

# Acts.

## THE COMMISSION

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

ACTS 1:8 NIV

## ACTS 1-3

Jesus ascends to Heaven

A new Apostle is chosen to replace Judas

The Holy Spirit arrives at Pentecost

The Church is birthed

A crippled man is healed

Peter challenges the Jews

# The First Sign of Opposition

Spiritual Police

Sadducees

The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup> They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.

ACTS 4:1-2 NIV

# The First Sign of Opposition

Spiritual Police

Sadducees

The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup> They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.

ACTS 4:1-2 NIV

# The First Sign of Opposition

Spiritual Police

Sadducees

The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people. <sup>2</sup> They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.

ACTS 4:1-2 NIV

# Sadducees



- + Ruling class of the aristocracy
- + Politically aligned with Rome
- + They weren't interested in a Messiah
- + Denied doctrine of resurrection and spirits
- + Apostles threatened their theology & status

# Sadducees



- + Ruling class of the **aristocracy**
- + Politically aligned with **Rome**
- + They weren't interested in a **Messiah**
- + Denied doctrine of **resurrection** and **spirits**
- + Apostles threatened their theology & **status**





They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day.  
<sup>4</sup> But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.

**ACTS 4:3-4 NIV**







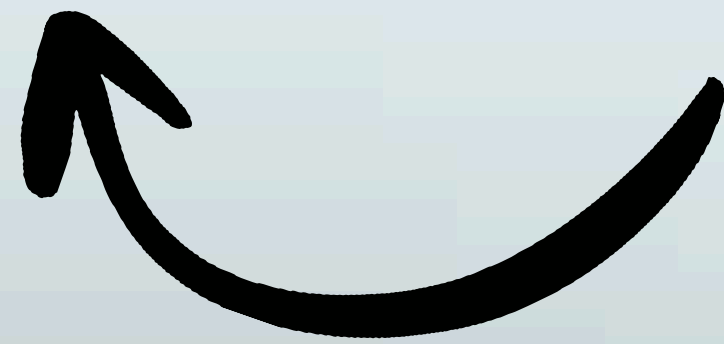
They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day.  
<sup>4</sup> But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.

ACTS 4:3-4 NIV



## THE SANHEDRIN

The highest Jewish authority

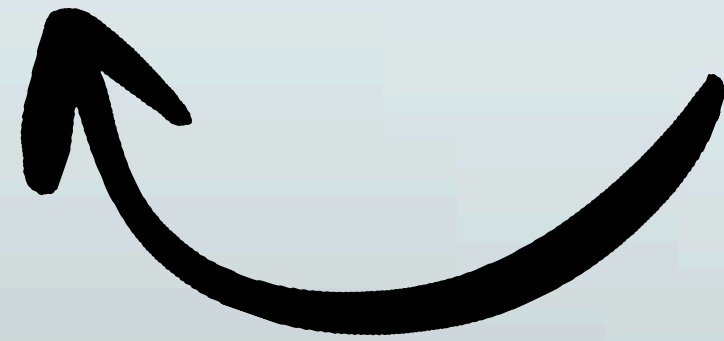


The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup> They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

ACTS 4:5-7 NIV

## THE SANHEDRIN

The highest Jewish authority



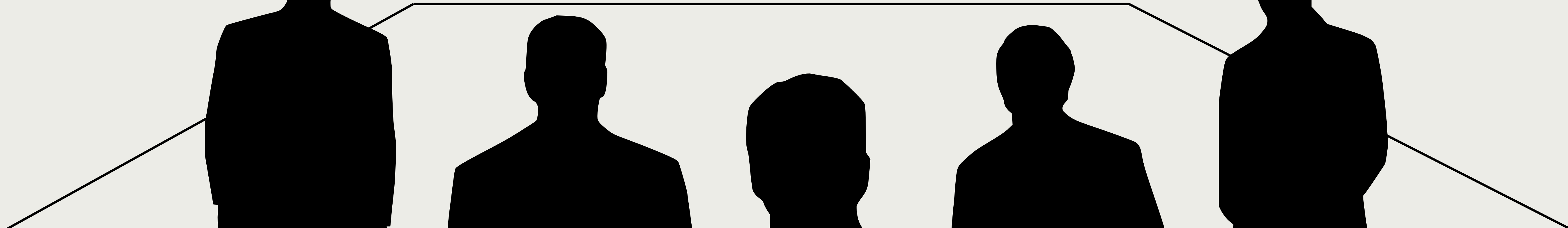
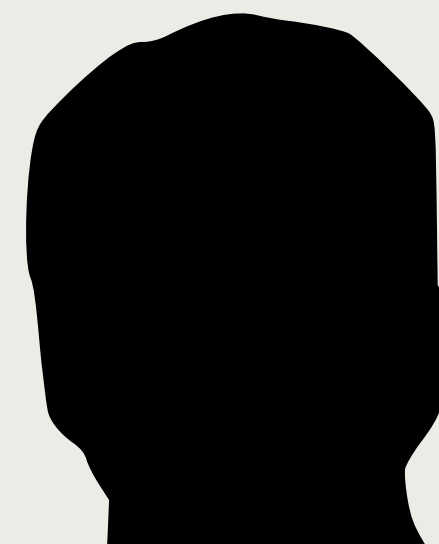
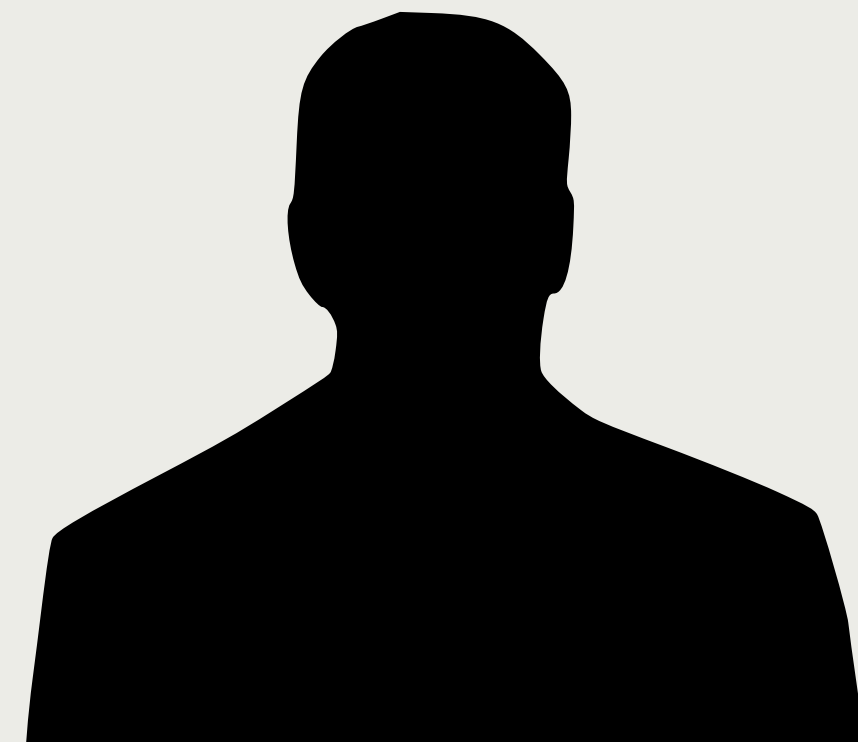
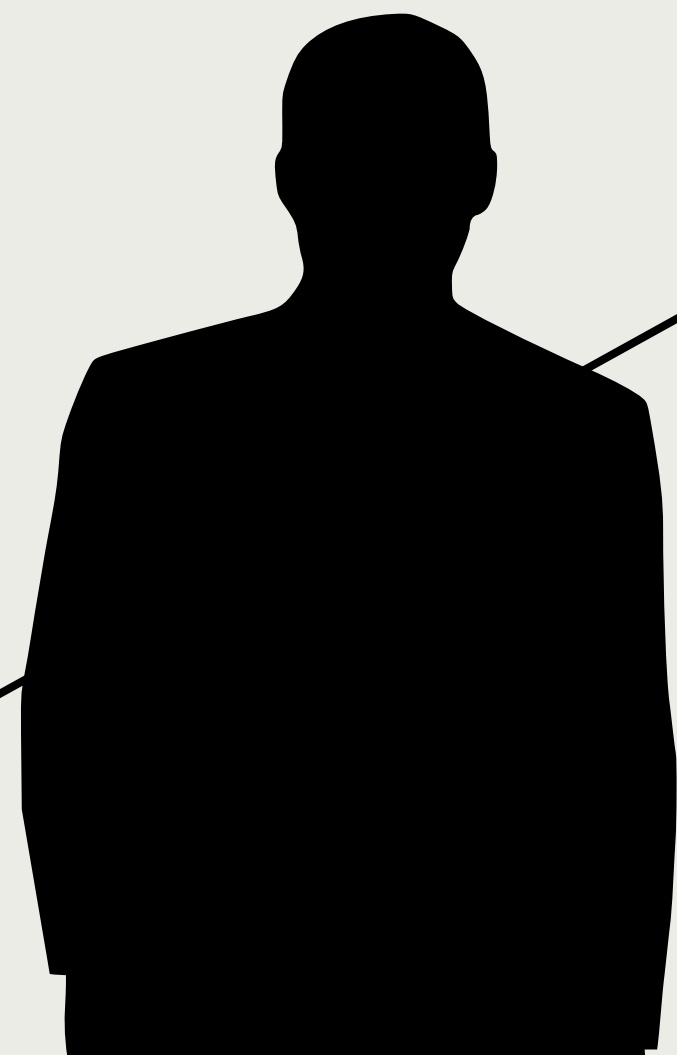
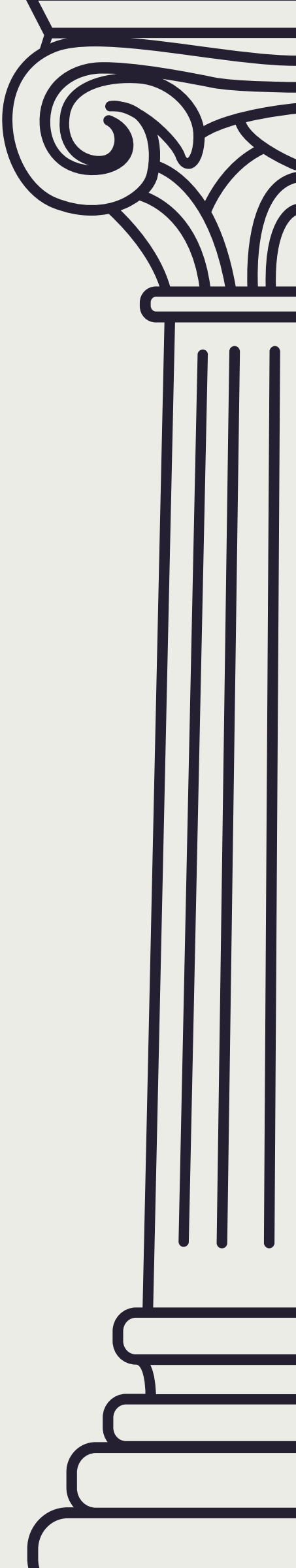
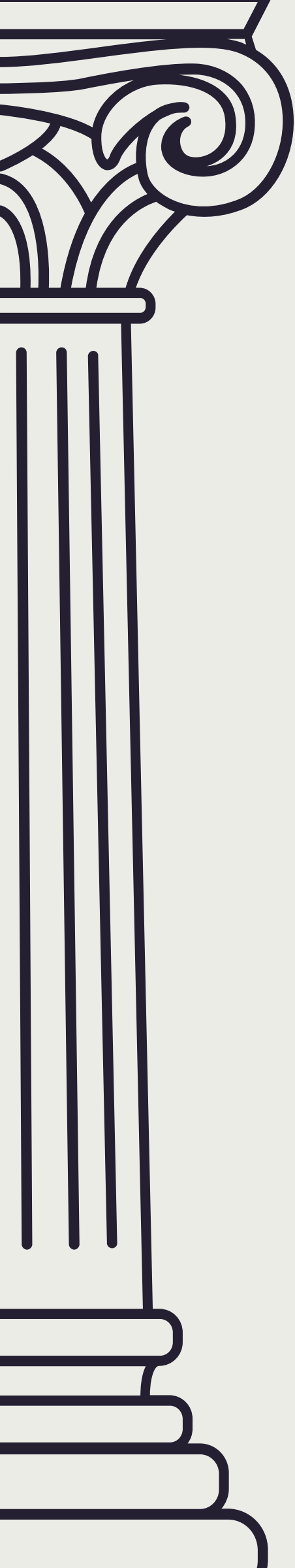
The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup> They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

