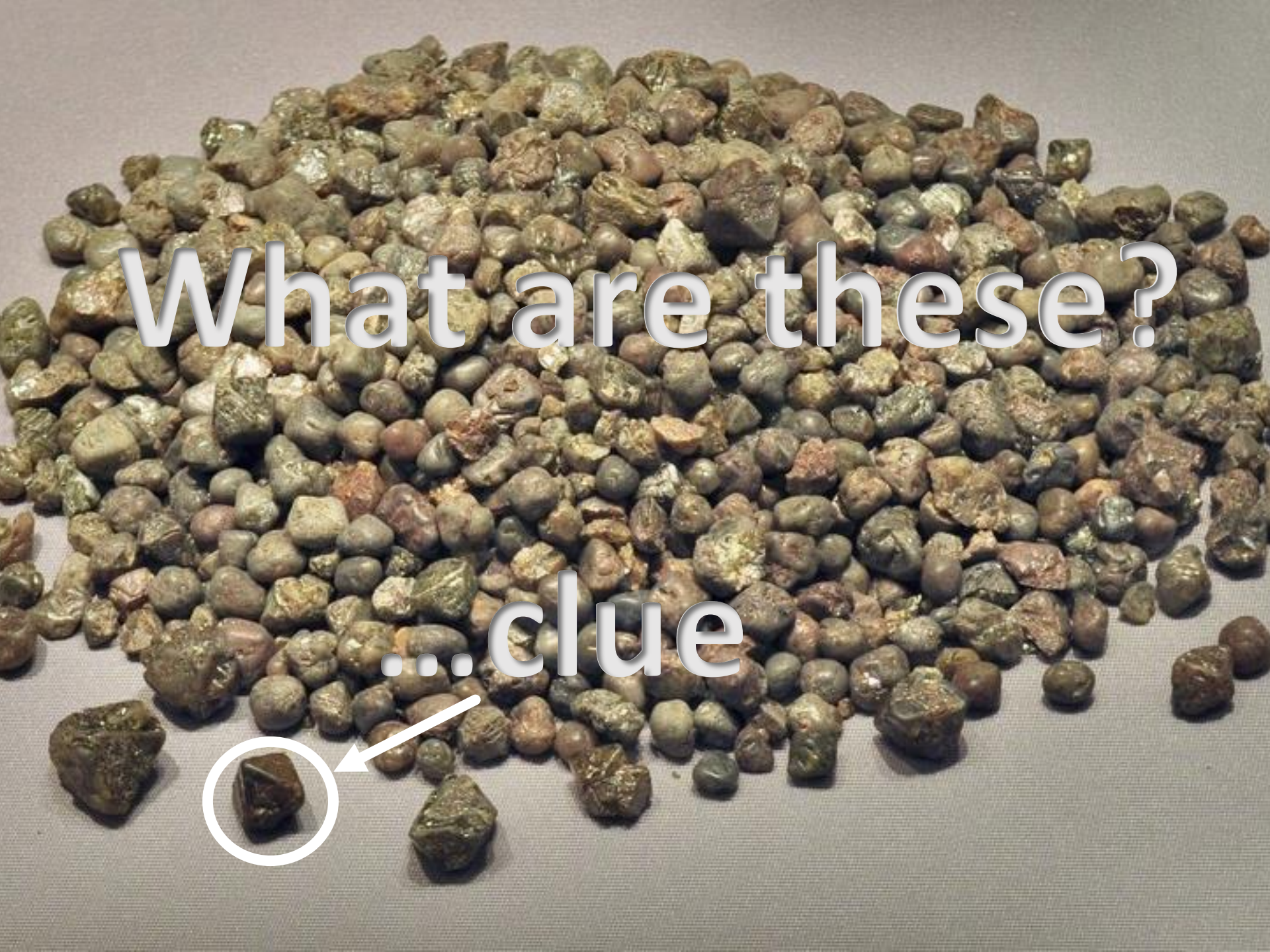


# God's Open Secrets



## The Hidden Battle





What are these?

...clue





Any idea now ?

