

A close-up photograph of a person's hands clasped together over an open book. The person is wearing a dark, patterned long-sleeved shirt. The background is blurred, showing greenery and a path.

Held Together

2 Corinthians 5:13-15

Olivia Snow

A scenic landscape featuring a wooden cross mounted on a tall, weathered wooden post. The cross stands on a rocky, craggy peak. In the background, there's a large, dark blue lake with a small town built along its shore. Beyond the lake, a range of mountains with dense green forests stretches across the horizon under a sky filled with dramatic, white and grey clouds.

For Christ's love compels us

2 Corinthians 5:14 (NIV)

How does God's
love **change** you?

13 For if we are **beside ourselves**, it is for **God**;
if we are in our **right mind**, it is for **you**.

14 For the **love** of Christ **controls** us,
because we have concluded this:

2 Corinthians 5:13-15 (p.1/2) (ESV)

that **one** has died for all,
therefore **all** have died;

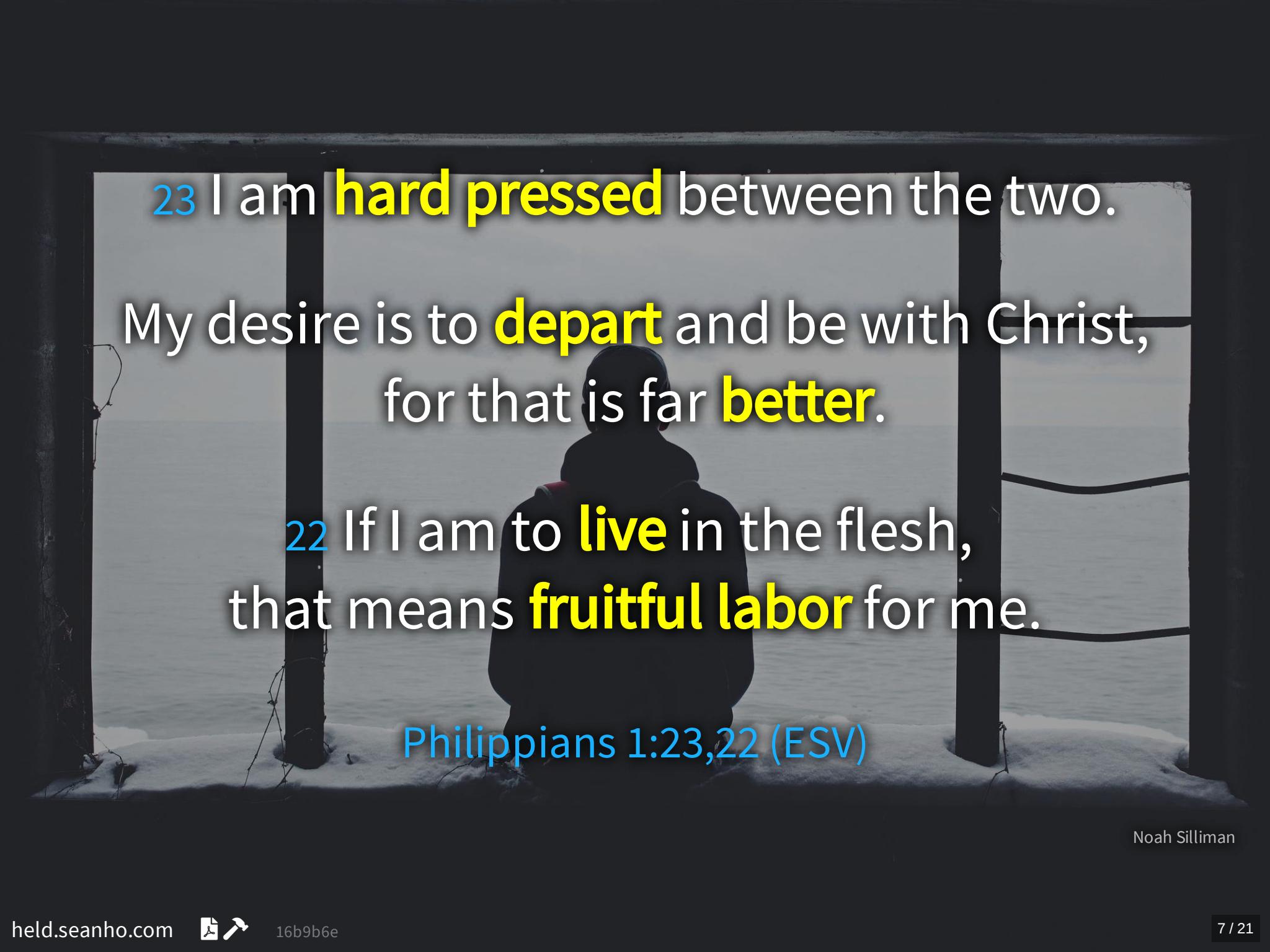
15 and he **died** for all, that those who live
might no longer live for **themselves**
but for **him** who for their sake
died and was **raised**.

