

A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and white head coverings walking away from the camera on a dirt path. They are positioned in front of a large, rustic stone wall made of irregular, light-colored stones. The man on the left is wearing a dark green robe and has a light-colored satchel slung over his shoulder. The man on the right is wearing a dark purple or black robe. The background shows some greenery, including a tree trunk on the left and some bushes on the right. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

Baptism of Repentance  
Luke 3:1-20

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Curt Deming  
Melbourne Community Church  
January 6, 2019

# What will we learn?

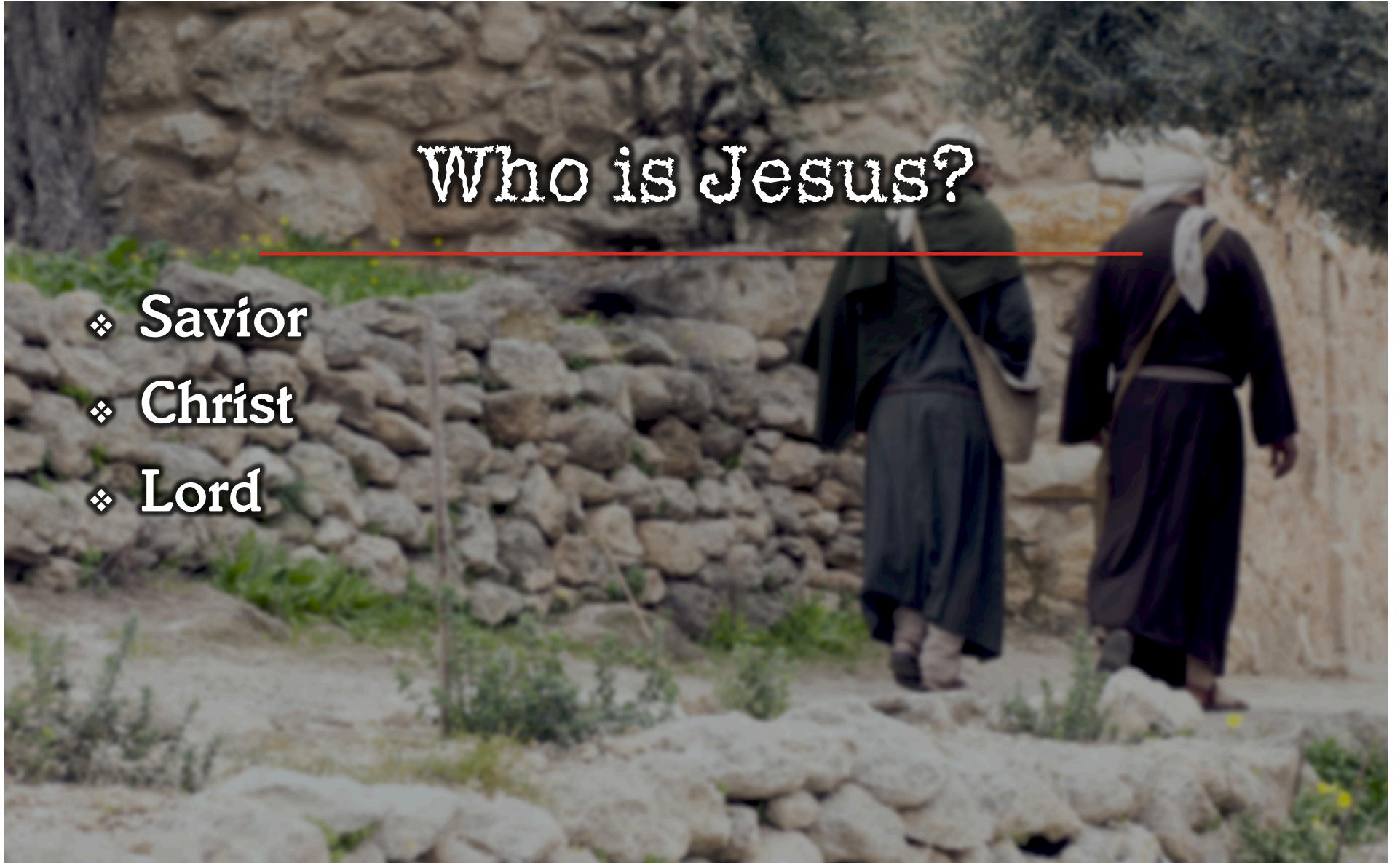
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- ❖ God overrules the rulers.
- ❖ In the Kingdom of God, the boundaries are based upon repentance.
- ❖ Like John the Baptist, we should point to Jesus.

# Who is Jesus?

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- ❖ Savior
- ❖ Christ
- ❖ Lord



## Luke 3:1-2

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In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar — when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Tracónitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene — during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas,

A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, hilly path. The background shows a stone wall and some sparse vegetation. The text 'Luke 3:2' is overlaid in white, stylized font, with a red horizontal line underneath it.

**Luke 3:2**

**the word of God came to John son of Zechariah  
in the wilderness.**



ATLANTIC OCEAN

Britian

Belgica

Germania

Sarmatia

Gaul

Dacia

Illyricum

BLACK SEA

Spain (Tarshish?)

Italia

Moesia

• ROME

Thrace

Pontus

Armenia

# Roman Empire

Macedonia

Cappadocia

Africa

CORINTH

EPHESUS

SYRIAN ANTIOCH

Achia

Euphrates River

Syria

GREAT SEA (The Mediterranean)

