



The Gift
A New Day
Easter Sunday

A black and white photograph of a dog sitting on a road, looking towards a car in the distance. The dog is in the foreground, and the car is in the background, both slightly out of focus. The scene is set on a road with trees in the background.

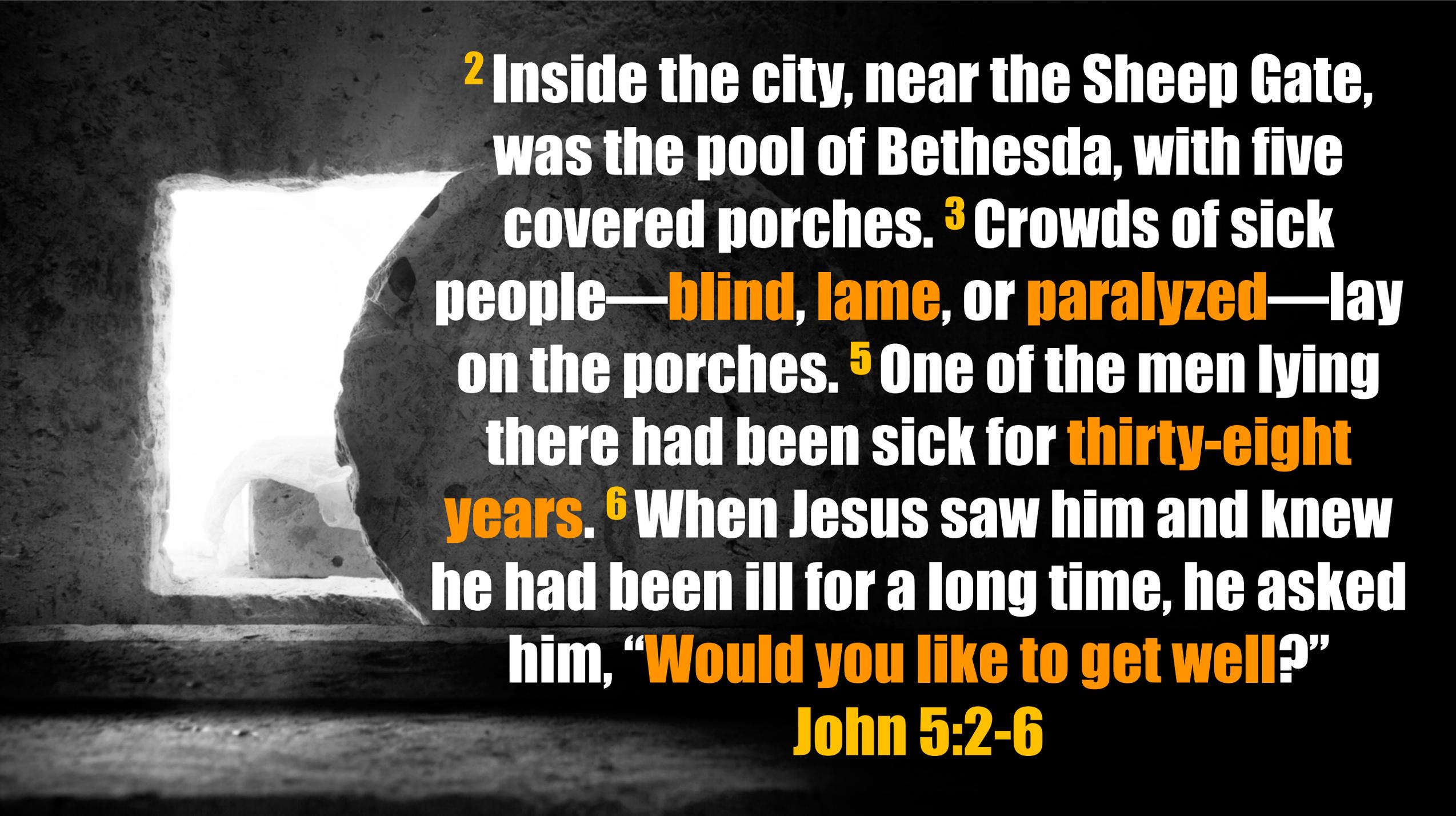
HOW DOES REJECTION AFFECT US?

How has it affected you?



