

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 brown 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.

**“No One Greater”**  
**Luke 7:18-35**

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**Jared Smith**  
**Melbourne Community Church**  
**March 24, 2019**



A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and 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, more substantial wall on the right. The background shows a rocky hillside with some sparse green vegetation. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

## What will we learn?

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- ❖ It's ok to wrestle with doubts.
- ❖ We must accept (or reject) Jesus as He is.



# Who is Jesus?

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- ❖ Savior
- ❖ Christ
- ❖ Lord
- ❖ Son of David
- ❖ Son of Abraham
- ❖ Son of Adam
- ❖ Son of God
- ❖ Son of Man
- ❖ Suffering Servant
- ❖ Lamb of God
- ❖ Healer
- ❖ Great Teacher
- ❖ “Holy One of God”
- ❖ Bridegroom
- ❖ Lord of the Sabbath
- ❖ Great Prophet



# Authority of Jesus:

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- ❖ In his teaching
- ❖ Over demons
- ❖ Over disease (near or far)
- ❖ Over the careers of his followers

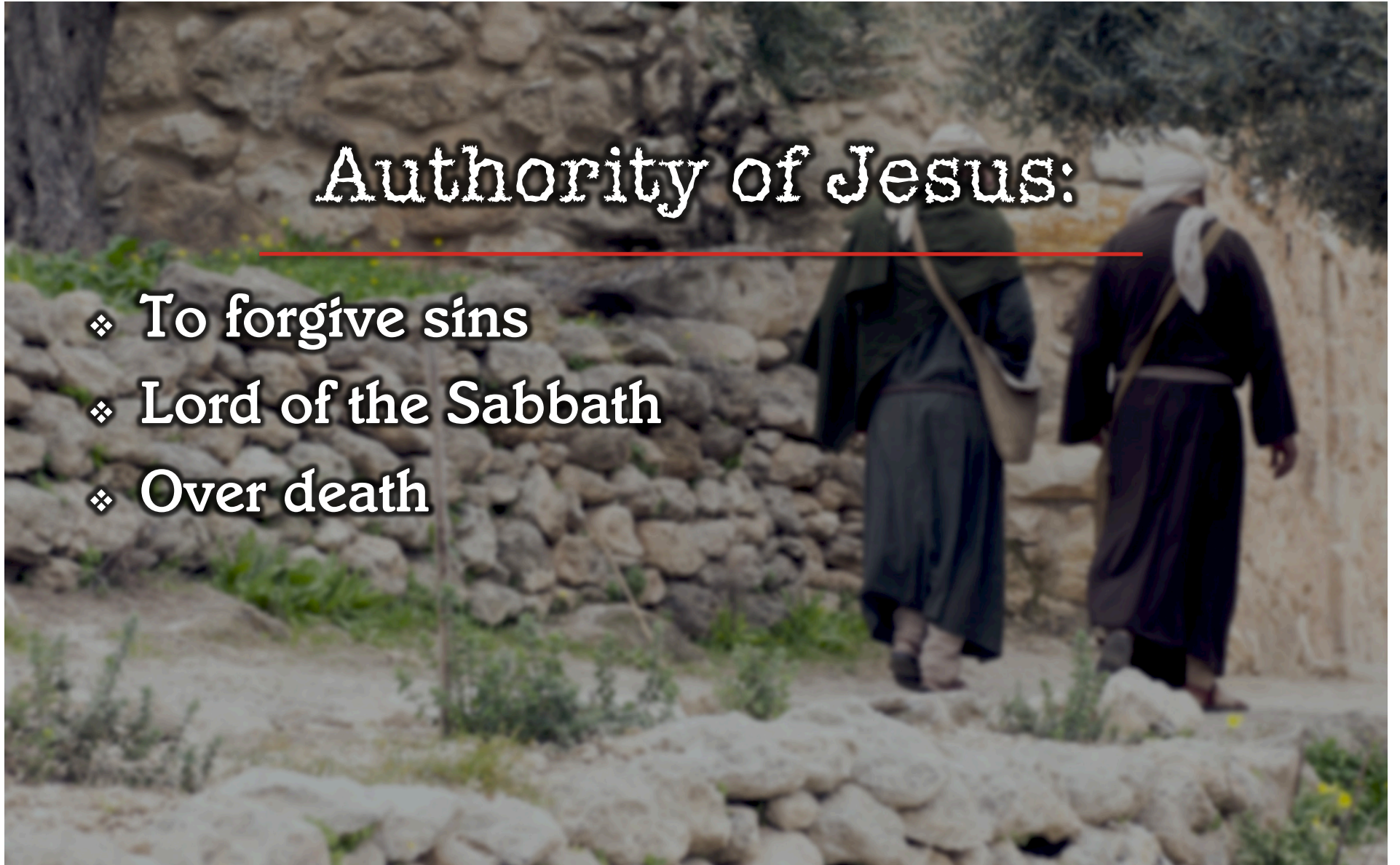




# Authority of Jesus:

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- ❖ To forgive sins
- ❖ Lord of the Sabbath
- ❖ Over death





