

SAINTE
JUNIA



THE
APOSTLE

WHO IS JUNIA?

Preppare
silencio

“Indeed, how great the wisdom of this woman must have been that she was even deemed worth of the title ‘apostle’.” - John Chrysostom (344 CE)

The Women Who Advocated

**“I’m too old to be a delicate flower,
and I worked too hard for you to be one either.”
- Rev. Peggy Howland (May 2017)**

Read
lectio

Romans 16:7

NRSVUE

Greet Andronicus
and Junia, my
fellow Israelites
who were in
prison with me;
they are
prominent among
the apostles, and
they were in Christ
before I was.

Romans 16:7

NRSVUE

Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Israelites who were in prison with me; **they are prominent among the apostles**, and they were in Christ before I was.

New Contemporary Version

Greetings to Andronicus and Junia, my relatives, who were in prison with me. **They are very important apostles.** They were believers in Christ before I was.

Romans 16:7

NRSVUE

Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Israelites who were in prison with me; **they are prominent among the apostles**, and they were in Christ before I was.

New Contemporary Version

Greetings to Andronicus and Junia, my relatives, who were in prison with me. **They are very important apostles.** They were believers in Christ before I was.

The Message

Hello to my cousins Andronicus and Junias. We once shared a jail cell. They were believers in Christ before I was. **Both of them are outstanding leaders.**

Romans 16:7

NRSVUE

Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Israelites who were in prison with me; **they are prominent among the apostles**, and they were in Christ before I was.

New Contemporary Version

Greetings to Andronicus and Junia, my relatives, who were in prison with me. **They are very important apostles.** They were believers in Christ before I was.

The Message

Hello to my cousins Andronicus and Junias. We once shared a jail cell. They were believers in Christ before I was. **Both of them are outstanding leaders.**

Complete Jewish Bible

Greetings to Andronicus and Junia, relatives of mine who were in prison with me. **They are well known among the emissaries;** also they came to trust in the Messiah before I did.

*What do you see
or hear?*

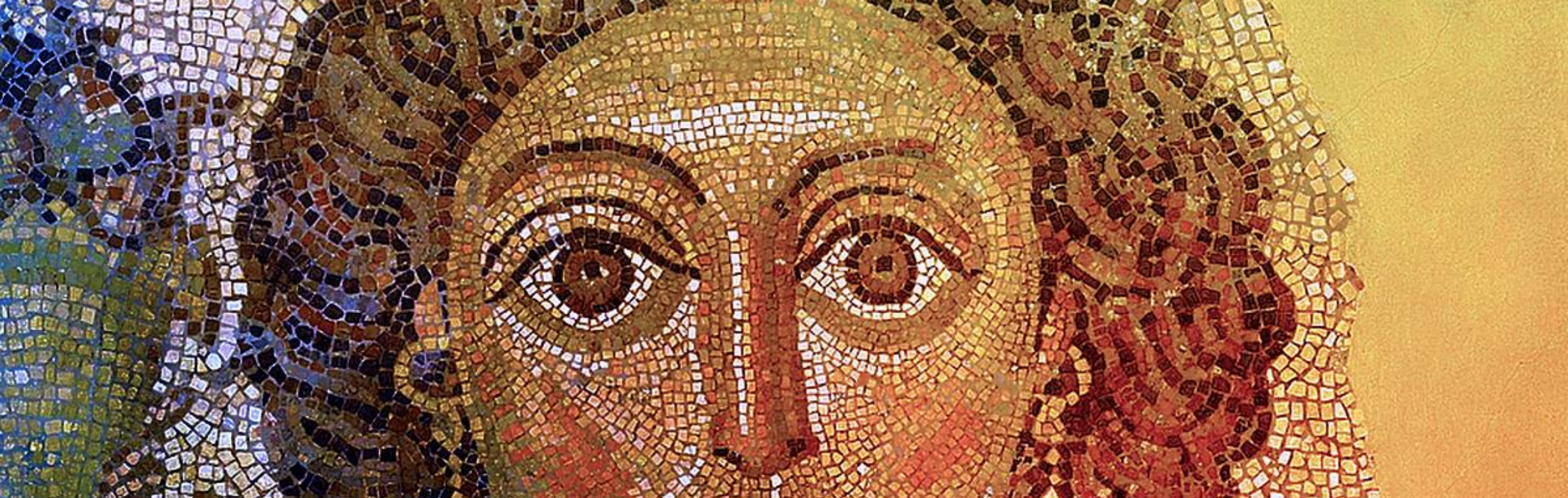
Luke 8:1-3

Soon afterward [Jesus] went on through one town and village after another, proclaiming and bringing the good news of the kingdom of God. The twelve were with him, as well as some women who had been cured of evil spirits and infirmities: Mary, called Magdalene, from whom seven demons had gone out, and **Joanna, the wife of Herod's steward Chuza...**

Luke 24:10

Now it was Mary Magdalene, **Joanna**, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles.

