

## **Will You Have War or Grace?**

1 Peter 5:5-6

God makes war against proud rebels but gives grace to those who humble themselves before Him.

1. God makes war against the proud.
  - a.
  - b.
2. God gives grace to the humble.
  - a.
  - b.
3. Grace recipients tie on aprons of humility.
  - a.
  - b.

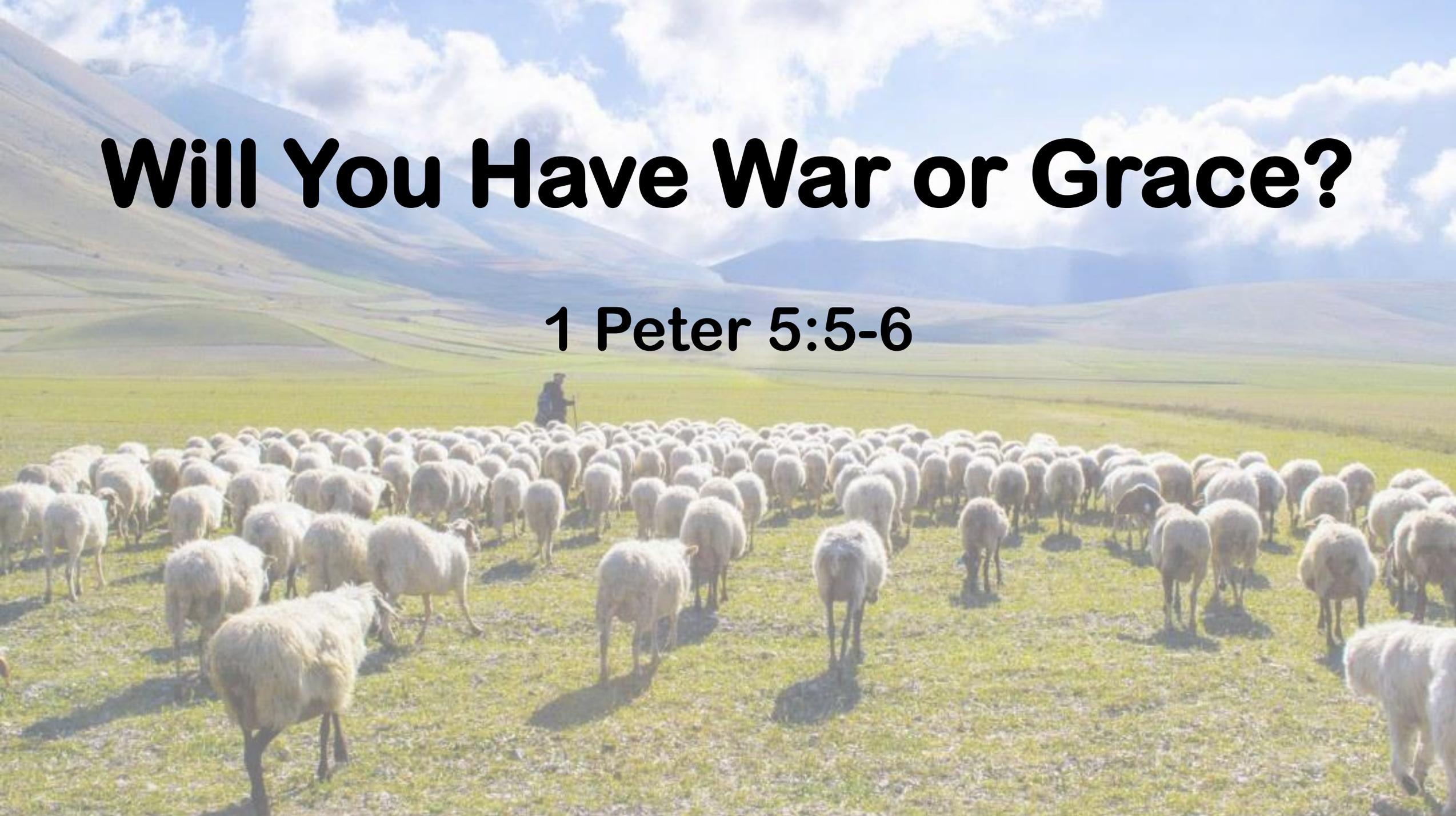
A painting of a shepherd with long hair and a beard, wearing a white robe and a dark sash, leading a large flock of sheep. The shepherd is seen from behind, holding a long, curved staff. The sheep are packed closely together, filling the foreground and middle ground. The background shows a hazy, mountainous landscape under a bright sky. The overall style is reminiscent of classical religious art.

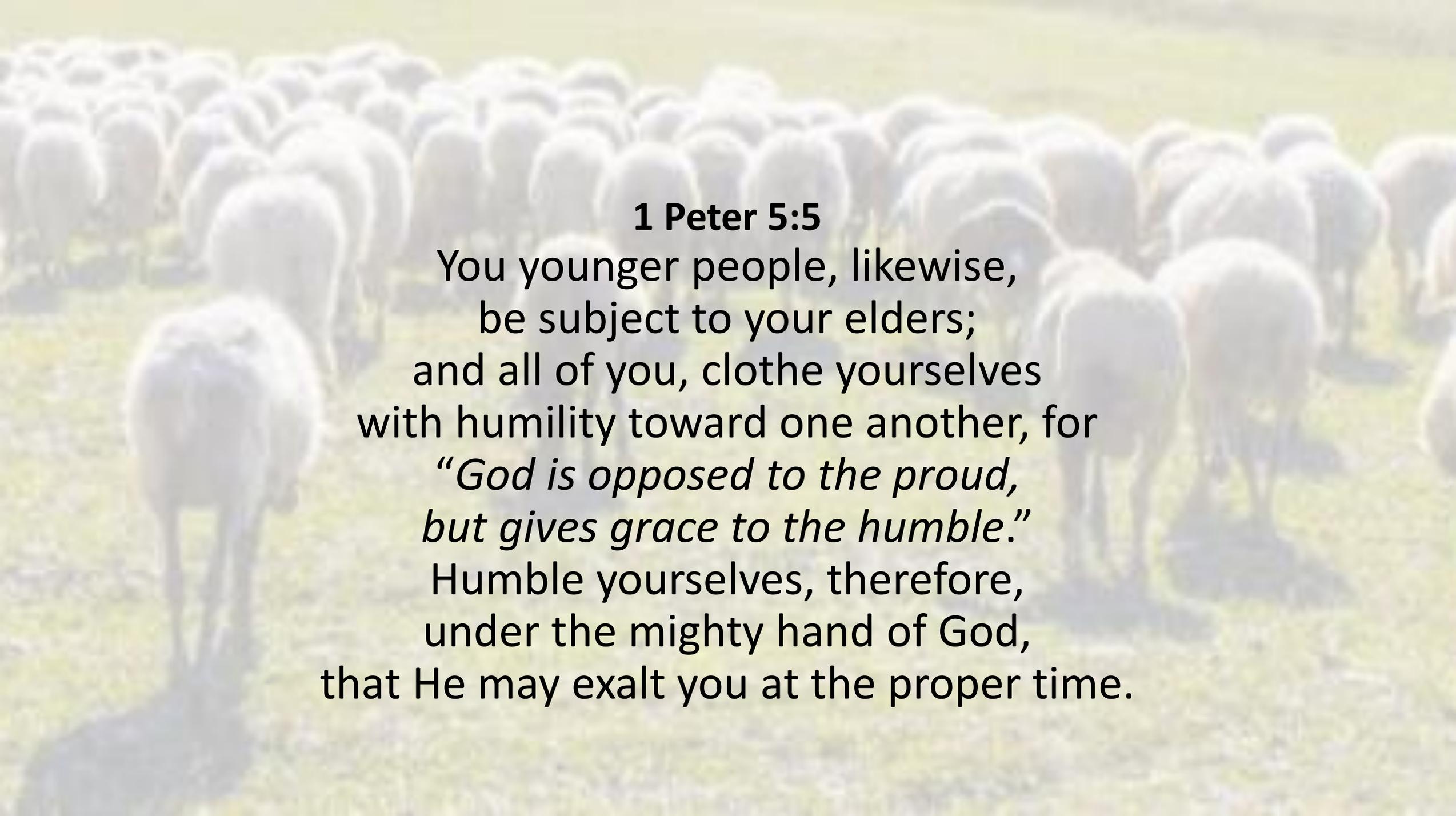
# First Peter

To God's Chosen Ones

# Will You Have War or Grace?

1 Peter 5:5-6





**1 Peter 5:5**

You younger people, likewise,  
be subject to your elders;  
and all of you, clothe yourselves  
with humility toward one another, for  
*“God is opposed to the proud,  
but gives grace to the humble.”*  
Humble yourselves, therefore,  
under the mighty hand of God,  
that He may exalt you at the proper time.

