



Part 2

7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE CHURCHES

Revelation 2:8-11

modern day
TURKEY



Pergamos

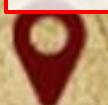


Smyrna

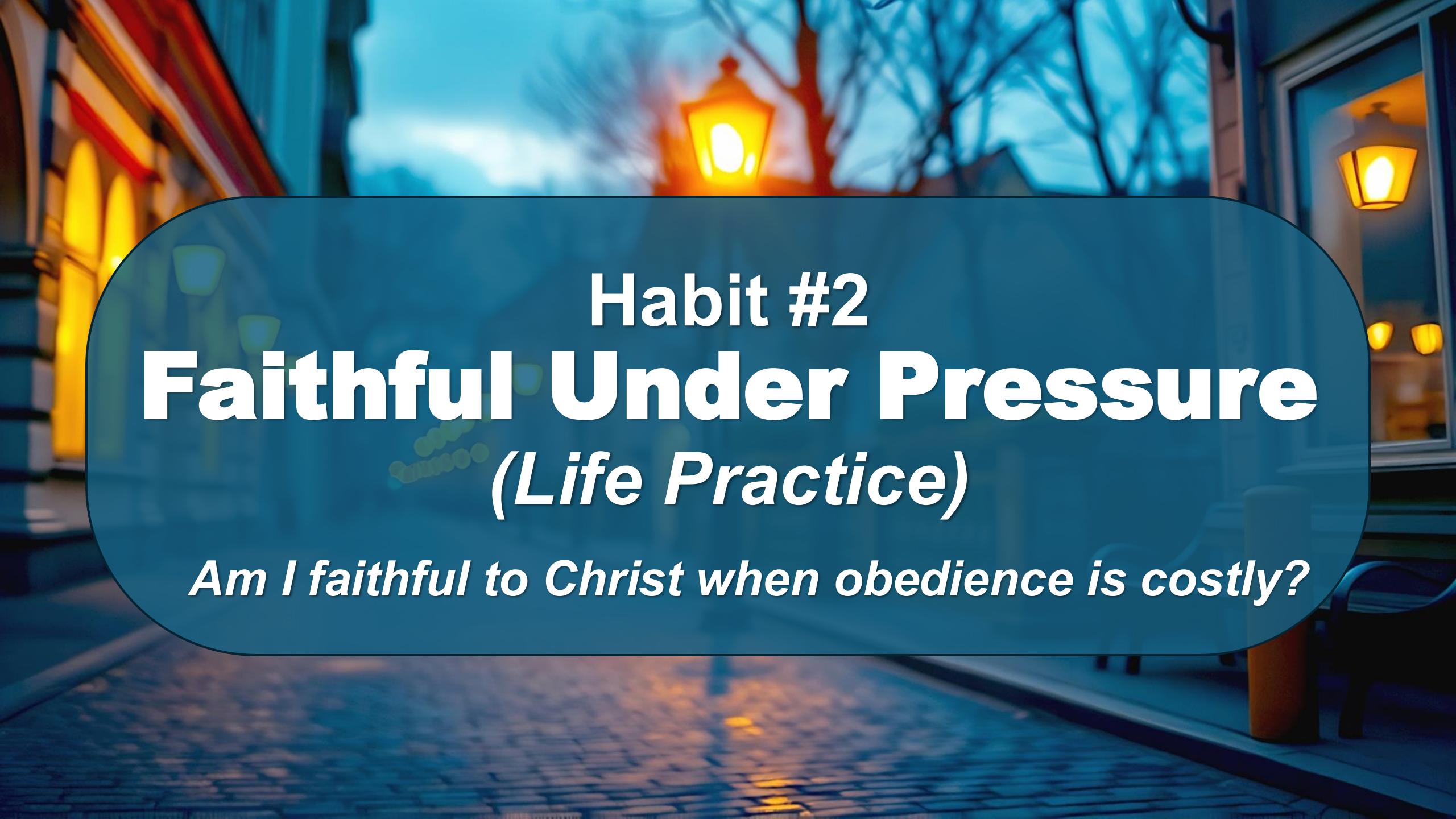


Ephesus

***If you were a Christian in the
first century ... Smyrna was
