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GHOSTED:

When Heaven Went Silent – But Love Spoke Louder.

Matthew 28:6 (KJV)



From the silence of despair to the proclamation of hope, the resurrection narrative transforms our understanding of God's presence and purpose.

Sunday AM

April 13, 2025 / 15 Nissan 5785



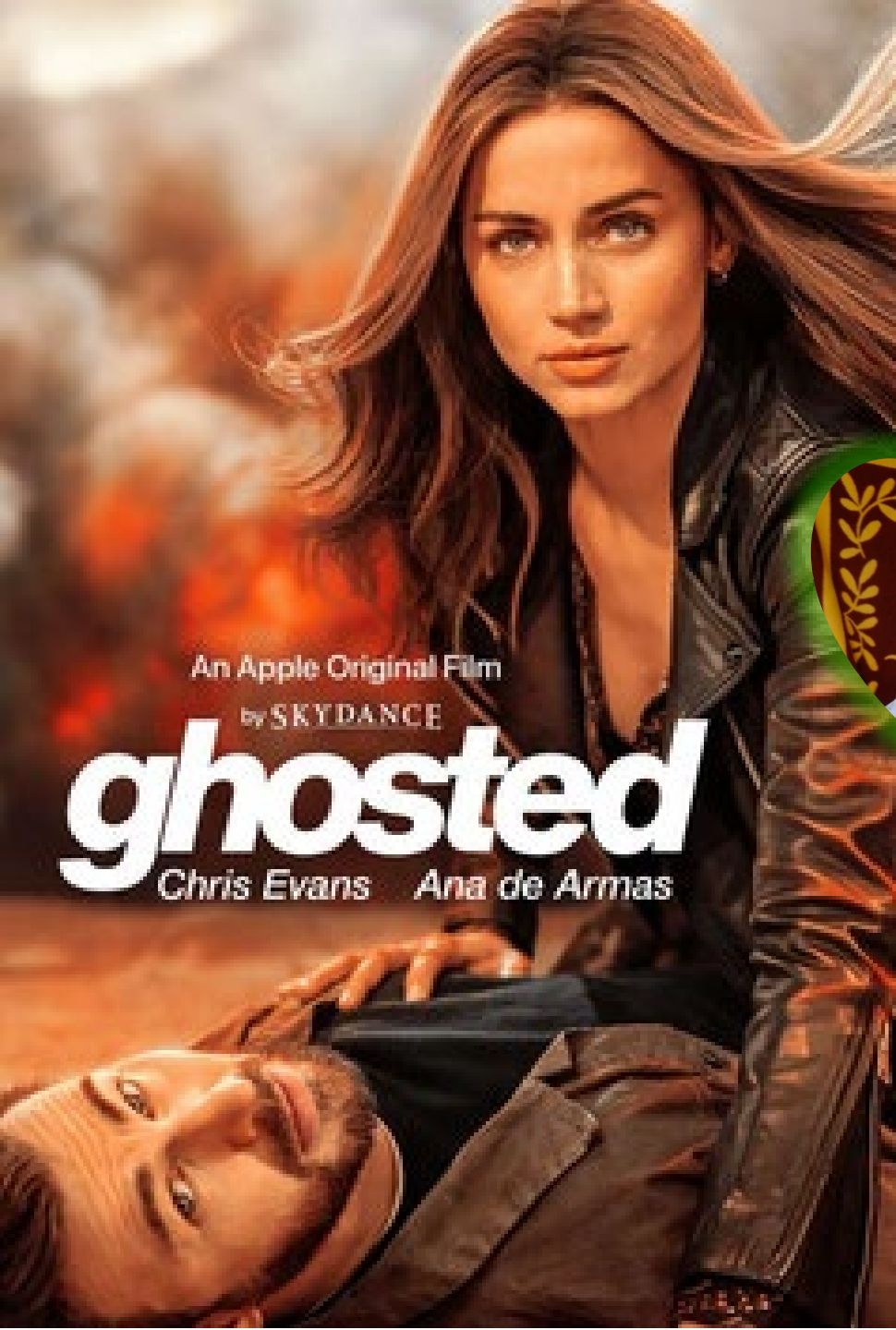
Matthew 28:6 (KJV)

⁶ He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.

Matthew 28:6 (ESV)

⁶ He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay.





Defining "Ghosted"

The Modern Meaning of "Ghosted"

Definition: To suddenly cut off all communication with someone, especially in a romantic or social relationship, without explanation and ignoring all attempts to reconnect.

Emphasis: (verb, informal)

Examples Usage of "Ghosted"

1: "We were texting every day, then he ghosted me out of nowhere."

