

A night sky with a bright star and a beam of light shining down on a landscape with a tent and a manger.

Coming to God

Part 1 of Magi★cal Christmas

Matthew 2:1-12

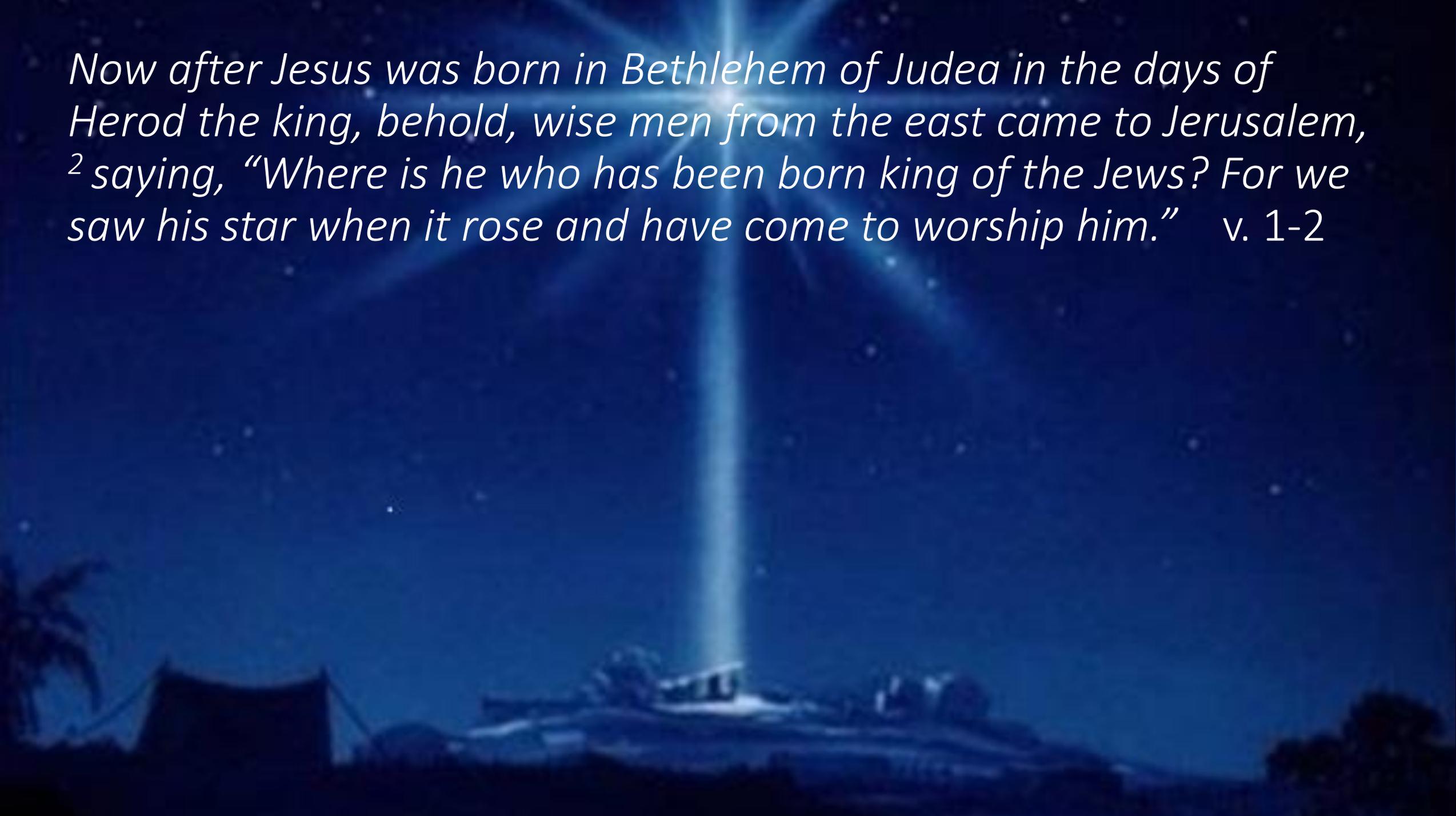


Coming to God – December 7
Finding Great Joy in God – December 14
Worshiping God – December 21
Giving to God – December 28

2 Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." ³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵ They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

