

Calvary Church, Brighton, UK



*An independent Bible-teaching baptist church
congregation of 40-50 people based on the south coast of England
This service is being held “in person” and live-streamed
YouTube Channel: search for “Calvary Brighton”*

Today 7th November the service is led by Philip Wells pastor/elder
Subject – What is a gospel church?

*The local virus infection rate has started to rise again so we ask you to respect
the **space in the back hall** as Covid-secure by kindly retaining face-coverings
while moving and while singing in Back Hall.*

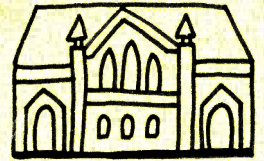
This evening – 18:30 at church – discussion on the morning’s teaching +
zoom “overspill” –

Deacon voting – please return votes by 7th November (today!)

SGP conference 13th November + Ladies Breakfast 11:30

10th November 19:45 whole church prayer meeting

24th November – church members’ meeting



Welcome

Song: 334 There is a Redeemer

Prayer – with Lord's prayer

Reading – 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Song: 667 Above the clash of creeds

A special event for the children in the Gates Room

Talk – What is a gospel church?

*Song: 619 From the sun's rising unto the sun's
setting Jesus our Lord shall be great*

Closing prayer

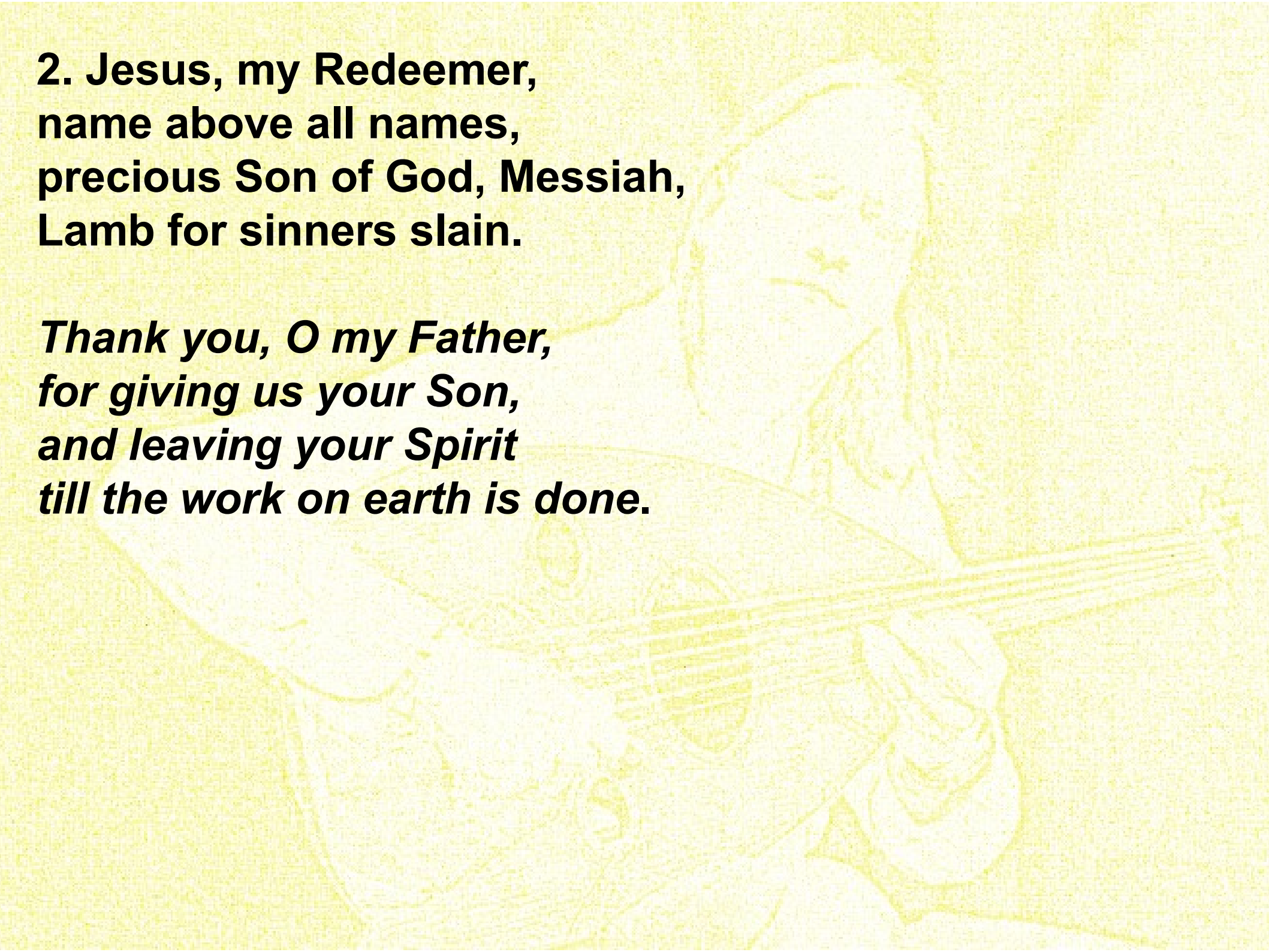
Praise! 334

**THERE IS A REDEEMER,
Jesus, God's own Son,
precious Lamb of God, Messiah,
Holy One.**

***Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.***

**2. Jesus, my Redeemer,
name above all names,
precious Son of God, Messiah,
Lamb for sinners slain.**

***Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.***



**3. When I stand in glory
I will see his face
and there I'll serve my King for ever
in that holy place.**

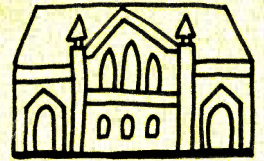
***Thank you, O my Father,
for giving us your Son,
and leaving your Spirit
till the work on earth is done.***

Authors: Green, Melody, Green, Keith

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Welcome

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Closing prayer

The Lord's prayer



Our Father in heaven

- hallowed be your name.

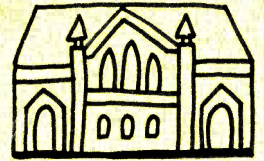
Your kingdom come,

your will be done on earth as it is in heaven

Give us today our daily bread,

and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin
against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil
for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for
ever and ever. Amen.



