

A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and white head coverings walking away from the camera on a dirt path. They are positioned in front of a large, rustic stone wall made of irregular, light-colored stones. The man on the left is wearing a dark green robe and has a light-colored satchel slung over his shoulder. The man on the right is wearing a dark purple or brown robe. The background shows some greenery, including a tree trunk on the left and some bushes on the right. The overall scene is set in a rural, possibly Mediterranean or Middle Eastern, environment.

An Orderly Account
Luke 1:1-25

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Melbourne Community Church
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What will we learn?

- ❖ The Bible is rooted in history and geography.
- ❖ Israel's promised Messiah is the Savior of the world.
- ❖ The Lord reverses the fortunes of his people.
- ❖ God answers prayers, often in unexpected ways.

New Testament:

- ❖ Four biographies of Jesus, one each by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John
- ❖ One history of the early church - Acts
- ❖ Twenty one letters (mostly Paul's)
- ❖ One apocalypse - Revelation

The background of the slide is a photograph of two individuals in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low, rustic stone wall on the left. The overall scene is outdoors, with some greenery and trees visible in the background.

NT's top contributors:

- ❖ Luke
- ❖ Paul
- ❖ John

- ❖ Matthew
- ❖ Mark

The background of the slide is a photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller, more substantial wall on the right. The scene is set outdoors with some greenery and trees visible in the background.

Four gospels:

- ❖ Matthew
- ❖ Mark
- ❖ Luke
- ❖ John

Luke's differences:

- ❖ Longest Gospel
- ❖ Only Gospel with a sequel
- ❖ Detailed birth narrative
- ❖ Valuable sources: probably Mary, probably Mark and someone in the Herodian court

Luke

- ❖ From Syrian Antioch
- ❖ Probably Gentile
- ❖ Never met Jesus
- ❖ Doctor
- ❖ Traveled with Paul



Colossians 4:14

Our dear friend Luke, the doctor,
and Demas send greetings.





Galatians 4:13-14

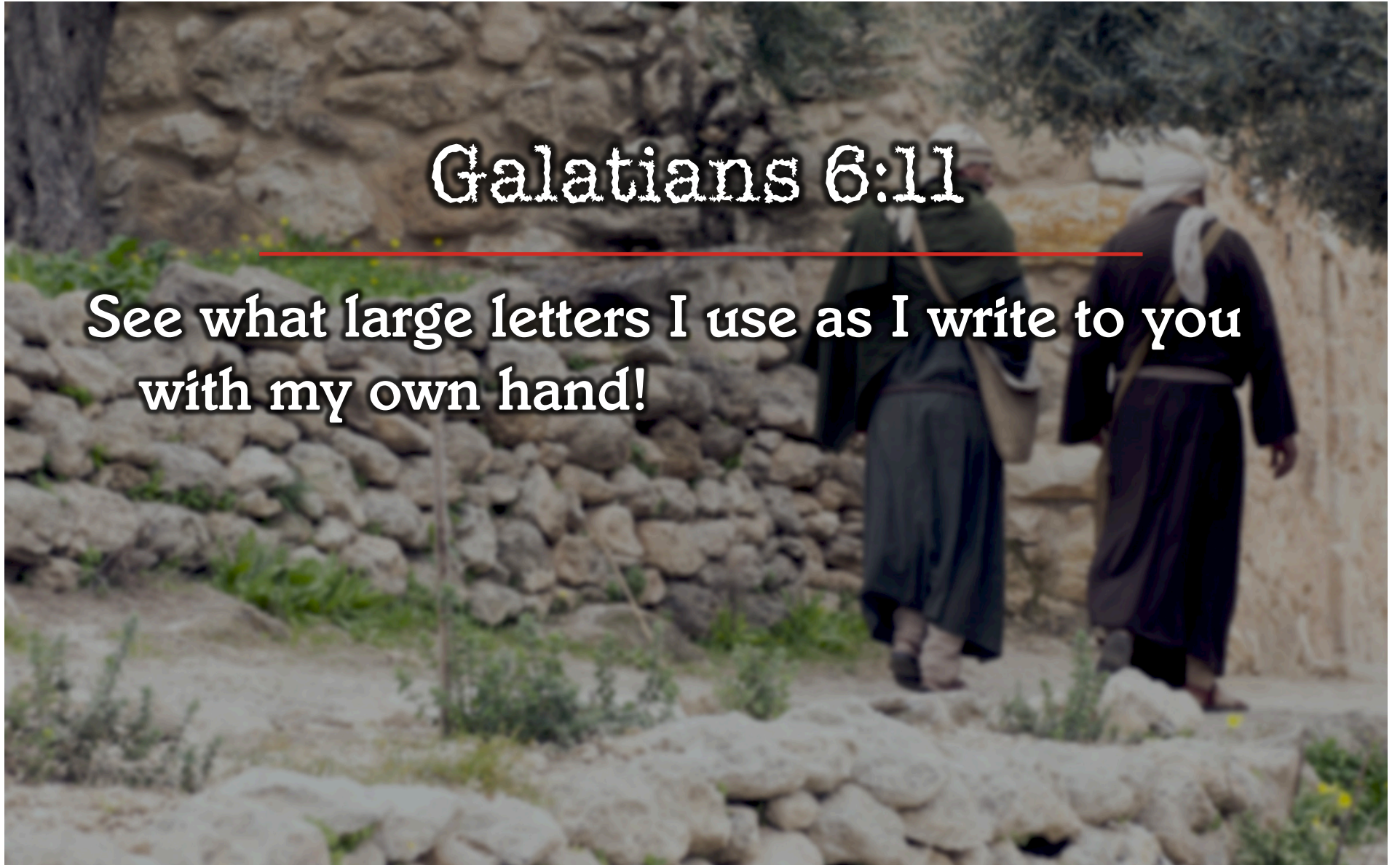
As you know, it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you, and even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself.

