

RETURN TO ME

THE HEART OF GOD
THROUGH THE MINOR PROPHETS

¹ on the twenty-first day of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came through the prophet Haggai: ² “Speak to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, to Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people. Ask them, ³ ‘Who of you is left who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Does it not seem to you like nothing? ⁴ But now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ declares the Lord. ‘Be strong, Joshua son of Jozadak, the high priest. ...

Haggai 2:1-9

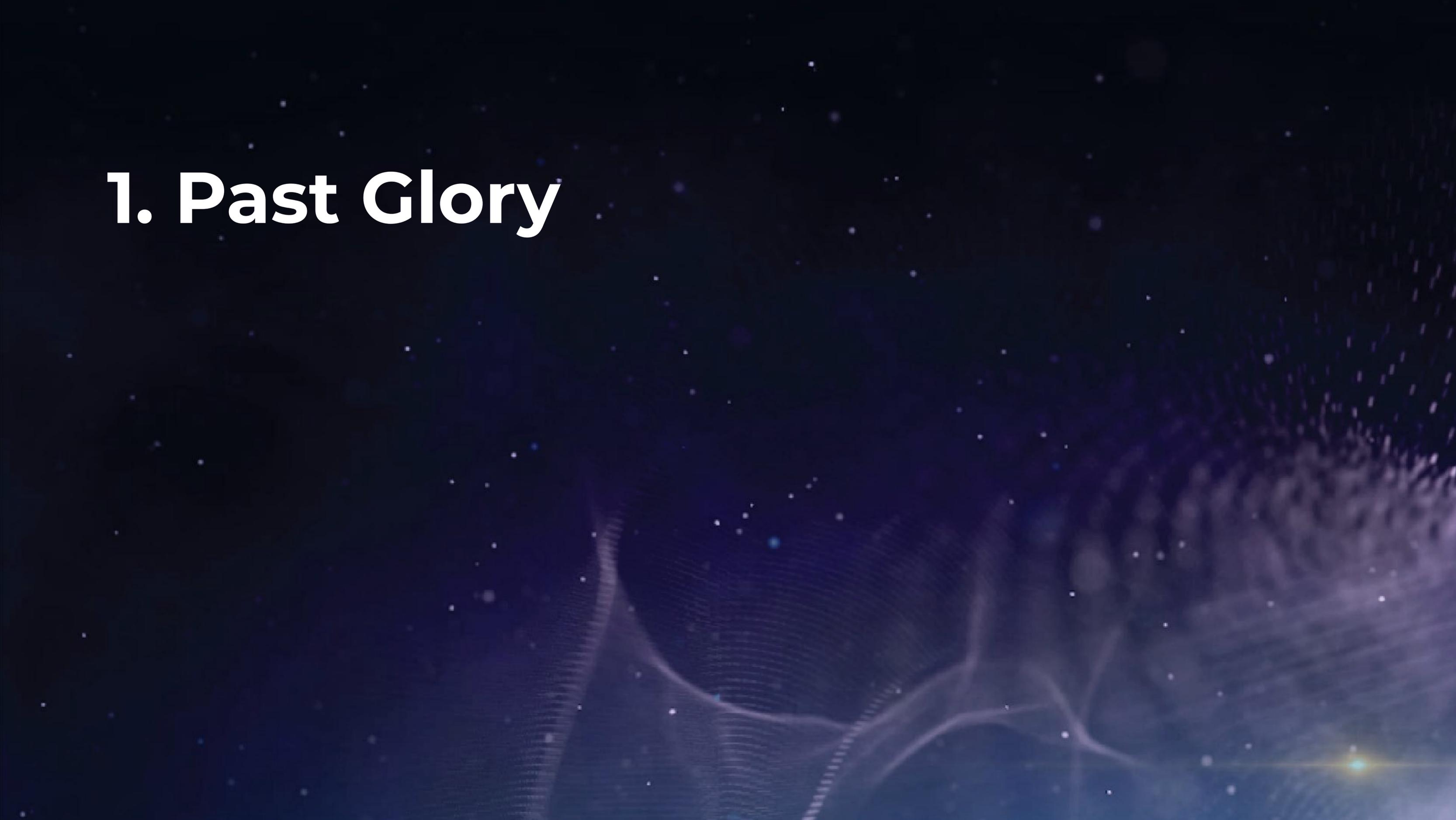
Be strong, all you people of the land,' declares the Lord, 'and work. For I am with you,' declares the Lord Almighty. ⁵ 'This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you. Do not fear.' ⁶ "This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. ⁷ I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the Lord Almighty. ...

