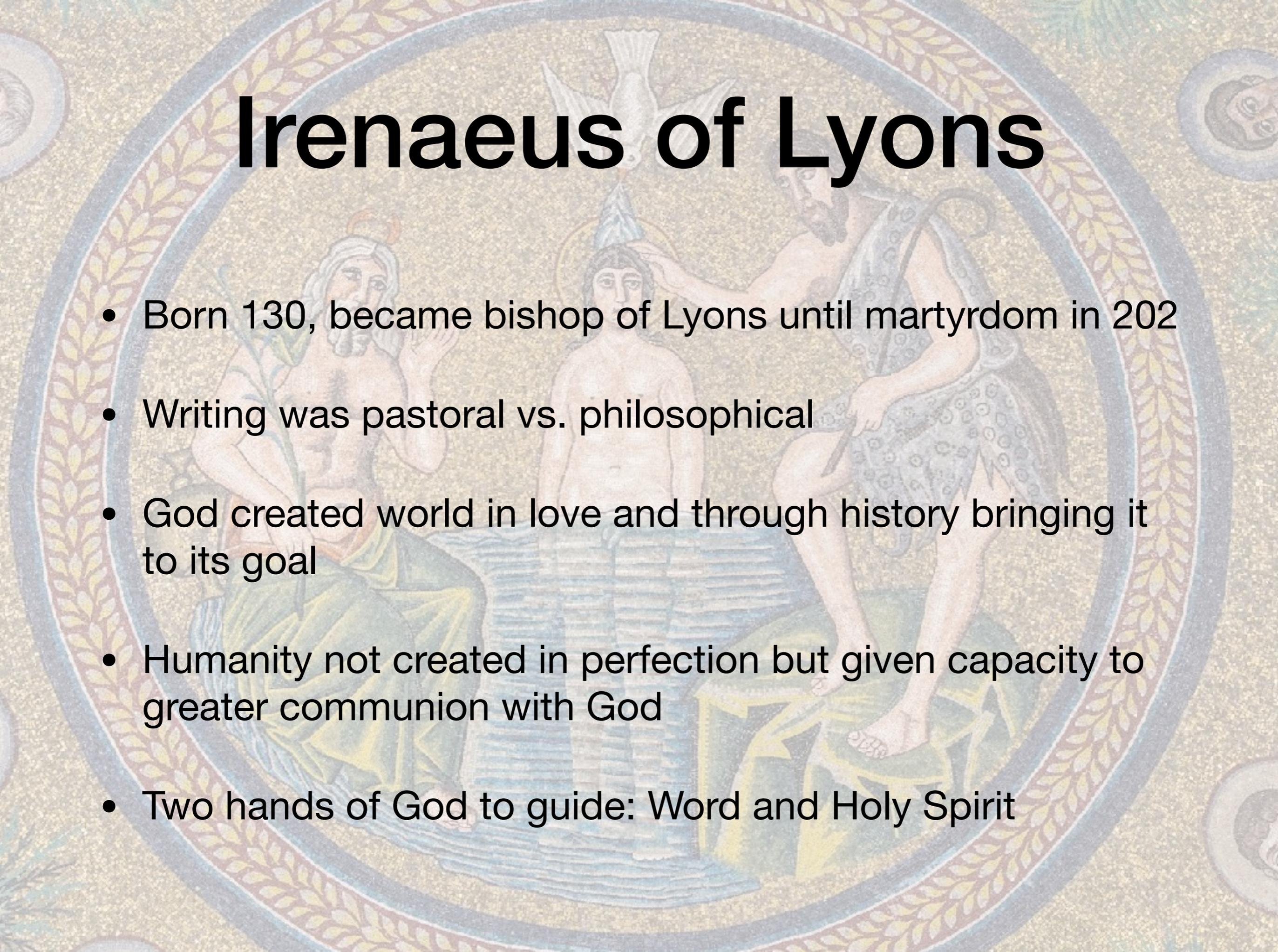
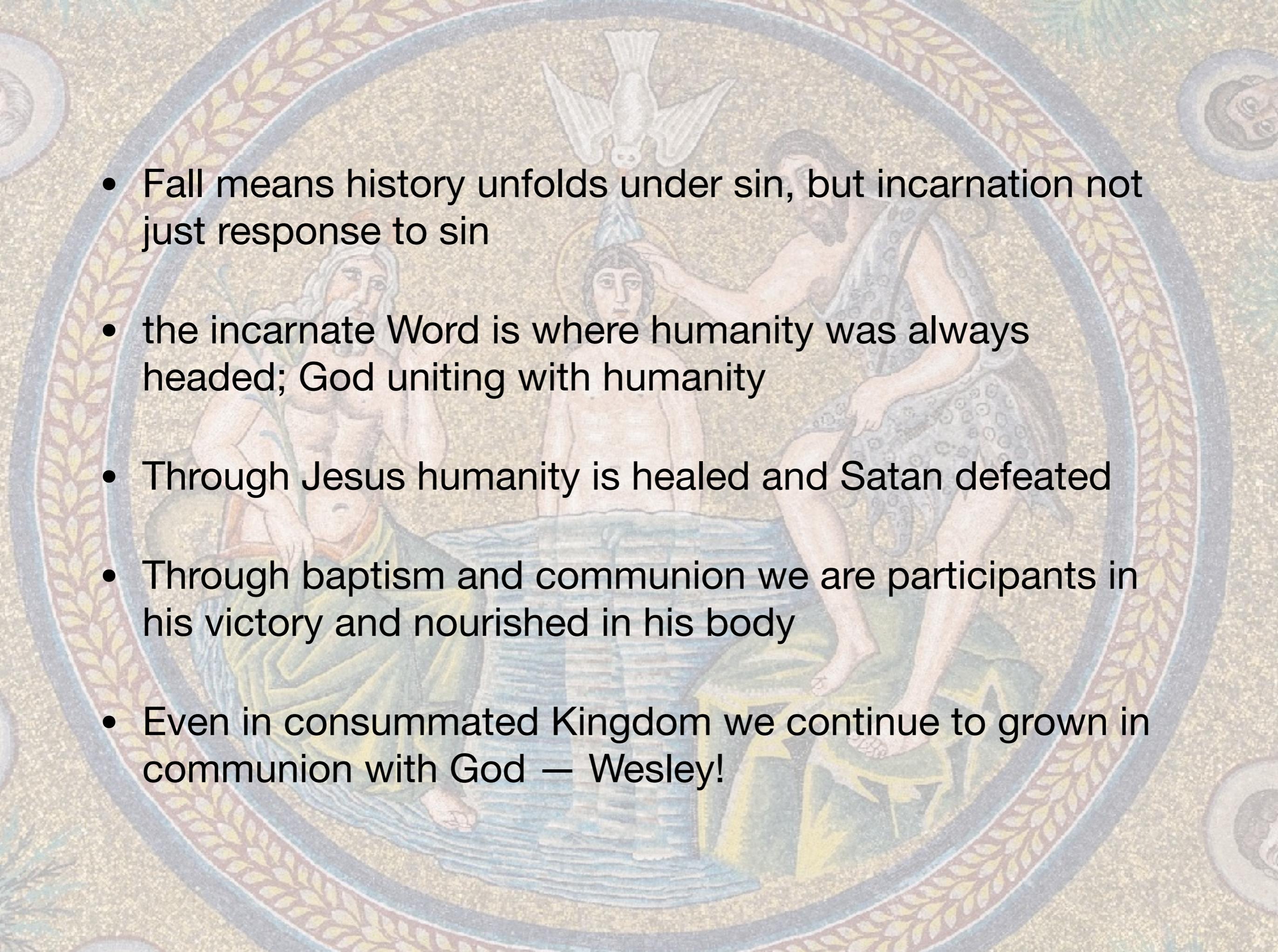


