



A movie poster for Avengers: Endgame. The background is a vibrant purple and blue space scene with glowing energy lines. In the center, the Avengers team is depicted in various poses. Iron Man is prominent in the foreground, wearing his iconic armor and holding his shield. Other characters like Thor, Captain America, and Wanda Maximoff are visible. The overall tone is epic and dramatic.

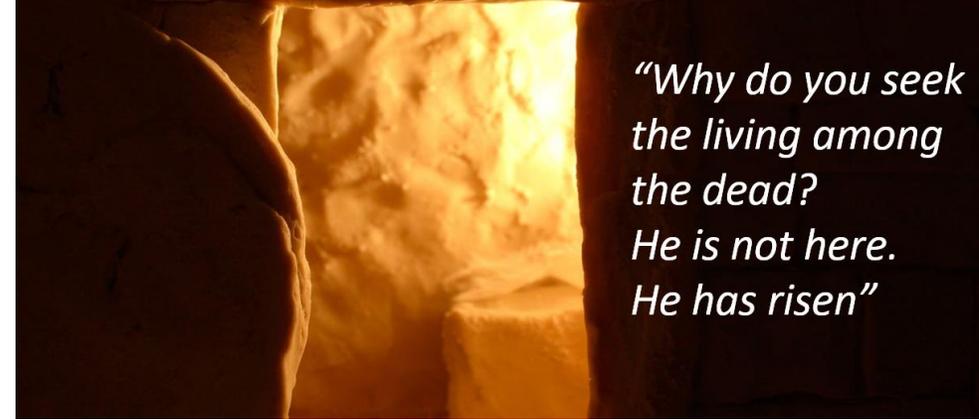
MARVEL STUDIOS

AVENGERS

ENDGAME



Resurrection of those who died



Resurrection of those who died

A Great Story

- Good V Evil
- A cosmic battle
- Great sacrifice needed – you must lose the one you love the most
- The destiny of all life depends on this story
- Ultimately evil seems to have won
- But in a wonderful twist, evil is overthrown and good

And ... A Great Story

- Good V Evil
- A cosmic battle
- Great sacrifice needed – you must lose the one you love the most
- The destiny of all life depends on this story
- Ultimately evil seems to have won
- But in a wonderful twist, evil is overthrown and good triumphs
- We see the resurrection of those who died

So what's the difference?

- 2000 years ago a man called Jesus lived in the Middle East
- Apparently he led a simple life
- But he also brought a message – a story
- His followers insisted on telling this story after Jesus had gone
- They wrote it down
- Thousands became inspired - and then more .. and more



Happy Birthday



Dear Church!

2019 – THIS WEEK!

The background features a complex, abstract pattern of thin, fiber-like structures. These structures are primarily red and yellow, with some orange and green tones, and they radiate from various points, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall effect is reminiscent of a microscopic view of a material or a stylized representation of a network.

A Strange Incident

Today's Reading 2: Acts 2, 1-17

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: 'Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs – we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!'

Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, 'What does this mean?'

Some, however, made fun of them and said, 'They have had too much wine.'

Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

"In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

*Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions,
your old men will dream dreams.*

Who or what is this “Holy Spirit”?

James Packer:

“Christians today are in no doubt as to what Christ did but the average Christian is in a complete fog as to what the Holy Spirit does”

So who is this Spirit of God?

- *Is it a piece of God? Is it another God?*
- *Is it an It? a He? or a She?*
- *What does this Holy Spirit do?*



Even in the New Testament there were churches who had no clue!

Eg From Acts 19:

Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit”





