

**The Blessings of
“the Unexpected Cross”**

Part 1

Luke 23:26, 33

APRIL 9, 2017

Simon of Cyrene

❑ Faithful Man

- There to Celebrate Passover

❑ Patient Man

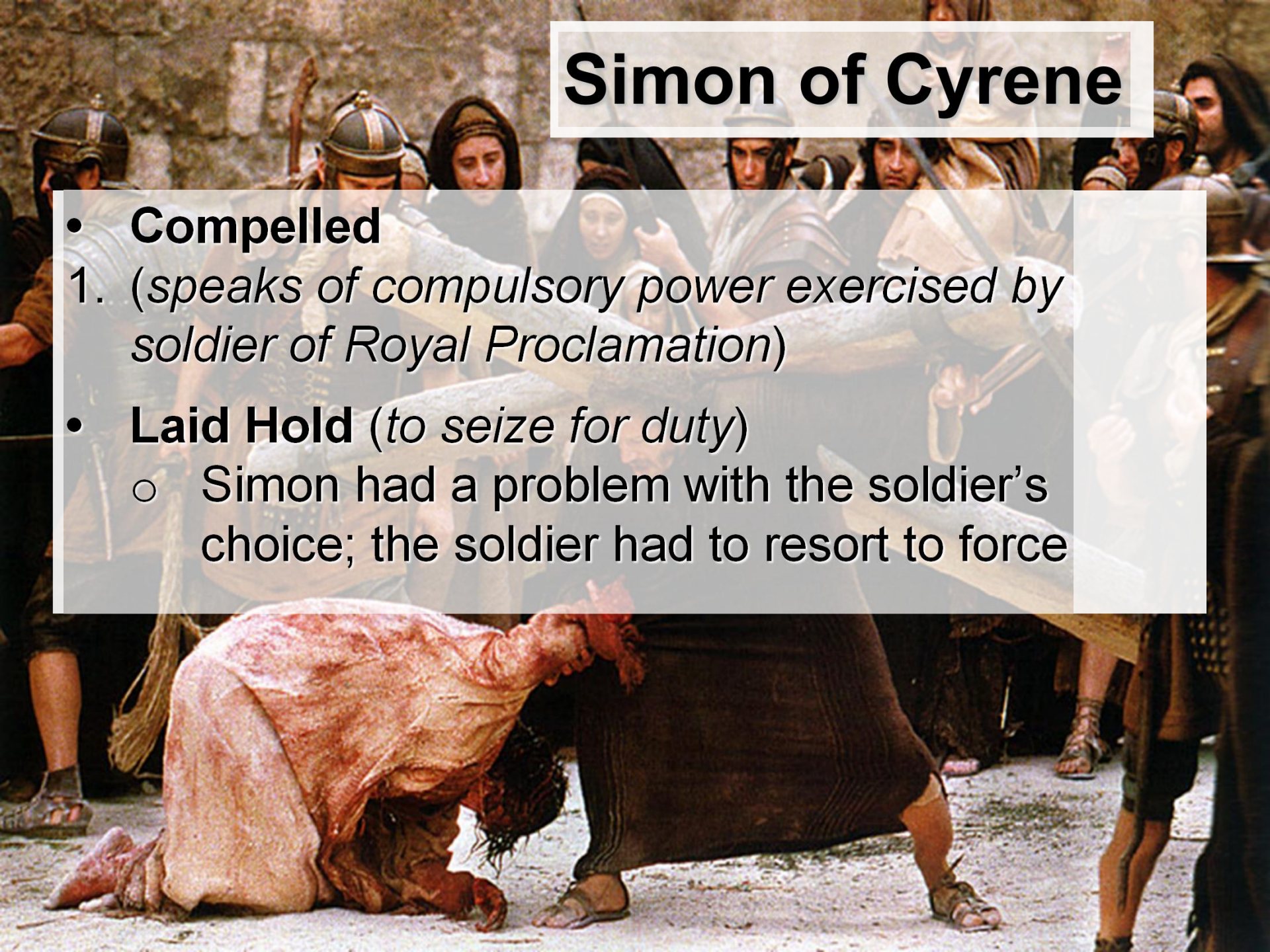
- Came from Northern Africa
- Took Time to Get There

❑ Surrendered Man

- It Required Sacrifice to Go Sacrifice

Simon of Cyrene

- **Compelled**
 1. *(speaks of compulsory power exercised by soldier of Royal Proclamation)*
- **Laid Hold** *(to seize for duty)*
 - Simon had a problem with the soldier's choice; the soldier had to resort to force



Simon's Cross



1. It was...

○ **Unexpected**

- It Interrupted His Routine

○ **Powerful**

- It Made a Difference

4 Things the Cross Did for Simon



#1- It Brought Him Into Presence Of Jesus

- He was so close he could hear His Voice

#2- It Made Him Follow In...

