



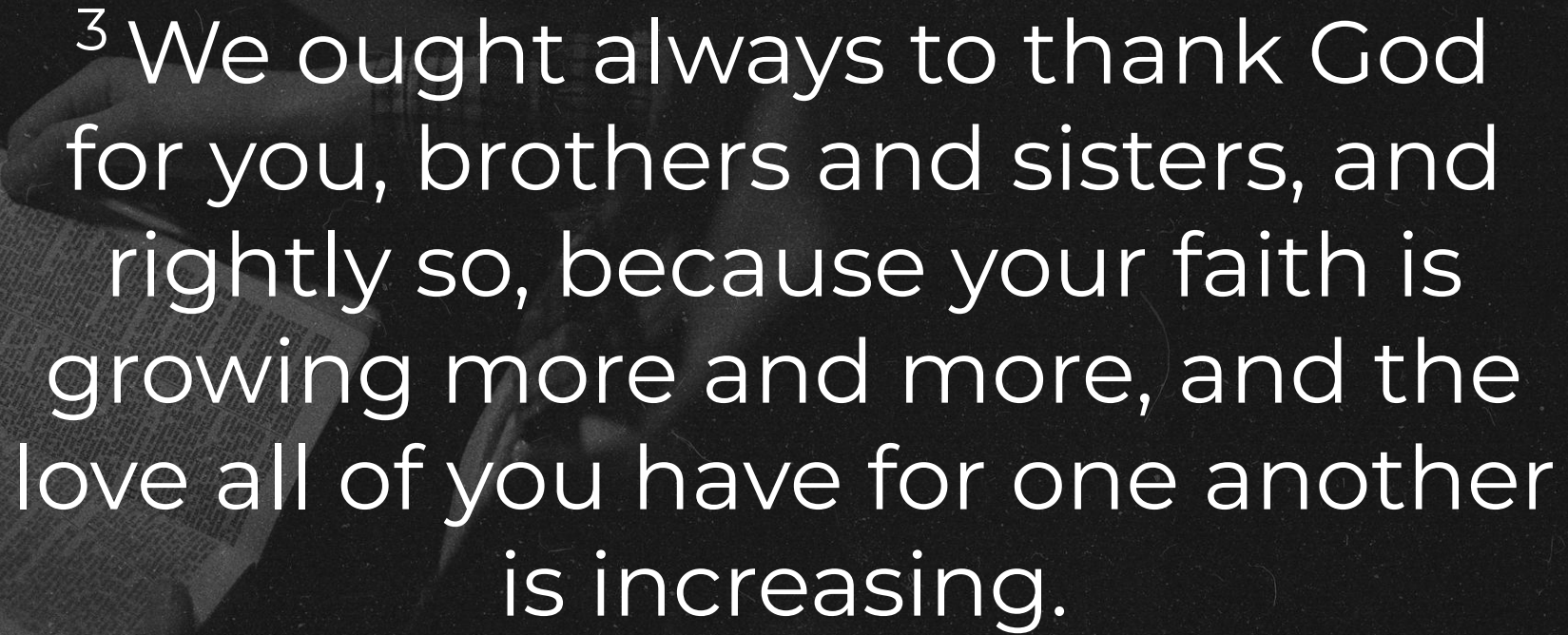
1 & 2 THESSALONIANS

MARANATHA: OUR LORD, COME!

THESSALONIANS
THESSALONIANS
THESSALONIANS
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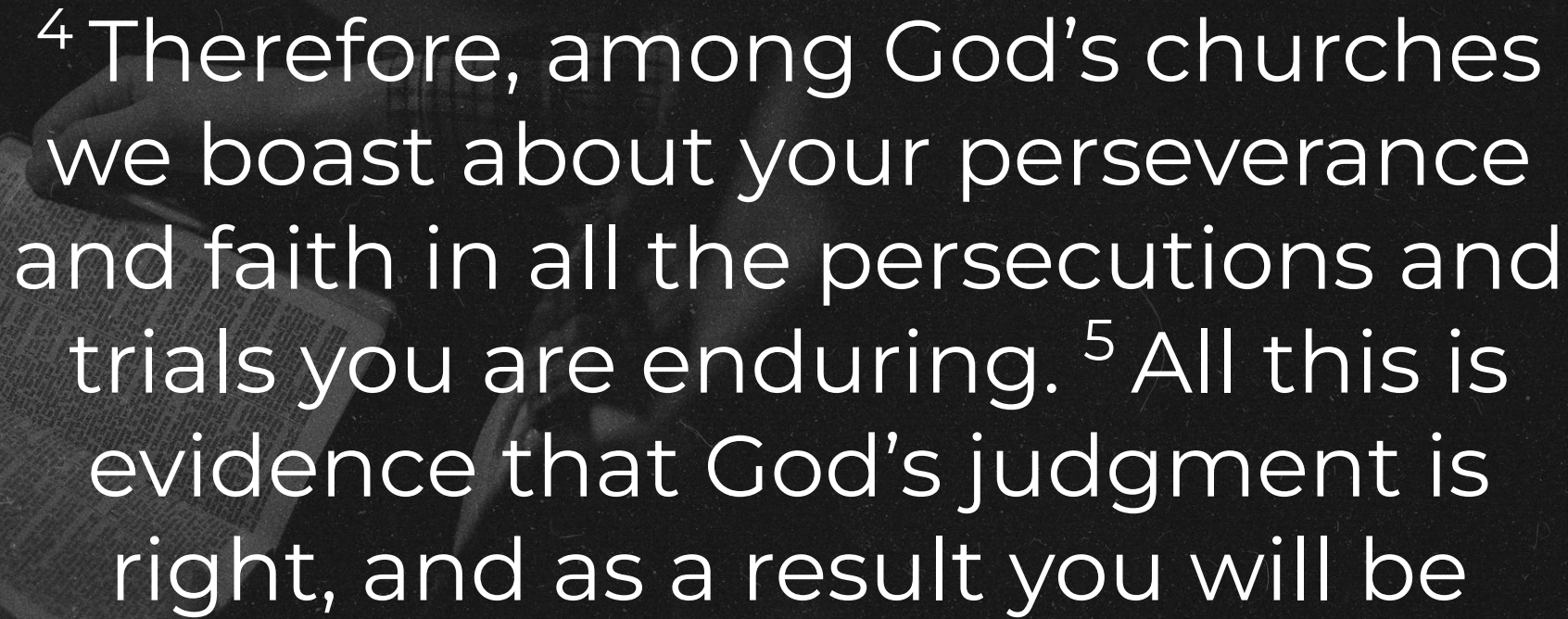
A black and white photograph of a person's arm and hand holding an open book. The person is wearing a plaid sleeve. The background is dark and textured. The title "THE PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS" is overlaid in large, white, serif capital letters.

THE PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS

A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible, with the text of the Bible visible on the pages. The person is positioned on the left side of the frame, and the Bible is held open, showing several pages of text. The lighting is soft, and the overall tone is contemplative and spiritual.

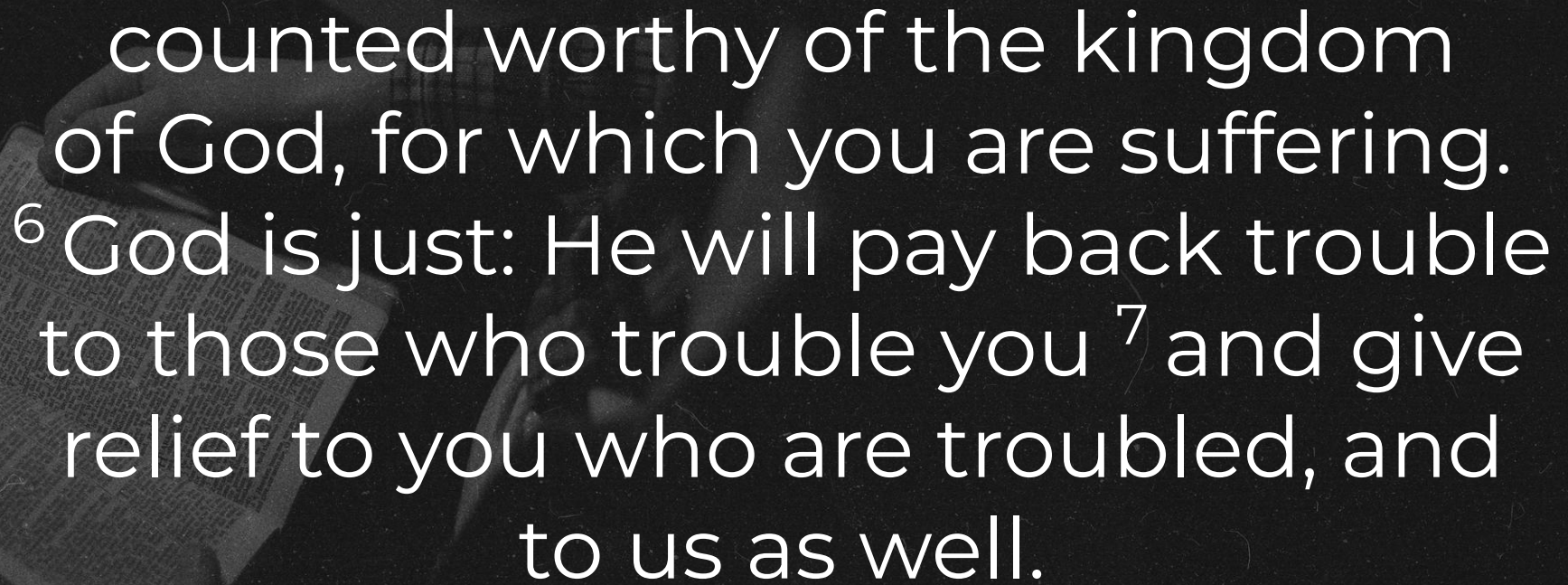
³ We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love all of you have for one another is increasing.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3-10

A dark, moody background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The text is overlaid in white, making it stand out against the dark background. The person's face is not visible, focusing attention on the text and the act of reading.

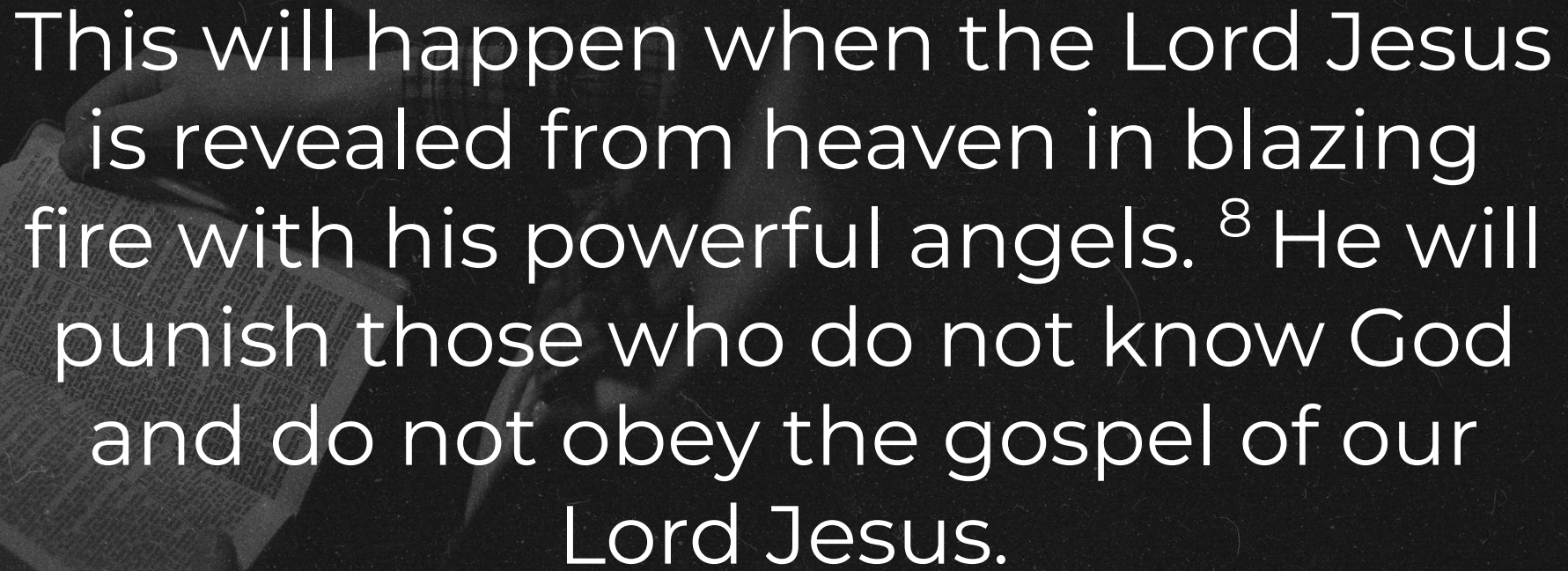
⁴ Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. ⁵ All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3-10

A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible, with the text of the Bible visible on the pages. The person is looking down at the text.

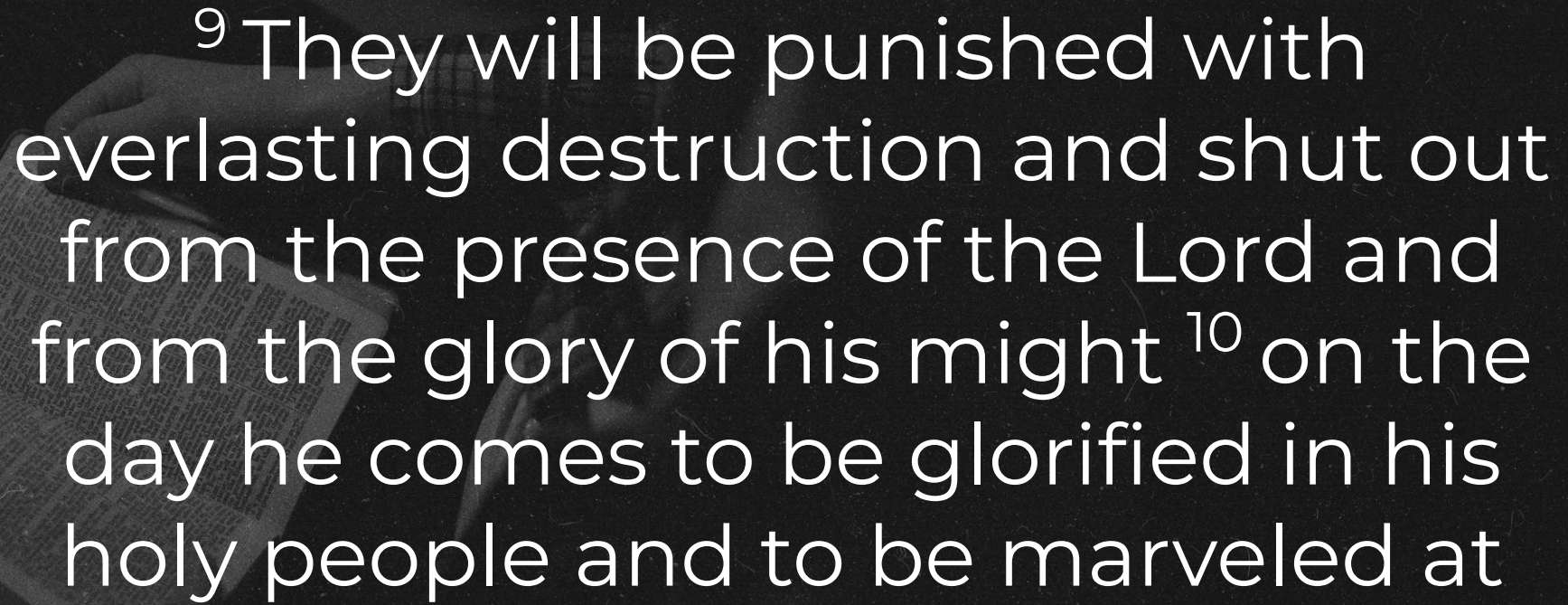
counted worthy of the kingdom
of God, for which you are suffering.
⁶ God is just: He will pay back trouble
to those who trouble you ⁷ and give
relief to you who are troubled, and
to us as well.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3-10



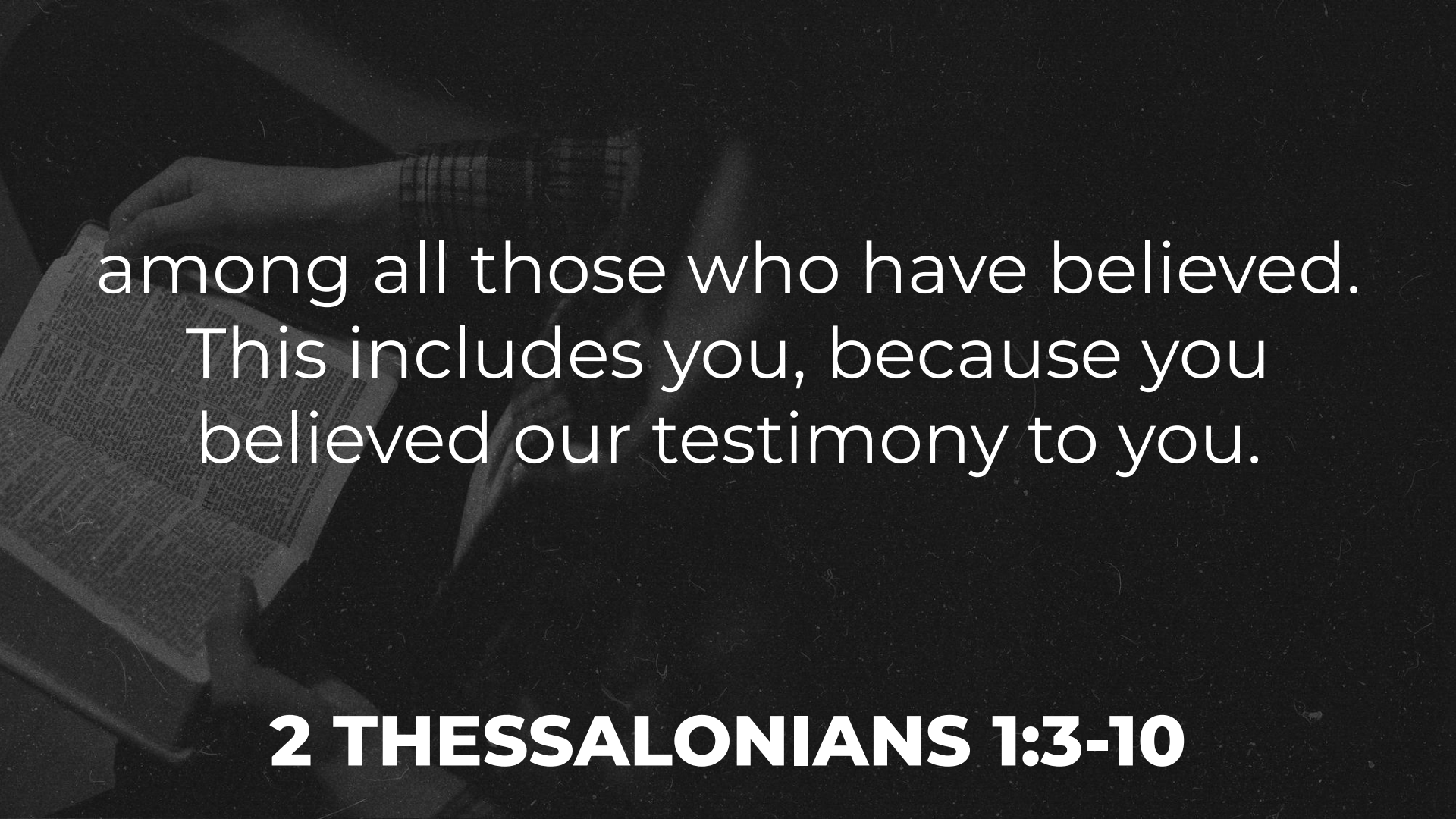
This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.⁸ He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3-10

A dark, moody background image showing a person's hands holding and reading an open Bible. The text is overlaid in white, making it stand out against the dark background.

