



# Are the Three Angels' Messages Relevant in a Secular Western World?

Anthony Kent ([kenta@gc.adventist.org](mailto:kenta@gc.adventist.org))

21, 721

Full-time Ordained Pastors


182

Part-time Ordained Pastors

**21,903**

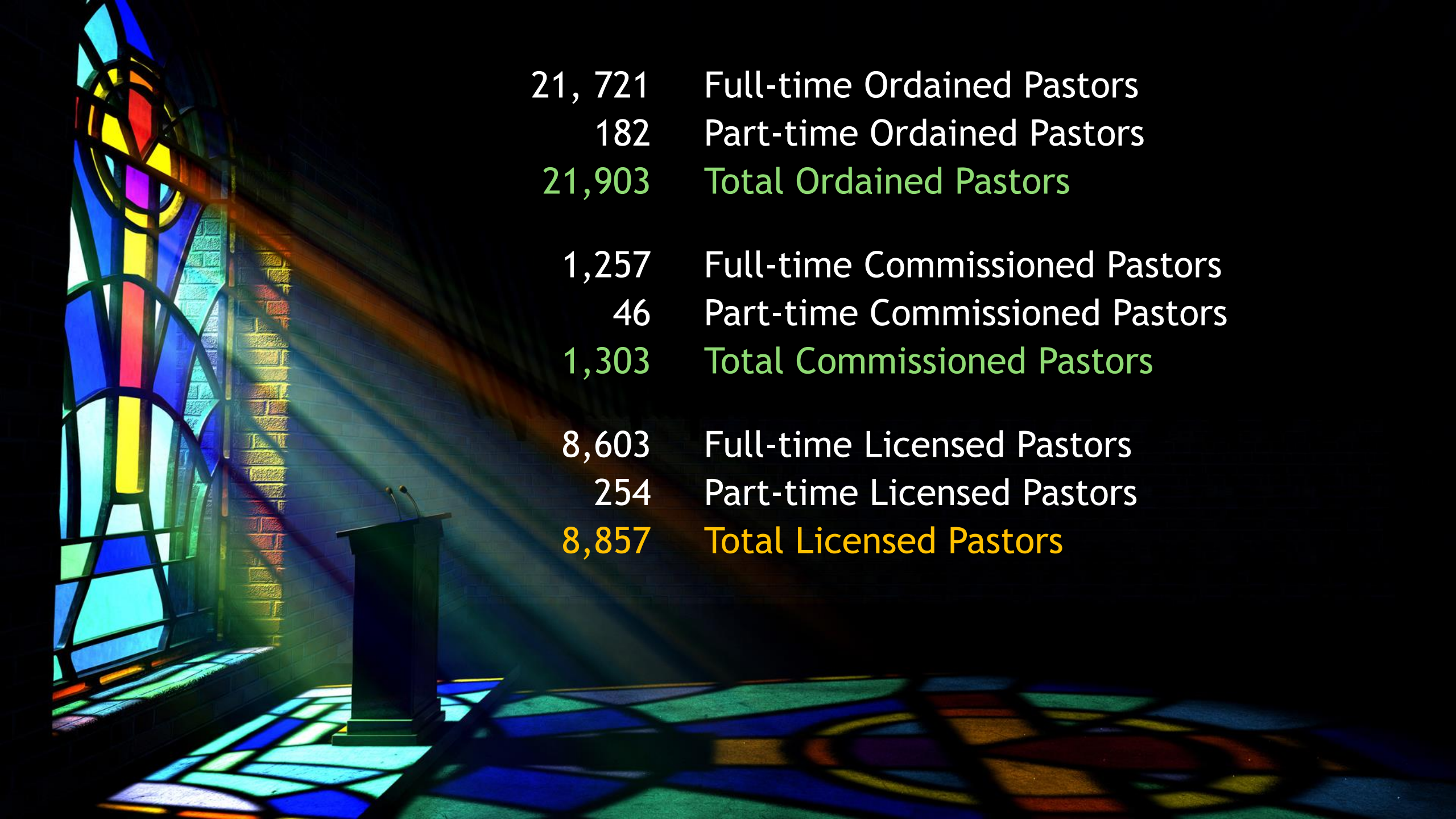
**Total Ordained Pastors**





21, 721	Full-time Ordained Pastors
182	Part-time Ordained Pastors
21,903	Total Ordained Pastors

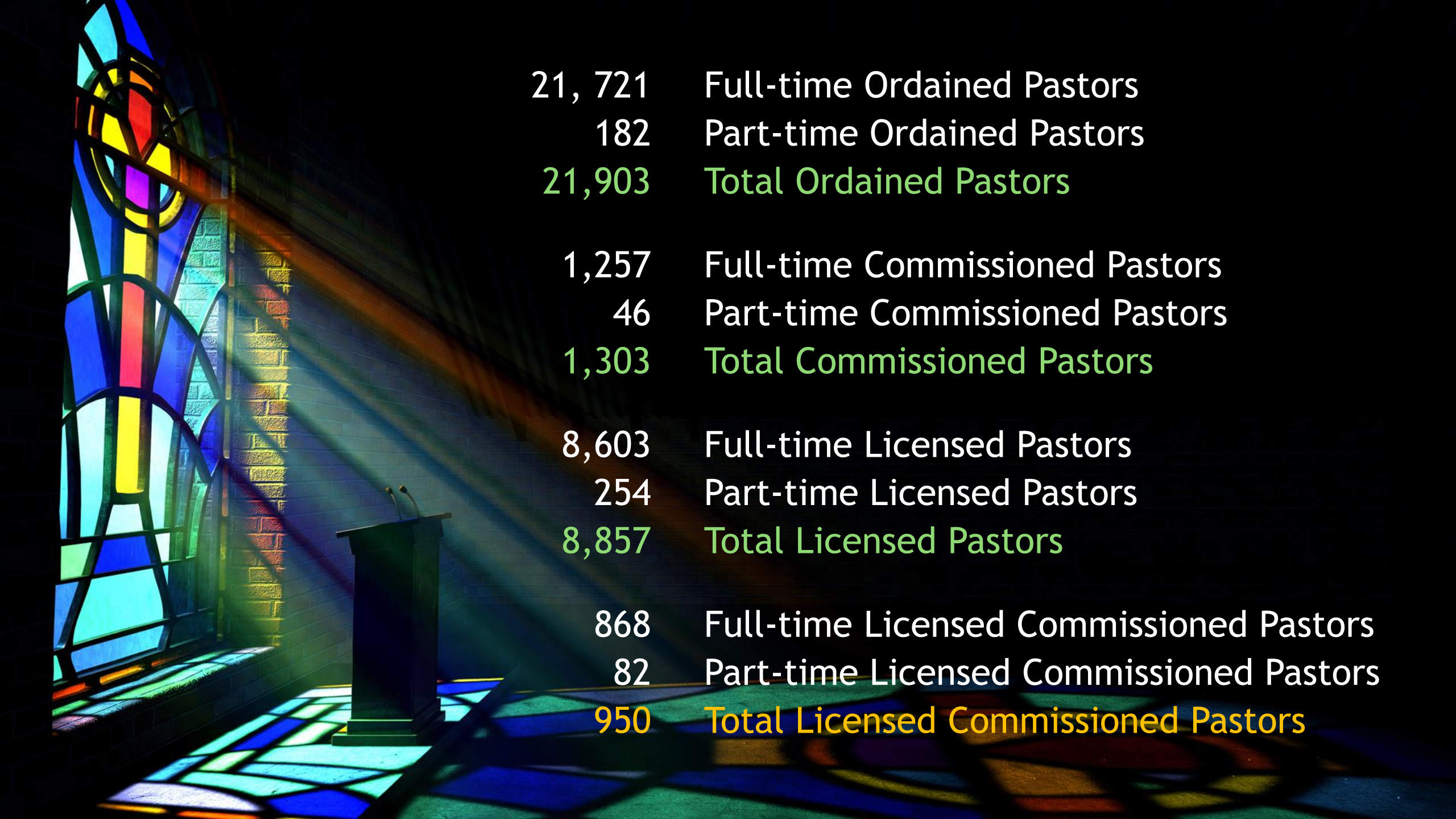
1,257	Full-time Commissioned Pastors
46	Part-time Commissioned Pastors
1,303	Total Commissioned Pastors



21, 721 Full-time Ordained Pastors  
182 Part-time Ordained Pastors  
21,903 Total Ordained Pastors

1,257 Full-time Commissioned Pastors  
46 Part-time Commissioned Pastors  
1,303 Total Commissioned Pastors

8,603 Full-time Licensed Pastors  
254 Part-time Licensed Pastors  
8,857 Total Licensed Pastors



21, 721 Full-time Ordained Pastors  
182 Part-time Ordained Pastors  
21,903 Total Ordained Pastors

1,257 Full-time Commissioned Pastors  
46 Part-time Commissioned Pastors  
1,303 Total Commissioned Pastors

8,603 Full-time Licensed Pastors  
254 Part-time Licensed Pastors  
8,857 Total Licensed Pastors

868 Full-time Licensed Commissioned Pastors  
82 Part-time Licensed Commissioned Pastors  
950 Total Licensed Commissioned Pastors


A photograph of a church interior. On the left, a large, colorful stained glass window with geometric patterns allows light to stream in, creating a dramatic play of light and shadow on the floor. A wooden podium with two microphones stands in the center-left. The background is a brick wall, and the overall atmosphere is solemn and spiritual.

33,013

**TOTAL**

Seventh-day Adventist

**CLERGY**



97,811 Seventh-day Adventist Churches  
73,886 Seventh-day Adventist Companies

**171,697**

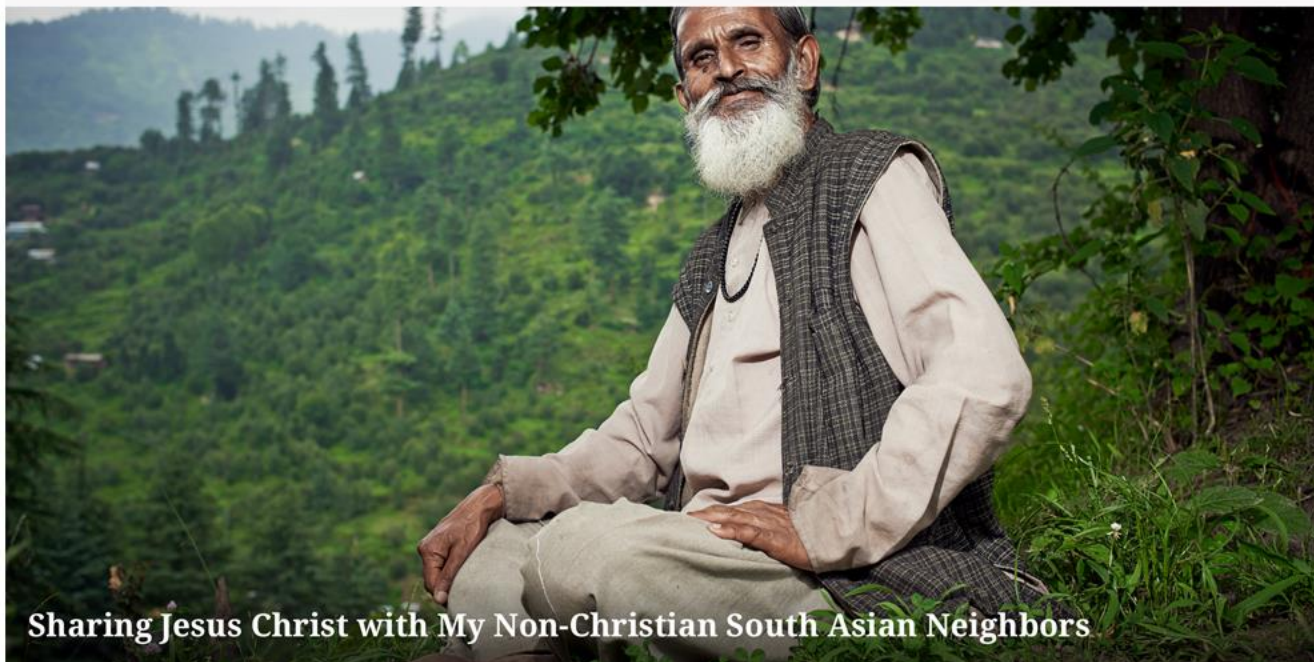
**Seventh-day Adventist Congregations**



# 80%

of Seventh-day Adventist congregations around the world, a local volunteer elder, deacon or deaconess is preaching, pastoring, and leading each Sabbath.





