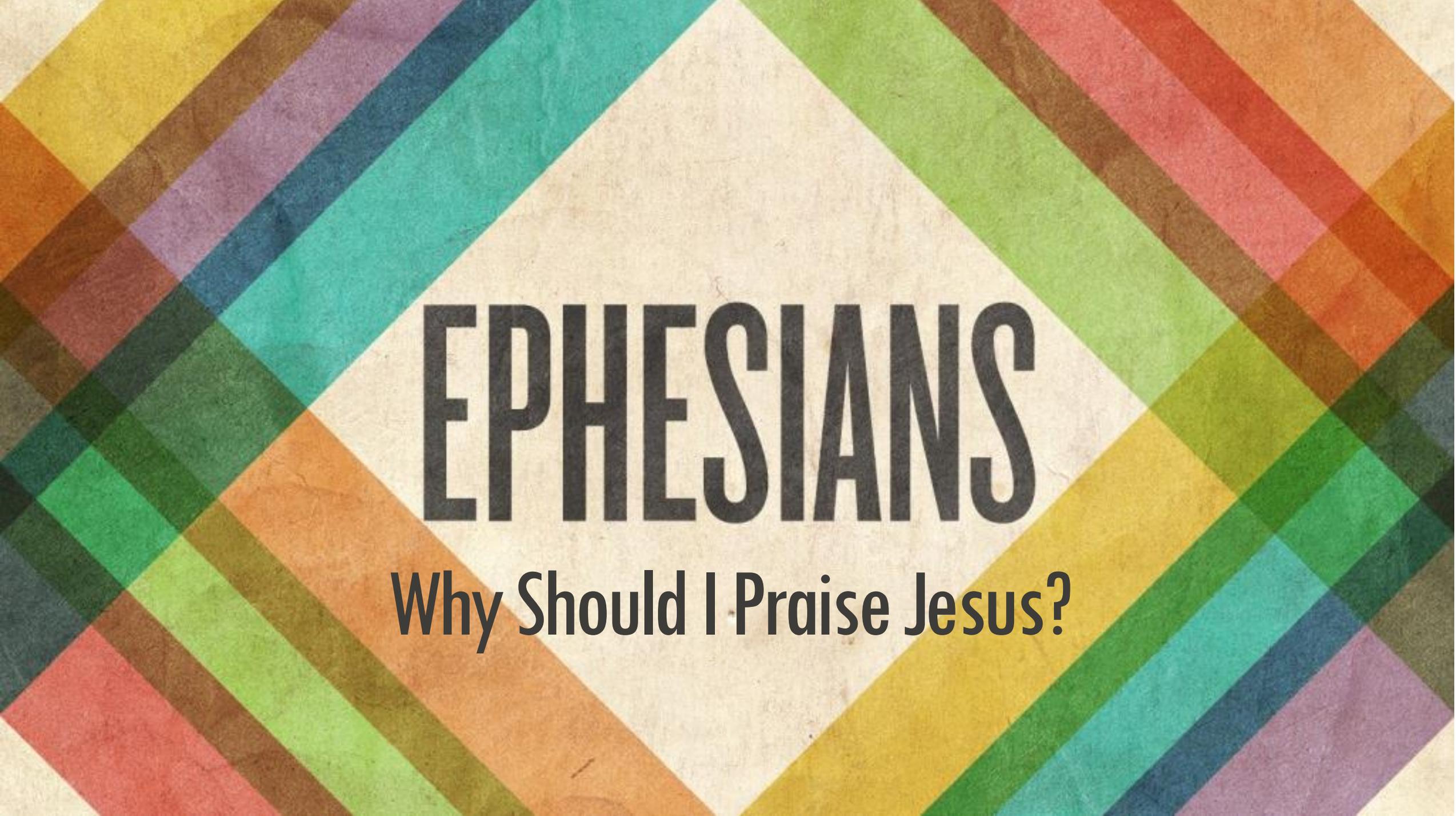




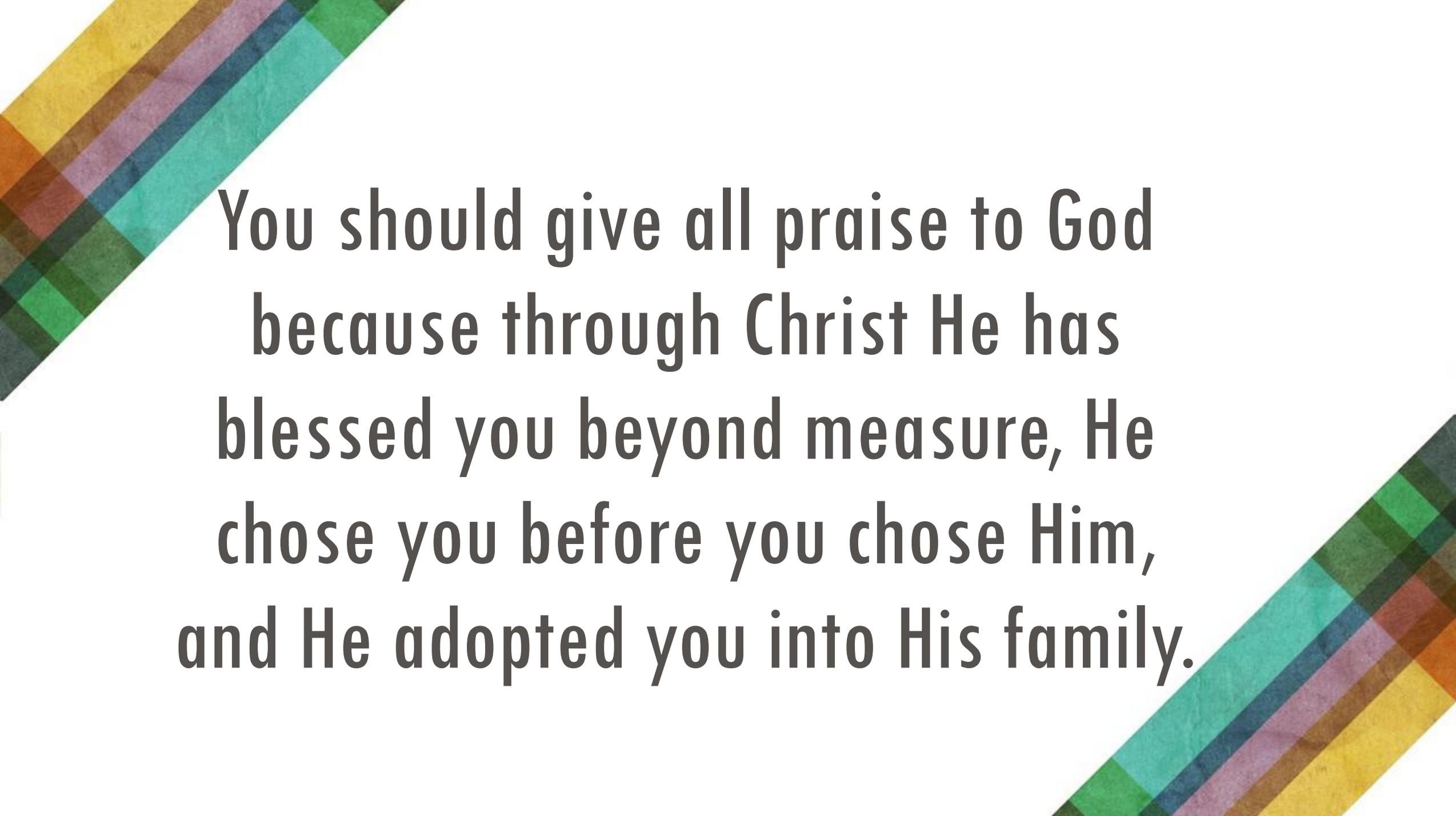
EPHESIANS

A LIFE SPENT FOLLOWING CHRIST