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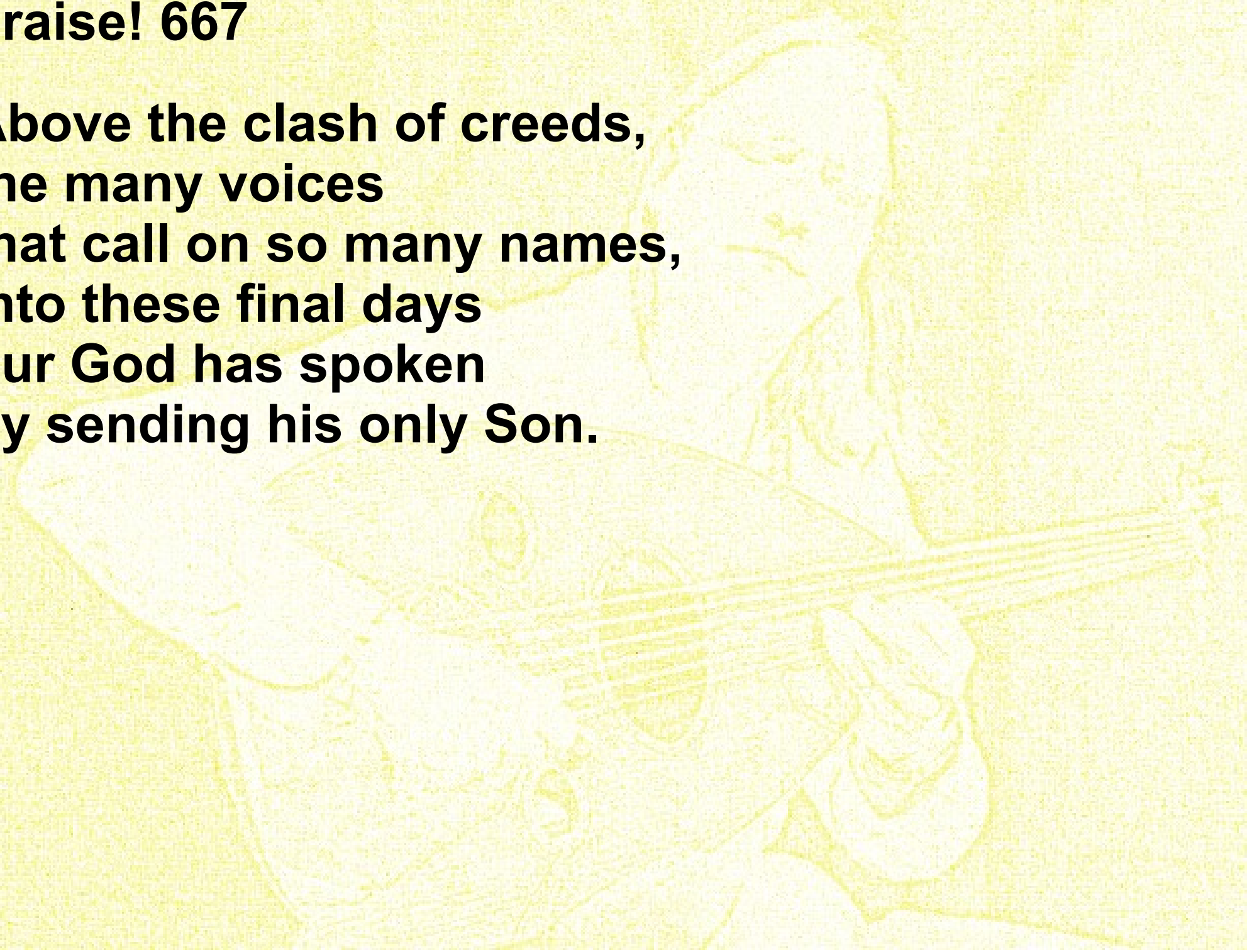
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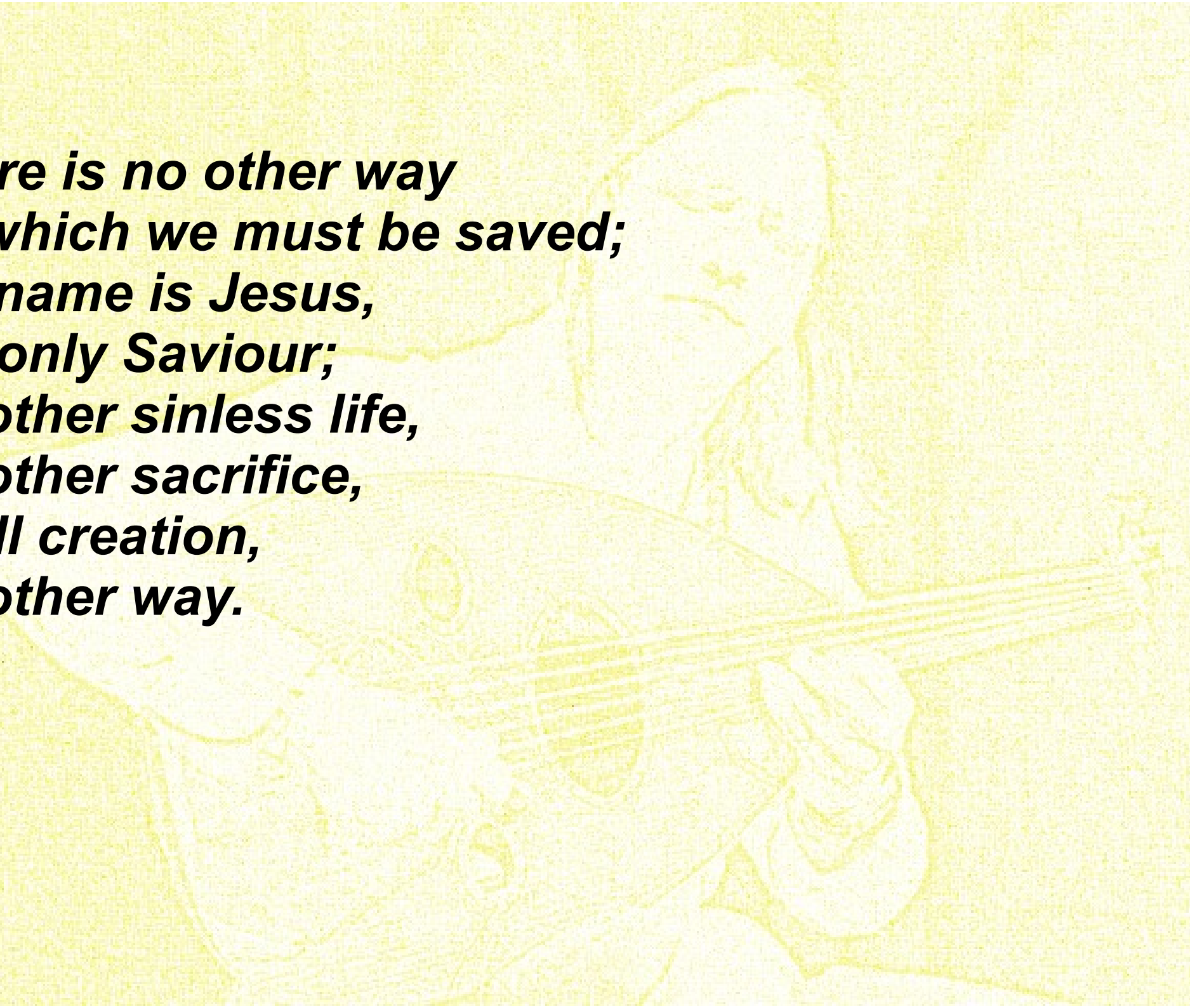
Closing prayer

Praise! 667

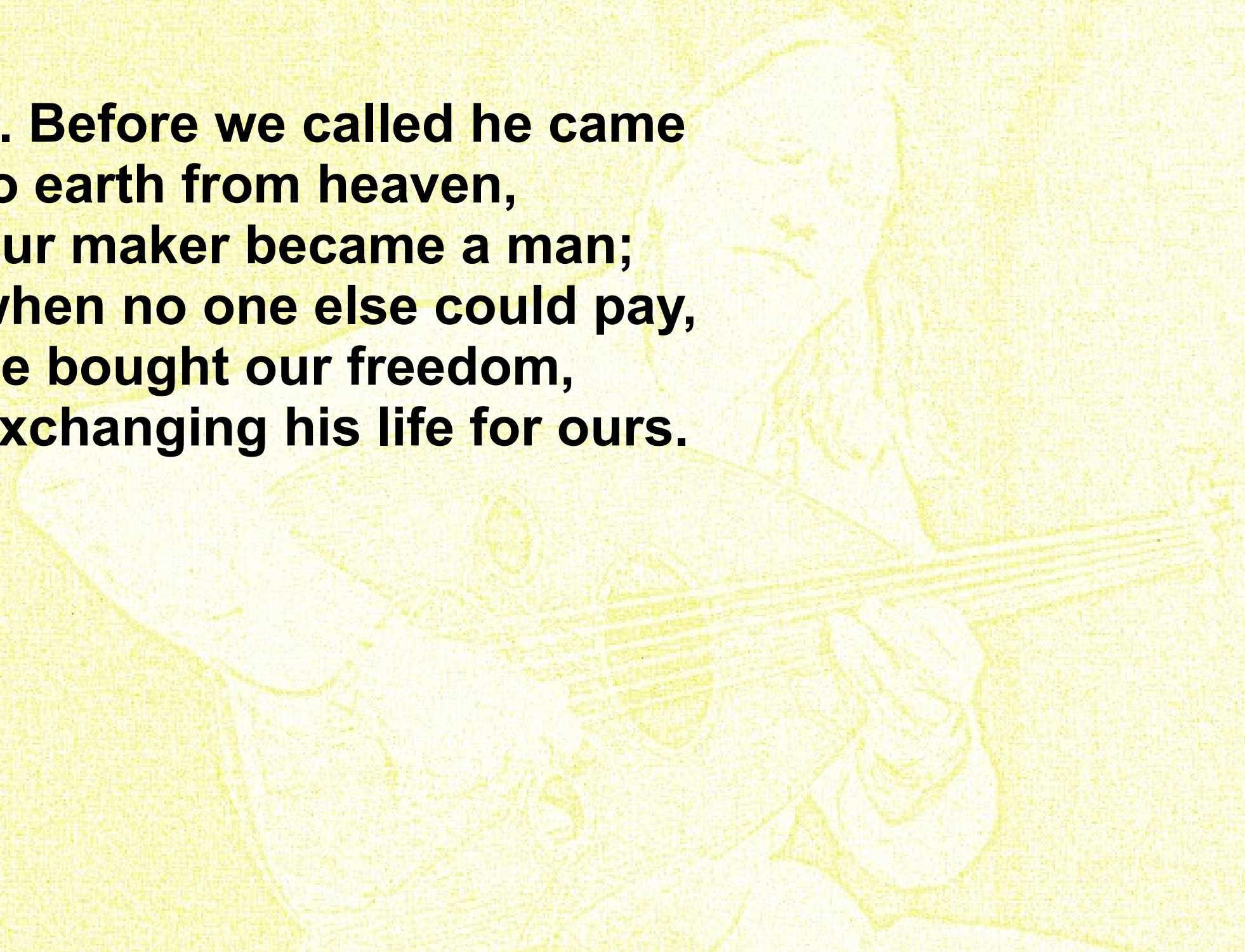
**Above the clash of creeds,
the many voices
that call on so many names,
into these final days
our God has spoken
by sending his only Son.**



