



A Balm for Our Sickness; A Physician for Our Soul.

Jeremiah 8:18-23 (9:1)

Jeremiah 8:18-20

My sorrow is beyond healing,
My heart is faint within me!

Behold, listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from a distant land:

“Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not within her?”

“Why have they provoked Me with their graven images,
with foreign idols?”

“Harvest is past, summer is ended,
And we are not saved.”

Jeremiah 8:21-23 (9:1)

For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken;
I mourn, dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then has not the health of the daughter
of my people been restored?

Oh that my head were waters

And my eyes a fountain of tears,

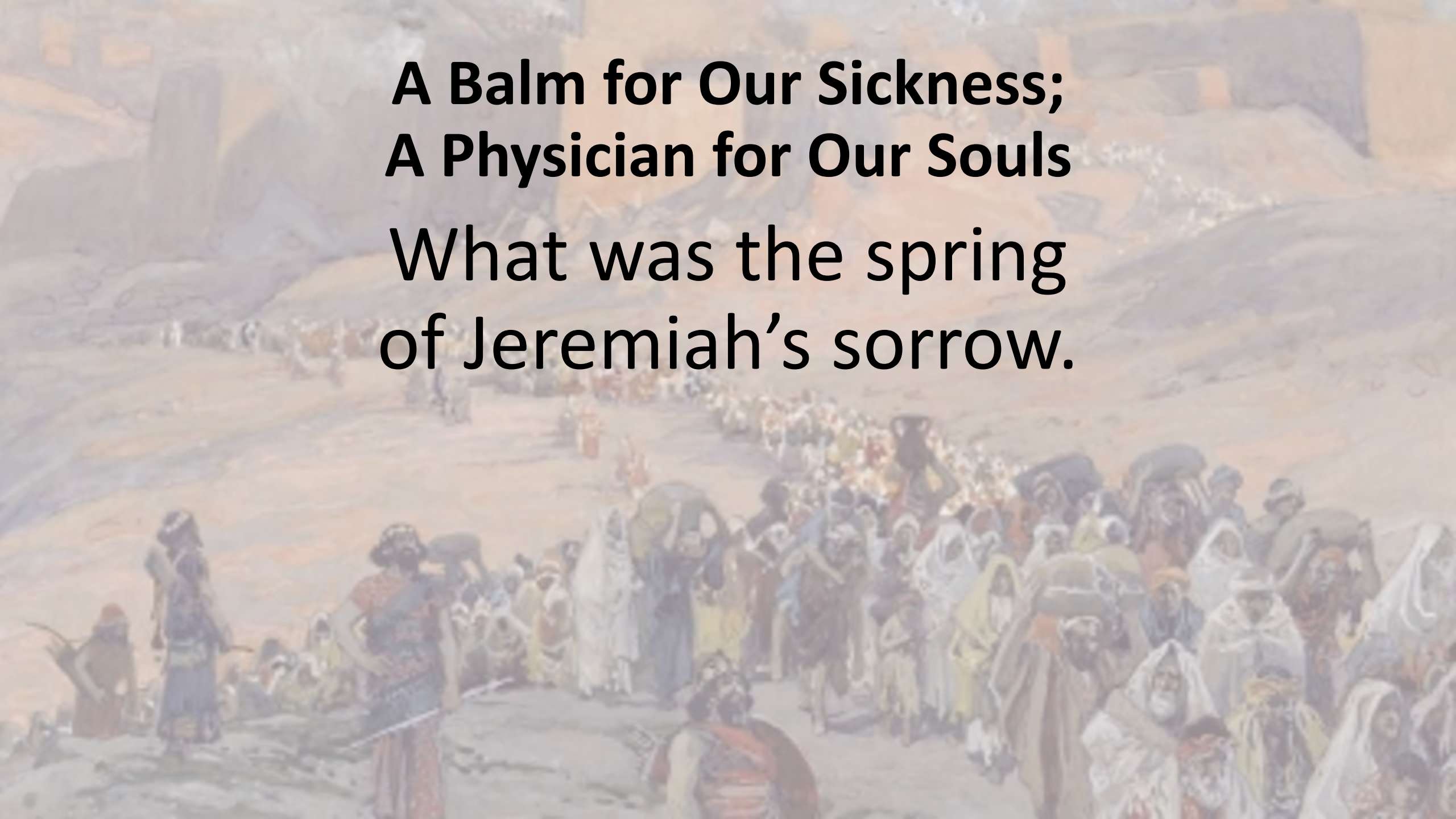
That I might weep day and night

For the slain of the daughter of my people!

