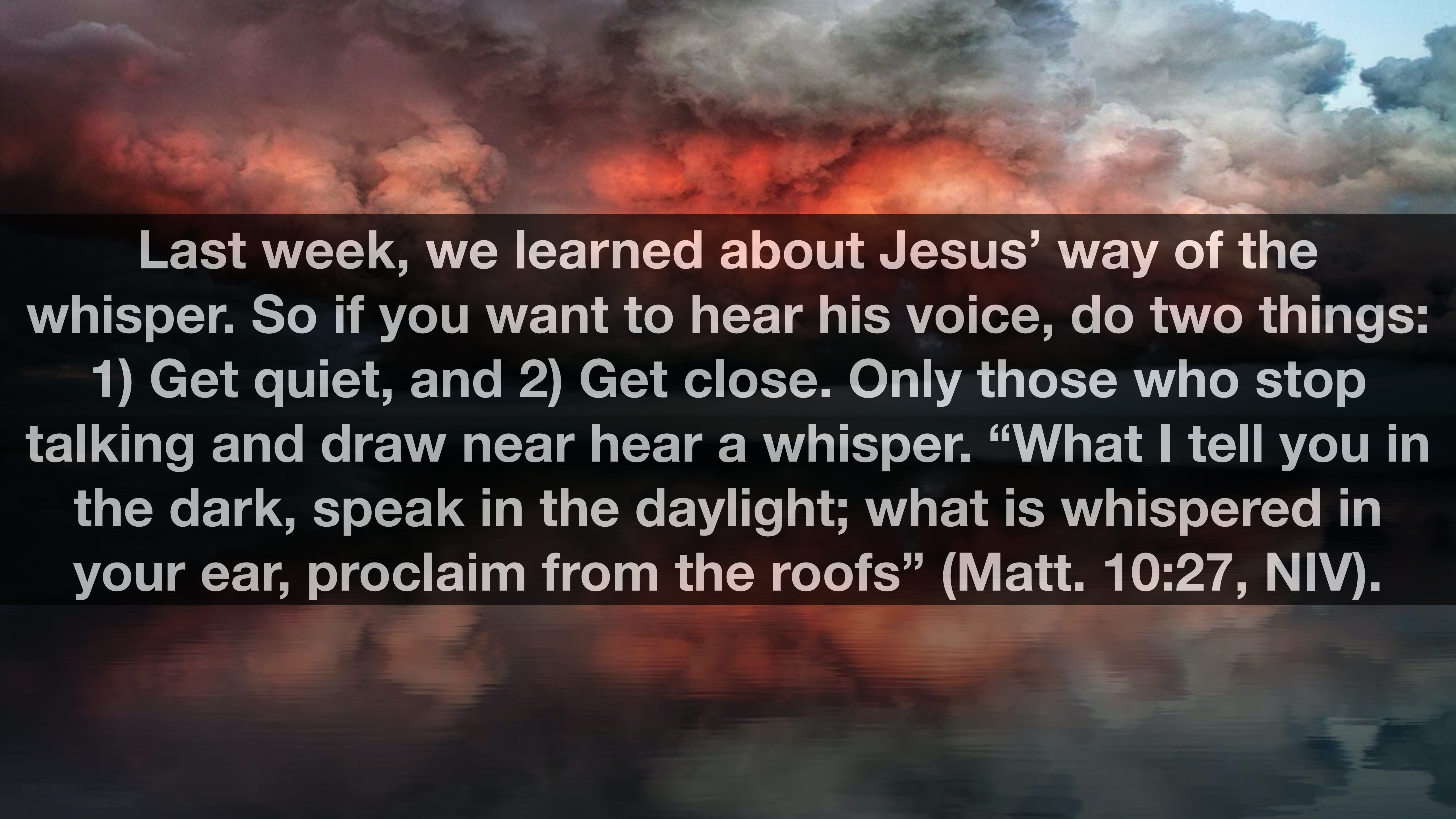


SAFEGUARDING THE PROPHETIC


13 - Restoring the Soul



