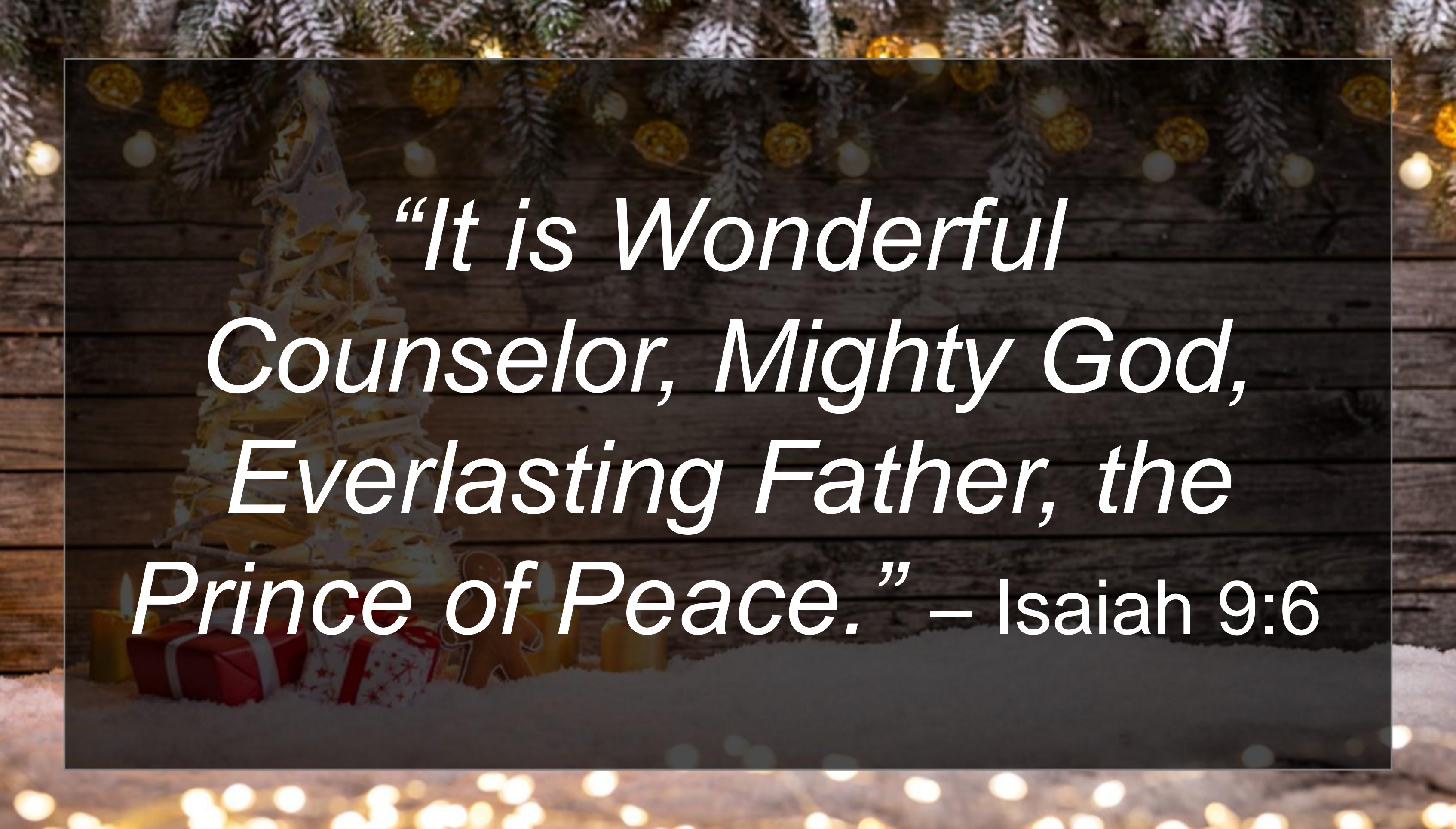


A festive Christmas scene set against a rustic wooden plank background. In the foreground, a small, lit tree made of sticks and white star cutouts stands on a bed of white snow. To its left are two wrapped gifts, one in red and one in white with red stars. To its right is a gingerbread man cutout and three lit yellow candles. The background is decorated with a string of warm white lights and gold and white ornaments. The text "All I want for Christmas is..." is written in a white, cursive font across the middle of the image.

All I want for
Christmas is...



*“It is Wonderful
Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, the
Prince of Peace.” – Isaiah 9:6*

