

WITNESSES

A STUDY IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

Illustrating the Missionary Journeys and Last Voyage
OF THE
APOSTLE PAUL.

Scales.
English Miles
0 50 100 150 200
Roman Miles
0 50 100 150 200

SYRTIS MAJOR
GULF OF SIDRA

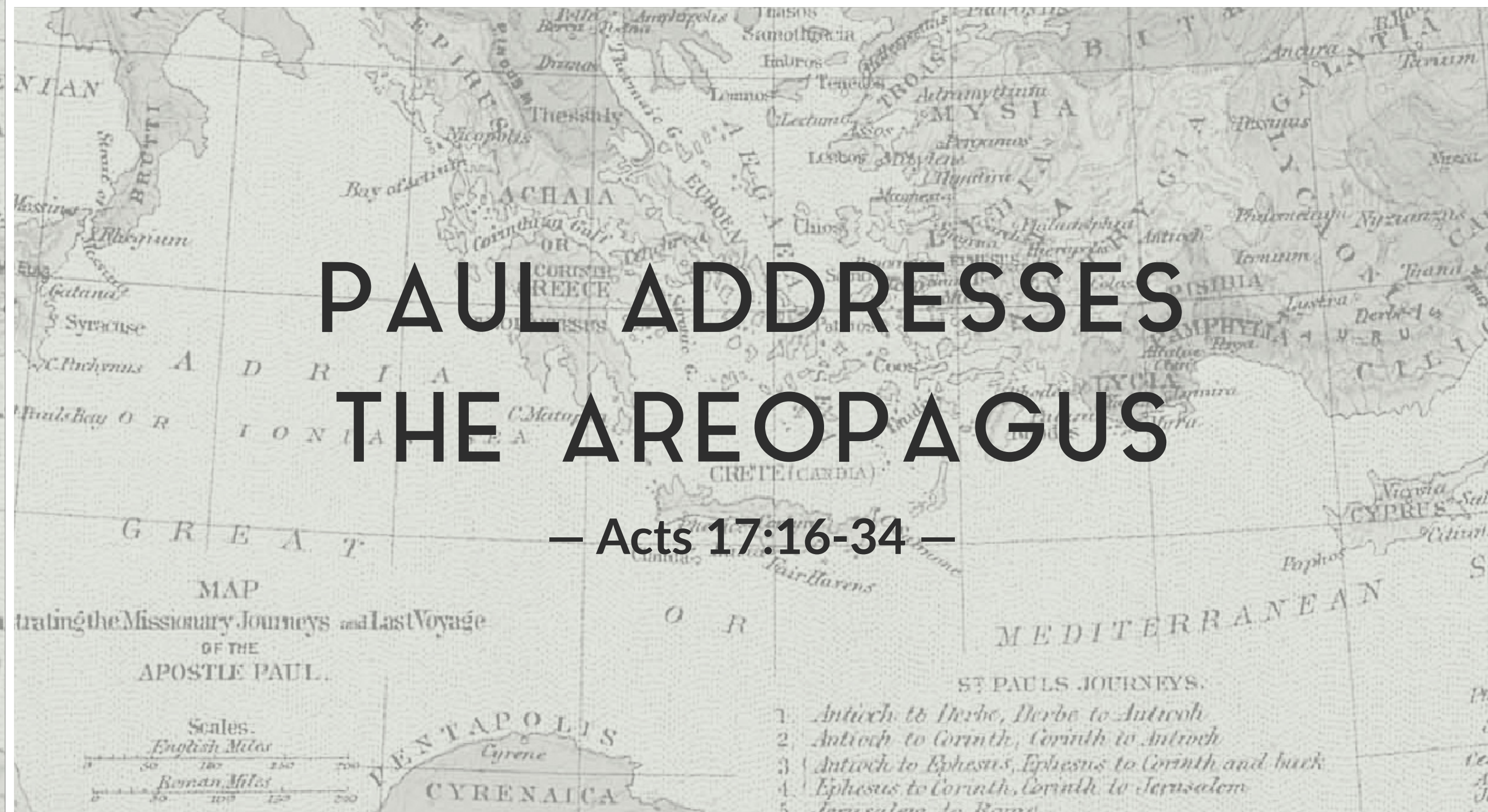
VENTAPOPOLIS
Cyrene
CYRENAICA

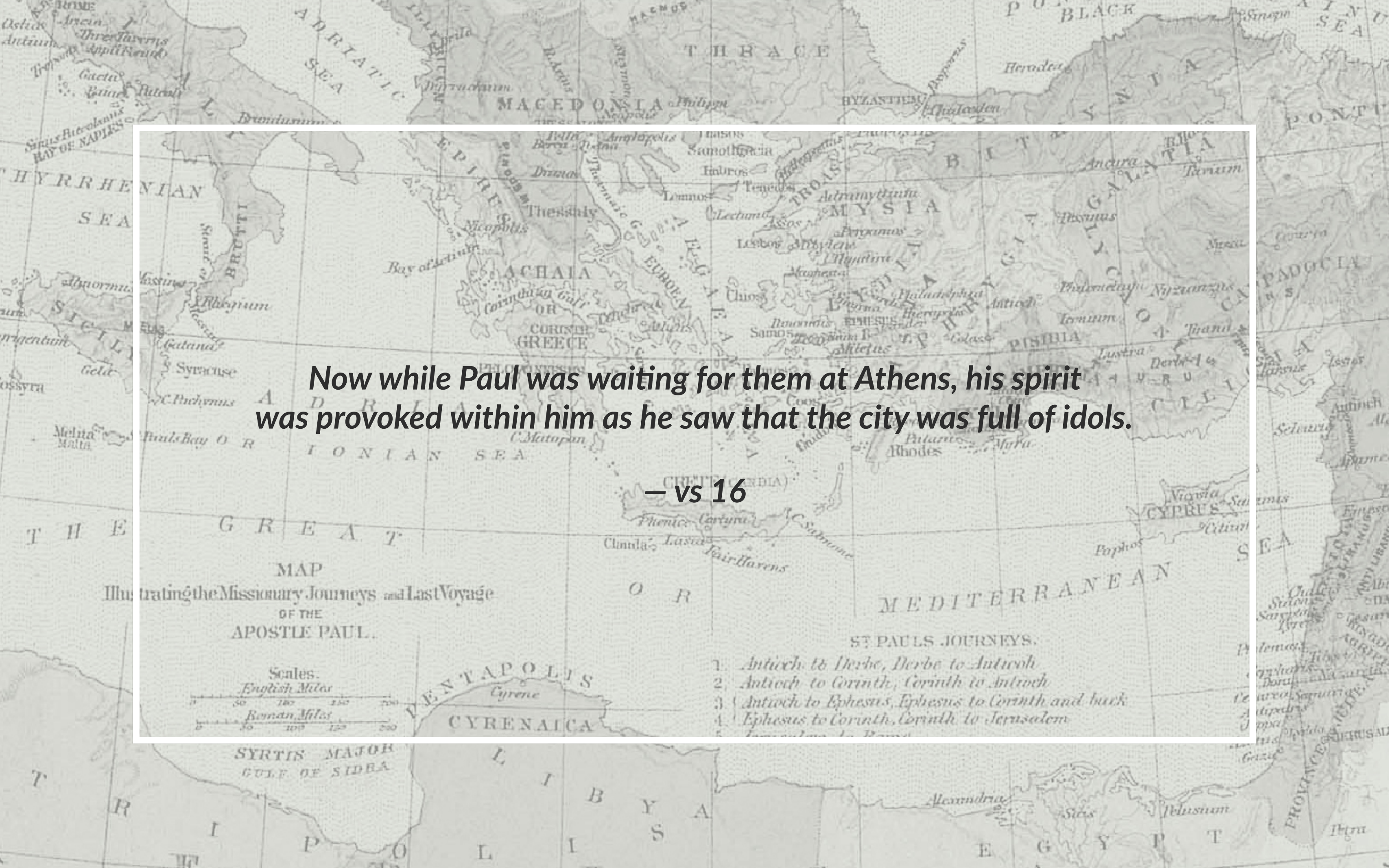
ST PAUL'S JOURNEYS.

1. Antioch to Derbe, Derbe to Antioch
2. Antioch to Corinth, Corinth to Antioch
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PAUL ADDRESSES THE AREOPAGUS

