

A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and 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 a light-colored head covering, and has a bag slung over his shoulder. The man on the right is wearing a dark purple robe and a light-colored head covering. The background shows some greenery and a tree trunk on the left. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, serif font with a drop shadow.

**“The Vultures Will Gather”**  
**17:20-37**

---

**Curtis Deming**  
**Melbourne Community Church**  
**February 9, 2020**

## What will we learn?

---

- ❖ The Kingdom of God has already arrived in the person of Jesus, but its fullness will not be realized until Jesus returns.
- ❖ The Kingdom of God is advanced by suffering.
- ❖ Jesus is the Son of Man, and his return will usher in the final judgment of humanity.



# The Gospel of Luke

---

- ❖ I – The Launch (1:1-9:50)
  - ❖ November, 2018 – June, 2019
- ❖ II – The Teachings (9:51- 19:27)
  - ❖ October, 2019 – Spring, 2020
- ❖ III – Jerusalem (19:28 – 24:53)
  - ❖ Fall, 2020 or Spring, 2021

# Who is Jesus?

---

- ❖ 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

# Who is Jesus?

---

- ❖ Lord of the Sabbath
- ❖ A great prophet
- ❖ “Master”
- ❖ “Son of the Most High God”
- ❖ God’s Messiah
- ❖ “My Son, whom I have chosen”

# Northern Israel

in the time of Christ

GREAT SEA  
(The Mediterranean)

