

ASK - SEEK - KNOCK

By

HAROLD HARSTVEDT

ASK - beg - call for- crave - desire - require

**SEEK - to seek to worship (God) - to plot against
- desire - endeavor - enquire - require**

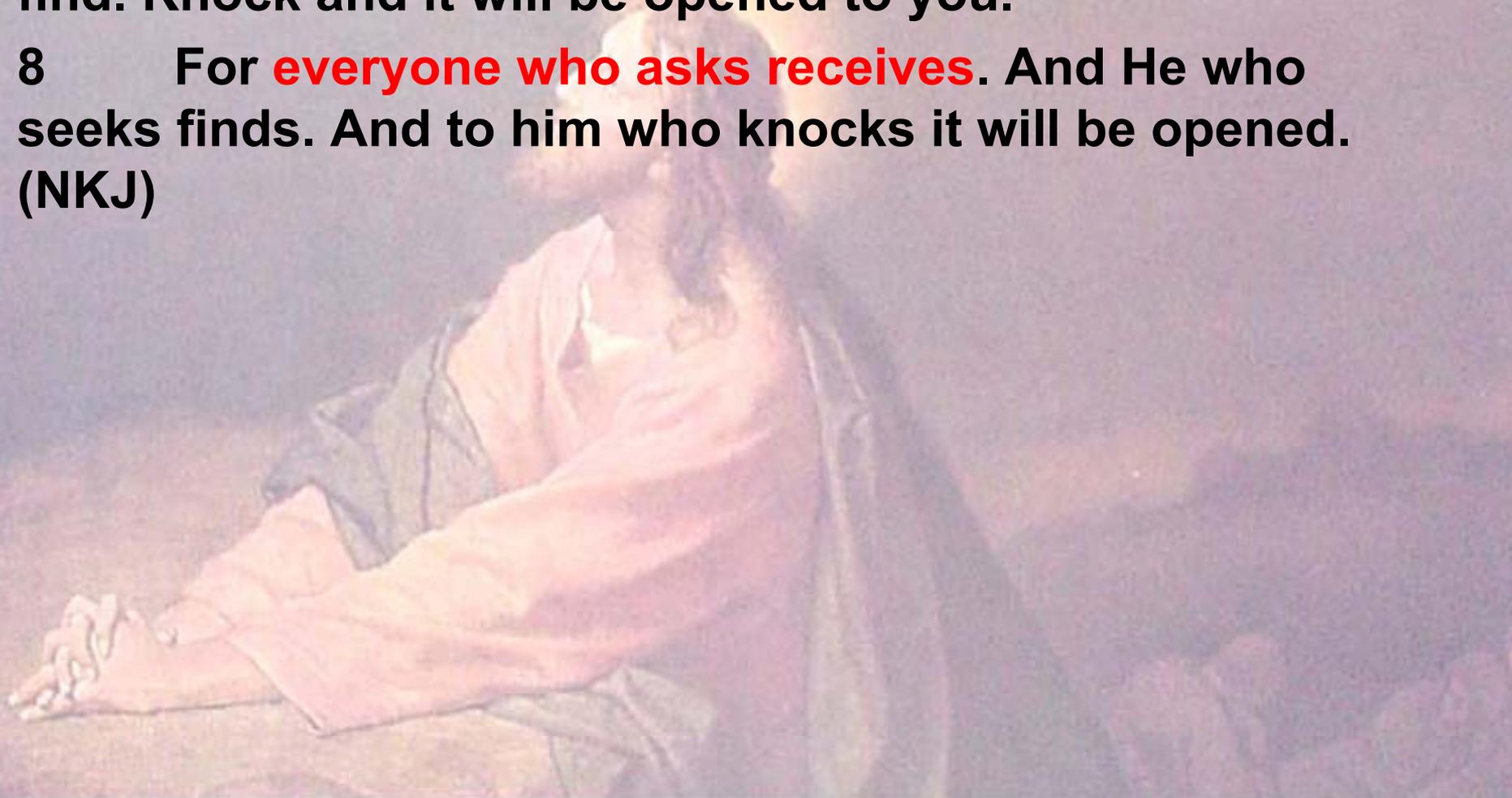
KNOCK - to rap - knock

ASK - SEEK - KNOCK

MATTHEW 7:7-8

7 **Ask and it will be given to you.** Seek and you will find. Knock and it will be opened to you.

8 For **everyone who asks receives.** And He who seeks finds. And to him who knocks it will be opened.
(NKJ)



HOW SHOULD WE ASK? WHY?

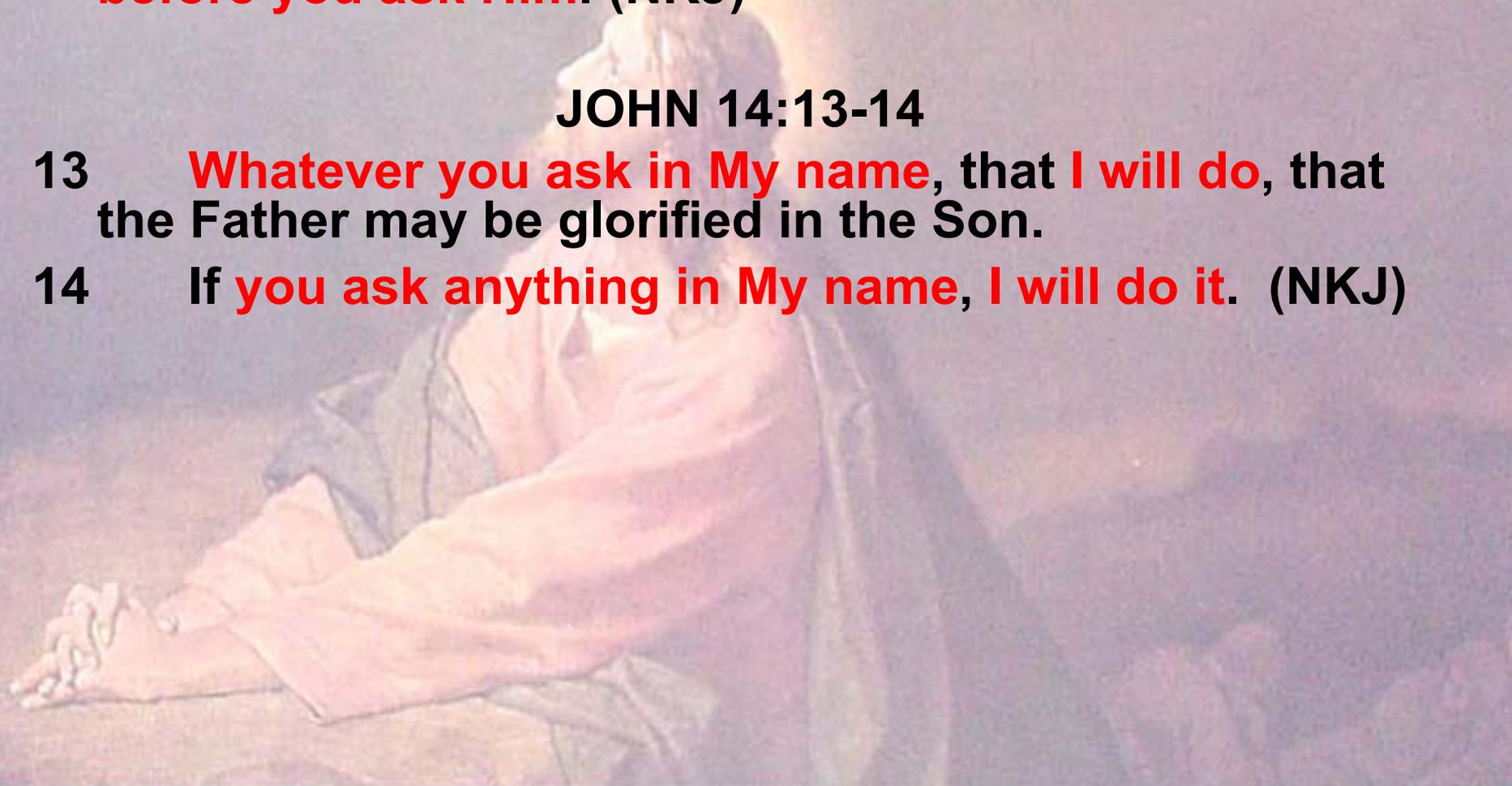
MATTHEW 6:8

8For **your Father knows the things you have need of before you ask Him.** (NKJ)

JOHN 14:13-14

13 **Whatever you ask in My name, that I will do,** that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 **If you ask anything in My name, I will do it.** (NKJ)



WHO SHOULD WE ASK?

JOHN 16:23-26

- 23 In that day you will ask Me nothing. **Most assuredly, I say to you, whatever you ask the Father in My name He will give you.**
- 24 Until now you have asked nothing in My name. **Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.**
- 25 These things I have spoken to you in figurative language; but the time is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figurative language, but I will tell you plainly about the Father.
- 26 In that day you will ask in My name, and I do not say to you that I shall pray the Father for you; (NKJ)

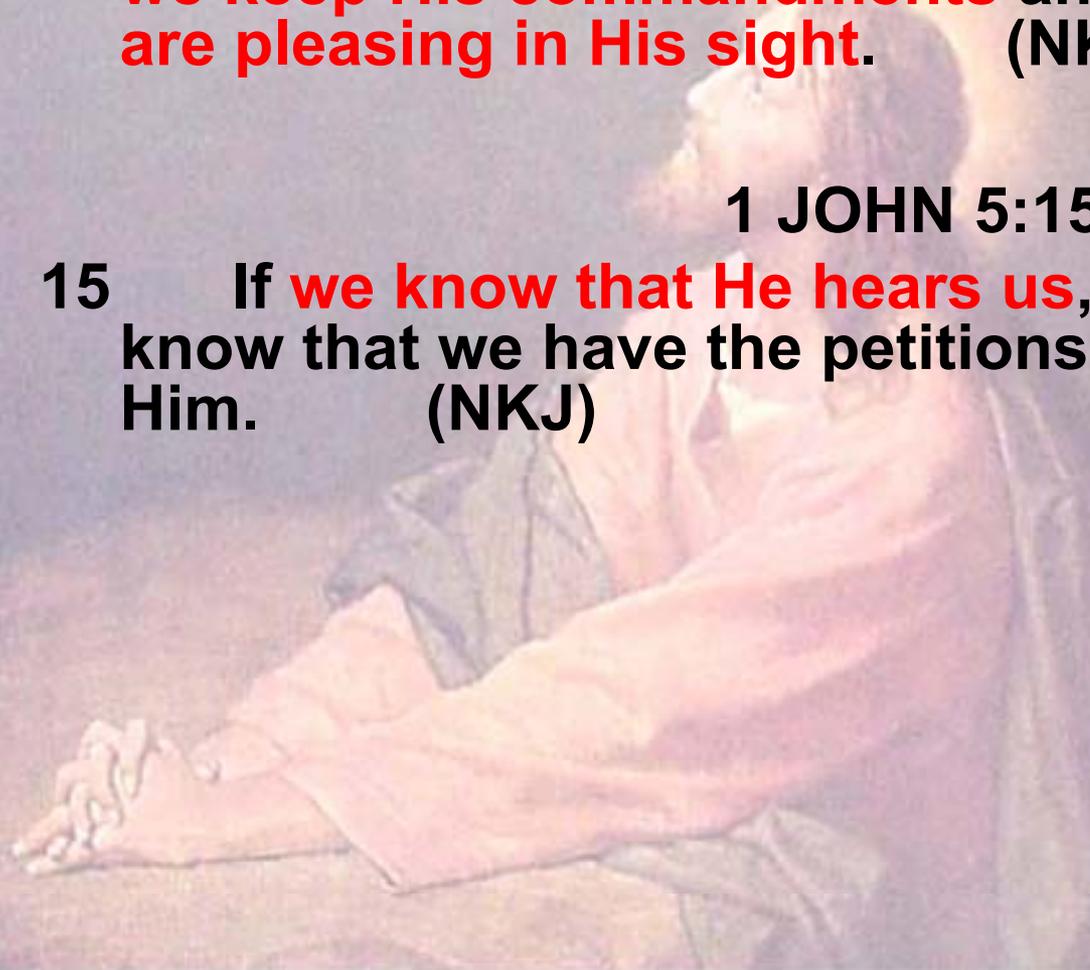
WHY DO WE RECEIVE WHAT WE ASK FOR?

