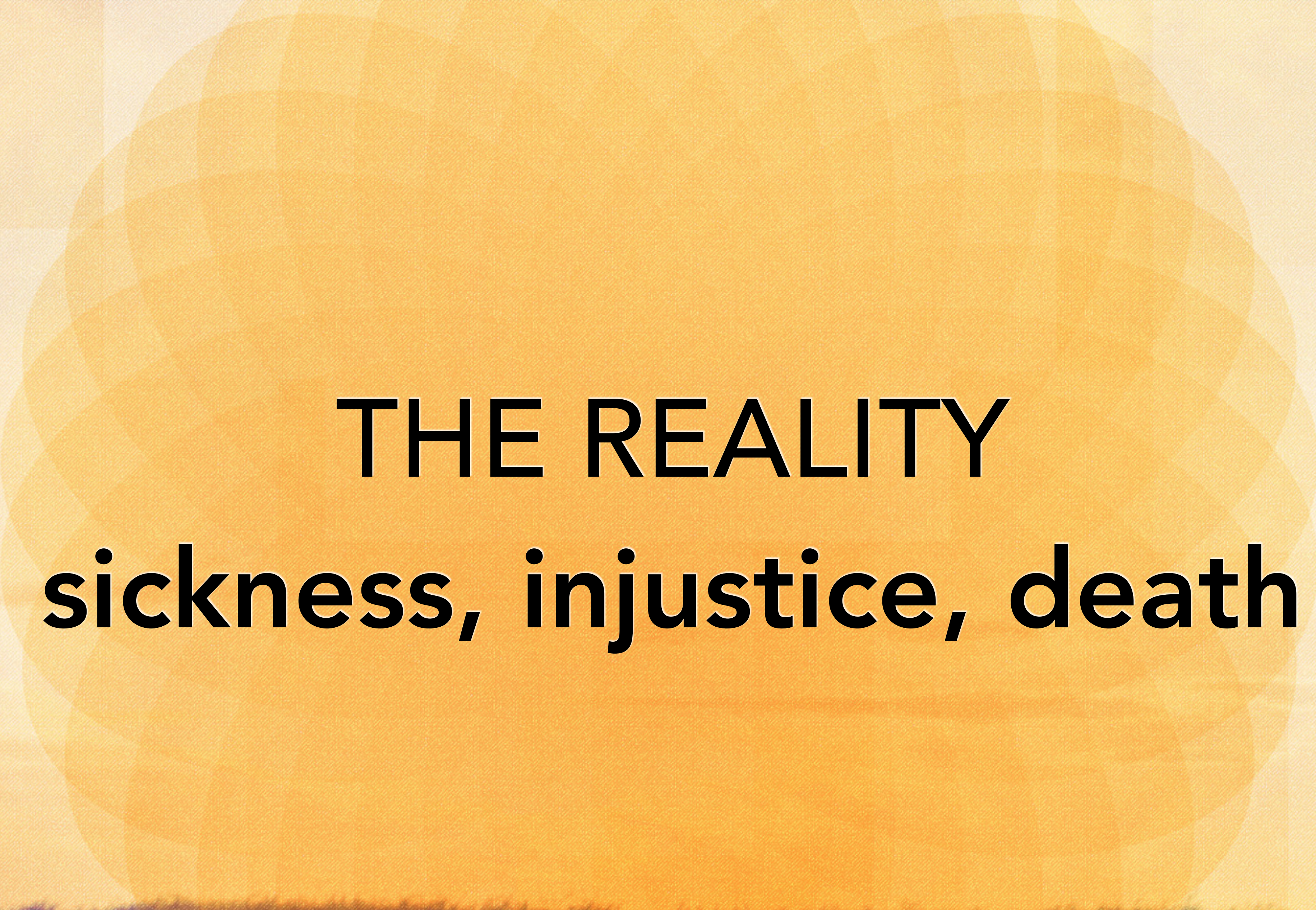


The background of the image is a photograph of a sunset over a field. The sun is a large, bright orange orb on the horizon, casting a warm glow across the sky and the field. The sky is filled with soft, orange and yellow clouds. The field in the foreground is covered in tall grass, some of which is green and some of which is golden-brown, suggesting it might be late summer or early autumn. Overlaid on the center of the image is a large, stylized sun graphic. This graphic is composed of many overlapping, semi-transparent circles in various shades of orange and yellow, creating a mosaic-like effect. The text "THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM" is written in a bold, black, sans-serif font, centered over the stylized sun graphic.

