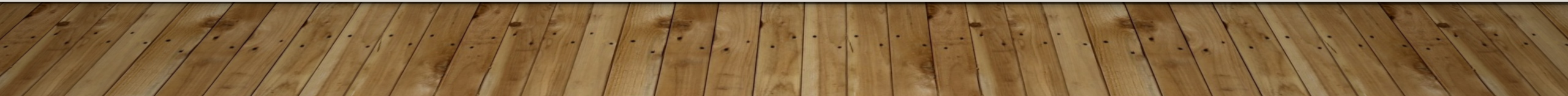


# JESUS DOES WORK

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ACTS 1-6



# ACTS SUBDIVISIONS

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- **Leaders** • Peter (1-12) • Paul (13-28)
- **Places** • Israel (1-10) • Ends of the Earth (11-28)
- **Luke's chapters?** • Jews in Jerusalem (1-6:7)
  - Hellenists & Samaritans (6:8-9:31) • Gentiles & Antioch (9:32-12:24) • Asia Minor (12:15-16:4)
  - Europe (16:6-19:20) • Rome

# ACTS 1-6 • JESUS' SPIRIT HITS JERUSALEM

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- Concluding the Gospel of Luke (1:1-9)
- The Wait (1:10-2:1)
- No Longer Alone (2:2-4:37)
- None of the Rest Dared (5:1-16)
- The Quick vs. Gamaliel's Razor (5:17-40)
- Stephen the Wonder Deacon (6)



# MOST EXCELLENT LOVER OF GOD

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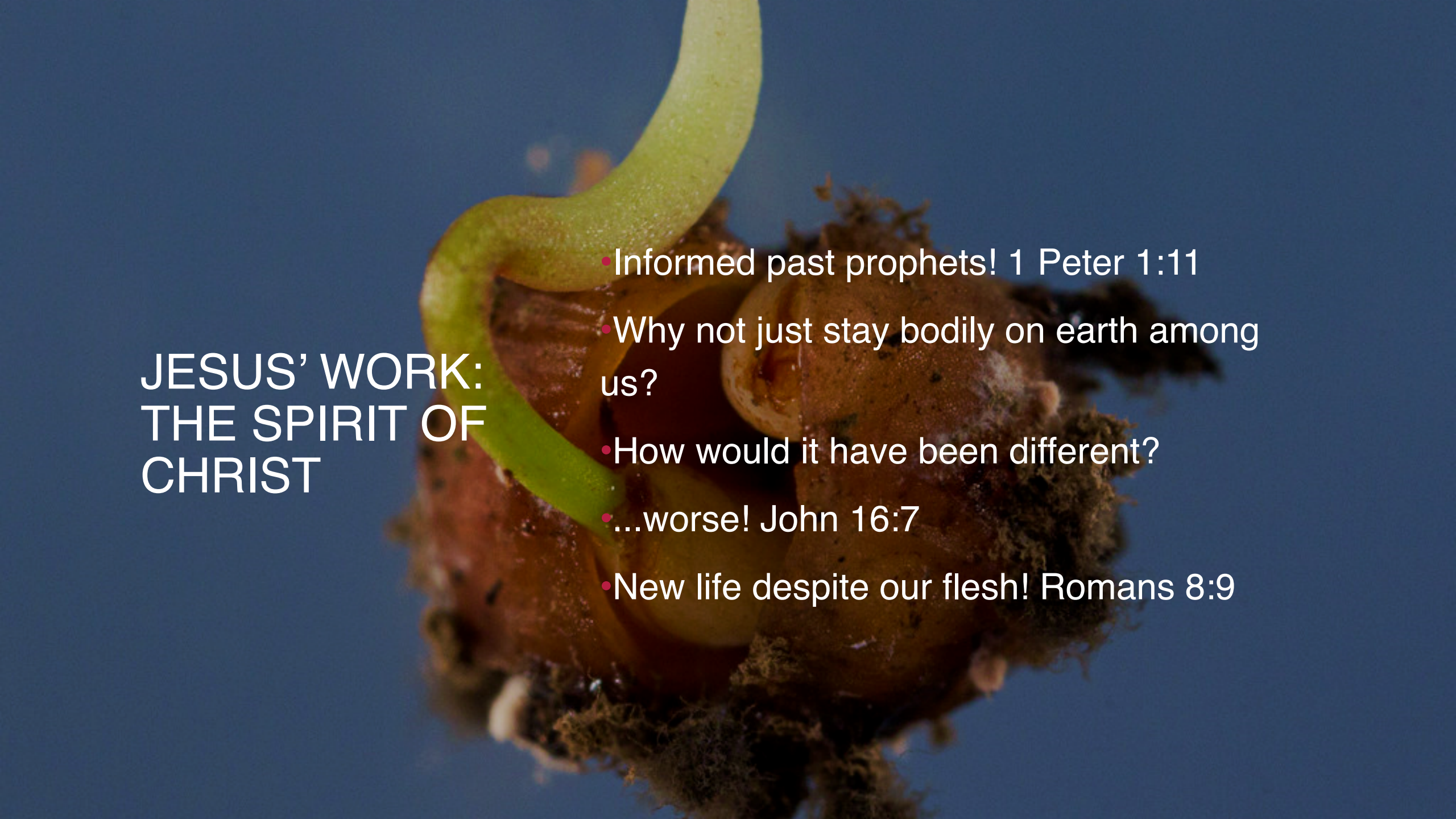
- Acts was formerly a part of the same book as Luke
- “it seemed fitting [to investigate and write] everything carefully from the beginning . . . in consecutive order, most excellent **Theophilus**” Luke 1:3
- “The first account I composed, **Theophilus**, about all that Jesus *began* to do and teach” Acts 1:1a (*emph mine*)