2 Corinthians 5:13-15 (p.2/2) (ESV)



For the love of Christ **controls** us
(συνέχει: *holds together*)

2 Corinthians 5:14 (ESV)

A black and white photograph of a person from behind, sitting on a low wall or dock. They are looking out over a body of water towards a distant shoreline. The sky is clear and blue. The person is wearing a dark jacket.

23 I am **hard pressed** between the two.

My desire is to **depart** and be with Christ,
for that is far **better**.

22 If I am to **live** in the flesh,
that means **fruitful labor** for me.

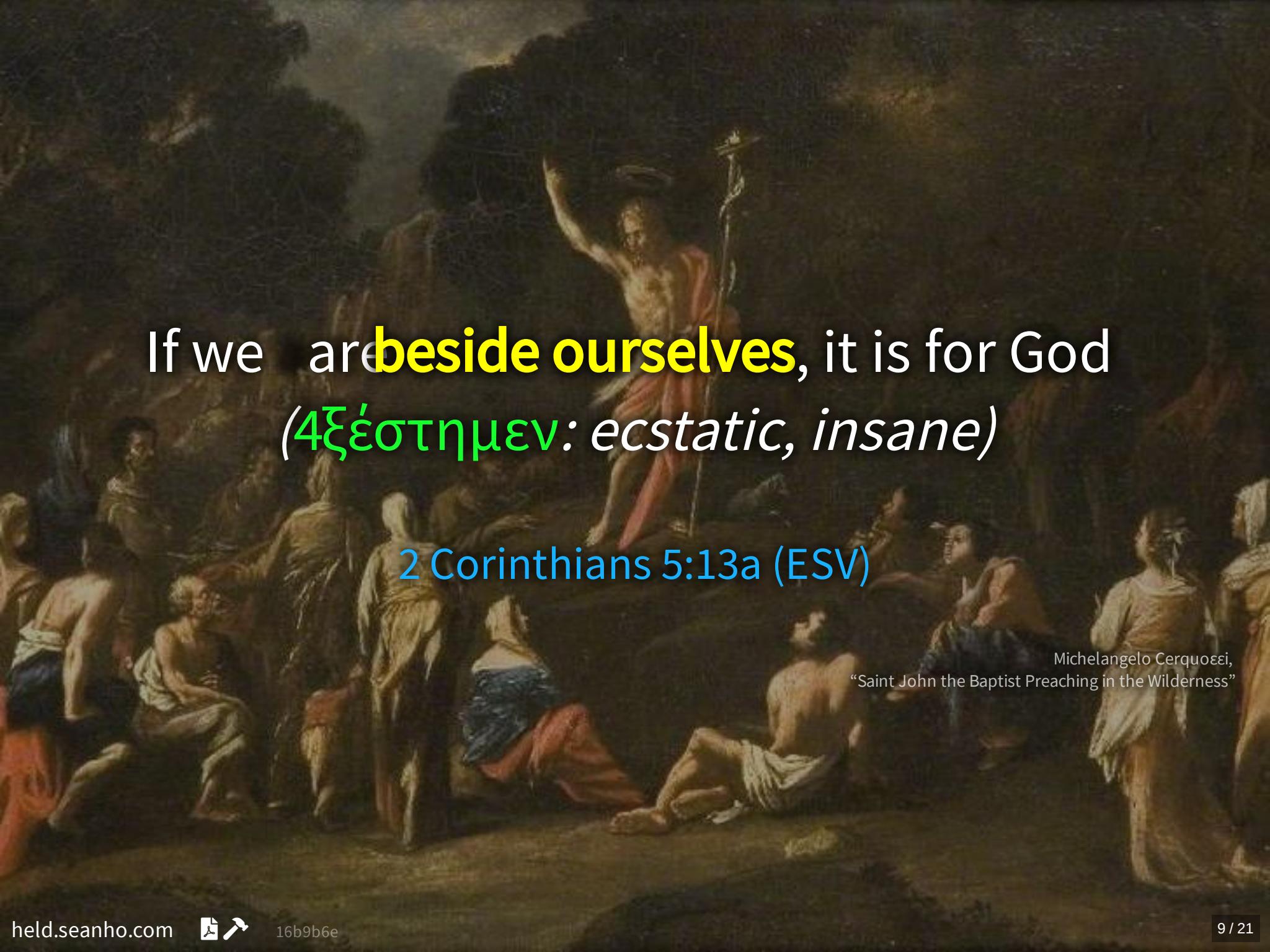
Philippians 1:23,22 (ESV)

