



**PREPARE THE WAY OF
THE LORD**

God's
MASTERPLAN



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

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 - *Seleucids and Ptolemies*
- *Antiochus IV (Epiphanes) - (175 B.C - 163 B.C)*
- *Internal Conflicts among Jewish leadership*
 - *Jason (brother of high priest) vs Menelaus (a priest)*
 - *Antiochus set out to eliminate Jewish religion*

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 - *Allowed Jews to keep religious practices*
 - *Heavy taxes*
- ***Herod (40 B.C)***
 - *Rebuilt Jerusalem temple*

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Luke 1:68-79

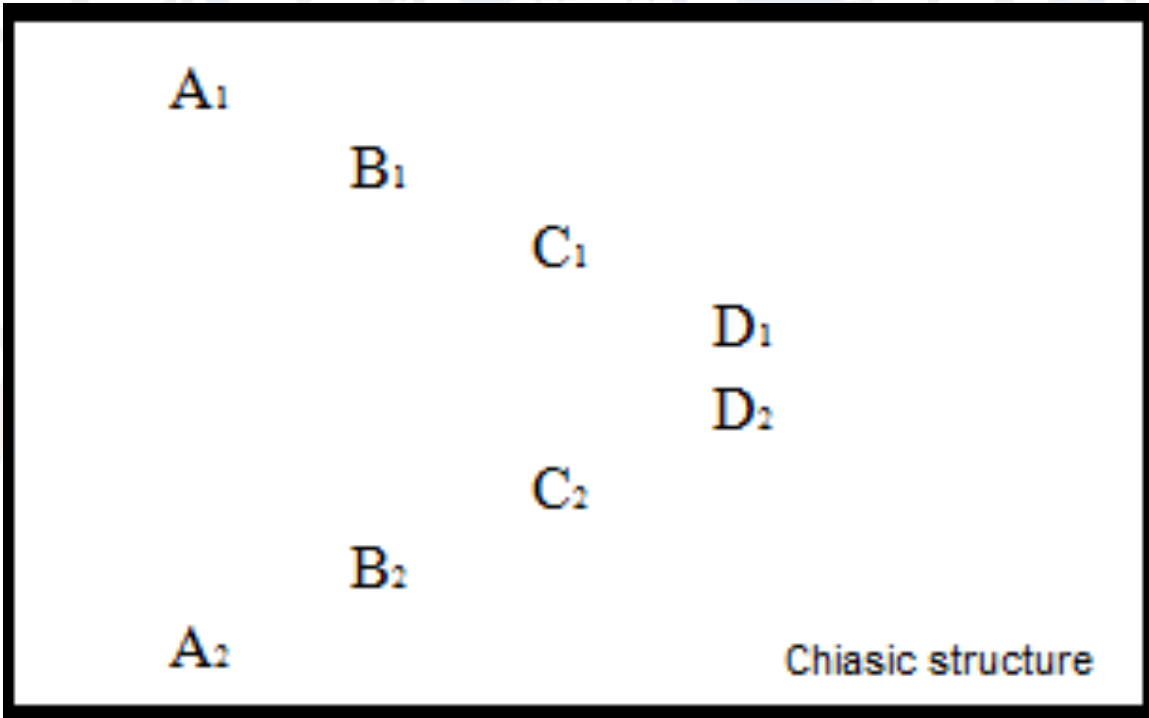
(cf. Luke 1:13-17, Mal 3:1-4, 4:1-6)

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God makes and keeps promises (v. 72)

