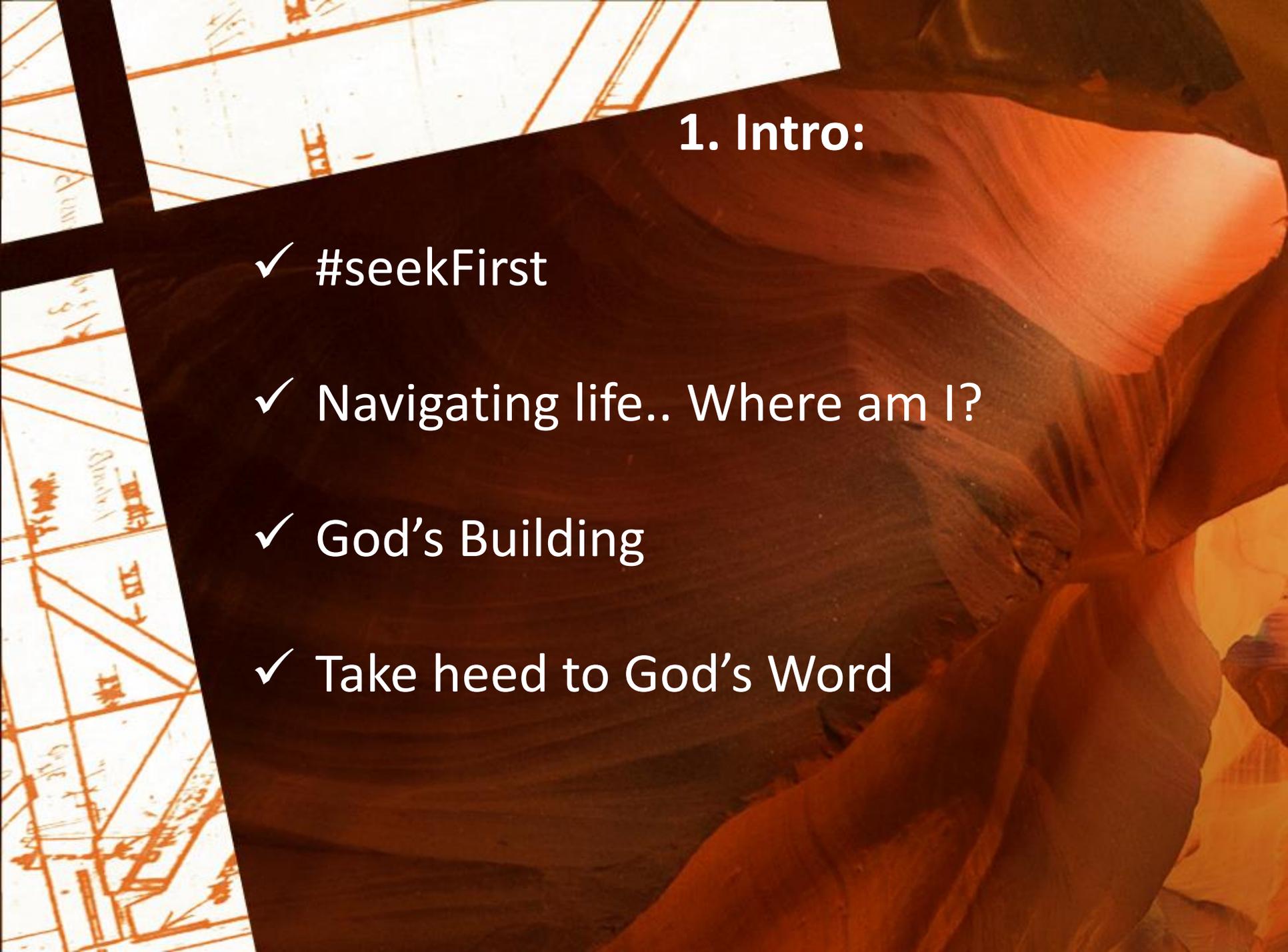


The background is a collage of three main elements: a lit oil lamp in the center, technical drawings on the left, and a large leaf on the right. The lamp is a small, dark, bowl-shaped container with a bright flame. The technical drawings are white sheets with orange lines and some text, tilted at an angle. The leaf is a large, textured, brownish-orange leaf, possibly a banana leaf, partially covering the right side of the image. The overall color palette is warm, dominated by oranges, yellows, and browns.

