

current sermon series

BATTLING UNBELIEF

The background of the image is a close-up, high-angle shot of a medieval knight. The knight is wearing chainmail armor and a surcoat. They are holding a sword in their right hand and a shield in their left. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the metal and fabric. The overall tone is serious and historical.



John 18:15-18, 25-27

Simon Peter followed Jesus, and so did another disciple. Since that disciple was known to the high priest, he entered with Jesus into the courtyard of the high priest,¹⁶ but Peter stood outside at the door. So the other disciple, who was known to the high priest, went out and spoke to the

John 18:15-18, 25-27

servant girl who kept watch at the door, and brought Peter in. ¹⁷ The servant girl at the door said to Peter, "You also are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." ¹⁸ Now the servants and officers had made a **charcoal fire**, because it was cold, and they were standing and

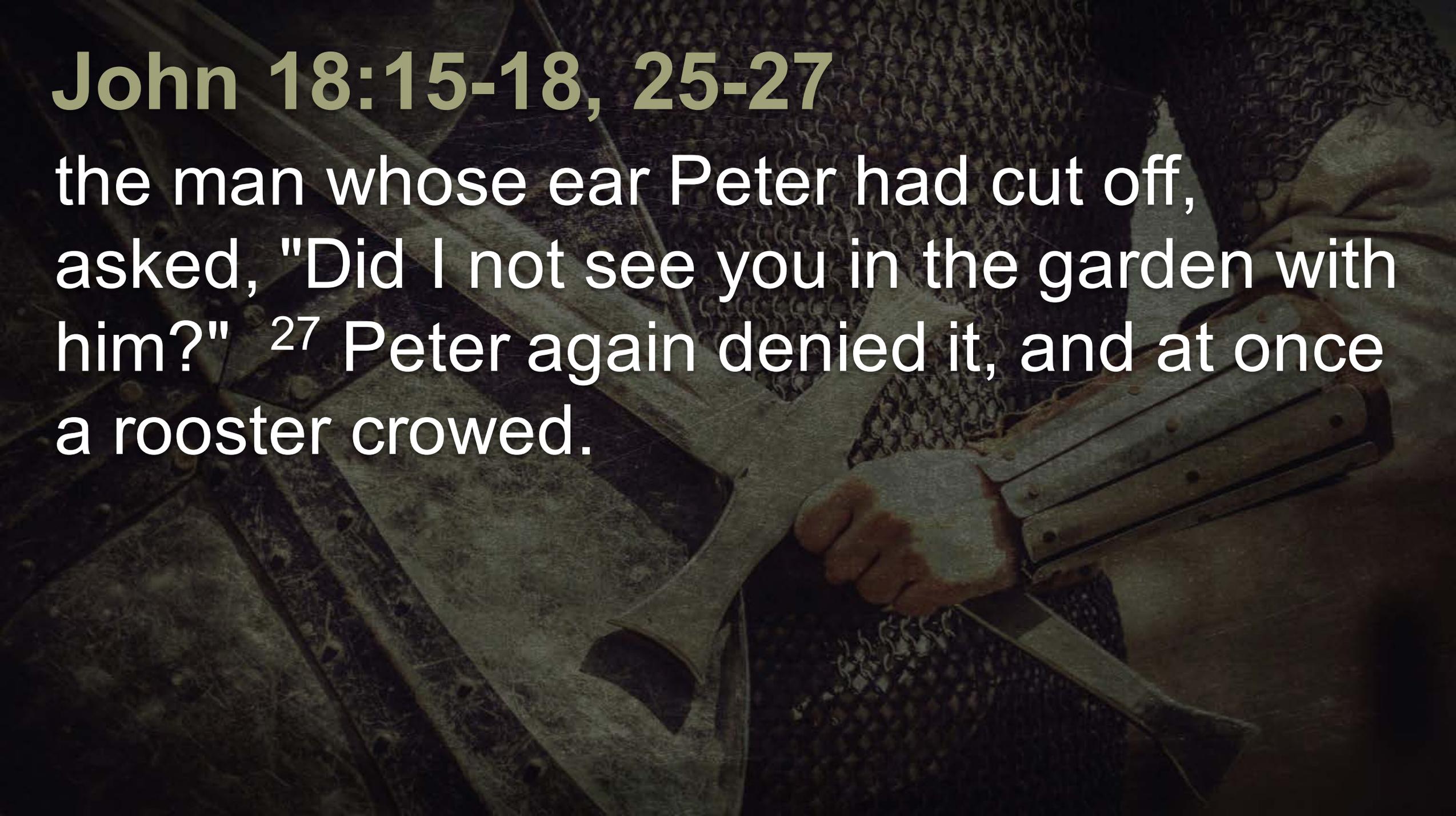
John 18:15-18, 25-27

warming themselves. Peter also was with them, standing and warming himself...

²⁵ Now Simon Peter was standing and warming himself. So they said to him, "You also are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." ²⁶ One of the servants of the high priest, a relative of

John 18:15-18, 25-27

the man whose ear Peter had cut off, asked, "Did I not see you in the garden with him?" ²⁷ Peter again denied it, and at once a rooster crowed.





