



**ACTS:**

**A HISTORY BOOK**

*Living* **IN YOU.**

**VINTAGE IDEAS FOR LIVING TODAY**

## THE APOSTLE PAUL'S FIRST MISSIONARY JOURNEY





Some time later Paul said to Barnabas, “Let us go back and visit the believers in all the towns where we preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing.” 37 Barnabas wanted to take John, also called Mark, with them, 38 but Paul did not think it wise to take him, because he had deserted them in Pamphylia and had not continued with them in the work. 39 They had such a sharp disagreement that they parted company.

Barnabas took Mark and sailed for Cyprus, 40 but Paul chose Silas and left, commended by the believers to the grace of the Lord. 41 He went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches. Acts 15:36-41



# PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY, 49-52 CE





Paul came to Derbe and then to Lystra, where a disciple named Timothy lived, whose mother was Jewish and a believer but whose father was a Greek. <sup>2</sup> The believers at Lystra and Iconium spoke well of him. <sup>3</sup> Paul wanted to take him along on the journey, so he circumcised him because of the Jews who lived in that area, for they all knew that his father was a Greek. -Acts 16:1-3



As they traveled from town to town, they delivered the decisions reached by the apostles and elders in Jerusalem for the people to obey. <sup>5</sup> So the churches were strengthened in the faith and grew daily in numbers. Acts 16:4,5



<sup>6</sup> Paul and his companions traveled throughout the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been kept by the Holy Spirit from preaching the word in the province of Asia. <sup>7</sup> When they came to the border of Mysia, they tried to enter Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus would not allow them to. — Acts 16:6-7



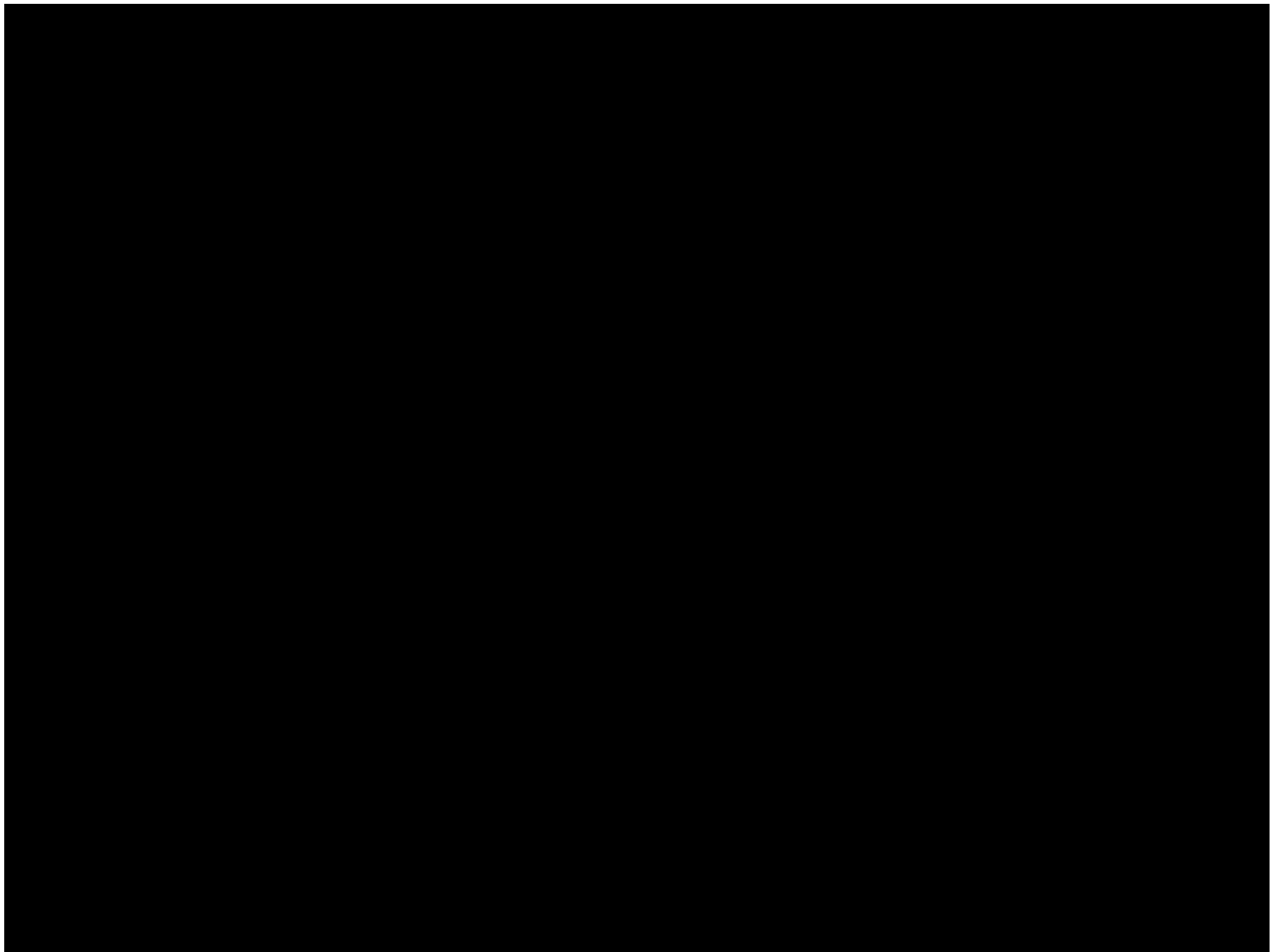
<sup>8</sup> So they passed by Mysia and went down to Troas. <sup>9</sup> During the night Paul had a vision of a man of Macedonia standing and begging him, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” <sup>10</sup> After Paul had seen the vision, we got ready at once to leave for Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.



# PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY, 49-52 CE









<sup>13</sup> On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the river, where we expected to find a place of prayer. We sat down and began to speak to the women who had gathered there.

<sup>14</sup> One of those listening was a woman from the city of Thyatira named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth. She was a worshiper of God. -Acts 16:13,14



The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.

<sup>15</sup> When she and the members of her household were baptized, she invited us to her home. -Acts 16:14,15



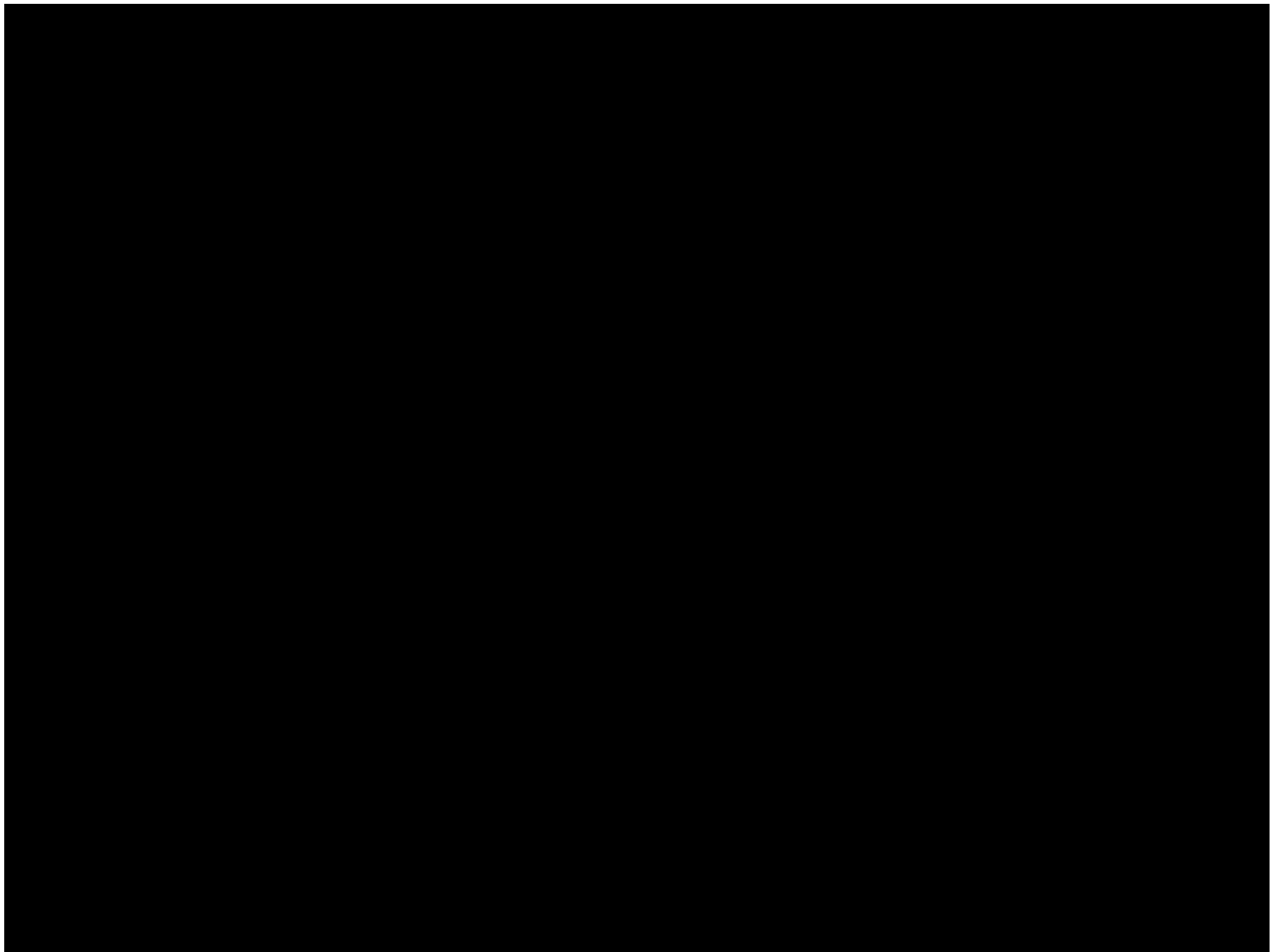
“Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a female slave who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling.” -Acts 16:17



She followed Paul...shouting, "These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved." <sup>18</sup> She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her.

