

The background of the slide is a photograph of a sunset over a body of water. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright orange and yellow glow that reflects on the water. In the foreground, the silhouettes of two people are visible on the right side, appearing to be looking at something in the water. On the left side, the silhouette of a sailboat is visible. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

Servant Leadership in Scripture

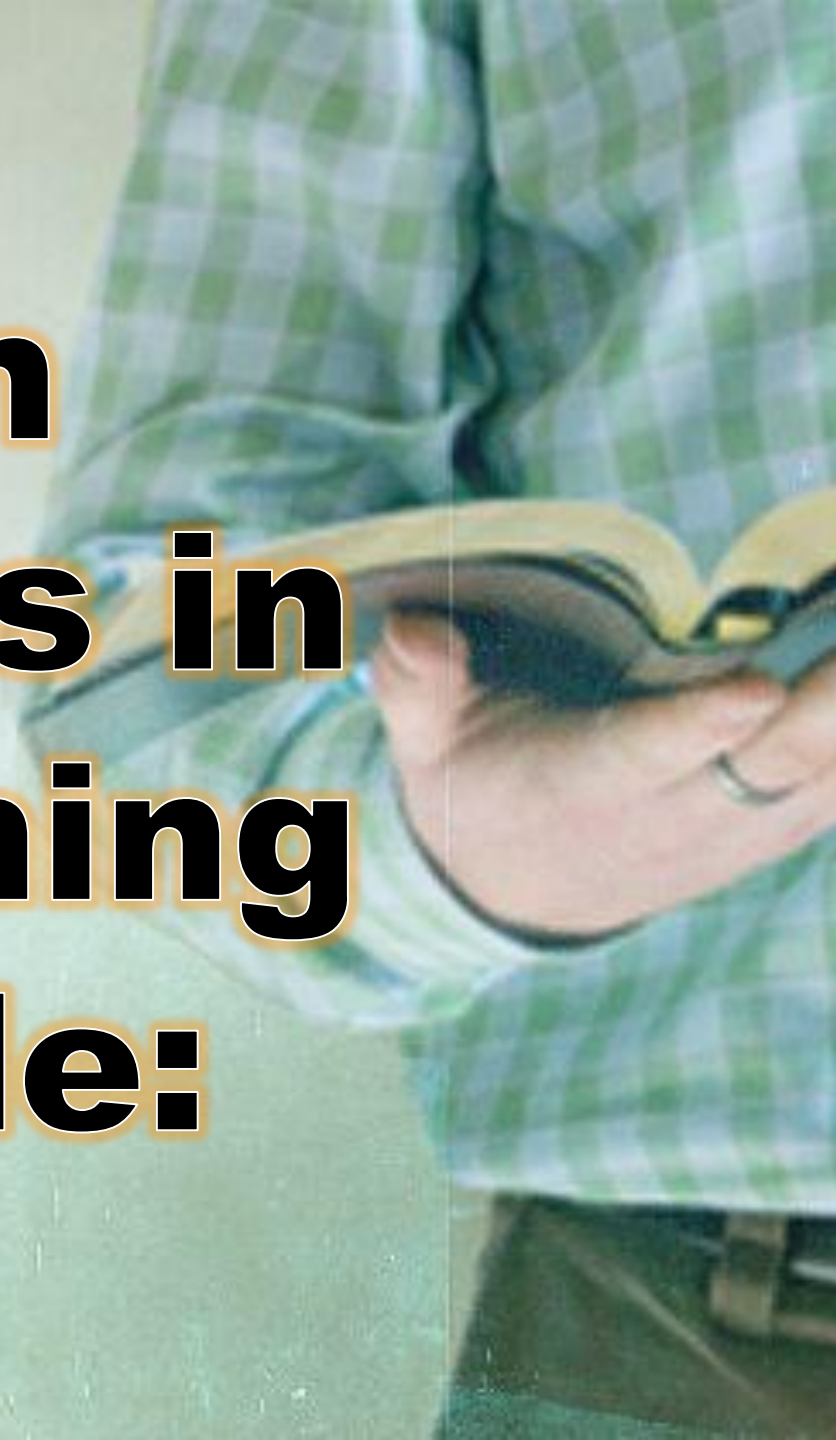
SERVANT

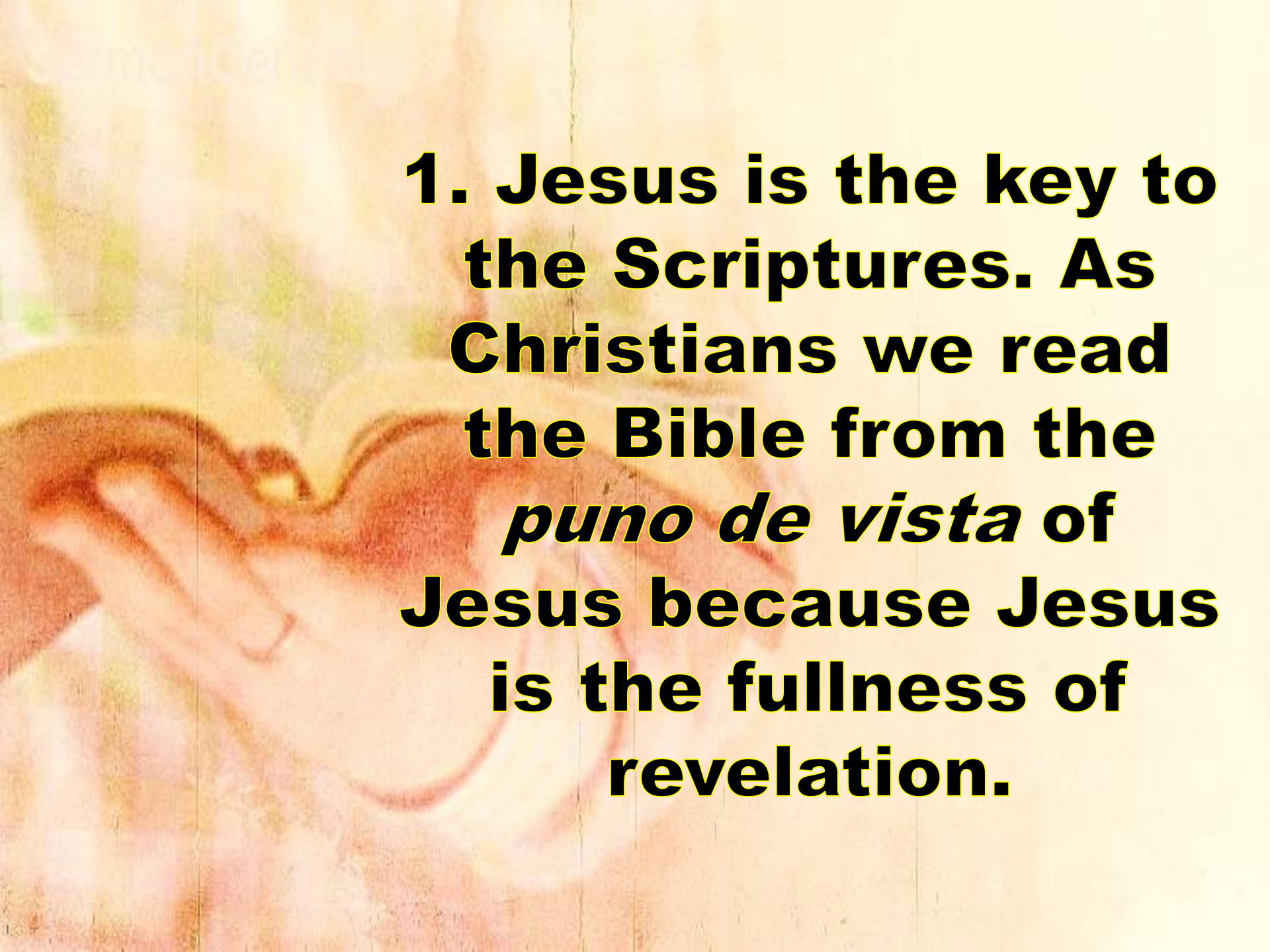
His Excellency

Most Rev. Broderick S. Pabillo, DD

Auxiliary Bishop of Manila

**2 main
principles in
approaching
the Bible:**





1. Jesus is the key to the Scriptures. As Christians we read the Bible from the *puno de vista* of Jesus because Jesus is the fullness of revelation.

