



Praising God's Glory

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Melbourne Community Church
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Worship and adoration of God:

- ❖ It can reshape your personality.
- ❖ It can create healthy community.



Romans 12:1

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God — this is your true and proper worship.



Romans 12:2

Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.



Prayer Professors:

- ❖ Bible
 - ❖ Jesus
 - ❖ David and other Psalmists
 - ❖ Paul



Prayer Professors:

- ❖ Church history
 - ❖ Augustine
 - ❖ Martin Luther
 - ❖ John Calvin



Prayer Professors:

- ❖ Contemporary
 - ❖ Richard Foster
 - ❖ Tim Keller



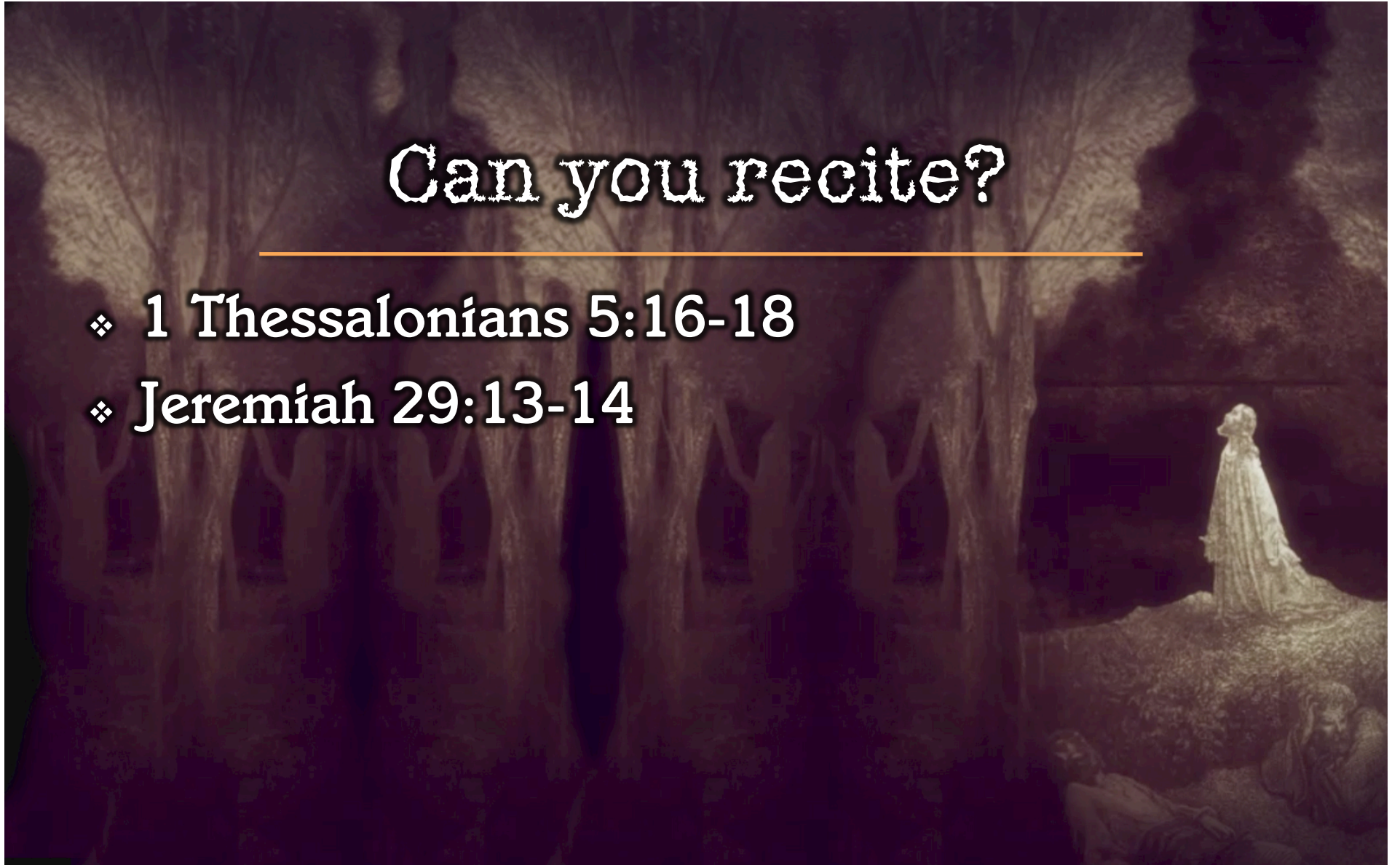
Challenges for 2015/2016

- ❖ Read the Bible — one book at a time.
- ❖ Pray routinely for your church.
- ❖ Read a book on prayer.



Can you recite?