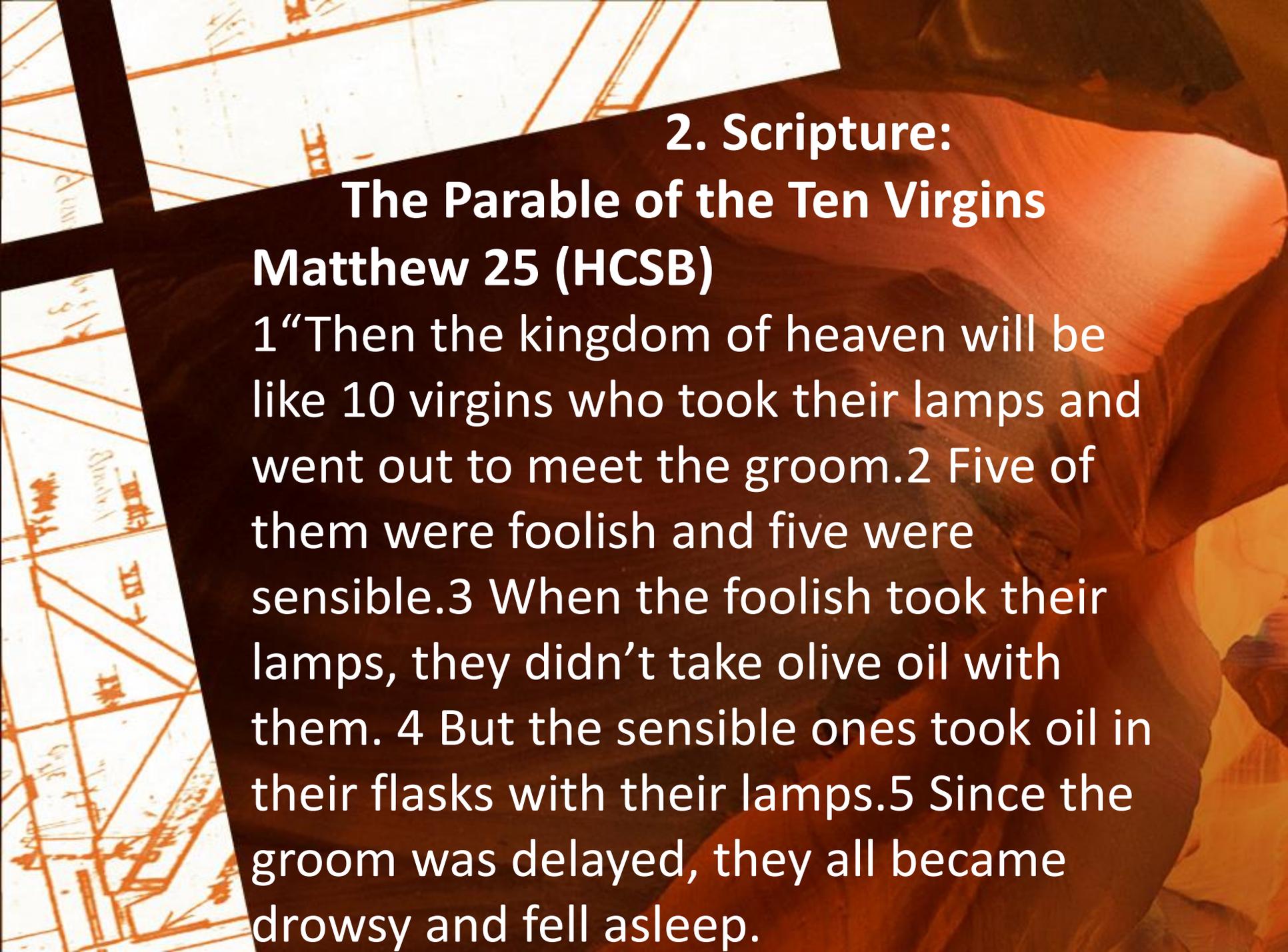
THE MIDNIGHT OIL

RETIEF UYS



1. Intro:

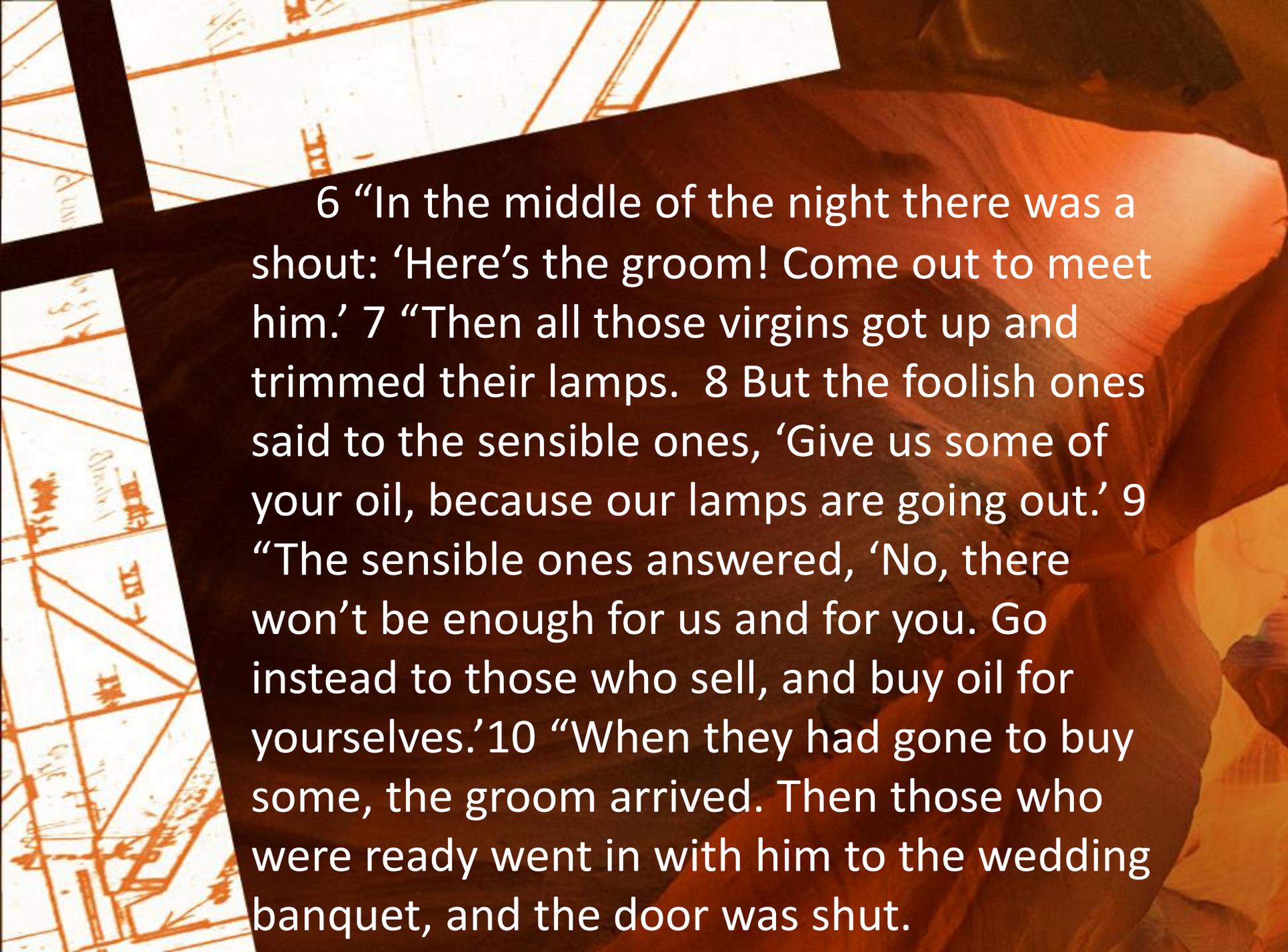
- ✓ #seekFirst
- ✓ Navigating life.. Where am I?
- ✓ God's Building
- ✓ Take heed to God's Word



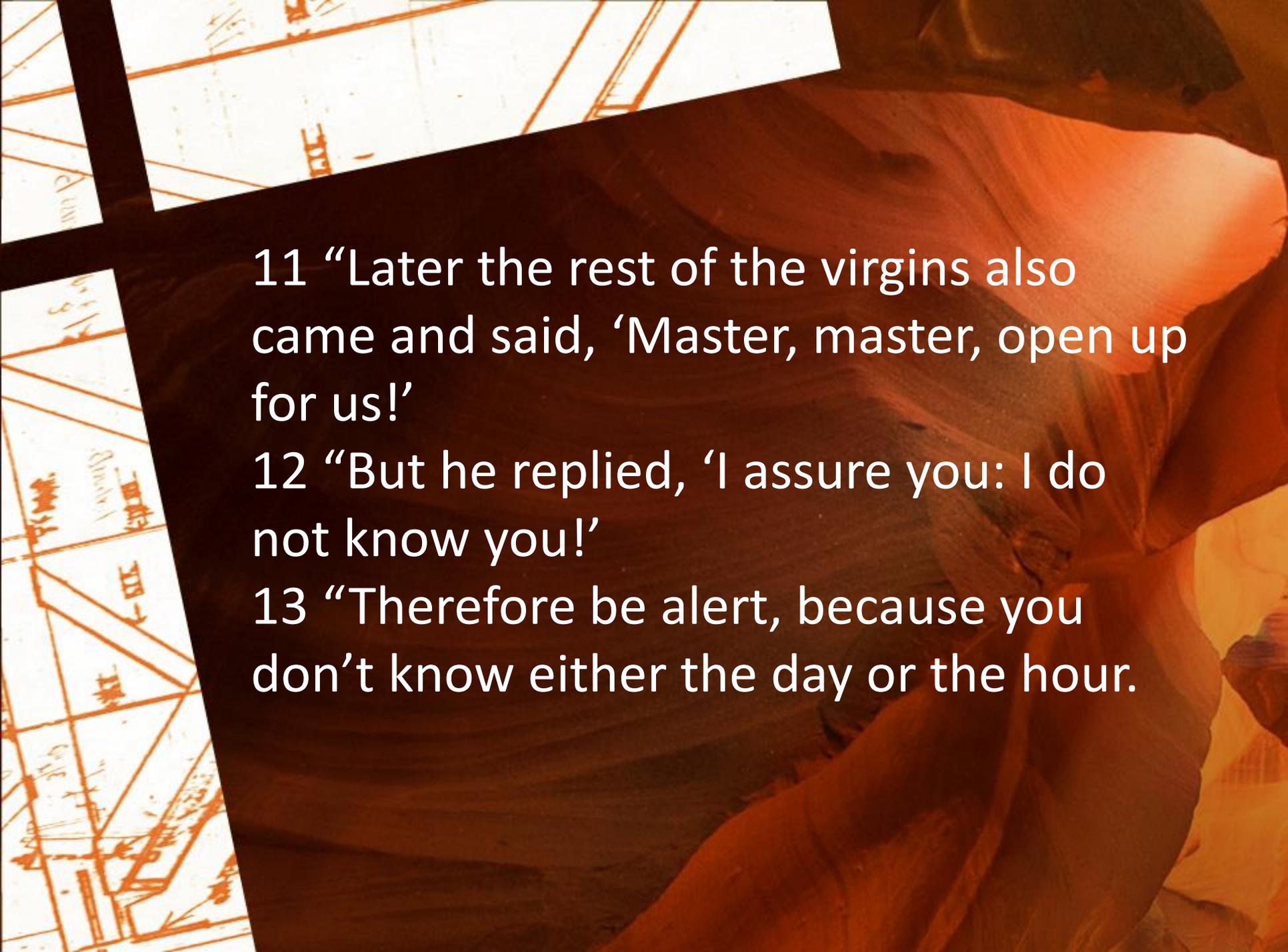
2. Scripture:

The Parable of the Ten Virgins Matthew 25 (HCSB)

1“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like 10 virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom.² Five of them were foolish and five were sensible.³ When the foolish took their lamps, they didn’t take olive oil with them. ⁴ But the sensible ones took oil in their flasks with their lamps.⁵ Since the groom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.



6 “In the middle of the night there was a shout: ‘Here’s the groom! Come out to meet him.’ 7 “Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 But the foolish ones said to the sensible ones, ‘Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are going out.’ 9 “The sensible ones answered, ‘No, there won’t be enough for us and for you. Go instead to those who sell, and buy oil for yourselves.’ 10 “When they had gone to buy some, the groom arrived. Then those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, and the door was shut.



11 “Later the rest of the virgins also came and said, ‘Master, master, open up for us!’

12 “But he replied, ‘I assure you: I do not know you!’

13 “Therefore be alert, because you don’t know either the day or the hour.

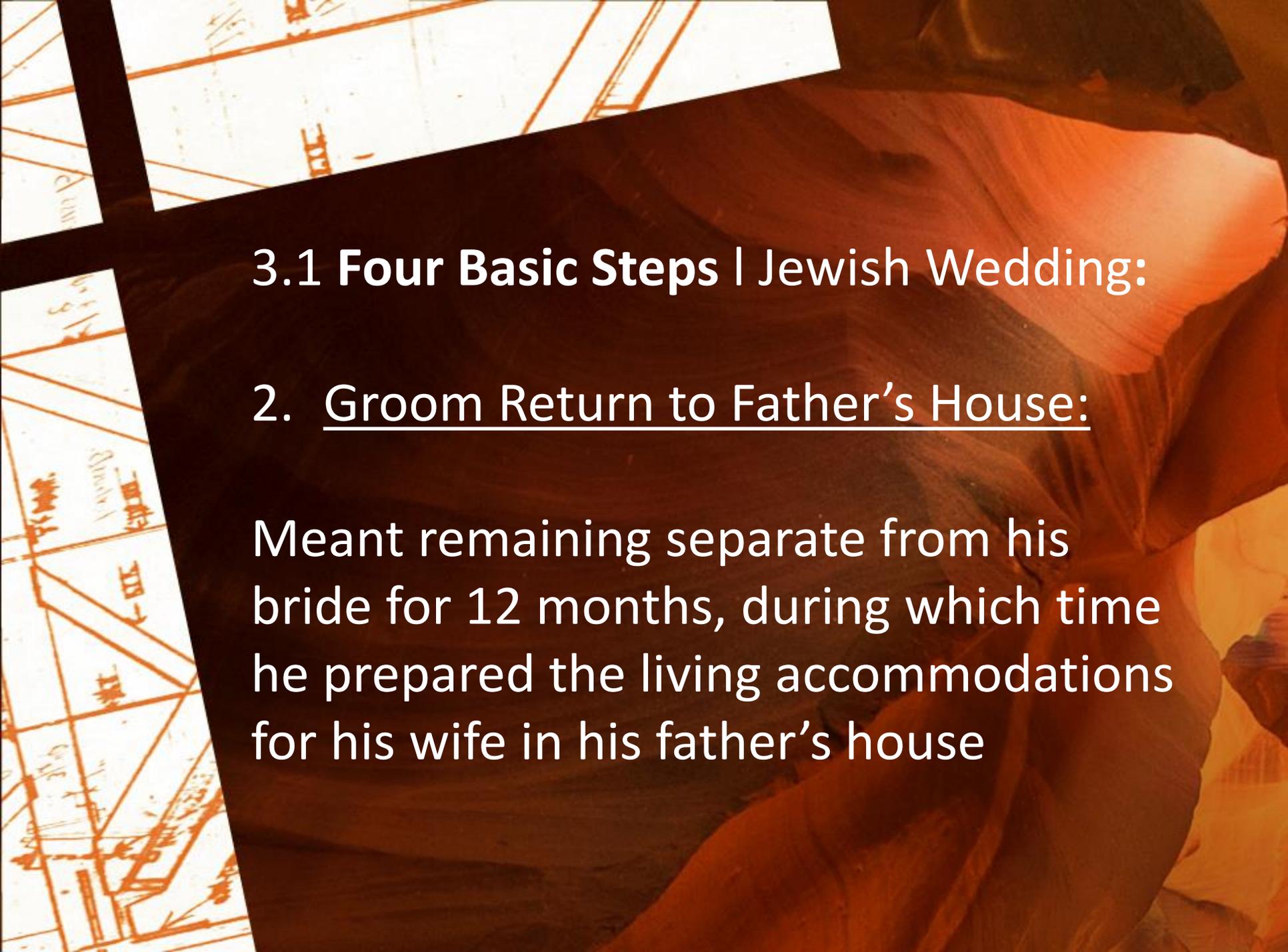
3. Context: Matthew 25

- ✓ Jesus is speaking to His DISCIPLES
- ✓ Jesus is referring to a typical ancient Jewish Wedding
- ✓ What was a Jewish Wedding?

