



HEBREWS

DRAWING NEAR TO OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

“TODAY IS THE DAY”

HEBREWS 3:1 - 4:16

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DRAWING NEAR TO OUR GREAT HIGH PRIEST

Written to Christian Jews who, enduring doubt and persecution, were drifting from GOD's plan...

Author
Unknown

Written © 68-
69 AD

Genre: Epistle
that reads like
a Sermon

KEY THEME...Chps 3 & 4:

JESUS BRINGS A SUPERIOR REST

TO WHOM?

IN WHAT WAYS?

1. Jesus brings a Better Rest than Moses or Joshua

2. Jesus offers a Superior Kind of Rest

3. Beware not to Harden Your Heart

4. Jesus brings 'Sympathy' to the Priesthood and to the Throne

Topical
Outline...

HE IS SUPERIOR TO...

***HEAVENLY
ANGELS***

◦ ***WHO
ARE TO
WORSHIP
HIM***



JESUS IS SUPERIOR TO... M O S E S !!

- HOW? IN WHAT WAYS?
- MOSES WAS HIGHLY REVERED!

MOSES – WAS A LOYAL SERVANT OF
GOD – a HUMAN SERVANT

JESUS – IS THE SON OF GOD



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IN HIS
SUPREMECY,
JESUS, THE
MAN-GOD...

SPEAKS
TEACHES
PRAYS
LEADS
HEALS
PROVIDES
PROTECTS
RESCUES
FORGIVES
SAVES ...

FAITHFUL OVER GOD'S HOUSE...

- **MOSES WAS A FAITHFUL SERVANT IN GOD'S 'HOUSE'**
- **JESUS BUILT GOD'S HOUSE...THE PEOPLE - AS BELIEVERS, FOLLOWERS, WE ARE THE 'HOUSE' OF THE LORD**

THE GREAT HIGH PRIEST...

- MOSES – NEVER THE HIGH PRIEST
- JESUS – MORE THAN A HIGH PRIEST:
 - GREAT HIGH PRIEST



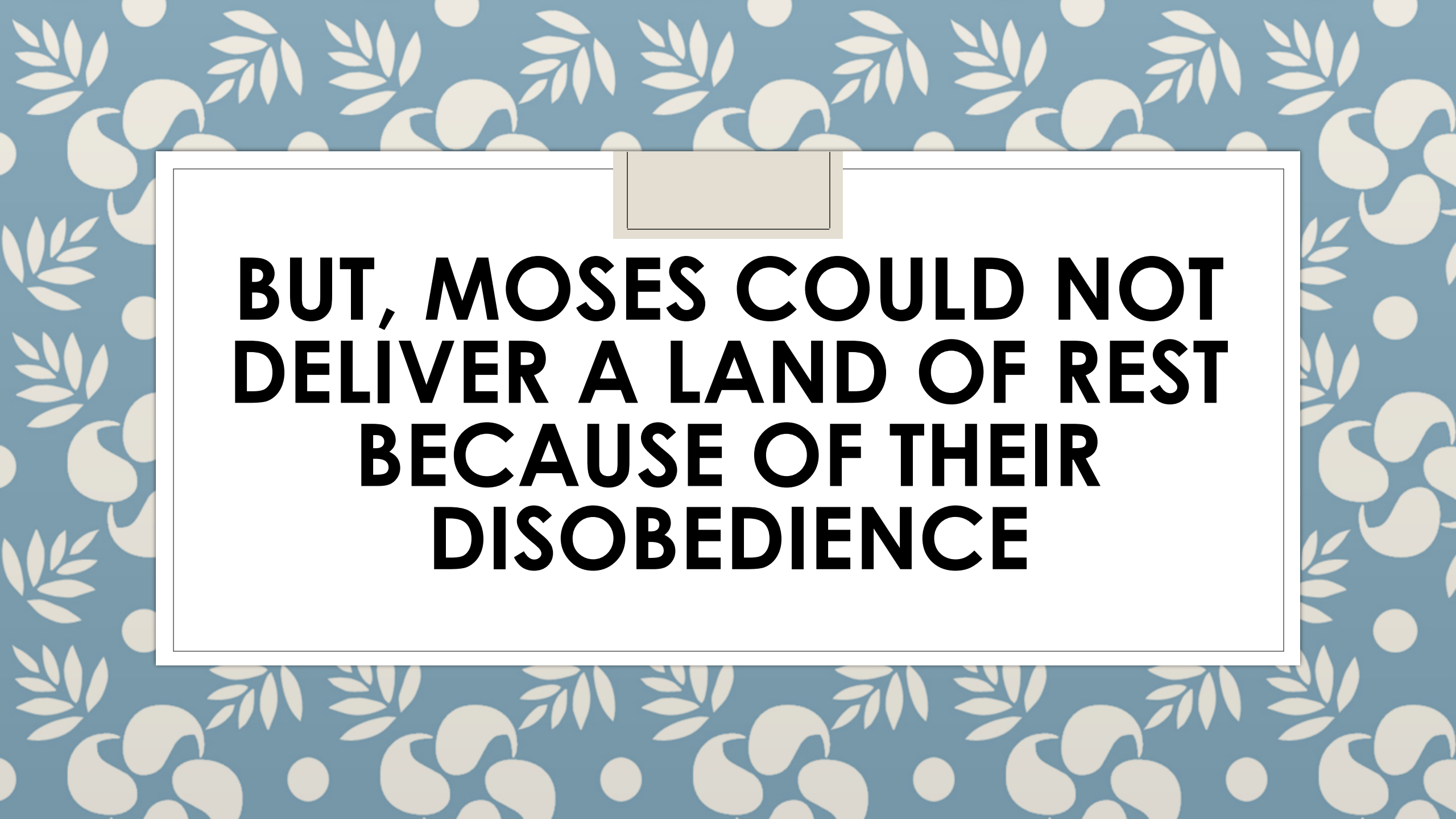
MOSES REVERED...

