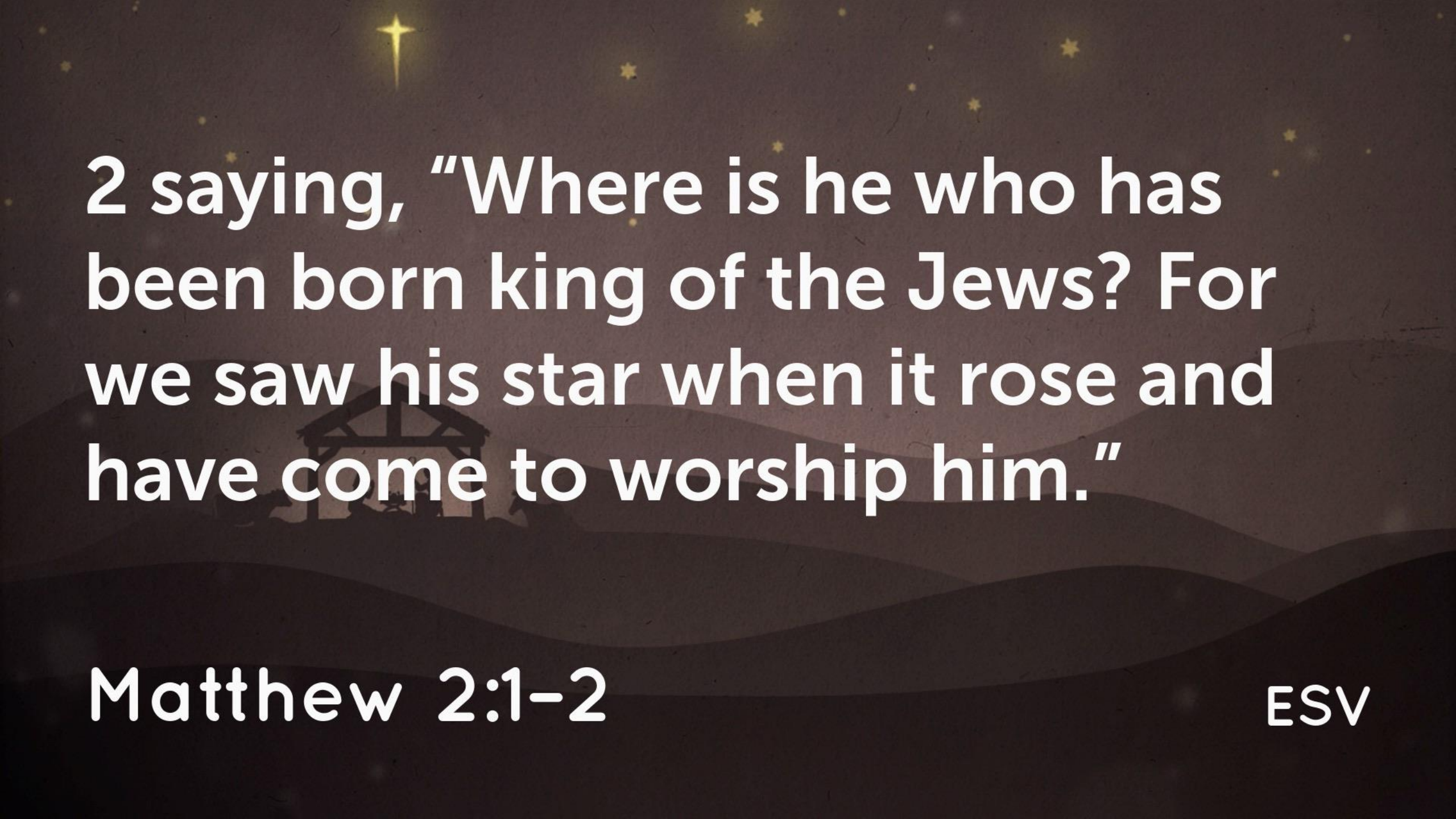
A dark, atmospheric background depicting a night scene. In the upper left, a bright, multi-pointed star (the Star of Bethlehem) shines. Several smaller, distant stars are scattered across the dark sky. In the lower left, a silhouette of a stable or manger is visible, with a small figure of a person standing near it. The background is composed of dark, rolling hills or mountains.

**1 Now after Jesus was born in
Bethlehem of Judea in the days of
Herod the king, behold, wise men
from the east came to Jerusalem,**

