



Make Yourself at HOME

Melinda Priest



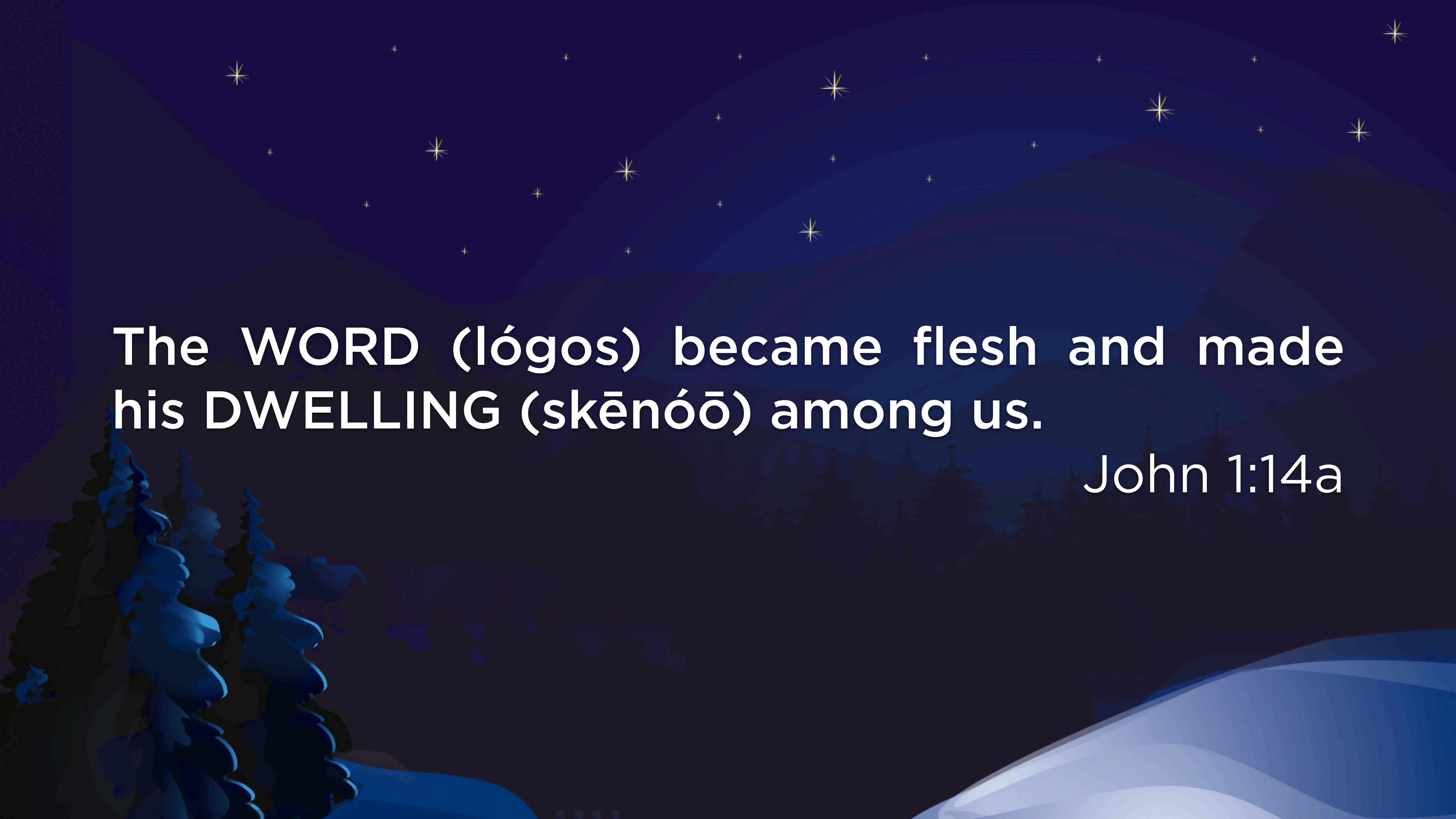
Make Yourself at HOME

Melinda Priest



The background is a stylized night landscape. It features dark blue, layered mountains in the distance. In the foreground, there are dark evergreen trees on the left and a lighter blue, wavy shape on the bottom right. The sky is a deep blue with several bright, multi-pointed stars and smaller white crosses representing distant stars. The text "John 1:1-14" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

John 1:1-14



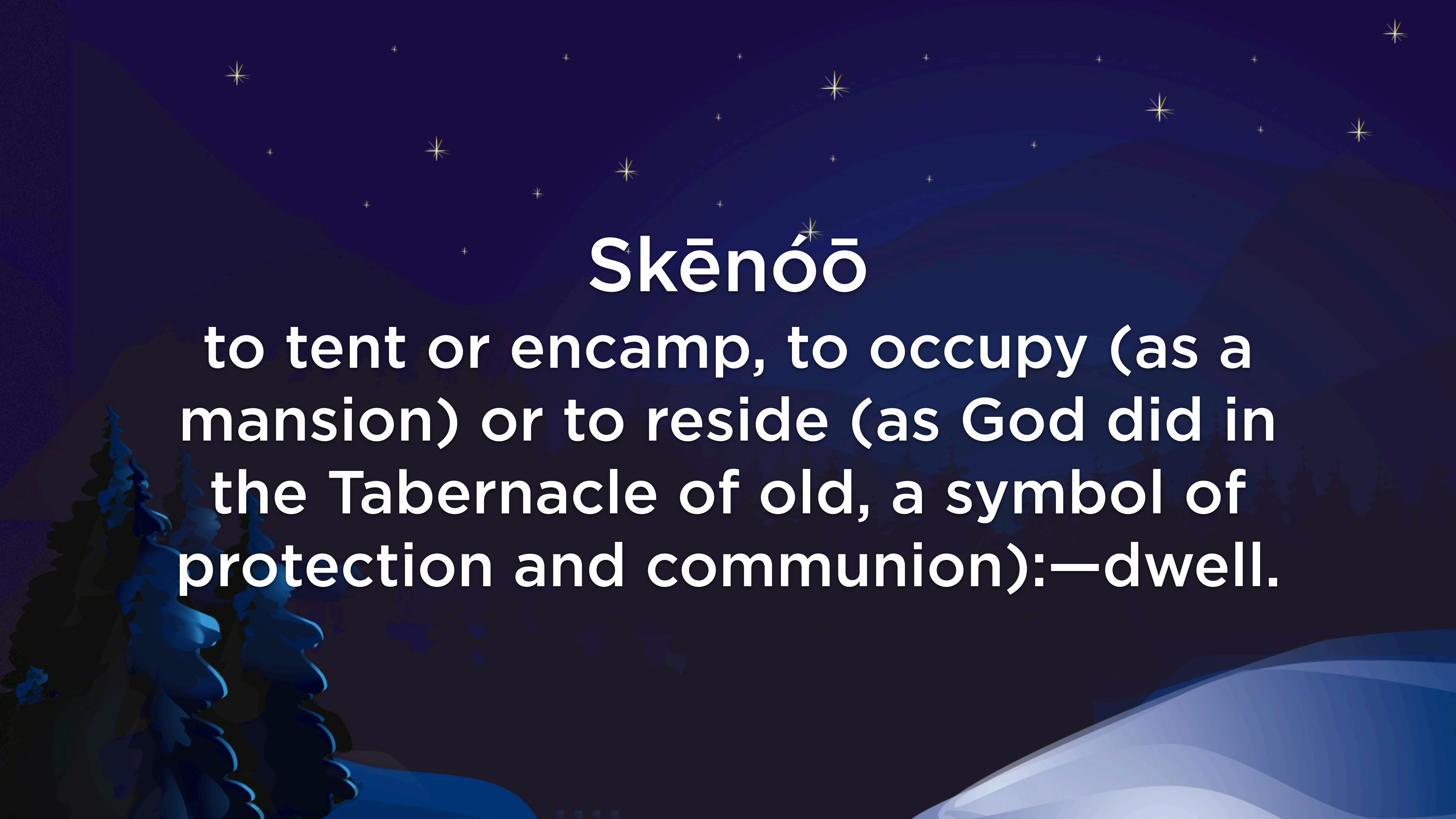
The WORD (lógos) became flesh and made
his DWELLING (skēnóō) among us.

John 1:14a



Lógos

a word, being the expression of
a thought; a saying.



Skēnóō

to tent or encamp, to occupy (as a mansion) or to reside (as God did in the Tabernacle of old, a symbol of protection and communion):—dwell.

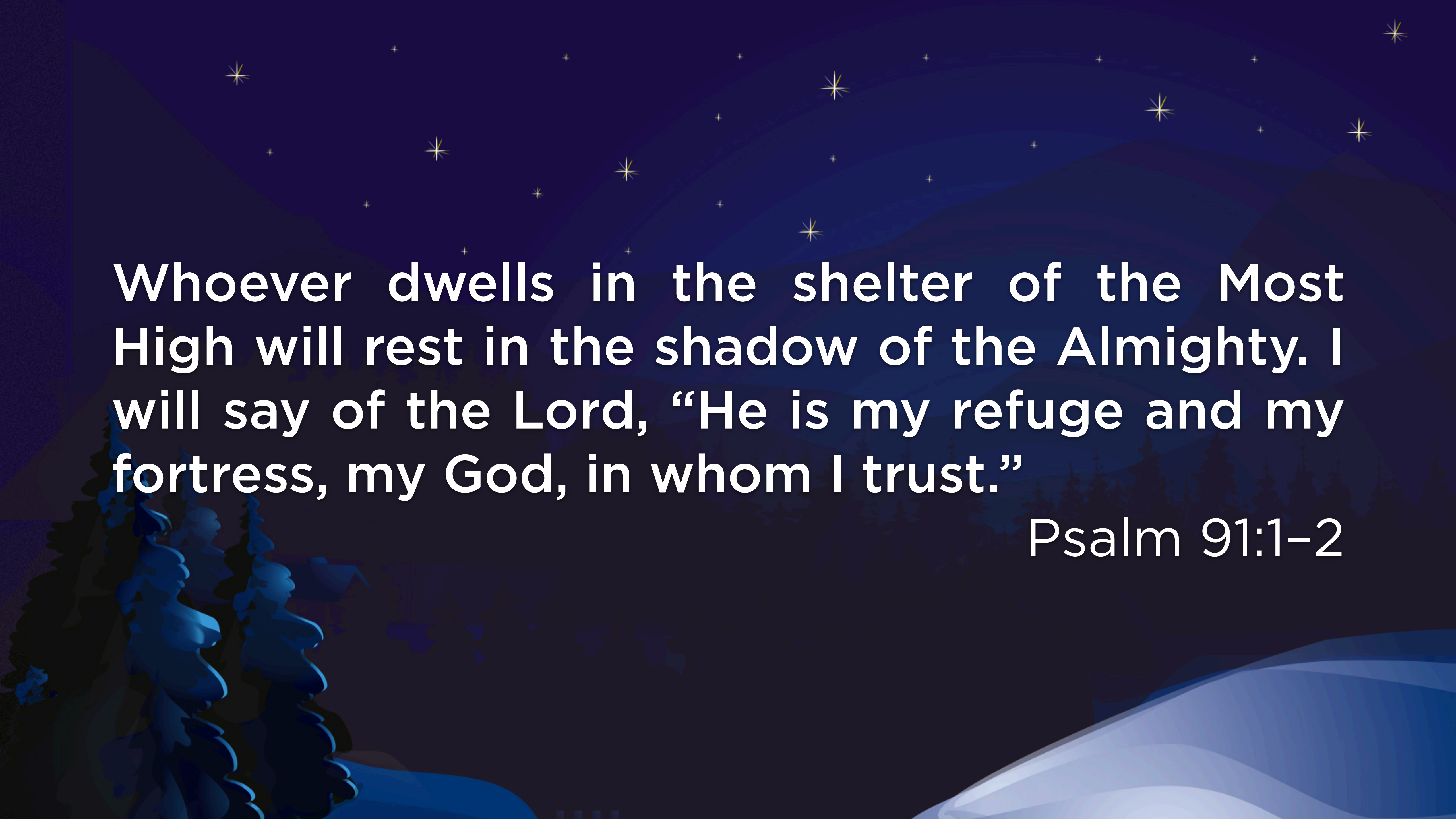


The Word became flesh and blood, and
moved into the neighborhood.

