

The background features a close-up of weathered stone masonry. A large, circular opening is visible in the upper left quadrant. A semi-transparent cross shape is overlaid on the right side of the image. The overall color palette is warm, dominated by golden-brown and yellow tones, suggesting a bright, sunny environment.

ROMANS

Romans 6:11-14 – The Hinge-point of Paul's Letter.

- **Chapters 1-3:** The sinful condition of every person.
- **Chapters 3-5:** The Good News for every person.
- **Chapter 6:** We are free from sin and free from sinning!

*⁶ We know that our old sinful selves were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. **We are no longer slaves to sin.** ⁷ For when we died with Christ we were set free from the power of sin ...*

¹⁴ Sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

Romans 6

Last Week: Three Truths About My New Life in Jesus. (Romans 6:11-23)

Truth #1. My Body ... Mortal, for now.

¹² Do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.

Truth #2. My Authority ... Jesus Christ.

¹⁴ Sin is no longer your master – you no longer live under the burden of the law. Instead, you now live under the freedom of God's grace.

Truth #3. My Freedom ... I Decide Which Master to Serve.

*¹⁹ ...Previously, you let yourselves be slaves to impurity & lawlessness, which led ever deeper into sin ... ²² But now you are free from the power of sin and have become slaves of God. **Now you do those things that lead to holiness and result in eternal life.***

Romans 7

*⁴ My dear brothers and sisters, here is the point: You died to the power of the law when you died with Christ, and are now united with the one who was raised from the dead. **As a result, we can now produce a harvest of good deeds for God!***

Last Week: Sin is not dead ... but in Christ I am dead to it.

- It is no longer a stronghold holding me prisoner.

Romans 7

21 (Yet) I have discovered this principle of life—that when I want to do what is right, I inevitably do what is wrong.

- *22 I love God's law with all my **heart**.*
- *23 But there is another power within me that is at war with my **mind**.*
- *This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me.*

14 The trouble is not with God's law – it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin.

- *15 I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate...*

18 I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature.

- *I want to do what is right, but I can't.*
- *19 I want to do what is good, but I don't.*
- *I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway ...*

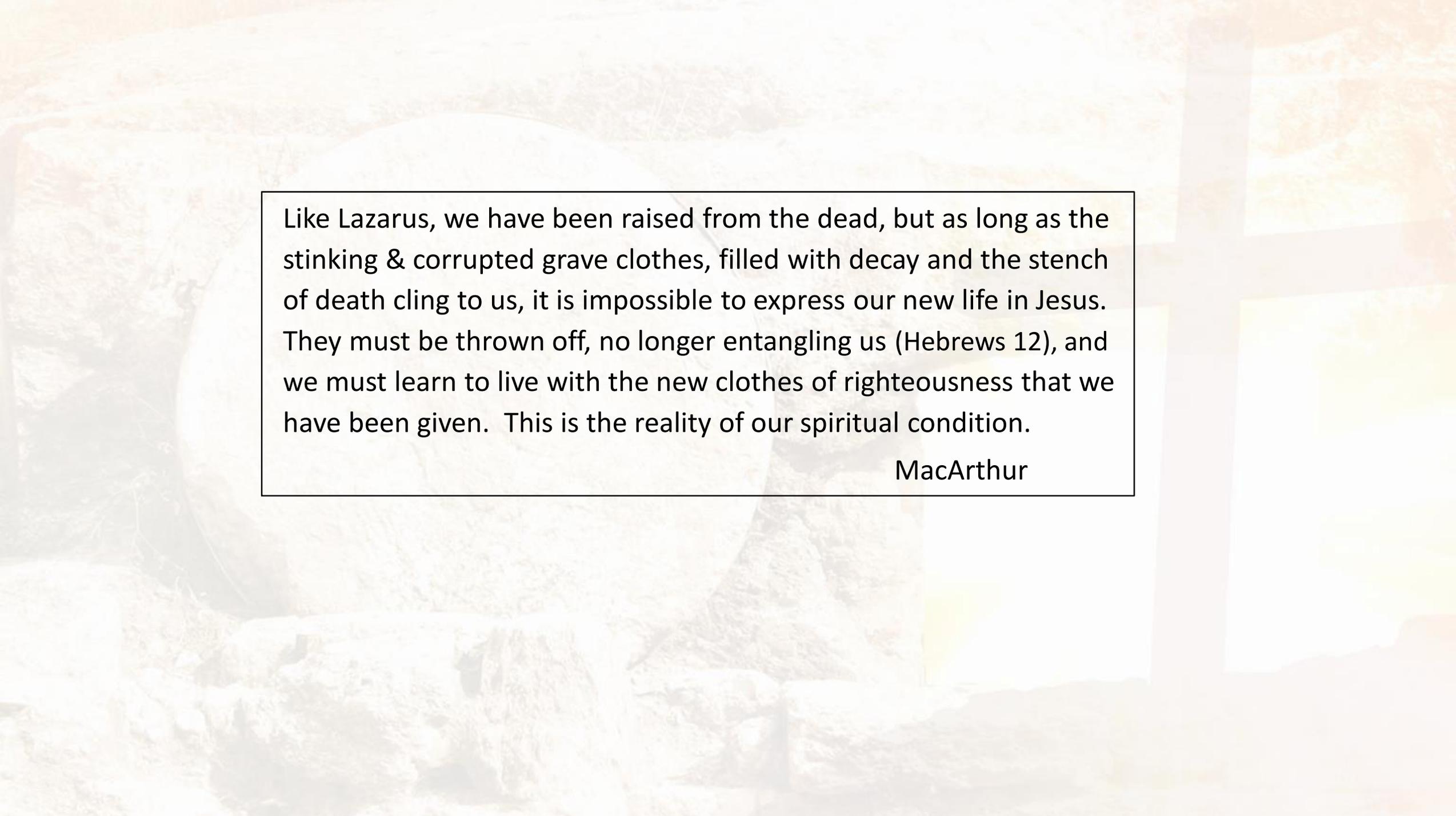
24 What a miserable person I am! Who will rescue me from this life that is dominated by sin and death?