one of the hardest places to
live out your faith.***



Laodicea

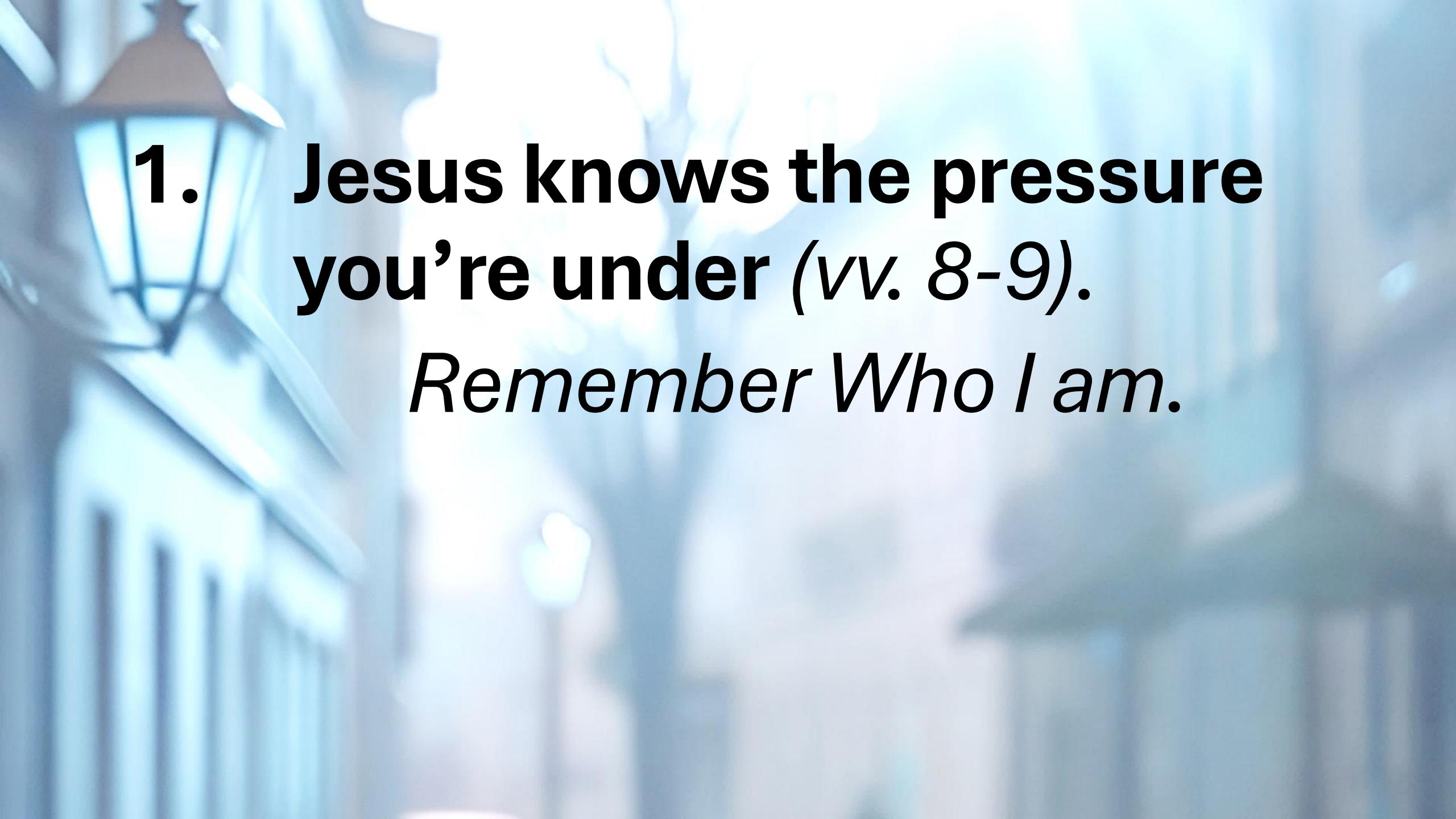


Habit #2

Faithful Under Pressure

(Life Practice)

Am I faithful to Christ when obedience is costly?



1. Jesus knows the pressure
you're under (vv. 8-9).

Remember Who I am.

