

HERE I AM: The Posture of Surrender

Tracing the most powerful three-word
response in human history.



Pastor Darren
July 19, 2026

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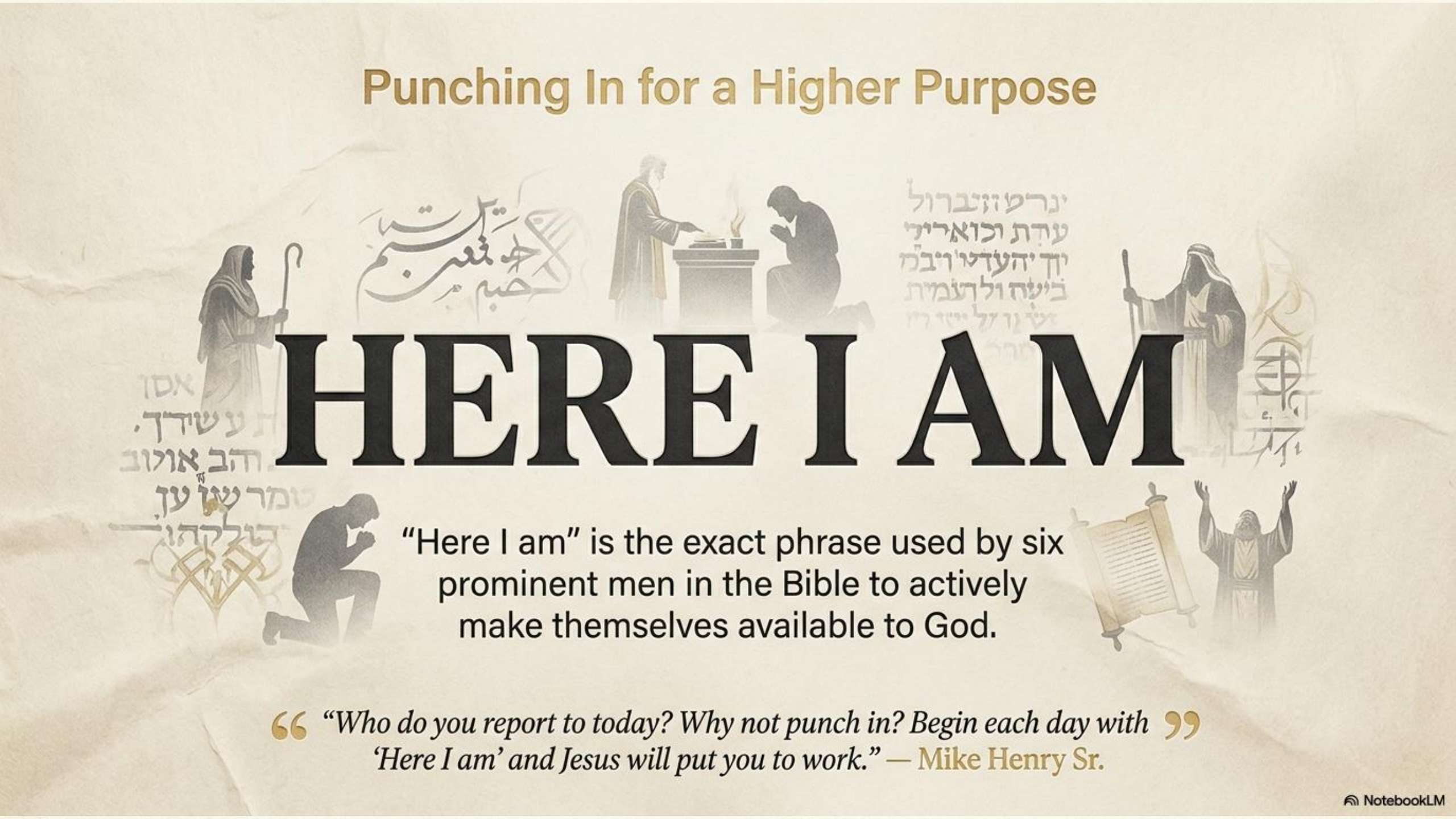
10 Now there was a disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and the Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." And he said, "Here I am, Lord."