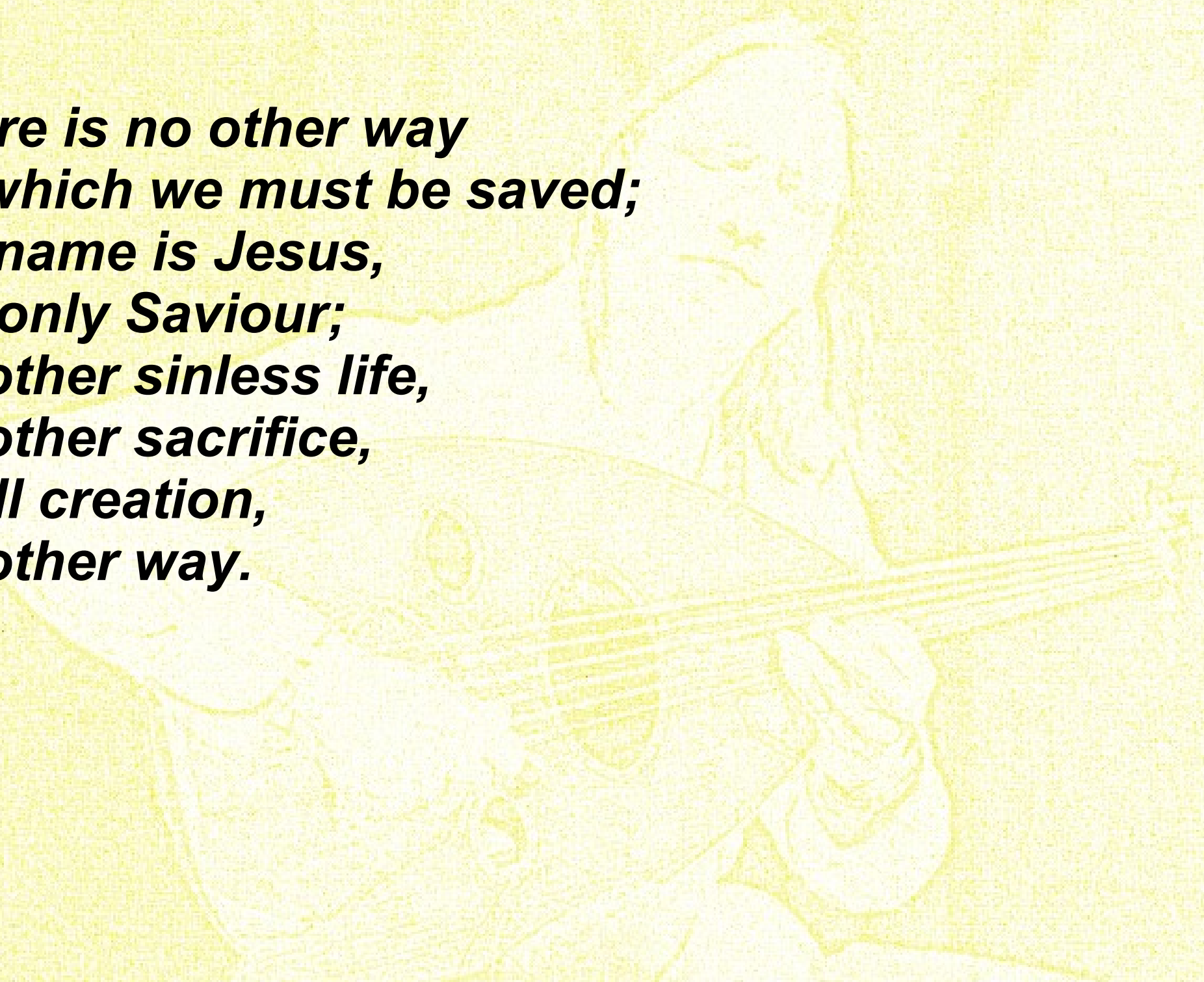
***There is no other way
by which we must be saved;
his name is Jesus,
the only Saviour;
no other sinless life,
no other sacrifice,
in all creation,
no other way.***



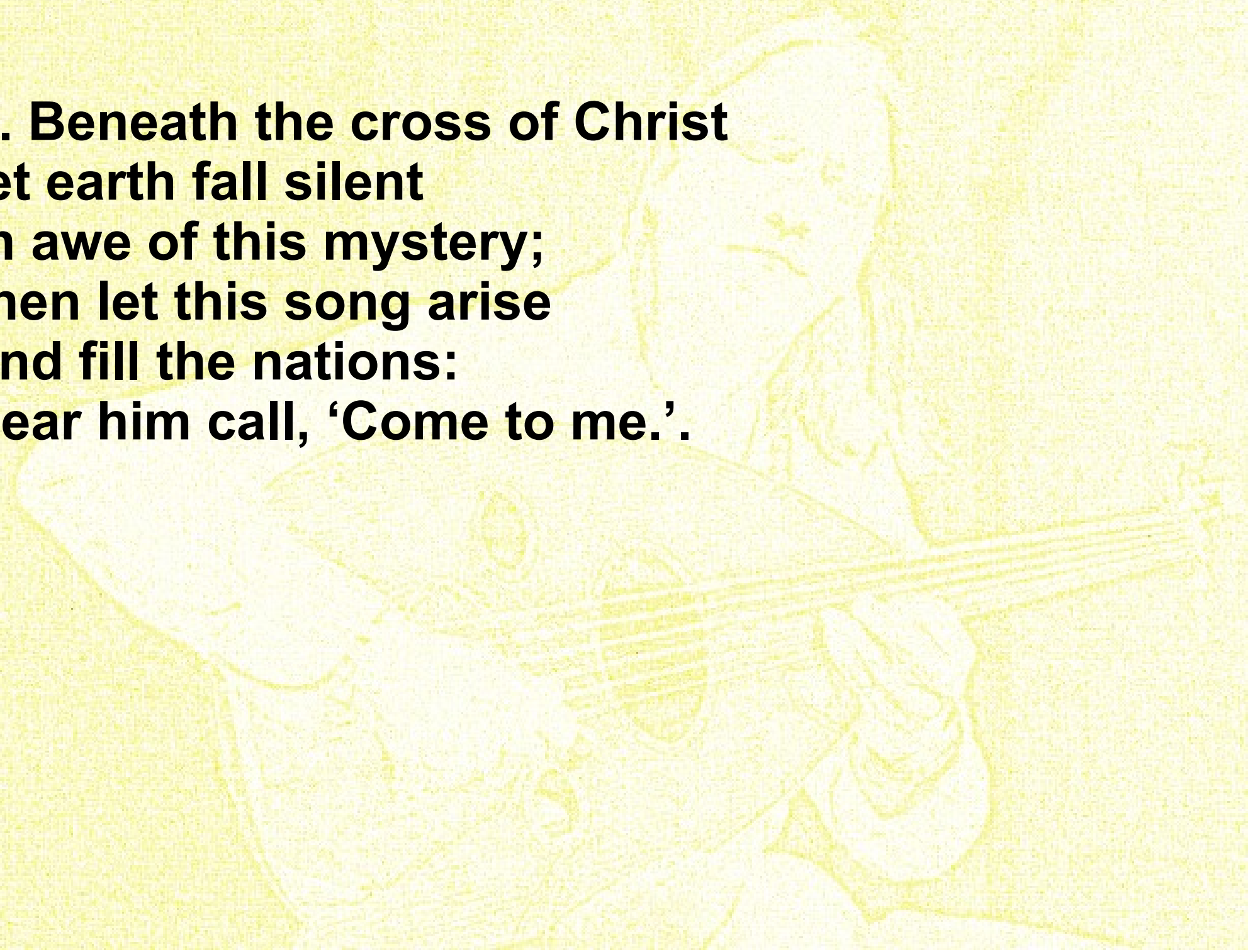
**2. Before we called he came
to earth from heaven,
our maker became a man;
when no one else could pay,
he bought our freedom,
exchanging his life for ours.**

