





# “Jesus Unveiled”

Revelation 1:9-20

**Revelation sits comfortably within three  
distinct literary genres. It is  
simultaneously an APOCALYPSE, a  
PROPHECY, and a CIRCULAR LETTER.**

How to Read the Bible

# Apocalyptic Literature



**Ephesus**



**Smyrna**



**Pergamum**



**Thyatira**



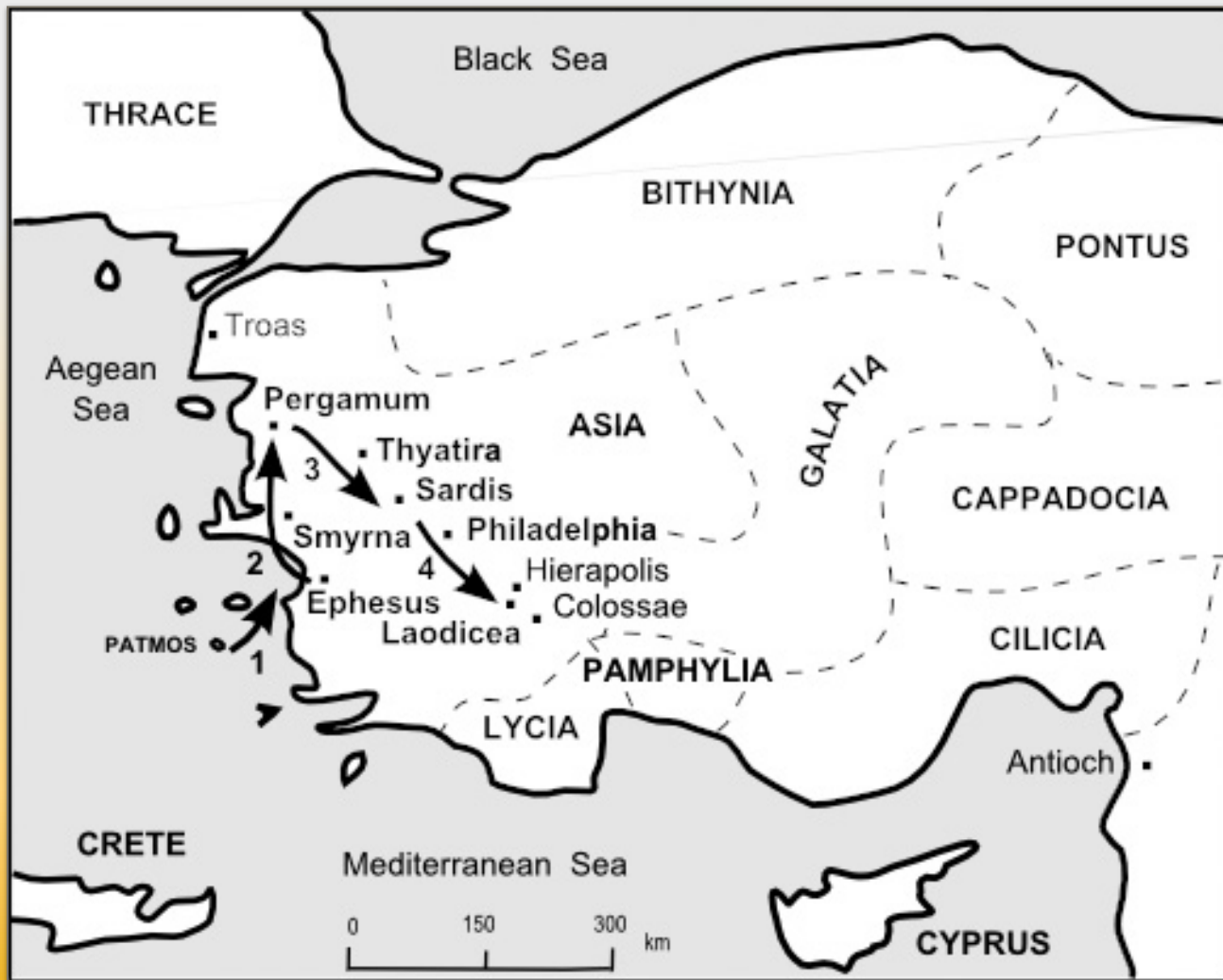
**Sardis**



**Philadelphia**



**Laodicea**



## John, the son of Zebedee

- One of the Twelve
- “The disciple that Jesus loved”
- Last-surviving apostle
- Christian prophet and church leader in Asia