Noah Silliman

A photograph of a person from the waist up, wearing a dark floral long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. They are holding their hands behind their head, with their fingers interlocked. The background is blurred greenery.

For the love of Christ **controls** us

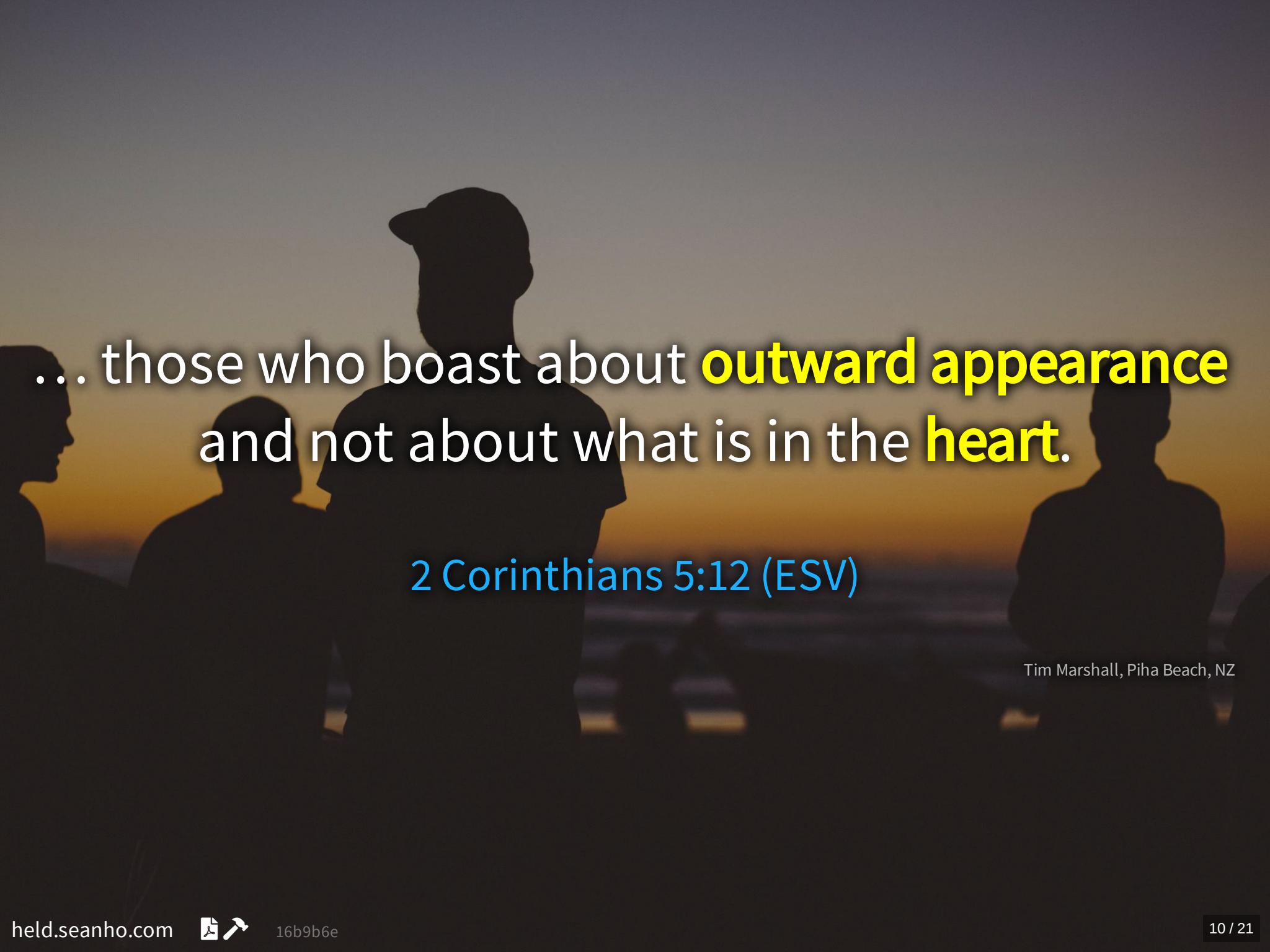
2 Corinthians 5:14 (ESV)

