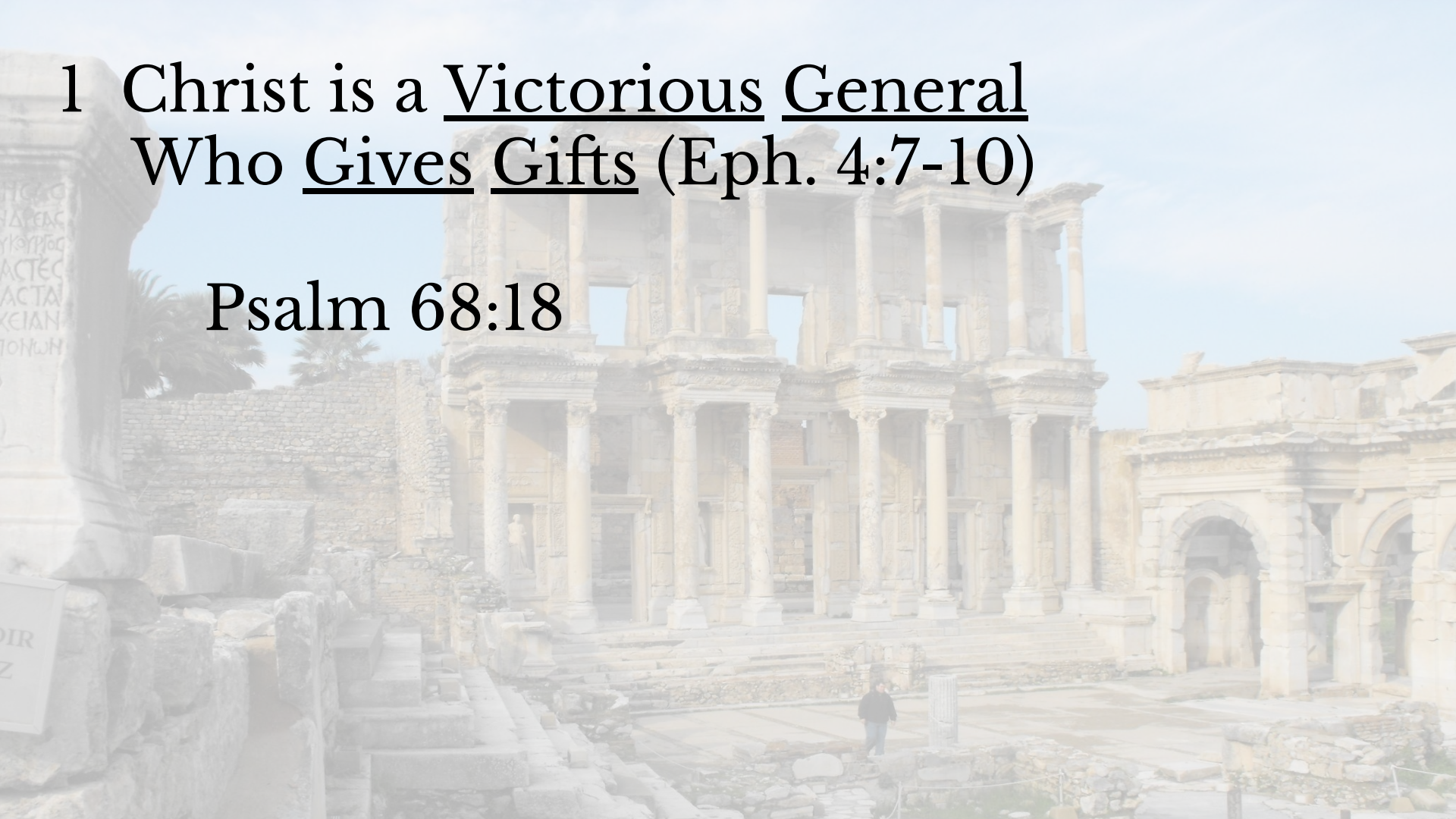
Christus Victor
(Ephesians 4:7-10)

1 Christ is a Victorious General Who Gives Gifts (Eph. 4:7-10)



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Psalm 68:18



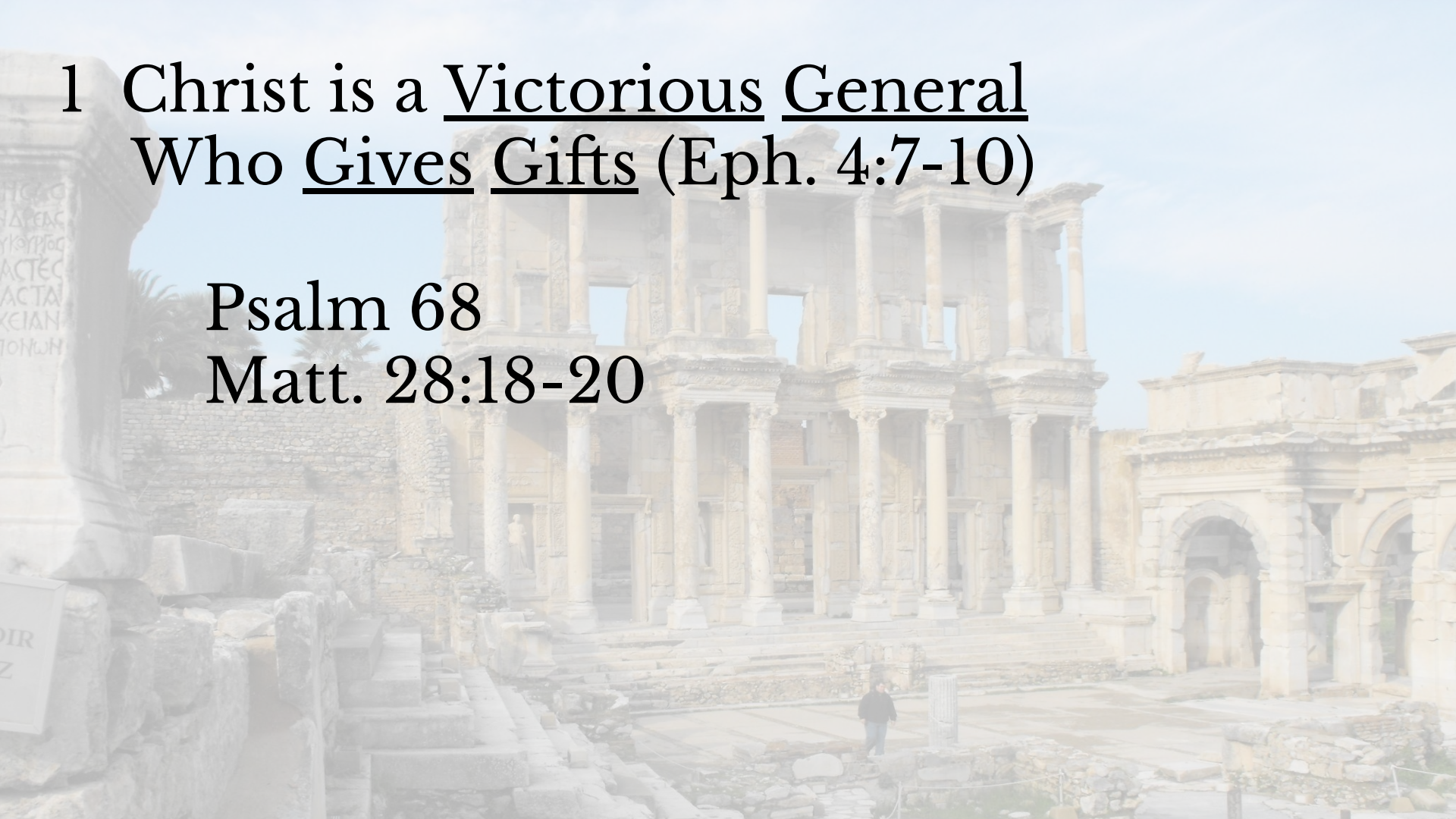
“The Levites were taken or received from among the sons of Israel as captives for his service (Numbers 8:6, 16, 18) and are even referred to as ‘gifts’ in Numbers 8:19a: ‘And I have *given* the Levites as *gifts* to Aaron and to his sons from among the children of Israel, to do the service of the children of Israel in the tabernacle of the congregation, and to make an atonement for the children of Israel.’ The Levites are referred to as gifts taken and given in Numbers 18:6, “And behold, I have *taken* your brethren the Levites from among the children of Israel; to you they are *given* as a *gift* for the Lord, to do the service of the tabernacle of the congregation.’ The captives are the gifts. Captives are taken and gifts given, but both the captives and the gifts are the Levites... Paul wants his readers to understand that God has, throughout history, chosen special men as leaders of the community of believers. The grace given to fulfill functional responsibilities, correspondingly fluctuates. Those responsible for teaching, preaching, and other spiritual duties received the necessary gifts from God to meet the needs of those served. These servants were ‘gifts’ of God given to mankind for the purpose of bringing mankind into a relationship in which God dwells in him. ... God, in a special way ordained both the Levites and the New Testament preachers, teachers, etc. to be mediators that would bridge the gap between God and man.”

