



WELCOME

19 September 2021



Hearing God's voice

Derk Jan van der Veen



An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, mountainous landscape. The river is filled with white rapids and foam as it cascades over large, grey boulders and smaller rocks. The surrounding cliffs are steep and covered with patches of green vegetation. The overall scene is dynamic and scenic.

Acts 5: 1 – 42 (NKJV)

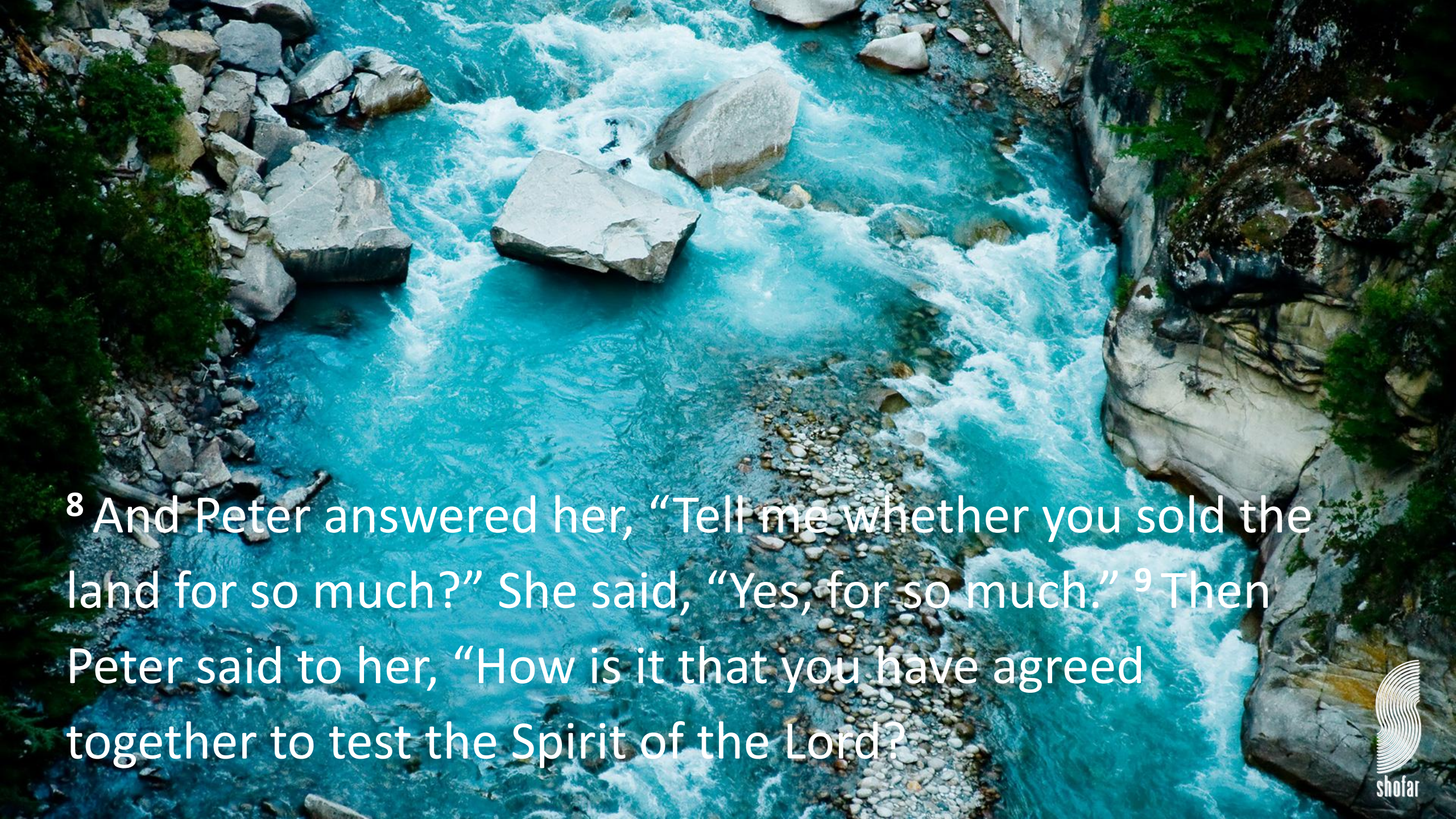
¹ But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession. ² And he kept back part of the proceeds, his wife also being aware of it, and brought a certain part and laid it at the apostles' feet.

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, mountainous landscape. The river is characterized by white, frothy rapids and is surrounded by steep, rocky cliffs. Large, light-colored boulders are scattered throughout the riverbed and along the banks. The water's color is a striking, milky blue, suggesting glacial meltwater. The surrounding terrain is covered in patches of green vegetation and moss, particularly on the left bank.

³ But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and keep back part of the price of the land for yourself?”

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, mountainous landscape. The river is characterized by white, frothy rapids and is surrounded by dark, rocky terrain with patches of green vegetation. Large, light-colored boulders are scattered throughout the riverbed, creating a sense of movement and power. The overall scene is one of natural beauty and raw energy.

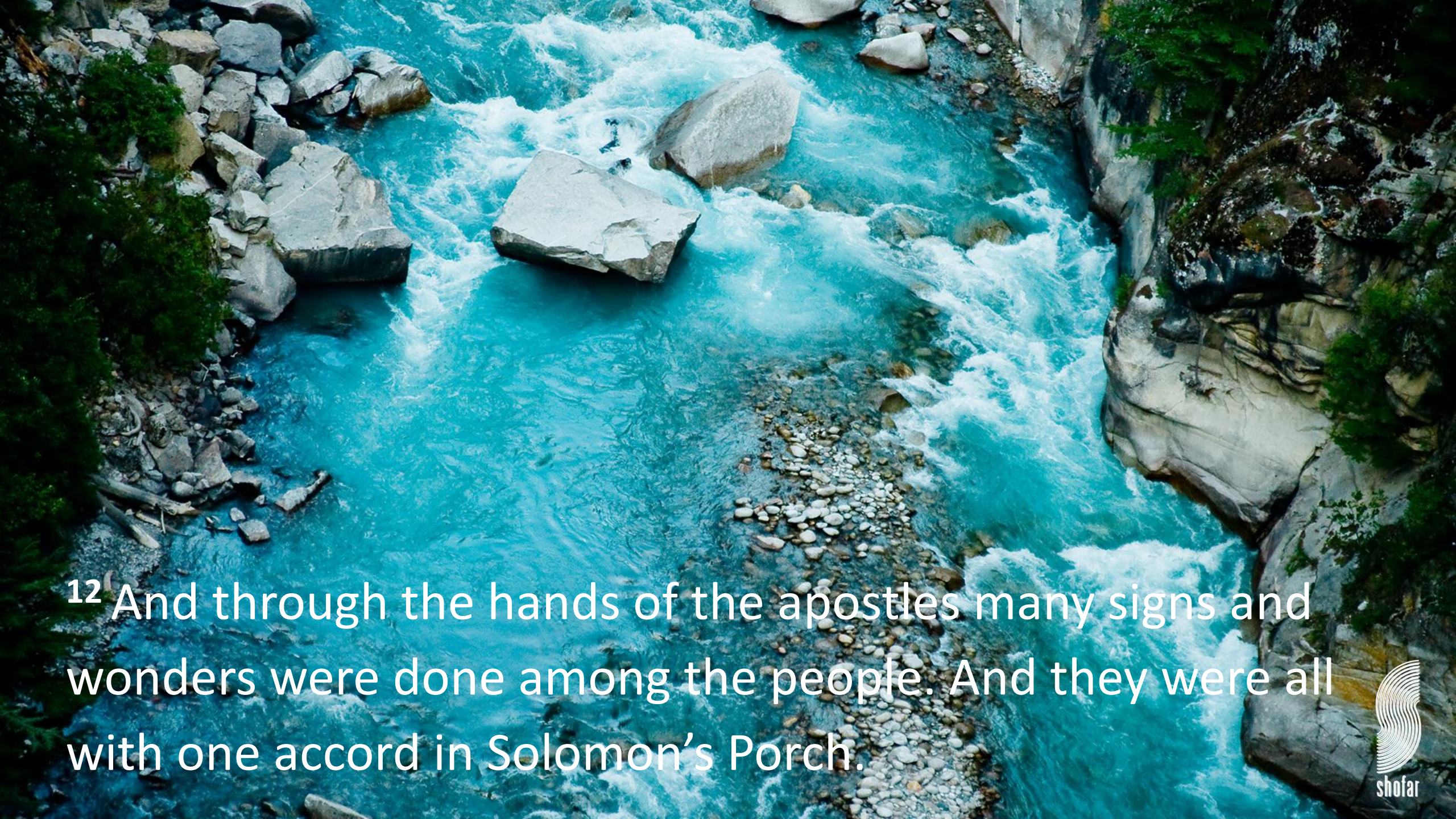
⁴ While it remained, was it not your own? And after it was sold, was it not in your own control? Why have you conceived this thing in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God.”



