

A lighthouse on a rocky island with waves crashing against the shore. The lighthouse is a tall, cylindrical structure with a lantern room at the top. The waves are white and foamy, crashing against the dark rocks of the island. The sky is a pale, hazy blue.

Know God, Know Strength

Psalm 138:4-6

Psalm 138:3

On the day I called, You answered me;
My strength of soul you increased.

Psalm 138

¹ I will give You thanks with all my heart;
I will sing praises to You before the gods.

² I will bow down toward Your holy temple and give thanks
to Your name for Your lovingkindness and Your truth;
For You have magnified Your word according to all Your name.

³ On the day I called, You answered me;
You made me bold with strength in my soul.

Psalm 138

⁴ All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

⁵ And they will sing of the ways of the LORD,
For great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶ For though the LORD is exalted, Yet He regards the lowly,
But the haughty He knows from afar.

Psalm 138

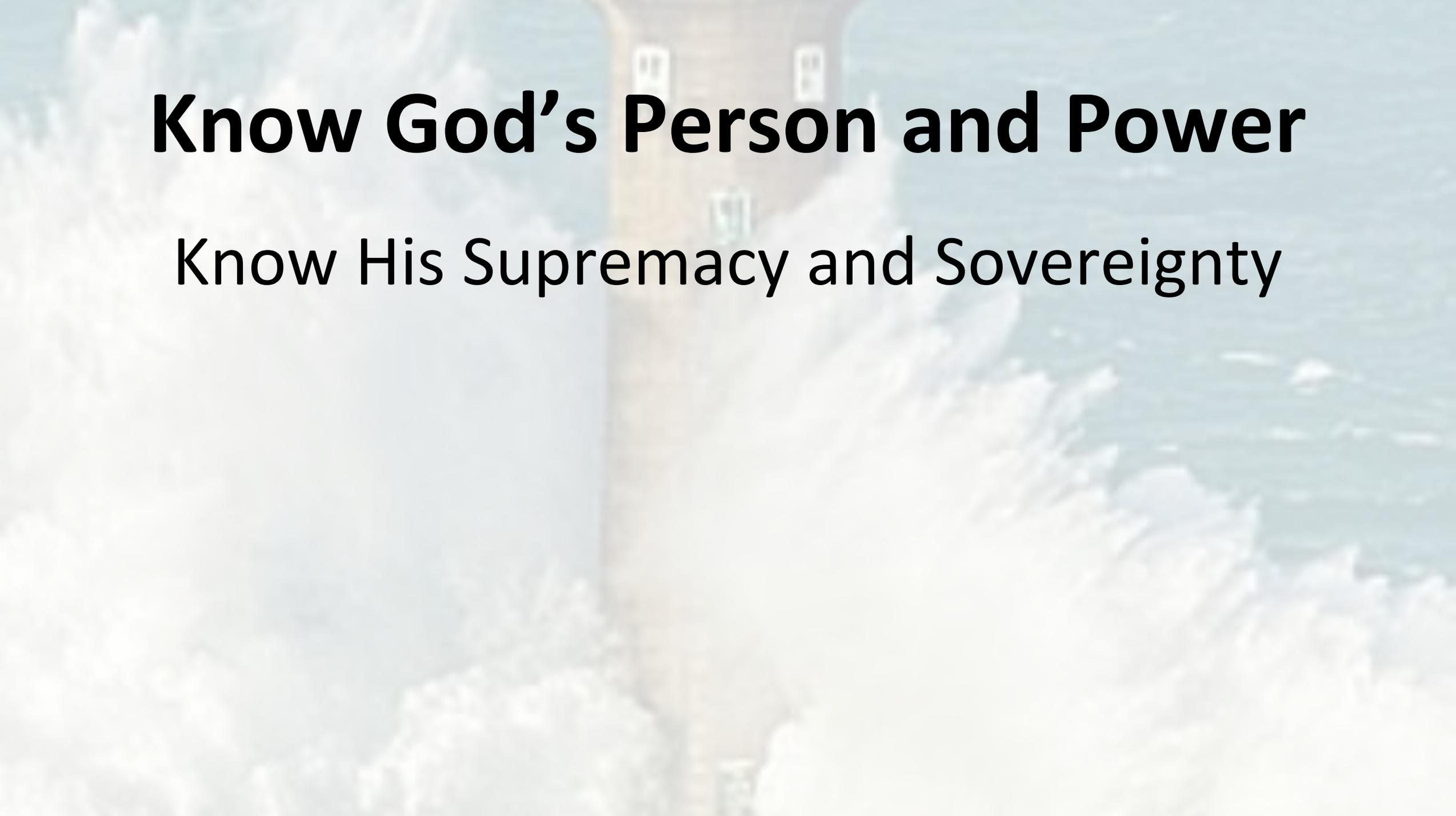
⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
You will revive me; You will stretch forth Your hand
against the wrath of my enemies,
and Your right hand will save me.

⁸ The LORD will accomplish what concerns me;
Your lovingkindness, O LORD, is everlasting;
Do not forsake the works of Your hands.

Our Theme

The Lord will increase the strength of your soul as your knowledge of His person and power grows.

**Pure worship requires
pure knowledge.**

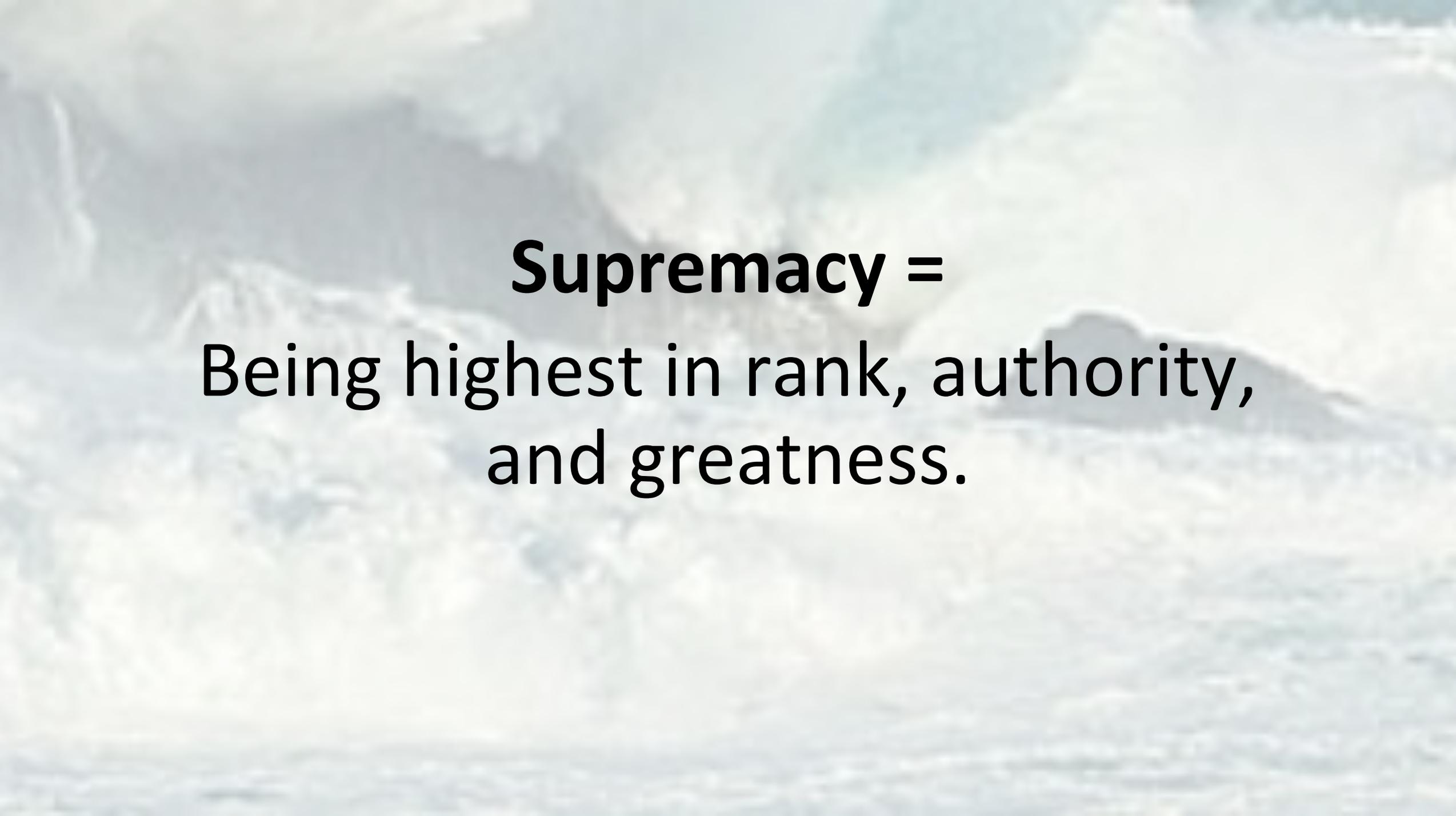


Know God's Person and Power

Know His Supremacy and Sovereignty

Supremacy and Sovereignty

God is supreme over all.



