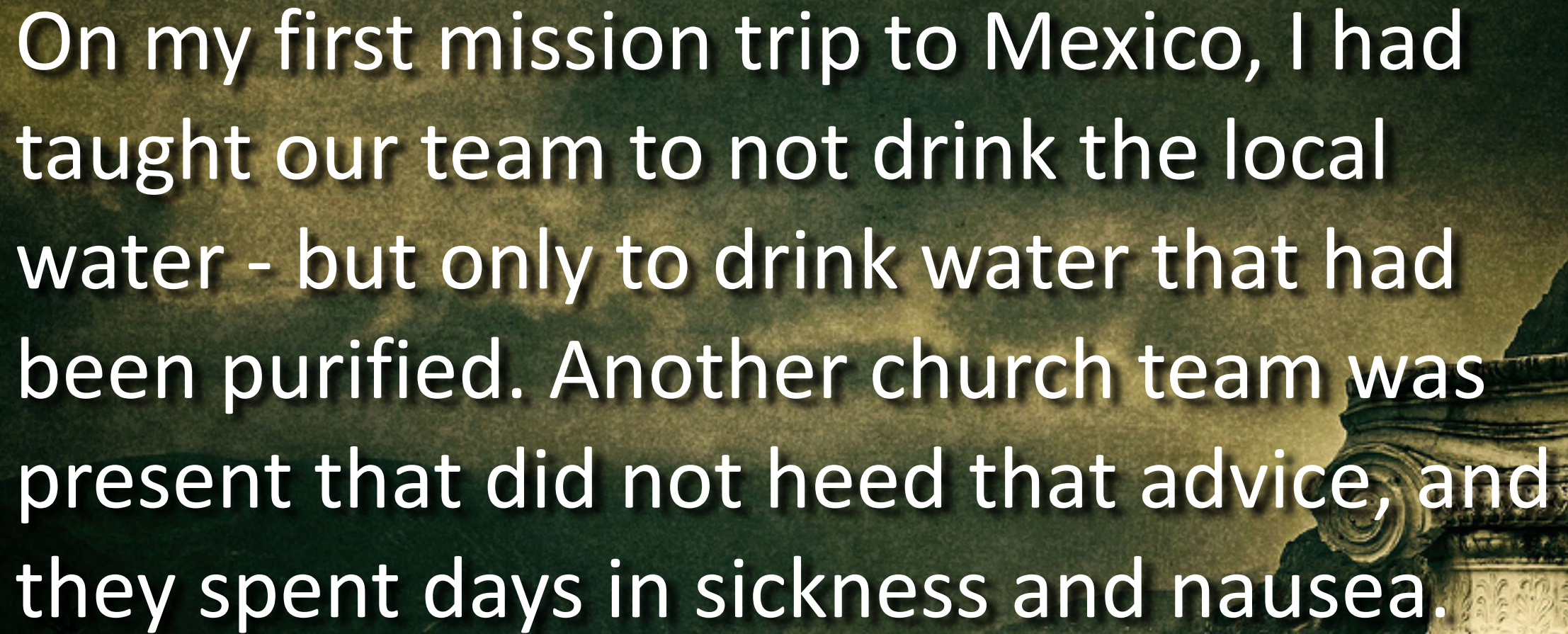


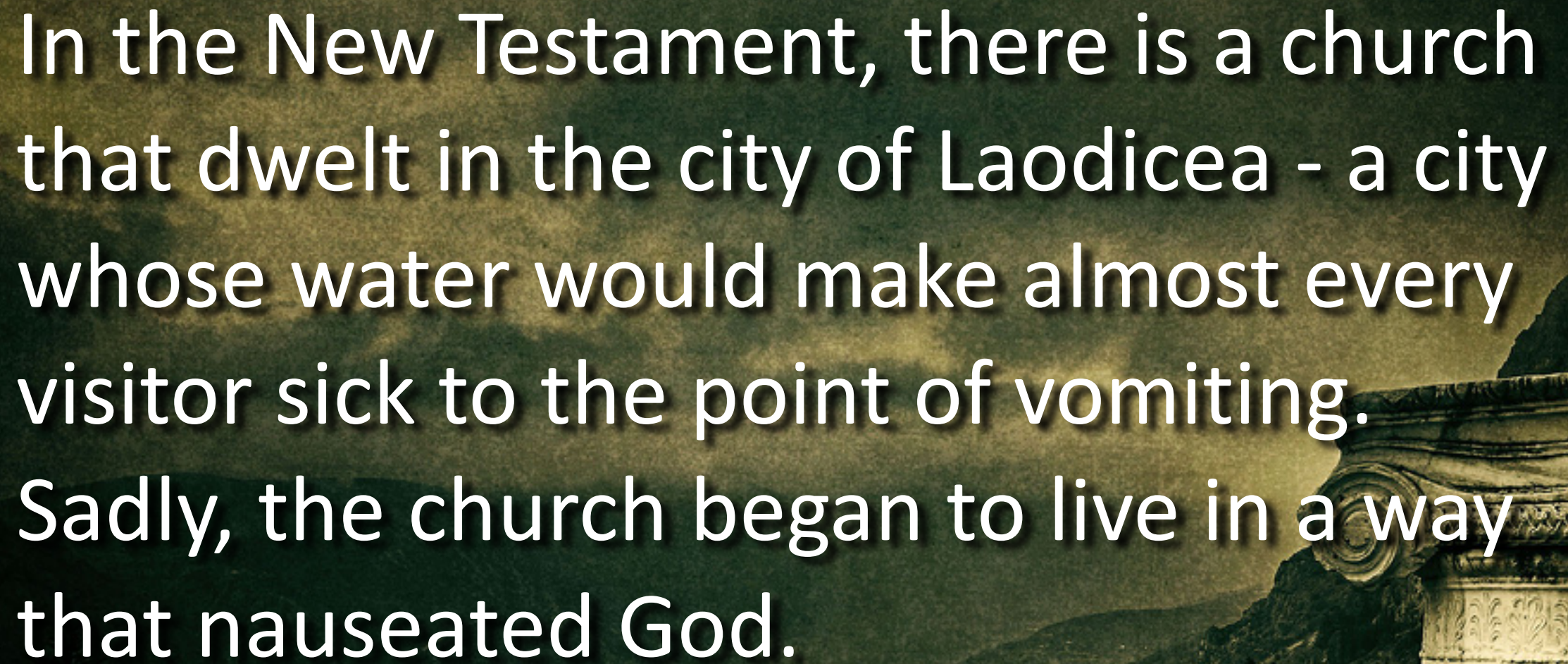
The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric landscape. It features rolling hills and mountains under a heavy, overcast sky. In the lower right corner, a portion of a classical building with a prominent column and capital is visible. The overall color palette is dominated by dark greens, browns, and greys, creating a somber and dramatic mood.

The Church That Nauseates God

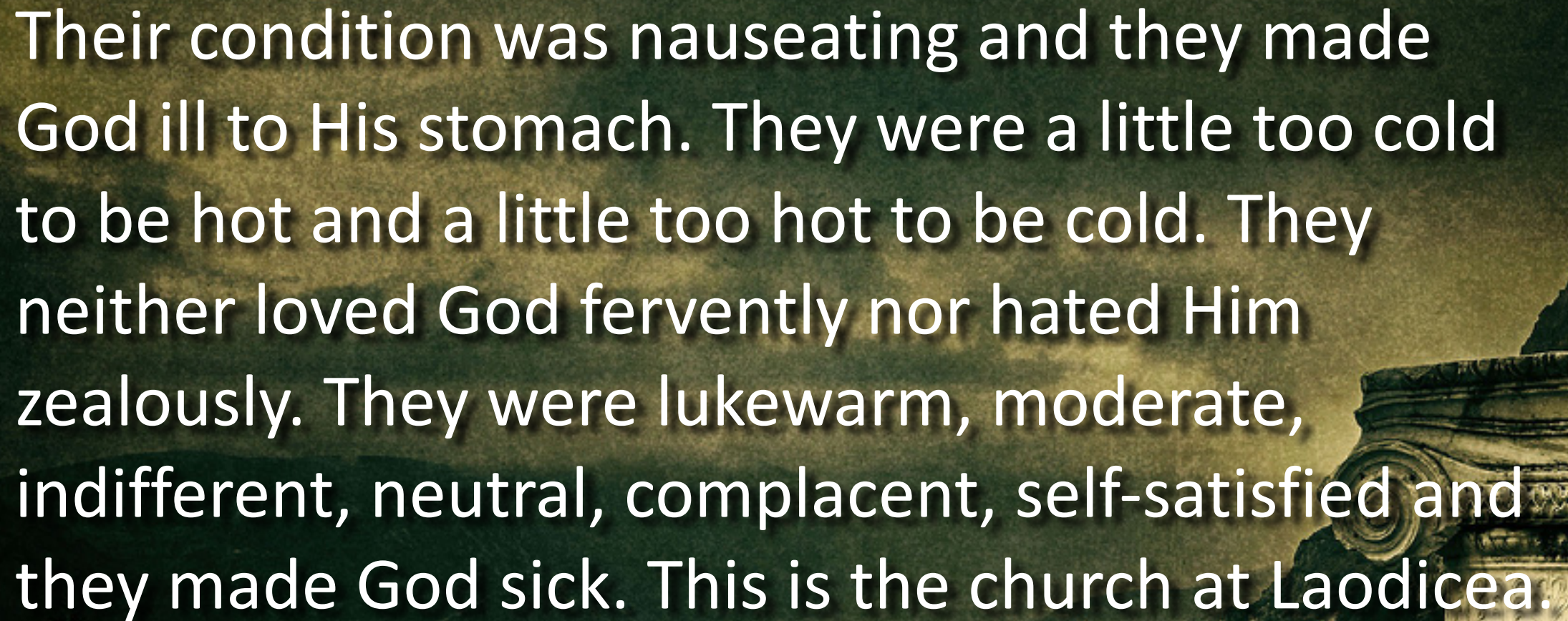
Revelation 3:14-22

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a portion of a classical building with a large, ornate column and a decorative capital. The background shows rolling hills and mountains under a dark, cloudy sky, with some small structures visible in the distance. The overall color palette is muted, with greens, browns, and greys.

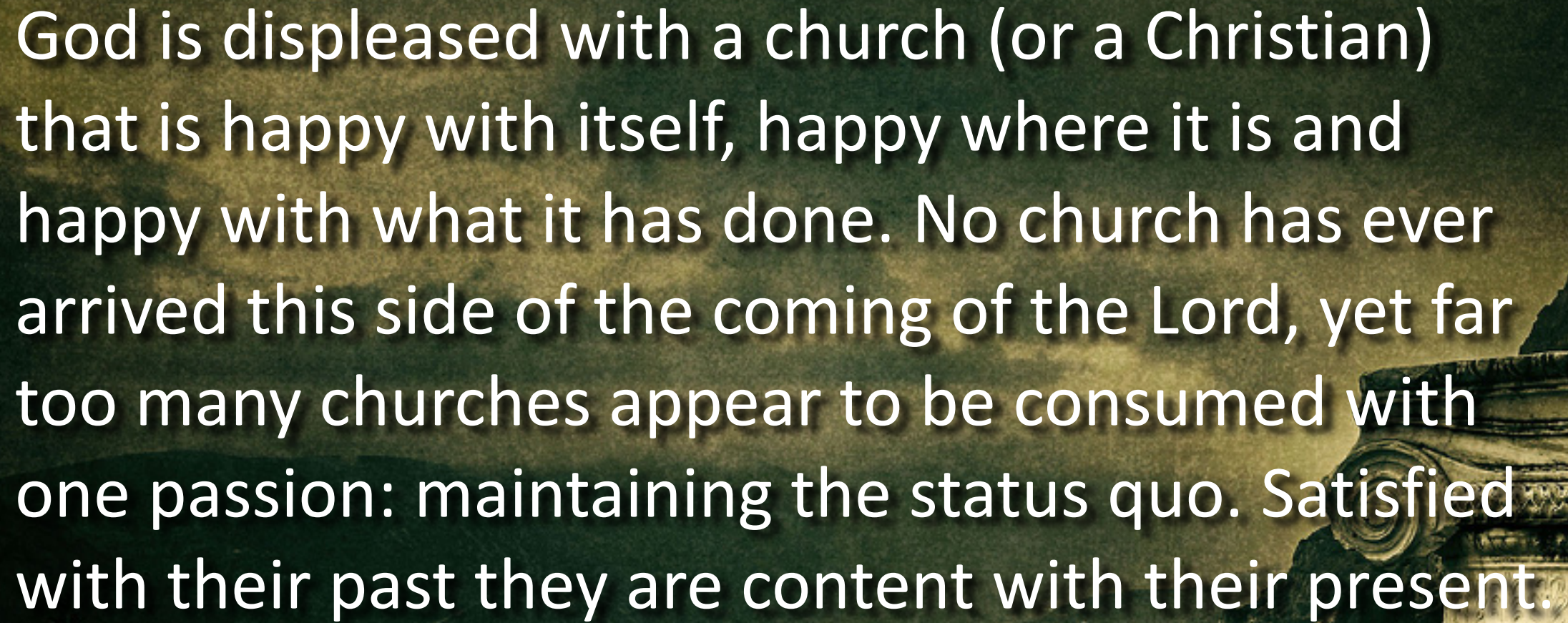
On my first mission trip to Mexico, I had taught our team to not drink the local water - but only to drink water that had been purified. Another church team was present that did not heed that advice, and they spent days in sickness and nausea.

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical building with a column and an ornate capital is visible. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds, suggesting a storm or a dramatic sunset. The overall color palette is dominated by dark greens, browns, and greys, with a strong contrast between the dark background and the bright white text.

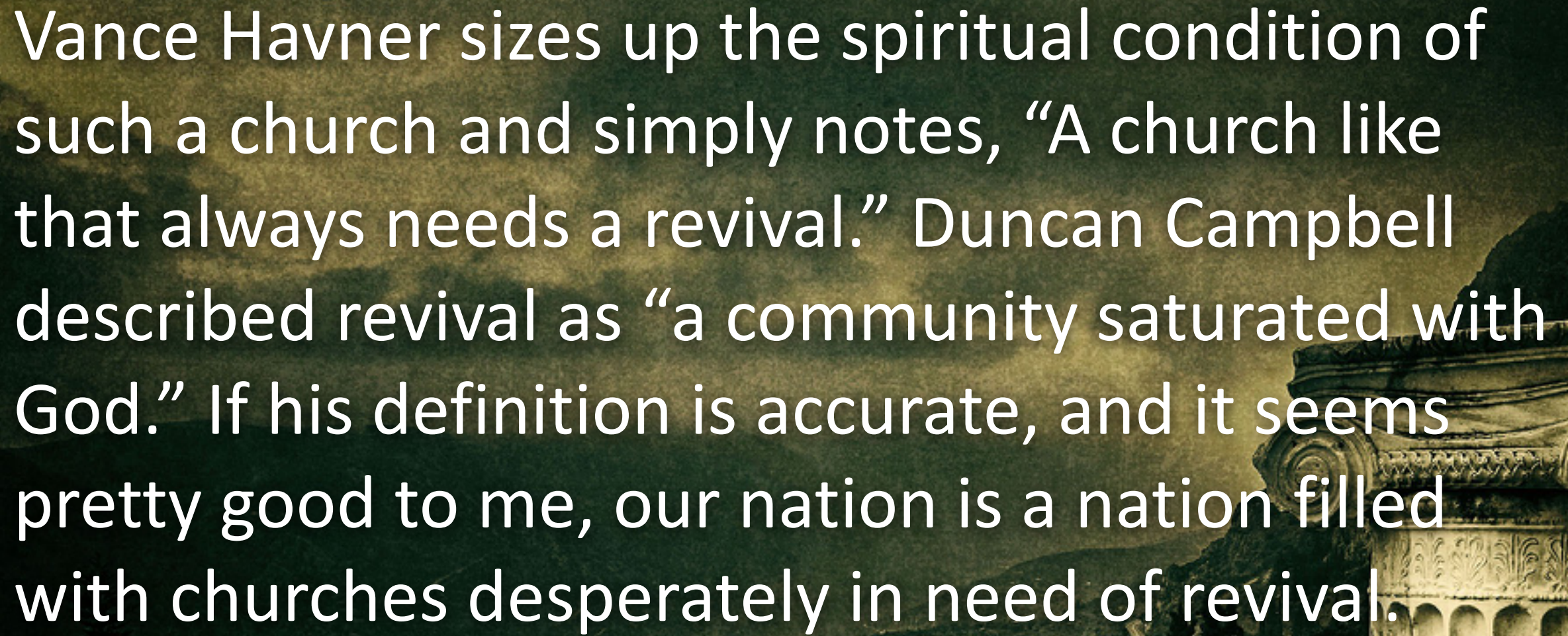
In the New Testament, there is a church that dwelt in the city of Laodicea - a city whose water would make almost every visitor sick to the point of vomiting. Sadly, the church began to live in a way that nauseated God.



Their condition was nauseating and they made God ill to His stomach. They were a little too cold to be hot and a little too hot to be cold. They neither loved God fervently nor hated Him zealously. They were lukewarm, moderate, indifferent, neutral, complacent, self-satisfied and they made God sick. This is the church at Laodicea.

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, a large, weathered classical column with a fluted shaft and a decorative capital is visible. The background shows rolling hills and a small white building, likely a church, nestled in a valley. The overall color palette is dark and moody, with shades of green, brown, and black.

God is displeased with a church (or a Christian) that is happy with itself, happy where it is and happy with what it has done. No church has ever arrived this side of the coming of the Lord, yet far too many churches appear to be consumed with one passion: maintaining the status quo. Satisfied with their past they are content with their present.

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical stone column with a fluted shaft and a decorative capital is visible. The background shows rolling hills or mountains under a cloudy, dimly lit sky. In the distance, a small white building with a dark roof, likely a church, is nestled on a hillside. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

Vance Havner sizes up the spiritual condition of such a church and simply notes, “A church like that always needs a revival.” Duncan Campbell described revival as “a community saturated with God.” If his definition is accurate, and it seems pretty good to me, our nation is a nation filled with churches desperately in need of revival.



Vance Havner sizes up the spiritual condition of such a church and simply notes, “A church like that always needs a revival.” Duncan Campbell described revival as “a community saturated with God.” If his definition is accurate, and it seems pretty good to me, our nation is a nation filled with churches desperately in need of revival.

There are far too many Laodicean churches in our day. There was one Laodicean church in the 1st century. There are tens of thousands in the 21st century.

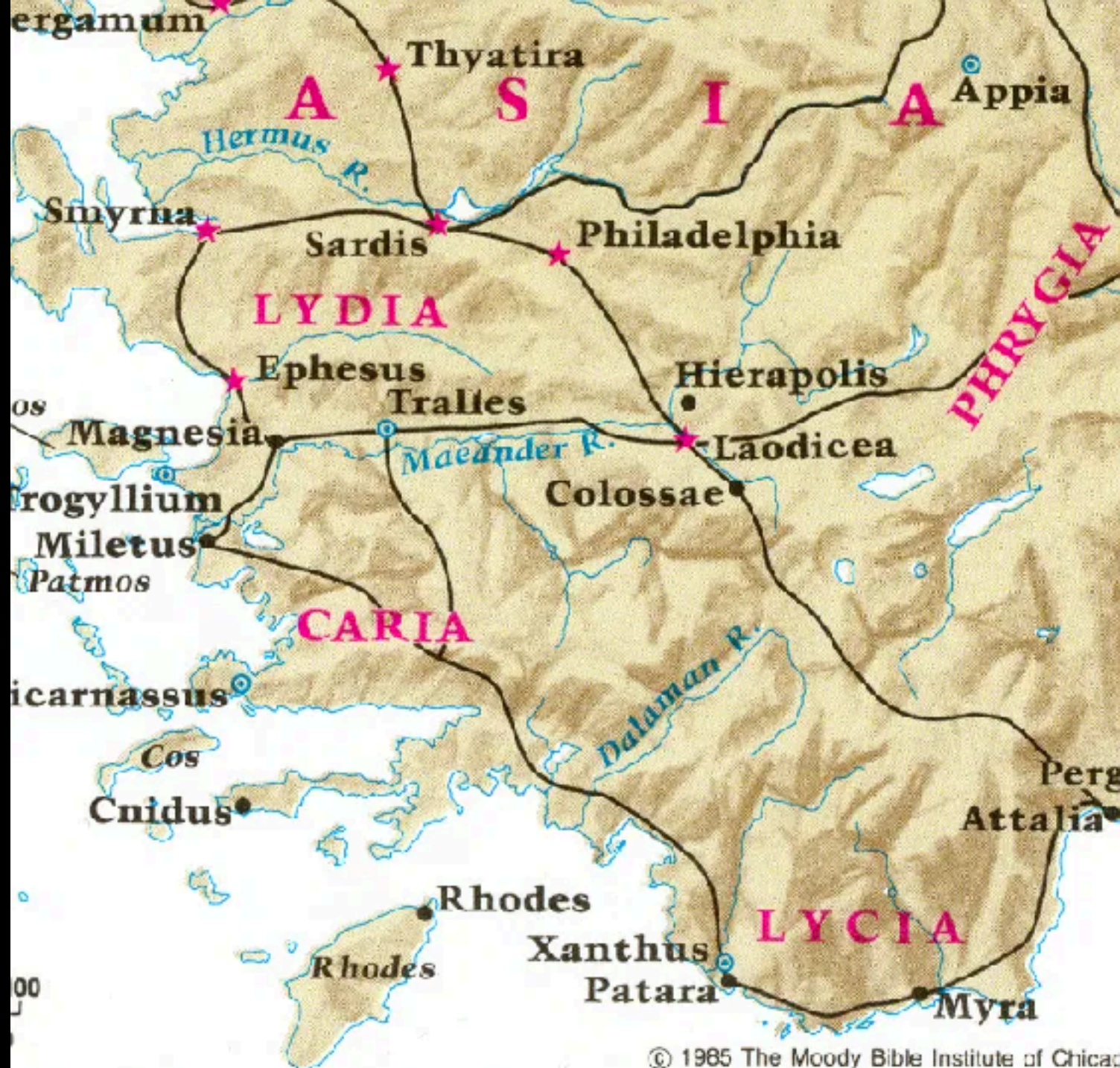


What word does the Lord have for us in terms of diagnosis and cure for this spiritually nauseating condition?



The Laodiceans – Laodicea was located in the Lycus Valley along with the cities of Hierapolis and Colossae. It was approximately 300 miles east of Athens and 600 miles northwest of Jerusalem. Two important imperial trade routes converged here.







August 05 2020 07:01:00



Turkey to reopen 2200-year-old theater of Laodicea

DENİZLİ – Anadolu Agency





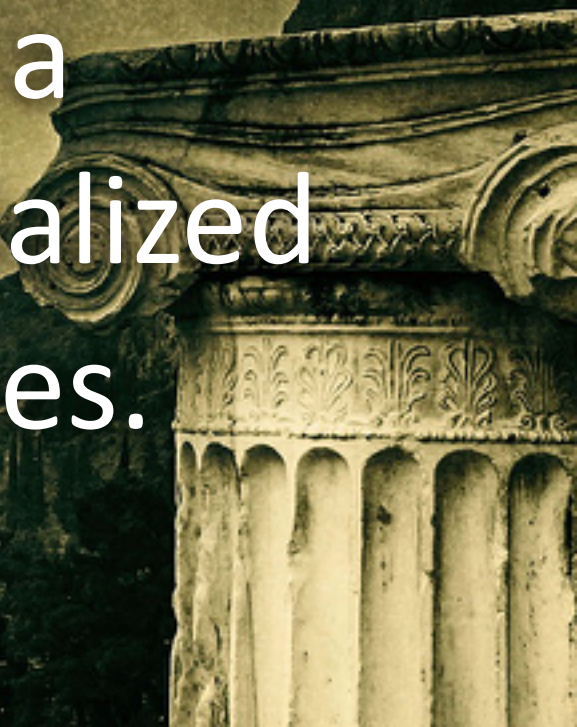








The city was a wealthy commercial center, the richest in Phrygia. It was known for banking, the manufacturing of clothing (esp. black wool), and a famous medical school with specialized ointments for the ears and the eyes.



So wealthy was the city that following a devastating earthquake in AD 60, Laodicea rebuilt herself without any assistance at all from Rome. (Unlike Sardis, who relied on Rome to rebuild) The Roman historian Tacitus said of her, “Laodicea arose from the ruins by the strength of her own resources, and with no help from us.” (Ann. XIV. 27).



The city and church alike saw themselves as self-sufficient. They did not need the help of anyone including God. They were just fine all by themselves.

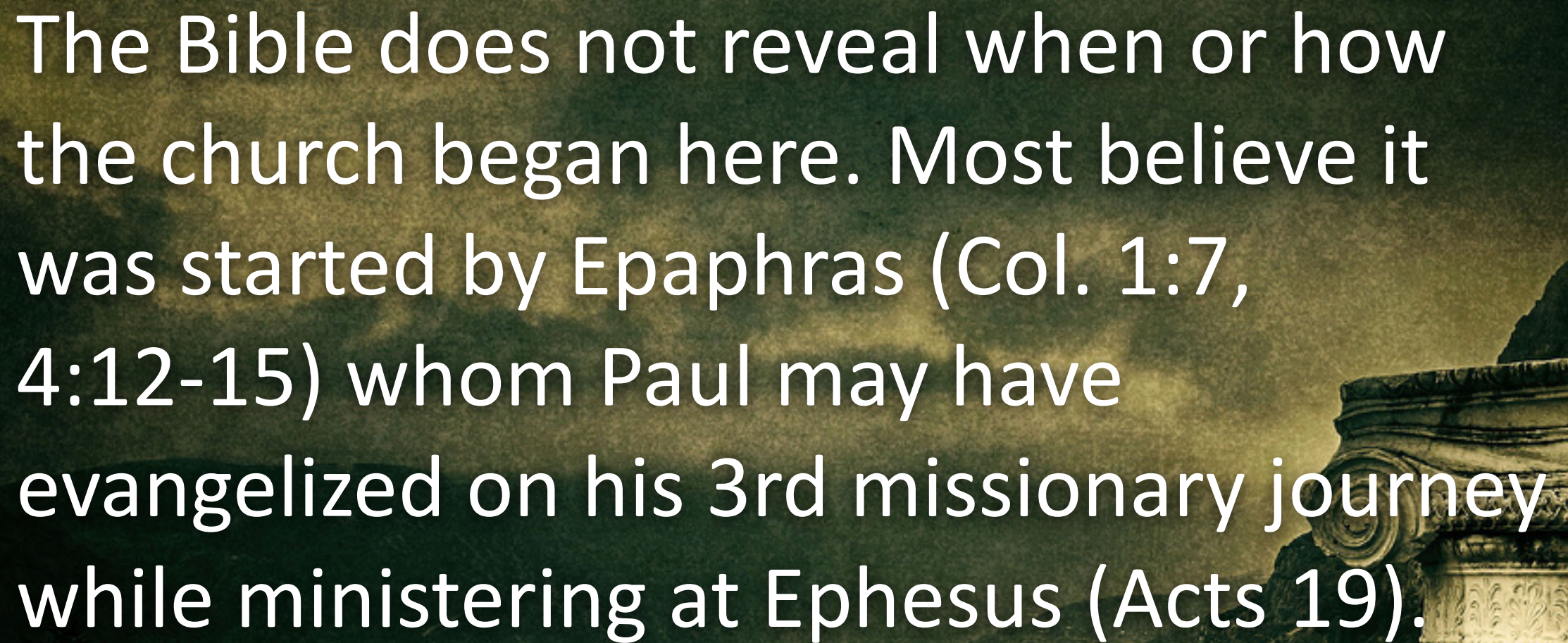


But the city did have one major weakness: a lack of an adequate and convenient source for water. A six-mile-long aqueduct supplied water from the south. It came either from hot springs and cooled to lukewarm or it came from a cooler source but warmed in the aqueduct on the way.

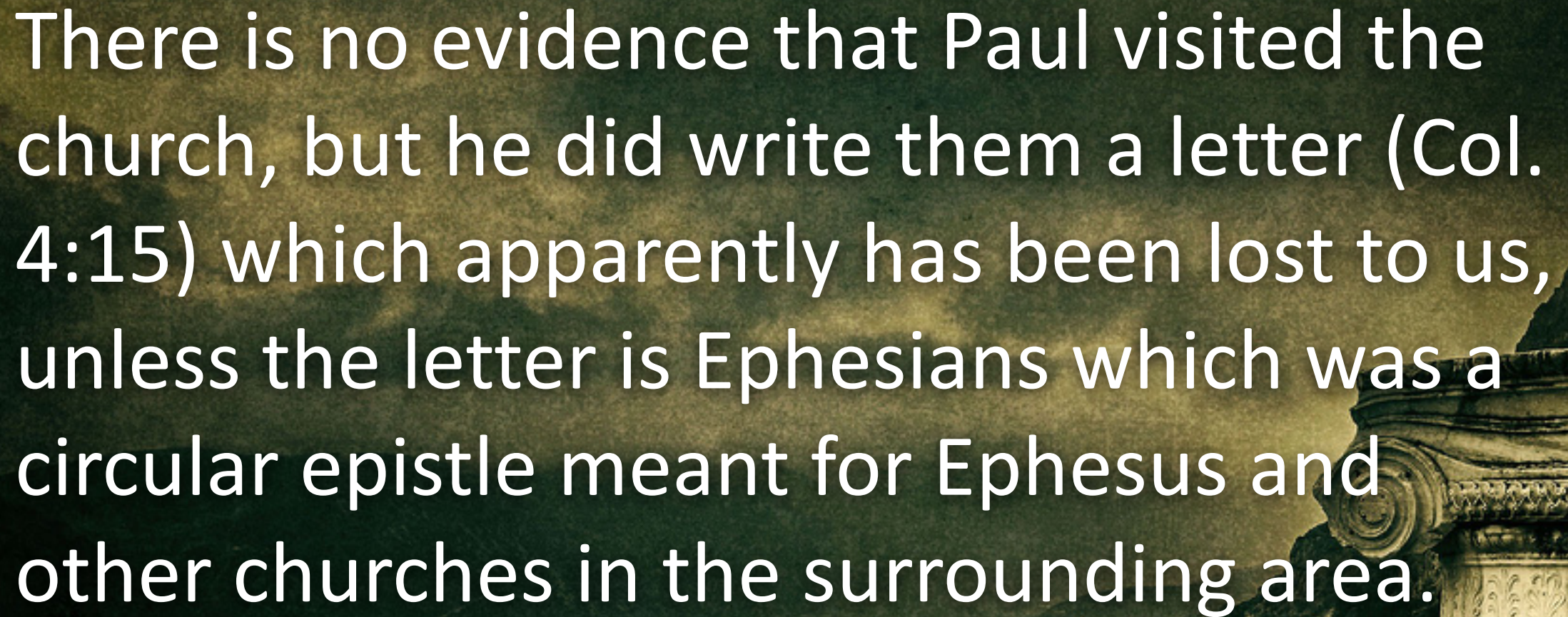


For all its wealth the city had very poor drinking water. The water was so distasteful that visitors, not prepared for its tepid flavor, would often vomit after drinking it.