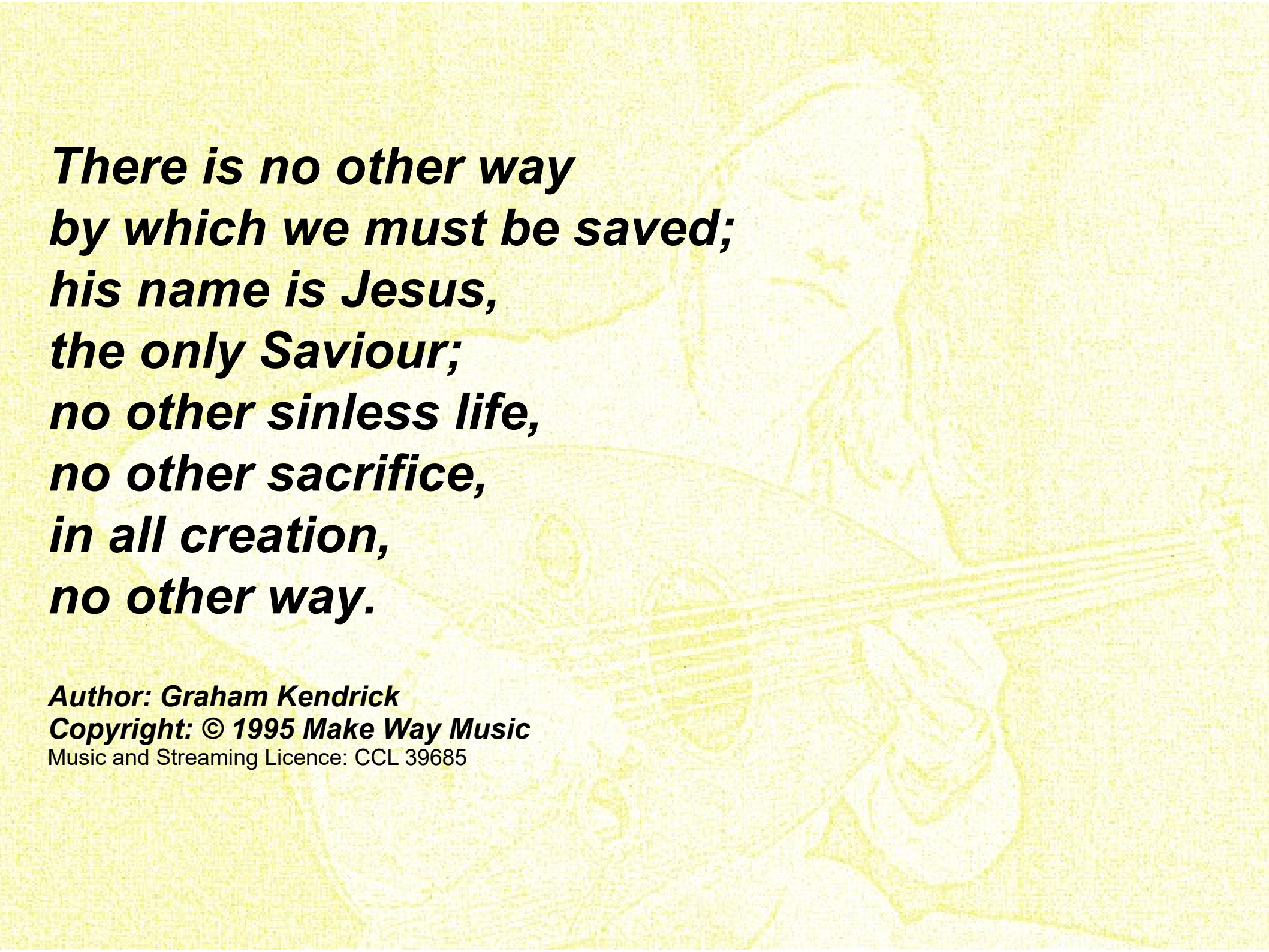


***There is no other way
by which we must be saved;
his name is Jesus,
the only Saviour;
no other sinless life,
no other sacrifice,
in all creation,
no other way.***



**3. Beneath the cross of Christ
let earth fall silent
in awe of this mystery;
then let this song arise
and fill the nations:
hear him call, 'Come to me.'**



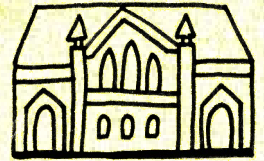


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Author: Graham Kendrick

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A special event for the children in the Gates Room

Talk – What is a gospel church?

*Song: 619 From the sun's rising unto the sun's
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Closing prayer

What is a gospel church?

Catholic

Protestant

Pentecostal

Baptist

Charismatic

Anglican

Methodist

... all different sort of churches

... does it matter? Are they all the same?

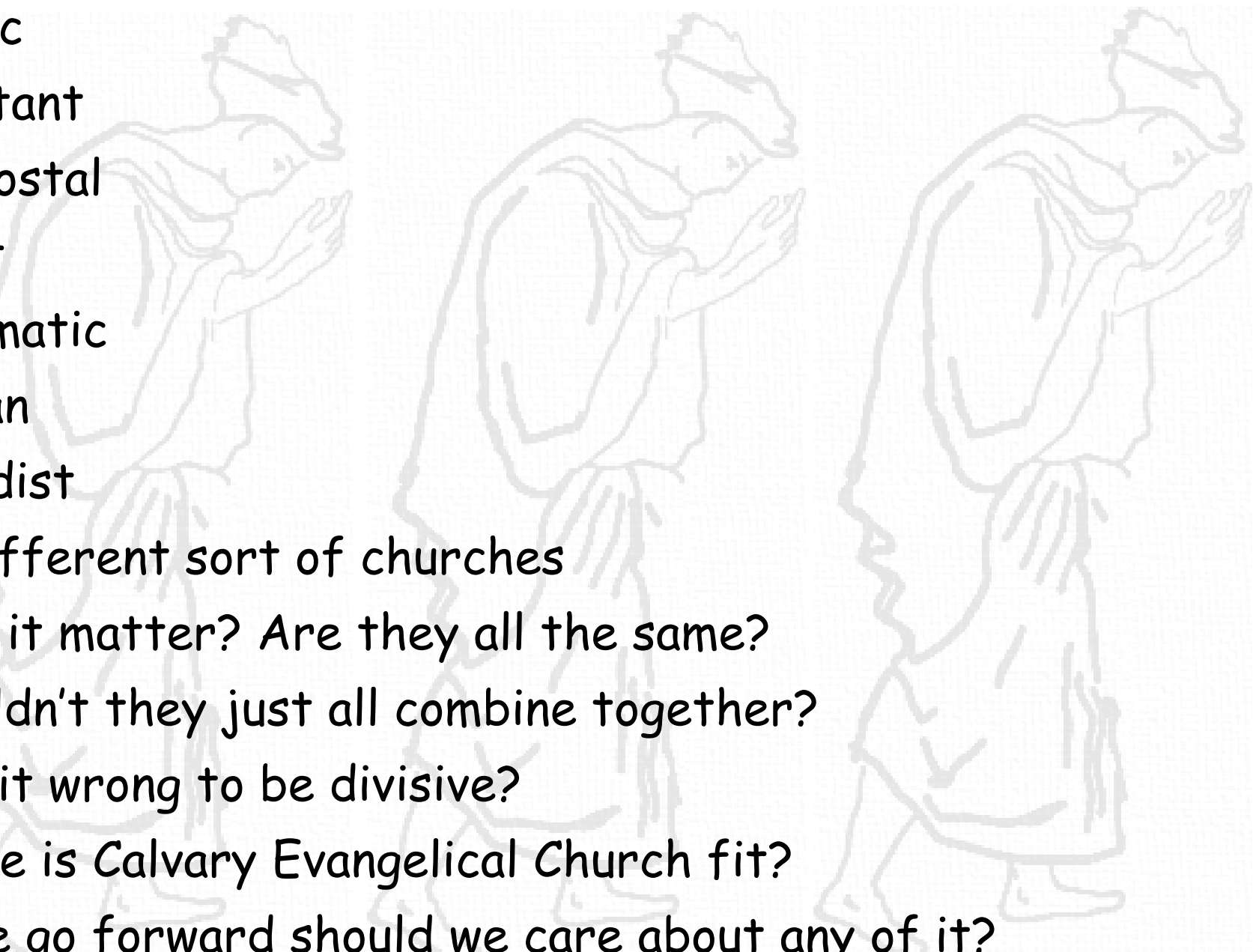
... shouldn't they just all combine together?

... isn't it wrong to be divisive?

... where is Calvary Evangelical Church fit?

... as we go forward should we care about any of it?

... what does our God and Lord Jesus have to say on this matter?



What is a gospel church?

First look at word we use:

Evangelical (church, person)

- ??? "keen person, pushy person"
- ??? "likes to sing mindless Christian songs"

Similar words evangelism, evangelistic, evangel

- Ev + angel = good + message
- Like gospel
 - Good + spel = good + news
- i.e. evangelical = good news (church, person)
- Good news ... Christian good news / good news about Jesus Christ

What is a gospel church?

1. what is this good news?
2. why is it important?
3. what obligation does it bring?



1. what is this good news?

Good news = something you hadn't hear before,
and something that is good!

