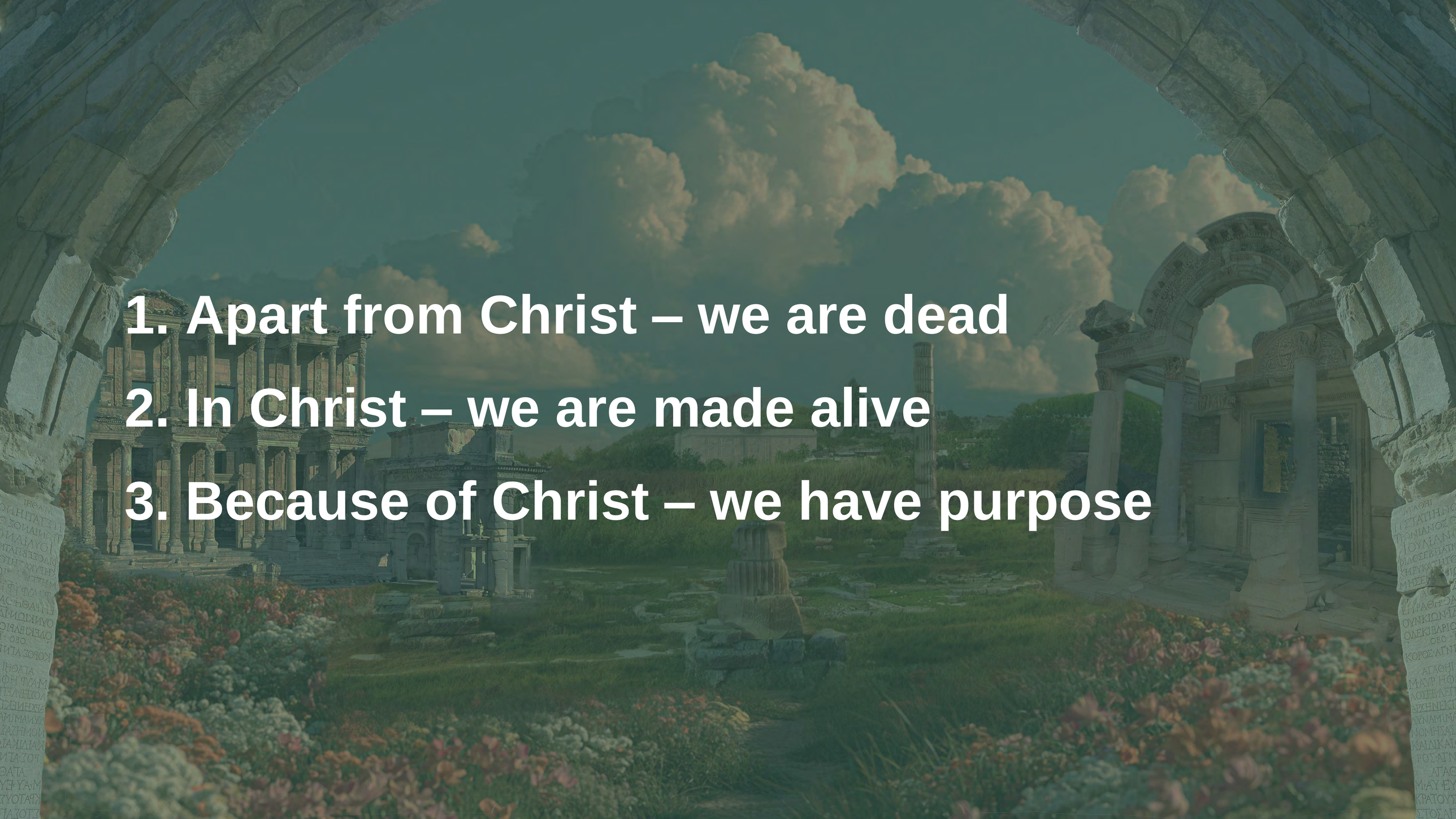
As He Loves: Doctrine & Devotion in the Book of Ephesians

Week 4

From Death To Life

Senior Teaching Pastor Jim Supp — Reston Bible Church — Sunday, November 22, 2026


1. Apart from Christ – we are dead
2. In Christ – we are made alive
3. Because of Christ – we have purpose

1. Apart From Christ (We Are Dead)

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience – among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the flesh and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