Supremacy =
Being highest in rank, authority,
and greatness.

Psalm 138:4-6

⁴ All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

Psalm 138:4-6

⁴ All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You,

O LORD,
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

Psalm 138:4-6

⁴ All the kings of the earth **will give thanks to You,**
O LORD,

When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

Kings and rulers may boast of power and wisdom, but the LORD is infinitely higher than all of them together.

Psalm 86:8-10

There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord;
Nor are there any works like Yours.
All nations whom You have made shall come
and worship before You, O Lord;
And they shall glorify Your name.
For You are great and do wondrous deeds;
You alone are God.

Psalm 86:8-10

There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord;
Nor are there any works like Yours.

All nations whom You have made shall come

and worship before You, O Lord;
And they shall glorify Your name.
For You are great and do wondrous deeds;
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Psalm 86:8-10

There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord;
Nor are there any works like Yours.

All nations whom You have made **shall come**
and worship before You, O Lord;

And they shall glorify Your name.
For You are great and do wondrous deeds;
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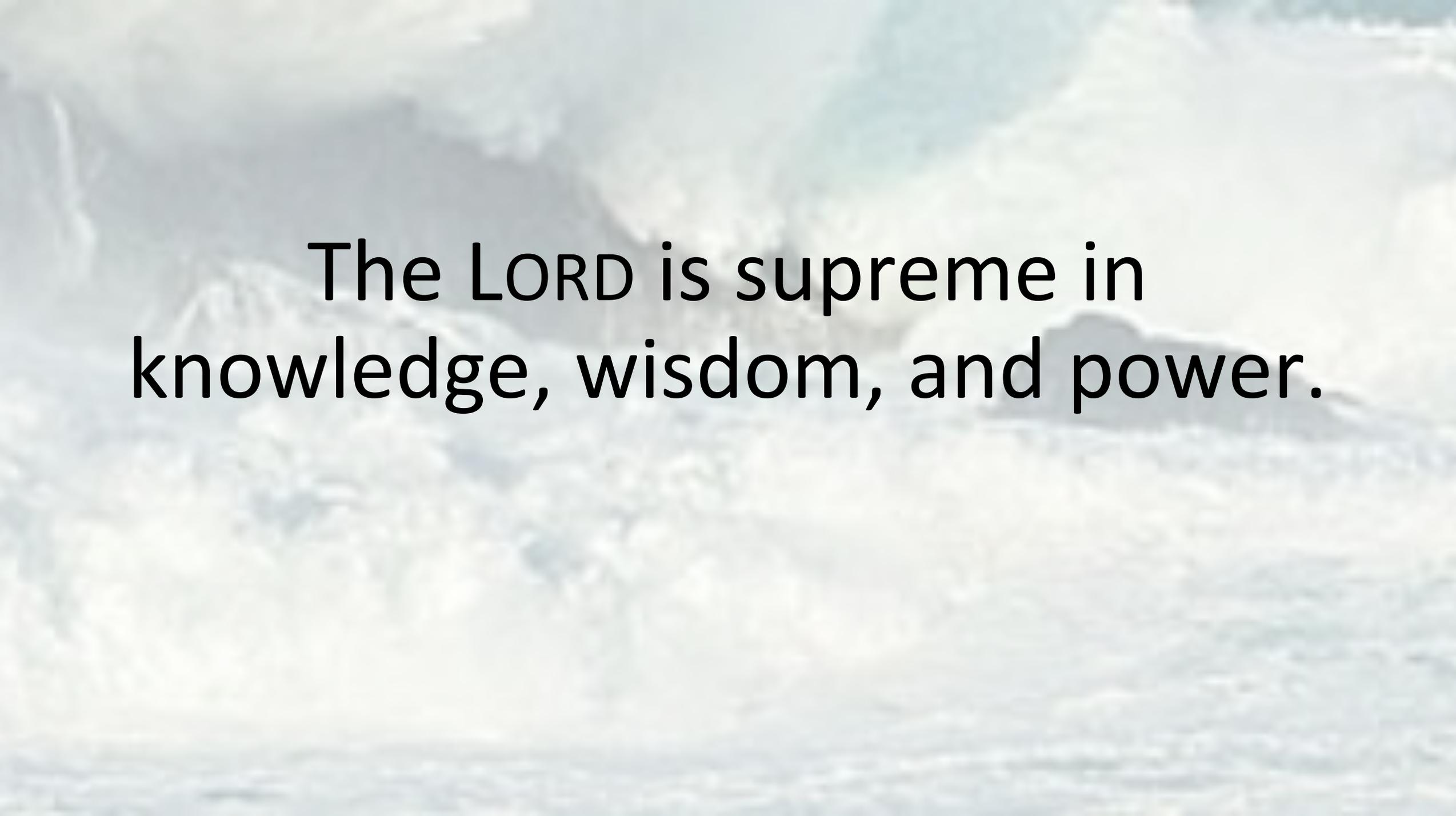
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There is no one like You among the gods, O Lord;
Nor are there any works like Yours.

All nations whom You have made shall come
and worship before You, O Lord;
And they shall glorify Your name.

For You are great and do wondrous deeds;

You alone are God.



The LORD is supreme in
knowledge, wisdom, and power.

Psalm 138:4-6

⁴ **All the kings of the earth will give
thanks to You, O LORD,**

When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

Psalm 138:4-6

⁴ All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,

**When they have heard the
words of Your mouth.**

Supremacy Made Visible in Words

Deuteronomy 4:7-8

For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is to us, whenever we call upon him?
And what great nation is there, **that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law** that I set before you today?

If the LORD is supreme, if He is the greatest, why would we be tempted to look to any other.

**Once you have found the best,
you will discard the rest.**

Supremacy and **Sovereignty**

God is supreme over all.

God is sovereign over all.

Sovereignty =

Absolute rule and authority that
is entirely independent of any
other force.

Psalm 138:4-5

⁴ All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

⁵ And they will sing of the ways of the LORD,
For great is the glory of the LORD.

Psalm 138:4-5

⁴ **All the kings** of the earth **will give thanks** to You, O LORD,

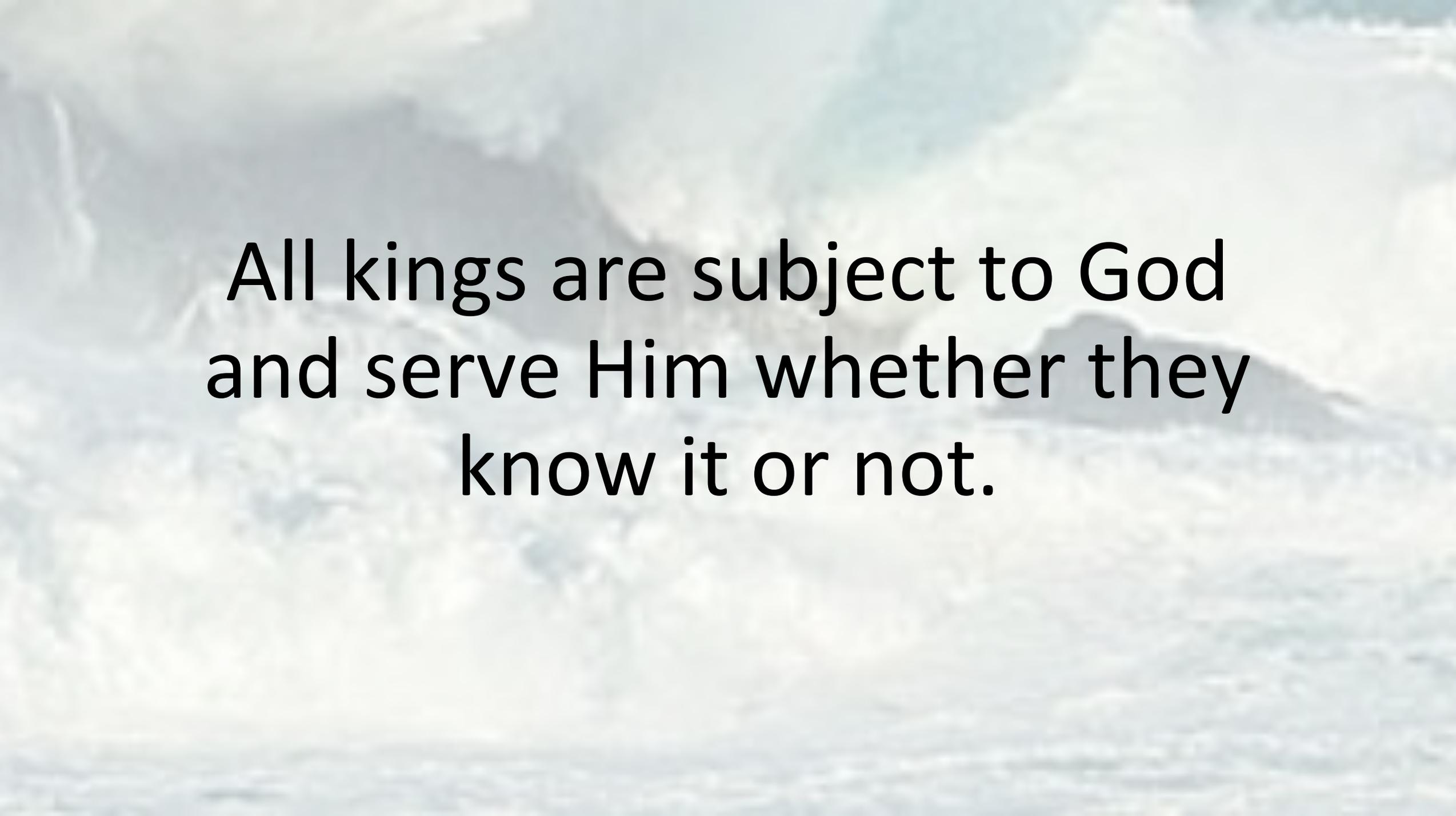
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