- ❖ 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
- ❖ Jeremiah 29:13-14



1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



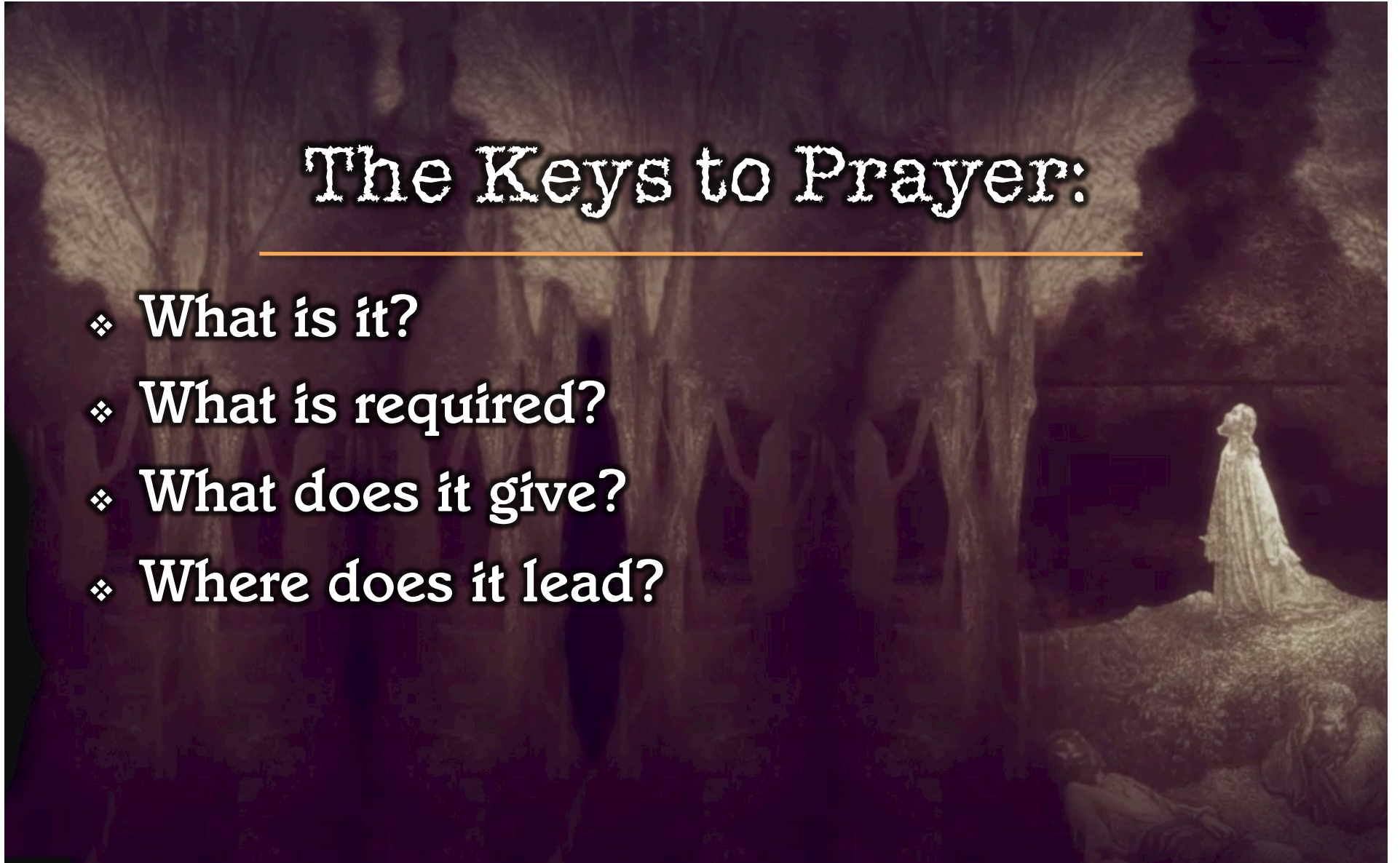
Jeremiah 29:13-14

You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart. I will be found by you," declares the LORD, "and will bring you back from captivity.



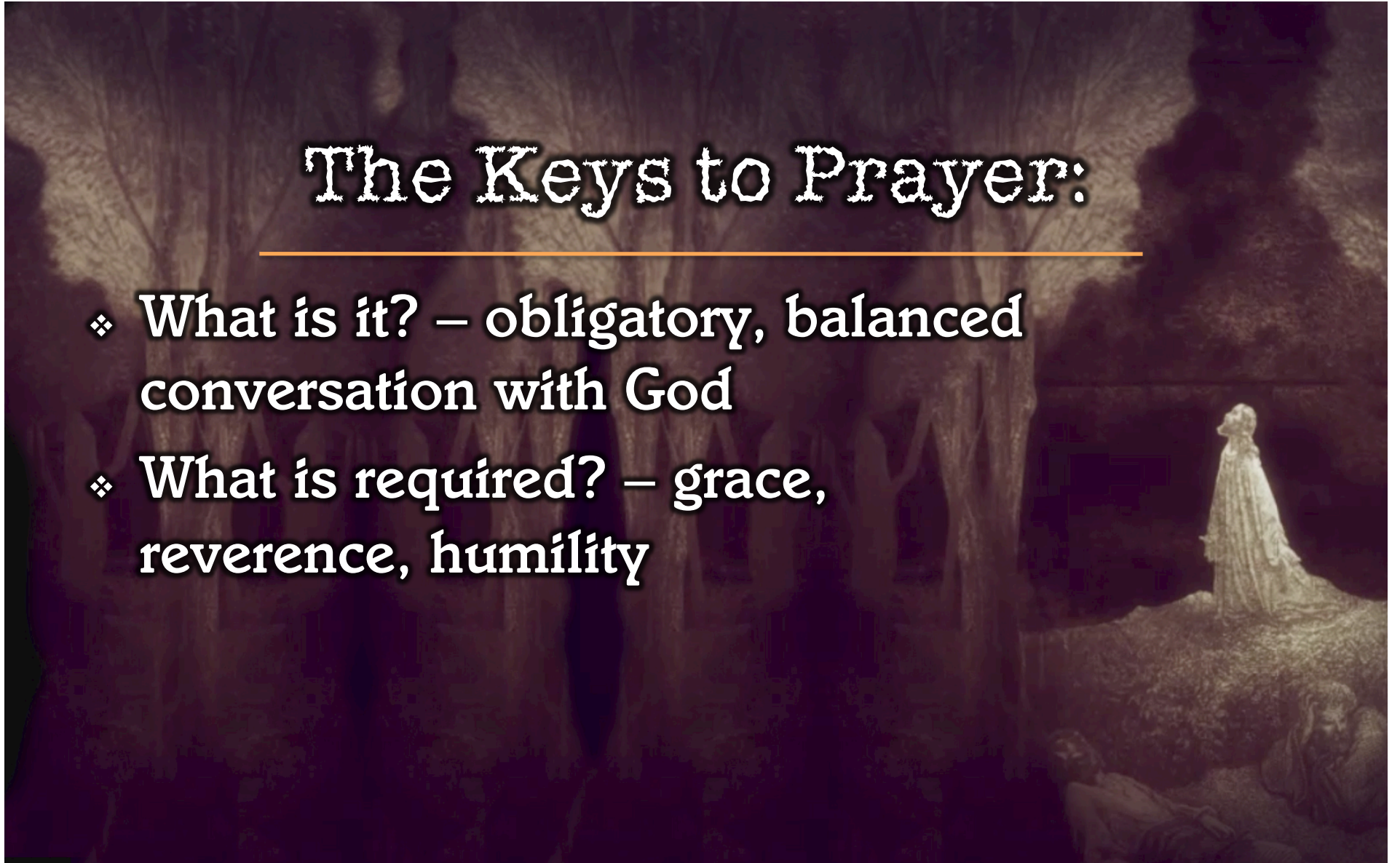
The Keys to Prayer:

