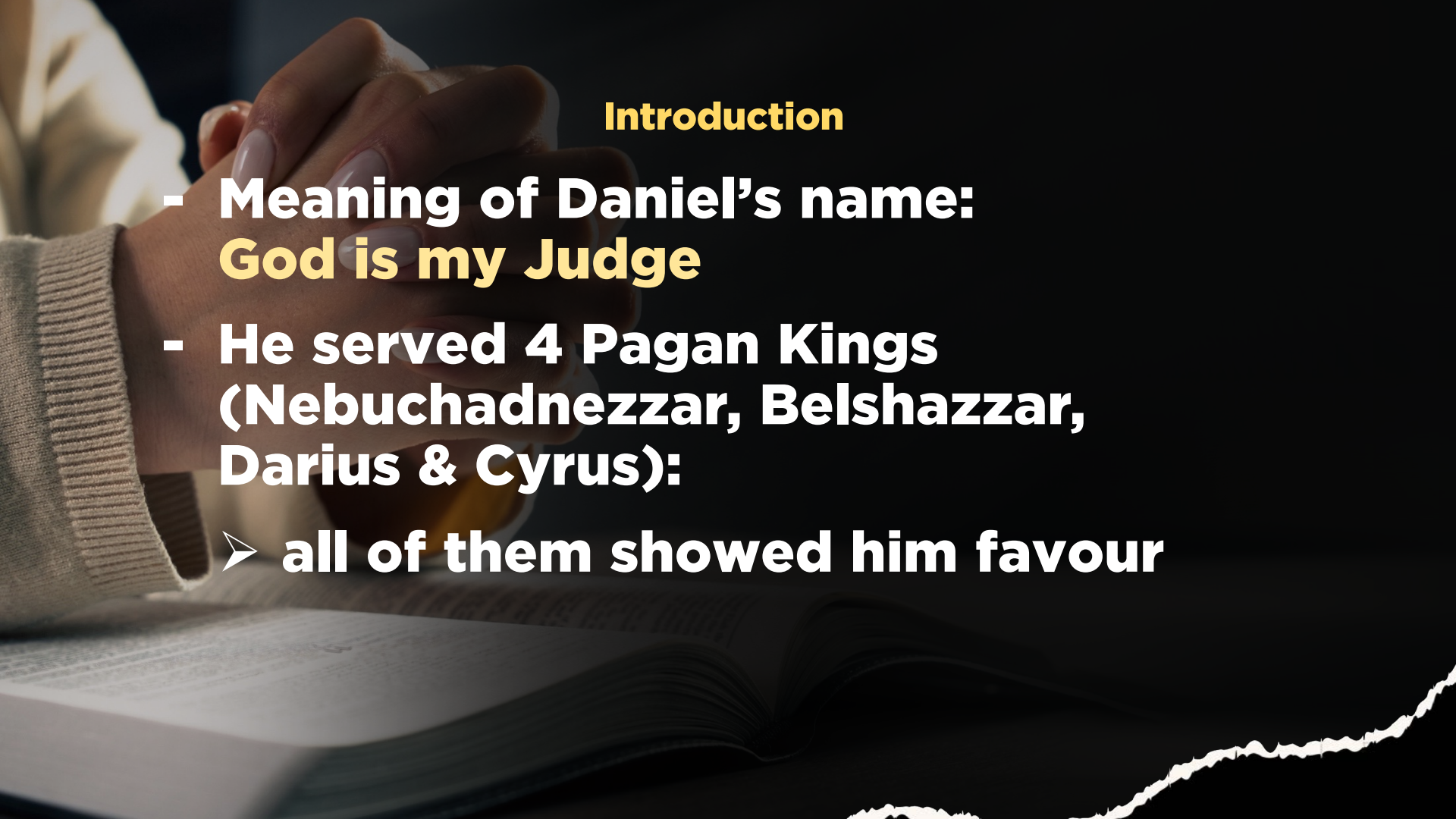




WHY PRAYER MATTERS

DANIEL 6:1-10, 9:1-23 & 9:20-27

Pastor Ruth Tay
1 June 2025

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture, resting on an open book. The person is wearing a light-colored, ribbed sweater. The background is dark, and the lighting is soft, highlighting the hands and the pages of the book. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

Introduction

- **Meaning of Daniel's name:**
God is my Judge
- **He served 4 Pagan Kings**
(Nebuchadnezzar, Belshazzar,
Darius & Cyrus):
 - **all of them showed him favour**

Introduction

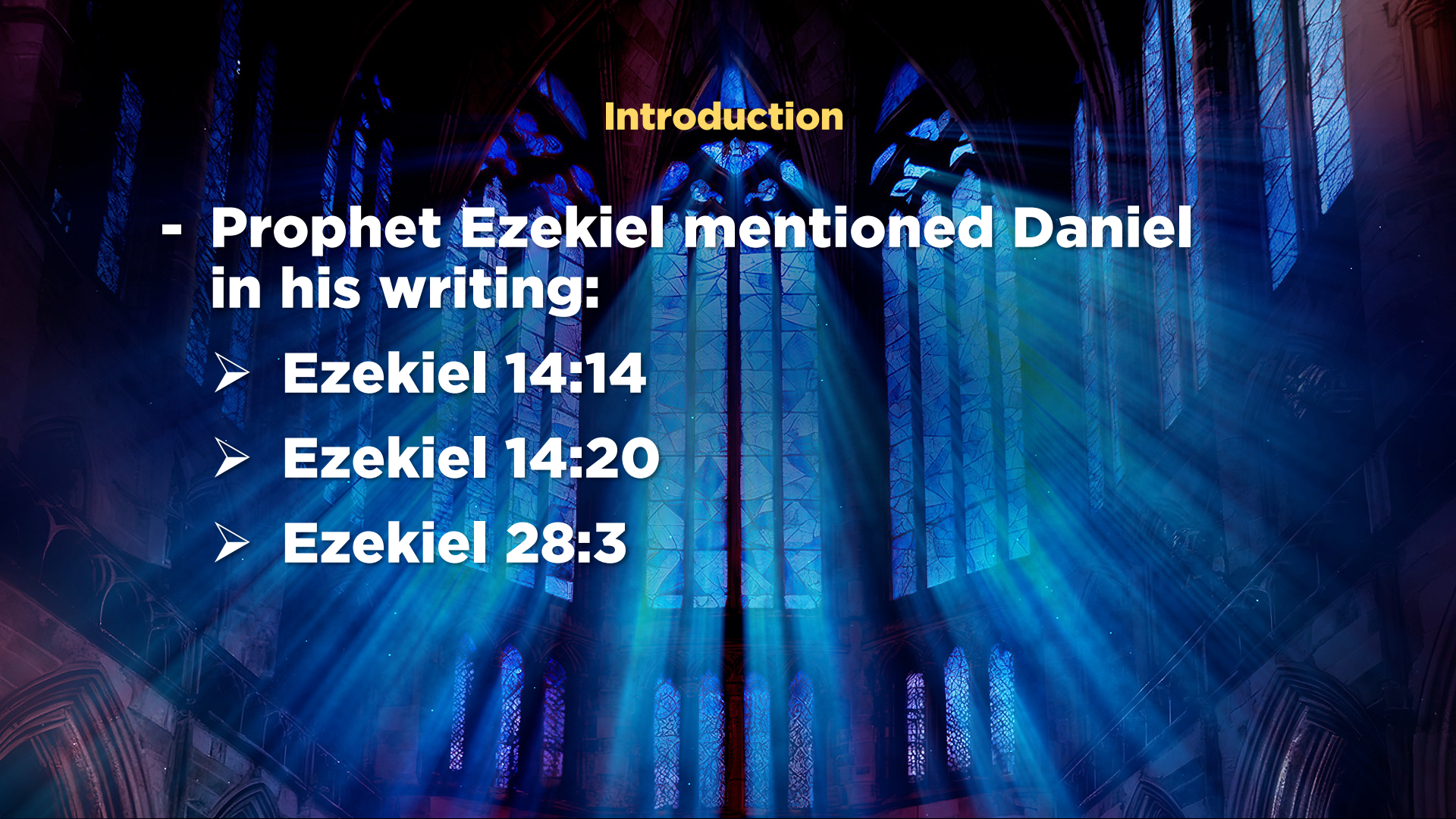
- Existence of Belshazzar (Daniel 5)



