A wooden boat with a red stripe and the text 'PMO 3296' is beached on a pebbly shore. The background features a calm lake, distant mountains, and a small lighthouse on an island. The sky is overcast.

the GREAT
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Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT Commission

Matthew 28:16-20 (NIV) ¹⁶ Then the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain where Jesus had told them to go. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Matthew 28:16-20



the GREAT *Commission*

Matthew 26:31-32 (NIV) ³¹ Then Jesus told them, "This very night you will all fall away on account of me, for it is written: "'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' ³² But after I have risen, I will go ahead of you into Galilee."

Matthew 28:16-20



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John 20:19-20 (NIV) ¹⁹ On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT *Commission*

John 20:26-28 (NIV) ²⁶ A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you!" ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe." ²⁸ Thomas said to him, "My Lord and my God!"

Matthew 28:16-20

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1 Corinthians 15:6 (NIV) ⁶ After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.

Matthew 28:16-20

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I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

Authority - the power or right to give orders, make decisions, and enforce obedience.

"he had absolute authority over his subordinates"

synonyms: power, jurisdiction, command, control, charge, dominance, rule, sovereignty, supremacy;

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT *Commission*

I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

A. JESUS HAS BEEN GIVEN "ALL AUTHORITY"...

Colossians 1:16-17 (NIV) ¹⁶ For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT *Commission*

I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

A. JESUS HAS BEEN GIVEN "ALL AUTHORITY"...

Philippians 2:6-11 (NIV) ⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, ⁷ but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on

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I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

A. JESUS HAS BEEN GIVEN "ALL AUTHORITY"...

a cross! ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT Commission

I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

A. JESUS HAS BEEN GIVEN "ALL AUTHORITY"...

John 17:1-5 (NIV) ¹ After Jesus said this, he looked toward heaven and prayed: "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, that your Son may glorify you. ² For you granted him authority over all people that he might give eternal life to all those you have given him.

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT *Commission*

I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

A. JESUS HAS BEEN GIVEN "ALL AUTHORITY"...

³ Now this is eternal life: that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. ⁴ I have brought you glory on earth by completing the work you gave me to do. ⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your presence with the glory I had with you before the world began.

Matthew 28:16-20



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I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

B. "ALL AUTHORITY" BOTH IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH

1 Peter 3:22 (NIV) ²² who has gone into heaven and is at God's right hand--with angels, authorities and powers in submission to him.

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT *Commission*

I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

B. "ALL AUTHORITY" BOTH IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH

Ephesians 1:20-23 (NIV) ²⁰ which he exerted in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, ²¹ far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every title that can be given, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

Matthew 28:16-20



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I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

B. "ALL AUTHORITY" BOTH IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH

²² And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

Matthew 28:16-20

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I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

B. "ALL AUTHORITY" BOTH IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH

Colossians 2:13-15 (NIV) ¹³ When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, ¹⁴ having canceled the written code, with its regulations, that was against us and that stood opposed to us; he took it away, nailing it to the cross.



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I. GREAT IN ITS AUTHORITY

B. "ALL AUTHORITY" BOTH IN HEAVEN AND ON EARTH

¹⁵ And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT Commission

II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

Commission - *The act of granting certain powers or the authority to carry out a particular task or duty.*

Commissioned officer, who derives authority directly from a sovereign power

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT Commission

II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

A. THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV) ²⁸ "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Matthew 28:16-20

the GREAT *Commission*

II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

A. THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

Luke 6:40 (NIV) ⁴⁰ A student is not above his teacher, but everyone who is fully trained will be like his teacher.

Matthew 28:16-20

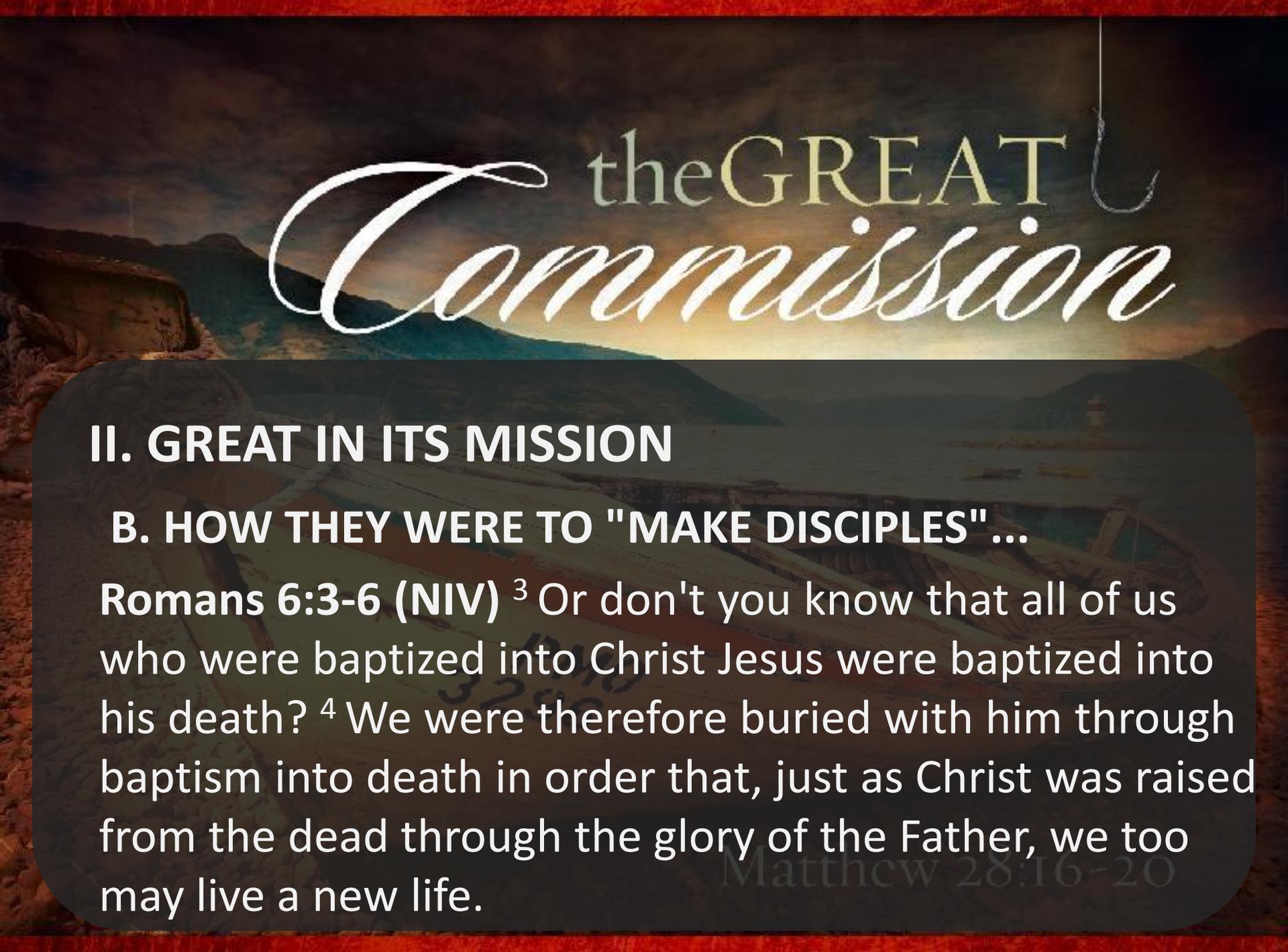
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II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

