

WELCOME!



WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!

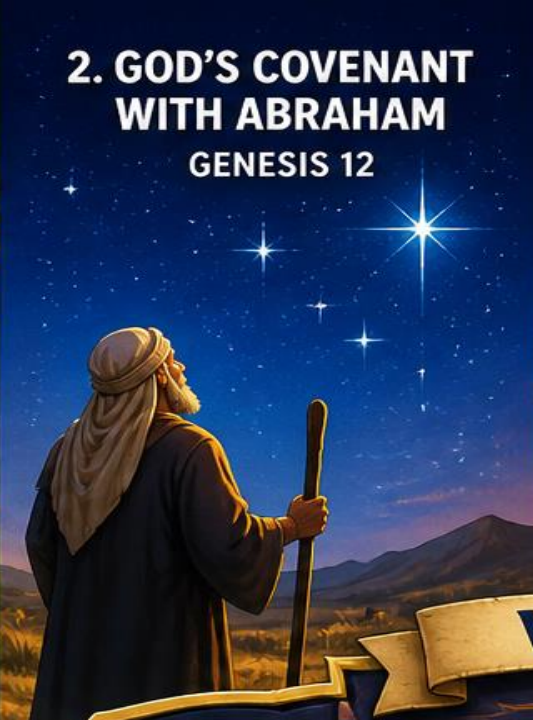
The Greatest Story Ever Told

GOD'S PLAN • OUR HOPE • HIS PROMISE • OUR FUTURE

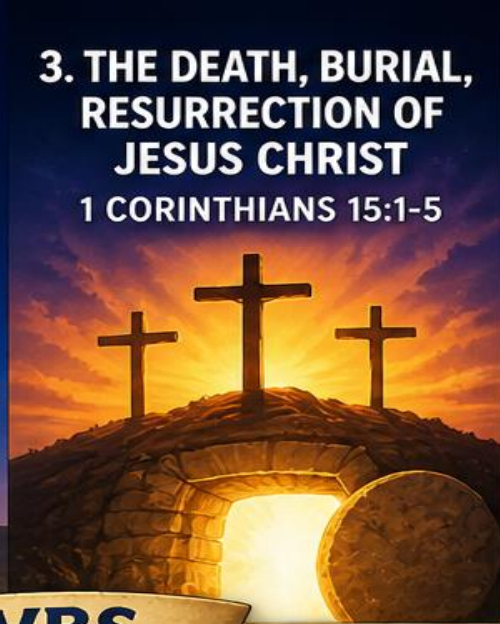
1. THE FALL
GENESIS 3



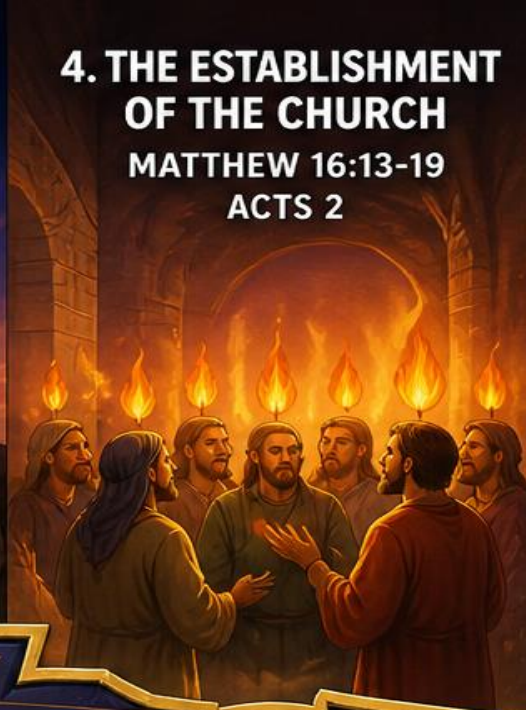
**2. GOD'S COVENANT
WITH ABRAHAM**
GENESIS 12



