

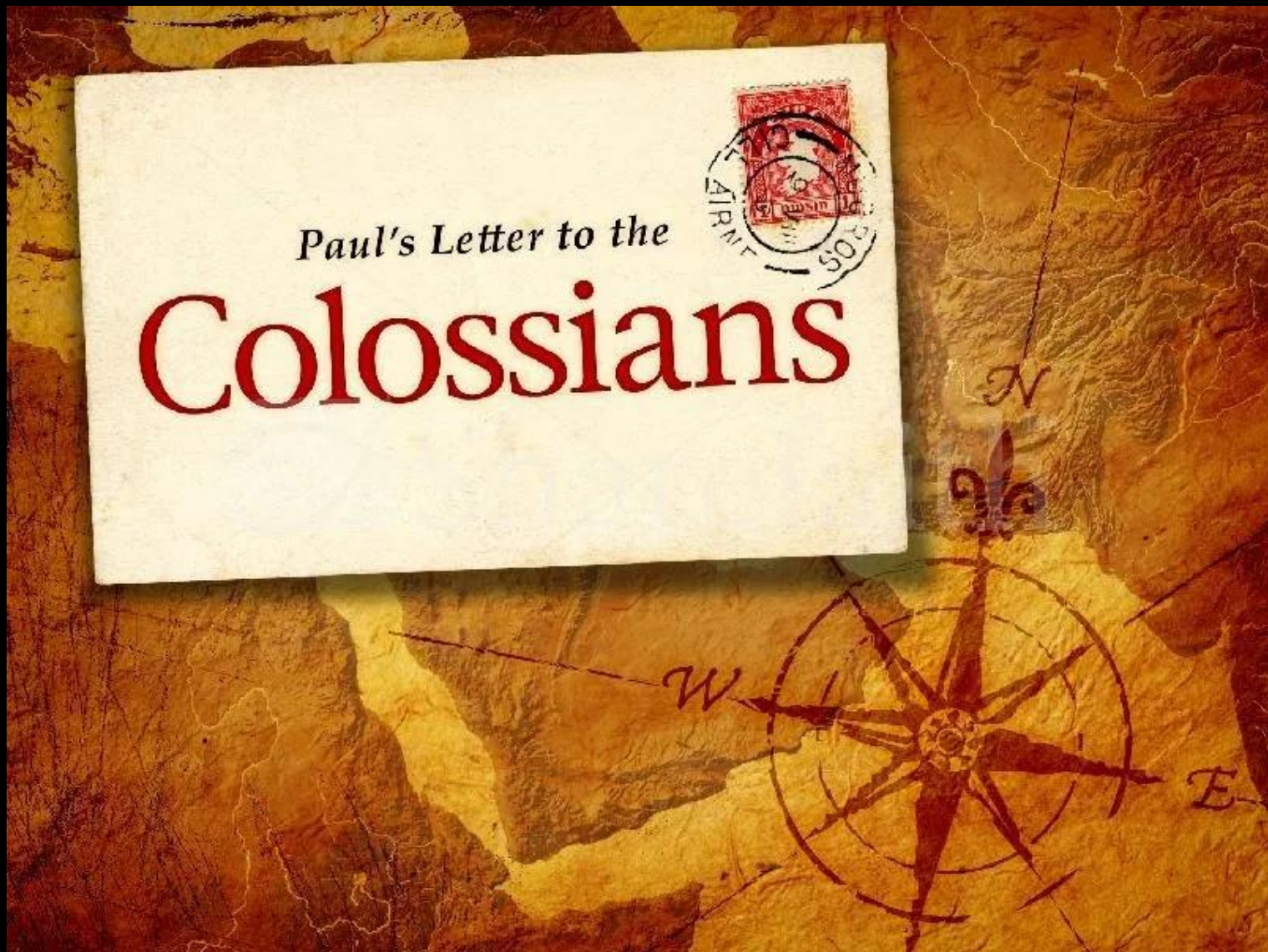
An aerial view of Prague, Czech Republic, at sunset. The city is illuminated with warm golden light, highlighting the red-tiled roofs and historic architecture. The Vltava River flows through the center, with the Charles Bridge and other bridges visible. A large green dome is prominent on the left side of the image.