The background image is a painting titled "Saint John the Baptist Preaching in the Wilderness" by Michelangelo Cerquozzi. It depicts Saint John the Baptist standing on a rocky, craggy landscape, gesturing with his right hand while holding a long staff or reed in his left. He is surrounded by a group of people in various states of awe, some kneeling and prostrating themselves on the ground. The scene is set against a dark, dramatic sky with distant mountains.

If we are **beside ourselves**, it is for God
(*4ξέστημεν: ecstatic, insane*)

2 Corinthians 5:13a (ESV)

Michelangelo Cerquozzi,
“Saint John the Baptist Preaching in the Wilderness”

A photograph showing silhouettes of several people standing in a row against a warm, orange and yellow sunset sky. The foreground is dark, making the silhouettes stand out.

...those who boast about **outward appearance**
and not about what is in the **heart**.

2 Corinthians 5:12 (ESV)

Tim Marshall, Piha Beach, NZ



If we are beside ourselves, it is **for God**

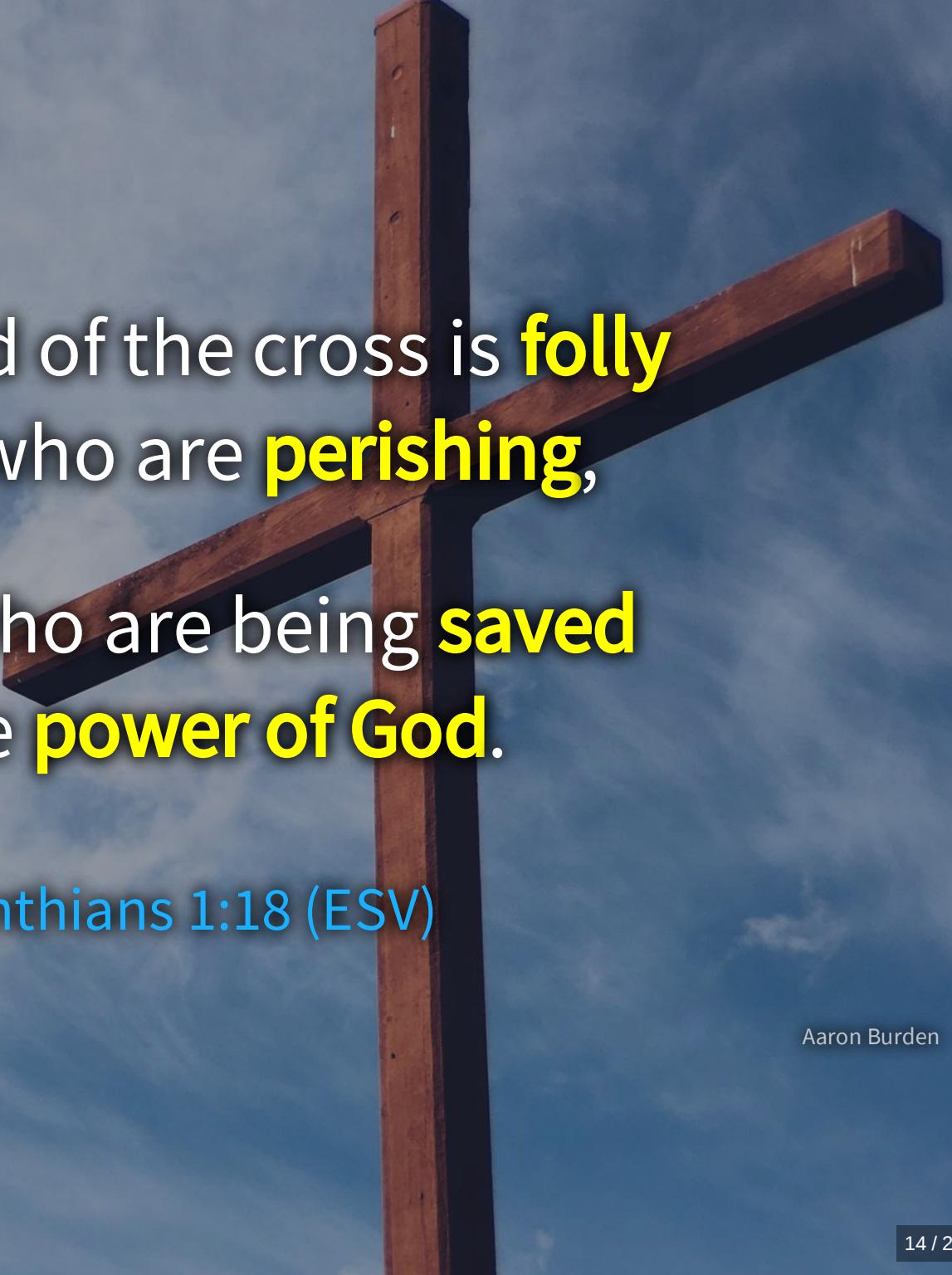
2 Corinthians 5:13a (ESV)

Amy Carmichael



Dr. John Sung



A large, dark wooden cross stands prominently against a backdrop of a blue sky filled with wispy white clouds. The cross is positioned vertically, with its horizontal beam extending towards the top right corner of the frame.

