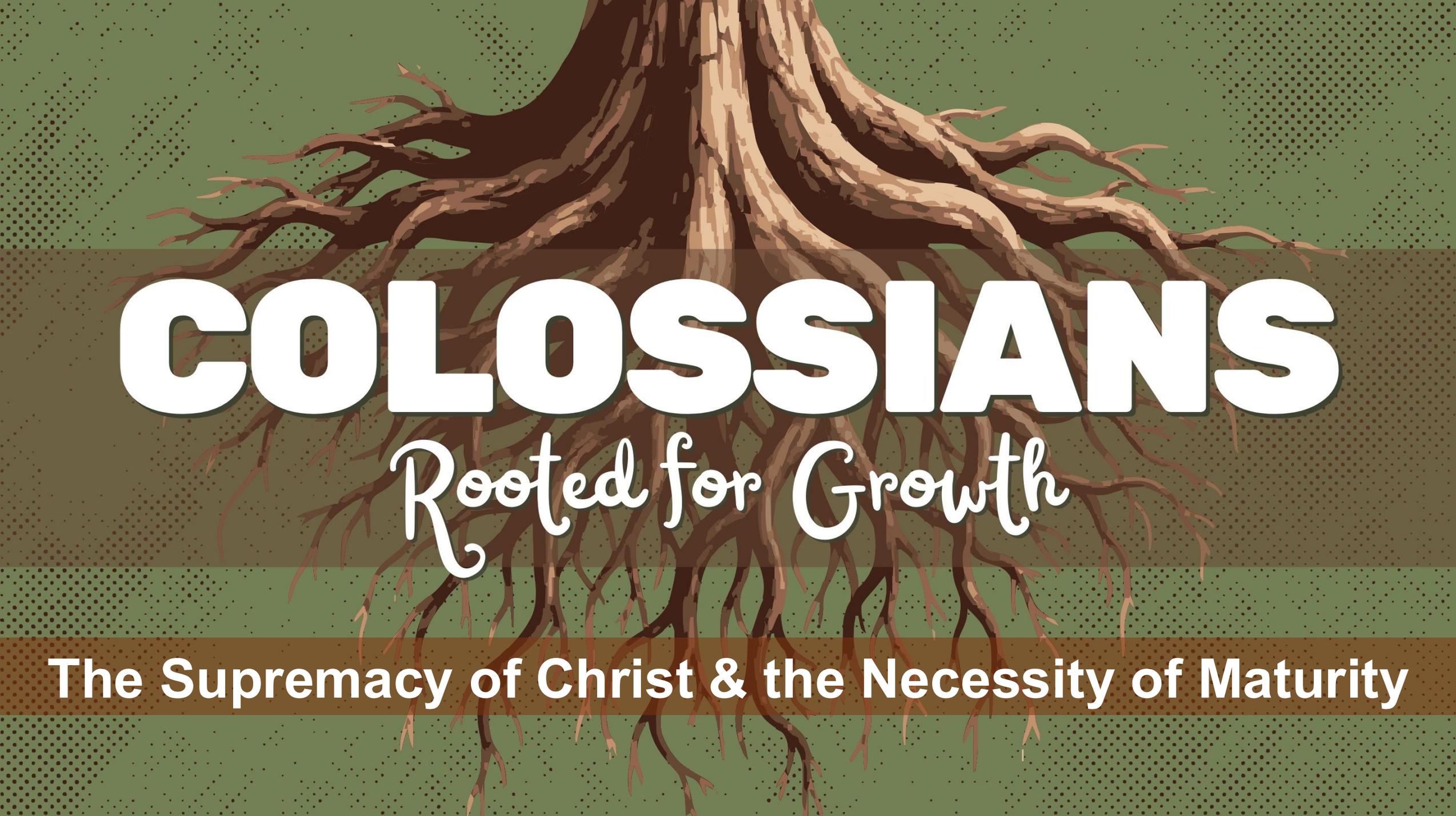


COLOSSIANS

Rooted for Growth



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The Supremacy of Christ & the Necessity of Maturity

Today's cultural landscape,
both secular and sacred,
looks surprisingly similar to first century Colossae.