1 JOHN 3:22

22 Whatever we ask we receive from Him, because **we keep His commandments and do those things that are pleasing in His sight.** (NKJ)

1 JOHN 5:15

15 If **we know that He hears us**, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him. (NKJ)

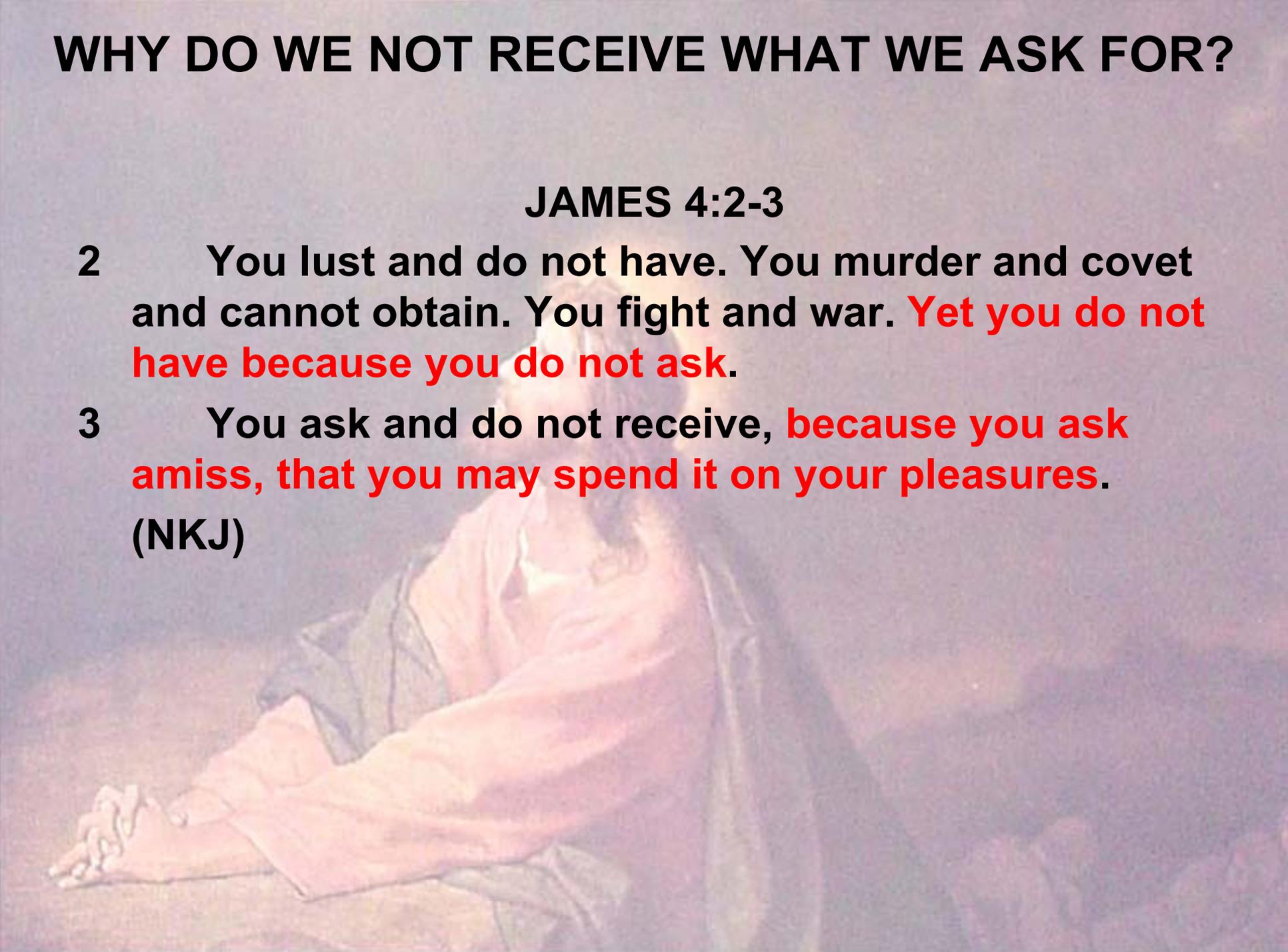


WHY DO WE NOT RECEIVE WHAT WE ASK FOR?

JAMES 4:2-3

- 2 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. **Yet you do not have because you do not ask.**
- 3 You ask and do not receive, **because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.**

(NKJ)



WHAT SHOULD WE SEEK?

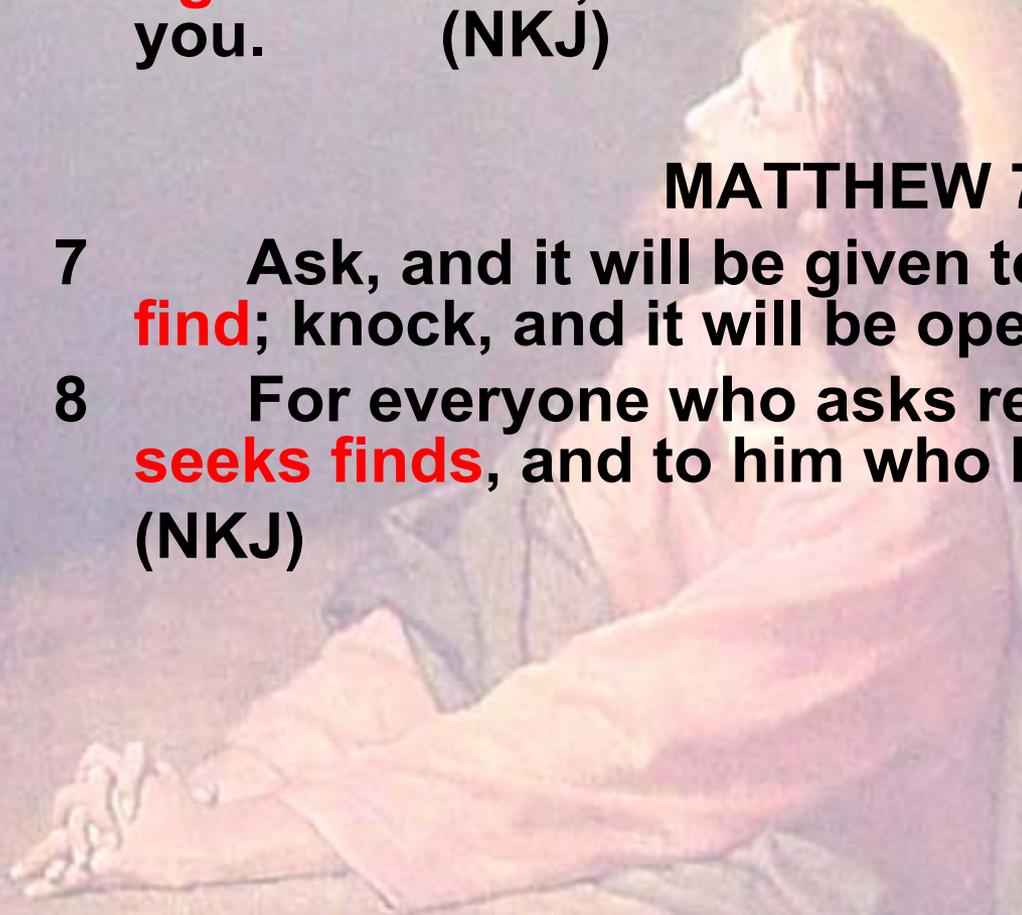
MATTHEW 6:33

33 **Seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness**, and all these things shall be added to you. (NKJ)

MATTHEW 7:7-8

7 Ask, and it will be given to you; **seek**, and **you will find**; knock, and it will be opened to you.

8 For everyone who asks receives, and **he who seeks finds**, and to him who knocks it will be opened. (NKJ)



WHO DID JEHOSHAPHAT SEEK?

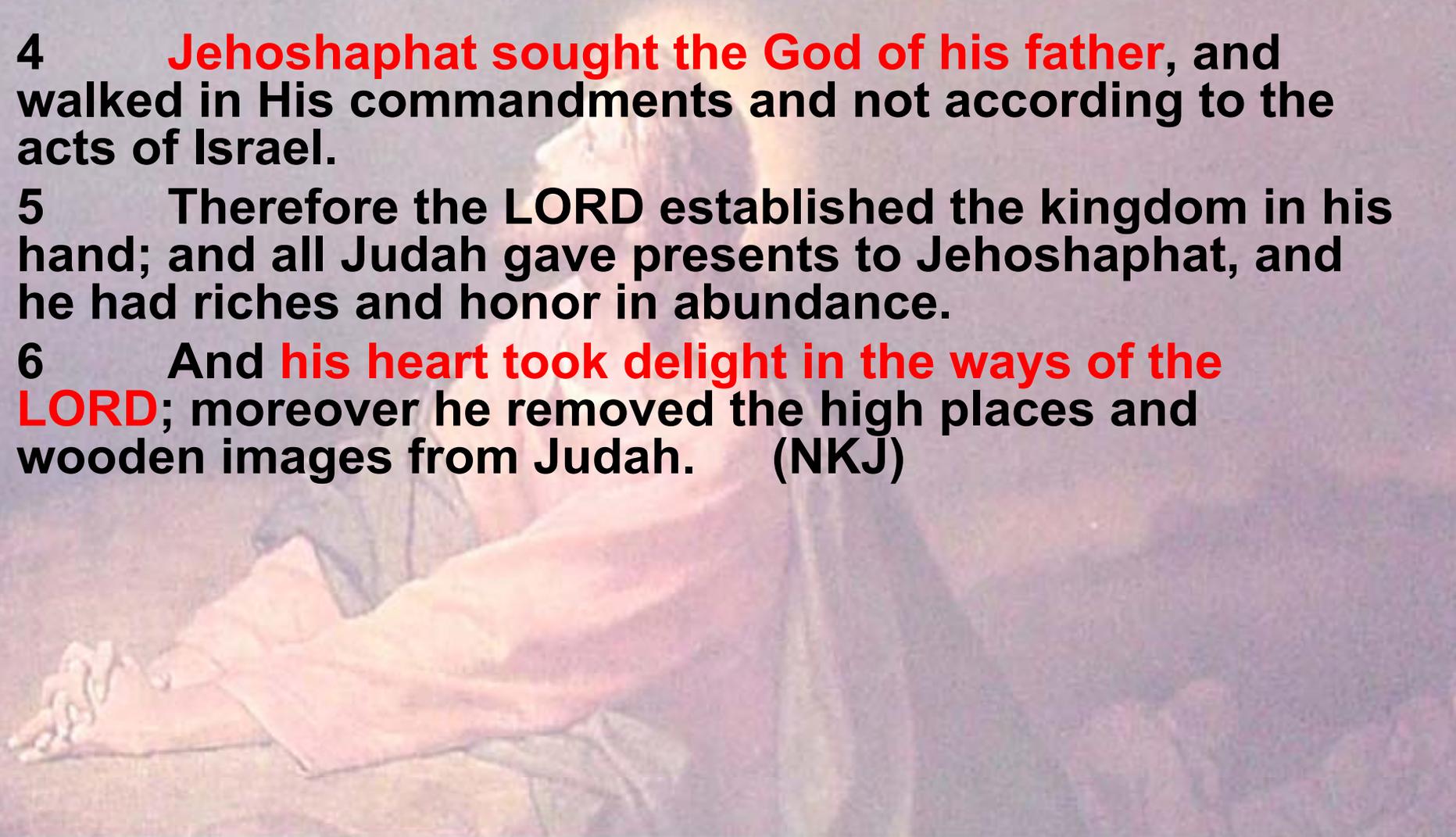
HOW?