Ashkelon

Phoenicia

PTOLEMAIS

CAPERNAUM

BETHSAIDA

CANA

SEA OF GALILEE

Galilee

NAZARETH

CAESAREA

Decapolis

Samaría

JOPPA

Judea

JORDAN RIVER

BETHEL

JERICO

JERUSALEM

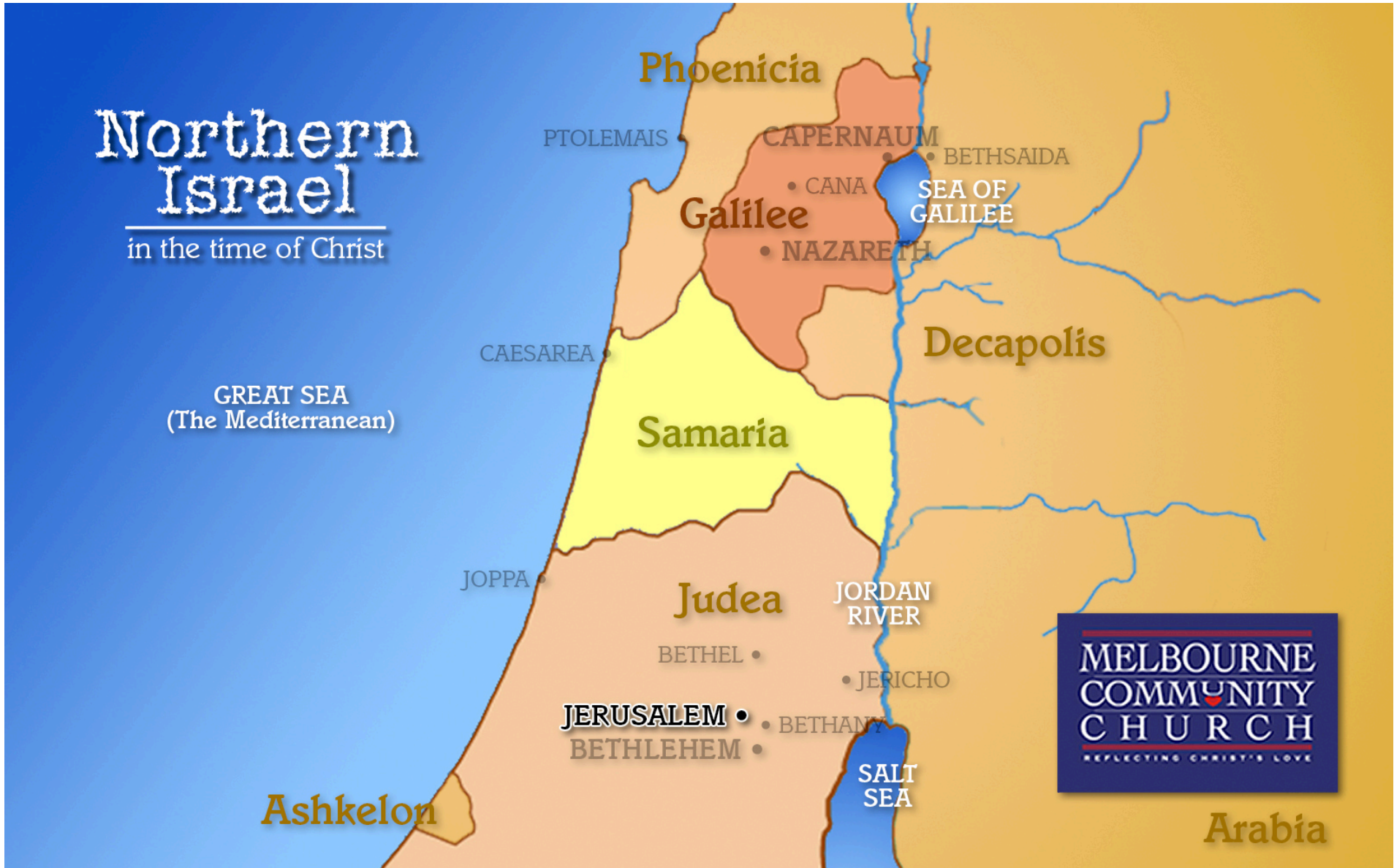
BETHANY

BETHLEHEM

SALT SEA

Arabia

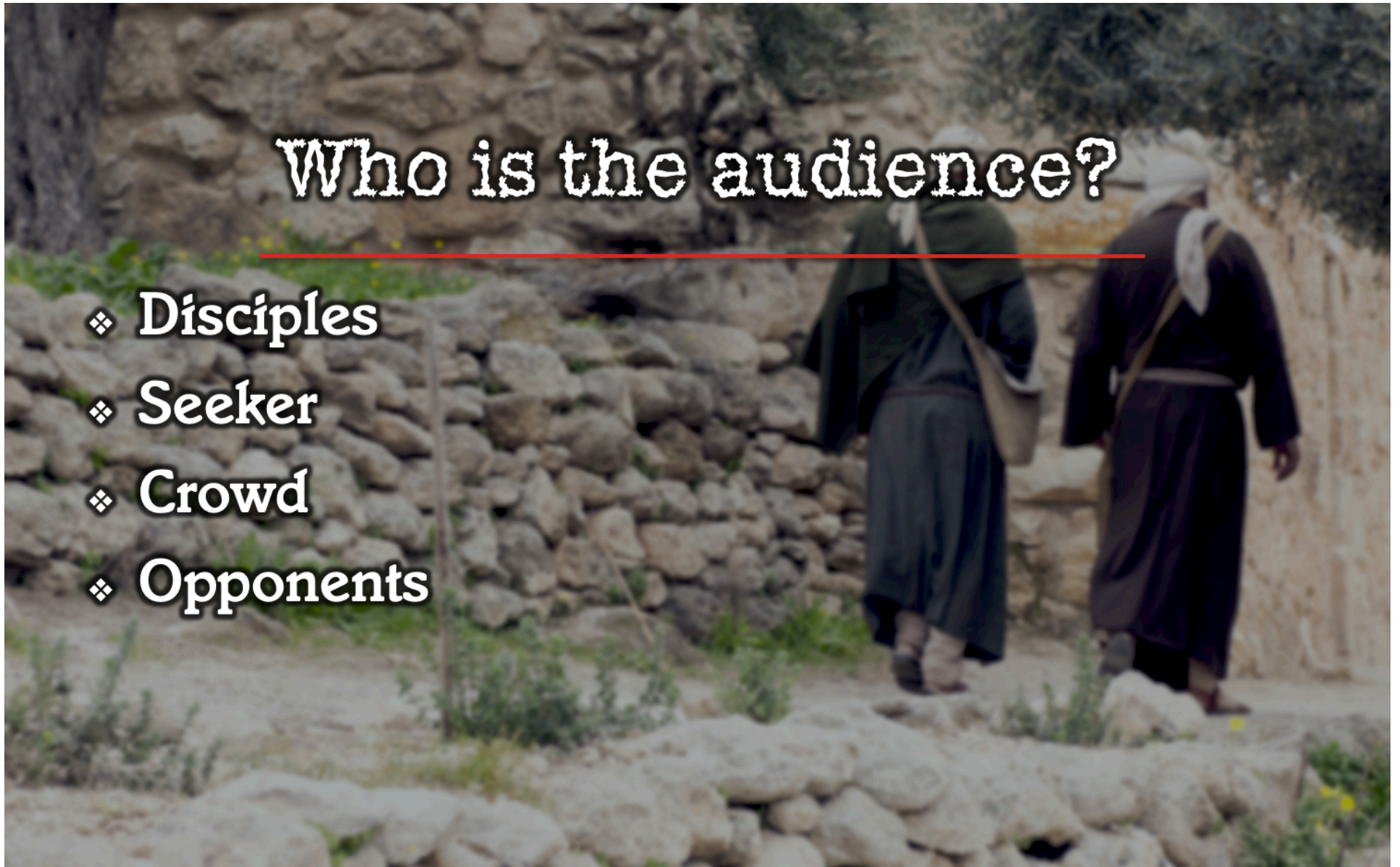
MELBOURNE  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH  
REFLECTING CHRIST'S LOVE



# Who is the audience?

---

- ❖ Disciples
- ❖ Seeker
- ❖ Crowd
- ❖ Opponents



## Luke 17:20-21

---

Once, on being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The coming of the kingdom of God is not something that can be observed, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is in your midst."