- ❖ What is it?
- ❖ What is required?
- ❖ What does it give?
- ❖ Where does it lead?



The Keys to Prayer:

- ❖ What is it? – obligatory, balanced conversation with God
- ❖ What is required? – grace, reverence, humility



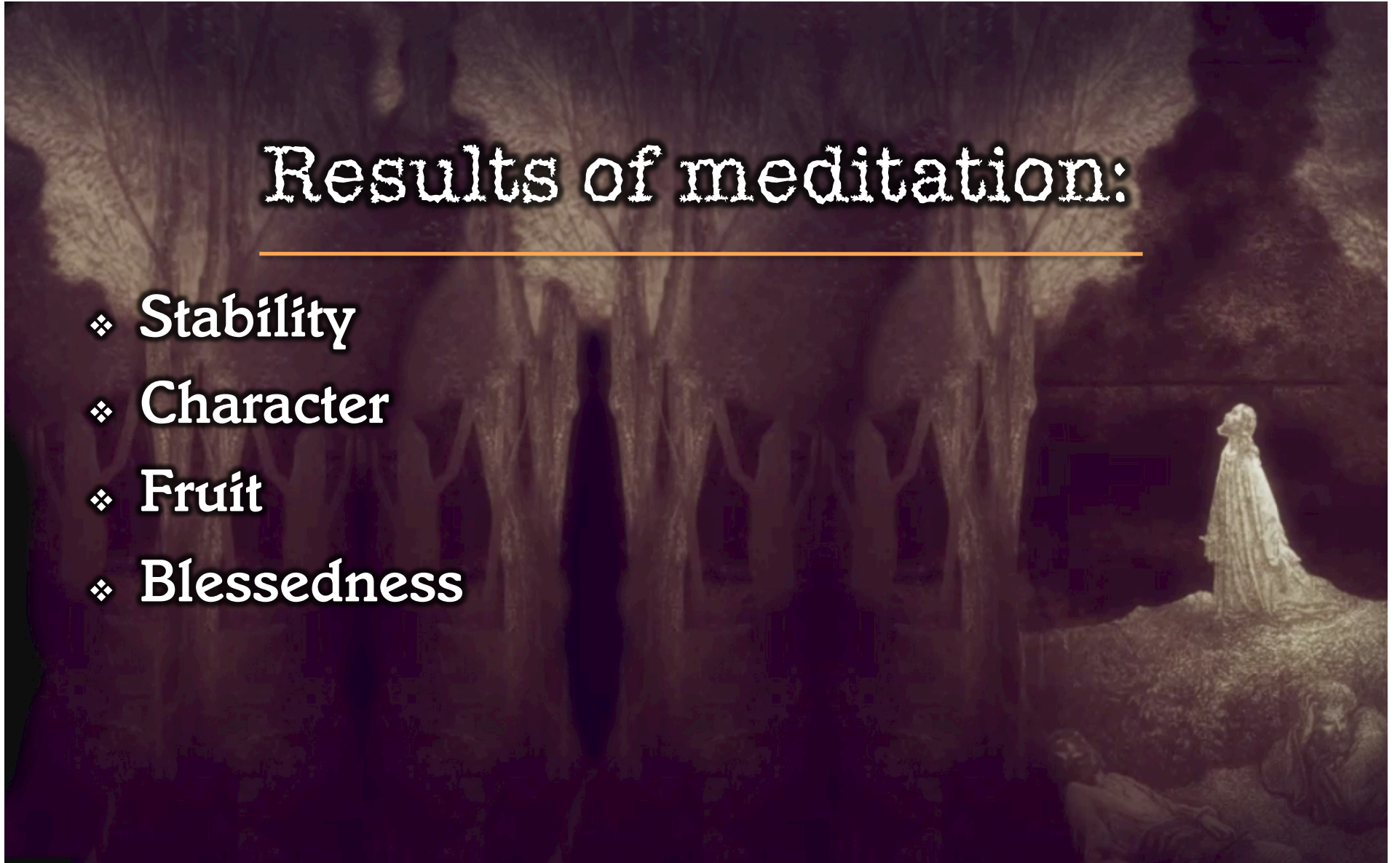
The Keys to Prayer:

- ❖ What does it give? – perspective, strength, intimacy with God
- ❖ Where does it lead? – self-awareness, trust, surrender



