

On Bended Knees

(Ephesians 3:14-21)



“The Bible was not written to satisfy your curiosity; it was written to transform your life. People come to the Bible to do everything with it except be changed by it.”

- H. Hendricks

“Paul is saying (praying) I want you to get your hands on your wealth, realize how vast it is, and start to put it to use. To grab hold of what God has for you and by faith make it a vital part of your life.”

- W. Wiersbe

Daniel 6:10

¹⁰ Now when Daniel knew that the document was signed, he entered his house (now in his roof chamber he had windows open toward Jerusalem); and he continued kneeling on his knees three times a day, praying and giving thanks before his God, as he had been doing previously.

Ezra 9:5

⁵ But at the evening offering I arose from my humiliation, even with my garment and my robe torn, and I fell on my knees and stretched out my hands to the LORD my God;

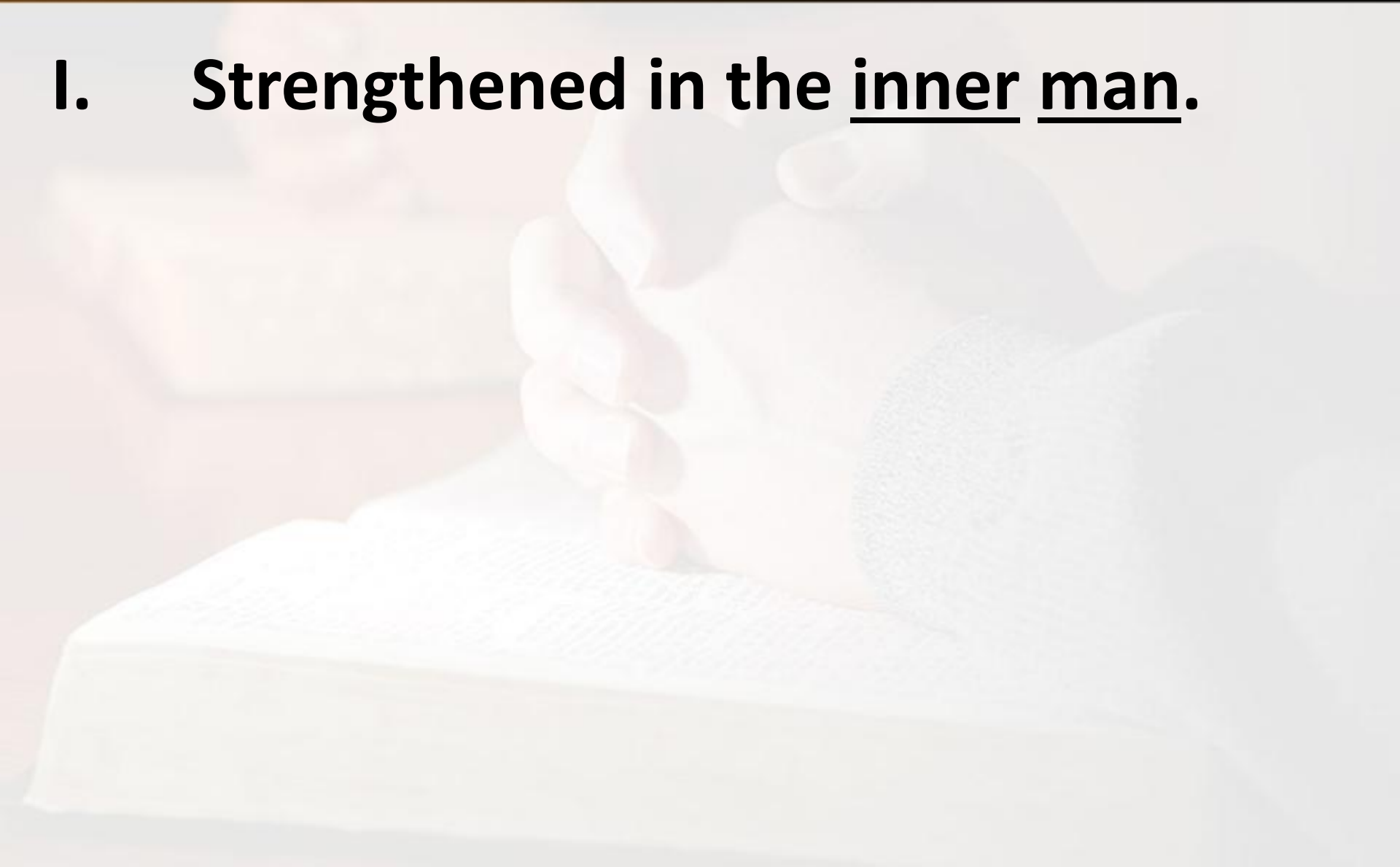
Psalm 95:6 & 7a

⁶ Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.

^{7a} For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.

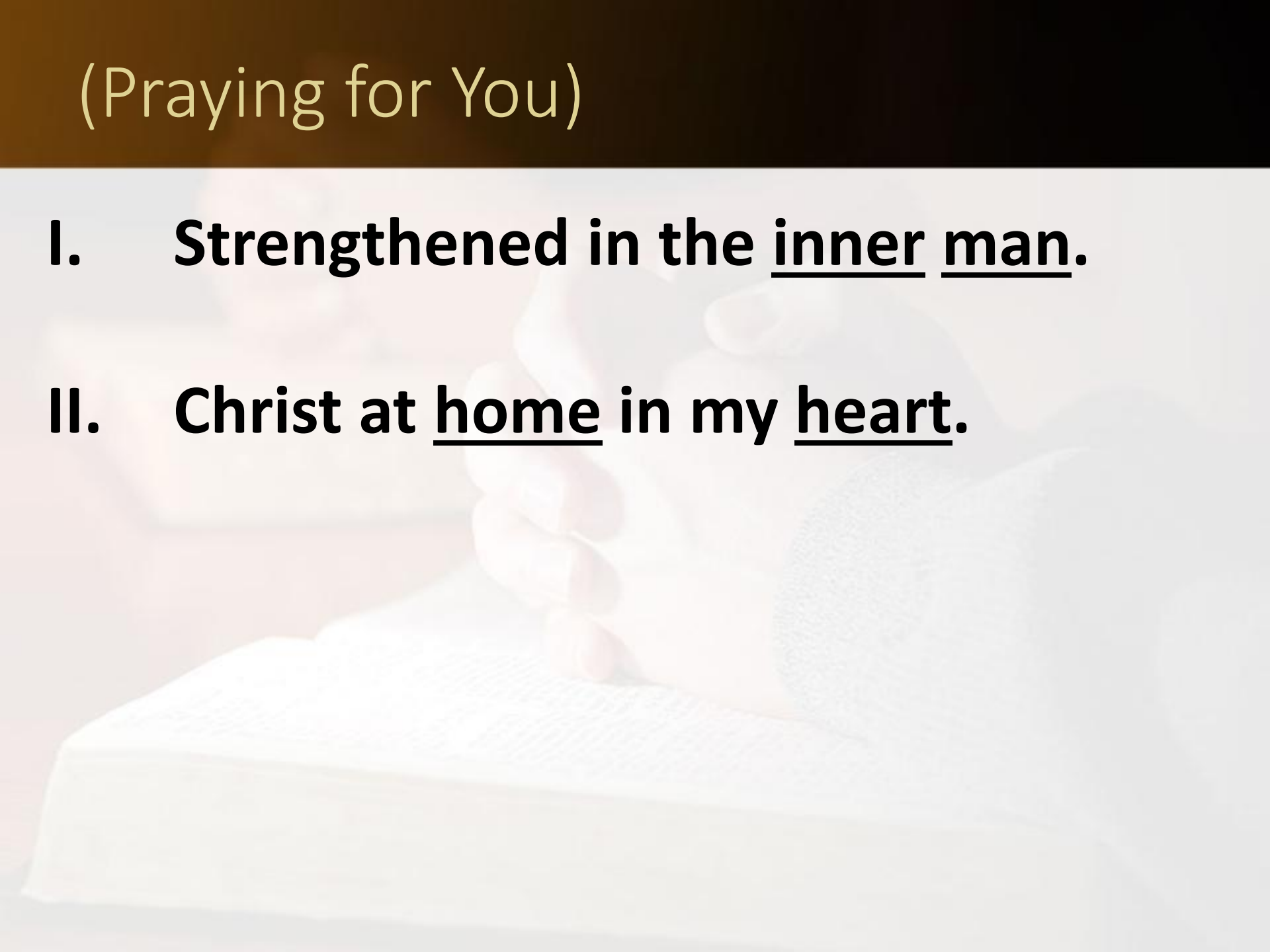
(Praying for You)