Old testament

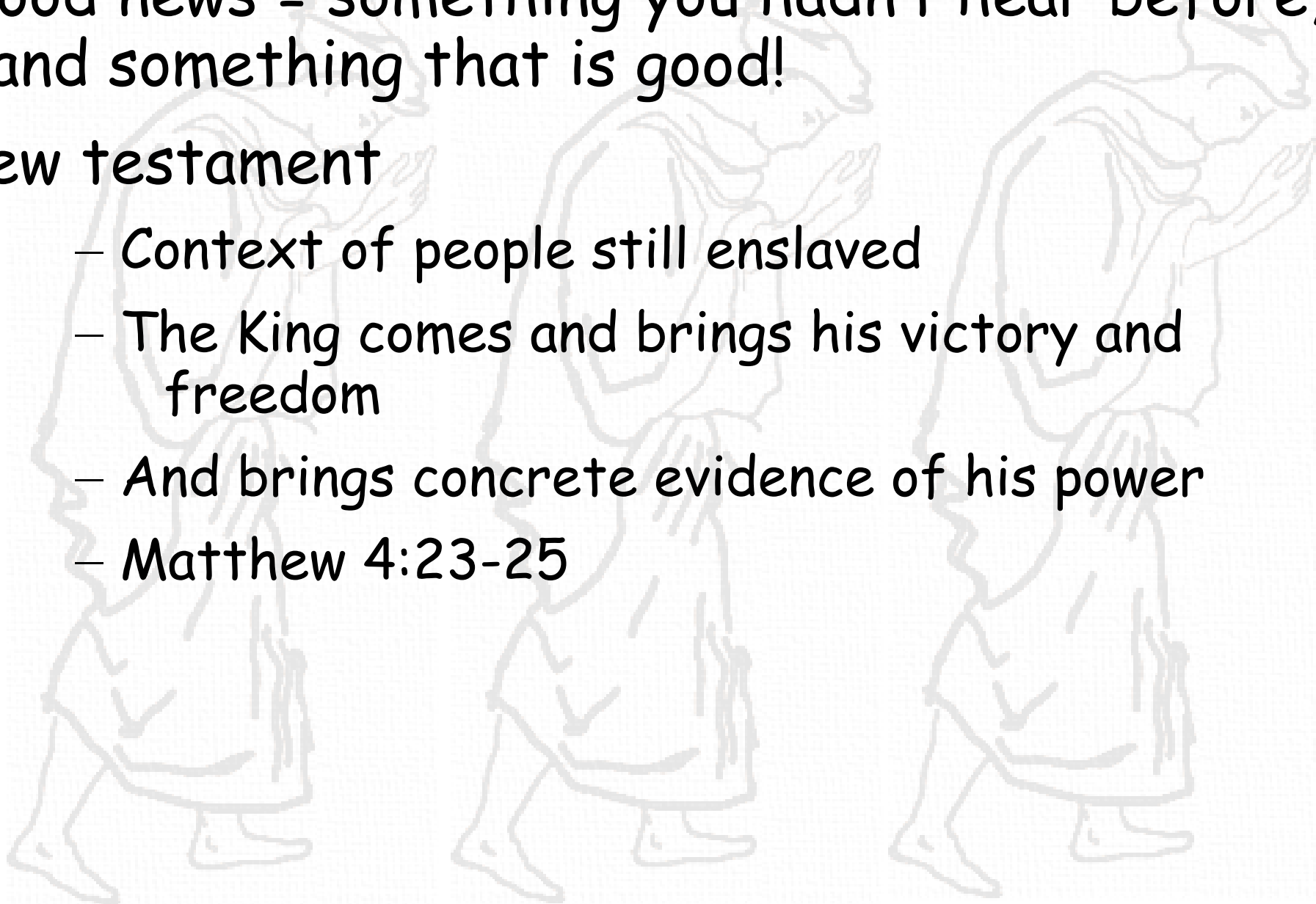
- e.g. distant battle (King/Kingdom)
- Victory for our King
- Carry the news back home, stand on the hill and shout
- Citizens hear and rejoice
 - Rebels hear and fear
 - = two ways of aligning with the news
- e.g. Isaiah 40:9 "the LORD is coming"

1. what is this good news?

Good news = something you hadn't hear before,
and something that is good!

New testament

- Context of people still enslaved
- The King comes and brings his victory and freedom
- And brings concrete evidence of his power
- Matthew 4:23-25



1. what is this good news?

Good news = something you hadn't hear before,
and something that is good!

New testament

- After the cross and resurrection of Christ
- The good news is clearly focused on Jesus - his Person and his saving Work
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-7
- History + interpretation + [] + challenge
- Good news - fight and victory
- Good news - what this means for us and our sin
- Good news - saves ... if we believe it

1. what is this good news?

Evangelical/gospel church/people

- have a message ... tell a message ... believe a message

=> spell it out in more detail - with cardinal points

- a. God - Creator - how he deserves our thanks and praise and glory ... BUT
- b. humans are in a state of rebellion against his authority, deep rejection of his being God
 - = sin ... many aspects to this ... begins with our ruptured relationship with God → relations with our fellow humans, our world, ourselves

1. what is this good news?

a. God

b. sin

c. Jesus Christ

- He entered the world to be our Saviour. Not a third party - but God himself
- *Incarnation* : God become man
- *Atonement*: massive huge act of sacrifice - he himself bears the sins of his people and receives the punishment due himself
- *Exaltation*
 - Resurrection: God overturns the "guilty" verdict and pronounces him "just, glorious, deathless, pre-eminent, seated at right hand"
 - Enthronement
 - Future in his hand - heaven and hell - Judge and New-Maker

1. what is this good news?

a. God

b. sin

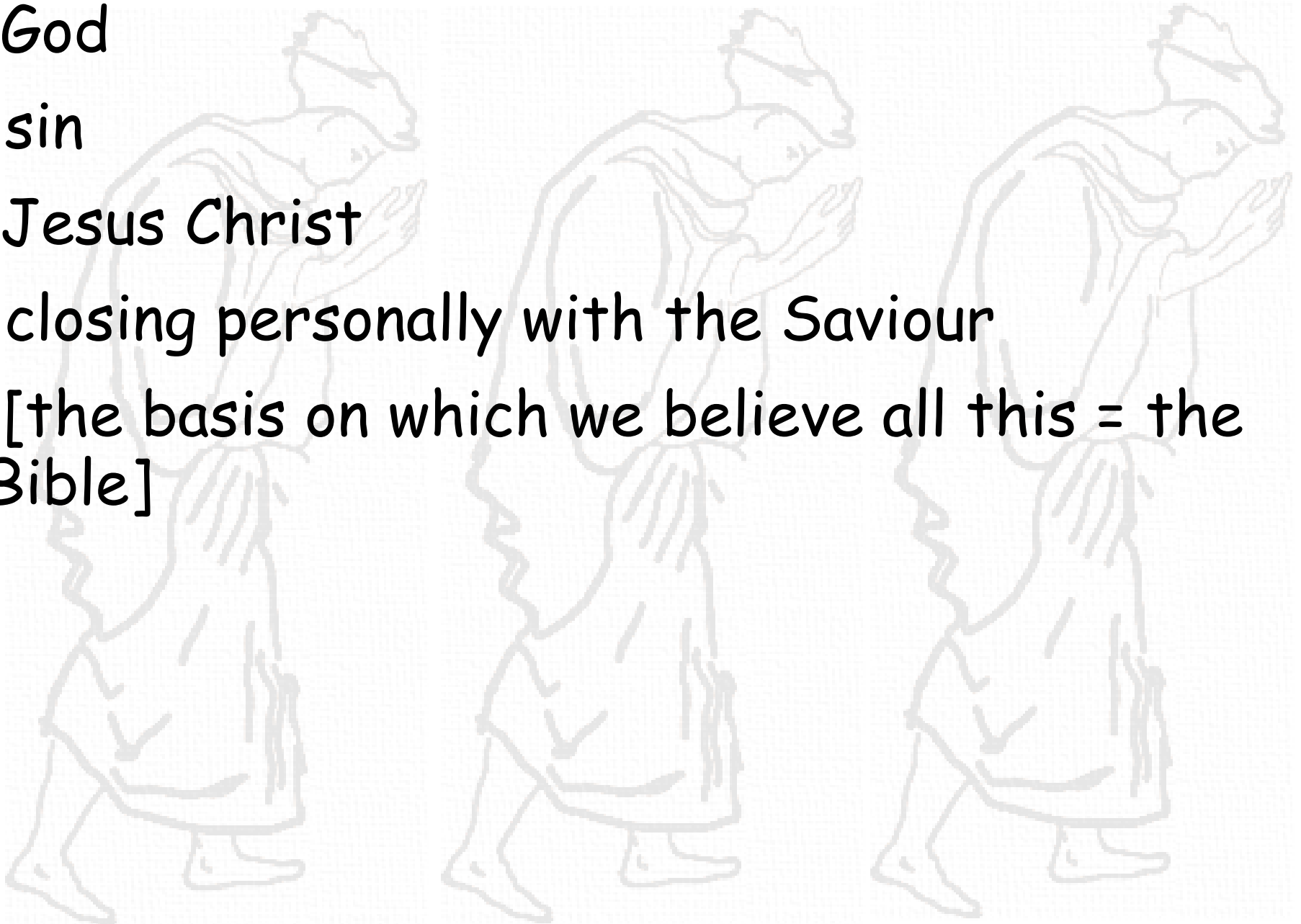
c. Jesus Christ

d. closing personally with the Saviour

- Necessity of the new birth ("born again")
- Repentance and faith = turn and trust
- Justification by Christ through faith alone
- Union with Christ // gift of his Holy Spirit, bringing the life of the risen Christ into human hearts
- Future fulfilment of all of this on the Last Day

1. what is this good news?