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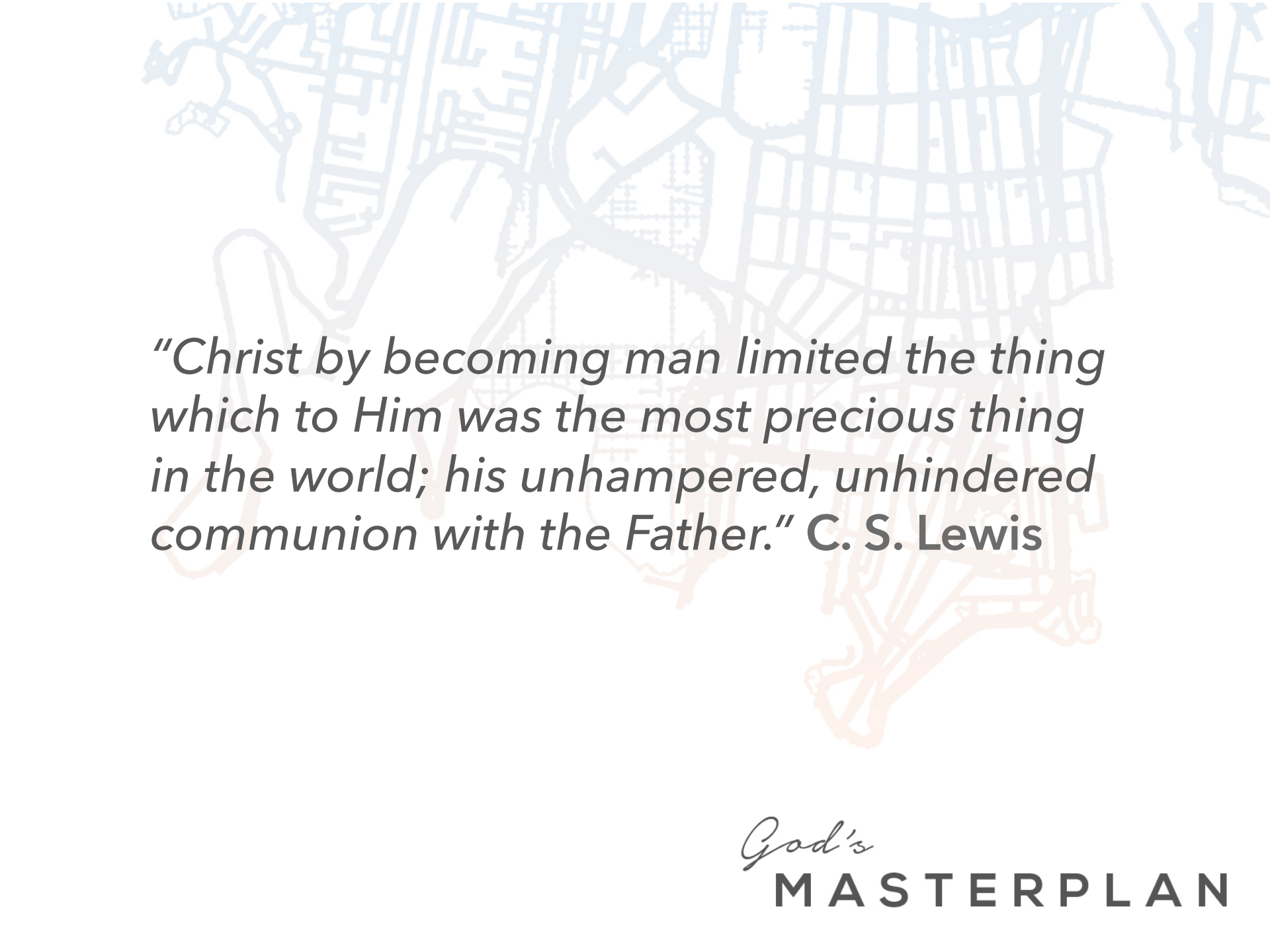


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God has come in person to redeem His people (v. 68//78-79, cf. John 1:1-14)

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A faint, light-colored map of a city grid is visible in the background, showing streets and blocks in a light blue and orange hue.


