

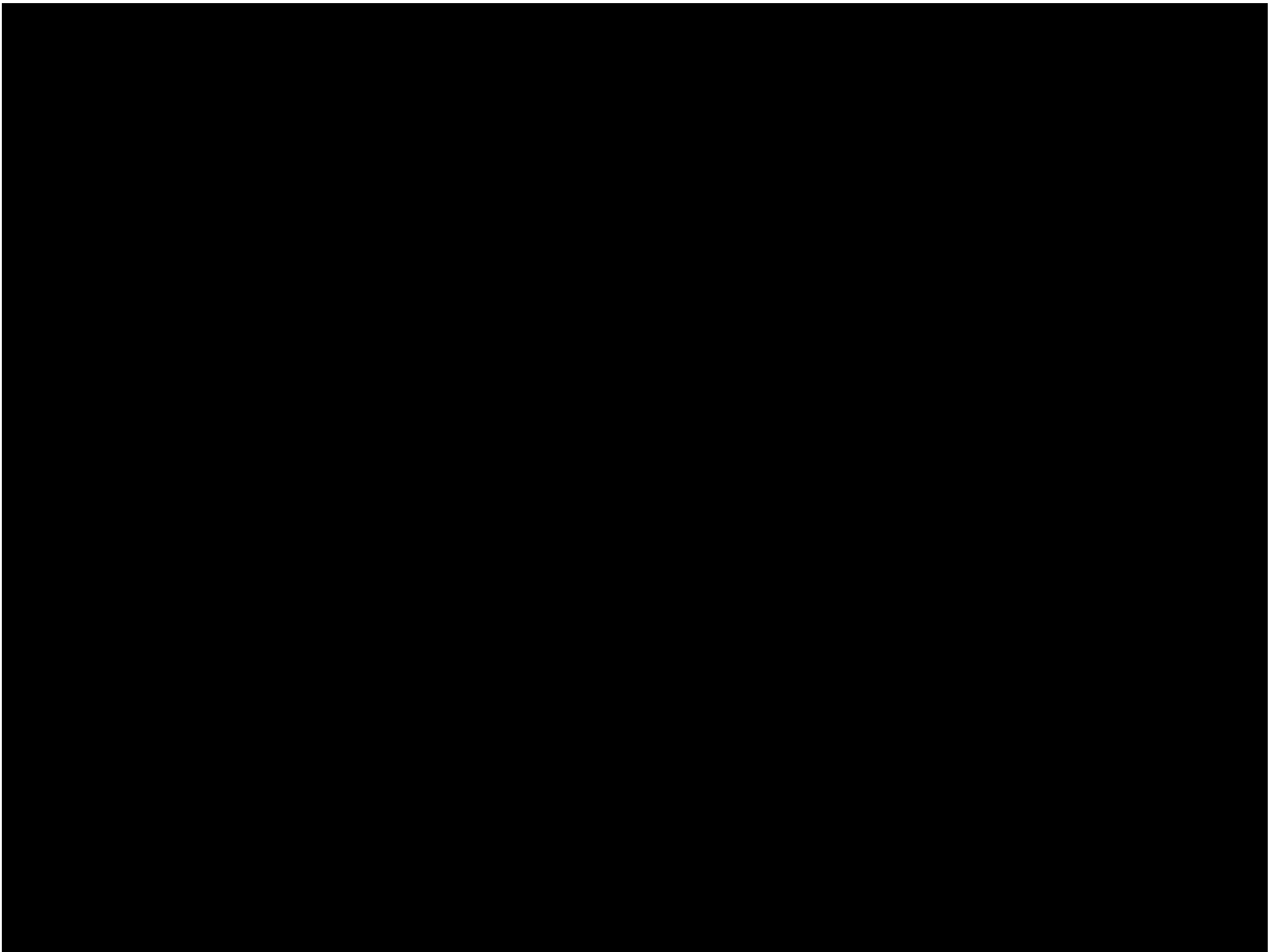


**ACTS:**

**A HISTORY BOOK**

*Living* **IN YOU.**

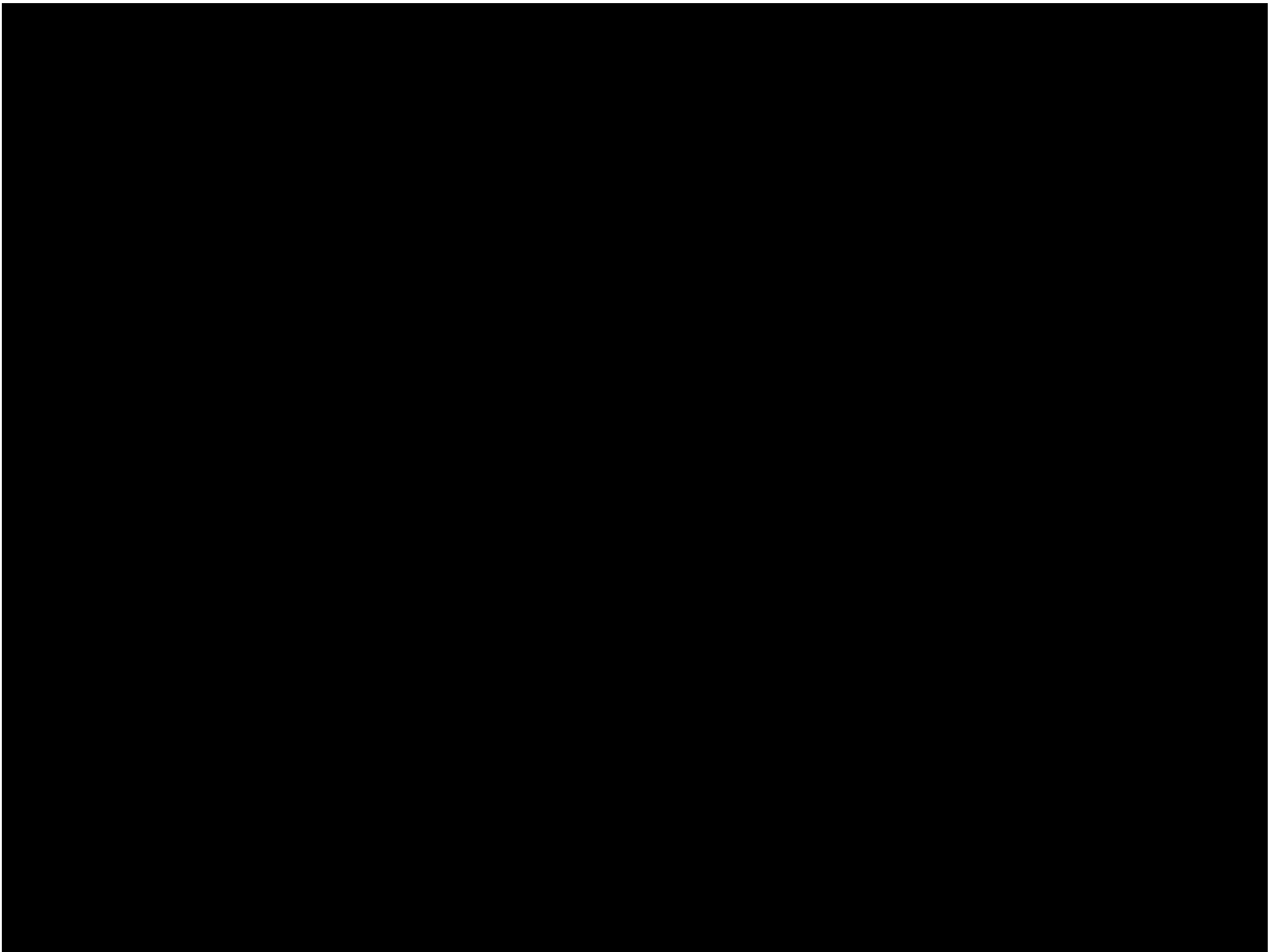
**VINTAGE IDEAS FOR LIVING TODAY**





Paul was grabbed and dragged out of the Temple, ...  
31 As they were trying to kill him, word reached the  
commander of the Roman regiment that all Jerusalem  
was in an uproar. 32 ....When the mob saw the  
commander and the troops coming, they stopped  
beating Paul. 33 ...the commander arrested him and ...  
ordered that Paul be taken to the fortress. 35 As Paul  