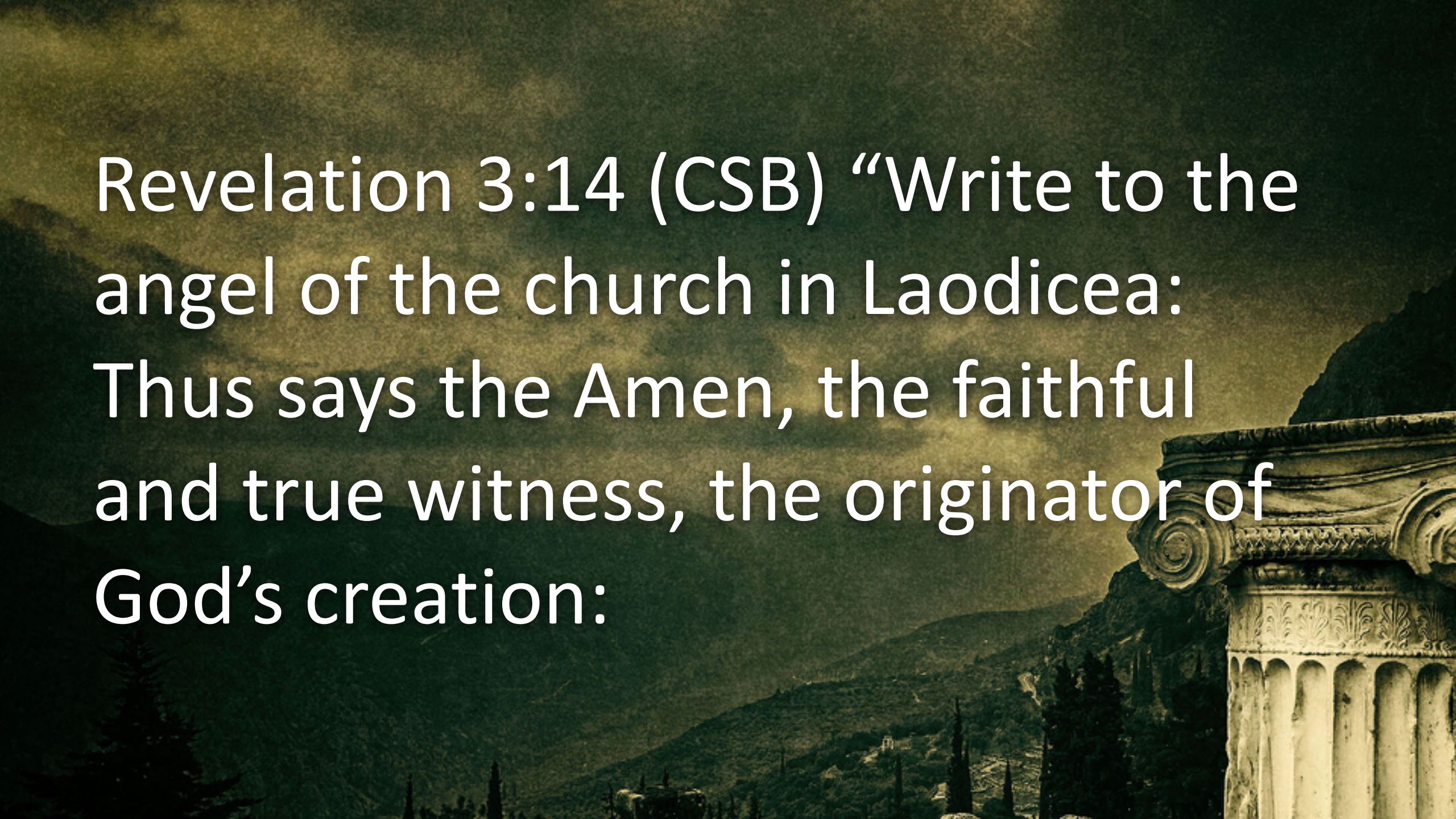


The background of the slide features a dramatic, low-key landscape. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical stone building with columns and a pediment is visible. The middle ground shows a valley with rolling hills and some sparse vegetation. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a bright light source breaking through near the horizon, creating a strong contrast and illuminating the scene from the side. The overall mood is somber and historical.

The Bible does not reveal when or how the church began here. Most believe it was started by Epaphras (Col. 1:7, 4:12-15) whom Paul may have evangelized on his 3rd missionary journey while ministering at Ephesus (Acts 19).

The background of the slide features a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical stone column with a fluted shaft and a decorative capital is visible. The background shows a valley with some buildings and trees, under a heavy, dark sky with some light breaking through, suggesting a storm or a dramatic sunset/sunrise. The overall color palette is dominated by dark greens, browns, and greys, with a touch of yellowish light from the sky.

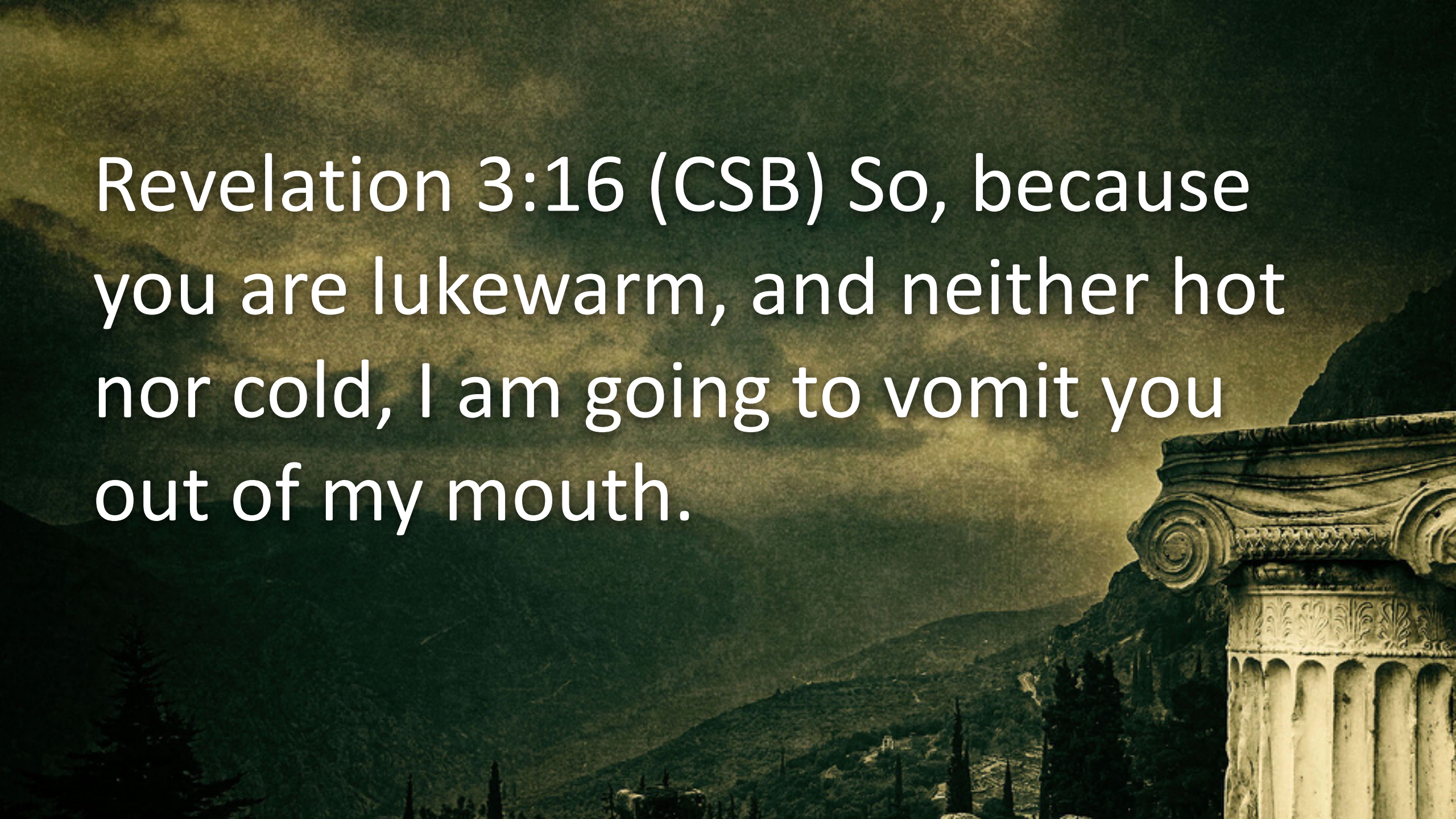
There is no evidence that Paul visited the church, but he did write them a letter (Col. 4:15) which apparently has been lost to us, unless the letter is Ephesians which was a circular epistle meant for Ephesus and other churches in the surrounding area.

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a classical building with a prominent column and a decorative capital. The middle ground shows rolling hills and mountains under a cloudy, dimly lit sky. The overall color palette is dark, with shades of green, brown, and grey, creating a somber and majestic mood.

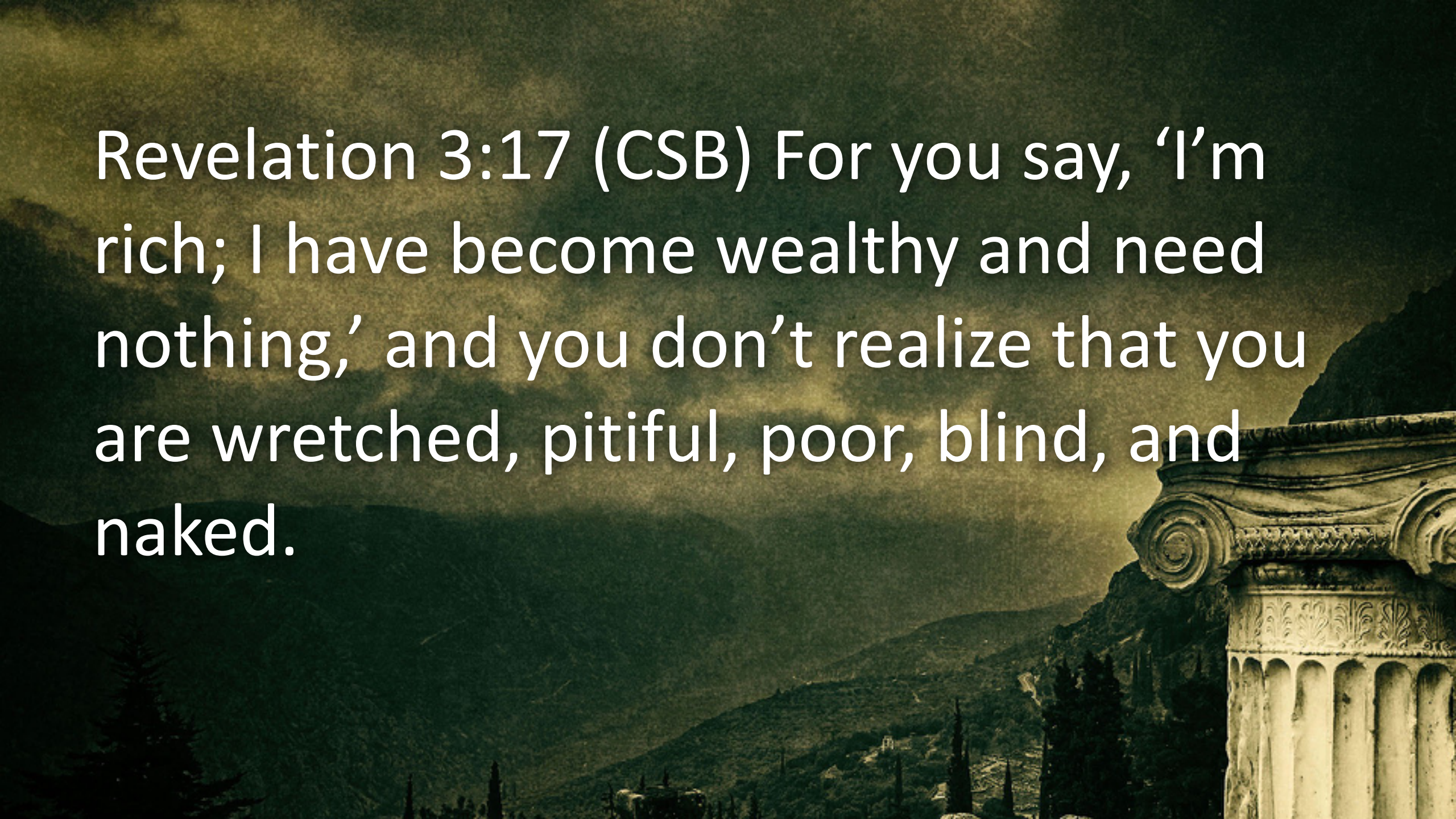
Revelation 3:14 (CSB) “Write to the
angel of the church in Laodicea:
Thus says the Amen, the faithful
and true witness, the originator of
God’s creation:

Revelation 3:15 (CSB) I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot.

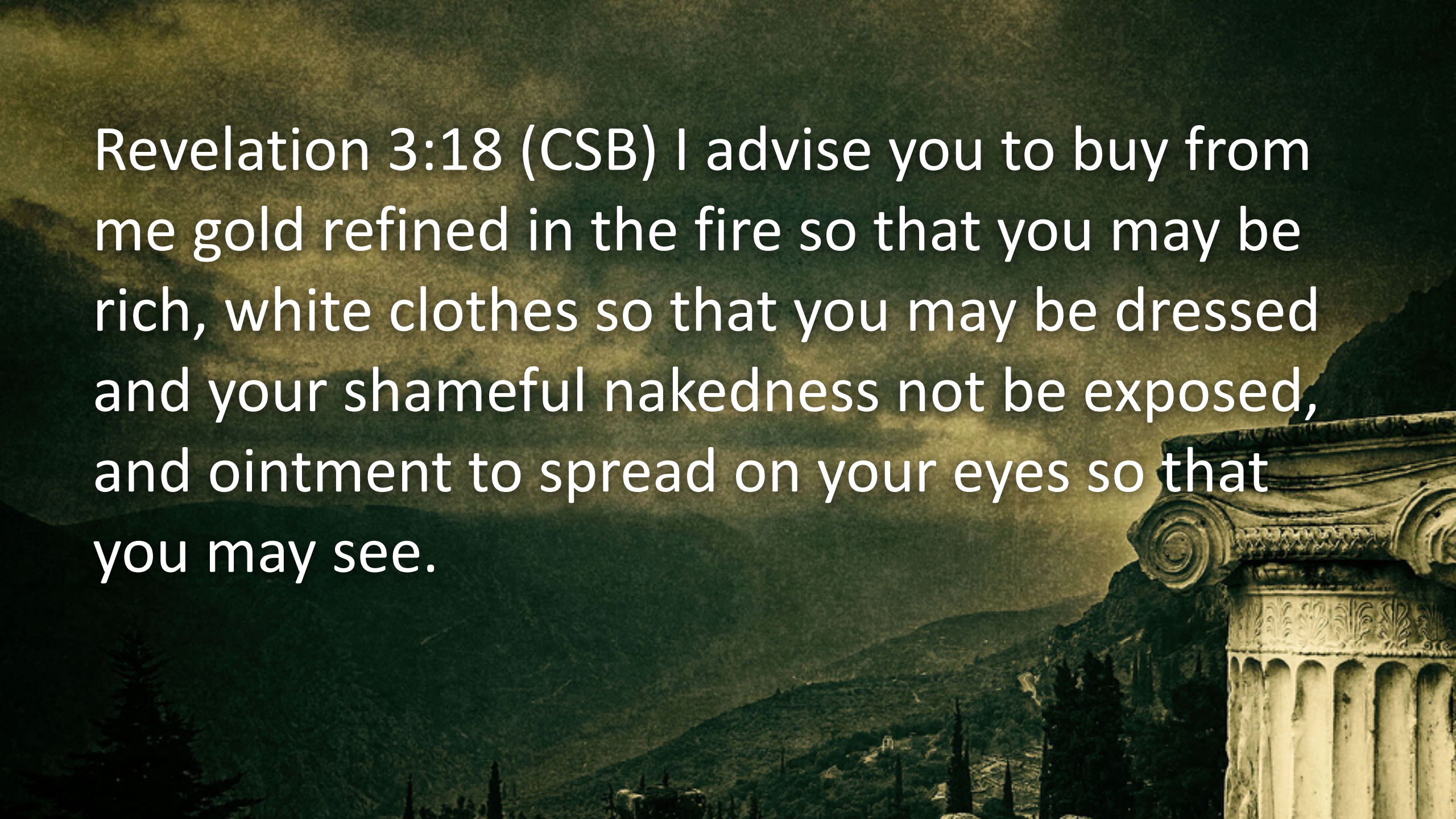


A dramatic landscape with a classical building in the foreground and a stormy sky. The building is a large, ornate structure with a prominent column and a decorative capital, possibly a temple or a palace. The sky is dark and turbulent, with a bright, glowing light source behind the clouds, creating a dramatic, almost apocalyptic atmosphere. The overall color palette is dominated by dark greens, browns, and greys, with a strong contrast between the dark sky and the bright light source.

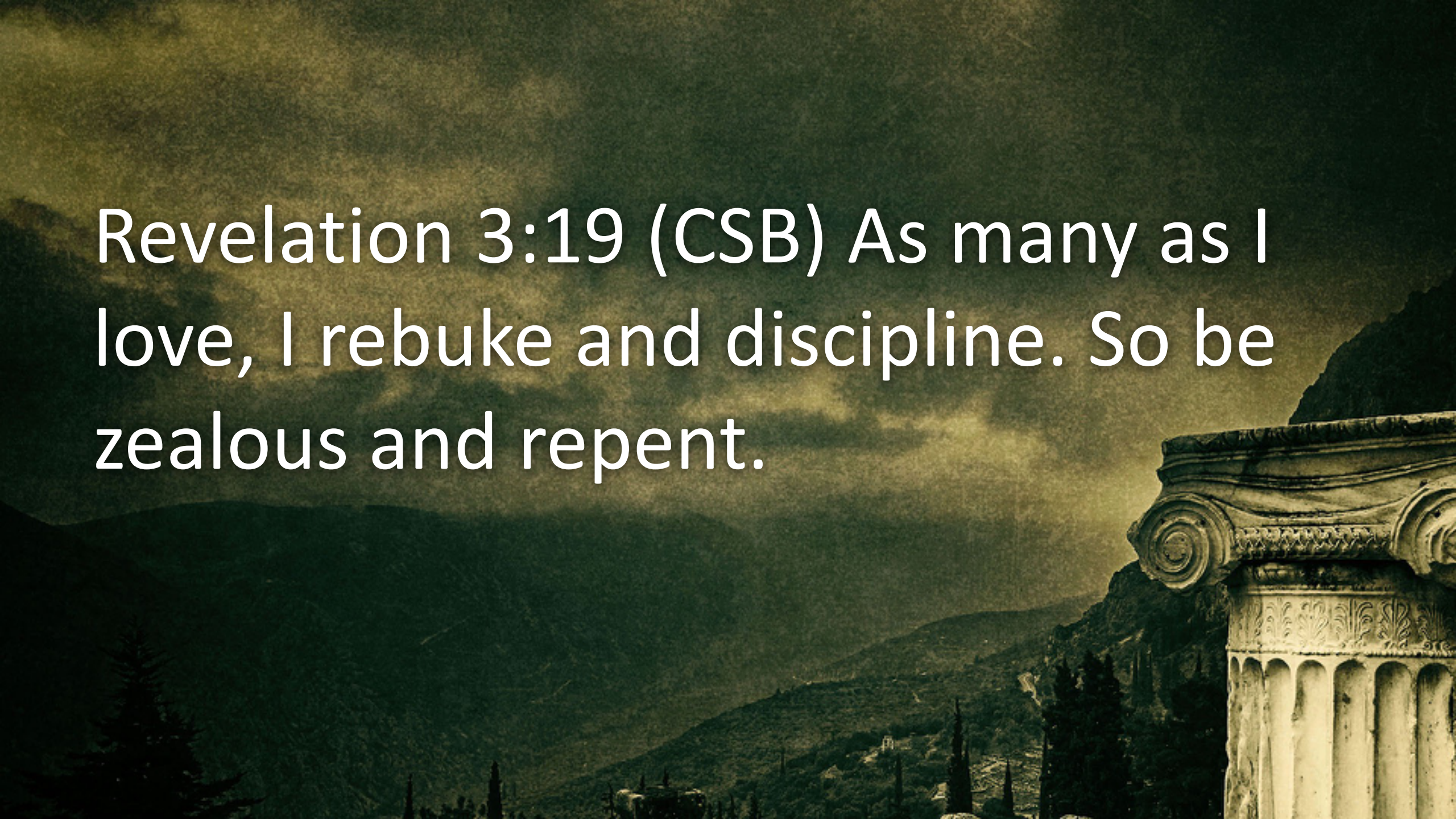
Revelation 3:16 (CSB) So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I am going to vomit you out of my mouth.

A dramatic landscape with a classical building in the foreground and a dark, stormy sky. The building features a prominent column with a capital. The background shows a valley with a small town and a large mountain range under a heavy, dark sky with some light breaking through. The overall mood is somber and intense.

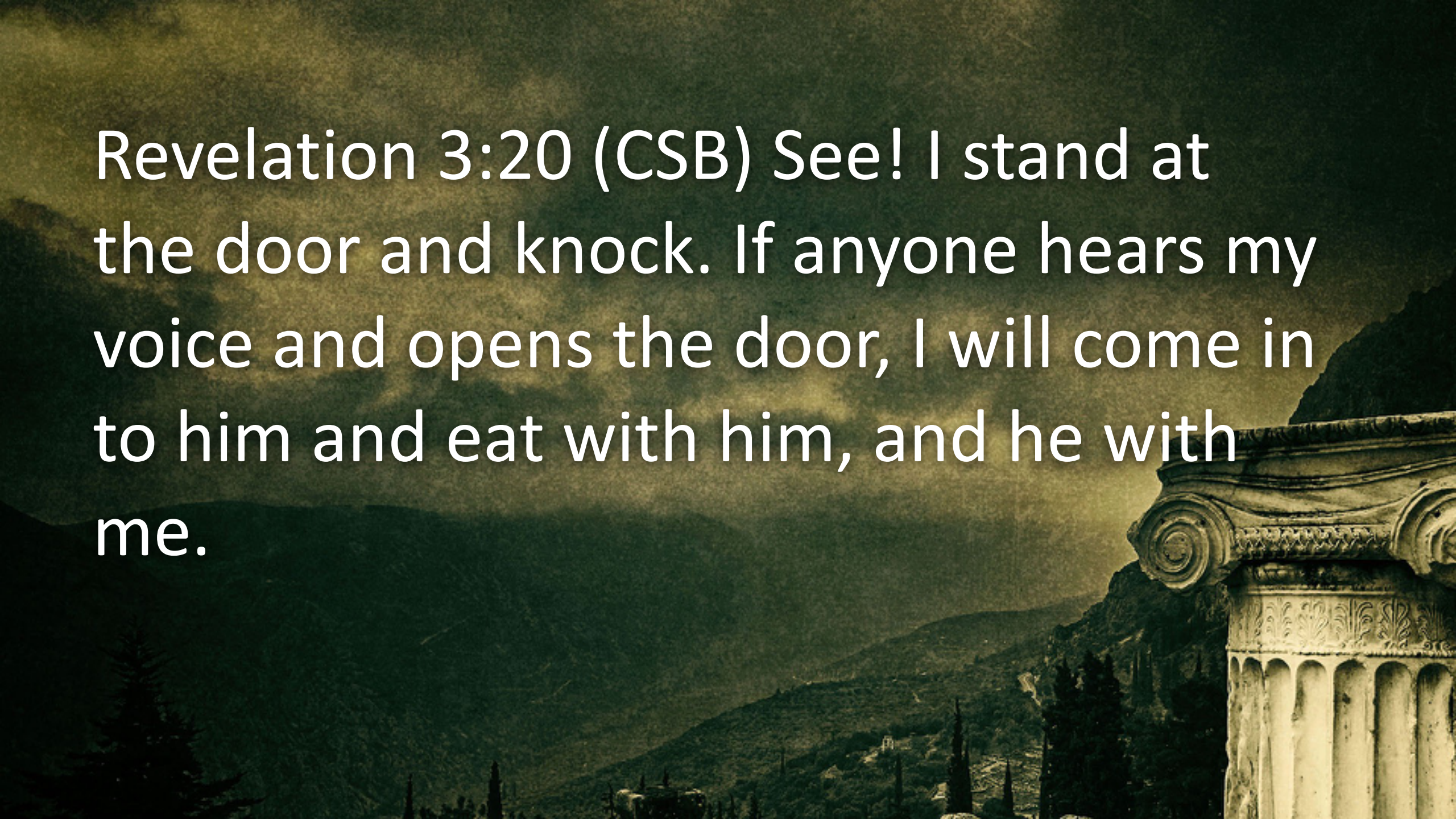
Revelation 3:17 (CSB) For you say, 'I'm rich; I have become wealthy and need nothing,' and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

A dramatic landscape with a classical building in the foreground and a cloudy sky. The building features a prominent column with a capital. The background shows rolling hills and a small white building in the distance. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, creating a somber and atmospheric setting.

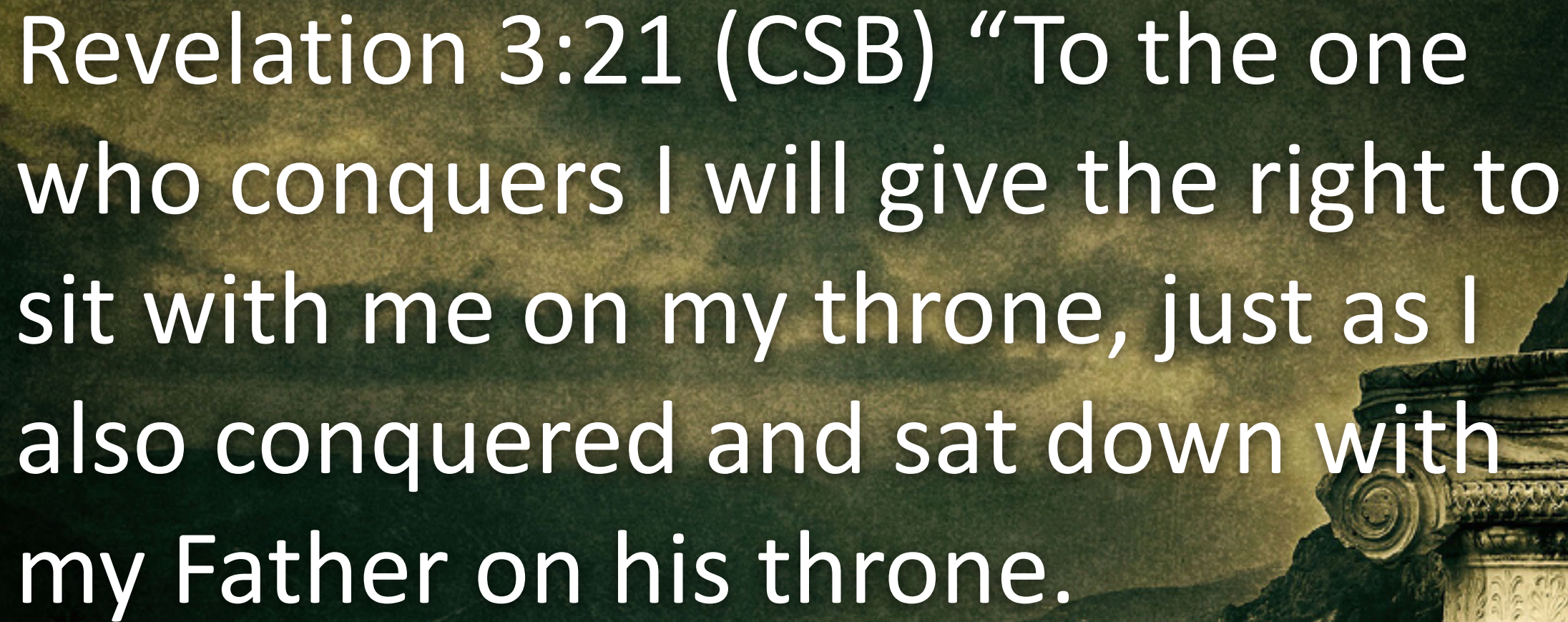
Revelation 3:18 (CSB) I advise you to buy from me gold refined in the fire so that you may be rich, white clothes so that you may be dressed and your shameful nakedness not be exposed, and ointment to spread on your eyes so that you may see.

A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a classical building in the foreground. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a bright light source breaking through, creating a golden glow. In the foreground, the corner of a classical building with a column and a pediment is visible. The background shows a valley with rolling hills and some trees.


Revelation 3:19 (CSB) As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline. So be zealous and repent.