Matthew 2:1-2

ESV

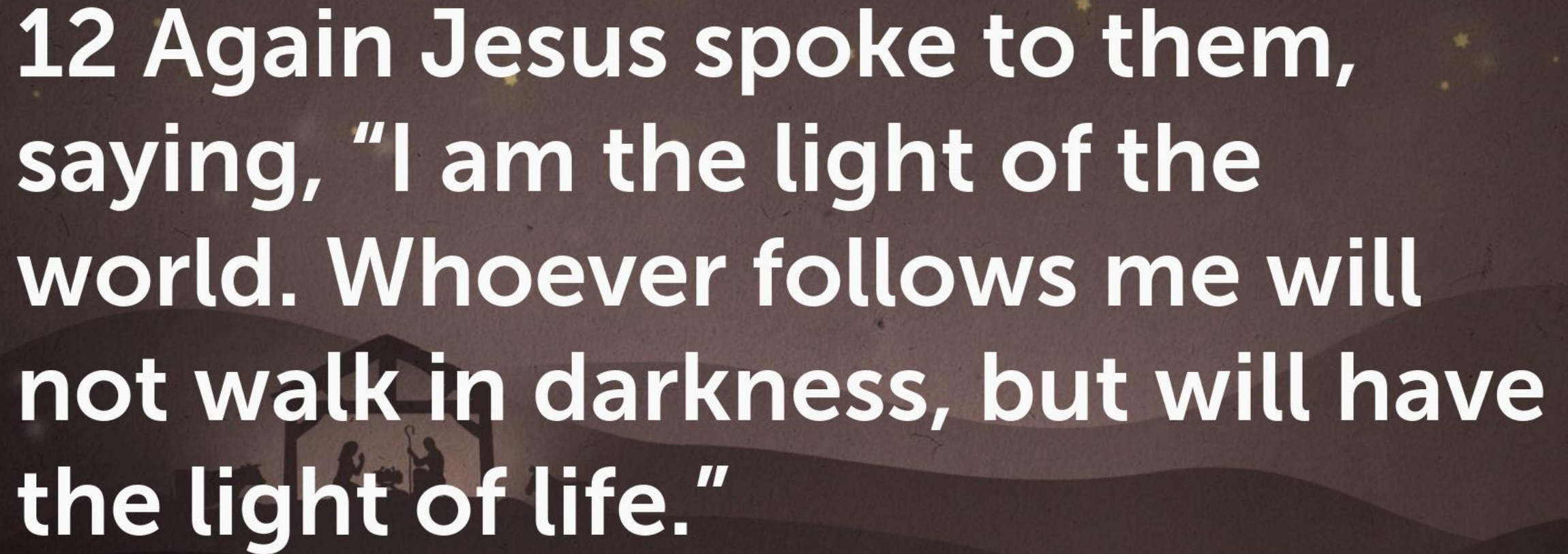


2 saying, "Where is he who has
been born king of the Jews? For
we saw his star when it rose and
have come to worship him."

Matthew 2:1-2

ESV



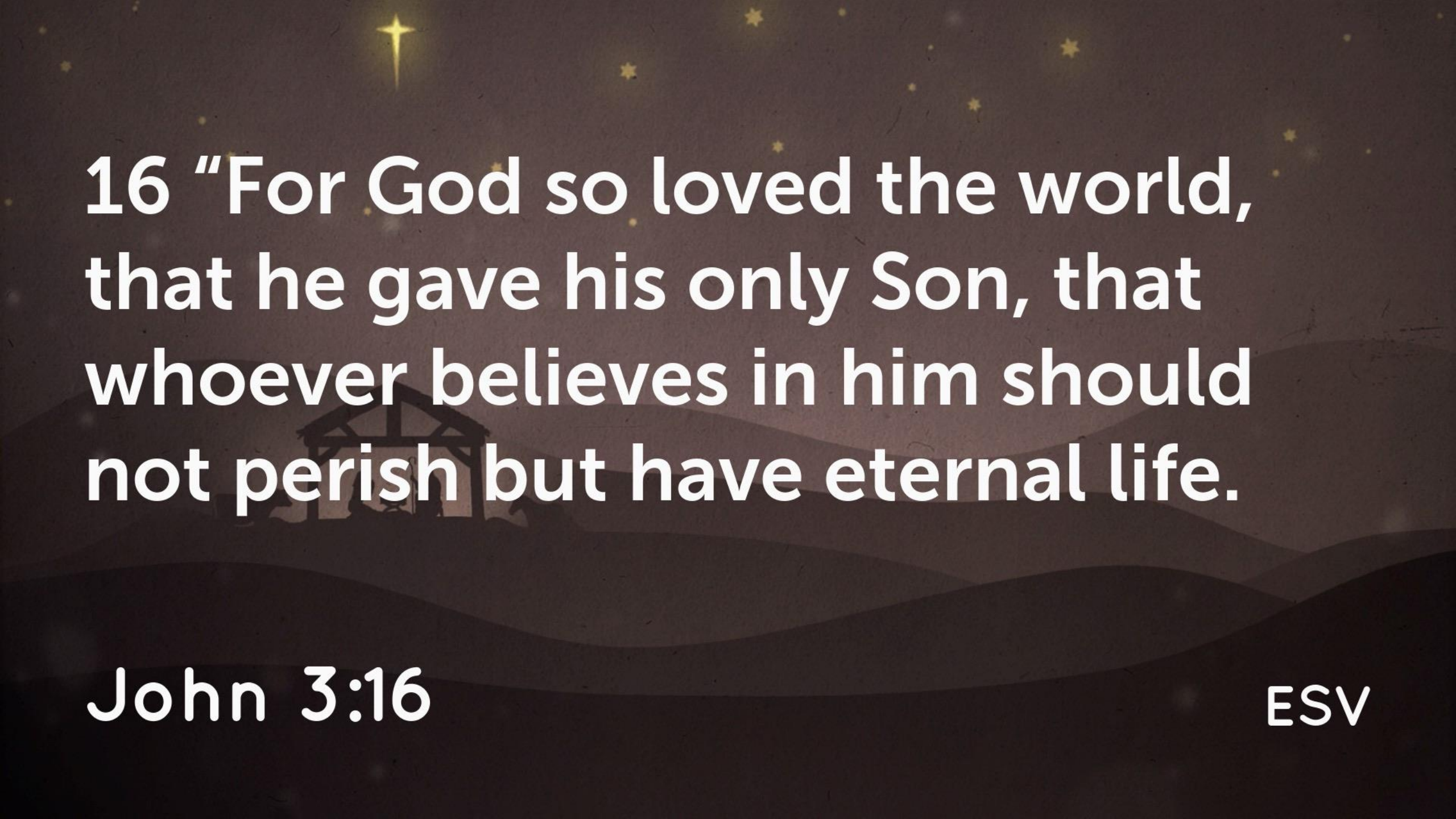


12 Again Jesus spoke to them,
saying, "I am the light of the
world. Whoever follows me will
not walk in darkness, but will have
the light of life."

