


# Sermons from the Gospel of Luke



# **Awakening**

## **Luke 2:22-38**

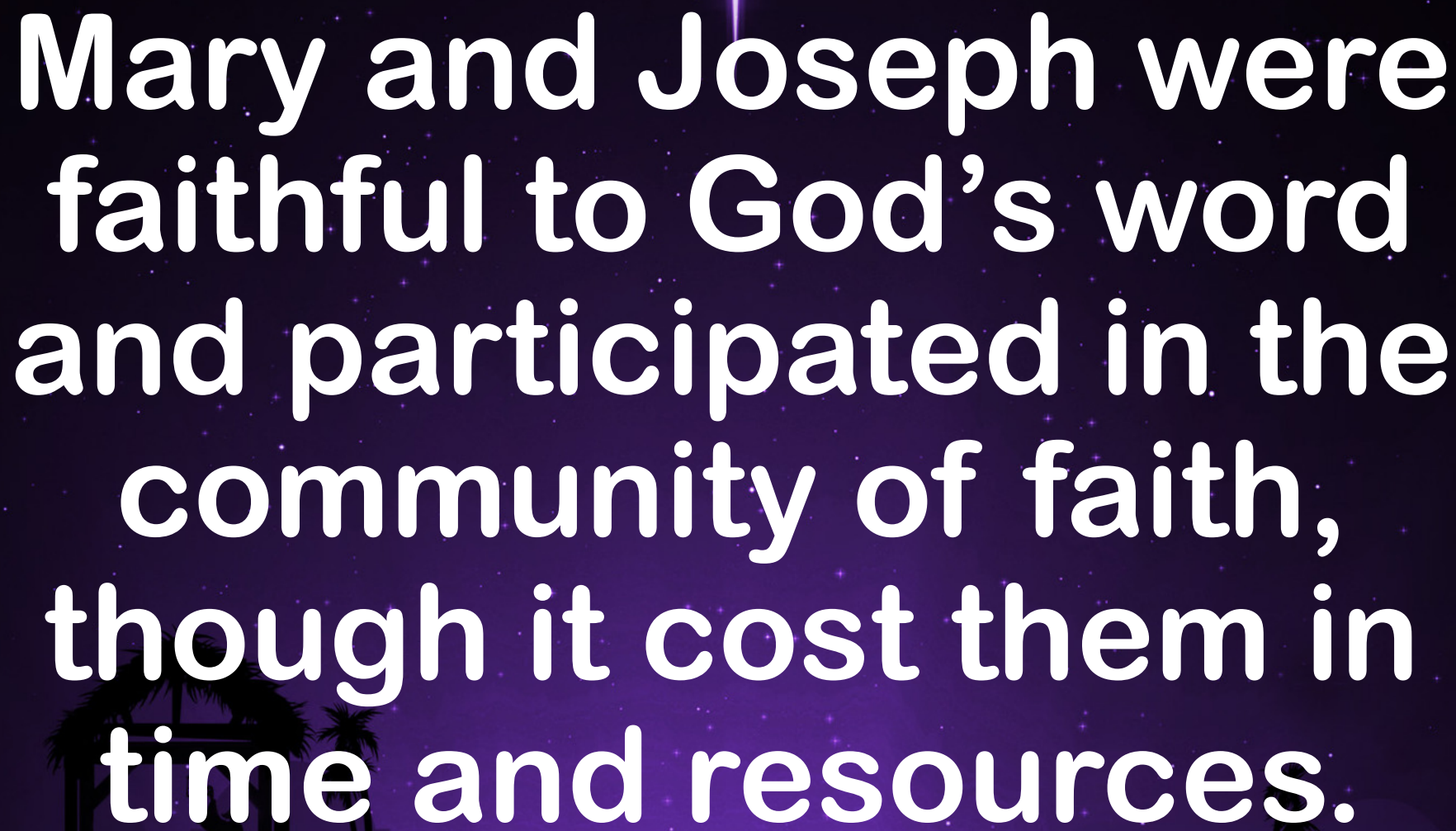




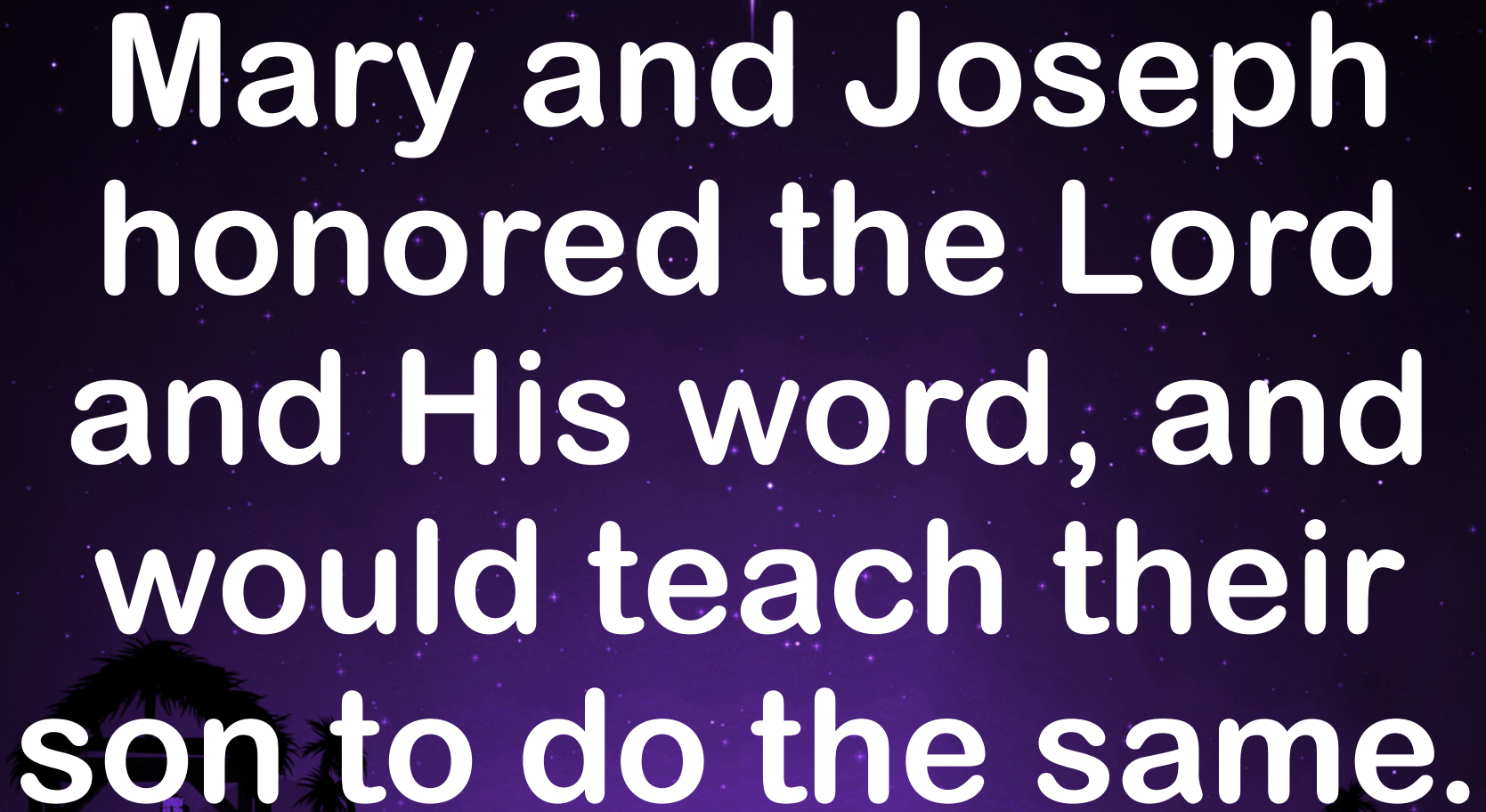
1. The spiritual  
awakening occurred  
as Mary and Joseph  
practiced their religion  
with their small family.

2:21-24



The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, twinkling stars. A single, very bright star with a multi-pointed starburst effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of palm trees and a building with a prominent archway. The overall scene is serene and evokes a sense of a quiet night in a tropical or coastal setting.

Mary and Joseph were faithful to God's word and participated in the community of faith, though it cost them in time and resources.

The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, twinkling stars. A single, very bright star with a multi-pointed starburst effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of a landscape. On the left, a manger scene is depicted with a person kneeling and another standing. In the center and right, there are silhouettes of hills and palm trees.