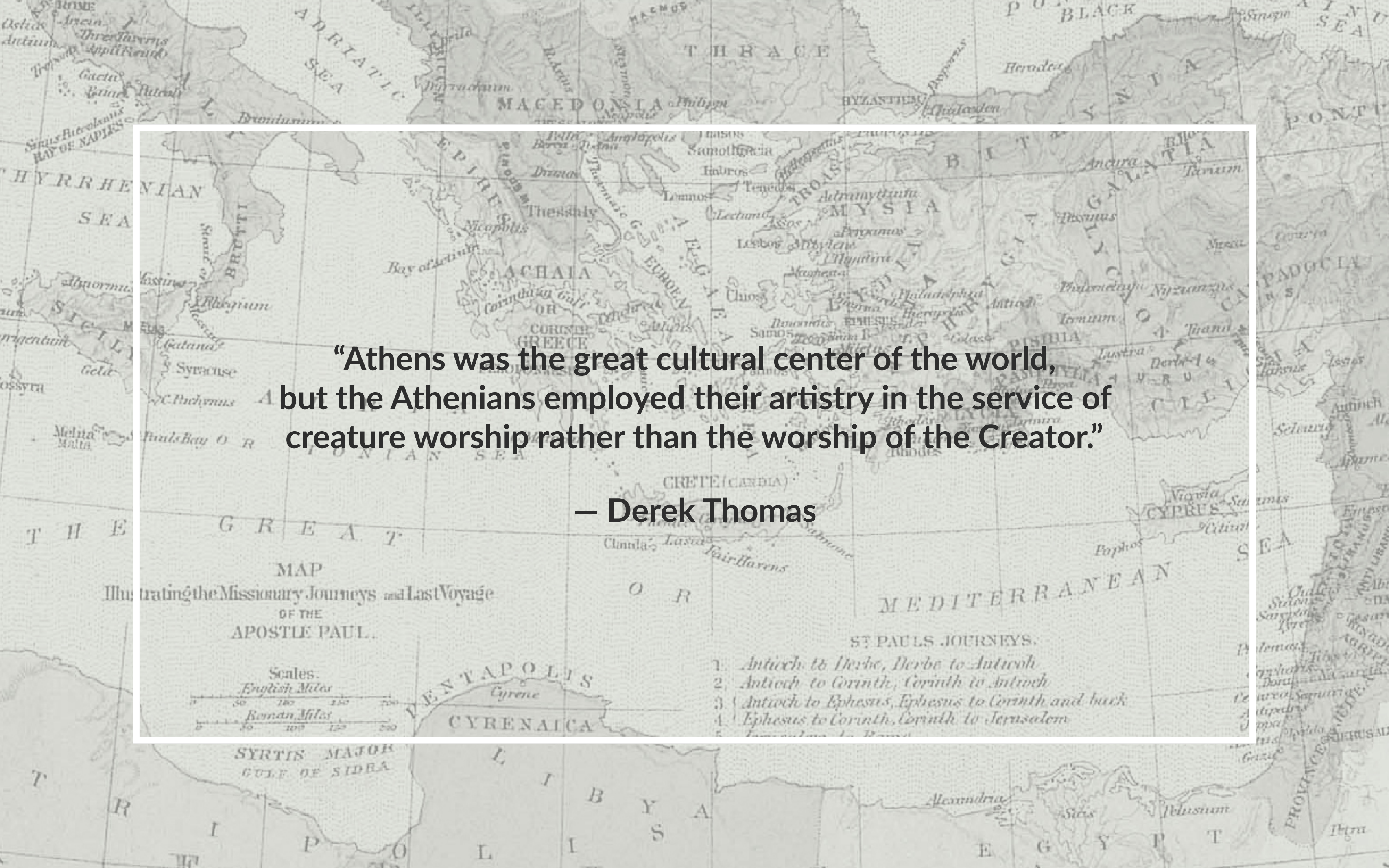
— Acts 17:16-34 —





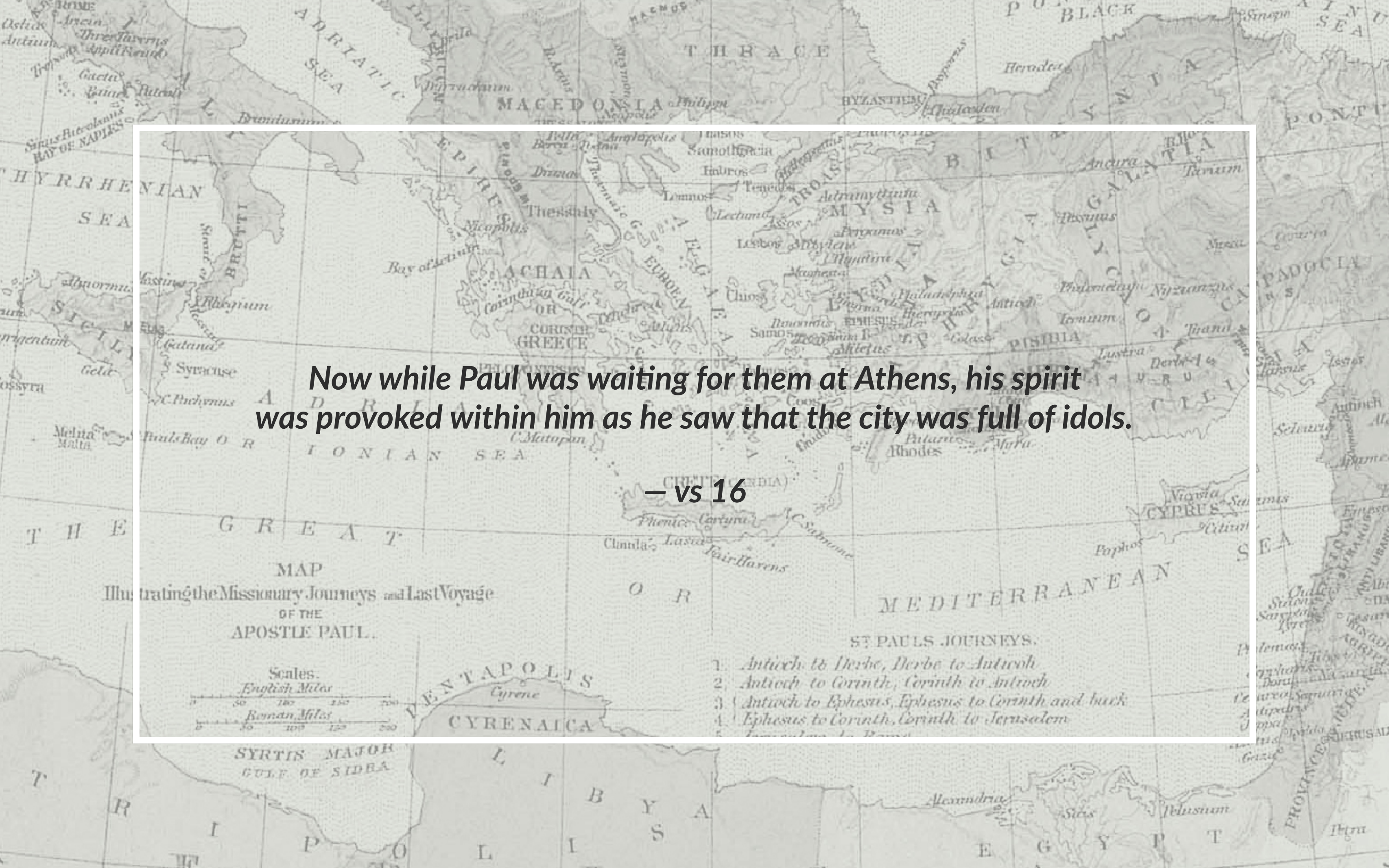
**Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit
was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols.**

— vs 16



**“Athens was the great cultural center of the world,
but the Athenians employed their artistry in the service of
creature worship rather than the worship of the Creator.”**

— Derek Thomas

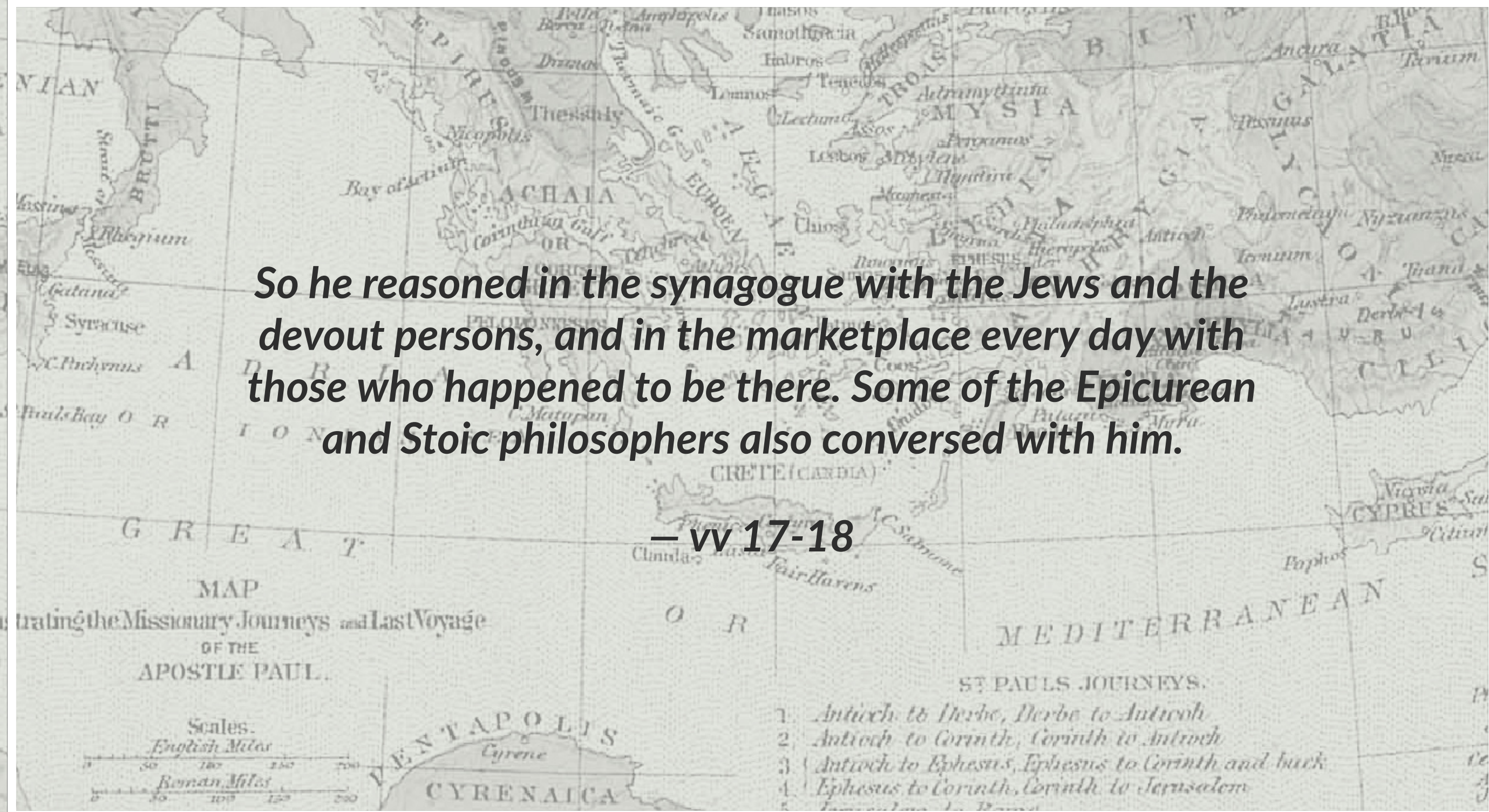


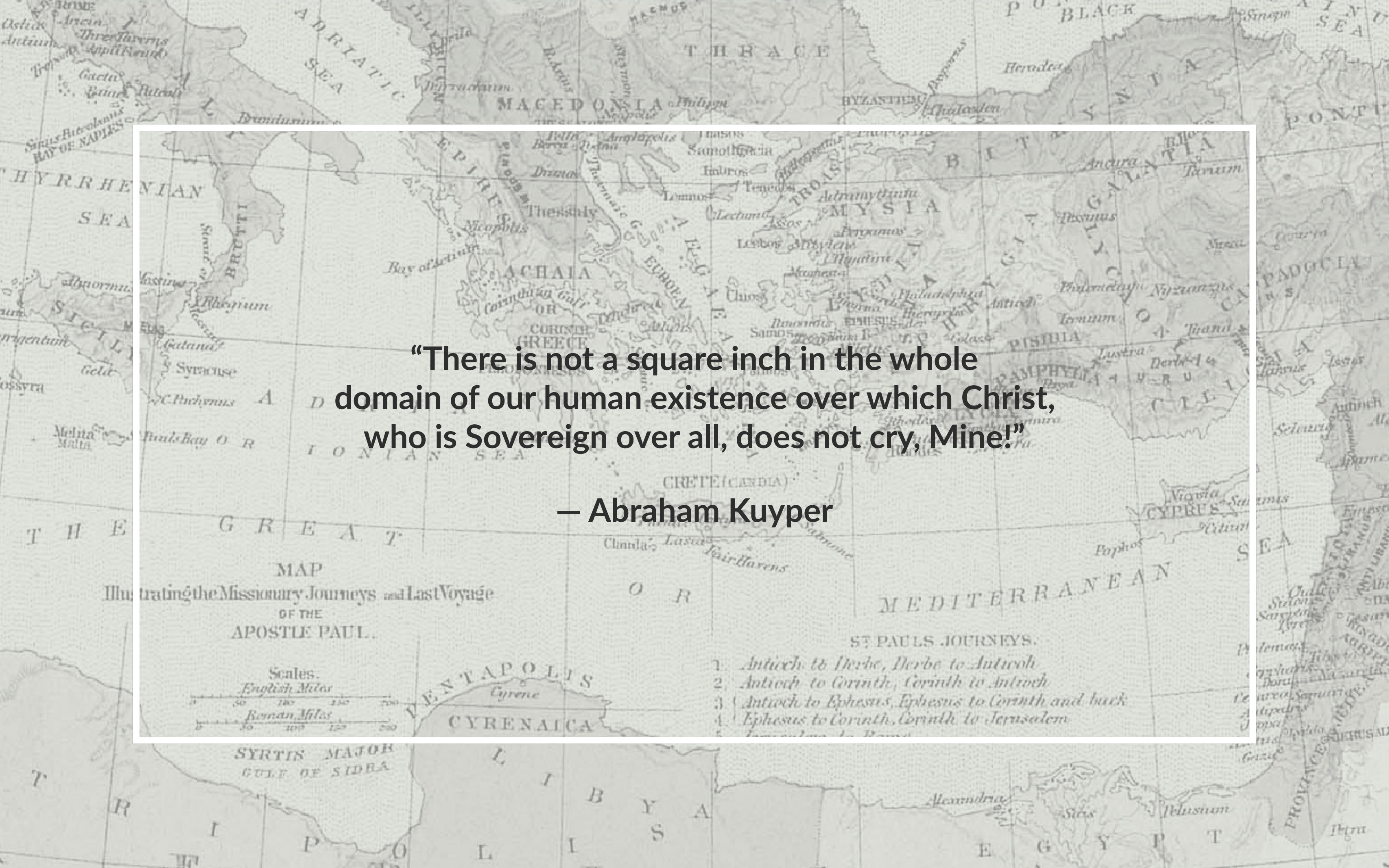
Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit
was provoked within him as he saw that the city was full of idols.

— vs 16

So he reasoned in the synagogue with the Jews and the devout persons, and in the marketplace every day with those who happened to be there. Some of the Epicurean and Stoic philosophers also conversed with him.

