ARM YOURSELVES



1 Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking

1 Peter 2

4 As you come to Him, the living stone, rejected by men, but chosen and precious in God's sight, 5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

6 For it is contained in Scripture:

"See, I lay in Zion a stone,

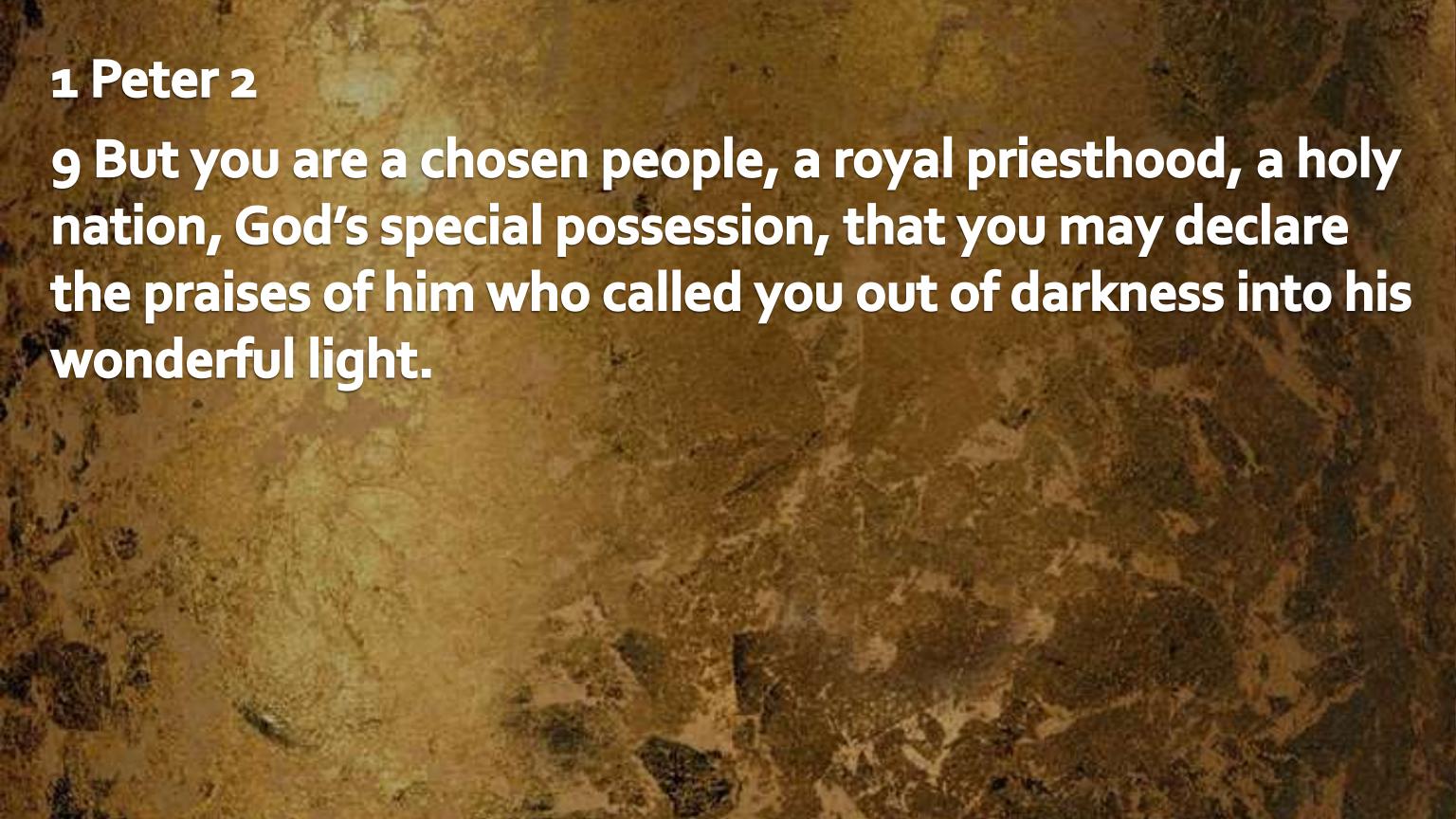
a chosen and precious cornerstone,

and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

(Isaiah 28:16)

