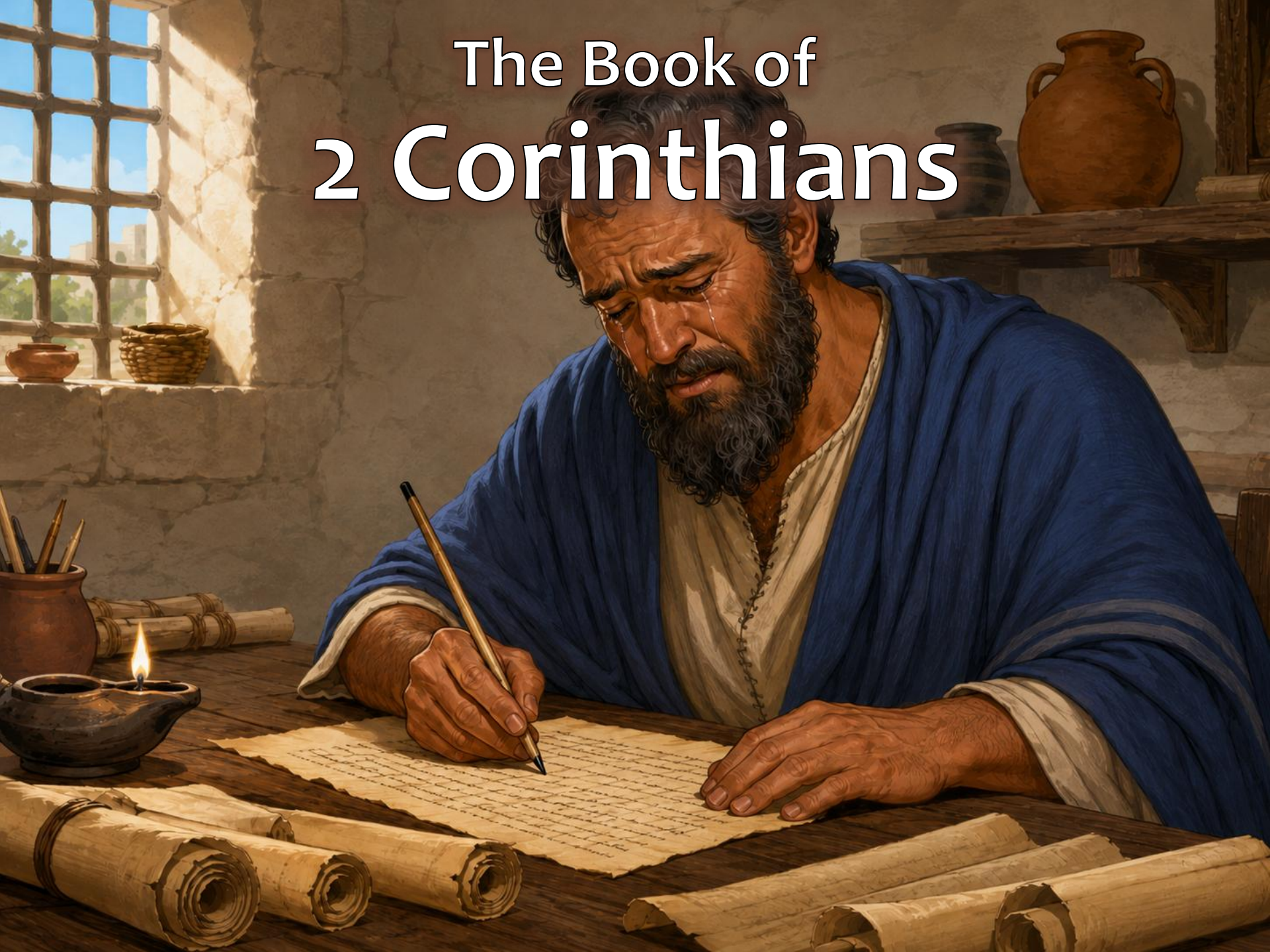
