




Evangelistic Praying:

What are the Biblical Limits?



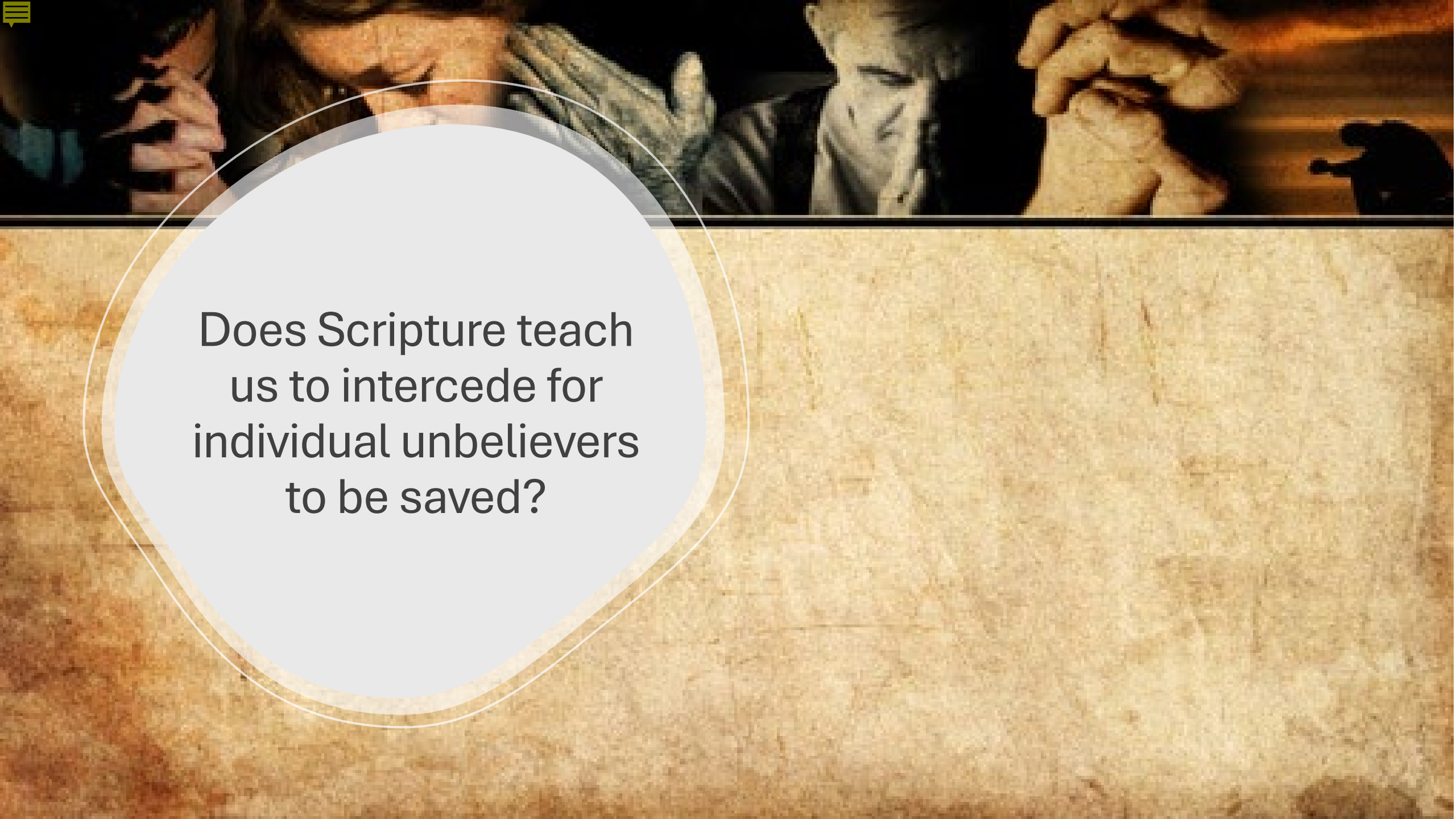
“Nothing will so test and stimulate the Christian life as the honest attempt to be an intercessor.”

