

## SERMON: WHAT CHILD IS THIS? – The Virgin’s Great Son

(Luke 1:26-38)

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December 9, 2018

Throughout Holy Scripture, God brought forth important men from the wombs of barren women. One such woman was the wife of Manoah. Through her, God gave oppressed Israel a great deliverer named Samson. But the greatest son to come from an unlikely mother was the Child born of the Virgin Mary; He was the greatest gift this oppressed world will ever receive. Samson’s greatness was evident in feats of incredible strength, but the greatness of Mary’s Son was seen in His willingness to set aside His power to deliver us from sin, death, and the devil!

### \_\_\_\_\_ Wombs ... in need of God’s Mercy

Luke 1:7, Genesis 11, 25, 29, Judges 13, 1 Samuel 1

### A \_\_\_\_\_ Womb ... in need of God’s Power

Luke 1:26-38, 42, 45, 48

*“In a loud voice she exclaimed: “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear!” – Luke 1:42*

### Barren \_\_\_\_\_ ... in need of Rescue

*Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord, so the Lord delivered them into the hands of the Philistines for forty years – Judges 13:1*

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ the Rescuer

Judges 13-16

#### 2. \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ Rescuer

Luke 1:46-56

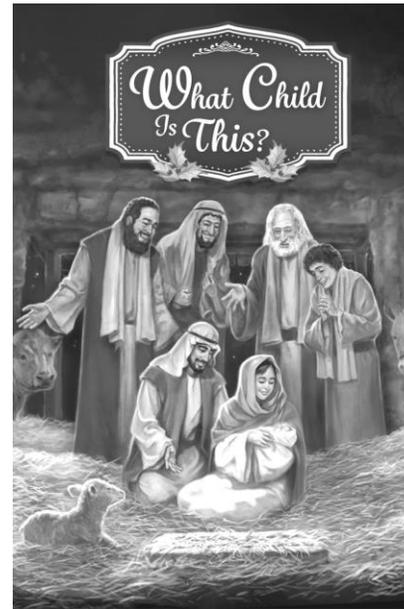
*The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God. – Luke 1:35*

### No Word of God Will \_\_\_\_\_ !

Luke 1:37, 38, 45

*“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me be fulfilled.” Then the angel left her. – Luke 1:38*

### Questions for individual or group reflection:



Why do you think that God chose for the Patriarchs of Israel – Isaac, Jacob and Joseph – to be born to barren women?

Why might the Judge Samson have been born to a childless mother?

Compare and Contrast Elizabeth and Mary’s pregnancies in Luke 1.

Why does Mary proclaim that all generations would call her blessed? (Luke 1:48 & 1:42)

What was happening in Israel at the time Samson was born?

What were some of Samson’s amazing feats of strength?

Compare Samson’s use of strength, with

Jesus’ limiting His divine strength?

Was Samson’s life set-apart, disciplined and dedicated to God?

How was Jesus set-apart, disciplined and dedicated where Samson wasn’t?

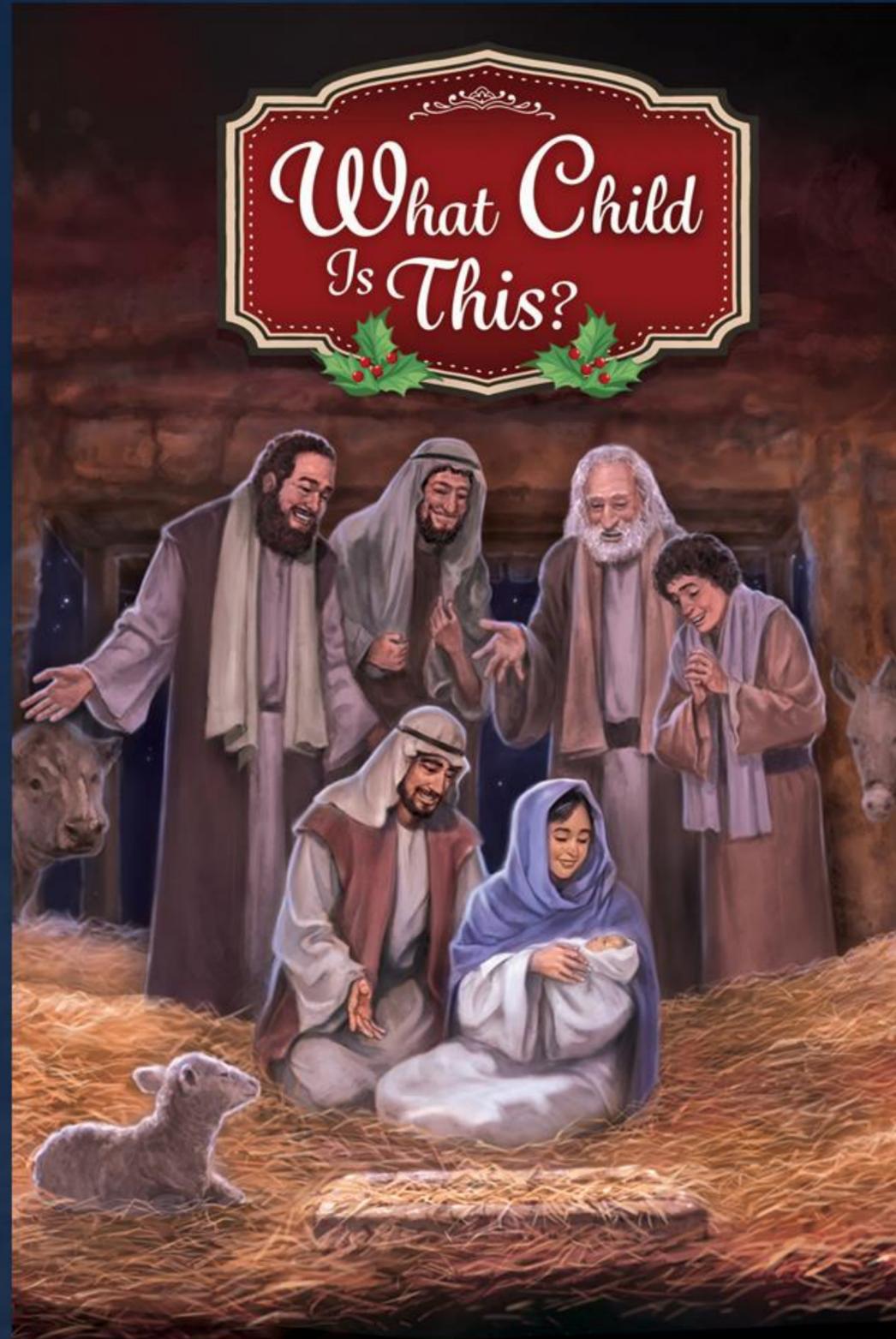
How do you benefit from Christ’s faithfulness?

Could you have responded in faith as Mary did?

How might God be calling you to trust His promises today?

### Taking it home / Memory Verse:

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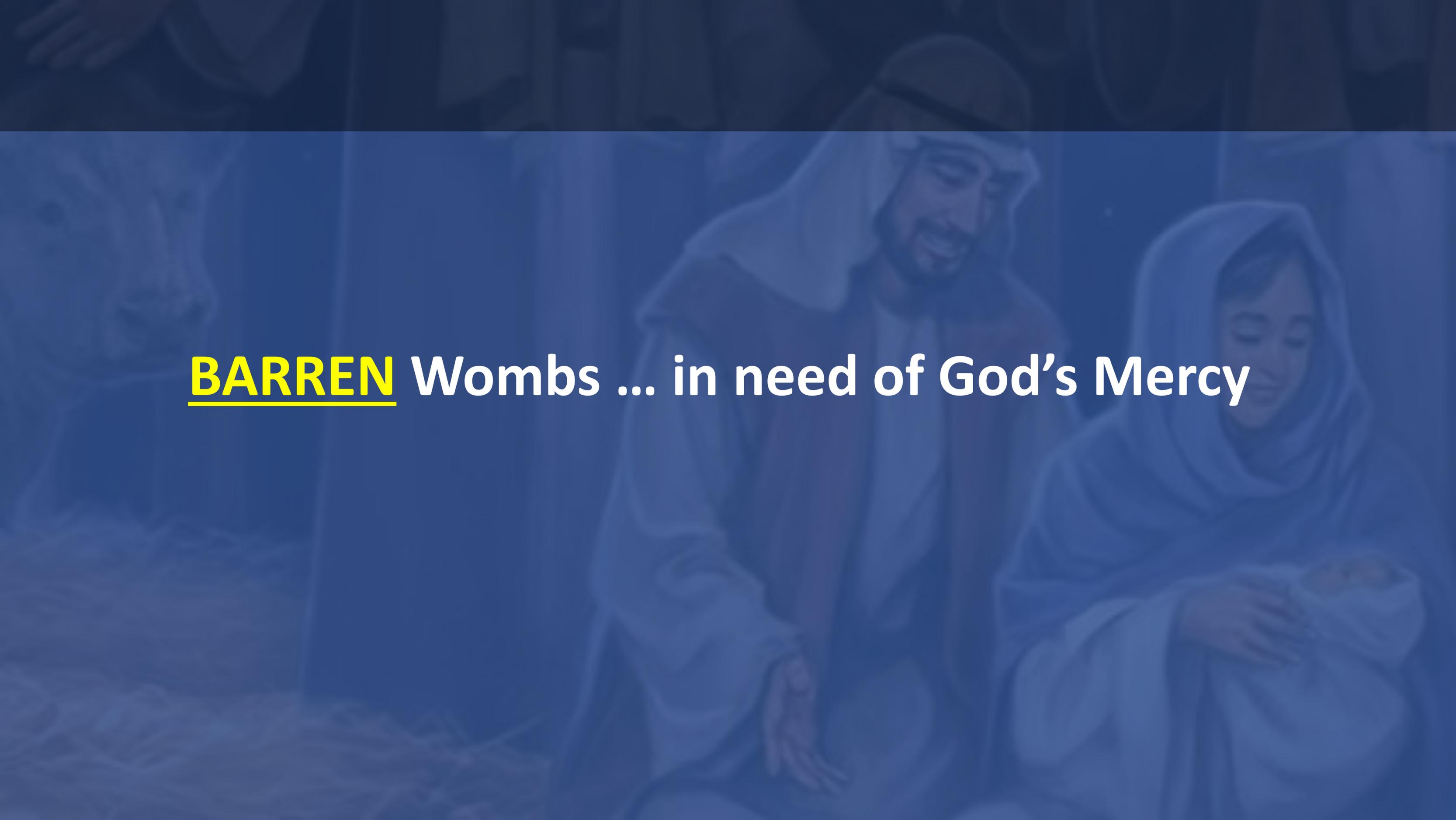
**What Child Is This?  
An Advent Worship Series**