Main Point

There is a sickness of soul that leads to great grief, but there is a balm administered by Jesus the Physician that perfectly heals and fully restores.

**A Balm for Our Sickness;
A Physician for Our Souls**
What was the spring
of Jeremiah's sorrow.



The Spring of Jeremiah's Sorrow

Grief in respect to his people.

Jeremiah 8:18-19

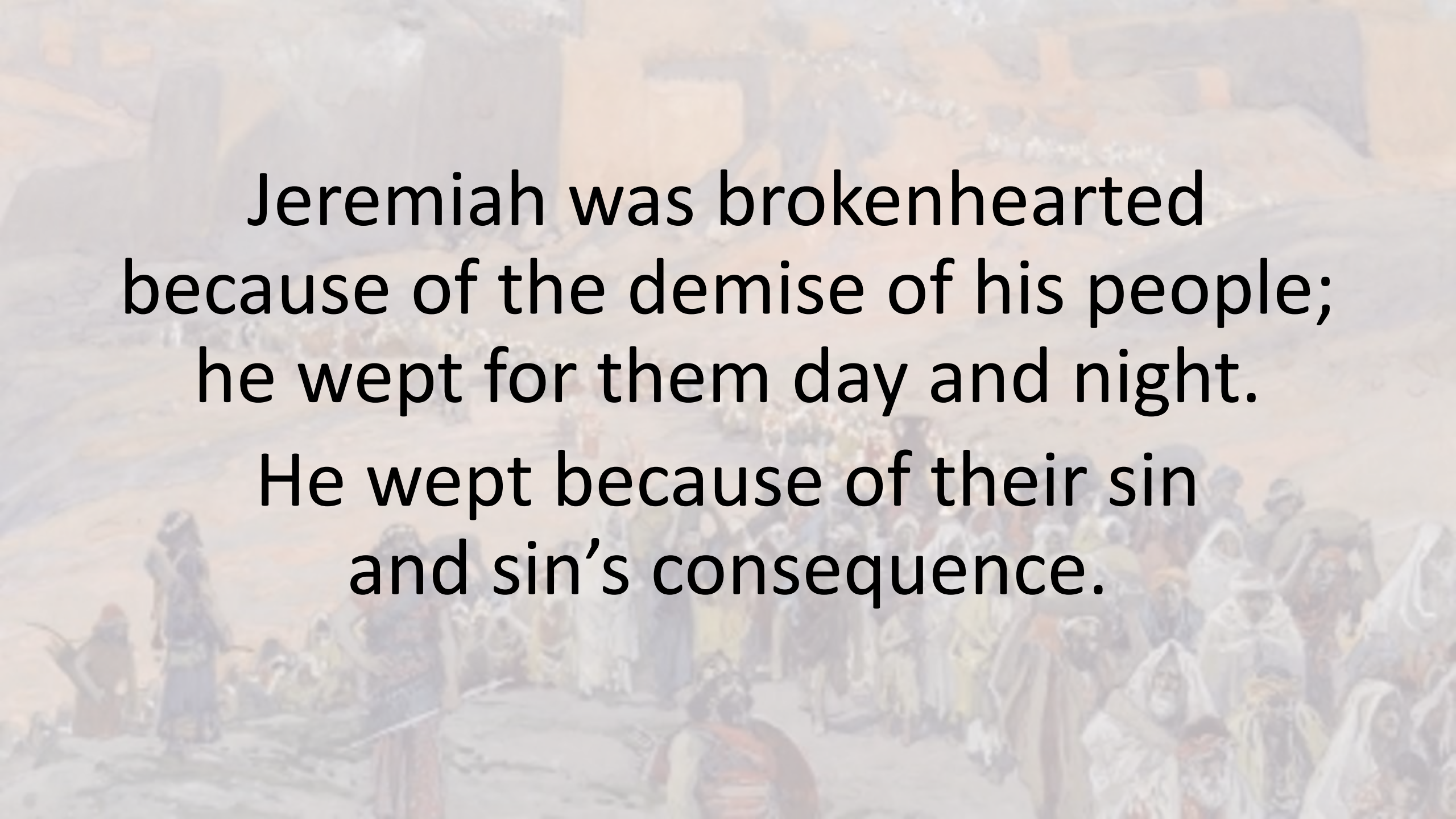
My sorrow is beyond healing,
My heart is faint within me!

Behold, listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from a distant land.

Jeremiah 8:21 and 23 (9:1)

For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken;
I mourn, dismay has taken hold of me.

Oh that my head were waters
And my eyes a fountain of tears,
That I might weep day and night
For the slain of the daughter of my people!