Distinct Message; Same Format

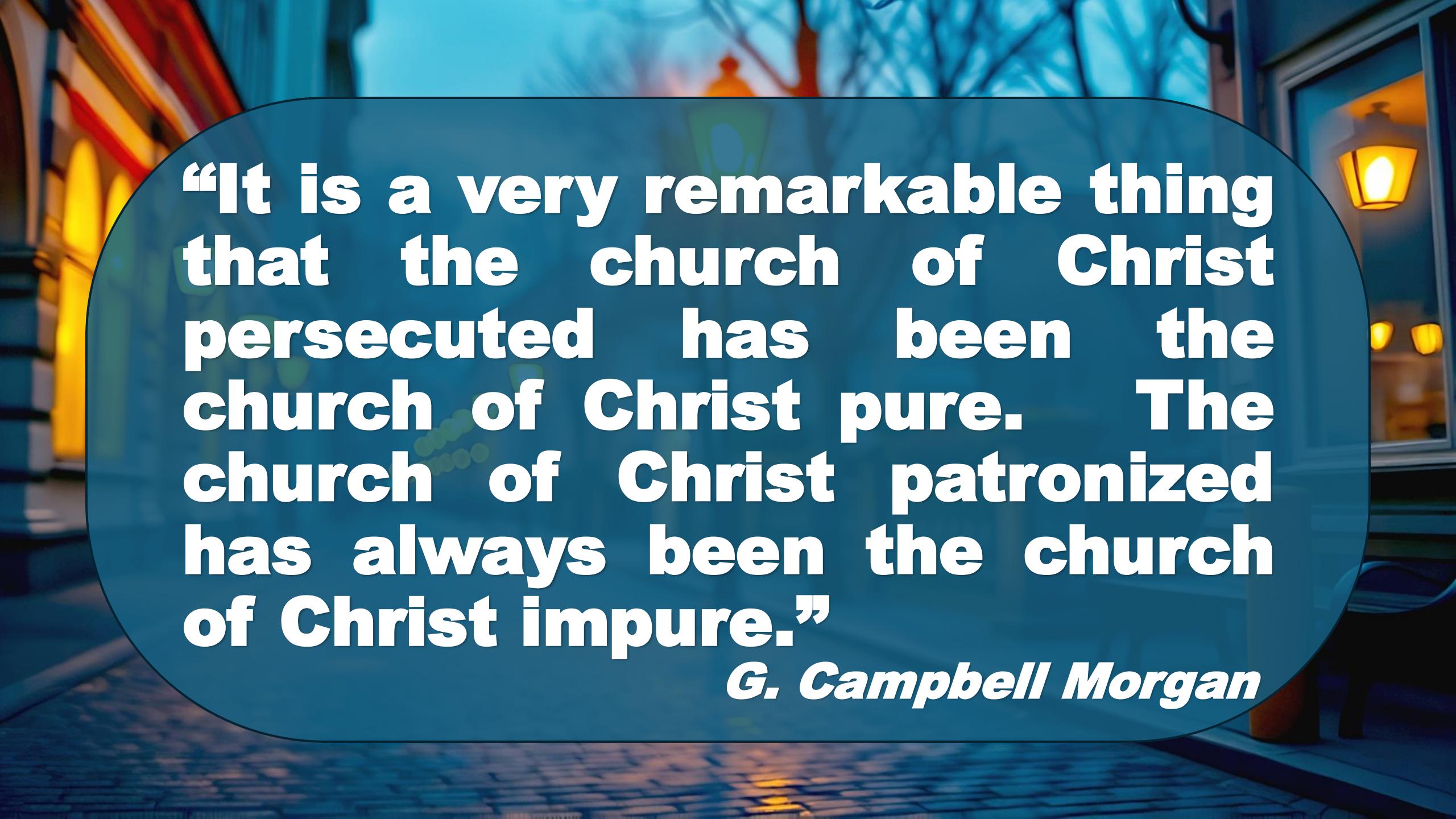
Commendation

Exhortation

Encouraging promise

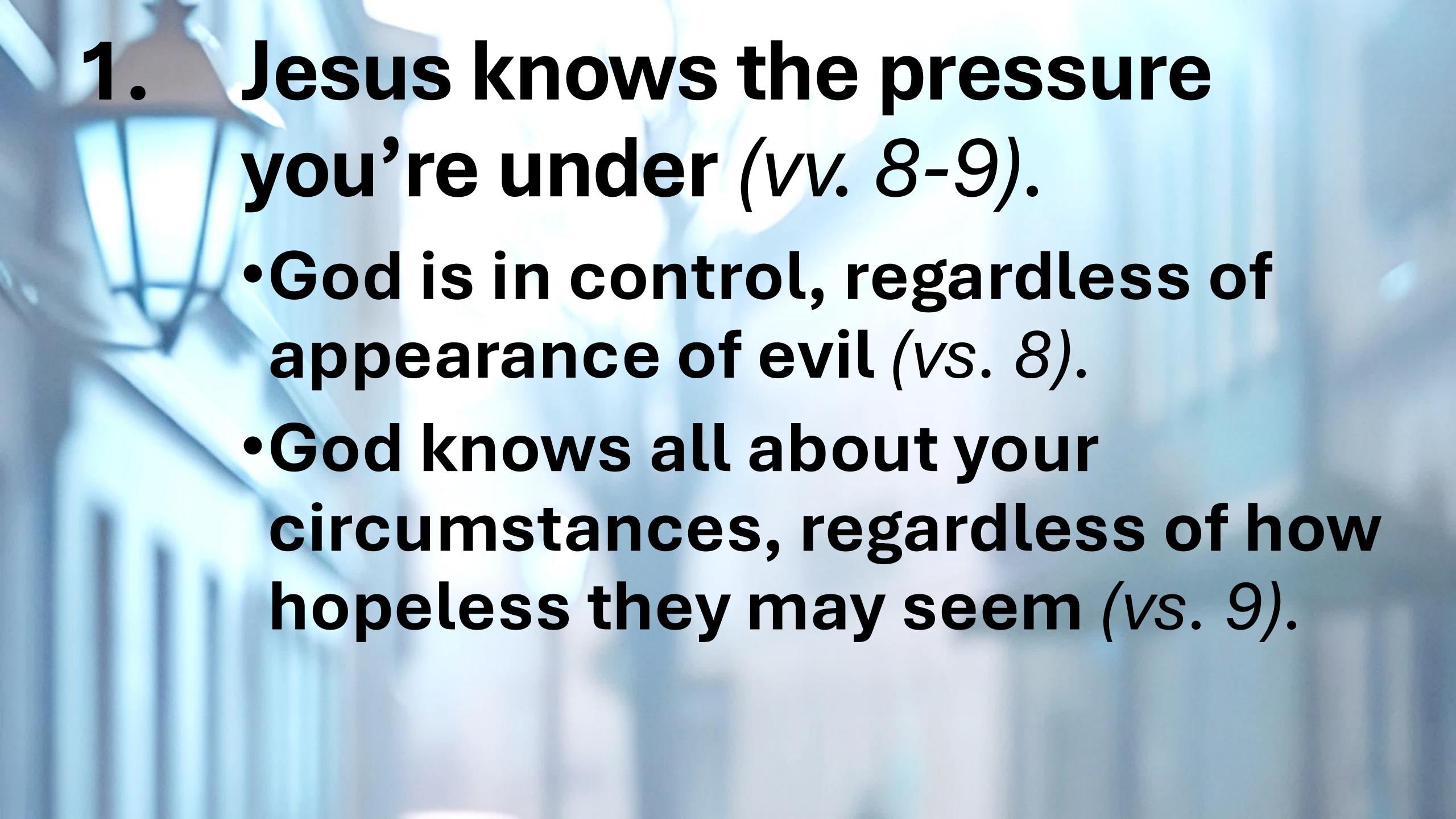
Strong rebuke

7 HABITS OF
HIGHLY EFFECTIVE
CHURCHES



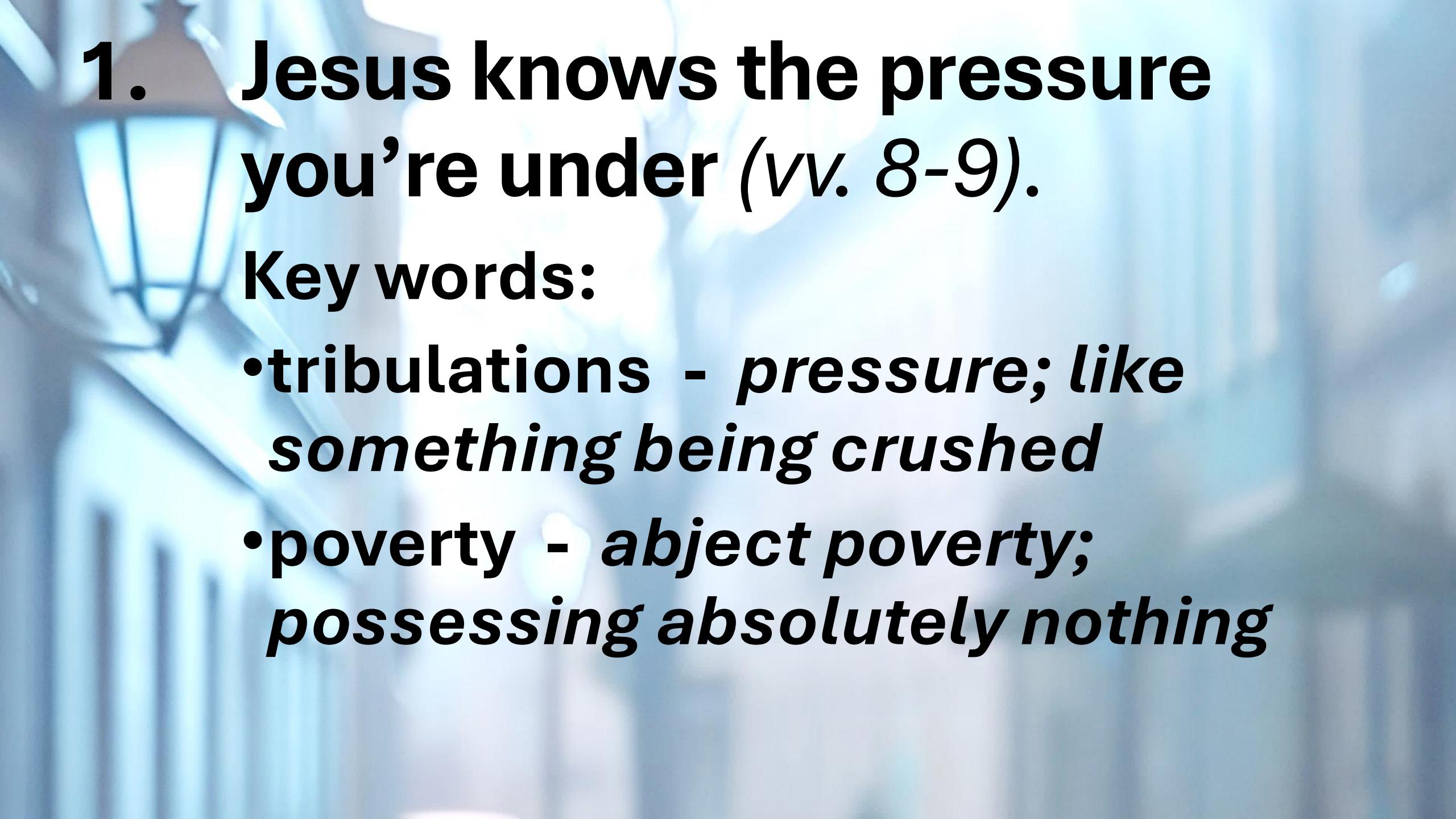
**“It is a very remarkable thing
that the church of Christ
persecuted has been the
church of Christ pure. The
church of Christ patronized
has always been the church
of Christ impure.”**

G. Campbell Morgan



1. Jesus knows the pressure you're under (vv. 8-9).

- God is in control, regardless of appearance of evil (vs. 8).
- God knows all about your circumstances, regardless of how hopeless they may seem (vs. 9).



1. Jesus knows the pressure you're under (vv. 8-9).

Key words:

- **tribulations** - *pressure; like something being crushed*
- **poverty** - *abject poverty; possessing absolutely nothing*

