

***“The Gospel of Freedom  
and  
the  
Things  
That  
Hinder”***





# ***“The Gospel of Freedom and the Things That Hinder”***

A man wearing a white long-sleeved shirt, black pants, and a large black backpack is running on a paved road. He is wearing glasses and has a determined expression. The background is a vast, flat green field under a cloudy sky.

***“... let us **throw off everything that hinders...**  
And let us run with perseverance the race...  
**fixing our eyes on Jesus...**”***

# *The Performance Trap*

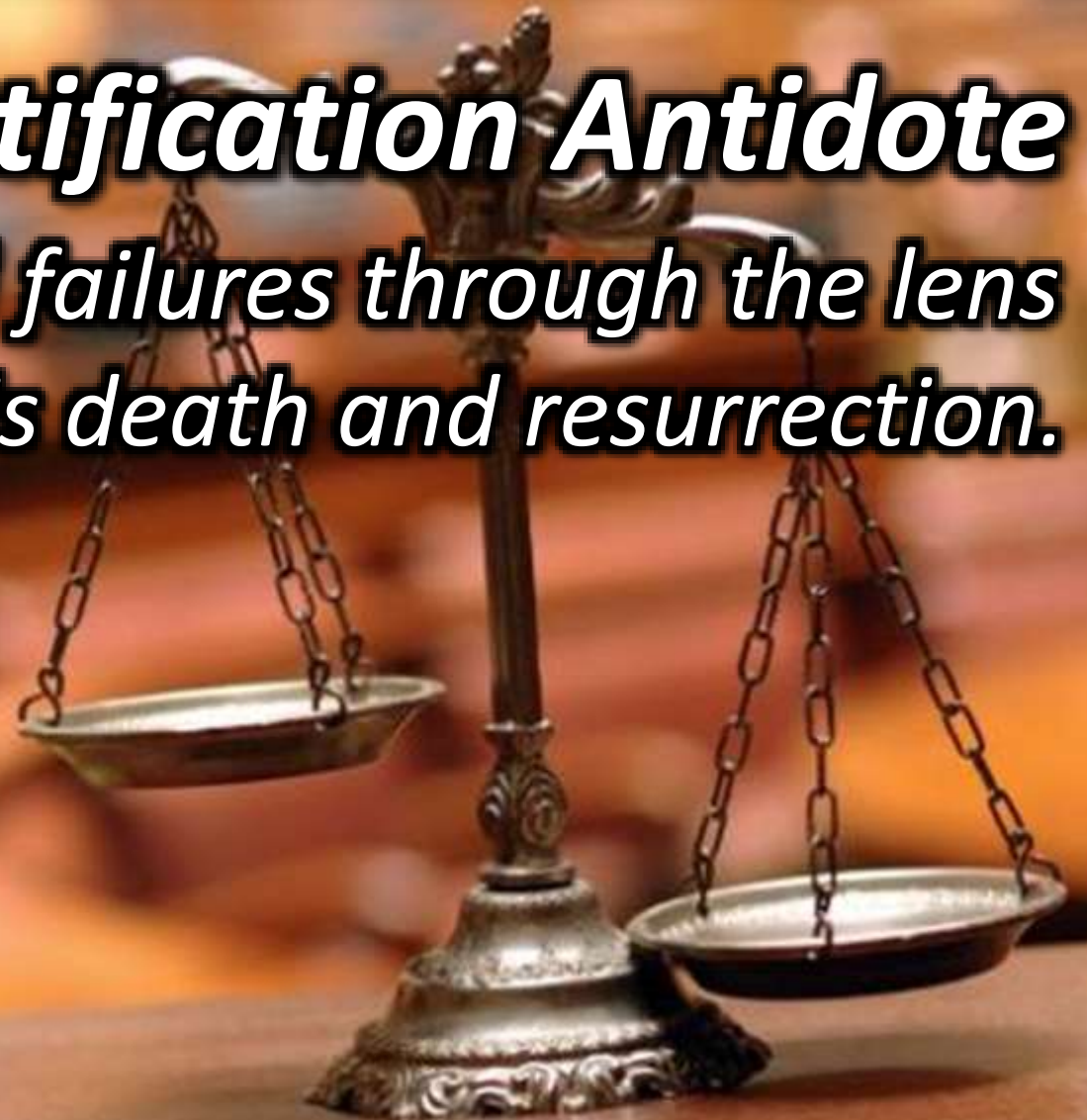
*"I must meet **certain standards**  
to feel good about myself."*





# ***The Justification Antidote***

*"God sees my successes and failures through the lens of **Jesus "performance"** – His death and resurrection.*



# ***The Approval Trap***

***“I must gain the **approval** of certain people in order to feel good about myself.”***





# ***The Reconciliation Antidote***

***“Jesus died to bring me back to God,  
so now **God approves of me just like Jesus.**”***

***Relationship restored***

# ***The Blame Trap***

*“Those who fail are **unworthy** of love  
and deserve to be **punished**.”*





# *The Propitiation Antidote*

*"We are **unblameable** and **unblaming** because  
God has already **blamed Jesus** for  
**all** the sin and  
**all** the failures of  
**all** people for  
**all** time."*

PROPTIATION  
THE REMOVAL OF GOD'S WRATH



# The **New** Testament

**1 John 3:16-24; 4:7-10**

**Matthew**

**Mark**

**Luke**

**John**

**Acts**

**Romans**

**1/2 Corinthians**

**Galatians**

**Ephesians**

**Philippians**

**Colossians**

**1/2 Thessalonians**

**1/2 Timothy**

**Titus**

**Philemon**

**Hebrews**

**James**

**1/2 Peter**

***1/2/3 John***

**Jude**

**Revelation**

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***“... let us **throw off everything that hinders...**  
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# Beyond The FAR Side®



by GARY LARSON

# 1) What is propitiation?

- Dictionary definition –

*“the action of appeasing a god, spirit, or person.”*

- Biblical definition –

*“an offering to appease (satisfy) an angry, offended party.”*

A close-up photograph of a white lamb with large, curved, brownish-gold horns. The lamb is lying down on a dark blue surface, with its head resting on the ground and its eyes closed. The lighting is dramatic, coming from the side, highlighting the texture of the lamb's wool and the curve of its horns. The background is dark and out of focus.