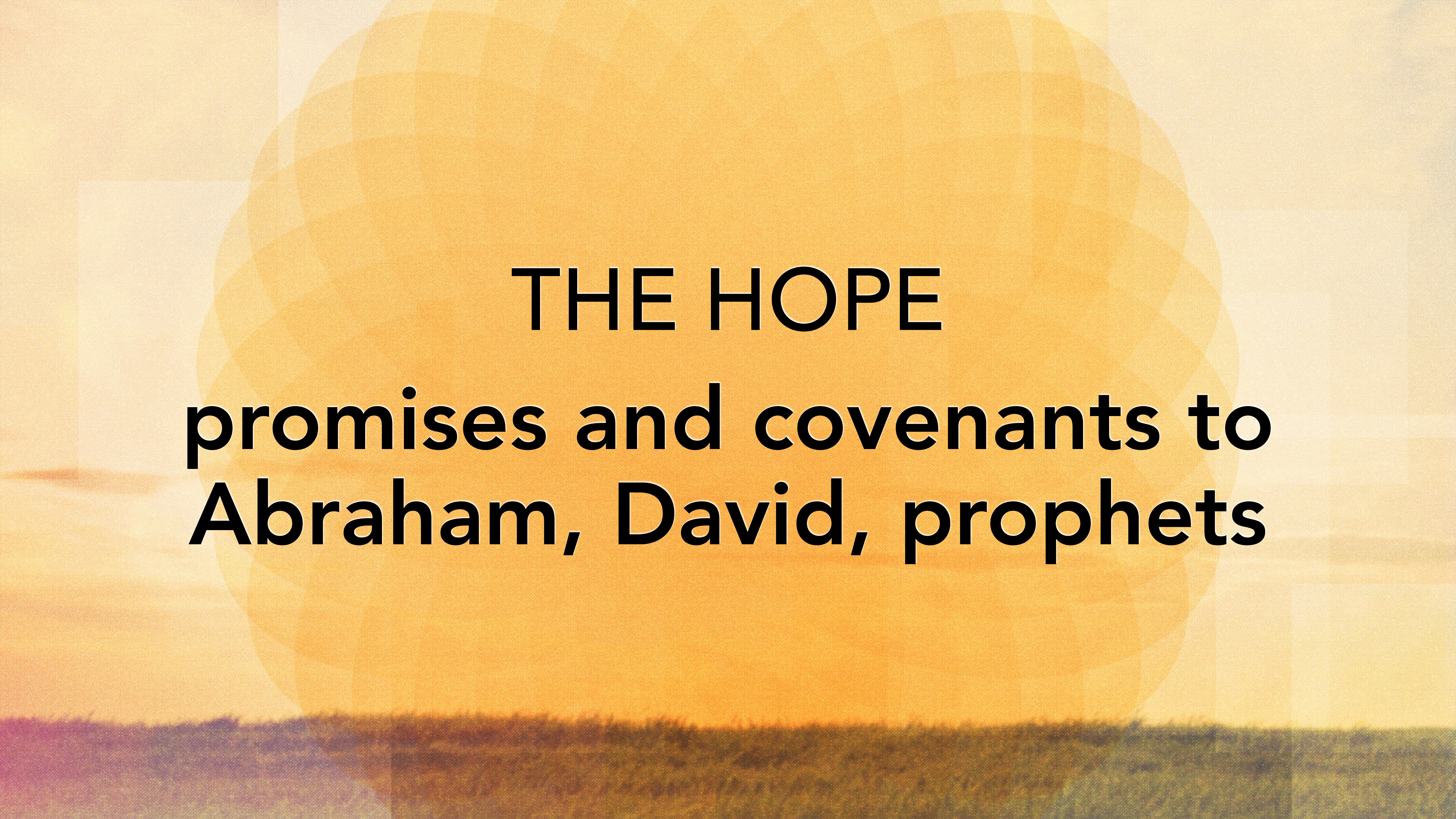
THE GOSPEL OF THE KINGDOM



THE REALITY
sickness, injustice, death

THE CAUSE

**rejection of God's kingship;
separation from God's presence**

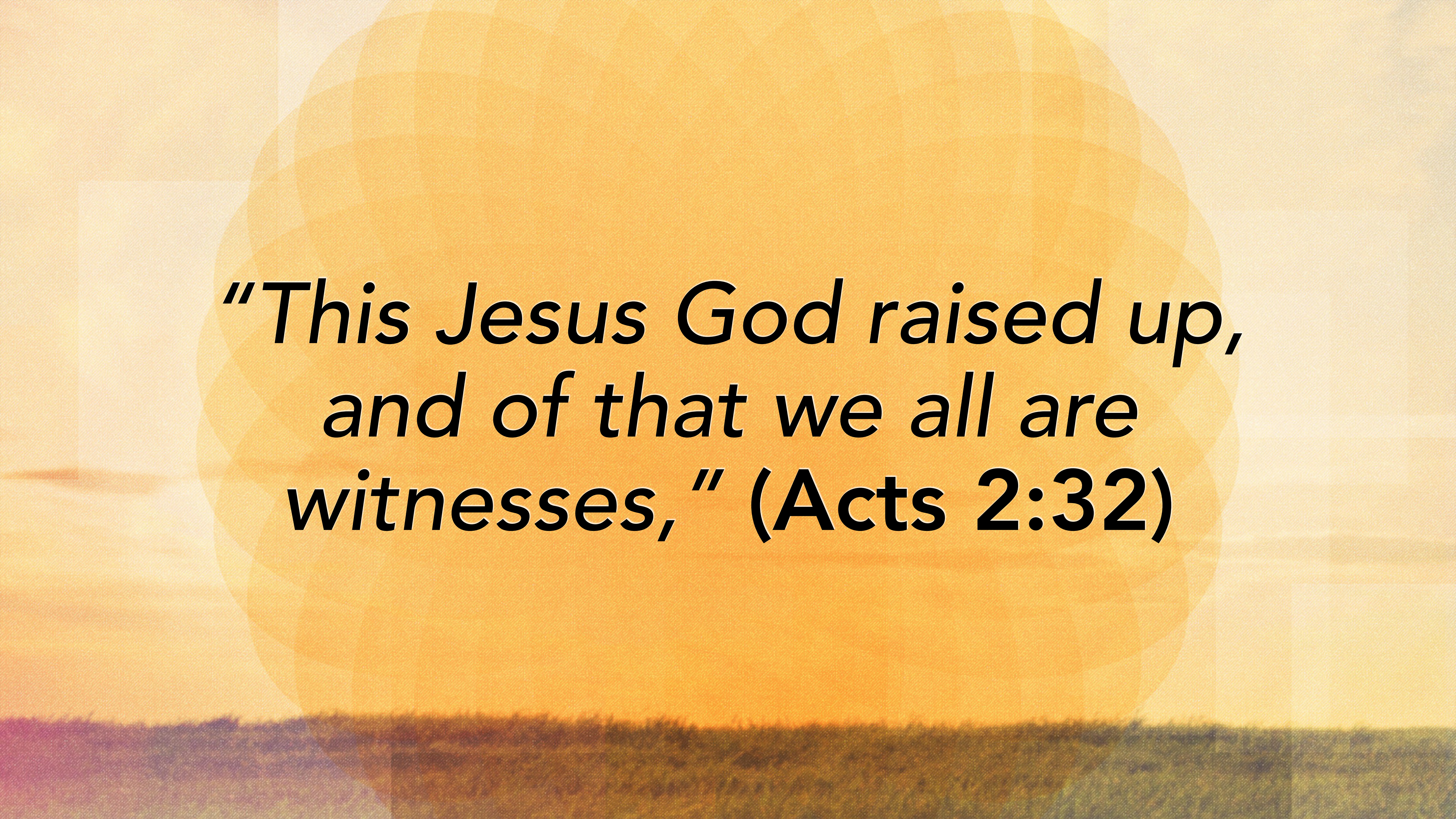


THE HOPE

**promises and covenants to
Abraham, David, prophets**

THE MESSIAH

**dead "messiah" movements *scattered*;
followers of "dead" Jesus *multiplied***



***"This Jesus God raised up,
and of that we all are
witnesses," (Acts 2:32)***

Meaning of Jesus' Resurrection?

- **A sign of God's kingdom power to defeat Satan's reign of darkness in this world;** (cf. Ps 2; 110; Dan 2; 7; Mt 28:18; Acts 17:30-31; Heb 2:5-9; 10:12-14; 1 Jn 3:8)
- **A model of our spiritual resurrection now;** (cf. Rom 6:1-14; 8:1-25)
- **The firstfruits of the new creation and of the final [bodily] resurrection.** (cf. Rom 8:18-24; 1 Cor 6:14; 15:1-58; 1 Thess 4:13-18)

What are we doing now?

1. **Primarily**, we proclaim this good news and urge all to be reconciled to God in Jesus (cf. Matt 28:18-20; Rom 3:23; 2 Cor 5:11-21).
2. **Collectively**, we use our gifts to love and build one another up to be more like Christ (cf. Jn 13:34-35; Eph 4:7-16).
3. **In the world**, we seek to live out Jesus' prayer for God's will to be done on earth as in heaven (cf. Matt 5:43-48; 6:10; Jms 1:27)
4. **We wait for the Son** from heaven and we wait for a new heavens and a new earth where righteousness will exist. (cf. Jn 5:25-30; 1 Cor 15:20-28; 1 Thess 1:10; 2 Pet 3:11-13; Rev 20:11-22:21)