Meditate
meditatio



TIMMELNE

Jesus
resurrects;
Joanna is
among first
to tomb

~33

A horizontal timeline consisting of a dark green line. The line starts with a circular marker containing the text '~33'. The line extends to the right, passing through two gaps, and ends with a larger circular marker.

Jesus
resurrects;
Joanna is
among first
to tomb

~33

10 days after
ascension,
Pentecost
with “visitors
from Rome”
(Acts 2:10)



Jesus
resurrects;
Joanna is
among first
to tomb

Saul
converts,
changes
name to
Paul

~33 ~34

10 days after
ascension,
Pentecost
with “visitors
from Rome”
(Acts 2:10)



Jesus
resurrects;
Joanna is
among first
to tomb

Saul
converts,
changes
name to
Paul

~33

~34

~39

10 days after
ascension,
Pentecost
with “visitors
from Rome”
(Acts 2:10)

King Herod
Antipas is
dethroned. His
court is
dissolved.



Jesus
resurrects;
Joanna is
among first
to tomb

Saul
converts,
changes
name to
Paul

Paul's letter
circulates in
Rome;
Romans 16:7
praising Junia

~33

~34

~39

~57-58

10 days after
ascension,
Pentecost
with "visitors
from Rome"
(Acts 2:10)

King Herod
Antipas is
dethroned. His
court is
dissolved.



Jesus
resurrects;
Joanna is
among first
to tomb

Saul
converts,
changes
name to
Paul

Paul's letter
circulates in
Rome;
Romans 16:7
praising Junia

~33

~34

~39

~57-58

~85

10 days after
ascension,
Pentecost
with "visitors
from Rome"
(Acts 2:10)

King Herod
Antipas is
dethroned. His
court is
dissolved.

Luke is last of
gospels to circulate,
thanks to patron
Theophilus.
Contains most info
about Joanna

Jesus
resurrects;
Joanna is
among first
to tomb

Saul
converts,
changes
name to
Paul

Paul's letter
circulates in
Rome;
Romans 16:7
praising Junia

Ossuary "found" with
inscription:
Joanna, daughter of
John, son of Theophilus
the high priest.

~33

~34

~39

~57-58

~85

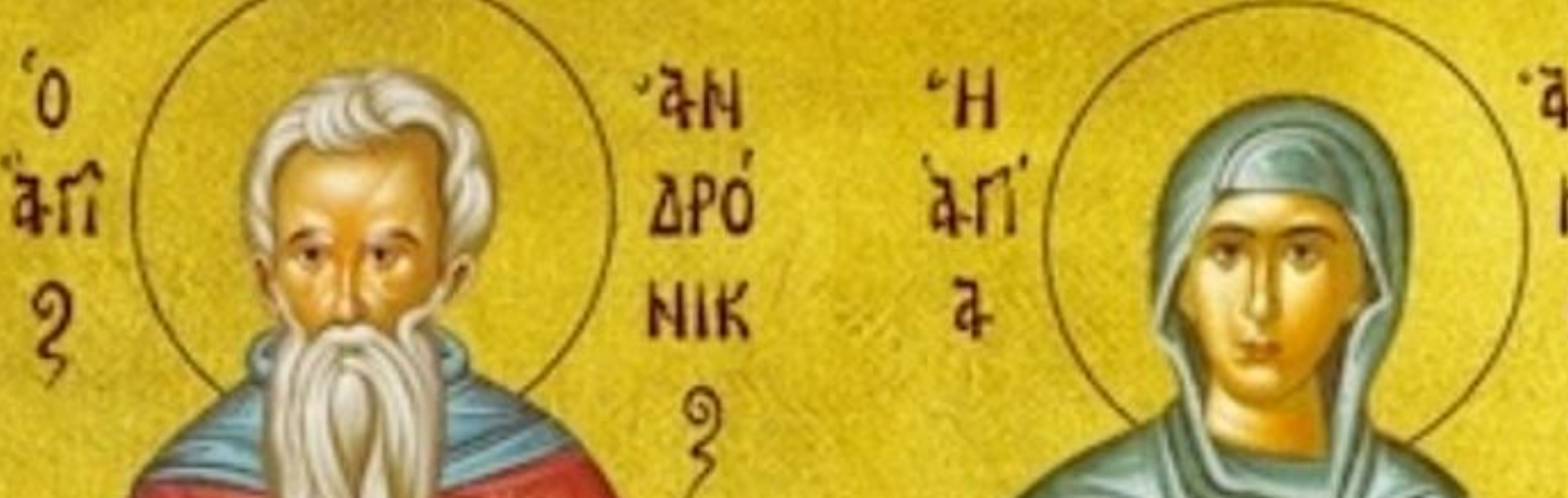
1984

10 days after
ascension,
Pentecost
with "visitors
from Rome"
(Acts 2:10)