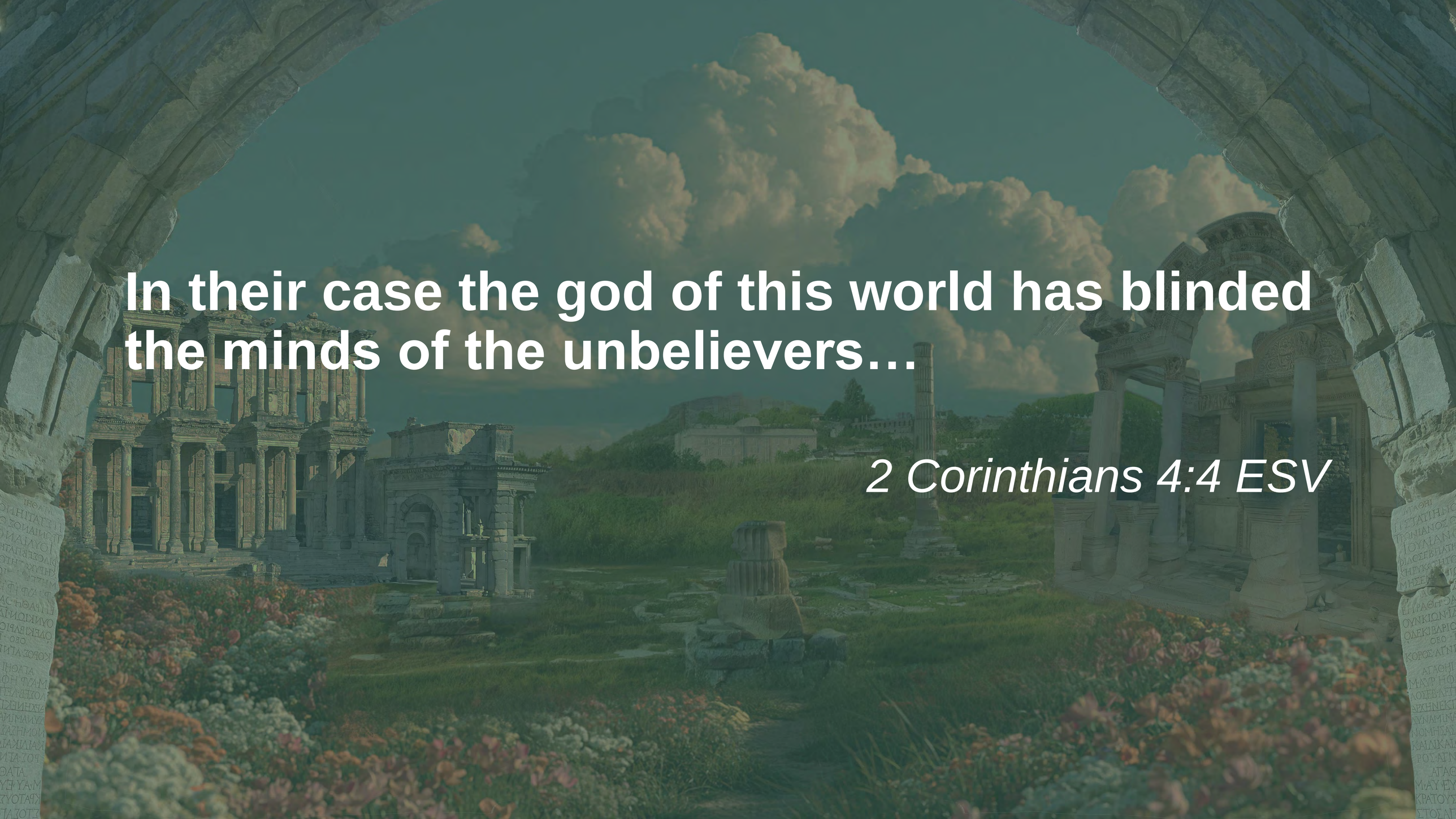
Ephesians 2:1-3 ESV

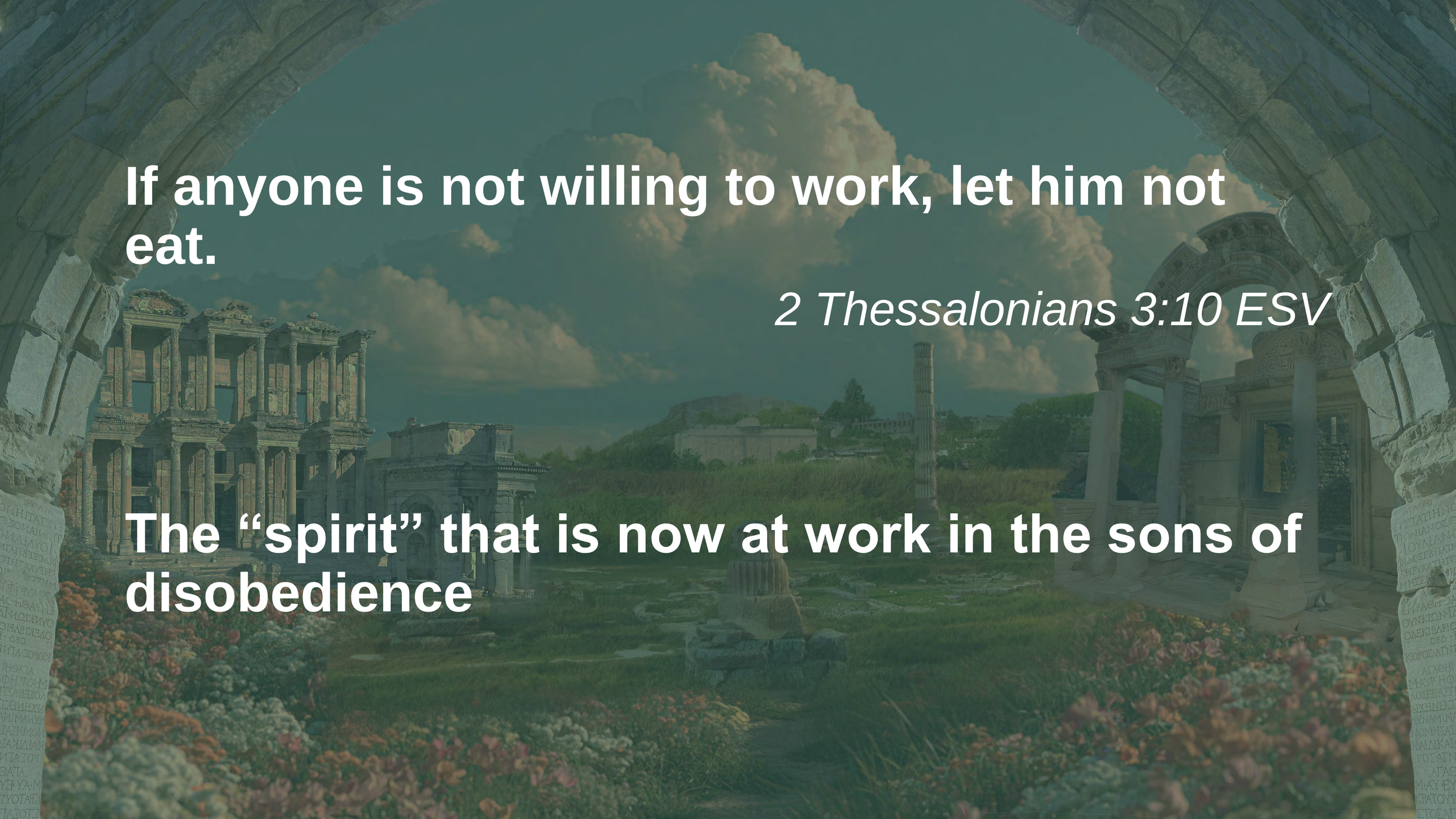

Dead In Trespasses And Sins
Dead
Trespasses And Sins

We Were Following The Prince Of The Power Of The Air

We know that we are from God, and the whole world lies in the power of the evil one.

1 John 5:19 ESV


In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers…
2 Corinthians 4:4 ESV



If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat.

2 Thessalonians 3:10 ESV

The “spirit” that is now at work in the sons of disobedience

We Were Living In The Passions Of Our Flesh

For all that is in the world – the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride of life – is not from the Father but is from the world.