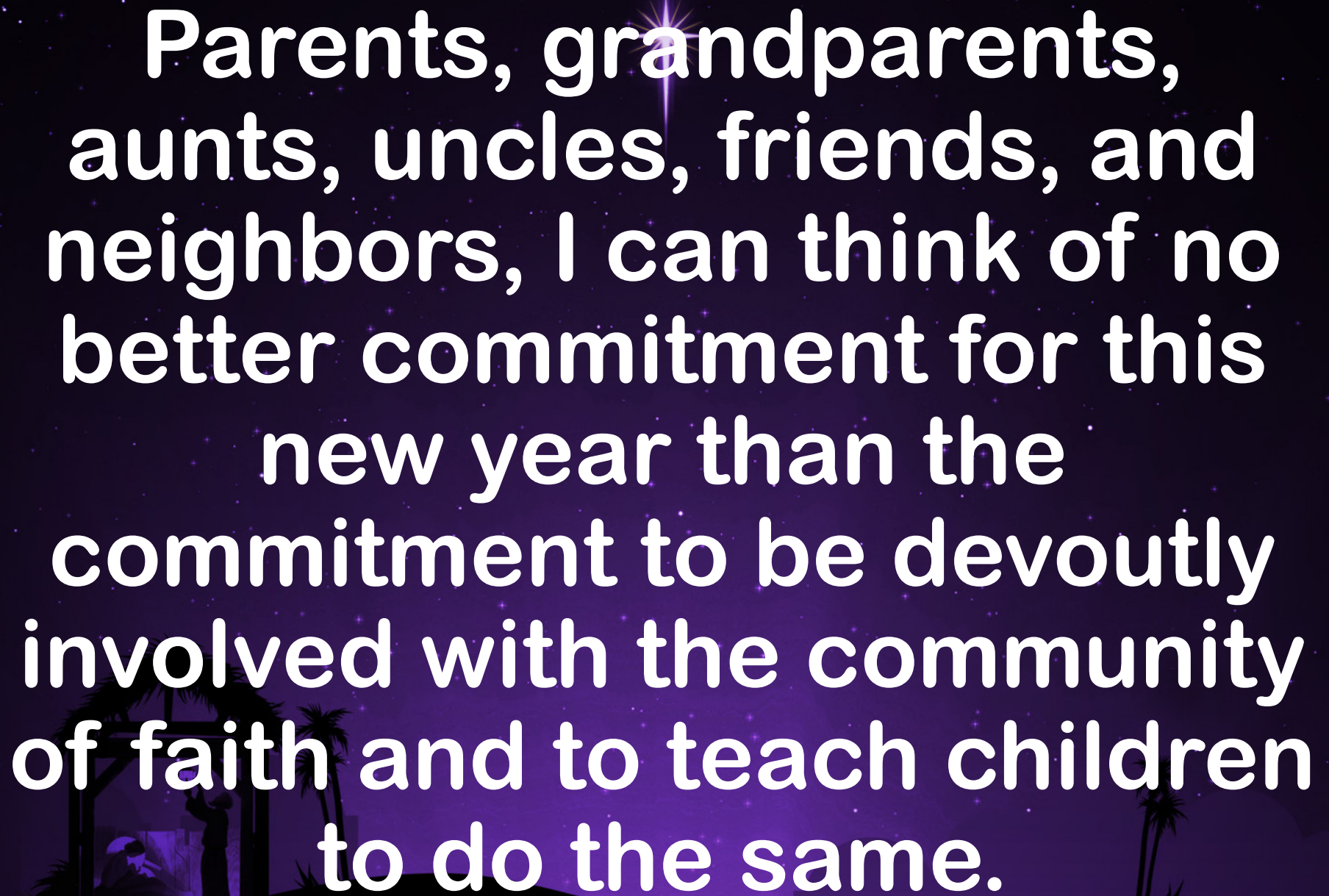
Mary and Joseph  
honored the Lord  
and His word, and  
would teach their  
son to do the same.