2: "I thought we were friends, but she ghosted me after our last conversation."



Origins and Cultural Context

Where Does "Ghosted" Come From?

- 1:** The term comes from the idea of someone disappearing like a ghost.
- 2:** It's especially common in digital communication—texting, messaging apps, social media.
- 3:** It's often associated with emotional avoidance, fear of confrontation, or lack of interest.



Spiritual Application Idea

When We "Ghost" God

Many people "ghost" God—they cut off prayer, worship, and obedience when they feel hurt, confused, or uninterested.

Likewise, they may feel like God has ghosted them, when He's working behind the scenes.

The Pain of Silence

Have you ever been ghosted?

One day, everything's normal. The conversations are flowing, the connection feels real, the relationship seems strong... and then—silence. No replies. No calls. No texts. They vanish like smoke. You keep checking your phone, wondering, **“What did I do? Why won't they answer?”**



What if Jesus Ghosted You?

1: What if one day, you cried out in desperation—“Lord, I need You!”—and all you heard was silence?

2: What if He looked at your life and said, “You only come around when you need something. You don’t speak to Me unless you’re in trouble. You ghosted Me first.”

Treating Jesus Like a Spare Tire

1: Let’s be honest: some of us treat Jesus like a spare tire. We only remember Him when life goes flat.

2: You might show up to church on Christmas, maybe Easter, or on the occasional Sunday when your calendar isn’t packed.

3: You post a Bible verse when life gets rocky, but you’ve ignored the One who wrote the Book.

4: You say, “I believe in God,” but He’s not your Lord—He’s your last resort.



We Ghosted Him First

- 1: It's not that Jesus walked away from you...
- 2: It's that you've been ghosting Him for years.



God Never Ghosts Us

- 1: And yet—here's the miracle of grace: even when we ghost God, He never ghosts us.
- 2: Even when we drift, deny, delay, and disappear—Jesus still shows up, knocks on our heart's door, and says, “Behold, I stand at the door, and knock...” (Revelation 3:20, KJV).

G.H.O.S.T.E.D.

G – Grave Defeated

*"O death, where is thy sting?
O grave, where is thy victory?"*
— **1 Corinthians 15:55 KJV**

Jesus conquered the grave —
it didn't hold Him, and it won't
hold us either!





G.H.O.S.T.E.D.

H – Hope Restored

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... which hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead."

1 Peter 1:3 KJV

The resurrection is the reset button for our souls — bringing back hope where it was lost.

G.H.O.S.T.E.D.

O – Overcame Sin

"But now once in the end of the world hath he appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself."

Hebrews 9:26 KJV

Sin was strong, but grace was stronger. Jesus ghosted guilt forever!





G.H.O.S.T.E.D.

S – Salvation Secured

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven... whereby we must be saved."

Acts 4:12 KJV

Salvation isn't a maybe — it's a done deal for all who believe.

G.H.O.S.T.E.D.

T – Tomb is Empty

"He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay."

Matthew 28:6 KJV

The stone wasn't rolled away to let Jesus out... it was to let us in to see He's gone!





G.H.O.S.T.E.D.

E – Eternal Life Promised

"And this is the promise that he hath promised us, even eternal life."

1 John 2:25 KJV

Easter isn't just about one morning—it's about a forever future.

G.H.O.S.T.E.D.

D – Devotion Demanded

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice..."