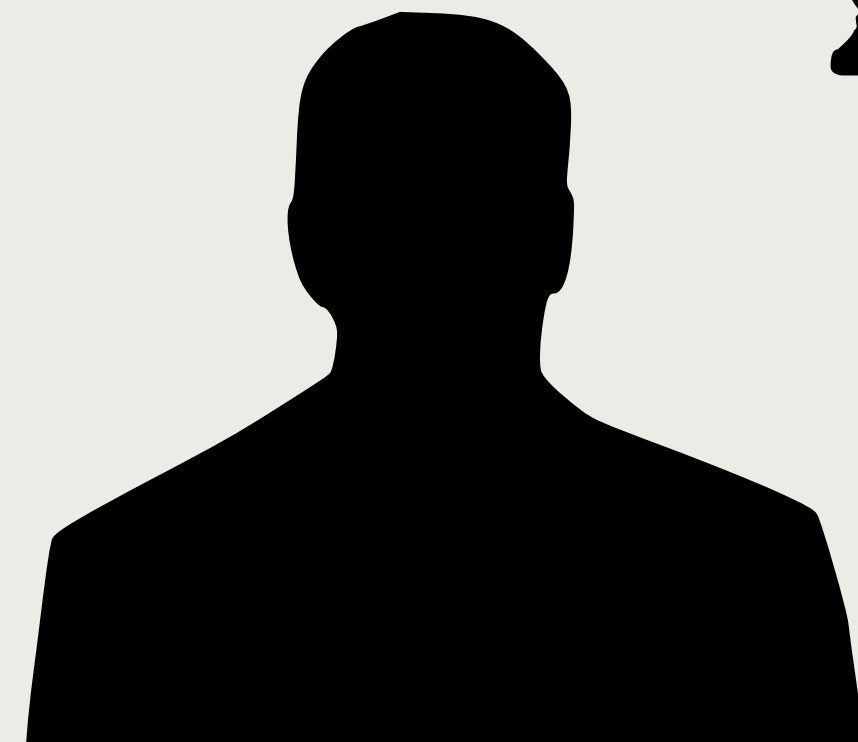
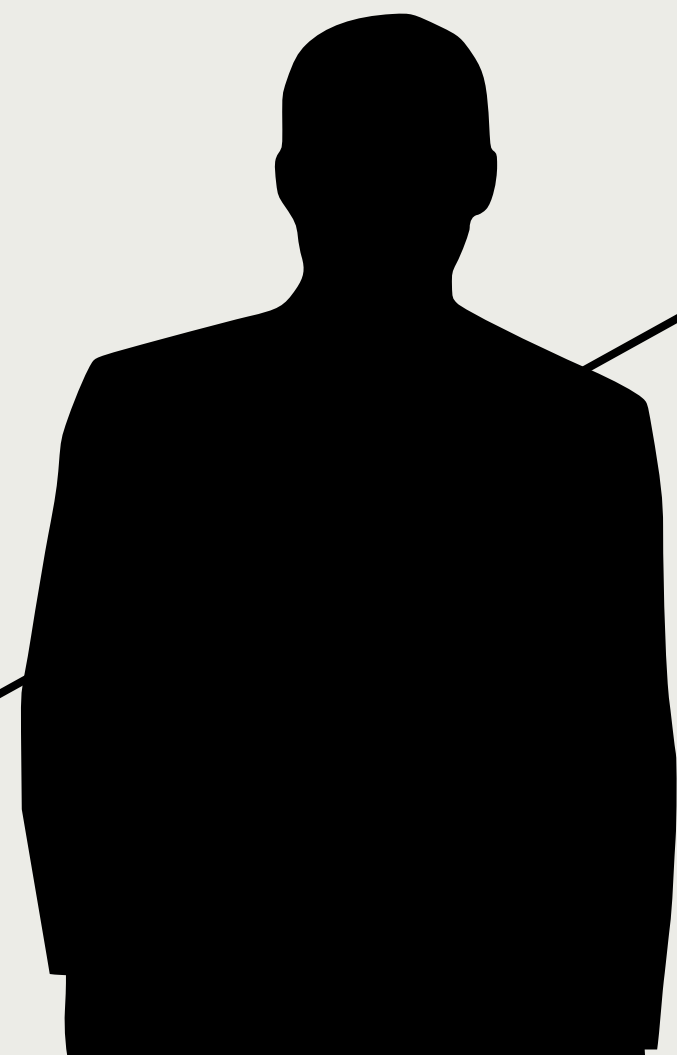
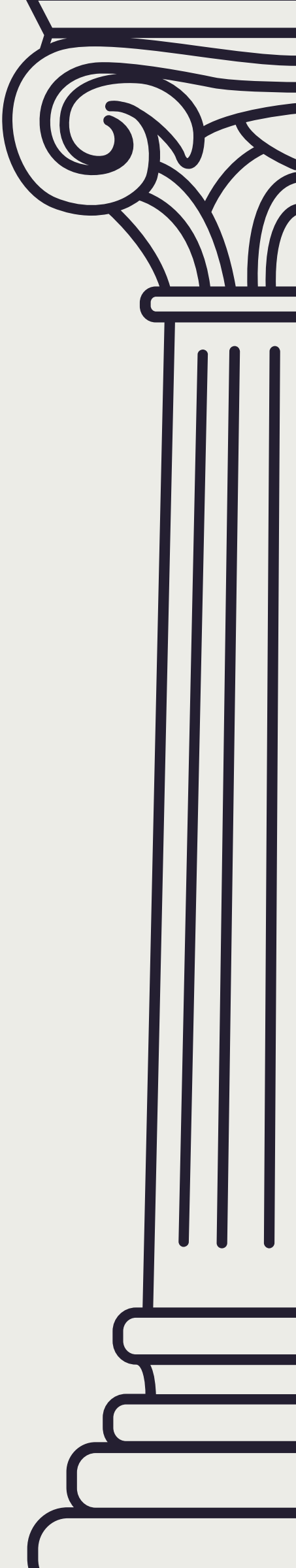
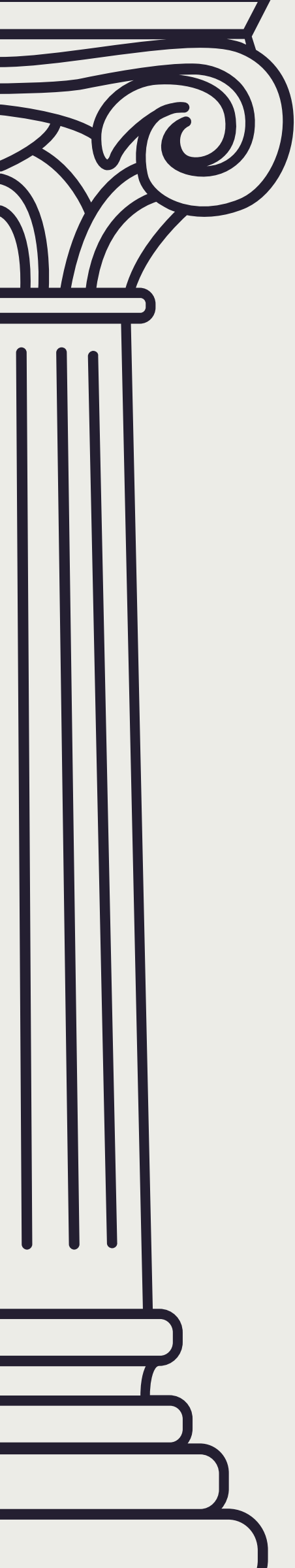
ACTS 4:5-7 NIV

