

WE ARE FREE!

**SET FREE
BY GRACE**

Galatians 1

13 For you have heard of my previous way of life in Judaism, how intensely I persecuted the church of God and tried to destroy it.

Persecutor

14 I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people and was extremely zealous for the traditions of my fathers.

Pharisee (former)

Galatians 1:13-24

15 But when God, who set me apart from my mother's womb and called me by his grace, was pleased ¹⁶ to reveal his Son in me so that I might preach him among the Gentiles...

↙ **Preacher**

23 They only heard the report: "The man who formerly persecuted us is now preaching the faith he once tried to destroy." ²⁴ And they praised God because of me.

Galatians 1:13-24

Author: Who is Paul?

- Pharisee (former)
- Persecutor of Christians
(Acts 7:57-60; 8:1-3)
- Preacher of the Gospel of Christ
(Acts 9 – radical conversion)

Audience: Who are the Galatians

- **Inhabitants of the Roman Province of Galatia**
- **Jews, Greeks, God-fearers**
- **Cities: Perga, Pisidian Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe**
- **Churches planted in the southern districts during Paul's first missionary journey (Acts 13-14)**



Occasion:

What was happening in the Galatian church?

- Galatians were led astray from the gospel
- They were influenced to observe Jewish laws
- Paul wrote to remind them, that they have been set free



**It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.
Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves
be burdened again by a yoke of slavery.**

Galatians 5:1

**³ Grace and peace to you from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ,**

⁴ who gave himself for our sins to **rescue us
from the present evil age, according to the
will of our God and Father,**