reached the stairs, the mob grew so violent the soldiers  
had to lift him to their shoulders to protect him. 36 And  
the crowd followed behind, shouting, "Kill him, kill him!"  
Acts 21:30-36







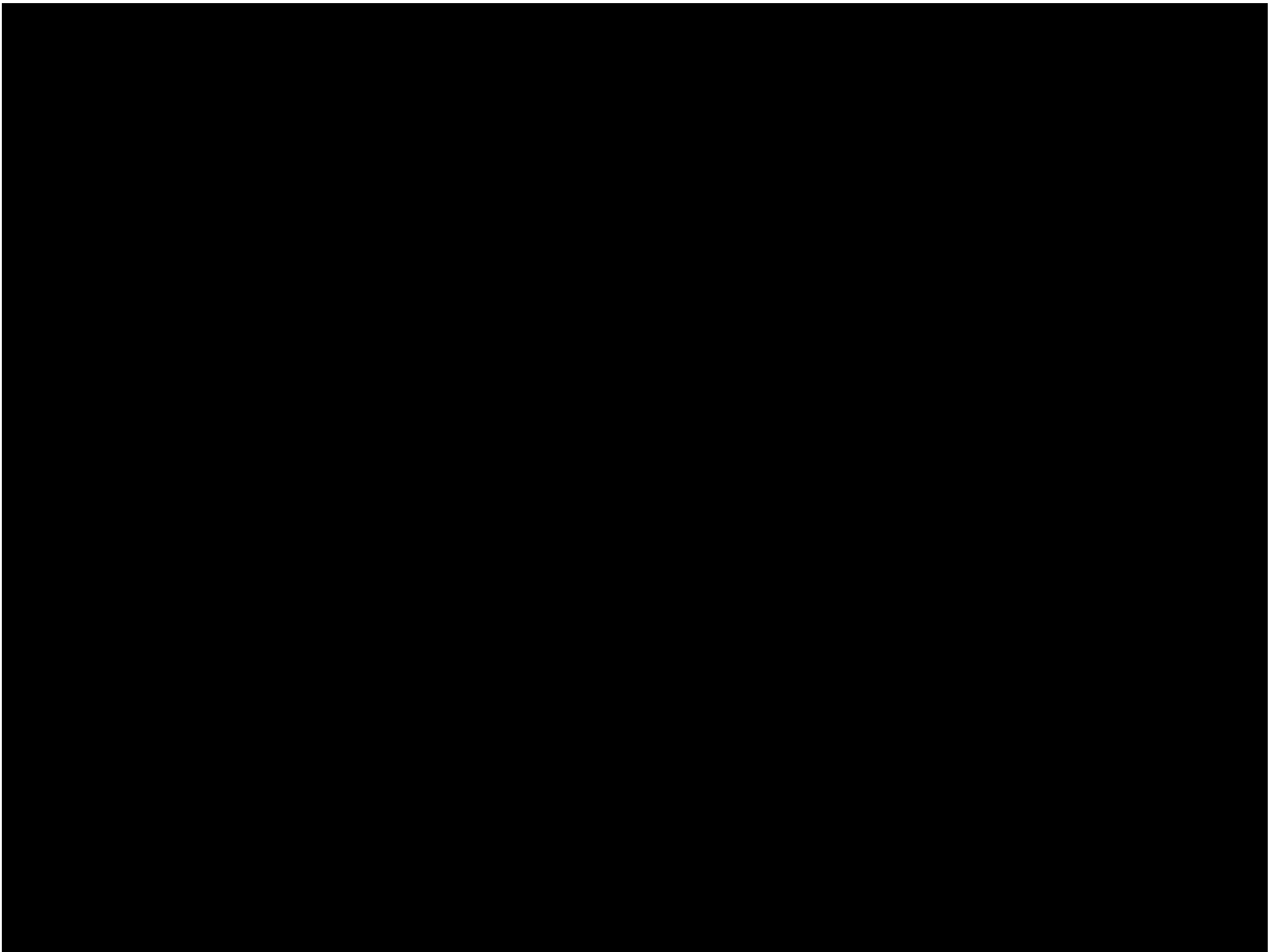
As Paul was about to be taken inside, he said to the commander, “May I have a word with you?” “Do you know Greek?” the commander asked, surprised. 38 “Aren’t you the Egyptian who led a rebellion some time ago and took 4,000 members of the Assassins out into the desert?”