WELCOME
to the
International Baptist Church
of Prague

SUNDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2020



SERMON



Colossians 1:15-23

“The Supremacy of Christ Jesus”

COLOSSIANS 1:15-23

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him.

¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

COLOSSIANS 1:15-23

¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

COLOSSIANS 1:15-23

²¹ Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behaviour.

²² But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation – ²³ if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel.

COLOSSIANS 1:15-23

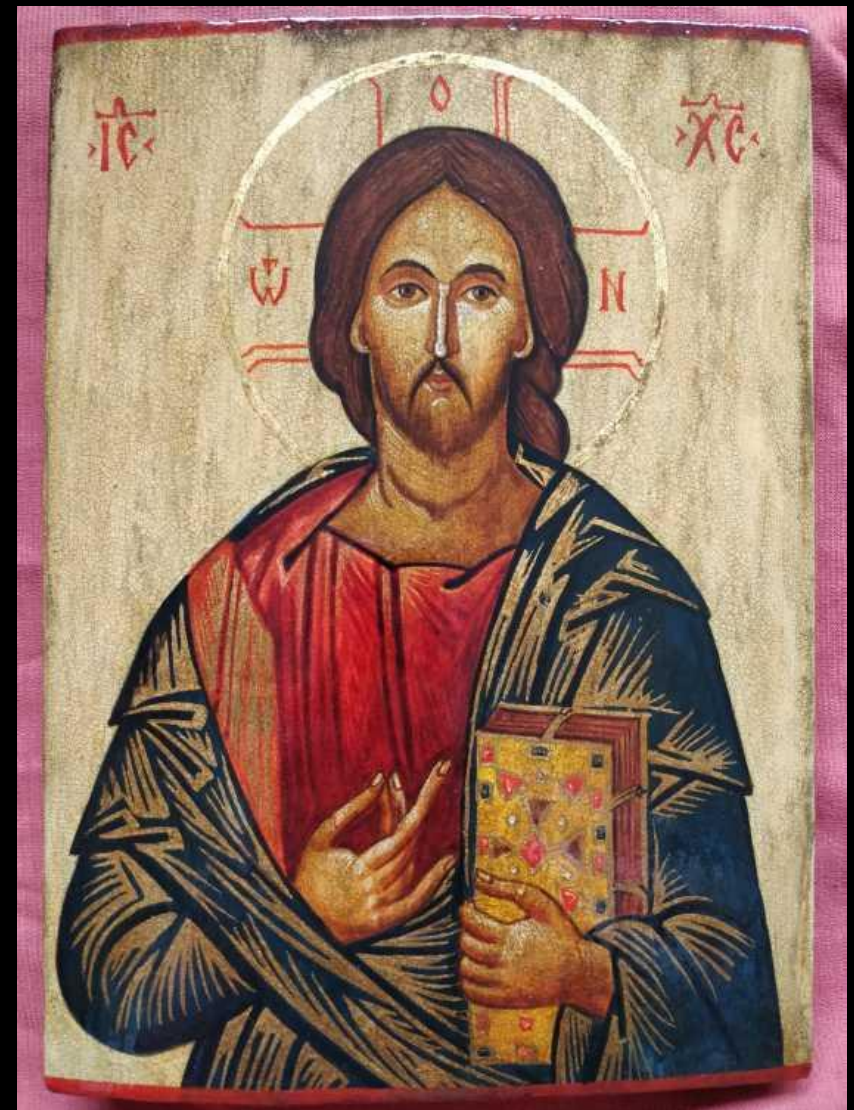
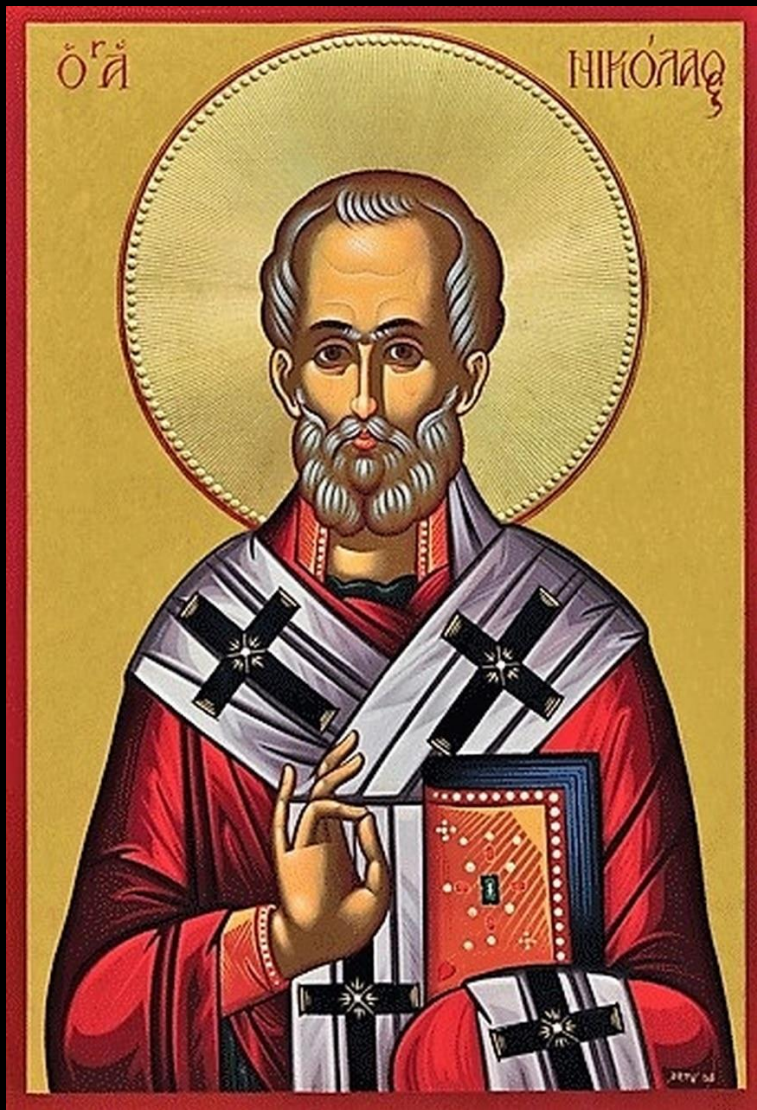
This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

