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설교제목 (SERMON TITLE):
사도행전 IV – 스테반
(ACTS IV- STEPHEN)

October 26, 2025
이상민 목사 (Pastor Sangmin Lee)

Acts 6:1–7

1 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them.

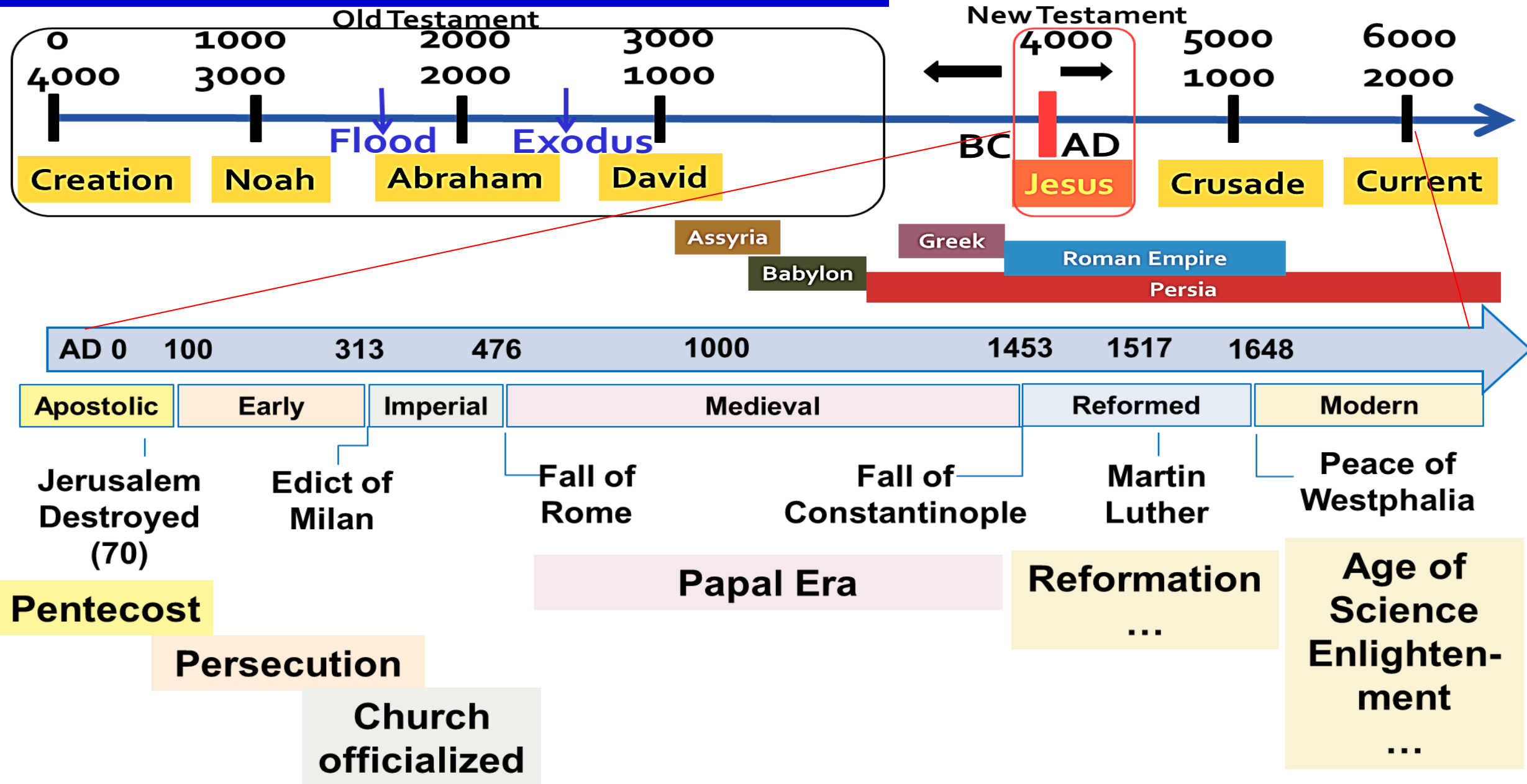
Acts 6:1–7

4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.” 5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. 7 So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