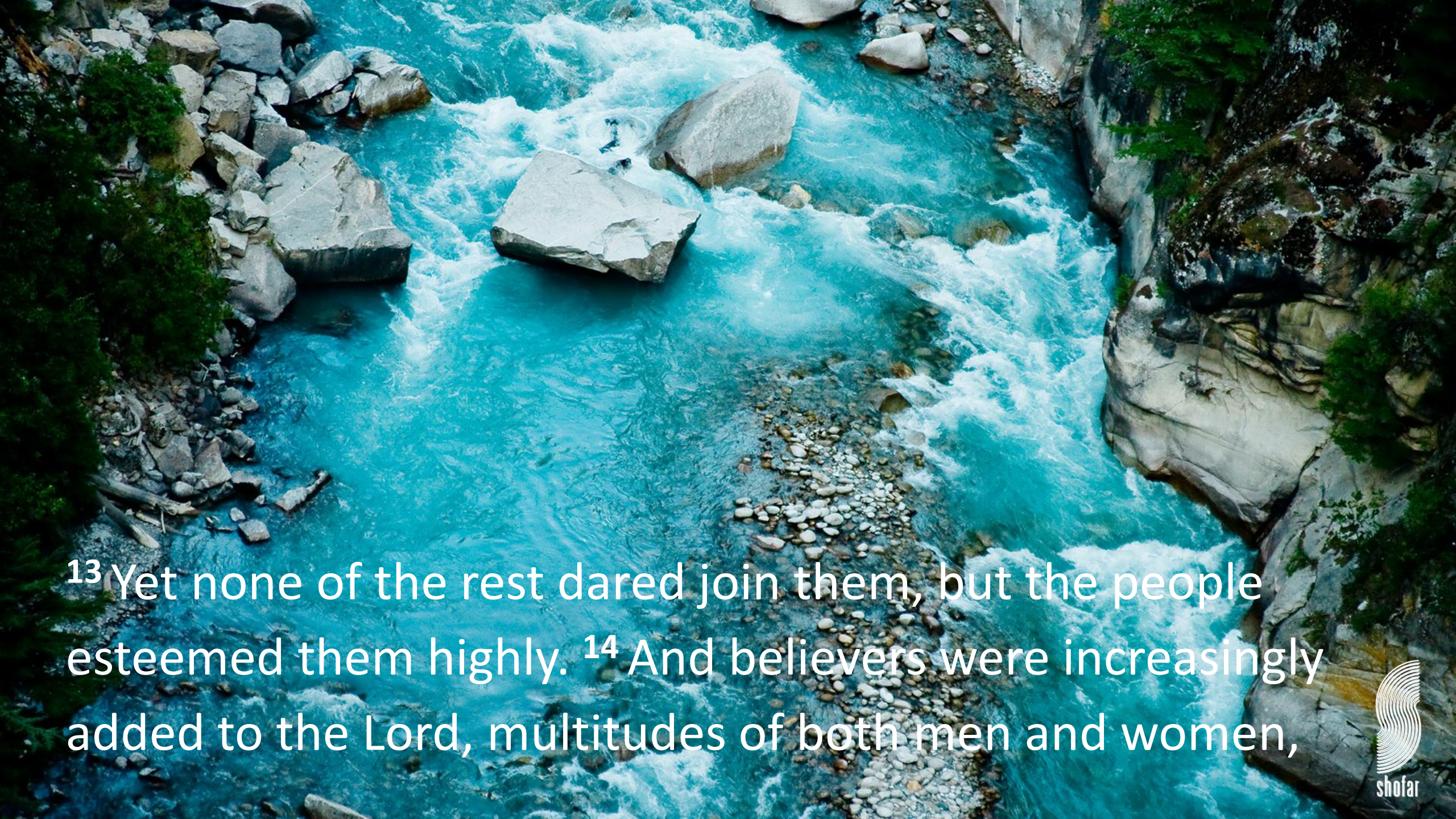
⁸ And Peter answered her, “Tell me whether you sold the land for so much?” She said, “Yes, for so much.” ⁹ Then Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord?”




¹¹ So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things.



¹² And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch.