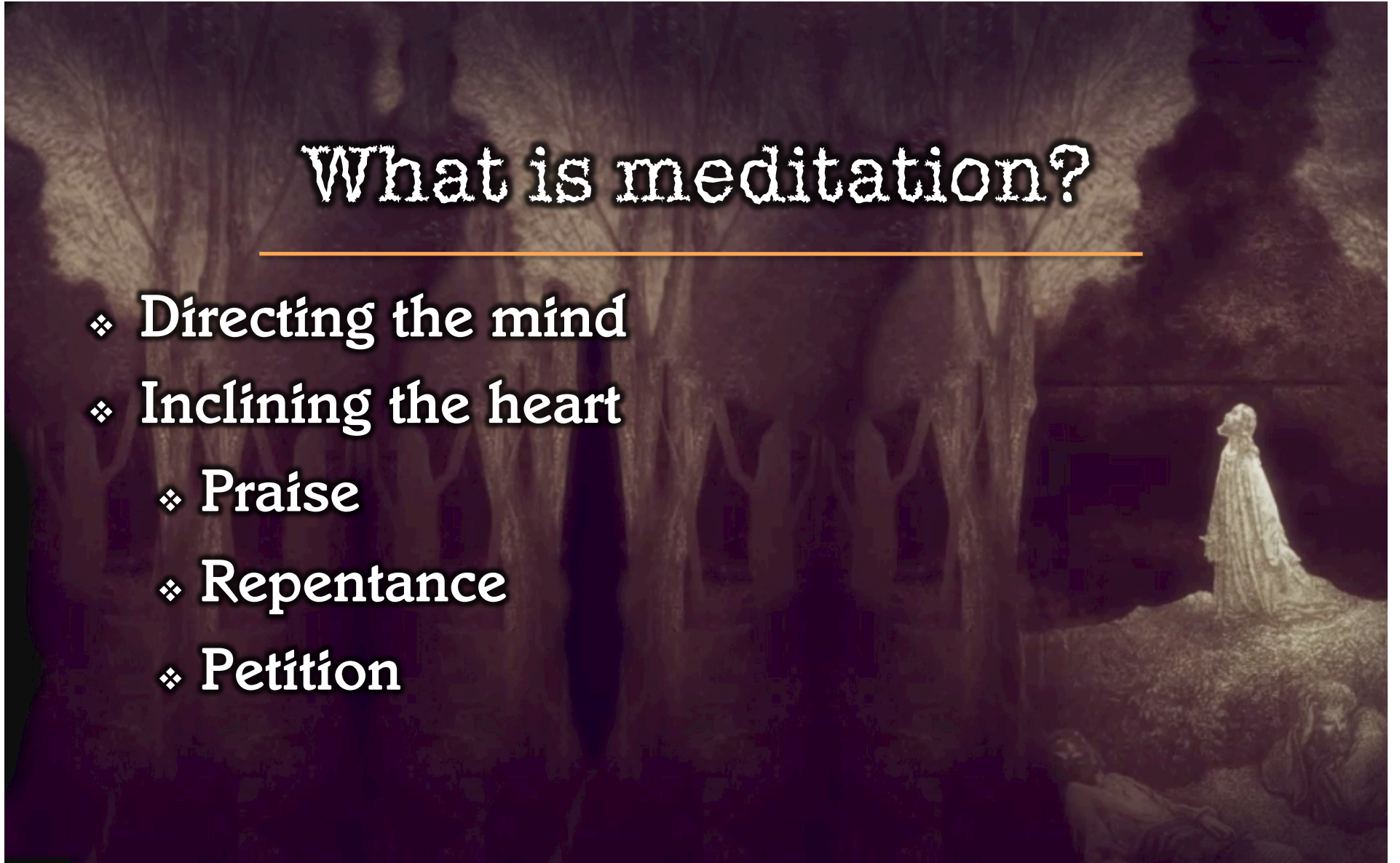
Results of meditation:

- ❖ Stability
- ❖ Character
- ❖ Fruit
- ❖ Blessedness



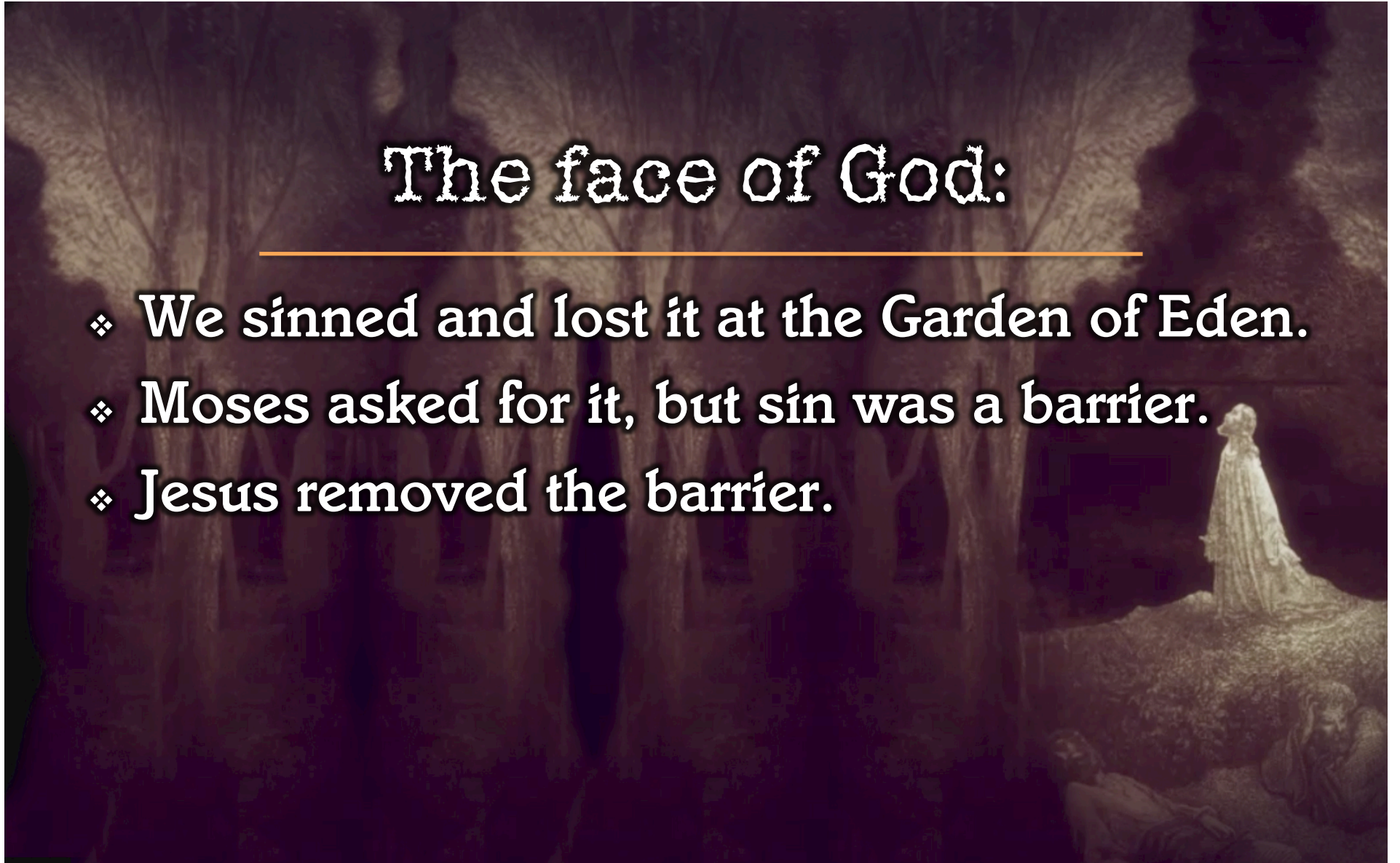
What is meditation?