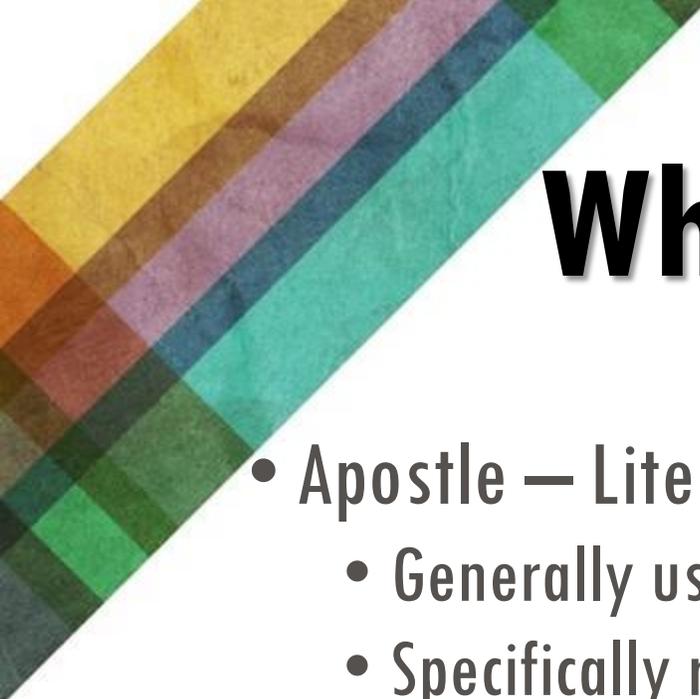


EPHESIANS

Why Should I Praise Jesus?

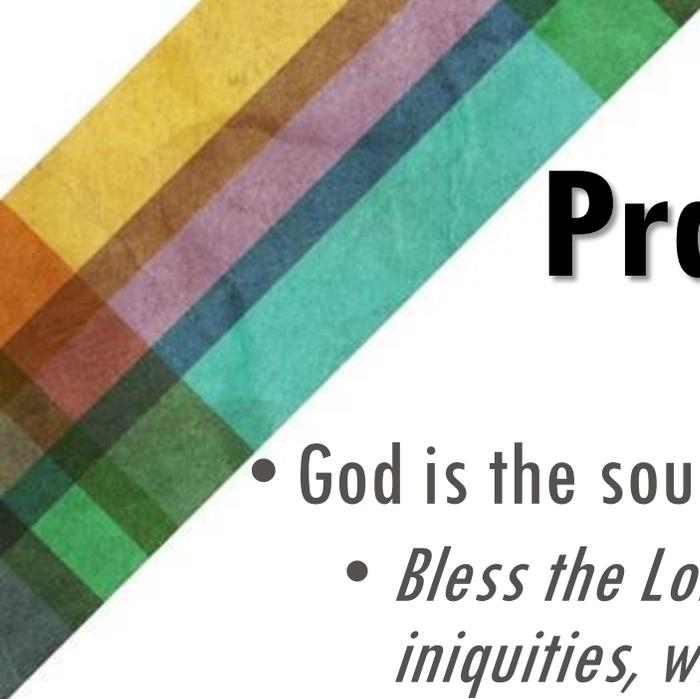


You should give all praise to God
because through Christ He has
blessed you beyond measure, He
chose you before you chose Him,
and He adopted you into His family.



