



# Hebrews Lesson 3

Hebrews Chapters 3 & 4

# Christ is Superior to Moses

- Our study suggests that this is the argument that is presented in chapters 3 & 4



# How Christ is Described to the Readers

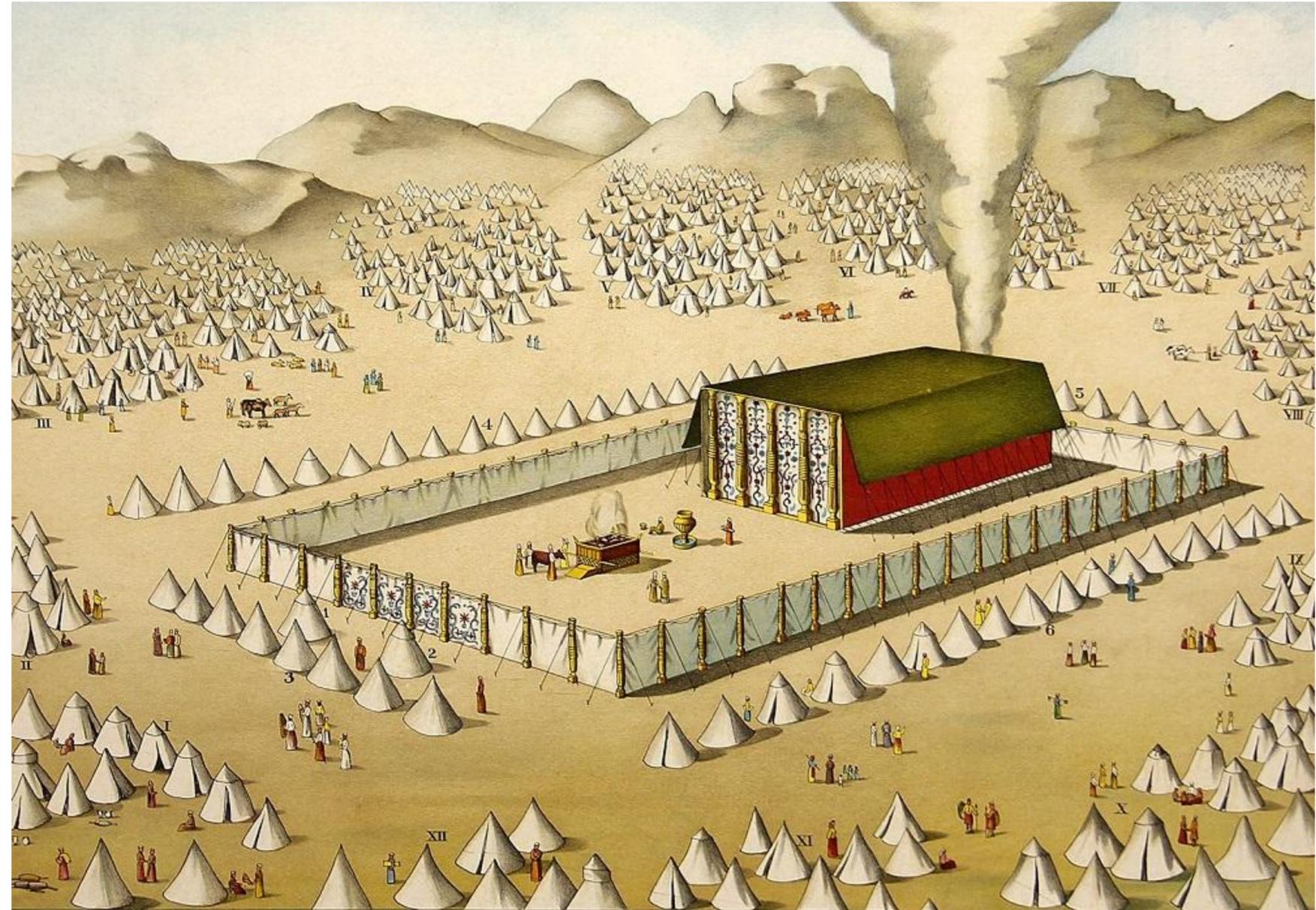
- An “apostle”
  - The only time Jesus is called an apostle
  - Apostle comes to us from the Greek word meaning “to send forth”
- “High Priest”
  - A priest represents people to God
    - Latin word for priest *pontifex* means bridge builder
- Son - Jesus is superior to Moses because as great of a servant of God that Moses was, Jesus is God’s Son