사도행전 (Acts) 6:1-7

1 그 때에 제자가 더 많아졌는데 헬라파 유대인들이 자기의 과부들이 매일의 구제에 빠지므로 히브리파 사람을 원망하니 2 열두 사도가 모든 제자를 불러 이르되 우리가 하나님의 말씀을 제쳐 놓고 접대를 일삼는 것이 마땅하지 아니하니 3 형제들아 너희 가운데서 성령과 지혜가 충만하여 칭찬 받는 사람 일곱을 택하라 우리가 이 일을 그들에게 맡기고 4 우리는 오로지 기도하는 일과 말씀 사역에 힘쓰리라 하니 5 온 무리가 이 말을 기뻐하여 믿음과 성령이 충만한 사람 스테반과 또 빌립과 브로고로와 니가노르와 디몬과 바메나와 유대교에 입교했던 안디옥 사람 니콜라를 택하여 6 사도들 앞에 세우니 사도들이 기도하고 그들에게 안수하니라 7 하나님의 말씀이 점점 왕성하여 예루살렘에 있는 제자의 수가 더 심히 많아지고 허다한 제사장의 무리도 이 도에 복종하니라

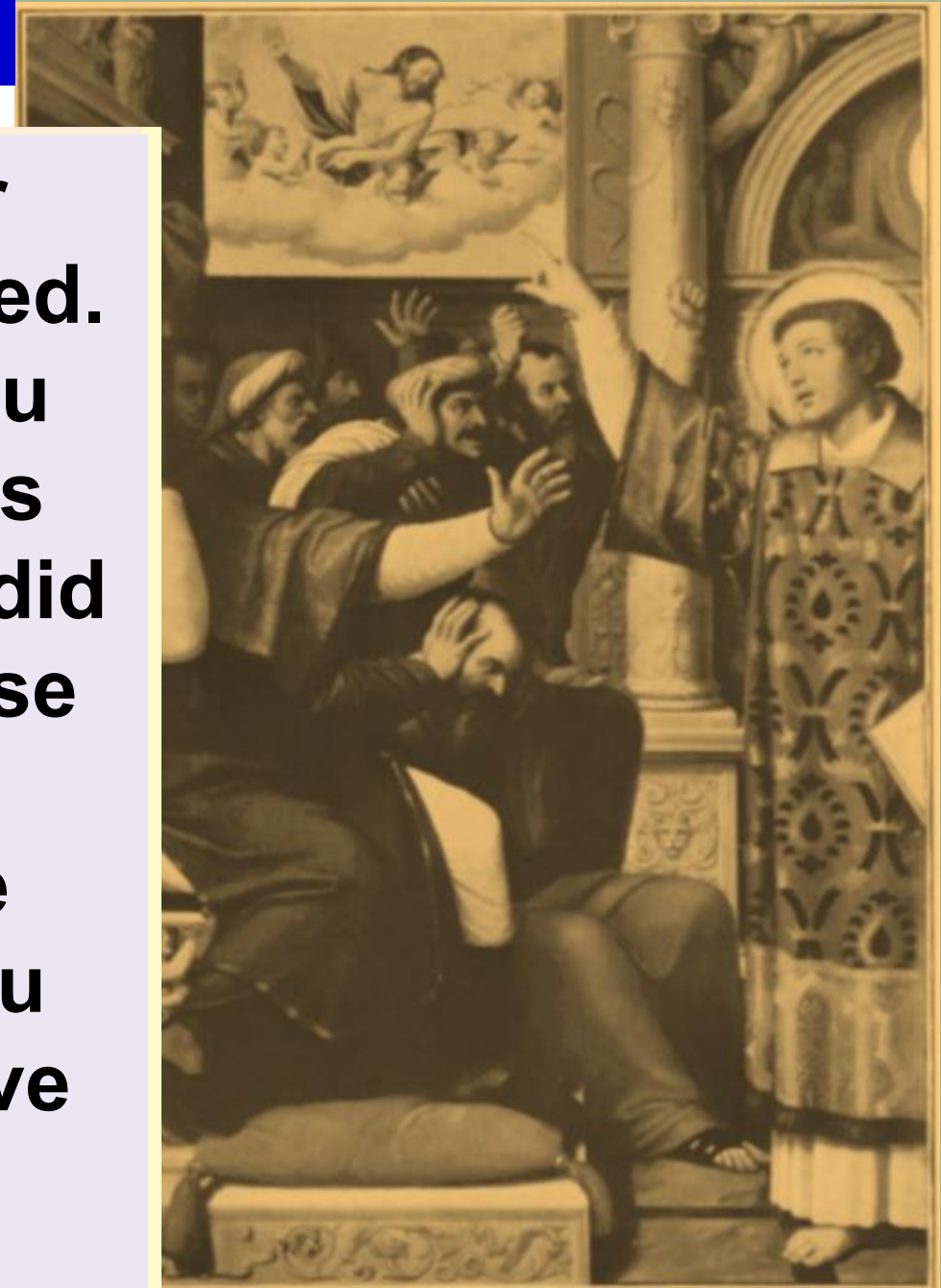
Biblical & World History...



