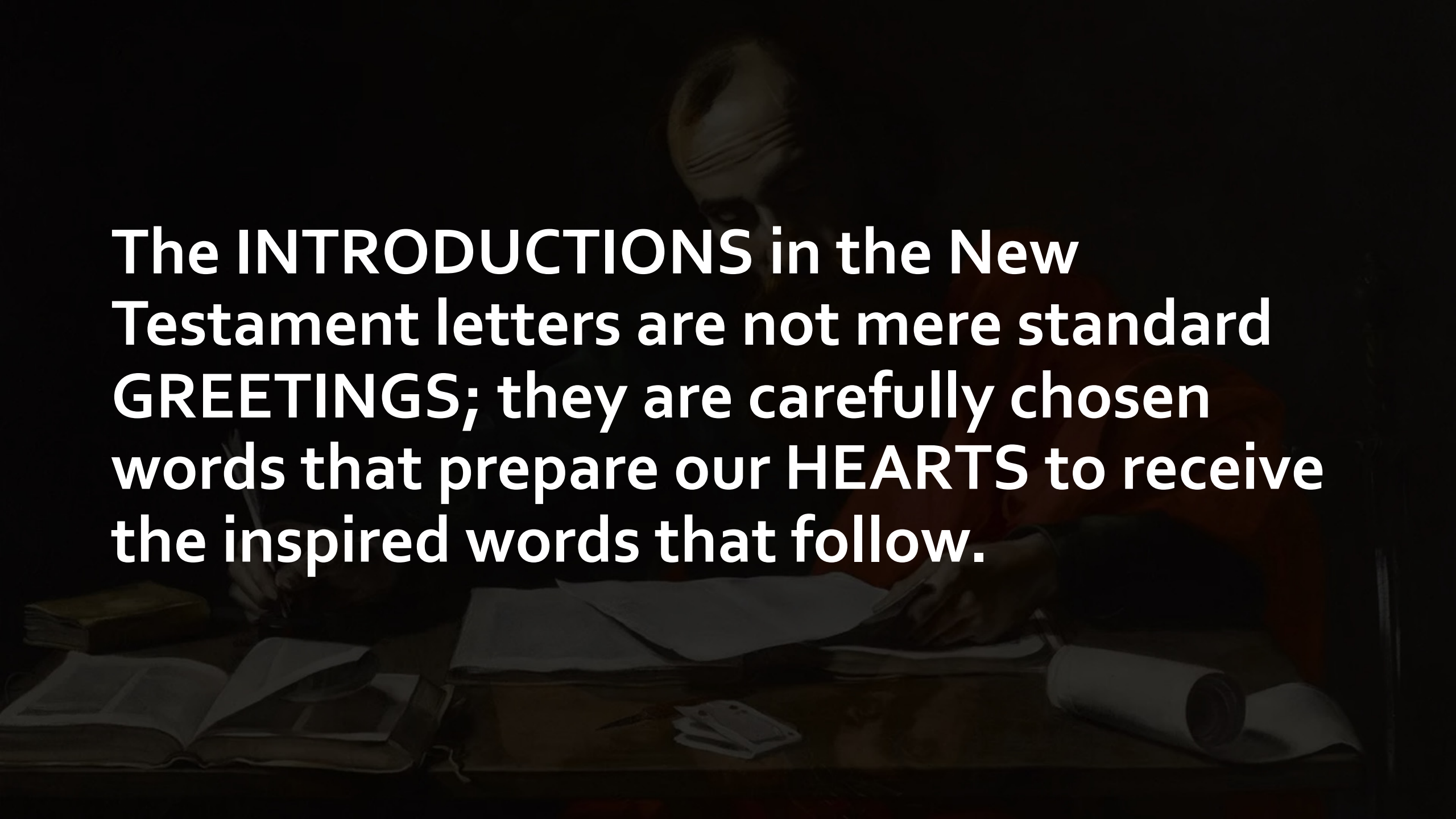




GRACE & PEACE

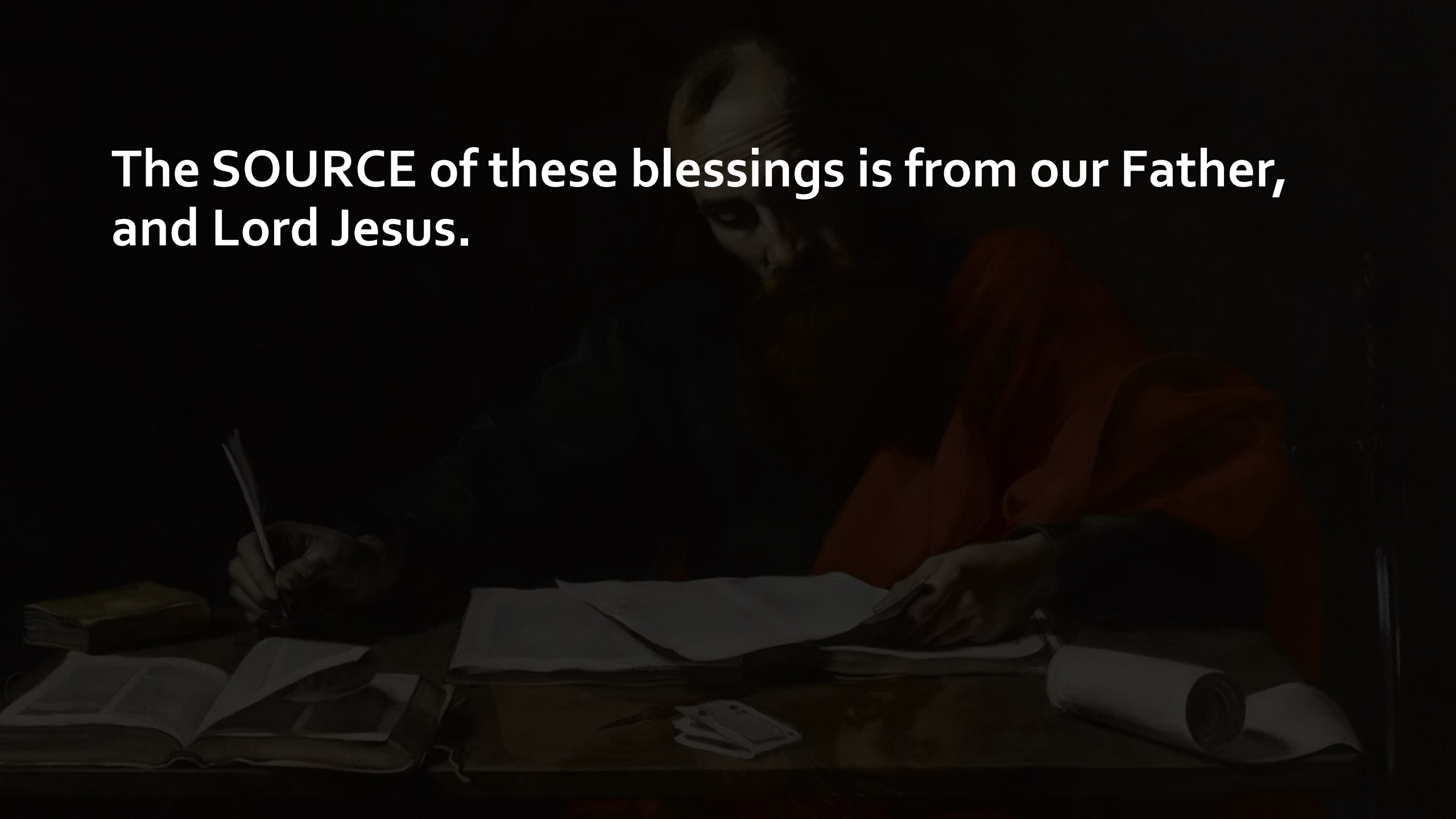


