



UNDERSTANDING THE **END** FROM THE BEGINNING

ISAIAH 46:10

A Closer LOOK at THE WORD of GOD

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This is what the story of the prodigal son is all about...

Luke 15:24

²⁴For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' So they began to celebrate.

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The prodigal son is Ephraim. Considered dead.

It wasn't until the perfect Son, Yeshua, came and died as the Son of God to annul the covenant to establish the new. Or as some like to refer to it as the renewed covenant.

So He died in our place, since He came AS the Son of God.... Israel.

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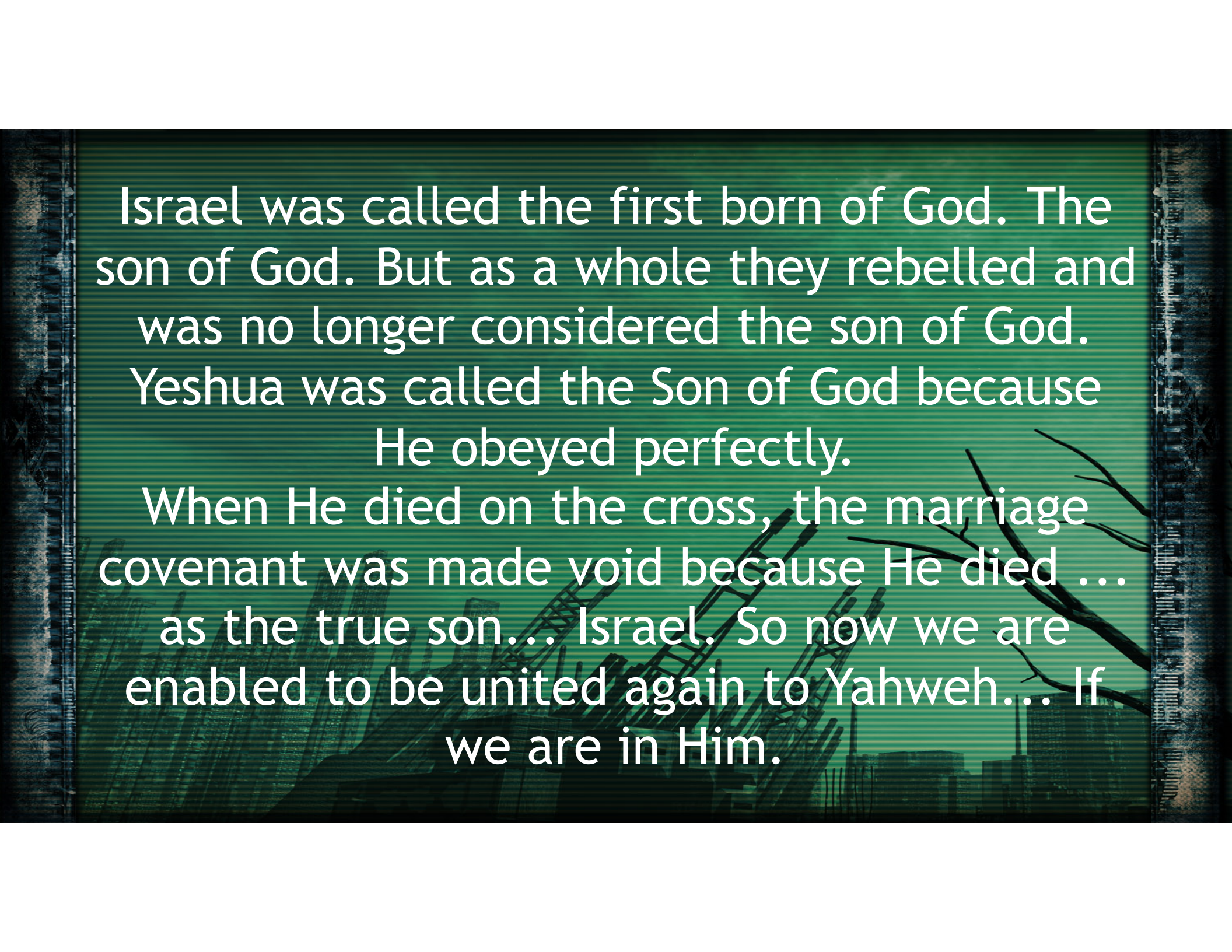
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Remember, Israel was considered the first born of God...

Exodus 4:22-23

²² Then say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what (Yahweh) the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, ²³ and I told you, “Let my son go, so he may worship me.” But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.”

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Israel was called the first born of God. The son of God. But as a whole they rebelled and was no longer considered the son of God. Yeshua was called the Son of God because He obeyed perfectly.

When He died on the cross, the marriage covenant was made void because He died ... as the true son... Israel. So now we are enabled to be united again to Yahweh... If we are in Him.