Acts 9:10

NASB95

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Punching In for a Higher Purpose

The background features a collage of biblical figures and text. On the left, a shepherd (Moses) stands with a staff, and a man (David) kneels in prayer. In the center, a man (Jesus) stands at a table, and another man (Jesus) kneels in prayer. On the right, a man (Moses) stands with a staff, and a man (Jesus) kneels in prayer. The text "HERE I AM" is prominently displayed in the center. Various Hebrew and Arabic calligraphies are scattered throughout the background.

HERE I AM

"Here I am" is the exact phrase used by six prominent men in the Bible to actively make themselves available to God.

“Who do you report to today? Why not punch in? Begin each day with ‘Here I am’ and Jesus will put you to work.” — **Mike Henry Sr.**

1 Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go forth from your country, And from your relatives And from your father’s house, To the land which I will show you; 2 And I will make you a great nation, And I will bless you, And make your name great; And so you shall be a blessing; 3 And I will bless those who bless you, And the one who curses you I will curse. And in you all the families of the earth will be blessed.”

NASB95

Genesis 12:1–3

8 By faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed by going out to a place which he was to receive for an inheritance; and he went out, not knowing where he was going.

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Hebrews 11:8

NASB95

1 Now it came about after these things, that God tested Abraham, and said to him, “Abraham!” And he said, “Here I am.”



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Genesis 22:1

2 He said, "Take now your son, your only son, whom you love, Isaac, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I will tell you."

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Genesis 22:2

NASB95

3 So Abraham rose early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son; and he split wood for the burnt offering, and arose and went to the place of which God had told him.

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Genesis 22:3

NASB95

11 But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am."

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Genesis 22:11

NASB95

12 He said, “Do not stretch out your hand against the lad, and do nothing to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me.”

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Genesis 22:12–18

NASB95

13 Then Abraham raised his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him a ram caught in the thicket by his horns; and Abraham went and took the ram and offered him up for a burnt offering in the place of his son.

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Genesis 22:12–18

NASB95

14 Abraham called the name of that place The Lord Will Provide, as it is said to this day, “In the mount of the Lord it will be provided.”

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Genesis 22:12–18

NASB95

15 Then the angel of the Lord called to
Abraham a second time from heaven,

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Genesis 22:12–18

NASB95

16 and said, “By Myself I have sworn,
declares the Lord, because you have
done this thing and have not withheld
your son, your only son,

~~Genesis~~ 22:12–18

NASB95

17 indeed I will greatly bless you, and I will greatly multiply your seed as the stars of the heavens and as the sand which is on the seashore; and your seed shall possess the gate of their enemies.

~~Genesis 22:12–18~~

NASB95

18 “In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice.”

~~Genesis~~ 22:12–18

NASB95

4 “I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven, and will give your descendants all these lands; and by your descendants all the nations of the earth shall be blessed;

5 because Abraham obeyed Me and kept My charge, My commandments, My statutes and My laws.”

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Genesis 26:4–5

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Through this test of surrender, Abraham gains a new understanding of who God is:

Jehovah Jireh – “The Lord Will Provide”



11 “Then the angel of God said to me
in the dream, ‘Jacob,’ and I said, ‘Here
I am.’