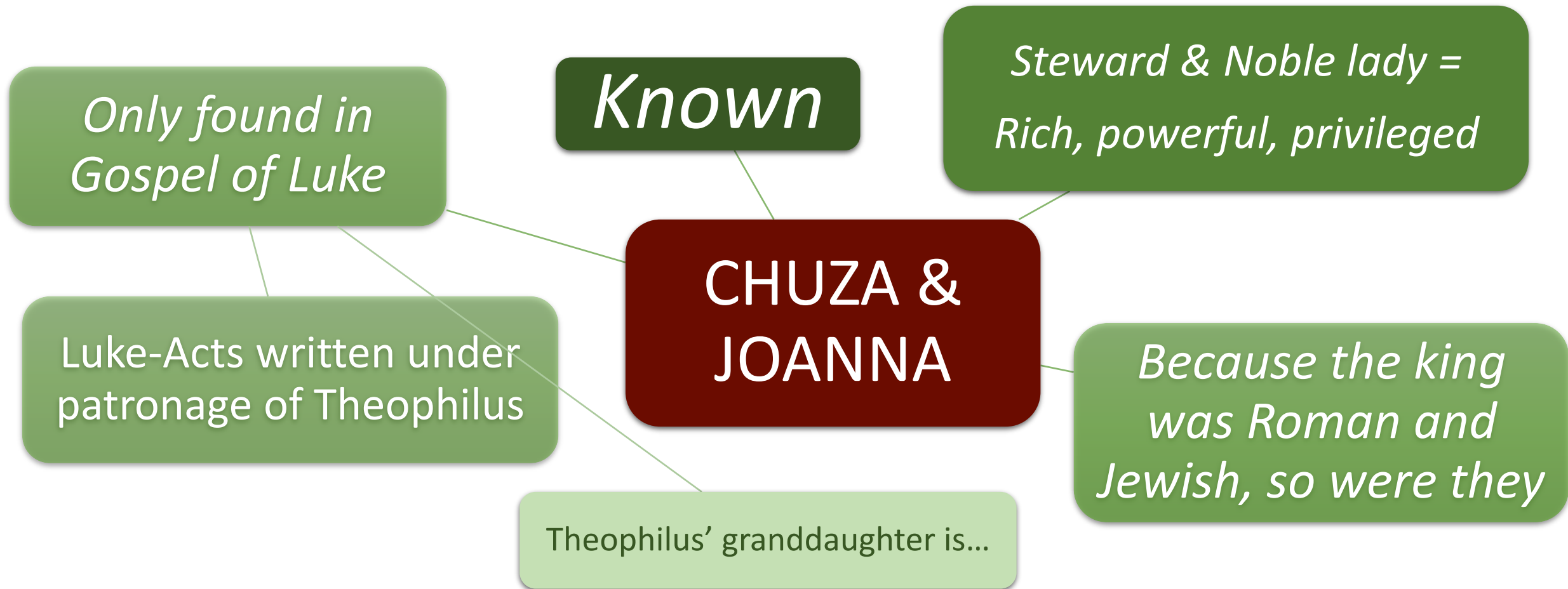
King Herod
Antipas is
dethroned. His
court is
dissolved.

Luke is last of
gospels to circulate,
thanks to patron
Theophilus.
Contains most info
about Joanna





JOANNA AND CHUZA



This King Herod is the one who beheaded John the Baptizer, sent Jesus to the cross, aaaaand a bunch of other icky stuff.