3.1 Four Basic Steps | Jewish Wedding:

1. The Betrothal:

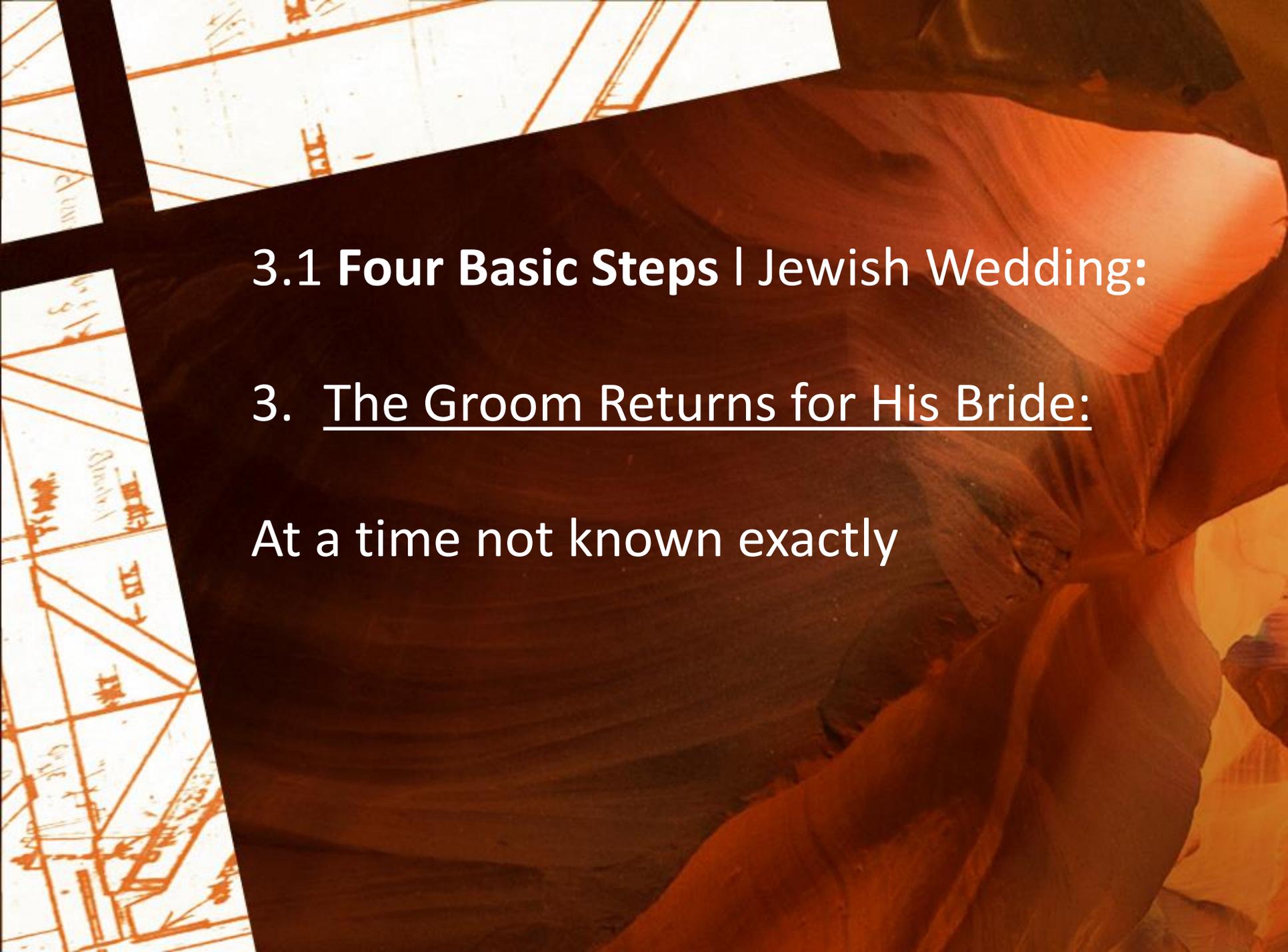
Involved the prospective groom's traveling from his father's house to the home of the prospective bride, paying the purchase price, and thus establishing the marriage covenant



3.1 Four Basic Steps | Jewish Wedding:

2. Groom Return to Father's House:

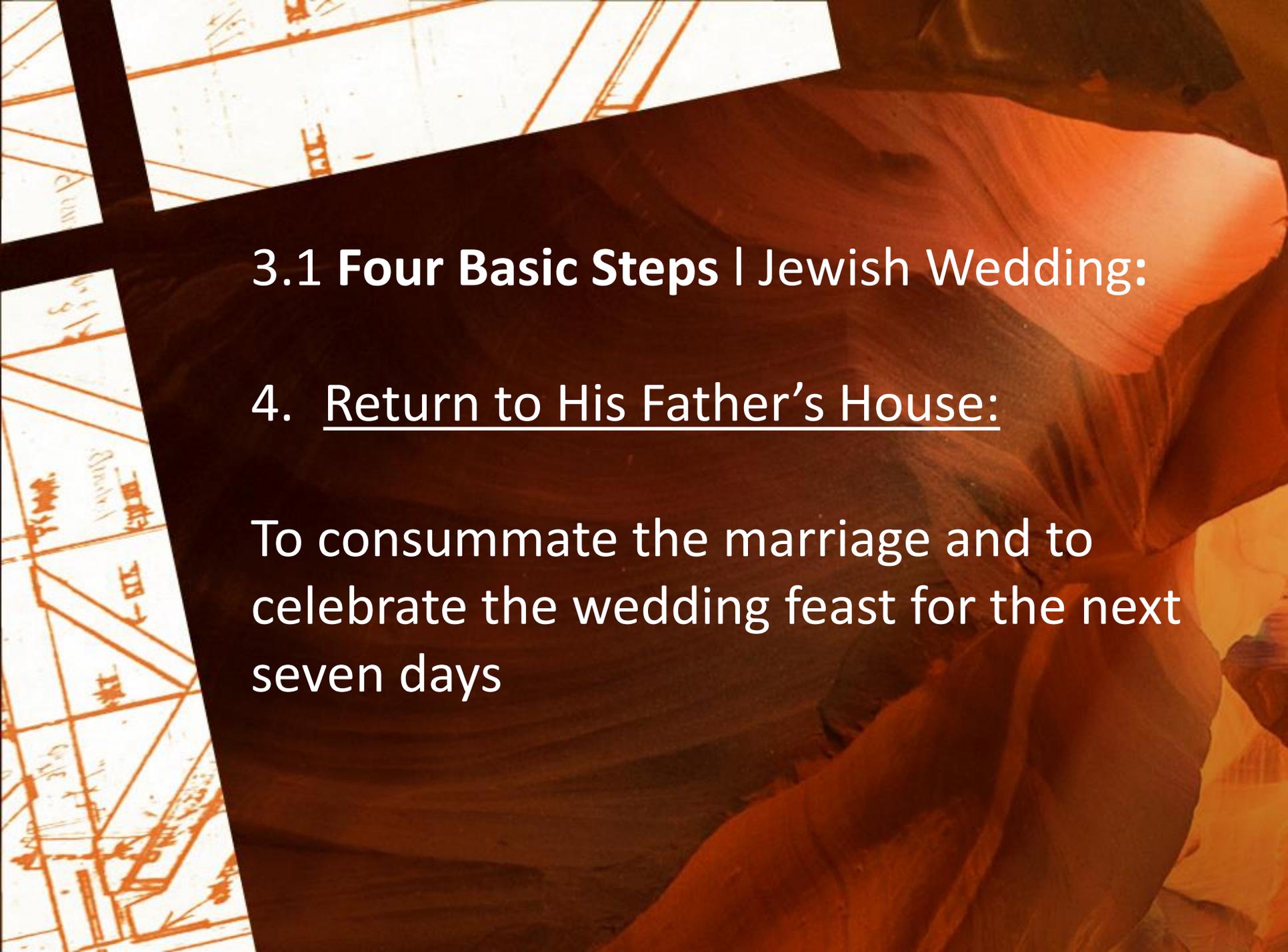
Meant remaining separate from his bride for 12 months, during which time he prepared the living accommodations for his wife in his father's house



3.1 Four Basic Steps | Jewish Wedding:

3. The Groom Returns for His Bride:

At a time not known exactly



3.1 Four Basic Steps | Jewish Wedding:

4. Return to His Father's House:

To consummate the marriage and to celebrate the wedding feast for the next seven days



