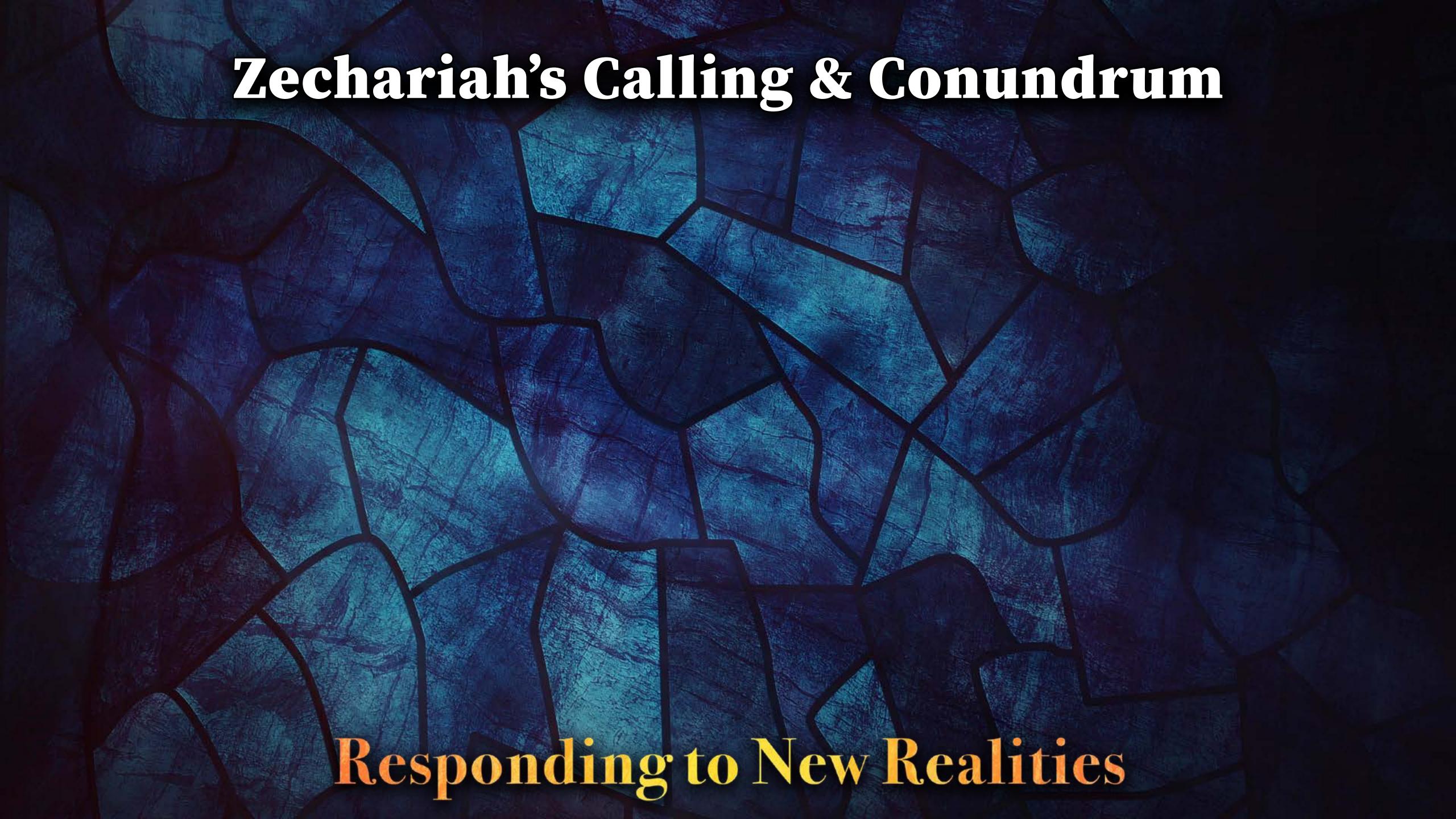


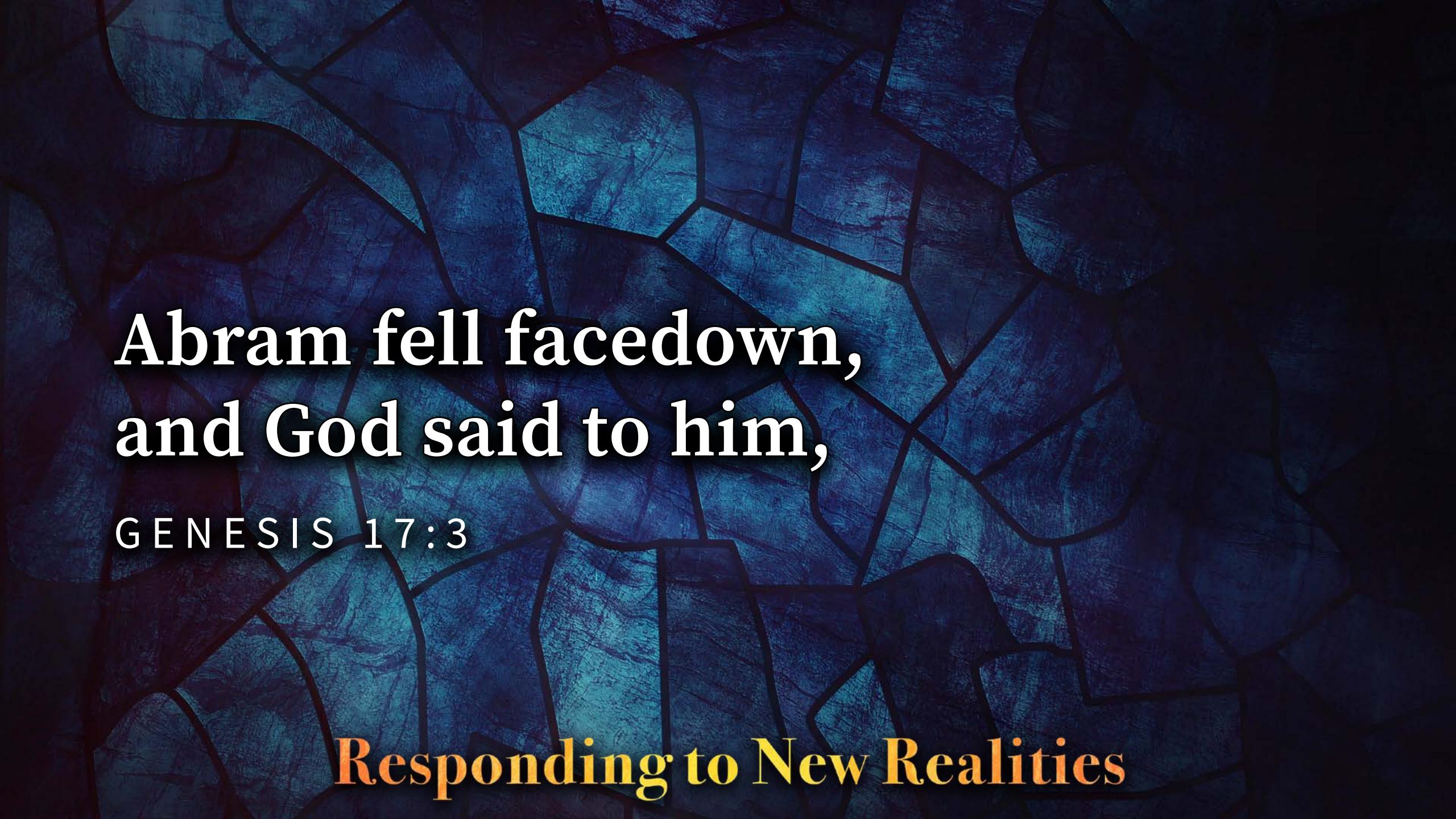
Sometimes God rebukes and sidelines before He deploys and unleashes. Responding to New Realities

If God is like this in fulfilling His plan, then what does that mean for how I respond to Him?

"If God is like that, what does that mean for me?"

Zechariah's Calling & Conundrum





"As for Me, this is My covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations."

GENESIS 17:4

"No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations."

GENESIS 17:5

"I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you."

GENESIS 17:6

God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah."

GENESIS 17:15

"I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

GENESIS 17:16

Abraham fell facedown; he laughed and said to himself, "Will a son be born to a man a hundred years old? Will Sarah bear a child at the age of ninety?"

GENESIS 17:17

And Abraham said to God, "If only Ishmael might live under Your blessing!"

