

AWAKENING

The Authority of God's Word

of God's Word


BLITZ

Leave an extra big tip	Give blood	Send a graduation gift to a student who missed this important rite of passage.	Order from a local restaurant	Take food to your local fire department
Check in on your black and brown friends. Ask "How can I help or pray?"	Buy or make snacks and deliver to hospital waiting room, nurses station, police station, fire station, homeless shelter.	Support a minority owned business.	Write an encouraging note to a different person for each day of the week	Pay for someone else's meal
Clean out your house and donate what you don't need	Go to a park, college campus, downtown or a neighborhood and pick up trash	FREE SPACE Serve with us on Blitz Day - Sunday, August 2	Go to a supermarket, gather up shopping carts and return them	Surprise your neighbor with a thoughtful gift
Take gift cards to teachers at local schools	Pray God's kingdom come and His will be done in Louisville as in Heaven.	Write an encouraging note to a coworker	Write a thank you note and give it to a worker at your local grocery store for serving through COVID-19.	Take dinner to a new mom or a friend in need
Invite a friend, family, or loved one to your watch party!	Share about your favorite local restaurant on social media to show them some love	Send encouraging notes, food, or care packages to local law enforcement	Purchase gift cards from Uber, grocery stores, and local restaurants and send them to Church for our outreach partners.	Ask 3 people in your neighborhood, workplace, or city how they are doing and genuinely listen to what they have to say



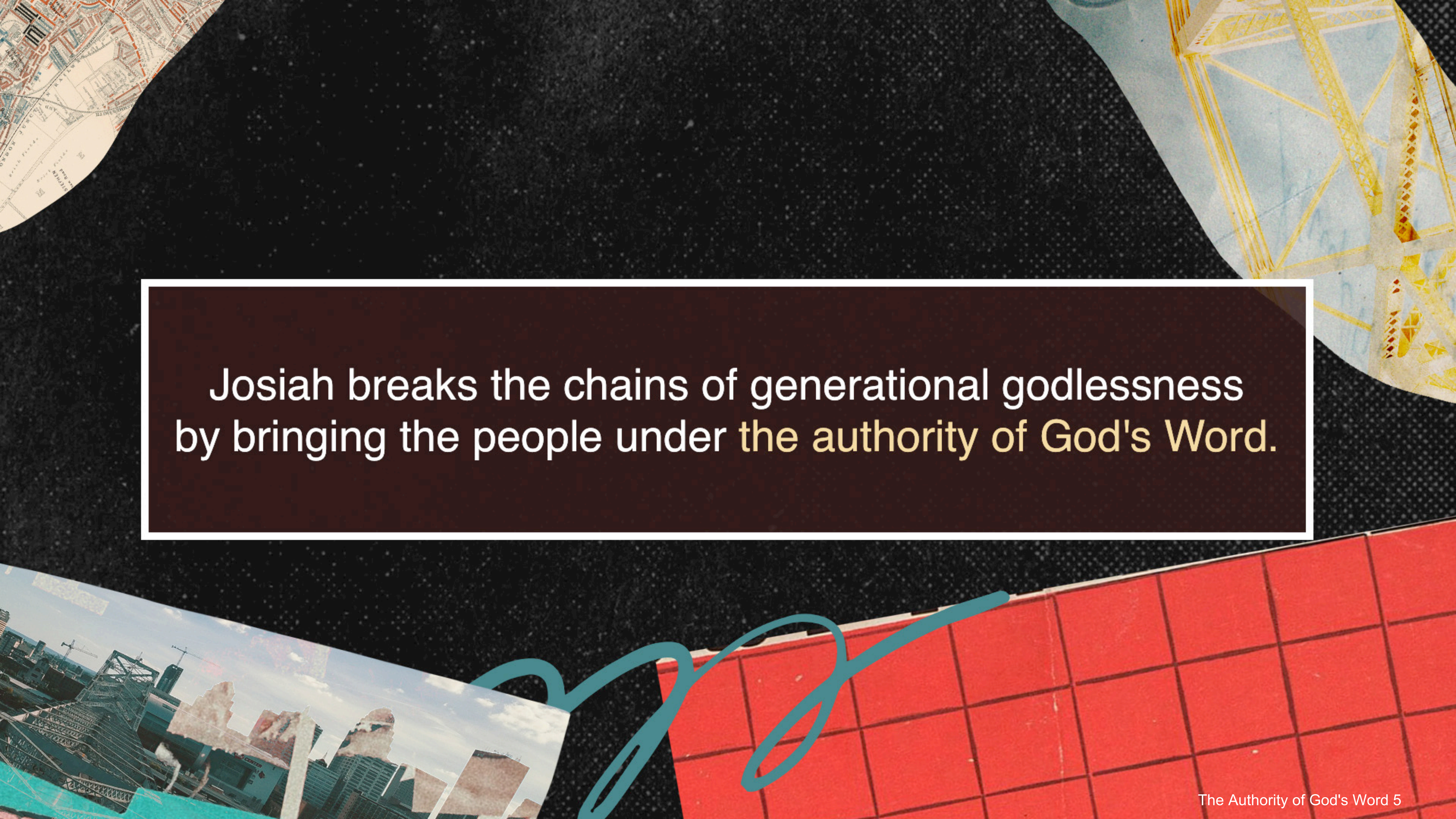
The Authority of God's Word - 2 Kings 22:3-8

In the eighteenth year of his reign, King Josiah (26 years old) sent Shaphan...the court secretary, to the Temple of the Lord [to disburse funds for renovations]....Hilkiah the high priest said to Shaphan the court secretary, "I have found the Book of the Law in the Lord's Temple!" Then Hilkiah gave the scroll to Shaphan, and he read it.

