



THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

UNDERSTANDING WHAT JESUS WANTS HIS FOLLOWERS TO BE AND TO DO

Week 4

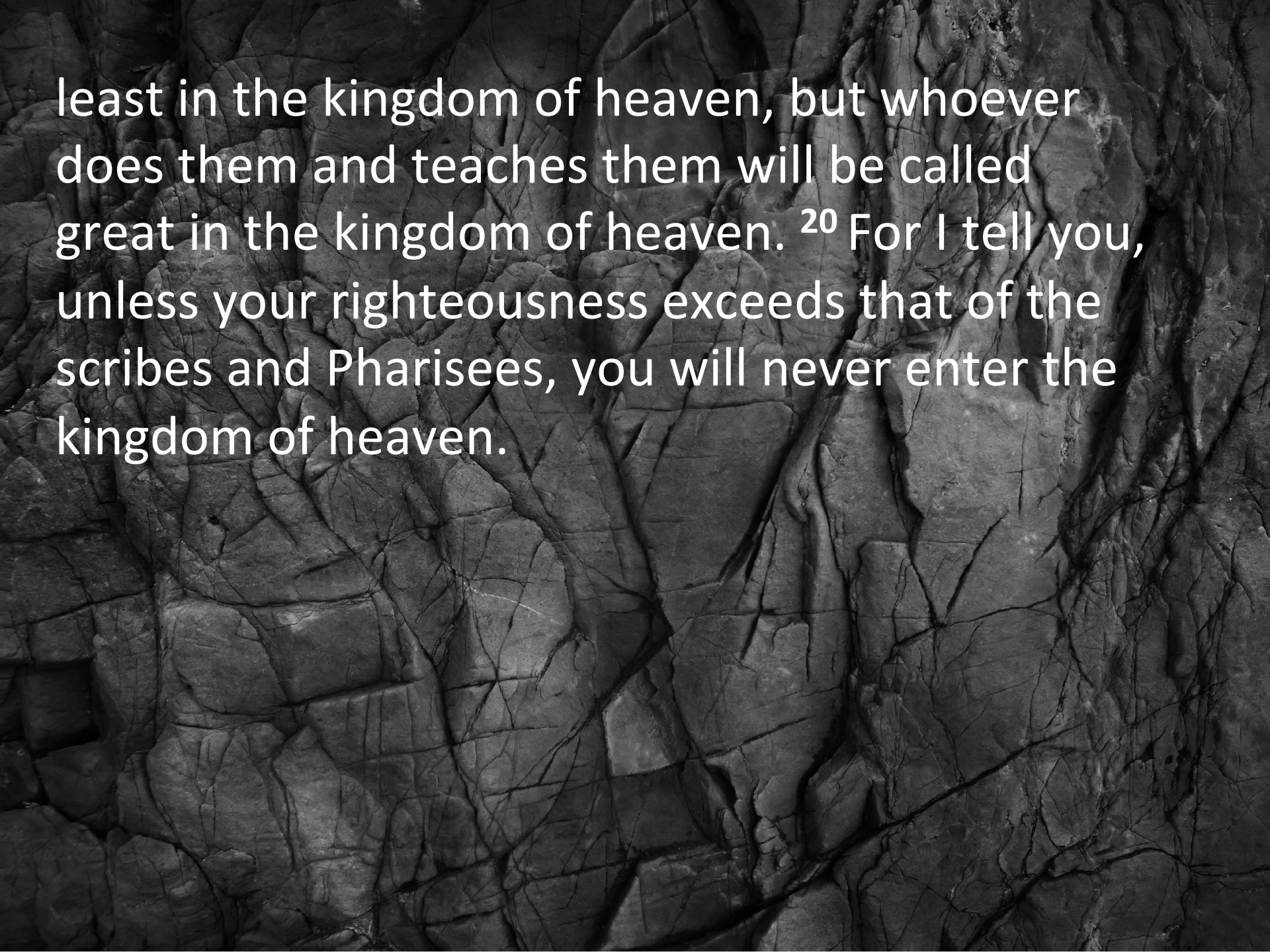
A Christian's Righteousness: Christ, the Christian and the law.



A Christian's Righteousness: Christ, the
Christian and the law.

Matthew 5:17-20 ESV

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called



least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.



I. Christ's relation to the law and Prophets.
Why is Jesus dealing with this issue?



- The Sabbath controversy.