— vv 17-18



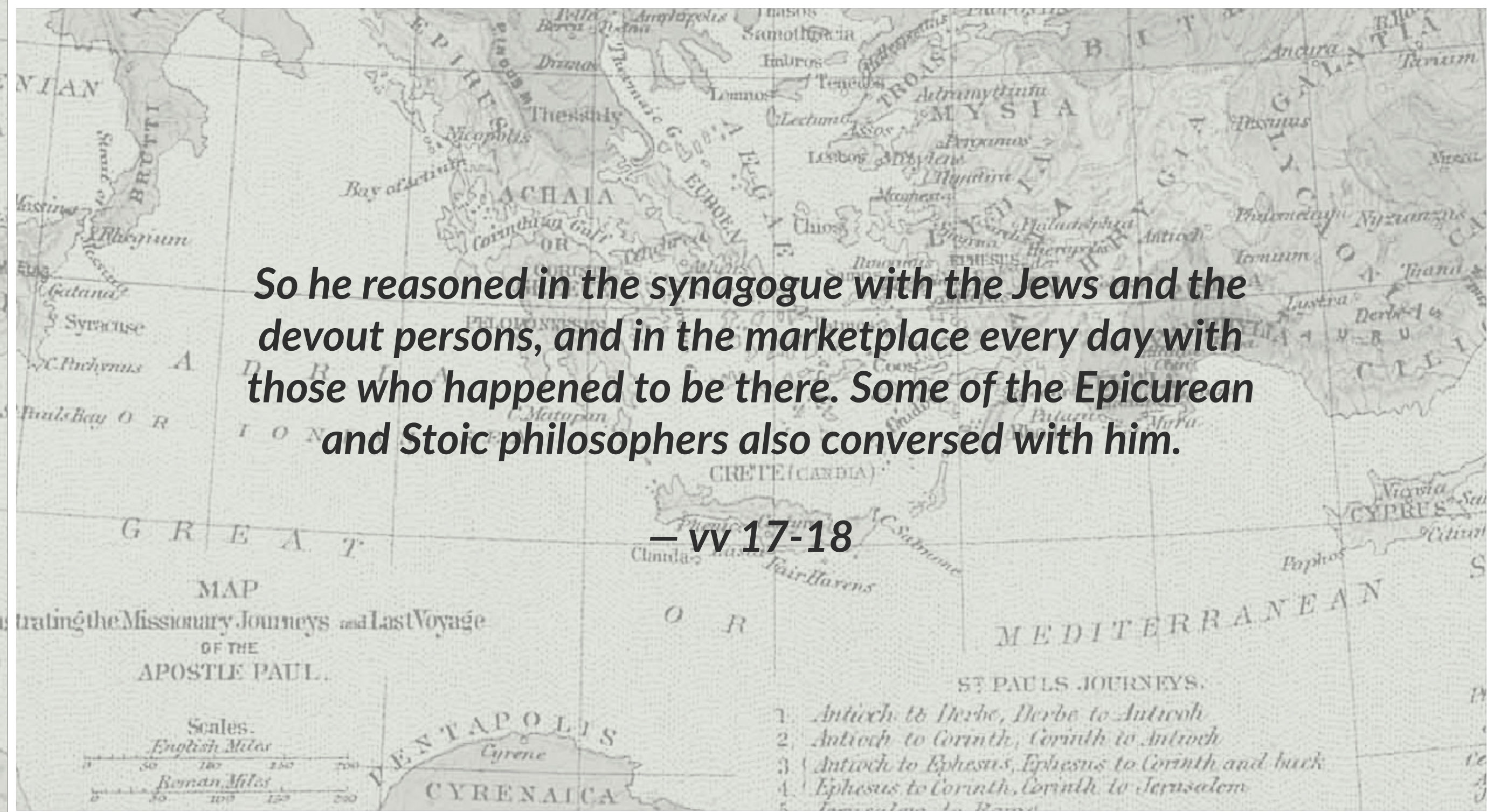


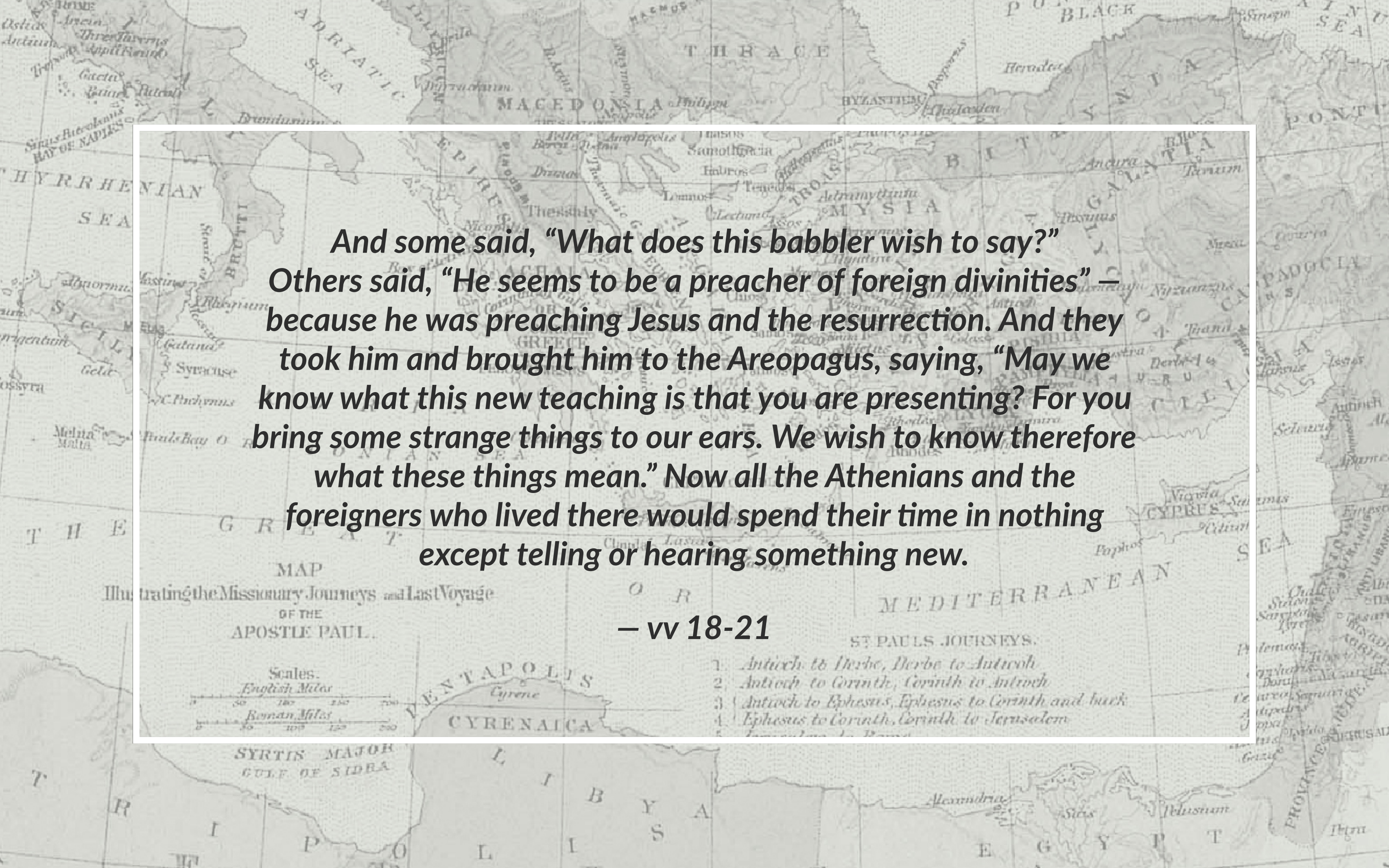
“There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine!”

— Abraham Kuyper

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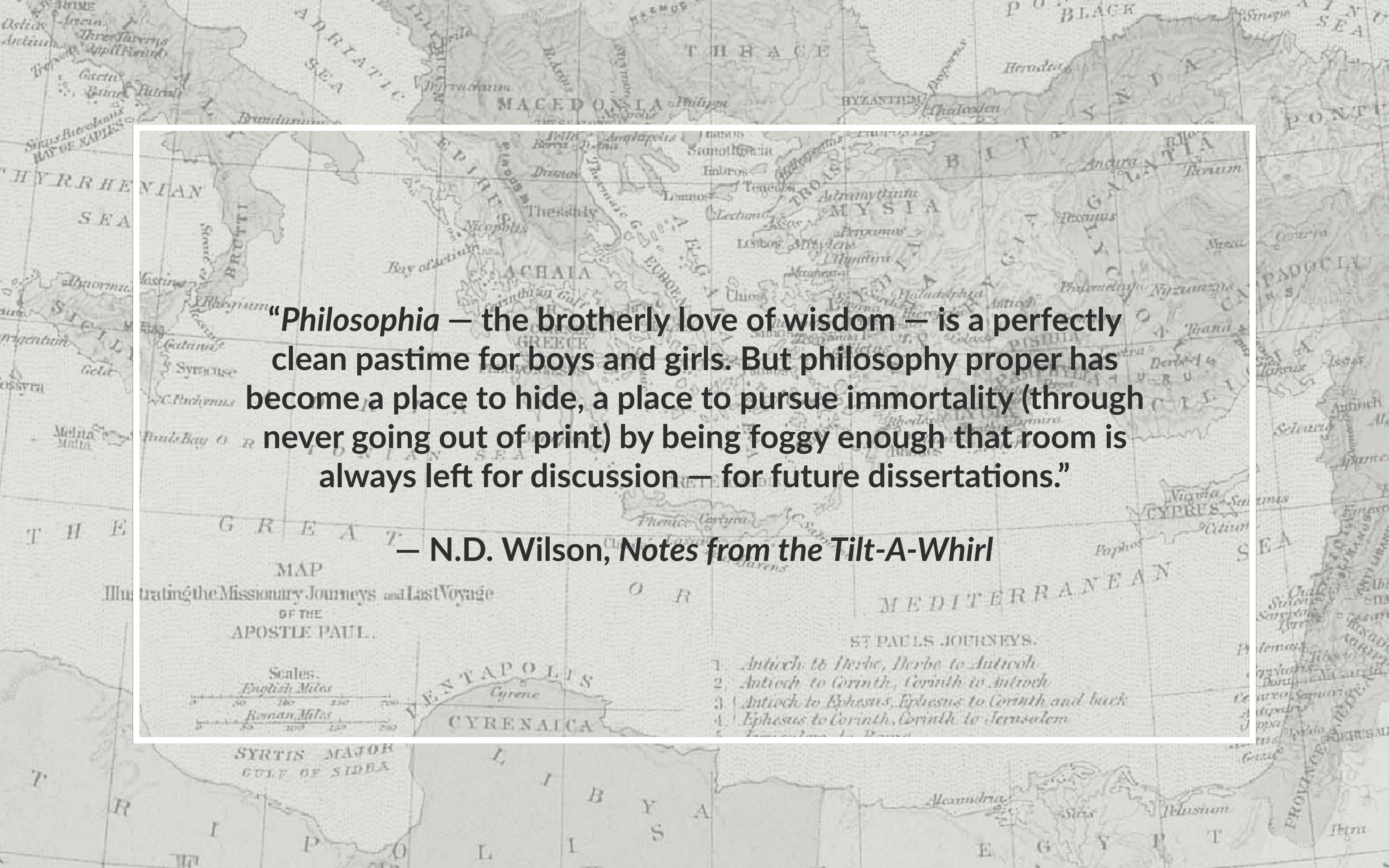
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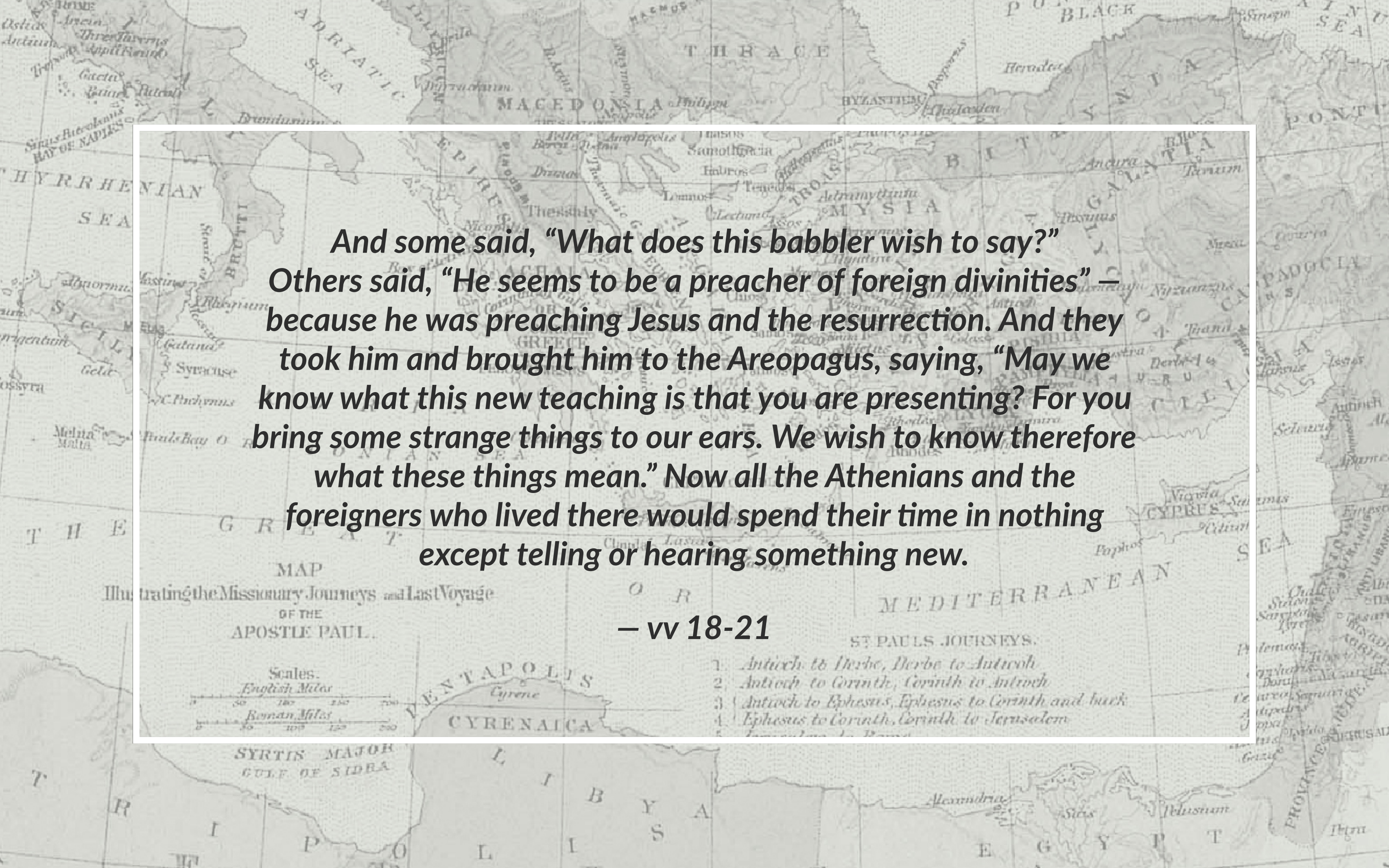
**And some said, “What does this babbler wish to say?”
Others said, “He seems to be a preacher of foreign divinities” —
because he was preaching Jesus and the resurrection. And they
took him and brought him to the Areopagus, saying, “May we
know what this new teaching is that you are presenting? For you
bring some strange things to our ears. We wish to know therefore
what these things mean.” Now all the Athenians and the
foreigners who lived there would spend their time in nothing
except telling or hearing something new.**

