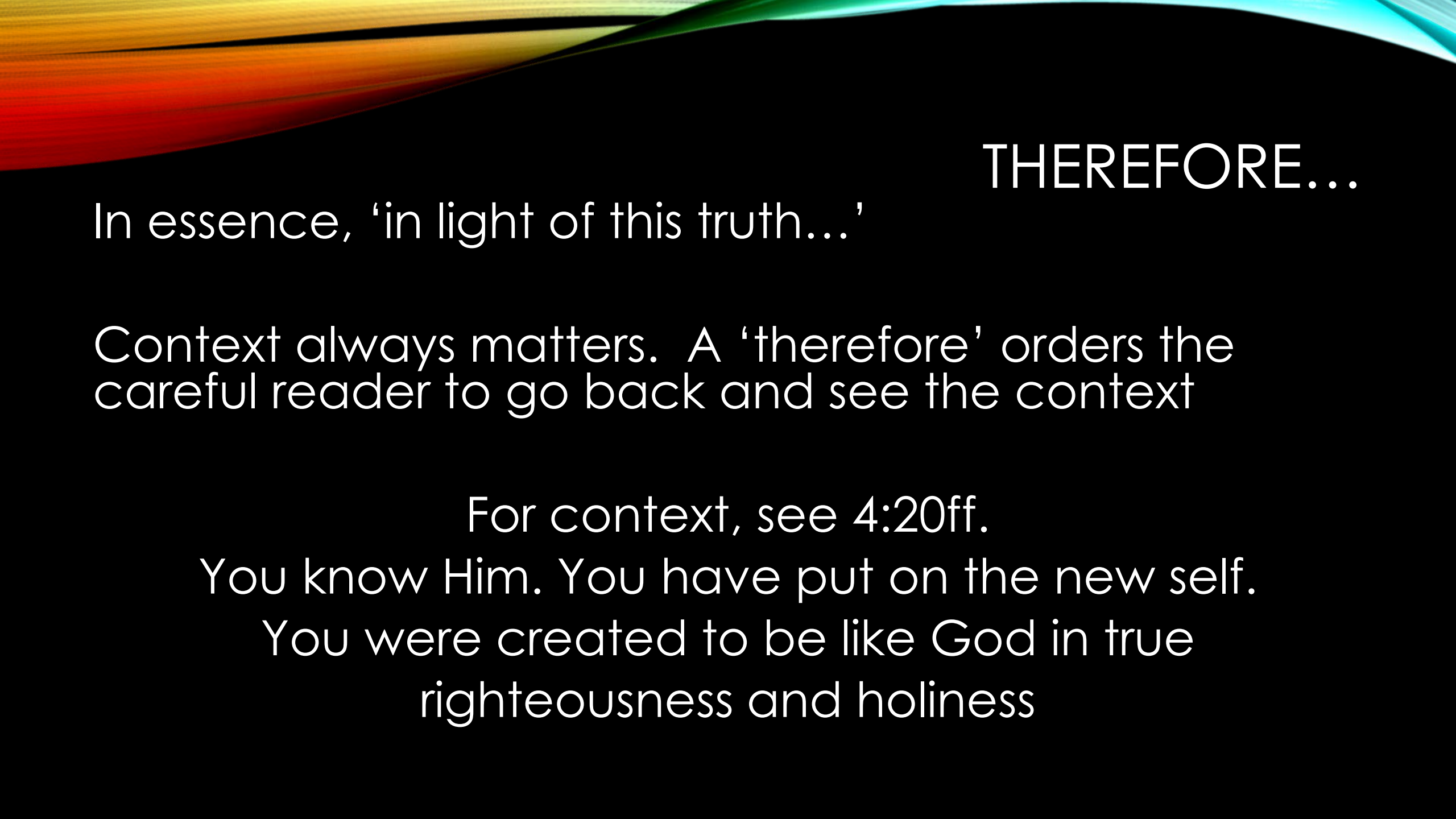




IMITATORS OF GOD

Ephesians 5:1-7



THEREFORE...

