



Shofar Christian Church

# The Spirit and the Text

Karl Holz

Today we are pretty casual about this great treasure, so readily available to us. We do well to stop for a moment to realize that we can actually hold in our hands the precious revelation of God Himself. It costs us less than an hour's wage, rather than a year's salary, as it once did. The temptation now is to treat the ancient word casually as well. But from this ink and paper springs the ageless gospel of hope for this life and the life to come. It is our priceless heritage. ***The International Bible Society***



*So how are we to set out Bible reading so that we read and think in dependence on God's supernatural help at every moment?*

John Piper's acronym A.P.T.A.T. gives practical steps to walk in God's power whenever you open your Bible:

**Admit** you can do nothing without God (John 15:5).

**Pray** for help (Psalm 50:15).

**Trust** a specific promise (2 Chronicles 20:20).

**Act** (Philippians 2:12–13).

**Thank** God for his provision and goodness (Psalm 106:1).

<sup>3</sup>Jesus answered him, “I assure you and most solemnly say to you, unless a person is born again [reborn from above—spiritually transformed, renewed, sanctified], he cannot [ever] see and experience the kingdom of God.”

**John 3:3-5 AMP**

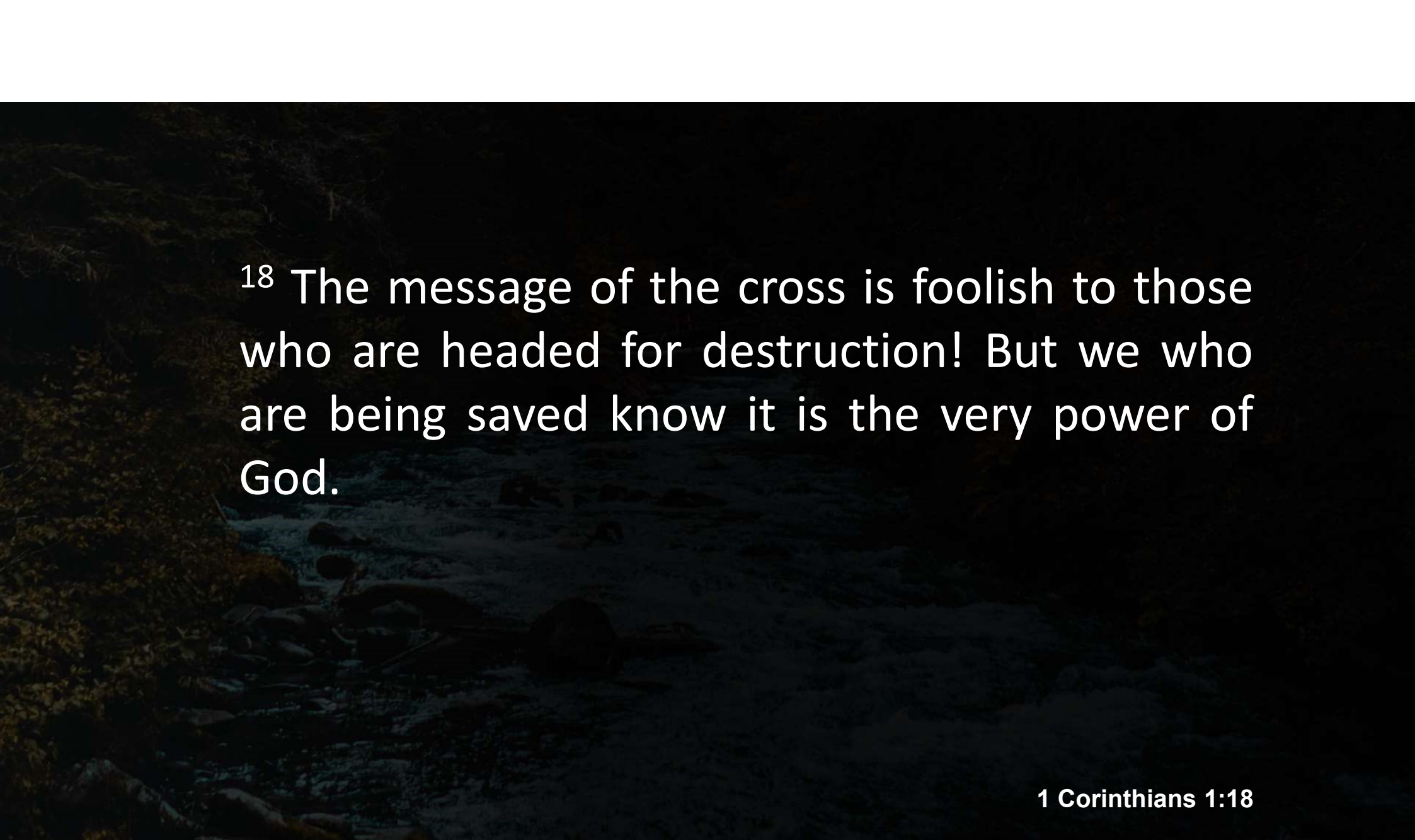


<sup>12</sup> Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. <sup>13</sup> And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual.[a]  
<sup>14</sup> The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

