

Thanks Giving Pt. 2





God leading through
A Church ready to close its doors

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What happens in your brain when you give a gift?

Gift-giving activates regions of the brain associated with pleasure, social connection, and trust, creating a “warm glow” effect

By [Amy Novotney](#)

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5 min read

“Oftentimes, people refer to it as the ‘warm glow,’ this intrinsic delight in doing something for someone else,” said Simon-Thomas, who studies the neuroscience and psychology of compassion, kindness, and gratitude.

“But part of the uniqueness of the reward activation around gift-giving compared to something like receiving an award or winning money is that because it is social it also activates pathways in the brain that release oxytocin, which is a neuropeptide that signals trust, safety, and connection. It’s often referred to as the ‘cuddle hormone.’”

A hand holds a bright yellow sticky note in the center of the frame. The note has the words "Stay Happy!" printed in a bold, black, sans-serif font at the top. Below the text is a simple smiley face drawn with two vertical lines for eyes and a curved line for a mouth. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with a bright sun in the upper left, creating a lens flare and a warm, golden light. The overall mood is positive and uplifting.

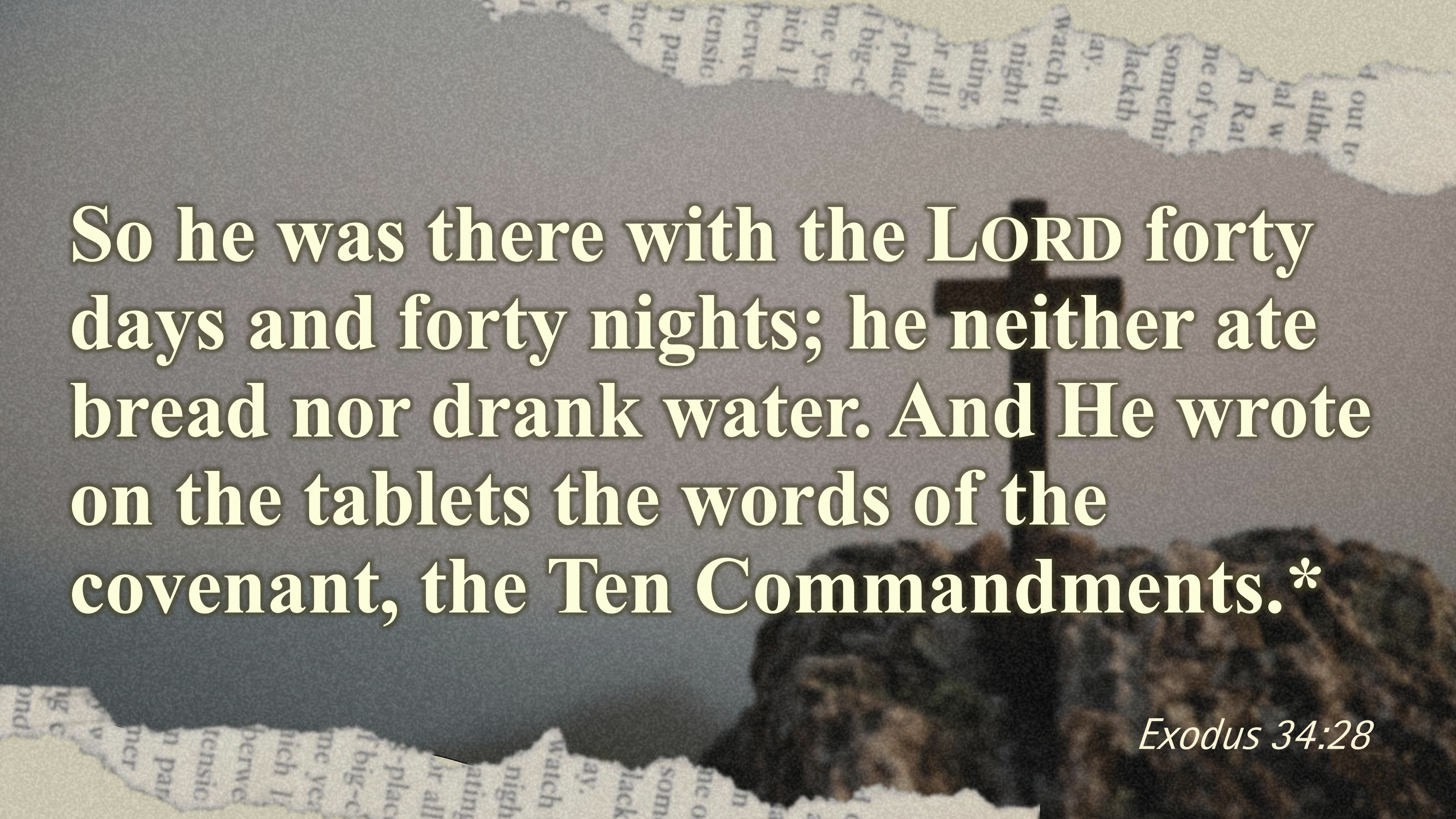
Stay Happy!