John 8:12

ESV





16 "For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him should
not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

ESV

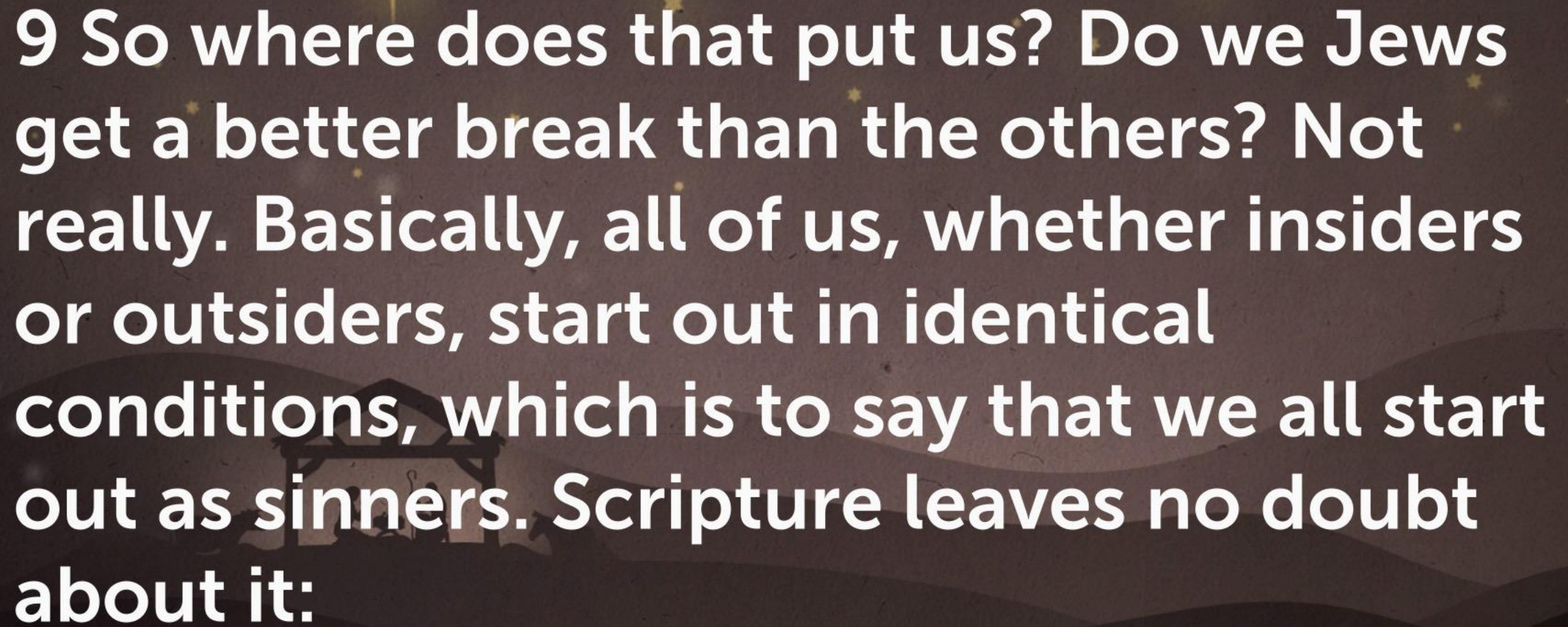


9 The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

Jeremiah 17:9

ESV





9 So where does that put us? Do we Jews get a better break than the others? Not really. Basically, all of us, whether insiders or outsiders, start out in identical conditions, which is to say that we all start out as sinners. Scripture leaves no doubt about it:

Romans 3:9–18

MSG

10 There's nobody living right, not even one,



Romans 3:9-18

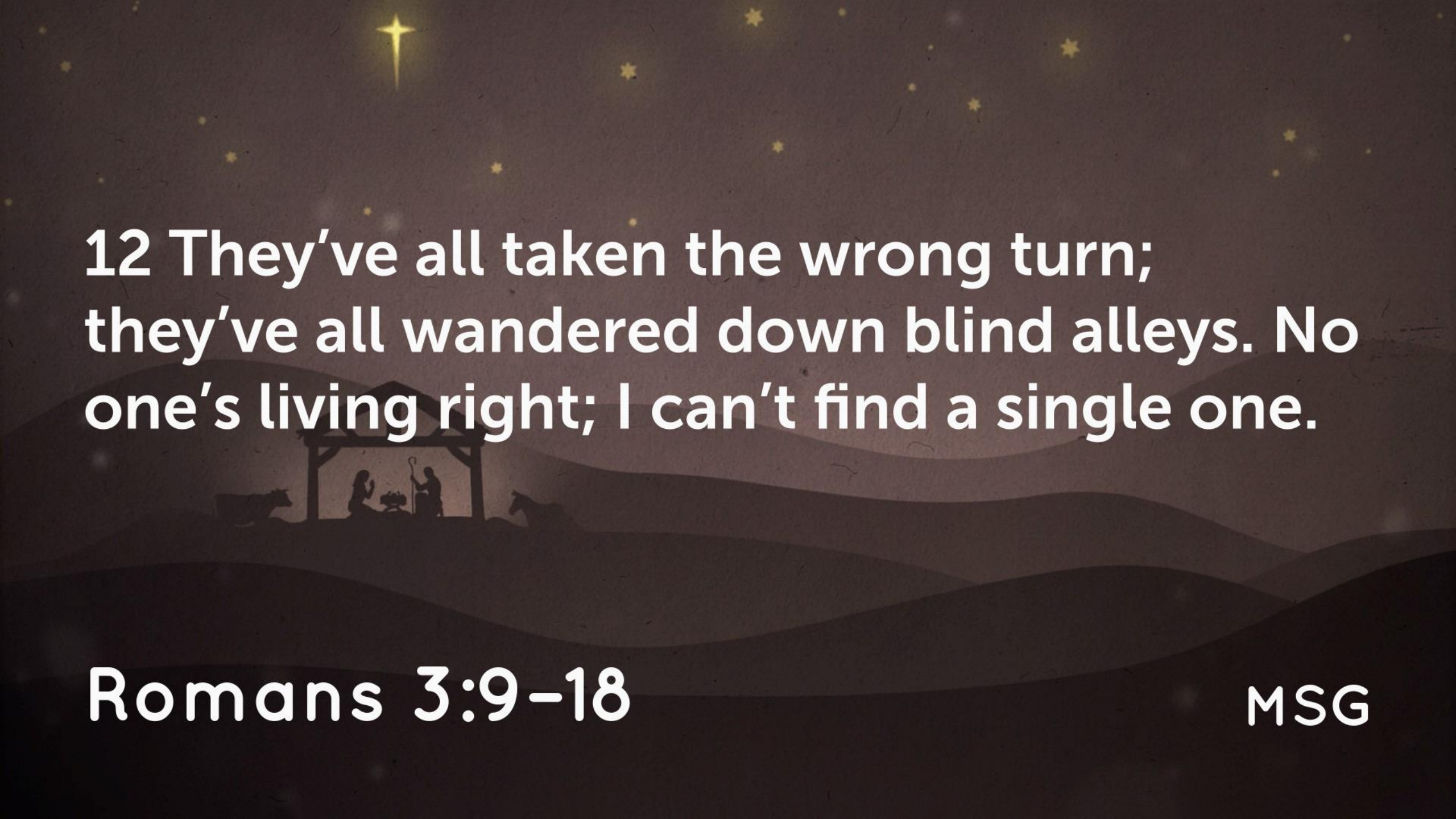
MSG

**11 nobody who knows the score, nobody
alert for God.**



Romans 3:9-18

MSG



12 They've all taken the wrong turn;
they've all wandered down blind alleys. No
one's living right; I can't find a single one.

Romans 3:9-18

MSG

A silhouette of a nativity scene is visible in the background, showing Mary, Joseph, the infant Jesus in a manger, and the animals (ox and donkey) under a starry night sky.

13 Their throats are gaping graves, their
tongues slick as mudslides. Every word
they speak is tinged with poison.

Romans 3:9–18

MSG

14 They open their mouths and pollute the air.



Romans 3:9-18

MSG

15 They race for the honor of sinner-of-the-year,



Romans 3:9-18

MSG

16 litter the land with heartbreak and ruin,



Romans 3:9–18

MSG

**17 Don't know the first thing about living
with others.**



Romans 3:9–18

MSG

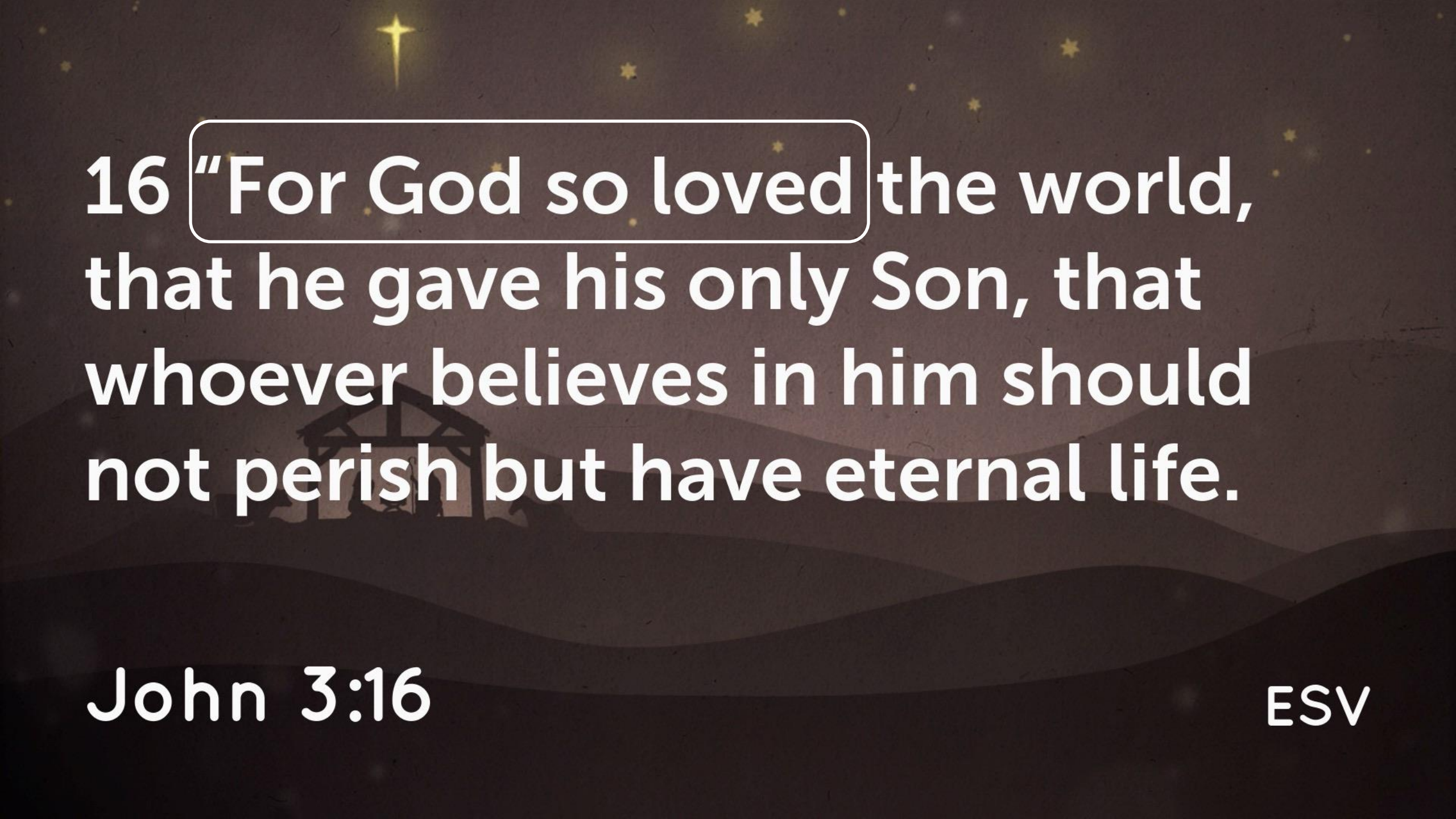
18 They never give God the time of day.



