

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

 **FIRST LOVE IS
FIRST DEFENSE**

1 John 2



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SHAKESPEARE
HAMLET'S TOUR
OF THE WORLD
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International New York Times

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2016

Terrorists strike heart of Europe



An explosion rocked the departure terminal at Brussels Airport just before 8 a.m. and was followed shortly by another. About an hour later, a deadly blast struck at a Brussels subway station.

Attacks show E.U. to be increasingly vulnerable

Explosions kill dozens at two sites in Brussels

PARIS
BY ADAM NOSSITER

Since the November attacks in Paris, the authorities in Belgium have conducted dozens of raids, combed whole neighborhoods for well-known militants, and even locked down the capital for days, all part of what they promised was a stepped-up effort to root out jihadists.

Yet none of that evidently disrupted plans for the multiple attacks on Tuesday at Brussels's main international airport and a central subway station in the heart of the capital of the European Union.

The attacks underscored once again security services but also the persistence of what several intelligence experts described as a sympathetic milieu for terrorist cells to form, hide and operate in the heart of Europe.

The attacks have set off a new round of soul-searching about whether Europe's security services must redouble their efforts, even at the risk of further impinging civil liberties, or whether such attacks have become an unavoidable part of life in an open European society.

At the very least, they have exposed the enduring vulnerability of Europe to terrorism in an age of easy travel.

BRUSSELS
BY ALISSA I. RUBIN, AURELIEN BREEDEN AND ANITA RAGHAVAN

The Islamic State claimed responsibility on Tuesday for terrorist bombings that struck Brussels, killing at least 30 people at the main international airport and in a subway station at the heart of the city, near the headquarters of the European Union.

The violence began shortly before 8 a.m. with an explosion in the departure terminal at Brussels Airport believed to be a luggage bomb, followed shortly by another. Then, at 8:11 a.m., a bomb tore through the last car of a subway train as it was pulling out of the Maelbeek station.

Officials said the bombings had killed at least 10 at the airport and 20 at the subway station, with more than 230 others wounded.

"We were fearing terrorist attacks, and that has now happened," Prime Minister Charles Michel of Belgium said at a news conference, calling the attacks "blind, violent, cowardly." On Twitter, he urged people to "avoid all movement," as the authorities braced for the possibility of additional violence.

King Philippe, in a televised address,



**The community of Jesus
Christ is under attack!**



Attacks on Christianity, the Bible, and Jesus

- False Doctrine**
- Misplaced Priorities**
- Idol Worship**
- Biblical Truths dismissed**
- Lack of Morality**
- God's name used in profanity**
- Cultural desceptions**
- And others...**

