

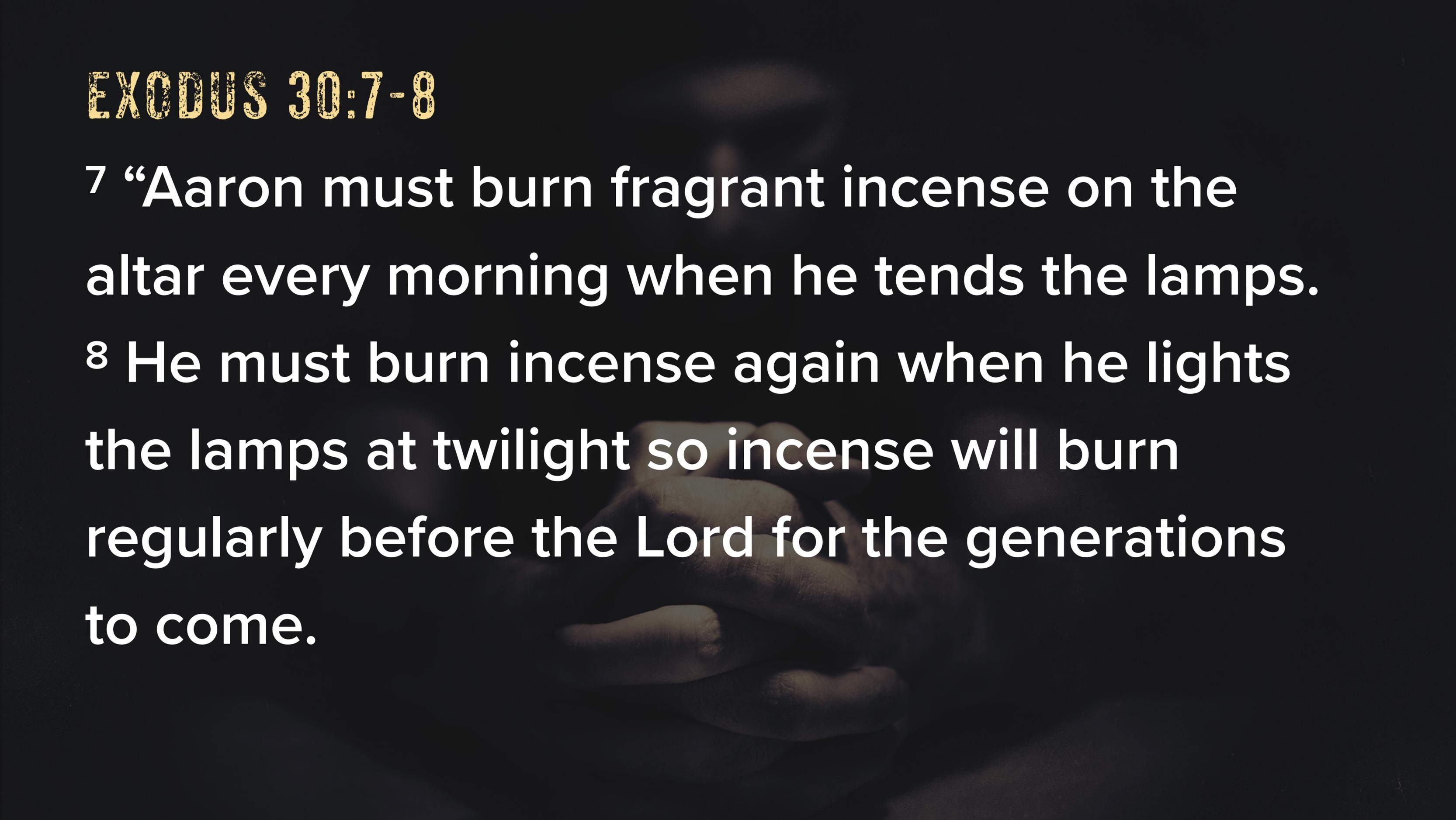


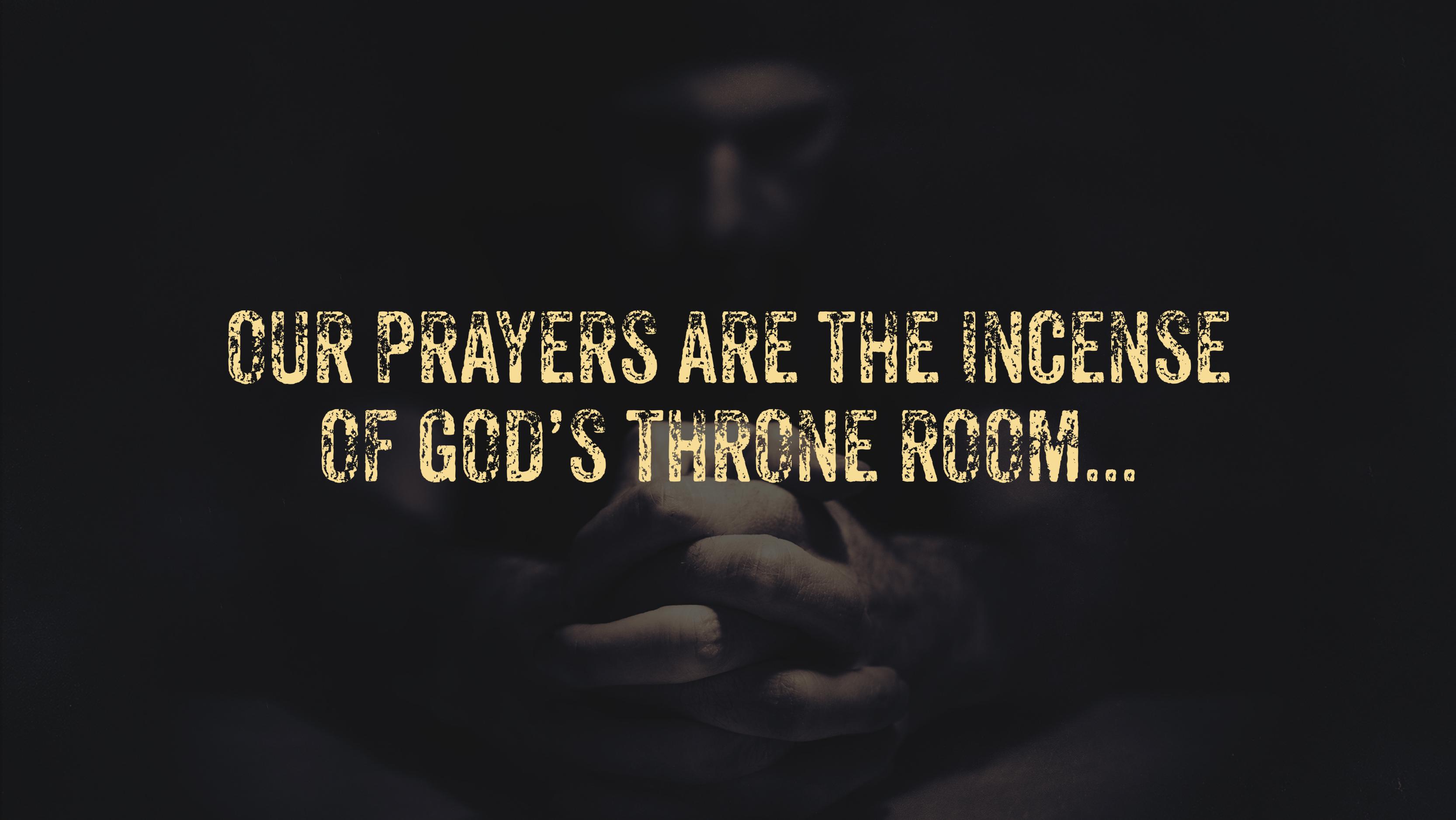
WHEN PRAYERS SEEM
UNANSWERED

Central
ASSEMBLY

EXODUS 30:7-8

**7 “Aaron must burn fragrant incense on the altar every morning when he tends the lamps.
8 He must burn incense again when he lights the lamps at twilight so incense will burn regularly before the Lord for the generations to come.**