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Genesis 31:11

NASB95

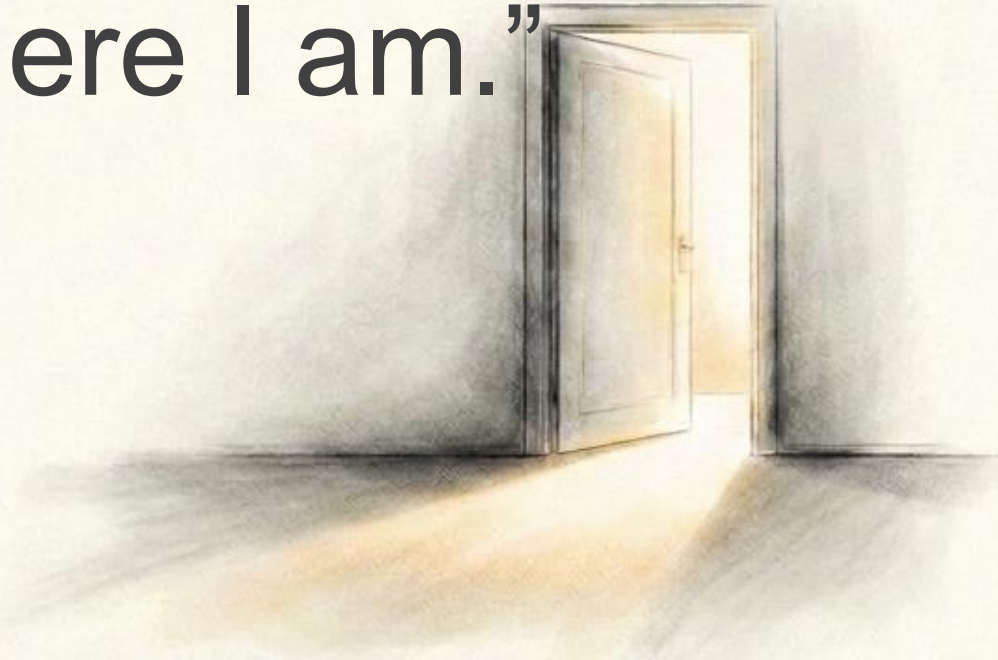
13 'I am the God of Bethel, where you
anoointed a pillar, where you made a
vow to Me; now arise, leave this land,
and return to the land of your birth.' ”

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Genesis 31:13

NASB95

2 God spoke to Israel in visions of the night and said, “Jacob, Jacob.” And he said, “Here I am.”



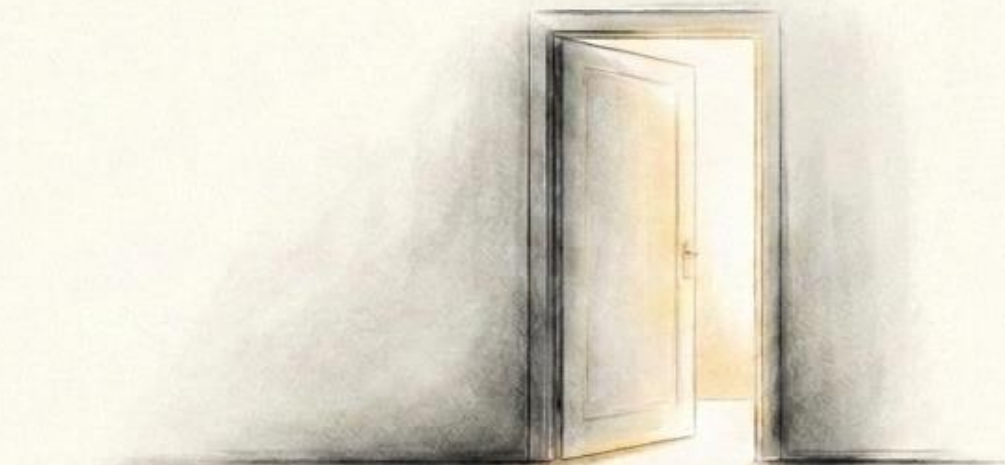
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Genesis 46:2

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Restoration of his family

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24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up,
refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's
daughter,
25 choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with
the people of God than to enjoy the passing
pleasures of sin,
26 considering the reproach of Christ greater
riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was
looking to the reward.



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Hebrews 11:24–26



4 When the Lord saw that he turned
aside to look, God called to him from
the midst of the bush and said,
“Moses, Moses!” And he said, “Here I
am.”