I. **Strengthened in the inner man.**



(Praying for You)

- I. **Strengthened in the inner man.**
- II. **Christ at home in my heart.**



“D.A. Carson points out Paul’s word choice and then illustrates the difference between a short-lived resident and a long-term resident. Carson says, when Christ takes up residence in a believer, it is like a couple who purchases a home that needs a lot of work. Over time they clean it up, repair it, and eventually say, ‘This house has been shaped to our needs and taste and I really feel comfortable.’ Then he says,.....

When Christ by His Spirit takes up residence within us, he finds a moral equivalent to trash, black and silver wall paper, and a leaking roof. He sets about turning this residence into a place appropriate for Him, a home for which He is comfortable.....When a person takes up long-term residence somewhere, their presence eventually characterizes that dwelling.....When Christ first moves into our lives, He finds us in bad repair. It takes a great deal of power to change us; and that is why Paul prays for power... [He is] transforming us into a house that pervasively reflects His own character.”

- D.A. Carson

(Praying for You)

- I. **Strengthened in the inner man.**
- II. **Christ at home in my heart.**
- III. **Growing in Christ's love (for me).**

Galatians 2:20

²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

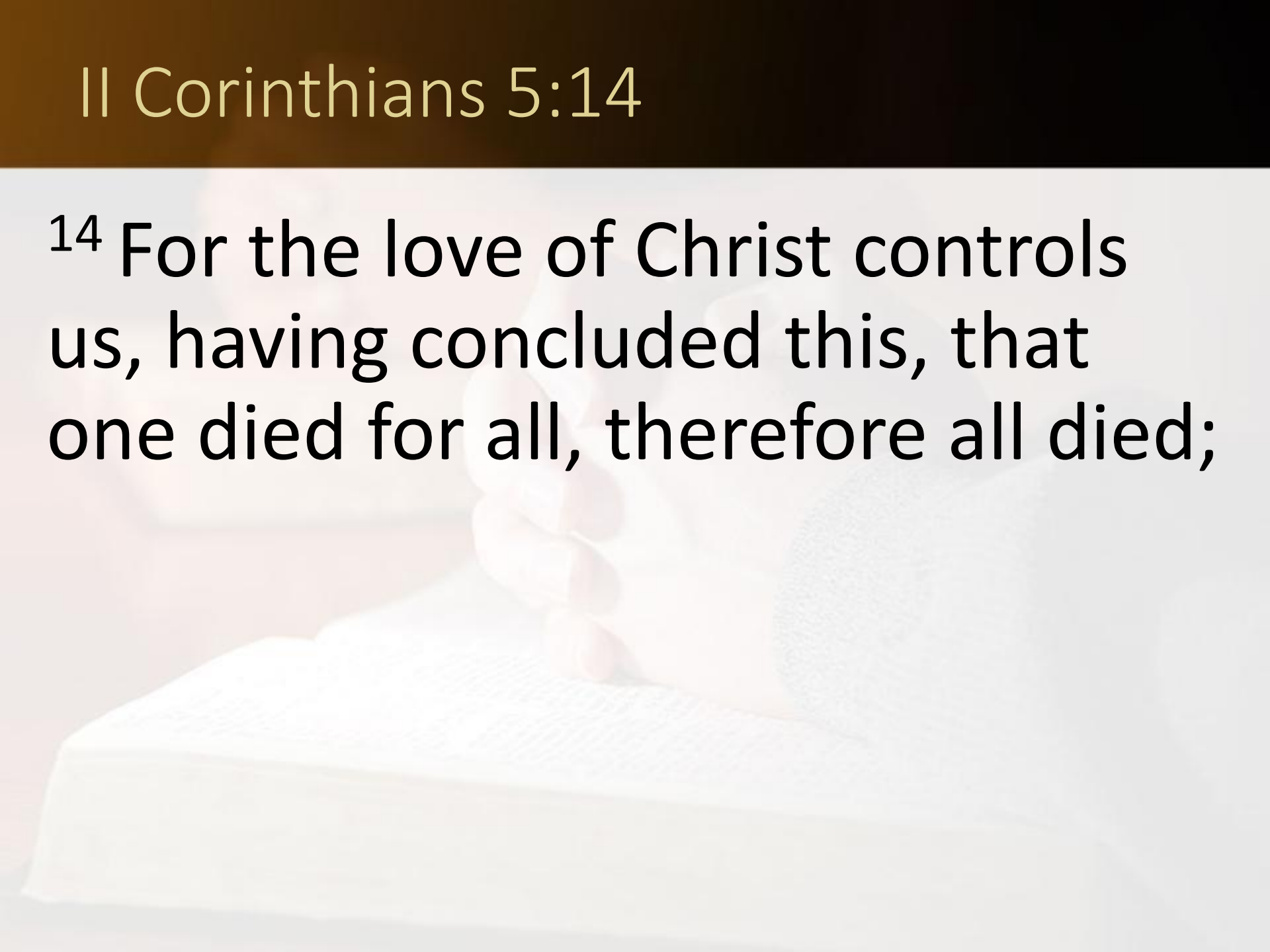
Romans 8:35 & 37

³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

³⁷ But in all these things we overwhelmingly conquer through Him who loved us.

II Corinthians 5:14

¹⁴ For the love of Christ controls us, having concluded this, that one died for all, therefore all died;



Could we with ink the oceans fill