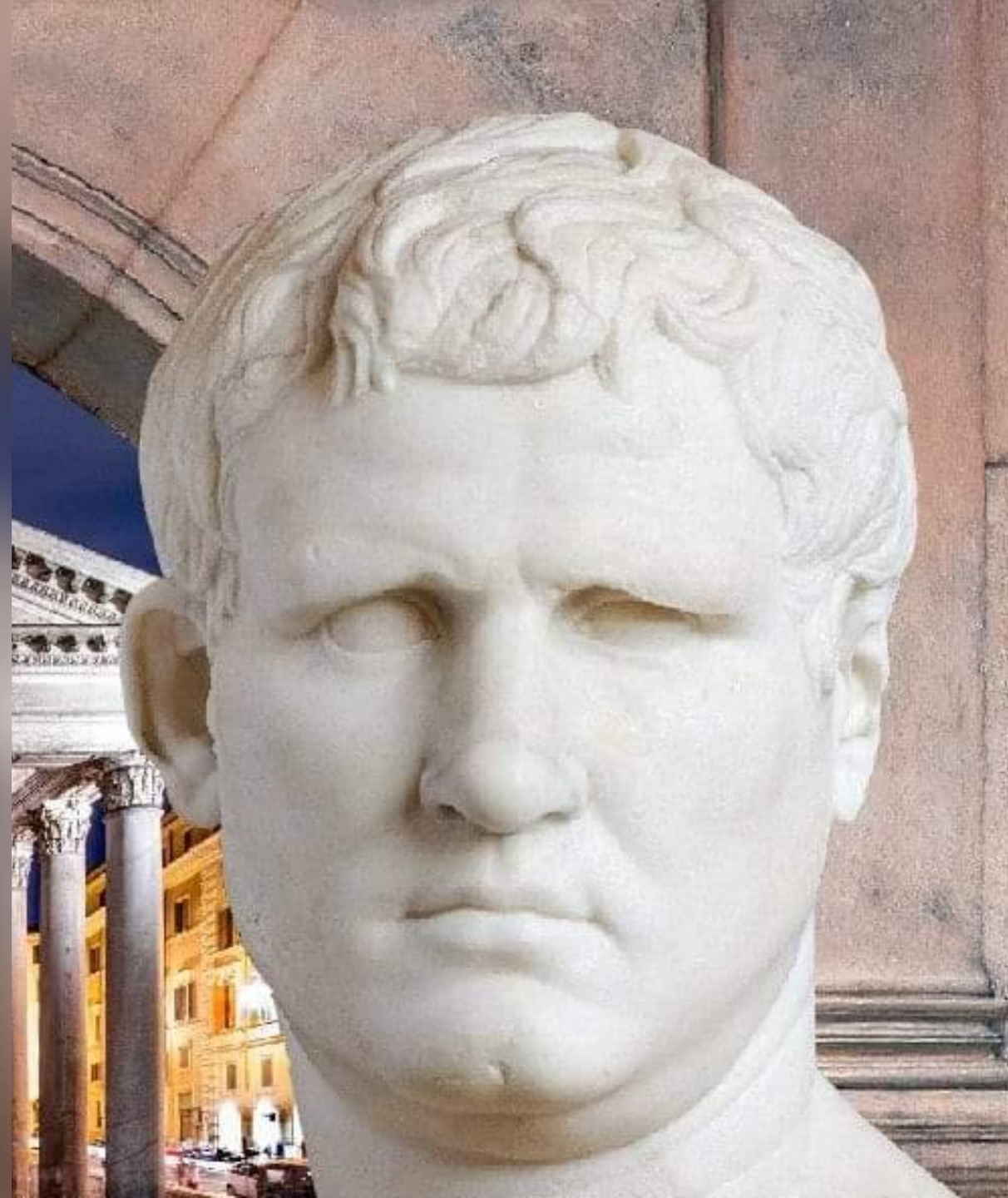
*The guy to his left—our right—would have been the steward...
Chuzza.*



In 39 CE, Antipas *allegedly* conspired to kill Emperor Caligula.

He was sent to exile in Gaul and was replaced by his nephew, Agrippa.

The household was dissolved.





Josephus's *Antiquities* records that Theophilus was the high priest in the Second Temple in Jerusalem from 37 to 41 CE, before and after the fall of Herod.



Josephus's *Antiquities* records that Theophilus was the high priest in the Second Temple in Jerusalem from 37 to 41 CE, before and after the fall of Herod.

▶ Aramaic tradition states that Joanna, granddaughter of Theophilus, became one of the holy women who followed Jesus. And later Joanna went on to become a missionary to Rome.



Josephus's *Antiquities* records that Theophilus was the high priest in the Second Temple in Jerusalem from 37 to 41 CE, before and after the fall of Herod.

Aramaic tradition states that Joanna, granddaughter of Theophilus, became one of the holy women who followed Jesus. And later Joanna went on to become a missionary to Rome.

Not only would Joanna have been given status as a Roman within the court due to her husband's position, she would have been given a Roman name and one that would have sounded a lot like Joanna.