Crete

Cyprus

• JERUSALEM

Numidia

Cyrenacia

Egypt

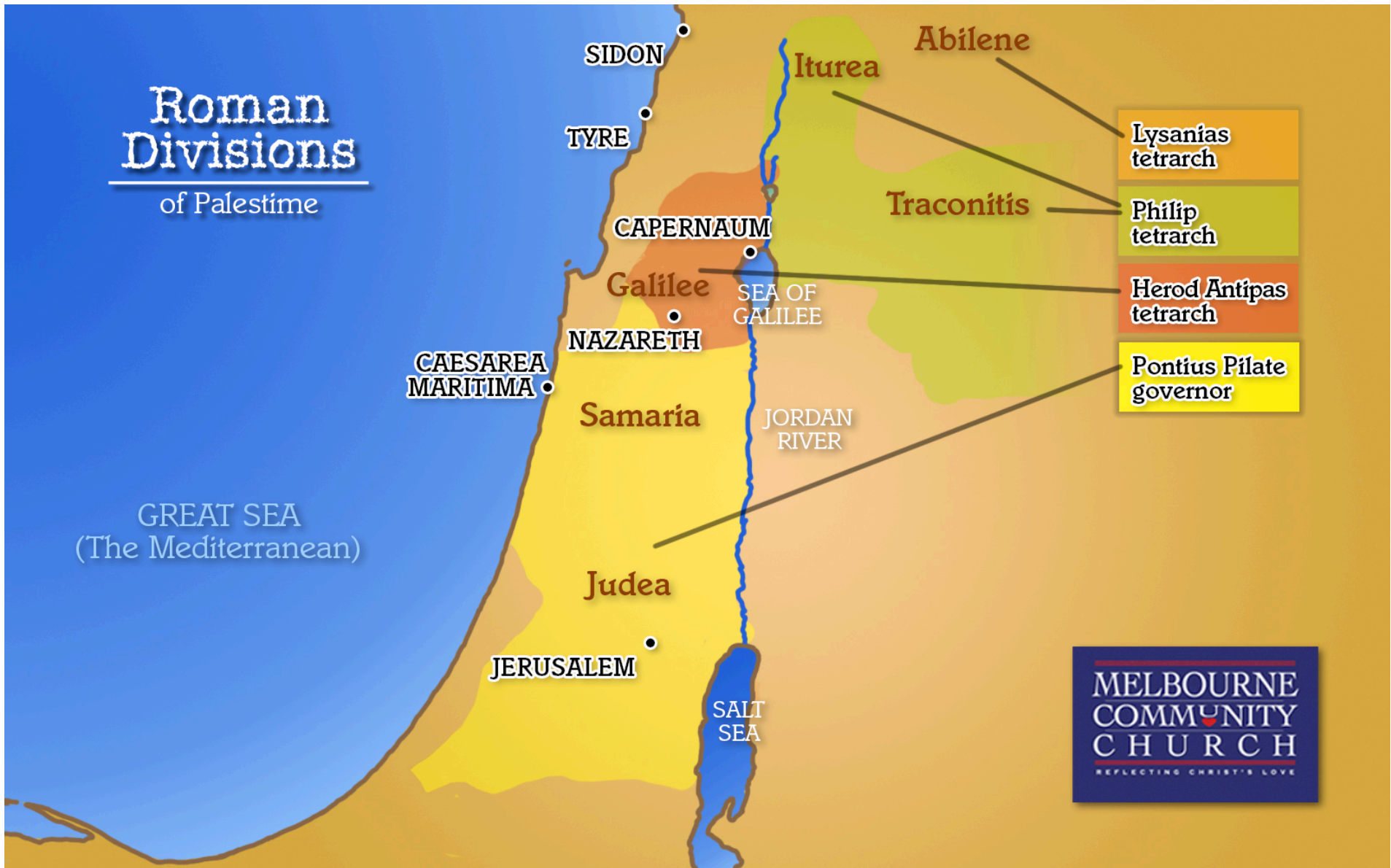
Nabatea (Arabia)

MELBOURNE COMMUNITY CHURCH  
REFLECTING CHRIST'S LOVE

Nile River

RED SEA

# Roman Divisions of Palestine





Sharon H. Ringe:

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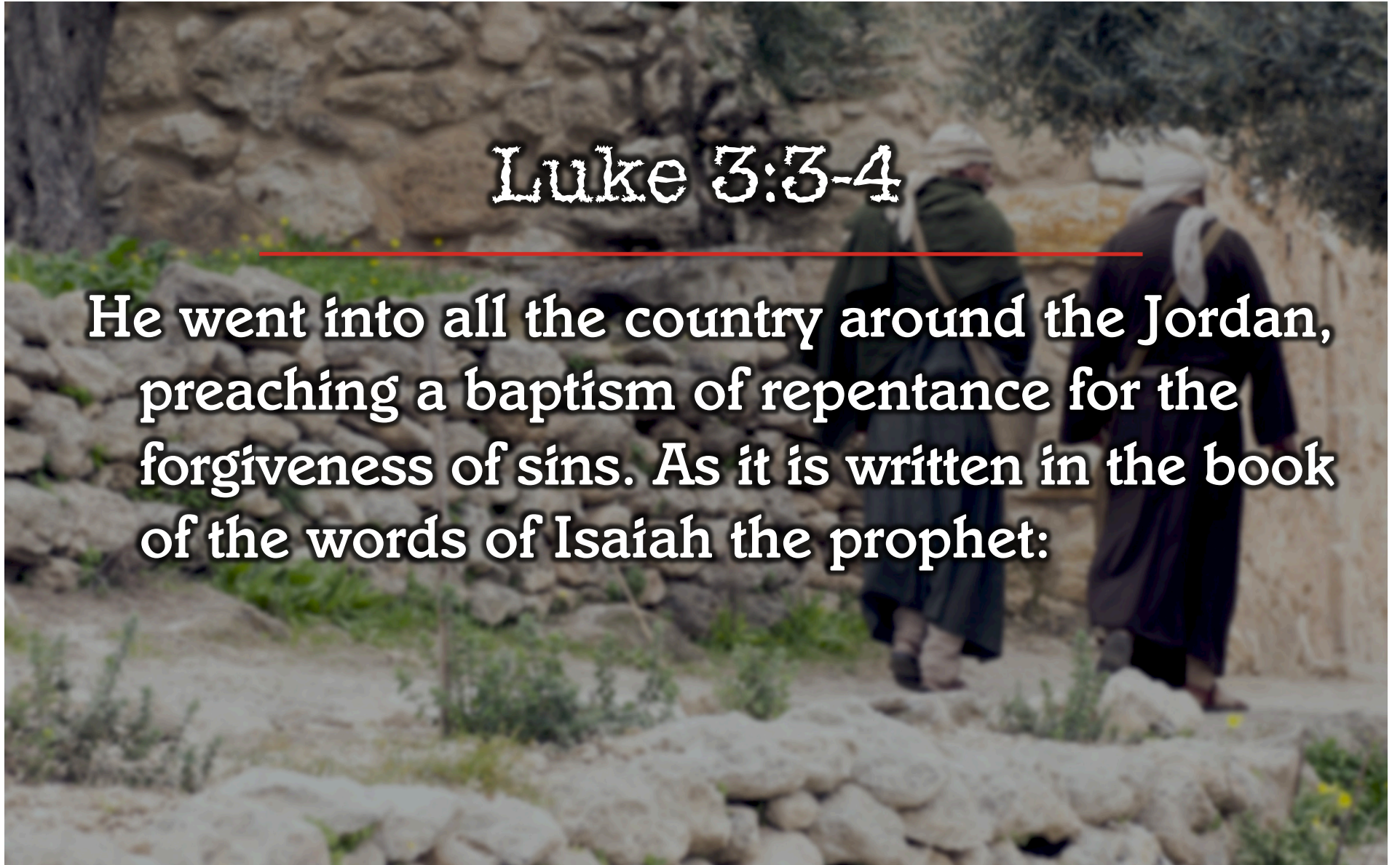
“It [the wilderness] is a place of testing, where the people are challenged to rely on God for sustenance, and the place from which the wanderers are born as a new people, chosen and precious to God.”