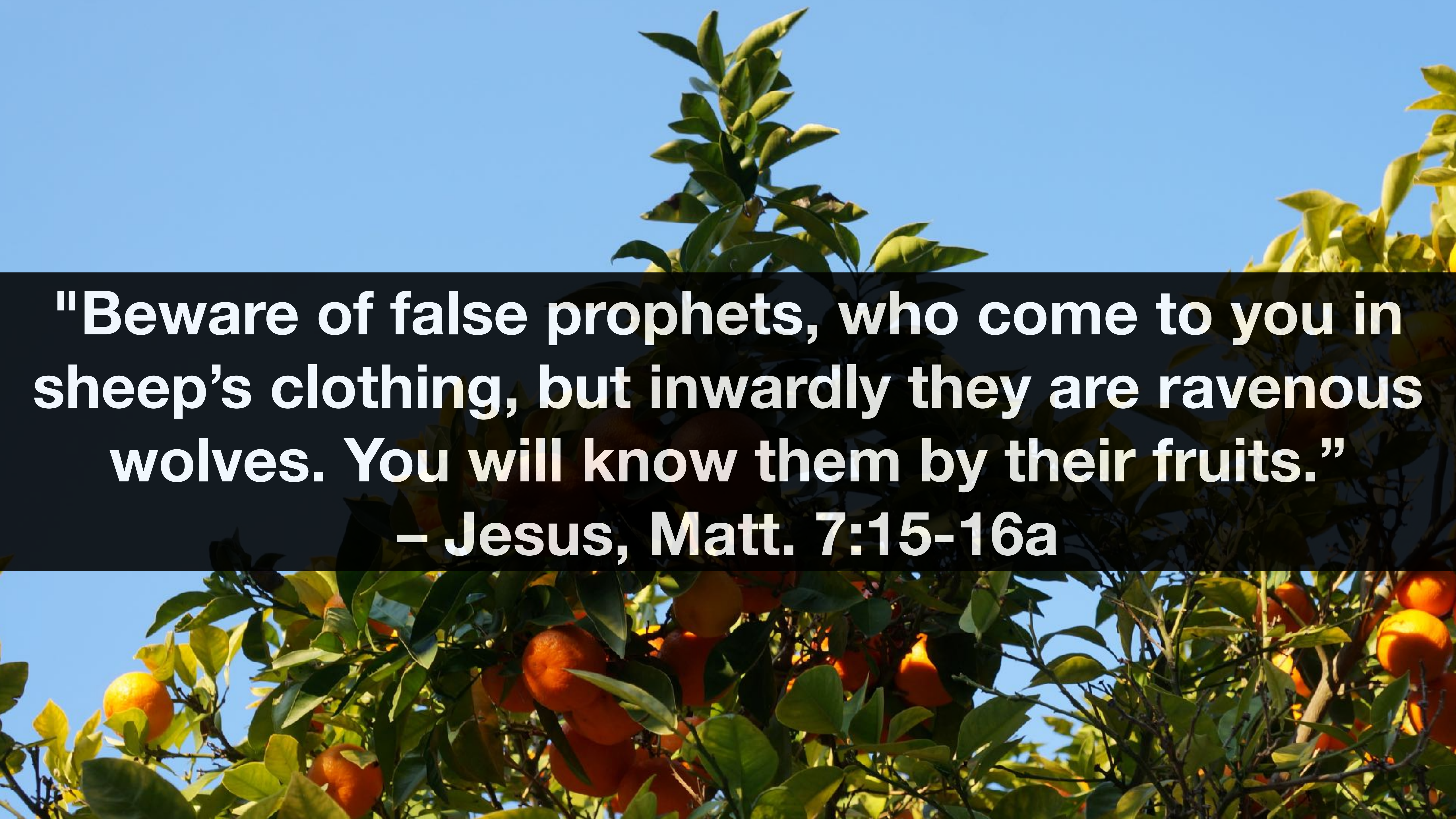
Glen Gerhauser | Church on the Park | Sunday, 7 May 2023



