

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

**Part 2**

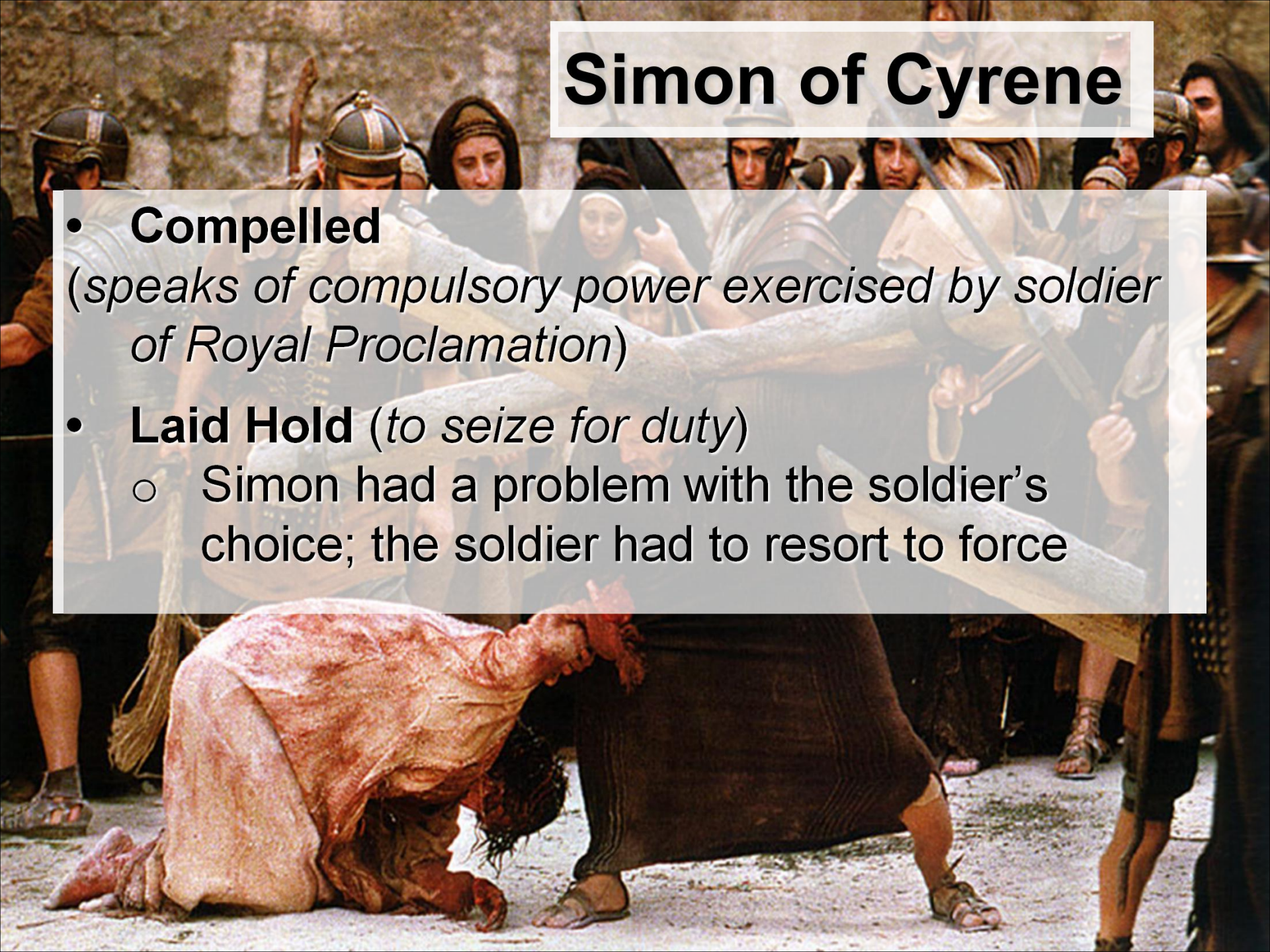
**Luke 23:26, 33**

**April 28, 2019**



# Simon of Cyrene

- **Compelled**  
*(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



It was...