Galatians 4:15

Where, then, is your blessing of me now?
I can testify that, if you could have done so,
you would have torn out your eyes
and given them to me.

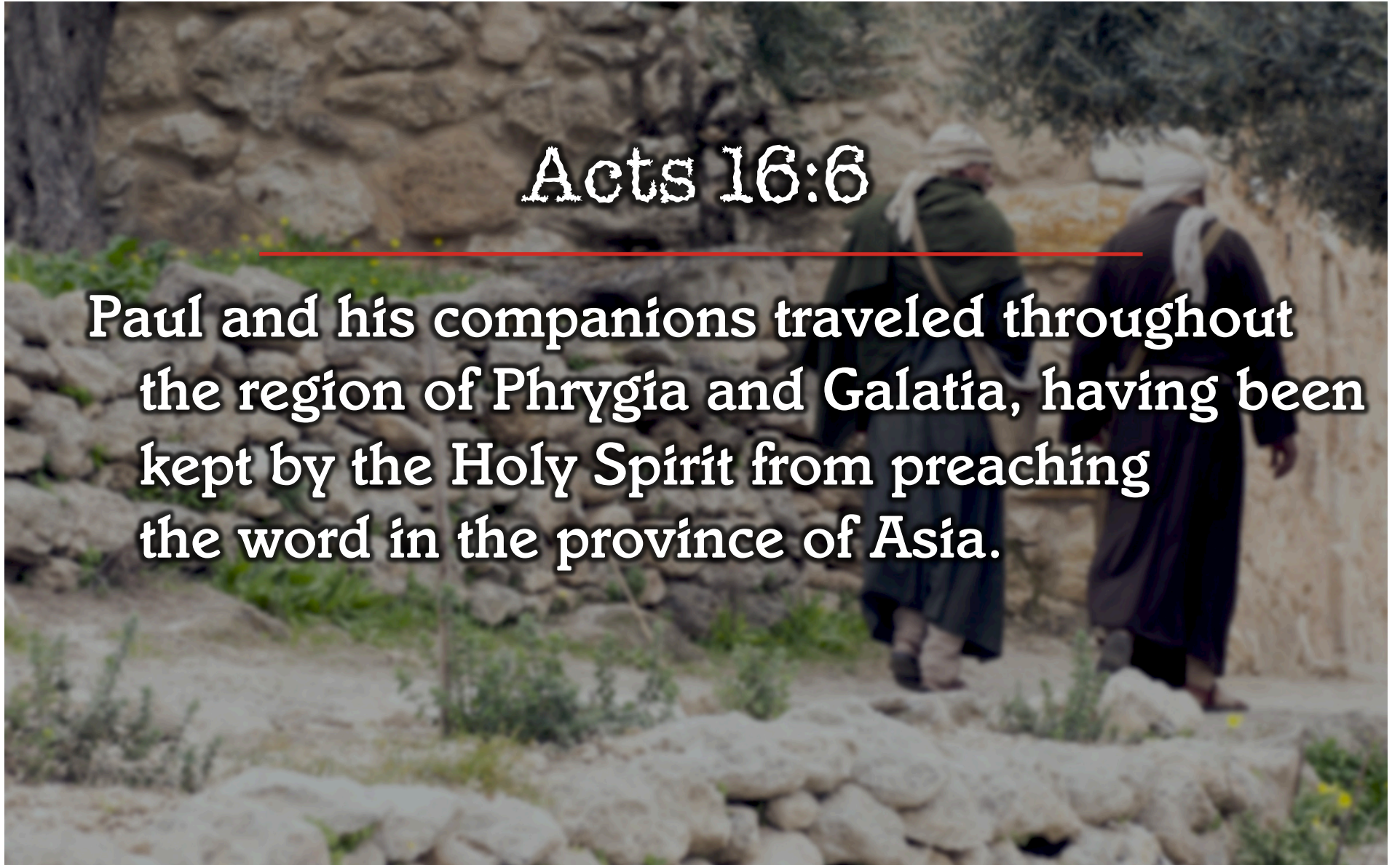