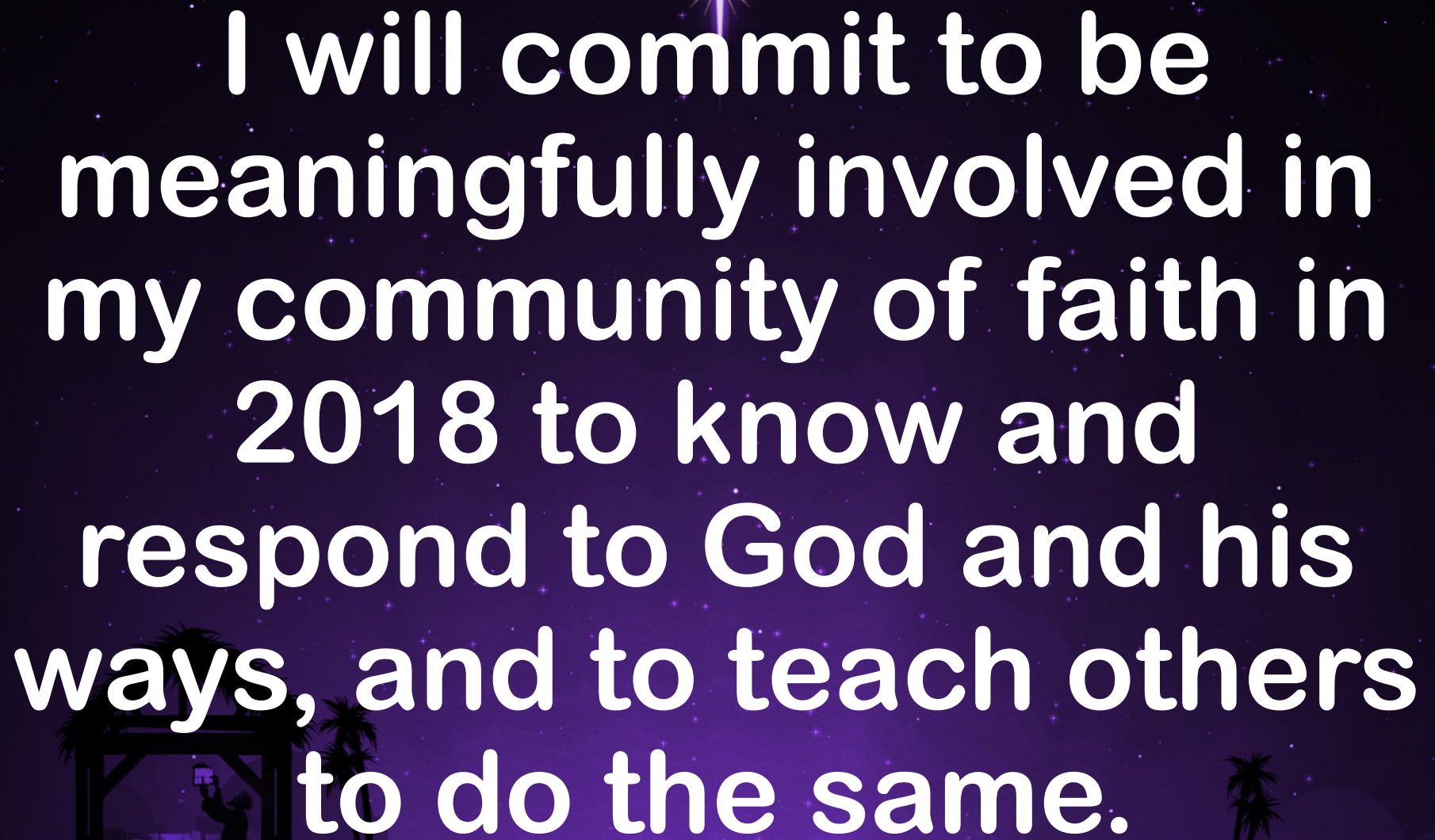
# 2006 National Spelling Bee



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Alex Wong


Parents, grandparents,  
aunts, uncles, friends, and  
neighbors, I can think of no  
better commitment for this  
new year than the  
commitment to be devoutly  
involved with the community  
of faith and to teach children  
to do the same.

The background features a dark purple and blue gradient with a bright starburst effect at the top center. In the lower-left corner, there are silhouettes of people gathered around a table, possibly in a church or community setting, with palm trees visible in the background. The overall scene is set against a dark, starry night sky.

The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, distant stars. A single, very bright star with a multi-pointed starburst effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of a landscape. On the left, a church building with a steeple is visible, with a person standing near the entrance. To the right, there are several palm trees. The overall scene is peaceful and spiritual.