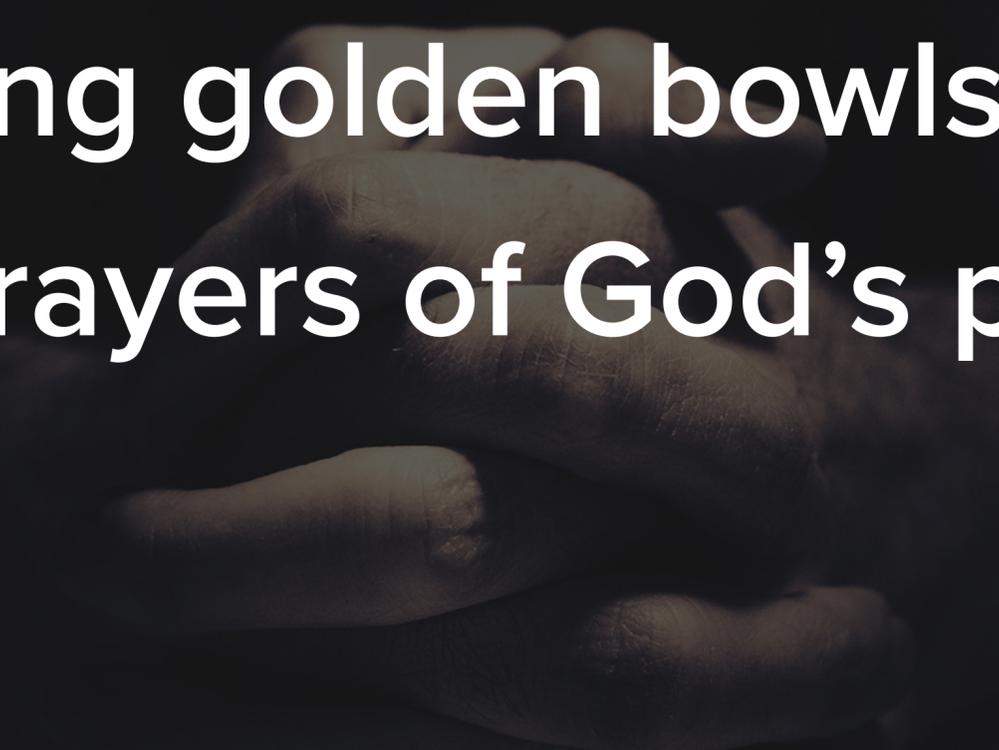
OUR PRAYERS ARE THE INCENSE
OF GOD'S THRONE ROOM...

REVELATION 5:6A,7-8

⁶ Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne, encircled by the four living creatures and the elders... ⁷ He went and took the scroll from the right hand of him who sat on the throne.

REVELATION 5:6A,7-8

⁸ And when he had taken it, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb. Each one had a harp and they were holding golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of God's people.





REVELATION 6:9-11

⁹ When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain because of the word of God and the testimony they had maintained. ¹⁰ They called out in a loud voice, “How long, Sovereign Lord, holy and true, until you judge the inhabitants of the earth and avenge our blood?”

REVELATION 6:9-11

¹¹ Then each of them was given a white robe, and they were told to wait a little longer, until the full number of their fellow servants, their brothers and sisters, were killed just as they had been.



A person is shown from the chest up, with their hands clasped together in a prayerful gesture. The person's face is partially visible, looking downwards. The background is dark and out of focus. Overlaid on the image is the text "OUR PRAYERS ARE NEVER WASTED..." in a bold, yellow, distressed font. The text is centered horizontally and spans across the middle of the image.

OUR PRAYERS ARE NEVER WASTED...

REVELATION 8:1,3-5

¹ When he opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for about half an hour...

³ Another angel, who had a golden censer, came and stood at the altar. He was given much incense to offer, with the prayers of all God's people, on the golden altar in front of the throne.

REVELATION 8:1,3-5

⁴ The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand. ⁵ Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

REASONS FOR UNANSWERED PRAYER...

- **Unconfessed sin**



ISAIAH 59:2B

2 ...your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.