Introduction

- The Identity of Darius the Mede (Daniel 6:28)





Introduction

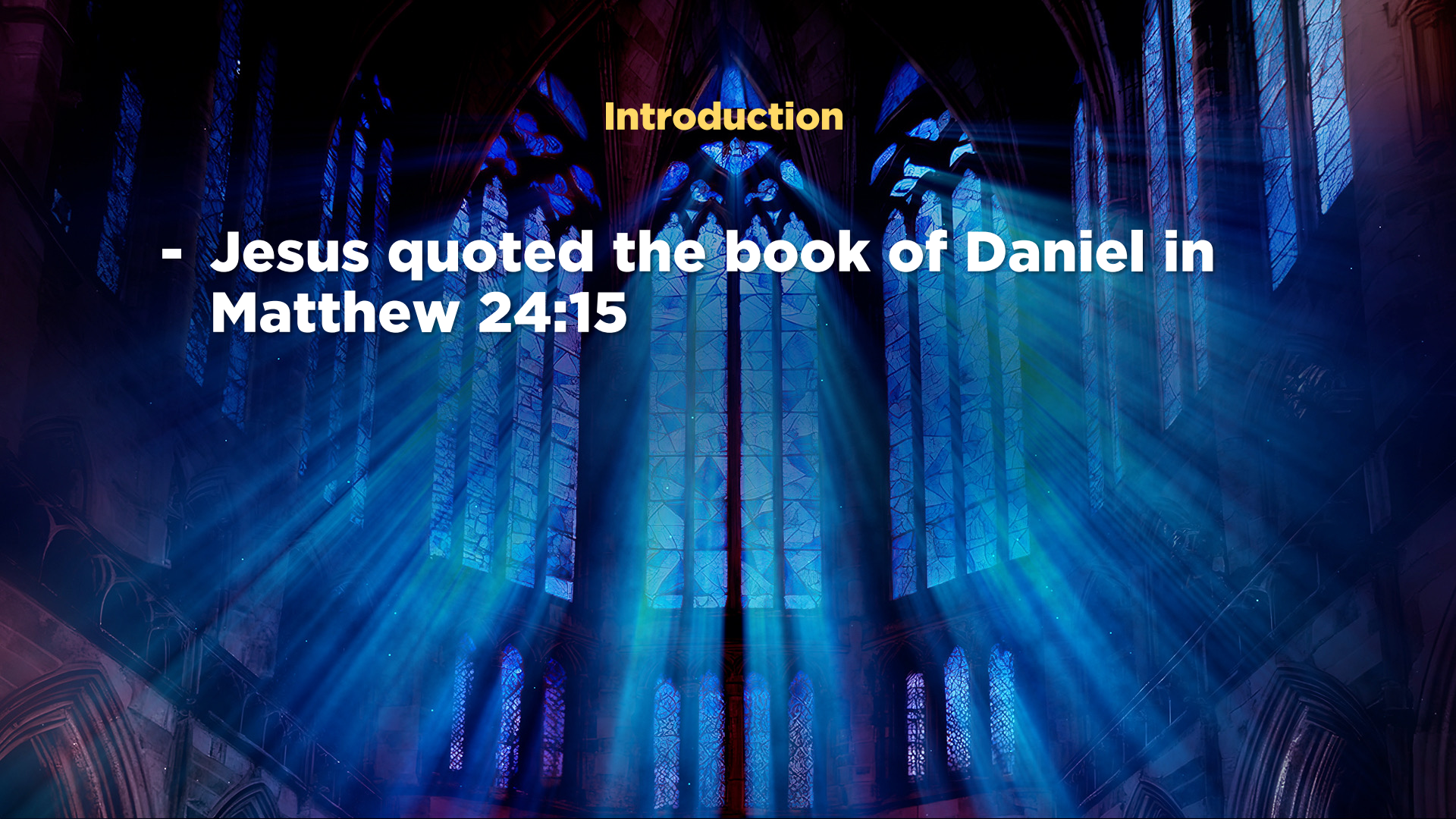
- **Prophet Ezekiel mentioned Daniel in his writing:**

- **Ezekiel 14:14**
- **Ezekiel 14:20**
- **Ezekiel 28:3**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with fingers clasped together in prayer, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying on a dark wooden surface. The image has a torn paper effect at the top and bottom edges.

**Even if these three men,
Noah, Daniel, and Job, were in it,
they would deliver only
themselves by their righteousness,”
says the Lord God.**

EZEKIEL 14:14 (NKJV)



Introduction

- **Jesus quoted the book of Daniel in Matthew 24:15**



**“Therefore when you see
the ‘abomination of desolation,’
spoken of by Daniel the prophet,
standing in the holy place”
(whoever reads, let him
understand),”**

MATTHEW 24:15 (NKJV)



¹ It pleased Darius to appoint 120 satraps to rule throughout the kingdom,

DANIEL 6:1-5 (NIV)



2 with three administrators over them, one of whom was Daniel. The satraps were made accountable to them so that the king might not suffer loss.

DANIEL 6:1-5 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hand with their fingers clasped together, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is warm, and the background is dark, making the hand and the text on the Bible stand out.

3 Now Daniel so distinguished himself among the administrators and the satraps by his exceptional qualities that the king planned to set him over the whole kingdom.

DANIEL 6:1-5 (NIV)

4 At this, the administrators and the satraps tried to find grounds for charges against Daniel in his conduct of government affairs, but they were unable to do so. They could find no corruption in him, because he was trustworthy and neither corrupt nor negligent.

DANIEL 6:1-5 (NIV)





5 Finally these men said, “We will never find any basis for charges against this man Daniel unless it has something to do with the law of his God.”

DANIEL 6:1-5 (NIV)



**6 So these administrators
and satraps went as a group
to the king and said:
“May King Darius live forever!”**

DANIEL 6:6-10 (NIV)



7 The royal administrators, prefects, satraps, advisers and governors have all agreed that the king should issue an edict and enforce the decree that anyone who prays to

DANIEL 6:6-10 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hand with their fingers clasped together, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is warm, and the focus is on the hand and the text of the Bible.

**any god or human being during the
next thirty days, except to you,
Your Majesty, shall be thrown
into the lions' den.**

DANIEL 6:6-10 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with light skin, clasped together in prayer. The hands are resting on the fore-edge of a thick, old Bible with yellowed pages. The Bible is lying on a dark, textured wooden surface. The background is black, and there is a bright, starburst-like light effect in the upper left corner.

8 Now, Your Majesty, issue the decree and put it in writing so that it cannot be altered - in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed.”