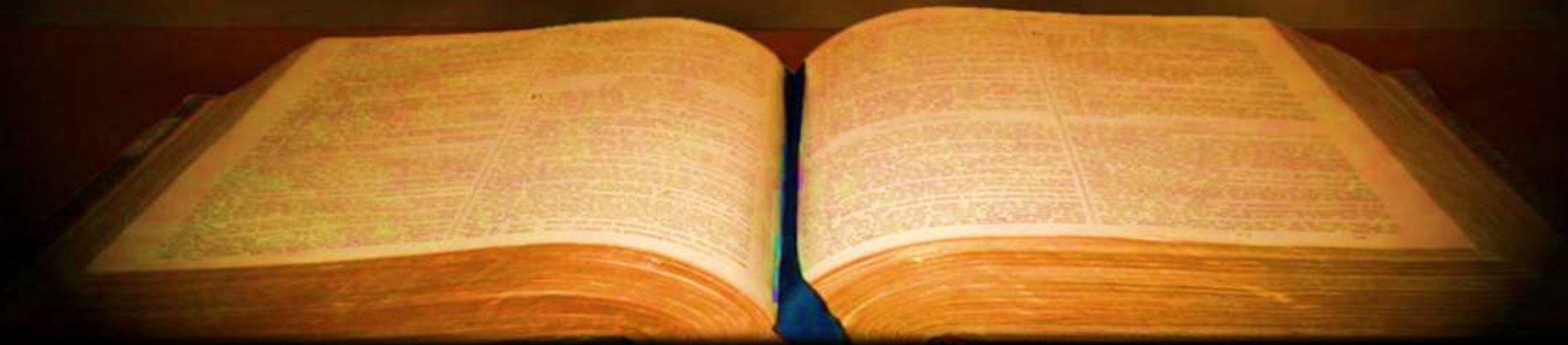
PROPITIATION  
THE REMOVAL OF GOD'S WRATH



Romans 3:25; Hebrews 9:5 – *Hilastérion*, or “*covering*”

*“God presented Christ as **a sacrifice of atonement**,  
through the shedding of his blood...”*

*“Above the ark were the cherubim of the Glory,  
overshadowing the **atonement cover**.”*





*Hilasterion, or  
"covering"*

**"The mercy seat" –  
the cover for the  
Ark of the Covenant.**





1 John 2:2; 4:10 – *Hilasmós*, or “*payment bringing atonement*”

*“[Jesus] is the **atoning sacrifice** for our sins,  
and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world.”*

*“This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us  
and sent his Son as an **atoning sacrifice** for our sins.”*





# 1) What is propitiation?

- Biblical definition – “a covering to satisfy an angry, offended party.”
- Atonement is often substituted in English translations for propitiation.

A close-up photograph of a white lamb with large, curved, brownish-gold horns. The lamb is lying down on a dark blue surface, its head resting on the ground and its eyes closed. The lighting is dramatic, coming from the side, highlighting the texture of its wool and the curve of its horns. The background is dark and out of focus.

PROPITIATION  
THE REMOVAL OF GOD'S WRATH



# 1) What is propitiation?

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  - Atonement is relational – it satisfies the offended person.

A close-up photograph of a white lamb with large, curved, brownish-gold horns. The lamb is lying down, its head resting on a dark blue surface. Its eyes are closed, and its body is covered in thick, white, curly wool. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on the lamb's back and head, and deep shadows on its face and the surface it lies on.

PROPTIATION  
THE REMOVAL OF GOD'S WRATH



# 1) What is propitiation?

- Biblical definition – “a covering to satisfy an angry, offended party.”
- Atonement is often substituted in English translations for propitiation.
  - Atonement is relational – it satisfies the offended person.
  - Propitiation is legal – it satisfies the broken law.

A detailed painting of a white lamb with large, curved, brownish-gold horns, lying down on a dark blue surface. The lamb's head is turned to the left, and its eyes are closed. Its body is covered in thick, white wool. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on the lamb's back and head, and deep shadows on the dark blue background.

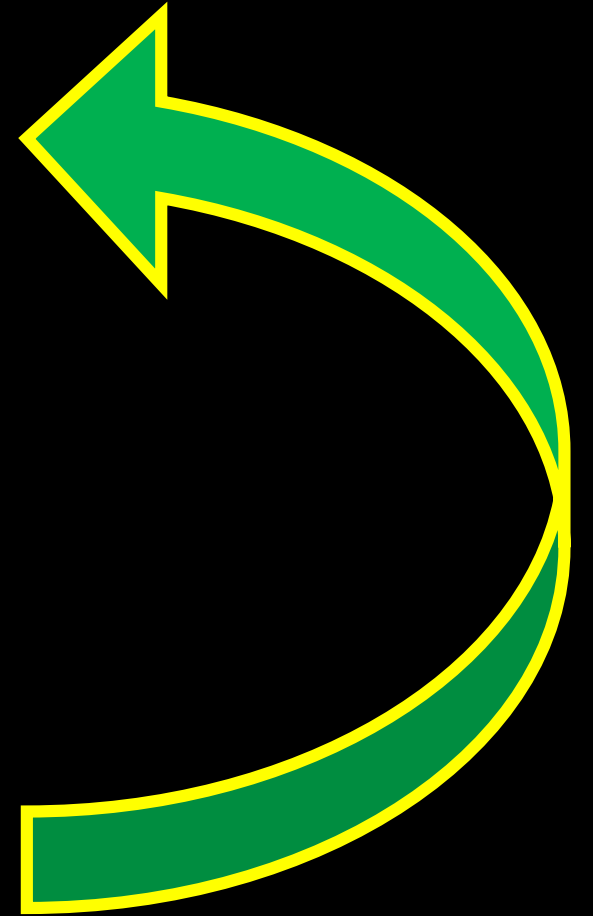
PROPITIATION  
THE REMOVAL OF GOD'S WRATH