“For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.” – John 3:16

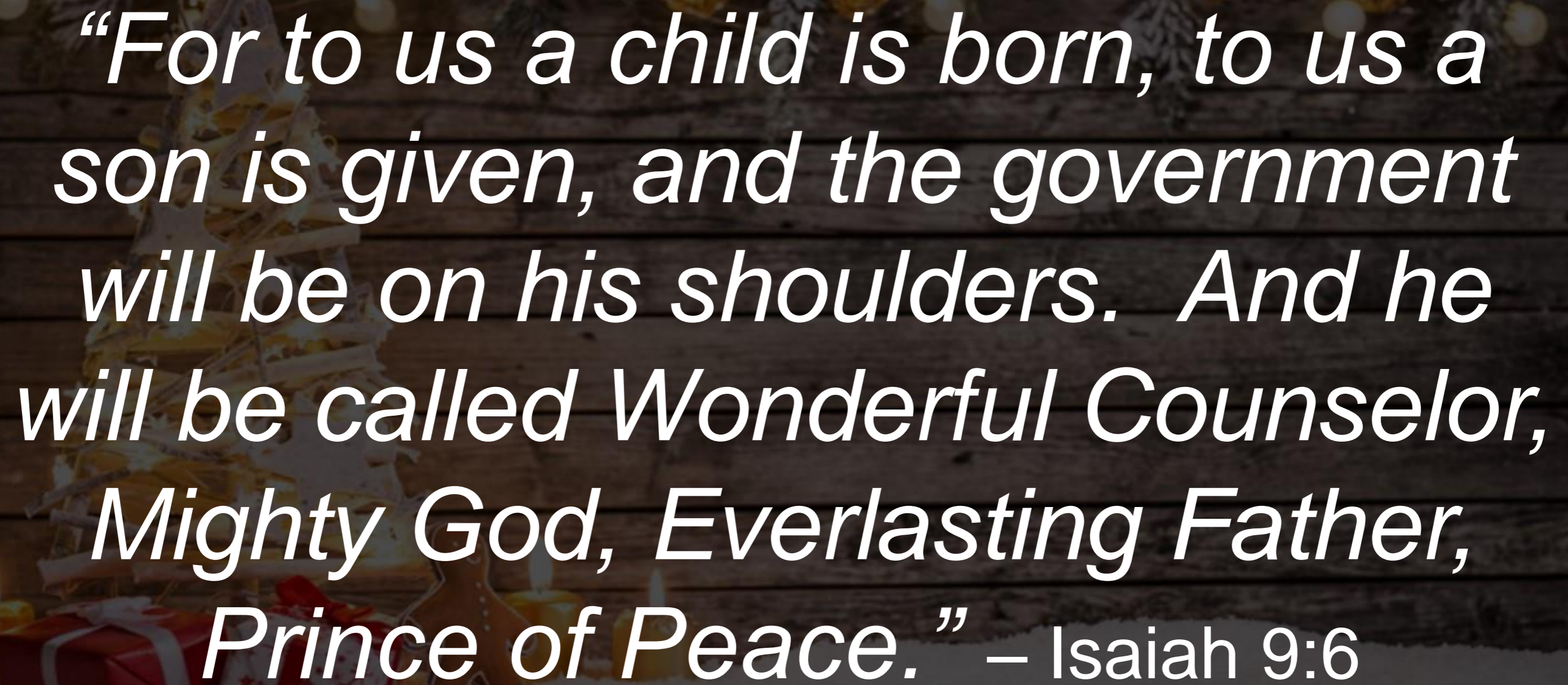
Two reasons...

1. It's essential for our eternal salvation that we believe the right thing about Jesus.

Two reasons...

2. It's important so that
we can defend our faith.

“many will turn away from the faith and will betray and hate each other, and many false prophets will appear and deceive many people. Because of the increase of wickedness, the love of most will grow cold, but he who stands firm to the end will be saved.” – Matthew 24:10-13