Mark 2:23-3:6

- The question of authority.

Mark 1:27 NLT

²⁷ Amazement gripped the audience, and they began to discuss what had happened. “What sort of new teaching is this?” they asked excitedly. “It has such authority! Even evil spirits obey his orders!”

-The question of authority.

Mark 1:27 NLT

²⁷ Amazement gripped the audience, and they began to discuss what had happened. “What sort of new teaching is this?” they asked excitedly. “It has such authority! Even evil spirits obey his orders!”

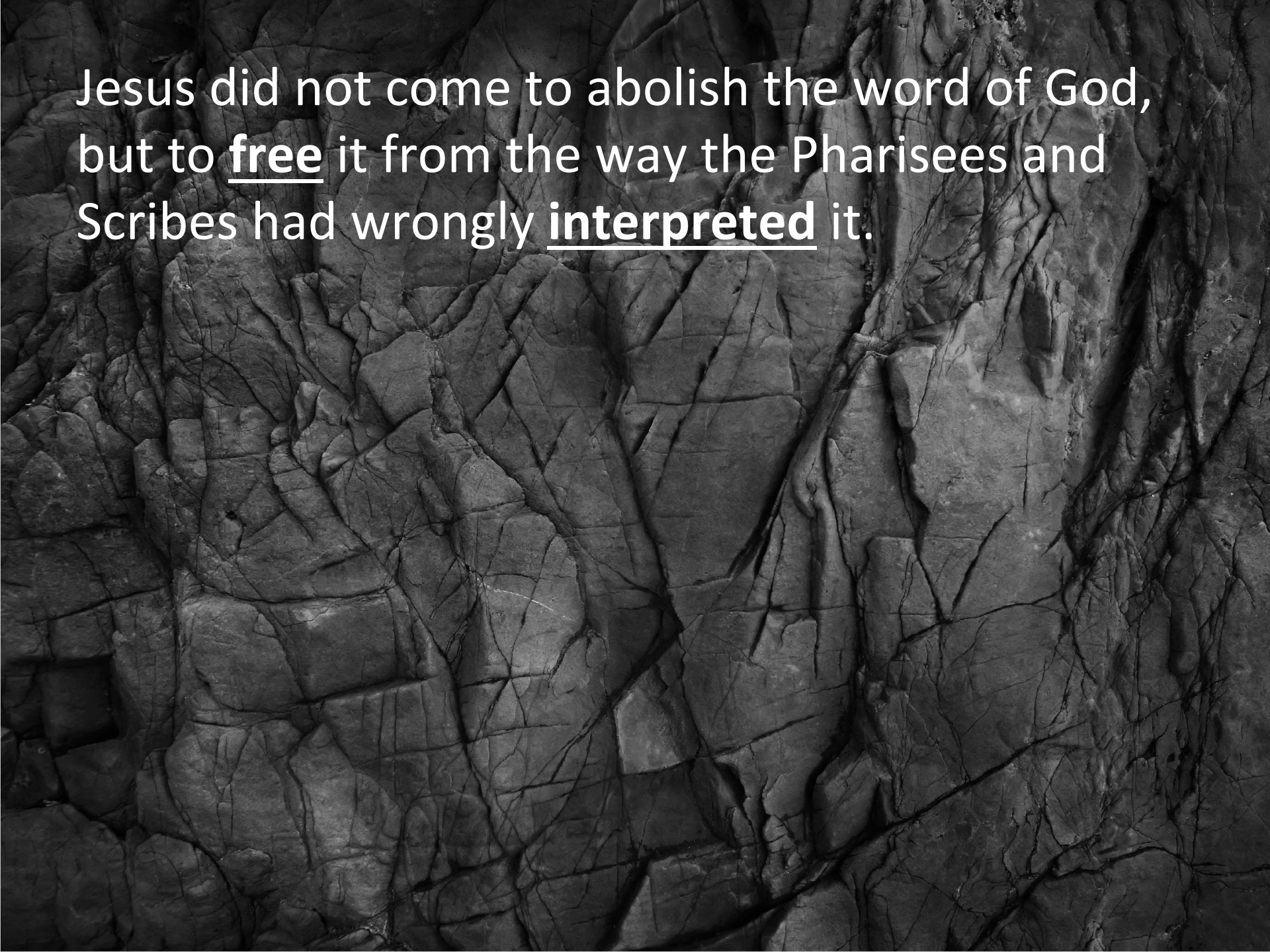
Matthew 5:18a ESV

For truly, I say to you...