# Parallels to Luke 17:20-37

---

- ❖ Matthew 24 (Olivet Discourse)
- ❖ Mark 13



The background of the slide is a photograph of a stone wall. Two people, likely in traditional Middle Eastern or Middle Eastern attire, are walking away from the camera on a path that runs along the wall. The person on the left is wearing a dark jacket and a light-colored head covering. The person on the right is wearing a dark robe and a light-colored head covering. The wall is made of rough, grey stones. There are some small green plants growing between the stones.

**Robert H. Stein:**

---

**“Questions involving the future coming of God’s kingdom must not lose sight of the already-now dimension of the kingdom. Already now the kingdom has come, and the future not-yet dimension of God’s kingdom will be shared only if one now enters the kingdom in its present manifestation.”**

## Luke 17:22-23

---

Then he said to his disciples, “The time is coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, but you will not see it. People will tell you, ‘There he is!’ or ‘Here he is!’ Do not go running off after them.

## Luke 17:24-25

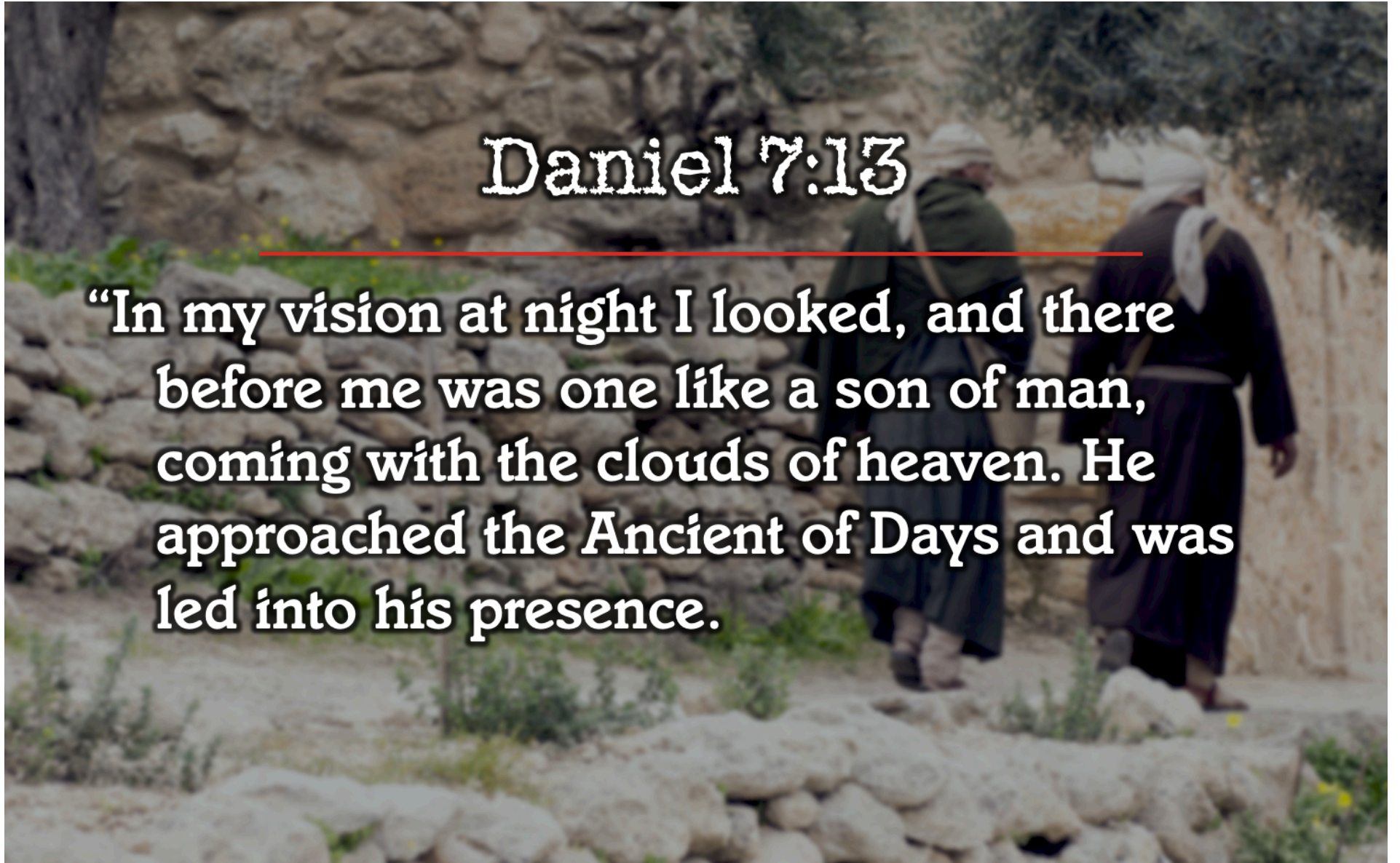
---

**“For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.”**

## Daniel 7:13

---

**“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence.**





## Daniel 7:14

---

**“He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.”**

## Luke 17:26-27

---

**“Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.**

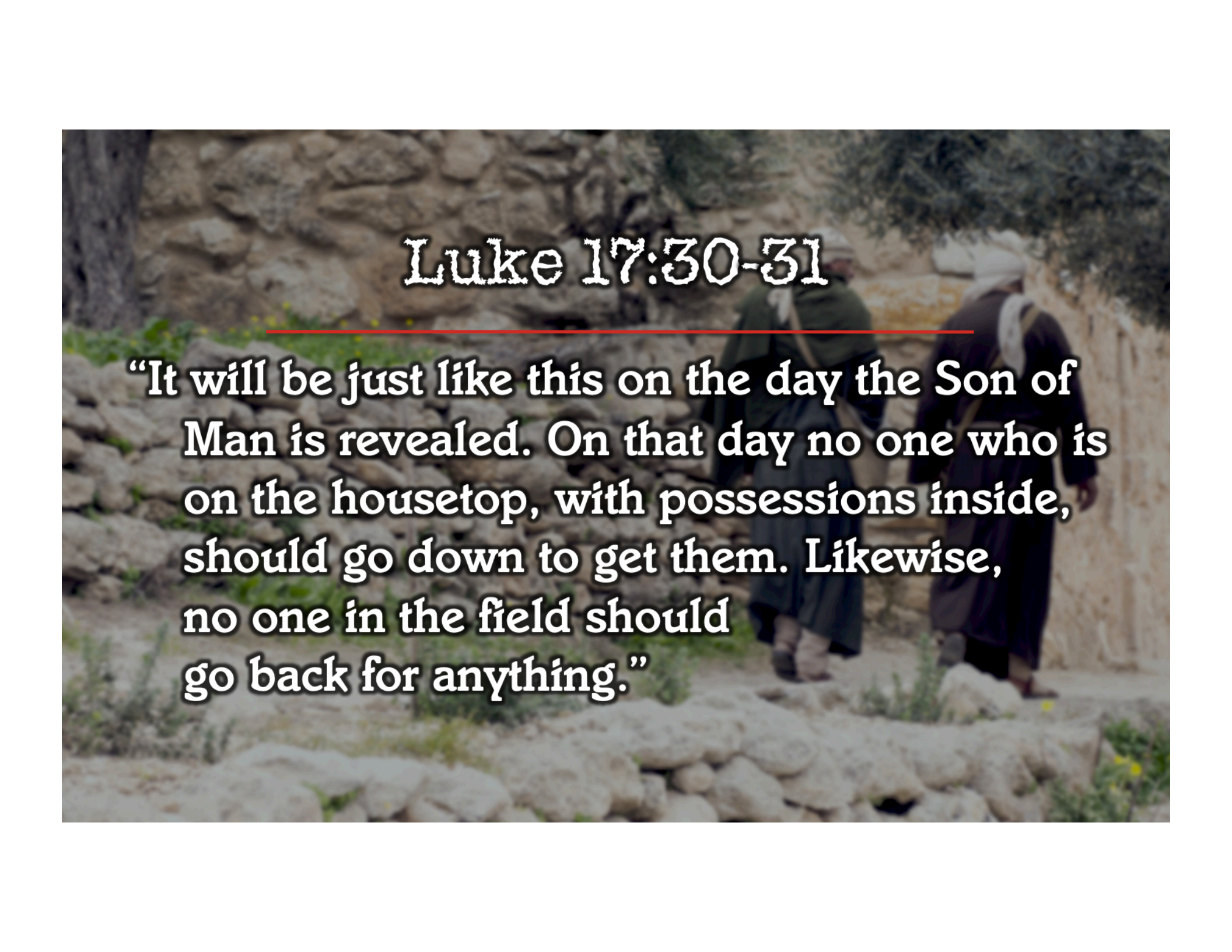


## Luke 17:28-29

---

**“It was the same in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all.**





## Luke 17:30-31

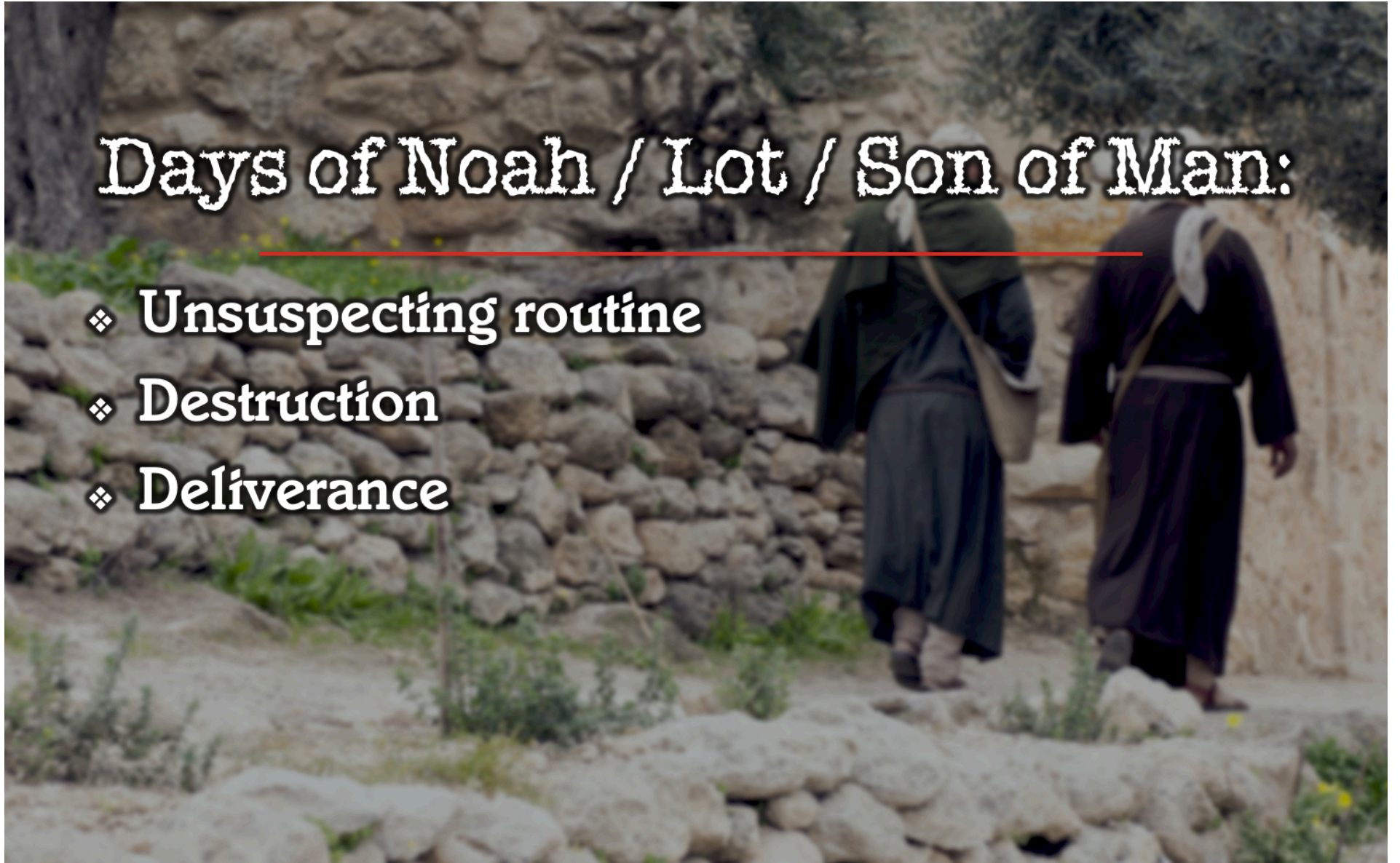
---

**“It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed. On that day no one who is on the housetop, with possessions inside, should go down to get them. Likewise, no one in the field should go back for anything.”**