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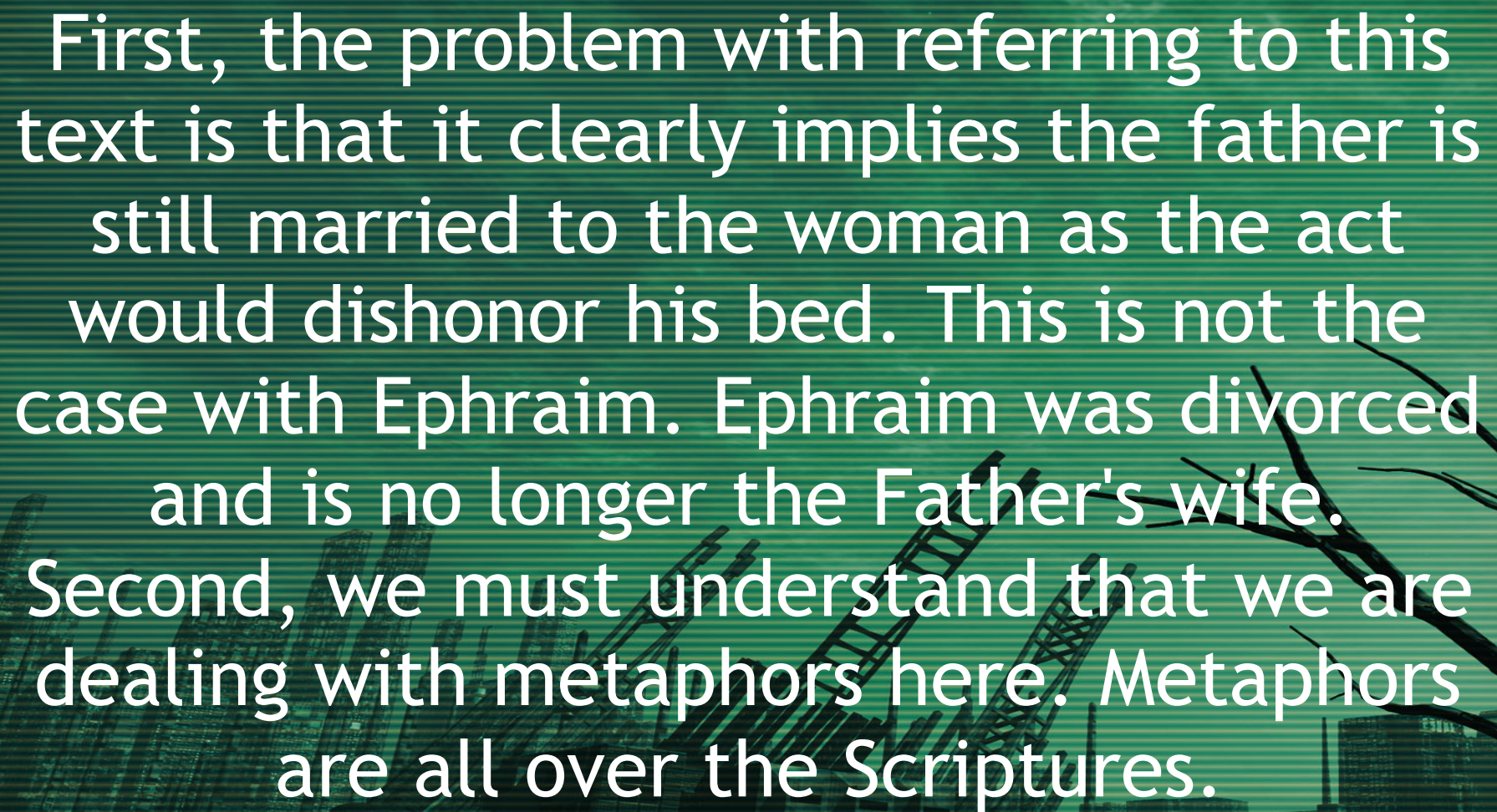
Some have said... “How can Yeshua be the Bride groom then? Isn’t there a law saying that a man is not to marry his father’s wife?”

The verse that is often referred to here is...

Deuteronomy 22:30

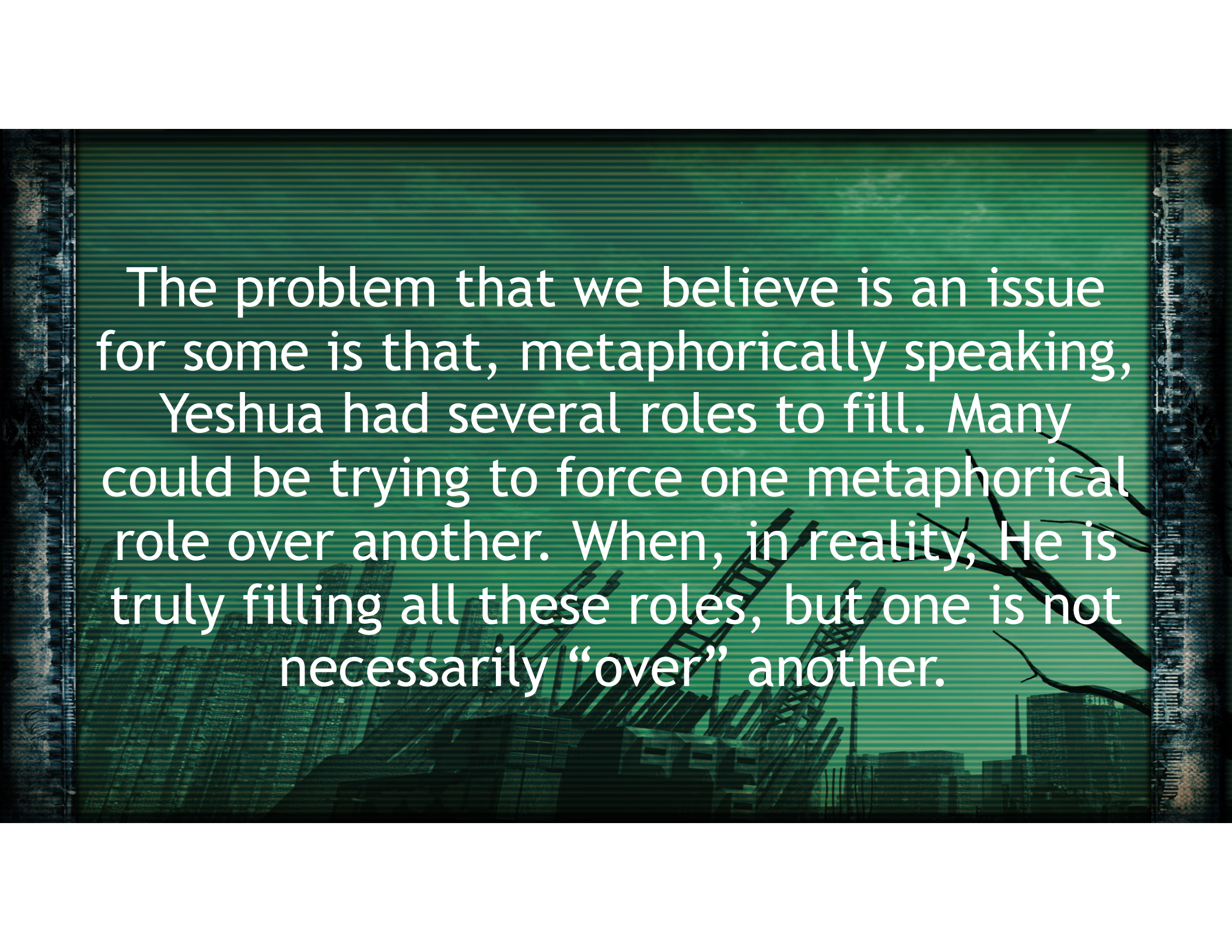
³⁰ A man is not to marry his father’s wife; he must not dishonor his father’s bed.