# Persecution



# Conquest





**Civil War**



**Disaster**



**Plague**



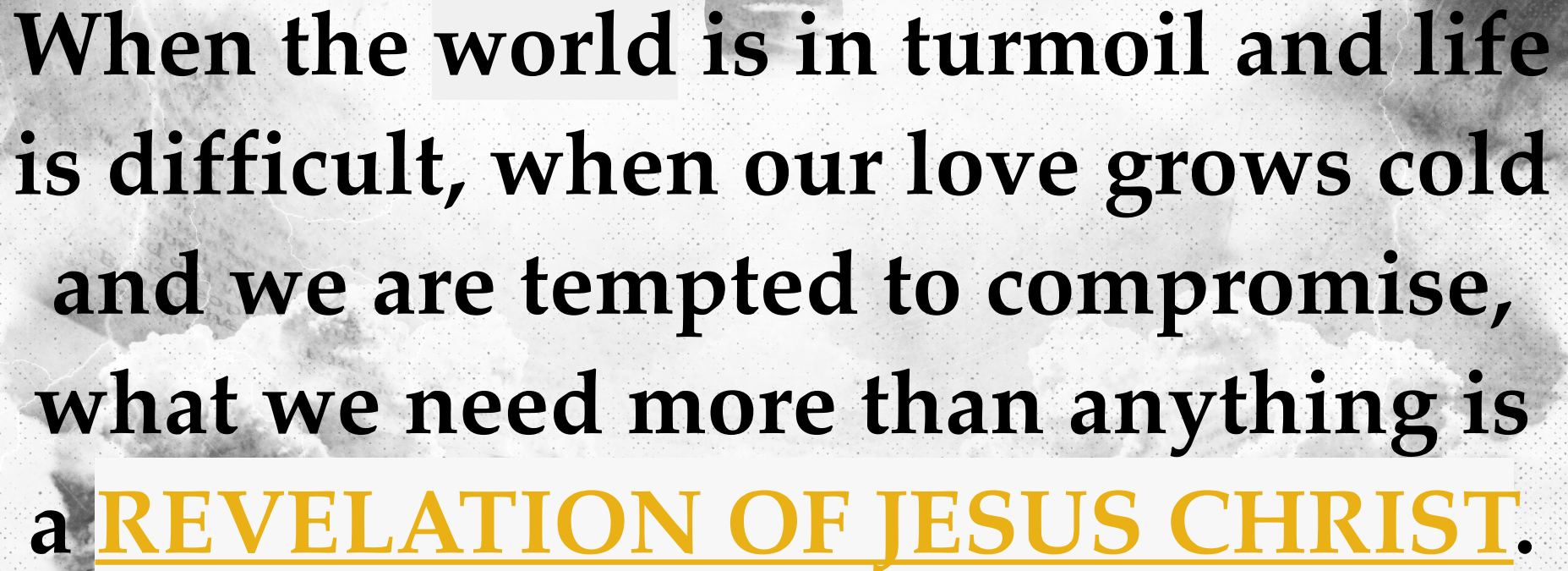
*dominus et deus*

“Lord and God”

**Domitian**

(81-96 AD)