John 21:1-17

After this Jesus revealed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he revealed himself in this way. ² Simon Peter, Thomas (called the Twin), Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples were together.

John 21:1-17

³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Just as day was breaking, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

John 21:1-17

⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, do you have any fish?" They answered him, "No."

⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some."

So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in, because of the quantity of fish.

⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved therefore

John 21:1-17

said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he was stripped for work, and threw himself into the sea.⁸ The other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, but about a hundred yards off.

John 21:1-17

⁹ When they got out on land, they saw a **charcoal fire** in place, with fish laid out on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught."
¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, 153 of them.

John 21:1-17

And although there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared ask him, "Who are you?" They knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the

John 21:1-17

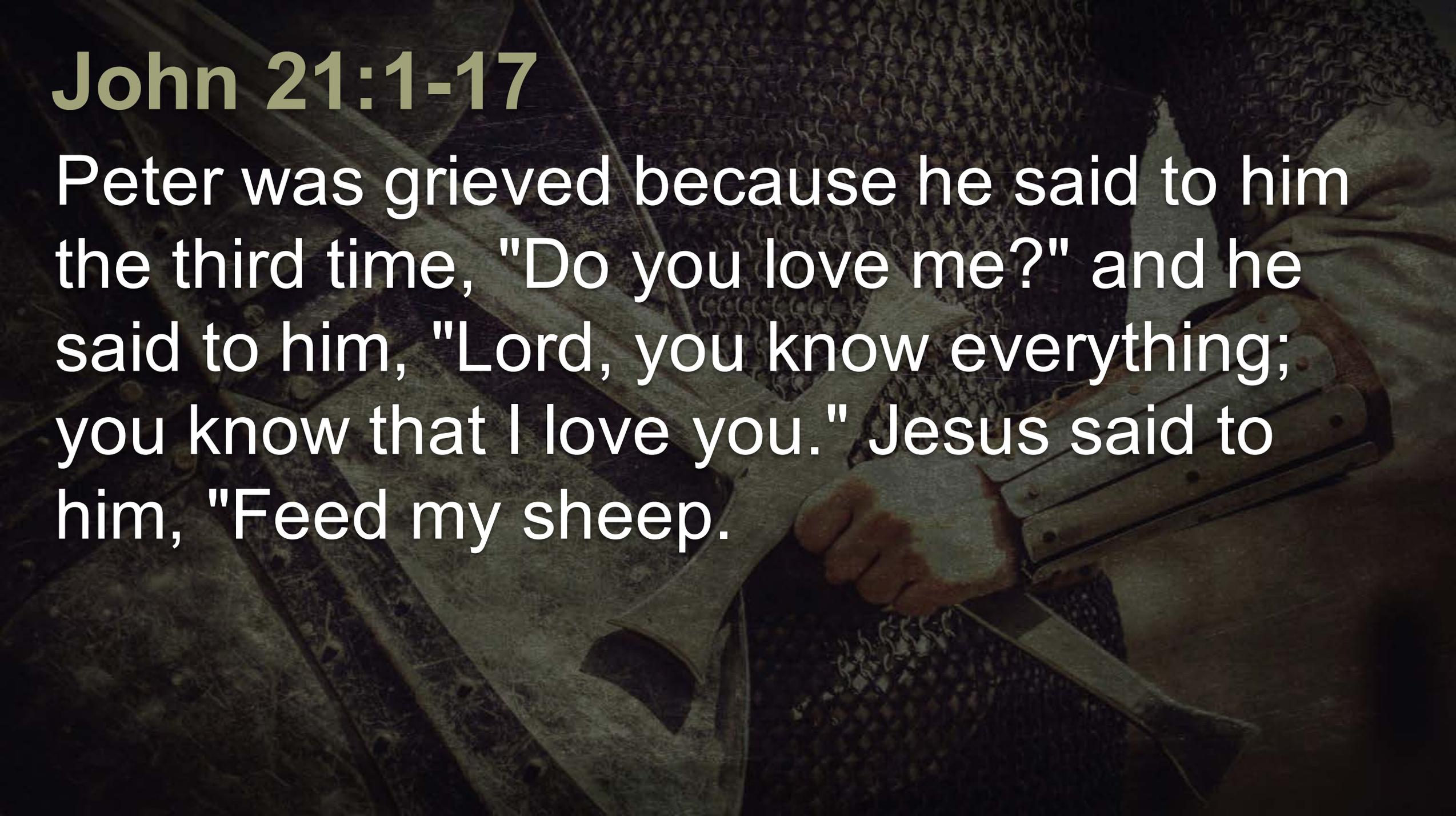
third time that Jesus was revealed to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. ¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you."

John 21:1-17

He said to him, "Feed my lambs." 16 He said to him a second time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." He said to him, "Tend my sheep."¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?"

John 21:1-17

Peter was grieved because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" and he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep."

A person wearing a chainmail tunic is shown from the chest down, holding a sword with both hands. The sword has a wooden hilt and a metal blade. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a medieval or fantasy setting.