2. Although the books of the Bible are written by different persons, there is unity in the Bible because the same Holy Spirit inspired all the writers. So we can understand one text with the aid of another text.
“We read the Bible with the Bible.”

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP IS

Christ – centered:

**“I have set an example”
(John 13: 15)**



**Imitate me as I
imitate Christ**

**It is no longer I
who lives but
Christ who
lives in me**

CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP IS

Service – oriented:

**NOT authority /
status / power**



**Luke 22,
24-27**

Lord Over

- Power base
- Authoritarian
(Source of Authority: Self)
- Drives like a tyrant

Servant Among

- Love / service base
- Steward of Authority
(exercises authority responsibly)
- Leads like a shepherd



Lord Over

- Needs strength to subject others
- Thinks indispensable / absolutely necessary


Servant Among

- Find strength in service to others
- Thinks dispensable / expendable



CHRISTIAN LEADERSHIP IS

- **Primarily people-oriented:**

**NOT task/achievement because it is “life-giving”
leadership**  **John 10,10**

- **Other - related: not self**

J

Jesus first

O

Others next

y

Yourself last

Biblical Image of Leadership



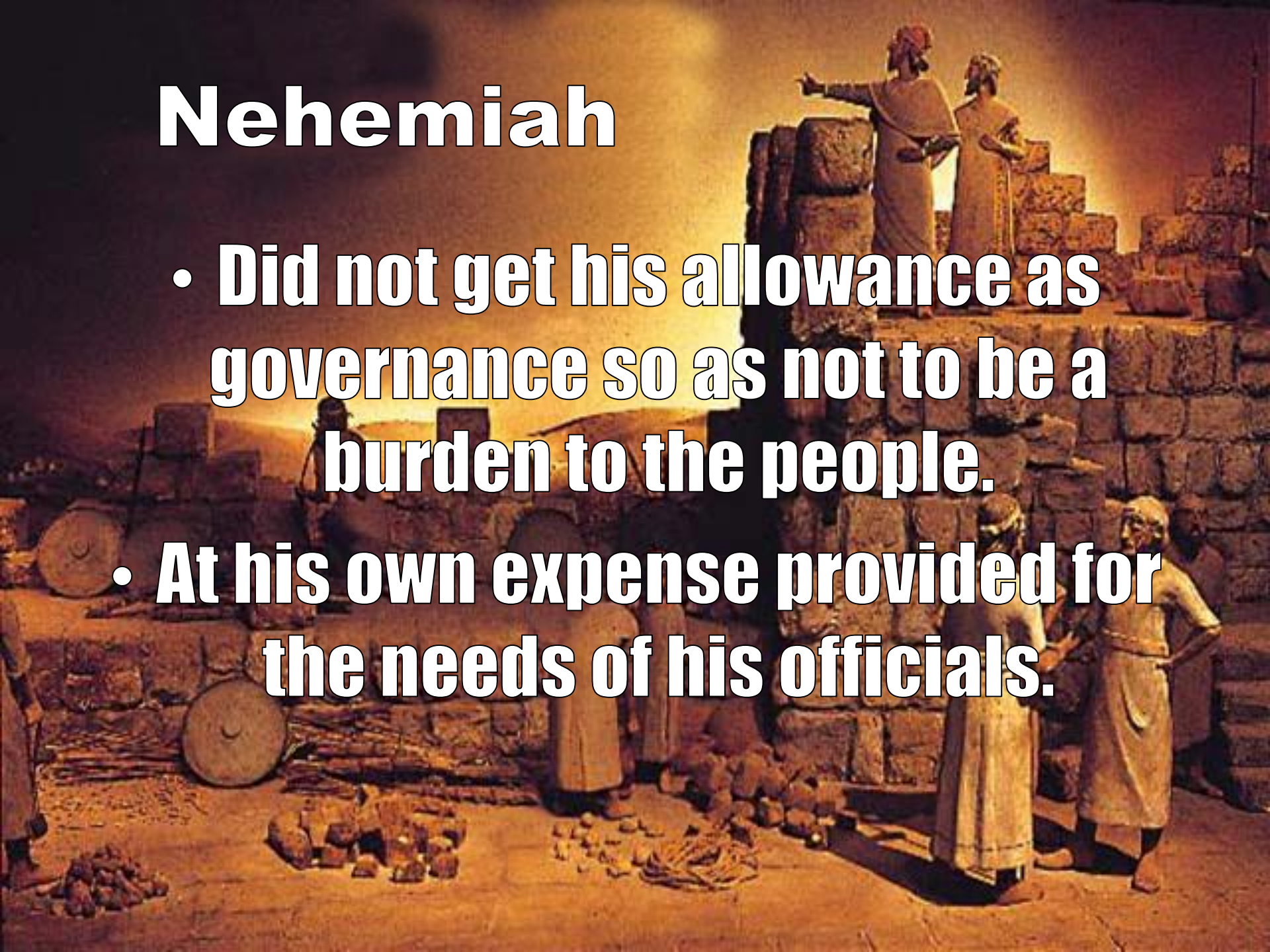
1▪ SERVANT

*(service, support,
empowerment)*

❖ **Luke 22: 24–27 /
Mt. 20: 20-28**

Nehemiah

- Did not get his allowance as governance so as not to be a burden to the people.
- At his own expense provided for the needs of his officials.