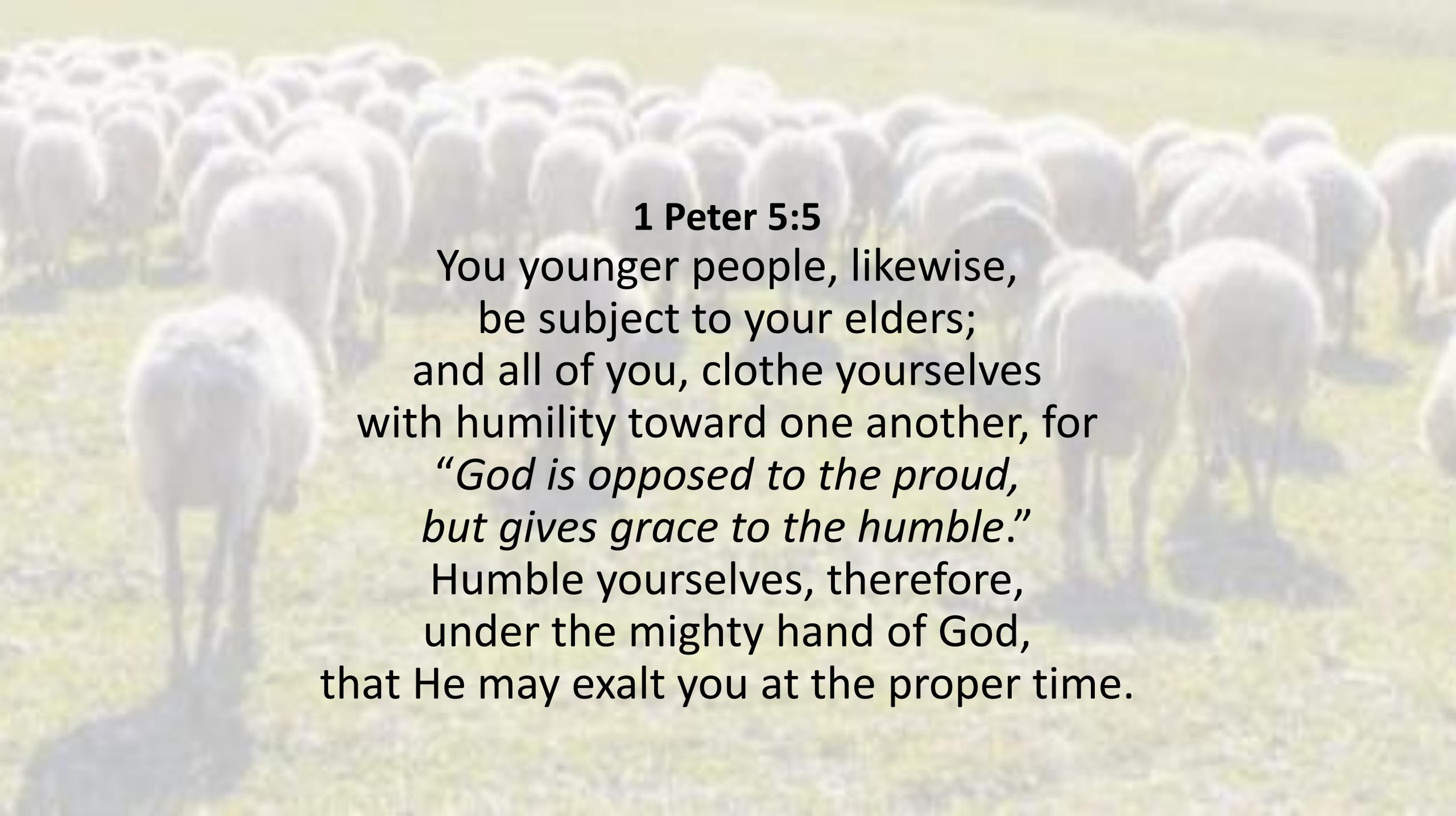
# **Big Idea:**

God makes war against proud rebels  
but gives grace to those who humble  
themselves before Him.

# **Will You Have War or Grace?**

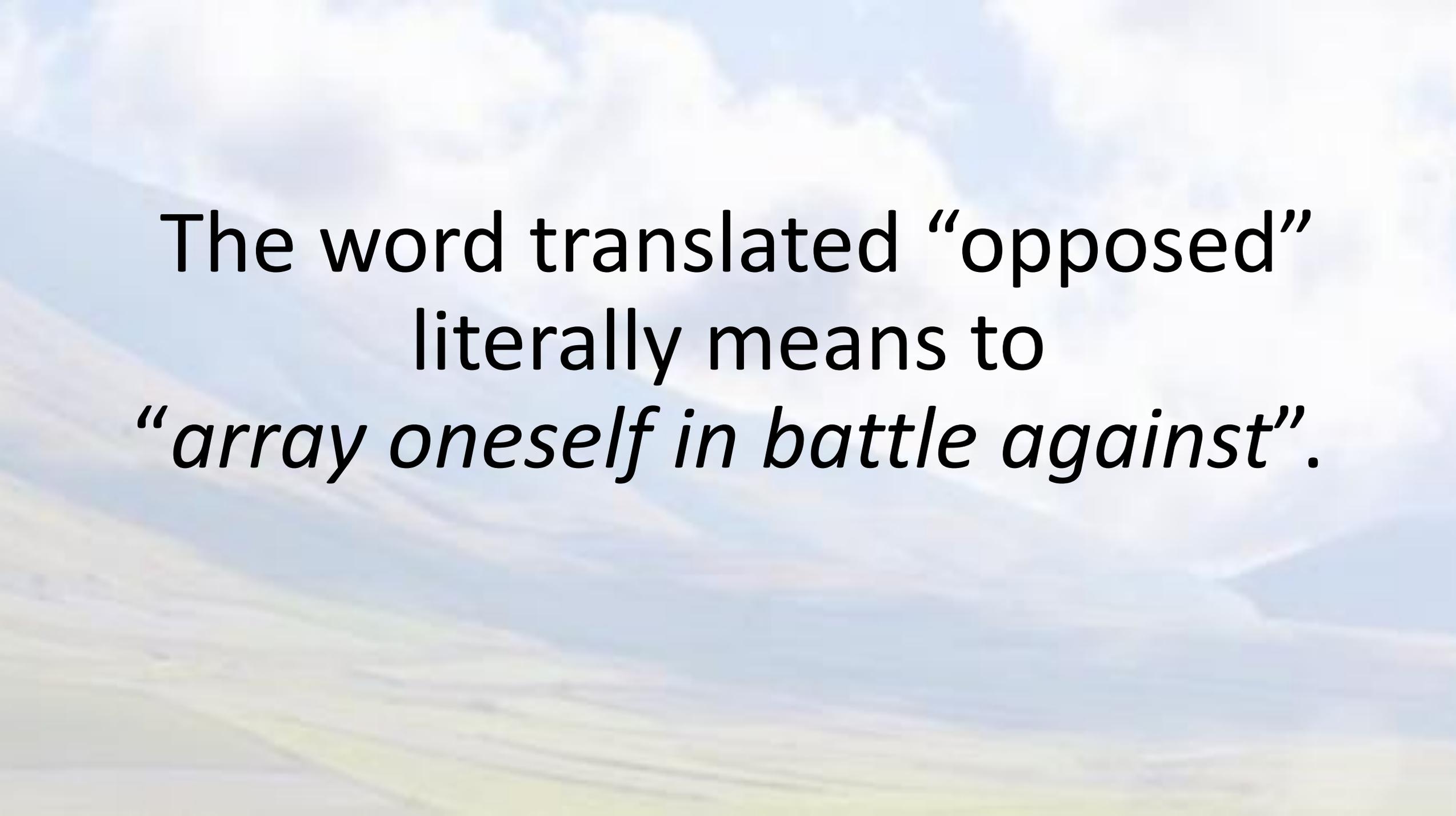
God makes war against the proud.





**1 Peter 5:5**

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The word translated “opposed”  
literally means to  
*“array oneself in battle against”*.

**God's war against the proud.**

*The proud are rebels against God.*

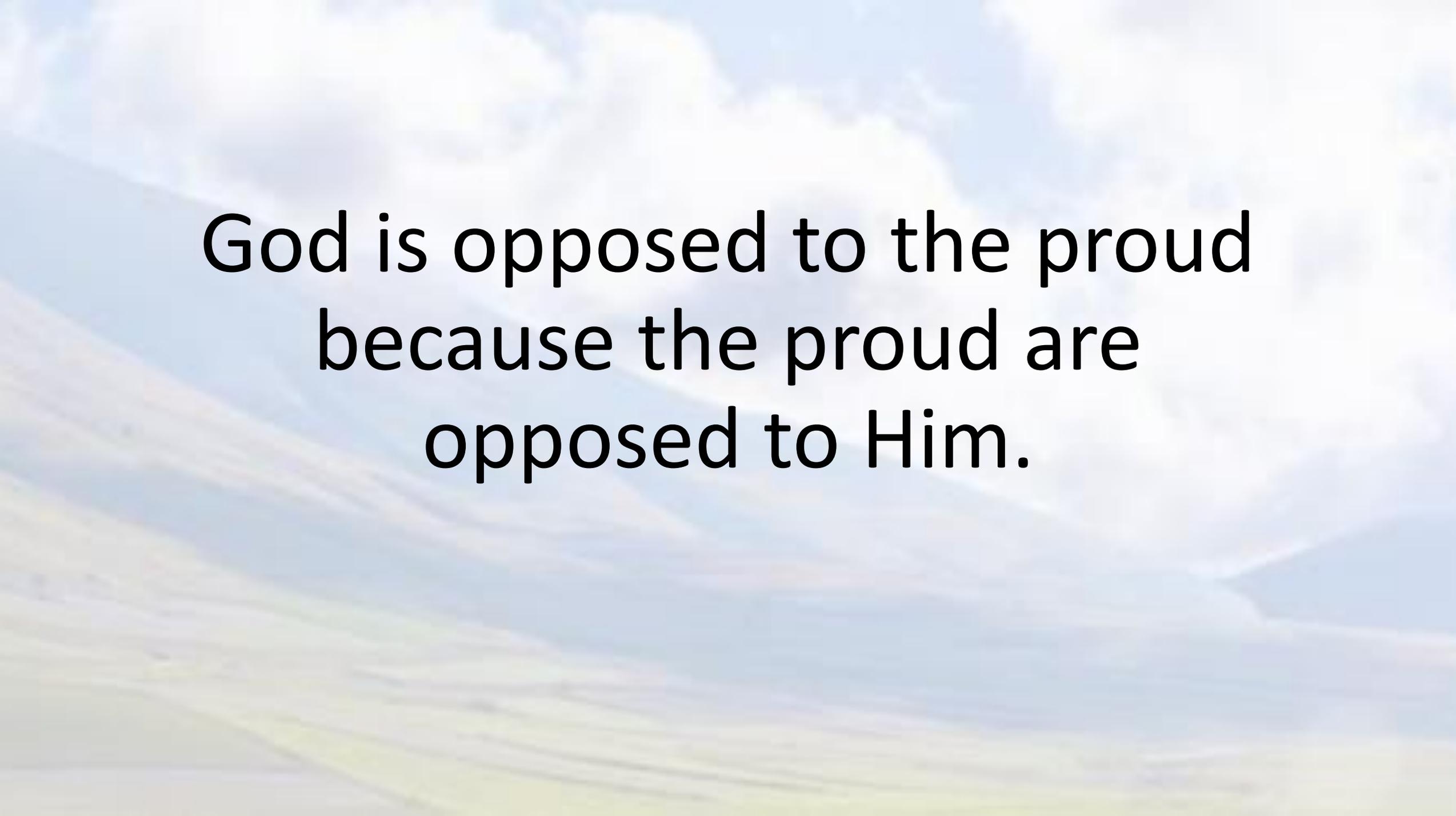
# The Proud are Rebels

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God is opposed to the proud  
because the proud are  
opposed to Him.

# Pride is Rebellion: Rebellion is Pride

**Zephaniah 3:11-12**

In that day you will feel no shame  
Because of all your deeds

By which you have rebelled against Me;

For then I will remove from your midst your proud, exulting ones,  
And you will never again be haughty on My holy mountain.

But I will leave among you a humble and lowly people,  
And they will take refuge in the name of the LORD.

# Pride is mockery of God

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# The Hebrew

**Proverbs 3:34**

Though He scoffs at the scoffers,  
Yet He gives grace to the afflicted.

# The Hebrew

## Proverbs 3:34

Though He scoffs at the scoffers,  
Yet He gives grace to the afflicted.

## Proverbs 21:24

"Proud," "Haughty," "Scoffer," are his names,  
Who acts with insolent pride.



The proud scorn God  
and hold contempt for Him  
in their hearts.