Romans 12:1 KJV

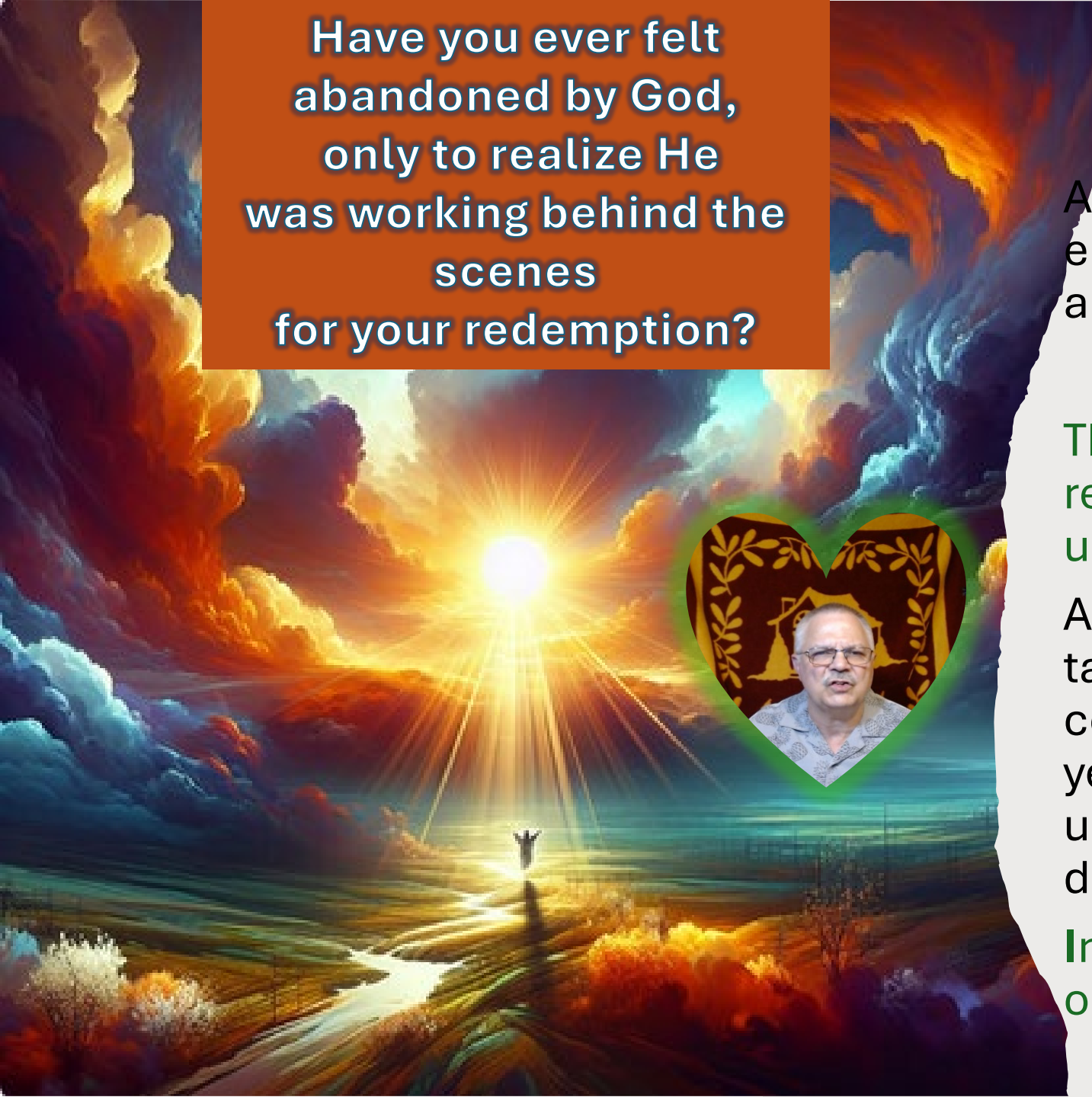
Because He gave His life, we give Him ours. He didn't ghost us—so we don't ghost Him.





G.H.O.S.T.E.D.

**“Jesus may have
been '**ghosted**' by the
grave, but He rose
with glory —
and now He **ghosted**
our sin, our shame,
and our death!”**



Have you ever felt
abandoned by God,
only to realize He
was working behind the
scenes
for your redemption?

I. The Silence of Saturday

Matthew 27:62-66

After Jesus' death, a day of silence ensued. The disciples were disheartened, and the world seemed devoid of hope.

The term "sabbaton" (σάββατον) signifies rest, yet this Sabbath was filled with unrest for Jesus' followers.

A woman, en route to an Easter service, tapped her Uber driver, startling him. He confessed it was his first day driving after years of operating a hearse. The unexpected can jolt us, much like the disciples were jolted by Jesus' death

In our silent Saturdays, trust that God is orchestrating a resurrection.

A. The Crucifixion: Jesus' death on the cross left His followers in despair, much like Cole's confusion when Sadie vanished.

B. The Burial: Jesus' body was placed in a tomb, sealed and guarded, symbolizing the finality of death.

C. The Silence: For three days, there was no word, no sign—only grief and uncertainty.

Imagine waiting for a loved one who promised to return, only to hear nothing for days. The silence is deafening.