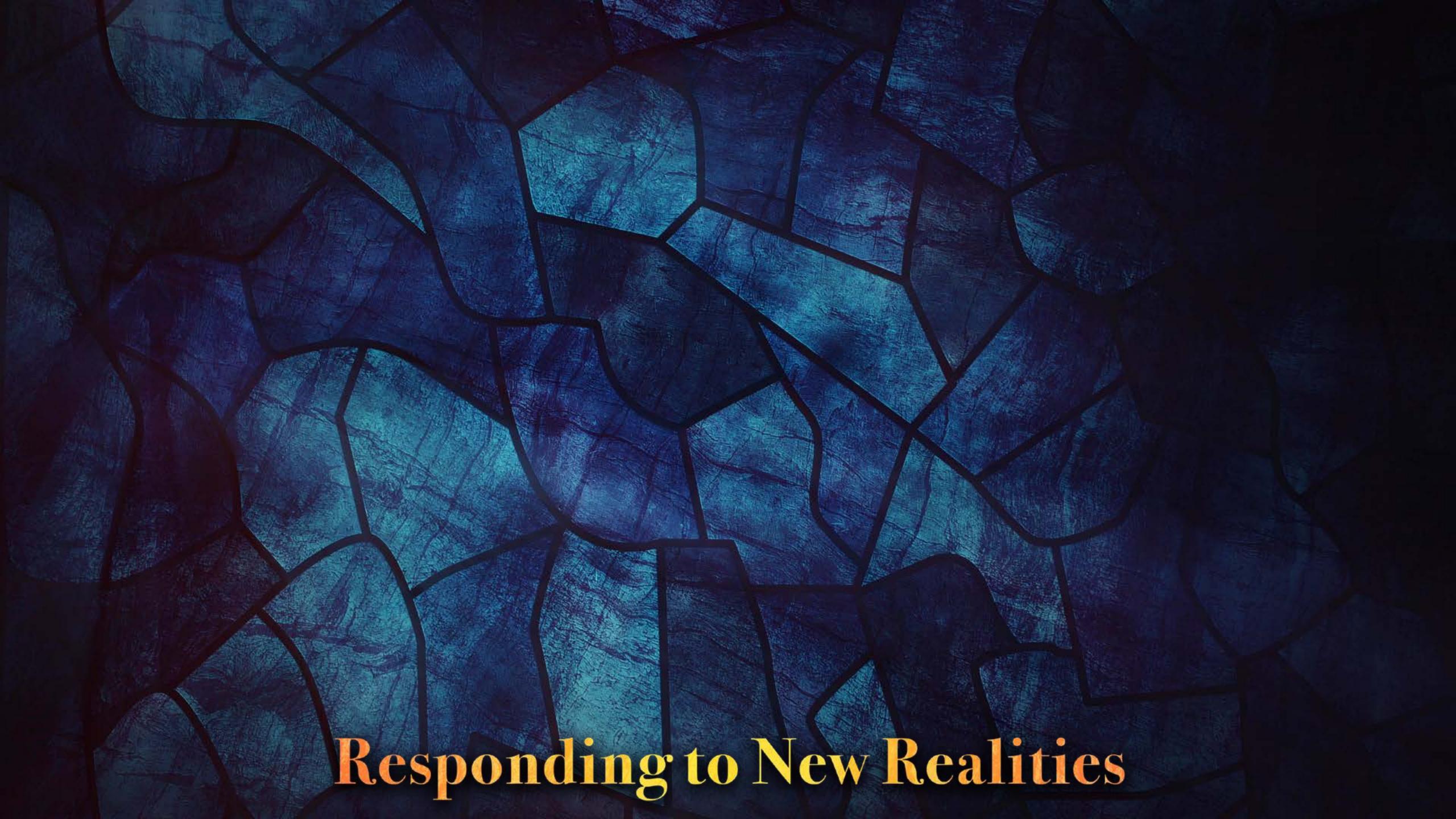
GENESIS 17:18

Our disappointments will either make us bitter or make us better. Responding to New Realities