# God's war against the proud.

*The proud are rebels against God.*

*God will overthrow the rebels.*

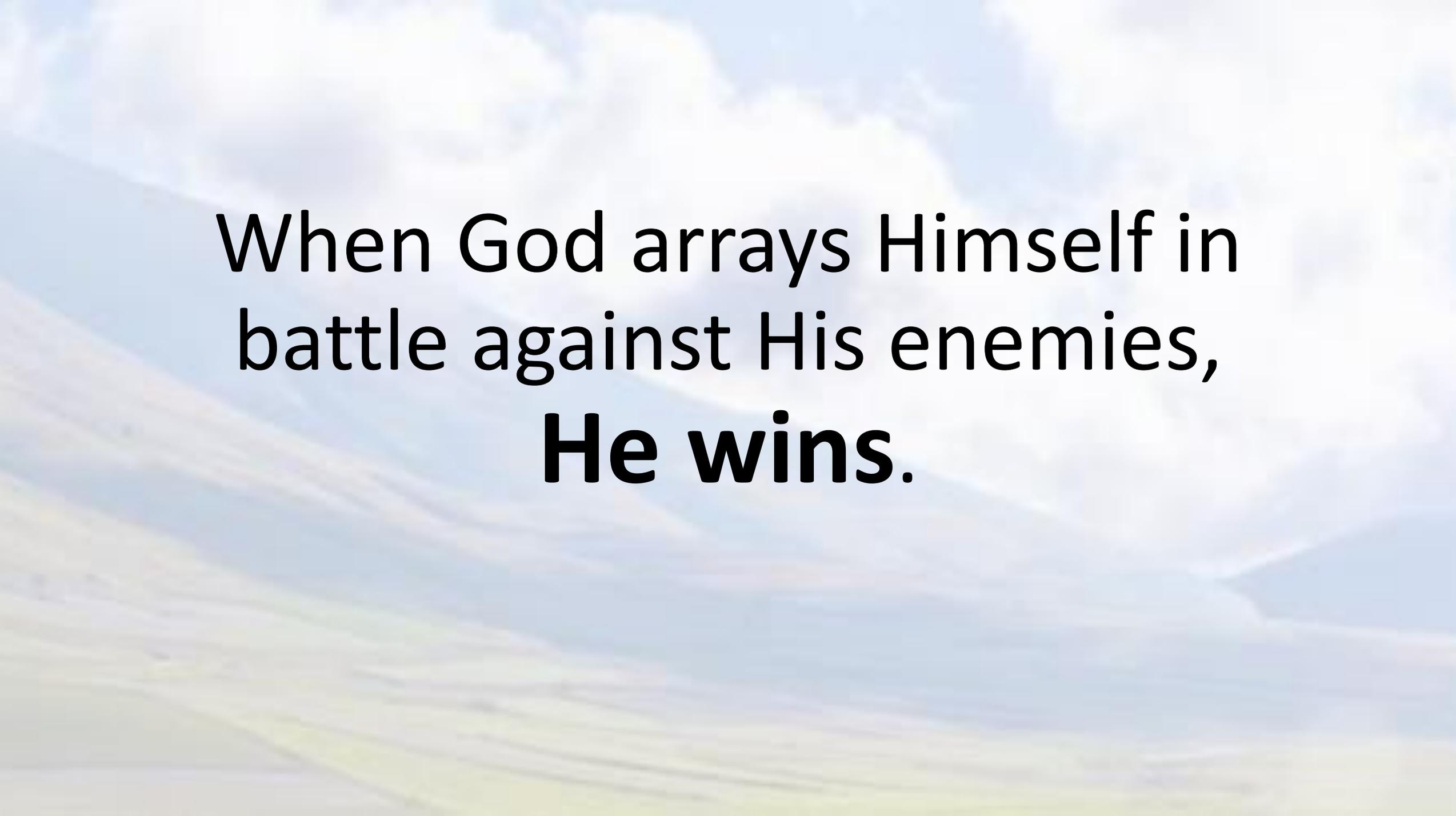


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When God arrays Himself in  
battle against His enemies,  
**He wins.**

**Exodus 15:3-7**

The LORD is a warrior; The LORD is His name.

Pharaoh's chariots and his army He has cast into the sea;  
And the choicest of his officers are drowned in the Red Sea.

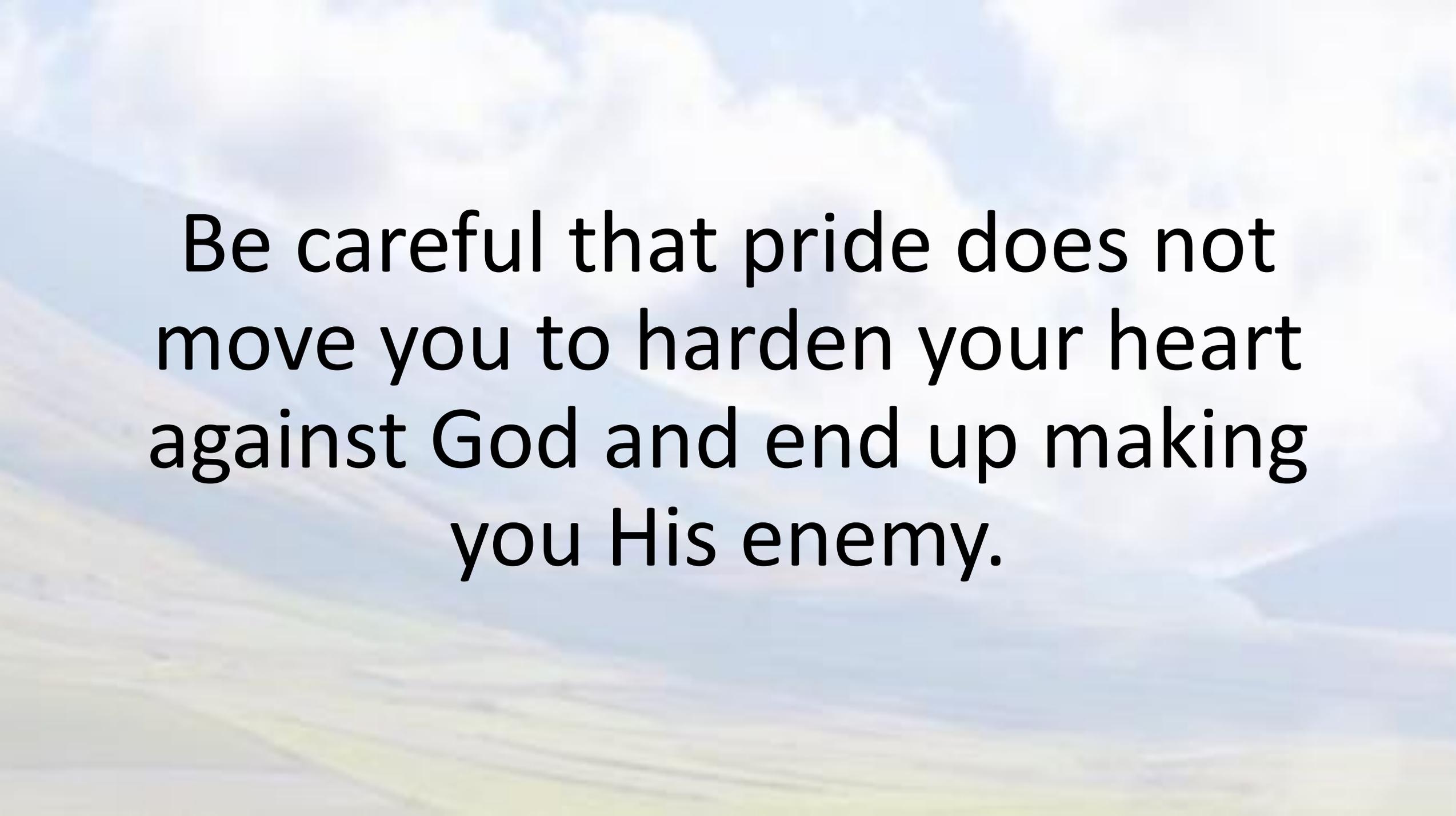
The deeps cover them;

They went down into the depths like a stone.

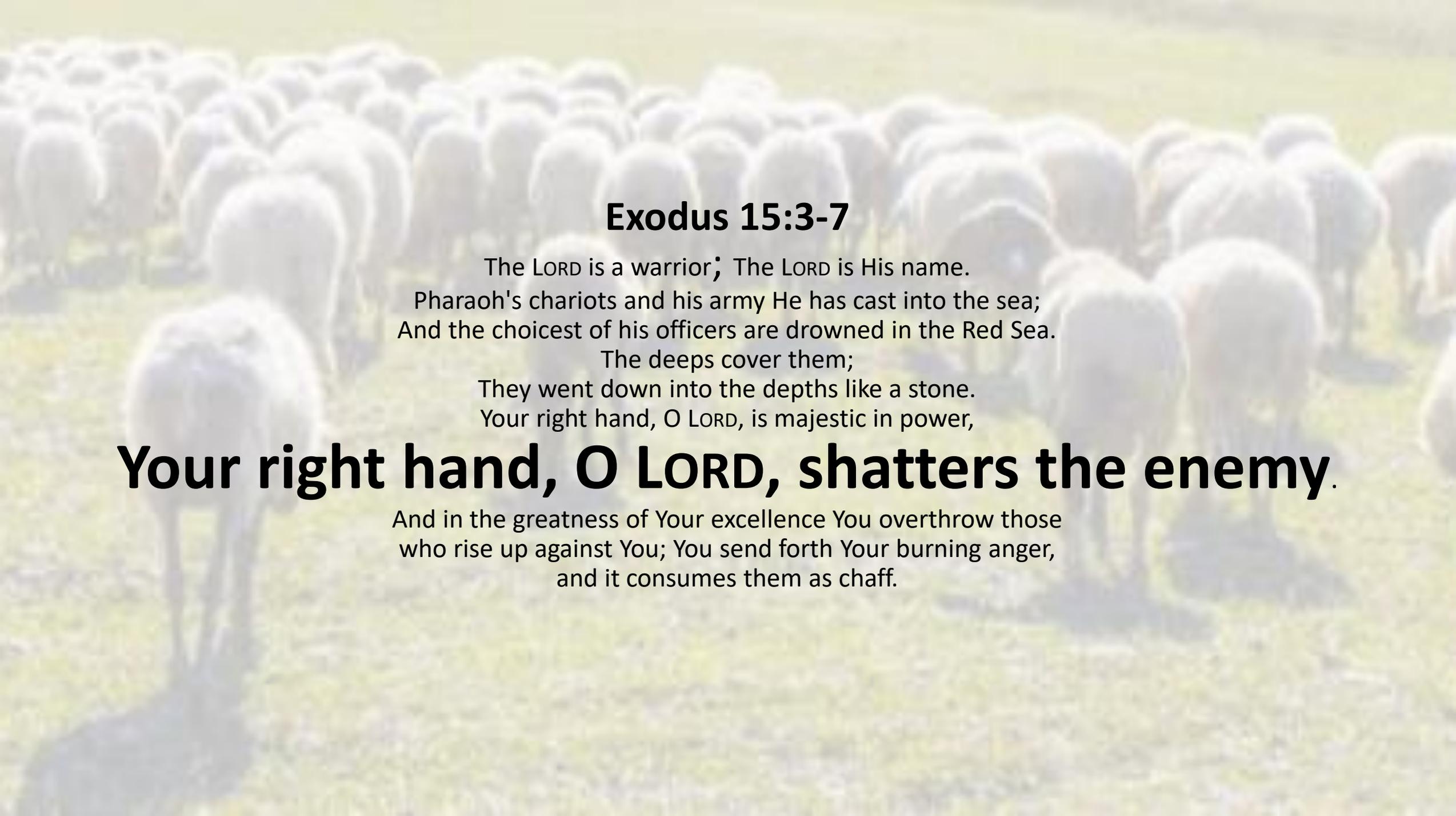
Your right hand, O LORD, is majestic in power,

Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.