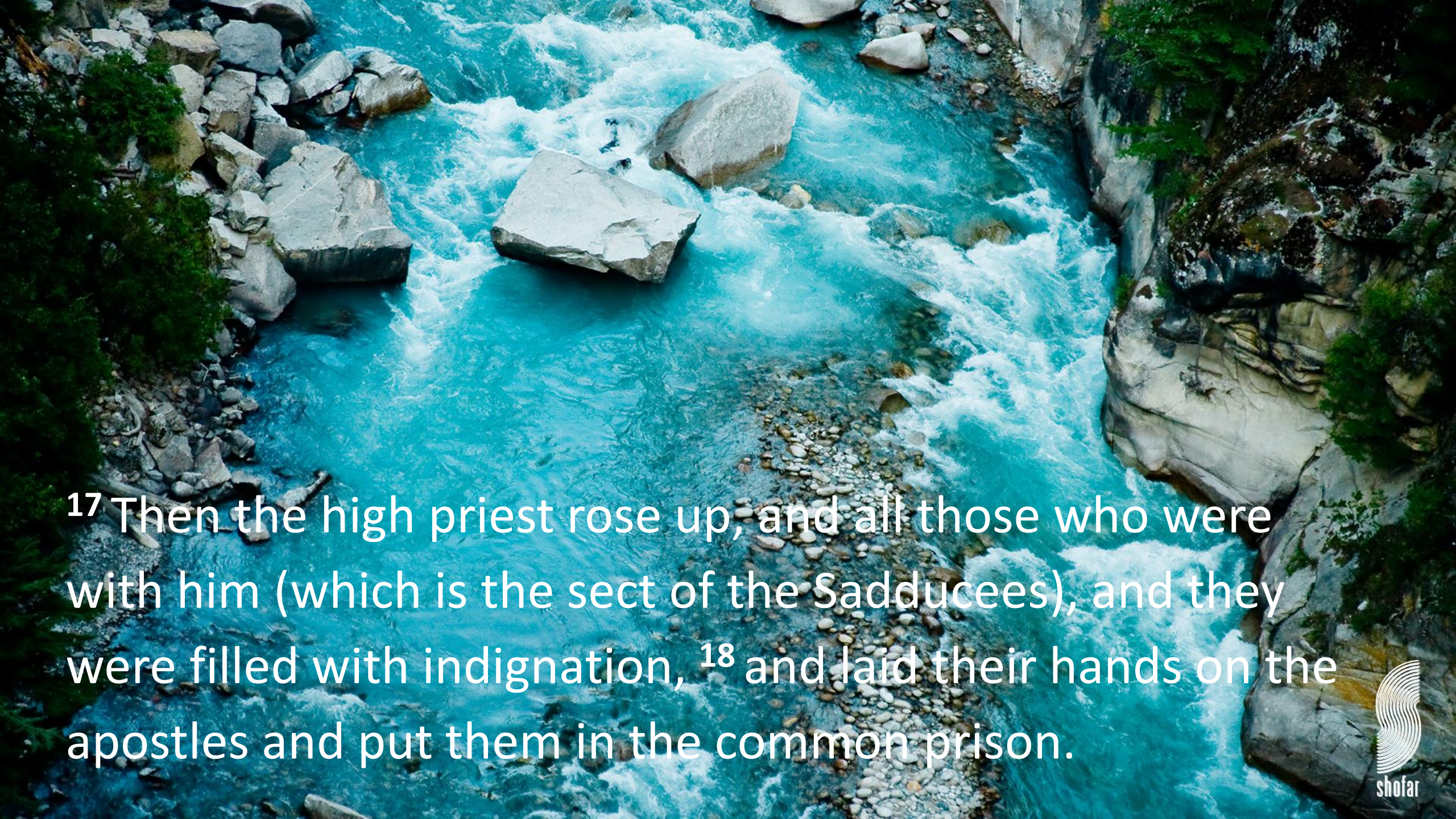
¹³ Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly. ¹⁴ And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,



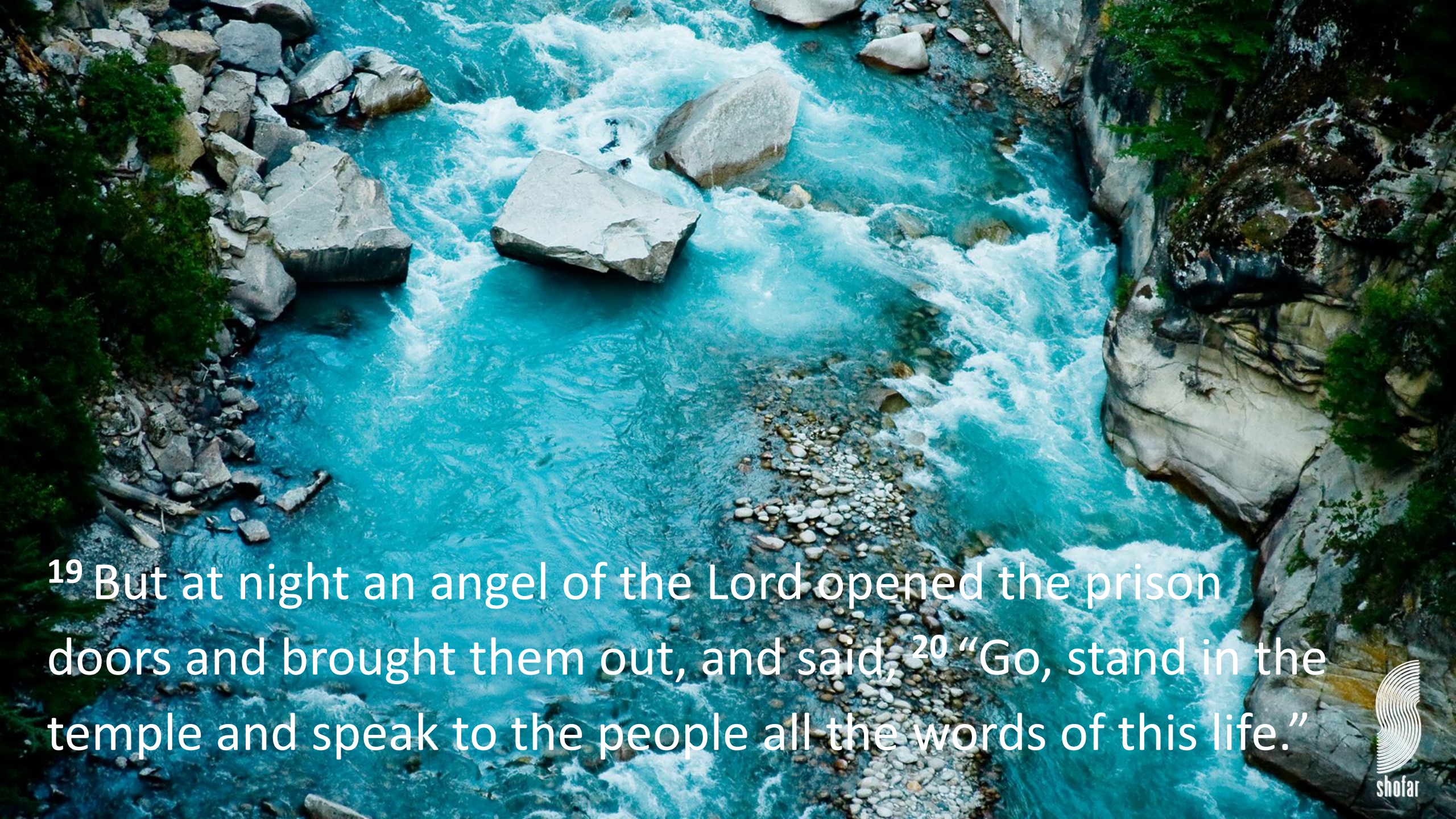
¹⁵ so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.