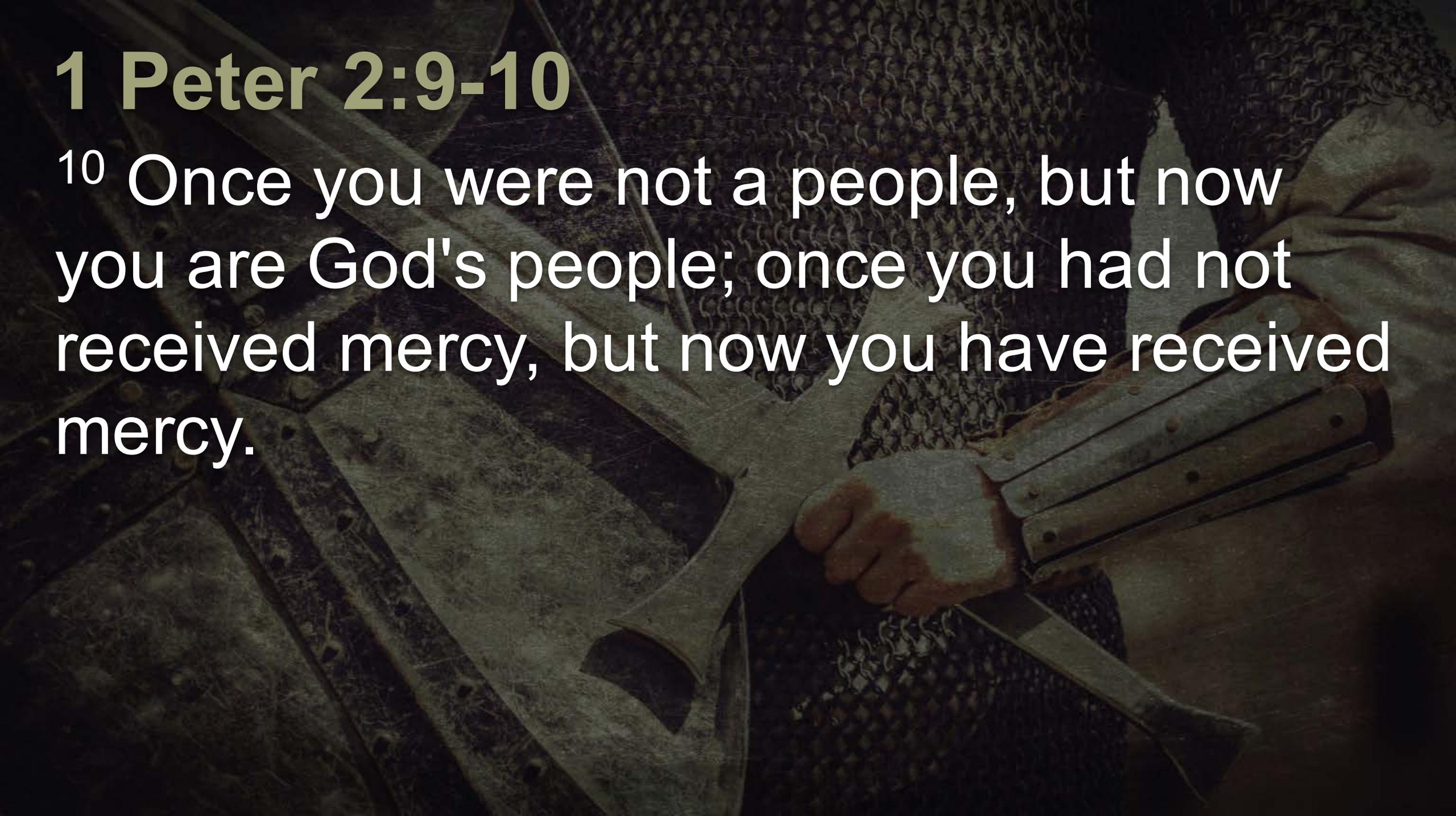


1 Peter 2:9-10

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 2:9-10

¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A person wearing chainmail armor is shown from the chest down, holding a sword. The sword is held in a way that the blade is crossed over the hilt. The person's hands are visible, gripping the hilt. The background is dark and textured, suggesting a medieval or fantasy setting.



Genesis 2:21-25

So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and while he slept took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. ²² And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones

Genesis 2:21-25

and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." ²⁴ Therefore a man shall leave his father and his mother and hold fast to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

²⁵ **And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.**



Genesis 3:6-11, 21

So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.

Genesis 3:6-11, 21

⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. ⁸ And they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the

Genesis 3:6-11, 21

presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of

Genesis 3:6-11, 21

presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ But the LORD God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" ¹⁰ And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." ¹¹ He said, "Who told you that you

Genesis 3:6-11, 21

were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?“ . . .

²¹ And the LORD God made for Adam and for his wife garments of skins and clothed them.



Psalm 34:5

Those who look to him are radiant, and their faces shall never be ashamed. (ESV)

Those who look to him are radiant, their faces are never covered with shame. (NIV)



1 Corinthians 6:9-11

Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality,¹⁰ nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11

¹¹ And such **were** some of you. But **you were** washed, **you were** sanctified, **you were** justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.