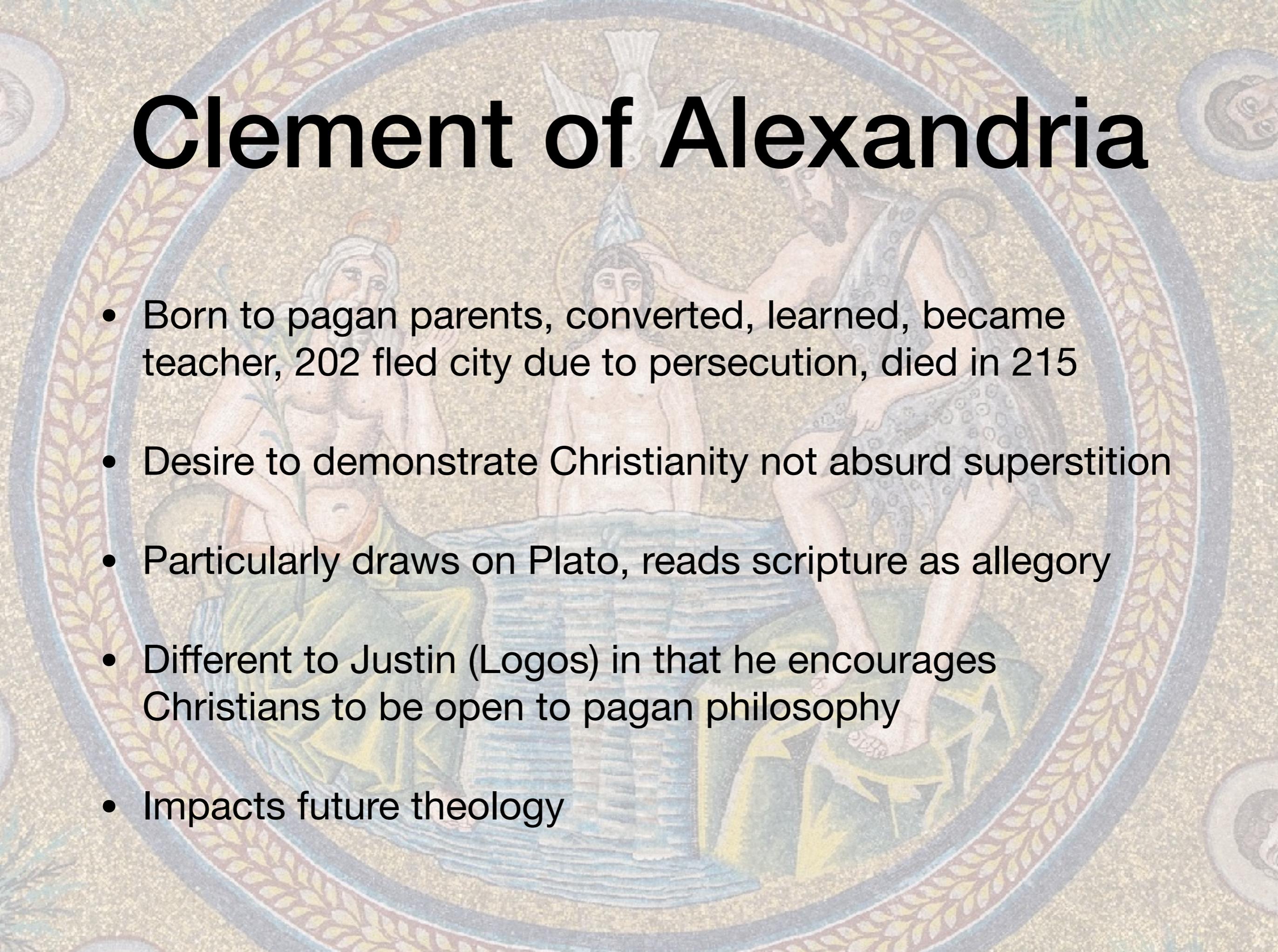
# Irenaeus of Lyons



- Born 130, became bishop of Lyons until martyrdom in 202
- Writing was pastoral vs. philosophical
- God created world in love and through history bringing it to its goal
- Humanity not created in perfection but given capacity to greater communion with God
- Two hands of God to guide: Word and Holy Spirit

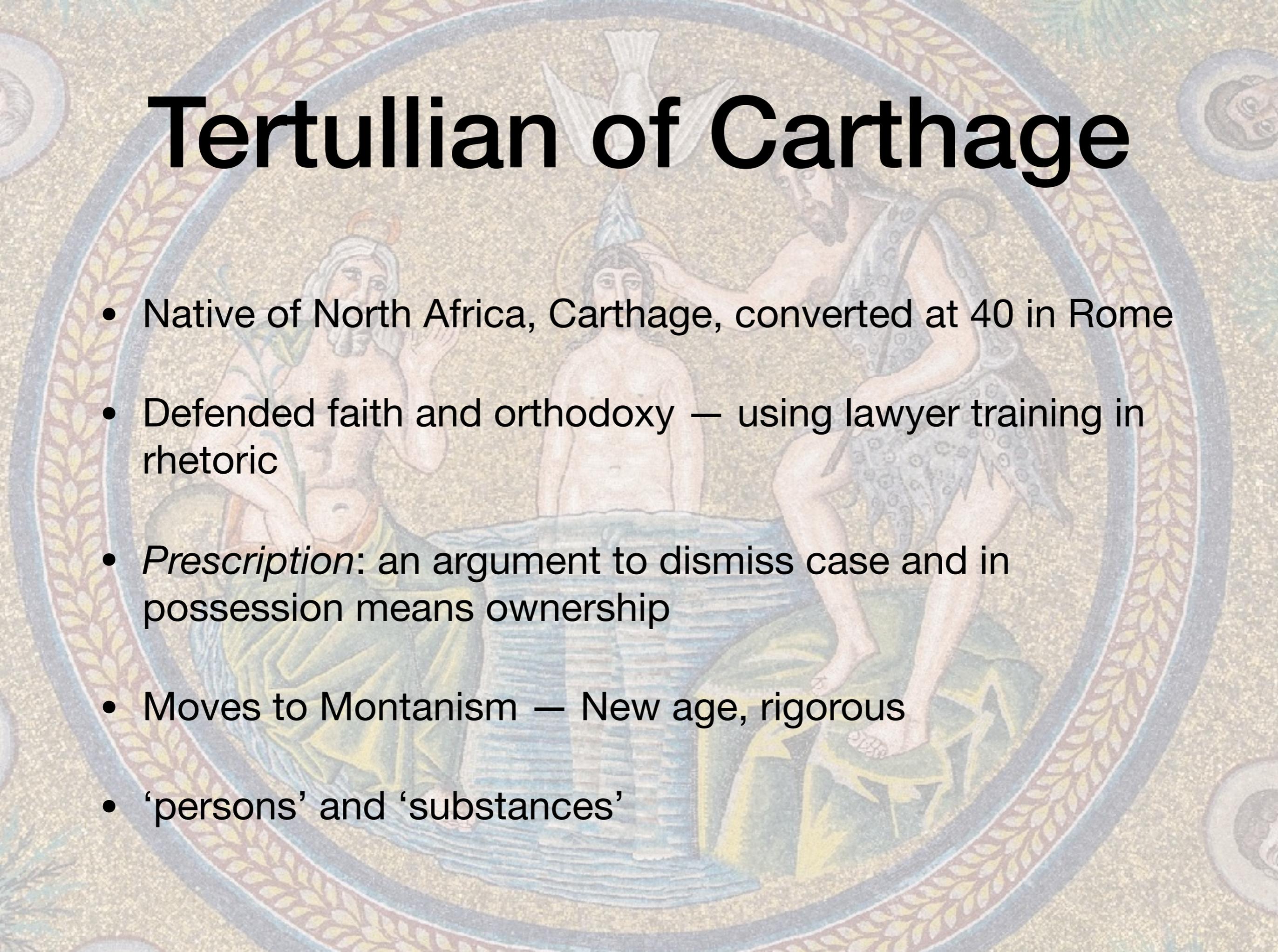
- 
- Fall means history unfolds under sin, but incarnation not just response to sin
  - the incarnate Word is where humanity was always headed; God uniting with humanity
  - Through Jesus humanity is healed and Satan defeated
  - Through baptism and communion we are participants in his victory and nourished in his body
  - Even in consummated Kingdom we continue to grow in communion with God — Wesley!