Stephen Before the Council

“51 “You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! 52 Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him—53 you who have received the law ...but have not obeyed it.”

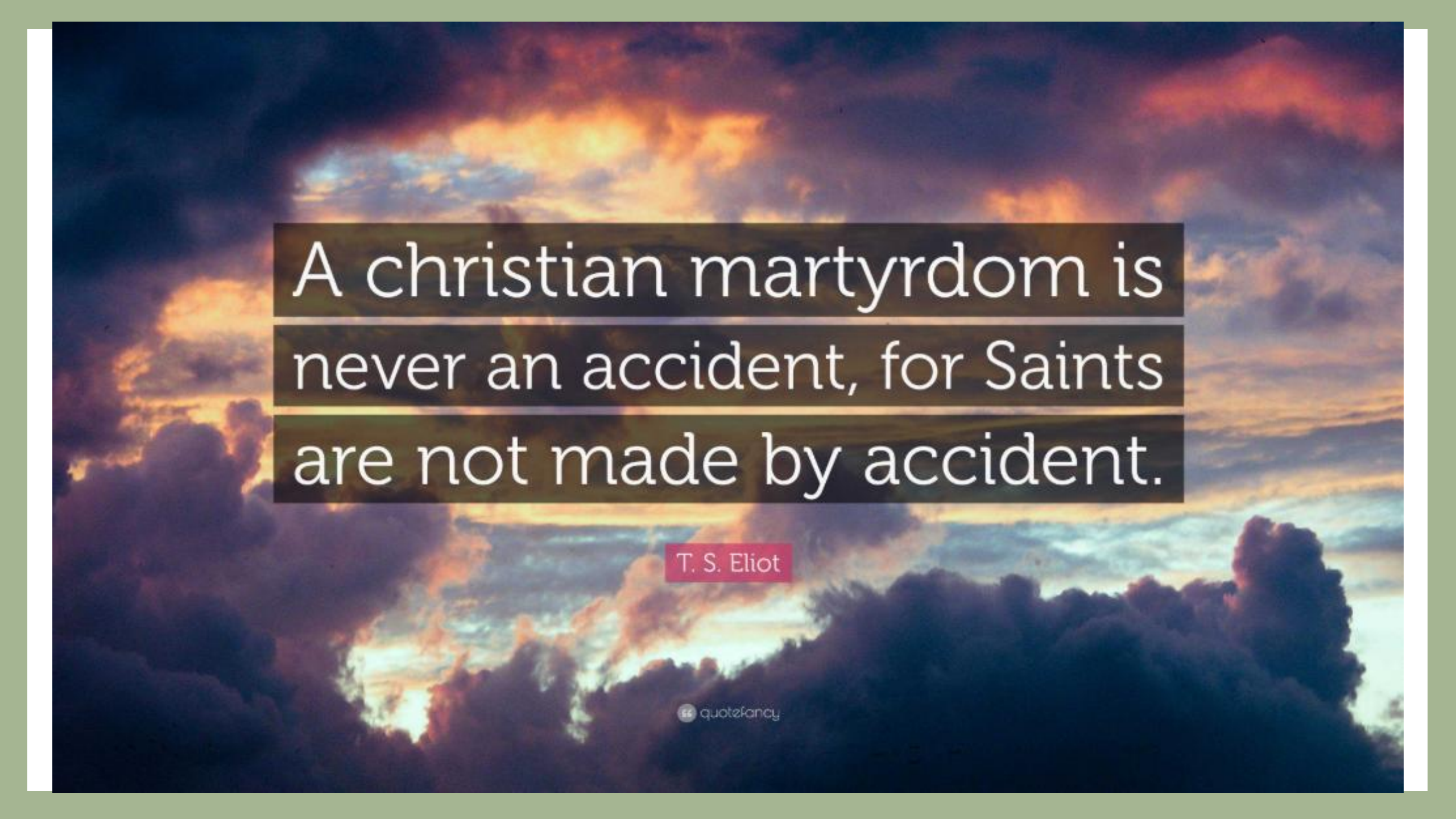
-Ac 7:51–53-



The First Martyr...

“54 When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. 55 But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven ... “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” 57 At this they covered their ears and, yelling ...rushed at him... began to stone him... Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit... do not hold this sin against them.” -Ac 7:54–60-





A christian martyrdom is
never an accident, for Saints
are not made by accident.

T. S. Eliot

Witness & Persecution

“Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20 and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” -Mt 28:19–20-

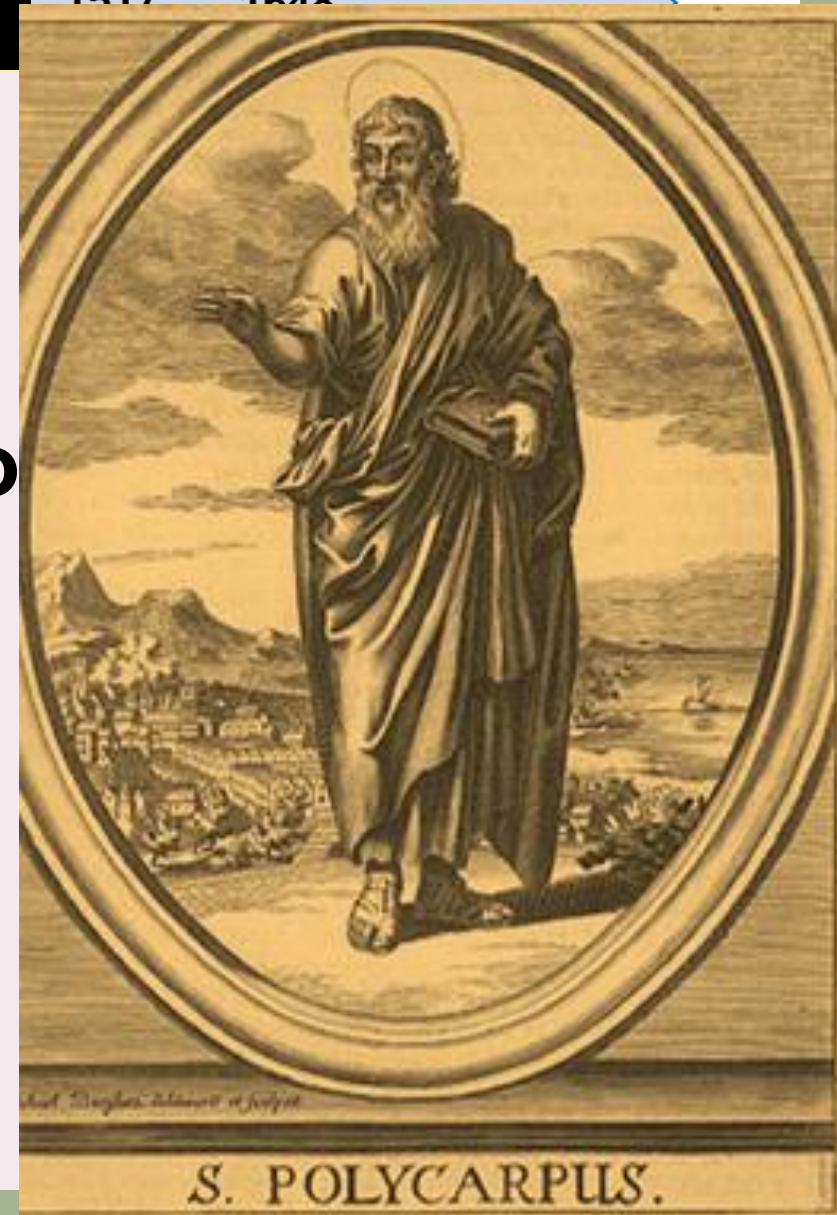


Age of Persecution

Polycarp (AD 69~156)

