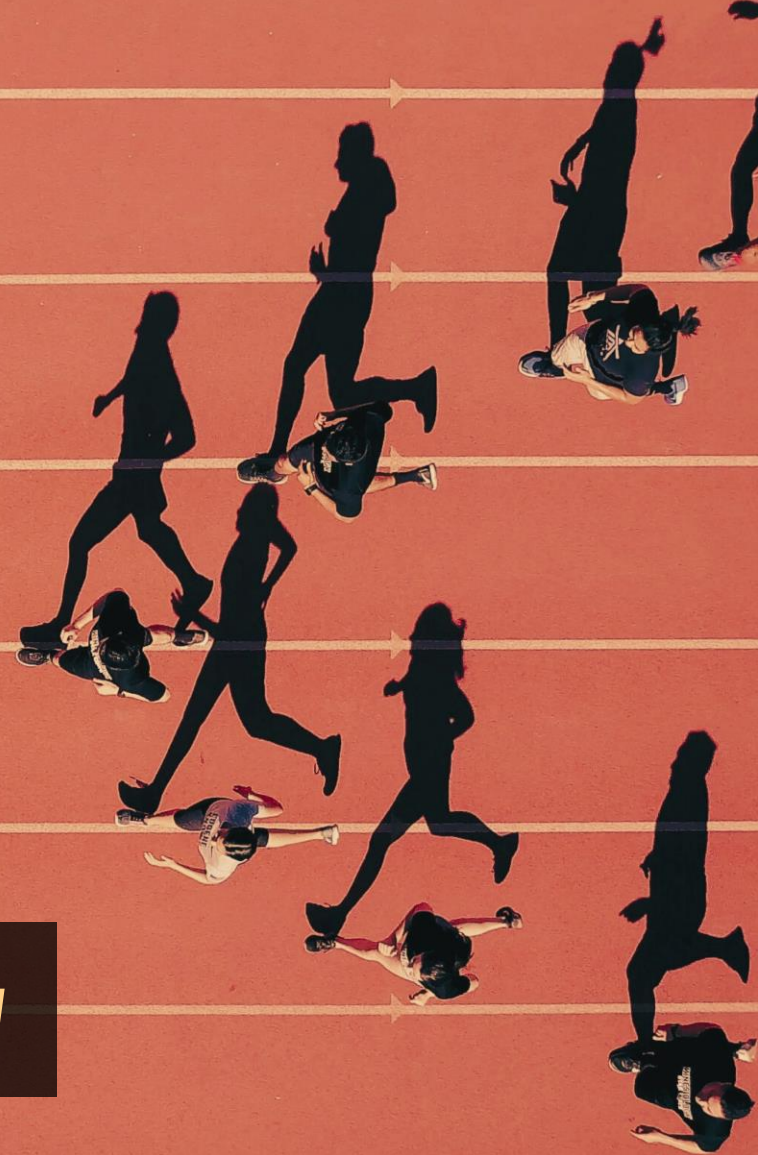


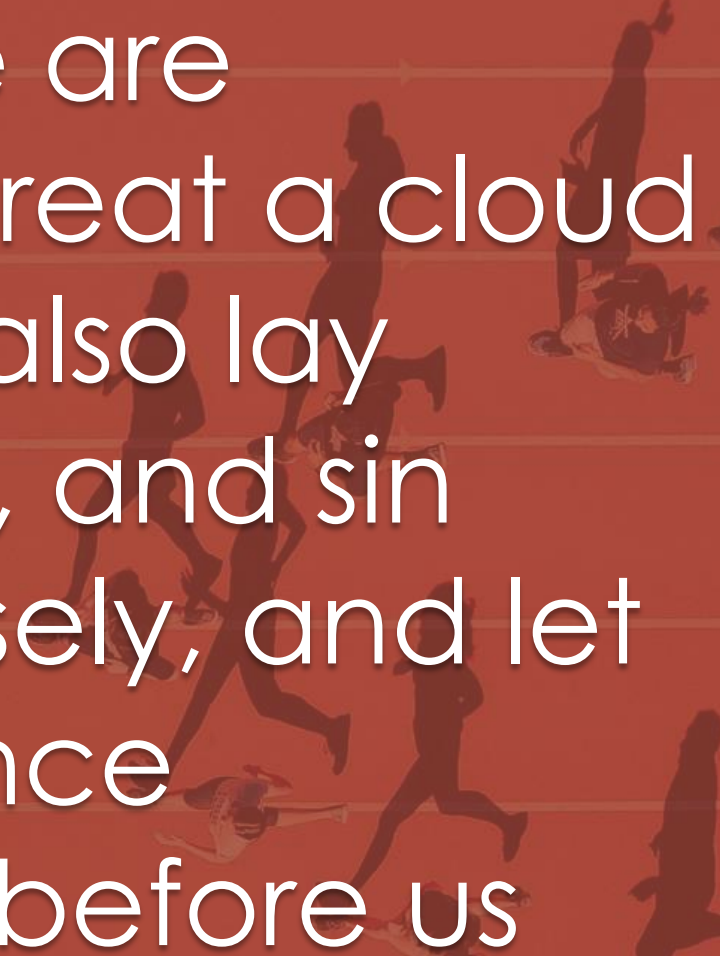
2024 Congregational Theme

THE RACE THAT IS SET BEFORE US