Galatians 6:11

See what large letters I use as I write to you
with my own hand!



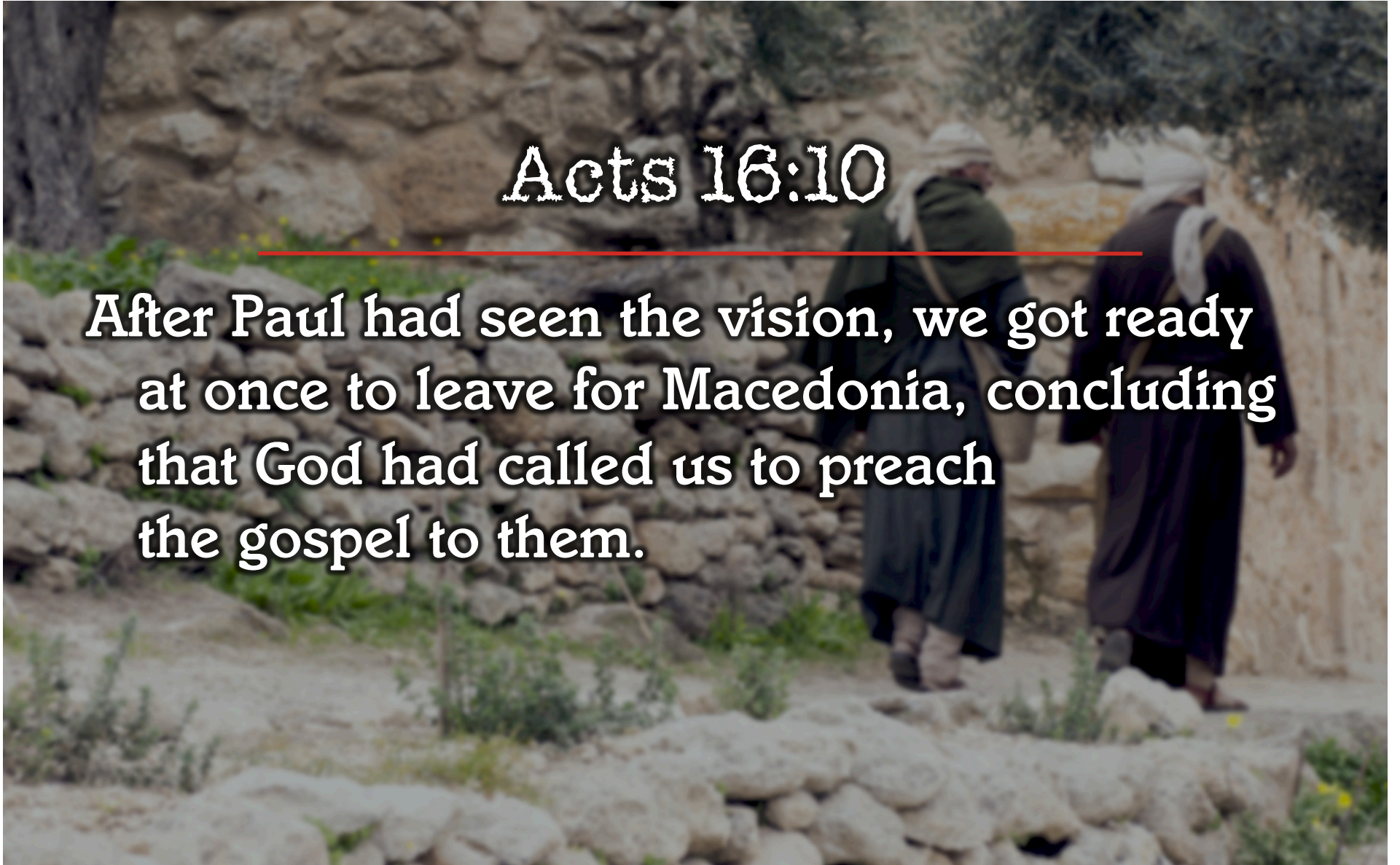
Acts 16:6

Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia.