B. HOW THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

Acts 2:38 (NIV) ³⁸ Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:16-20



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II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

B. HOW THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

Romans 6:3-6 (NIV) ³ Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

Matthew 28:16-20

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II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

B. HOW THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

⁵ If we have been united with him like this in his death, we will certainly also be united with him in his resurrection. ⁶ For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin--

Matthew 28:16-20

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II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

B. HOW THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

Colossians 2:11-12 (NIV) ¹¹ In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.



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II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

B. HOW THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

Baptism symbolizes submission to Christ, a willingness to live God's way, and identification with God's covenant people—Life Application Bible Notes

Matthew 28:16-20

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II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

B. HOW THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

Acts 2:41-42 (NIV) ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day. ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.

Matthew 28:16-20

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II. GREAT IN ITS MISSION

B. HOW THEY WERE TO "MAKE DISCIPLES" ...

DISCIPLESHIP IS anything that causes what is believed in the heart to have demonstrable consequences in our daily life. —Eugene Peterson

Matthew 28:16-20

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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

Rick Warren – *“Faith in Christ must be personal but it cannot be private.”*

Matthew 28:16-20



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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

A. IT IS FOR "ALL NATIONS"...

Mark 16:15 (NIV) ¹⁵ He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation."

Matthew 28:16-20



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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

A. IT IS FOR "ALL NATIONS"...

Acts 1:8 (NIV) ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Matthew 28:16-20

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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

A. IT IS FOR "ALL NATIONS"...

Matthew 10:5-6 (NIV) ⁵ These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not go among the Gentiles or enter any town of the Samaritans. ⁶ Go rather to the lost sheep of Israel.

Matthew 28:16-20

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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

A. IT IS FOR "ALL NATIONS"...

Ephesians 2:11-12 (NIV) ¹¹ Therefore, remember that formerly you who are Gentiles by birth and called "uncircumcised" by those who call themselves "the circumcision" (that done in the body by the hands of men)--

Matthew 28:16-20



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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

A. IT IS FOR "ALL NATIONS"...

¹² remember that at that time you were separate from Christ, excluded from citizenship in Israel and foreigners to the covenants of the promise, without hope and without God in the world.

Matthew 28:16-20

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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

B. FOR "ALL NATIONS", NOT JUST OUR OWN...

I Met the Master

I had walked life's path with an easy tread,

I had followed where comfort and pleasure led;

And then by chance in a quiet place—

I met my Master face to face.

Matthew 28:16-20



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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

B. FOR "ALL NATIONS", NOT JUST OUR OWN...

*With station and rank and wealth for goal,
Much thought for body but none for soul,
I had entered to win this life's mad race—
When I met my Master face to face.*

Matthew 28:16-20

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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

B. FOR "ALL NATIONS", NOT JUST OUR OWN...

*I met Him and knew Him, and blushed to see
That His eyes full of sorrow were fixed on me;
And I faltered, and fell at His feet that day
While my castles vanished and melted away.*