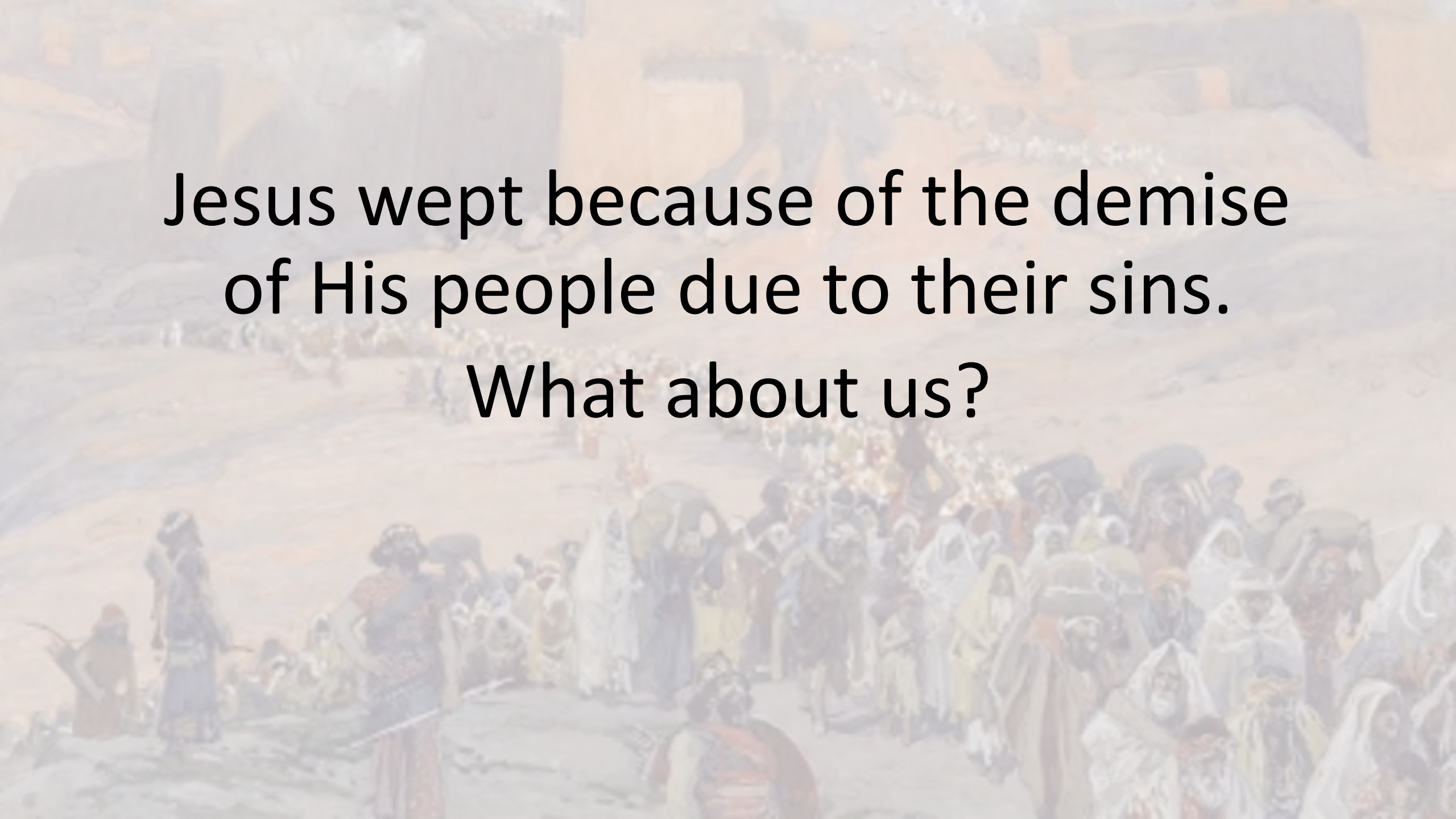
Jeremiah was brokenhearted
because of the demise of his people;
he wept for them day and night.

He wept because of their sin
and sin's consequence.

What about Jesus?

Luke 19:41-44

When He approached Jerusalem, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, “If you had known in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes. For the days will come upon you when your enemies will throw up a barricade against you, and surround you and hem you in on every side, and they will level you to the ground and your children within you, and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not recognize the time of your visitation.”



Jesus wept because of the demise
of His people due to their sins.
What about us?

Jeremiah 8:21

For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken;
I mourn, dismay has taken hold of me.

Jeremiah 8:21

For the brokenness of the daughter **of my people** I am broken;
I mourn, dismay has taken hold of me.