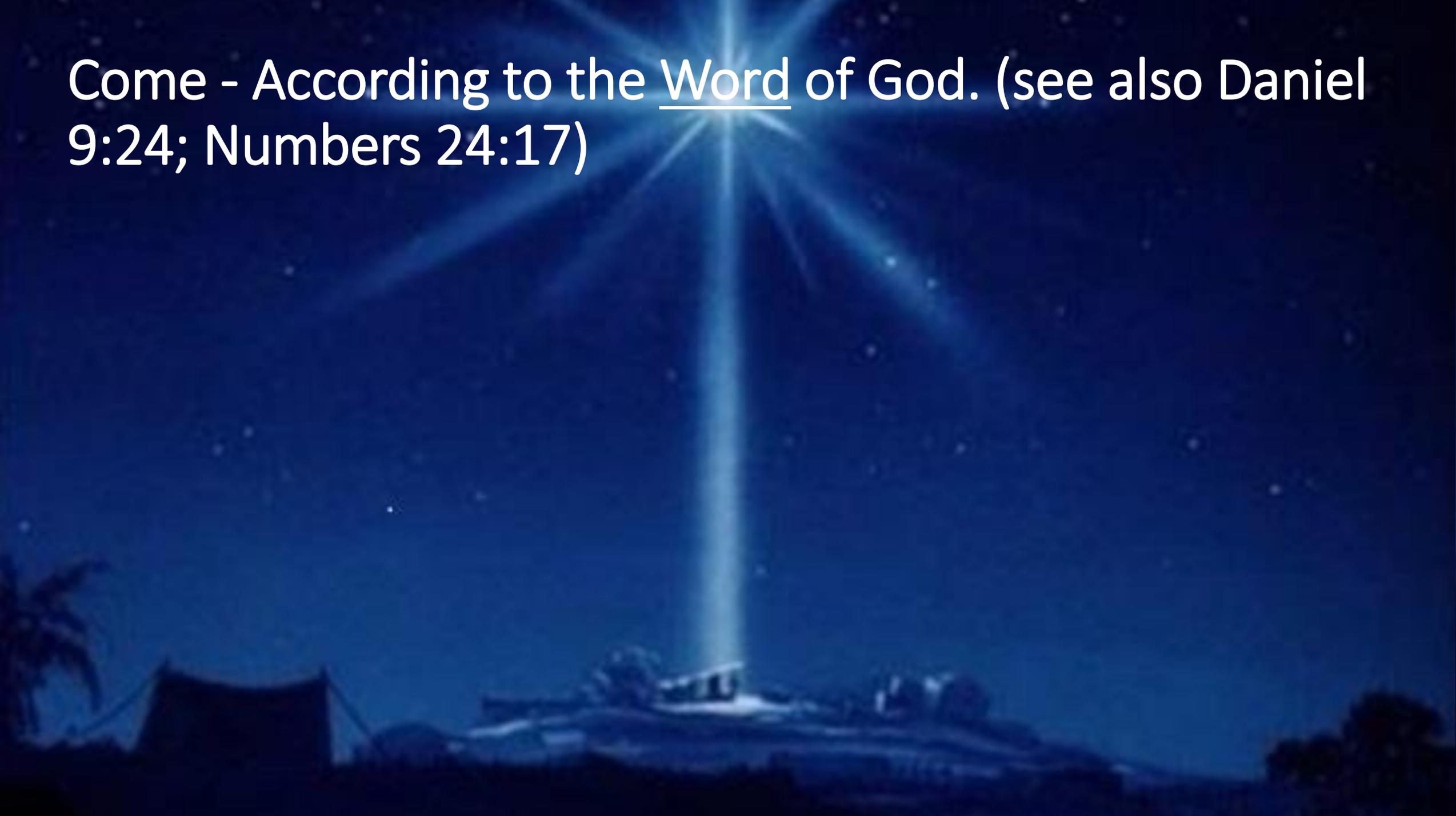
⁶ "And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel."

⁷ Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸ And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." ⁹ After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹ And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹² And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way. Matthew 2:1-12

A night sky with a bright star and a beam of light shining down on a landscape with a tent and a building.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem,² saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." v. 1-2

Come - According to the Word of God. (see also Daniel 9:24; Numbers 24:17)



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⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. Hebrews 11:6

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...when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels ⁸ in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel...

2 Thessalonians 1:7-8

Come - No matter what the cost.