⁹ They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might ¹⁰ on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3-10

A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

among all those who have believed.
This includes you, because you
believed our testimony to you.

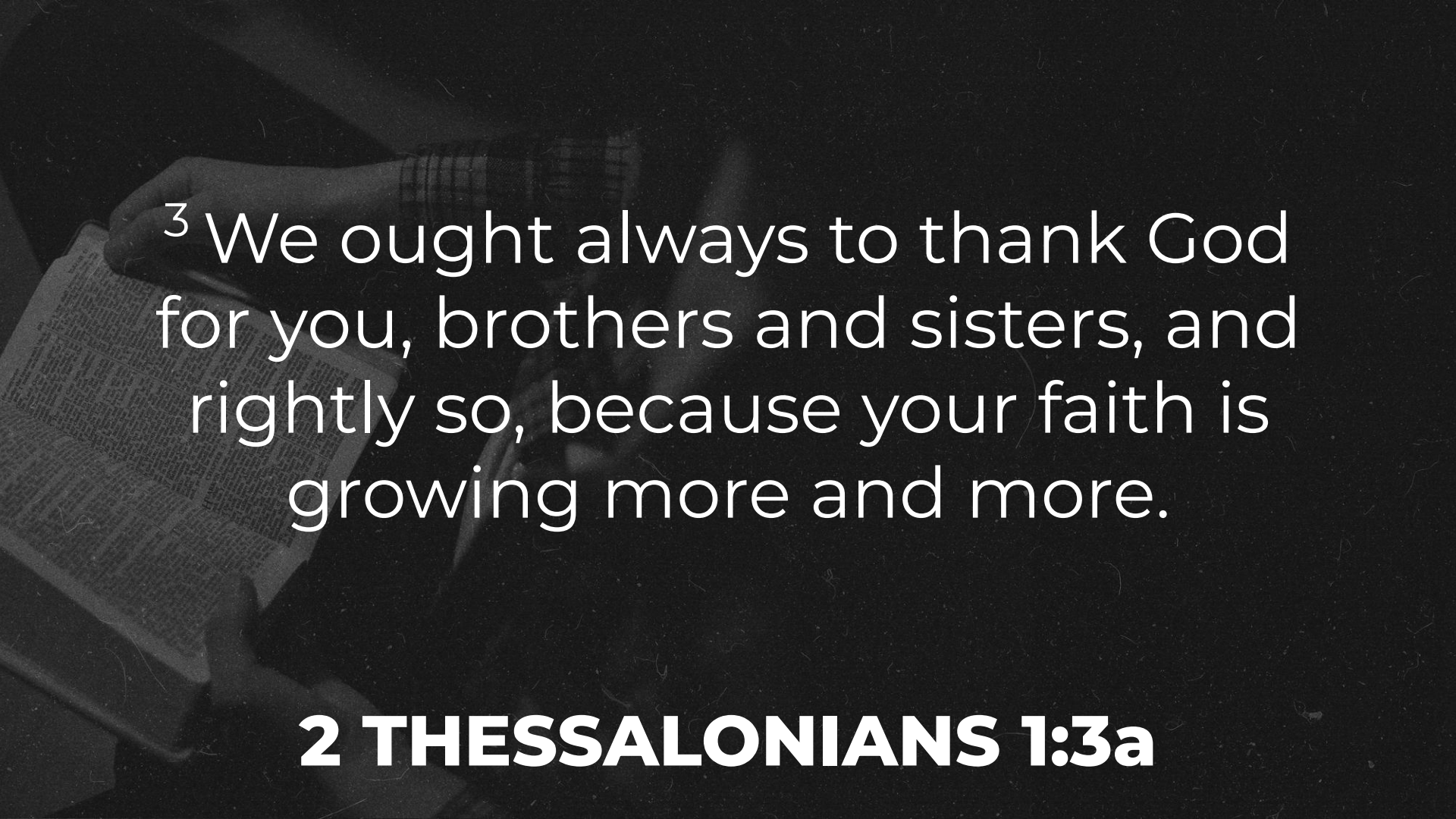
2 THESSALONIANS 1:3-10

A black and white photograph of a person's arm and hand holding a newspaper. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The newspaper is open, showing columns of text. Overlaid on the image is large, white, serif text that reads "WHO GOD WANTS US TO BE".

WHO GOD
WANTS US
TO BE

A black and white photograph of a person reading a book in a dark setting. The person's arm, wearing a plaid shirt, is visible on the left, holding the book. The background is dark and textured. The text 'A) GROW IN FAITH' is overlaid in large, white, serif capital letters.

A) GROW IN FAITH

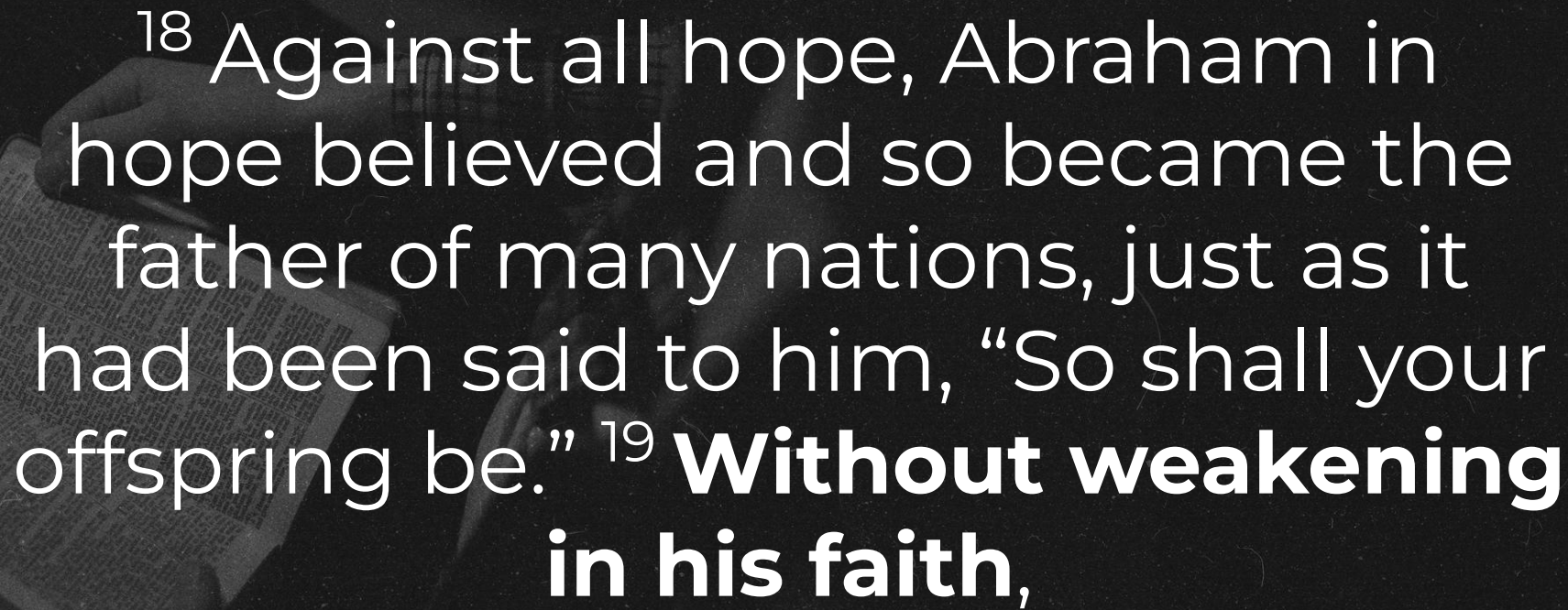
A dark, moody background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with dense text, likely a scriptural passage. The lighting is low, creating a contemplative atmosphere.

³ We ought always to thank God
for you, brothers and sisters, and
rightly so, because your faith is
growing more and more.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3a

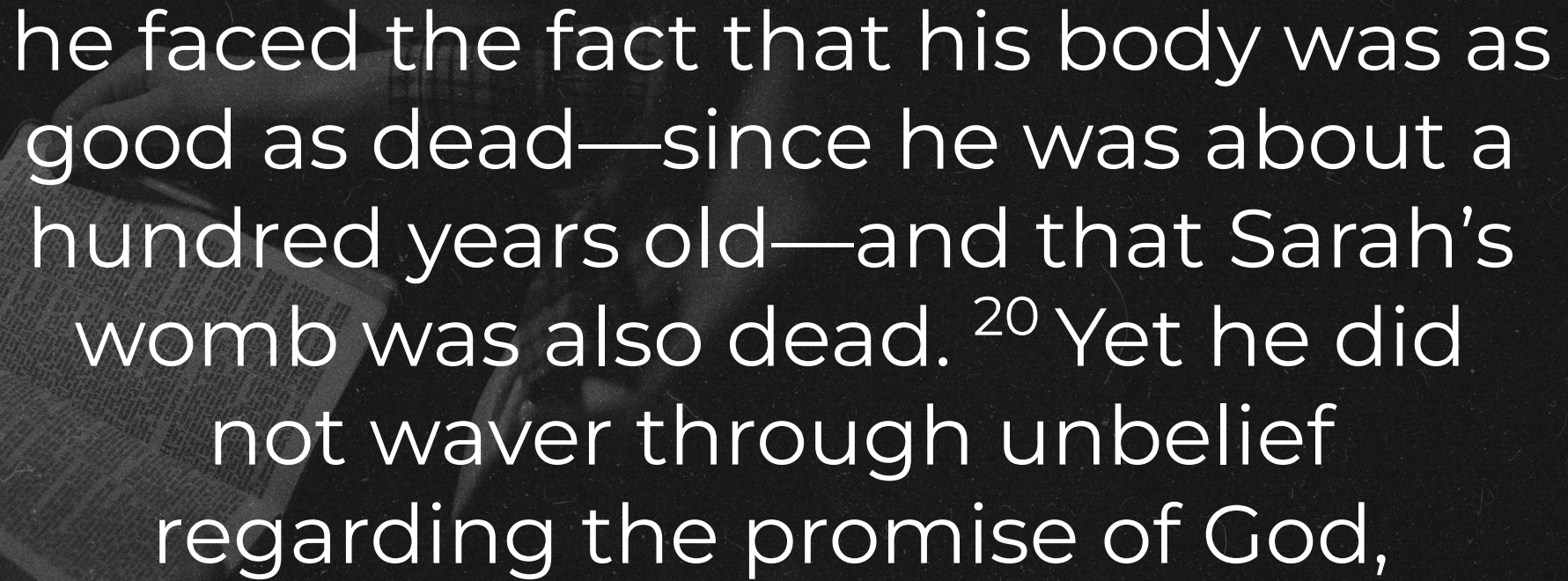
A dark, grainy photograph of a person's hands holding and reading a newspaper. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The scene is dimly lit, with the light from the newspaper illuminating the hands and the text on the page. The background is mostly black.

Faith is only a starting point
with God.

A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible, with the text of the Bible visible on the pages. The person is positioned on the left side of the frame, and the Bible is held open, showing several pages of text. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the person's hands.

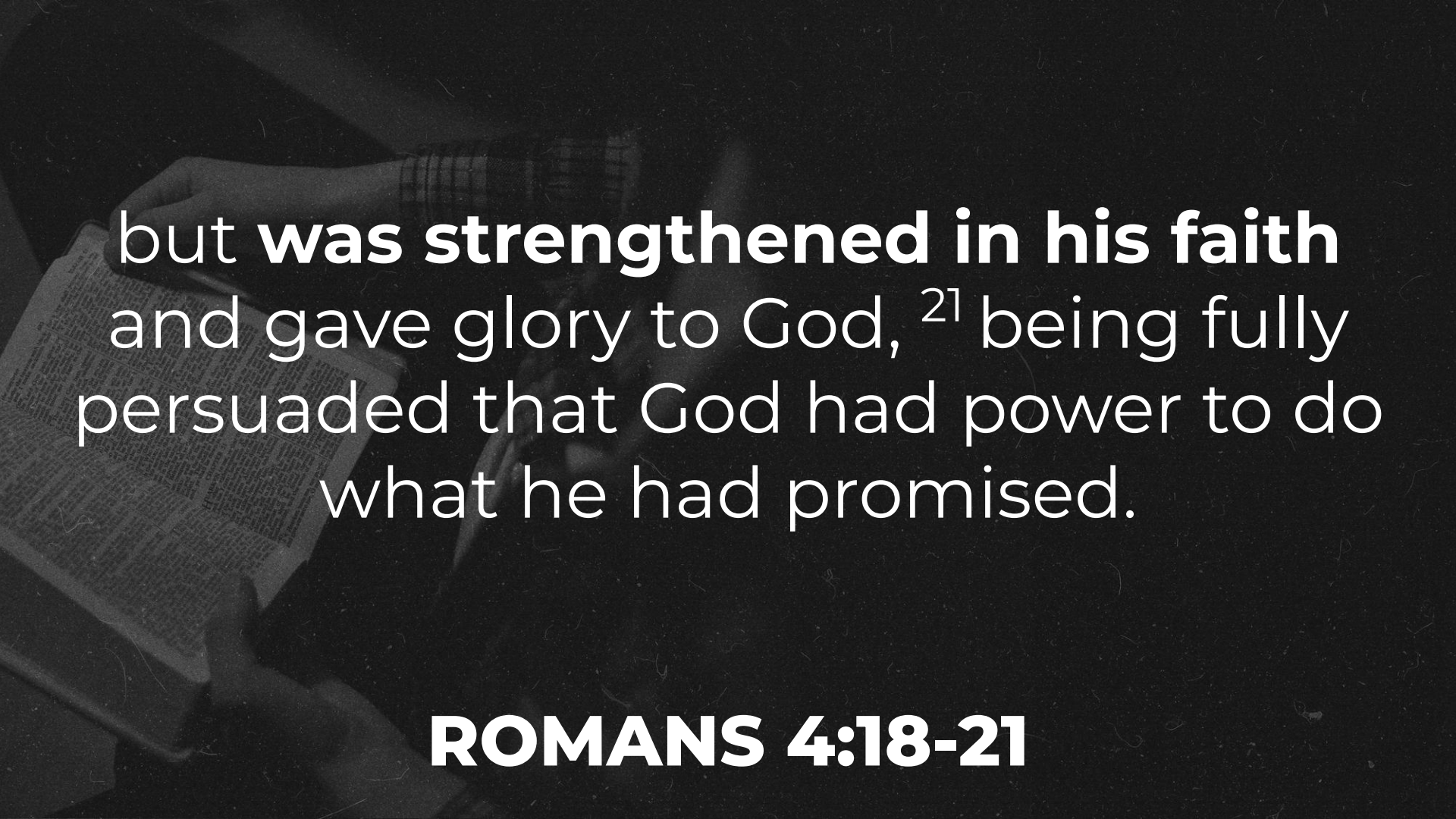
¹⁸ Against all hope, Abraham in hope believed and so became the father of many nations, just as it had been said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” ¹⁹ **Without weakening in his faith,**

ROMANS 4:18-21

A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person's face is partially visible in the shadows. Overlaid on this image is white text. The text is arranged in a paragraph, with the first line starting with 'he' and the last line ending with a comma. The text is in a clean, sans-serif font. The background is dark, making the white text stand out.

he faced the fact that his body was as good as dead—since he was about a hundred years old—and that Sarah's womb was also dead.²⁰ Yet he did not waver through unbelief regarding the promise of God,

ROMANS 4:18-21

A person is shown from the chest down, wearing a plaid shirt, holding an open Bible. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source coming from the text of the Bible, which is clearly visible. The background is dark and out of focus.

but **was strengthened in his faith**
and gave glory to God,²¹ being fully
persuaded that God had power to do
what he had promised.