How does Jesus answer this question?

Matthew 5:17-18 ESV

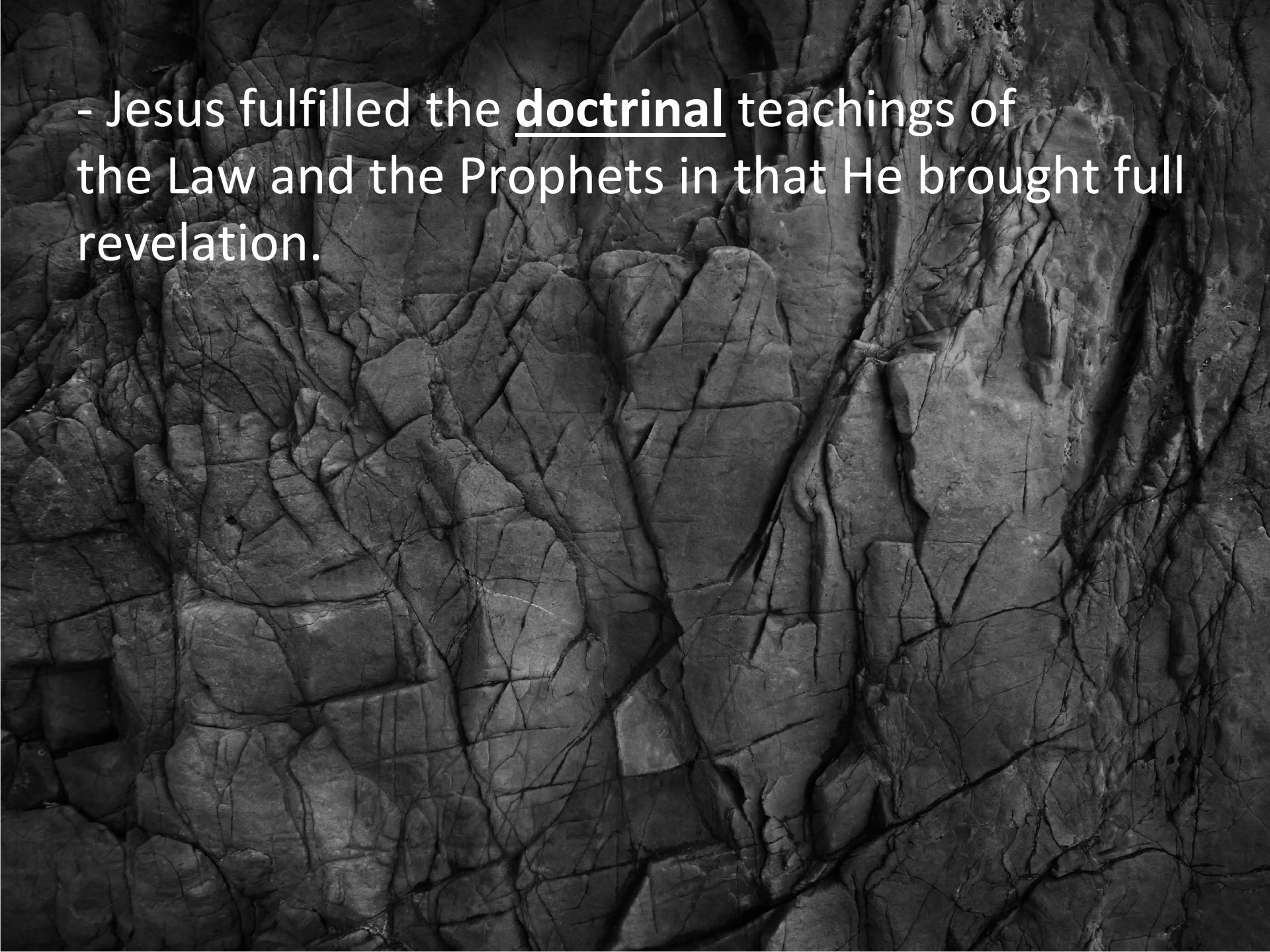
¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸ For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished.



Jesus did not come to abolish the word of God,
but to free it from the way the Pharisees and
Scribes had wrongly interpreted it.