## Luke 3:3-4

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He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:





## Luke 3:4-5

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“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,  
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,  
make straight paths for him.  
Every valley shall be filled in,  
every mountain and hill made low.

A photograph of two men in traditional, long, dark robes and white head coverings walking away from the camera on a rough, rocky path. The path is made of uneven stones and has some sparse green vegetation. In the background, there is a large, rough stone wall and some trees. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

## Luke 3:4-6

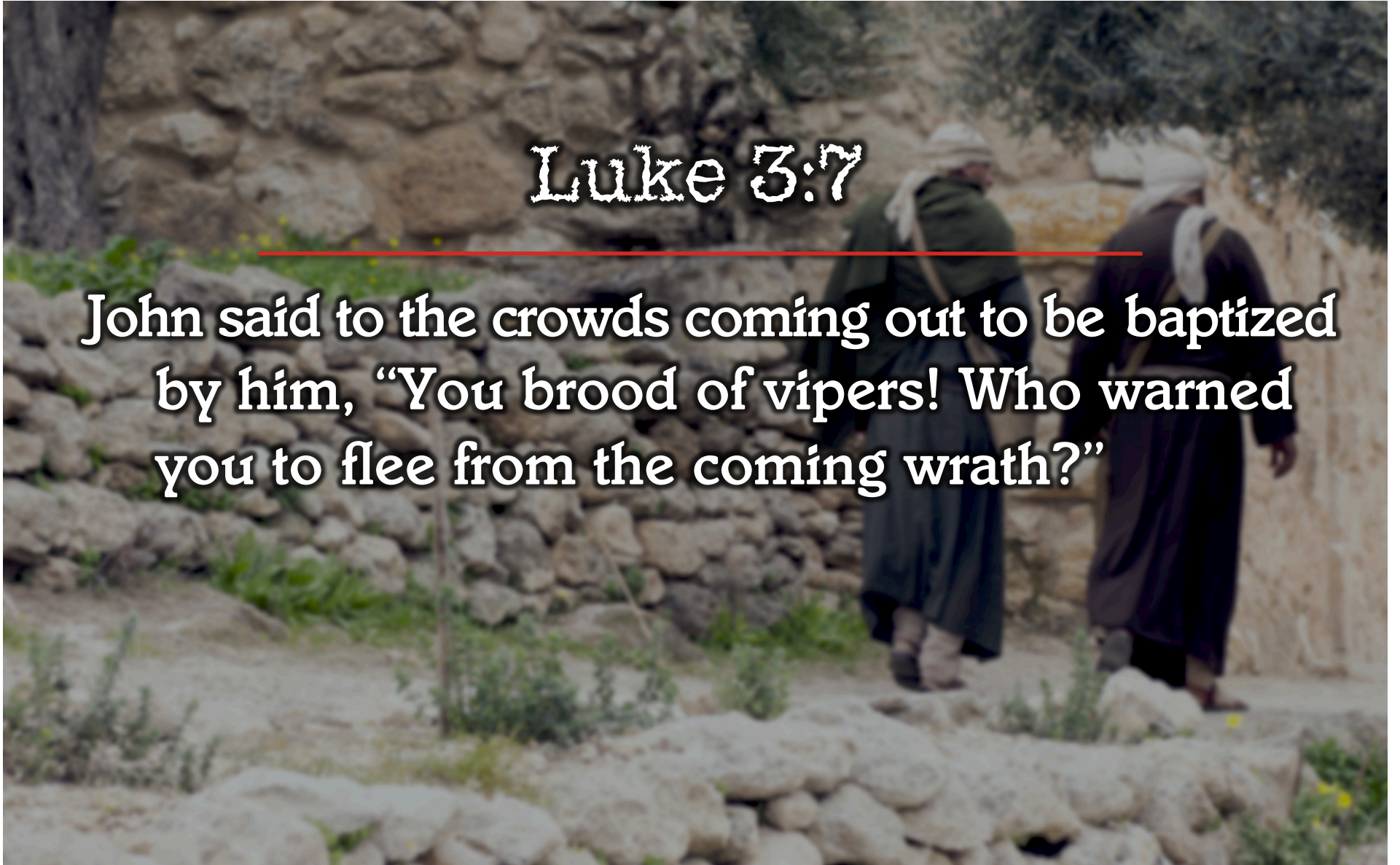
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“The crooked roads shall become straight,  
the rough ways smooth. (Isaiah 40:3-5)  
And all people will see God’s salvation”  
(Isaiah 52:10).

## Luke 3:7

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John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath?"





## Luke 3:8-9

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“Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and white head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller wall on the right. The background shows more of the stone wall and some greenery.