o **Unexpected**

- It Interrupted His Routine

o **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

**It was...**

**oUnexpected**

- It Interrupted His Routine

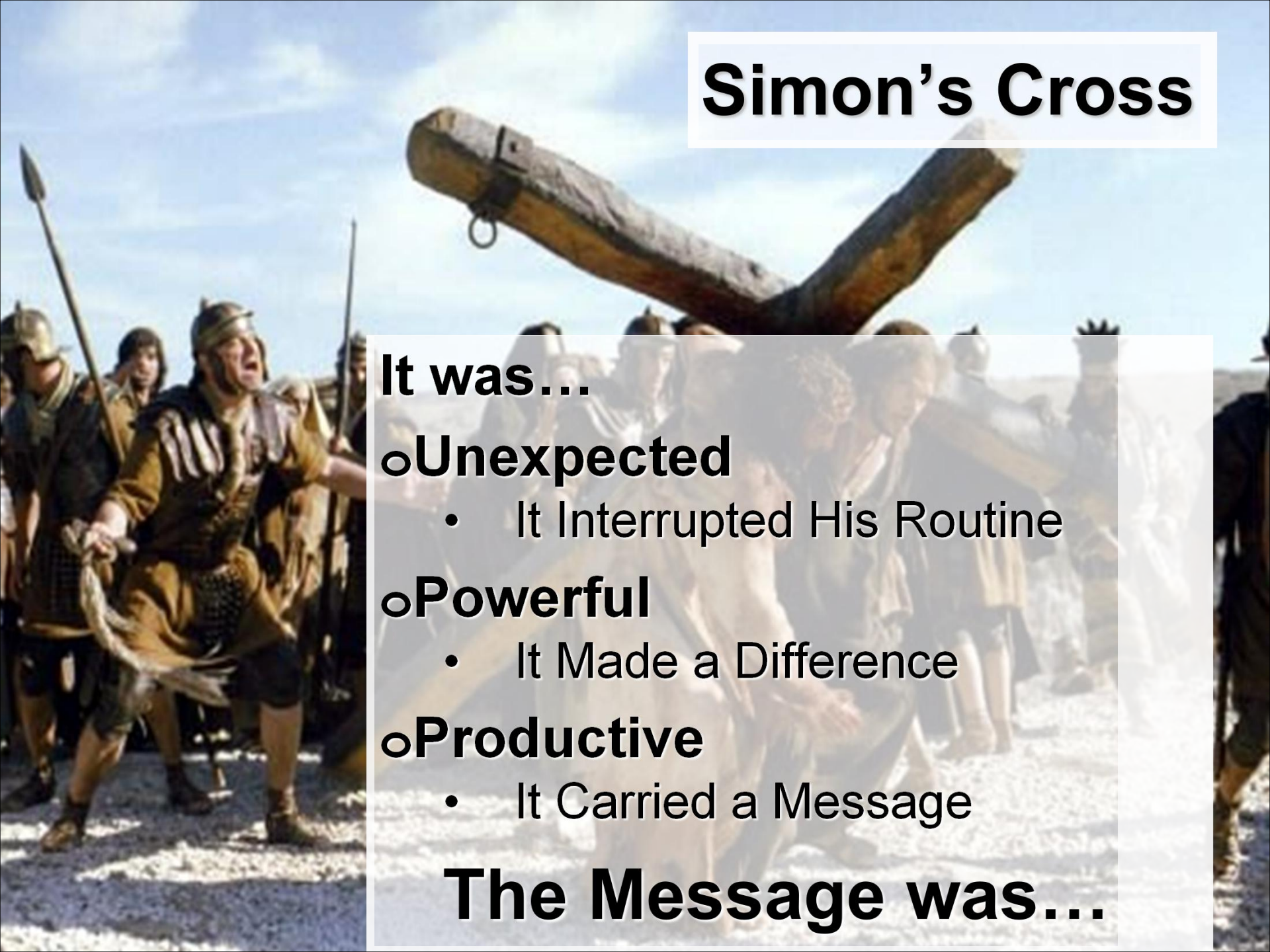
**oPowerful**

- It Made a Difference

**oProductive**

- It Carried a Message