For the word of the cross is **folly**
to those who are **perishing**,

but to us who are being **saved**
it is the **power of God.**

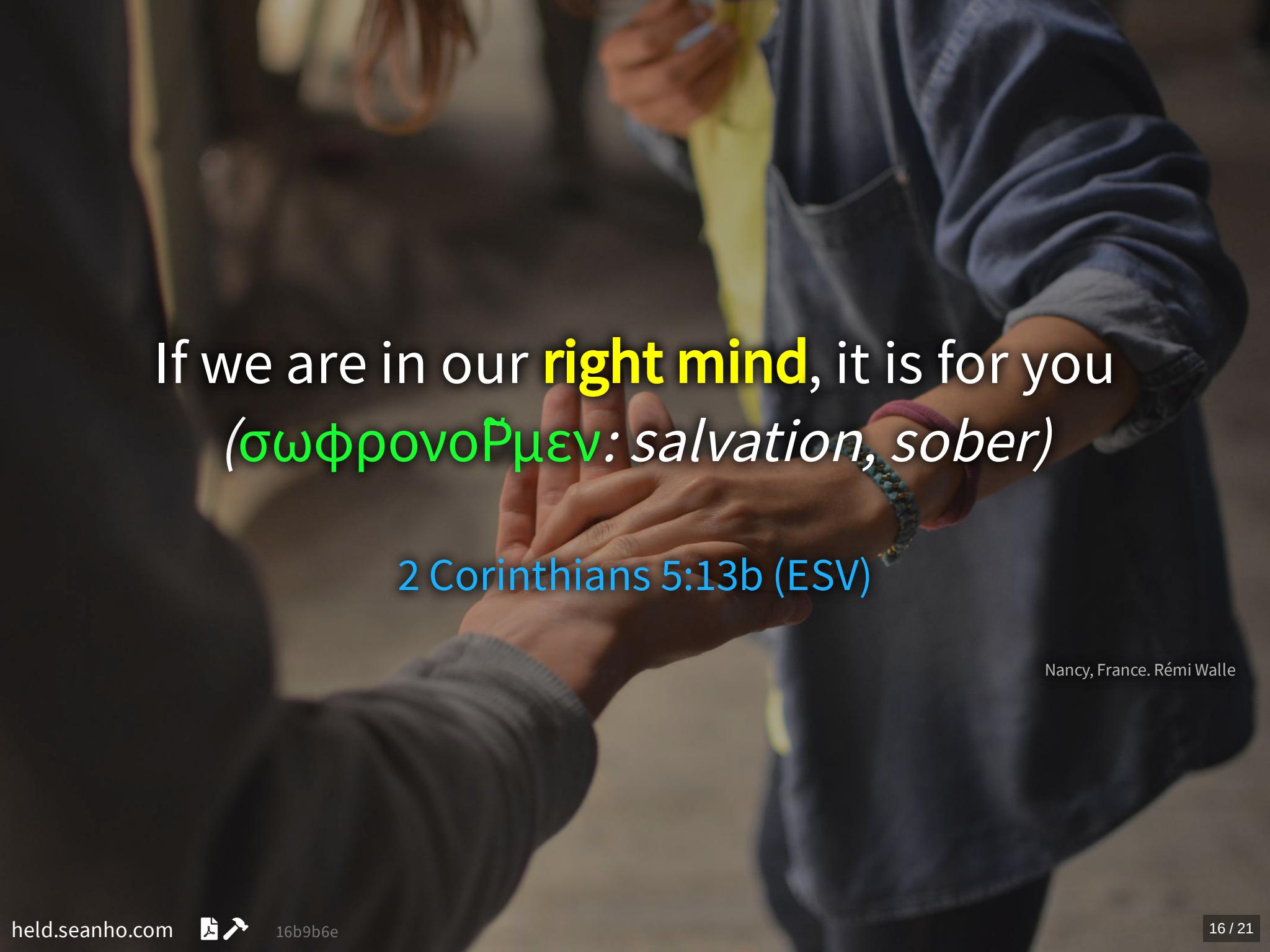
1 Corinthians 1:18 (ESV)

Aaron Burden

A photograph of a person from the waist up, wearing a dark floral long-sleeved shirt and dark pants. They are holding their hands behind their head, with their fingers interlocked. The background is blurred greenery.

For the love of Christ **controls** us

2 Corinthians 5:14 (ESV)



If we are in our **right mind**, it is for you
(σωφρονοῦμεν: *salvation, sober*)

2 Corinthians 5:13b (ESV)

Nancy, France. Rémi Walle



Likewise, urge the **younger** men
to be **self-controlled**.

7 Show yourself in all respects to be
a model of **good works**,
and in your teaching show
integrity, dignity, ⁸ and sound **speech**

Titus 2:6-8 (ESV)

Grenoble, France. Helloquence



... be **self-controlled**, ...
show **integrity**, **dignity**, and sound **speech**

Titus 2:6,7-8 (ESV)

Joshua Clay

**What holds you
together?**



For if we are **beside ourselves**, it is for **God**;
if we are in our **right mind**, it is for **you**.

14 For the **love** of Christ **controls** us

2 Corinthians 5:13-14 (ESV)