*Atonement*  
*Relational*

*Propitiation*  
*Legal*

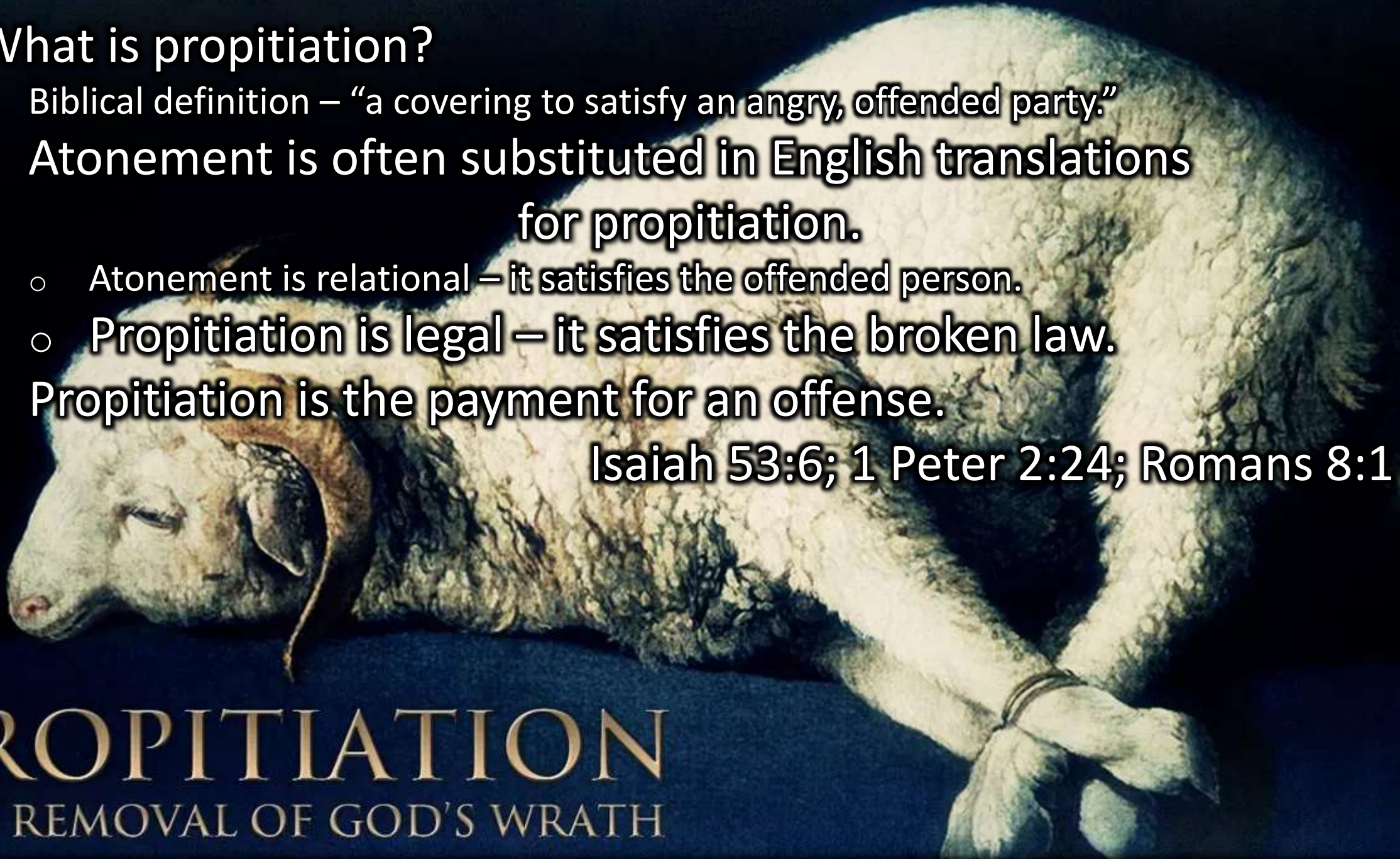


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- Propitiation is the payment for an offense.

Isaiah 53:6; 1 Peter 2:24; Romans 8:1

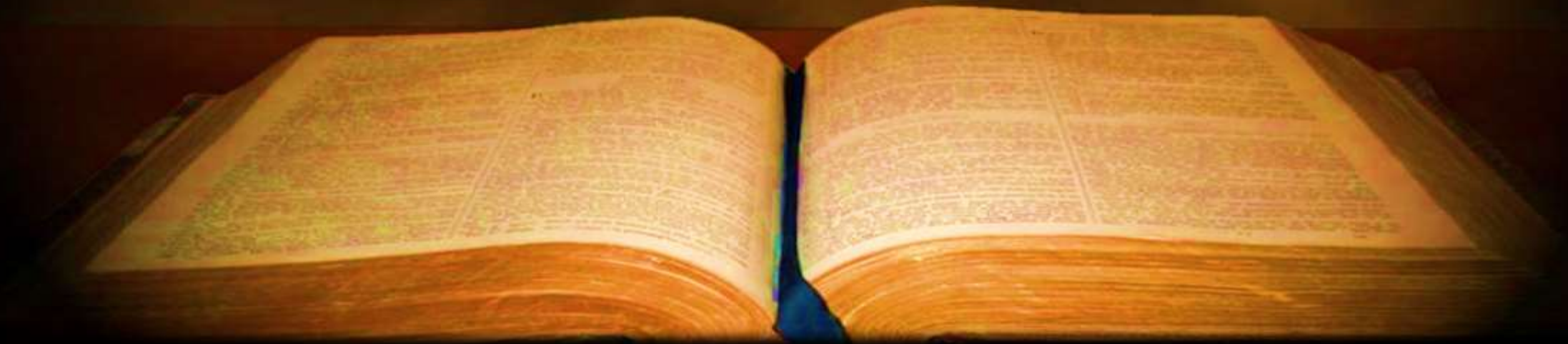
PROPTIATION  
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## Isaiah 53:6

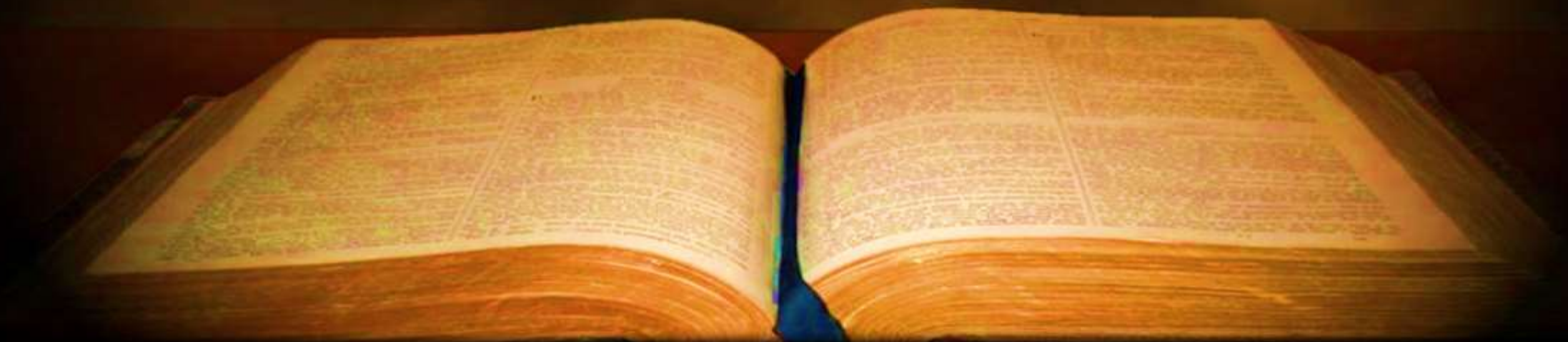
*“We all, like sheep, have gone astray,  
each of us has turned to our own way;  
and **the Lord has laid on [Jesus]** the iniquity of us all.”*



1 Peter 2:24; Romans 8:1

***“[Jesus] himself bore our sins’ in his body on the cross,  
so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; ‘  
by his wounds you have been healed.”***

***“Therefore, there is now no condemnation  
for those who are in Christ Jesus...”***





2) What keeps us from embracing propitiation?



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- Woundedness of past blaming.





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- Woundedness of past blaming.
- Holding on to unforgiveness.

Matthew 6:15



***“But if you do not forgive others their sins,  
your Father will not forgive your sins.”***



*God's forgiveness  
of us*

*Our forgiveness  
of others*



3) What are we saying when we ignore propitiation?



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- “I am pretending” – to be a disciple of Jesus or to run the race.