## Fruit:

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❖ Luke 6:43-45

❖ Luke 13:6-9

❖ 1 Corinthians 9:23

❖ Colossians 3:17

❖ James 1:19-25

❖ James 3:12-18



## Fire:

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❖ Psalm 74:5-6

❖ Isaiah 66:15

❖ Jeremiah 2:21-22

❖ Jeremiah 11:16

❖ Ezekiel 15:6-7

❖ Daniel 7:10

❖ Hosea 10:1-2

❖ Amos 1:14

❖ Amos 7:4

❖ Malachi 4:1

## Matthew 7:18-20

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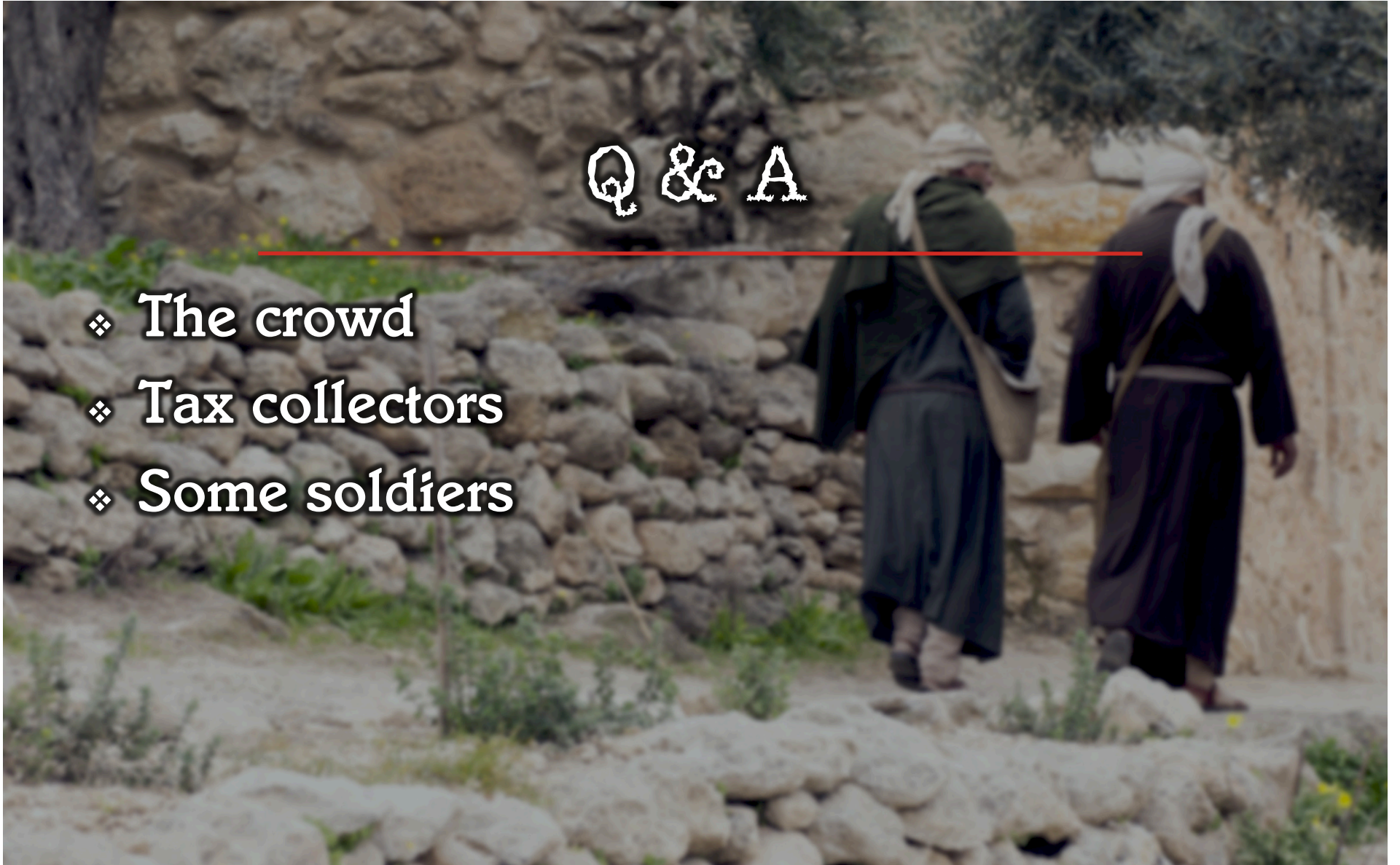
[Jesus]: “A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.”

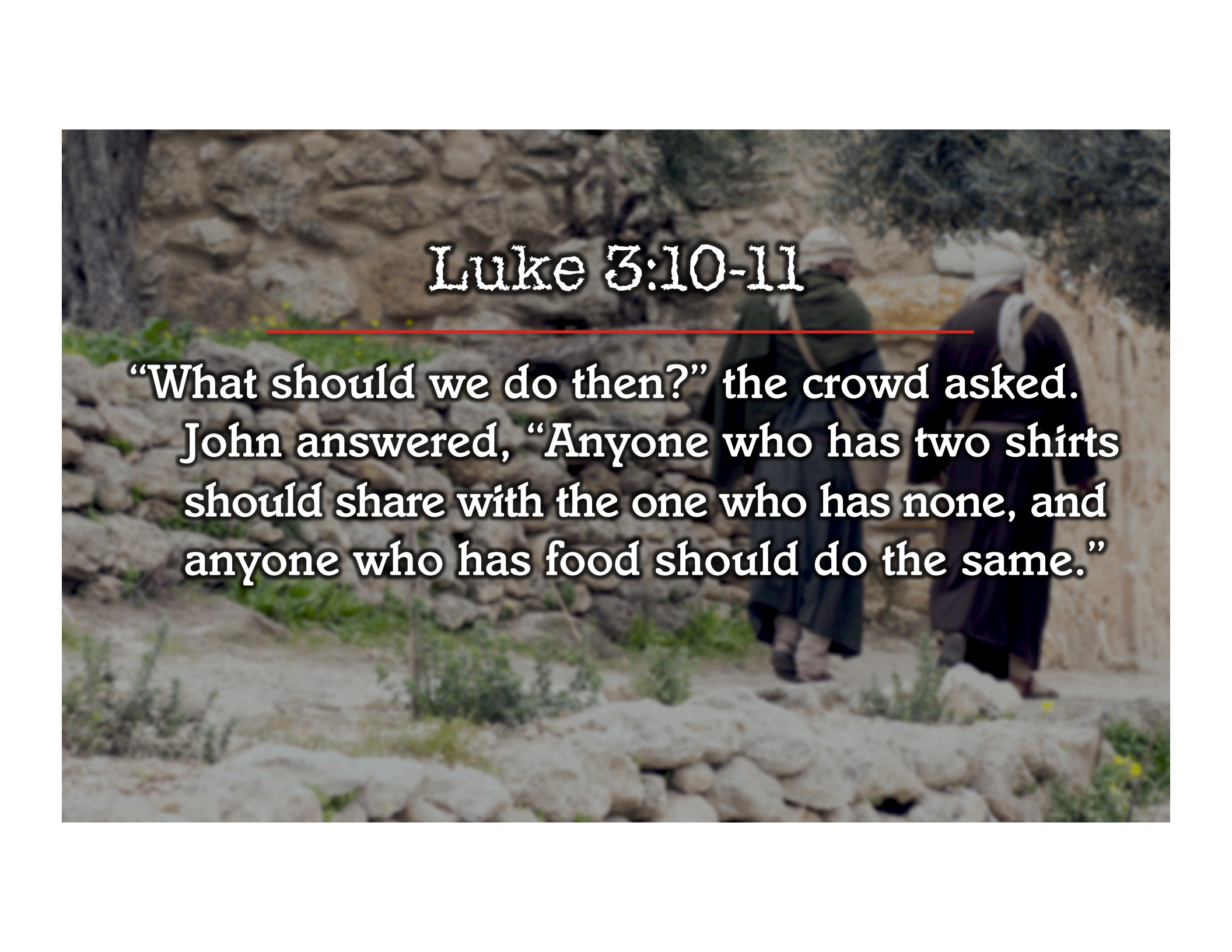


## Q & A

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- ❖ The crowd
- ❖ Tax collectors
- ❖ Some soldiers