⁵ to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Galatians 1:3-5



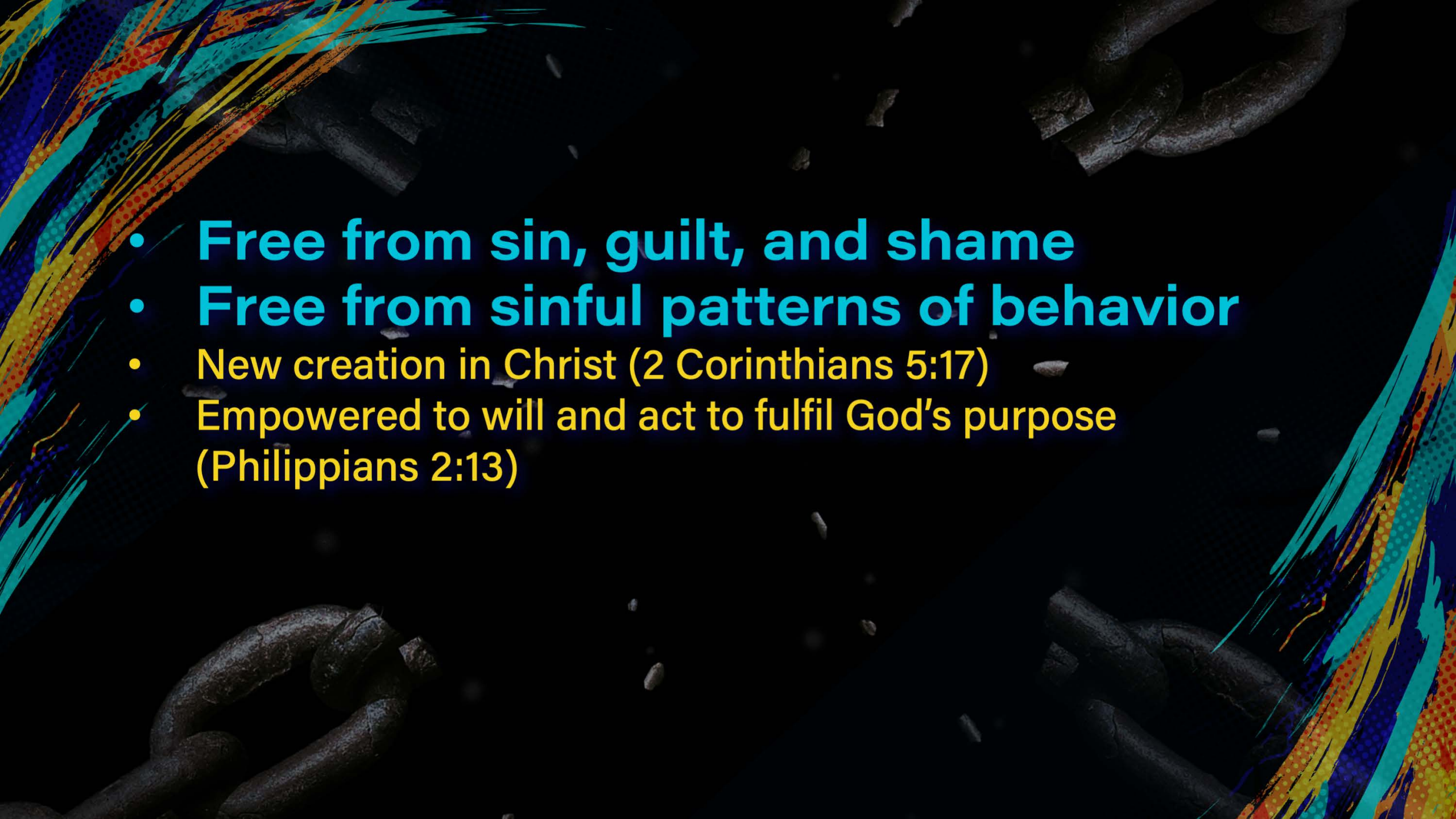
**JESUS HAS
SET US FREE!**

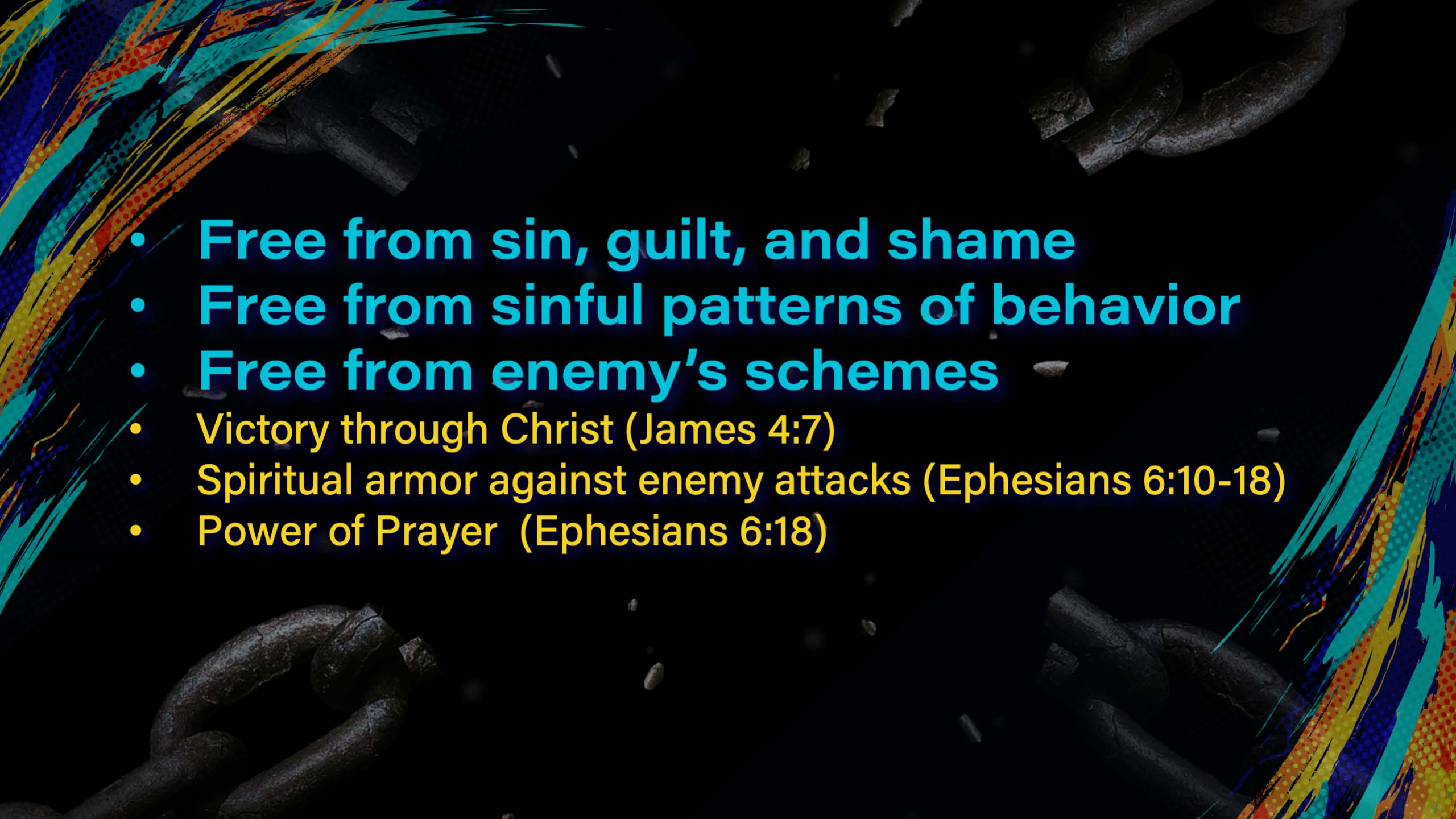