**Act Justly, Love mercy, and walk humbly
with your God. Micah 6:8**

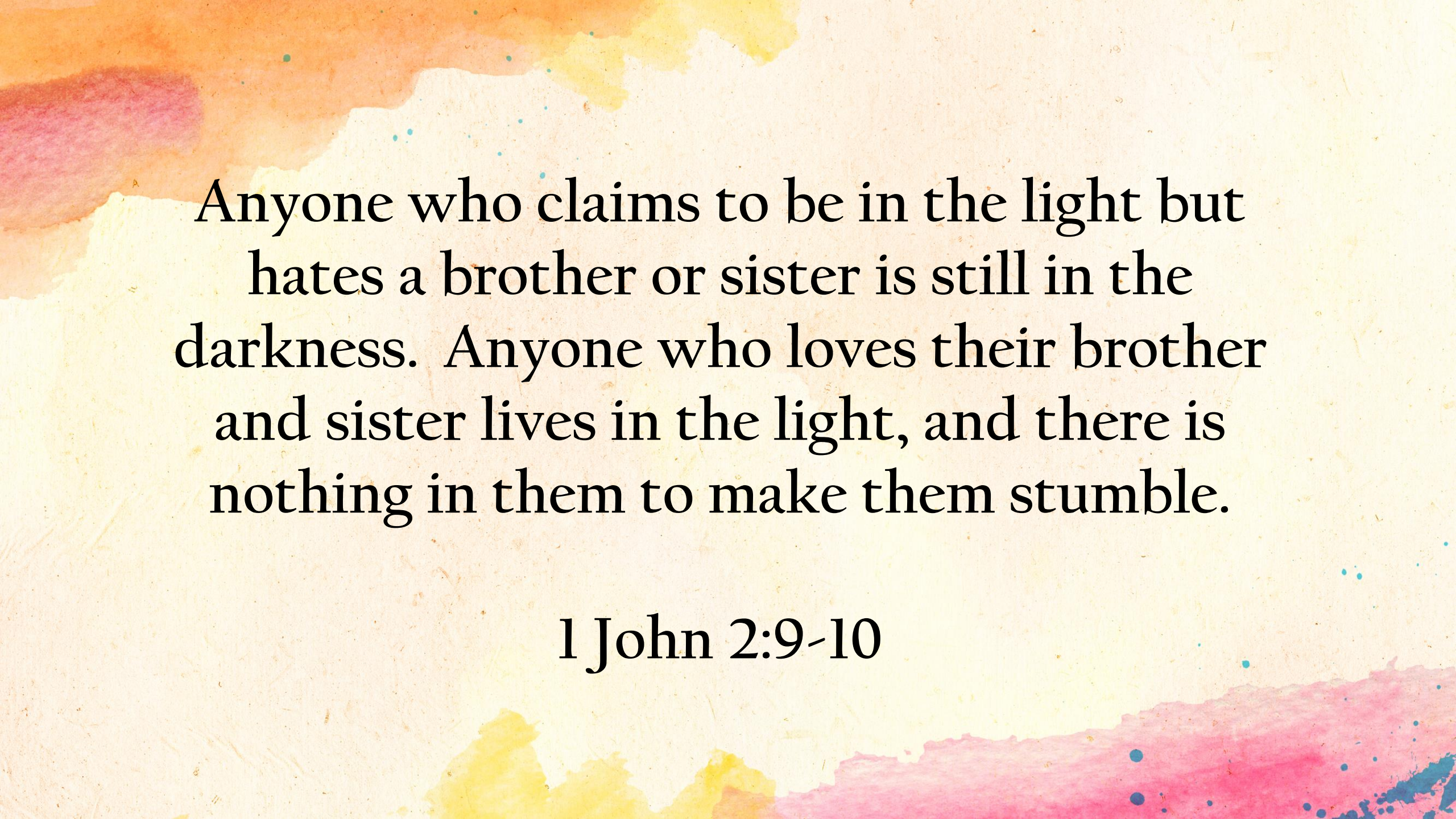
“Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms.” Ephesians 6:10-12



Our FIRST LOVE is our
FIRST DEFENSE as Christians!