- ❖ Directing the mind
- ❖ Inclining the heart
 - ❖ Praise
 - ❖ Repentance
 - ❖ Petition



The face of God:

- ❖ We sinned and lost it at the Garden of Eden.
- ❖ Moses asked for it, but sin was a barrier.
- ❖ Jesus removed the barrier.



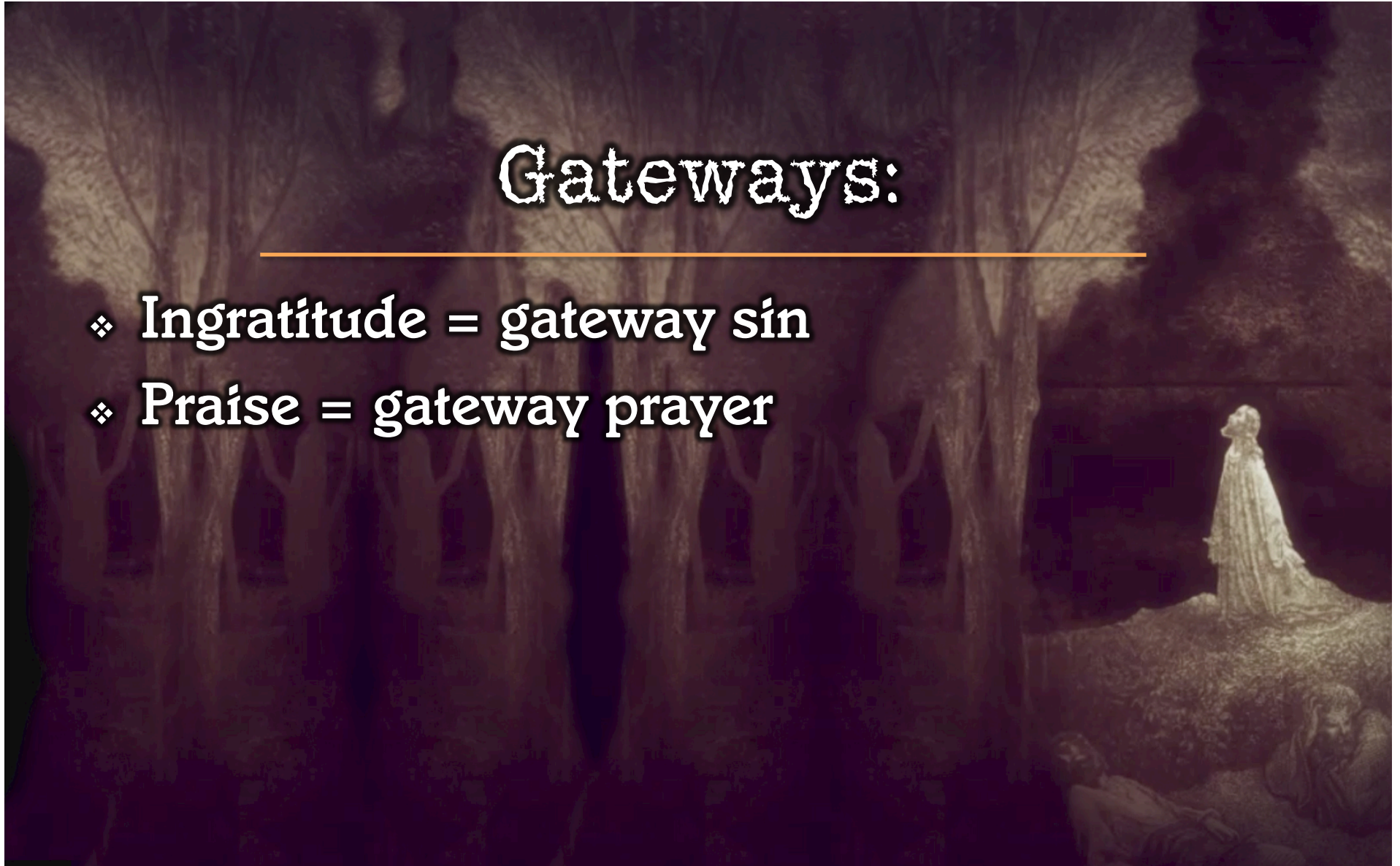
Basic kinds of prayer:

- ❖ Upward – praise
- ❖ Inward – confession
- ❖ Outward – petition
 - ❖ Supplication
 - ❖ Intercession



Gateways:

- ❖ Ingratitude = gateway sin
- ❖ Praise = gateway prayer





C. S. Lewis:

“I think we delight to praise what we enjoy because the praise not merely expresses but completes the enjoyment; it is its appointed consummation. It is not out of compliment that lovers keep on telling one another how beautiful they are; the delight is incomplete until it is expressed.”