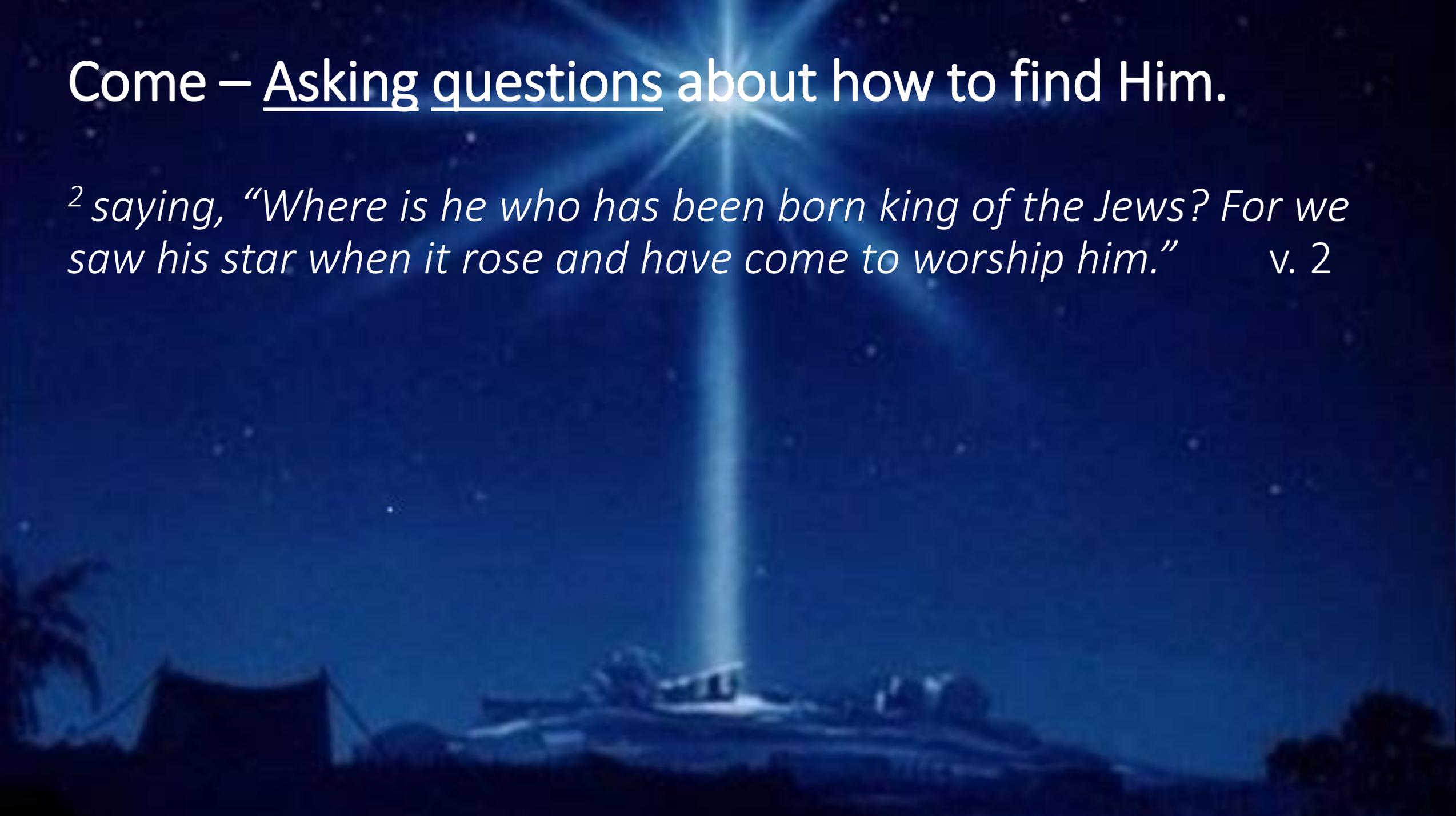
...wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, v. 1



Come - No matter what the cost.

...wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, v. 1

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and covered up. Then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.” Matthew 13:44

A night sky with a bright star and a beam of light shining down on a landscape with a tent.

Come – Asking questions about how to find Him.

² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” v. 2

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² saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” v. 2

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then shall we do?” Luke 3:10

¹⁶ And behold, a man came up to him, saying, “Teacher, what good deed must I do to have eternal life?” Matthew 19:16

³⁰ Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” Acts 16:30

A night sky with a bright starburst at the top center, emitting a beam of light that shines down on a landscape. The landscape features a tent on the left and a small structure in the center. The overall scene is dark blue with white stars and a bright white beam of light.

