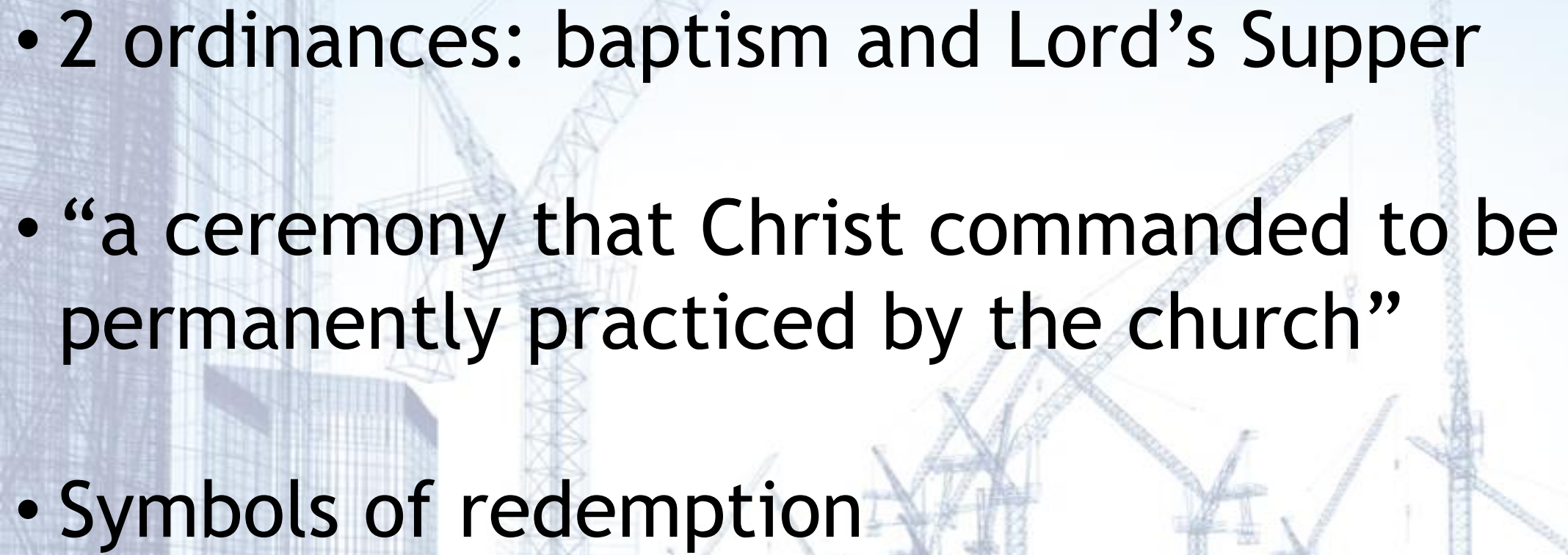




UNDER CONSTRUCTION

WHAT CHRIST WANTS TO BUILD

- 
- 2 ordinances: baptism and Lord's Supper
 - “a ceremony that Christ commanded to be permanently practiced by the church”
 - Symbols of redemption

What Are Ordinances?

- Ceremonies that convey grace to the participant
- 7 sacraments:
 - 1) Baptism
 - 2) Confirmation
 - 3) Lord's Supper
 - 4) Marriage ceremony
 - 5) Confession
 - 6) Holy order
 - 7) Anointing of sick
- Claim to be salvific - “works of salvation”

What Are Sacraments?

- 
- Sacraments claim to save; ordinances symbolize salvation.

Sacraments vs. Ordinances

“⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”