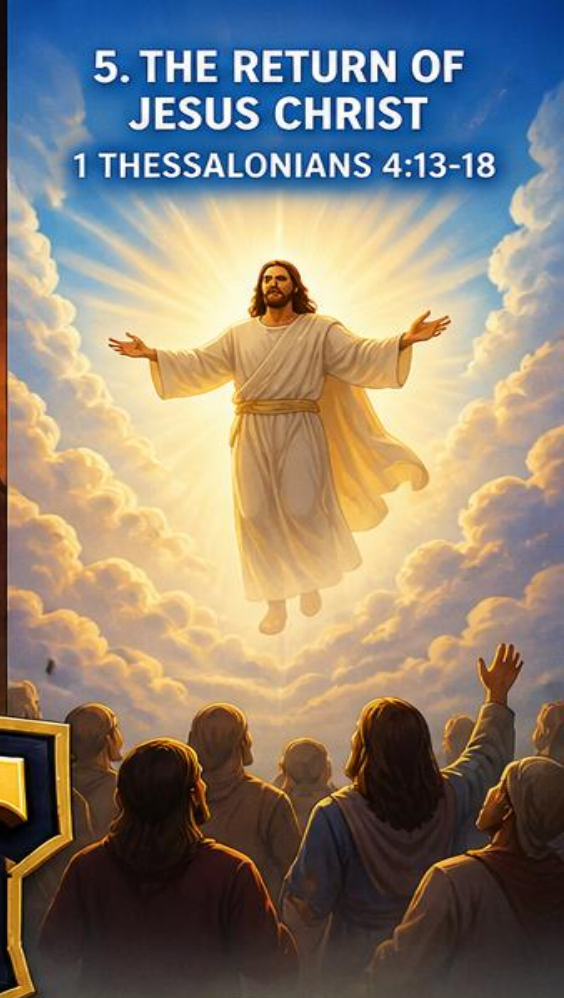
**3. THE DEATH, BURIAL,
RESURRECTION OF
JESUS CHRIST**
1 CORINTHIANS 15:1-5



**4. THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE CHURCH**
MATTHEW 16:13-19
ACTS 2



**5. THE RETURN OF
JESUS CHRIST**
1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18



VBS

THE GREATEST STORY

EVER TOLD



FROM THE BEGINNING... TO THE RETURN OF CHRIST!

JOHN 13:31 – 14:4



John 13:31 – 33

“Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him... “Where I am going you cannot come.”

John 13:36 – 37

“Where I am going you cannot follow me now, but you will follow afterward.”

John 14:1 – 4

“Let not your hearts be troubled... I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also.”



“13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.”

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18 (ESV)

“1 “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. 2 In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? 3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. 4 And you know the way to where I am going.””

John 14:1 – 4 (ESV)

ACTS 1:9 – 11

9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

10 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes,

11 and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”



GOD'S PROMISES NEVER FAIL!

"The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance."

— 2 PETER 3:9 —



GOD IS PATIENT.

With the Lord one day is as a thousand years.
(2 Peter 3:8)



GOD DESIRES REPENTANCE.

He is patient, not wanting anyone to perish,
but everyone to come to repentance.



THE DELAY IS MERCY—NOT FAILURE.

God keeps His promises. He will return
just as He has said!

**WE CAN TRUST
HIS WORD!**



GOD KEEPS EVERY PROMISE HE MAKES.

*“13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 **For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again,** even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.”*

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18 (ESV)

“20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. 22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.”

1 Corinthians 15:20 – 22 (ESV)

WHAT WILL HAPPEN



ON THE DAY *He Returns?*



THE BIBLE GIVES US HOPE, COMFORT,
AND ANSWERS.



*“13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.** 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.”*