-Acts







“Do you notice something really, really amazing about the story of the slave girl’s conversion? It says this slave girl, ‘... followed Paul and the rest of them for days. There’s this poor girl screaming and yelling, having fits, demon-possessed. Paul never does a thing.

–Anglican minister

**Dick Lucas**





Now if Paul was all that compassionate, why didn't he help her right away? Then we're told why he did finally. Look. She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so annoyed, he turned around and used the authority he had as an apostle and said, 'In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, I command you to come out of her!' ”

—Anglican minister

**Dick Lucas**



“There is no way this would have been written this way if someone was trying to make up a story like this. It says Paul was annoyed. He doesn't seem to have been filled with compassion at the time; it was because he was driven to anger and pique. (that he cast out the demon)

–Anglican minister

**Dick Lucas**



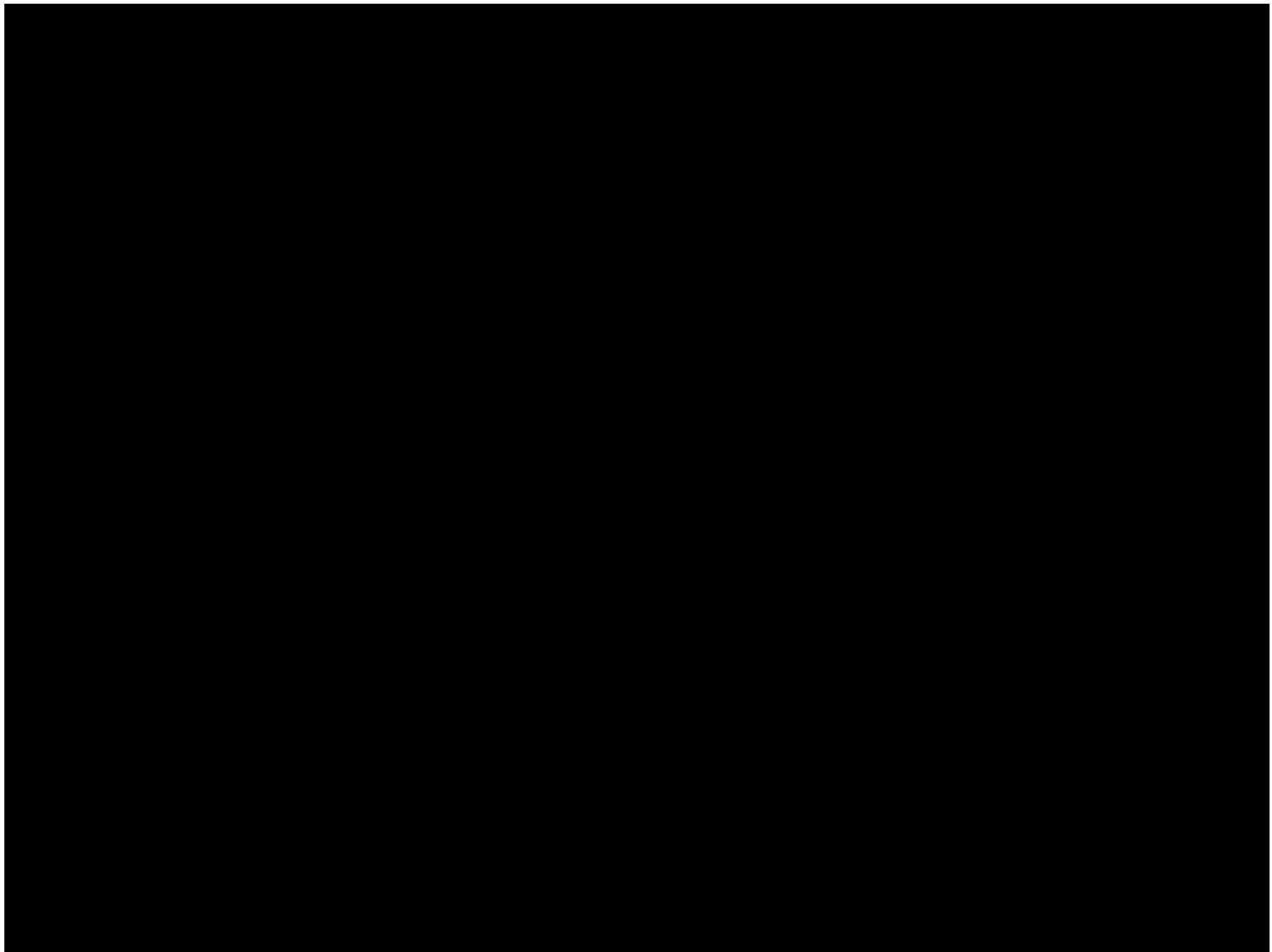


Angered with the noise, he used the authority he had and drove the spirit out.” Think about it my friends, Why would Paul even allow something like that to be written? Why would Luke even put it down?

–Anglican minister

**Dick Lucas**







But we have this treasure in jars  
of clay to show that this all-  
surpassing power is from God  
and not from us.