⁵ And they will sing of the ways of the LORD,
For great is the glory of the LORD.

Psalm 138:4-5

⁴ **All the kings** of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

⁵ And they **will sing** of the ways of the LORD,
For great is the glory of the LORD.



All kings are subject to God
and serve Him whether they
know it or not.

Nebuchadnezzar came to know it!

Daniel 4:34-35

But at the end of that period I, Nebuchadnezzar,
raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to
me,
and I blessed the Most High and praised
and honored Him who lives forever;

Daniel 4:34-35

But at the end of that period I, **Nebuchadnezzar**,
raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me,
and I **blessed the Most High** and praised
and honored Him who lives forever;

Daniel 4:34-35

But at the end of that period I, **Nebuchadnezzar**,
raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me,

and I blessed the Most High and **praised**

and honored Him who lives forever;

Why?

Daniel 4:34-35

But at the end of that period I, Nebuchadnezzar,
raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me,
and I blessed the Most High and praised
and honored Him who lives forever;



Because...

Daniel 4:34-35

But at the end of that period I, Nebuchadnezzar,
raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me,
and I blessed the Most High and praised
and honored Him who lives forever;

For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,
And His kingdom endures from generation to generation.
And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,
But He does according to His will in the host of heaven
And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward
off His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?"

Because...

Daniel 4:34-35

But at the end of that period I, Nebuchadnezzar,
raised my eyes toward heaven, and my reason returned to me,
and I blessed the Most High and praised
and honored Him who lives forever;

For His dominion is an everlasting dominion,

And His kingdom endures from generation to generation.
And all the inhabitants of the earth are accounted as nothing,

But **He does according to His will** in the host of heaven

And among the inhabitants of earth; And no one can ward
off His hand or say to Him, "What have You done?"

The LORD is sovereign in His rule
and entirely independent in His will.

He is in control!

1 Chronicles 29:11-12

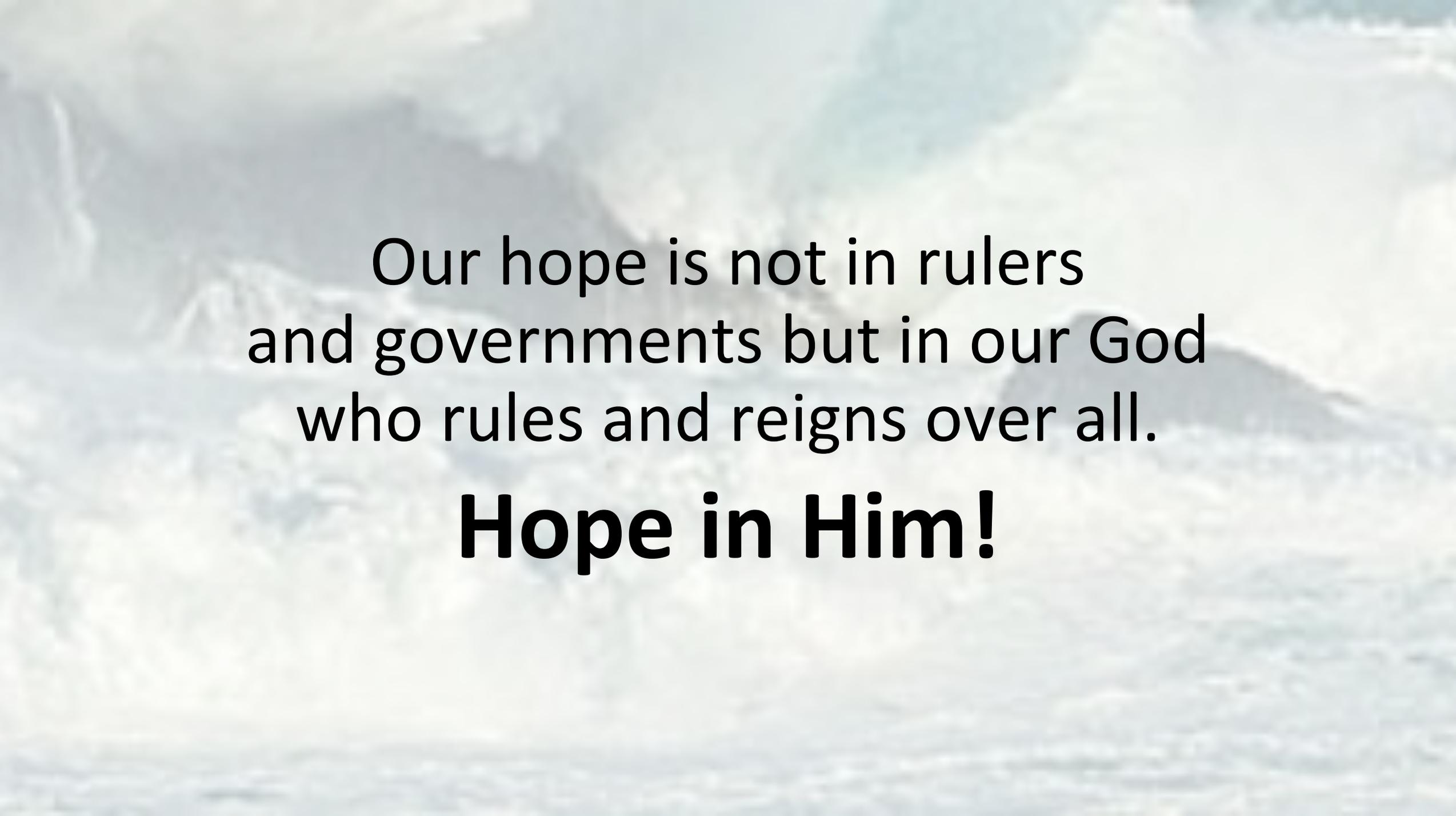
Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, indeed everything that is in the heavens and the earth; Yours is the dominion, O LORD, and You exalt Yourself as head over all. Both riches and honor come from You, and You rule over all, and in Your hand is power and might; and it lies in Your hand to make great and to strengthen everyone.

Consider...

To worry , to complain, to let disappointment dominate, to function in frustration...

...is to take the Lord's name in vain.