Acts 16:10

After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.



“We” passages in Acts:

- ❖ **Acts 16:10-17**
- ❖ **Acts 20:5 – 21:18**
- ❖ **Acts 27:1 – 28:16**



2 Timothy 4:9-11

Do your best to come to me quickly, for Demas, because he loved this world, has deserted me and has gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, and Titus to Dalmatia. Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, because he is helpful to me in my ministry.

A background image showing two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller wall on the right. The scene is set outdoors with some greenery and trees in the background.

Luke series:

- I. The Launch: 1:1-9:50
- II. The Teachings: 9:51-19:44
- III. The Passion: 19:45-24:53

Luke's major themes:

- ❖ The Gospel for all
- ❖ History
- ❖ Prayer
- ❖ Money
- ❖ Salvation



Luke the evangelist:

- ❖ Forgiveness
- ❖ Repentance
- ❖ Joy



Tough questions:

- ❖ How could Gentiles be included as God's people on an equal basis with Jews?
- ❖ Why did Jesus and his messengers meet so much hostility from God's people?
- ❖ How could an executed criminal inspire this new movement?
- ❖ How should we respond to Jesus?



Luke 1:1-2

Many have undertaken to draw up an account of the things that have been fulfilled among us, just as they were handed down to us by those who from the first were eyewitnesses and servants of the word.

Luke 1:3-4

With this in mind, since I myself have carefully investigated everything from the beginning, I too decided to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, so that you may know the certainty of the things you have been taught.

Acts 1:1-2

In my former book, *Theophilus*, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen.

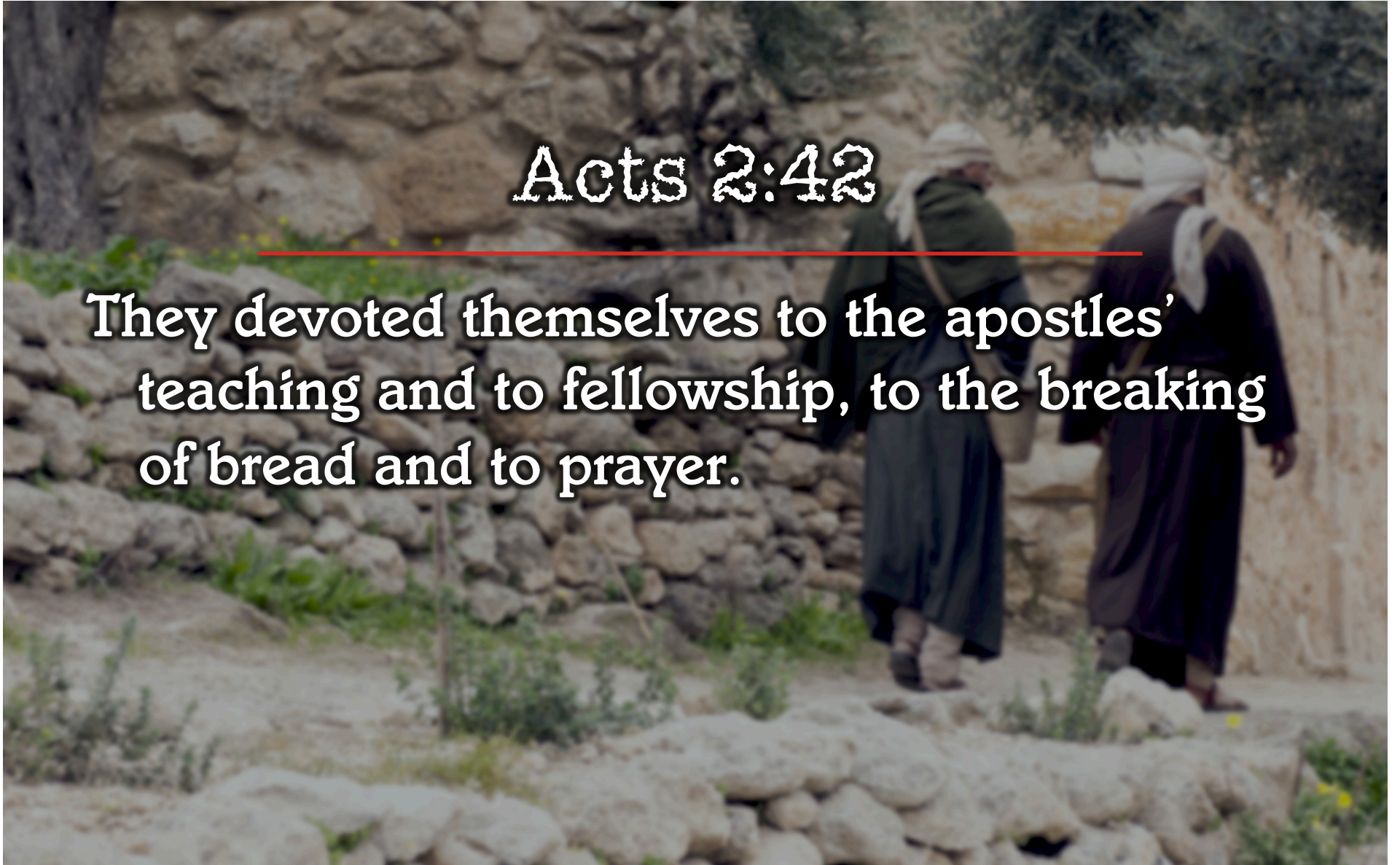
A photograph of two men in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller wall on the right. The background shows more of the rocky terrain and some sparse vegetation. The text "handed down to us" is overlaid on the image in a white, pixelated font, underlined with a red line.