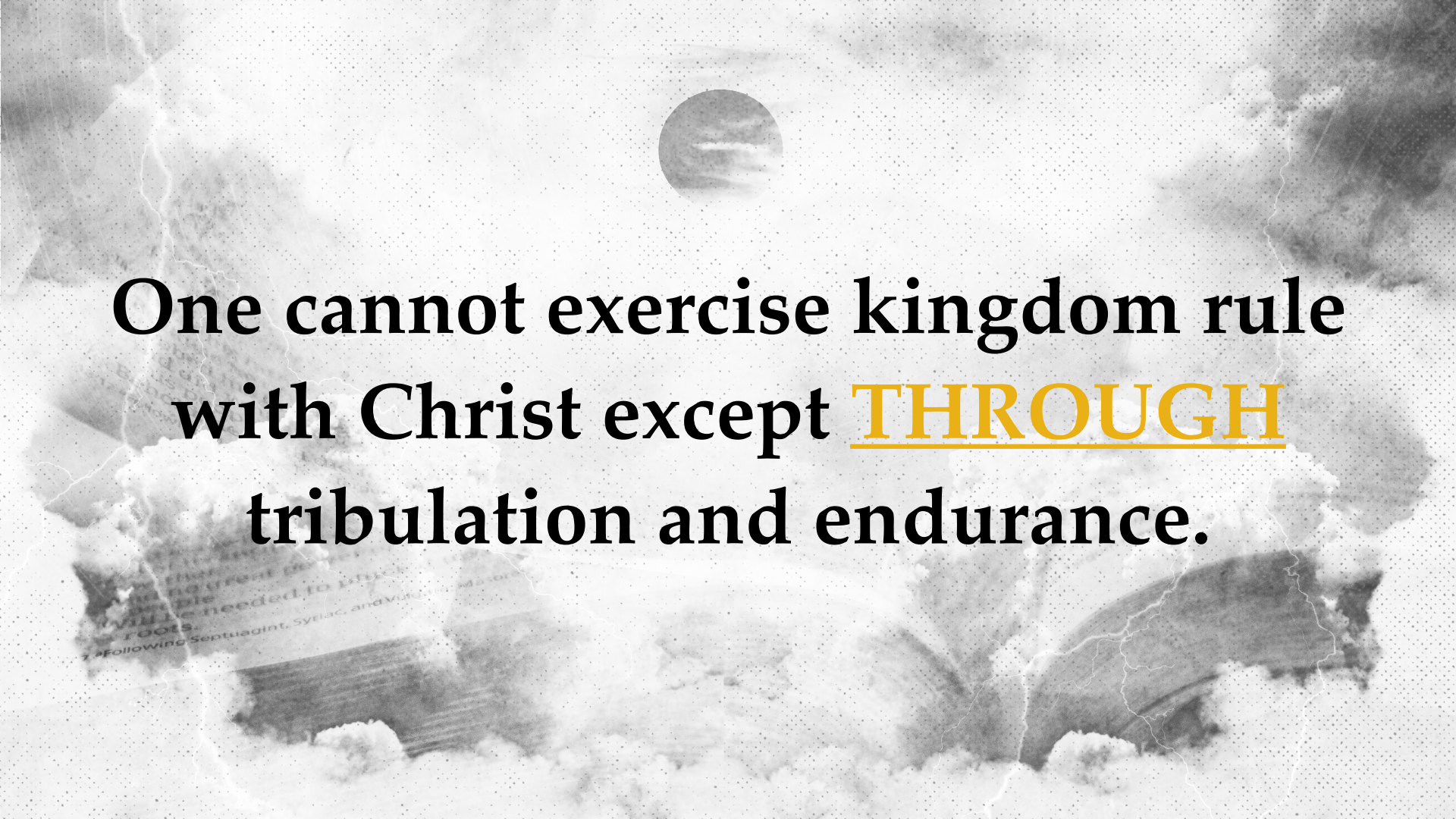




When the world is in turmoil and life is difficult, when our love grows cold and we are tempted to compromise, what we need more than anything is a **REVELATION OF JESUS CHRIST.**

## **Revelation 1:9 (ESV)**

9 I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus.



One cannot exercise kingdom rule  
with Christ except **THROUGH**  
tribulation and endurance.

...with  
...and great power  
...people  
...will be needed, to ph  
...roots.  
7. Following Septuagint, Syriac, and Vulgate, Masor



**Patmos**

“...Where the  
Apostle John was  
first plunged,  
unhurt, into boiling  
oil, and thence  
remitted to his  
island-exile...”

(Tertullian, *Against Heretics*)



“So the saying spread abroad among the brothers that this disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, ‘If it is my will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?’” (John 20:23)



## Revelation 1:10-11 (ESV)

10 I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day,  
and I heard behind me a loud voice like a  
trumpet 11 saying, "Write what you see in  
a book and send it to the seven churches,  
to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to  
Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis  
and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea."

## **Revelation 1:12-13 (ESV)**

12 Then I turned to see the voice that was speaking to me, and on turning I saw seven golden lampstands, 13 and in the midst of the lampstands one like a son of man, clothed with a long robe and with a golden sash around his chest.