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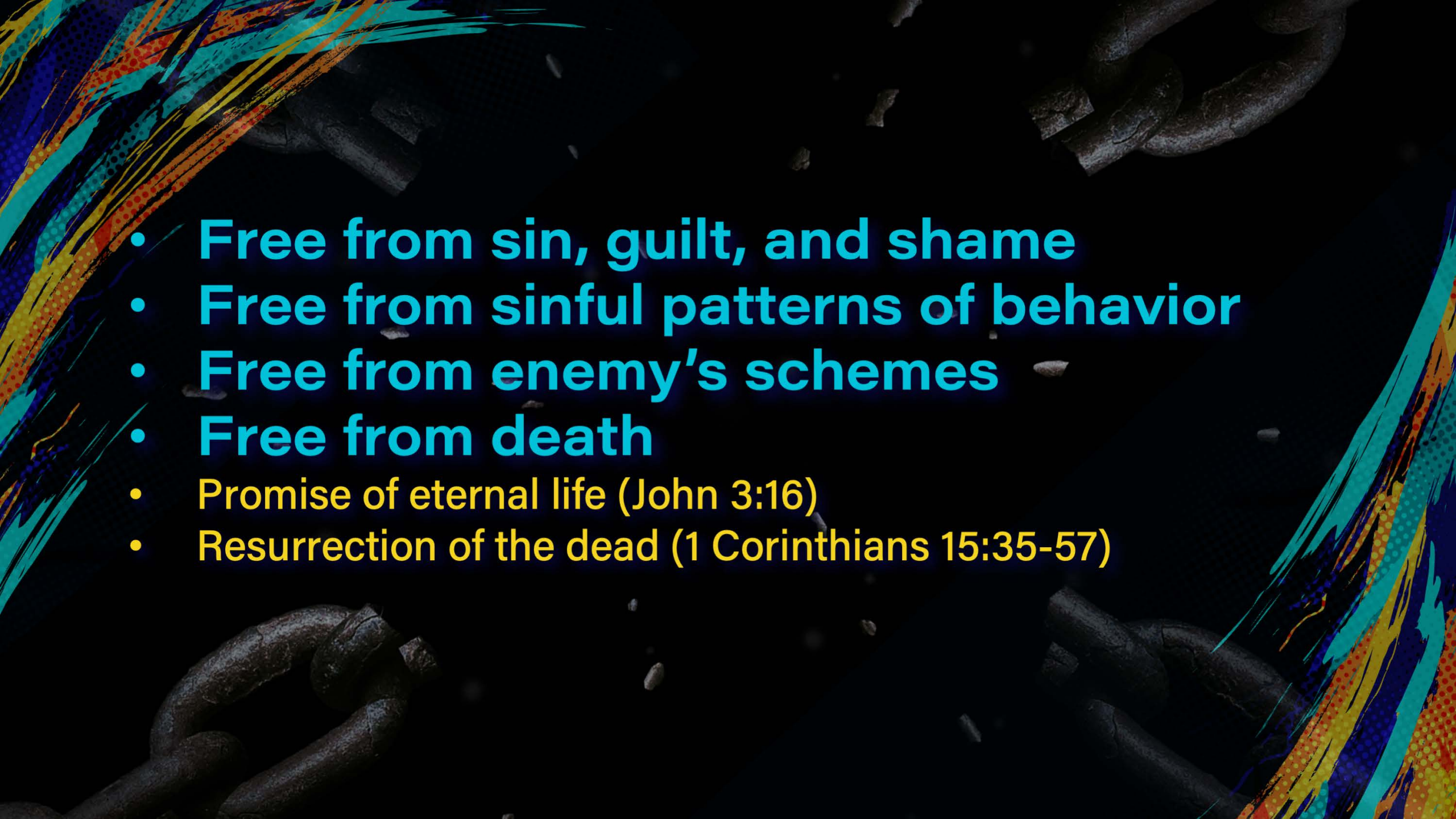