“handed down to us”

- ❖ “eyewitnesses”
- ❖ “servants of the word”

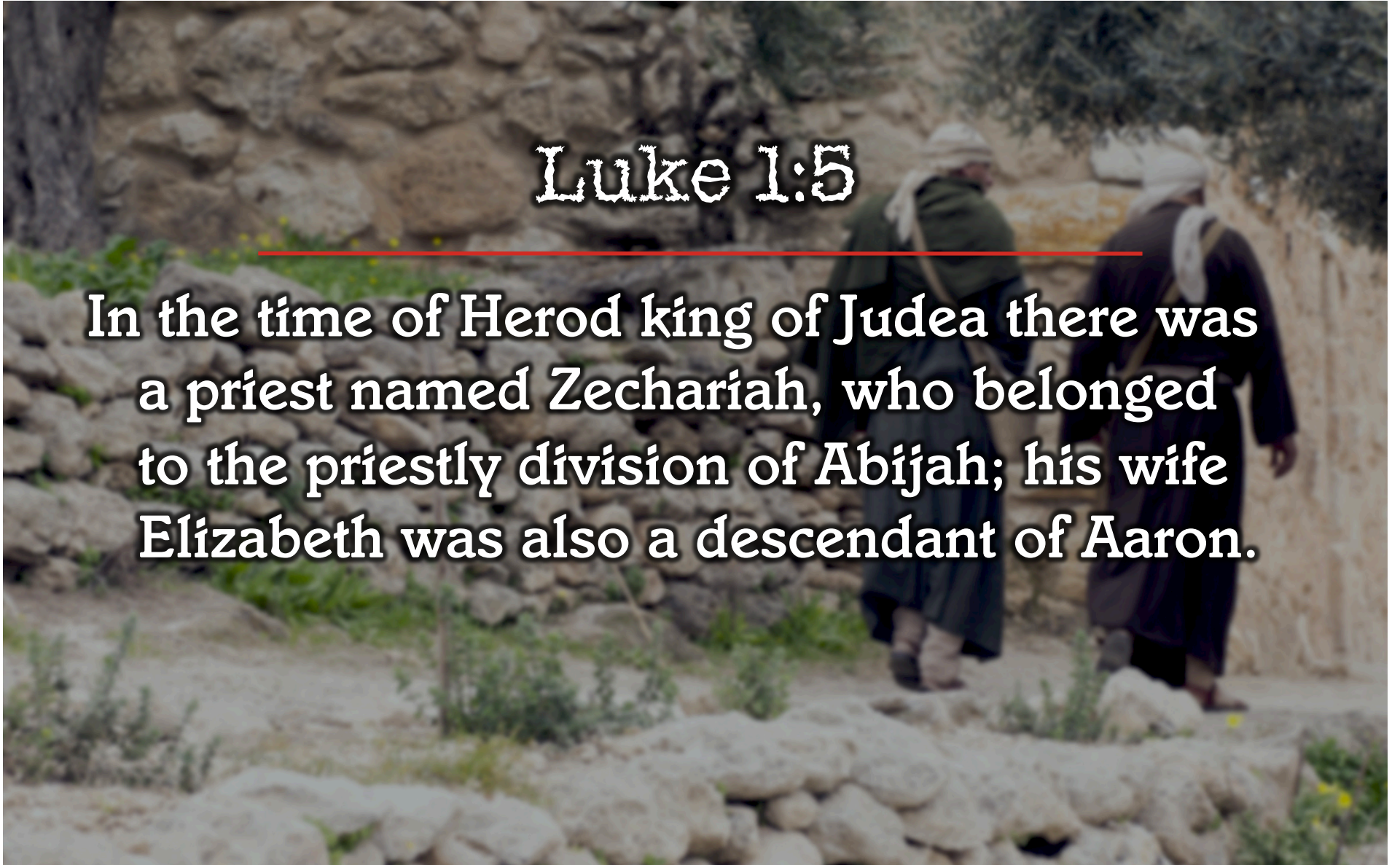
Acts 2:42

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.



Luke 1:5

In the time of Herod king of Judea there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly division of Abijah; his wife Elizabeth was also a descendant of Aaron.



Herods in the NT:

- ❖ Herod the Great
- ❖ Herod Antipas
- ❖ Herod Agrippa I
- ❖ Herod Agrippa II





Luke 1:6-7

Both of them were righteous in the sight of God, observing all the Lord's commands and decrees blamelessly. But they were childless because Elizabeth was not able to conceive, and they were both very old.

The background of the slide is a photograph of two individuals, likely pilgrims or travelers, seen from behind as they walk along a rugged, rocky path. They are dressed in traditional, dark-colored robes and have satchels slung over their shoulders. The path is composed of large, light-colored stones, and the surrounding environment appears to be a natural, outdoor setting with some sparse vegetation. The overall tone of the image is somber and reflective.

“righteous in the sight of God”

- ❖ **Noah**
- ❖ **Abraham**
- ❖ **Job**

Israel

at the time of
the birth of Christ

GREAT SEA
(The Mediterranean)