Josephus's *Antiquities* records that Theophilus was the high priest in the Second Temple in Jerusalem from 37 to 41 CE, before and after the fall of Herod.

Aramaic tradition states that Joanna, granddaughter of Theophilus, became one of the holy women who followed Jesus. And later Joanna went on to become a missionary to Rome.

Not only would Joanna have been given status as a Roman within the court due to her husband's position, she would have been given a Roman name and one that would have sounded a lot like Joanna.

▶ Name changes are frequent when moving to a new community: Barsabbas called Justus; John, called Mark; Saul called Paul...



*A Greek name, often retained emphasis noises
to be easier to pronounce in Latin, so*

CHUZa and JOANna

easily becomes...



AndronicUS and JUNia

A painting of two men, likely Andronicus and Junia, looking towards the viewer. The man on the left has dark hair and is wearing a dark garment. The man on the right has dark hair and is wearing a light-colored garment. The background is a textured, mottled green and brown.

**Greet Andronicus and Junia,
my fellow Israelites who were
in prison with me; they are prominent
among the apostles, and they were in
Christ before I was.**

A painting of two men, likely Andronicus and Junia, with text overlaid. The man on the left has dark hair and is looking slightly to the right. The man on the right has dark hair and is looking directly at the viewer. The background is a textured, light greenish-brown color.

**Greet Andronicus and Junia,
my fellow Israelites who were
in prison with me; they are prominent
among the apostles, and they were in
Christ before I was.**



“Fellow Israelites”
=
Jewish by birth, not
association

Healed by Jesus as
some point
(Luke 8)

Her son healed by
Jesus
(John 4) and the
whole household
converted

She was in the
crowd of “visitors
from Rome” at
Pentecost,
either as a
supporter of Peter
OR converted by
his sermon (Acts 2)

Hellenist believers
in Jerusalem
complain that
their widows
aren’t being taken
care of so
“therefore,
brothers and
sisters, select from
among
yourselves...”
(Acts 6)

Early leader of
house church in
Judea/Samaria

A painting of two men, likely Andronicus and Junia, with text overlaid. The man on the left has dark hair and is looking slightly to the right. The man on the right has dark hair and is looking directly at the viewer. The background is a textured, mottled green and brown. The text is in a bold, yellow font with a red outline, set against the background of the painting.

**Greet Andronicus and Junia,
my fellow Israelites who were
in prison with me; they are prominent
among the apostles, and they were in
Christ before I was.**

ἐπίσημοι ἐν τοῖς ἀποστόλοις

1

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: episémos

Definition: bearing a mark,
notable, conspicuous.

ἐπίσημοι ἐν τοῖς ἀποστόλοις

1

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: episémos

Definition: bearing a mark,
notable, conspicuous.

2

Part of Speech: Preposition

Transliteration: en

Definition: in, on, at, by,
with, among

ἐπίσημοι ἐν τοῖς ἀποστόλοις

1

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: episémos

Definition: bearing a mark,
notable, conspicuous.

2

Part of Speech: Preposition

Transliteration: en

Definition: in, on, at, by,
with, among

3

Part of Speech: Noun, plural

Transliteration: apostolos

Definition: a messenger,
one sent on a mission, an
apostle, a delegate.

ἐπίσημοι ἐν τοῖς ἀποστόλοις

1

Part of Speech: Adjective

Transliteration: episémos

Definition: bearing a mark,
notable, conspicuous.

