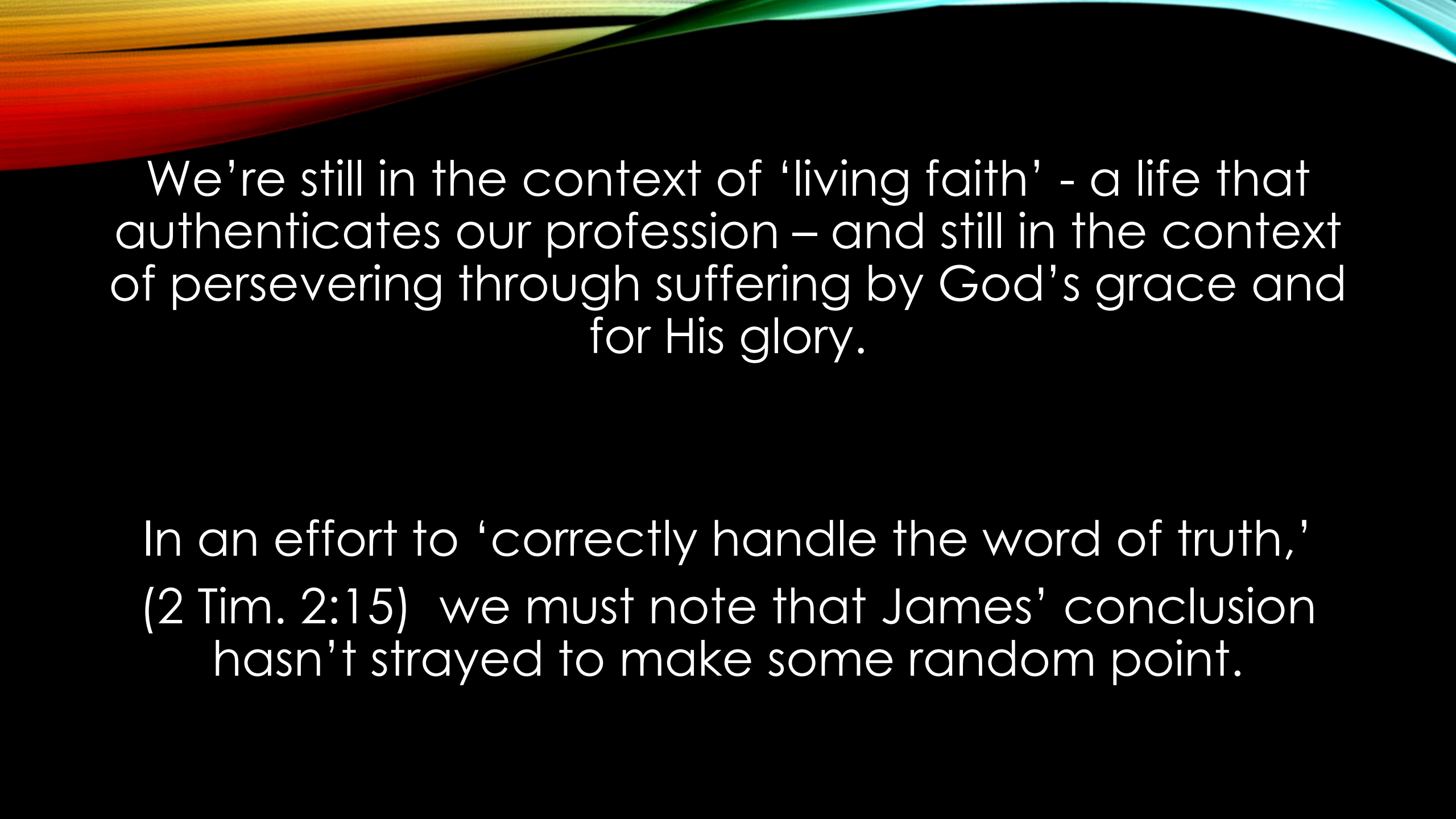