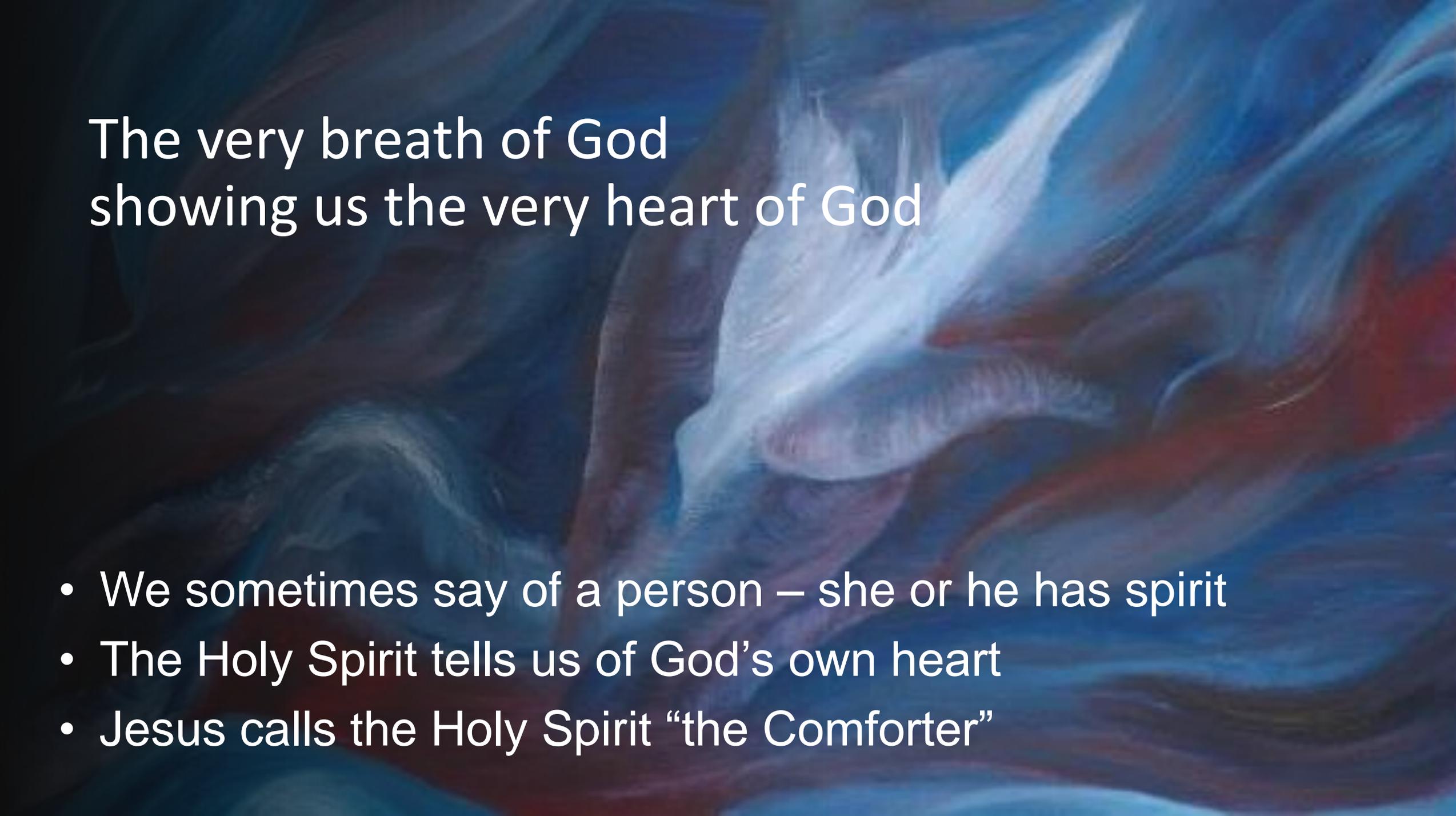
A person of the Trinity ...

Right there at the beginning of Genesis Chapter 1:

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, 'Let there be light,' ...

- The “*Ruakh*” of God brooding over the deep
- Literally – the spirit of God

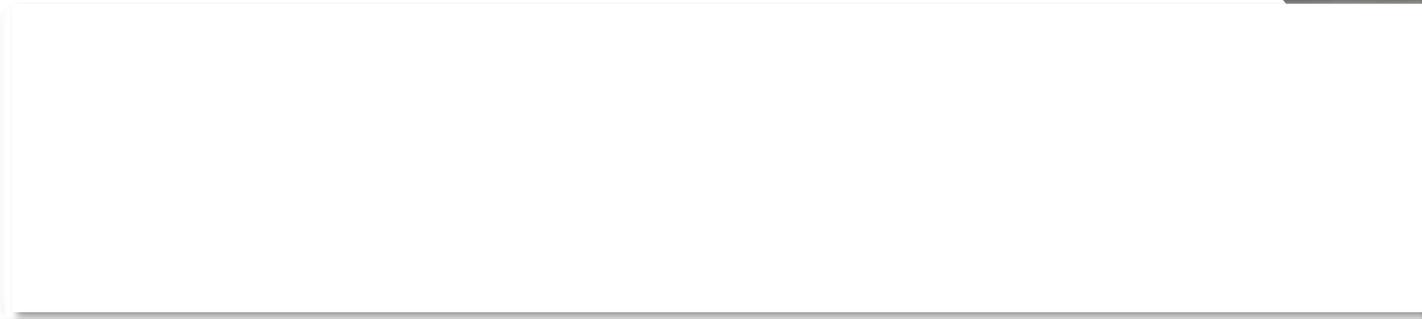
A white dove with its wings spread, flying over a blue and red background. The dove is the central focus, with its wings fully extended. The background consists of swirling, ethereal patterns in shades of blue and red, creating a sense of movement and depth. The overall mood is serene and spiritual.