“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” – Isaiah 9:6

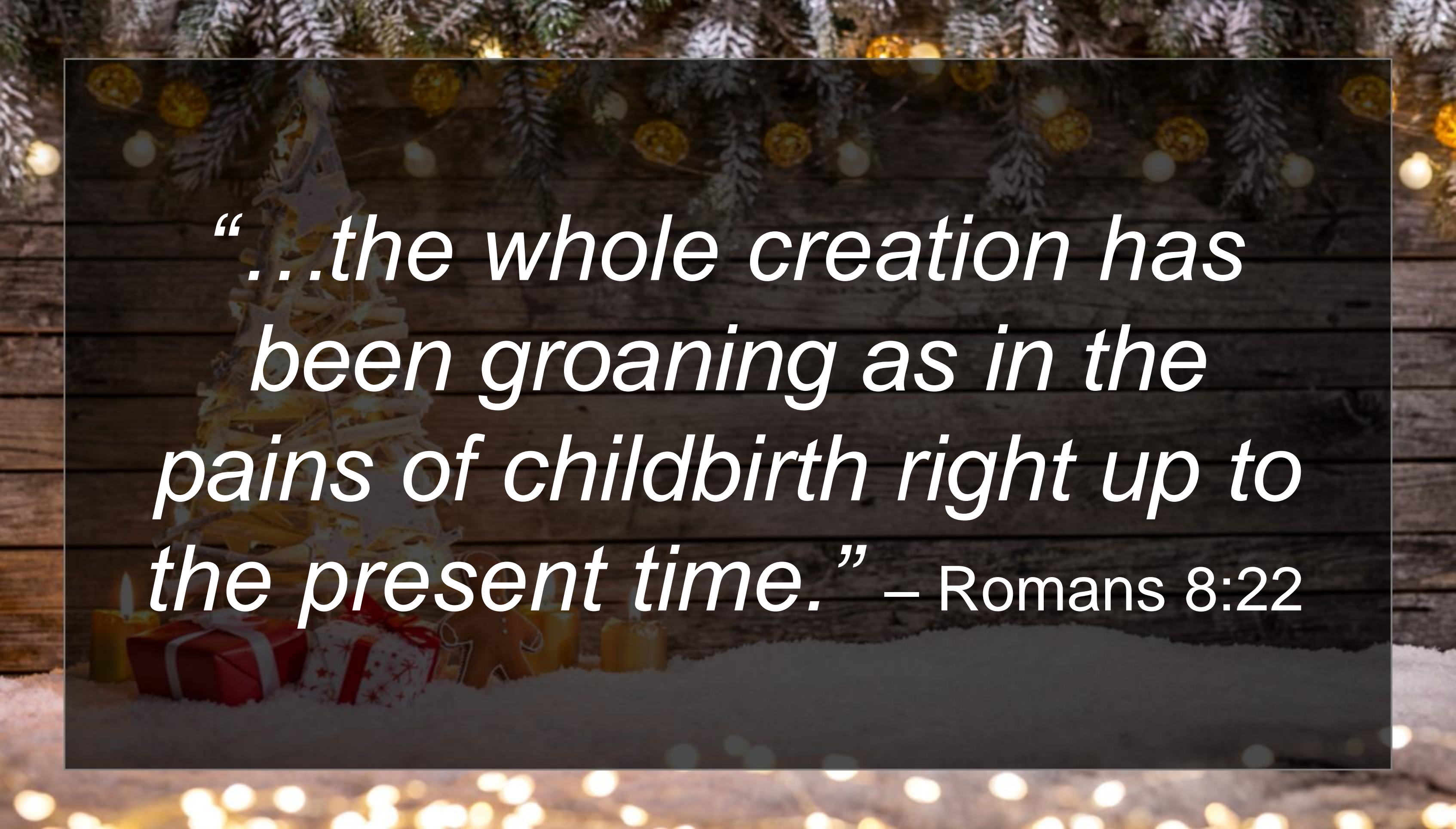
Three basic Biblical principles...

1. Every person is hopelessly lost in a world contaminated by sin and is in need of rescue.



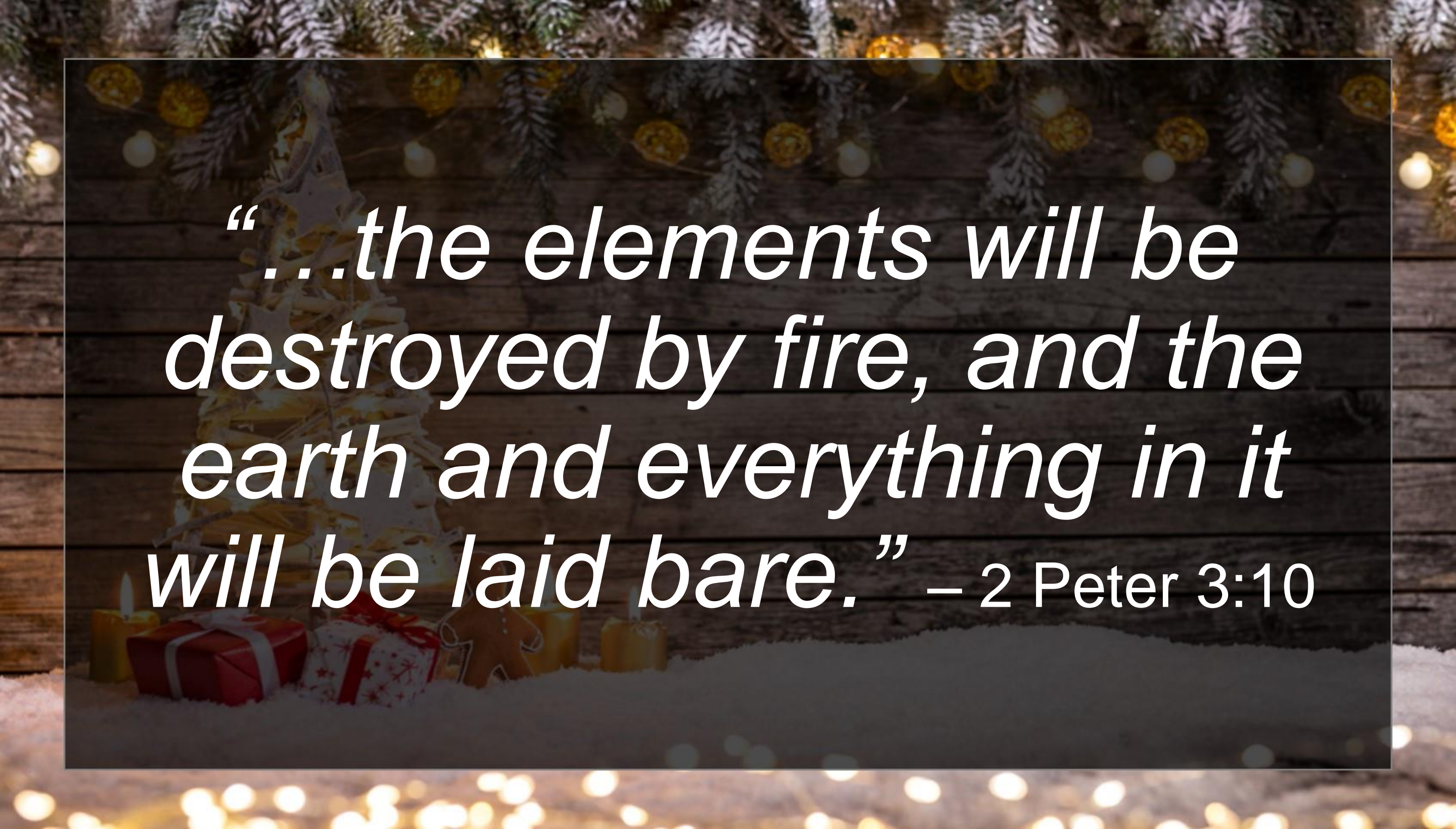
*“all have sinned and fallen short
of the glory of God.”* – Romans 3:23