“No,” Paul replied, “I am a Jew and a citizen of Tarsus in Cilicia, which is an important city. Please, let me talk to these people.” 40 The commander agreed, so Paul stood on the stairs and motioned to the people to be quiet. Soon a deep silence enveloped the crowd, and he addressed them in their own language, Aramaic. Acts 21:37-40



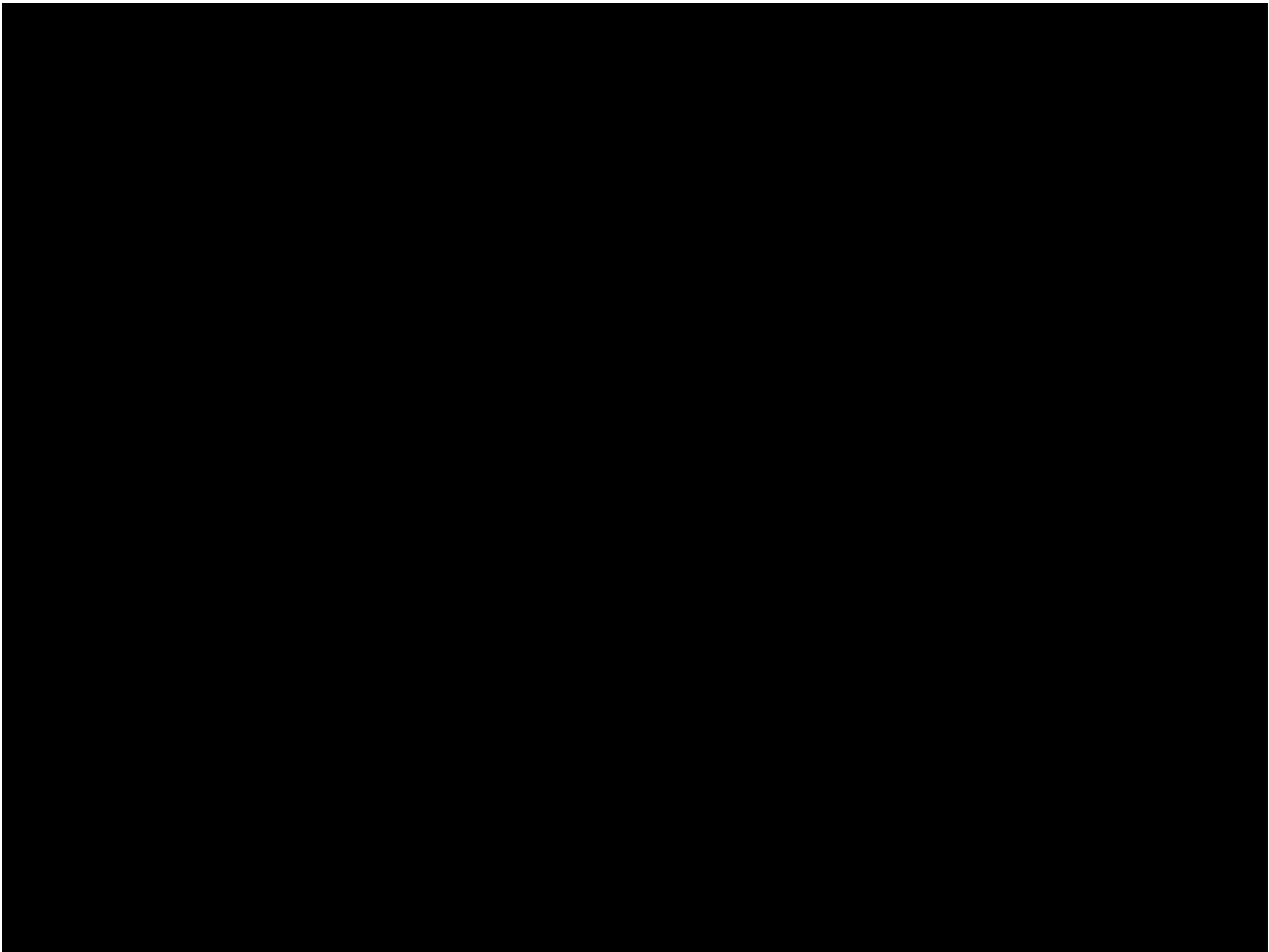




For I am not *the least bit* embarrassed about the gospel. *I won't shy away from it*, because it is God's power to save every person who believes: first the Jew, and then the non-Jew.