ROMANS 4:18-21

A dark, grainy, black and white photograph of a person's hands holding an open book. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid in the center in a white, serif font.

Faith grows only from being
fully persuaded that God will
do what He said He would do.

A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting a church interior with light rays filtering through. The text is overlaid in a large, white, serif font.

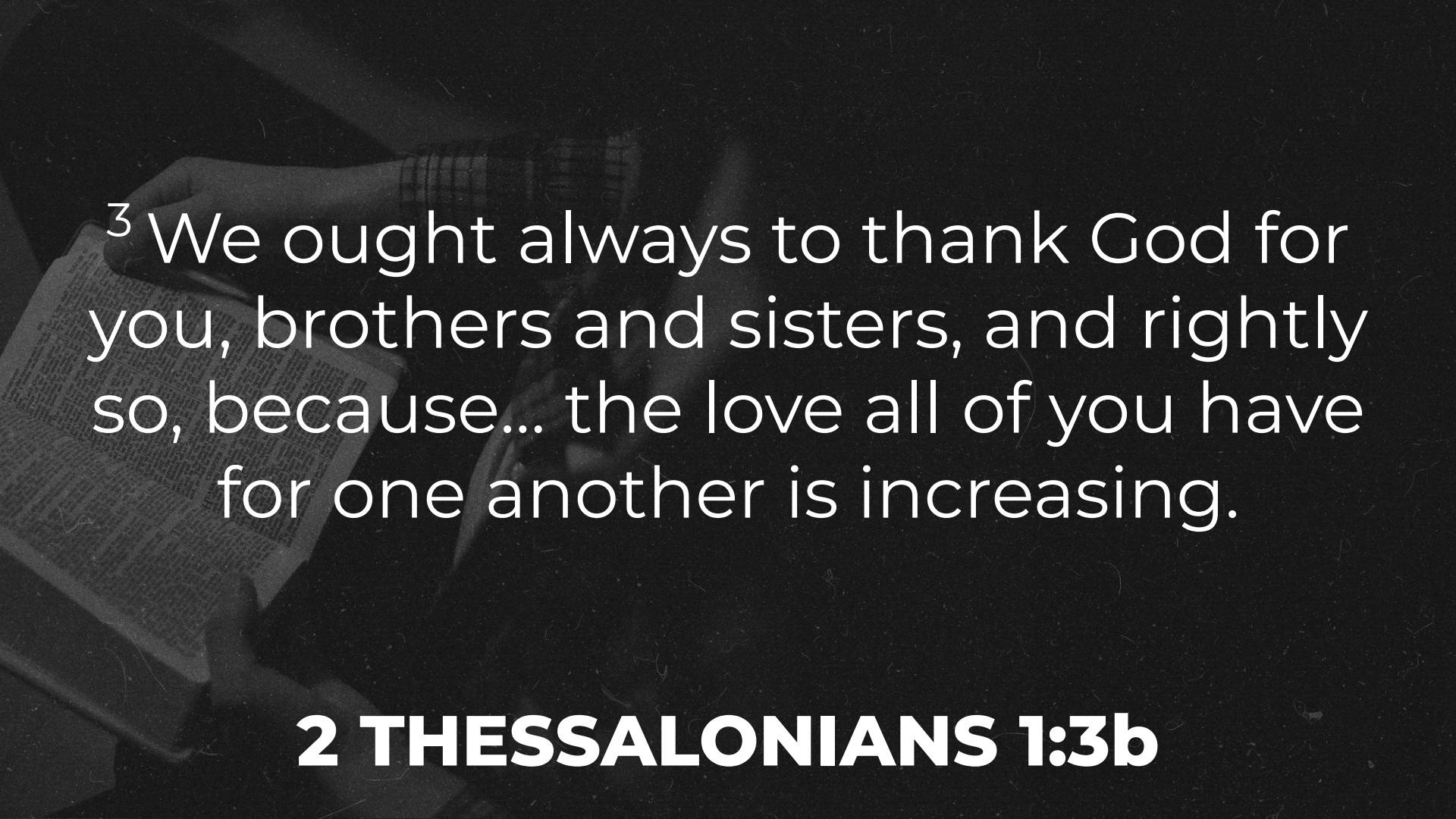
**Christians and churches that
are not growing in faith are
spiritually dying.**



**Vital means alive, vibrant,
essential, relevant and growing.**

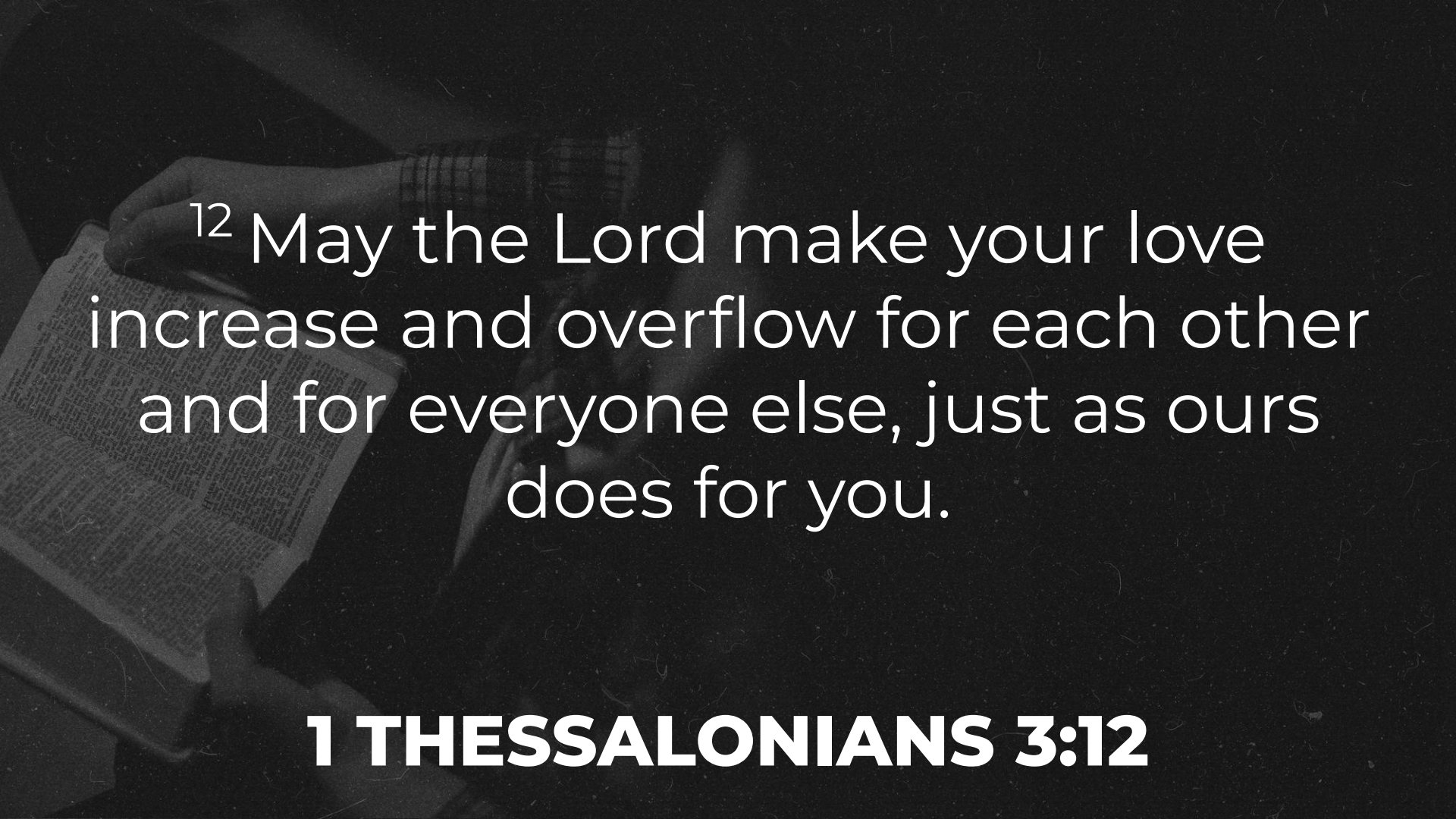
A black and white photograph of a person's arm wearing a plaid shirt, holding an open book. The background is dark and textured. Overlaid on the image is large, white, serif text.

B) INCREASE IN LOVE

A dark, moody background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with text, and the person's fingers are visible on the edges of the pages. The overall tone is somber and focused.

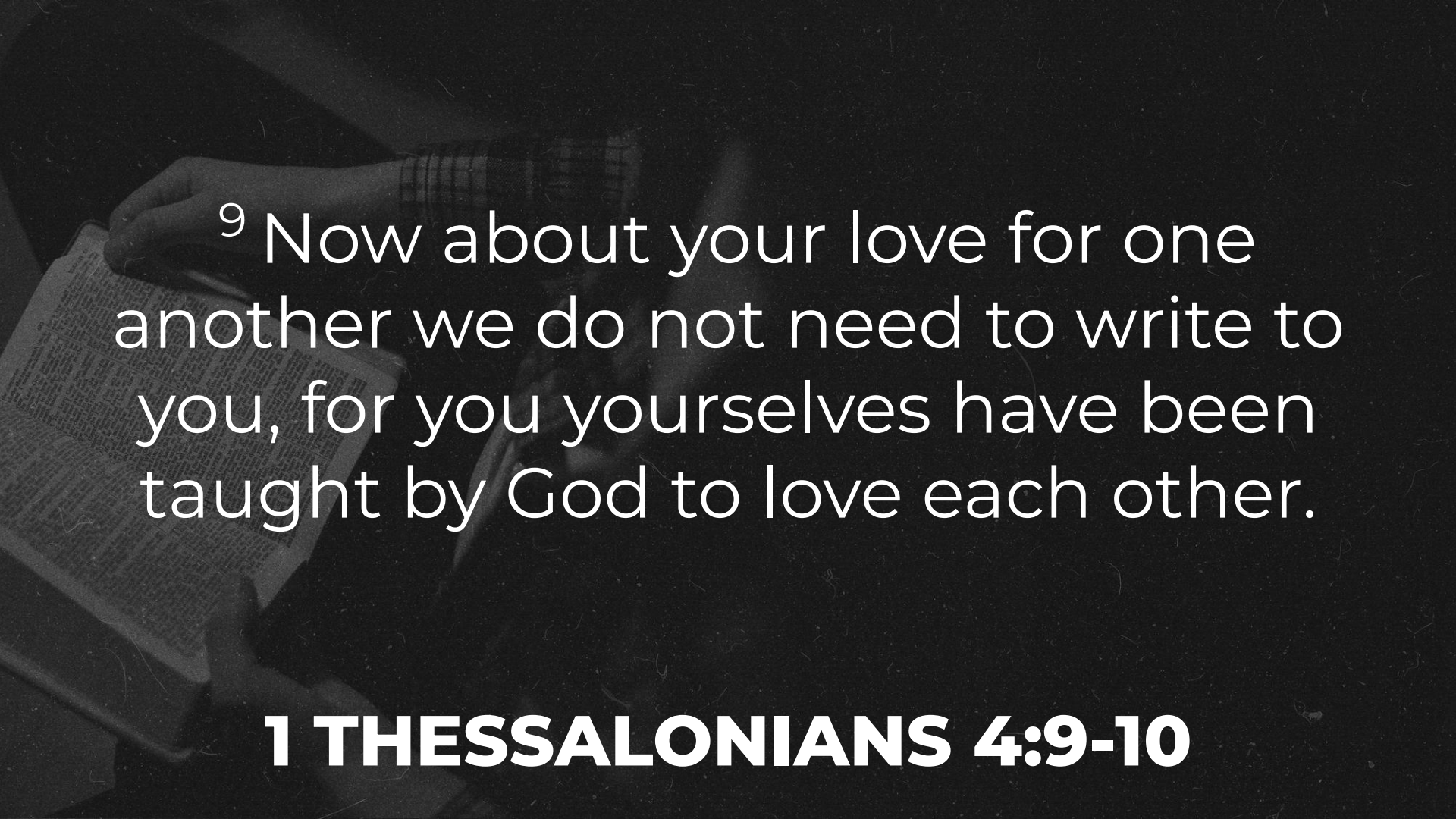
³ We ought always to thank God for you, brothers and sisters, and rightly so, because... the love all of you have for one another is increasing.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:3b

A grayscale photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

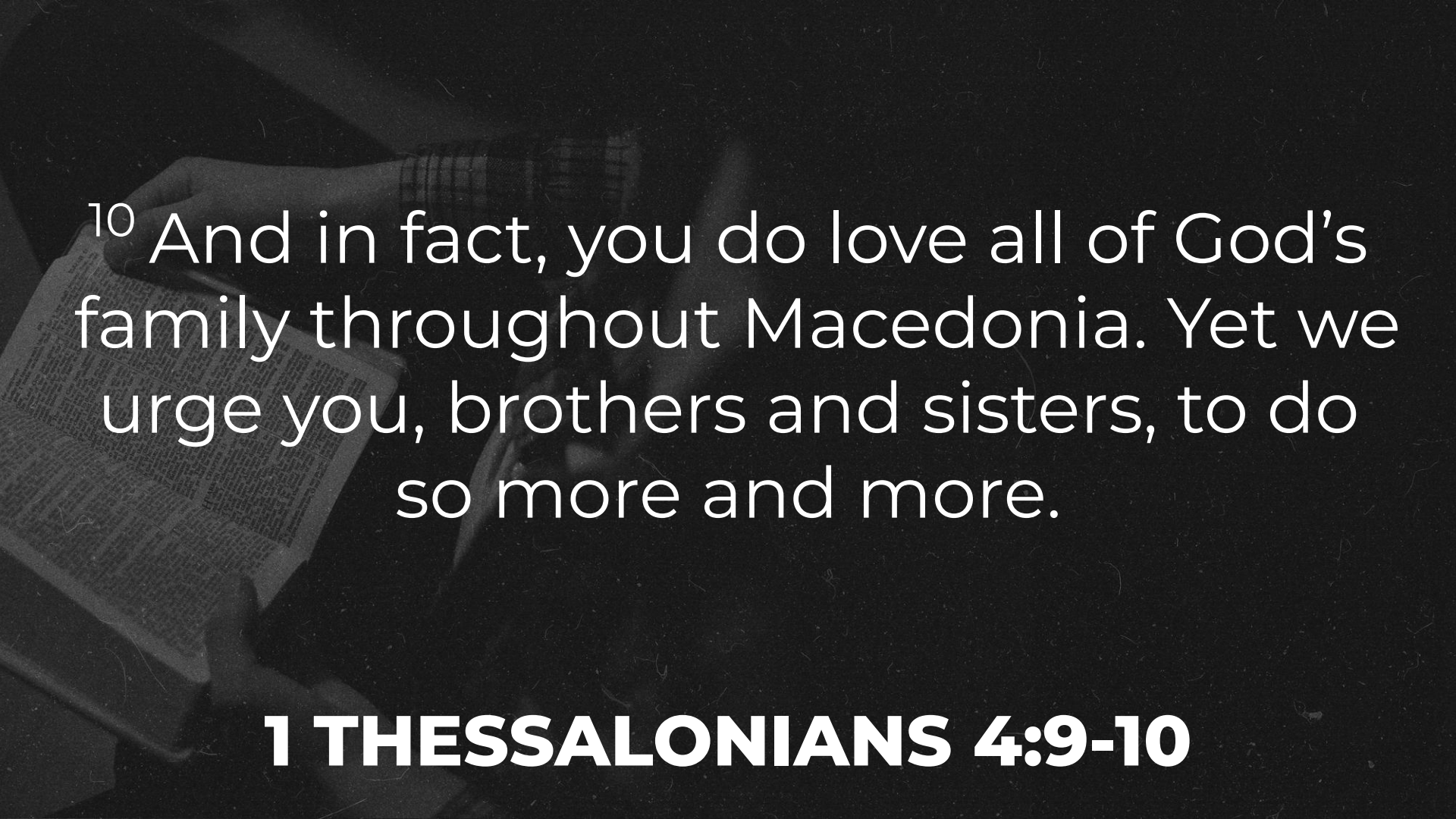
¹² May the Lord make your love
increase and overflow for each other
and for everyone else, just as ours
does for you.

1 THESSALONIANS 3:12

A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open book, likely a Bible, in a dimly lit environment. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus, suggesting a quiet, intimate setting for reading or study.