# Clement of Alexandria



- Born to pagan parents, converted, learned, became teacher, 202 fled city due to persecution, died in 215
- Desire to demonstrate Christianity not absurd superstition
- Particularly draws on Plato, reads scripture as allegory
- Different to Justin (Logos) in that he encourages Christians to be open to pagan philosophy
- Impacts future theology

# Tertullian of Carthage

A circular mosaic background depicting a religious scene. In the center, a figure with a halo and a blue, pointed hat sits on a throne. To the left, another figure with a halo and a yellow robe sits on a throne. To the right, a third figure with a beard and a blue, patterned robe sits on a throne. Above the central figure, a white dove with outstretched wings is visible. The entire scene is framed by a decorative border of yellow and green leaves.

- Native of North Africa, Carthage, converted at 40 in Rome
- Defended faith and orthodoxy — using lawyer training in rhetoric
- *Prescription*: an argument to dismiss case and in possession means ownership
- Moves to Montanism — New age, rigorous
- ‘persons’ and ‘substances’

# Origen of Alexandria

- Raised by Christian parents, greatest disciple of Clement
- Father martyred, son prevented by mother
- Suffered persecution under Decius died 70 years
- Affirms important doctrines of the church (orthodoxy)
- Speculations takes him far afield
- Often more Platonist than Christian

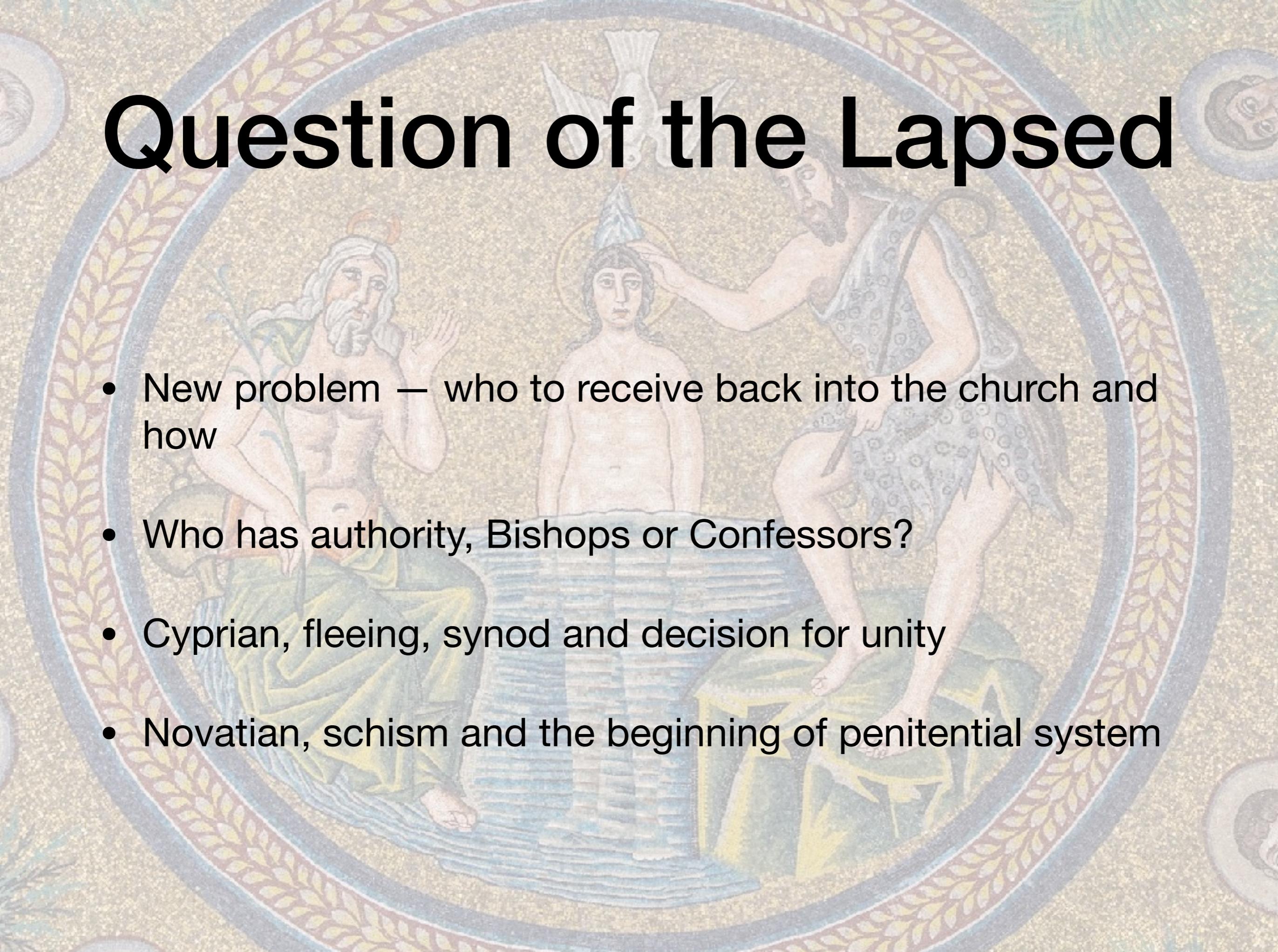
# Persecution Under Septimius Severus

- All subjects under Unconquered Sun; Not Jews & Christians
- Stop spread by outlawing and punishing conversions
- Martyrdom of Perpetual and Felicitas 203
- Persecution then faded