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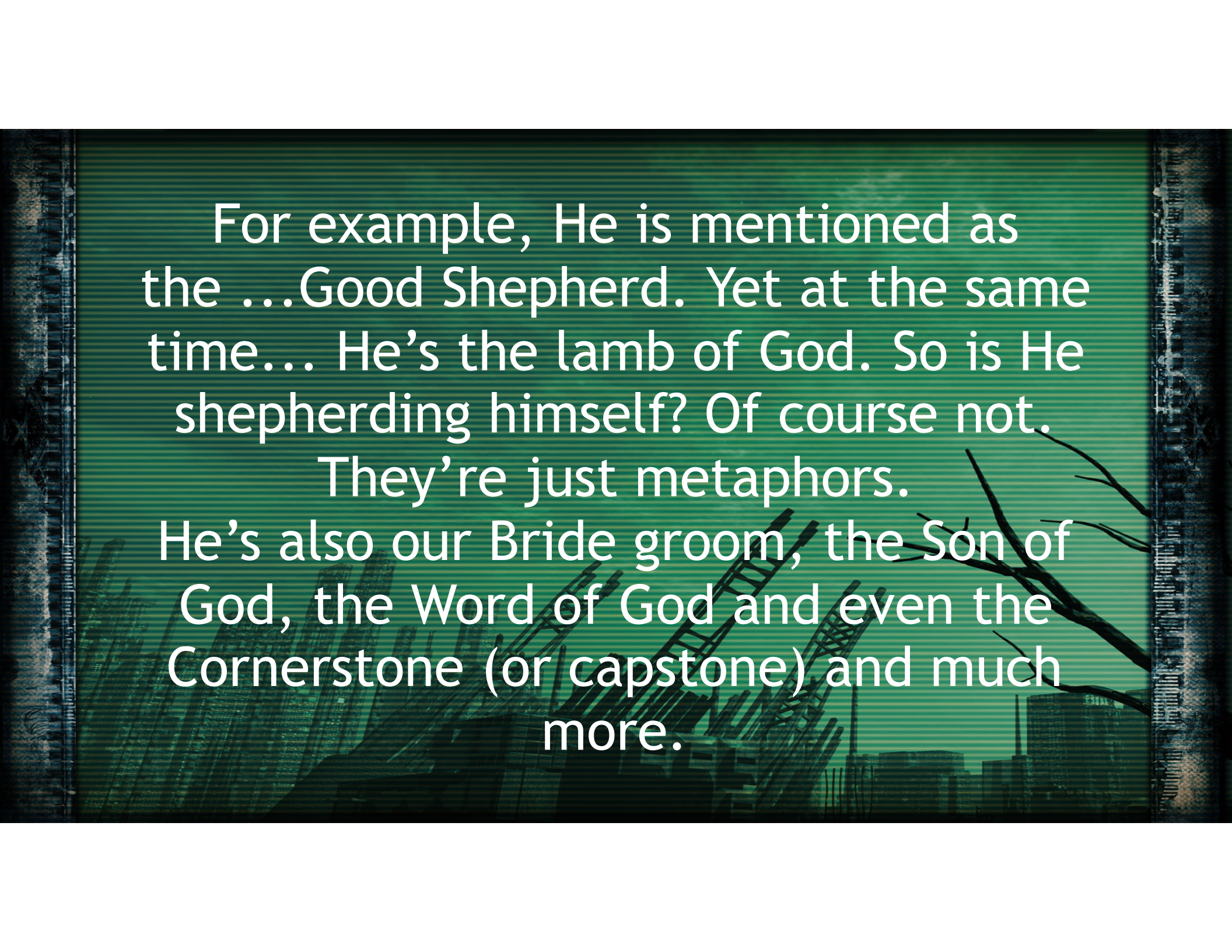


First, the problem with referring to this text is that it clearly implies the father is still married to the woman as the act would dishonor his bed. This is not the case with Ephraim. Ephraim was divorced and is no longer the Father's wife.