John 1:14a (MSG)







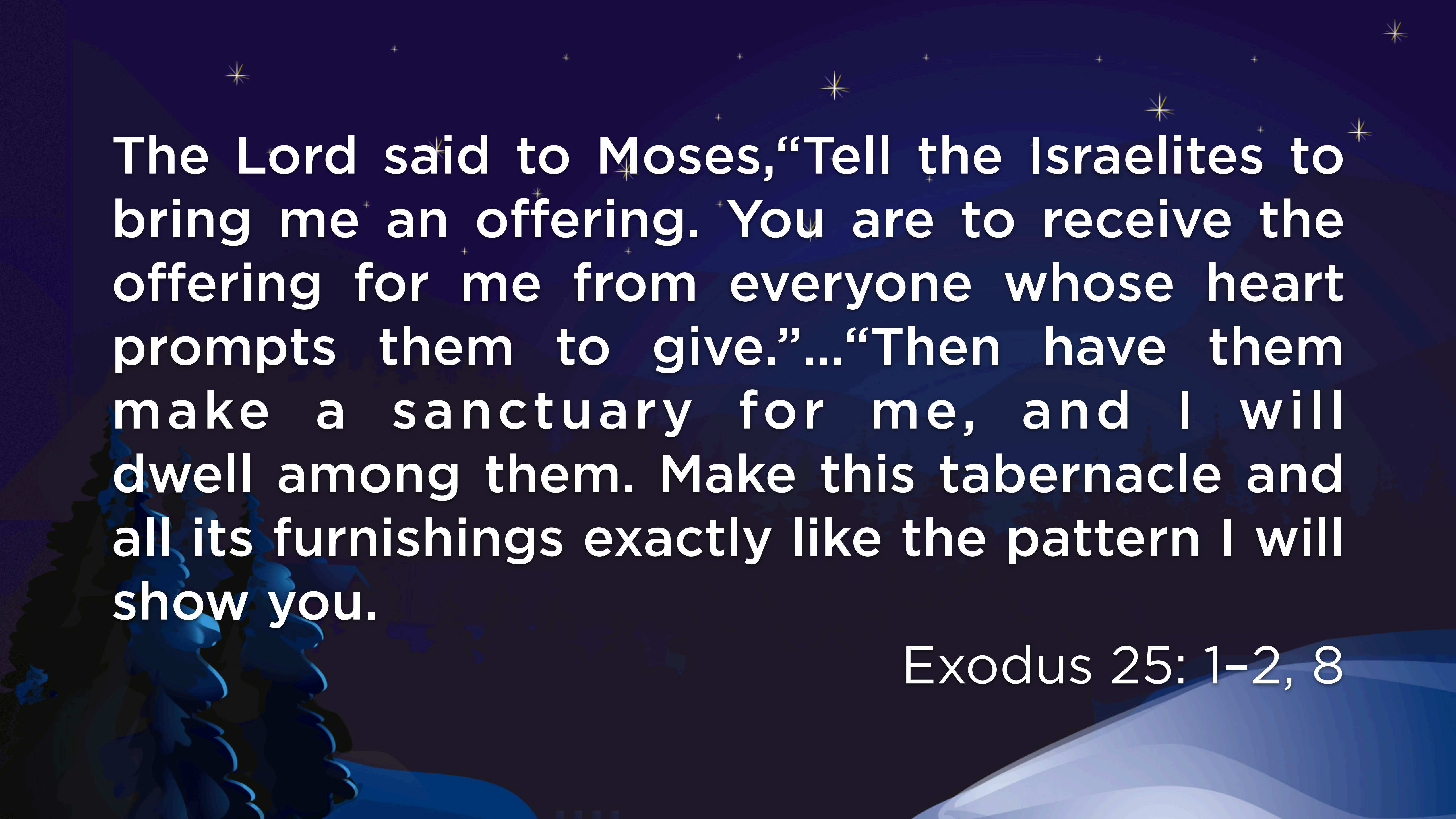
Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High will rest in the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the Lord, “He is my refuge and my fortress, my God, in whom I trust.”

Psalms 91:1–2



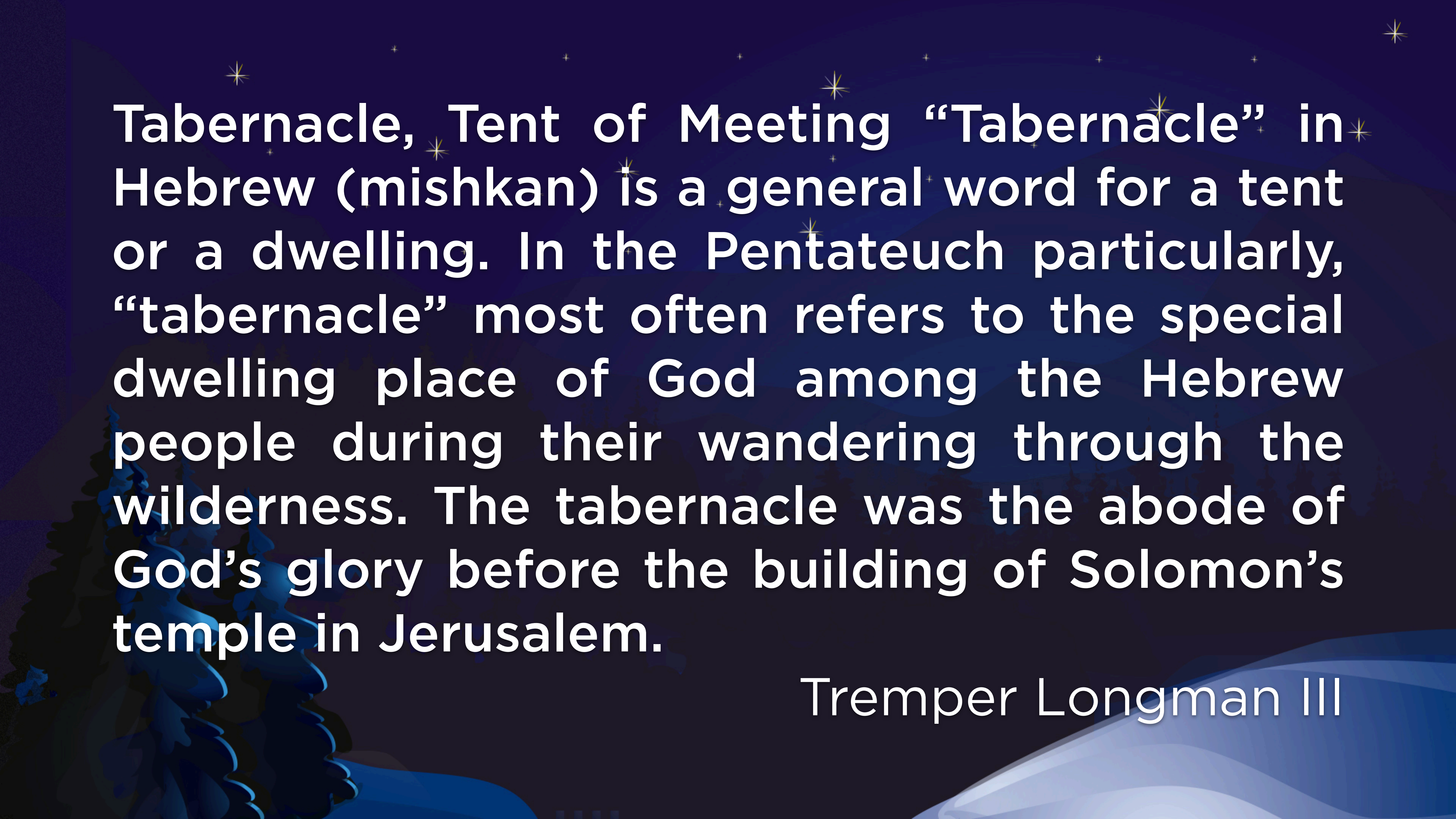
If you are searching for HOME this morning Christ invites you to....make yourself at home in Him.





The Lord said to Moses, “Tell the Israelites to bring me an offering. You are to receive the offering for me from everyone whose heart prompts them to give.”...“Then have them make a sanctuary for me, and I will dwell among them. Make this tabernacle and all its furnishings exactly like the pattern I will show you.

Exodus 25: 1–2, 8

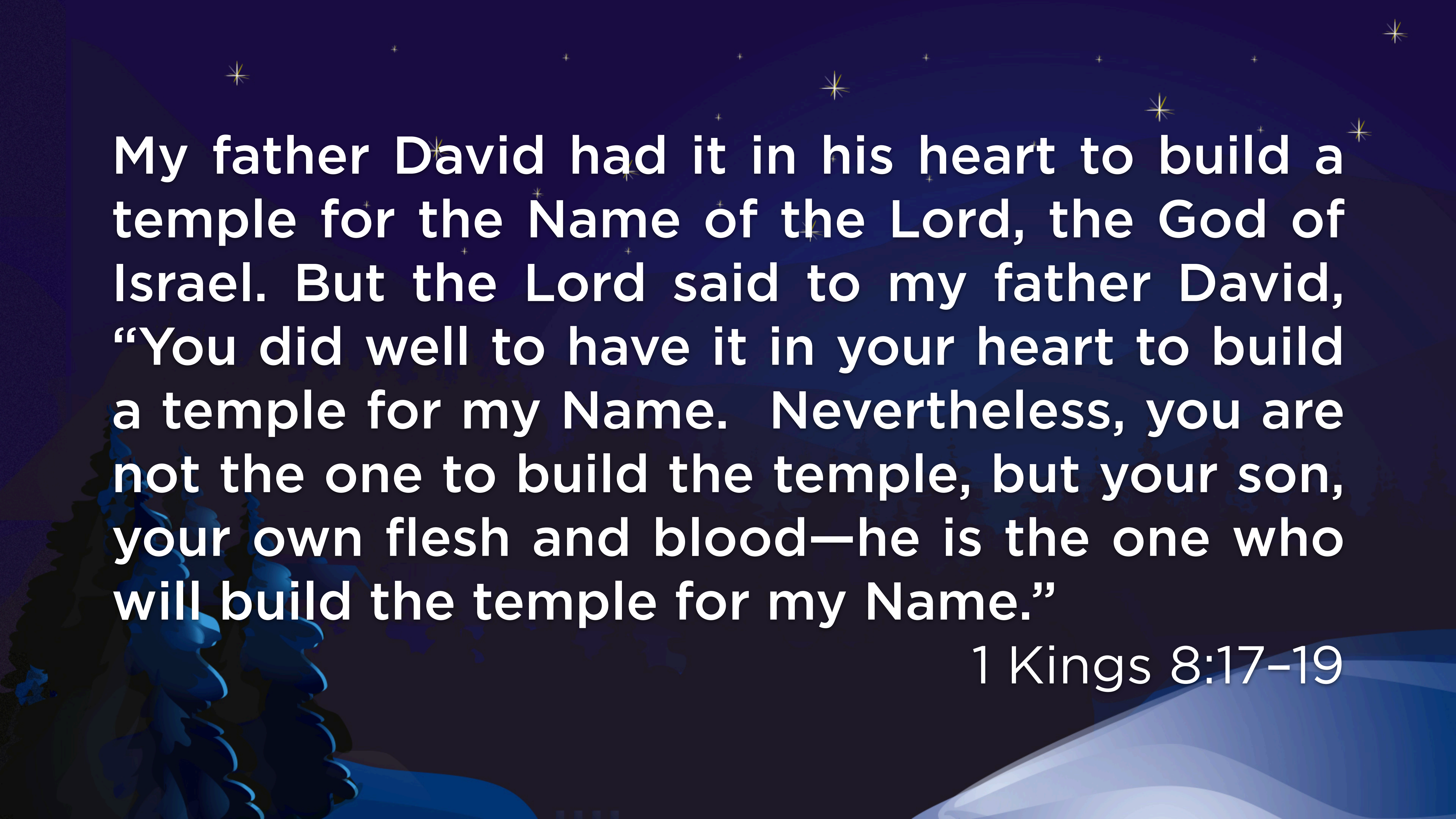


Tabernacle, Tent of Meeting “Tabernacle” in Hebrew (mishkan) is a general word for a tent or a dwelling. In the Pentateuch particularly, “tabernacle” most often refers to the special dwelling place of God among the Hebrew people during their wandering through the wilderness. The tabernacle was the abode of God’s glory before the building of Solomon’s temple in Jerusalem.

Tremper Longman III

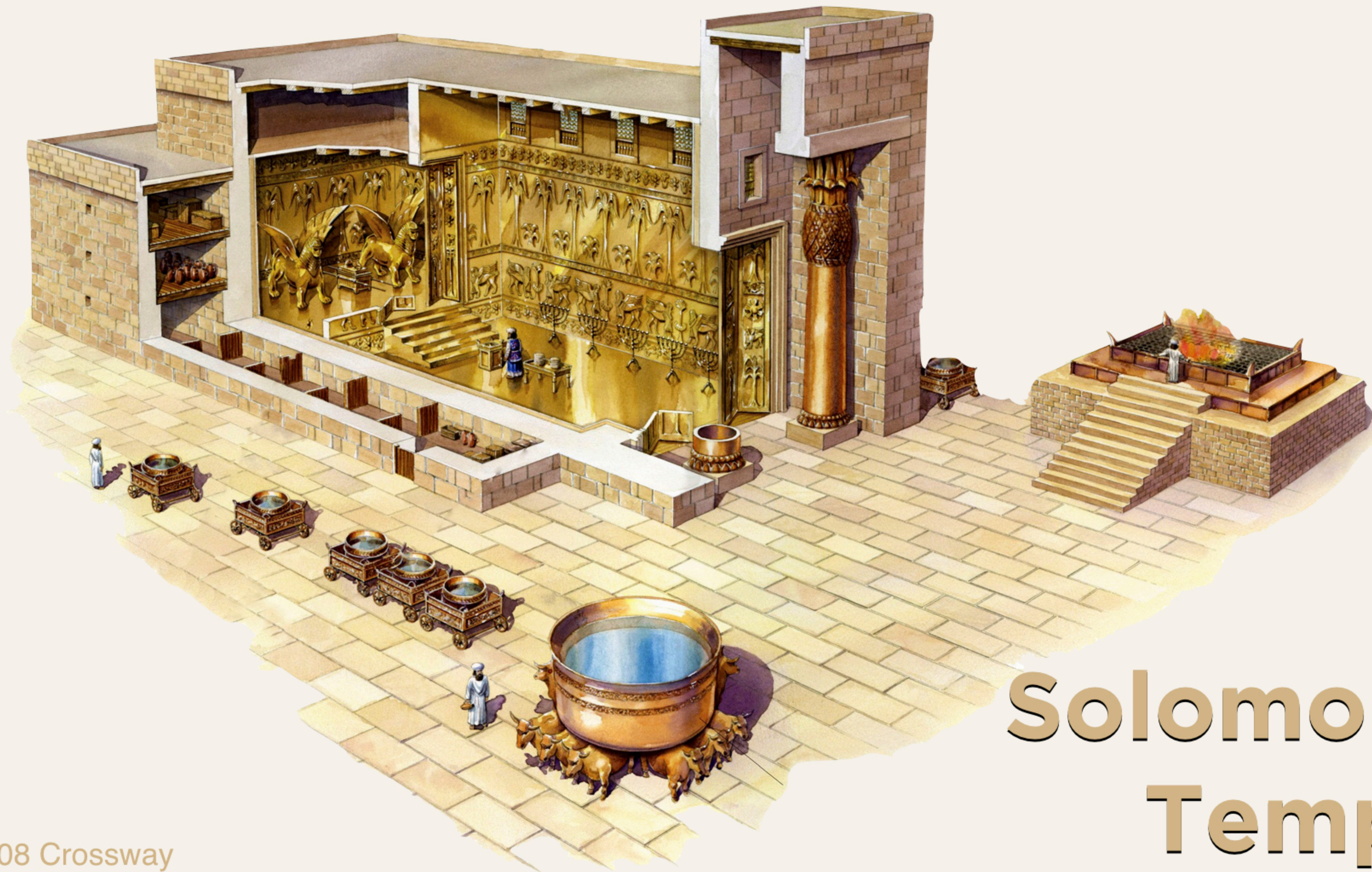


Tabernacle



My father David had it in his heart to build a temple for the Name of the Lord, the God of Israel. But the Lord said to my father David, “You did well to have it in your heart to build a temple for my Name. Nevertheless, you are not the one to build the temple, but your son, your own flesh and blood—he is the one who will build the temple for my Name.”