## Luke 3:10-11

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**“What should we do then?” the crowd asked. John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”**

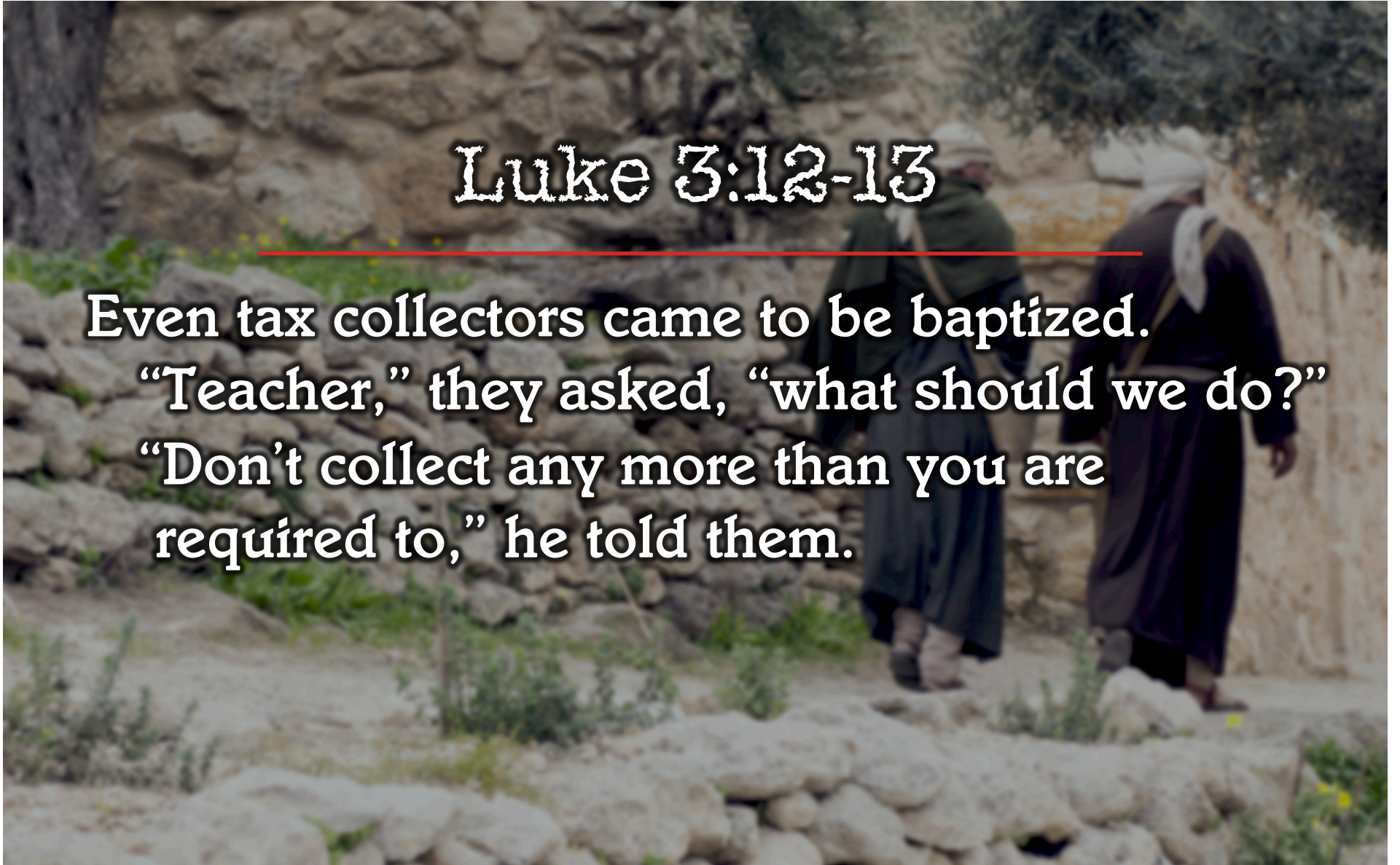
## Luke 3:12-13

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Even tax collectors came to be baptized.

“Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

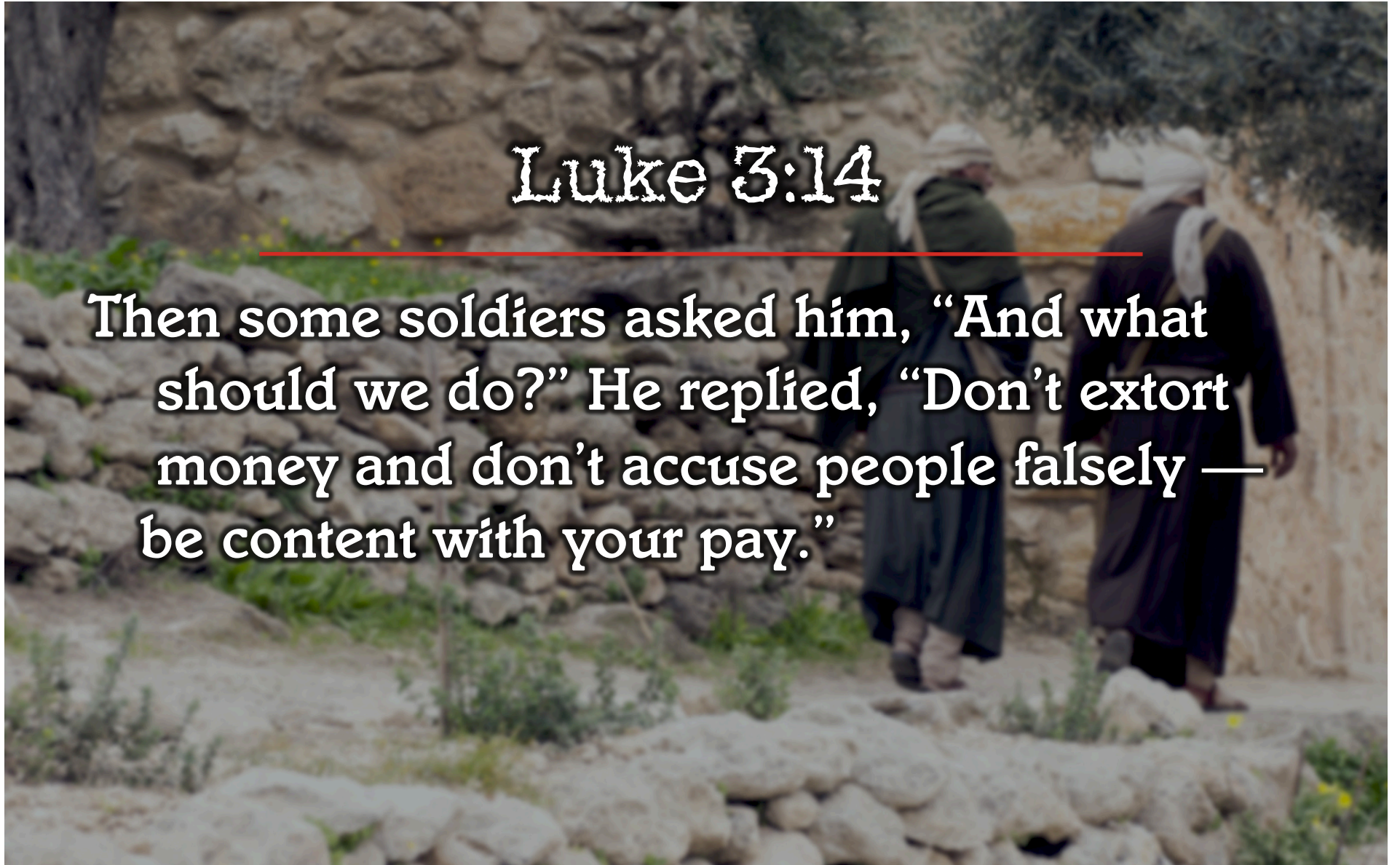
“Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.



## Luke 3:14

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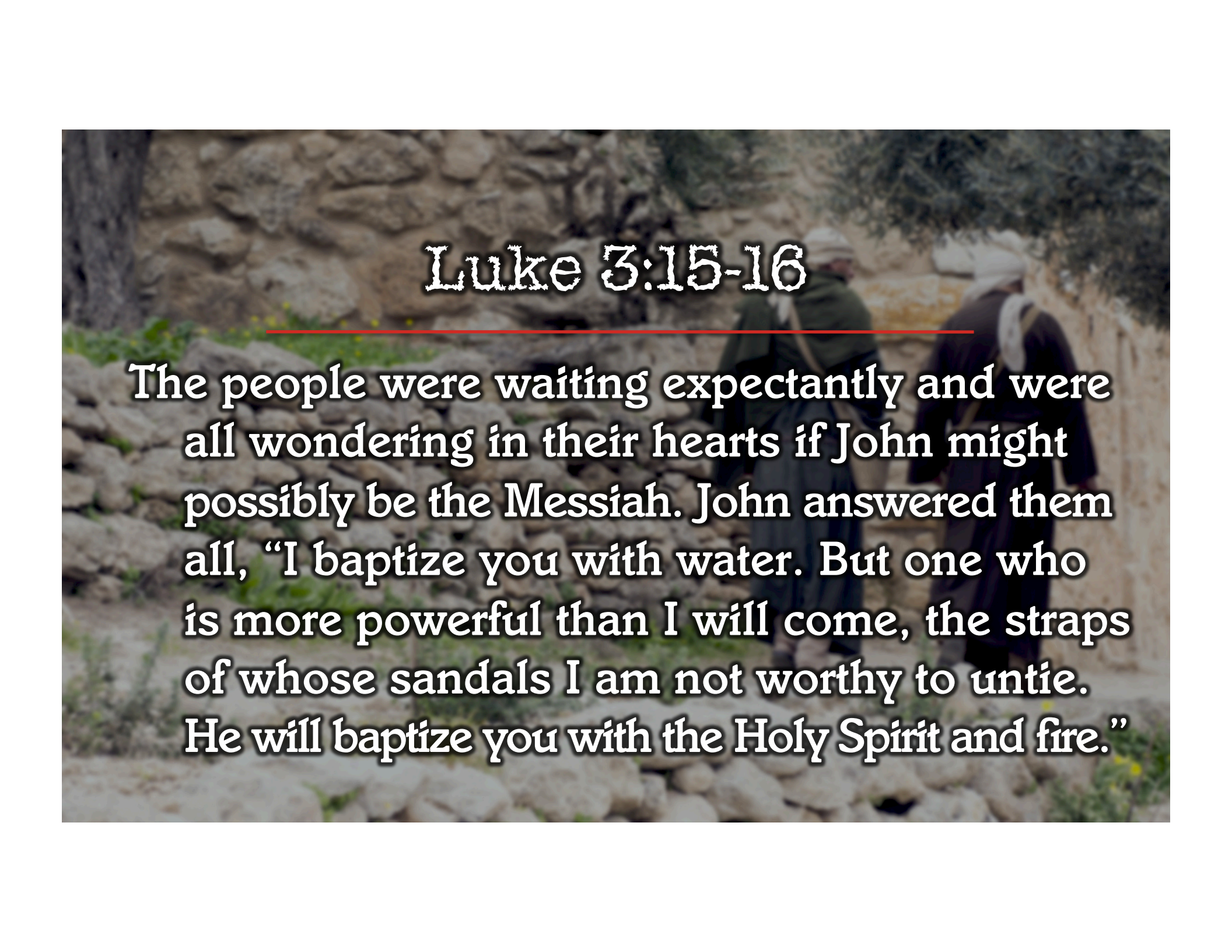
Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely — be content with your pay.”