**The Child Who is a  
Virgin's Great Son**

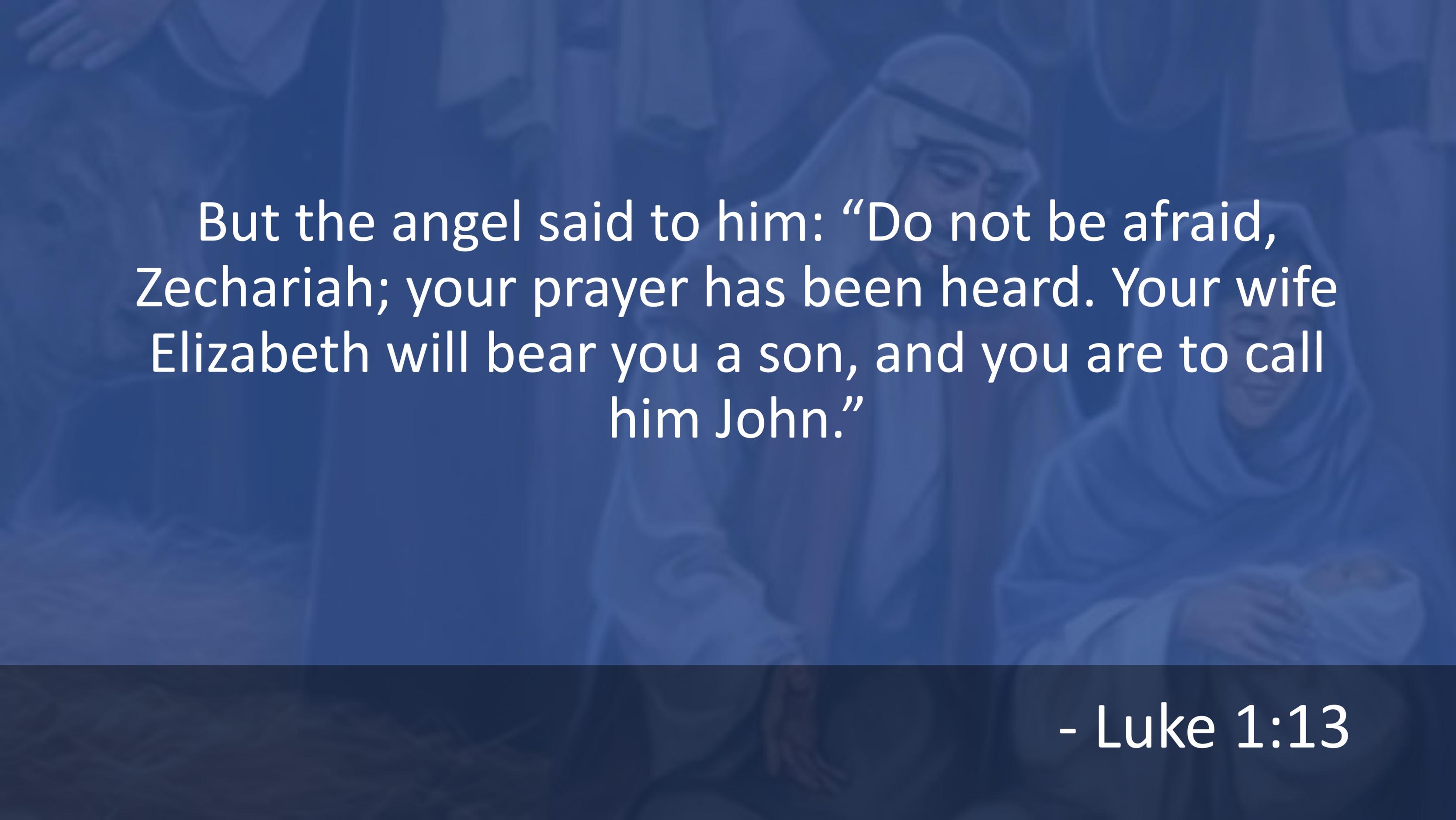




What Child  
Is This?



**BARREN Wombs ... in need of God's Mercy**

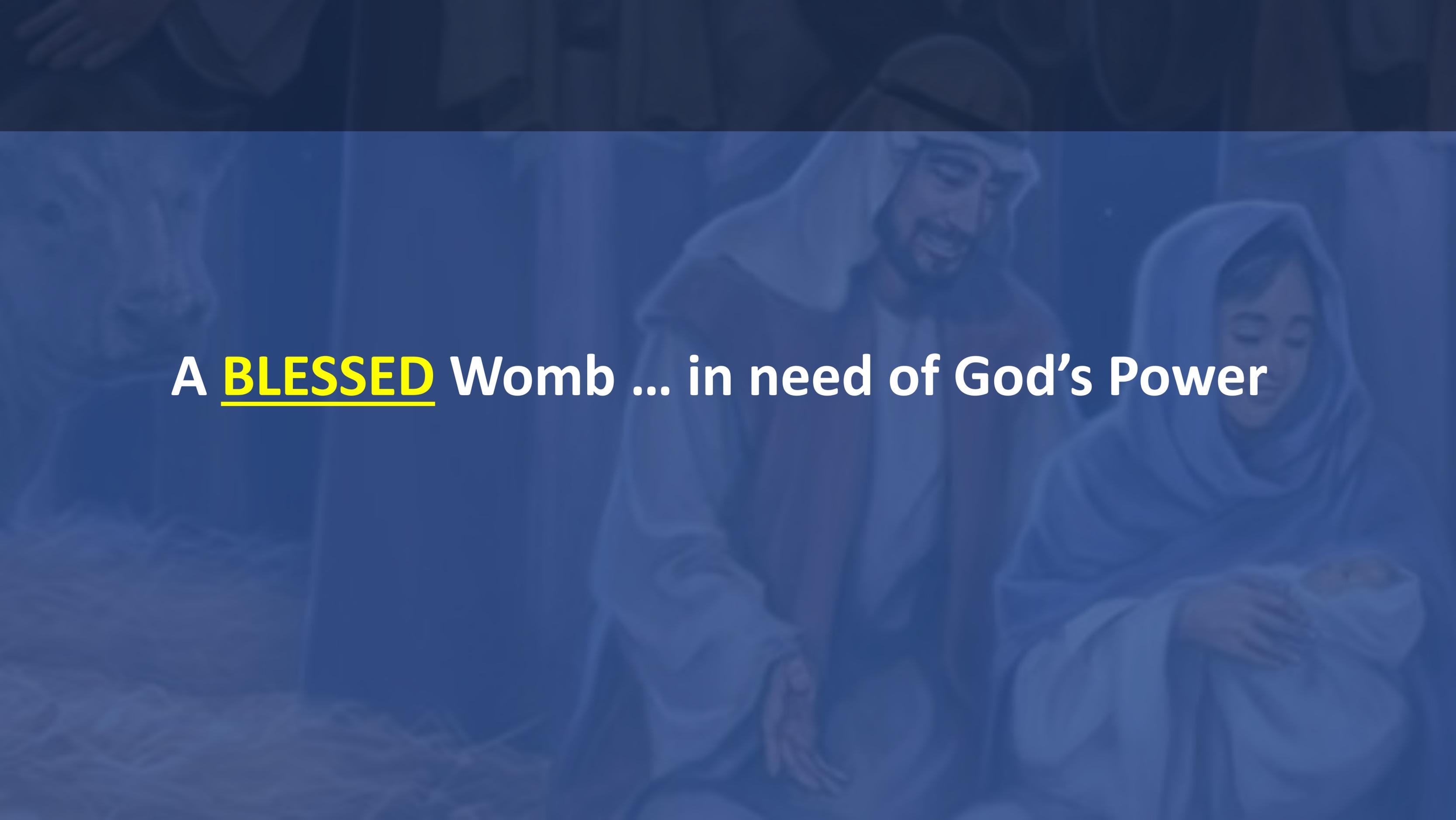


But the angel said to him: “Do not be afraid, Zechariah; your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you are to call him John.”