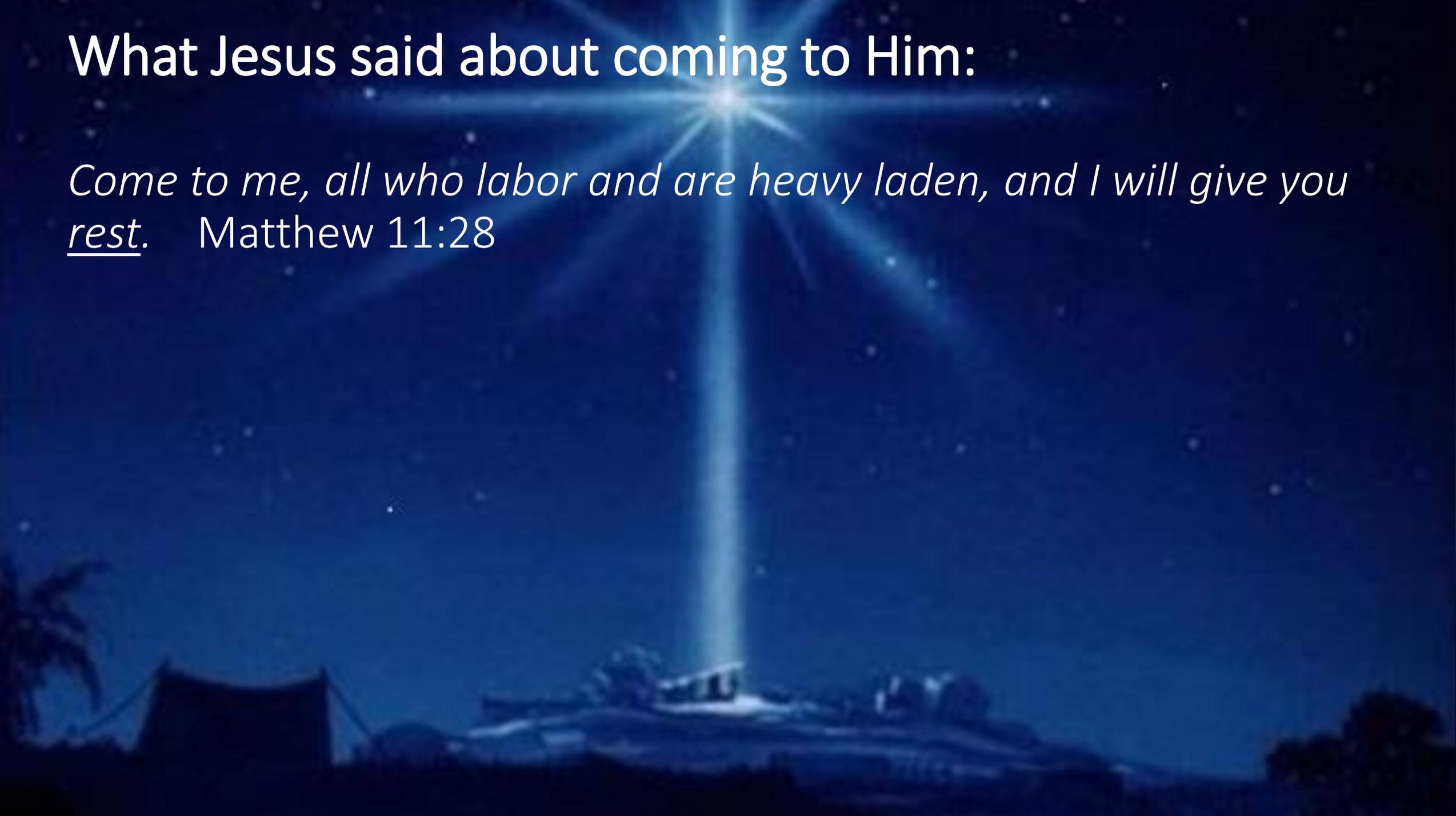
Come – Recognizing the “stars” that can lead you to Christ.

...For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.

v. 2

What Jesus said about coming to Him:

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

A night sky with a bright starburst in the upper center, casting a beam of light down towards a landscape. The landscape features a tent on the left, a boat in the middle, and a tree on the right. The overall scene is dark blue with white light effects.

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Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28

We have to turn from our path of self-effort.

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We've got to trust in the work Jesus has already done.

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We have to turn from our path of self-effort.

We've got to trust in the work Jesus has already done.

We've got to rest from our self-efforts to make peace with God.

What Jesus said about coming to Him:

³⁹ You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that bear witness about me, ⁴⁰ yet you refuse to come to me that you may have life. John 5:39-40