2 CHRONICLES 17:4-6

4 **Jehoshaphat sought the God of his father**, and walked in His commandments and not according to the acts of Israel.

5 Therefore the LORD established the kingdom in his hand; and all Judah gave presents to Jehoshaphat, and he had riches and honor in abundance.

6 And **his heart took delight in the ways of the LORD**; moreover he removed the high places and wooden images from Judah. (NKJ)



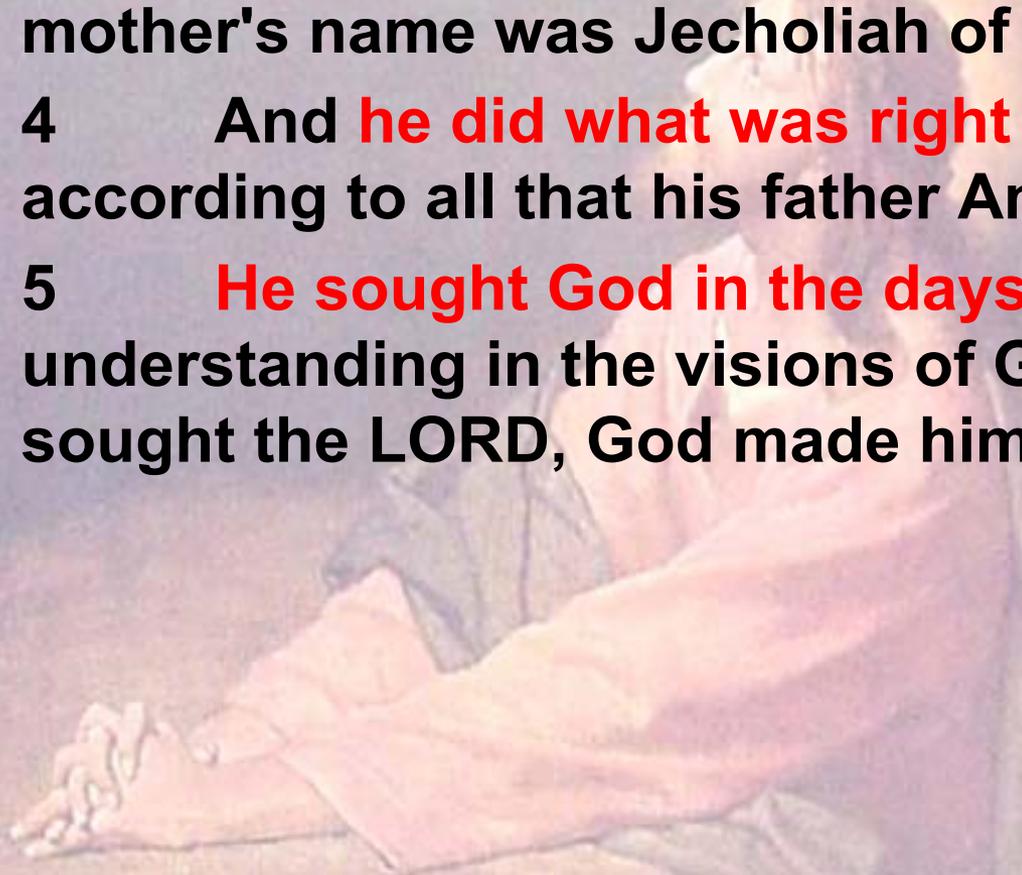
WHO DID UZZIAH SEEK? WHEN?

2 CHRONICLES 26:3-5

3 **Uzziah was sixteen years old** when he became king, and he reigned fifty-two years in Jerusalem. His mother's name was Jecholiah of Jerusalem.

4 And **he did what was right in the sight of the LORD**, according to all that his father Amaziah had done.

5 **He sought God in the days of Zechariah**, who had understanding in the visions of God; and as long as he sought the LORD, God made him prosper. (NKJ)



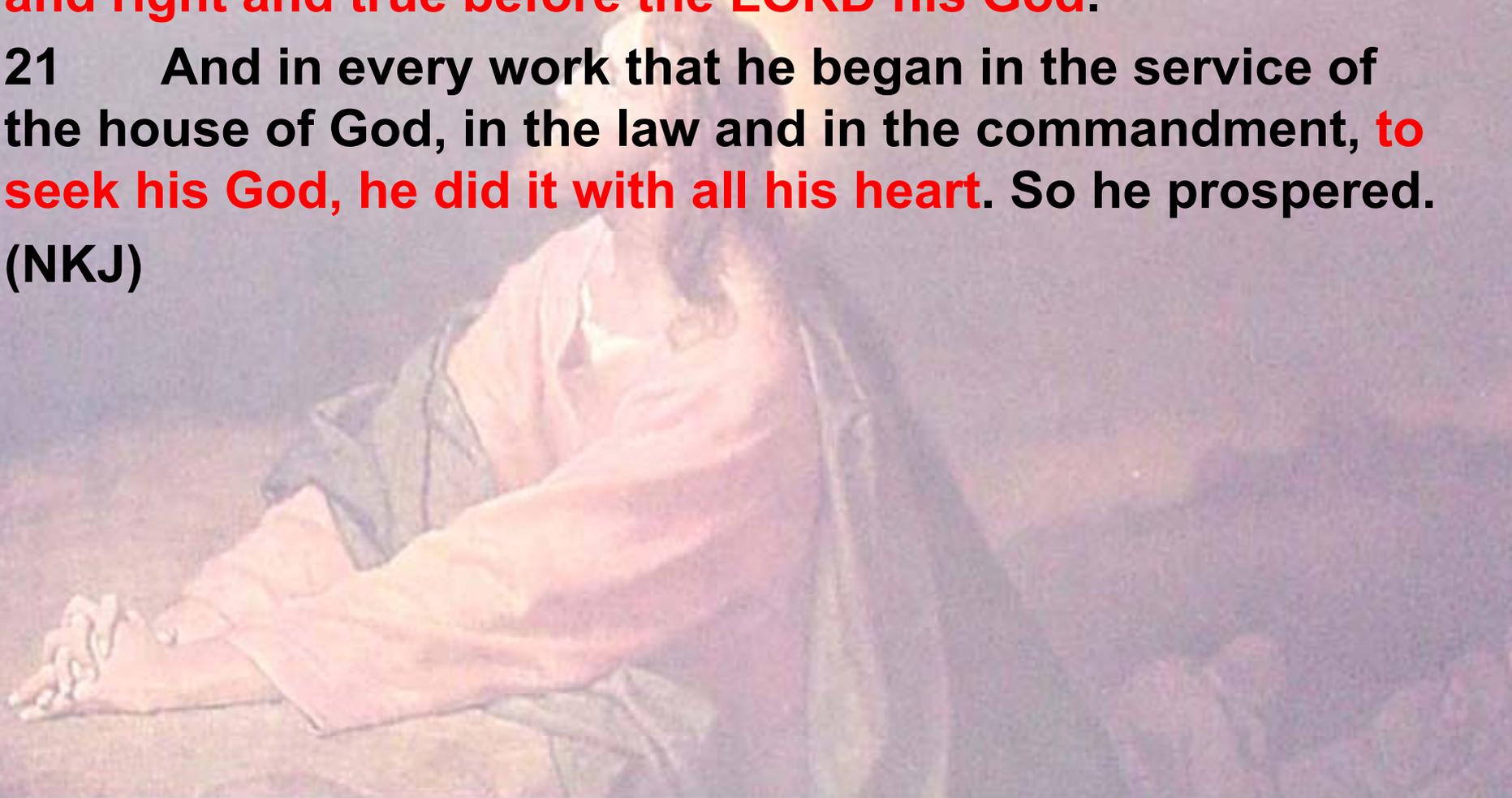
WHO DID HEZEKIAH SEEK? HOW?

2 CHRONICLES 31:20-21

20 **Hezekiah did** throughout all Judah **what was good and right and true before the LORD his God.**

21 And in every work that he began in the service of the house of God, in the law and in the commandment, **to seek his God, he did it with all his heart.** So he prospered.

(NKJ)



WHO DID JOSIAH SEEK? WHEN?

2 CHRONICLES 34:1-3

- 1 **Josiah was eight years old** when he became king, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem.
- 2 **He did what was right in the sight of the LORD**, and walked in the ways of his father David; he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left.
- 3 For **in the eighth year of his reign**, while he was still young, **he began to seek the God of his father David**; and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the wooden images, the carved images, and the molded images. (NKJ)

HOW DID DANIEL SEEK THE LORD?

DANIEL 9:2-5

2 in the first year of his reign I, **Daniel**, understood by the books the number of the years specified by the word of the LORD through Jeremiah the prophet, that He would accomplish seventy years in the desolations of Jerusalem.

3 **I set my face toward the Lord God** to make request by prayer and supplications, with fasting, sackcloth, and ashes.