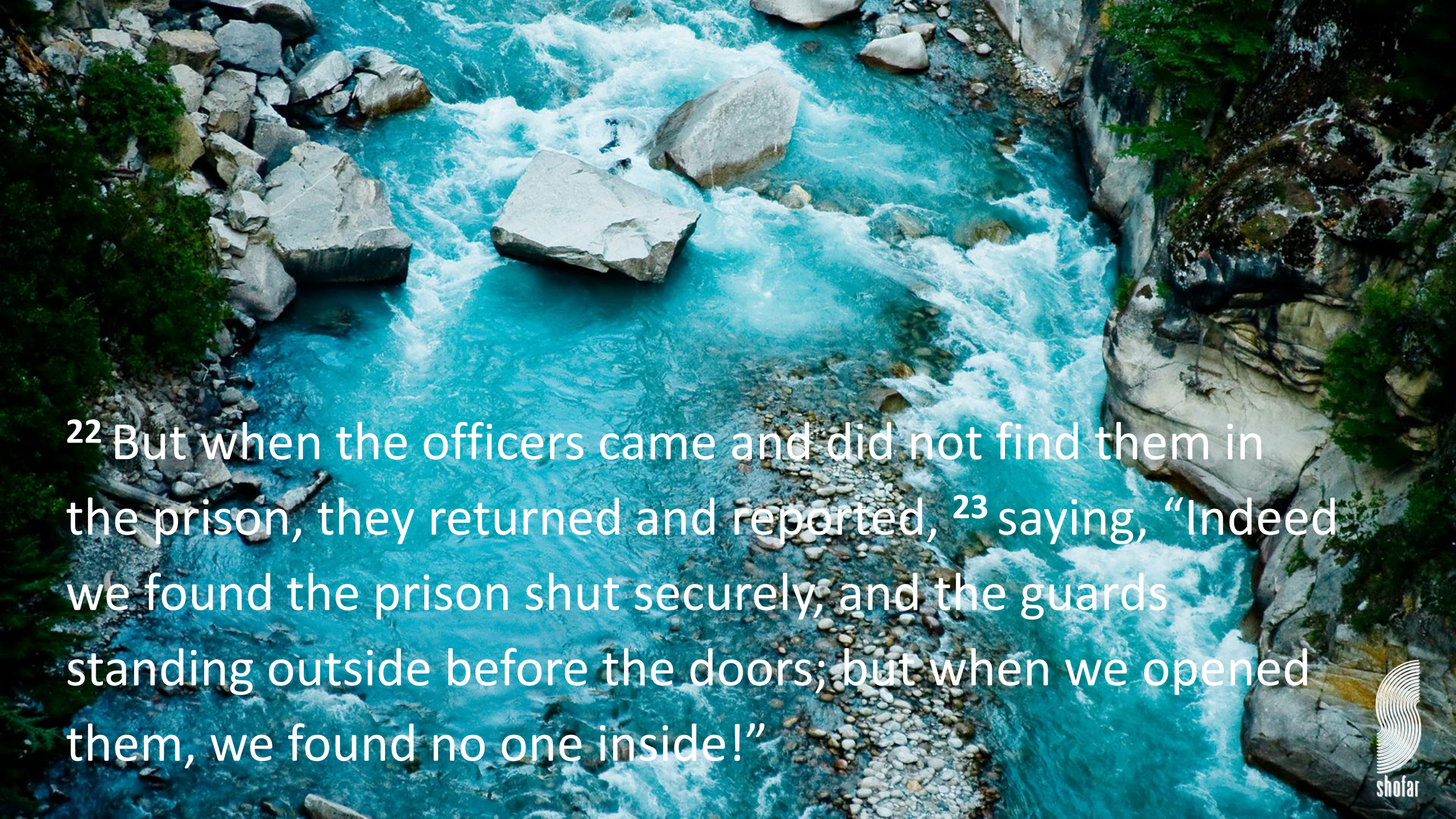
¹⁶ Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.



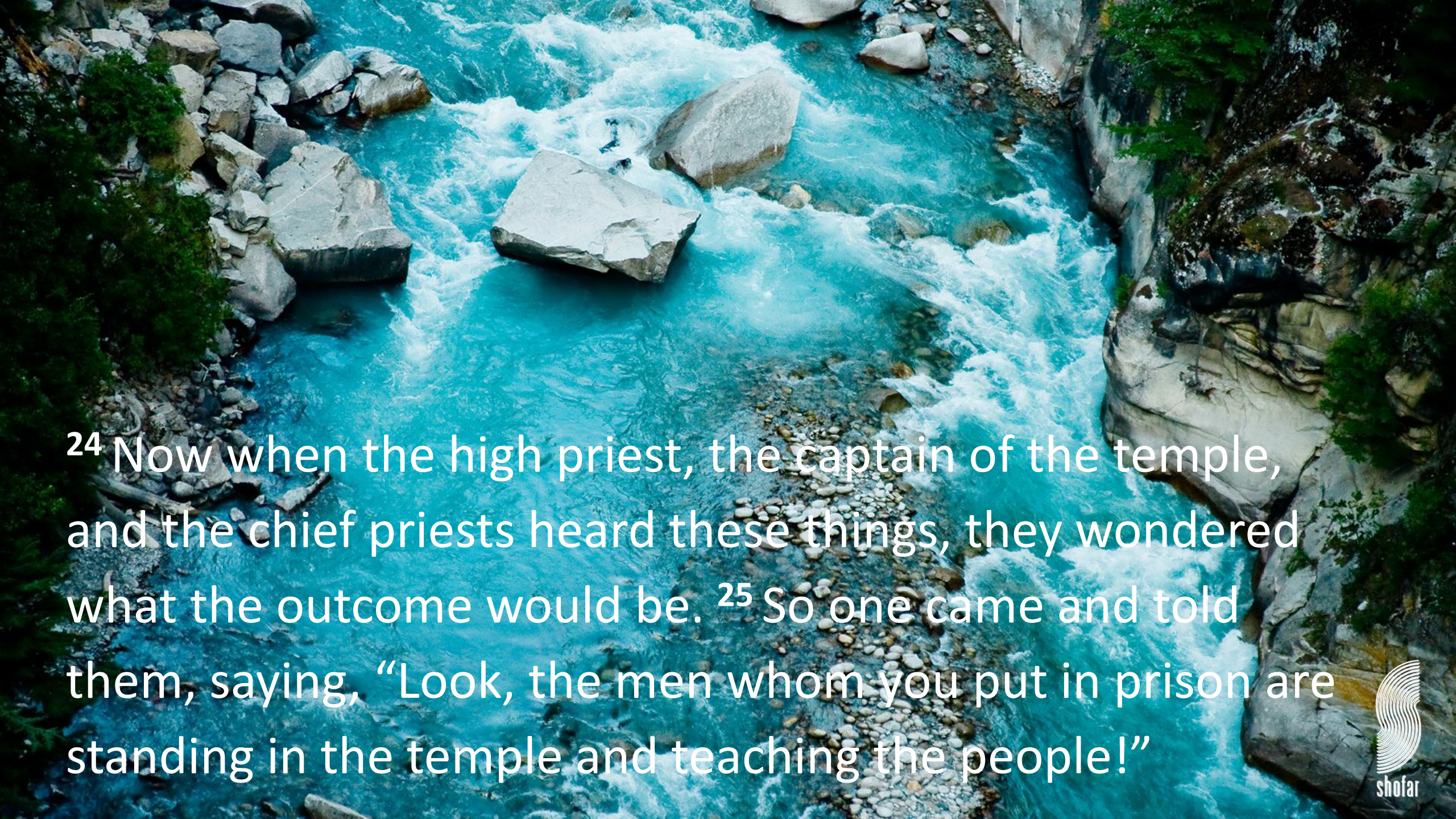
¹⁷ Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation, ¹⁸ and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison.



