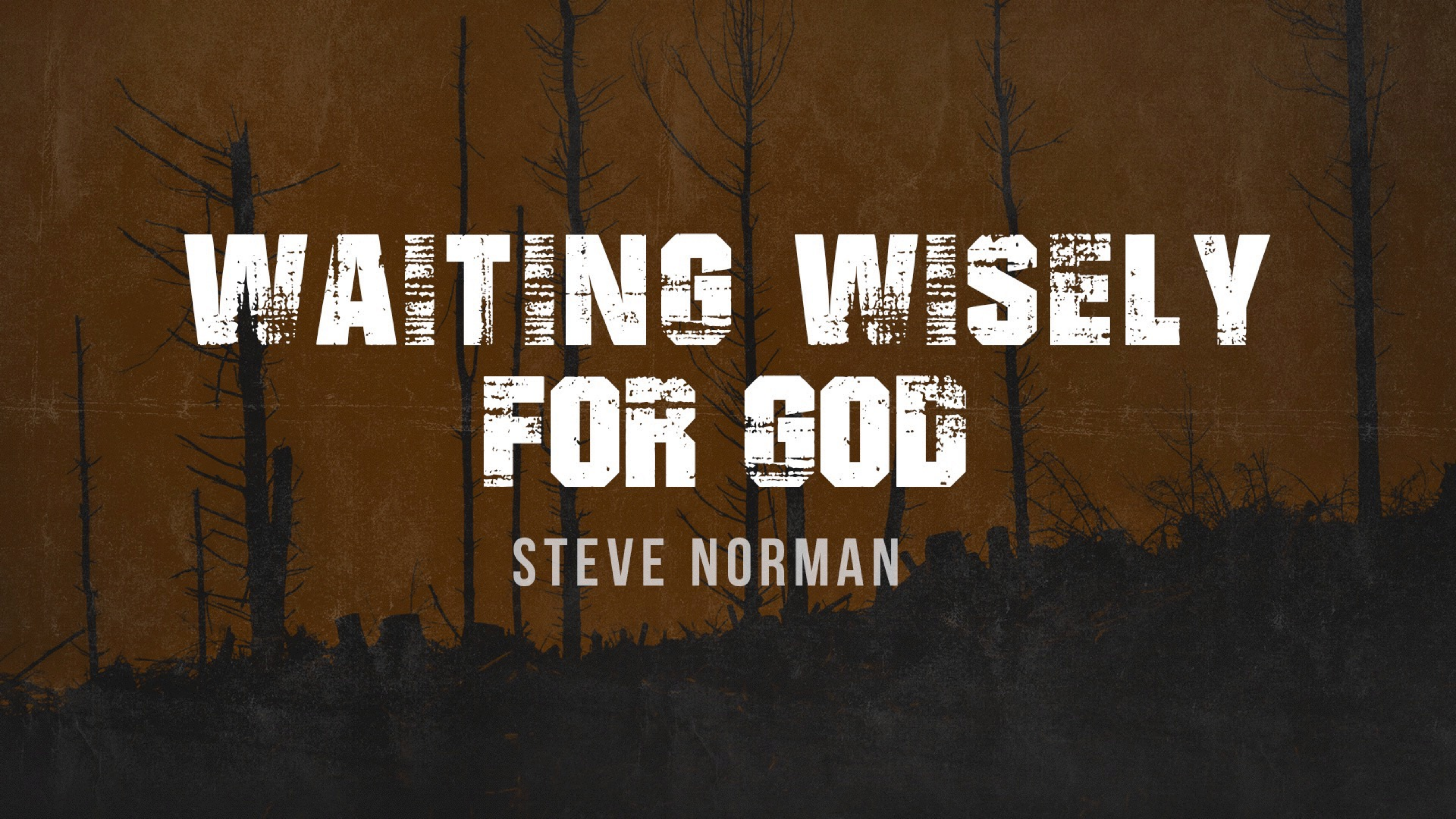




WAITING WISELY FOR GOD

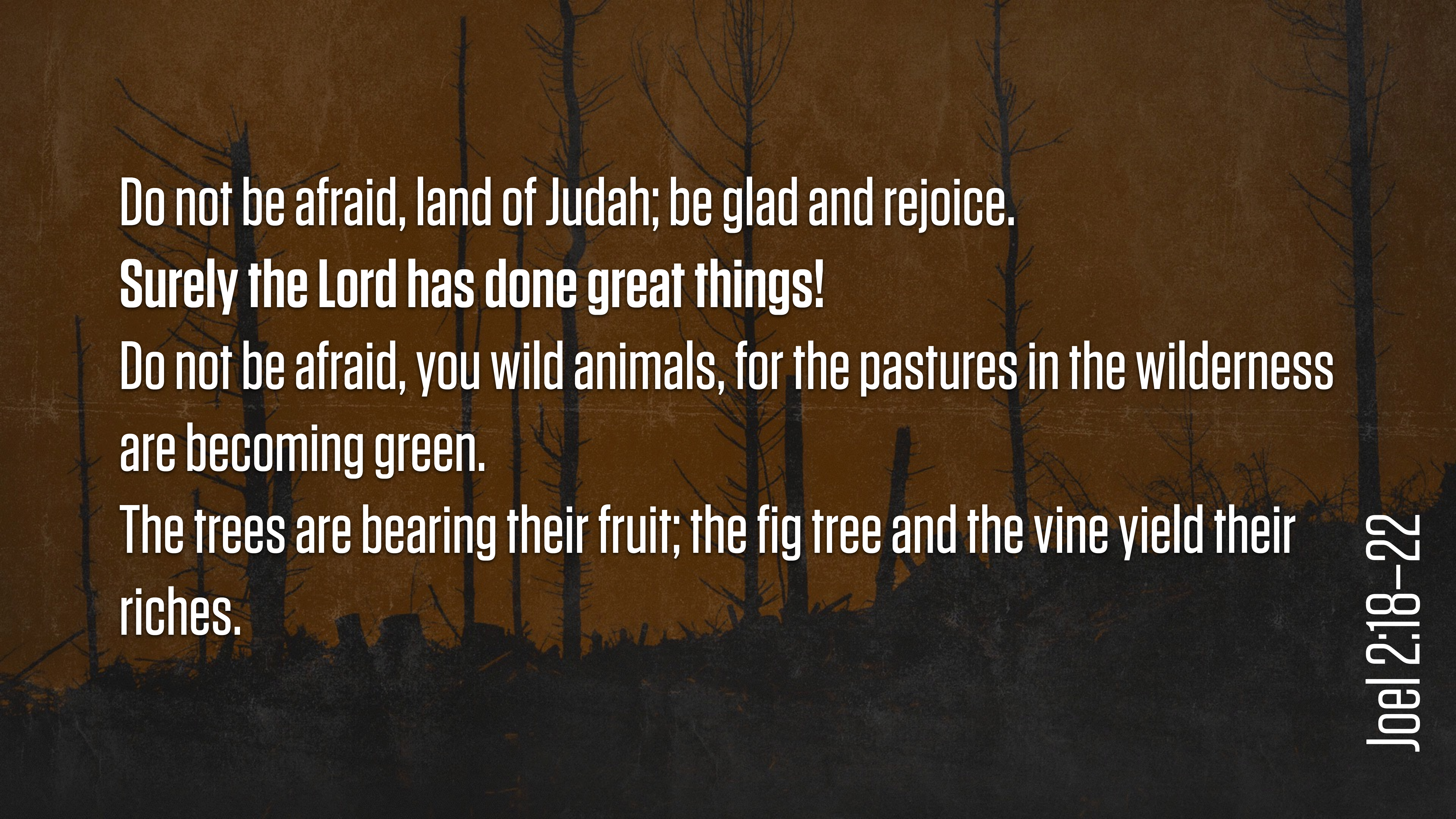
STEVE NORMAN

GOD PROMISES

1. Evidence of His Goodness
2. Freedom from shame
3. Movement by the Spirit

Joel 2:18-22

Then the Lord was jealous for his land and took pity on his people. The Lord replied to them: "I am sending you grain, new wine and olive oil, enough to satisfy you fully; never again will I make you an object of scorn to the nations. I will drive the northern horde far from you, pushing it into a parched and barren land; its eastern ranks will drown in the Dead Sea and its western ranks in the Mediterranean Sea. And its stench will go up; its smell will rise." Surely he has done great things!



Do not be afraid, land of Judah; be glad and rejoice.

Surely the Lord has done great things!

Do not be afraid, you wild animals, for the pastures in the wilderness are becoming green.

The trees are bearing their fruit; the fig tree and the vine yield their riches.