# THE 40 DAYS

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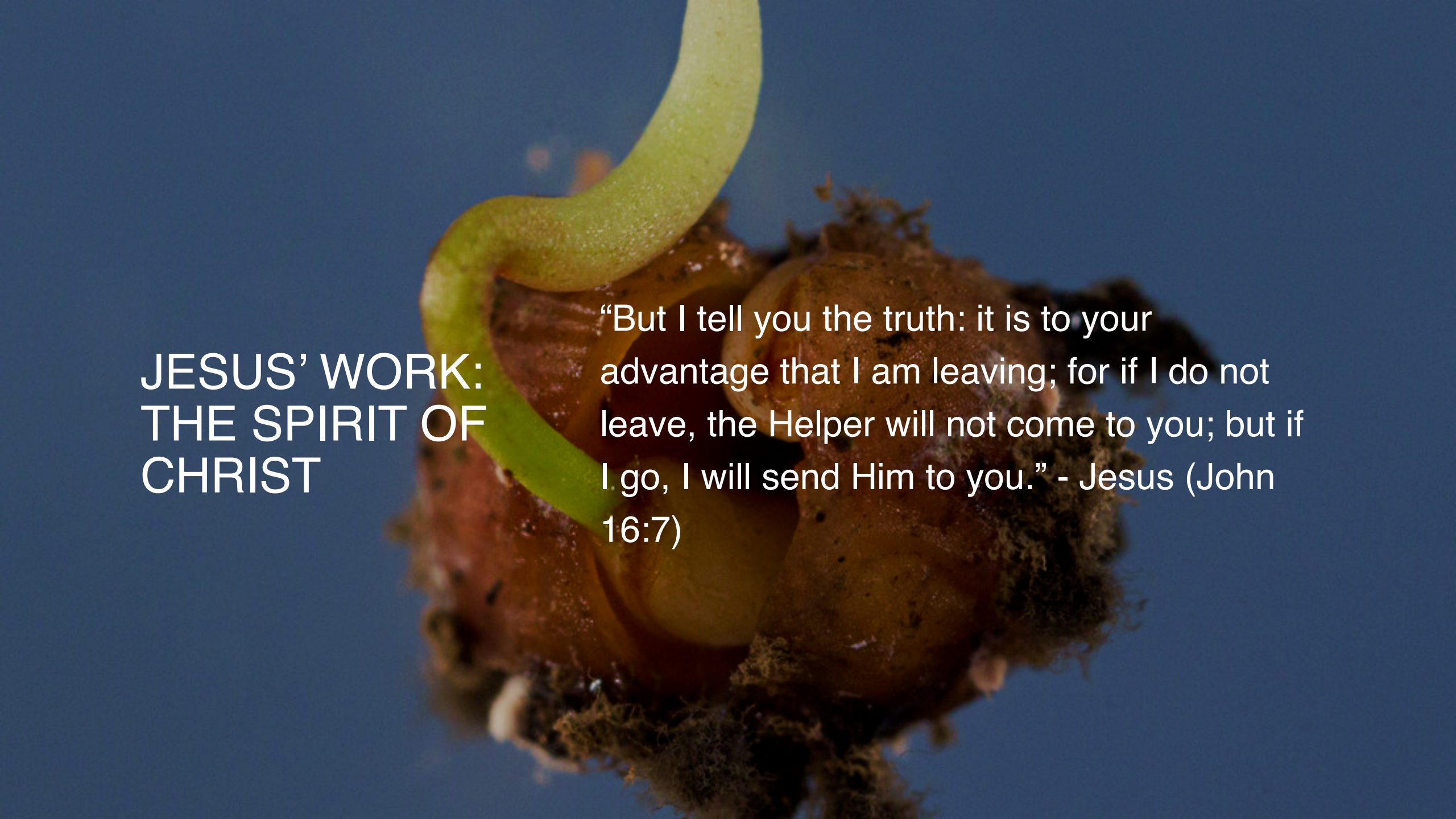
- Matthew 28, Mark 16: meet me in Galilee
- Luke 24: Bethany (2 mile hike)
- Acts 1
  - don't leave Jerusalem
  - Holy Spirit, when: “not many days from now”
  - New Jerusalem, when: “not for you” — “epochs”