**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

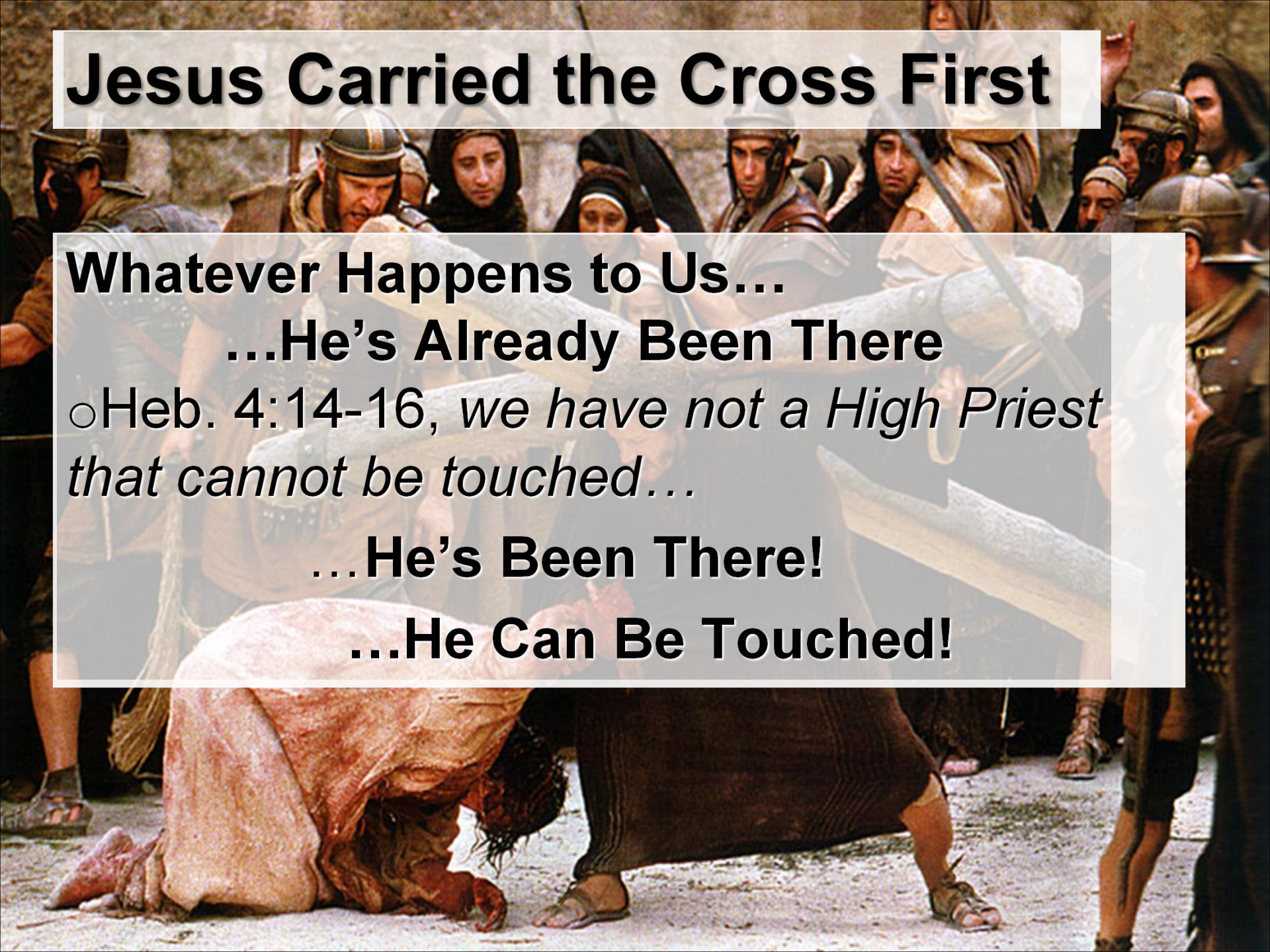
**Whatever Happens to Us...**

**...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!**





# Jesus Shares Load of the Cross

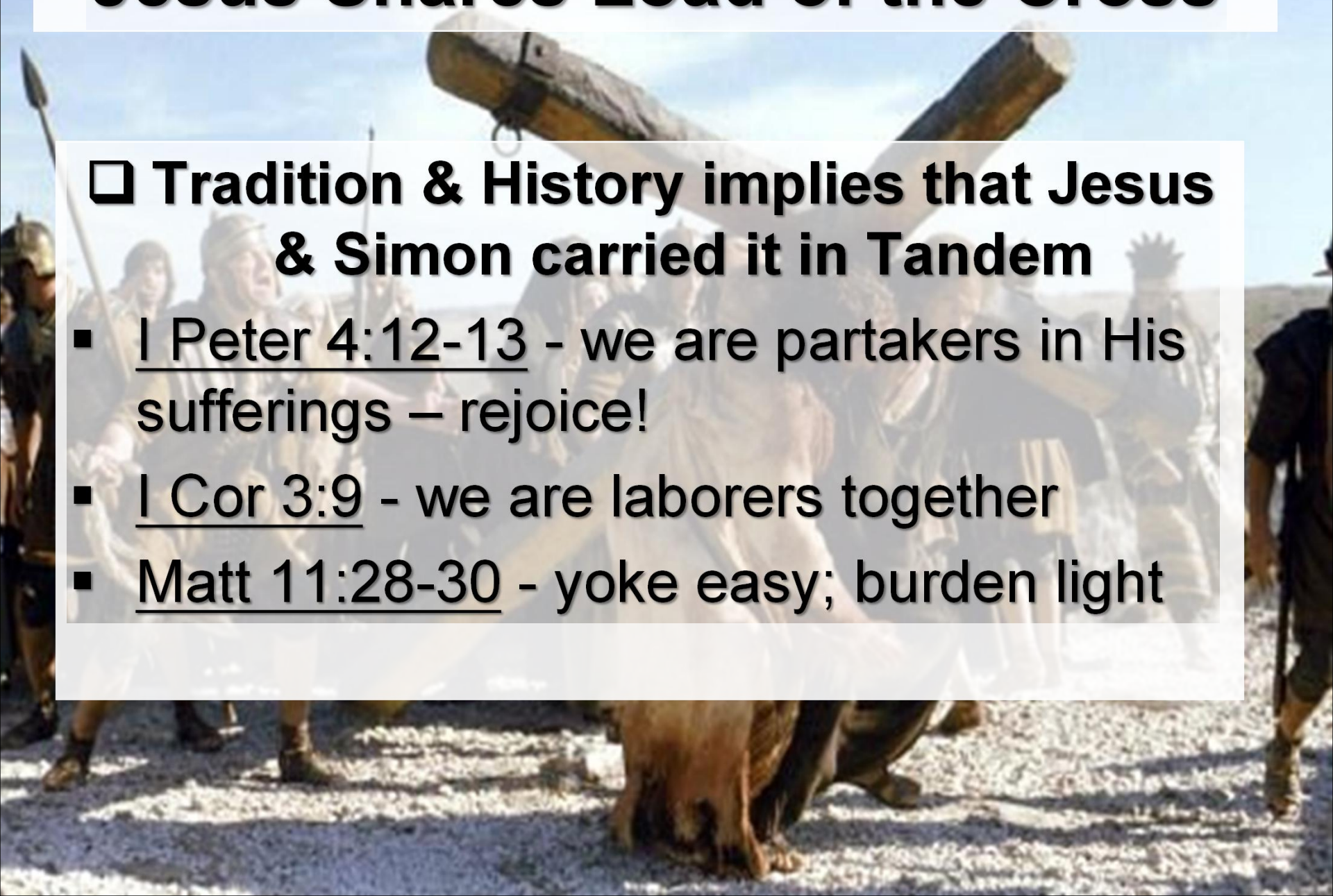




# Jesus Shares Load of the Cross

## ❑ Tradition & History implies that Jesus & Simon carried it in Tandem

- 1 Peter 4:12-13 - we are partakers in His sufferings – rejoice!
- 1 Cor 3:9 - we are laborers together
- Matt 11:28-30 - yoke easy; burden light