Gary V. Smith, *JETS*, “Paul’s Use of Psalm 68:18 in Ephesians 4:8”, No. 18.3 (1975), pp. 181-190.

1 Christ is a Victorious General Who Gives Gifts (Eph. 4:7-10)

Psalm 68

Matt. 28:18-20

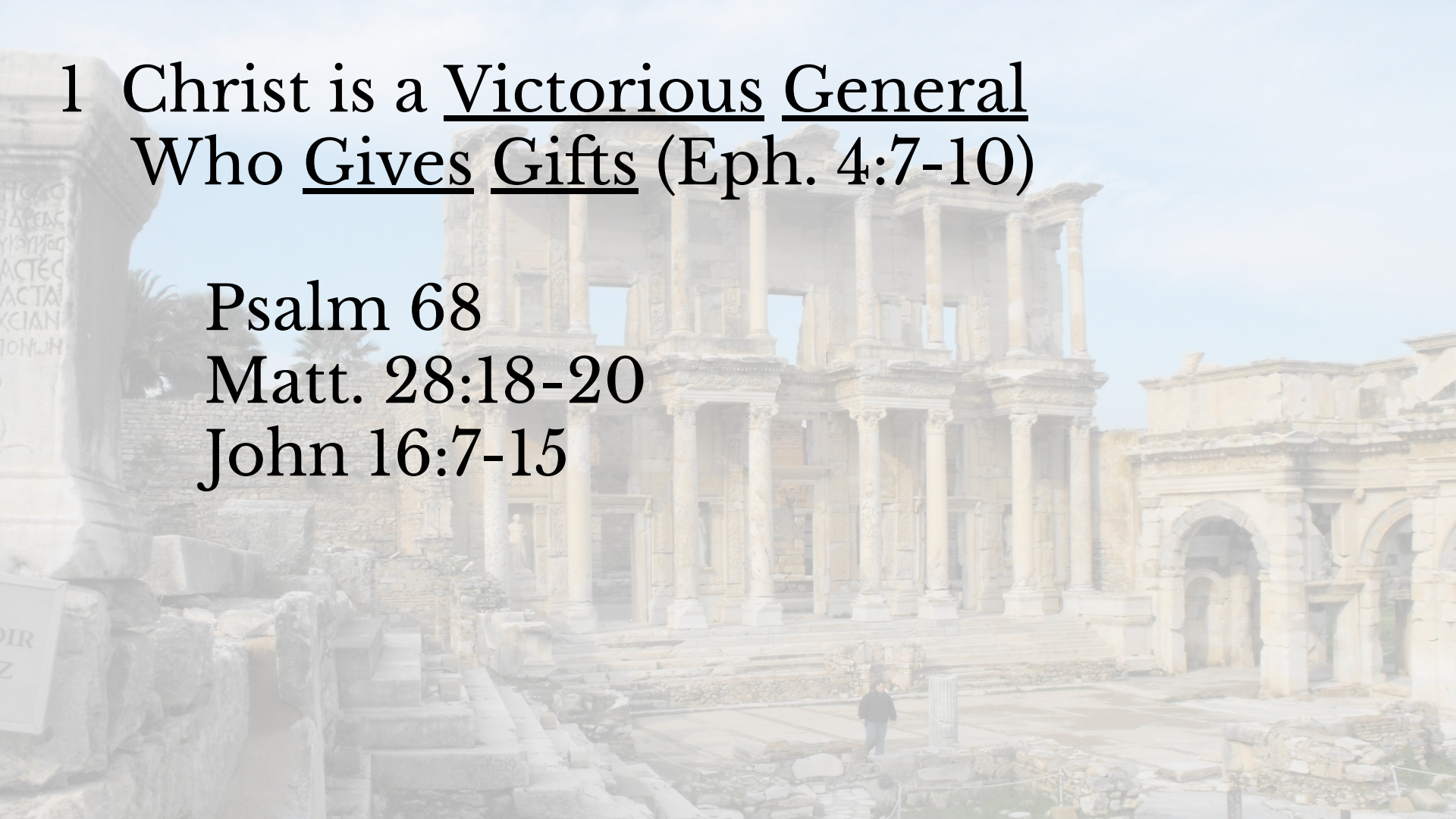


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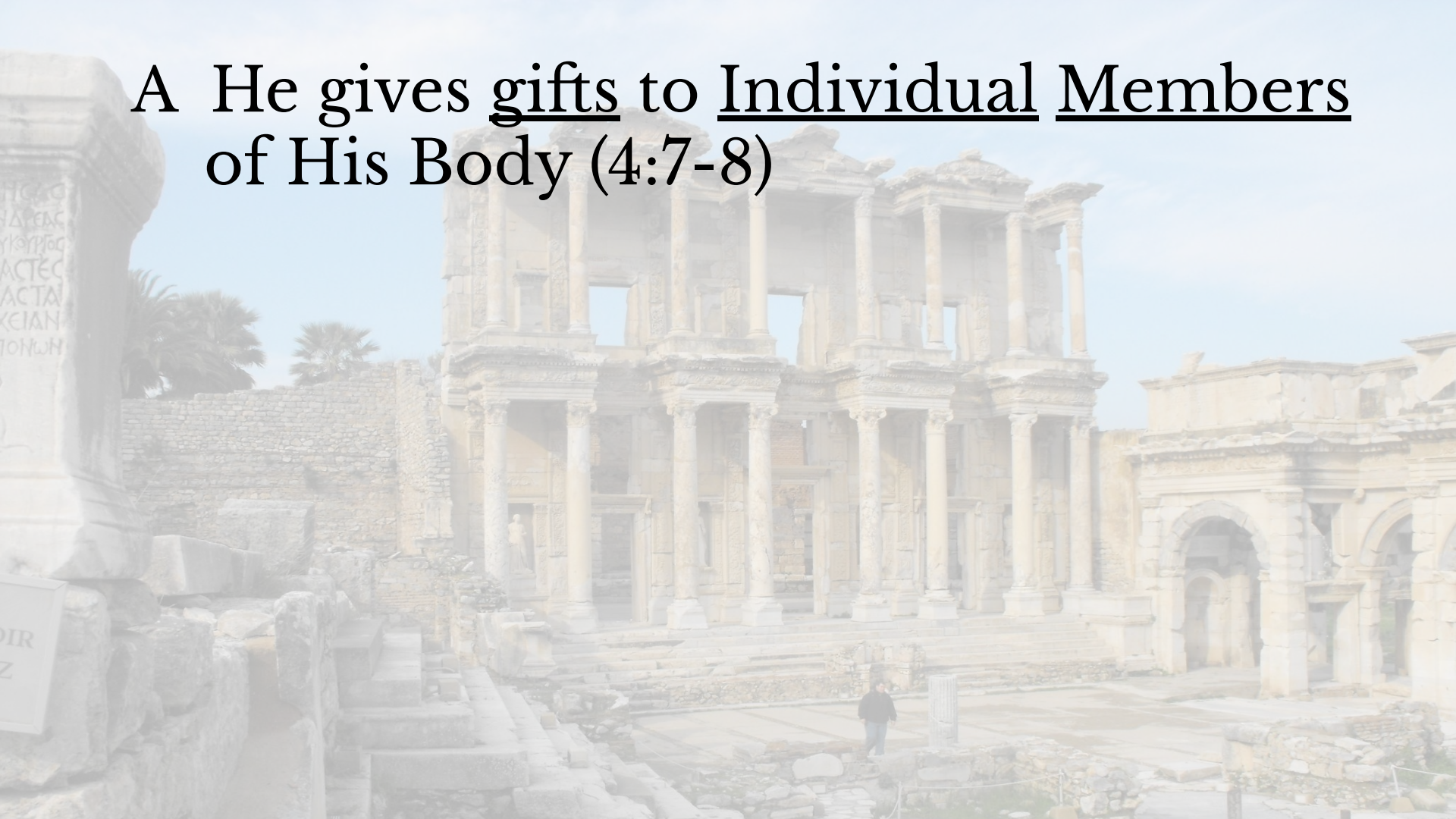
Psalm 68