There is a syncretistic dynamic in a new
“alternative orthodoxy” dividing the church,
which contains tentacles of a new age philosophy that
degrades the need and necessity for a personal redeemer.

These movements claim that the “old orthodoxies” are
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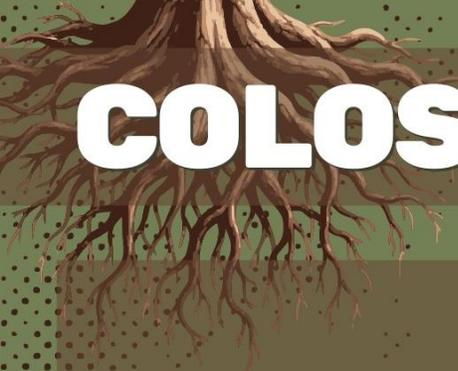
Syncretistic Dangers in the Church

The Gospel

(orthodox biblical truth)

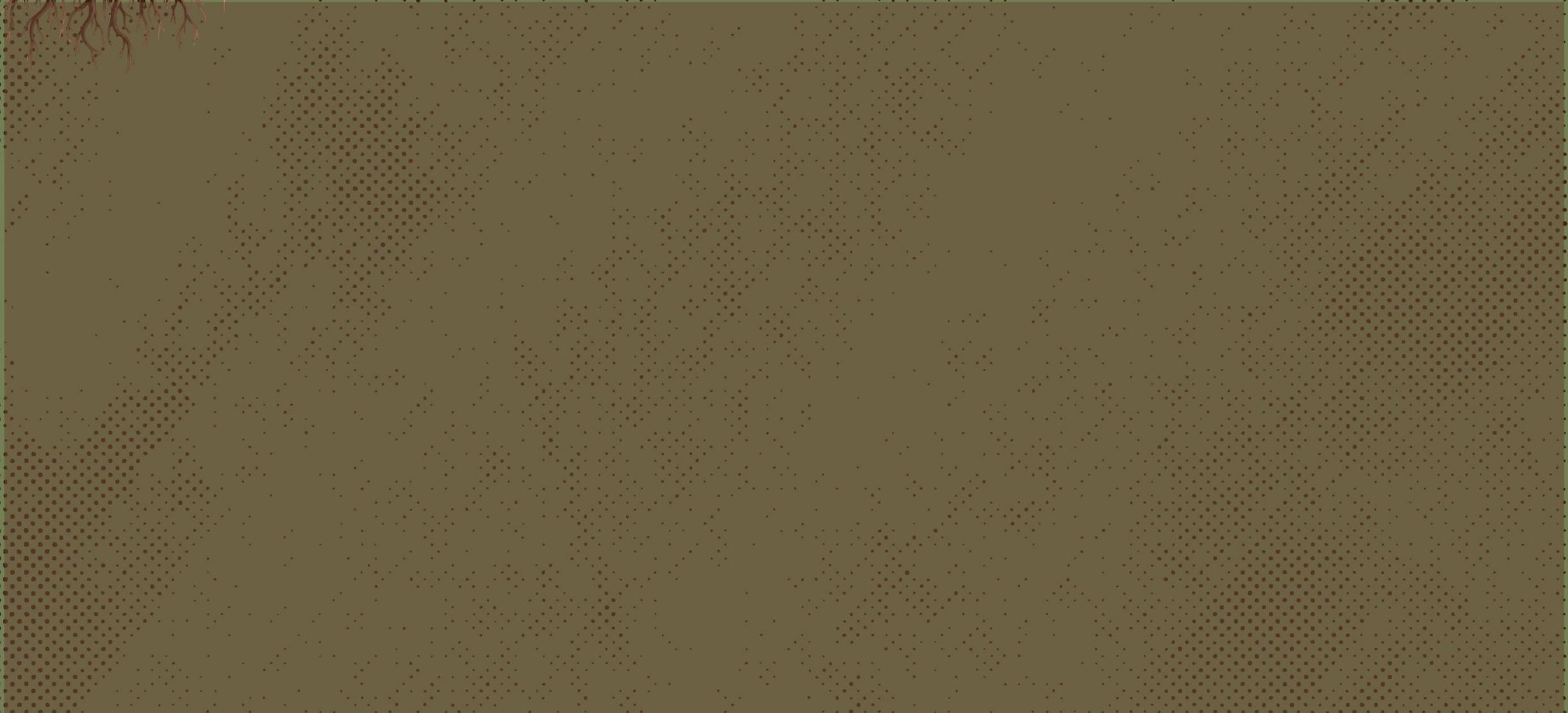
was / is being
corrupted by a
variety of
elements,
including ...