Disordered loves:

- ❖ We love what we ought not to love.
- ❖ We fail to love what we ought to love.
- ❖ We love more what we should love less.
- ❖ We love less what we should love more.



A dark, atmospheric painting of a forest. The scene is dimly lit, with a figure in a long, flowing white dress standing on a small, elevated mound or hill on the right side. The figure's face is not clearly visible. The background is filled with the silhouettes of trees and a dark, moody sky. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

Augustine:

“You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you.”

Worship and adoration of God:

- ❖ It can reshape your personality.
- ❖ It can create healthy community.



The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric photograph of a forest. The trees are silhouetted against a slightly lighter, misty or moonlit sky. In the lower right portion of the image, a person wearing a long, flowing white robe stands on a path, looking towards the left. The overall mood is solemn and contemplative.

Psalm 135:1-2

Praise the LORD.

**Praise the name of the LORD;
praise him, you servants of the LORD,
you who minister in the house of the LORD,
in the courts of the house of our God.**

Psalm 135:3-4

Praise the LORD, for the LORD is good;
sing praise to his name, for that is pleasant.
For the LORD has chosen Jacob to be his own,
Israel to be his treasured possession.

Psalm 135:5-6

I know that the LORD is great,
that our Lord is greater than all gods.
The LORD does whatever pleases him,
in the heavens and on the earth,
in the seas and all their depths.



Psalm 136:1-3

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good.

His love endures forever.

Give thanks to the God of gods.

His love endures forever.

Give thanks to the Lord of lords:

His love endures forever.



Romans 1:28-29

Furthermore, just as they did not think it worthwhile to retain the knowledge of God, so God gave them over to a depraved mind, so that they do what ought not to be done. They have become filled with every kind of ~wickedness, evil, greed and depravity.



Romans 1:29-31

They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips, slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; they have no understanding, no fidelity, no love, no mercy.



Romans 1:32

Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.



Romans 1:18-19

The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of people, who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them.



Romans 1:20

For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities — his eternal power and divine nature — have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.



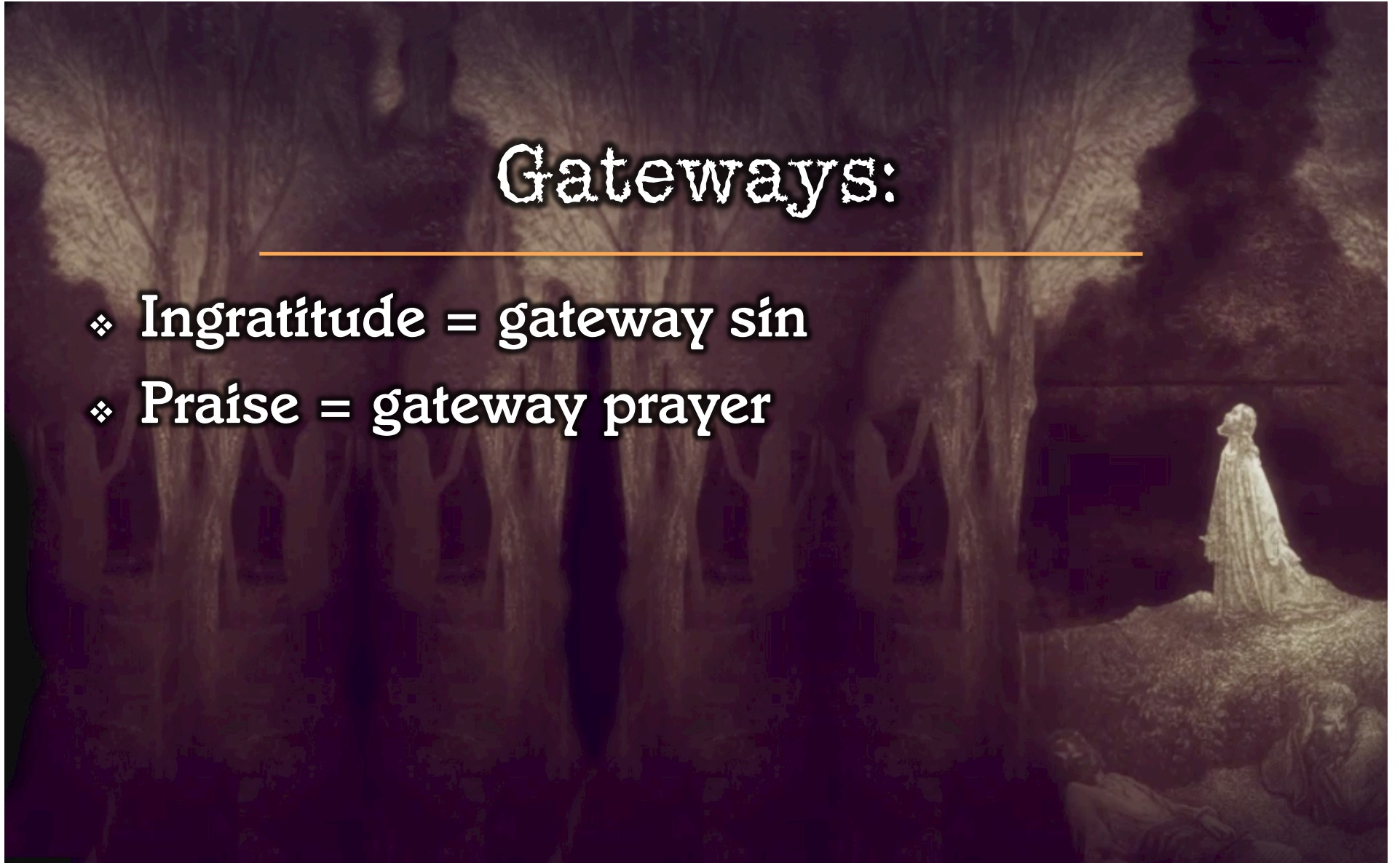
Romans 1:21

For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.