**Pure worship
is worship in truth.**



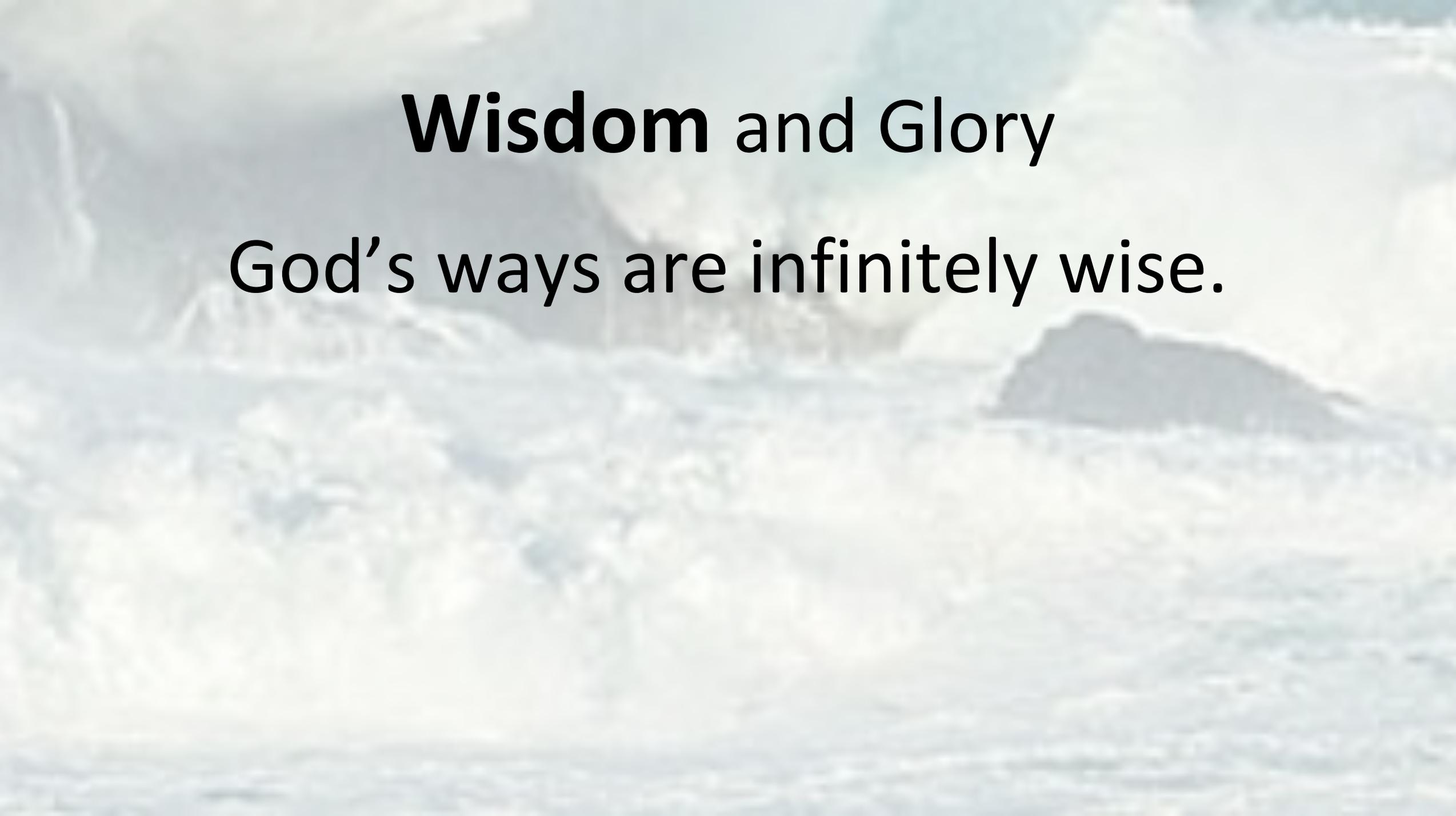
Our hope is not in rulers
and governments but in our God
who rules and reigns over all.

Hope in Him!

Know God's Person and Power

Know His Supremacy and Sovereignty

Know His Wisdom and Glory

The background of the image is a photograph of a rocky coastline. In the foreground, there are large, light-colored rocks. The ocean is visible, with white-capped waves crashing against the shore. The sky is a pale, hazy blue. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Wisdom and Glory

God's ways are infinitely wise.

Wisdom =

Having the best goals and the best means to achieve those goals.

Psalm 138:4-5

⁴ All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,

When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

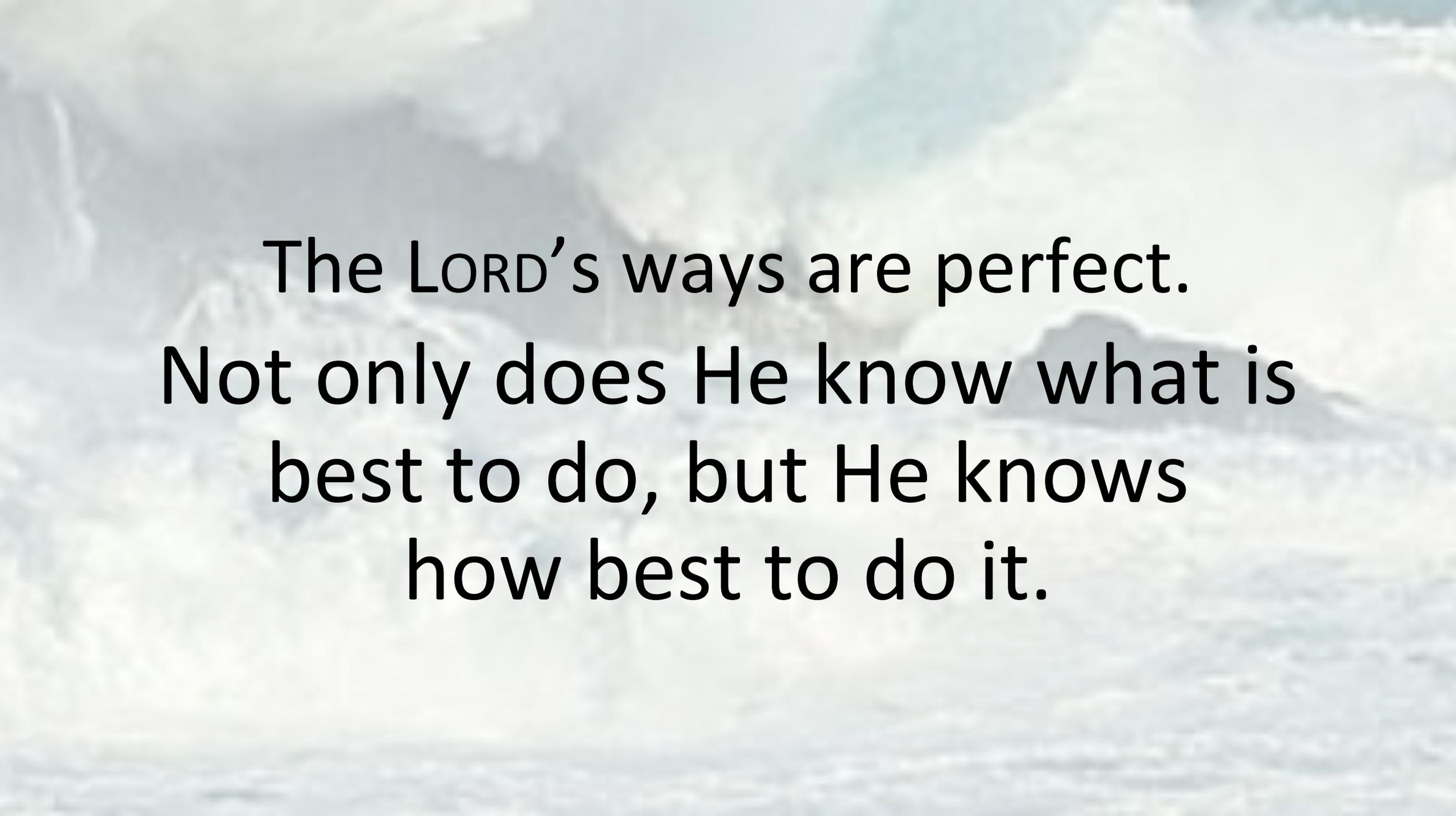
⁵ And they will sing of the ways of the LORD,
For great is the glory of the LORD.

Psalm 138:4-5

⁴ All the kings of the earth will give thanks to You, O LORD,
When they have heard the words of Your mouth.

⁵ And **they will sing of the ways
of the LORD,**

For great is the glory of the LORD.



The LORD's ways are perfect.
Not only does He know what is
best to do, but He knows
how best to do it.

Psalm 104:24

O LORD, how many are Your works!
In wisdom You have made them all.

Jeremiah 10:12

It is He who made the earth by His power,
Who established the world by His wisdom;
And by His understanding
He has stretched out the heavens.

Psalm 147:4-5

He determines the number of the stars;

He gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;

His understanding is beyond measure.

The meager knowledge and wisdom
of national rulers has never been
more widely seen.

But God's wisdom is infinite!

Romans 11:33

Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom
and knowledge of God! How unsearchable
are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!

Consider...