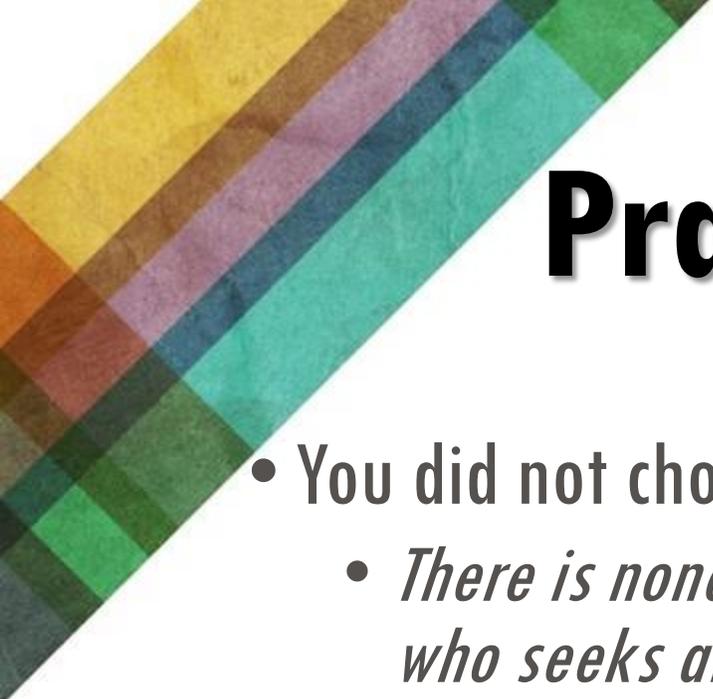
When The Saints Go Marching In

- Apostle — Literally means “one who is sent”
 - Generally used of anyone commissioned by the church
 - Specifically relates to 12 men given specific authority and responsibility
 - *Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb.* Revelation 21:14
- Saint — Literally means “one who is holy”
 - Biblically is not reserved for a special class of Christian
 - Is used to describe all believers because our holiness is through Christ
 - *To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.* Romans 1:7



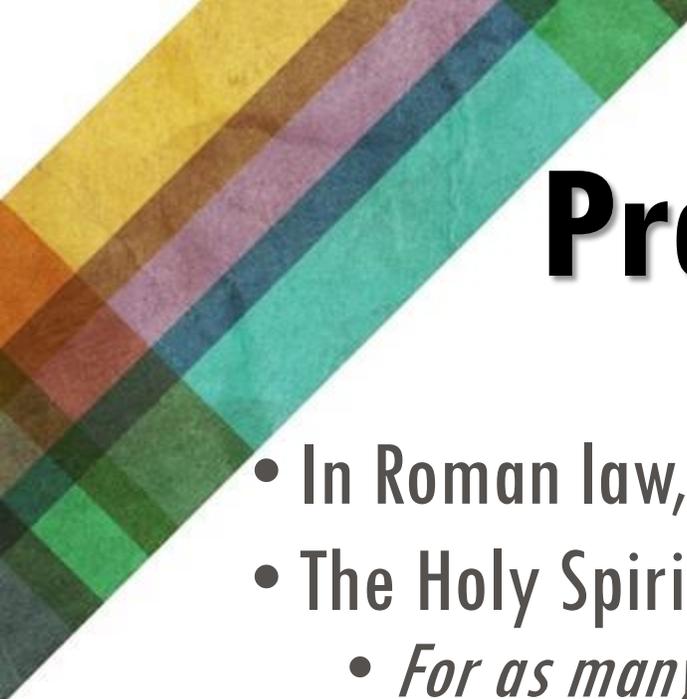
Praise Him for Blessing You

- God is the source of all blessings
 - *Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all His benefits: who forgives all your iniquities, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from destruction, who crowns you with lovingkindness and tender mercies* Psalm 103:2-4
 - Romans 8:28-30
- Heaven is the storehouse of all blessings
 - *Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.* Matthew 6:19-21



