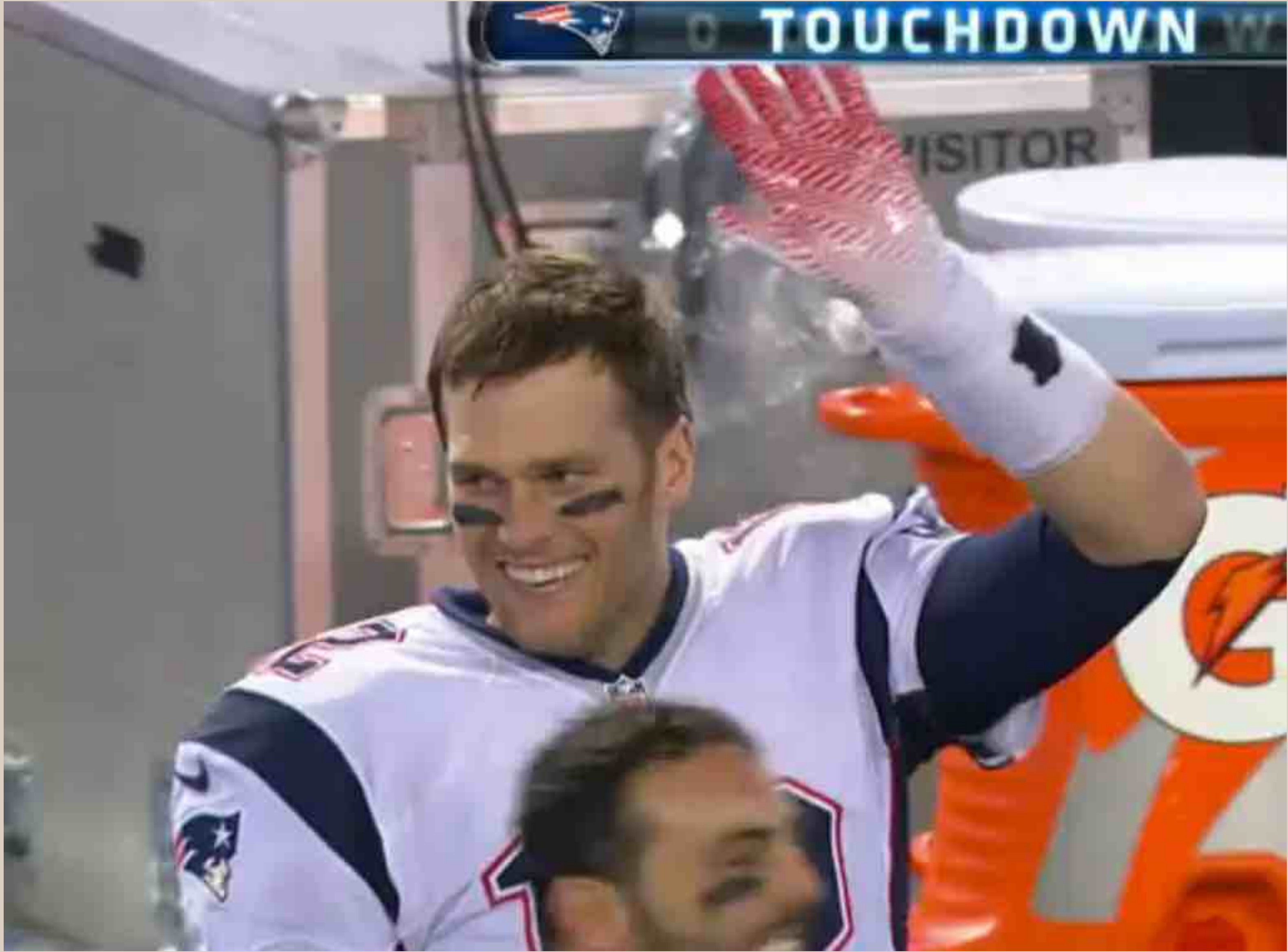


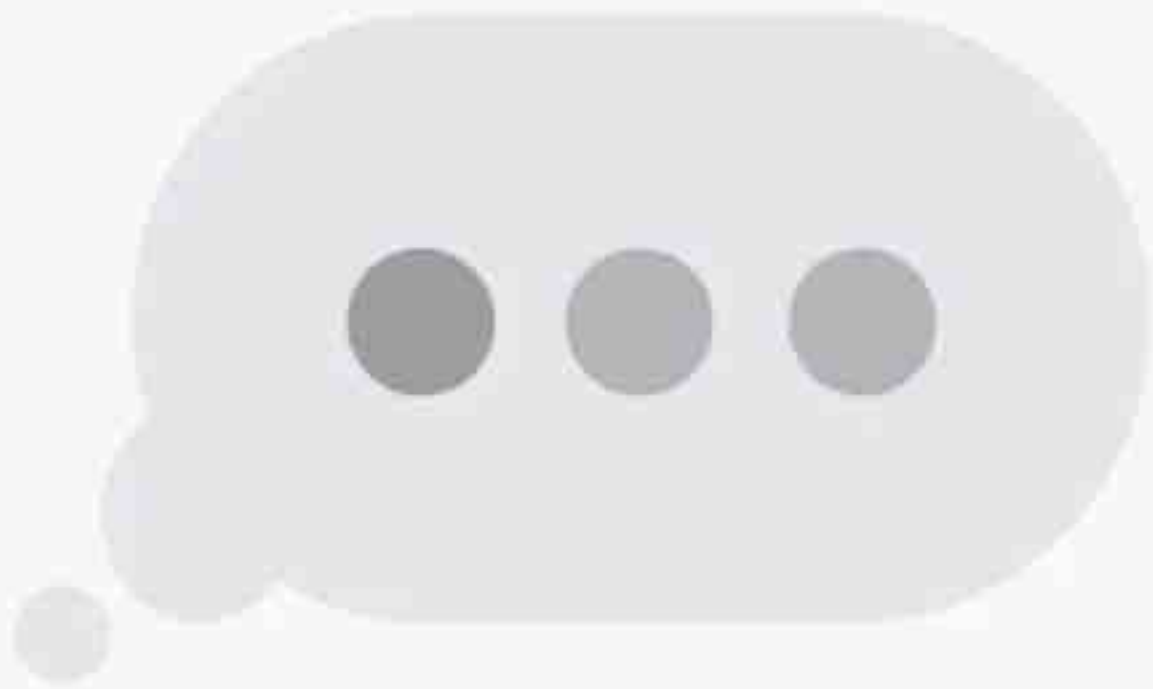


BELIEVE

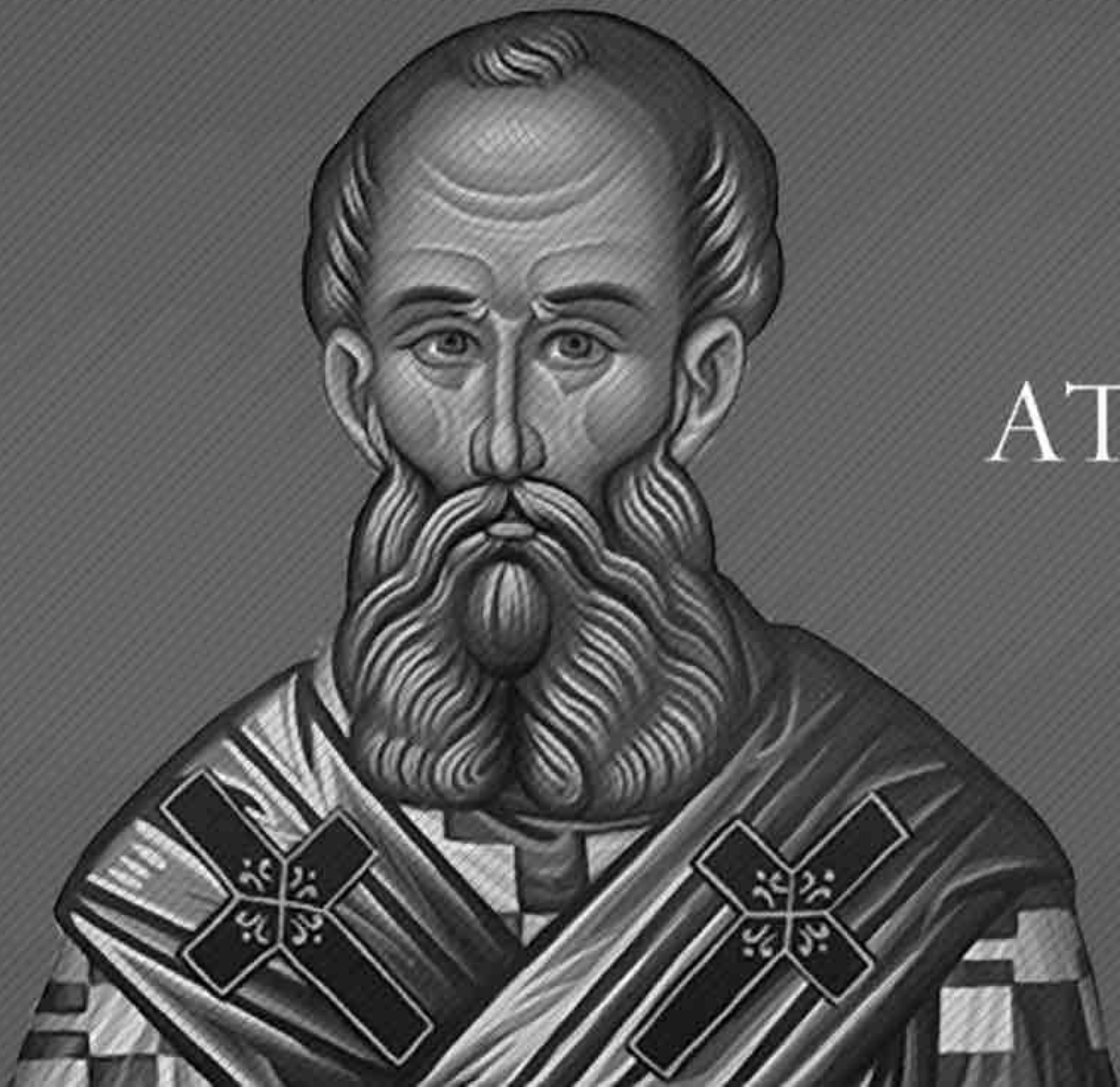
The Gospel of **John**