Second, we must understand that we are dealing with metaphors here. Metaphors are all over the Scriptures.

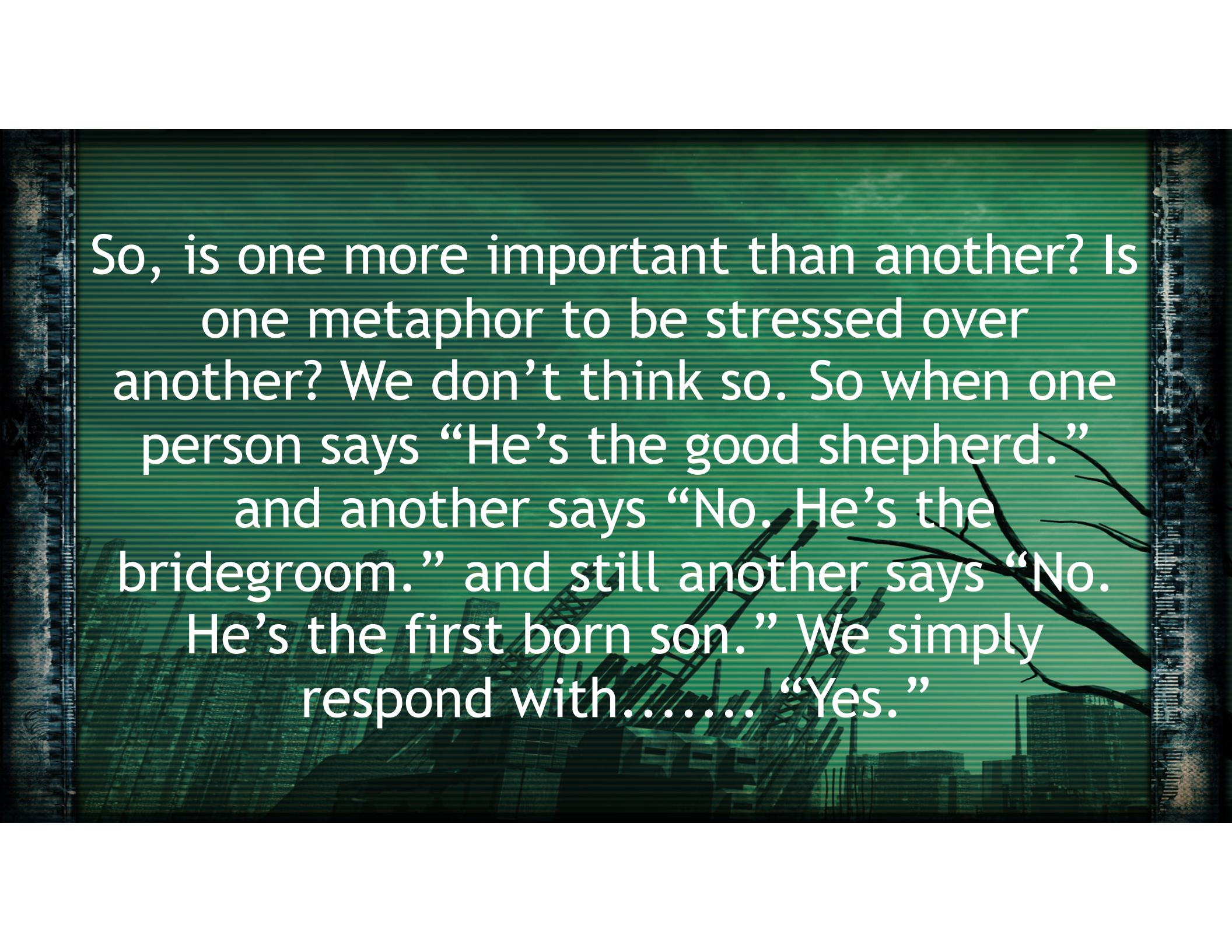


The problem that we believe is an issue for some is that, metaphorically speaking, Yeshua had several roles to fill. Many could be trying to force one metaphorical role over another. When, in reality, He is truly filling all these roles, but one is not necessarily “over” another.




For example, He is mentioned as the ...Good Shepherd. Yet at the same time... He's the lamb of God. So is He shepherding himself? Of course not.

They're just metaphors.
He's also our Bride groom, the Son of God, the Word of God and even the Cornerstone (or capstone) and much more.



So, is one more important than another? Is one metaphor to be stressed over another? We don't think so. So when one person says "He's the good shepherd." and another says "No. He's the bridegroom." and still another says "No. He's the first born son." We simply respond with..... "Yes."



Even though Israel is the son of God, Yahweh sometimes refers to Israel with a feminine article added. Other times it is very definitive that He is referring to Israel as a female.

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Jeremiah 3:8

⁸I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her unfaithful *sister* Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery.

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The word in Hebrew for sister is very clear that she would be considered a sister, thus, a feminine gender.

Amos 5:2

₂Fallen is *Virgin* Israel, never to rise again, deserted in her own land, with no one to lift her up.