Romans 3:9-18

MSG



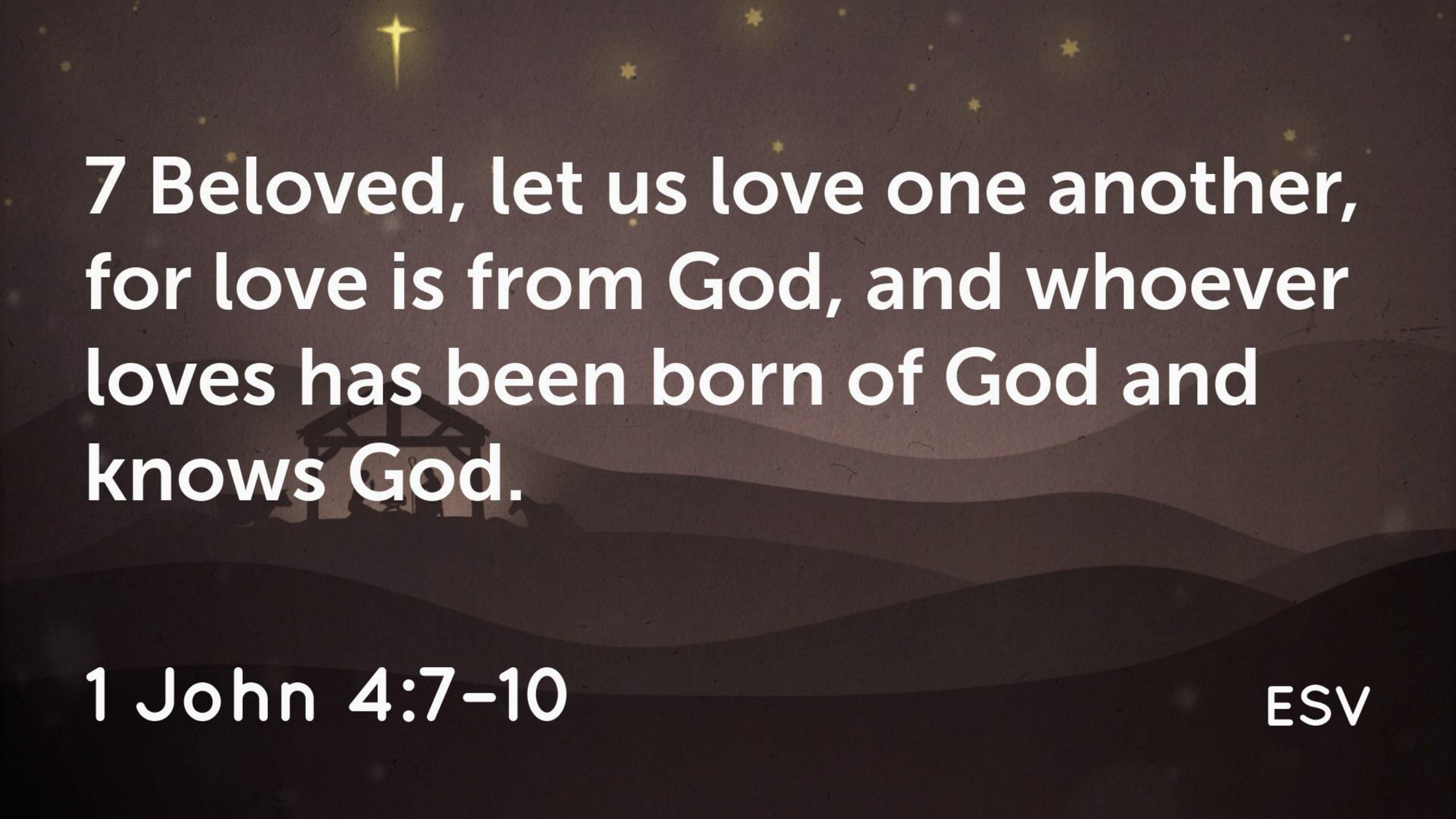


16 "For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him should
not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