Who is Christ Jesus?



Colossians 1:15-20 (ESV) Christ Hymn

He is the image of the invisible God. 1:15



He is the firstborn over all creation. 1:15



But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe.

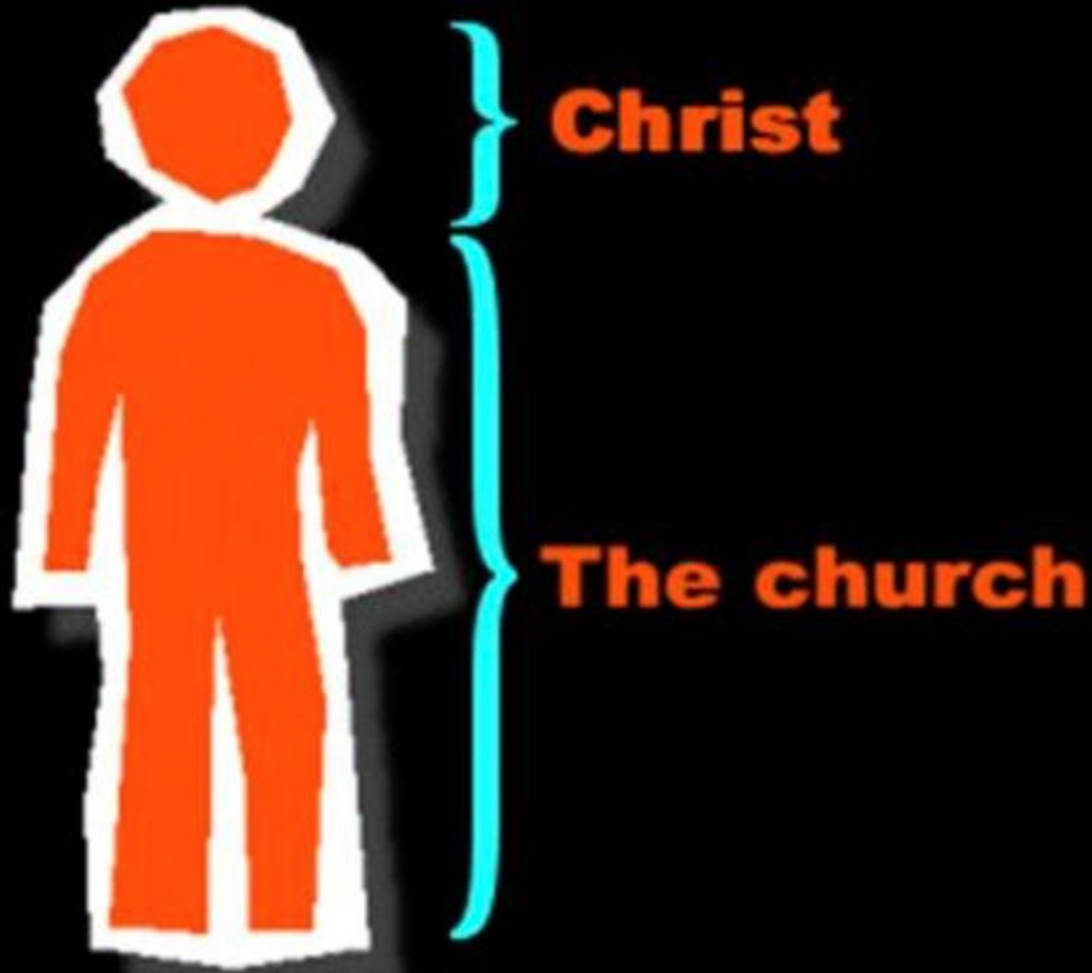
Hebrew 1:2

By him all things were created. 1:16

“All things were
made through
Him, and
without Him
nothing was
made that was
made”
(John 1:3 nkjv)

Earth
Heaven
Visible
Invisible
Thrones
Dominions
Rulers
Authorities

He is the head of the body, the church. 1:18



He is the beginning, the firstborn
from the dead. 1:18

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:20-22

All God's fullness dwells in him. 1:19

God wanted his fullness (meaning “completeness” or “totality”) to dwell (meaning “live permanently”) in Christ.

Through Christ, God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things. 1:20

”A Christian comes to others only through Jesus Christ. Among men there is strife. ‘He is our peace’, says Paul of Jesus Christ (Eph. 2.14). Without Christ there is discord between God and man and between man and man. Christ became the Mediator and made peace with God and among men. Without Christ we should not know God and could not call upon him, nor come to him. But without Christ we would also not know our brother, nor could we come to him. The way is blocked by our own ego.

Christ opened up the way to God and to our brother. Now Christians can live with one another in peace; they can love and serve one another; they can become one. But they can continue to do so only by way of Jesus Christ. Only in Jesus Christ are we one, only through him are we bound together. To eternity he remains the one Mediator.”

PASTOR • NAZI RESISTOR • MARTYR

BONHOEFFER



If there were a chorus to this hymn it might contain these phrases in response:

Because of who Christ is:

- we ought to worship him with praise and thanks;
- we ought to learn about him, for he is God;
- we ought to obey him, for he is the ultimate authority;
- we ought to love him for what he has done for us.

