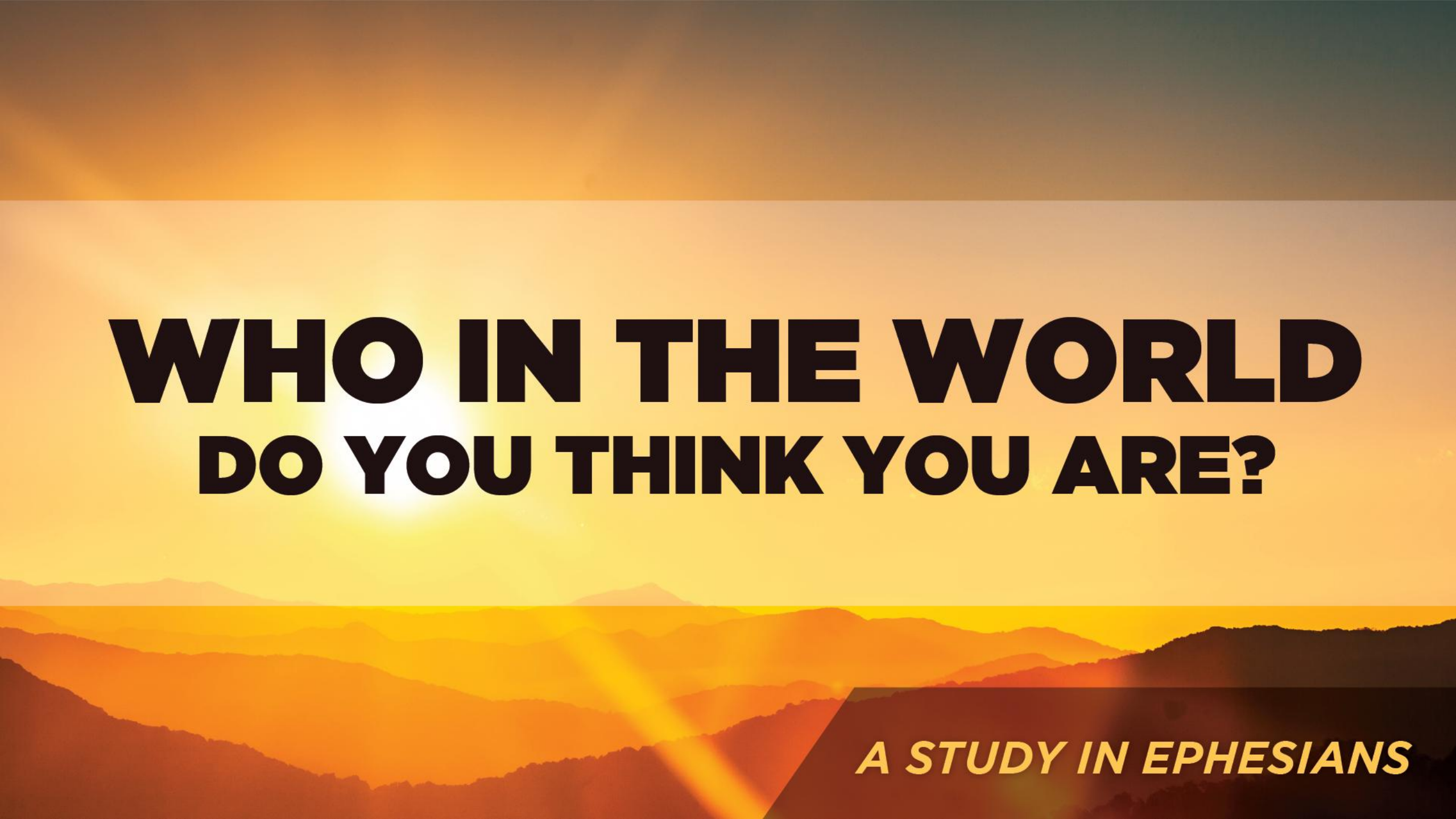




WHO IN THE WORLD DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

A STUDY IN EPHESIANS

Introduction

Ephesians 1

Greeting (v. 1-2)

The blessings of the believer (v. 3-14)

Paul's prayer (v. 15-23)

Ephesians 2

- 1. Our Past Plight (v. 1-5)**
- 2. God's Present Provision (v. 6-9)**
- 3. The Purpose of His Plan (v. 10)**

¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called “uncircumcised” by those who call themselves “the circumcision” (that done in the flesh by the hands of men)—¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ,

Ephesians 2:11-22

excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.
¹³ But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far away have been brought near through the blood of Christ.

