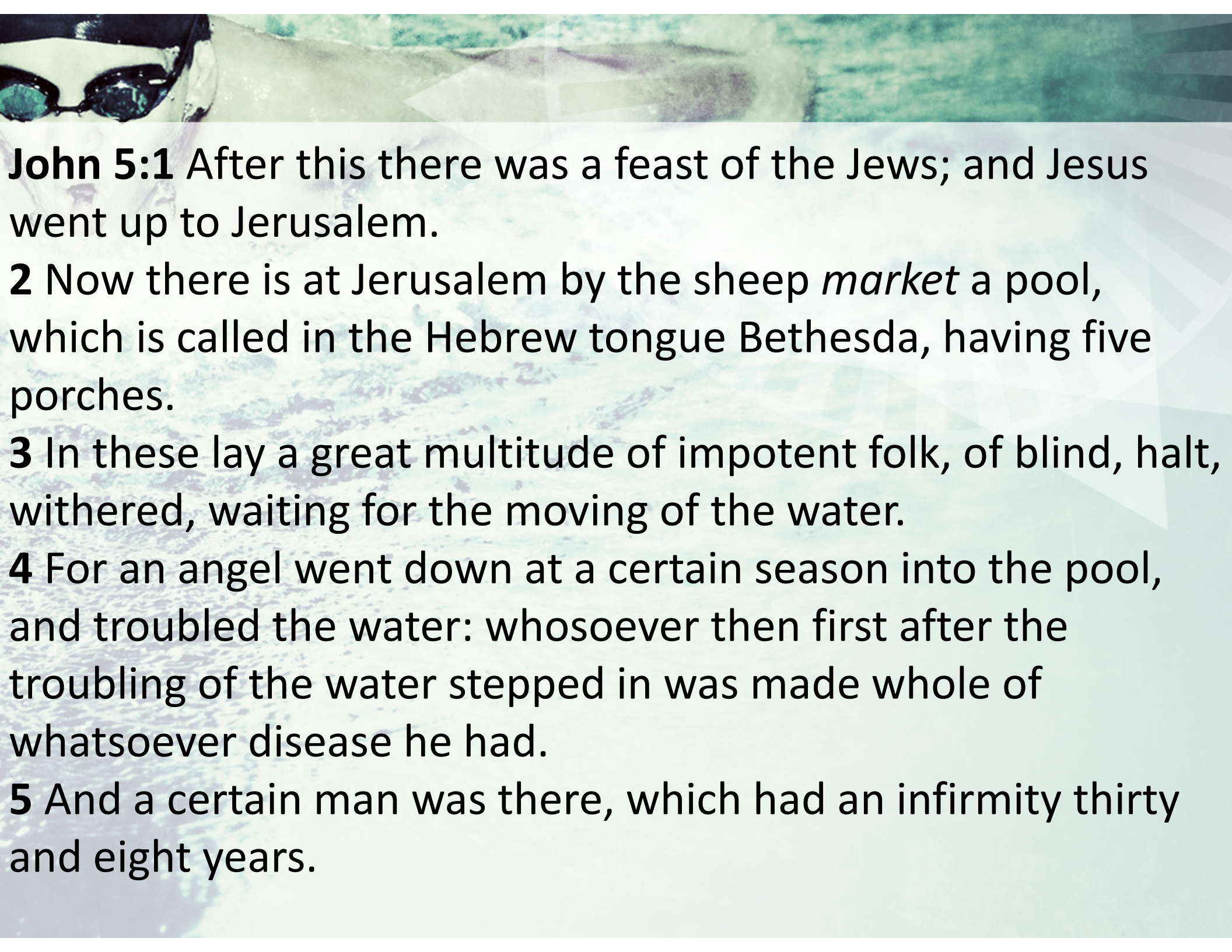


# Let's Go For a Swim

John 5:1-9





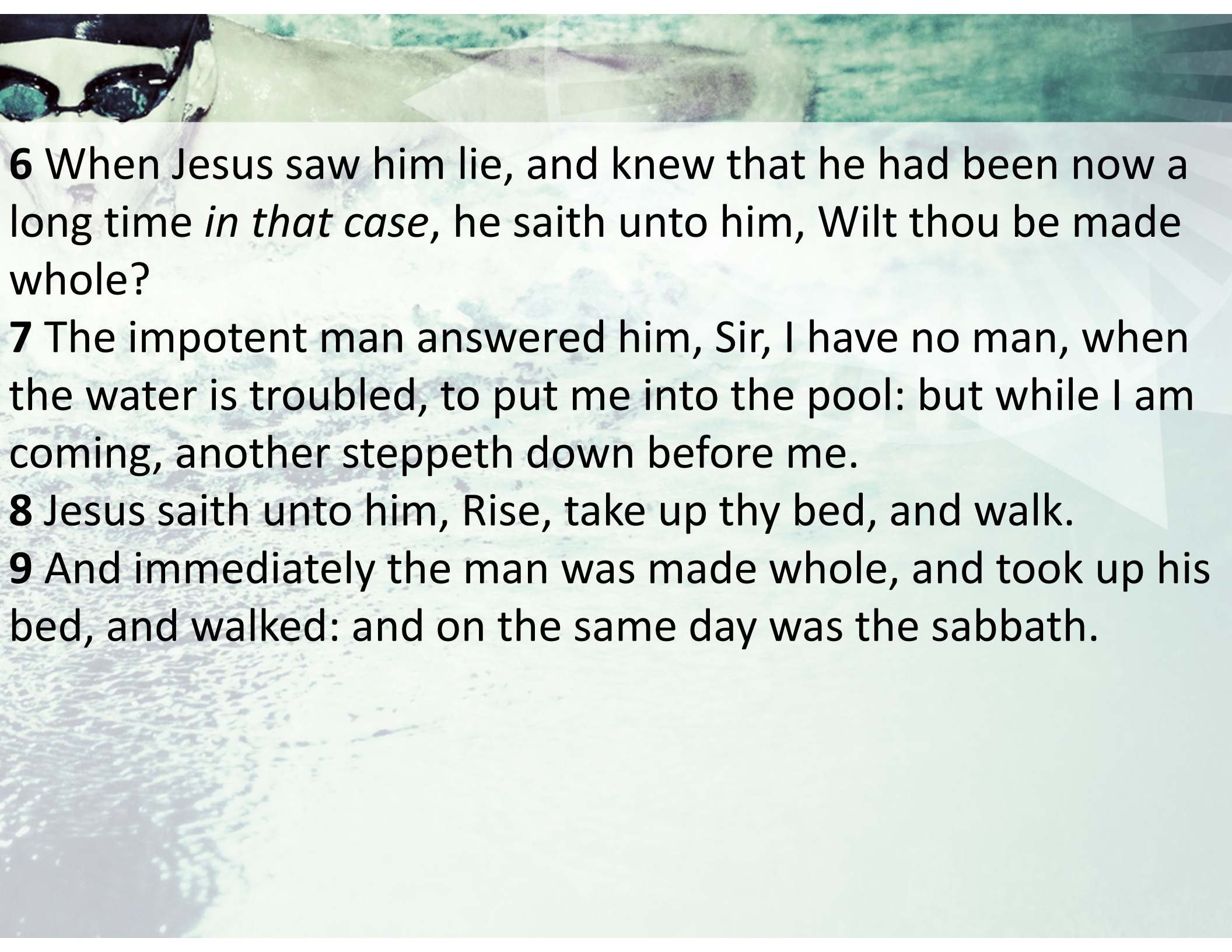
**John 5:1** After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

**2** Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep *market* a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches.

**3** In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water.

**4** For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

**5** And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.

A person wearing a swim cap and goggles is swimming in a pool. The water is clear and blue. The person's face is partially visible, and they are looking towards the camera.

**6** When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time *in that case*, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?

**7** The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.

**8** Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.

**9** And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.



[https://www.romancatholicman.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/PoolBethesda-770x439\\_c.jpg](https://www.romancatholicman.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/PoolBethesda-770x439_c.jpg)