# Witnesses:

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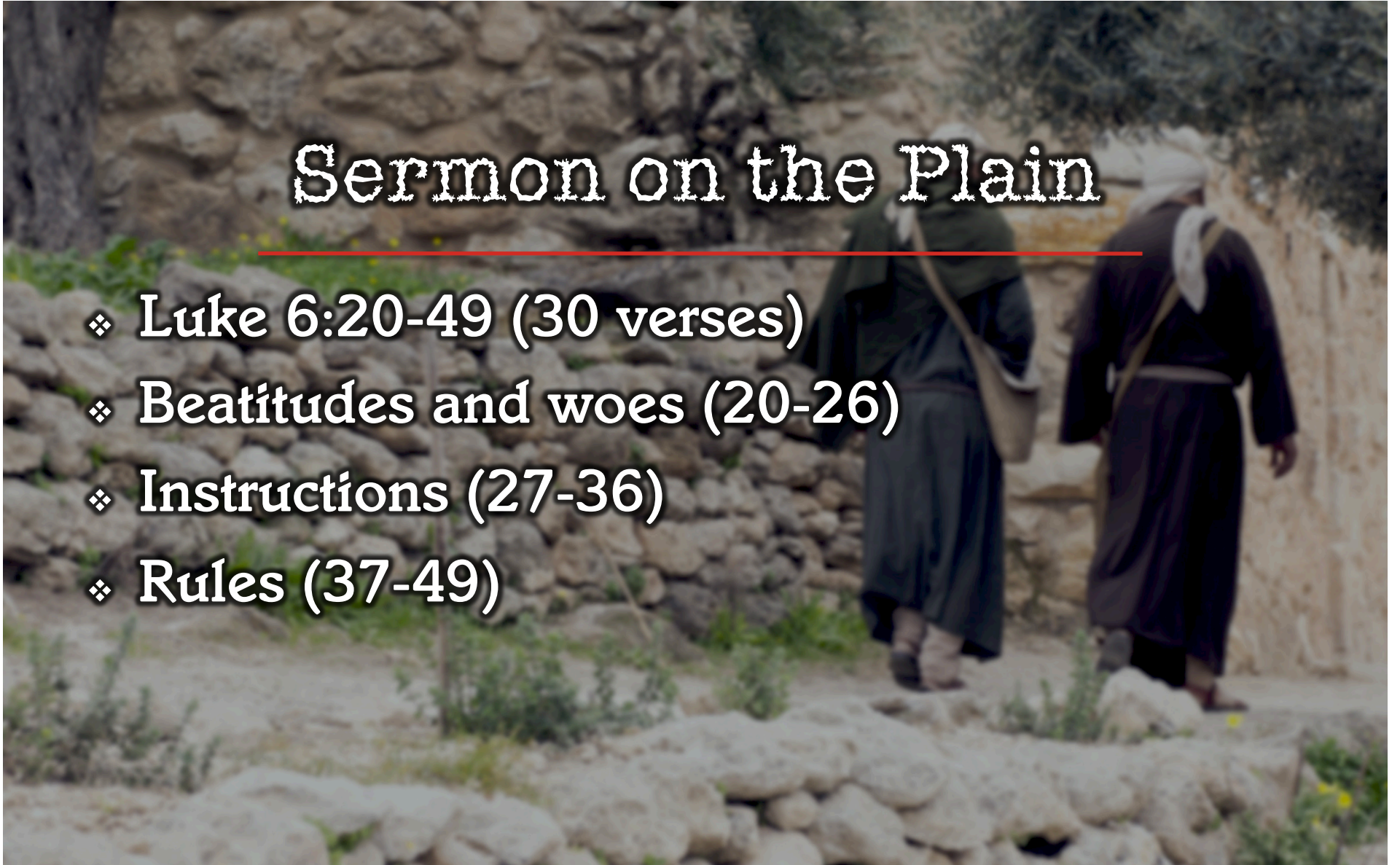
- ❖ Zechariah
- ❖ Elizabeth
- ❖ Gabriel
- ❖ Angel of the Lord
- ❖ Simeon
- ❖ Anna
- ❖ John the Baptist
- ❖ Jesus
- ❖ Demons
- ❖ Pharisees
- ❖ Crowds



# Sermon on the Plain

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- ❖ Luke 6:20-49 (30 verses)
- ❖ Beatitudes and woes (20-26)
- ❖ Instructions (27-36)
- ❖ Rules (37-49)





## Luke 7:1-17

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- ❖ Jesus is Israel's Messiah and Lord of all.
- ❖ The centurion is a model of humble faith.
- ❖ Jesus has authority over sickness (near or far) and even death.





ATLANTIC OCEAN

Britian

Belgica

Gaul

Germania

Sarmatia

Spain  
(Tarshish?)

Illyricum

Dacia

BLACK SEA

Italy

Moesia

Thrace

Pontus

Armenia

• ROME

Macedonia

Cappadocia

# Roman Empire

Furthest extent in years 8 to 115 A.D.