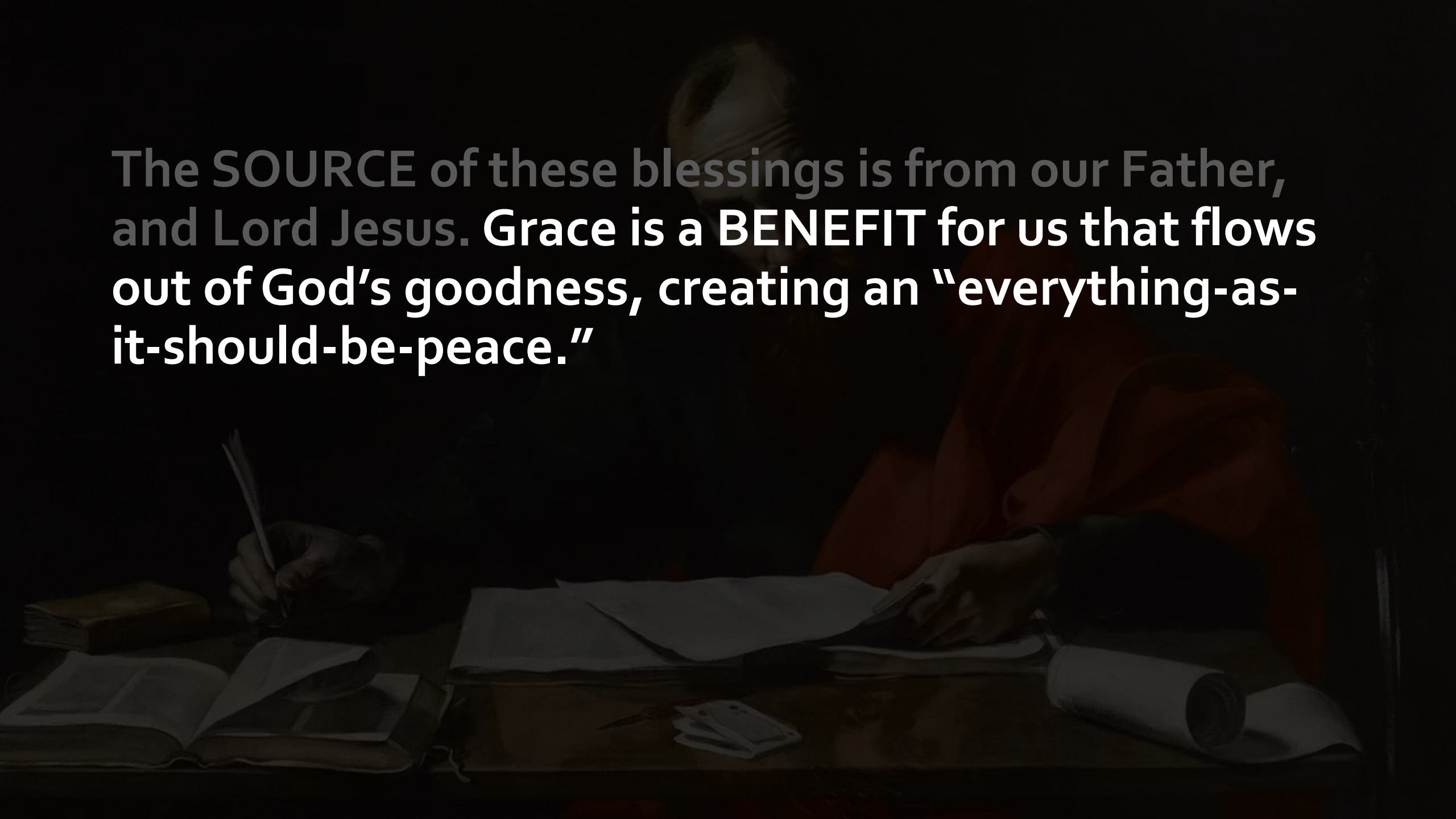
The INTRODUCTIONS in the New Testament letters are not mere standard GREETINGS; they are carefully chosen words that prepare our HEARTS to receive the inspired words that follow.