Free from sin, guilt, and shame

- Forgiveness through Christ (Romans 8:1)
- Identity in Christ (1 John 3:1)
- Approach God without fear (Hebrews 4:16)

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- **Free from sin, guilt, and shame**
 - **Free from sinful patterns of behavior**
 - **New creation in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17)**
 - **Empowered to will and act to fulfil God's purpose (Philippians 2:13)**

- 
- **Free from sin, guilt, and shame**
 - **Free from sinful patterns of behavior**
 - **Free from enemy's schemes**
 - **Victory through Christ (James 4:7)**
 - **Spiritual armor against enemy attacks (Ephesians 6:10-18)**
 - **Power of Prayer (Ephesians 6:18)**

- 
- **Free from sin, guilt, and shame**
 - **Free from sinful patterns of behavior**
 - **Free from enemy's schemes**
 - **Free from death**
 - **Promise of eternal life (John 3:16)**
 - **Resurrection of the dead (1 Corinthians 15:35-57)**

**JESUS HAS
SET US FREE**

BY GRACE!



⁶ I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—

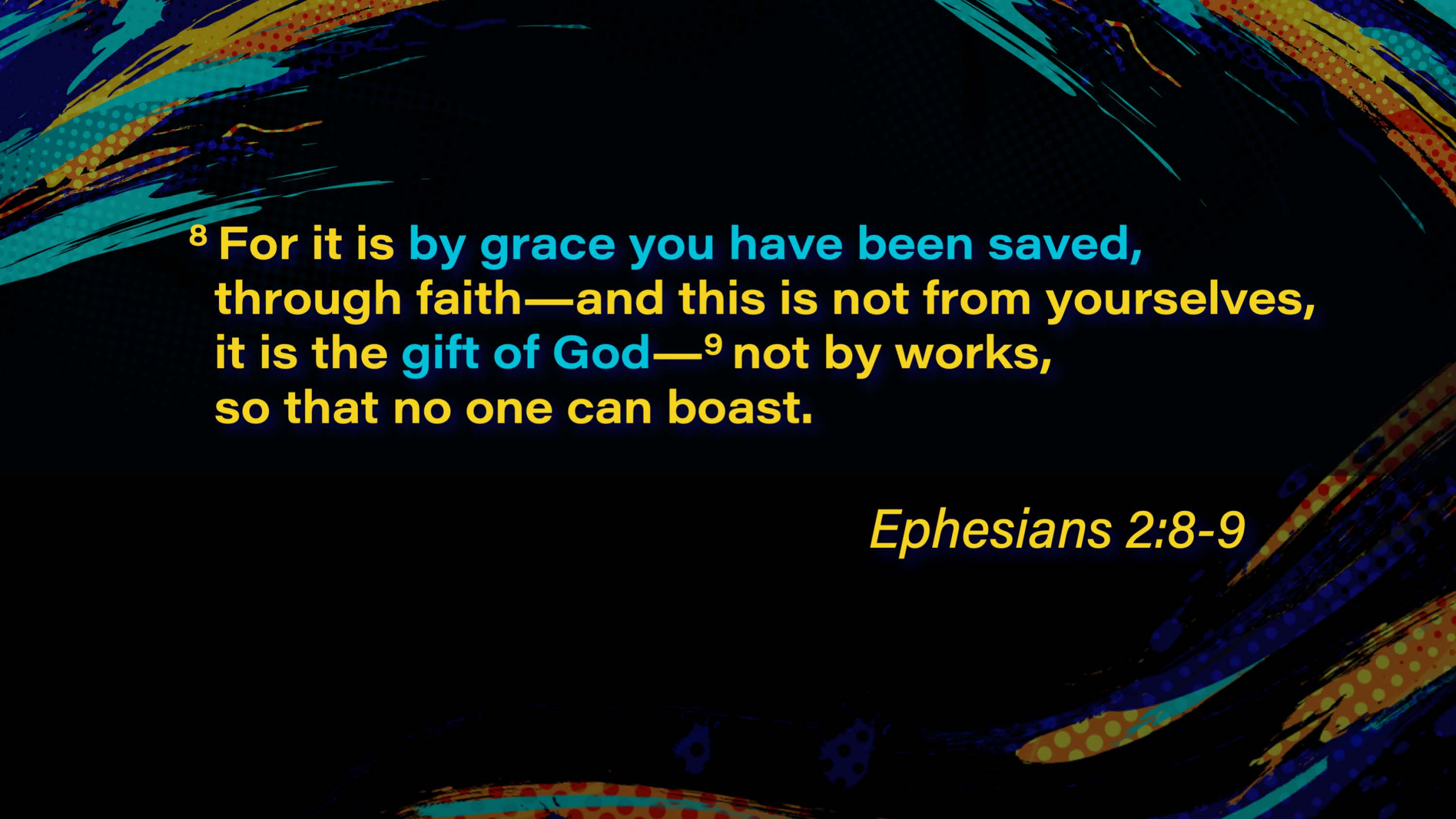
⁷ which is really no gospel at all.