# Repentance

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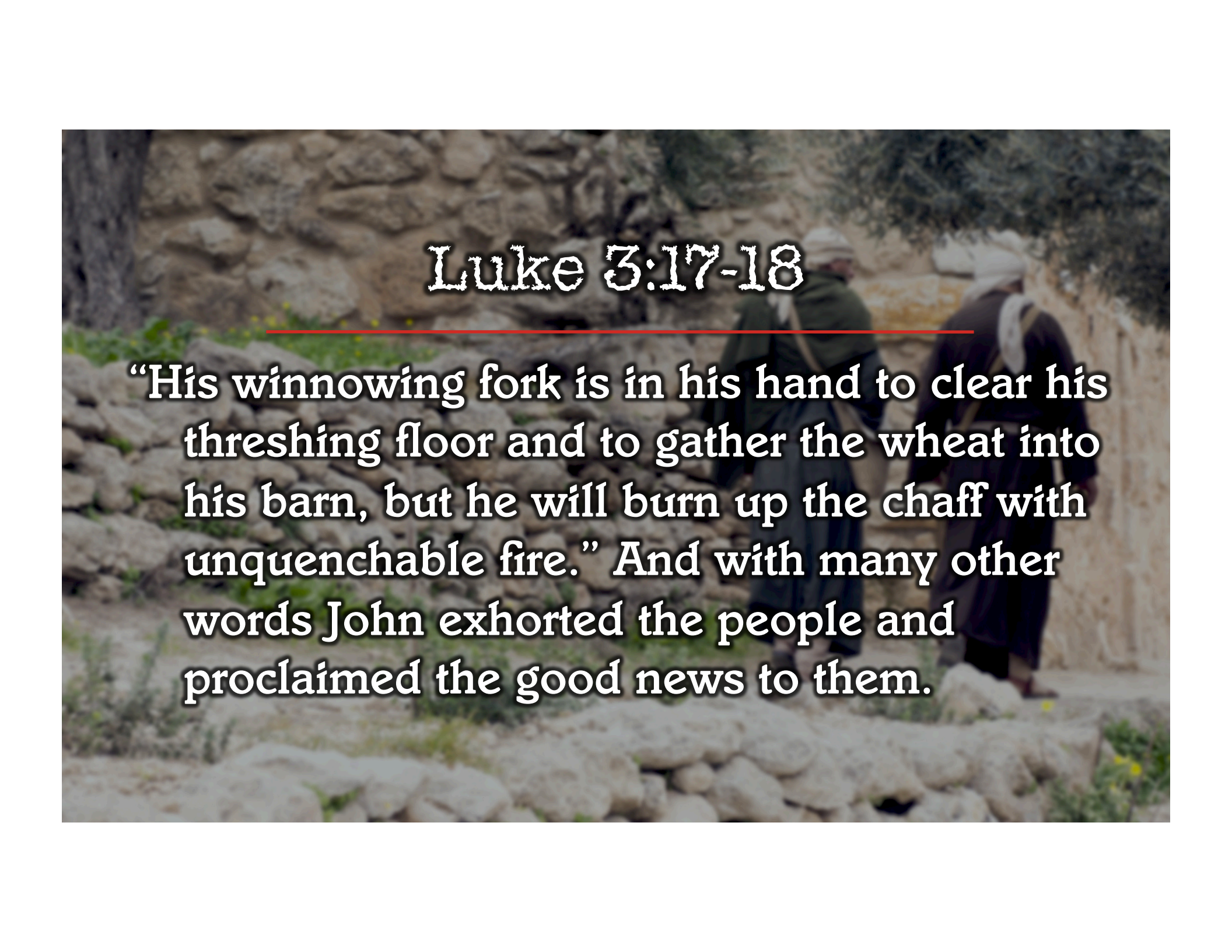
- ❖ = “changing one’s attitude and orientation that results in a new relation to God and fellow humans” (Robert C. Tannehill)
- ❖ It requires teachability.
- ❖ It requires obedience.
- ❖ It includes generosity and integrity with money.

The background of the slide is a photograph of a stone wall. Two people, dressed in traditional, possibly biblical, clothing, are walking away from the camera on a path that runs along the base of the wall. The scene is outdoors, with some greenery visible at the bottom.

## Luke 3:15-16

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The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all, “I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”



## Luke 3:17-18

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“His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.” And with many other words John exhorted the people and proclaimed the good news to them.

## Good news?

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- ❖ The ax is already at the root of the trees.
- ❖ Every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.
- ❖ His winnowing fork is in his hand.
- ❖ He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.





## Darrell Bock:

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“John illustrates how the proclaimer of the Word should perform his task. The preacher must bear good news as well as news that exposes sin ... A preacher of God’s message must be balanced in delivering both messages. Forgiveness cannot occur except where one realizes responsibility for sin and repents of it.”