A dramatic landscape with a classical building in the foreground and mountains in the background. The scene is dimly lit, with a golden glow from the sky. The building features a prominent column with a capital. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

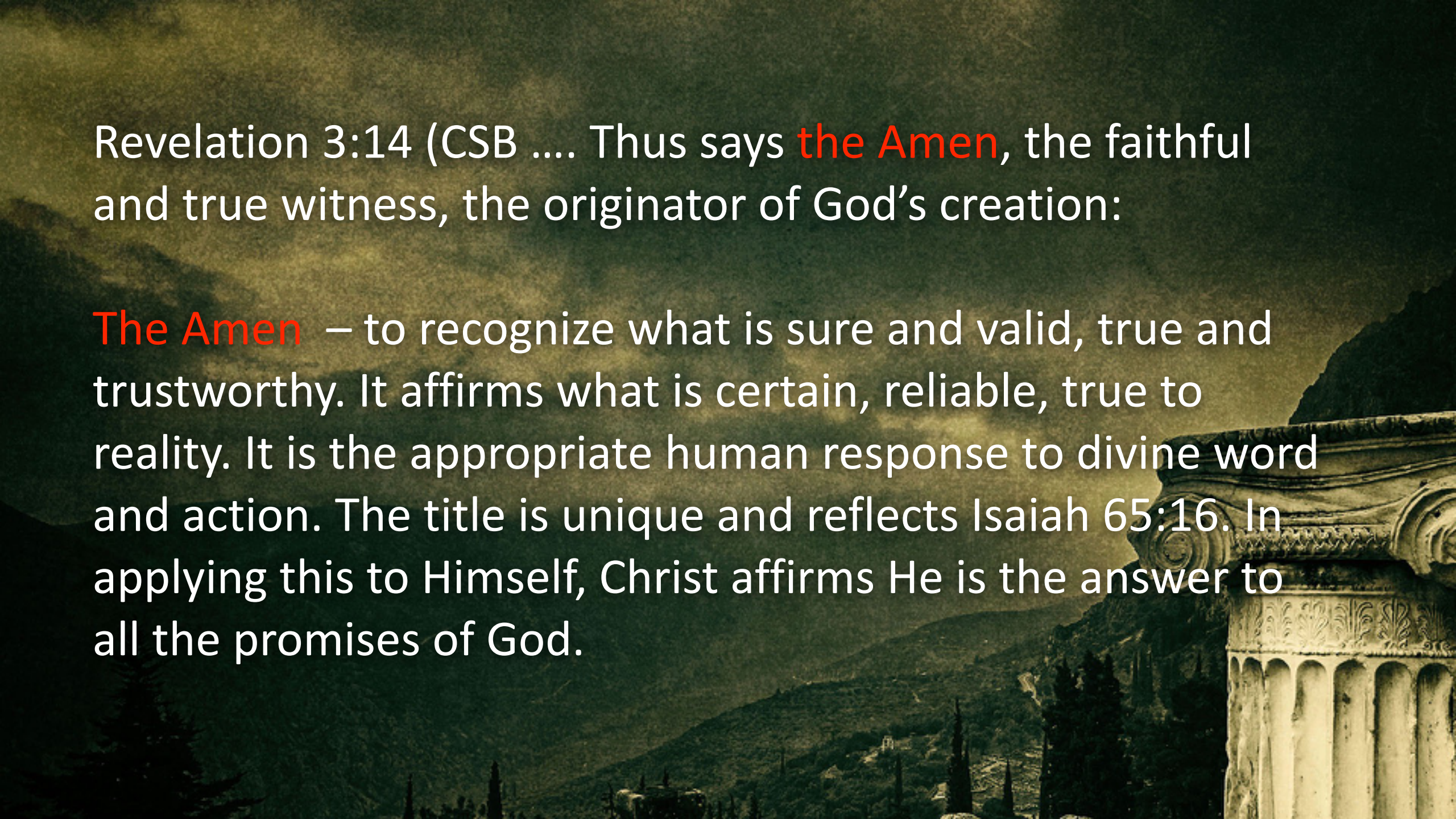
Revelation 3:20 (CSB) See! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

A dramatic landscape with a classical building in the foreground and a dark, stormy sky. The building features a prominent column with a capital. The background shows a valley with trees and a small structure, all under a heavy, dark sky with some light breaking through. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

Revelation 3:21 (CSB) “To the one who conquers I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, just as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.

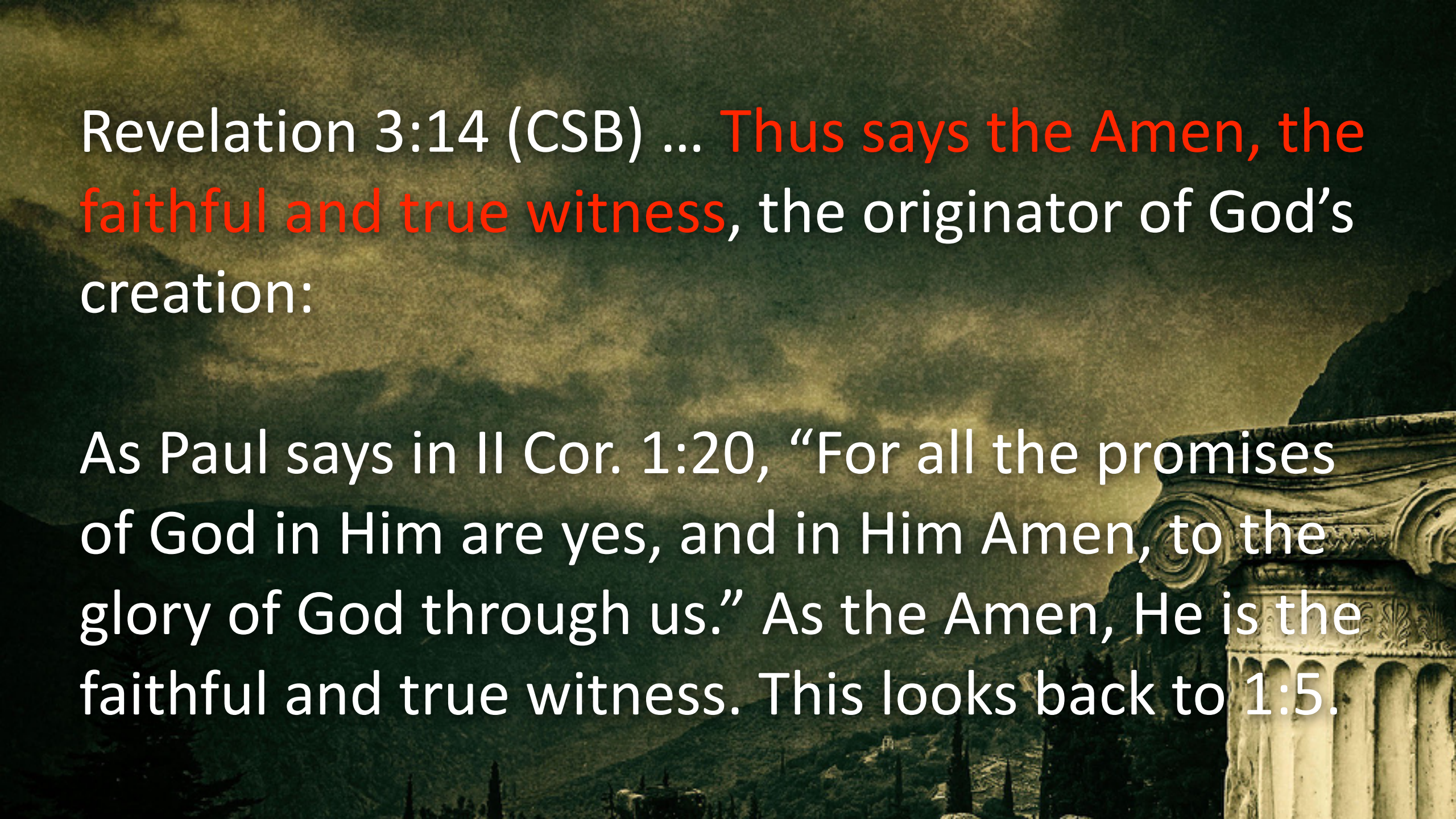
A dramatic landscape with a classical column in the foreground and a dark, stormy sky. The scene is dimly lit, with a greenish-yellow glow emanating from the sky, suggesting a storm or a divine presence. The column is a prominent feature on the right side, with its capital and fluted shaft clearly visible. The background shows a valley with some buildings and trees, all under a heavy, dark sky.

Revelation 3:22 (CSB) “Let anyone who has ears to hear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches.”

A dramatic landscape with a classical column in the foreground and a small building in the distance. The scene is set against a backdrop of rolling hills and a cloudy sky, with a small white building visible in the distance. The overall tone is somber and majestic.

Revelation 3:14 (CSB Thus says **the Amen**, the faithful and true witness, the originator of God's creation:

The Amen – to recognize what is sure and valid, true and trustworthy. It affirms what is certain, reliable, true to reality. It is the appropriate human response to divine word and action. The title is unique and reflects Isaiah 65:16. In applying this to Himself, Christ affirms He is the answer to all the promises of God.

A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a classical building in the foreground. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds, and the foreground shows a stone building with columns and a pediment, partially obscured by the text. The overall tone is somber and majestic.

Revelation 3:14 (CSB) ... **Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness**, the originator of God's creation:

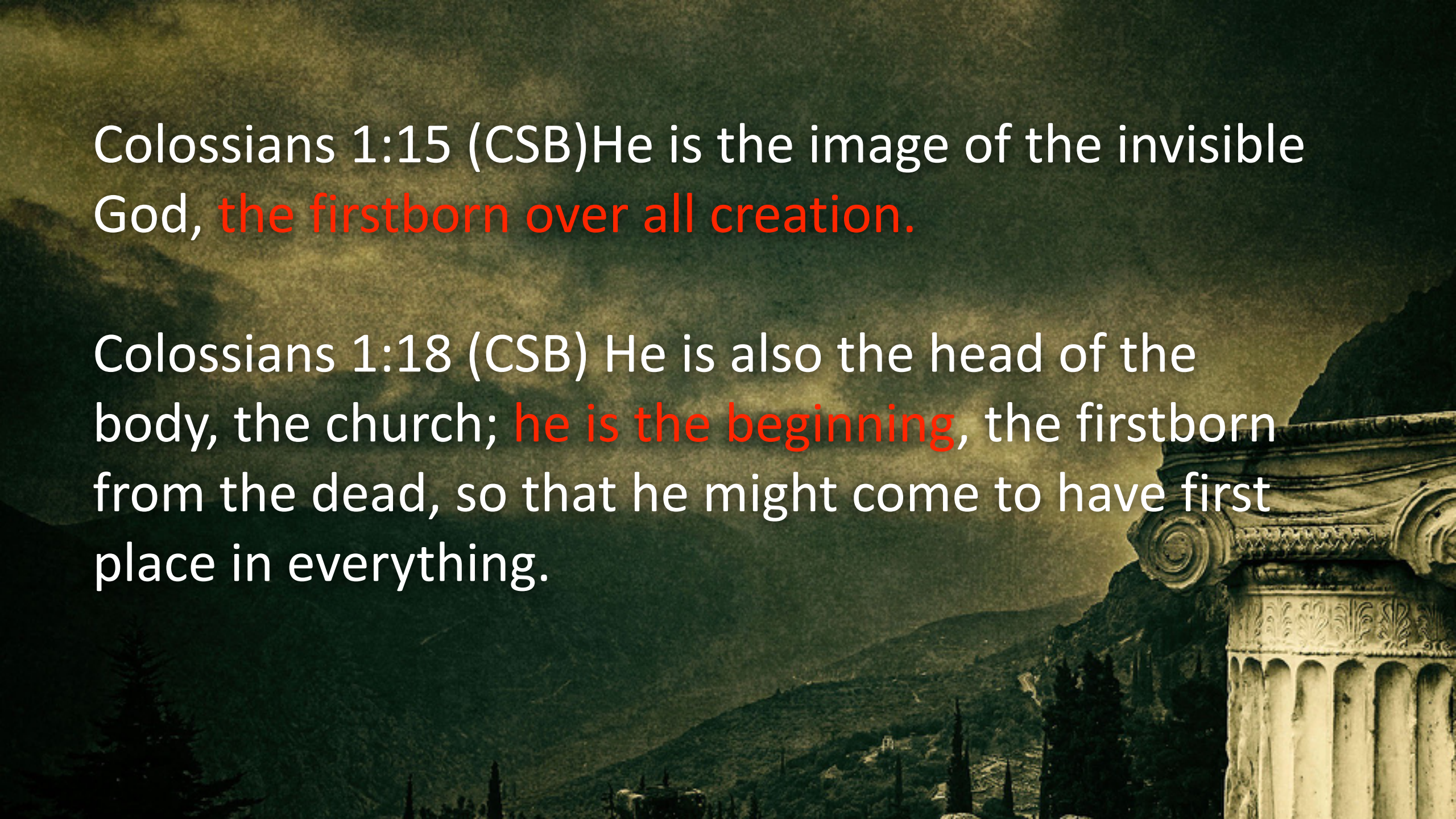
As Paul says in II Cor. 1:20, "For all the promises of God in Him are yes, and in Him Amen, to the glory of God through us." As the Amen, He is the faithful and true witness. This looks back to 1:5.

Revelation 3:14 (CSB) ... **Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness**, the originator of God's creation:

This description stands in stark contrast to the true condition of the Laodicean church. He is reliable, they are not. He is faithful, they are not. He is the True Witness, they have no witness at all. You may not trust the words and witness of Laodicean Christians, but you can trust what Jesus says every time.

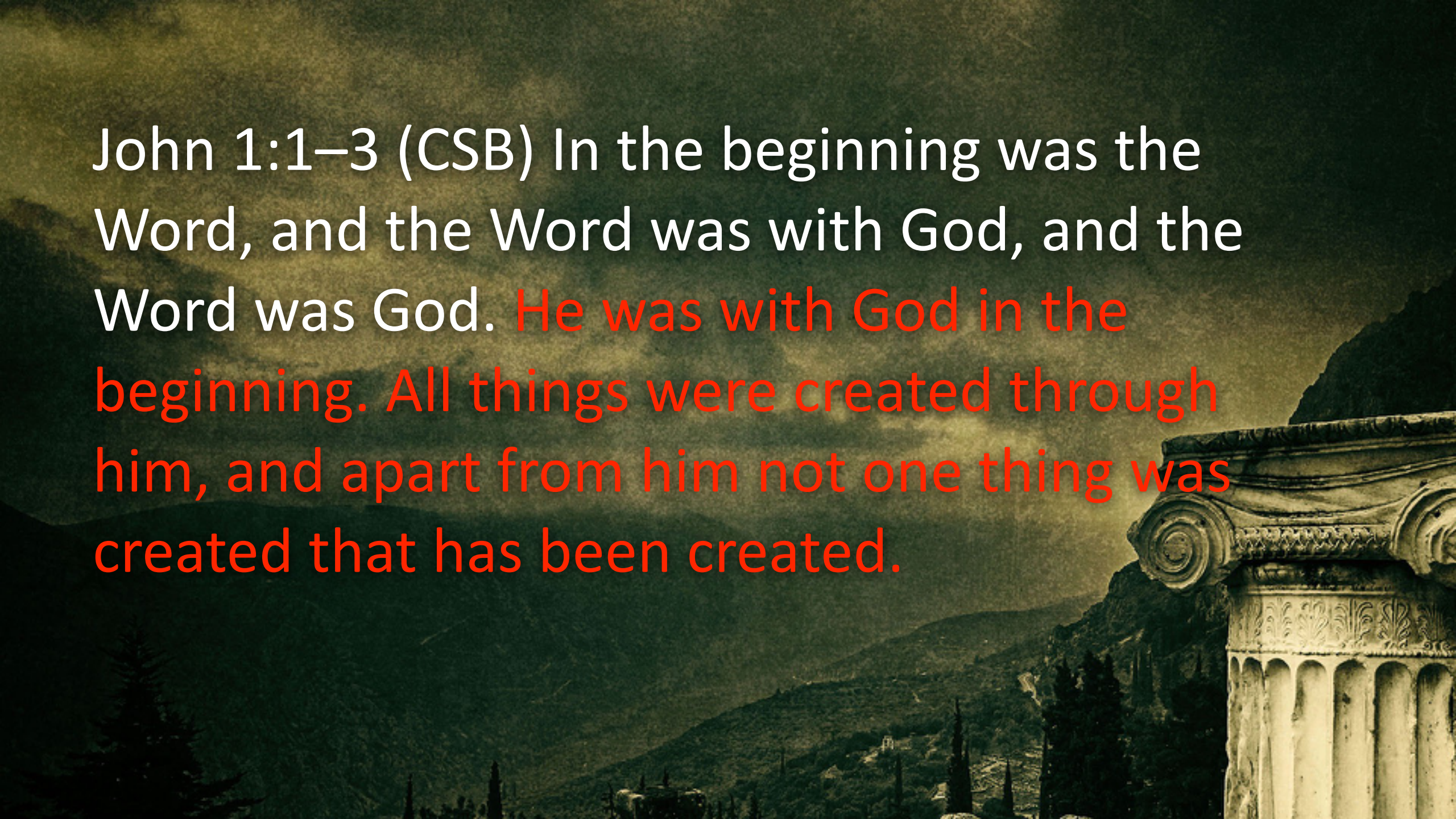
Revelation 3:14 (CSB) ... Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, **the originator of God's creation:**

The Originator, beginning (arche) of the creation of God. These words echo Col. 1:15, 18, which affirm Christ as the chief, ruler, the originator of both Creation and the Church. He is Lord over both the material and the spiritual realm. Colossae was infected with a heresy that denied the full deity and eternality of the Son.

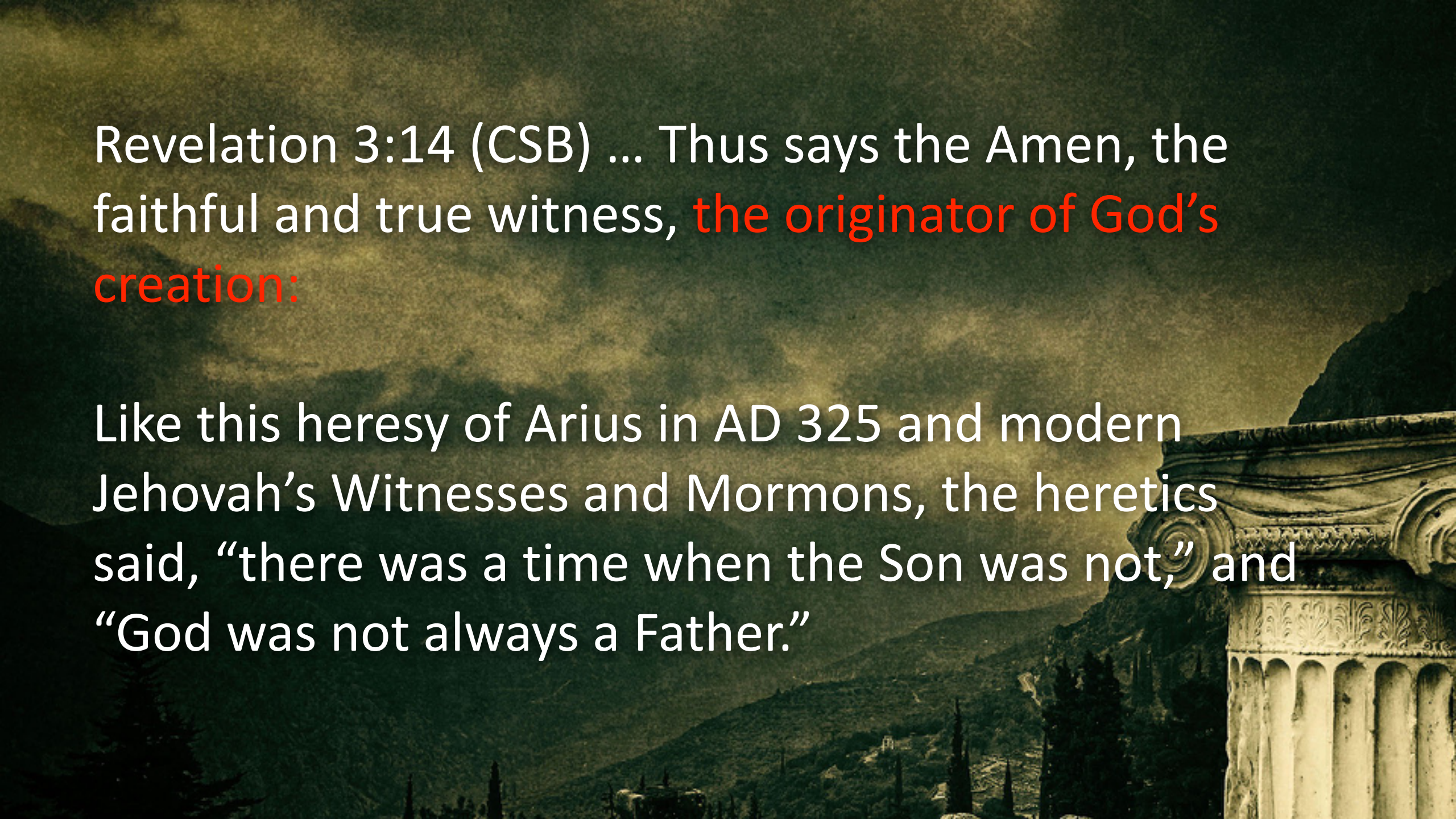
A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a classical building in the foreground. The sky is dark and moody, with a bright light source creating a glow. The building is a classical structure with columns and a pediment, partially visible on the right side. The background shows a valley with trees and a small building in the distance.

Colossians 1:15 (CSB) He is the image of the invisible God, **the firstborn over all creation.**

Colossians 1:18 (CSB) He is also the head of the body, the church; **he is the beginning**, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

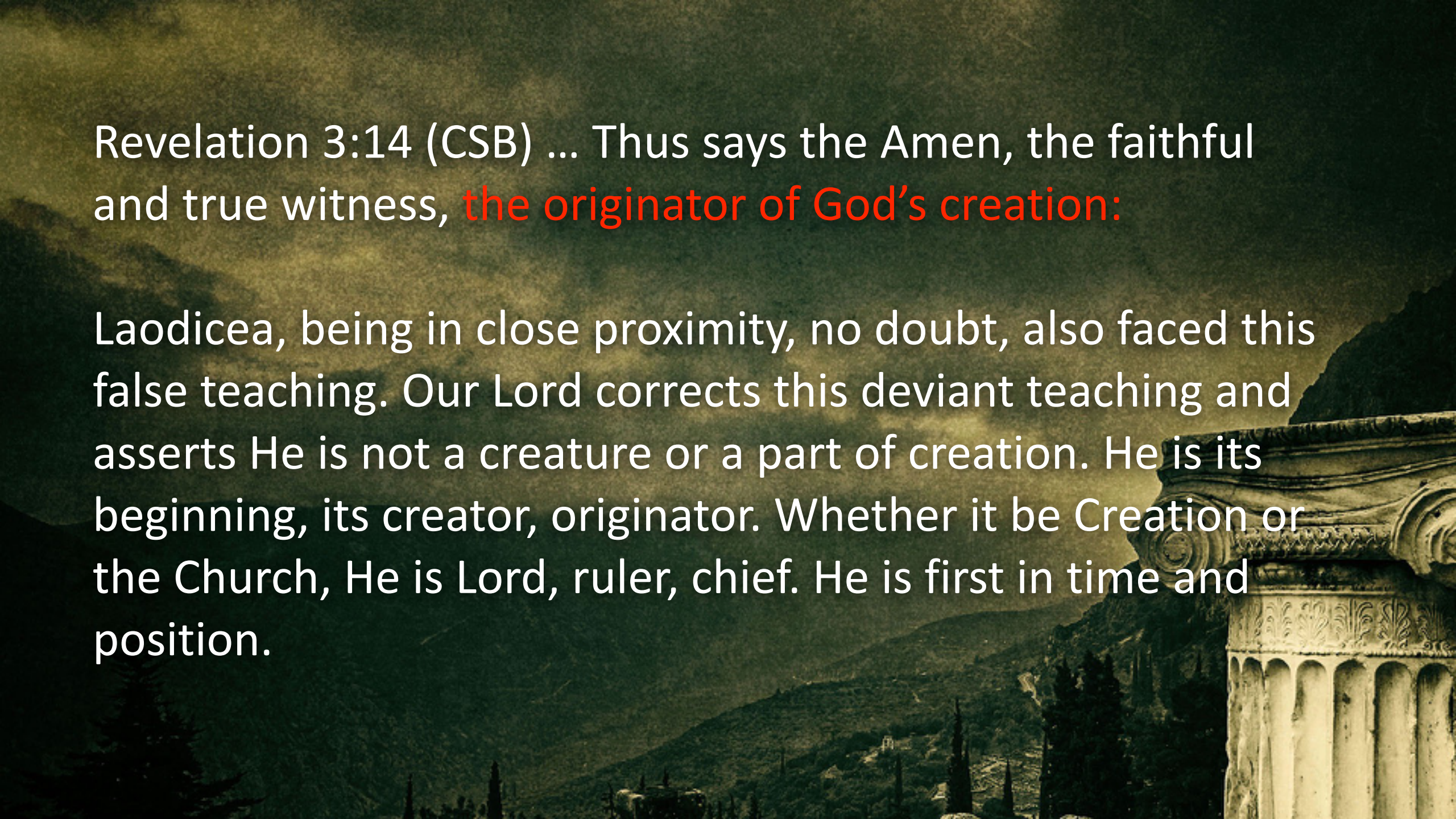
A dramatic landscape with a classical building in the foreground and a cloudy sky. The building features a prominent column with a capital. The background shows rolling hills and a small town in the distance. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, creating a somber and majestic atmosphere.

John 1:1–3 (CSB) In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. All things were created through him, and apart from him not one thing was created that has been created.

A dramatic landscape with a classical building in the foreground and mountains in the background. The building features a prominent column with a capital. The scene is set against a backdrop of rolling hills and a cloudy sky, with a small white building visible in the distance.

Revelation 3:14 (CSB) ... Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, **the originator of God's creation:**

Like this heresy of Arius in AD 325 and modern Jehovah's Witnesses and Mormons, the heretics said, "there was a time when the Son was not," and "God was not always a Father."

The background of the slide features a dramatic, low-key landscape. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a faint light source breaking through, creating a hazy glow. In the foreground on the right, the corner of a classical building is visible, showing a column with a fluted shaft and a capital. The overall color palette is dark and moody, with shades of green, brown, and grey.

Revelation 3:14 (CSB) ... Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, **the originator of God's creation:**

Laodicea, being in close proximity, no doubt, also faced this false teaching. Our Lord corrects this deviant teaching and asserts He is not a creature or a part of creation. He is its beginning, its creator, originator. Whether it be Creation or the Church, He is Lord, ruler, chief. He is first in time and position.

The background of the slide features a dark, atmospheric landscape with a cloudy sky. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical building with a column is visible. The text is overlaid on this background.

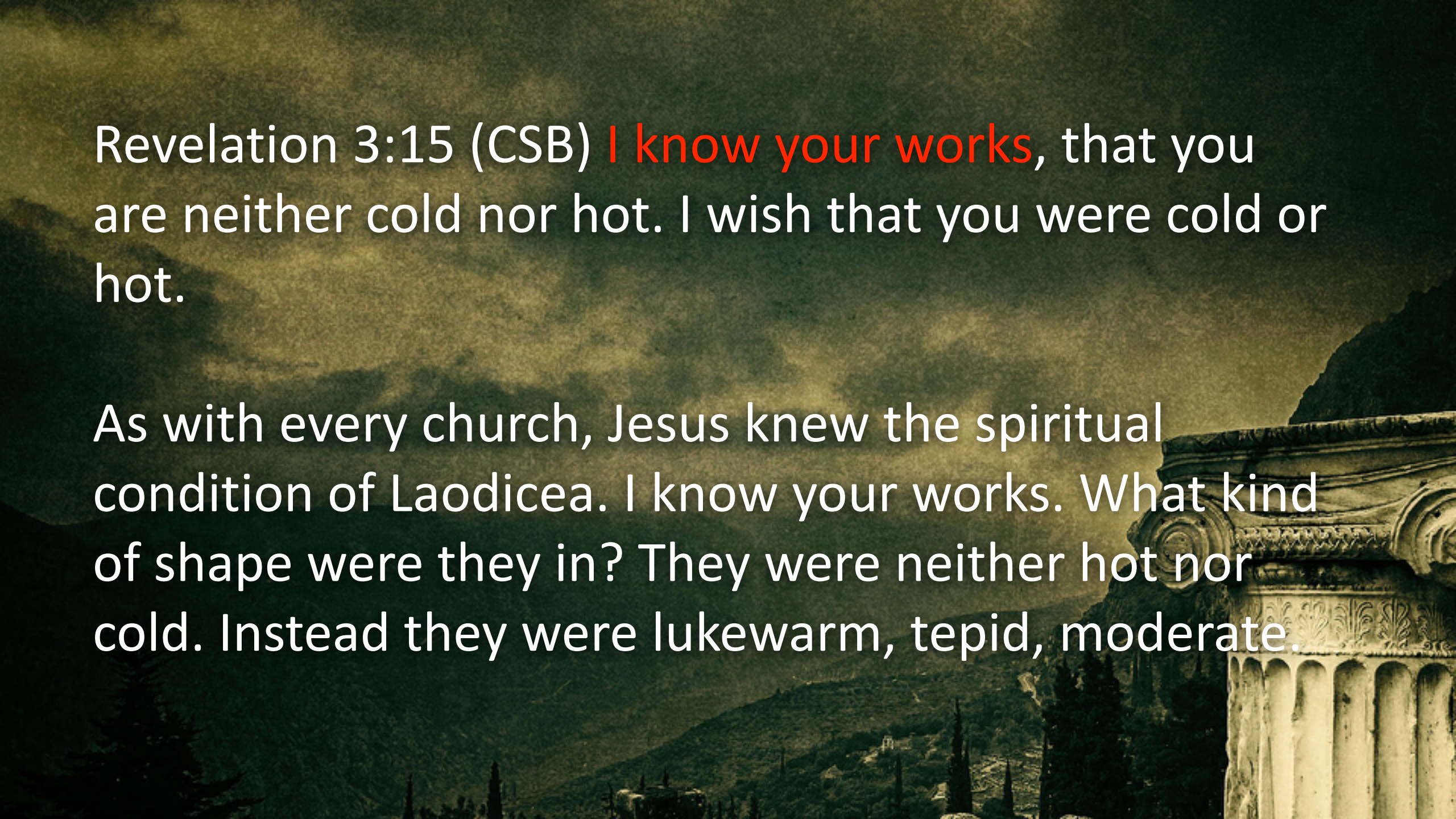
Revelation 3:14 (CSB) ... Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, **the originator of God's creation:**

Laodicean Christians forget or ignore the exalted and preeminent place that belongs only to Jesus. They lose sight of who He is and what He has done and is doing. What He starts He will complete. What He begins He will finish. Laodicean Christians may stop before completing the task, but not Jesus. What He has created and what He has saved He will stay with to the end. Can the same be said of us?