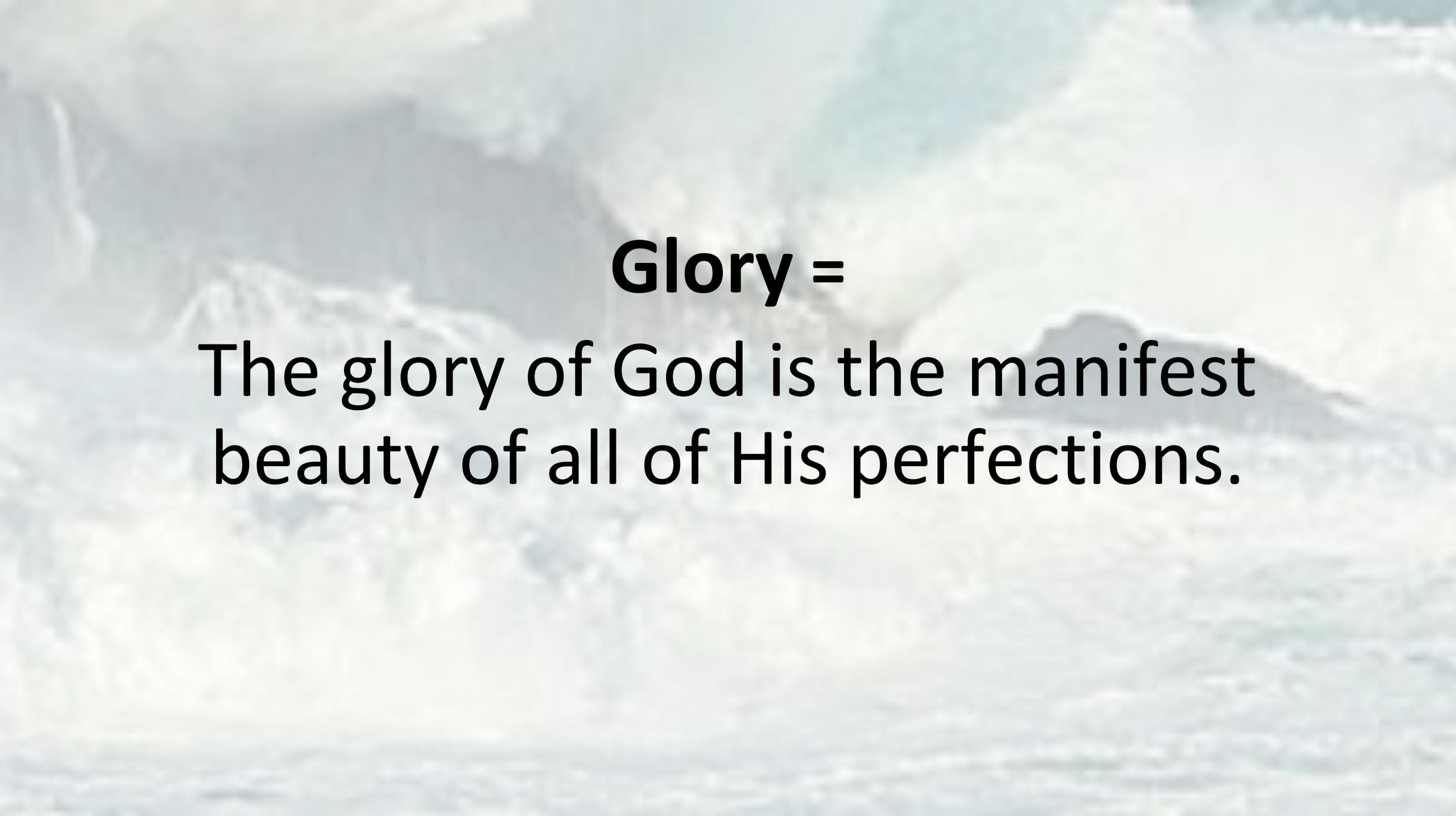
If God is infinitely wise,
then **all** that He does makes sense.
To question God's works is to question
His wisdom and to defame His name.

**Worship Him
with your trust in Him!**

Wisdom and **Glory**

God's ways are infinitely wise.

God's ways magnify His glory.

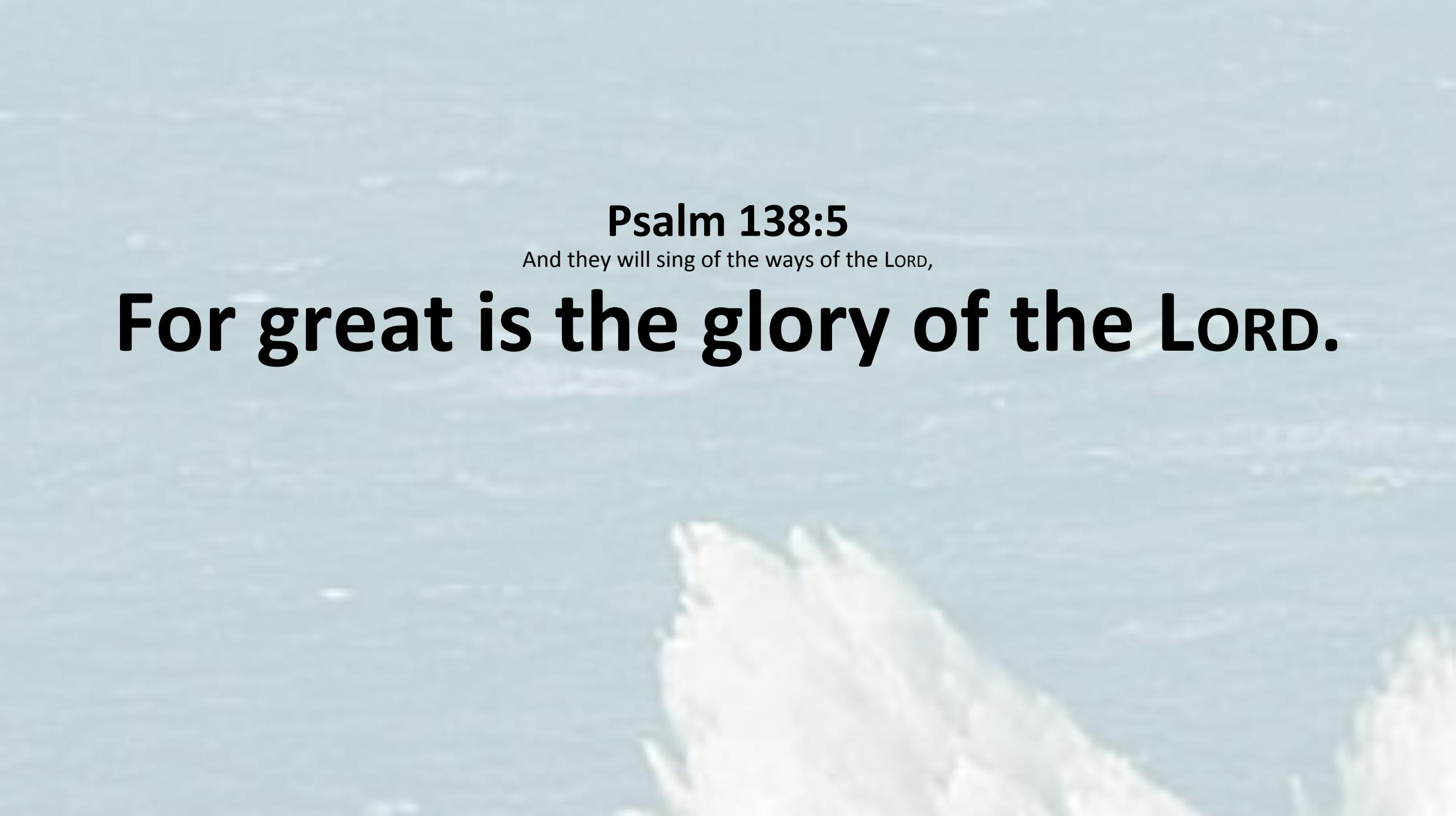


Glory =

The glory of God is the manifest
beauty of all of His perfections.