Matt. 28:18-20

John 16:7-15



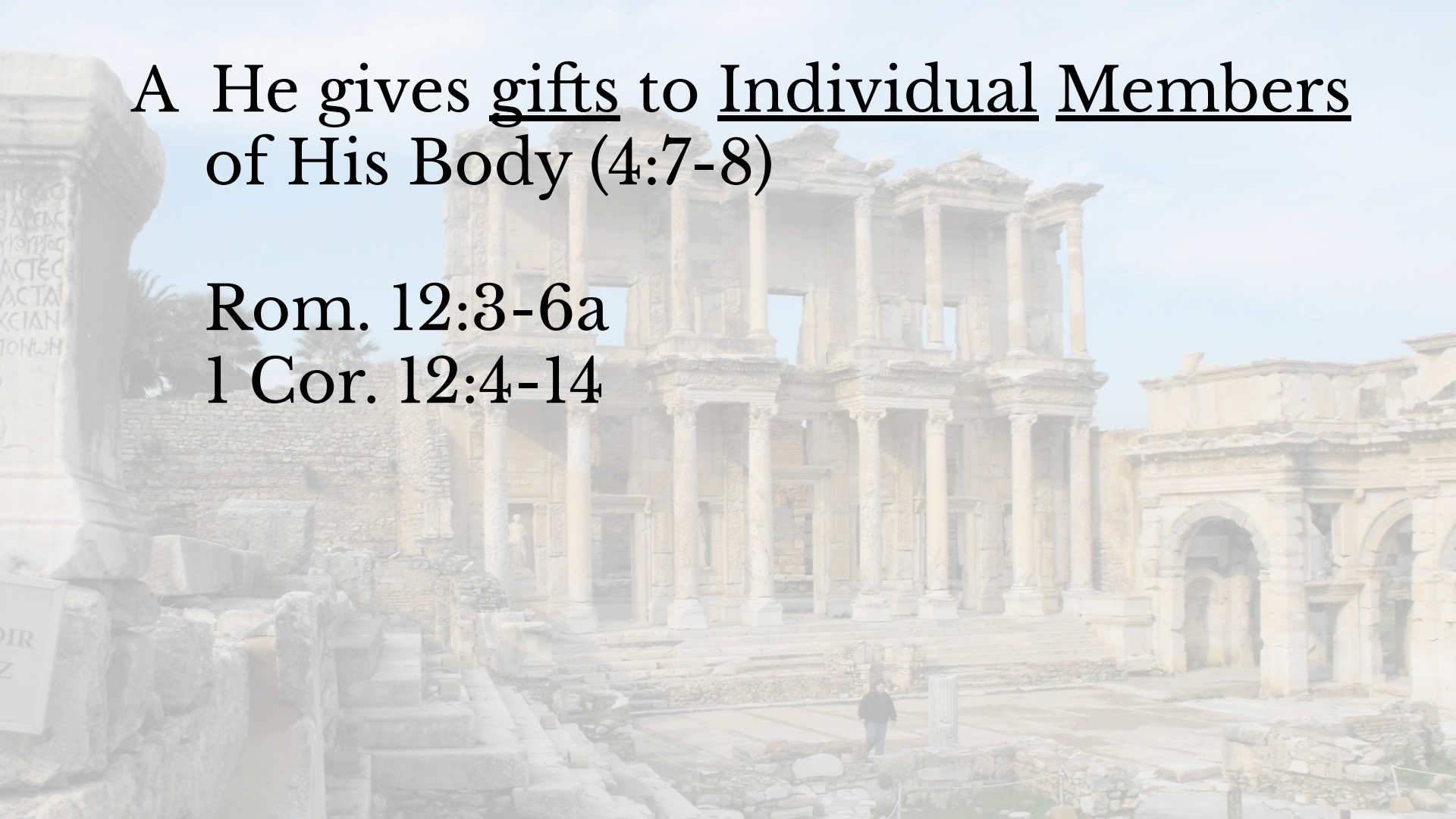
A He gives gifts to Individual Members
of His Body (4:7-8)



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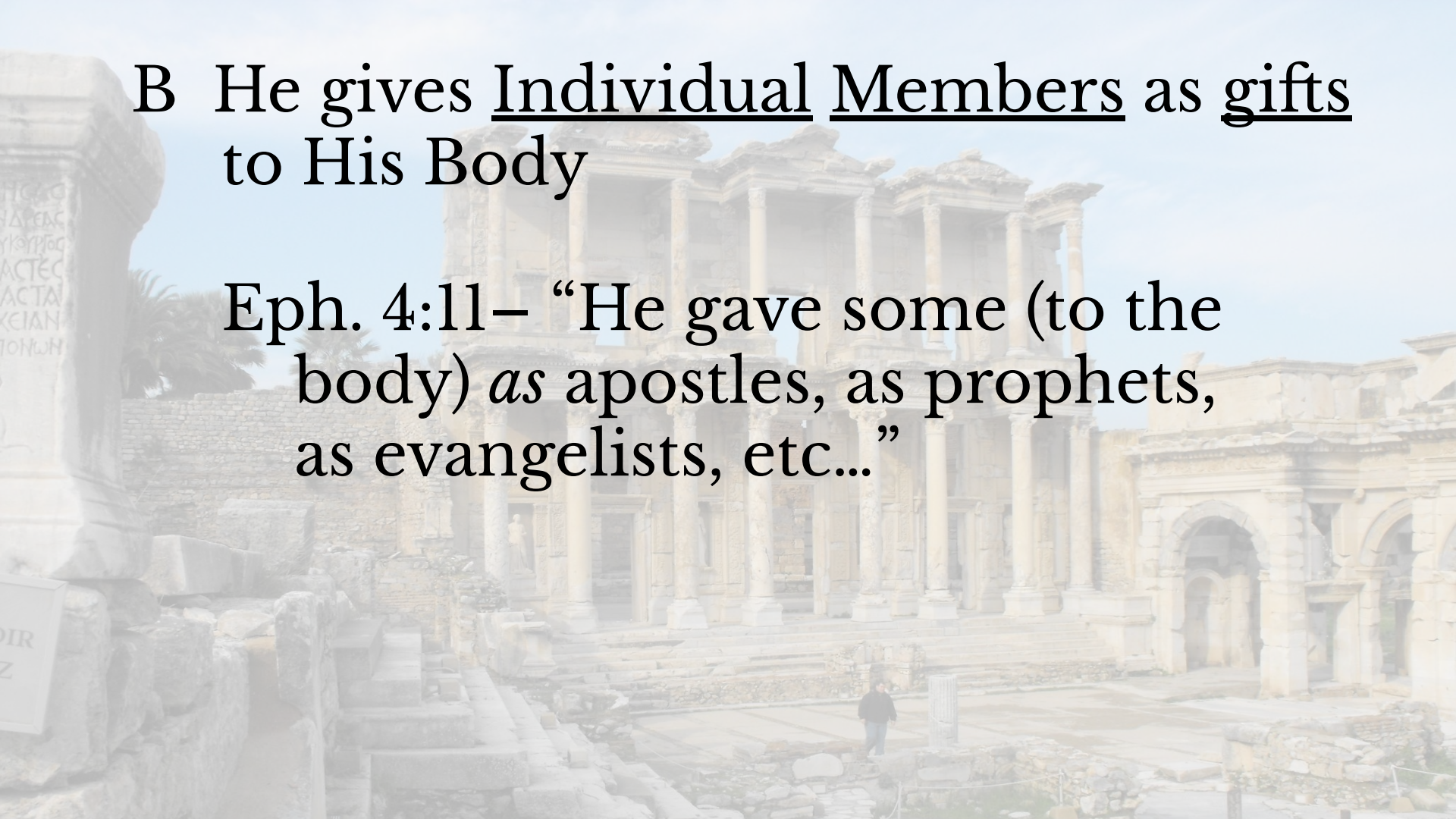
Rom. 12:3-6a