1 Kings 8:17–19

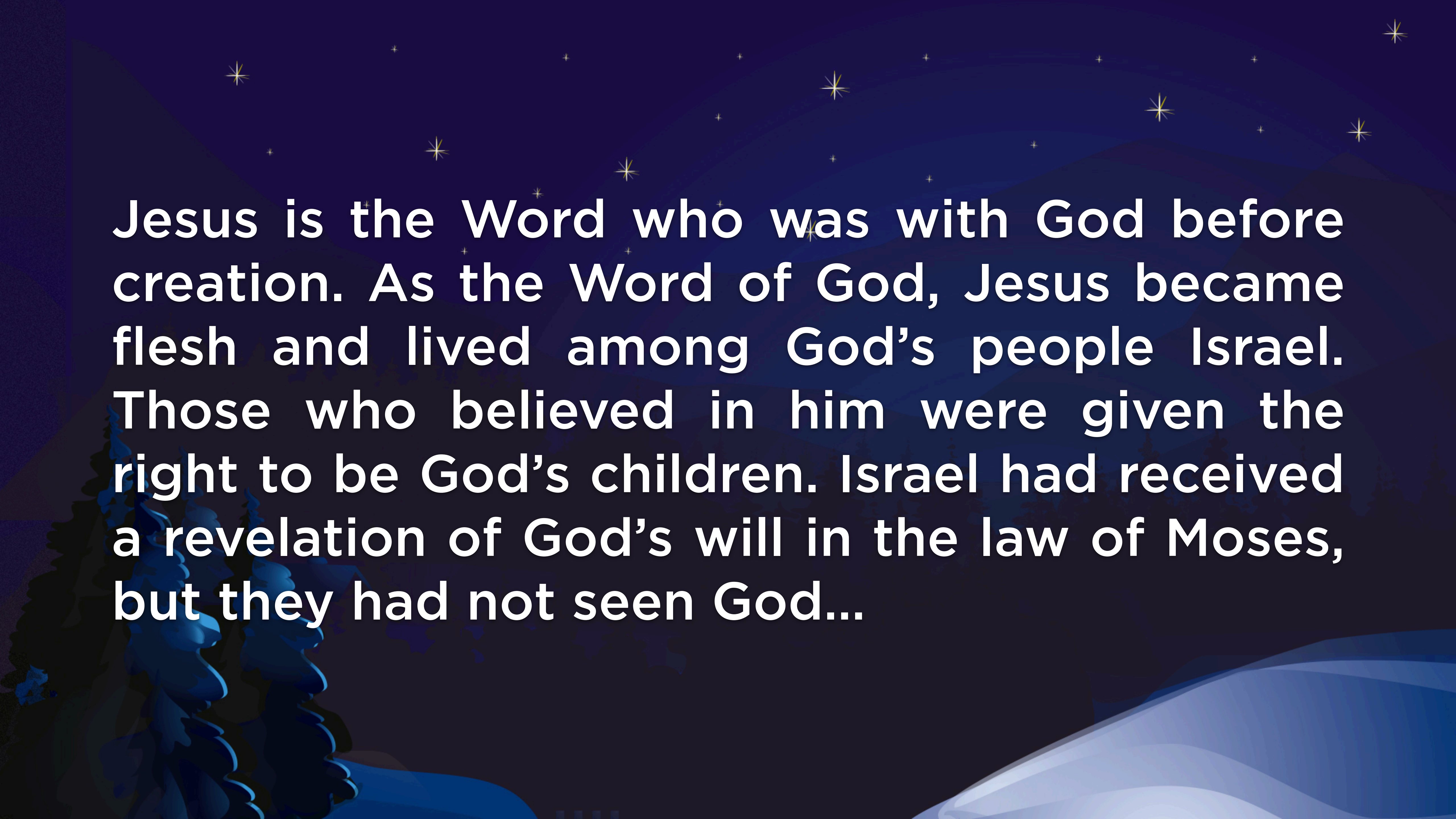


Solomon's Temple

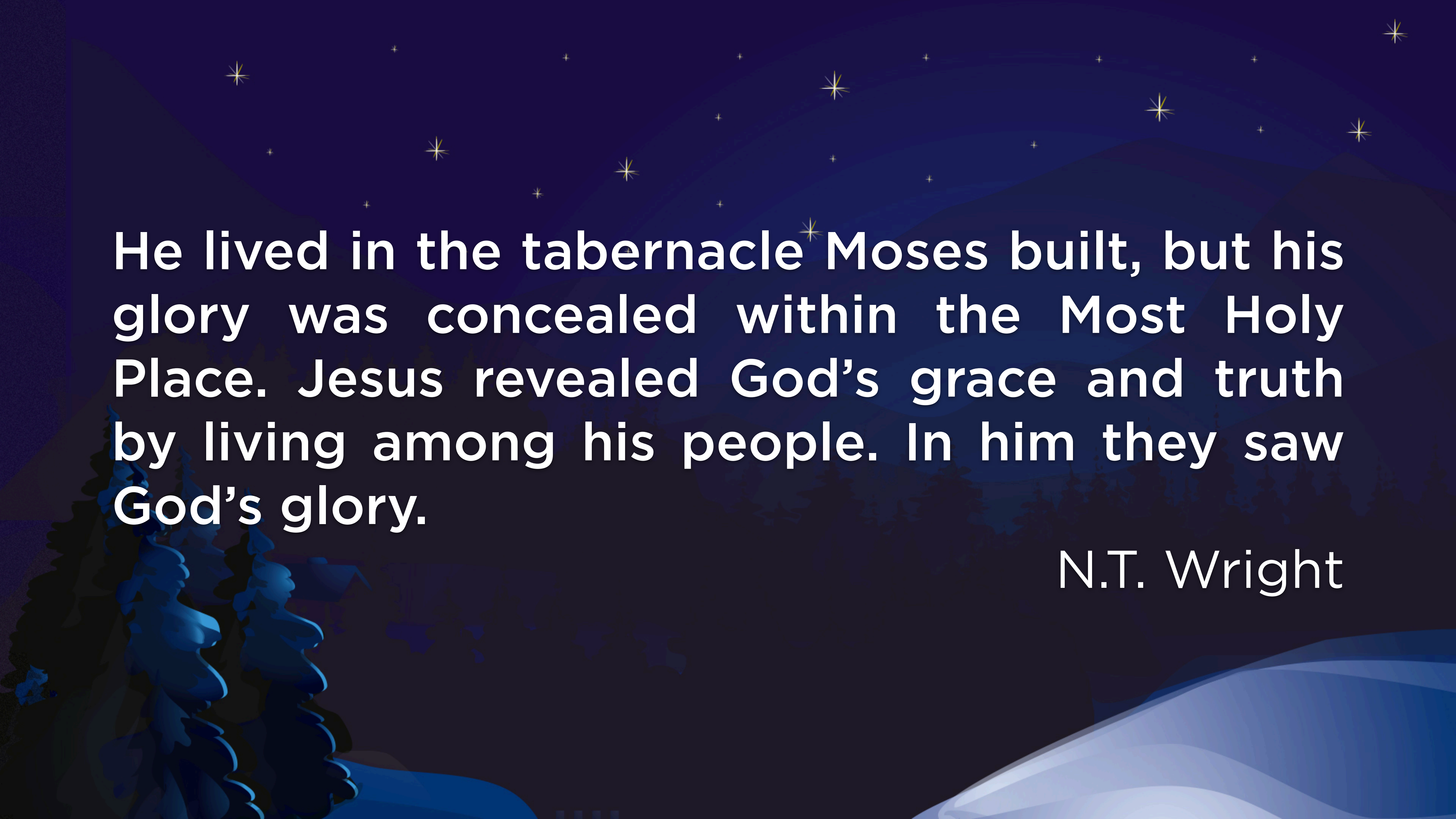


Herod's Temple

אין ארץ ישראל
Please do not climb



Jesus is the Word who was with God before creation. As the Word of God, Jesus became flesh and lived among God's people Israel. Those who believed in him were given the right to be God's children. Israel had received a revelation of God's will in the law of Moses, but they had not seen God...

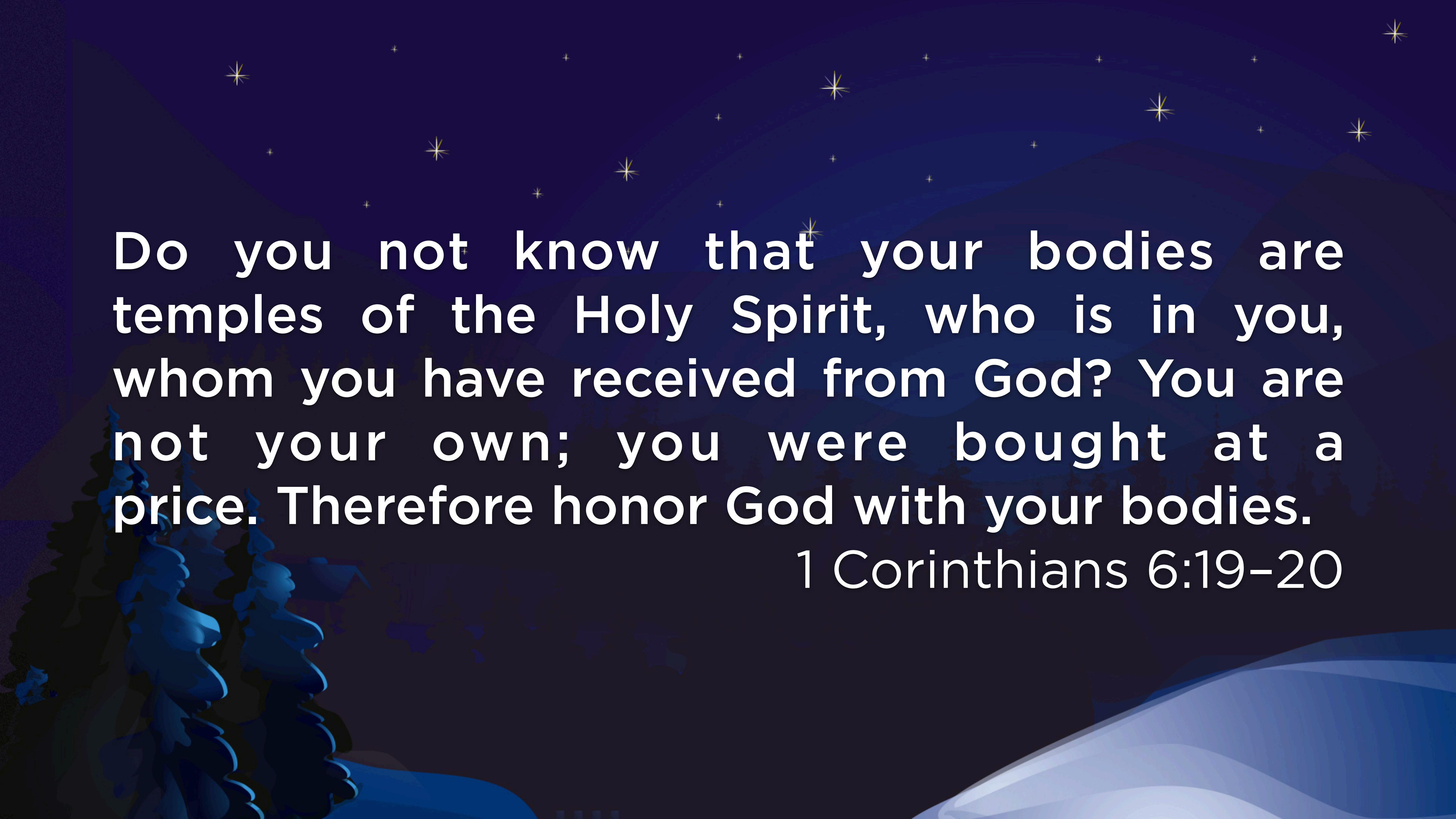


He lived in the tabernacle Moses built, but his glory was concealed within the Most Holy Place. Jesus revealed God's grace and truth by living among his people. In him they saw God's glory.

N.T. Wright

A stylized night landscape illustration. The background features layered, dark blue mountains under a deep blue sky filled with numerous small, bright yellow stars. In the foreground, there are dark blue evergreen trees on the left and a lighter blue, curved shape on the right. The text "You are His temple!" is centered in the middle of the image in a white, sans-serif font.

You are His temple!

