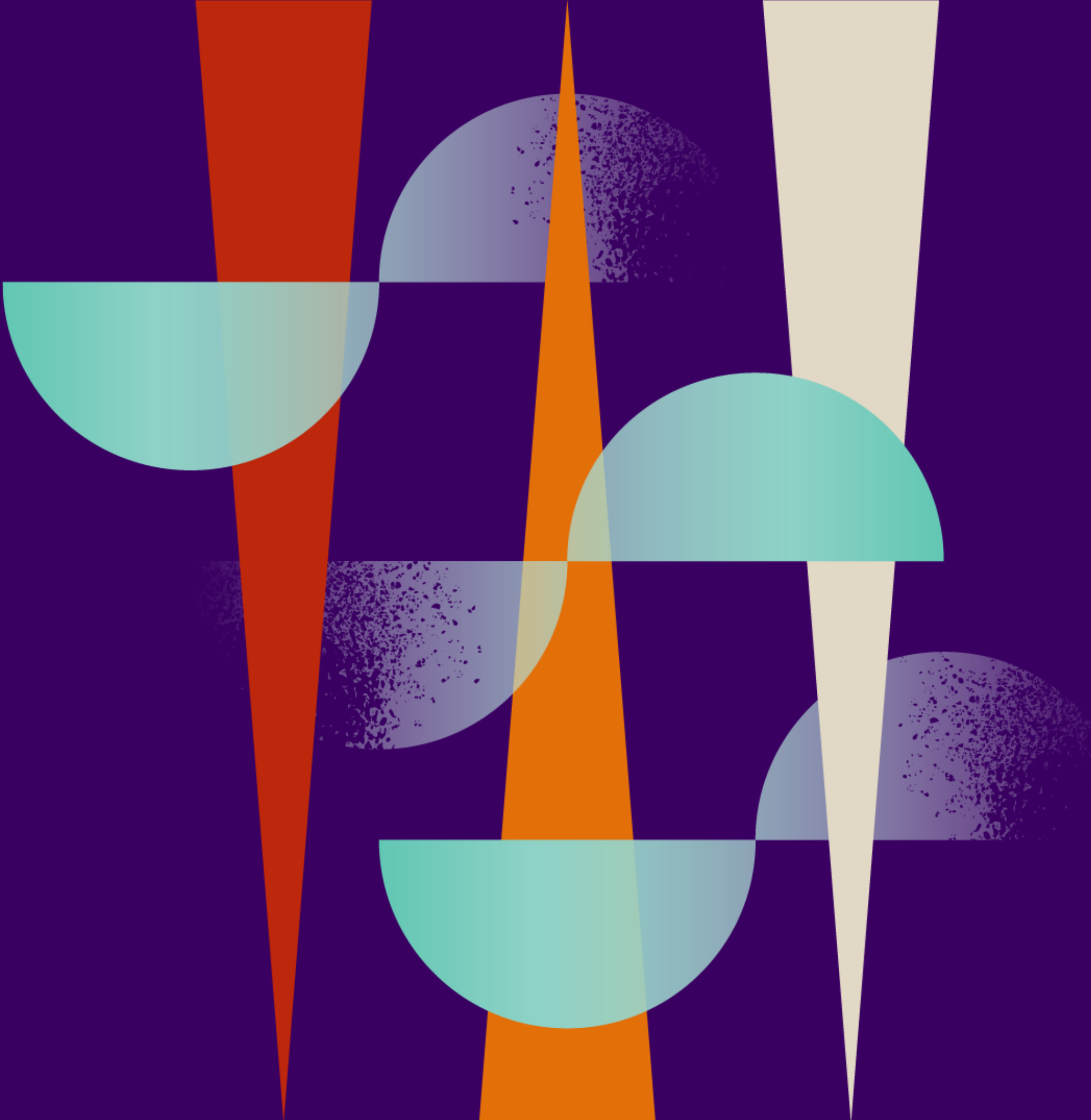


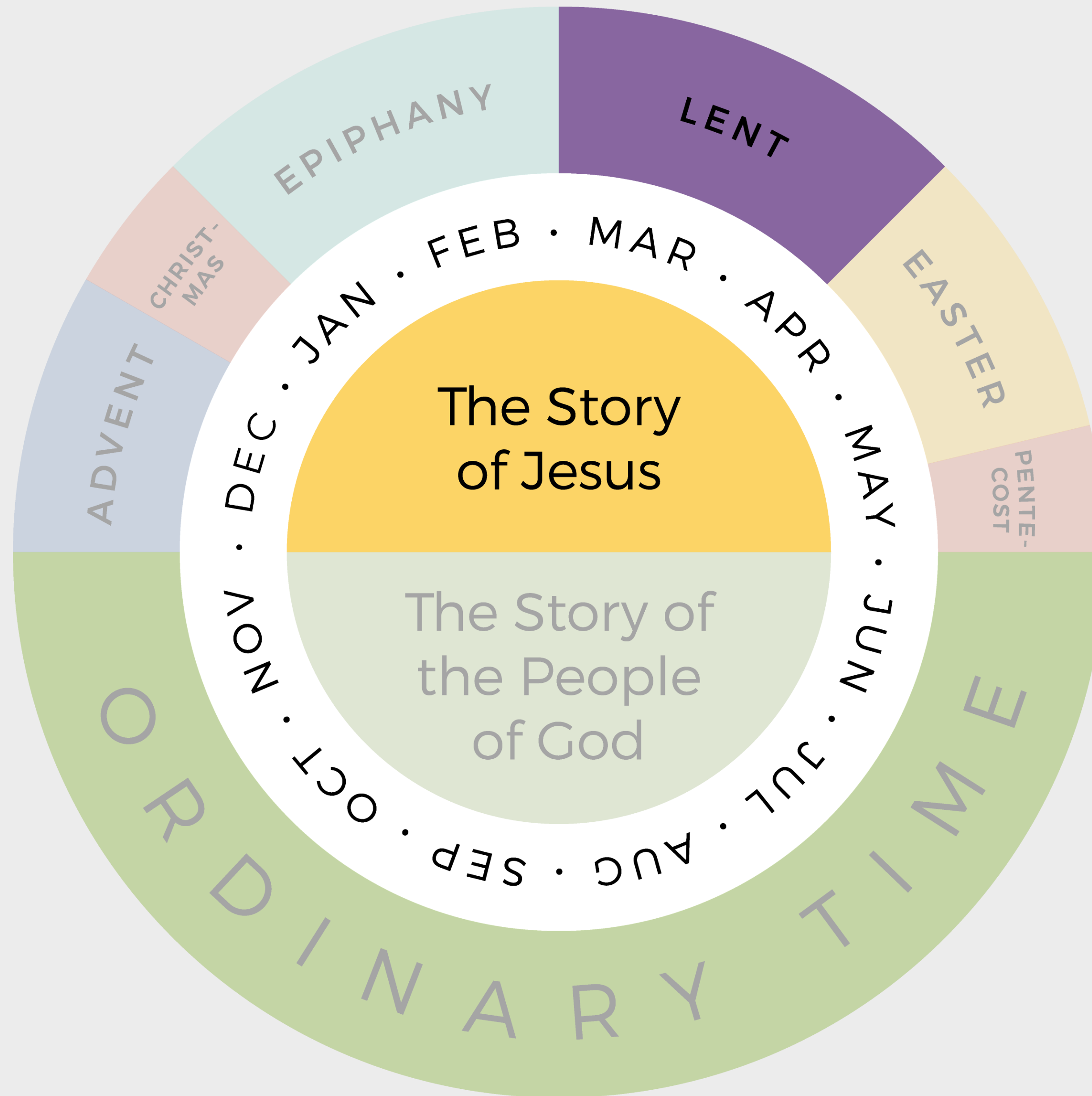
Sermon Series



Colossians

Lenten Community







Lent is not about how angry God is with us for our sins. It is about a God who intervenes on our behalf to rescue us from our sins.