As Youth & Aging



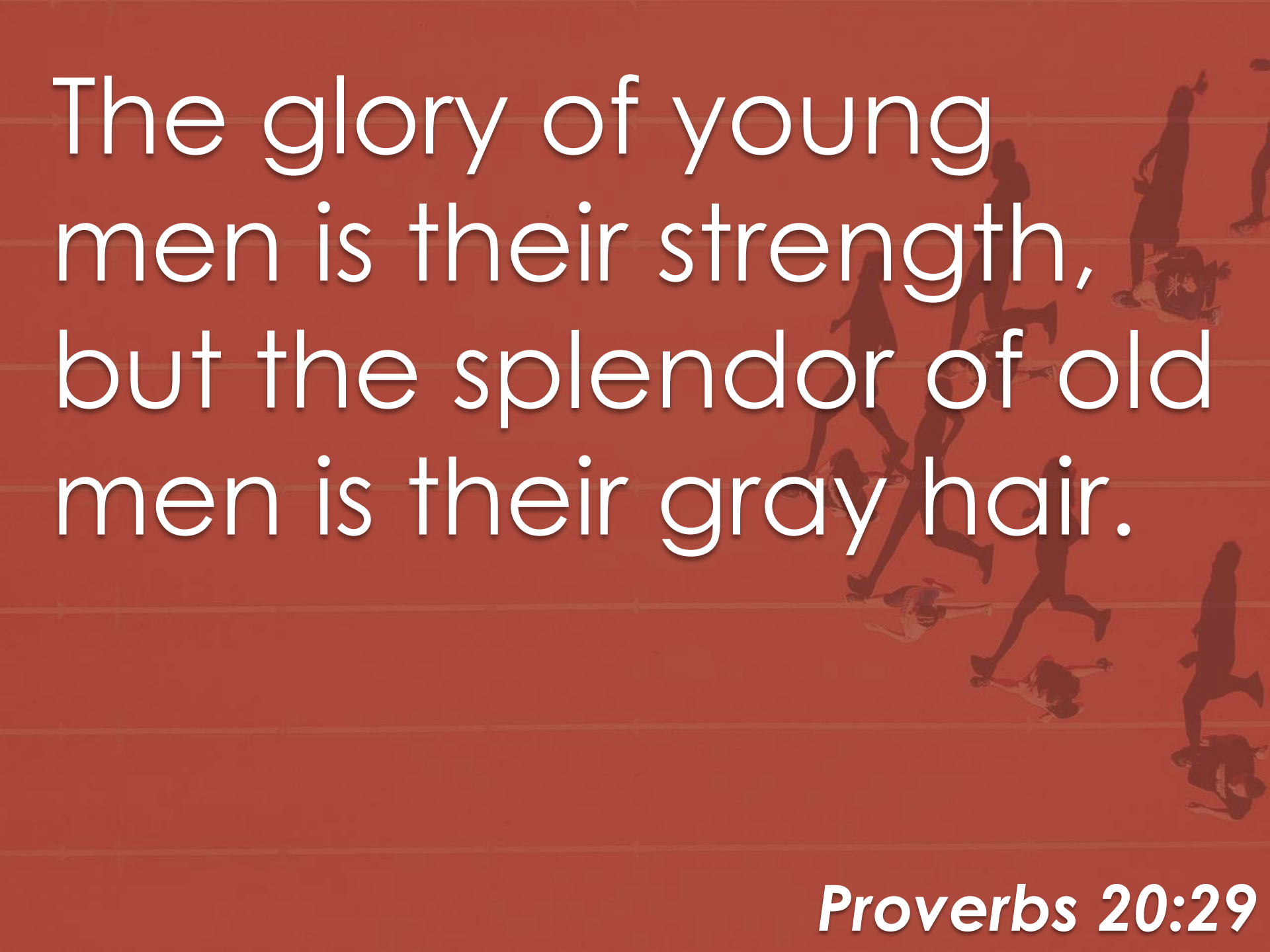
Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us

