

STEADFAST LOVE (A NEW CUT)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JSdw0pbIPqs&list=PLyqUtOdcOdS99jAhAqChNEzG29zVgMbSG&index=1>

Gathering Music

EASTER

STEADFAST LOVE (A NEW CUT)

Welcome and Announcements

EASTER

STEADFAST LOVE (A NEW CUT)

Prelude

EASTER

STEADFAST LOVE (A NEW CUT)

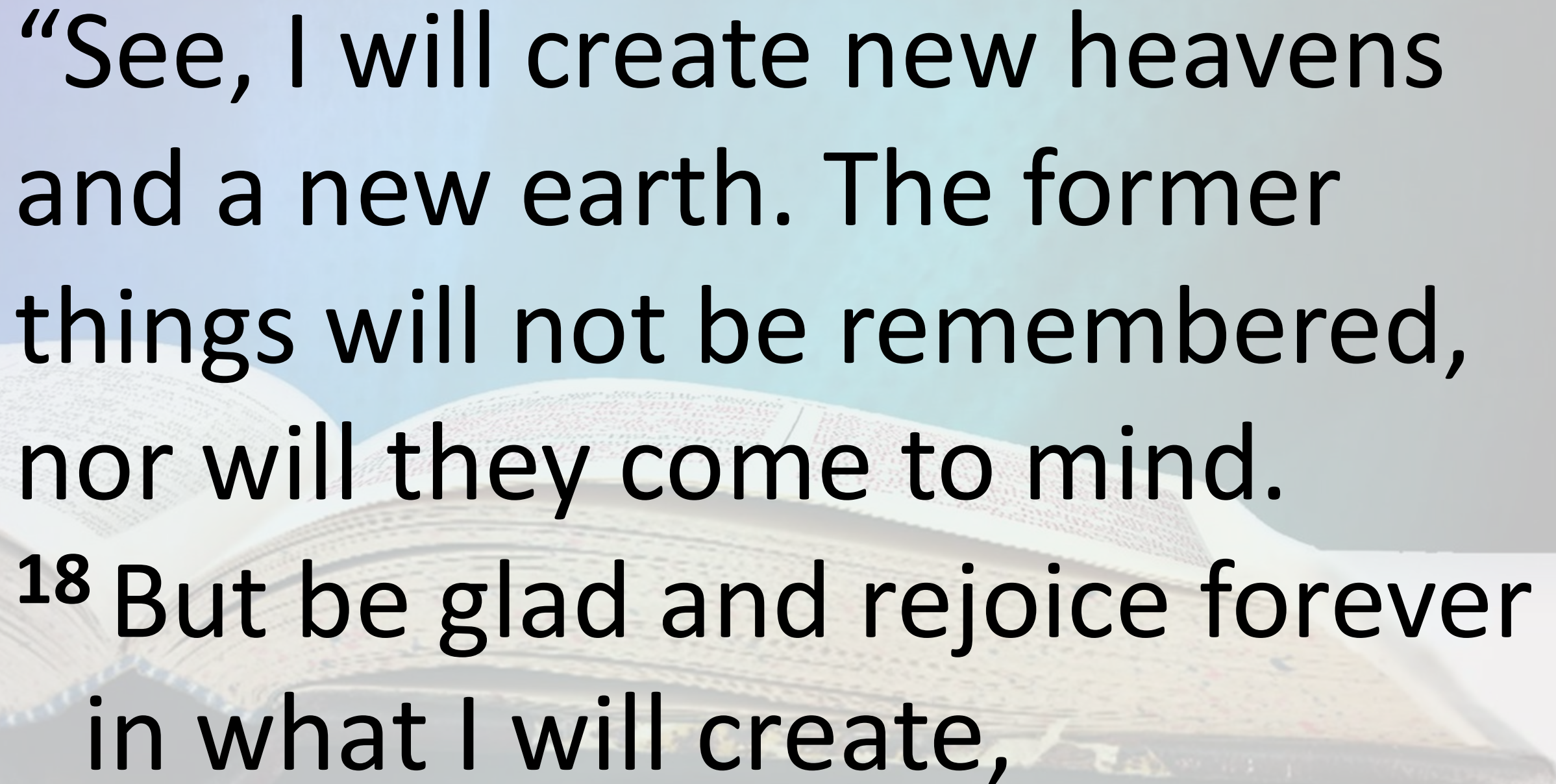
Opening Prayer

EASTER

Isaiah 65:17-25

PG 1164



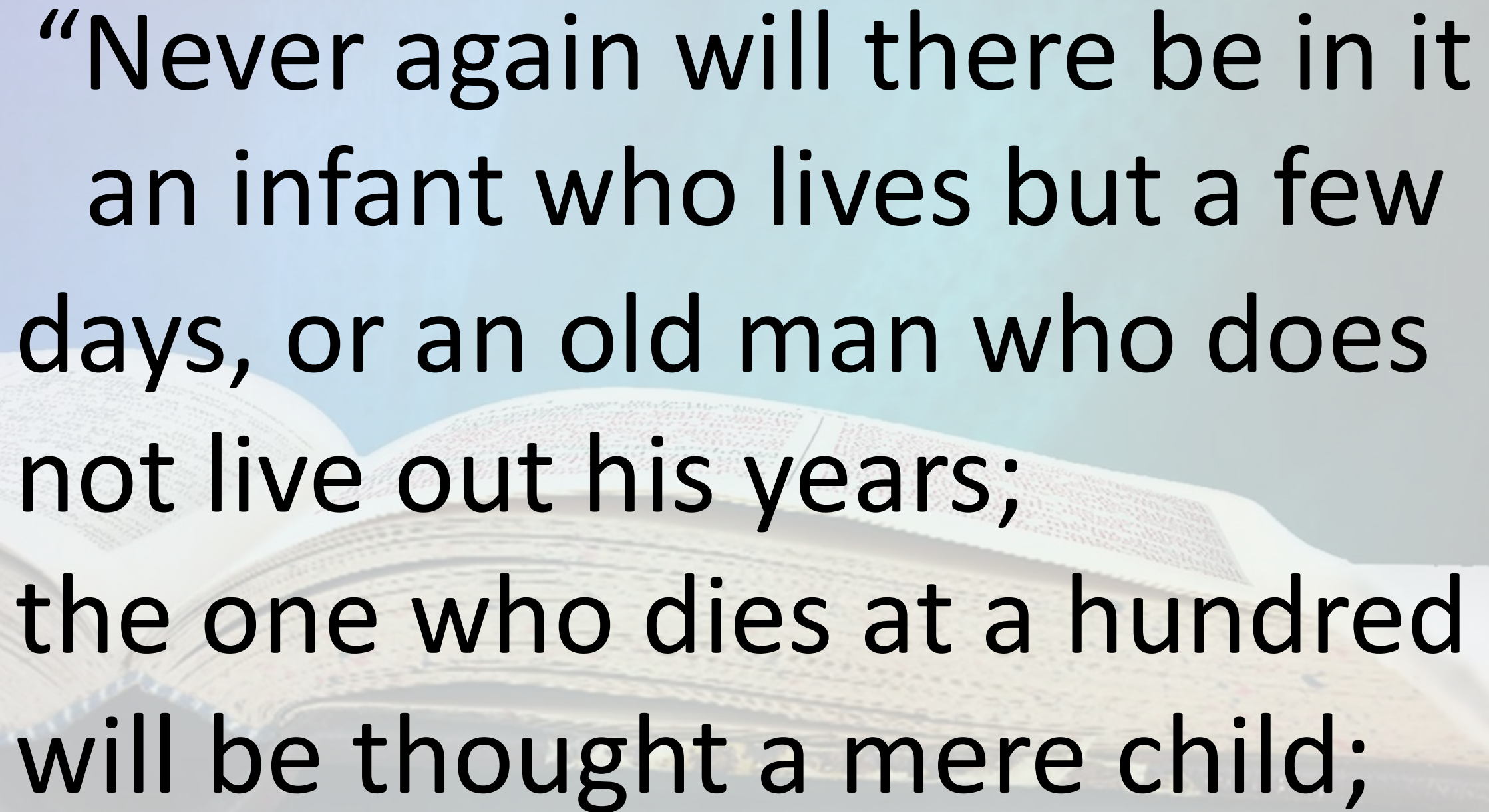


“See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.

¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create,

for I will create Jerusalem to be a
delight and its people a joy.

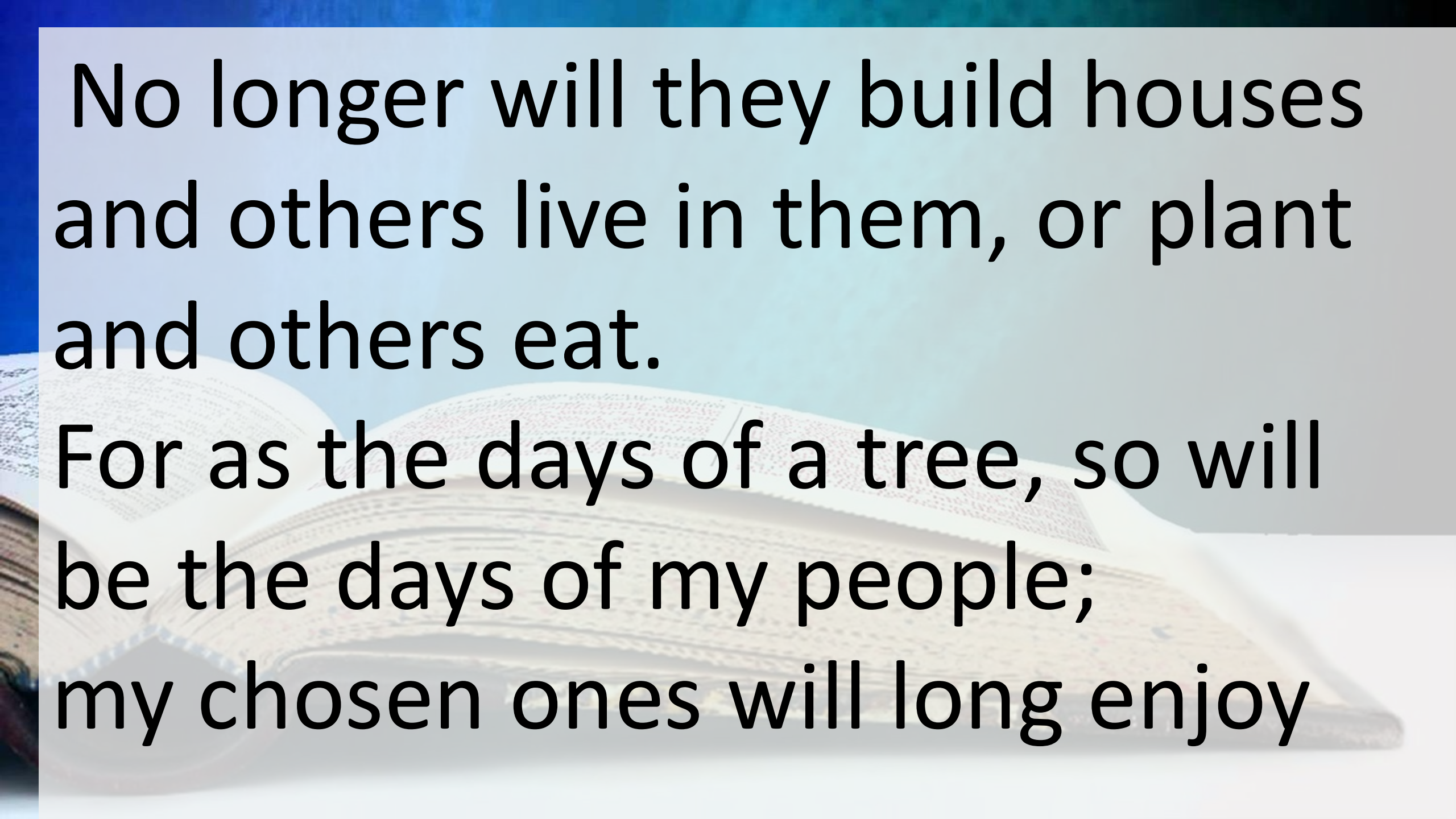
¹⁹ I will rejoice over Jerusalem
and take delight in my people;
the sound of weeping and of
crying will be heard in it no
more.