# Persecution Under Decius

- Rome neglected gods, gods now neglecting Rome
- To refuse worship was high treason (good of the empire)
- Some worshiped, some purchased, some caved, some stood firm
- Few martyrs, new group *Confessors*

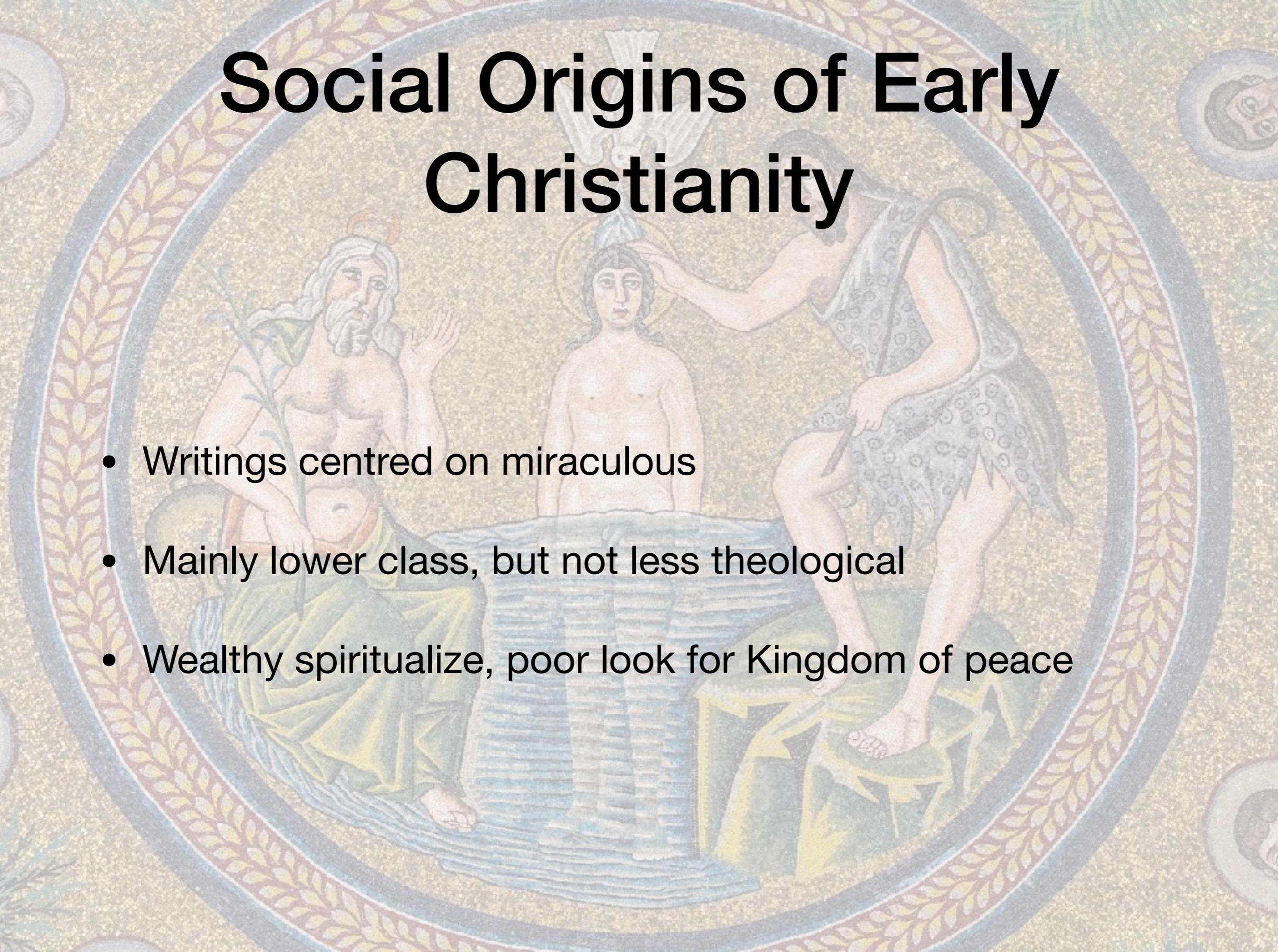
# Question of the Lapsed



- New problem — who to receive back into the church and how
- Who has authority, Bishops or Confessors?
- Cyprian, fleeing, synod and decision for unity
- Novatian, schism and the beginning of penitential system

# Social Origins of Early Christianity

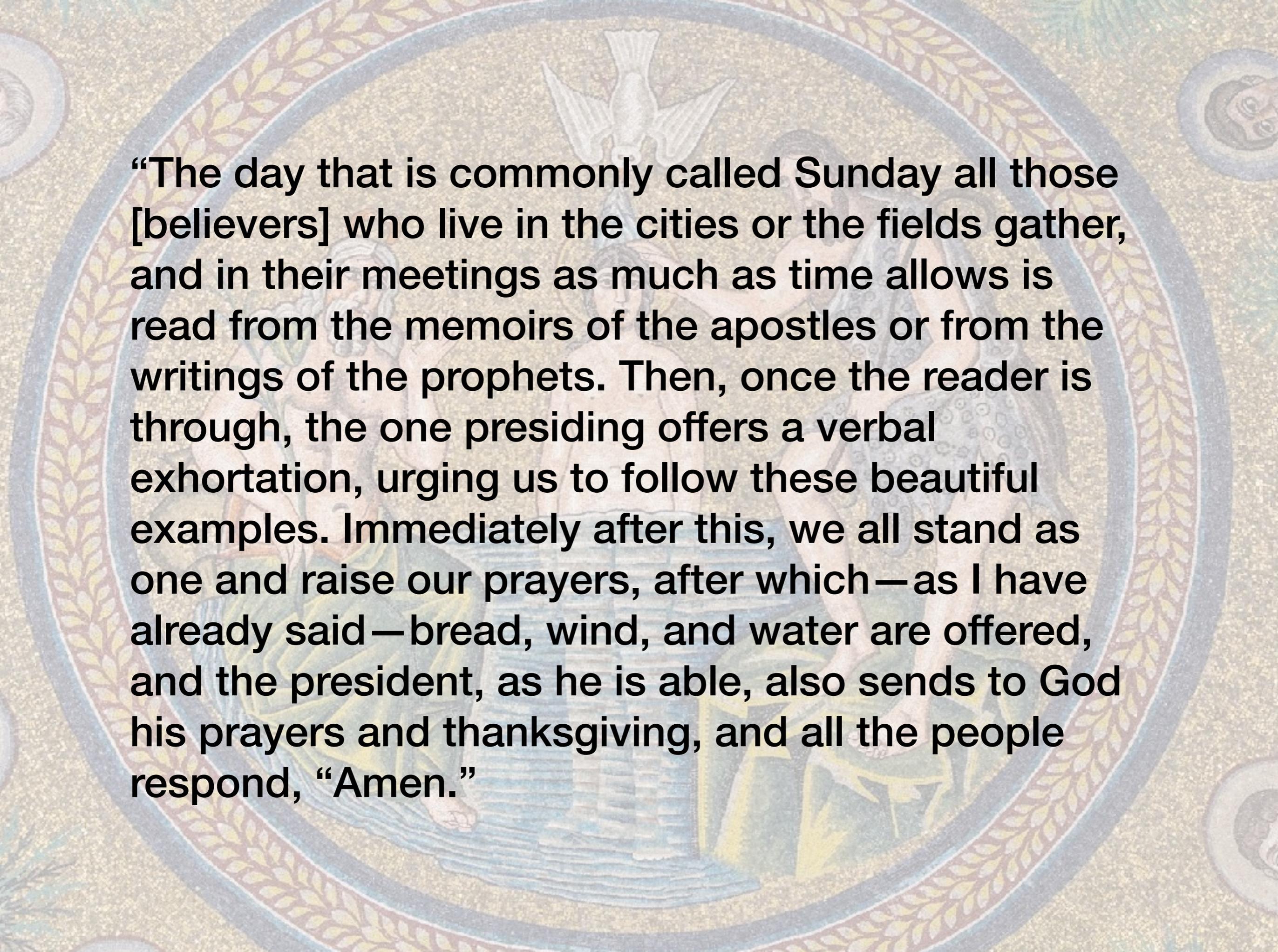
- Writings centred on miraculous
- Mainly lower class, but not less theological
- Wealthy spiritualize, poor look for Kingdom of peace