...the Steps of the Savior.

#3- Made Him Part Of Greatest Work...

...In The World

#4- The Cross Changed His Family Forever

Simon's Cross

1. It was...

○ Unexpected

- It Interrupted His Routine

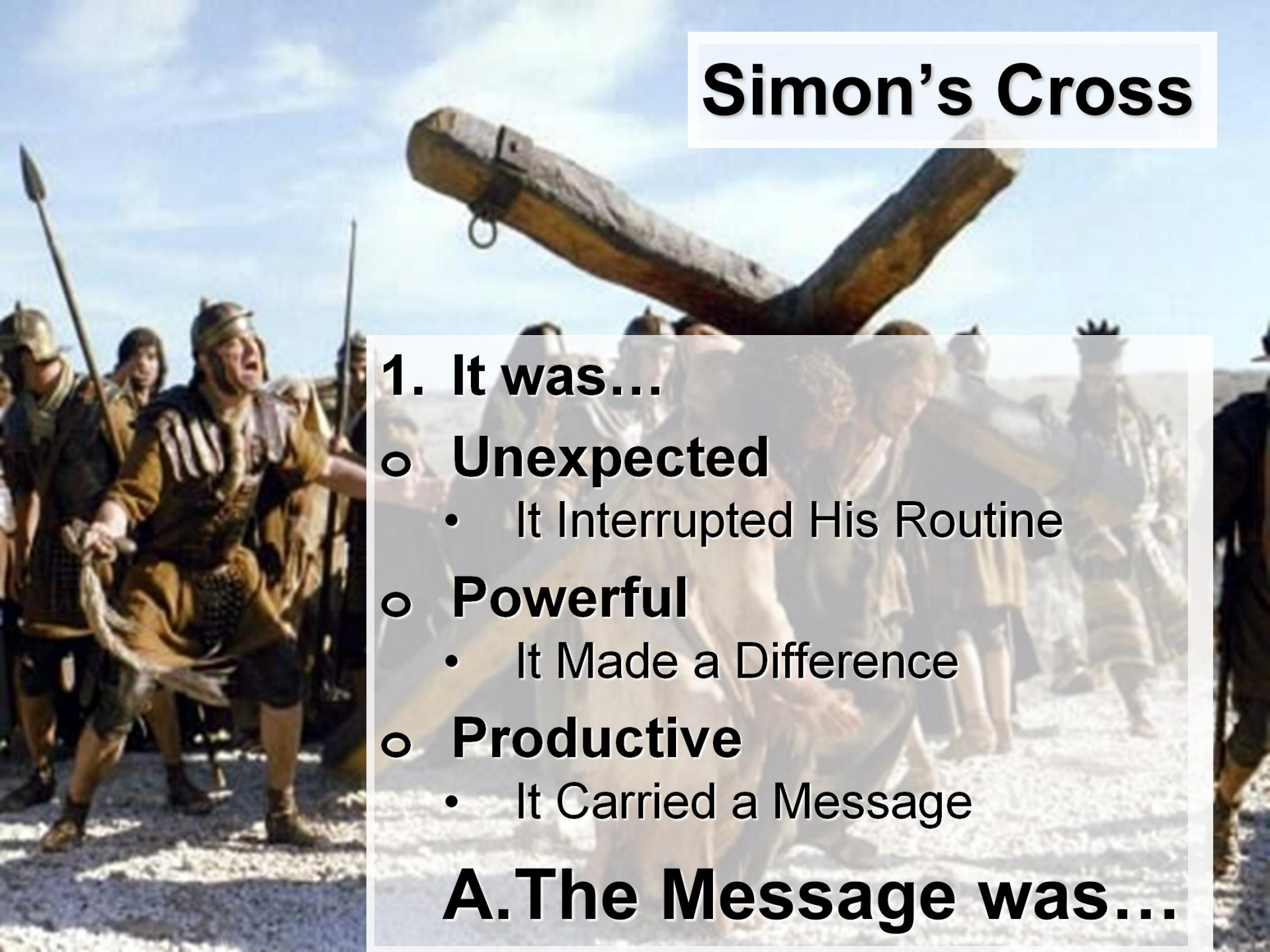
○ Powerful

- It Made a Difference

○ Productive

- It Carried a Message

A. The Message was...



Jesus Carried the Cross First

Before Simon was Involved, Jesus had Already Taken Up Cross

o **Isa 53:3-4** – Jesus was a Man of Sorrows