# Jesus Shares Load of the Cross

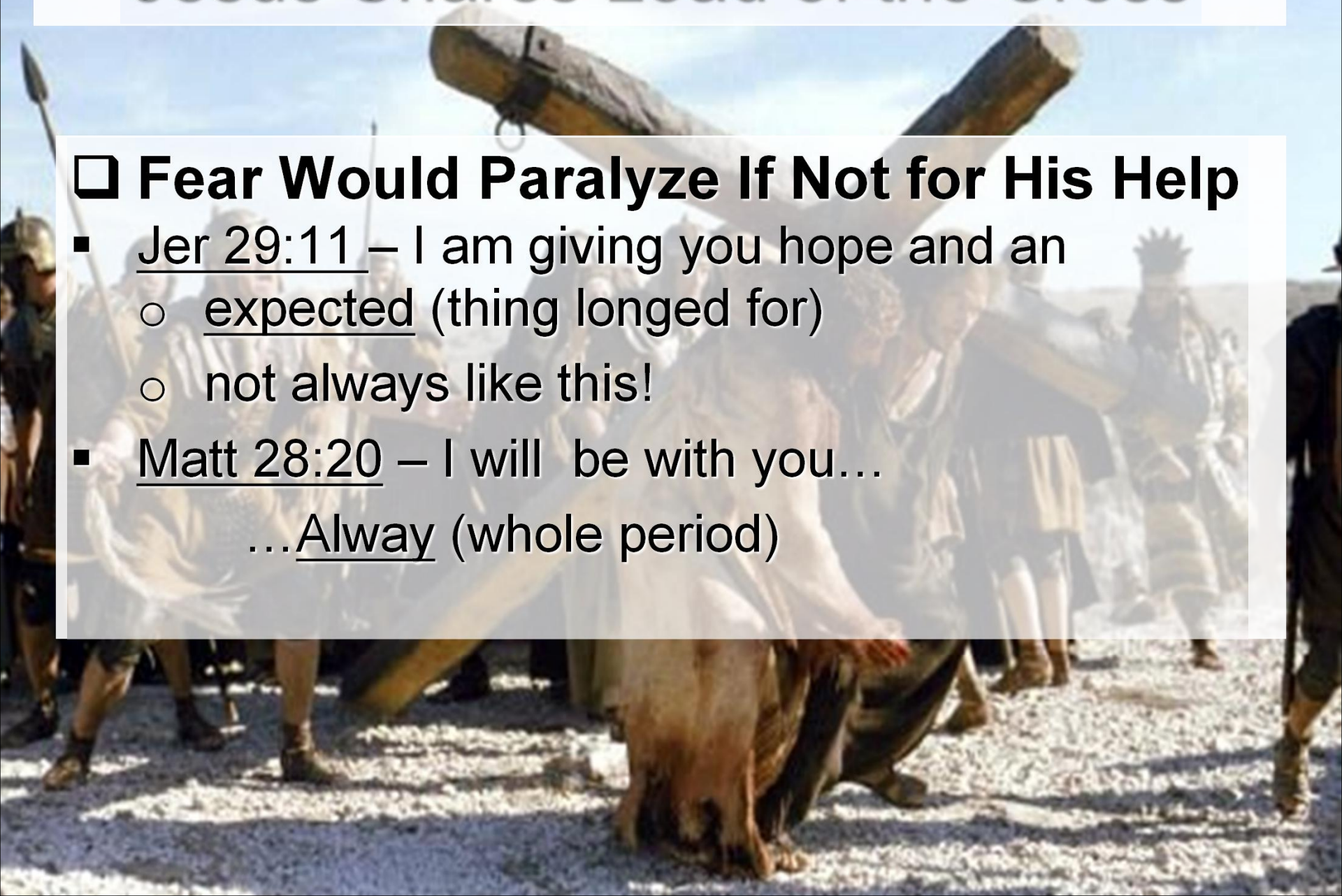




# Jesus Shares Load of the Cross

## ☐ Fear Would Paralyze If Not for His Help

- Jer 29:11 – I am giving you hope and an
  - expected (thing longed for)
  - not always like this!
- Matt 28:20 – I will be with you...  
...Alway (whole period)





# Jesus Preps Us to Carry Cross





# Jesus Preps Us to Carry Cross

## ❑ Why Simon?

- Why Not Roman Soldier?
  - Religious Problem
  - Already in Too Deep
- Why Not a Disciple?
  - Still Scattered



# Jesus Preps Us to Carry Cross





# Jesus Preps Us to Carry Cross

## ☐ God Prepared You Through Hardships ...for the Cross You Now Carry

- Romans 8:28,  
*-all things “are not for good” individual,  
but all things “work together” ...*
- **God has a Plan!**
- I Sam 17 – Lion/ Bear Prep for Goliath –  
Battle’s not mine!



**Jesus Has a Purpose and...  
...Destiny for Our Cross**







# **Jesus Has a Purpose and... ...Destiny for Our Cross**

- **There is a Destined Place to Lay It Down**
  - **You Won't Carry It One Inch...  
...Farther Than Calvary**
  - **There Is A Crown To Obtain...  
...On The Other Side Of The Cross**