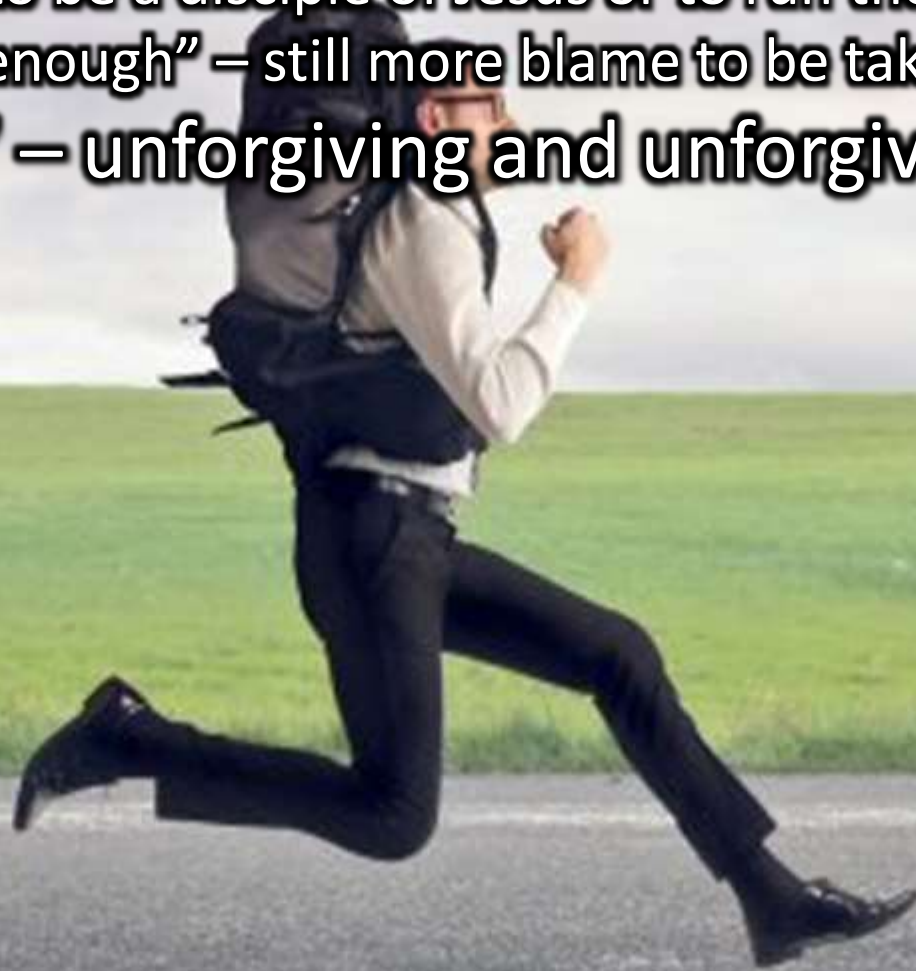
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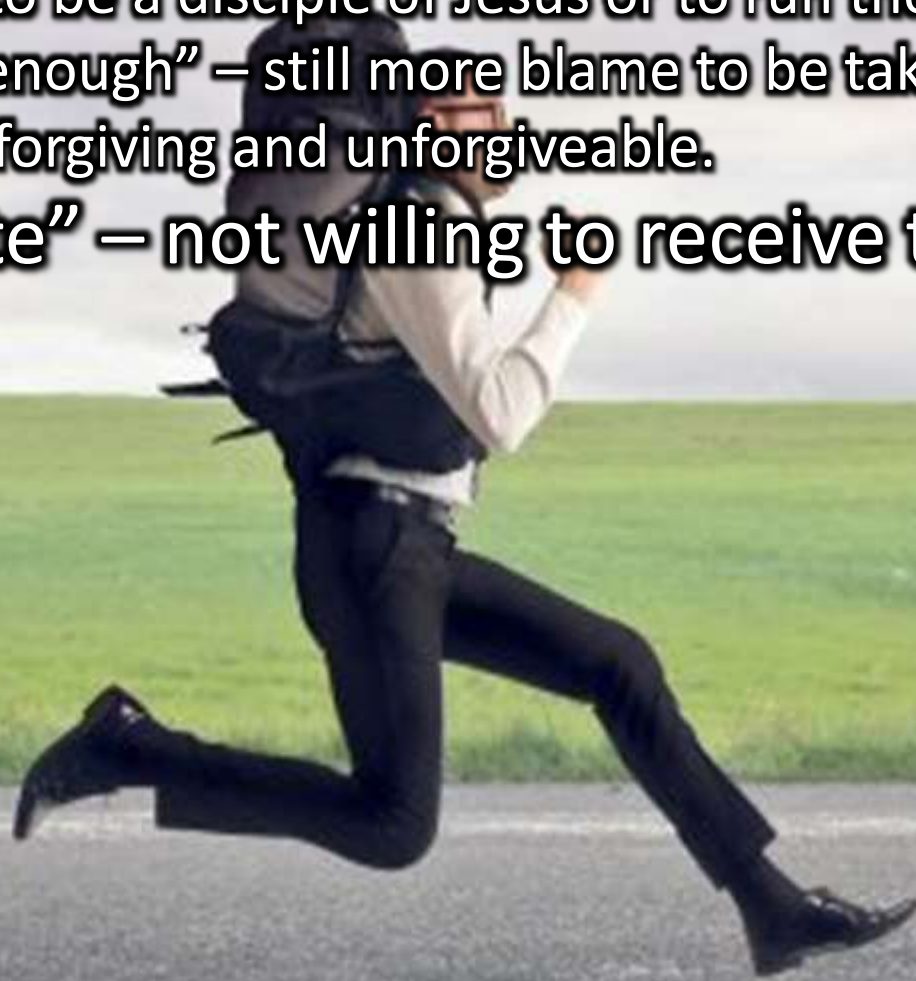
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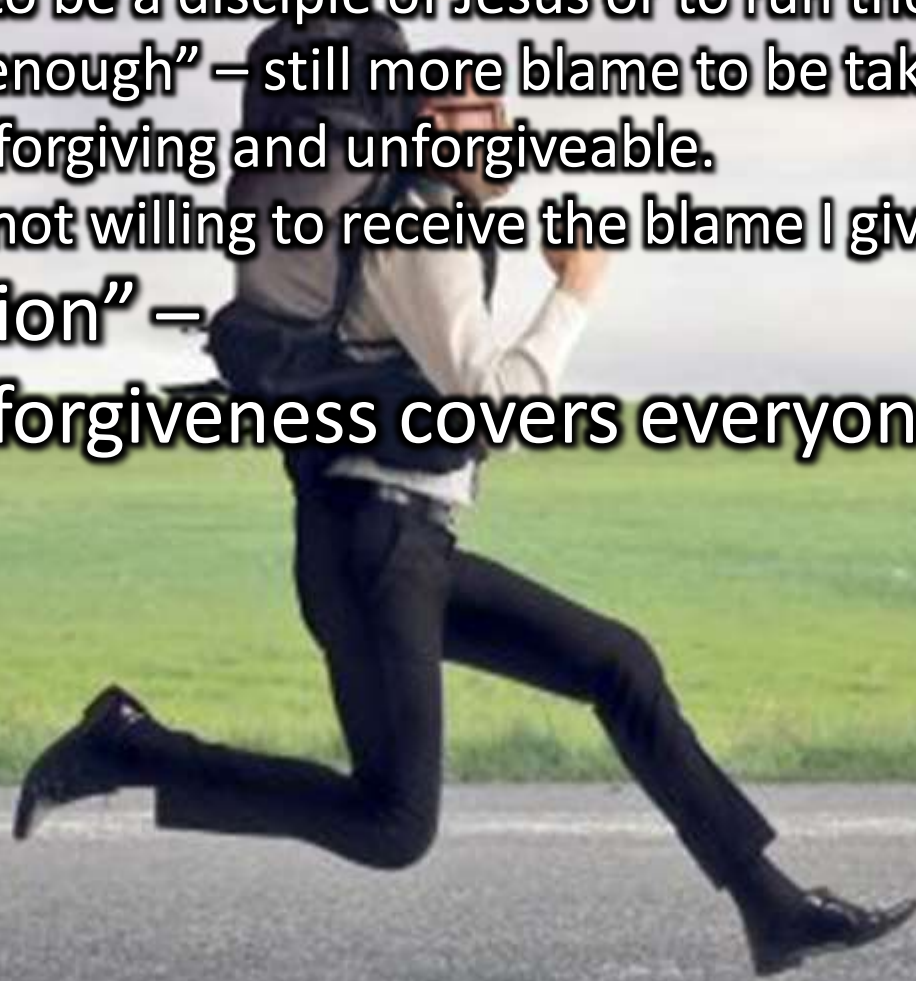
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- “I am an exception” –  
Jesus’ forgiveness covers everyone but me.