**I will commit to be  
meaningfully involved in  
my community of faith in  
2018 to know and  
respond to God and his  
ways, and to teach others  
to do the same.**






2. The spiritual  
awakening was to  
the scope of Jesus'  
mission. 2:25-32, 38

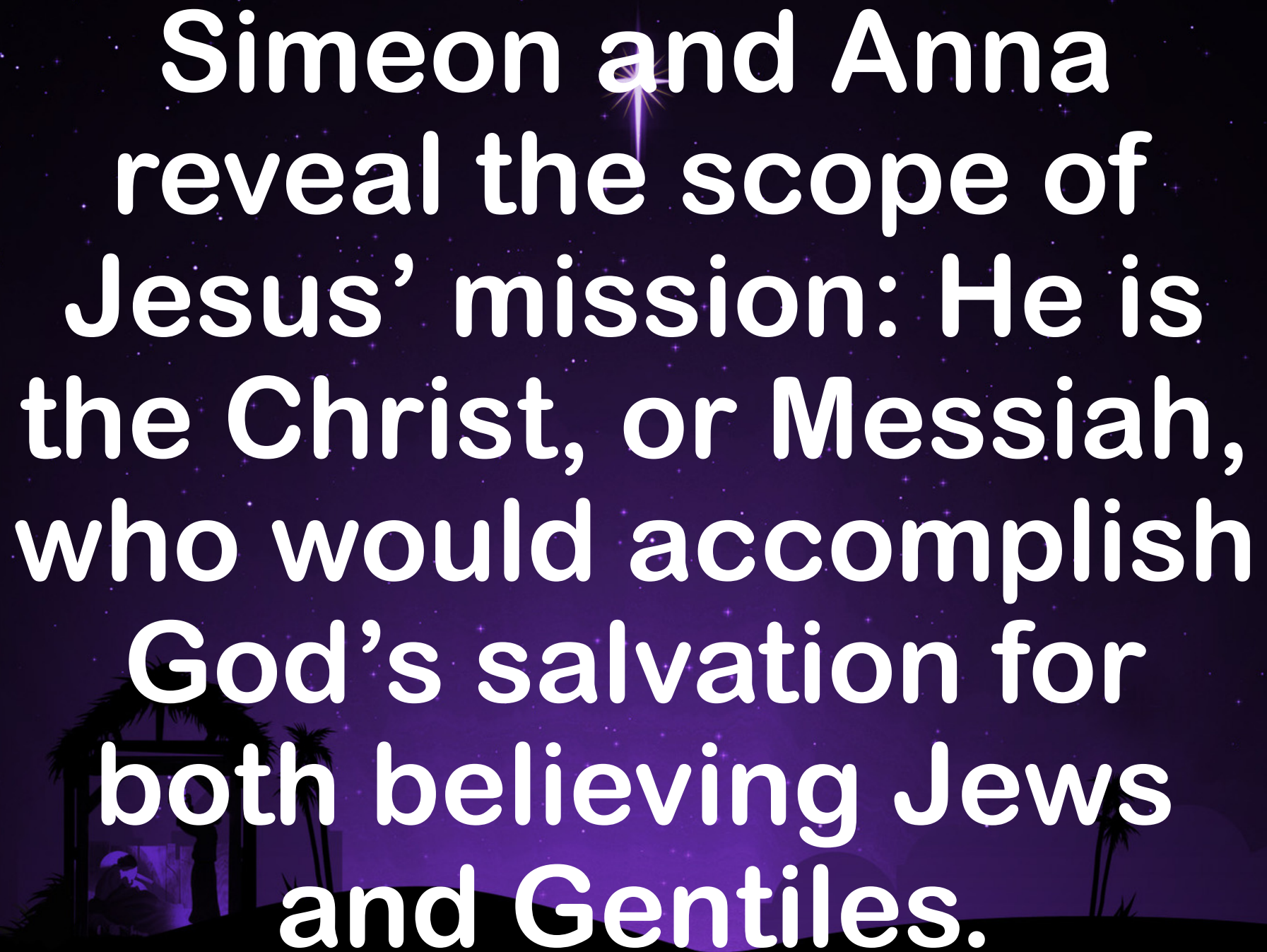


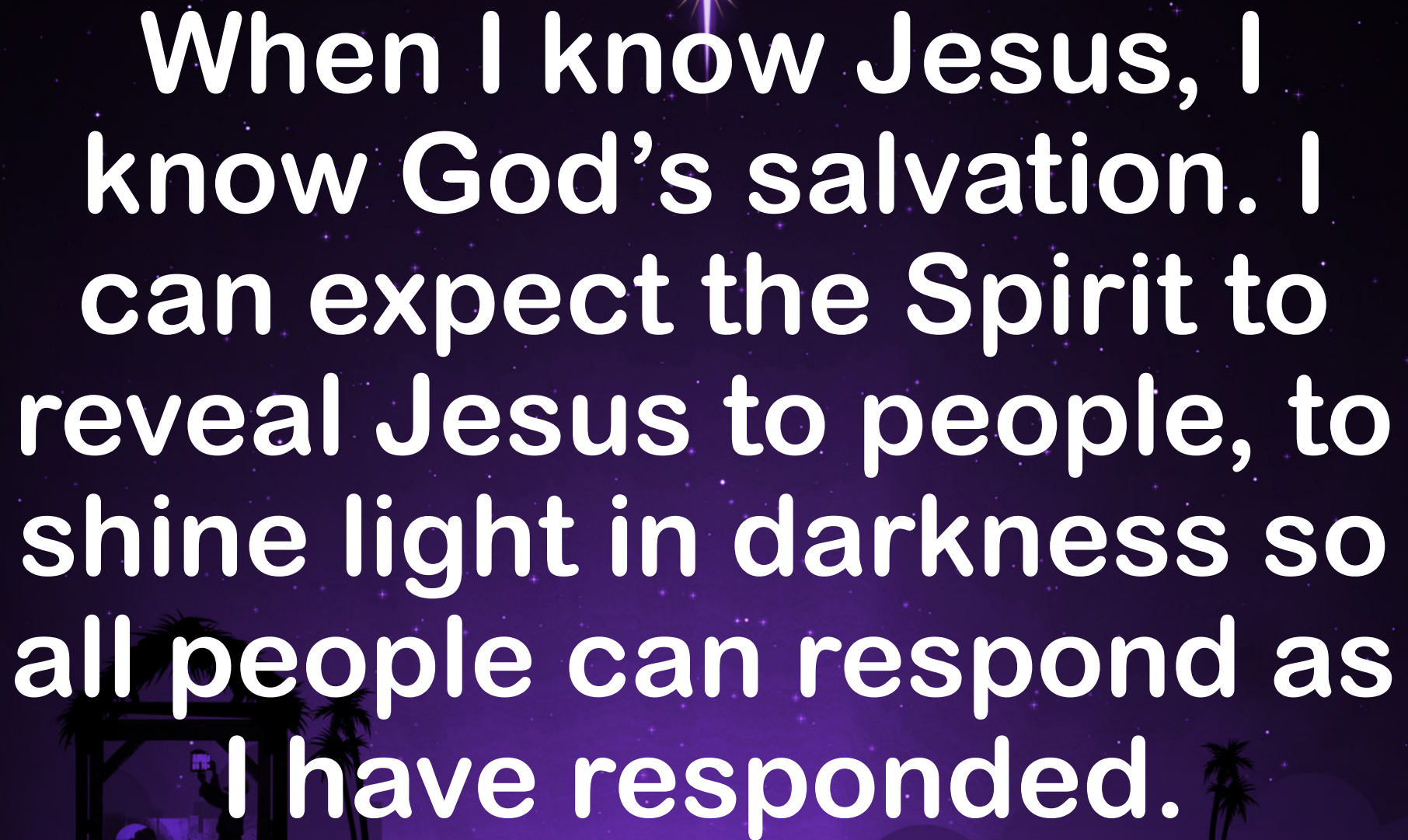


Simeon and Anna  
received and acted  
on God's word  
revealed to them by  
the Holy Spirit.