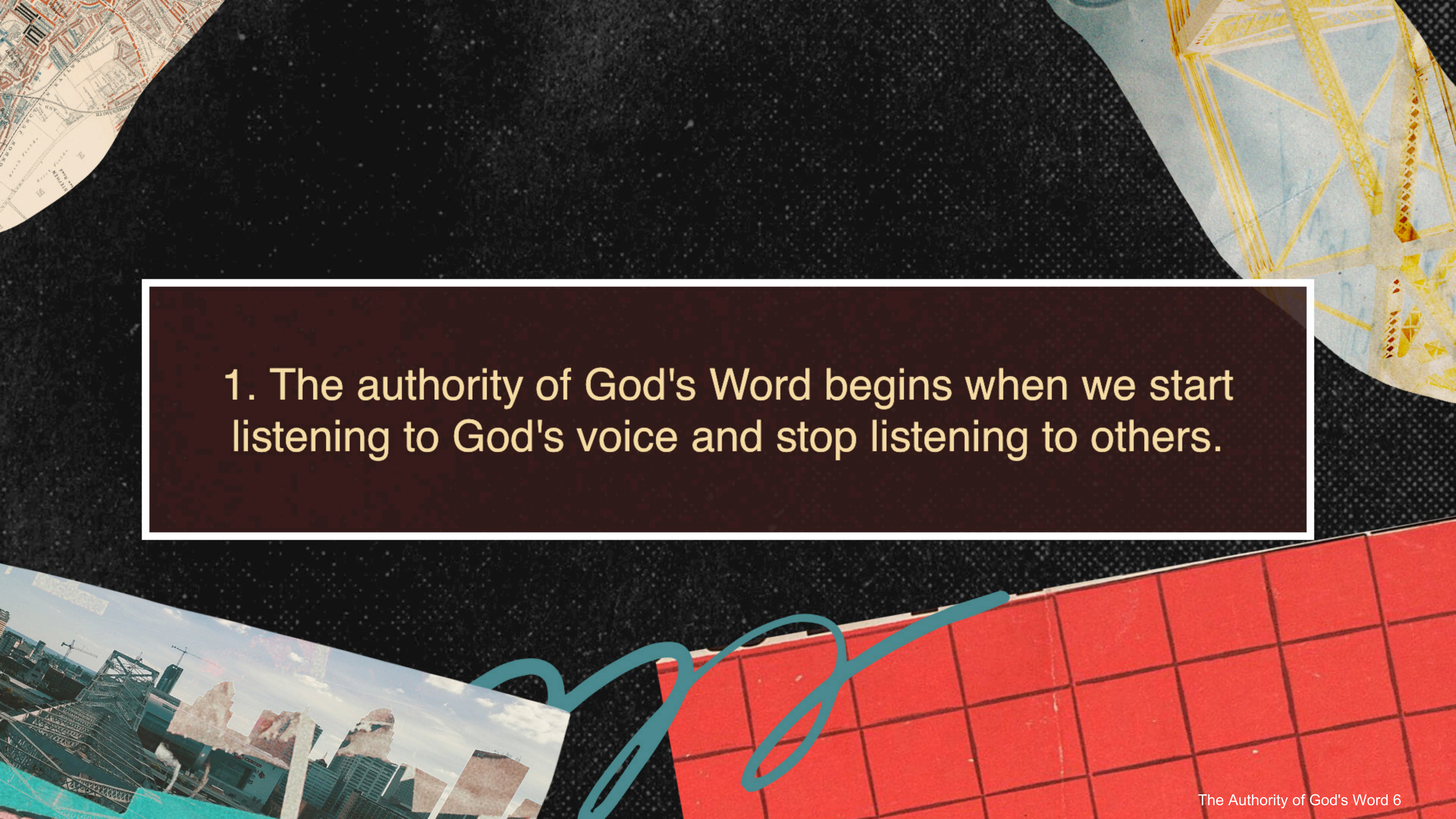


Grandpa Manasseh - 2 Kings 21

- Turned people from Yahweh
- Built altars to false gods in the Temple
- Sacrificed his son
- Provoked judgment & exile on Jerusalem
- Lots of other bad stuff



Josiah breaks the chains of generational godlessness
by bringing the people under **the authority of God's Word.**



1. The authority of God's Word begins when we start listening to God's voice and stop listening to others.



2 Kings 22:9-14

Shaphan went to the king and reported, "Hilkiah the priest has given me a scroll." So Shaphan read it to the king. When the king heard what was written in the Book of the Law, he tore his clothes in despair. Then he gave these orders... "Go to the Temple and speak to the Lord for me and for the people and for all Judah. Inquire about the words written in this scroll that has been found. For the Lord's great anger is burning against us because our ancestors have not obeyed the words in this scroll. We have not been doing everything it says we must do."