Matthew 28:16-20



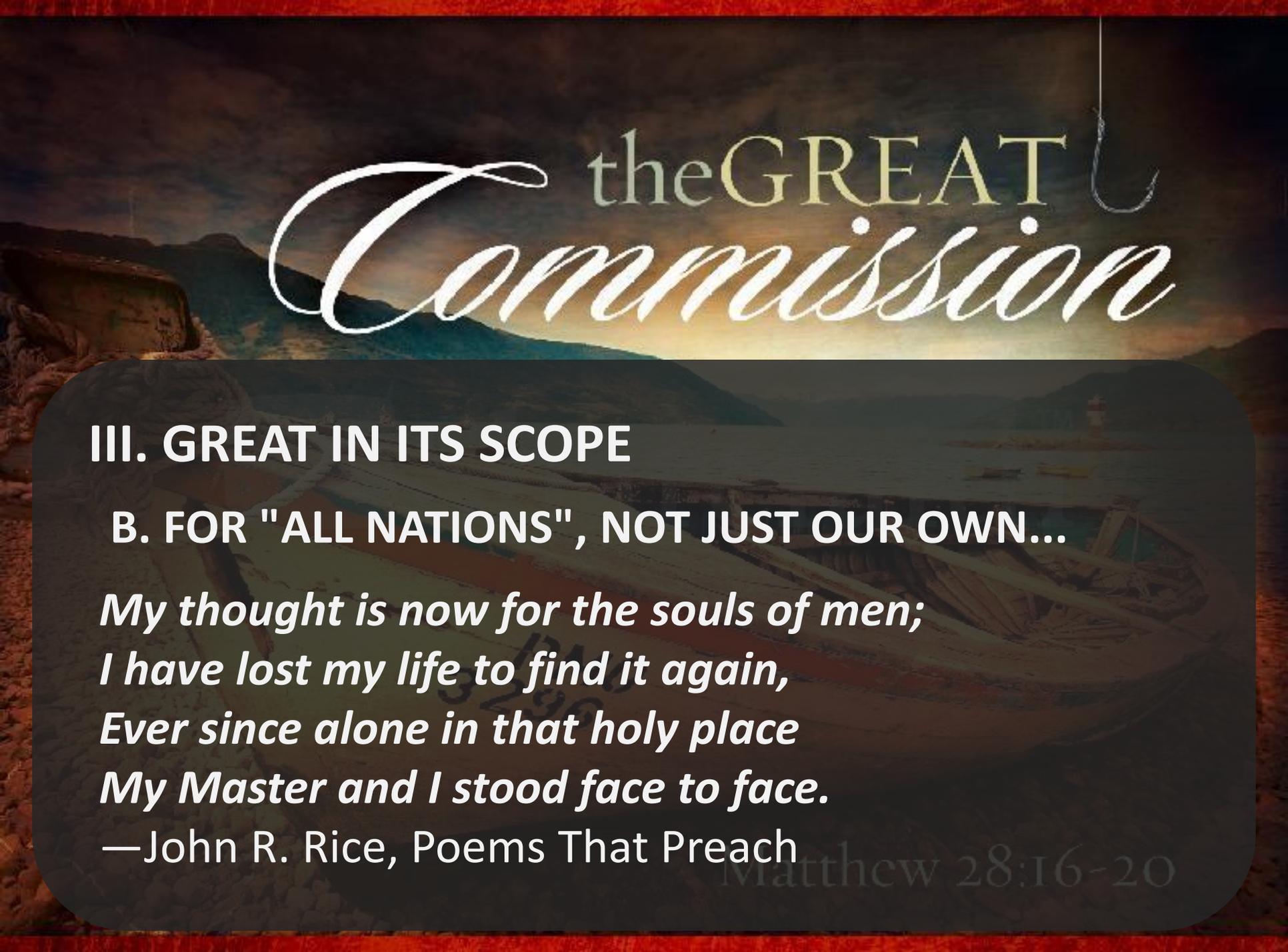
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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

B. FOR "ALL NATIONS", NOT JUST OUR OWN...

*Melted and vanished; and in their place
I saw naught else but my Master's face;
And I cried aloud: "Oh, make me meet
To follow the marks of Thy wounded feet."*

Matthew 28:16-20



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III. GREAT IN ITS SCOPE

B. FOR "ALL NATIONS", NOT JUST OUR OWN...

*My thought is now for the souls of men;
I have lost my life to find it again,
Ever since alone in that holy place
My Master and I stood face to face.*

—John R. Rice, Poems That Preach

Matthew 28:16-20

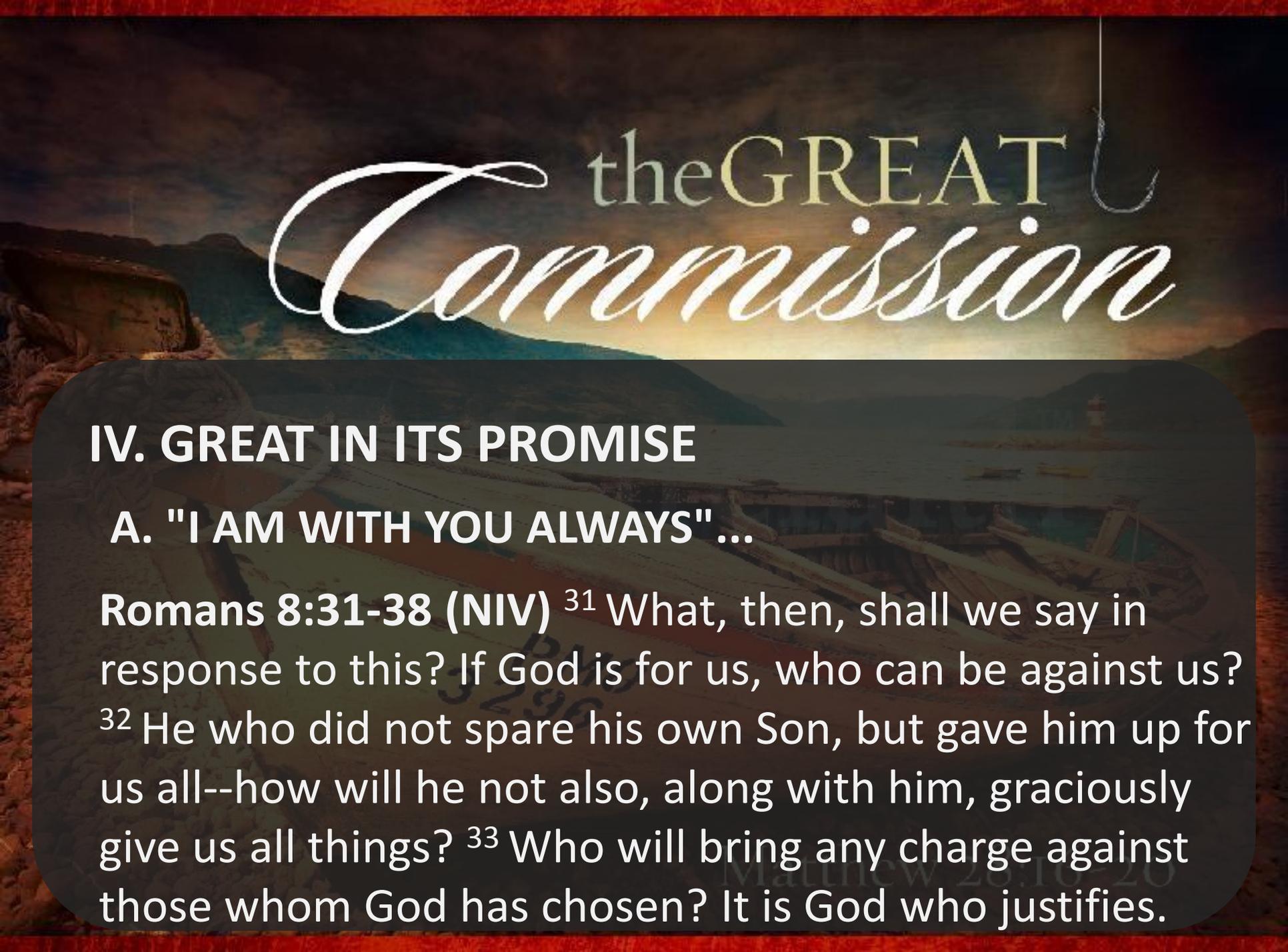
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IV. GREAT IN ITS PROMISE