DANIEL 6:6-10 (NIV)



**⁹ So King Darius put
the decree in writing.**

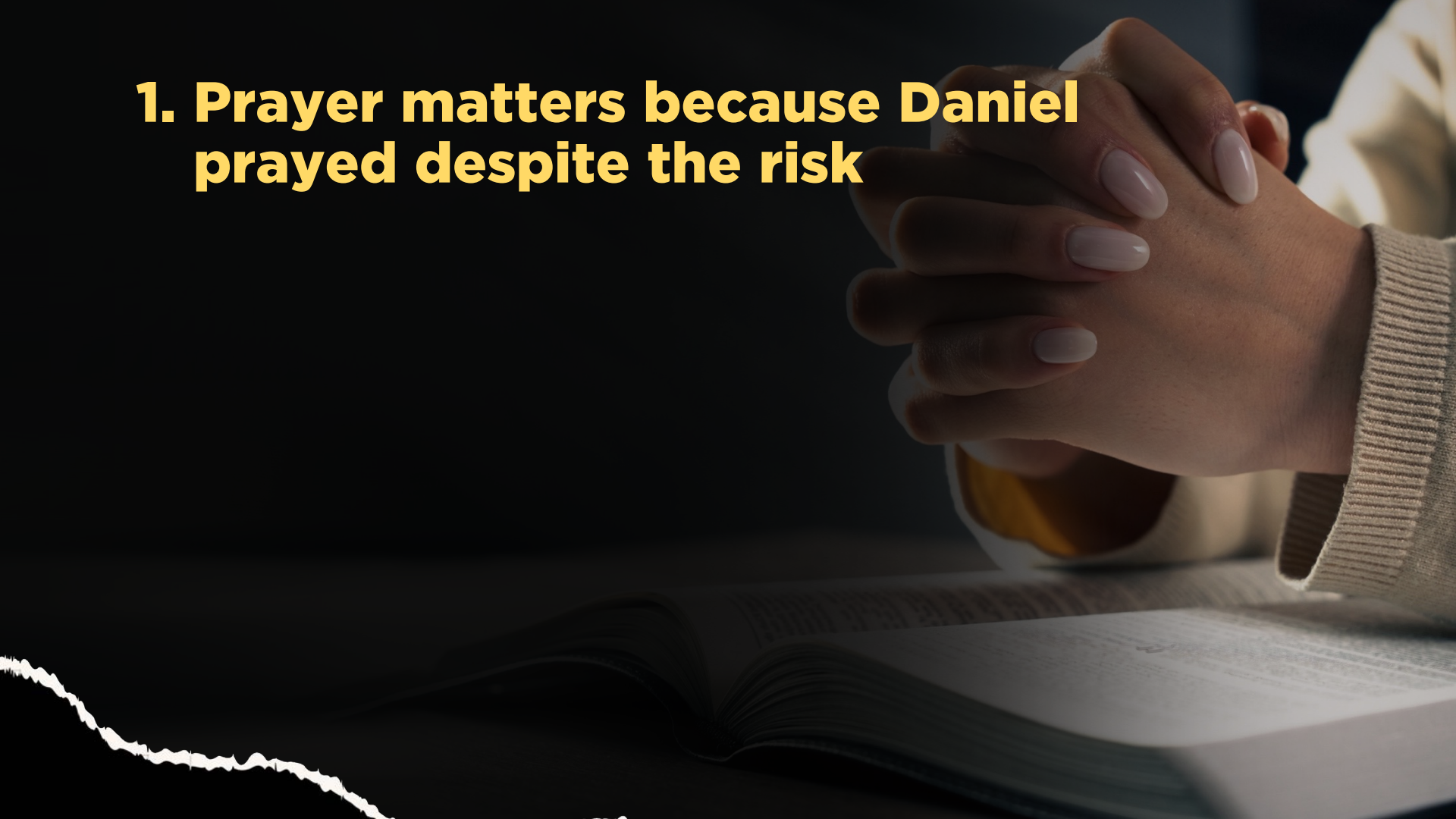
DANIEL 6:6-10 (NIV)

¹⁰ Now when Daniel learned that the decree had been published, he went home to his upstairs room where the windows opened toward Jerusalem. Three times a day he got down on his knees and prayed, giving thanks to his God, just as he had done before.

DANIEL 6:6-10 (NIV)