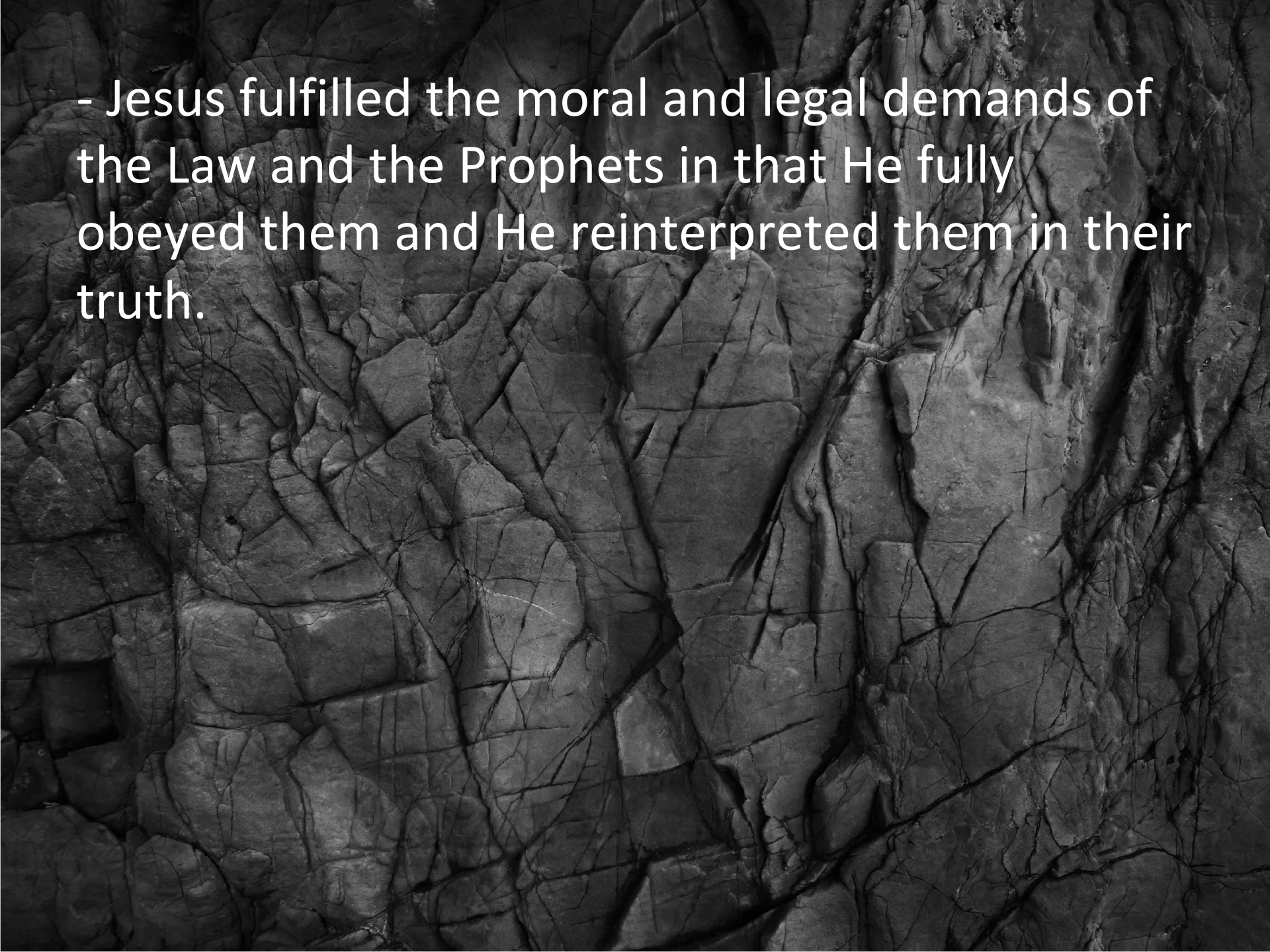
How did Jesus fulfill the Law and the Prophets?



- Jesus fulfilled the doctrinal teachings of the Law and the Prophets in that He brought full revelation.

- Jesus fulfilled the doctrinal teachings of the Law and the Prophets in that He brought full revelation.

- Jesus fulfilled the predictive prophecy of the Law and the Prophets in that He is the Promised One.



- Jesus fulfilled the moral and legal demands of the Law and the Prophets in that He fully obeyed them and He reinterpreted them in their truth.

