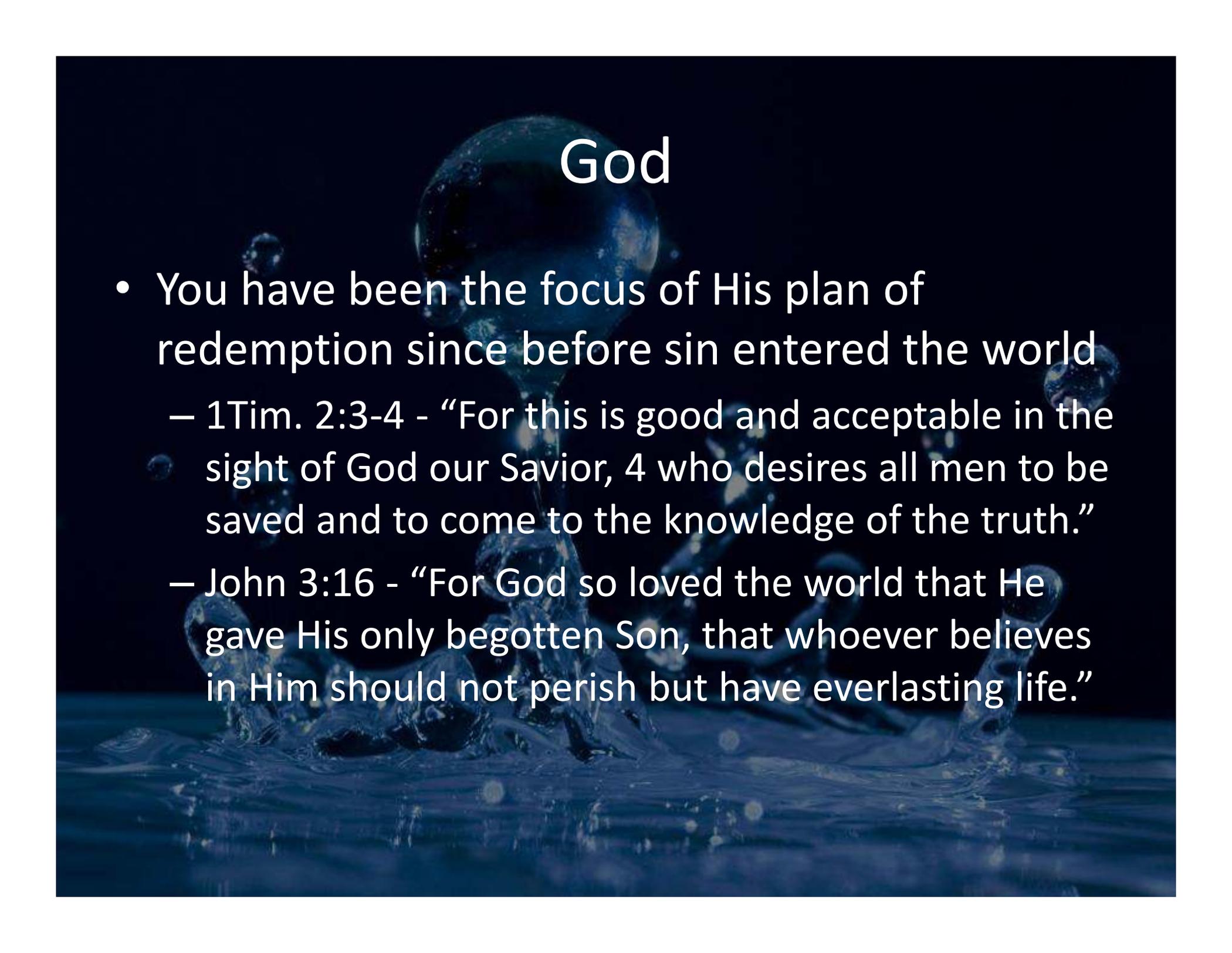


A large, dynamic splash of water is captured against a dark blue background. The splash forms a crown-like shape with a large, rounded top and several smaller droplets and streams extending downwards and outwards. The water is highly detailed, showing individual droplets and the texture of the splash. The overall color palette is monochromatic, ranging from deep navy blue to lighter, almost white highlights on the water's surface.

Who Wants You to be Baptized?

Who Wants You to be Baptized?

- Many people know the gospel and especially know that they must obey it, but are hesitating for some reason.
 - Perhaps you have not been directly asked, or have been asked but are uncertain about responding.
 - God created us to be social beings; we need human contact and interaction in order to thrive.
 - Most of the choices large and small that we make in this life are influenced at some level for good or ill by others around us.
 - This decision is no different; while you make it alone, you cannot escape the fact that Christianity is a teaching religion, where one person tries to persuade another, by means of the gospel, to be saved.
- Who wants you to be saved?