When oxytocin is part of the equation, the reward is slightly different in that it can be sustained longer, unlike the brief lifespan that a pure dopamine response has.

Acts 20:35

I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, **‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ”**





So he was there with the LORD forty days and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor drank water. And He wrote on the tablets the words of the covenant, the Ten Commandments.*

Exodus 34:28



10 DAYS OF PRAYER

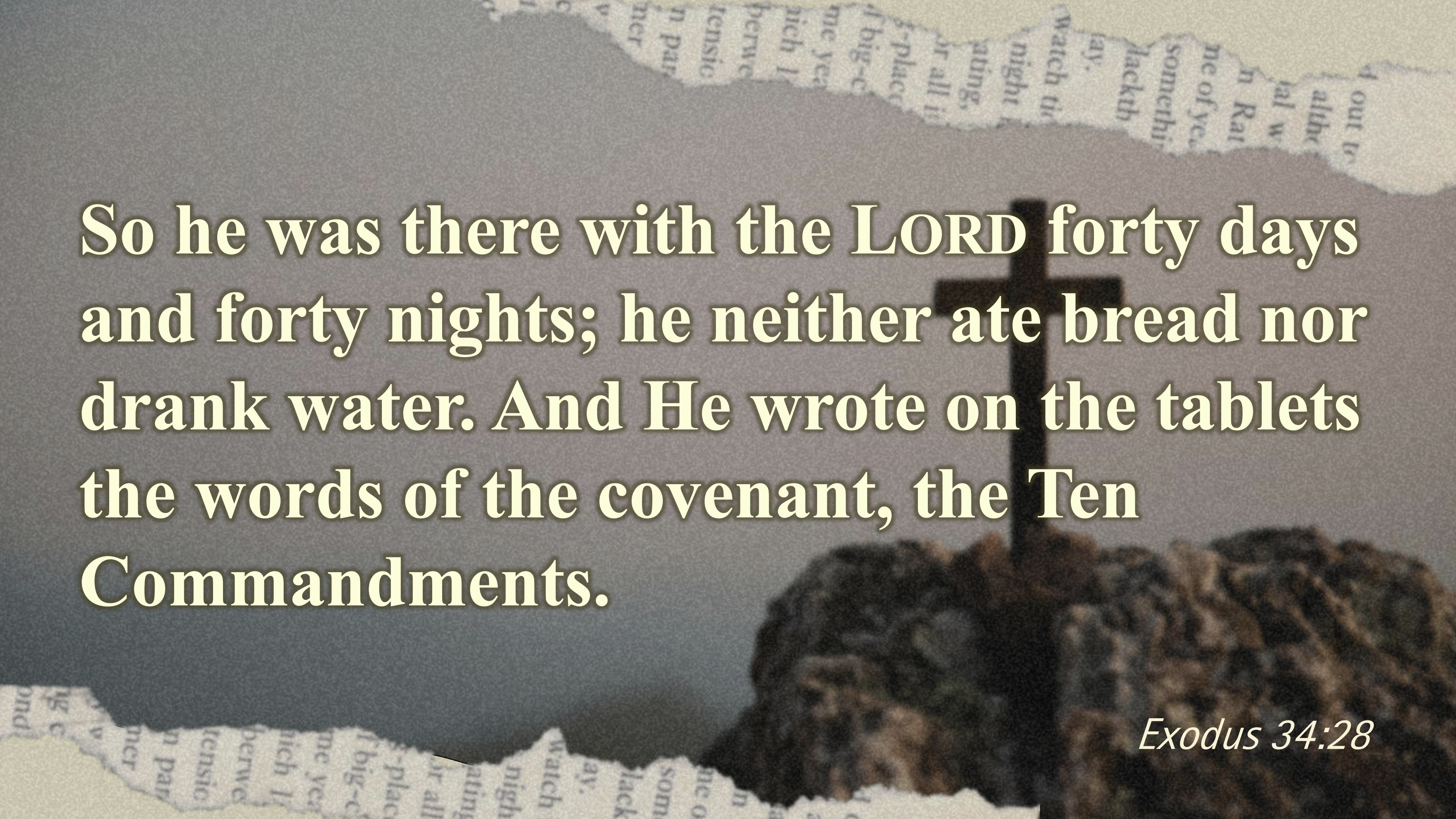
January 7-17, 2026

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“And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever—the Spirit of truth”.

JOHN 14:16, 17

UNLEASHED!



**So he was there with the LORD forty days
and forty nights; he neither ate bread nor
drank water. And He wrote on the tablets
the words of the covenant, the Ten
Commandments.**

