

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit,

for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 Blessed are those who mourn,

for they will be comforted.

5 Blessed are the meek,

for they will inherit the earth.

6 Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

for they will be filled.

7 Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

8 Blessed are the pure in heart,
for they will see God.

9 Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.

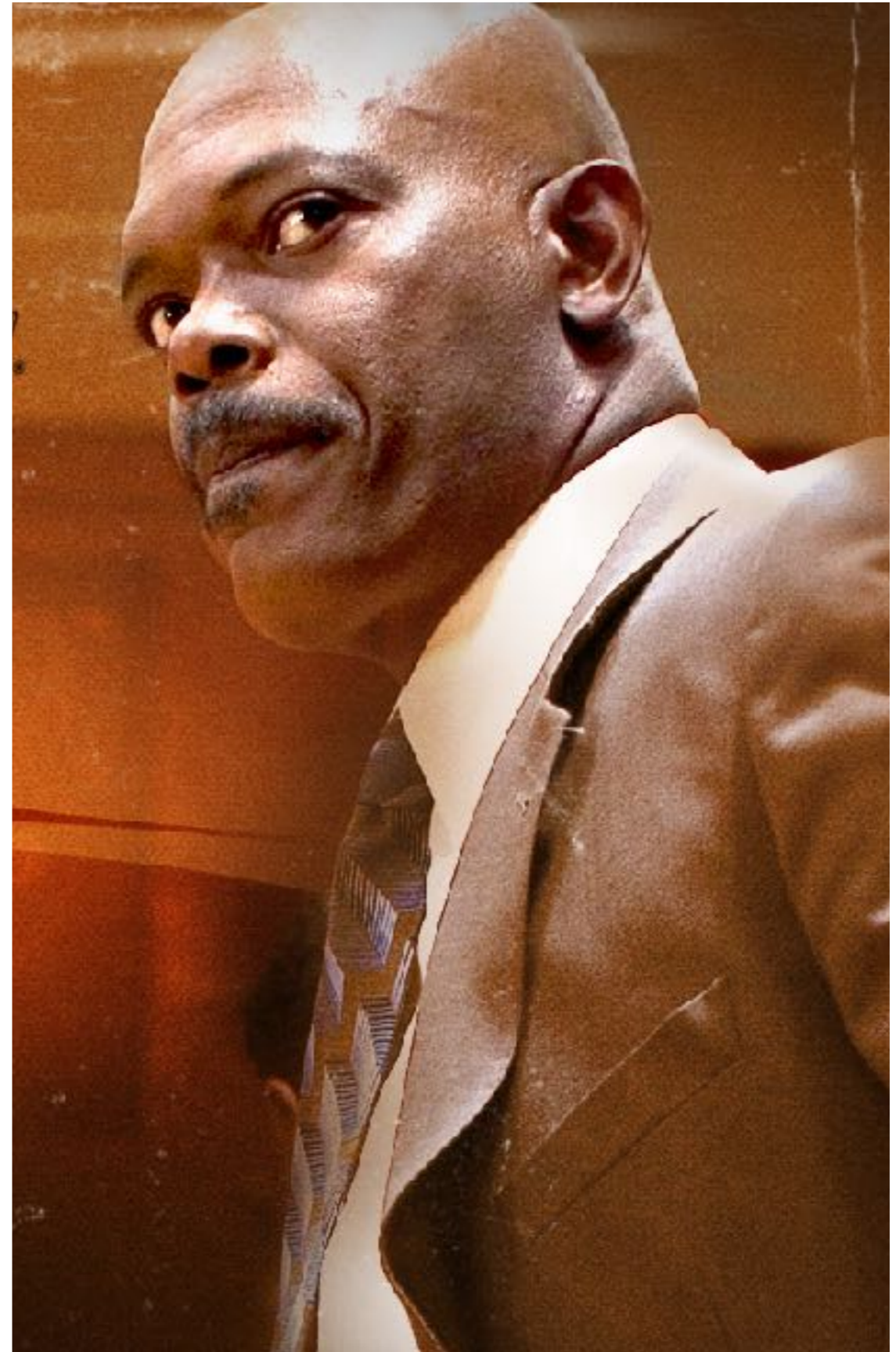
10 Blessed are those who are persecuted because of
righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people insult you,
persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against
you because of me. 12 Rejoice and be glad, because
great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way
they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