**Dealing with Conspiracy Theories Part 1**



**How To Help Those With Hearing Difficulties Feel Like They Belong**



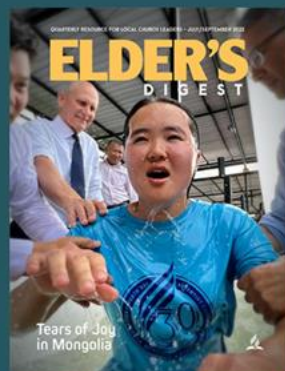
**Sharing the Three Angels' Messages**



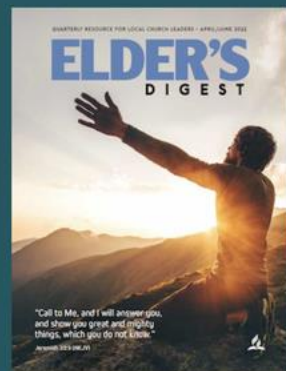
**The Joy of Obedience**



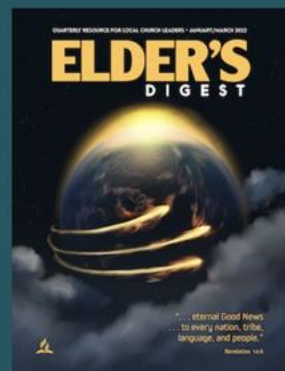
2022 Fourth Quarter



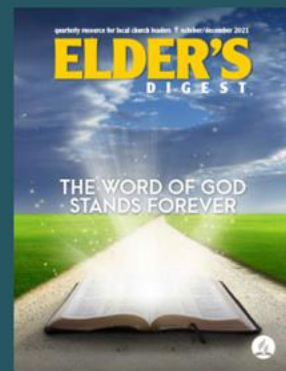
2022 Third Quarter



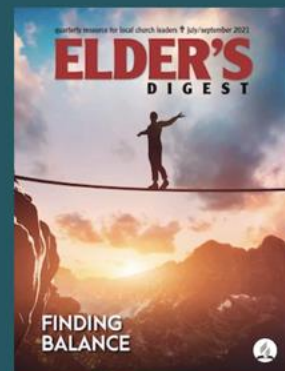
2022 Second Quarter



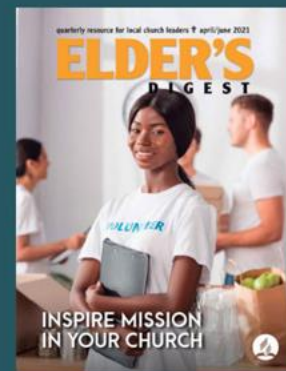
2022 First Quarter



2021 Fourth Quarter

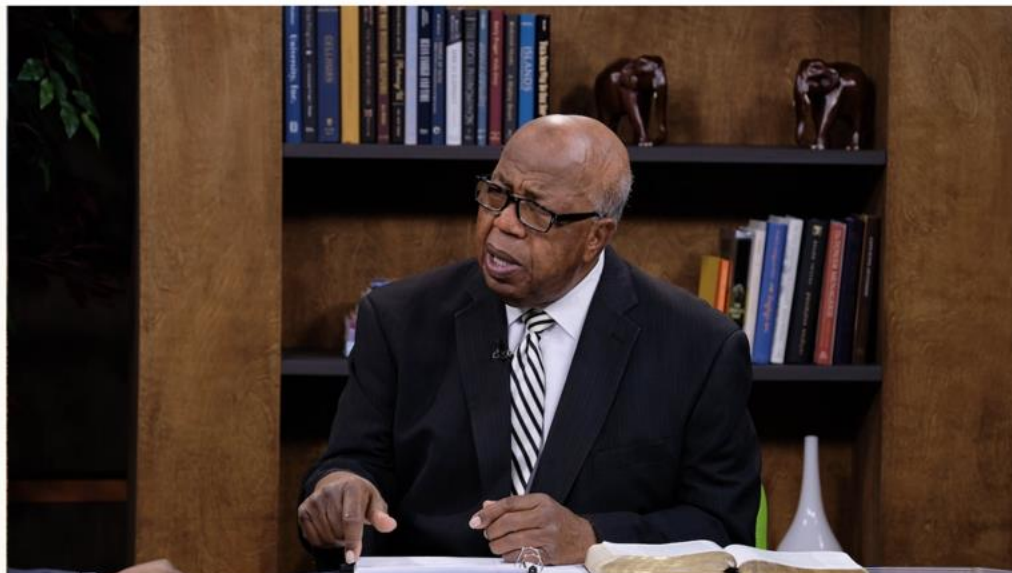


2021 Third Quarter



2021 Second Quarter

- This site only
- Multiple sites



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November 9, 2021

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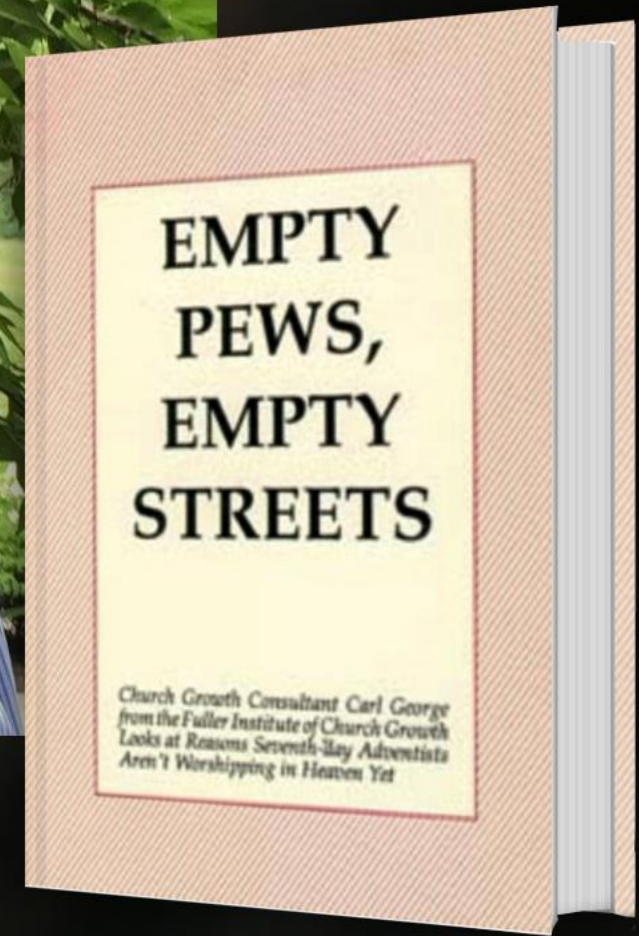
Carl George, Professor, Fuller Theological Seminary

“A Dutchman on TV  
who was always  
talking about these  
angels.”



**George Vandeman:**  
“A Dutchman on TV  
who was always  
talking about these  
angels.”





Older Logo





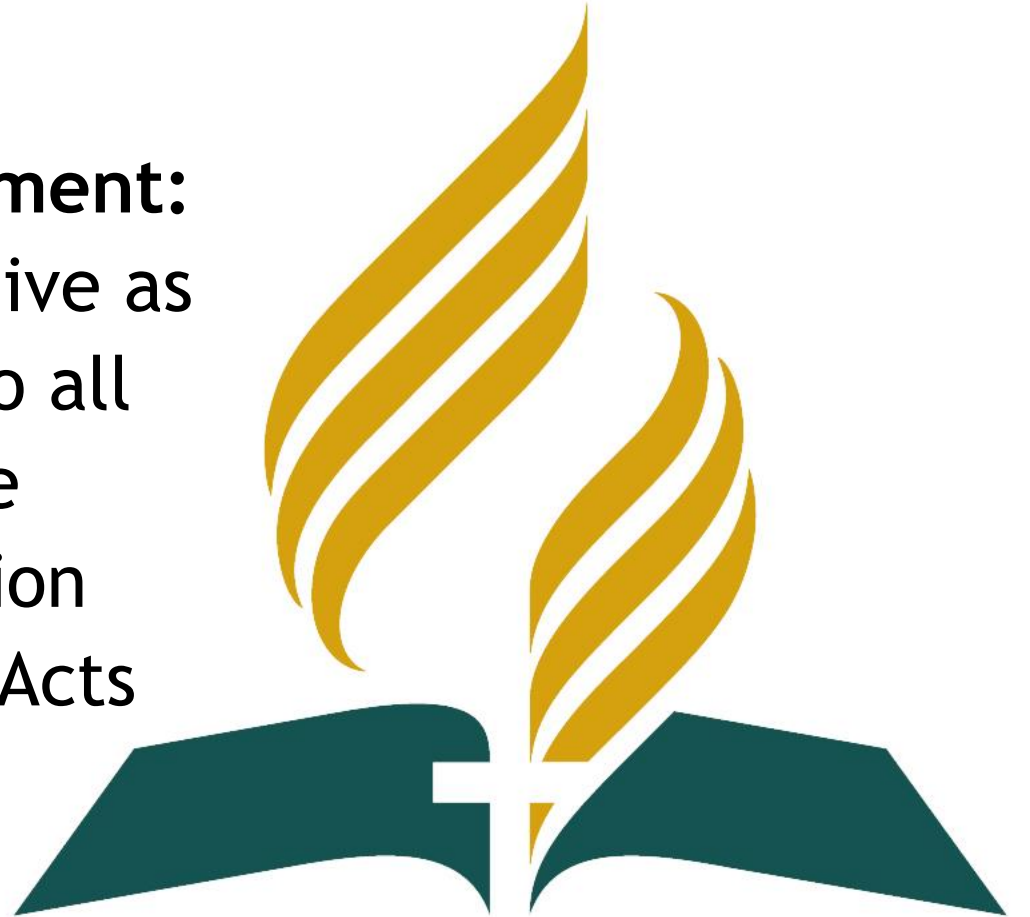
Older Logo



Current Logo



**General Conference Mission Statement:**  
Make disciples of Jesus Christ who live as His loving witnesses and proclaim to all people the everlasting gospel of the Three Angels' Messages in preparation for His soon return (Matt 28:18-20, Acts 1:8, Rev 14:6-12).