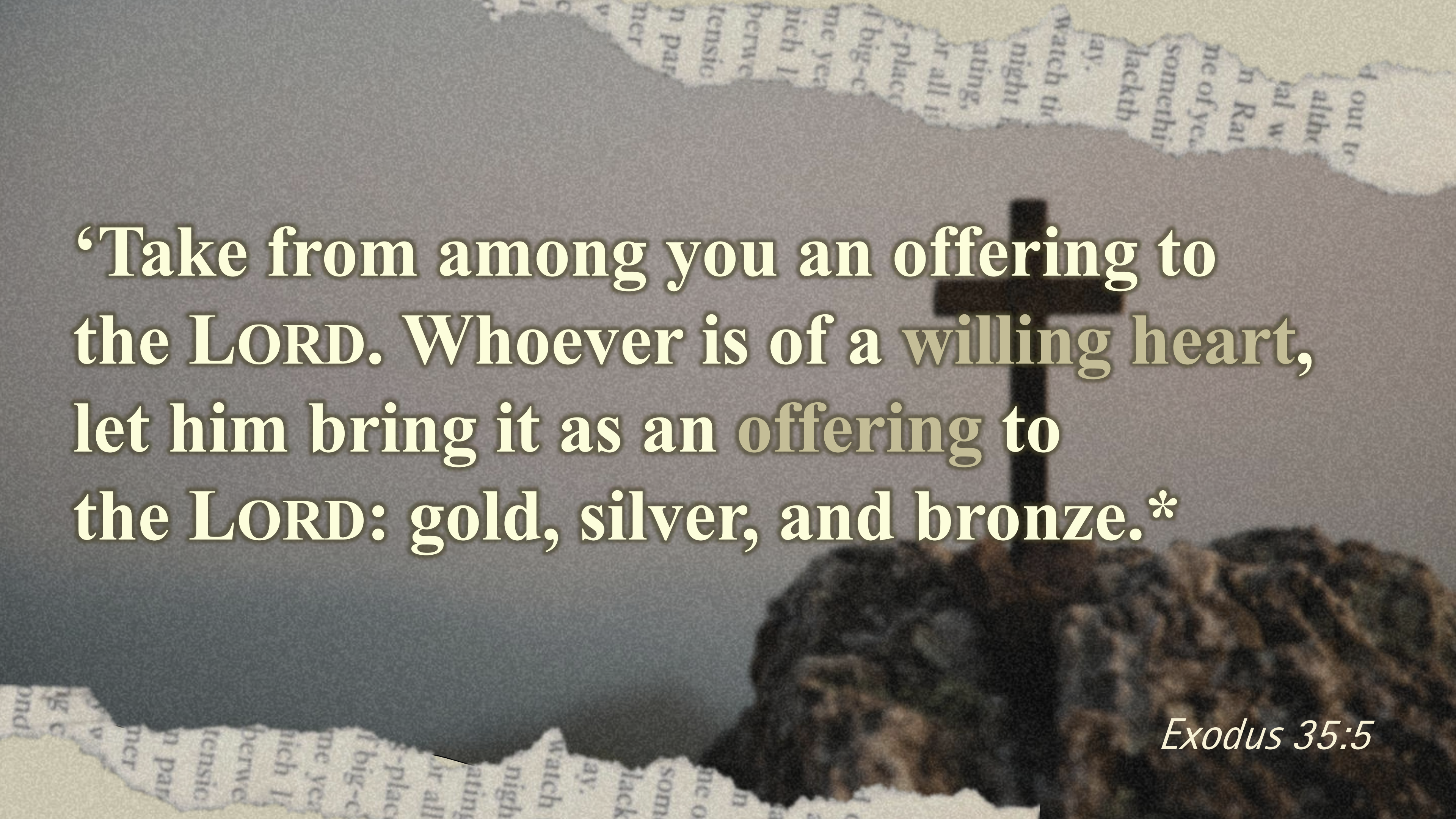
Exodus 34:28

Now it was so, when Moses came down from Mount Sinai (and the two tablets of the Testimony *were* in Moses' hand when he came down from the mountain), that Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him.*

Exodus 34:29



Remember the
Sabbath day



‘Take from among you an offering to the LORD. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offering to the LORD: gold, silver, and bronze.*