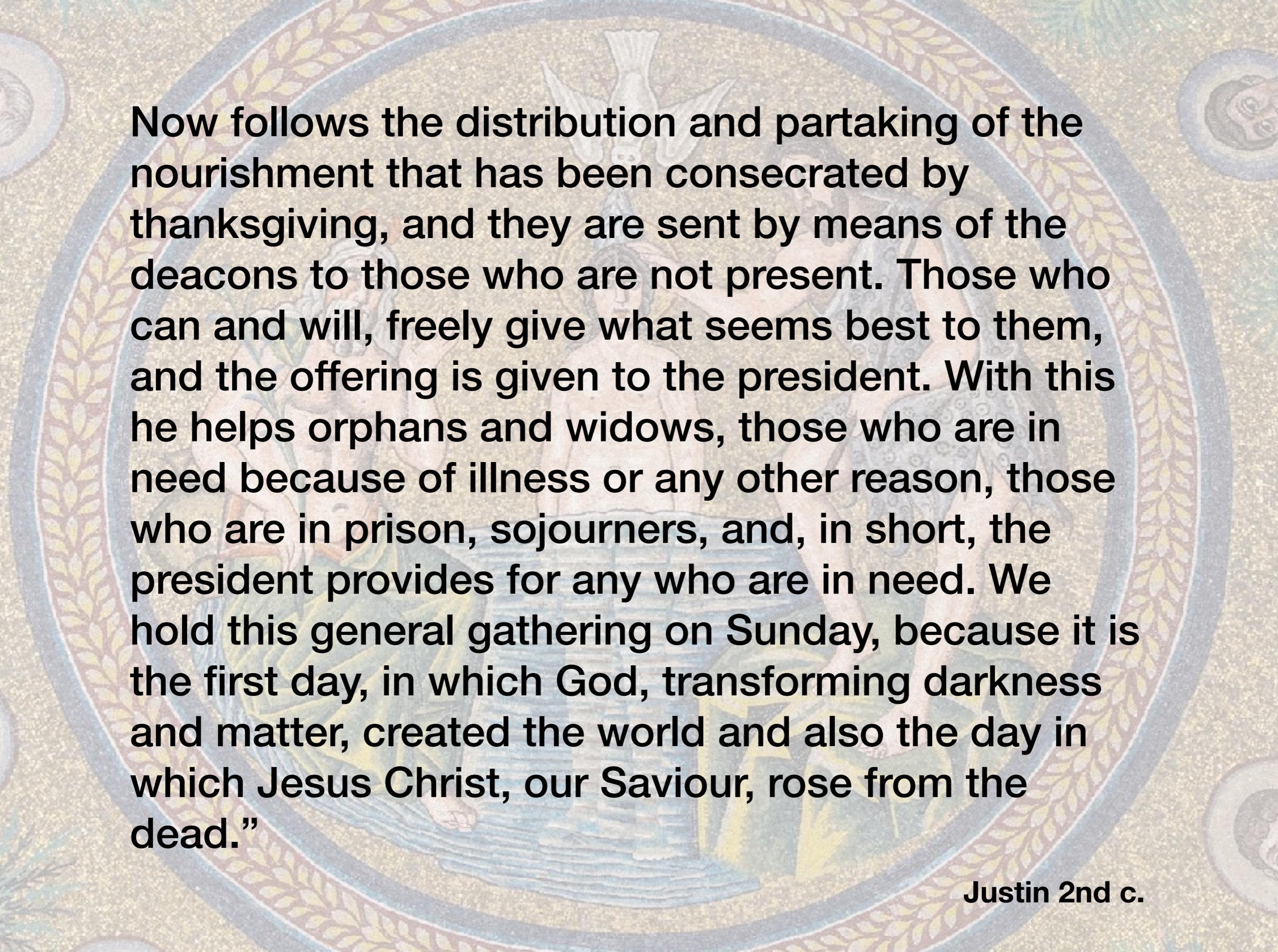
# Christian Worship



- Gather on Sunday to break bread
- New, joyful reality to participate in and celebrate with communion at the centre
- Communion set within the common meal