REASONS FOR UNANSWERED PRAYER...

- **Unconfessed sin**
- **Lack of faith**



MATTHEW 13:58

58 And he did not do many miracles there because of their lack of faith.



REASONS FOR UNANSWERED PRAYER...

- **Unconfessed sin**
- **Lack of faith**
- **Selfish motives**



JAMES 4:3

³ When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures.



REASONS FOR UNANSWERED PRAYER...

- **Unconfessed sin**
- **Lack of faith**
- **Selfish motives**
- **Spiritual warfare**

DANIEL 10:12B-13A

¹² ...Since the first day that you set your mind to... humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. ¹³ But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days...

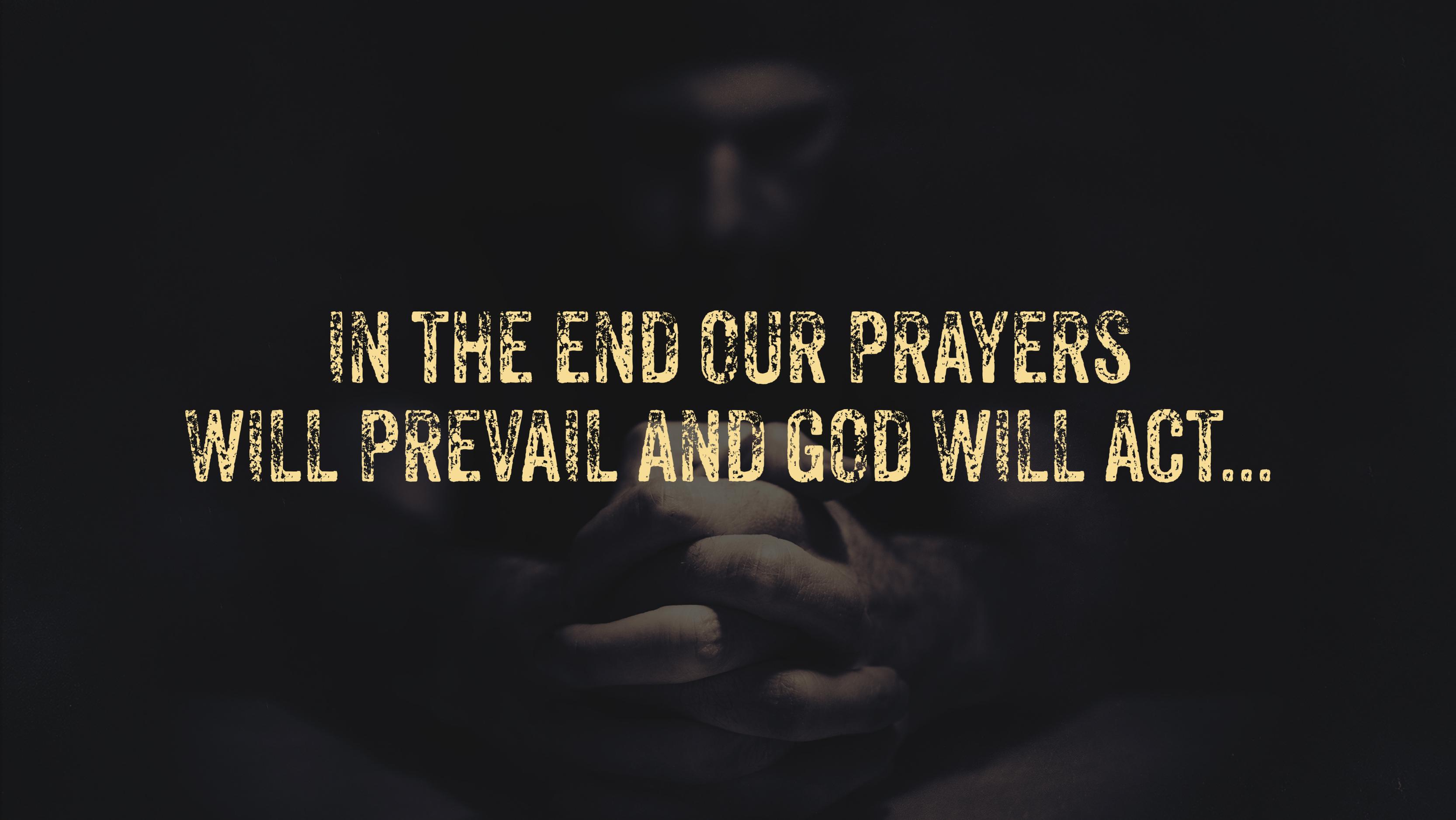
REASONS FOR UNANSWERED PRAYER...