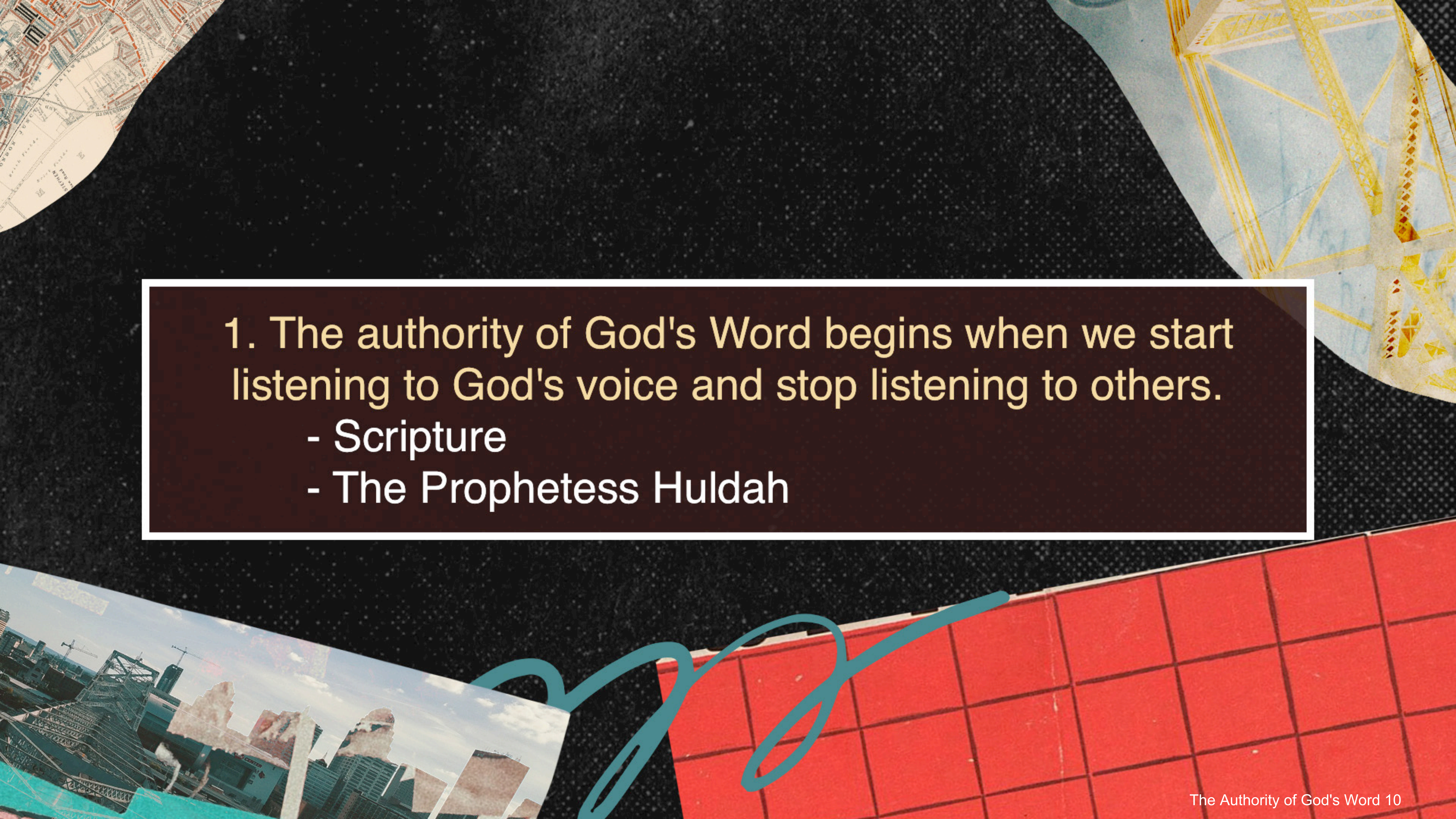
2 Kings 22:9-14

So Hilkiah the priest, Ahikam, Acbor, Shaphan, and Asaiah went to the New Quarter of Jerusalem to consult with the prophet Huldah....She said to them, "The Lord, the God of Israel, has spoken! Go back and tell the man who sent you, 'This is what the Lord says: I am going to bring disaster on this city and its people.' But go to the king of Judah who sent you to seek the Lord and tell him: 'This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says concerning the message you have just heard:'"



2 Kings 22:9-14

"You were sorry and humbled yourself before the Lord when you heard what I said against this city and its people—that this land would be cursed and become desolate. You tore your clothing in despair and wept before Me in repentance. And I have indeed heard you, says the Lord. So I will not send the promised disaster until after you have died and been buried in peace."



1. The authority of God's Word begins when we start listening to God's voice and stop listening to others.

- Scripture
- The Prophetess Huldah



The Voices you listen to are the voices that disciple you.

- News Media
- Politicians
- Entertainment Media
- Social Media
- Like-Minded People



The Voices you listen to are the voices that disciple you.

- News Media
- Politicians
- Entertainment Media
- Social Media
- Like-Minded People

- Scripture
- Prayer
- Confession & Repentance
- Bible Teachers
- Intentional Christian Community

The Attention Economy

Social Media
Outlets

News
Outlets

Consumer
Businesses

Political
Parties

Entertainment
Media

They see your limited attention as a scarce commodity.
If they can win your attention, they can control you.