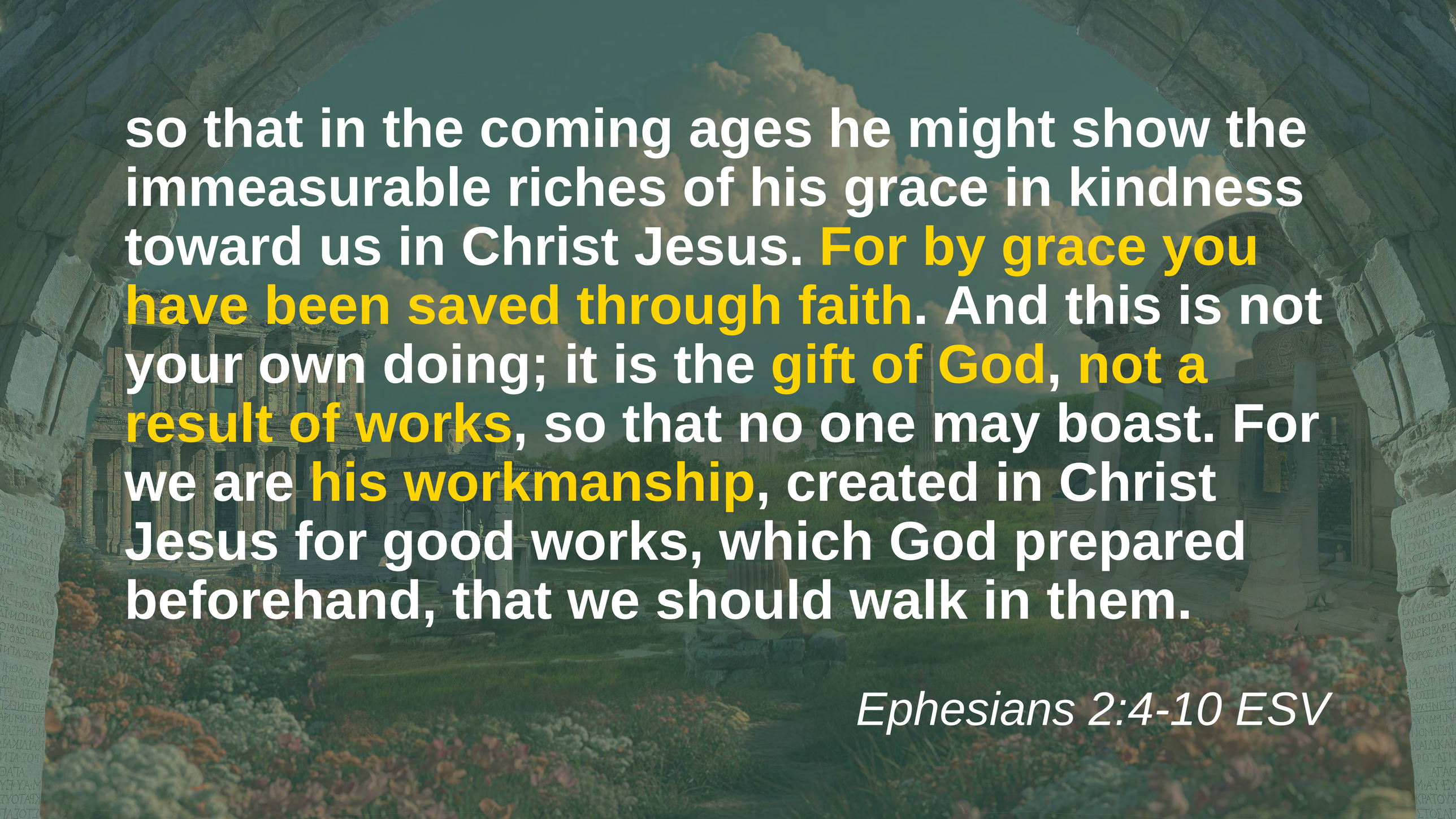
1 John 2:16 ESV


We Were Children Of Wrath


But God

2. In Christ (We Are Made Alive)

But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ – by grace you have been saved – and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,



so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:4-10 ESV

God’s Rich Mercy And Great Love

mercy: ***eleos*** **– pity, compassion (the opposite side of the coin with grace) (in the Septuagint – loyal love)**

great love: ***polys agape*** **– out of ordinary regard for the highest good of another**

Made Us Alive Together With Christ

“**Made alive together with**” is one word –
“made alive with” – *syzoopoieo*.

raised us up with Christ – “**raised up with**” – *synegeiro*.

Seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus – “**seated with**” – *synkathizo*.