Two More Truths About My New Life In Jesus. (Romans 7)

Truth #4. In Christ, my soul is *justified* – dead to sin ... but my mind & body are not yet *glorified*, and have much to relearn.

²² I love God's law with all my heart. ²³ But there is another power within me that is at war with my mind. This power makes me a slave to the sin that is still within me.

- Jesus has saved me – I really am free – but I remain in a world where sin continues to be powerful, active & destructive.
- **The habits of sin that have infected me for many years will not be unlearned easily.**



Like Lazarus, we have been raised from the dead, but as long as the stinking & corrupted grave clothes, filled with decay and the stench of death cling to us, it is impossible to express our new life in Jesus. They must be thrown off, no longer entangling us (Hebrews 12), and we must learn to live with the new clothes of righteousness that we have been given. This is the reality of our spiritual condition.

MacArthur

Two More Truths About My New Life In Jesus. (Romans 7)

Truth #5. In Jesus, I have embarked on a pilgrimage of *learning* how to think and act like Him.

12 Brothers & sisters ... ² Don't copy the behavior and customs of this world, but **let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.** Then you will learn to know God's will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.

Romans 12

Learning the habits of Jesus - Sanctification:

1. I ADMIT my frustration & failure

¹⁴ ... The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. ¹⁵ I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate...

Learning the habits of Jesus - Sanctification:

1. I ADMIT my frustration & failure.
2. I ACKNOWLEDGE my humanity.

¹⁸ I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my sinful nature. I want to do what is right, but I can't. ¹⁹ I want to do what is good, but I don't. I don't want to do what is wrong, but I do it anyway...

²² I love God's law with all my heart, ²³ but there is another power within me at war with my mind, making me a slave to the sin that is still within me.

Learning the habits of Jesus - Sanctification:

1. I ADMIT my frustration & failure.

2. I ACKNOWLEDGE my humanity. This means:

- that unlearning old habits and learning new “Jesus habits” will take the rest of my life.
- that I will struggle with sin until I leave this earth.

Learning the habits of Jesus - Sanctification:

1. I ADMIT my frustration & failure.
2. I ACKNOWLEDGE my humanity.
3. I ACCEPT God's unbreakable forgiveness in Jesus.

²⁴ What a miserable person I am! Who will free me from this life that is dominated by sin and death? ²⁵ Thank God! The answer is in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Learning the habits of Jesus - Sanctification:

1. I ADMIT my frustration & failure.
2. I ACKNOWLEDGE my humanity.
3. I ACCEPT God's unbreakable forgiveness in Jesus.
4. I ATTACK my old habits, evil thoughts & attractions.