Exodus 35:5

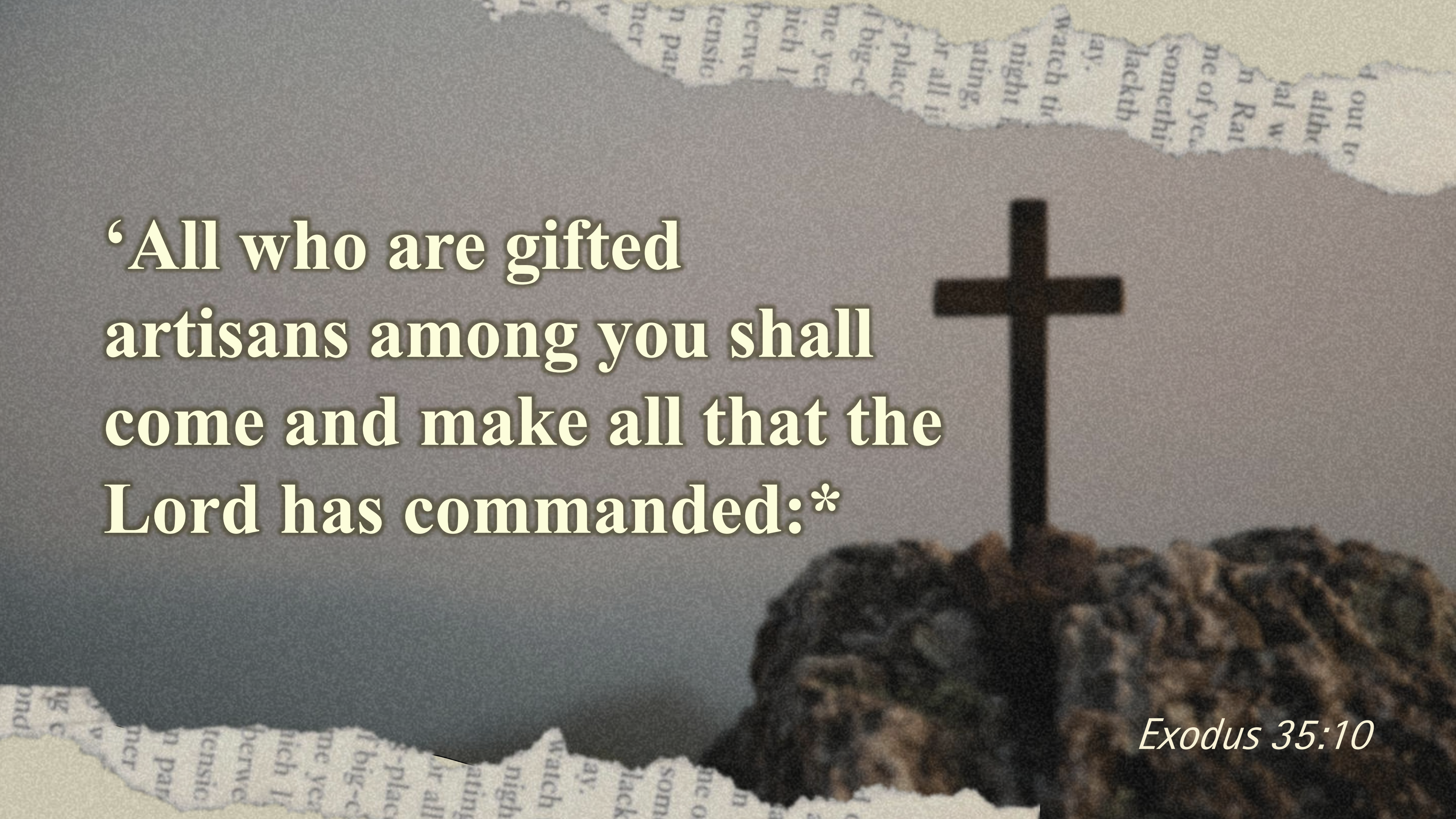


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**‘All who are gifted
artisans among you shall
come and make all that the
Lord has commanded:***

Exodus 35:10

Talents, gifts, and abilities



Then everyone came whose heart was stirred, and everyone whose spirit was willing, and they brought the LORD's offering for the work of the tabernacle of meeting, for all its service, and for the holy garments.*

Exodus 35:21



And they received from Moses all the offering which the children of Israel had brought for the work of the service of making the sanctuary. So they continued bringing to him freewill offerings every morning.*

Exodus 36:3

TITHES

AND

Offerings



Bring all the tithes into
the storehouse, that
there may be food in
My house,

| Malachi 3:10



And try Me now in
this,” Says the Lord
of Hosts,

| Malachi 3:10



“If I will no open for you the windows of heaven and pour out for you such blessing that there will not be room enough to receive it.*

| Malachi 3:10



**and they spoke to Moses,
saying, “The people bring much more
than enough for the service of the
work which
the LORD commanded *us* to do.”**

Exodus 36:5

So Moses gave a commandment, and they caused it to be proclaimed throughout the camp, saying, “Let neither man nor woman do any more work for the offering of the sanctuary.” And the people were restrained from bringing.*

Exodus 36:6



So let each one give as he
purposes in his heart, not
grudgingly or of necessity;
for God loves a cheerful
giver.

2 Corinthians 9:7





**“Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees,
hypocrites! For you pay tithe of mint
and anise and cummin, and have
neglected the weightier *matters* of the
law: justice and mercy and faith. These
you ought to have done, without leaving
the others undone.**

Matthew 23:23

HEROES



OF FAITH

AMONG US





For whatever is born of God
overcomes the world. And
this is the victory that has
overcome the world—our
faith.

| 1 John 5:4

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