3.2 Four Steps | Jewish Wedding | PICTURES FOR US:

1. The Betrothal:

The First Coming of Jesus Christ

Purchase Price: JESUS' LIFE

Engagement Covenant: FAITH IN CHRIST

Ring and Gifts: HOLY SPIRIT

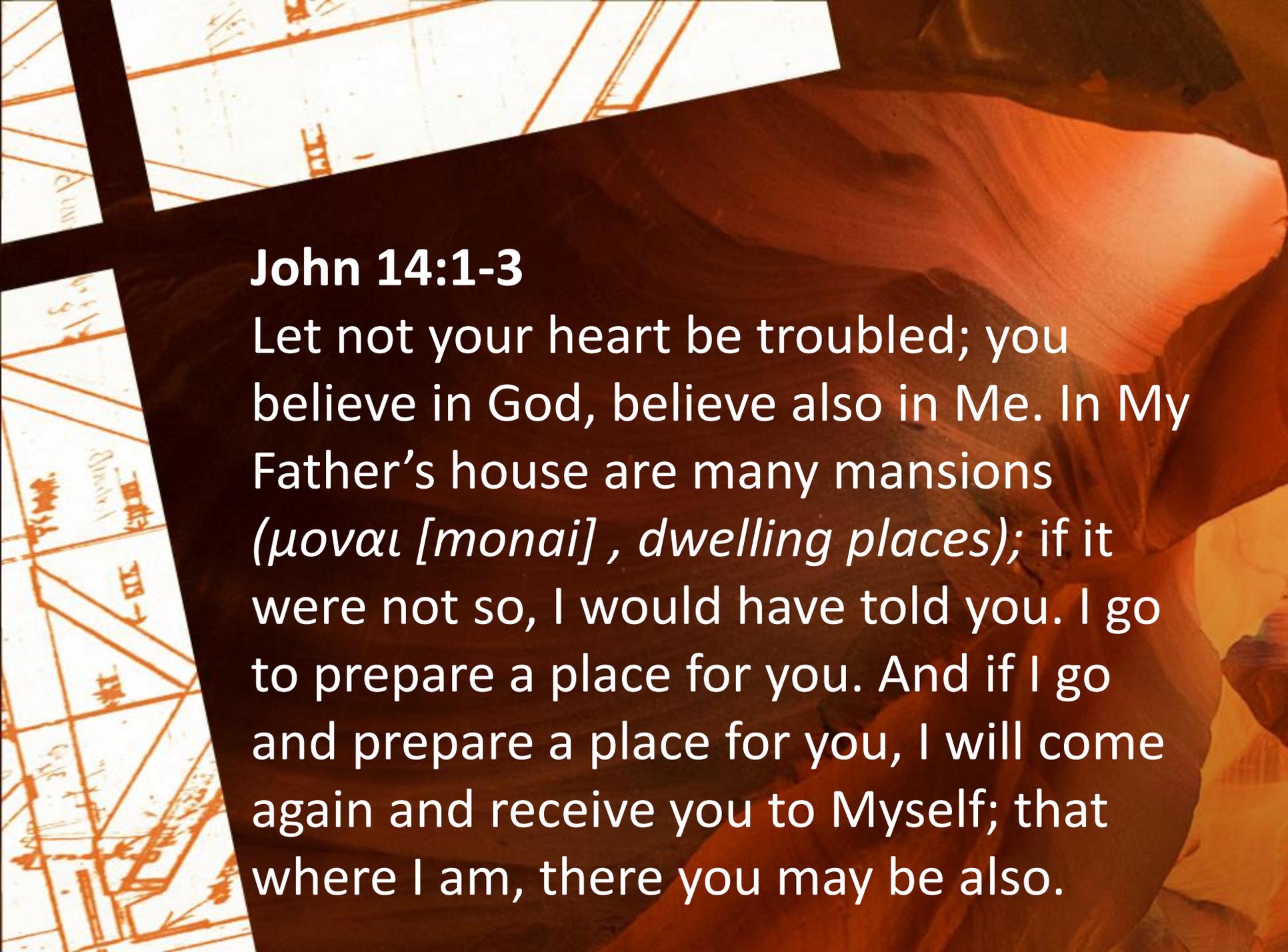


3.2 Four Steps | Jewish Wedding I

PICTURES FOR US:

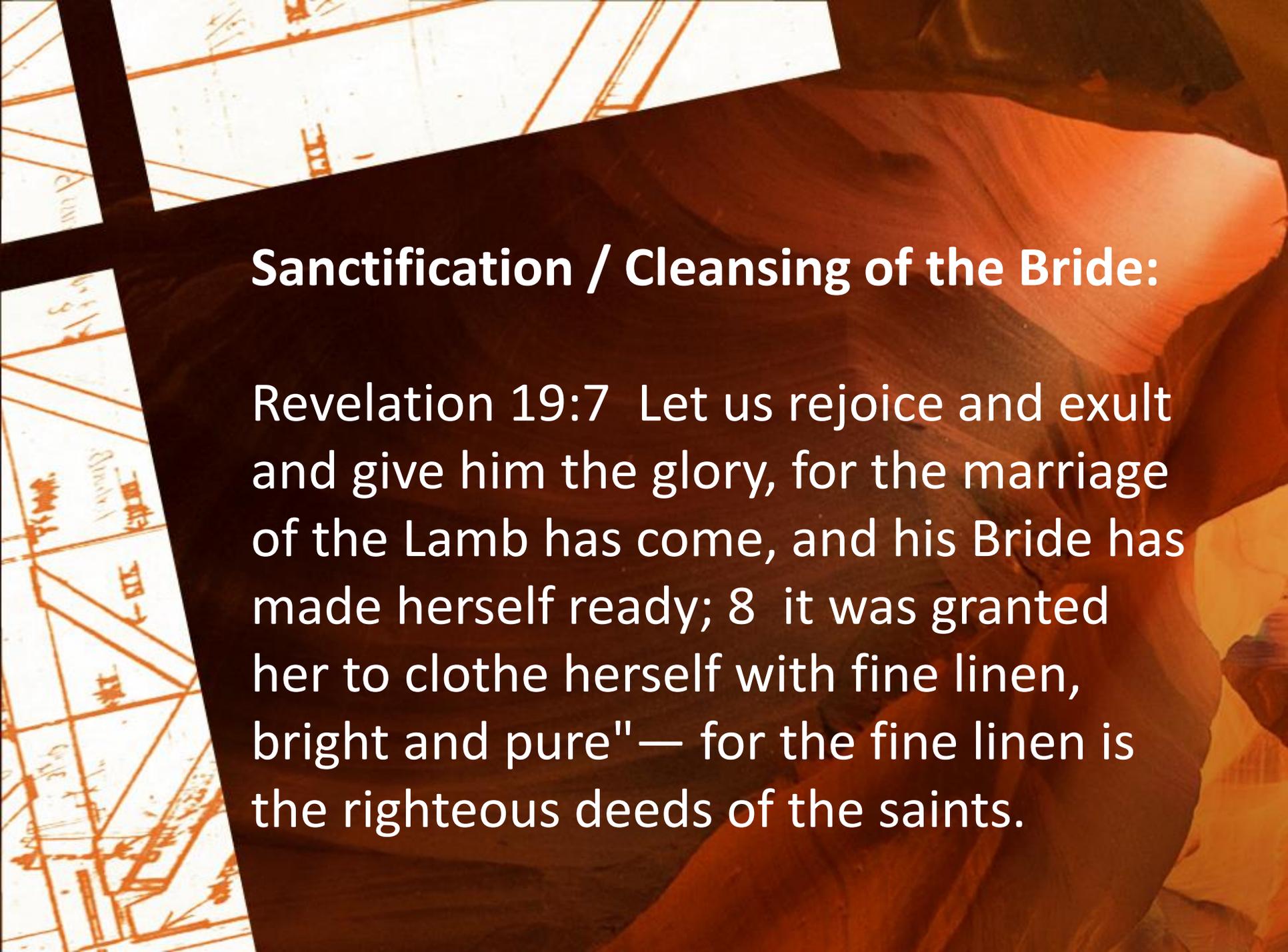
2. Groom Return to Father's House:

Since the ascension of Jesus following His resurrection, He has been at His Father's house preparing the bridal chamber



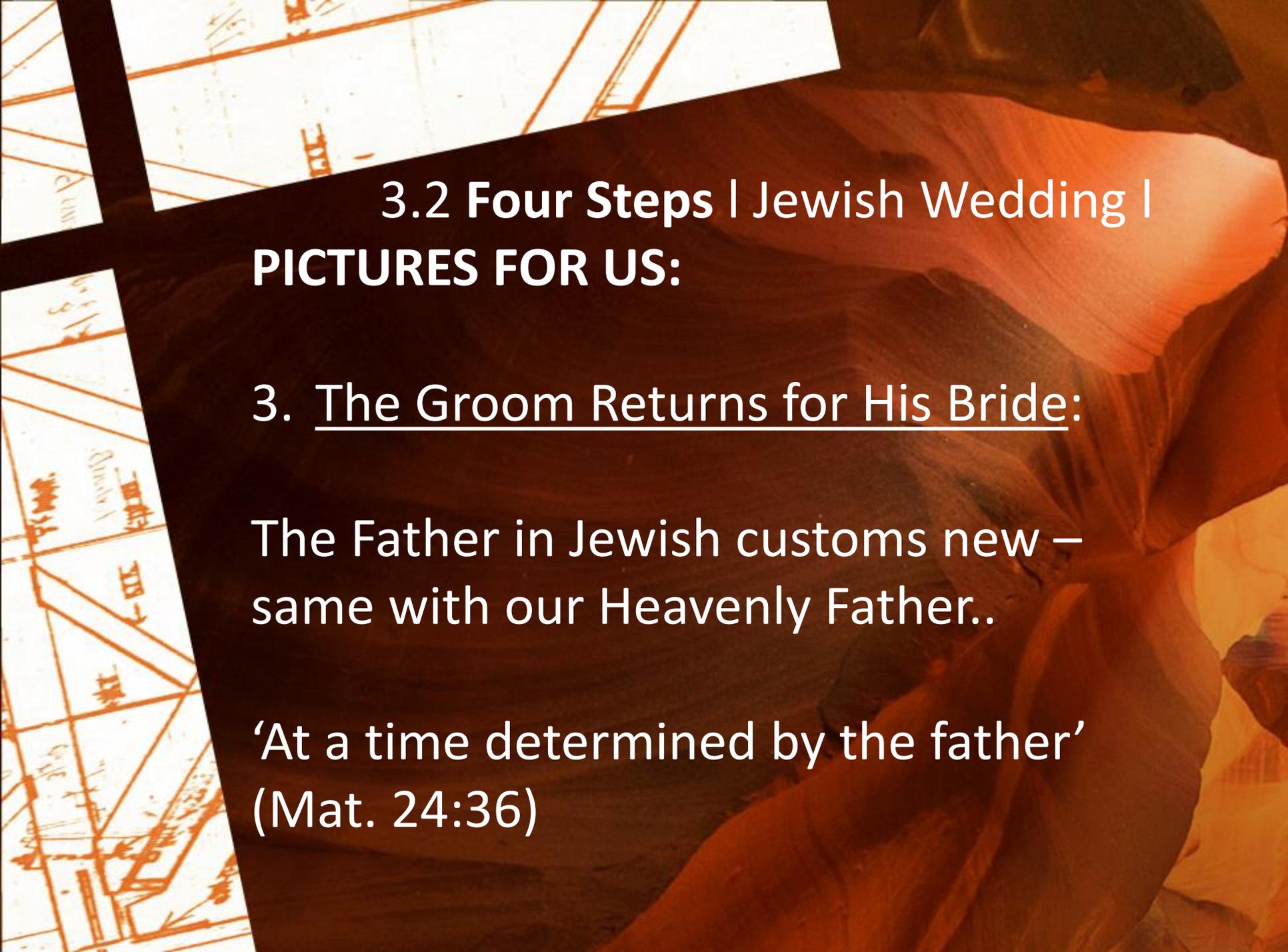
John 14:1-3

Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions (*μοναὶ [monai], dwelling places*); if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.



Sanctification / Cleansing of the Bride:

Revelation 19:7 Let us rejoice and exult and give him the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and his Bride has made herself ready; 8 it was granted her to clothe herself with fine linen, bright and pure" — for the fine linen is the righteous deeds of the saints.



3.2 Four Steps | Jewish Wedding | PICTURES FOR US:

3. The Groom Returns for His Bride:

The Father in Jewish customs new –
same with our Heavenly Father..

‘At a time determined by the father’
(Mat. 24:36)



3.2 Four Steps | Jewish Wedding | PICTURES FOR US:

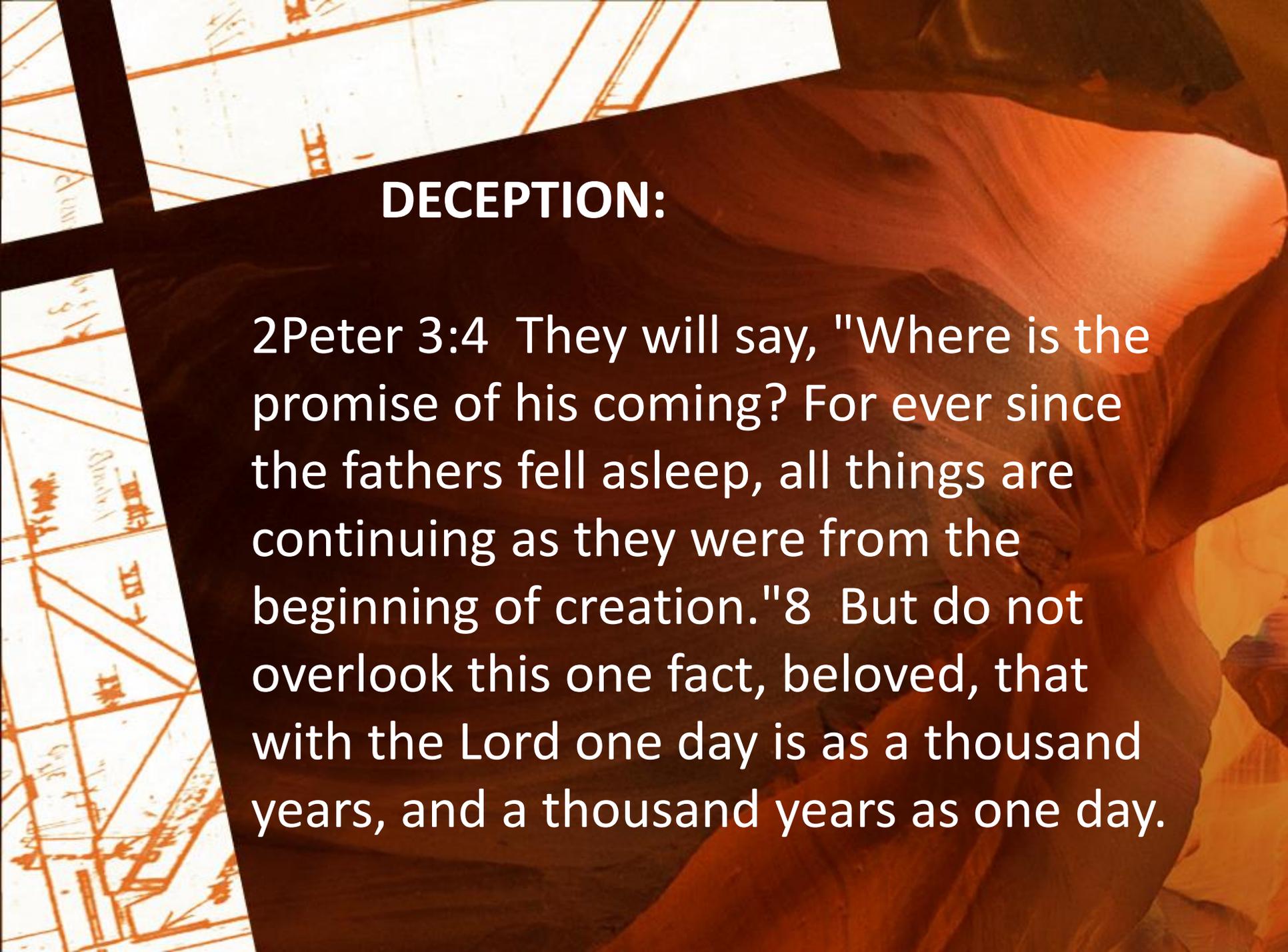
4. Return to His Father's House:

To consummate the marriage and to
celebrate the wedding feast

We, as the bride, will return with Christ

4. WHERE ARE WE?

- ✓ We are in covenant – SAID YES, FAITH IN CHRIST
- ✓ Engaged to Christ
- ✓ Waiting for Him
- ✓ We have our lamps – they need to burn



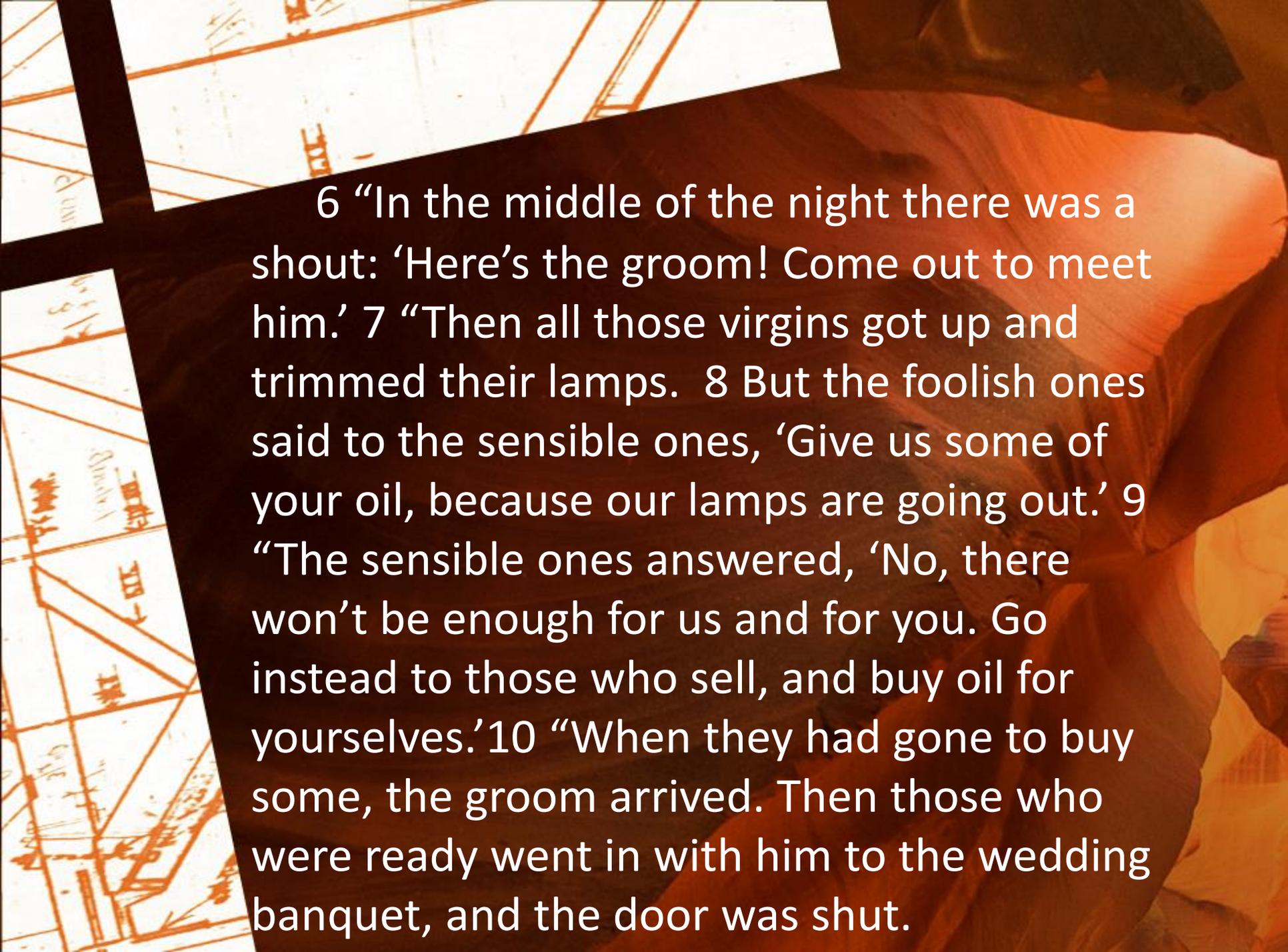
DECEPTION:

2Peter 3:4 They will say, "Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation."⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day.

