

It is
Written



And when the crowd heard it, they were
astonished at His teaching.

MATTHEW 22:33



We need to be as astounded at His Word,
as we are with His power.

The Word

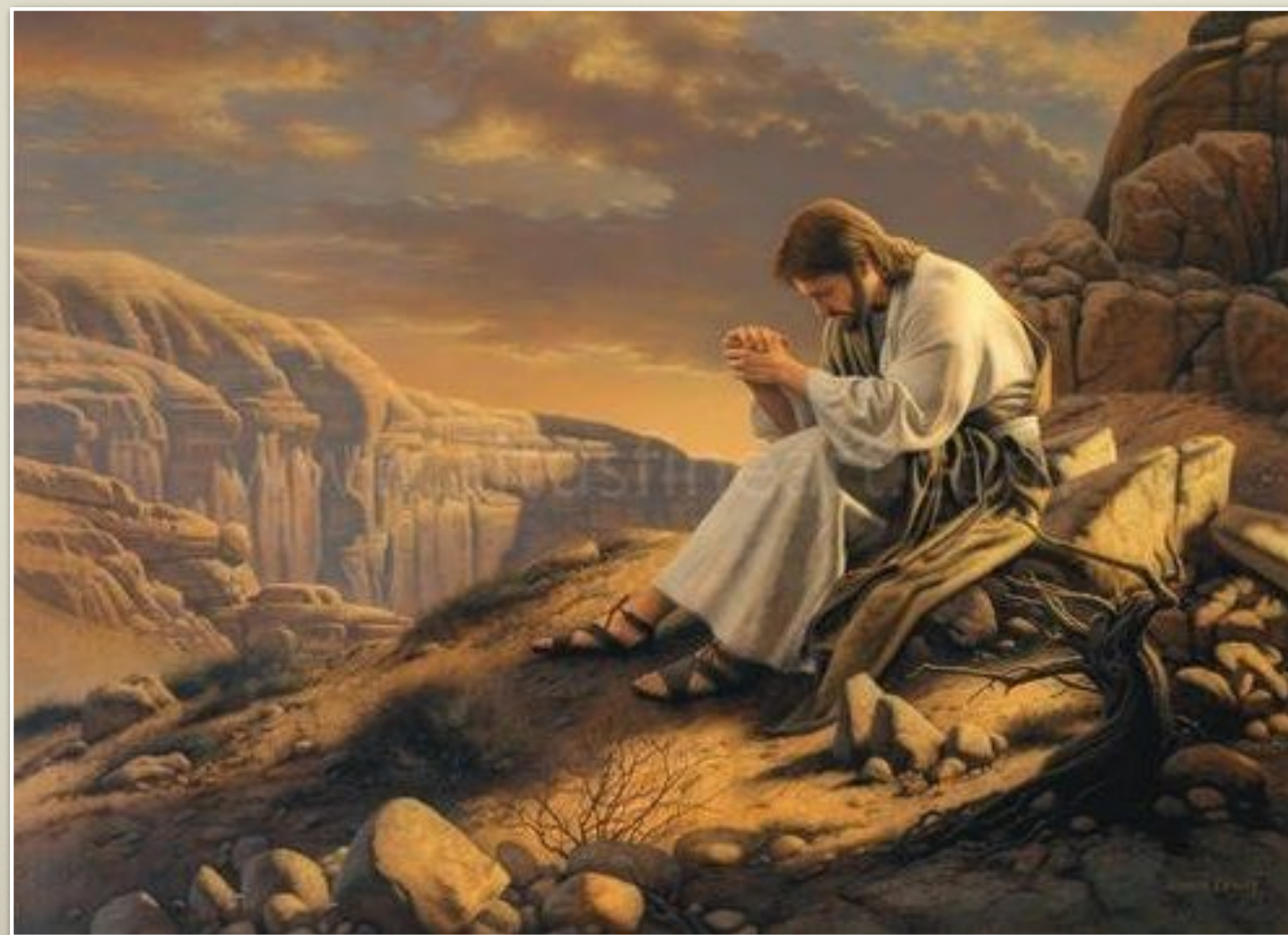
The Word is the infallible Word of God, the Holy Scriptures. It is supernatural in origin; eternal in duration; infallible in authority; universal in interest; personal in application; and inspired in totality.



CORNERSTONE

How did Christ treat the Scriptures?

- ✦ Jesus Christ's view of Scripture was the linchpin on which His entire life was based.
- ✦ He was constantly saying, "*Gegraptai*" (it is written).
- ✦ When you are in the utmost pain, all you can do is act instinctively.
- ✦ Christ faces every joy, every conflict, every danger, every temptation quoting the Word of God.



Jesus was able to overcome
satan's temptation because
He was **full of Scripture** and
also full of the Spirit.