I. The Silence of Saturday

II. The Power of Resurrection Sunday

Matthew 28:5-6

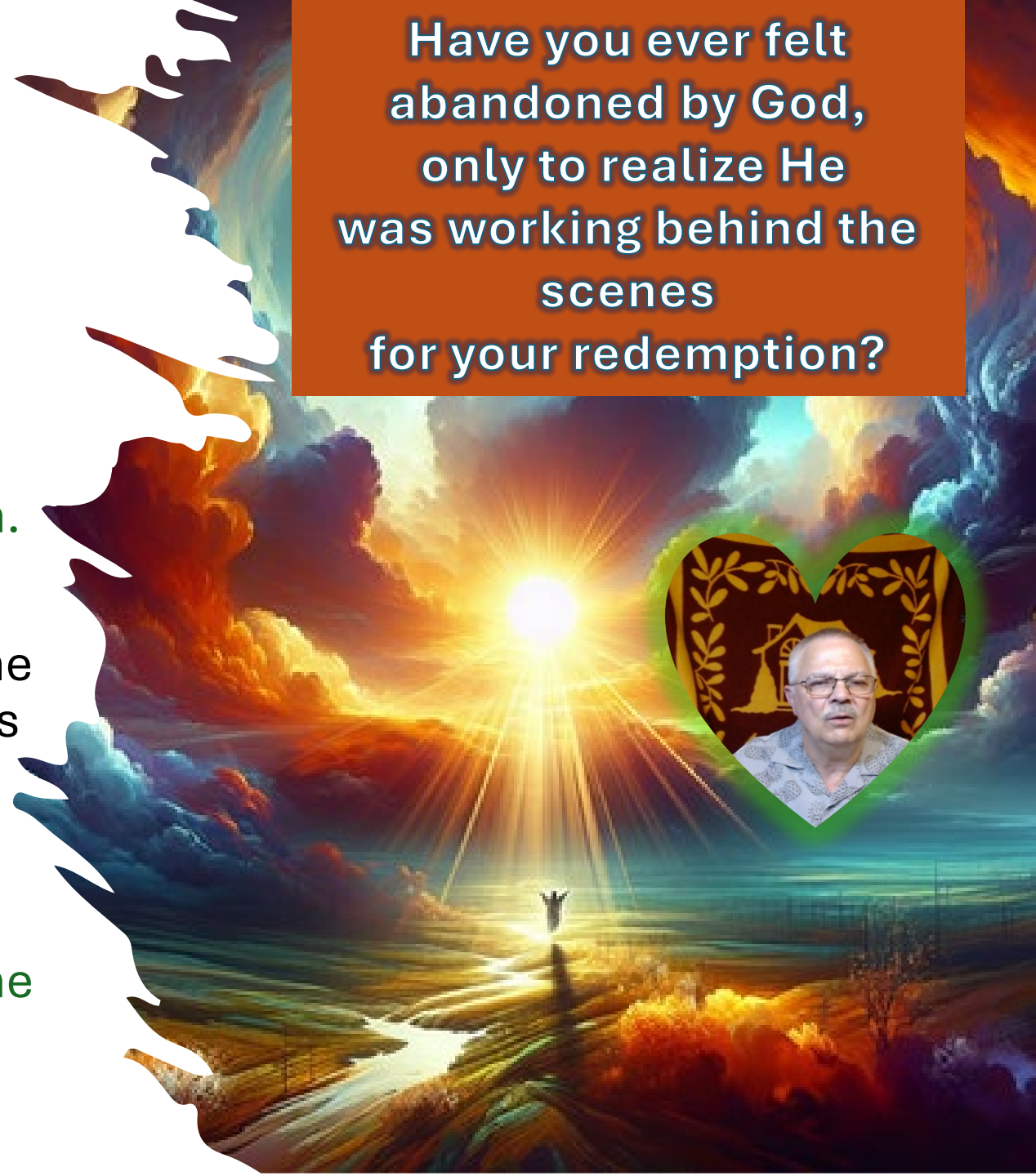
The angel's proclamation shattered the silence: **"He is not here: for he is risen."**

"Risen" translates to "qum" (קוּם), meaning to arise or stand up, signifying victory over death.

A child, tasked with reciting "He is not here; he is risen," mistakenly said, "He is not here; he is in prison." Even in error, the truth remains: Jesus broke the chains of death

Embrace the resurrection's power to overcome personal trials and tribulations.

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A. Assurance of Salvation:

Jesus' victory over death guarantees eternal life for believers.