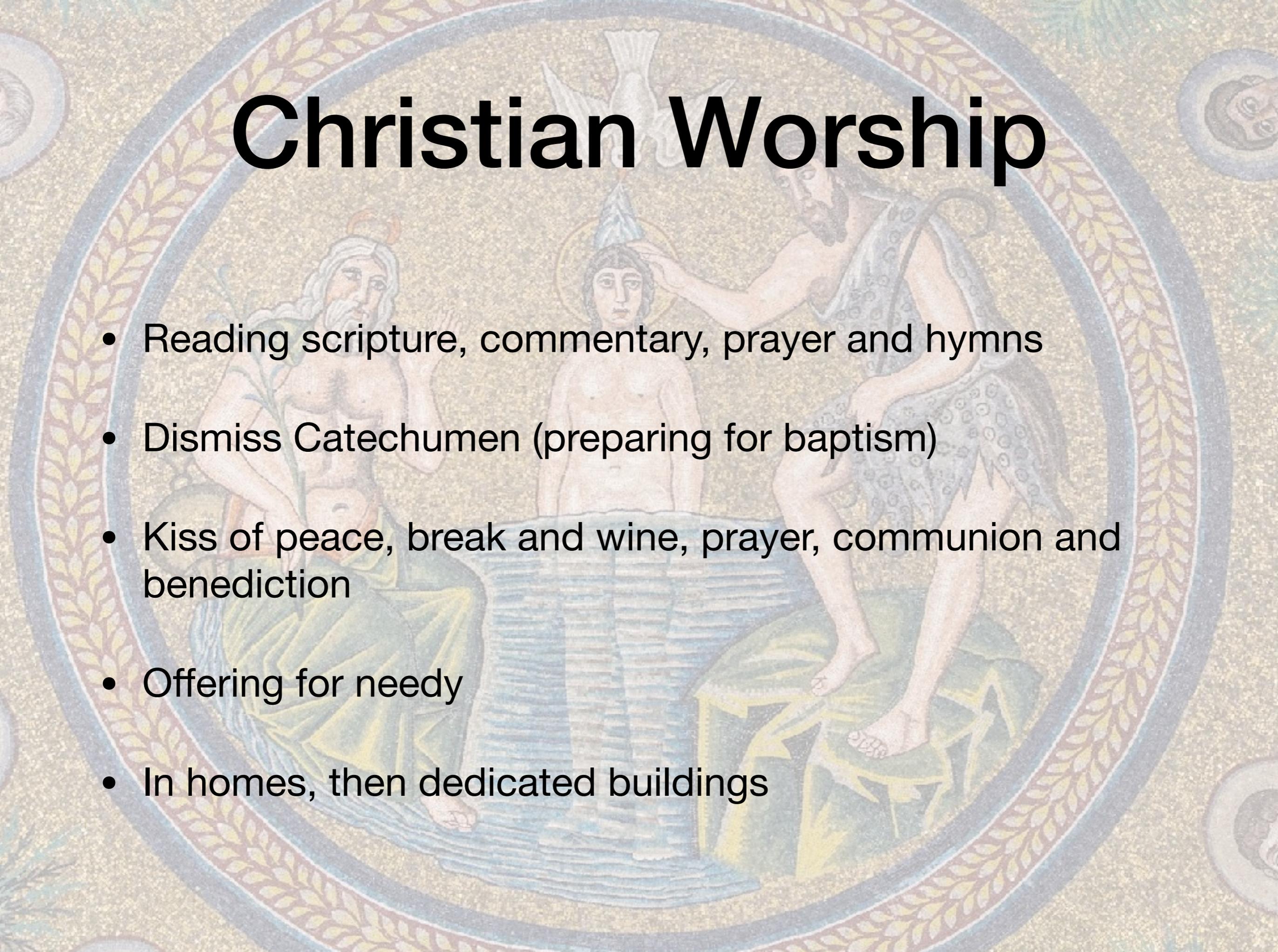
**“The day that is commonly called Sunday all those [believers] who live in the cities or the fields gather, and in their meetings as much as time allows is read from the memoirs of the apostles or from the writings of the prophets. Then, once the reader is through, the one presiding offers a verbal exhortation, urging us to follow these beautiful examples. Immediately after this, we all stand as one and raise our prayers, after which—as I have already said—bread, wine, and water are offered, and the president, as he is able, also sends to God his prayers and thanksgiving, and all the people respond, “Amen.”**



Now follows the distribution and partaking of the nourishment that has been consecrated by thanksgiving, and they are sent by means of the deacons to those who are not present. Those who can and will, freely give what seems best to them, and the offering is given to the president. With this he helps orphans and widows, those who are in need because of illness or any other reason, those who are in prison, sojourners, and, in short, the president provides for any who are in need. We hold this general gathering on Sunday, because it is the first day, in which God, transforming darkness and matter, created the world and also the day in which Jesus Christ, our Saviour, rose from the dead.”

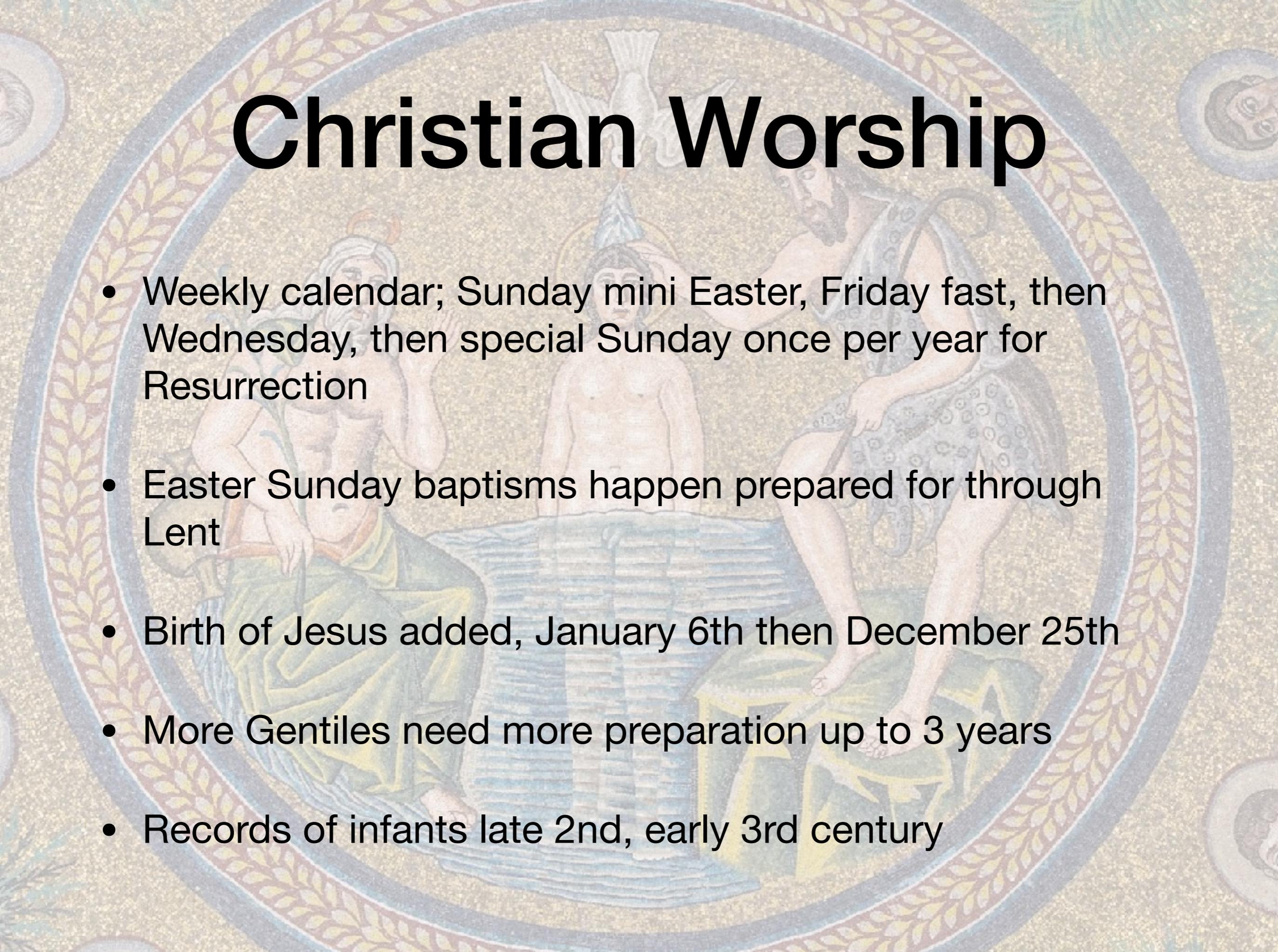
Justin 2nd c.