Biblical Image of Leadership

2- STEWARD

*(trustworthy,
responsible, accountable)*

❖ as one in charge

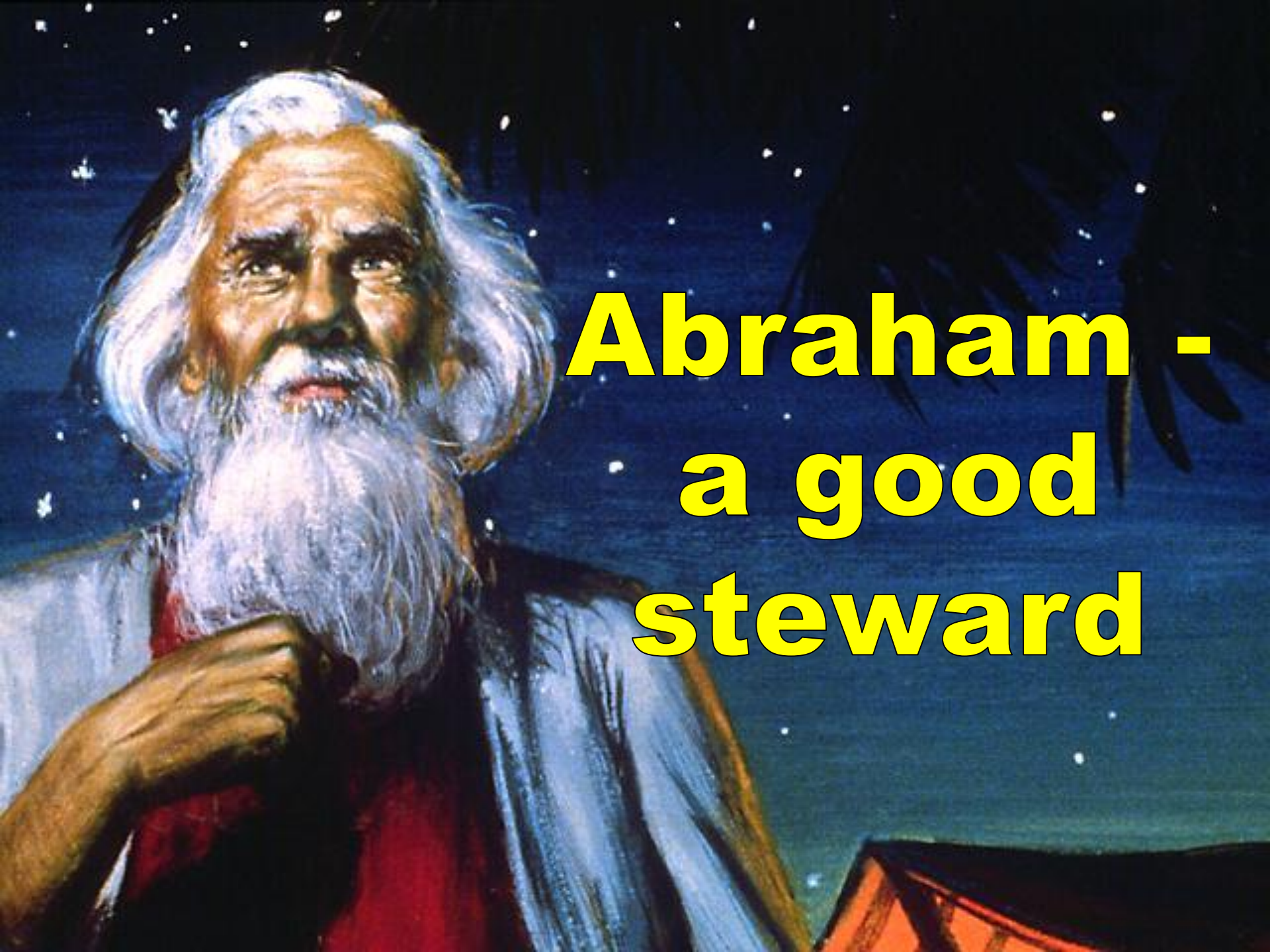
[Luke 12: 42-43](#)





Joseph, the Prince of Egypt

- Managed well the supplies of Egypt so that all survived the famine.
- Saw the hand of God in his misfortunes. He did not take revenge.



**Abraham -
a good
steward**

**Abraham gave a tenth
of all he got from
defeating the four
kings of Canaan. He
gave it to
Melchizedek because
he is recognized as a
priest of God Most
High (Gen 14, 18-20).**





**Abraham did not
take anything from
the ransom and
gave back all to
the king of Sodom
except what is
due to his men.
(Gen 14, 21-24).**



Saul – unable to let go

- Saul persecuted David because he saw David as a rival in the kingship. He wants the kingship to his own family.
(1 Sam 20, 24-34)



Saul – unable to let go

- He even conjured the soul of Samuel because he was not able to accept that God has rejected him as king.

(1 Sam 18, 15-19)

Parable of the wicked tenants

Mt 21, 33-43





**They are wicked tenants
because:**

- **They did not want to give the
part of the owner – part of the
harvest.**



**They are wicked tenants
because:**

- **They want to own what is not theirs by killing the son**

Biblical Image of Leadership

3- SHEPHERD

(caring, courage, guidance)

➤ Psalms 23: The Lord is my Shepherd

➤ Jesus: I am the good shepherd [John 10:11](#)