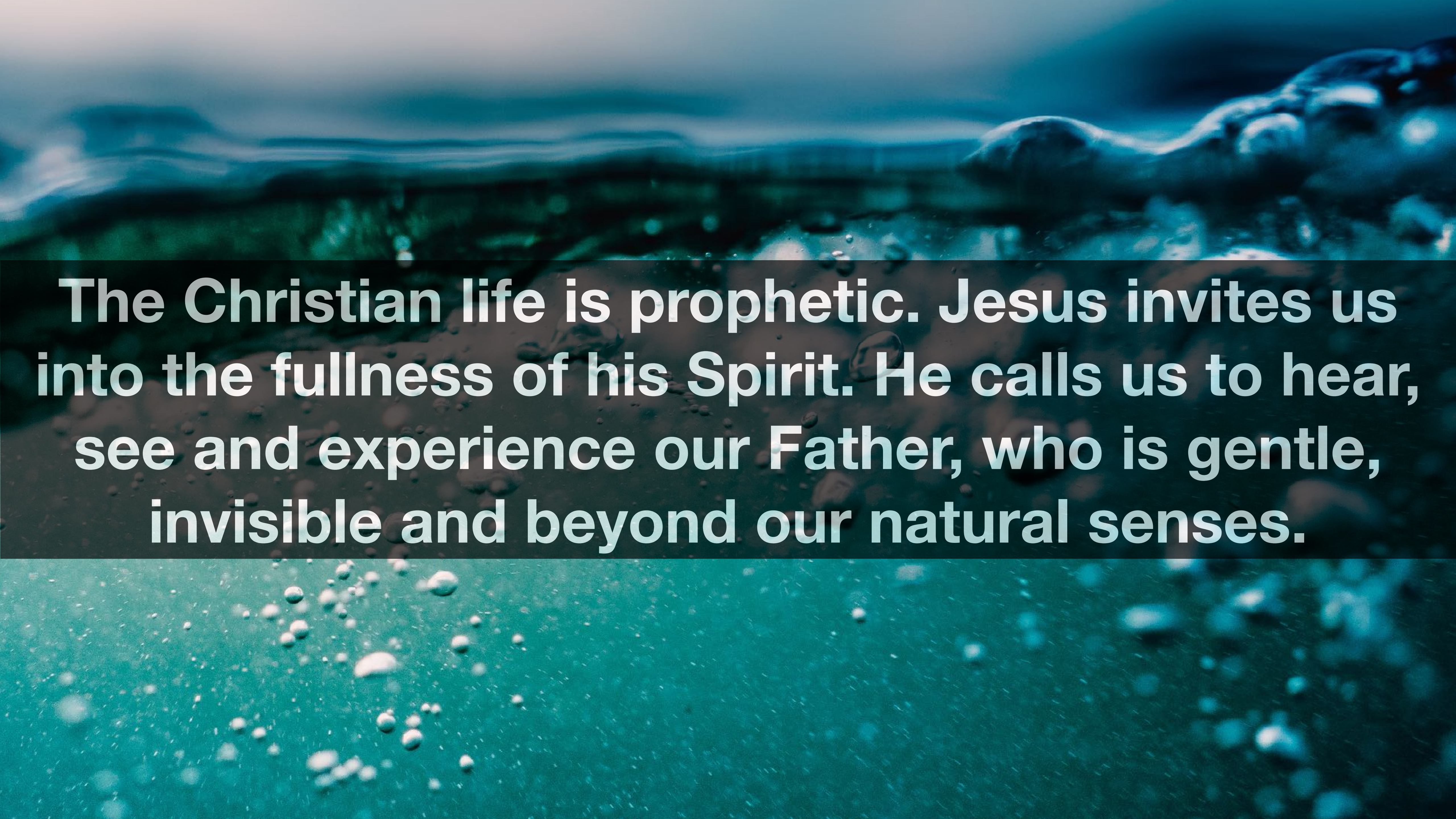
Last week, we learned about Jesus' way of the whisper. So if you want to hear his voice, do two things: 1) Get quiet, and 2) Get close. Only those who stop talking and draw near hear a whisper. "What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs" (Matt. 10:27, NIV).

A wooden workbench with various tools including a compass, dividers, and a ruler, with a technical drawing in the background.