**To get out of a lukewarm
Christianity....**

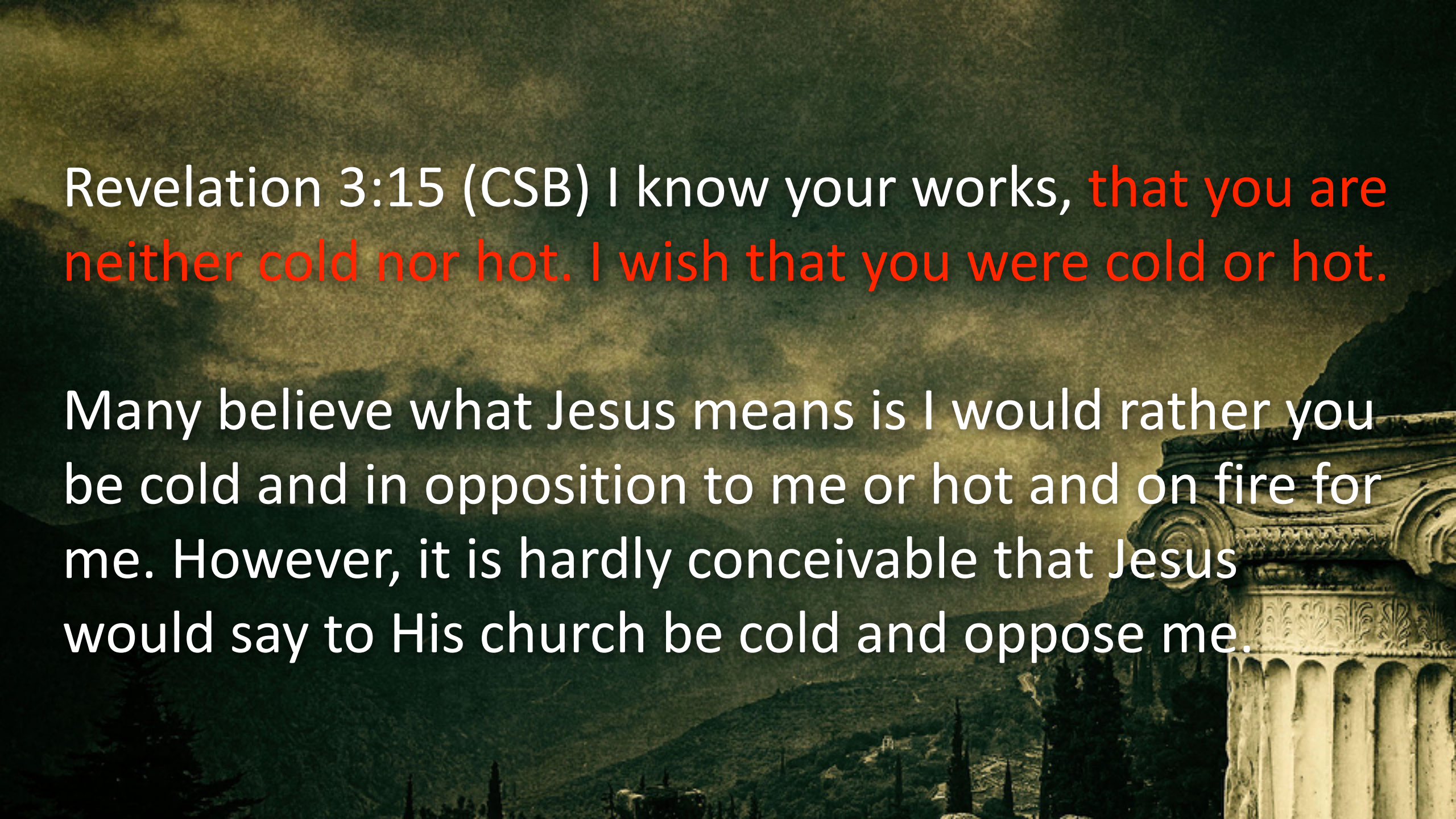
**1) Sense your true state - You are
naked and blind. (vs. 14-17)**



A dramatic, low-key photograph of a landscape. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical building with columns and a pediment is visible, illuminated from the side. The background shows a dark, hazy landscape with rolling hills and a small building in the distance. The overall mood is somber and atmospheric.

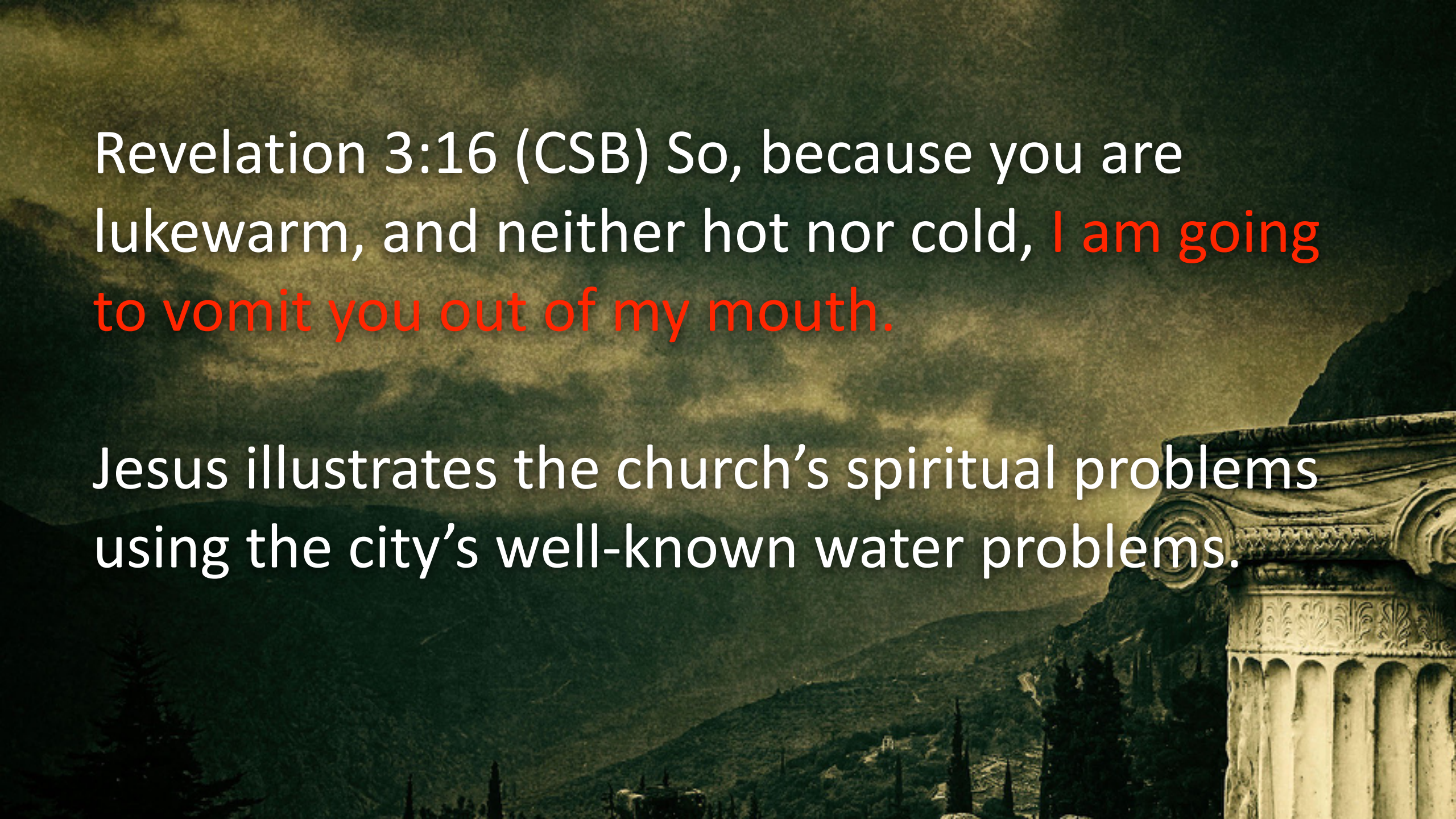
Revelation 3:15 (CSB) **I know your works**, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot.

As with every church, Jesus knew the spiritual condition of Laodicea. I know your works. What kind of shape were they in? They were neither hot nor cold. Instead they were lukewarm, tepid, moderate.



Revelation 3:15 (CSB) I know your works, **that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish that you were cold or hot.**

Many believe what Jesus means is I would rather you be cold and in opposition to me or hot and on fire for me. However, it is hardly conceivable that Jesus would say to His church be cold and oppose me.

A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a classical building in the foreground. The sky is dark and moody, with a bright light source breaking through the clouds, creating a lens flare effect. The foreground shows the ornate columns and capitals of a classical building, possibly a temple or church, partially obscured by the text. The background consists of rolling hills and mountains under a dark, stormy sky.

Revelation 3:16 (CSB) So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, **I am going to vomit you out of my mouth.**

Jesus illustrates the church's spiritual problems using the city's well-known water problems.

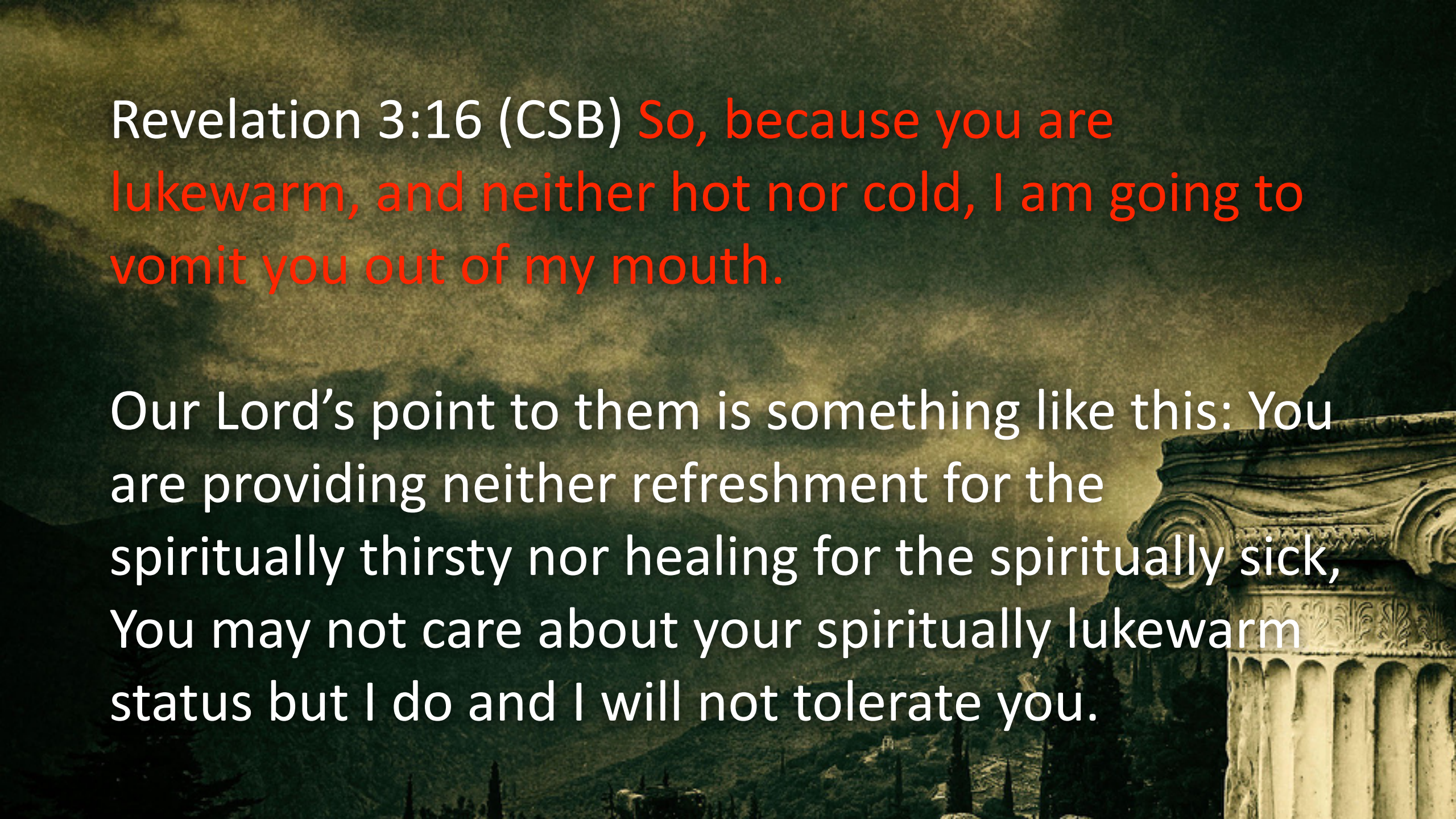


Revelation 3:16 (CSB) ...**I am going to vomit you out of my mouth.**

Hierapolis to the north enjoyed hot springs useful for healing, while Colossae to the east had cold, refreshing drinking water. But Laodicea received its water from a spring about five miles to the south. By the time this mineral-rich water made its way over the Roman aqueduct to Laodicea, it had become lukewarm and disgusting to drink.

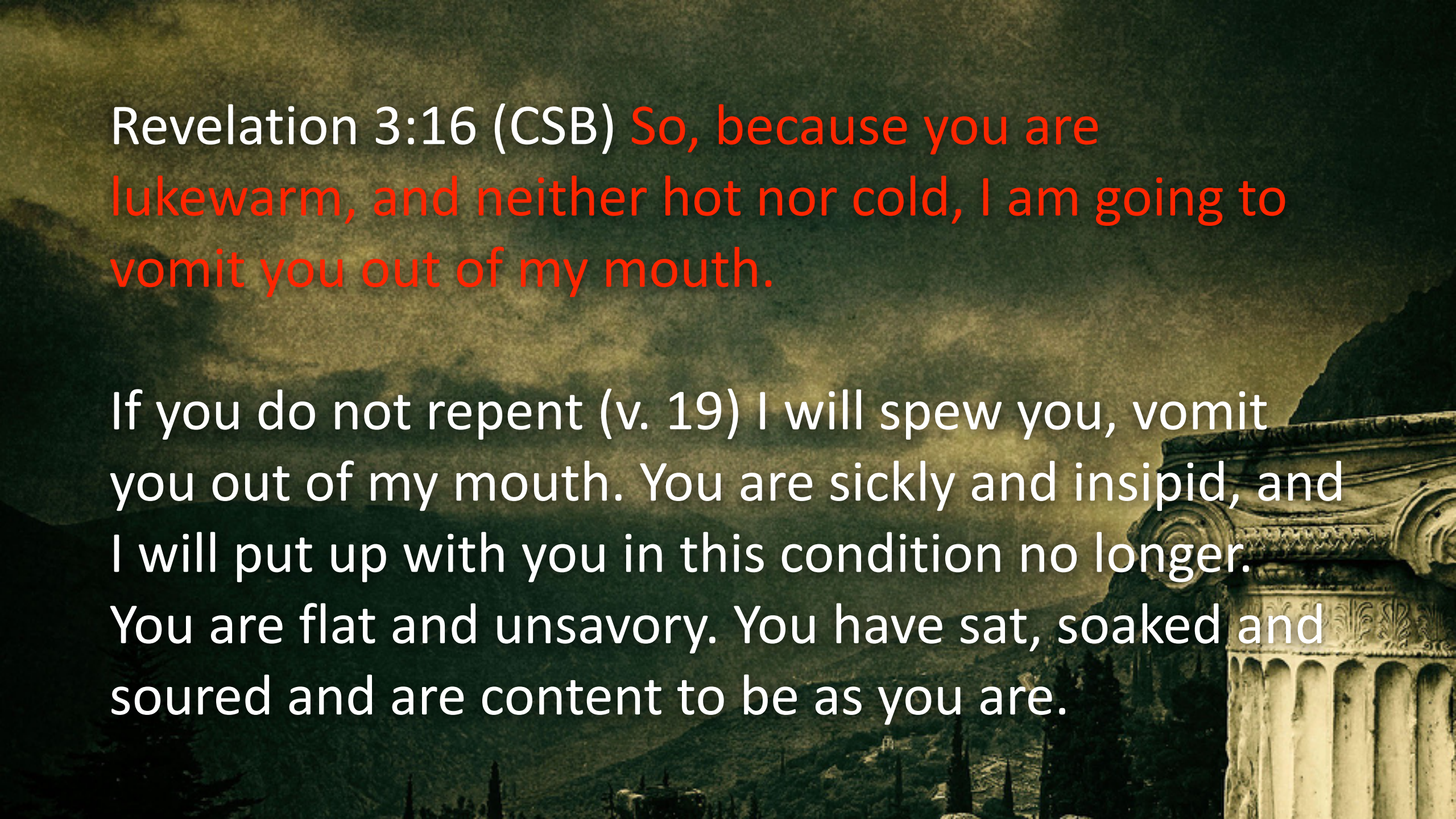
The unpalatable lukewarm water received by the residents of Laodicea was used to illustrate the Lord's response to the church's lukewarm deeds. Shown here are the remains of water pipes excavated at ancient Laodicea.





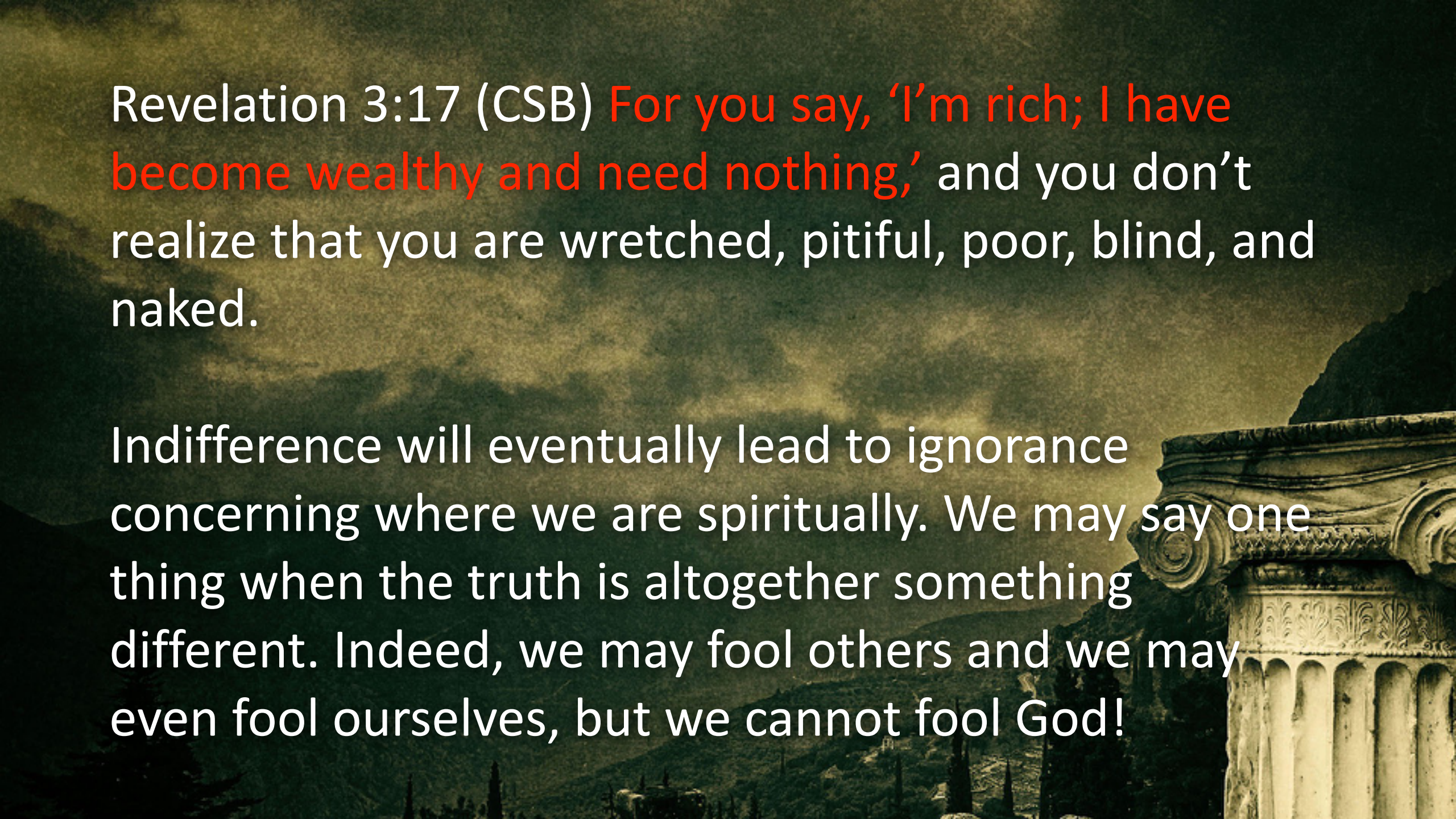
Revelation 3:16 (CSB) **So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I am going to vomit you out of my mouth.**

Our Lord's point to them is something like this: You are providing neither refreshment for the spiritually thirsty nor healing for the spiritually sick, You may not care about your spiritually lukewarm status but I do and I will not tolerate you.

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a classical building with a prominent column and a decorative capital. The sky is a mix of dark green and brown, suggesting a storm or a dramatic sunset. The overall mood is somber and intense.

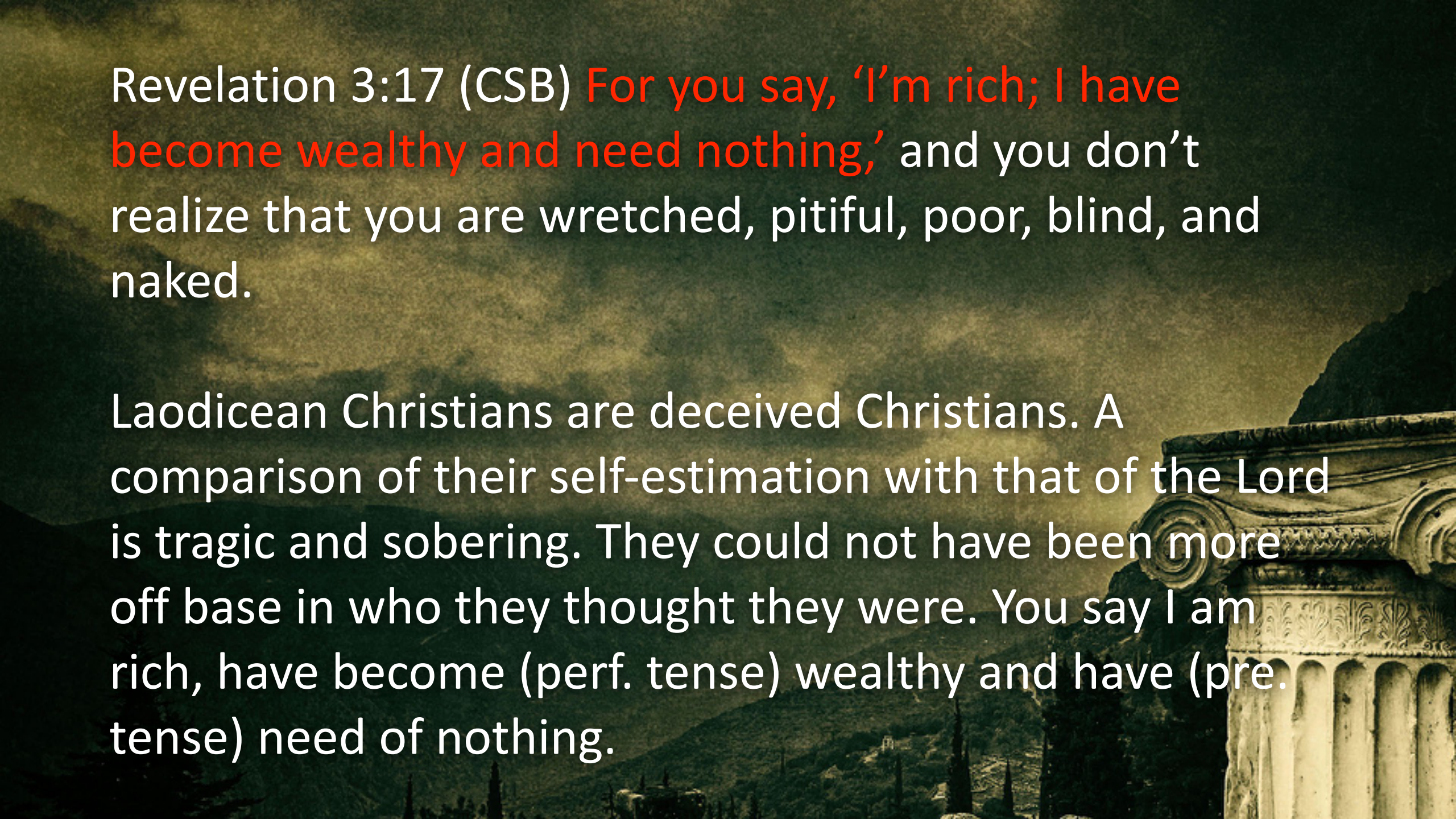
Revelation 3:16 (CSB) **So, because you are lukewarm, and neither hot nor cold, I am going to vomit you out of my mouth.**

If you do not repent (v. 19) I will spew you, vomit you out of my mouth. You are sickly and insipid, and I will put up with you in this condition no longer. You are flat and unsavory. You have sat, soaked and soured and are content to be as you are.



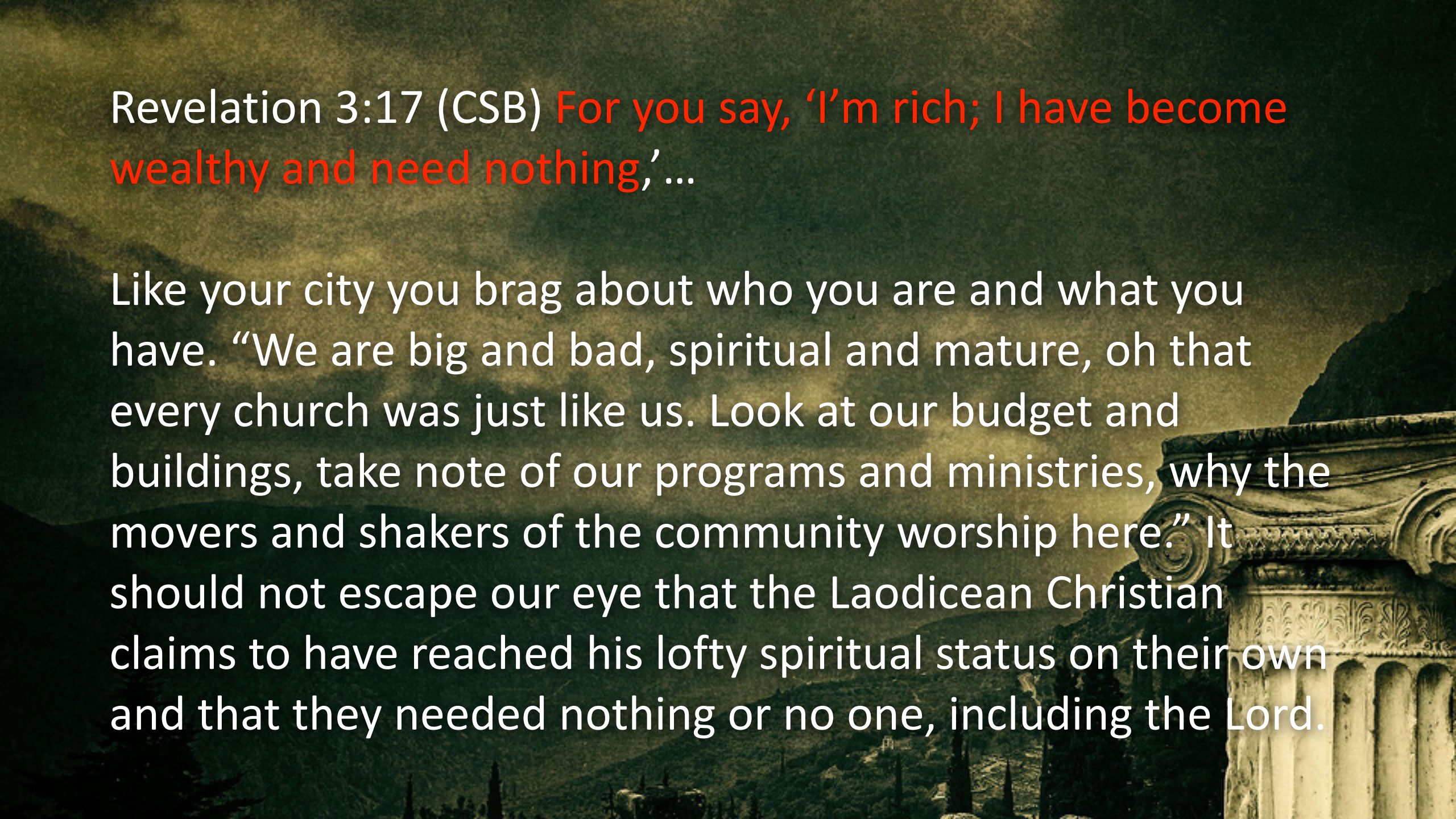
Revelation 3:17 (CSB) **For you say, 'I'm rich; I have become wealthy and need nothing,'** and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

Indifference will eventually lead to ignorance concerning where we are spiritually. We may say one thing when the truth is altogether something different. Indeed, we may fool others and we may even fool ourselves, but we cannot fool God!