**Nobody likes
being rejected.**



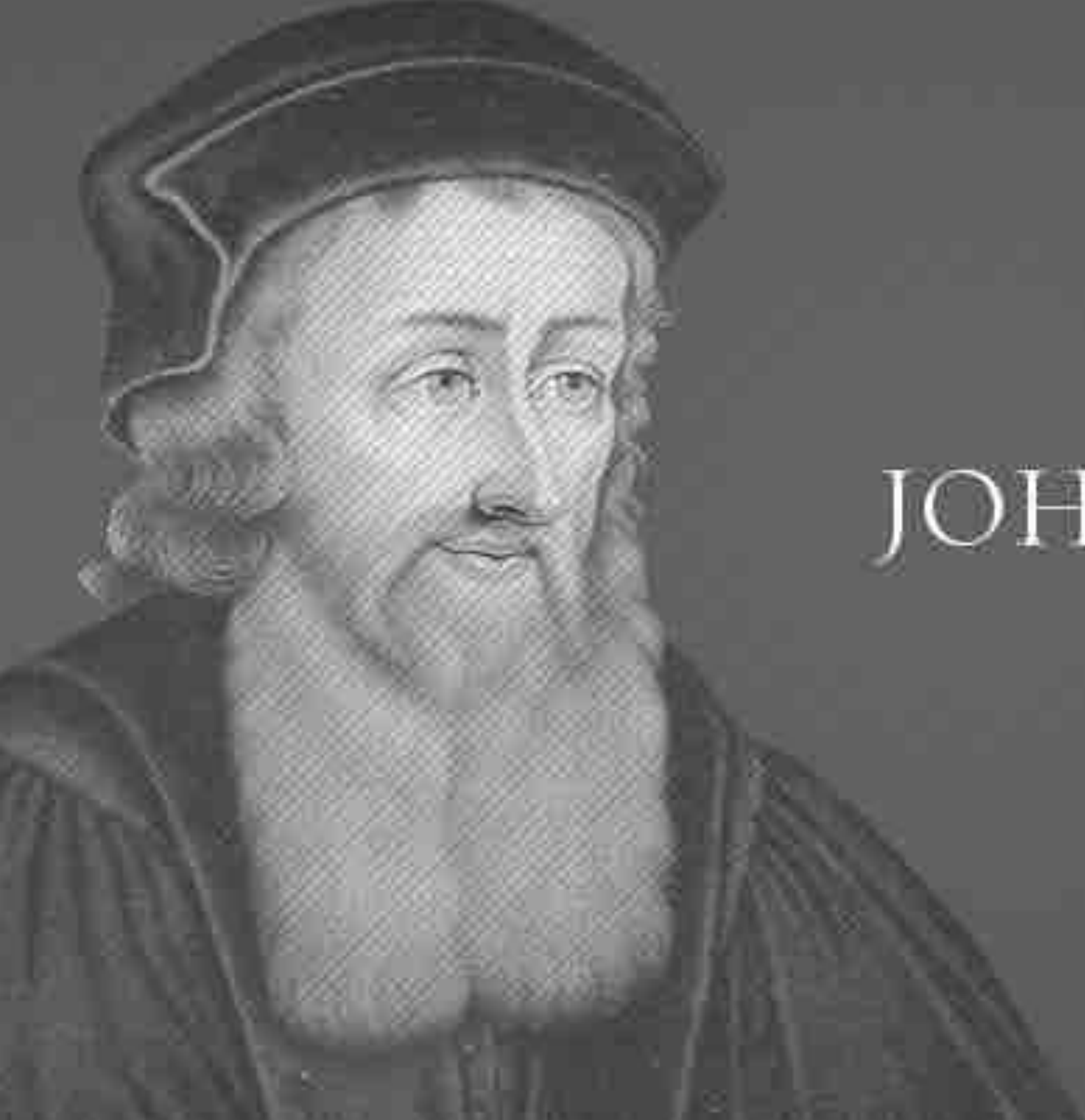






ATHANASIUS

296-373



JOHN WYCLIFFE

1330-1384

“We estimate that more than 70 million Christians have been martyred over the last two millennia, more than half of which died in the 20th century under fascist and communist regimes. We also estimate that 1 million Christians were killed between 2001 and 2010 and about 900,000 were killed from 2011 to 2020.”