“Christ by becoming man limited the thing which to Him was the most precious thing in the world; his unhampered, unhindered communion with the Father.” C. S. Lewis

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God's plan is ultimately fulfilled in Jesus (v. 69-75 cf. 1:32-33)

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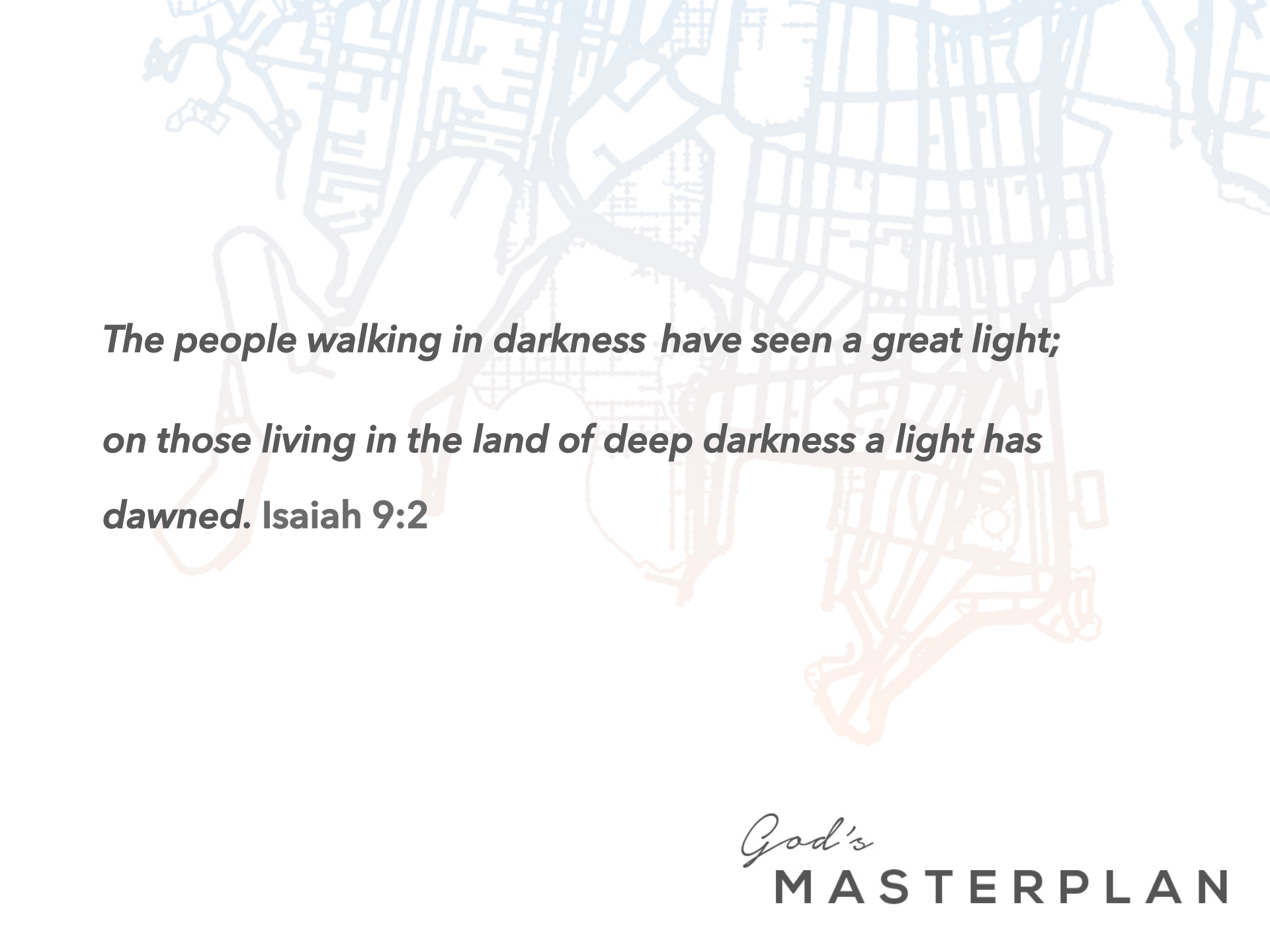
***He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High.
The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and
he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom
will never end."*** Luke 1:32-33