“-The Roman proconsul took pity on Polycarp and urged him to recant. All he had to do was say, “Caesar is Lord,” and offer a little bit of incense to Caesar’s statue, and he would live.

**-Polycarp’s stalwart response:
“Eighty-six years I have served Christ, and He never did me any wrong. How can I blaspheme my King who saved me?”**



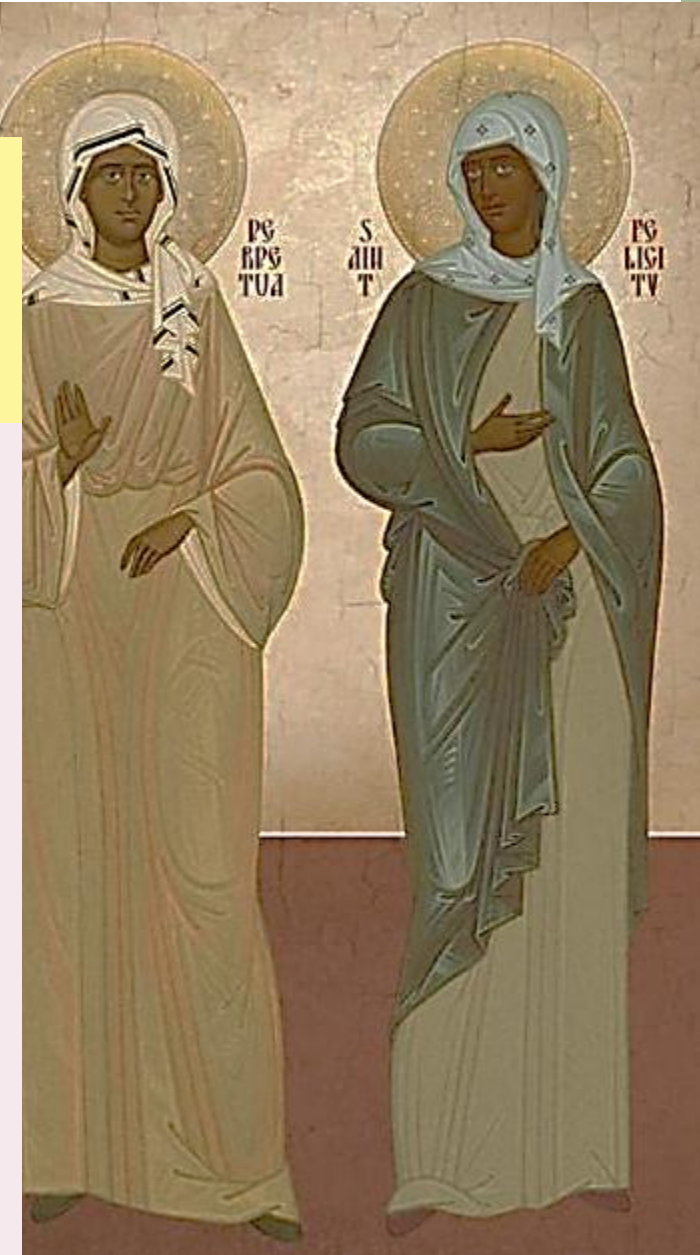
Age of Persecution

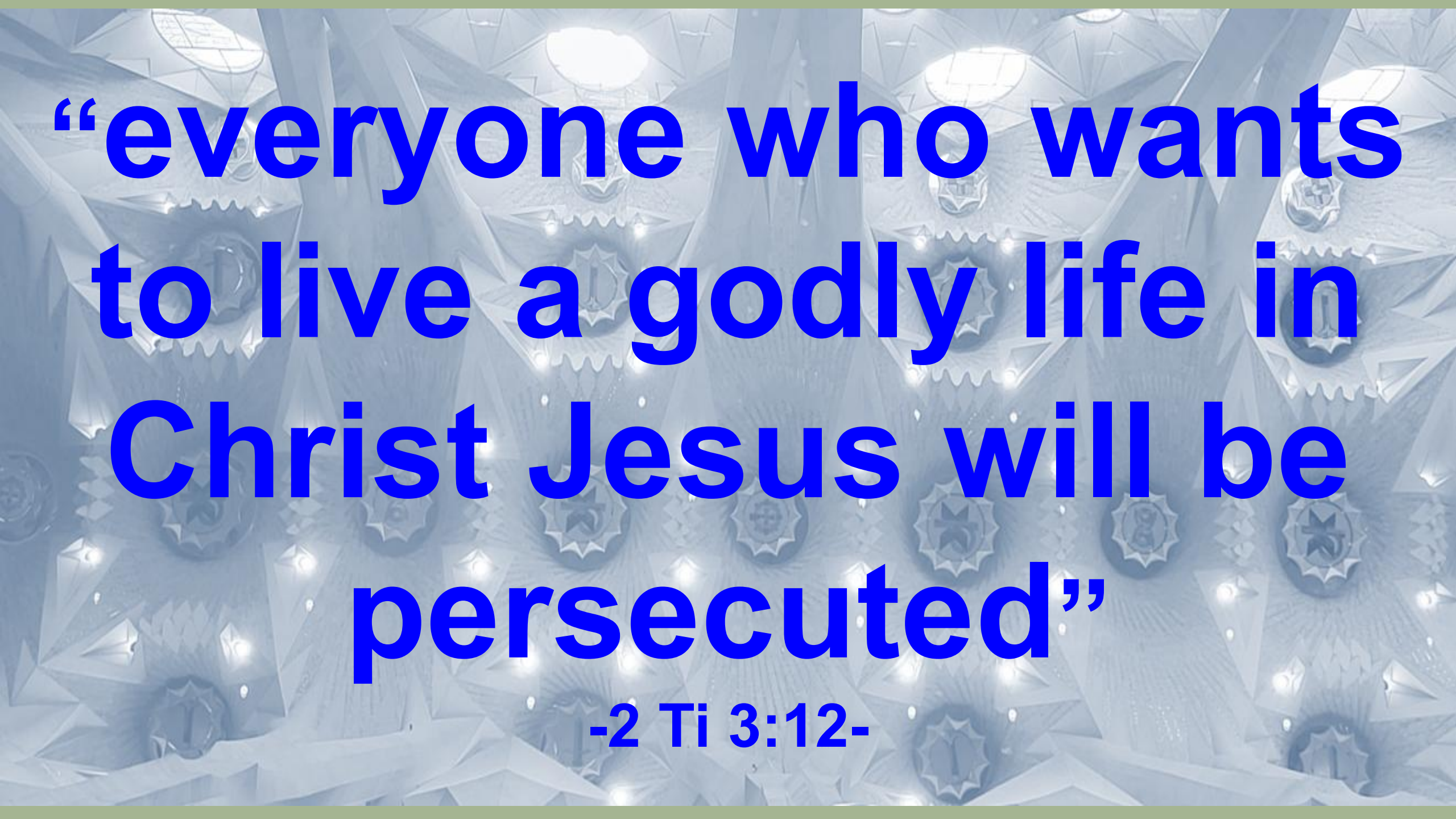
Perpetua and her slave Felicity (Felicitas)

“Both were ... were placed in the arena... to face a rabid heifer ...with gladiators.

-Perpetua’s last ...words ...“You must all stand fast in the faith and love one another, and do not be weakened by what we have gone through”

-Felicity, miraculously, went into labor two days before the execution ...“What I am suffering now, I suffer by myself. But then another will be inside me who will suffer for me, just as I shall be suffering for Him.”





**“everyone who wants
to live a godly life in
Christ Jesus will be
persecuted”**

-2 Ti 3:12-