4 **I prayed to the LORD my God, and made confession**, and said, O Lord, great and awesome God, who keeps His covenant and mercy with those who love Him, and with those who keep His commandments,

5 We have sinned and committed iniquity, we have done wickedly and rebelled, even by departing from Your precepts and Your judgments. (NKJ)

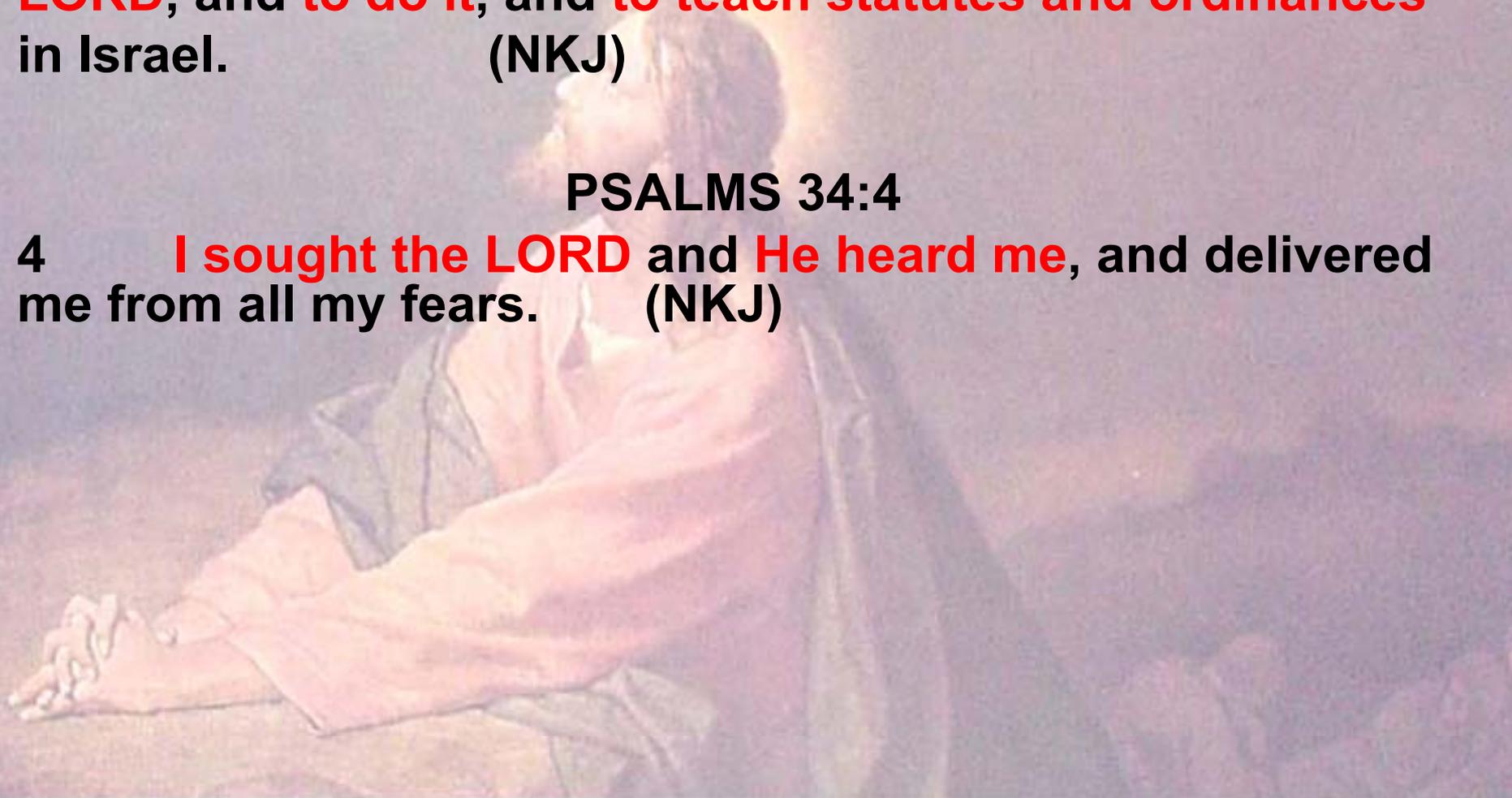
HOW DID EZRA AND DAVID SEEK THE LORD?

EZRA 7:10

10 Ezra had prepared his heart to seek the Law of the LORD, and to do it, and to teach statutes and ordinances in Israel. (NKJ)

PSALMS 34:4

4 I sought the LORD and He heard me, and delivered me from all my fears. (NKJ)

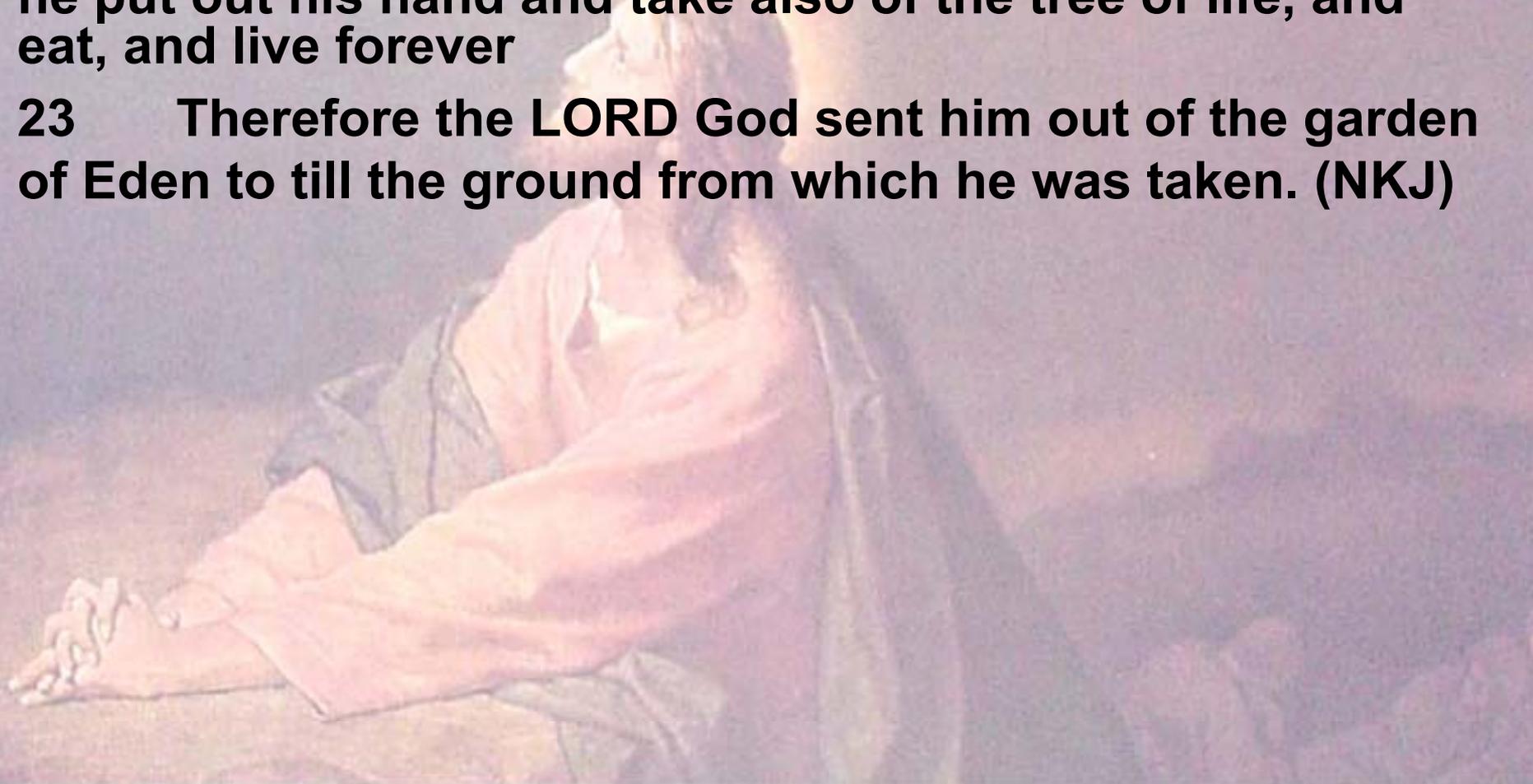


DID ADAM SEEK TO KNOW GOOD & EVIL?

GENESIS 3:22-23

22 The LORD God said, Behold, the man (Adam) has become like one of Us, **to know good and evil**. Now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever

23 Therefore the LORD God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. (NKJ)



WHAT DID SOLOMON SEEK FOR?

1 KINGS 3:7-10

7 O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I am a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in.

8 Your servant is in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted.

9 Therefore **give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil.** For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?

10 The speech pleased the LORD, that Solomon had asked this thing. (NKJ)

WHAT SHOULD A MAN SEEK FOR?

PSALMS 119:66

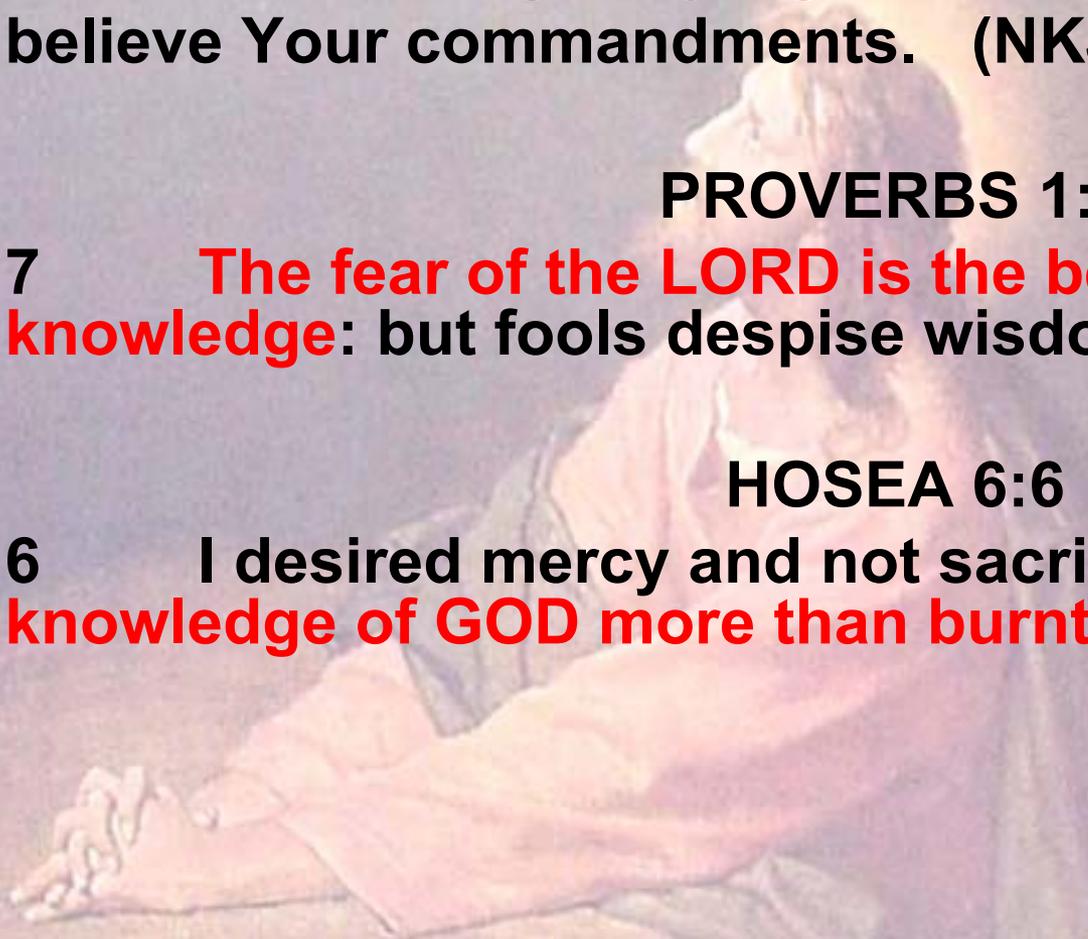
66 **Teach me good judgment and knowledge**, for I believe Your commandments. (NKJ)

PROVERBS 1:7

7 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge**: but fools despise wisdom and instruction.