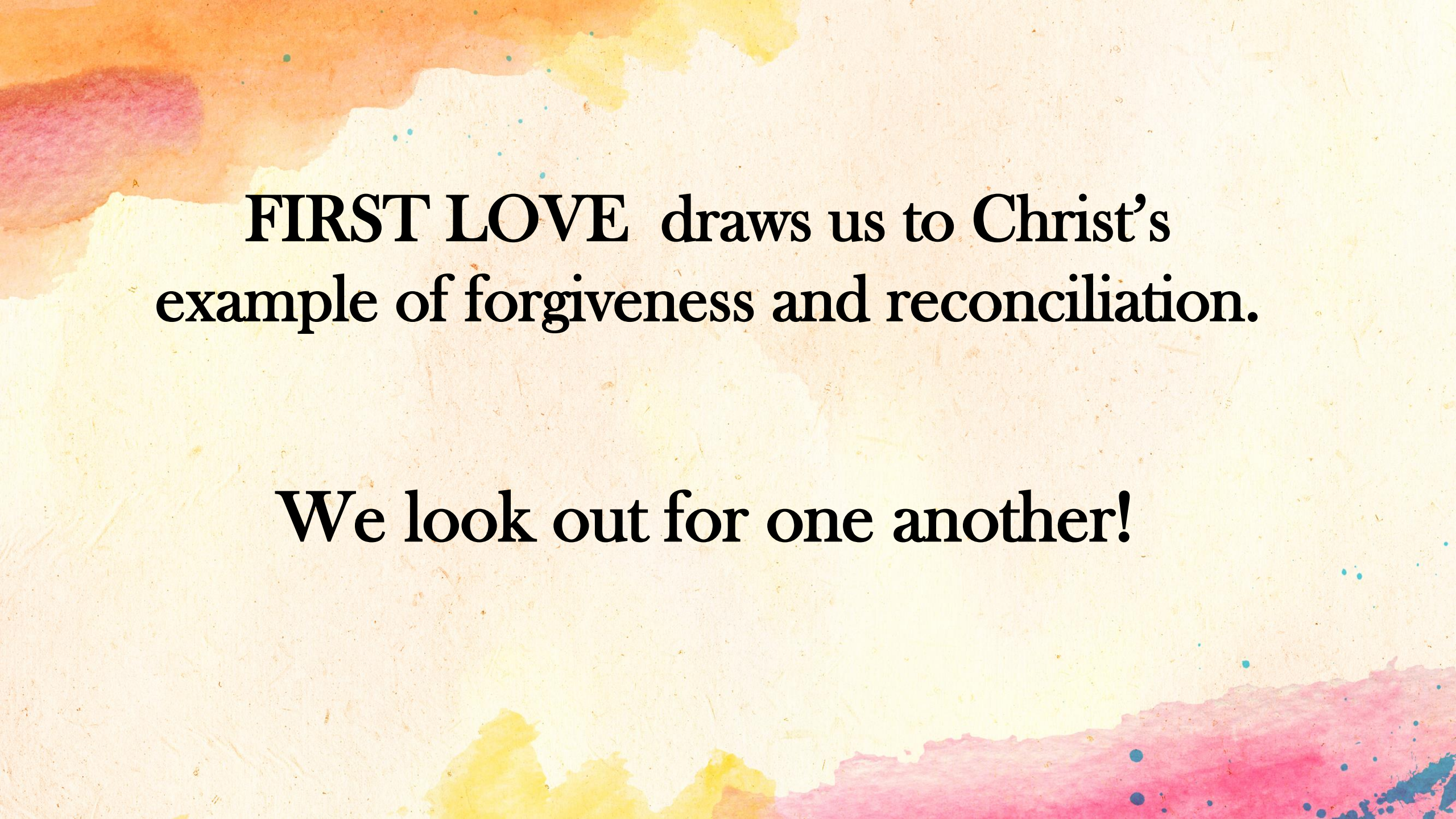
Ephesians 6:14-17

Stand firm then, with the belt of truth buckled around your waist, with the breastplate of righteousness in place, and with your feet fitted with the readiness that comes from the gospel of peace. In addition to all this, take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.



Anyone who claims to be in the light but hates a brother or sister is still in the darkness. Anyone who loves their brother and sister lives in the light, and there is nothing in them to make them stumble.