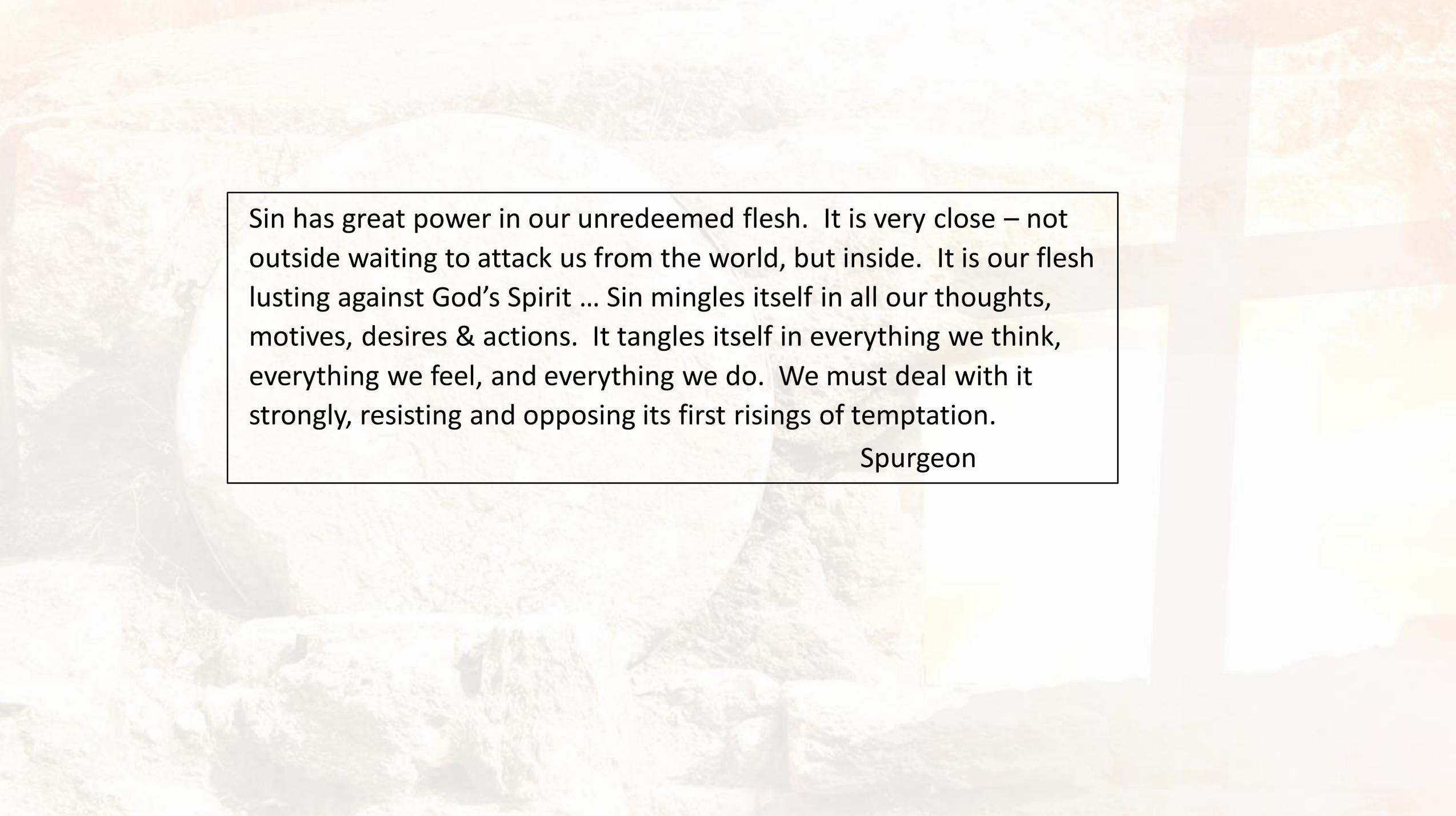
*³Though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵**We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.***

2 Corinthians 10

Learning the habits of Jesus - Sanctification:

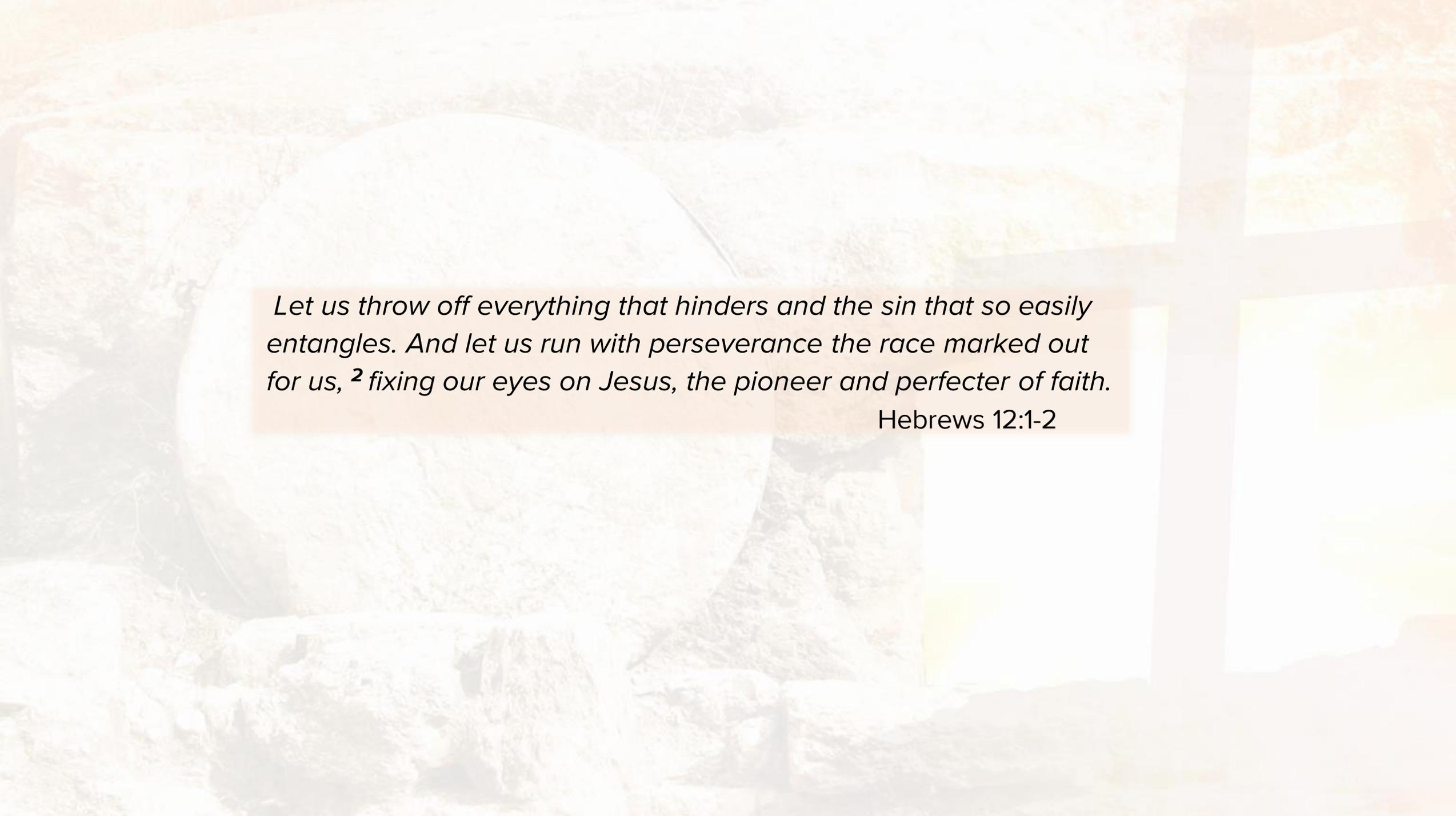
1. I ADMIT my frustration & failure.
2. I ACKNOWLEDGE my humanity.
3. I ACCEPT God's unbreakable forgiveness in Jesus.

4. I ATTACK my old habits, memories, attitudes & attractions.
 - a. ABANDONING any activities, conversations, images, relationships and associations that are infected with sin
 - b. ANCHORING my life upon God's truth, found in:
 - His Word (Bible)
 - His people (Church)
 - His power (Holy Spirit)



Sin has great power in our unredeemed flesh. It is very close – not outside waiting to attack us from the world, but inside. It is our flesh lusting against God’s Spirit ... Sin mingles itself in all our thoughts, motives, desires & actions. It tangles itself in everything we think, everything we feel, and everything we do. We must deal with it strongly, resisting and opposing its first risings of temptation.

Spurgeon



Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, ² fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.

Hebrews 12:1-2