-Andrew Murray

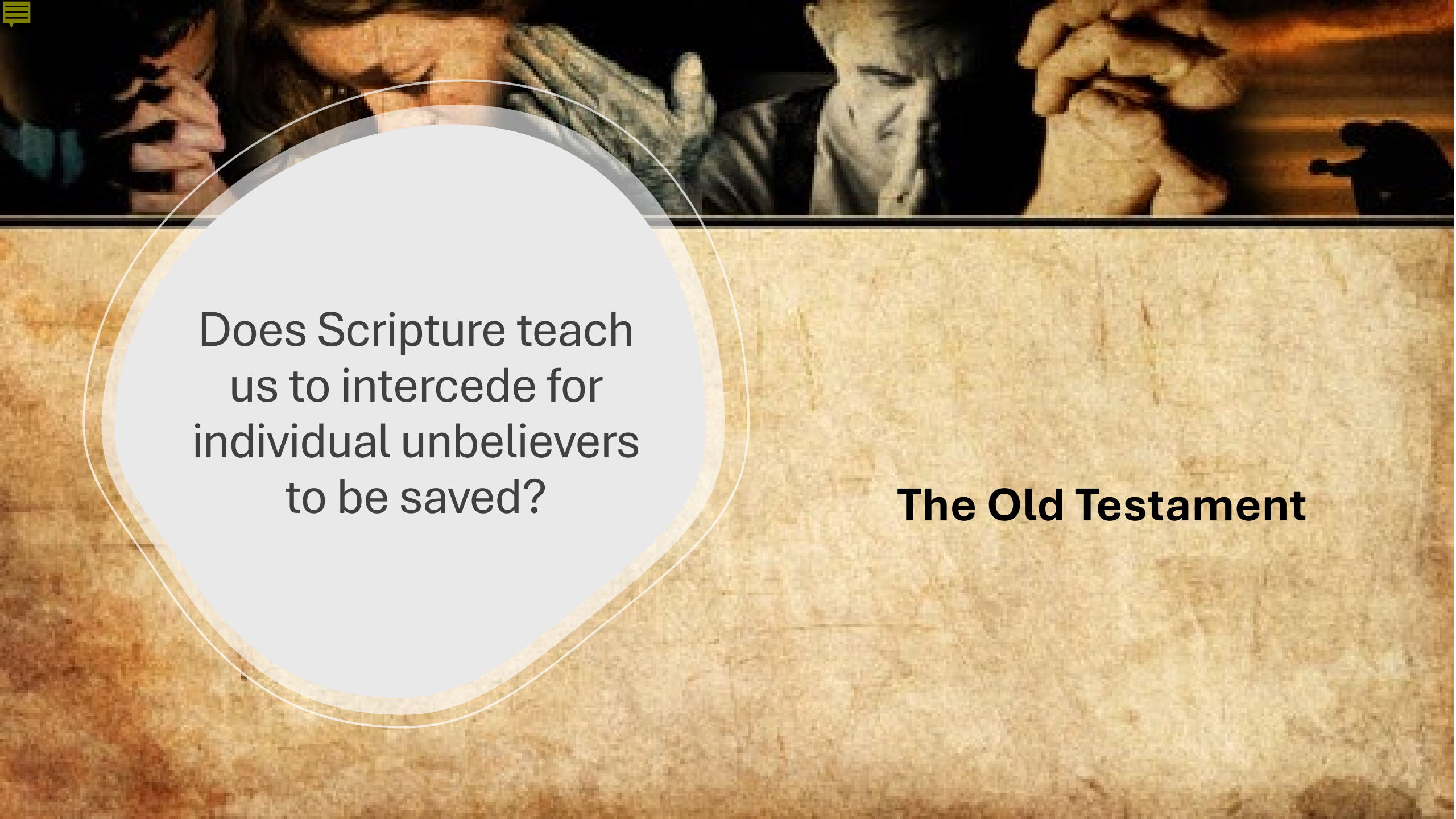


Praying for individual unbelievers raises questions:

1. Does Scripture teach us to intercede for *individual unbelievers* to be saved?
2. Does Scripture teach us that praying in faith *guarantees* the salvation for those we have prayed?