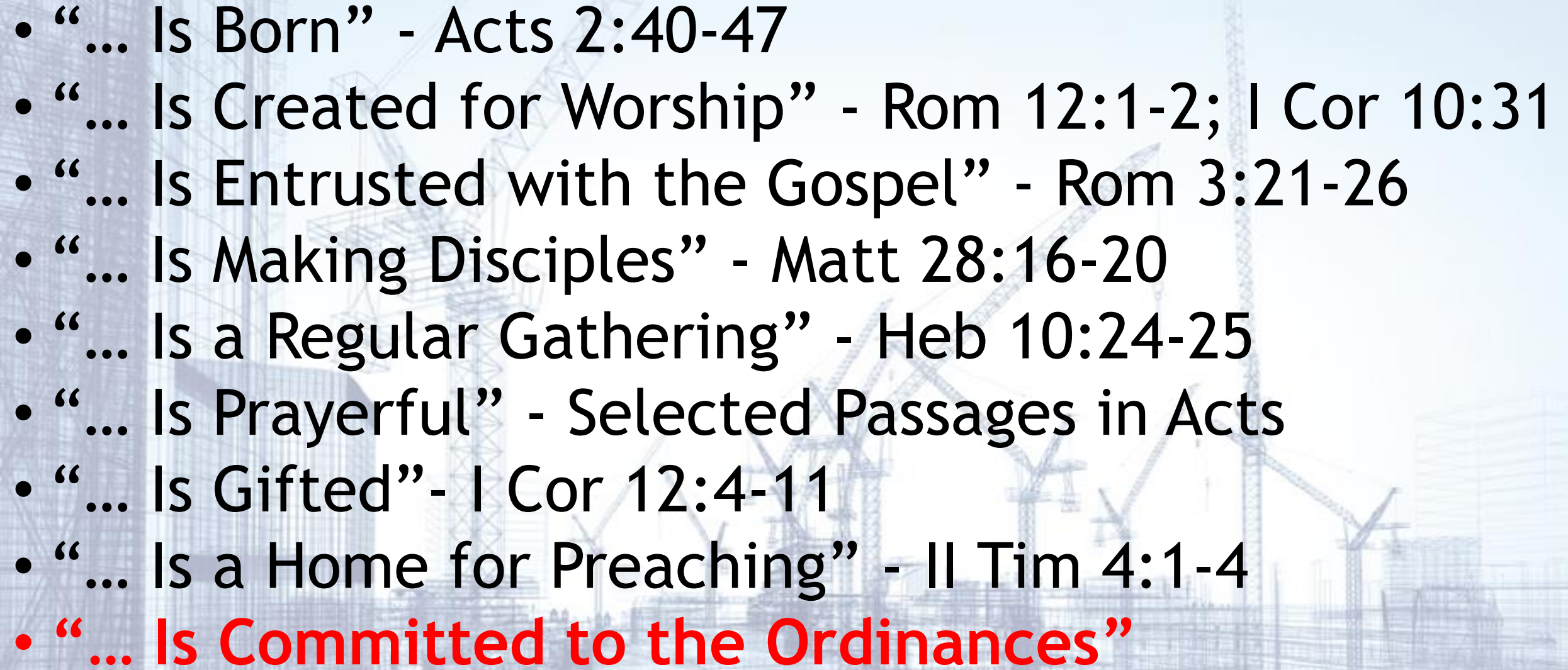
Titus 3:4-7



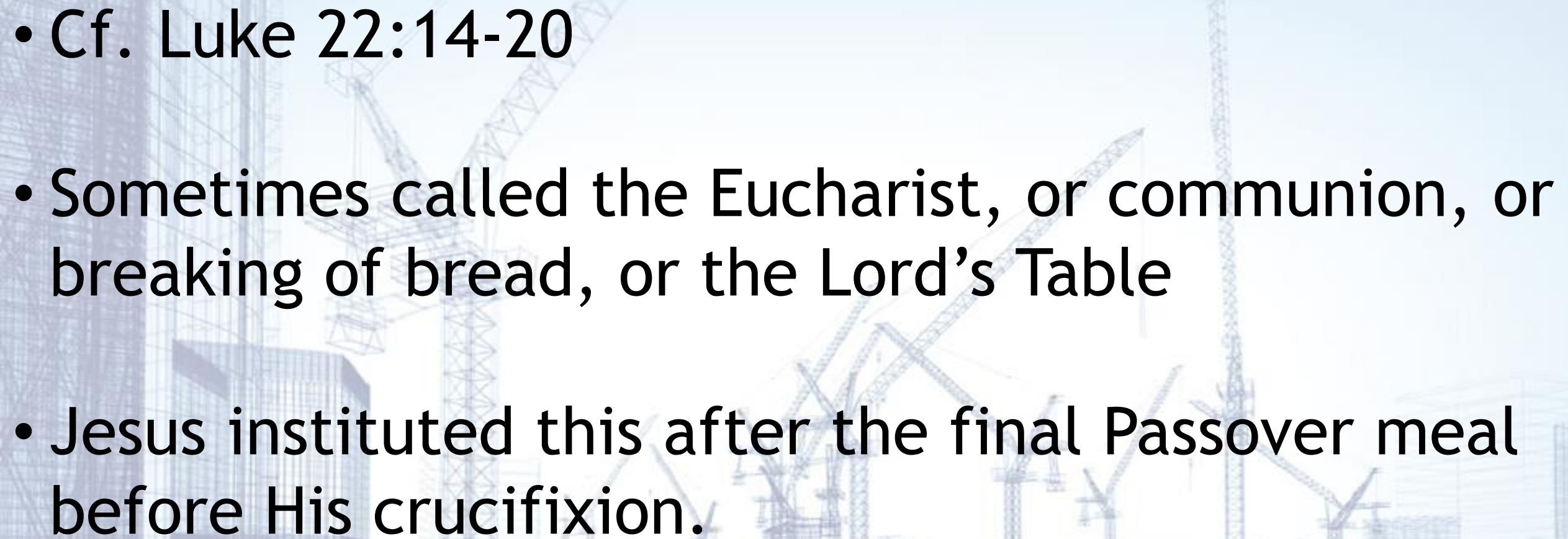
KEY POINT:

The Lord wants us to remember what He did for us.