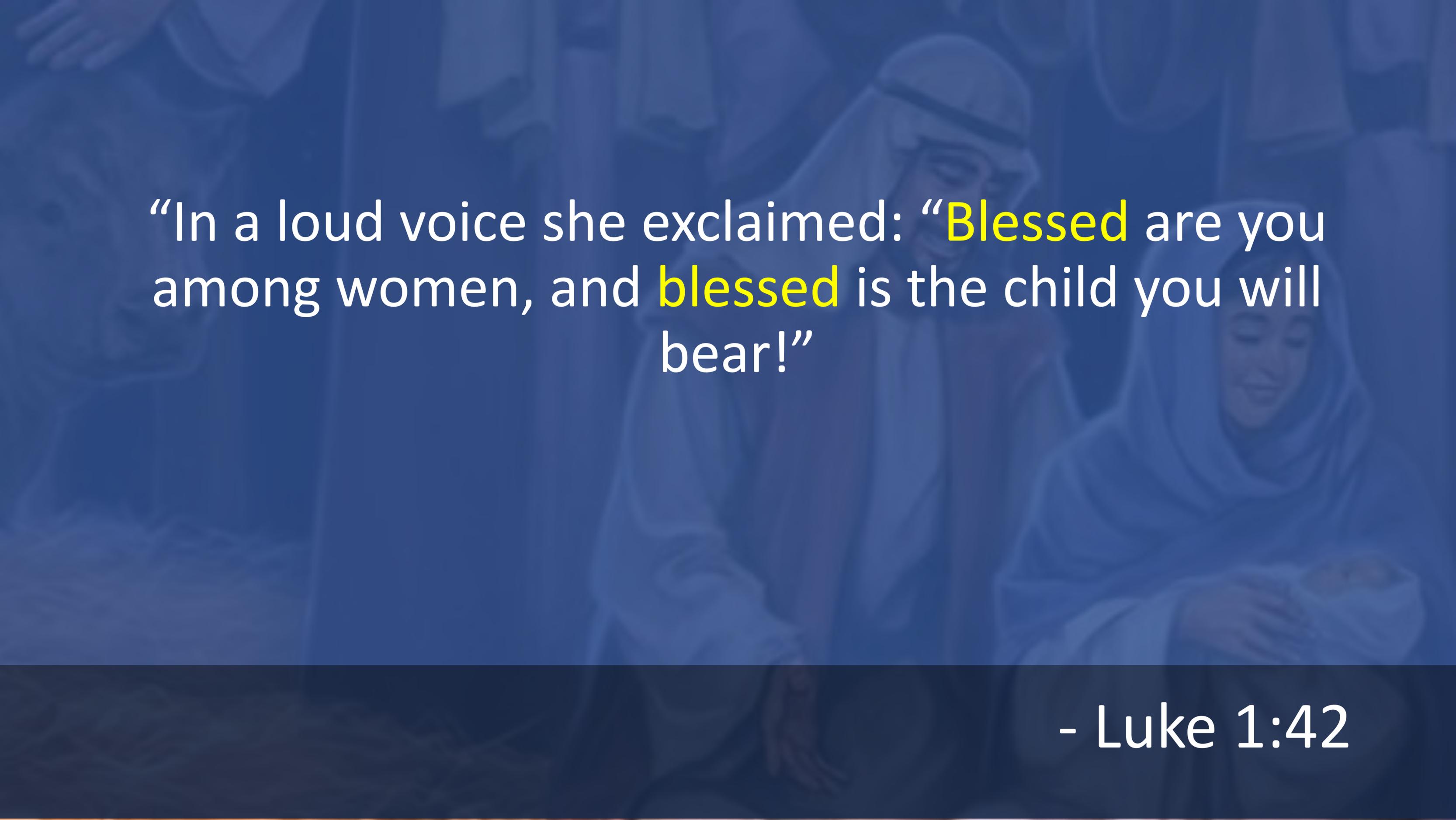
- Luke 1:13

# **BARREN Wombs ... in need of God's Mercy**

- 1. Isaac – Sarah & Abraham (Gen. 11)**
- 2. Jacob – Rebekah & Isaac (Gen. 25)**
- 3. Joseph – Rachel & Jacob (Gen. 29)**
- 4. Samson – Manoah & Wife (Judges 13)**
- 5. Samuel – Hannah & Elkanah (1 Sam. 1)**
  
