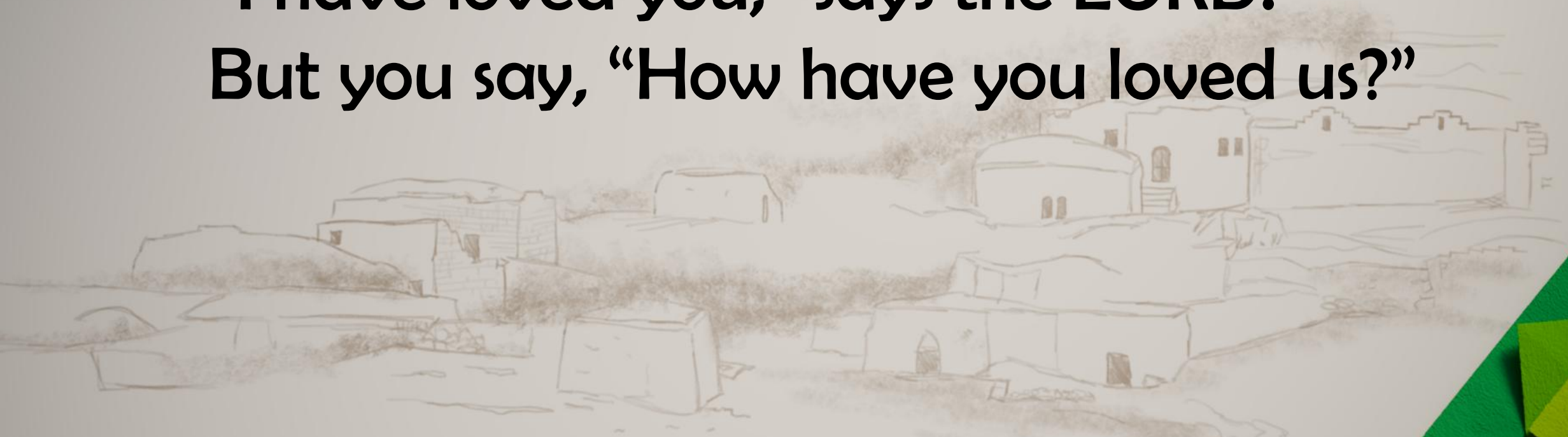


Disputation 1: God’s Enduring Covenant Love

Sunday, October 11, 2026

The Argument: Malachi 1:2a

"I have loved you," says the LORD.
But you say, "How have you loved us?"



God's Proof: Malachi 1:2b-5

- God's covenant with Jacob
- God's rejection of Esau
- God's sovereign plan concerning both

God's Covenant with Jacob

"and in you and your offspring shall all the families of the earth be blessed."