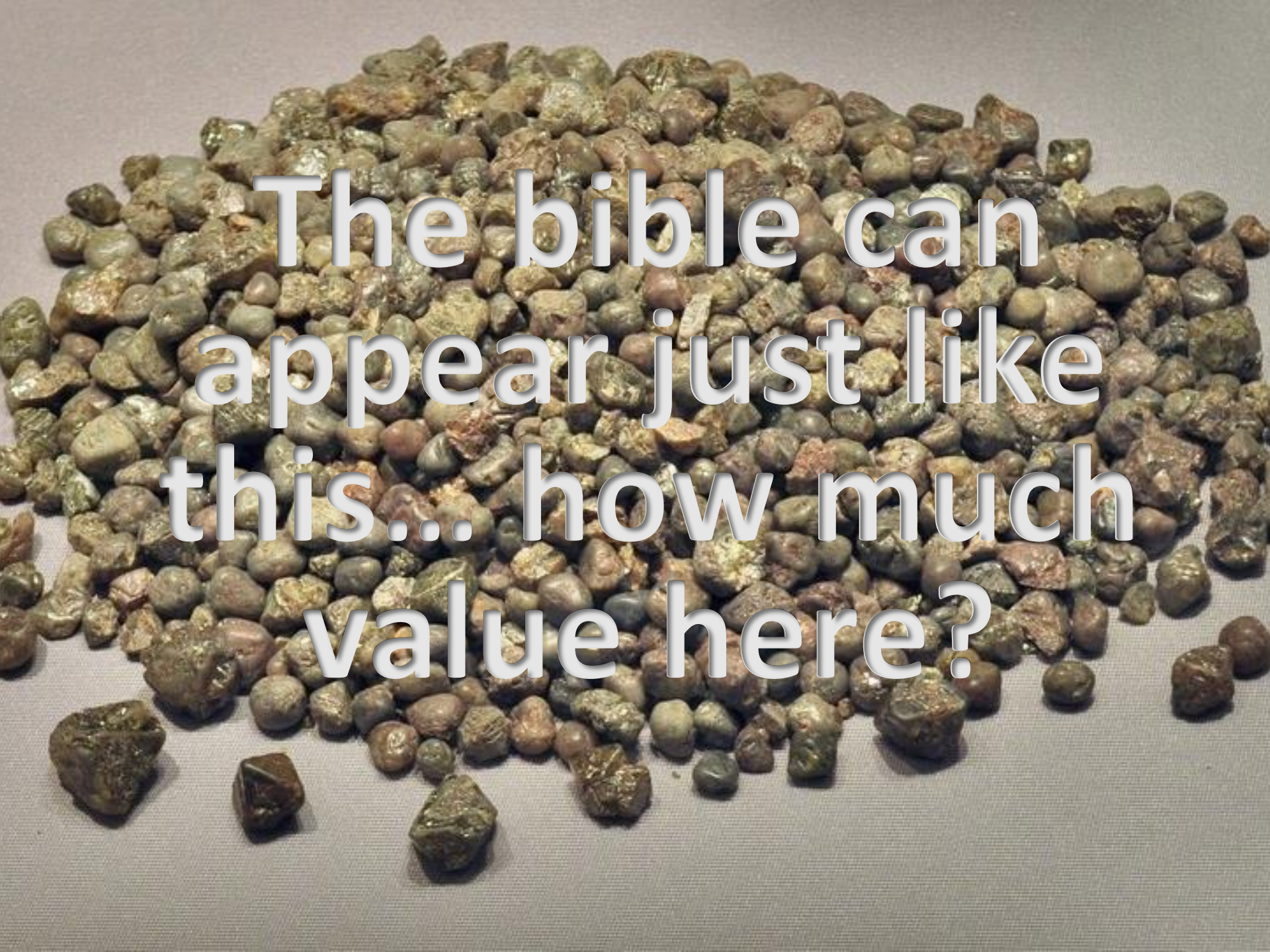


# God's treasures



# ...His Truth, His Word





The bible can  
appear just like  
this... how much  
value here?



# Matthew 13v44-46

## Parables of Hidden Treasure & the Pearl

<sup>44</sup> “The **kingdom of heaven** is like **treasure** hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.