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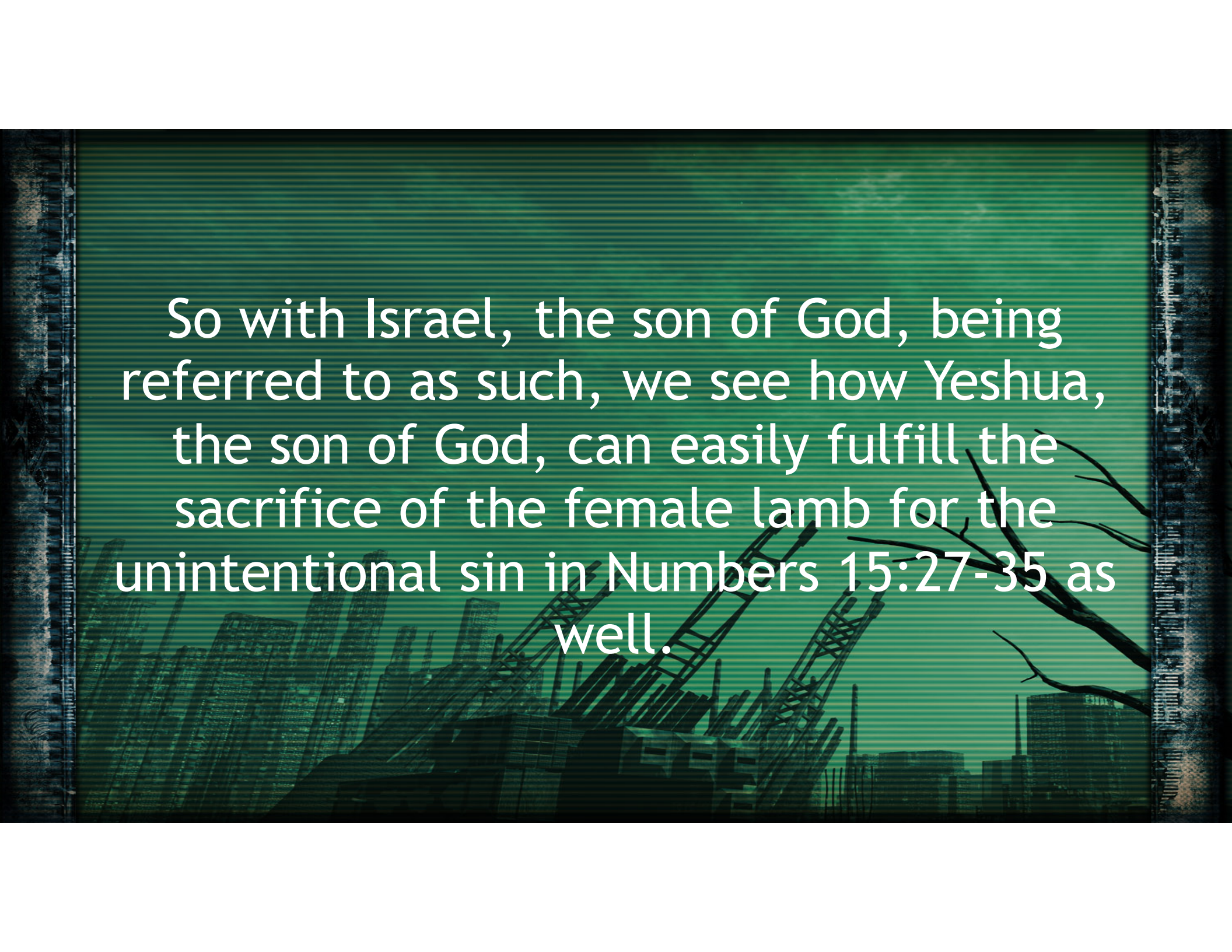
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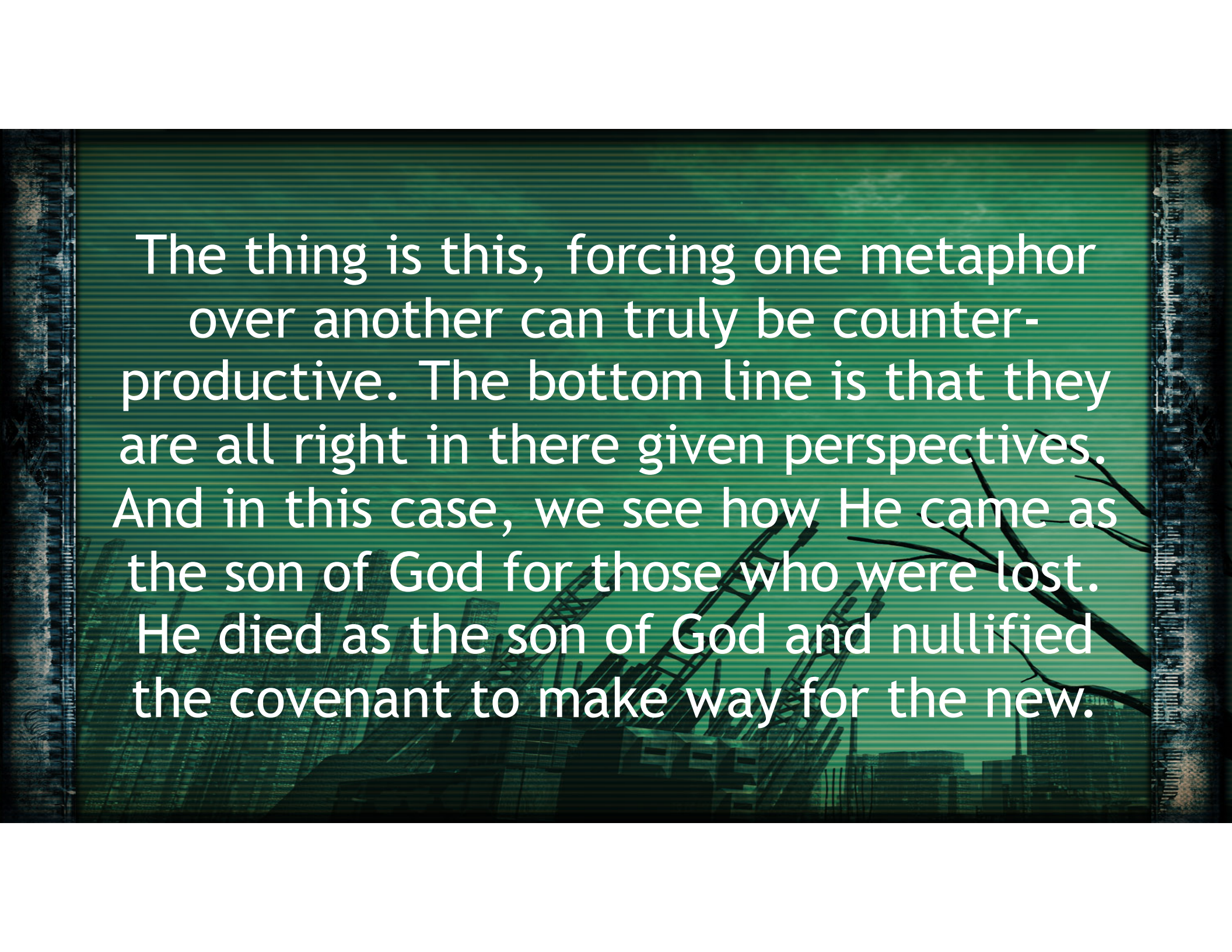
Jeremiah 3:20