Ephesians 2:11-18

¹⁴ For he himself is our peace, who has made the two one and has destroyed the barrier, the dividing wall of hostility, ¹⁵ by abolishing in his flesh the law with its commandments and regulations. His purpose was to create in himself one new man out of the two, thus making peace,

Ephesians 2:11-18

¹⁶ and in this one body to reconcile both of them to God through the cross, by which he put to death their hostility. ¹⁷ He came and preached peace to you who were far away and peace to those who were near. ¹⁸ For through him we both have access to the Father by one Spirit.

Ephesians 2:11-18

¹⁹ Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household,
²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

Ephesians 2:11-18

²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesians 2:11-18

1. the reminder of Gentile separation from Israel and thereby separation from God (vv. 11–12)
2. the work of Christ to unite these estranged Gentiles with the OT and newly emerging NT saints in a new creation (vv. 13–18)
3. the new, united church is growing into a new creation temple and household (vv. 19–22).

1. God's People



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

PERMANENT RESIDENT

SPECIMEN TEST V 17 AUG 1958

Surname

SPECIMEN

Given Name

TEST V

USCIS#

000-000-002

Category

IR1

Country of Birth

Democratic Republic of Congo

Date of Birth

17 AUG 1958

Sex

M

Card Expires:

04/02/10

Resident Since:

01/01/10



Test V Specimen

“... the saints are those who had obtained a righteous standing or position before God on the basis of Christ’s work by means of faith.”



Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ...