A. "I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS" ...

John 14:18-20 (NIV) ¹⁸ I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. ¹⁹ Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. ²⁰ On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.

Matthew 28:16-20

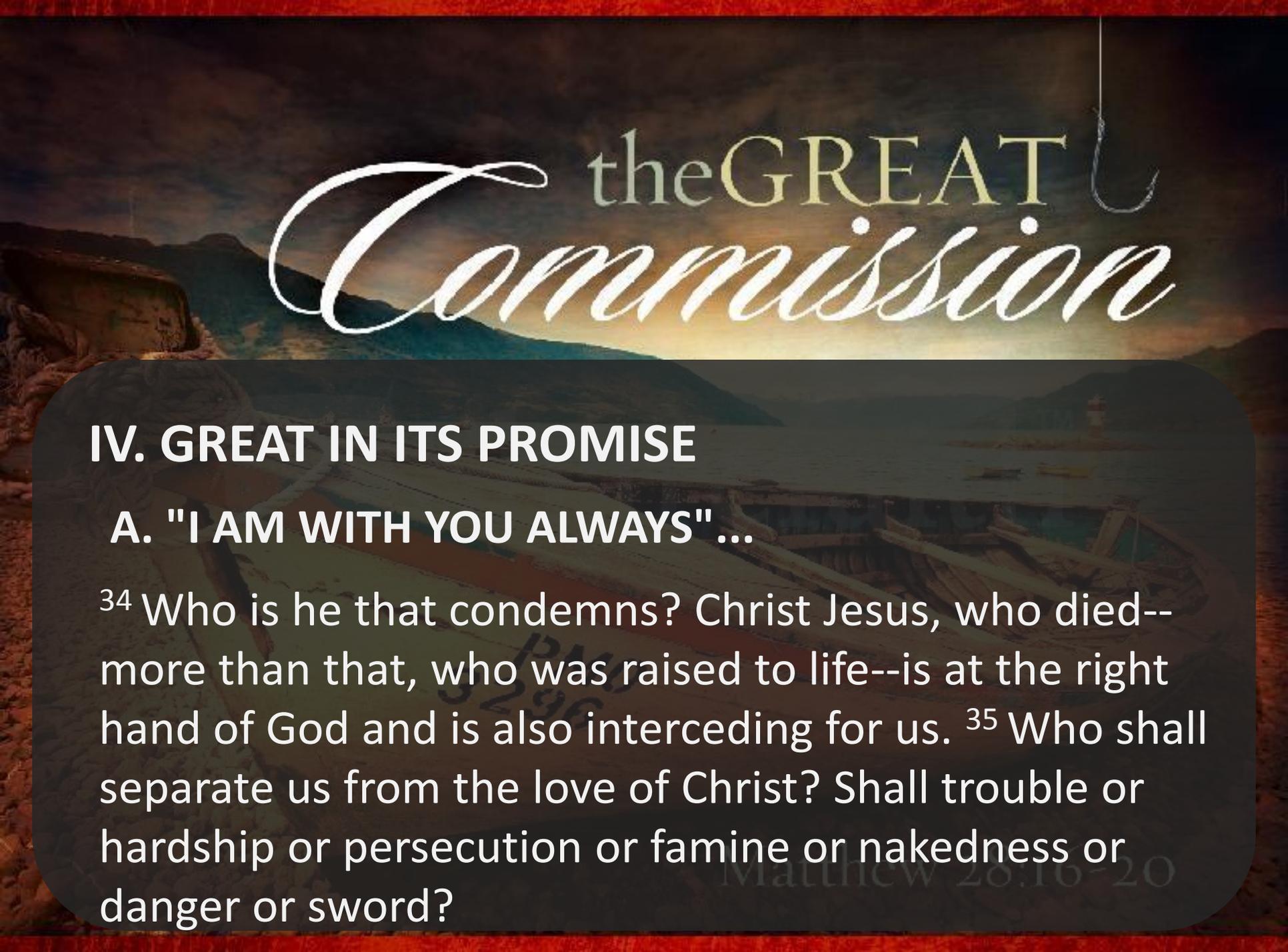


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IV. GREAT IN ITS PROMISE

A. "I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS" ...

Romans 8:31-38 (NIV) ³¹ What, then, shall we say in response to this? If God is for us, who can be against us? ³² He who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all--how will he not also, along with him, graciously give us all things? ³³ Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies.