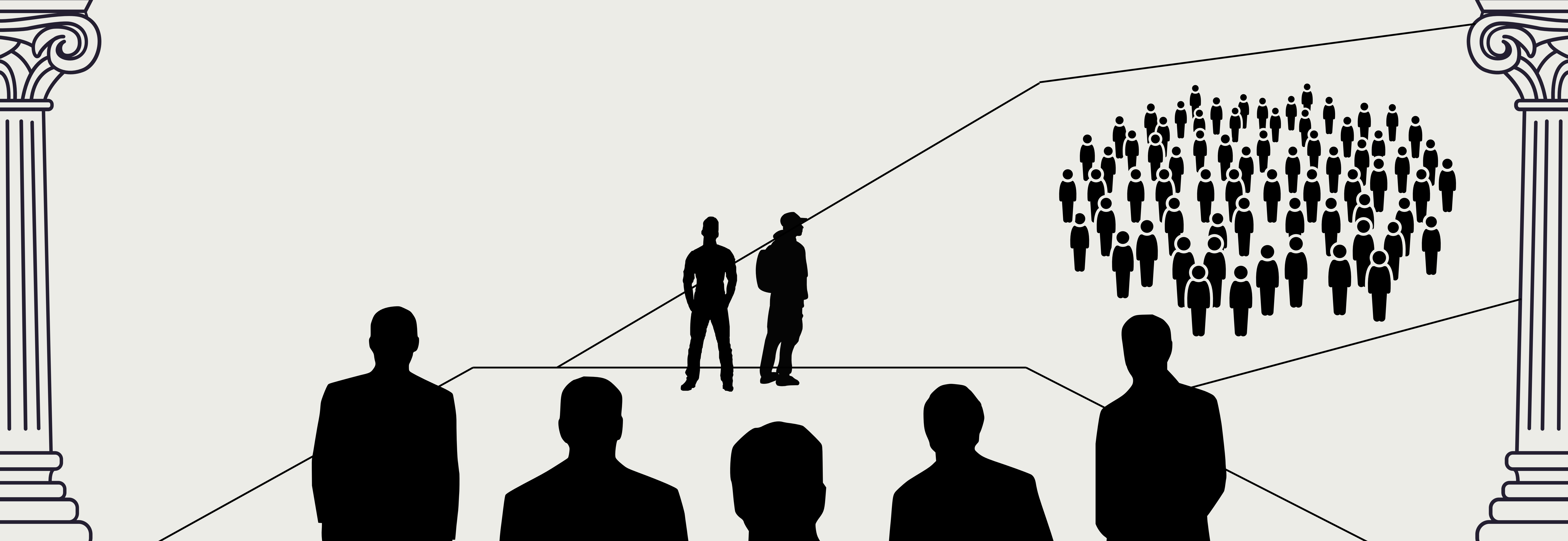


## THE QUESTION

Who gave you the authority?

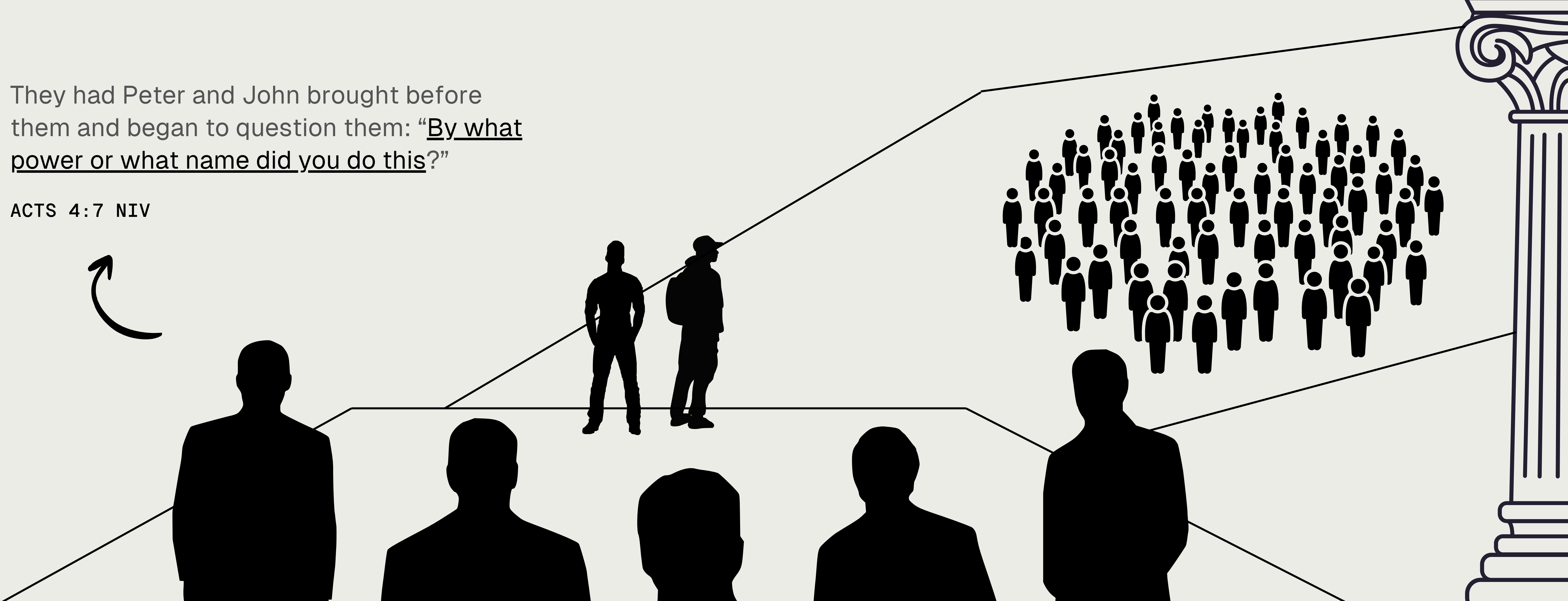
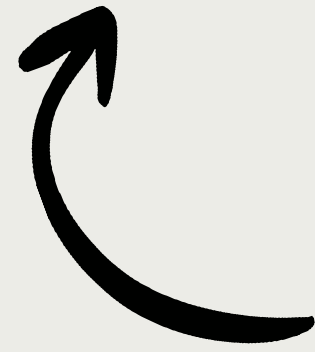






They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: “By what power or what name did you do this?”

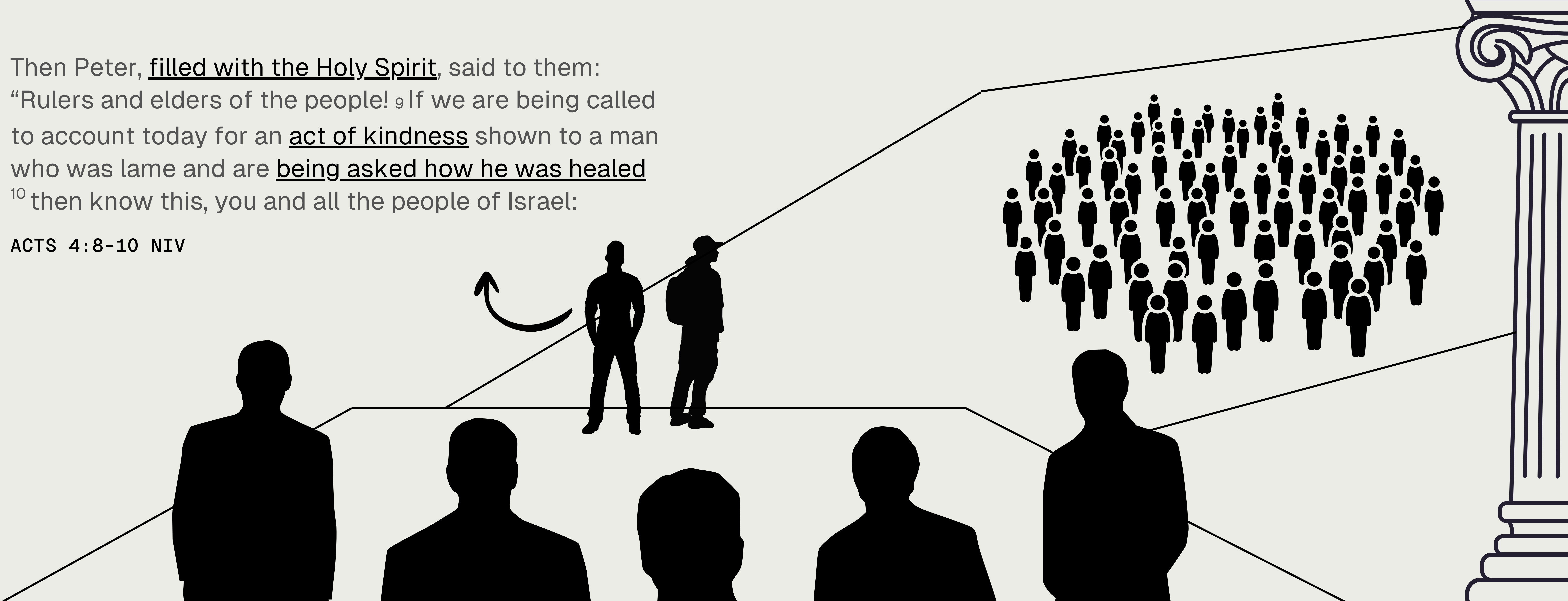
ACTS 4:7 NIV





Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them:  
“Rulers and elders of the people! <sup>9</sup> If we are being called  
to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man  
who was lame and are being asked how he was healed  
<sup>10</sup> then know this, you and all the people of Israel:

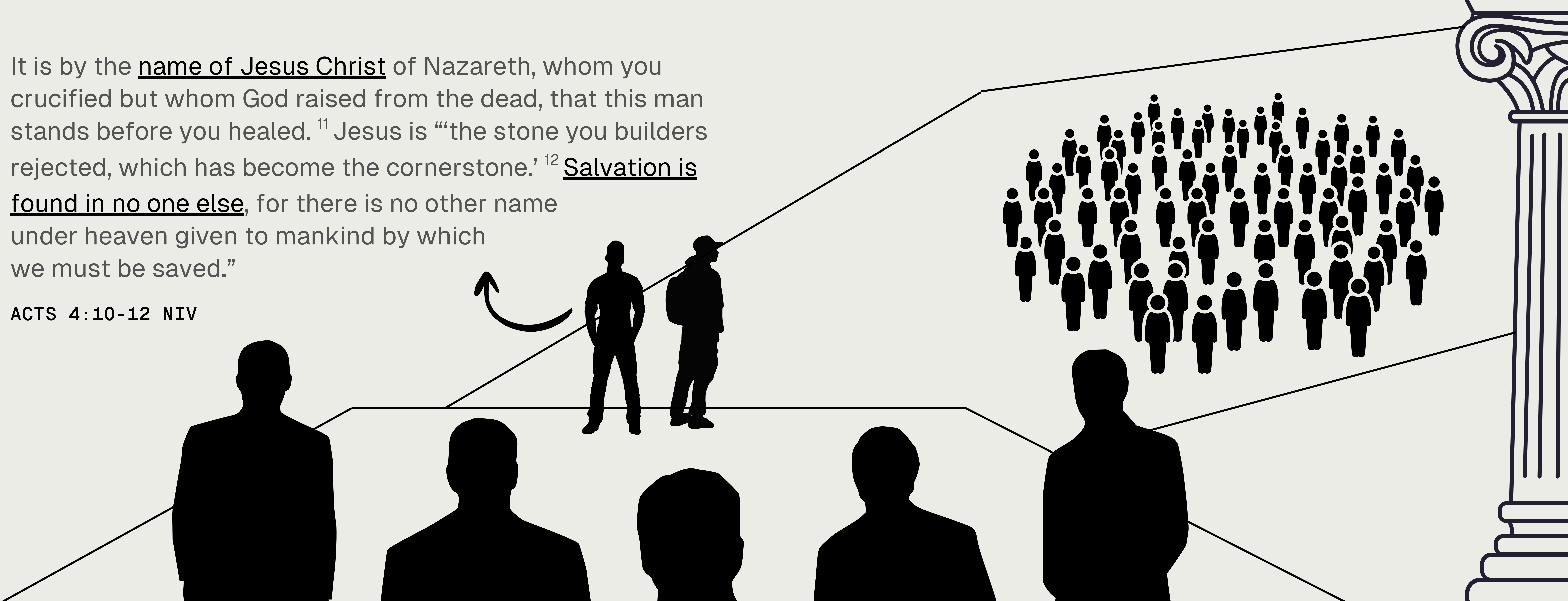
ACTS 4:8-10 NIV





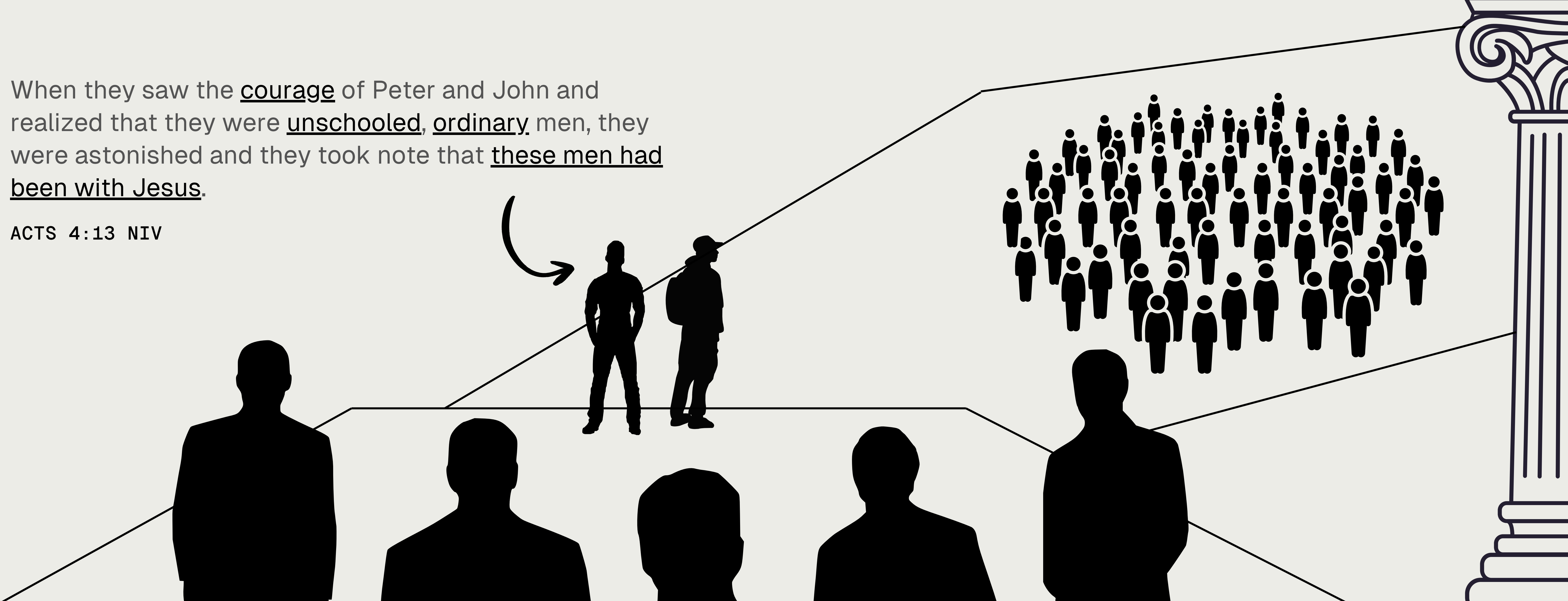
It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.<sup>11</sup> Jesus is “the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.”<sup>12</sup> Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.”

ACTS 4:10-12 NIV



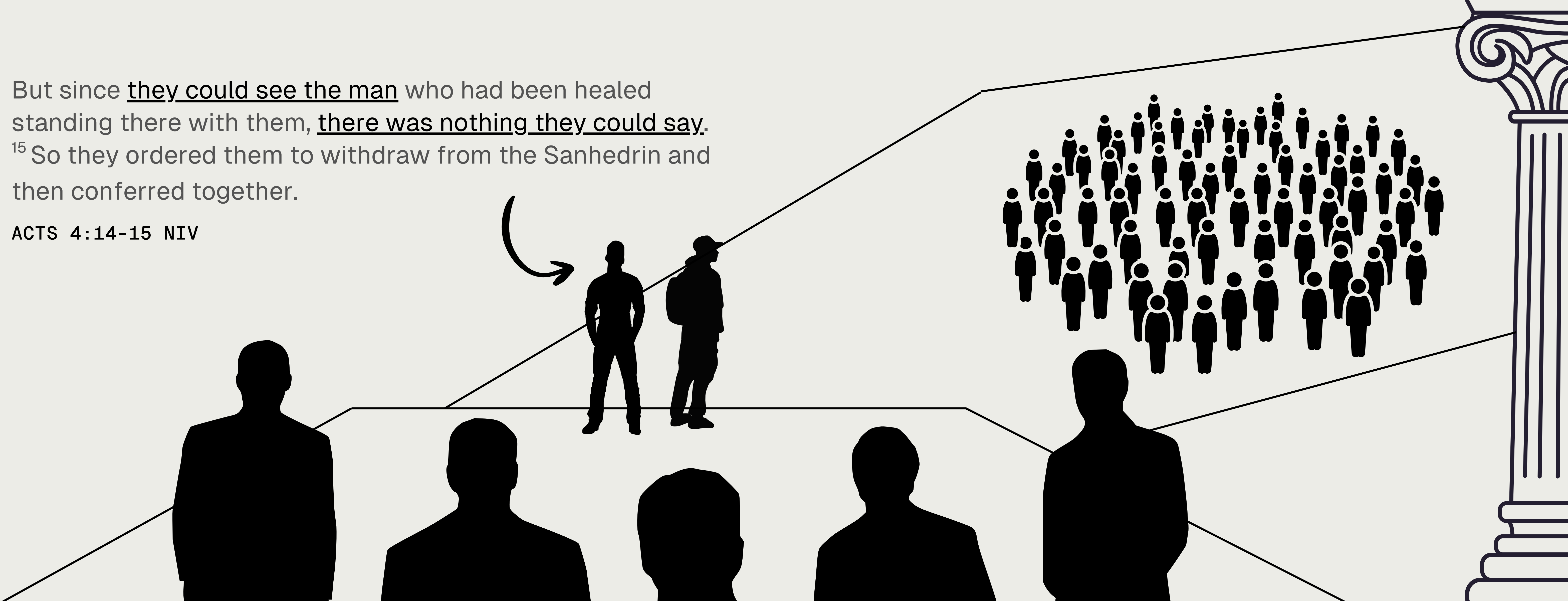
When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus.