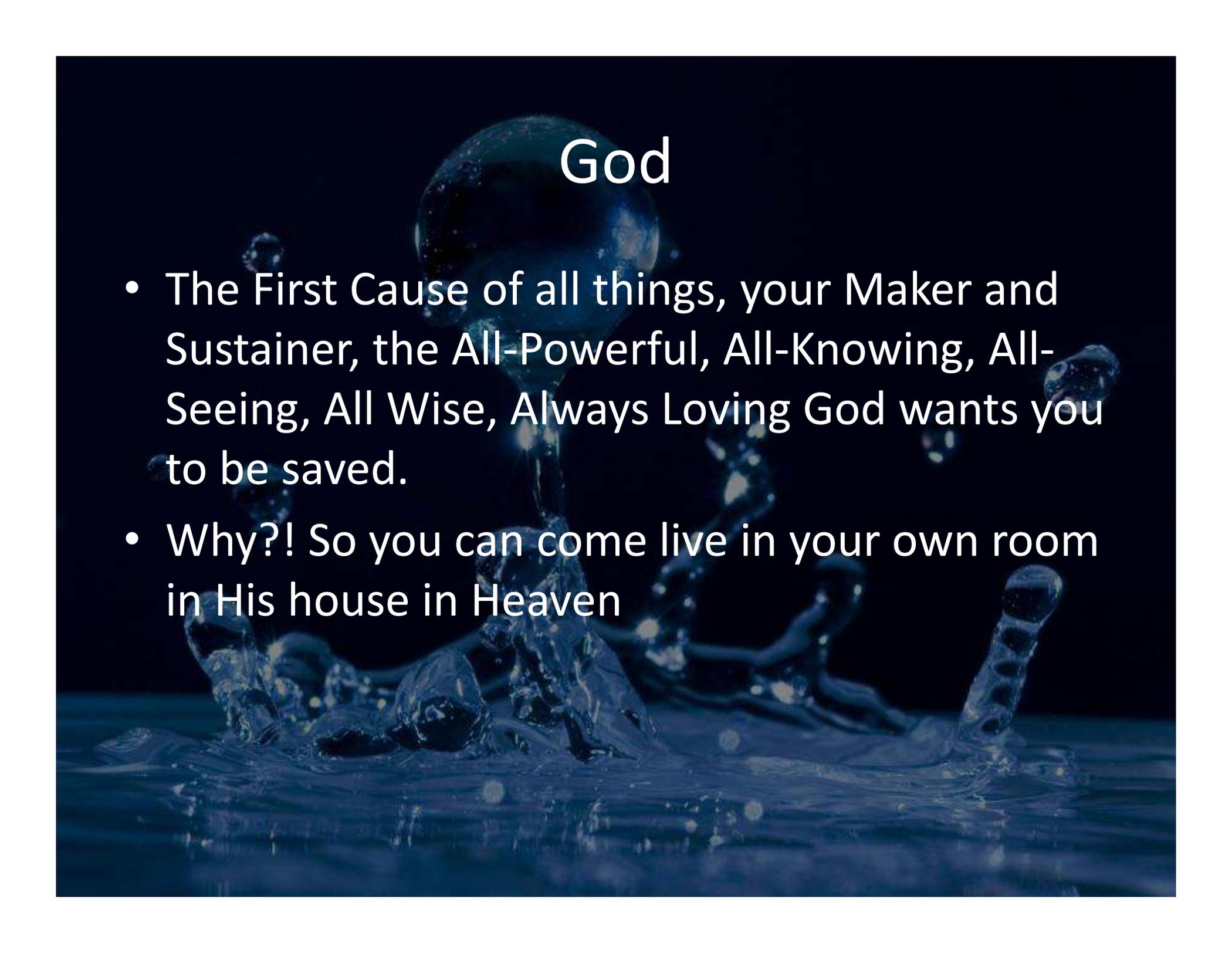


God

- You have been the focus of His plan of redemption since before sin entered the world
 - 1Tim. 2:3-4 - “For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.”
 - John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”

God

- You have been the focus of His plan of redemption since before sin entered the world
 - 2Peter 3:9 - “The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, as some count slackness, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.”
 - Rom. 8:32 - “He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?”



God

- The First Cause of all things, your Maker and Sustainer, the All-Powerful, All-Knowing, All-Seeing, All Wise, Always Loving God wants you to be saved.
- Why?! So you can come live in your own room in His house in Heaven

Angels

- Luke 15:10 - “Likewise, I say to you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”
- The angels understand how wonderful God’s plan is, how great His love for you is, and how much more glorious Heaven will be with you there

Christians

- Rom. 10:1 - “Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved.”
- Acts 26:29 - “And Paul said, I would to God that not only you, but also all who hear me today, might become both almost and altogether such as I am, except for these chains.”
- Rev. 22:18 - “For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book”

Christians

- Gal. 4:11-16 - “I am afraid for you, lest I have labored for you in vain. 12 Brethren, I urge you to become like me, for I became like you. You have not injured me at all. 13 You know that because of physical infirmity I preached the gospel to you at the first. 14 And my trial which was in my flesh you did not despise or reject, but you received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus. 15 What then was the blessing you enjoyed? For I bear you witness that, if possible, you would have plucked out your own eyes and given them to me. 16 Have I therefore become your enemy because I tell you the truth?”

Christians

- 2Cor. 11:23-25 - “Are they ministers of Christ?
--I speak as a fool--I am more: in labors more abundant, in stripes above measure, in prisons more frequently, in deaths often. 24 From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one. 25 Three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep”

Christians

- 2Cor. 11:26-29 - “in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren; 27 in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness-- 28 besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches. 29 Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to stumble, and I do not burn with indignation?”

Christians

- 2Thes. 2:4-8 - “But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts. 5 For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness--God is witness. 6 Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. 7 But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children. 8 So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.”

Christians

- 2Thes. 2:9-12 - “For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God. 10 You are witnesses, and God also, how devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe; 11 as you know how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children, 12 that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory.”

The Dead

- Luke 16:22-26 - “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. 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.' 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. 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.’”

The Dead

- Luke 16:27-31 - “Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, 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.' 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.’”
- All who have died in sin want you to be saved and avoid their fate.

Who Wants You to be Baptized?

- But you have to want to be saved in order to be saved.
- All forces for good want you to be saved
- All of the unsaved dead want you to be saved
- All of those who love you want you to be saved
- By comparison, the forces that want you to be lost are fewer and far less powerful
- But the only relevant question at this juncture is: Why don't you want to be saved?