An open book is shown in the background, with its pages slightly blurred. The text is overlaid on the book in a large, black, sans-serif font. The text is a quote that discusses the perception of a child's life span based on their age at death.

“Never again will there be in it
an infant who lives but a few
days, or an old man who does
not live out his years;
the one who dies at a hundred
will be thought a mere child;

the one who fails to reach^[a] a hundred will be considered accursed.

21 They will build houses and dwell in them; they will plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

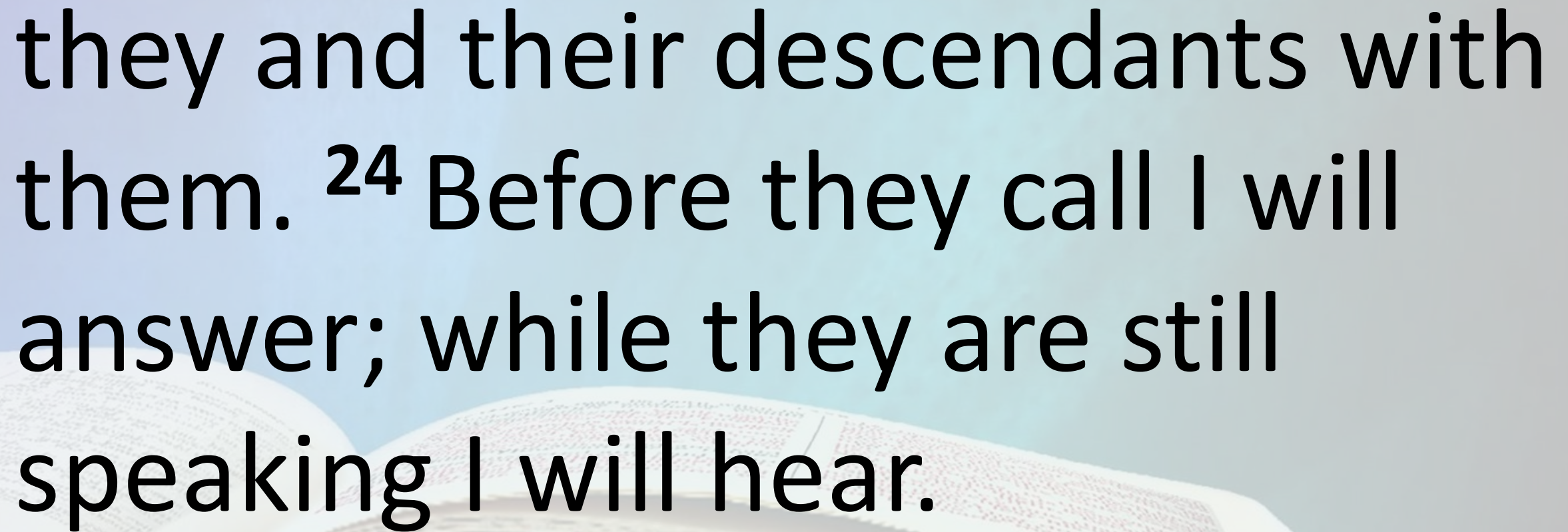
The background of the image features an open book with yellowed pages, resting on a surface. The top portion of the image is a gradient of blue and teal, suggesting a sky. A faint silhouette of a tree is visible in the background behind the text.

No longer will they build houses
and others live in them, or plant
and others eat.

For as the days of a tree, so will
be the days of my people;
my chosen ones will long enjoy

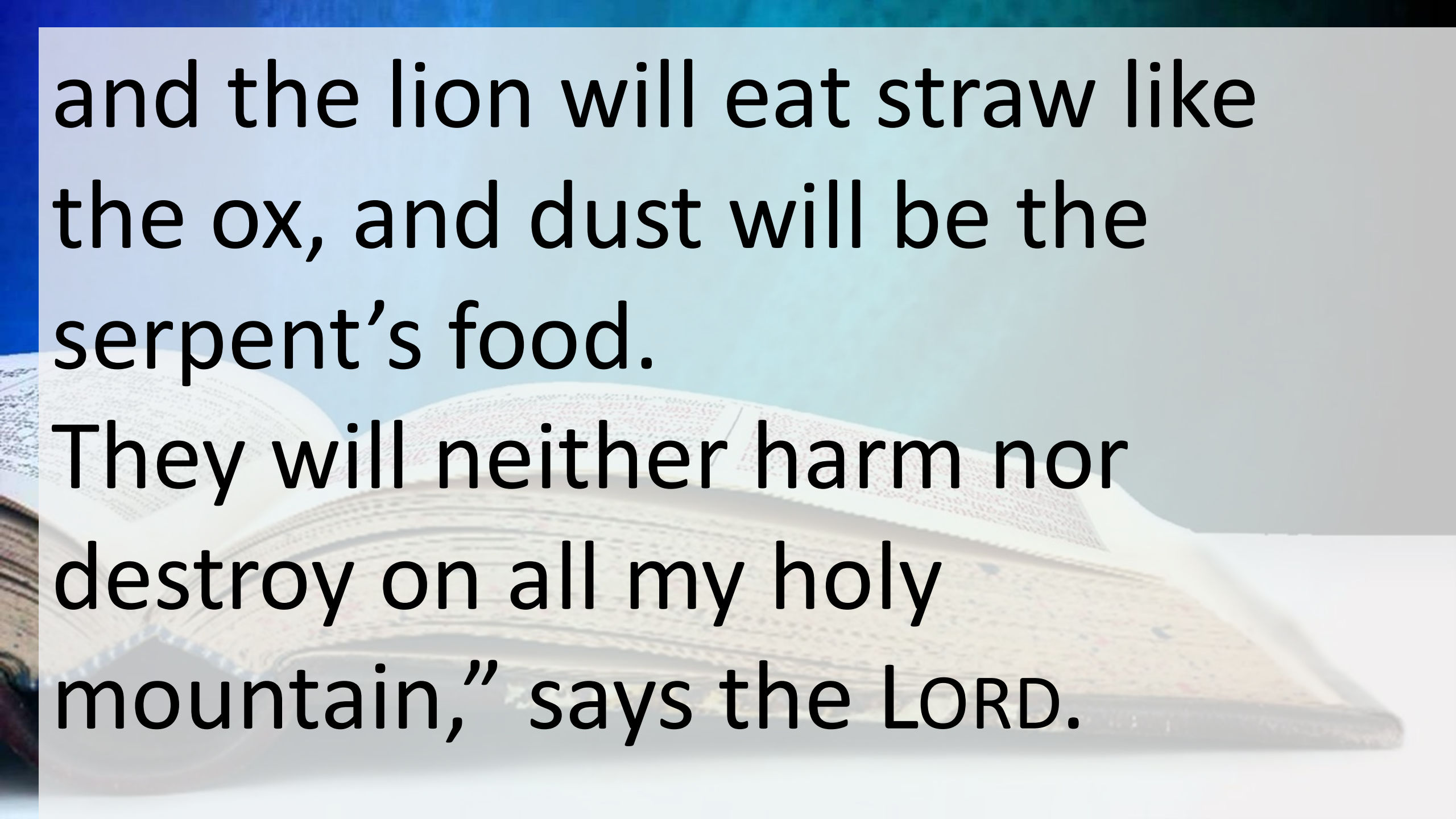
the work of their hands.

²³ They will not labor in vain,
nor will they bear children
doomed to misfortune;
for they will be a people
blessed by the LORD,

An open book with text overlaid. The book is open, showing two pages with text. The text is in a large, black, sans-serif font. The background is a light blue gradient. The book is positioned in the lower half of the image, with the pages fanned out. The text is centered over the book and the background.

they and their descendants with
them. ²⁴ Before they call I will
answer; while they are still
speaking I will hear.

²⁵ The wolf and the lamb will
feed together,

An open book with text overlaid. The book is open, showing two pages with faint, illegible text. The background is a light blue gradient. The text is in a large, black, sans-serif font.

and the lion will eat straw like
the ox, and dust will be the
serpent's food.

They will neither harm nor
destroy on all my holy
mountain," says the LORD.

The background features a dark, brownish-gold gradient. Several white daisy flowers with yellow centers are scattered across the scene, some in sharp focus and others blurred. The text is centered in the upper half of the image.

Christ Is Risen

UMH #307

The background features a dark gradient from top to bottom, with several white daisy flowers scattered across it. The text is overlaid on this background in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!

Celebrate this day of days.

**Christ is risen! Hush in wonder;
all creation is amazed.**

In the desert, all surrounding,
see, a spreading tree has
grown.

Healing leaves of grace
abounding bring a taste of
love unknown.

**Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
from the caverns of despair.**

**Walk with gladness in the
morning. See what love can do
and dare.**

Drink the wine of
resurrection, not a servant,
but a friend;
Jesus is our strong
companion.
Joy and peace shall never

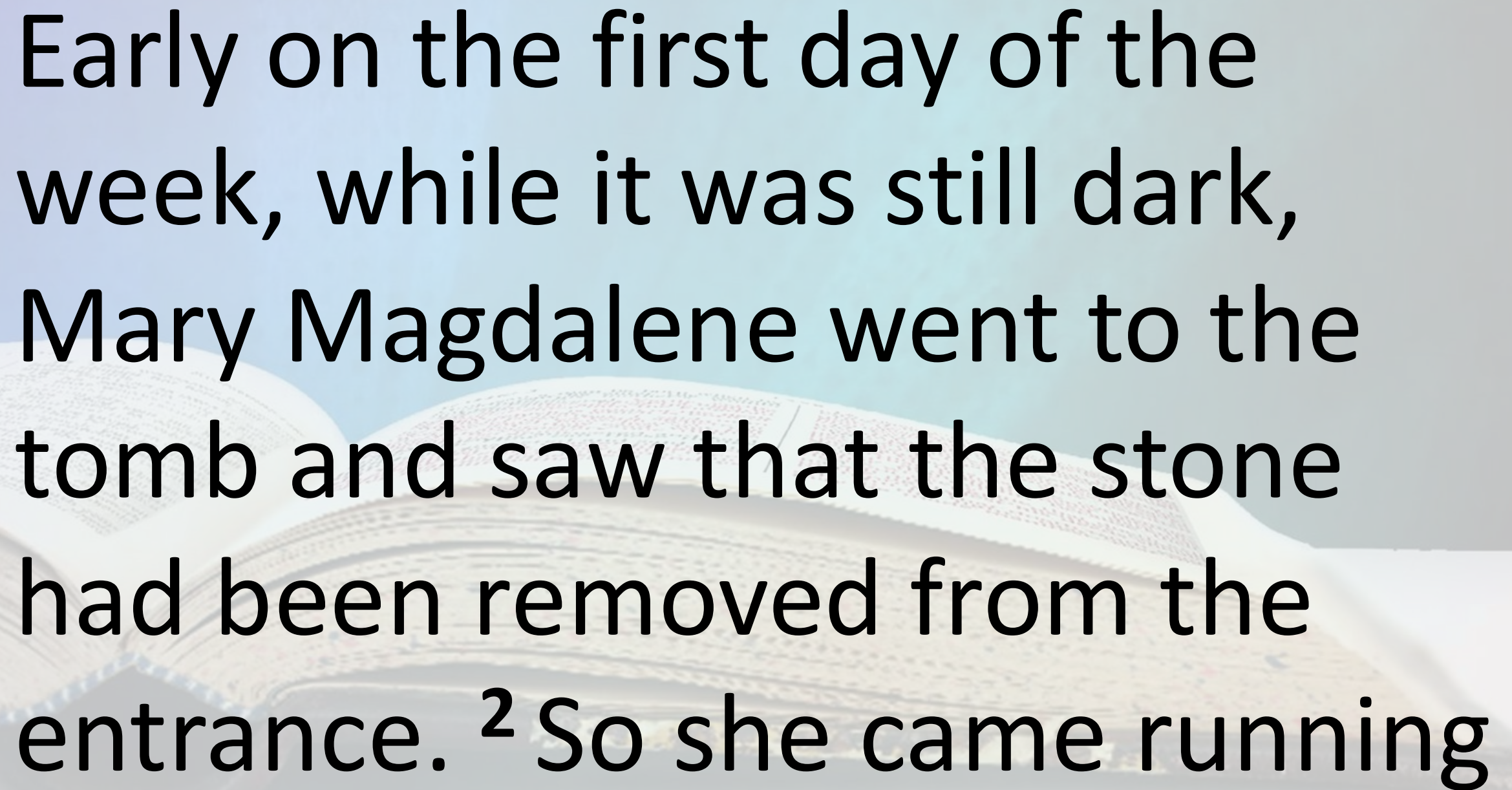
**Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
Nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
Where the world is still in pain.**

Tell its grim, demonic chorus:
“Christ is risen! Get you gone!”
God the First and Last is with us.
Sing Hosanna everyone!