- 6. John – Elizabeth & Zechariah (Luke 1)**

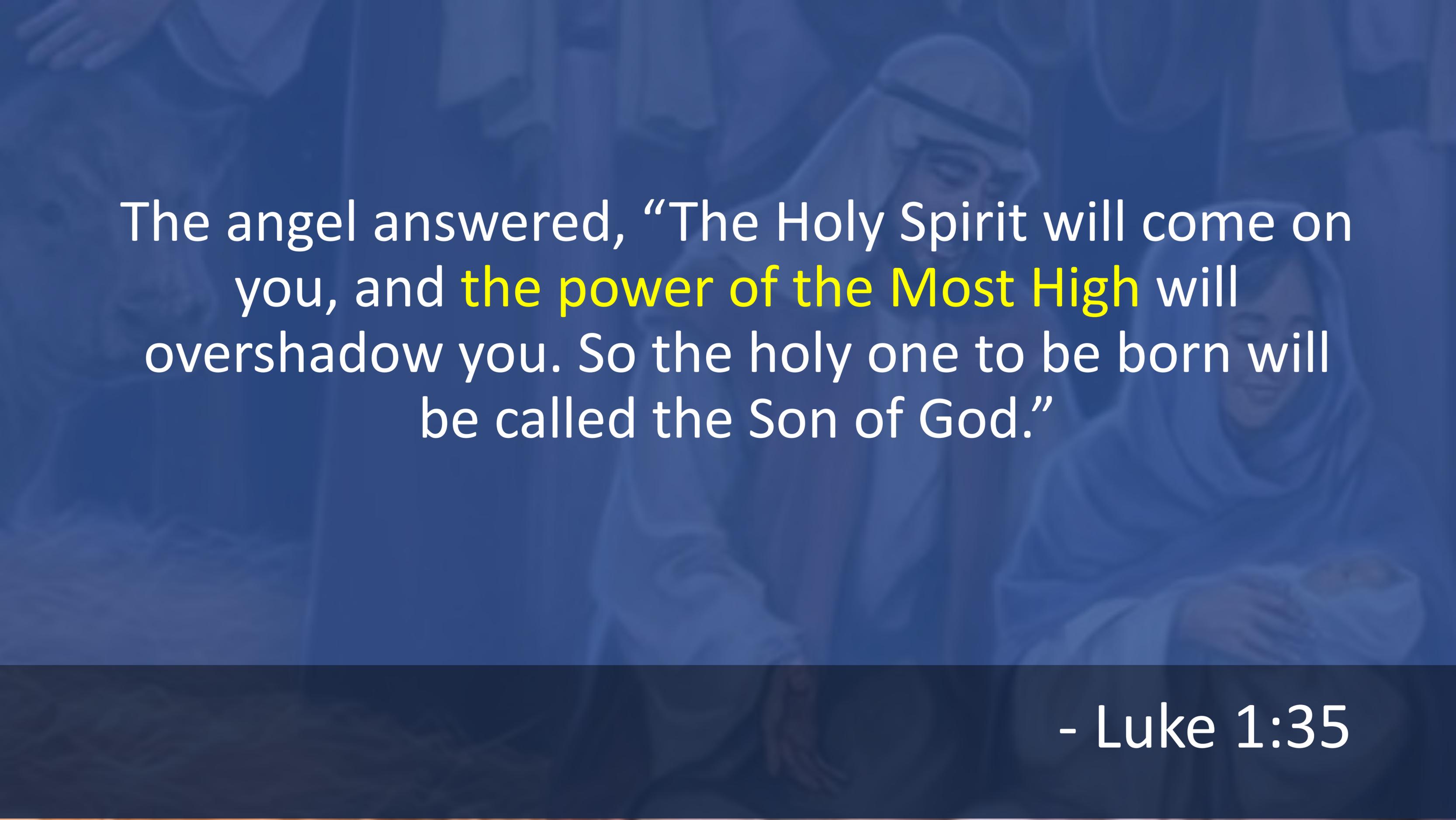


A **BLESSED** Womb ... in need of God's Power



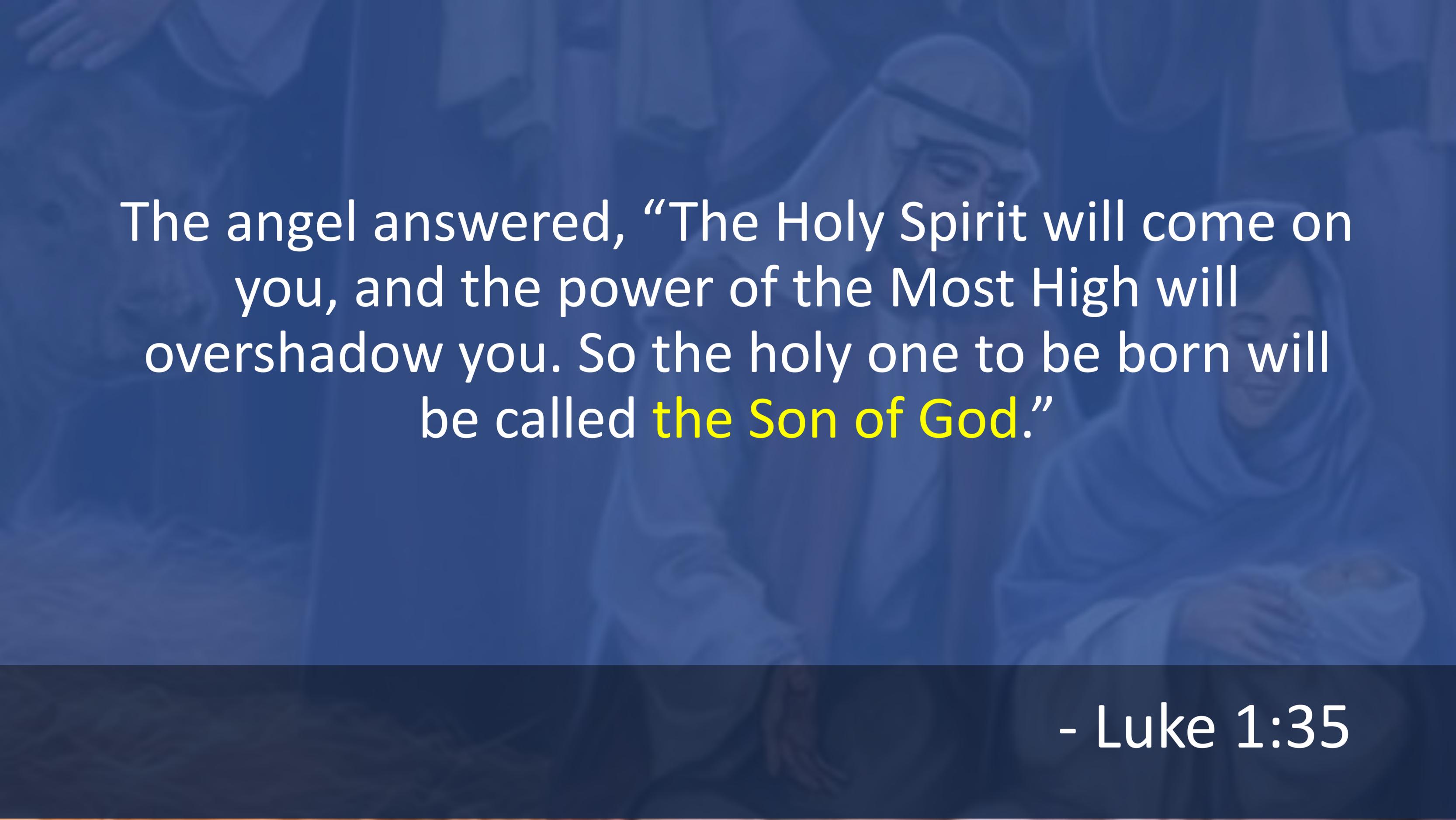
“In a loud voice she exclaimed: “**Blessed** are you among women, and **blessed** is the child you will bear!”

- Luke 1:42



The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and **the power of the Most High** will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.”