~~Exodus~~ 3:4

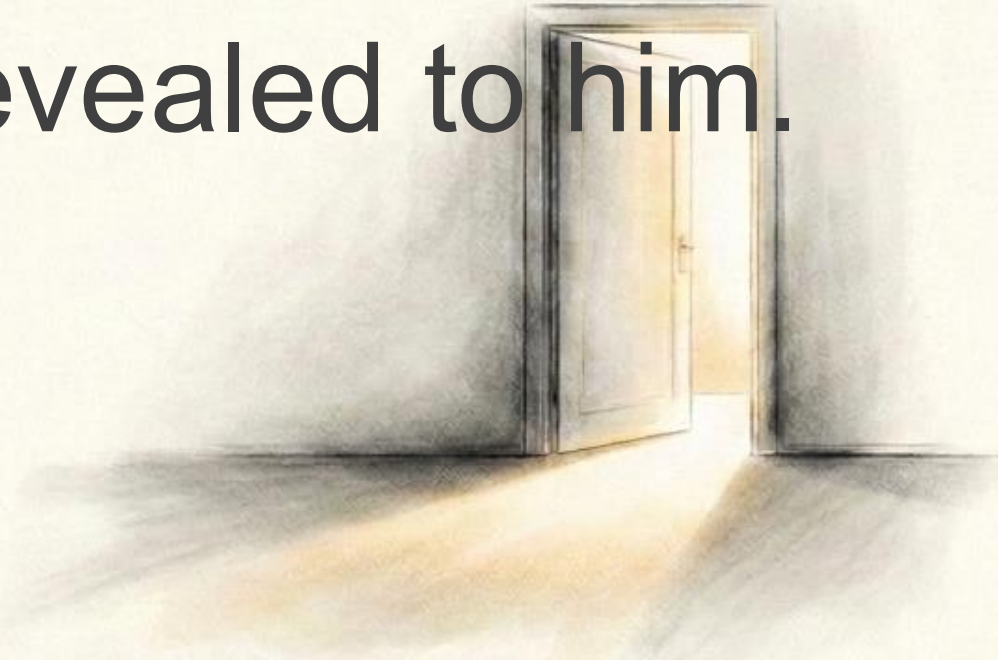
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2 It happened at that time as Eli was lying down
in his place (now his eyesight had begun to grow
dim and he could not see well),
3 and the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and
Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord
where the ark of God was,
4 that the Lord called Samuel; and he said, "Here
I am."

~~1~~ Samuel 3:2–4

NASB95

7 Now Samuel did not yet know the Lord, nor had the word of the Lord yet been revealed to him.



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1 Samuel 3:7

19 Thus Samuel grew and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fail.

20 All Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew that Samuel was confirmed as a prophet of the Lord.

21 And the Lord appeared again at Shiloh, because the Lord revealed Himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the Lord.

~~1~~ Samuel 3:19–21

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Surrender leads to deeper revelation of God