“...the wages of sin is death.” – Rom. 6:23

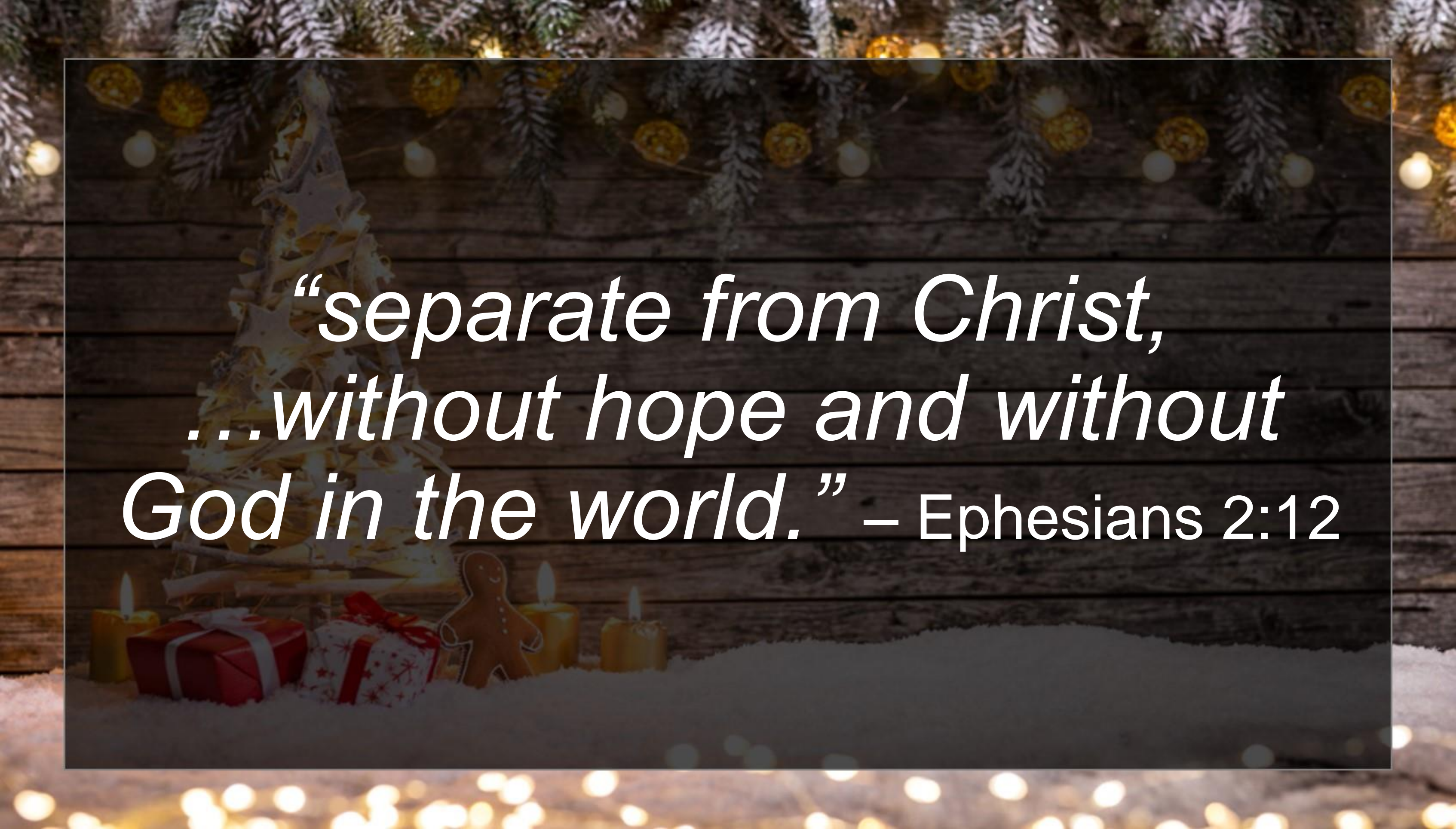


“...the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time.” – Romans 8:22

“For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.” – Mark 24:38-39



“...the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.” – 2 Peter 3:10



*“separate from Christ,
...without hope and without
God in the world.”* – Ephesians 2:12

Three basic Biblical principles...