¹⁹ But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰ “Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life.”



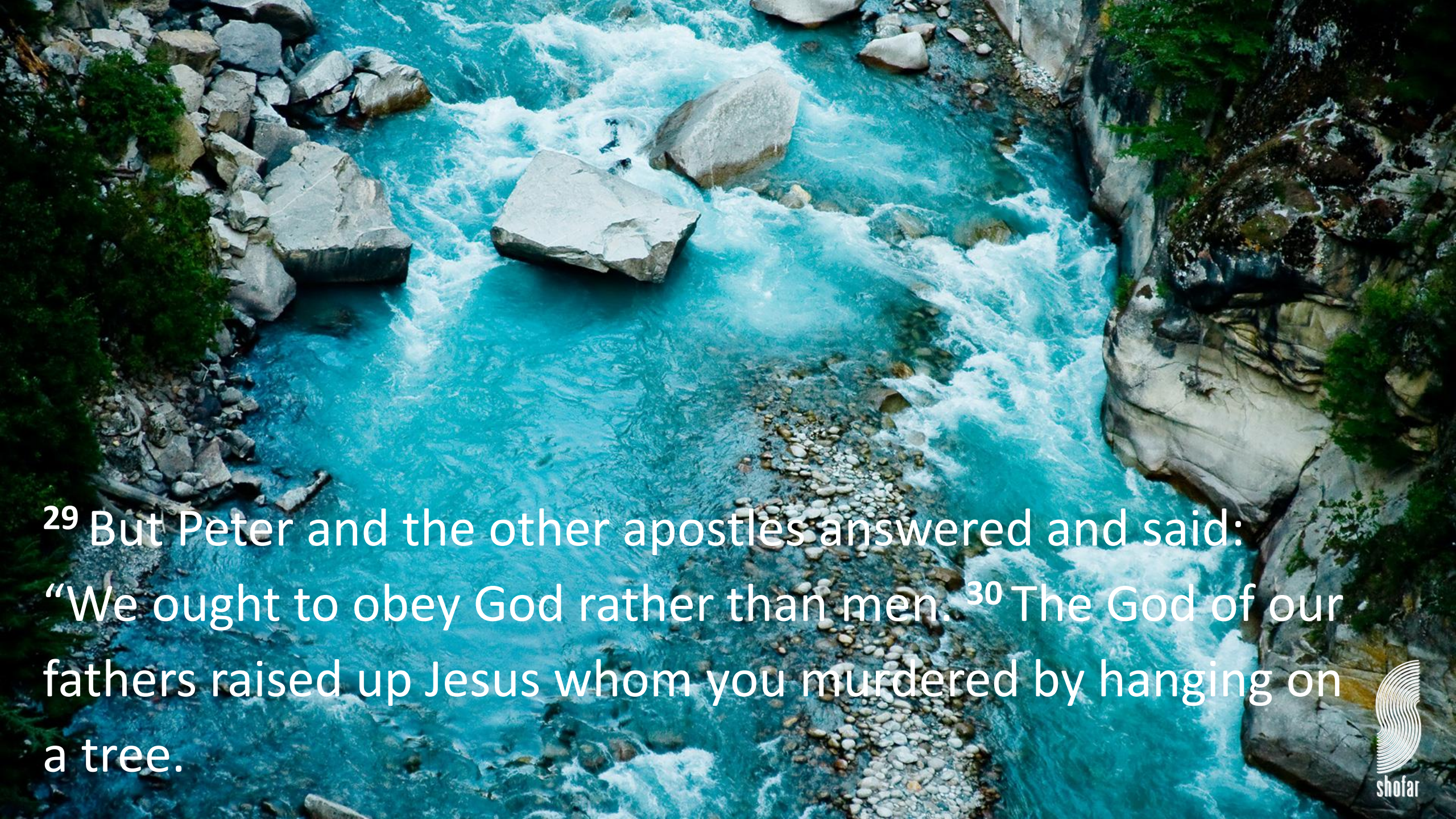
²² But when the officers came and did not find them in the prison, they returned and reported, ²³ saying, “Indeed we found the prison shut securely, and the guards standing outside before the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside!”



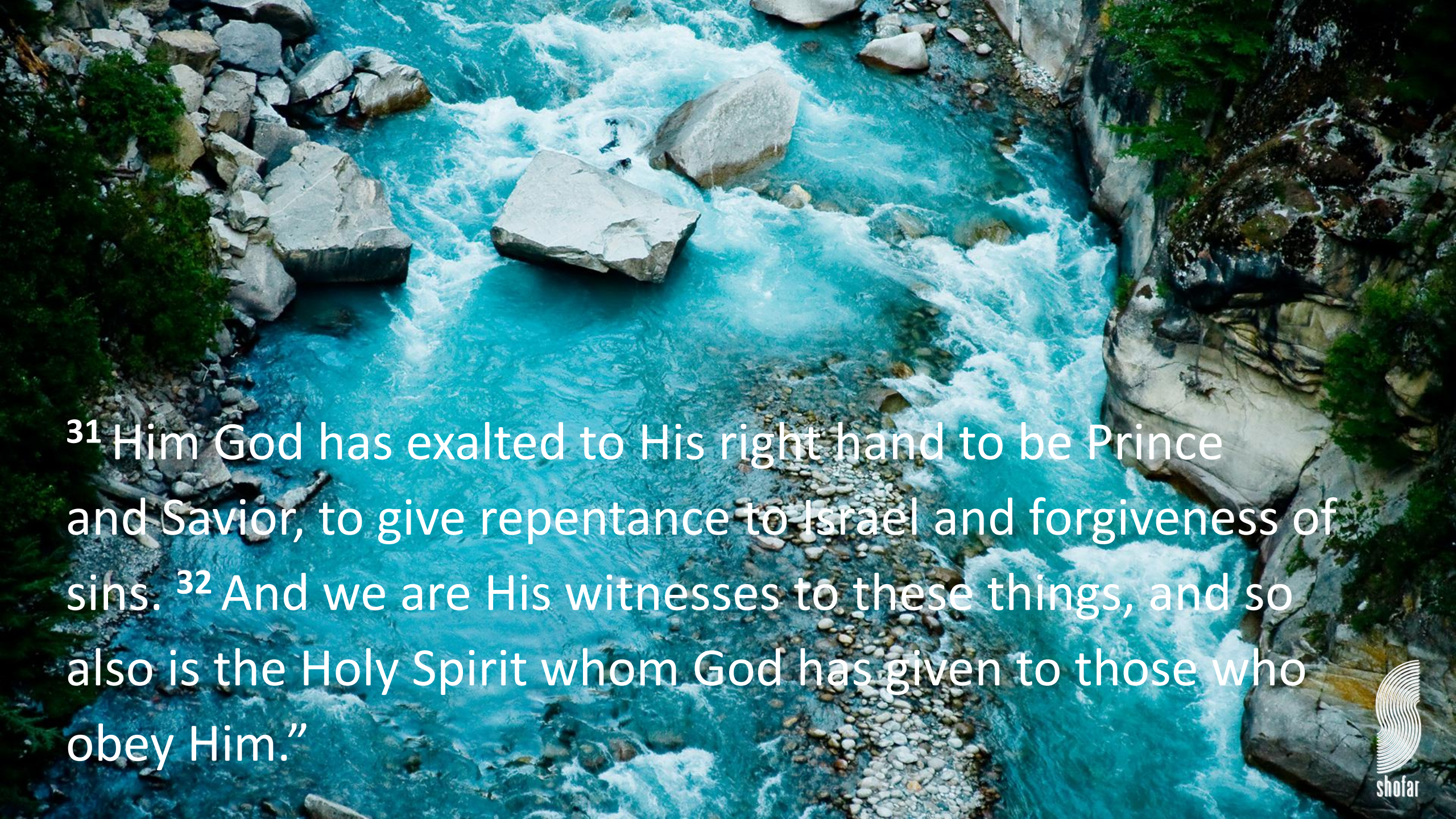
²⁴ Now when the high priest, the captain of the temple, and the chief priests heard these things, they wondered what the outcome would be. ²⁵ So one came and told them, saying, “Look, the men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people!”

