

# *Opposing Systemic Oppression*



*The Mysteries of the Kingdom*

# The Gospel of the Kingdom

Passion

Mysteries of  
The Kingdom

Building Upon the Rock

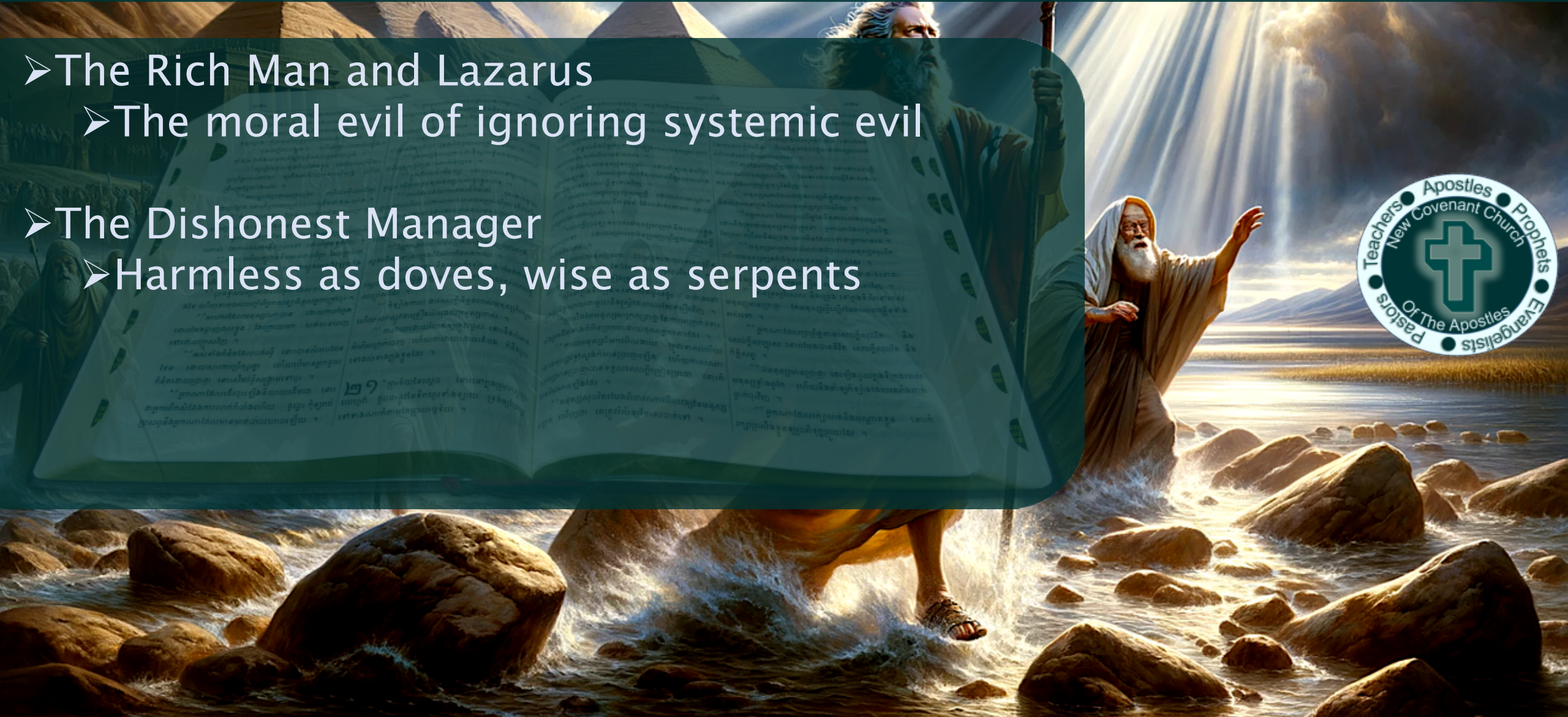
The Incarnation / Baptism of Christ





# The Outline of the Parables Message

- The Rich Man and Lazarus
  - The moral evil of ignoring systemic evil
- The Dishonest Manager
  - Harmless as doves, wise as serpents



# The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31 "There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. (20) But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, (21) desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores....