Psalm 138:5

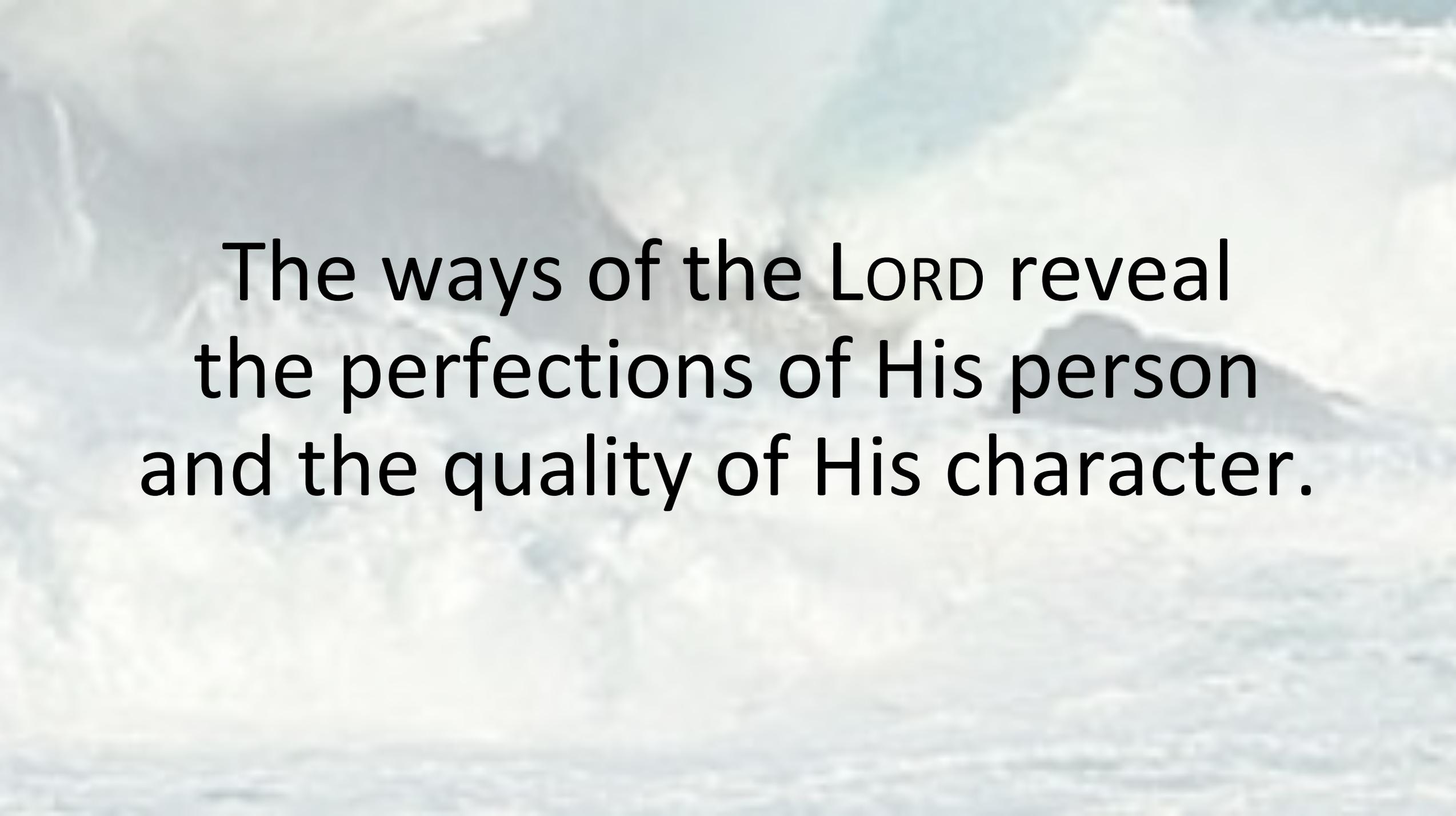
And **they will sing of the ways of the LORD,**
For great is the glory of the LORD.



Psalm 138:5

And they will sing of the ways of the LORD,

For great is the glory of the LORD.



The ways of the LORD reveal
the perfections of His person
and the quality of His character.

Exodus 33:18-19

Then Moses said, “I pray You, **show me Your glory!**”

And He said, “I Myself will make **all My goodness** pass before you, and will proclaim the name of the LORD before you.”

Exodus 34:6-7

Then the LORD passed by in front of him and proclaimed, “The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; who keeps lovingkindness for thousands, who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin; yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished.”

Kings and rulers, presidents and politicians, all promote their policies and even themselves.

**But only God is worthy
of worship!**

Consider...

Nothing and no one outshines the
radiance of God's glory.

To be distracted by shiny things
is to dishonor His name.

Worship Him alone!

Know God's Person and Power

Know His Supremacy and Sovereignty

Know His Wisdom and Glory

Know His Transcendence and Immanence

Transcendence and Immanence

God is high above all things.

Transcendence =

God is completely *other than* and
exists infinitely high above all things.

Psalm 138:6

⁶ For though the LORD is high, Yet He regards the lowly,
But the haughty He knows from afar.

Psalm 138:6

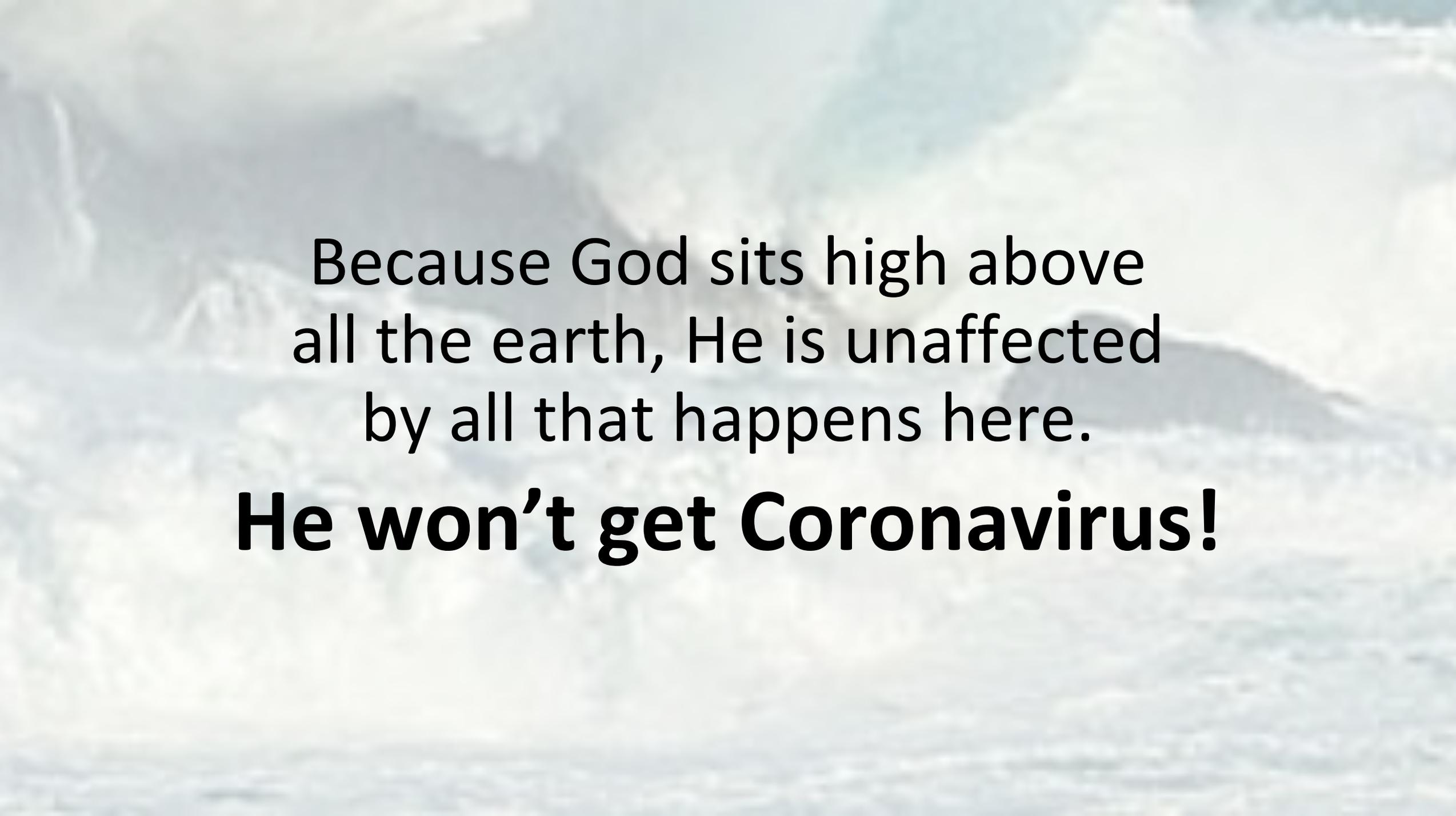
⁶ **For though the LORD is high**, Yet He regards the lowly,
But the haughty He knows from afar.

Psalm 113:4-5

The LORD is high above all nations;
His glory is above the heavens.