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, mountainous landscape. The river is characterized by white, frothy rapids and is surrounded by dark, rocky terrain with patches of green vegetation. Large, light-colored boulders are scattered throughout the riverbed and along the banks. The overall scene conveys a sense of wild, natural beauty.

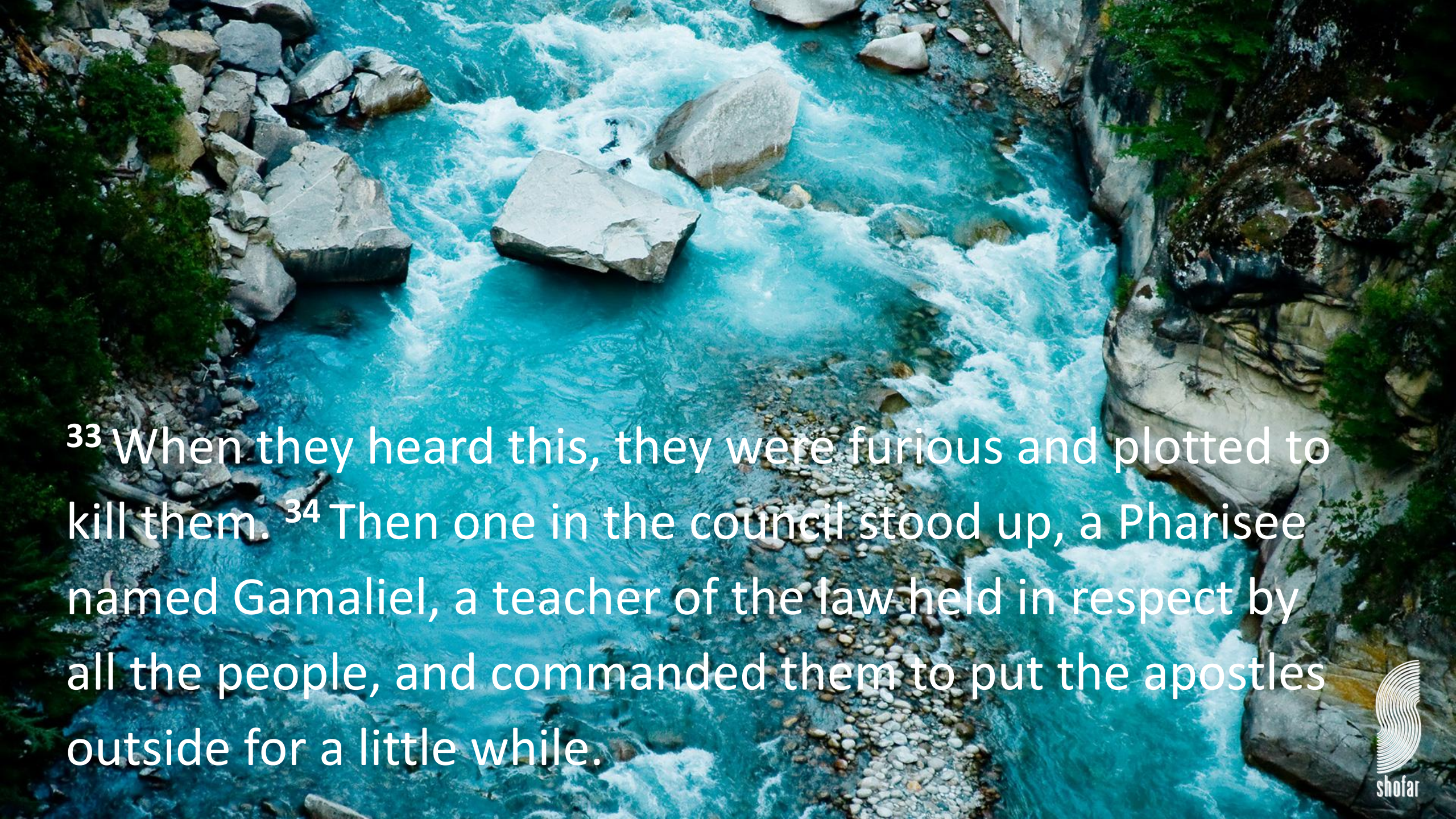
²⁸ saying, “Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man’s blood on us!”

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, mountainous landscape. The river is characterized by white, frothy rapids and is surrounded by dark, rocky terrain with patches of green vegetation. Large, light-colored boulders are scattered throughout the riverbed, creating a sense of movement and turbulence in the water. The overall scene conveys a sense of wild, natural beauty.