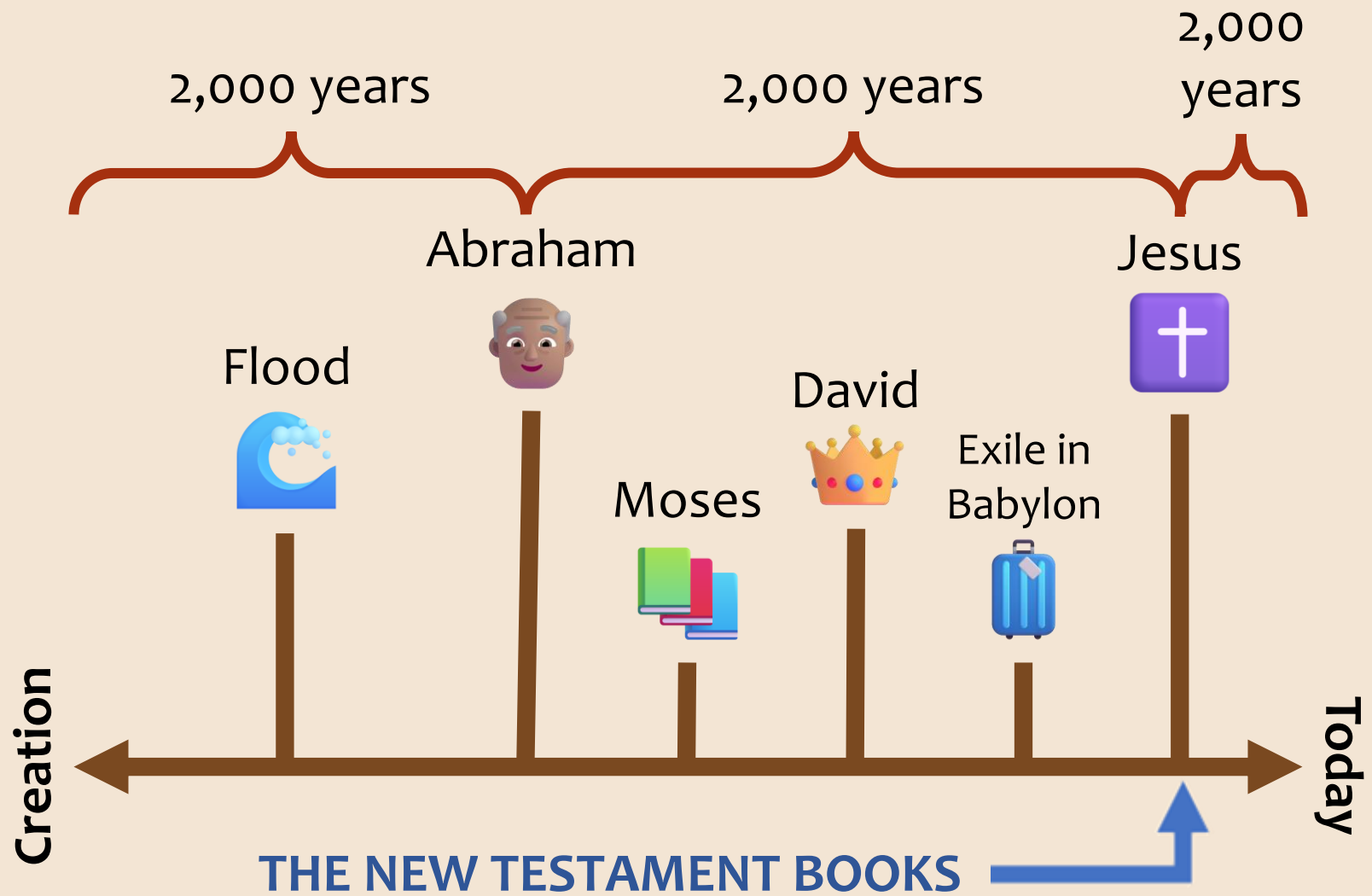