1. Jesus knows the pressure you're under (vv. 8-9).
Jesus redefines what 'rich' means.

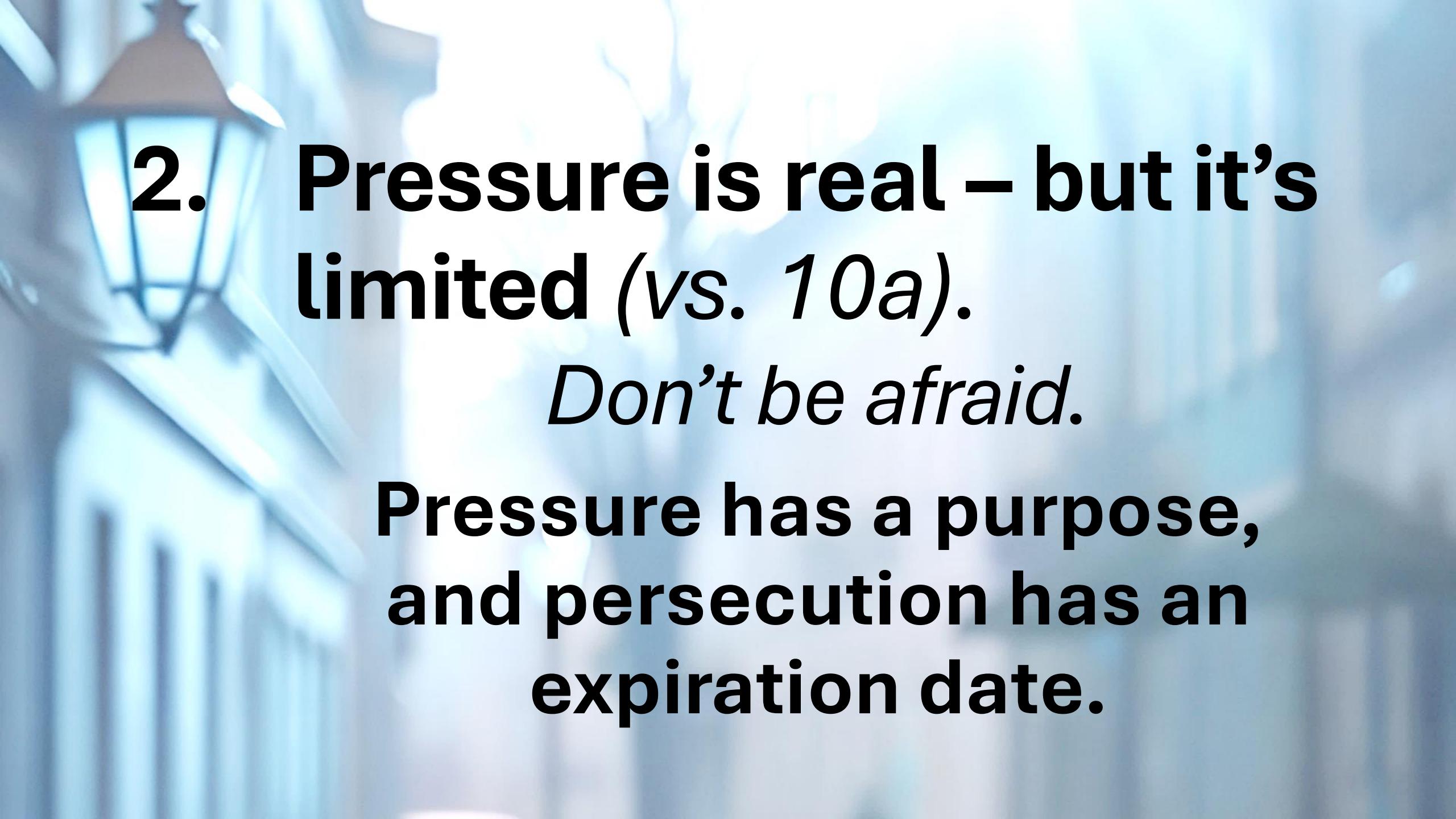
You can be broke by the world's standards and loaded by heaven's!

1. Jesus knows the pressure you're under (vv. 8-9).

Key words:

- **tribulations** - *pressure; being crushed*
- **poverty** - *poverty; possessing nothing*
- **blasphemy** - *slandered reputations; malicious words, not true but used to hurt incite anger*