# Christian Worship



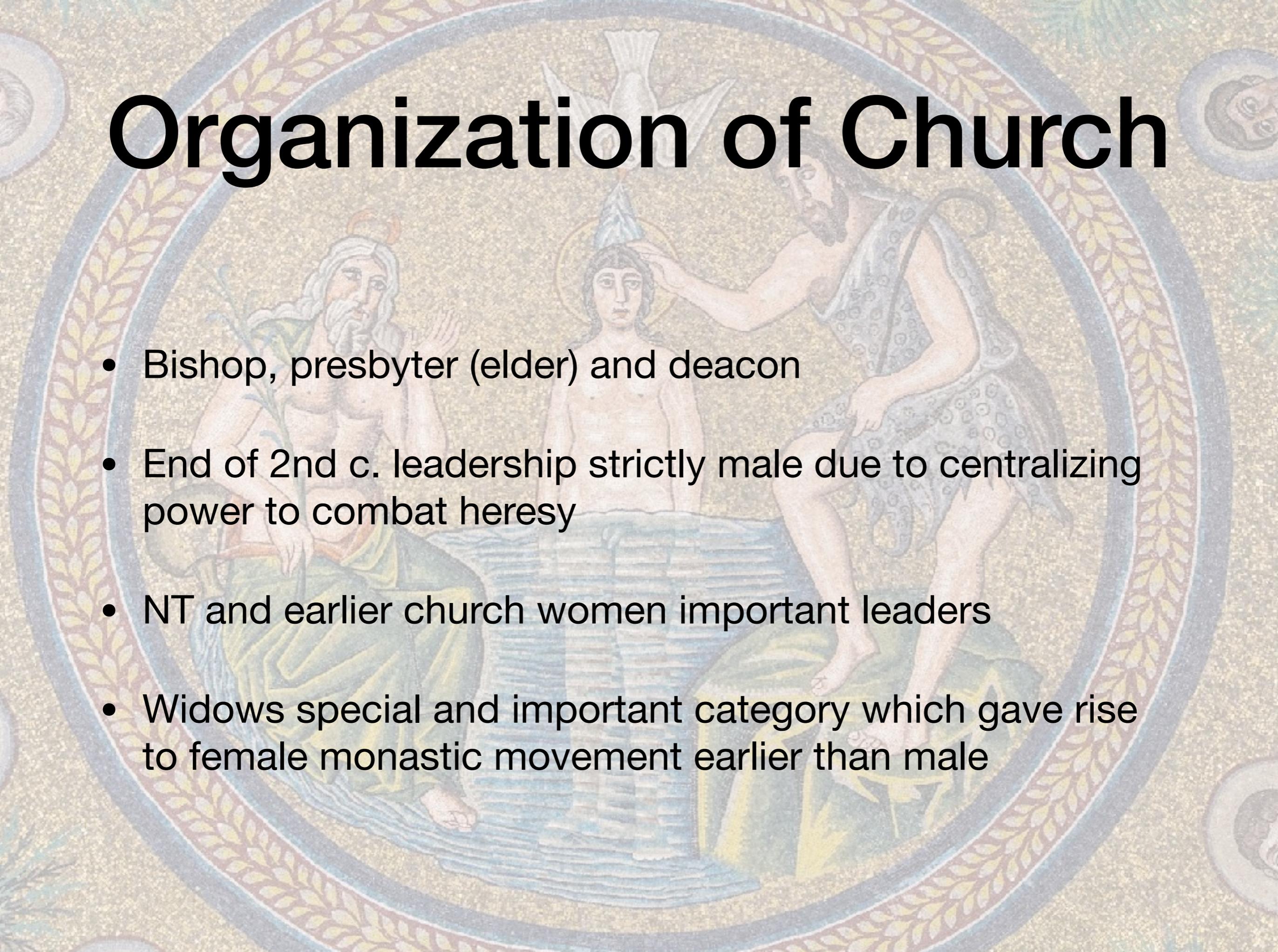
- Reading scripture, commentary, prayer and hymns
- Dismiss Catechumen (preparing for baptism)
- Kiss of peace, break and wine, prayer, communion and benediction
- Offering for needy
- In homes, then dedicated buildings

# Christian Worship



- Weekly calendar; Sunday mini Easter, Friday fast, then Wednesday, then special Sunday once per year for Resurrection
- Easter Sunday baptisms happen prepared for through Lent
- Birth of Jesus added, January 6th then December 25th
- More Gentiles need more preparation up to 3 years
- Records of infants late 2nd, early 3rd century