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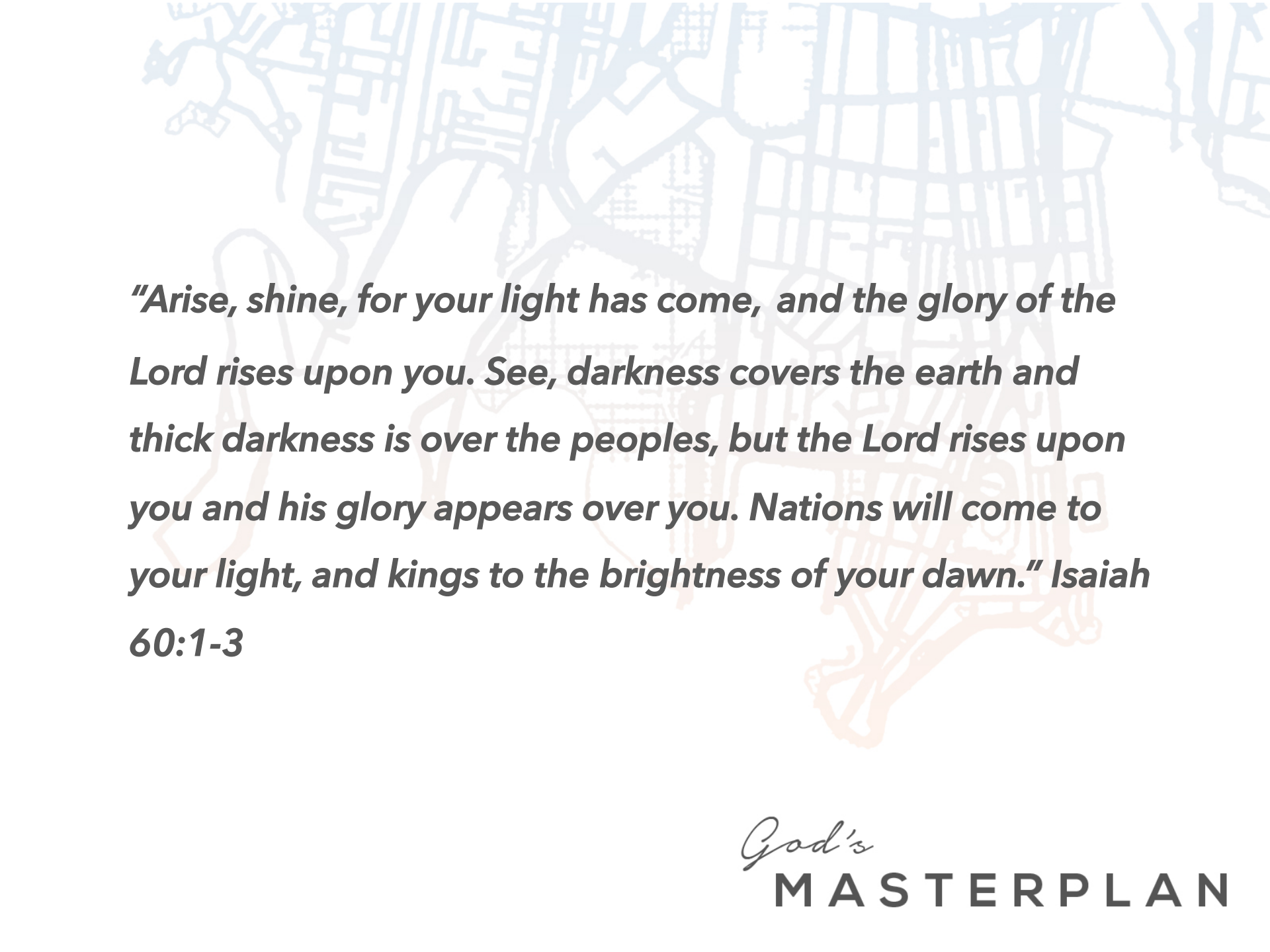
"Here I will make a horn grow for David and set up a lamp for my anointed one. Psalm 132:17