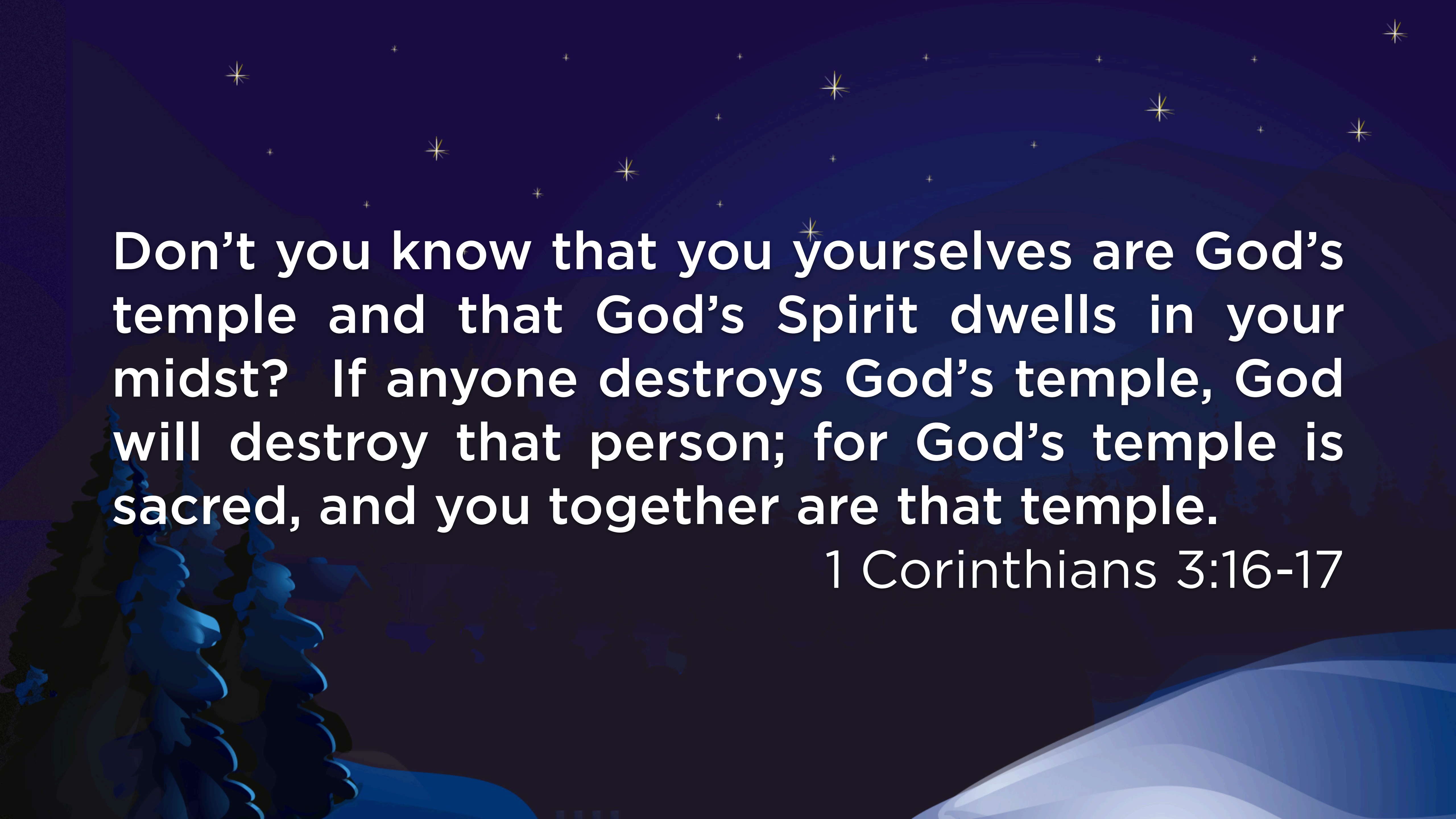


Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your bodies.

1 Corinthians 6:19–20

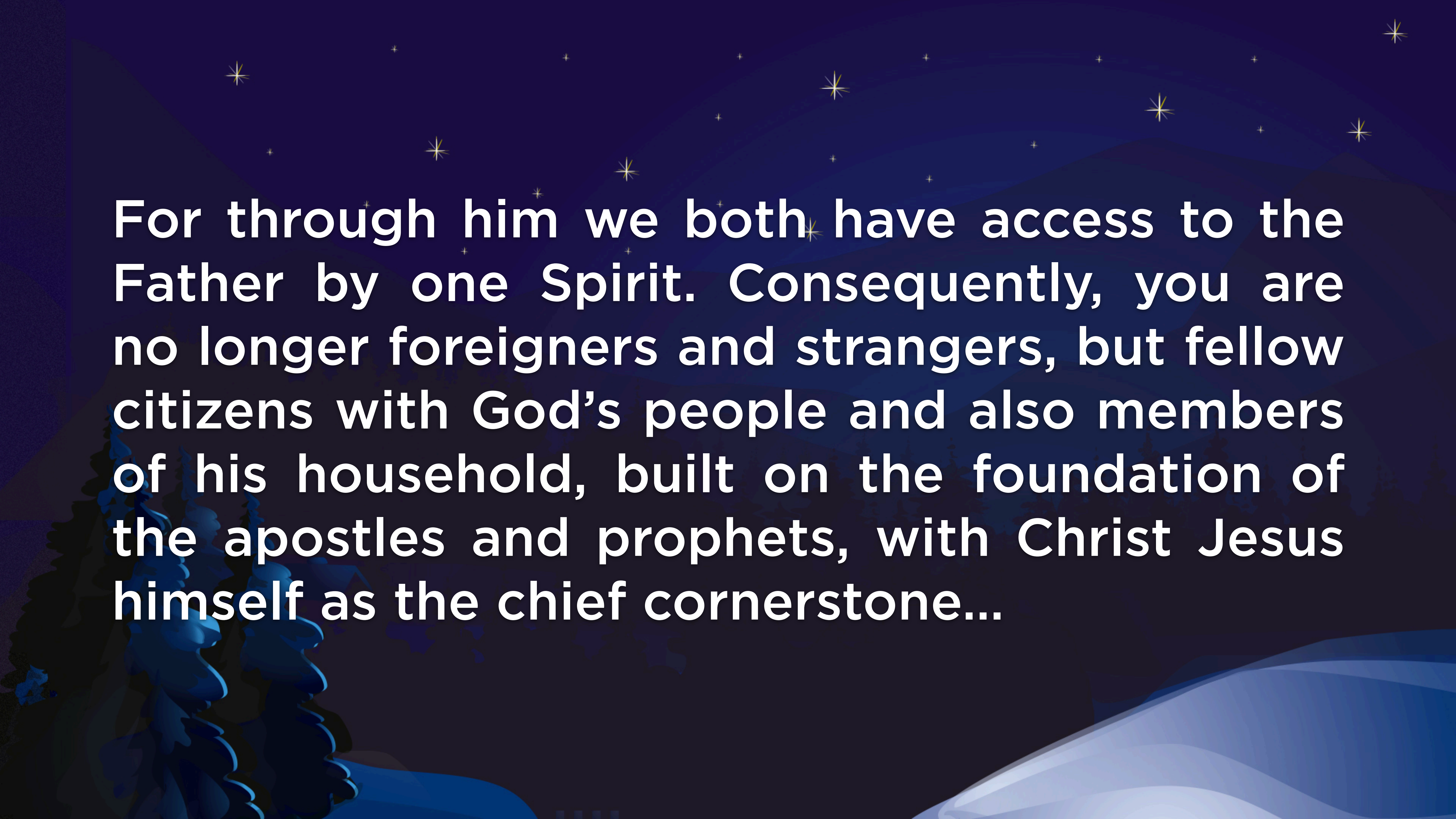
The background is a stylized night landscape. It features dark blue, layered mountain ranges in the distance. In the foreground, there are dark blue evergreen trees on the left and a lighter blue, snow-covered hill on the right. The sky is a deep navy blue, filled with numerous small, white, four-pointed stars of varying sizes. The overall mood is serene and peaceful.

Christ wants to make
His home in us!

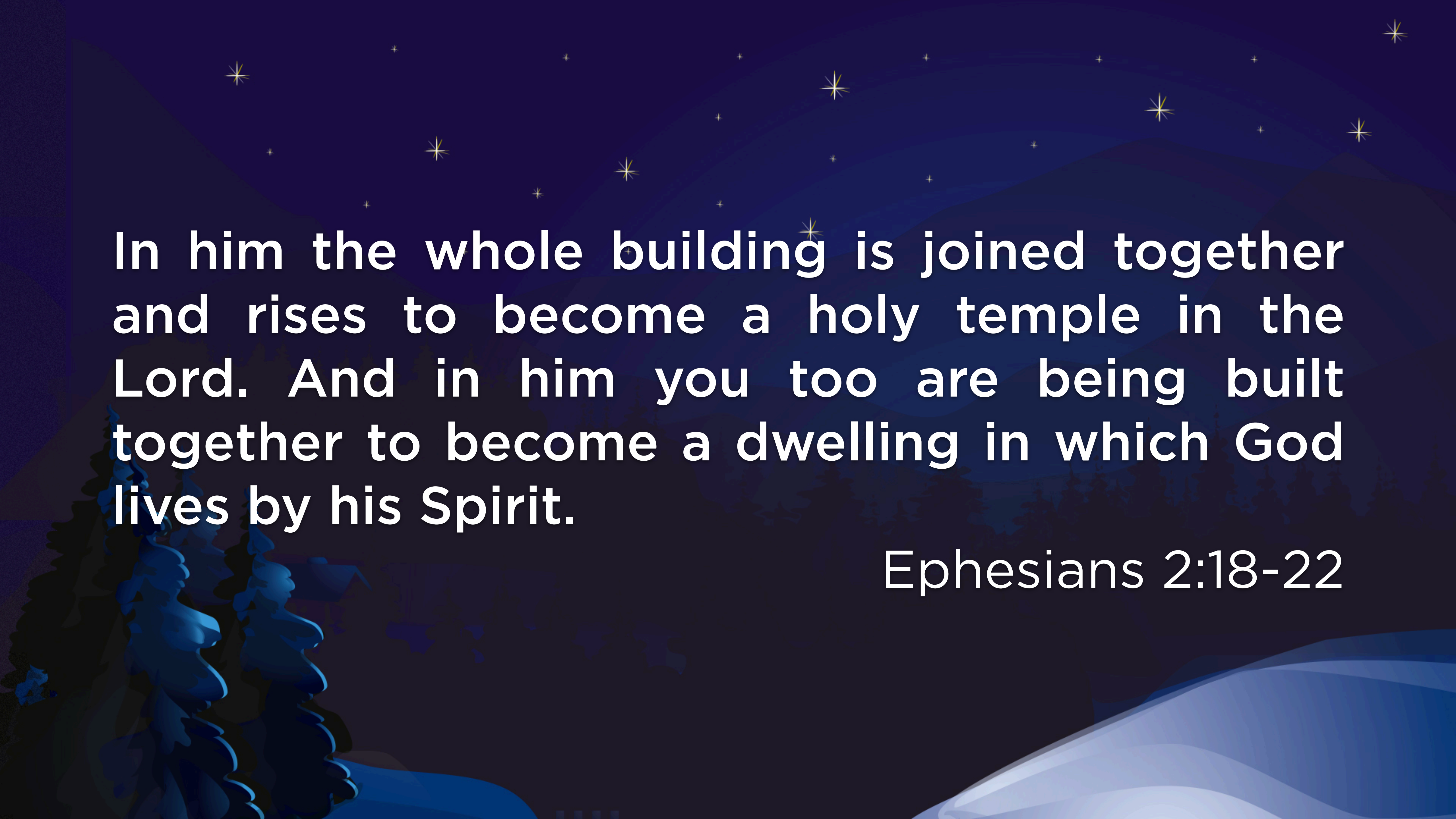


Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in your midst? If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy that person; for God's temple is sacred, and you together are that temple.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

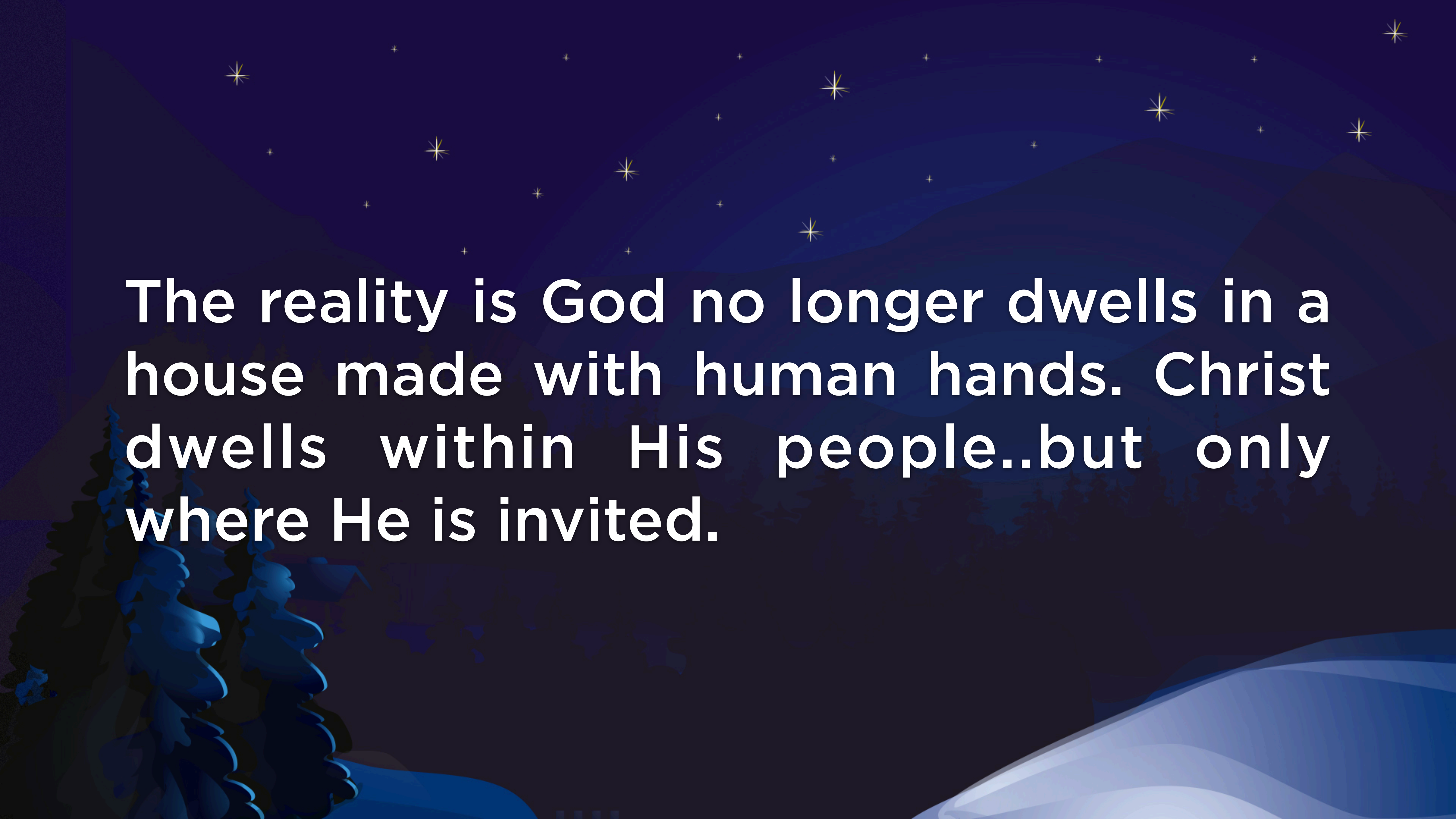
The background of the image features a dark blue night sky filled with numerous small, bright yellow stars. In the lower portion, there is a silhouette of a mountain range in shades of blue. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit. Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone...