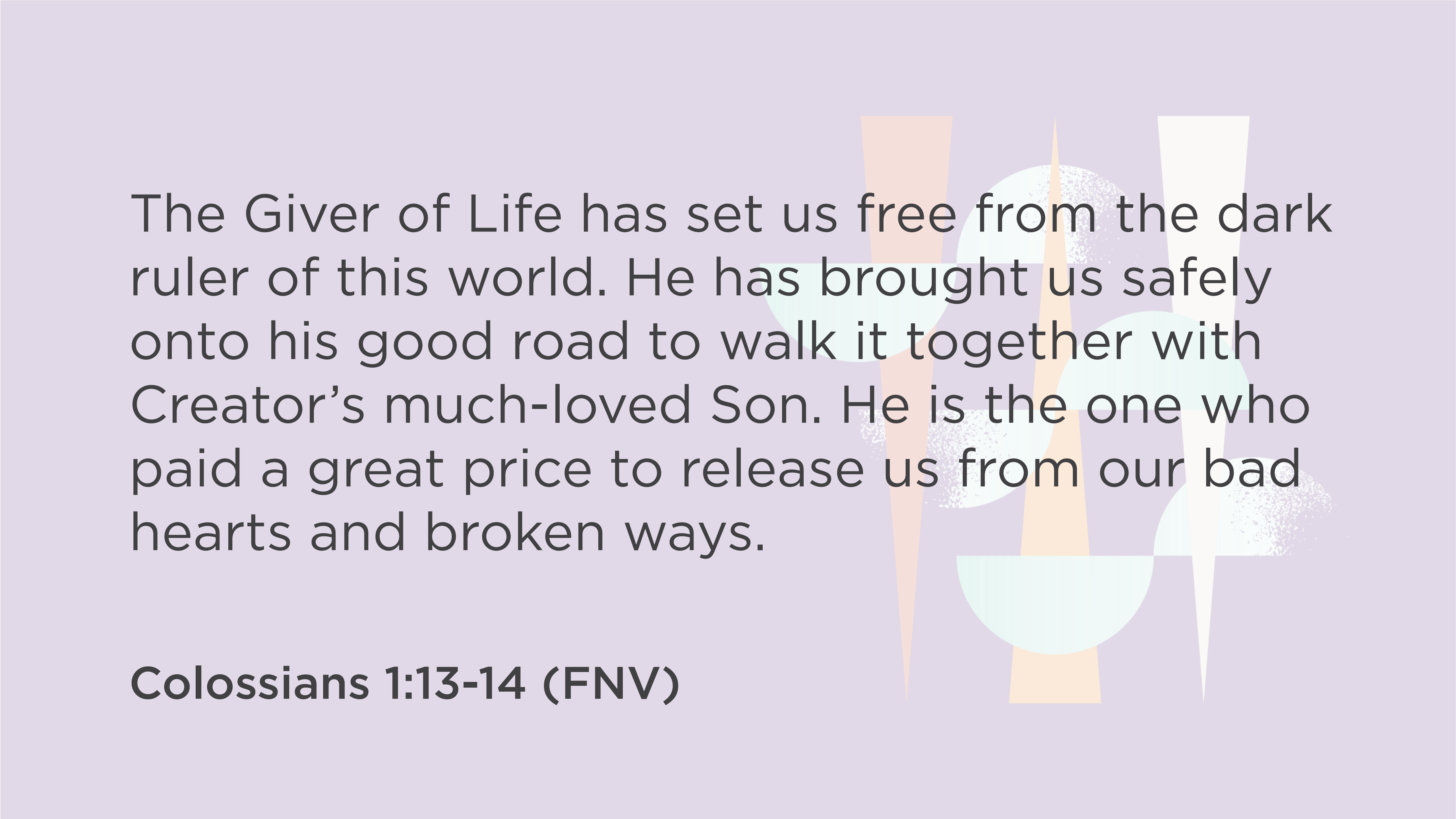
Esau McCaulley

Colossians

1:13-24

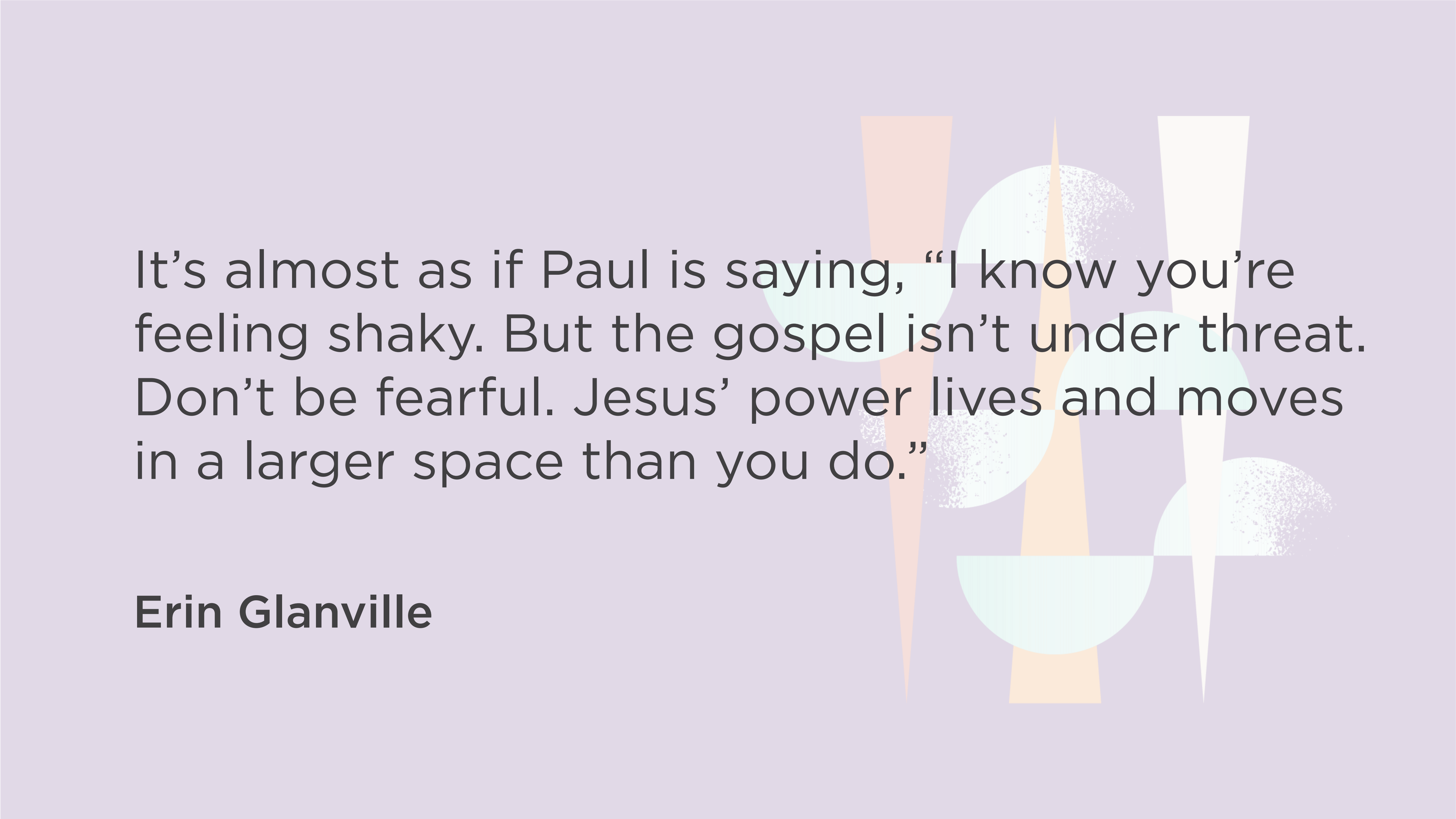
A Community Centred on
the Co-Suffering Christ





The Giver of Life has set us free from the dark ruler of this world. He has brought us safely onto his good road to walk it together with Creator's much-loved Son. He is the one who paid a great price to release us from our bad hearts and broken ways.

Colossians 1:13-14 (FNV)



It's almost as if Paul is saying, "I know you're feeling shaky. But the gospel isn't under threat. Don't be fearful. Jesus' power lives and moves in a larger space than you do."

Erin Glanville

The gospel is not under threat; neither should it be a threat.

Erin Glanville

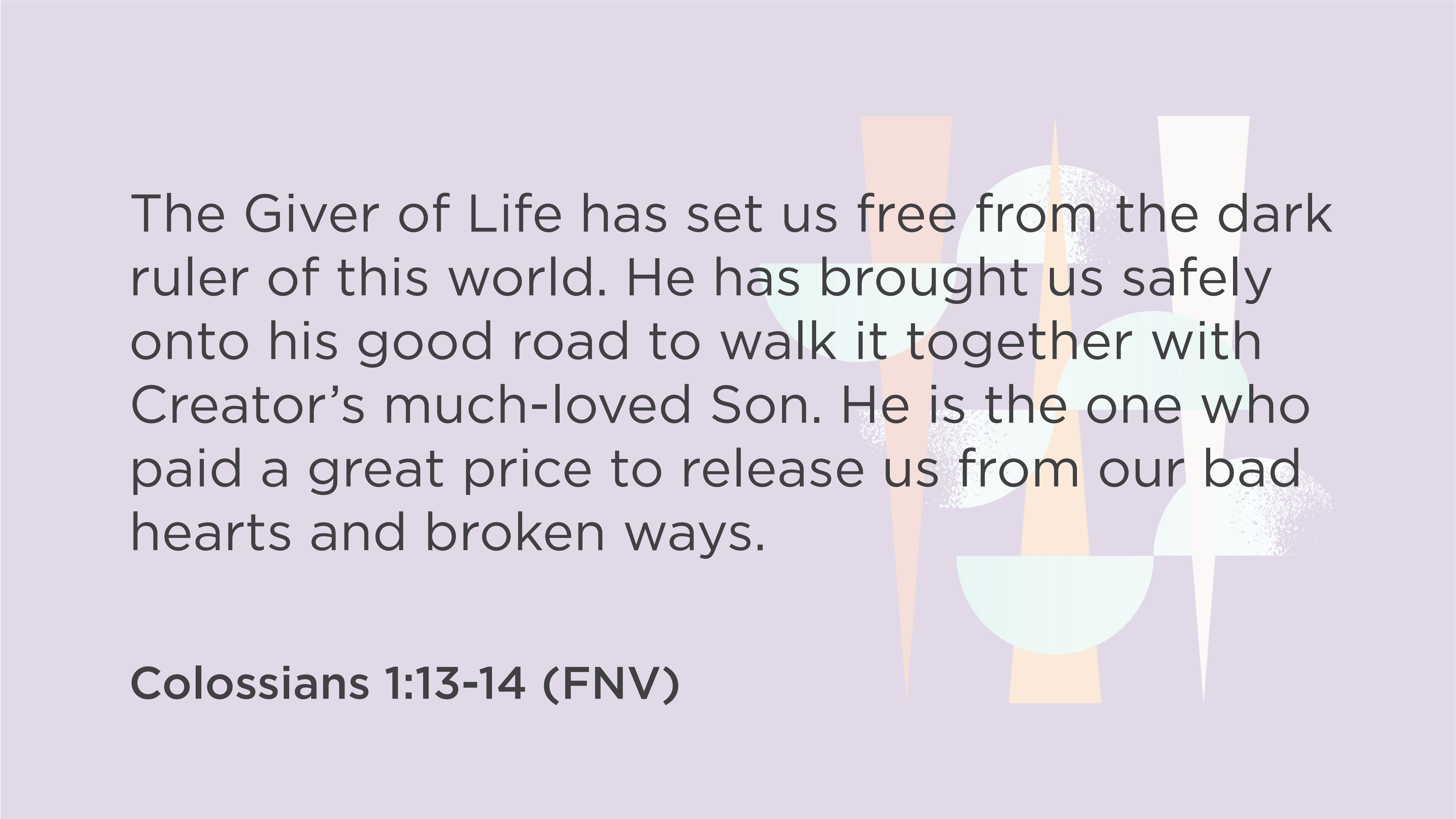


The book cover features an abstract landscape background with horizontal bands of color: blue at the top, followed by orange, yellow, green, and dark grey. The title is centered in large, bold, yellow capital letters.

**THE LAND IS
NOT EMPTY**

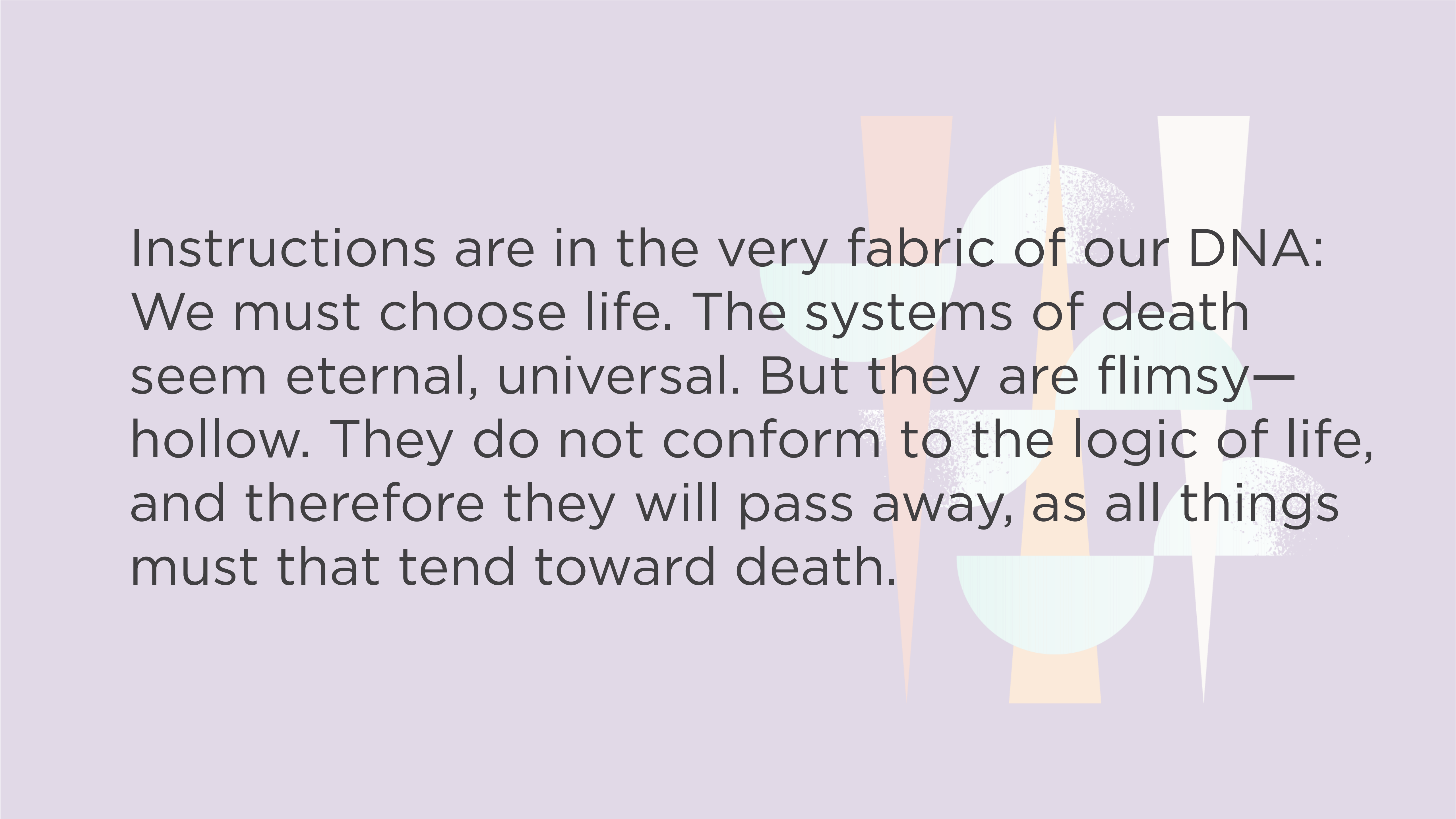
**FOLLOWING JESUS IN DISMANTLING
THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY**