And were the skies of parchment made,
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade –
To write the love of God above
Would drain the oceans dry;
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky.

- Unknown

“.....because God is self-existent, His love had no beginning, because He is eternal, His love can have no end, because He is infinite it has no limit, because He is holy it is the quintessence of all spotless purity, because He is immense, His love is an incomprehensibly vast, bottomless, shoreless sea.....”

- A.W. Tozer

- 1) A love that is *wide* enough to embrace the world. John 3:16 tells us, “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.”
- 2) A love that is *long* enough to last forever (I Corinthians 13:8). As Spurgeon said, “It is so long that your old age cannot wear it out, so long your continual tribulation cannot exhaust it, your successive temptations shall not drain it dry; like eternity itself it knows no bounds.”
- 3) A love that is *high* enough to take sinners to Heaven (I John 3:1, 2).
- 4) A love that is *deep* enough to take Christ to the very depths to reach the lowest sinner (Philippians 2:8).

- K. Hughes

(Praying for You)

- I. Strengthened in the inner man.
- II. Christ at home in my heart.
- III. Growing in Christ's love (for me).
- IV. Full of God's fullness.

Romans 8:28 & 29

²⁸ And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose.

²⁹ For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

Unto him

That is able to do

All that we ask or think

Above all that we ask or think

Abundantly above all that we ask or think

Exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think

According to the power that worketh in us

- R. Paxson