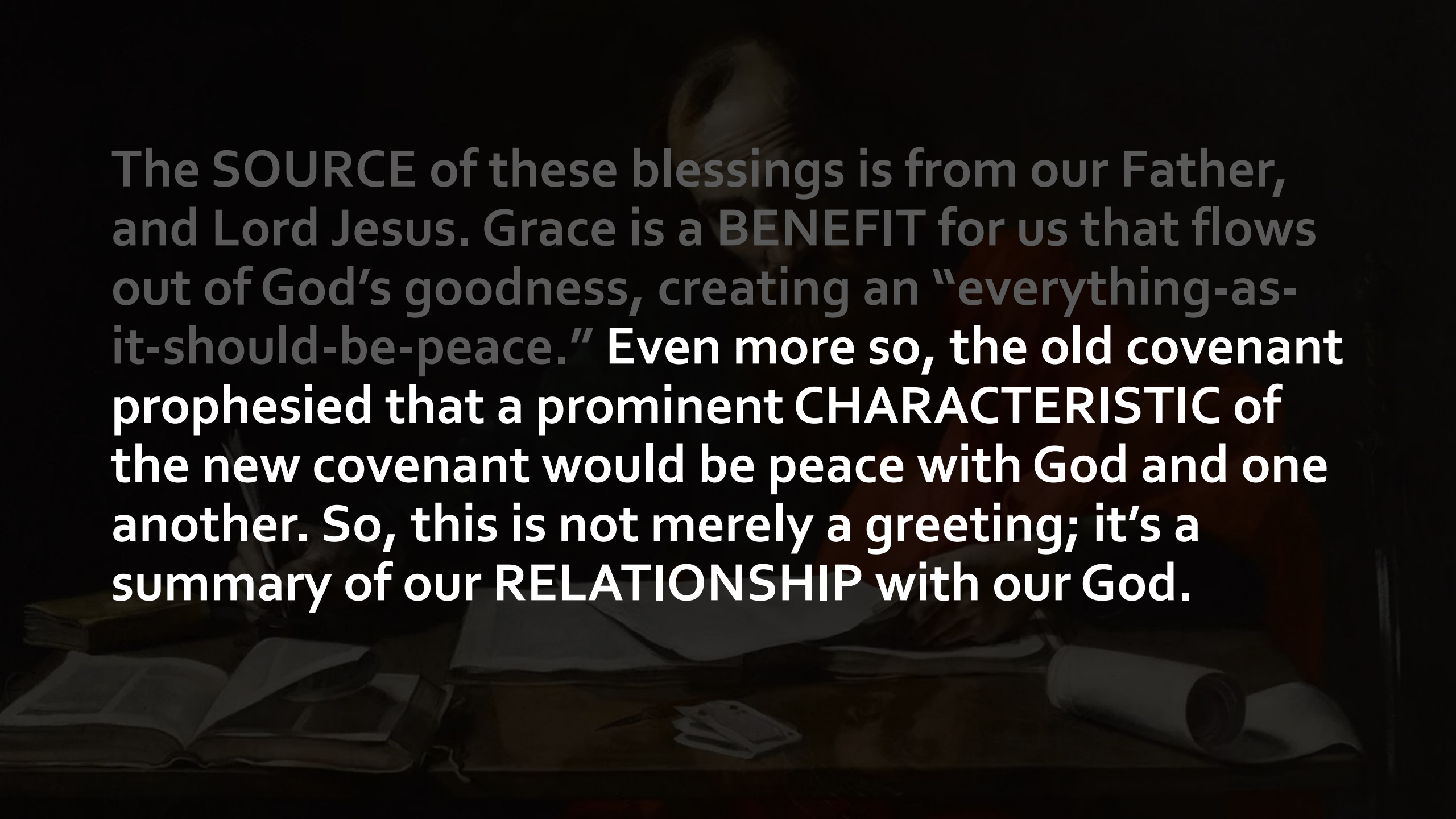
The RECIPIENTS of grace and peace were
the CHURCHES and CHRISTIANS.
Therefore, these blessings are for God's
children and servants of Christ—those
loved by God and sanctified.