- **Borne**= *to carry inside*
- **Carried**= *take personal*

o **Cor 10:13**, No Temptation

- **Taken**= *to seize/ remove w- force/ violence*



Jesus Carried the Cross First

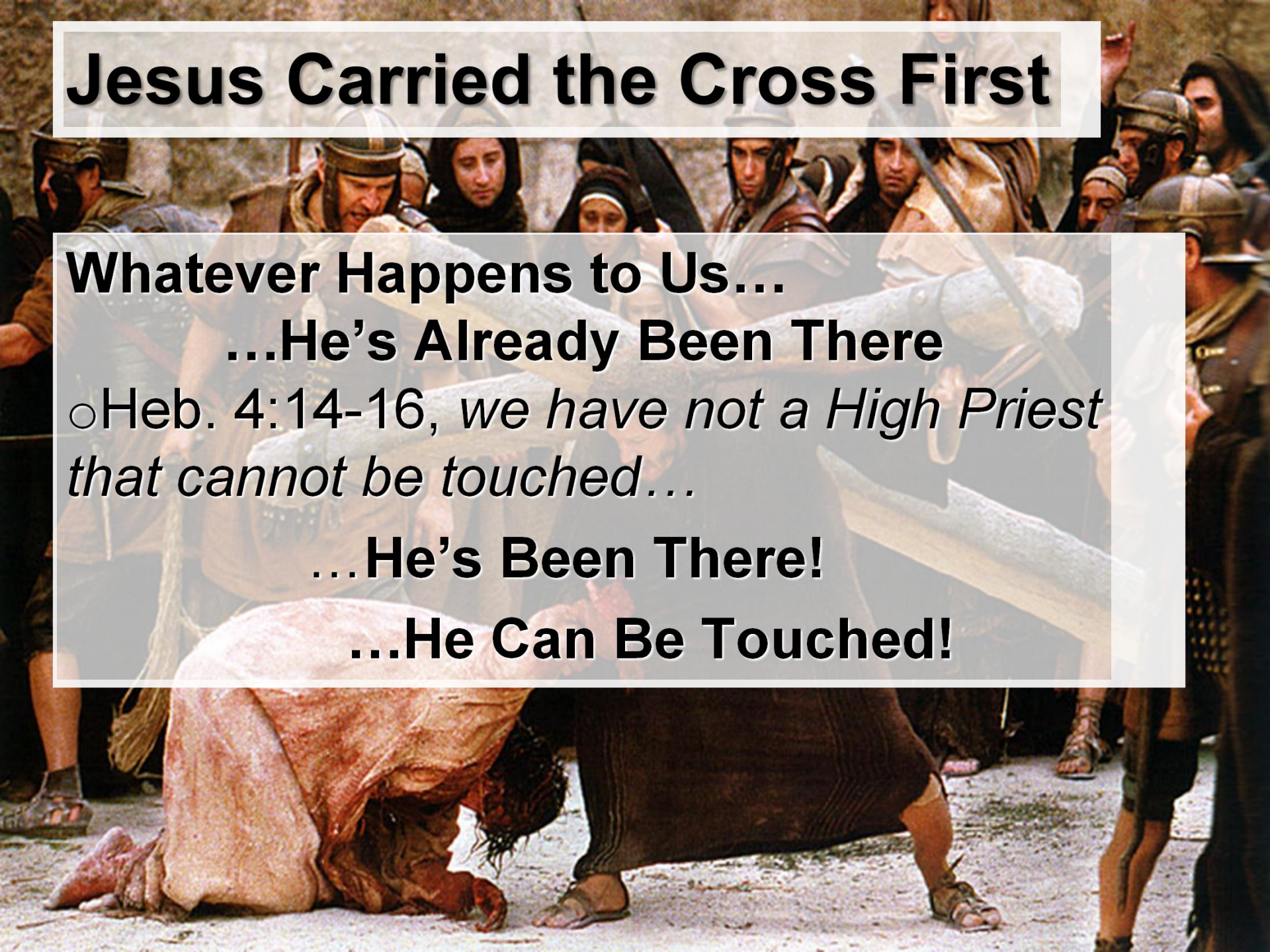
Whatever Happens to Us...

...He's Already Been There

○ Heb. 4:14-16, *we have not a High Priest that cannot be touched...*

...He's Been There!

...He Can Be Touched!



NOTE OF ENCOURAGEMENT

That Cross Didn't Have...

...Simon's Name on it

....Jesus Carried It 1st