²⁰ But like a *woman* unfaithful to her husband, so you have been unfaithful to me, O house of Israel,” declares (Yahweh) the LORD.

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So with Israel, the son of God, being referred to as such, we see how Yeshua, the son of God, can easily fulfill the sacrifice of the female lamb for the unintentional sin in Numbers 15:27-35 as well.



The thing is this, forcing one metaphor over another can truly be counter-productive. The bottom line is that they are all right in there given perspectives. And in this case, we see how He came as the son of God for those who were lost. He died as the son of God and nullified the covenant to make way for the new.

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Let us recall the words of Christ when He said

Matthew 15:24

²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep
of Israel.”

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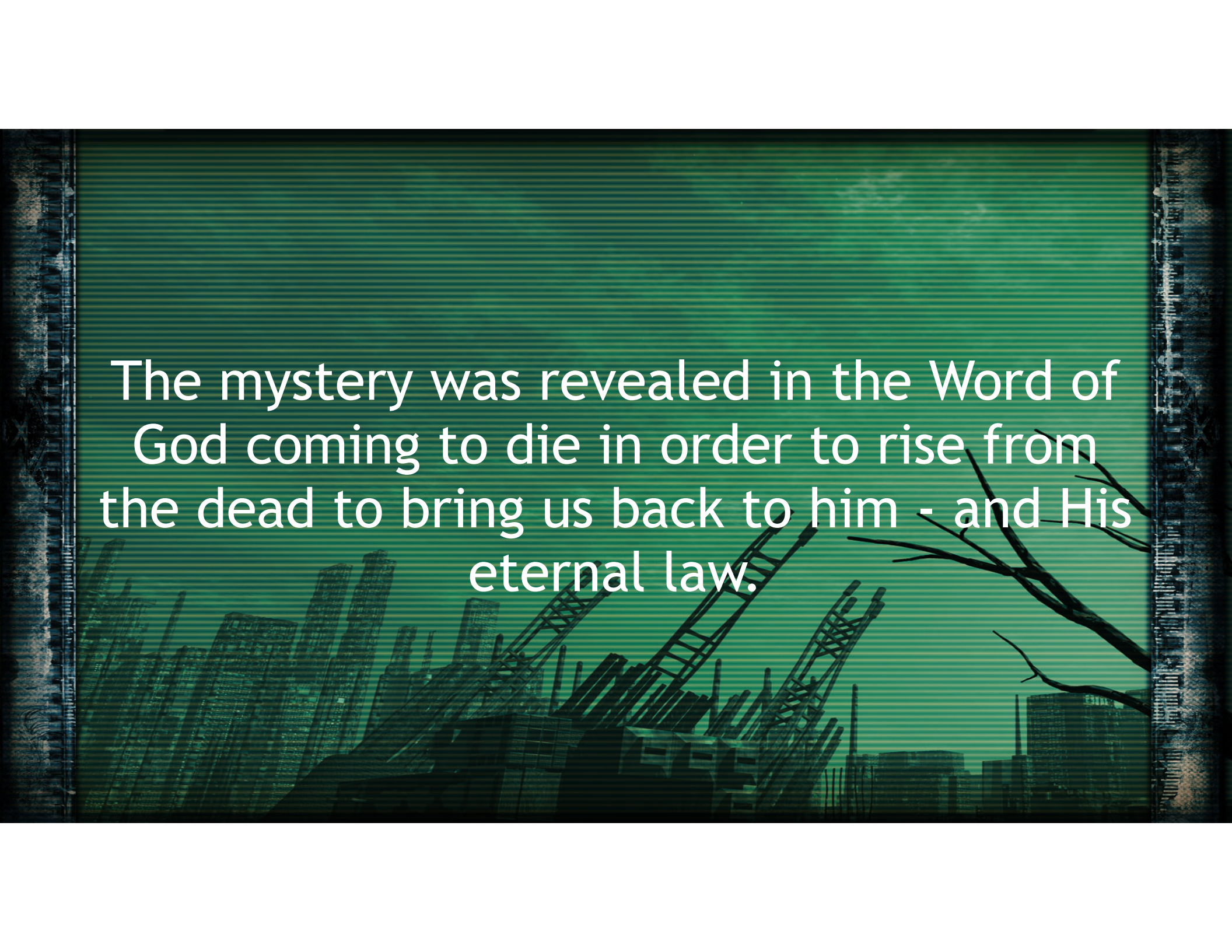
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Redeeming the divorced northern kingdom was the mystery that the prophets could not understand.