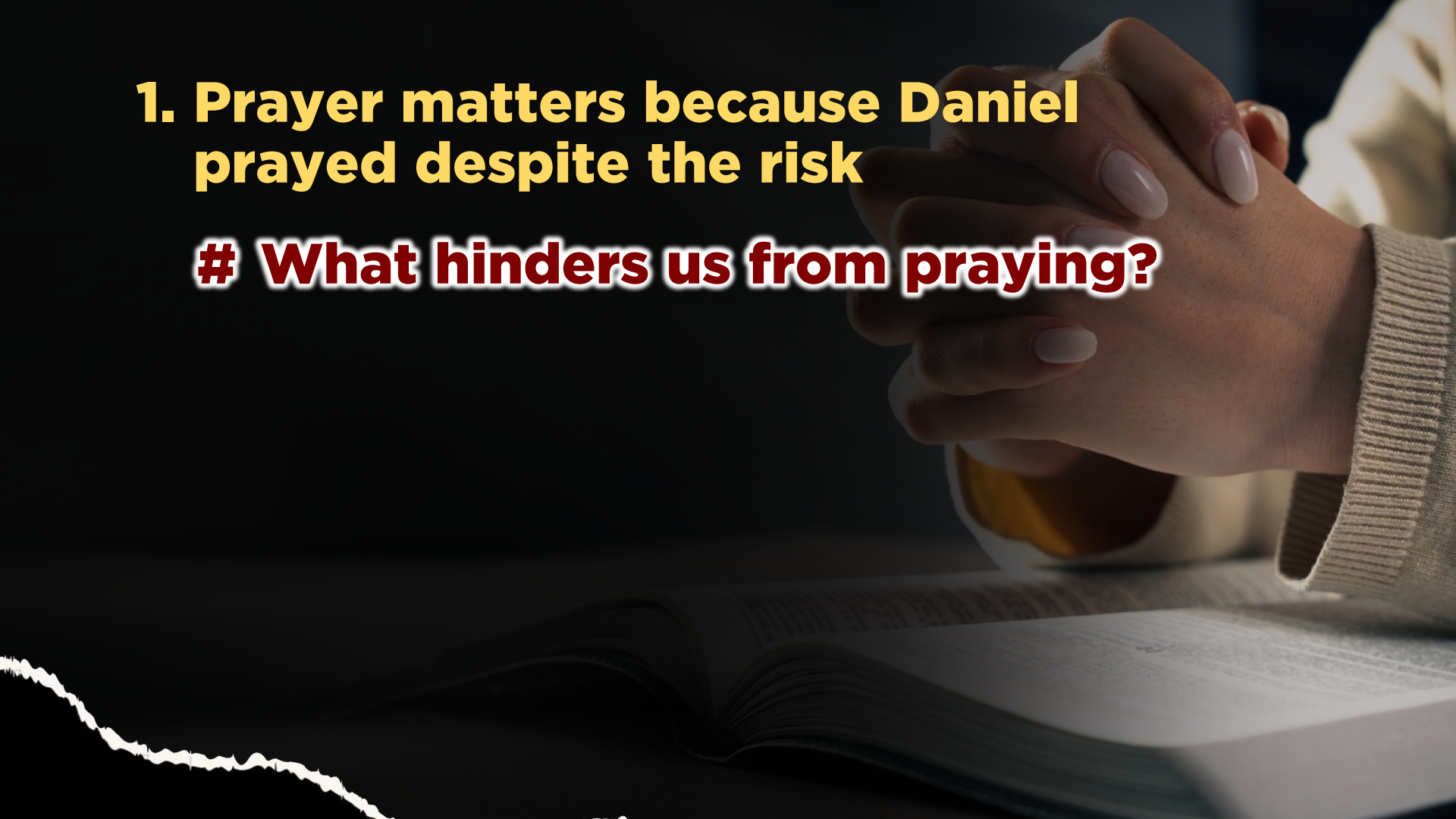


1. Prayer matters because Daniel prayed despite the risk



**1. Prayer matters because Daniel
prayed despite the risk**

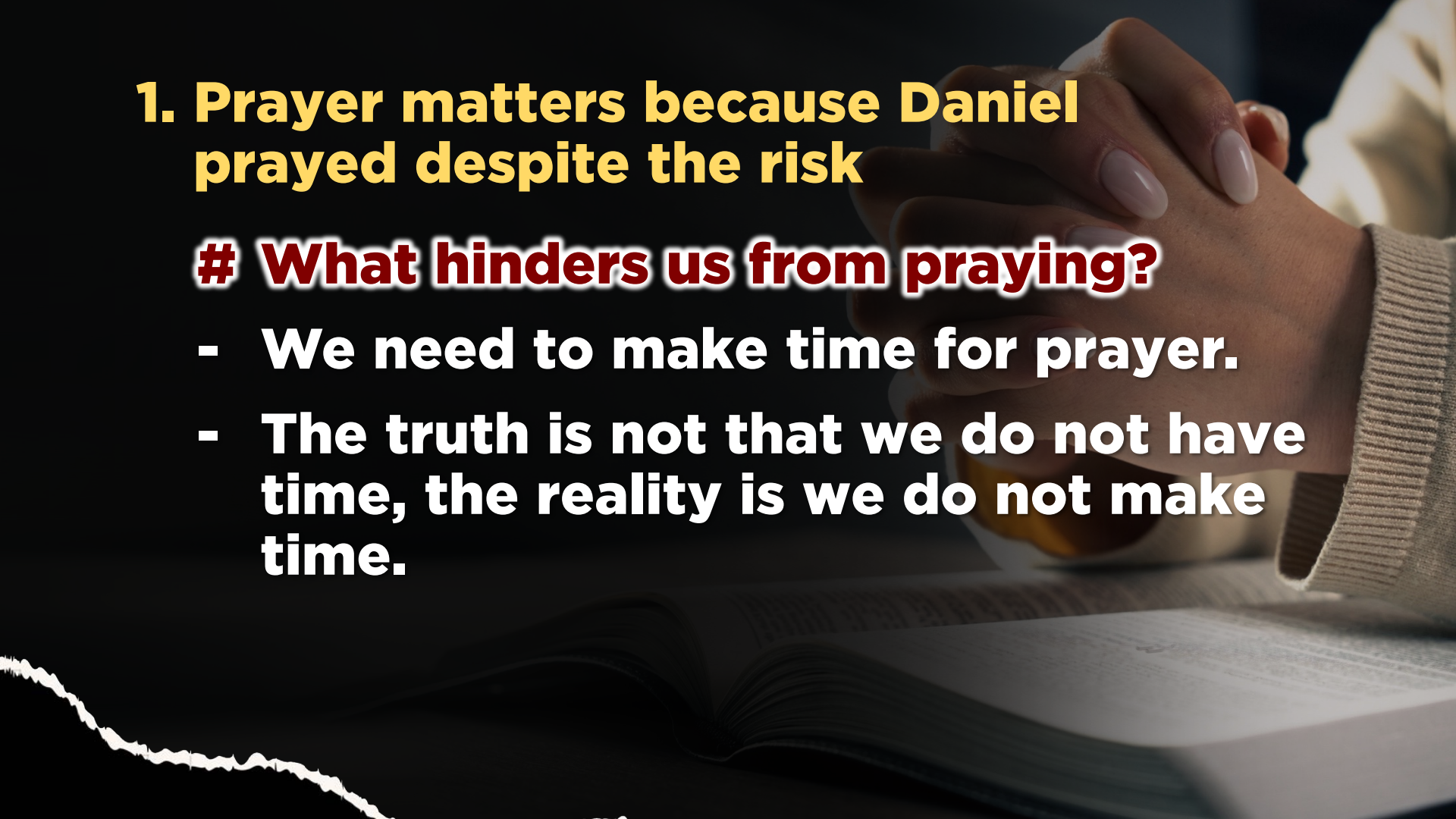
What hinders us from praying?

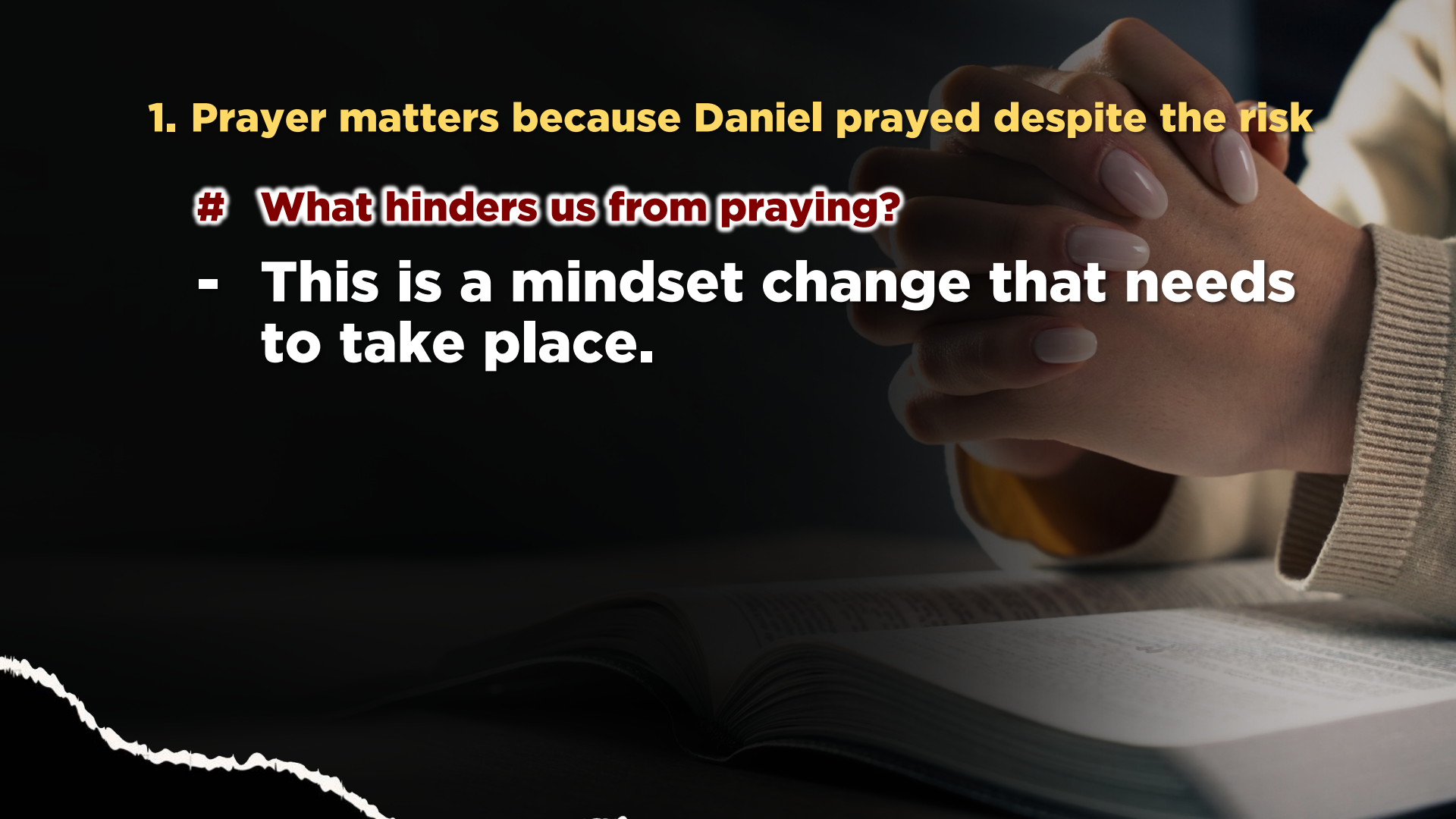


1. Prayer matters because Daniel prayed despite the risk

What hinders us from praying?