CORINTH

EPHESUS

SYRIAN ANTIOCH

Africa

Achia

Euphrates River

Syria

GREAT SEA  
(The Mediterranean)

Crete

Cyprus

Israel

• JERUSALEM

Numidia

Cyrenacia

Nabatea  
(Arabia)

Egypt

Nile River

RED SEA

MELBOURNE  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH  
REFLECTING CHRIST'S LOVE





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MELBOURNE COMMUNITY CHURCH

REFLECTING CHRIST'S LOVE

Nile River

RED SEA



# Sea of Galilee

in the time of Christ

CHORAZIN

• BETHSAIDA

• CAPERNAUM

• TABGHA

• GENNESARET

Golan

• CANA

MAGDALA

SEA OF GALILEE

• GERGESA

ARBELA

TIBERIAS

Galilee

• HIPPOS

HAMMATH

• APHEK

• NAZARETH

SENNABRIS

JORDAN RIVER

Decapolis

MELBOURNE  
COMMUNITY  
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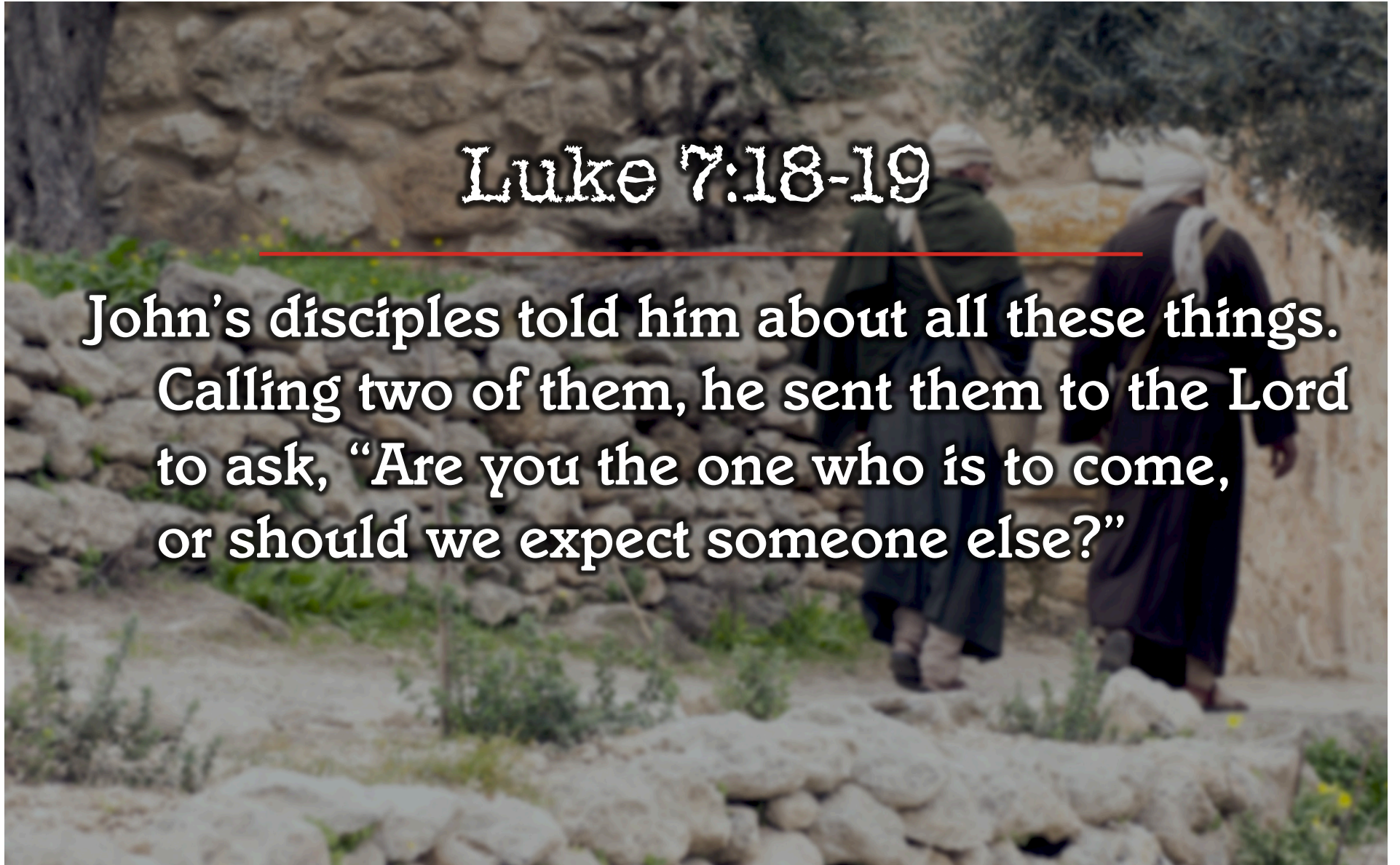
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## Luke 7:18-19

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John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?"