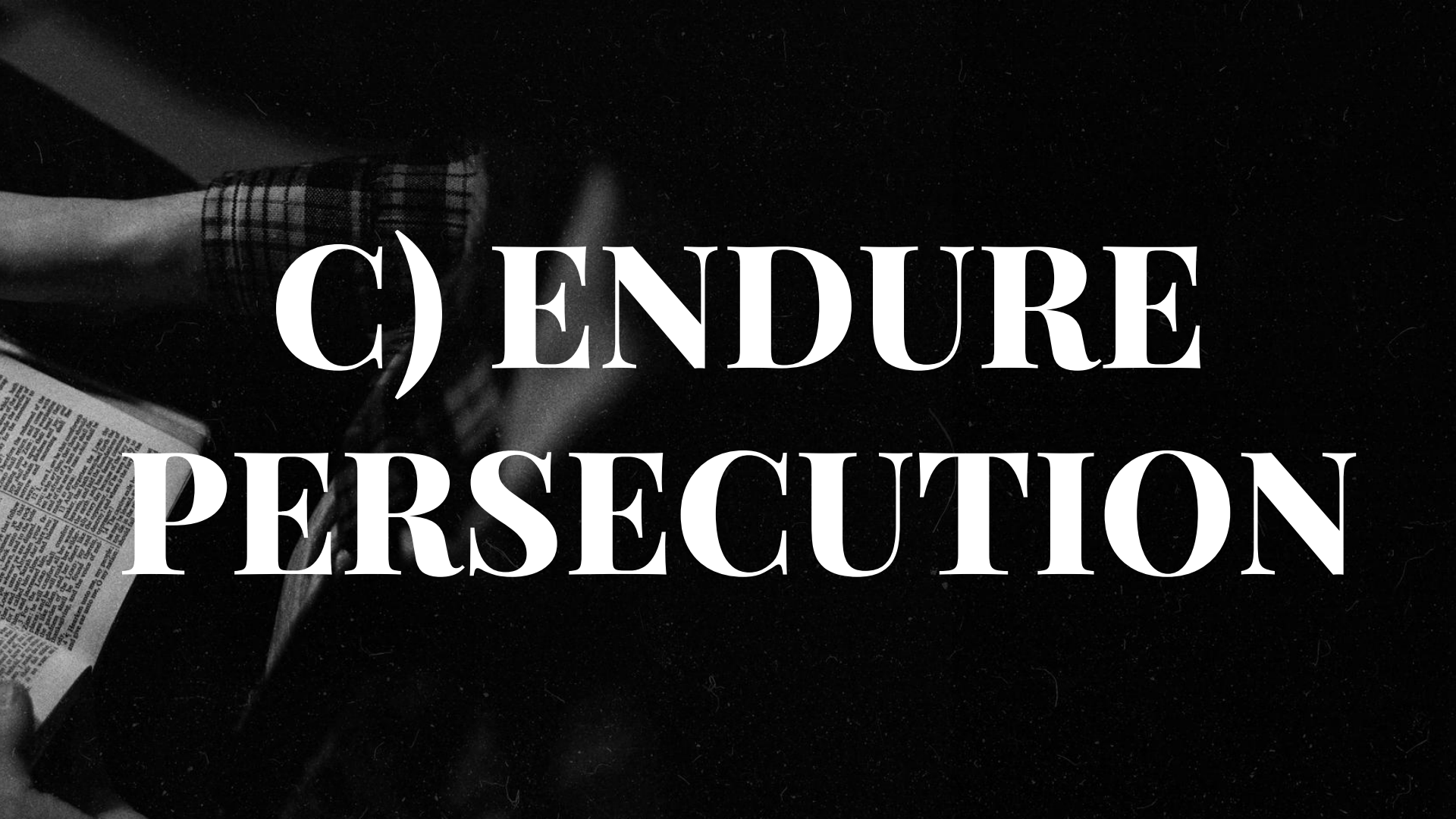
⁹ Now about your love for one another we do not need to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love each other.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:9-10

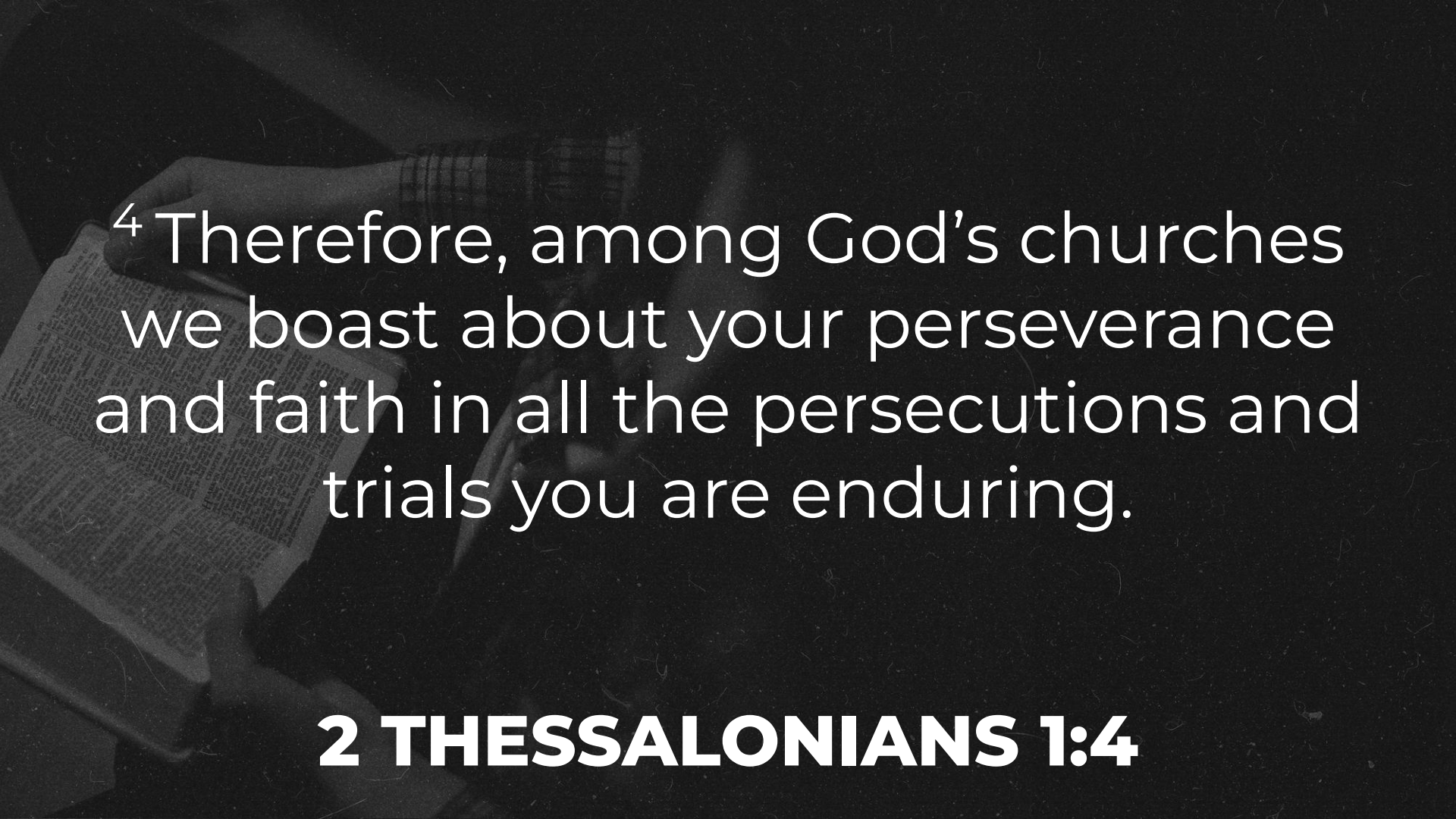
A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with dense text, likely a scriptural passage. The lighting is soft, and the overall tone is contemplative and focused on the act of reading the Bible.

¹⁰ And in fact, you do love all of God's family throughout Macedonia. Yet we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more.

1 THESSALONIANS 4:9-10

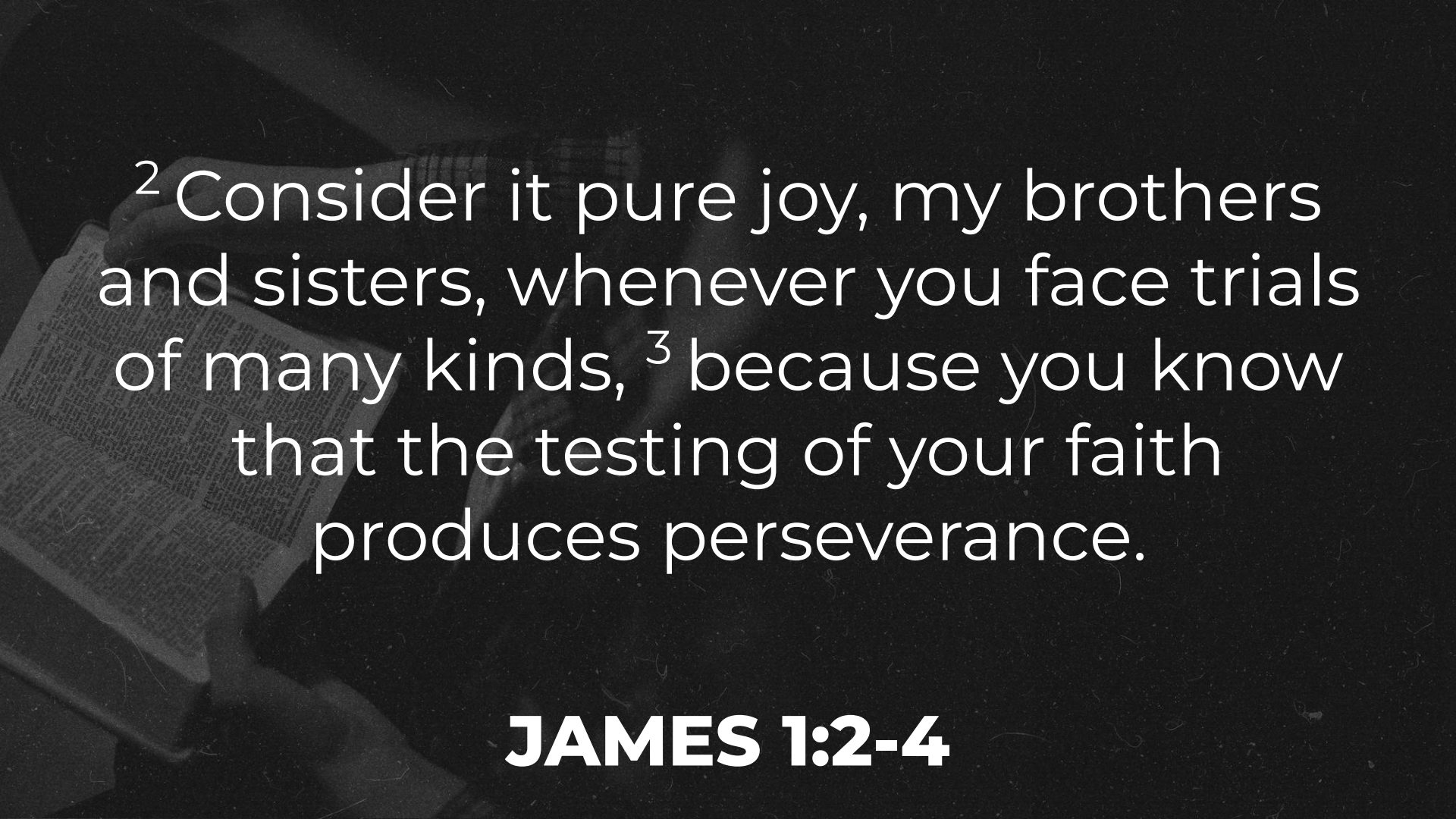


C) ENDURE PERSECUTION

A person is shown from the chest up, wearing a plaid shirt, holding an open Bible. The scene is dimly lit, with the primary light source coming from the Bible's pages, which are clearly visible. The background is dark and out of focus.

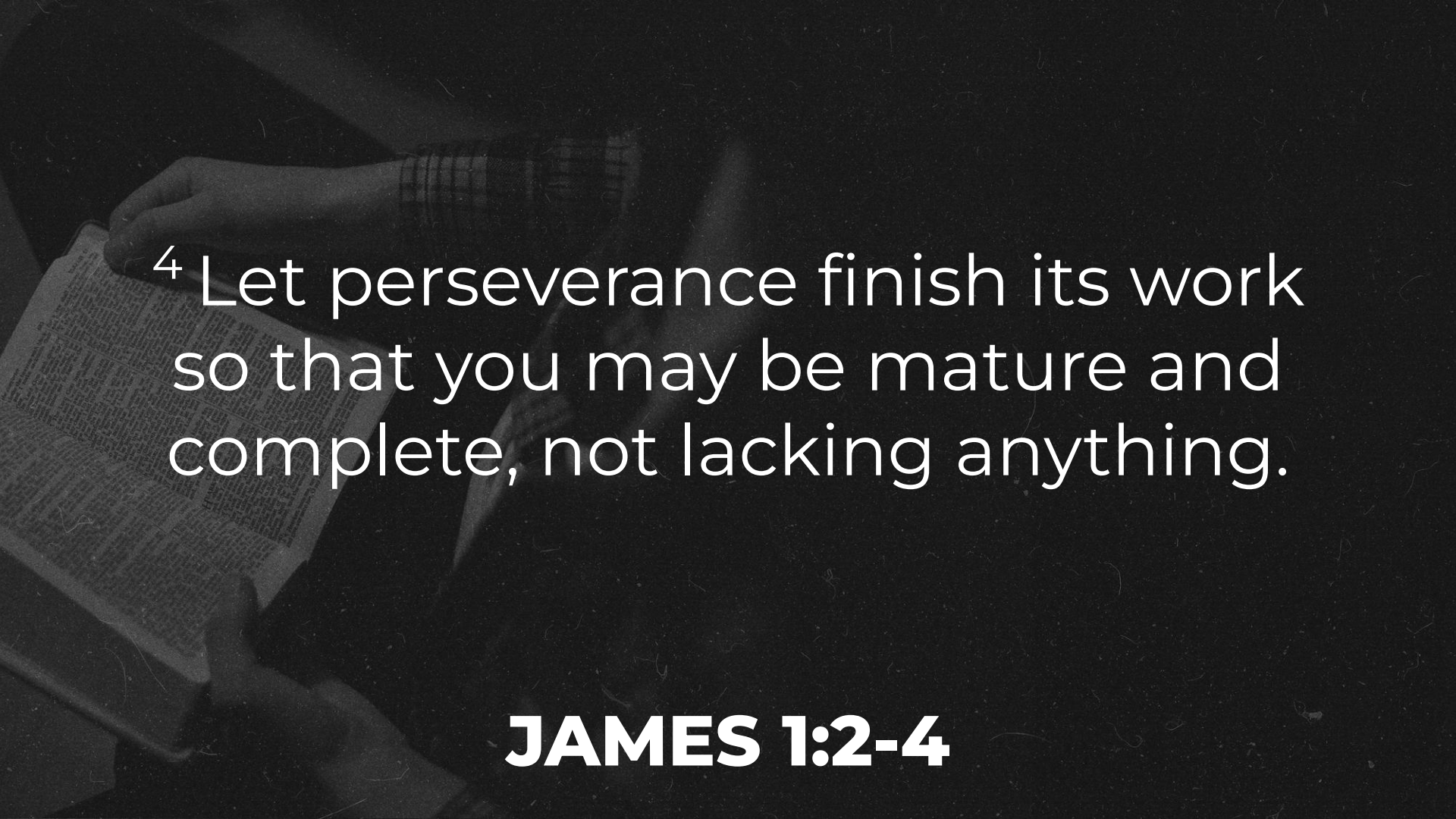
⁴ Therefore, among God's churches
we boast about your perseverance
and faith in all the persecutions and
trials you are enduring.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:4

A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with dense text. Overlaid on this image is white text.

² Consider it pure joy, my brothers
and sisters, whenever you face trials
of many kinds, ³ because you know
that the testing of your faith
produces perseverance.

JAMES 1:2-4

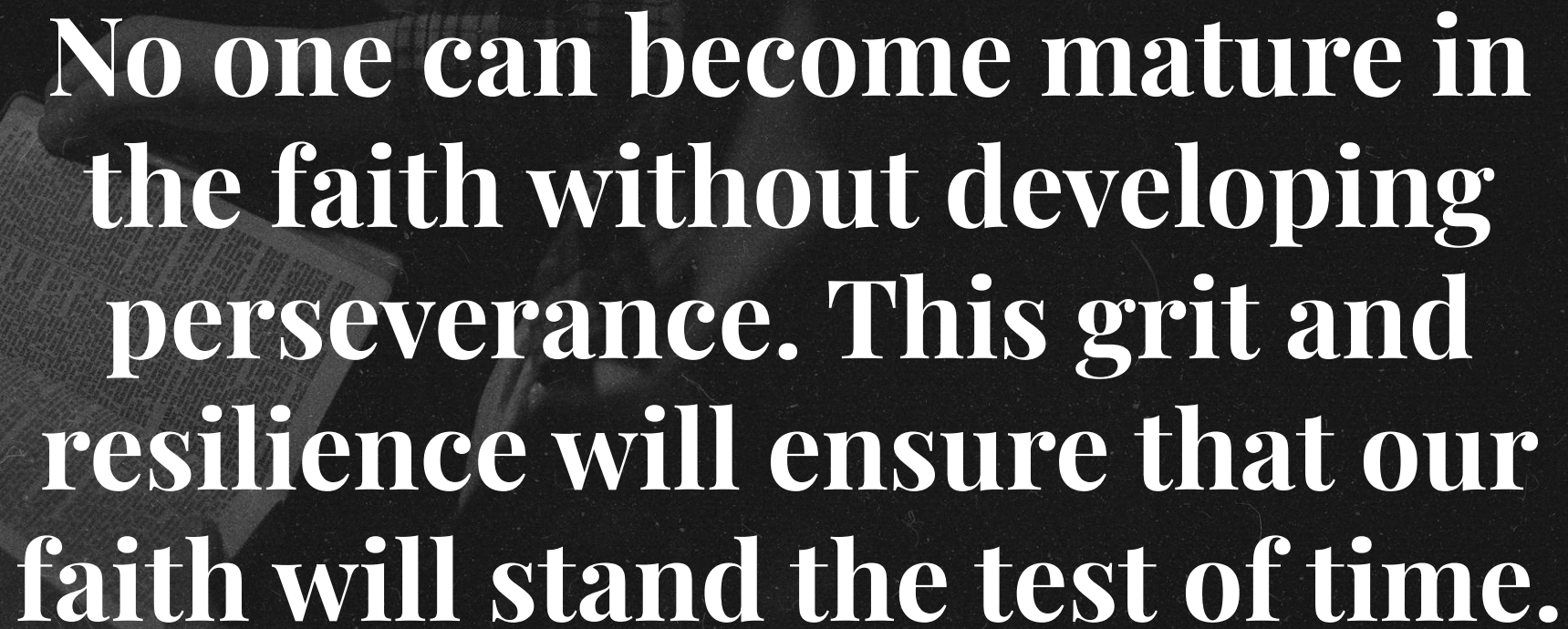
A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

⁴ Let perseverance finish its work
so that you may be mature and
complete, not lacking anything.