# Our House

It's a very, very fine house

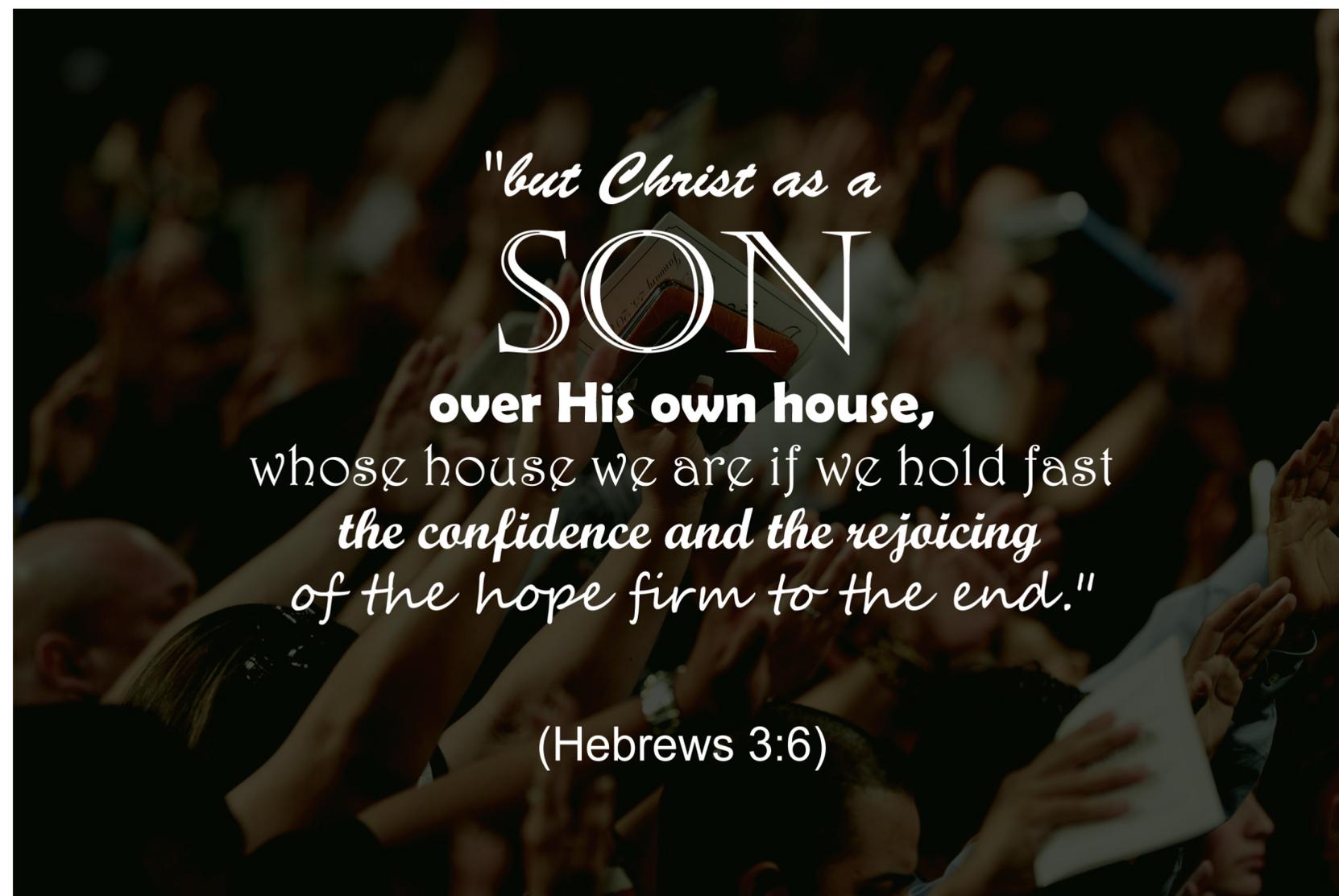
- The writer of Hebrews says that Moses was faithful “in all God’s house”.
- The author of our study says that is likely that in verse 2 “house” refers to the OT tabernacle.