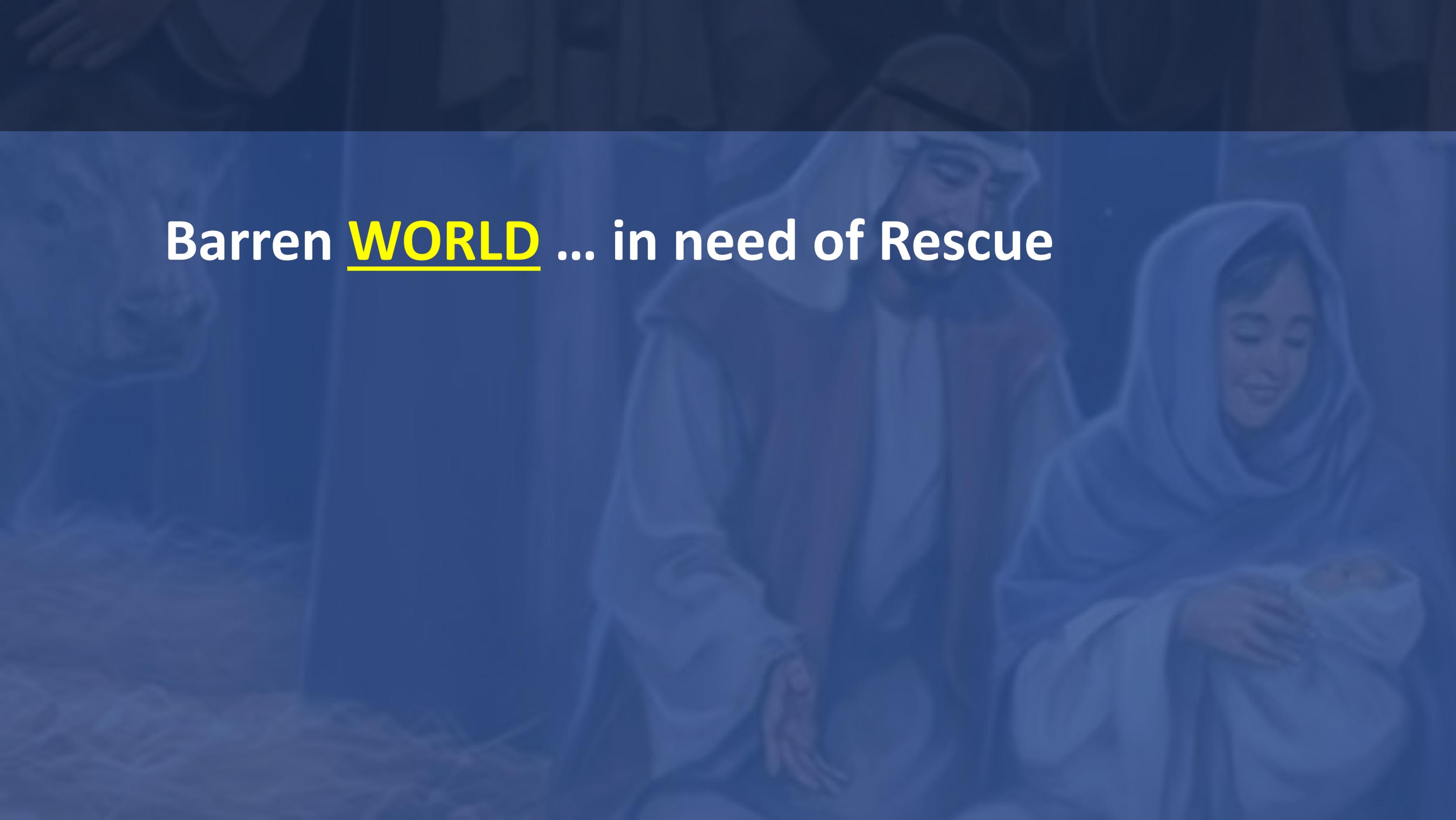
- Luke 1:35

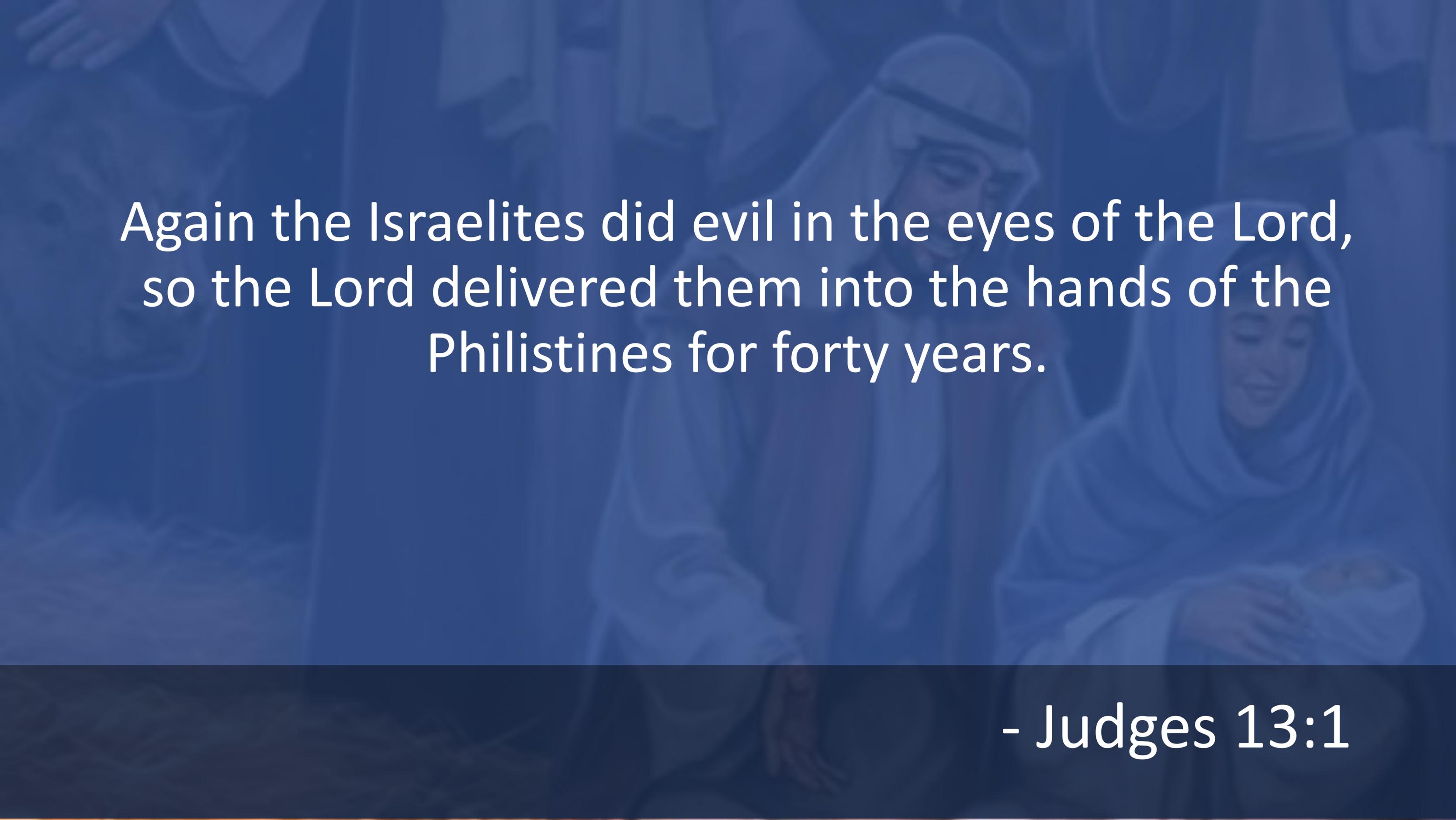


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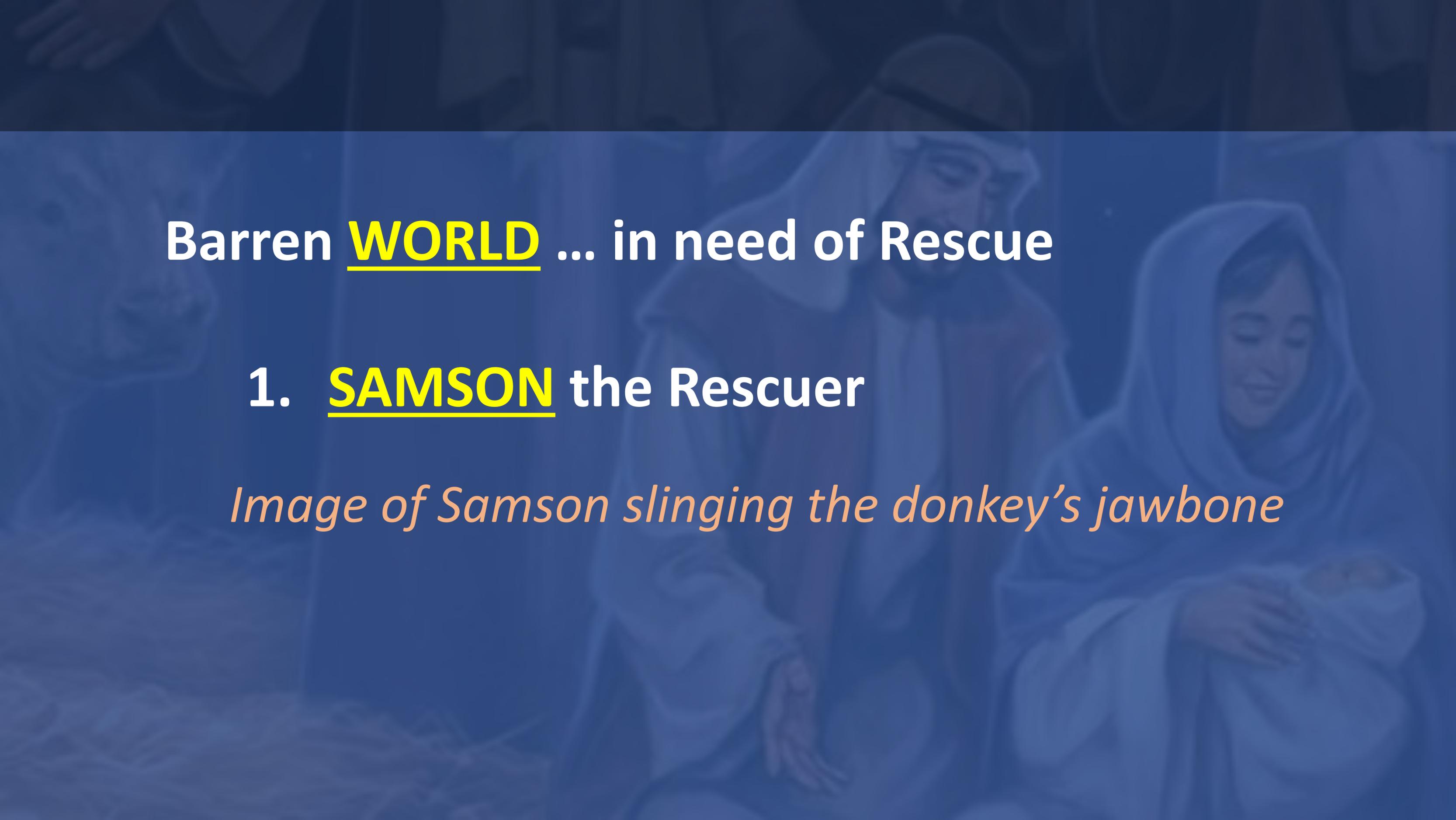
Barren WORLD ... in need of Rescue





Again the Israelites did evil in the eyes of the Lord,  
so the Lord delivered them into the hands of the  
Philistines for forty years.

- Judges 13:1



Barren WORLD ... in need of Rescue

1. SAMSON the Rescuer

*Image of Samson slinging the donkey's jawbone*

A certain man of Zorah, named Manoah, from the clan of the Danites, had a wife who **was childless, unable to give birth.** 3 The angel of the Lord appeared to her and said, “**You are barren and childless,** but you are going to become pregnant and give birth to a son.”

- Judges 13:2-3



*Image of Samson killing the lion*



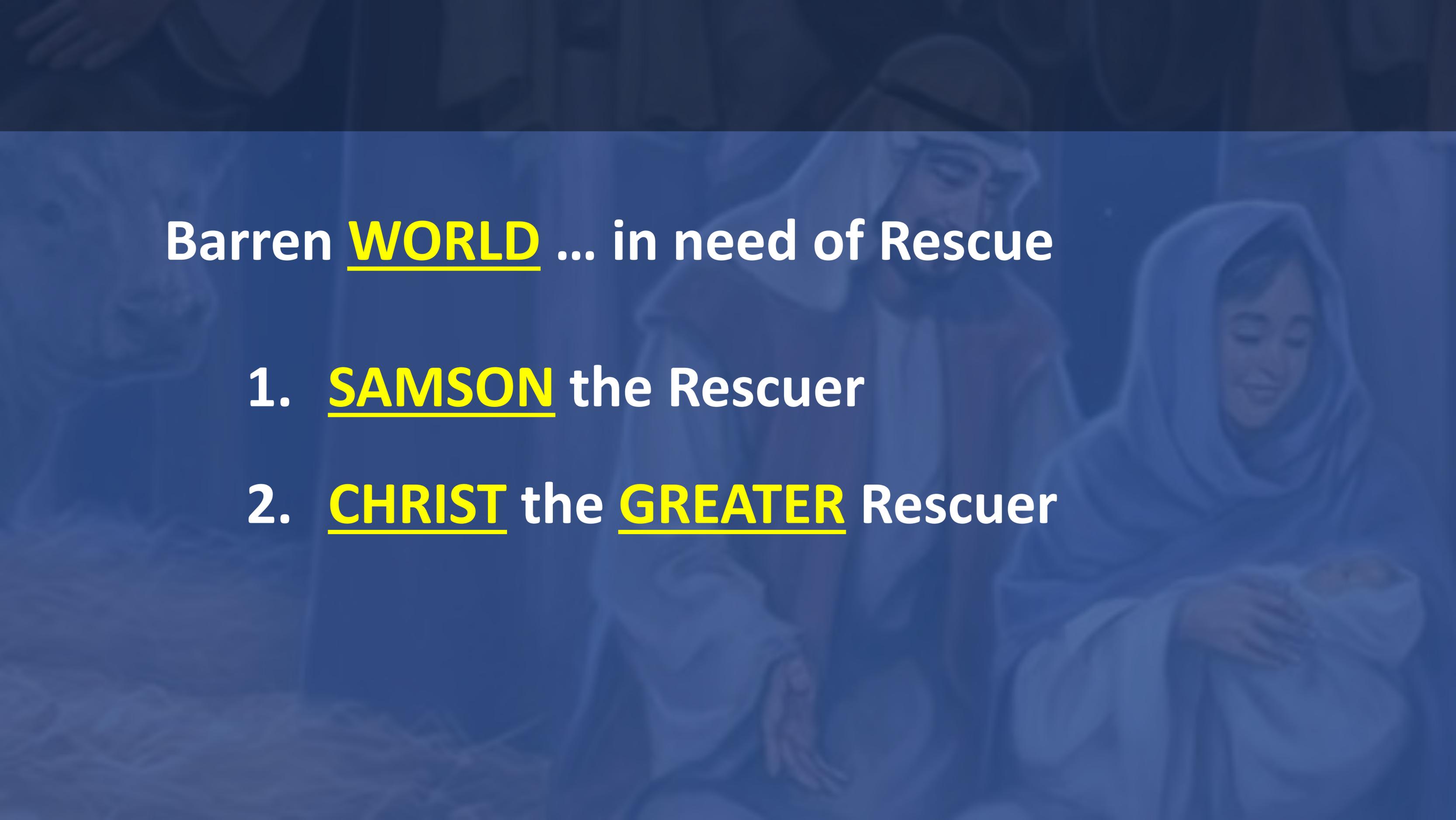
*Image of Samson slinging the donkey's  
jawbone*



