

A black silhouette of a man wearing a cap and holding a pipe, set against a light, cloudy sky. The man is shown in profile, facing left. The cap has a small emblem on top. The pipe is held in his right hand, with the stem pointing upwards and to the right.

MARK 4:26-34

WHEN YOU TRUST THE AUTHOR

THE NEW TESTAMENT



Matthew

MARK 4:26-34

Luke

John

Acts

Romans

I & II Corinthians

Galatians

Ephesians

Philippians

Colossians

I & II Thessalonians

I & II Timothy

Titus

Philemon

Hebrews

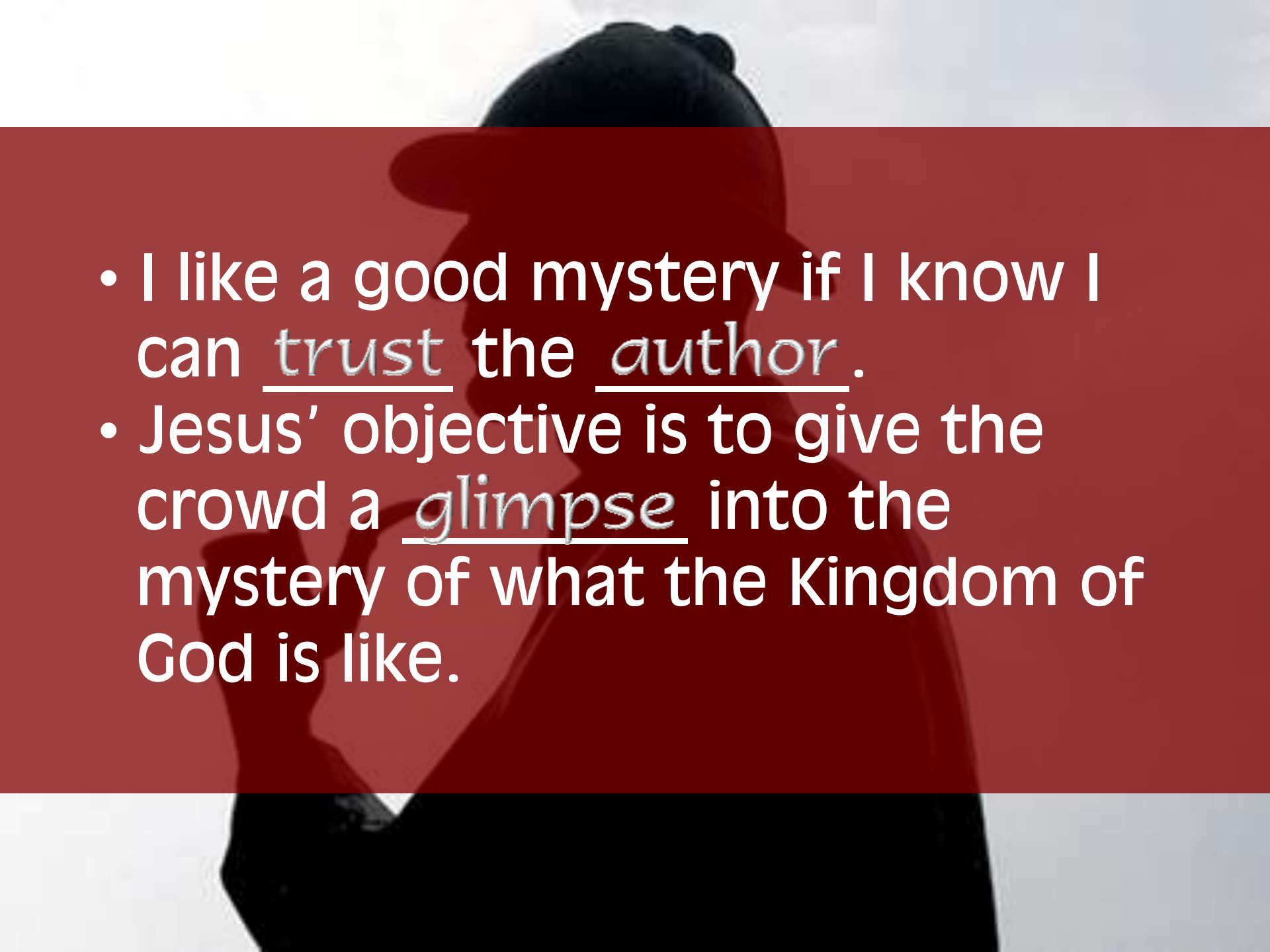
James


I & II Peter

I, II & III John

Jude

Revelation

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- I like a good mystery if I know I can trust the author.
 - Jesus' objective is to give the crowd a glimpse into the mystery of what the Kingdom of God is like.

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- A silhouette of a person wearing a hat, pointing upwards with their right hand. The background is a gradient from dark red at the top to light grey at the bottom.
- I. What is the Kingdom of God?
 - A. That place where God is King.
 - B. Consider: where is it that God is King.
 - C. This simple definition ought to help us have a more concrete perspective.

II. Where is the Kingdom of God?

A. Jesus tells us the Kingdom of God is near.

- Mark 1:14-15... Luke 10:8-12...
- Mark 12:33-34...

B. Jesus tells us the Kingdom of God is _____.

- Luke 17:20-21...

C. The Kingdom of God _____
_____ what we currently see.

- Luke 21:25-31...
- I Corinthians 13:8-12...

A silhouette of a person wearing a dark cap, possibly a baseball cap, is shown against a light, overcast sky. The person's head is tilted slightly to the right, and their hand is near their face. The image is partially obscured by a dark red horizontal band that contains text.

Mark 1:14-15

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Luke 10:8-12

"When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God is near you.' But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that sticks to our feet we wipe off against you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God is near.' I tell you, it will be more bearable on that day for Sodom than for that town."