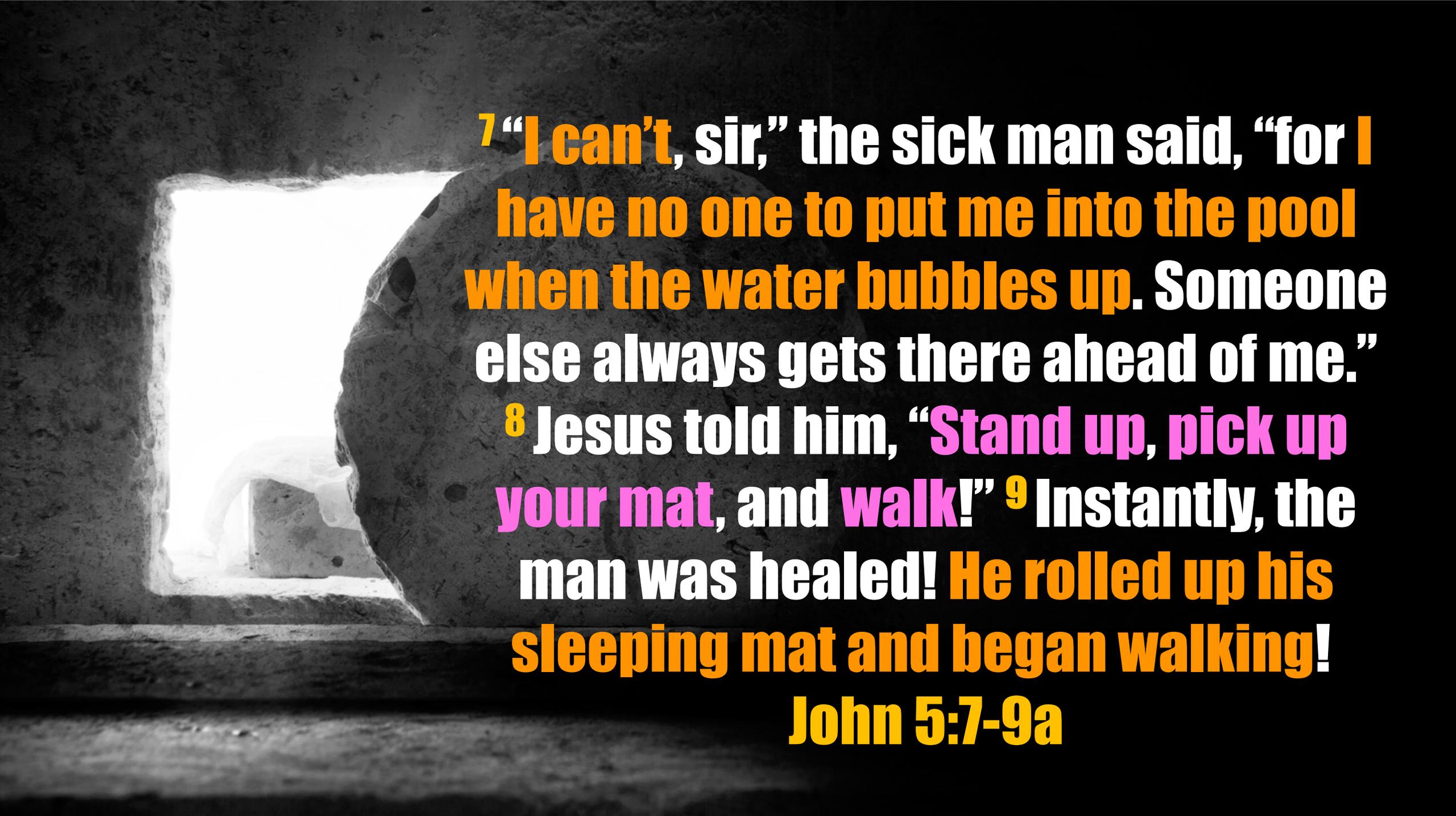
T1 YOU NEED GOD'S
GRACE WHEN YOU
ARE ***ABANDONED.***

John 5:2-9



2 Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches. **3** Crowds of sick people—**blind, lame, or paralyzed**—lay on the porches. **5** One of the men lying there had been sick for **thirty-eight years**. **6** When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, “**Would you like to get well?**”

John 5:2-6



7 “I can’t, sir,” the sick man said, “for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.”