1 Peter 2

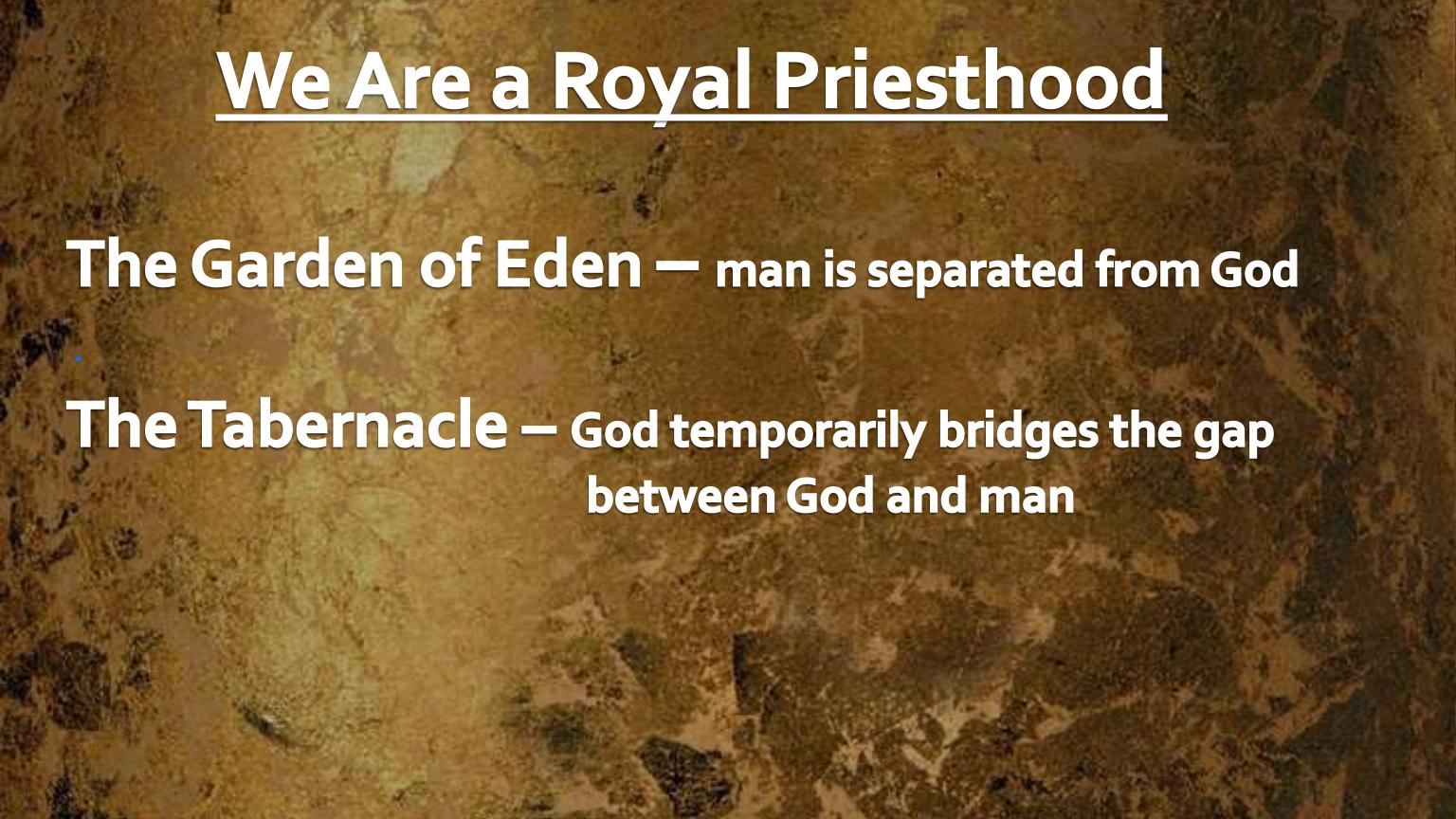
- 7 Now to you who believe, this stone is precious. But to those who do not believe,
 - "The stone the builders rejected has become the
 - cornerstone," (Psalm 118:22)
- 8 and,
 - "A stone of stumbling and a rock of offense." (Isaiah 8:17)
- They stumble because they disobey the word—which is also what they were destined for.