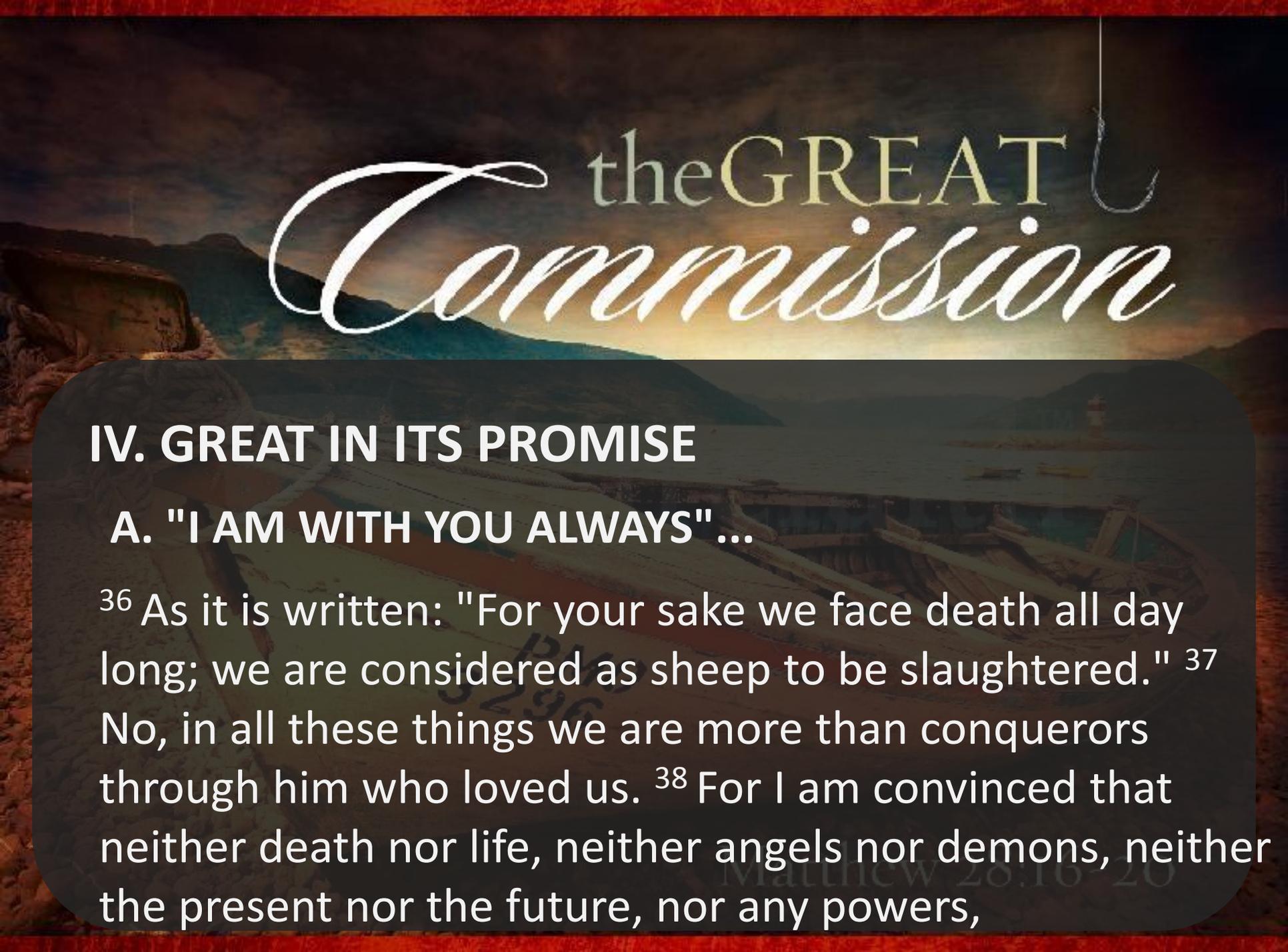
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IV. GREAT IN ITS PROMISE

A. "I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS" ...

³⁴ Who is he that condemns? Christ Jesus, who died-- more than that, who was raised to life--is at the right hand of God and is also interceding for us. ³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword?

Matthew 28:16-20



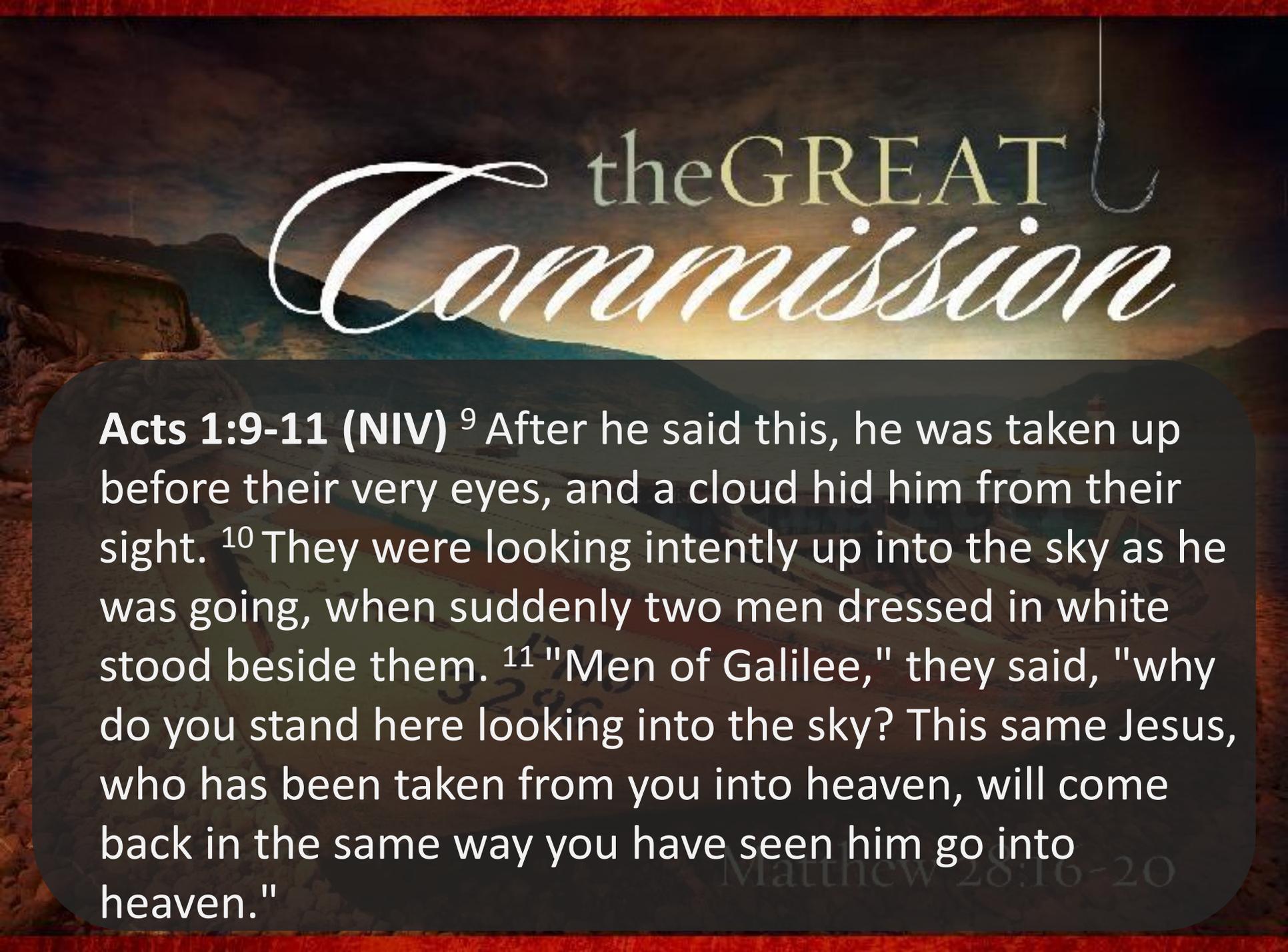
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IV. GREAT IN ITS PROMISE