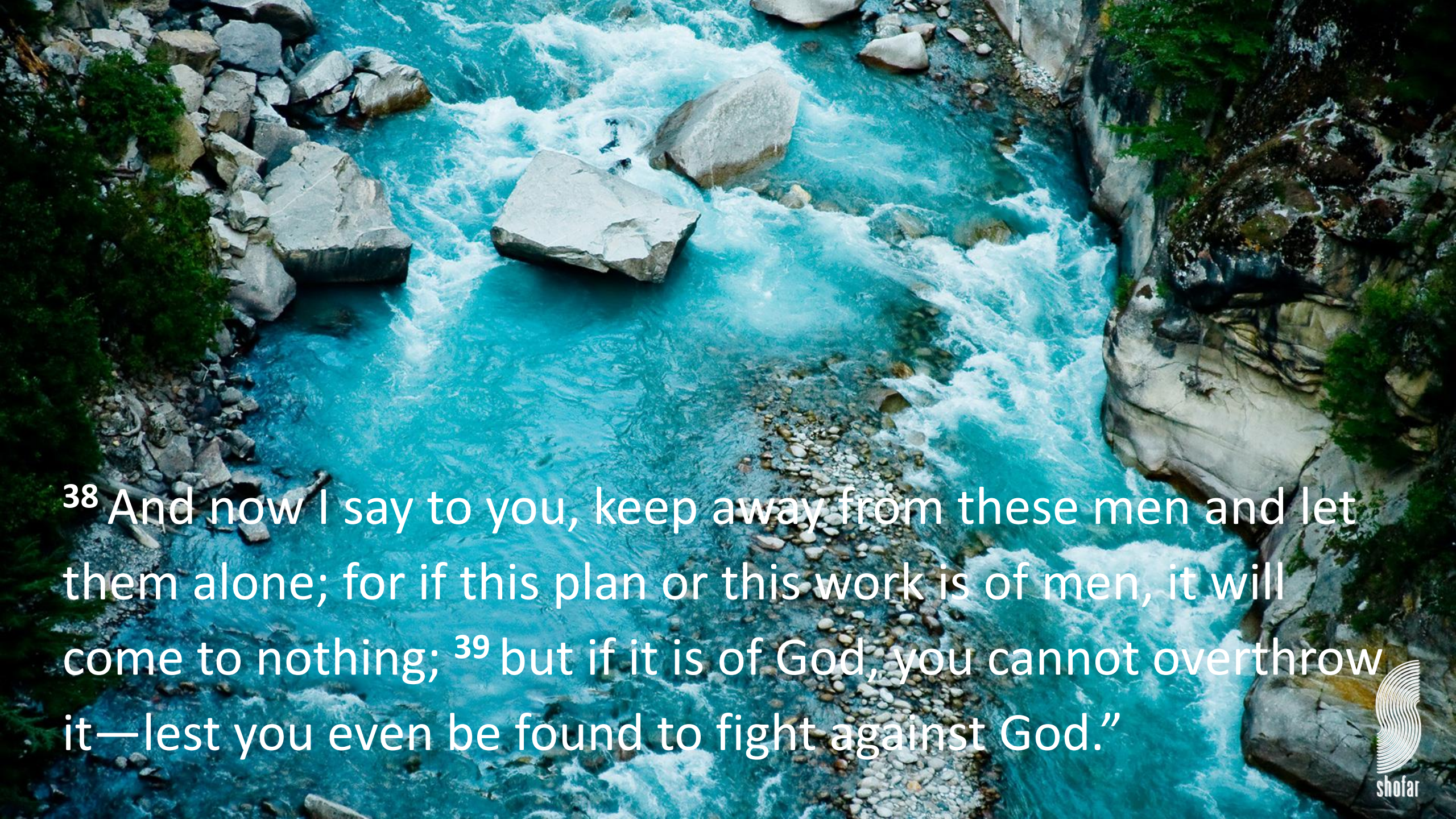
²⁹ But Peter and the other apostles answered and said:
“We ought to obey God rather than men. ³⁰ The God of our
fathers raised up Jesus whom you murdered by hanging on
a tree.

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, mountainous landscape. The river is characterized by numerous white-water rapids and cascades as it tumbles over large, grey, angular rocks. The surrounding terrain is steep and covered with patches of green vegetation, including moss and small trees. The overall scene conveys a sense of natural power and beauty.

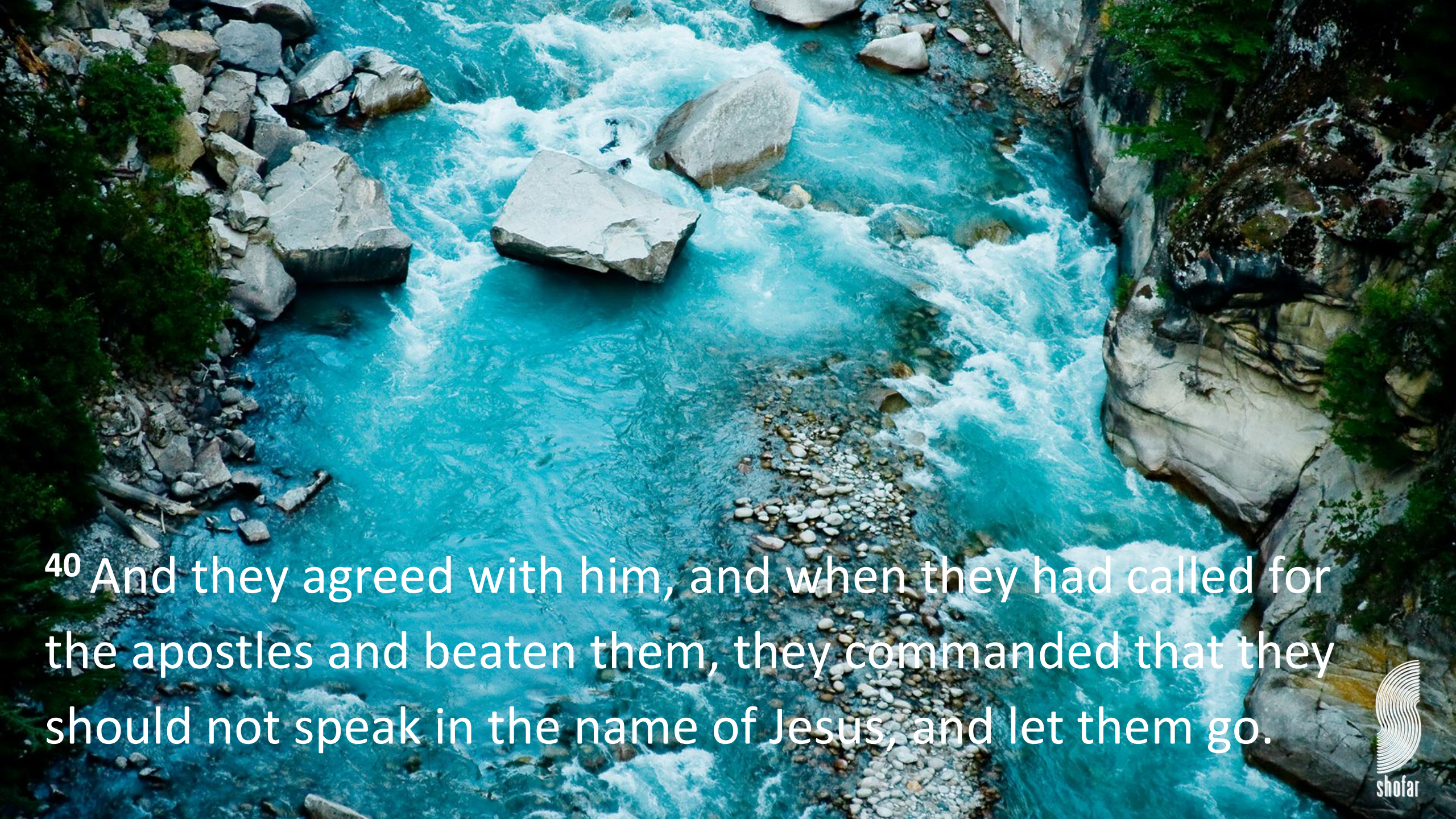
³¹ Him God has exalted to His right hand to be Prince and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are His witnesses to these things, and so also is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him.”