Who were we before knowing Jesus?



Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. – Colossians 1:21

Who are we now as His disciples?

Holy - “As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance. But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; for it is written: ‘Be holy, because I am holy’ ”

1 Peter 1:14–16

Who are we now as His disciples?

Without blemish - “So that you may become blameless and pure, children of God without fault in a crooked and depraved generation, in which you shine like stars in the universe as you hold out the word of life”

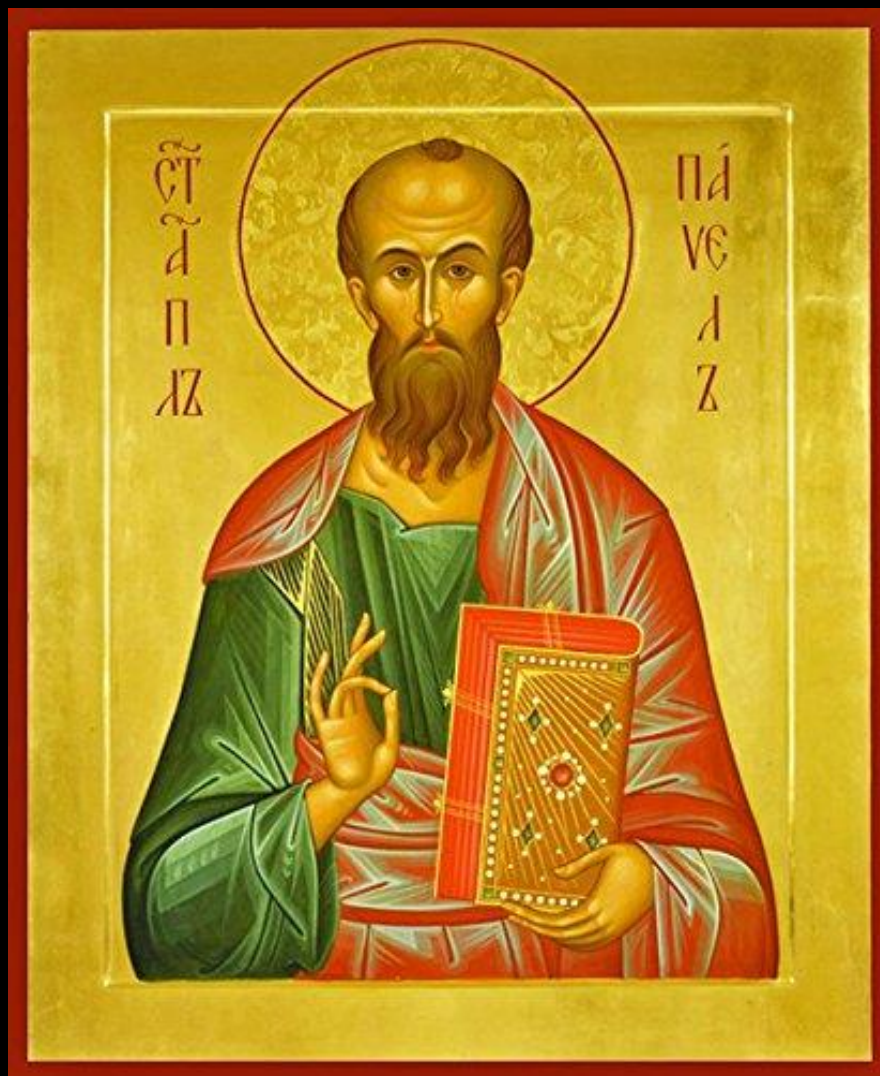
Philippians 2:15–16

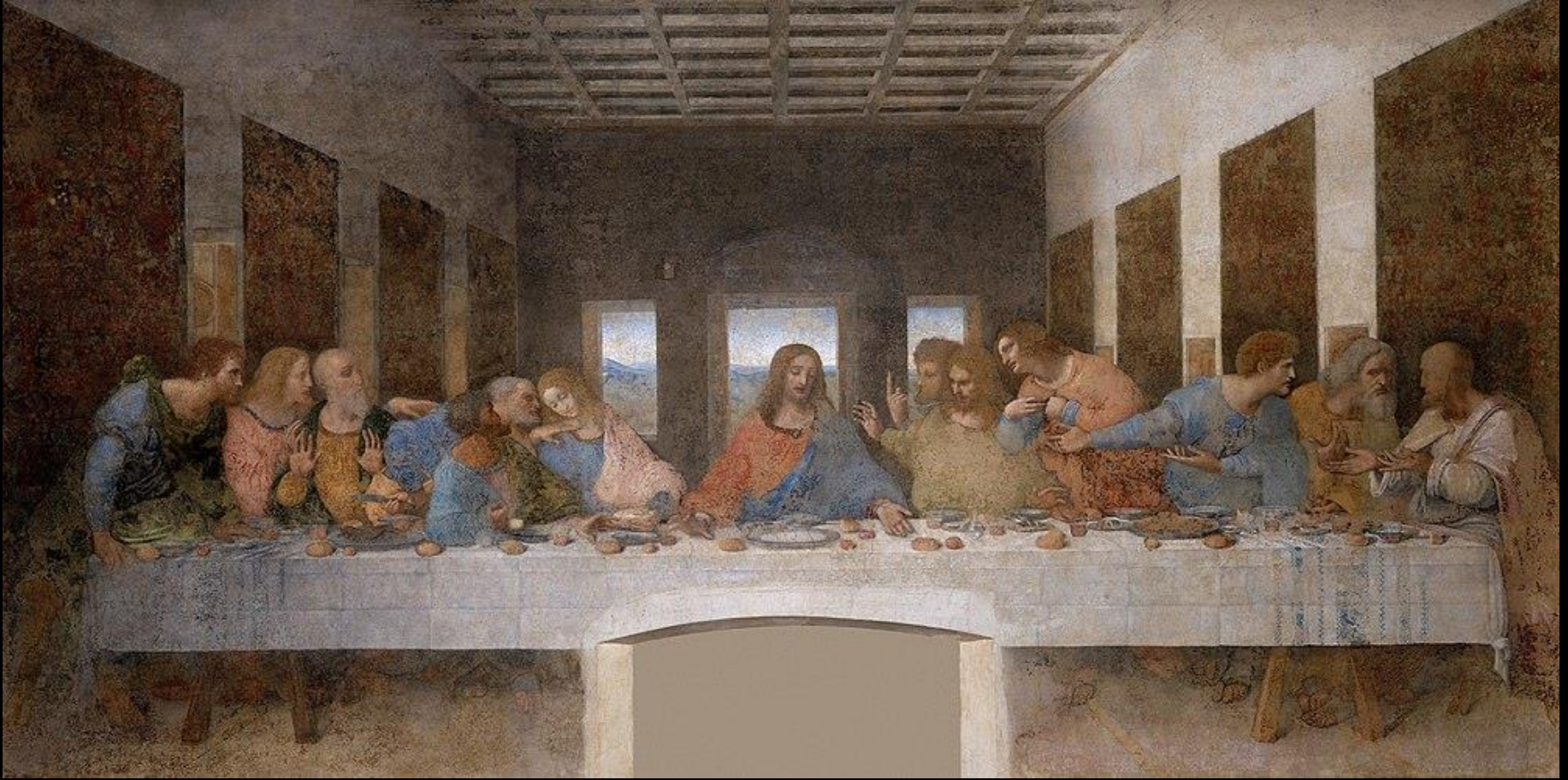
Who are we now as His disciples?

Free from accusation - “Who will bring any charge against those whom God has chosen? It is God who justifies”

Romans 8:33

“I, Paul, have become a servant.”





Let us pray...



To
God
be the Glory!