Ashkelon

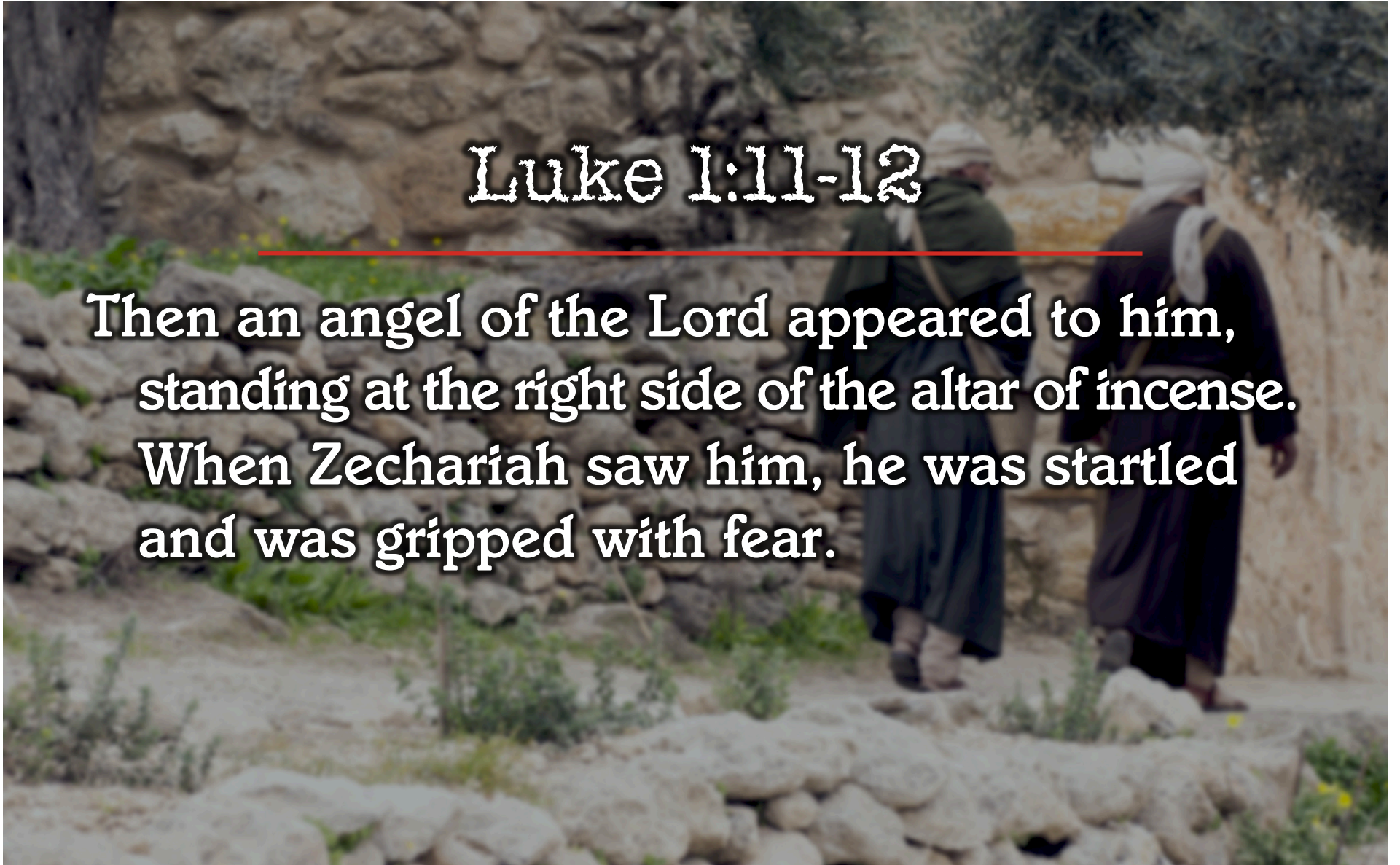


Luke 1:8-10

Once when Zechariah's division was on duty and he was serving as priest before God, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to go into the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And when the time for the burning of incense came, all the assembled worshipers were praying outside.

Luke 1:11-12

Then an angel of the Lord appeared to him, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was startled and was gripped with fear.



A background image showing two men in traditional, long, dark robes and head coverings walking away from the camera on a rocky, uneven path. The path is bordered by a low stone wall on the left and a taller wall on the right. The background consists of large, rough-hewn stone blocks.

Luke 1:13

But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.



Luke 1:14-15

“He will be a joy and delight to you, and many will rejoice because of his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He is never to take wine or other fermented drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit even before he is born.



Luke 1:16-17

“He will bring back many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. And he will go on before the Lord, in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous — to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

Malachi 3:1

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the LORD Almighty.