Should we as Seventh-day Adventists continue to place a significant emphasis on the Three Angels' Messages of Revelation 14?

# The ACTS of the Apostles

The Promise of the Holy Spirit

1 In the first book, The-oph'i-lus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and from the beginning<sup>2</sup> until the time he was taken up to heaven, and the instructions through which he gave to them his suffering he was to them by appearing to them while speaking to them. While from the mount called Ol'i-vet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away.<sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and John, and James, and Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Al-pha'e' us, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.<sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

15 In those days Peter and the believers (sons) and had to

# THE ACTS of JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH THE DISCIPLES

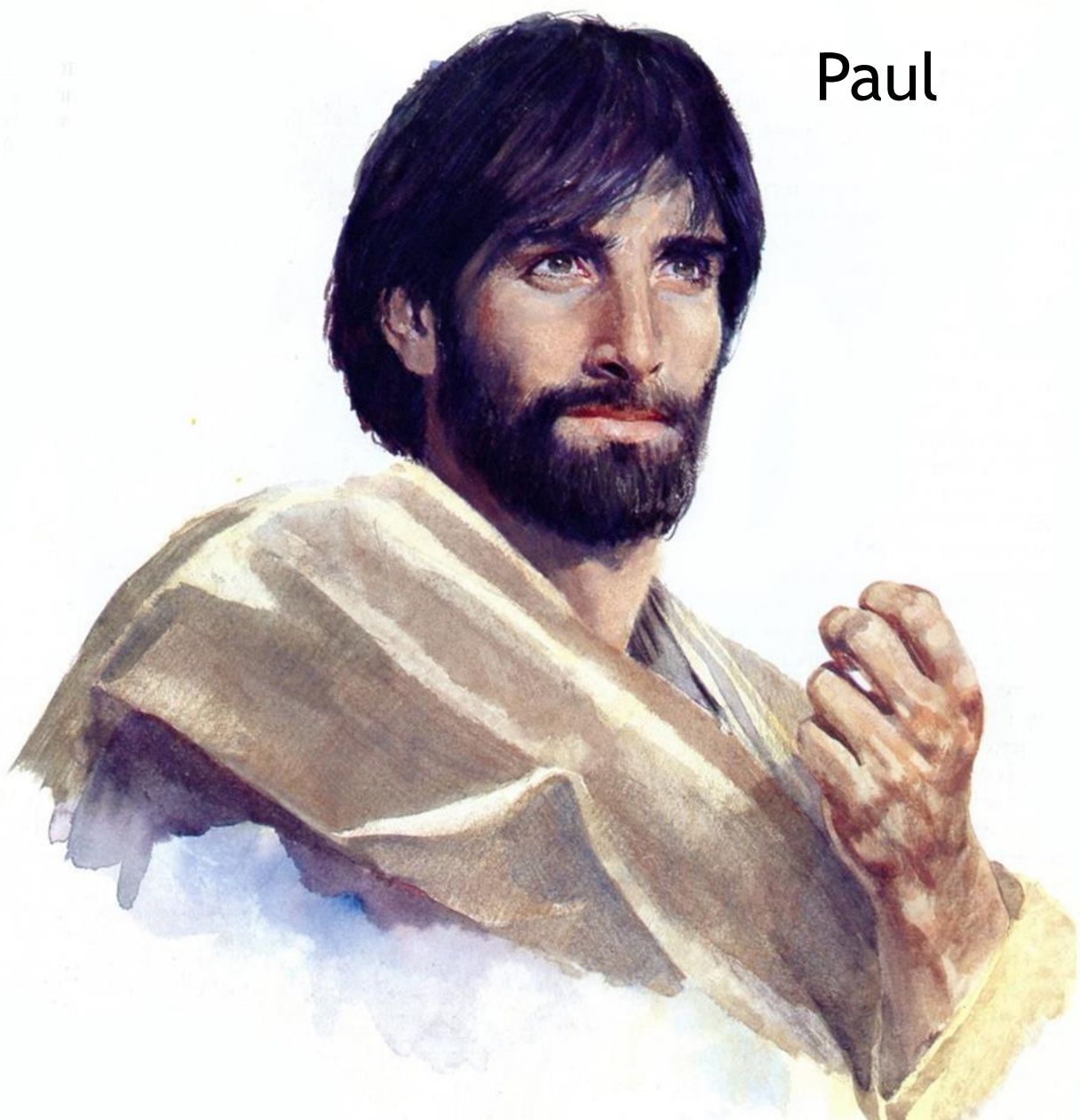
**1** The Promise of the Holy Spirit

In the first book, The-oph'i-lus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and from the beginning<sup>2</sup> until the he was taken up to heaven, instructions through the apostles whom he gave to them by his suffering and appearing to them while speaking to them from heaven. While

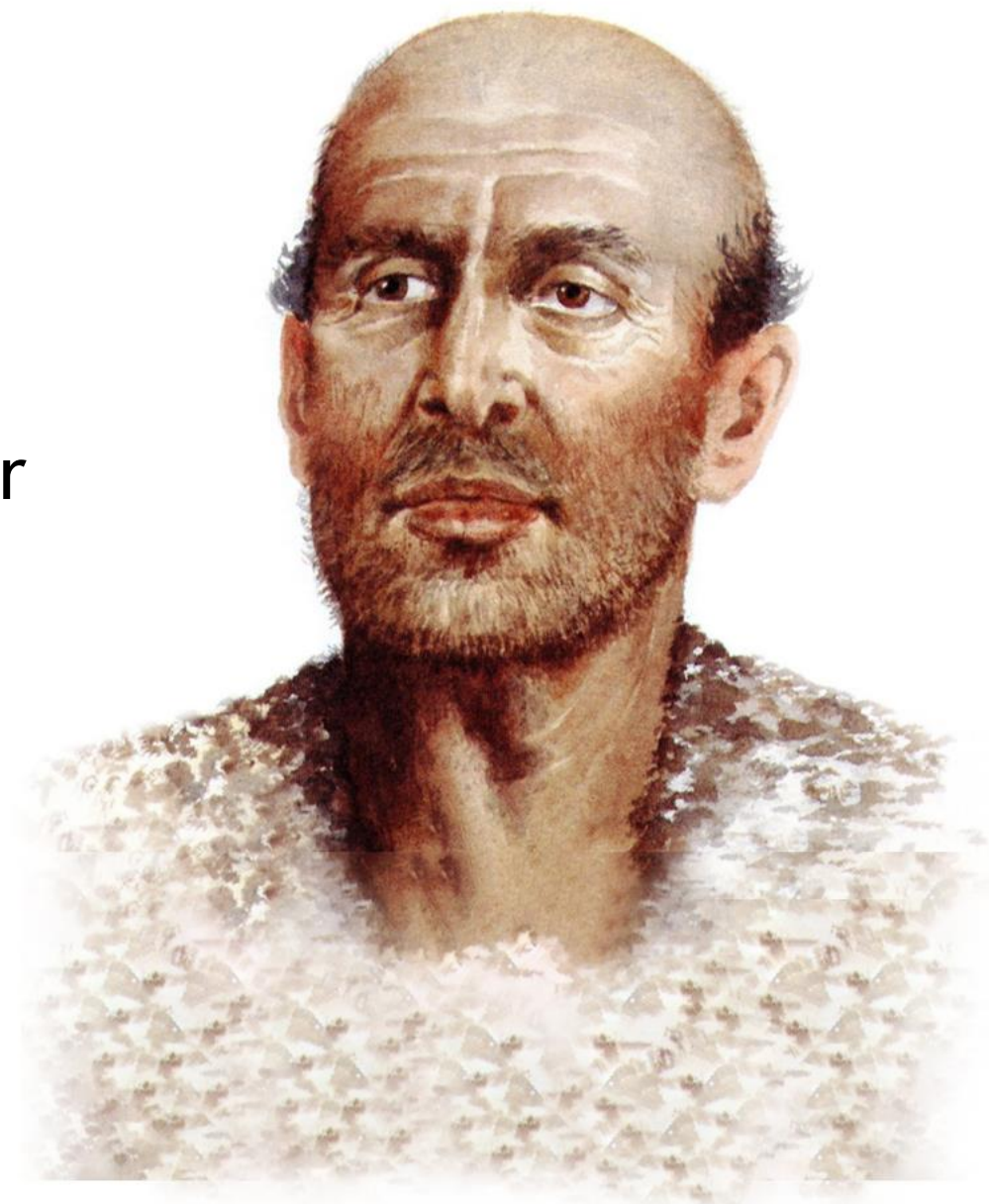
from the mount called Ol'i-vet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away.<sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Al-pha'e' us, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.<sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