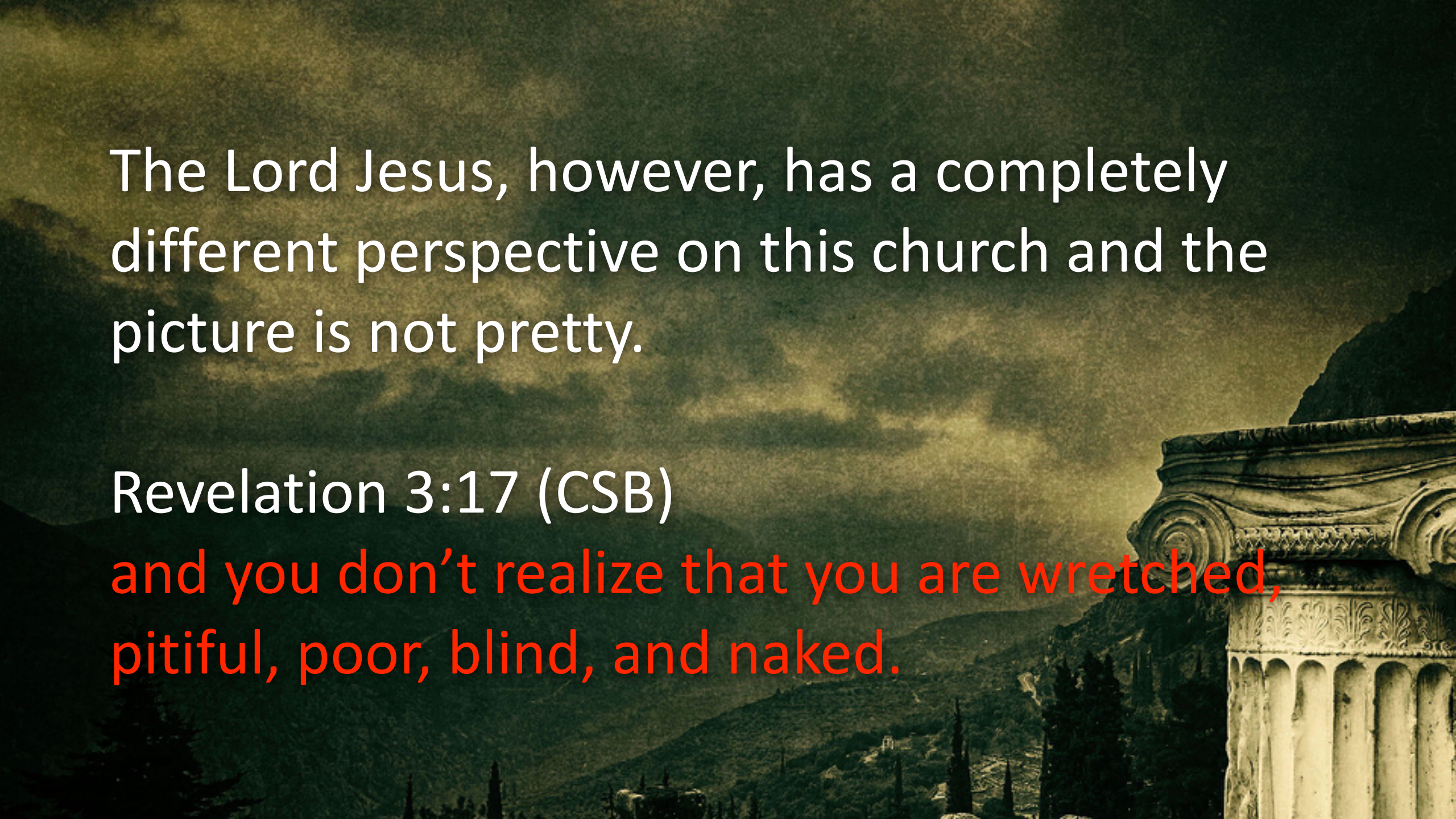
Revelation 3:17 (CSB) **For you say, 'I'm rich; I have become wealthy and need nothing,'** and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

Laodicean Christians are deceived Christians. A comparison of their self-estimation with that of the Lord is tragic and sobering. They could not have been more off base in who they thought they were. You say I am rich, have become (perf. tense) wealthy and have (pre. tense) need of nothing.

The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a classical building with a prominent column and capital, possibly a temple or church. The sky is dark and moody, with some light filtering through the clouds. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

Revelation 3:17 (CSB) **For you say, 'I'm rich; I have become wealthy and need nothing,'...**

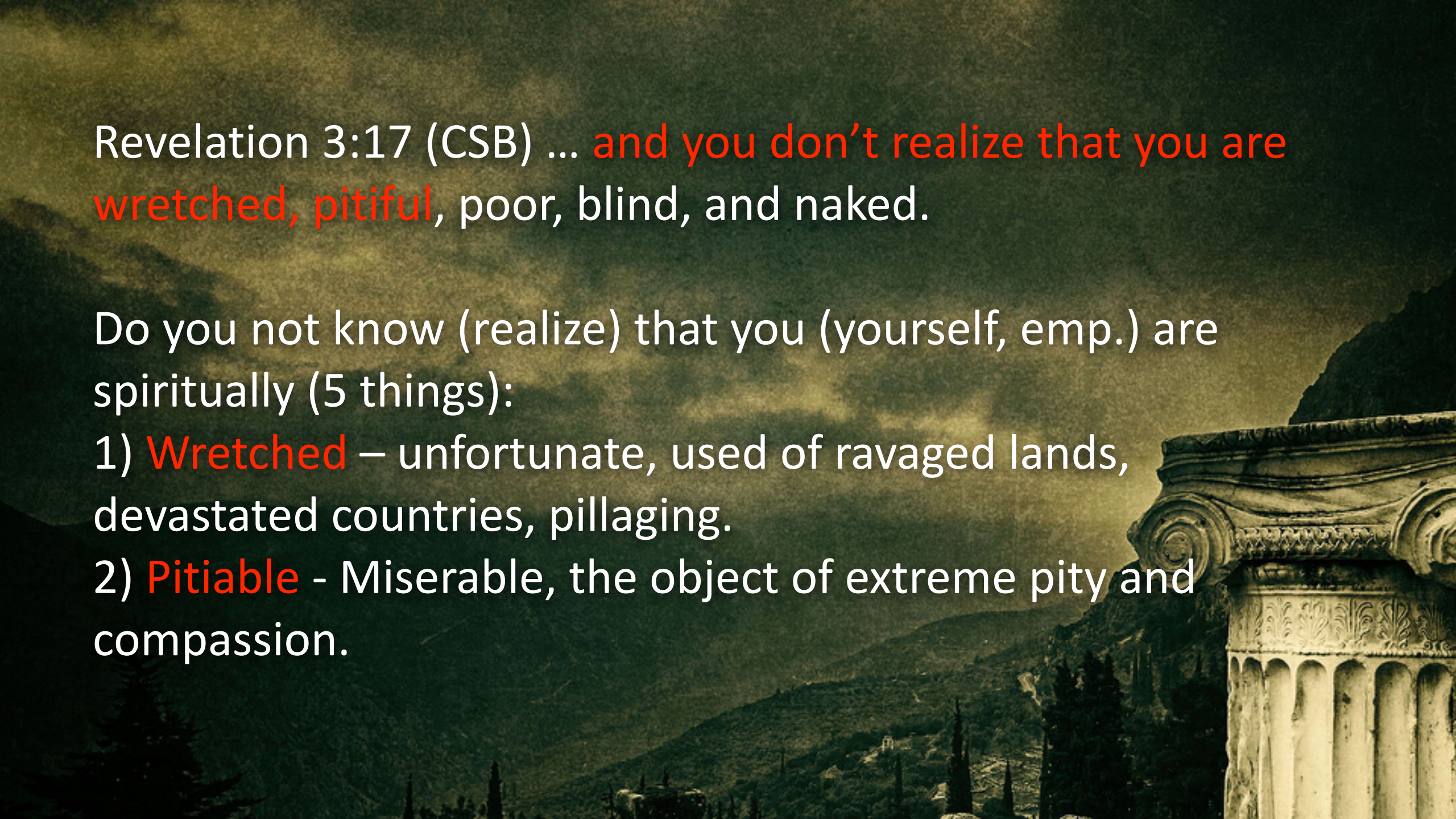
Like your city you brag about who you are and what you have. "We are big and bad, spiritual and mature, oh that every church was just like us. Look at our budget and buildings, take note of our programs and ministries, why the movers and shakers of the community worship here." It should not escape our eye that the Laodicean Christian claims to have reached his lofty spiritual status on their own and that they needed nothing or no one, including the Lord.

The background of the slide is a dramatic, dark landscape. The sky is filled with heavy, dark clouds, with a faint light source breaking through, creating a hazy, golden glow. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical building is visible, featuring a large, ornate column with a capital. The overall mood is somber and atmospheric.

The Lord Jesus, however, has a completely different perspective on this church and the picture is not pretty.

Revelation 3:17 (CSB)

and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

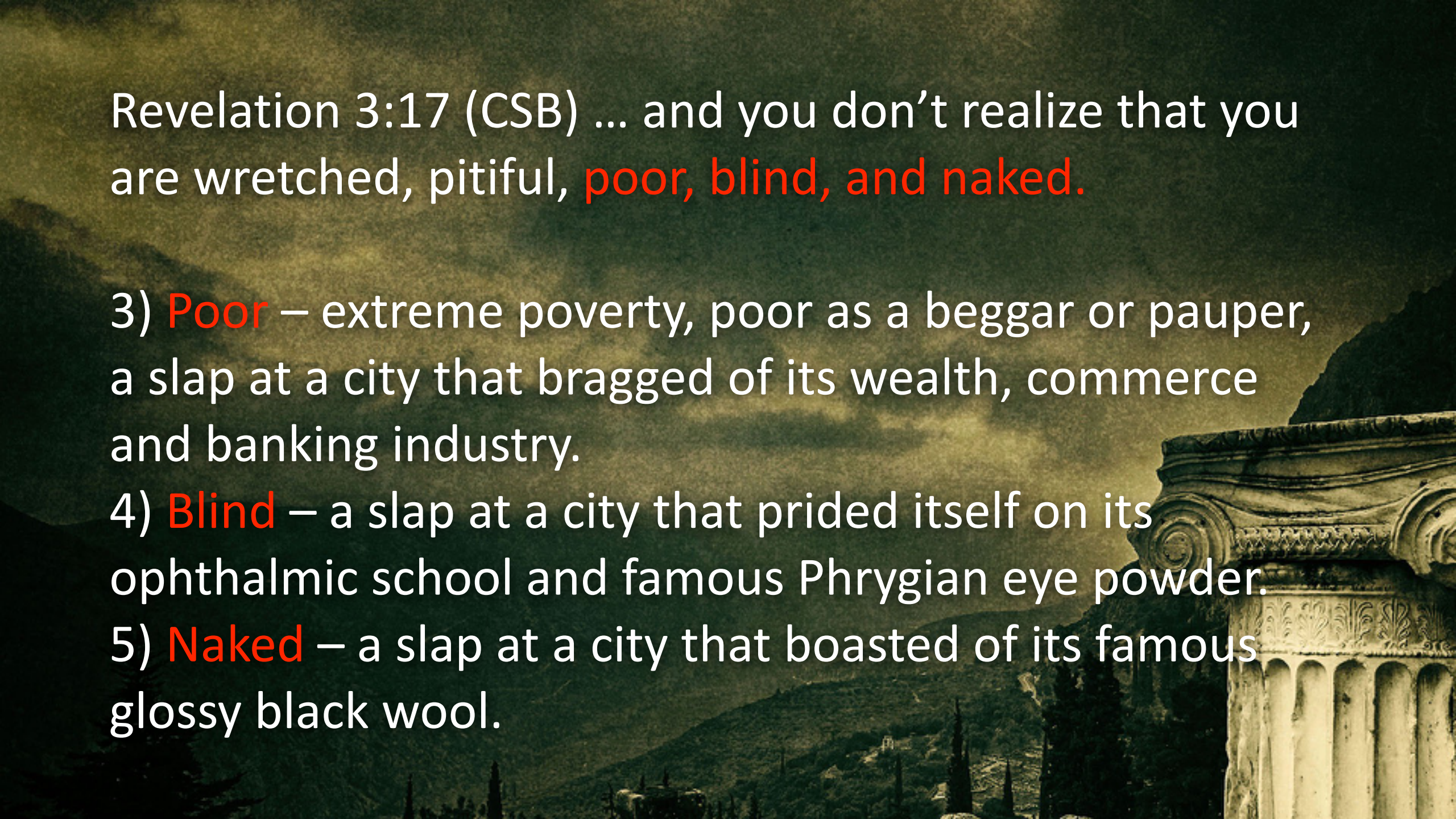
The background of the slide features a dramatic, low-key landscape. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical building with a prominent column and capital is visible. The rest of the scene is dominated by a vast, hazy landscape with rolling hills and a sky filled with dark, textured clouds, suggesting a somber or desolate atmosphere.

Revelation 3:17 (CSB) ... **and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful**, poor, blind, and naked.

Do you not know (realize) that you (yourself, emp.) are spiritually (5 things):

1) **Wretched** – unfortunate, used of ravaged lands, devastated countries, pillaging.

2) **Pitiable** - Miserable, the object of extreme pity and compassion.

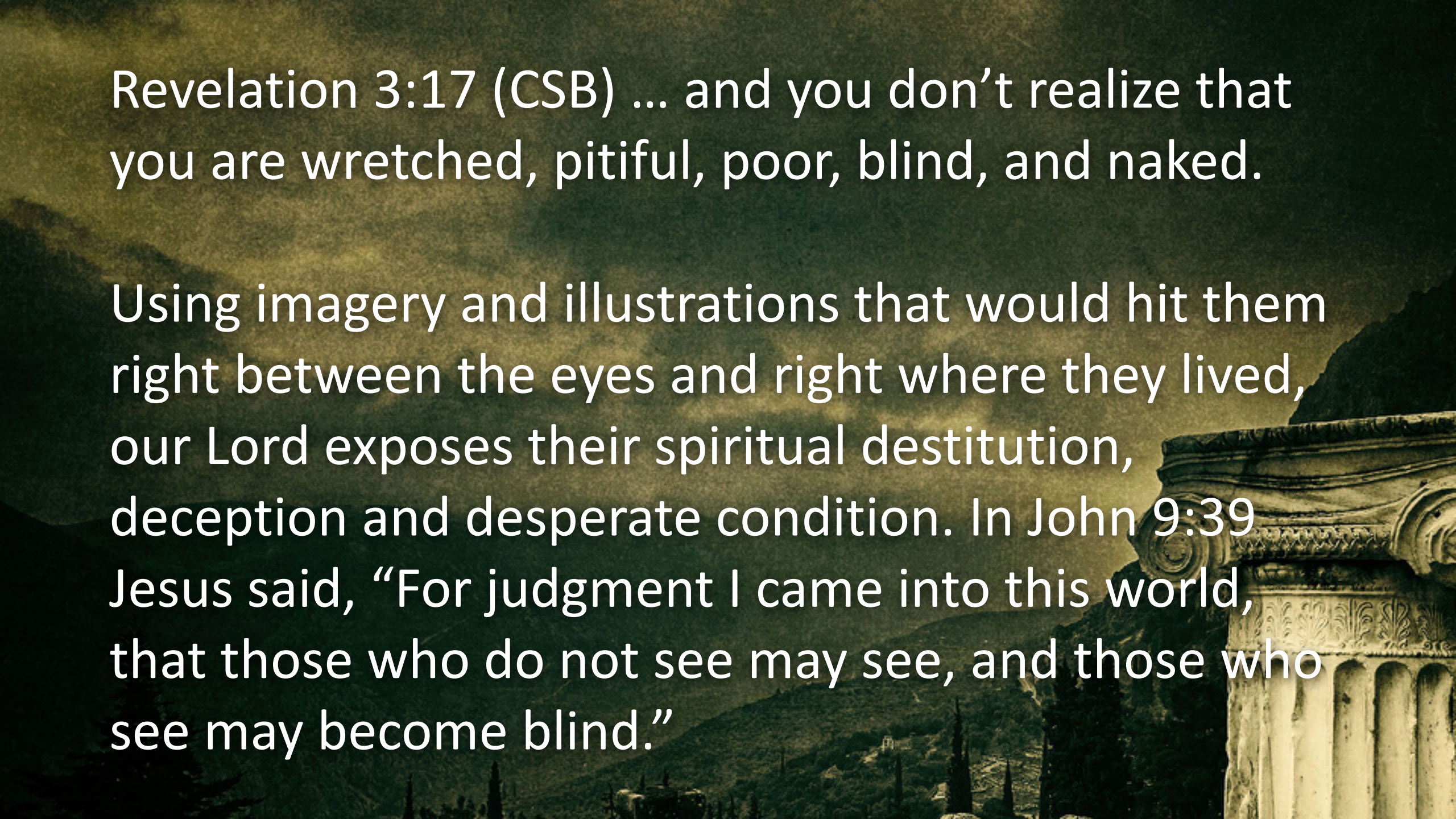
The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a portion of a classical building with a prominent column and a decorative capital. The rest of the background shows a dark, hilly terrain under a cloudy, dimly lit sky, possibly at dusk or dawn. The overall mood is somber and dramatic.

Revelation 3:17 (CSB) ... and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, **poor, blind, and naked.**

3) **Poor** – extreme poverty, poor as a beggar or pauper, a slap at a city that bragged of its wealth, commerce and banking industry.

4) **Blind** – a slap at a city that prided itself on its ophthalmic school and famous Phrygian eye powder.

5) **Naked** – a slap at a city that boasted of its famous glossy black wool.



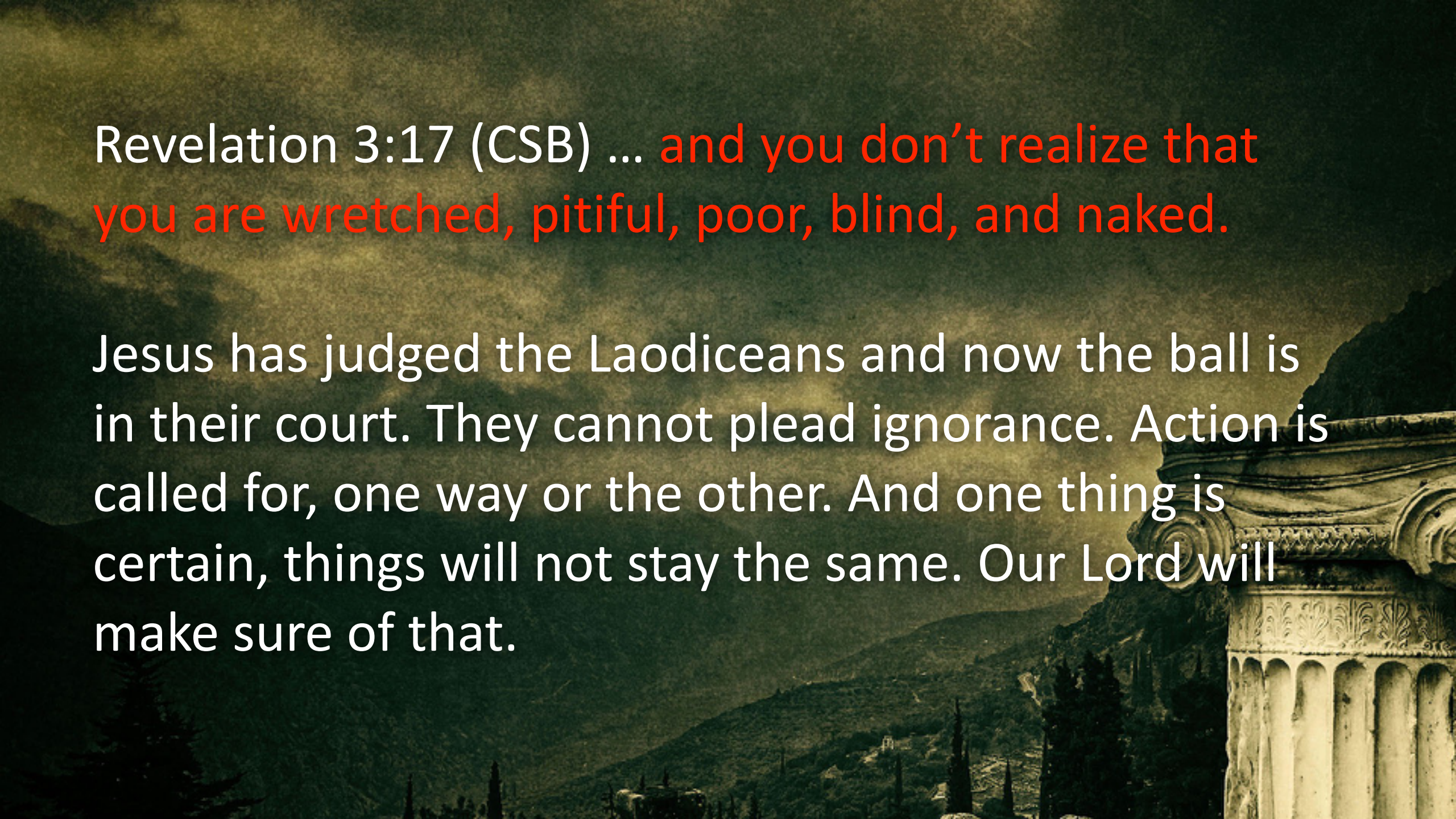
Revelation 3:17 (CSB) ... and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

Using imagery and illustrations that would hit them right between the eyes and right where they lived, our Lord exposes their spiritual destitution, deception and desperate condition. In John 9:39 Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."



“They are beggars because they have nothing with which to purchase their forgiveness or an entry into the Kingdom of God. They are naked because they have no clothes to fit them to stand before God. They are blind because they have no idea either of their spiritual poverty or of their spiritual danger.”

John Stott, *What Christ Thinks of the Church*, 116.

The background of the slide features a dramatic, low-key landscape. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical building with a column and an ornate capital is visible. The rest of the scene is dominated by dark, silhouetted hills and a sky filled with heavy, dark clouds, suggesting a storm or a somber atmosphere. The lighting is moody, with some highlights on the clouds and the building's capital.

Revelation 3:17 (CSB) ... and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

Jesus has judged the Laodiceans and now the ball is in their court. They cannot plead ignorance. Action is called for, one way or the other. And one thing is certain, things will not stay the same. Our Lord will make sure of that.

Revelation 3:17 (CSB) ... **and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.**



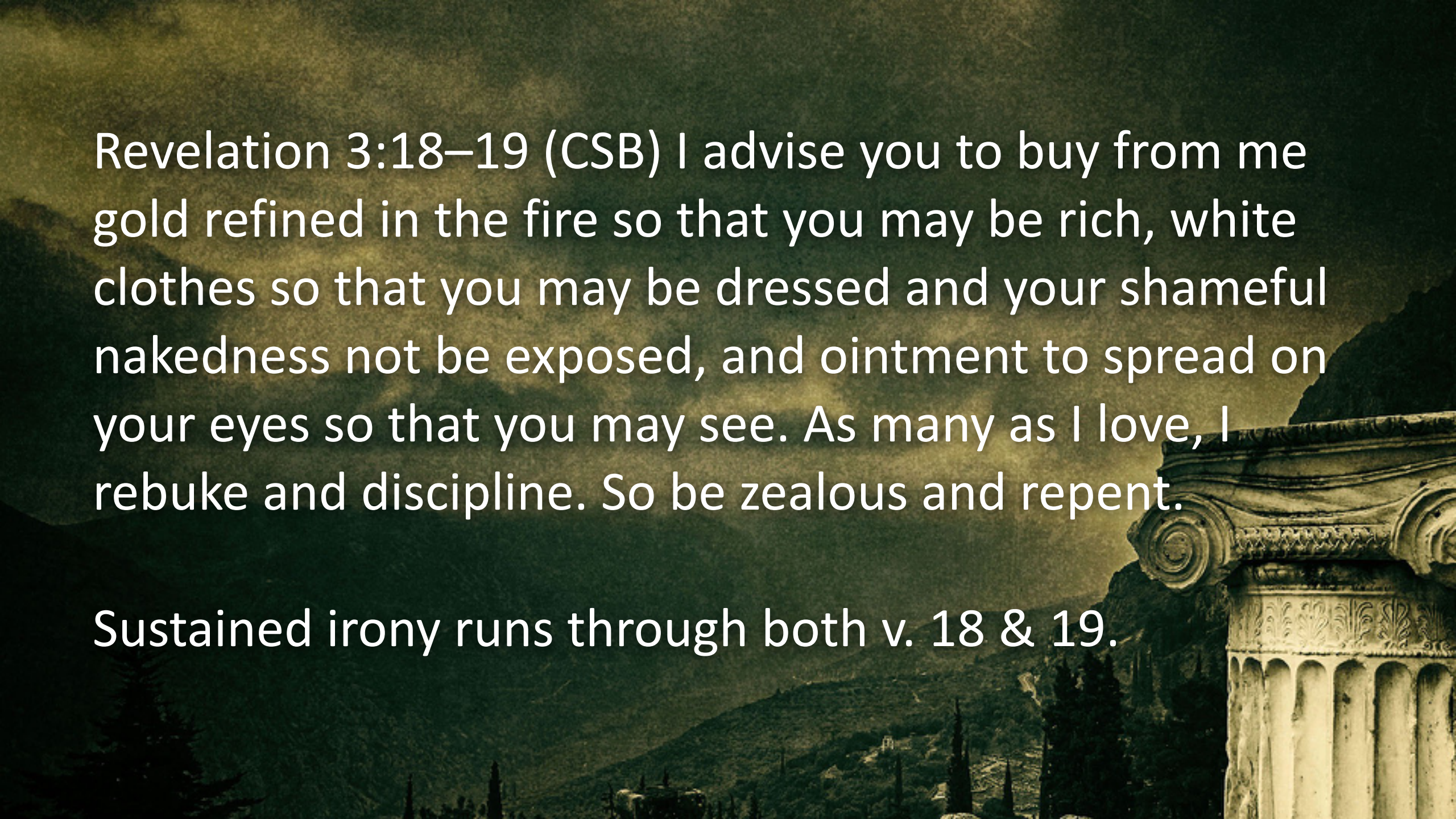
Vance Havner again puts the issue in plain view, “Smyrna was a rich poor church and Laodicea was a poor rich church. They were blind, shortsighted. They had no vision of God, of their own hearts, of the world’s need. I’d rather be a rich poor Christian than a poor rich Christian!”

The background of the slide is a dramatic, low-key photograph. On the right side, the corner of a classical building with a column and a pediment is visible, lit from the side. The rest of the image shows a dark, hazy landscape with rolling hills and some trees under a cloudy sky. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

**To get out of a lukewarm
Christianity....**

**1) Sense your true state - You are
naked and blind. (vs. 14-17)**

2) Seek Jesus for His provisions (vs. 18)

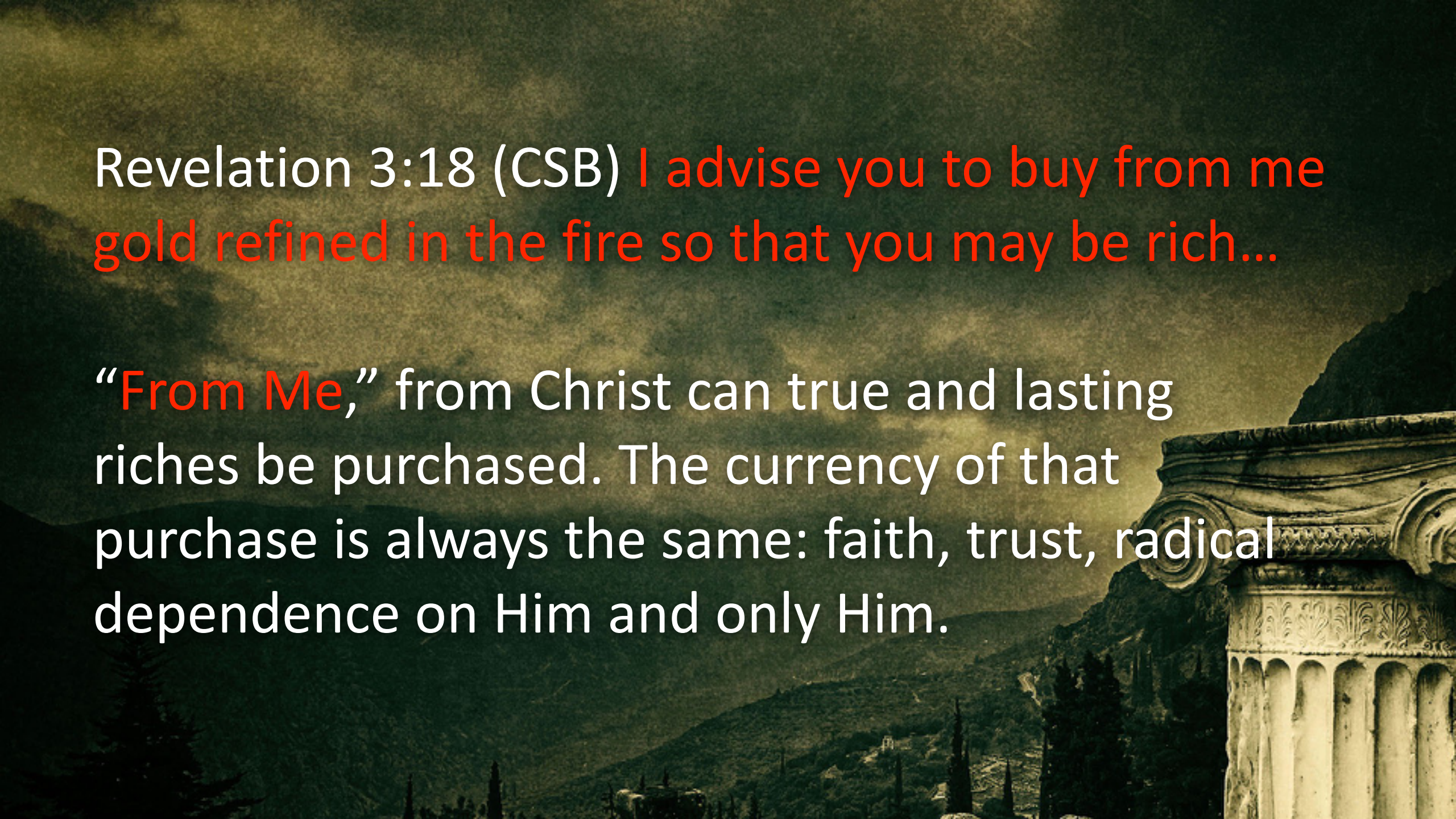


Revelation 3:18–19 (CSB) I advise you to buy from me gold refined in the fire so that you may be rich, white clothes so that you may be dressed and your shameful nakedness not be exposed, and ointment to spread on your eyes so that you may see. As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline. So be zealous and repent.

Sustained irony runs through both v. 18 & 19.