The very breath of God showing us the very heart of God

- We sometimes say of a person – she or he has spirit
- The Holy Spirit tells us of God's own heart
- Jesus calls the Holy Spirit "the Comforter"

What does the person of the Holy Spirit do?

1. Keeps us close to God, to Jesus
2. Help us develop our character – FRUIT
3. Helps us to serve - GIFTS



What if there was NO Holy Spirit?

If there was no Holy Spirit
there would be:

- No Bible
- No agreement on what
Christians believe
- No Christians!

*'If you love me, keep my commands. And I will ask the Father,
and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with
you for ever – the Spirit of truth. John 14:15-17*

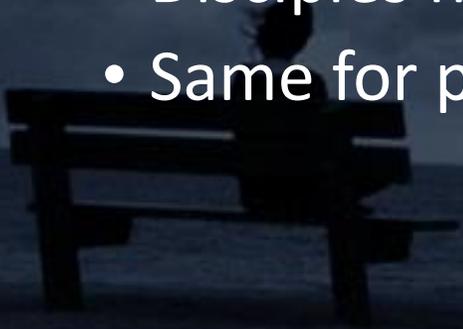


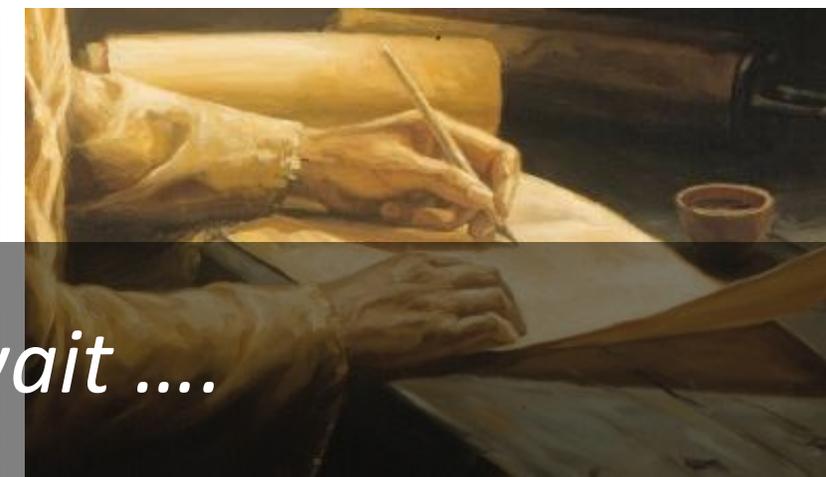
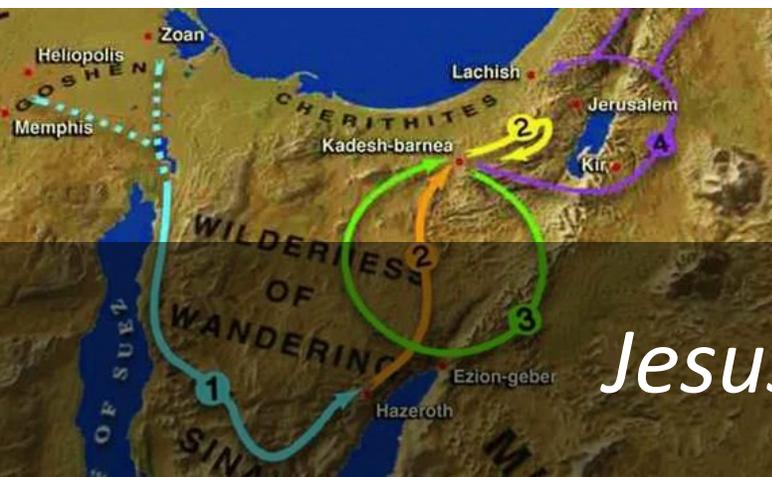


How do we receive God's Holy Spirit? (or anything else from God?)