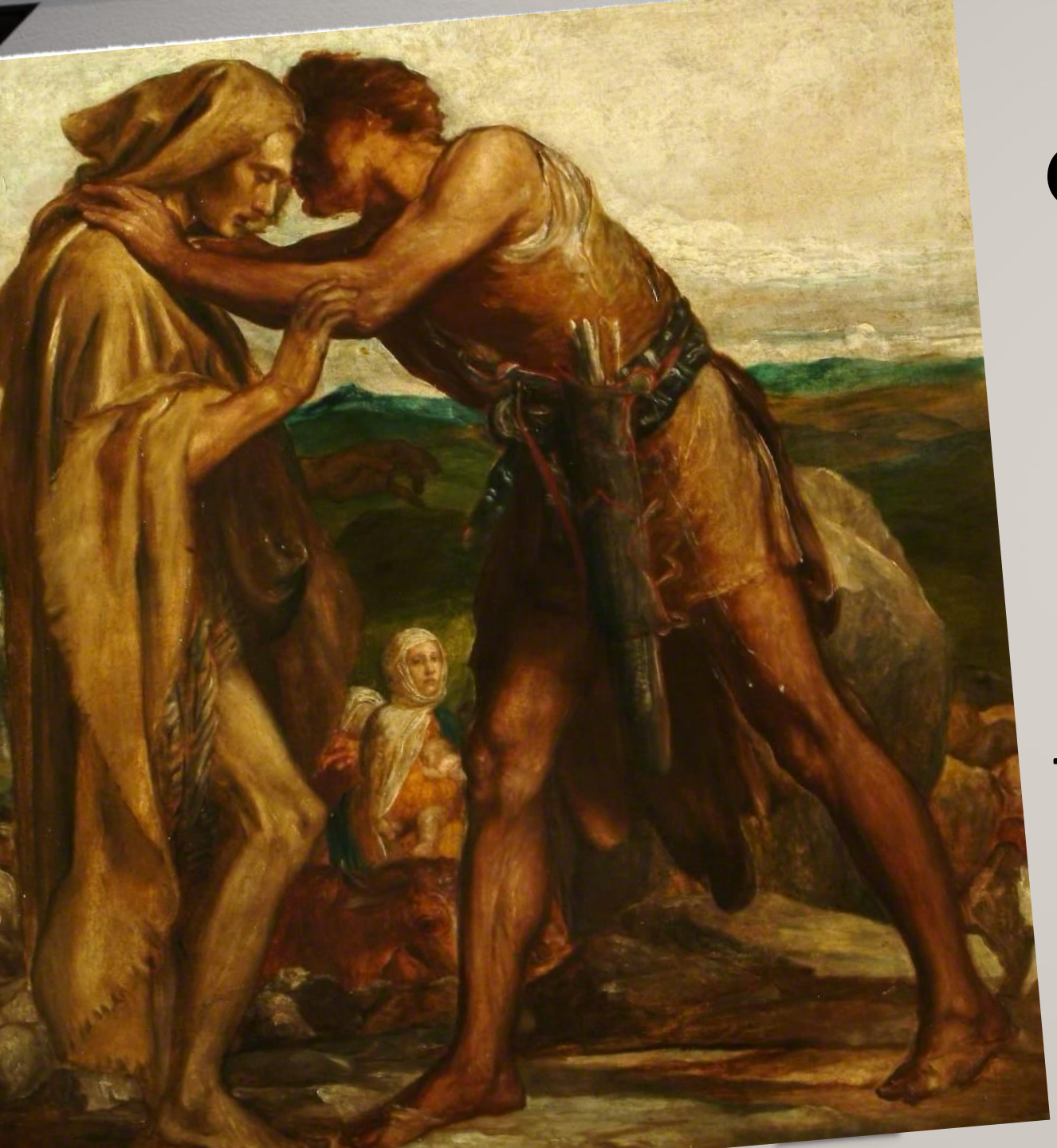
- Genesis 28:10-22
- Genesis 32:24-30
- Genesis 35:9-15



God's Rejection of Esau

Malachi 1:3-4

"but Esau I have hated. I have laid waste his hill country and left his heritage to jackals of the desert." [4] If Edom says, "We are shattered but we will rebuild the ruins," the LORD of hosts says, "They may build, but I will tear down, and they will be called 'the wicked country,' and 'the people with whom the LORD is angry forever.'"



God's Sovereign Plan Concerning Both

Malachi 1:5
Your own eyes shall see this, and you shall say, "Great is the LORD beyond the border of Israel!"

Application:

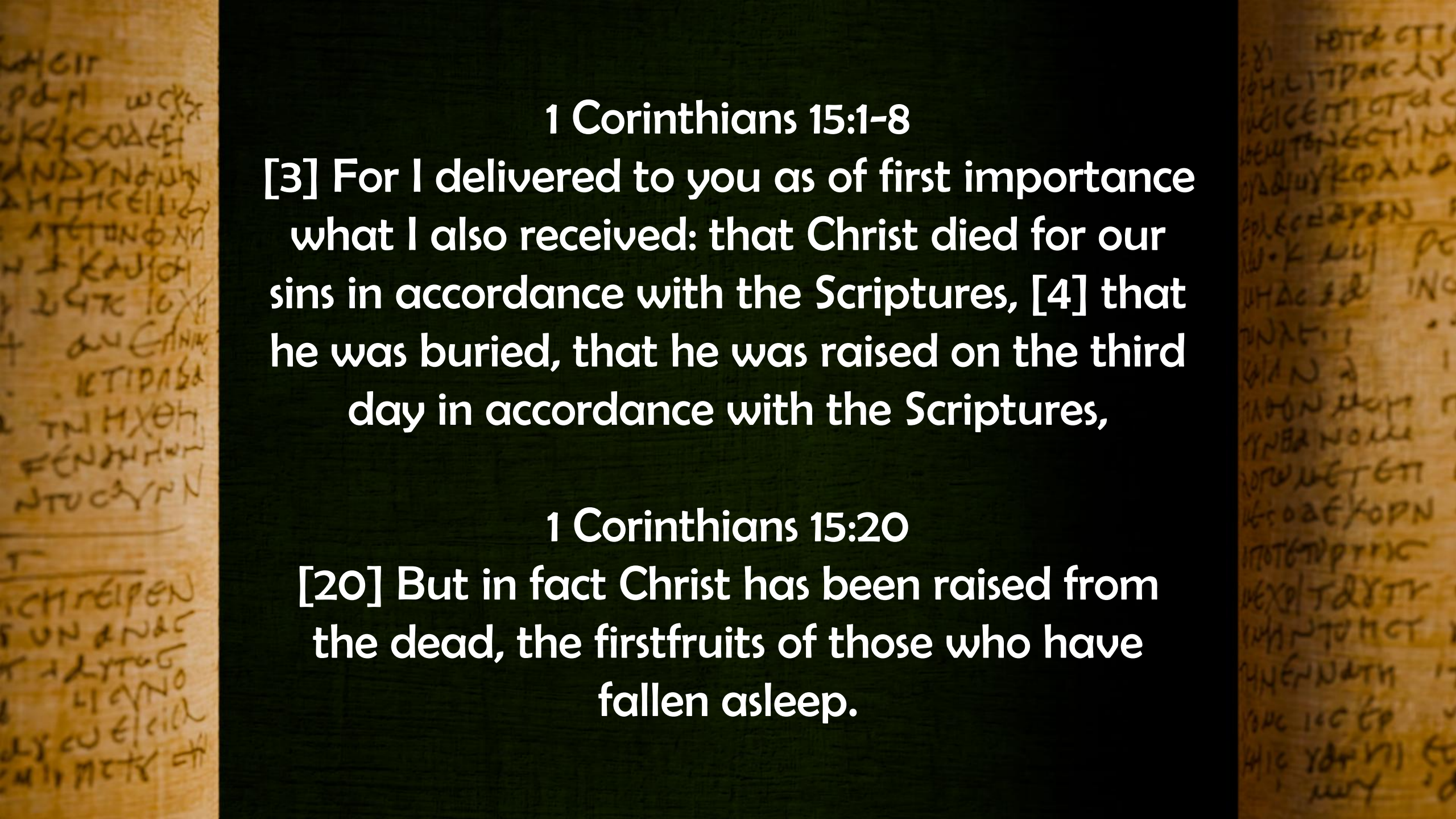
Just like Malachi pointed the Jews to remember God's unconditional, loving-kindness in the covenant with Jacob, we are to remember God's unconditional, loving-kindness in the New Covenant given to us through Jesus and His gospel work.

God Says He Loves You In Jesus

- Romans 5:8 “but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.”
- John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.”

Jesus is who He says He is and accomplished what He said He would

- 1 John 4:9-10 “In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.”