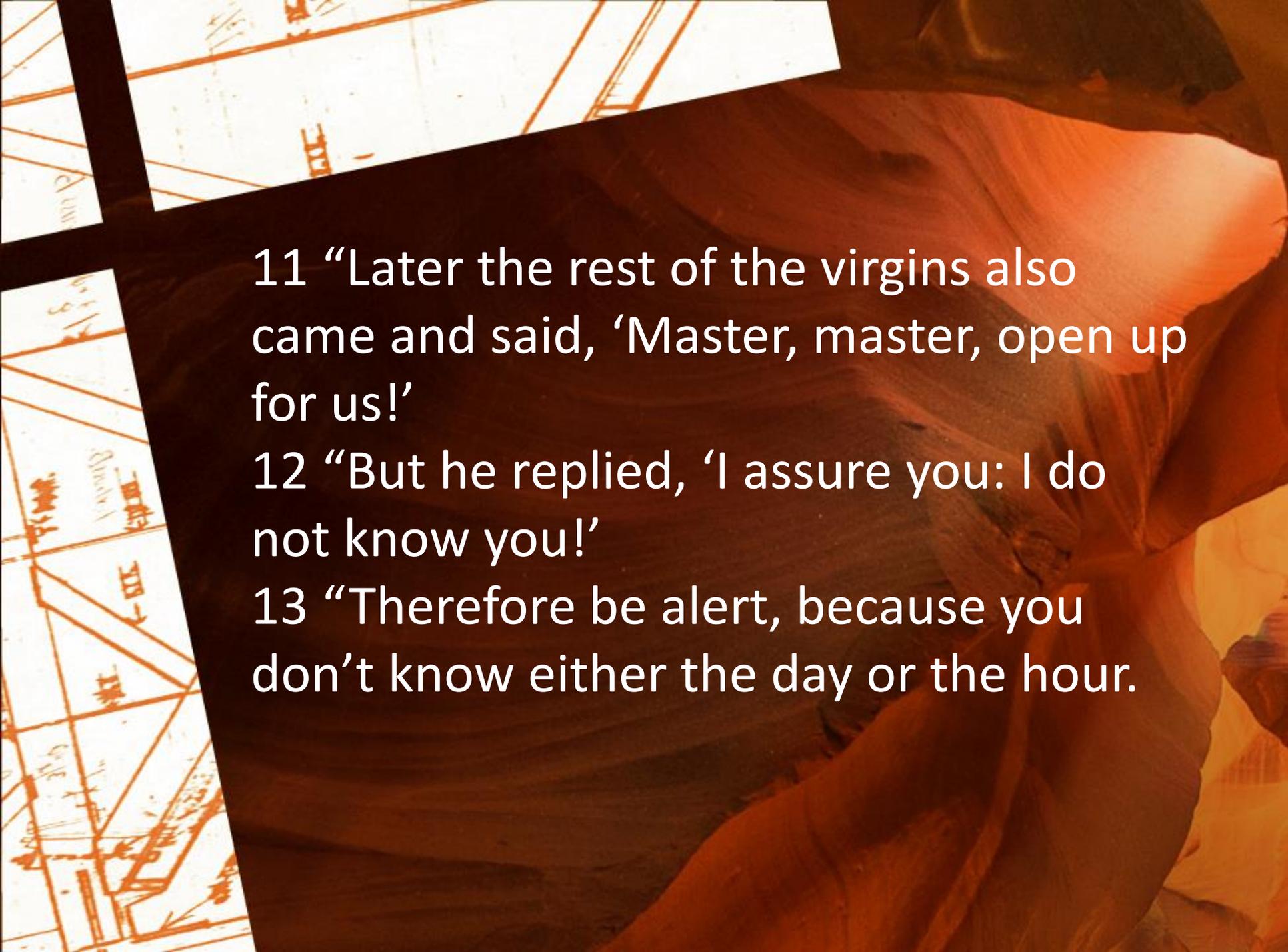
4. Where are we?

Matthew 25 (HCSB)

1“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like 10 virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom.2 Five of them were foolish and five were sensible.3 When the foolish took their lamps, they didn’t take olive oil with them. 4 But the sensible ones took oil in their flasks with their lamps.5 Since the groom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.



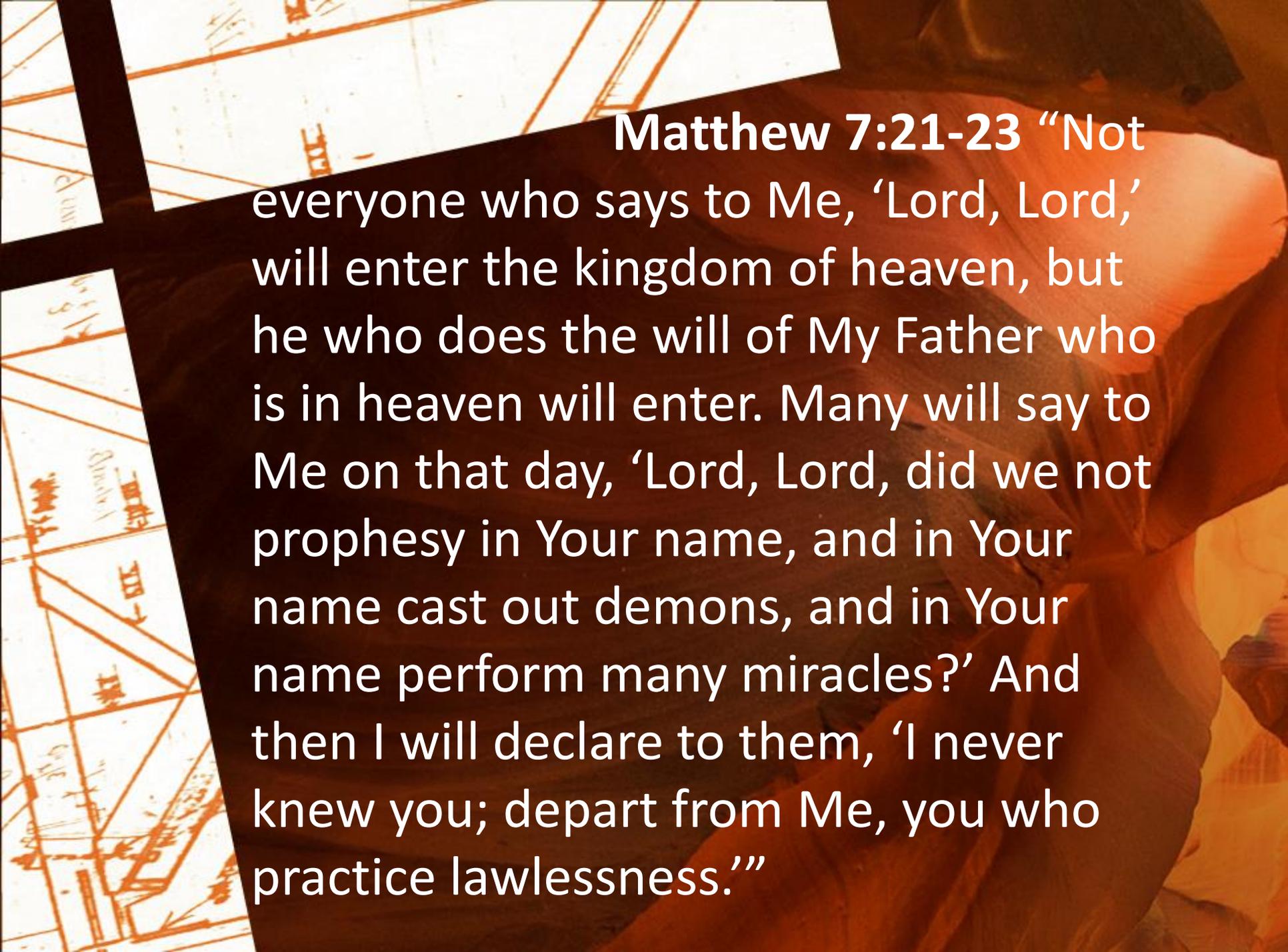
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12 “But he replied, ‘I assure you: I do not know you!’

13 “Therefore be alert, because you don’t know either the day or the hour.



Matthew 7:21-23 “Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven will enter. Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from Me, you who practice lawlessness.’”

...OUR OLIVE OIL



The image features a central, glowing oil lamp with a bright flame, set against a dark, textured background. To the left, there are several sheets of technical drawings or blueprints, tilted and partially visible, showing various lines and text. The overall lighting is warm and focused on the lamp, creating a sense of quiet contemplation or prayer.

THE MIDNIGHT OIL

LET'S PRAY