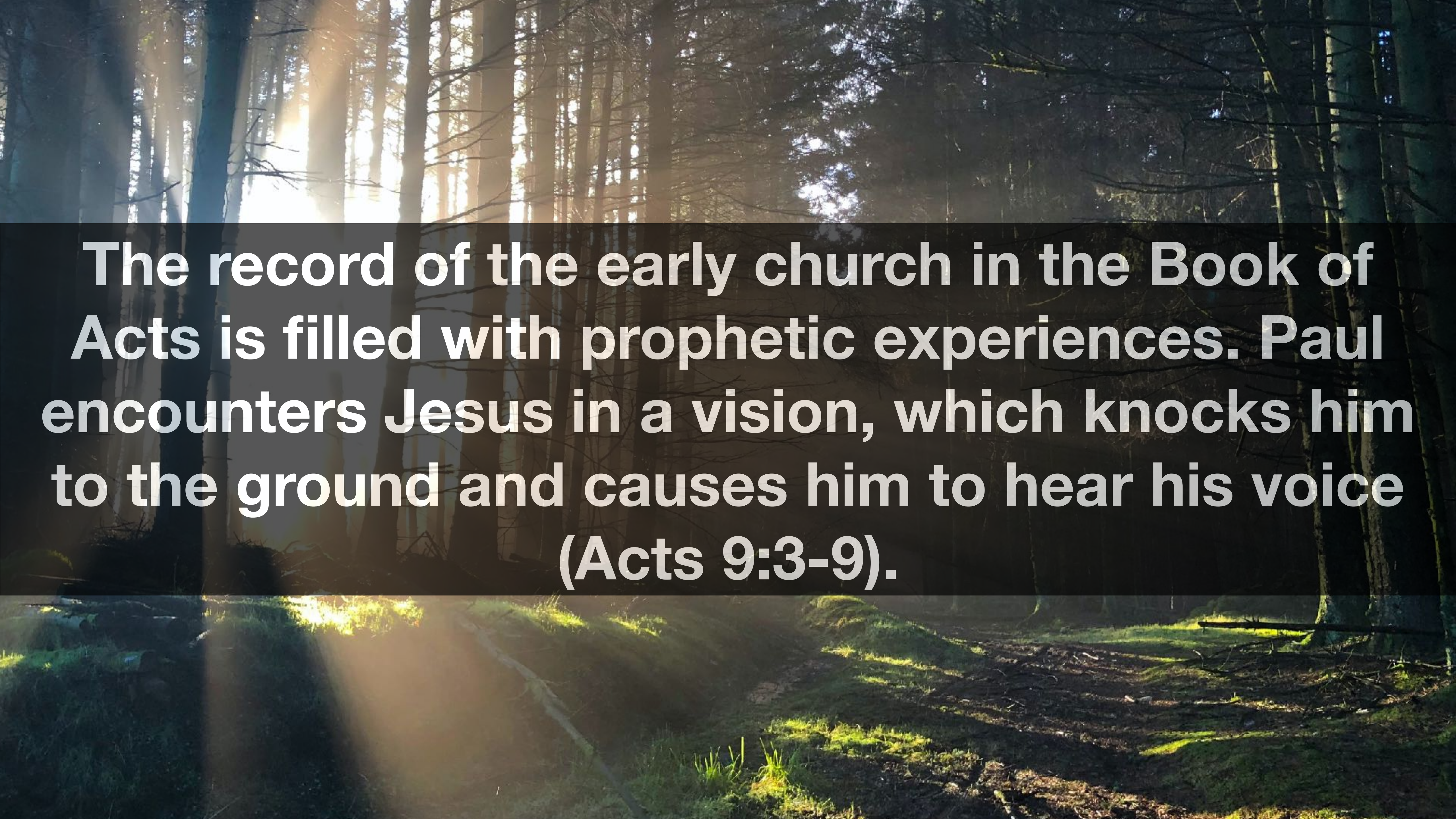
Today, we will equip ourselves with tools to guard prophetic ministry and stay on track with God's agenda.