HOSEA 6:6

6 I desired mercy and not sacrifice. **I desired the knowledge of GOD more than burnt offerings.**

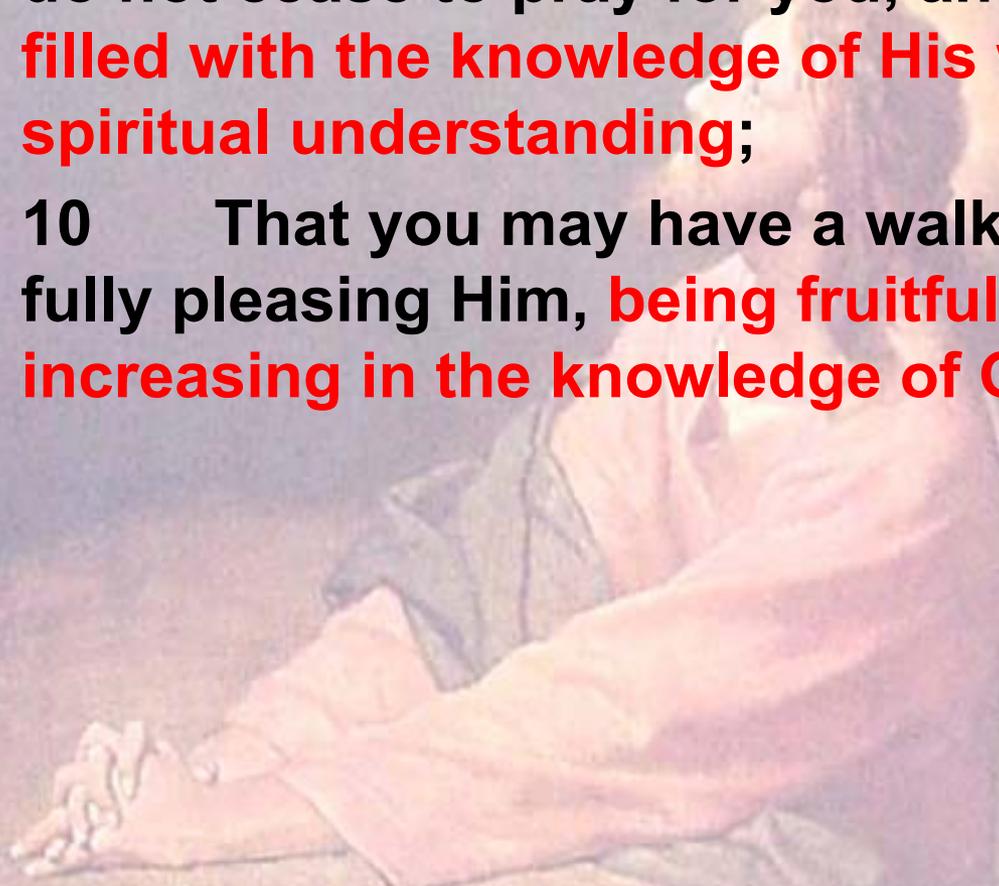


WHAT DID PAUL SEEK FOR THE COLOSSIANS?

COLOSSIANS 1:9-10

9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and **to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding;**

10 That you may have a walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, **being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;** (NKJ)



WHAT SHOULD WE SEEK TO OUR FAITH? WHY?

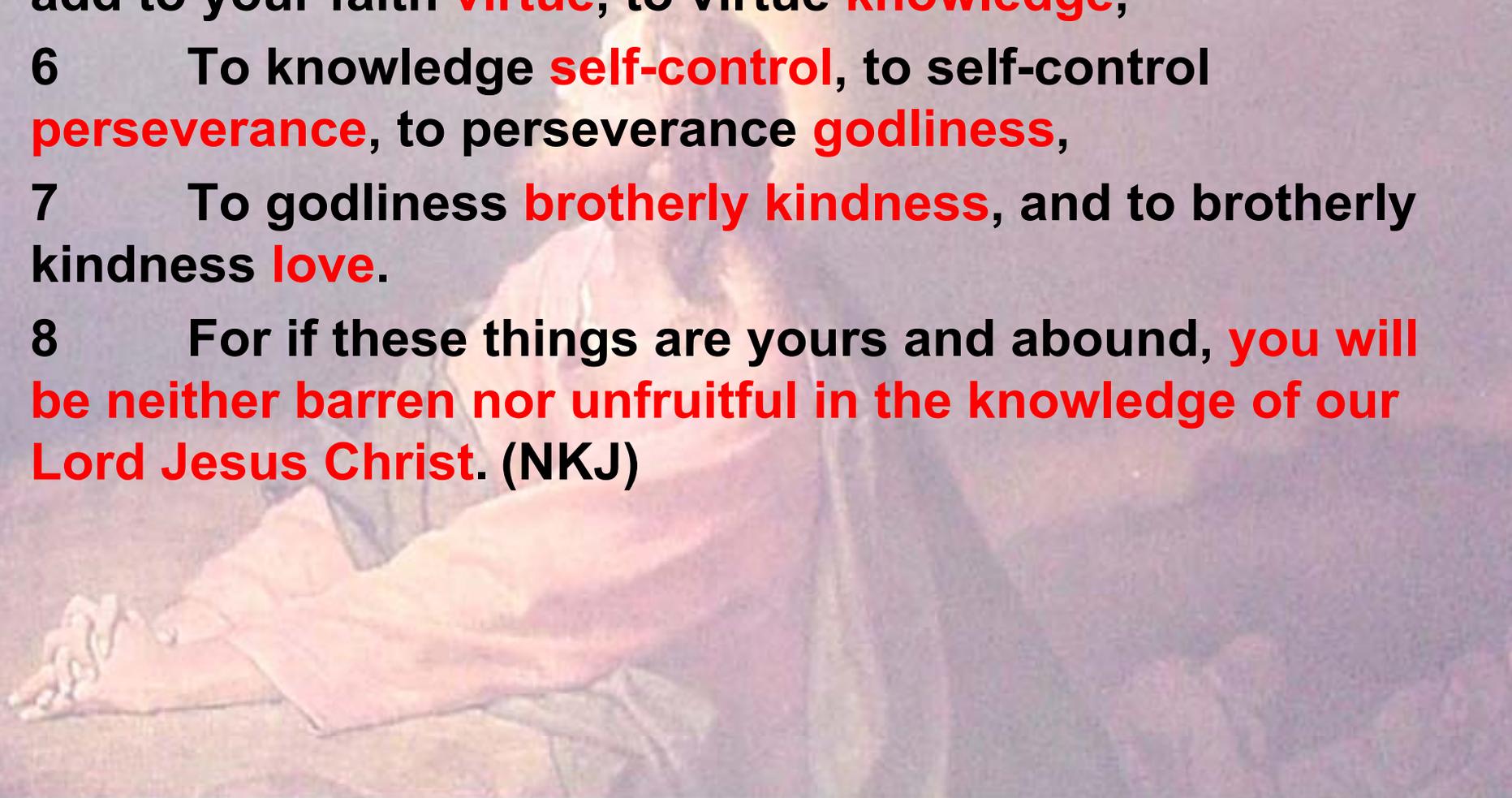
2 PETER 1:5-8

5 But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, add to your faith **virtue**, to virtue **knowledge**,

6 To knowledge **self-control**, to self-control **perseverance**, to perseverance **godliness**,

7 To godliness **brotherly kindness**, and to brotherly kindness **love**.

8 For if these things are yours and abound, **you will be neither barren nor unfruitful in the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. (NKJ)**

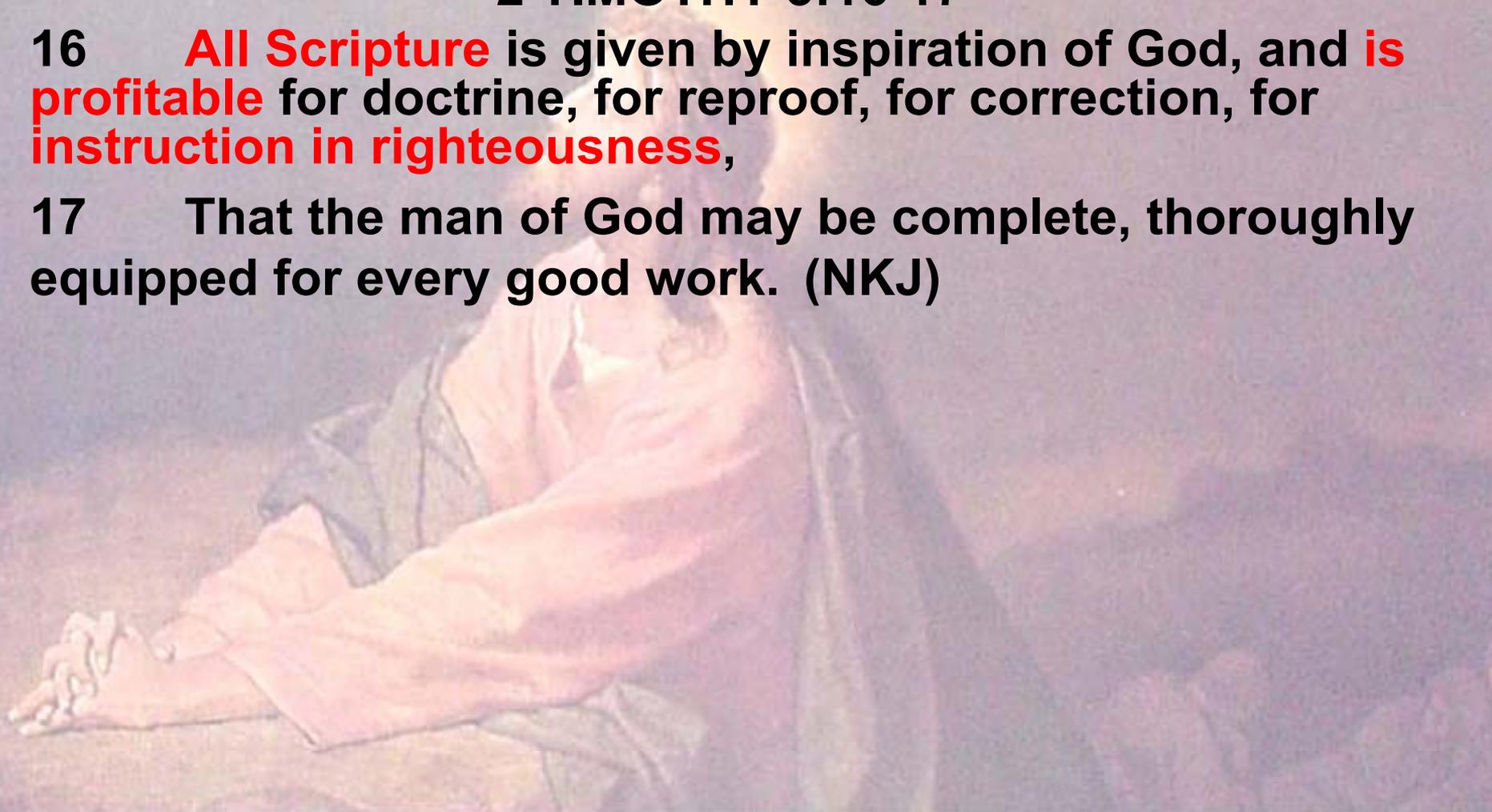


WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF INSTRUCTION IN RIGHTEOUSNESS?