1 John 2:9-10



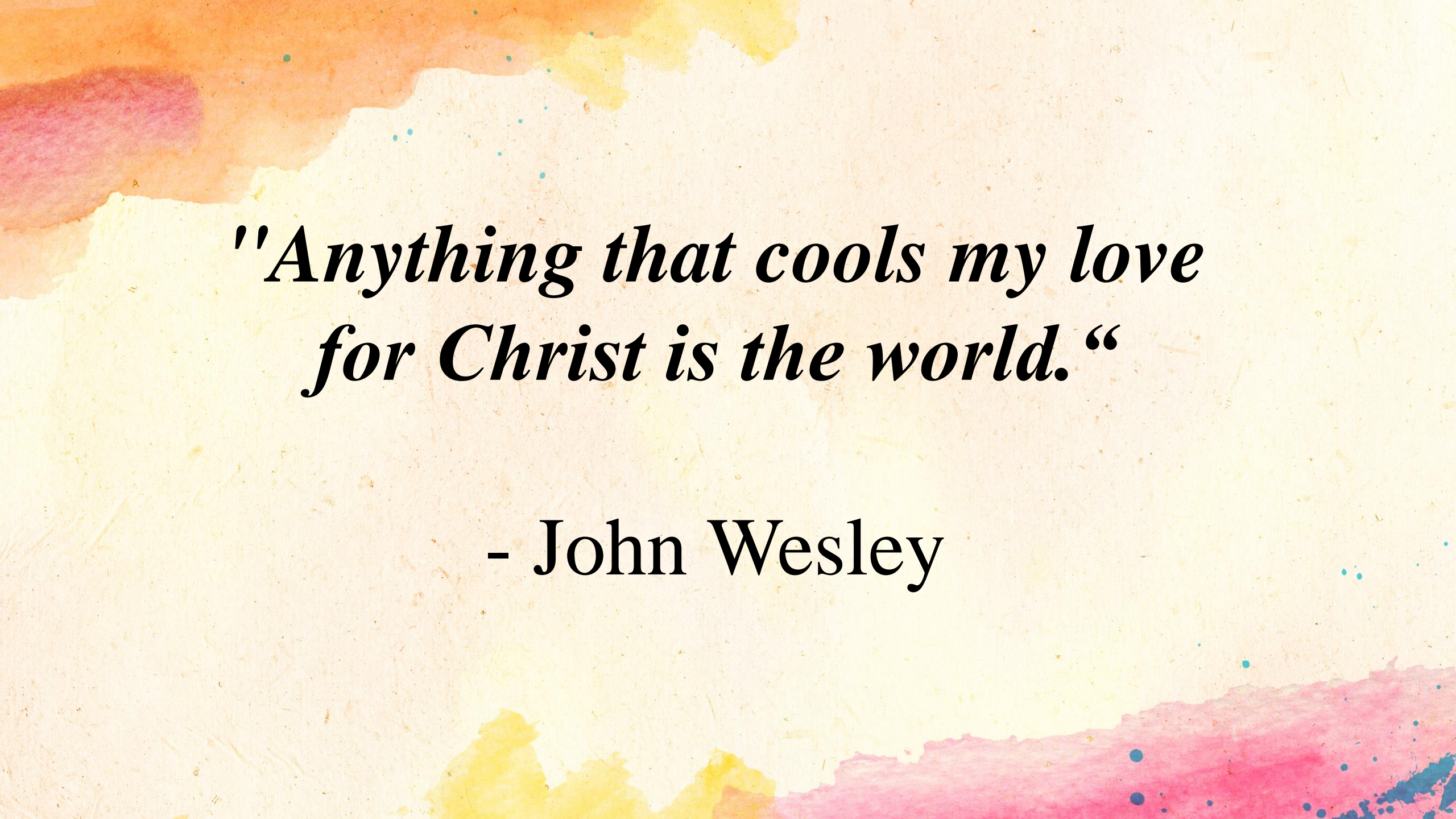
FIRST LOVE draws us to Christ's
example of forgiveness and reconciliation.

We look out for one another!

DO NOT LOVE THE WORLD!

Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, love for the Father is not in them. For everything in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life—comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.

1 John 2:15-17



***"Anything that cools my love
for Christ is the world."***

- John Wesley

**The powers of darkness will not let up!
But we WILL NOT BE OVERCOME!**

***“The darkness is passing and the
true light is already shining.”***

1 John 2:8