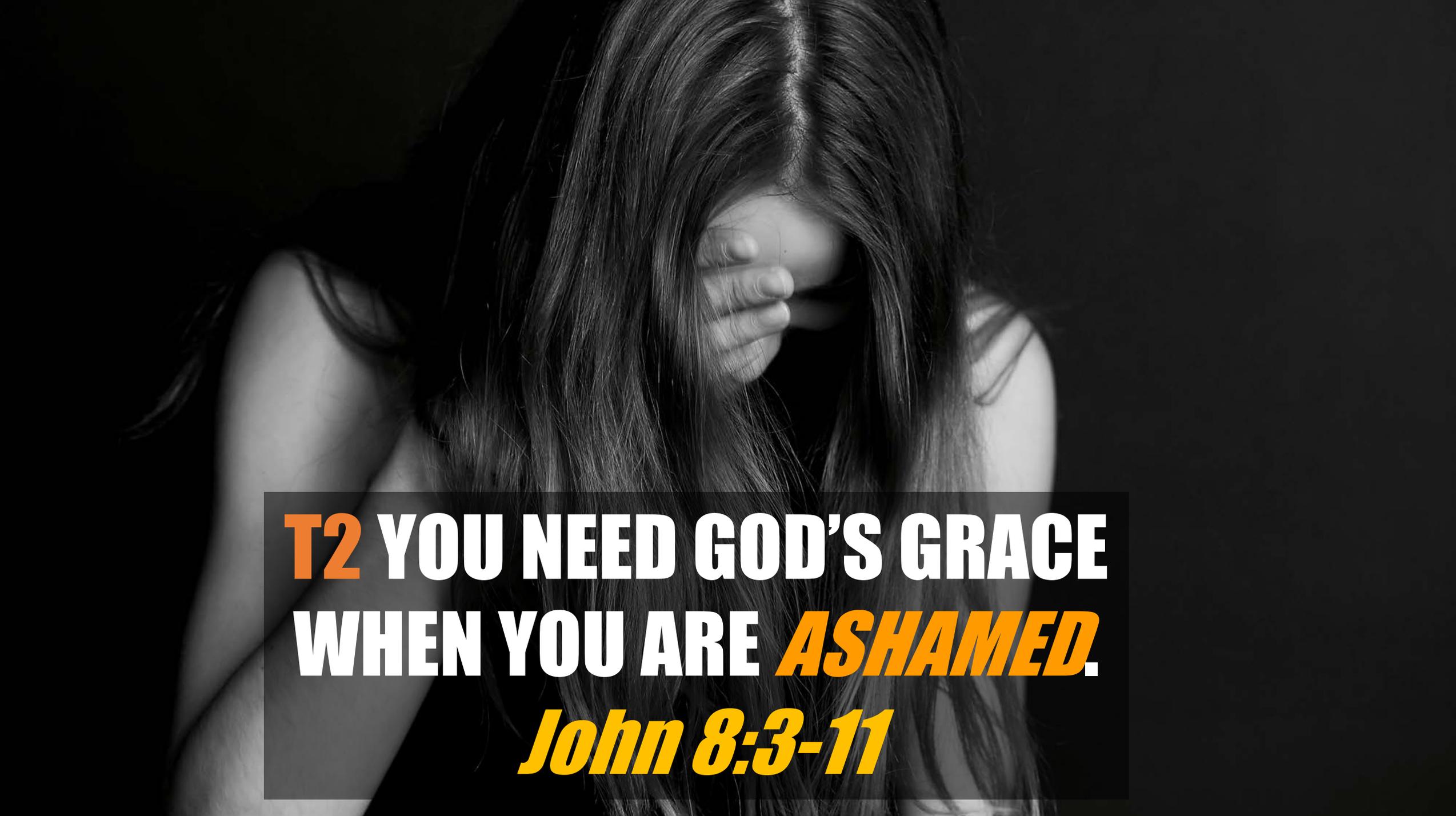
8 Jesus told him, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!” **9** Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking!