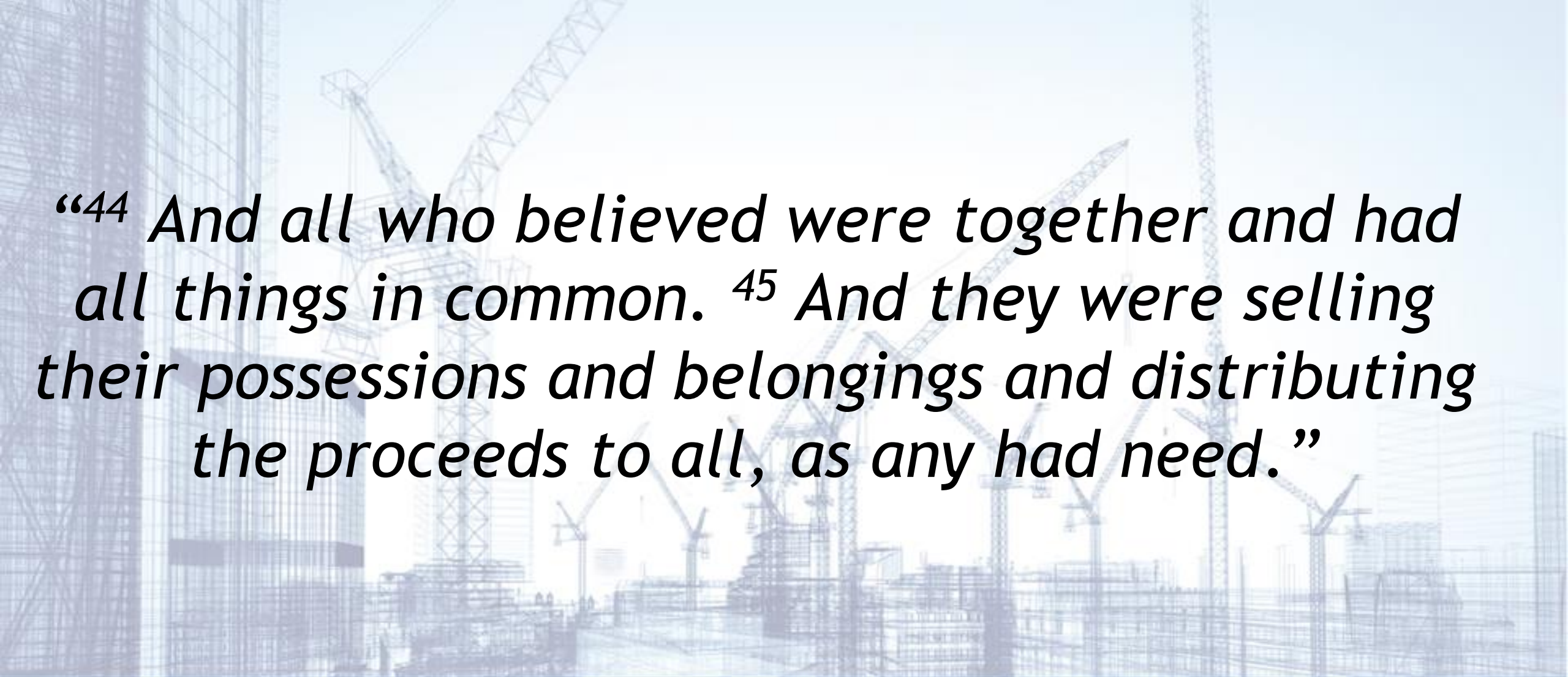


- 
- “... Is Born” - Acts 2:40-47
 - “... Is Created for Worship” - Rom 12:1-2; I Cor 10:31
 - “... Is Entrusted with the Gospel” - Rom 3:21-26
 - “... Is Making Disciples” - Matt 28:16-20
 - “... Is a Regular Gathering” - Heb 10:24-25
 - “... Is Prayerful” - Selected Passages in Acts
 - “... Is Gifted” - I Cor 12:4-11
 - “... Is a Home for Preaching” - II Tim 4:1-4
 - “... Is Committed to the Ordinances”

“Under Construction” Series

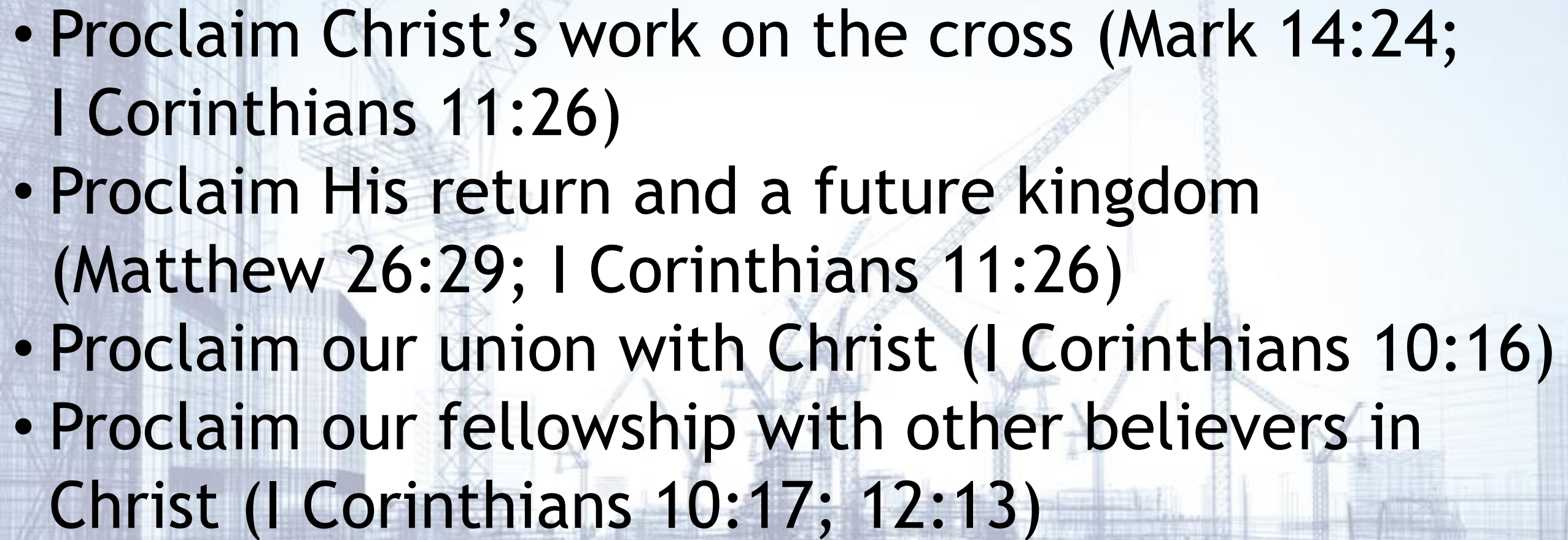
- 
- Cf. Luke 22:14-20
 - Sometimes called the Eucharist, or communion, or breaking of bread, or the Lord's Table
 - Jesus instituted this after the final Passover meal before His crucifixion.