Gateways:

- ❖ Ingratitude = gateway sin
- ❖ Praise = gateway prayer



A dark, atmospheric illustration of a forest. The scene is dimly lit, with a path leading through the trees. In the distance, a figure in a long, flowing white dress stands on the path, looking back. The overall mood is mysterious and somber.

C. S. Lewis:

**“I have tried to make every pleasure
into a channel of adoration.”**

Thomas Cranmer's collects:

- ❖ Address = name of God
- ❖ Doctrine = a truth about God's nature
- ❖ Petition = a request from God
- ❖ Aspiration = good result of answered prayer
- ❖ In Jesus' name

Thomas Cranmer:

- ❖ Almighty God
- ❖ Unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid,
- ❖ Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit,

Thomas Cranmer:

- ❖ That we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name,
- ❖ Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.



Matthew Henry:

- ❖ **Adoring God**
 - ❖ **God is the only perfect one.**
 - ❖ **His perfections include his knowledge, wisdom, power, holiness and justice.**
 - ❖ **God is the Creator, sustainer and ruler of all creation.**

Matthew Henry:

- ❖ **Thanking God**
 - ❖ **For the ways he sustains us physically**
 - ❖ **For the ways he sustains us spiritually**
 - ❖ **For his particular mercies to us**





Psalm 147:1

Praise the LORD.

**How good it is to sing praises to our God,
how pleasant and fitting to praise him!**

Psalm 147:5-6

Great is our Lord and mighty in power;
his understanding has no limit.
The LORD sustains the humble
but casts the wicked to the ground.



Psalm 148:1-2

Praise the LORD.

**Praise the LORD from the heavens;
praise him in the heights above.**

**Praise him, all his angels;
praise him, all his heavenly hosts.**



Psalm 148:3-4

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.
Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the skies.



Psalm 148:5-6

Let them praise the name of the LORD,
for at his command they were created,
and he established them for ever and ever —
he issued a decree that will never pass away.

Psalm 149:1-2

Praise the LORD.

Sing to the LORD a new song,

his praise in the assembly of his faithful people.

Let Israel rejoice in their Maker;

let the people of Zion be glad in their King.

Psalm 149:3-5

Let them praise his name with dancing
and make music to him with timbrel and harp.
For the LORD takes delight in his people;
he crowns the humble with victory.
Let his faithful people rejoice in this honor
and sing for joy on their beds.

Psalm 150:1-2

Praise the LORD.

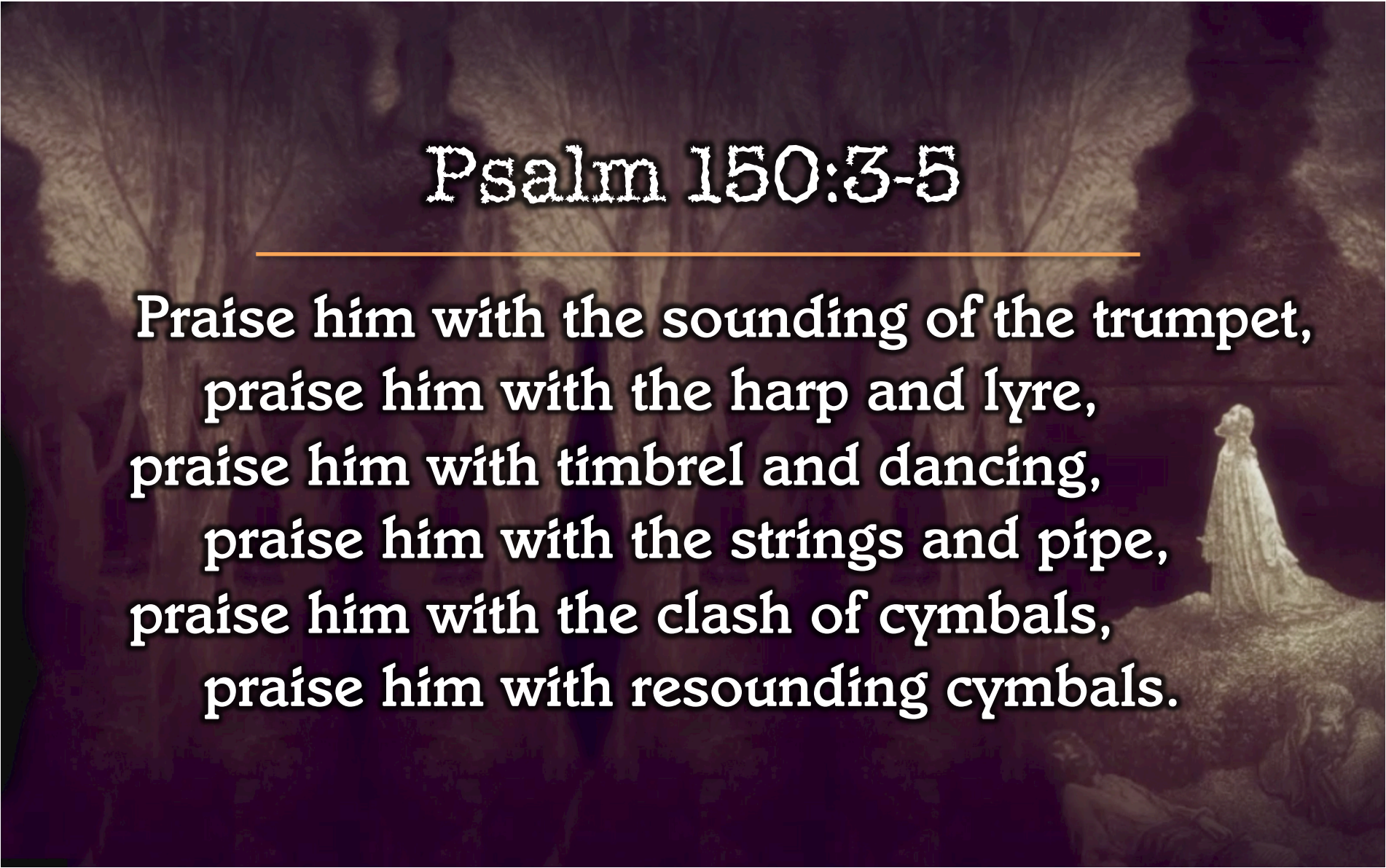
**Praise God in his sanctuary;
praise him in his mighty heavens.**

