



# WELCOME!

Engage & Equip — April 22, 2024

A collection of various tools is laid out on a dark wooden surface. The tools include a hammer with a wooden handle, a blue tape measure with a silver blade, a hand saw with a curved blade, a pair of work gloves, a pair of pliers, and a folding knife. The tools are arranged in a somewhat organized manner, with some overlapping. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the textures of the wood and the tools.

Volunteer Appreciation

**FRANK PEKOVICH**



Volunteer Appreciation  
**RICK DEYOUNG**



Staff Appreciation

**LAURA HELWIG**



**DIRECT ATTENTION  
TO GOD**

## Direct Attention to God

God is a person. He is a *who*. Christianity is not a philosophy, but our participation in God's Christ- the true king who is a person, to save a people for himself, in order to love and lead them forever. Thus, he must be the center of every disciple's and church's attention. Worship, prayer, and study are normative practices of attending to God.

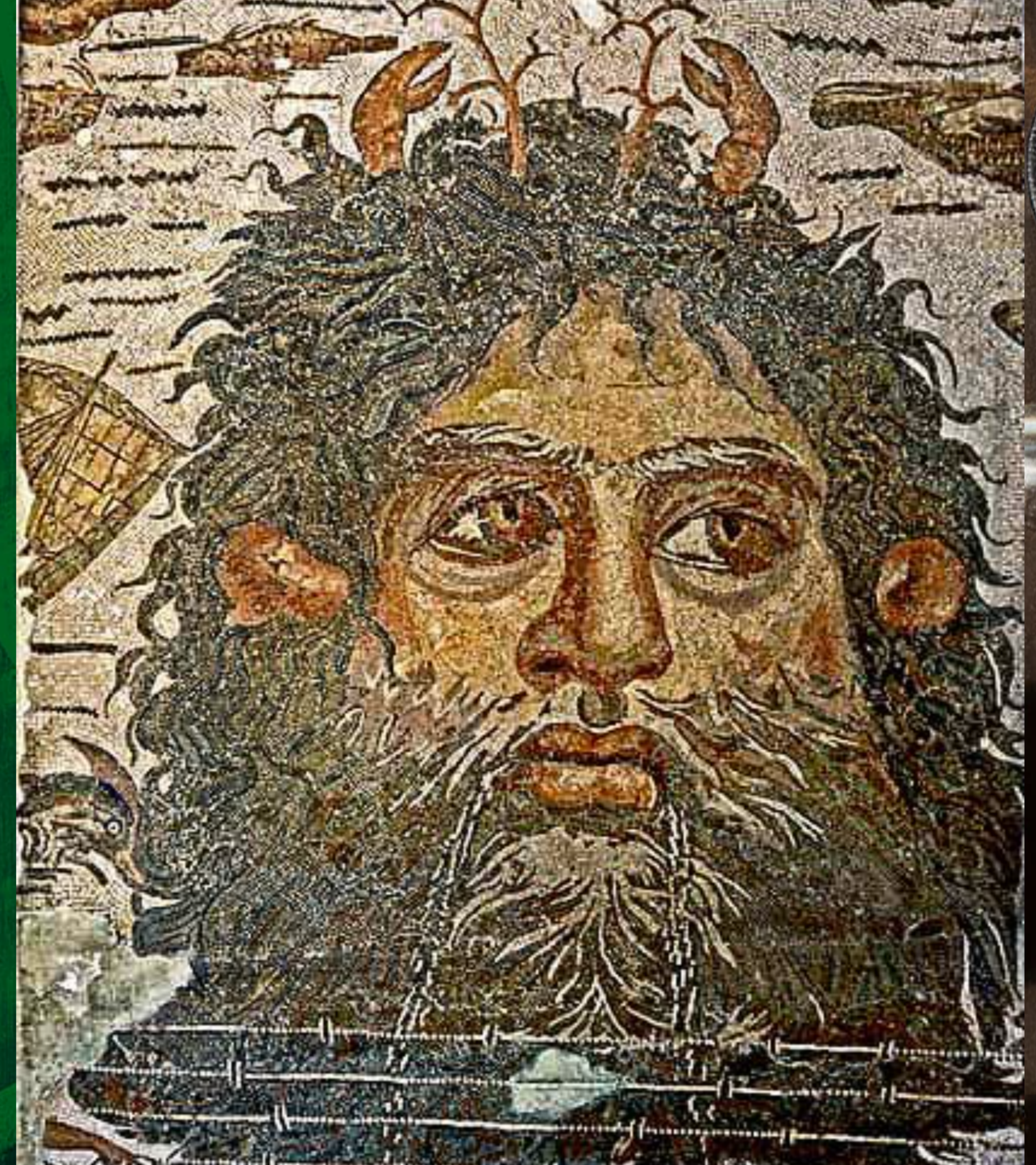
# CONNECT WITH GOD

"Connect with God" is first in our ministry model, to acknowledge **God is a person relating to us as persons, thus creating a relationship.** We are made to have a relationship with God. Our practices and study, and fellowship to this end.