2. Jesus Christ is the mighty God who came from heaven to rescue us.

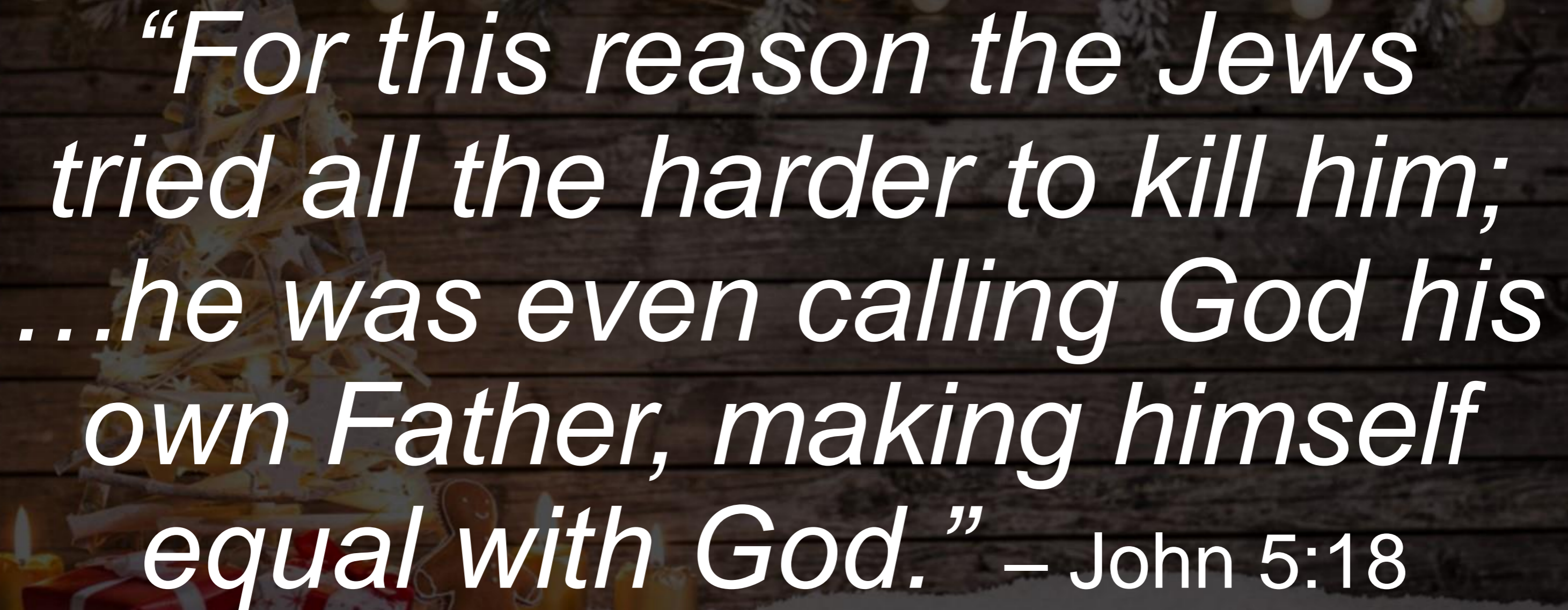
“Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.’ All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ‘The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel.’ – which means, ‘God with us.’ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.” – Matthew 1:20-22