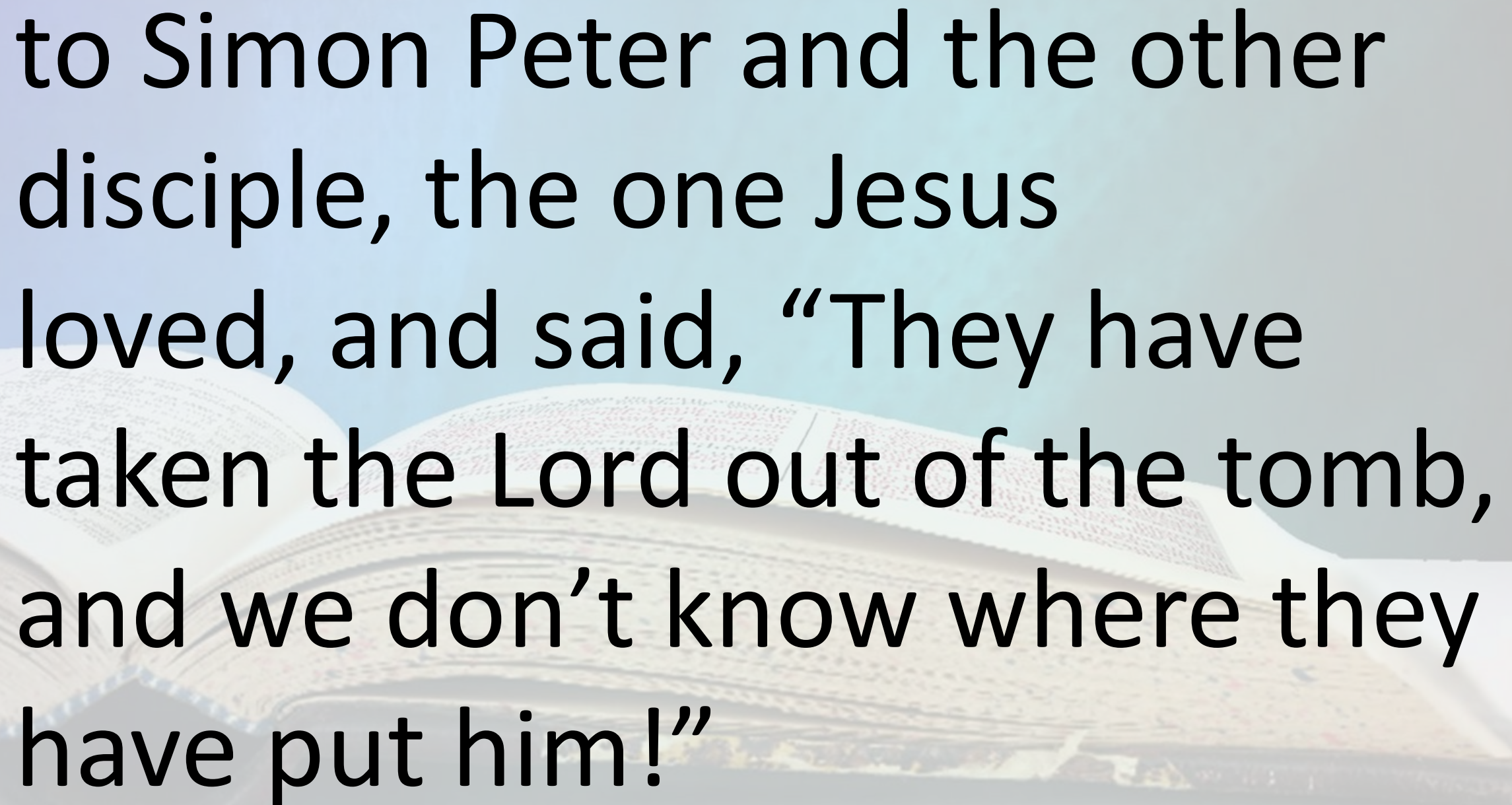
John 20:1-18

PG 1685

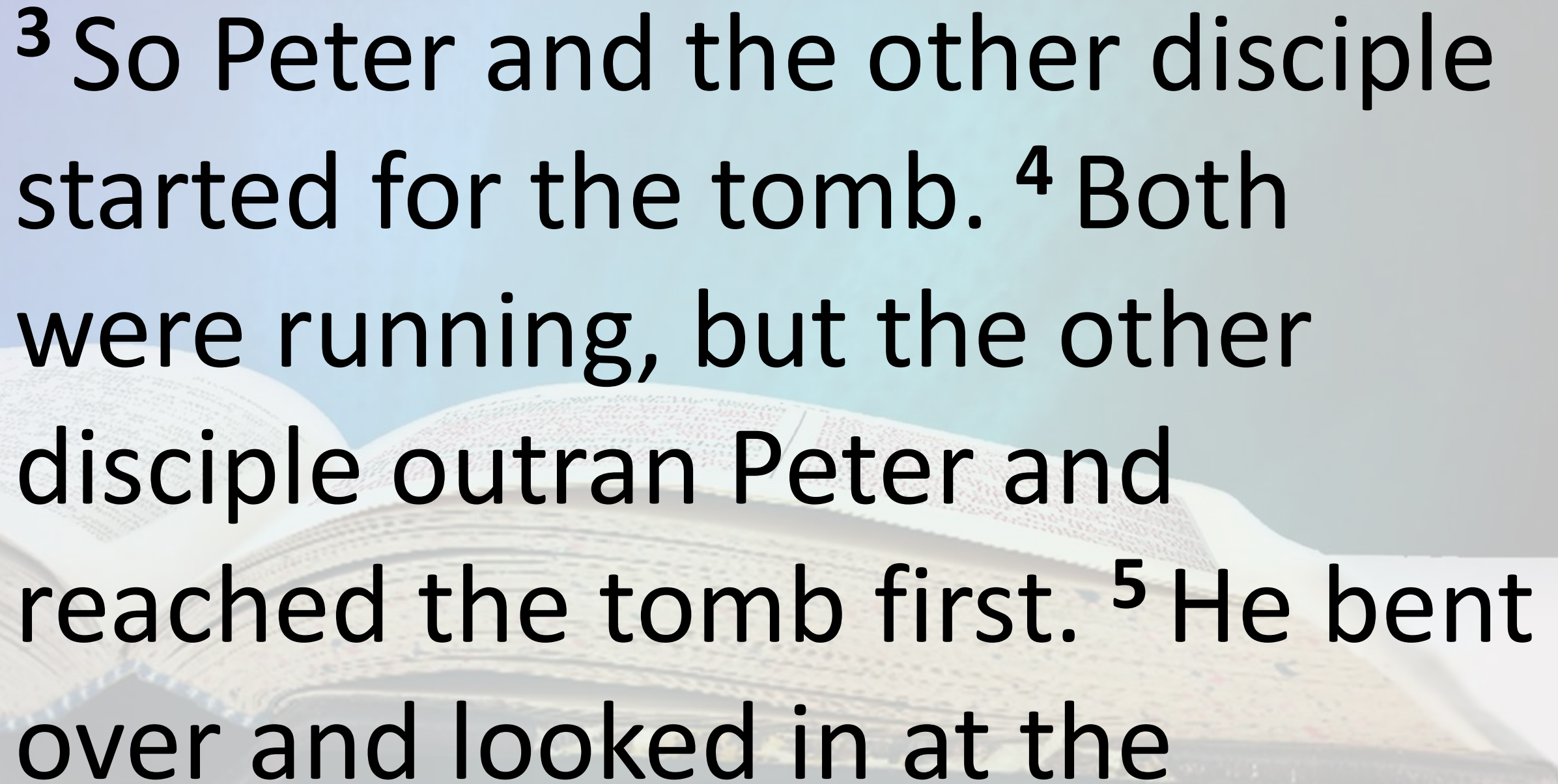




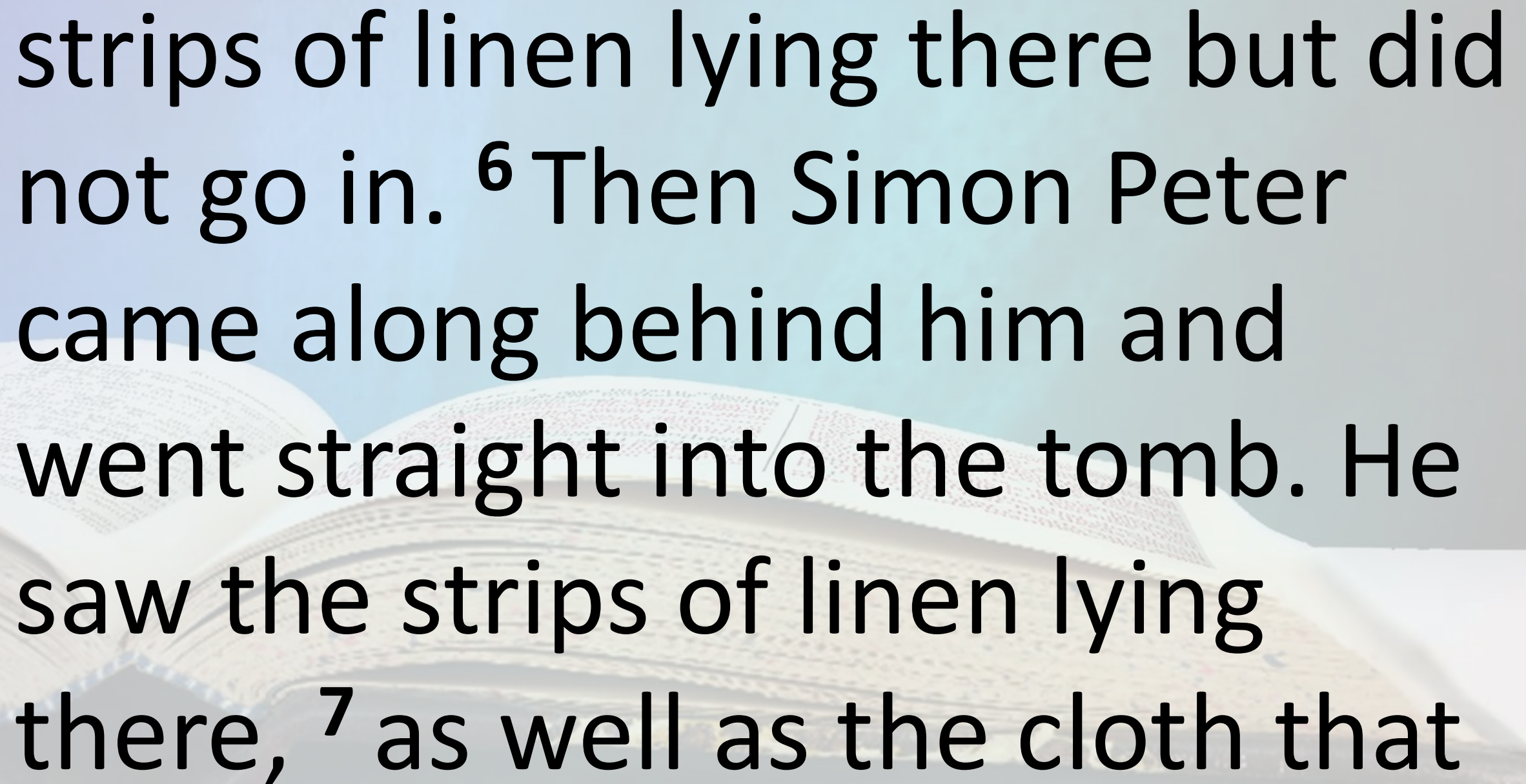
Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the entrance. ² So she came running

An open book with text overlaid. The text is in a large, black, sans-serif font. The background is a light blue gradient with a faint image of an open book.