Gordan-Conwell Seminary



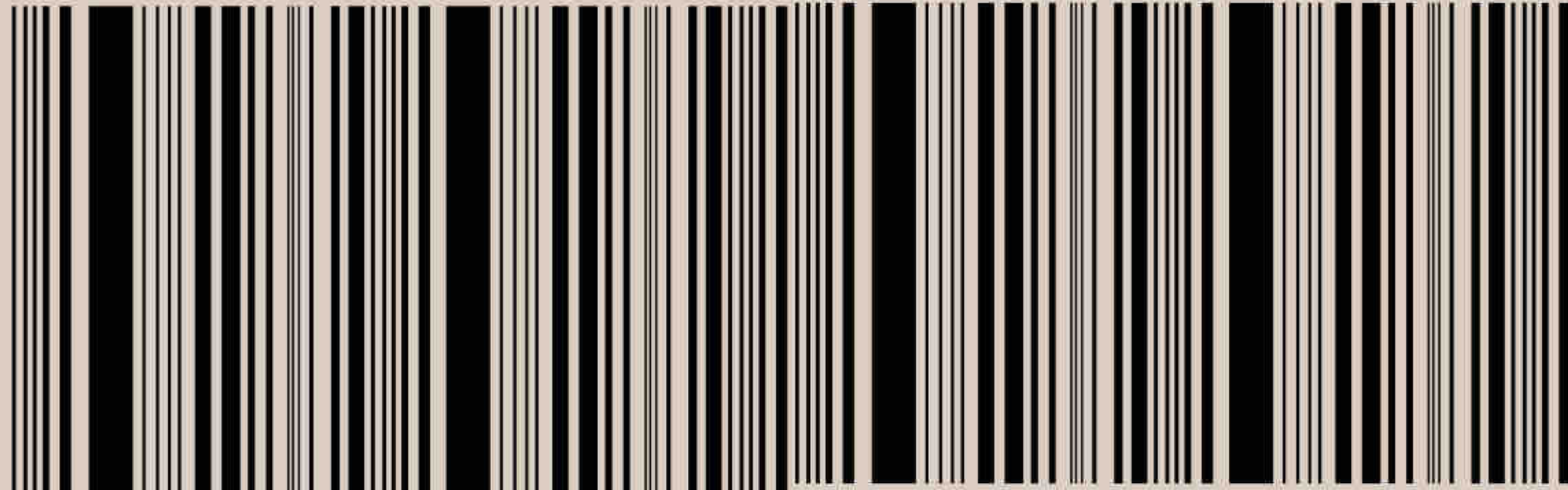
**I can be hated by anyone
if I'm loved by God.**



¹⁸ “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. ¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.

²⁰ Remember the word that I said to you: 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will also persecute you. If they kept my word, they will also keep yours. ²¹ But all these things they will do to you on account of my name, because they do not know him who sent me.

²² If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have been guilty of sin, but now they have no excuse for their sin. ²³ Whoever hates me hates my Father also. ²⁴ If I had not done among them the works that no one else did, they would not be guilty of sin, but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. ²⁵ But the word that is written in their Law must be fulfilled: ‘They hated me without a cause.’