- Jesus fulfilled the moral and legal demands of the Law and the Prophets in that He fully obeyed them and He reinterpreted them in their truth.

- Jesus fulfilled the penalty of the Law and the Prophets for us by His death on the cross, taking the penalty we deserved.

Paul wanted us to understand the fulfillment of the law through Jesus in his letter to the Romans.

Romans 10:3-4 ESV

³For, being ignorant of the righteousness of God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness, ⁴the end of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes.

Romans 3:21-22 ESV

²¹ But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it—

²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe.

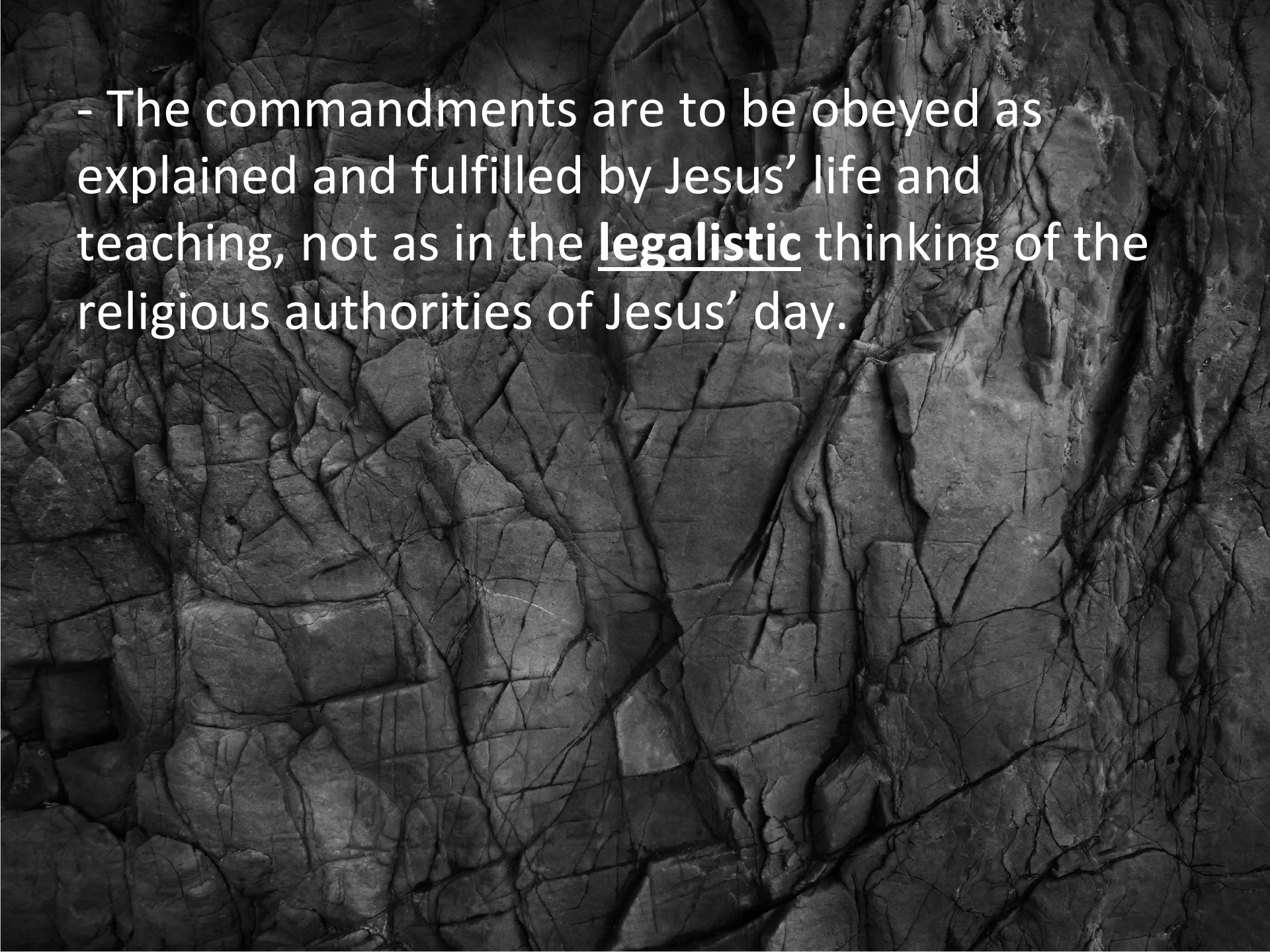
Romans 8:1-4 ESV

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

II. The Christian's relation to the law.

Matthew 5:19-20 ESV

¹⁹ Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.