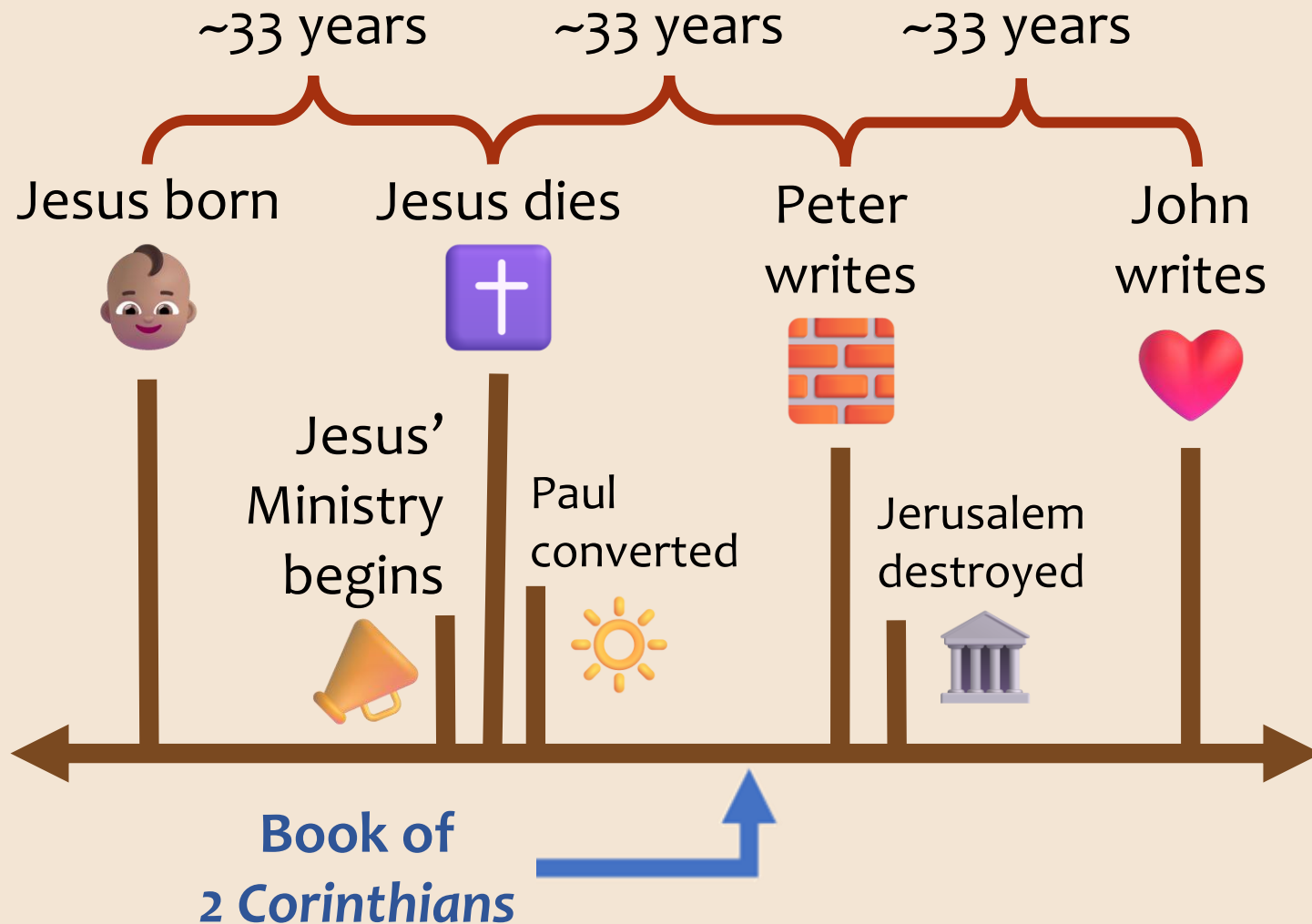
The Book of 2 Corinthians



Bible timeline



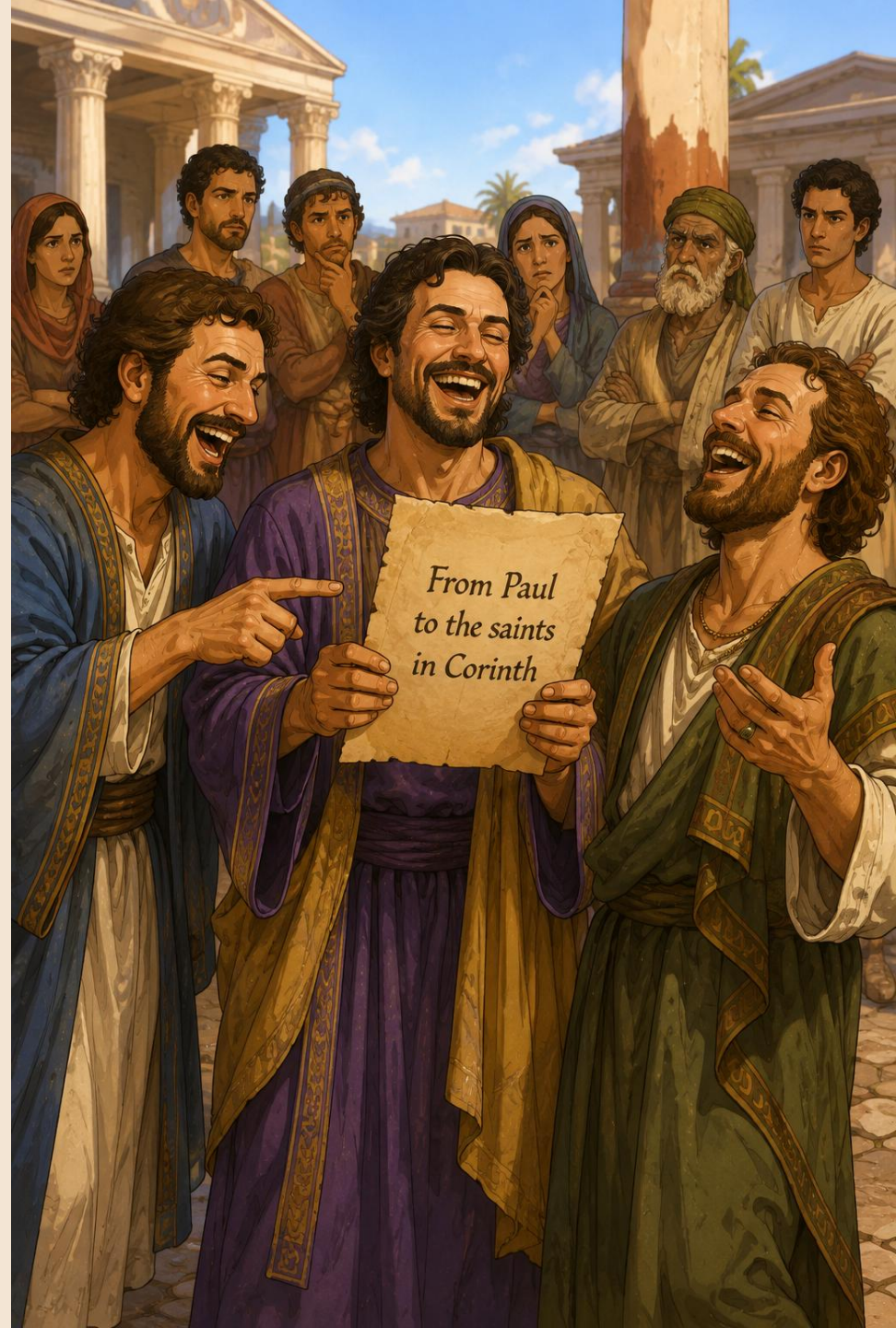
Bible timeline



Summary

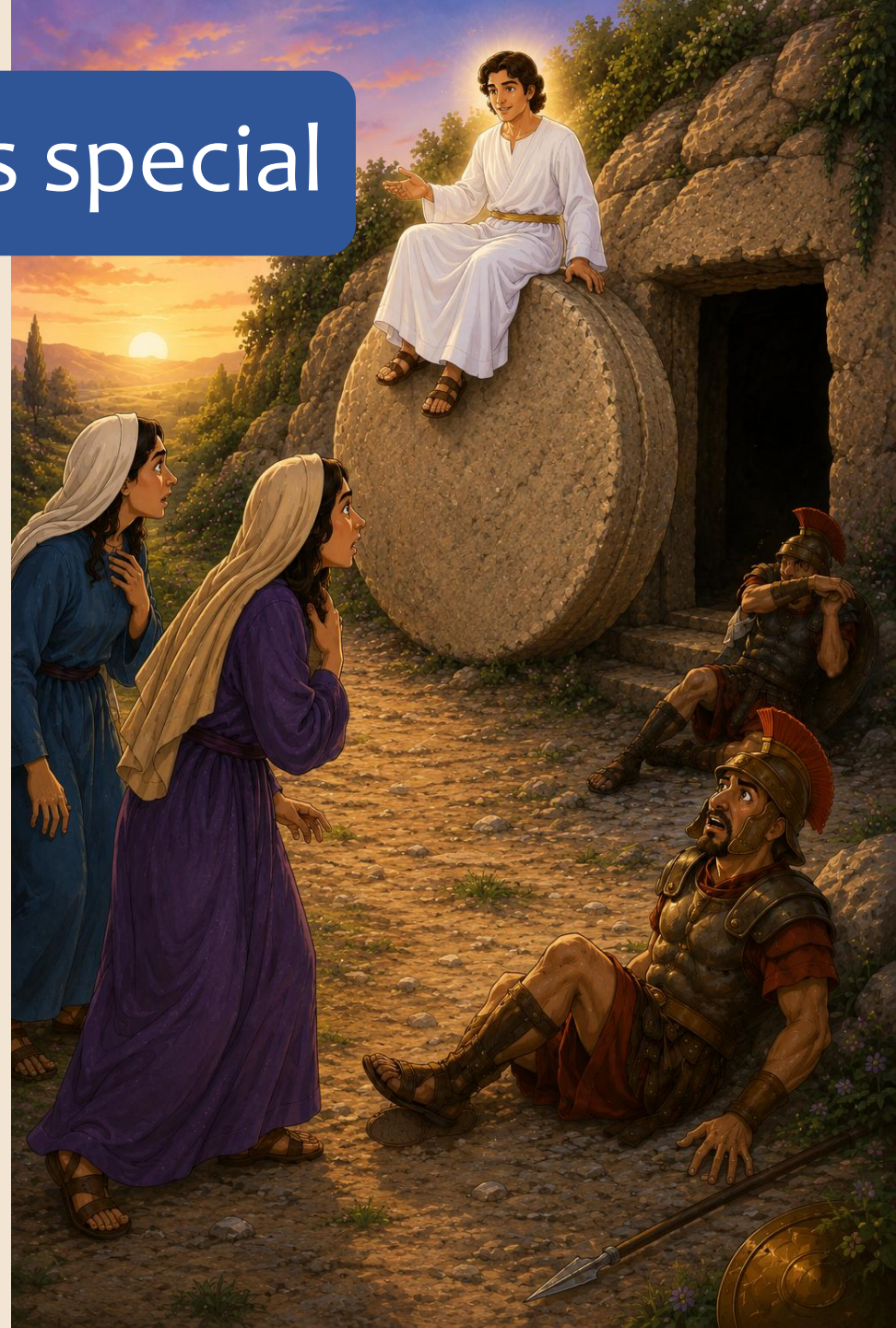
2 Corinthians

- The church in Corinth is dealing with a power vacuum.
 - Power vacuum: When key leadership leaves with no strong successor; this usually results in people trying to ruthlessly steal control
 - The Corinth church is 6 years old at most, and its most significant teachers, Paul and Apollos, have left
 - In that vacuum seems to have come false apostles to sow seeds of doubt about Paul
 - Paul needs to make this church understand what is true and what is important
 - He does this very passionately



Why 2 Corinthians is special

- Jesus says, “my power is made perfect in weakness”
2 Corinthians 12:9 (ESV)
 - The Corinthians are looking down on Paul’s supposed weakness, and some may be drawn to men that are supposedly strong and commanding.
 - But true leadership is not controlling; rather it is serving and giving to those around you.
 - And this is the theme of the book.



Main characters

-  **Paul**
 - Apostle
 - Wrote the letter
-  **Christians in Corinth**
 - Read the letter
 - Need to see what leadership really looks like
-  **Titus**
 - Tells Paul how the church is doing

Outline of 2 Corinthians

- **Chapters 1-7: Comfort**

- Suffering makes you rely on God (1:3-11)
- Repentance leads to forgiveness and comfort (2:5-11)
- The gospel is not hidden (3:4-4:6)
- Our bodies are fragile, but our spirits strong (4:7-5:10)
- We were reconciled to God (5:11-20)
- Corinthians were reconciled to Paul (chapter 7)

- **Chapters 8-9: Giving to those in need**

- **Chapters 10-13: What spiritual leadership is (serving) and is not (controlling)**