And in the greatness of Your excellence You overthrow those  
who rise up against You; You send forth Your burning anger,  
and it consumes them as chaff.

The background of the image is a soft-focus landscape. It features rolling hills in shades of light blue and green, extending towards a horizon. The sky is filled with large, white, fluffy clouds, with a bright light source breaking through near the center, creating a lens flare effect. The overall atmosphere is serene and bright.

Be careful that pride does not  
move you to harden your heart  
against God and end up making  
you His enemy.



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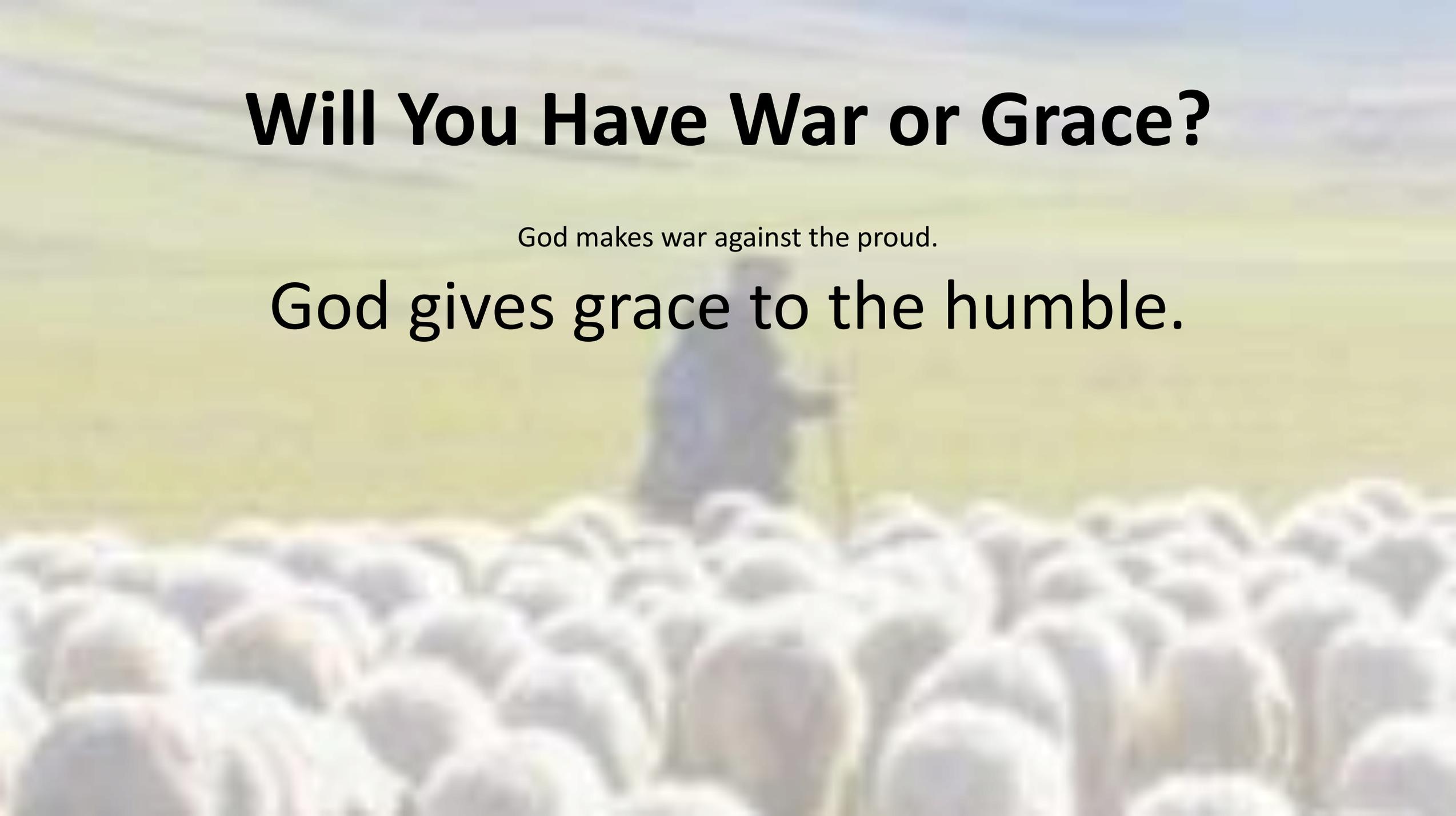
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# Will You Have War or Grace?

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God gives grace to the humble.