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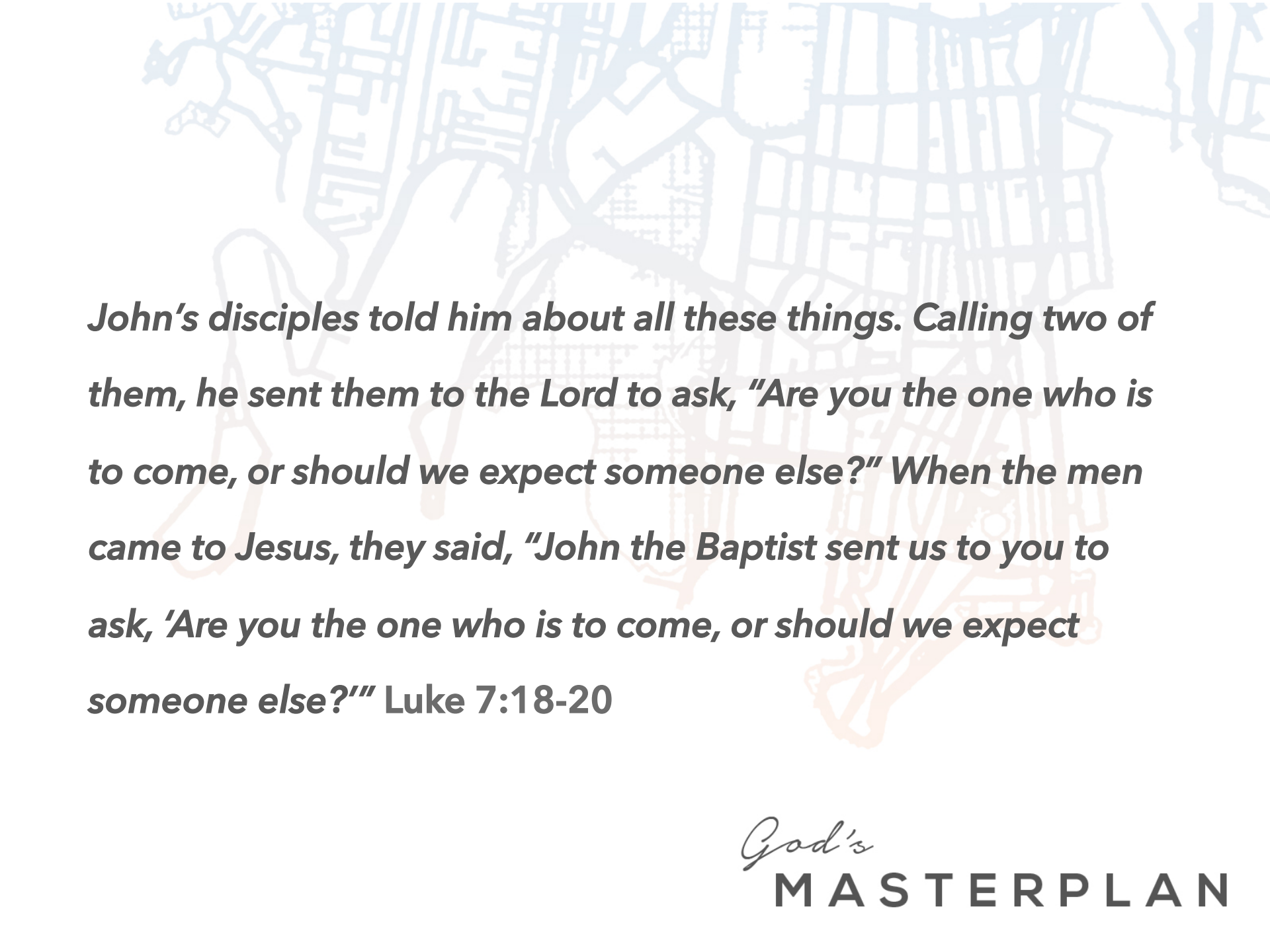
***The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has
dawned. Isaiah 9:2***