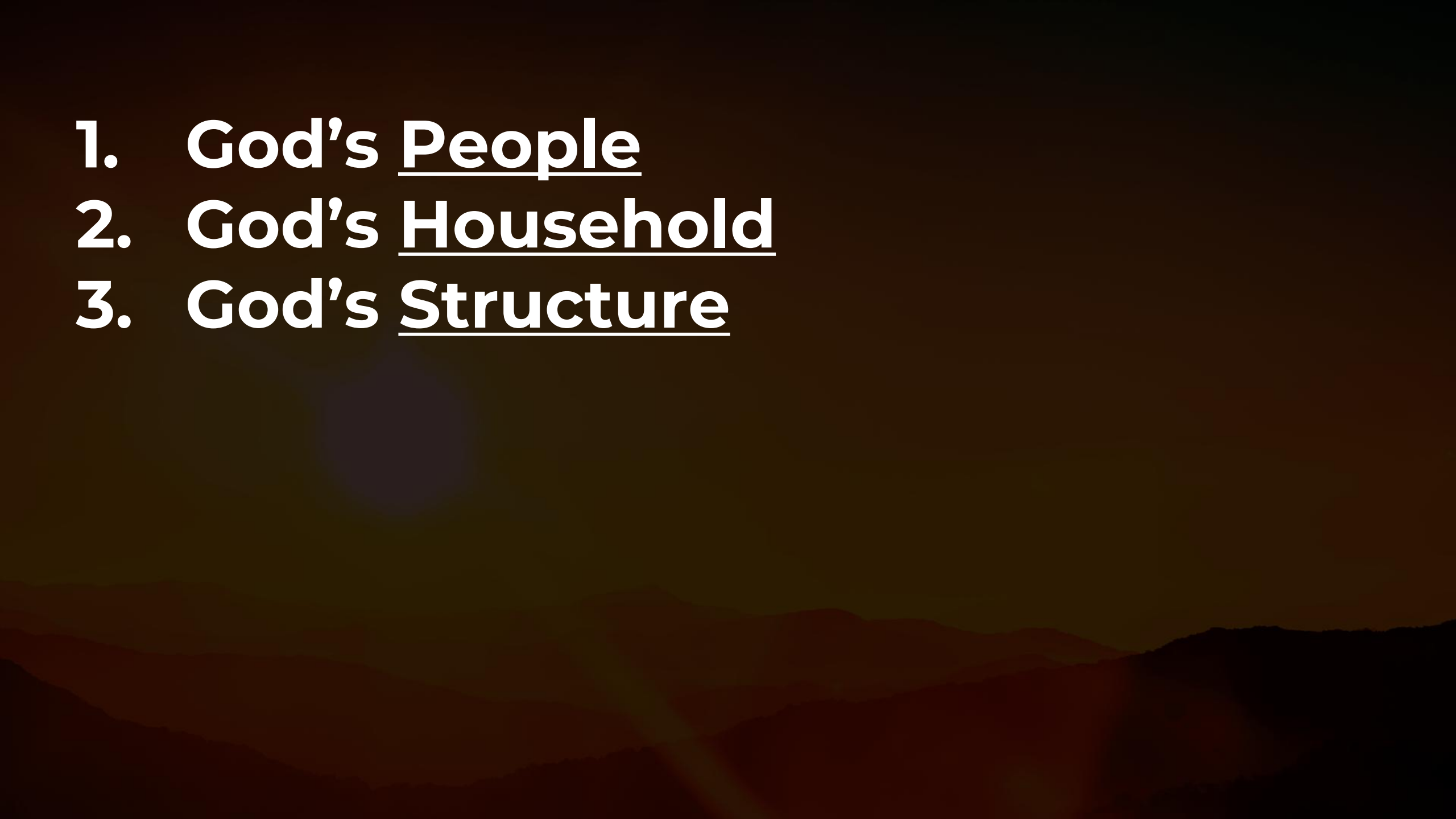
Philippians 3:20

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- The background of the slide is a dark, atmospheric landscape. It features rolling hills and mountains in shades of deep brown and black. A bright, hazy light source, possibly the sun or moon, is visible in the sky, creating a soft glow and lens flare effects across the scene.
1. God's People
 2. God's Household



¹¹ Here there is no Greek or Jew, circumcised or uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave or free, but Christ is all, and is in all.

Colossians 3:11

- 
1. God's People
 2. God's Household
 3. God's Structure

¹⁵ if I am delayed, you will know how people ought to conduct themselves in God's household, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.

1 Timothy 3:15

³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” ³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”

Acts 2:36-41

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit... ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

Acts 2:36-41

1. God's People
2. God's Household
3. God's Structure
 - a. apostles

3a. apostles

- 1. The Office of Apostle**
- 2. The Gift of Apostleship**
- 3. The Apostle Paul**

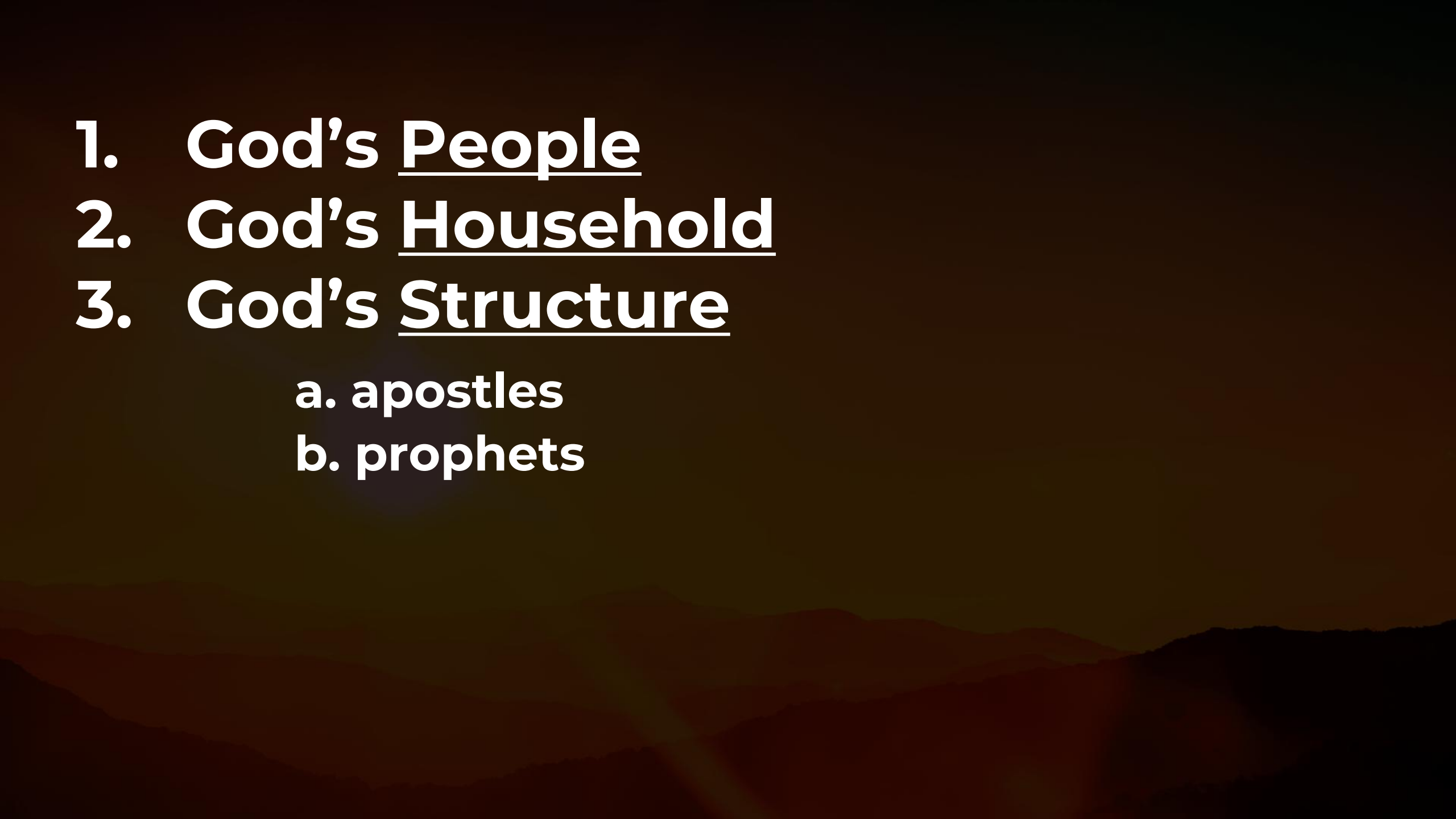
¹⁵ But the Lord said to Ananias, “Go! This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings and before the people of Israel.