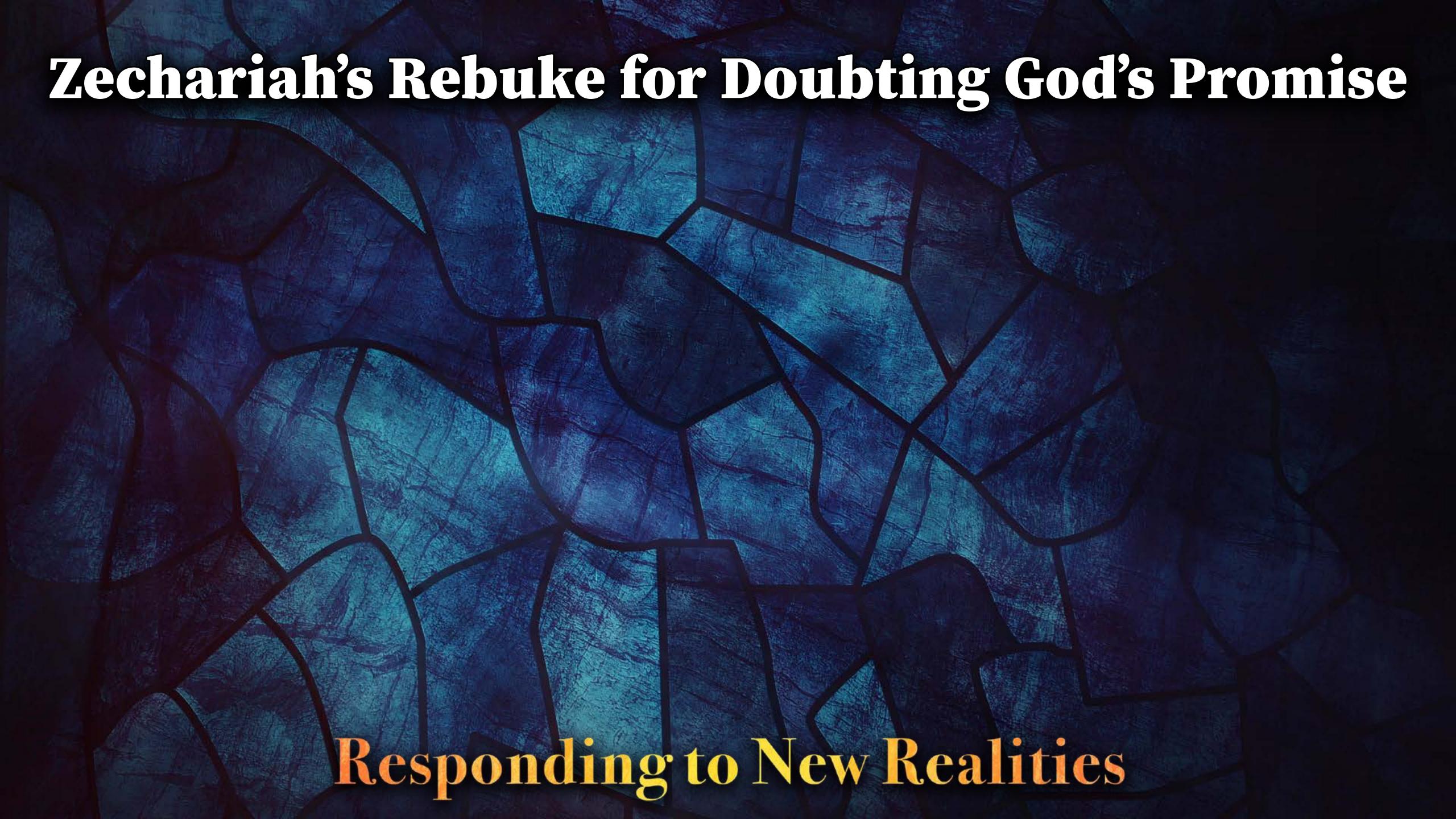
"Zechariah and Elizabeth served God even though they did not have what they wanted. If you serve God for what you can get, then you actually serve yourself."

THABITI ANYABWILE

The promise of a child indicates that the promised plan of God is moving forward. This is not a normal birth. This is about all the promises of redemption.



Zechariah's Rebuke for Doubting God's Promise (1:8-25)



"God was tackling two problems at once. He was dealing with something absent from Zechariah's personal life, while dealing with Israel's prayer and plea."