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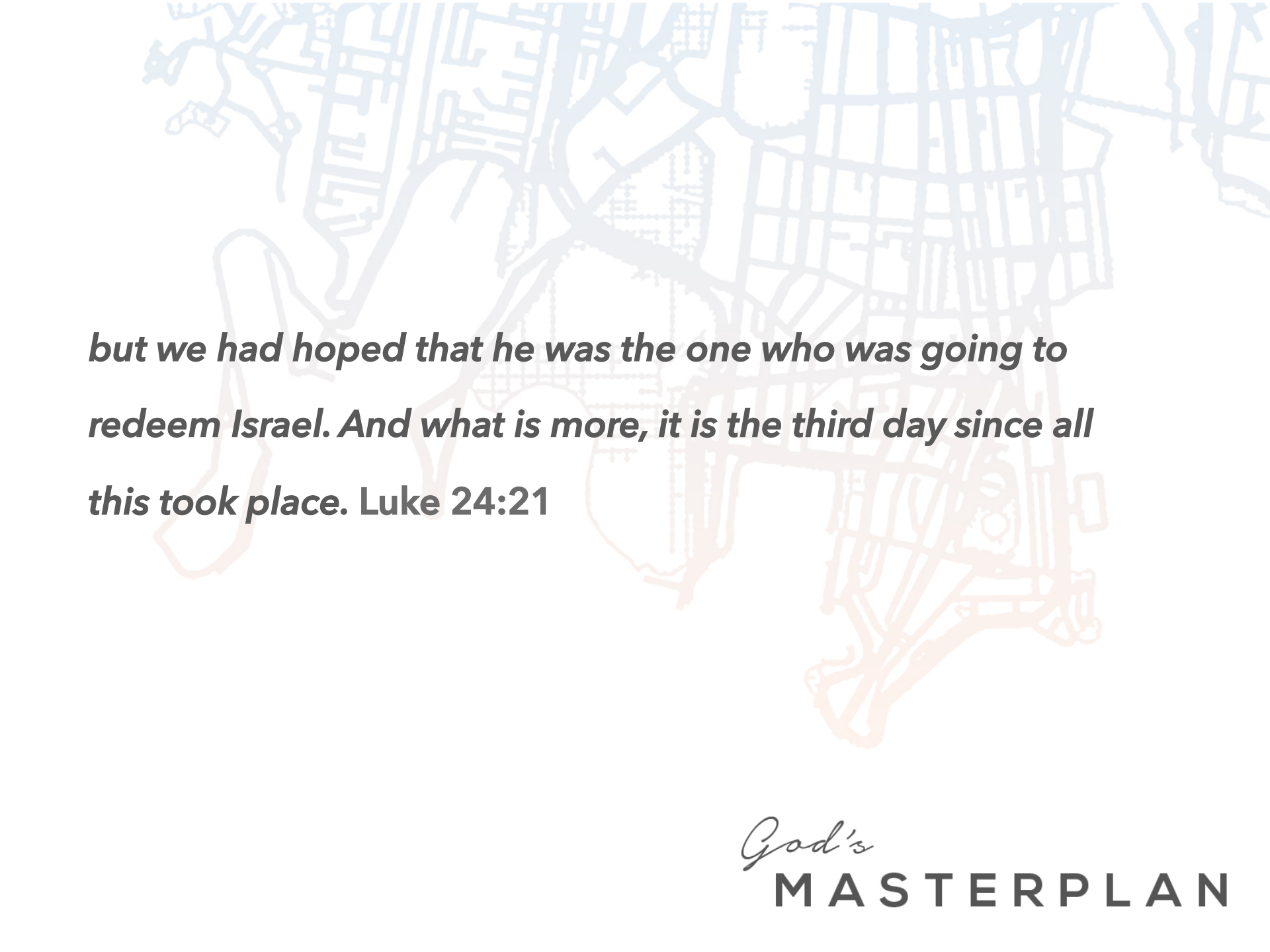
“Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you. See, darkness covers the earth and thick darkness is over the peoples, but the Lord rises upon you and his glory appears over you. Nations will come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.” Isaiah 60:1-3

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John's disciples told him about all these things. Calling two of them, he sent them to the Lord to ask, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?" When the men came to Jesus, they said, "John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, 'Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?'" Luke 7:18-20

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but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place. Luke 24:21