Theology and doctrine

- Strength in weakness
 - Christ “was crucified in weakness, but lives by the power of God,” **2 Corinthians 13:4** (ESV)
 - Our example is not to take control, but to serve God
- In the book
 - The danger Paul faced was “so that we would not trust in ourselves, but in God” (**1:9** NASB)
 - The gospel in us is like “treasure in jars of clay” (**4:7** ESV)
 - The Macedonians’ “joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity” (**8:2** ESV)
 - As Christ “for your sake He became poor, so that you through His poverty might become rich” (**8:9** NASB)
 - “though we walk in the flesh ... the weapons of our warfare ... have divine power to destroy strongholds.” (**10:3-4** ESV)

Recap of 2 Corinthians

- **Summary**

- The church in Corinth is dealing with a power vacuum

- **Why it is special**

- Jesus says, “my power is made perfect in weakness”
2 Corinthians 12:9 (ESV)

- **Main characters**

- Paul
- Christians in Corinth
- Titus

- **Outline**

- **Chapters 1-7:** Comfort
- **Chapters 8-9:** Giving to those in need
- **Chapters 10-13:** What spiritual leadership is and is not

- **Theology and doctrine**

- Strength in weakness
(2 Corinthians 13:4)

Moses' Face Shines

Exodus 33:12—34:35



Summary

Moses' Face Shines
Exodus 33:12—34:35

- Moses wants to see God's glory.
- When he goes back up the mountain to talk to God, Moses' own face shines with glory.



Why this story is special



- **2 Corinthians 3** says that the apostles' ministry has more glory than the Law that Moses received when his face shined (**vs. 7-8**).
- And while Moses could not see God's face, "we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed..." (**v. 18 NASB**).

Main characters

-  **Moses**
 - Receives the Law – again – from the LORD
-  **The LORD**
 - Cannot be seen by mere men
-  **“The children of Israel”**
 - Can’t stand to look at Moses’ shining face

Outline of *Exodus* 33:12—34:35

1. 33:12-17: Moses wants assurance of God's safety; God promises so
2. 33:18-23: Moses asks to see God's glory; God agrees on His terms
3. 34:1-9: Moses instructed to return to Mount Sinai with new stone tablets
4. 34:10-28: The LORD gives the laws again
5. 34:29-35: Moses' face shines; he covers it since the people are afraid

In case you missed it

- This is not the first time Moses has gone up to Mount Sinai for 40 days to receive the Law.
 - He did this before in **Exodus 31:18**
 - But in the very next chapter, the people worship an idol, so Moses throws and breaks the two stone tablets (**Exodus 32:19**)
 - Hence the need for more
- In **Exodus 34:29**, the Hebrew says that Moses' face "horned"
 - It's thought to be an expression, meaning to shine – think of a kid's drawing of the sun
 - And 2 Corinthians uses "glory" and "shine" to describe Moses
 - No need to overcomplicate this



Theology and doctrine

- **2 Corinthians 3:1-4:6** builds on this story
- We'll just read it

Recap of *Exodus* 33:12—34:35

- **Summary**

- Moses wants to see God's glory. When he goes back up the mountain to talk to God, Moses' own face shines with glory.

- **Why it is special**

- It's amazing, yet still not as amazing as what Jesus did. (See **2 Cor. 3-4.**)

- **Main characters**

- Moses
- The LORD
- "The children of Israel"

- **Theology and doctrine**

- **2 Corinthians 3:1-4:6** builds on this story

- **Outline**

1. **33:12-17:** Moses wants assurance of God's safety; God promises so
2. **33:18-23:** Moses asks to see God's glory; God agrees on His terms
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- **In case you missed it**

- First tablets were destroyed (**Ex. 31:18, 32:19**)

Poem: **Psalm 111** *and* **112**

The Righteous God – and – The Righteous Man

- **2 Corinthians 9:9** quotes **Psalm 112:9**
 - “He has distributed freely, he has given to the poor” (ESV)
- The two psalms are
 - Each 10 verses
 - Each starting with “Praise the LORD”
 - Each followed by 22 lines in an acrostic (letters of the alphabet)
 - Both contain the phrase “his righteousness endures forever” (ESV)
 - And other similarities