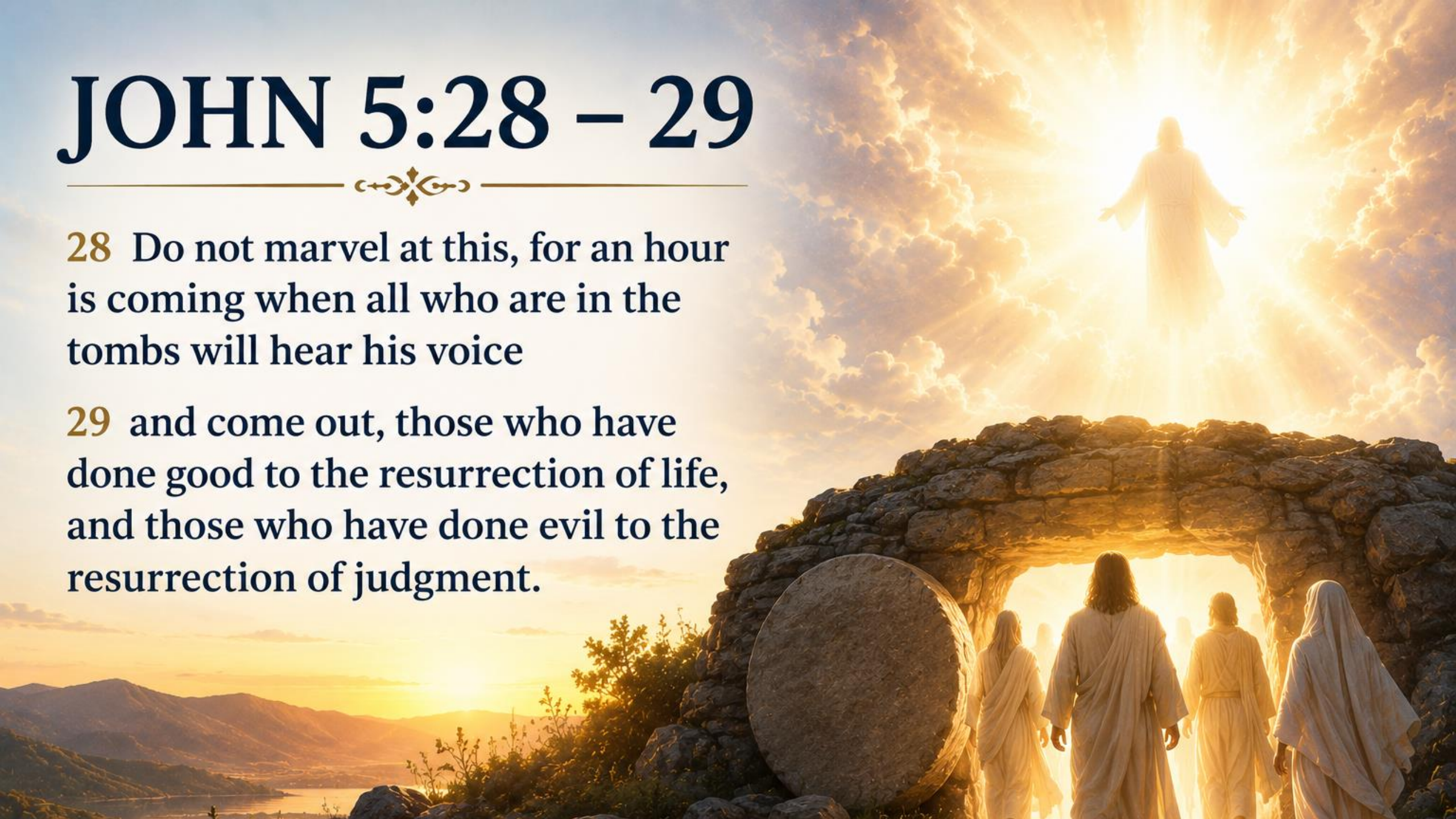
1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18 (ESV)

JOHN 5:28 – 29



28 Do not marvel at this, for an hour is coming when all who are in the tombs will hear his voice

29 and come out, those who have done good to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil to the resurrection of judgment.



*“13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **16 For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.** 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.”*

1 Thessalonians 4:13 – 18 (ESV)

1 CORINTHIANS 15:54 – 55

54 When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall be **BROUGHT TO PASS THE SAYING THAT IS WRITTEN:**

55 “O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR VICTORY?
O DEATH, WHERE IS YOUR STING?”

**DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP
IN VICTORY.**



“10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.”

2 Corinthians 5:10 (ESV)

MATTHEW 24:36

“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.”



MATTHEW 24:42

Therefore keep watch,
because you do not know
on what day your Lord
will come.



Am I Ready?



“1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. 4 He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.””

Revelation 21:1 – 4 (ESV)

What have we learned this weekend?



i. Sin entered the world.



ii. God promised a Savior.



iii. Jesus died and rose again.