SARAH AUGUSTINE

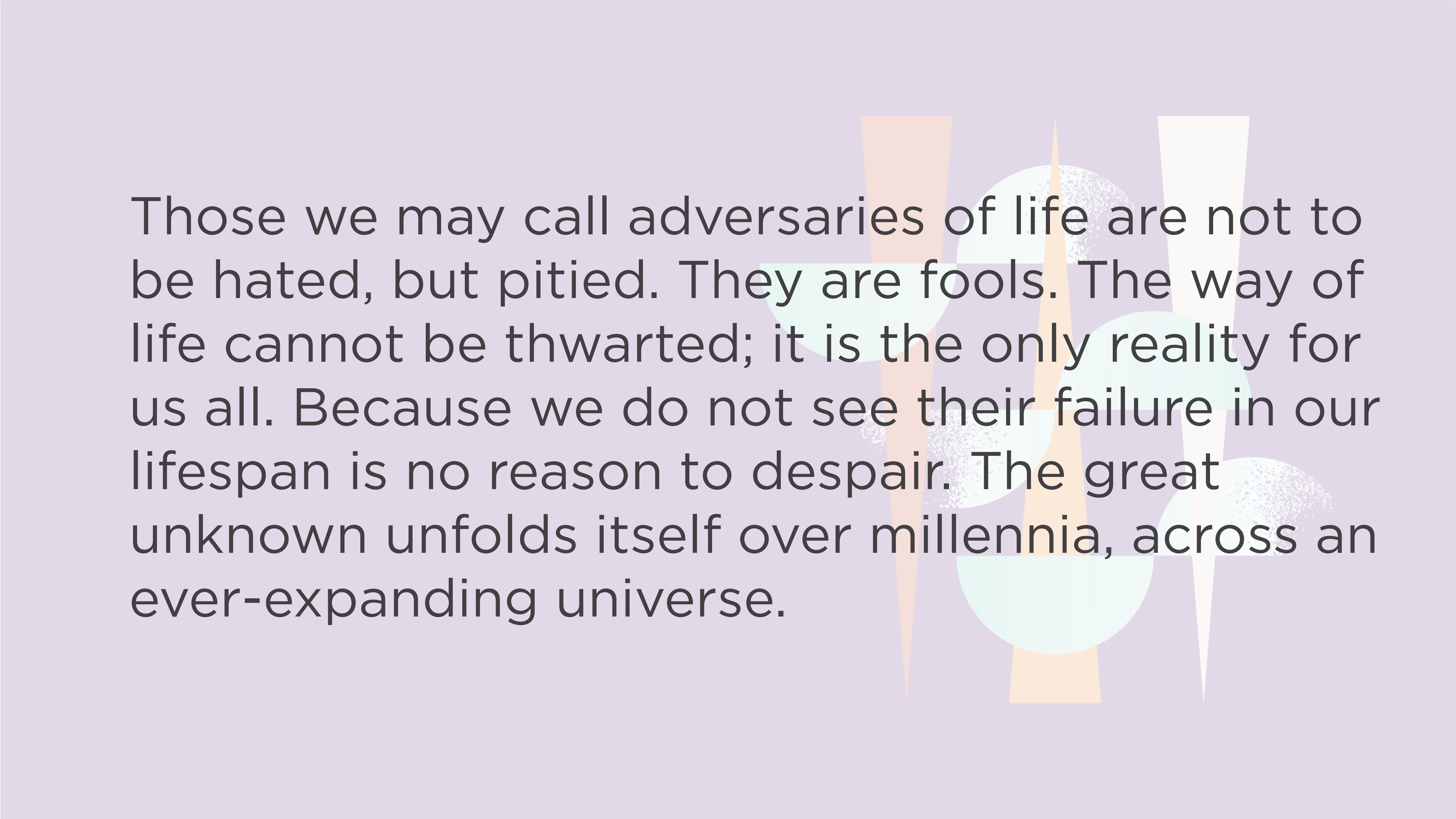


The Giver of Life has set us free from the dark ruler of this world. He has brought us safely onto his good road to walk it together with Creator's much-loved Son. He is the one who paid a great price to release us from our bad hearts and broken ways.

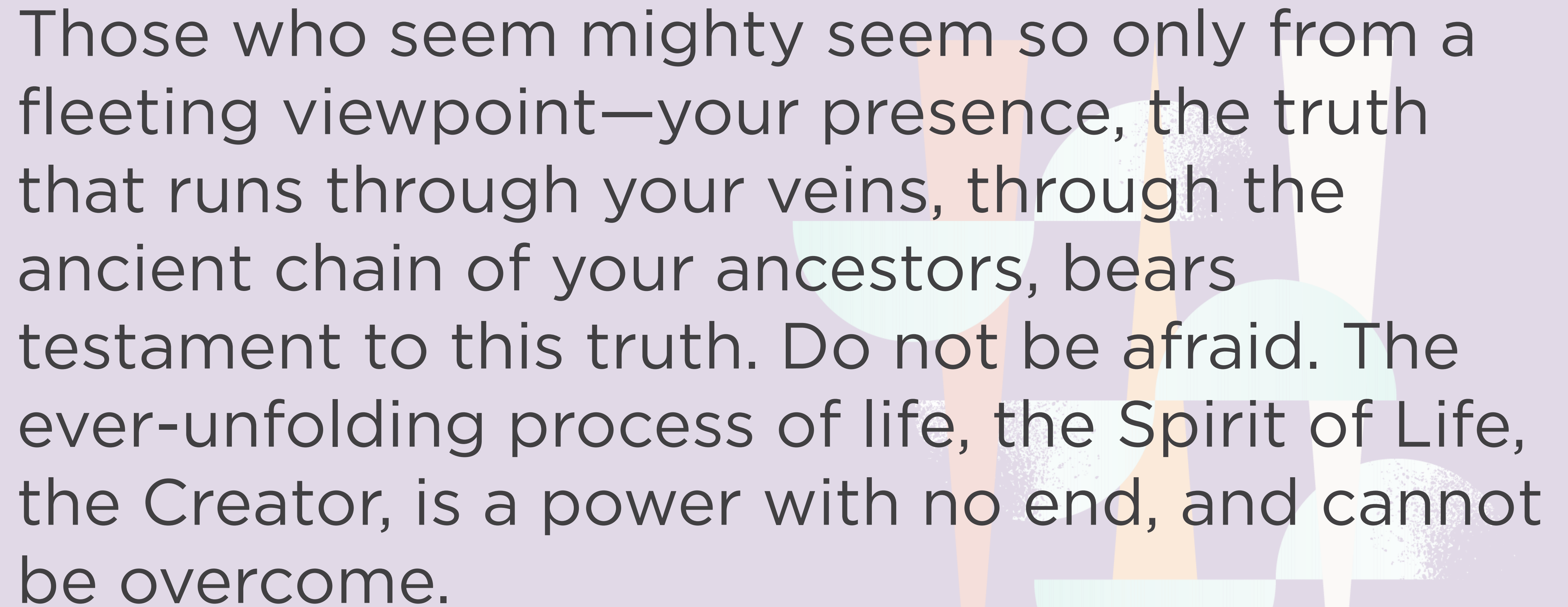
Colossians 1:13-14 (FNV)



Instructions are in the very fabric of our DNA: We must choose life. The systems of death seem eternal, universal. But they are flimsy—hollow. They do not conform to the logic of life, and therefore they will pass away, as all things must that tend toward death.

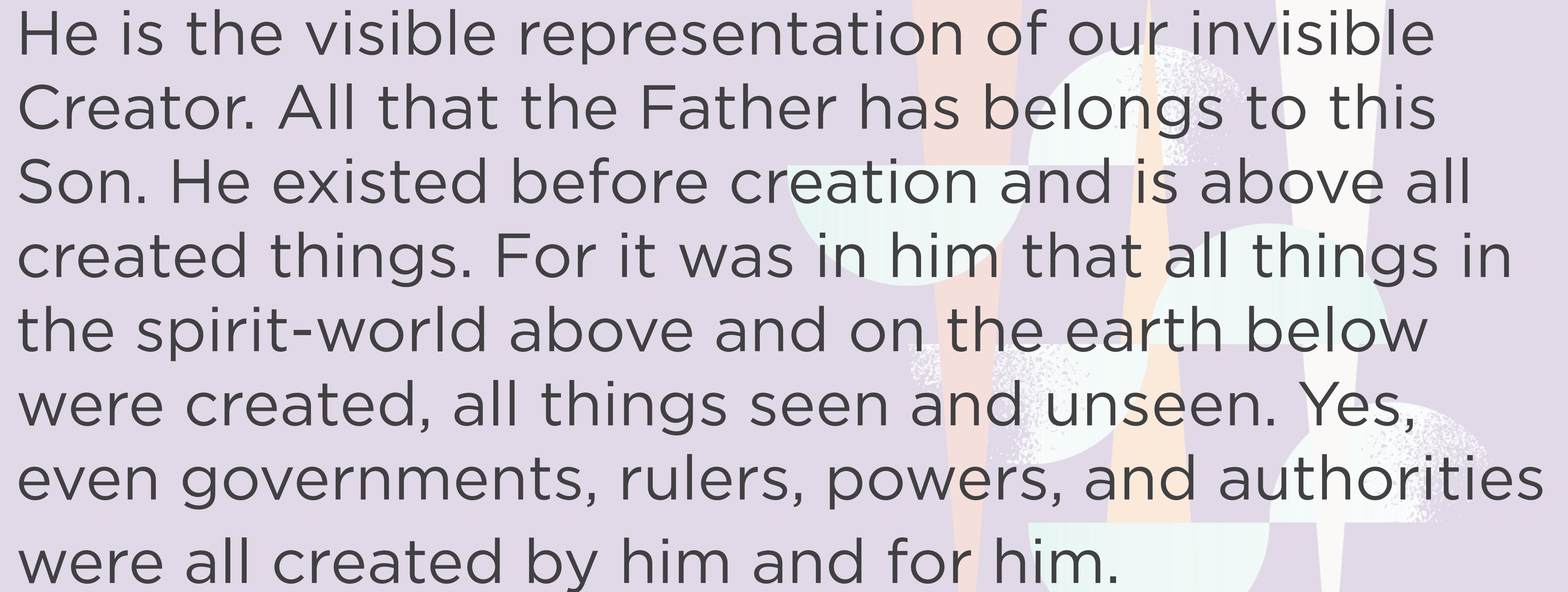


Those we may call adversaries of life are not to be hated, but pitied. They are fools. The way of life cannot be thwarted; it is the only reality for us all. Because we do not see their failure in our lifespan is no reason to despair. The great unknown unfolds itself over millennia, across an ever-expanding universe.