ACTS 4:13 NIV



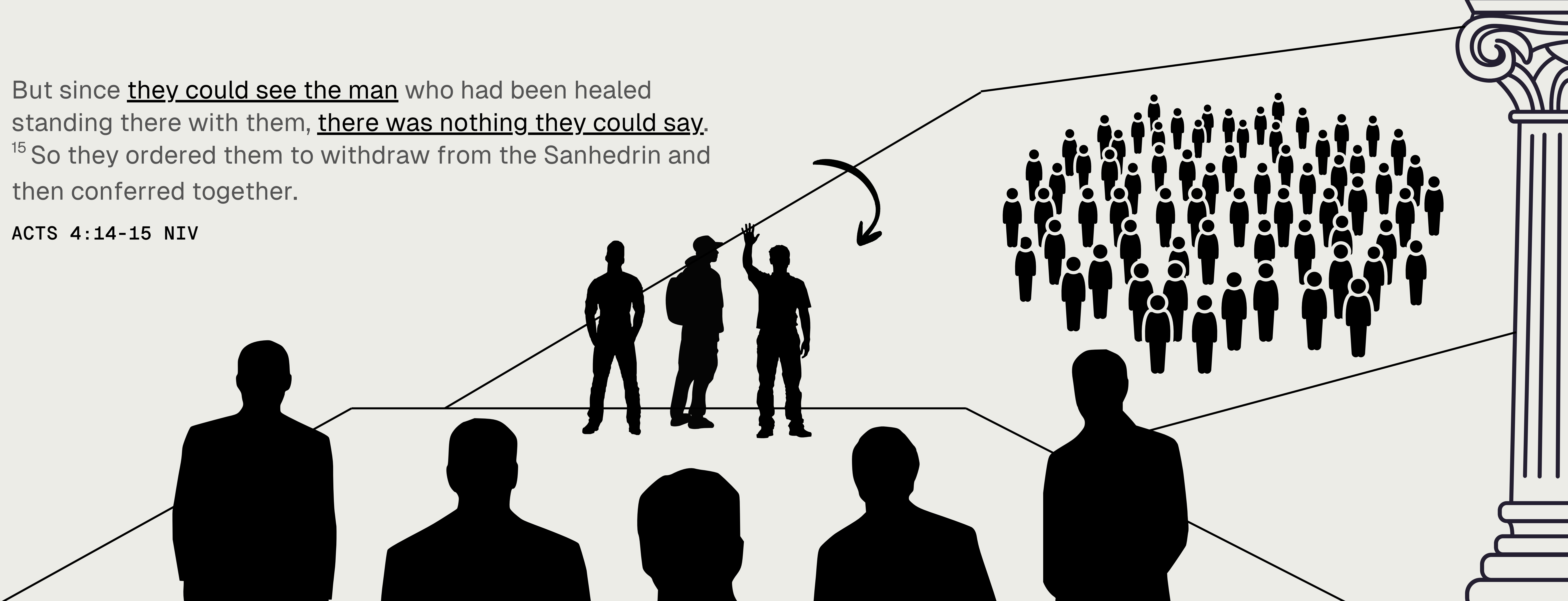
But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say.  
<sup>15</sup> So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together.

ACTS 4:14-15 NIV



But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say.  
<sup>15</sup> So they ordered them to withdraw from the Sanhedrin and then conferred together.

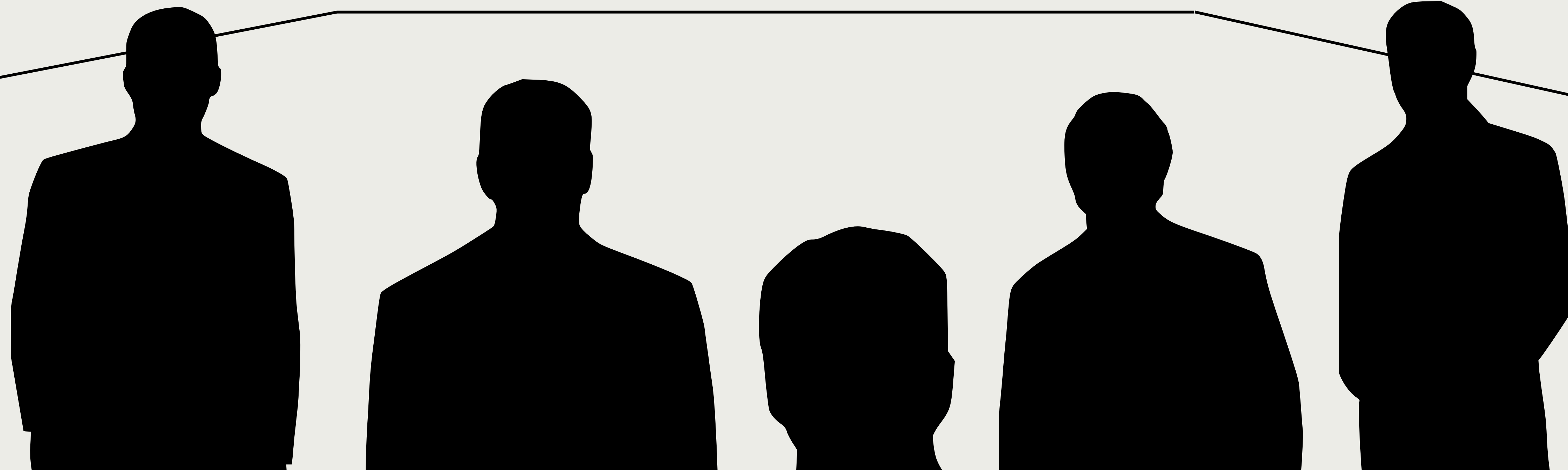
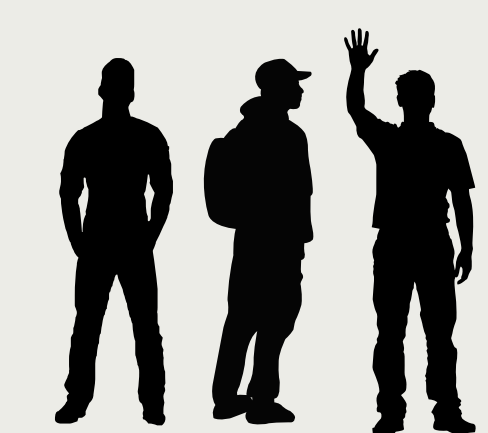
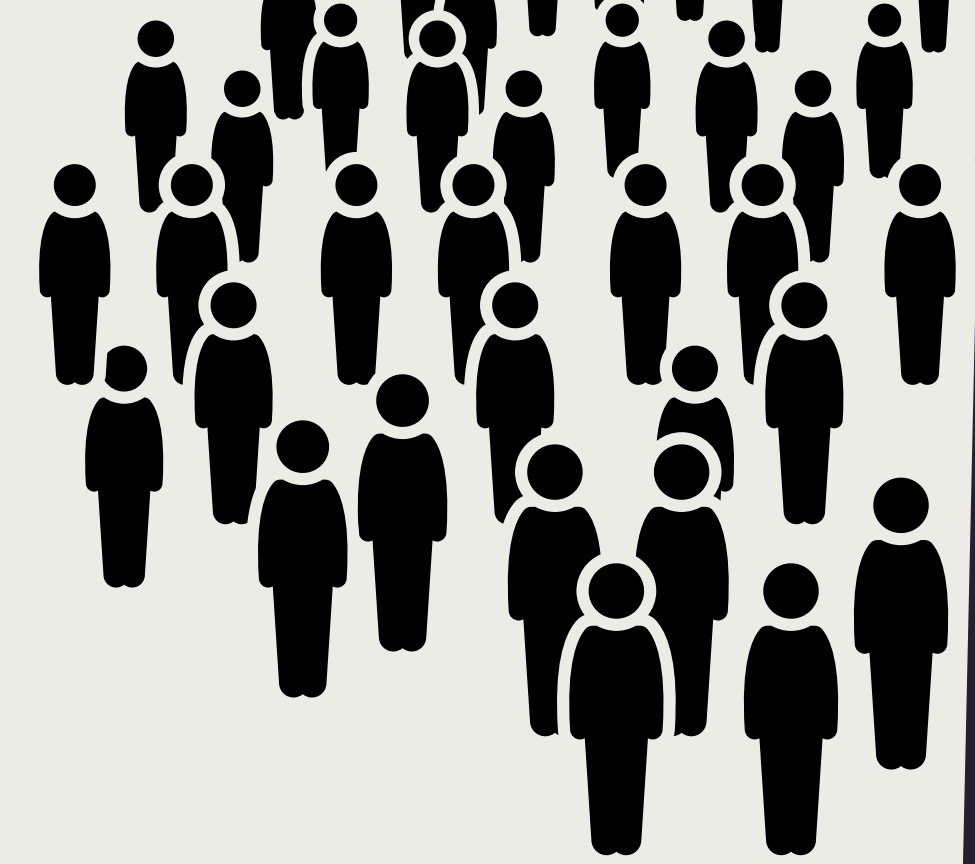
ACTS 4:14-15 NIV





“What are we going to do with these men?” they asked.  
“Everyone living in Jerusalem knows they have performed a  
notable sign, and we cannot deny it.<sup>17</sup> But to stop this thing  
from spreading any further among the people, we must warn  
them to speak no longer to anyone in this name.”

ACTS 4:16-17 NIV



Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in him. <sup>46</sup> But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them what Jesus had done. <sup>47</sup> Then the chief priests and the Pharisees called a meeting of the Sanhedrin.