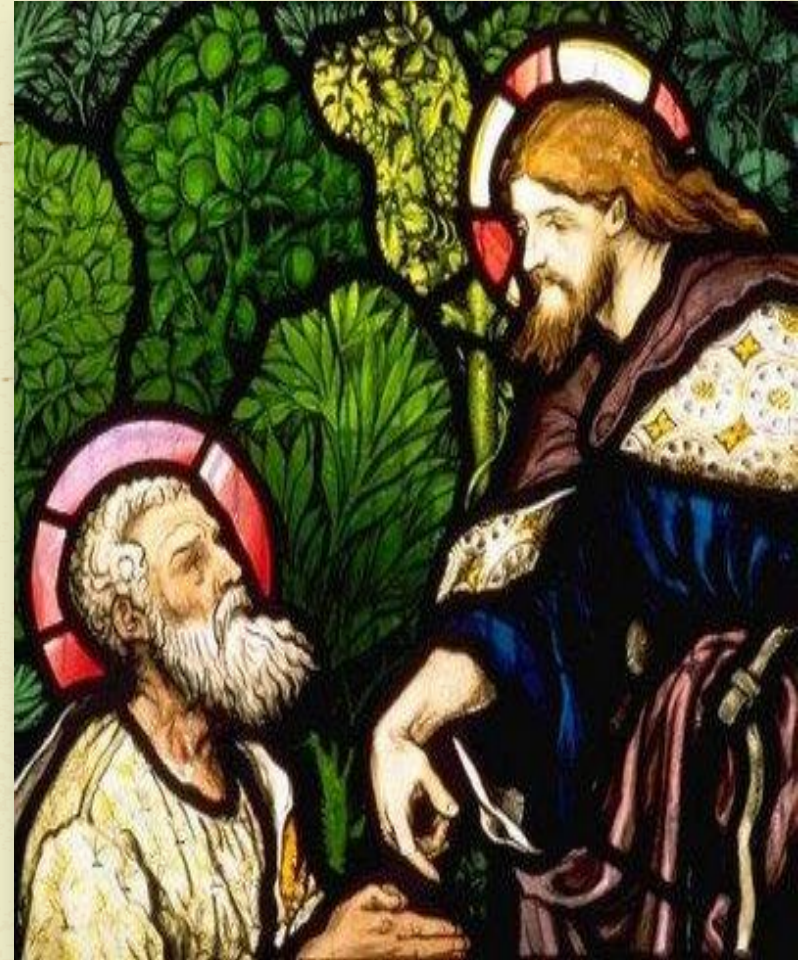
Biblical Image of Leadership

3- SHEPHERD

*(caring, courage,
guidance)*

➤ Commissions

Peter to feed the
flock [John 21:15-17](#)