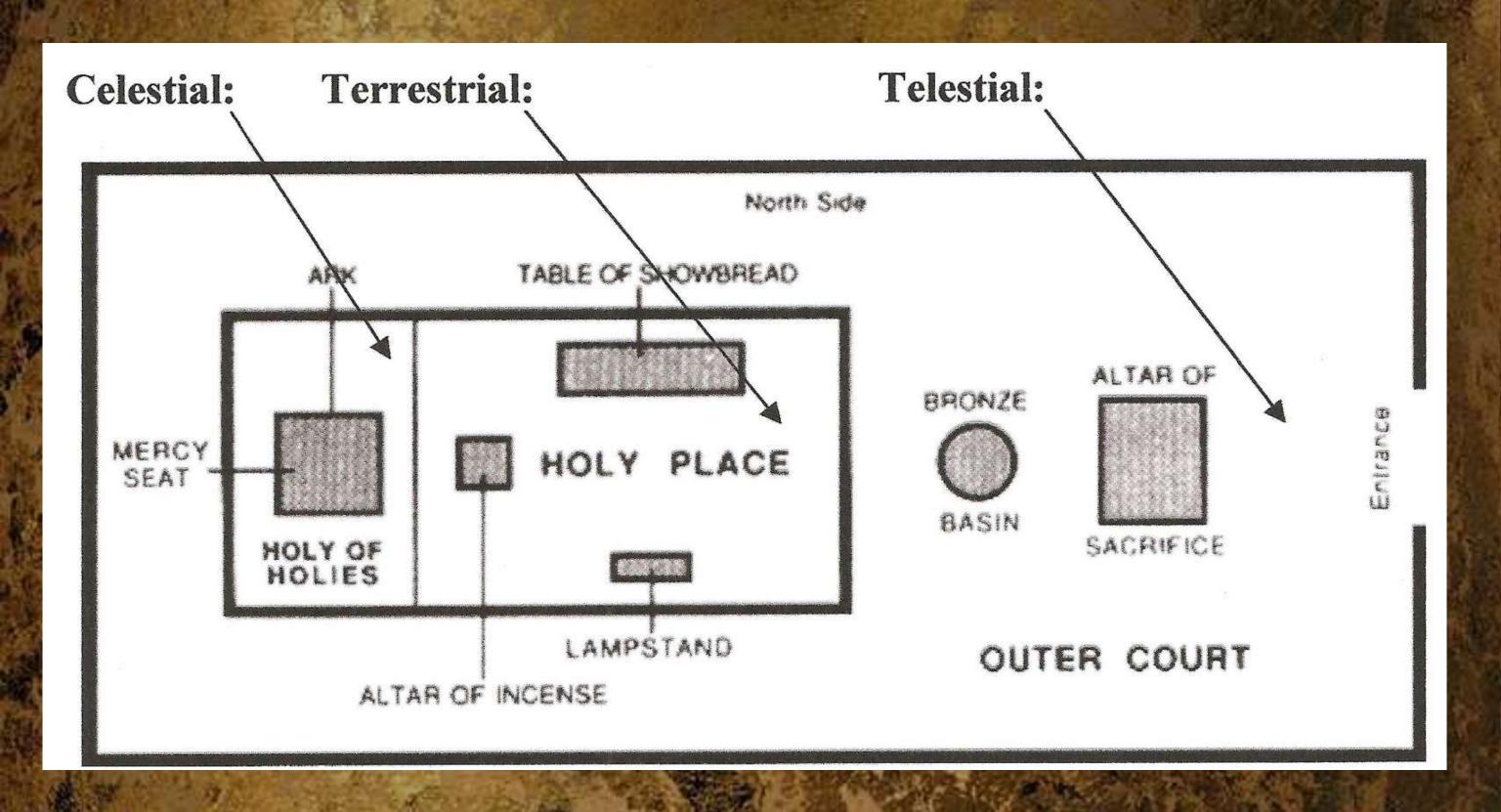
1 Peter 2

5 you also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a <u>holy priesthood</u>, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

9 But you are a chosen people, a <u>royal priesthood</u>, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.







We Are a Royal Priesthood

The Garden of Eden — man is separated from God

The Tabernacle — God temporarily bridges the gap between God and man

Heaven — God and man are together forever

Hebrews 8: 5 They serve at a sanctuary that is a copy and shadow of what is in heaven.

1. We have direct access to God

Hebrews 10:19 Therefore, brothers and sisters, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, 20 by a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, 21 and since we have a great priest over the house of God, 22 let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and with the full assurance that faith brings,

2. We are set apart to do God's work

Exodus 32: 25 Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. 26 So he **stood at the entrance to the camp and said, "Whoever is for the Lord, come to me."** And all the Levites rallied to him.

2. We are set apart to do God's work

Exodus 32: 27 Then he said to them, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor." 28 The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died. 29 Then Moses said, "You have been set apart to the Lord today, for you were against your own sons and brothers, and he has blessed you this day."

3. We offer up sacrifices to God

- 1. Our Bodies (Romans 12:1-2)
- 2. Our Praise (Hebrews 13:15)

Hebrews 13: 15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise—the fruit of lips that openly profess his name.