He said, "Before Abraham was, I am." – John 8:58

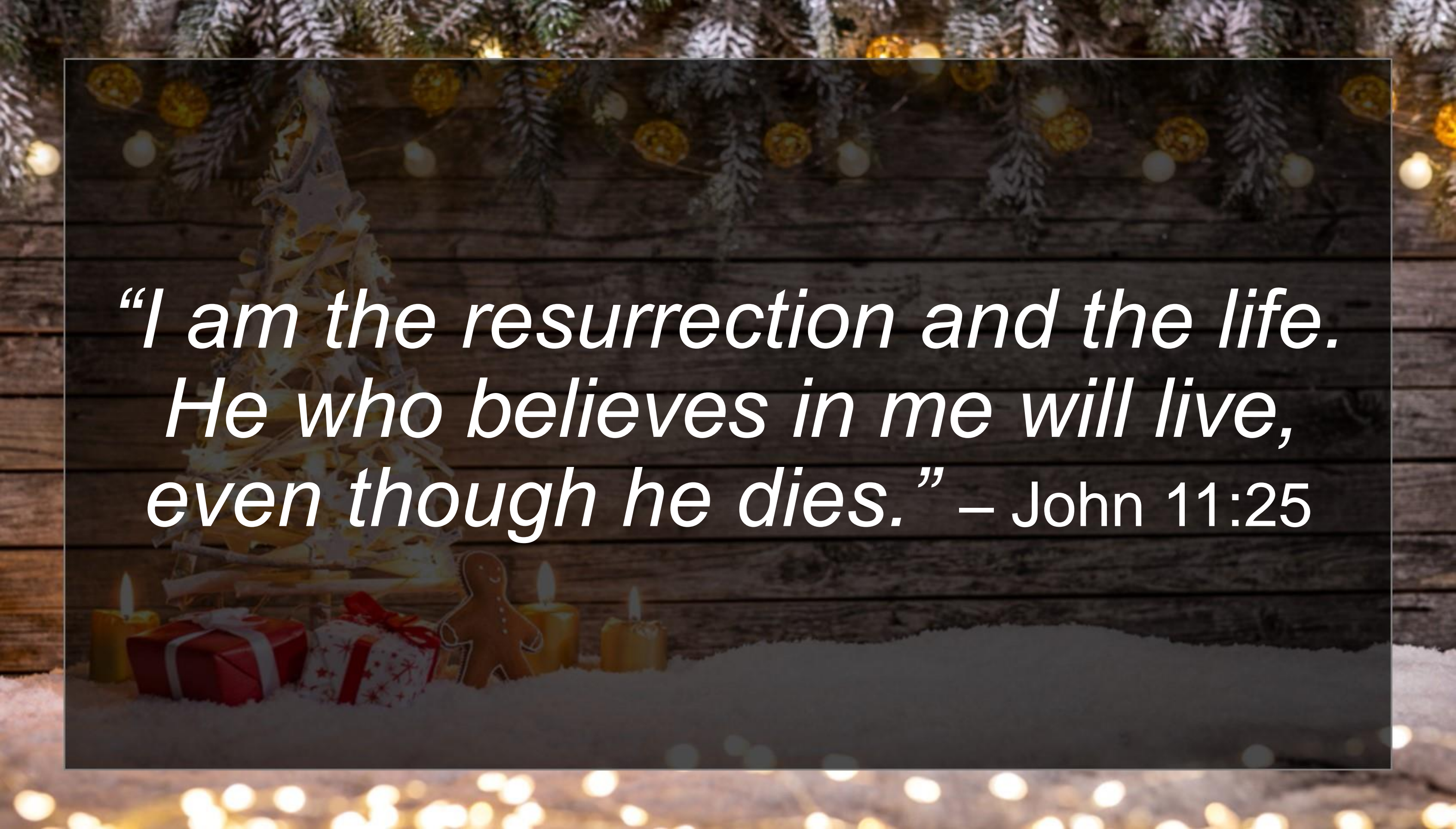
"I and the Father are one." – John 10:30

*"Anyone who has seen me has
seen the Father."* – John 14:9



“For this reason the Jews tried all the harder to kill him; ...he was even calling God his own Father, making himself equal with God.” – John 5:18

*“We are going up to Jerusalem,
...where I will be condemned
to death and will be turned
over to the Gentiles to be
mocked and flogged and
crucified. On the third day I will
be raised to life!” – Matt. 20:18-20*



*“I am the resurrection and the life.
He who believes in me will live,
even though he dies.” – John 11:25*

*“In the beginning was the word
and the word was with God
and the word was God’ – all
things were made by Him –
‘And the Word became flesh
and lived among us.’” – John 1:1 & 14*

“My Lord and My God.” – John 20:28

“Christ, who is God, is forever to be praised.” – Romans 9:5

“He shall be called the mighty God but He shall also be called Jesus for He shall save his people from their sins.” – Luke 2:11

“The LORD your God is with you, he is mighty to save.” – Zephaniah 3:17

“For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.” – John 3:17-18

“But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.” – Isaiah 53:5-6



- Jesus alone claimed to be God.