2 TIMOTHY 3:16-17

16 **All Scripture** is given by inspiration of God, and **is profitable** for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for **instruction in righteousness**,

17 That the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. (NKJ)



WHO SHOULD WE SEEK TO WORSHIP?

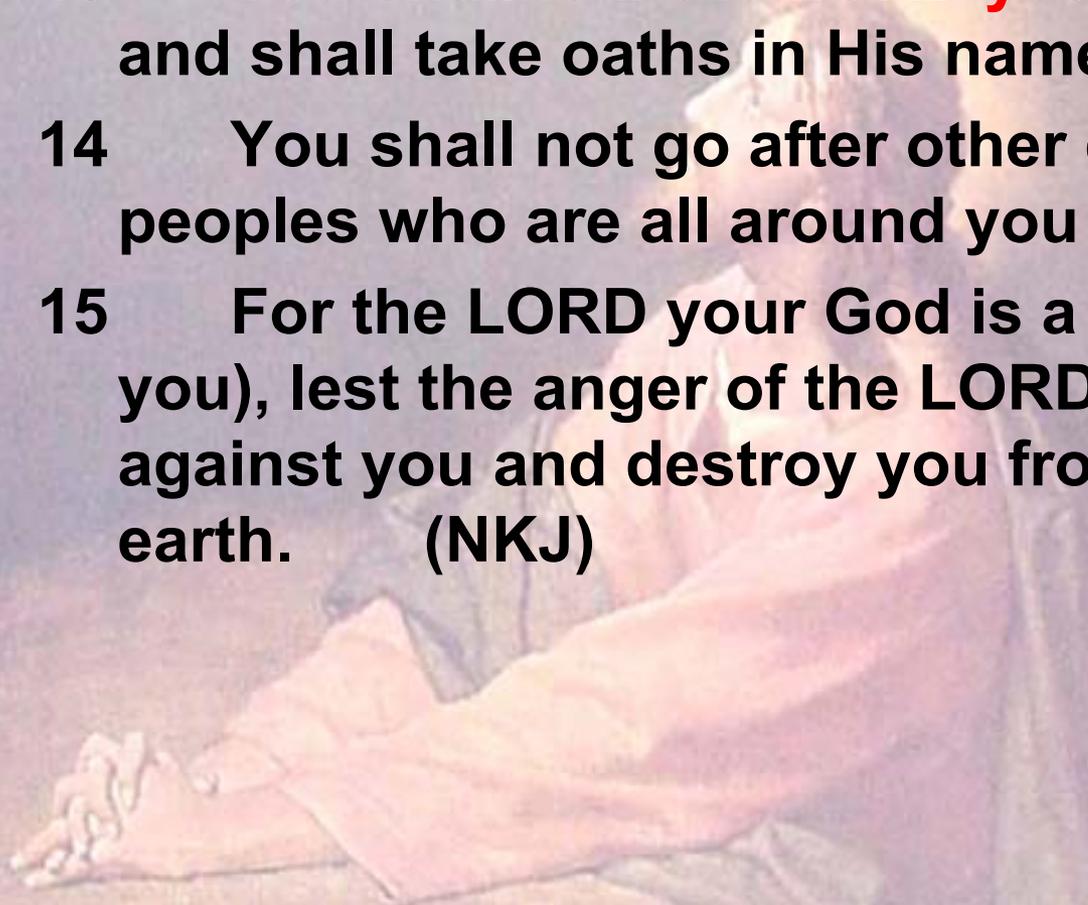
DEUTERONOMY 5:7-10

- 7 **You shall have no other gods before Me.**
- 8 You shall not make for yourself any carved image-- any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth;
- 9 **You shall not bow down to them nor serve them.** For I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children to the third and fourth generations of those who hate Me,
- 10 But showing mercy to thousands, to those who love Me and keep My commandments. (NKJ)
(EXODUS 20:3)

WHO SHOULD WE SEEK TO SERVE?

DEUTERONOMY 6:13-15

- 13 **You shall fear the LORD your God and serve Him,** and shall take oaths in His name.
- 14 You shall not go after other gods, the gods of the peoples who are all around you
- 15 For the LORD your God is a jealous God among you), lest the anger of the LORD your God be aroused against you and destroy you from the face of the earth. (NKJ)



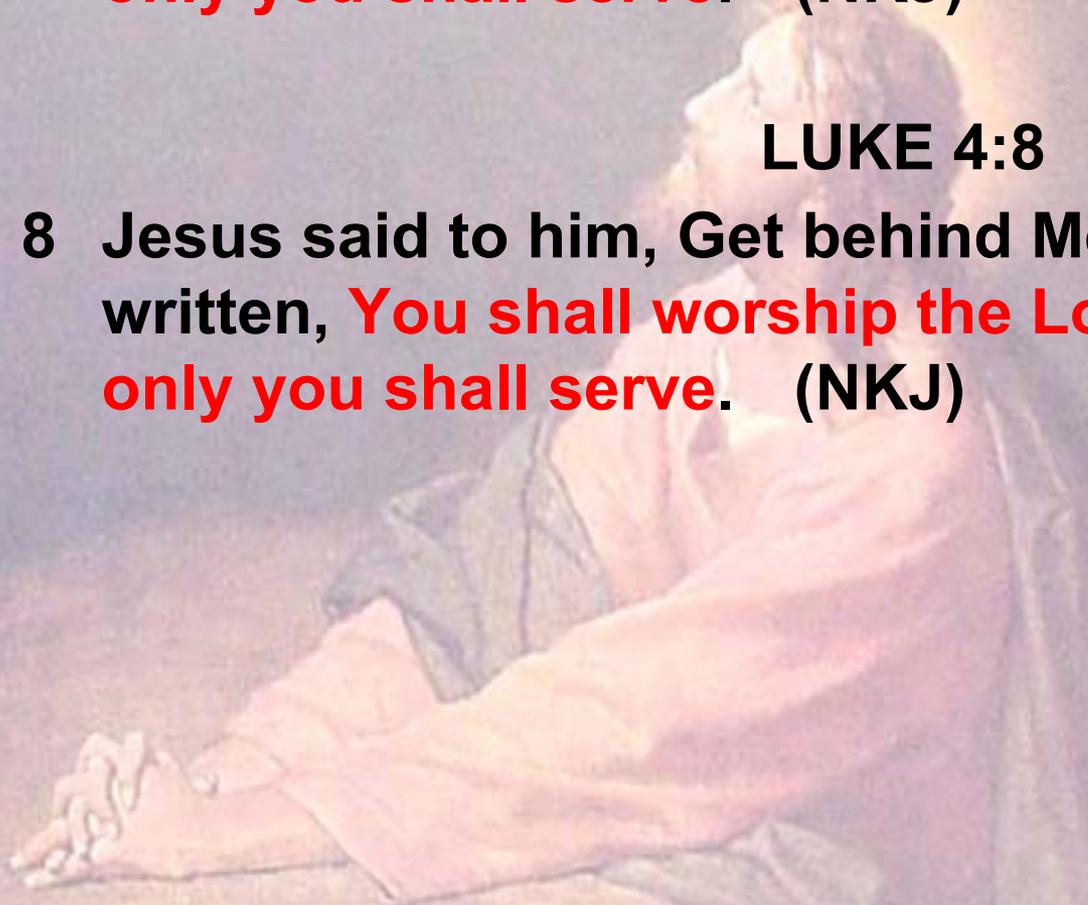
WHO SHOULD YOU SEEK TO WORSHIP?

MATTHEW 4:10

10 Jesus said to him, Away with you, Satan! For it is written, **You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.** (NKJ)

LUKE 4:8

8 Jesus said to him, Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, **You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.** (NKJ)



HOW SHOULD WE SEEK THE LORD?

MATTHEW 22:36-40

36 Teacher, which is the great commandment in the law?

37 Jesus said to him, **You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.**

38 This is the first and great commandment.

39 And the second is like it: **You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**

40 On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets. (NKJ)

HOW SHOULD WE SEEK THE LORD?

MARK 12:28-31

28 One of the scribes came, and having heard them reasoning together, perceiving that He had answered them well, asked Him, Which is the first commandment of all?

29 Jesus answered him, The first of all the commandments is: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one.

30 And **you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.** This is the first commandment.

31 And the second, like it, is this: **You shall love your neighbor as yourself.** There is no other commandment greater than these. (NKJ)

WHAT HAS LOVE GOT TO DO WITH IT?

JOHN 3:16

16 For **God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son**, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. (NKJ)

JOHN 14:15

15 **If you love me, keep my commandments.**

JOHN 15:10

10 **If you keep My commandments, you will abide in My love**, just as I have kept My Father's commandments and abide in His love. (NKJ)



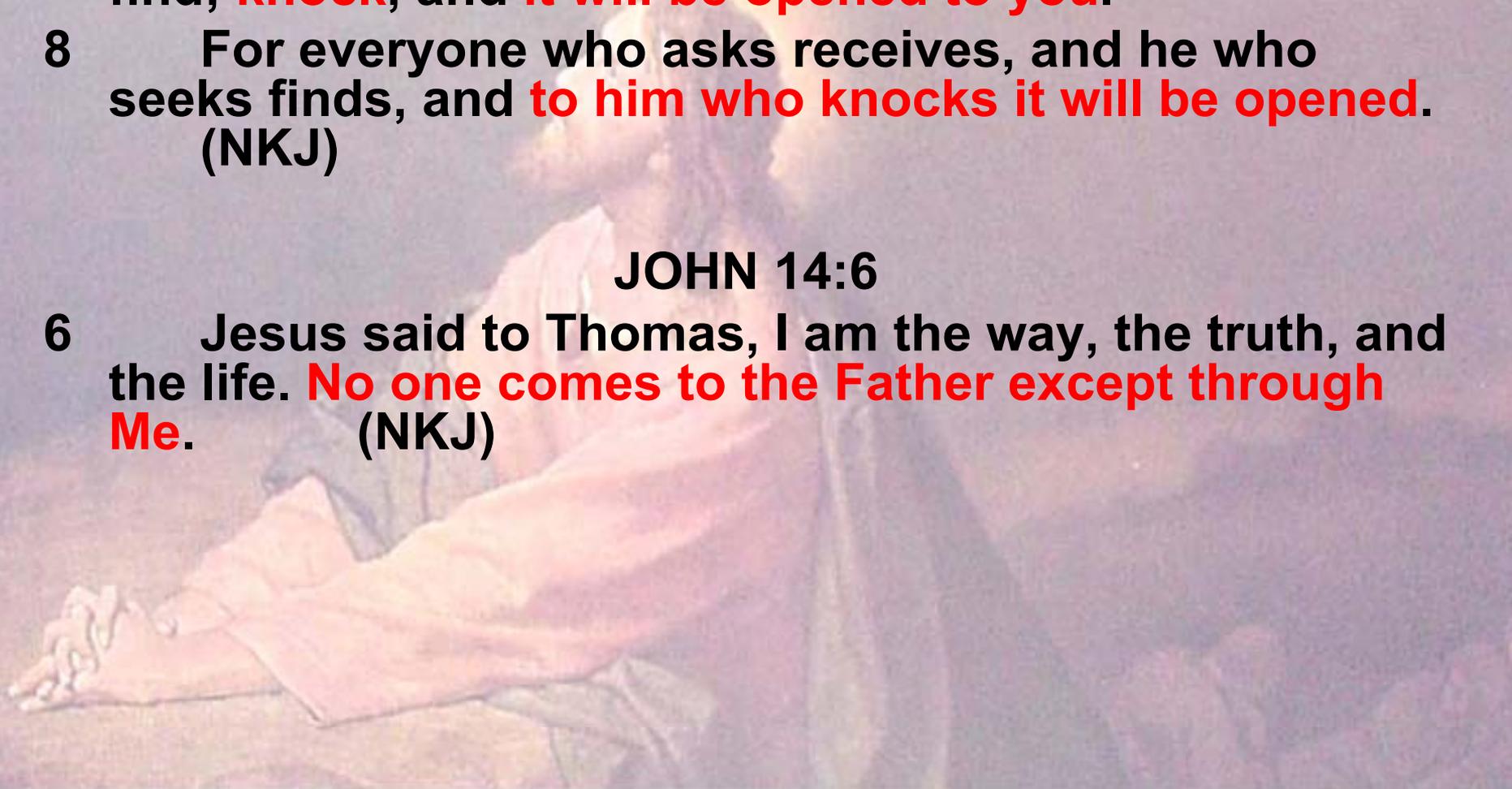
WHY DO WE HAVE TO KNOCK?