- a. God
- b. sin
- c. Jesus Christ
- d. closing personally with the Saviour
- e. [the basis on which we believe all this = the Bible]



2. why is it important?

Why important?

Why not good will towards the homeless?

Why not action on climate change?

- all worthy, and "both and" ...

- **PRIORITY**

– "by this gospel you are saved"

- present peace and joy

– ... knowing sins forgiven, conscience cleansed,
meaning in life, future to look forward to

- last day: without this = perish under the fearful
and right wrath of God

– Rev 6:16 "hide us from the wrath of the Lamb"

2. why is it important?

- Jesus said: "you must be born again" John 3:7

- Acts 17:30 - command from Almighty God

God commands all men everywhere to repent

- Acts 4:12 - no alternative!

"salvation is found in no-one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved"

=> are you in obedience or disobedience?

=> why are you waiting?

3. what obligation does it bring?

E.g. the man a crowded cafe who sees a bomb in a carrier bag

... and quietly slips out of the door ...

=> he had an obligation to say something!!

Obligation to tell it!

- “professional negligence”
- People on the last day ... but you never told me ... you never made any effort to invite me ...
- Woe to the minister of the gospel who fails to tell
- Woe to the church which blunts or mangles the message!
- ... pats sinners on the head and says “fine” when all the time the sinner is heading for wrath and hell

3. what obligation does it bring?

Obligation to tell

- *Opportunities come in different shapes and sizes*
- *e.g. family ... long term witness*
- *e.g. neighbours / colleagues ... wait for an opening or a question*
- *e.g. market place : Paul went and sought an audience*
- *Not just at home, but internationally*
- *"going, make disciples of all nations"*
 - *e.g. Joelle, Victor and Judith, Mike Steadman,*

–

A gospel church

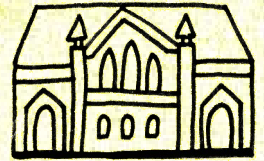
Catholic, Pentecostal, Baptist, methodist ...???

Q: if you went there, would they tell you the gospel?

Q: would you hear about:

- God the Creator and Judge
- Man – rebellious, lost, guilty,
- Jesus Christ – the only Saviour, glory of his atoning work as our Substitute under God's wrath, his resurrection, enthronement, and Coming as Judge and Saviour
- The need to turn and believe
- The blessings of new life in Christ now
- And the promises of glory in the world to come

Calvary Evangelical Church = what other sort of church would we dare to be??



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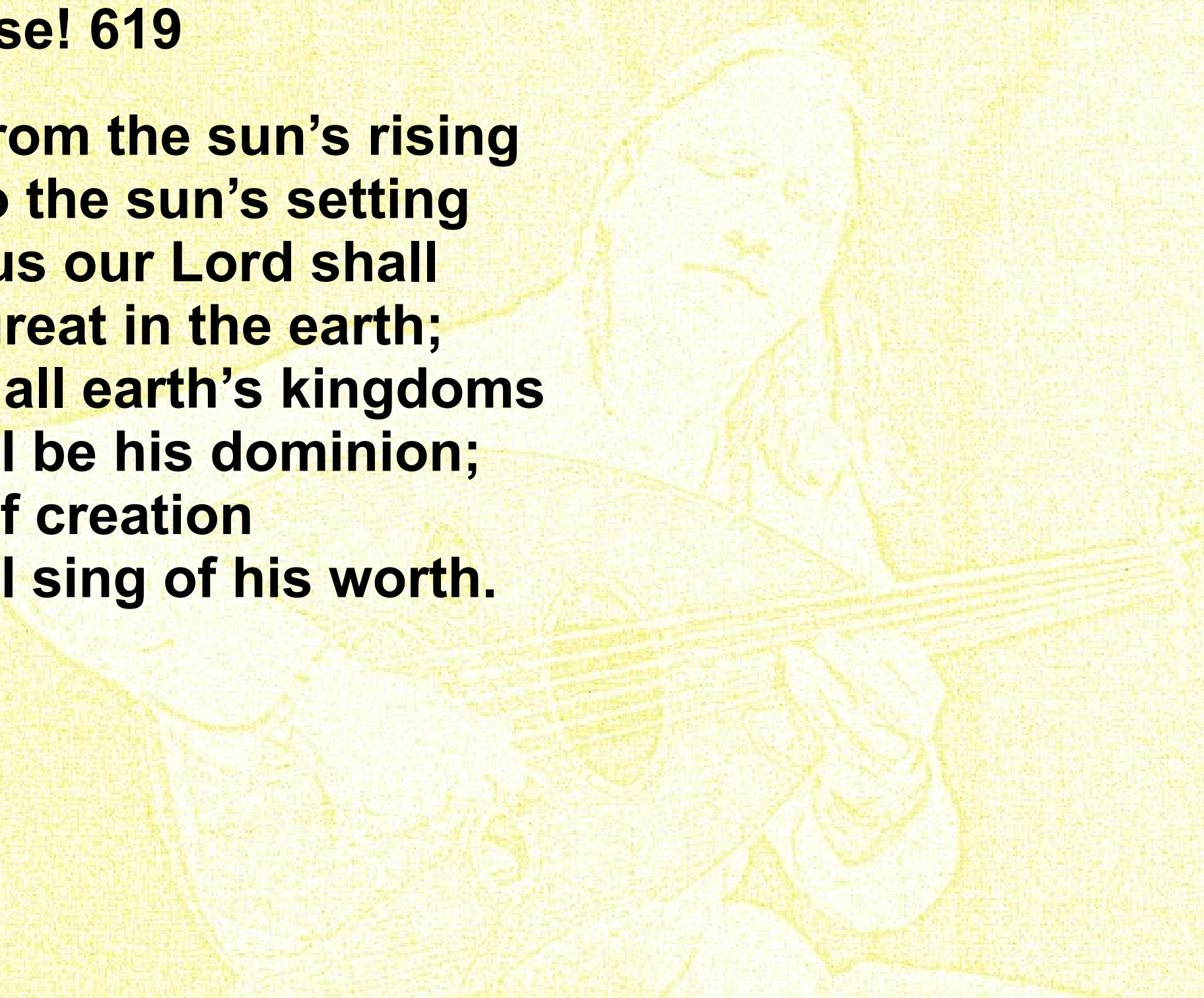
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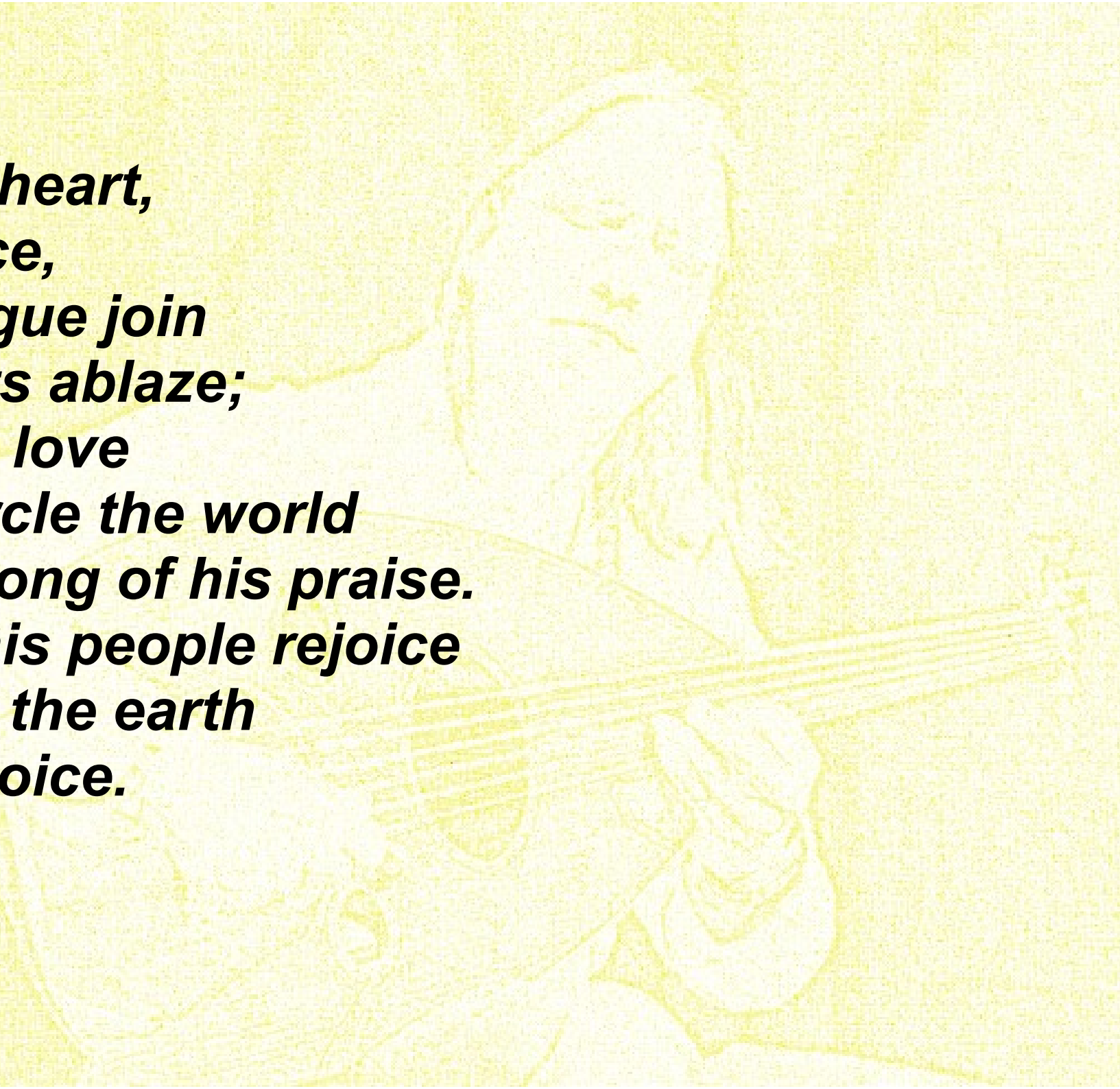
Closing prayer