1 Cor. 12:4-14



B He gives Individual Members as gifts
to His Body

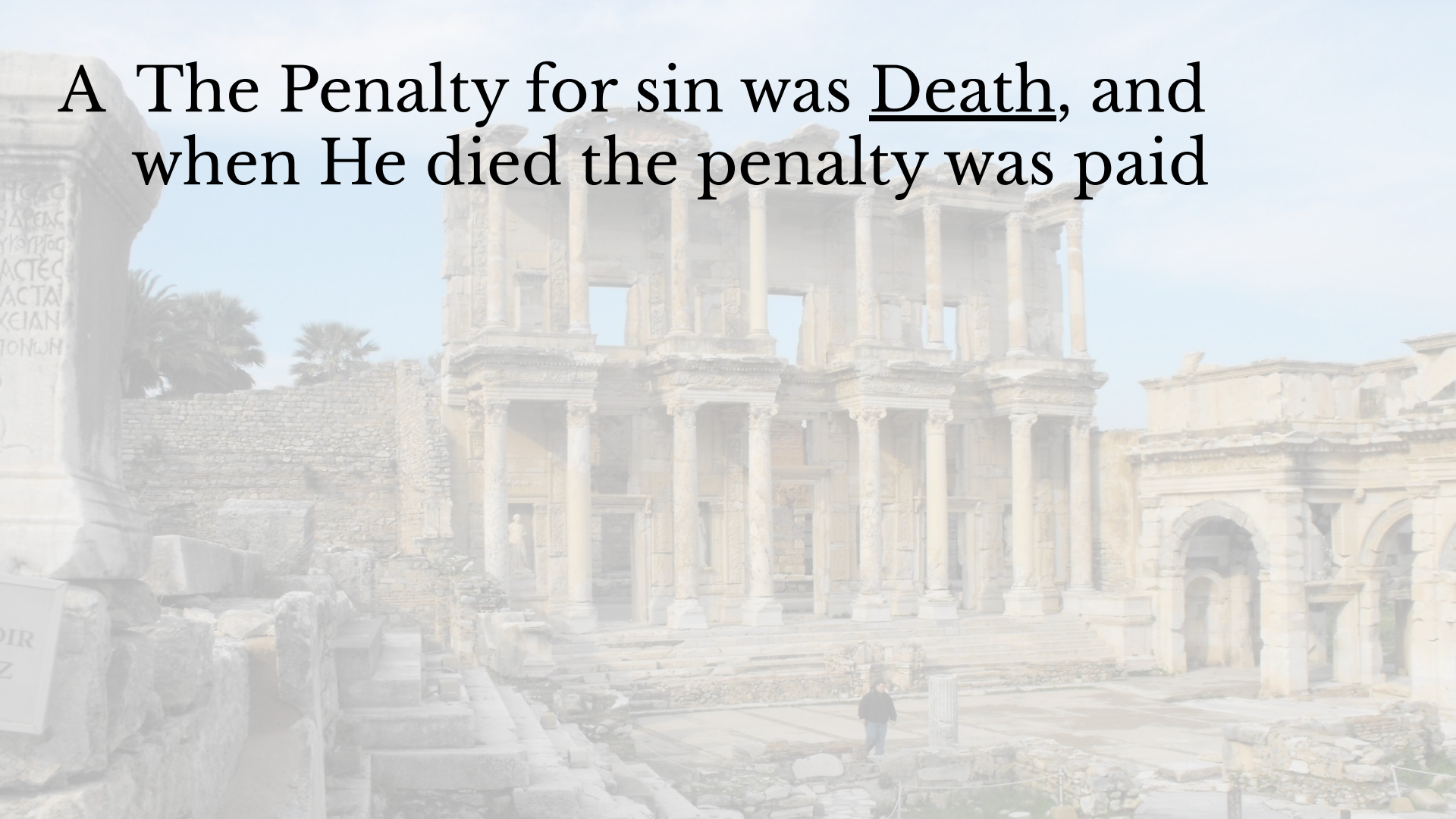
Eph. 4:11– “He gave some (to the
body) *as* apostles, as prophets,
as evangelists, etc...”



2 His Victory Came on the Cross

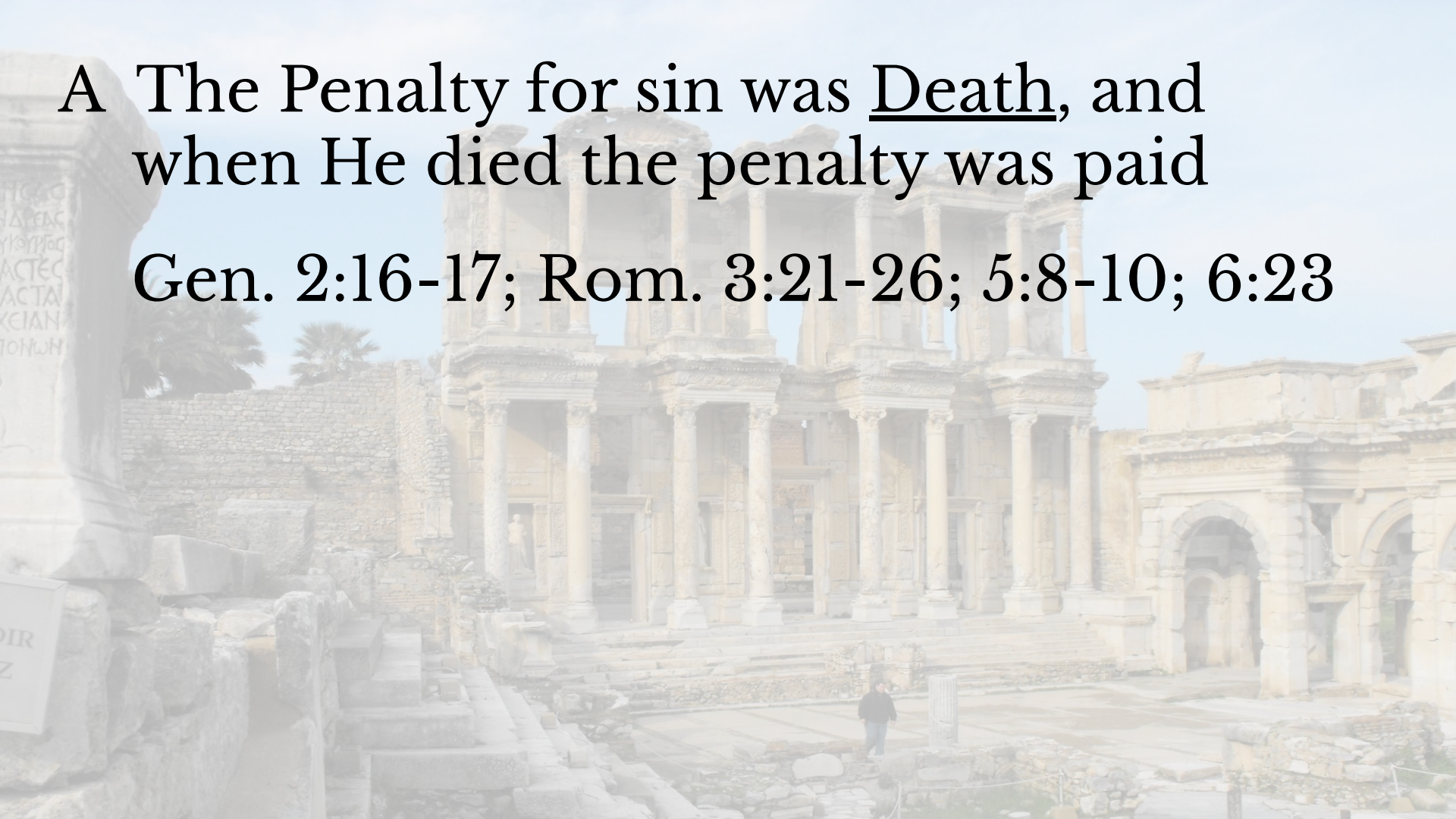


A The Penalty for sin was Death, and
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Gen. 2:16-17; Rom. 3:21-26; 5:8-10; 6:23