Biblical Image of Leadership

3- SHEPHERD

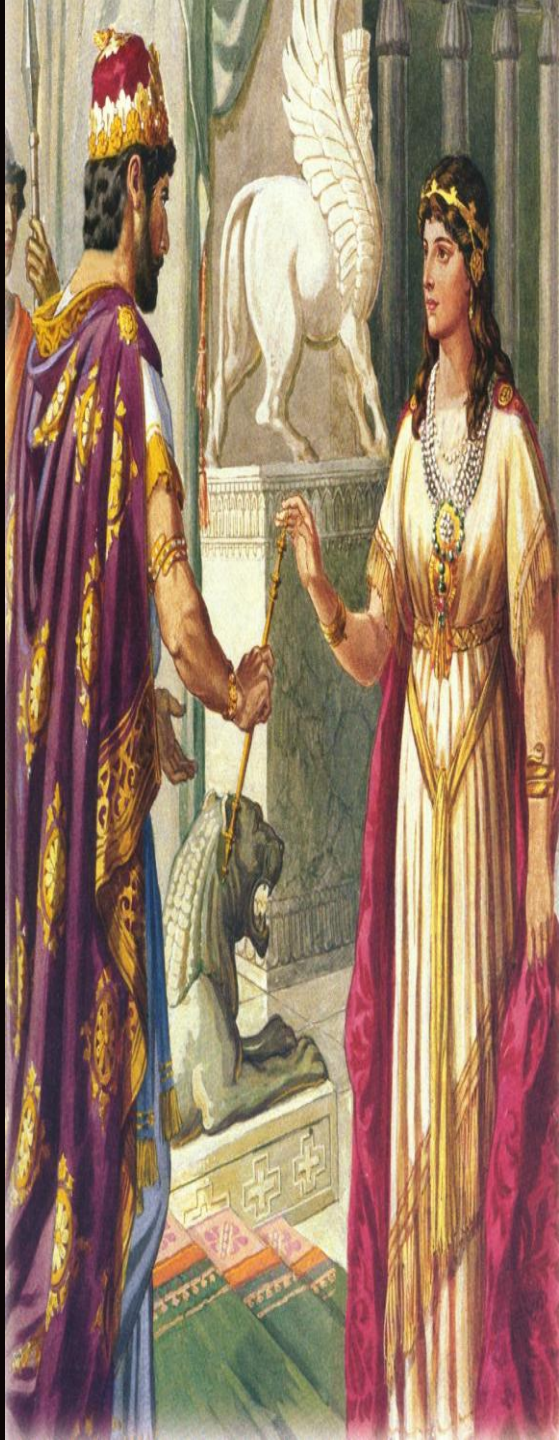
*(caring, courage,
guidance)*

➤ Peter exhorts:

Be shepherds

1 Peter 5: 2-3





Esther

Esther was ready to suffer the ire of the king and even be killed by the king by coming to him without being summoned. She risked this for the sake of her own people. She expressed this in her prayer. (Esther 4, 17)

A close-up photograph of two hands clasped together in a supportive grip. The hands are light-skinned, and the background is a dark, textured surface with a pattern of small, light-colored dots.

Paul

“To the weak, I made myself weak, to win the weak. I accommodated myself to people in all kinds of different situations, so that by all possible means I might bring some to salvation.” (1 Cor 9, 22-23)

Salient characteristics of leaders in the Bible

1. Leaders empower people

**2. Leaders are purposeful and
so are fruitful**

3. Leaders are optimistic



1. Leadership is *not* so much the *exercise of power*, as the *empowerment of people*.

Leadership is empowering people for achieving results

**Empowerment is
done by teaching
Moses, the great teacher of the
people. He formed them into a
people by giving them the law
and teaching them how to live
according to the law. He
accompanied them in the desert
for this. (Exodus- Leviticus-
Numbers-Deuteronomy)**



Empowerment is done by delegating


- **God told Moses to share his burden to 70 leaders among the people (Num 11, 10-17)**
- **Moses commissioned Joshua to lead the people to the Promised Land. (Deut 31, 1-8)**



**The apostles
delegated the
“service at tables”
to the deacons so
they can “devote