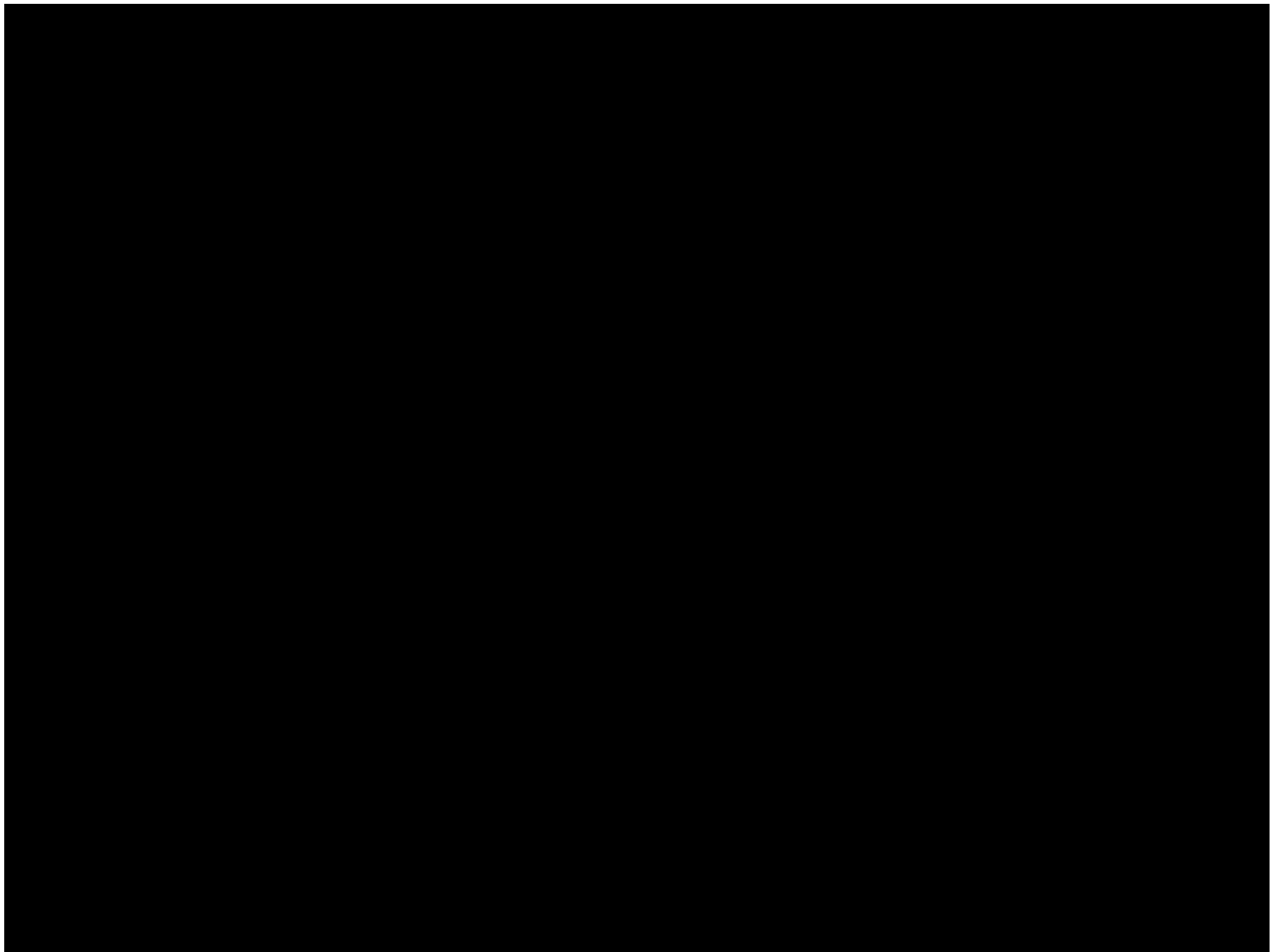
Romans 1:16







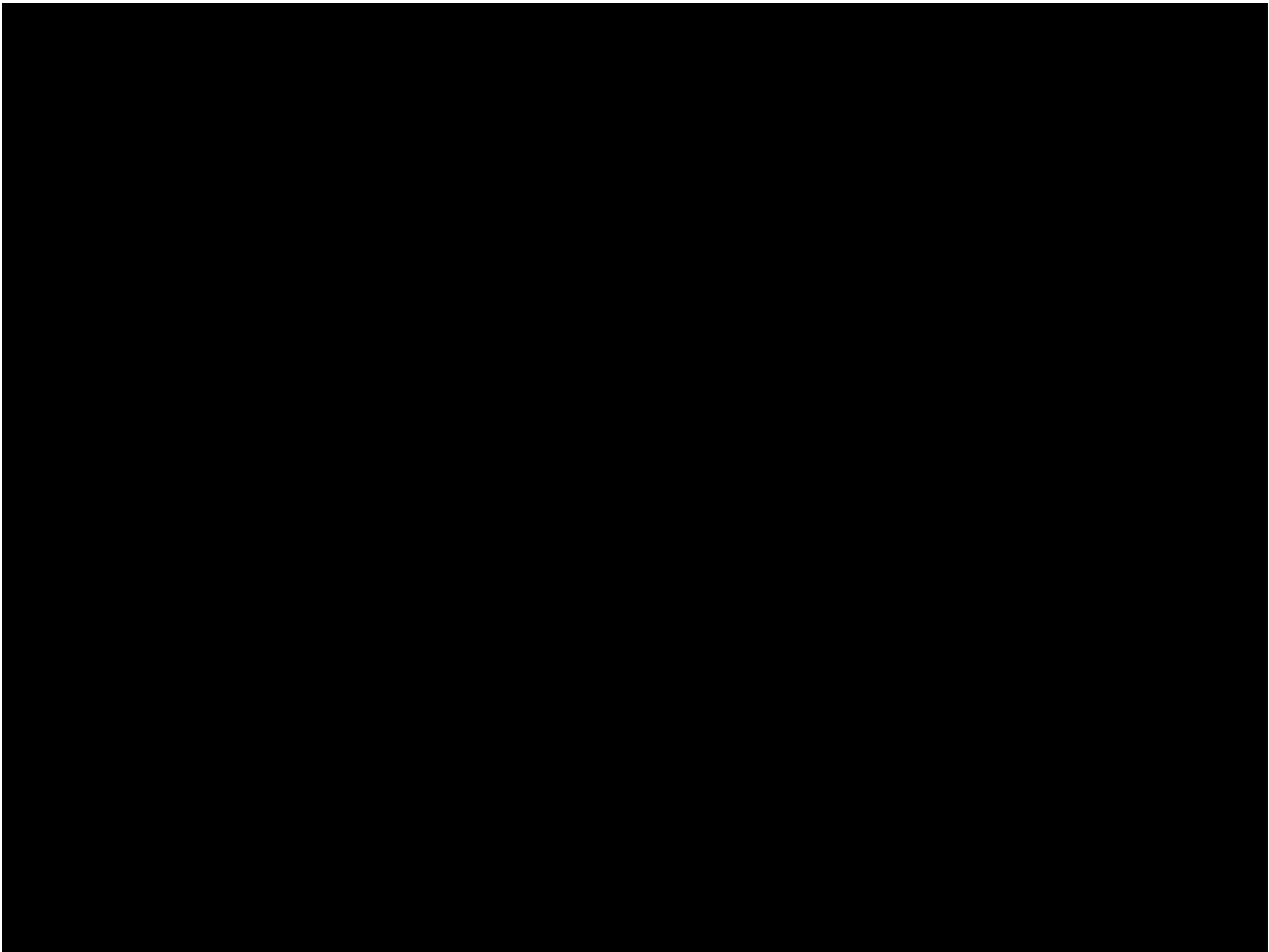




With Christ as my witness, I speak with utter truthfulness. My conscience and the Holy Spirit confirm it. 2 My heart is filled with bitter sorrow and unending grief 3 for my people, my Jewish brothers and sisters. I would be willing to be forever cursed—cut off from Christ!—if that would save them.

Romans 9:1-3





# Steps to Courage!

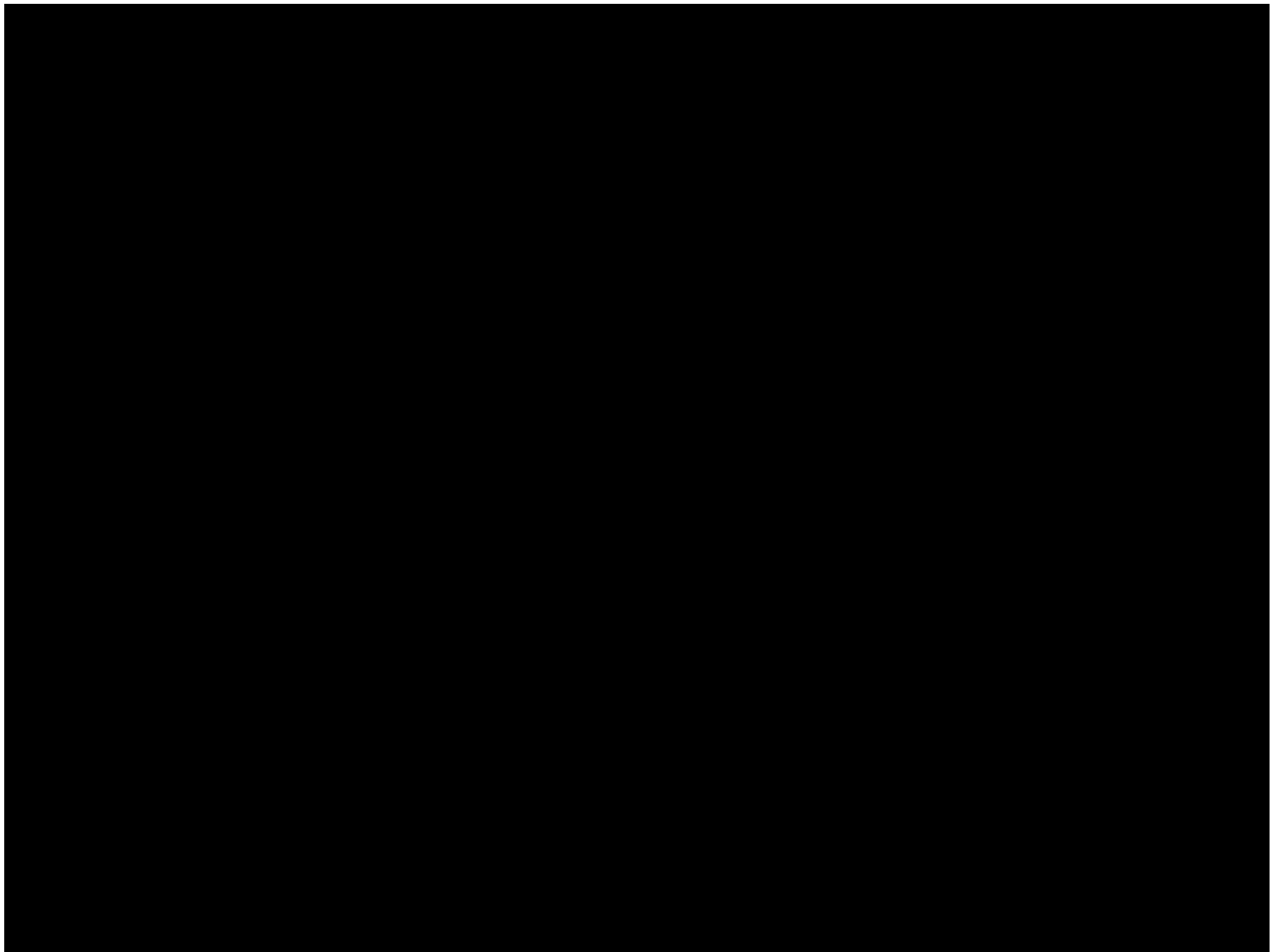
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1. His courage allowed him to look away from his own personal safety