<sup>45</sup> “Again, the **kingdom of heaven** is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. <sup>46</sup> When he found one of **great value**, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

# Freedom!

- It is **all** about **Love**
- The **freedom** to choose to:

**Love or reject God**

- The truth is partly **hidden** to allow that **freedom**



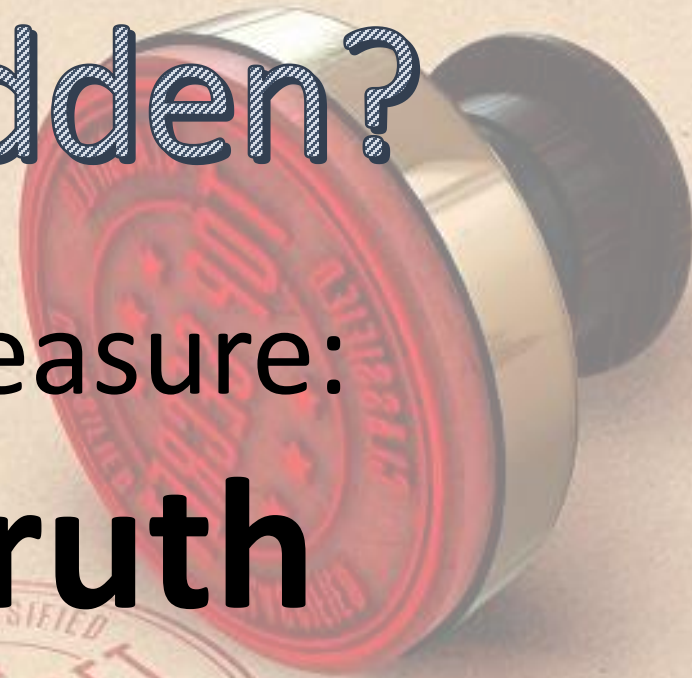


# So, what is Hidden?

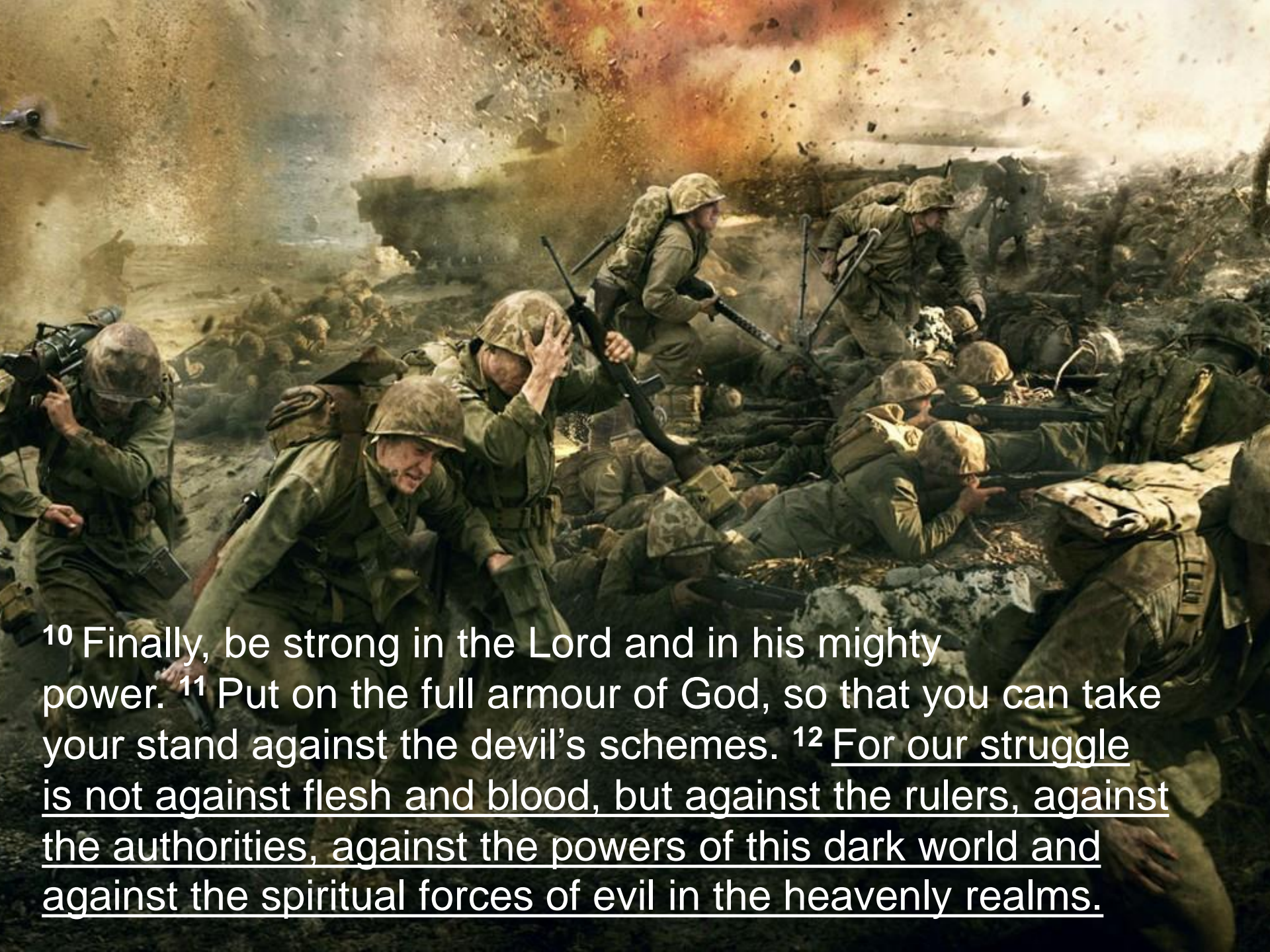
- Recognise Real Treasure:

## God's Truth

- Of greater value than everything we have anyway
- So open and free, but yet so hard – a **real** battle





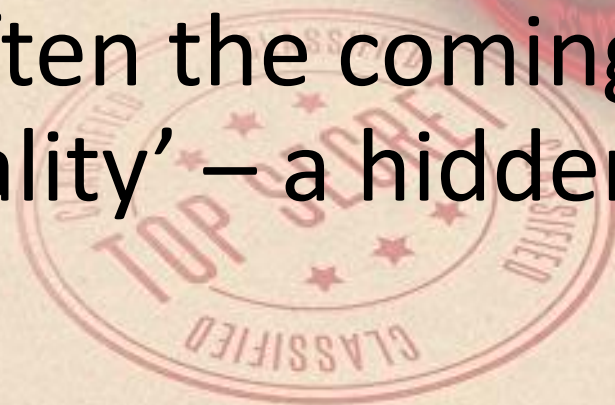


<sup>10</sup> Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on the full armour of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. <sup>12</sup> For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.



# Where is the battle at?

- Not a physical battle – but lessons can be learned
- Hardest part for military personnel is often the coming back to ‘normality’ – a hidden battle
- Hidden battles can cause as much damage and sometimes more





# Who is in control ?







# Genesis 1-3



# Who is in control?

## ...God or us?



<https://thebibleproject.com/explore/genesis-1-11/>





# What are we fighting?

...are we struggling with God?

...how is that going to end?



# God is God

we are but human





God does **not**  
make mistakes

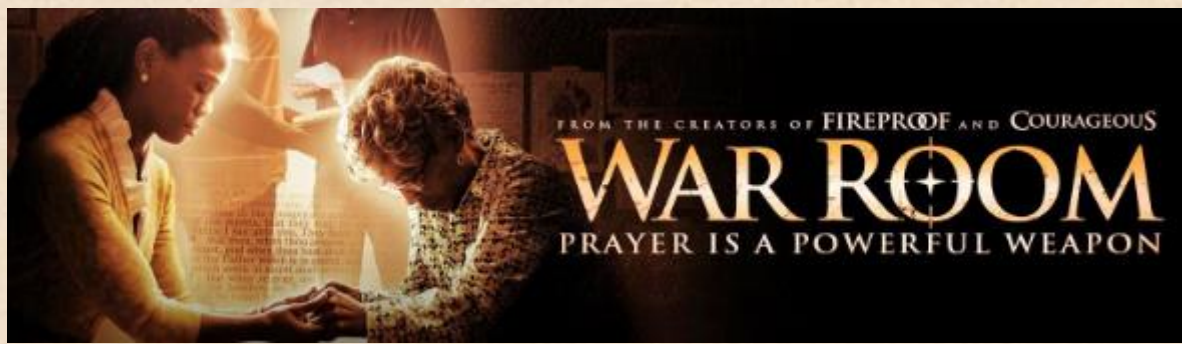
...we do!