# Days of Noah / Lot / Son of Man:

---

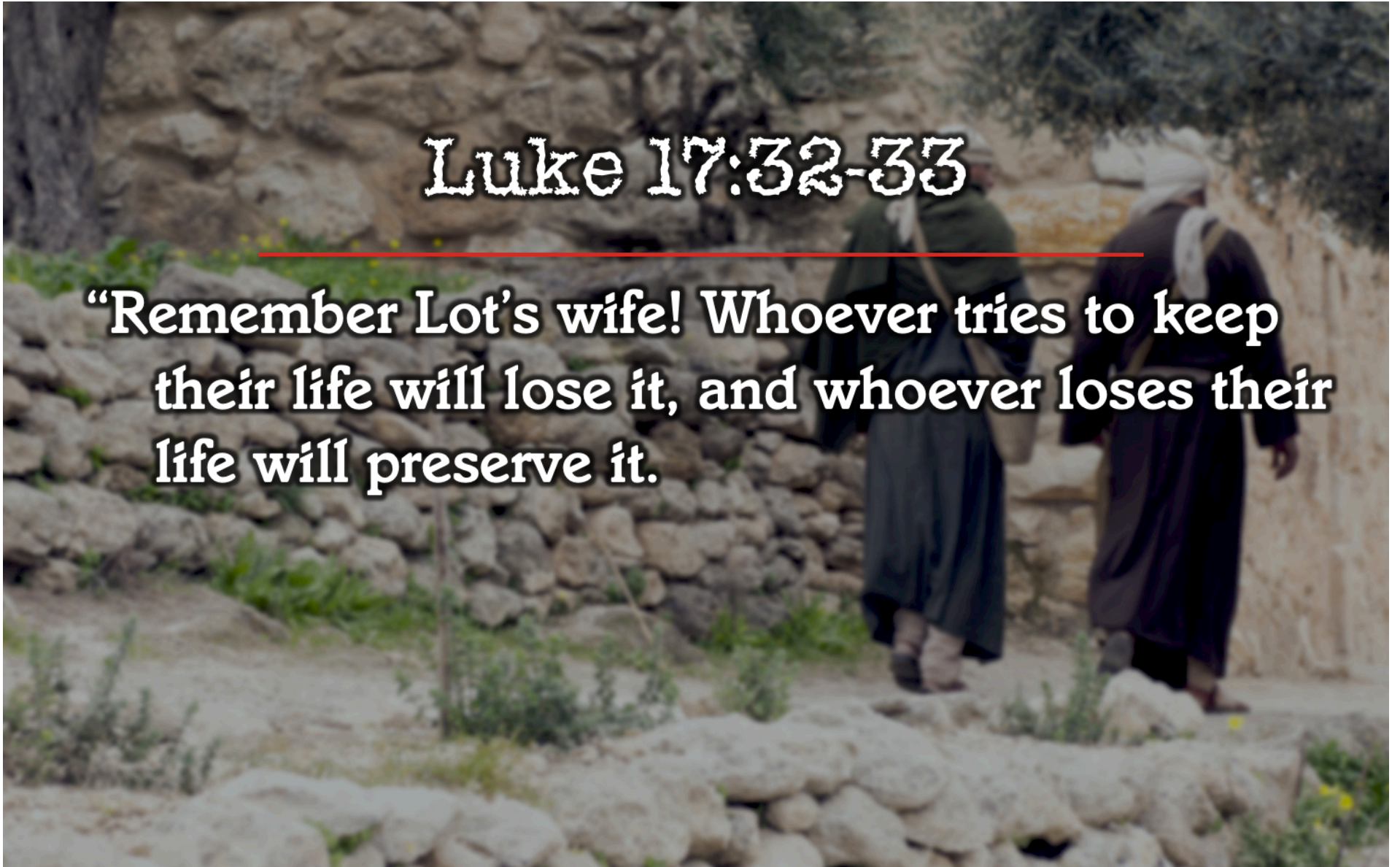
- ❖ **Unsuspecting routine**
- ❖ **Destruction**
- ❖ **Deliverance**