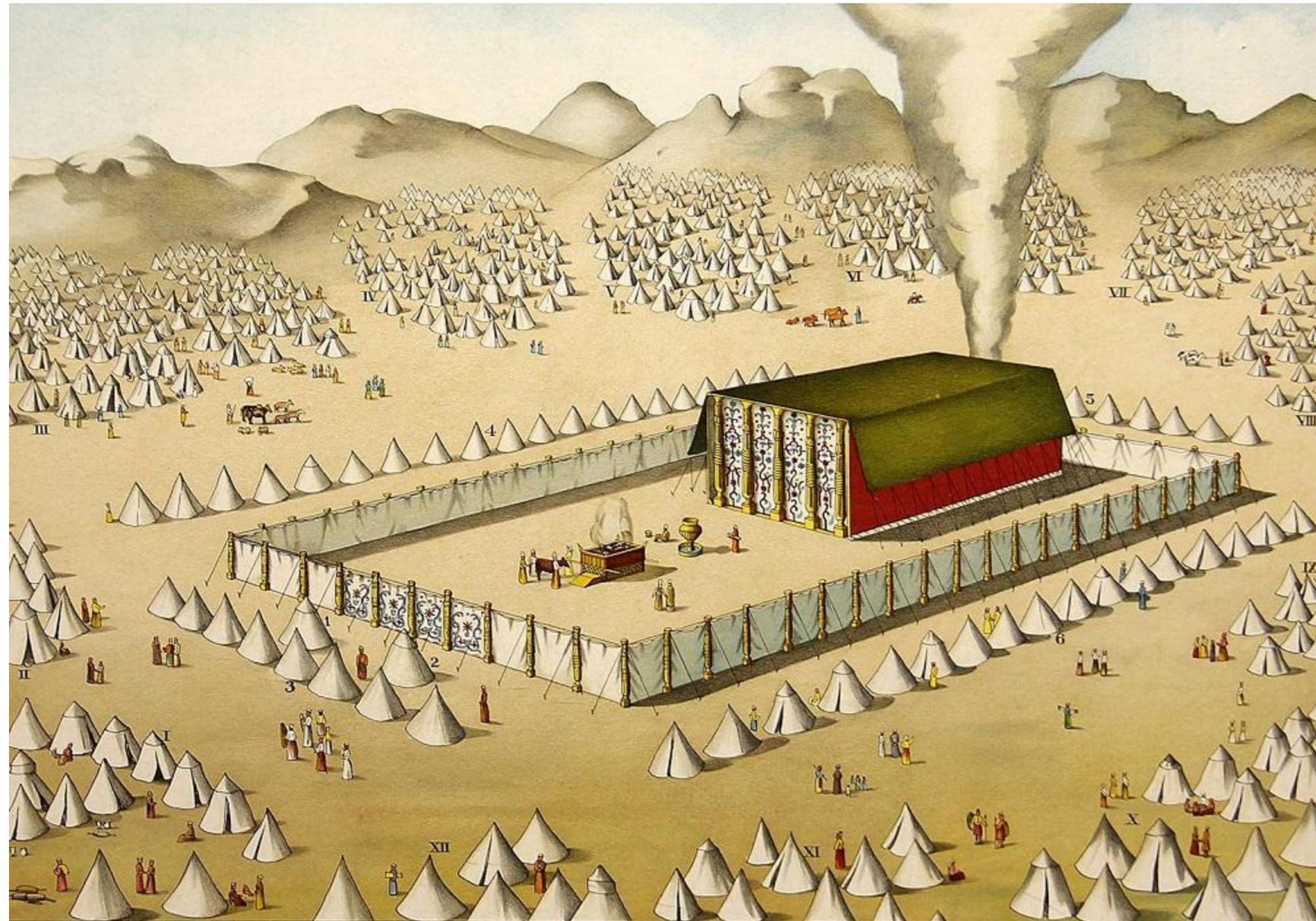
# A New House

## Verses 3-6

- The writer of Hebrews says that Jesus is “worthy of more glory than Moses”
- Why?
  - God had a Creator-servant relationship with Moses
  - God has a Father-Son relationship with Jesus