**Trust Him**  
**Take the fight to**  
**the real Enemy...**







# Fight your battles in Prayer



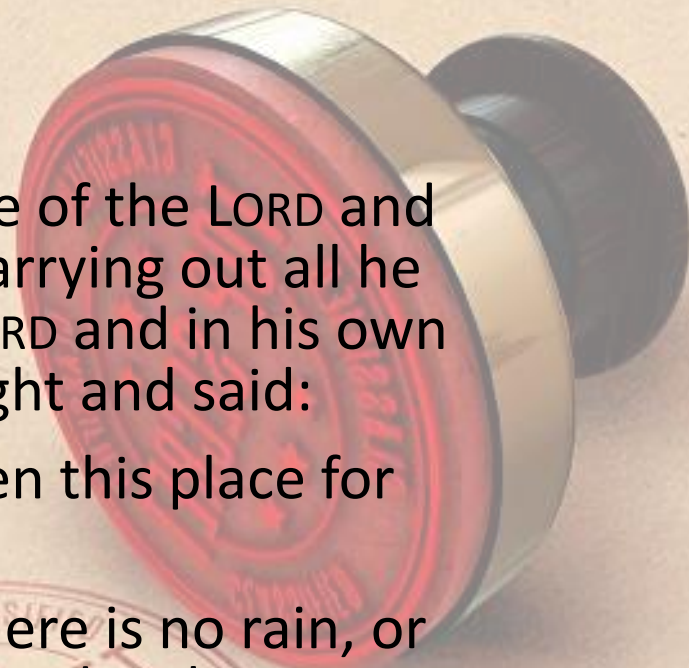
War Room - The Heart of the Movie

## 2 Chronicles 7v11-16

<sup>11</sup> When Solomon had finished the temple of the LORD and the royal palace, and had succeeded in carrying out all he had in mind to do in the temple of the LORD and in his own palace, <sup>12</sup> the LORD appeared to him at night and said:

“I have heard your prayer and have chosen this place for myself as a temple for sacrifices.

<sup>13</sup> “When I shut up the heavens so that there is no rain, or command locusts to devour the land or send a plague among my people, <sup>14</sup> **if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.** <sup>15</sup> **Now my eyes will be open and my ears attentive to the prayers offered in this place.** <sup>16</sup> I have chosen and consecrated this temple so that my Name may be there forever. My eyes and my heart will always be there.





# Putting into Action

A red wax seal is partially broken, revealing a circular stamp underneath. The stamp contains the words "TOP SECRET" in the center, surrounded by "CLASSIFIED" and stars.

Carve out a time  
for God every day  
...and protect it

# Hebrews 12v1

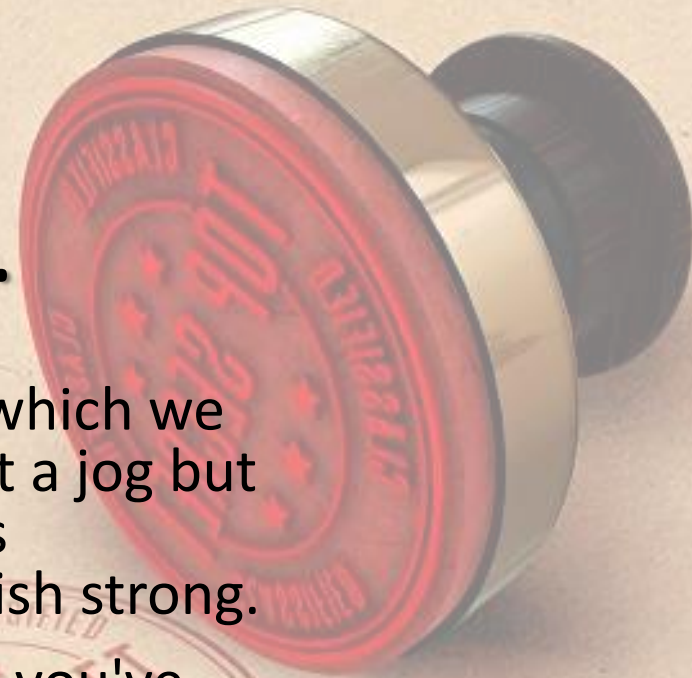
Let us run the race that is before us and never give up.

The word *race* is from the Greek *agon*, from which we get the word agony. The Christian's race is not a jog but rather a demanding and gruelling, sometimes agonizing race. It takes a massive effort to finish strong.

Likely you've noticed that many don't? Surely you've observed there are many on the side of the trail? They used to be running. There was a time when they kept the pace. But then weariness set in. They didn't think the run would be this tough...

By contrast, Jesus' best work was his final work, and his strongest step was his last step. Our Master is the classic example of one who endured.... He could have quit the race. But he didn't.

Max Lucado – *Just Like Jesus*





1 Timothy 6:12



Fight the good  
fight of faith.