**15** In those days Peter and the believers (sons) and had to

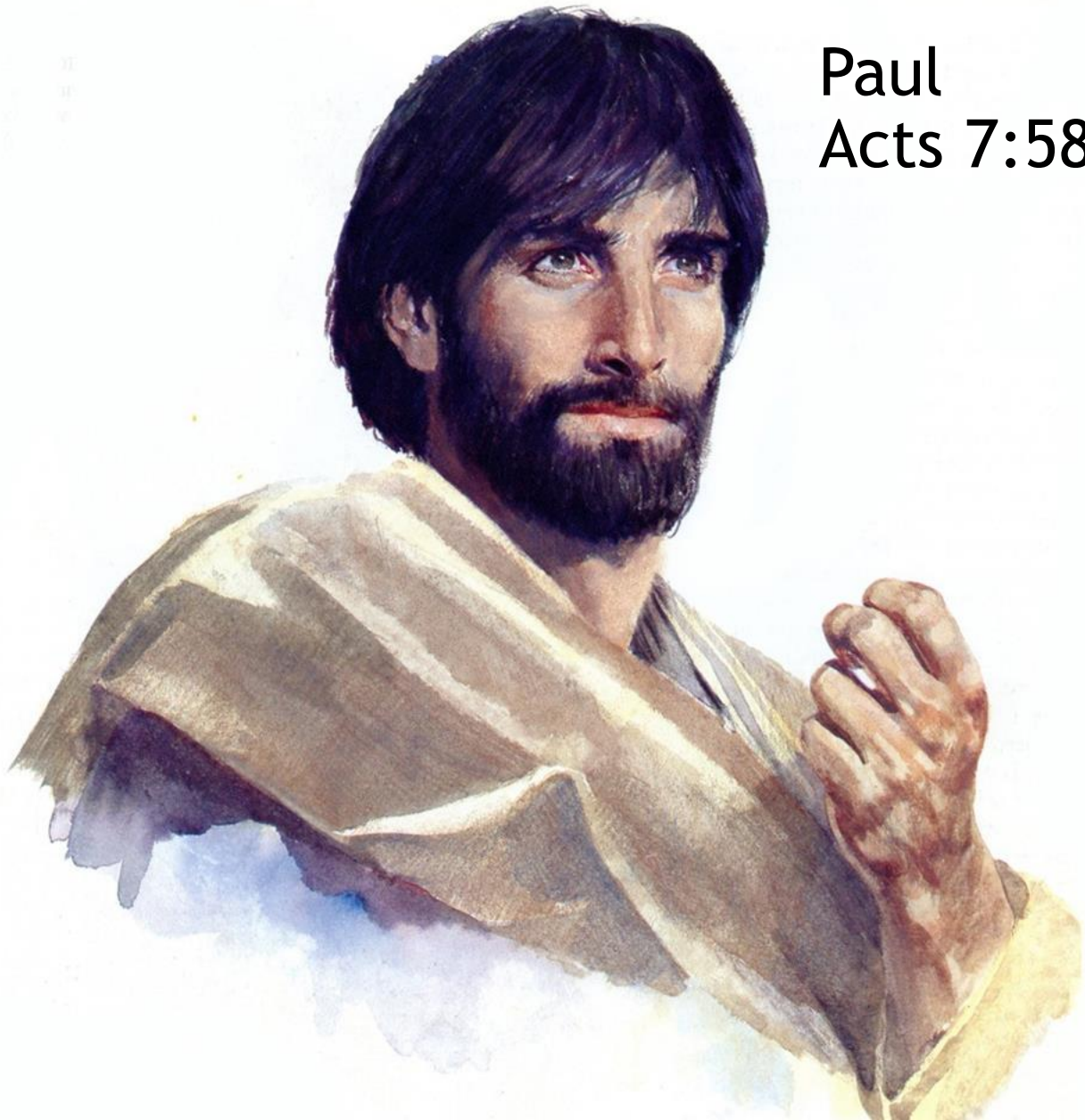
witness with  
23 So they prop  
Bar-sab-bas, who  
Justus, and Mat-  
prayed and said, "Lo  
everyone's heart. Show  
these two you hav  
the place in this r  
ship from which  
lots for their  
Mat-thias;  
eleven ap