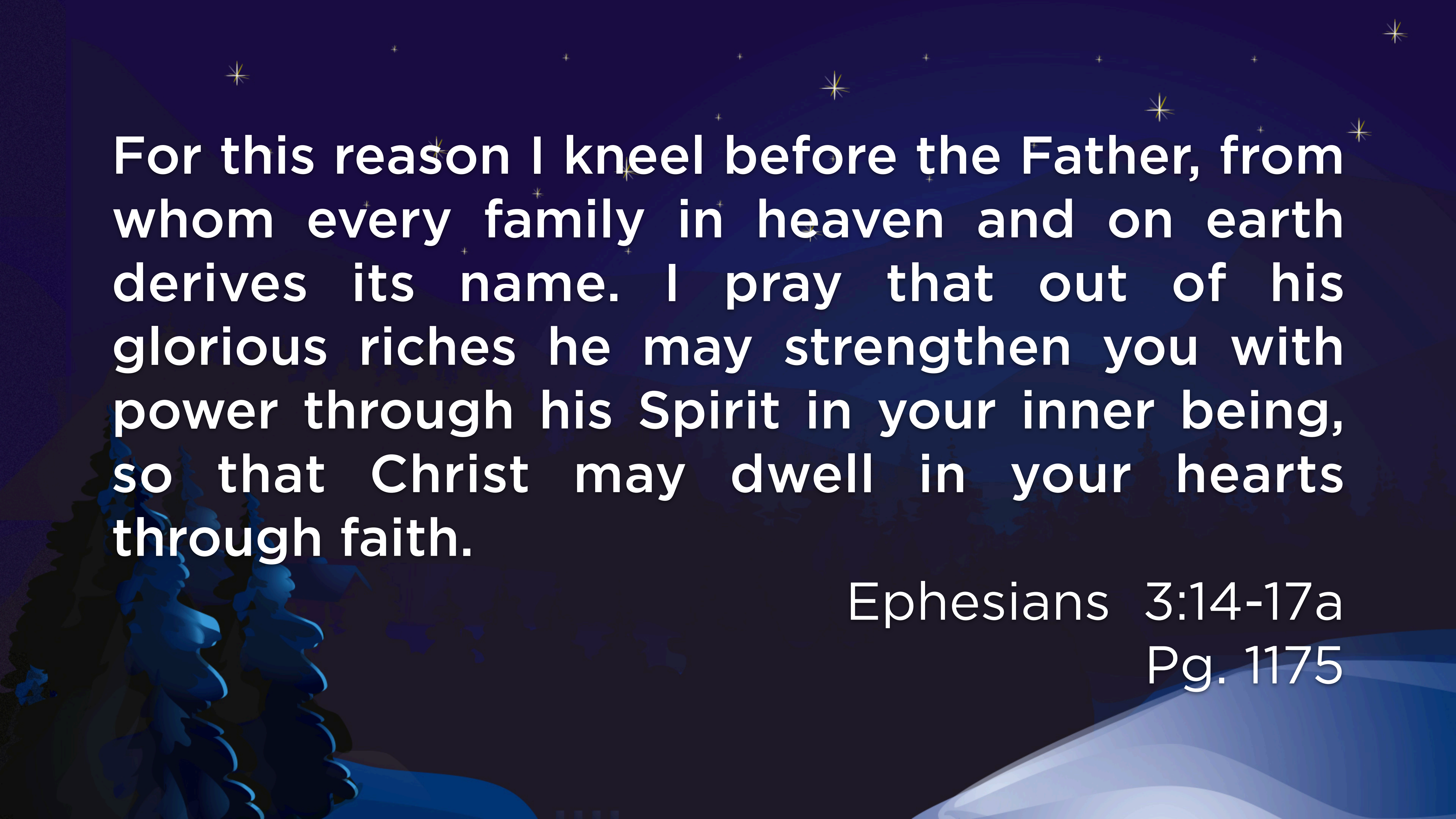


In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesians 2:18-22



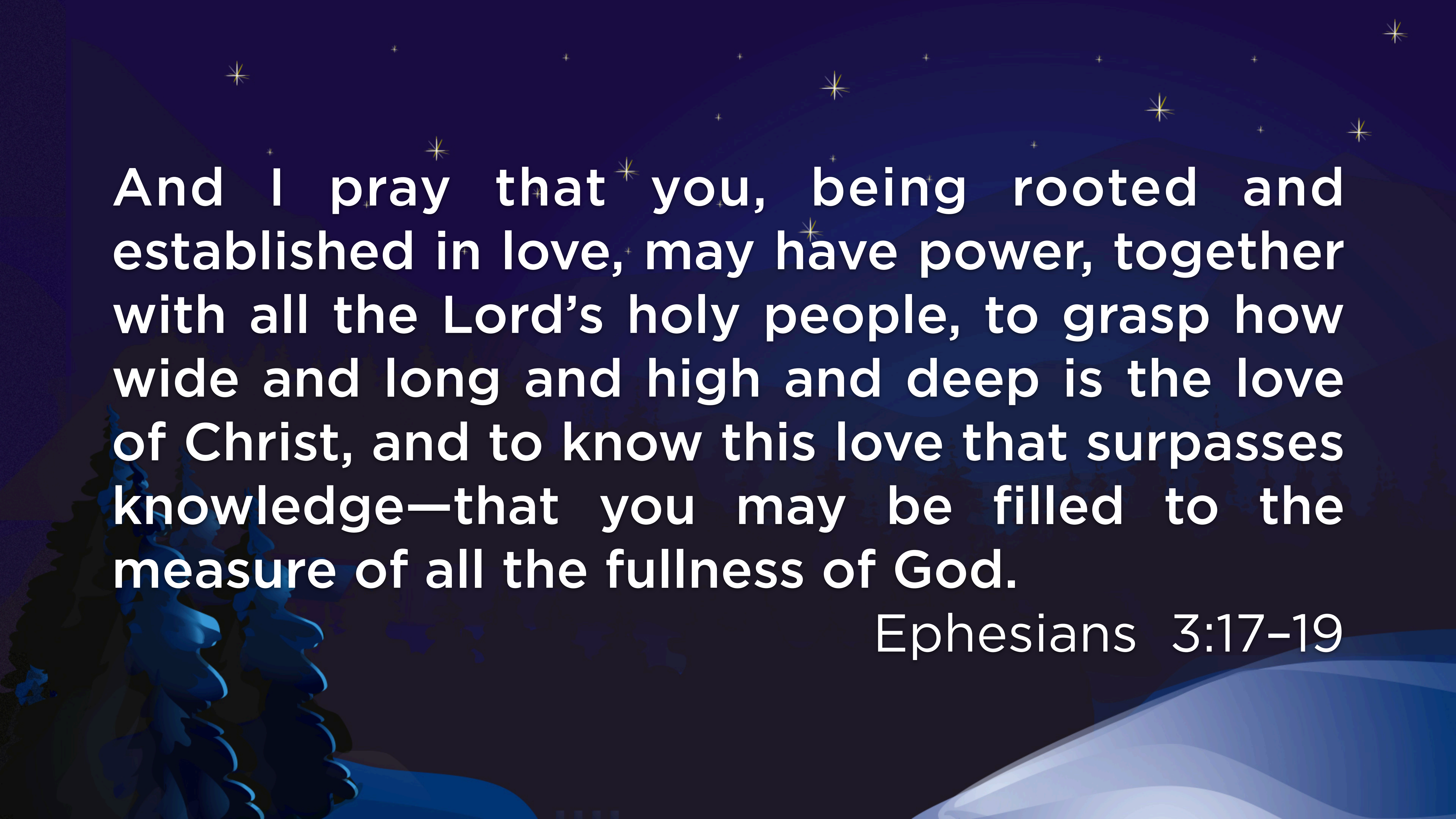
The reality is God no longer dwells in a house made with human hands. Christ dwells within His people..but only where He is invited.



For this reason I kneel before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. I pray that out of his glorious riches he may strengthen you with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