## **Revelation 1:14-15 (ESV)**

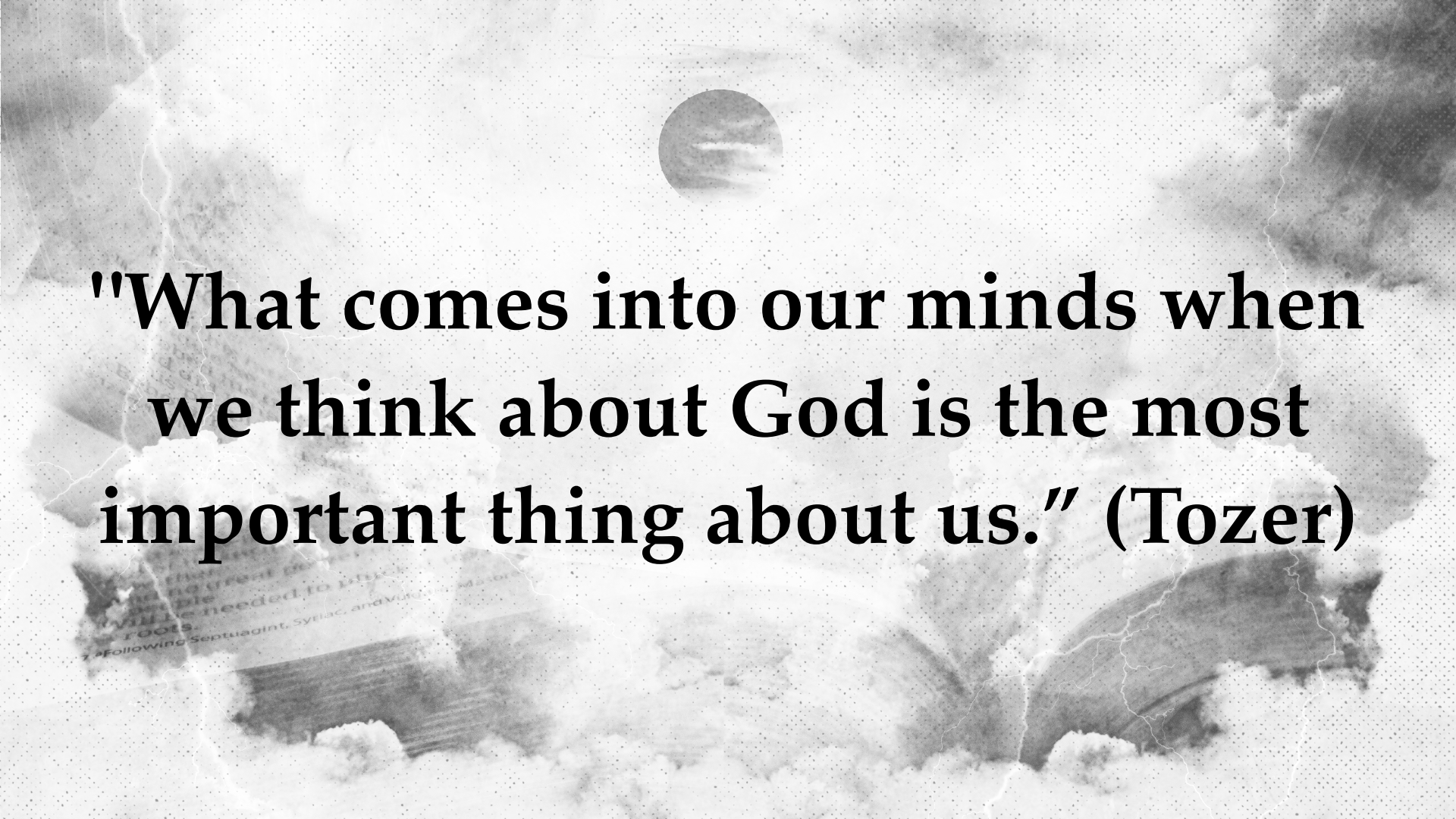
14 The hairs of his head were white, like white wool, like snow. His eyes were like a flame of fire, 15 his feet were like burnished bronze, refined in a furnace, and his voice was like the roar of many waters.

## **Revelation 1:16-17 (ESV)**

16 In his right hand he held seven stars, from his mouth came a sharp two-edged sword, and his face was like the sun shining in full strength. 17 When I saw him, I fell at his feet as though dead...