A. "I AM WITH YOU ALWAYS" ...

³⁶ As it is written: "For your sake we face death all day long; we are considered as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷

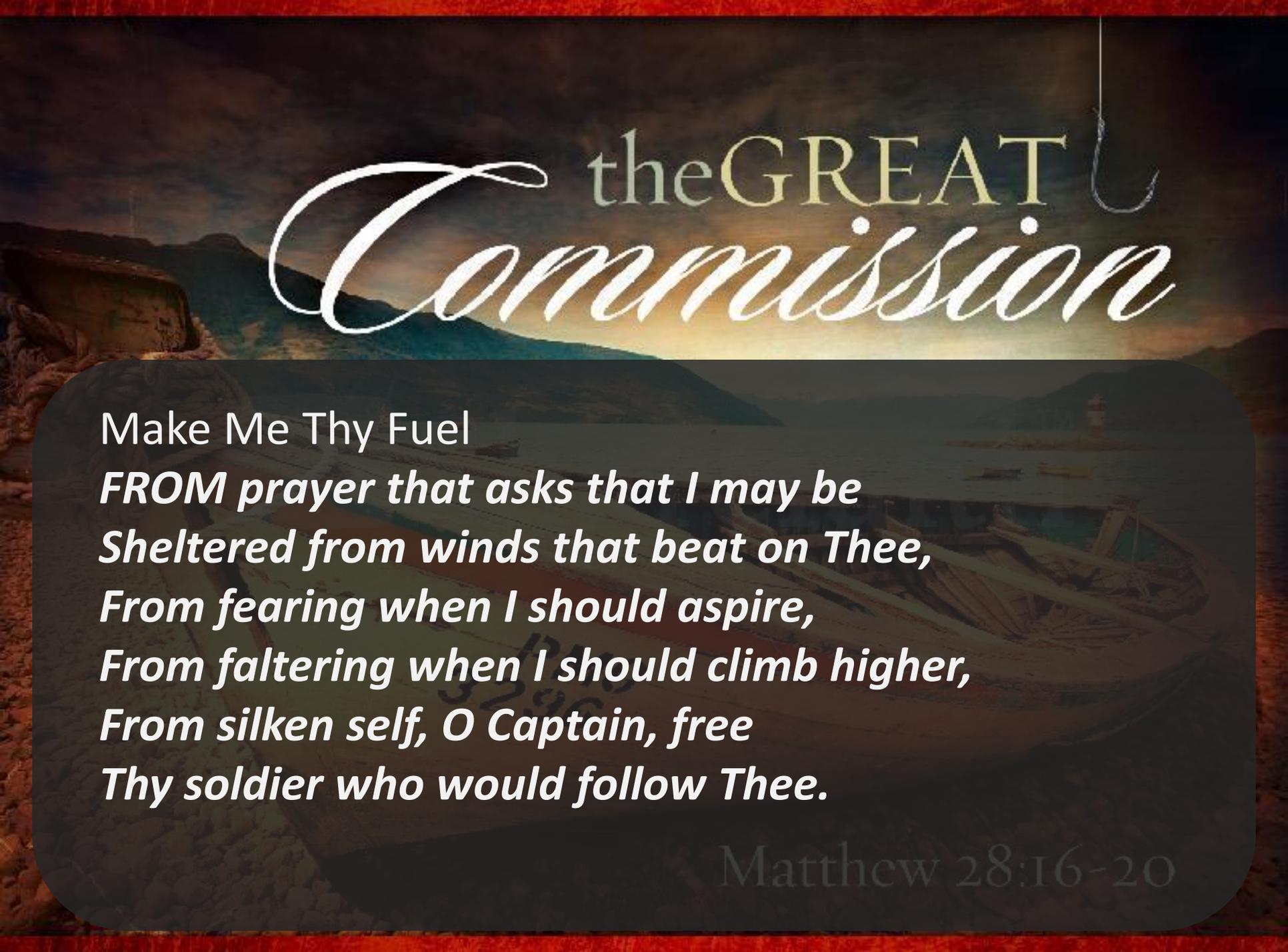
No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers,



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Acts 1:9-11 (NIV) ⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ "Men of Galilee," they said, "why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven."