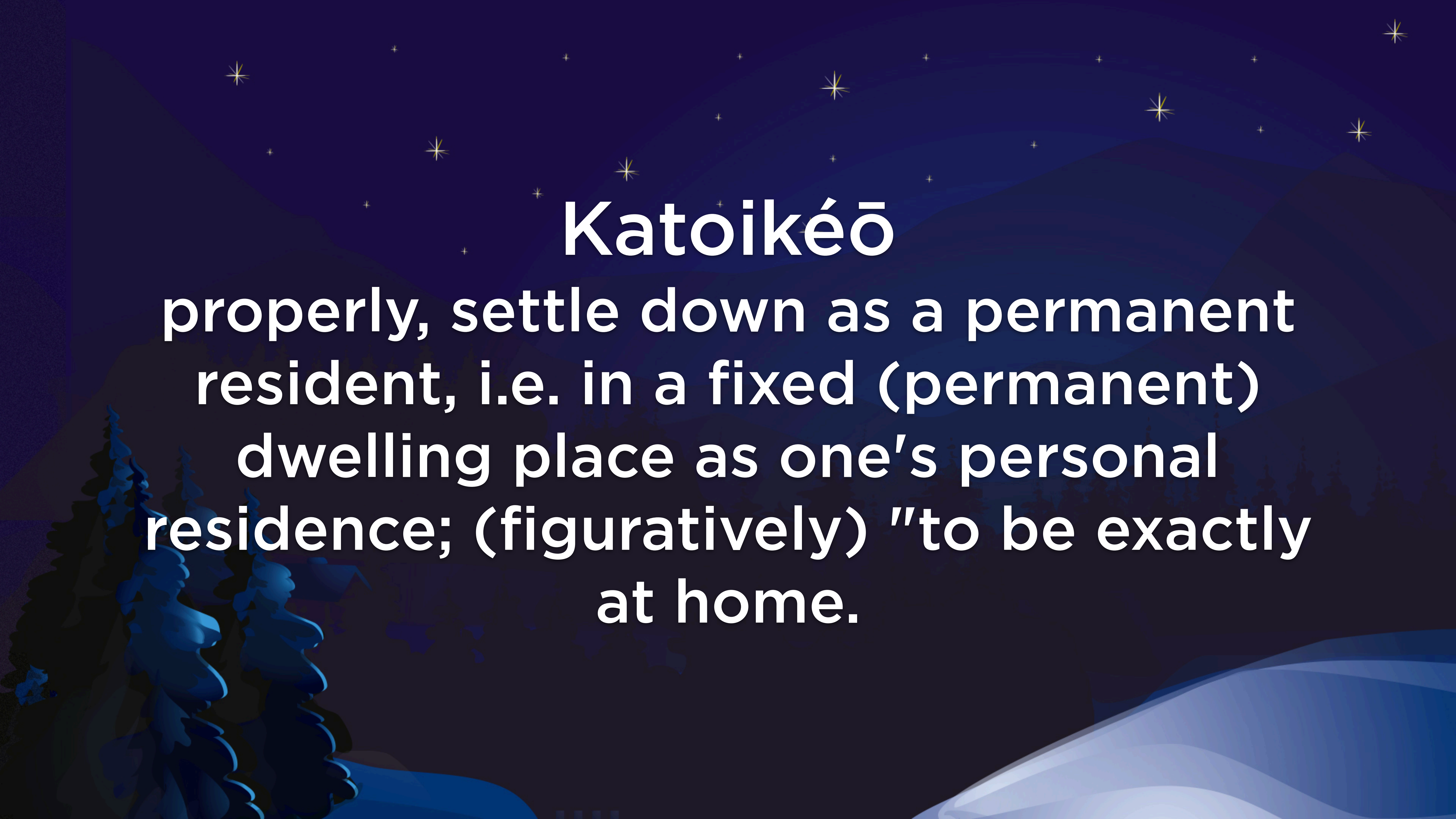
Ephesians 3:14-17a

Pg. 1175



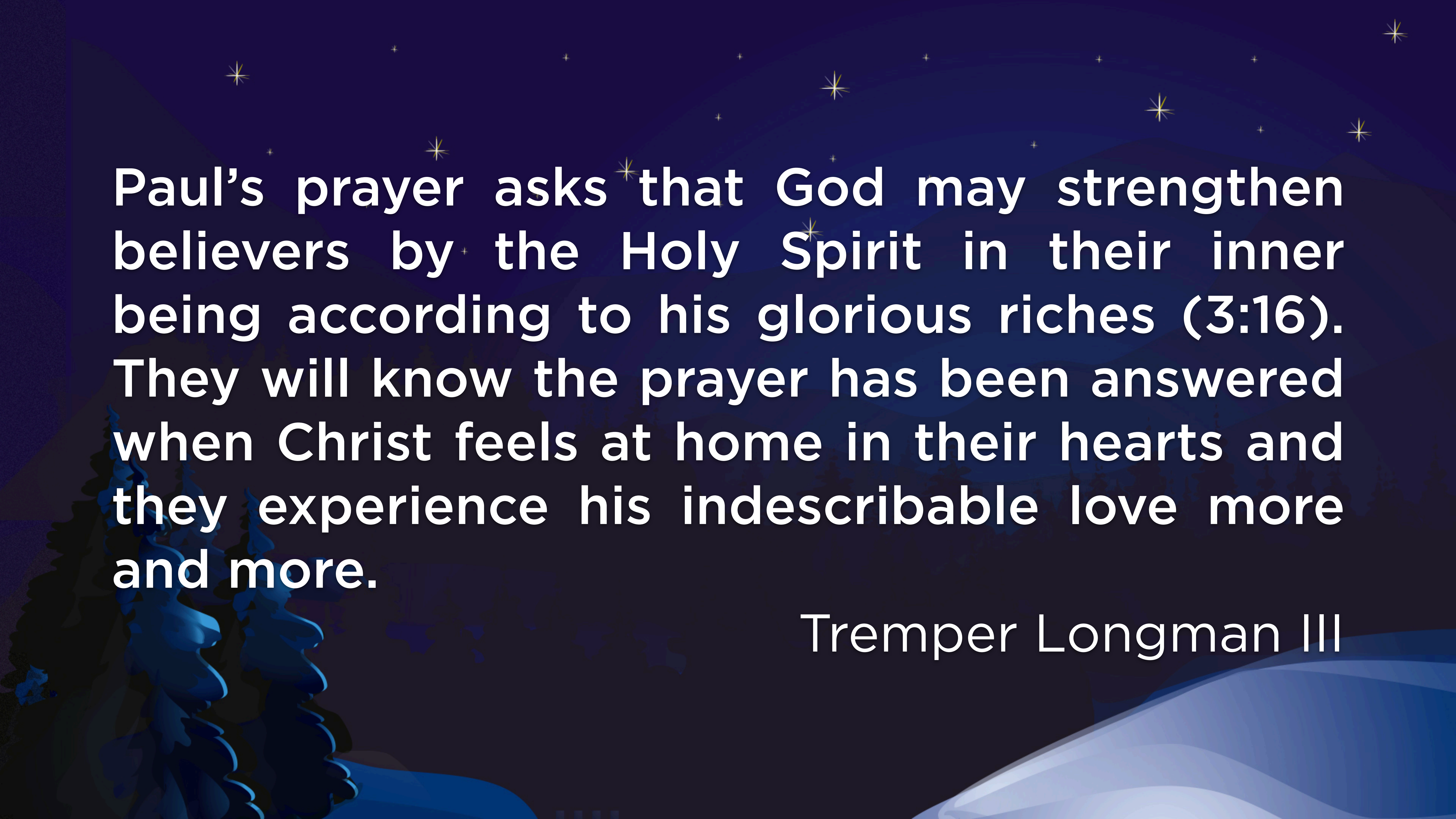
And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God.

Ephesians 3:17–19



Katoikéō

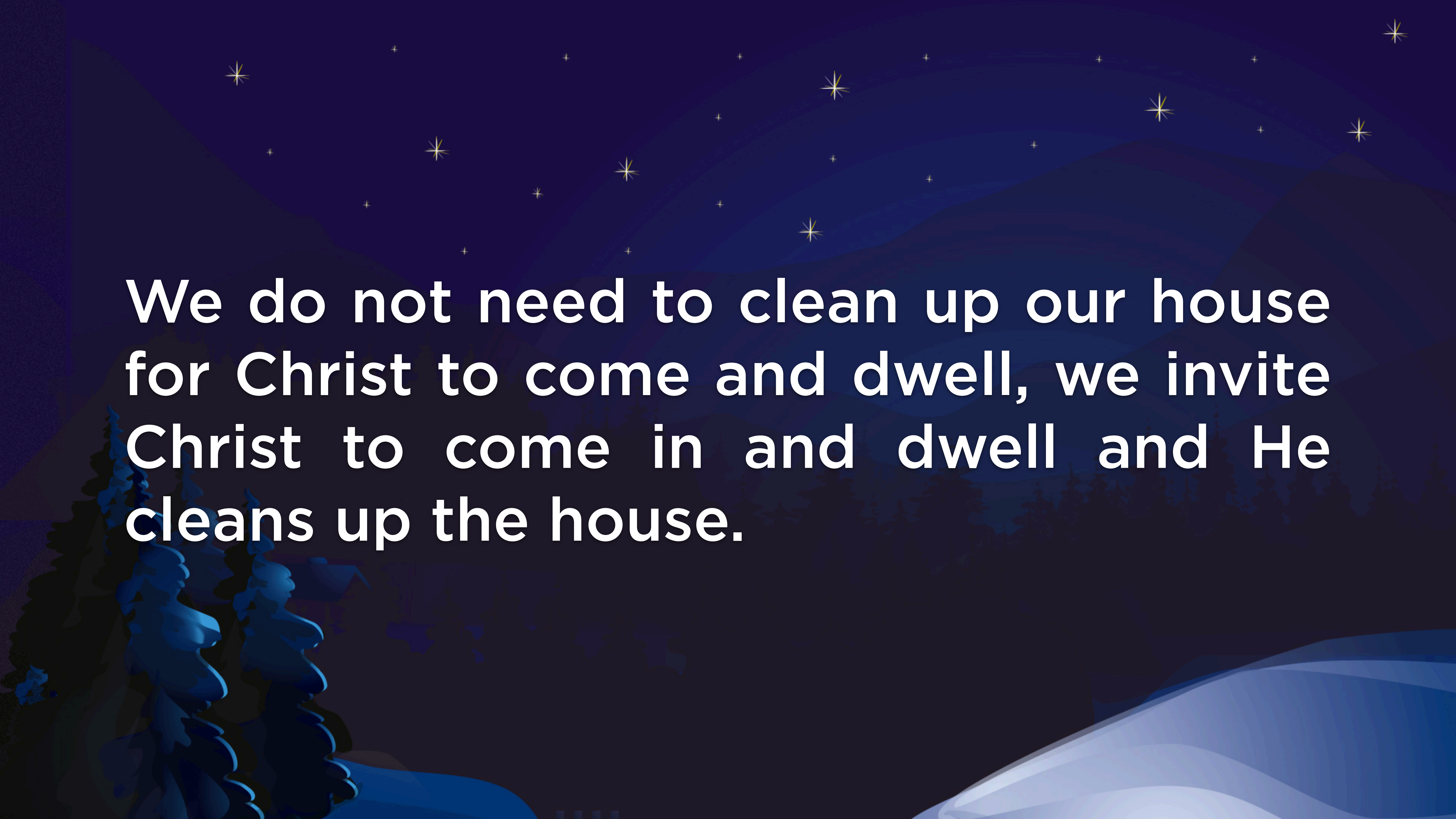
properly, settle down as a permanent resident, i.e. in a fixed (permanent) dwelling place as one's personal residence; (figuratively) "to be exactly at home.



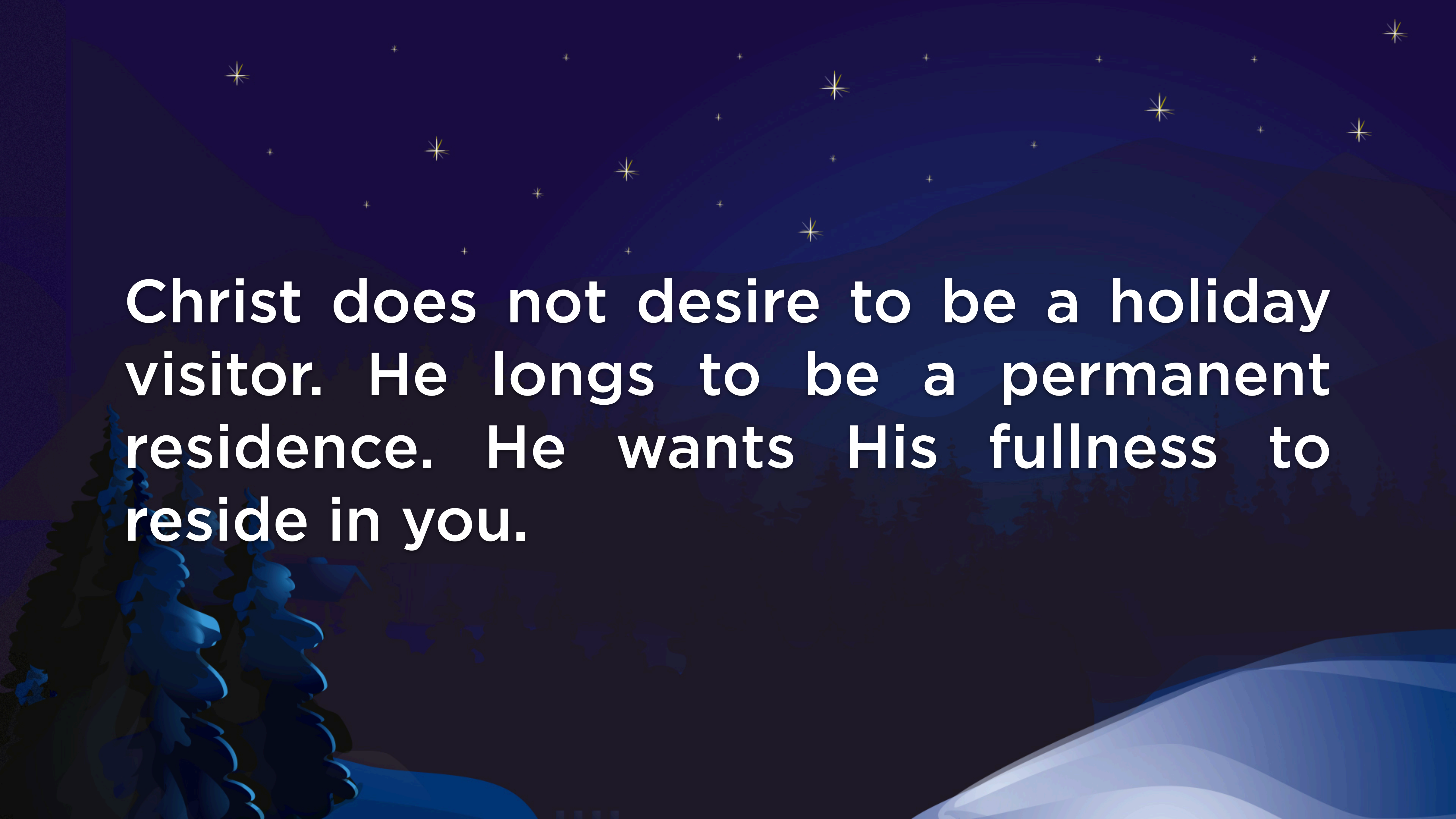
Paul's prayer asks that God may strengthen believers by the Holy Spirit in their inner being according to his glorious riches (3:16). They will know the prayer has been answered when Christ feels at home in their hearts and they experience his indescribable love more and more.

Tremper Longman III

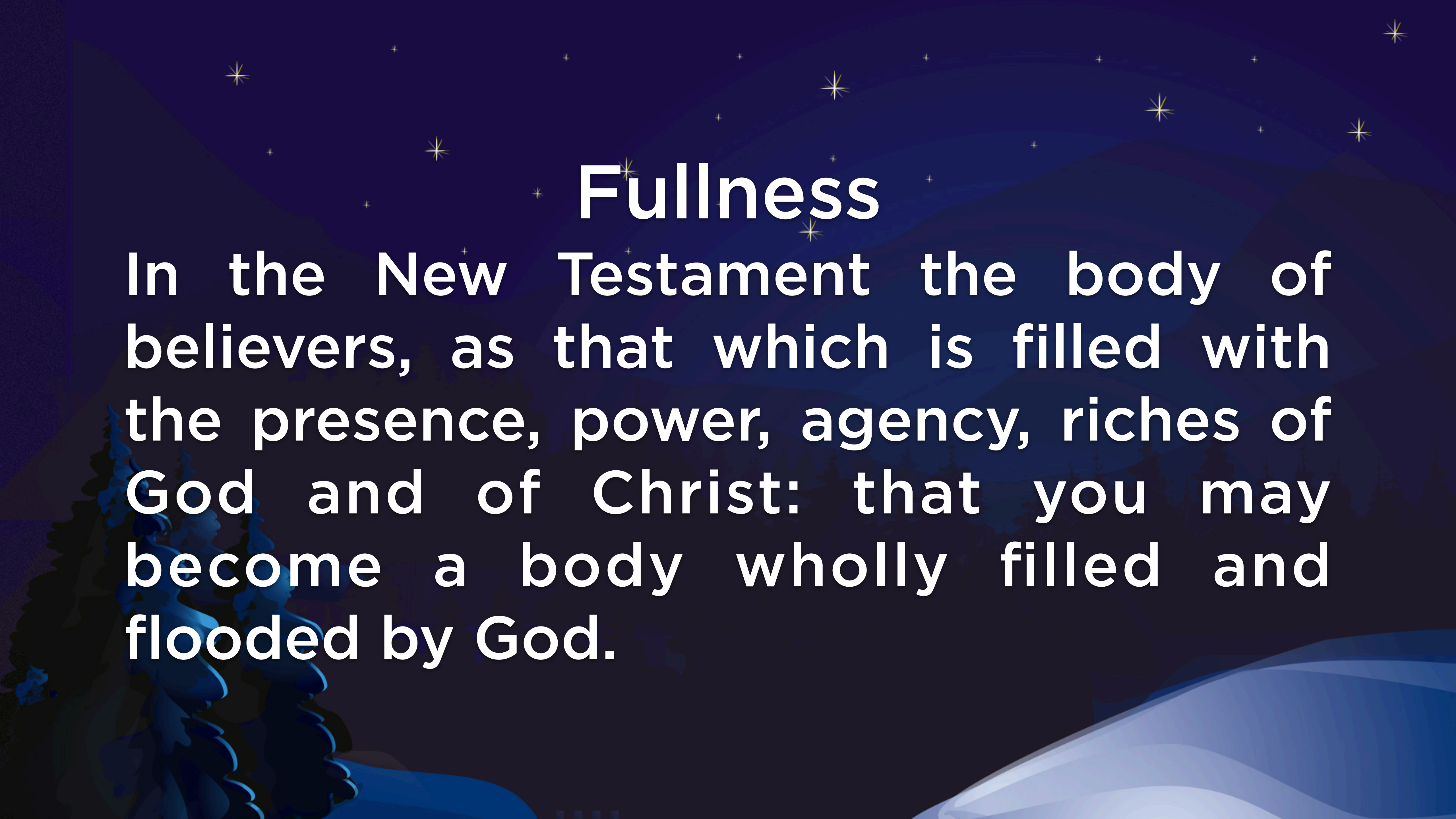




We do not need to clean up our house
for Christ to come and dwell, we invite
Christ to come in and dwell and He
cleans up the house.