# The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31 "...(22) So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. (23) And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom...



# The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19–31 "...(24) "Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame...!'



# The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31 "...(25) But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented...



# The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31 "...(26) And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.' (27) "Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house,...



# The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19-31 "...(28) for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' (29) Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them...'

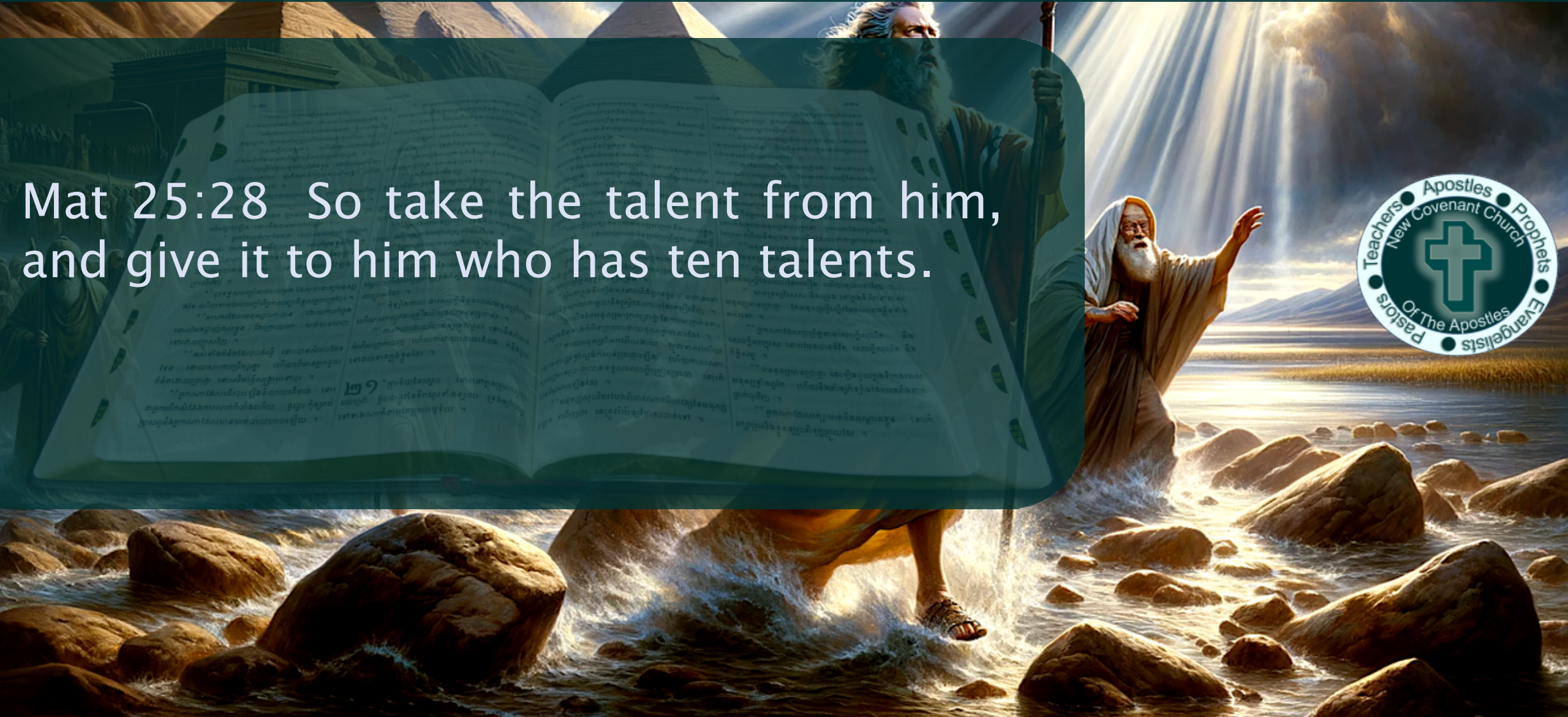


# The Rich Man and Lazarus

Luke 16:19–31 "...(30) And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' (31) But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.' "



# *This is NOT a Marxist Class Dialectic*



Mat 25:28 So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.



