




S E N T

part eight



¹⁴ Yet more and more people believed and were brought to the Lord—crowds of both men and women.

Acts 5:14 NLT




¹⁷ The high priest and his officials, who were Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. ¹⁸ They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. ¹⁹ But an angel of the Lord came at night, opened the gates of the jail, and brought them out.

Acts 5:17-21a NLT



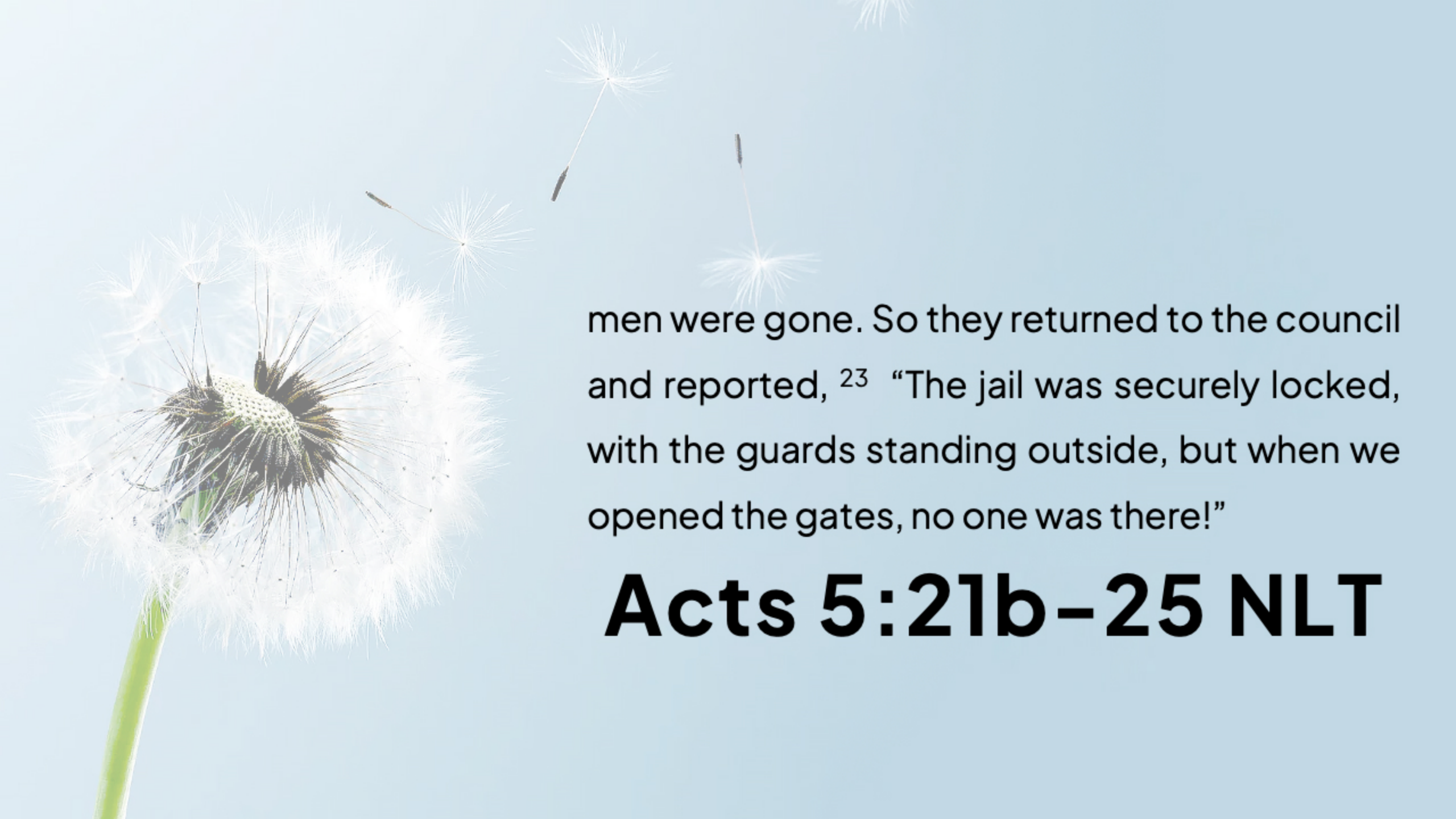
Then he told them, ²⁰ “Go to the Temple and give the people this message of life!” ²¹ So at daybreak the apostles entered the Temple, as they were told, and immediately began teaching.