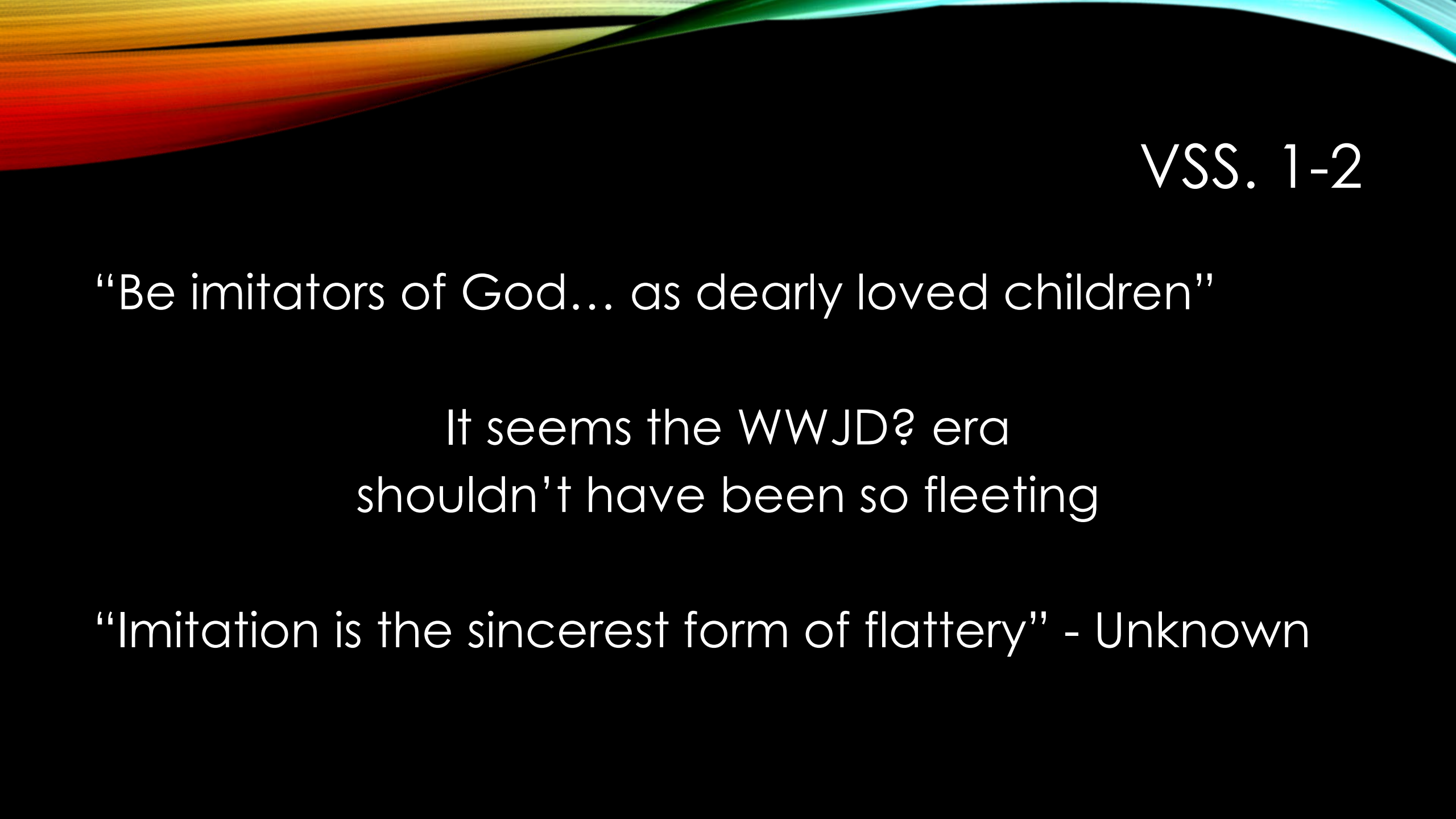
In essence, 'in light of this truth...'

Context always matters. A 'therefore' orders the careful reader to go back and see the context

For context, see 4:20ff.

You know Him. You have put on the new self.

You were created to be like God in true
righteousness and holiness



VSS. 1-2

“Be imitators of God... as dearly loved children”

It seems the WWJD? era
shouldn't have been so fleeting

“Imitation is the sincerest form of flattery” - Unknown



“live a life of love as Christ loved us”

John 13:34-35

Romans 6:1-14

Is my life a fragrant offering?
Or do I still carry around the smell of death?

VS. 3-4

“Not even a hint” or “let it not be once named”