# Organization of Church

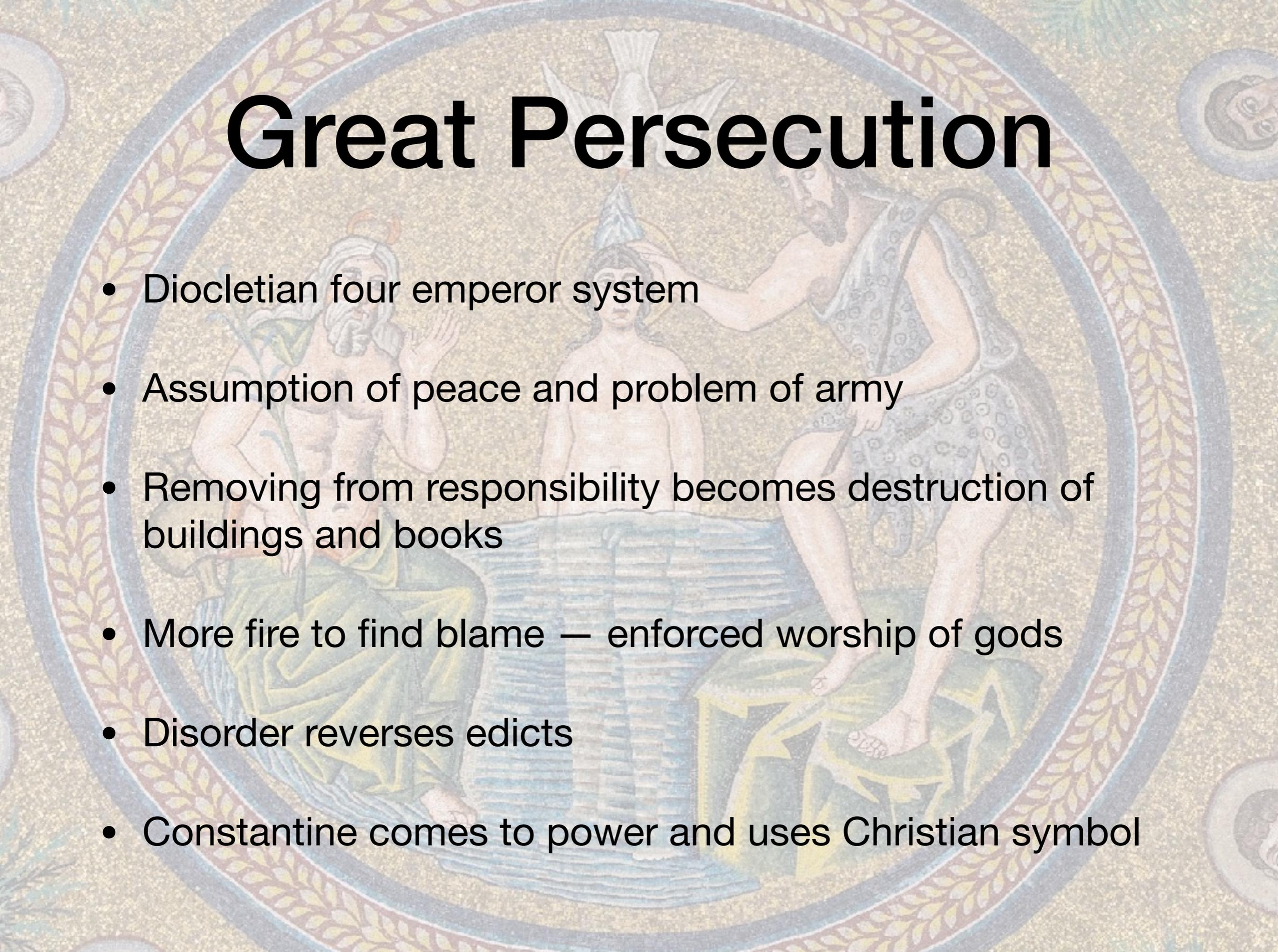


- Bishop, presbyter (elder) and deacon
- End of 2nd c. leadership strictly male due to centralizing power to combat heresy
- NT and earlier church women important leaders
- Widows special and important category which gave rise to female monastic movement earlier than male

# Missionary and Art

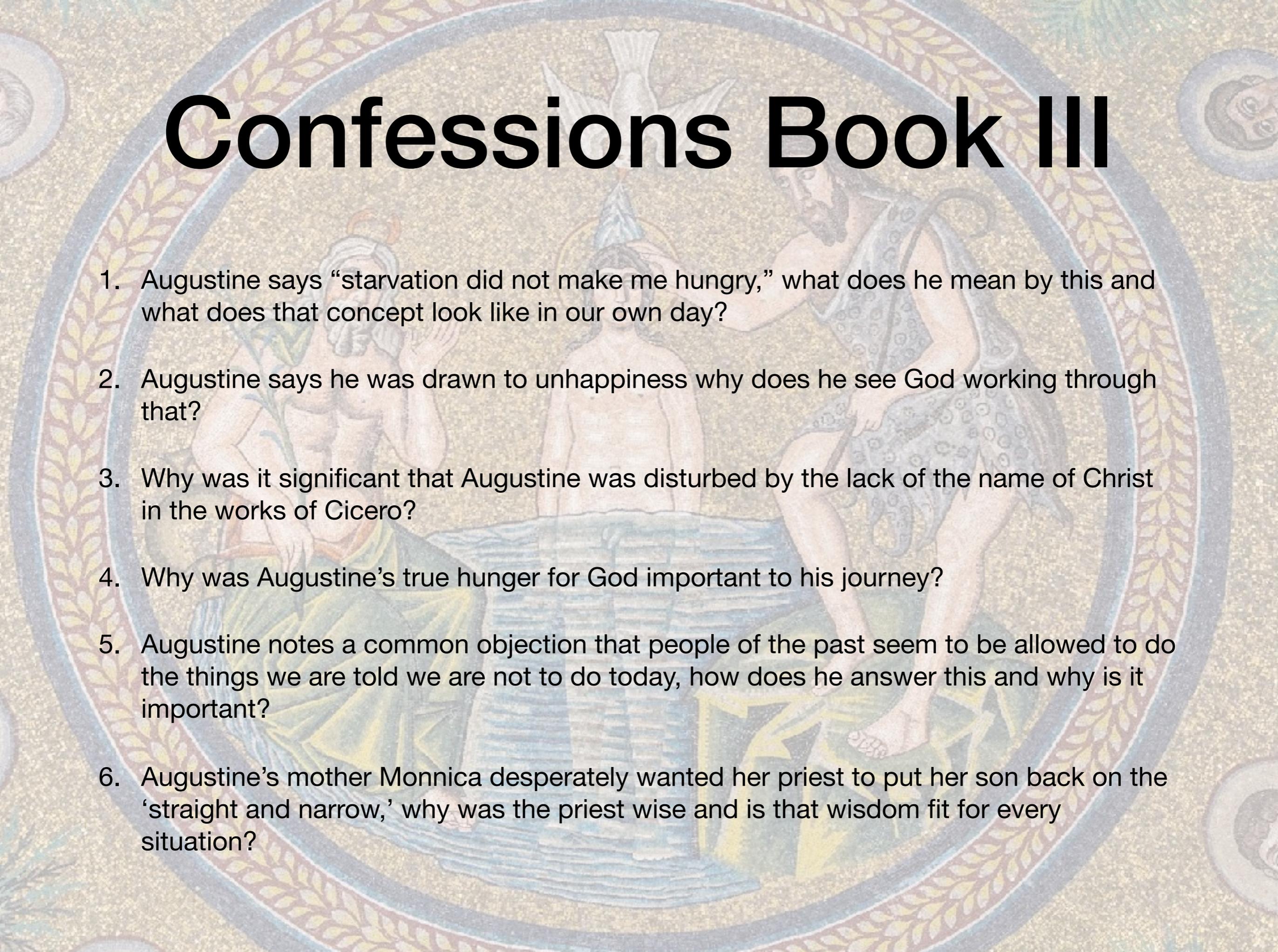
- Non-missionaries carried the message with great effect
- Art developed with owning cemeteries often of communion
- ICHTHYS “Jesus Christ, Son of God, Saviour”

# Great Persecution



- Diocletian four emperor system
- Assumption of peace and problem of army
- Removing from responsibility becomes destruction of buildings and books
- More fire to find blame — enforced worship of gods
- Disorder reverses edicts
- Constantine comes to power and uses Christian symbol

# Confessions Book III



1. Augustine says “starvation did not make me hungry,” what does he mean by this and what does that concept look like in our own day?
2. Augustine says he was drawn to unhappiness why does he see God working through that?
3. Why was it significant that Augustine was disturbed by the lack of the name of Christ in the works of Cicero?
4. Why was Augustine’s true hunger for God important to his journey?
5. Augustine notes a common objection that people of the past seem to be allowed to do the things we are told we are not to do today, how does he answer this and why is it important?
6. Augustine’s mother Monnica desperately wanted her priest to put her son back on the ‘straight and narrow,’ why was the priest wise and is that wisdom fit for every situation?