MATTHEW 7:7-8

- 7 Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; **knock**, and **it will be opened to you.**
- 8 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and **to him who knocks it will be opened.**
(NKJ)

JOHN 14:6

- 6 Jesus said to Thomas, I am the way, the truth, and the life. **No one comes to the Father except through Me.**
(NKJ)



WHERE SHOULD WE STRIVE TO ENTER IN?

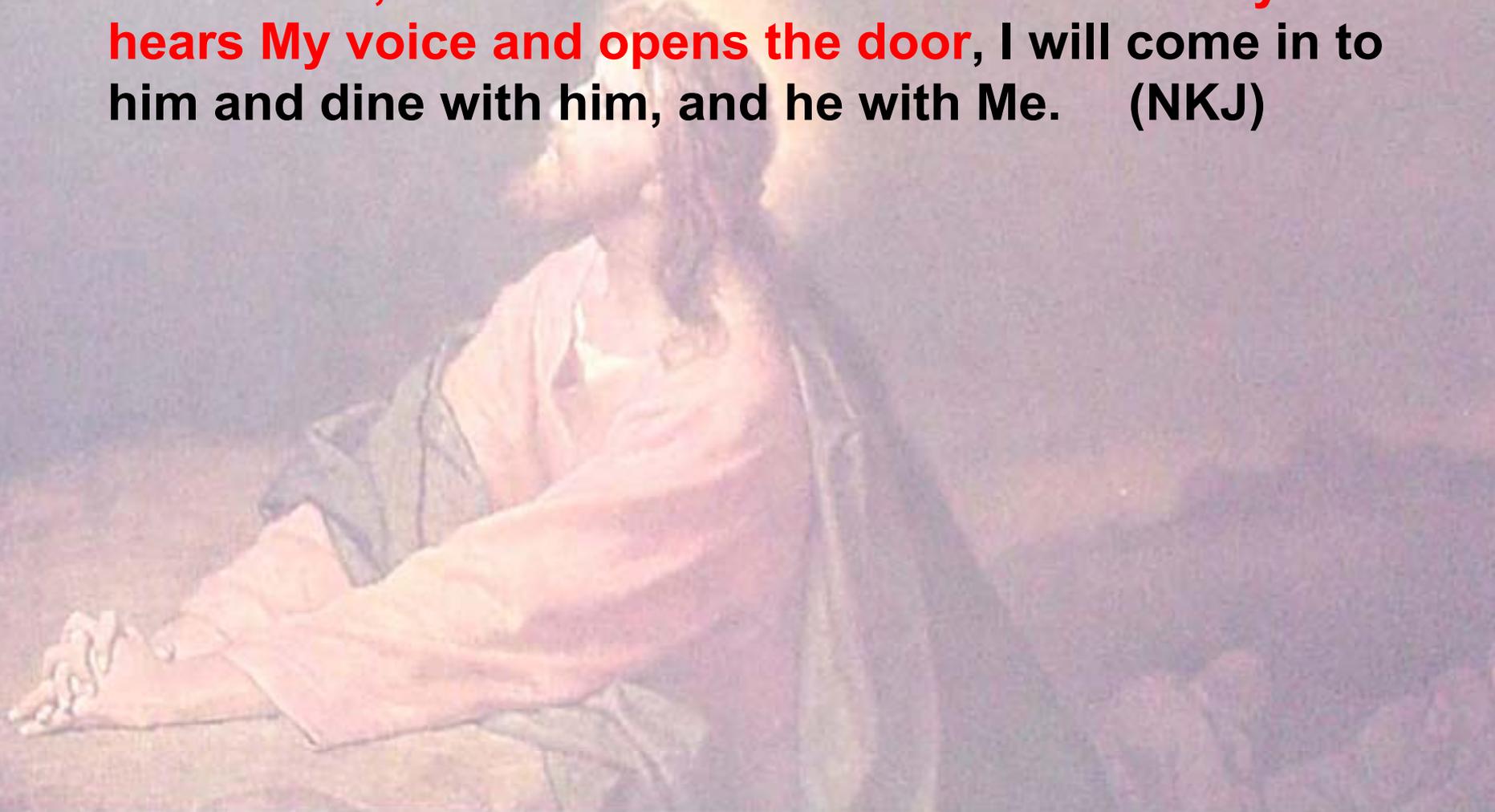
LUKE 13:24-27

- 24 **Strive to enter through the narrow gate.** For I say to you, **many will seek to enter and will not be able.**
- 25 When once the Master of the house has risen up and shut the door, and you begin to stand outside and knock at the door, saying, Lord, Lord, open for us, and He will answer and say to you, I do not know you, where you are from,
- 26 Then you will begin to say, We ate and drank in Your presence, and You taught in our streets.
- 27 But He will say, I tell you I do not know you, where you are from. Depart from Me, all you workers of iniquity. (NKJ)

WHO IS KNOCKING AT THE DOOR? WHY?

REVELATION 3:20

20 Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me. (NKJ)



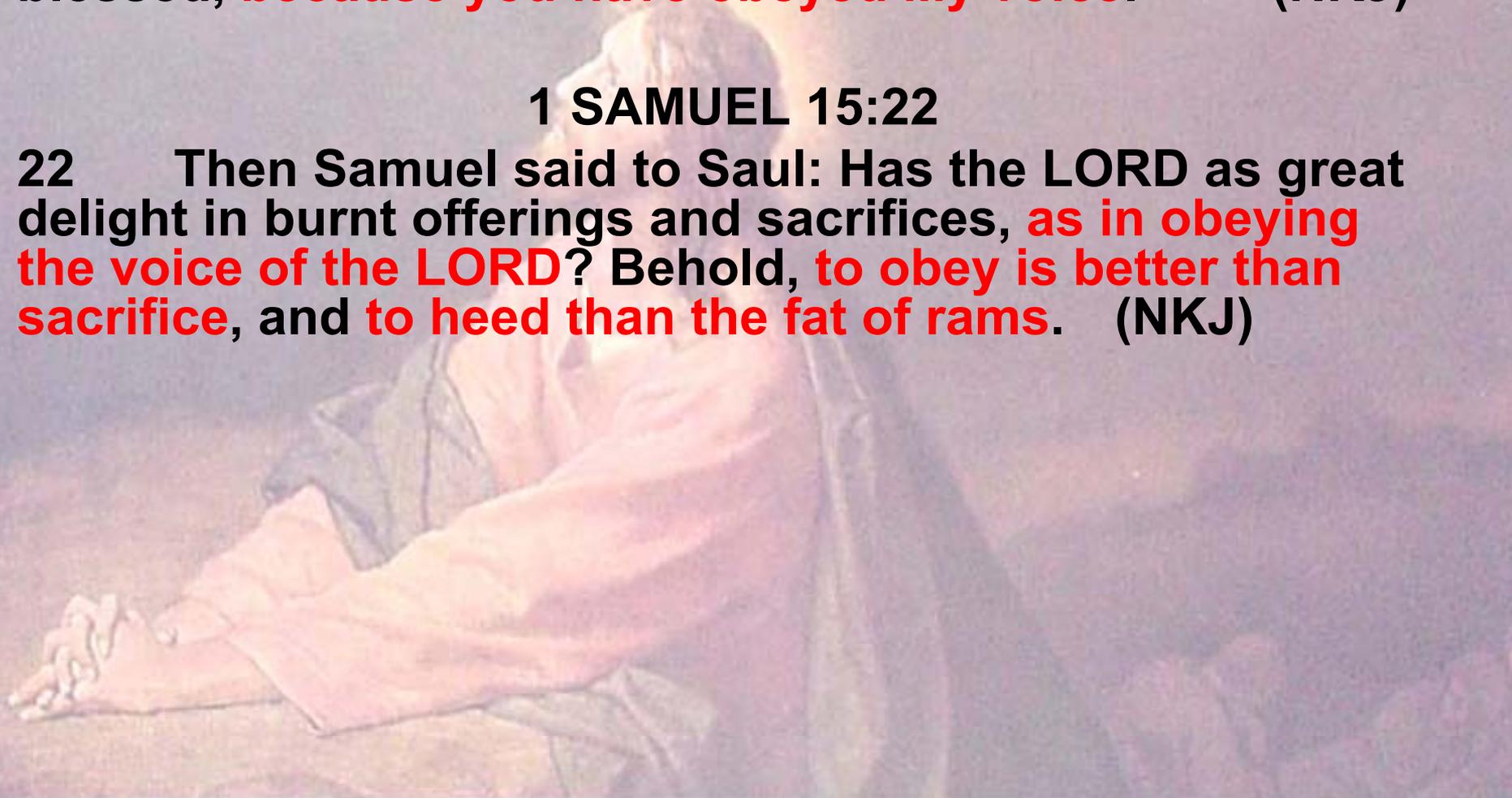
WHY IS OBEDIENCE SO IMPORTANT?