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- It takes to the cross each circumstance of blame and accusation.
- It covers all blame – not as in “covers over” or “hides”, but as in “covers the cost”.
- It affirms God’s sovereign purpose in all sin and failures.





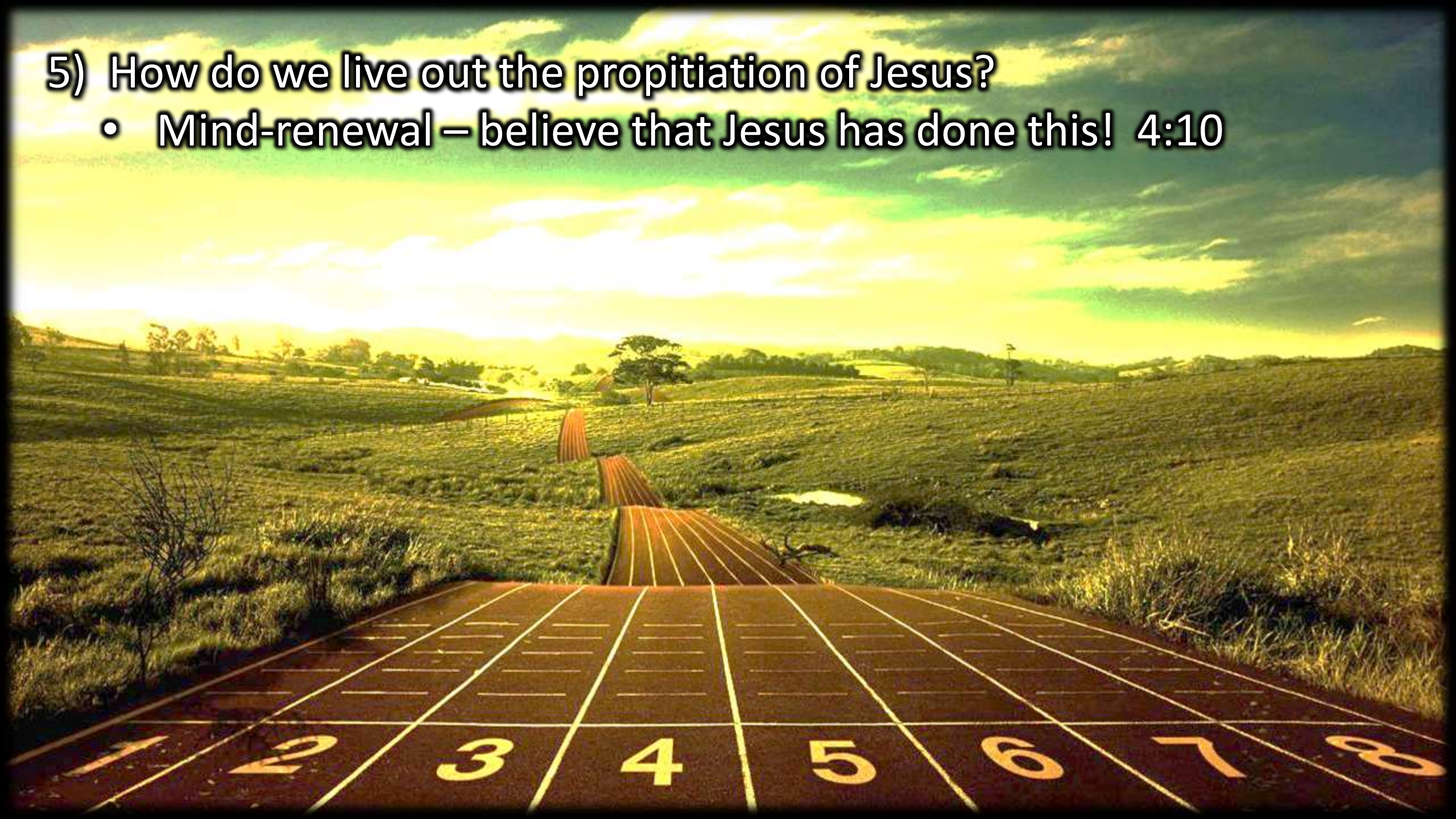
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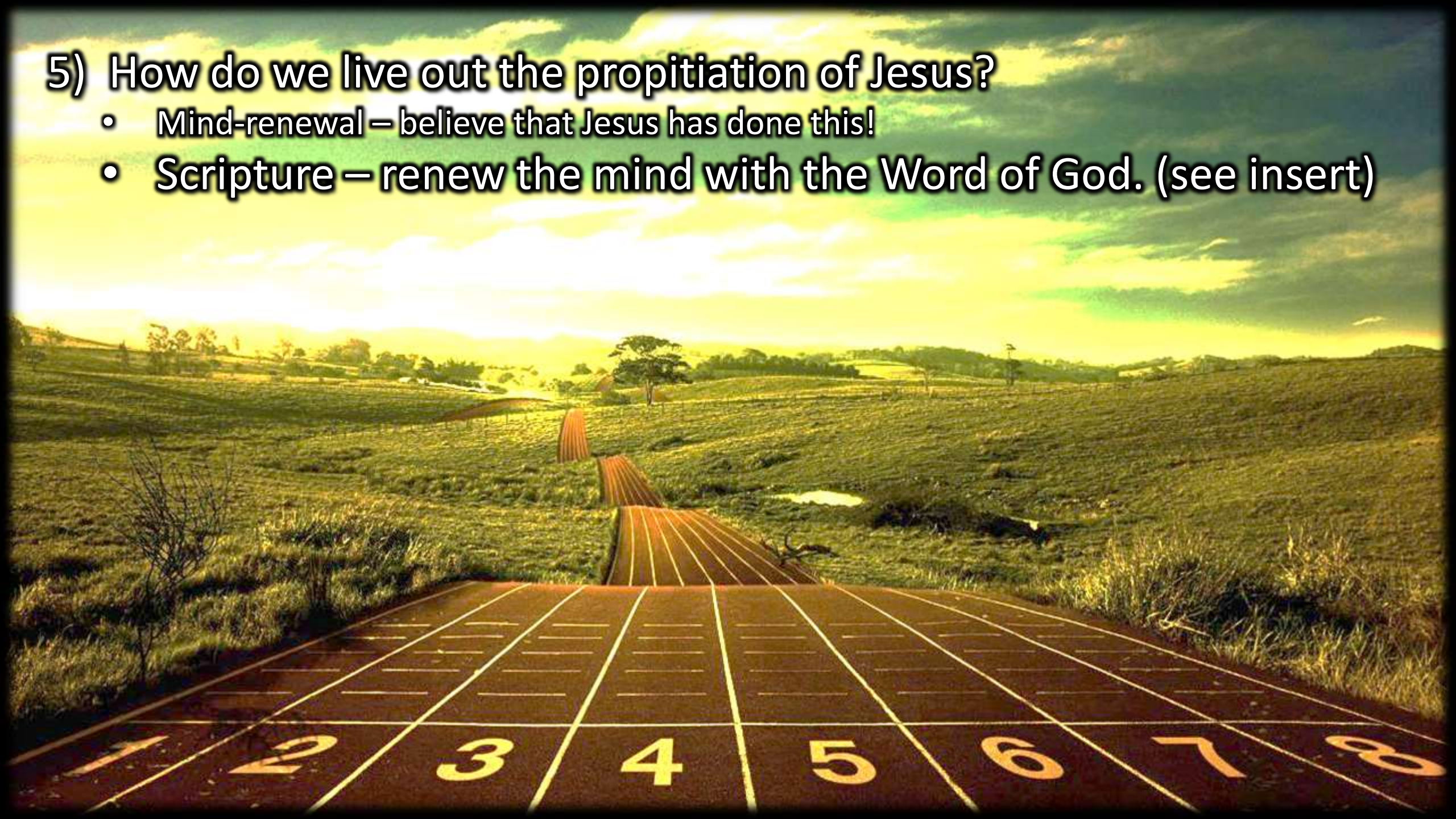
- Mind-renewal – believe that Jesus has done this! 4:10