The Lord's Supper

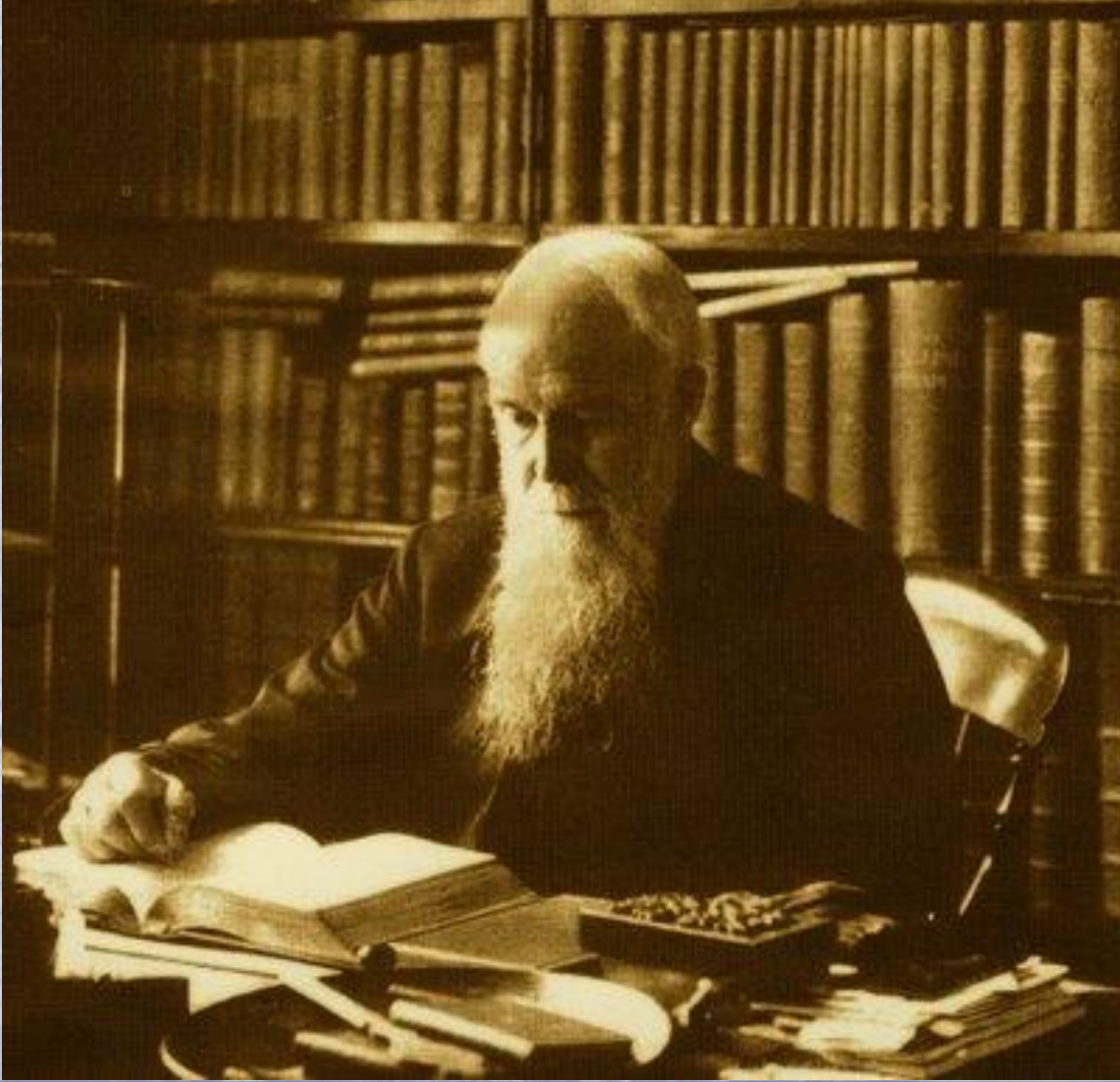


“⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need.”

Acts 2:44-45

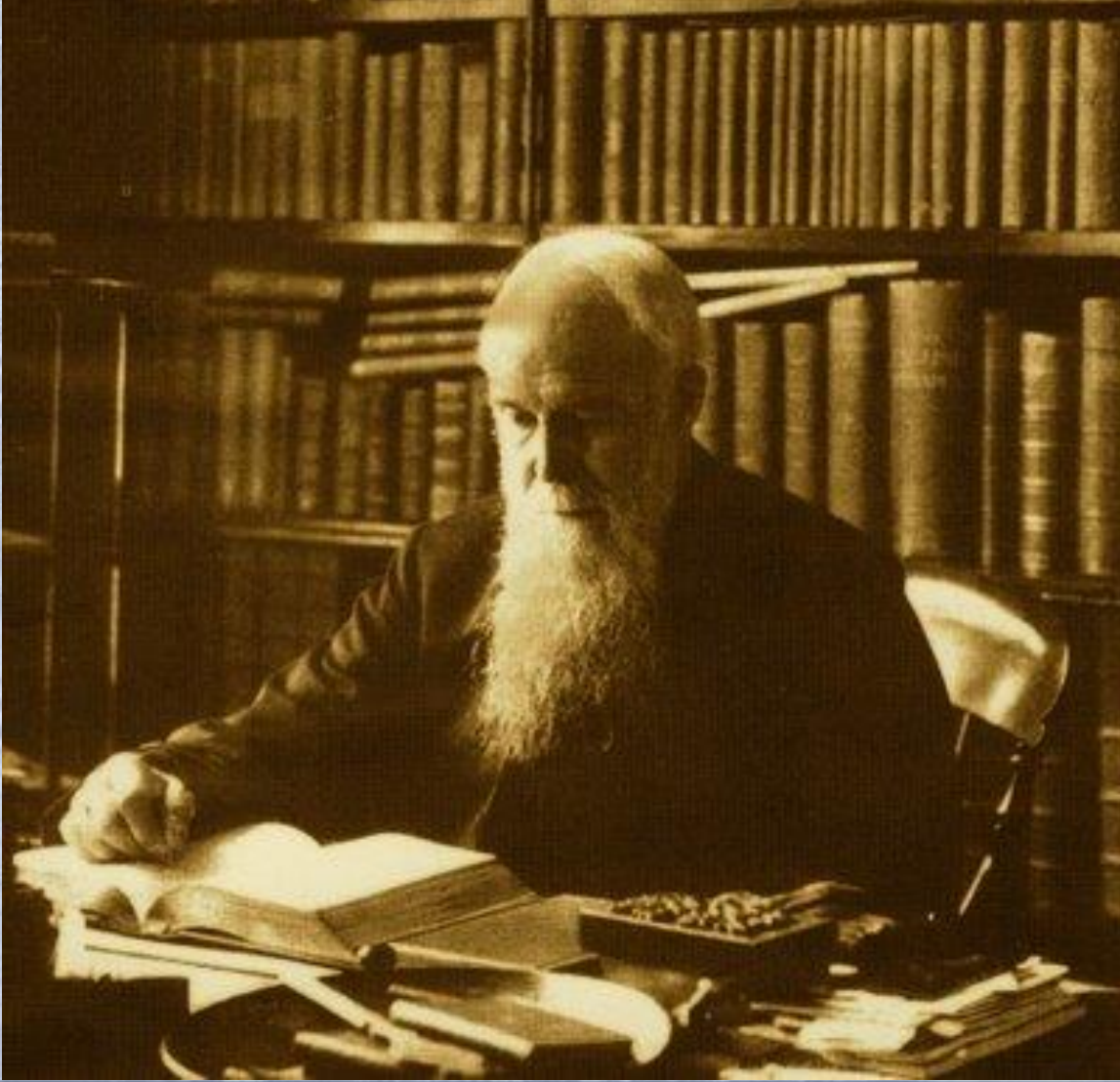
- 
- Proclaim Christ's work on the cross (Mark 14:24; I Corinthians 11:26)
 - Proclaim His return and a future kingdom (Matthew 26:29; I Corinthians 11:26)
 - Proclaim our union with Christ (I Corinthians 10:16)
 - Proclaim our fellowship with other believers in Christ (I Corinthians 10:17; 12:13)

When We Observe the Lord's Supper, We...