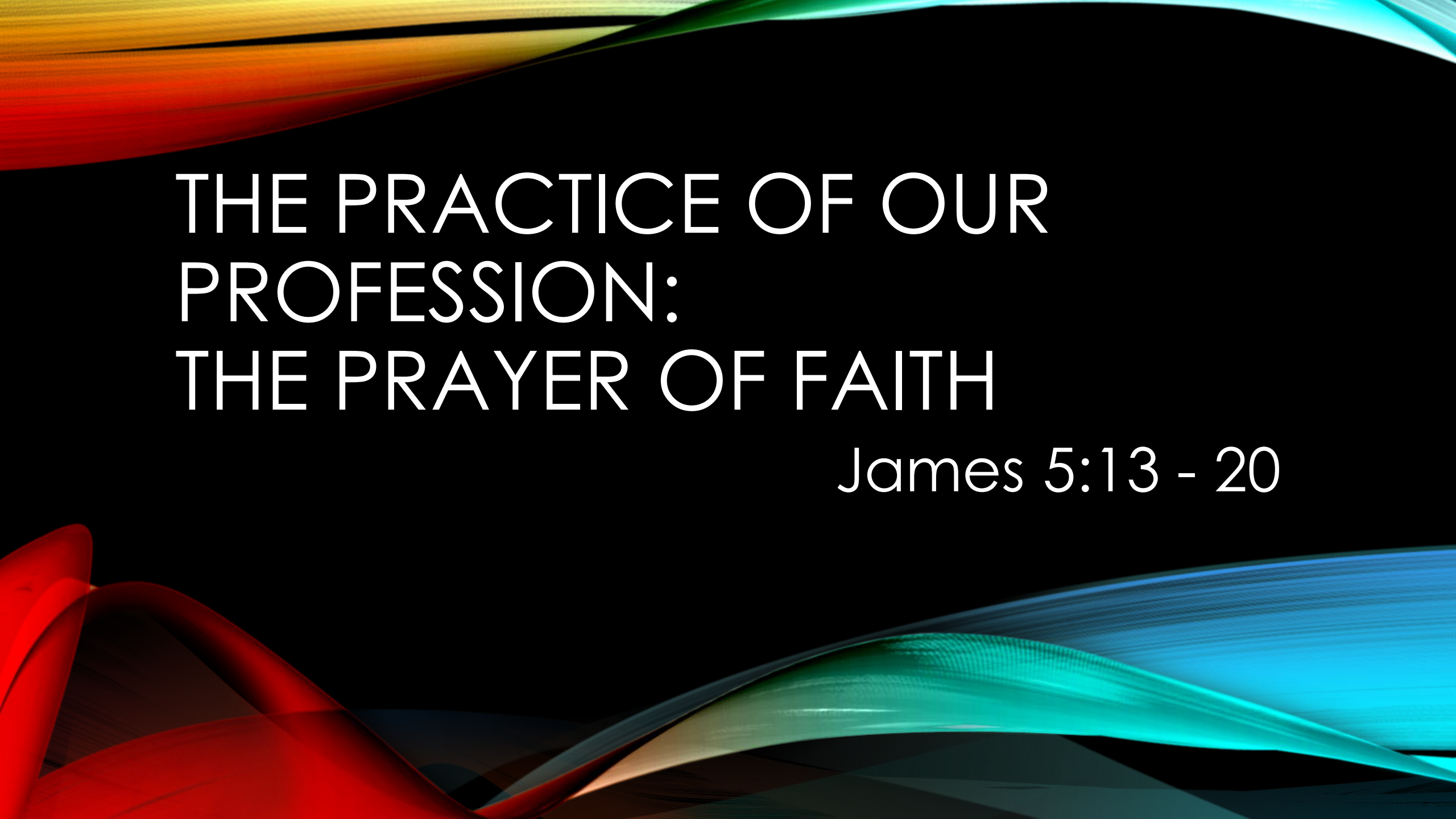