“I am a Jew, born in Tarsus, a city in Cilicia, and I was brought up and educated here in Jerusalem under Gamaliel. As his student, I was carefully trained in our Jewish laws and customs. I became very zealous to honor God in everything I did, *just like all of you today.* vs 3

the Gospel  
brings an  
unique  
humility the  
to our lives

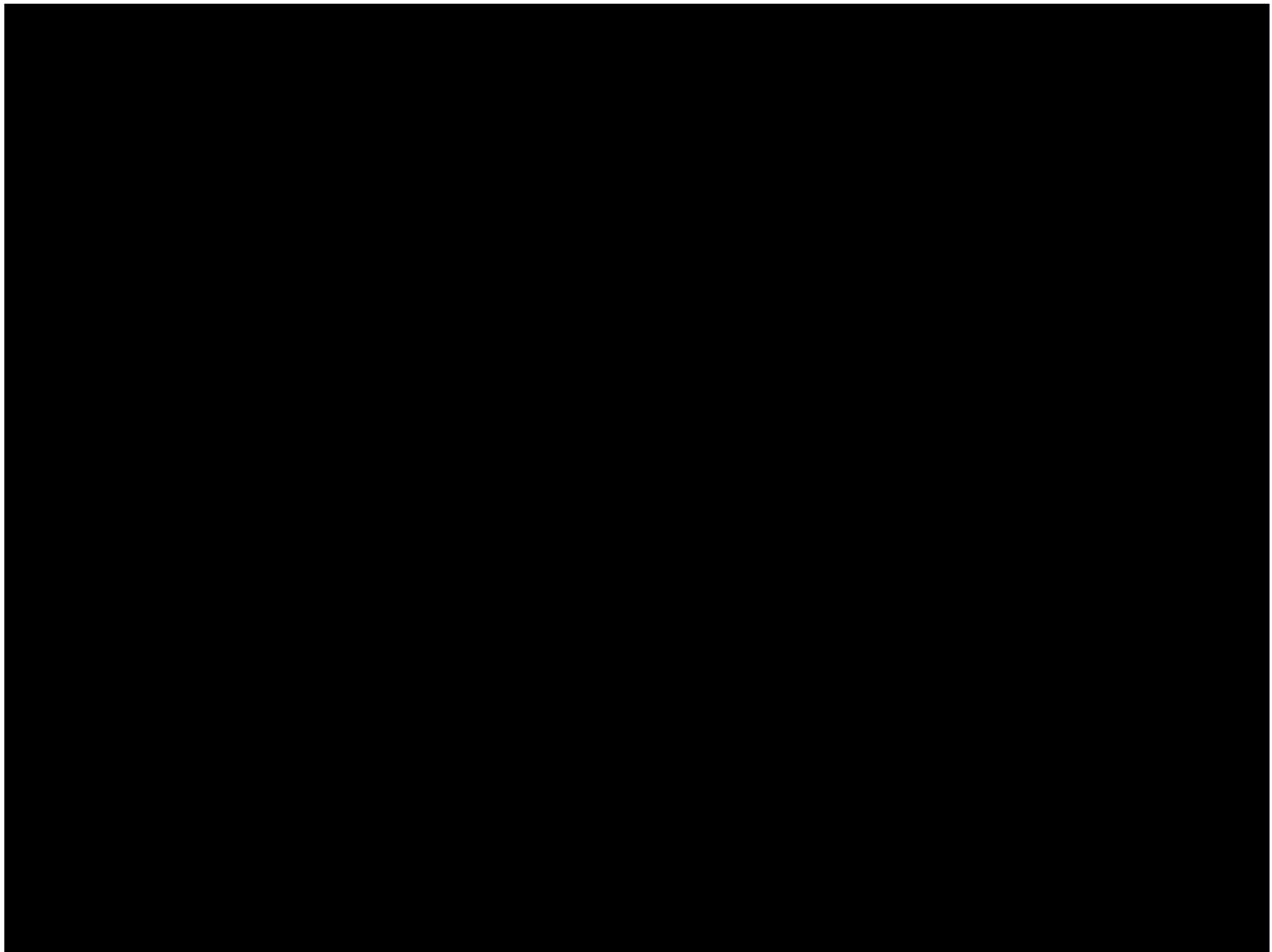




What are you waiting for? Get up and be baptized. Have your sins washed away by calling on the name of the Lord.’ Acts 22:16