- **We need to make time for prayer.**
- **The truth is not that we do not have time, the reality is we do not make time.**

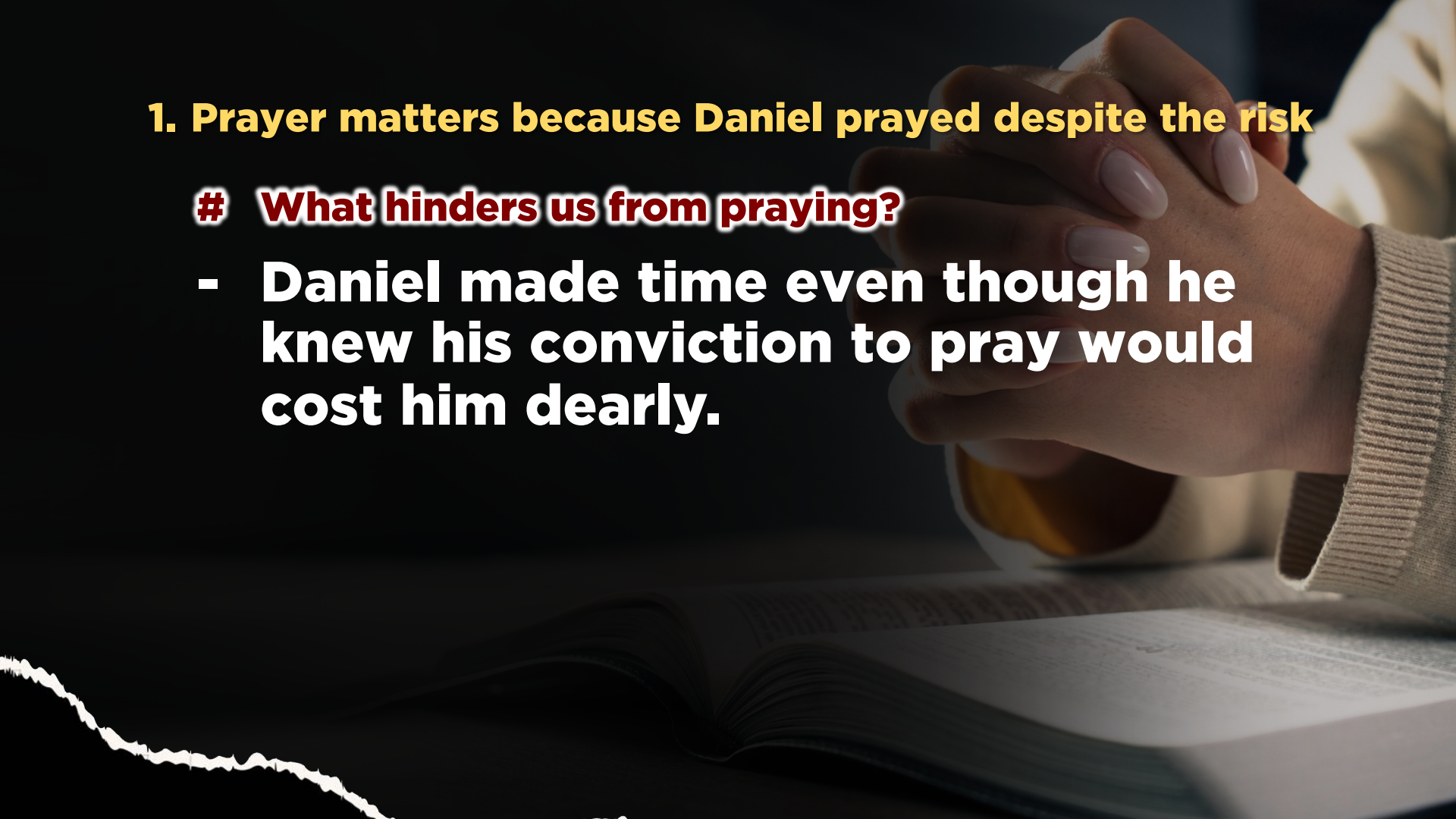


A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayer position. The hands are resting on an open book, which appears to be a Bible. The person is wearing a light-colored, textured sweater. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

1. Prayer matters because Daniel prayed despite the risk

What hinders us from praying?

- This is a mindset change that needs to take place.**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture, resting on an open book. The person is wearing a light-colored, textured sweater. The background is dark, and the lighting is soft, highlighting the hands and the pages of the book. The overall mood is contemplative and spiritual.

1. Prayer matters because Daniel prayed despite the risk

What hinders us from praying?

- **Daniel made time even though he knew his conviction to pray would cost him dearly.**

**2. Prayer matters because it is the
means by which Daniel intercede
(Daniel 9:1-23)**



¹ In the first year of Darius son of Xerxes (a Mede by descent), who was made ruler over the Babylonian kingdom -

DANIEL 9:1-3 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with their fingers clasped together, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is warm, and the background is dark, making the hands and the text on the Bible stand out.

**² in the first year of his reign,
I, Daniel, understood from the
Scriptures, according to the word
of the LORD given to Jeremiah the
prophet, that the desolation of
Jerusalem would last seventy years.**

DANIEL 9:1-3 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in prayer, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the wood.

**³ So I turned to the Lord God
and pleaded with him in prayer
and petition, in fasting, and in
sackcloth and ashes.**

DANIEL 9:1-3 (NIV)

2. Prayer matters because it is the means by which Daniel intercede (Daniel 9:1-23)

- To intercede is to pray on behalf, Daniel pleaded with God on behalf of Israel.**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with fingers interlaced in prayer, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying on a dark wooden surface. The background is dark, and there is a bright, starburst-like light effect in the upper left corner.