We're still in the context of 'living faith' - a life that authenticates our profession – and still in the context of persevering through suffering by God's grace and for His glory.

In an effort to 'correctly handle the word of truth,' (2 Tim. 2:15) we must note that James' conclusion hasn't strayed to make some random point.



THE PRACTICE OF OUR PROFESSION: THE PRAYER OF FAITH

James 5:13 - 20



VS. 13

In trouble? Pray.

It's one of two offensive weapons necessary to
stand against the Enemy of our souls (Eph. 6:18-20)

Happy? Sing praise.

Ps. 22:3; James 4:7-8

Good times and bad? Ps. 34

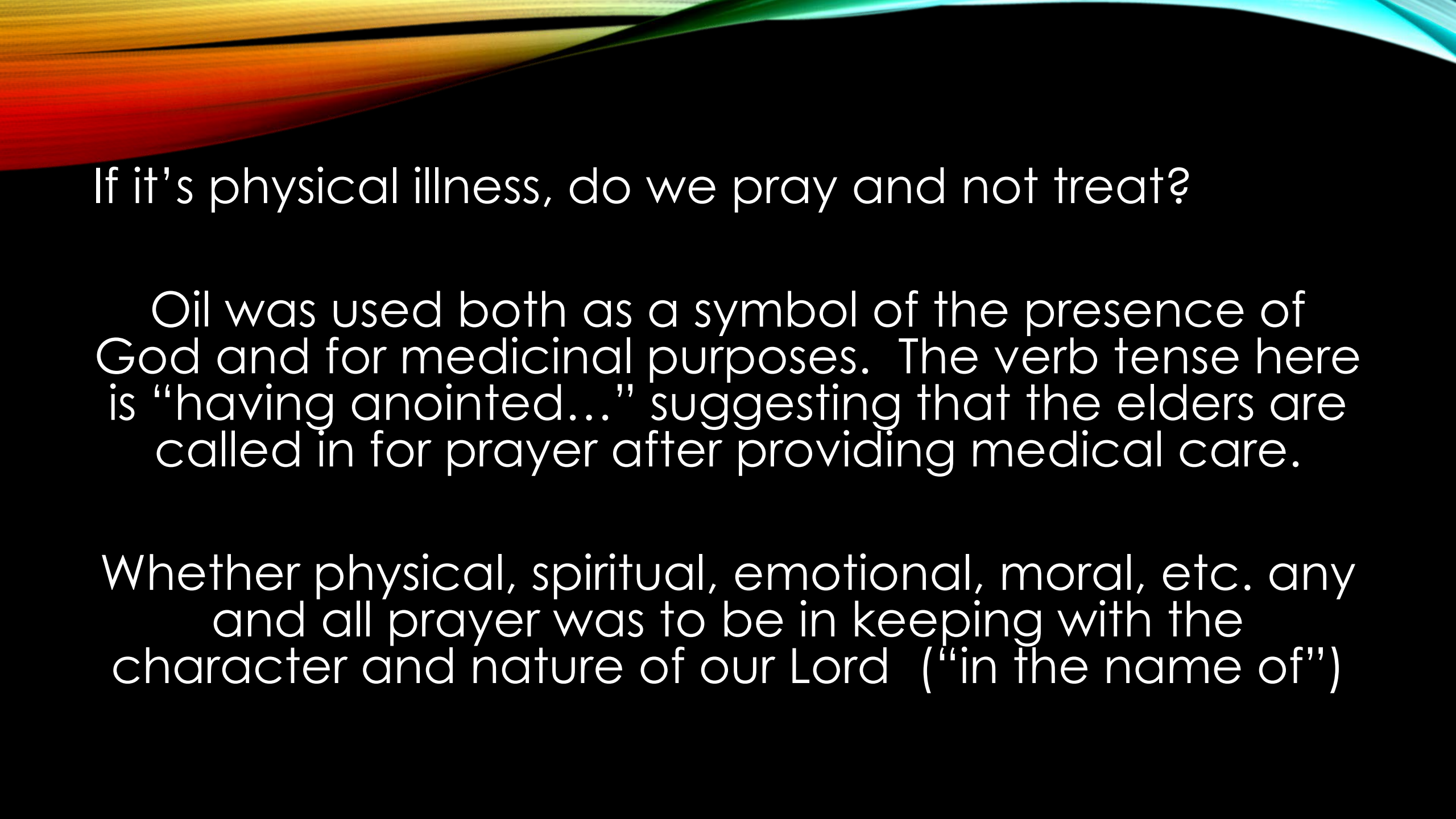


VS. 14

In the original language, this was a statement.
“Someone among you is weak,” presumably from
being beaten down in one way or another through
the oppression described in 1-6

Sick “Weak or feeble in any sense”

Its usage includes physical illness, but sometimes it
refers to spiritual, ethical, emotional or moral
weakness



If it's physical illness, do we pray and not treat?

Oil was used both as a symbol of the presence of God and for medicinal purposes. The verb tense here is "having anointed..." suggesting that the elders are called in for prayer after providing medical care.