# PUBLIC WITNESS

**Modernity:** teaches that the gods are personifications of human consciousness. Some are.

**Bible:** God's first revelation is He is a person. He claims to fit us because we are his image- a kind of personification of Him.



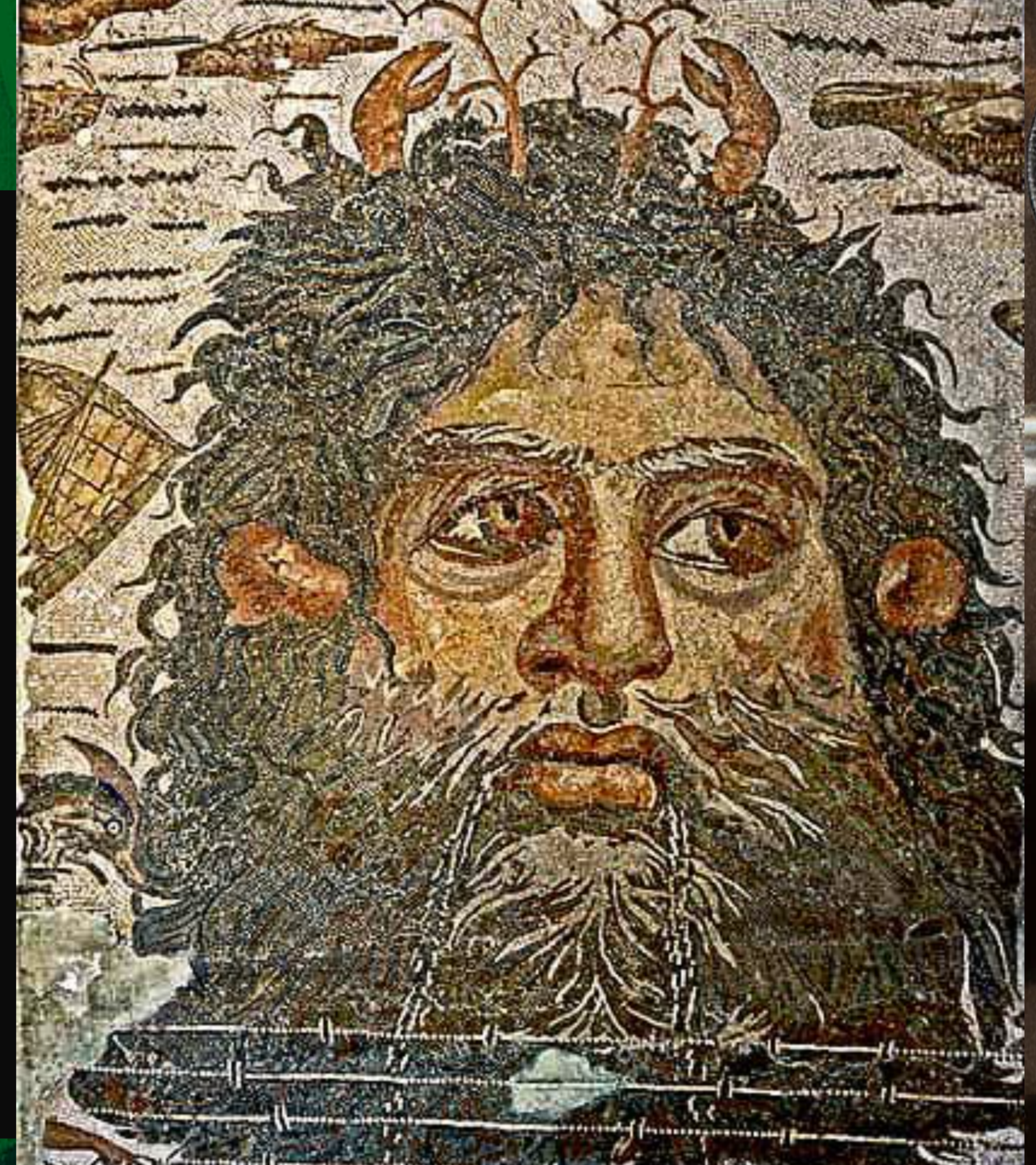


# ATTRACTION OF PERSONIFICATION

Humans don't like to be exposed morally to a personal God's demands

An "empathetic" solution to the plurality problem

Offers a more agreeable "salvation" to modern people



# THE HIDDEN GOD

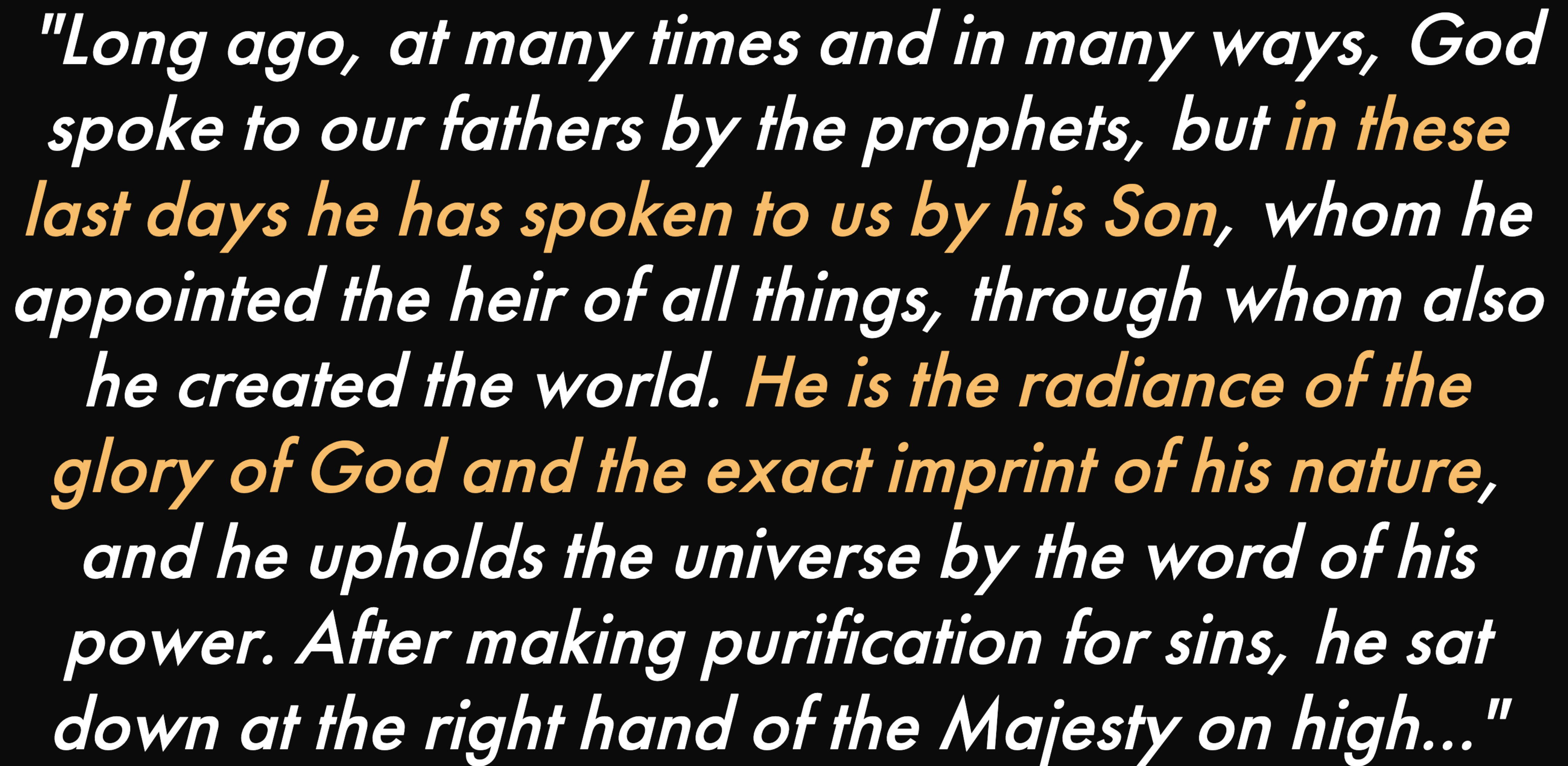
Who speaks and shows himself

Isaiah 45:11-24

# THE HIDDEN GOD

Who speaks and shows himself

1. Thwarting, hiding providence
2. Verbal Revelation
3. Sincere invitation to seek Him



*"Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but **in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son**, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. **He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature**, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high..."*

**Hebrews 1:1-3 ESV**



## Pastoral/Human reality:

The ability to live in the Fear of the Lord and Love of Jesus is the source of all spiritual transformation: of the heart, soul, mind and strength- and the willingness to identify the world, the flesh and the Devil, and to mortify them. Faith and repentance take their content and orientation from knowing God's truth.



## Ministry importance:

1. God uses and blesses ministries that point to Him
2. God changes people when directed to Him
3. People can grow without our help
4. God has the authority we don't have
5. God can work at any moment
6. People become less dependent on us



# 1. EXPRESSION

Expose your inhibitions to  
convictional expresssion



# 2. CONSTANCY

Include God all the time.  
Explicitly and responsively.





# 3. WORSHIP

Corporate and private.  
Planned and responsive.



# 4. PRAYER

Corporate, exchange, private.  
This is the most non-negotiable practice.

# WEDNESDAY NIGHT PRAYER + WORSHIP

First Wednesday of the month  
7-8:30PM in the sanctuary  
Beginning April 3



# 5. LEARN

Study, hear, reseach, meditate, journal,  
converse, be mentored, teach...



# 6. OBEY

Fear the Lord, and obey Jesus in Love and pay attention, and he will show himself to you



# 7. SEEK THE SPIRIT

Seek to keep in step with the Spirit

# BREAKOUTS!

Small Groups

Micah A

Connections

Micah B

Youth

Micah C

KidsMin

Micah D

Oaks

Micah E

Safety Team

Library

Worship Band Leaders

Staff Room

Early Childhood

Micah D (with KidsMin)

Nursery

Haven