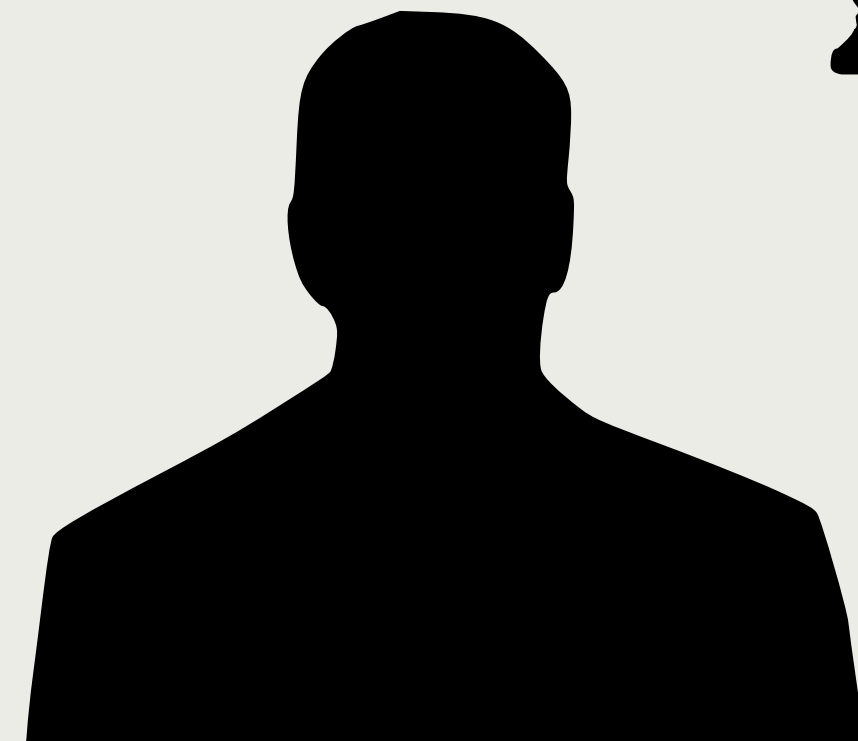
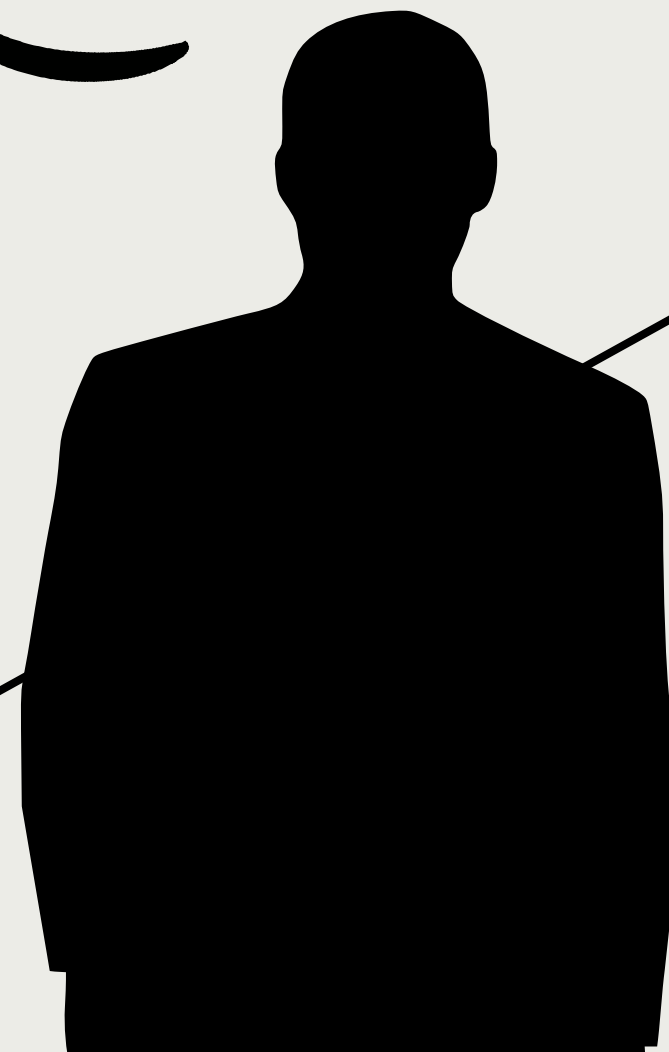
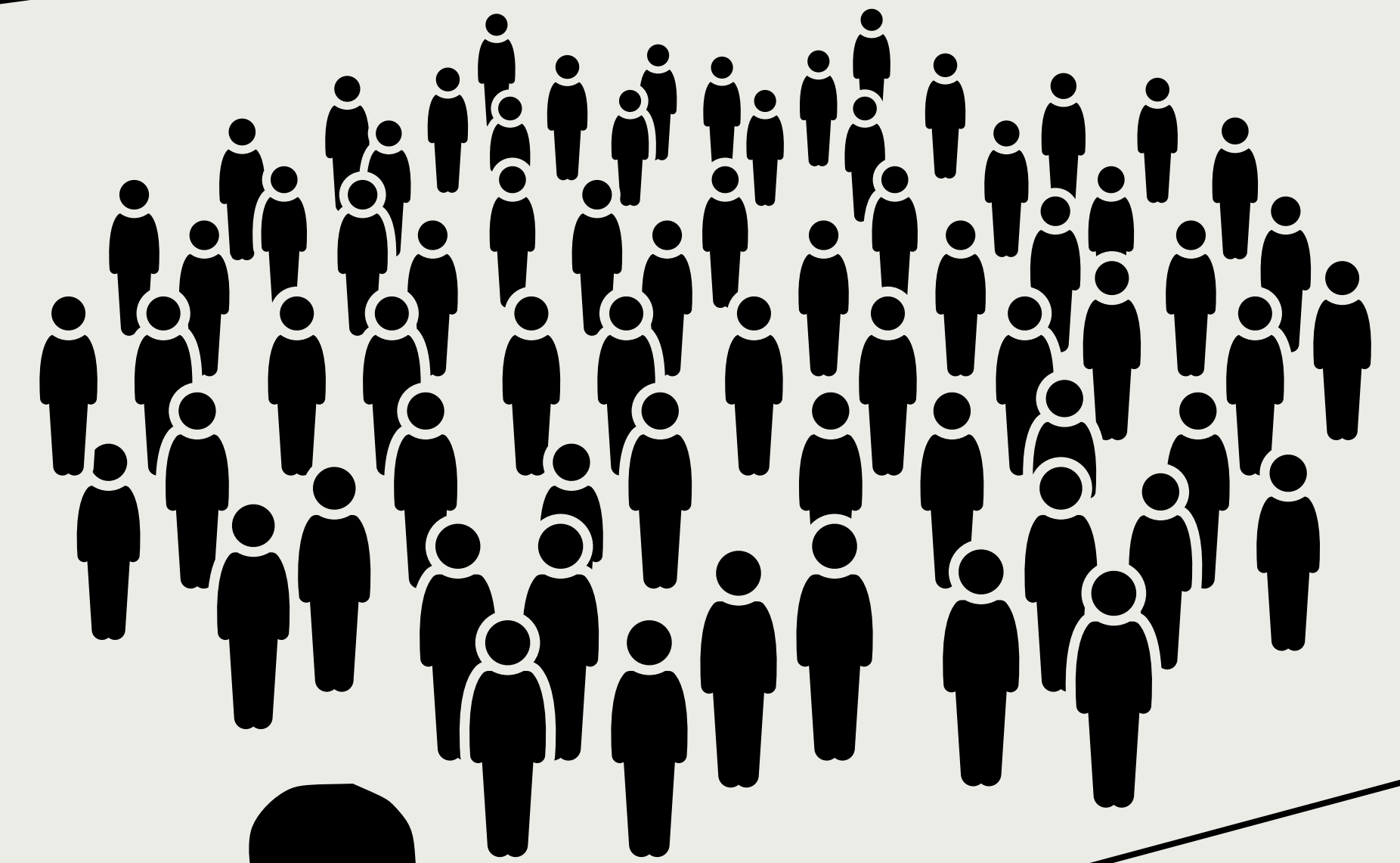
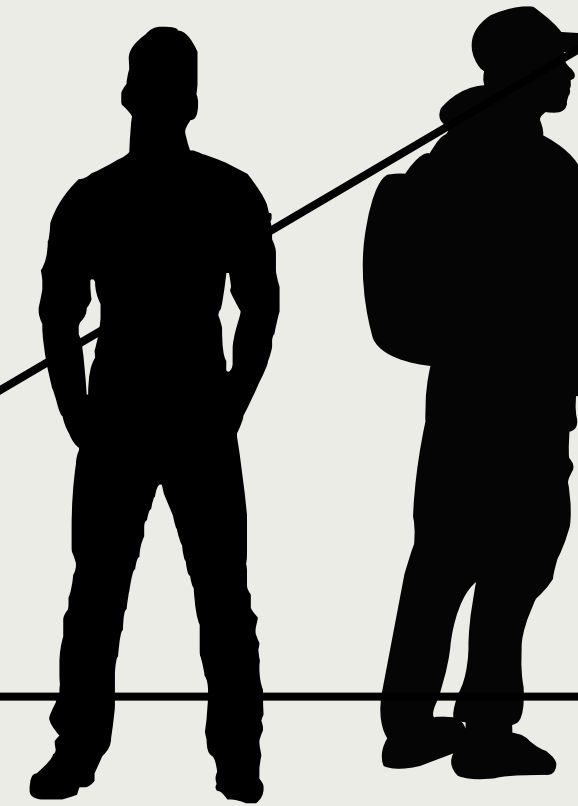
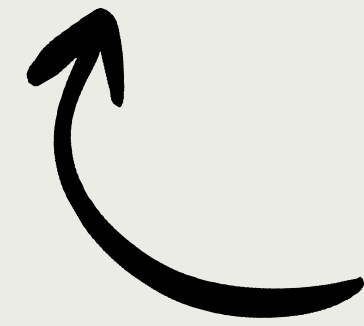
“What are we accomplishing?” they asked. “Here is this man performing many signs. <sup>48</sup> If we let him go on like this, everyone will believe in him, and then the Romans will come and take away both our temple and our nation.”