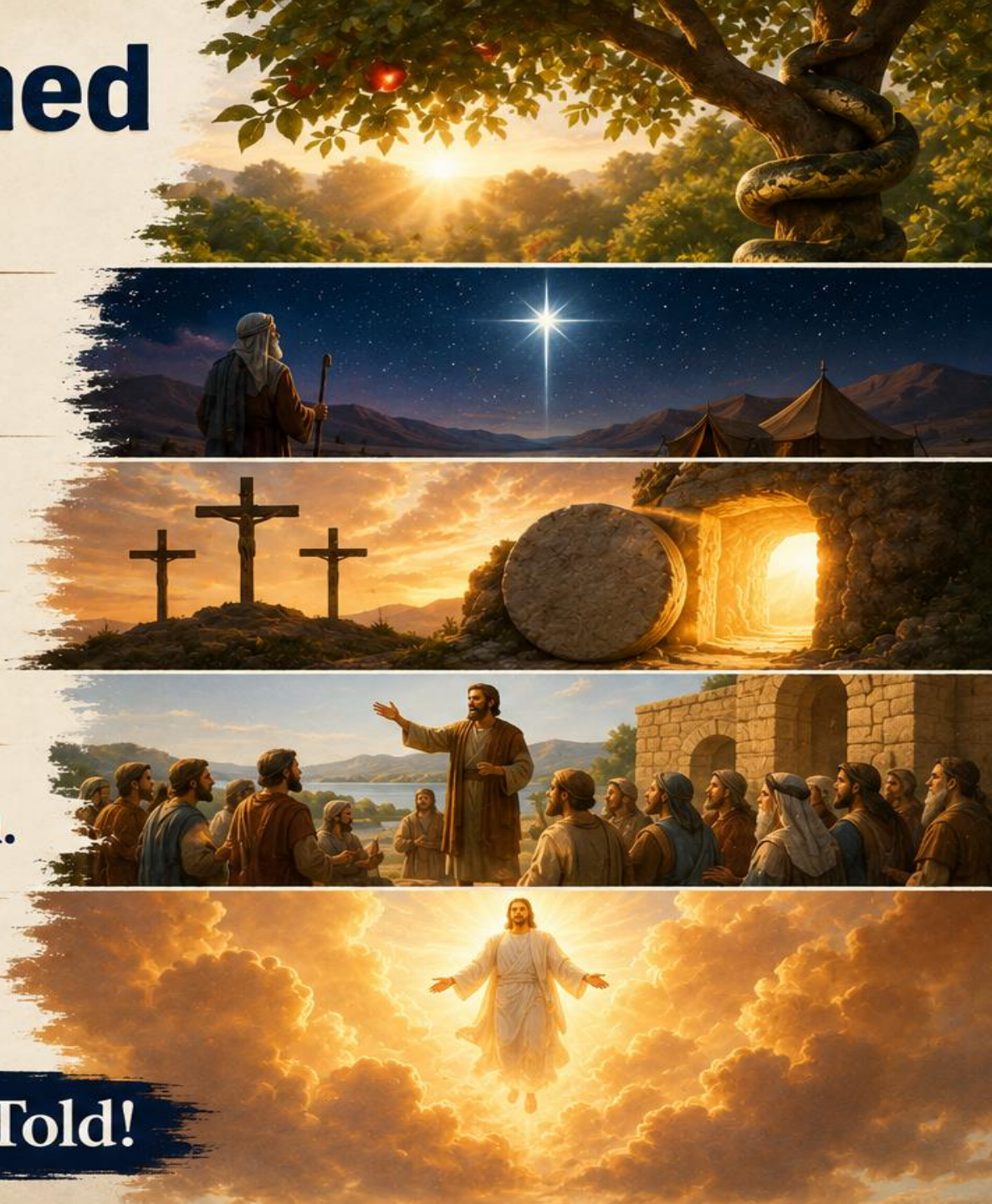
iv. The church proclaims salvation.



v. Jesus is coming again.



The *Greatest* Story Ever Told!



REVELATION 22:20

He who testifies to
these things says,
**“SURELY I AM
COMING SOON.”**
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!





Are you
eagerly
awaiting
His Return?