1 In the year of King Uzziah's death I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple.

2 Seraphim stood above Him, each having six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew.

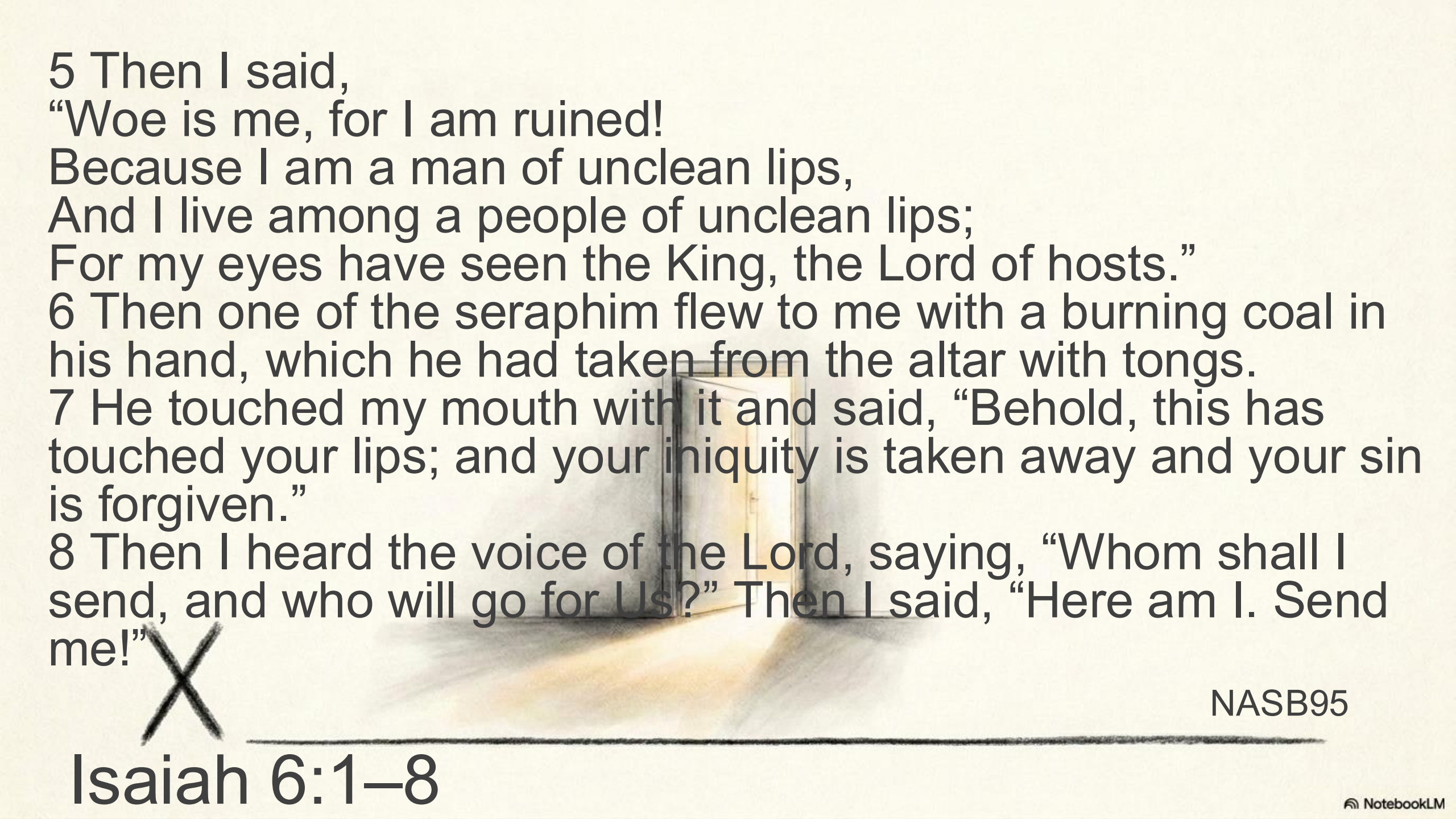
3 And one called out to another and said,
“Holy, Holy, Holy, is the Lord of hosts,
The whole earth is full of His glory.”

4 And the foundations of the thresholds trembled at the voice of him who called out, while the temple was filling with smoke.



Isaiah 6:1–8

NASB95



5 Then I said,
“Woe is me, for I am ruined!
Because I am a man of unclean lips,
And I live among a people of unclean lips;
For my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts.”
6 Then one of the seraphim flew to me with a burning coal in
his hand, which he had taken from the altar with tongs.
7 He touched my mouth with it and said, “Behold, this has
touched your lips; and your iniquity is taken away and your sin
is forgiven.”
8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, “Whom shall I
send, and who will go for Us?” Then I said, “Here am I. Send
me!”

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Isaiah 6:1–8

The use of “Here I am Lord” reveals purpose. Isaiah was saying he was here on earth for a specific purpose and he wanted that purpose to be the Lord’s. As he immediately followed it with “send me,” he didn’t wait to hear what the Lord would say but wrote a blank check to the Lord, a universal yes to God’s plan for him.