Haggai 2:1-9

⁸ ‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty. ⁹ ‘The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace,’ declares the Lord Almighty.”

Haggai 2:1-9

1. Past Glory

The background is a deep, dark blue space filled with numerous small, white and light blue stars. In the lower right portion, there is a faint, glowing nebula or galaxy structure with intricate, filamentary patterns. A bright, yellowish-white star is visible in the bottom right corner, emitting a horizontal lens flare.



1. Past Glory

2. Present Glory



1. Past Glory

2. Present Glory

3. Future Glory

1. Past Glory

2. Present Glory

3. Future Glory

**Ask them, 'Who of you is left who saw
this house in its former glory? How
does it look to you now? Does it not
seem to you like nothing?**

Haggai 2:2-3

For I am with you,' declares the Lord Almighty. 'This is what I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt. And my Spirit remains among you.

Haggai 2:2-3



**God + people
+ a place**

The background is a deep blue gradient, transitioning from a lighter blue at the top to a darker blue at the bottom. It features several glowing, ethereal trails of white and light blue particles that swirl and curve across the frame. A prominent bright yellow-white light source is located in the upper right quadrant, casting a horizontal lens flare across the scene. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and digital or scientific aesthetic.

Garden

The background is a deep blue gradient, transitioning from a darker blue at the bottom to a lighter, almost white-blue at the top. It features several glowing, ethereal trails of particles or light, resembling a nebula or a digital data stream. A prominent, bright yellow-white light source is visible in the upper right quadrant, casting a soft glow and creating a lens flare effect. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and high-tech.

Egypt

**“You cannot see my face, for no one
may see my face and live.”**

Exodus 33:20

The background is a deep blue gradient with a complex, abstract pattern of white and light blue particle trails. These trails form a central, glowing, circular shape that resembles a stylized eye or a lens. The overall effect is ethereal and futuristic, with a sense of depth and movement. There are several bright light flares and lens flare effects scattered throughout the scene, particularly around the central circular structure.

Tabernacle

The background is a deep blue gradient, transitioning from a darker blue on the left to a lighter, more vibrant blue on the right. It is filled with intricate, glowing patterns of white and light blue particles. These particles form a dense, swirling structure that resembles a nebula or a complex data visualization. A prominent feature is a bright, yellowish-white light source on the right side, which creates a lens flare effect and illuminates the surrounding particle trails. The overall effect is one of dynamic energy and digital complexity.

Temple

The background is a deep blue gradient with a complex, abstract pattern of white and light blue particle trails. These trails form a central, glowing ring-like structure that resembles a tunnel or a portal. A bright, yellowish-white light source is positioned within this structure, creating a lens flare effect. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and digital.

Second Temple

“This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come,

Haggai 2:6-7



Jesus Christ

Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.” They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” But the temple he had spoken of was his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.