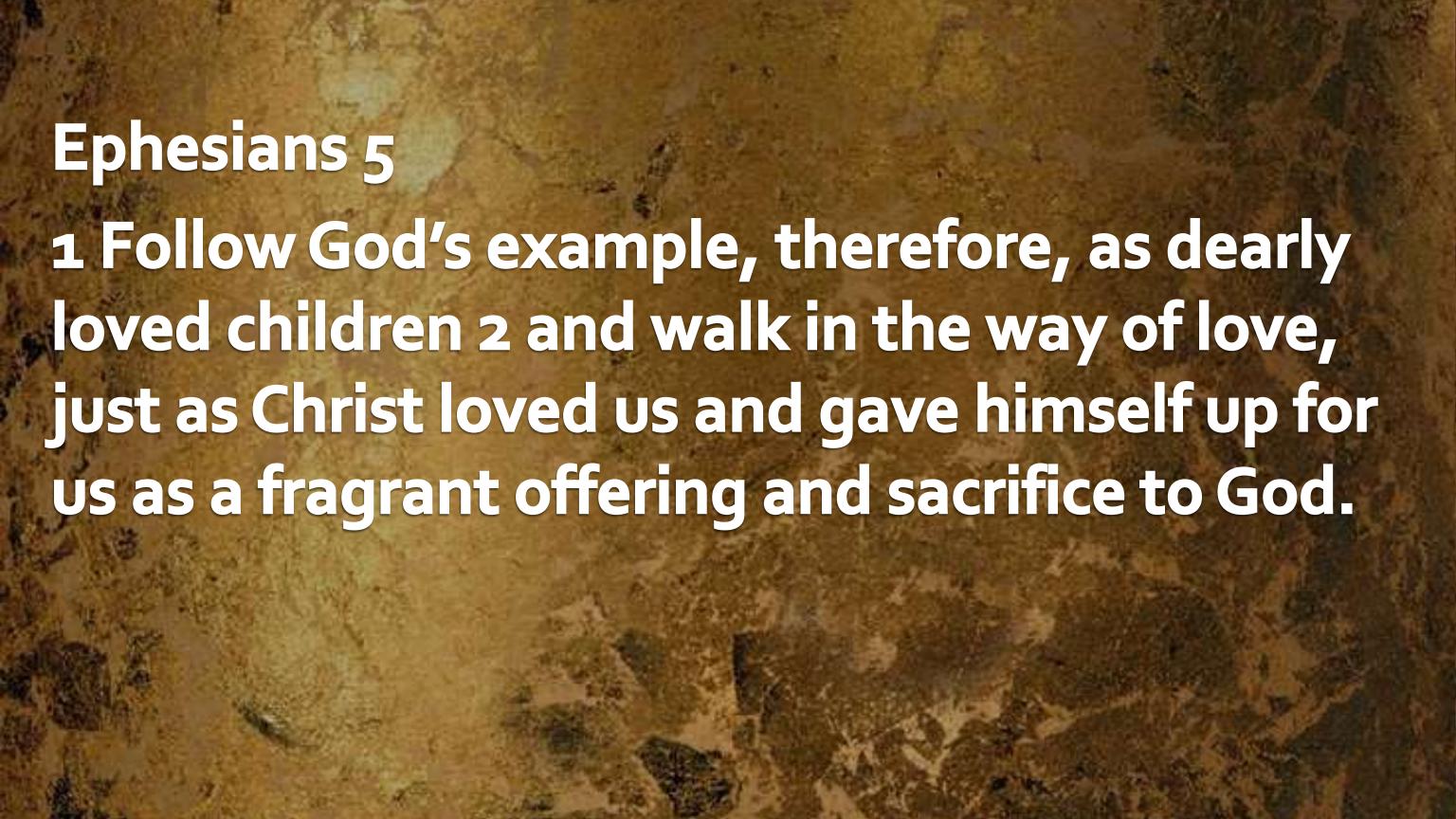
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- 3. Good Works (Hebrews 13:16)

Hebrews 13: 15 Through Jesus, therefore, let us continually offer to God a sacrifice of praise——the fruit of lips that openly profess his name. 16 And do not forget to do good and to share with others, for with such sacrifices God is pleased.

3. We offer up sacrifices to God

- 1. Our Bodies (Romans 12:1-2)
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- 3. Good Works (Hebrews 13:16)
- 4. Sharing with others (Hebrews 13:16)
- 5. Selfless Love (Ephesians 5:1)



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- 5. Selfless Love (Ephesians 5:1)
- 6. Prayer (Revelation 8:1-4)

Revelation 8

- 1 When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour.
- 2 And I saw the seven angels who stand before God, and seven trumpets were given to them.
- 3 Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God's people, on the golden altar in front of the throne. 4 The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand.

4. We represent God to the people of earth

Romans 15: 16 ...the grace God gave me to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles. He gave me the priestly duty of proclaiming the gospel of God, so that the Gentiles might become an offering acceptable to God, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.

17 Therefore I glory in Christ Jesus in my service to God. 18 I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me in leading the Gentiles to obey God by what I have said and done

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