2

Part of Speech: Preposition

Transliteration: en

Definition: in, on, at, by,
with, among

3

Part of Speech: Noun, plural

Transliteration: apostolos

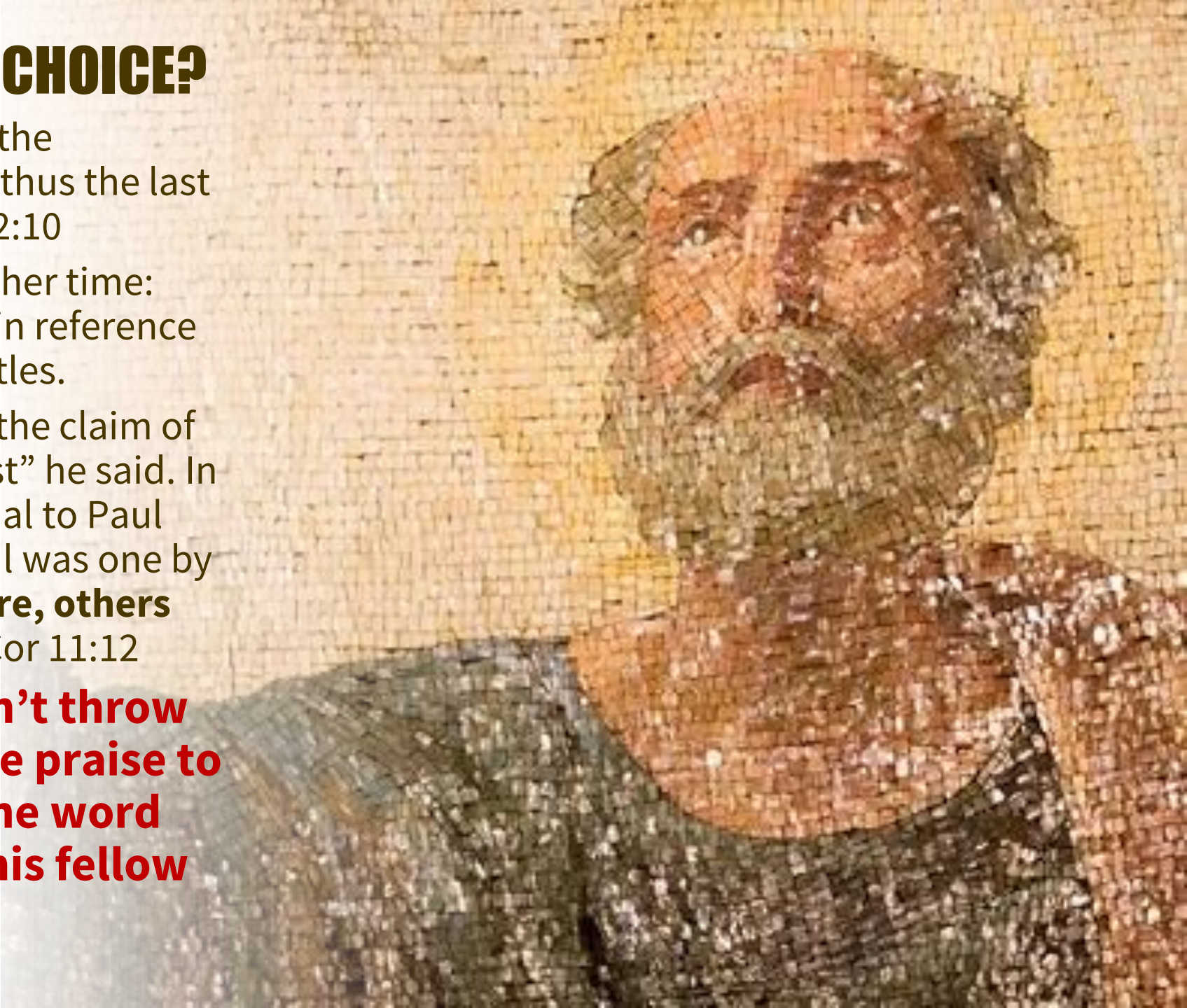
Definition: a messenger,
one sent on a mission, an
apostle, a delegate.

Esteemed by, prominent among, or equal to (in)?

WHAT IS MOST PAULINE CHOICE?

- Paul called himself the “last of the witnesses to the Resurrection” thus the last apostle. 1 Co 15:3-11, Gal 1:11-2:10
- Paul only uses this word one other time: Galatians 1:17, and it is clearly in reference to those who are working apostles.
- Paul never claimed or allowed the claim of human approval: “I am the least” he said. In fact, those who claim to be equal to Paul are false prophets because Paul was one by **the will of God alone; therefore, others** must be as well. 1 Cor 1:1-2, 2 Cor 11:12

CONCLUSION: Paul doesn't throw out words, nor does he give praise to boost egos. He meant the word ἀποστόλοις to describe his fellow apostle, Junia.





**WHO IS AFFECTED
BY THIS GREETING?**



PAUL

Connection

Authority

Allies



PAUL

Connection

Authority

Allies

JUNIA

Affirmation

Equality

Advocacy



PAUL

Connection

Authority

Allies

JUNIA

Affirmation

Equality

Advocacy

CHURCH

Hearten

Reassure

Encourage

ST. JUNIA



I'll never forget you,
Valentine. Unlike how the
entire church forgot I was
a female apostle.