## Luke 17:32-33

---

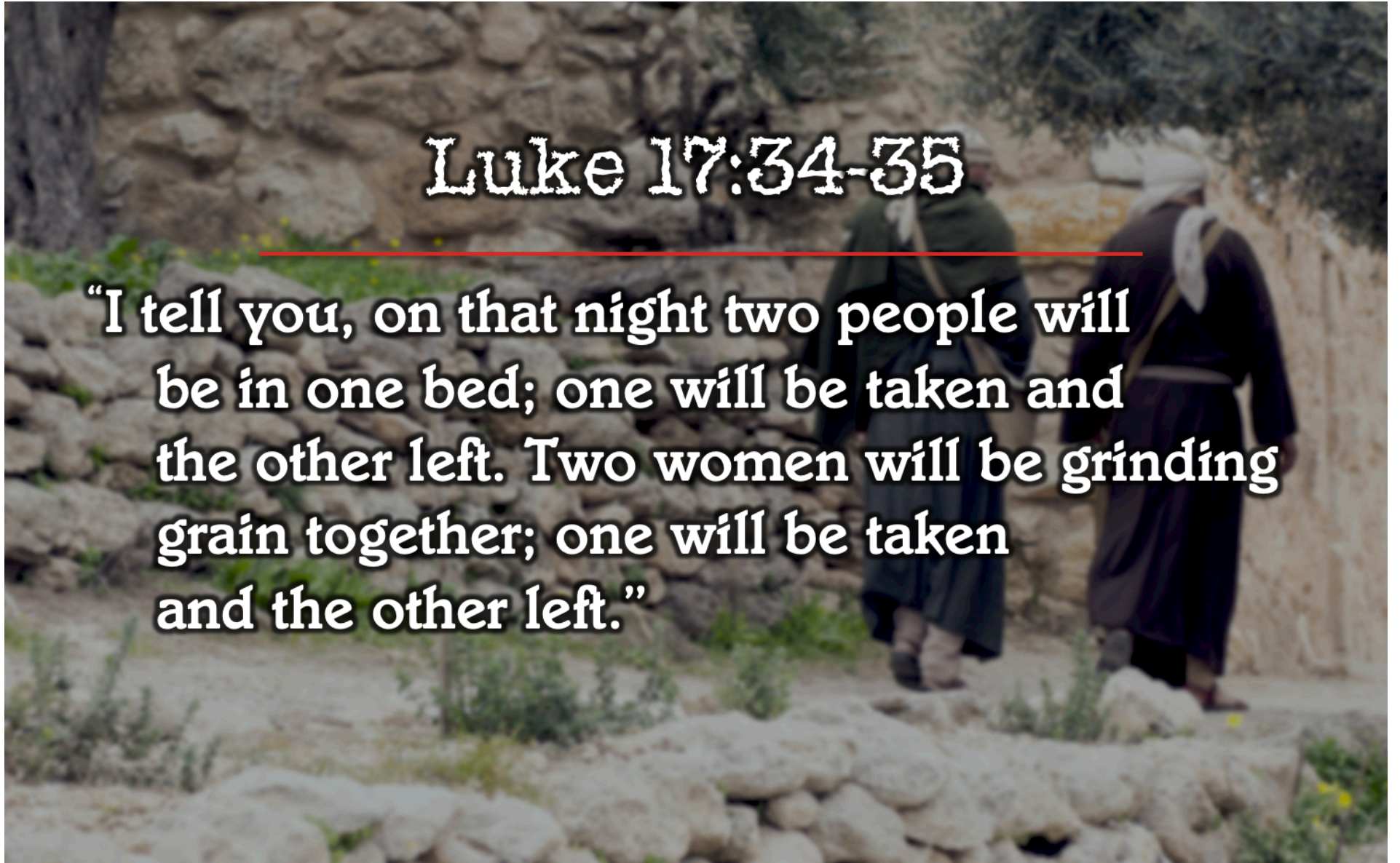
**“Remember Lot’s wife! Whoever tries to keep their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life will preserve it.**



## Luke 17:34-35

---

**“I tell you, on that night two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left.”**



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 path is bordered by a low wall of rough-hewn stones. The background shows a rocky hillside with some sparse green vegetation and a tree on the left. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

Luke 17:37

---

**“Where, Lord?” they asked. He replied,  
“Where there is a dead body, there the  
vultures will gather.”**

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 solid stone wall on the right. The background shows more of the stone wall and some greenery. The overall scene is outdoors and appears to be in a rural or historical setting.