“A sense of our own utter unworthiness is the best worthiness that we can bring to the Lord’s Table. A deep feeling of our own entire indebtedness to Christ for all we have and hope for, is the best...

J.C. Ryle, *Practical Religion*

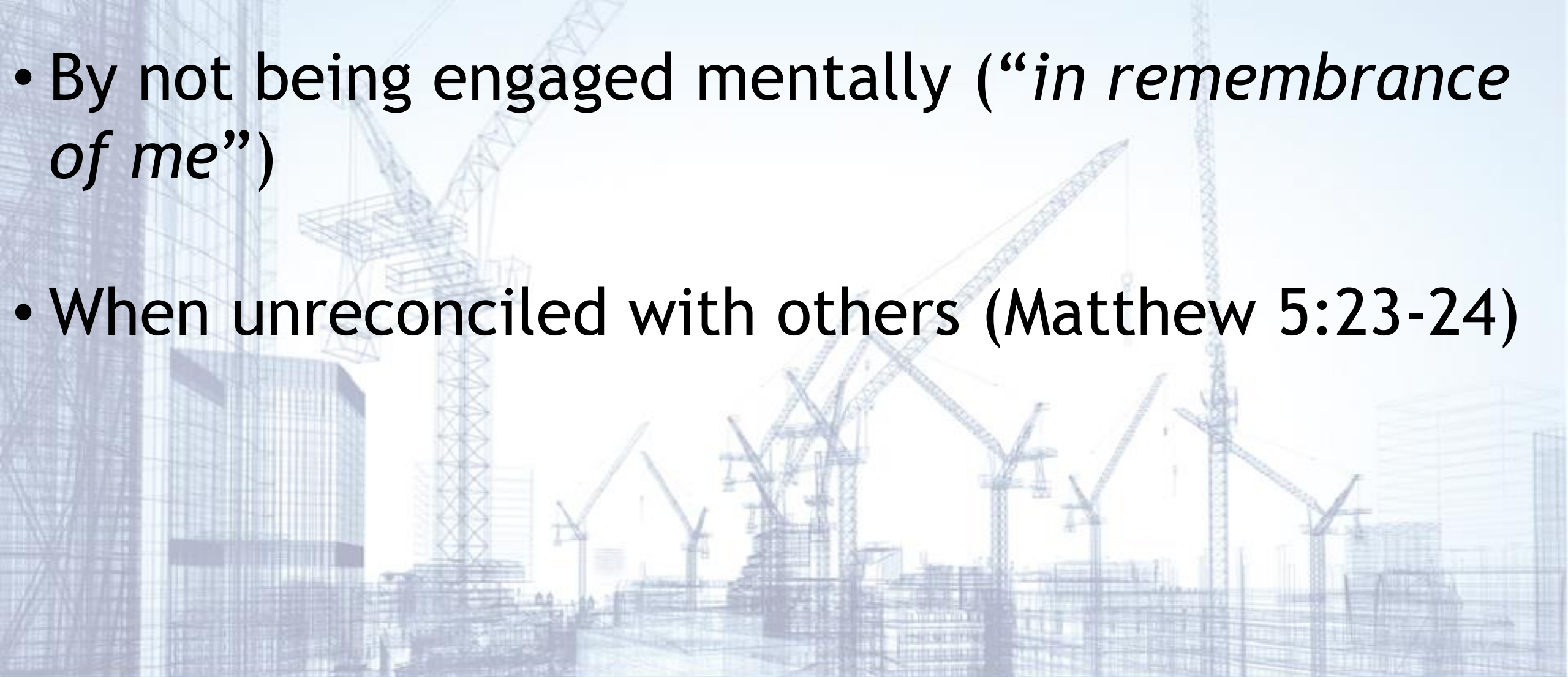


“...feeling we can bring with us... If they are waiting until they feel in themselves perfect hearts, perfect motives, perfect feelings, perfect repentance, perfect love, perfect faith—they will wait forever.”

J.C. Ryle, *Practical Religion*

- By not being engaged mentally (“*in remembrance of me*”)

Ways to Take the Lord's
Supper Unworthily

- 
- By not being engaged mentally (“*in remembrance of me*”)
 - When unreconciled with others (Matthew 5:23-24)

Ways to Take the Lord's
Supper Unworthily

- Used by Levitical priests (Leviticus 16)