–Ananias converting Paul

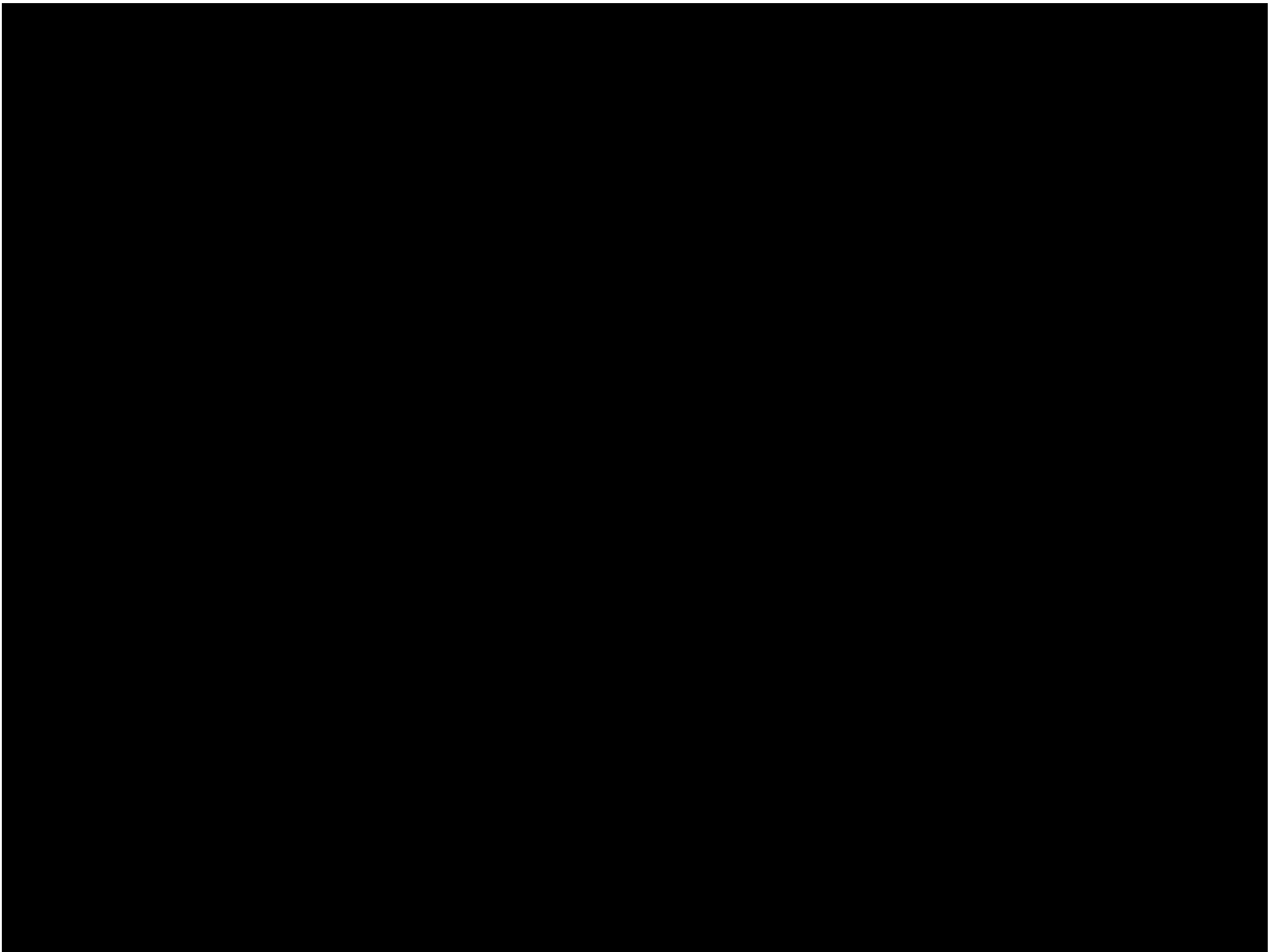






**Courage comes when we  
have the ability through  
humility to not make it  
about ourselves.**

*1st Step to Courage*





**Culture tells us that courage  
comes by gaining control  
over our fear by getting rid  
of the fear willfully.**



Culture tells us that courage

comes by control

**3 Reasons why  
this doesn't work**

g rid

fully.



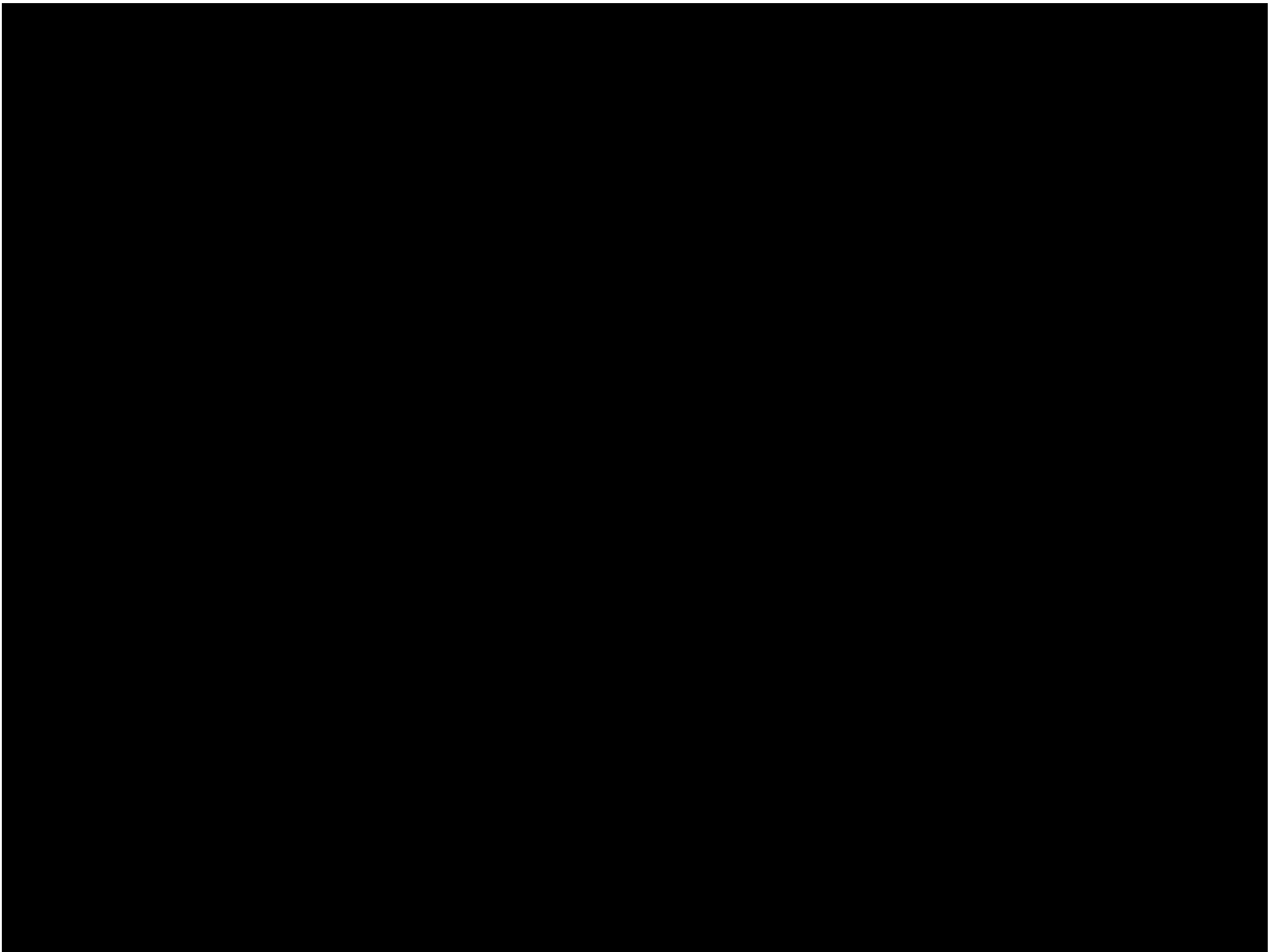
- Courage isn't about the absence of fear, it's about responding a certain way in the face of fear.