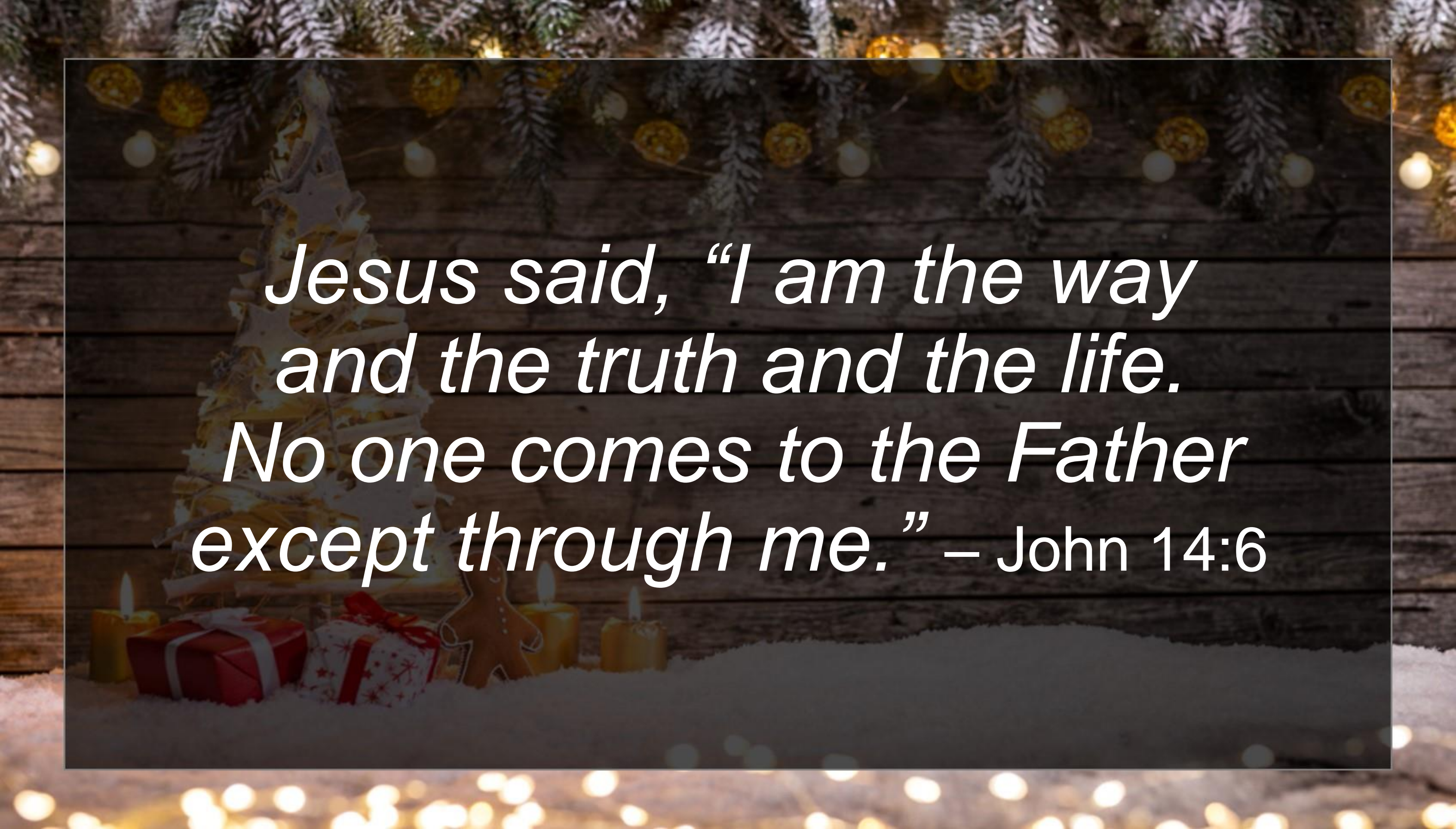
*“If you’ve seen me, you’ve
seen God.”* – John 14:9

Three distinctions...

- Only Jesus arose from the grave.



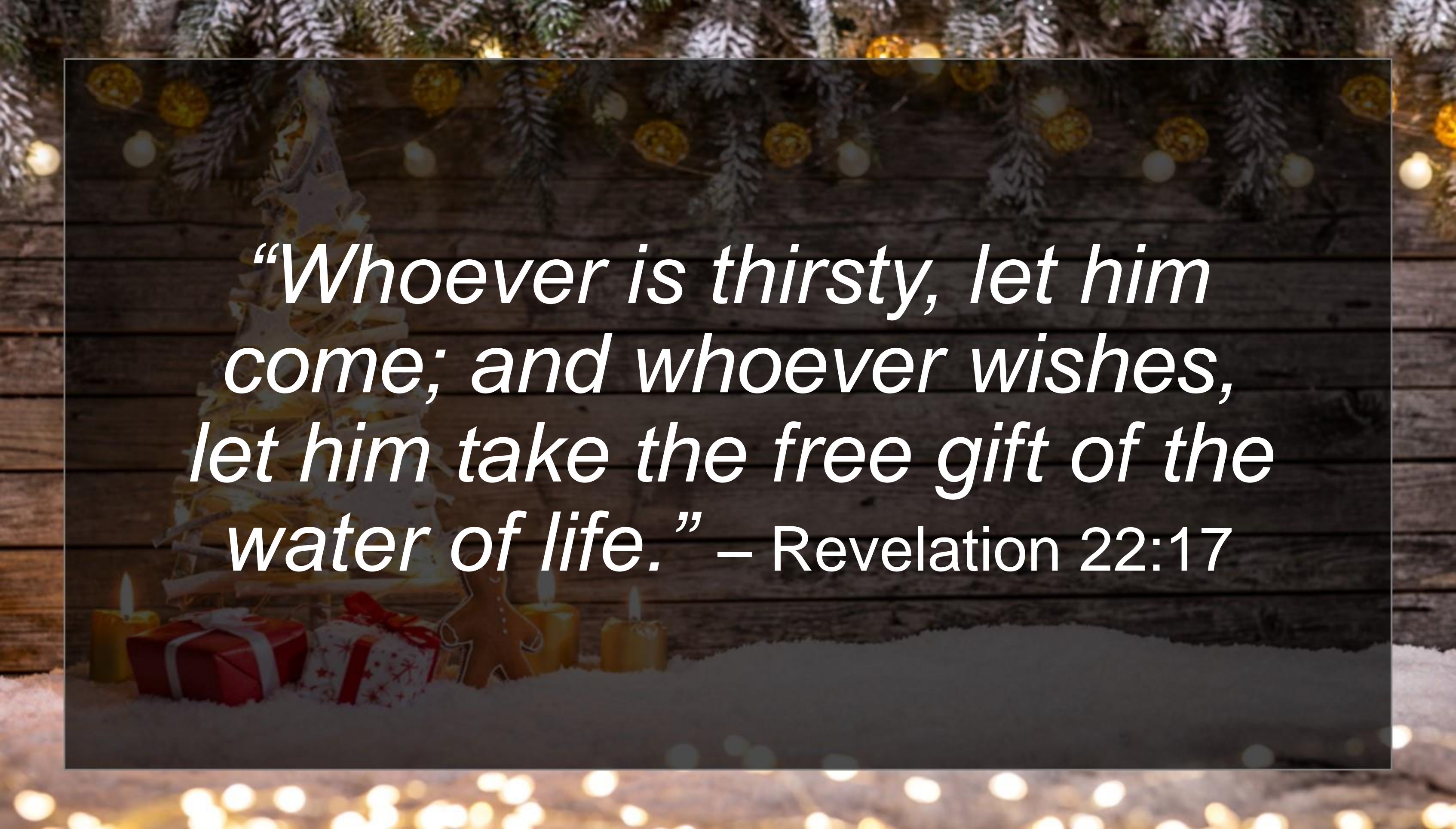
▪ Jesus offers salvation through grace not works.