JOHN 11:45-48 NIV



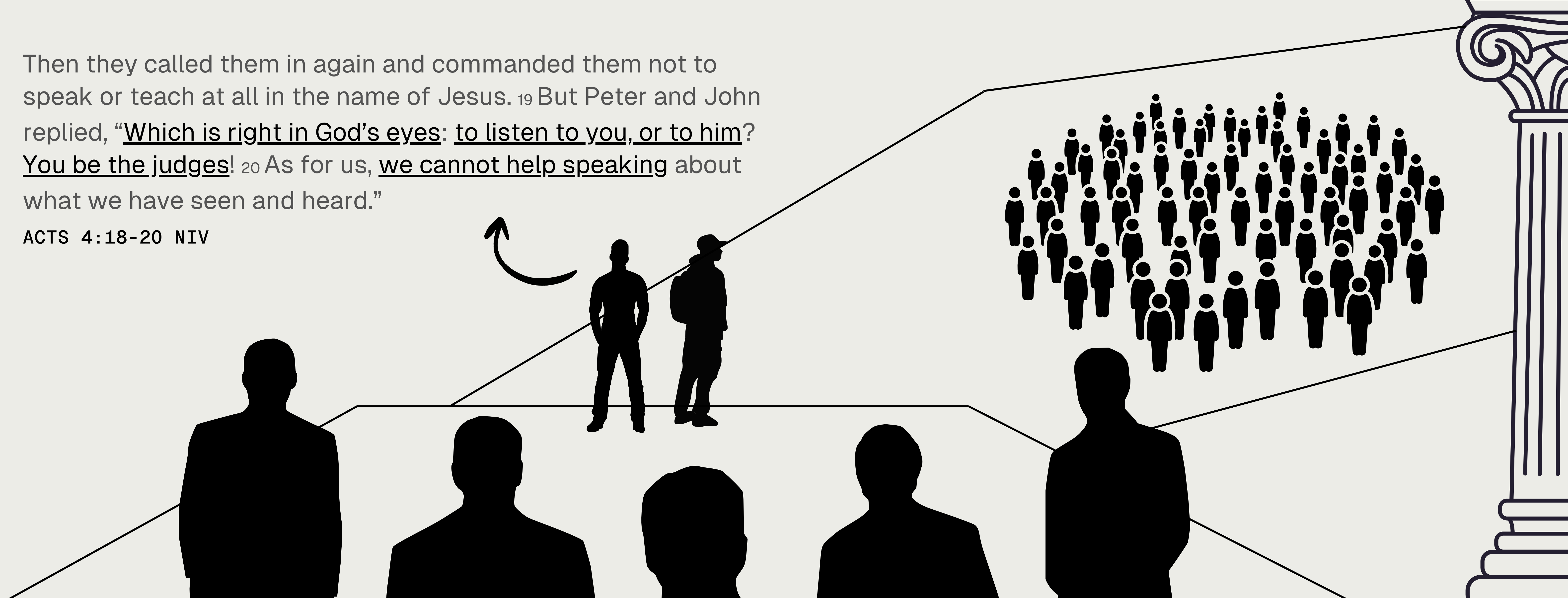
Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus.<sup>19</sup> But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges!<sup>20</sup> As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

ACTS 4:18-20 NIV



Then they called them in again and commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. <sup>19</sup> But Peter and John replied, “Which is right in God’s eyes: to listen to you, or to him? You be the judges!” <sup>20</sup> As for us, we cannot help speaking about what we have seen and heard.”

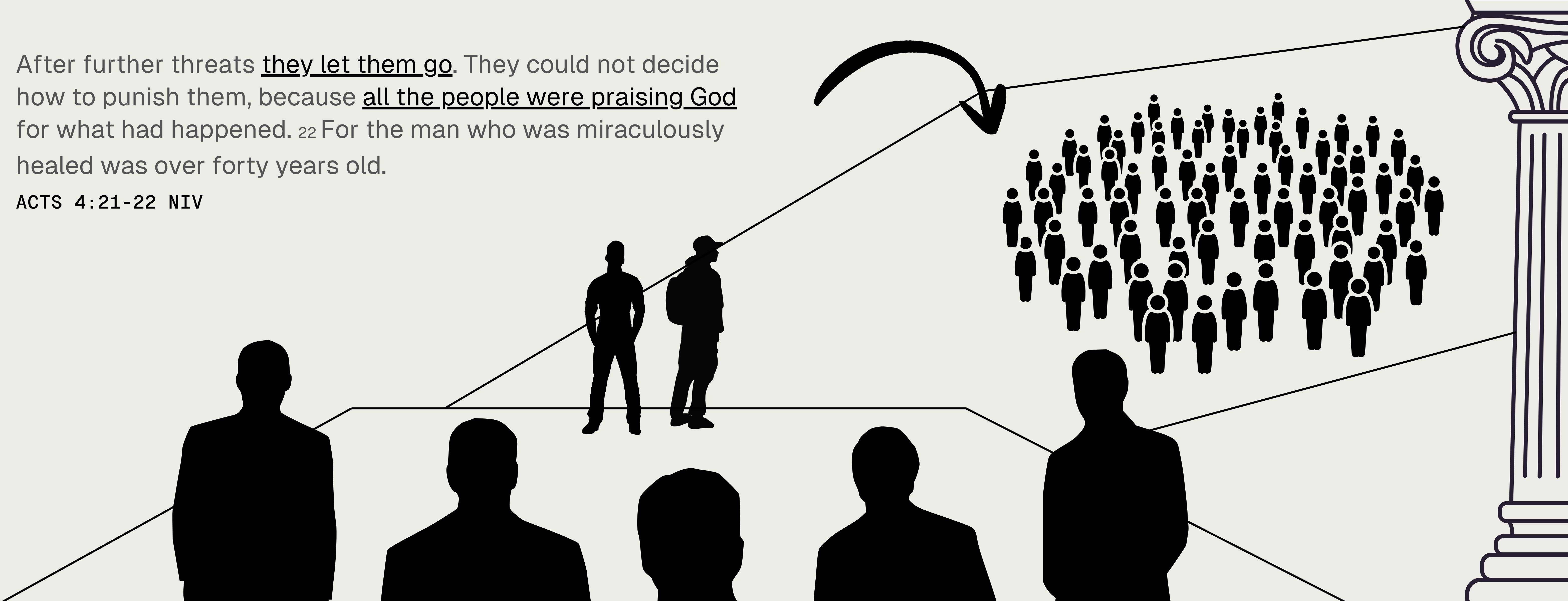
ACTS 4:18-20 NIV





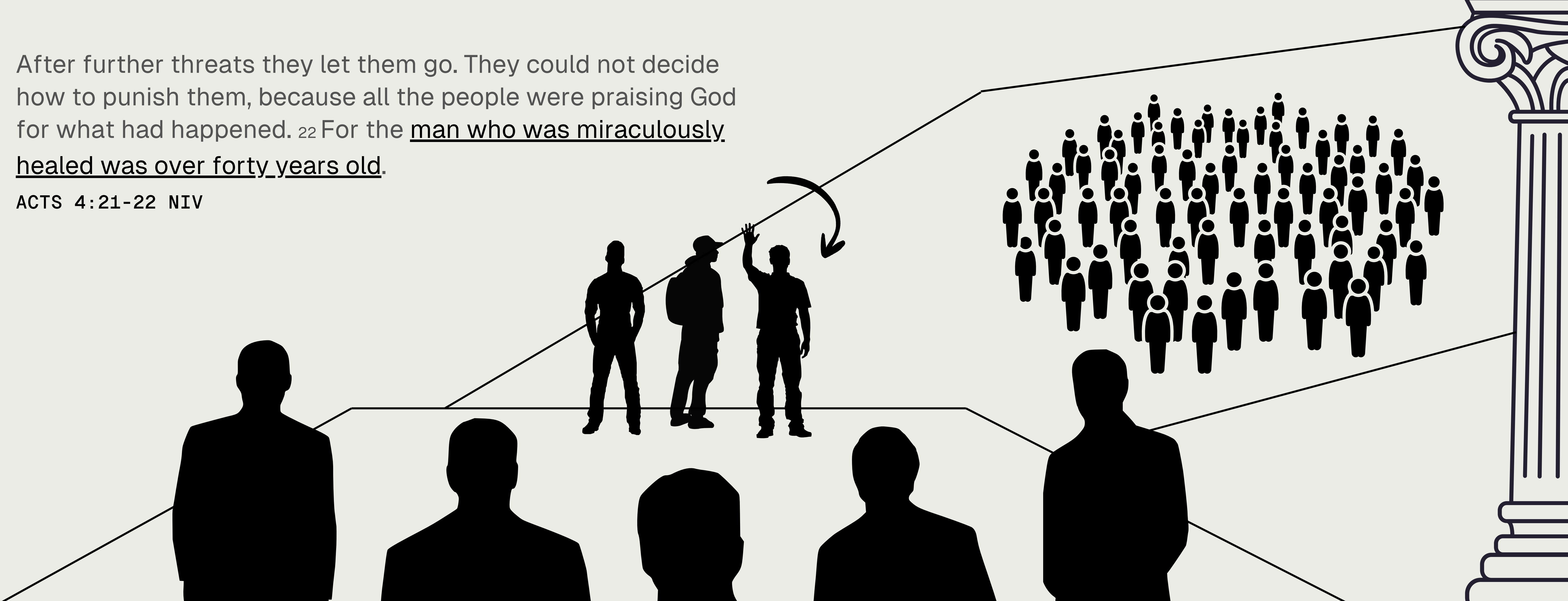
After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. <sup>22</sup> For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

ACTS 4:21-22 NIV



After further threats they let them go. They could not decide how to punish them, because all the people were praising God for what had happened. <sup>22</sup> For the man who was miraculously healed was over forty years old.

ACTS 4:21-22 NIV



**“I will...”**

**BE WITH JESUS**

Unschooler... ordinary... but had been with Jesus (v. 13)

**SHARE HIS STORY**

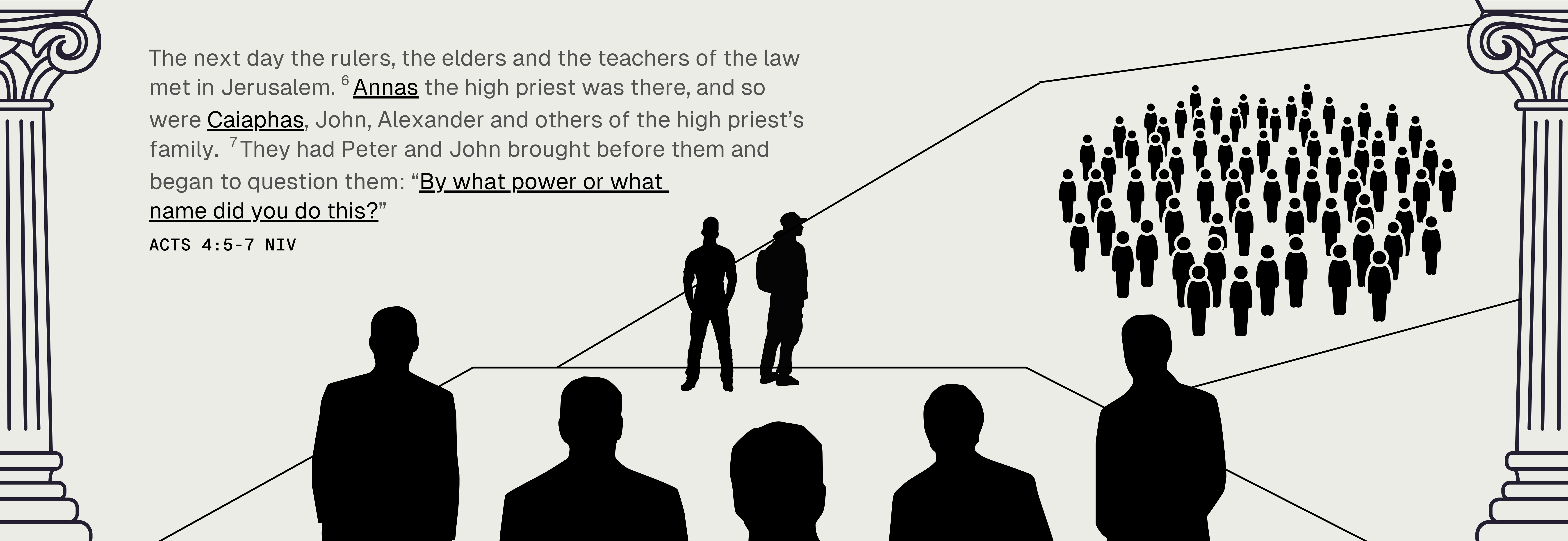
They could see the man who had been healed (v. 14)

**SPEAK HIS NAME**

It is by the name of Jesus Christ (v. 10)

The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest's family. <sup>7</sup> They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?"