Praise! 619

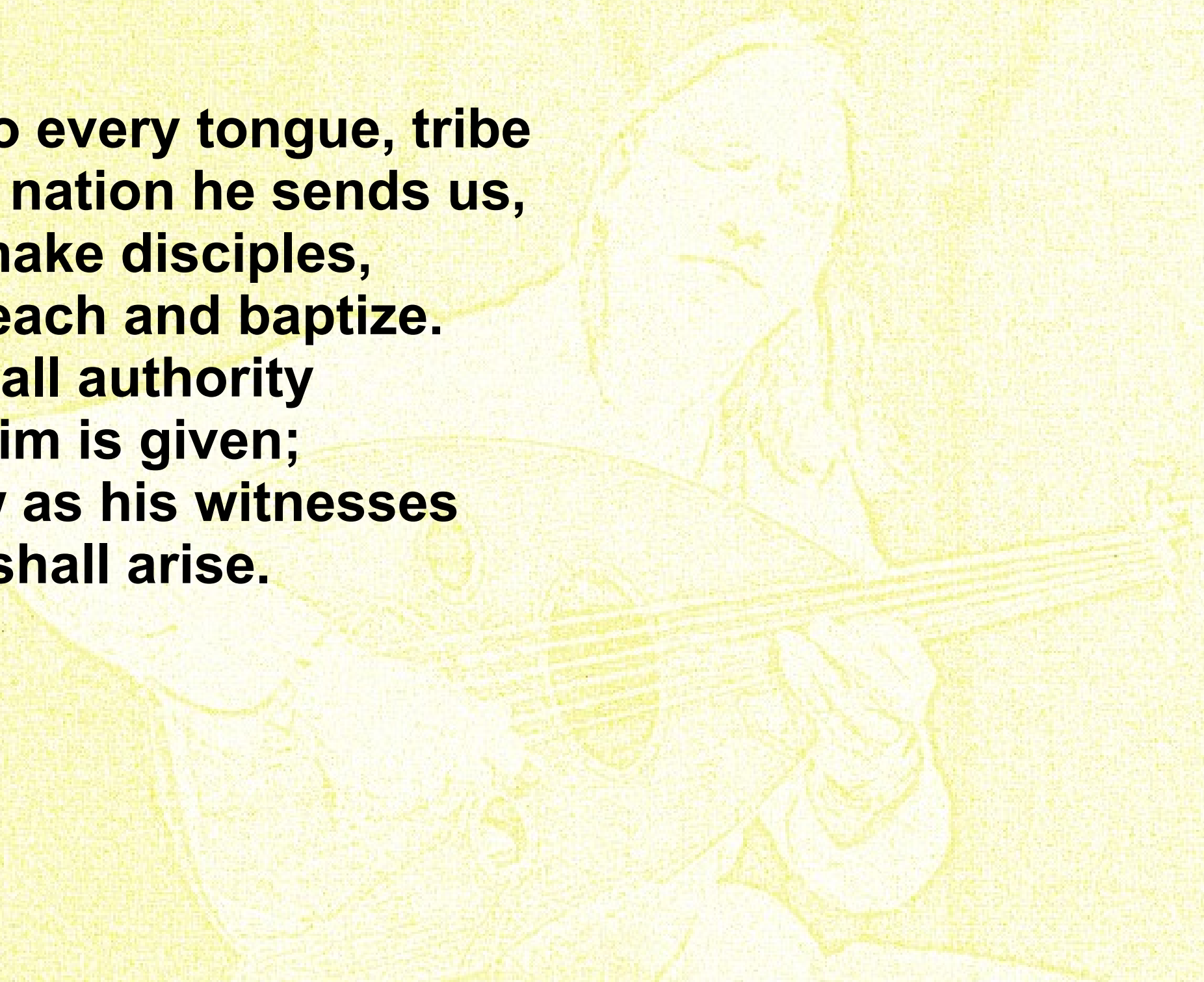
**1. From the sun's rising
unto the sun's setting
Jesus our Lord shall
be great in the earth;
and all earth's kingdoms
shall be his dominion;
all of creation
shall sing of his worth.**



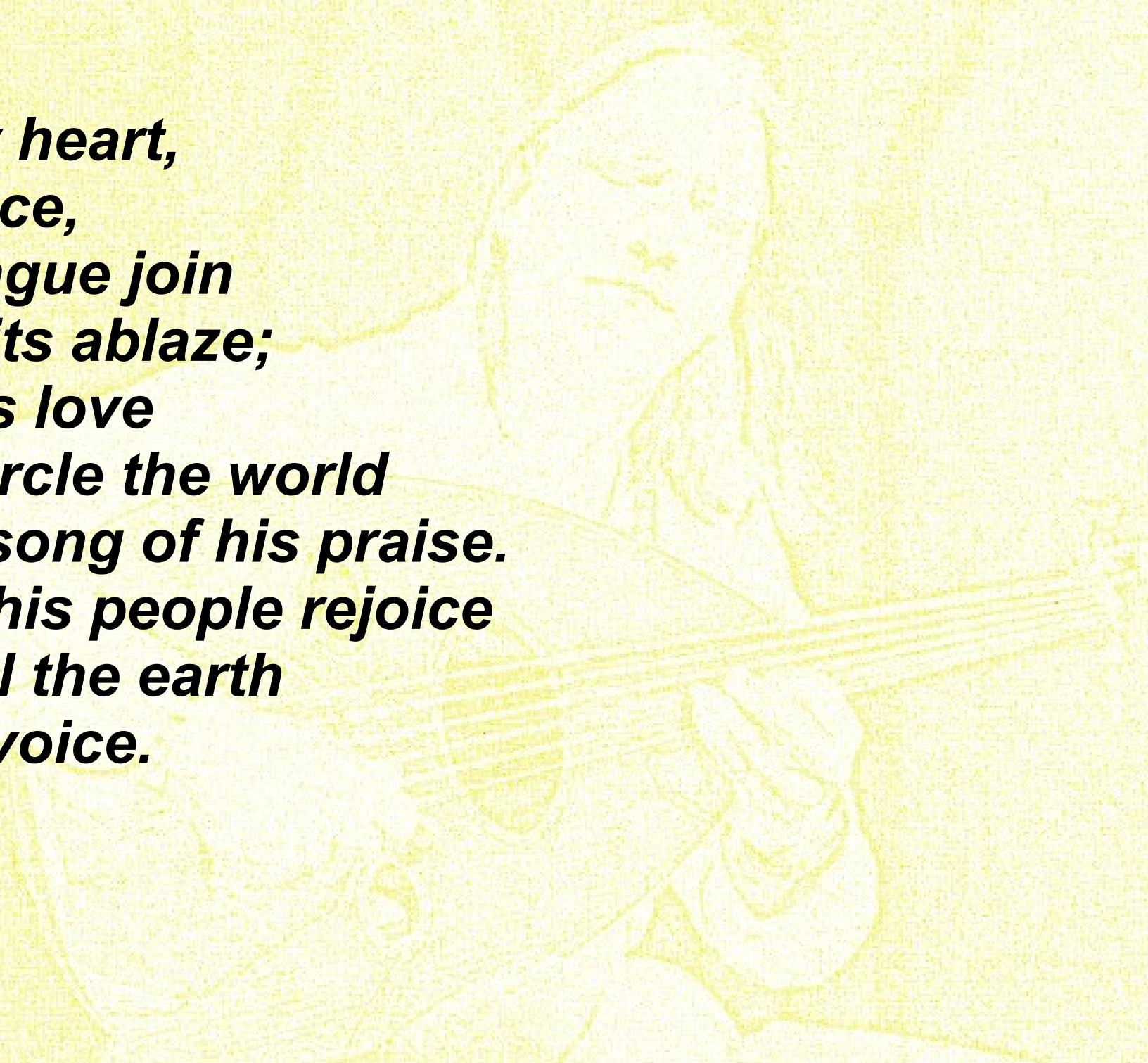
***Let every heart,
every voice,
every tongue join
with spirits ablaze;
one in his love
we will circle the world
with the song of his praise.
O, let all his people rejoice
and let all the earth
hear his voice.***