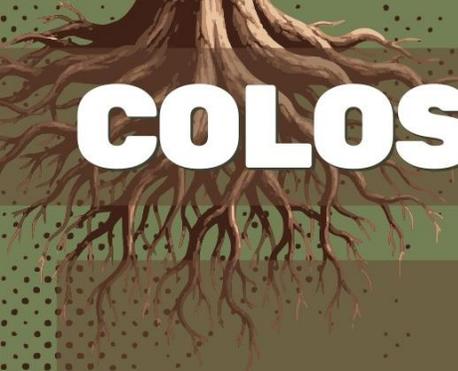
Religious Traditionalism
Subjective Experientialism
Artificial Supernaturalism
Intellectual Elitism
Theological Heresies
Demonic Influences



COLOSSIANS *Rooted for Growth*

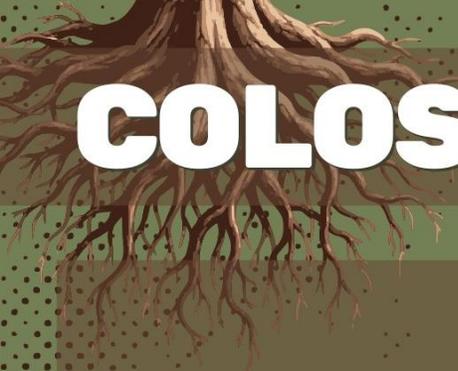
Chapter 2:6-15





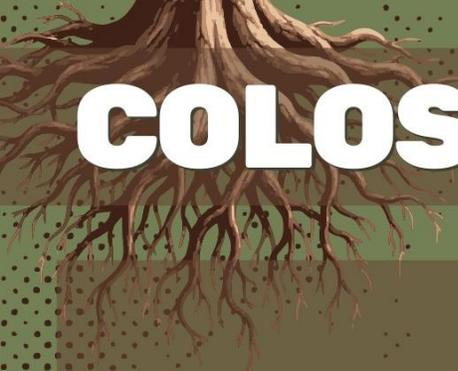
Dead or Alive?

Shadow or Substance?



Dead or Alive?

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Dead or Alive?

Shadow or Substance?

⁶ Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him,
⁷ rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith,
just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit,
according to human tradition,
according to the elemental spirits of the world,
and not according to Christ.

⁹ For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily,
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1:1-2 Traditional warm greeting

1:3-2:5 An extended and somewhat complex opening of this letter presents Jesus as preeminent (majestic) yet the one who redeems mankind through His sacrifice on the cross.

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Being thankful that Christ has qualified us, delivered us, and transferred us.

Creator.....Sustainer.....Redeemer



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²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory.

²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all His energy that He powerfully works within me.



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**2:5 For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit,
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In a culture increasingly built on chaos and anarchy it is little wonder that there would be theological disruption consistent with the upheaval swirling around us.



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And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

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13 And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our trespasses,

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He disarmed the rulers and authorities
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Summary and Thread of the Message

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Don't get seduced by the latest cultural rendition of Jesus that actually replaces Him with our own preferred view of reality.

He is the only authority that is reliable and has the power to not just fix or heal, but actually make dead people alive by paying our debt with His own life.

So.....Therefore.....What Now



So.....Therefore.....What Now

Be thankful and grateful for who Christ is and what He has done.

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Be really careful about where your worldview is informed and formed.

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Be really careful about where your worldview is informed and formed.

Spend time in God's Word and let it grow roots in your heart and mind, let it build you into a steady and sturdy structure.

So.....Therefore.....What Now

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Be really careful about where your worldview is informed and formed.

Spend time in God's Word and let it grow roots in your heart and mind, let it build you into a steady and sturdy structure.

Realize the truth that Christ has taken our "Record of Debt" and paid for it with His own death on the cross.