ACTS 4:5-7 NIV



## A FAMILIAR QUESTION

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

MATTHEW 21:23 NIV



## A FAMILIAR QUESTION

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

MATTHEW 21:23 NIV

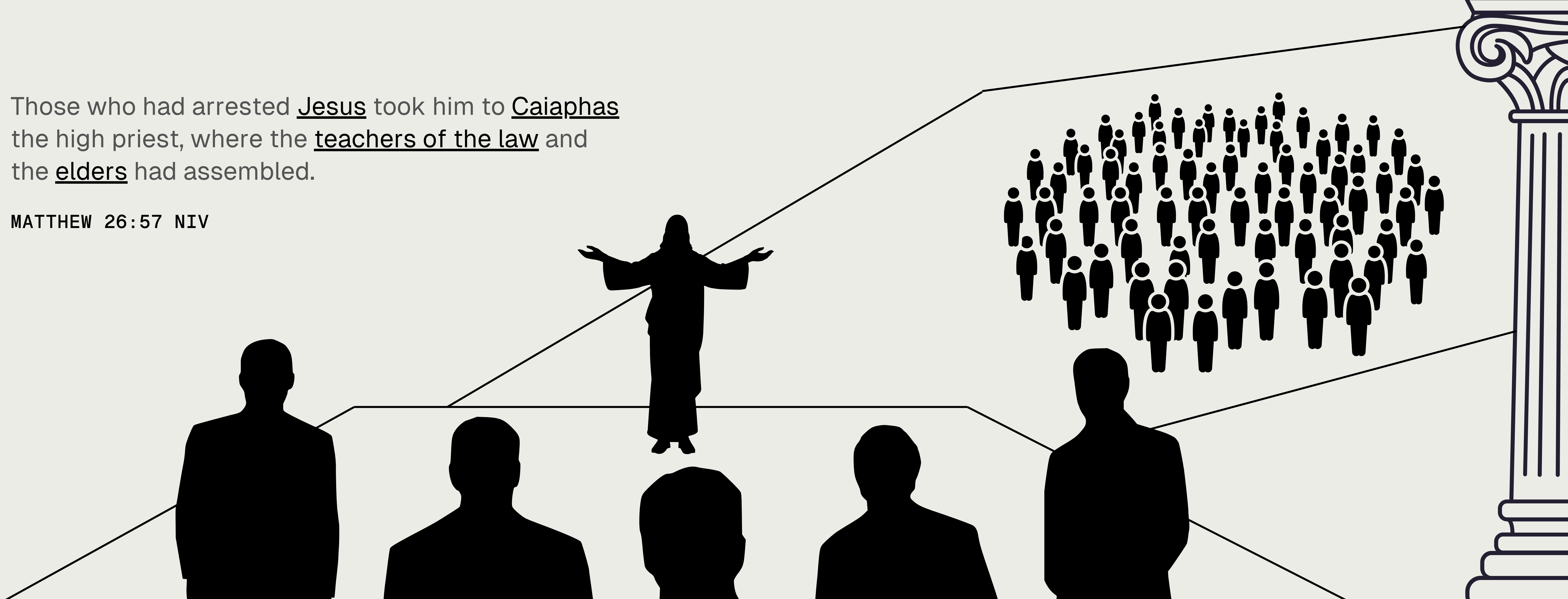
## A FAMILIAR SCENE

Then the detachment of soldiers with its commander and the Jewish officials arrested Jesus. They bound him <sup>13</sup> and brought him first to Annas, who was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, the high priest that year. <sup>14</sup> Caiaphas was the one who had advised the Jewish leaders that it would be good if one man died for the people.

JOHN 18:12-14 NIV

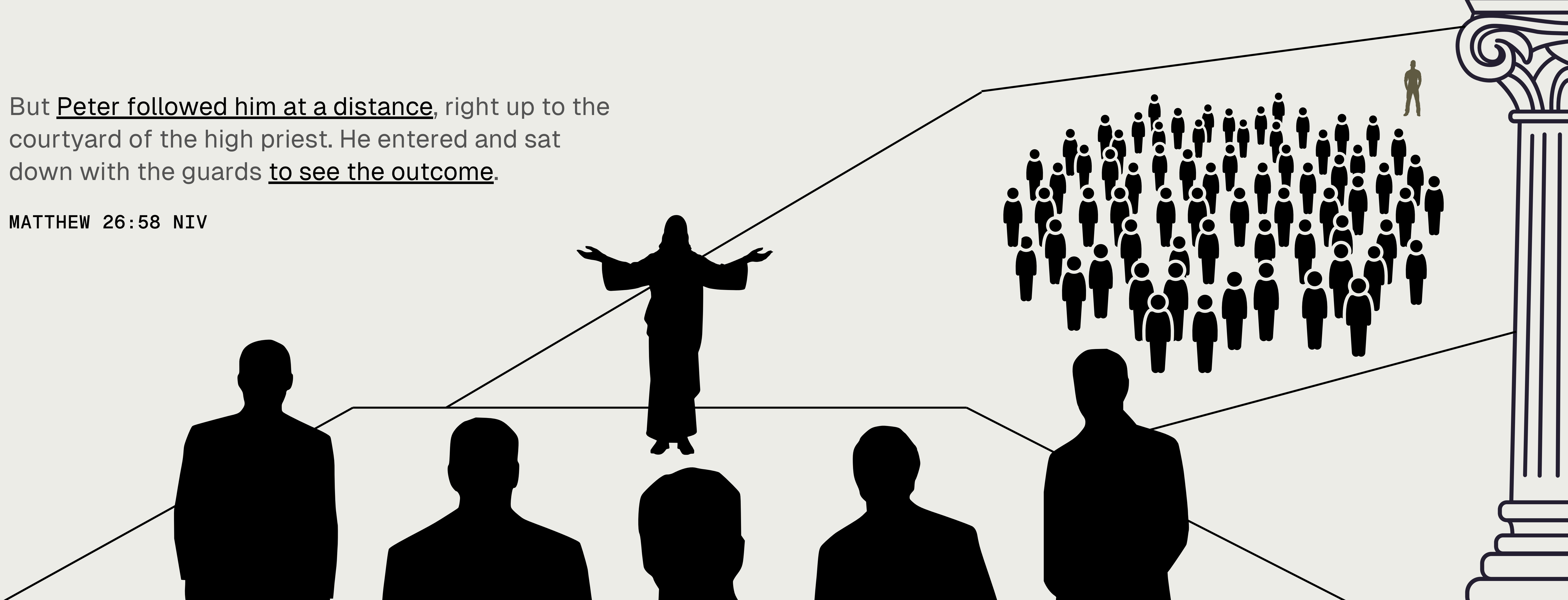
Those who had arrested Jesus took him to Caiaphas  
the high priest, where the teachers of the law and  
the elders had assembled.

MATTHEW 26:57 NIV



But Peter followed him at a distance, right up to the courtyard of the high priest. He entered and sat down with the guards to see the outcome.

MATTHEW 26:58 NIV

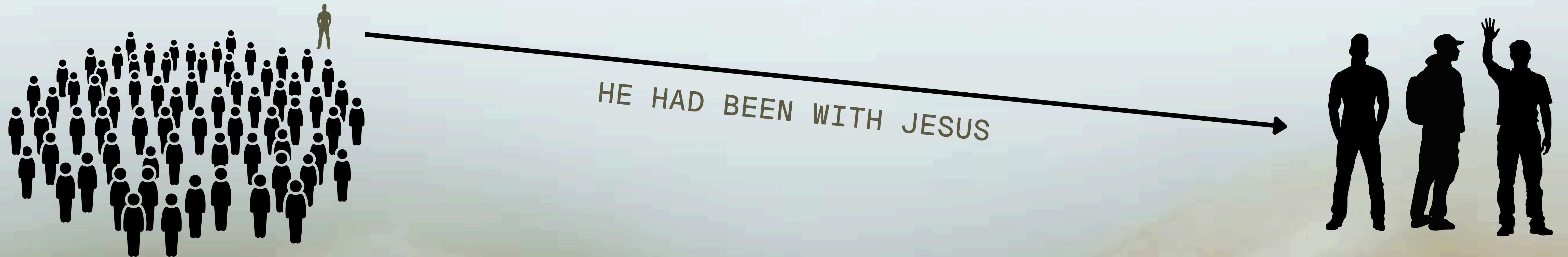




# PETER'S TRANSFORMATION



## PETER'S TRANSFORMATION



**PAUSE & PRAY**

**Lord Jesus, draw me  
closer to you that I might  
learn to live as you lived.**

**Reveal to me where your  
power is at work in  
miraculous ways so I can  
tell of your goodness.**

**Give me boldness through  
your Spirit to speak your  
name in everyday life.**