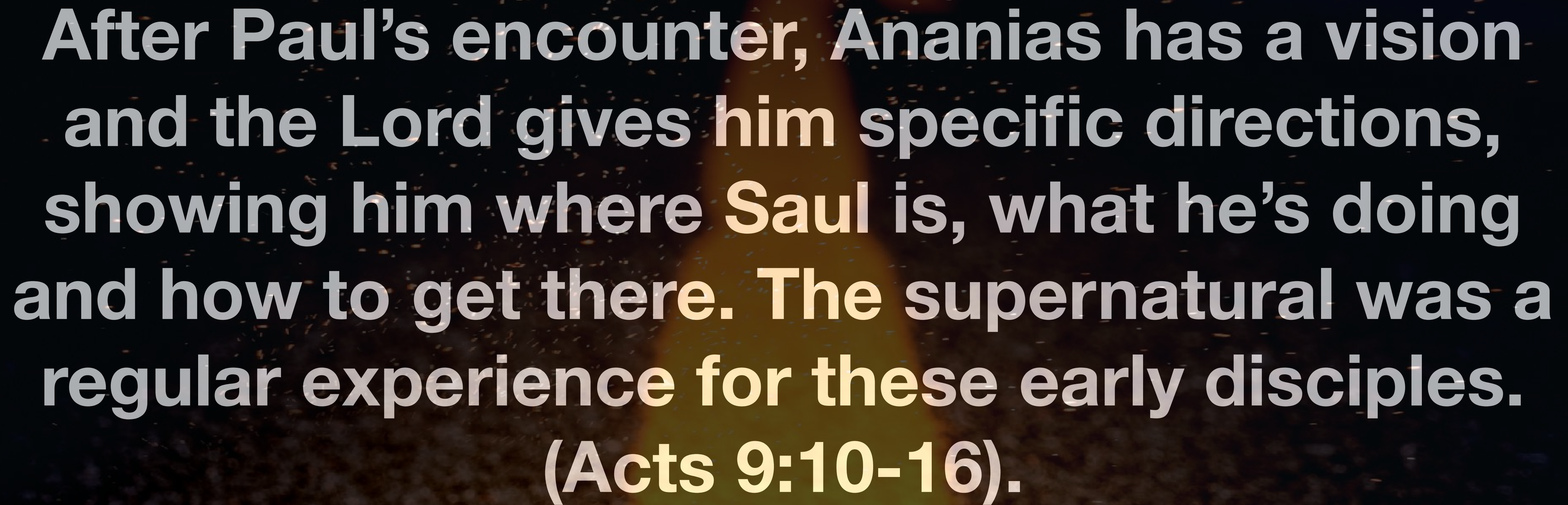
**"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits."
– Jesus, Matt. 7:15-16a**



The Christian life is prophetic. Jesus invites us into the fullness of his Spirit. He calls us to hear, see and experience our Father, who is gentle, invisible and beyond our natural senses.

A photograph of a forest with sunlight streaming through the trees, creating a dramatic and spiritual atmosphere. The text is overlaid on a dark horizontal band across the middle of the image.

The record of the early church in the Book of Acts is filled with prophetic experiences. Paul encounters Jesus in a vision, which knocks him to the ground and causes him to hear his voice (Acts 9:3-9).

A night sky with a bright yellow light trail and falling sparks. The background is a dark blue night sky filled with numerous small, bright orange and yellow sparks or embers falling from the top. A prominent, bright yellow light trail, resembling a comet or a firework, streaks diagonally across the center of the image. The overall atmosphere is dramatic and ethereal.

**After Paul's encounter, Ananias has a vision and the Lord gives him specific directions, showing him where Saul is, what he's doing and how to get there. The supernatural was a regular experience for these early disciples.
(Acts 9:10-16).**

A golden wheat field with two people in the background. The foreground is filled with detailed, close-up shots of wheat stalks, while the background shows two people standing in the field, one with their arm extended towards the other. The overall scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting.

One of the primary keys to the last days' harvest of souls is prophetic experiences and living.



Yet, since the prophetic is subjective, how can we avoid becoming as flaky as a freshly baked croissant?

the shield

SAFEGUARDING THE PROPHETIC

How can you keep the prophetic from going off the rails? Authentic prophets and prophetic ministry submit to the Father's shaping by his Spirit and Scripture. Jesus said, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits" (Matt. 7:15-16a).



"Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil" (1 Thes. 5:19-22, NIV).

"Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1).

"About Benjamin he said: 'Let the beloved of the Lord rest secure in him, for he shields him all day long, and the one the Lord loves rests between his shoulders'" (Deu. 33:12, NIV).

the shield

SAFEGUARDING THE PROPHETIC

How can you keep the prophetic from going off the rails? Authentic prophets and prophetic ministry submit to the Father's shaping by his Spirit and Scripture. Jesus said, "Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits" (Matt. 7:15-16a).