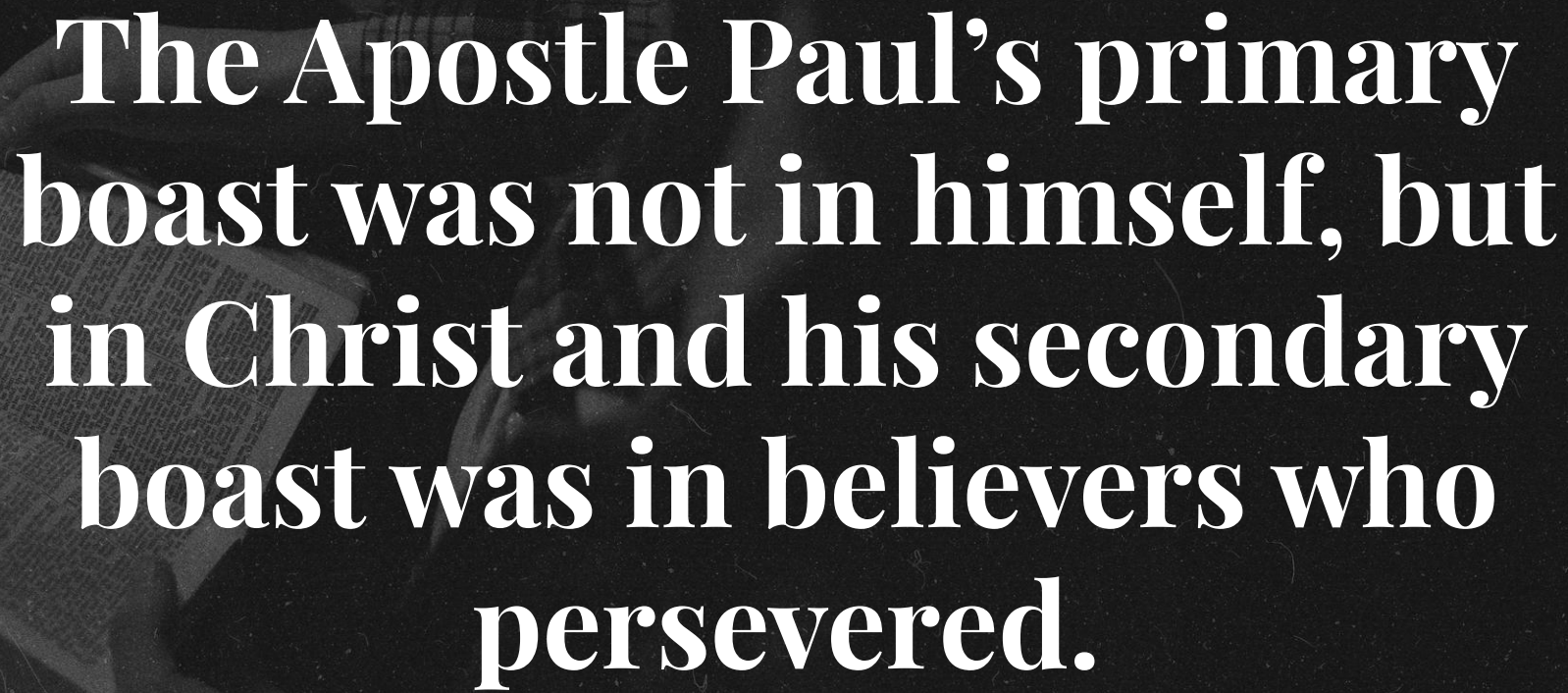
JAMES 1:2-4

A black and white photograph of a person's hands holding and reading a newspaper. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus.

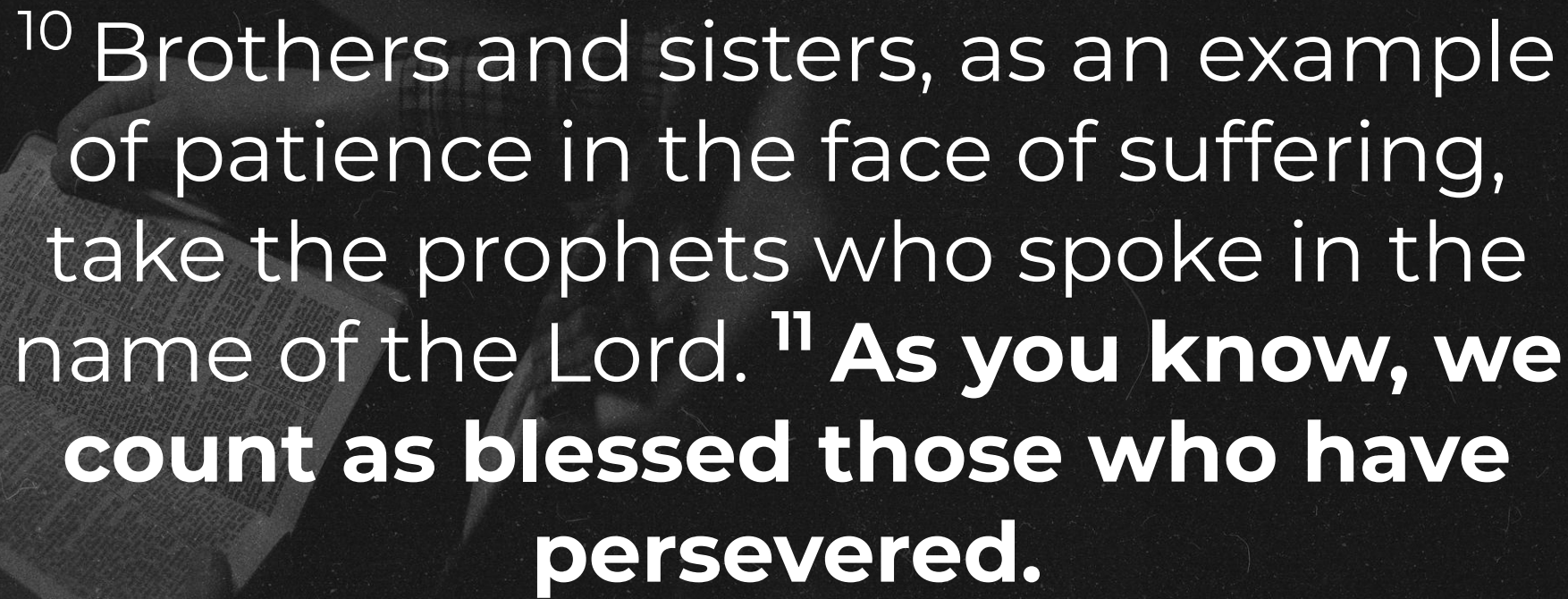
**We must learn to distinguish
between testing which is
God-approved and temptation
is Satan-approved.**

A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open book. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and textured. The text is overlaid in a large, white, serif font.

**No one can become mature in
the faith without developing
perseverance. This grit and
resilience will ensure that our
faith will stand the test of time.**

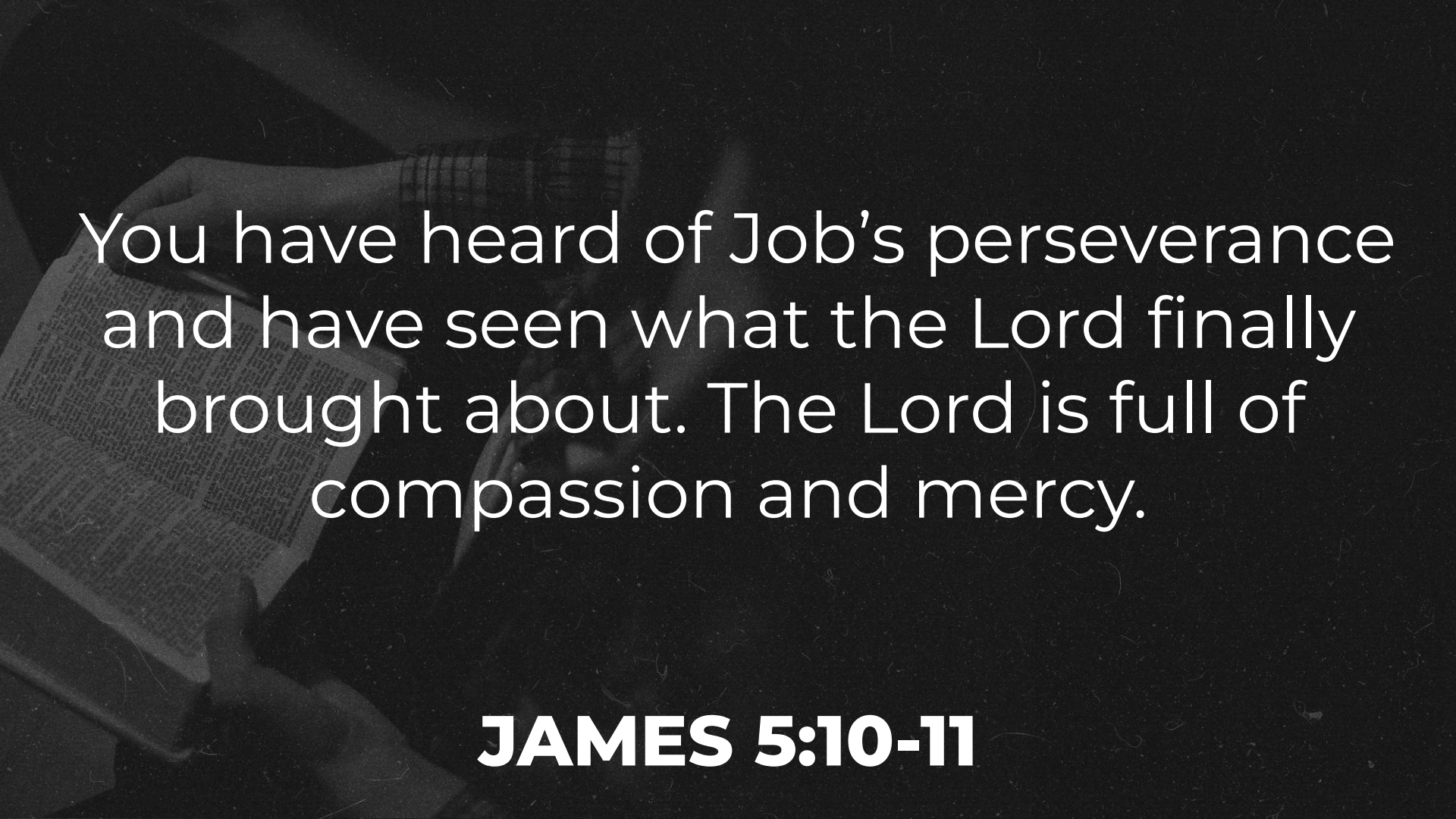


**The Apostle Paul's primary
boast was not in himself, but
in Christ and his secondary
boast was in believers who
persevered.**

A person is shown in profile, reading a book in a dark environment. The book is open, and the person's hands are visible holding it. The background is dark and textured.

¹⁰ Brothers and sisters, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ **As you know, we count as blessed those who have persevered.**

JAMES 5:10-11

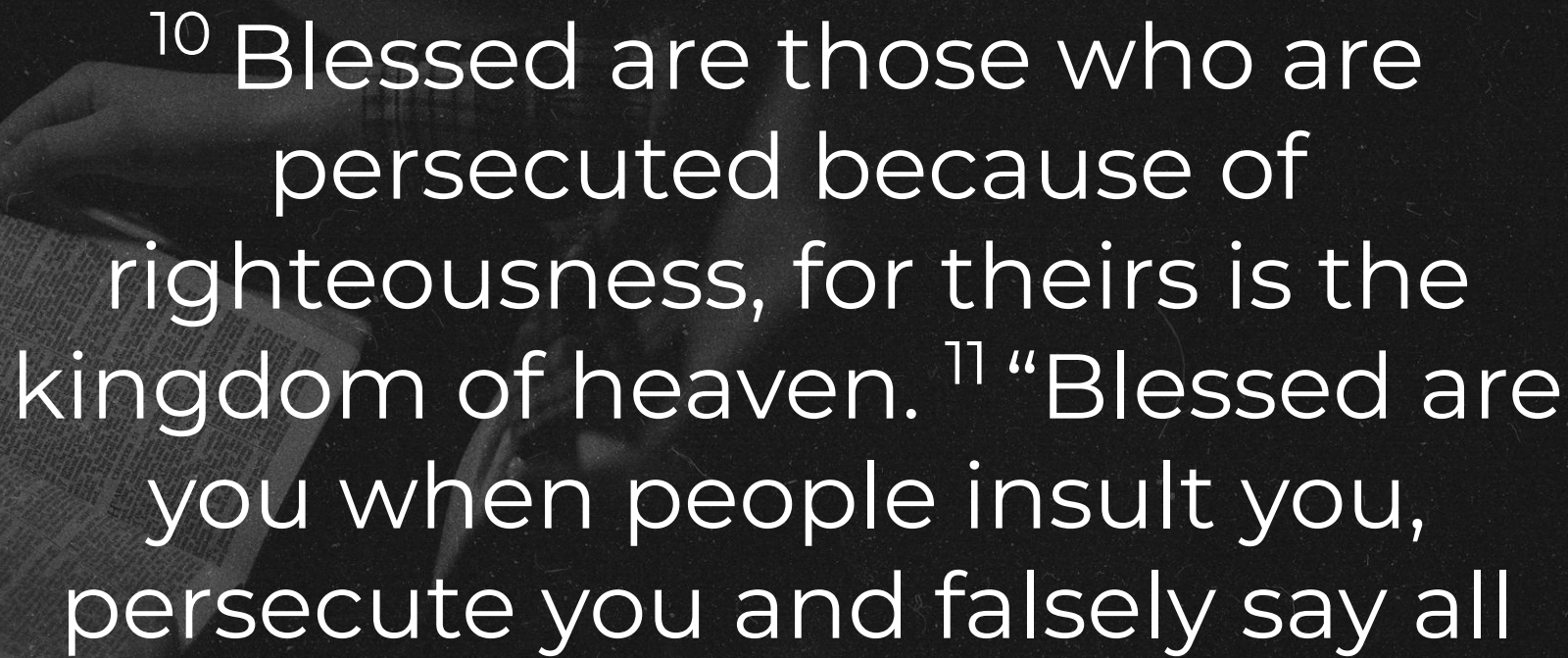
A grayscale photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text is overlaid on the image in a white, sans-serif font.

You have heard of Job's perseverance
and have seen what the Lord finally
brought about. The Lord is full of
compassion and mercy.