ESV





7 Beloved, let us love one another,
for love is from God, and whoever
loves has been born of God and
knows God.

1 John 4:7-10

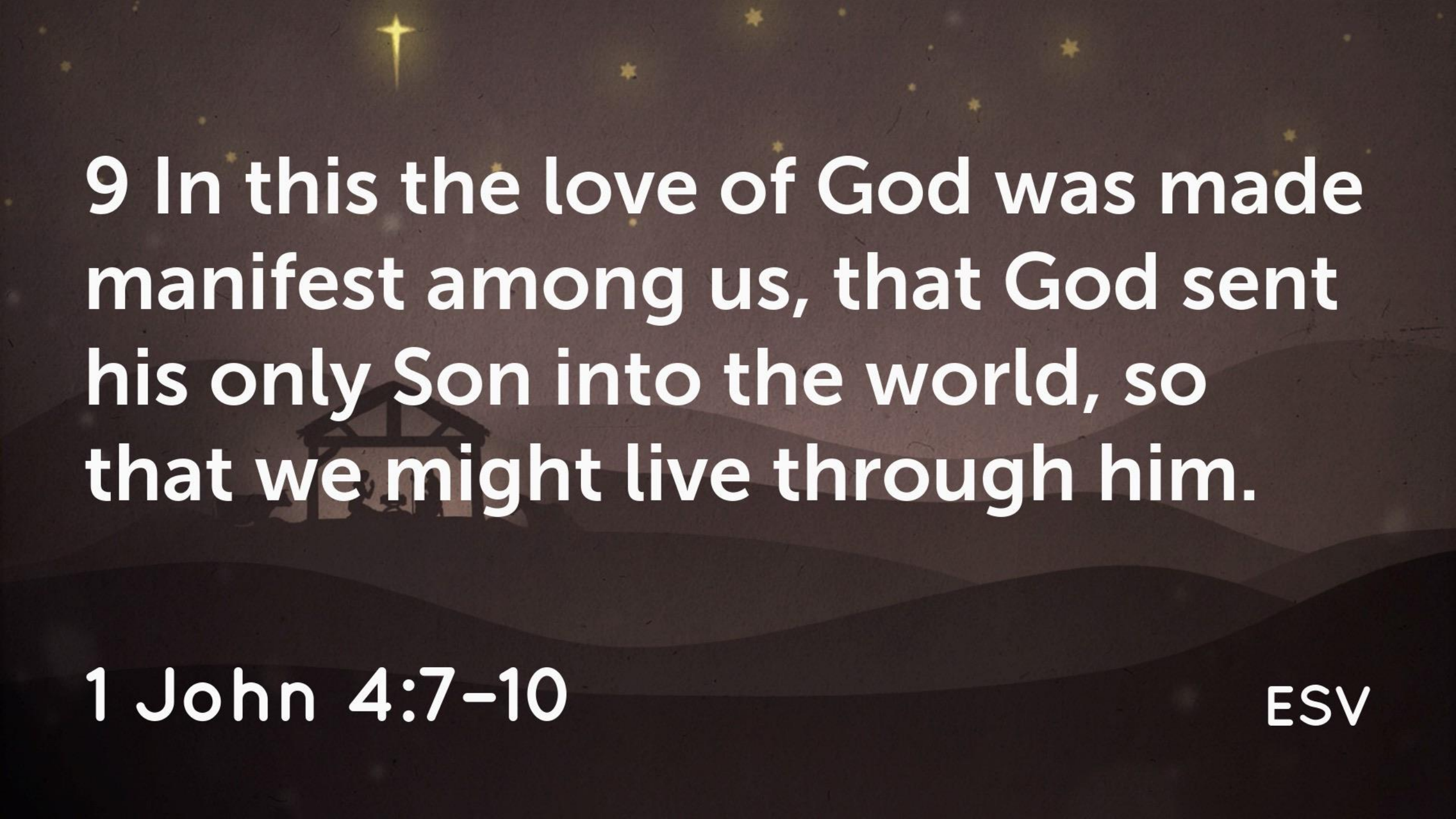
ESV

8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.