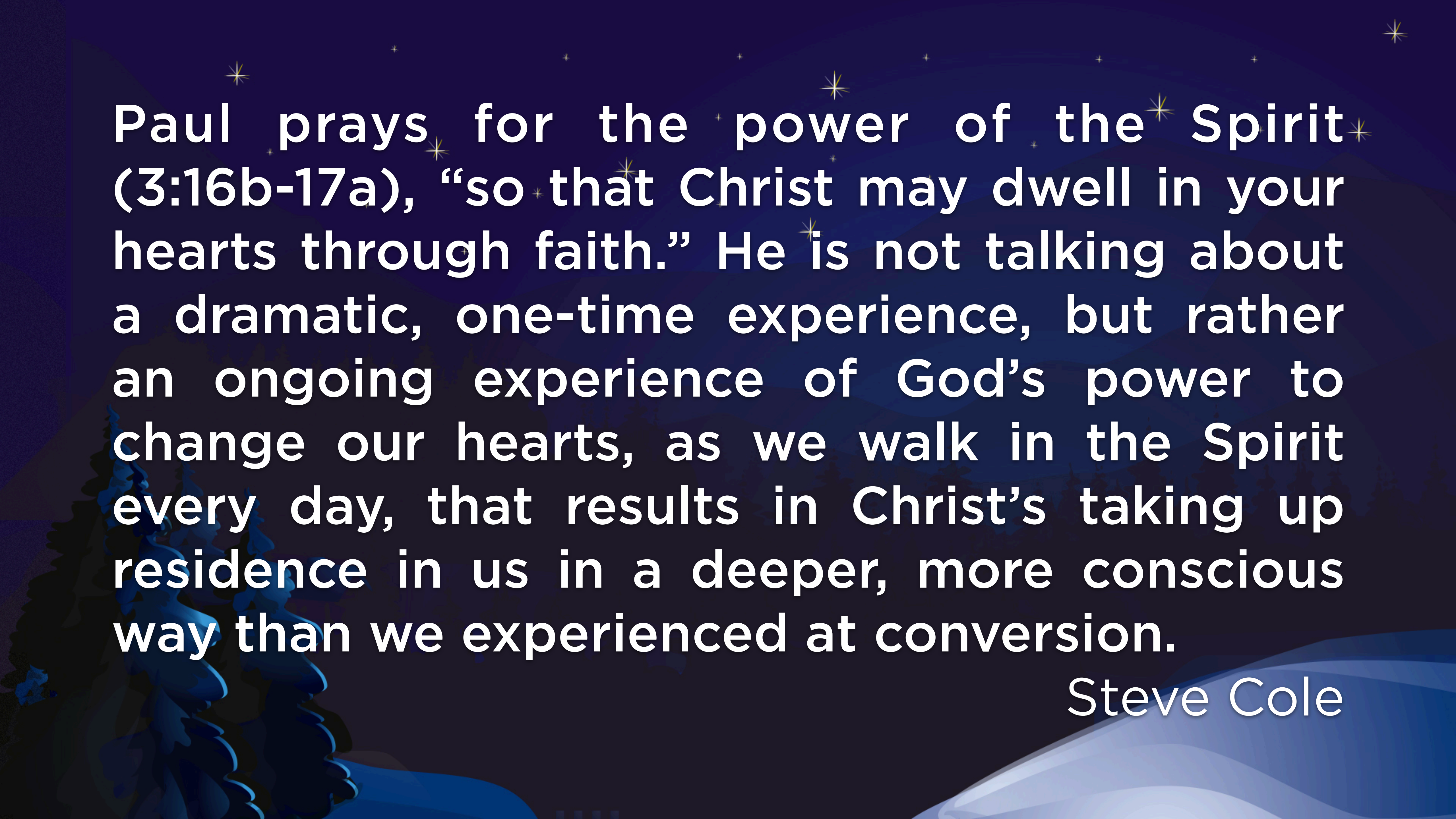


Christ does not desire to be a holiday visitor. He longs to be a permanent residence. He wants His fullness to reside in you.



Fullness

In the New Testament the body of believers, as that which is filled with the presence, power, agency, riches of God and of Christ: that you may become a body wholly filled and flooded by God.



Paul prays for the power of the Spirit (3:16b-17a), “so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.” He is not talking about a dramatic, one-time experience, but rather an ongoing experience of God’s power to change our hearts, as we walk in the Spirit every day, that results in Christ’s taking up residence in us in a deeper, more conscious way than we experienced at conversion.

Steve Cole

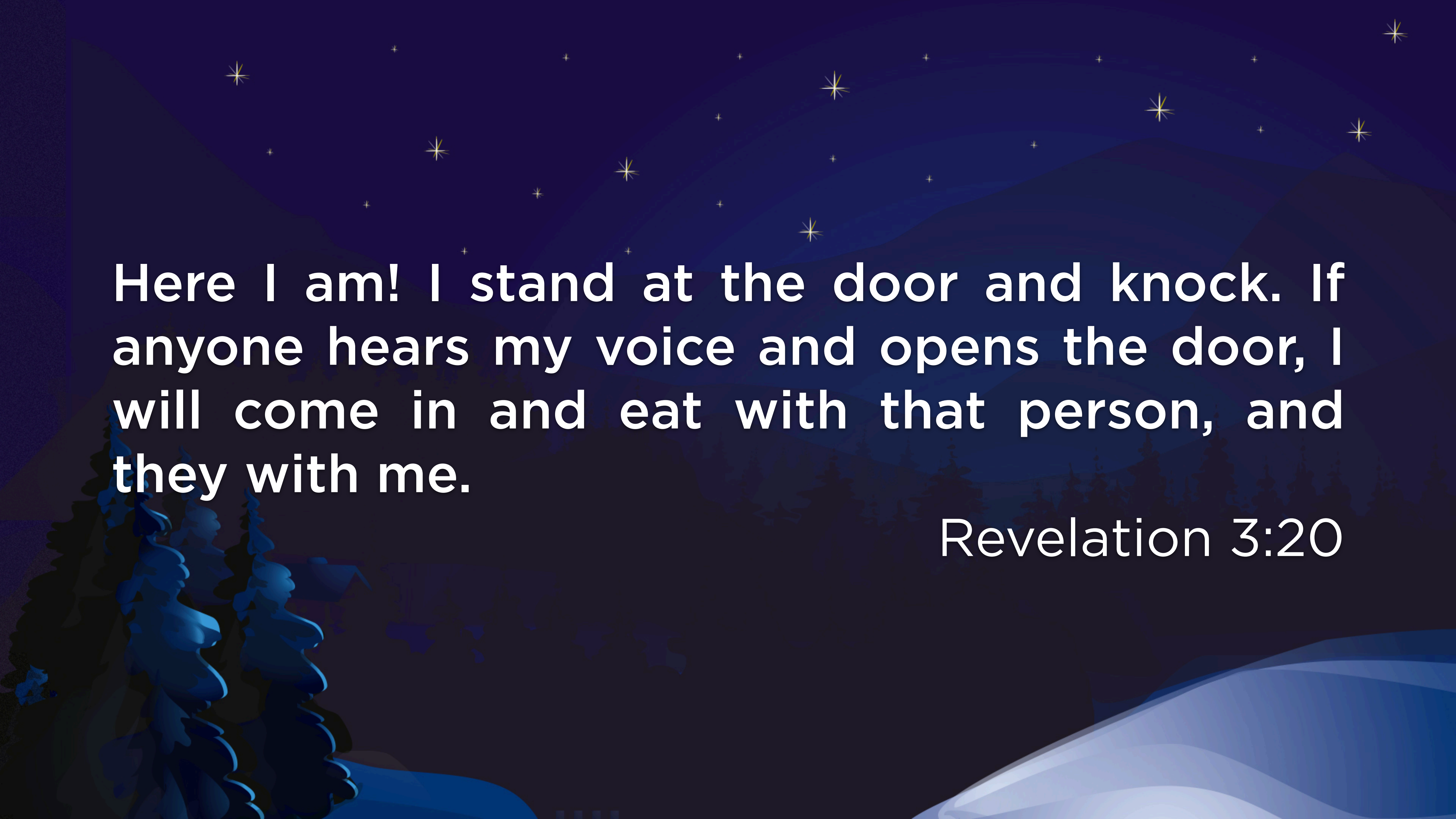
The background is a dark blue night scene. In the foreground, there are dark, stylized evergreen trees on the left and a light blue, curved shape on the right. The middle ground shows dark, rolling hills. The sky is a deep blue with numerous small, white, four-pointed stars scattered across it. The text is centered in the middle of the image.

God does not desire perfection, but He
does require our permission.

The background is a stylized night landscape. It features dark blue, layered mountain ranges in the distance. The sky is a deep navy blue, filled with numerous small, bright yellow stars of varying sizes. In the foreground, on the left side, there are several dark blue evergreen trees. The bottom right corner shows a lighter blue, curved shape that could represent a body of water or a snow-covered slope. The overall aesthetic is minimalist and serene.

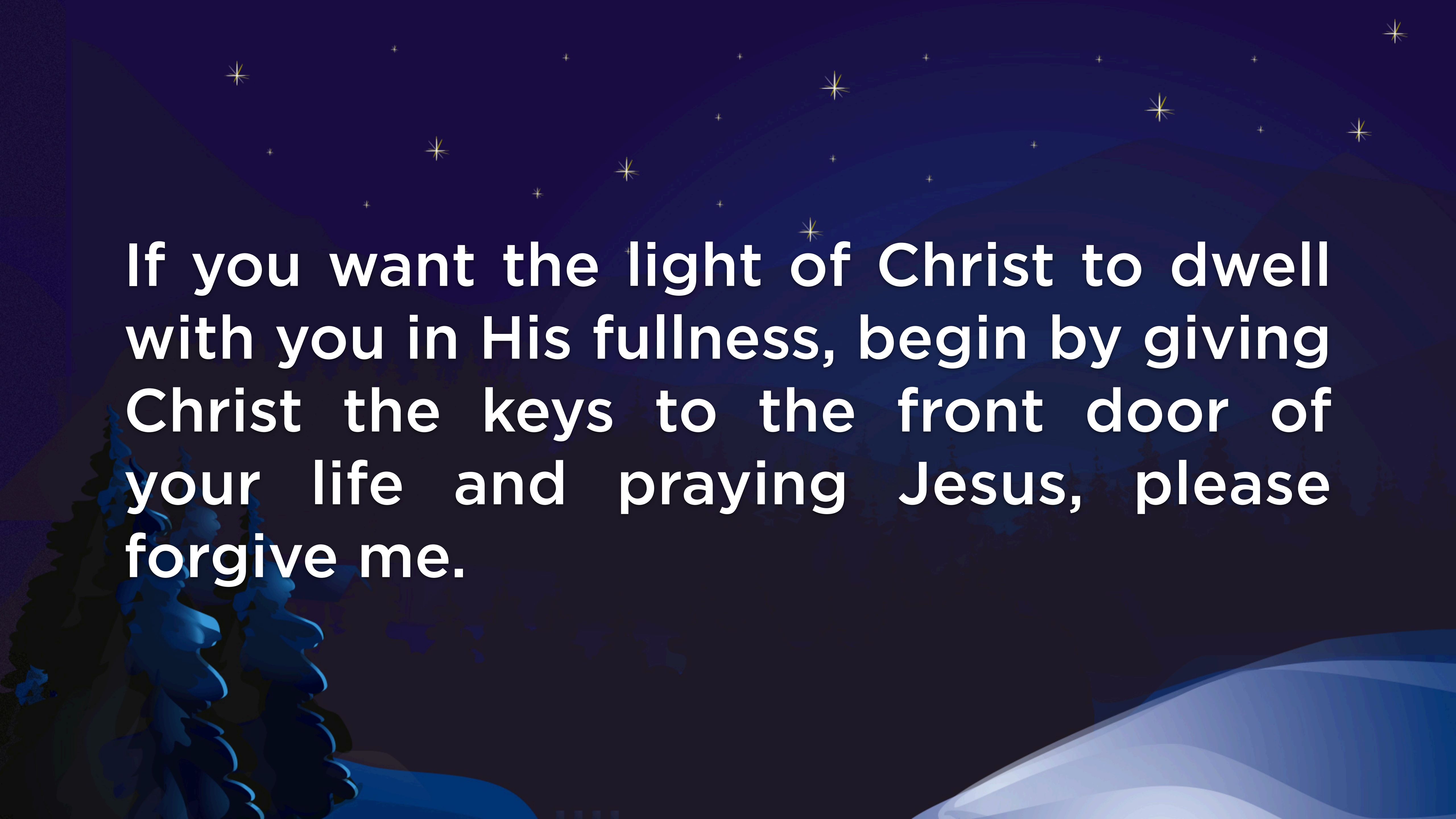
God does not desire perfection, but He
does require our permission.