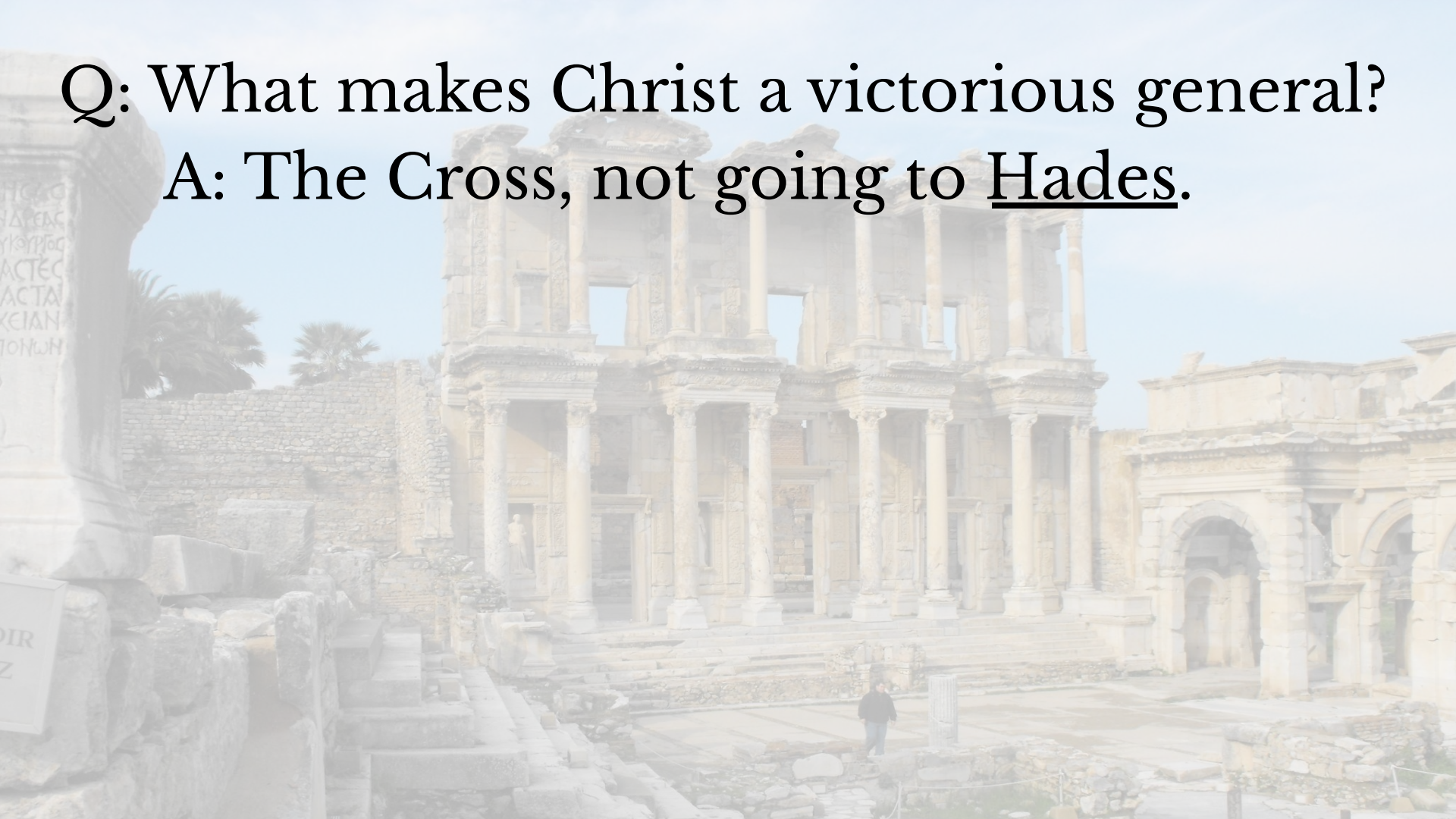
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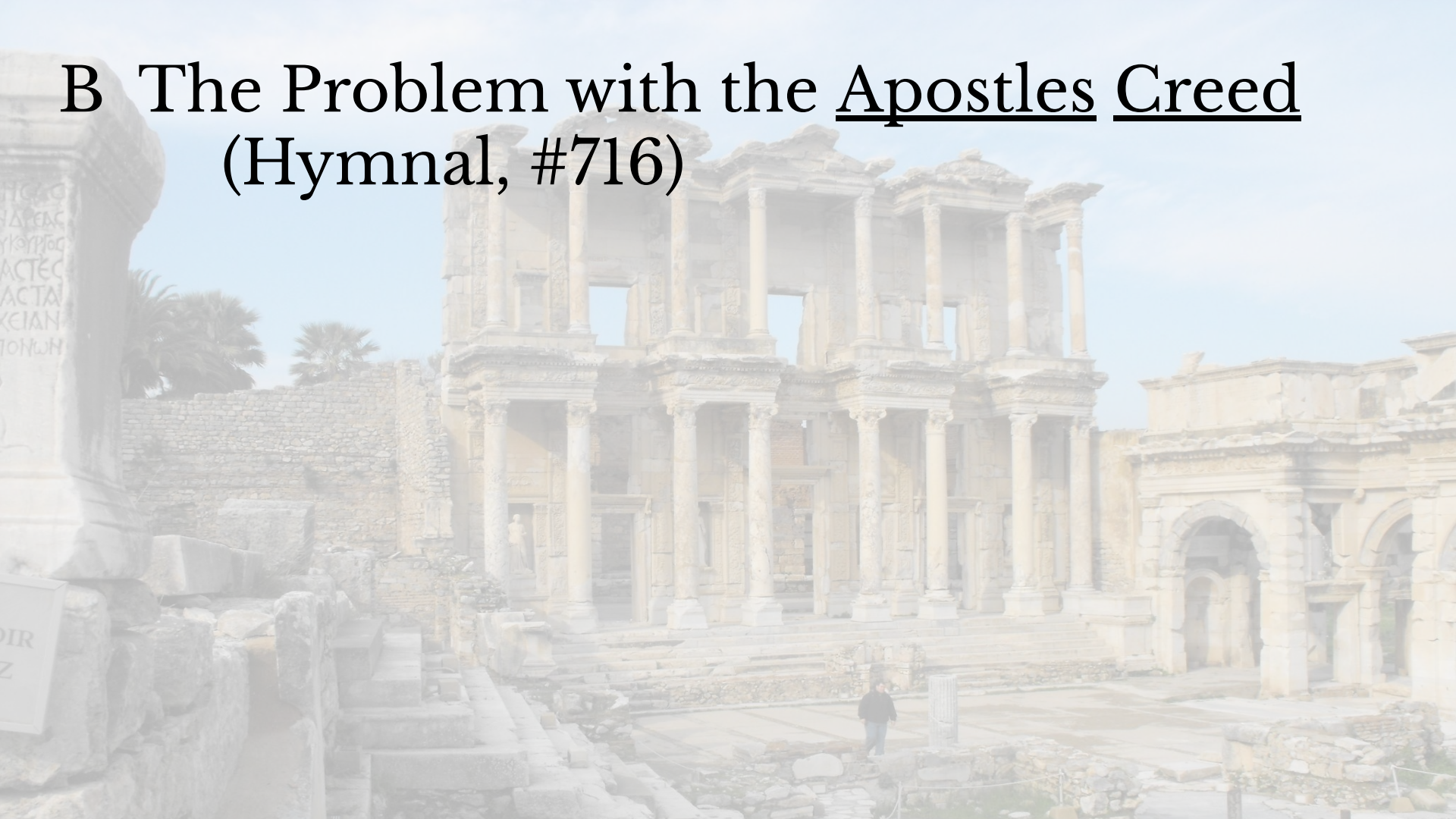
- **Today, You Shall be with me in Paradise** (Lk. 23:42-43)
- The World Changed (Luke 23:44-45)
- The Veil was Torn (Luke 23:45)
- **Into Your Hands** (Luke 23:46)
- **It is Finished** (John 19:30)

Q: What makes Christ a victorious general?

A: The Cross, not going to Hades.