themselves to
prayer and the
service of the
word.” (Acts 6, 1-6)**

2. Purposeful and fruitful

A good leader does not just do and does not just even do good. He has purpose. He wants results. Thus he plans and strategizes.

An illustration showing five business leaders in suits walking on a light gray grid floor. They are positioned on large, colorful arrows that point in different directions: a large blue arrow pointing up, an orange arrow pointing down-left, a green arrow pointing down-right, a purple arrow pointing up-left, and a yellow arrow pointing up-right. The leader in the center is wearing a red jacket over a white shirt and black pants, walking on the blue arrow. The other four leaders are in dark suits with ties, each walking on one of the other colored arrows.



Jesus knows where he is going and what he is doing, even if it would mean suffering and death. When Peter tried to resist the arrest in the Garden of Gethsemani, he reprimanded him. “Put your sword in its scabbard; am I not to drink the cup that the Father has given me?” (Jn 18, 11)



- **“You have not chosen me but I have chosen you, that you may go forth and bear much fruit and that your fruit may last”. (*John 15:16*)**

David had wanted to build the temple but God did not allow him.

It was for his son Solomon to do this. He therefore prepared the materials, told the people of his plan and encouraged Solomon to do this. David had purpose. (1 Chron 28)



1 Corinthians 9:24 Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. ²⁵ Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one. ²⁶ So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air;