³³ When they heard this, they were furious and plotted to kill them. ³⁴ Then one in the council stood up, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in respect by all the people, and commanded them to put the apostles outside for a little while.

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, mountainous landscape. The river is characterized by white, frothy rapids as it cascades over large, grey, angular rocks. The surrounding terrain is steep and covered with patches of green vegetation and more rocks. The overall scene conveys a sense of wild, untamed nature.

³⁸ And now I say to you, keep away from these men and let them alone; for if this plan or this work is of men, it will come to nothing; ³⁹ but if it is of God, you cannot overthrow it—lest you even be found to fight against God.”



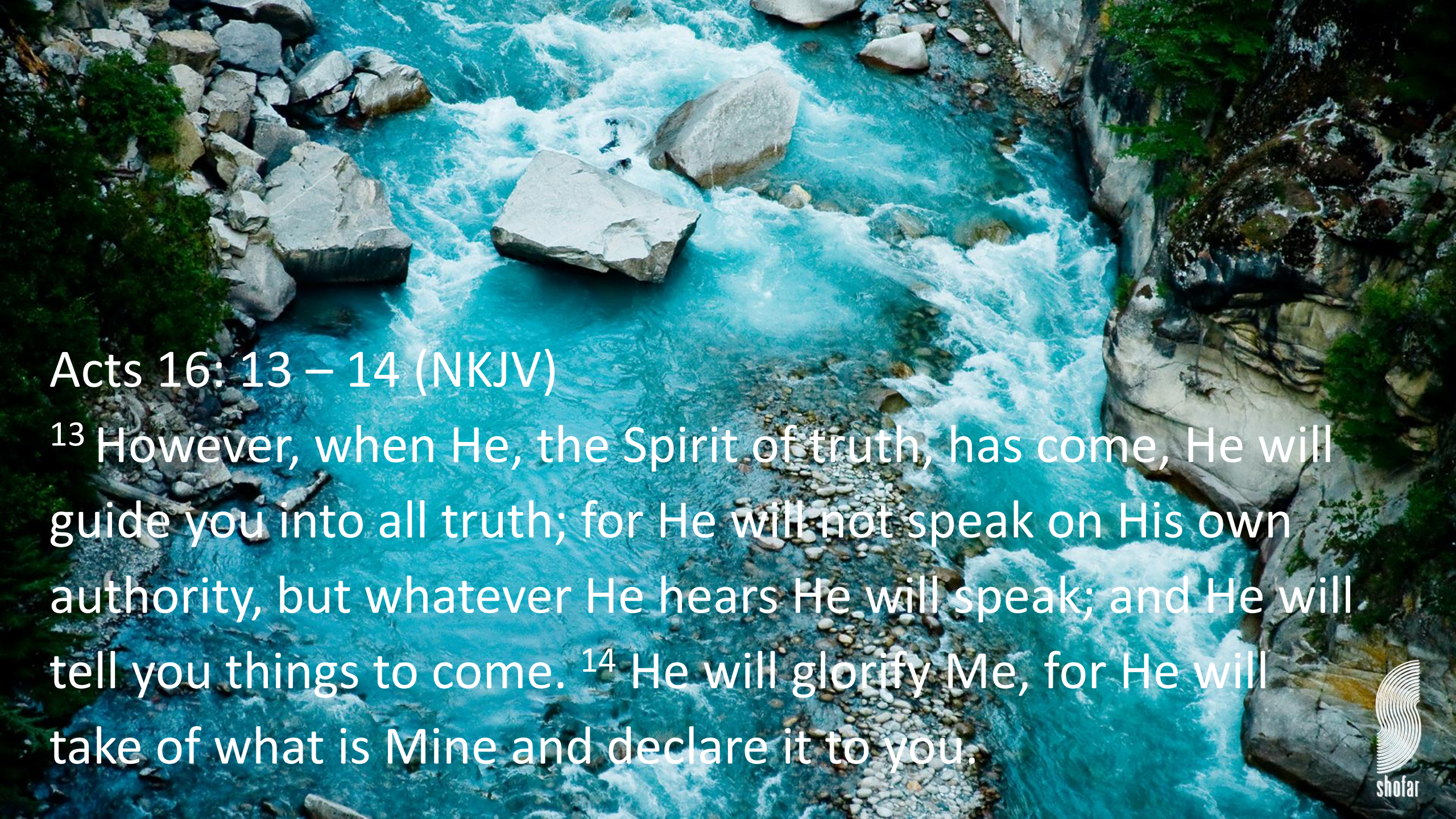
⁴⁰ And they agreed with him, and when they had called for the apostles and beaten them, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.



⁴¹ So they departed from the presence of the council,
rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame
for His name.



⁴² And daily in the temple, and in every house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.



Acts 16: 13 – 14 (NKJV)

¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. ¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, rocky canyon. The water is turbulent, creating white foam as it cascades over large, grey boulders. The surrounding cliffs are steep and covered in patches of green moss and small trees. The overall scene is dynamic and powerful, symbolizing the flow of life or the challenges of a journey.

Some examples of blockers:

- Distraction. Our attention is not focussed on the right thing.
- Competing voice. Make room to spend time with God.
- An unprepared heart. Heart filled with fear and anxiety.
- A heart that isn't neutral. More focussed on something which we think we need.
- Deliberate disobedience. Sin hardens your heart.




How to hear God through prayer:

- Schedule time with Him – morning, evening; 5 min or an hour. Start!
- Seek God diligently – consistently show up for our God appointments.



How to hear God through prayer (continued):

- Come reverently – God will not come into an atmosphere where He is not treated as Holy.
- Seek God confidently – God is more passionate about being with you than you are to Him.

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rugged, rocky canyon. The water is turbulent, creating white rapids and foam as it cascades over large, light-colored boulders. The surrounding cliffs are steep and covered in patches of green vegetation. The overall scene is dynamic and visually striking.

Pray and ask God to give you a word, a Bible verse or a picture for someone in the church today and shared it with this person. Remember you are a postman.



MINISTRY

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river cascading over grey and white rocks. The water is turbulent, creating white foam as it flows. A large, semi-transparent light blue circle is centered over the river, serving as a background for the text.

JOIN US FOR

coffee

An aerial photograph of a vibrant turquoise river flowing through a rocky landscape. The water is turbulent, creating white rapids as it cascades over numerous grey and brown rocks. The surrounding terrain is rugged, with patches of green vegetation visible on the banks. A large, semi-transparent light blue circle is centered over the river, serving as a background for the text.

**SEE YOU
NEXT TIME!**