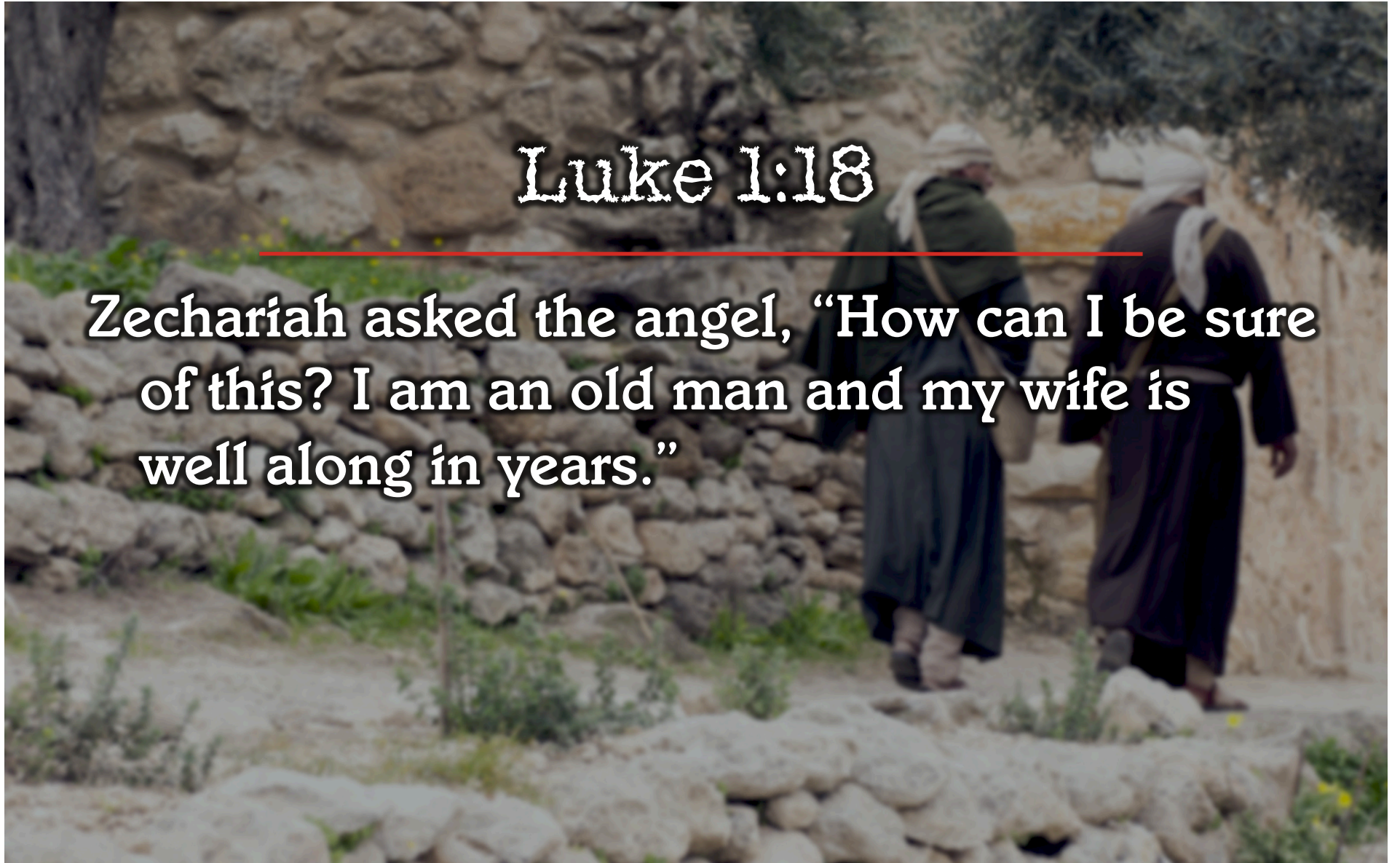
The background of the slide is a photograph of a stone wall. Two people, likely men, are walking away from the camera on a path. They are wearing traditional, dark-colored clothing and head coverings. The scene is outdoors, with some greenery visible at the bottom.

Malachi 4:5-6

“See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.”

Luke 1:18

Zechariah asked the angel, “How can I be sure of this? I am an old man and my wife is well along in years.”



Acts 12:14-15

When she recognized Peter's voice, she was so overjoyed she ran back without opening it and exclaimed, "Peter is at the door!" "You're out of your mind," they told her. When she kept insisting that it was so, they said, "It must be his angel."

Luke 1:19-20

The angel said to him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to tell you this good news. And now you will be silent and not able to speak until the day this happens, because you did not believe my words, which will come true at their appointed time."

Luke 1:21-22

Meanwhile, the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering why he stayed so long in the temple. When he came out, he could not speak to them. They realized he had seen a vision in the temple, for he kept making signs to them but remained unable to speak.

Luke 1:23-25

When his time of service was completed, he returned home. After this his wife Elizabeth became pregnant and for five months remained in seclusion. "The Lord has done this for me," she said. "In these days he has shown his favor and taken away my disgrace among the people."

Barren women in OT:

- ❖ Sarah
- ❖ Rachel
- ❖ Hannah



What have we learned?

- ❖ The Bible is rooted in history and geography.
- ❖ Israel's promised Messiah is the Savior of the world.
- ❖ The Lord reverses the fortunes of his people.
- ❖ God answers prayers, often in unexpected ways.



The background of the slide is a photograph of two individuals dressed in traditional, dark-colored robes and head coverings, walking away from the camera on a rugged, rocky path. The path is made of large, light-colored stones and is bordered by a low stone wall on the right. The background shows a rocky hillside with some sparse green vegetation.

Are you being called?

- ❖ To receive Christ
- ❖ To become a member of Melbourne Community Church
- ❖ To pray / to receive prayer
- ❖ To affirm or reaffirm a commitment
- ❖ To receive the Lord's Supper

Luke's major themes:

- ❖ The Gospel for all
- ❖ History
- ❖ Prayer
- ❖ Money
- ❖ Salvation