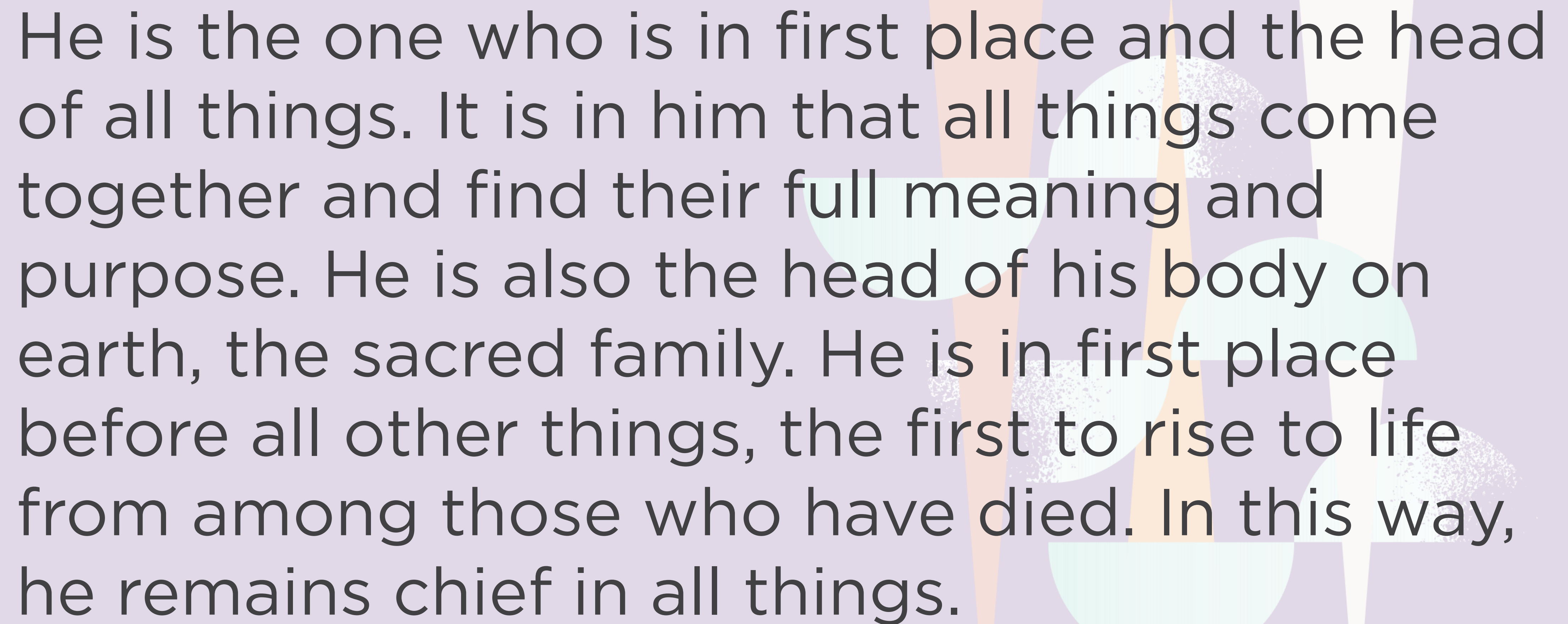
Those who seem mighty seem so only from a fleeting viewpoint—your presence, the truth that runs through your veins, through the ancient chain of your ancestors, bears testament to this truth. Do not be afraid. The ever-unfolding process of life, the Spirit of Life, the Creator, is a power with no end, and cannot be overcome.

Sarah Augustine



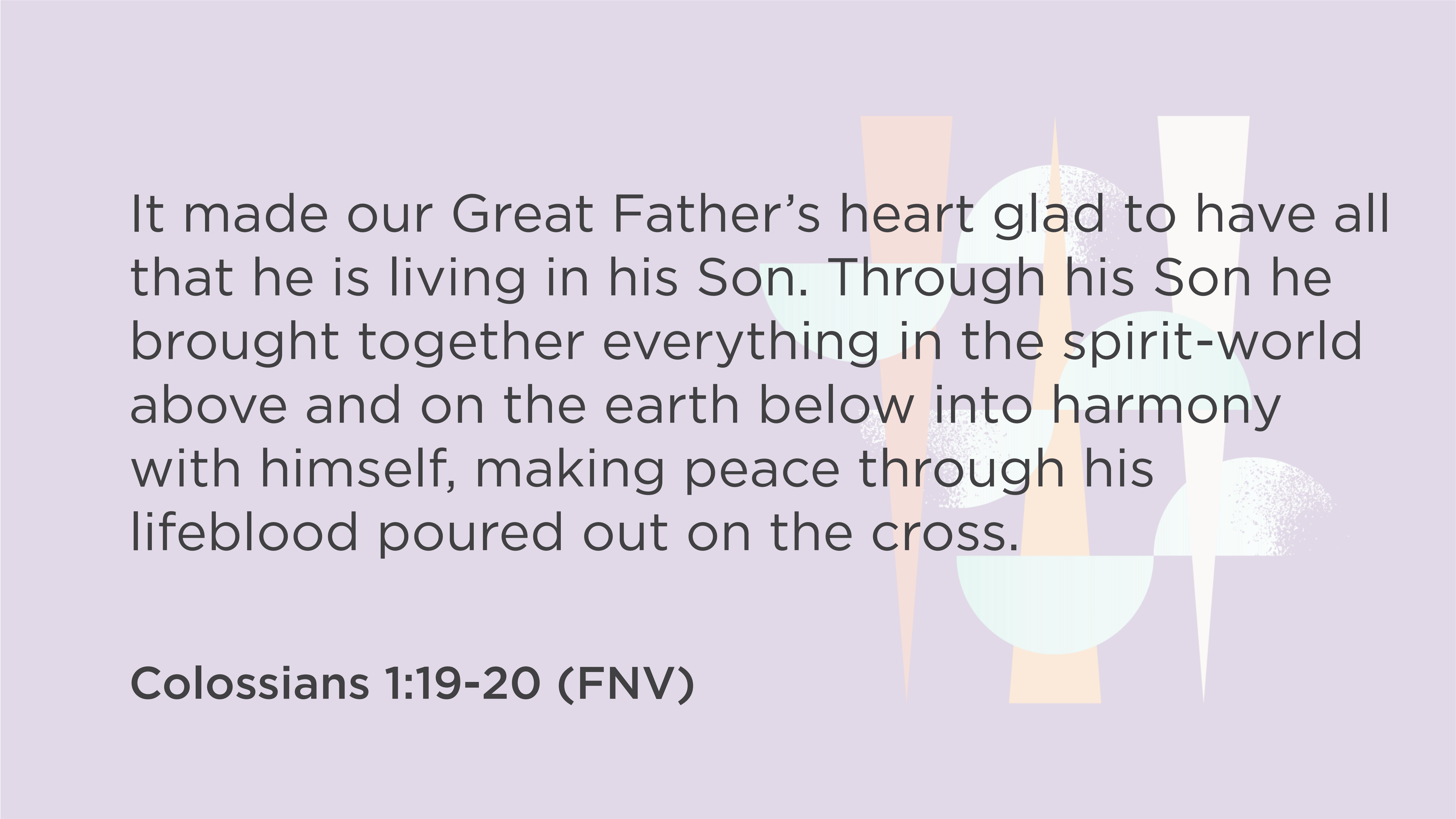
He is the visible representation of our invisible Creator. All that the Father has belongs to this Son. He existed before creation and is above all created things. For it was in him that all things in the spirit-world above and on the earth below were created, all things seen and unseen. Yes, even governments, rulers, powers, and authorities were all created by him and for him.

Colossians 1:15-16 (FNV)



He is the one who is in first place and the head of all things. It is in him that all things come together and find their full meaning and purpose. He is also the head of his body on earth, the sacred family. He is in first place before all other things, the first to rise to life from among those who have died. In this way, he remains chief in all things.

Colossians 1:17-18 (FNV)

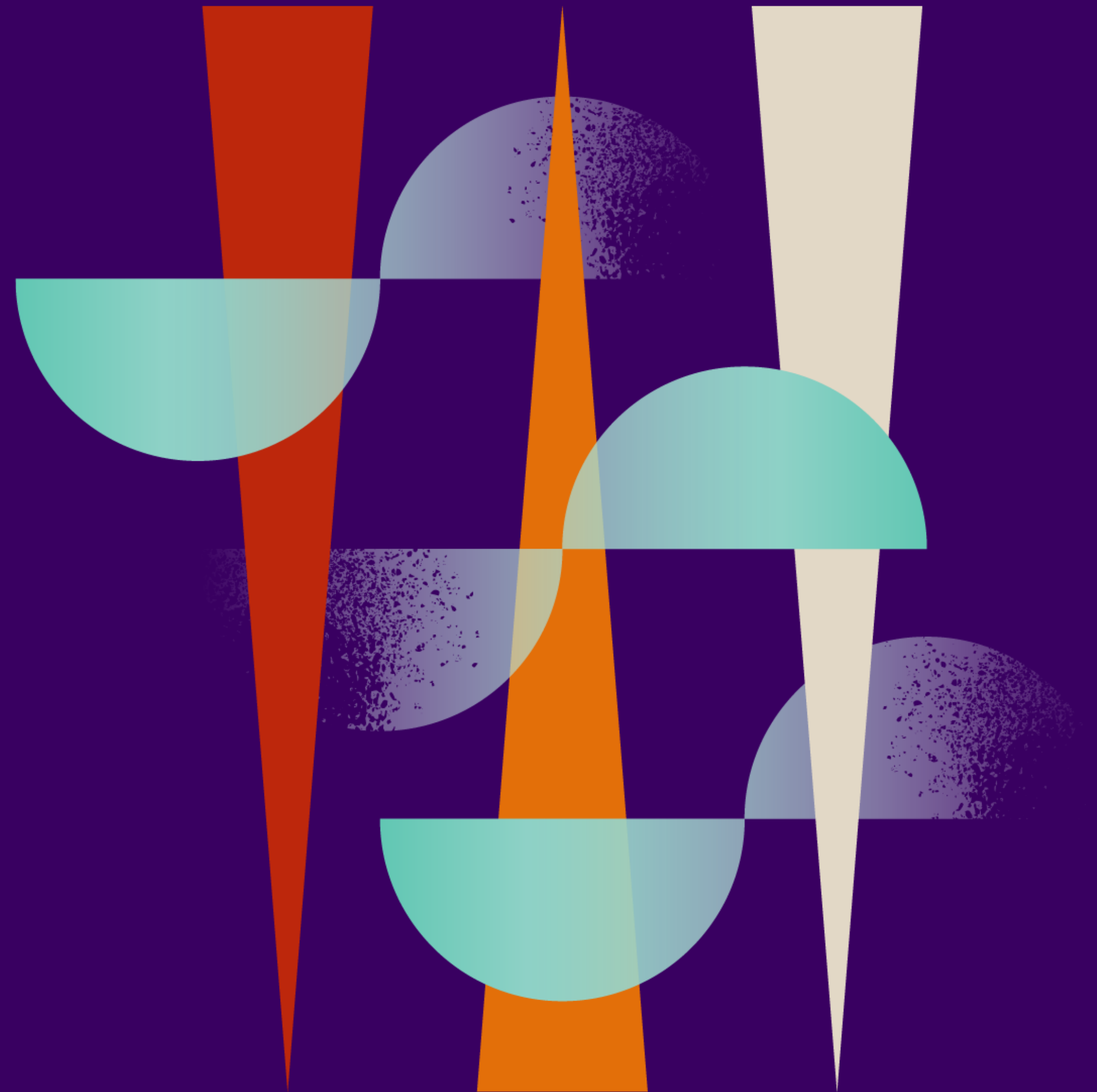


It made our Great Father's heart glad to have all that he is living in his Son. Through his Son he brought together everything in the spirit-world above and on the earth below into harmony with himself, making peace through his lifeblood poured out on the cross.