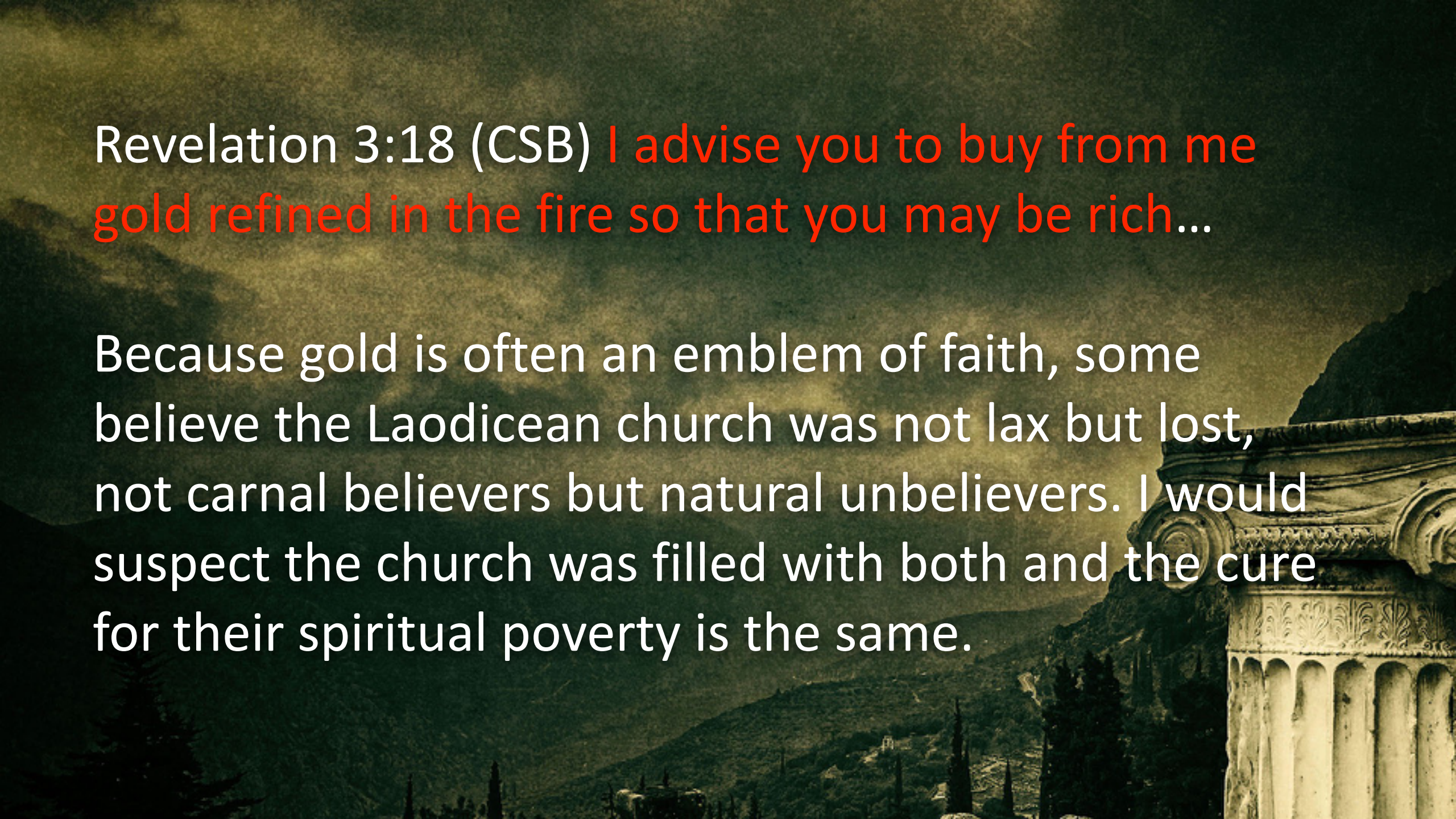
Revelation 3:18–19

The arrogant attitude and smug satisfaction of Laodicean Christianity is confronted and countered with counsel that they make specific purchases from Jesus in precisely those areas where they are so certain they have no need. The wisdom our Lord shares is instructive for each and every one of us.

A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a classical building in the foreground. The sky is dark and moody, with a bright light source breaking through the clouds. The building is a classical structure with columns and a pediment, partially visible on the right side of the frame. The overall tone is somber and majestic.

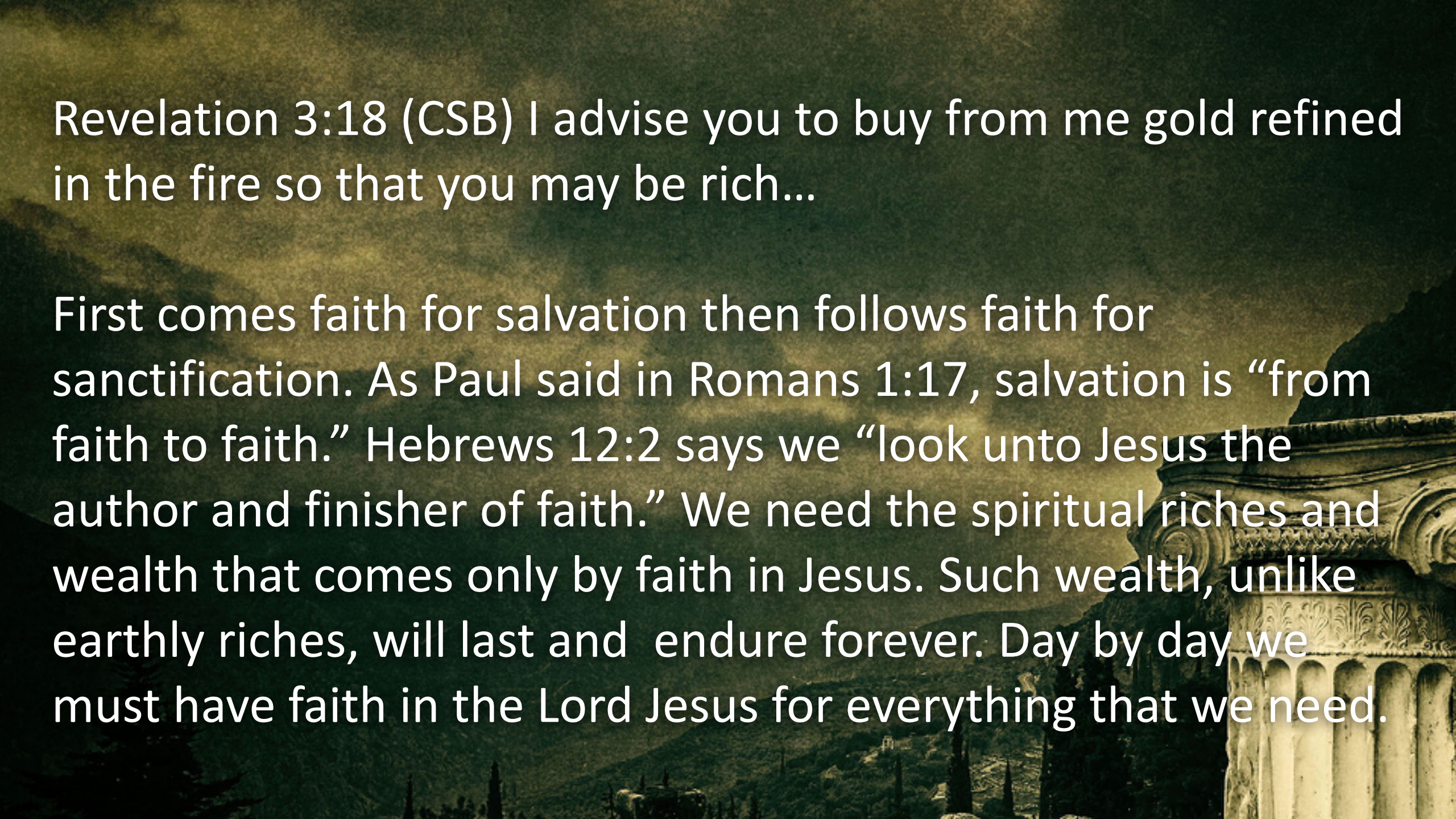
Revelation 3:18 (CSB) I advise you to buy from me
gold refined in the fire so that you may be rich...

“From Me,” from Christ can true and lasting
riches be purchased. The currency of that
purchase is always the same: faith, trust, radical
dependence on Him and only Him.

The background of the slide features a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical building with a column and an archway is visible. The sky is filled with dark, swirling clouds, suggesting a storm or a dramatic sunset. The overall color palette is dominated by dark greens, greys, and blacks, with a touch of orange from the text.

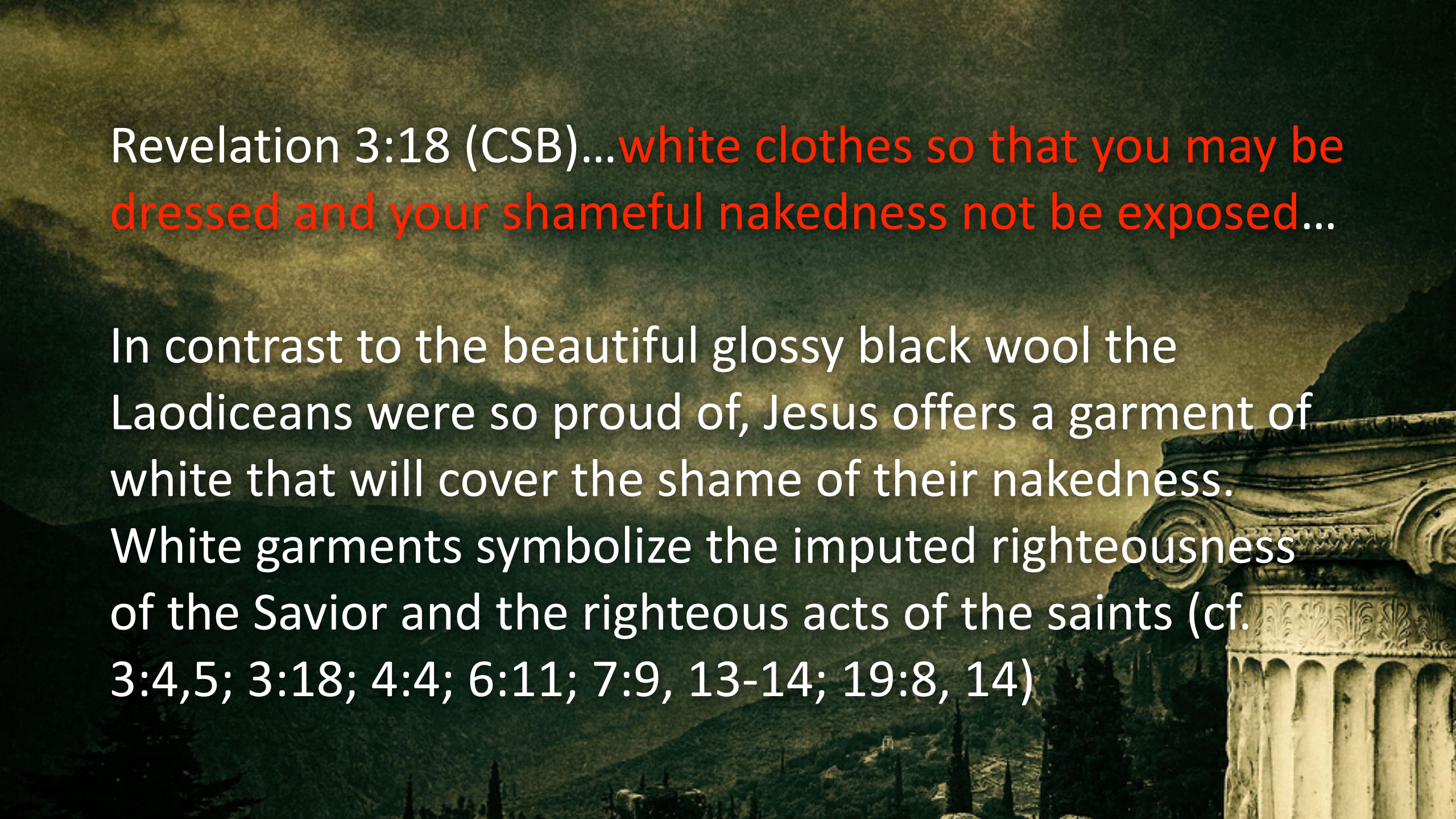
Revelation 3:18 (CSB) **I advise you to buy from me gold refined in the fire so that you may be rich...**

Because gold is often an emblem of faith, some believe the Laodicean church was not lax but lost, not carnal believers but natural unbelievers. I would suspect the church was filled with both and the cure for their spiritual poverty is the same.

The background of the image is a dramatic landscape. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a faint light source creating a glow. In the foreground on the right, there is a classical building with a prominent column and a decorative capital. The overall color palette is dark and moody, with shades of green, brown, and grey.

Revelation 3:18 (CSB) I advise you to buy from me gold refined in the fire so that you may be rich...

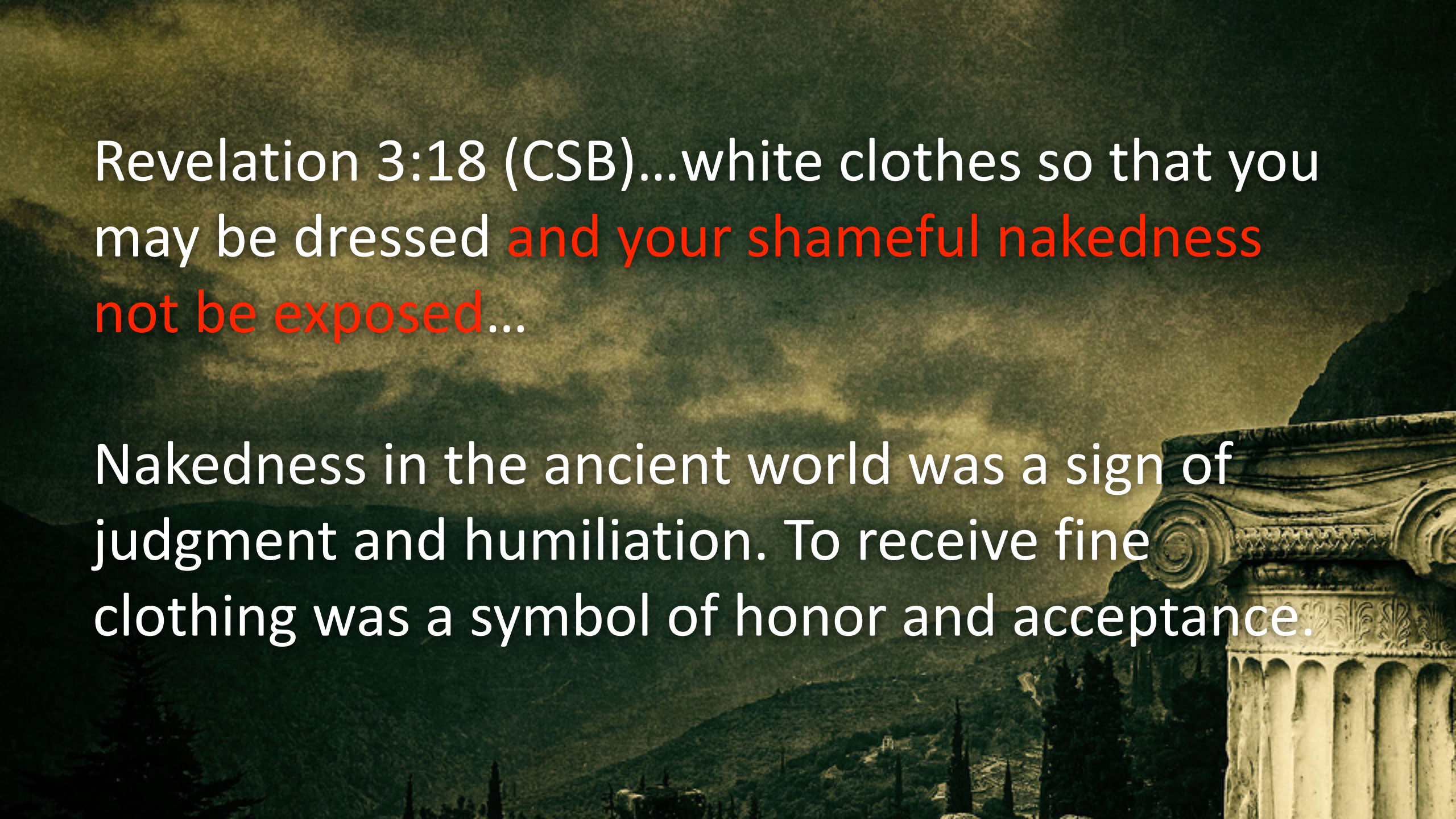
First comes faith for salvation then follows faith for sanctification. As Paul said in Romans 1:17, salvation is “from faith to faith.” Hebrews 12:2 says we “look unto Jesus the author and finisher of faith.” We need the spiritual riches and wealth that comes only by faith in Jesus. Such wealth, unlike earthly riches, will last and endure forever. Day by day we must have faith in the Lord Jesus for everything that we need.



Revelation 3:18 (CSB)...white clothes so that you may be dressed and your shameful nakedness not be exposed...

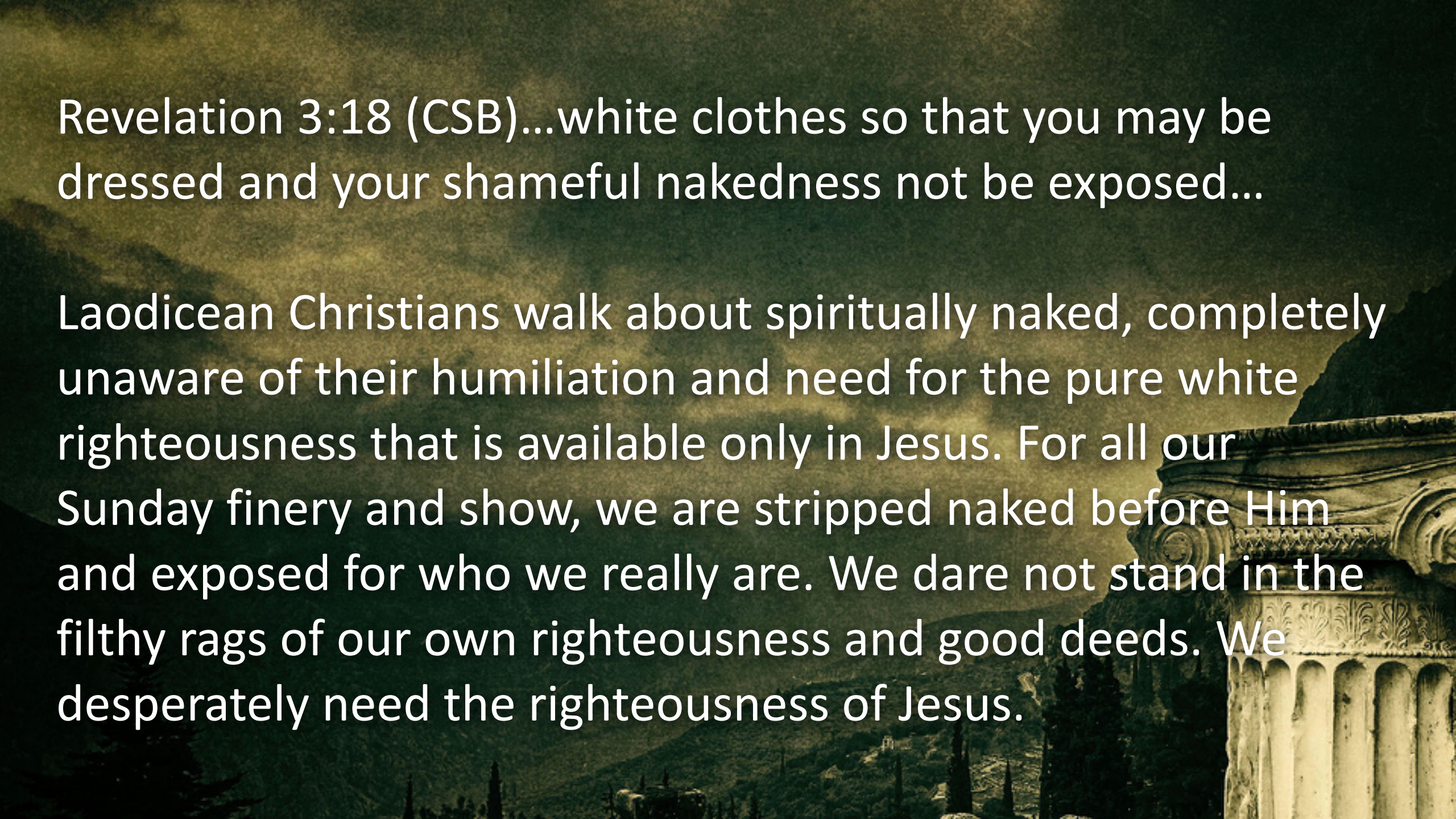
In contrast to the beautiful glossy black wool the Laodiceans were so proud of, Jesus offers a garment of white that will cover the shame of their nakedness.

White garments symbolize the imputed righteousness of the Savior and the righteous acts of the saints (cf. 3:4,5; 3:18; 4:4; 6:11; 7:9, 13-14; 19:8, 14)



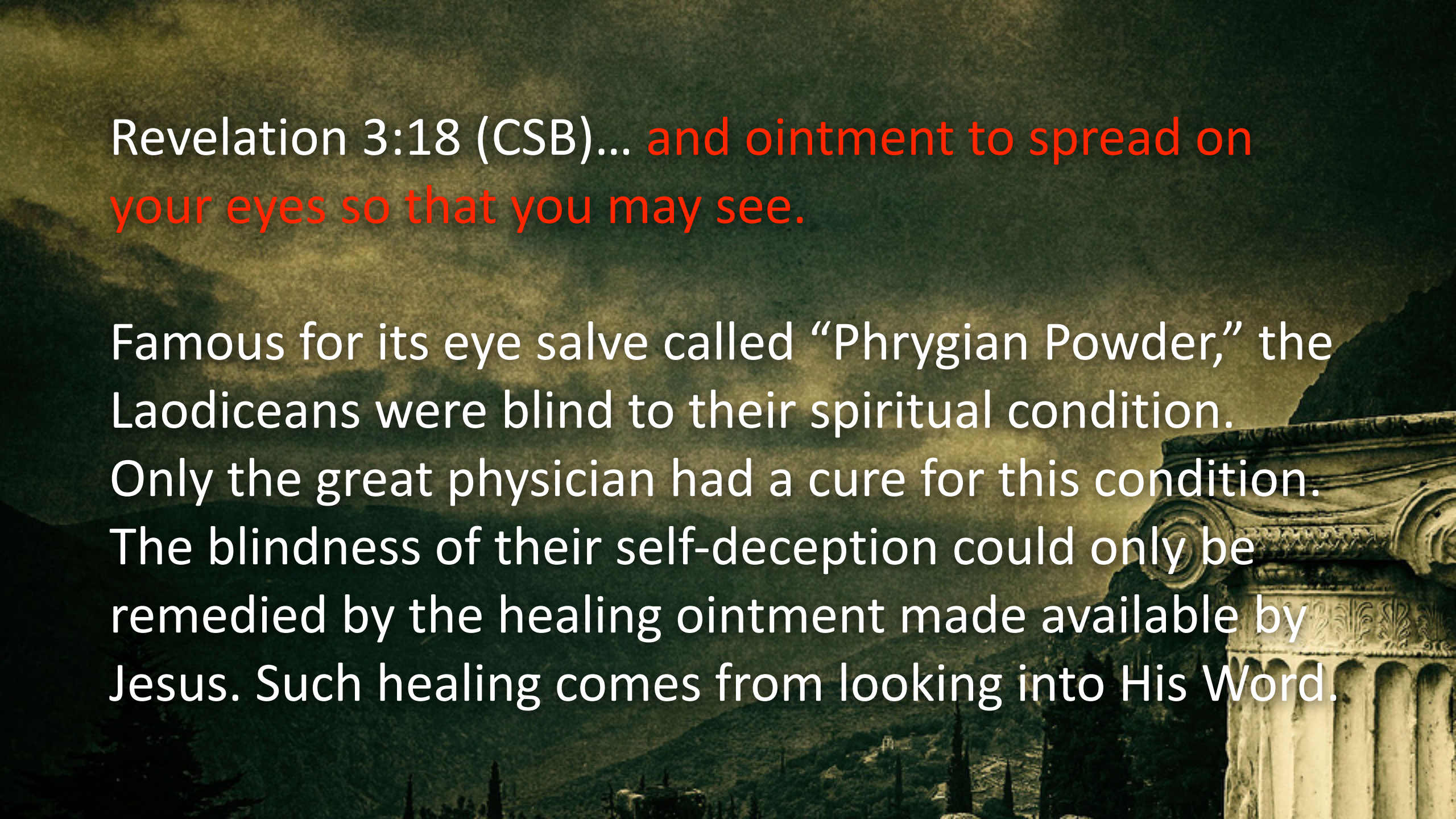
Revelation 3:18 (CSB)...white clothes so that you may be dressed **and your shameful nakedness not be exposed...**

Nakedness in the ancient world was a sign of judgment and humiliation. To receive fine clothing was a symbol of honor and acceptance.



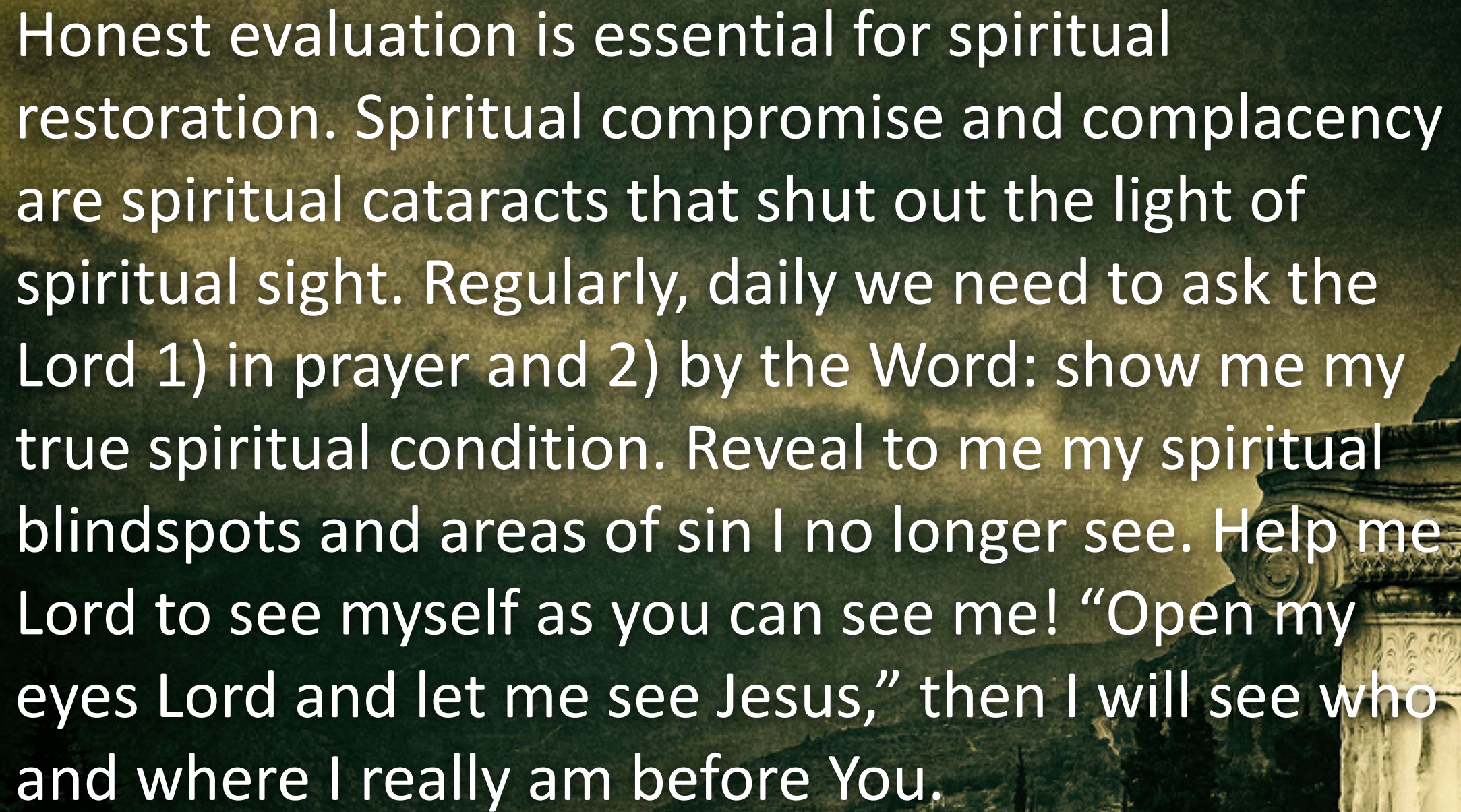
Revelation 3:18 (CSB)...white clothes so that you may be dressed and your shameful nakedness not be exposed...

Laodicean Christians walk about spiritually naked, completely unaware of their humiliation and need for the pure white righteousness that is available only in Jesus. For all our Sunday finery and show, we are stripped naked before Him and exposed for who we really are. We dare not stand in the filthy rags of our own righteousness and good deeds. We desperately need the righteousness of Jesus.



Revelation 3:18 (CSB)... and ointment to spread on your eyes so that you may see.

Famous for its eye salve called “Phrygian Powder,” the Laodiceans were blind to their spiritual condition. Only the great physician had a cure for this condition. The blindness of their self-deception could only be remedied by the healing ointment made available by Jesus. Such healing comes from looking into His Word.

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. The sky is filled with heavy, textured clouds in shades of green and brown. In the foreground on the right, a portion of a classical building is visible, featuring a large, ornate column with a fluted shaft and a decorative capital. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

Honest evaluation is essential for spiritual restoration. Spiritual compromise and complacency are spiritual cataracts that shut out the light of spiritual sight. Regularly, daily we need to ask the Lord 1) in prayer and 2) by the Word: show me my true spiritual condition. Reveal to me my spiritual blindspots and areas of sin I no longer see. Help me Lord to see myself as you can see me! “Open my eyes Lord and let me see Jesus,” then I will see who and where I really am before You.