1 John 4:7-10

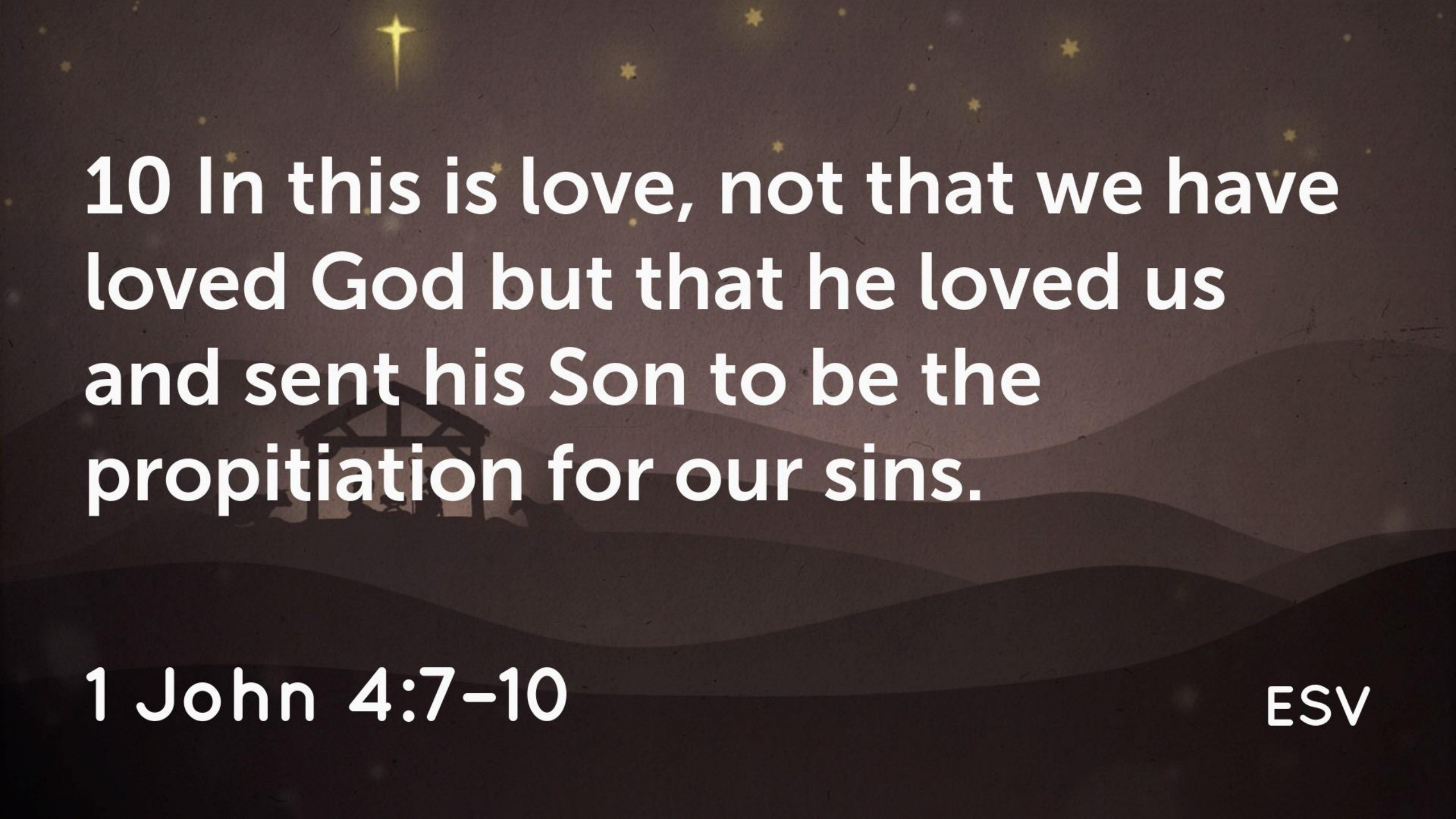
ESV



9 In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

1 John 4:7–10

ESV




10 In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins.

1 John 4:7-10

ESV



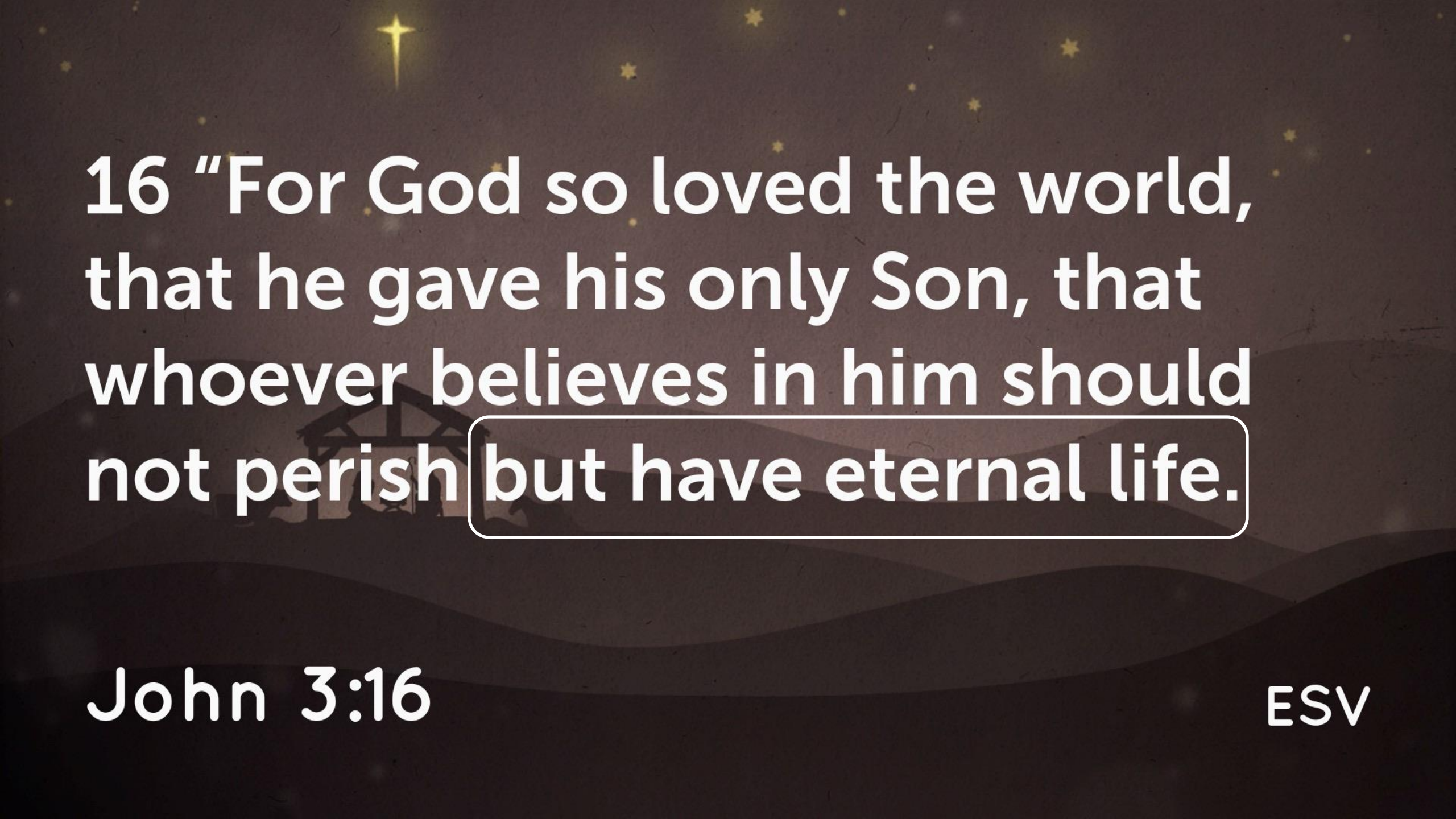
A silhouette of a nativity scene is visible in the background, showing Mary, Joseph, the infant Jesus in a manger, and the three wise men on camels, with a cow and donkey nearby. The scene is set against a dark, starry night sky with rolling hills in the foreground.

8 but God shows his love for us in
that while we were still sinners,
Christ died for us.

Romans 5:8

ESV






16 "For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only Son, that
whoever believes in him should
not perish but have eternal life.

John 3:16

ESV



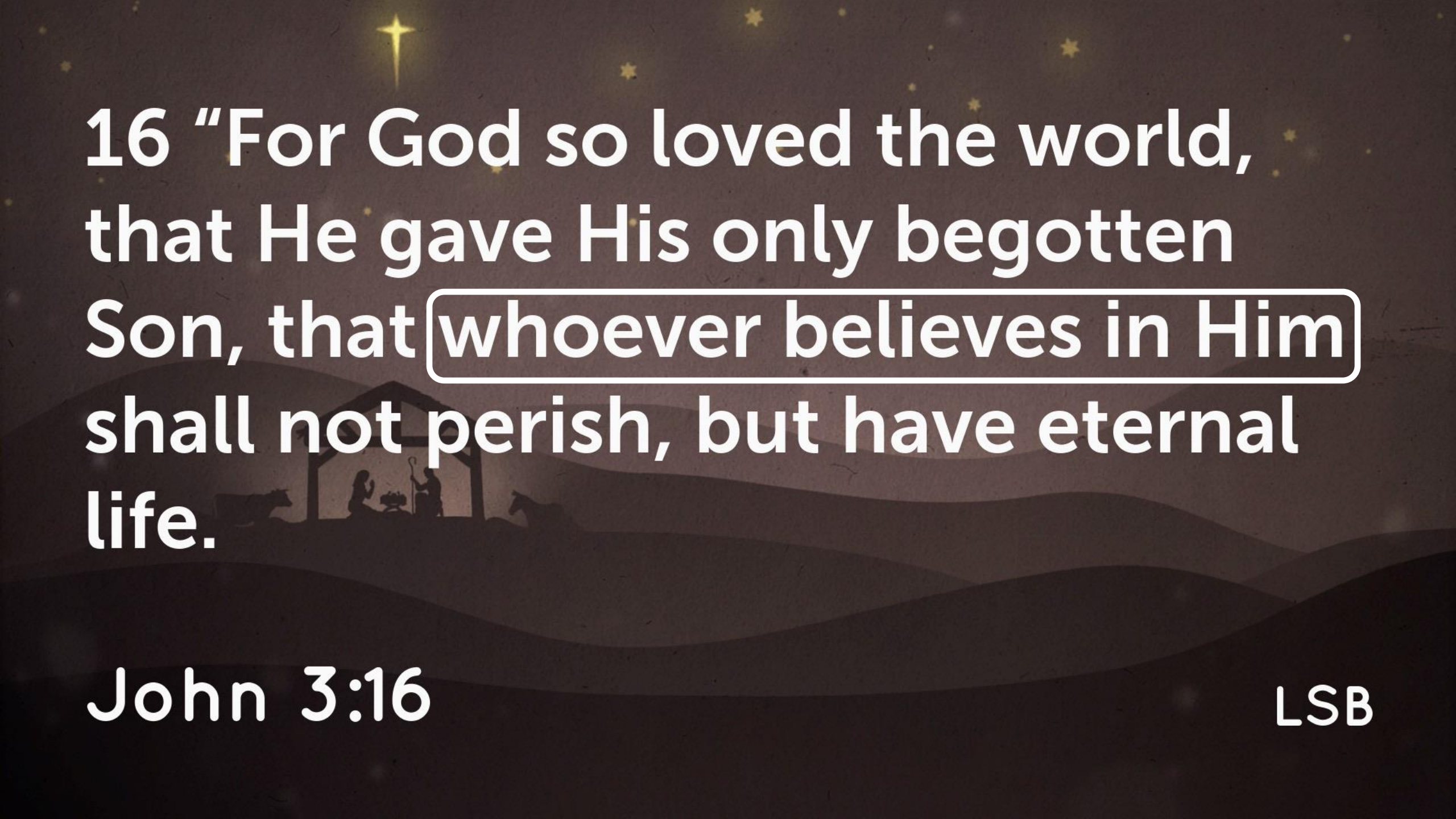
A silhouette of a nativity scene is visible in the background, showing Mary, Joseph, the infant Jesus in a manger, and two animals (an ox and a donkey) under a simple stable structure. The scene is set against a dark, starry night sky with rolling hills in the foreground.