- ASK & WAIT
- Seemples...?
- NO - actually quite hard!

- Disciples had to wait
- Same for people throughout the Bible





Jesus asked the disciples to wait

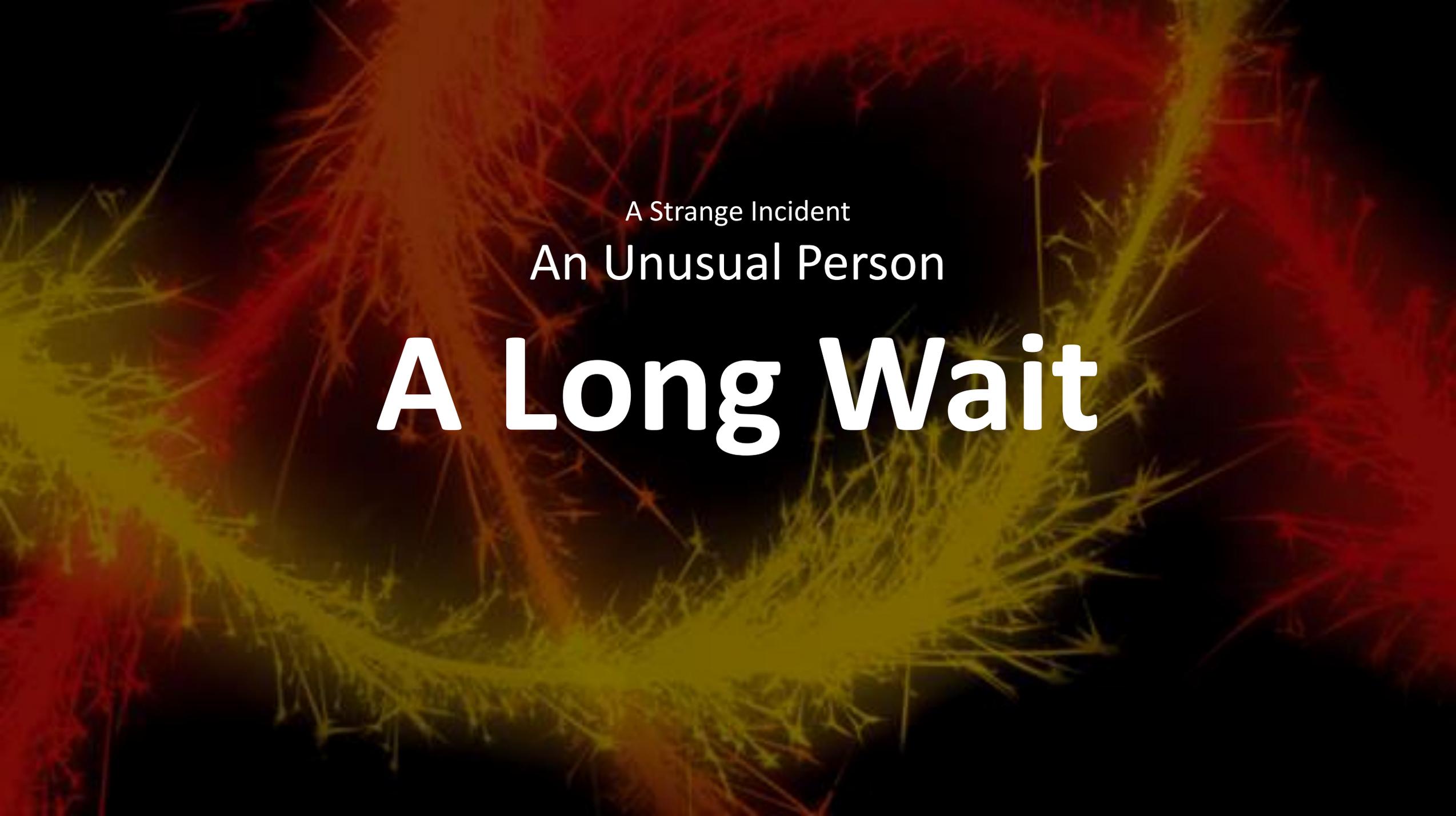
God will sometimes ask you to wait ... just as the disciples waited

Not always - sometimes ...

- **God waits until we are ready – hard!**
- **God waits until he is ready –yep! even harder!**



Ask and wait – in expectancy



A Strange Incident

An Unusual Person

A Long Wait