So.....Therefore.....What Now

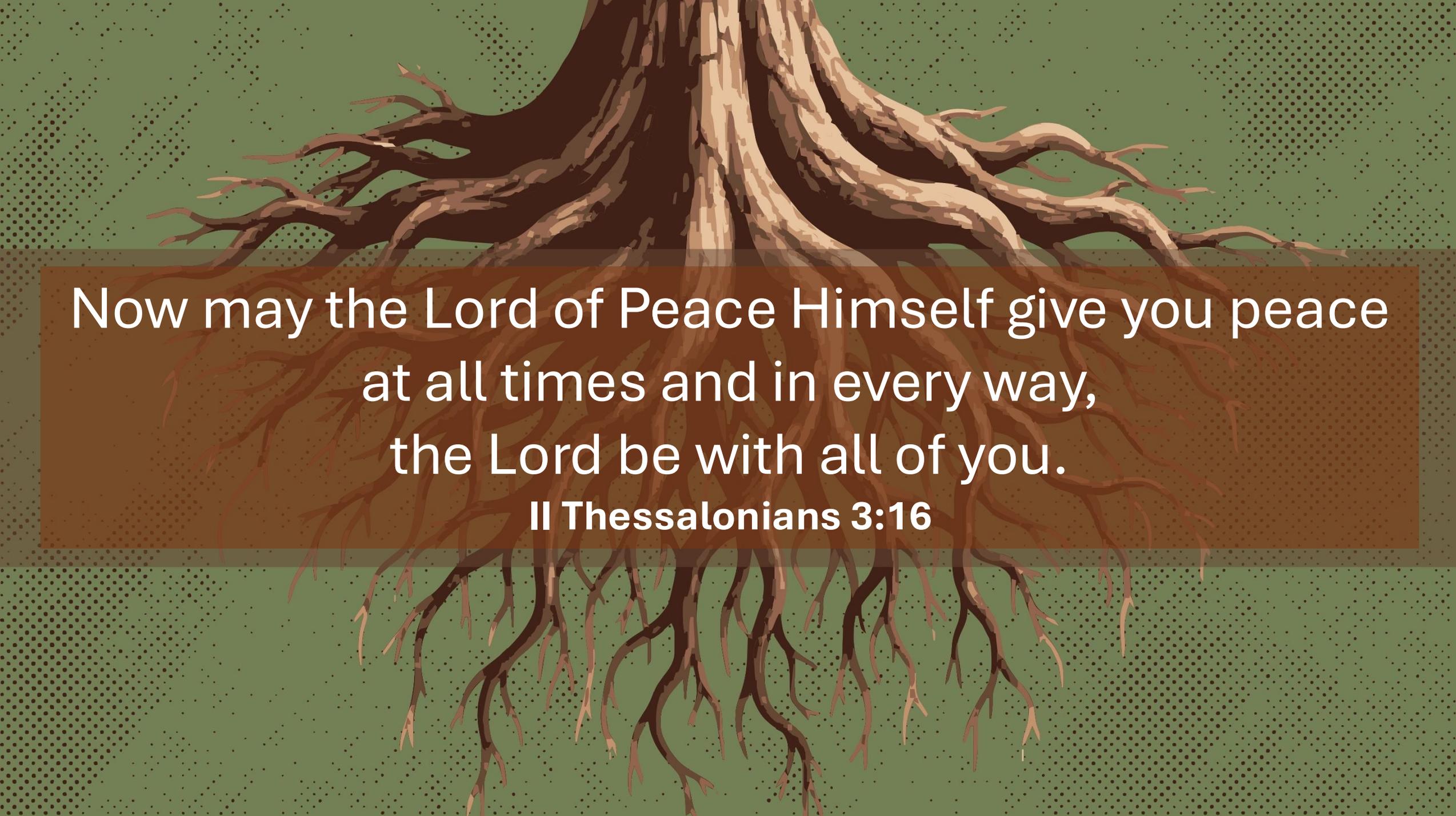
Galatians 2:20

**I have been crucified with Christ.
It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.
And the life I now live in the flesh
I live by faith in the Son of God,
who loved me and gave Himself for me.**

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Now may the Lord of Peace Himself give you peace
at all times and in every way,
the Lord be with all of you.

II Thessalonians 3:16