3 And this is eternal life, that they
know you, the only true God, and
Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

John 17:3

ESV



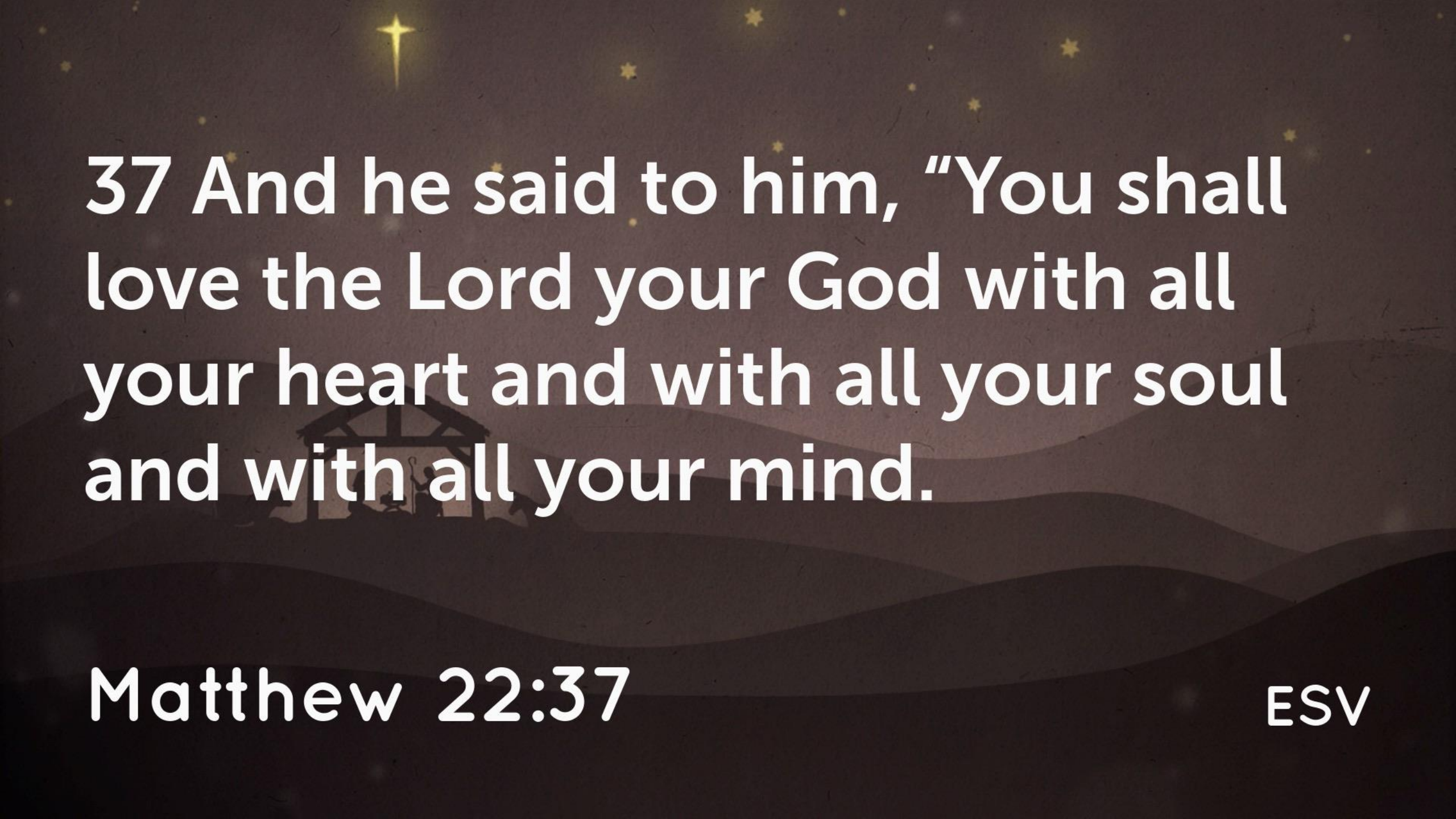


16 "For God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten
Son, that **whoever believes in Him**
shall not perish, but have eternal
life.

John 3:16

LSB





37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.

Matthew 22:37

ESV



**13 for “Whoever calls on the name
of the Lord will be saved.”**

Romans 10:13

LSB