**4 I prayed to the LORD my God and
confessed: “Lord, the great and
awesome God, who keeps His
covenant of love with those who love
Him and keep His commandments,**

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)



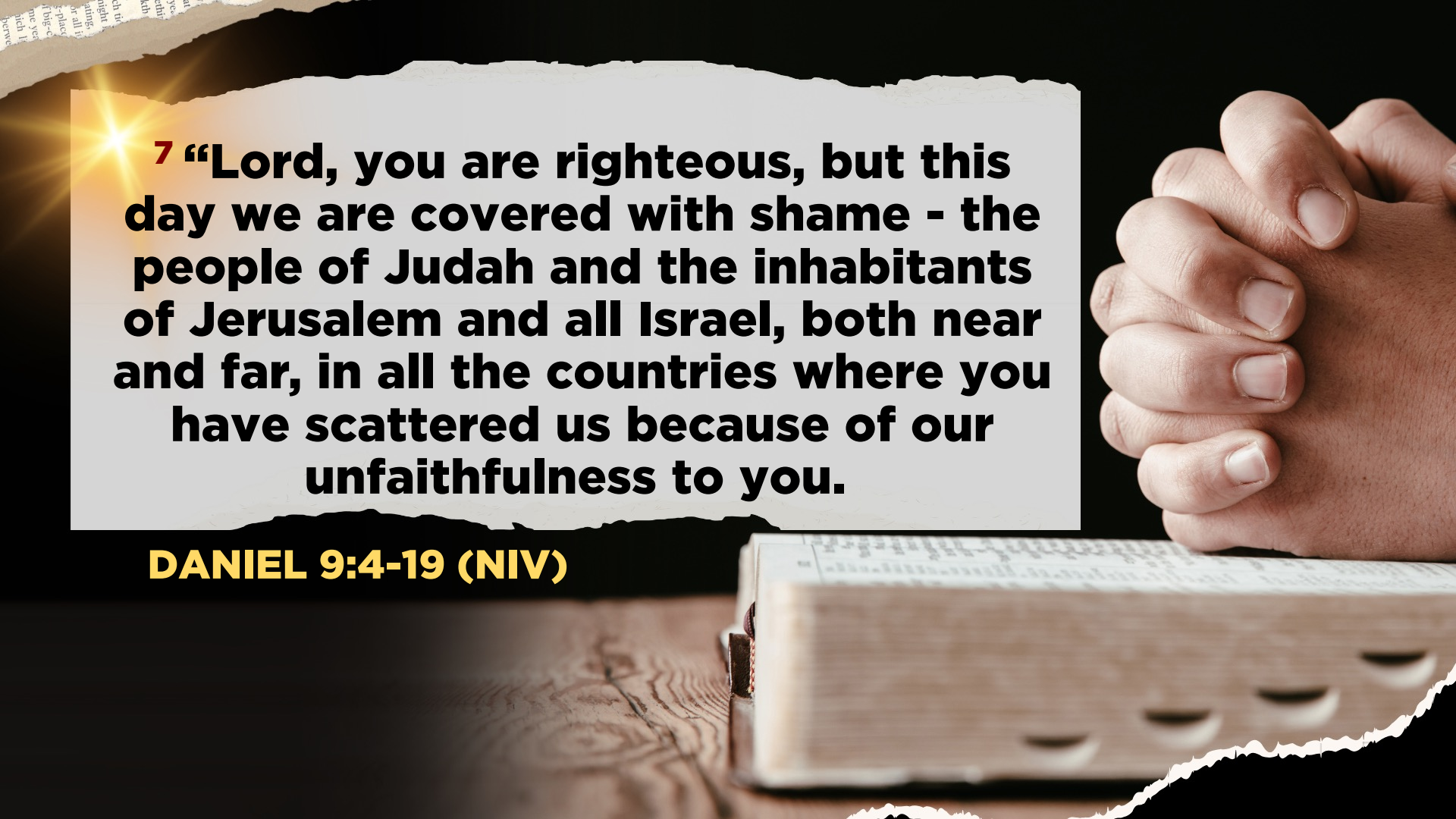
**5 we have sinned and done
wrong. We have been wicked and
have rebelled; we have turned
away from your commands and
laws.”**

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)



6 We have not listened to your servants the prophets, who spoke in your name to our kings, our princes and our ancestors, and to all the people of the land.

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark, textured wooden surface. The lighting is dramatic, with a bright, warm glow emanating from the top left corner, creating a lens flare effect. The background is dark, making the hands and the Bible the central focus. The text is overlaid on a white, torn-paper-like rectangular area in the upper left portion of the image.

7 “Lord, you are righteous, but this day we are covered with shame - the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem and all Israel, both near and far, in all the countries where you have scattered us because of our unfaithfulness to you.

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with their fingers clasped together in prayer. The hands are resting on the pages of an open Bible, which is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The Bible's pages are aged and slightly yellowed. The background is dark, and there is a bright, starburst-like light effect in the upper left corner of the image.

8 We and our kings, our princes and our ancestors are covered with shame, LORD, because we have sinned against you. 9 The Lord our God is merciful and forgiving, even though we have rebelled against him;

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together in prayer, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the wood.

**10 we have not obeyed the LORD our
God or kept the laws he gave us
through his servants the prophets.**

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)

11 All Israel has transgressed your law and turned away, refusing to obey you. "Therefore the curses and sworn judgments written in the Law of Moses, the servant of God, have been poured out on us, because we have sinned against you.

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)



A close-up photograph of a person's hands with fingers interlaced, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the wood.

12 You have fulfilled the words spoken against us and against our rulers by bringing on us great disaster. Under the whole heaven nothing has ever been done like what has been done to Jerusalem.

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with fingers clasped together in a prayerful gesture, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the wood.

13 Just as it is written in the Law of Moses, all this disaster has come on us, yet we have not sought the favor of the LORD our God by turning from our sins and giving attention to your truth.

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)



14 The LORD did not hesitate to bring the disaster on us, for the LORD our God is righteous in everything he does; yet we have not obeyed him.

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with fingers clasped together in a prayerful gesture, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the paper of the Bible.

**15 “Now, Lord our God, who brought
your people out of Egypt with a
mighty hand and who made for
yourself a name that endures to
this day, we have sinned,
we have done wrong.**

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)



16 Lord, in keeping with all your righteous acts, turn away your anger and your wrath from Jerusalem, your city, your holy hill. Our sins and the iniquities of our ancestors have made Jerusalem and your people an object of scorn to all those around us

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)



17 “Now, our God, hear the prayers and petitions of your servant. For your sake, Lord, look with favor on your desolate sanctuary.

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with their fingers clasped together in prayer. The hands are resting on the pages of an open Bible, which is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The Bible's pages are white with black text, and the binding is visible in the center. The background is dark, and there is a bright, starburst-like light effect in the upper left corner of the image.

18 Give ear, our God, and hear; open your eyes and see the desolation of the city that bears your Name. We do not make requests of you because we are righteous, but because of your great mercy.

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)