**1 Corinthians 2:12-14**







<sup>18</sup> The message of the cross is foolish to those who are headed for destruction! But we who are being saved know it is the very power of God.

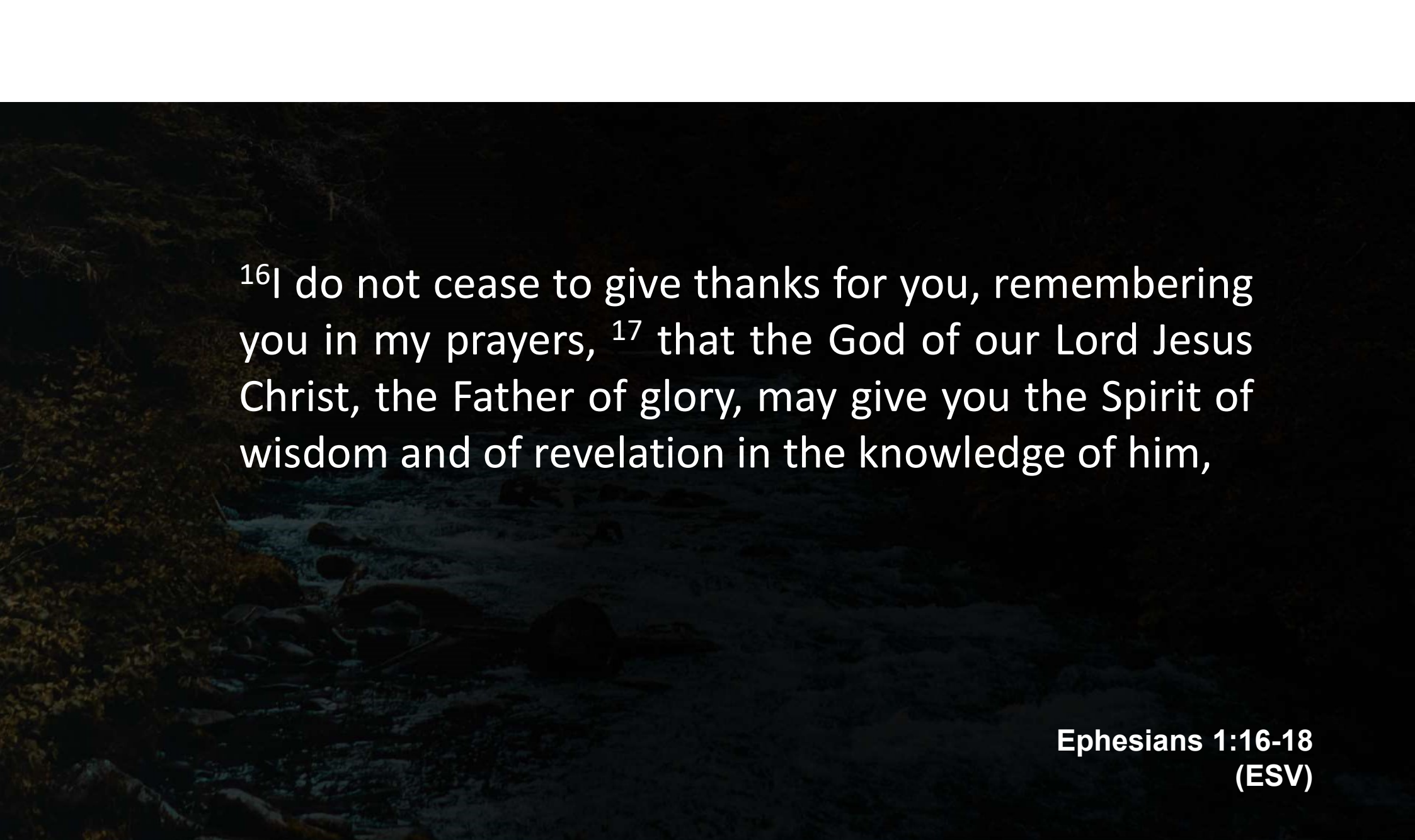
**1 Corinthians 1:18**



<sup>12</sup>For the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

**Hebrews 4:12 ESV**

<sup>13</sup>Nothing in all creation is hidden from God. Everything is naked and exposed before his eyes, and he is the one to whom we are accountable. **Hebrews 4:13 NLT**



<sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering  
you in my prayers, <sup>17</sup> that the God of our Lord Jesus  
Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of  
wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,

**Ephesians 1:16-18**  
**(ESV)**





## The Word Became Flesh

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life,[a] and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son[d] from the Father, full of grace and truth.

**John 1:1-5,14 ESV**





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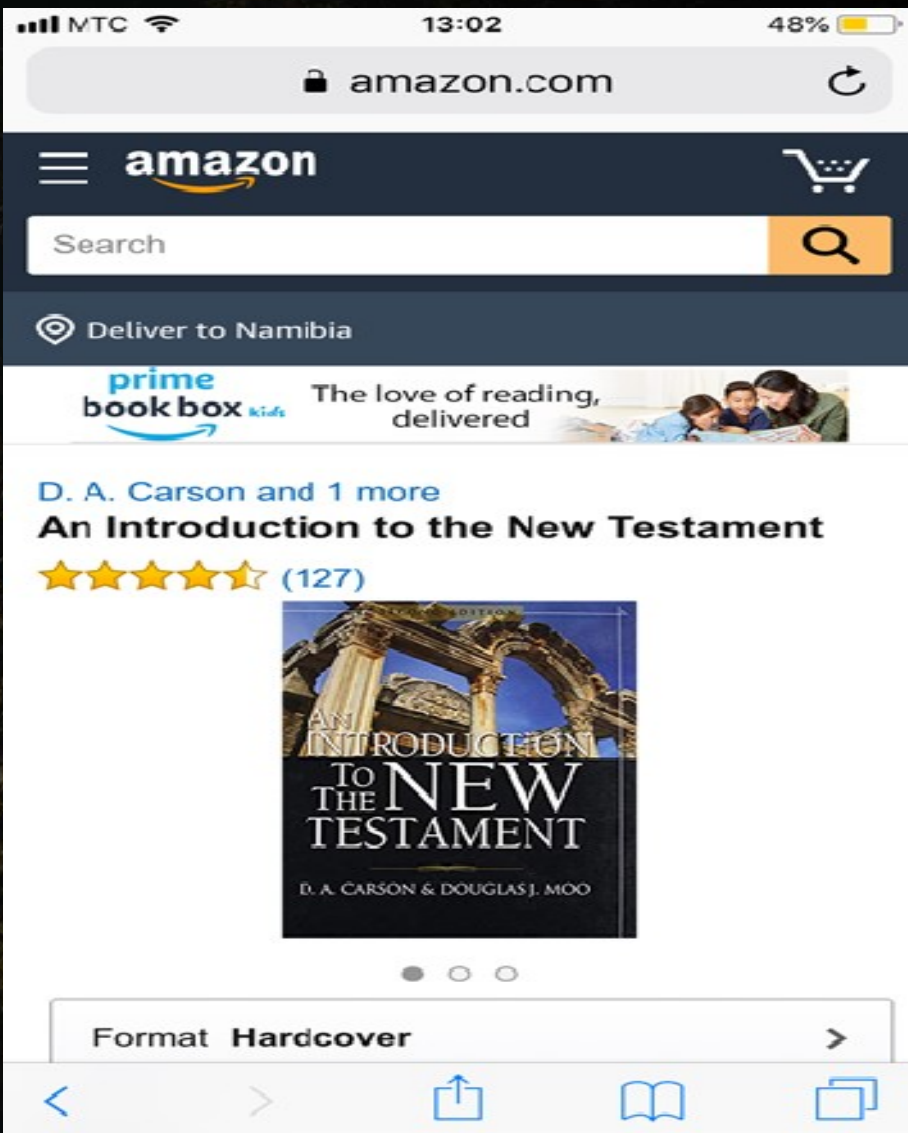
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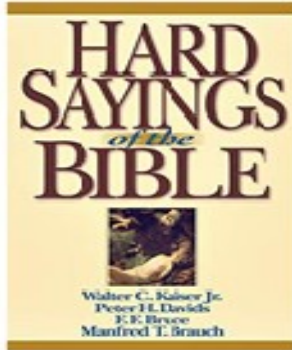






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