GENESIS 22:18

18 In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, **because you have obeyed My voice.** (NKJ)

1 SAMUEL 15:22

22 Then Samuel said to Saul: Has the LORD as great delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices, **as in obeying the voice of the LORD?** Behold, **to obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed than the fat of rams.** (NKJ)



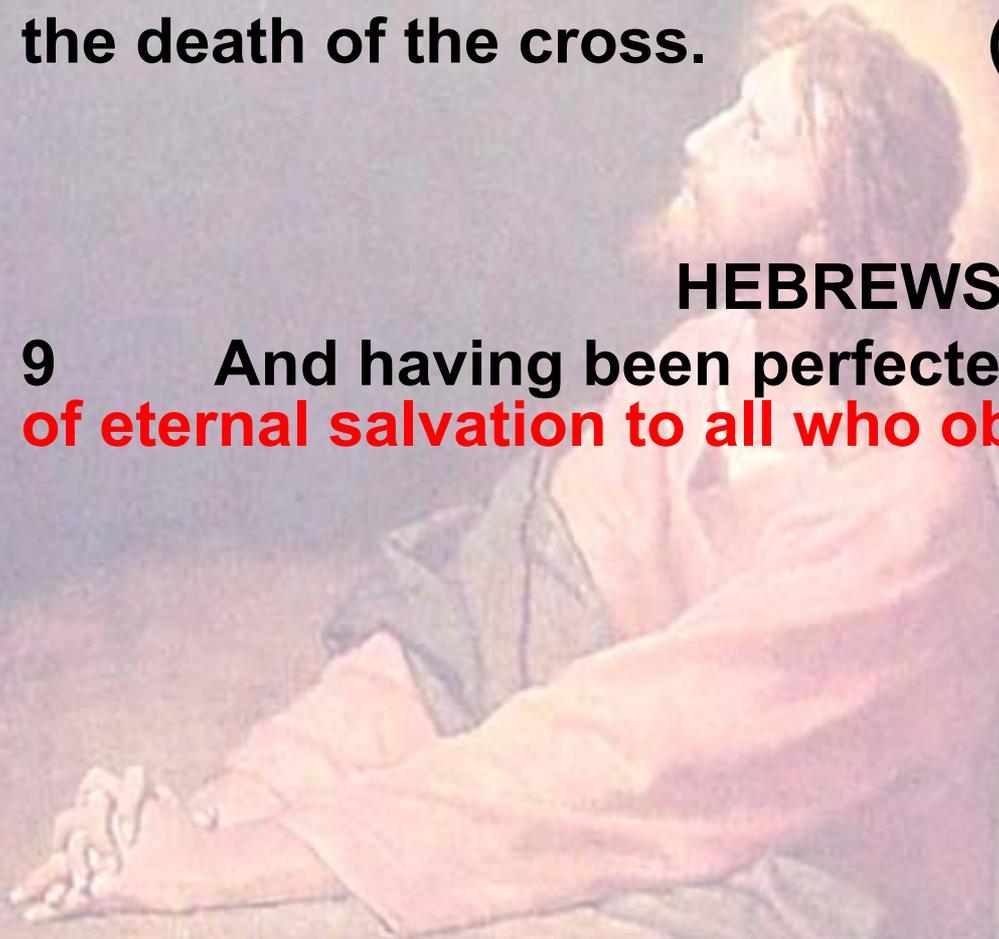
WHY IS OBEDIENCE SO IMPORTANT?

PHILIPPIANS 2:8

8 Being found in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death**, even the death of the cross. (NKJ)

HEBREWS 5:9

9 And having been perfected, **He became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him**, (NKJ)



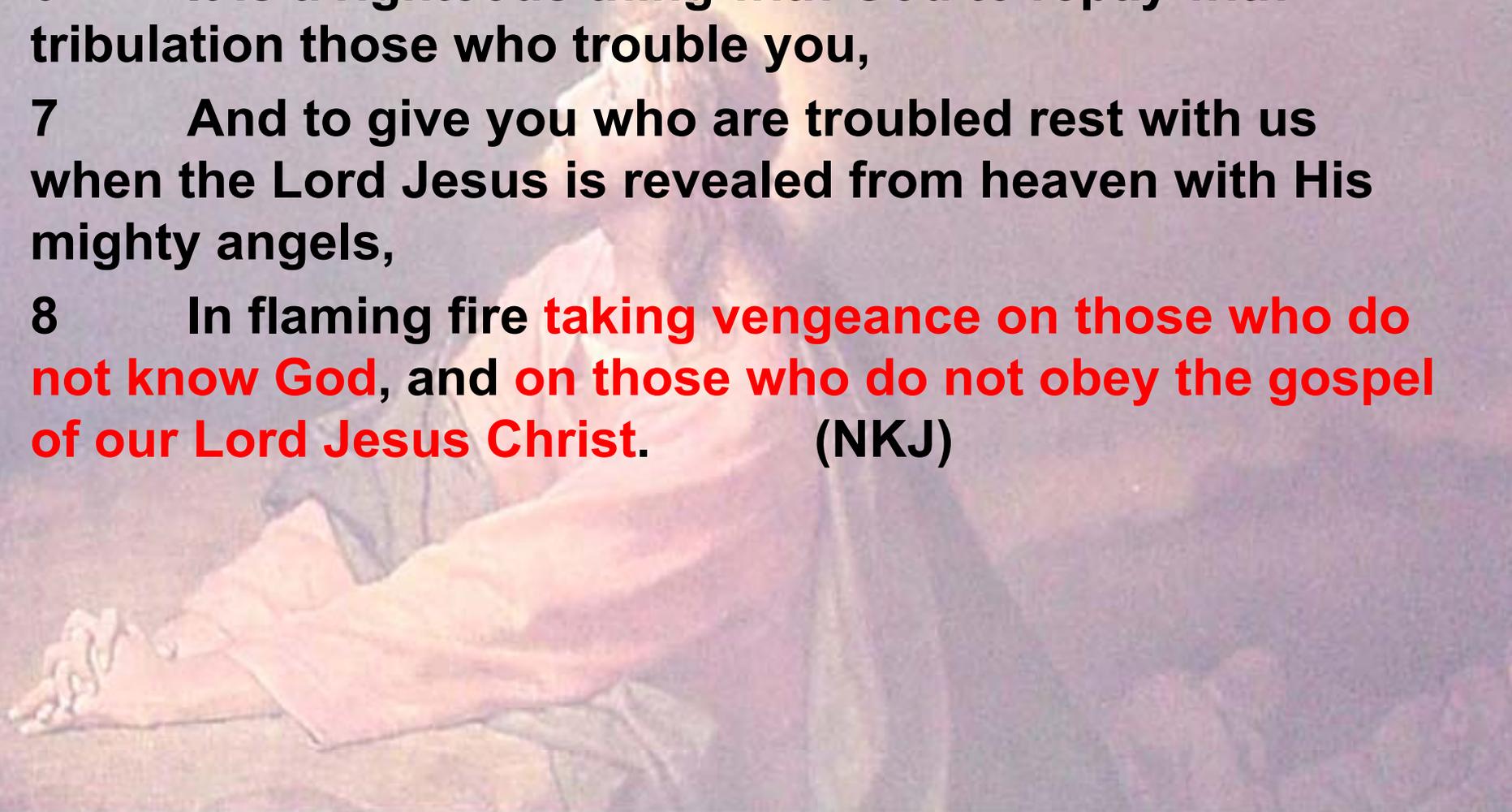
WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DO NOT OBEY HIM?

2 THESSALONIANS 1:6-8

6 It is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you,

7 And to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels,

8 In flaming fire **taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.** (NKJ)

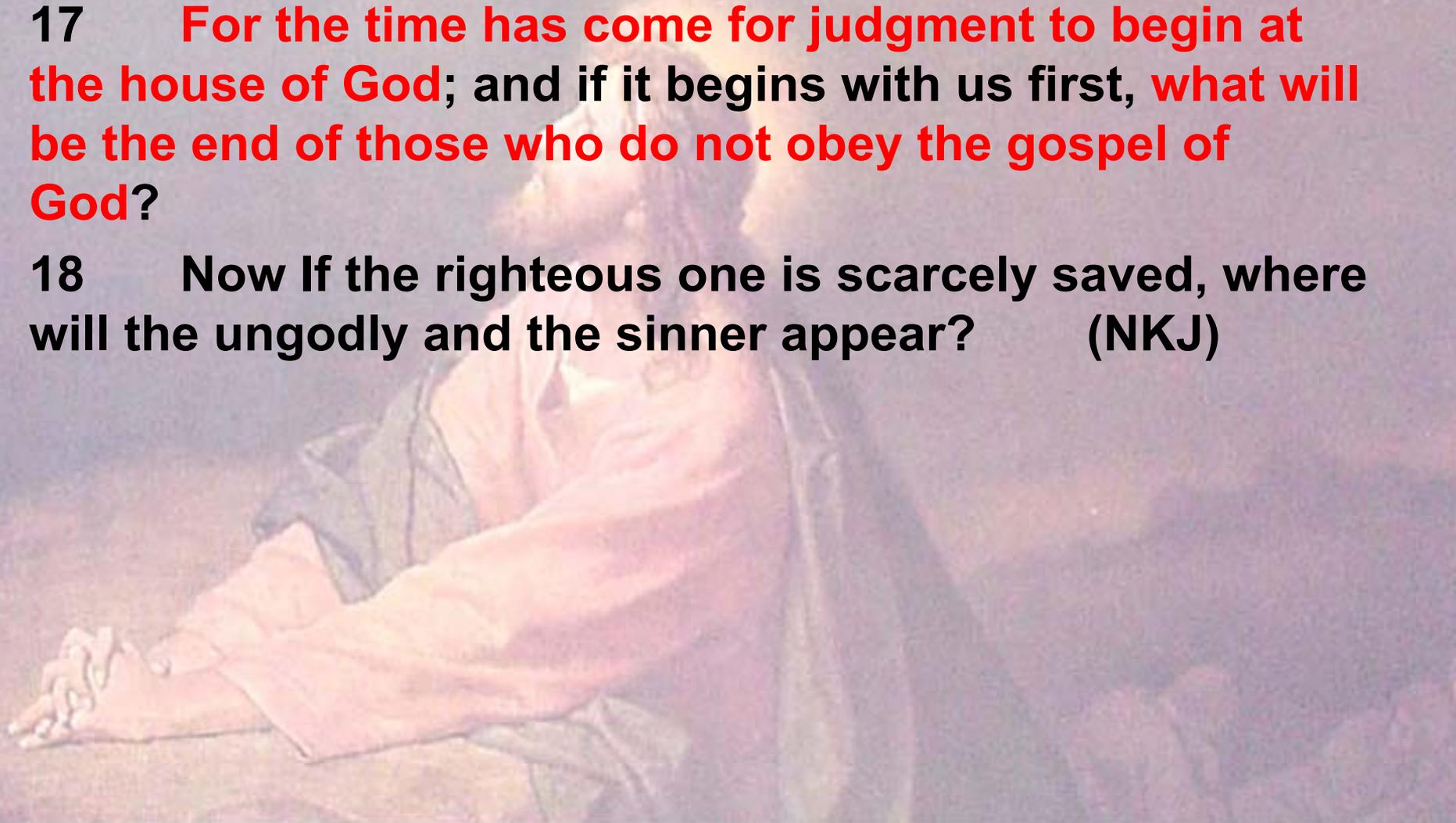


WHAT HAPPENS IF WE DO NOT OBEY HIM?

1 PETER 4:17-18

17 For the time has come for judgment to begin at the house of God; and if it begins with us first, what will be the end of those who do not obey the gospel of God?

18 Now If the righteous one is scarcely saved, where will the ungodly and the sinner appear? (NKJ)



WHY SHOULD WE BE WATCHING?

MATTHEW 25:10-13

- 10 While they went to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding; and the door was shut.
- 11 Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, Lord, Lord, open to us!
- 12 But he answered and said, Assuredly, I say to you, I do not know you.
- 13 **Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming. (NKJ)**
- 