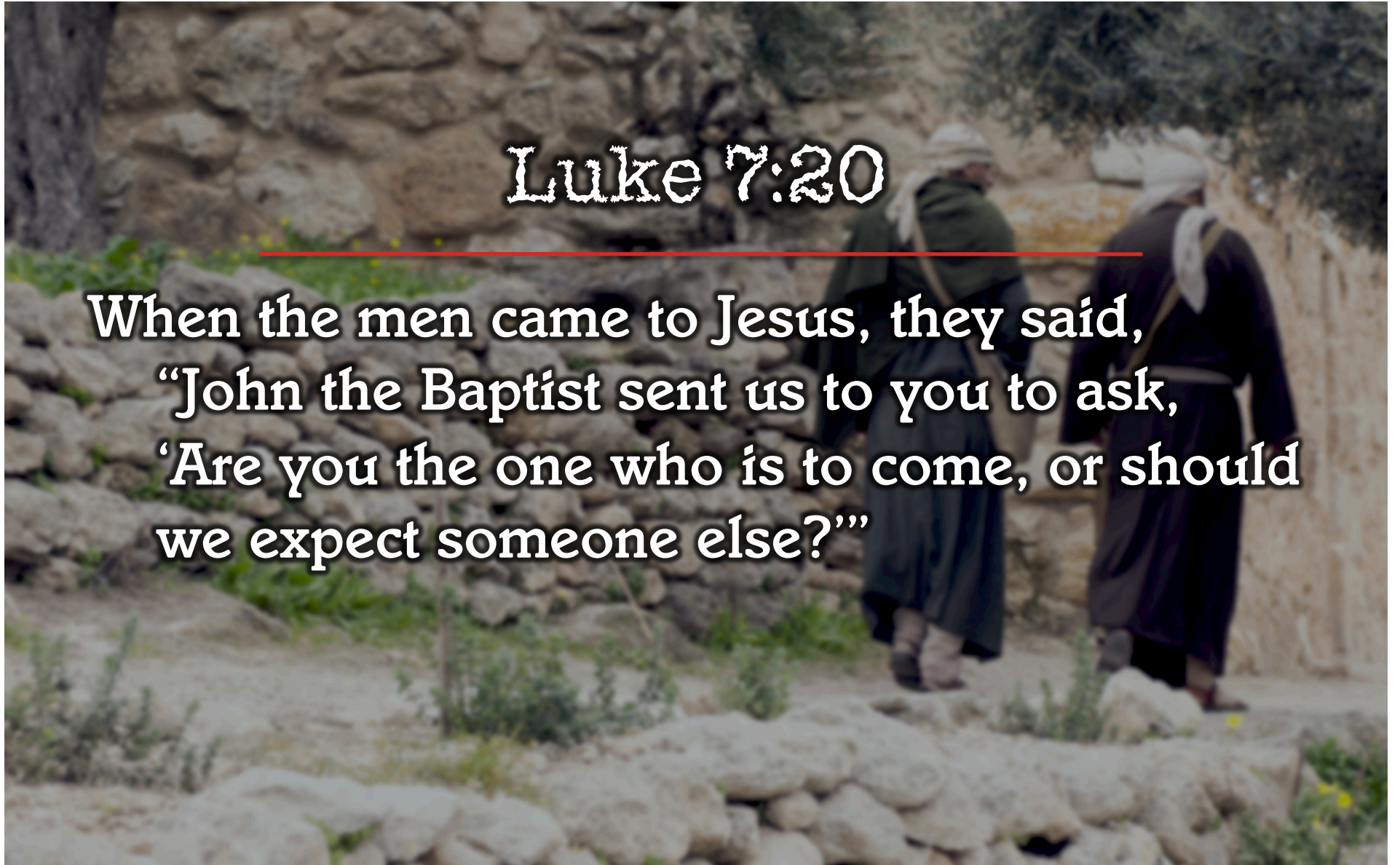




## Luke 7:20

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When the men came to Jesus, they said,  
“John the Baptist sent us to you to ask,  
‘Are you the one who is to come, or should  
we expect someone else?’”