BELIEVE

The Gospel of **John**

Rejected for Jesus

I. Why the World Rejects Jesus

I. Why the World Rejects Jesus

a. Jesus exposes the world's sin

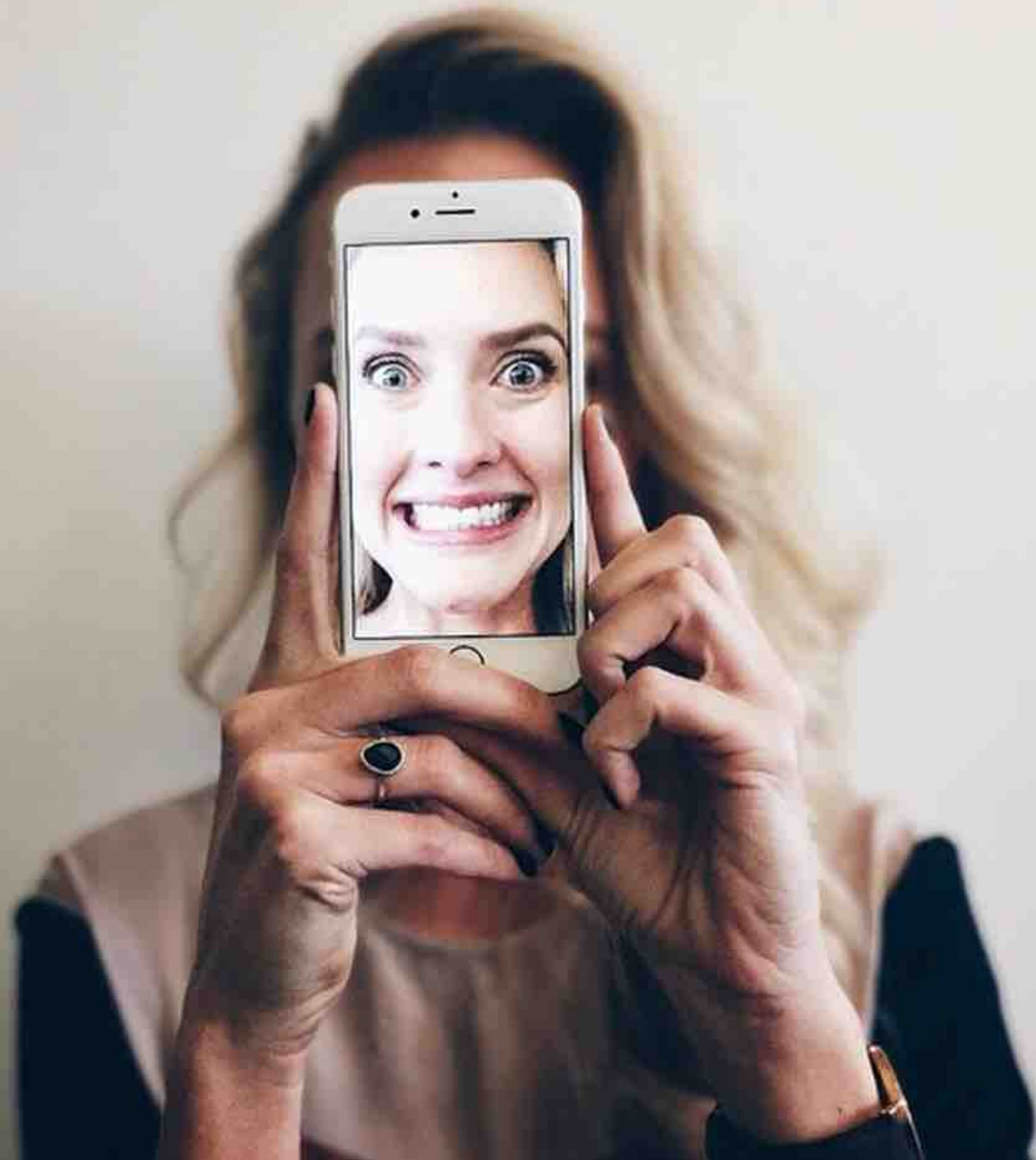
“The World”

Humanity in Rebellion

¹⁹ And this is the judgment: the light has come into the world, and people loved the darkness rather than the light because their works were evil. ²⁰ For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his works should be **exposed**.

⁷ The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because **I testify about it that its works are evil.**





I. Why the World Rejects Jesus

- a. Jesus exposes the world's sin
- b. Jesus confronts the world's systems

²³ “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.

³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.”

Rejected for Jesus

- I. Why the World Rejects Jesus
- II. Why the World Rejects Us

¹⁹ If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but **I chose you out of the world,** therefore the world hates you.”

John 15:19 ESV



II. Why the World Rejects Us

a. We belong to Jesus

¹⁷ Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, ¹⁸ and you will be dragged before governors and kings **for my sake**...²¹ Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death, ²² and you will be **hated by all for my name's sake**. But the one who endures to the end will be saved.

Matthew 10:17-18,21-22 ESV





⁴ You adulterous people! Do you not know that **friendship with the world is enmity with God**? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.

James 4:4 ESV





2 FACTOR X FACT

32

58

YES

C

AL

57

57

BAD

No Resistance?

1. Not a Christian
2. Not living a distinctly Christian life

Contradicting Values

1. Marriage is designed for one man and one woman for life.
2. Sex belongs only within the covenant of marriage.
3. There are only two genders created by God – male and female.
4. Every human life, from conception to death, bears the image of God and is sacred.
5. Immigrants and foreigners are to be treated with dignity and compassion as neighbors.
6. Accumulating wealth for selfish gain is idolatry
7. Truth is absolute, not relative; Jesus is the only way to God.