John 5:7-9a



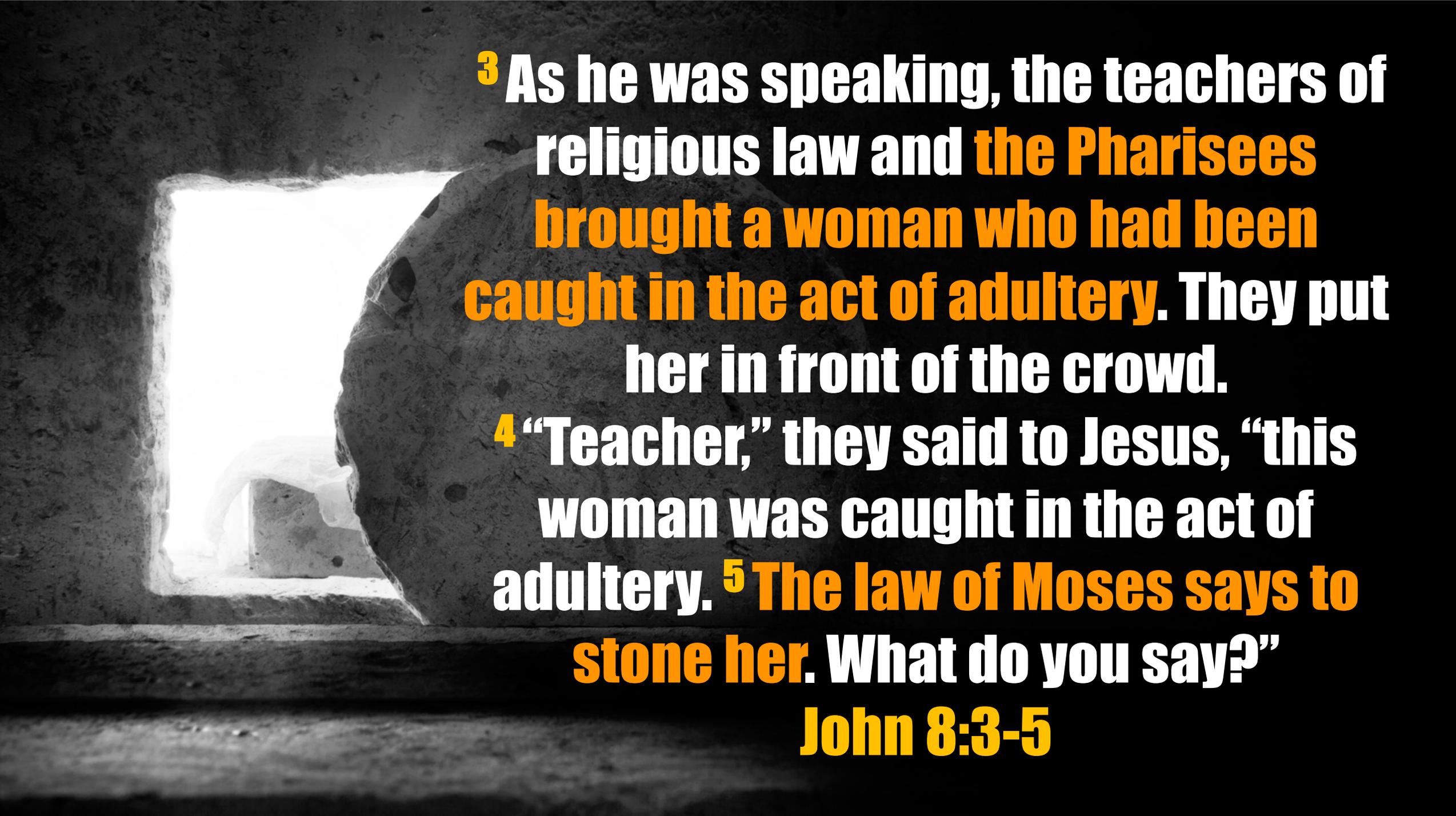
WHAT ARE THE EFFECTS OF GUILT?

Have you ever been judged?