— vv 18-21



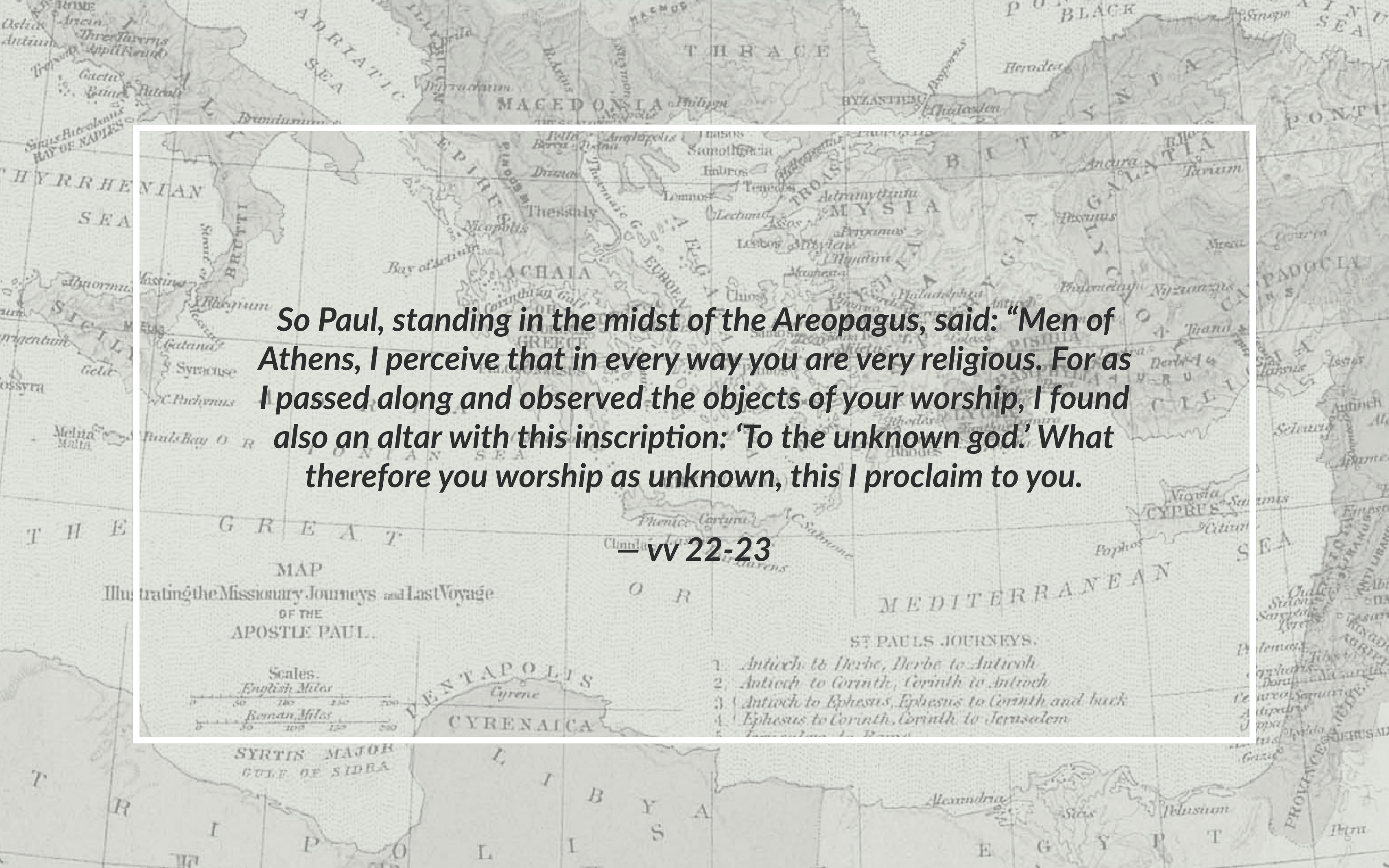
“Philosophia — the brotherly love of wisdom — is a perfectly clean pastime for boys and girls. But philosophy proper has become a place to hide, a place to pursue immortality (through never going out of print) by being foggy enough that room is always left for discussion — for future dissertations.”

— N.D. Wilson, *Notes from the Tilt-A-Whirl*



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So Paul, standing in the midst of the Areopagus, said: “Men of Athens, I perceive that in every way you are very religious. For as I passed along and observed the objects of your worship, I found also an altar with this inscription: ‘To the unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.

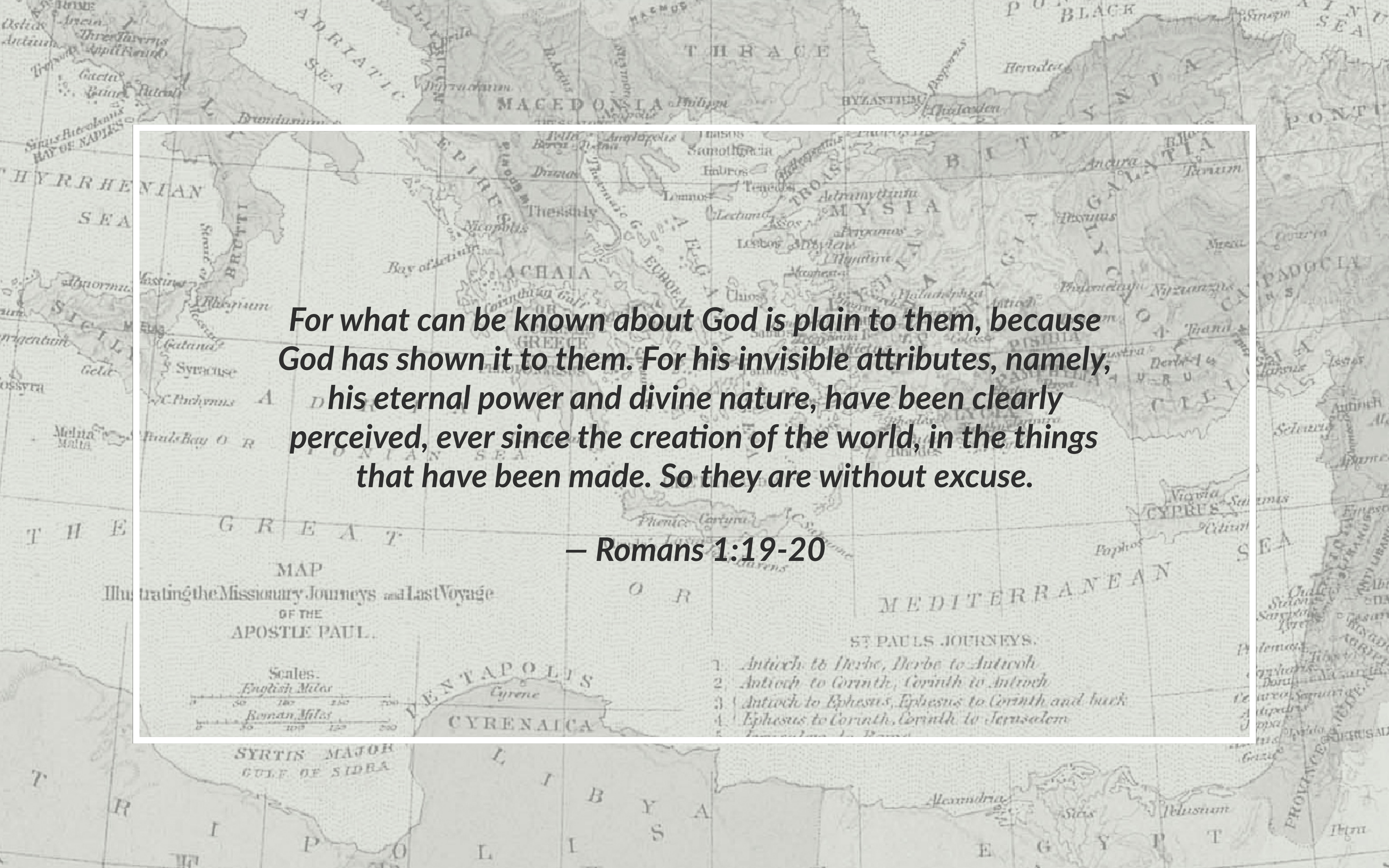
— vv 22-23

MAP
Illustrating the Missionary Journeys and Last Voyage
OF THE
APOSTLE PAUL.

Scales.
English Miles
Roman Miles

ST PAUL'S JOURNEYS.

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For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse.

— Romans 1:19-20

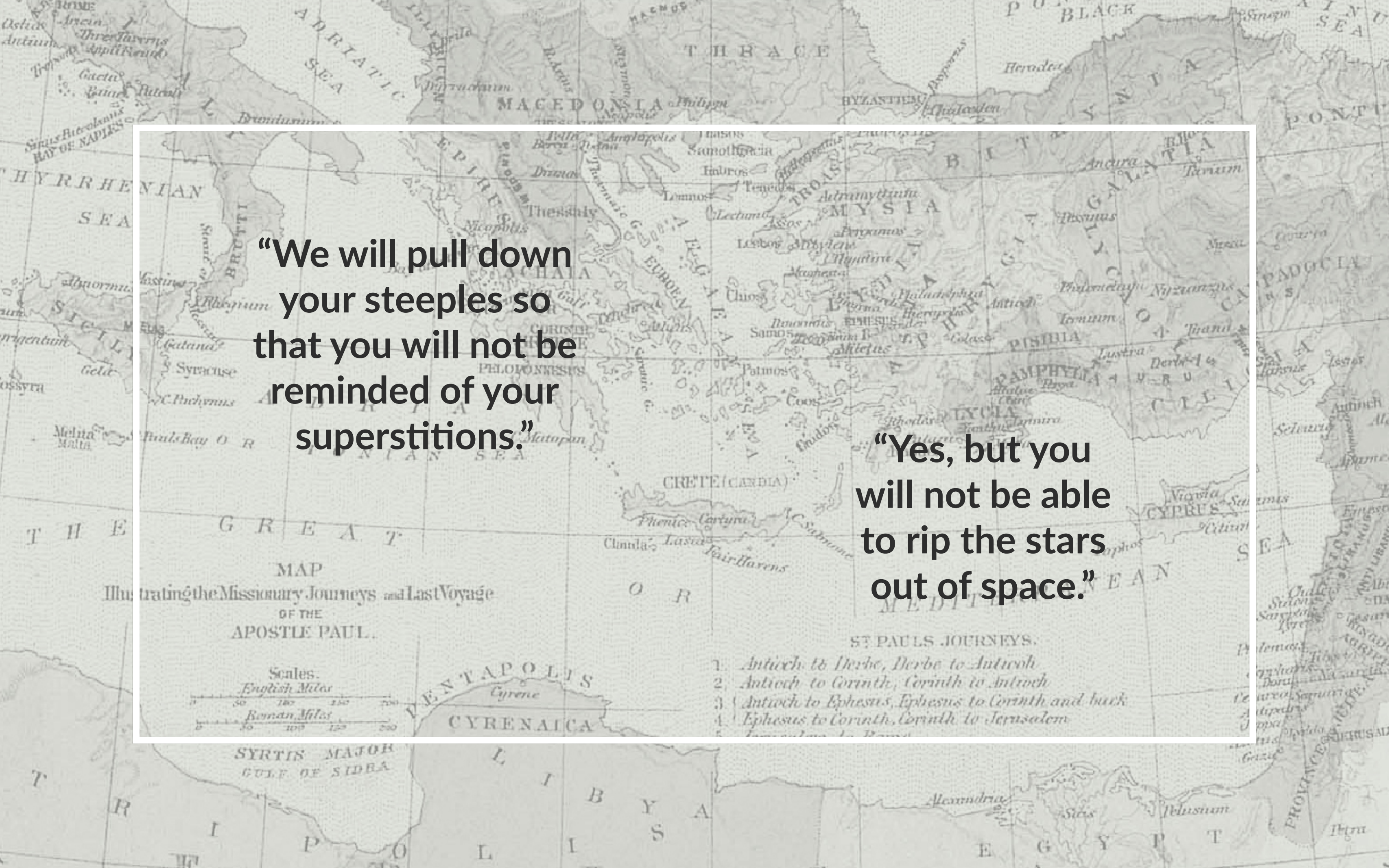
**“We will pull down
your steeples so
that you will not be
reminded of your
superstitions.”**