The background of the slide features a dark red color with a pattern of white horizontal lines. Overlaid on this are several black silhouettes of runners in various stages of a race, some in full stride and others appearing to be struggling or falling, which visually represents the 'race' mentioned in the text.

Hebrews 12:1



<i>January</i>	The Race That Is Set Before Us... (Introduction)
<i>February</i>	As a Local Church
<i>March</i>	As Spiritual Leaders
<i>April</i>	As Men
<i>May</i>	As Women
<i>June</i>	As Married Couples
<i>July</i>	As Parents & Children
<i>August</i>	As Youth & Aging
<i>September</i>	As Employers & Employees
<i>October</i>	As Earthly & Heavenly Citizens
<i>November</i>	As Sinners
<i>December</i>	As Saints

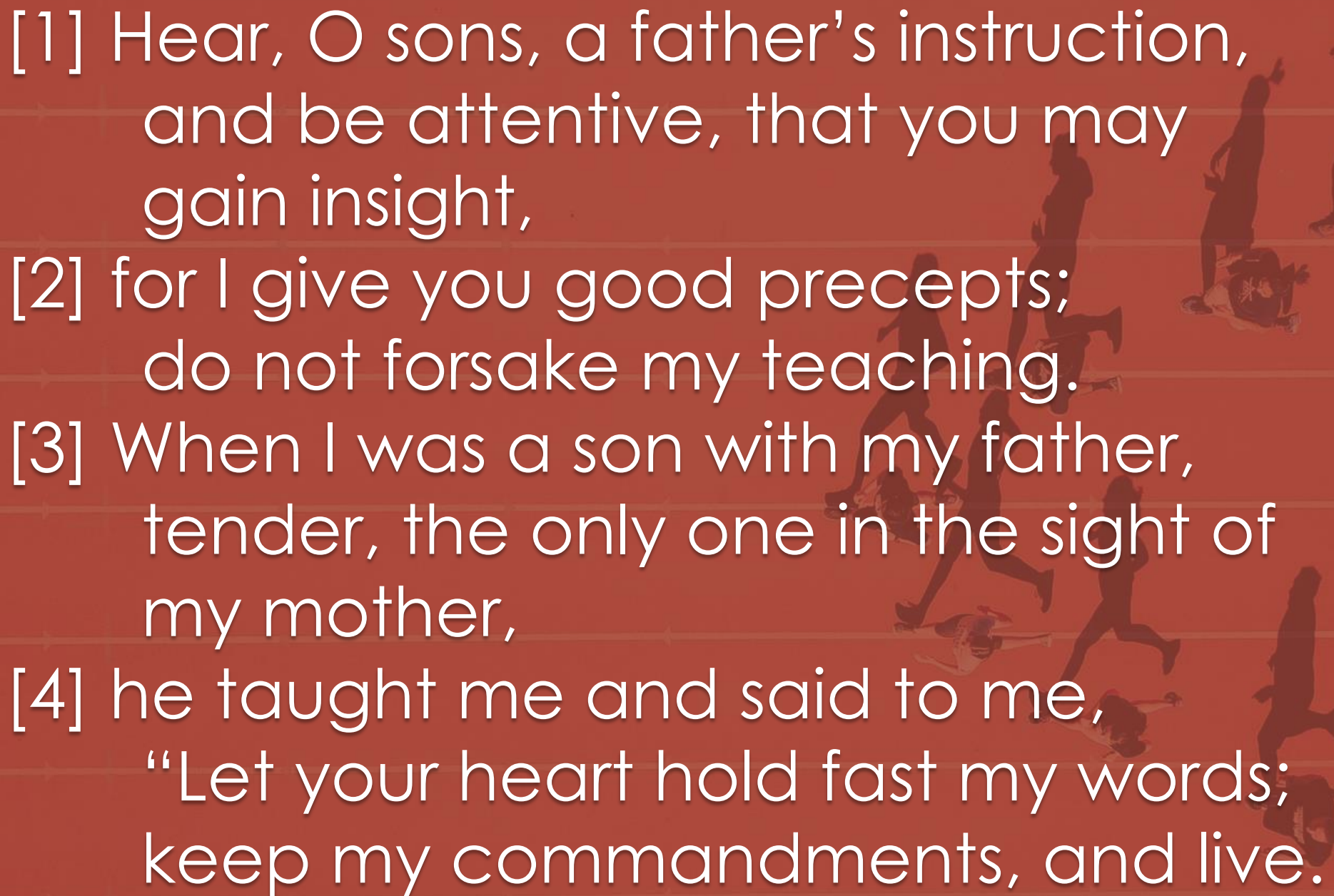
The background of the slide is a solid reddish-brown color. On the right side, there are several dark silhouettes of people in various running poses, suggesting a track race. The text is overlaid on the left and center of the image.

The glory of young
men is their strength,
but the splendor of old
men is their gray hair.

Proverbs 20:29

[7] Light is sweet, and it is pleasant for the eyes to see the sun. [8] So if a person lives many years, let him rejoice in them all; but let him remember that the days of darkness will be many. All that comes is vanity. [9] Rejoice, O young man, in your youth, and let your heart cheer you in the days of your youth. Walk in the ways of your heart and the sight of your eyes. But know that for all these things God will bring you into judgment. [10] Remove vexation from your heart, and put away pain from your body, for youth and the dawn of life are vanity.

Ecclesiastes 11:7-10

The background of the image is a solid reddish-brown color. Overlaid on this background are several dark silhouettes of people in various running poses, scattered across the right side of the frame. The text is written in a white, sans-serif font and is arranged in four numbered lines.

[1] Hear, O sons, a father's instruction,
and be attentive, that you may
gain insight,


[2] for I give you good precepts;
do not forsake my teaching.

[3] When I was a son with my father,
tender, the only one in the sight of
my mother,