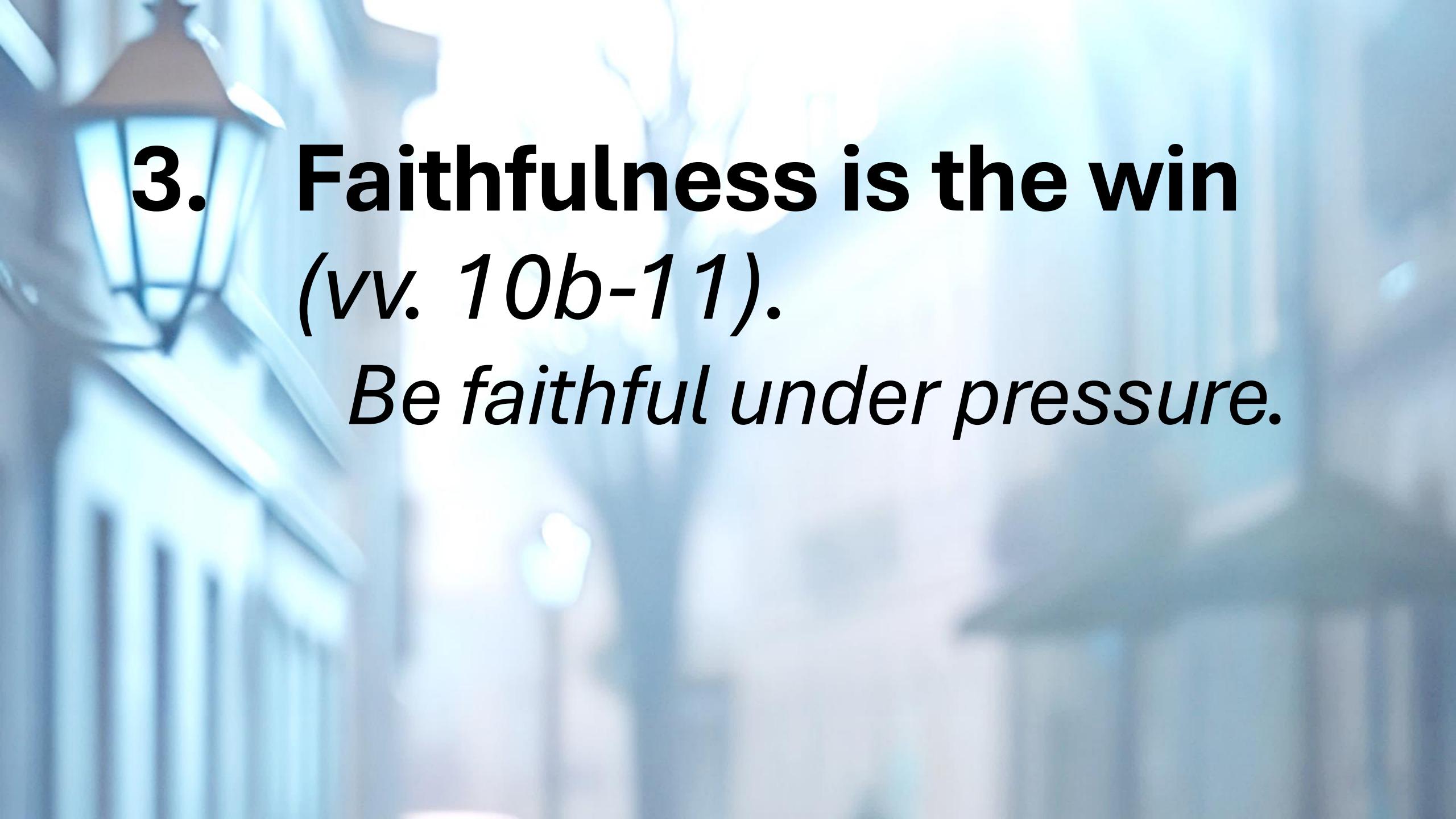




2. Pressure is real – but it's limited (vs. 10a).

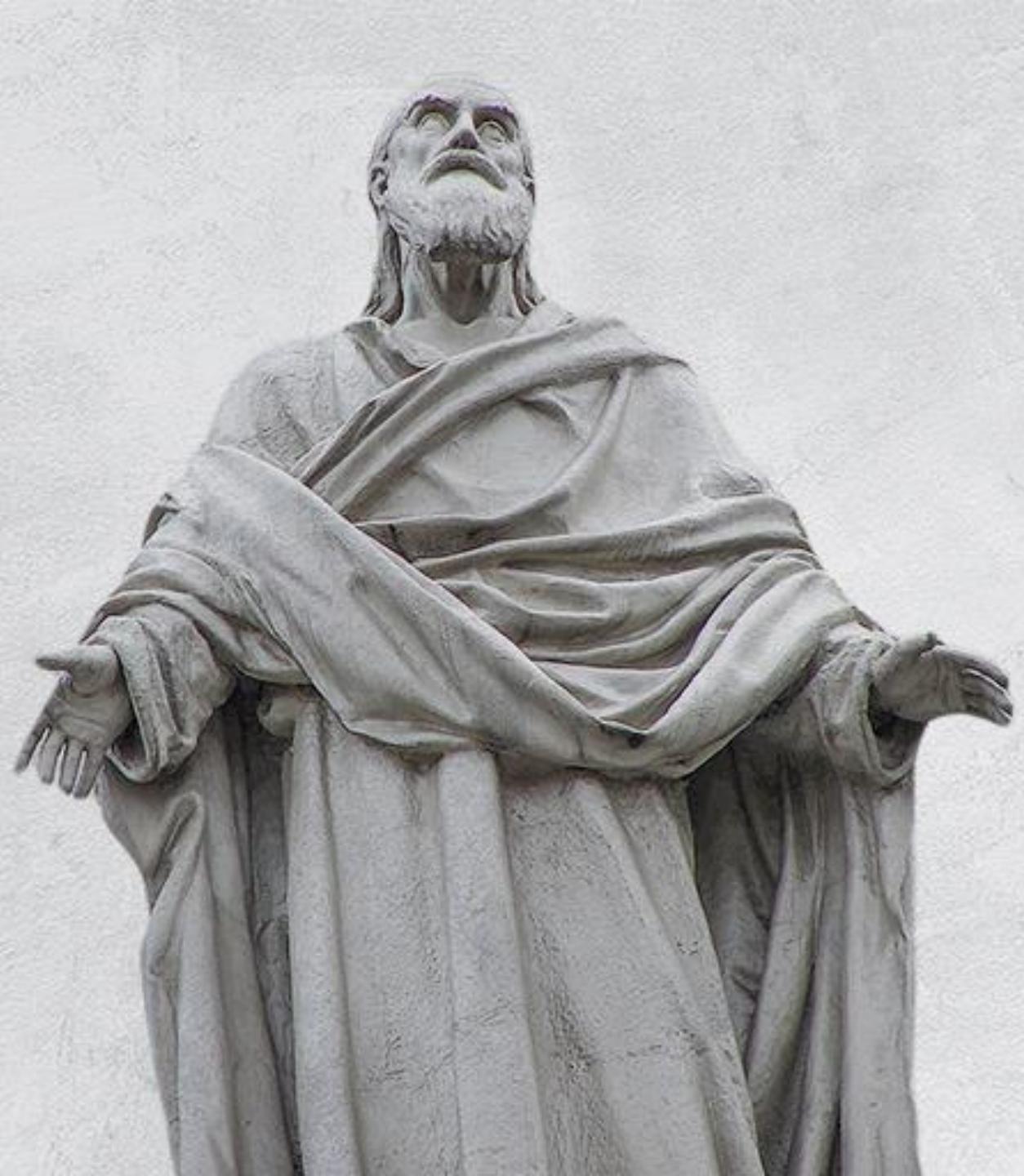
Don't be afraid.

**Pressure has a purpose,
and persecution has an
expiration date.**



3. **Faithfulness is the win
(vv. 10b-11).**

Be faithful under pressure.



***“Eighty six years
have I served Christ,
and He has never
done me wrong. How
can I blaspheme my
King who saved me?”***

POLYCARP

1. **Jesus knows the pressure you're under** (vv. 8-9). *Remember Who I am.*
2. **Pressure is real – but it's limited** (vs. 10a).
Don't be afraid.
3. **Faithfulness is the win** (vv. 10b-11). *Be faithful under pressure*
4. **There's a better crown coming** (vs. 10).

Week

Ephesus (2:1-7)

Smyrna (2:8-11)

Pergamos (2:12-17) ...

Thyatira (2:18-29)

Sardis (3:1-6)

Philadelphia (3:7-13) ...

Laodicea (3:14-22)

Diagnostic Question

Do I love Jesus as deeply as when I first followed Him?

Am I faithful to God when obedience is costly?

Where am I tolerating compromise in truth or practice?

Is my love matched by personal holiness?

Am I spiritually alive—or just busy and respectable?

Am I obeying God even when I feel weak?

What am I relying on more than Christ?