# House Comparison



# There's a Change

## A New House for God

- Believers are God's dwelling place today
  - John 14:17
  - I Cor. 6:19
- We don't become God's house by continuing, however when a person takes Jesus as their Savior they become part of God's house, their continuing is proof of that relationship



# Quoting Other People

In verses 7-11 the writer of Hebrews  
quotes Psalm 95:7-11

He uses the Psalm as a warning  
against unbelief



# The Need

- The Hebrews, as well as us today, have a need to examine ourselves
- “Take care” (verse 7), could be translated “beware”
- Unbelief produces an evil heart and it is the root of sin that leads to disobedience and transgression
- Some readers may have been thinking of leaving their profession of Christian faith and “fall away from the living God” - perhaps returning to the customs and rituals of Judaism



# Another Need

- Christians need other Christians
- Just as God said it was not good that Adam (and all men for that matter) to be alone, it's not good for a Christian to be alone in their faith
- Christians help each other to grow and mature in their faith
- We shouldn't wait to do so either, we need to "today" while it is still called "today"
- The author of our study wrote, "There is no such thing as a solitary Christian."

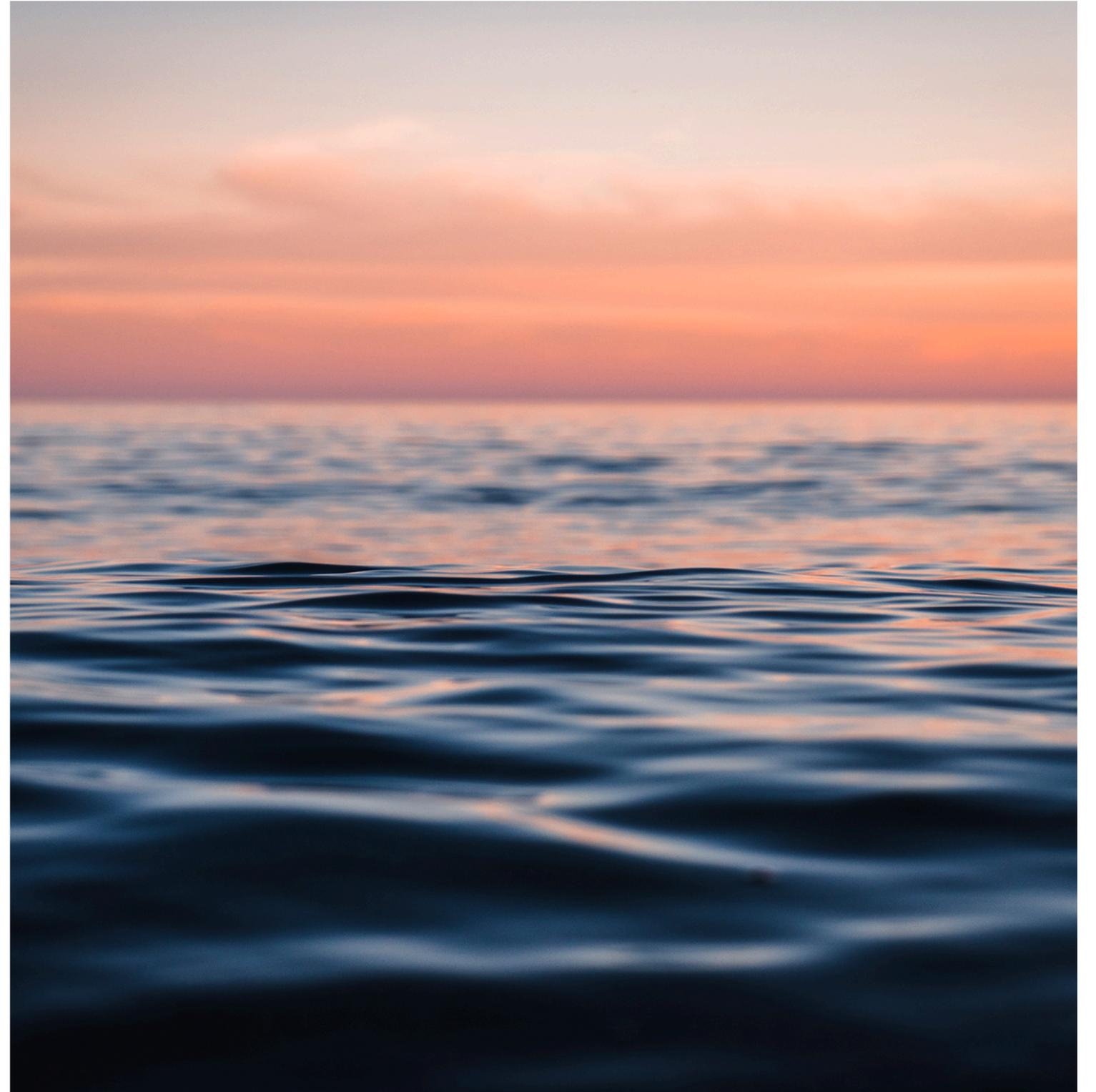
# So What?