Matthew 28:16-20

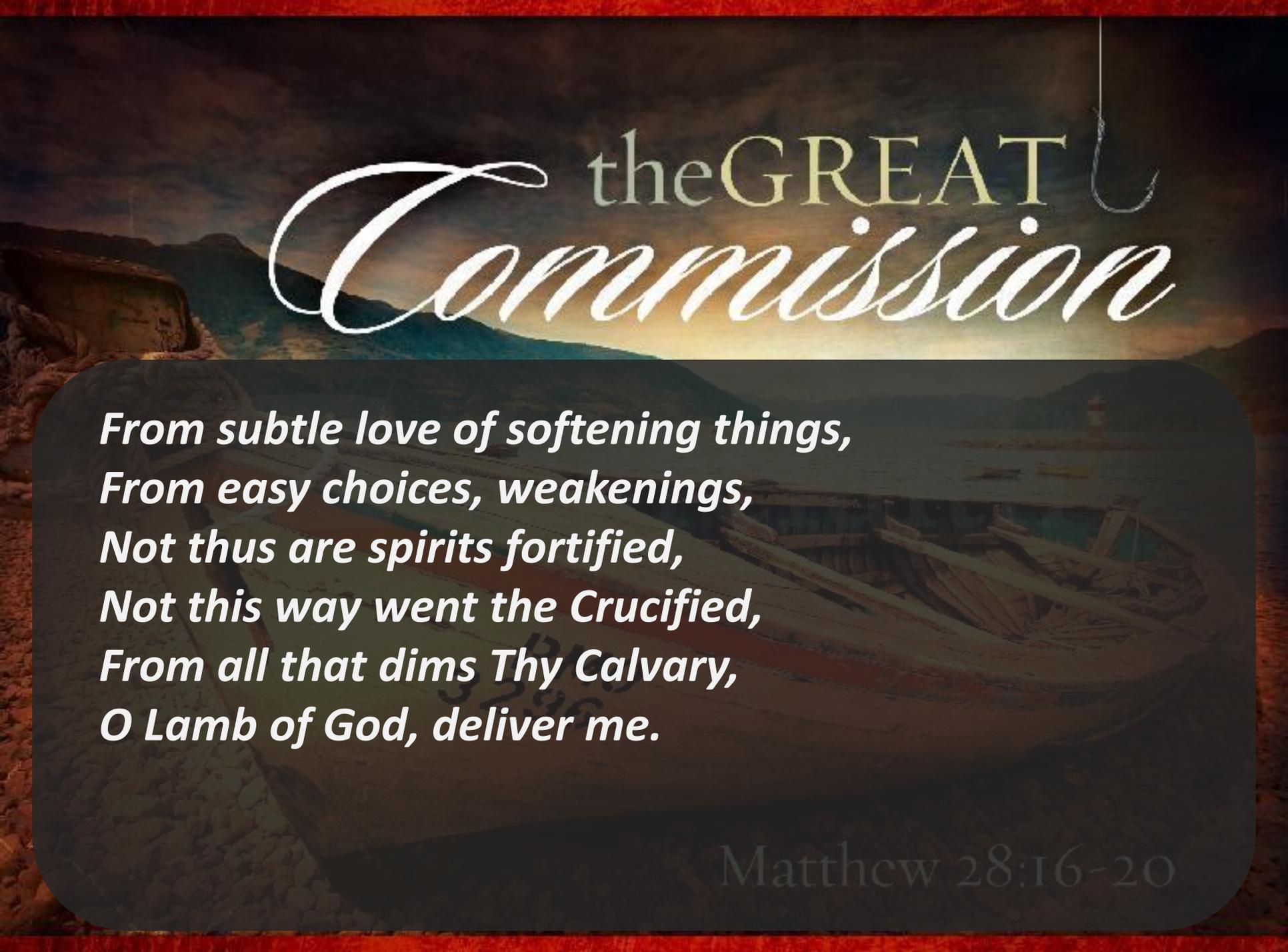


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Make Me Thy Fuel

*FROM prayer that asks that I may be
Sheltered from winds that beat on Thee,
From fearing when I should aspire,
From faltering when I should climb higher,
From silken self, O Captain, free
Thy soldier who would follow Thee.*