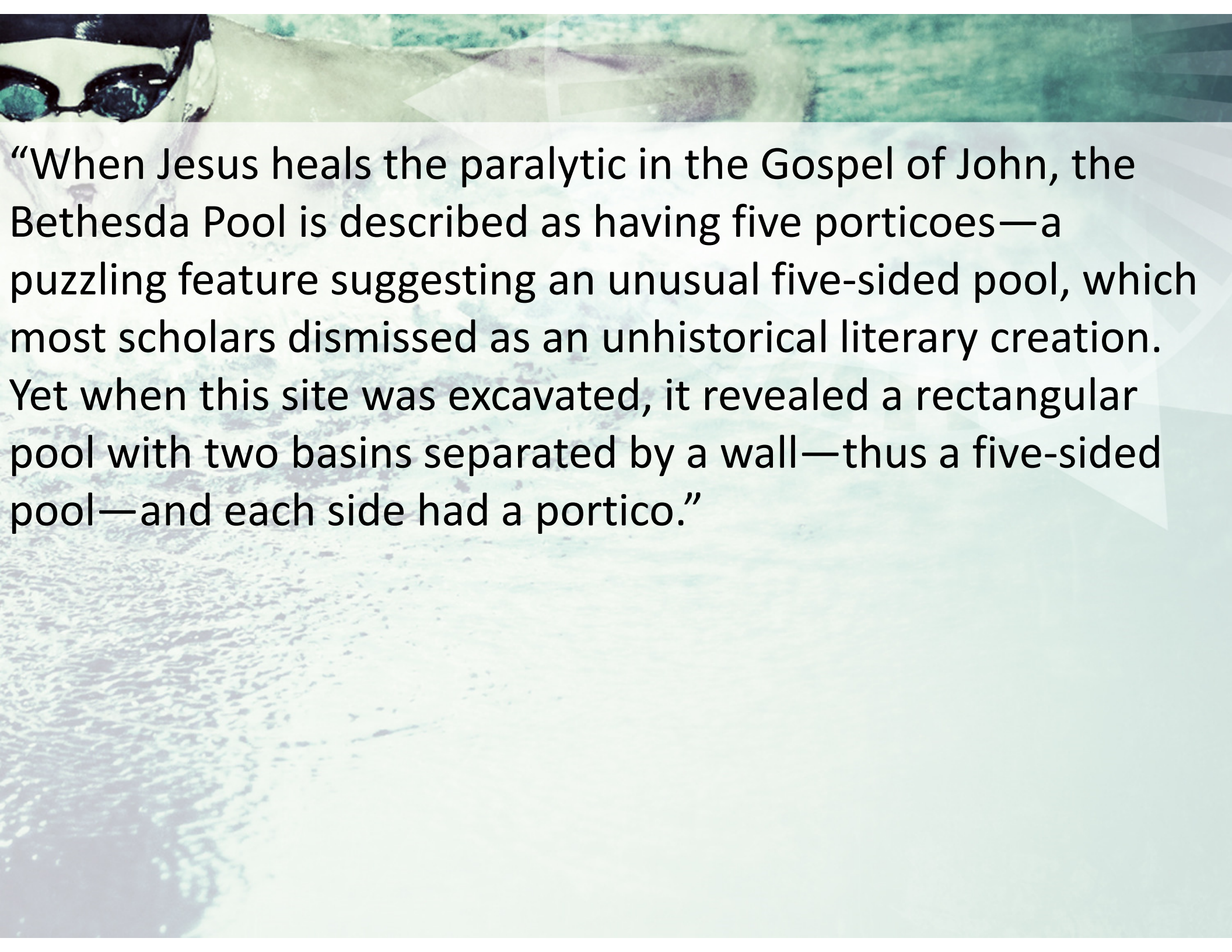


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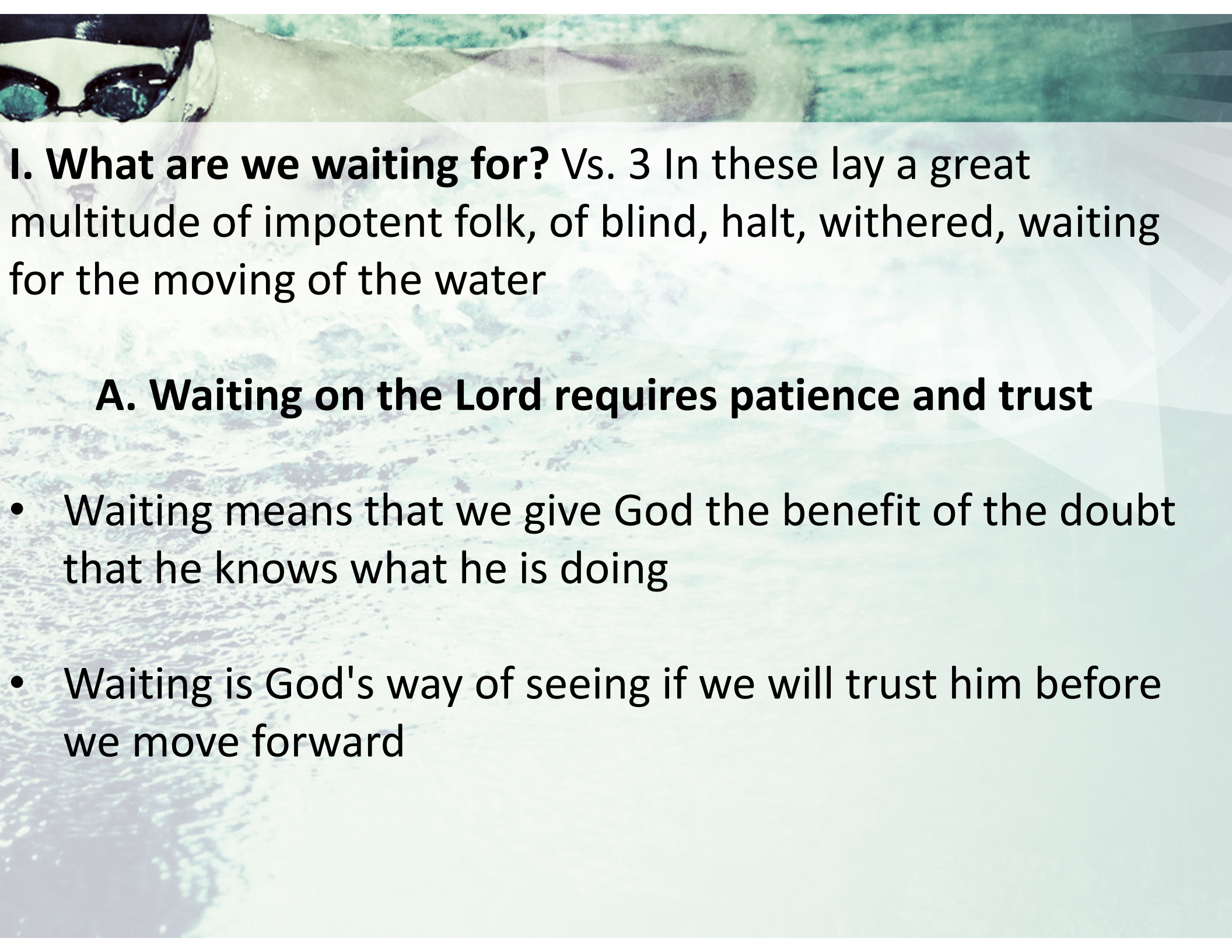
# Bethesda

- **“Bethesda” means “house of mercy”**
  - Located just inside the sheep gate
  - Had five covered porches
    - Several pools have been discovered near the Temple, but only one near sheep gate
    - And it had five porches



A swimmer wearing goggles is swimming in a pool. The water is clear and blue. The swimmer's face is visible in the upper left corner, wearing black goggles. The background shows the pool's edge and some greenery.

“When Jesus heals the paralytic in the Gospel of John, the Bethesda Pool is described as having five porticoes—a puzzling feature suggesting an unusual five-sided pool, which most scholars dismissed as an unhistorical literary creation. Yet when this site was excavated, it revealed a rectangular pool with two basins separated by a wall—thus a five-sided pool—and each side had a portico.”

A person wearing goggles is swimming in water. The background is a light blue and green gradient with a geometric pattern of overlapping triangles.

**I. What are we waiting for?** Vs. 3 In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water

**A. Waiting on the Lord requires patience and trust**

- Waiting means that we give God the benefit of the doubt that he knows what he is doing
- Waiting is God's way of seeing if we will trust him before we move forward



A swimmer wearing goggles and a cap, swimming in the ocean. The swimmer is in the foreground, and the background shows the ocean waves. The text is overlaid on the image.

## **B. Waiting on God reminds us that God is in control**

Psalms 130:5-6 I wait for the LORD, my soul doth wait, and in his word do I hope. My soul waiteth for the Lord more than they that watch for the morning: I say, more than they that watch for the morning.

- Waiting reminds me that I am not in charge
- Waiting reminds me that I am not God



## C. Waiting on the Lord allows God to do His work

- God's timing is best

Hab 2:1-3 I will stand upon my watch, and set me upon the tower, and will watch to see what he will say unto me, and what I shall answer when I am reprov'd.