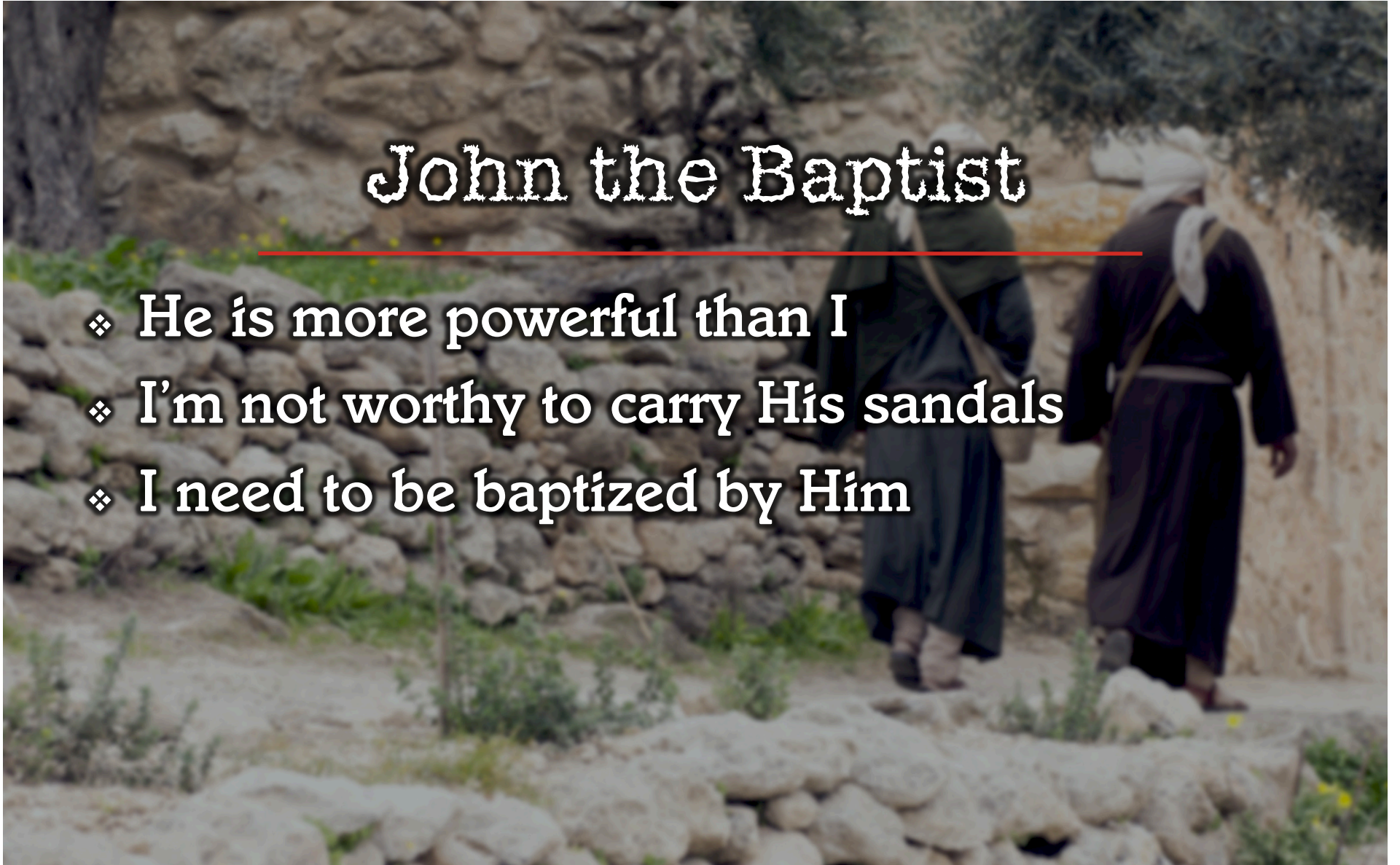




# John the Baptist

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- ❖ He is more powerful than I
- ❖ I'm not worthy to carry His sandals
- ❖ I need to be baptized by Him





## John 1:29-30

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The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! This is the one I meant when I said, 'A man who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'



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

## John 1:31

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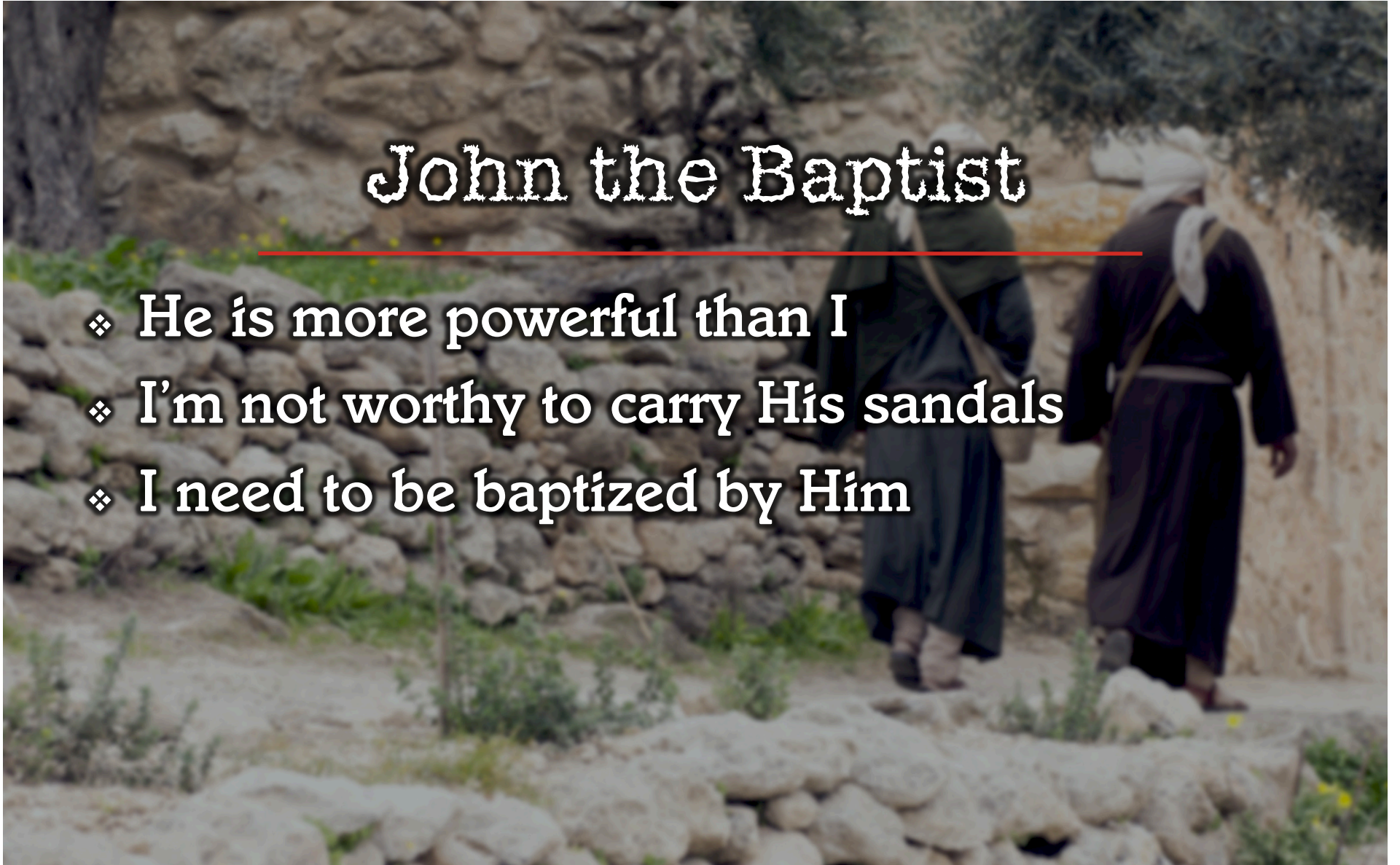
**“I myself did not know him, but the reason I came baptizing with water was that he might be revealed to Israel.”**