Matthew 13:17

¹⁷For I tell you the truth, many prophets and righteous men longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.

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The mystery was revealed in the Word of
God coming to die in order to rise from
the dead to bring us back to him - and His
eternal law.

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Romans 16:25-27

²⁵Now to him who is able to establish you by my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the *mystery* hidden for long ages past,²⁶ but now revealed and made known through the prophetic writings by the command of the eternal God, so that all nations might believe and obey him .

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to the only wise God be glory forever through
Jesus Christ! Amen.

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Ephesians 3:1-9

1 For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles 2 Surely you have heard about the administration of God's grace that was given to me for you, 3 that is, the *mystery* made known to me by revelation, as I have already written briefly. 4 In reading this, then, you will be able to understand my insight into the mystery of Christ,

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⁵ which was not made known to men in other generations as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to God's holy apostles and prophets. ⁶ This *mystery* is that through the gospel the Gentiles are heirs together with Israel, members together of one body, and sharers together in the promise in Christ Jesus.

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7 I became a servant of this gospel by the gift of God's grace given me through the working of his power. 8 Although I am less than the least of all God's people, this grace was given me: to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, 9 and to make plain to everyone the administration of this *mystery*, which for ages past was kept hidden in God, who created all things.

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Ephesians 6:19

¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, words may be given me so that I will fearlessly make known the *mystery* of the gospel,

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Colossians 1:25-27

²⁵ I have become its servant by the commission God gave me to present to you the word of God in its fullness ²⁶ the *mystery* that has been kept hidden for ages and generations, but is now disclosed to the saints. ²⁷ To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

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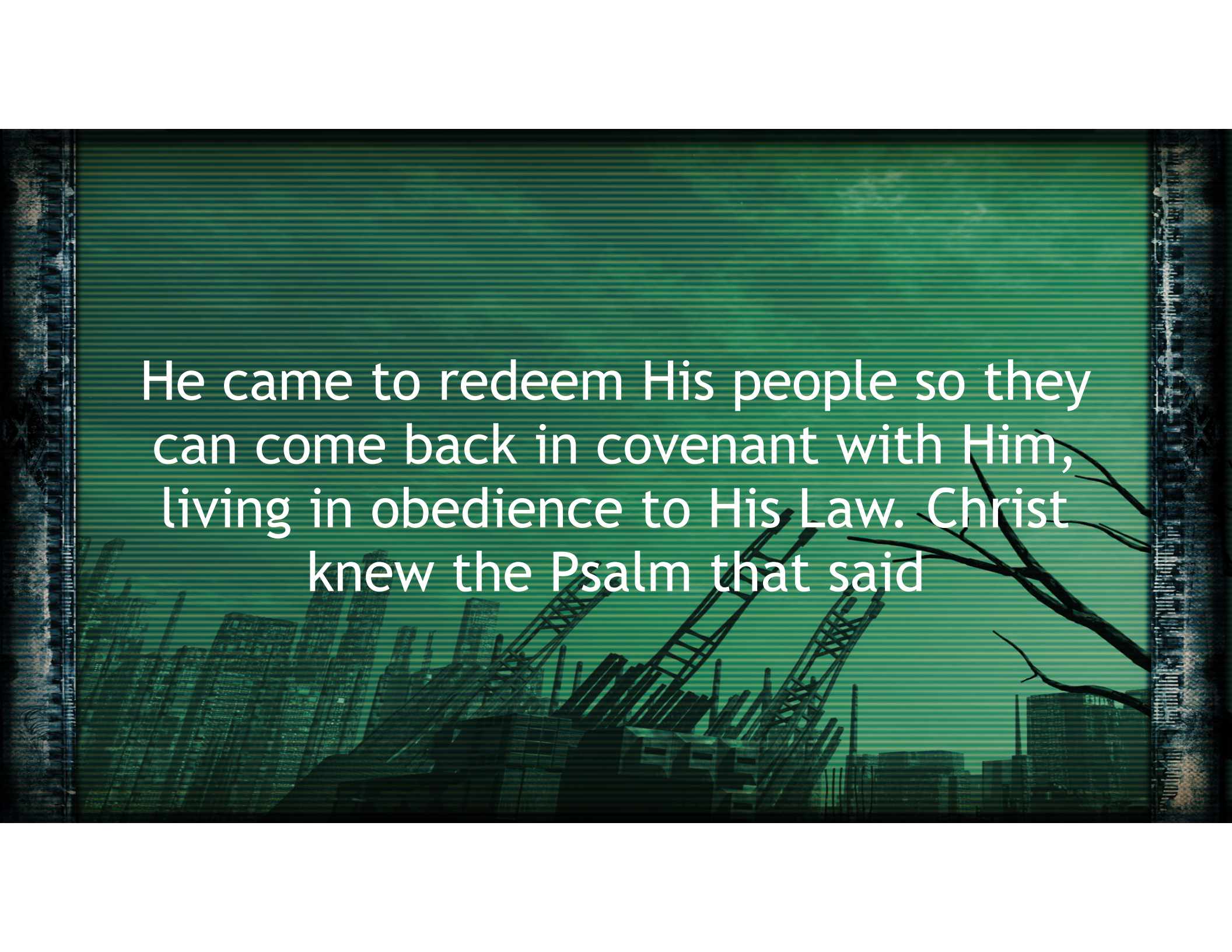
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Christ came to bring His people back into the relationship that was established in His covenant.