*Jesus said, "I am the way
and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father
except through me." – John 14:6*

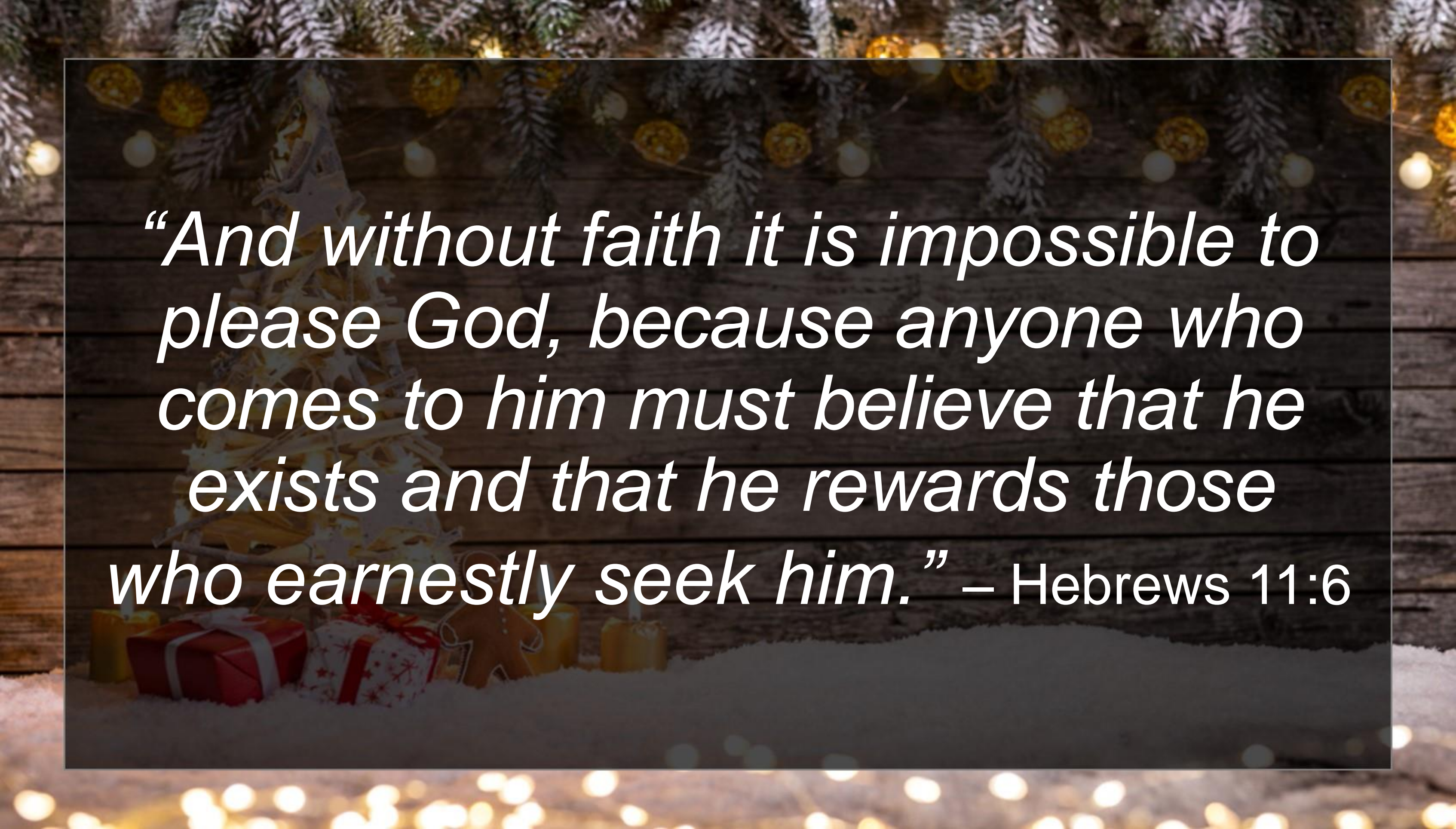
Three distinctions between Christianity
and any other religion of the world...

3. You are free to choose
to trust Christ for your
salvation or reject Him.



“Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.” – Revelation 22:17

“Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” – Mark 16:15-16



“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” – Hebrews 11:6