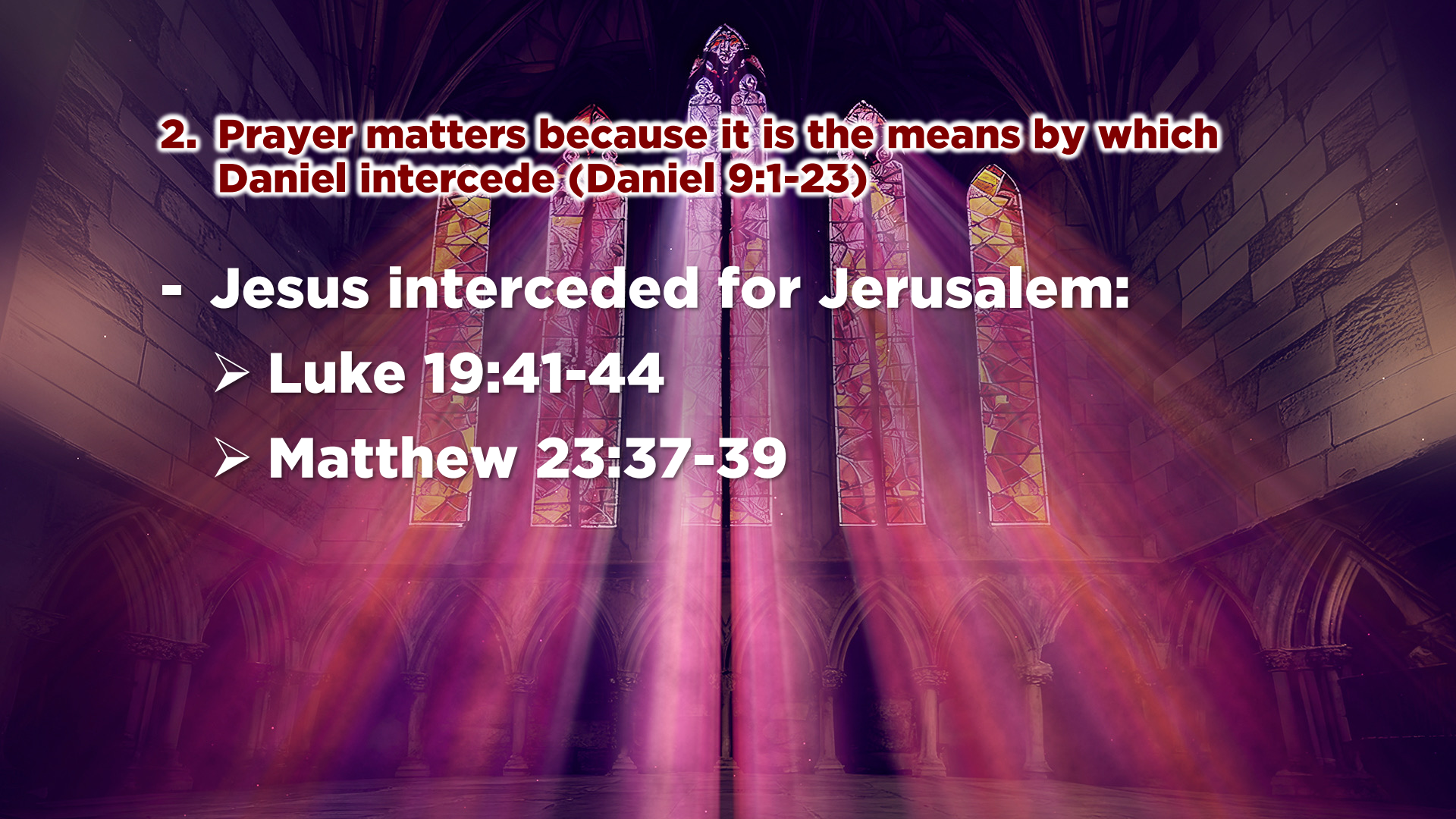
¹⁹ Lord, listen! Lord, forgive! Lord, hear and act! For your sake, my God, do not delay, because your city and your people bear your Name.”

DANIEL 9:4-19 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with their fingers clasped together, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is warm, and the background is dark, making the hands and the text on the Bible stand out.

**So I sought for a man among them
who would make a wall, and stand
in the gap before Me on behalf of
the land, that I should not destroy it;
but I found no one.**

EZEKIEL 22:30 (NIV)



2. Prayer matters because it is the means by which Daniel intercede (Daniel 9:1-23)

- Jesus interceded for Jerusalem:

➤ **Luke 19:41-44**

➤ **Matthew 23:37-39**

**3. Prayer matters because God
revealed greater things to Daniel
(Daniel 9:20-27)**

A close-up photograph of a person's hands, with fingers interlaced in a prayerful gesture, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark, textured wooden surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the paper of the Bible.

**20 While I was speaking and praying,
confessing my sin and the sin of my
people Israel and making my request
to the LORD my God for his holy hill—**

DANIEL 9:20-23 (NIV)



21 while I was still in prayer,
Gabriel, the man I had seen in the
earlier vision, came to me in swift
flight about the time of the evening
sacrifice.

DANIEL 9:20-23 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with fingers clasped together, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark wooden surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the wood.

**²² He instructed me and said to me,
“Daniel, I have now come to give you
insight and understanding.**

DANIEL 9:20-23 (NIV)



23 As soon as you began to pray, a word went out, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed. Therefore, consider the word and understand the vision:

DANIEL 9:20-23 (NIV)

24 **“Seventy weeks are determined
For your people and for your holy
city, to finish the transgression, to
make an end of sins, to make
reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in
everlasting righteousness, to seal up
vision and prophecy, and to anoint
the Most Holy.**

DANIEL 9:24-27 (NKJV)



**25 “Know therefore and understand,
That from the going forth of the
command to restore and build
Jerusalem until Messiah the Prince,
there shall be seven weeks and sixty-
two weeks; the street shall be built
again, and the wall, even in
troublesome times.**

DANIEL 9:24-27 (NKJV)



A close-up photograph of a person's hand with their fingers clasped together, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying on a dark wooden surface. The background is dark, and there is a bright light source in the upper left corner, creating a lens flare effect.

**26 “And after the sixty-two weeks
Messiah shall be cut off, but not for
Himself; and the people of the prince
who is to come Shall destroy the city
and the sanctuary. The end of it shall
be with a flood, And till the end of
the war desolations are determined.**

DANIEL 9:24-27 (NKJV)

27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate.”

DANIEL 9:24-27 (NKJV)



A close-up photograph of a person's hands with light skin, clasped together in prayer. The hands are resting on the fore-edge of a thick, old Bible with yellowed pages. The Bible is lying on a dark, textured wooden surface. The background is black, and a bright, starburst light effect is visible in the upper left corner.

**²² He instructed me and said to me,
“Daniel, I have now come to give you
insight and understanding.**

DANIEL 9:22-23 (NIV)

A close-up photograph of a person's hands with fingers interlaced in a prayerful gesture, resting on the pages of an open Bible. The Bible is lying flat on a dark, textured wooden surface. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the skin and the paper of the Bible.