A GREAT
LEADER

LED ISRAELITES IN
MOSAIC LAW
GIVEN BY GOD

'FATHER' OF
JEWISH SYSTEM -
ESTAB. BY GOD

HE WROTE THE
PENTATEUCH



**BUT, MOSES COULD NOT
DELIVER A LAND OF REST
BECAUSE OF THEIR
DISOBEDIENCE**

AND...JESUS IS SUPERIOR TO OTHER PILLARS OF JEWISH HISTORY

For example:

JOSHUA - GREAT CONQUERER – *BUT JESUS...*

OLD TESTAMENT HIGH PRIEST – *BUT JESUS...*

**OLD TESTAMENT PROPHETS – FORETOLD OF THE
MESSIAH COMING – *BUT JESUS...***

JESUS OFFERED A GREATER REST

KINDS OF REST: Two Kinds of Rest in the Old Testament

- 1) GOD'S SABBATH REST – THE 7TH DAY OF REST FROM LABOR
- 2) THE REST IN CANAAN - REST FROM WILDERNESS WANDERING

AND IN THE NEW TESTAMENT, JESUS BROUGHT A BETTER REST ...

- 3) FUTURE REST – OUR REST IN CHRIST – OUR ETERNAL REST

A SUPERIOR KIND OF REST

LESSON FROM ISRAEL'S TRAGIC HISTORY:

THEY HARDENED THEIR HEARTS AGAINST GOD!

AN ERRING HEART

+ A DISBELIEVING HEART

= A HARDENED HEART !!

WHAT IS A 'HARDENED HEART'?

- ***A HARDENED HEART IS AN UNBELIEVING HEART, A HEART***
- ***THAT NO LONGER TRUSTS GOD, A HEART INSENSITIVE TO***
- ***THE WORD AND WORK OF GOD.***

W A R N I N G # 2

- TO THE WAVERING JEWISH CHRISTIANS: (HEBREWS 3:7-8)

***“TODAY, IF YOU HEAR HIS VOICE, DO NOT HARDEN
YOUR HEARTS AS IN THE REBELLION,
ON THE DAY OF TESTING IN THE WILDERNESS...”***

(PSALM 95)

***THE PEOPLE LACKED TRUST -
THEY WENT BACKWARD IN UNBELIEF,
INSTEAD OF FORWARD IN FAITH!***

THE STAKES ARE HIGH !!!

WE RISK TURNING GOD'S

○ **M**ERCY

**INTO
HIS**

○ **W**RATH

EVEN HIGHER STAKES...

◦ WE RISK ***SALVATION***... OUR

ETERNAL R E S T

**?Are you in danger of turning
backward in some way?**

SOMETIME IN THE PAST, WERE YOU EVER 'DRIFTING' AWAY FROM THE LORD JESUS?

- **WHAT WERE YOU LIKE THEN?**
- **WHAT WAS PULLING YOUR WORLDLY HEART AWAY FROM JESUS?**
- **IF YOU HAD FOLLOWED THAT PATH, WHAT WOULD YOU BE LIKE TODAY?**
- **HOW DID YOU FIND THE COURAGE AND CONFIDENCE TO RETURN TO FOLLOW JESUS?**

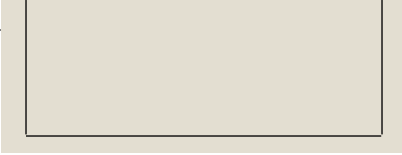
‘YOU CANNOT RUN; YOU CANNOT HIDE’

**HE KNOWS YOU . . . HE IS AN ALL-KNOWING GOD
WHO CAN SEE WHAT IS IN YOUR HEART –**

OMNIPOTENT

OMNISCIENT

OMNIPRESENT



GUARD YOUR HEART – TODAY –

***THE HEART OF EVERY PROBLEM
IS A PROBLEM IN THE HEART!***

SO, HOW DO WE KEEP OUR HEARTS SOFT TOWARD OUR LORD?

OUR GUIDING LIGHT IS THE WORD OF GOD – STUDY THE BIBLE

GATHER WITH OTHER BELIEVERS REGULARLY

ENCOURAGE/EXHORT ONE ANOTHER, WITH CARING

EXAMINE YOUR OWN SPIRITUAL GROWTH - ARE YOU GOING FORWARD?