John sees a vision of Christ  
**GLORIFIED** and it knocks him  
down flat.



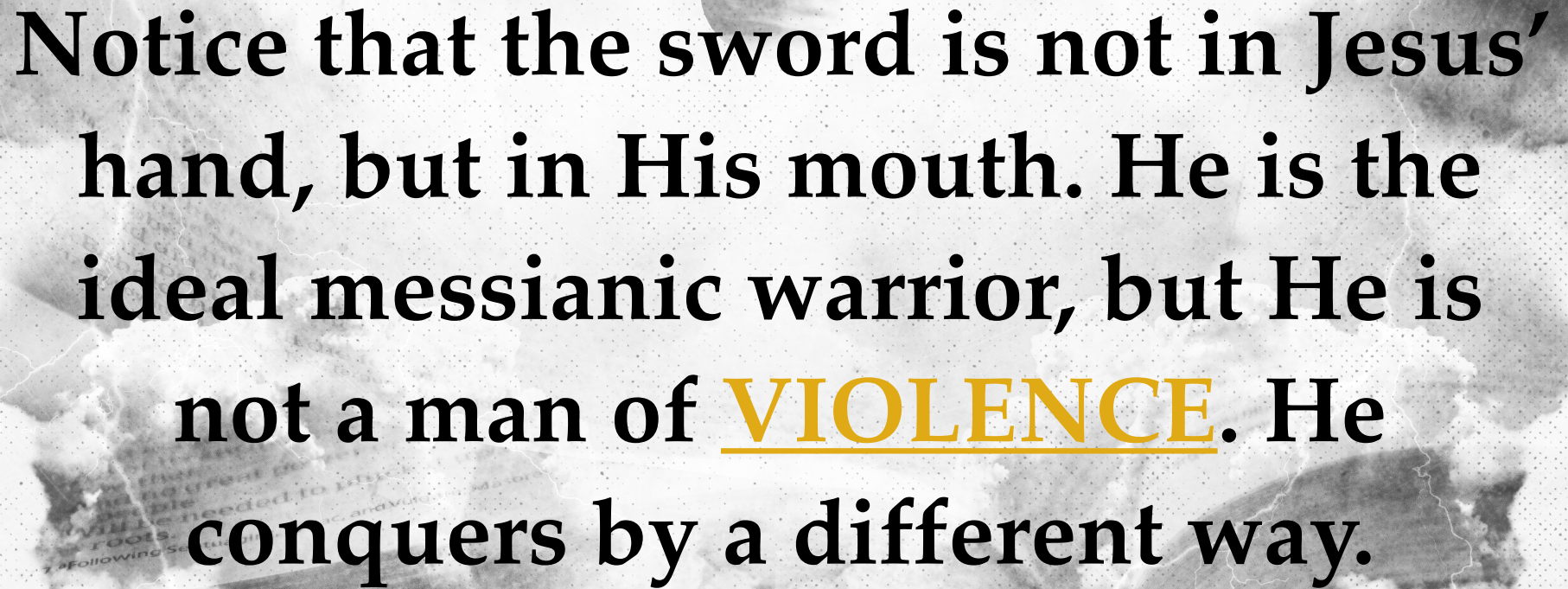
**"What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us." (Tozer)**

“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.” (Daniel 7:13-14)