Colossians 1:19-20 (FNV)

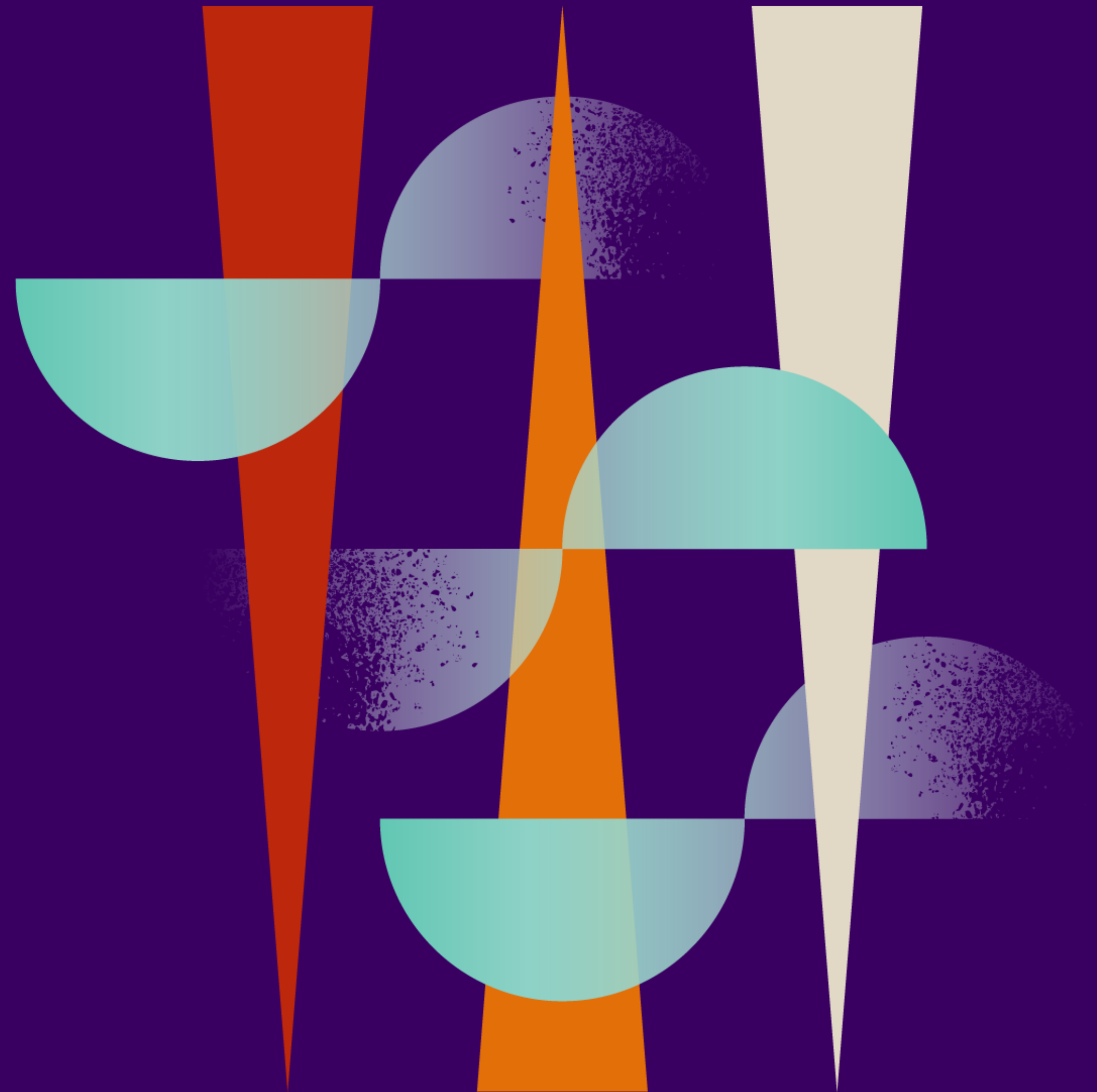
Proverbs 8:1-4

(pg. 442)



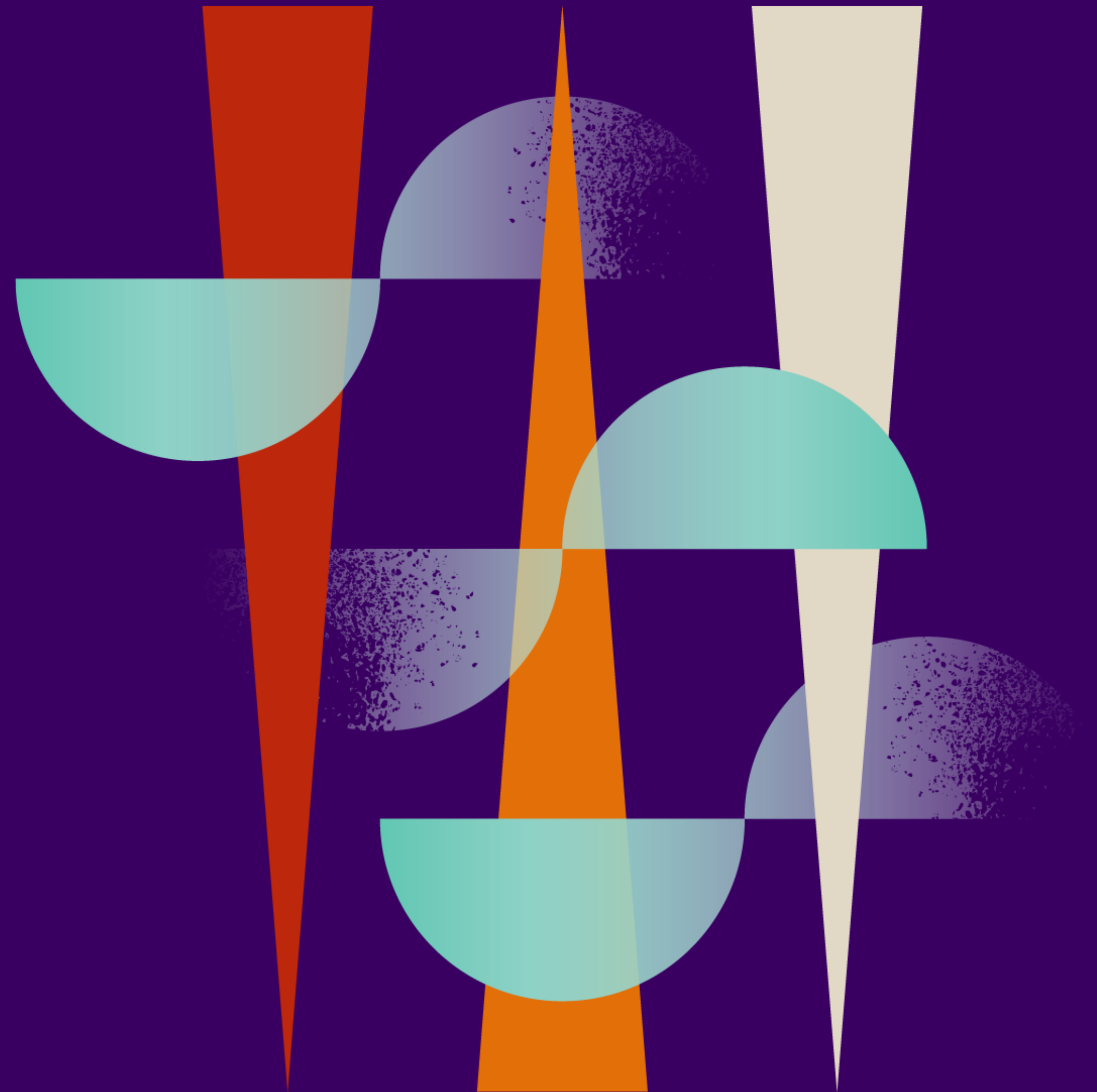
Proverbs 8:19-21

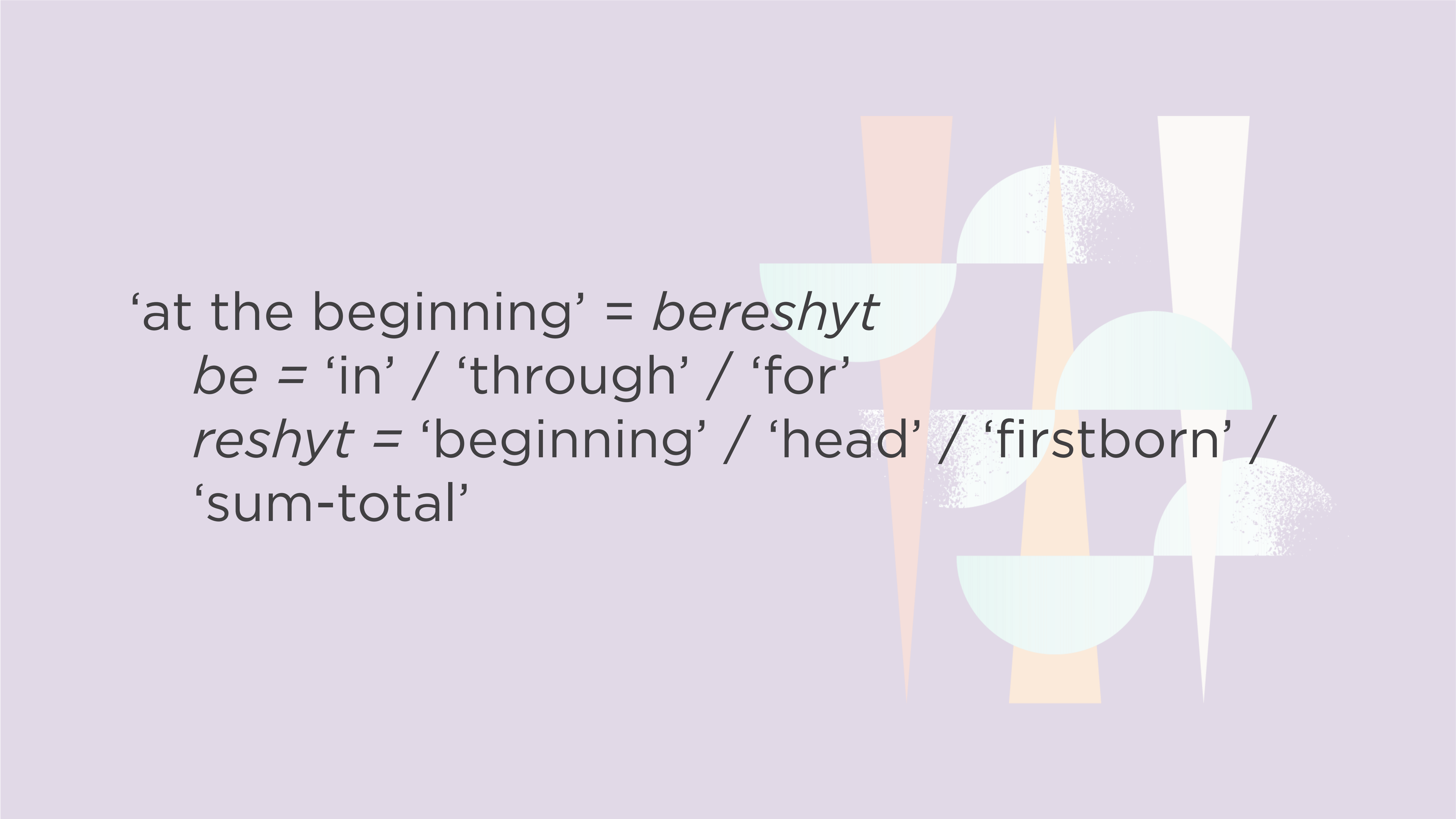
(pg. 442)