**T2 YOU NEED GOD'S GRACE
WHEN YOU ARE *ASHAMED.***

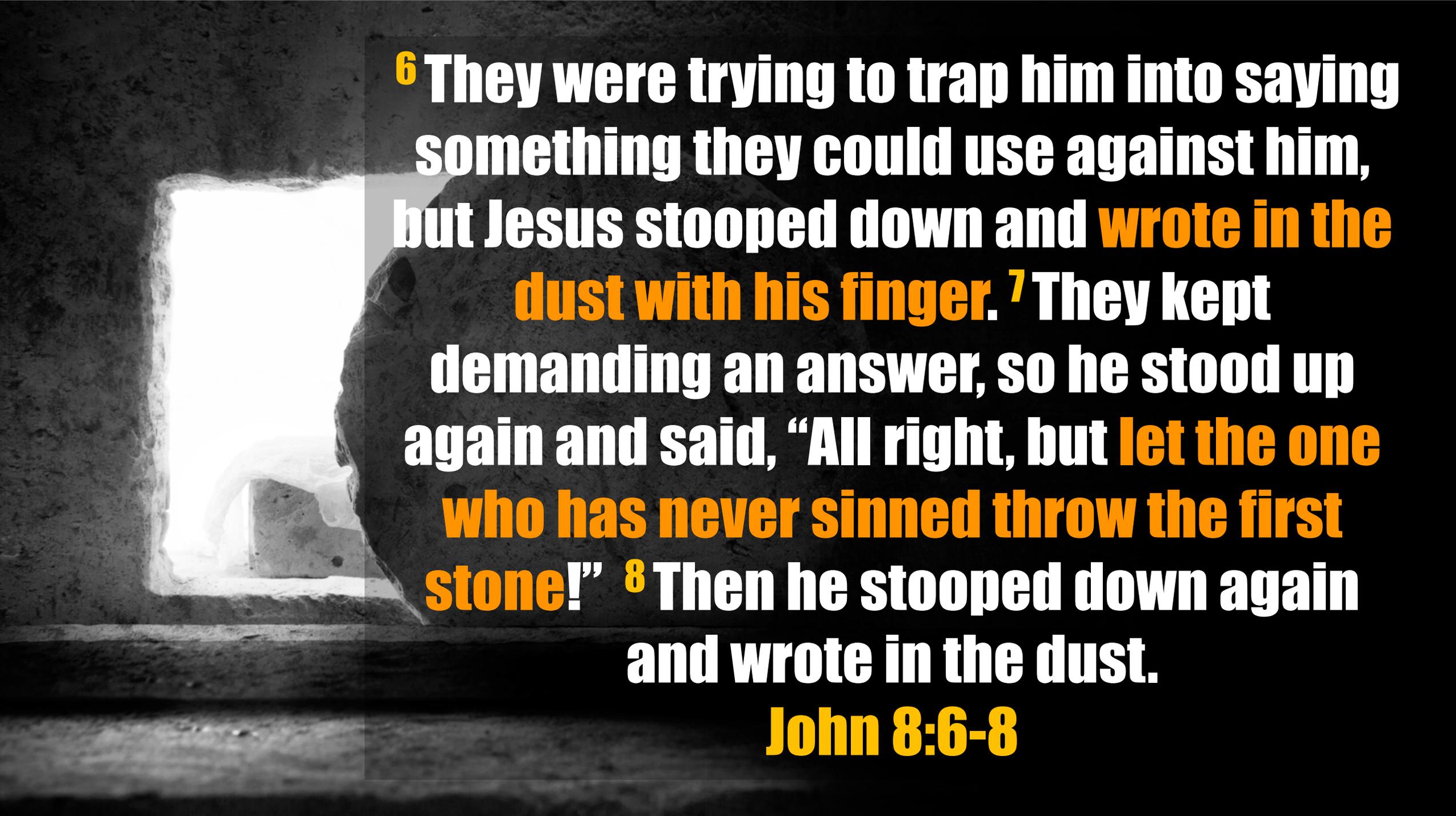
John 8:3-11



3 As he was speaking, the teachers of religious law and **the Pharisees** brought a woman who had been caught in the act of adultery. They put her in front of the crowd.