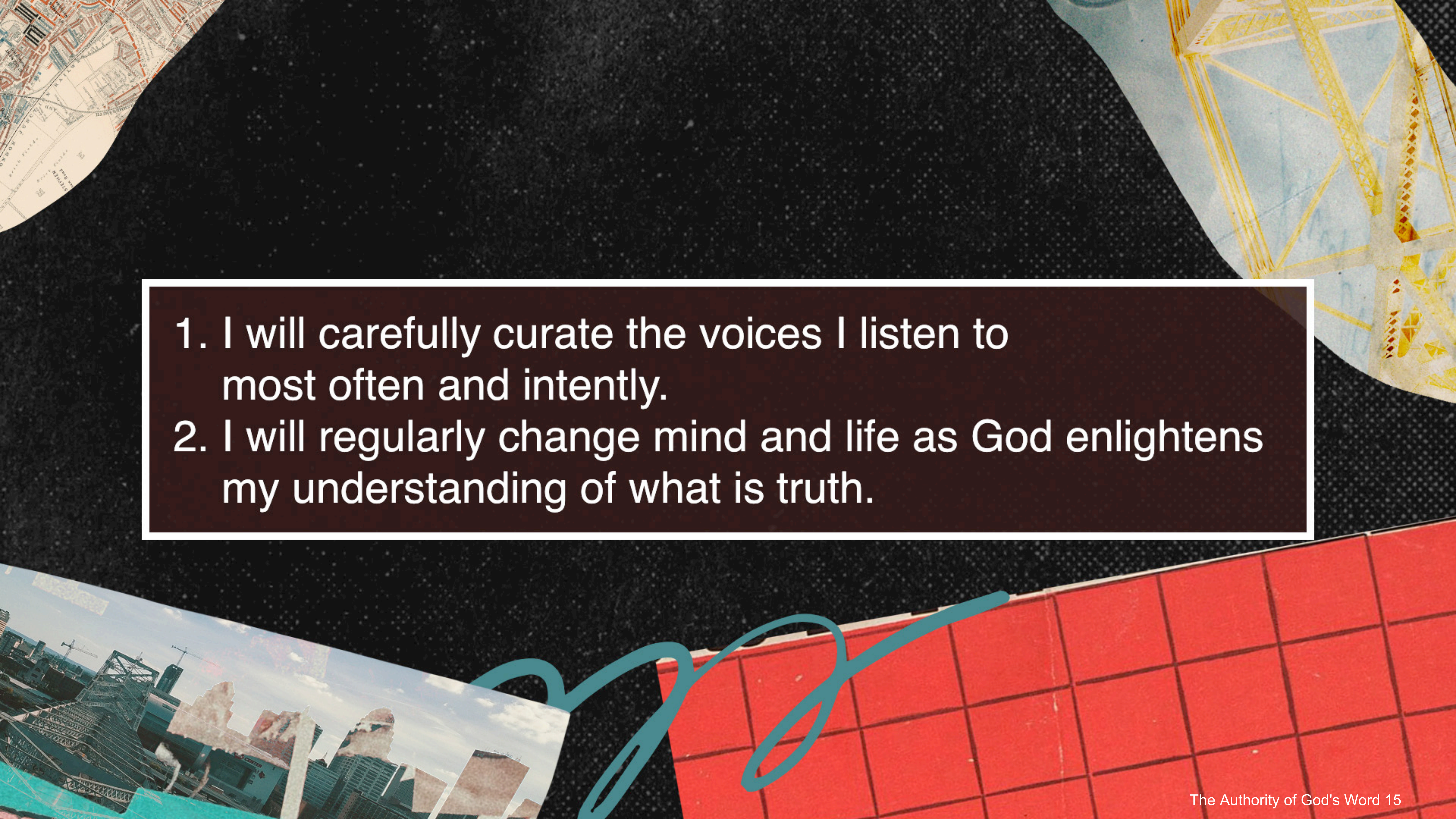
Hate War Violence Villains Sex Scandal Chaos Conspiracy

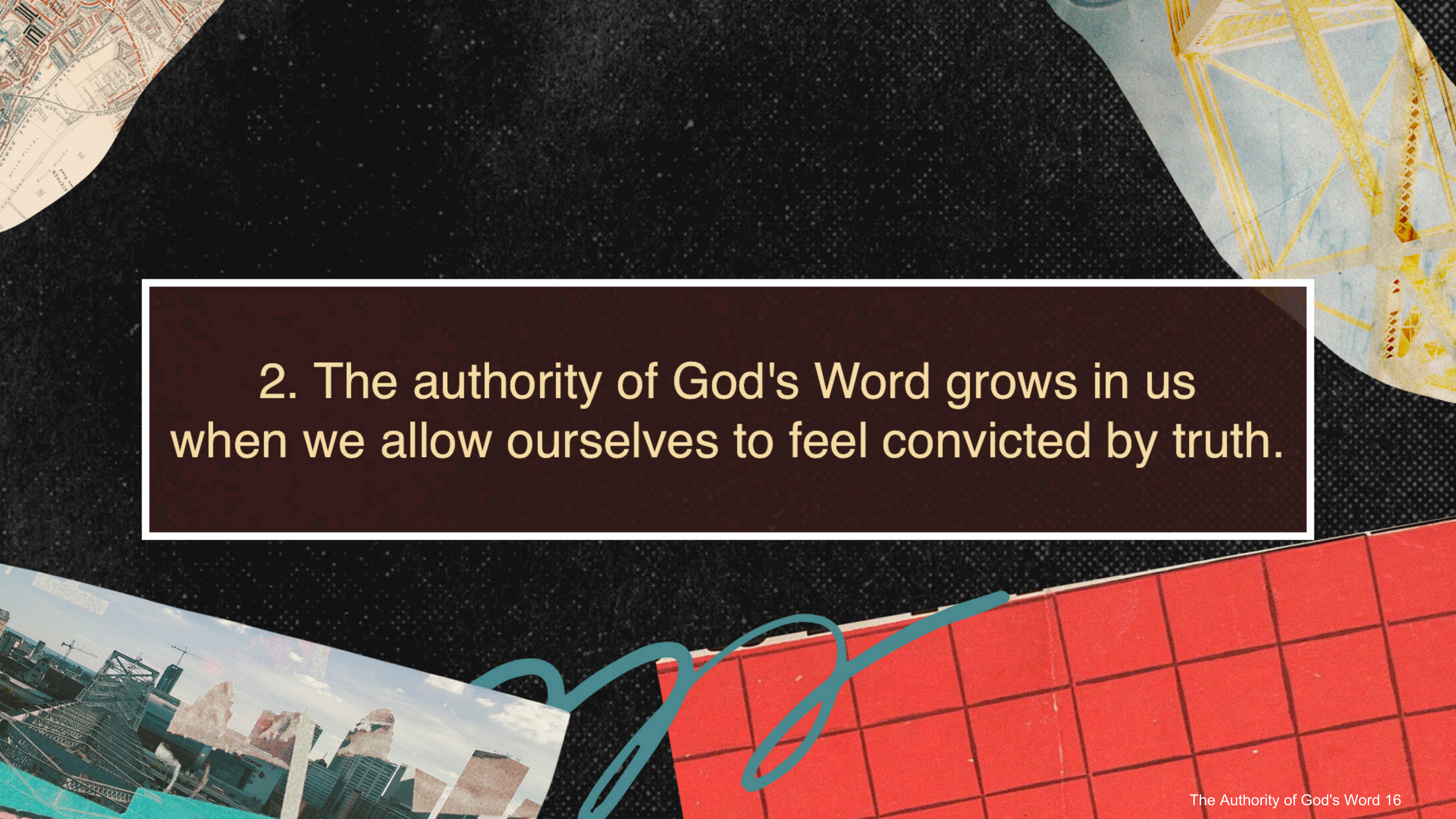
Surround them with screens. Push this content.
We can own them.