John 2:19-22

1. Past Glory

2. Present Glory

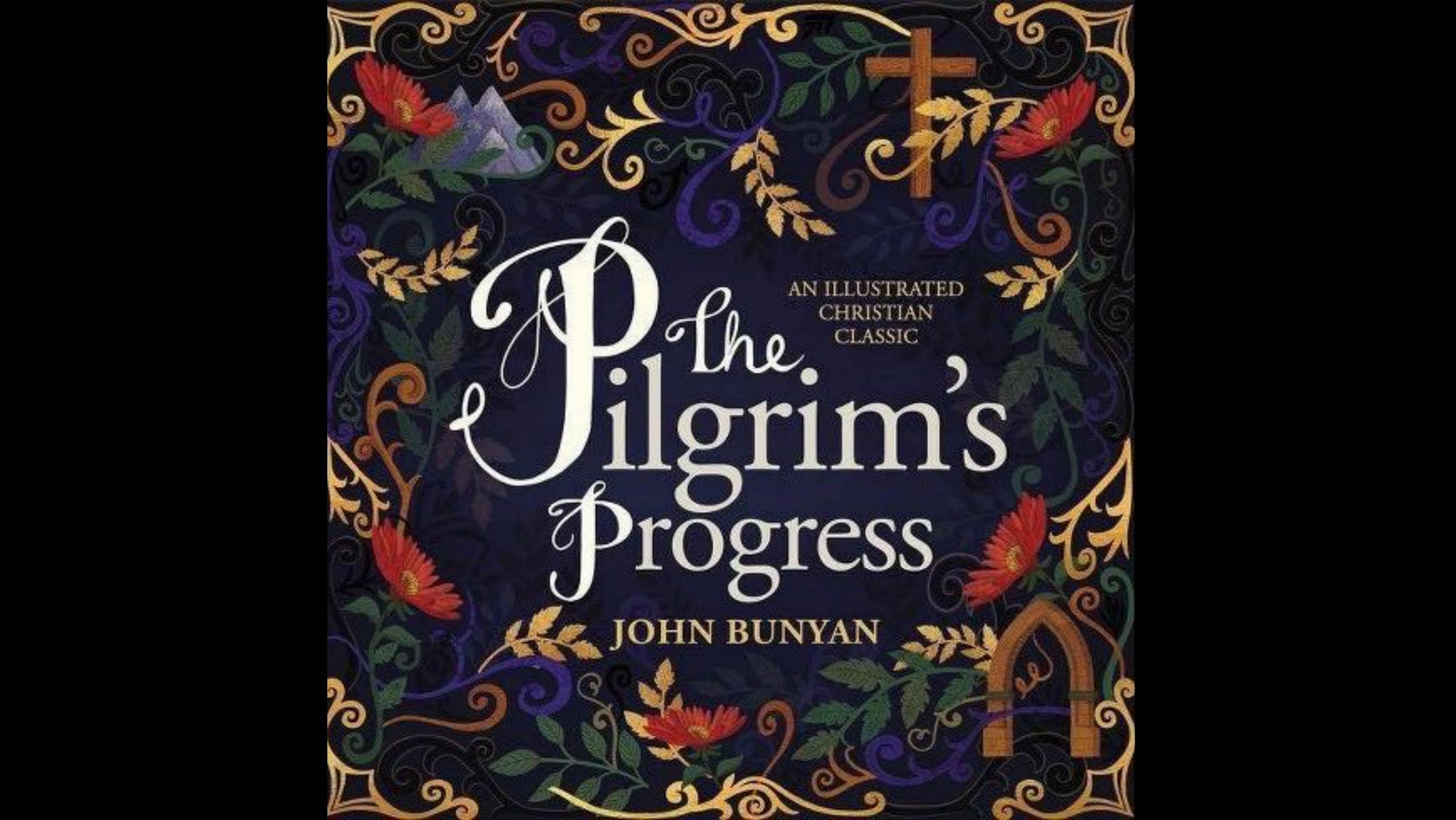
3. Future Glory

'The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,' says the Lord Almighty.

Haggai 2:9



a. New Freedom for the Individual



AN ILLUSTRATED
CHRISTIAN
CLASSIC

P the
Pilgrim's
Progress

JOHN BUNYAN

“Up this way therefore did burdened Christian run, but not without great difficulty, because of the load on his back. He ran thus till he came at a place somewhat ascending, and upon that place stood a Cross, and a little below the bottom, a Tomb. So I saw in my Dream, that just as Christian came up with the Cross, his Burden loosed from off his shoulders, and fell from off his back, and began to tumble, and so continued to do, till it came to the mouth of the Tomb, where it fell in, and I saw it no more....

The Pilgrim's Progress
John Bunyan

Then was Christian glad and [happy]..it was very surprising to him that the sight of the Cross should thus ease him of his Burden...[and the] springs that were in his head sent the waters down his cheeks.

Then Christian gave three leaps for joy, and went on singing:

“Blest Cross! Blest Tomb! Blest rather be
The Man that there was put to shame for me.”

The Pilgrim's Progress
John Bunyan

**a. New Freedom for
the Individual**

**b. New Power for the
Community**

“Tears. Smiles. Prayer. Praise.”

Jeremy Treat

Seek First: How the Kingdom of God Changes Everything

“In that impoverished slum, I knew that the kingdom had [not yet] come in the fullness of God’s future promise, but it was there [in part] in the midst of the most horrific suffering and brokenness I’ve seen.

God’s reign was breaking in and transforming the lives of real people. These people had nothing, yet they knew that in Christ they had everything...throughout the day I heard stories of how these people loved and served others in the community.

What I saw in that little shack was a glimpse of the same power that will one day renew all of creation.”

Jeremy Treat

Seek First: How the Kingdom of God Changes Everything



1. Past Glory

2. Present Glory

3. Future Glory

**‘And in this place I will grant peace,’
declares the Lord Almighty.”**

Haggai 2:9

The background is a deep blue gradient with intricate, glowing particle trails that resemble a complex network or a microscopic structure. A bright, multi-colored spot (purple, blue, and white) is visible on the left side, emitting a soft glow. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and scientific.

Shalom

“I did not see a temple in the city, because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb [Jesus] are its temple. The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp.”

Revelation 21:22-23



Let *the hope of future
glory* move our *hearts*
and move our *hands*.

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