DARRELL BOCK

"God's answers sometimes come at a surprising time, in a surprising place and in a surprising way. As God deals with His salvation plan, He is also meeting human needs."

DARRELL BOCK

"God's reversal for one family signifies that He is present to save and deliver His entire people."

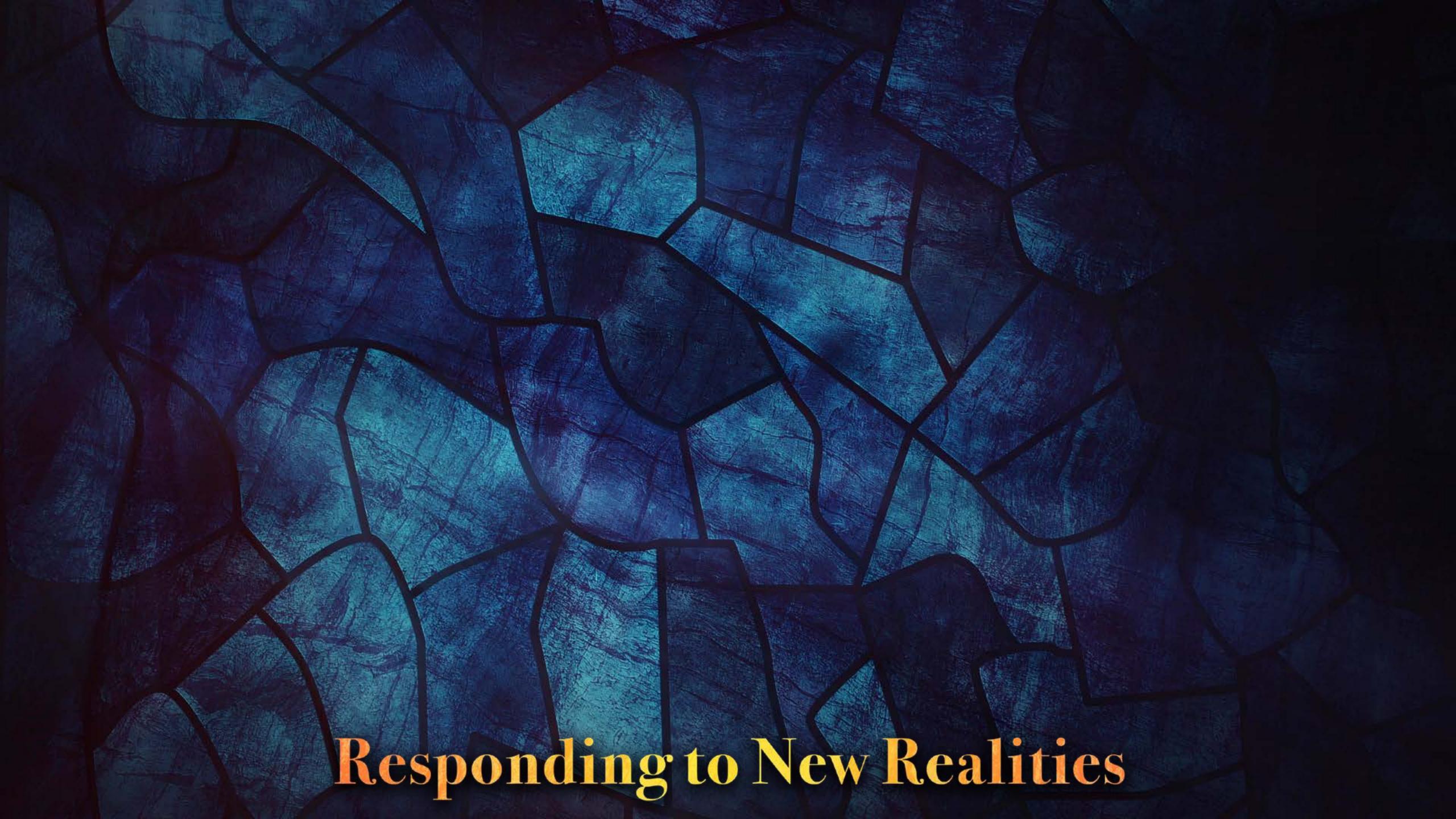
NIV ZONDERVAN STUDY BIBLE

"See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the Lord comes."

MALACHI 4:5

"He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction."