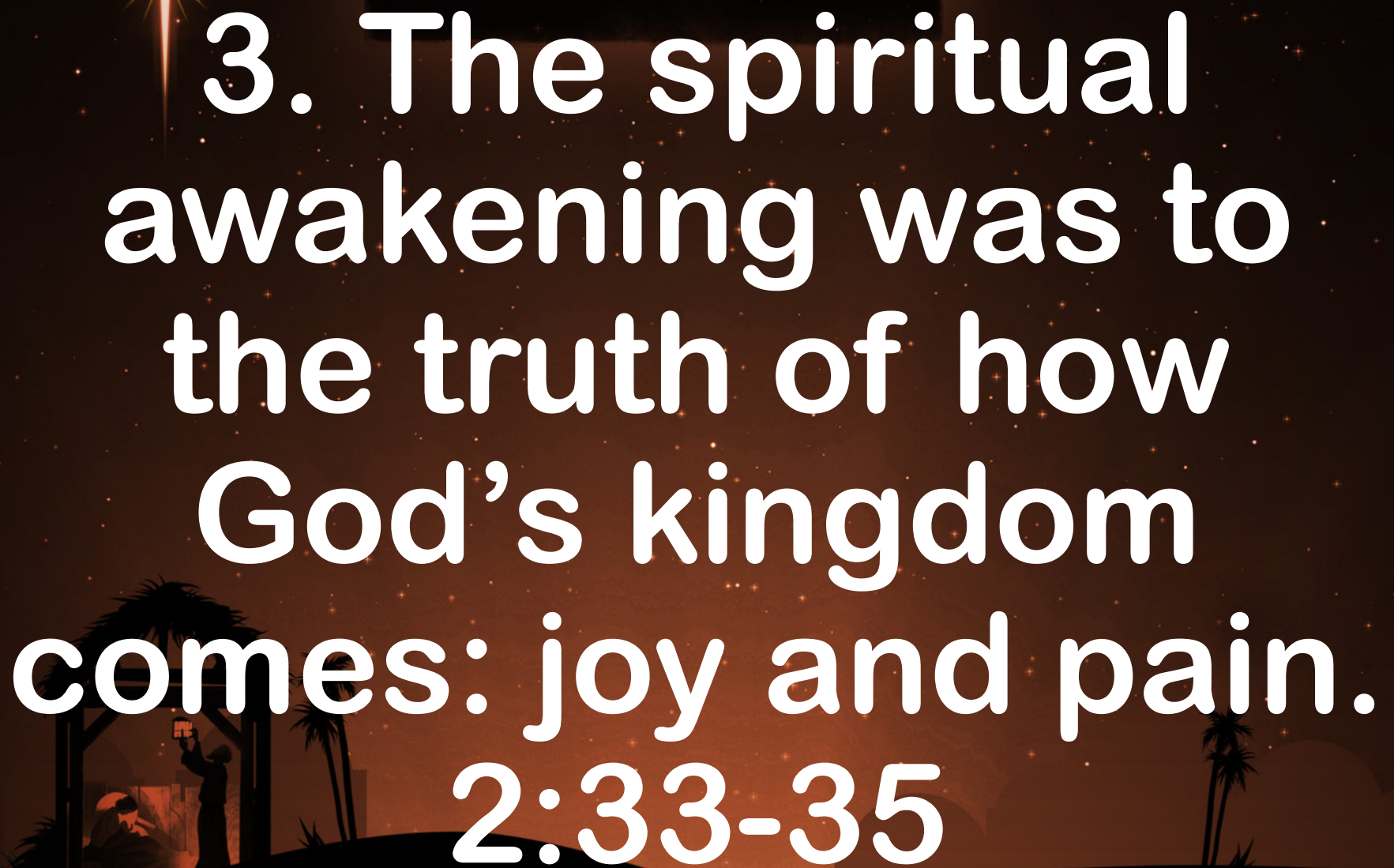


Simeon and Anna  
reveal the scope of  
Jesus' mission: He is  
the Christ, or Messiah,  
who would accomplish  
God's salvation for  
both believing Jews  
and Gentiles.

The background features a dark purple and black night sky filled with small white stars. A prominent, bright starburst with a purple and white glow is positioned near the top center. In the lower-left corner, there is a silhouette of a building with a palm tree in front of it. In the lower-right corner, another palm tree silhouette is visible. The overall scene is a stylized, atmospheric representation of a night sky.