-Molly Law of Christianity.com



Signing the Blank Check

 **BANK**

Pay to the
Order of _____

_____ \$

_____ Dollars  TELEPHONE
INTERNET
SERVICES

Name _____


Signature

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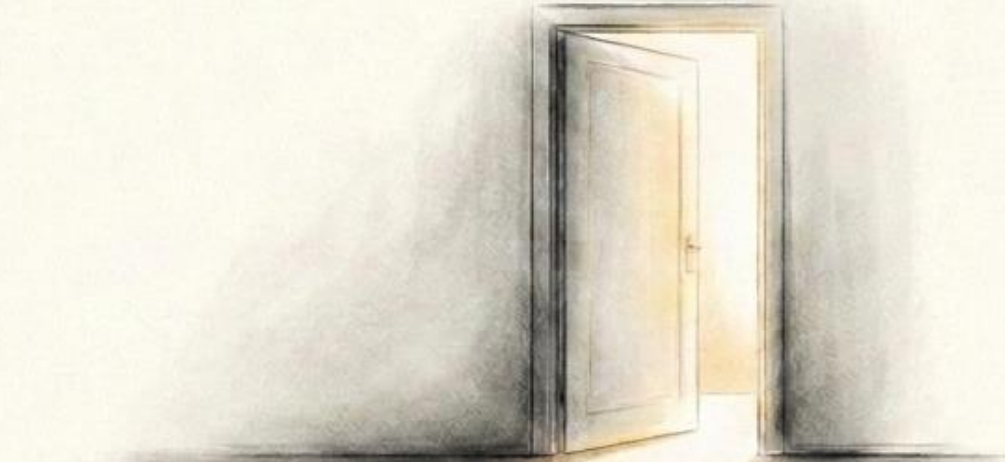
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Acts 9:10

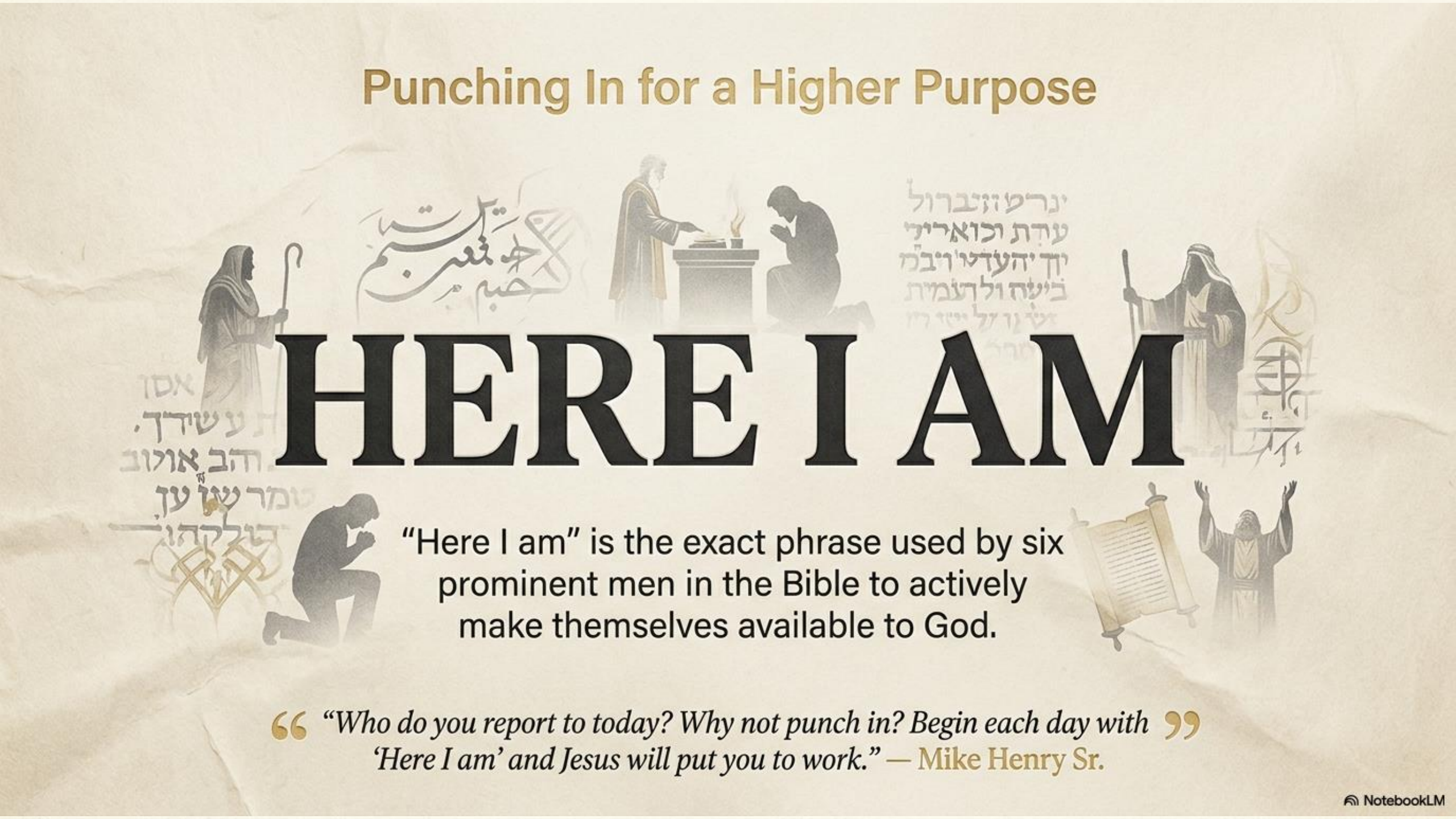
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Availability of Ananias