*Image of  
Samson  
carrying the  
Gates of  
Gaza*

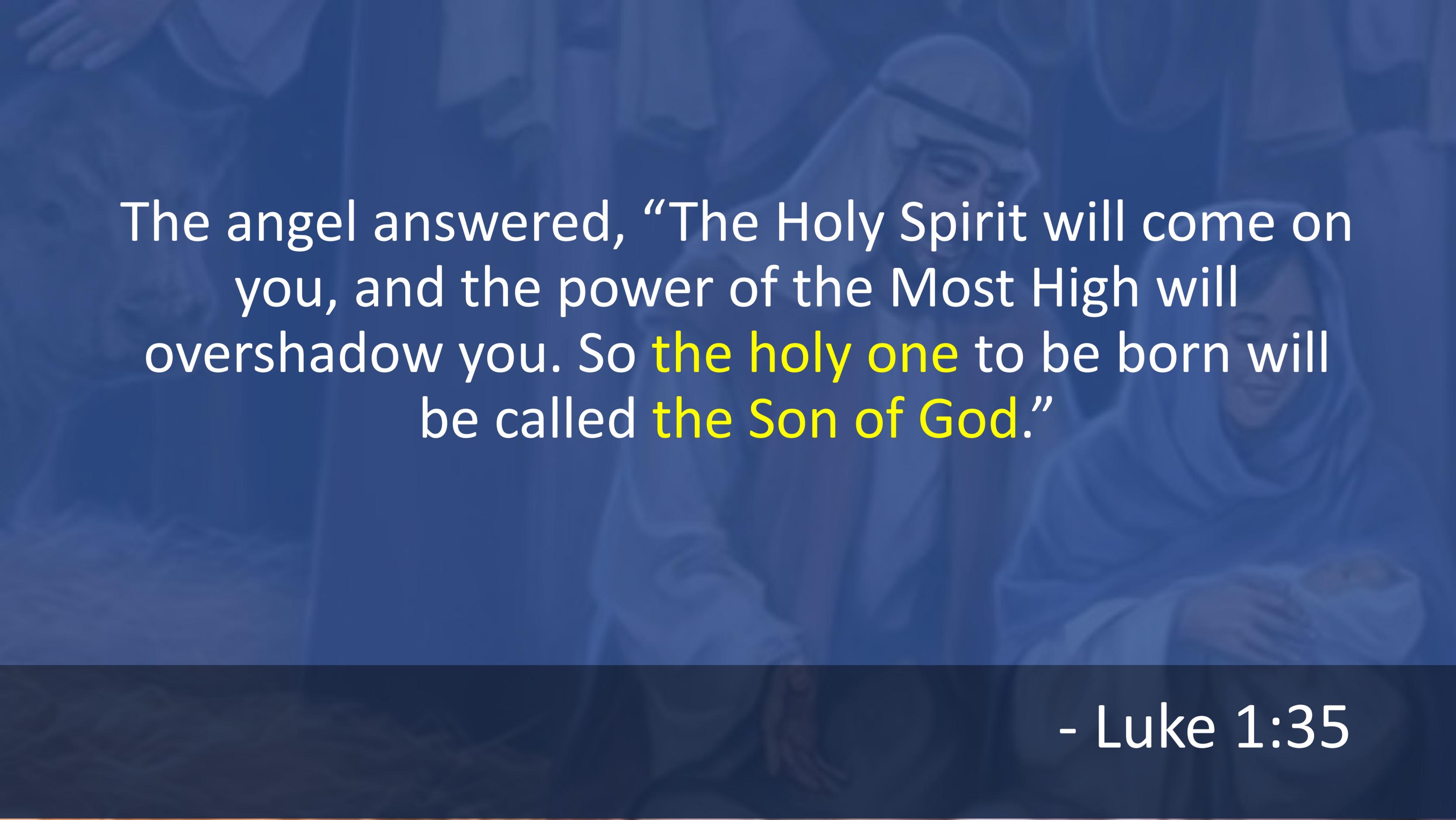


*Image of  
Samson  
pushing the  
pillars of the  
Philistine  
temple*



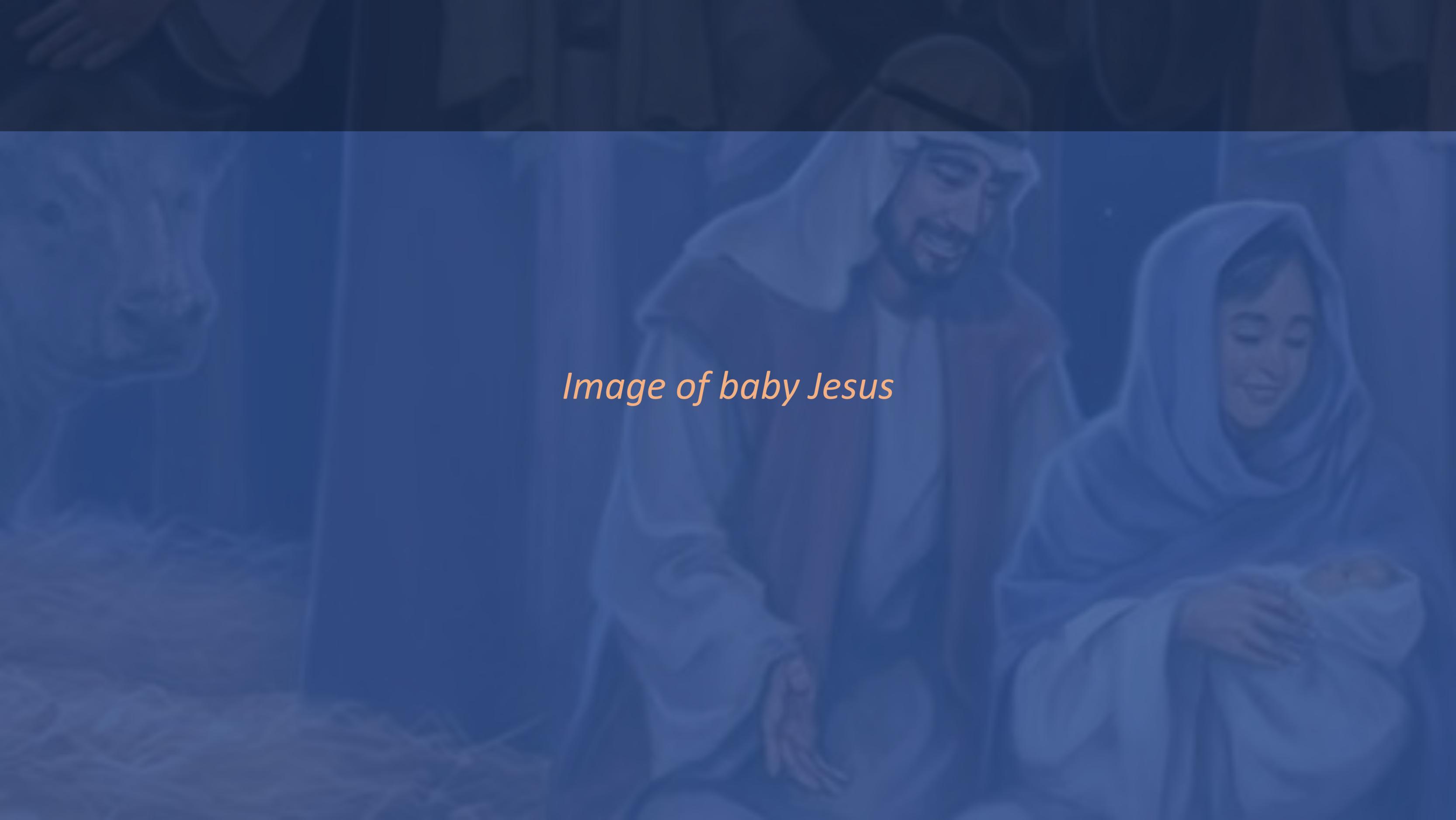
Barren WORLD ... in need of Rescue

1. SAMSON the Rescuer
2. CHRIST the GREATER Rescuer



The angel answered, “The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So **the holy one** to be born will be called **the Son of God.**”

- Luke 1:35

A blue-tinted illustration of a nativity scene. In the center, a man with a beard and a white head covering (Joseph) stands looking down at a woman (Mary) who is seated and holding a baby (Jesus) wrapped in white cloth. To the left, another man is kneeling in prayer. The background shows a simple wooden structure, possibly a stable or manger. The entire scene is rendered in a soft, painterly style with a monochromatic blue color scheme.