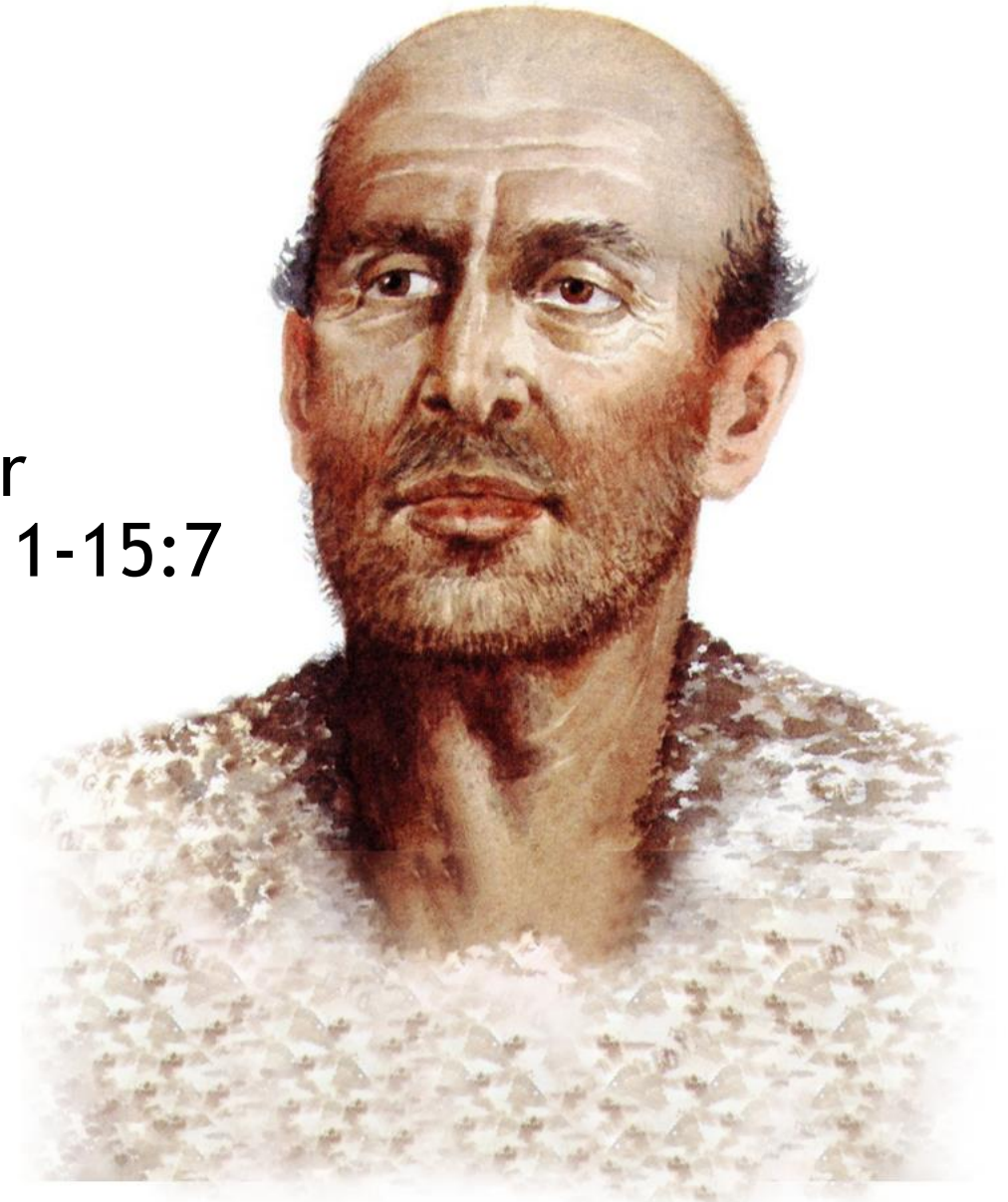
Paul



Peter



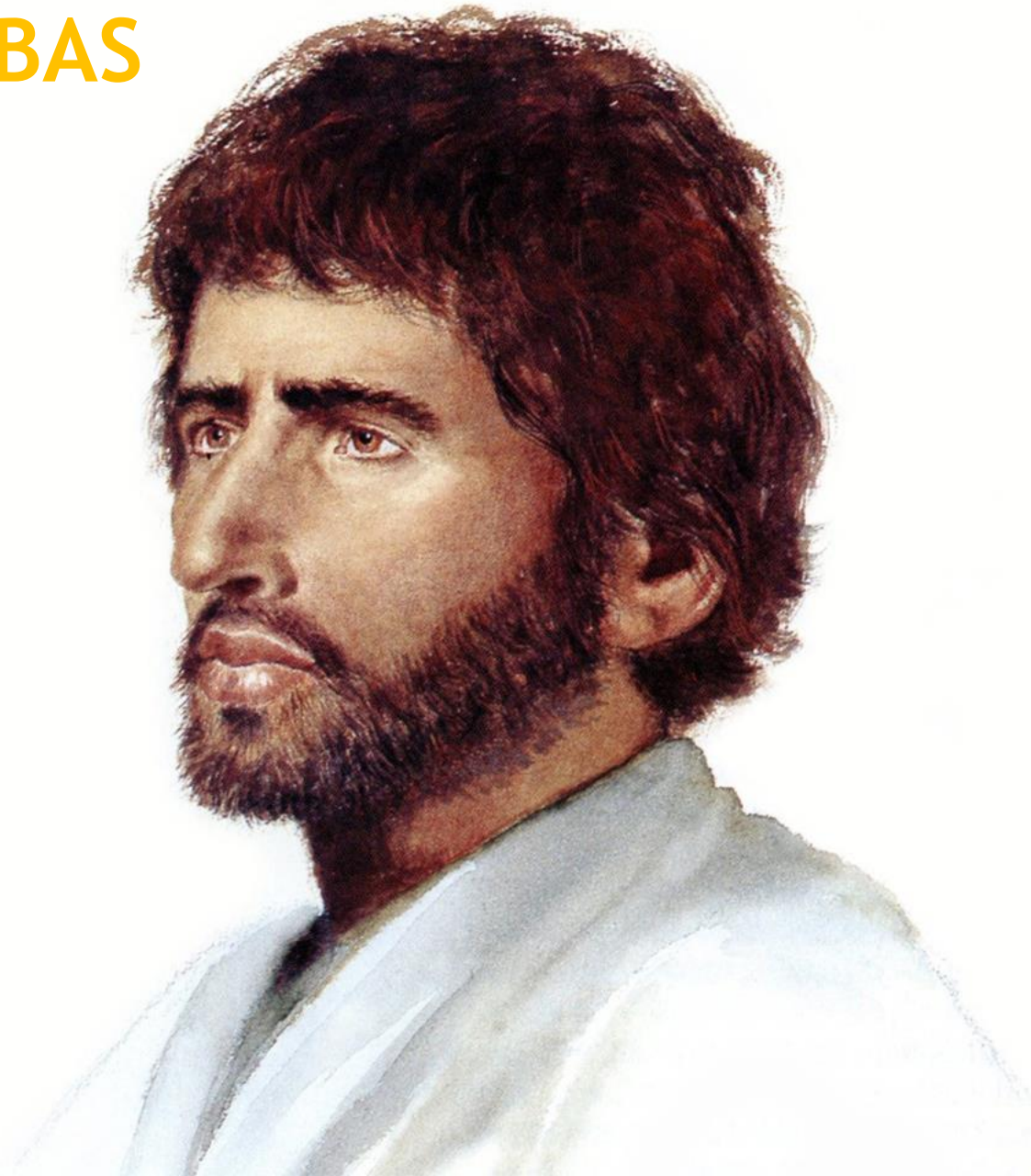
Paul  
Acts 7:58-28:31



Peter  
Acts 1-15:7

# BARNABAS

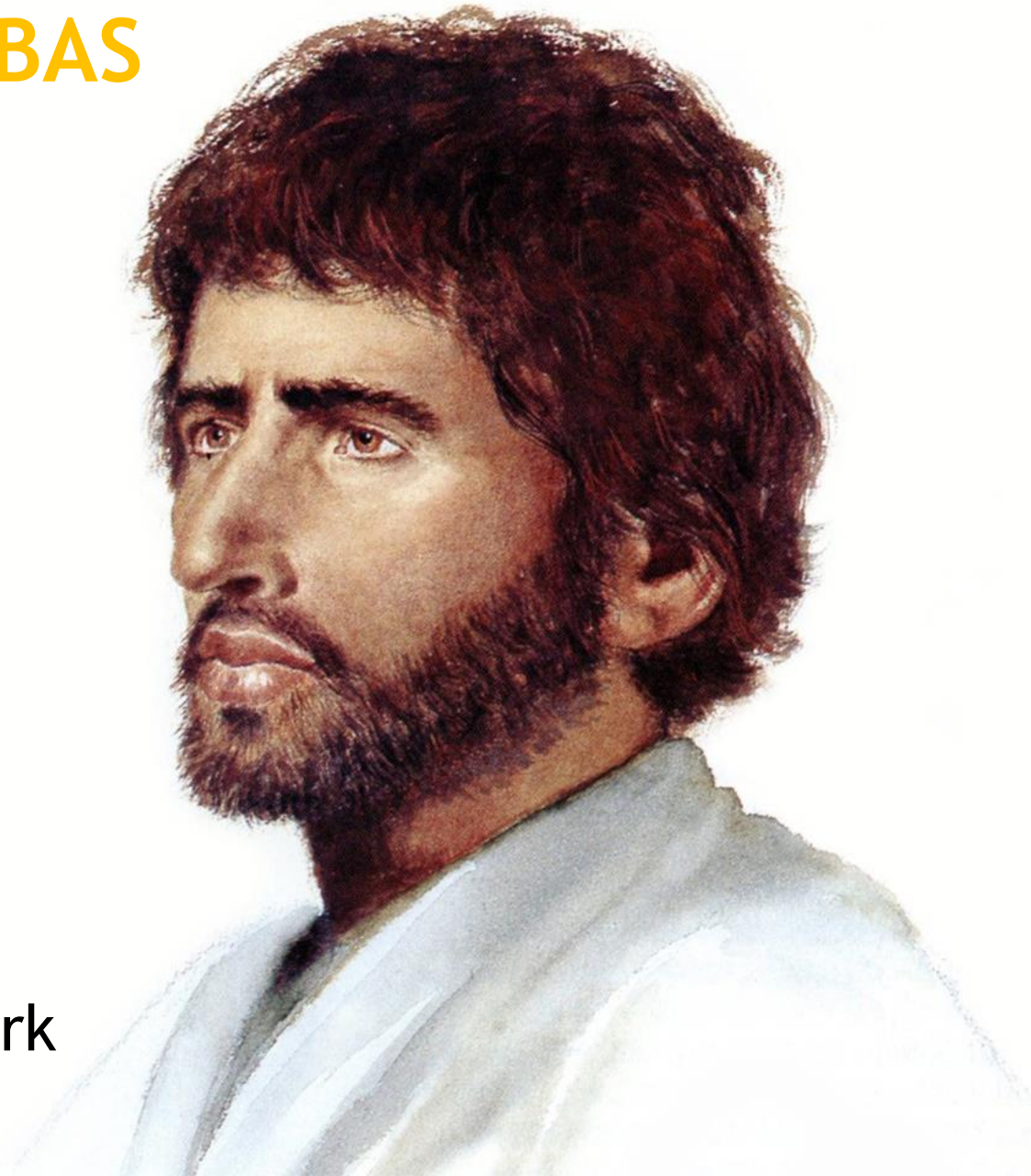
“For he was a good man,  
full of the Holy Spirit and  
of faith” (Acts 11:24, ESV)





# BARNABAS

- Encouraged, nurtured, and trained Paul
- He welcomed Paul in Jerusalem
- Spoke on Paul's behalf to apostles
- Modeled how Paul could tell his story
- Went looking for Paul in Tarsus
- Development and restoration of John Mark





Speeches  
propel the  
narrative

**THE SPEECHES IN ACTS  
REVEAL THE CHARACTERS**



Speeches  
propel the  
narrative



Provide  
valuable  
insights

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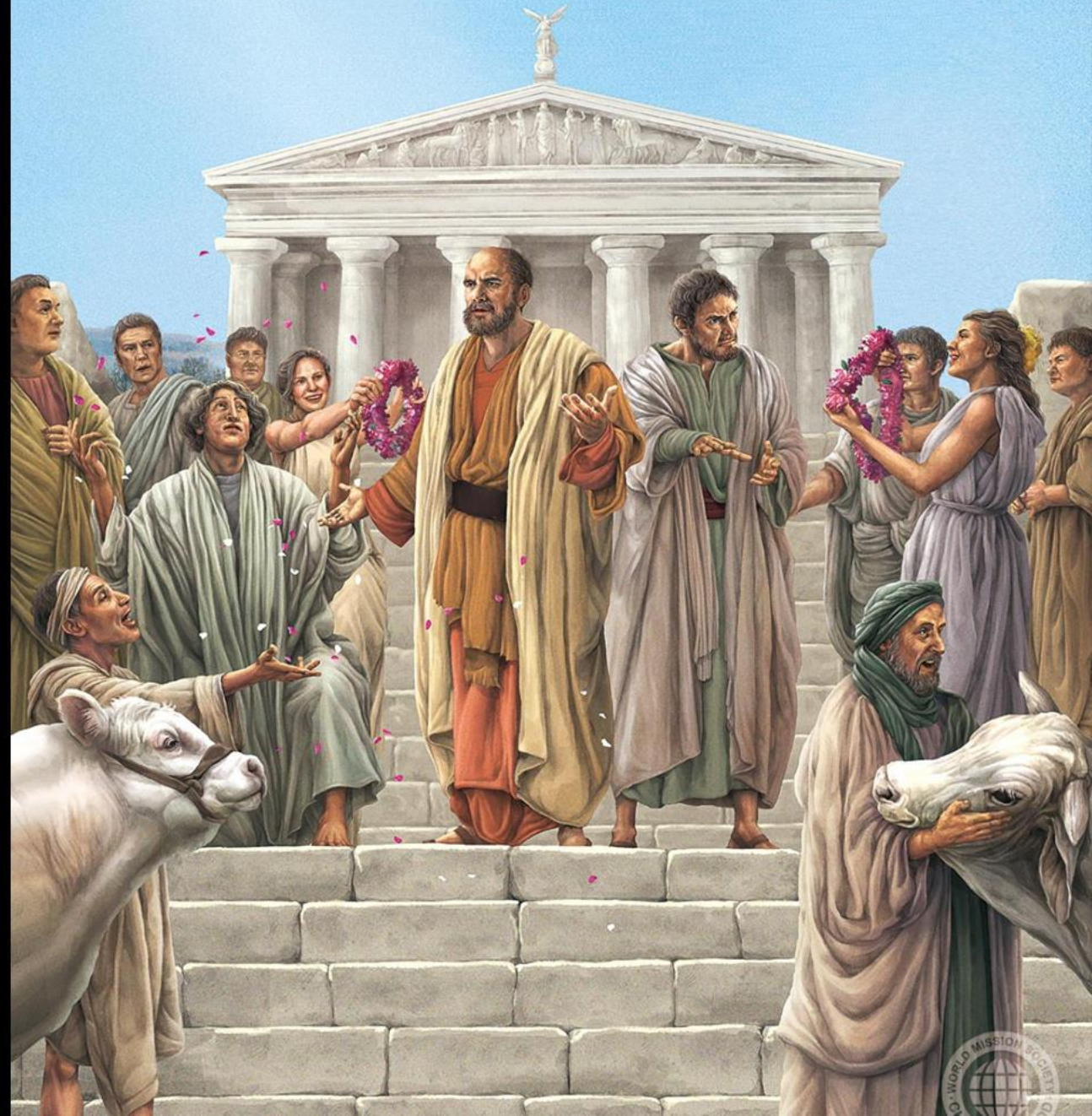
Sometimes quotes  
what the speaker  
is saying

Lystra



Acts 14:  
8-23

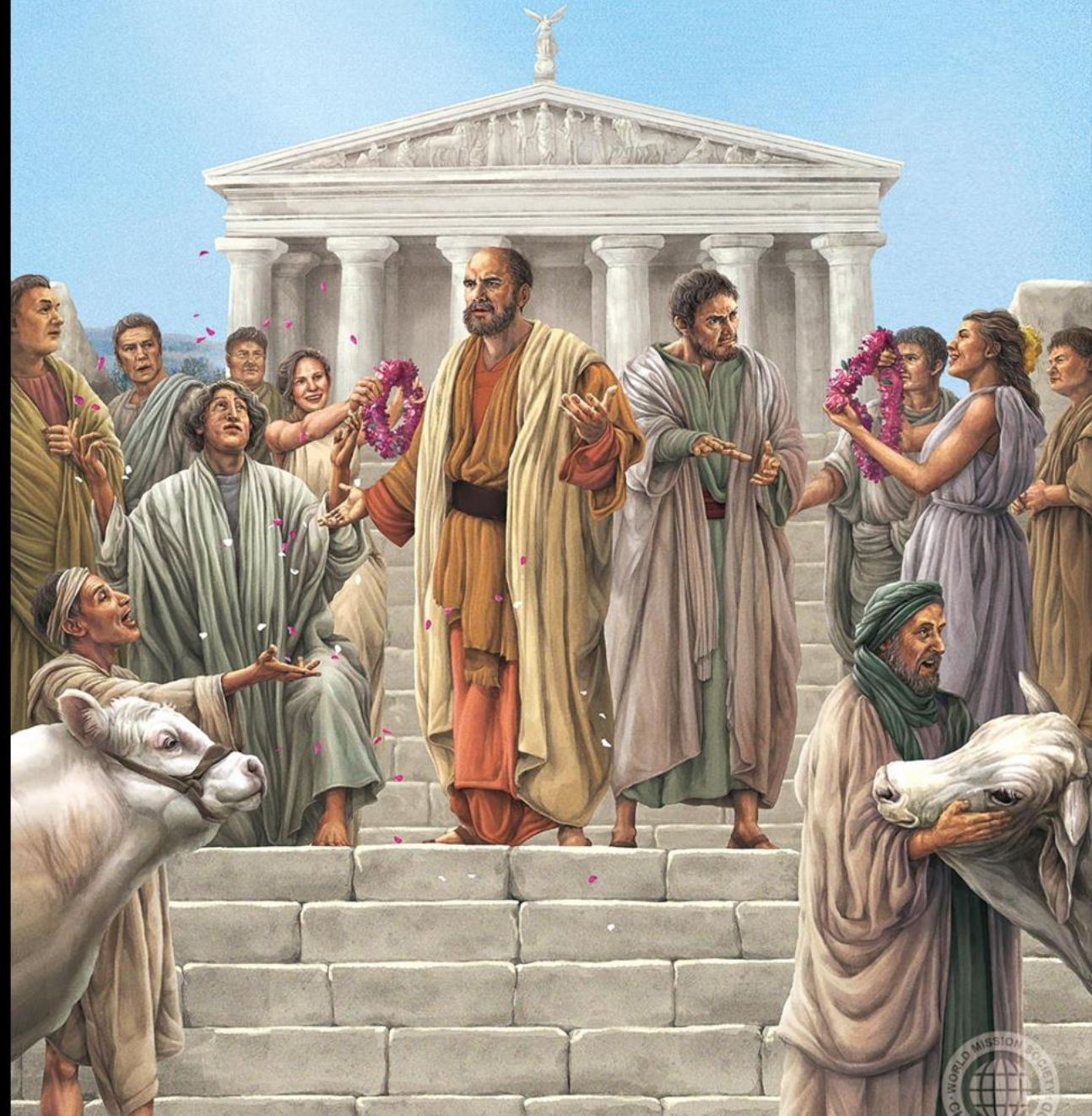
1. Barnabas and Paul were called by the Holy Spirit
2. Speeches are important in Acts, especially by central characters
3. Barnabas and Paul speak in unison / simultaneously together at Lystra