**The SOURCE of these blessings is from our Father,
and Lord Jesus.**

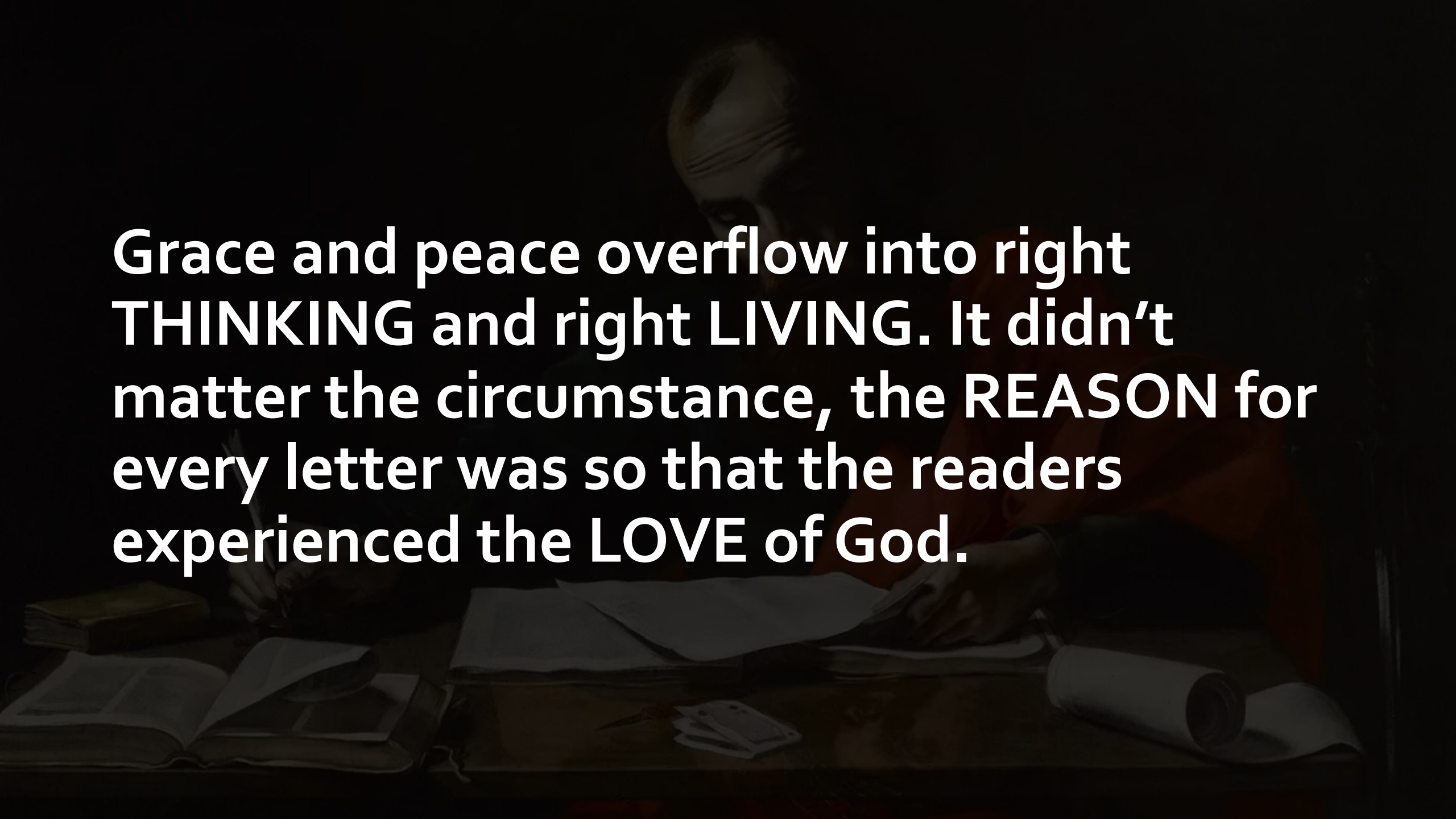




The SOURCE of these blessings is from our Father,
and Lord Jesus. Grace is a BENEFIT for us that flows
out of God's goodness, creating an "everything-as-
it-should-be-peace."

A person is seen from the side, writing in a notebook with a pen. The scene is dimly lit, with the person's face partially visible in profile. On the desk, there are several papers, a rolled-up document, and a pen. The text is overlaid on the image, with some words in white and others in a lighter gray.

The SOURCE of these blessings is from our Father, and Lord Jesus. Grace is a BENEFIT for us that flows out of God's goodness, creating an "everything-as-it-should-be-peace." Even more so, the old covenant prophesied that a prominent CHARACTERISTIC of the new covenant would be peace with God and one another. So, this is not merely a greeting; it's a summary of our RELATIONSHIP with our God.