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# Grace to the Humble

*The humble are those who understand their condition.*

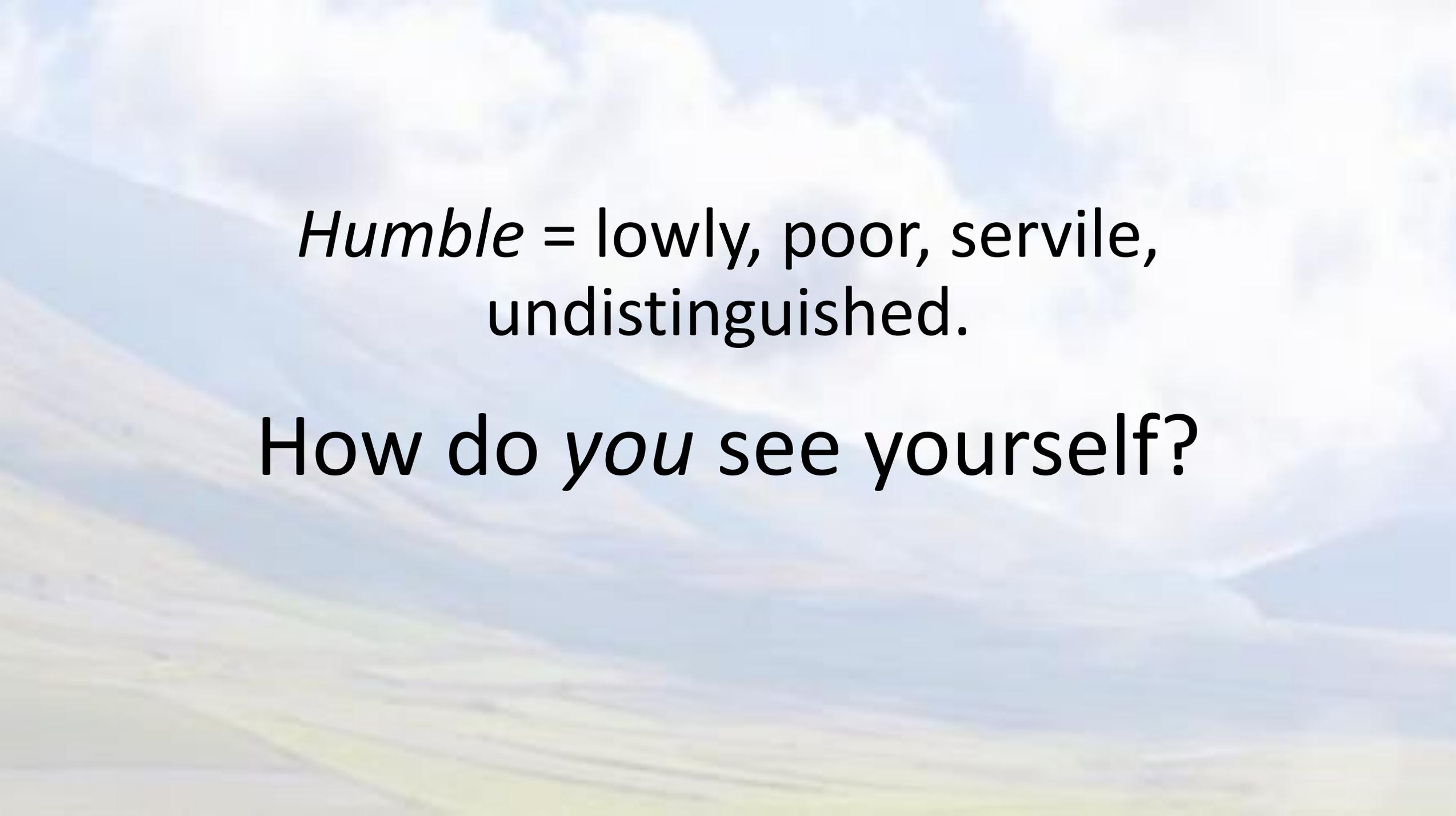


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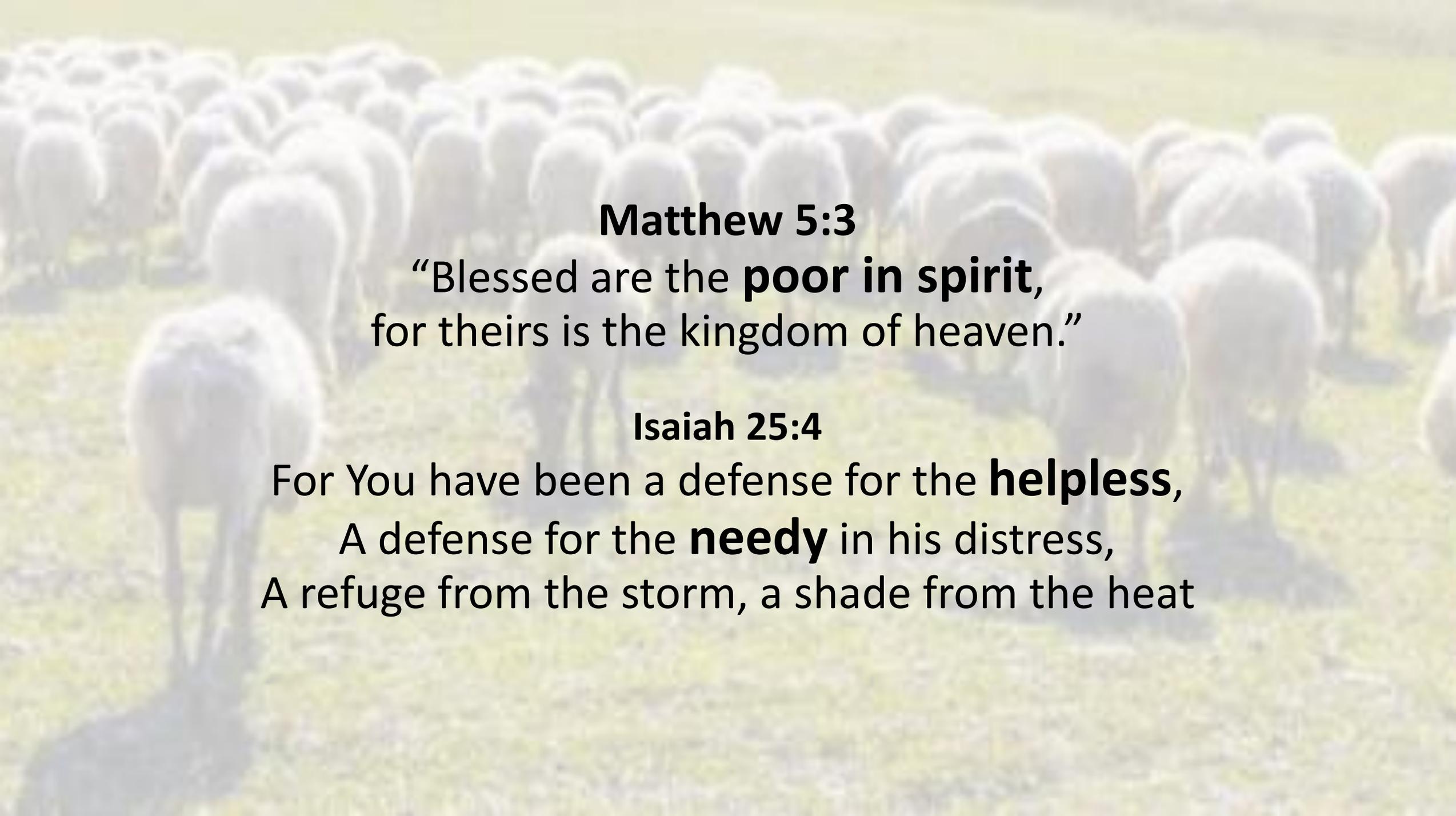
***but gives grace to the humble.***

Humble yourselves, therefore,  
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that He may exalt you at the proper time.



*Humble* = lowly, poor, servile,  
undistinguished.

How do *you* see yourself?

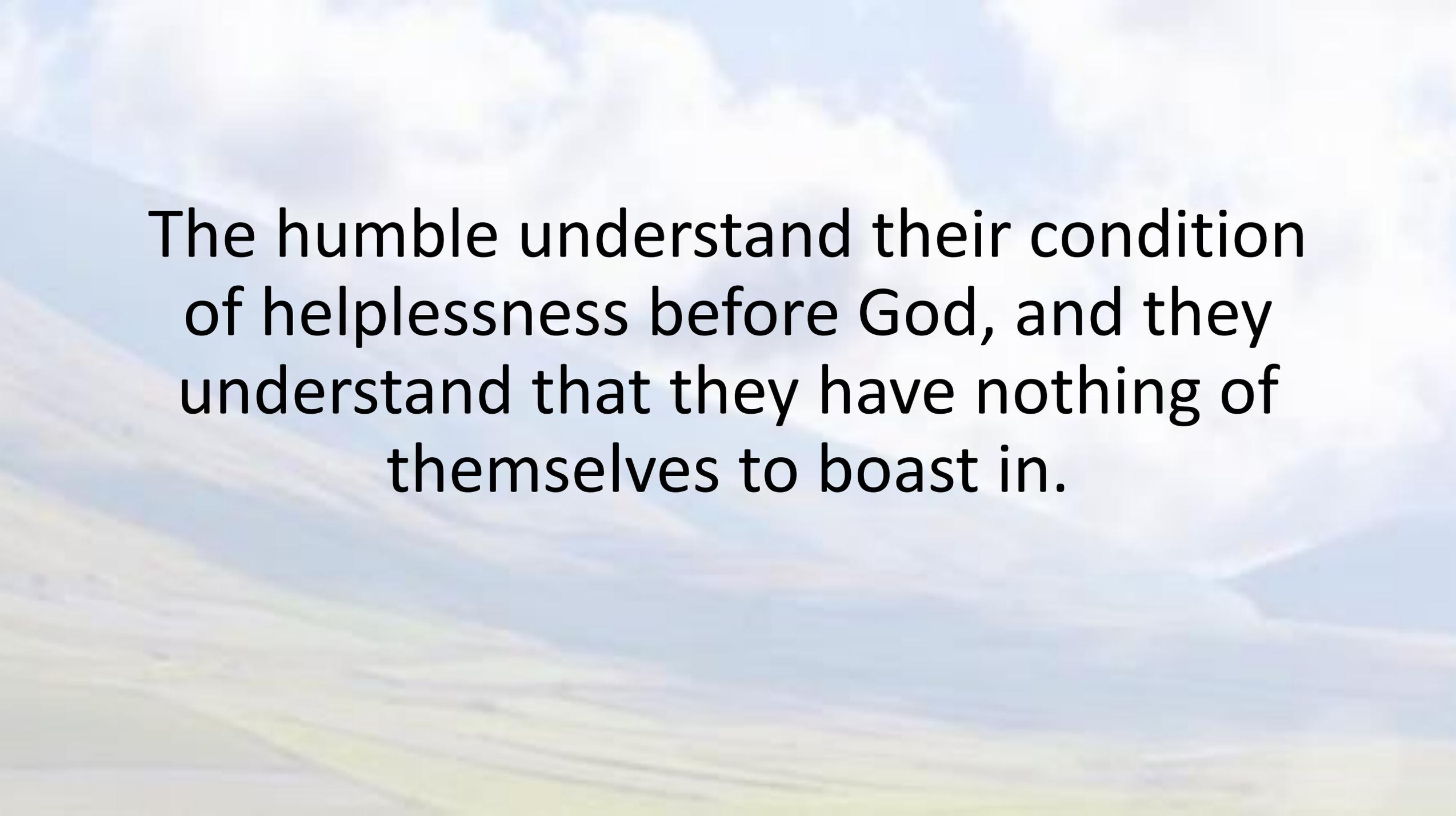


**Matthew 5:3**

“Blessed are the **poor in spirit**,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”

**Isaiah 25:4**

For You have been a defense for the **helpless**,  
A defense for the **needy** in his distress,  
A refuge from the storm, a shade from the heat



The humble understand their condition of helplessness before God, and they understand that they have nothing of themselves to boast in.

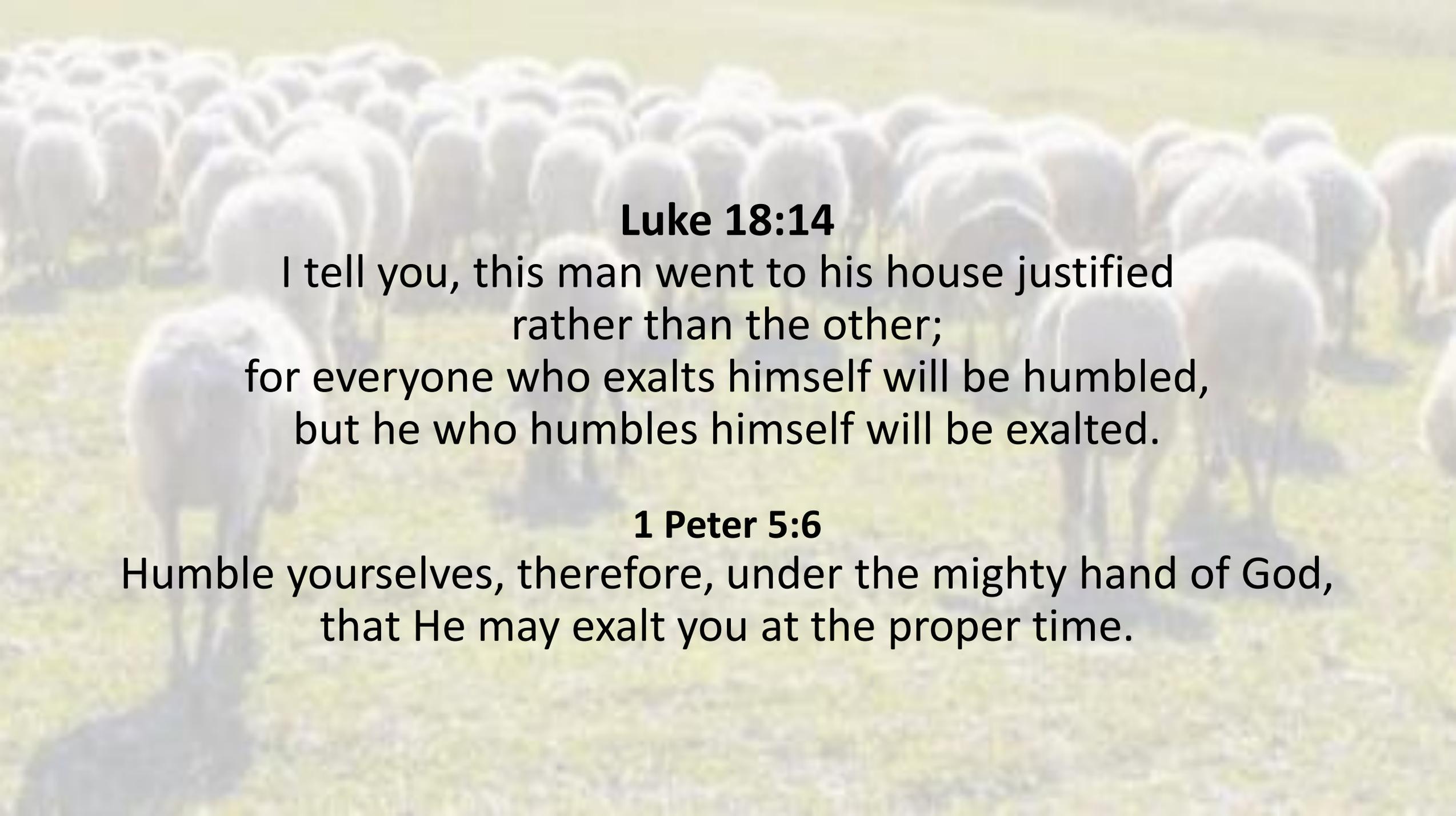
# The Proud vs. The Humble

## Luke 18:10-13

Two men went up into the temple to pray,  
one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself:  
“God, I thank You that I am not like other people:  
swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.  
I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.”

But the tax collector, standing some distance away,  
was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven,  
but was beating his breast, saying,  
“God, be merciful to me, the sinner!”