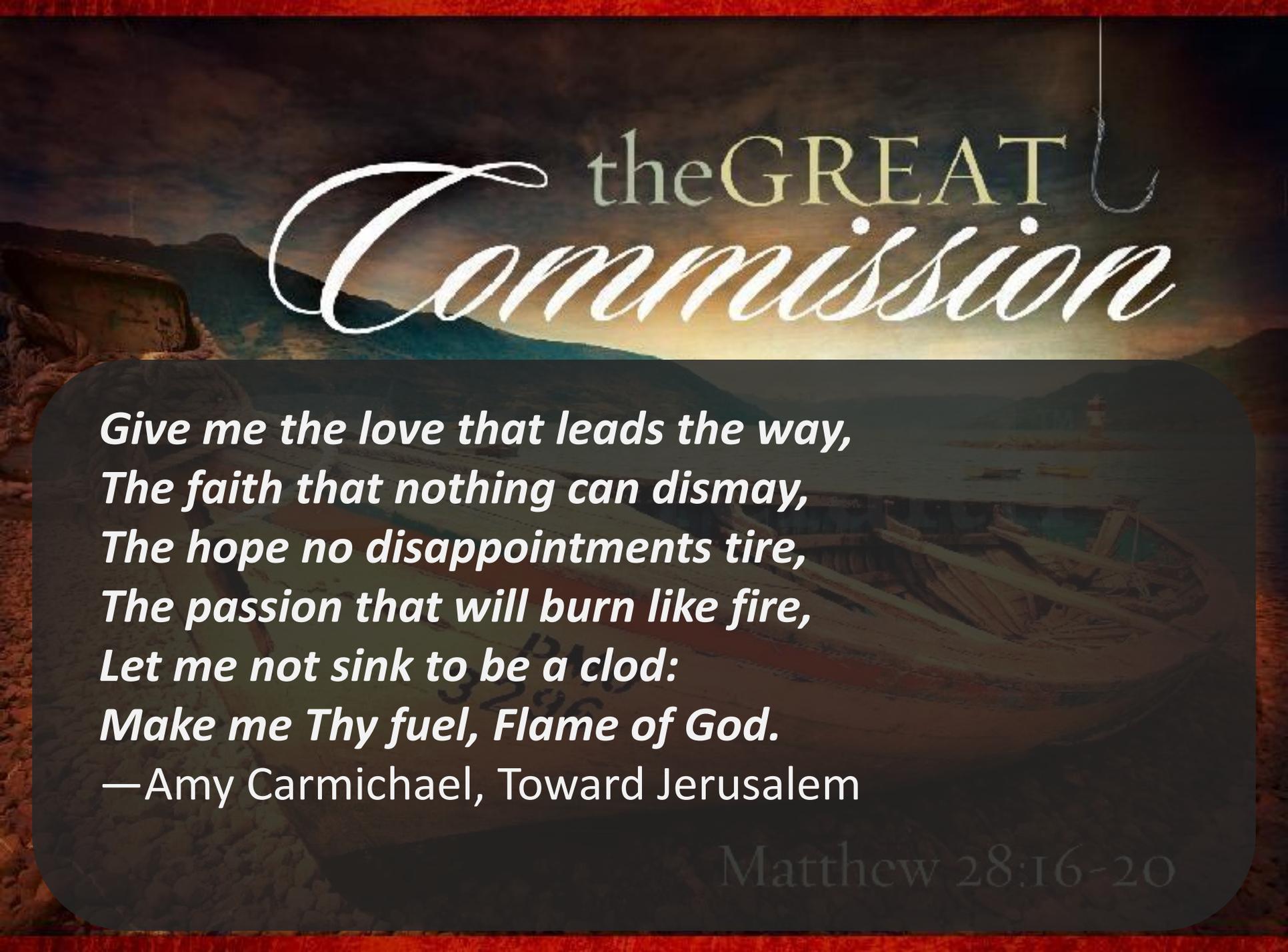
Matthew 28:16-20



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*From subtle love of softening things,
From easy choices, weakenings,
Not thus are spirits fortified,
Not this way went the Crucified,
From all that dims Thy Calvary,
O Lamb of God, deliver me.*

Matthew 28:16-20

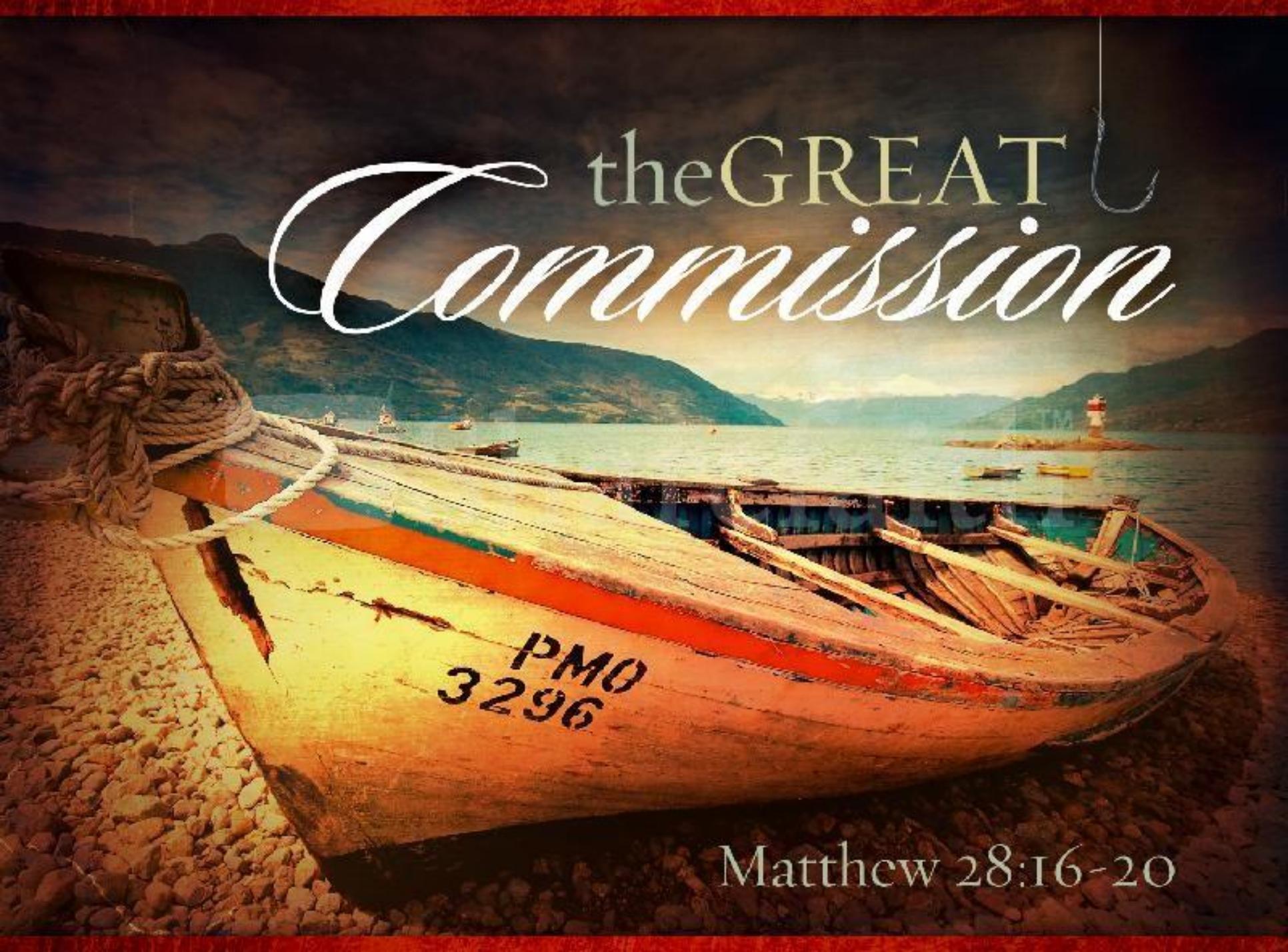


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*Give me the love that leads the way,
The faith that nothing can dismay,
The hope no disappointments tire,
The passion that will burn like fire,
Let me not sink to be a clod:
Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God.*

—Amy Carmichael, *Toward Jerusalem*

Matthew 28:16-20

A wooden boat with a red stripe and the text 'PMO 3296' is beached on a pebbly shore. The background features a calm lake, distant mountains, and a small lighthouse on an island. The sky is overcast.

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Matthew 28:16-20