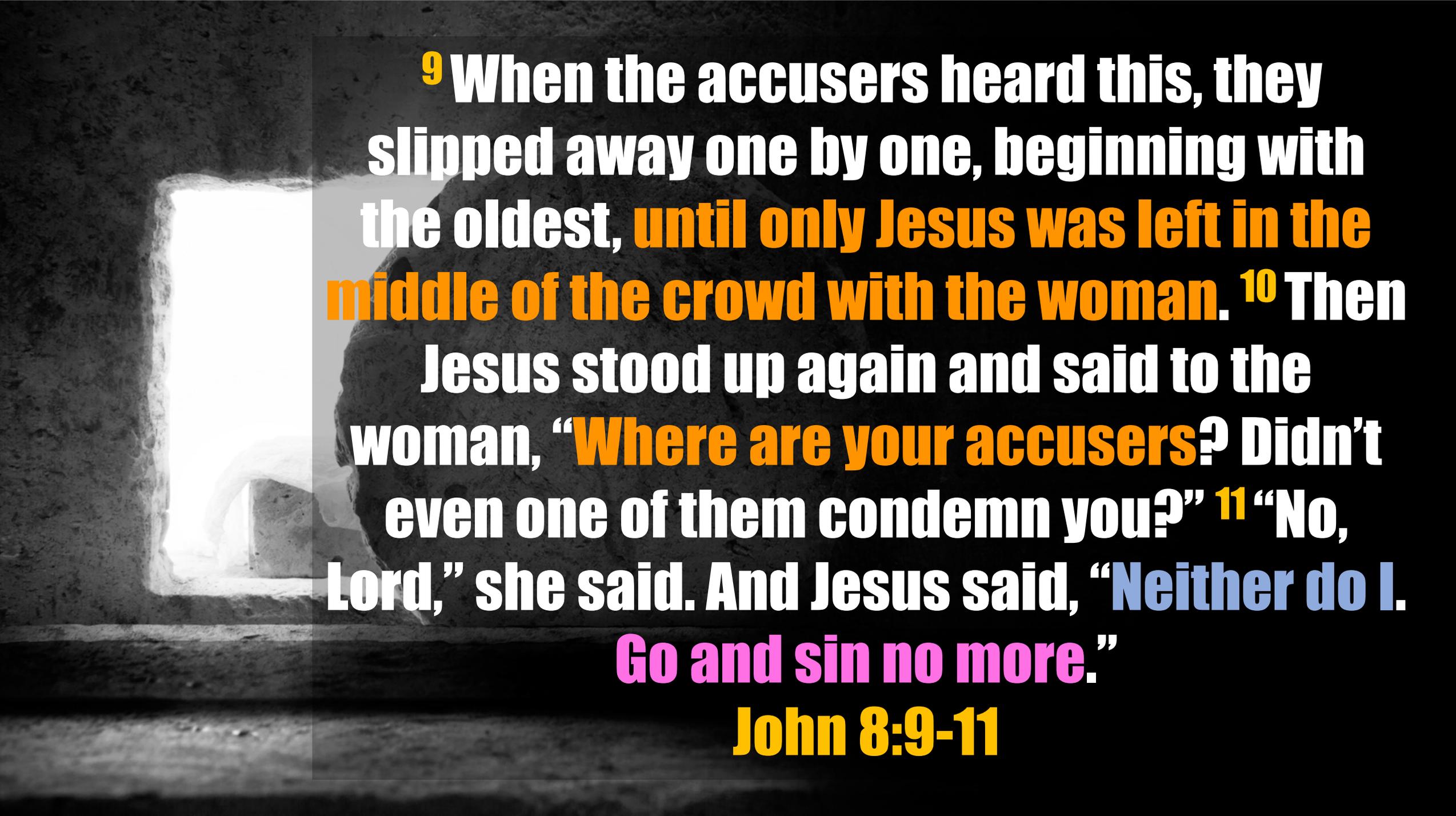
4 “Teacher,” they said to Jesus, “this woman was caught in the act of adultery. **5** The law of Moses says to stone her. What do you say?”

John 8:3-5



6 They were trying to trap him into saying something they could use against him, but Jesus stooped down and **wrote in the dust with his finger.** **7** They kept demanding an answer, so he stood up again and said, “All right, but **let the one who has never sinned throw the first stone!**” **8** Then he stooped down again and wrote in the dust.

John 8:6-8



9 When the accusers heard this, they slipped away one by one, beginning with the oldest, **until only Jesus was left in the middle of the crowd with the woman.** **10** Then Jesus stood up again and said to the woman, **“Where are your accusers? Didn’t even one of them condemn you?”** **11** “No, Lord,” she said. And Jesus said, **“Neither do I. Go and sin no more.”**

John 8:9-11



IF YOU DIE TODAY, WOULD YOU GO TO HEAVEN?

Is heaven a reward or gift?

A person is walking away from the viewer down a long, dark tunnel. The tunnel is illuminated by a bright light at the far end, creating a strong silhouette of the person. The walls of the tunnel are textured and appear to be made of stone or concrete. The overall mood is one of mystery and hope.