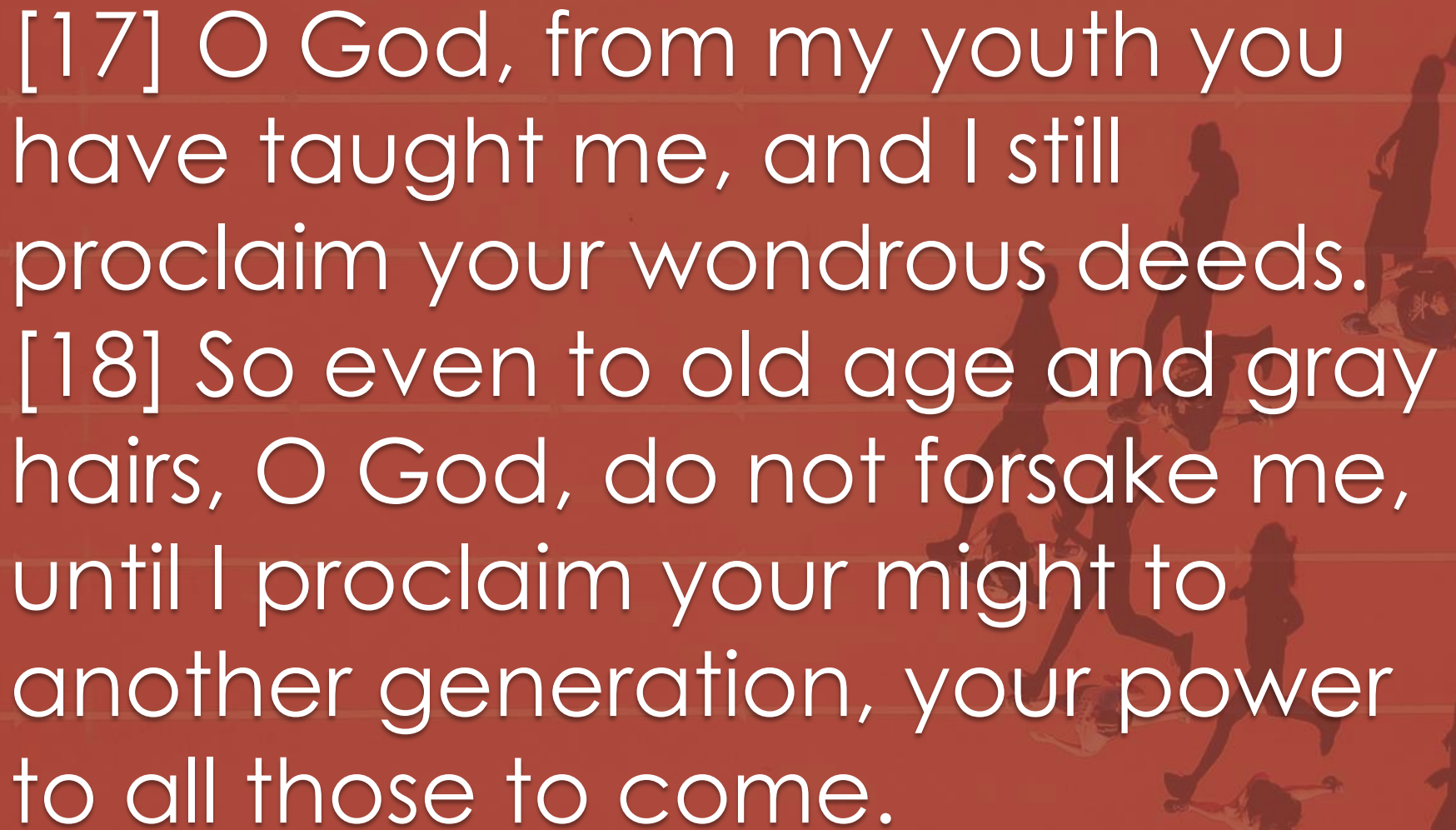
[4] he taught me and said to me,
“Let your heart hold fast my words;
keep my commandments, and live.

Proverbs 4:1-4

Gray hair is a crown
of glory; it is gained
in a righteous life.

A series of dark silhouettes of people in various running poses, arranged in a diagonal line from the top right towards the bottom right of the image. The background is a solid reddish-brown color.

Proverbs 16:31

The background of the slide features a dark red color with a pattern of white, semi-transparent silhouettes of people running on a track, viewed from an overhead perspective. The text is overlaid on this background in a white, sans-serif font.

[17] O God, from my youth you
have taught me, and I still
proclaim your wondrous deeds.
[18] So even to old age and gray
hairs, O God, do not forsake me,
until I proclaim your might to
another generation, your power
to all those to come.