Sword of the Spirit



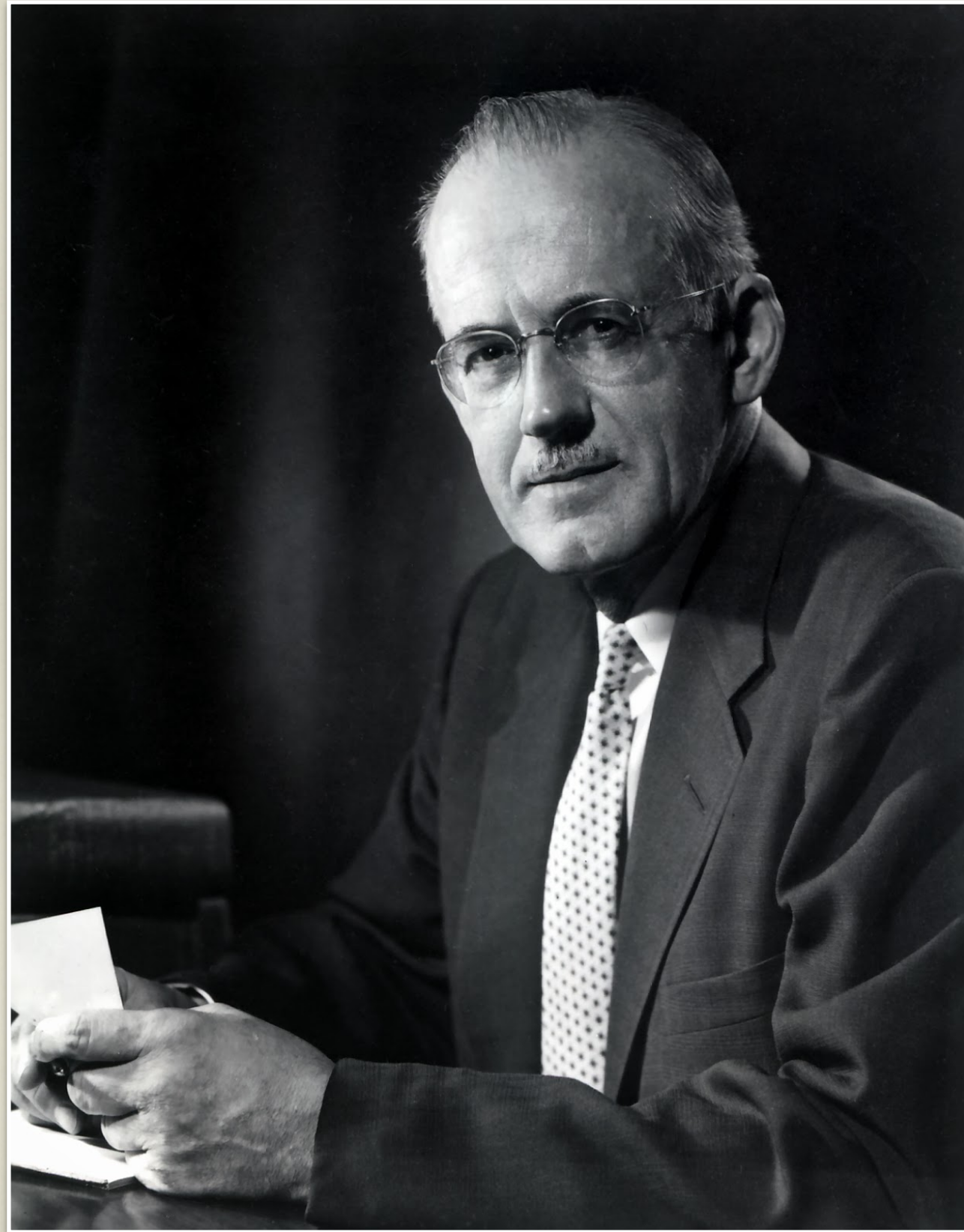
- ♦ Ephesians 6
- ♦ The Greek word used for sword is '*machaira*', not '*rhomphaia*'.
- ♦ A small little precise weapon that had to be used in a very precise manner in order to deliver a fatal blow.

Sword of the Spirit



- ♦ **Logos vs Rhema**
- ♦ The sword of the Spirit is a precision weapon applied to given situations with precision.





Satan's greatest weapon
is man's ignorance of
God's Word.

A.W. TOZER

Exposes Our Motives

For the Word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

HEBREWS 4:12-13



Exposes Our Motives



The Word sifts
analyses and reveals
emotions, motives
and thoughts.

Knowledge that Creates Responsibility

**Unless your righteousness exceeds that
of the scribes and Pharisees, you shall
not enter the Kingdom.**

MATTHEW 5:20



Knowledge that Creates Responsibility

And when he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵ And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at your word I will let down the nets."

LUKE 5:4-5



Knowledge that Creates Responsibility

What is our response if we come to a place where the command makes no sense to us?

HE'S NOT YOUR ADVISER, HE'S YOUR LORD!