BE FERVENT IN YOUR PRAYERS DAILY

TODAY IS THE DAY

TOMORROW MAY BE TOO LATE!

“AND STRIVE TO ENTER THAT REST”



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HEBREWS 4:12

“FOR THE WORD OF GOD IS LIVING AND ACTIVE, SHARPER THAN ANY TWO-EDGED SWORD, PIERCING TO THE DIVISION OF SOUL AND OF SPIRIT, OF JOINTS AND MARROW, AND DISCERNING THE THOUGHTS AND INTENTIONS OF THE HEART.”

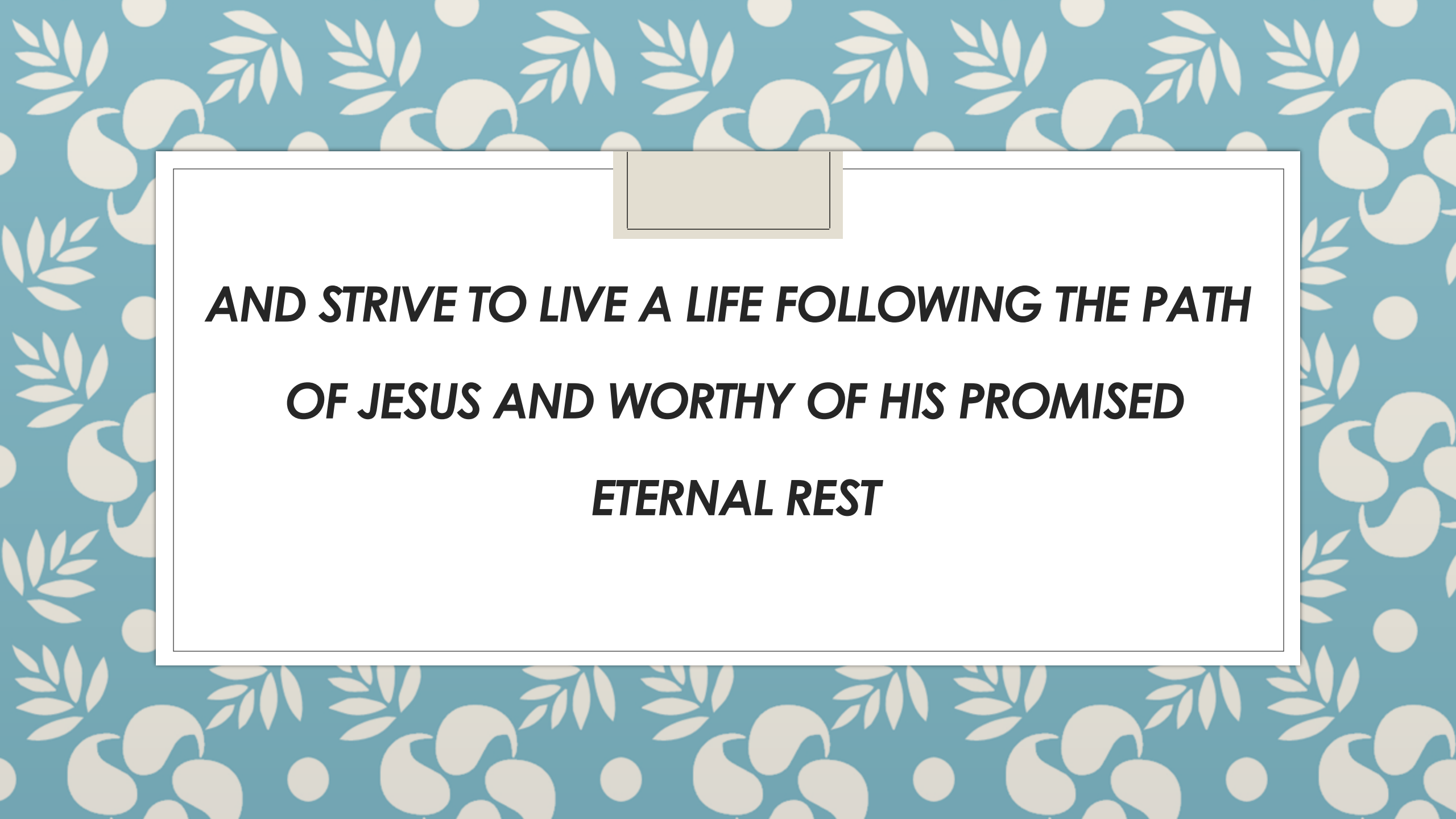


HE SITS ON THE THRONE AND REIGNS SUPREME

*"So let us draw near
with confidence to
the throne of grace,
that we may
receive mercy and
find grace to help in
time of need"*

How do we strive to enter His Rest?

- *God's Word lays our souls bare to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account*
- *His Word exposes our sin, so how can we enter His rest?*
- *We confess with confidence that we have a High Priest who can sympathize with our weaknesses and who understands our temptations, and*
- *Yet, who promises us mercy and grace, and...*
 - **ETERNAL REST**



***AND STRIVE TO LIVE A LIFE FOLLOWING THE PATH
OF JESUS AND WORTHY OF HIS PROMISED
ETERNAL REST***



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