## JESUS' WORK: THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST

- Informed past prophets! 1 Peter 1:11
- Why not just stay bodily on earth among us?
- How would it have been different?
- ...worse! John 16:7
- New life despite our flesh! Romans 8:9





## JESUS' WORK: THE SPIRIT OF CHRIST

“But I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I am leaving; for if I do not leave, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.” - Jesus (John 16:7)



# THE WAIT — ACTS 1:10-2:1

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- They obeyed, men and women in Jerusalem waiting
- “continually devoting themselves to prayer”
- Upper room
- Peter takes to the administrative replacing Judas
- The Holy Spirit had told David
- “Together in one place” - 2:1



A close-up, low-angle shot of a dense field of golden wheat. The wheat stalks are tall and full, with their heads bowing slightly. The background is a dark, uniform grey, suggesting a heavy sky or a dark background behind the field. The overall tone is somber and contemplative.

NO LONGER  
ALONE!

“Truly, truly I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.”

- Jesus (John 12:24)



# NO LONGER ALONE! — ACTS 2

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- His Spirit hits! Tongues of fire! Babel undone!
- Peter suddenly preaching in the power of Jesus' Spirit
- He tells them they killed the prophesied Messiah
- “Pierced to the heart” ... “what shall we do?”
- Thousands are coming alive in Christ!





**NO LONGER  
ALONE!**

These who crucified Jesus were now his siblings, collectively the birth of his bride.

“They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe”

- Acts 2:42-43a

# NO LONGER ALONE! — ACTS 3

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- A beggar healed. Eerily like Jesus' work!
- Peter: don't look at us. This is Jesus' doing!
- Your ignorance (“they know not what they do”-Jesus)
- Repent, sins wiped away, times of refreshing from God





NO LONGER  
ALONE!

“And those are the ones on whom seed was sown on the good soil; and they hear the word and accept it and bear fruit, thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold.” - Jesus (Mark 4:20)

“in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed” - God to Abraham about Jesus (Genesis 22:18), quoted by Peter to the people Jews who killed Jesus (Acts 3:25)





NO LONGER  
ALONE!