Galatians 1:6-7

What is "Grace"?

Charis (gift or favor)

Grace is the unmerited favor of God towards all mankind



**⁸ For it is by grace you have been saved,
through faith—and this is not from yourselves,
it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works,
so that no one can boast.**

Ephesians 2:8-9

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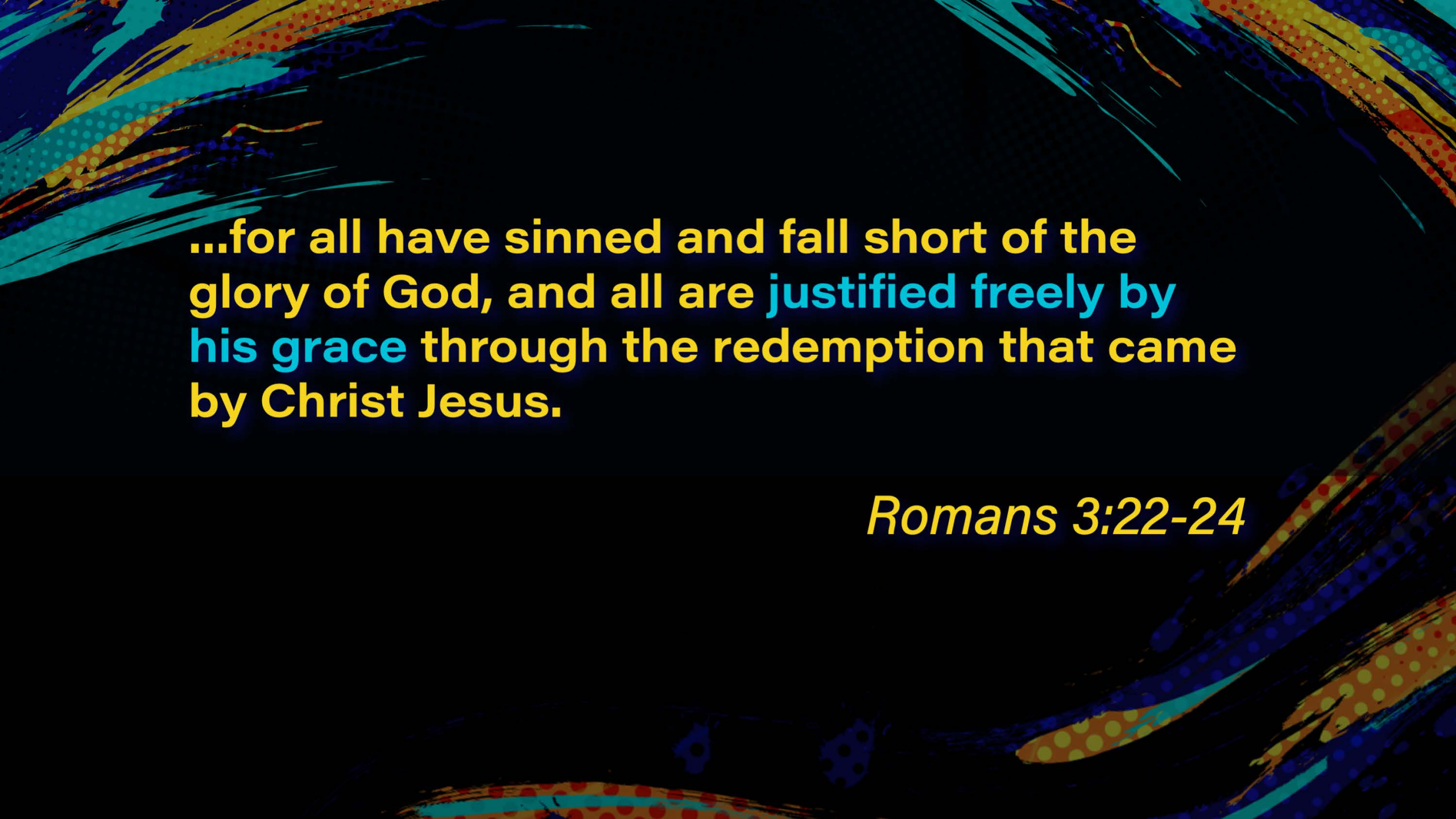
God's love and acceptance are given freely, not based on our actions or worthiness



Despite man's total depravity,

God's enabling grace initiates
reconciliation and convicts us of sin.

God's justifying grace makes us
wholly acceptable to God.



**...for all have sinned and fall short of the
glory of God, and all are justified freely by
his grace through the redemption that came
by Christ Jesus.**

Romans 3:22-24

What is "Grace"?

Charis (gift or favor)

Grace is the unmerited favor of God towards all mankind

God's love and acceptance are given freely, not based on our actions or worthiness

God's grace was extended even while we were yet sinners



THE "OLD AFRICAN BLASPHEMER"

My memory is nearly gone
but I remember two things:
I am a great sinner, and
Christ is a great savior."

John Newton

JESUS HAS
SET US FREE
BY GRACE **ALONE**



6 I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting the one who called you to live in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel—

7 which is really no gospel at all. Evidently some people are throwing you into confusion and are trying to pervert the gospel of Christ.

Galatians 1:6-7

What was this perversion of the Gospel?

PAUL

JESUS ALONE

JUDAIZERS

(JEWISH CHRISTIANS)

JESUS +
MOSAIC LAWS

The Problem:

- Gentiles were compelled to be circumcised and observe Jewish laws to be saved
- Distorted Gospel undermines Christ's work and God's Grace
- Division and confusion in the church