–2 Corinthians 4:7

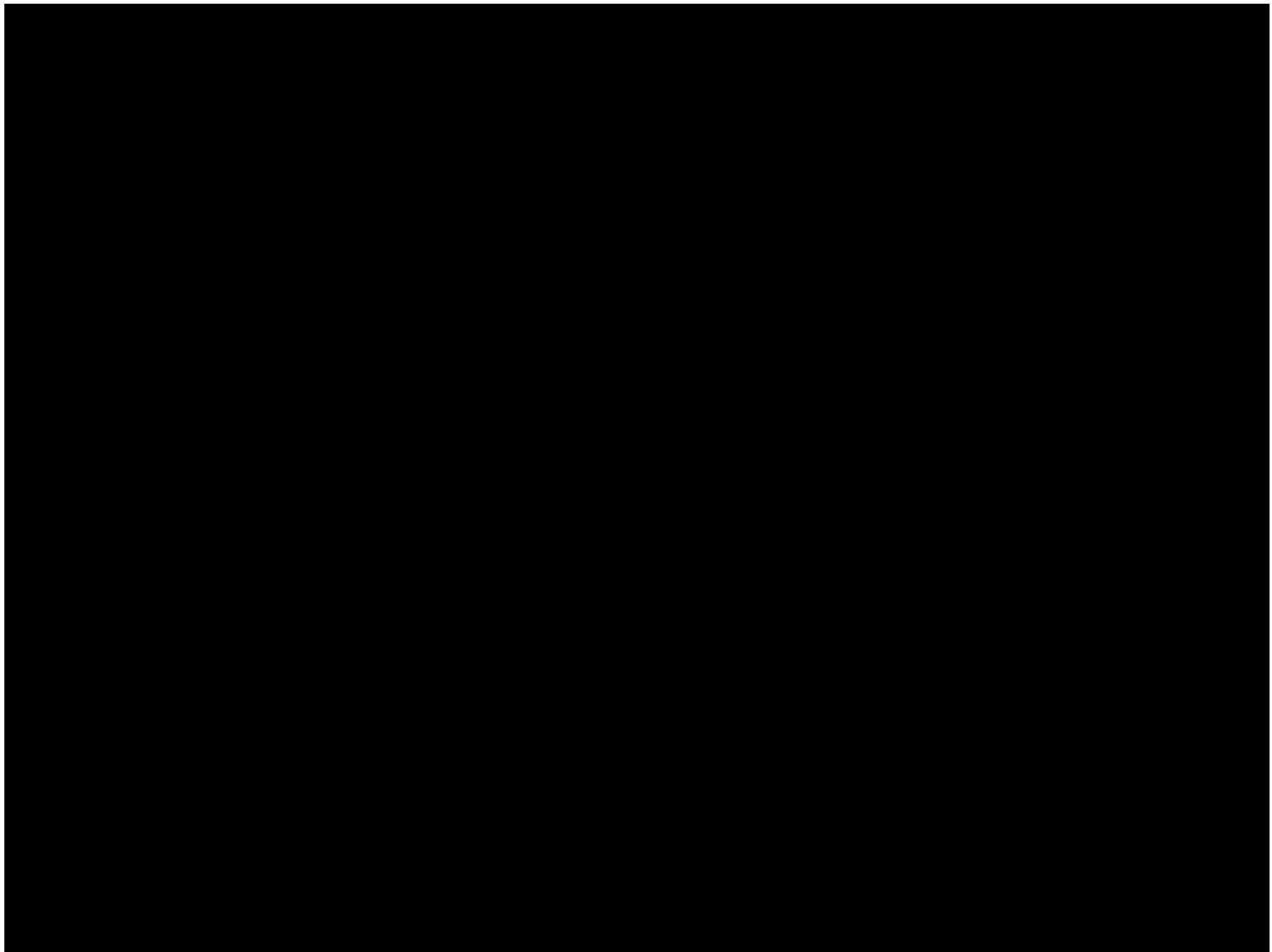


When her owners realized that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace to face the authorities. ... The crowd joined in the attack against Paul and Silas, and the magistrates ordered them to be stripped and beaten with rods.

-Acts 16:19,22



After they had been severely flogged, they were thrown into prison, and the jailer was commanded to guard them carefully. <sup>24</sup> When he received these orders, he put them in the inner cell and fastened their feet in the stocks. -Acts 16:23,24