23 As soon as you began to pray, a word went out, which I have come to tell you, for you are highly esteemed.

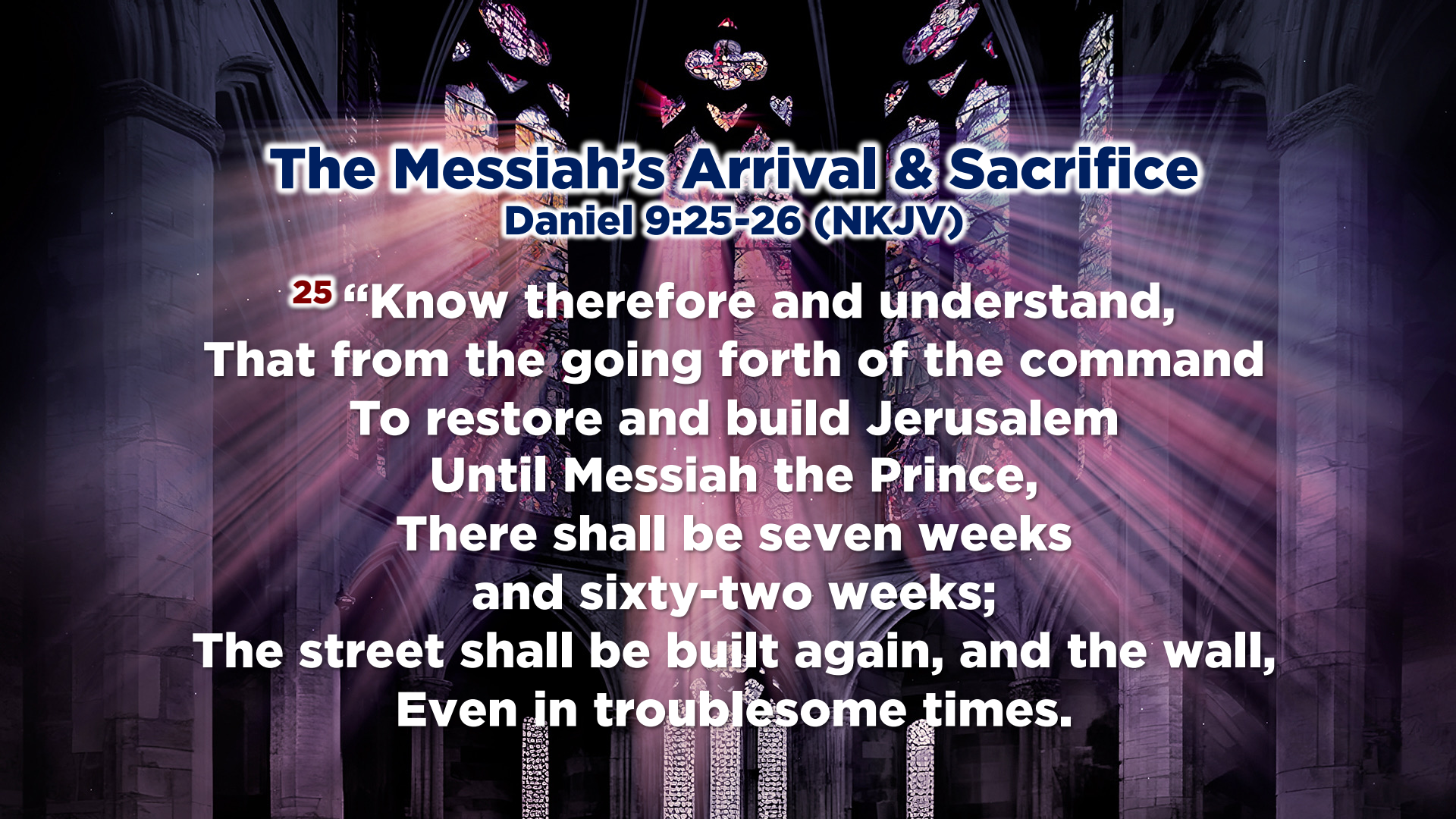
DANIEL 9:22-23 (NIV)



God's Redemptive Timeline

Daniel 9:24 (NKJV)

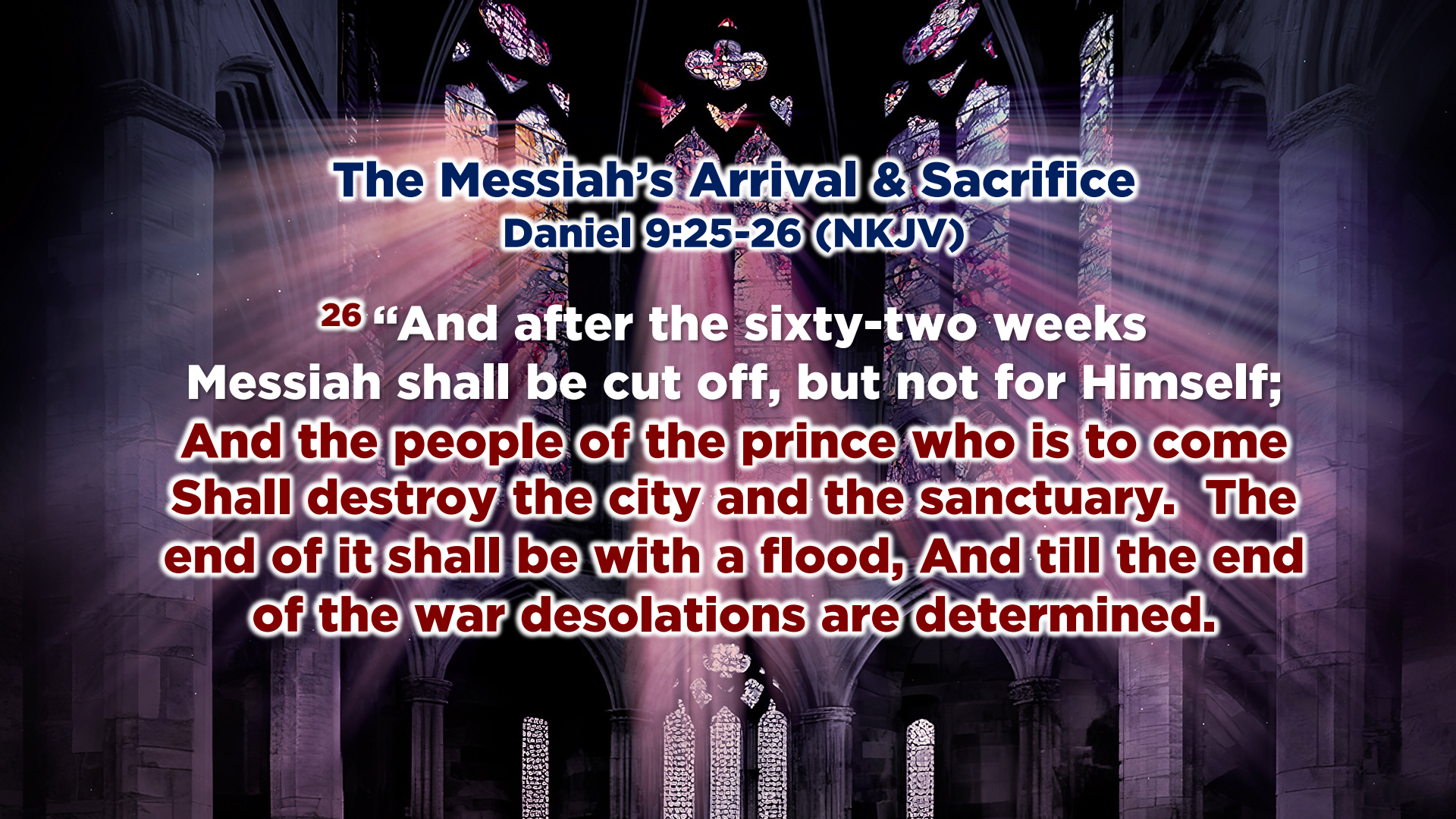
24 “Seventy weeks are determined
For your people and for your holy city,
To finish the transgression,
To make an end of sins,
To make reconciliation for iniquity,
To bring in everlasting righteousness,
To seal up vision and prophecy,
And to anoint the Most Holy.



The Messiah's Arrival & Sacrifice

Daniel 9:25-26 (NKJV)

25 “Know therefore and understand,
That from the going forth of the command
To restore and build Jerusalem
Until Messiah the Prince,
There shall be seven weeks
and sixty-two weeks;
The street shall be built again, and the wall,
Even in troublesome times.



The Messiah's Arrival & Sacrifice

Daniel 9:25-26 (NKJV)

26 “And after the sixty-two weeks
Messiah shall be cut off, but not for Himself;
And the people of the prince who is to come
Shall destroy the city and the sanctuary. The
end of it shall be with a flood, And till the end
of the war desolations are determined.

The Final Covenant & Desolation

Daniel 9:27 (NKJV)

27 Then he shall confirm a covenant with many for one week; But in the middle of the week He shall bring an end to sacrifice and offering. And on the wing of abominations shall be one who makes desolate, Even until the consummation, which is determined, Is poured out on the desolate.”

WHY

PRAYER MATTERS

CONCLUSION

DANIEL 6:1-10, 9:1-23 & 9:20-27

Pastor Ruth Tay
1 June 2025