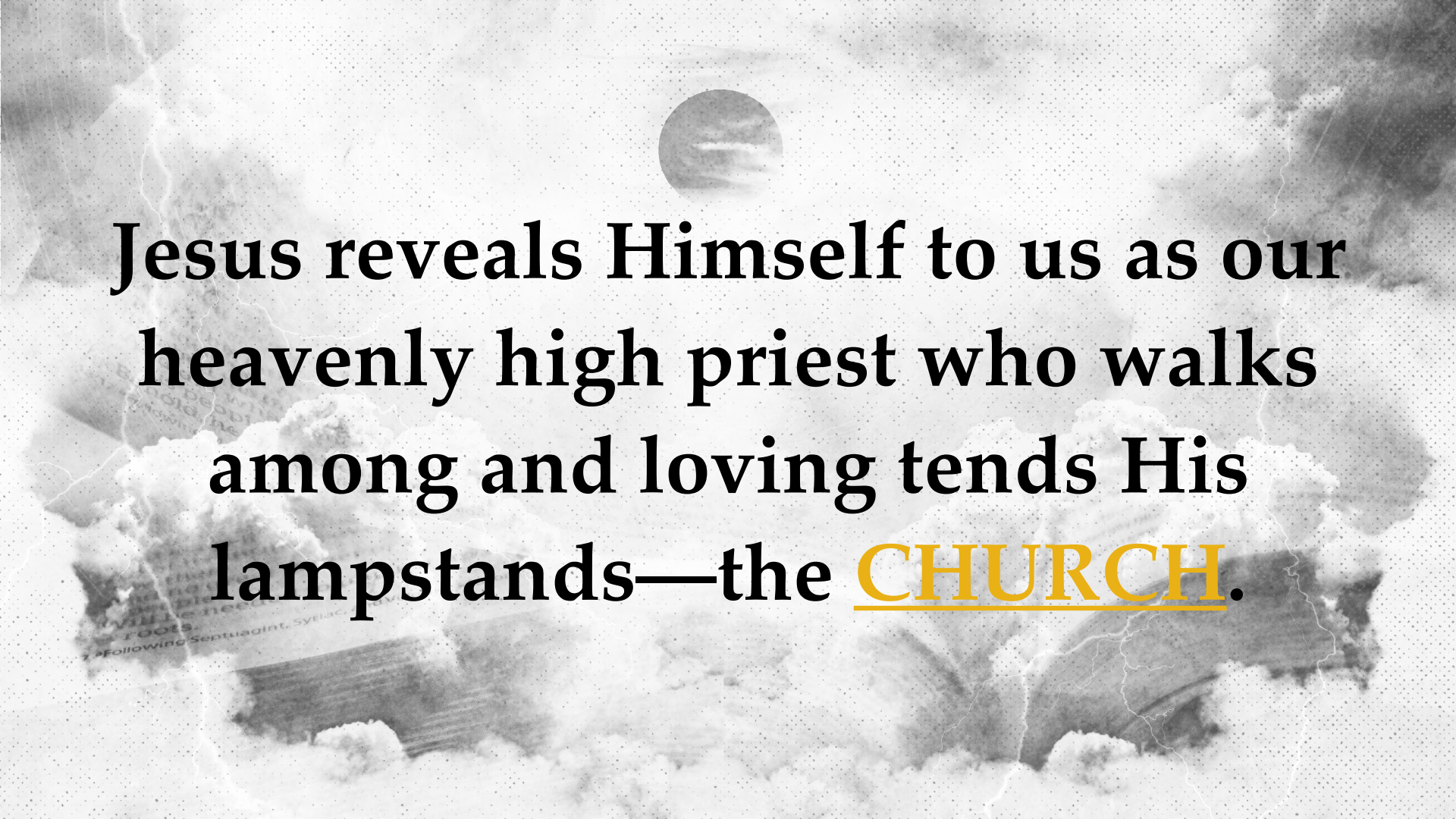
“But with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.”

**(Isaiah 11:4)**

“For the word of God is living and active,  
sharper than any two-edged sword,  
piercing to the division of soul and of  
spirit, of joints and of marrow, and  
discerning the thoughts and intentions of  
the heart.” (**Hebrews 4:12**)



Notice that the sword is not in Jesus' hand, but in His mouth. He is the ideal messianic warrior, but He is not a man of VIOLENCE. He conquers by a different way.



Jesus reveals Himself to us as our heavenly high priest who walks among and loving tends His lampstands—the CHURCH.

## **Revelation 1:17-18 (ESV)**

17 ...But he laid his right hand on me, saying, “Fear not, I am the first and the last, 18 and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.”

## **Revelation 1:19-20 (ESV)**

19 “Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this. 20 As for the mystery of the seven stars that you saw in my right hand, and the seven golden lampstands, the seven stars are the angels of the seven churches, and the seven lampstands are the seven churches.”

The high  
priest tending  
the lampstand  
in the Temple



“This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, says the LORD of hosts...

The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the foundation of this house; his hands shall also complete it.” (**Zechariah 4:6, 9**)

“You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.”

**(1 Peter 1:5)**

“Built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.” (Ephesians 2:20-22)



“Fear not, I am the first and the last, and the living one. I died, and behold I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of Death and Hades.”