- **Unconfessed sin**
- **Lack of faith**
- **Selfish motives**
- **Spiritual warfare**
- **God's timing**

REVELATION 6:11B

¹¹ ...and they were told to wait a little longer.





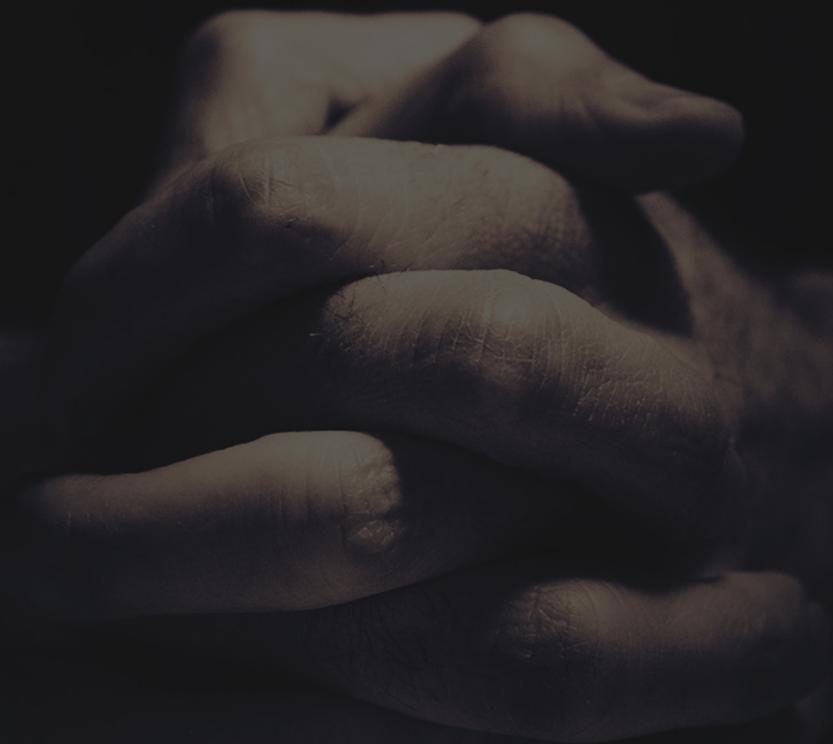
**IN THE END OUR PRAYERS
WILL PREVAIL AND GOD WILL ACT...**

REVELATION 8:4-5

⁴ The smoke of the incense, together with the prayers of God's people, went up before God from the angel's hand. ⁵ Then the angel took the censer, filled it with fire from the altar, and hurled it on the earth; and there came peals of thunder, rumblings, flashes of lightning and an earthquake.

SO BE ENCOURAGED...

- **Keep facing your pain**



SO BE ENCOURAGED...

- **Keep facing your pain**
- **Keep seeking God's presence**



SO BE ENCOURAGED...

- **Keep facing your pain**
- **Keep seeking God's presence**
- **Keep standing on God's promises**