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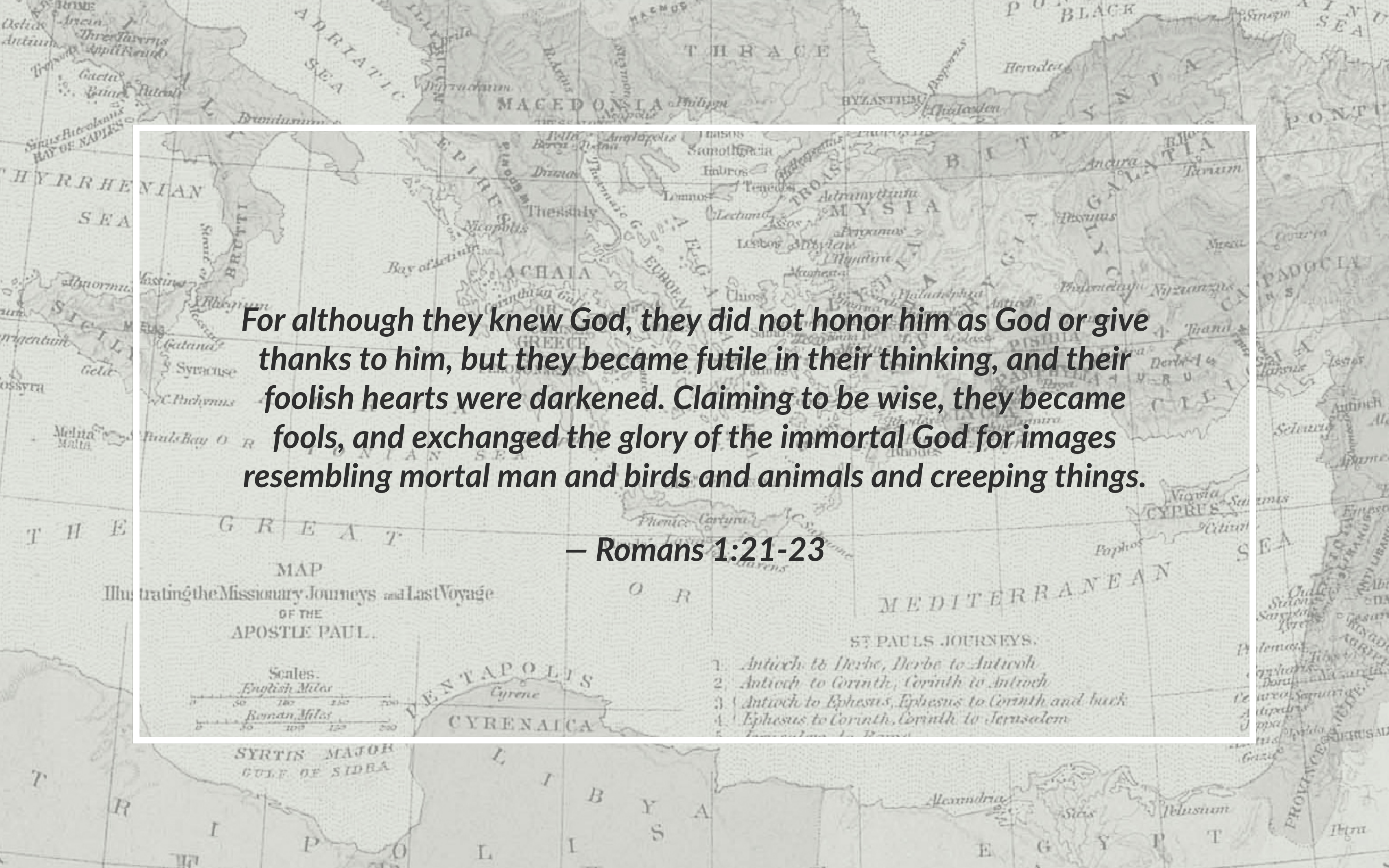
**“Yes, but you
will not be able
to rip the stars
out of space.”**

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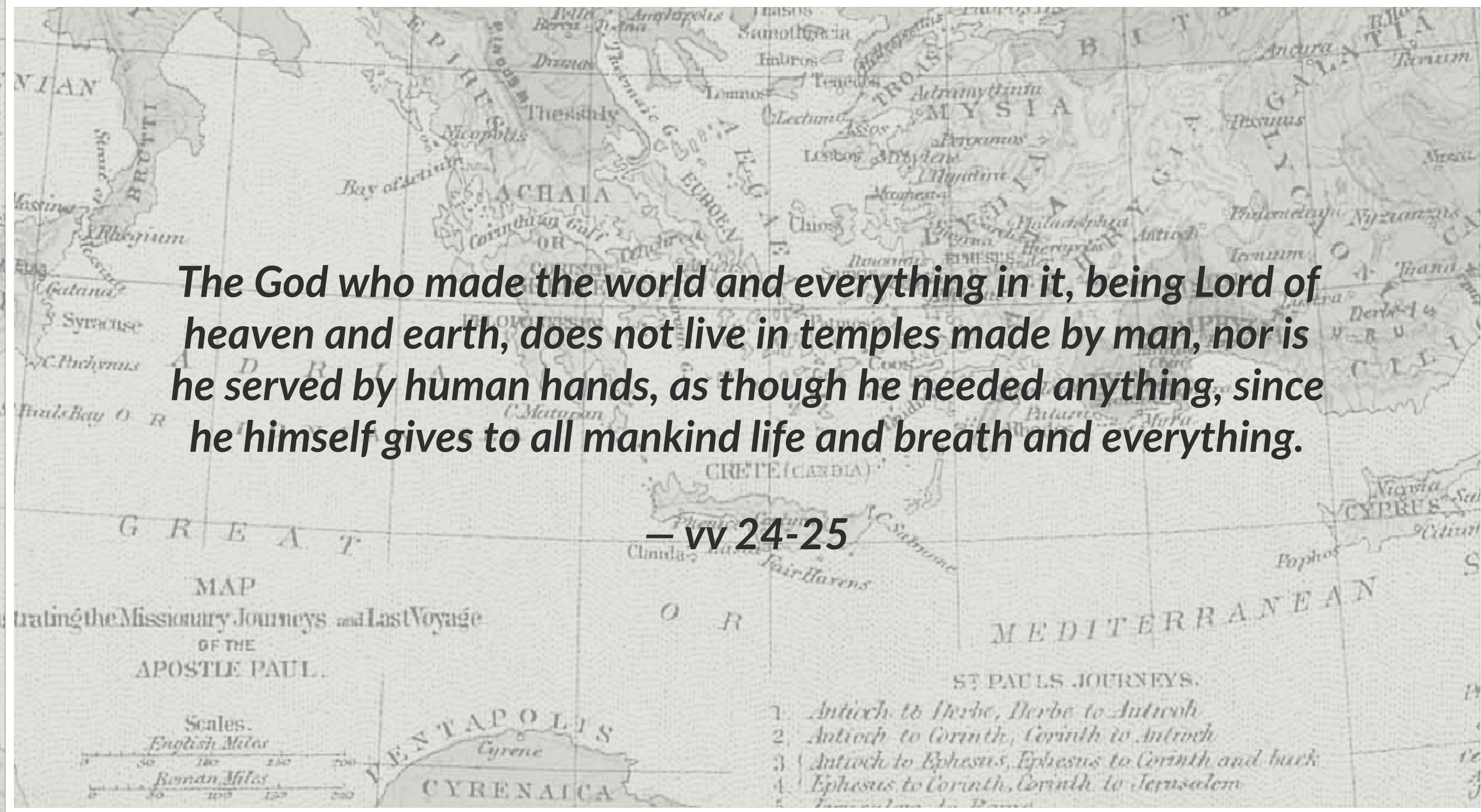


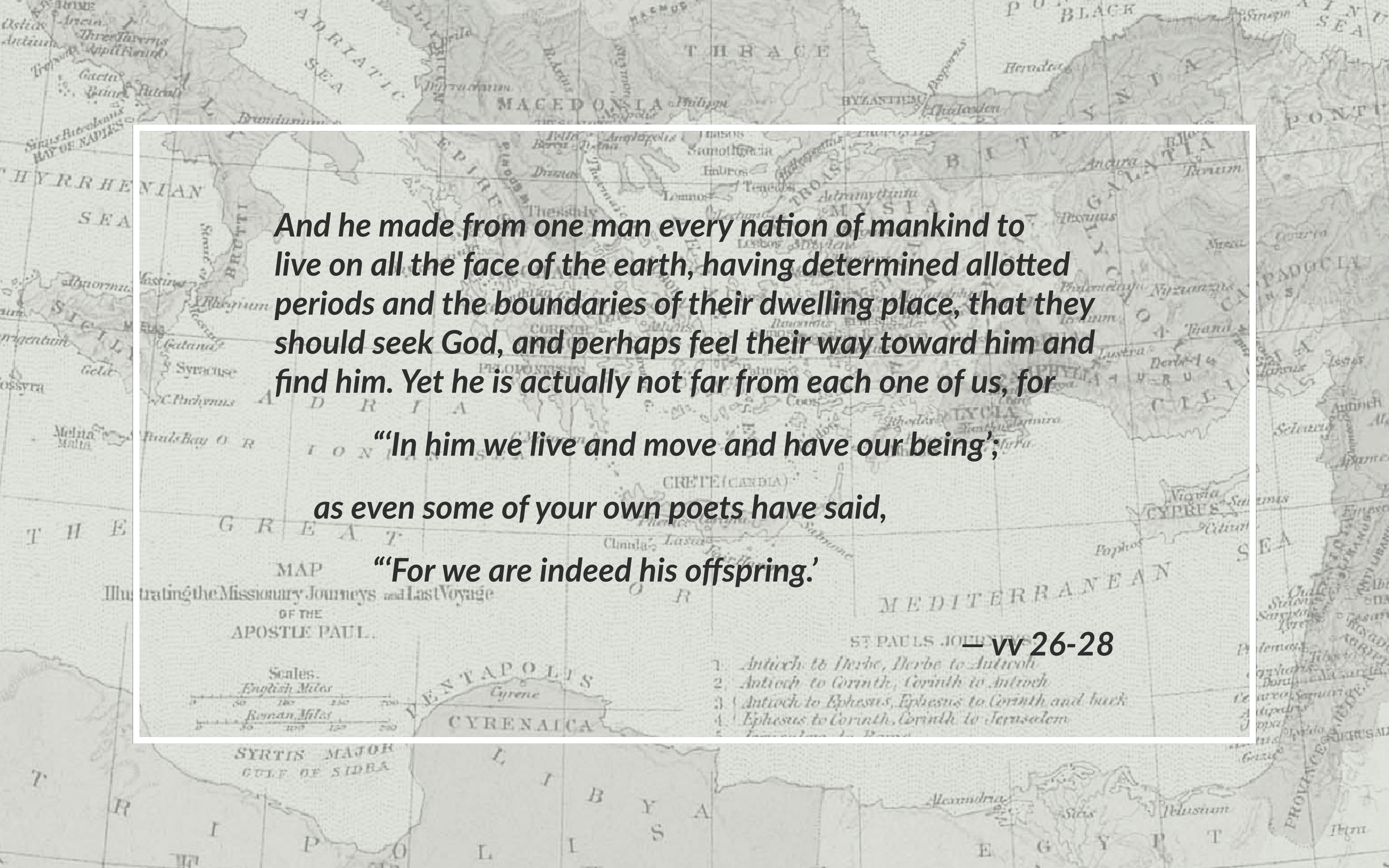
For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man and birds and animals and creeping things.