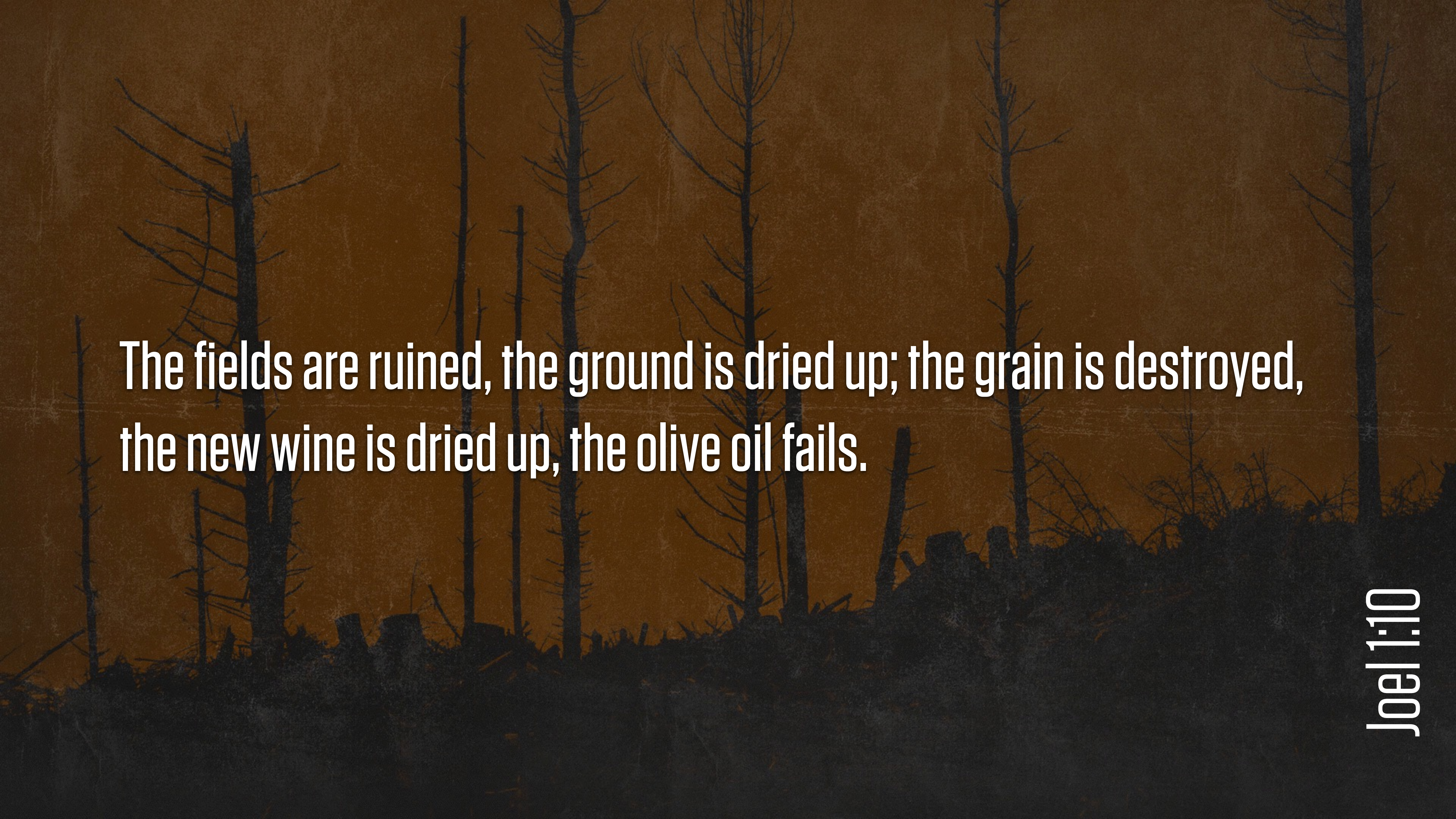
Joel 2:18-22

GOD PROMISES

1. Evidence of His Goodness

Surely the Lord has done great things!

Joel 2:21b



The fields are ruined, the ground is dried up; the grain is destroyed,
the new wine is dried up, the olive oil fails.

Joel 1:10

Joel 2:23-27

Be glad, people of Zion, rejoice in the Lord your God, for he has given you the autumn rains because he is faithful. He sends you abundant showers, both autumn and spring rains, as before. The threshing floors will be filled with grain; the vats will overflow with new wine and oil. I will repay you for the years the locusts have eaten—the great locust and the young locust, the other locusts and the locust swarm—my great army that I sent among you.