Acts 9:15

“In conclusion, it can be said that an apostle was an official delegate of Jesus Christ commissioned for the specific tasks of proclaiming authoritatively the message in oral and written form and of establishing and the building up of churches.”



Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

- 
- 1. God's People**
 - 2. God's Household**
 - 3. God's Structure**
 - a. apostles**
 - b. prophets**

Briefly, it seems that the prophet is one who is endowed by the Holy Spirit with the gift of prophecy for the purpose of edification, comfort, and encouragement (1 Cor 14:3, 31), as well as for the purpose of understanding and communicating the mysteries and revelation of God to the church (12:10; 13:2; 14:6, 22, 30–31).



Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

As was true with the OT prophets, the NT prophetic gift also included a predictive element (1 Thess 3:4; 4:6, 14–18; Gal 5:21) that was not a part of the other gifts such as teaching...

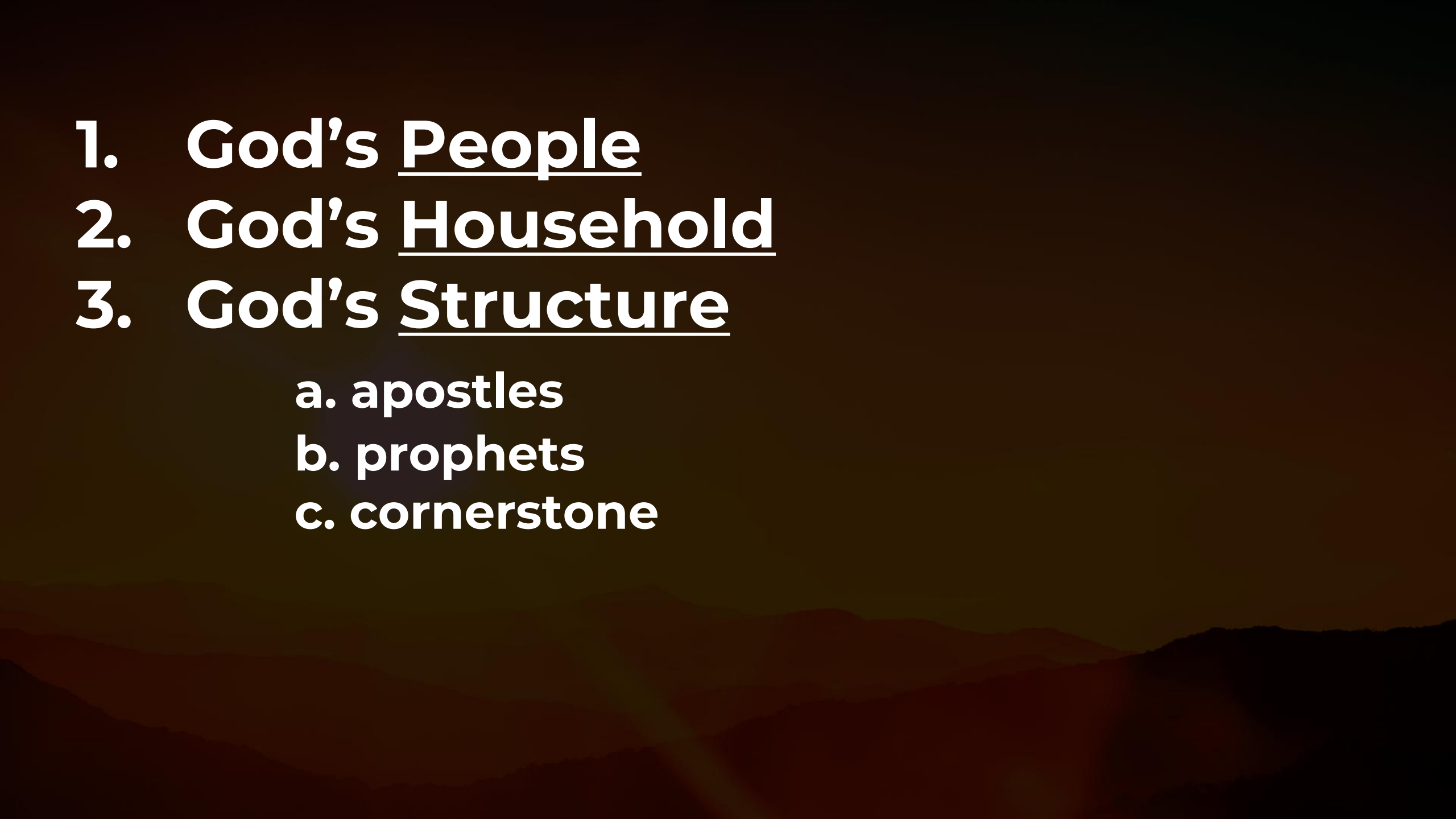


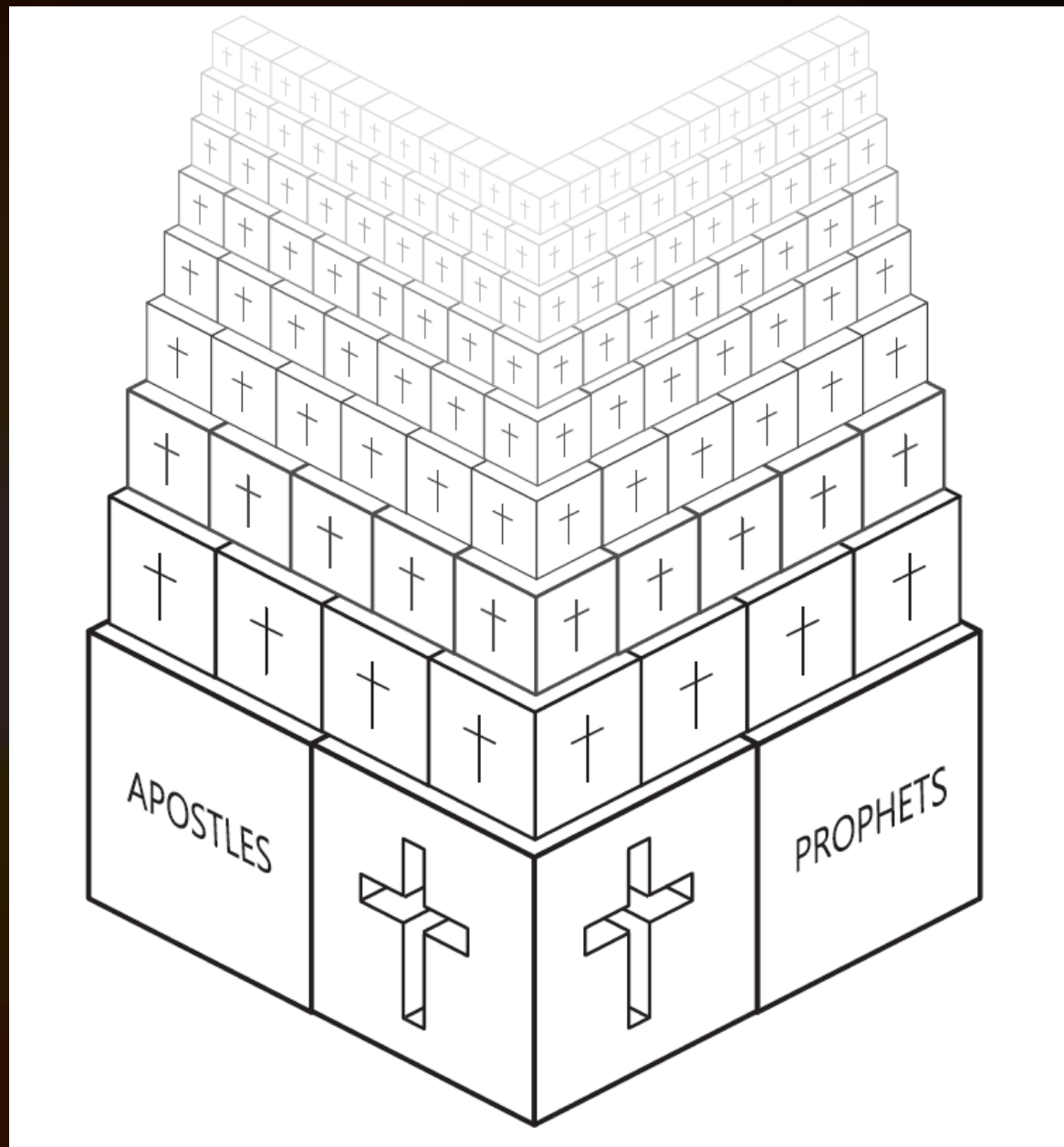
Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

In light of an incomplete canon, the prophets may well have received revelation to complete what was needed so that every person could be presented perfect before God (Eph 4:12; Col 1:28). In conclusion, it seems that both the apostle and the prophet were involved in revelation.