- Attempting to banish fear is just another way of living in denial.



- Banishing fear doesn't work because you're looking to yourself.





# the first step of COURAGE

is the ability to look away from yourself because of the humility that the gospel demands from us.

*1st Step to Courage*



**The 2nd Step of Courage  
comes when we look to the  
INCREDIBLE HOPE  
we have in Christ**

*2nd Step to Courage*



“As I was on the road, approaching Damascus about noon, a very bright light from heaven suddenly shone down around me. 7 I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ 8 **“Who are you, lord?”** I asked.” And the voice replied, ‘I am Jesus the Nazarene, the one you are persecuting.’

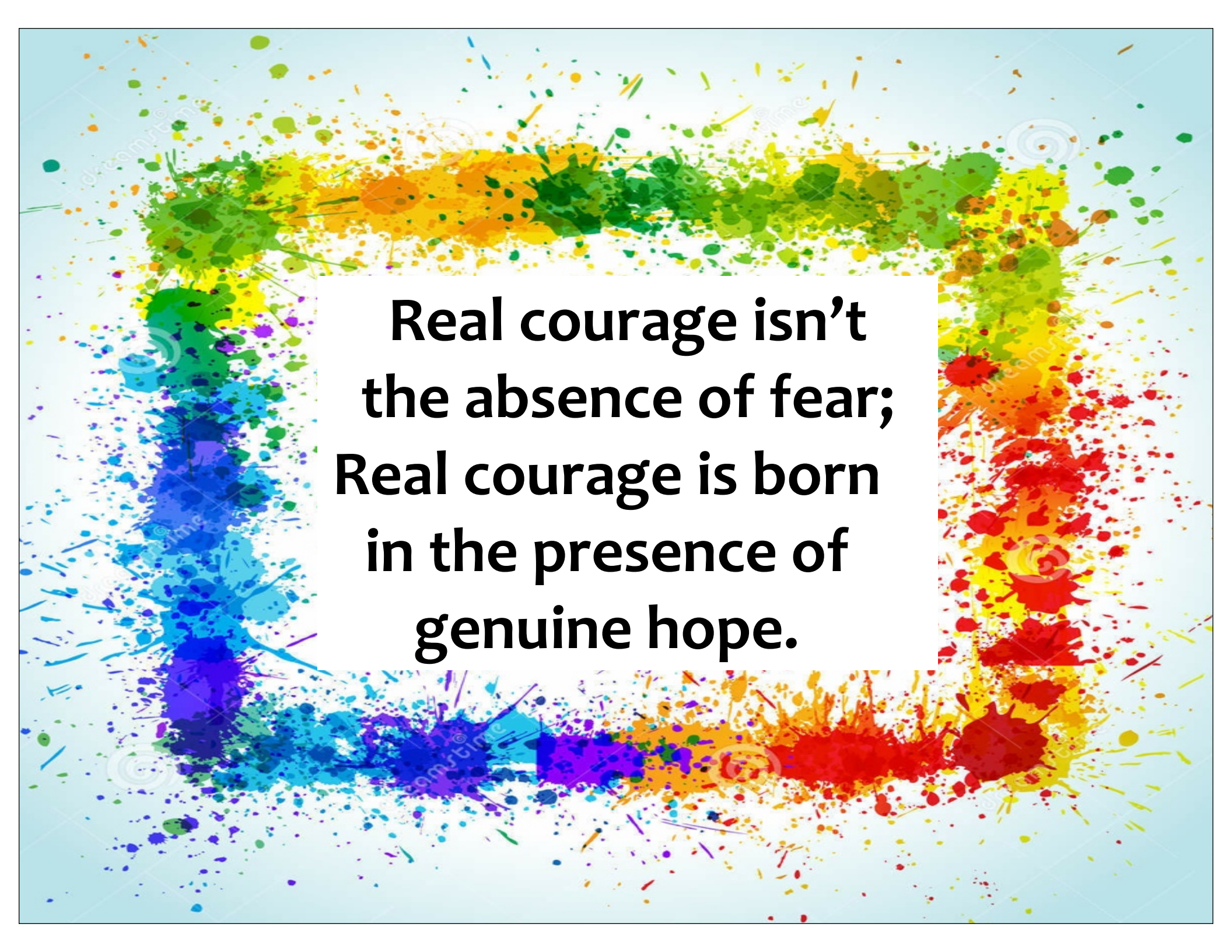
Acts 22:6-8





I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us. Romans 8:18





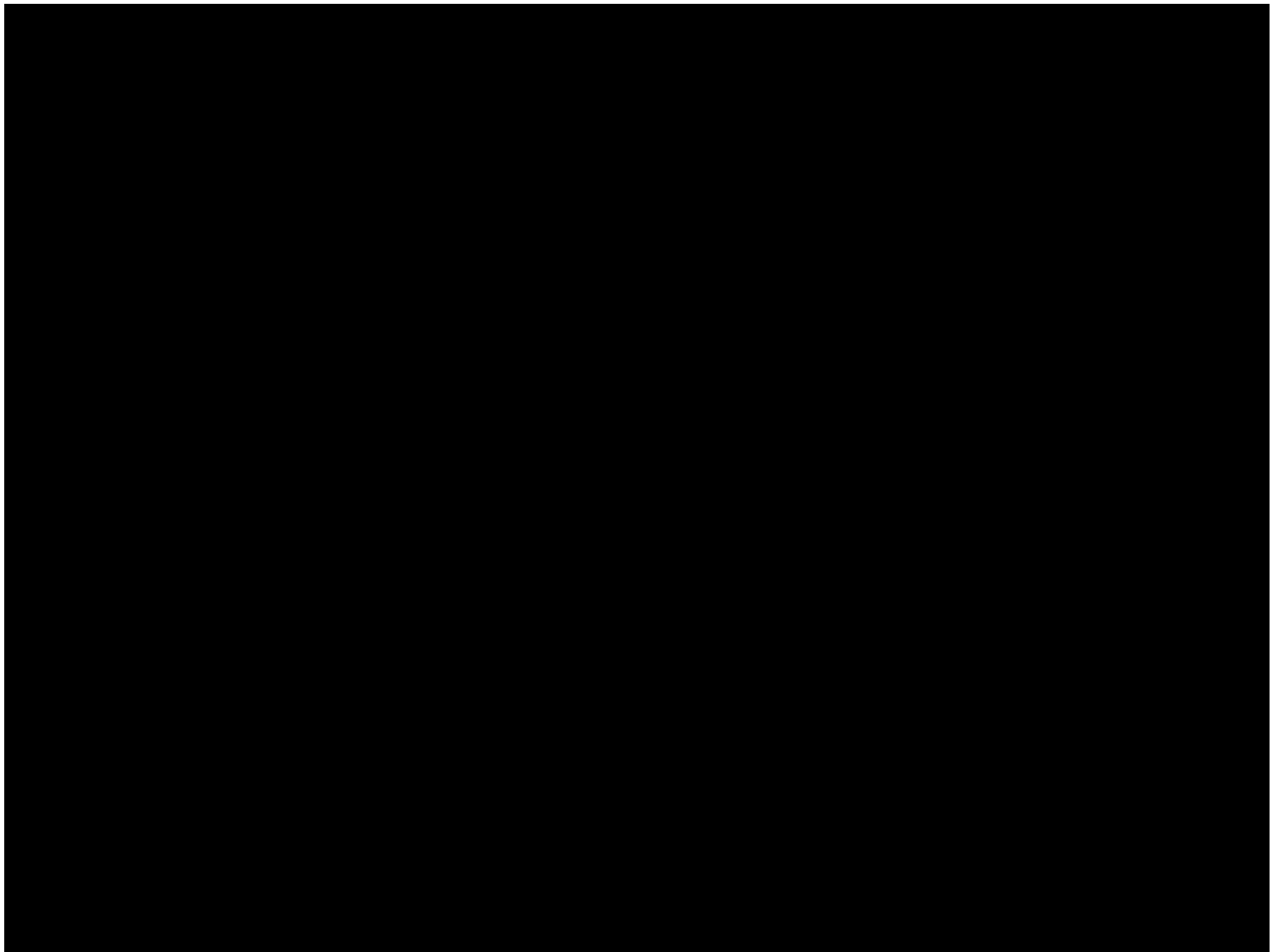
**Real courage isn't  
the absence of fear;  
Real courage is born  
in the presence of  
genuine hope.**