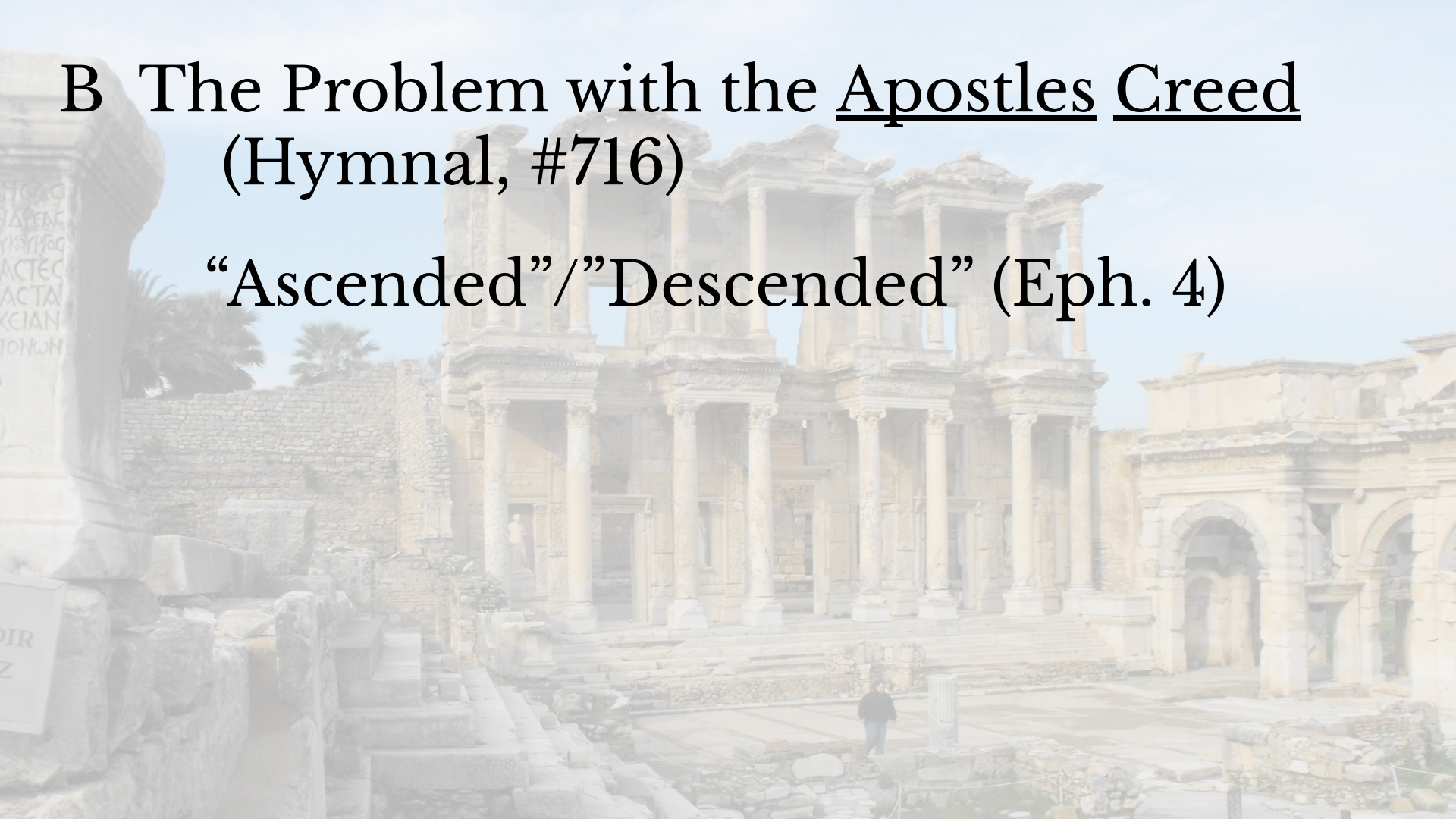


B The Problem with the Apostles Creed (Hymnal, #716)



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“Ascended”/“Descended” (Eph. 4)



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KJV - “descended into the lower parts of the earth”

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ESV - “descended into the lower regions, the earth”

NIV - “descended into the lower, earthly regions”

NLT - “descended to our lowly world”

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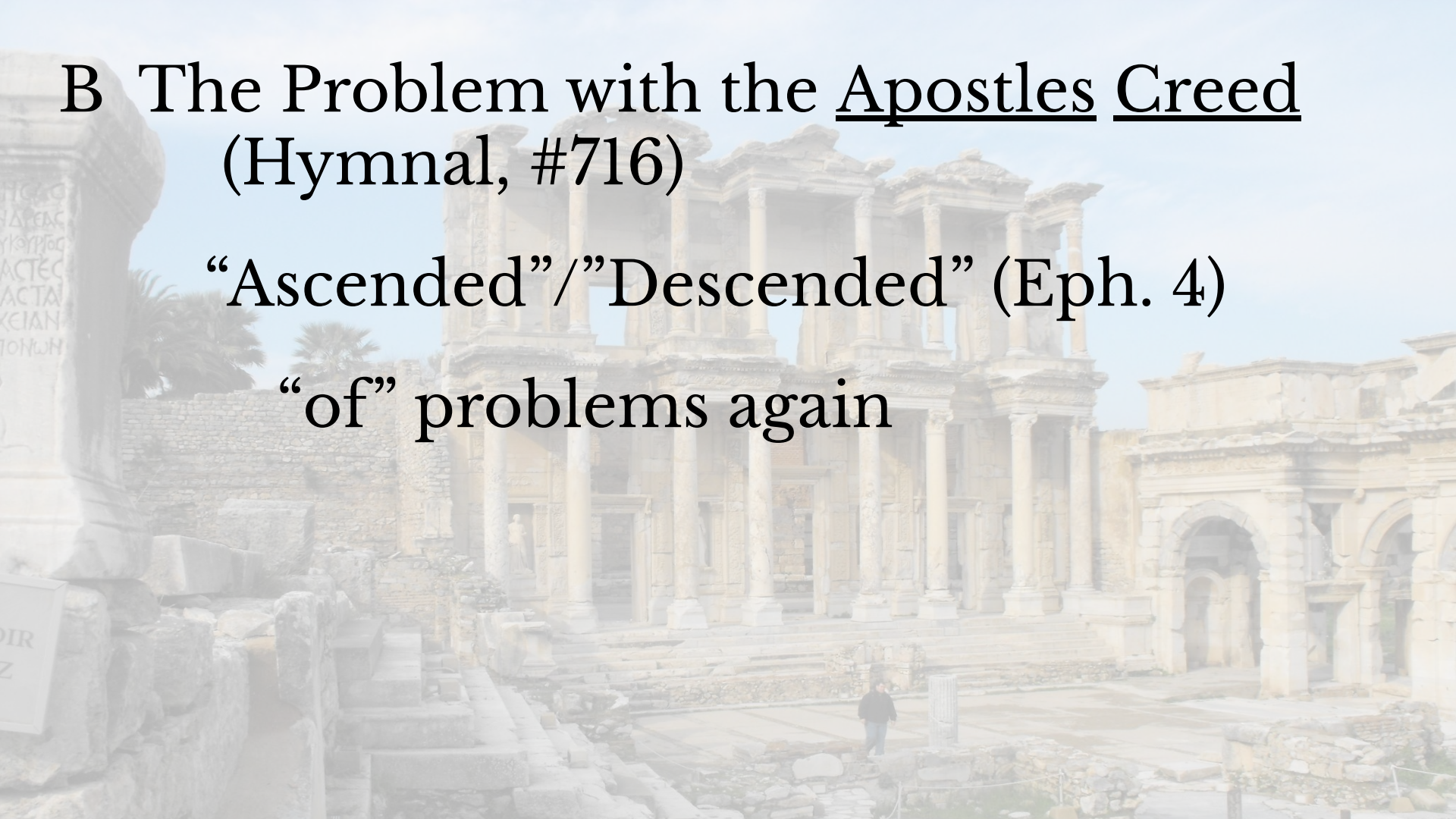
NLT - “descended to our lowly world”

NET - “descended to the lower regions, namely, the earth”

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“Ascended”/“Descended” (Eph. 4)