II. Why the World Rejects Us

a. We belong to Jesus

b. We live for Jesus

14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. **15** Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house

Matthew 5:14–15 ESV



¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead **expose them**

Ephesians 5:11 ESV



¹⁰ “Blessed are those who are **persecuted for righteousness' sake**, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.¹¹ “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account.

Matthew 5:10–11 ESV



Not Persecution

1. Acting superior and self-righteous
2. Being critical and argumentative
3. Being brash, harsh, or unkind.
4. Imposing personal convictions on others.
5. Weaponizing the Bible to tear others down.

Rejected for Jesus

- I. Why the World Rejects Jesus
- II. Why the World Rejects Us
- III. How to Endure Rejection

¹⁸ “If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you.

John 15:18 ESV



III. How to Endure Rejection

a. Jesus endured first

² ...looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him **endured the cross, despising the shame**, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.³ Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

God, please protect me



Why God? Why?!



I'm sorry, did I miss one?
Are you alright?



III. How to Endure Rejection

a. Jesus endured first

b. Jesus' acceptance transcends the world's rejection

³⁵ Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

Romans 8:35–36 ESV



³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord

Romans 8:37–39 ESV

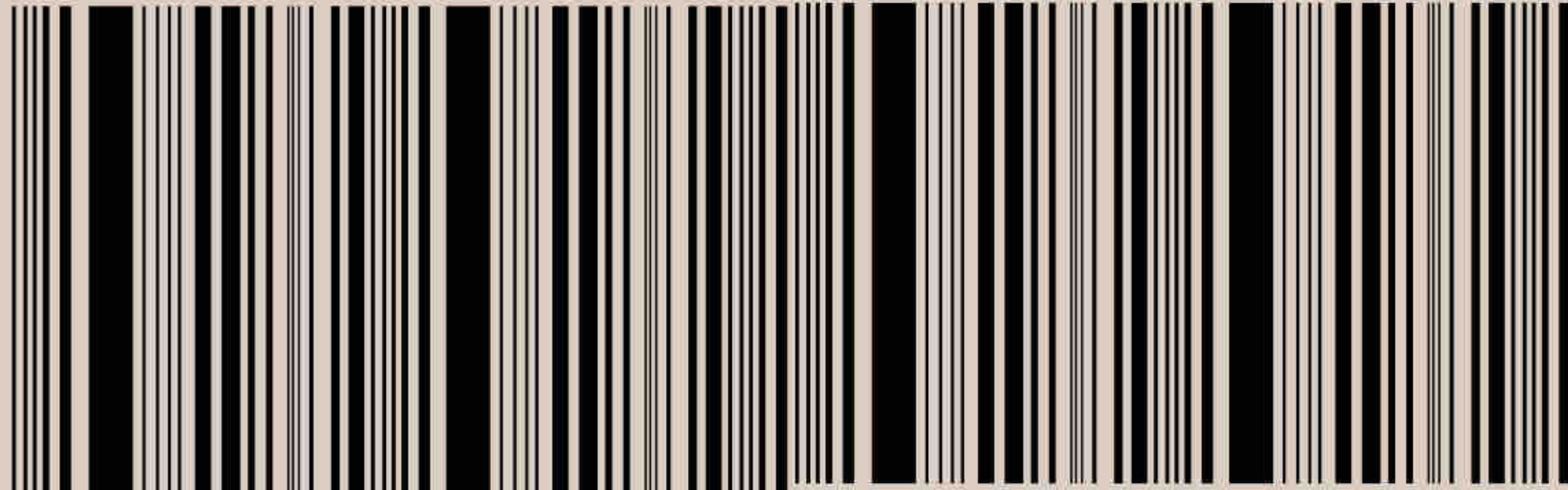


**I can be hated by anyone
if I'm loved by God.**



Let fire and the cross; let the crowds of wild beasts; let tearings, breakings, and dislocations of bones; let cutting off of members; let shatterings of the whole body; and let all the dreadful torments of the devil come upon me: only let me attain to Jesus Christ.

Ignatius of Loyola



BELIEVE

The Gospel of **John**