# Lystra Episode is important:

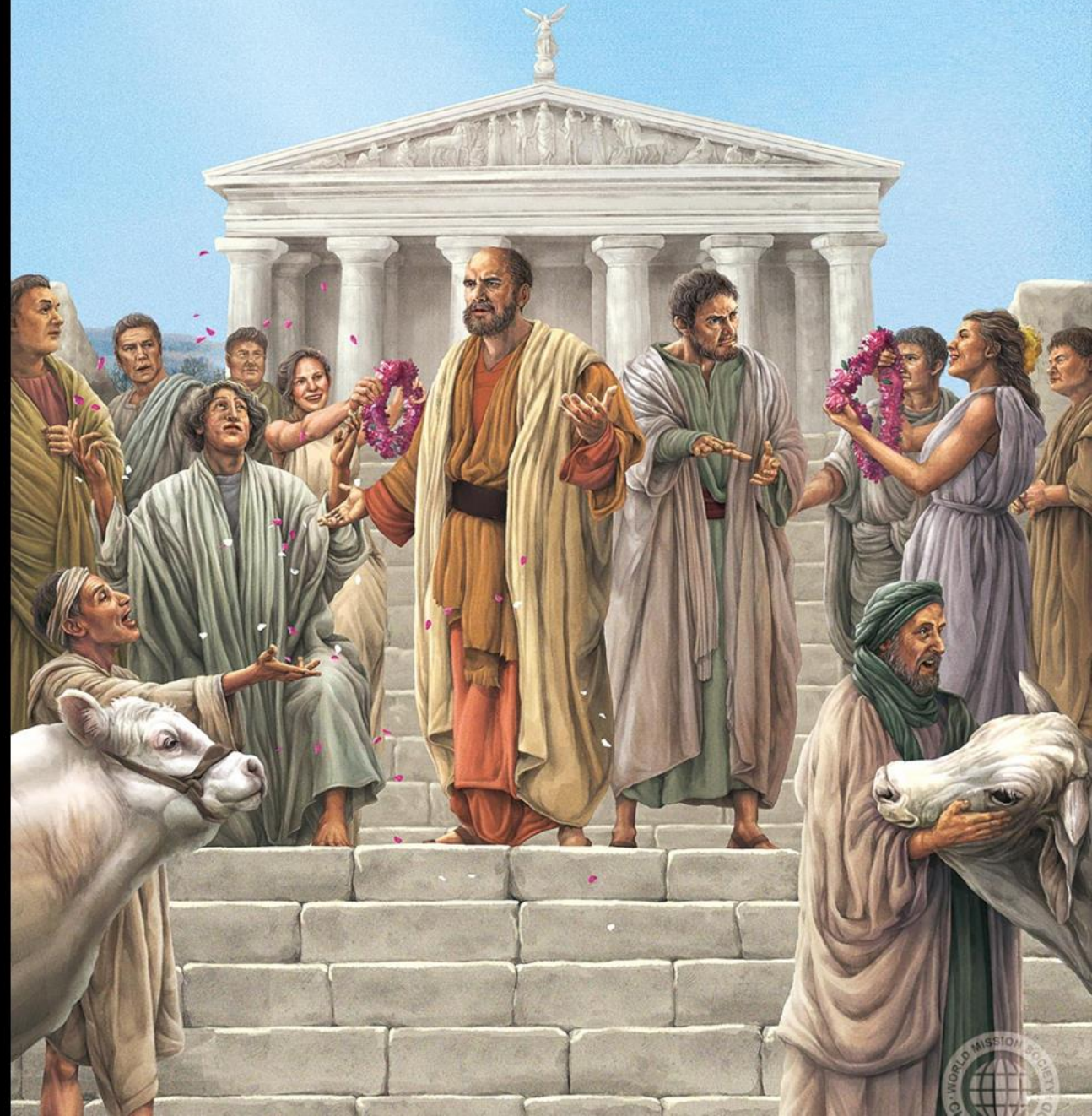
1. Prelude to Jerusalem Council (Acts 15)
2. Confirms the legitimacy and orthodoxy as apostles
3. They act as “whistle blowers” of erroneous teaching
4. Transmit the consensus of Jerusalem Council



8 Now at Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet. He was crippled from birth and had never walked.

9 He listened to Paul speaking. And Paul, looking intently at him and seeing that he had faith to be made well,

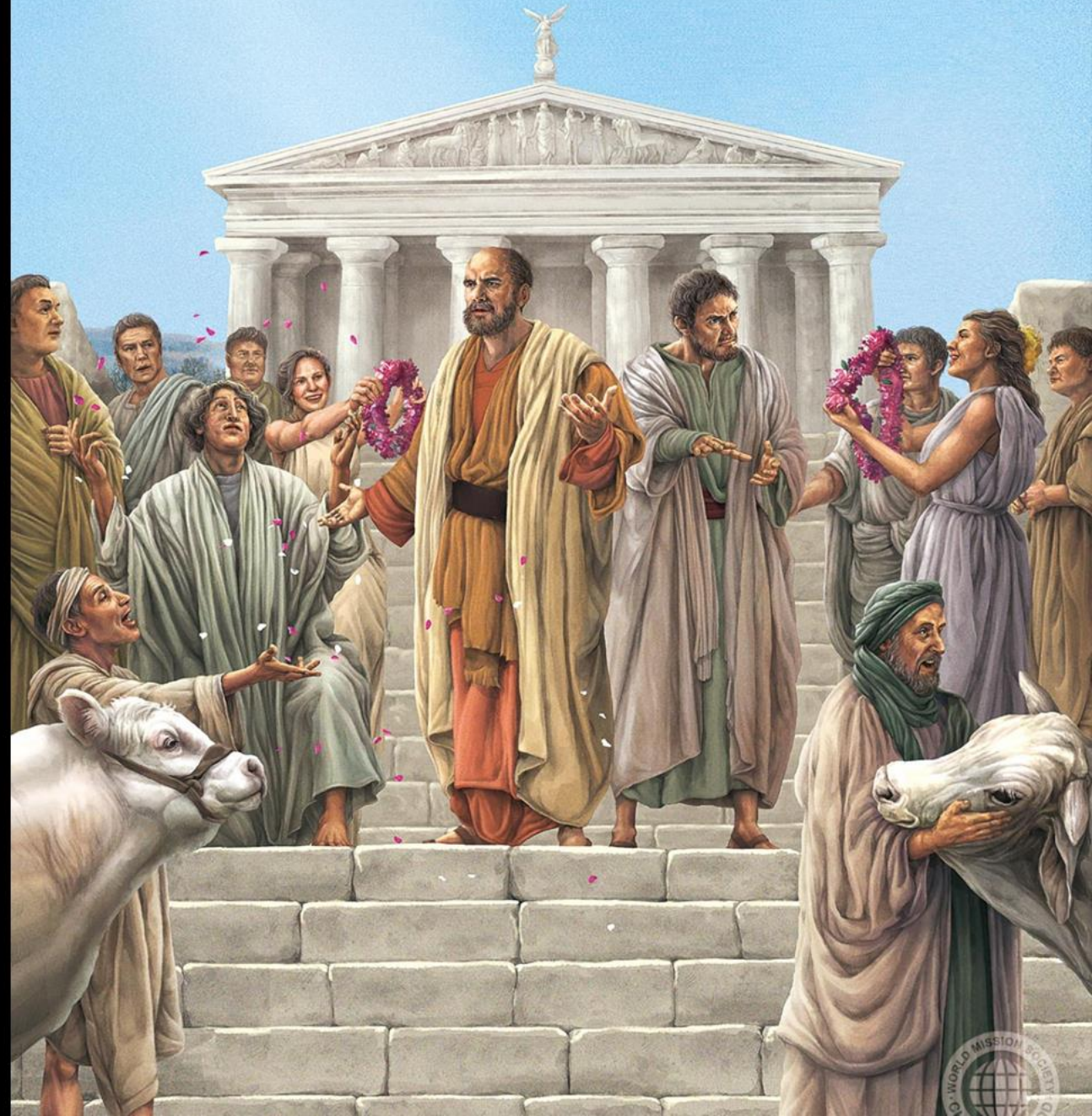
10 said in a loud voice, “Stand upright on your feet.” And he sprang up and began walking.



11 And when the crowds saw what Paul had done, they lifted up their voices, saying in Lycaonian, “The gods have come down to us in the likeness of men!”

12 Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul, Hermes, because he was the chief speaker.

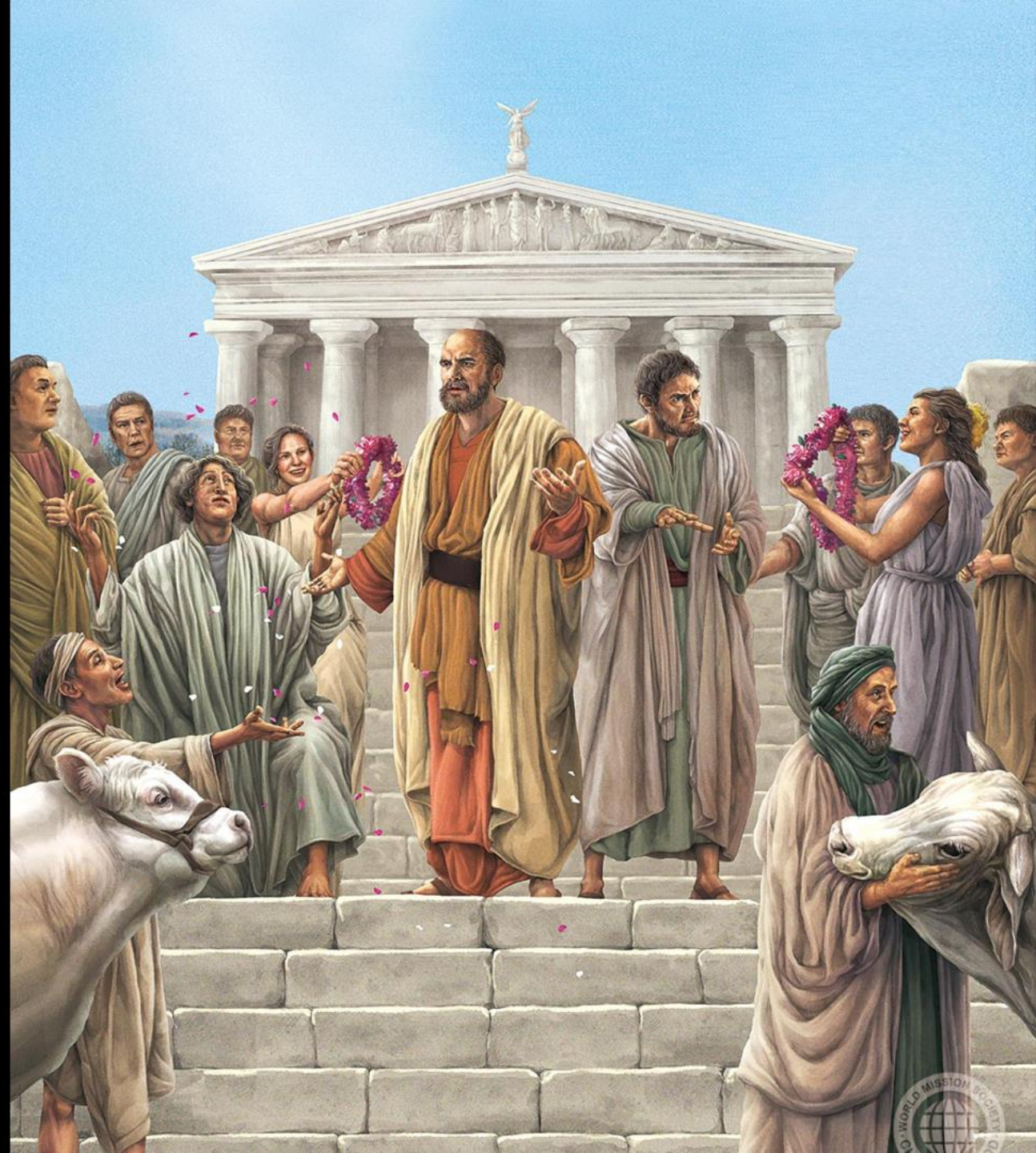
13 And the priest of Zeus, whose temple was at the entrance to the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates and wanted to offer sacrifice with the crowds.