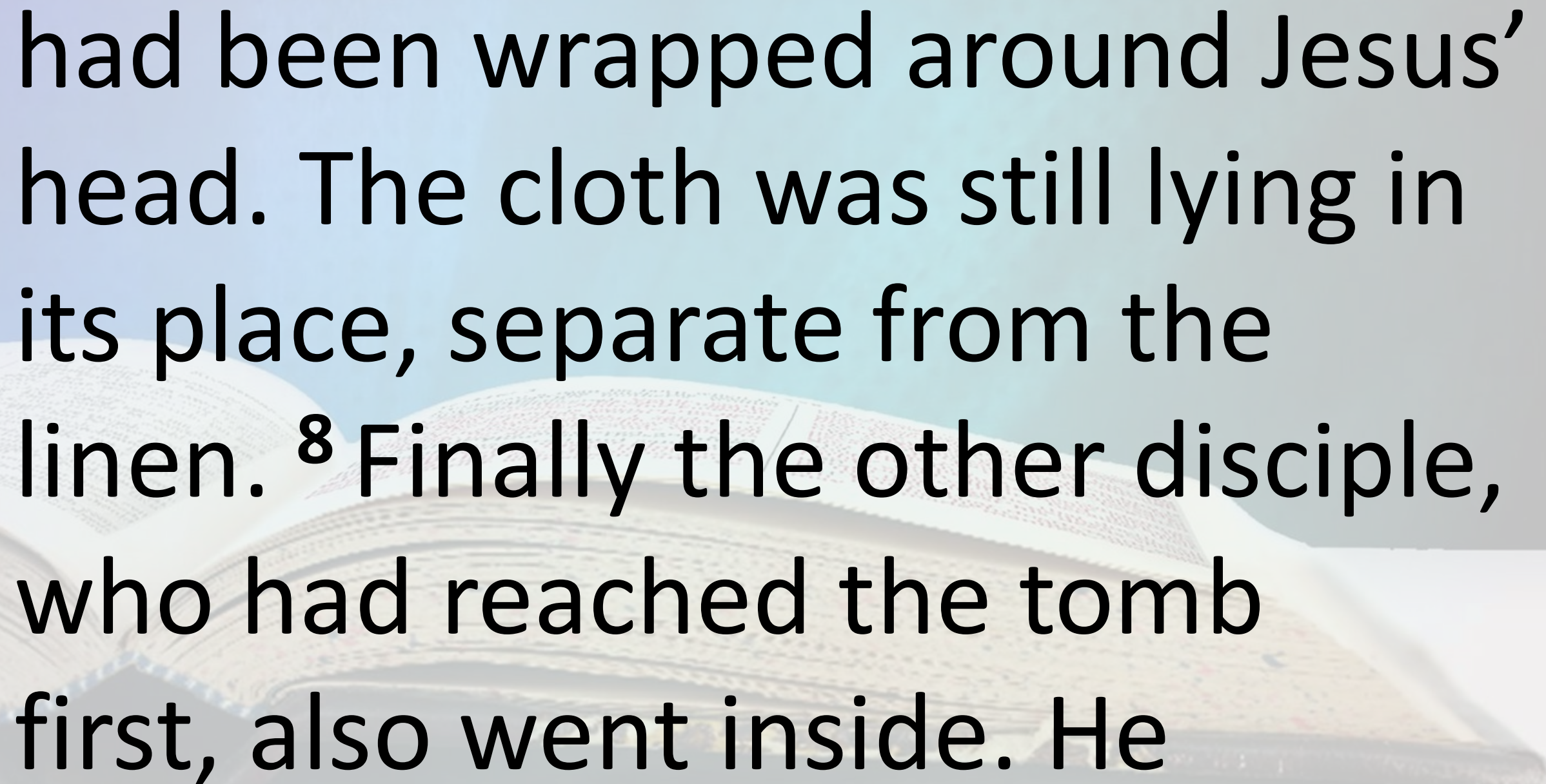
to Simon Peter and the other
disciple, the one Jesus
loved, and said, “They have
taken the Lord out of the tomb,
and we don’t know where they
have put him!”



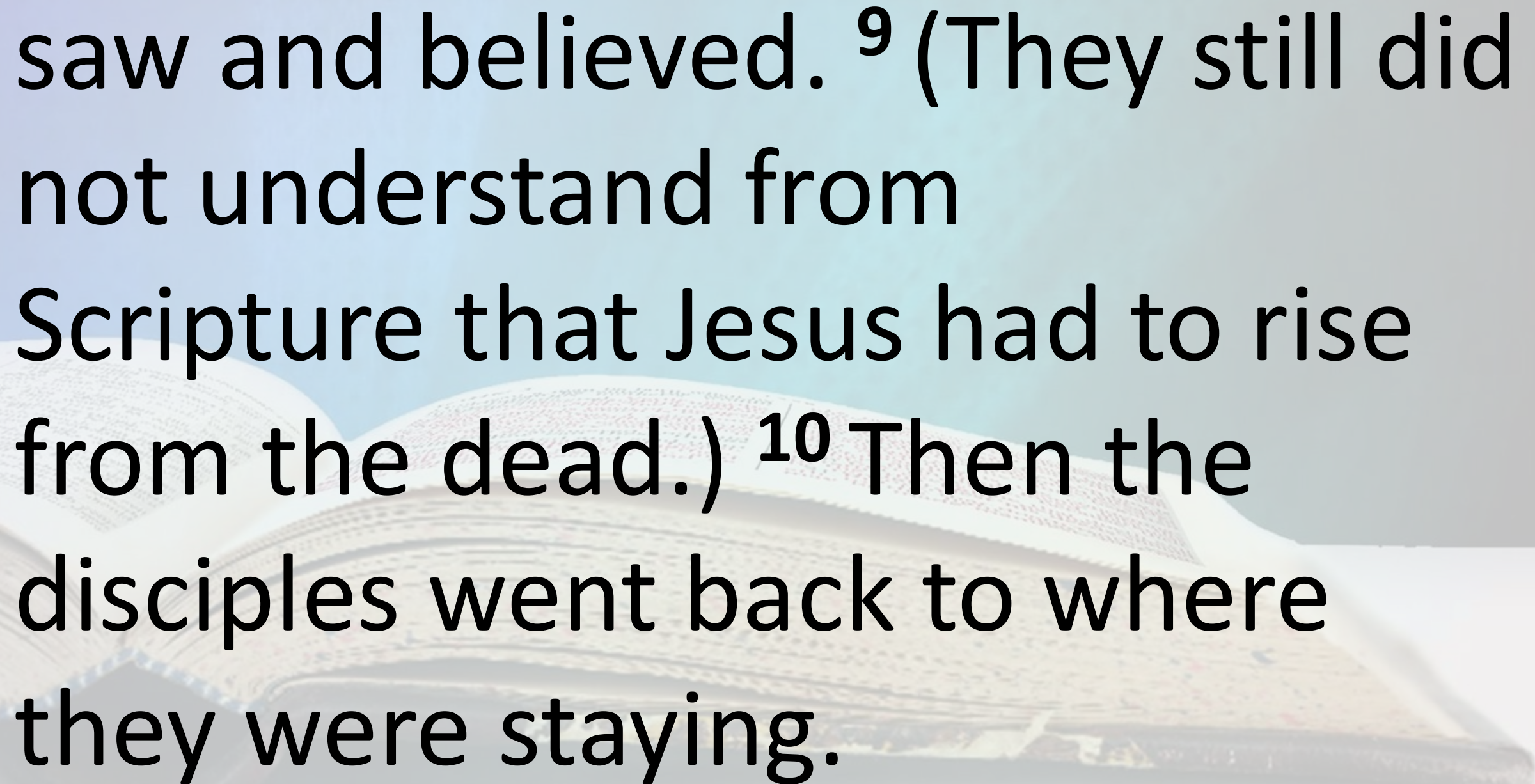
³ So Peter and the other disciple started for the tomb. ⁴ Both were running, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent over and looked in at the



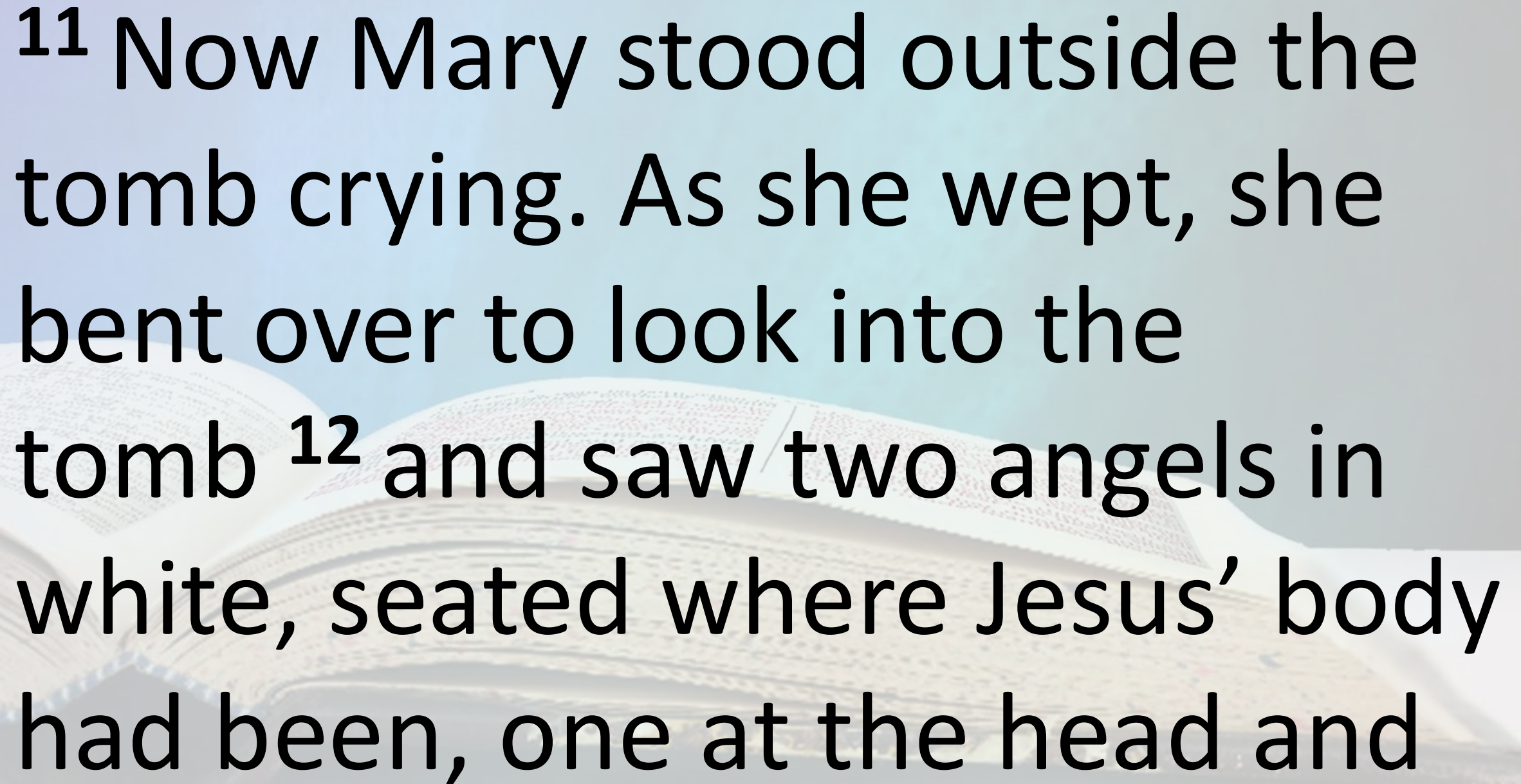
strips of linen lying there but did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came along behind him and went straight into the tomb. He saw the strips of linen lying there, ⁷ as well as the cloth that