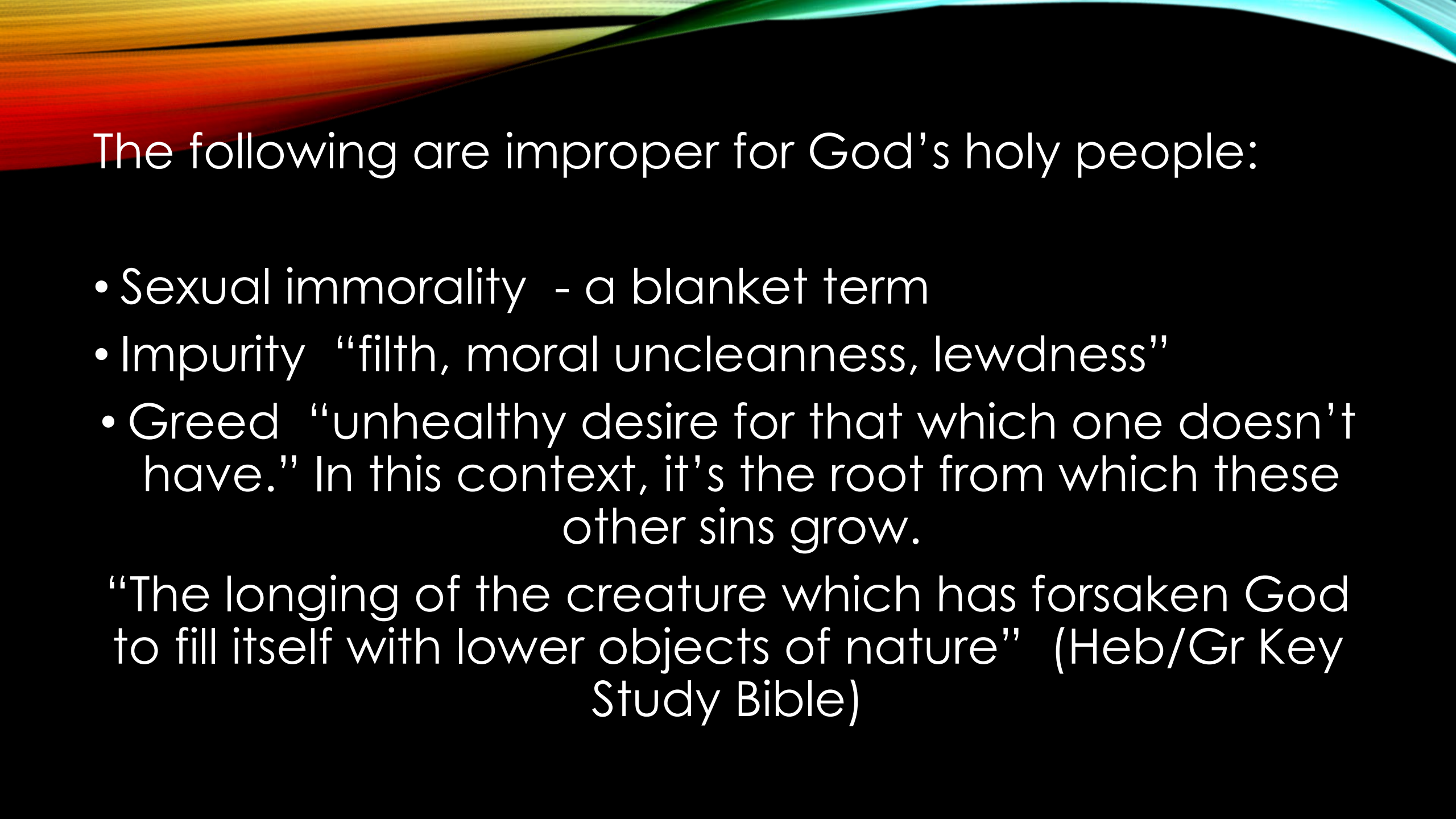
Not even uttered or mentioned.

Why?

The people of God are holy, set apart, sanctified.

“Its fundamental ideas are separation, consecration, devotion to God. Sharing in God’s purity and abstaining from earth’s defilement”

2 Cor. 6:14; 1 John 1:5-6



The following are improper for God's holy people:

- Sexual immorality - a blanket term
- Impurity “filth, moral uncleanness, lewdness”
- Greed “unhealthy desire for that which one doesn't have.” In this context, it's the root from which these other sins grow.

“The longing of the creature which has forsaken God to fill itself with lower objects of nature” (Heb/Gr Key Study Bible)

- Obscenity
- Foolish talk “The type of speech that shows just how foolish a person really is (Matt. 12:34-35)
- Coarse joking “One who can easily turn his speech for the purpose of evoking laughter” Here, obscene joking

Are you a quick wit?

Guard your heart. (Prov. 4:23; Ps. 19:14)

Instead, replace those things above with gratitude

STRAIGHT TALK VS. 5

“No immoral, impure or greedy person – such man is an idolater – has any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.”

Note: ‘immoral, impure or greedy’ is a restatement of verses 3 and 4

Also note: The reference is to one who has made a lifestyle out of immorality, impurity and greed

VS. 6

What empty words? Probably things like:

“It’s no big deal. Just ask for forgiveness after.”

“You’re only human. Cut yourself some slack.”

“Now hang on. God gave you those desires, right?”

“I’m sure you’re fine. We all do it.”

Be not deceived. God’s wrath will come on the
disobedient. Don’t confuse delay w/ permission (2
Pet 3)



VS. 7

God's wrath comes on the disobedient, so...

“Do not be partners with them...”

From the world:

“Show me your friends, and I'll show you your future.”

“He that lieth down with dogs shall rise up with fleas.”

From the Word: 2 Cor. 6:14; 1 Cor. 15:33