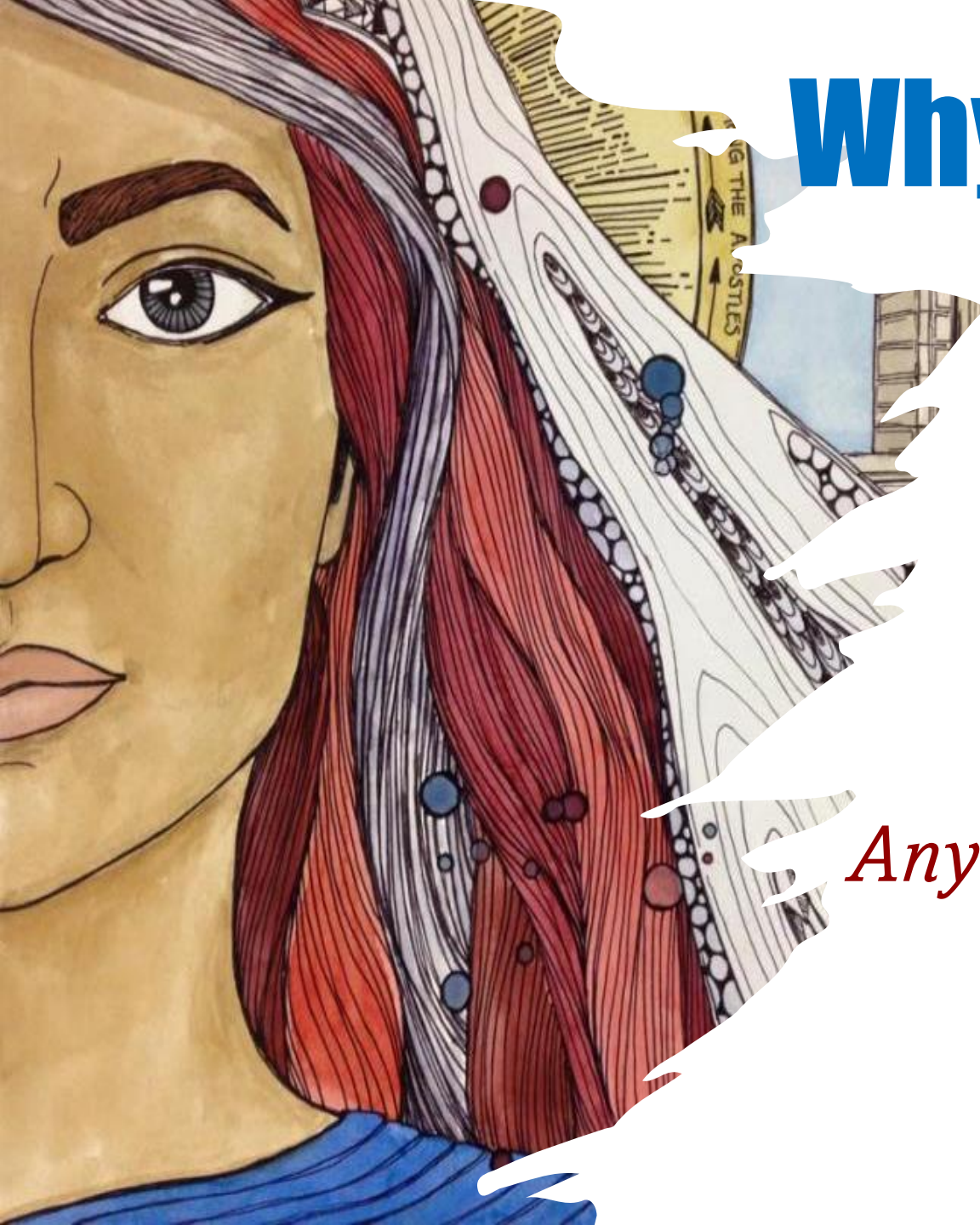


Why is she important?

“Throughout world history, women's contributions to the events that came to pass during their lifetimes were rarely recorded or particularly affirmed in terms of the value they added to them. Whereas the names and deeds of men have been well documented, as well as their contributions to a manifold number of historical events, women have not shared this fate.

*In the discourse of world history, women remain fairly anonymous, with little being known about the nuances of their participation in various historical events. Rarely are we afforded an insight into the identity of those women who dwell in anonymity and who impacted history in their own unique ways. Therefore, many women go unnoticed, becoming marginalized in their **contributions**, their **intellect**, and their **wisdom**.”*

Constantina A. Clark, Ubiquity University, *The Journal of Early Christian History*, Vol. 8, No. 3, 2018.



Why is she important?

History is written by the victor.

The patriarchy tried to write women out of their place in **ORDAINED** Church leadership.

Any chance to lift her name off the page and make her real to you, I'm gonna take it.



Why is she important?

She was a witness of Jesus Christ.
She had firsthand knowledge.
She knew the sound of his laugh.
And she was an apostle.

She led a church.
She made decisions.
She taught and preached.
She saw the transforming power
of God's love
through Jesus Christ
by the power of the Holy Spirit.