SUBMISSION

The genuine prophetic person is submitted to God, his people and spiritual authority. They're not rebellious and have proven they can

SHAPING

Allowing the Father to shape you into his image is the mark of authenticity. Let God prune you, inwardly forming you to be like

SUBMISSION

The genuine prophetic person is submitted to God, his people and spiritual authority. They're not rebellious and have proven they can listen (James 4:6-7; Eph. 5:21; Heb. 13:17).

SHAPING

Allowing the Father to shape you into his image is the mark of authenticity. Let God prune you, inwardly forming you to be like Jesus (Rom. 8:29).

SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is our source and teacher – he guides us into all truth (John 16:13).



SCRIPTURE

Bathing yourself in the Bible keeps you from error (2 Tim. 3:16-17).



our source and
teacher – he guides
us into all truth
(John 16:13).



in the Bible keeps
you from error
(2 Tim. 3:16-17).



"Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil" (1 Thes. 5:19-22, NIV).

"Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world" (1 John 4:1).

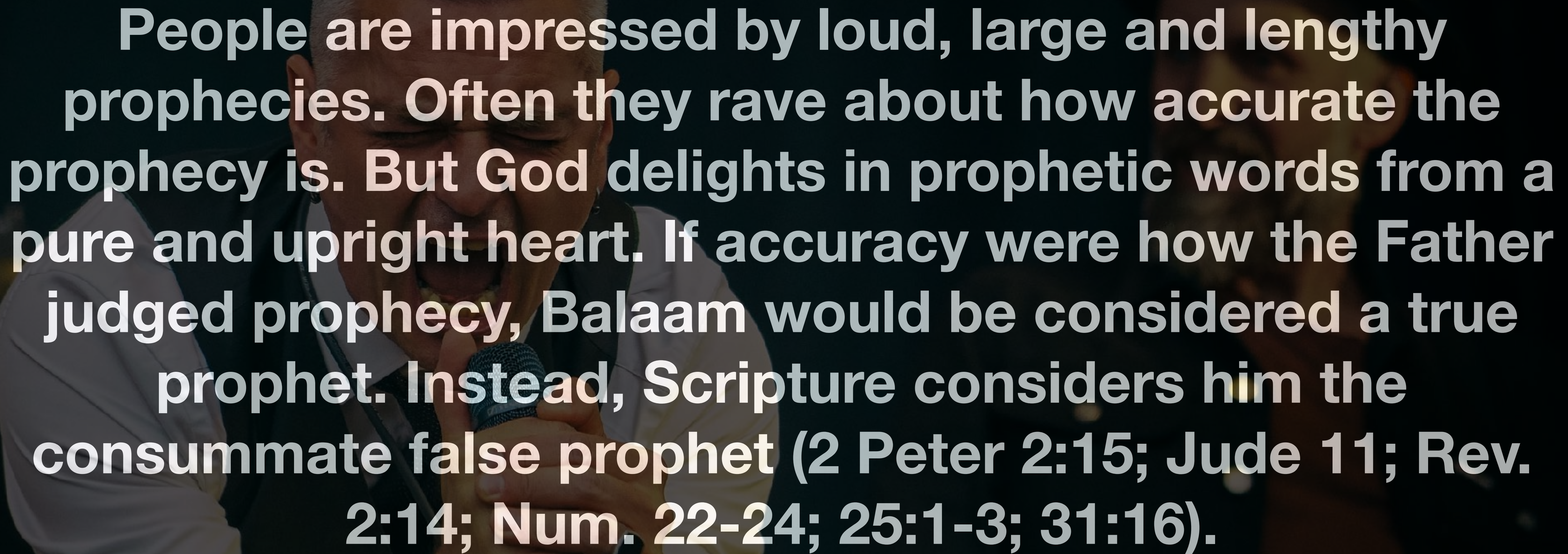
"About Benjamin he said: 'Let the beloved of the Lord rest secure in him, for he shields him all day long, and the one the Lord loves rests between his shoulders'"
(Deu. 33:12, NIV).