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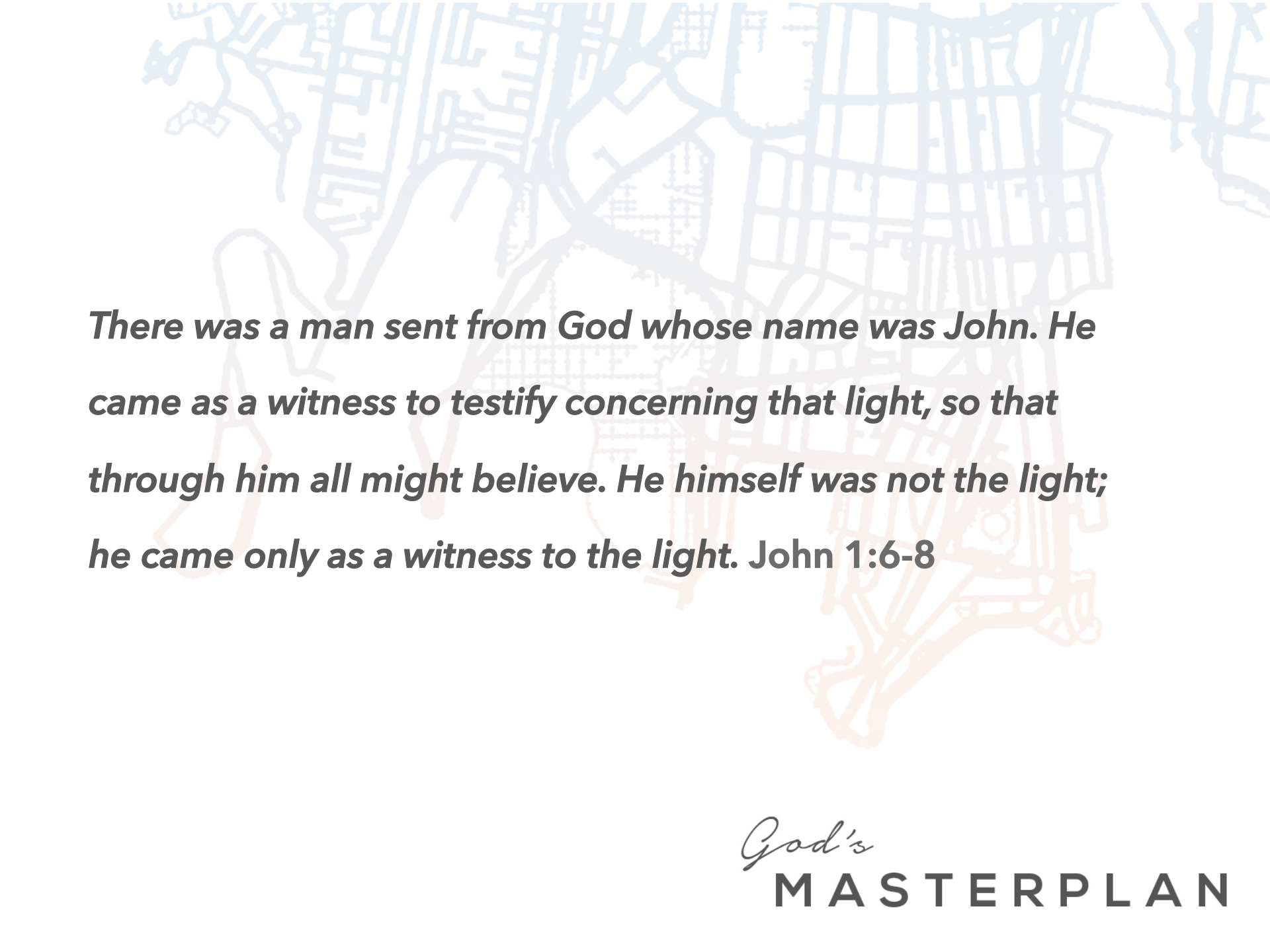


God still has a part for us to play (v. 76-79)

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The people were waiting expectantly and were all wondering in their hearts if John might possibly be the Messiah. John answered them all, "I baptize you with water. But one who is more powerful than I will come, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with [b] the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire." Luke 3:15-18

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There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light. John 1:6-8

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