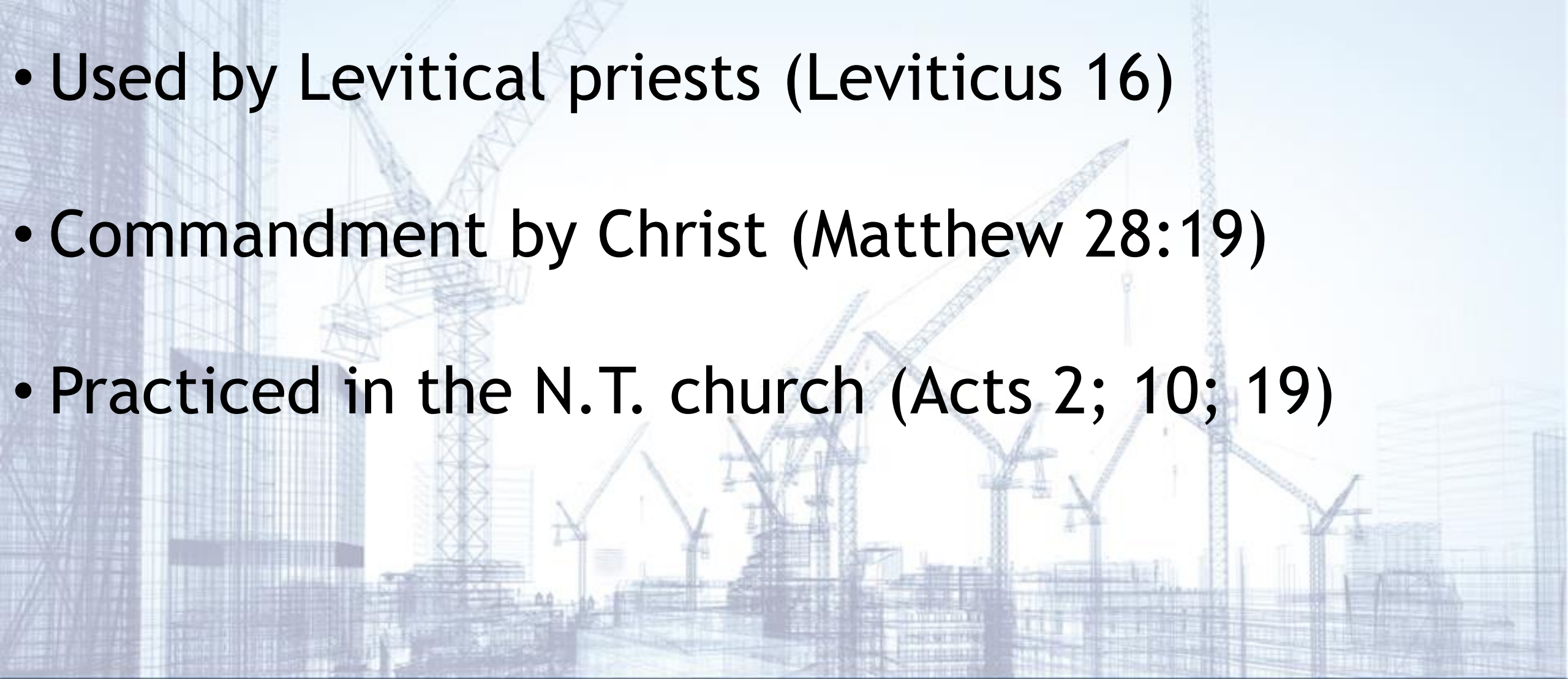
Where Did Baptism Come From?

- John the Baptist said that he baptized with water for the purpose of repentance (Matt. 3:11). Later in Acts 19:4, Paul affirmed this.
- The baptism by John was meant to be a symbolic representation of someone changing their mind and going a new direction.
- This explains why he rebuked the religious leaders who didn't want to repent of their hypocrisy (Matt. 3:7-8).

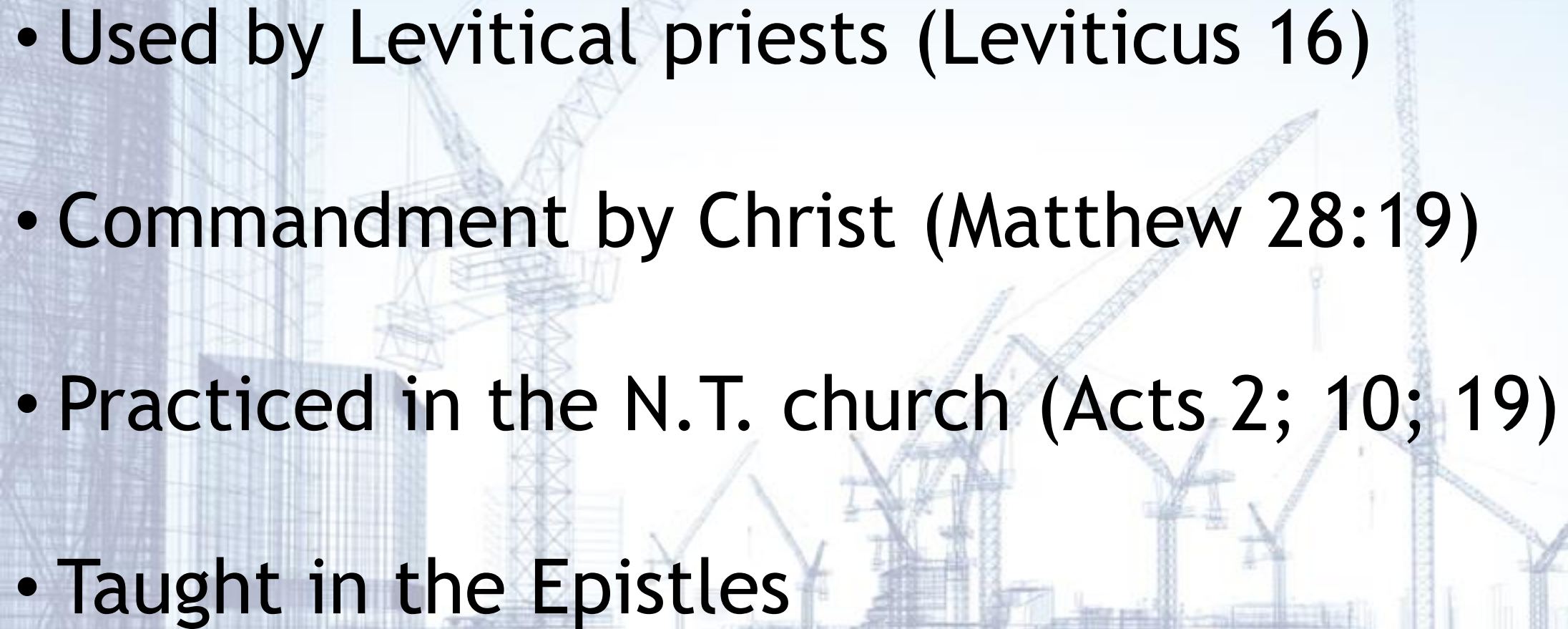
What About John the Baptist?

- 
- Used by Levitical priests (Leviticus 16)
 - Commandment by Christ (Matthew 28:19)

Where Did Baptism Come From?

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- Used by Levitical priests (Leviticus 16)
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 - Practiced in the N.T. church (Acts 2; 10; 19)

Where Did Baptism Come From?

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- Used by Levitical priests (Leviticus 16)
 - Commandment by Christ (Matthew 28:19)
 - Practiced in the N.T. church (Acts 2; 10; 19)
 - Taught in the Epistles

Where Did Baptism Come From?

- It identifies us with Christ (Acts 2:38; 8:15-16; Romans 6:1-4; Galatians 3:27).

“Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins,...” (Acts 2:38)

What Does Baptism Signify?

- It identifies us with Christ (Acts 2:38; 8:15-16; Romans 6:1-4; Galatians 3:27).

“For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” (Galatians 3:27)

What Does Baptism Signify?



“The submission of the believer to the water of baptism represents his or her humble request to God for a conscience cleared of guilt because of Christ’s atoning blood. Baptism is an act of confession and utter...

Mark Dever, *The Church*



“...dependence. In summary, baptism in the Bible is neither elevated to be the cause of conversion nor diminished to be a mere marker of inclusion in a non-salvific covenant. Rather, baptism is a public...

Mark Dever, *The Church*



“...profession of God’s saving work in the life of the believer. It is the public initiation of the believer into the family of faith.”

Mark Dever, *The Church*

- It identifies us with Christ (Acts 2:38; 8:15-16; Romans 6:1-4; Galatians 3:27).
- It identifies us with the church (Acts 2:41-42).

“⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls. ⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching...”

What Does Baptism Signify?



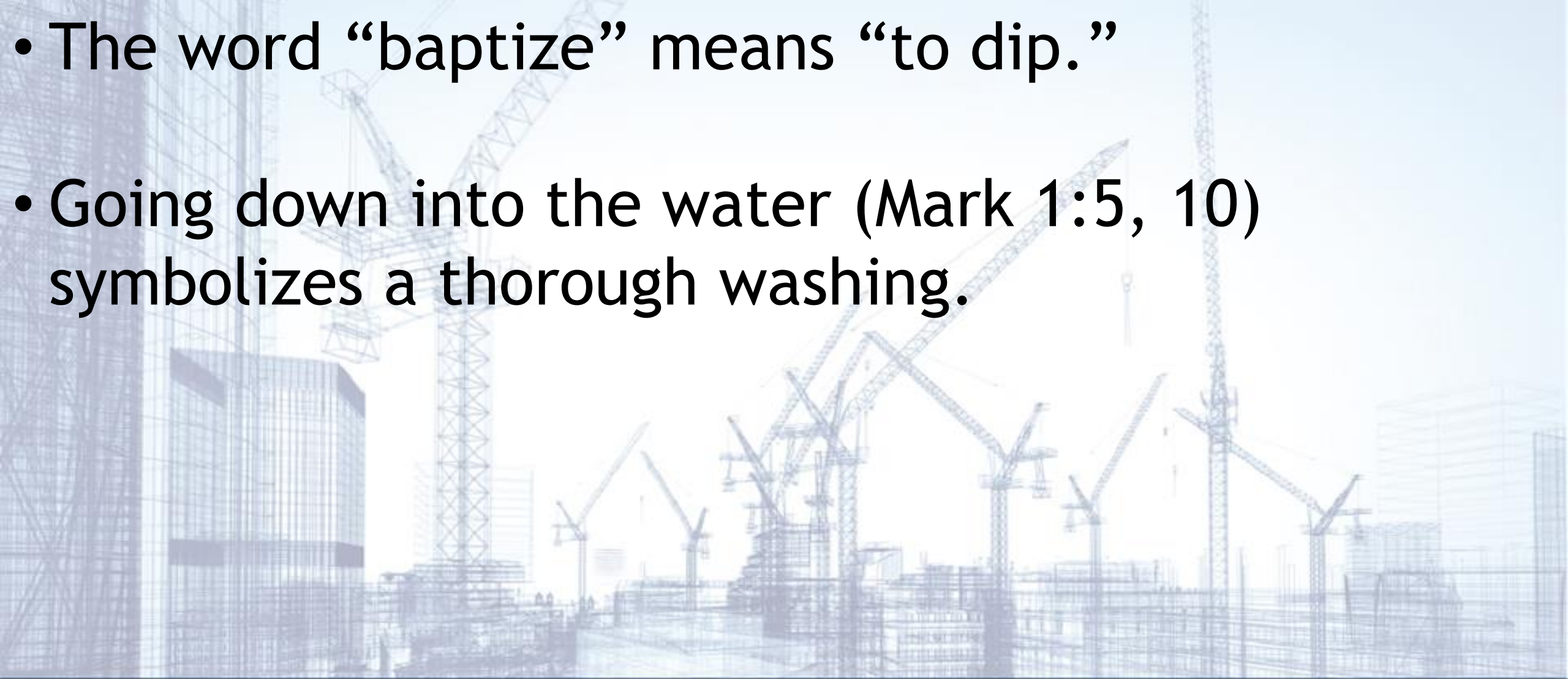
“[Baptism] is the mark by which we publicly profess that we wish to be reckoned to God’s people;...”

John Calvin,
Institutes of the Christian Religion

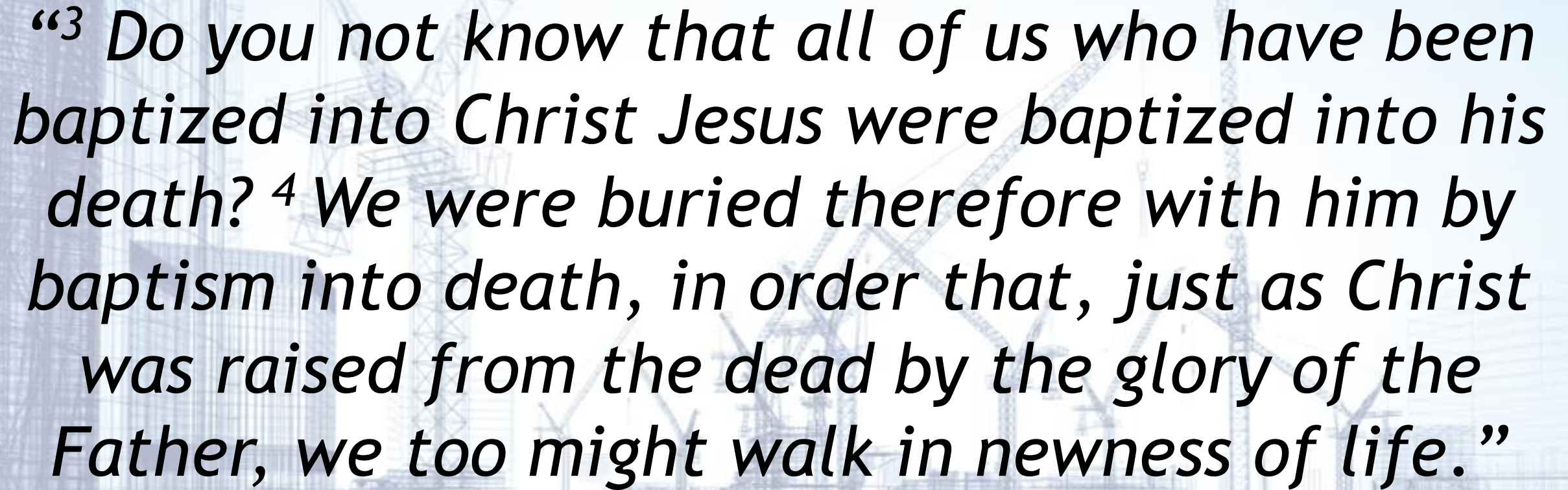
- It identifies us with Christ (Acts 2:38; 8:15-16; Romans 6:1-4; Galatians 3:27).
- It identifies us with the church (Acts 2:41-42).
- It symbolizes a cleansing from sin (I John 1:7).