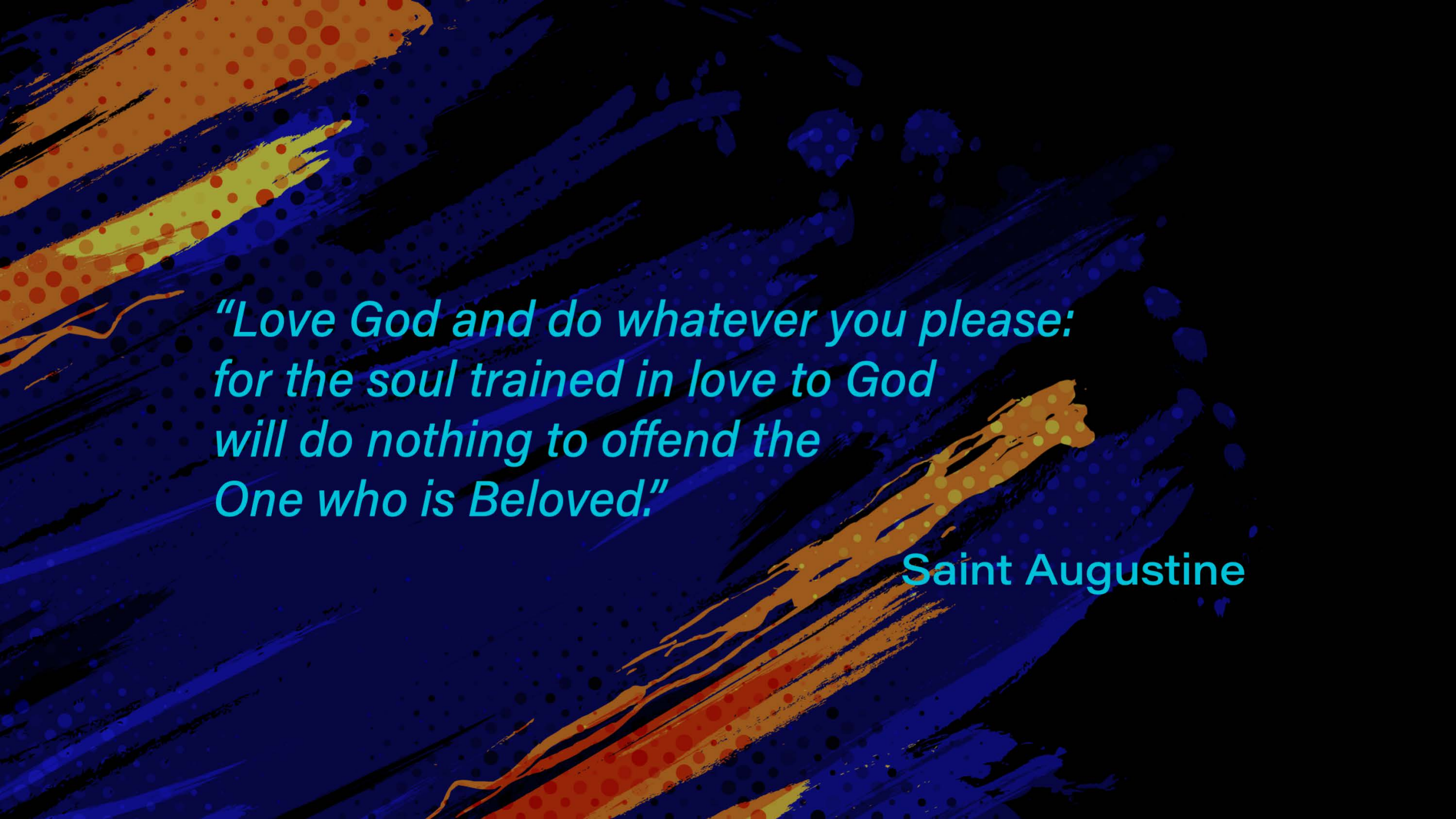
¹⁰ Now then, why do you try to test God by putting on the necks of Gentiles a yoke that neither we nor our ancestors have been able to bear?

¹¹ No! We believe it is through the grace of our Lord Jesus that we are saved, just as they are."

Acts 15:10-11

Why did the Galatians fall away so quickly?

- Avoid persecution by the Jews (Galatians 1:10, 5:11, 6:12)
- Human / Intellectual pride through works (Galatians 3, 4)

The background features a dark blue field with expressive, diagonal brushstrokes in shades of orange and yellow. Scattered throughout are small, semi-transparent dots in various colors, including blue, orange, and white, creating a textured, artistic effect.

*“Love God and do whatever you please:
for the soul trained in love to God
will do nothing to offend the
One who is Beloved.”*

Saint Augustine

Galatians 1

Jesus has set you **Free!**

Jesus has set you **Free by Grace!**

Jesus has set you **Free by Grace Alone!**