14 But when the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their garments and rushed out into the crowd, crying out,

15 “Men, why are you doing these things? We also are men, of like nature with you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these vain things to a living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.

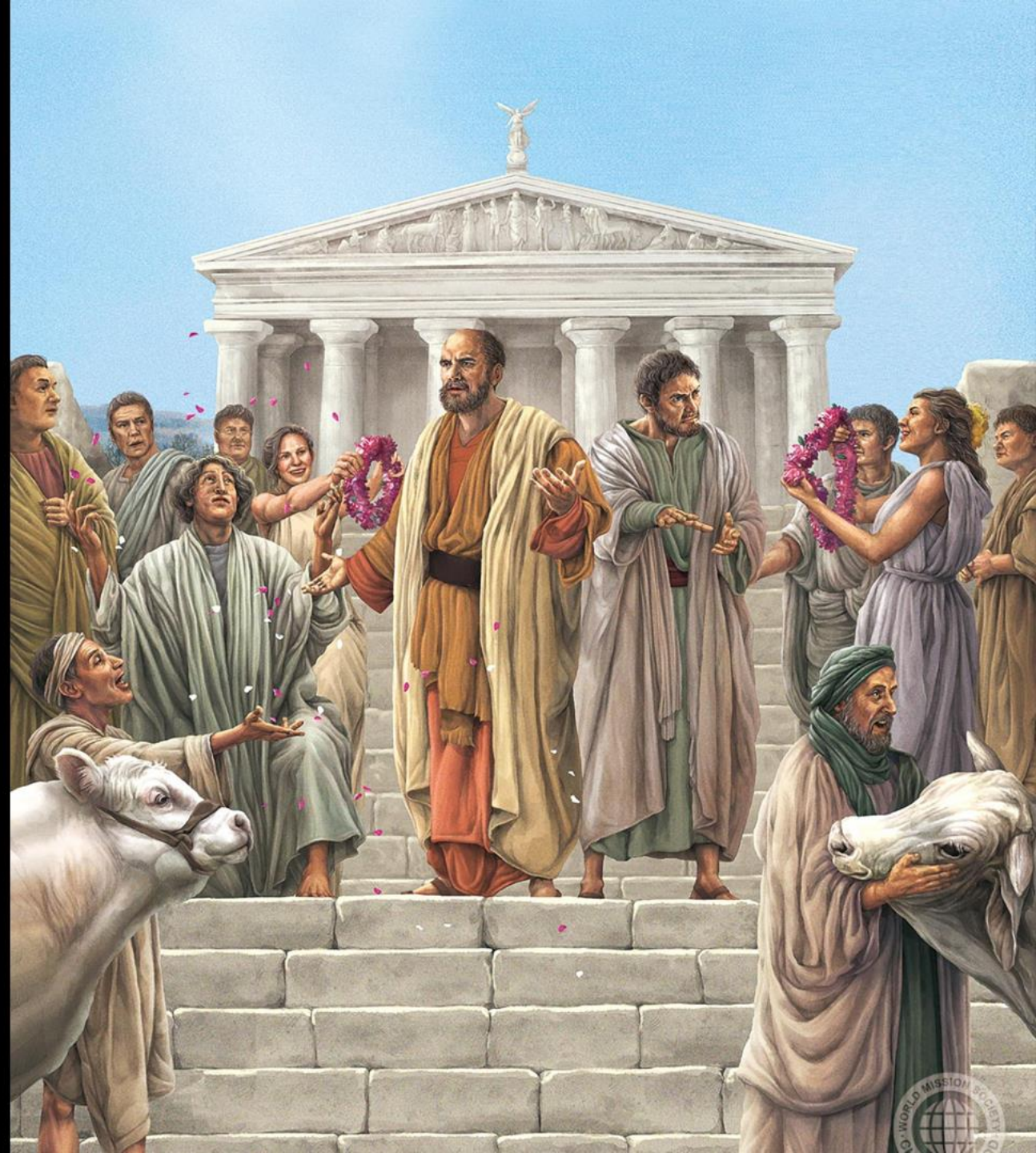
16 In past generations he allowed all the nations to walk in their own ways.



17 Yet he did not leave himself without witness, for he did good by giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, satisfying your hearts with food and gladness.”

18 Even with these words they scarcely restrained the people from offering sacrifice to them.

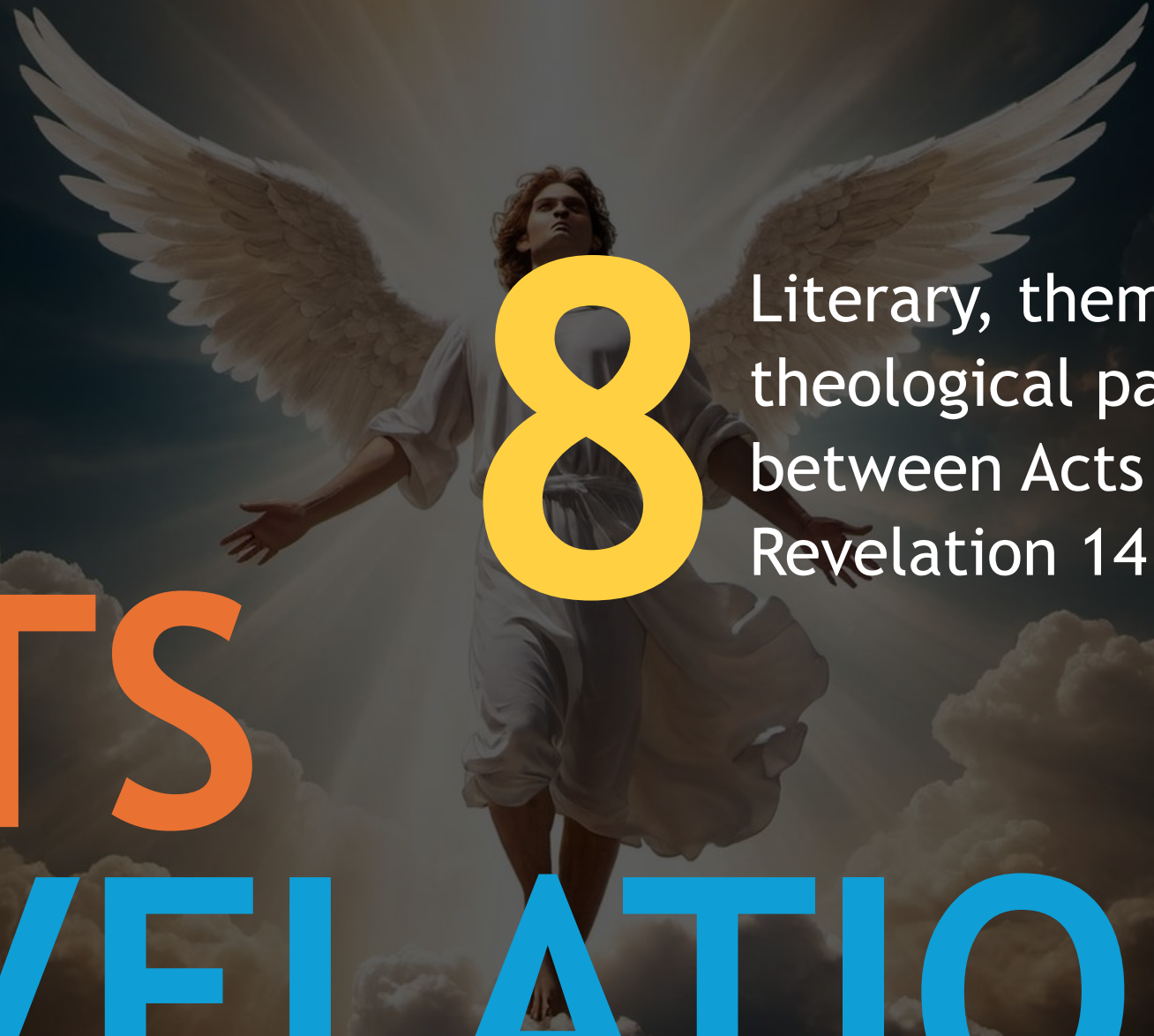
Acts 14:8-18, ESV





**ACTS**

**REVELATION**



# 8

Literary, thematic, and theological parallels between Acts 14:8-23 and Revelation 14:6-12.