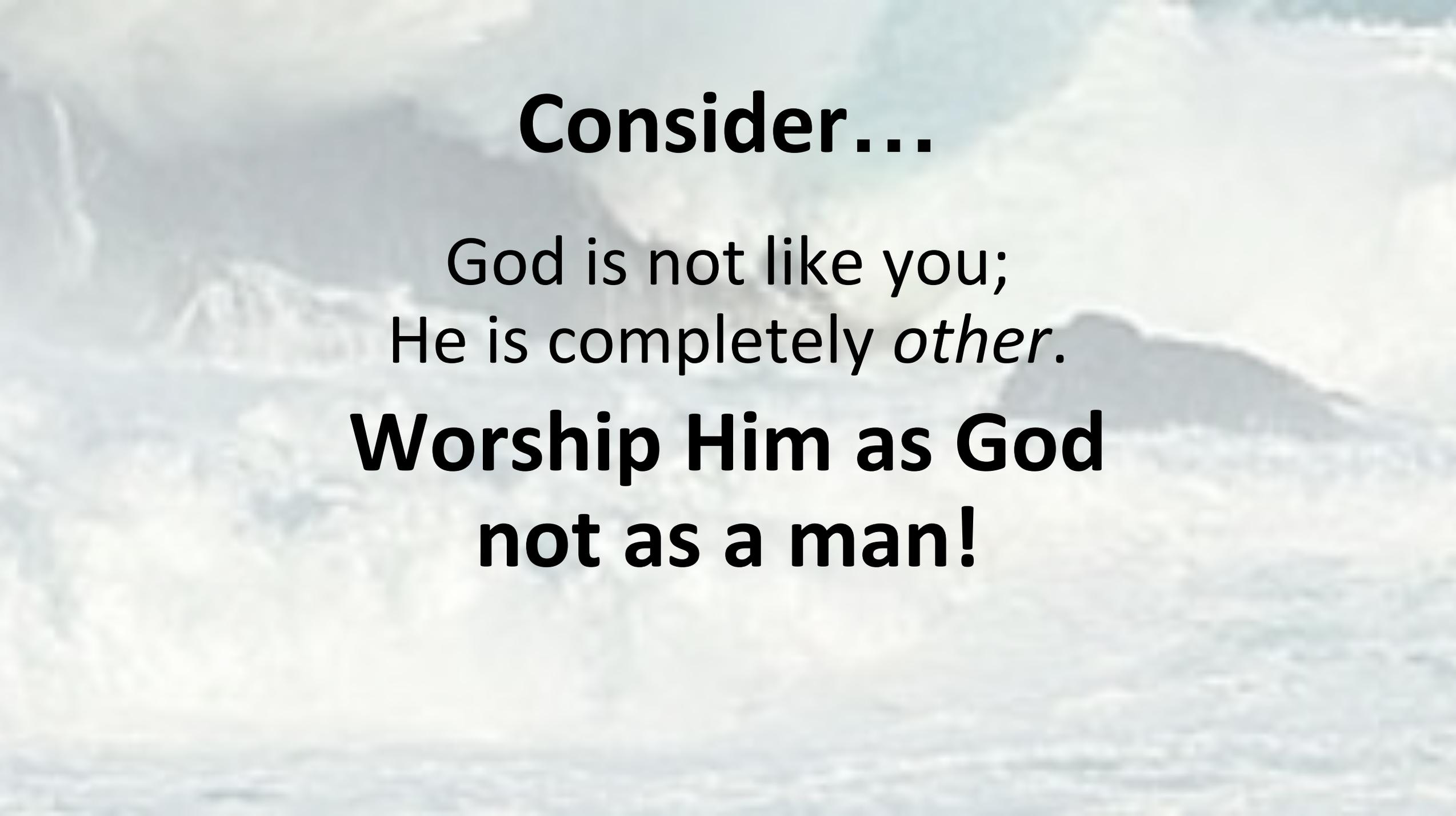
Psalm 97:9

For You are the LORD **Most High** over all the earth;
You are exalted far above all gods.



Because God sits high above
all the earth, He is unaffected
by all that happens here.

He won't get Coronavirus!



Consider...

God is not like you;
He is completely *other*.

**Worship Him as God
not as a man!**

Transcendence and **Immanence**

God is high above all things.

Yet God is near to the lowly.

Immanence =

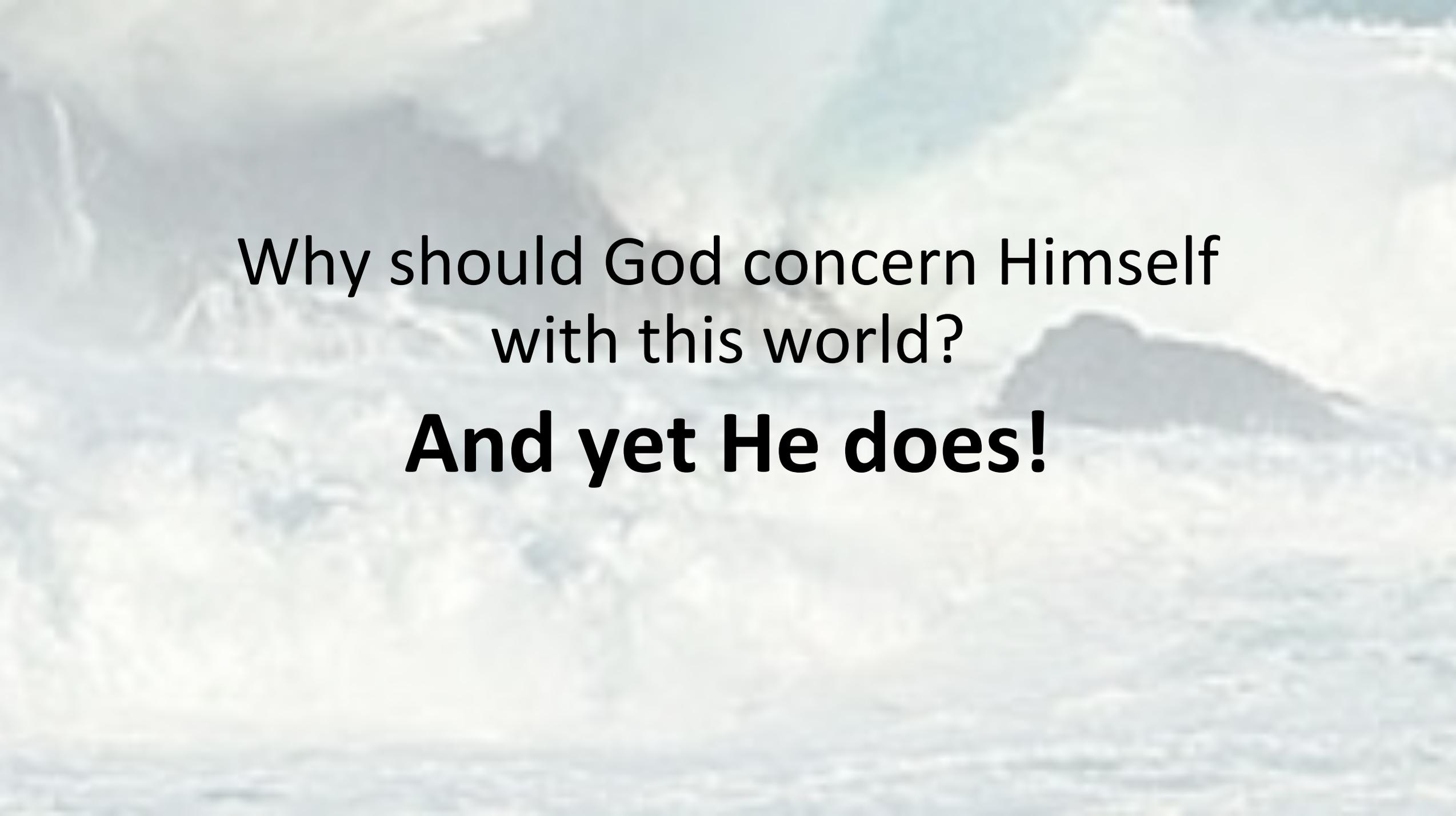
Though God is far above creation,
yet He controls it and has made
Himself near to His people.

Psalm 138:6

⁶ For though **the LORD is high**, Yet He regards the lowly,
But the haughty He knows from afar.

Psalm 8:3-4

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers,
The moon and the stars, which You have ordained;
What is man that You take thought of him,
And the son of man that You care for him?



Why should God concern Himself
with this world?

And yet He does!

Psalm 138:6

⁶ **For though the LORD is high**, Yet He regards the lowly,
But the haughty He knows from afar.

Psalm 138:6

⁶ For though the LORD is high,
Yet He regards the lowly,
But the haughty He knows from afar.

The most amazing truth is that,
though God is high above all, yet He
regards the lowly and brokenhearted.

And He sent His Son to come near
and rescue His people.