had been wrapped around Jesus' head. The cloth was still lying in its place, separate from the linen. ⁸ Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He

An open book with text overlaid. The text is in a large, black, sans-serif font. The background is a light blue gradient with a faint image of an open book.

saw and believed.⁹ (They still did not understand from Scripture that Jesus had to rise from the dead.)¹⁰ Then the disciples went back to where they were staying.

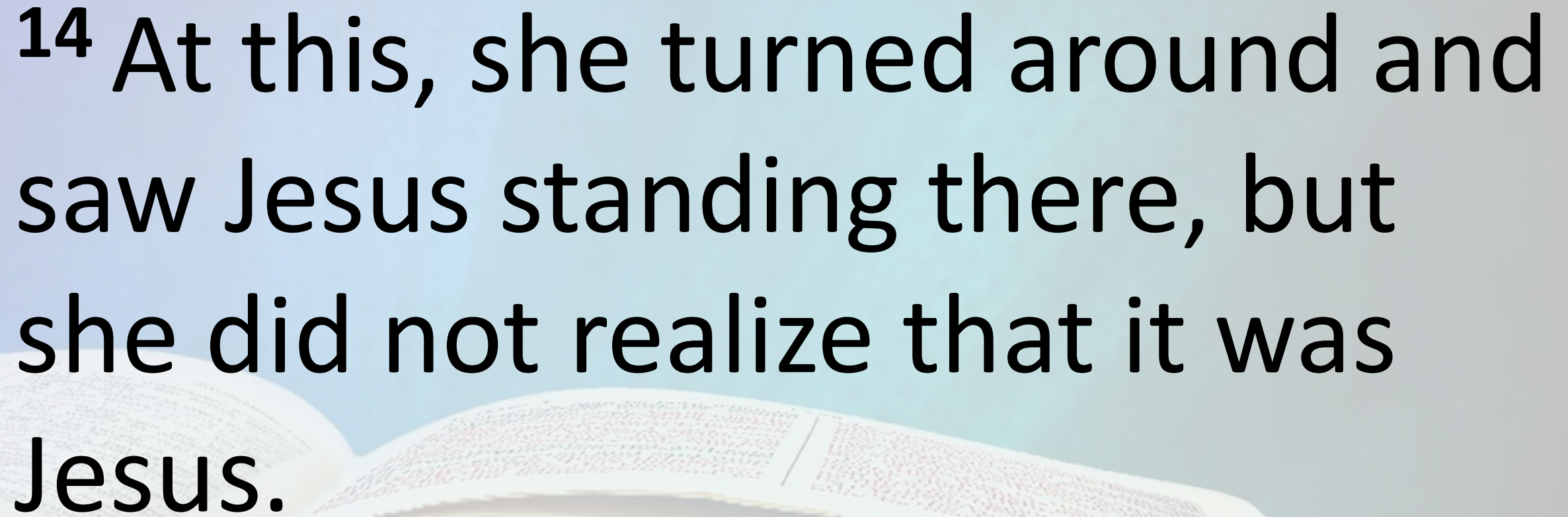
An open book is shown in the background, with its pages slightly blurred. The text is overlaid on the book in a large, black, sans-serif font. The text is arranged in several lines, with some words in a smaller font size. The background is a light blue gradient.

11 Now Mary stood outside the tomb crying. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb **12** and saw two angels in white, seated where Jesus' body had been, one at the head and

the other at the foot.

¹³ They asked her, “Woman, why are you crying?”

“They have taken my Lord away,” she said, “and I don’t know where they have put him.”



14 At this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not realize that it was Jesus.

15 He asked her, “Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you

are looking for?”

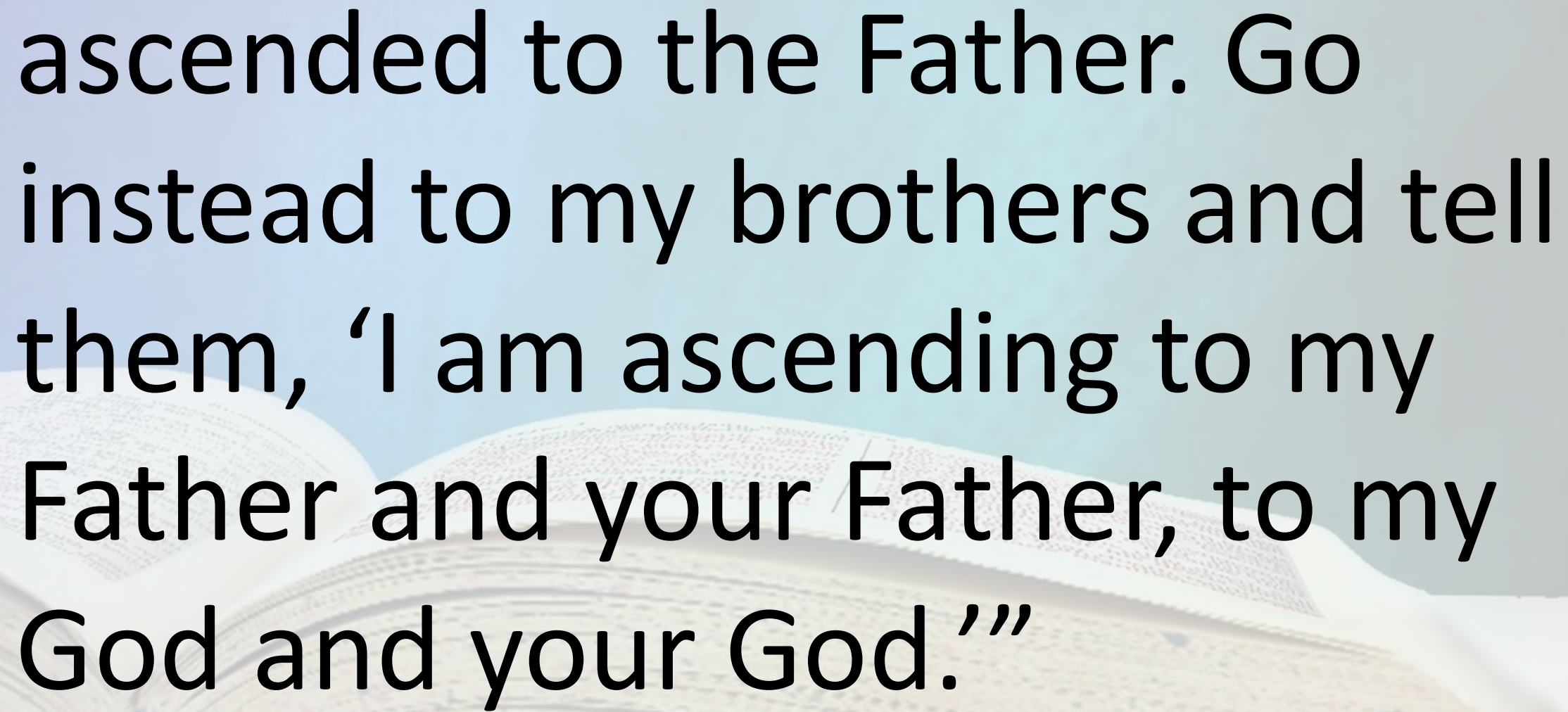
Thinking he was the gardener, she said, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have put him, and I will get him.”

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary.”

She turned toward him and cried out in

Aramaic, “Rabboni!” (which means “Teacher”).

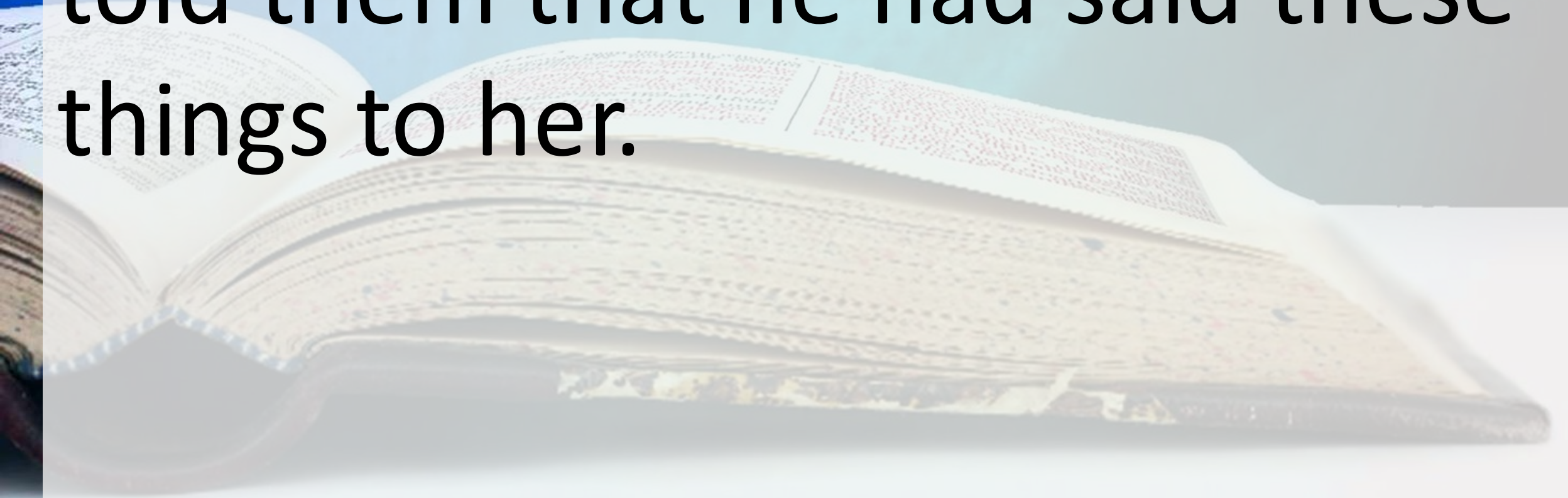
¹⁷ Jesus said, “Do not hold on to me, for I have not yet

An open book with text overlaid. The text is in a large, black, sans-serif font. The background is a light blue and white gradient, with the book's pages visible in the lower half.

ascended to the Father. Go
instead to my brothers and tell
them, ‘I am ascending to my
Father and your Father, to my
God and your God.’”

¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went to

the disciples with the news: “I have seen the Lord!” And she told them that he had said these things to her.



This is the Word of God for the people of God.

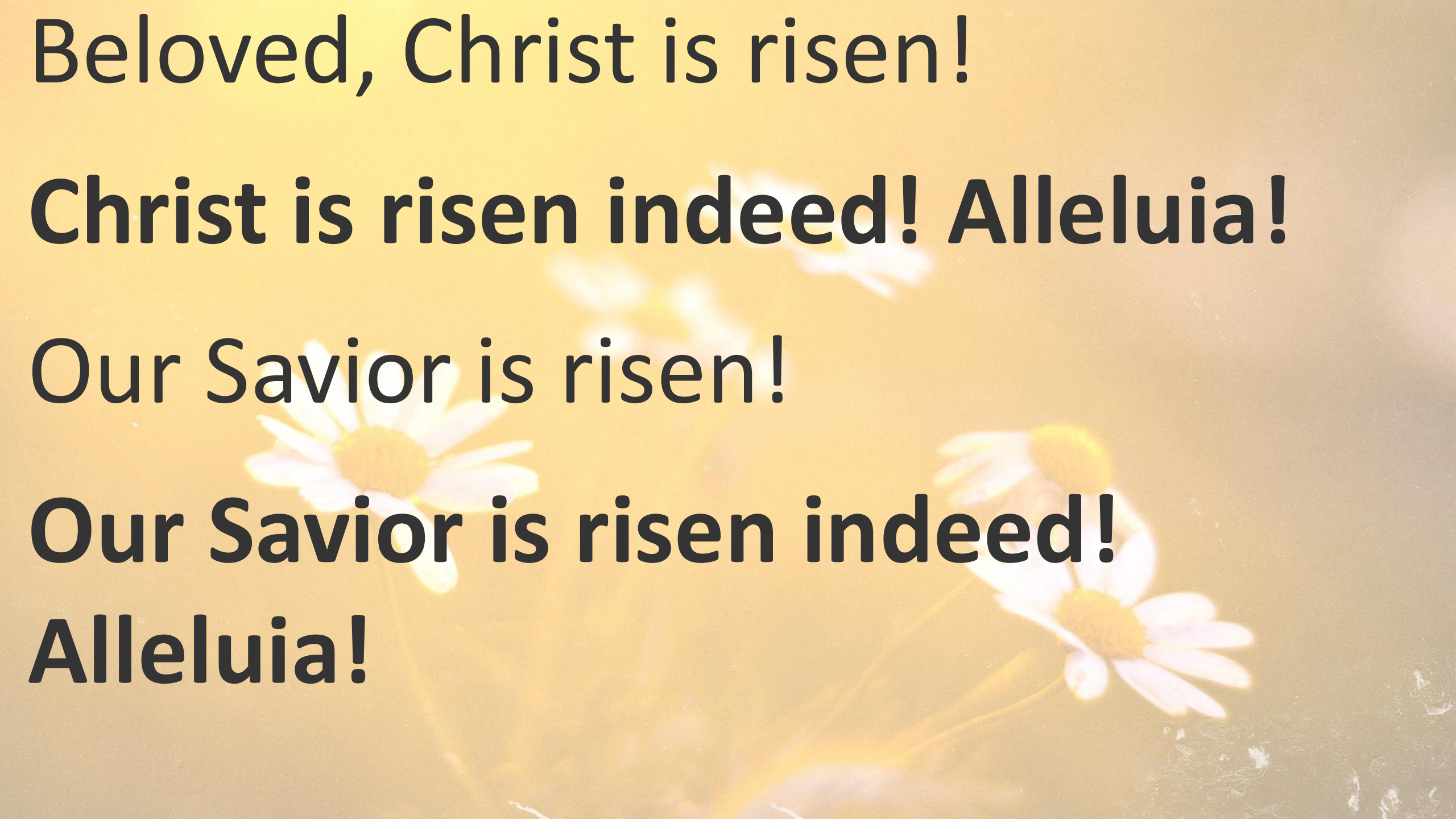
Thanks Be to God.



STEADFAST LOVE (A NEW CUT)

CALL TO WORSHIP

EASTER

The background of the image is a soft, warm yellow. It features several white daisies with bright yellow centers, some in sharp focus and others blurred, creating a sense of depth and light. The overall mood is bright and cheerful.

Beloved, Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Our Savior is risen!

Our Savior is risen indeed!

Alleluia!

Steadfast Love is risen!

Steadfast Love is risen indeed!

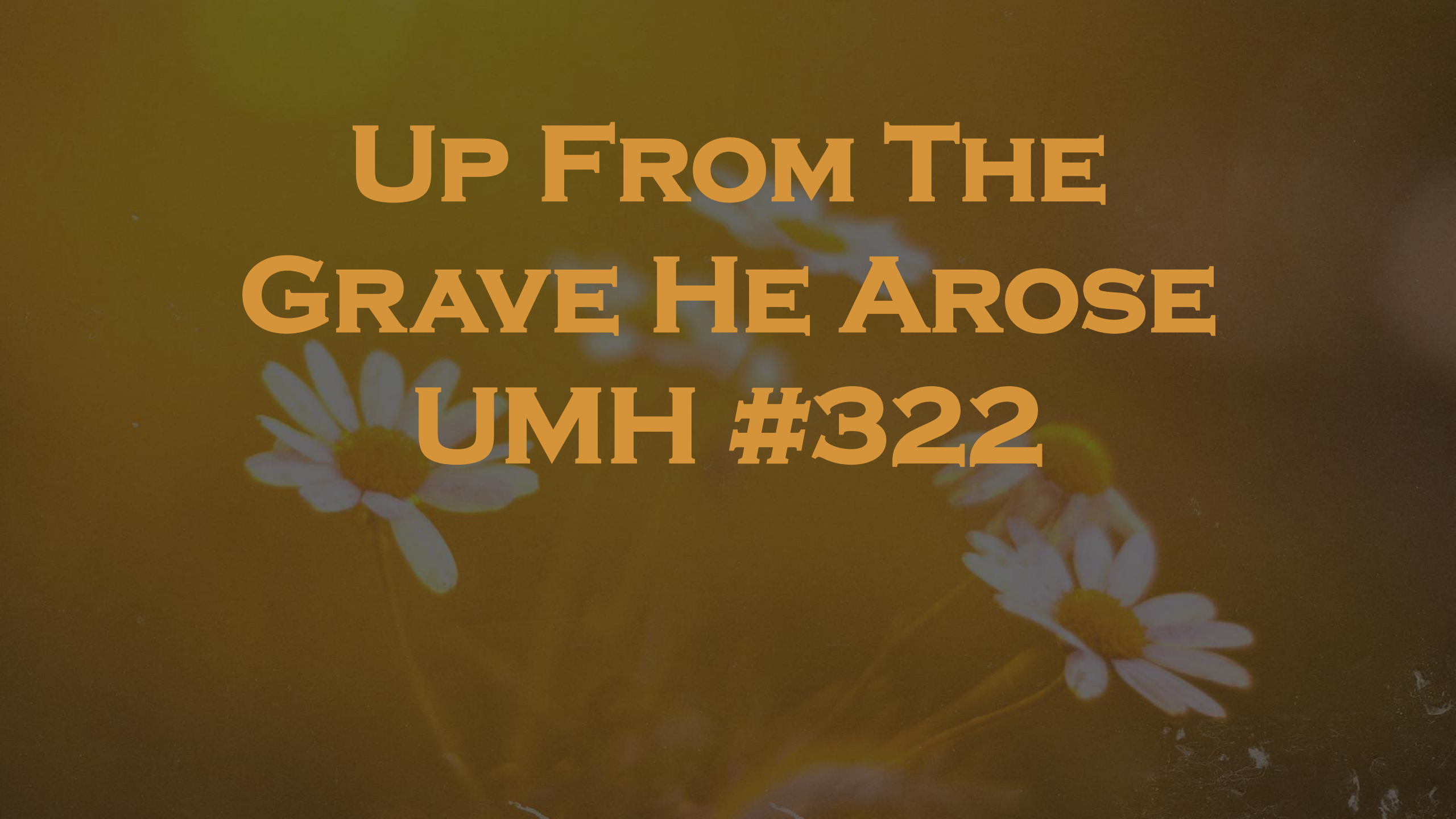
Alleluia!

This is the day that God has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad!

Alleluia! Amen!

**UP FROM THE
GRAVE HE AROSE
UMH #322**

The background of the image is a dark, textured surface, possibly a book cover or endpaper, with a warm, brownish-gold hue. Several white daisy flowers with yellow centers are scattered across the surface, some in sharp focus and others blurred. The text is overlaid in a bold, yellow, serif font, centered horizontally and arranged in three lines.

Low in the grave he lay,
Jesus my Savior,
waiting the coming day,
Jesus my Lord!

Up from the grave
he arose,
with a mighty triumph
o'er his foes;

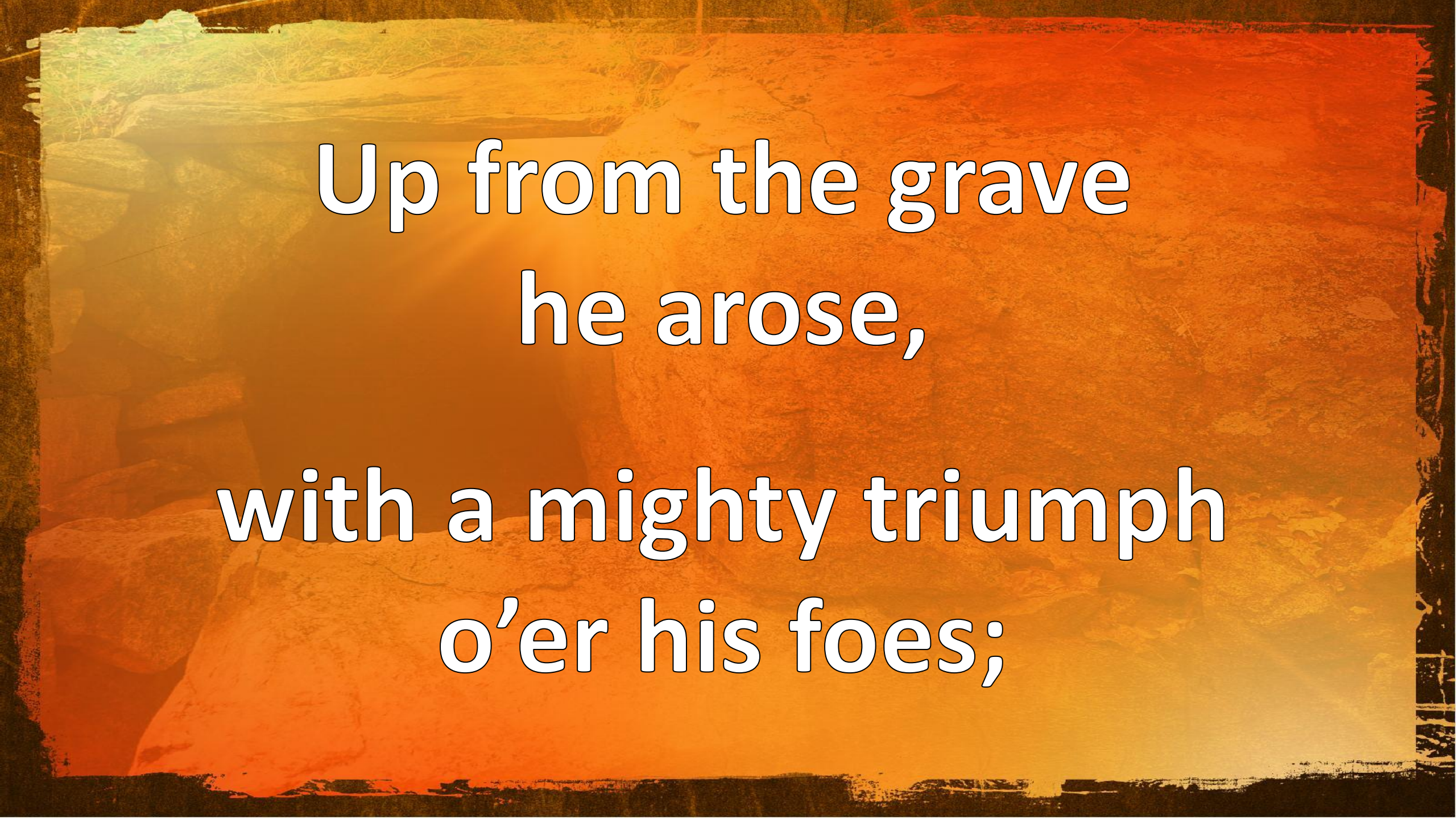
he arose a victor
from the dark domain,
and he lives forever,
with his saints to reign

He arose!