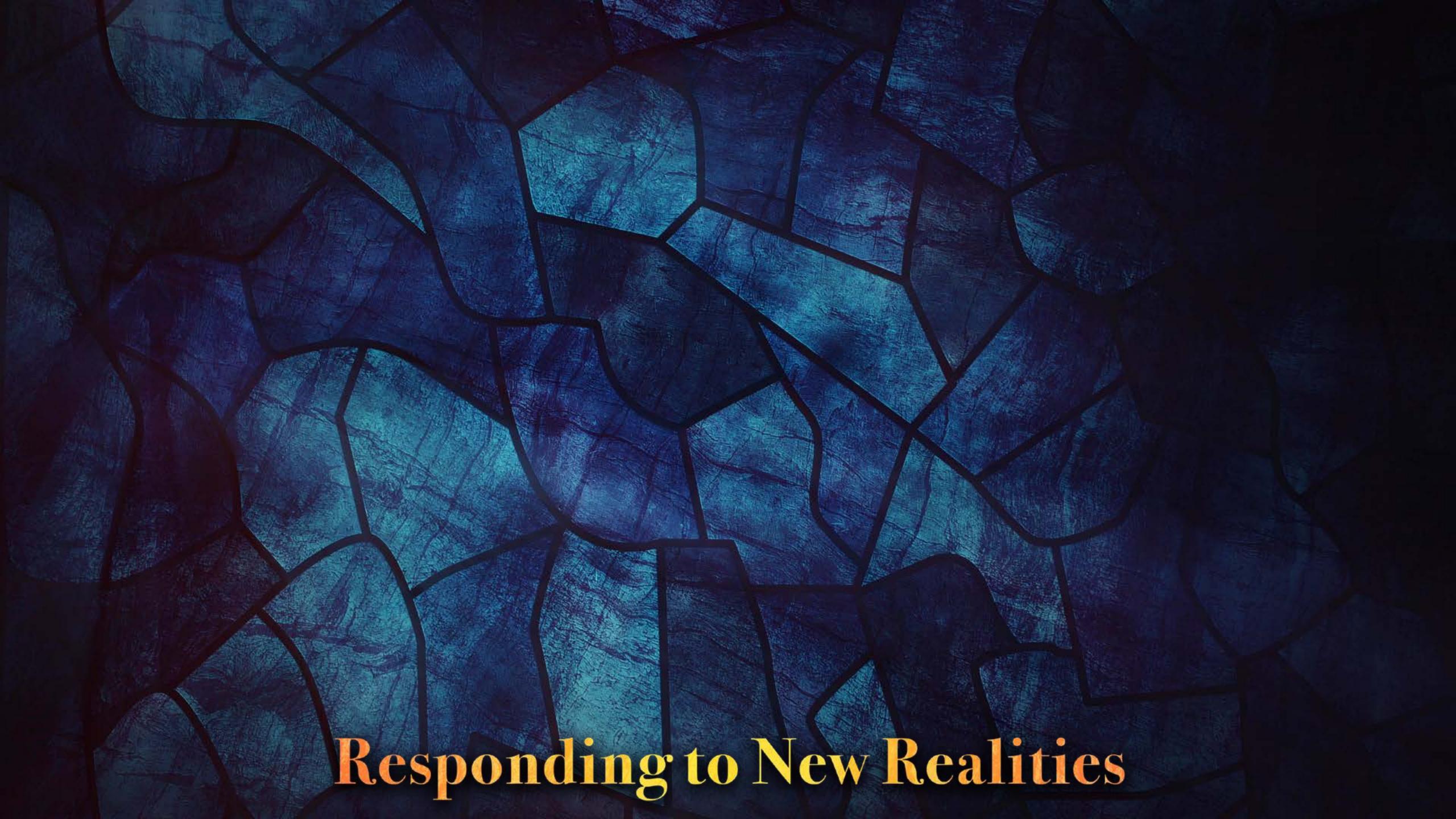
MALACHI 4:6



Zechariah's Restoration & Role

(1:57-66)





Zechanian's Prophecy of God's Redemptive Plan

(1:67-80)



A voice of one calling in the wilderness: "Prepare the way for the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God."

ISAIAH 40:3

"Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low; the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain."