“of” problems again

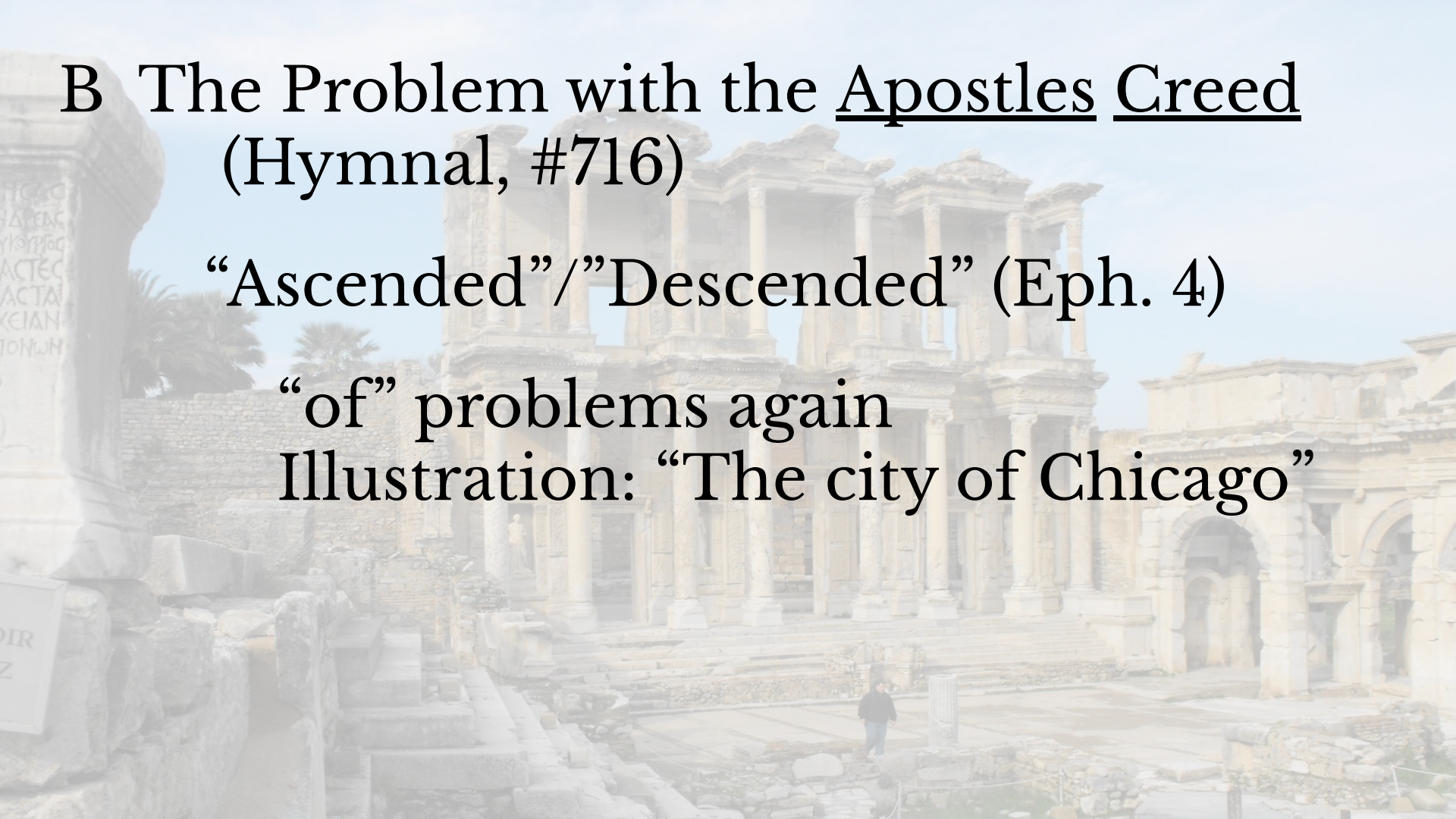


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Illustration: “The city of Chicago”



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Illustration: “The city of Chicago”

“the city”

[not a country, not rural, not small village]

“the city *that is* Chicago”

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Example: Colossians 1:18



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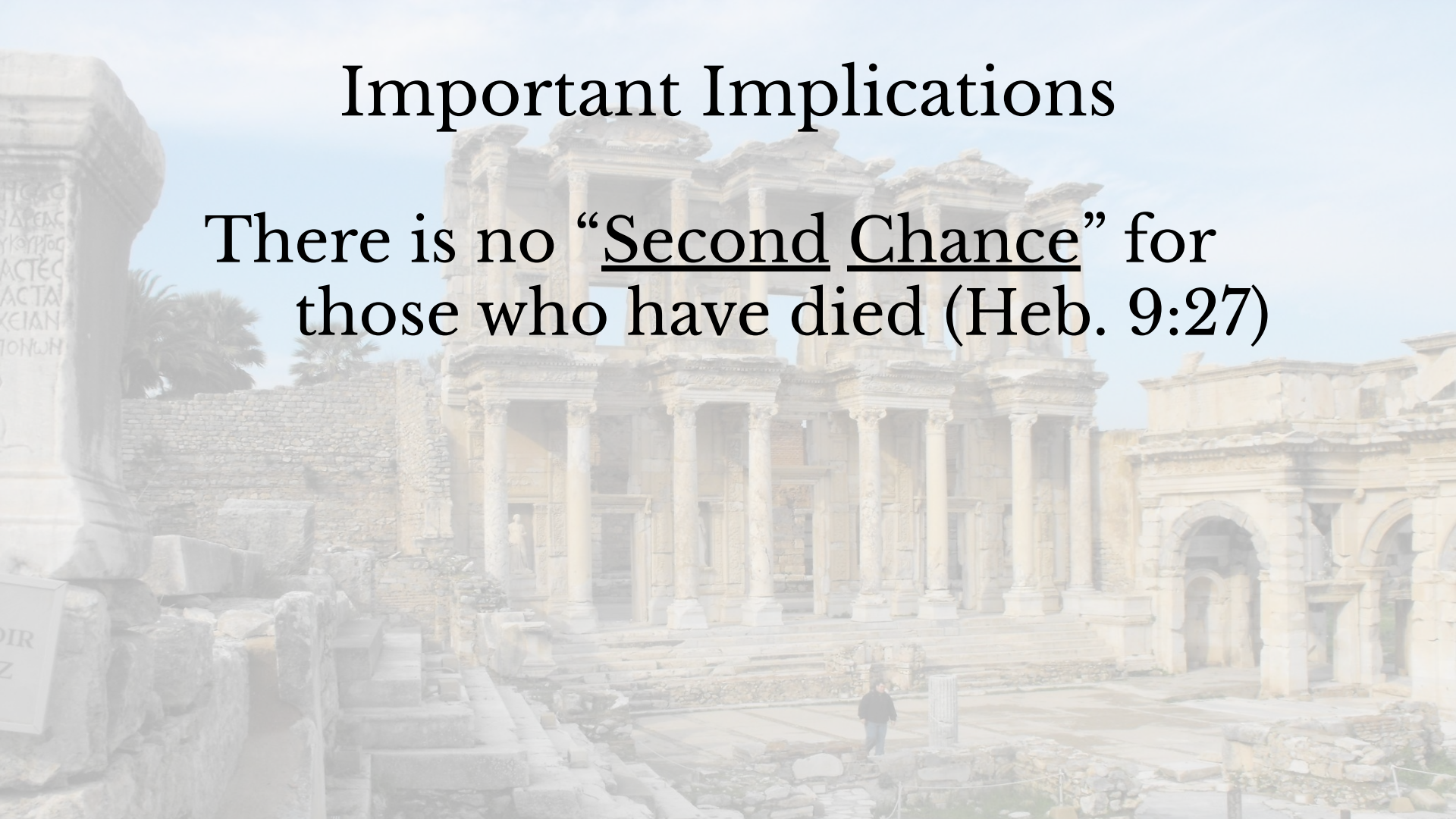
NET - “descended to the lower regions, namely, the earth”

Important Implications

Jesus didn't have to “barter” with Satan,
or battle to get his “keys”,
or “harrow” Hell,
or go there to deliver the OT saints.

Important Implications

There is no “Second Chance” for
those who have died (Heb. 9:27)



An Important Implication

There is no “Second Chance” for those who have died (Heb. 9:27)

Q: What about 1 Peter 3:18-20?