## 5) How do we live out the propitiation of Jesus?

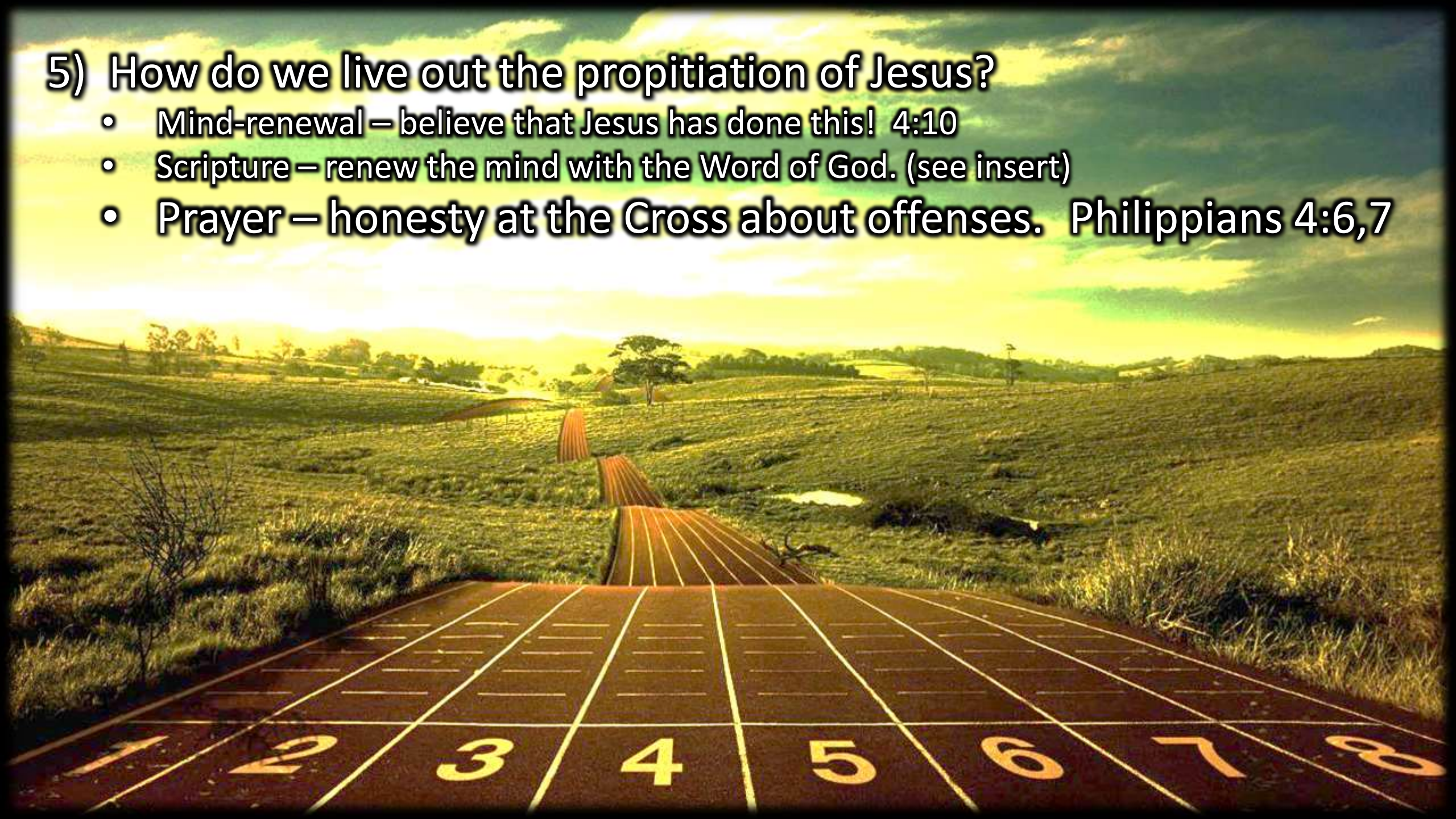
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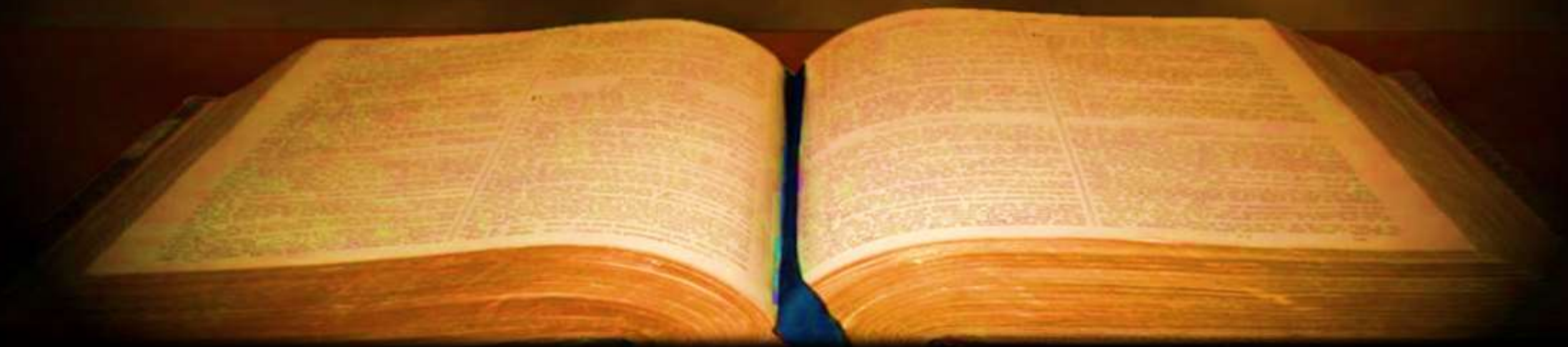
- Mind-renewal – believe that Jesus has done this! 4:10
- Scripture – renew the mind with the Word of God. (see insert)
- Prayer – honesty at the Cross about offenses. Philippians 4:6,7





## Philippians 4:6,7

*“Do not be anxious about anything,  
but in every situation, by prayer and petition,  
with thanksgiving, **present your requests to God.**  
And **the peace of God**, which transcends all understanding,  
**will guard your hearts and your minds** in Christ Jesus.”*





## 5) How do we live out the propitiation of Jesus?

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- Proactive forgiveness – look for opportunities to practice forgiveness.