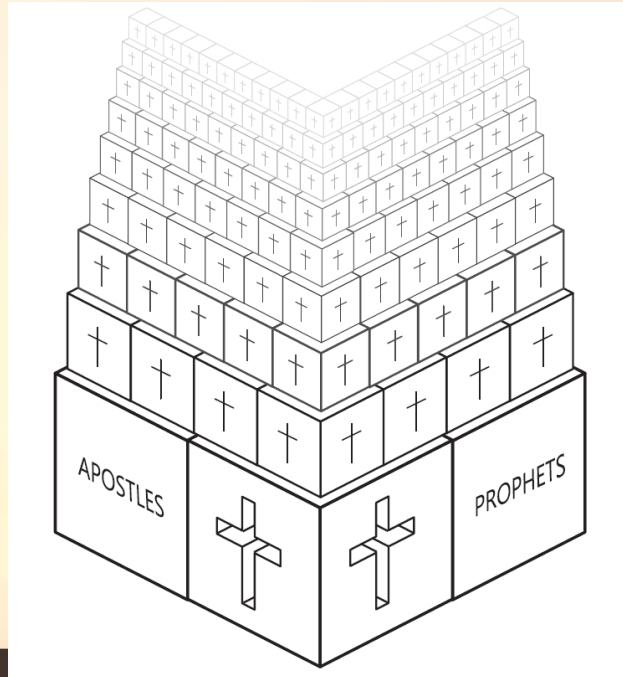


Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

- 
- 1. God's People**
 - 2. God's Household**
 - 3. God's Structure**
 - a. apostles**
 - b. prophets**
 - c. cornerstone**

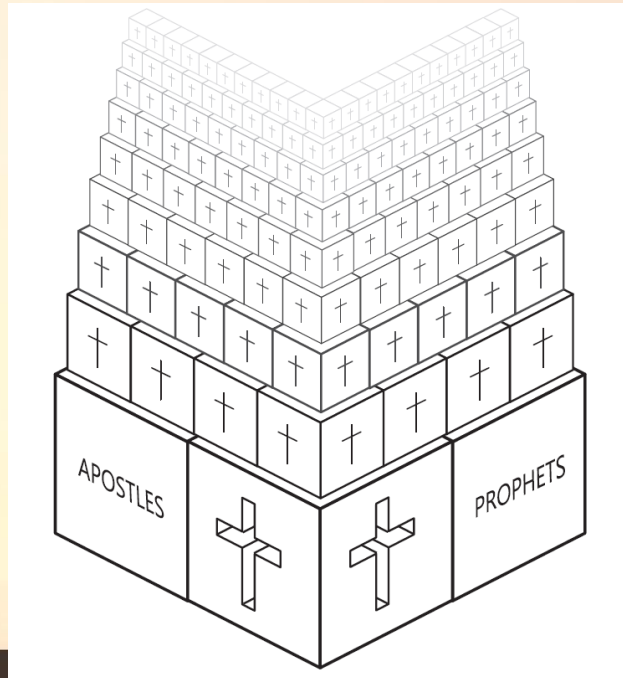


“the “cornerstone” ... which ensures that the whole building is square and stable.”



S. M. Baugh,
Ephesians

“...if he is the cornerstone, then he is the main stone of the foundation and the apostles and prophets align with him...”



Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

“.... The cornerstone was the first stone laid. The builder was very careful to properly set this stone... It is that stone by which every other stone in the foundation and the superstructure must be measured.



Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

Thus, the building of the new person, the church, must be in conformity with the cornerstone, Christ Jesus. The pronoun αὐτοῦ refers to Christ, not to the cornerstone or to the foundation (θεμελίῳ), to give emphasis to the fact that he is the one by which all things are measured.



Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

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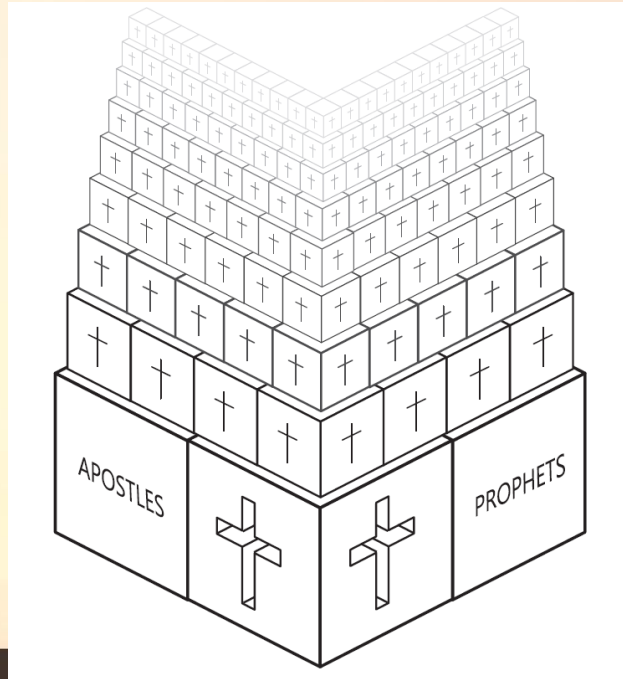
Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

“The cornerstone was the most important stone in the whole building. All other stones were to be in line with it. Christ himself is the living cornerstone and the apostles and the prophets who make up the rest of the foundation needed to be correctly aligned with Christ.



Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

All succeeding believers are built on that foundation, causing their lives to be measured with Christ.”



Harold Hoehner,
Ephesians: An Exegetical Commentary

If the cornerstone is wrong, then the whole building will be wrong, and God's purposes will not be fulfilled. But the cornerstone is right and will be forever.



Warren Wiersbe,
Be What You Are

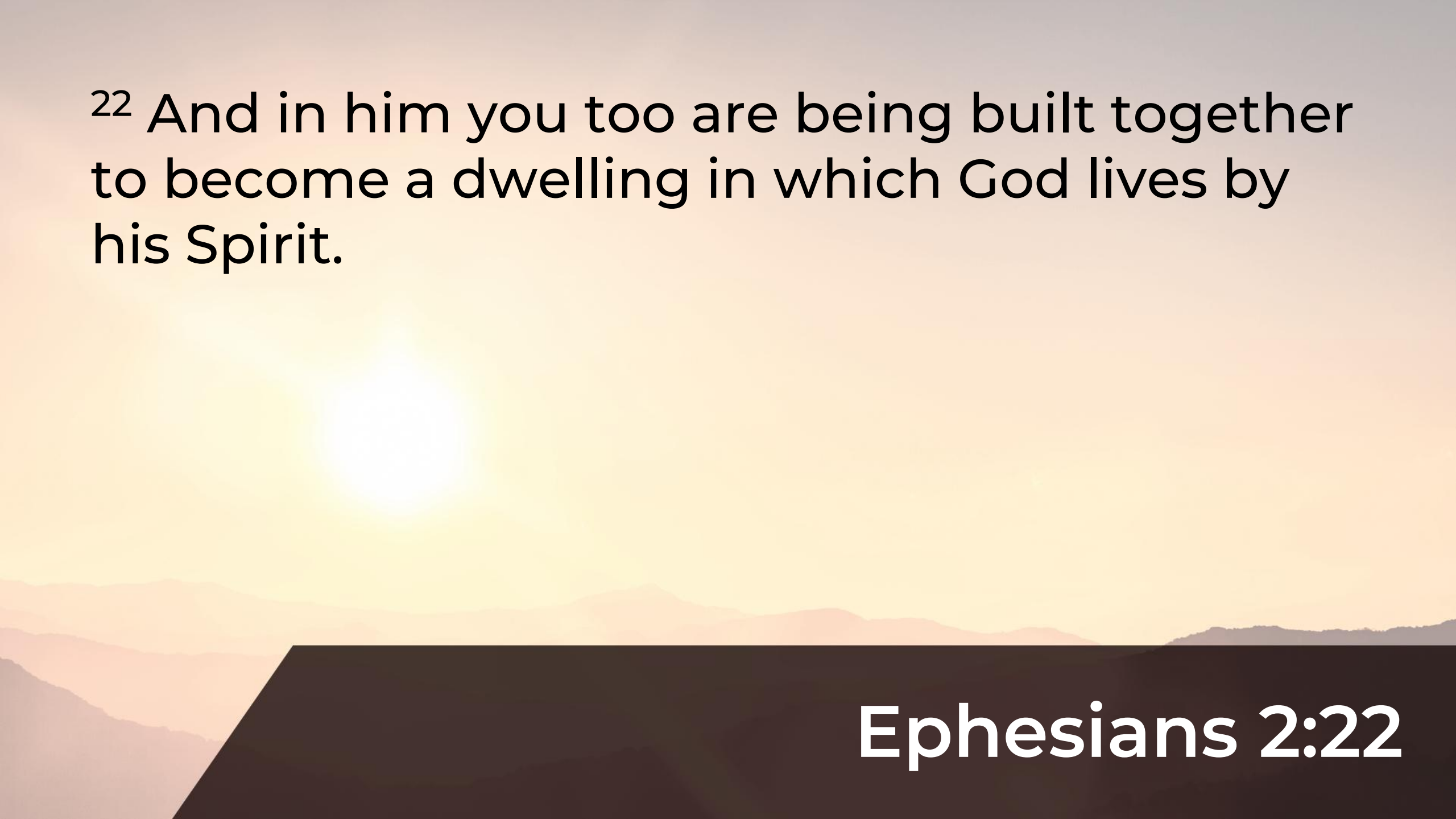
1. God's People
2. God's Household
3. God's Structure
 - a. apostles
 - b. prophets
 - c. cornerstone
4. God's Growth