# John the Baptist

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- ❖ He is more powerful than I
- ❖ I'm not worthy to carry His sandals
- ❖ I need to be baptized by Him

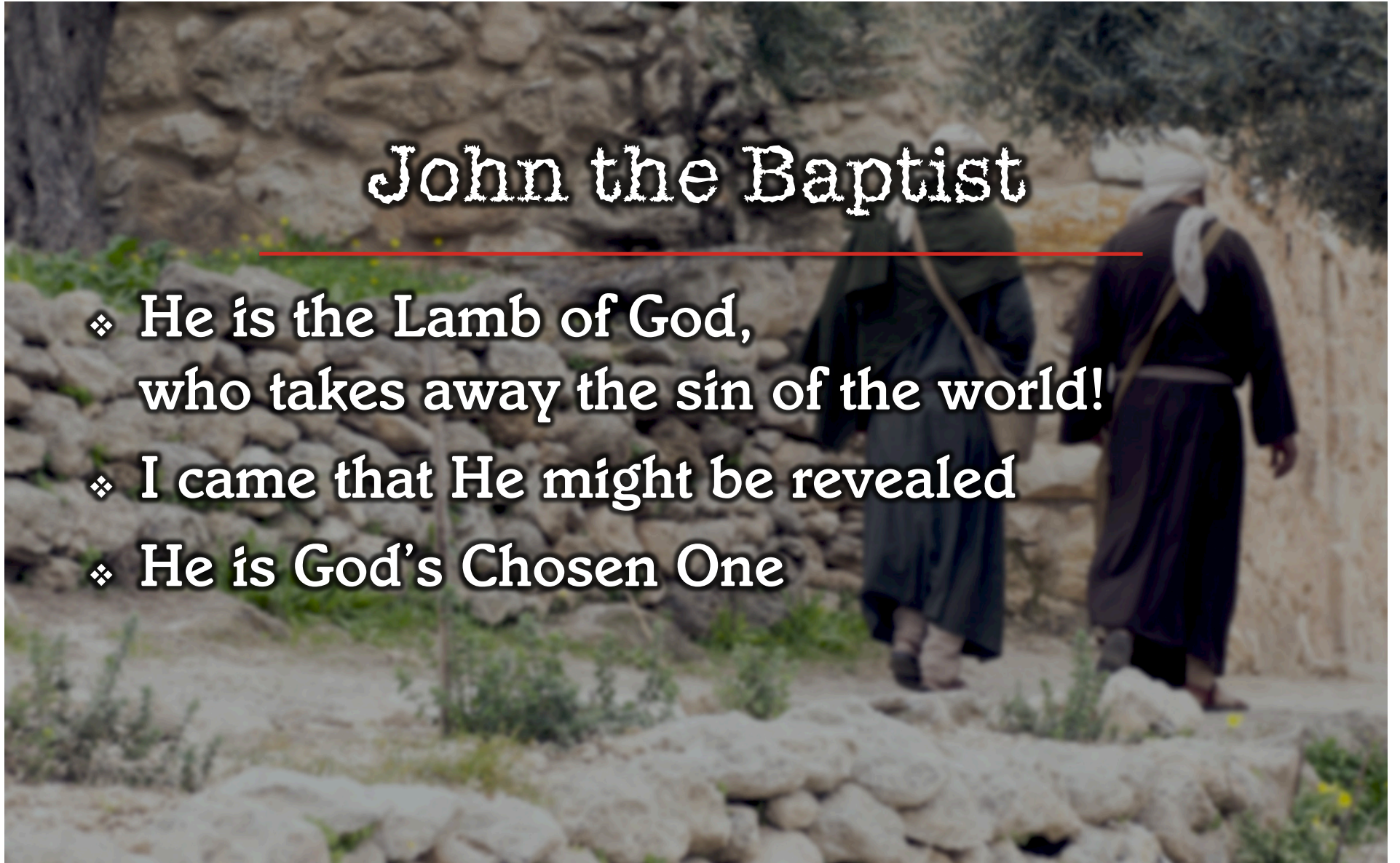




# John the Baptist

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- ❖ He is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!
- ❖ I came that He might be revealed
- ❖ He is God's Chosen One





The background image shows two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and 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, more solid wall on the right. The scene is set outdoors with some greenery and trees visible in the background.

# David's doubts

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- ❖ God's love
- ❖ God's presence
- ❖ God's provision
- ❖ God's protection



A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The background consists of a large, textured stone wall or cliff face. The scene is outdoors with some sparse green vegetation and small yellow flowers scattered on the ground.