*Image of baby Jesus*

*Image of Samson  
killing the lion*

*Image of Jesus on  
the cross*

*Image of Samson slinging the  
donkey's jawbone*

*Image of Jesus dying on the cross*

*Image of  
Samson  
carrying the  
Gates of  
Gaza*

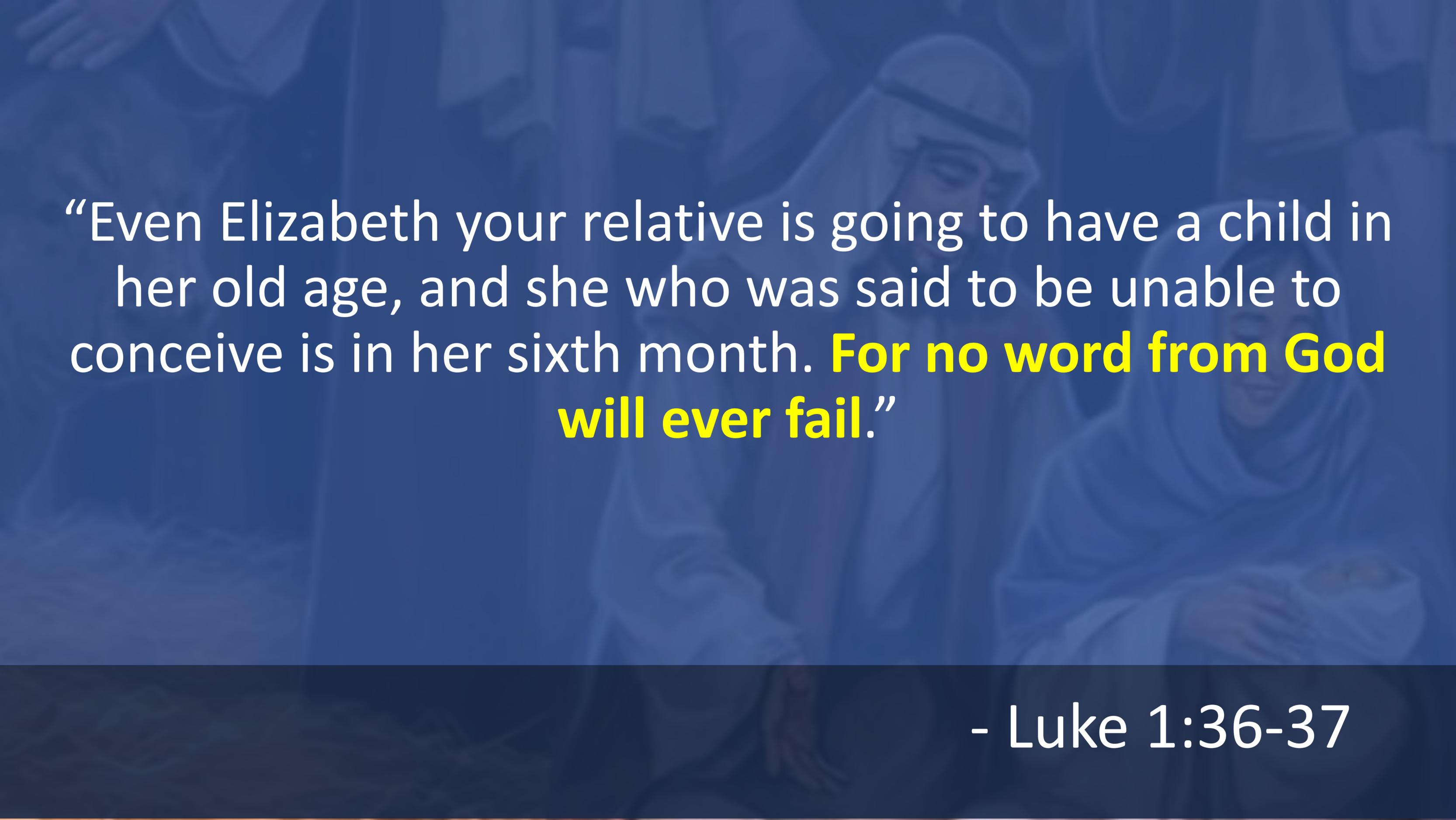
*Image of Jesus  
carrying the  
cross*

*Image of  
Samson  
pushing the  
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Philistine  
temple*

*Image of  
Jesus on the  
cross*

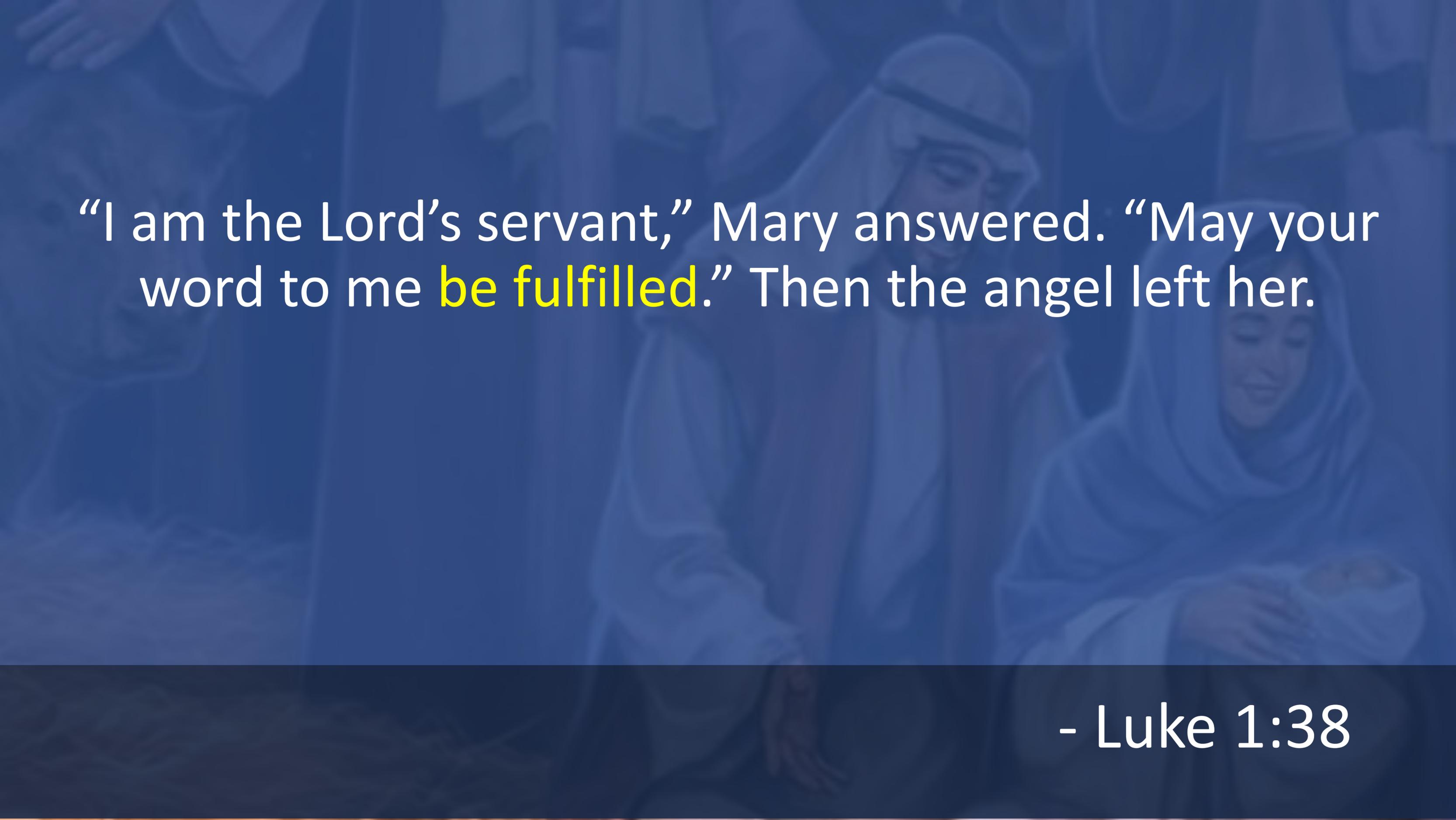


*Image of  
Jesus exiting  
the tomb –  
alive!*



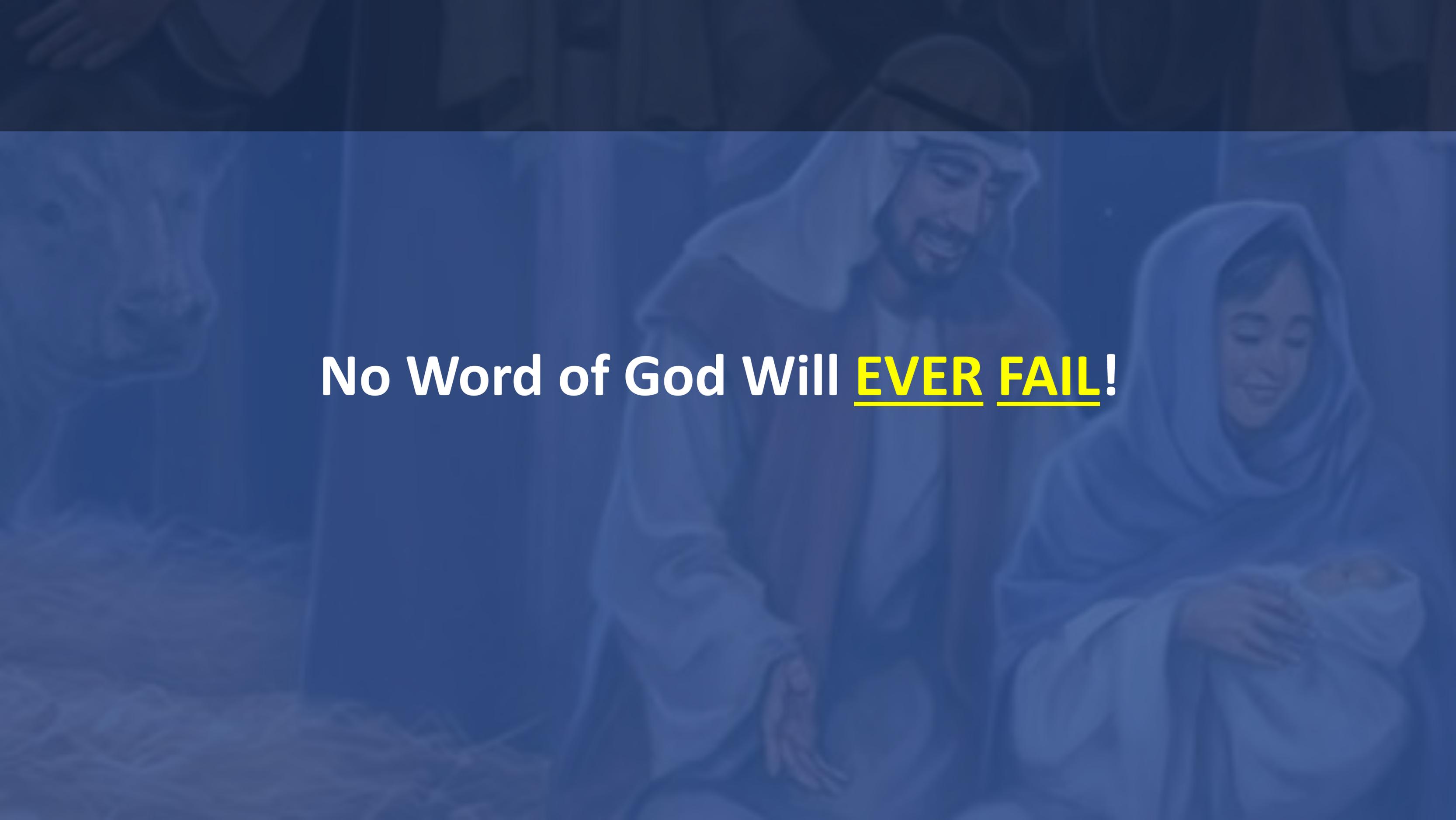
“Even Elizabeth your relative is going to have a child in her old age, and she who was said to be unable to conceive is in her sixth month. **For no word from God will ever fail.**”