#blessed

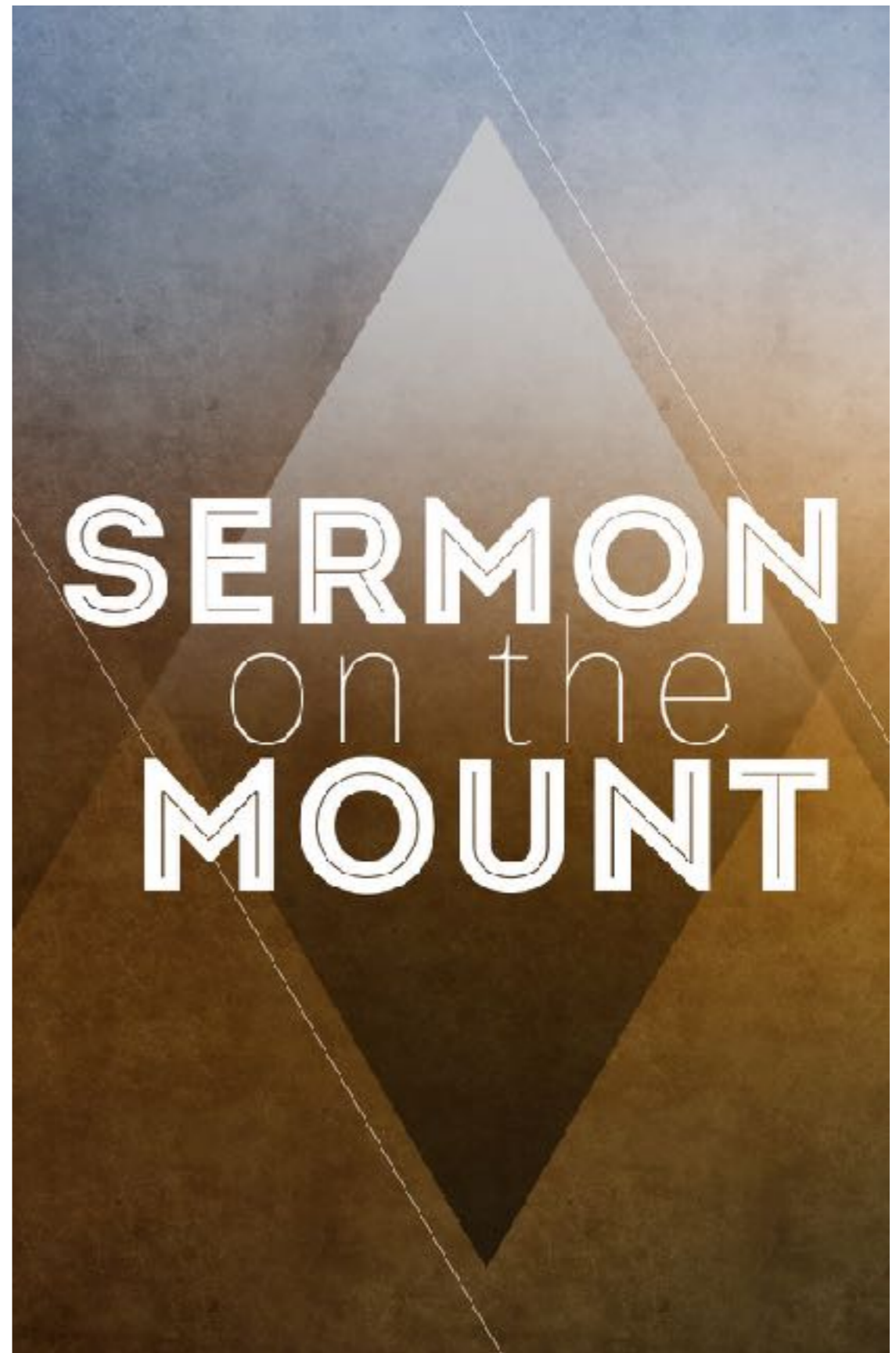
New Communities, New
Ways

Why would they kill Jesus?



#blessed

New Period in Salvation
History



“The life of heaven - the life of the realm where God is already king - is to become the life of the world, transforming the present ‘earth’ into the place of beauty and delight that God always intended. *And those who follow Jesus are to begin to live by this rule here and now.*”

–N.T. Wright

- be poor in spirit
- mourn
- be meek
- hunger and thirst for righteousness
- be merciful
- be pure in heart
- be peacemakers
- be persecuted for the sake of the kingdom
- be insulted, persecuted, maligned
- rejoice and be glad

“Only through membership in a nonviolent community can violent individuals do better. The Sermon on the Mount does not encourage heroic individualism, it defeats it with its demands that we be perfect even as God is perfect, that we deal with others as God has dealt with us.”

–Stanley Hauerwas and Will Willimon