**Praise him for his acts of power;
praise him for his surpassing greatness.**



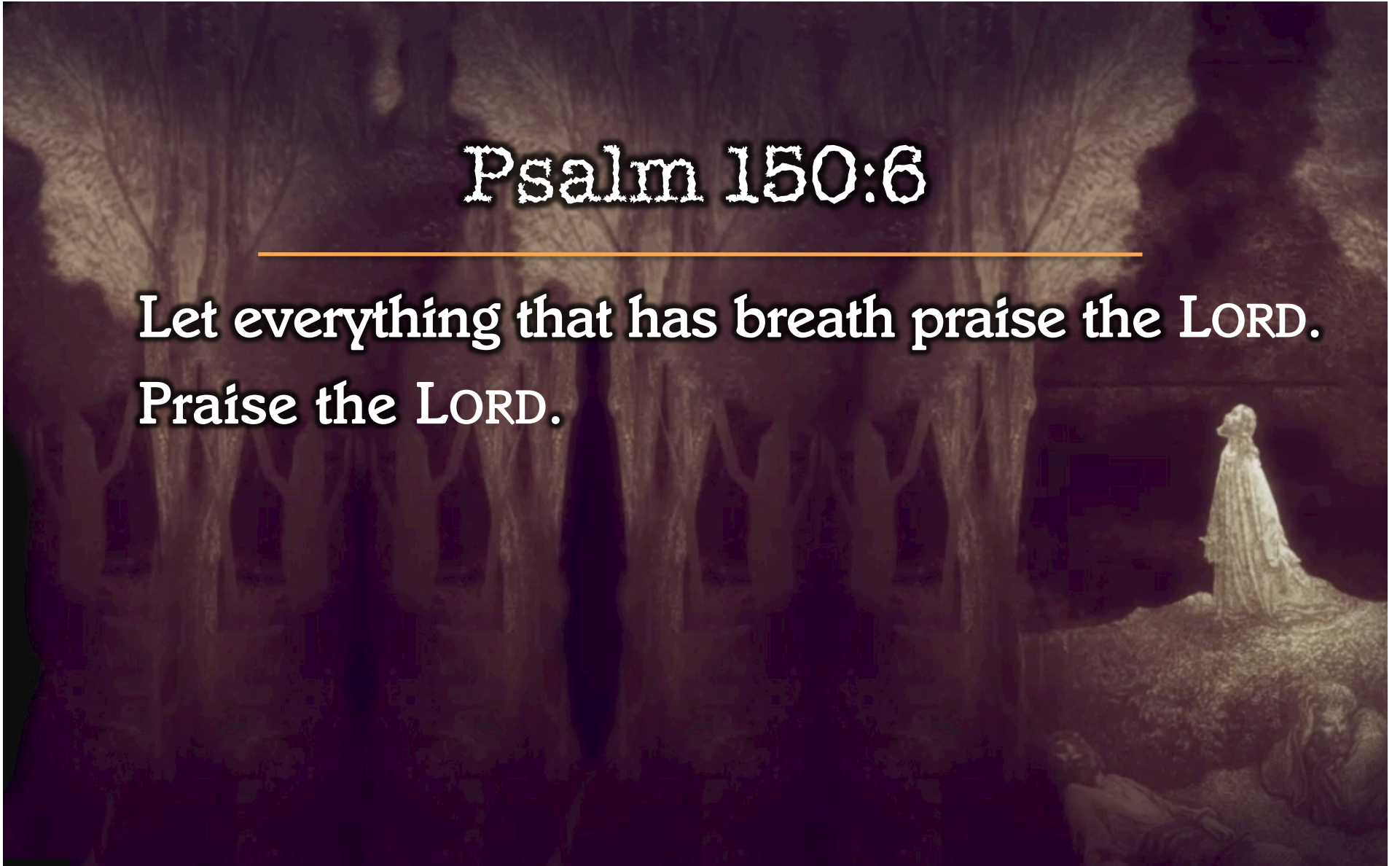
Psalm 150:3-5

Praise him with the sounding of the trumpet,
praise him with the harp and lyre,
praise him with timbrel and dancing,
praise him with the strings and pipe,
praise him with the clash of cymbals,
praise him with resounding cymbals.



Psalm 150:6

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD.
Praise the LORD.



Worship and adoration of God:

- ❖ It can reshape your personality.
- ❖ It can create healthy community.





Are you being called?

- ❖ 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