— Romans 1:21-23

**The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of
heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is
he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since
he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.**

— vv 24-25





And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us, for

“In him we live and move and have our being’;

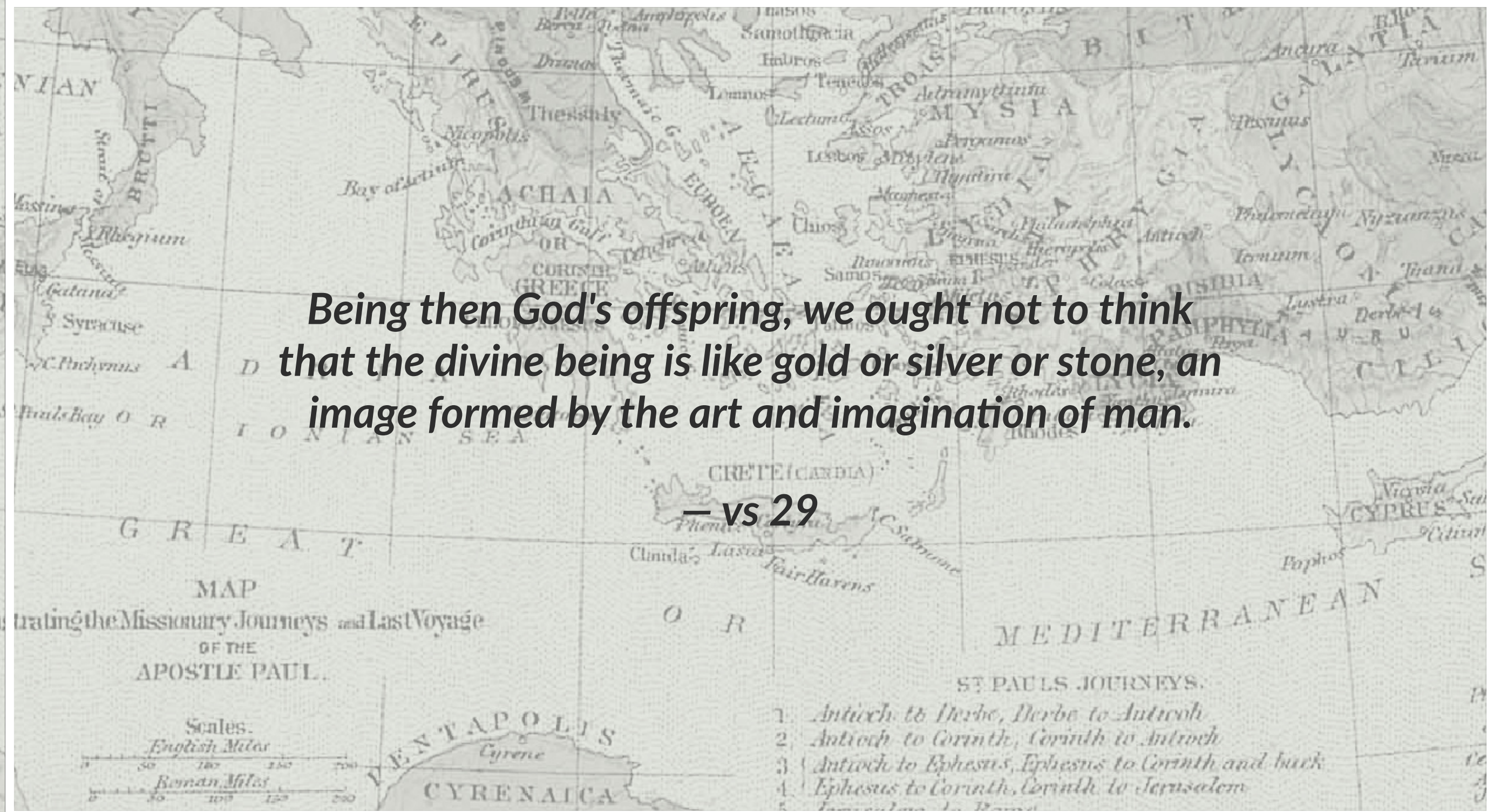
as even some of your own poets have said,

“For we are indeed his offspring.’

— vv 26-28

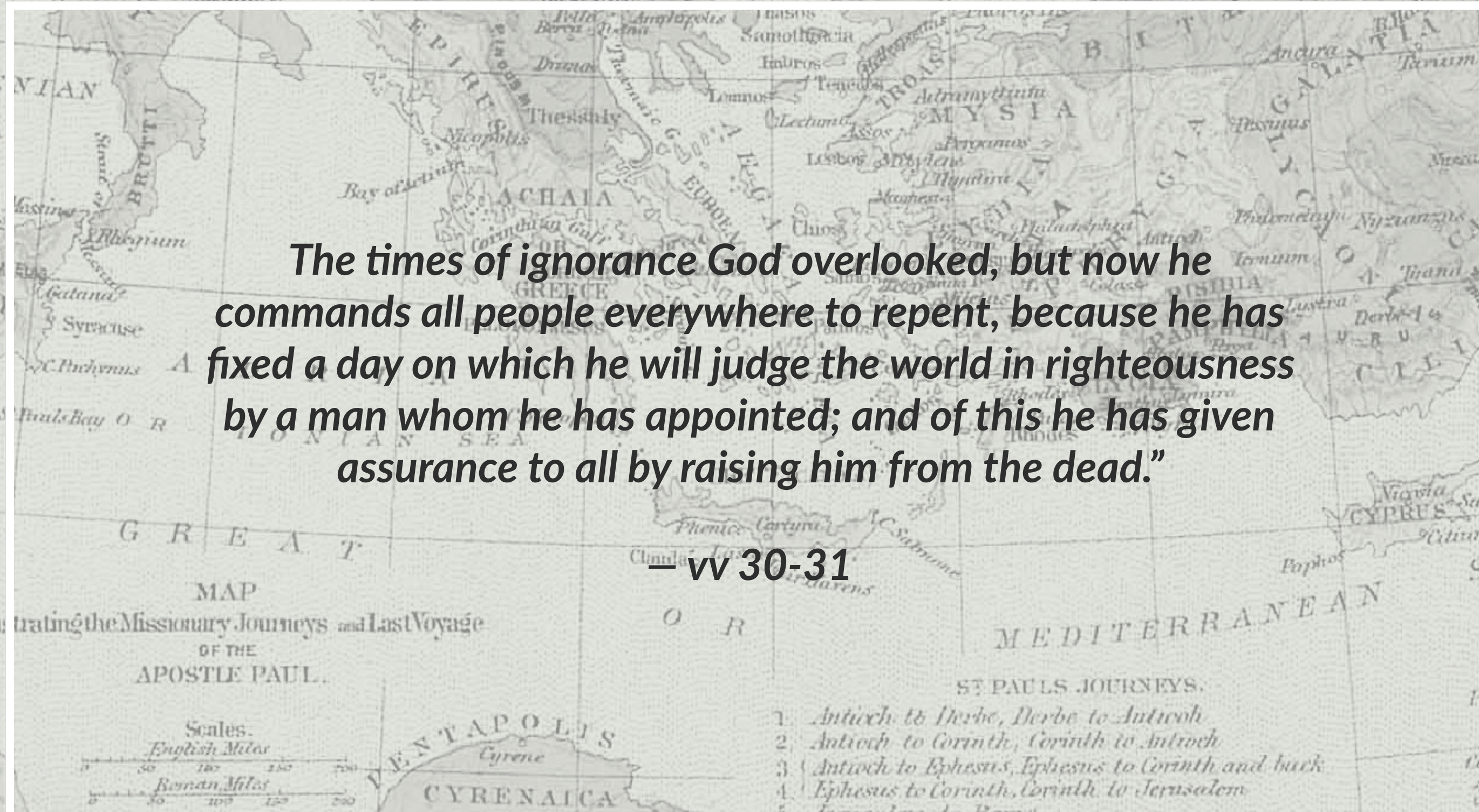
**Being then God's offspring, we ought not to think
that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone, an
image formed by the art and imagination of man.**

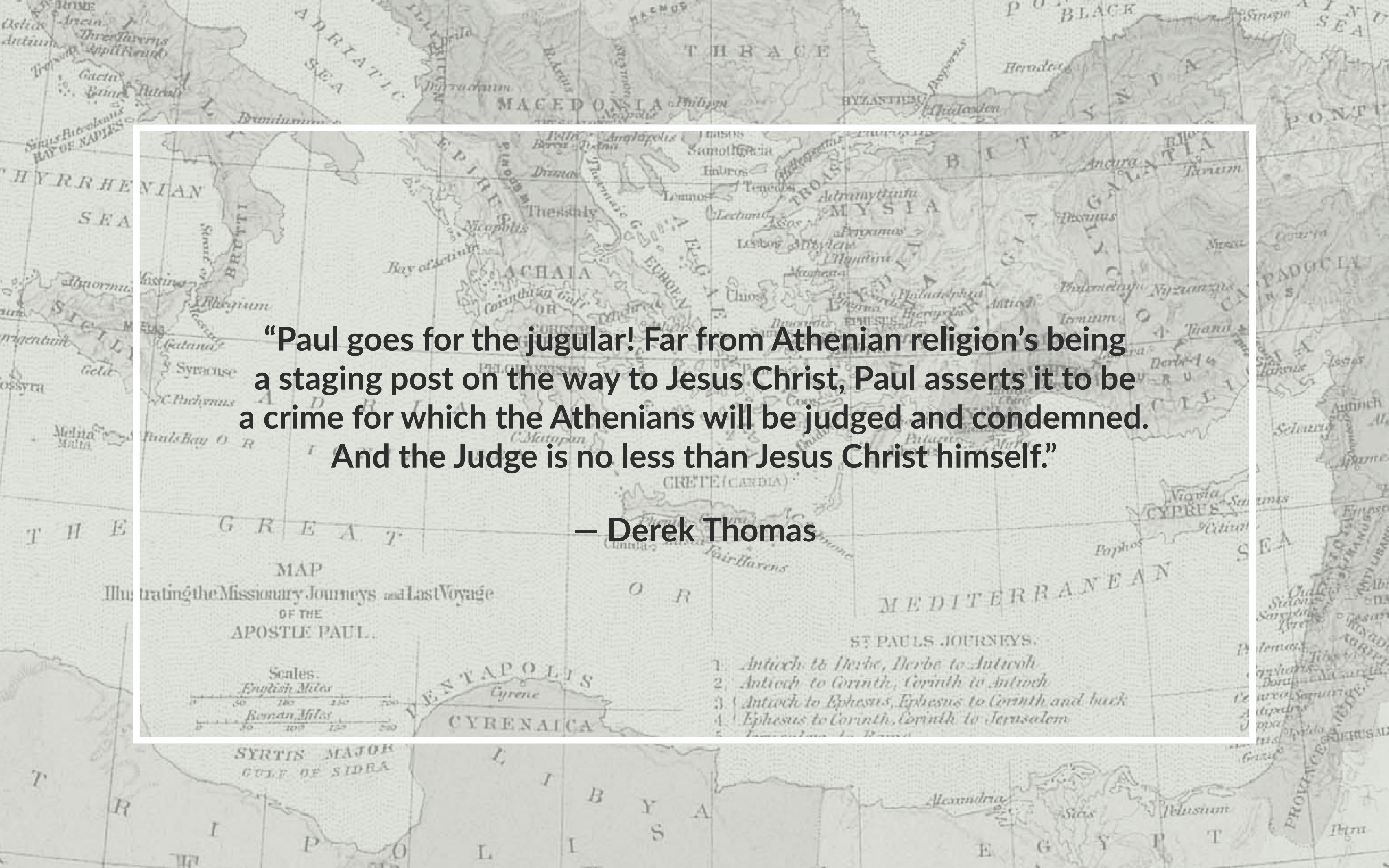
— vs 29



The times of ignorance God overlooked, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will judge the world in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed; and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

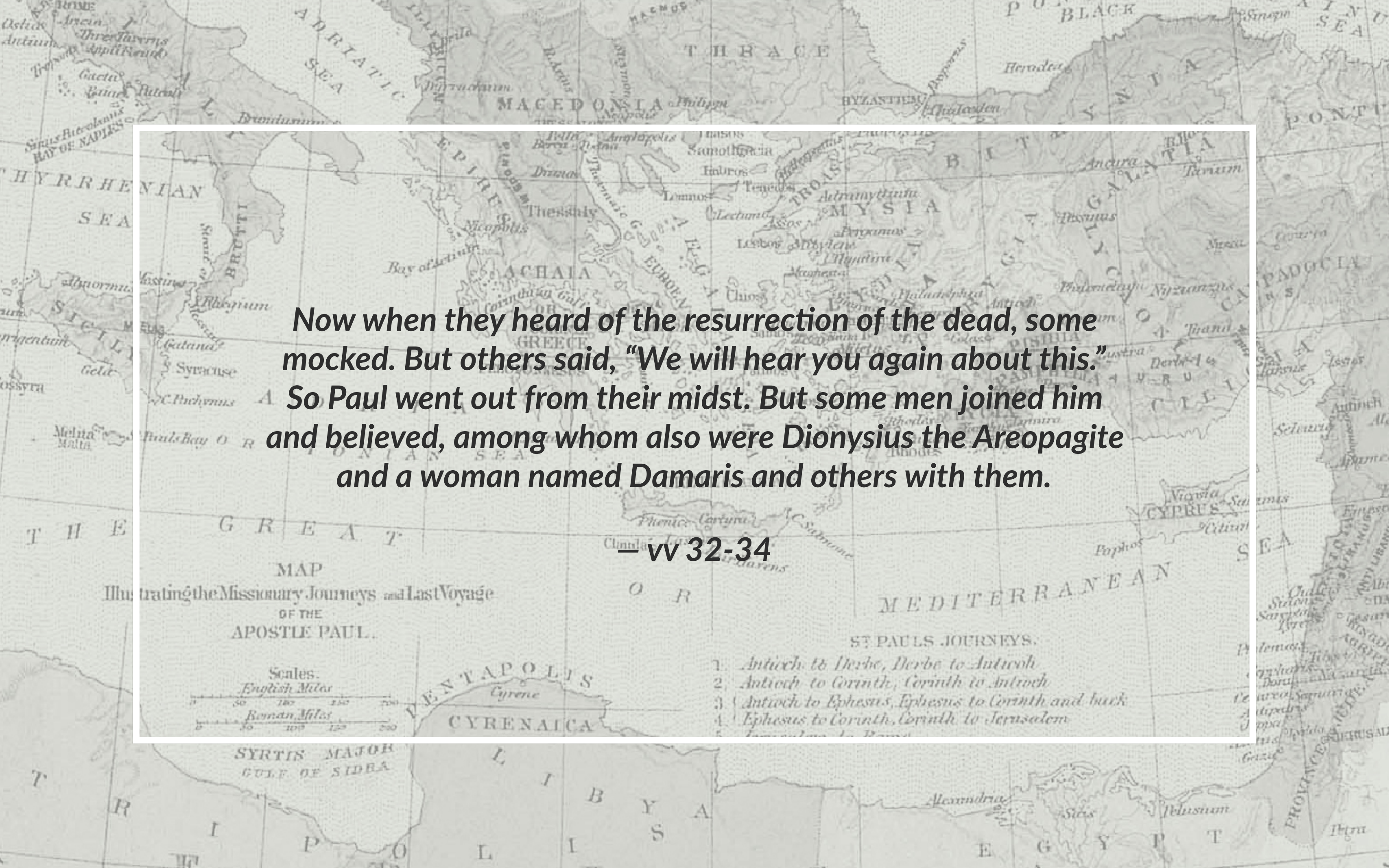
— vv 30-31





“Paul goes for the jugular! Far from Athenian religion’s being a staging post on the way to Jesus Christ, Paul asserts it to be a crime for which the Athenians will be judged and condemned. And the Judge is no less than Jesus Christ himself.”