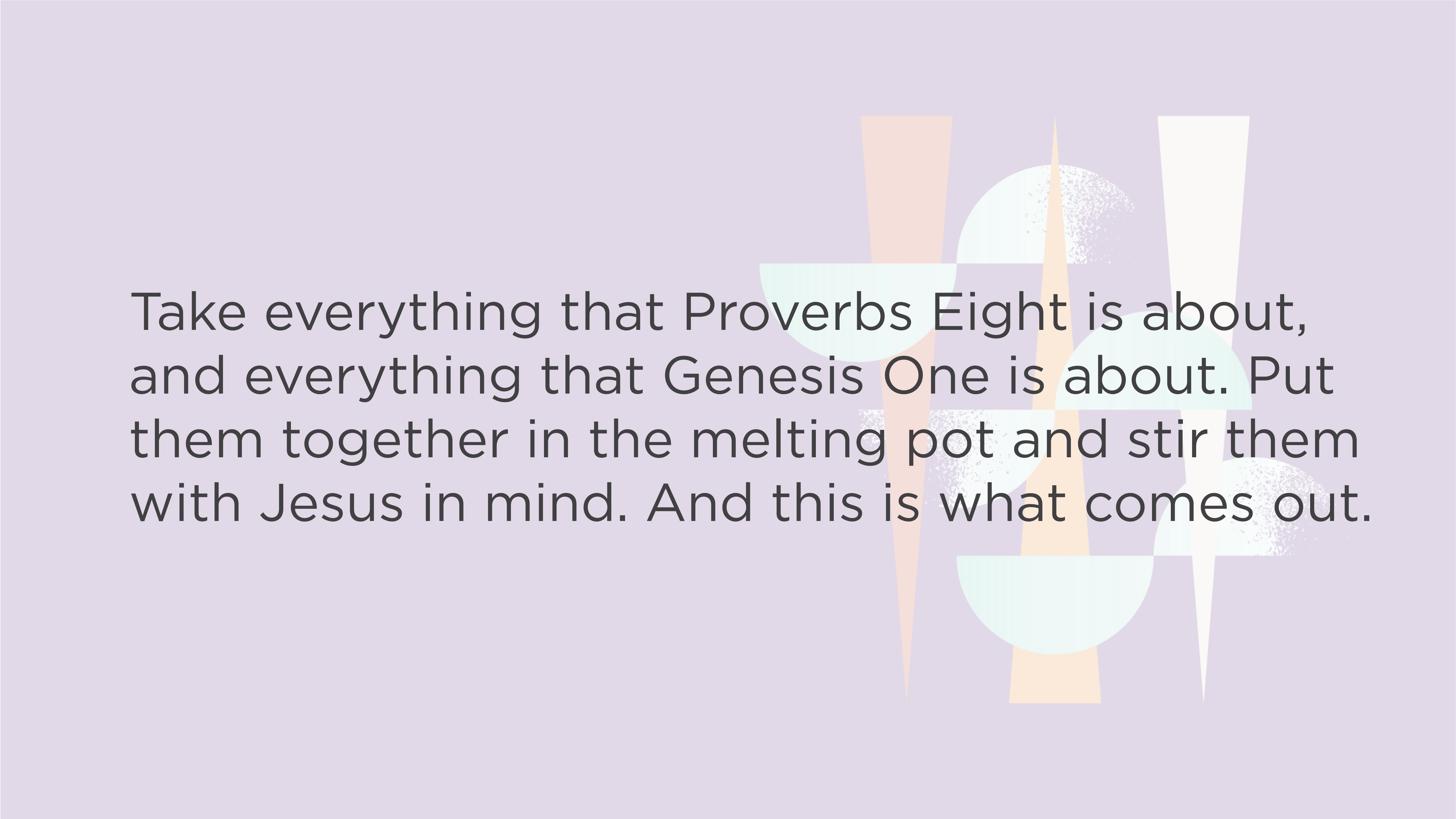
Proverbs 8:22-30

(pg. 442)

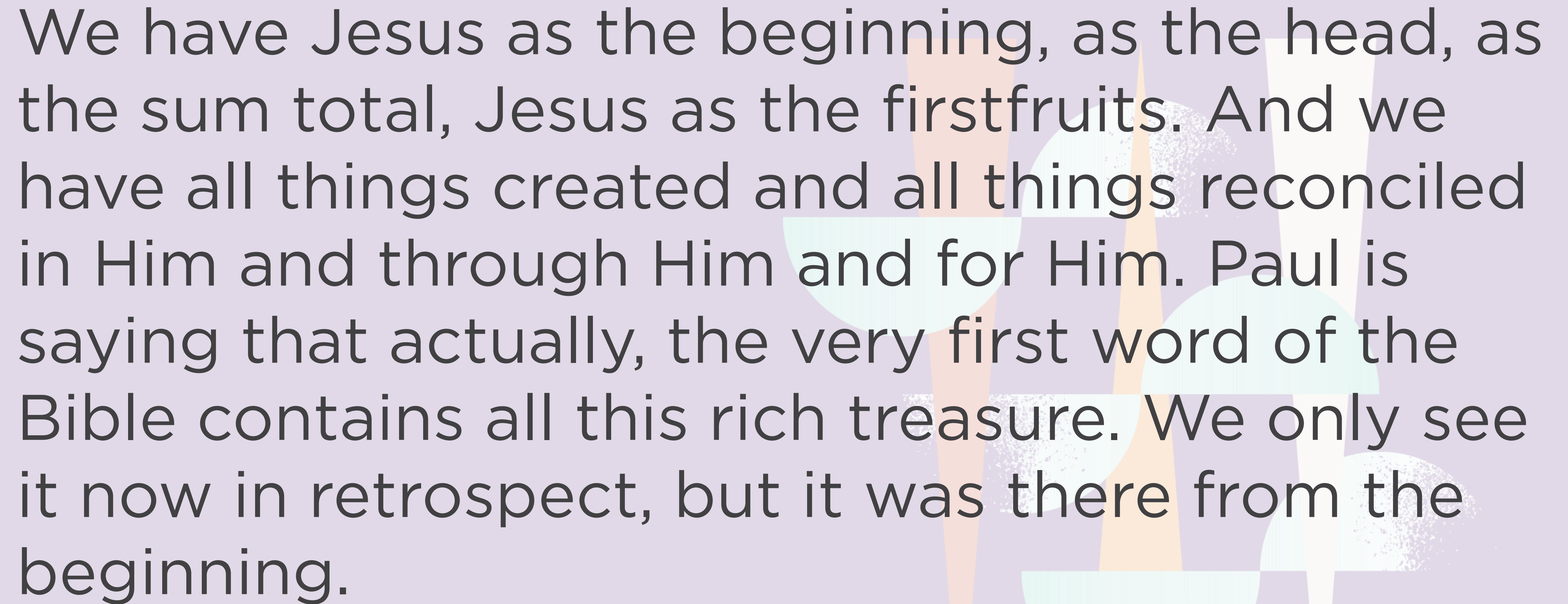




‘at the beginning’ = *bereshyt*
be = ‘in’ / ‘through’ / ‘for’
reshyt = ‘beginning’ / ‘head’ / ‘firstborn’ /
‘sum-total’



Take everything that Proverbs Eight is about, and everything that Genesis One is about. Put them together in the melting pot and stir them with Jesus in mind. And this is what comes out.

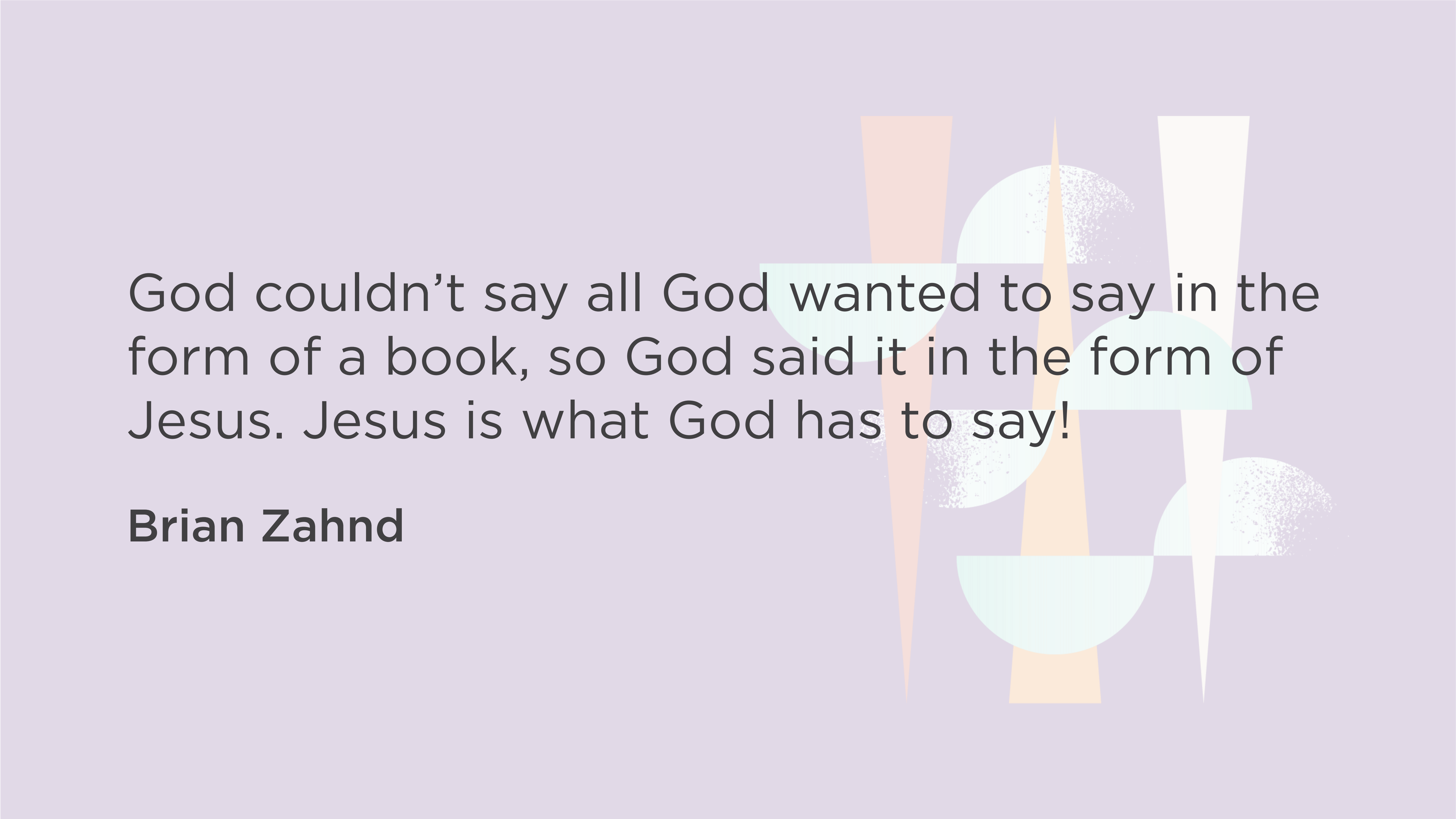


We have Jesus as the beginning, as the head, as the sum total, Jesus as the firstfruits. And we have all things created and all things reconciled in Him and through Him and for Him. Paul is saying that actually, the very first word of the Bible contains all this rich treasure. We only see it now in retrospect, but it was there from the beginning.

N.T. Wright

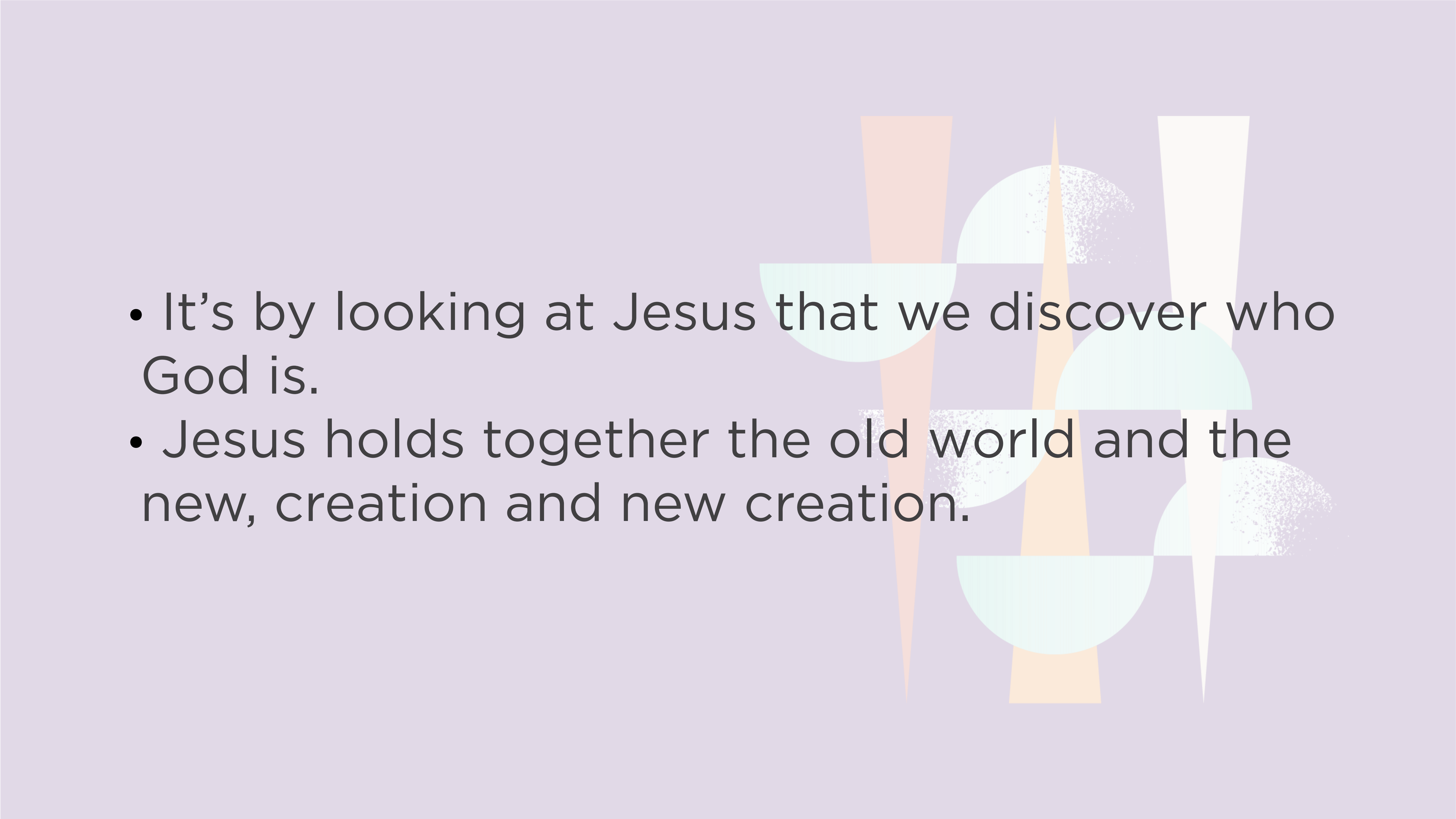
- It's by looking at Jesus that we discover who God is.