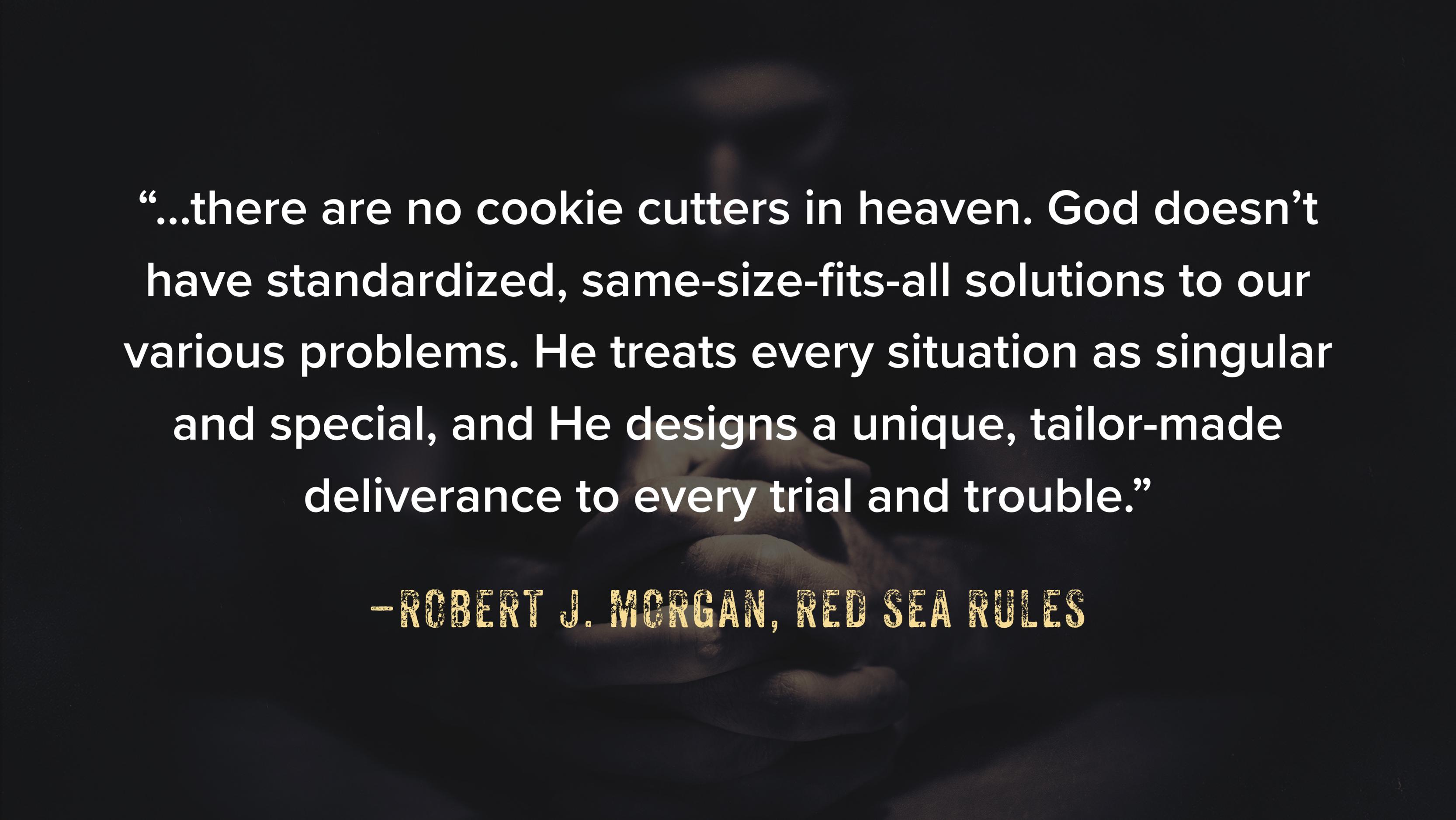


SO BE ENCOURAGED...

- **Keep facing your pain**
- **Keep seeking God's presence**
- **Keep standing on God's promises**
- **Keep lifting the incense of prayer**

SO BE ENCOURAGED...

- **Keep facing your pain**
- **Keep seeking God's presence**
- **Keep standing on God's promises**
- **Keep lifting the incense of prayer**
- **Keep leaving the incense in the throne room**



“...there are no cookie cutters in heaven. God doesn't have standardized, same-size-fits-all solutions to our various problems. He treats every situation as singular and special, and He designs a unique, tailor-made deliverance to every trial and trouble.”

—ROBERT J. MORGAN, RED SEA RULES

1 JOHN 5:4-5

⁴ for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵ Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God.