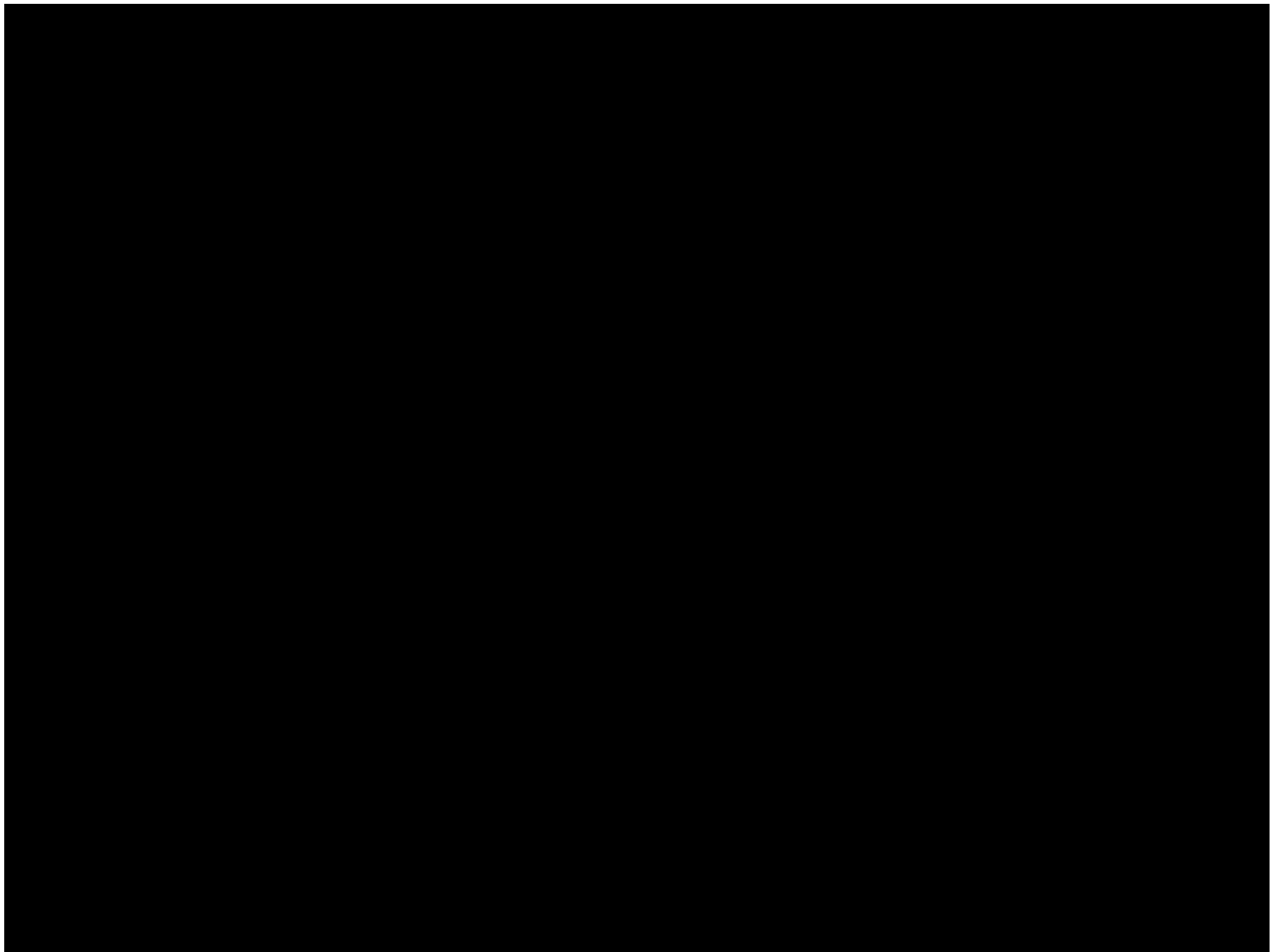




About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening to them. Acts 16:25

26 Suddenly there was such a violent earthquake that the foundations of the prison were shaken. At once all the prison doors flew open, and everyone's chains came loose. 27 The jailer woke up, and when he saw the prison doors open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself because he thought the prisoners had escaped. 28 But Paul shouted, "Don't harm yourself! We are all here!" -Acts 16:26-28