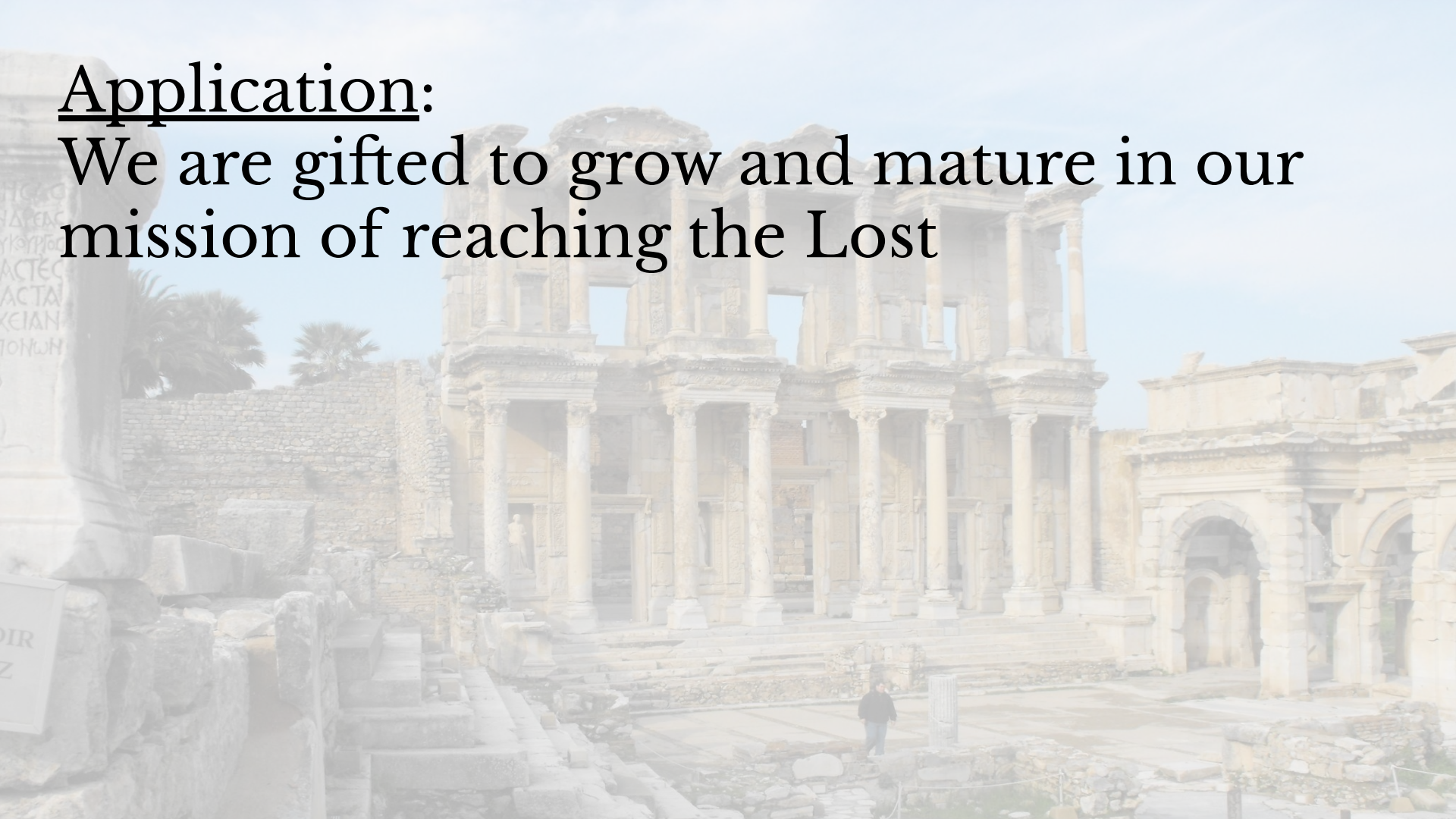
A: 1 Peter 3:13-17

Application:



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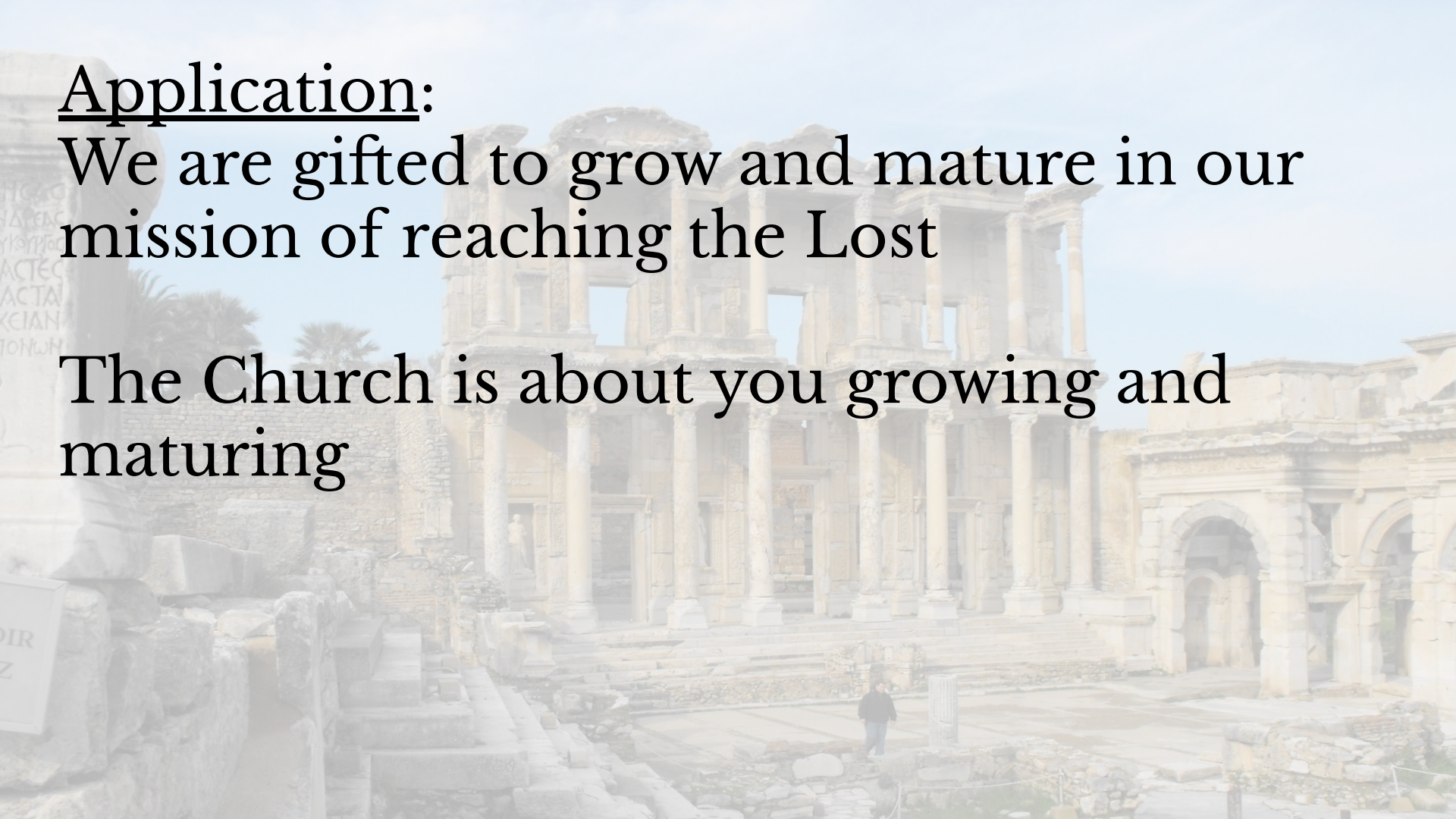
We are gifted to grow and mature in our mission of reaching the Lost



Application:

We are gifted to grow and mature in our mission of reaching the Lost

The Church is about you growing and maturing



The background of the slide is a faded, high-angle photograph of ancient ruins, likely the Temple of Apollo in Side, Turkey. The image shows a large, multi-story structure with numerous columns and arches, some of which are still standing while others are in ruins. The sky is a pale blue. The text is overlaid on this image.

Application:

We are gifted to grow and mature in our mission of reaching the Lost

The Church is about you growing and maturing

The Church is for your strength and support

YOU must carry out the responsibility of
your gifting in reaching the Lost





YOU must carry out the responsibility of
your gifting in reaching the Lost

Ephesians 4:10

“That He might fill
all things in every way.”