Philippians 3:13 Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

3. Faces Tasks with Courage and Confidence

- **“ Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go”.**

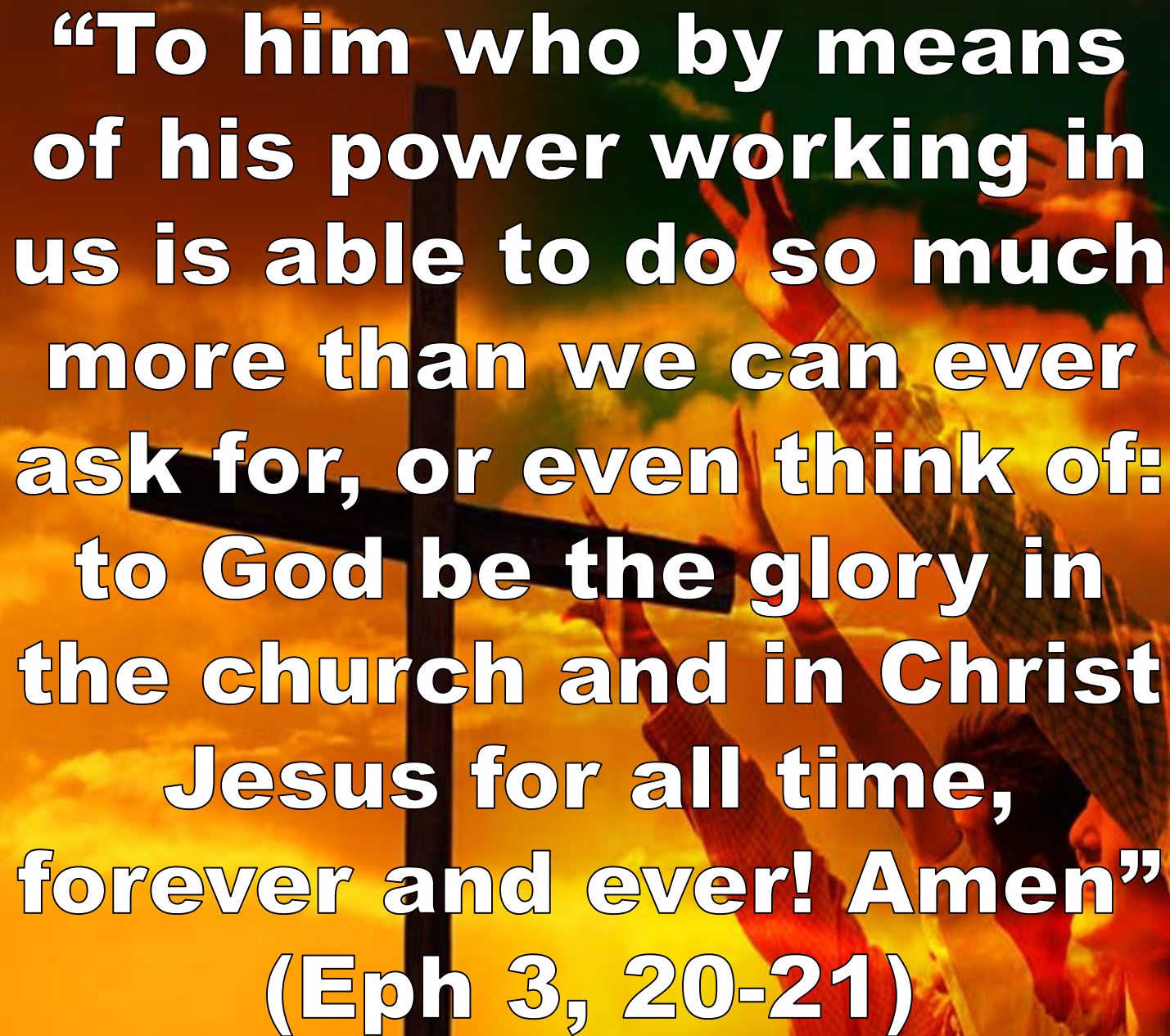
(Joshua 1:9)



3. Faces Tasks with Courage and Confidence



• **"I CAN DO ALL THINGS IN CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME".** (*Philippians 4: 13*)



**“To him who by means
of his power working in
us is able to do so much
more than we can ever
ask for, or even think of:
to God be the glory in
the church and in Christ
Jesus for all time,
forever and ever! Amen”
(Eph 3, 20-21)**



THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

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