Matthew 5:17

¹⁷Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them.

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He came to redeem His people so they
can come back in covenant with Him,
living in obedience to His Law. Christ
knew the Psalm that said

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Psalms 103:17-18

¹⁷ But from everlasting to everlasting the LORD's
love is with those who fear him, and his
righteousness with their children's children ¹⁸ with
those who keep his covenant and remember to obey
his precepts.

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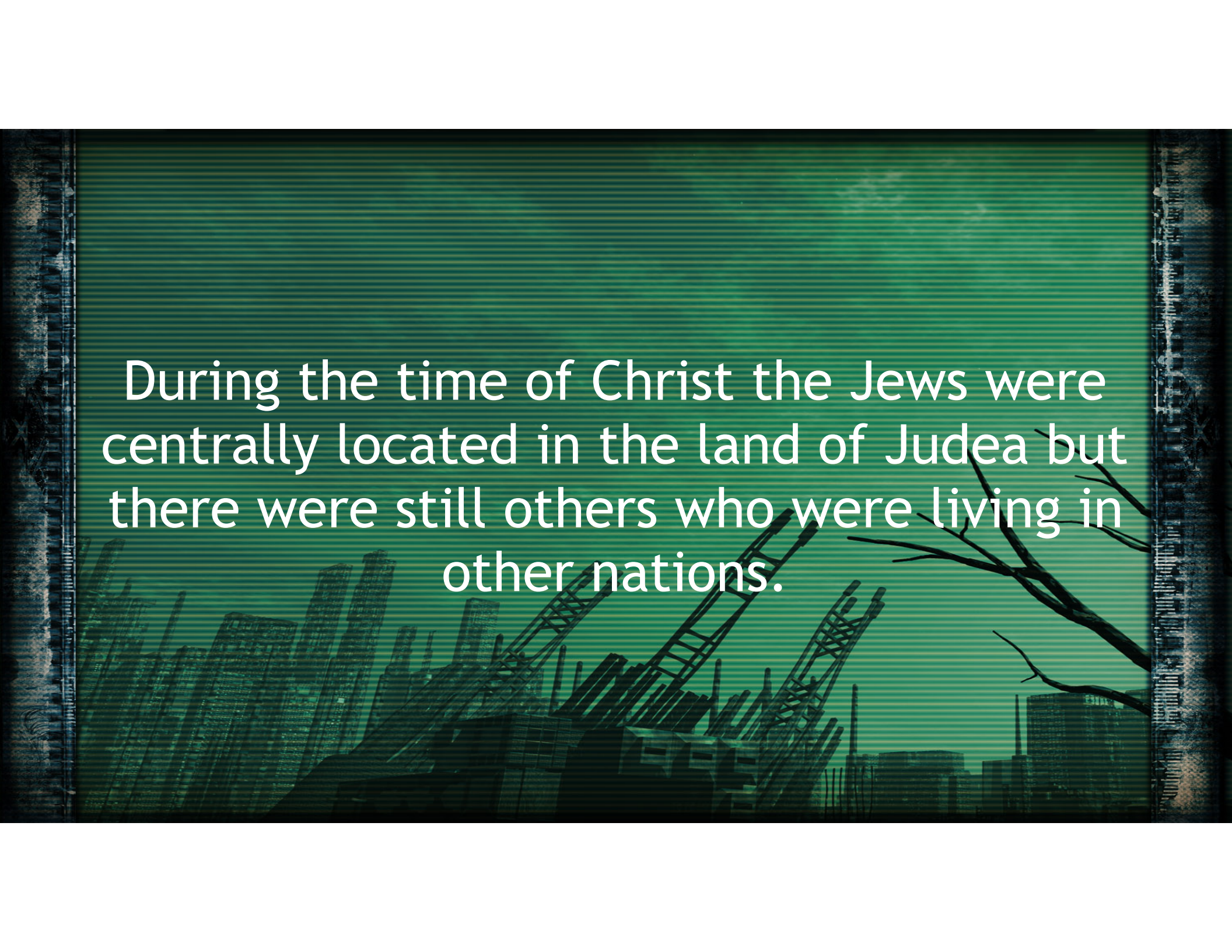
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Isaiah 24:5

⁵ The earth is defiled by its people; they have disobeyed the laws, violated the statutes and broken the everlasting covenant.

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During the time of Christ the Jews were centrally located in the land of Judea but there were still others who were living in other nations.

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John 7:35

³⁵ The Jews said to one another, “Where does this man intend to go that we cannot find him? Will he go where our people live scattered among the Greeks, and teach the Greeks?”

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These are those who would make their pilgrimage
for the feast days as we see here in **Acts**.

Acts 2:5

^sNow there were staying in Jerusalem God-
fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.

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These are the ones to whom Peter said in the same chapter...

Acts 2:39

³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off for all whom the Lord our God will call.

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Who were those who were far off that Peter was referring to?

Ezekiel 11:15

¹⁵ Son of man, your brothers - your brothers who are your blood relatives and the whole house of Israel are those of whom the people of Jerusalem have said, 'They are far away from (Yahweh) the LORD; this land was given to us as our possession.'

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