# The Moral Duty to Help the Poor

Deut 15:7–8 "If there is among you a poor man of your brethren, within any of the gates in your land which the LORD your God is giving you, you shall not harden your heart nor shut your hand from your poor brother, (8) but you shall open your hand wide to him and willingly lend him sufficient for his need, whatever he needs.



# The Moral Duty to Help the Poor

1 Jn 3:16–18 By this we know love, because He laid down His life for us. And we also ought to lay down our lives for the brethren. (17) But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him? (18) My little children, let us not love in word or in tongue, but in deed and in truth.



# Navigating the Rigged System

Luk 14:12-14 Then He also said to him who invited Him, "When you give a dinner or a supper, do not ask your friends, your brothers, your relatives, nor rich neighbors, lest they also invite you back, and you be repaid. (13) But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind. (14) And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you; for you shall be repaid at the resurrection of the just."



# Navigating the Rigged System

Pro 19:4–7 Wealth makes many friends, But the poor is separated from his friend. (5) A false witness will not go unpunished, And he who speaks lies will not escape. (6) Many entreat the favor of the nobility, And every man is a friend to one who gives gifts. (7) All the brothers of the poor hate him; How much more do his friends go far from him! He may pursue them with words, yet they abandon him.



# Navigating the Rigged System

Deu 1:17 You shall not show partiality in judgment; you shall hear the small as well as the great; you shall not be afraid in any man's presence, for the judgment is God's. The case that is too hard for you, bring to me, and I will hear it.'



# Navigating the Rigged System

Lev 19:13-15 'You shall not cheat your neighbor, nor rob him. The wages of him who is hired shall not remain with you all night until morning. (14) You shall not curse the deaf, nor put a stumbling block before the blind, but shall fear your God: I am the LORD. (15) 'You shall do no injustice in judgment. You shall not be partial to the poor, nor honor the person of the mighty. In righteousness you shall judge your neighbor.



# The Dishonest Manager

Luke 16:1–9 He also said to His disciples: "There was a certain rich man who had a steward, and an accusation was brought to him that this man was wasting his goods. (2) So he called him and said to him, 'What is this I hear about you? Give an account of your stewardship, for you can no longer be steward...'



# The Dishonest Manager

Luke 16:1-9 ... (3) "Then the steward said within himself, 'What shall I do? For my master is taking the stewardship away from me. I cannot dig; I am ashamed to beg. (4) I have resolved what to do, that when I am put out of the stewardship, they may receive me into their houses...'



# The Dishonest Manager

Luke 16:1-9 ... (5) "So he called every one of his master's debtors to him, and said to the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' (6) And he said, 'A hundred measures of oil.' So he said to him, 'Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty...'



# The Dishonest Manager

Luke 16:1–9 ... (7) Then he said to another, 'And how much do you owe?' So he said, 'A hundred measures of wheat.' And he said to him, 'Take your bill, and write eighty...'