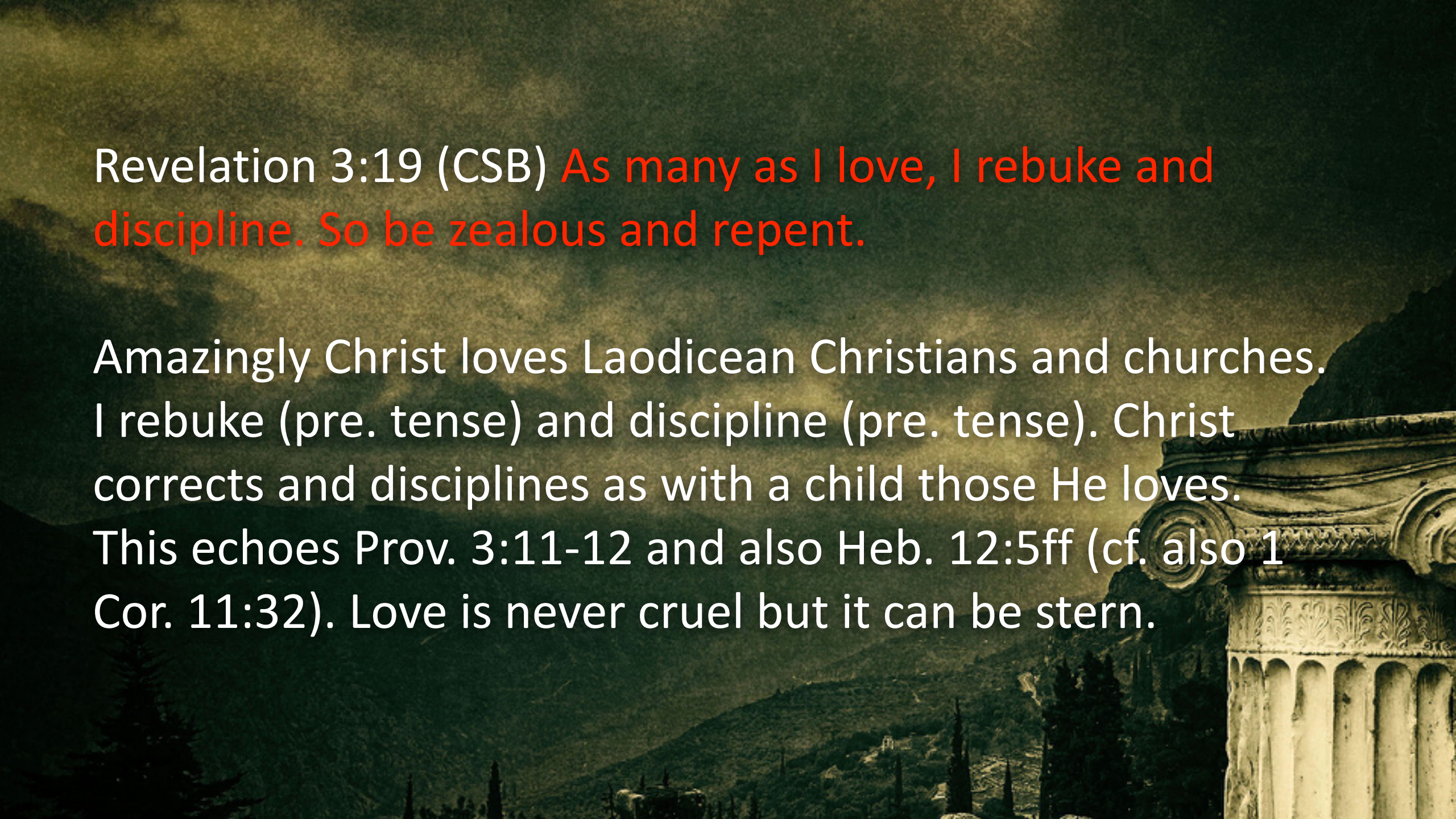
To get out of a lukewarm Christianity....

1) Sense your true state - You are naked and blind. (vs. 14-17)

2) Seek Jesus for His provisions (vs. 18)

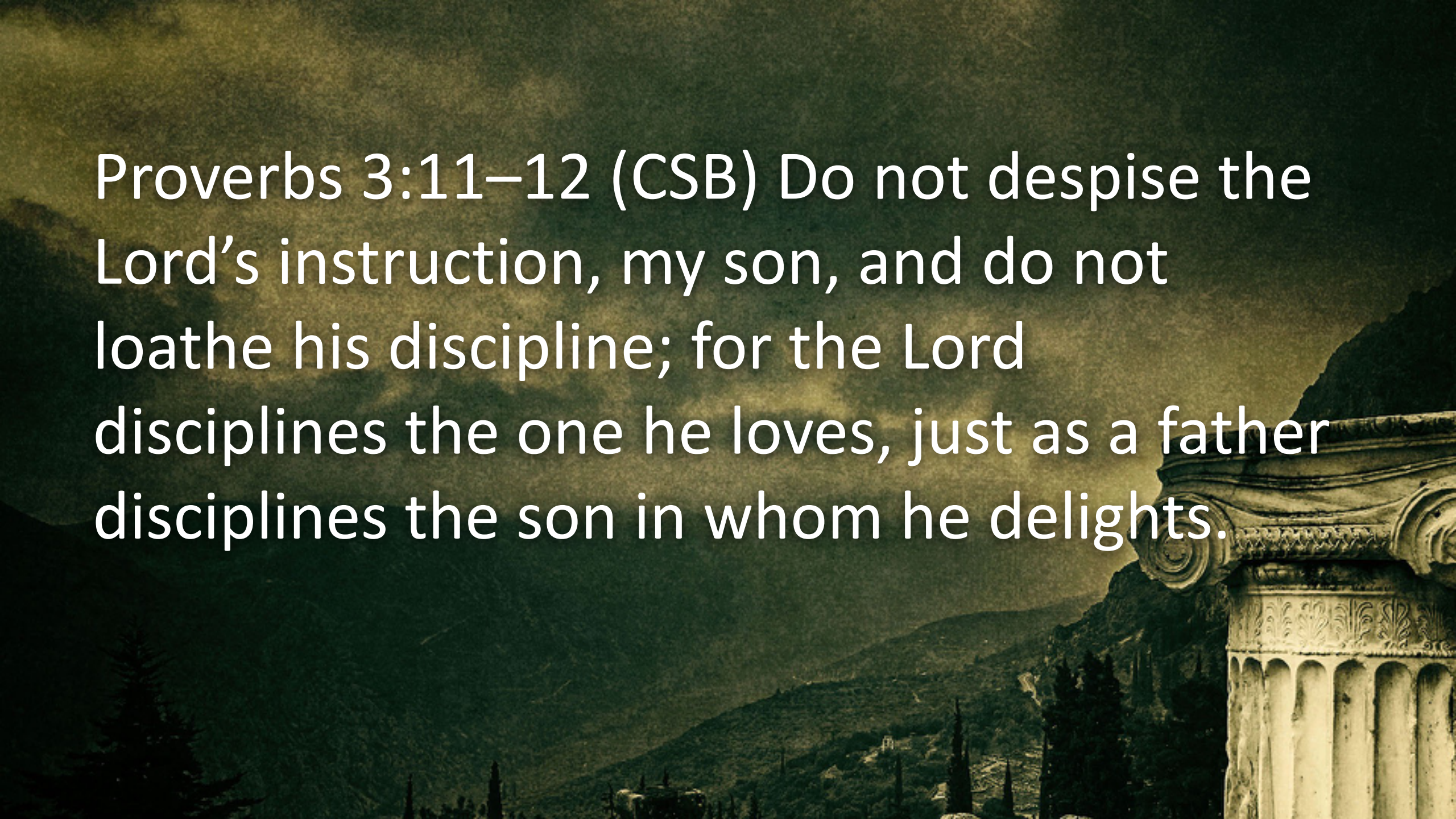
3) Submit to his discipline (Repent and maintain a Zeal in your faith) (vs. 19)





Revelation 3:19 (CSB) **As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline. So be zealous and repent.**

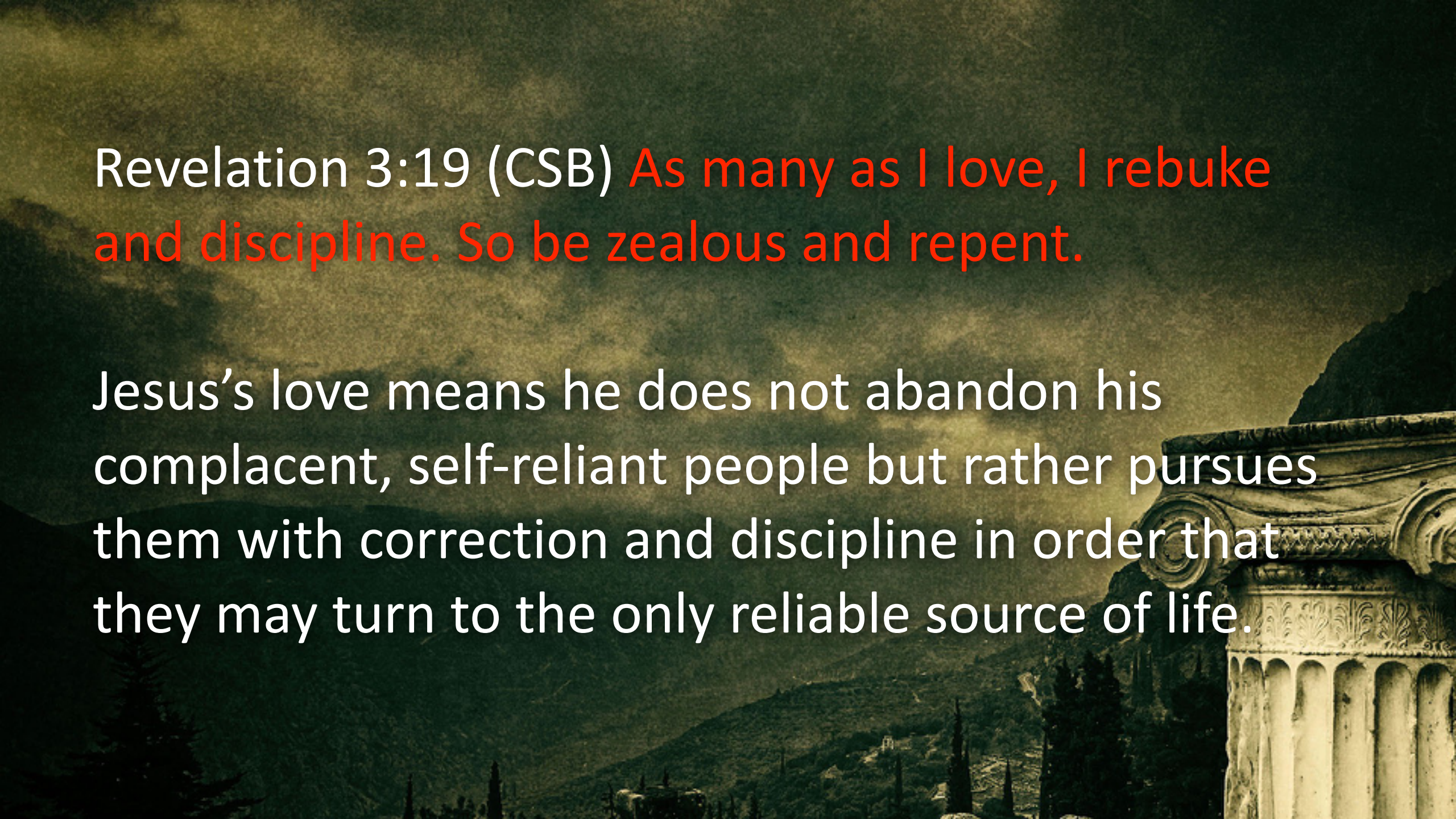
Amazingly Christ loves Laodicean Christians and churches. I rebuke (pre. tense) and discipline (pre. tense). Christ corrects and disciplines as with a child those He loves. This echoes Prov. 3:11-12 and also Heb. 12:5ff (cf. also 1 Cor. 11:32). Love is never cruel but it can be stern.

The background of the image is a dramatic landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a large, classical stone column with a fluted shaft and a decorative capital. The background shows a deep valley with rolling hills and mountains under a dark, cloudy sky. The overall color palette is dark and moody, with shades of green, brown, and grey.

Proverbs 3:11–12 (CSB) Do not despise the Lord's instruction, my son, and do not loathe his discipline; for the Lord disciplines the one he loves, just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights.

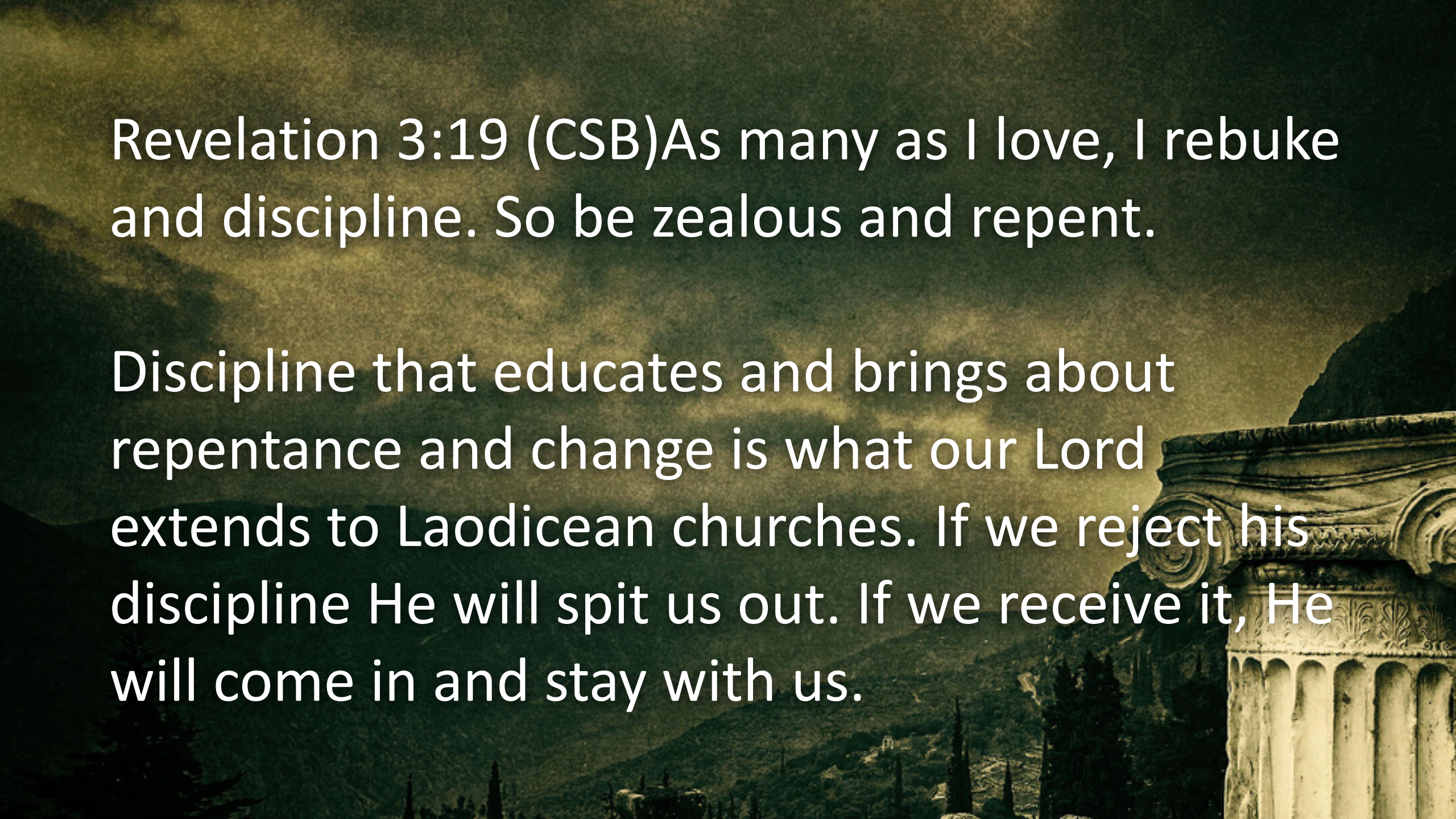
1 Corinthians 11:32 (CSB) but when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined, so that we may not be condemned with the world.



A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a classical building in the foreground. The sky is dark and moody, with a bright light source breaking through the clouds. The building is a classical structure with columns and a pediment, partially visible on the right side of the frame. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

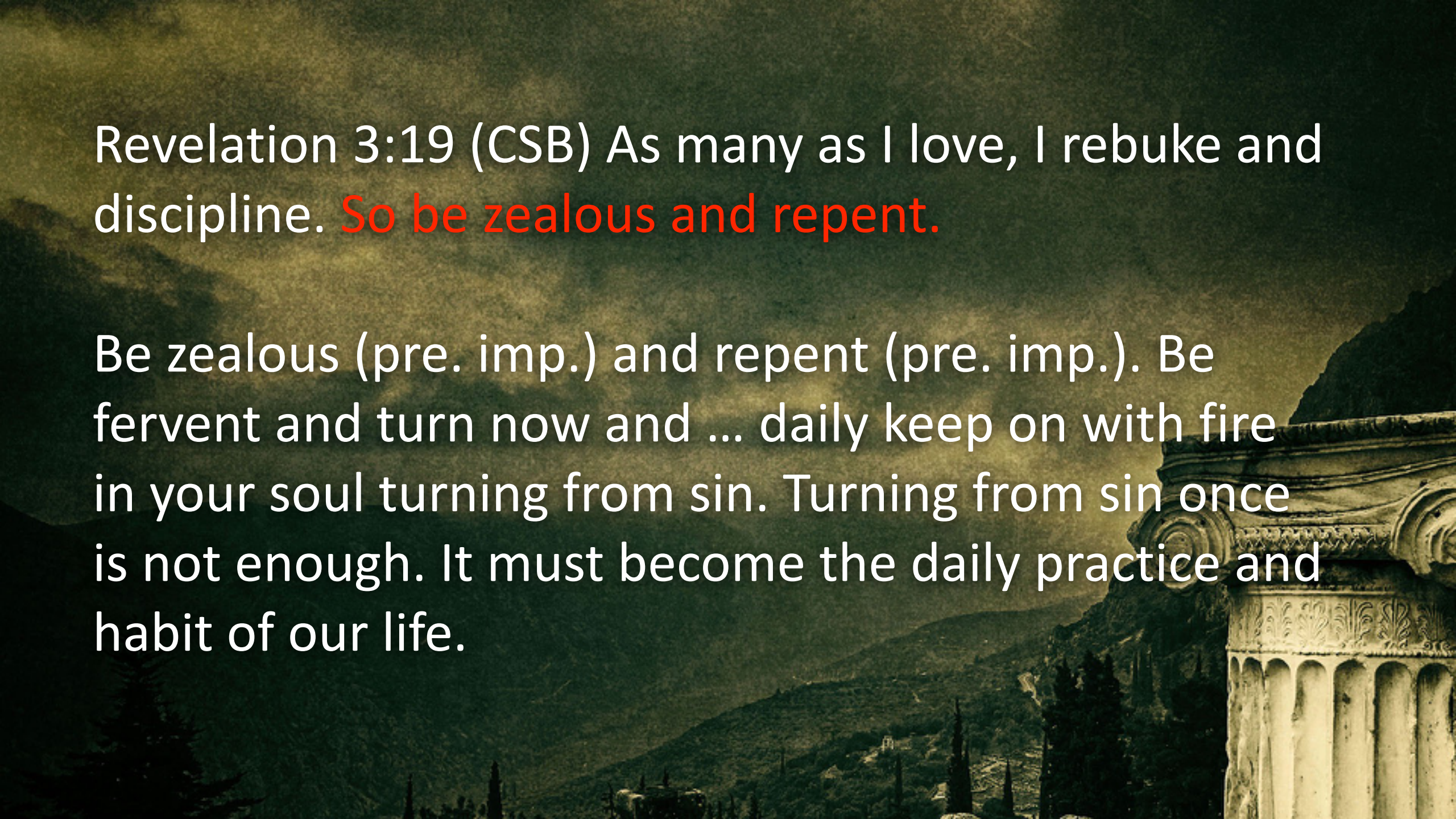
Revelation 3:19 (CSB) **As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline. So be zealous and repent.**

Jesus's love means he does not abandon his complacent, self-reliant people but rather pursues them with correction and discipline in order that they may turn to the only reliable source of life.



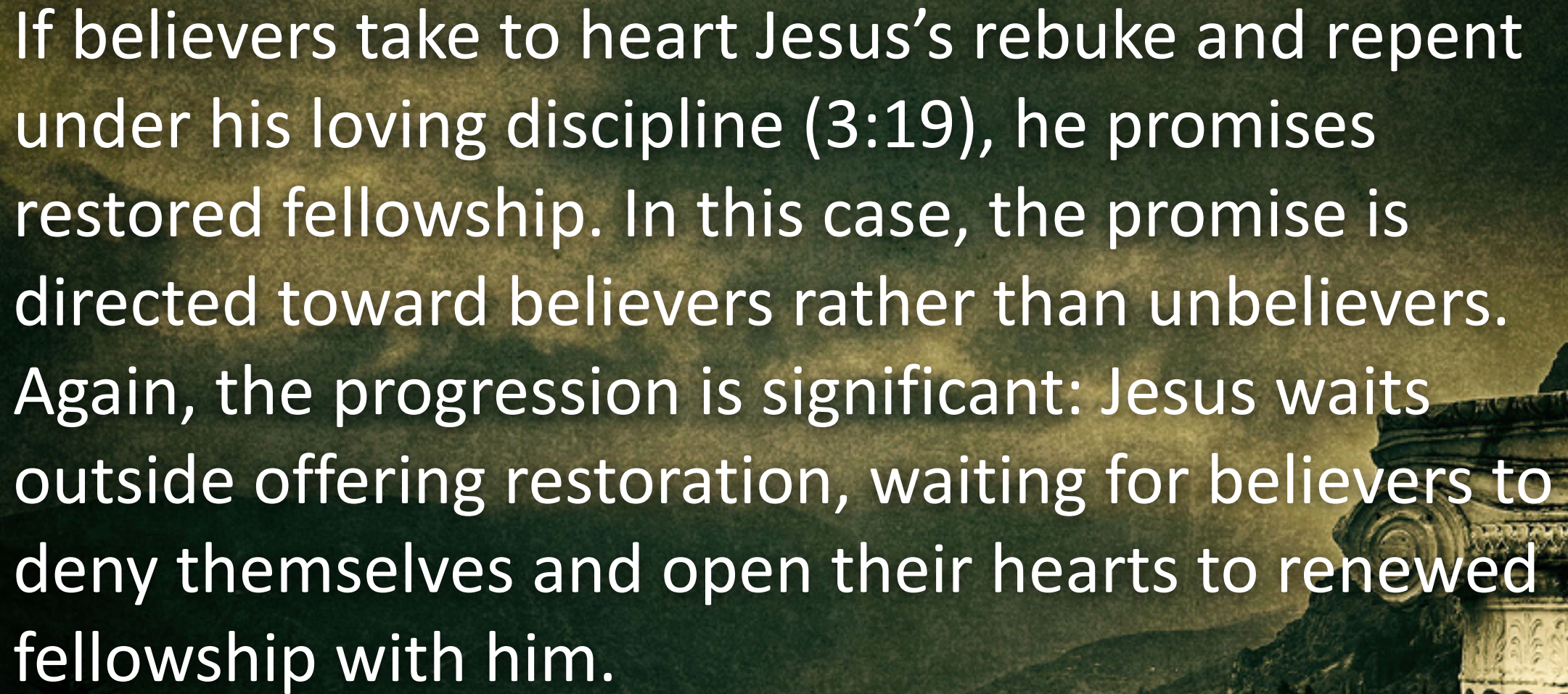
Revelation 3:19 (CSB) As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline. So be zealous and repent.

Discipline that educates and brings about repentance and change is what our Lord extends to Laodicean churches. If we reject his discipline He will spit us out. If we receive it, He will come in and stay with us.

The background of the slide features a dramatic landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a classical building with a prominent column and a decorative capital. The background consists of rolling green hills and mountains under a dark, moody sky with some light filtering through the clouds. The overall tone is somber and majestic.

Revelation 3:19 (CSB) As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline. **So be zealous and repent.**

Be zealous (pre. imp.) and repent (pre. imp.). Be fervent and turn now and ... daily keep on with fire in your soul turning from sin. Turning from sin once is not enough. It must become the daily practice and habit of our life.

The background of the image is a dramatic landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a large, classical stone column with a detailed capital. The background shows a valley with rolling hills and some buildings, possibly a village, under a dark, moody sky. The overall color palette is dark and atmospheric, with shades of green, brown, and grey.

If believers take to heart Jesus's rebuke and repent under his loving discipline (3:19), he promises restored fellowship. In this case, the promise is directed toward believers rather than unbelievers. Again, the progression is significant: Jesus waits outside offering restoration, waiting for believers to deny themselves and open their hearts to renewed fellowship with him.

The background of the slide features a dramatic, low-key landscape. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a faint light source breaking through, creating a hazy, atmospheric glow. In the foreground and middle ground, there are dark, silhouetted hills and trees. On the right side, a portion of a classical building is visible, showing a large, ornate column with a capital and a decorative frieze. The overall color palette is dominated by dark greens, browns, and greys, with a touch of yellowish light from the sky.

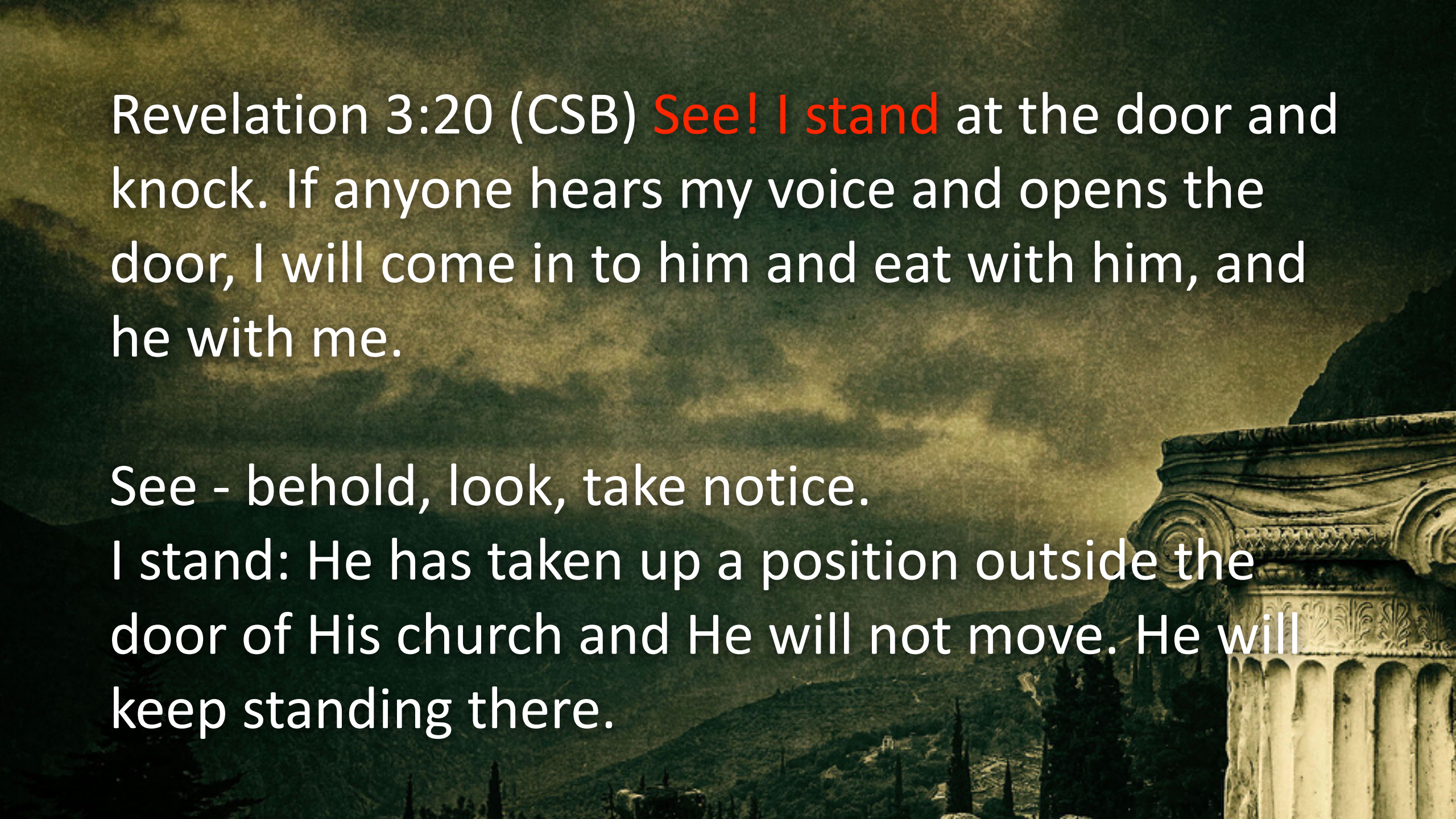
To get out of a lukewarm Christianity....