Why is she important?

When women are traumatized by men, they can't see themselves in the stories of men, in the actions or goodness of men.

It makes trust very difficult.

- *Can I see Christ in myself?*
- *Is he trustworthy?*
- *If Jesus trusted women, and Paul trusted this woman, can I see myself in her?*

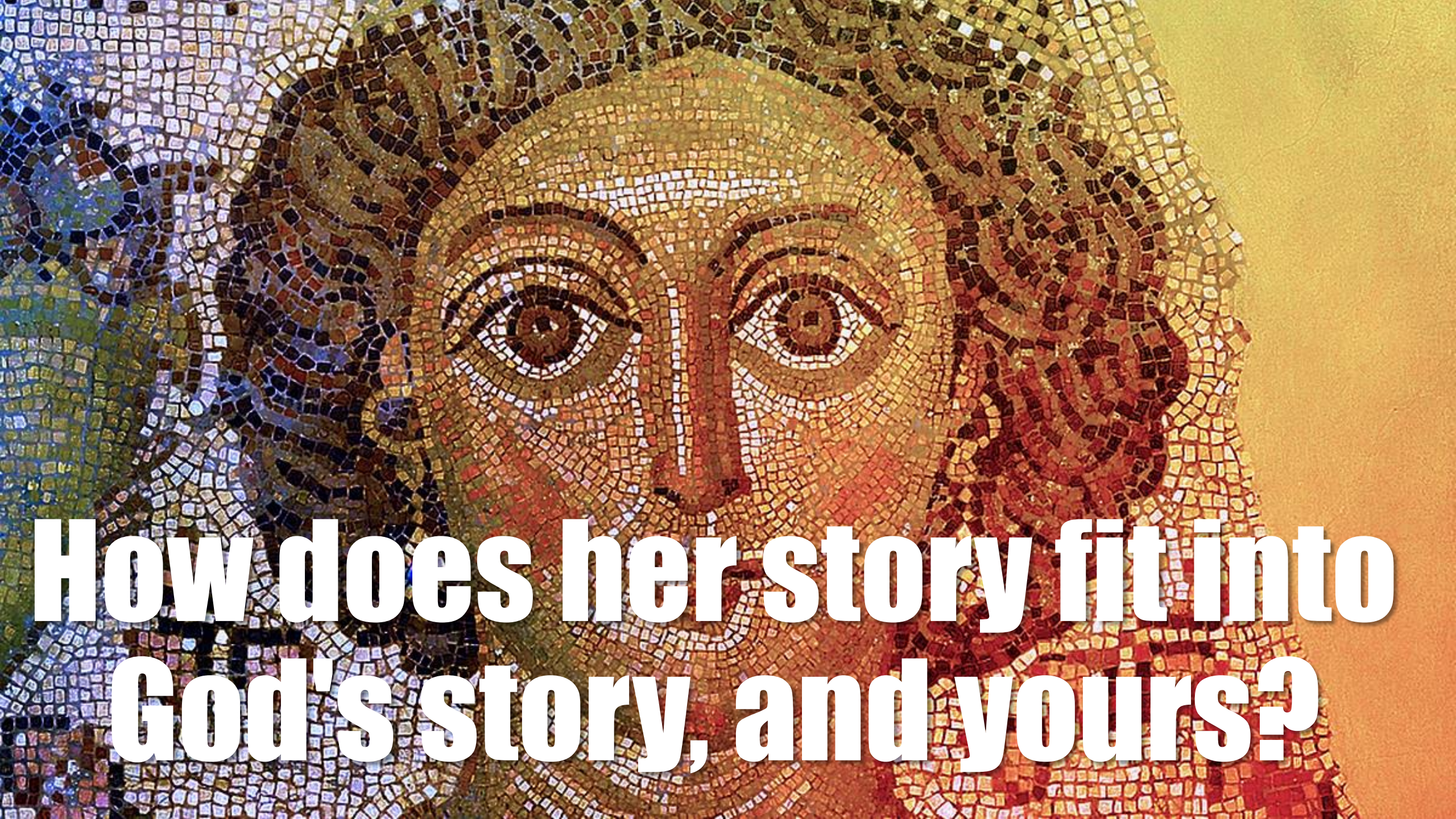
Prayer *oratio*

Contemplate
contemplatio

Rev. Peggy Howland

The 12th woman to be ordained in the PCUSA, the first female senior pastor (to supervise another MWS), and the first female pastor of a congregation over 200.





**How does her story fit into
God's story, and yours?**

Next week: Rahab