JAMES 5:10-11

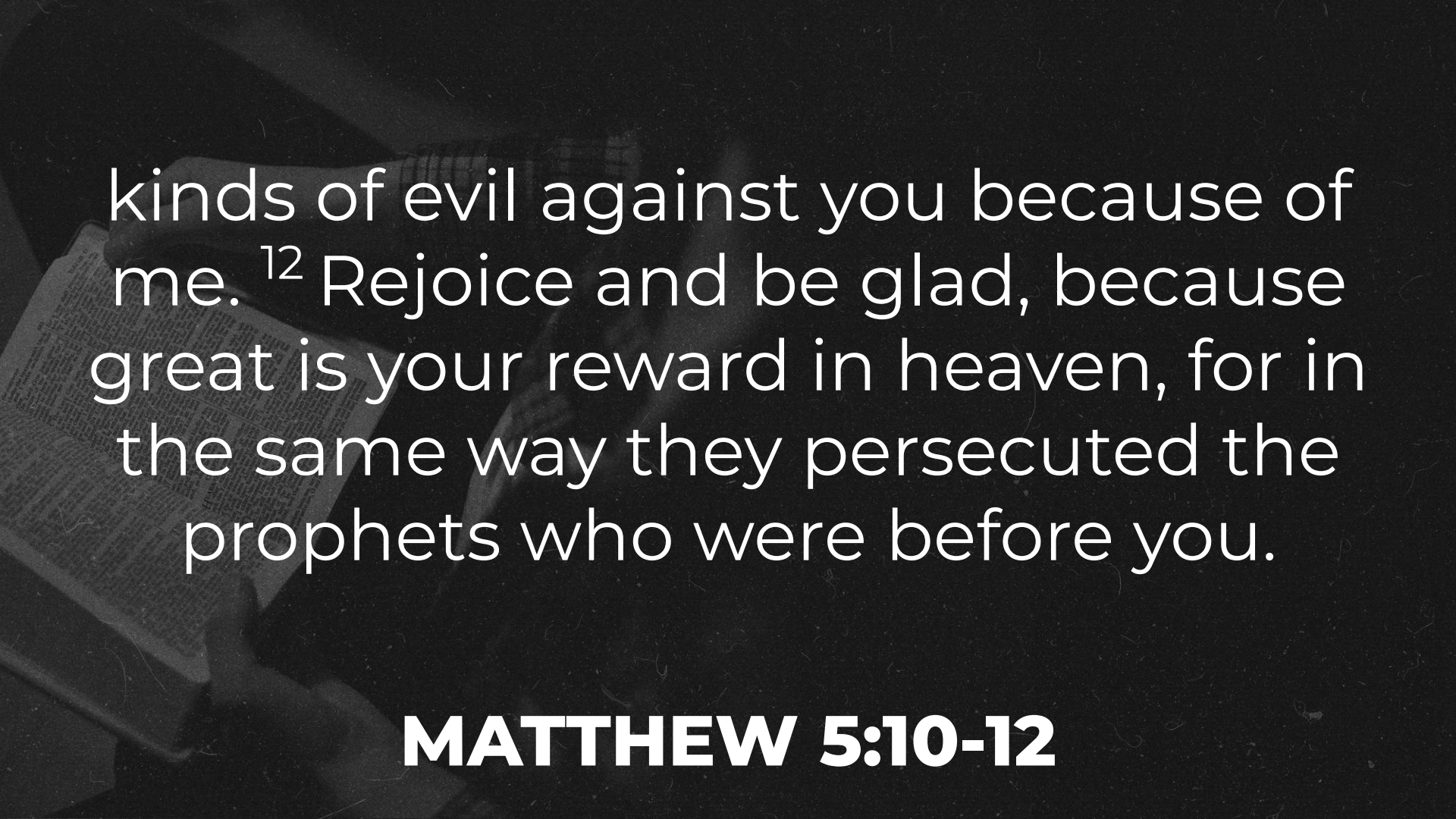
A black and white photograph of a person's hands holding and reading a newspaper. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus. The text "There is a blessing for those who persevere." is overlaid in a white serif font.

**There is a blessing for those
who persevere.**




¹⁰ Blessed are those who are
persecuted because of
righteousness, for theirs is the
kingdom of heaven. ¹¹ “Blessed are
you when people insult you,
persecute you and falsely say all

MATTHEW 5:10-12

A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with dense text. The background is dark and textured. The text is overlaid in white, sans-serif font.

kinds of evil against you because of me. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

MATTHEW 5:10-12

A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open book. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is very dark, and the lighting is focused on the book and the hands. The text is overlaid in a large, white, serif font.

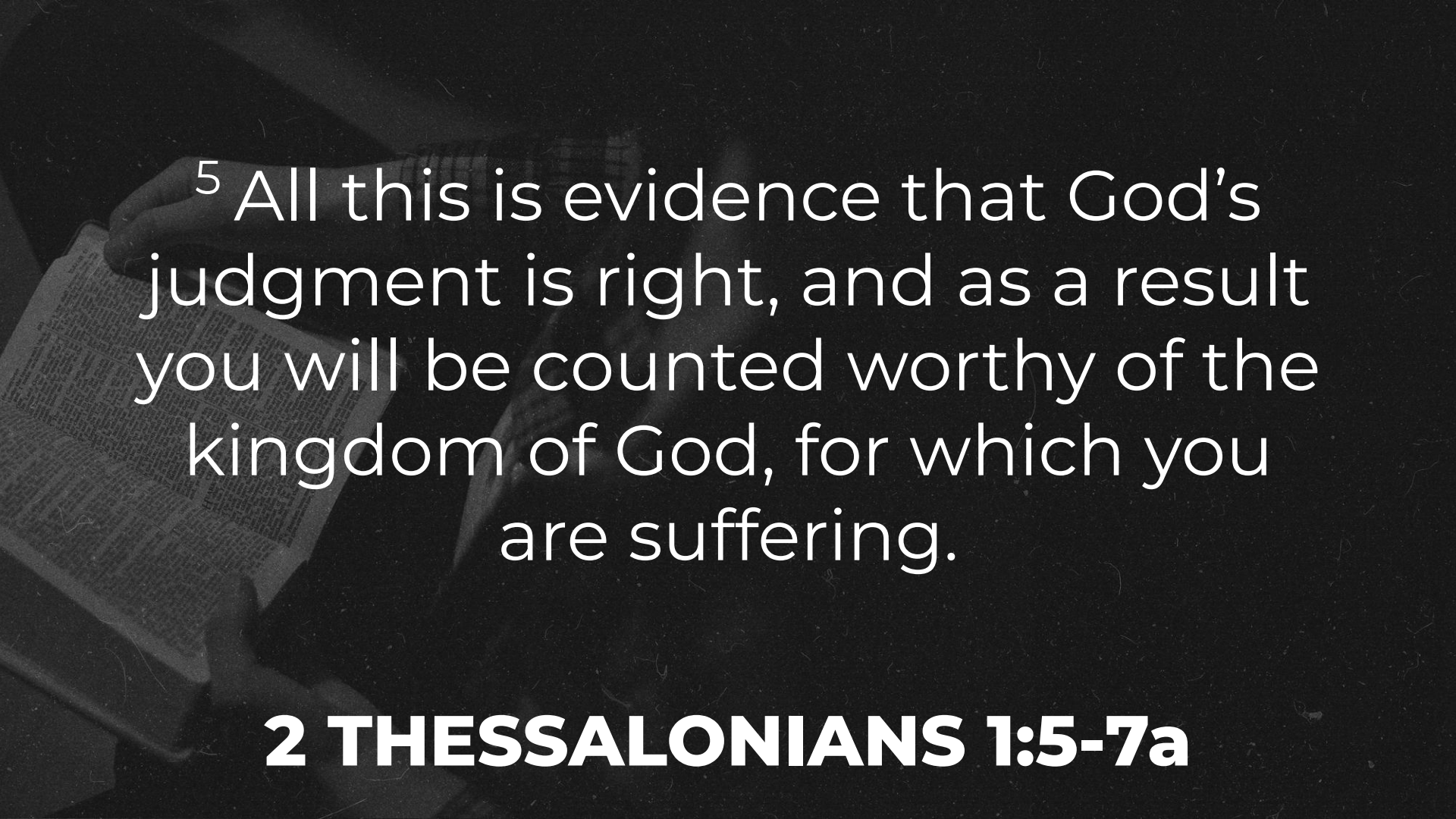
To persevere means to endure
now with our eyes set on what
is to come.

A black and white photograph of a person reading a book in a dark setting. The person's arm, wearing a plaid sleeve, is visible on the left, holding an open book. The background is dark and textured, with a soft light source creating a glow behind the person. The title 'WHO GOD IS' is overlaid in large white serif font.

WHO GOD IS

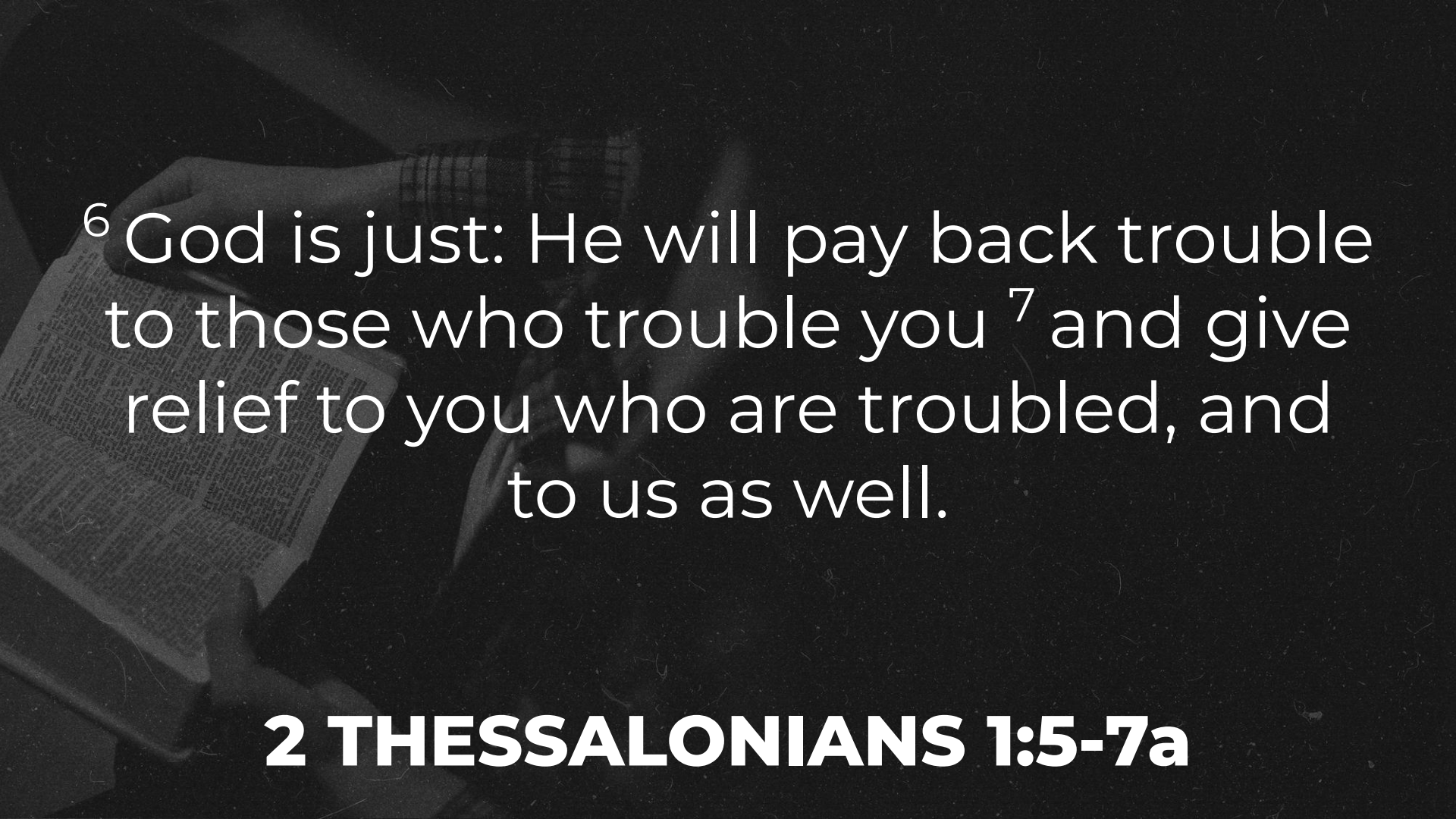


A) GOD IS JUST



⁵ All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:5-7a

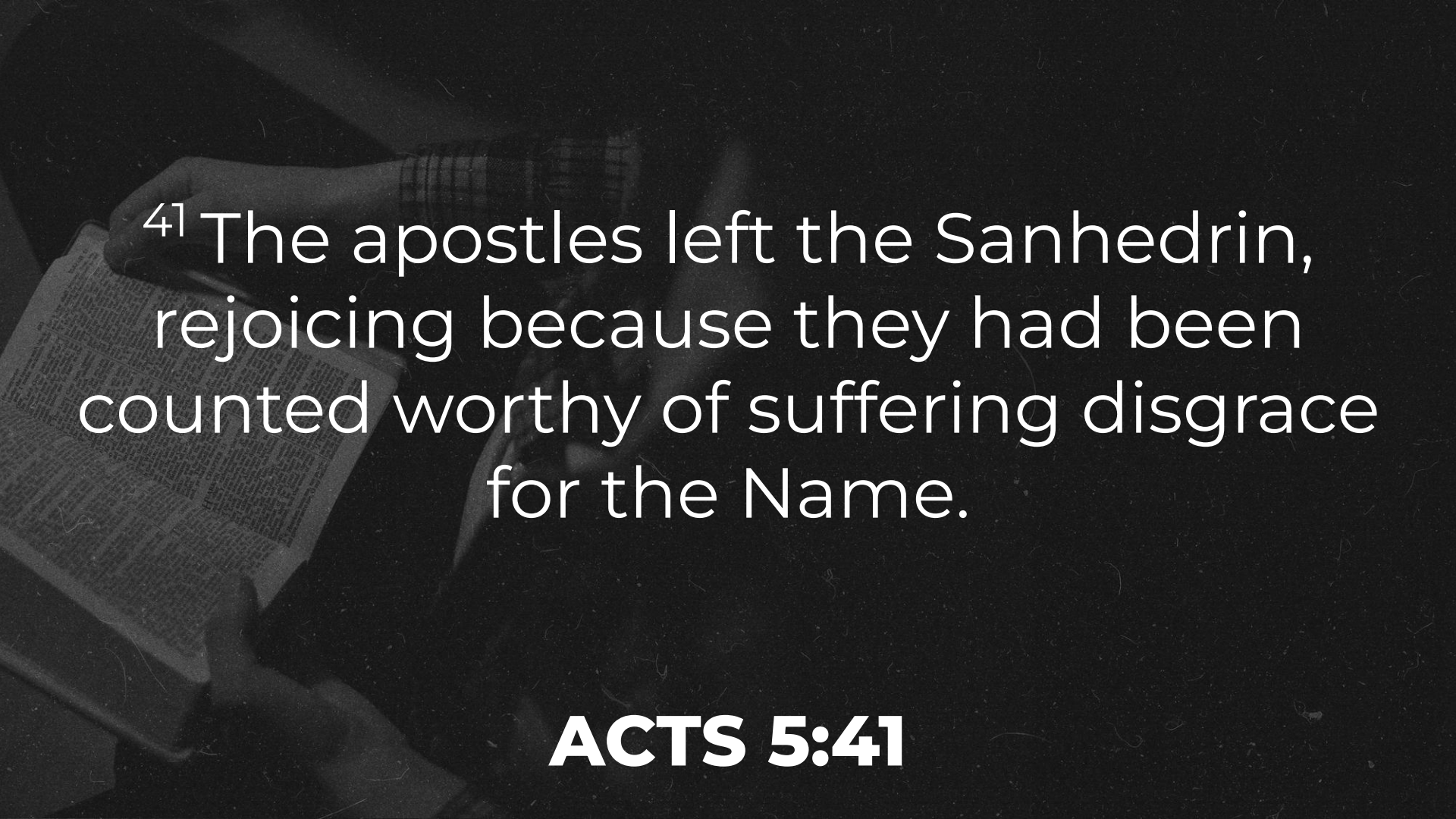
A dark, moody background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with dense text, likely a scriptural passage. The overall tone is somber and reflective.

⁶ God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you ⁷ and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:5-7a



The negative connotation
of judgement is eternal
damnation, but the positive
connotation of judgement is
wise decision-making.

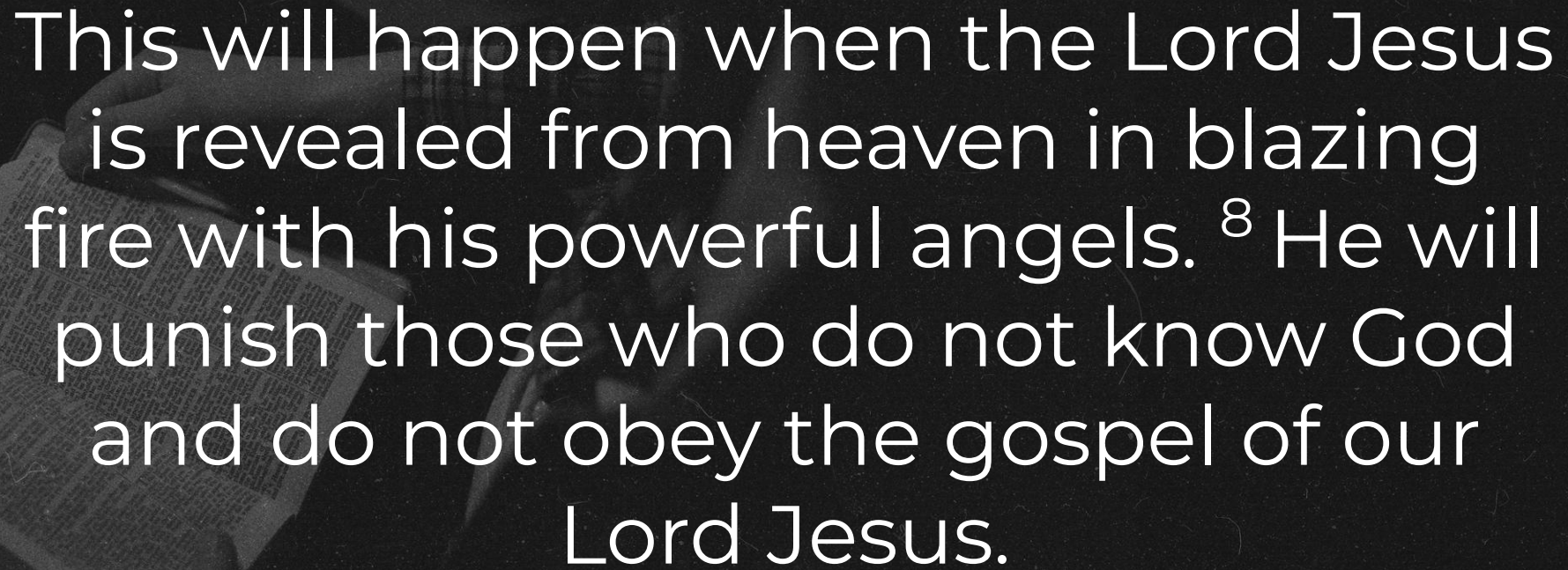
A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with dense text, likely a scriptural passage. The lighting is low, creating a somber and contemplative atmosphere. The text of the Bible is visible but slightly blurred, emphasizing the act of reading over the specific words.