# Birds!

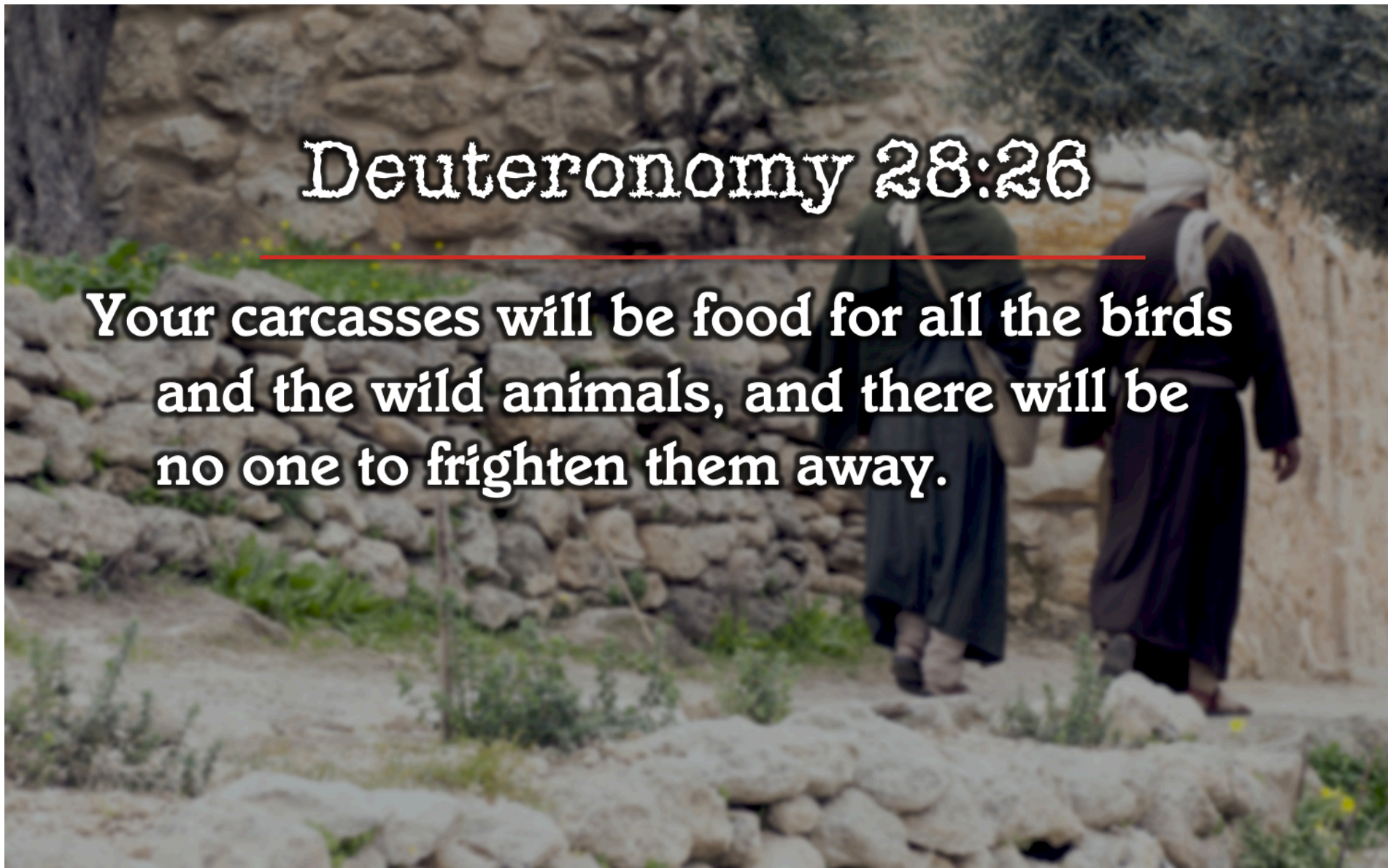
---

- ❖ Deuteronomy 28:26
- ❖ 1 Samuel 17:44
- ❖ Psalm 79:2
- ❖ Ezekiel 32:4-6

## Deuteronomy 28:26

---

**Your carcasses will be food for all the birds and the wild animals, and there will be no one to frighten them away.**



# 1 Samuel 17:44

---

[Goliath to David]: “Come here,” he said,  
“and I’ll give your flesh to the birds  
and the wild animals!”





## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14

---

Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

## 1 Thessalonians 4:15-16

---

According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

## 1 Thessalonians 4:17-18

---

After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

## Revelation 19:11-12

---

I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself.

## Revelation 19:13-14

---

He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean.

## Revelation 19:15-16

---

Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations.

“He will rule them with an iron scepter.”

He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written:

**KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**

## Eschatology from Luke 17

---

- ❖ The return of Jesus will not be preceded by signs that can be observed and calculated.
- ❖ The kingdom of God was already present in the person of Jesus.
- ❖ The return of Jesus would not occur during the lifetime of his first disciples.

## More eschatology from Luke 17

---

- ❖ His second coming will be observed by all.
- ❖ His second coming will be unexpected.
- ❖ People will be unprepared.
- ❖ The final judgment will separate families.
- ❖ The return of Jesus will be clear to the entire world.



## What have we learned?

---

- ❖ The Kingdom of God has already arrived in the person of Jesus, but its fullness will not be realized until Jesus returns.
- ❖ The Kingdom of God is advanced by suffering.
- ❖ Jesus is the Son of Man, and his return will usher in the final judgment of humanity.



# 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