- Luke 1:36-37

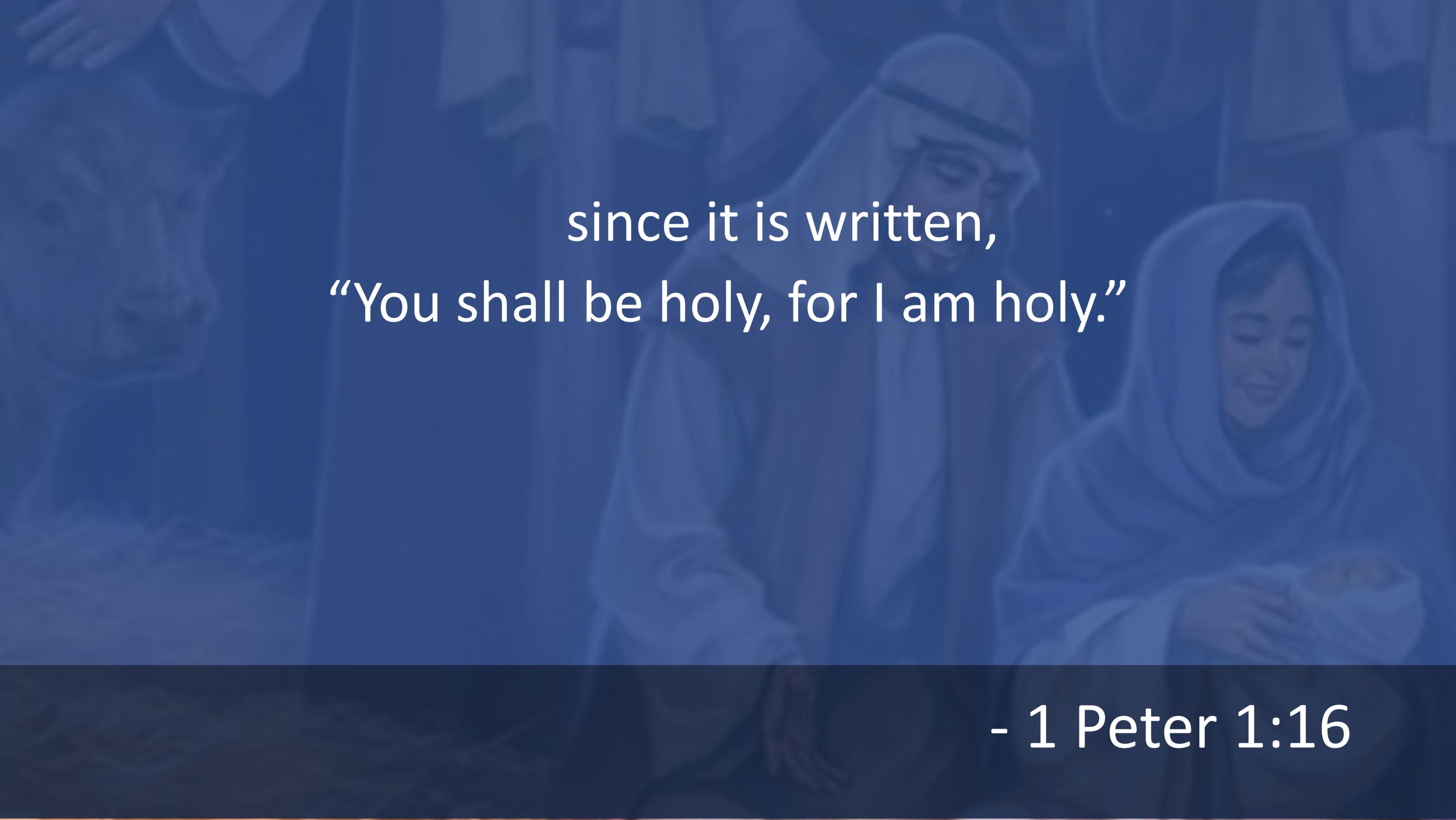


“I am the Lord’s servant,” Mary answered. “May your word to me **be fulfilled.**” Then the angel left her.

- Luke 1:38

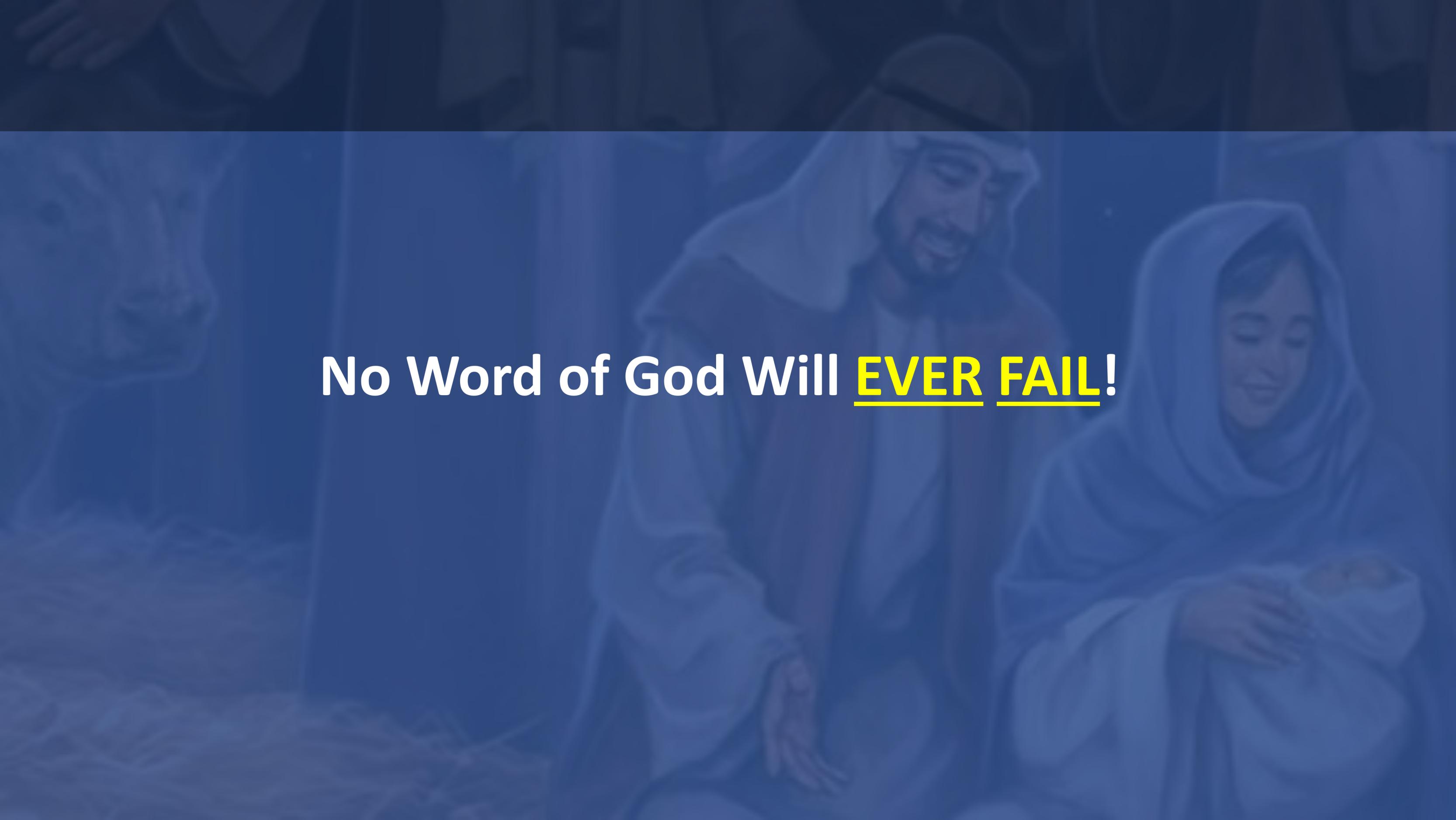
A blue-tinted illustration of a nativity scene. In the center, a man with a beard and a head covering (Joseph) stands looking down at a woman (Mary) who is seated and holding a baby (Jesus) wrapped in swaddling clothes. To the left, another man is kneeling in prayer. The background shows a stable with wooden walls and a manger containing hay.

No Word of God Will EVER FAIL!



since it is written,  
“You shall be holy, for I am holy.”

- 1 Peter 1:16

A blue-tinted illustration of a nativity scene. In the center, a man with a beard and a head covering (Joseph) is kneeling and holding the hands of a woman (Mary) who is also kneeling. To the right, Mary is holding a baby (Jesus) wrapped in a white cloth. The background shows a stable with wooden walls and a manger containing hay. The overall tone is serene and reverent.

No Word of God Will **EVER FAIL!**

And Mary said: “**My soul glorifies the Lord** and my **spirit rejoices** in God my Savior, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant...  
... **He has helped** his servant Israel, remembering to be **merciful** to Abraham and his descendants forever, just **as he promised** our ancestors.”

- Luke 1:46-48, 54-55



What Child  
Is This?