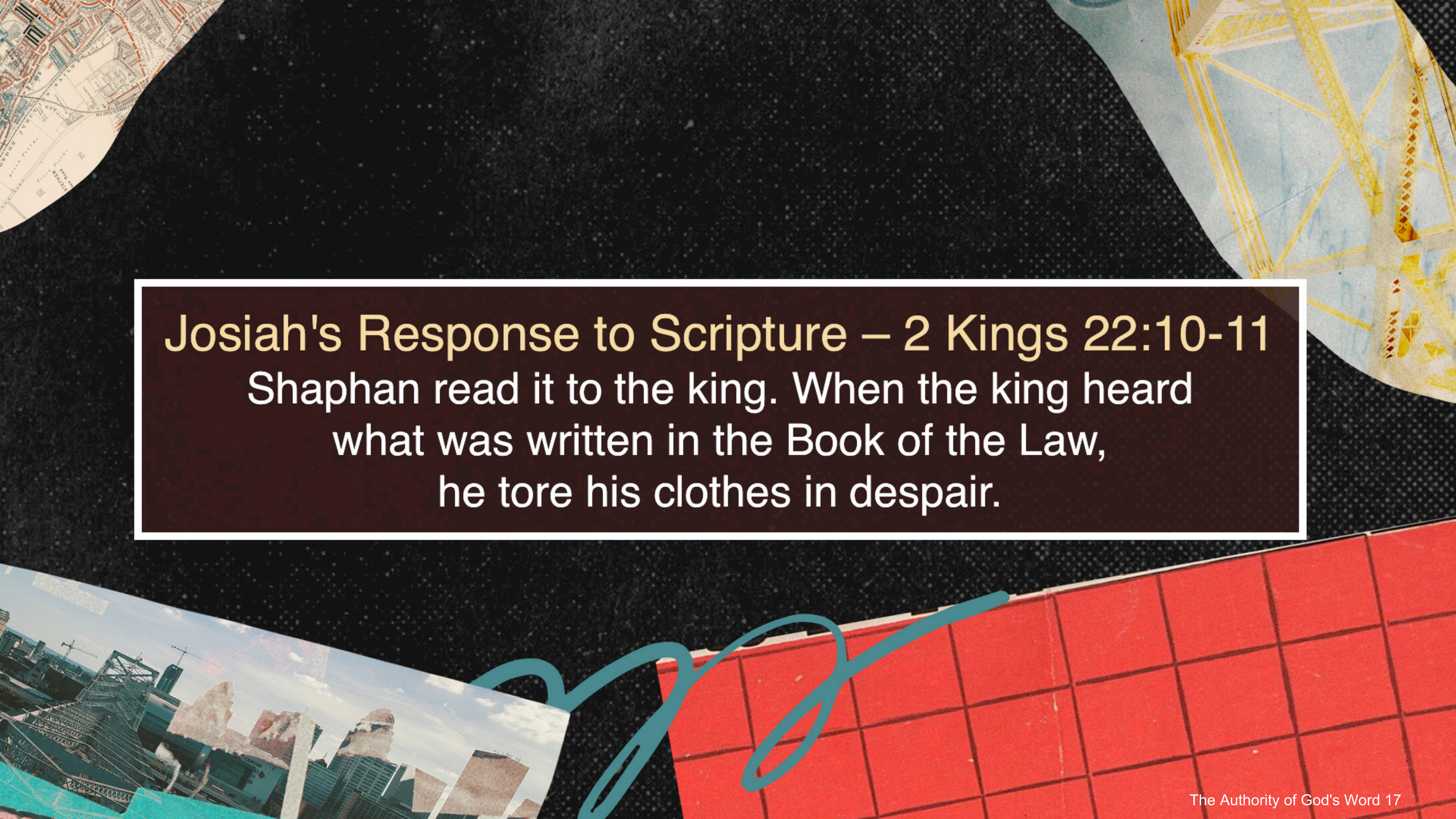
The Attention Economy explains:

- Growing Polarization
- Popularity of Conspiracy Theories
- Boredom with Church

- 
1. I will carefully curate the voices I listen to most often and intently.
 2. I will regularly change mind and life as God enlightens my understanding of what is truth.



2. The authority of God's Word grows in us
when we allow ourselves to feel convicted by truth.



Josiah's Response to Scripture – 2 Kings 22:10-11
Shaphan read it to the king. When the king heard
what was written in the Book of the Law,
he tore his clothes in despair.