You will have plenty to eat, until you are full, and you will praise the name of the Lord your God, who has worked wonders for you; **never again will my people be shamed.** Then you will know that I am in Israel, that I am the Lord your God, and that there is no other; **never again will my people be shamed.**

Joel 2:23-27

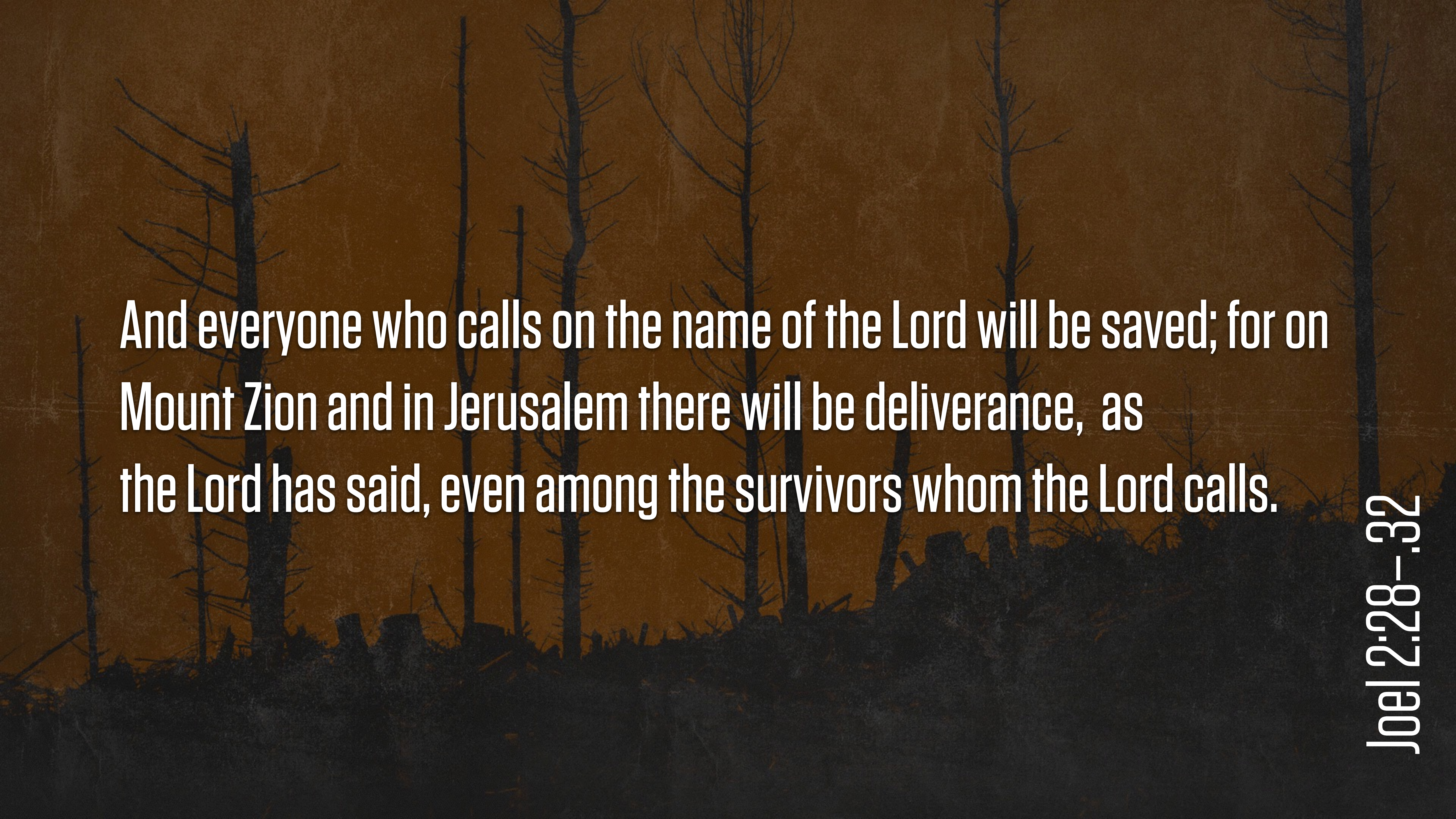
GOD PROMISES

2. Freedom from shame

Then you will know that...there is no other, never again will my people be shamed.

Joel 2:27

And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and dreadful day of the Lord.



And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved; for on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there will be deliverance, as the Lord has said, even among the survivors whom the Lord calls.

Joel 2:28-32

GOD PROMISES

3. Movement by the Spirit

Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

Joel 2:29

Fellow Israelites, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. This man was handed over to you by God's deliberate plan and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him.

Acts 2:22-23

“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.” When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”