For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better. ... 23 I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. 24 But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live.

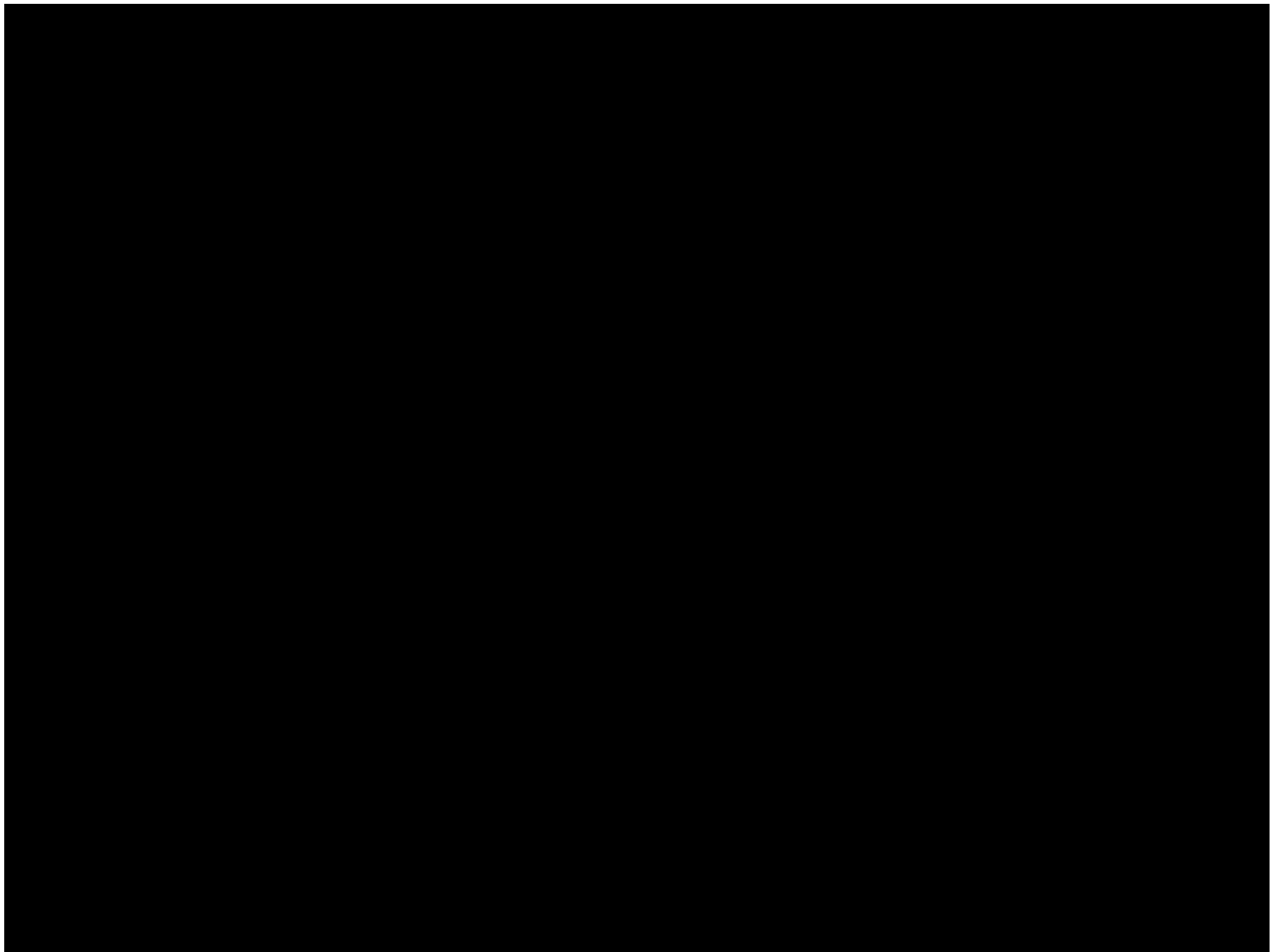
Philippians 1:21, 23,24





For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Hebrews 12:2





**12** .... we and the local believers all begged Paul not to go on to Jerusalem. **13** But he said, “Why all this weeping? You are breaking my heart! I am ready not only to be jailed at Jerusalem but even to die for the sake of the Lord Jesus.”

Acts 21:12,13





But my life is worth nothing to me unless I use it for finishing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus—the work of telling others the Good News about the wonderful grace of God.

... **26** I declare today that I have been faithful. If anyone suffers eternal death, it's not my fault, **27** for I didn't shrink from declaring all that God wants you to know. Acts 20:24,26,27