His Response to the Prophetess – 2 Kings 22:20b-23

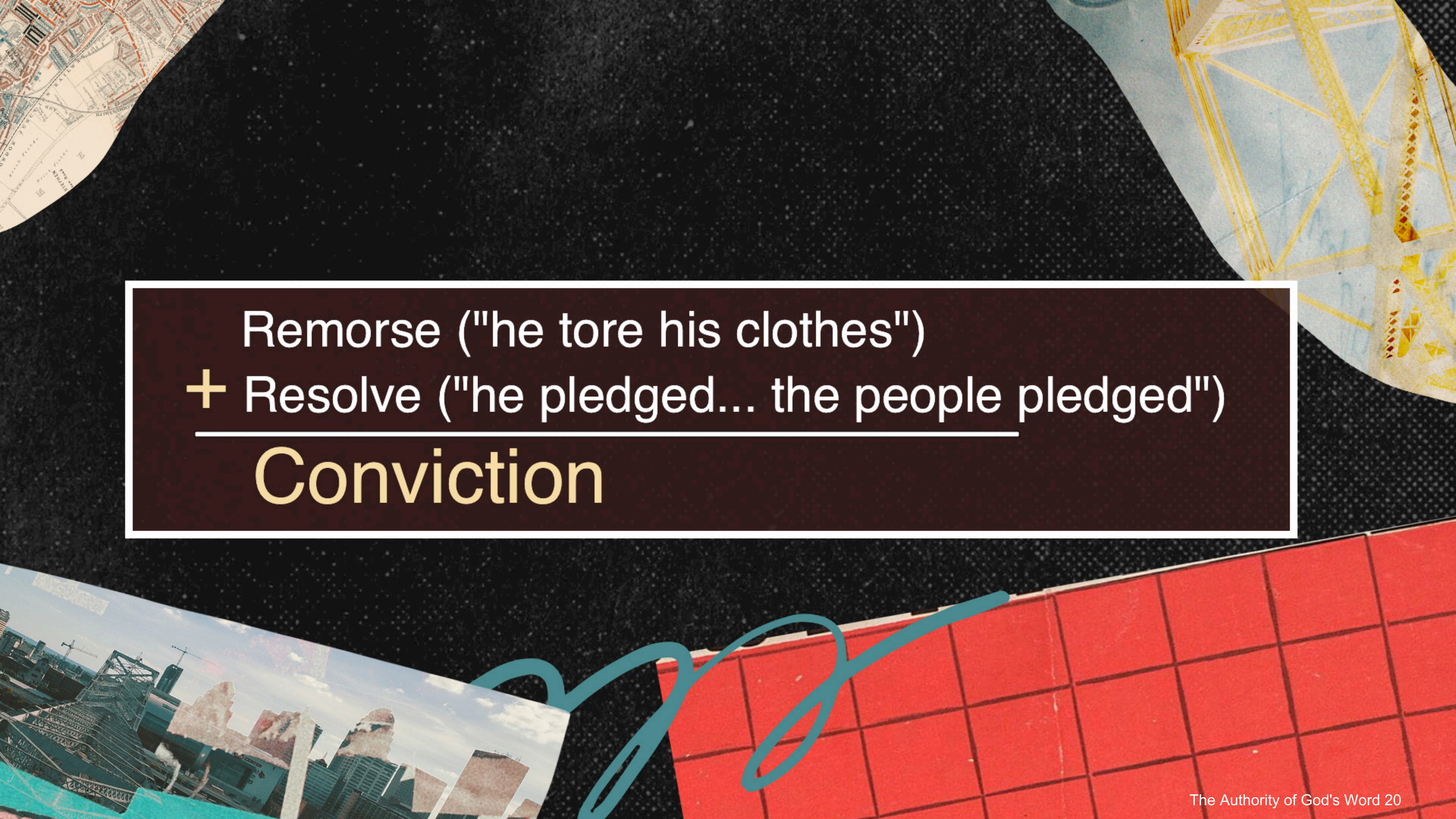
They took the message [from Huldah] back to the king.

Then the king summoned all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem. And the king went up to the Temple of the Lord with all the people of Judah and Jerusalem, along with the priests and the prophets—all the people from the least to the greatest. There the king read to them the entire Book of the Covenant that had been found in the Lord's Temple.



His Response to the Prophetess – 2 Kings 22:20b-23

The king took his place of authority beside the pillar and renewed the covenant in the Lord's presence. He pledged to obey the Lord by keeping all His commands, laws, and decrees with all his heart and soul. In this way, he confirmed all the terms of the covenant that were written in the scroll, and all the people pledged themselves to the covenant.



Remorse ("he tore his clothes")
+ Resolve ("he pledged... the people pledged")