Psalm 34:18-19

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

Psalm 34:18-19

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

Transcendence

Isaiah 57:15

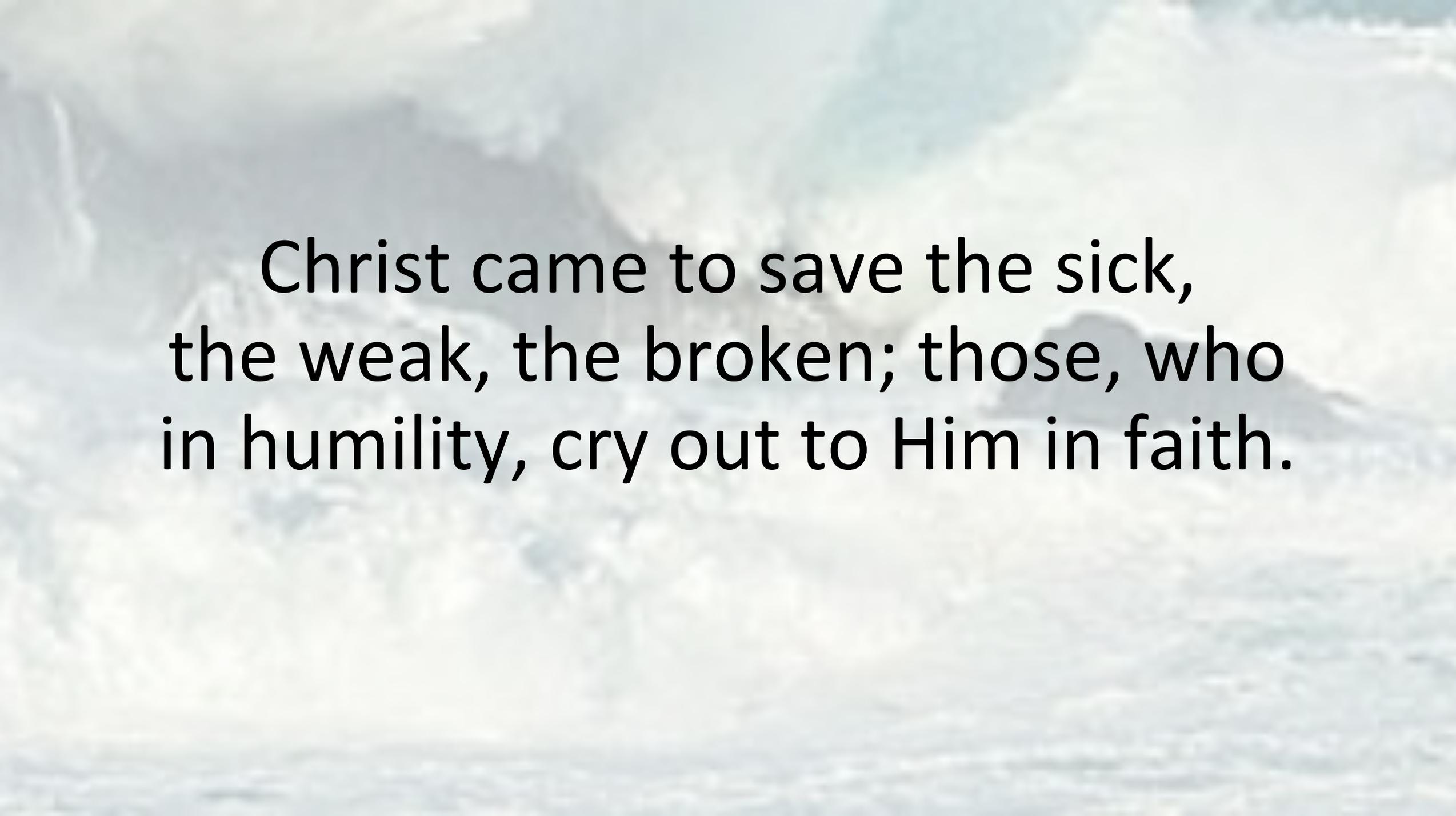
For thus says the high and exalted One
Who lives forever, whose name is Holy,
“I dwell on a high and holy place,

Immanence

Isaiah 57:15

For thus says the high and exalted One
Who lives forever, whose name is Holy,
“I dwell on a high and holy place,

And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit
In order to revive the spirit of the lowly
And to revive the heart of the contrite.”



Christ came to save the sick,
the weak, the broken; those, who
in humility, cry out to Him in faith.

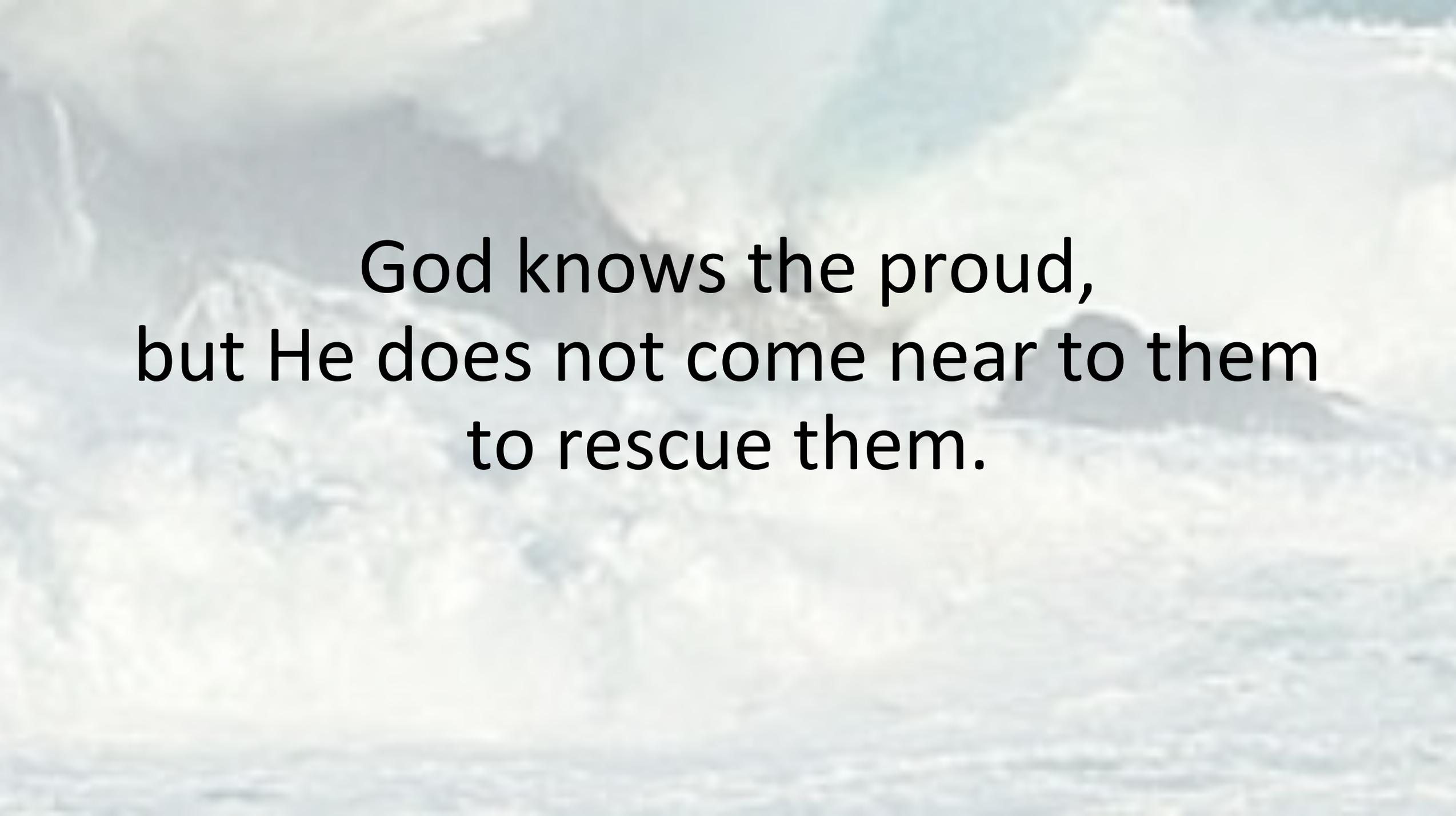
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⁶ For though the LORD is high, Yet He regards the lowly,

But the haughty He knows from afar.



God knows the proud,
but He does not come near to them
to rescue them.

James 4:6

“God is opposed to the proud!”

**Be careful, lest you find yourself
at war with the supreme, sovereign,
infinitely wise King of the universe!**

Concluding Thought:

God will strengthen your soul as you improve your knowledge of Him and as you knead that knowledge into the details of your life.