He arose!

Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Vainly they
watch his bed,
Jesus my Savior;
vainly they seal the dead,
Jesus my Lord!



Up from the grave
he arose,
with a mighty triumph
o'er his foes;

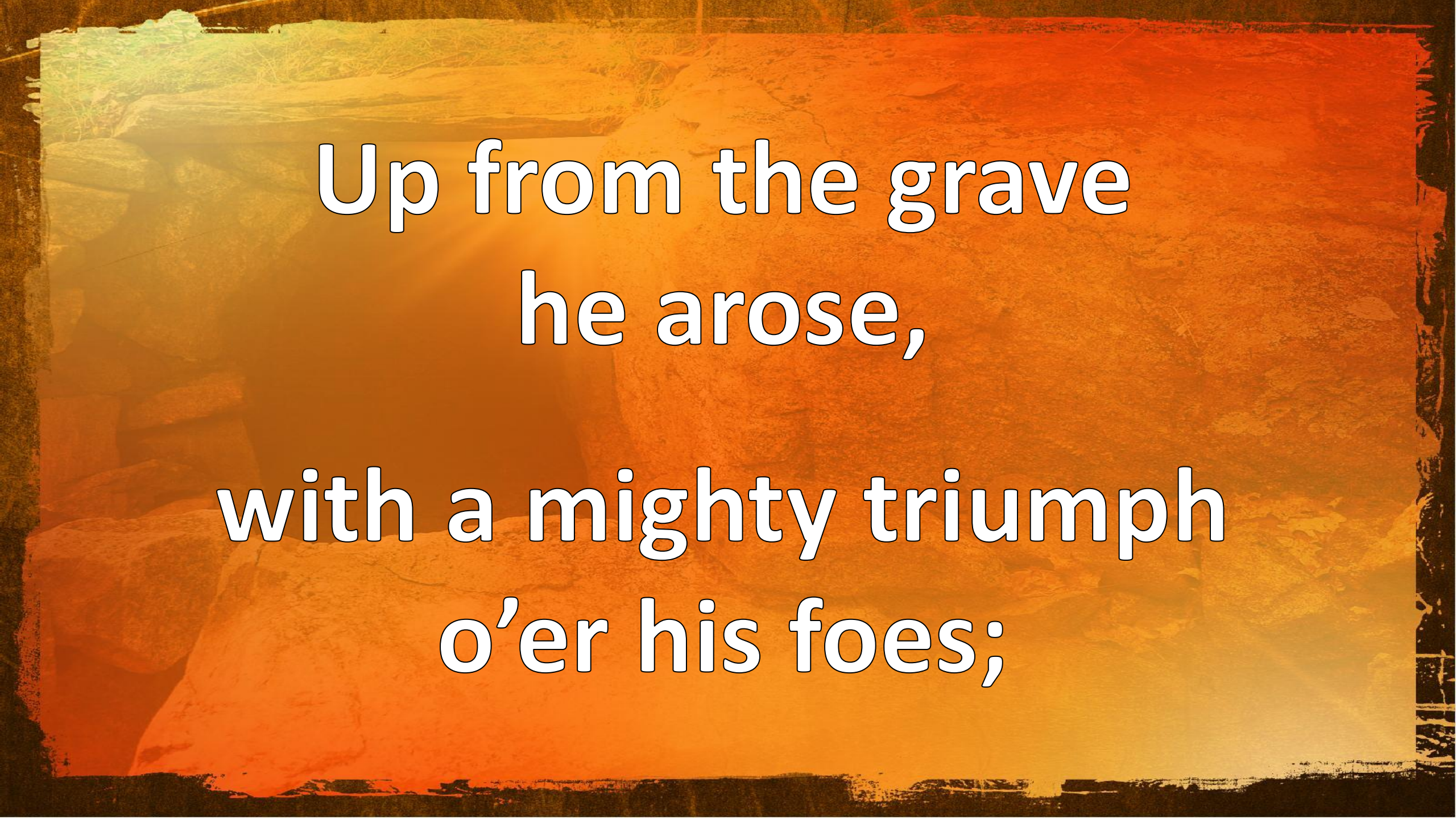
he arose a victor
from the dark domain,
and he lives forever,
with his saints to reign

He arose!

He arose!

Hallelujah! Christ arose!

Death cannot
keep its prey,
Jesus my Savior;
he tore the bars away,
Jesus my Lord!



Up from the grave
he arose,
with a mighty triumph
o'er his foes;

he arose a victor
from the dark domain,
and he lives forever,
with his saints to reign

He arose!

He arose!

Hallelujah! Christ arose!


STEADFAST LOVE (A NEW CUT)

Joys and Prayer Requests

EASTER

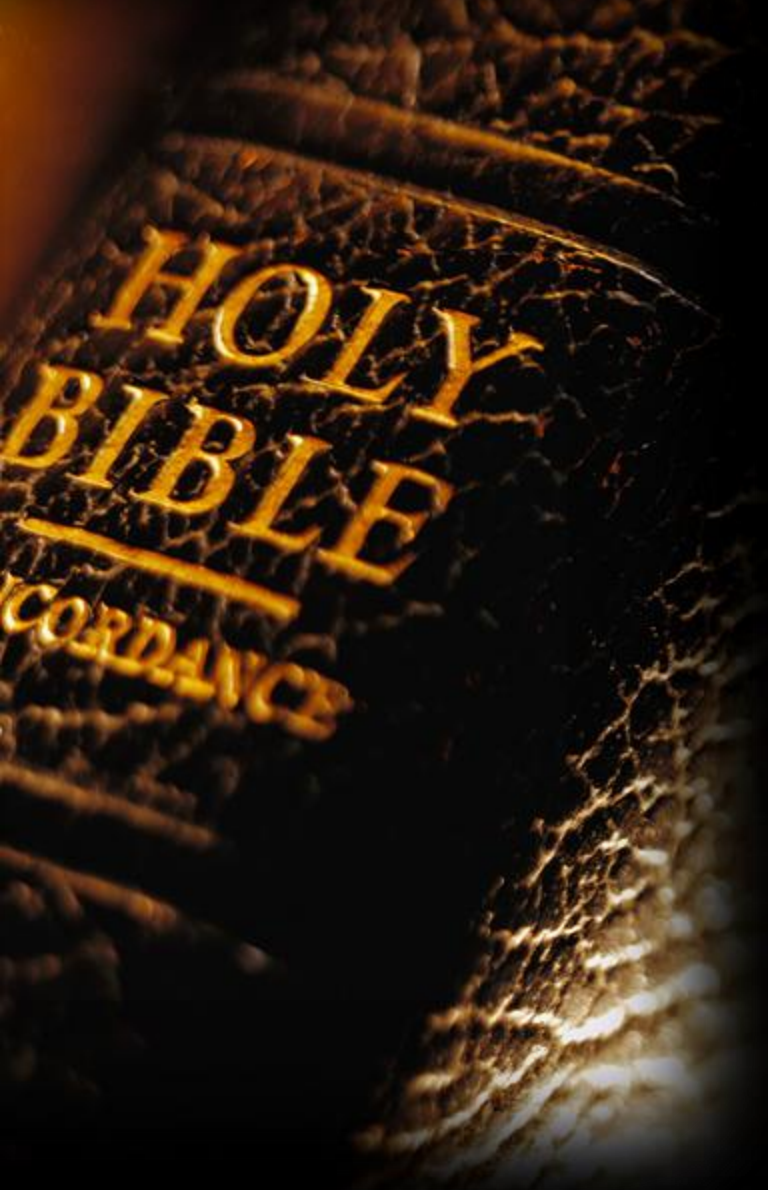
The Lord's Prayer

**Our father,
Who art in heaven
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done**



HOLY
BIBLE
CORDANCE

The Lord's Prayer



**On earth
As it is in heaven.
Give us this day
Our daily bread
And forgive us
Our trespasses**

The Lord's Prayer


**As we forgive those
Who trespass against us.
And lead us not into
Temptation
But deliver us from evil**



HOLY
BIBLE
CONCORDANCE

The Lord's Prayer

**For thine is the kingdom
And the power,
And the glory forever.
Amen**



HOLY
BIBLE
CORDANCE

Offering



Doxology

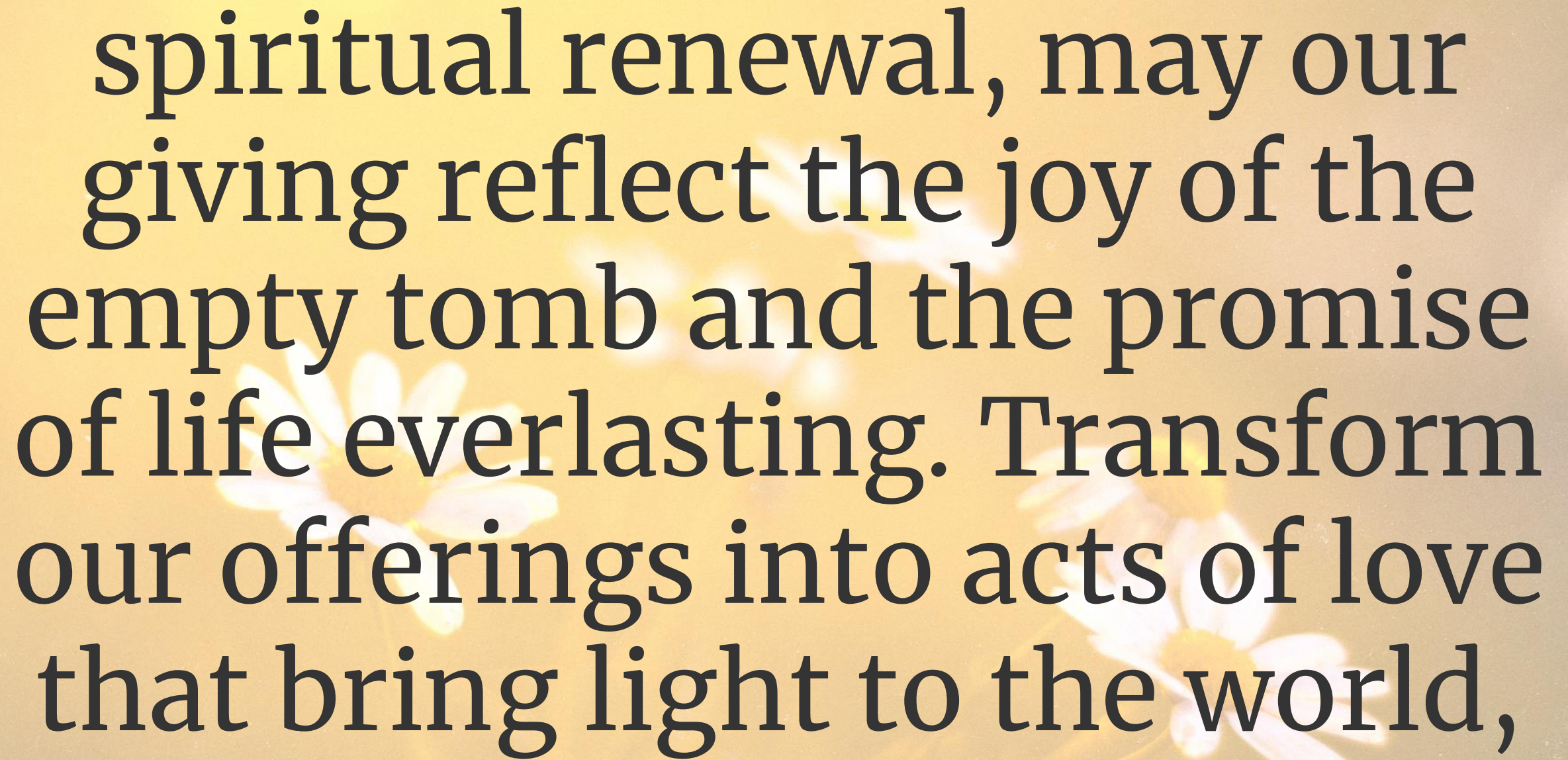
**Praise the Lord who
reigns above and
Keeps his court below;
Praise the holy God of
love and
All his greatness show;**