- Why quote Psalm 95?
  - Just as unbelief kept the Israelites out of the land of promise, unbelief today will keep people out of the heavenly city.



# Rest

**Rest Is Attained Exclusively Through  
Jesus**



# The Rest Is a Future Rest



- The author of our study gives 3 reasons why:
  - Verses 1, 6 & 9 of Chapter 4 speaks of it as a promise that “still stands”
  - “Let us” is used by the writer of Hebrews 4 times in verses 1-16, so if the rest he’s speaking of was past, there’d be no “us”, it’d be “them”
  - The writer of Hebrews portrays the Christian life as a pilgrimage or journey, we’ve not yet reached the end of that journey
  - The author of our study believes the “rest” is the future home of the redeemed in Christ’s millennial kingdom upon the earth.

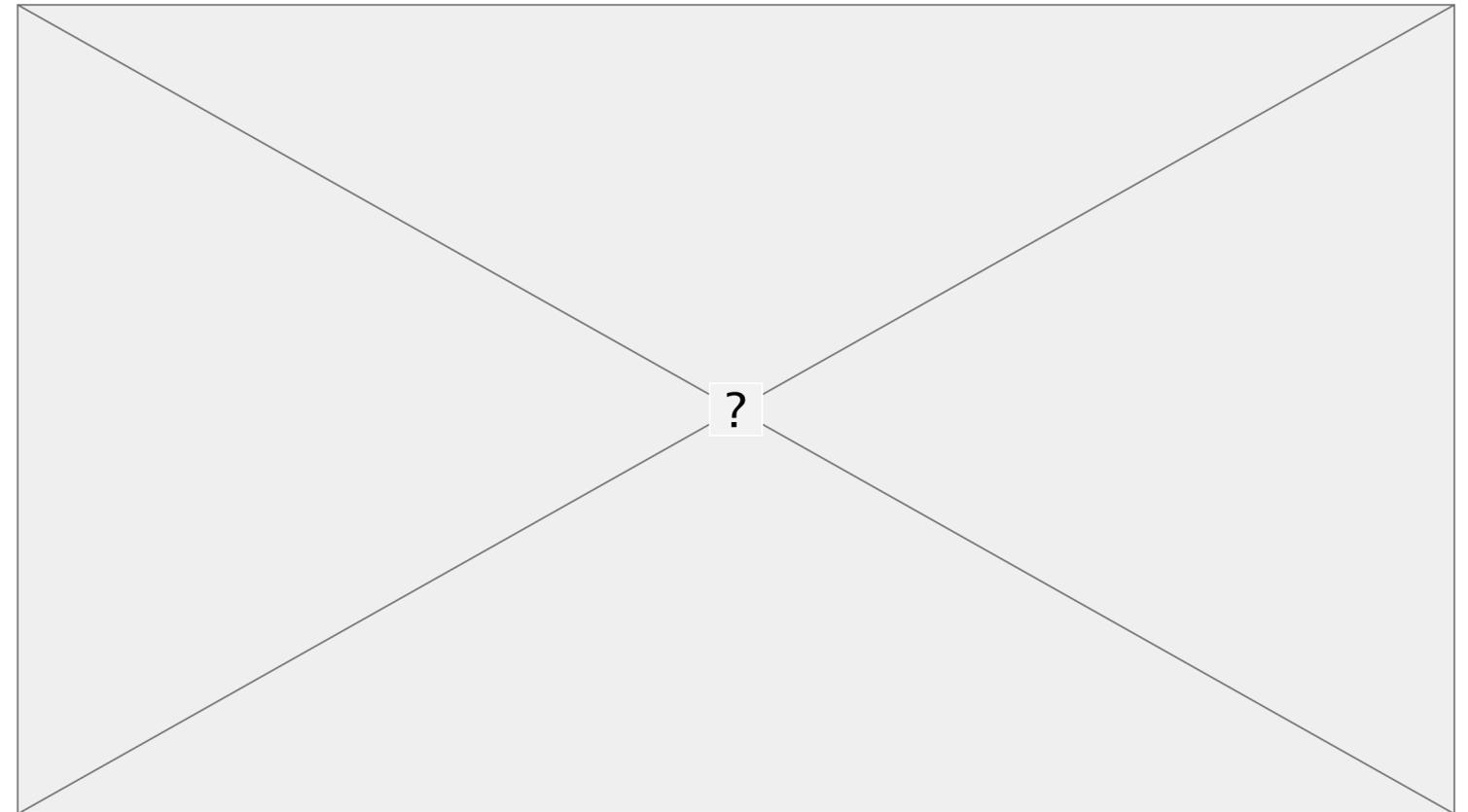
# Who Gets the Rest?

- Only those who have trusted Jesus as their Savior
- Right now we have work to do, we are to “endure”
- The time of “rest” is coming, soon!

# The Word

**It's ALIVE**

- God's Word is living and is SHARP!
- It never acts without results
- "sword" in the Greek means "knife" and many believe the idea is that of a surgeon's knife, or scalpel



# Soul and Spirit

- Soul
  - The whole inner life of a person with its powers of will, reason, and emotion
- Spirit
  - The new nature given to a believer by God
- Sometimes we confuse those things within ourselves, but the Word of God can allow us to know which is which