⁶ I planted, Apollos watered, but it is God who gives the growth.

1 Corinthians 3:6

¹⁸ And I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell will not prevail against it.

Matthew 16:18



²² And in him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesians 2:22

1. God's People
2. God's Household
3. God's Structure
 - a. apostles
 - b. prophets
 - c. cornerstone
4. God's Growth
5. God's Dwelling

In the Book of Genesis, God “walked” with His people (Gen. 5:22, 24; 6:9); but in Exodus, He decided to “dwell” with His people (Ex. 25:8). God dwelt in the tabernacle (Ex. 40:34–38) until Israel’s sins caused “the glory to depart” (1 Sam. 4).



Warren Wiersbe,
The Bible Exposition Commentary

Then God dwelt in the temple (1 Kings 8:1–11); but, alas, again Israel sinned and the glory departed (Ezek. 10:18–19). God's next dwelling place was the body of Christ (John 1:14), which men took and nailed to a cross.



Warren Wiersbe,
The Bible Exposition Commentary

Today, through His Spirit, God dwells in the church, the temple of God. God does not dwell in man-made temples, including church buildings (Acts 7:48–50).



Warren Wiersbe,
The Bible Exposition Commentary

He dwells in the hearts of those who have trusted Christ (1 Cor. 6:19–20), and in the church collectively (Eph. 2:20–22).



Warren Wiersbe,
The Bible Exposition Commentary

“The indwelling of the Holy Spirit is one of the gifts of salvation by which God’s very presence, in the person of the Spirit, indwells the church corporately and Christians individually, drawing them into the life of the triune God.”

Lexham Survey of Theology

¹⁶ Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit lives in you? ¹⁷ If anyone destroys God's temple, God will destroy him; for God's temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

1 Corinthians 3:16-17

⁹ You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ...

Romans 8:9, 11

¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

Romans 8:9, 11

“Paul and Peter both move quickly from their use of temple imagery for the messianic people of God to ethical teaching about the kind of life that was appropriate for those who now constituted the dwelling-place of God.”



Christopher Wright,
The Message of Ezekiel

¹⁹ Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

¹ Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. ² I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

Revelation 21:1-4

³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”

Revelation 21:1-4

Application

¹⁹ Consequently, I am no longer a foreigner or alien, but I am a fellow citizen with God's saints and a member of God's household, ²⁰ built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.

Ephesians 2:19-22

²¹ In him the whole building is joined together and rises to become a holy temple in the Lord. ²² And in him I too am being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit.

Ephesians 2:19-22

**#1 Rejoice in the blessings of
God to all who are in Christ.**

#2 Rejoice that we are built on the solid foundation of Christ Jesus Himself, and the teaching of the apostles and prophets, and that we now have the blessing of the written word.

**#3 Live in line with the
cornerstone.**

**#4 Resolve to hold fast to the
trustworthy message as it
has been written.**

**#5 Live in such a way that
you glorify God.**

**#6 Rejoice that God is
continuing to build His
church.**

New Member Reception

“The work of the elders is to shepherd “the flock of God,” also called, “the church of God” (1 Pet. 5:2; Acts 20:28). These two phrases refer to the local Christian congregation/flock. The church of God is no ordinary group of people, like a social club, business partnership, or sports team.

Biblical Eldership

The church of God is a worshiping community; it sings the praises of God and prays for one another and for all people; it gathers together to remember the death of our Lord Jesus by sharing together the bread and the cup of remembrance.

Biblical Eldership

In this community the people bear one another's burdens and love one another as Christ loved them. They exercise their spiritual gifts in order to build one another up. They come together to be taught the Scriptures and to learn more of God and his glorious salvation plan;

Biblical Eldership

they gather in holy fellowship to encourage one another to resist false teaching, to abstain from worldly temptations, and to stand strong in the face of persecution. The community of the redeemed is a living witness to the power of the gospel of the grace of God.”

Biblical Eldership

Luke & Natalie Barnes

Christian Booker

Lois Jackson

Nancy Kreibach

Hayden McKinley

Deja Samad