“But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin.”

What Does Baptism Signify?

- 
- The word “baptize” means “to dip.”
 - Going down into the water (Mark 1:5, 10) symbolizes a thorough washing.

Why Do We Immerse?




“³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.”

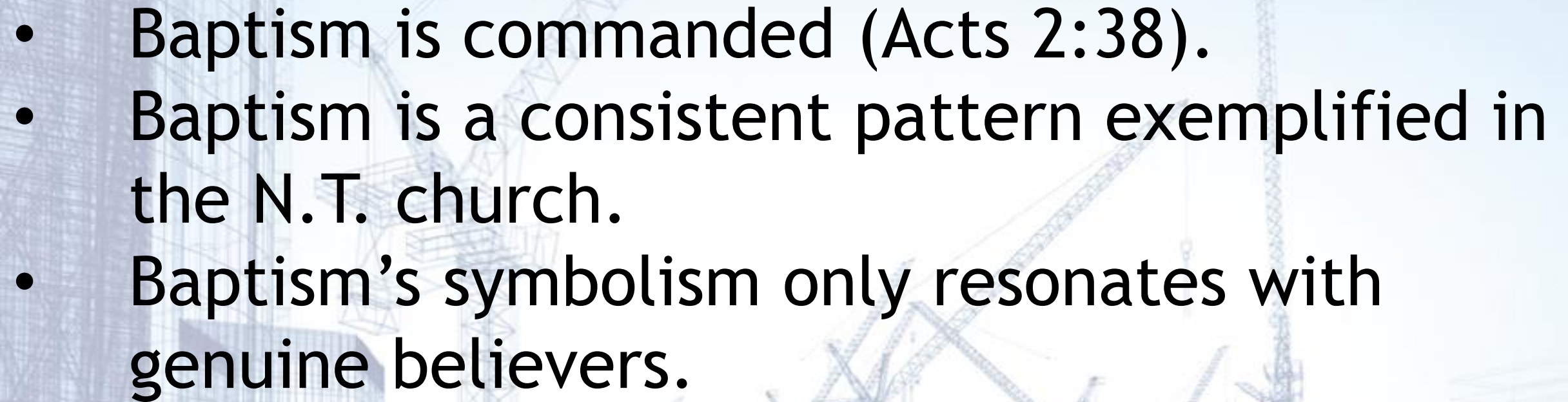
Romans 6:3-4

- Baptism is commanded (Acts 2:38).

Why Must Christians Be Baptized?

- 
- Baptism is commanded (Acts 2:38).
 - Baptism is a consistent pattern exemplified in the N.T. church.

Why Must Christians Be Baptized?

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- Baptism is commanded (Acts 2:38).
 - Baptism is a consistent pattern exemplified in the N.T. church.
 - Baptism's symbolism only resonates with genuine believers.

Why Must Christians Be Baptized?



“[In the baptism of a believer,] there is the blessing of God’s favor that comes with all obedience, as well as the joy that comes through public profession of one’s faith, and the reassurance of having a clear physical picture of dying and rising with Christ and of washing away sins.”

Wayne Grudem, *Systematic Theology*



“To preach the gospel to yourself, then, means that you continually face up to your own sinfulness and then flee to Jesus through faith in His shed blood and righteous life.

It means that you appropriate, again by faith, the fact that Jesus fully satisfied the law of God,...

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*



“...that He is your propitiation,
and that God’s holy wrath is no
longer directed toward you.
To preach the gospel to yourself
means that you take at face value
the precious words of Romans 4:7-
8: ‘Blessed are they whose
transgressions are forgiven,...’

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*



“...whose sins are covered. Blessed is the man whose sin the Lord will never count against him.’

It means that you believe on the testimony of God that ‘Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus’ (Romans 8:1). It means you...

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*



“...believe that ‘Christ redeemed [you] from the curse of the law by becoming a curse for [you], for it is written ‘Cursed is everyone who is hung on a tree’ (Galatians 3:13). It means you believe He forgave you all your sins (Colossians 2:13) and now...

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*



“...‘[presents you] holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation’ (Colossians 1:22).

Turning to the Old Testament, to preach the gospel to yourself means that you appropriate by faith the words of Isaiah 53:6:...

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*



“... ‘We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.’ It means that you dwell upon the promise that God has removed your transgressions from you as far as the east is from the west...

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*



“... (Psalm 103:12), that He has blotted out your transgressions and remembers your sin no more (Isaiah 43:25). But it means you realize that all these wonderful promises of forgiveness are based upon the atoning death of Jesus Christ...

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*



“...It is the death of Christ through which He satisfied the justice of God and averted from us the wrath of God that is the basis of all God’s promises of forgiveness. We must be careful that, in preaching the gospel to ourselves, we do not preach a gospel...

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*



“...without a cross. We must be careful that we do not rely on the so-called unconditional love of God without realizing that His love can only flow to us as a result of Christ’s atoning death.”

Jerry Bridges, *The Discipline of Grace*