Ephesians 4:32

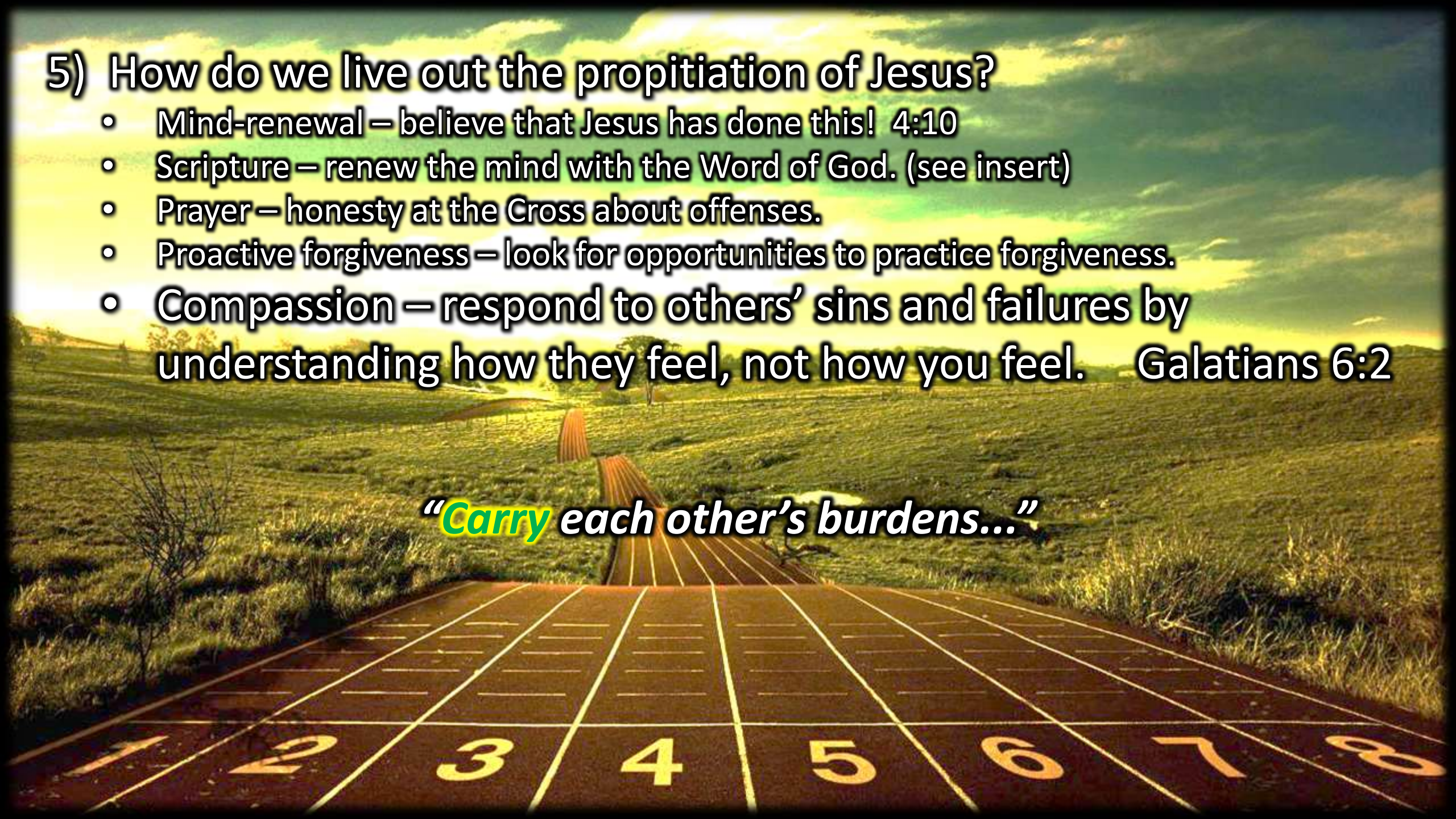
***“Be kind and compassionate to one another,  
forgiving each other,  
just as in Christ God forgave you.”***



## 5) How do we live out the propitiation of Jesus?

- Mind-renewal – believe that Jesus has done this! 4:10
- Scripture – renew the mind with the Word of God. (see insert)
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- Compassion – respond to others' sins and failures by understanding how they feel, not how you feel. Galatians 6:2