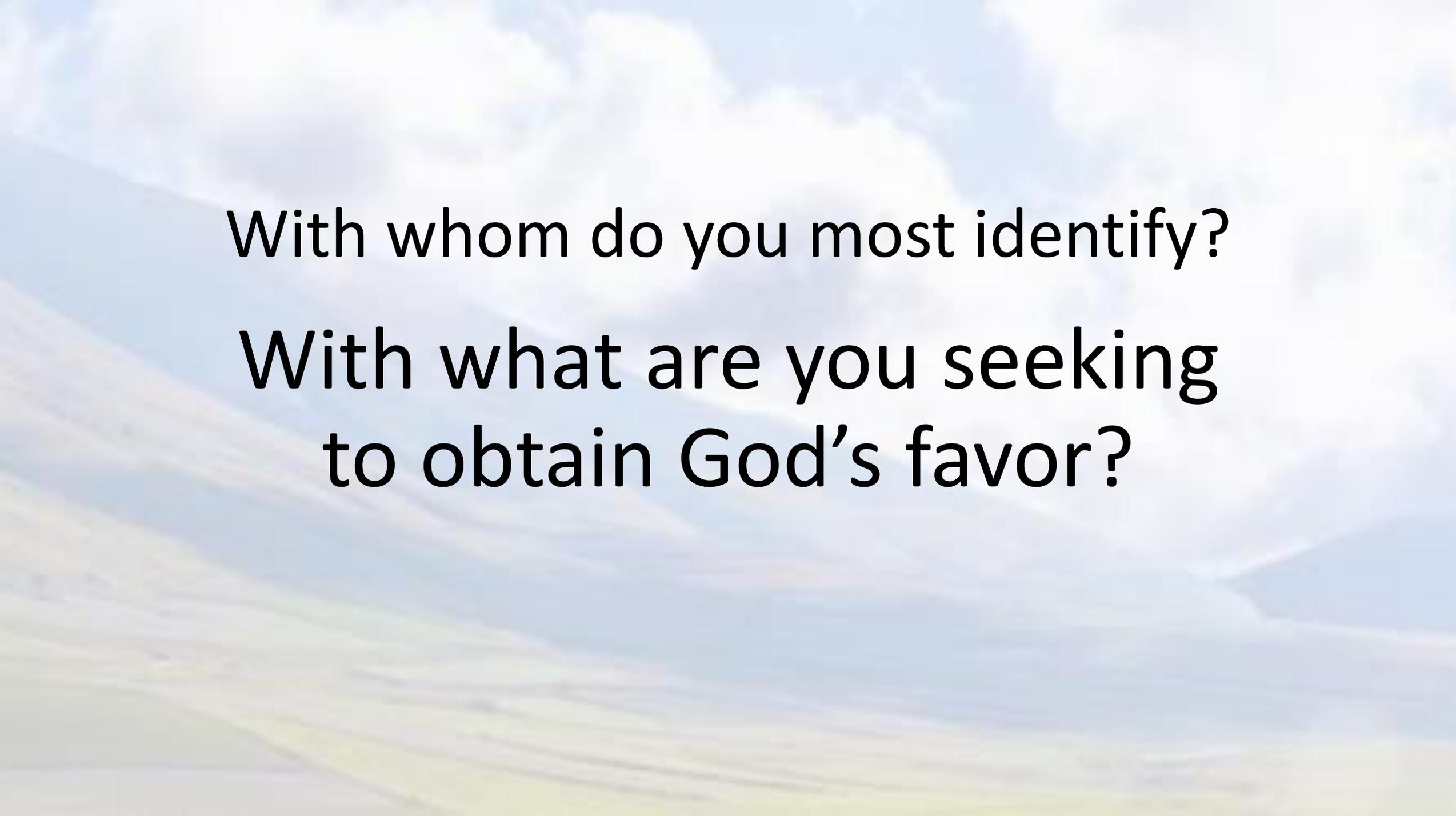


**Luke 18:14**

I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.

**1 Peter 5:6**

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you at the proper time.



With whom do you most identify?

With what are you seeking  
to obtain God's favor?

# Grace to the Humble

*The humble are those who understand their condition.*

*Grace is God's free and sovereign favor given to undeserving souls.*

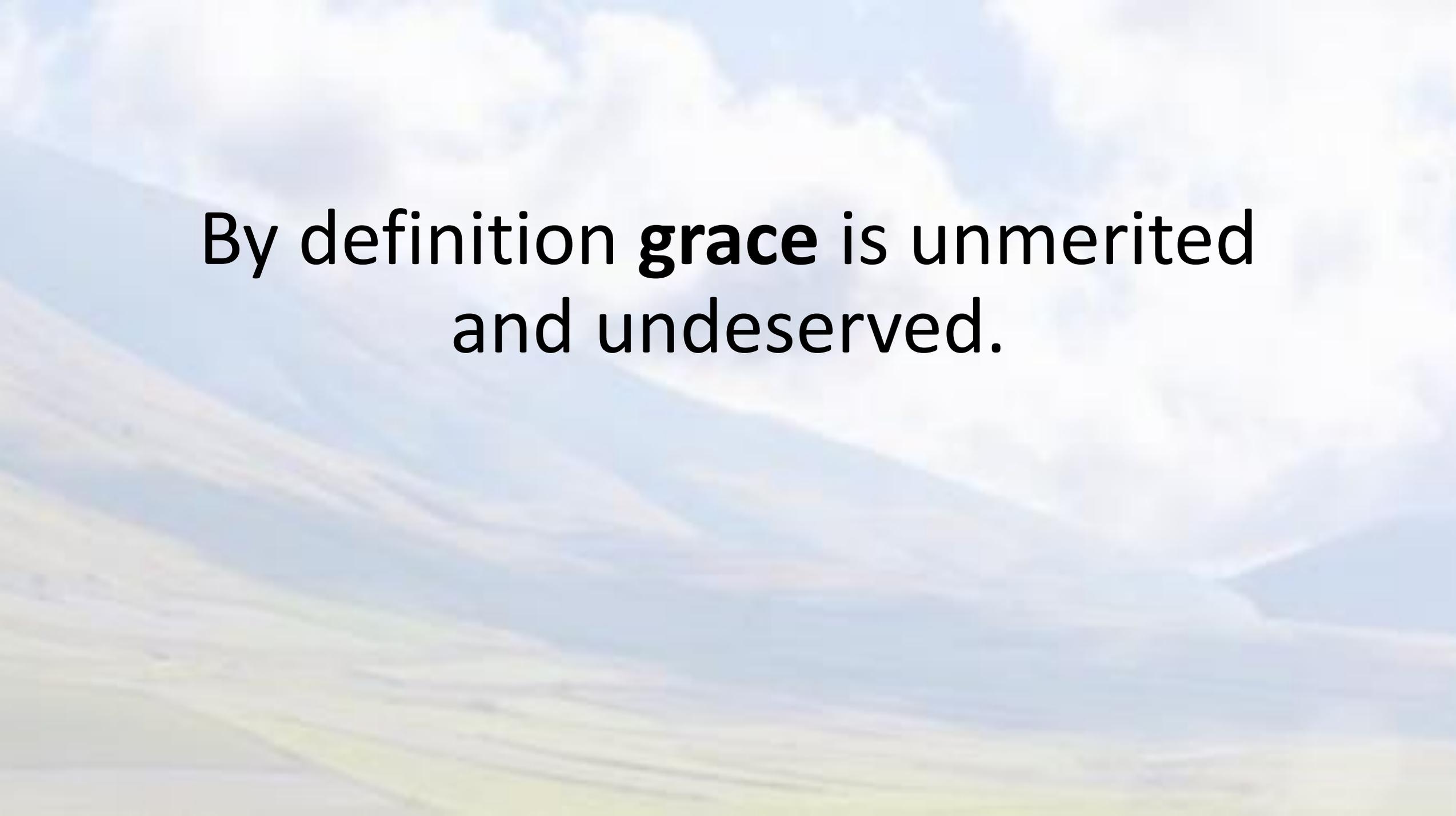


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By definition **grace** is unmerited  
and undeserved.

# What DO you deserve?

**Romans 3:23**

For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

**Romans 6:23**

For the wages of sin is death.

# What have you earned?

**Romans 4:4**

Now to the one who works, his wage is not reckoned according to grace, but according to what is due.

**Romans 11:6**

But if it is by grace, it is no longer on the basis of works, otherwise grace is no longer grace.

**Romans 3:27**

Where then is boasting? **It is excluded.**

# But what does God give?

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# The gift of God's grace.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates His own love toward us,  
in that while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.



Rightly understood,  
grace destroys our pride and  
humbles us before God.

# Will You Have War or Grace?

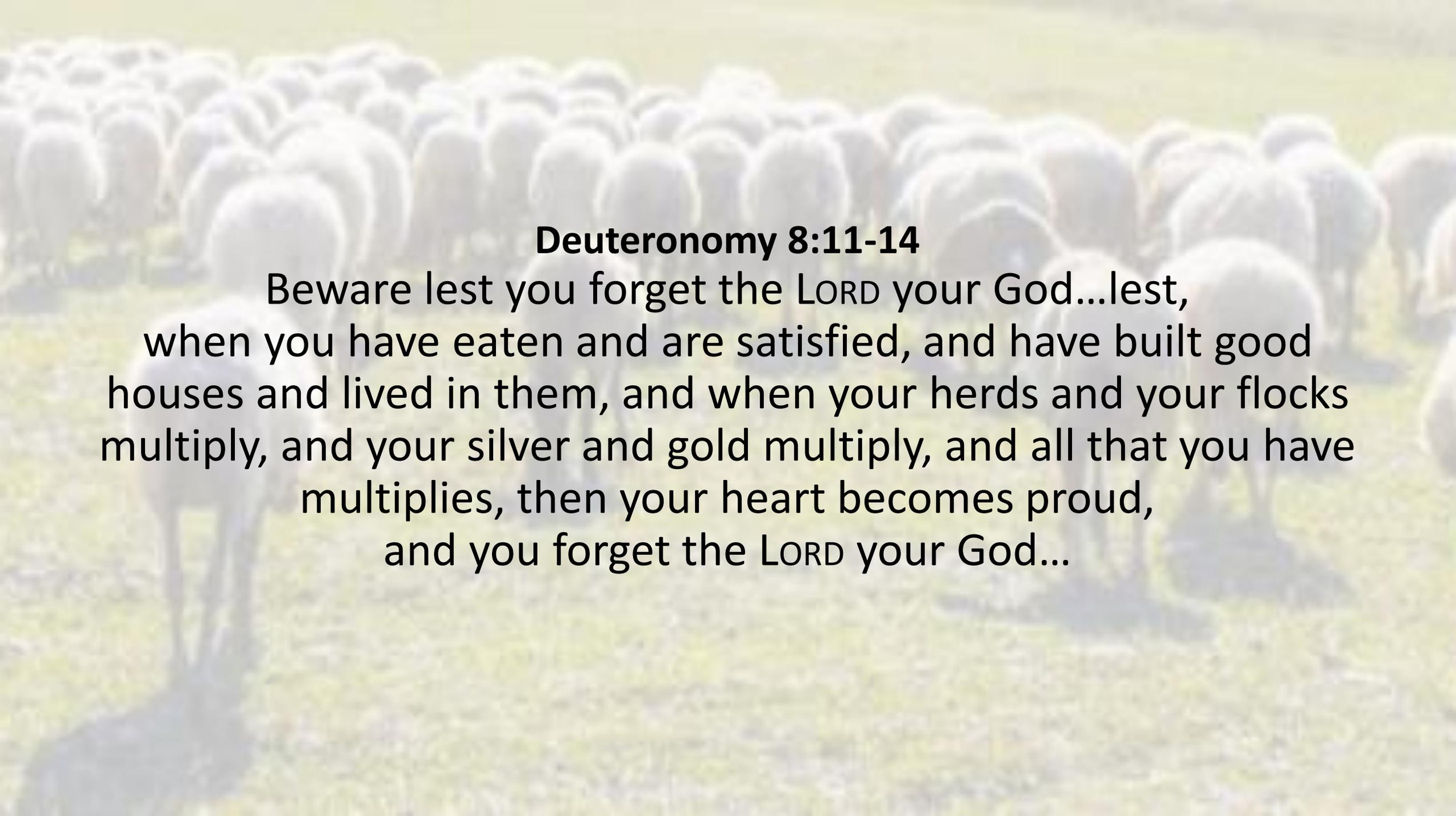
God makes war against the proud.