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Punching In for a Higher Purpose

The background features a collage of various biblical figures and scenes. On the left, a shepherd with a staff and sheep, a man in prayer, and a man kneeling. In the center, a man at an altar and a man kneeling. On the right, a man with a staff, a man with a scroll, and a man with arms raised. Hebrew text is scattered throughout the background, including 'יגדל ויברך', 'עדת וכו'אריני', 'יחד יהעדו ויב'ח', 'ביעה ול העמית', 'זענו על יידי רח', 'אדן', 'ת ע שידד', 'יהב אוב', 'טמר שני ען', 'הלקהו', 'יגדל ויברך', 'עדת וכו'אריני', 'יחד יהעדו ויב'ח', 'ביעה ול העמית', 'זענו על יידי רח', 'אדן', 'ת ע שידד', 'יהב אוב', 'טמר שני ען', 'הלקהו'.

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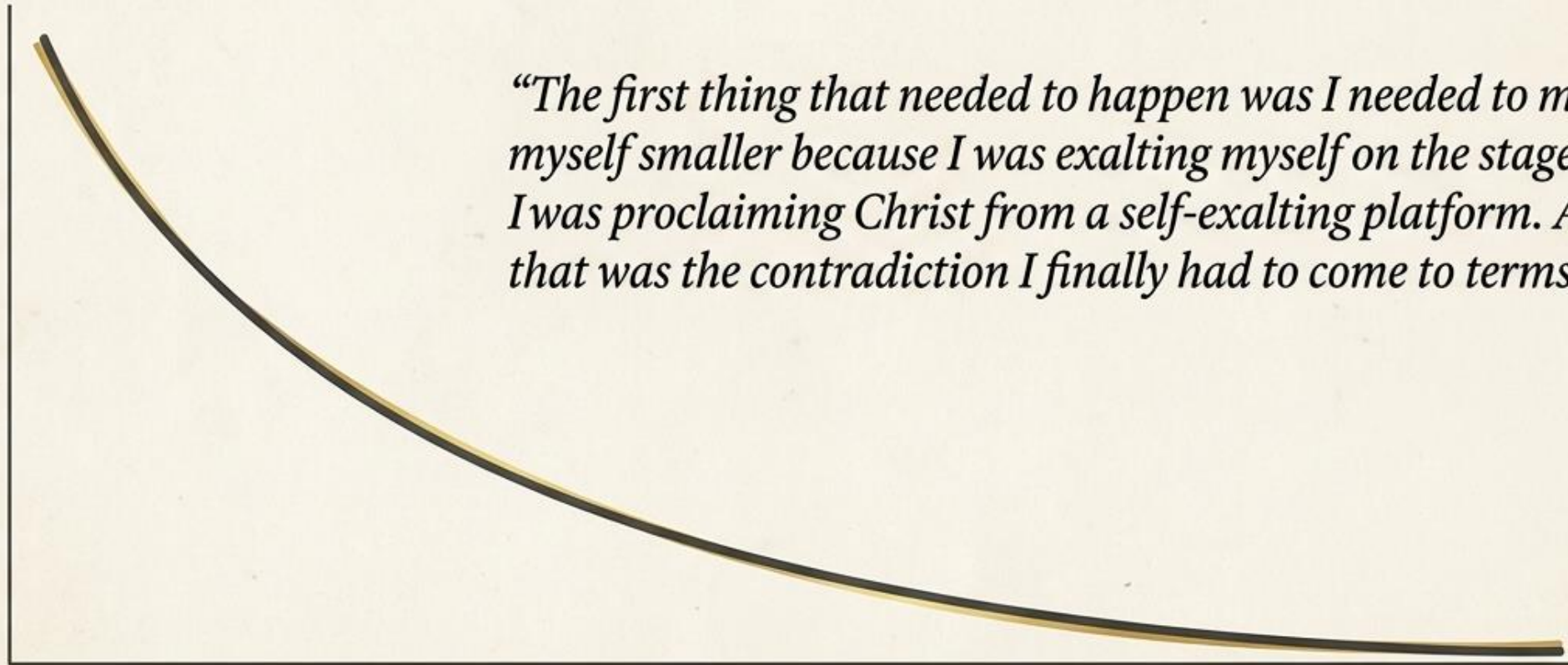
“Here I am” is the exact phrase used by six prominent men in the Bible to actively make themselves available to God.