ISAIAH 40:4

"And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together. For the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

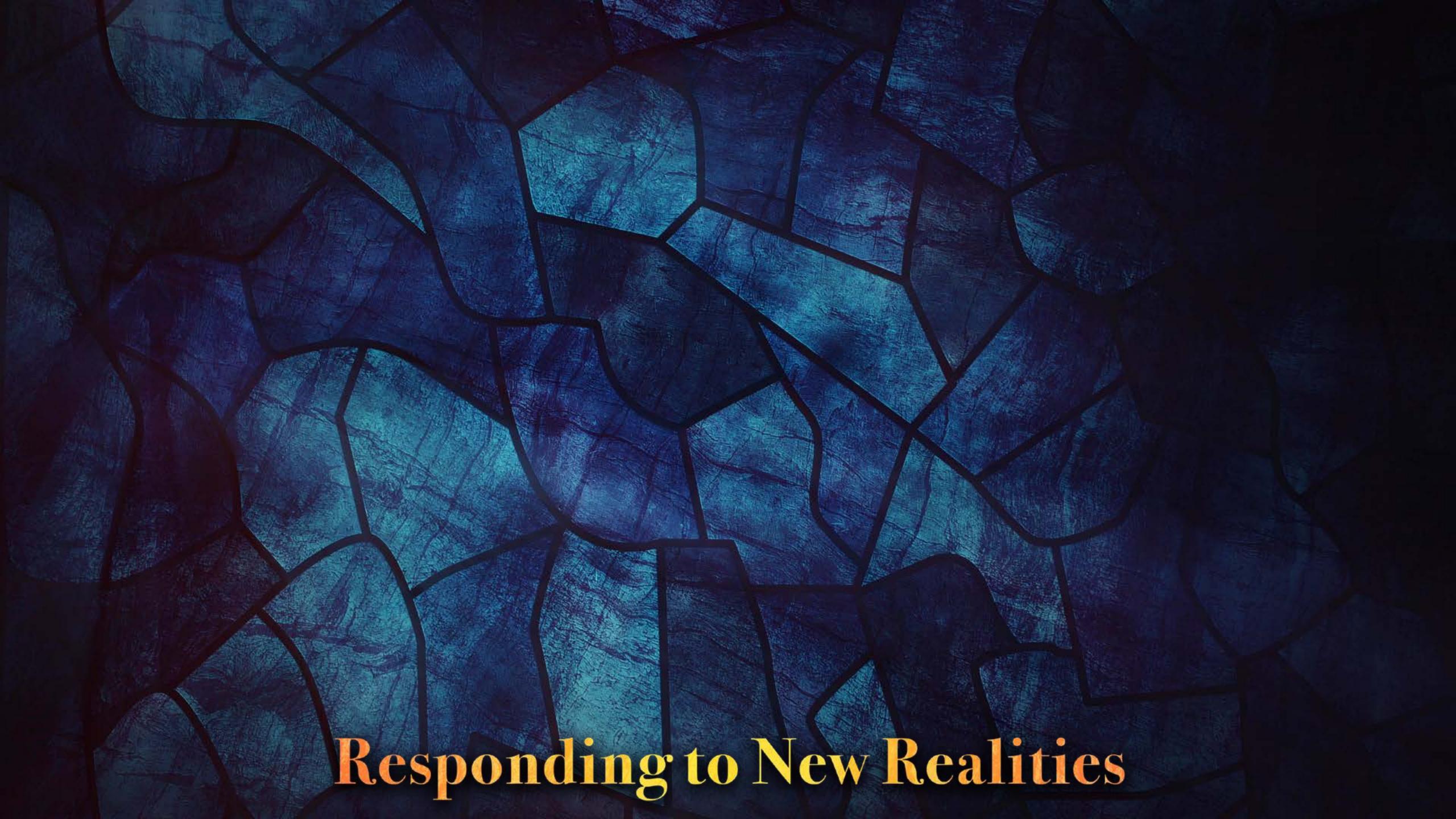
ISAIAH 40:5

"God's redemption visits His people in the person of Messiah. John goes before the God of Israel, because he goes before the salvation that is tied to the Messiah."

DARRELL BOCK

"In the Messiah, God's plan and design are found, so that when Messiah comes, God comes."

DARRELL BOCK



God will fulfill His promises, despite our disappointments and even disobedience to Him.