## Psalm 13:5-6

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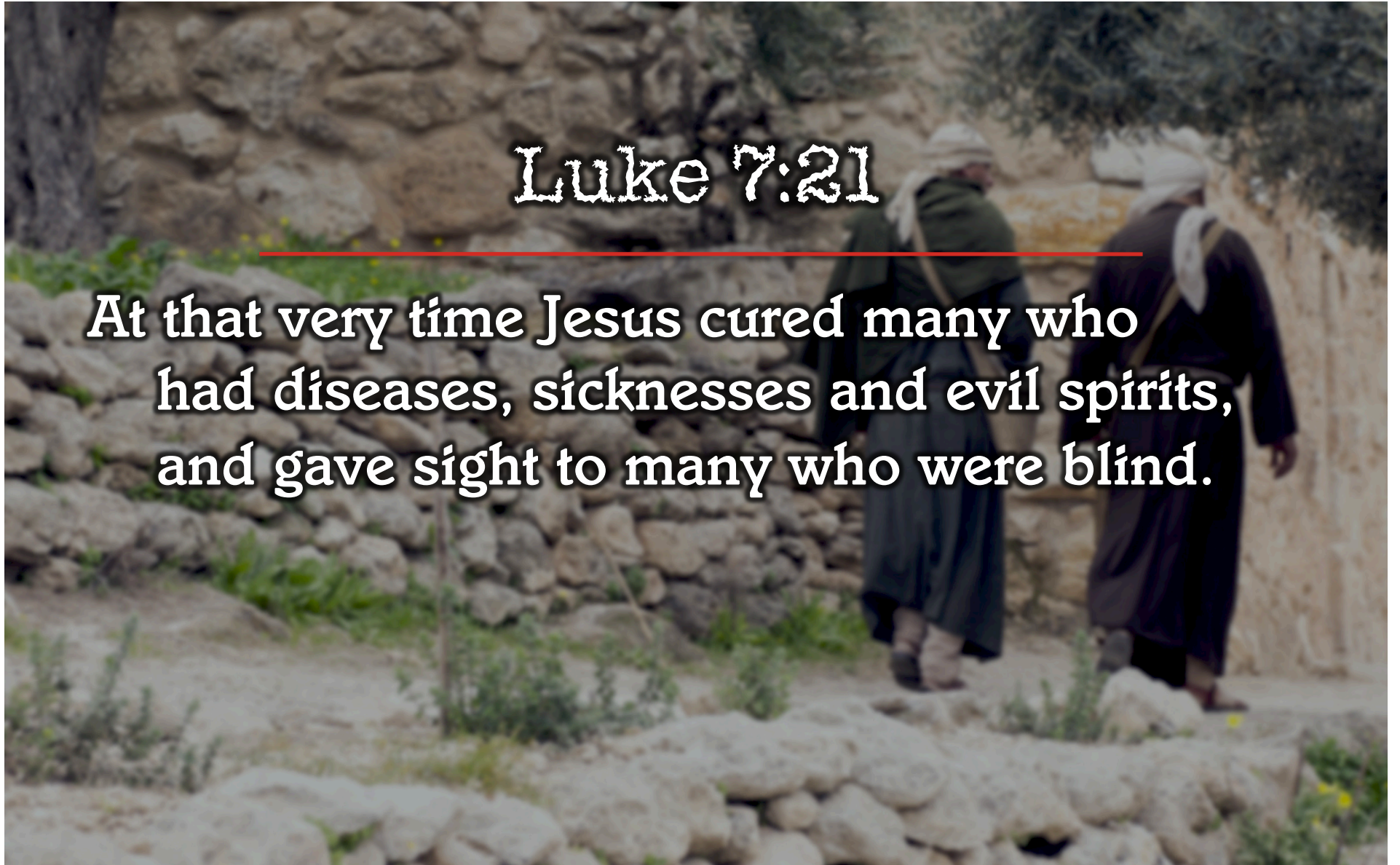
But I trust in your unfailing love;  
my heart rejoices in your salvation.  
I will sing the LORD's praise,  
for he has been good to me.



## Luke 7:21

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At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind.





# Distinct Miracles

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- ❖ Diseases and sicknesses
- ❖ Driving out evil spirits
- ❖ Sight to the blind





## Luke 7:21-22

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At that very time Jesus cured many who had diseases, sicknesses and evil spirits, and gave sight to many who were blind. So he replied to the messengers, “Go back and report to John what you have seen and heard:



## Luke 7:22-23

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The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”





## Luke 4:18-19

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“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,  
because he has anointed me  
to proclaim good news to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners  
and recovery of sight for the blind,  
to set the oppressed free,  
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”



# Prophecy and Fulfillment

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## Prophecy:

- ❖ Recovery of sight for the blind
- ❖ Freedom for the prisoners

## Fulfillment:

- ❖ Blind receive sight
- ❖ Lame walk
- ❖ Lepers are cleansed



# Prophecy and Fulfillment

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## Prophecy:

- ❖ Set oppressed free
- ❖ Proclaim good news to the poor

## Fulfillment:

- ❖ Deaf hear
- ❖ Dead are raised
- ❖ Good news is proclaimed to the poor



# History of Salvation

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- ❖ Adam – Cain vs. Abel and Seth
- ❖ Noah – Ham vs. Shem and Japheth
- ❖ Abraham – Ishmael vs. Isaac
- ❖ Isaac – Esau vs. Jacob



## Luke 7:24-25

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After John's messengers left, Jesus began to speak to the crowd about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed swayed by the wind? If not, what did you go out to see? A man dressed in fine clothes? No, those who wear expensive clothes and indulge in luxury are in palaces.