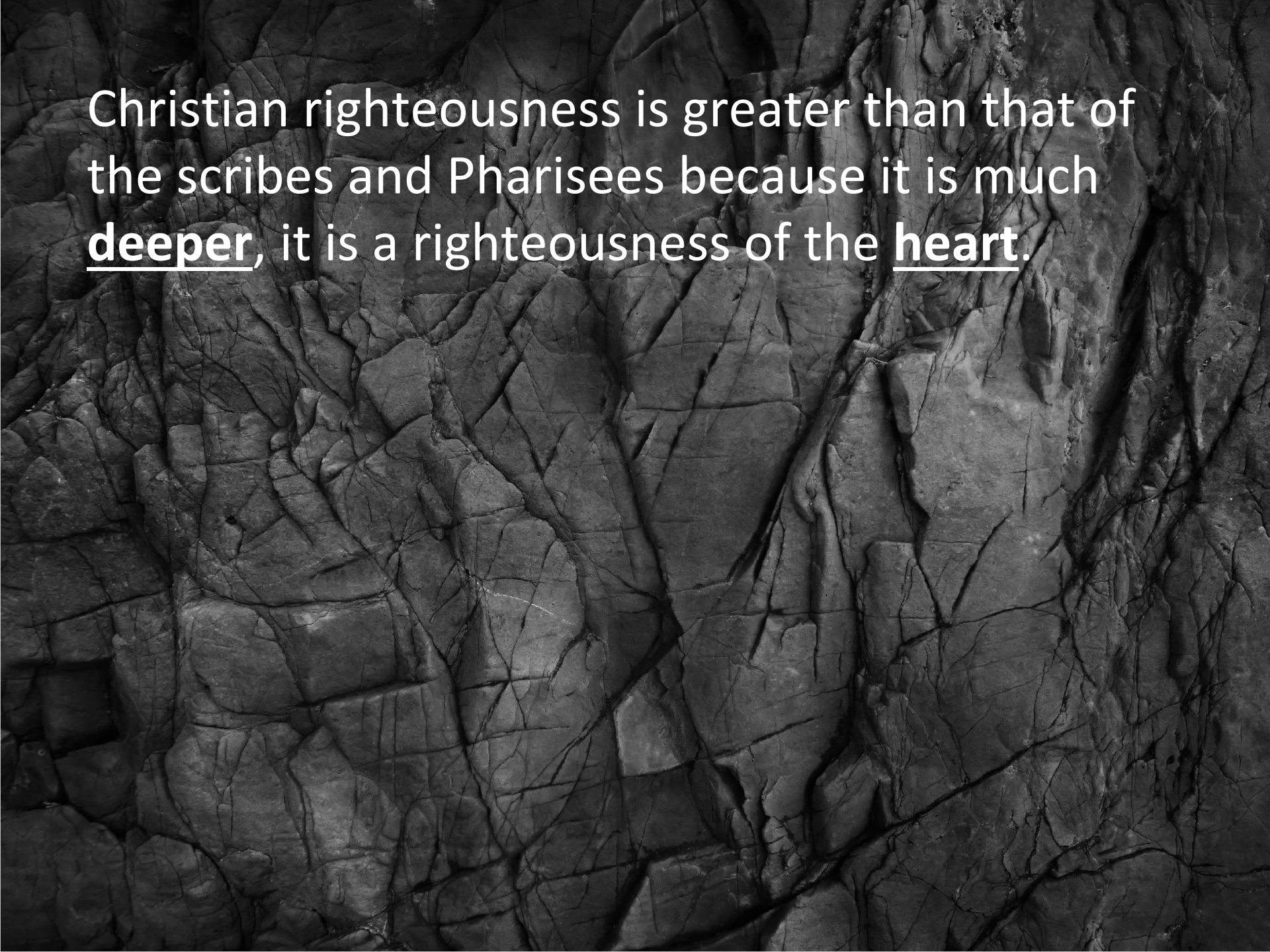
- The commandments are to be obeyed as explained and fulfilled by Jesus' life and teaching, not as in the legalistic thinking of the religious authorities of Jesus' day.

-The commandments are not just to be obeyed
but taught.