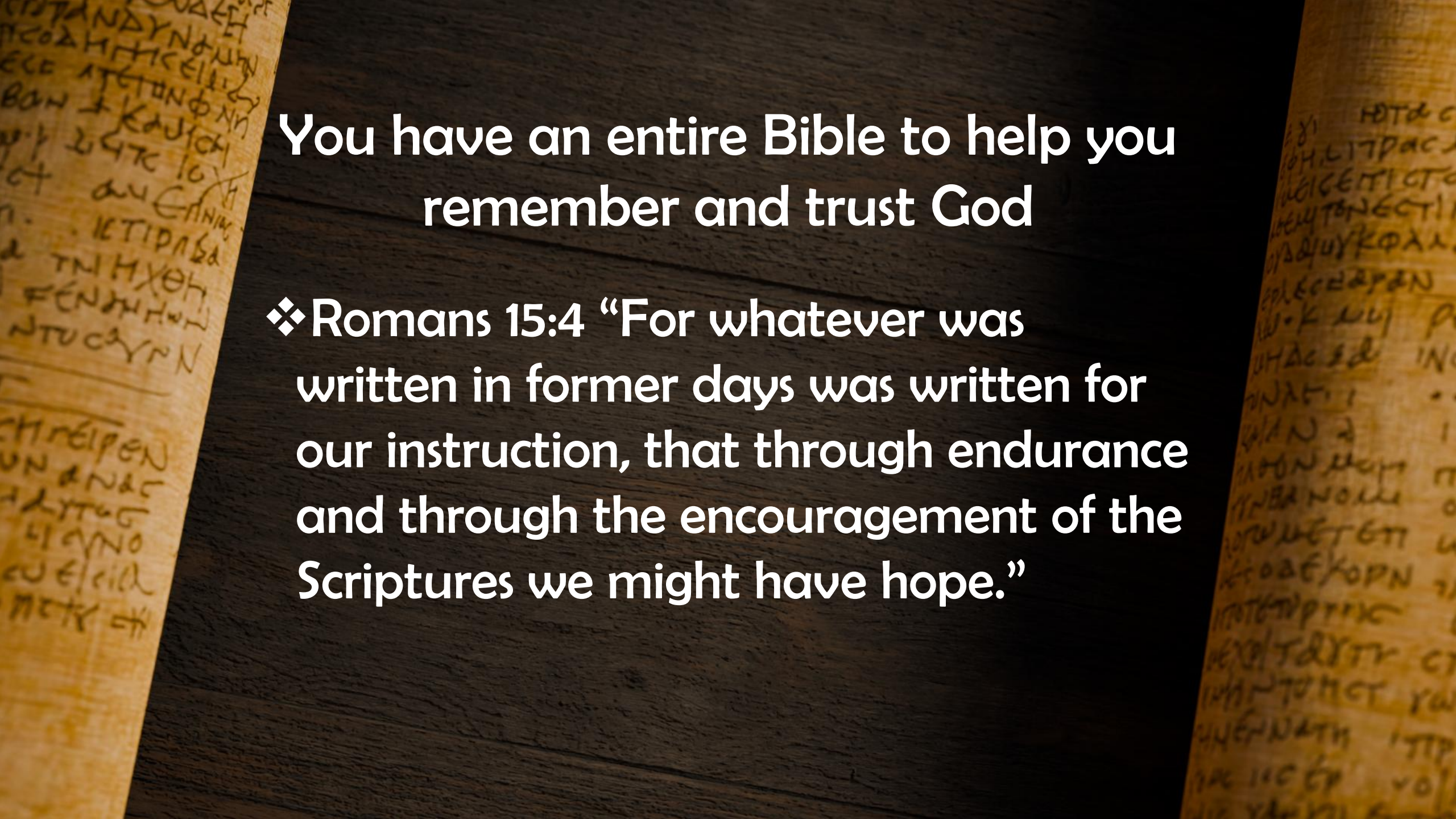


1 Corinthians 15:1-8

[3] For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, [4] that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures,

1 Corinthians 15:20

[20] But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.



You have an entire Bible to help you remember and trust God

- Romans 15:4 “For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.”

Romans 8:31-39

[38] For I am sure that neither death nor life,
nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor
things to come, nor powers, [39] nor height
nor depth, nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of
God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Psalm 136

[1] Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
[2] Give thanks to the God of gods,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
[3] Give thanks to the Lord of lords,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[4] to him who alone does great wonders,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

[5] to him who by understanding made the heavens,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[6] to him who spread out the earth above the waters,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[7] to him who made the great lights,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[8] the sun to rule over the day,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

[9] the moon and stars to rule over the night,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[10] to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[11] and brought Israel out from among them,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[12] with a strong hand and an outstretched arm,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[13] to him who divided the Red Sea in two,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

[14] and made Israel pass through the midst of it,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[15] but overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red Sea,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[16] to him who led his people through the wilderness,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[17] to him who struck down great kings,
for his steadfast love endures forever;

[21] and gave their land as a heritage,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[22] a heritage to Israel his servant,
for his steadfast love endures forever.
[23] It is he who remembered us in our low estate,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[24] and rescued us from our foes,
for his steadfast love endures forever;
[25] he who gives food to all flesh,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

(ALL TOGETHER)

[26] Give thanks to the God of heaven,
for his steadfast love endures forever!