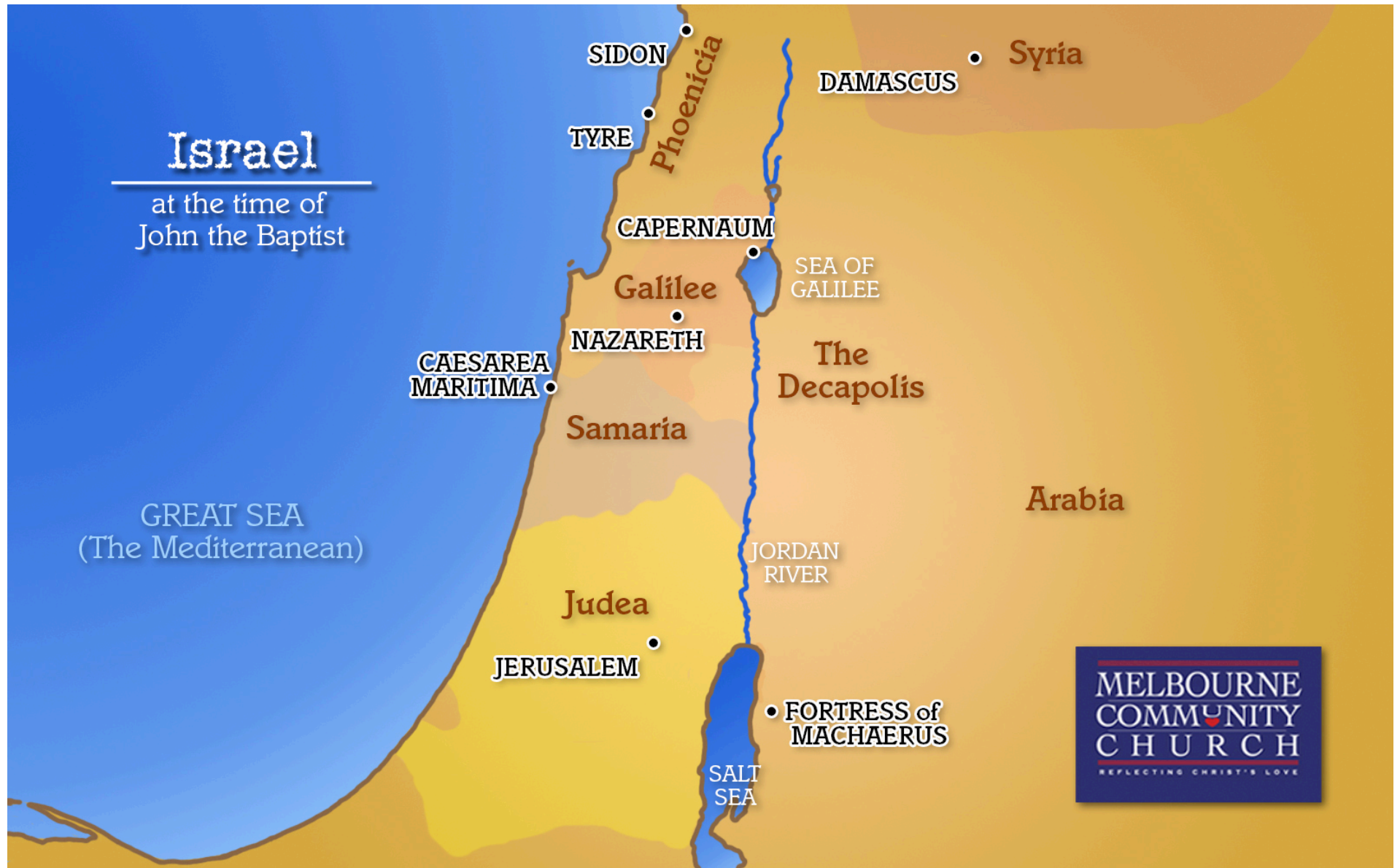
## Luke 3:19-20

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But when John rebuked Herod the tetrarch because of his marriage to Herodias, his brother's wife, and all the other evil things he had done, Herod added this to them all: He locked John up in prison.

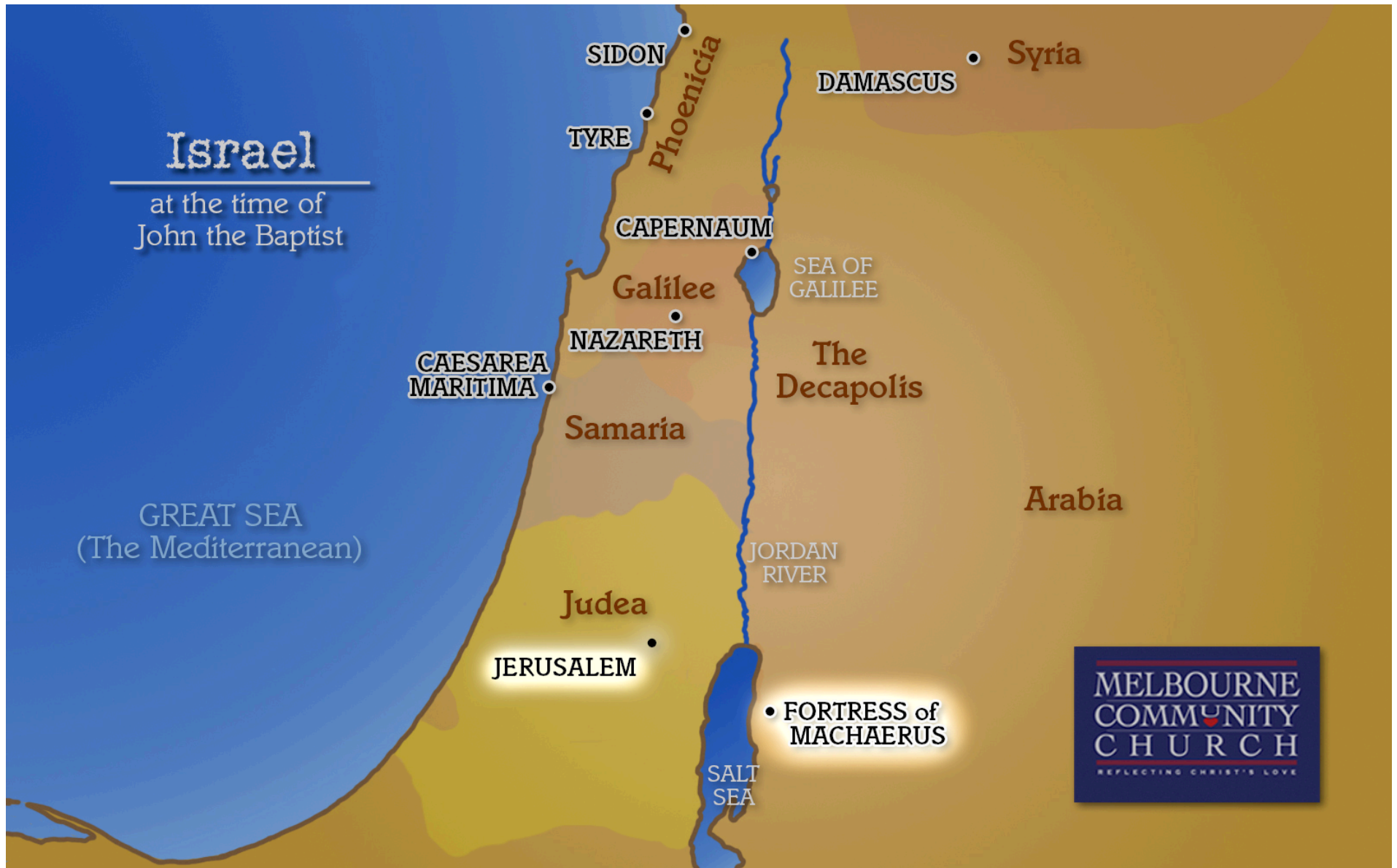
# Israel

at the time of  
John the Baptist



# Israel

at the time of  
John the Baptist



# Repentance

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- ❖ It requires teachability.
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# What have we learned?

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- ❖ God overrules the rulers.
- ❖ In the Kingdom of God, the boundaries are based upon repentance.
- ❖ Like John the Baptist, we should point to Jesus.



The background of the slide is a photograph of two individuals dressed in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings, walking away from the camera on a rugged, rocky path. The path is made of large, light-colored stones and is bordered by a low stone wall on the right. The background shows a natural, outdoor setting with trees and foliage.

# Are you being called?

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- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper



# Life Begins in the Womb

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❖ Luke 1:15

❖ Luke 1:41

❖ Psalm 22:9-10

❖ Psalm 139:13

❖ Isaiah 49:1

❖ Jeremiah 1:4-5