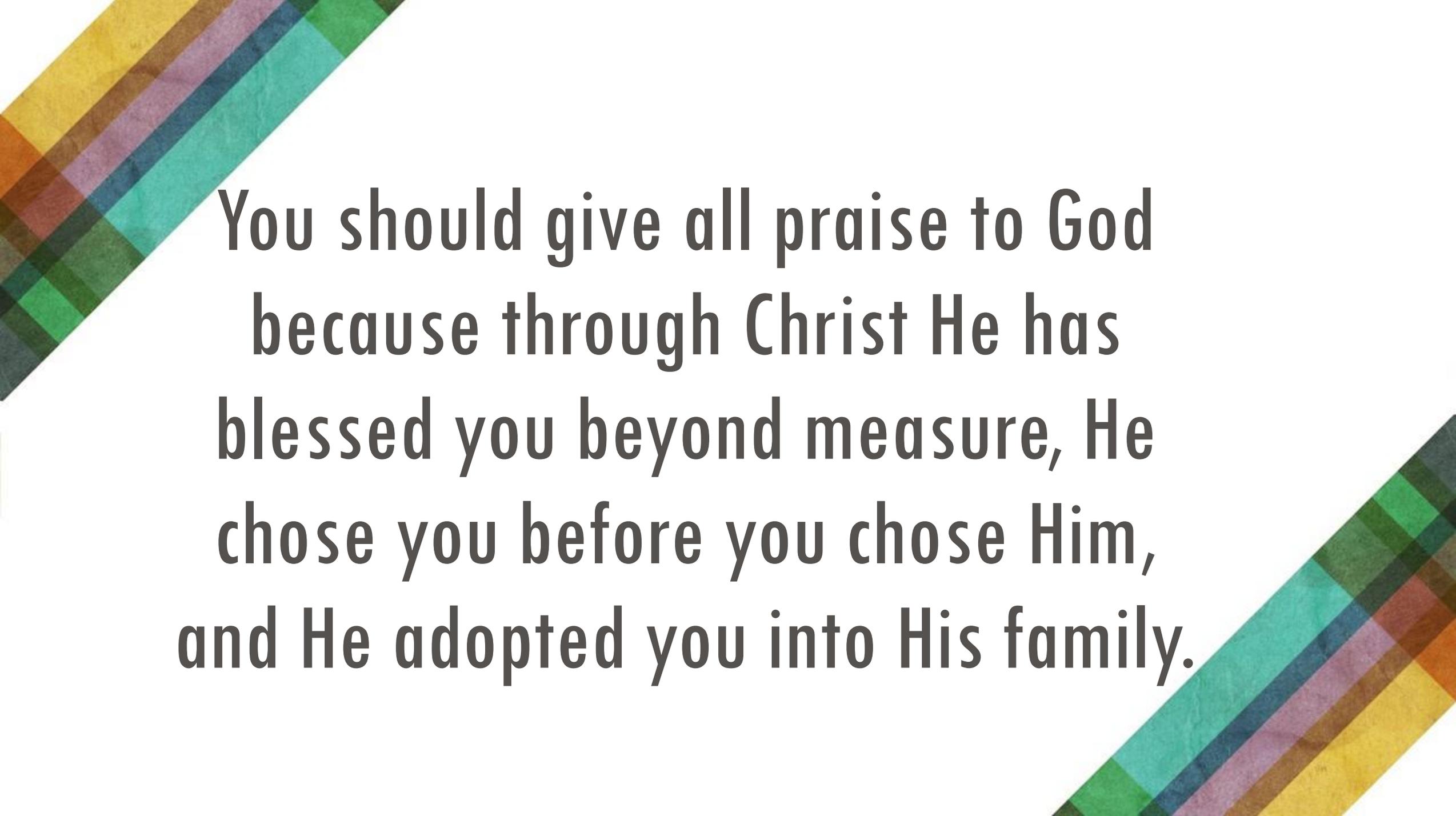
Praise Him for Choosing You

- You did not choose Christ first
 - *There is none righteous, no, not one; there is none who understands; there is none who seeks after God.* Romans 3:10-11
 - *But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.* Romans 5:8
- Election secures our salvation
 - Romans 8:31-39
- Election still requires faith and our decision (It does not negate free will)
 - *For whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.* Romans 10:13



Praise Him for Adopting You

- In Roman law, the adopted child had more rights than biological children
- The Holy Spirit is our adoption agency
 - *For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, “Abba, Father.” The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*
Romans 8:13-17
 - *But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, “Abba, Father!” Galatians 4:4-6*



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