God gives grace to the humble.

**Humility increases your  
sensitivity of grace.**

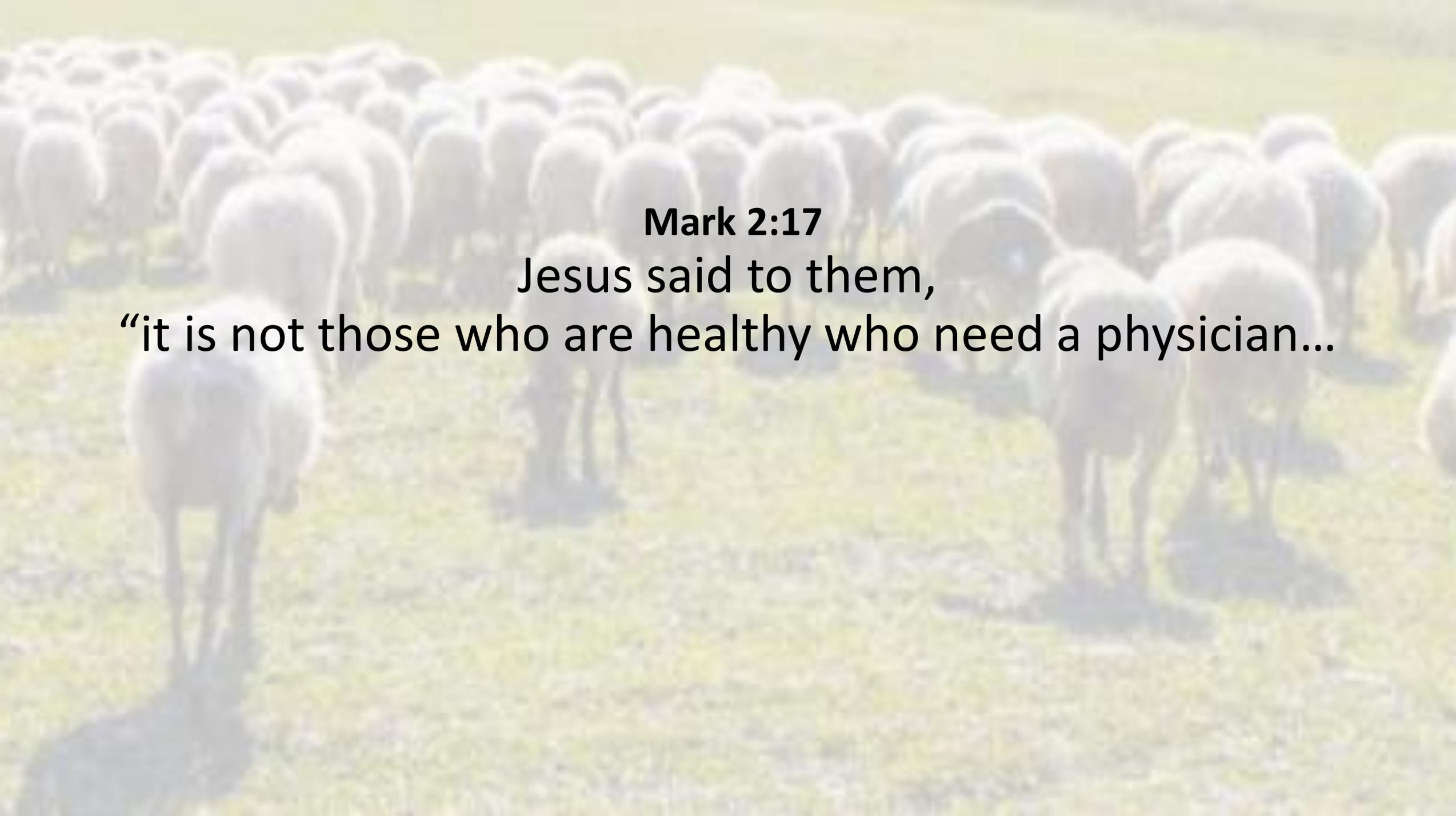
**Only the humble are sensible of grace.**

*The proud forget their need of God.*



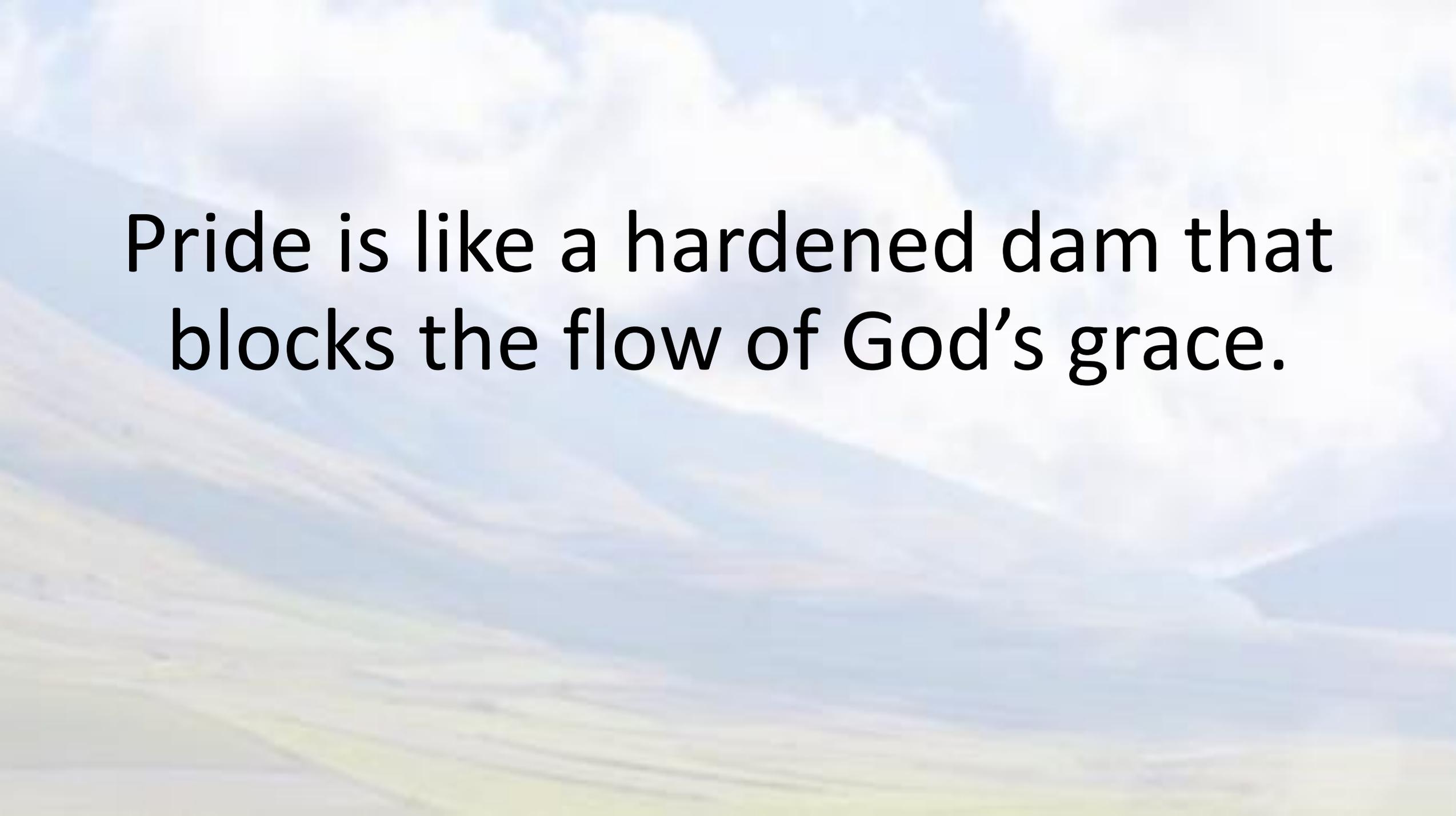
**Deuteronomy 8:11-14**

Beware lest you forget the LORD your God...lest, when you have eaten and are satisfied, and have built good houses and lived in them, and when your herds and your flocks multiply, and your silver and gold multiply, and all that you have multiplies, then your heart becomes proud, and you forget the LORD your God...



**Mark 2:17**

Jesus said to them,  
“it is not those who are healthy who need a physician...