“Who do you report to today? Why not punch in? Begin each day with ‘Here I am’ and Jesus will put you to work.” — **Mike Henry Sr.**

The Contradiction of the Platform

Why didn't he just sing country music and talk about God from the stage?

Divine Purpose / Glorifying God



"The first thing that needed to happen was I needed to make myself smaller because I was exalting myself on the stage... I was proclaiming Christ from a self-exalting platform. And that was the contradiction I finally had to come to terms with."

Self-Exaltation

Core Axiom: "If God is glorified, it will not be because I'm big... it will be because I'm small." — Granger Smith

“If God is glorified, it
will not be because
I’m big...it will be
because I’m small.”

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-Granger Smith

What do you need to surrender?

Every surrender requires leaving something behind. What are you holding onto?



1. The Illusion of Security: Are you prioritizing the safety of home over a calling?



2. The Miracle Itself: Like Abraham, are you gripping a blessing tighter than the Blessor?



3. Family Turmoil: Are you letting relational brokenness dictate your movement?



4. The Pleasures of Egypt: Is the pursuit of riches, fame, or power drowning out the whisper?



5. Inherited Faith: Are you hiding behind the spiritual heritage of your parents instead of answering for yourself?



6. Personal Ambition: Are your future plans preventing you from signing the blank check?

The Mechanics of Yielding

Step 1: Recognize the Call.

Listen actively through Scripture and the direct prompting of the Spirit. Do not ignore the initiative.



Step 2: Overcome the Will.

The internal battle of neutralizing your own desires regarding the outcome.



Step 3: Respond in Obedience.

Going where He says, doing what He says, and giving up what He requires.



Step 4: Step Out in Faith.

Creating momentum by taking the first physical step into the unknown.

1. 1. “First , I seek at the beginning to get my heart into such a state that it has no will of its own in regard to a given matter...When one is truly in this state, it is usually but a little way to the knowledge of what His will is.”



- George Mueller

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34 And He summoned the crowd with His disciples, and said to them, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me.

35 “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.

36 “For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world, and forfeit his soul?

37 “For what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

38 “For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will also be ashamed of him when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.”



NASB95

Mark 8:34–38

The Cost of Discipleship

Column 1: Deny Yourself

The active rejection
of self-sovereignty.

Column 2: Take Up Your Cross

Embracing the
specific burden and
death to self
required of you.

Column 3: Follow Christ

Moving in His
precise footsteps
rather than charting
your own path.

The Foundational Paradox: “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel’s will save it.” (Mark 8:35)

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FLY

FAMILY LIFE YOUTH

— > CALLED HIGHER —



The Seventh “Here I Am”

Leaders do not take people where they haven't personally gone. Jesus is the ultimate, perfect example of surrender.



He condescended from glory, leaving the ultimate “palace” behind, to do the absolute will of the Father.

“Then I said, ‘Here I am—it is written about me in the scroll—I have come to do your will, my God.’” — Hebrews 10:7



The Continuous Call

We are able to say “Here I am” only because He said it first.

The call to surrender is not a historical artifact; it is an active, ongoing invitation.

“Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with that person, and they with me.” — Revelation 3:20

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