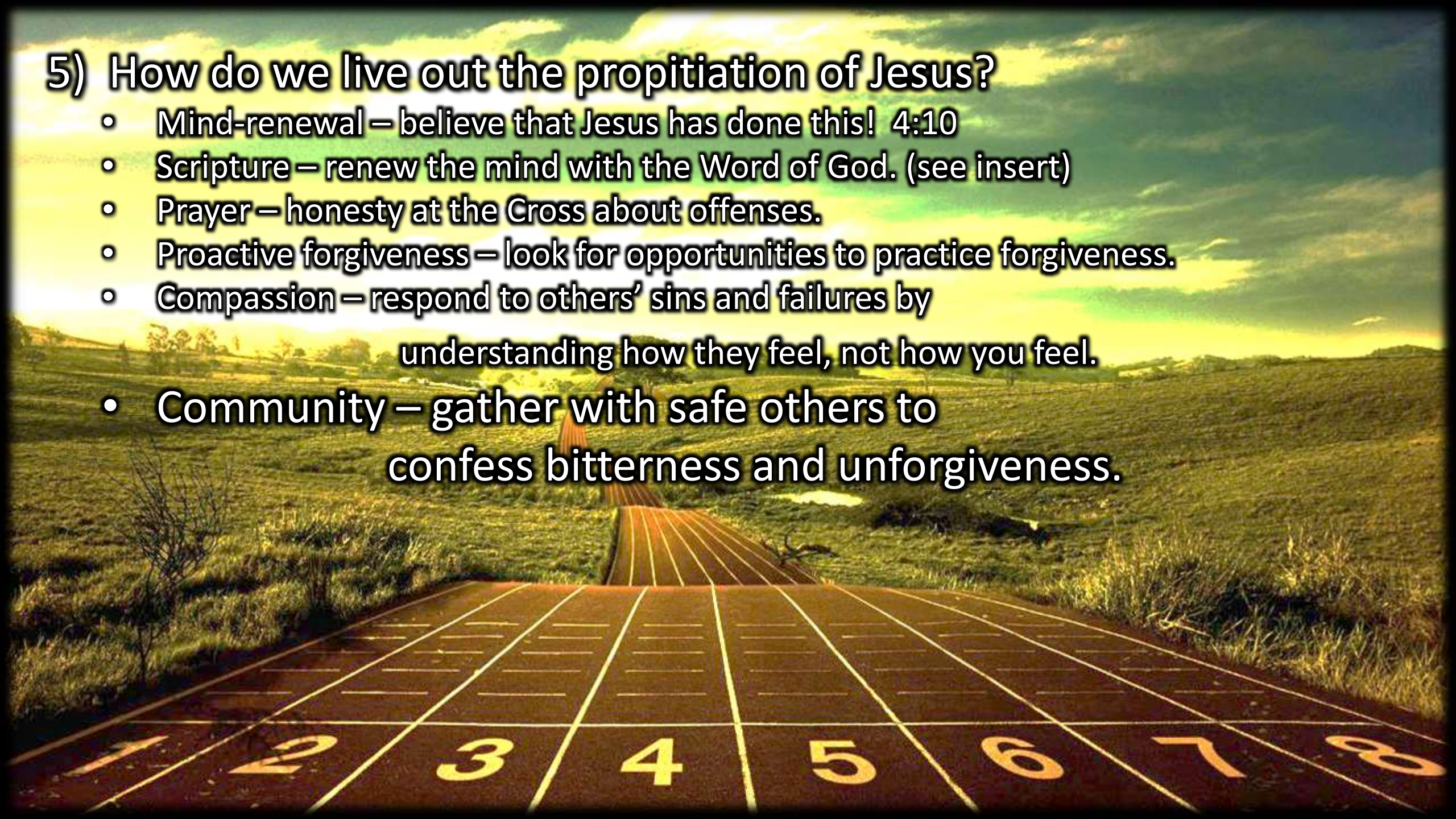
***“Carry each other’s burdens...”***





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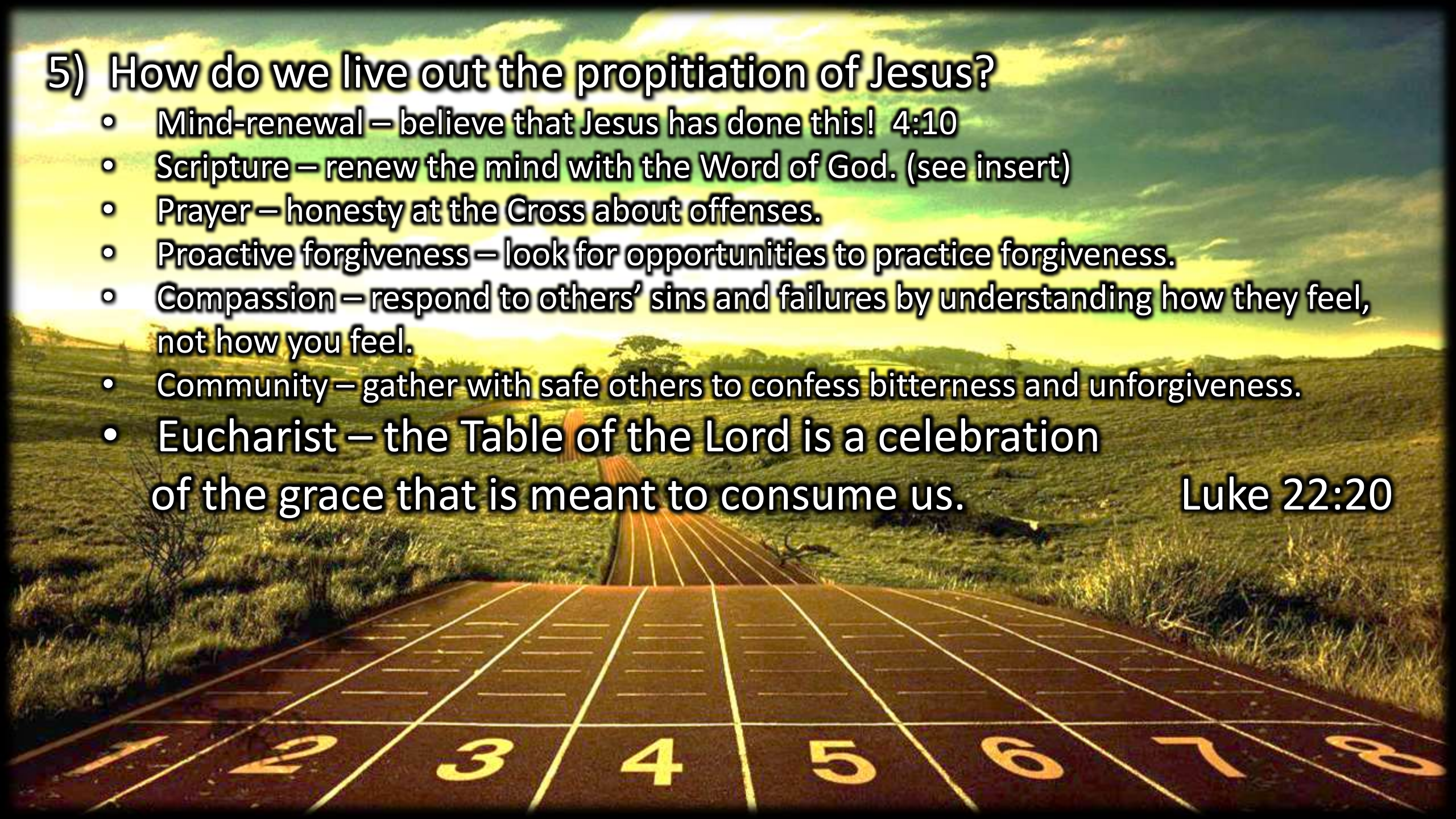




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- Eucharist – the Table of the Lord is a celebration of the grace that is meant to consume us.

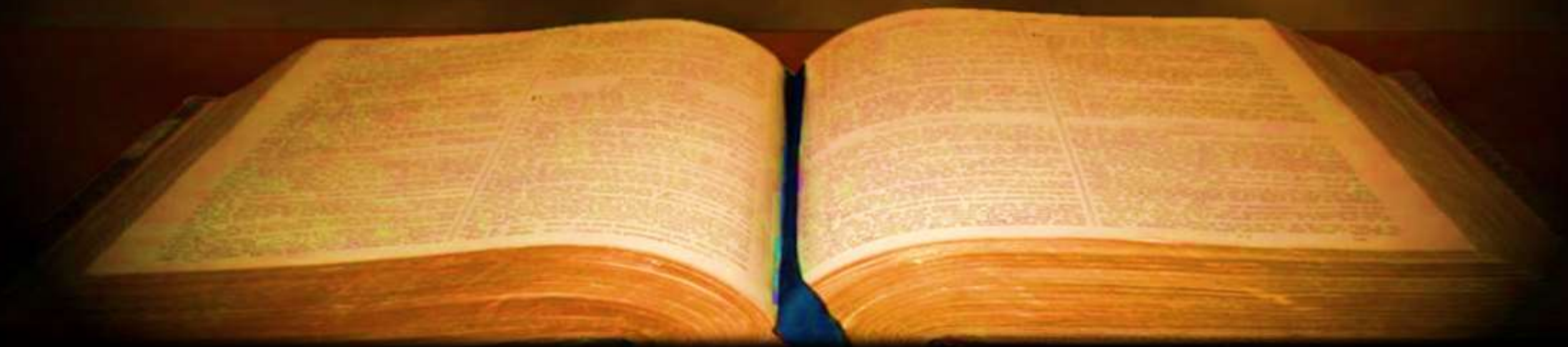
Luke 22:20





## Luke 22:20 (NLT)

*“This cup is the new covenant between God and his people—  
an agreement confirmed with my blood,  
which is **poured out as a sacrifice for you.**”*





*Come to the  
Table of the Lord...*