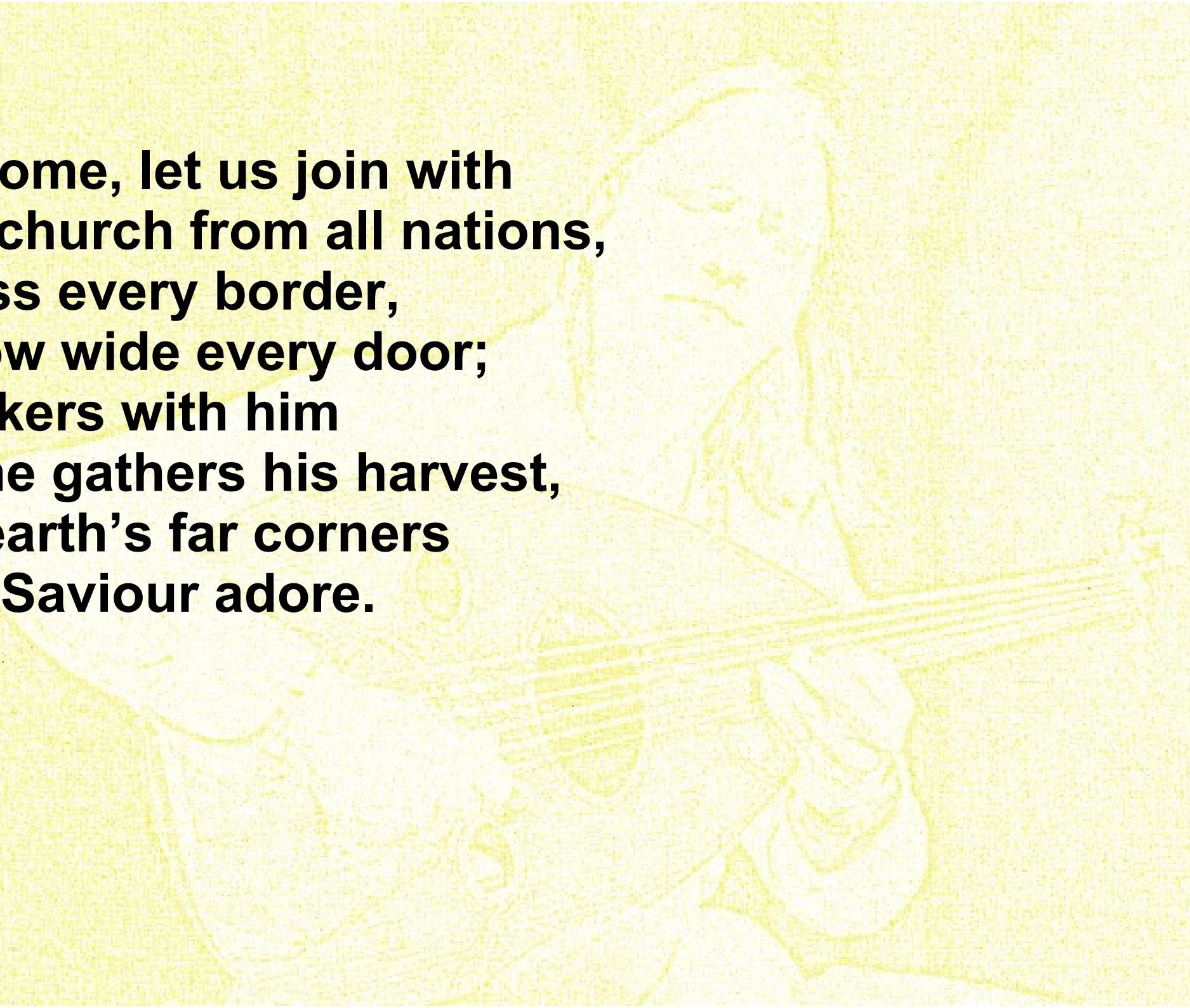
**2. To every tongue, tribe
and nation he sends us,
to make disciples,
to teach and baptize.
For all authority
to him is given;
now as his witnesses
we shall arise.**

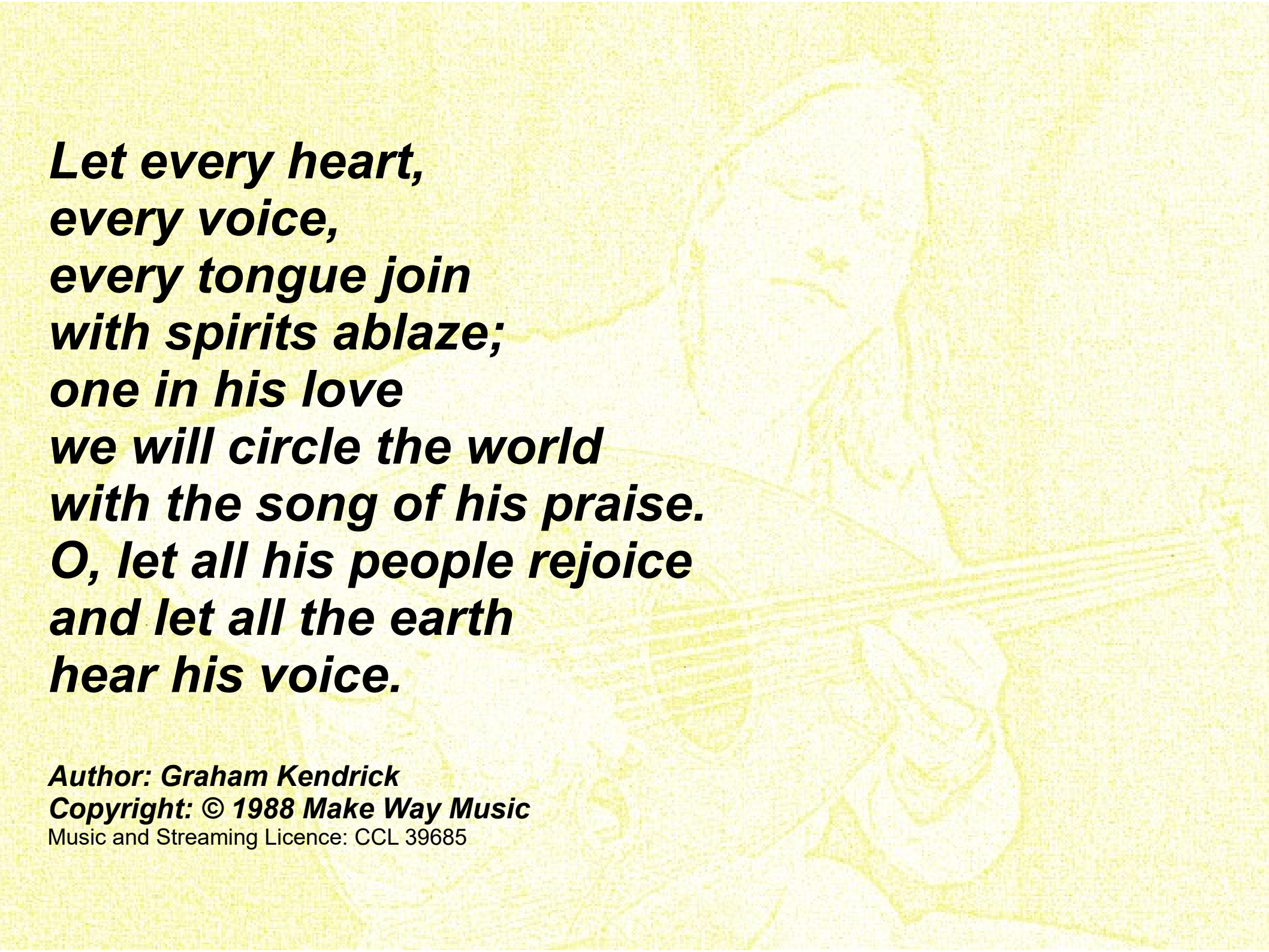


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O, let all his people rejoice
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**3. Come, let us join with
the church from all nations,
cross every border,
throw wide every door;
workers with him
as he gathers his harvest,
till earth's far corners
our Saviour adore.**



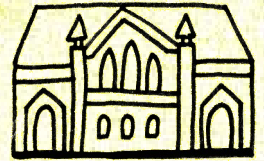


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