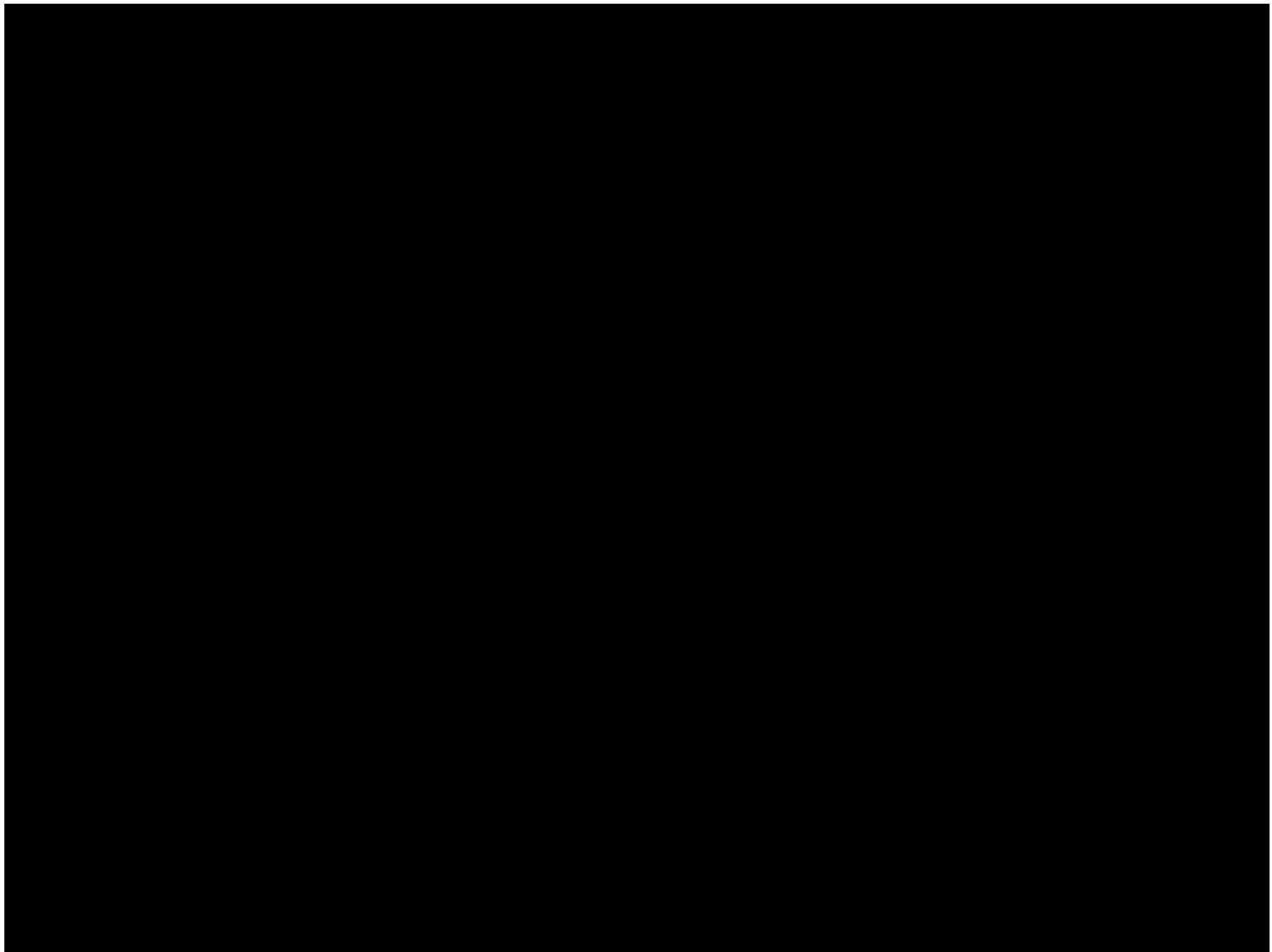
The jailer called for lights,  
rushed in and fell trembling  
before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> He then  
brought them out and asked,  
“Sirs, what must I do to be  
saved?” -Acts 16:29,30



All God's people here send  
you greetings, especially those  
who belong to Caesar's  
household.