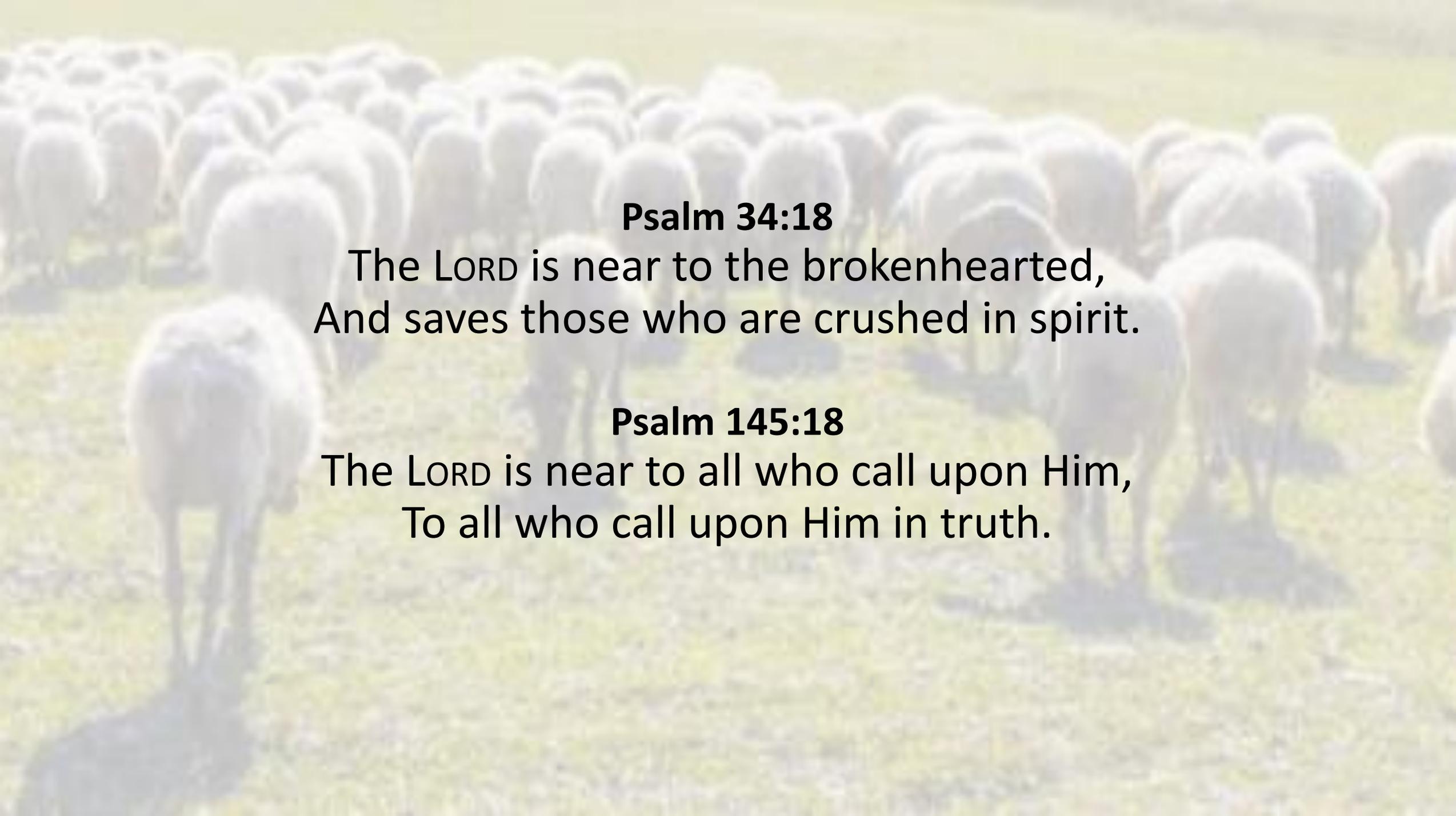
Pride is like a hardened dam that blocks the flow of God's grace.



**Only the humble are sensible of grace.**

*The proud forget their need of God.*

*The humble know their need  
and are drawn near.*

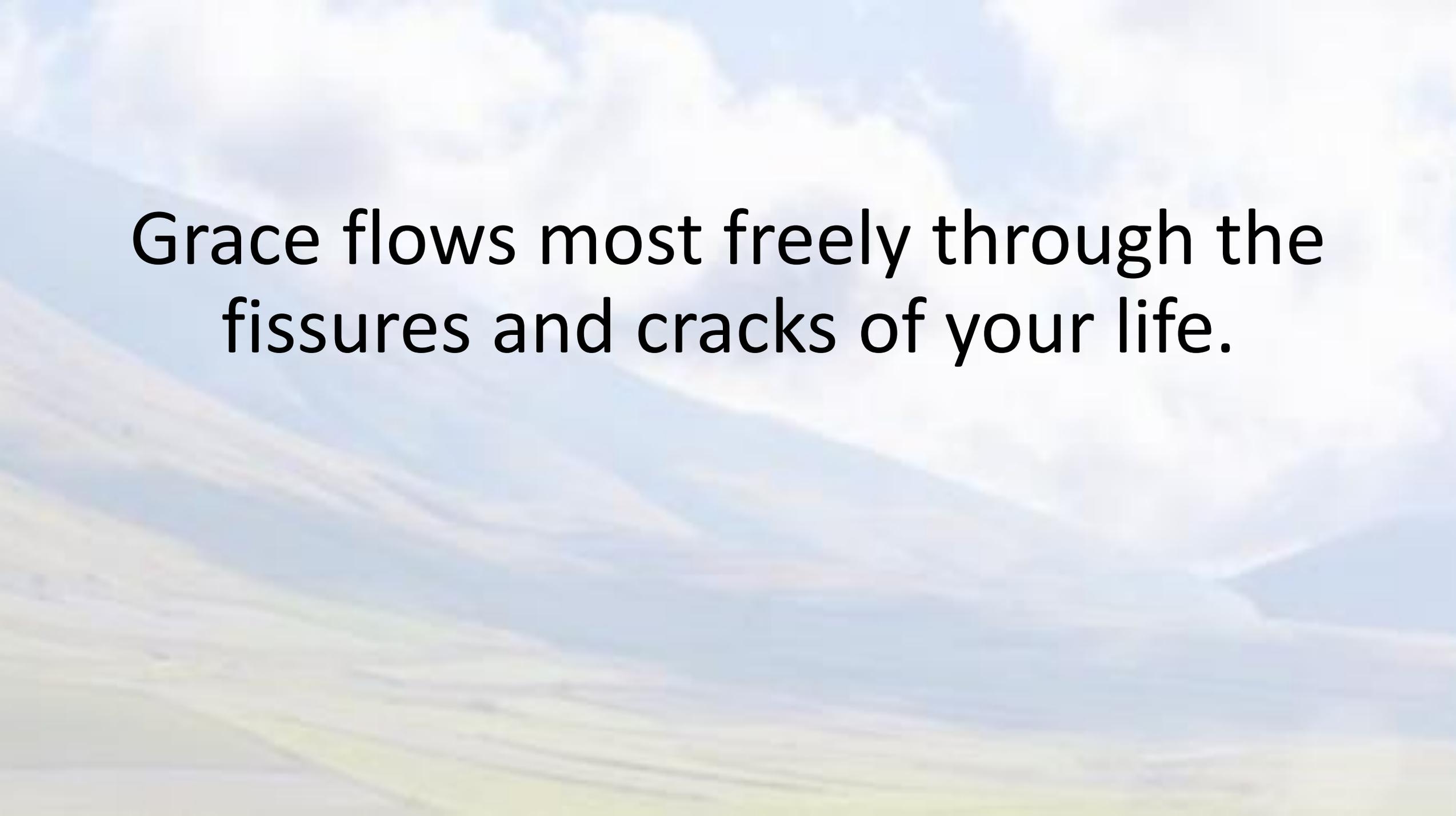


**Psalm 34:18**

The LORD is near to the brokenhearted,  
And saves those who are crushed in spirit.

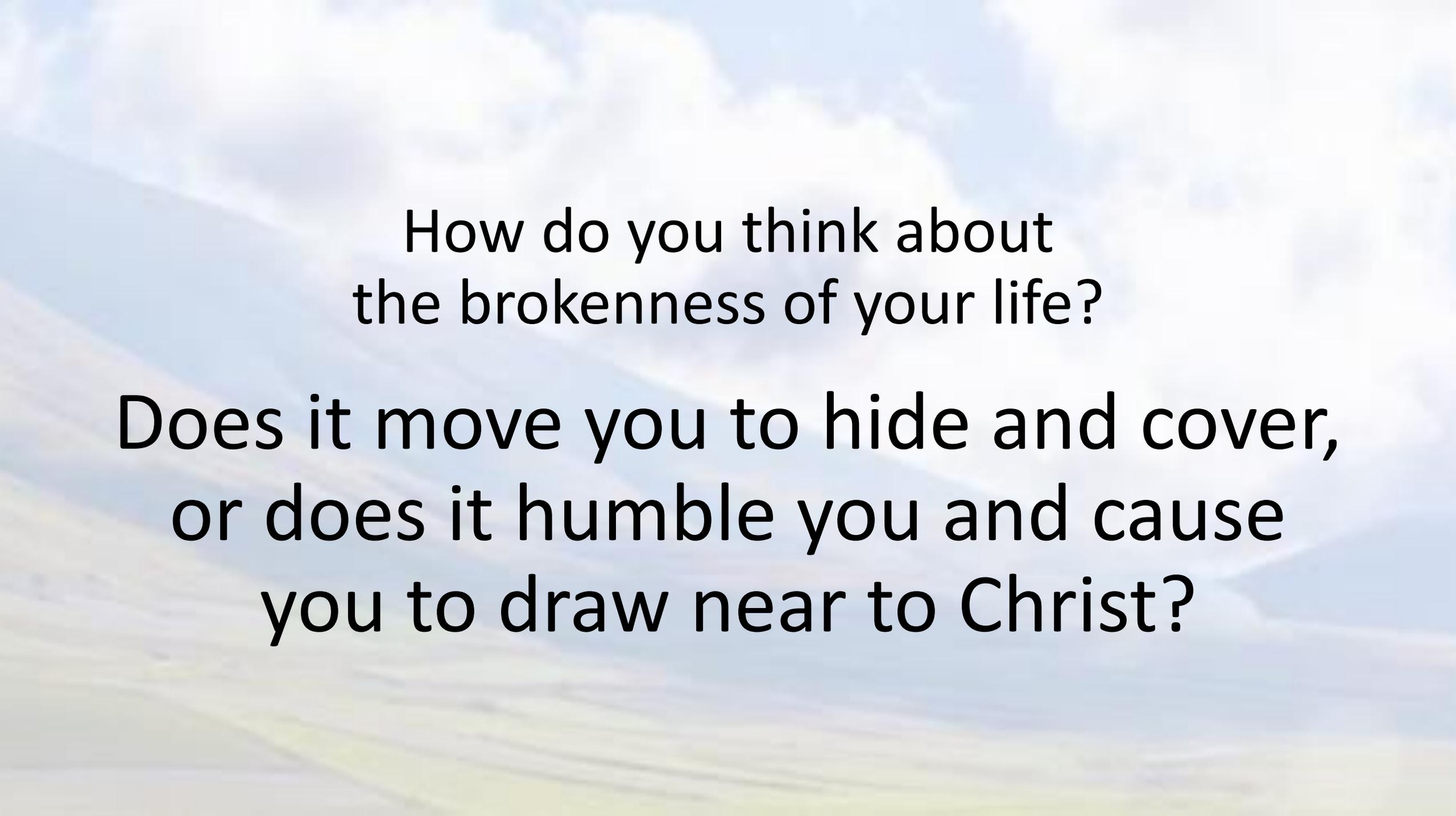
**Psalm 145:18**

The LORD is near to all who call upon Him,  
To all who call upon Him in truth.

A blurred background image of a mountain valley. In the foreground, there are green fields. In the middle ground, a river flows through a valley. In the background, there are blue mountains under a cloudy sky. The text is centered over the image.

Grace flows most freely through the  
fissures and cracks of your life.





How do you think about  
the brokenness of your life?

Does it move you to hide and cover,  
or does it humble you and cause  
you to draw near to Christ?