⁴¹ The apostles left the Sanhedrin,
rejoicing because they had been
counted worthy of suffering disgrace
for the Name.

ACTS 5:41

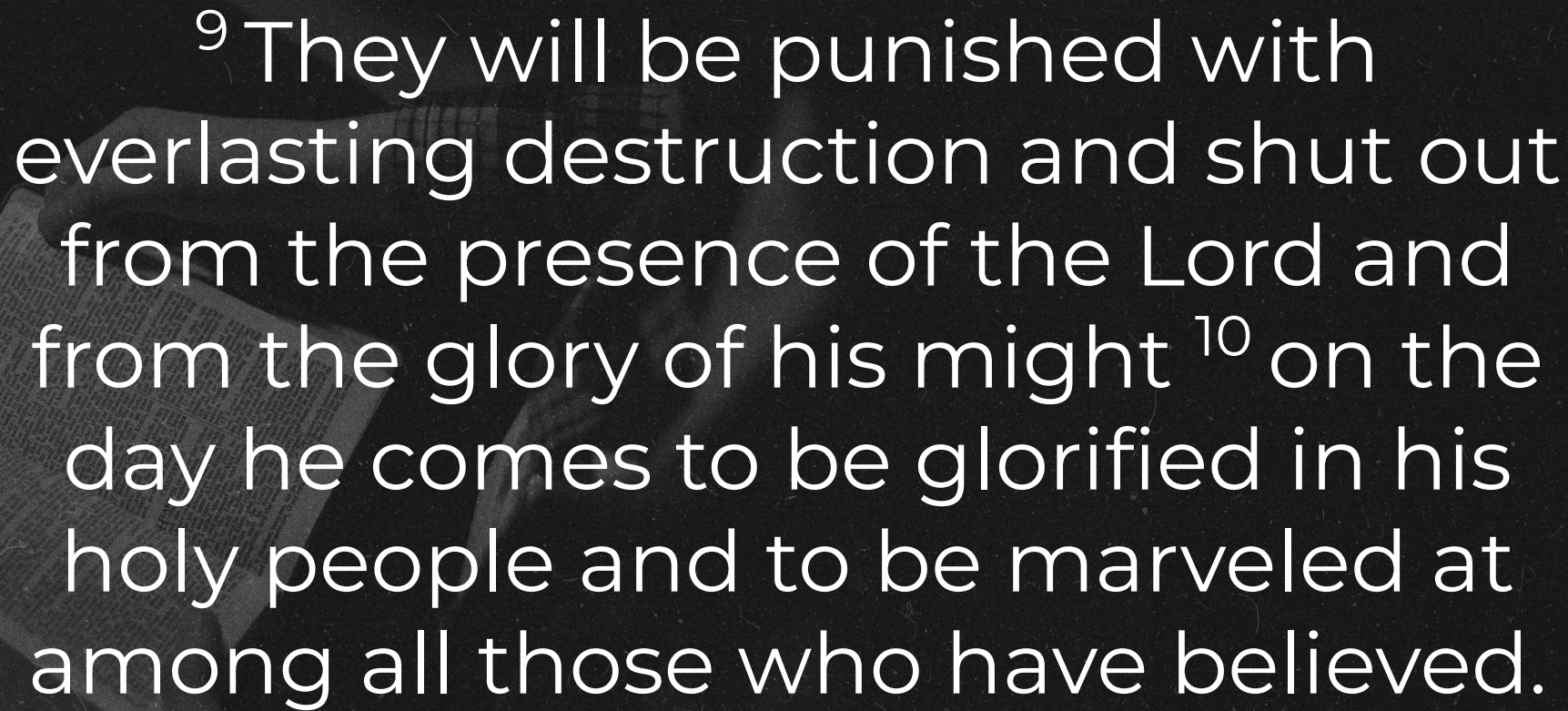
A black and white photograph of a person's arm and hand holding a newspaper. The person is wearing a plaid sleeve. The newspaper is open, showing columns of text. The background is dark and textured.

**B) GOD WILL
PUNISH**



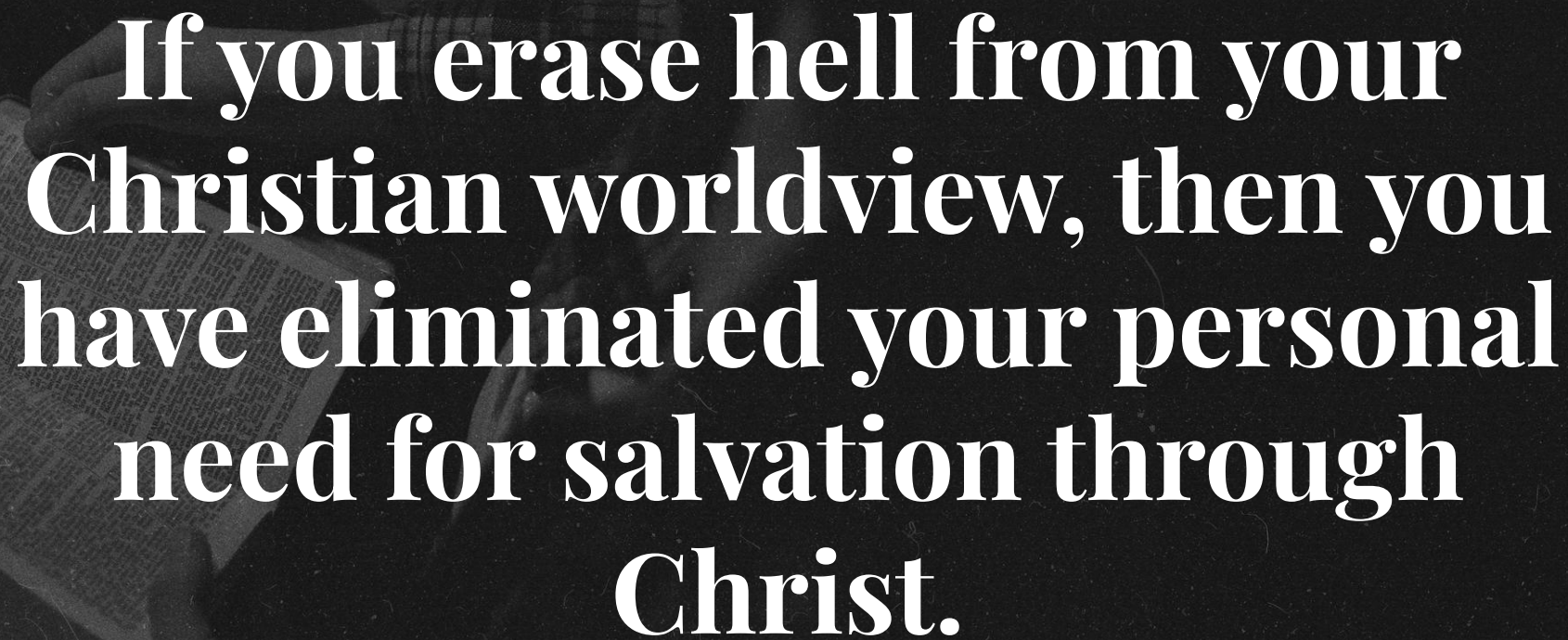
This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.⁸ He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:7b-10

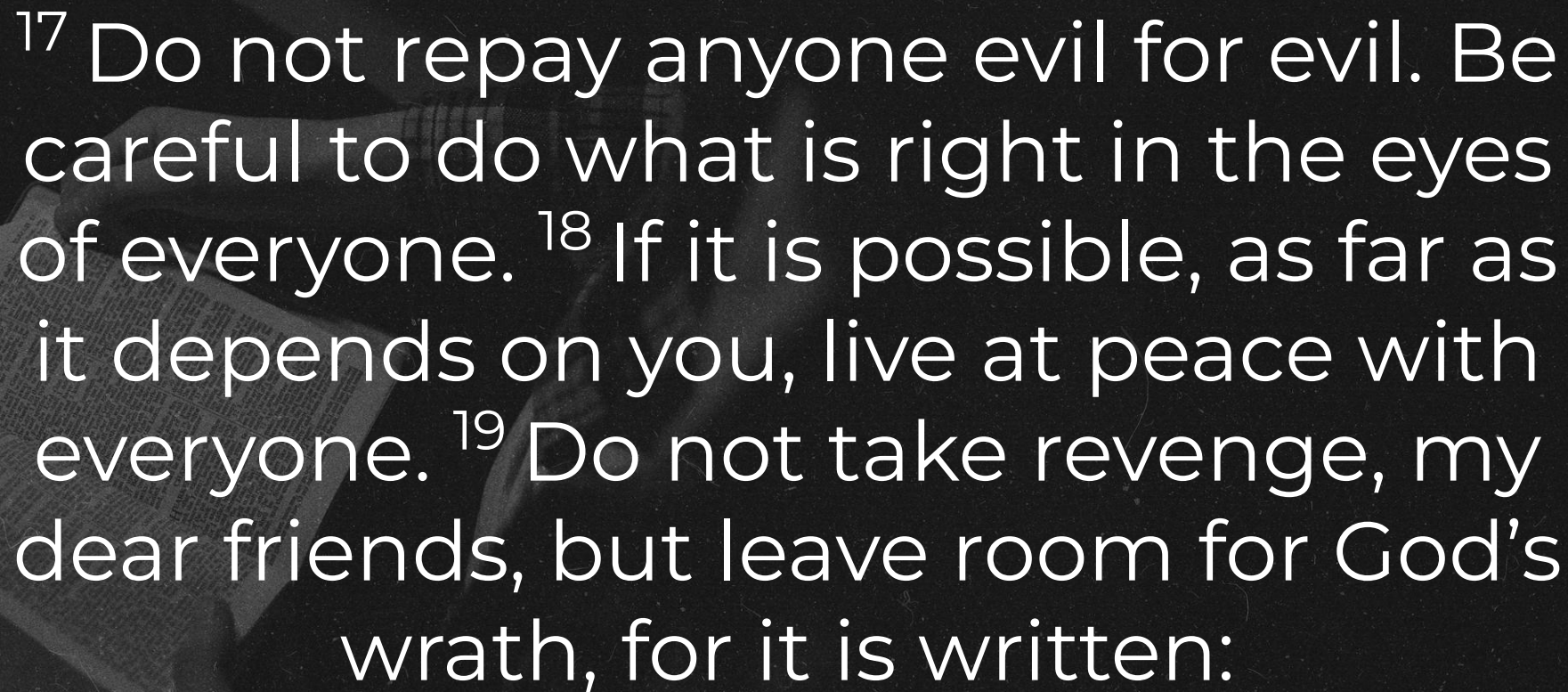
A dark, moody background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The text is overlaid in a clean, white, sans-serif font. The text is centered and occupies most of the frame. The background is dark, with some light reflecting off the pages of the Bible.

⁹ They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might ¹⁰ on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed.

2 THESSALONIANS 1:7b-10

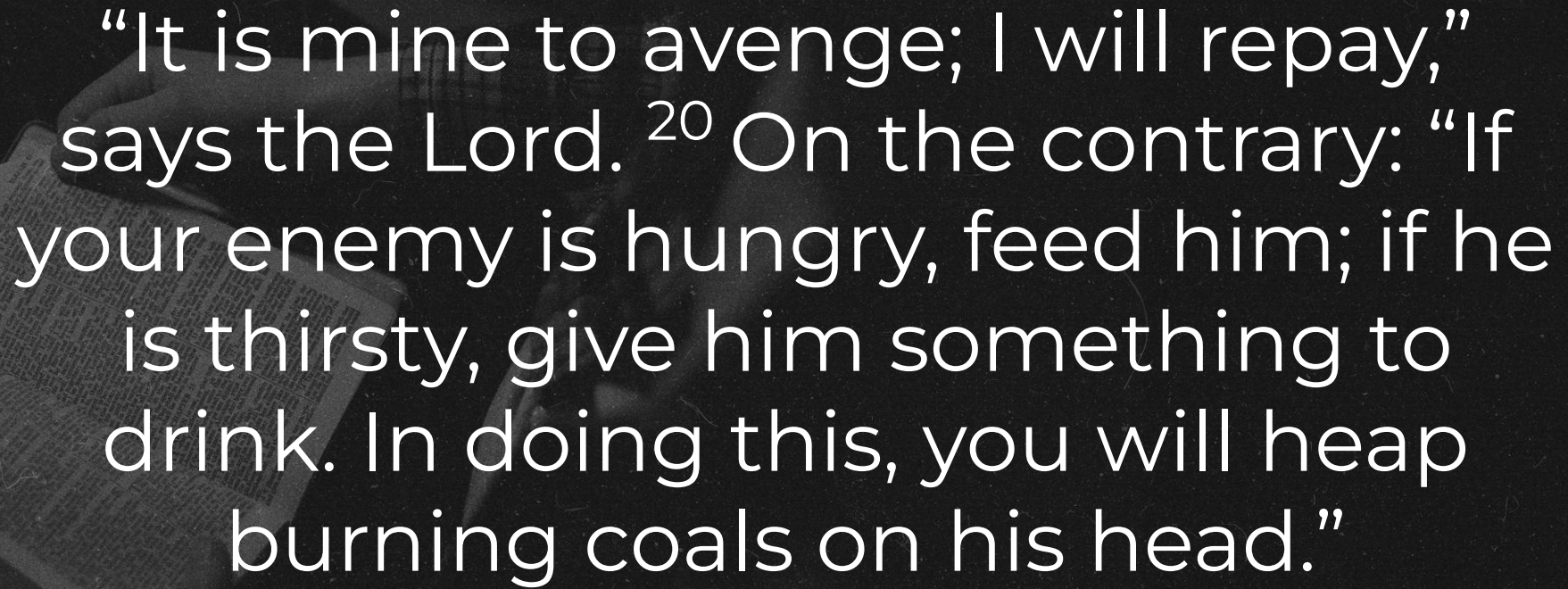
A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and textured. The text is overlaid in a large, white, serif font.

**If you erase hell from your
Christian worldview, then you
have eliminated your personal
need for salvation through
Christ.**

The background of the image is a dark, textured surface. On the left side, there is a faint, grayscale image of an open book. The pages of the book are visible, showing printed text, though it is not legible. The book is positioned diagonally, with its spine towards the bottom left. The main text of the image is overlaid on this background, starting from the top left and moving towards the right and bottom.