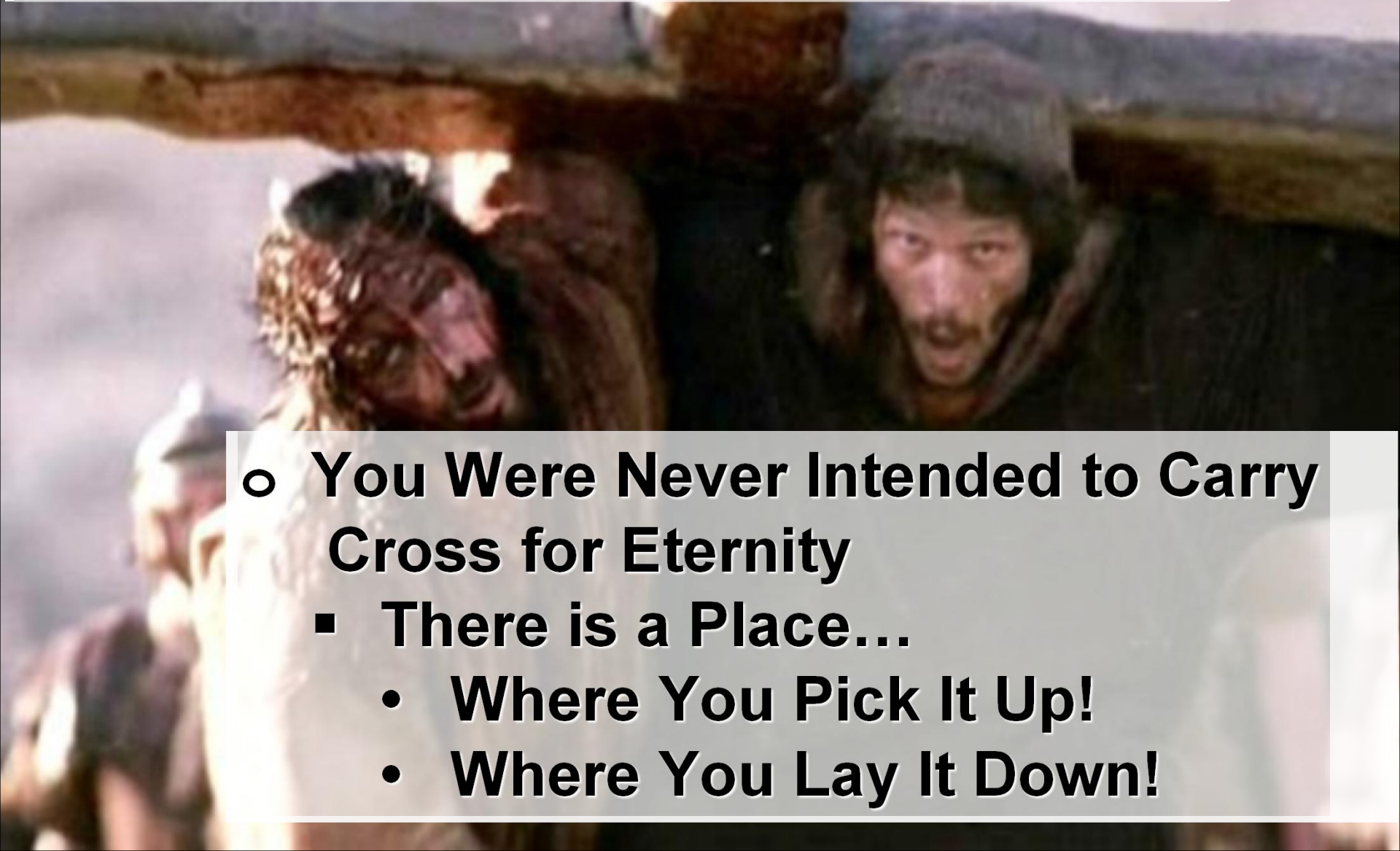


**Jesus has a Purpose and...  
...Destiny for Our Cross**





# **Jesus has a Purpose and... ...Destiny for Our Cross**

- 
- **You Were Never Intended to Carry Cross for Eternity**
    - **There is a Place...**
      - **Where You Pick It Up!**
      - **Where You Lay It Down!**



# Jesus Uses Our Cross as... ...an Example





# Jesus Uses Our Cross as... ...an Example

- **Simon was Affected**
  - **Went from Resentment...  
...to Responsibility(Acts 13:1)**
- **Simon's Wife was Affected**
  - **Became a "Mother of the Church"**
  - **Romans 16:13**
    - **Greet Rufus /His Mother/ Mine**



# Jesus Uses Our Cross as... ...an Example





# Jesus Uses Our Cross as... ...an Example

- **Simon's Sons were Affected**
  - Alexander and Rufus(Mark 15:21)
  - Names Where Not Mentioned Unless ...Well-known
  - They Became Pillars in the church
    - Romans 16:13
      - Greet Rufus /his Mother/ Mine
    - Rufus became Bishop of Spain
    - Alexander was martyred for Christ





**We Never...**

**...Bear His Cross**

**...in Vain**



# Note of Encouragement





# Note of Encouragement



**That Cross Didn't Have...**

**...Simon's Name on it**

**....Jesus Carried It 1<sup>st</sup>**