And the LORD answered me, and said, Write the vision, and make it plain upon tables, that he may run that readeth it. For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: **though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry.**

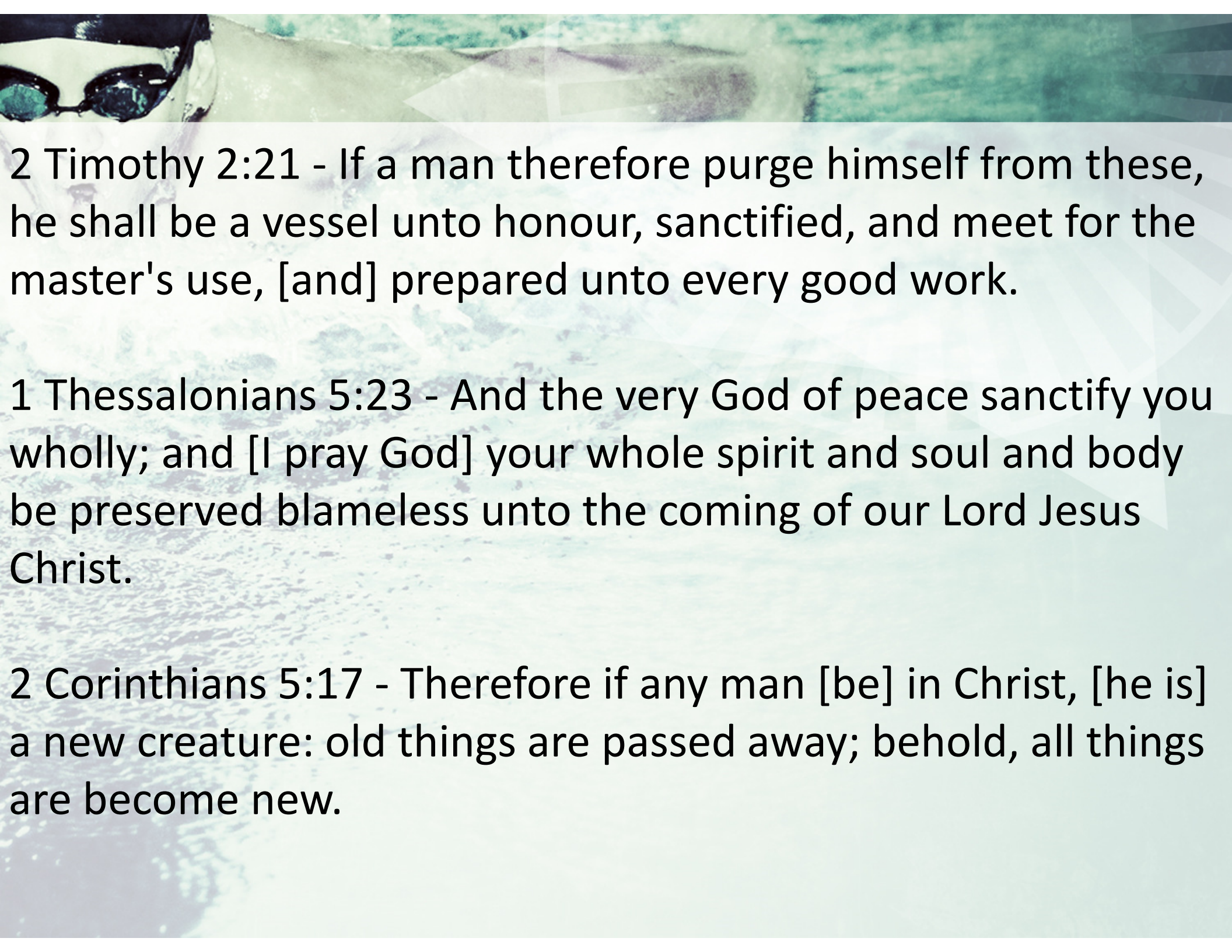
- God is working



**II. What is ailing us?** VS.5 And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.

Hebrews 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and **the sin which doth so easily beset us**, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us.