Whether physical, spiritual, emotional, moral, etc. any and all prayer was to be in keeping with the character and nature of our Lord ("in the name of")

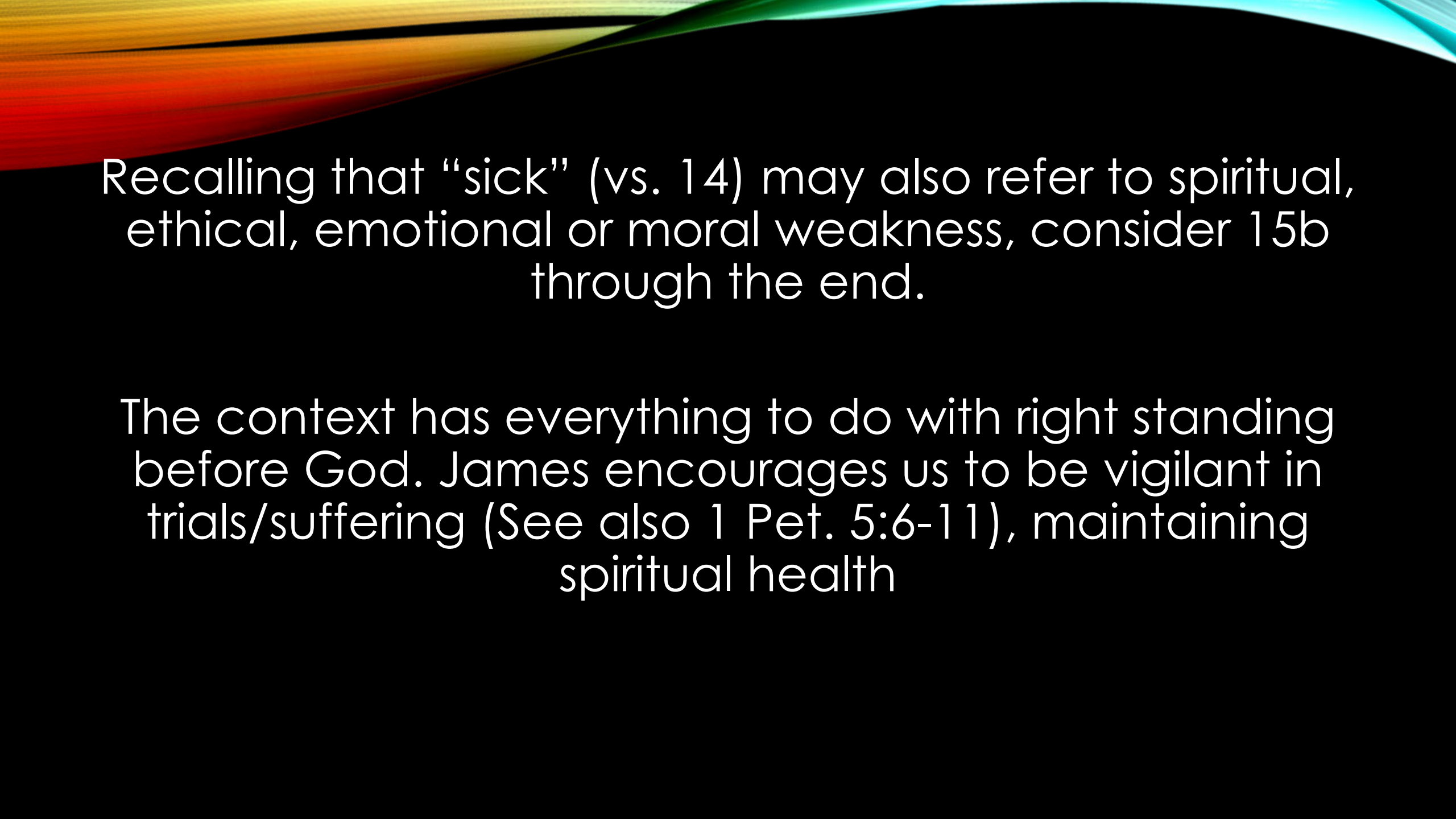


VS. 15

“The prayer of faith WILL make the sick person well”