1) Sense your true state - You are naked and blind. (vs. 14-17)

2) Seek Jesus for His provisions (vs. 18)

3) Submit to his discipline (Repent and maintain a Zeal in your faith) (vs. 19)

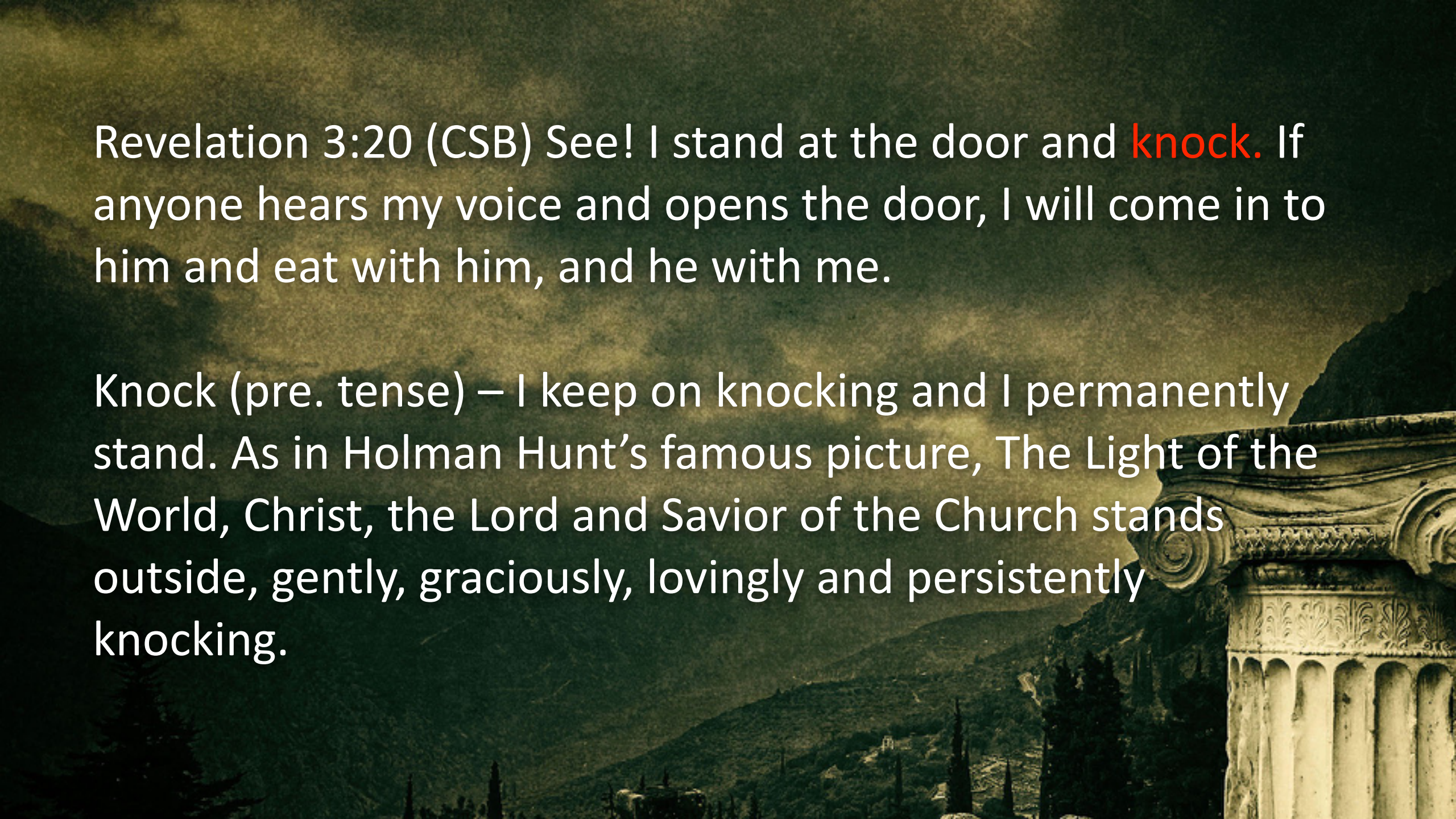
4) Stay in a spirit of openness to abiding with Jesus (20-22)



Revelation 3:20 (CSB) **See! I stand** at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

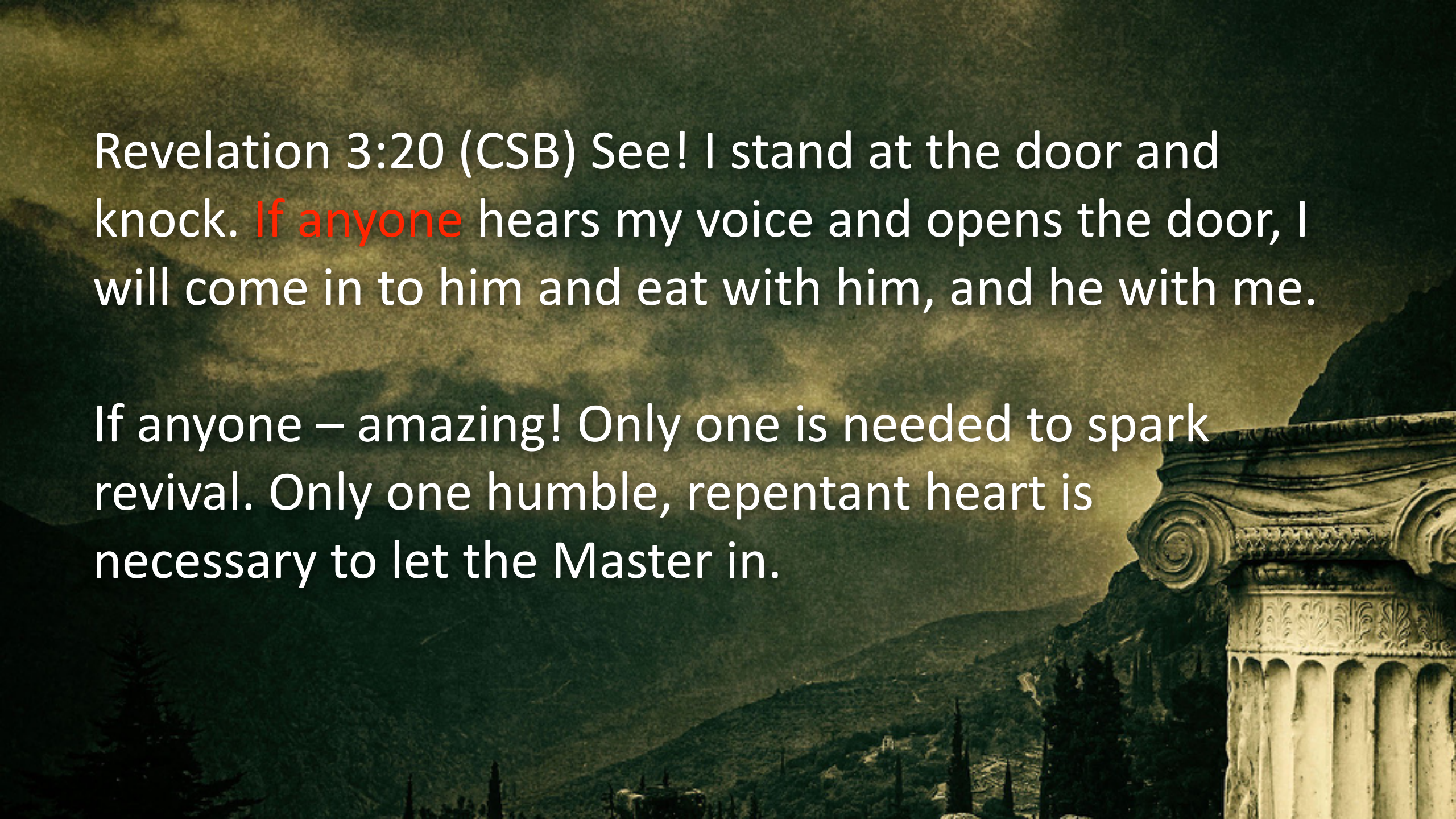
See - behold, look, take notice.

I stand: He has taken up a position outside the door of His church and He will not move. He will keep standing there.

The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric landscape. In the foreground on the right, a large, classical stone column with a fluted shaft and a decorative capital is visible. The background shows rolling hills or mountains under a cloudy, dimly lit sky. In the distance, a small white building with a dark roof is nestled on a hillside. The overall mood is somber and contemplative.

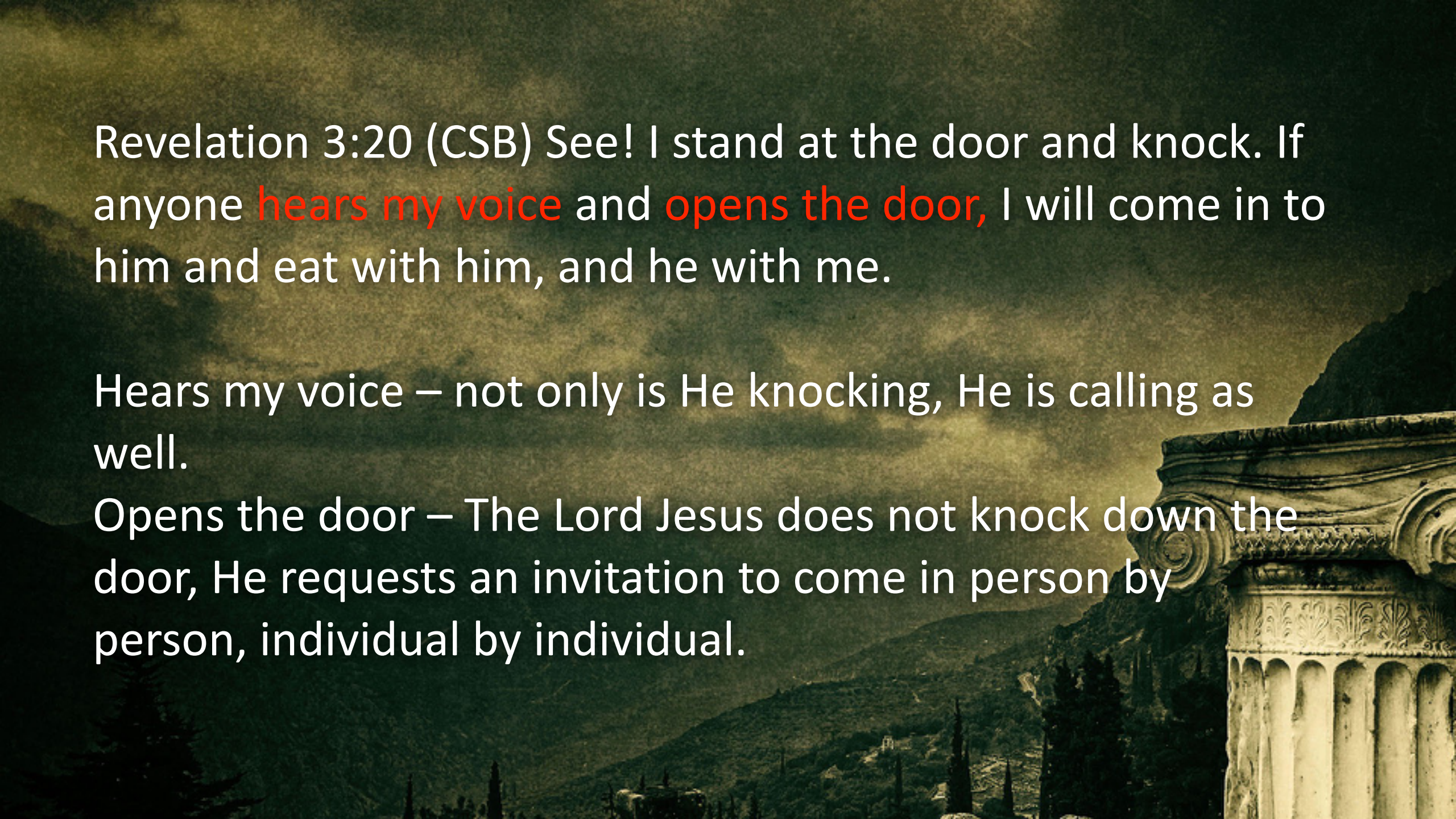
Revelation 3:20 (CSB) See! I stand at the door and **knock**. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Knock (pre. tense) – I keep on knocking and I permanently stand. As in Holman Hunt's famous picture, The Light of the World, Christ, the Lord and Savior of the Church stands outside, gently, graciously, lovingly and persistently knocking.

A dramatic landscape with a classical building column in the foreground and a dark, stormy sky. The scene is dimly lit, with a greenish-yellow glow from the sky. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Revelation 3:20 (CSB) See! I stand at the door and knock. **If anyone** hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

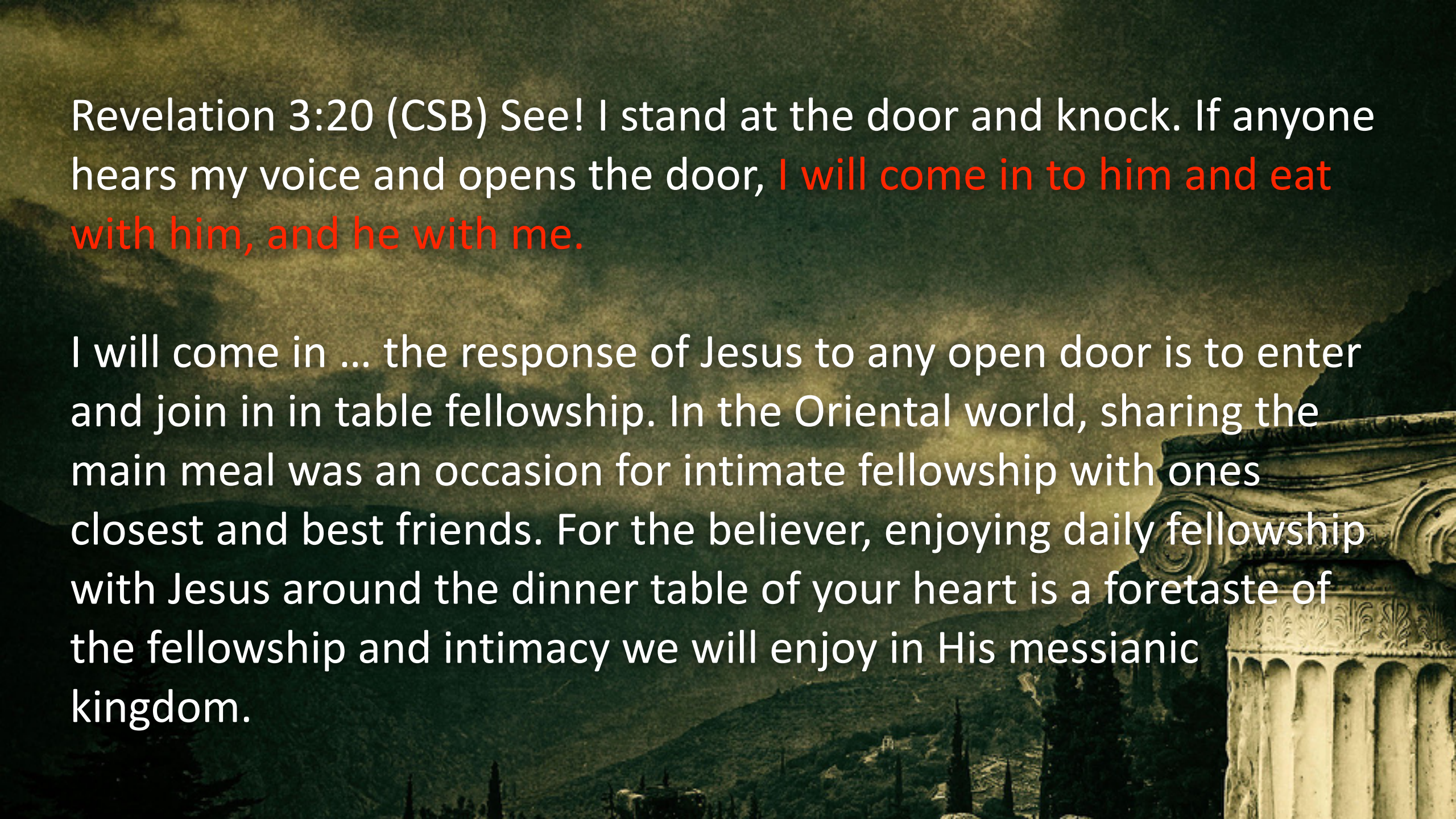
If anyone – amazing! Only one is needed to spark revival. Only one humble, repentant heart is necessary to let the Master in.

A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a classical building in the foreground. The sky is dark and moody, with a bright light source creating a glow. The building is a classical structure with columns and a pediment, partially visible on the right side. The background shows a valley with trees and a small building in the distance.

Revelation 3:20 (CSB) See! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone **hears my voice** and **opens the door**, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.

Hears my voice – not only is He knocking, He is calling as well.

Opens the door – The Lord Jesus does not knock down the door, He requests an invitation to come in person by person, individual by individual.

The background of the slide features a dramatic landscape. In the foreground on the right, there is a classical building with a prominent column and a decorative capital. The background shows a dark, stormy sky with a bright light source, possibly the sun or moon, breaking through the clouds. The overall mood is somber and majestic.

Revelation 3:20 (CSB) See! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, **I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.**

I will come in ... the response of Jesus to any open door is to enter and join in in table fellowship. In the Oriental world, sharing the main meal was an occasion for intimate fellowship with ones closest and best friends. For the believer, enjoying daily fellowship with Jesus around the dinner table of your heart is a foretaste of the fellowship and intimacy we will enjoy in His messianic kingdom.

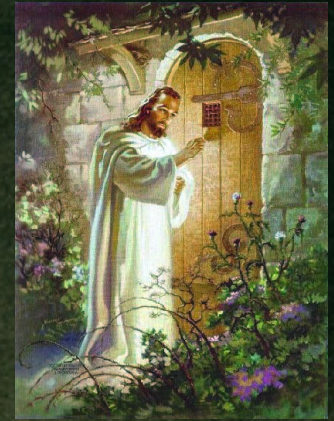
Table fellowship was reserved for intimate friends in the ancient world, and the image conveys the depth of Jesus's desire to forgive and reconcile. A fellowship meal means real forgiveness. This ninth-century BC relief shows two people at a banquet.





Should I use
this passage in
Evangelism?

Should I use this passage in Evangelism?

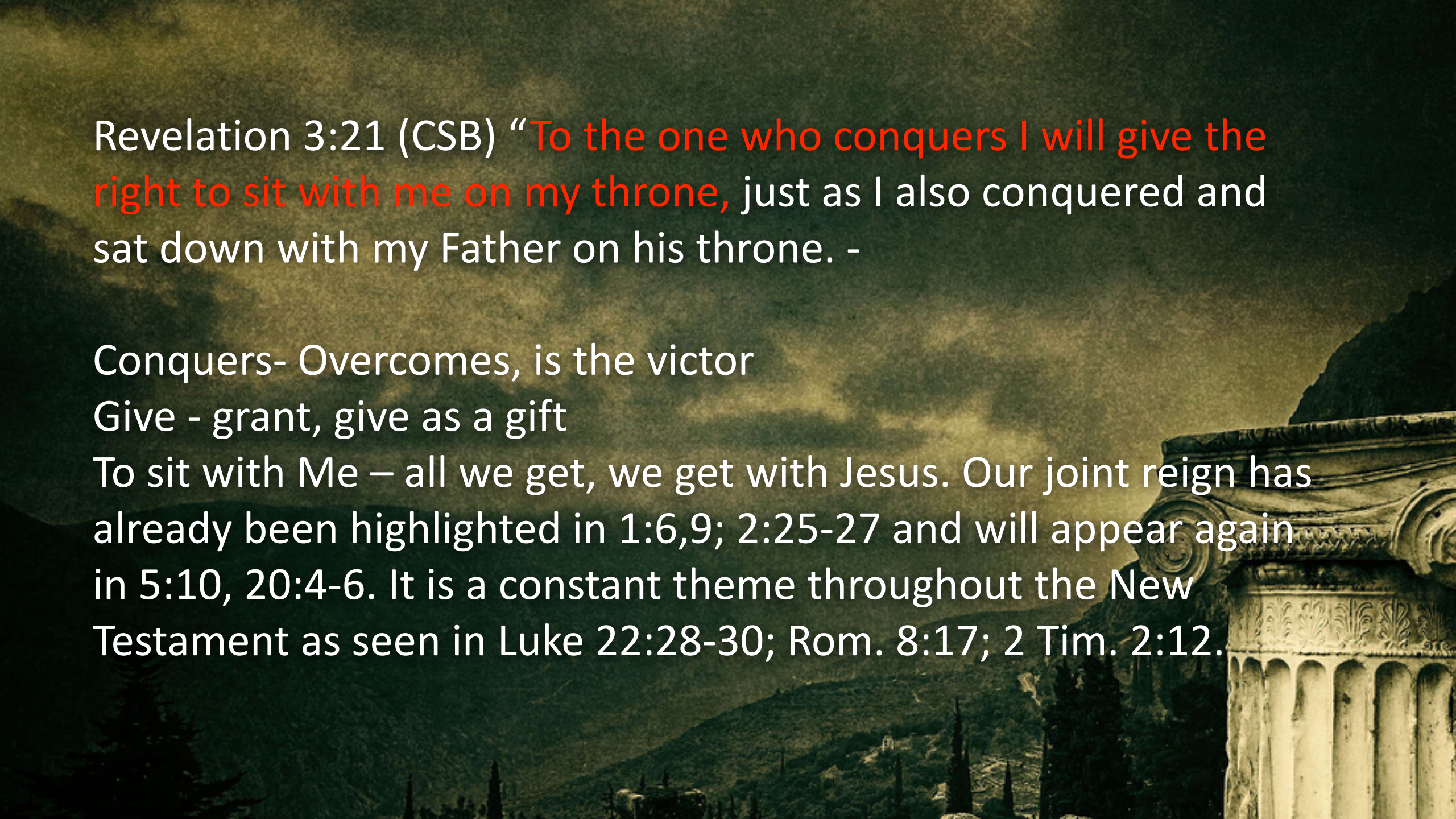


The original context of this passage is not Jesus knocking on the door of an unbeliever's heart. It was Jesus knocking on the door of the church. To interpret this on a personal level - the passage applies to believers and not to unbelievers.

Should I use this passage in Evangelism?



Many believers today have tried to live in their own strength and failed miserably. Now, as they become aware of their need for restoration, the lingering question is, “Does God still want a relationship with me now in light of all that I’ve done?” The image of Jesus continuously knocking on the door of the believer’s life sends a powerful message. Jesus is saying, “Yes, I want to renew our relationship. I’ve been here all along. If you hear me knocking and open your life to me, I’ll come in and bring healing and restoration.”

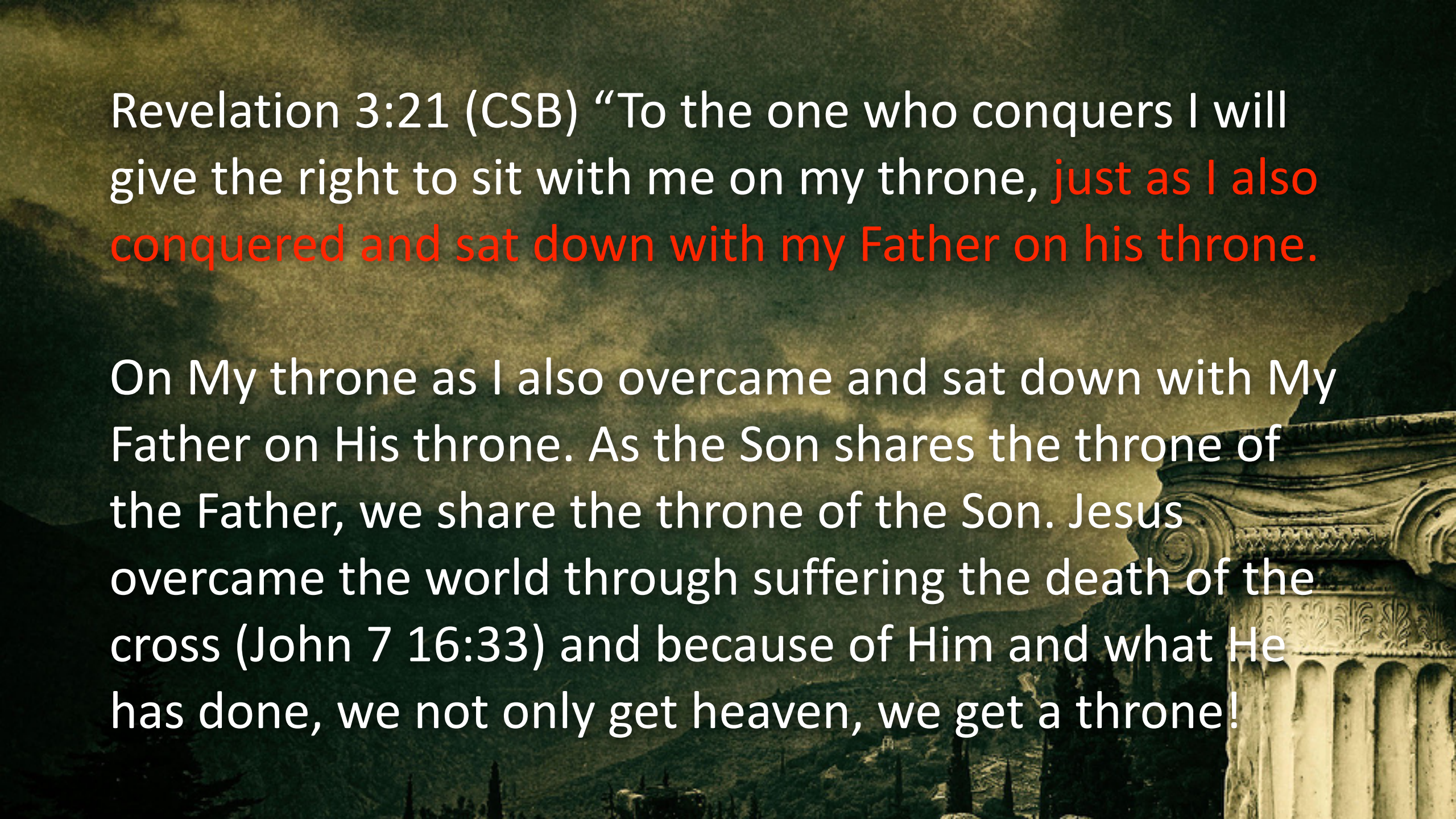
A dramatic landscape with a cloudy sky and a classical building in the foreground. The sky is dark and moody, with light breaking through the clouds. The building is a classical structure with columns and a pediment, partially visible on the right side of the frame. The overall tone is somber and majestic.

Revelation 3:21 (CSB) “**To the one who conquers I will give the right to sit with me on my throne,** just as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne. -

Conquers- Overcomes, is the victor

Give - grant, give as a gift

To sit with Me – all we get, we get with Jesus. Our joint reign has already been highlighted in 1:6,9; 2:25-27 and will appear again in 5:10, 20:4-6. It is a constant theme throughout the New Testament as seen in Luke 22:28-30; Rom. 8:17; 2 Tim. 2:12.

The background of the image is a dark, atmospheric landscape. The sky is filled with heavy, textured clouds in shades of green and grey. In the foreground, there are dark, silhouetted trees and a hillside. On the right side, a portion of a classical building is visible, featuring a large, ornate column with a fluted shaft and a decorative capital. The overall mood is solemn and majestic.

Revelation 3:21 (CSB) “To the one who conquers I will give the right to sit with me on my throne, **just as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.**

On My throne as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne. As the Son shares the throne of the Father, we share the throne of the Son. Jesus overcame the world through suffering the death of the cross (John 7 16:33) and because of Him and what He has done, we not only get heaven, we get a throne!

Recap of the Key Themes of Revelation 3:14–22

- Jesus Christ is the faithful witness and authoritative source of life for all.
- Jesus sternly rebukes complacency and half-heartedness among his people.
- Prideful self-sufficiency and materialism blinds a person to their spiritual poverty.
- Jesus rebukes and disciplines his people precisely because he loves them.
- To experience renewed fellowship with Jesus, believers must be serious enough to change.
- Jesus longs for and stands ready for renewed fellowship with believers who repent of their self-reliance and open their lives to him.

The background of the slide features a dramatic, low-key landscape. The sky is filled with dark, heavy clouds, with a faint light source breaking through, creating a hazy glow. In the foreground on the right, the corner of a classical building is visible, showing a large, ornate column capital and several fluted columns. The overall color palette is dominated by dark greens, browns, and greys, with a touch of yellowish light from the sky.

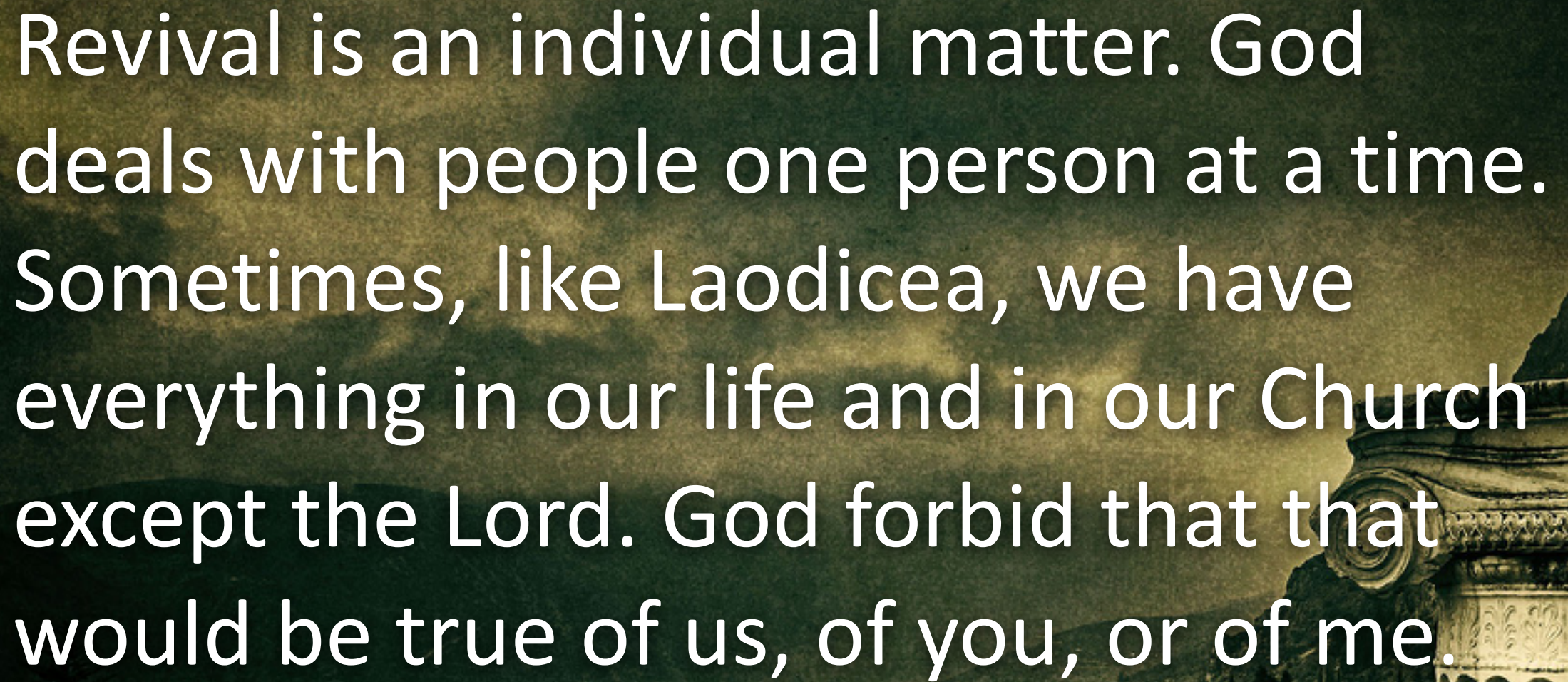
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4) Stay in a spirit of openness to abiding with Jesus (20-22)



Revival is an individual matter. God deals with people one person at a time. Sometimes, like Laodicea, we have everything in our life and in our Church except the Lord. God forbid that that would be true of us, of you, or of me.

Old Testament Connections

Revelation 3:14 “Write to the angel of the church in Laodicea: Thus says the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the originator of God’s creation:

Proverbs 8:22 “The Lord acquired me at the beginning of his creation, before his works of long ago.



Old Testament Connections

Revelation 3:17 For you say, 'I'm rich; I have become wealthy and need nothing,' and you don't realize that you are wretched, pitiful, poor, blind, and naked.

Hosea 12:8 But Ephraim thinks, "How rich I have become; I made it all myself. In all my earnings, no one can find any iniquity in me that I can be punished for!"

Old Testament Connections

Revelation 3:19 - **As many as I love, I rebuke and discipline.** So be zealous and repent.

Proverbs 3:12 - **for the Lord disciplines the one he loves,** just as a father disciplines the son in whom he delights.



The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric landscape. It features rolling hills and mountains under a heavy, overcast sky. In the lower right corner, a portion of a classical building with a prominent column and capital is visible. The overall color palette is dominated by dark greens, browns, and greys, creating a somber and dramatic mood.

The Church That Nauseates God

Revelation 3:14-22