Conviction

Truth is Spoken

Guilt



Shame



Self-Loathing
& Self-Doubt



Resentment &
Defensiveness

Conviction



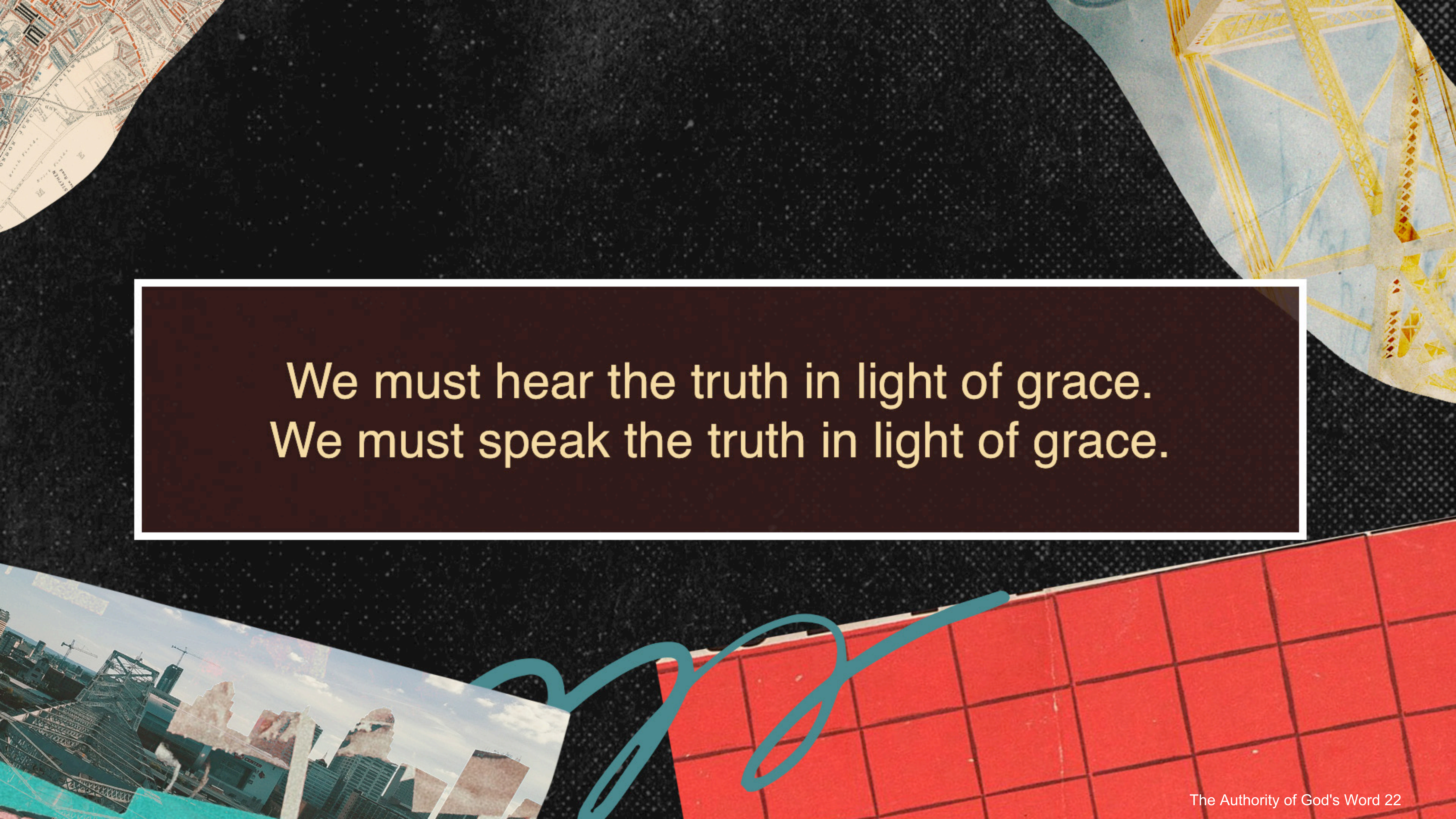
Sanctification



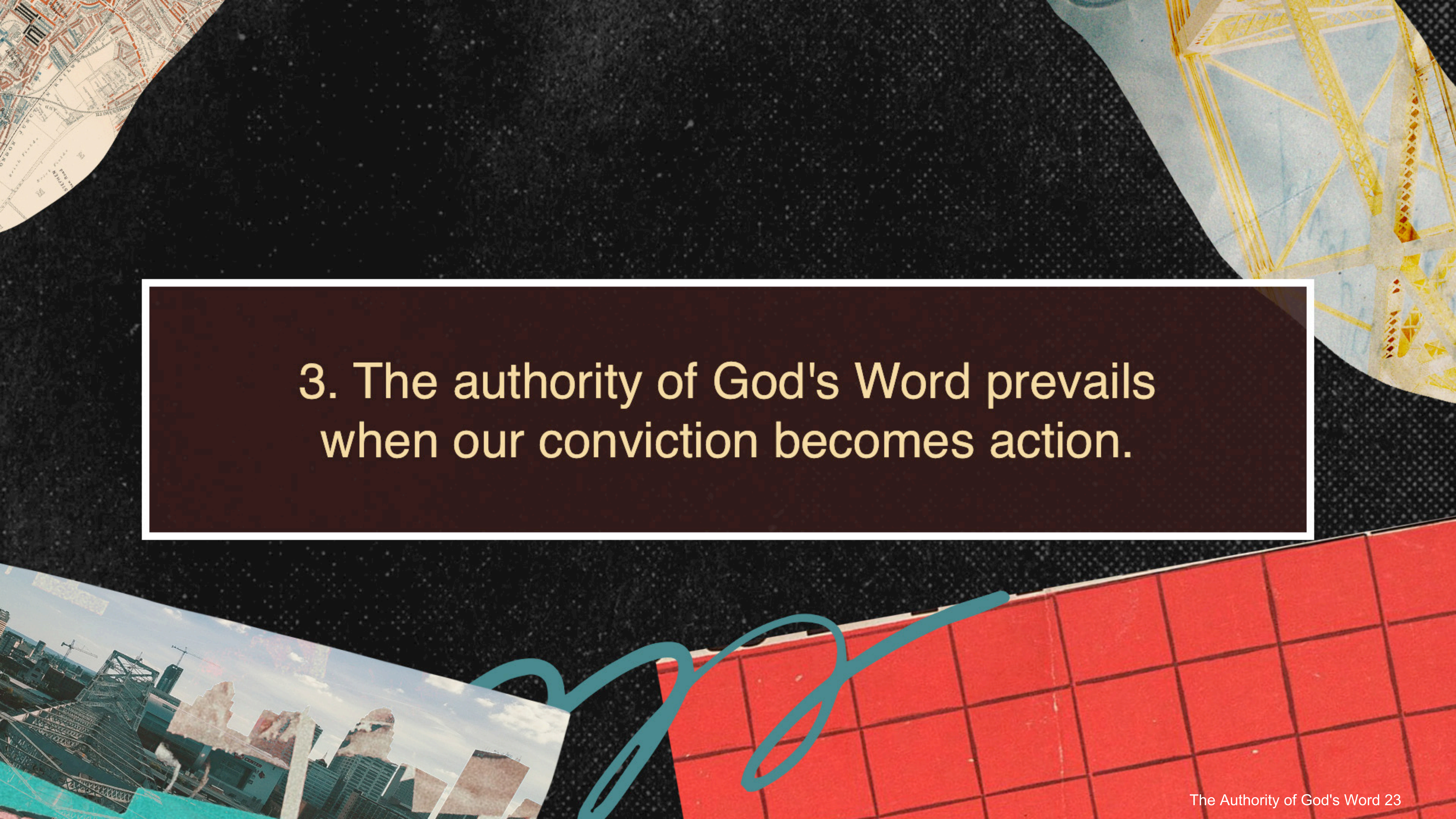
Remorse

+

Resolve



We must hear the truth in light of grace.
We must speak the truth in light of grace.