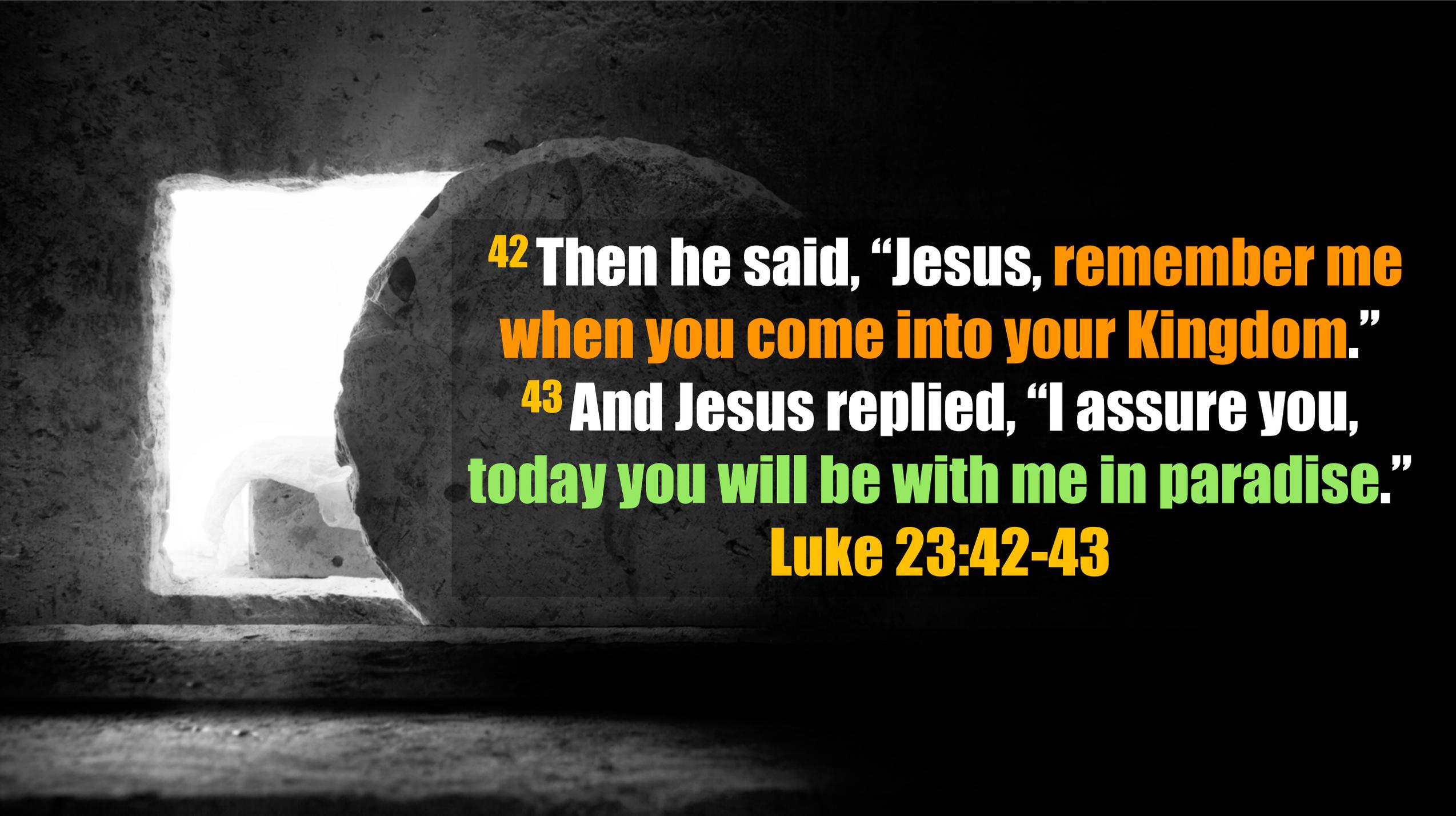
T3 YOU NEED GOD'S GRACE
WHEN YOU ARE ***AFRAID.***

Luke 23:39-43



39 One of the criminals hanging beside him scoffed, “So you’re the Messiah, are you? **Prove it by saving yourself—and us, too, while you’re at it!**”**40** But the other criminal protested, “Don’t you fear God even when you have been sentenced to die? **41** **We deserve to die for our crimes, but this man hasn’t done anything wrong.**”

Luke 23:39-41



42 Then he said, “Jesus, **remember me when you come into your Kingdom.**”

43 And Jesus replied, “I assure you, **today you will be with me in paradise.**”

Luke 23:42-43