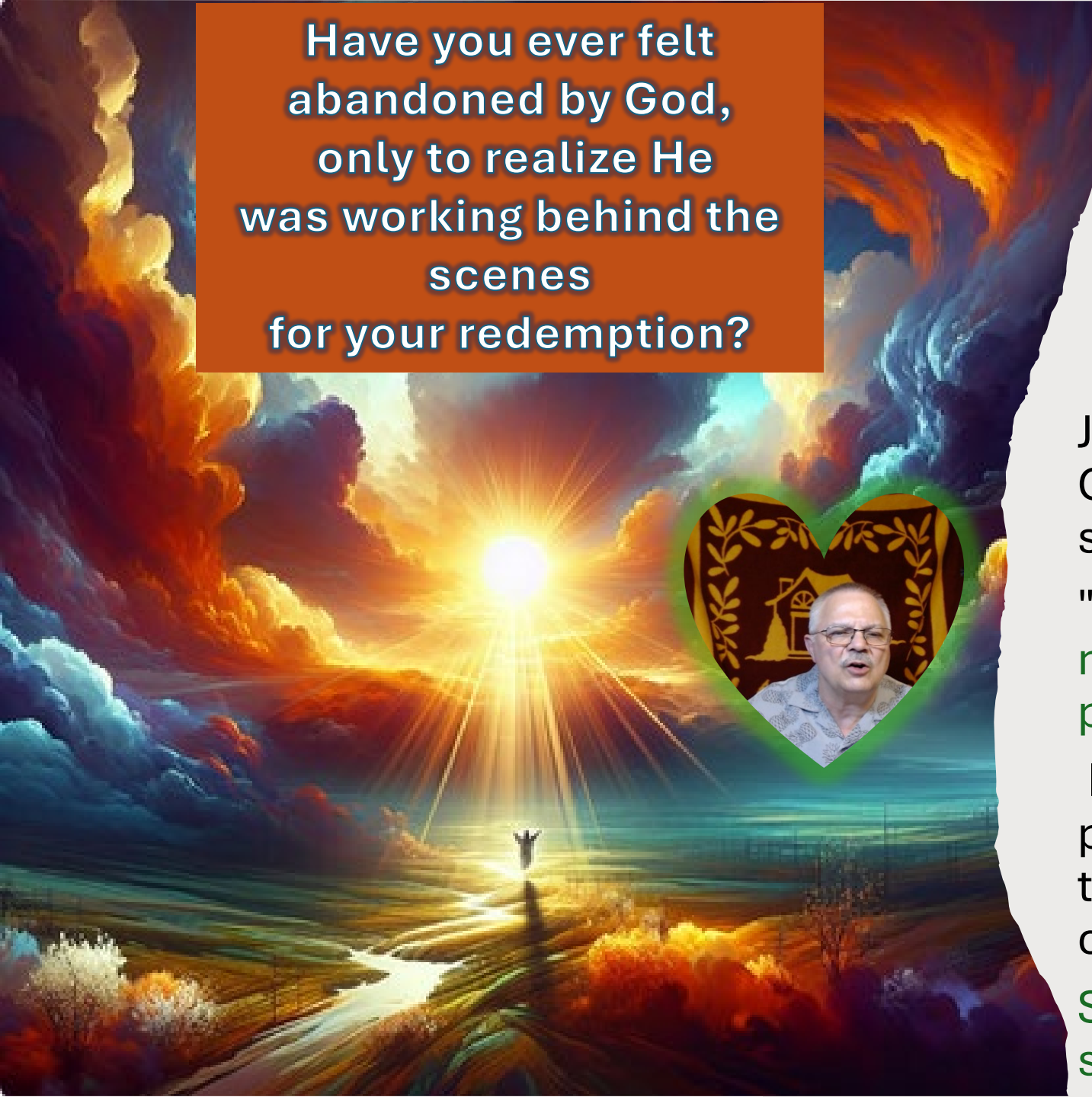
B. Empowerment for Living: The resurrection empowers us to live boldly and purposefully.

C. The Promise of His Return:

Just as Jesus ascended, He will return to take us home.

Think of a soldier returning home after years of service, bringing joy and relief to all who awaited his return.





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only to realize He
was working behind the
scenes
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- I. The Silence of Saturday
- II. The Power of Resurrection Sunday
- III. The Commissioning of the Disciples**

Matthew 28:19-20

Jesus entrusted His followers with the Great Commission, transforming their sorrow into purpose.

"Matheteusate" (μαθητεύσατε) means to make disciples, indicating an ongoing process of teaching and guiding.

In *Ghosted*, Cole transitions from a passive participant to an active agent in the mission. Similarly, believers are called to active discipleship.

Step into your role as a disciple-maker, sharing the resurrection's hope with

A. The Angel's Message: The angel's declaration to the women at the tomb was a message of hope and triumph over death.

B. The Empty Tomb: The absence of Jesus' body confirmed the miraculous event of the resurrection.

C. The Personal Encounters: Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene and the disciples, proving He was alive.

It's like receiving a letter from a friend you thought lost, only to find out they've been safe all along, waiting to reconnect.





CONCLUSION:

- 1 Have you experienced the "ghosting" of God's presence in your life?**
- 2. Are you living in the power of the resurrection?**
- 3. Are you sharing the hope of the resurrection with others?**





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