Doxology

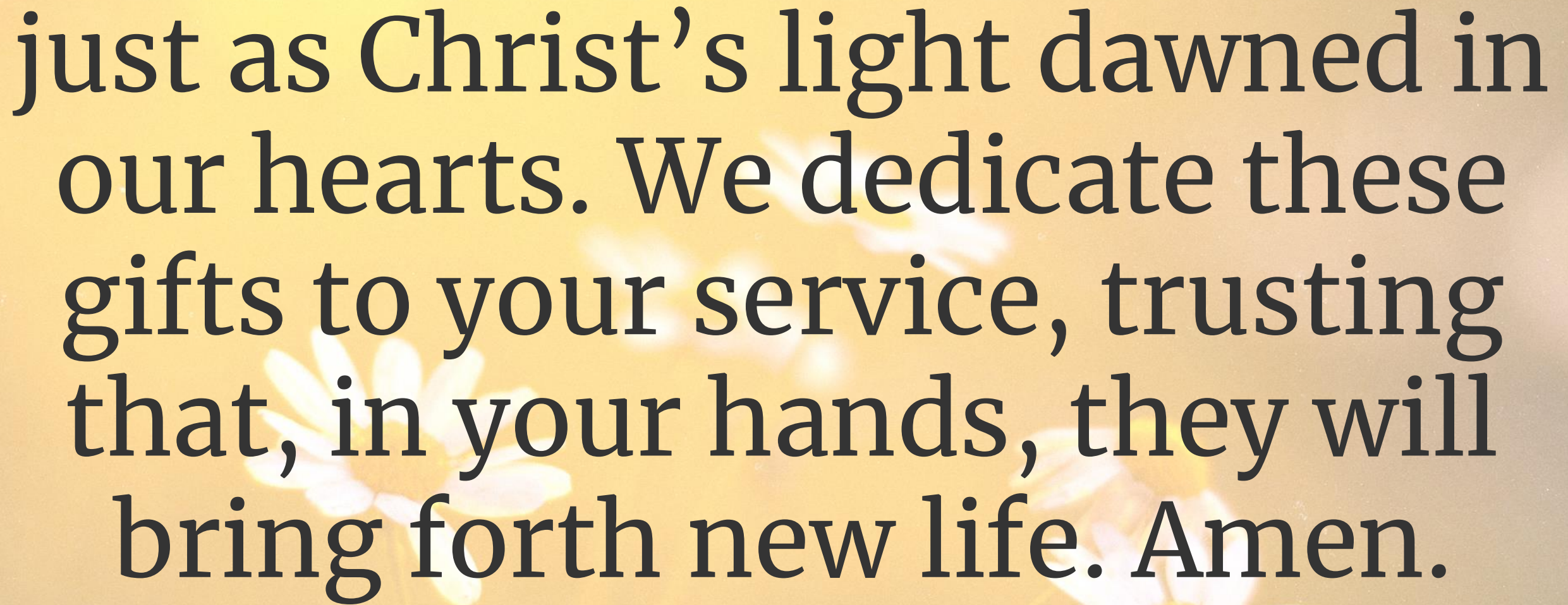
**praise him for his noble
deeds,
Praise him for his
matchless power;
Him from whom all good
proceeds let
Earth and heaven adore.**



Radiant God, whose love endures forever, we gather today in the light of resurrection hope, offering these gifts as a response to the abundant grace we have received. In this period of



spiritual renewal, may our giving reflect the joy of the empty tomb and the promise of life everlasting. Transform our offerings into acts of love that bring light to the world,



just as Christ's light dawned in
our hearts. We dedicate these
gifts to your service, trusting
that, in your hands, they will
bring forth new life. Amen.

The background features a dark, textured surface, possibly a book cover, with several white daisies scattered across it. The daisies are in various stages of focus, with some appearing sharp and others blurred. The overall lighting is soft and somewhat dim, creating a serene and contemplative atmosphere.

Choir Anthem

Because He Lives

STEADFAST LOVE (A NEW CUT)

Rev Dr Ray Francis

EASTER

Introduction

- Today, we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ—the greatest victory in history!
- The Son has risen, and this event has profound meaning for us as Christians.
- Let us reflect on the significance of the resurrection through the Scriptures.

Jesus' Fulfillment of His Mission - Promise of New Creation

- - Jesus' resurrection marks the beginning of a new creation, where pain, sorrow, and death have no power.
- - Through His victory over death, Jesus ushers in a world where all things are being made new.
- - His resurrection fulfills the prophecy of a new heaven and new earth, offering us hope for the future.

Jesus' Fulfillment of His Mission - Jesus Came to Bring Life

- - Jesus came to offer abundant life, not just physical healing, but eternal life in Him.
- - The resurrection is the ultimate sign that Jesus has conquered death and offers life to all who believe.
- - Jesus' victory over death means we, too, can live with hope and confidence in the eternal life He offers.

Jesus' Fulfillment of His Mission - Victory Over Sin and Death

- - The resurrection assures us that sin and death no longer have dominion over us.
- - Jesus' victory on the cross and through His resurrection empowers us to live in His victory.
- - We are free from the fear of death because Jesus has overcome it once and for all.

The Meaning of the Empty Tomb - Proof of Resurrection

- - The empty tomb is the definitive proof that Jesus rose from the dead.
- - The resurrection is a historical fact and serves as evidence of Jesus' victory.
- - For Christians, the empty tomb assures us that death could not hold Jesus, and it won't hold us either.

The Meaning of the Empty Tomb - Hope for All Believers

- - The empty tomb is the assurance that we, too, will be raised to new life.
- - Jesus' resurrection is the guarantee of eternal life for all who believe.
- - The resurrection gives us hope, not just in the future but in the present, as we live in Christ's victory.

The Meaning of the Empty Tomb - The Victory of Light Over Darkness

- - The empty tomb symbolizes the triumph of light over darkness, sin, and death.
- - Jesus' resurrection declares that light will always overcome darkness.
- - As Christians, we are called to walk in the light of the resurrection, leaving behind the darkness of sin.

The Revealing of the Tomb to the Women - Women as the First Witnesses

- - Jesus revealed Himself first to Mary Magdalene, highlighting the inclusivity of the gospel.
- - Jesus honors women, giving them the privilege of being the first witnesses of His resurrection.
- - The resurrection shows that Jesus' message is for all people, regardless of gender or status.

The Revealing of the Tomb to the Women - The Call to Share the Good News

- - Mary was instructed to go and tell the disciples the good news of the resurrection.
- - Just as Mary shared the good news, we are called to proclaim the message of Christ's resurrection.
- - The resurrection is not just for us to keep but to share with the world, bringing hope to others.

The Revealing of the Tomb to the Women - A Personal Encounter with the Risen Lord

- - Mary Magdalene's personal encounter with Jesus shows that the resurrection is about relationship.
- - Jesus calls us by name, inviting us into a personal relationship with the risen Lord.
- - The resurrection is an invitation to encounter Jesus, not as a distant figure, but as a living Savior.

The Meaning of the Resurrection for Us - The Resurrection Brings Hope

- - The resurrection is the foundation of Christian hope.
- - No matter the circumstances, we have a future secure in Christ's victory over death.
- - Our hope is eternal, grounded in the truth of the resurrection.

The Meaning of the Resurrection for Us - A Call to New Life

- - Jesus' resurrection calls us to live a new life, free from sin and death.
- - The resurrection empowers us to live with purpose, joy, and faith.
- - As Christians, we are invited to walk in the newness of life that Christ's resurrection brings.

The Meaning of the Resurrection for Us - The Promise of Eternal Life

- - Jesus' resurrection assures us that we too will be resurrected to eternal life.
- - The resurrection is our guarantee of life beyond the grave, with God forever.
- - We live with the confident hope that our future is secure because Jesus has risen.

The Impact of the Resurrection on the Disciples - Fear Turned to Boldness

- - Before the resurrection, the disciples were afraid, but afterward, they boldly proclaimed Jesus.
- - The resurrection empowered the disciples to witness with courage, even in the face of persecution.
- - For us, the resurrection emboldens us to live and share our faith openly and confidently.

Conclusion

- The Son has risen! This victory over death is our victory. The resurrection brings hope, new life, and the promise of eternal joy in His presence. Let us live today with the joy and confidence that comes from knowing that because Jesus has risen, we too will rise with Him.

A close-up photograph of a communion cup filled with dark red wine. To the left of the cup is a piece of golden-brown bread. The background is a textured, light brown parchment paper. The lighting is warm and focused on the cup and bread.

COMMUNION



HE LIVES
UMH #310

He Lives
UMH #310

**I serve a risen savior,
He's in the world today;
I know that he is living,
Whatever foes may say.**

He Lives
UMH #310

**I see the hand of mercy,
I hear the voice of cheer.
And just the time I need
him,
He's always near.**

He Lives
UMH #310

**He lives, He lives,
Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me, and
talks with me
Along life's narrow way.**

He Lives
UMH #310

**He lives, He lives,
Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know
he lives?
He lives within my
heart.**

He Lives
UMH #310

**In all the world around
me**

**I see his loving care,
And though my heart
grows weary,
I never will despair.**

He Lives
UMH #310

I know that he is leading
Through all the stormy
blast;
The day of his appearing
Will come at last.

He Lives
UMH #310

**He lives, He lives,
Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me, and
talks with me
Along life's narrow way.**

He Lives
UMH #310

**He lives, He lives,
Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know
he lives?
He lives within my
heart.**

He Lives
UMH #310

**Rejoice rejoice, O
Christian,
Lift up your voice and
sing
Eternal hallelujahs to
Jesus Christ the King!**

He Lives
UMH #310

**The hope of all who
seek him,
The help of all who find;
None other is so loving,
So good and kind.**

He Lives
UMH #310

**He lives, He lives,
Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me, and
talks with me
Along life's narrow way.**

He Lives
UMH #310

**He lives, He lives,
Salvation to impart!
You ask me how I know
he lives?
He lives within my
heart.**

May God's abiding love and hope give us new life.

May God's unmerited grace and mercy keep us hope-filled.

And may God's restorative justice bring to us all, perfect peace.

For Steadfast Love is risen!

Hallelujah! Amen.

STEADFAST LOVE

A LENTEN PLAYLIST