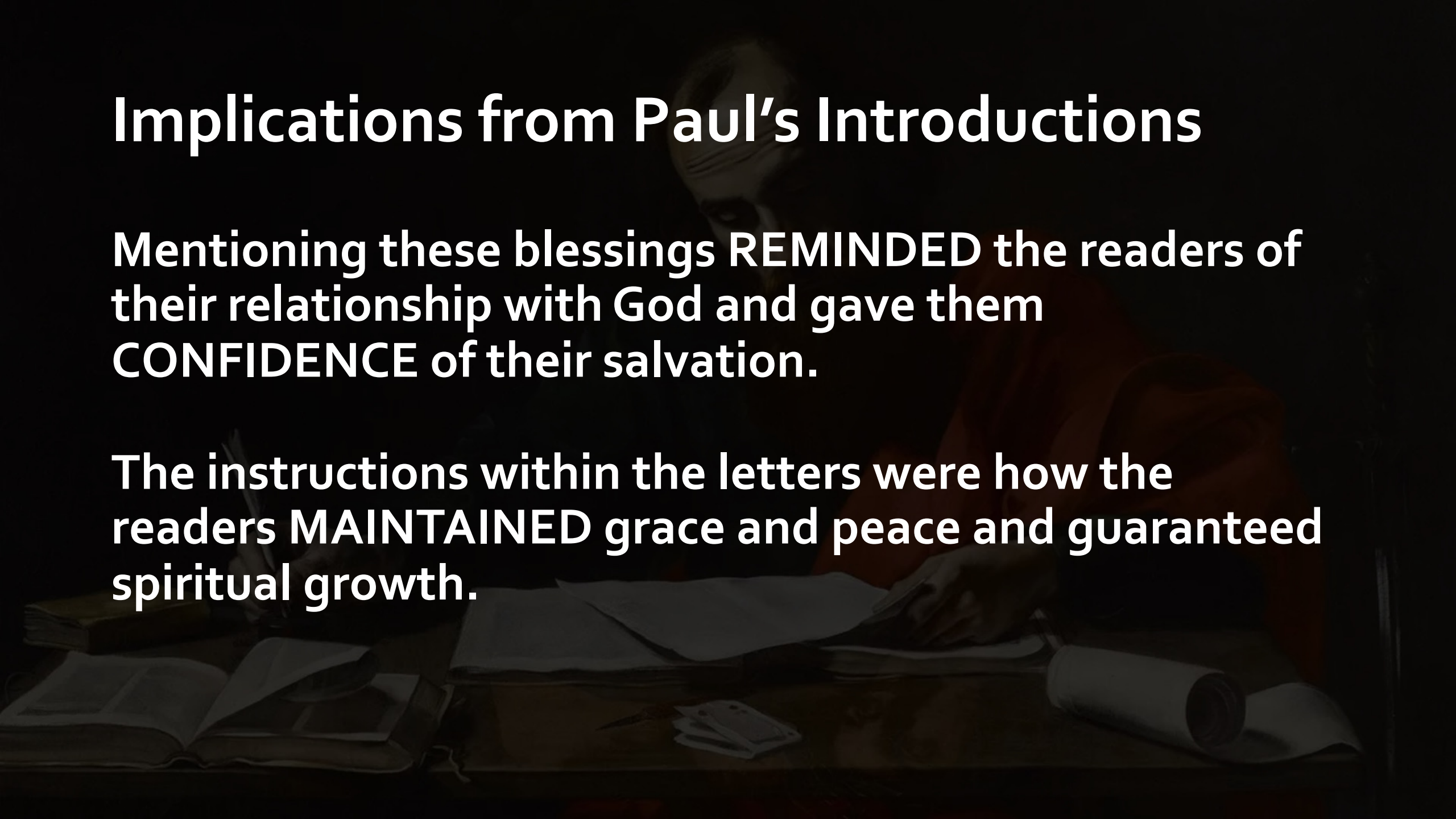
A dimly lit scene of a person sitting at a desk, writing with a quill pen. A single lamp provides light, casting long shadows. Papers, a book, and a rolled-up scroll are scattered on the desk. The overall mood is quiet and focused.

Grace and peace overflow into right
THINKING and right **LIVING**. It didn't
matter the circumstance, the **REASON** for
every letter was so that the readers
experienced the **LOVE** of God.

Implications from Paul's Introductions

Mentioning these blessings **REMINDED** the readers of their relationship with God and gave them **CONFIDENCE** of their salvation.

The instructions within the letters were how the readers **MAINTAINED** grace and peace and guaranteed spiritual growth.



Implications from Paul's Introductions

When Paul used strong and **REPROVING** words toward his readers, the introductions could remind them of his desires and **INTENTIONS** for them: grace and peace.

These blessings were only for the readers who **OBEYED** what they read.