- Z.C Hodges, “They (the readers of Hebrews) may think that a return to Judaism was motivated by spiritual impulses, but the Word would show them that they were acting unfaithfully.”

# Christ's Title

**It's better than Moses'**

- He's a great high priest
  - Not only is that better than Moses, but no other person throughout history has ever held that title before, it's His and His alone
- His place is better
  - Once a year the high priest could go into the "Most Holy Place", but Jesus has ascended through space and gone into the very presence of God

# Weaknesses

- Jesus is able to “sympathize with our weaknesses”
- What do we mean by that?
  - Hunger
  - Thirst
  - Weariness
  - Disappointment
  - Pain
  - Loneliness



# His Sympathy

- Jesus was sinless
- His sympathy is not a sympathy that condones our sin because He never yielded to sin in experiencing any of the “weaknesses” that flesh would have exposed
- If He had sinned, He could not be our substitute
- BF. Westport, “Sympathy with the sinner does not depend upon Jesus having experienced sin. It depends rather on the strength of the temptation to sin that only a sinless person can know it its full intensity.”

**“Not the tree that falls,  
but that one that  
stands, feels the full  
force of the  
hurricane.”**



# The Throne of Grace

- It's God's throne in heaven
- Jesus, the High Priest, is present there
- Help for the believer is available there