“So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.” Acts 2:41

“But many of those who had heard the message believed; and the number of the *men* came to be about five thousand.” Acts 4:4 (*emph. mine*)



# NO LONGER ALONE! — ACTS 4

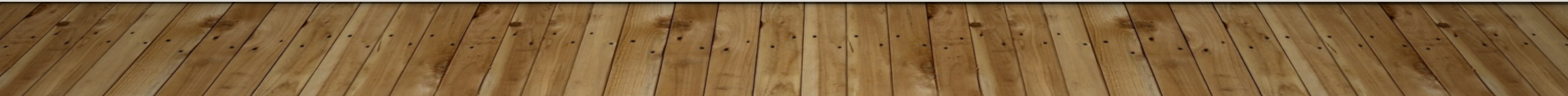
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- The religious leaders oppose but lack Jesus power
- “they had nothing to say in reply.” Tried to silence them
- They asked God for confidence; He *shook the ground*
- “those who believed were of one heart and soul”
- Watkin: logic of superabundance
- “Son of Encouragement” sells his land

# NONE OF THE REST DARED — ACTS 5:1-16

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- Two fake people saw what Barnabas and others did
- They each tried to lie to the Spirit, and each died
- “And great fear came over the whole church, and over all who heard of these things.”
- “But none of the rest dared associate with them”
- Integrity of Spirit in the church!





A lion and a young boy are shown in profile, facing each other in a vast, open landscape under a cloudy sky. The lion is on the left, and the boy is on the right. The scene is dimly lit, suggesting dusk or dawn.

NONE OF THE  
REST DARED

“How can I give you up, O Ephraim?  
How can I surrender you, O Israel?

...

My heart is turned over within Me,  
All My compassions are kindled.”

- God (Hosea 11: 8)

A lion and a young boy are shown in profile, facing each other against a soft, hazy sunset background. The lion is on the left, and the boy is on the right. The scene is dimly lit, with the warm colors of the sunset providing the primary light source.

NONE OF THE  
REST DARED

“They will walk after the Lord,  
He will roar like a lion;  
Indeed He will roar  
And His sons will come trembling [from all  
directions]”

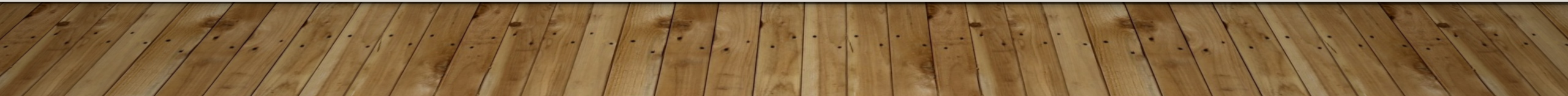
- Hosea 11: 10-11



# NONE OF THE REST DARED — ACTS 5:1-16

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- Still so many people were being saved
- So many people were coming
- The sick, lining the streets!
- They were all being healed!
- Terrifying power — not destroying but making whole



# THE QUICK

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- High Priest and “Sad you sees” imprisoned them
- But they couldn't be contained!
- We told you shut up!
- “We must obey God rather than men.”



# THE QUICK

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- “a Prince and a Savior, to grant repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins.” - Acts 5:31
- “They were cut to the quick”
- “sawed in half to the heart”
- murderously furious

# GAMALIEL'S RAZOR

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- “Men of Israel, take care what you propose to do”
- Reviews false messiahs who came to nothing
- “let them alone, for if this plan  
...is of men, it will be overthrown”
- “but if it is of God, ...you may even be found fighting  
against God.”



# STEPHEN THE WONDER DEACON

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- Deacons appointed, help apostles focus on preaching
- Stephen, one of the deacons, doing wonders
- Conspiracy against him
- Face shining like an angel

Strong's	Greek	English	Morphology
2532 [e]	Καὶ Kai	And	Conj
3588 [e]	ὁ ho	the	Art-NMS
3056 [e]	λόγος logos	word	N-NMS
3588 [e]	τοῦ tou	-	Art-GMS
2316 [e]	Θεοῦ Theou	of God	N-GMS
837 [e]	ἤϋξανεν, ēuxanēn	continued to increase,	V-IIA-3S
2532 [e]	καὶ kai	and	Conj
4129 [e]	ἐπληθύνετο eplēthyneto	was multiplied	V-IIM/P-3S



# JESUS DOES WORK

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JESUS IS THE WORD — A SEED THAT SPREADS SO WE CAN BEAR FRUIT

JESUS IS FEARSOME TO PEACEFUL ENDS

WE SHOULD EXPECT JESUS TO BE WORKING AND ENJOY THE FRUIT