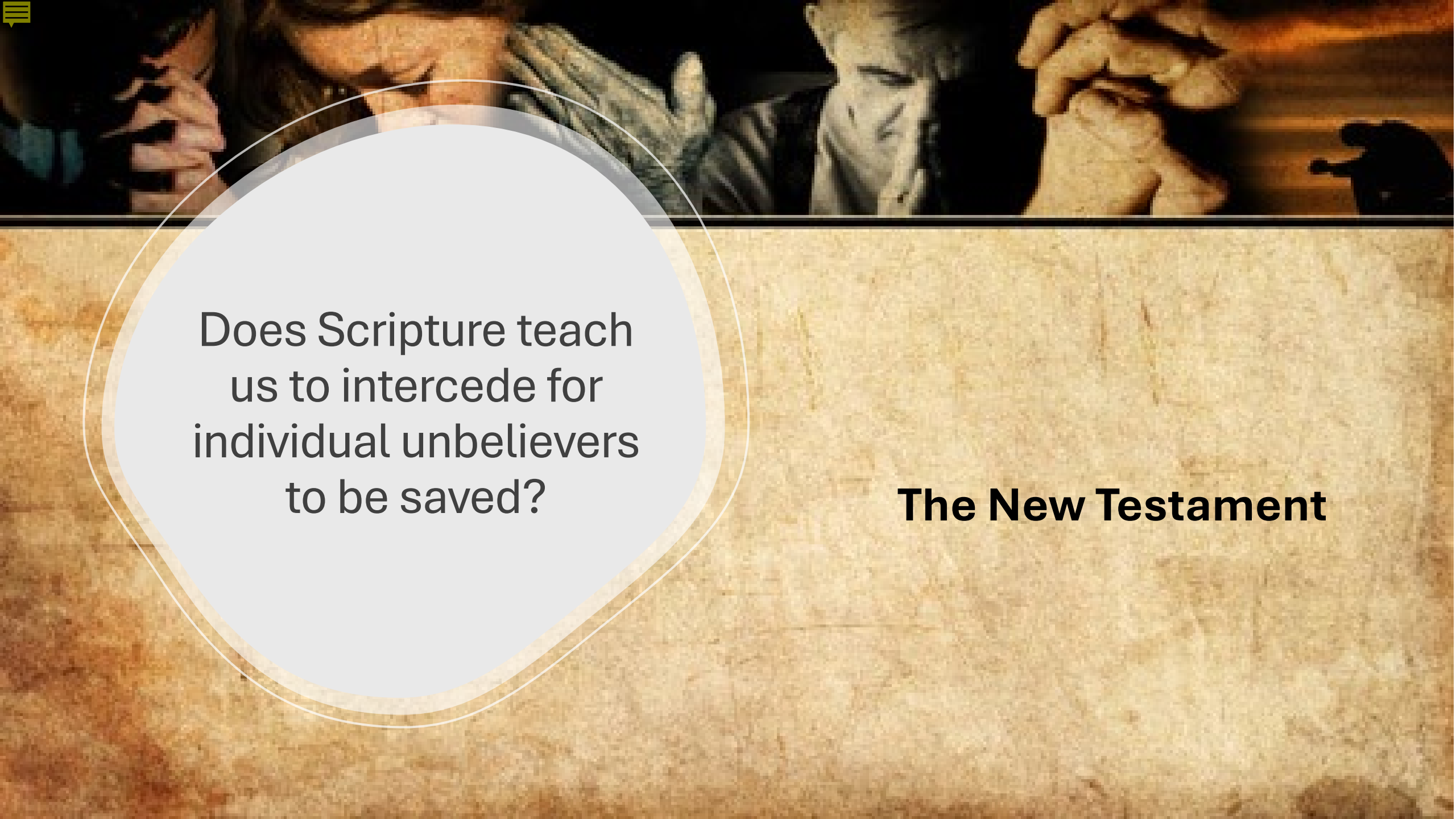
The image features a group of people in the upper portion, appearing to be in a state of prayer or deep reflection. The background is a large, textured parchment or paper surface. A prominent white circular bubble with a thin white border is centered on the left side, containing the text. The overall tone is solemn and spiritual.

Does Scripture teach
us to intercede for
individual unbelievers
to be saved?




Does Scripture teach
us to intercede for
individual unbelievers
to be saved?

The Old Testament




Does Scripture teach
us to intercede for
individual unbelievers
to be saved?

The New Testament



Two Key Passages that Clearly Urge us
to Pray for Individual Unbelievers:


1. Paul's example/testimony (**Romans 9:1-5; 10:1-2**).



Two Key Passages that Clearly Urge us to Pray for Individual Unbelievers:

Rom 9:1-5 ESV


I am speaking the truth in Christ--I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit-- that I have **great sorrow and unceasing anguish** in my heart. For **I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen** according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ, who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.



Two Key Passages that **Clearly** Urge us
to Pray for Individual Unbelievers:


Rom 10:1-2 ESV

Brothers, **my heart's desire** and **prayer to God** for them is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.



Two Key Passages that Clearly Urge us
to Pray for Individual Unbelievers:

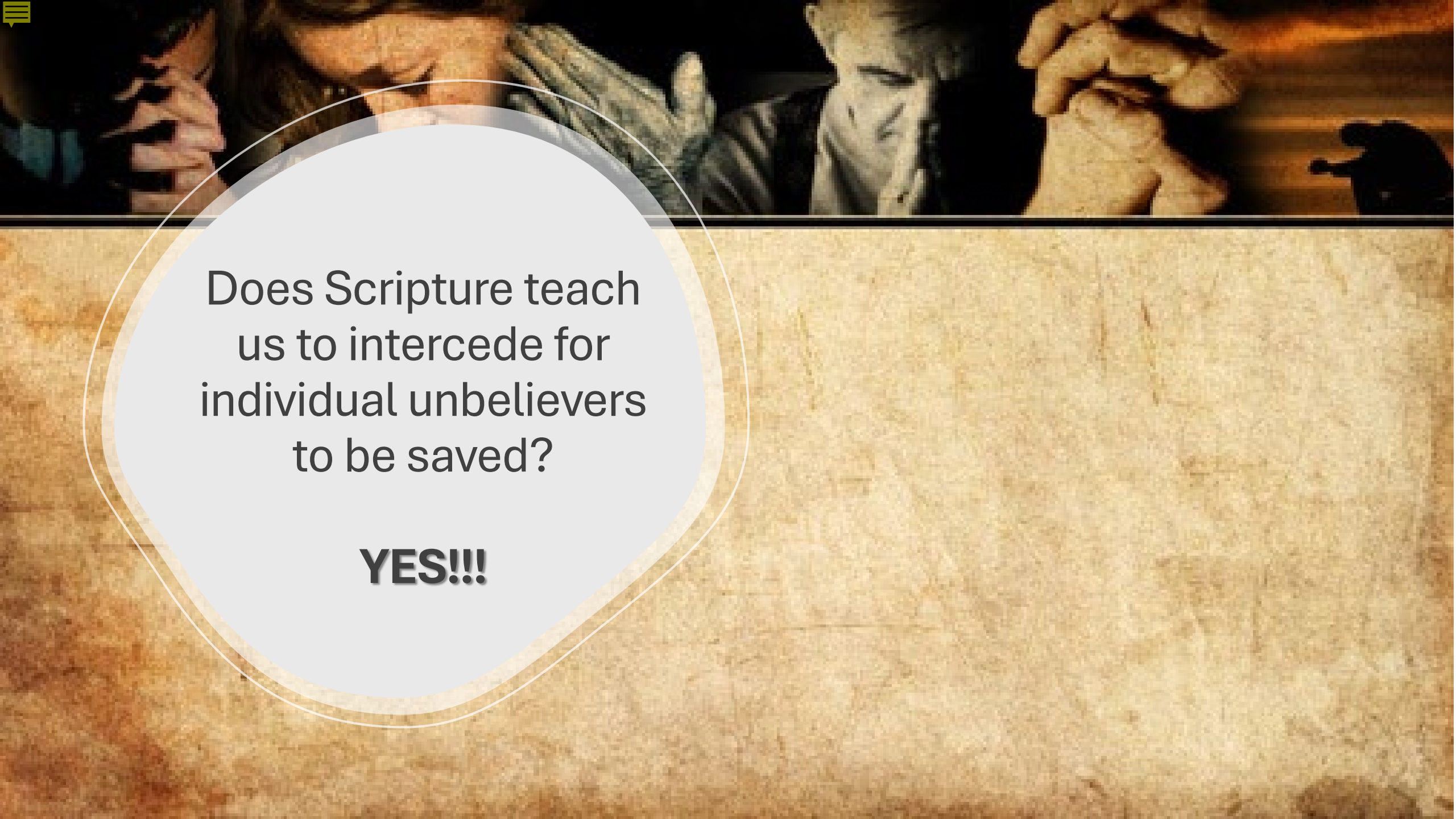
2. Paul's instruction (**1 Timothy 2:1-7**).



Two Key Passages that Clearly Urge us to Pray for Individual Unbelievers:

1 Timothy 2:1-7 ESV

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

A group of people in prayer, with a parchment background and a central text bubble. The background is a composite image: the top part shows several people in prayer, and the bottom part is a textured parchment surface. A large, light blue, rounded rectangular bubble is centered on the parchment, containing the text.

Does Scripture teach
us to intercede for
individual unbelievers
to be saved?

YES!!!



Does Scripture teach that a prayer of faith guarantees salvation for those for whom we intercede?



Intercessory prayer, evangelism,
the doctrines of grace,
and the free will of man



“I assume that every person in this town is elect, and they’re going to have to prove me wrong by rejecting the gospel.”

-Steve Viars





In our intercessions
we pray diligently
and earnestly,
knowing that God
uses our prayers
because of Christ.

We obey and pray
then we rest in
God's sovereignty.



Does Scripture teach that a prayer of faith guarantees salvation for those for whom we intercede? **NO!!!**




We intercede in hope as priests and patrons.

“a royal priesthood” (1 Peter 2:9)



We intercede in hope as the righteous.

“The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working” (James 1:16b).



“The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working” (ESV)

“The effective prayer of a righteous man can accomplish much” (NASB1995)

“The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much” (KJV)

“The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective” (NIV)

“The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results” (NLT)

“The heartfelt and persistent prayer of a righteous man (believer) is able to accomplish much” (AMP)



We intercede in hope as spiritual responders

“My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins” (v.19-20 ESV)



And Jesus said to his disciples,
"Truly, I say to you, only with difficulty will a rich person enter the kingdom of heaven. Again I tell you, it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." When the disciples heard this, they were greatly astonished, saying, "Who then can be saved?" But Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."
(Matt 19:23-26 ESV)



Evangelistic Praying:

Pray in faith and hope then rest.