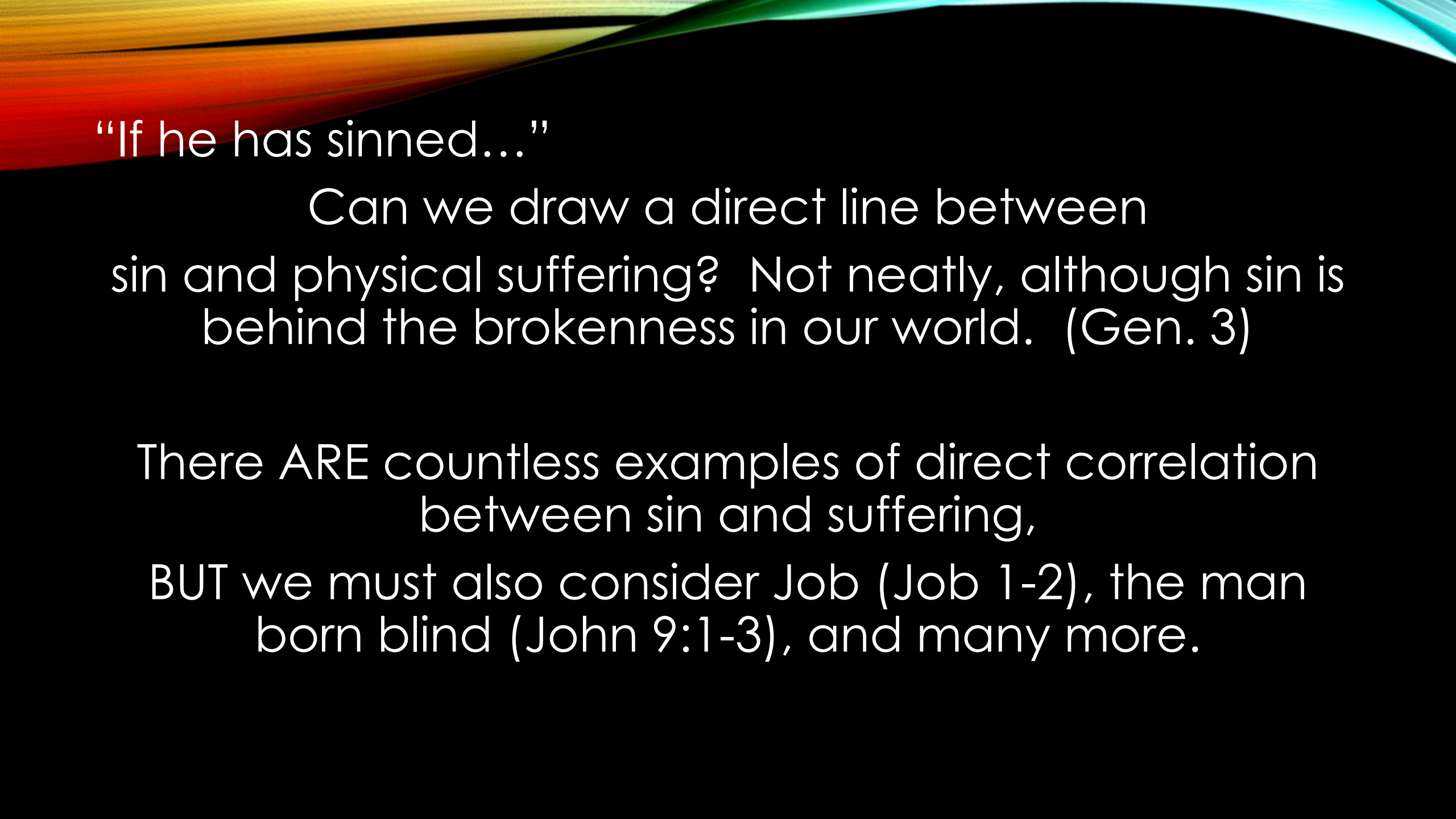
If it solely refers to physical illness, are we missing something? We have stood beside the graves of many loved ones.

Some would say, “they must not have had enough faith,” but that cannot be argued with sound teaching. Consider Isa. 53; Luke 22:39-44



Recalling that “sick” (vs. 14) may also refer to spiritual, ethical, emotional or moral weakness, consider 15b through the end.