— Derek Thomas



Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some mocked. But others said, “We will hear you again about this.” So Paul went out from their midst. But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

—vv 32-34

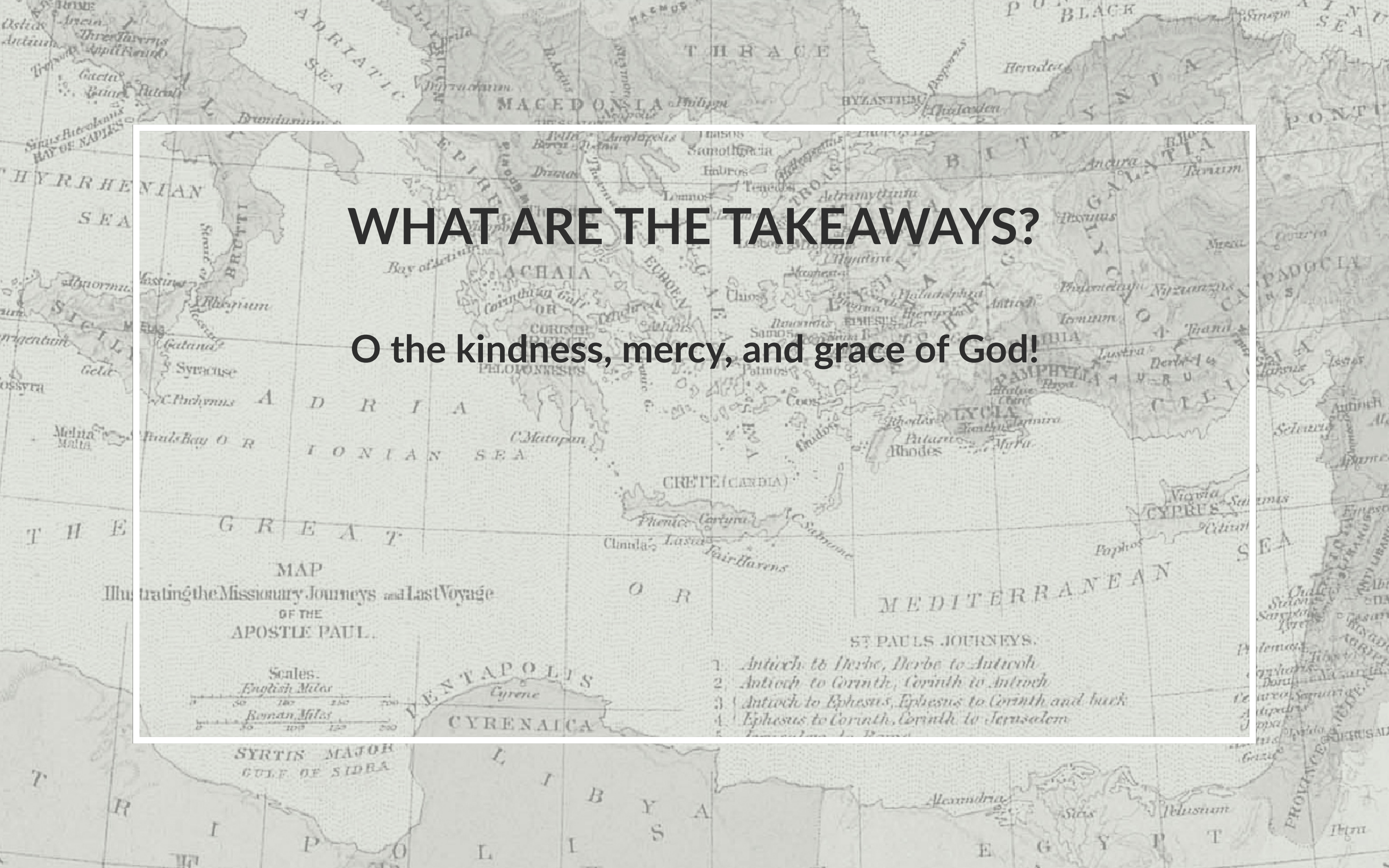
WHAT ARE THE TAKEAWAYS?

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WHAT ARE THE TAKEAWAYS?

O the kindness, mercy, and grace of God!

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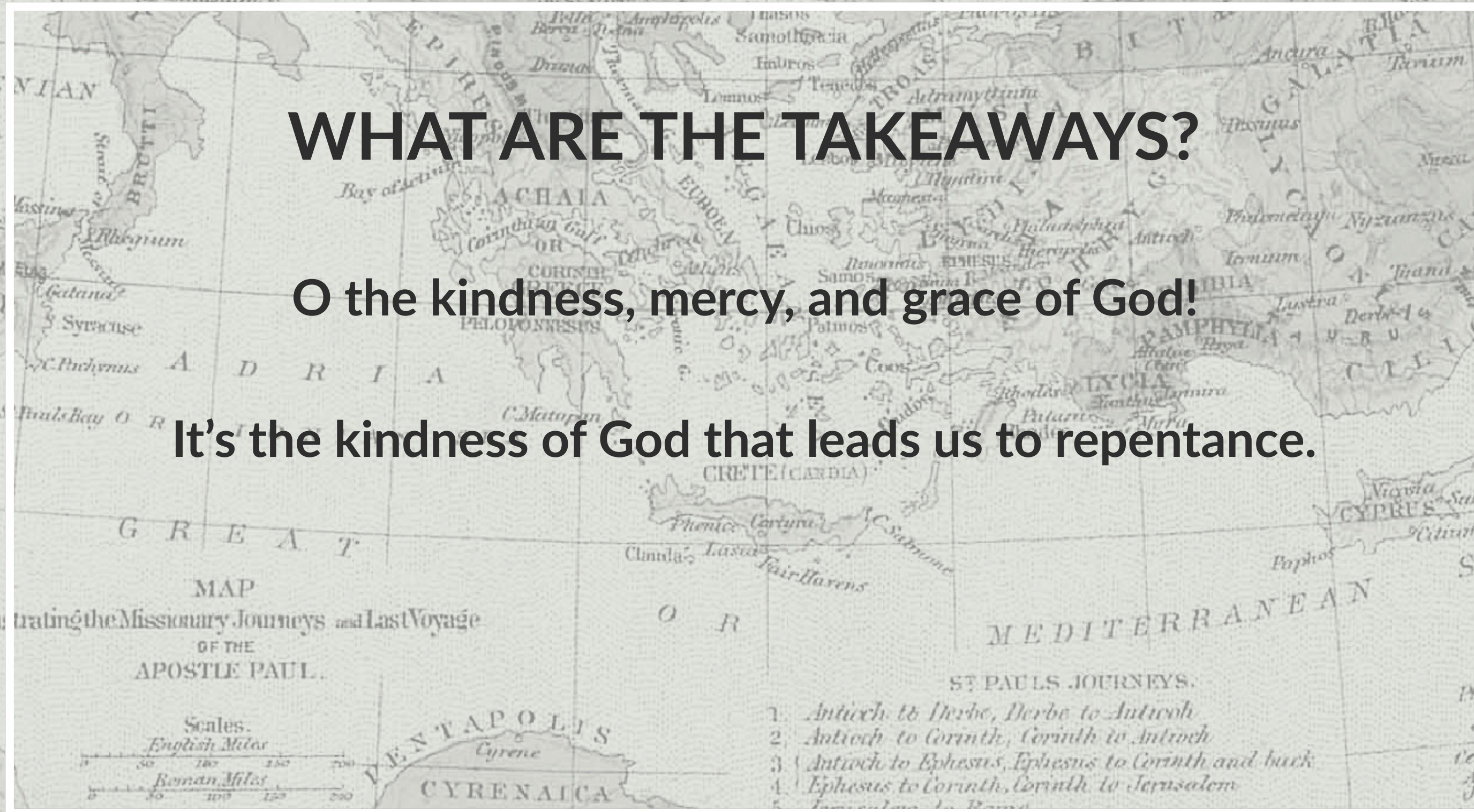
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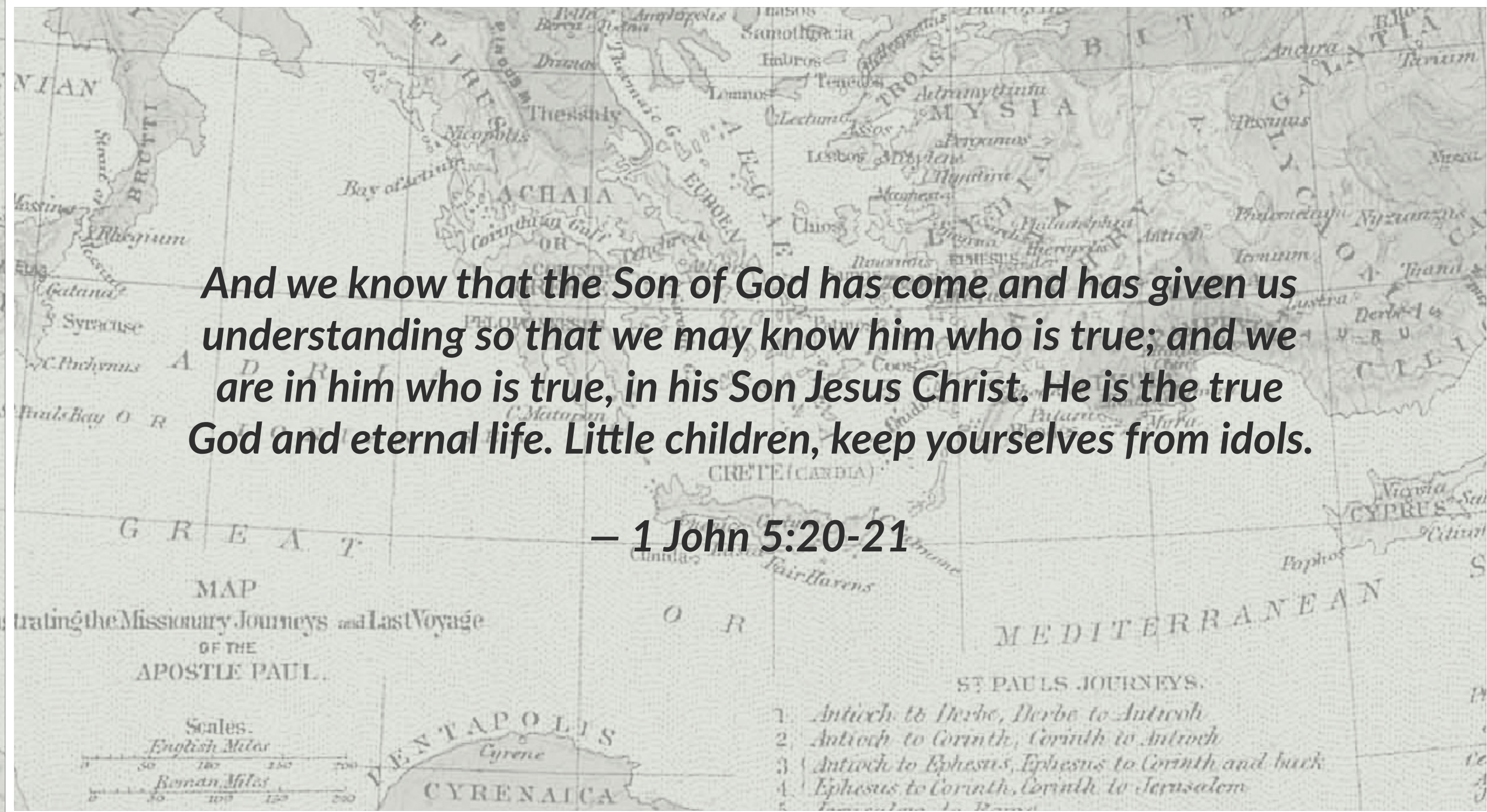
O the kindness, mercy, and grace of God!