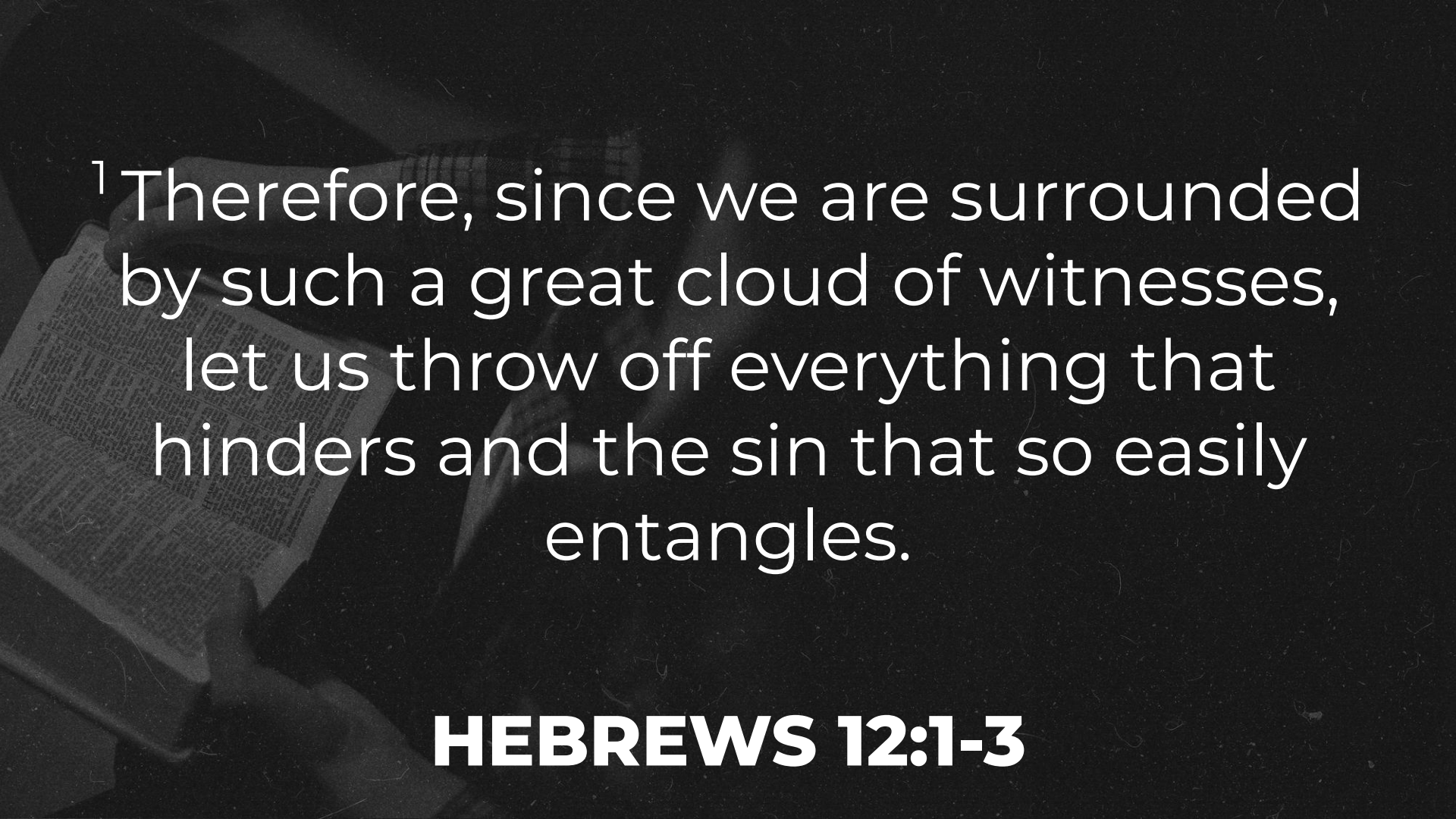
¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Be careful to do what is right in the eyes of everyone. ¹⁸ If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone. ¹⁹ Do not take revenge, my dear friends, but leave room for God's wrath, for it is written:

ROMANS 12:17-20

A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

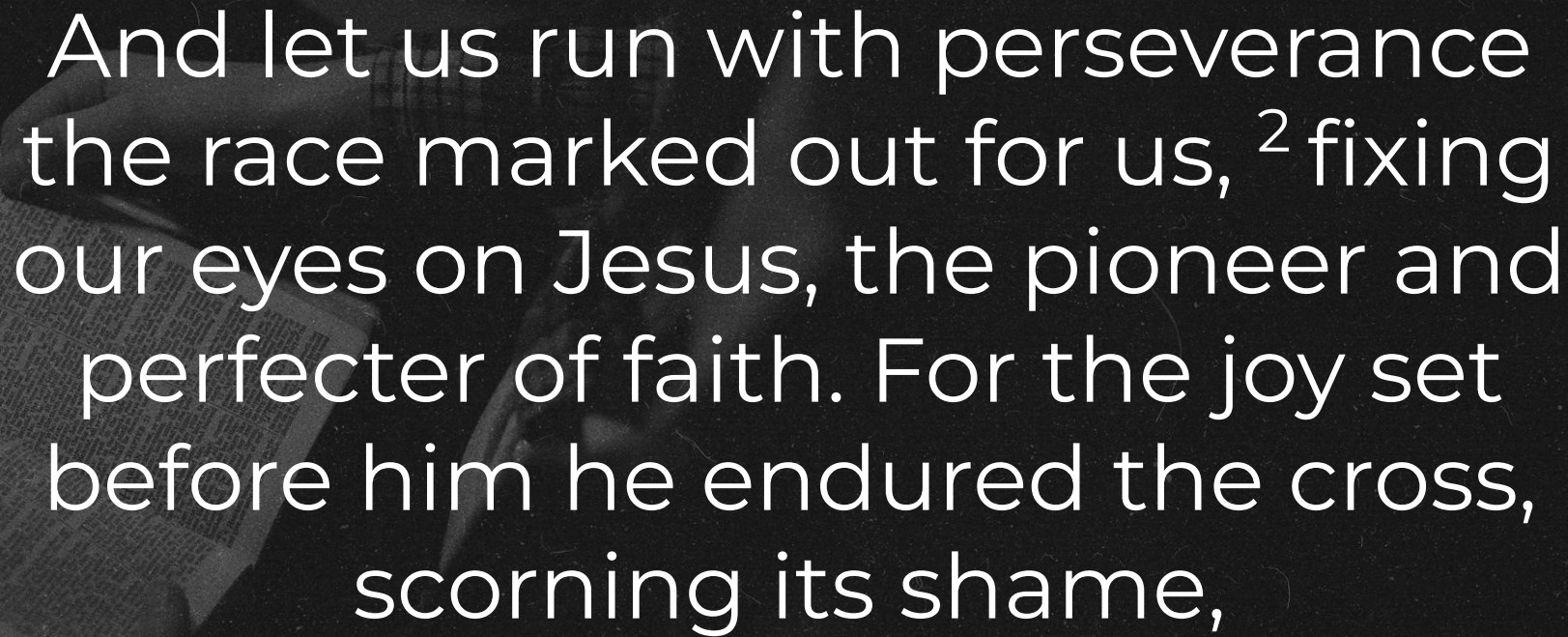
“It is mine to avenge; I will repay,”
says the Lord. ²⁰ On the contrary: “If
your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he
is thirsty, give him something to
drink. In doing this, you will heap
burning coals on his head.”

ROMANS 12:17-20

A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with dense text. Overlaid on this image is a large, white, sans-serif text block. The text is centered and reads: 'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles.' The text is broken into four lines. The first line starts with a superscript '1'.

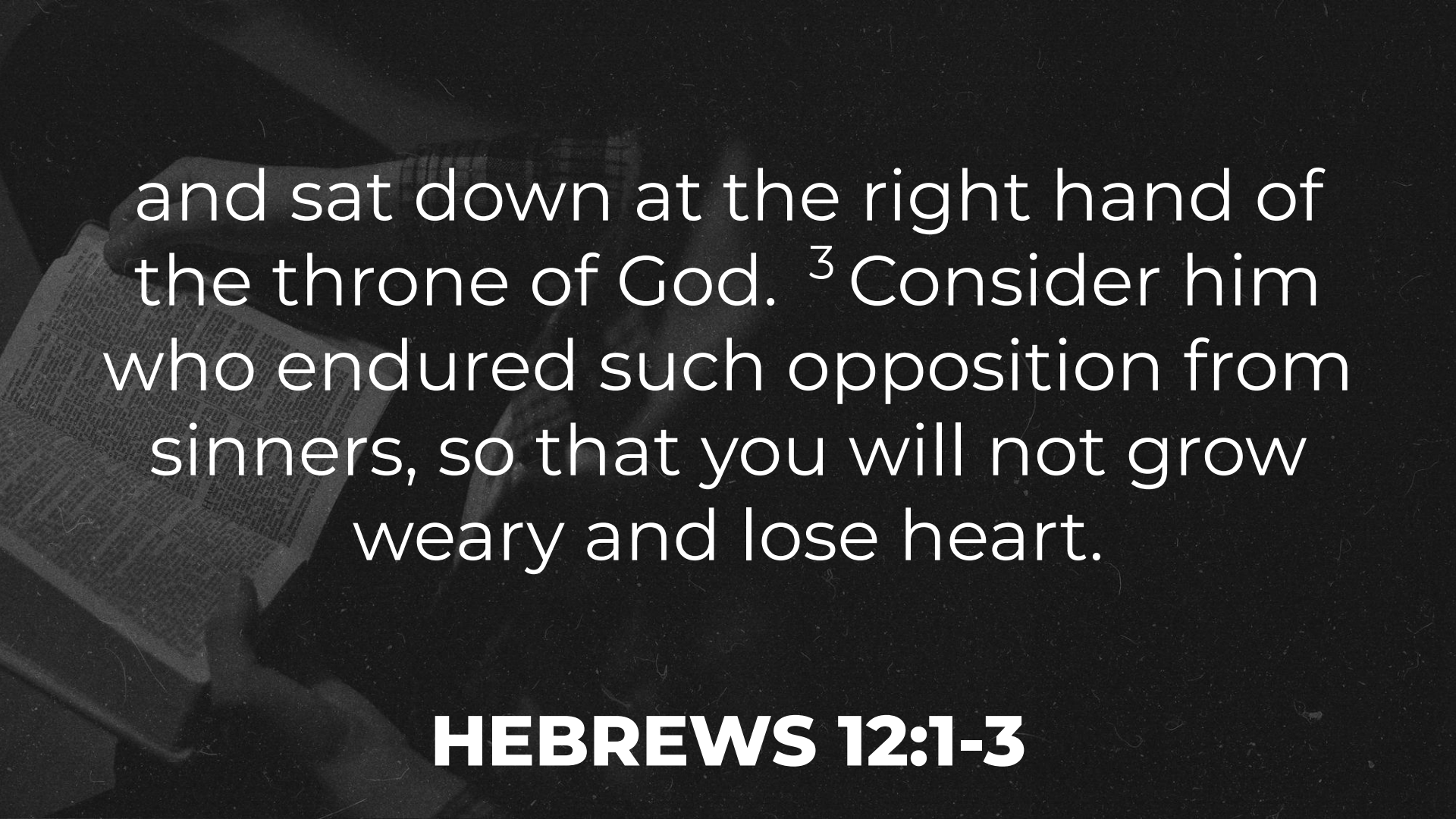
¹Therefore, since we are surrounded
by such a great cloud of witnesses,
let us throw off everything that
hinders and the sin that so easily
entangles.

HEBREWS 12:1-3

A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is looking down at the text in the Bible. The text is overlaid in white on the dark background.

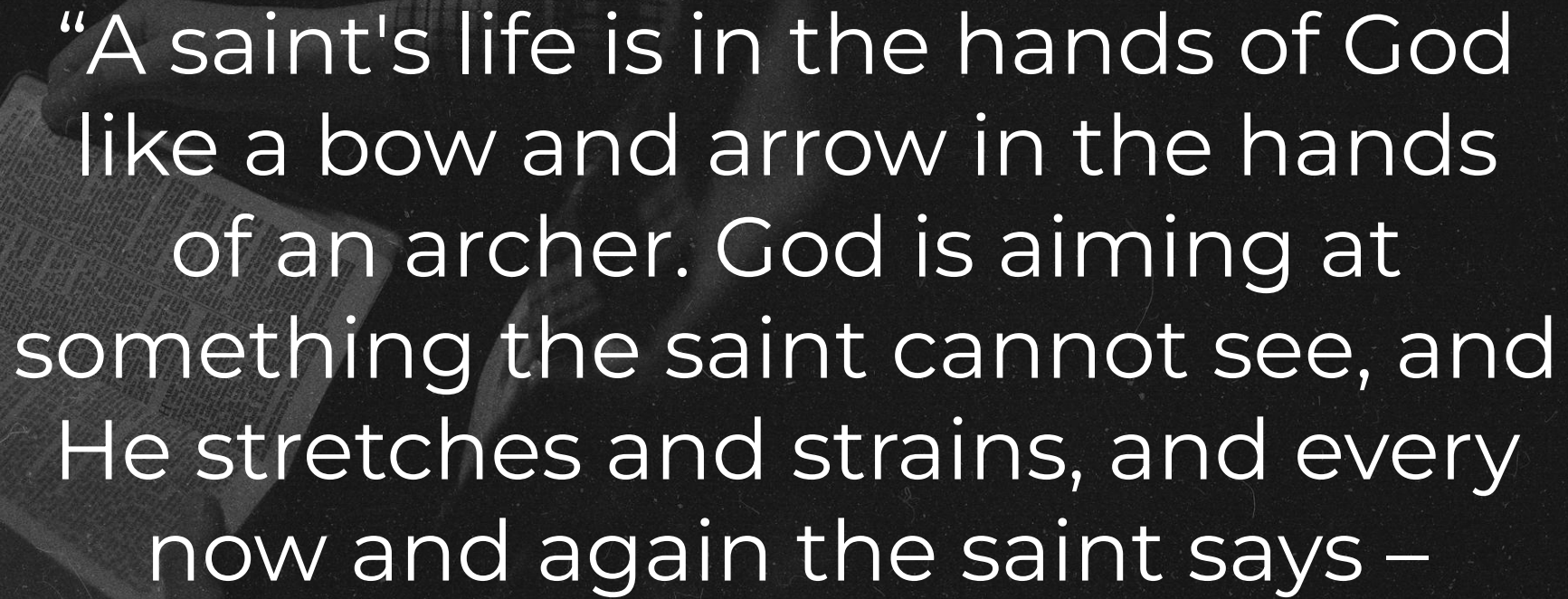
And let us run with perseverance
the race marked out for us,² fixing
our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and
perfector of faith. For the joy set
before him he endured the cross,
scorning its shame,

HEBREWS 12:1-3

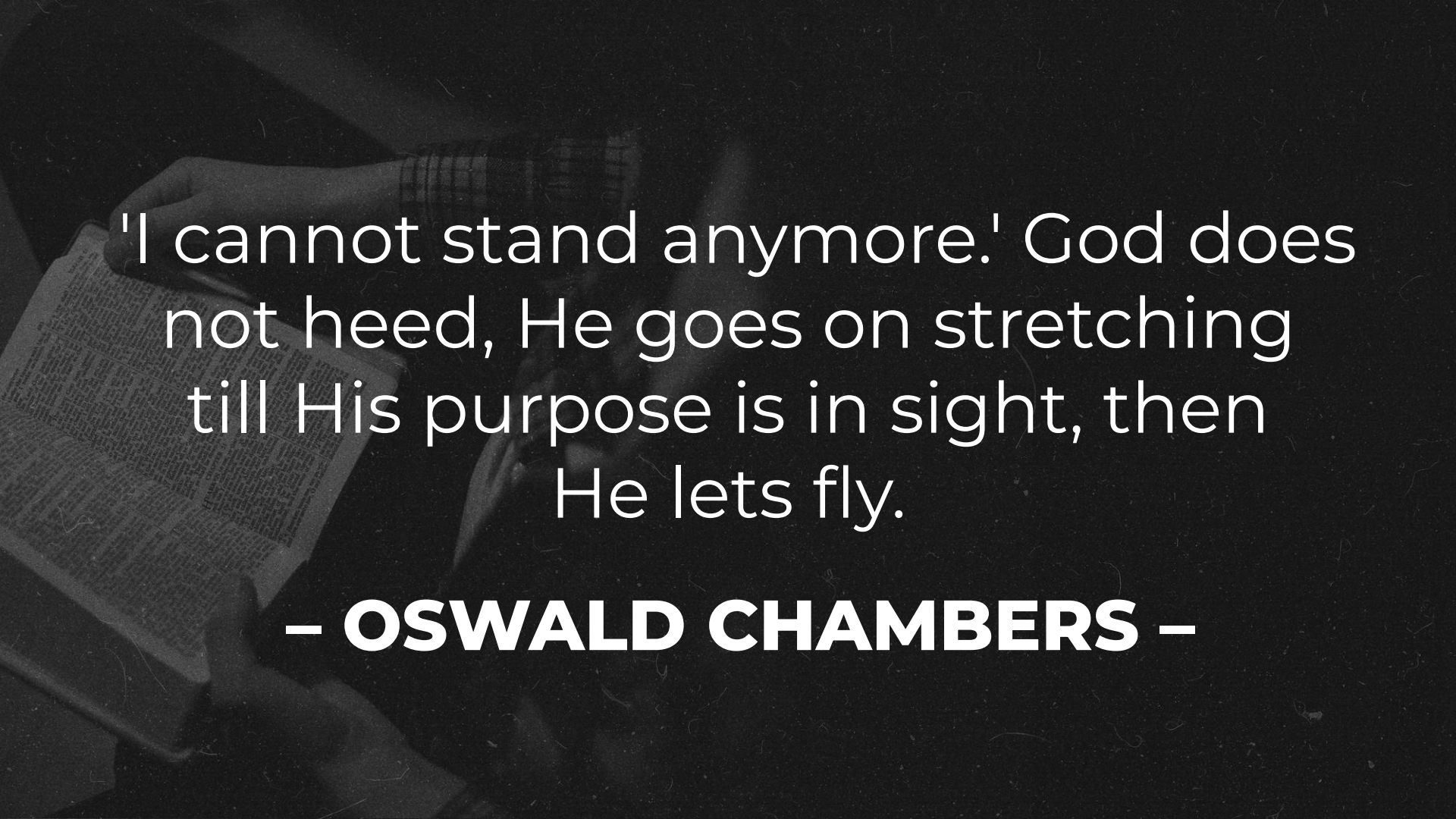
A grayscale background image showing a person's hands holding an open Bible. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The Bible is open to a page with dense text, likely a scriptural passage. The lighting is soft, and the overall tone is contemplative and focused on the act of reading the Bible.

and sat down at the right hand of
the throne of God. ³ Consider him
who endured such opposition from
sinners, so that you will not grow
weary and lose heart.

HEBREWS 12:1-3

A dark, moody photograph of a person's hands holding an open book. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and textured. Overlaid on the image is a quote in white text.

“A saint's life is in the hands of God like a bow and arrow in the hands of an archer. God is aiming at something the saint cannot see, and He stretches and strains, and every now and again the saint says –

A black and white photograph of a person's hands holding and reading a newspaper. The person is wearing a plaid shirt. The background is dark and out of focus.

'I cannot stand anymore.' God does
not heed, He goes on stretching
till His purpose is in sight, then
He lets fly.

– OSWALD CHAMBERS –

SERMON RECAP:

1) WHO GOD WANTS US TO BE

A) GROW IN FAITH

B) INCREASE IN LOVE

C) ENDURE PERSECUTION

2) WHO GOD IS

A) GOD IS JUST

B) GOD WILL PUNISH



1 & 2 THESSALONIANS

MARANATHA: OUR LORD, COME!

THESSALONIANS
THESSALONIANS
THESSALONIANS
THESSALONIANS