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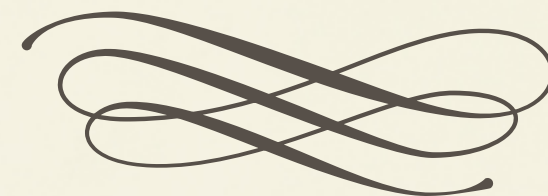
HAGGAI 7:7-8



God's Refining Takes Time

Thus says the Lord of hosts: **Consider your ways.** ⁸ Go up to the hills and bring wood and build the house, that I may take pleasure in it and that I may be glorified, says the Lord.

HAGGAI 7:7-8



God's Refining Takes Time

And the **Lord stirred up the spirit** of Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and the spirit of Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and the spirit of all the remnant of the people. And they **came and worked** on the house of the Lord of hosts, their God, ¹⁵ on the **twenty-fourth day** of the month, in the sixth month, in the second year of Darius the king.

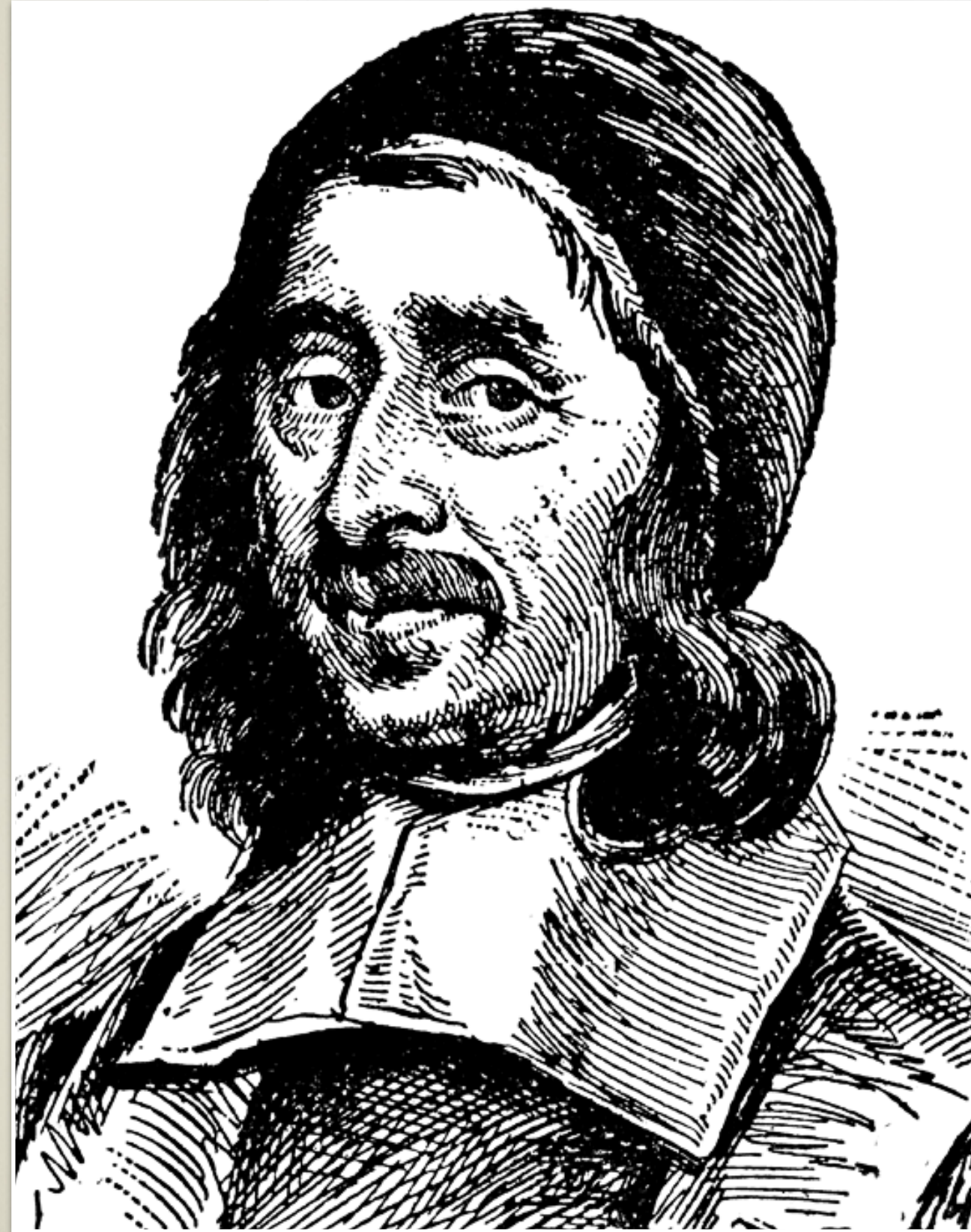
HAGGAI 7:14-15



Debit Card Mentality vs Savings Account



- ♦ Don't rush to get answers now.
- ♦ Trust that the Lord will yield a return on your investment.



You broke your back for us.
You trudged and trudged and spent
all of your time for us.
Now we're just rust and dust.
You neglected the Word of God
in which true treasures
are to be found.

RICHARD BAXTER