Mark 12:32-34

"Well said, teacher," the man replied. "You are right in saying that God is one and there is no other but him. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself is more important than all burnt offerings and sacrifices."

When Jesus saw that he had answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And from then on no one dared ask him any more questions.

II. Where is the Kingdom of God?

A. Jesus tells us the Kingdom of God is near.

- Mark 1:14-15... Luke 10:8-12...
Mark 12:33-34...

B. Jesus tells us the Kingdom of God is within.

- Luke 17:20-21...

C. The Kingdom of God _____
_____ what we currently see.

- Luke 21:25-31...
- I Corinthians 13:8-12...



Luke 17:20-21

Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is within you."

II. Where is the Kingdom of God?

A. Jesus tells us the Kingdom of God is near.

- Mark 1:14-15... Luke 10:8-12...
Mark 12:33-34...

B. Jesus tells us the Kingdom of God is within.

- Luke 17:20-21...

C. The Kingdom of God extends beyond what we currently see.

- Luke 21:25-31...
- I Corinthians 13:8-12...



Luke 21:29-31

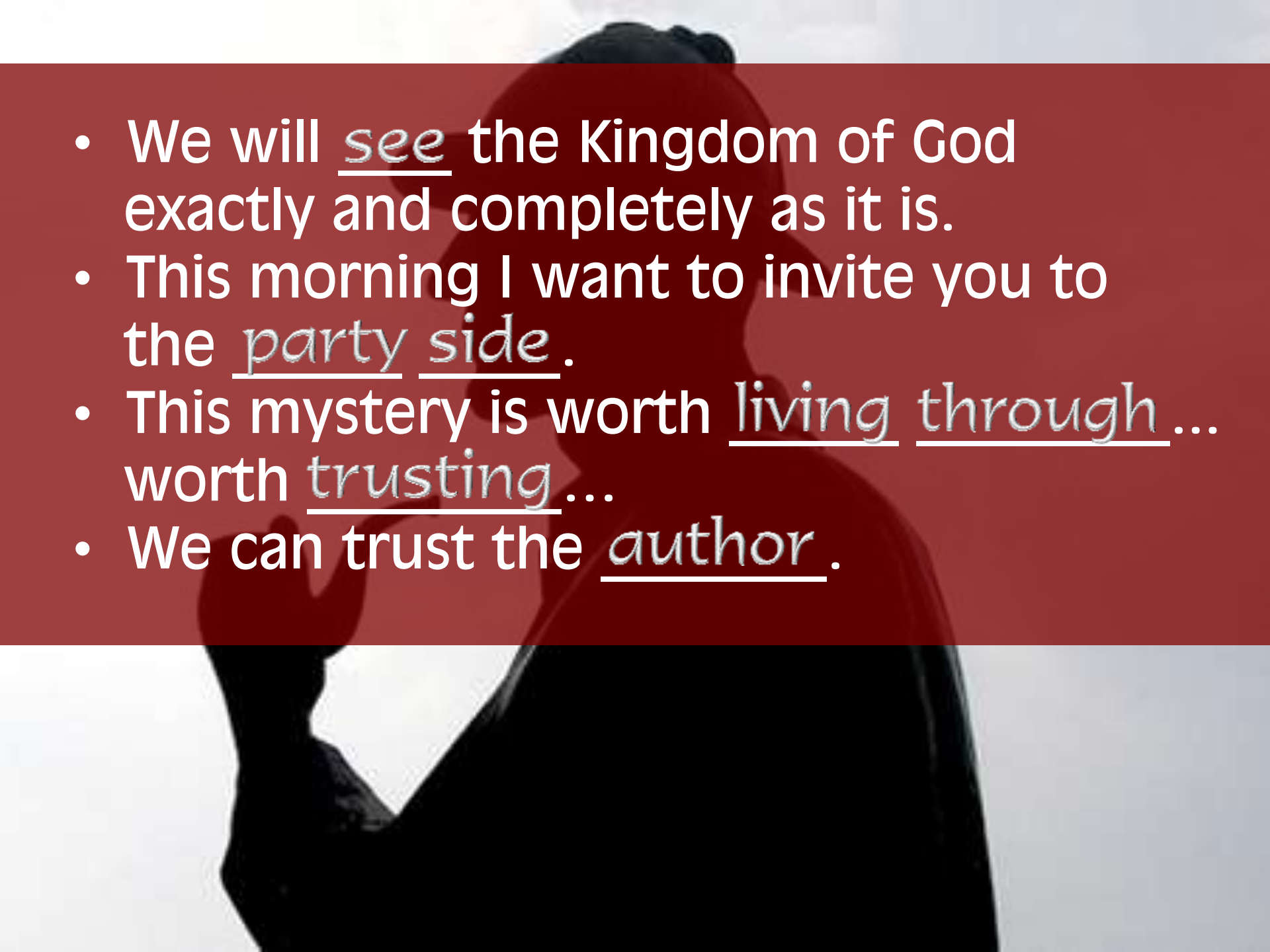
He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near."

1 Corinthians 13:8-12

...But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put childish ways behind me. Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.

III. What is the Kingdom of God like?

- A. The Kingdom of God is like a great mystery that promises a perfect outcome.
- B. A Kingdom where God's people are under development.
- C. A Kingdom that is full of surprises.
- D. A Kingdom that is not constricted from the outside in, but is defined and revealed from the inside out.

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- We will see the Kingdom of God exactly and completely as it is.
 - This morning I want to invite you to the party side.
 - This mystery is worth living through... worth trusting...
 - We can trust the author.

Reach
Teach
Care
Praise
Blaze

Love God. Love your neighbor. And live.



You are invited to share hot drinks which will be available for 15 minutes following the conclusion of the worship service.