Acts 5:17–21a NLT



When the high priest and his officials arrived, they convened the high council—the full assembly of the elders of Israel. Then they sent for the apostles to be brought from the jail for trial. ²² But when the Temple guards went to the jail, the

Acts 5:21b–25 NLT




men were gone. So they returned to the council and reported, ²³ “The jail was securely locked, with the guards standing outside, but when we opened the gates, no one was there!”

Acts 5:21b–25 NLT




²⁴ When the captain of the Temple guard and the leading priests heard this, they were perplexed, wondering where it would all end. ²⁵ Then someone arrived with startling news: “The men you put in jail are standing in the Temple, teaching the people!”

Acts 5:21b-25 NLT




³³ When they heard this, the high council was furious and decided to kill them. ³⁴ But one member, a Pharisee named Gamaliel, who was an expert in religious law and respected by all the people, stood up and ordered that the men be sent outside the

Acts 5:33-39 NLT



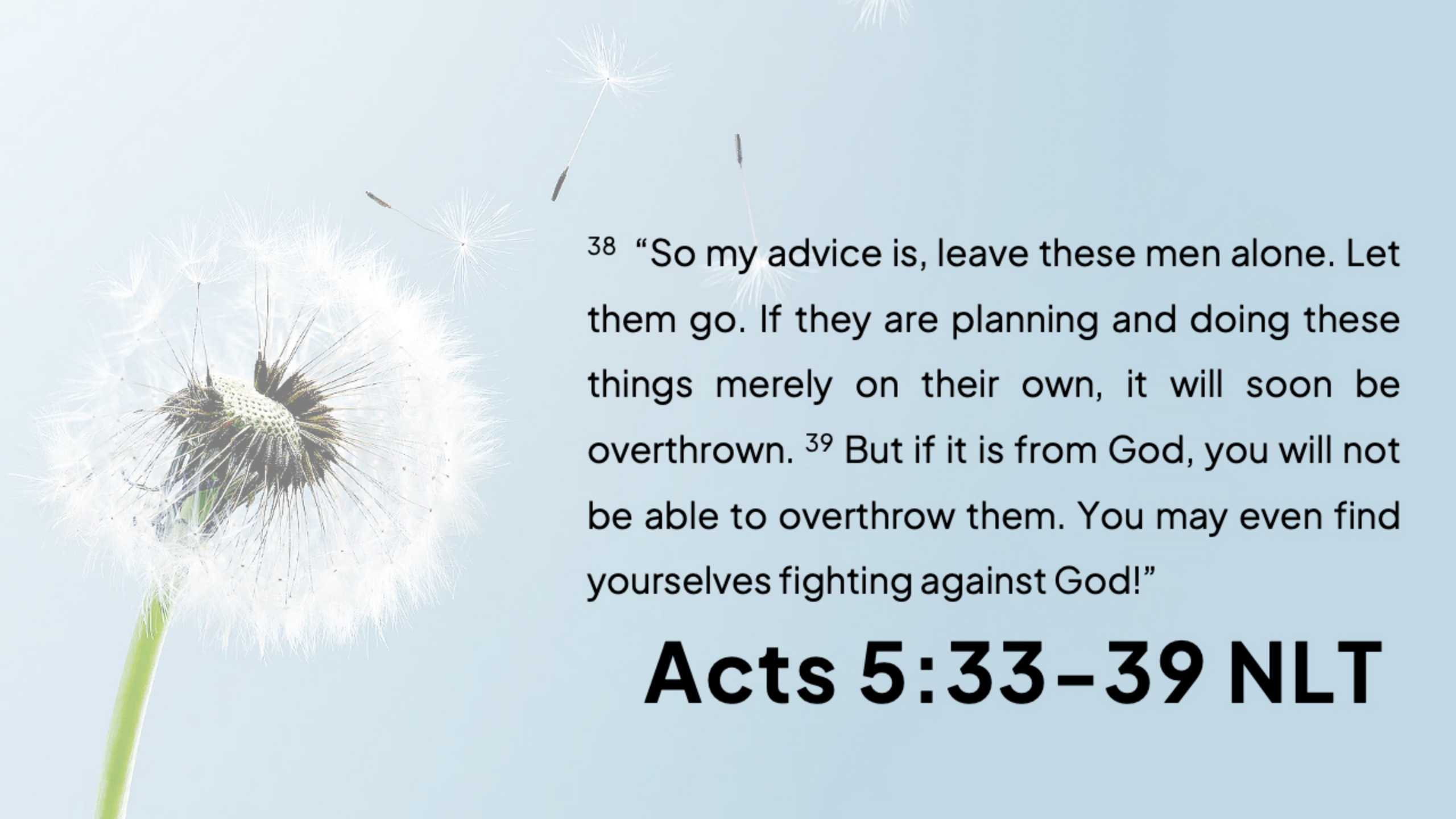
council chamber for a while. 35 Then he said to his colleagues, “Men of Israel, take care what you are planning to do to these men! ³⁶ Some time ago there was that fellow Theudas, who pretended to be someone great. About 400 others joined him, but he was killed, and all his followers