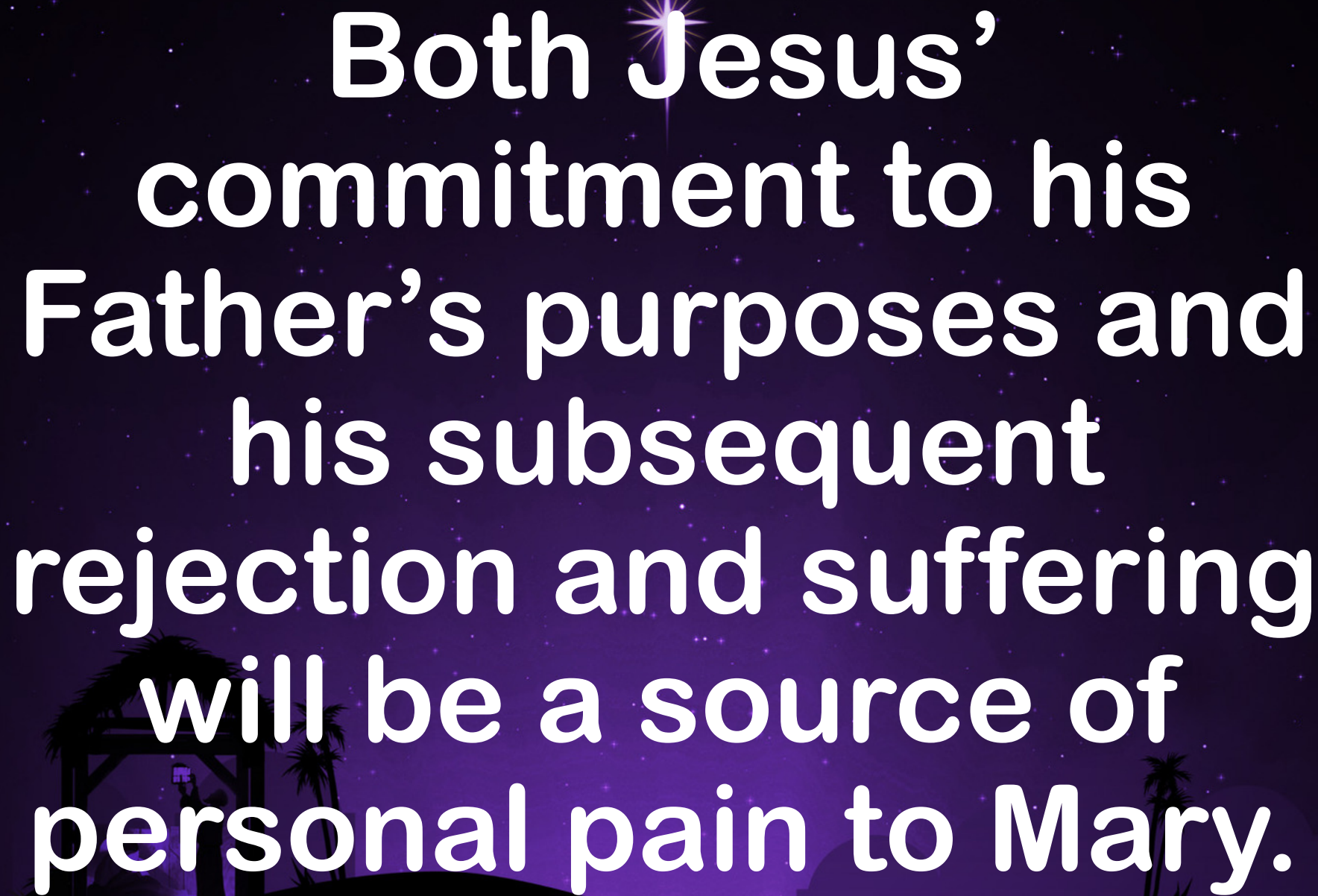
When I know Jesus, I know God's salvation. I can expect the Spirit to reveal Jesus to people, to shine light in darkness so all people can respond as I have responded.

The background of the slide is a dark, starry night sky. A prominent, bright star with a multi-pointed flare is located in the upper left quadrant. In the lower portion of the image, there are silhouettes of palm trees and a person standing under a small structure, possibly a gazebo or a simple shelter, holding a light. The overall color palette is dark with warm, golden-brown highlights from the star and the ground silhouettes.

**3. The spiritual  
awakening was to  
the truth of how  
God's kingdom  
comes: joy and pain.  
2:33-35**

God's loving purpose  
of accomplishing the  
salvation of humanity  
will be triumphant but  
costly, causing the  
rejection and death of  
the Son.



The background is a dark purple night sky filled with small, twinkling stars. A prominent, bright starburst with a lens flare effect is positioned at the top center. In the lower portion of the image, there are dark silhouettes of palm trees and a building with a dome, possibly a church or a historical structure, set against a dark horizon line.

**Both Jesus'  
commitment to his  
Father's purposes and  
his subsequent  
rejection and suffering  
will be a source of  
personal pain to Mary.**

When I encounter  
and respond to  
God's kingdom, I will  
experience the  
paradox of joy and  
pain.







**Will I alter my life in  
2018 to conform to  
Jesus Christ and his  
cross?**