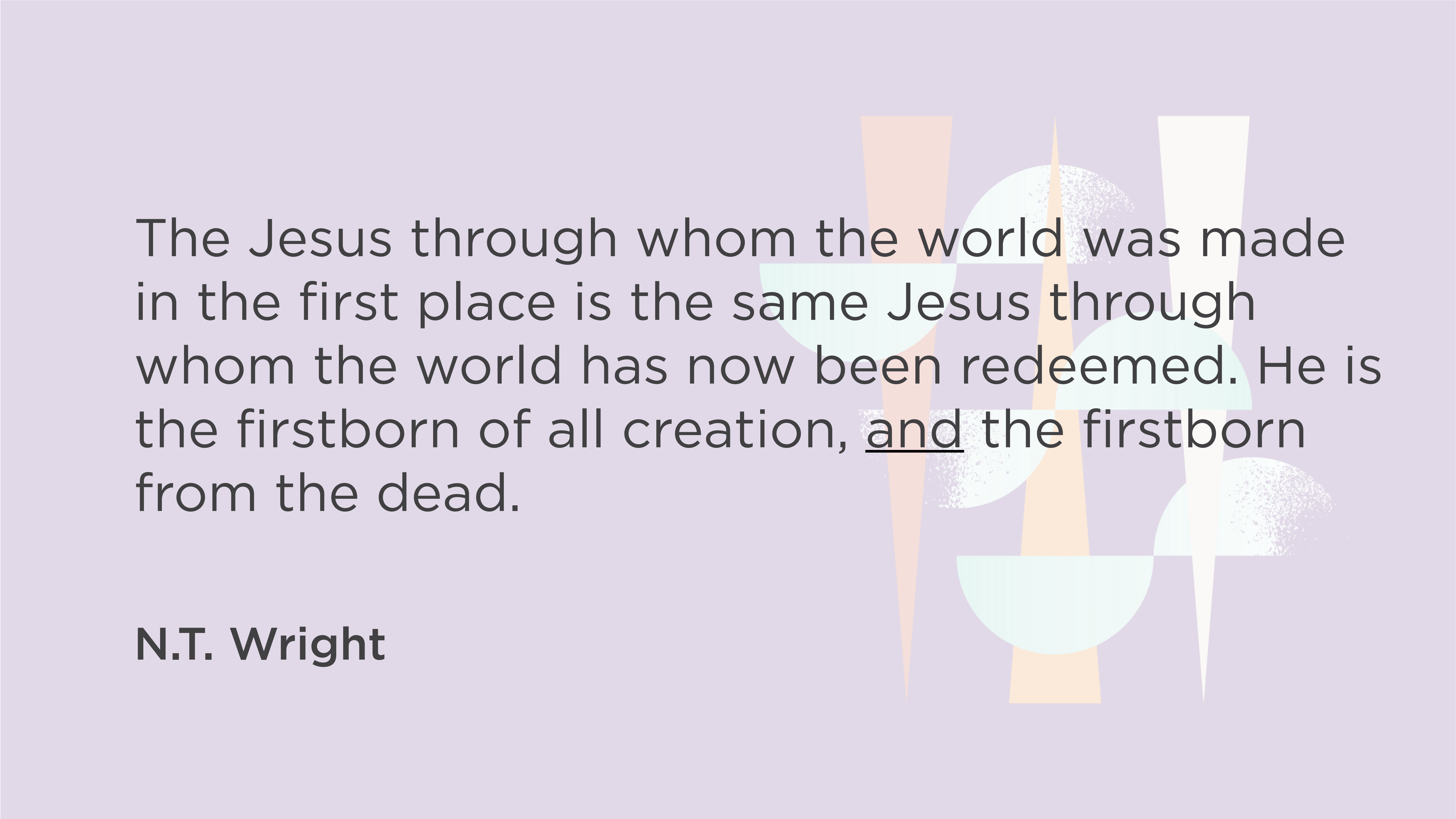




God couldn't say all God wanted to say in the form of a book, so God said it in the form of Jesus. Jesus is what God has to say!

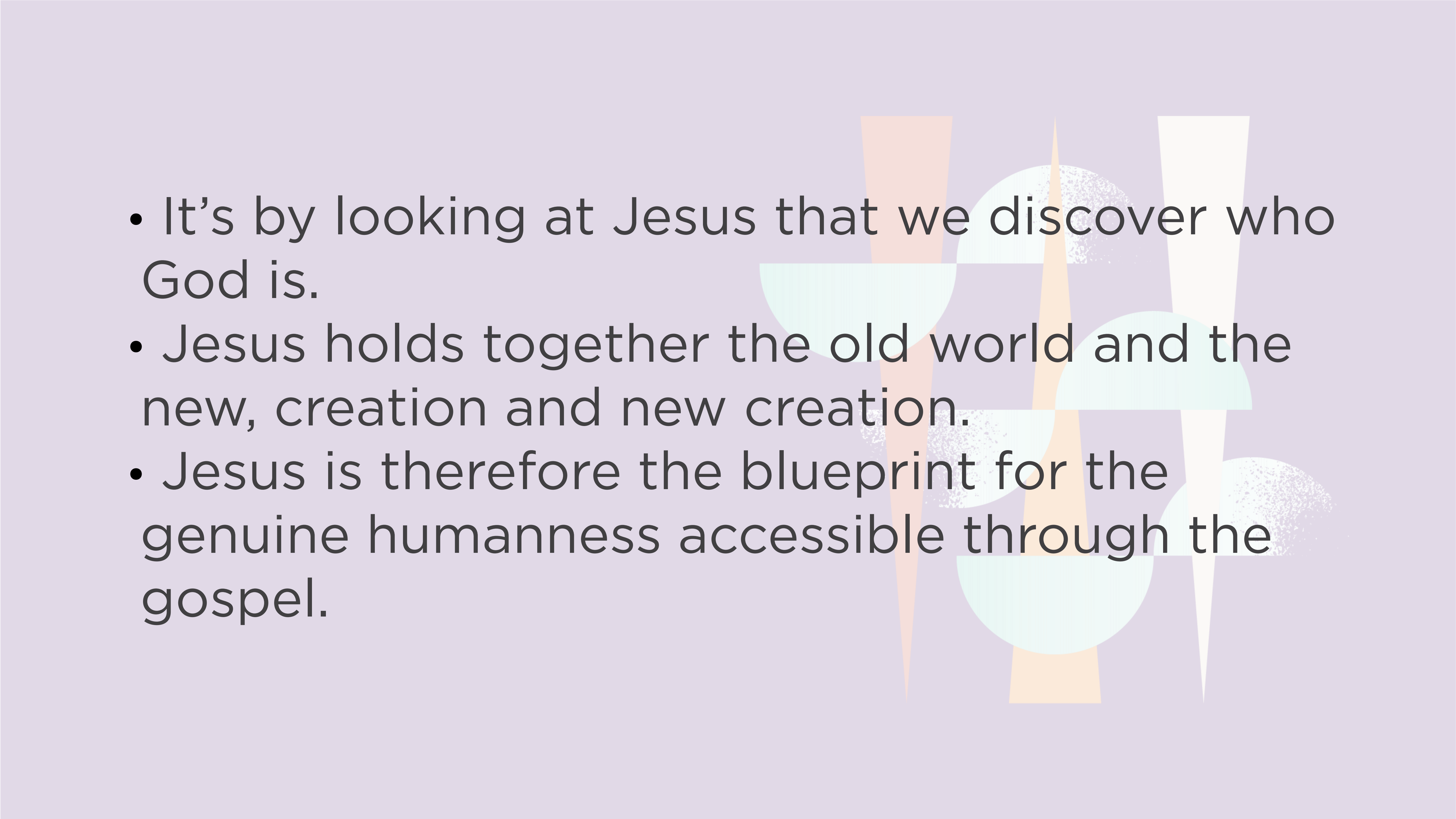
Brian Zahnd

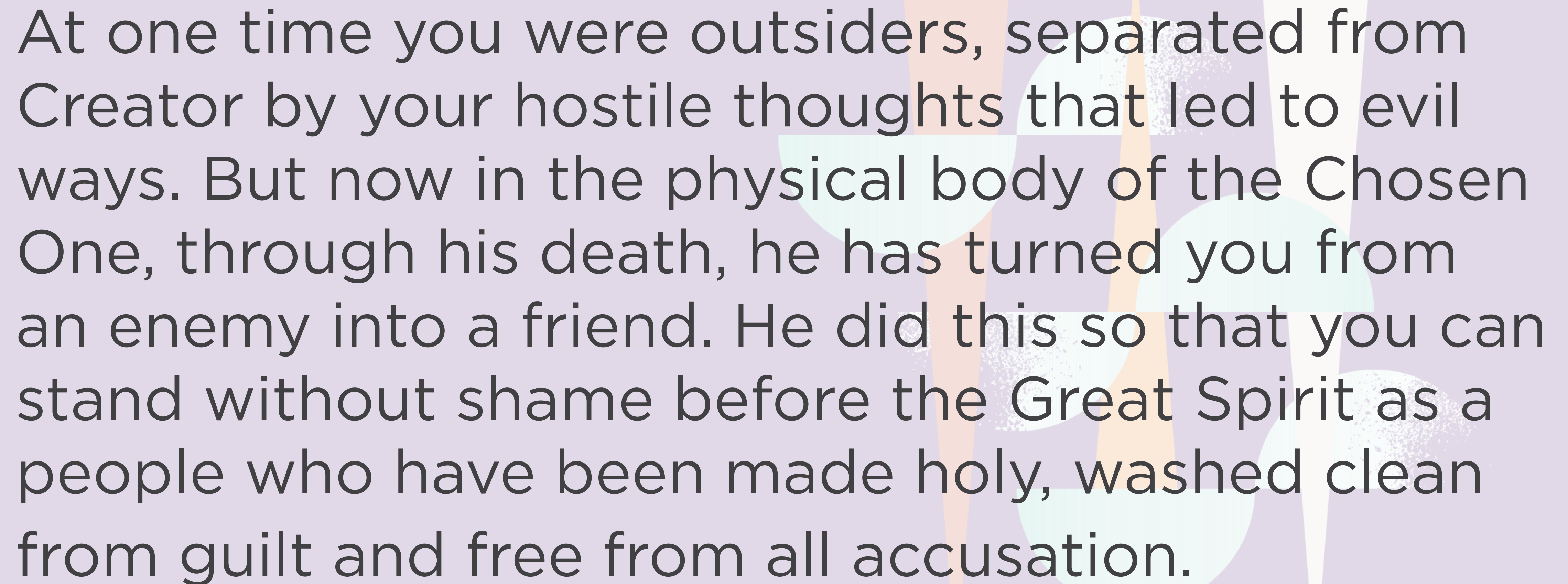
- 
- It's by looking at Jesus that we discover who God is.
 - Jesus holds together the old world and the new, creation and new creation.