Acts 5:33–39 NLT



went their various ways. The whole movement came to nothing.³⁷ After him, at the time of the census, there was Judas of Galilee. He got people to follow him, but he was killed, too, and all his followers were scattered.”

Acts 5:33–39 NLT




³⁸ “So my advice is, leave these men alone. Let them go. If they are planning and doing these things merely on their own, it will soon be overthrown. ³⁹ But if it is from God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You may even find yourselves fighting against God!”

Acts 5:33–39 NLT



This message of life can be illustrated by light vs. darkness.



⁵ This is the message we heard from Jesus and now declare to you: God is light, and there is no darkness in him at all. ⁶ So we are lying if we say we have fellowship with God but go on living in spiritual

1 John 1:5-7 NLT



darkness; we are not practicing the truth.⁷ But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.


1 John 1:5-7 NLT



Instead of running through the **darkness** we get to walk down a path that is lit and it is lit by the **presence** of the Lord Himself.



This message of life can be illustrated by **broad** vs. **narrow**.

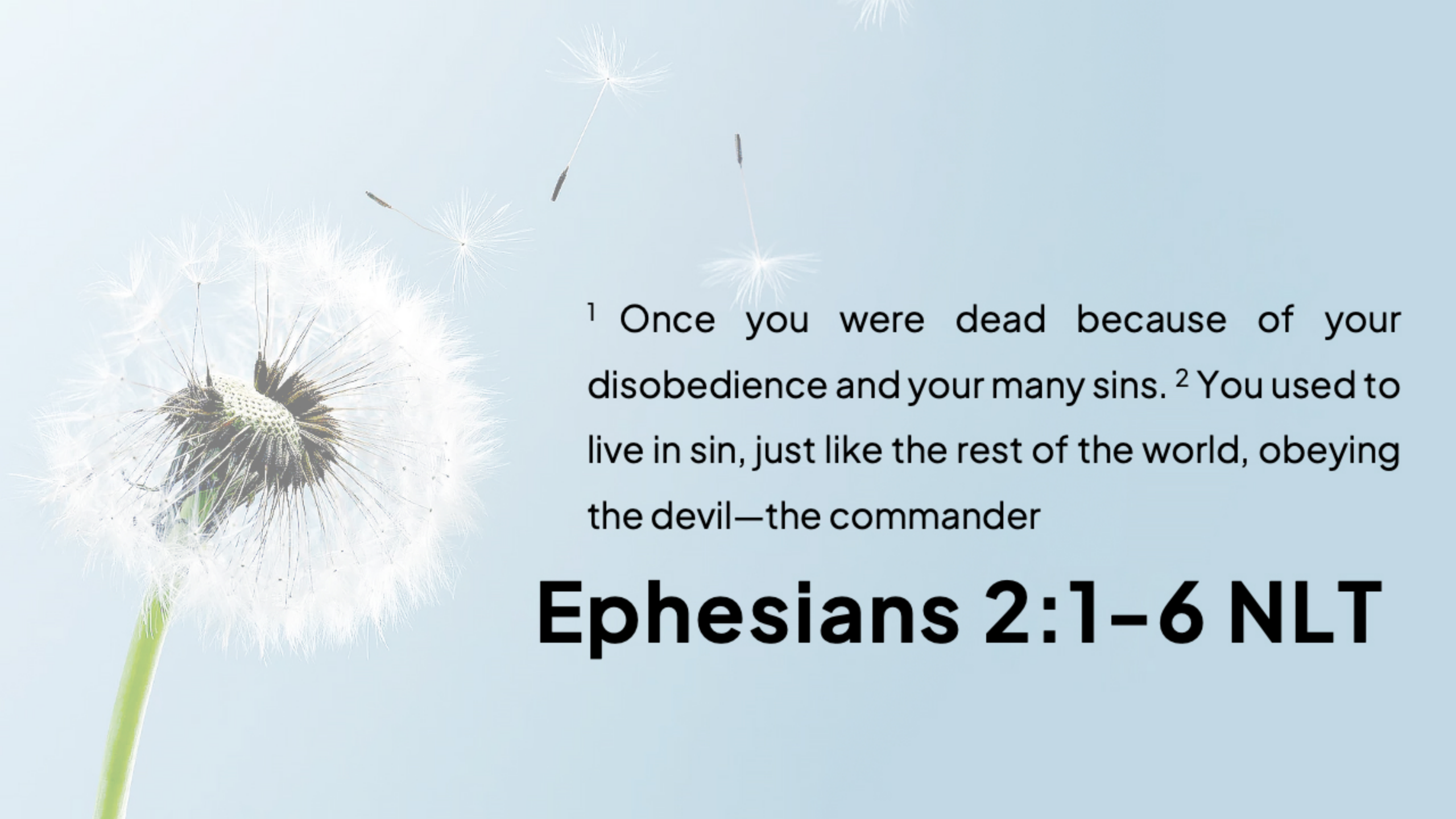


¹³ “You can enter God’s Kingdom only through the narrow gate. The highway to hell is broad, and its gate is wide for the many who choose that way. ¹⁴ But the gateway to life is very narrow and the road is difficult, and only a few ever find it.”

Matthew 7:13-14 NLT




This message of life can be illustrated by death vs. life.




¹ Once you were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins. ² You used to live in sin, just like the rest of the world, obeying the devil—the commander

Ephesians 2:1–6 NLT



of the powers in the unseen world. He is the spirit at work in the hearts of those who refuse to obey God. ³All of us used to live that way, following the passionate desires and inclinations of our sinful nature. By our very nature we were subject to God's anger, just like everyone else.

Ephesians 2:1-6 NLT



⁴ But God is so rich in mercy, and he loved us so much, ⁵ that even though we were dead because of our sins, he gave us life when he raised Christ from the dead. (It is only by God's grace that you have been saved!) ⁶ For he raised us from the dead along with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:1-6 NLT



The Bible doesn't teach us that there are good people and bad people. It teaches us that there are bad people that can be forgiven by a very good God.