Saved By Grace, Not Works

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Ephesians 2:8-9 ESV


Gift Of God


NOT By Works


So That No One May Boast


1. Apart from Christ – we are dead
2. In Christ – we are made alive

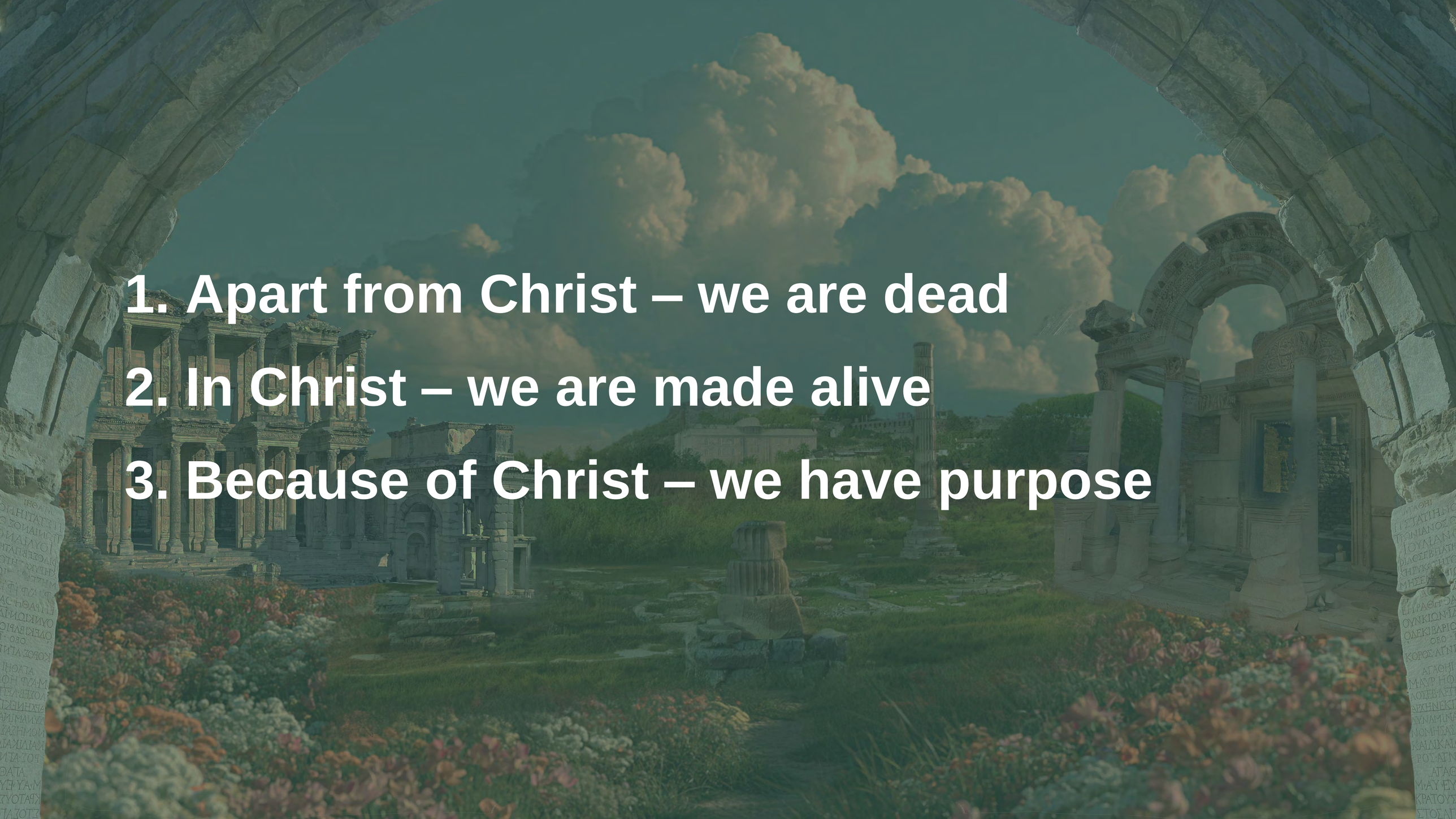
3. Because Of Christ – We Have Purpose

For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10 ESV


we are his workmanship: *poiema* –
denotes creative craftsmanship


Created In Christ Jesus For Good Works


1. Apart from Christ – we are dead
2. In Christ – we are made alive
3. Because of Christ – we have purpose



1. To Those Apart From Christ – You Are Dead

2. To Those In Christ – Embrace Your Glorious Position

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

1 Peter 2:9 ESV



3. Because Of Christ – You Have Purpose