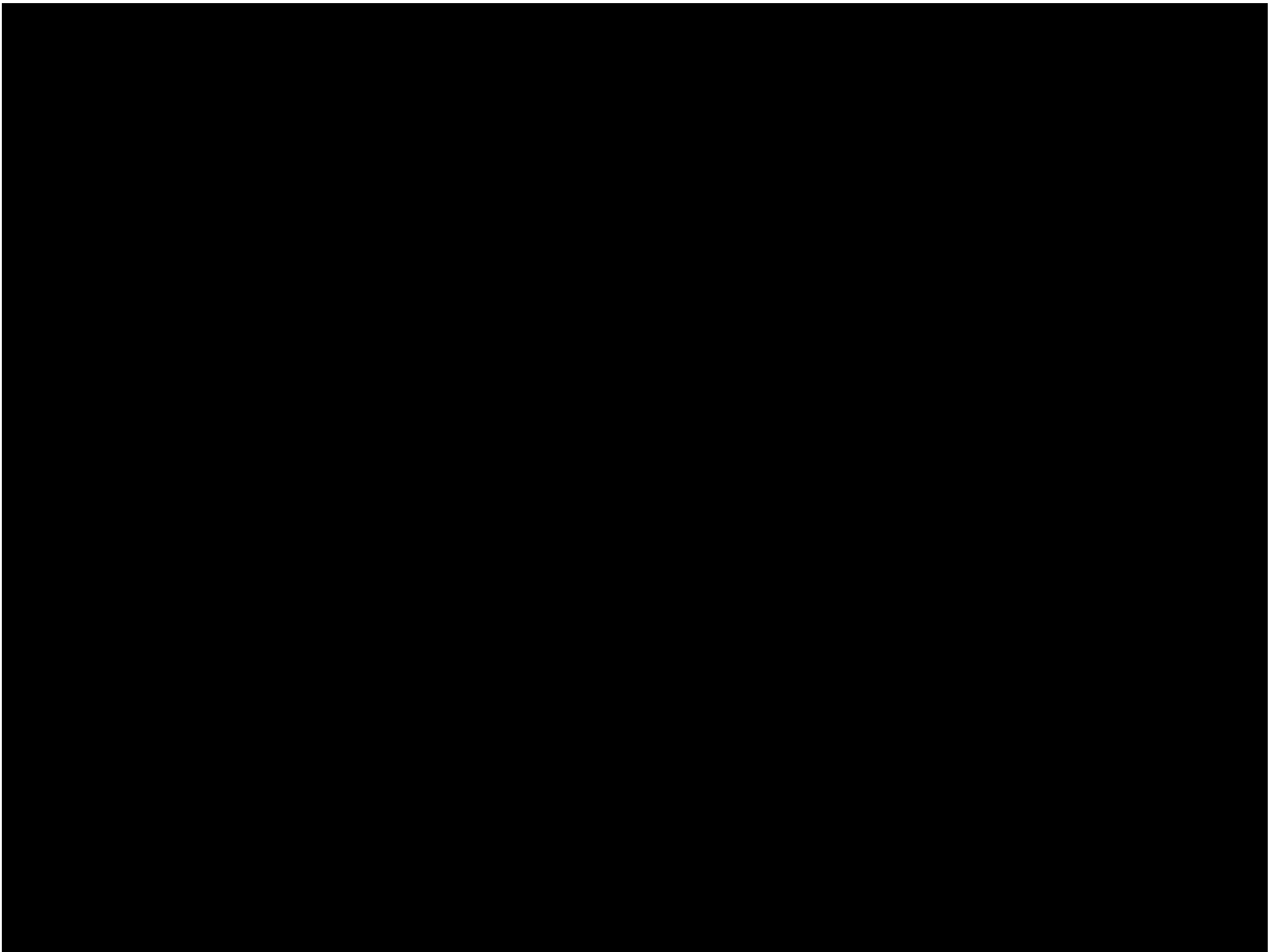
– Phillipians 4:22







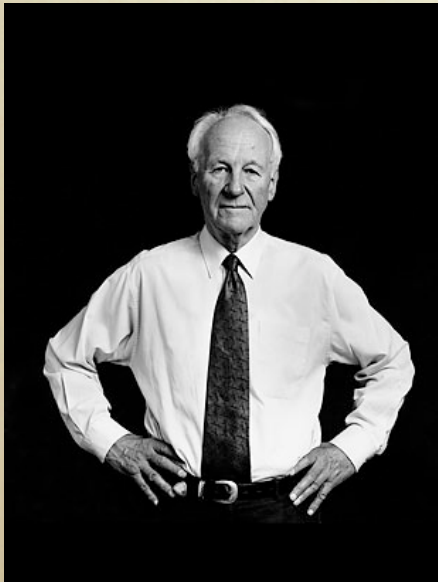
**1. The Good News of  
Jesus is for everybody.**