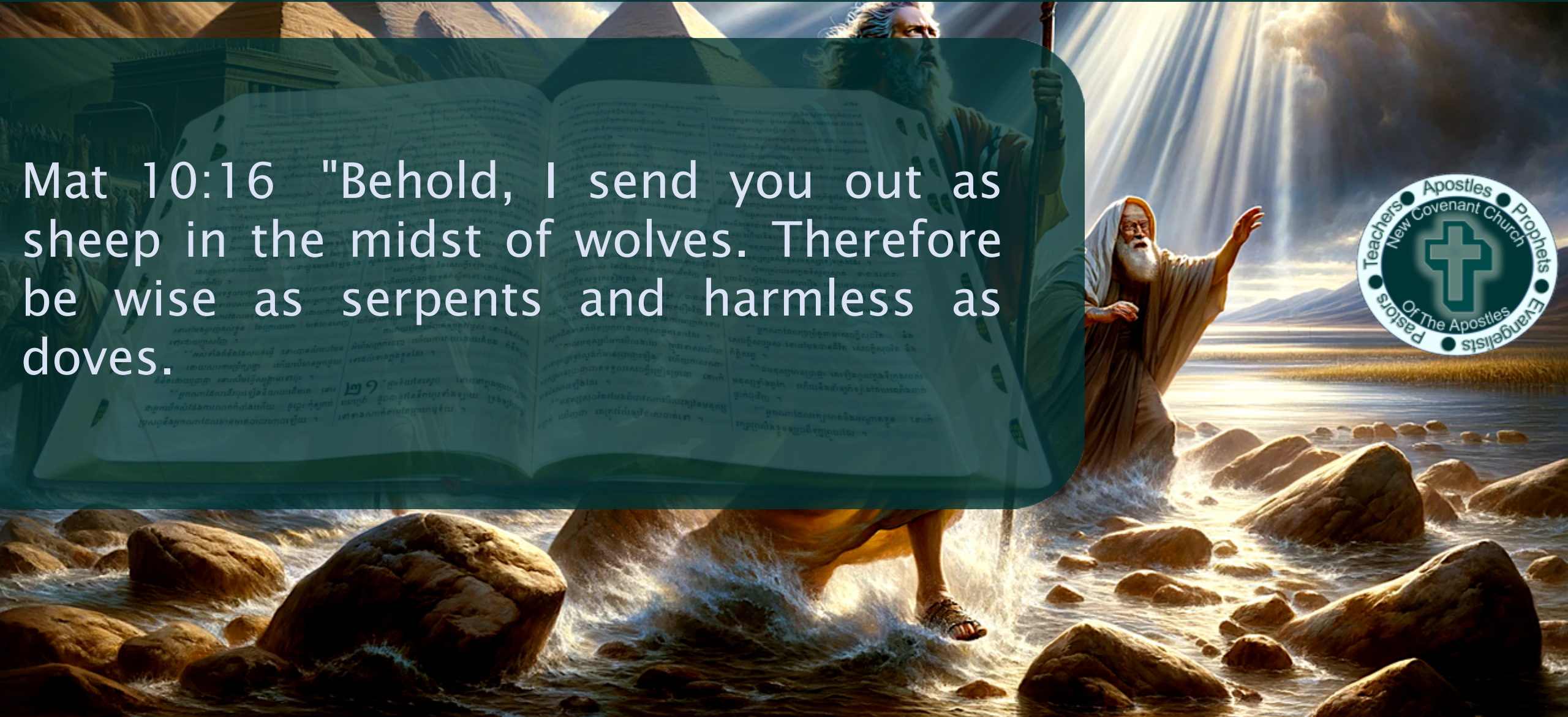
# The Dishonest Manager

Luke 16:1–9 ... (8) So the master commended the unjust steward because he had dealt shrewdly. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in their generation than the sons of light. (9) "And I say to you, make friends for yourselves by unrighteous mammon, that when you fail, they may receive you into an everlasting home.



# Harmless as Doves, Wise as Serpents

Mat 10:16 "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves."



# Navigating the Rigged System

Jas 2:1–9 My brethren, do not hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory, with partiality. (2) For if there should come into your assembly a man with gold rings, in fine apparel, and there should also come in a poor man in filthy clothes,...



# Navigating the Rigged System

Jas 2:1-9 ... (3) and you pay attention to the one wearing the fine clothes and say to him, "You sit here in a good place," and say to the poor man, "You stand there," or, "Sit here at my footstool," (4) have you not shown partiality among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts?...



# Navigating the Rigged System

Jas 2:1-9 ... (5) Listen, my beloved brethren: Has God not chosen the poor of this world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which He promised to those who love Him? (6) But you have dishonored the poor man. Do not the rich oppress you and drag you into the courts?...



# Navigating the Rigged System

Jas 2:1-9 ... (7) Do they not blaspheme that noble name by which you are called? (8) If you really fulfill the royal law according to the Scripture, "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF," you do well; (9) but if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.



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