The context has everything to do with right standing before God. James encourages us to be vigilant in trials/suffering (See also 1 Pet. 5:6-11), maintaining spiritual health

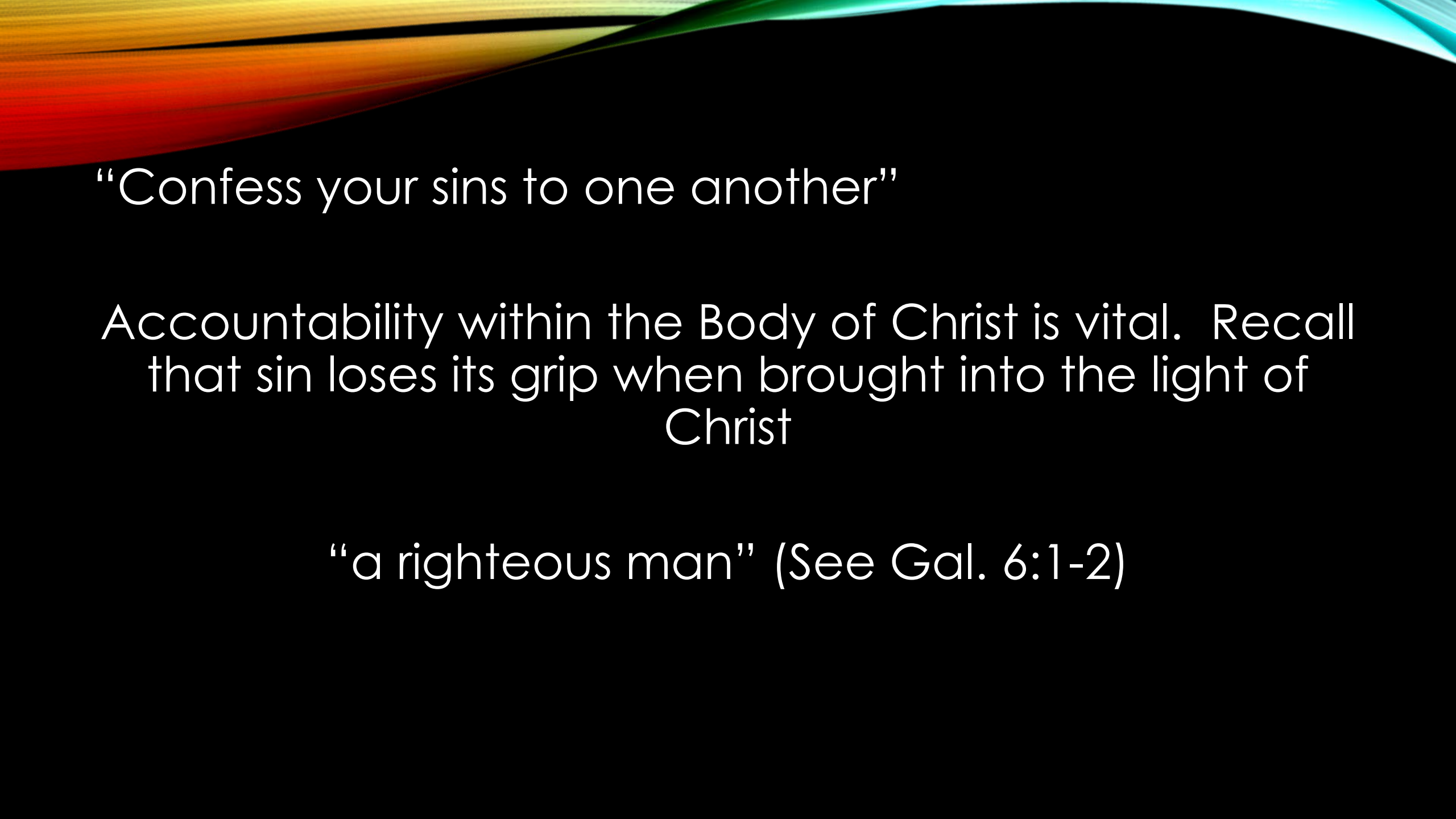


“If he has sinned...”

Can we draw a direct line between sin and physical suffering? Not neatly, although sin is behind the brokenness in our world. (Gen. 3)

There ARE countless examples of direct correlation between sin and suffering,

BUT we must also consider Job (Job 1-2), the man born blind (John 9:1-3), and many more.



“Confess your sins to one another”

Accountability within the Body of Christ is vital. Recall
that sin loses its grip when brought into the light of
Christ

“a righteous man” (See Gal. 6:1-2)



The Elijah reference (from 1 Kings 17-18) doesn't just illustrate the power of prayer from a regular guy in order to encourage us.

Elijah's prayer was one of divine judgment of sin



What comes from authentic humility, brokenness and confession of sin?

Wellness, the raising up of the downtrodden, healing, forgiveness, the opening of heaven's floodgates, restored blessing, spiritual protection and healing grace.