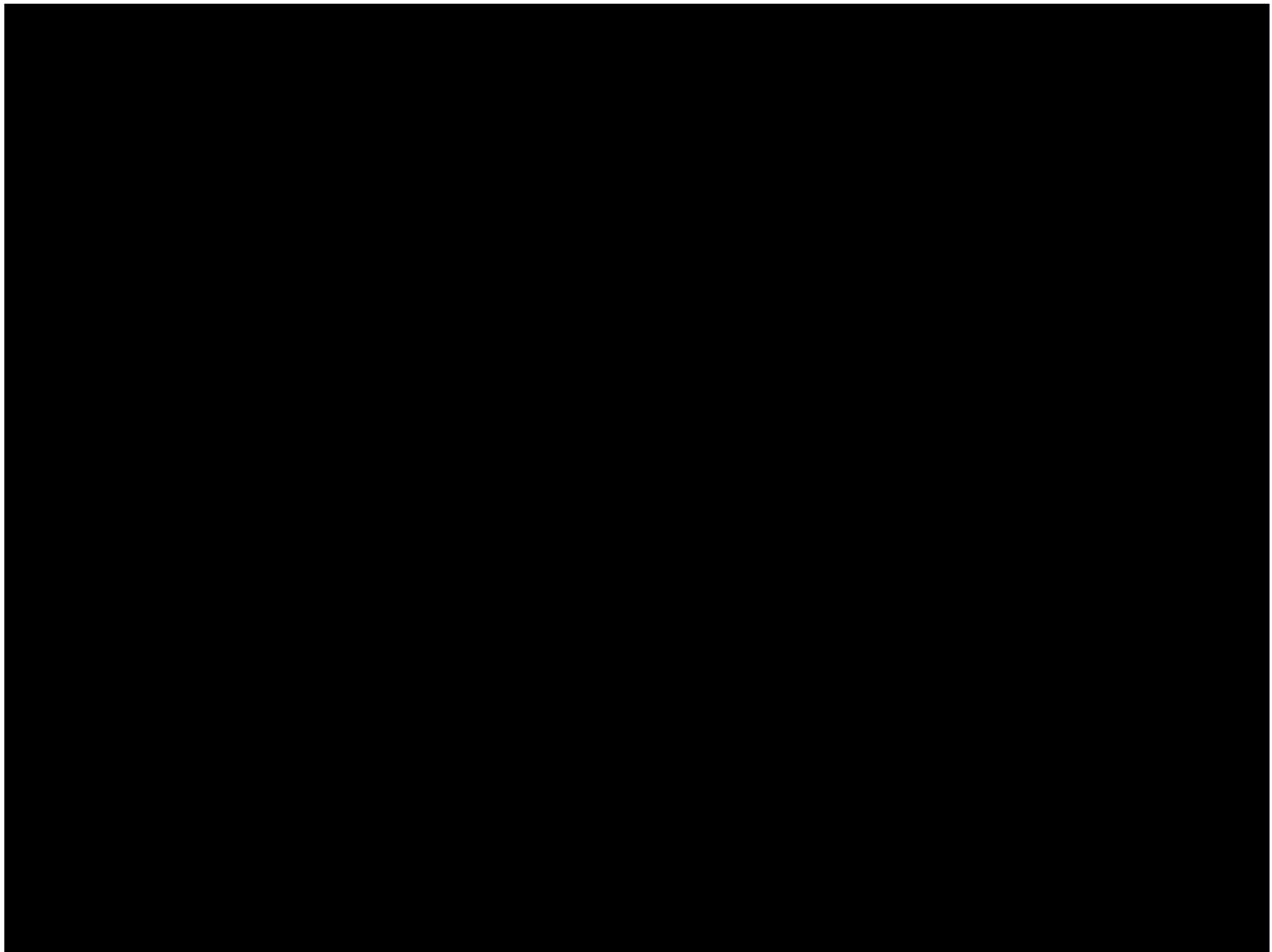


## II. The Good News of Jesus has the power to Unify.

“Racially, socially, and psychologically they were worlds apart. And yet, all three were changed by the same gospel and they were welcomed into the same church.”

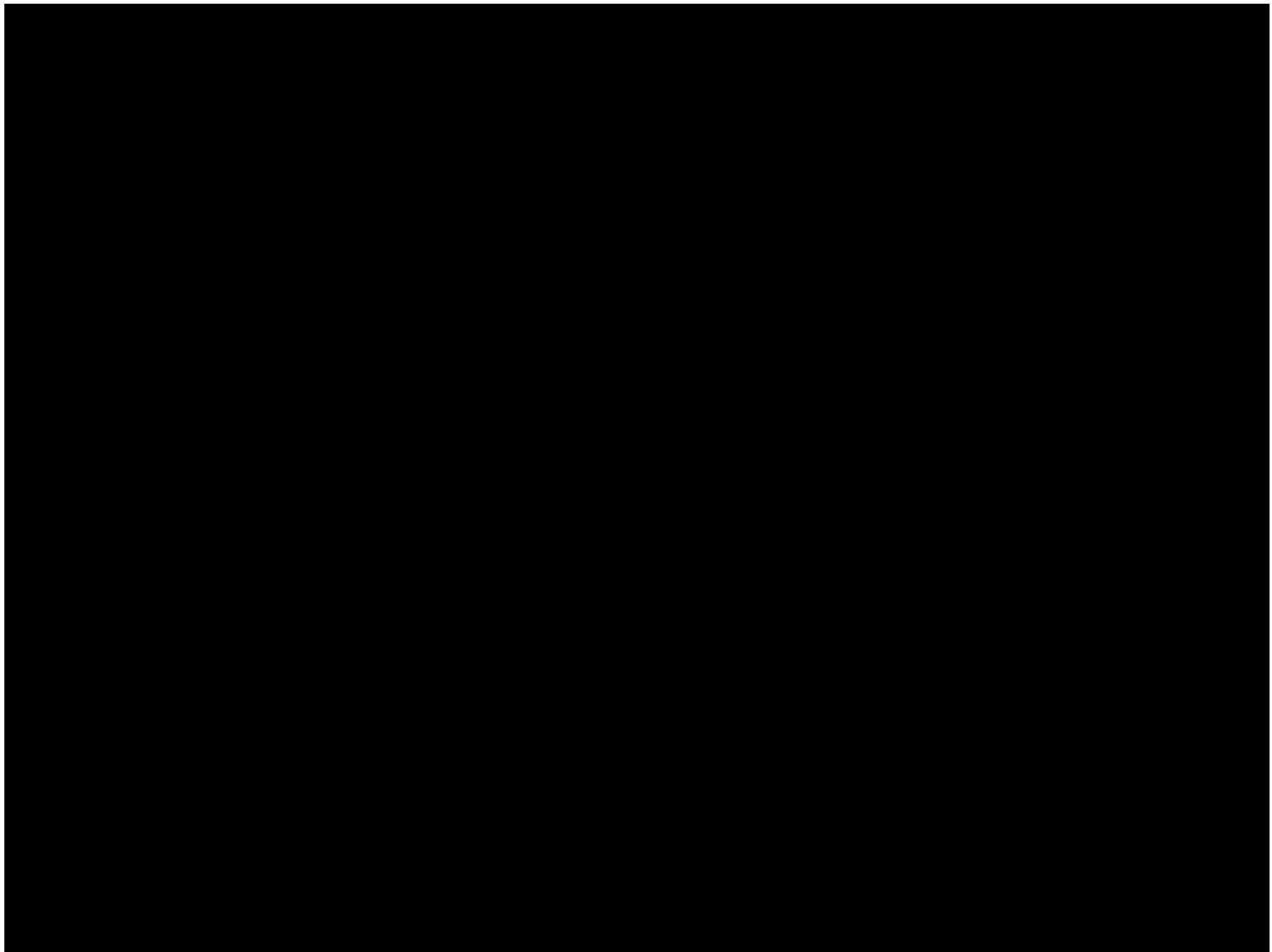


**John Stott**









**III. The Good News of  
Jesus is going to work  
through you  
despite your Flaws**