Psalm 71:17-18

[12] The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

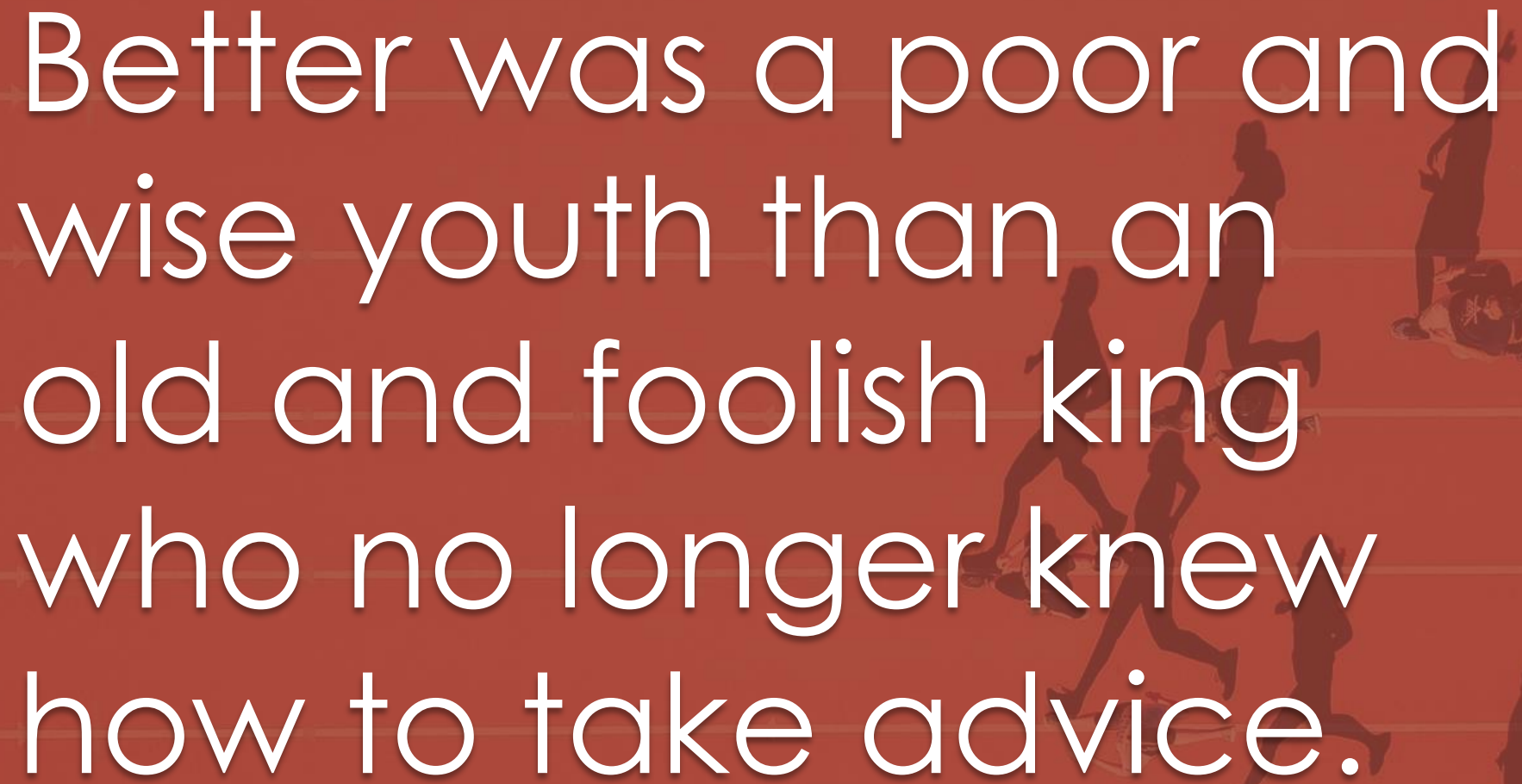
[13] They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God.

[14] They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green,

[15] to declare that the LORD is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Psalm 92:12-15

Better was a poor and
wise youth than an
old and foolish king
who no longer knew
how to take advice.

The background of the slide is a solid reddish-brown color. Overlaid on this background are several dark silhouettes of people running on a track, viewed from an overhead perspective. The runners are scattered across the right side of the image, moving towards the left.