# ACTS

# REVELATION



1

Identical Vocabulary

ACTS

REVELATION



“mega phono” / “loud voice”

Acts 14:10 / Rev. 14:7

μεγάλη φωνή (Acts 14:10)

φωνή μεγάλη (Rev 14:7)

**ACTS**

**REVELATION**

“mega phono” / “loud voice”

Acts 14:10 / Rev. 14:7

μεγάλη φωνή (Acts 14:10)

φωνή μεγάλη (Rev 14:7)

φωνή μεγάλη (Deut 5:22)

**ACTS**

**REVELATION**




2

Good News = Everlasting Gospel  
(Acts 14:15/Rev. 14:6)

ACTS

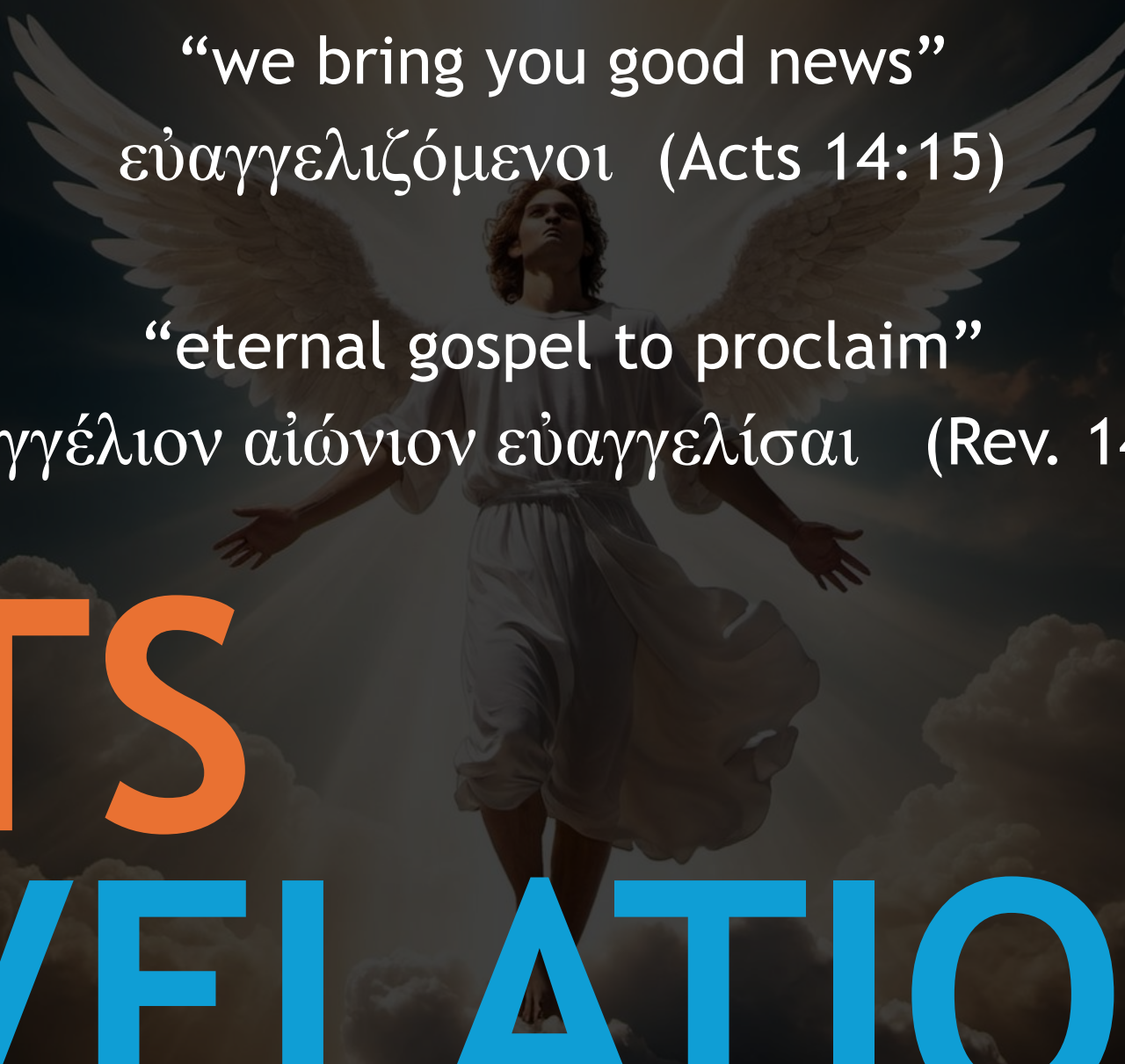
REVELATION



“we bring you good news”  
εὐαγγελιζόμενοι (Acts 14:15)

ACTS

REVELATION



“we bring you good news”  
εὐαγγελιζόμενοι (Acts 14:15)

“eternal gospel to proclaim”  
εὐαγγέλιον αἰώνιον εὐαγγελίσει (Rev. 14:6)

**ACTS**

**REVELATION**

3

“vain / worthless things (Acts 14:15  
= “Fallen, fallen is Babylon” *and is  
worthless* (Rev. 14:8)

ACTS

REVELATION



Zeus and Hermes (Acts 14:12)

**ACTS**

**REVELATION**



Zeus and Hermes (Acts 14:12)

The literal definition of “Babylon” in cuneiform (Akkadian) text is: “gateway of / to the gods.”

**ACTS**

**REVELATION**





4

Identical Themes: “turn  
from” and “turn to”  
(Acts 14:15; Rev. 14:6-13)

ACTS

REVELATION



# 5

Acknowledge and Worship  
the Creator God (Acts  
14:15 / Rev. 14:7)  
[significant connection  
with Exodus 20:11]


# ACTS

# REVELATION

ὃς ἐποίησεν τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν καὶ τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐν αὐτοῖς.  
(Acts 14:15)



# ACTS REVELATION



ὃς ἐποίησεν τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν καὶ τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐν αὐτοῖς.  
(Acts 14:15)

“who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them.”  
(Acts 14:15, ESV)


**ACTS**

**REVELATION**

τῷ ποιήσαντι τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν καὶ θάλασσαν καὶ πηγὰς ὑδάτων.  
(Rev. 14:7)



# ACTS REVELATION



τῷ ποιήσαντι τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν καὶ θάλασσαν καὶ πηγὰς ὑδάτων.  
(Rev. 14:7)

“who made heaven and earth, the sea and springs of water.”  
(Rev. 14:7, ESV)

**ACTS**

**REVELATION**

ἐποίησεν κύριος τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν καὶ τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐν αὐτοῖς  
(Exodus 20:11)



# ACTS REVELATION



ἐποίησεν κύριος τὸν οὐρανὸν καὶ τὴν γῆν καὶ τὴν θάλασσαν καὶ πάντα τὰ ἐν αὐτοῖς  
(Exodus 20:11)

“the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them”  
(Exodus 20:11, ESV)

# ACTS REVELATION





# 6

Worship is the context of both  
(Acts 14:8-23 / Rev. 14:6-12)

# ACTS

# REVELATION



7

International Mission Context

ACTS

REVELATION



8

Discipleship

ACTS

REVELATION

19 But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having persuaded the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing that he was dead.

20 But when the disciples gathered about him, he rose up and entered the city, and on the next day he went on with Barnabas to Derbe.

21 When they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch,



22 strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.

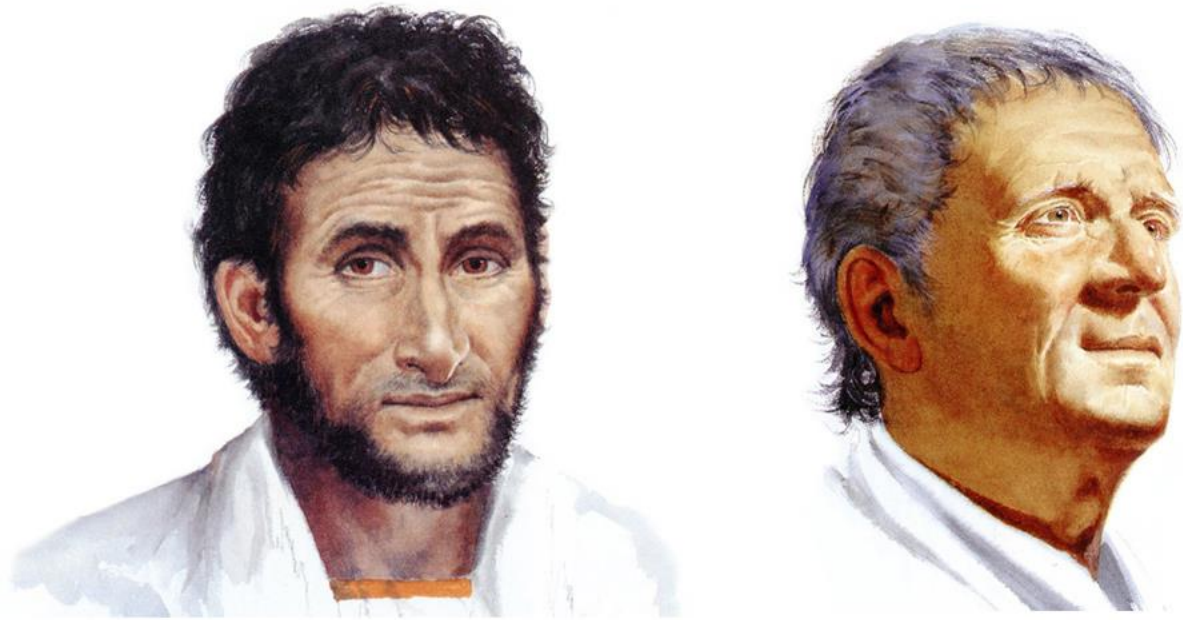
23 And when they had appointed elders for them in every church, with prayer and fasting they committed them to the Lord in whom they had believed.

Acts 14:19-23, ESV





- In literature written by **JOHN**, we have a clear emphasis on the content of the three angels' messages (Rev. 14:6-13)



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- In literature written by **LUKE**, we have similar content and themes being contextually emphasized (Acts 14:8-23)



- In literature written by **JOHN**, we have a clear emphasis on the content of the three angels' messages (Rev. 14:6-13)
- In literature written by **LUKE**, we have similar content and themes being contextually emphasized (Acts 14:8-23)
- From the voice of **PAUL** and **BARNABUS**, as recorded by Luke, we have similar content and themes being contextually emphasized (Acts 14:8-23)



An angel with large, feathered white wings stands barefoot on a thick, white, billowing cloud. The angel is wearing a simple, white, long-sleeved tunic with a sash. Their arms are slightly out to the sides, and they are looking upwards and to the right with a serene expression. Behind the angel, a bright, golden light source creates a strong glow and radiating beams of light that fill the upper portion of the frame. The background is a dark, deep blue sky, suggesting a high-altitude or celestial setting. The overall mood is one of divine presence and spiritual illumination.

Should we as Seventh-day Adventists  
continue to place a big emphasis on the  
three angels' messages of Revelation 14?

An angel with large, white, feathered wings stands on a thick, white cloud. The angel is wearing a white, long-sleeved robe and has their arms slightly out to the sides. Behind the angel, a bright, golden light source creates a halo effect, with rays of light extending upwards and outwards. The background is a dark, deep blue sky with soft, white clouds. The overall scene is ethereal and divine.

Should we as Seventh-day Adventists  
continue to place a big emphasis on the  
three angels' messages of Revelation 14?

**YES!**

An angel with large, feathered white wings stands on a cloud, looking upwards. The angel is wearing a white, flowing robe. Behind the angel, a bright light source creates a halo effect, with rays of light extending outwards. The background is a dark blue sky filled with soft, white clouds.

If we don't proclaim this  
biblical message who will?