## Luke 7:26-27

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“But what did you go out to see? A prophet?  
Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet.  
This is the one about whom it is written:

“‘I will send my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you.’”



A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The background shows a stone wall and some greenery. The text is overlaid on the image.

## Luke 7:28

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“I tell you, among those born of women there is no one greater than John; yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”



## Luke 7:29-30

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(All the people, even the tax collectors, when they heard Jesus' words, acknowledged that God's way was right, because they had been baptized by John. But the Pharisees and the experts in the law rejected God's purpose for themselves, because they had not been baptized by John.)



# Chiastic Structure

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- ❖ God's way is right (v29)
  - ❖ Pharisees rejected God's purpose (v30)
  - ❖ Examples of their rejection (v31-34)
- ❖ Wisdom proved right (v35)



## Luke 7:31-32

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Jesus went on to say, “To what, then, can I compare the people of this generation? What are they like? They are like children sitting in the marketplace and calling out to each other:



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Luke 7:32

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“We played the pipe for you,  
and you did not dance;  
we sang a dirge,  
and you did not cry.’



## Luke 7:33-35

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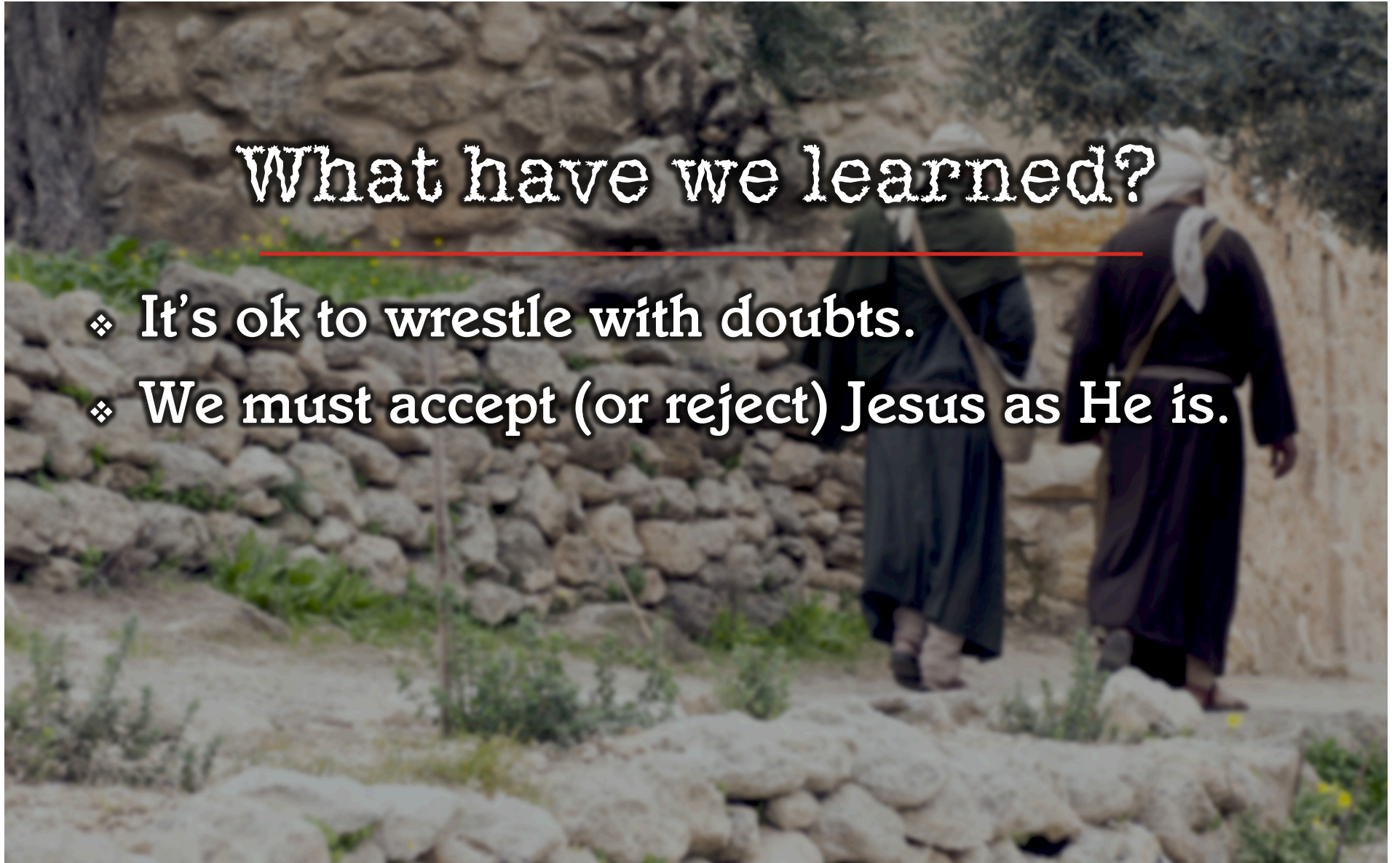
“For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine, and you say, ‘He has a demon.’ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and you say, ‘Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.’ But wisdom is proved right by all her children.”



# What have we learned?

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- ❖ It's ok to wrestle with doubts.
- ❖ We must accept (or reject) Jesus as He is.









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