Ecclesiastes 4:13

[1] So these three men ceased to answer Job, because he was righteous in his own eyes. [2] Then Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite, of the family of Ram, burned with anger. He burned with anger at Job because he justified himself rather than God. [3] He burned with anger also at Job's three friends because they had found no answer, although they had declared Job to be in the wrong. [4] Now Elihu had waited to speak to Job because they were older than he. [5] And when Elihu saw that there was no answer in the mouth of these three men, he burned with anger.

Job 32:1-5


[6] And Elihu the son of Barachel the Buzite answered and said: "I am young in years, and you are aged; therefore I was timid and afraid to declare my opinion to you.

[7] I said, 'Let days speak, and many years teach wisdom.'

[8] But it is the spirit in man, the breath of the Almighty, that makes him understand.

[9] It is not the old who are wise, nor the aged who understand what is right.

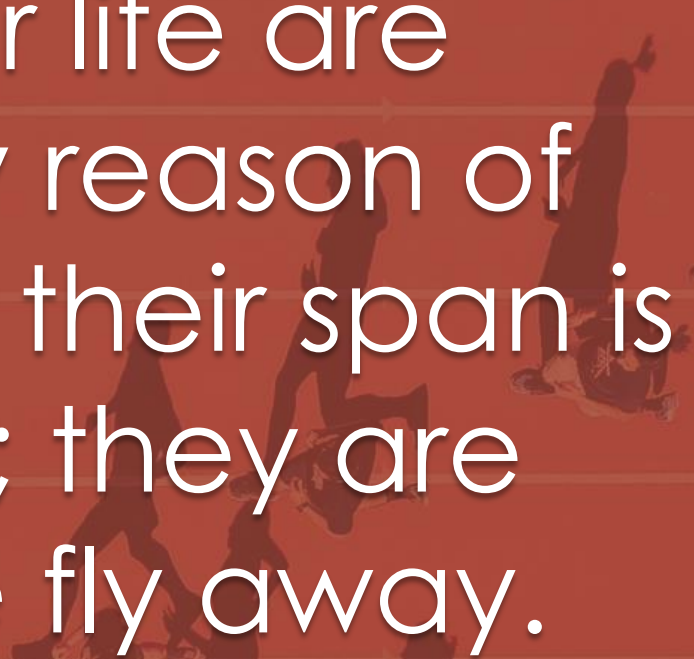
[10] Therefore I say, 'Listen to me; let me also declare my opinion.'

- *Youth is a gift to be celebrated and enjoyed.*
 - *Youth comes with the challenges of limited perspective.*
 - *Age is a gift to be celebrated and enjoyed.*
 - *Age comes with the challenges of weariness.*
- 
- The background of the slide is a solid dark red color. On the right side, there are several dark silhouettes of people in various poses, some standing, some walking, and some in dynamic, athletic-like stances, suggesting movement and activity. The text is overlaid on the left side of the slide in a white, bold, sans-serif font.

[1] But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine. [2] Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness. [3] Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, [4] and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, [5] to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled. [6] Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. [7] Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity, [8] and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.

Titus 2:1-8

[10] The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

A group of people in various athletic poses, such as running and jumping, are shown as dark silhouettes against a reddish-brown background. The silhouettes are scattered across the right side of the image, with some appearing to be in motion, suggesting a track or a field of activity.

Psalm 90:10

[10] The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

[12] So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

Psalm 90:10, 12

[1] Bel bows down; Nebo
stoops; their idols are on beasts
and livestock; these things you
carry are borne as burdens on
weary beasts.

[2] They stoop; they bow down
together; they cannot save the
burden, but themselves go into
captivity.

Isaiah 46:1-2

[3] “Listen to me, O house of Jacob, all the remnant of the house of Israel, who have been borne by me from before your birth, carried from the womb; [4] even to your old age I am he, and to gray hairs I will carry you. I have made, and I will bear; I will carry and will save.

Isaiah 46:3-4