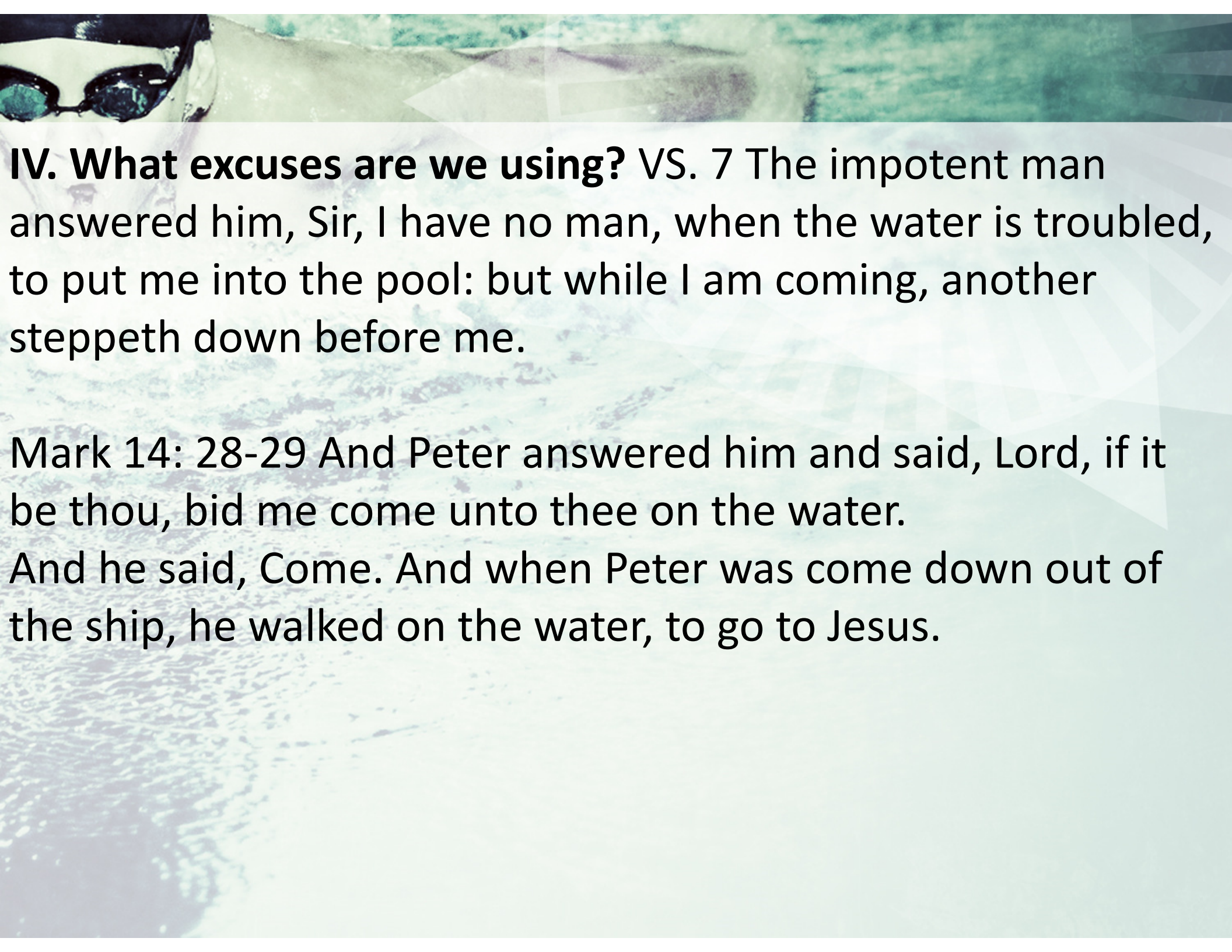
**III. Are we sure we want to “Go for a Swim”?** VS.6 When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?

A person wearing a swim cap and goggles is swimming in the ocean. The water is a deep blue-green color, and the person's face is partially visible in the upper left corner. The background is a soft, out-of-focus view of the sea.

2 Timothy 2:21 - If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, [and] prepared unto every good work.

1 Thessalonians 5:23 - And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and [I pray God] your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 - Therefore if any man [be] in Christ, [he is] a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

A swimmer wearing goggles and a cap, swimming in a pool. The swimmer is in the foreground, and the water is visible in the background. The swimmer's face is partially visible, and they are looking forward. The water is a light blue color, and there are some ripples on the surface. The swimmer's cap is black, and the goggles are black with clear lenses. The swimmer's arms are extended forward, and they appear to be in a swimming stroke. The background shows a pool lane with lane lines.

**IV. What excuses are we using?** VS. 7 The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.

Mark 14: 28-29 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.