The Jesus through whom the world was made in the first place is the same Jesus through whom the world has now been redeemed. He is the firstborn of all creation, and the firstborn from the dead.

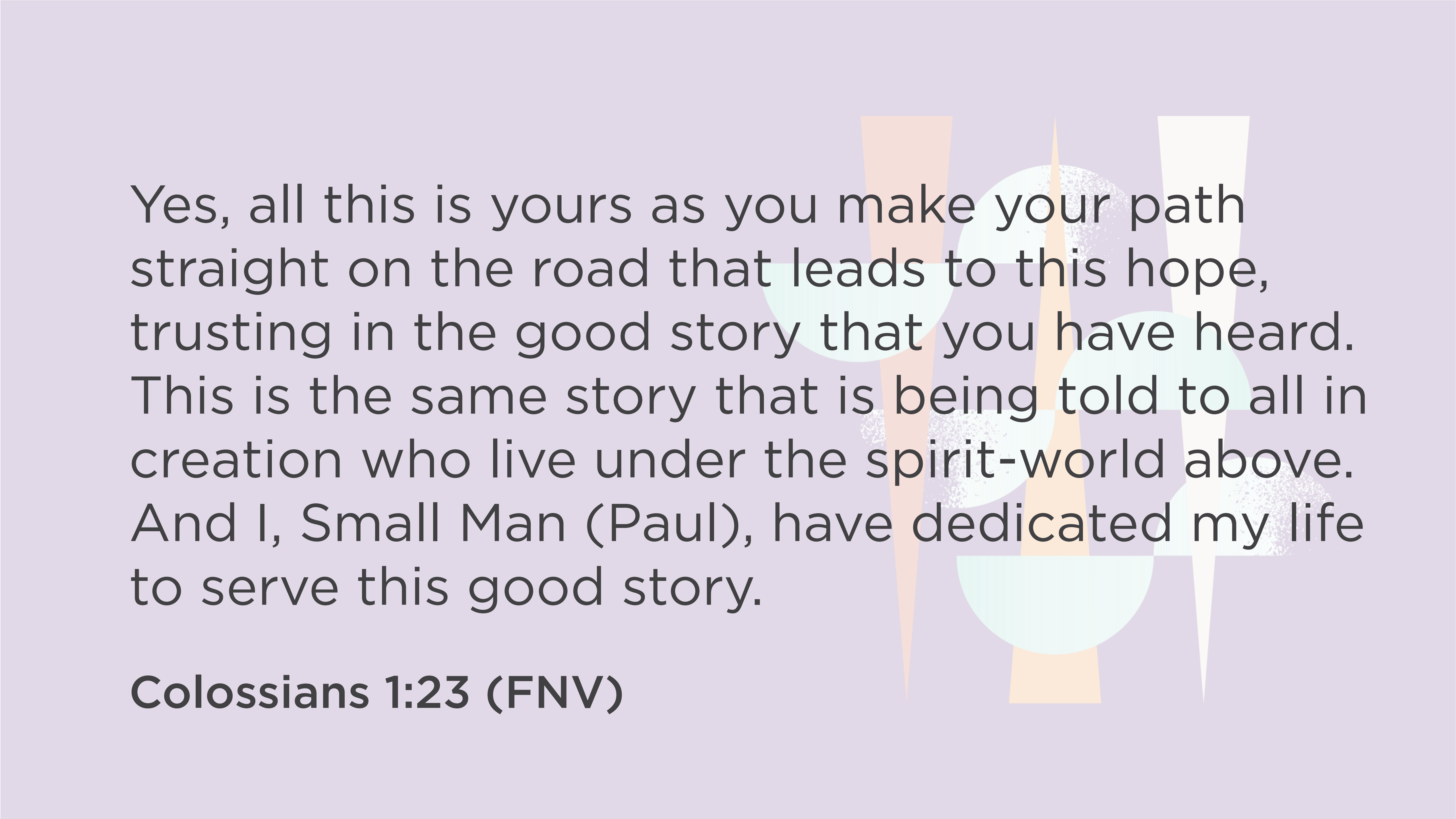
N.T. Wright

- 
- It's by looking at Jesus that we discover who God is.
 - Jesus holds together the old world and the new, creation and new creation.
 - Jesus is therefore the blueprint for the genuine humanness accessible through the gospel.



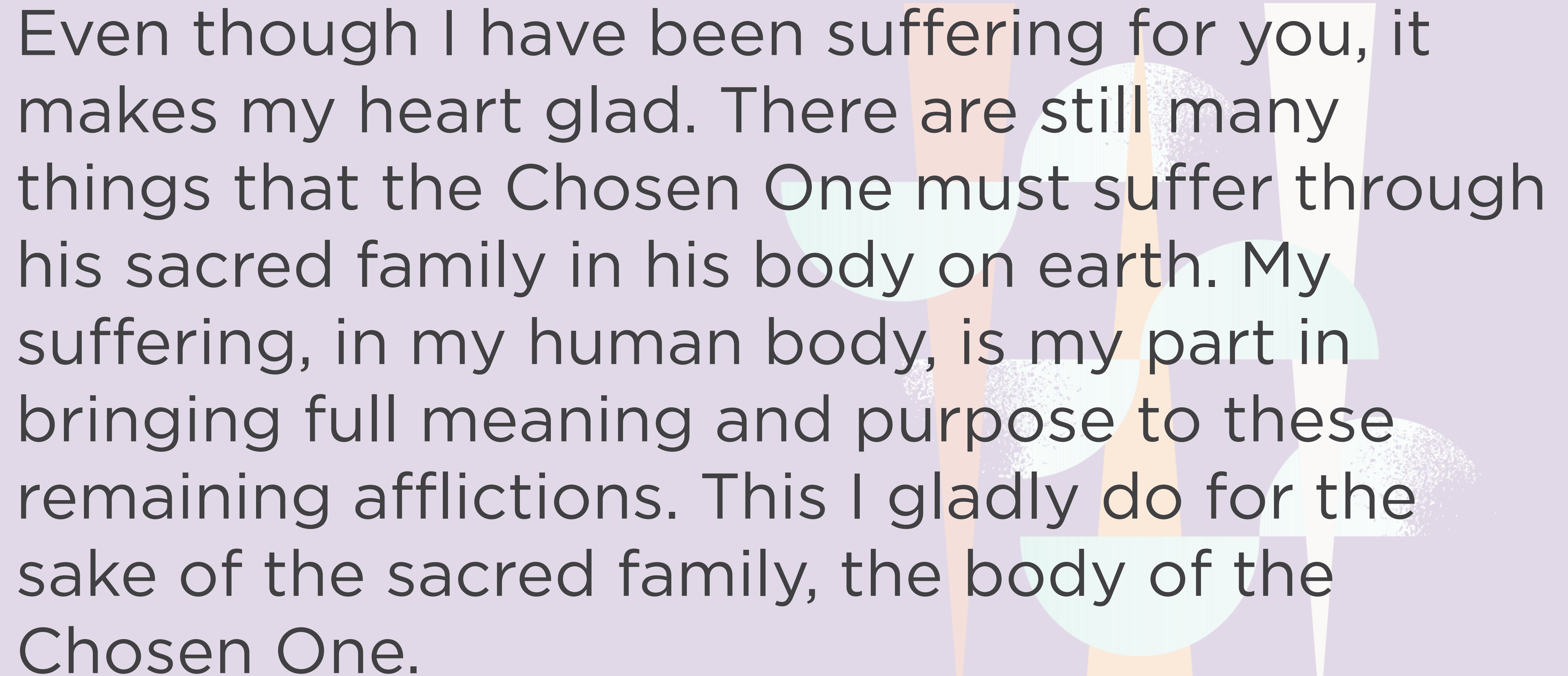
At one time you were outsiders, separated from Creator by your hostile thoughts that led to evil ways. But now in the physical body of the Chosen One, through his death, he has turned you from an enemy into a friend. He did this so that you can stand without shame before the Great Spirit as a people who have been made holy, washed clean from guilt and free from all accusation.

Colossians 1:21-22 (FNV)



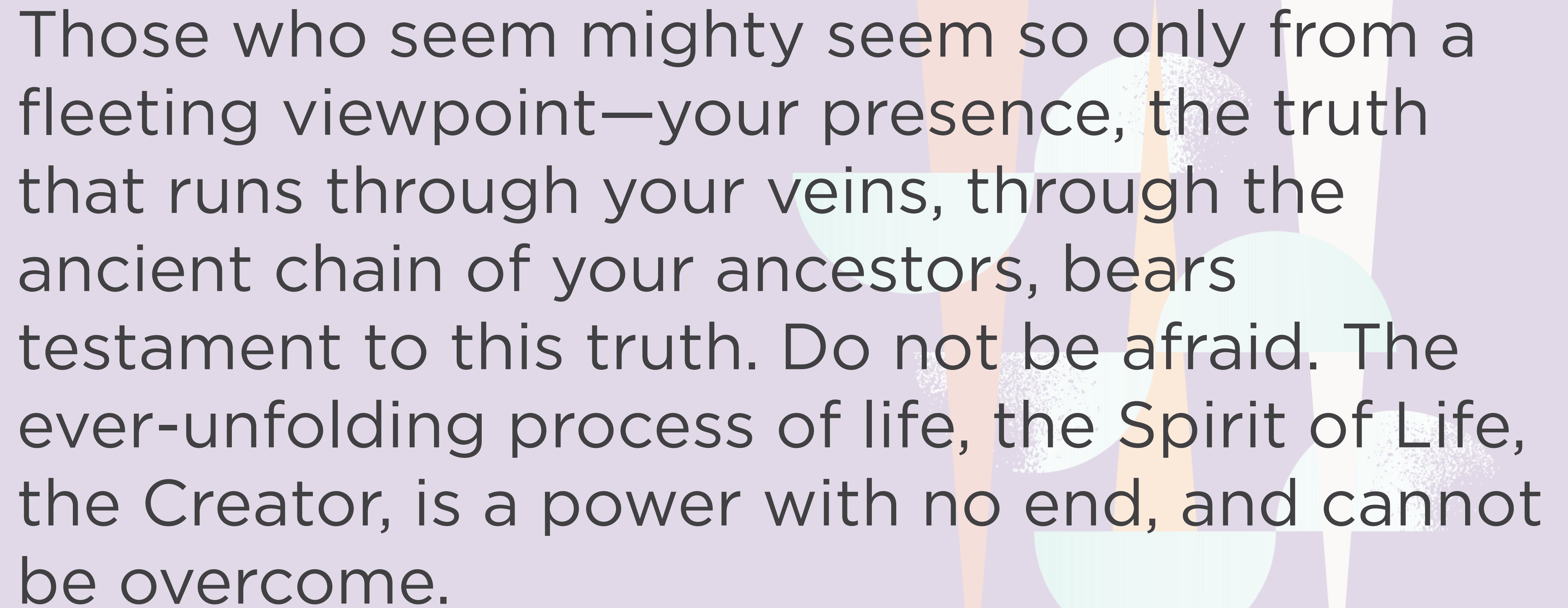
Yes, all this is yours as you make your path straight on the road that leads to this hope, trusting in the good story that you have heard. This is the same story that is being told to all in creation who live under the spirit-world above. And I, Small Man (Paul), have dedicated my life to serve this good story.

Colossians 1:23 (FNV)



Even though I have been suffering for you, it makes my heart glad. There are still many things that the Chosen One must suffer through his sacred family in his body on earth. My suffering, in my human body, is my part in bringing full meaning and purpose to these remaining afflictions. This I gladly do for the sake of the sacred family, the body of the Chosen One.

Colossians 1:24 (FNV)



Those who seem mighty seem so only from a fleeting viewpoint—your presence, the truth that runs through your veins, through the ancient chain of your ancestors, bears testament to this truth. Do not be afraid. The ever-unfolding process of life, the Spirit of Life, the Creator, is a power with no end, and cannot be overcome.

Sarah Augustine