- Our obedience should exceed the scribes and the Pharisees.



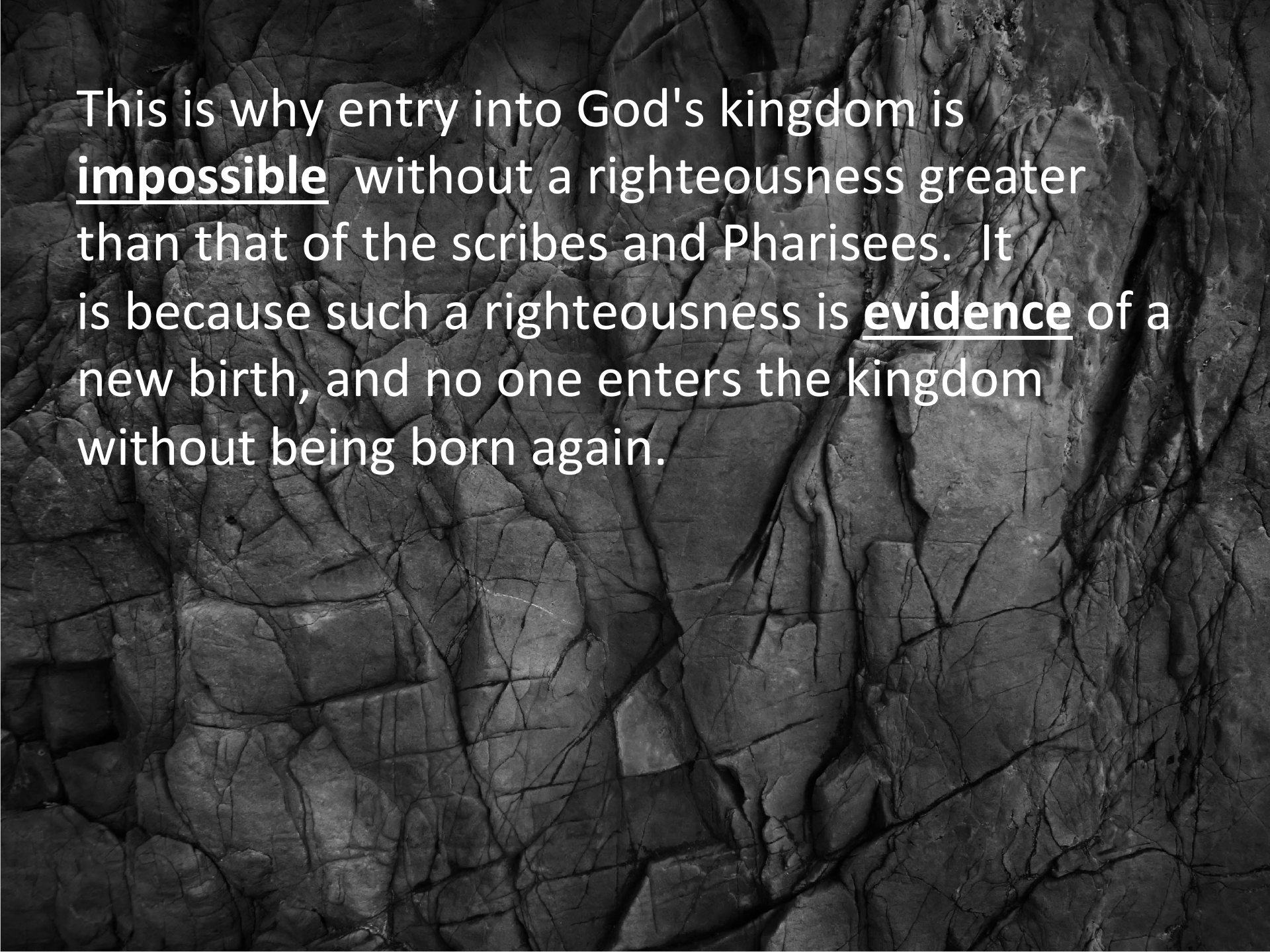
Christian righteousness is greater than that of the scribes and Pharisees because it is much deeper, it is a righteousness of the heart.

Jeremiah 31:33 ESV

³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 ESV

²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.



This is why entry into God's kingdom is impossible without a righteousness greater than that of the scribes and Pharisees. It is because such a righteousness is evidence of a new birth, and no one enters the kingdom without being born again.