3. The authority of God's Word prevails
when our conviction becomes action.



2 Kings 23:4-20

Then the king instructed Hilkiah the high priest and the priests of the second rank and the Temple gatekeepers to remove from the Lord's Temple all the articles that were used to worship Baal, Asherah, and all the powers of the heavens. The king had all these things burned outside Jerusalem on the terraces of the Kidron Valley, and he carried the ashes away to Bethel. He did away with the idolatrous priests, who had been appointed by the previous kings of Judah...




2 Kings 23:4-20

He also tore down the living quarters of the male and female shrine prostitutes that were inside the Temple of the Lord....Josiah brought to Jerusalem all the priests who were living in other towns of Judah. He also defiled the pagan shrines, where they had offered sacrifices....He removed from the entrance of the Lord's Temple the horse statues that the former kings of Judah had dedicated to the sun...




2 Kings 23:4-20

The king also burned the chariots dedicated to the sun. Josiah tore down the altars that the kings of Judah had built on the palace roof above the upper room of Ahaz. The king destroyed the altars that Manasseh had built in the two courtyards of the Lord's Temple...



If you live under the authority of God's Word,
our culture will cancel you eventually.

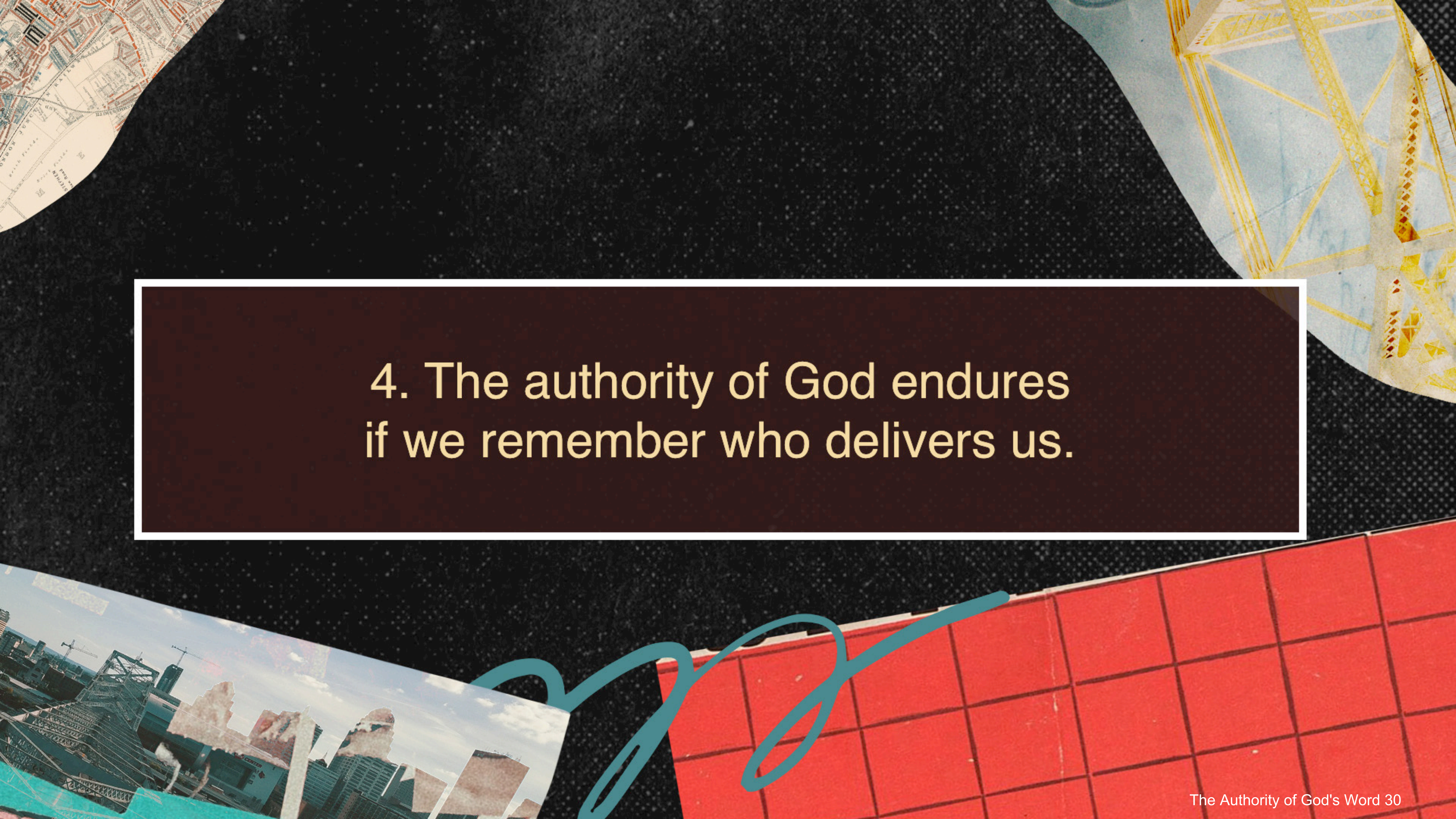


Christianity doesn't sit in the middle.
Christianity rises above.

Christianity isn't moderate.
Christianity is transcendent.



Are we willing to be faithful when there is no favor?



4. The authority of God endures
if we remember who delivers us.

2 Kings 23:21-23

King Josiah then issued this order to all the people: “You must celebrate the Passover to the Lord your God, as required in this Book of the Covenant.” There had not been a Passover celebration like that since the time when the judges ruled in Israel, nor throughout all the years of the kings of Israel and Judah. But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah’s reign, this Passover was celebrated to the Lord in Jerusalem.