It's the kindness of God that leads us to repentance.



And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life. Little children, keep yourselves from idols.

— 1 John 5:20-21



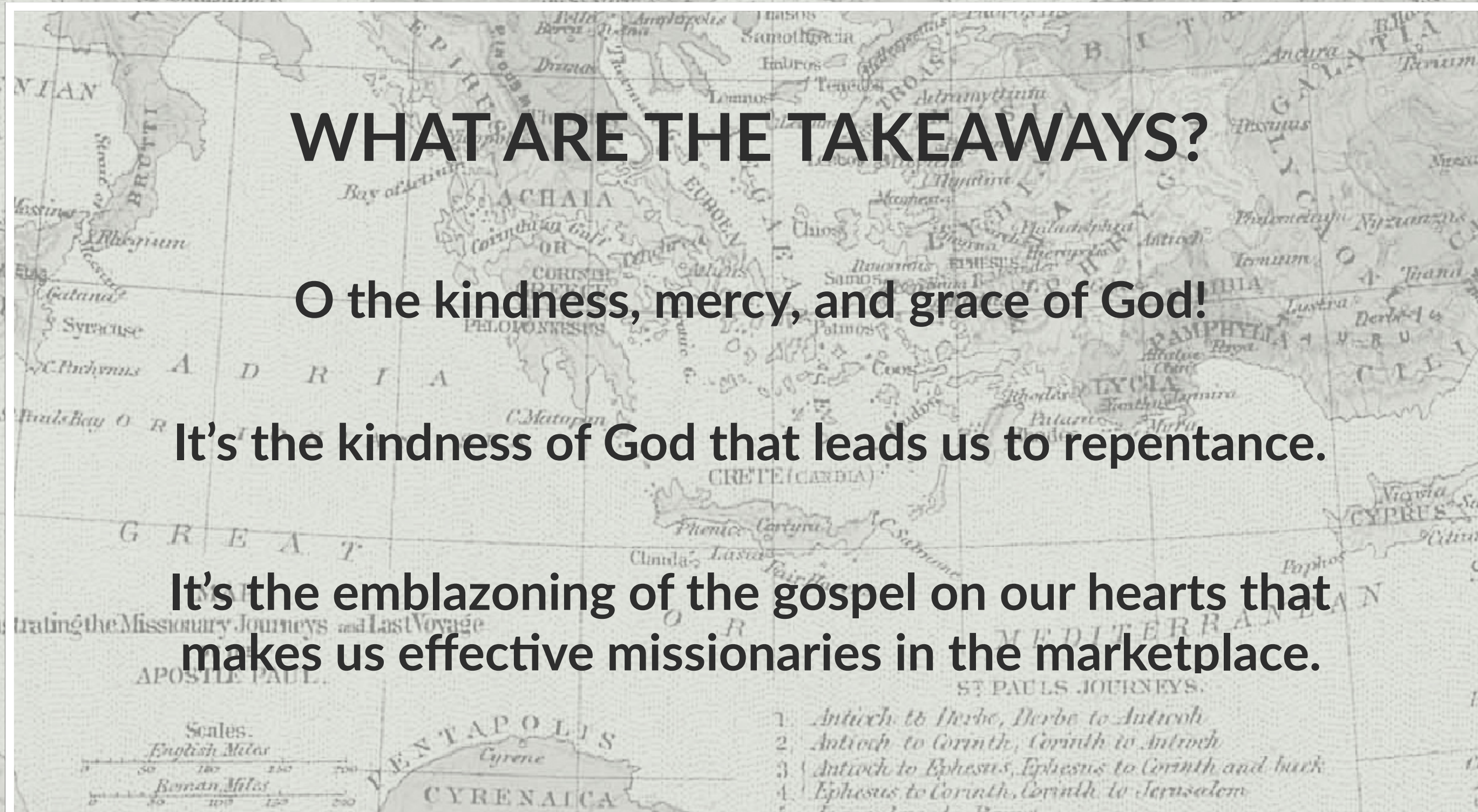
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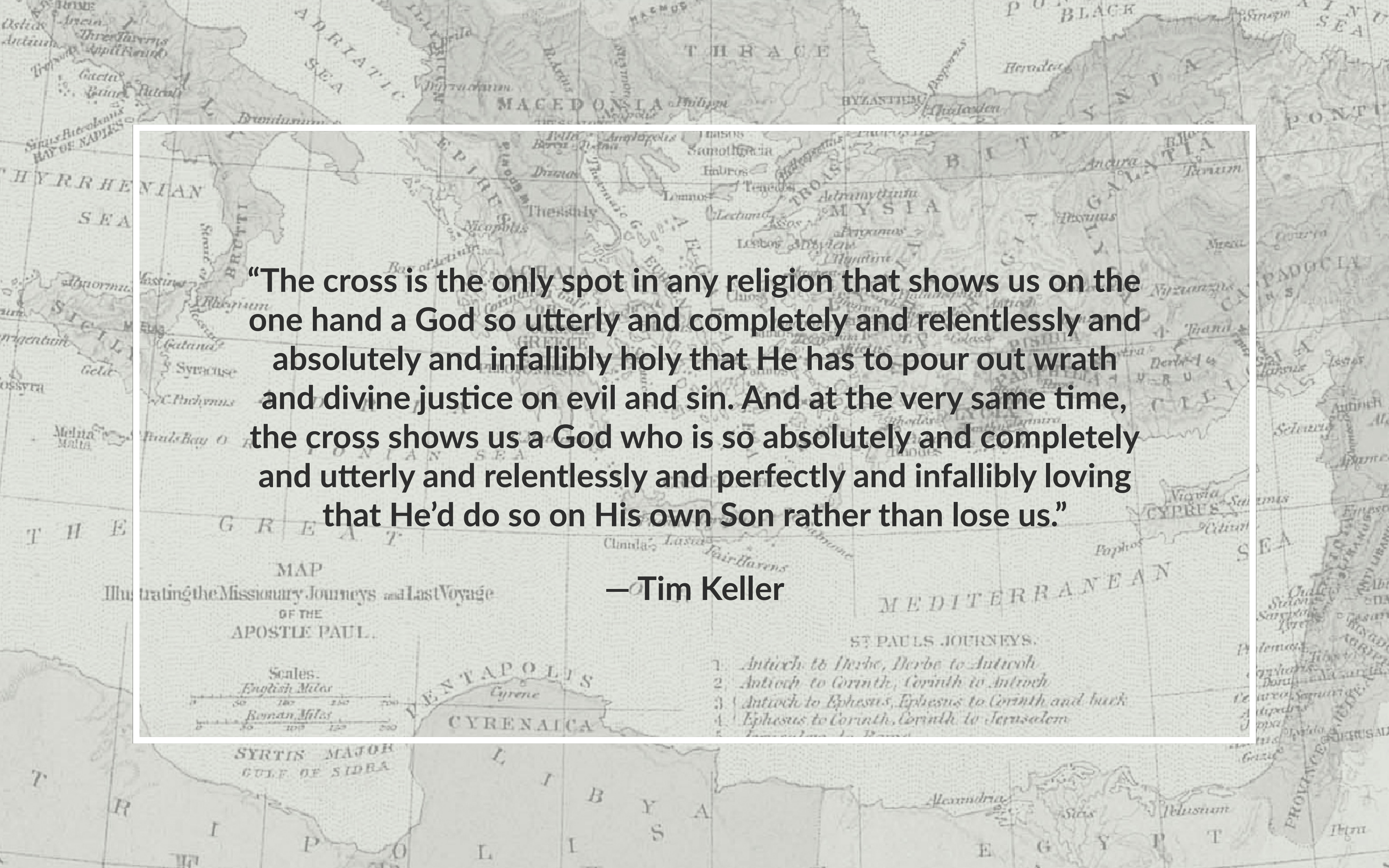
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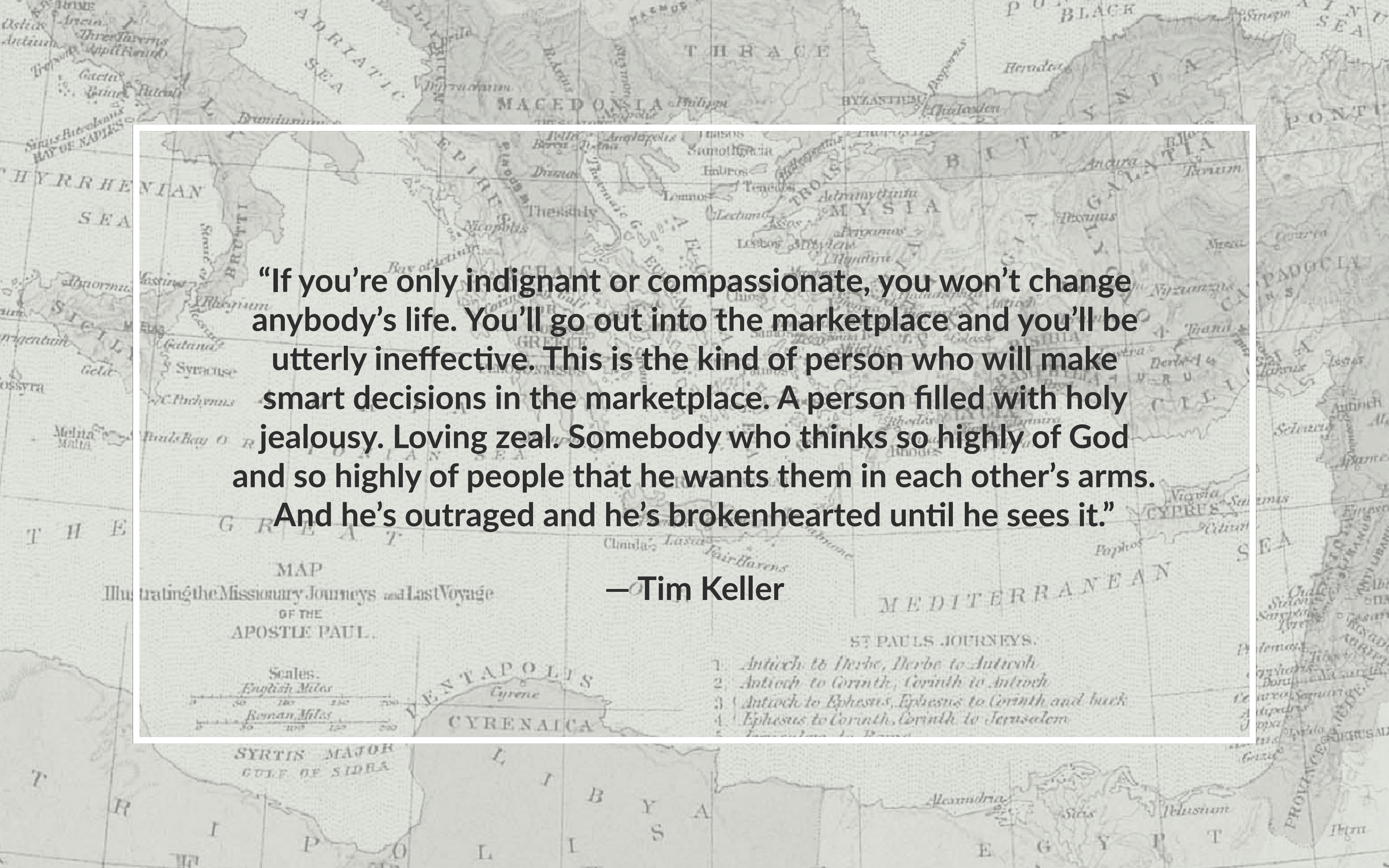
It's the emblazoning of the gospel on our hearts that makes us effective missionaries in the marketplace.





“The cross is the only spot in any religion that shows us on the one hand a God so utterly and completely and relentlessly and absolutely and infallibly holy that He has to pour out wrath and divine justice on evil and sin. And at the very same time, the cross shows us a God who is so absolutely and completely and utterly and relentlessly and perfectly and infallibly loving that He’d do so on His own Son rather than lose us.”

—Tim Keller



“If you’re only indignant or compassionate, you won’t change anybody’s life. You’ll go out into the marketplace and you’ll be utterly ineffective. This is the kind of person who will make smart decisions in the marketplace. A person filled with holy jealousy. Loving zeal. Somebody who thinks so highly of God and so highly of people that he wants them in each other’s arms. And he’s outraged and he’s brokenhearted until he sees it.”

—Tim Keller

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