BY GLEN GERHAUSER
WWW.BRISBANEFIRE.COM

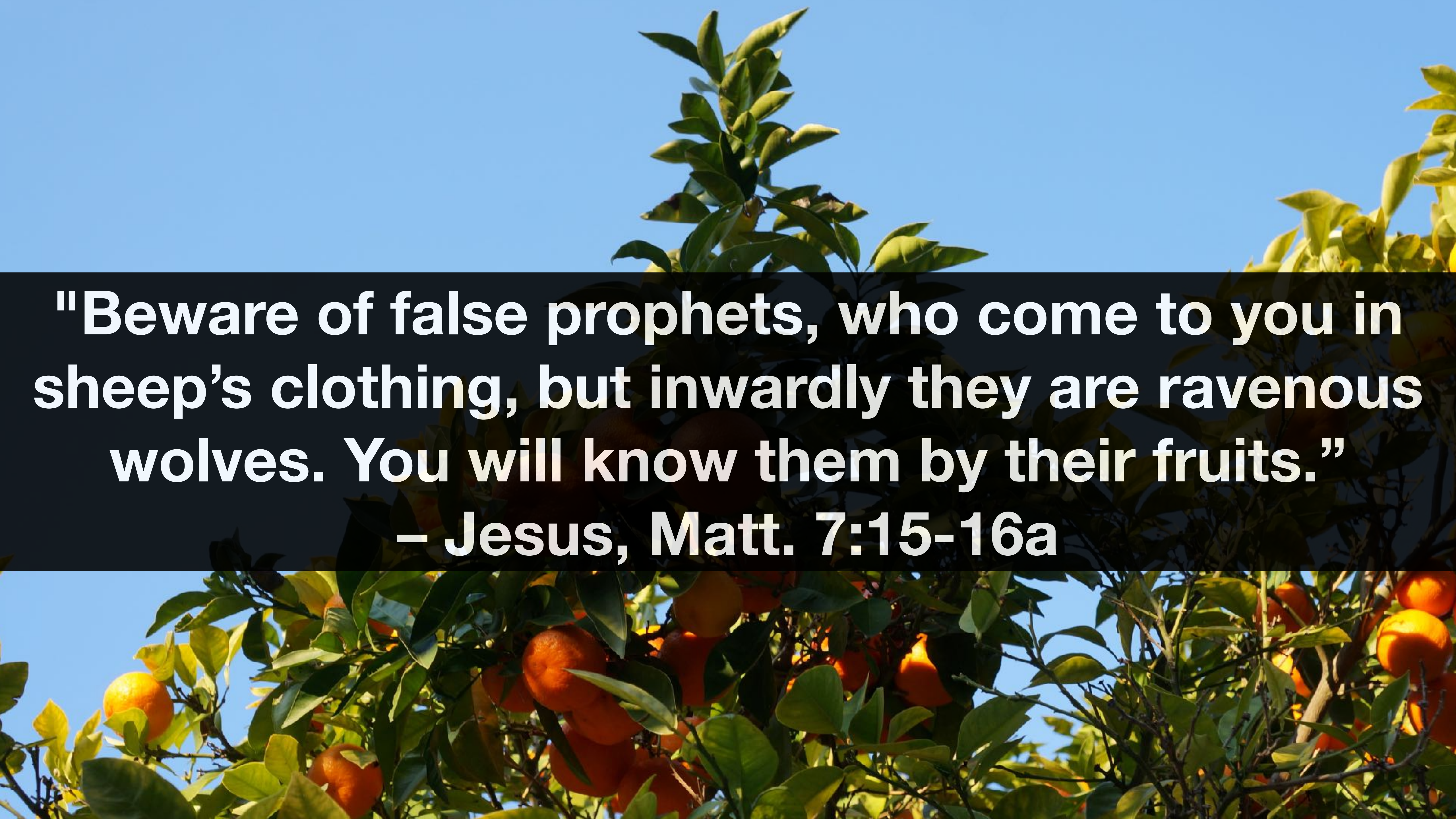
**“The prophet is God's
detective seeking for
lost spiritual treasures”
– Leonard Ravenhill**

Keep posted at the
Inspiration Fire Online Store
www.brisbanefire.com





People are impressed by loud, large and lengthy prophecies. Often they rave about how accurate the prophecy is. But God delights in prophetic words from a pure and upright heart. If accuracy were how the Father judged prophecy, Balaam would be considered a true prophet. Instead, Scripture considers him the consummate false prophet (2 Peter 2:15; Jude 11; Rev. 2:14; Num. 22-24; 25:1-3; 31:16).



**"Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits."
– Jesus, Matt. 7:15-16a**