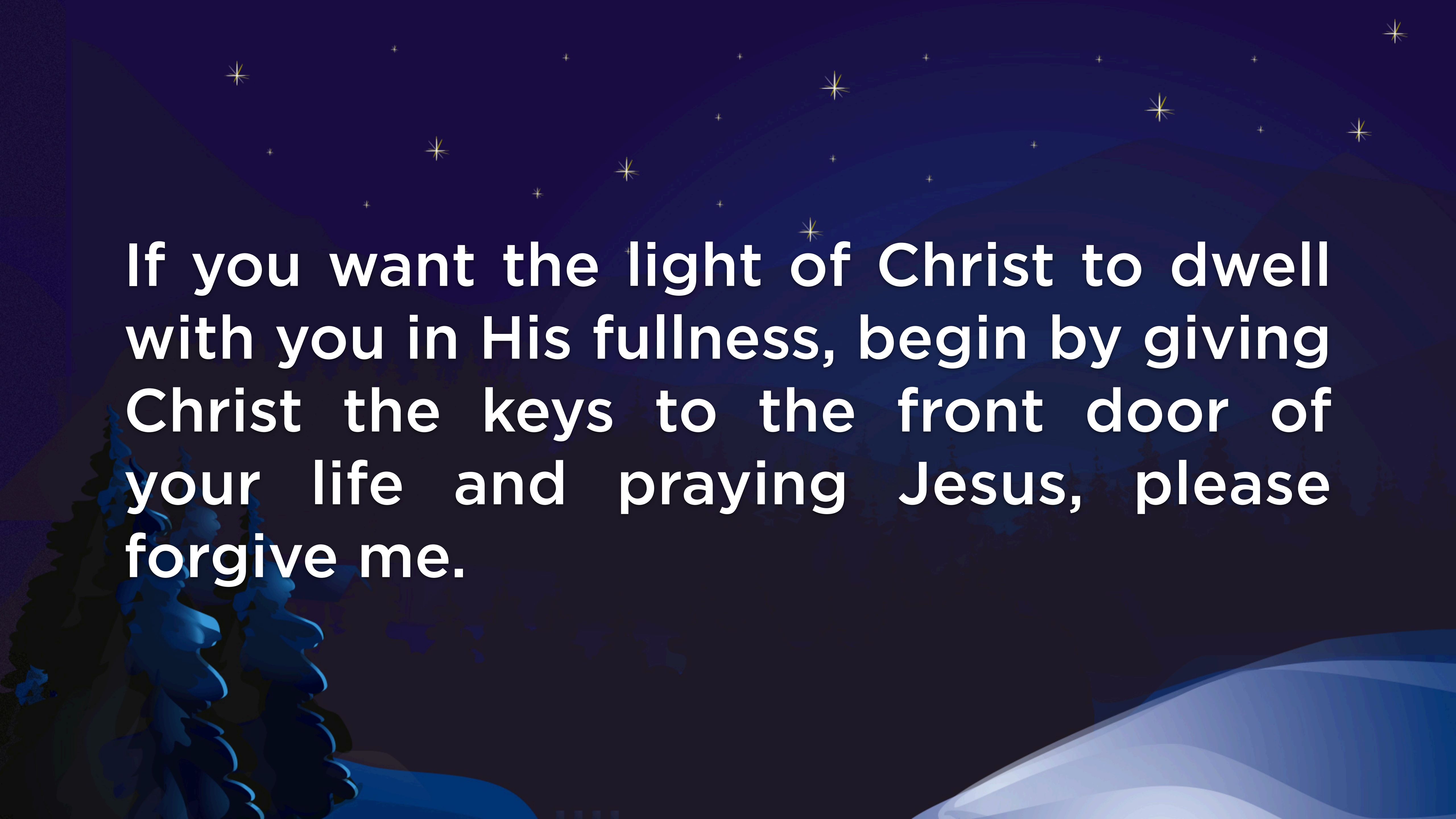


Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.

Revelation 3:20



If you want the light of Christ to dwell with you in His fullness, begin by giving Christ the keys to the front door of your life and praying Jesus, please forgive me.



If you want the light of Christ to dwell with you in His fullness, begin by giving Christ the keys to the front door of your life and praying Jesus, please forgive me.



A wooden door with a vertical grain pattern, set within a dark grey frame. The door has a brass handle on the left and a brass rectangular frame in the center. The word "FEAR" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters across the center of the door.

FEAR



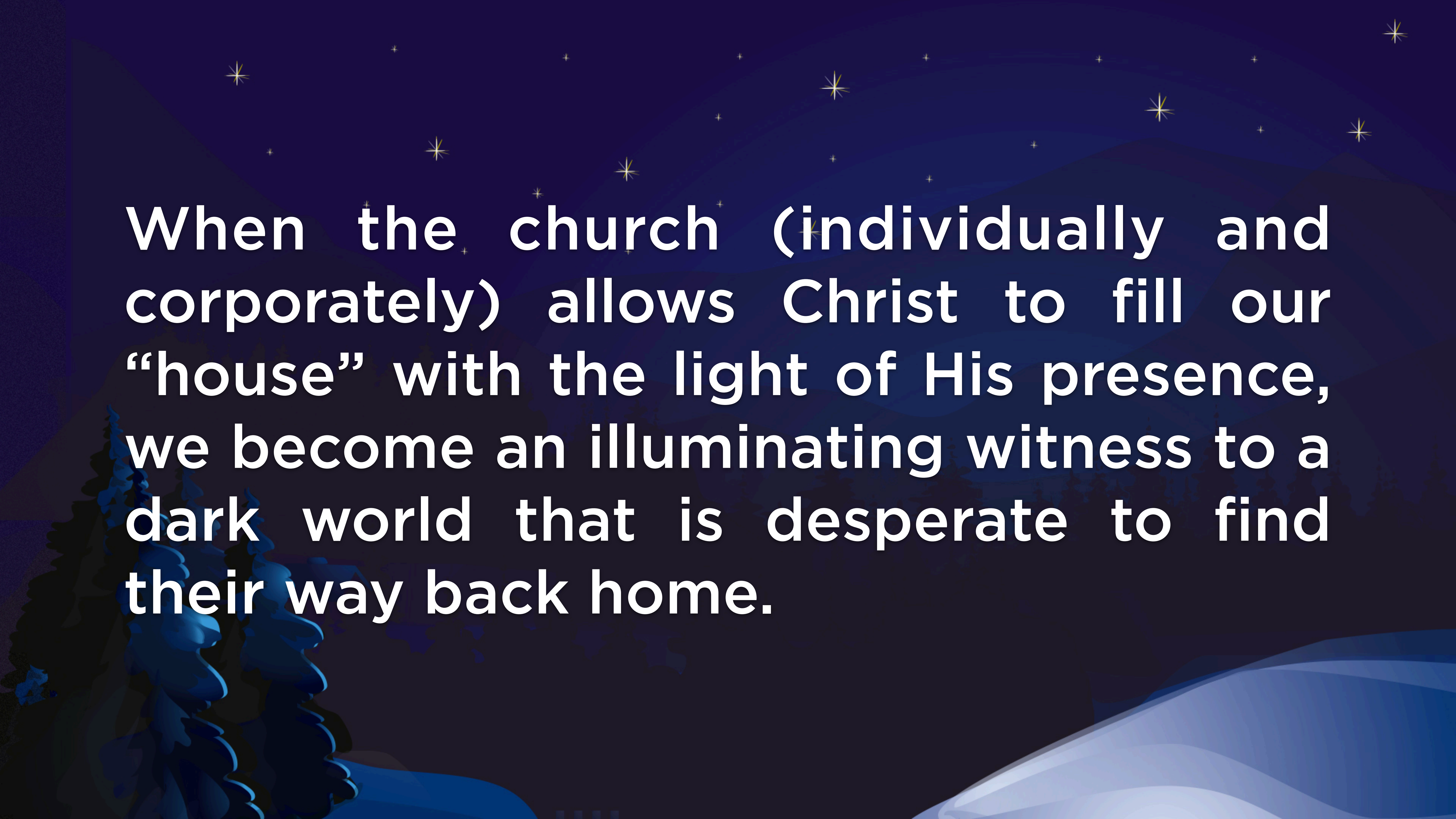


DISAPPOINTMENT





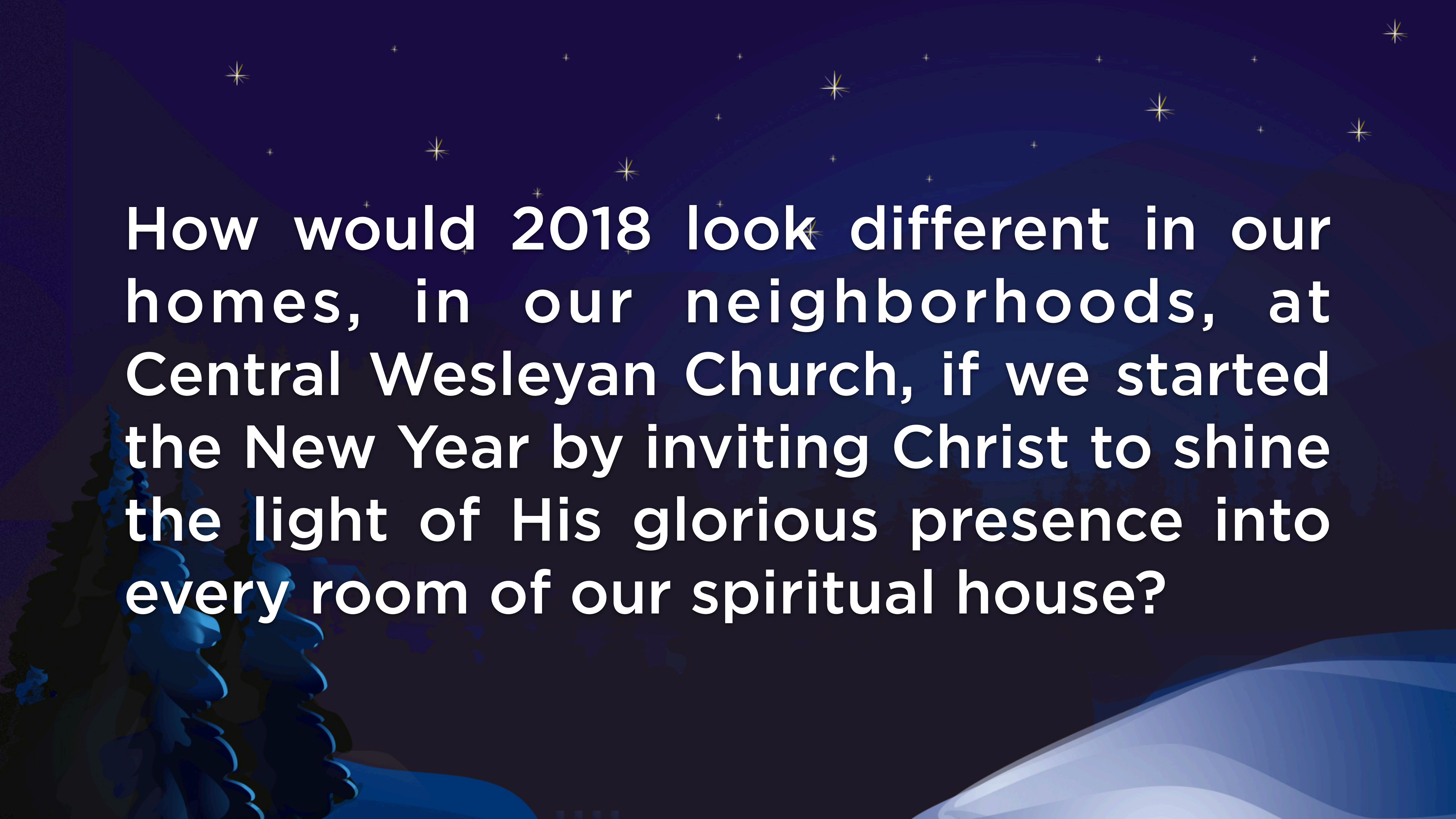




When the church (individually and corporately) allows Christ to fill our “house” with the light of His presence, we become an illuminating witness to a dark world that is desperate to find their way back home.

The background is a stylized night landscape. It features dark blue, layered mountain ranges in the distance. In the foreground, there are dark evergreen trees on the left and a lighter blue, snow-covered slope on the right. The sky is a deep navy blue, filled with numerous small, bright yellow stars of varying sizes. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

What if your New Year's resolution was
to allow Christ to make Himself at
home in your heart?



How would 2018 look different in our homes, in our neighborhoods, at Central Wesleyan Church, if we started the New Year by inviting Christ to shine the light of His glorious presence into every room of our spiritual house?

The background is a stylized night landscape. It features dark blue, layered mountain ranges in the distance. In the foreground, there are dark evergreen trees on the left and a lighter blue, curved shape on the right. The sky is a deep blue, filled with numerous small, white, four-pointed stars of varying sizes. The overall mood is serene and quiet.

Will you give Him the keys?



Make Yourself at HOME

Melinda Priest