Matthew 5:4

Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted.

What do you mourn?

The Spring of Jeremiah's Sorrow

Grief in respect to his people.

Grief in respect to his God.

Jeremiah 8:18-19

My sorrow is beyond healing,
My heart is faint within me!

Behold, listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from a distant land:

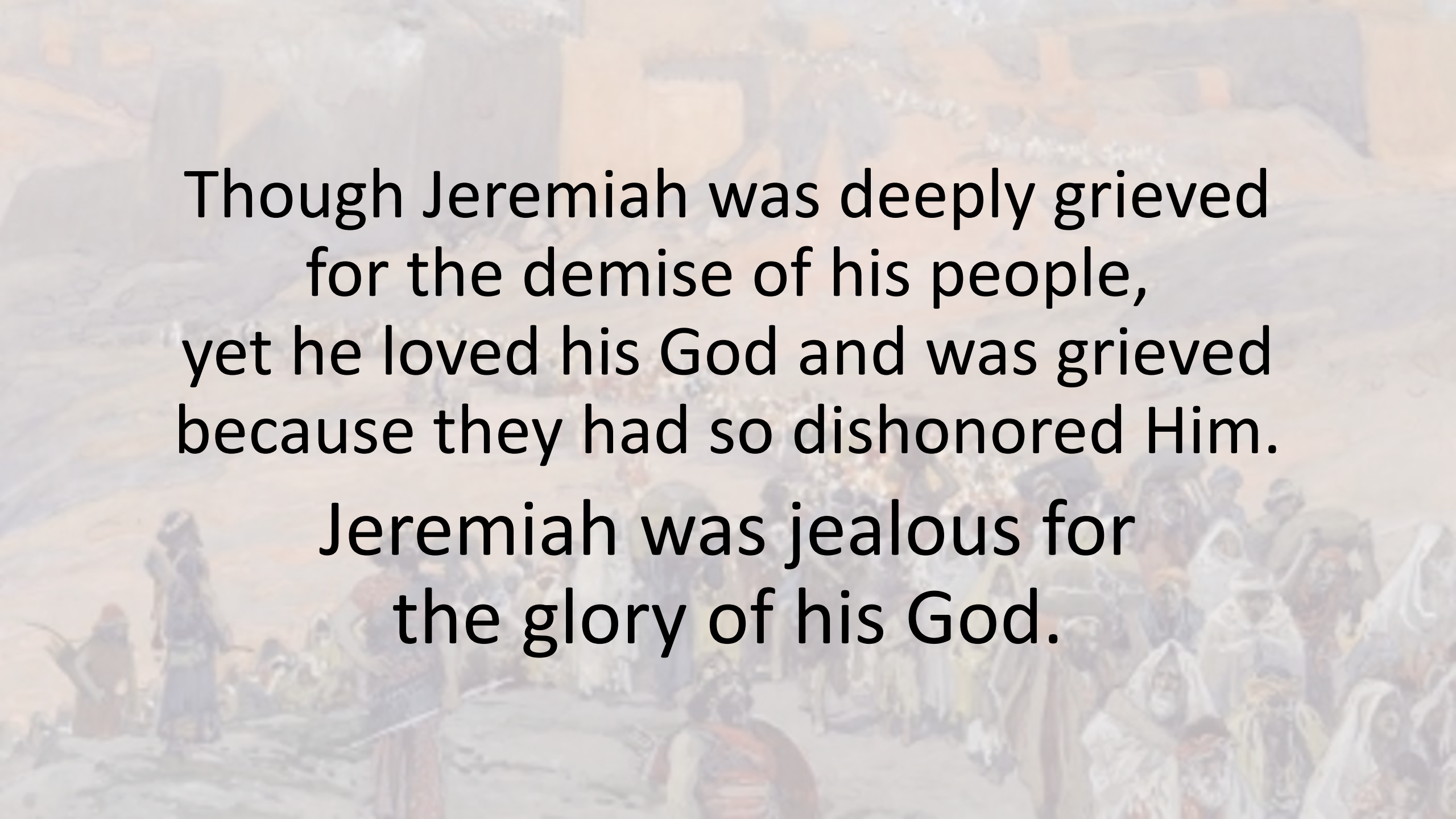
“Is the LORD not in Zion?
Is her King not within her?”

Jeremiah 8:18-19

My sorrow is beyond healing,
My heart is faint within me!

Behold, listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from a distant land:

**“Is the LORD not in Zion?
Is her King not within her?”**



Though Jeremiah was deeply grieved
for the demise of his people,
yet he loved his God and was grieved
because they had so dishonored Him.

Jeremiah was jealous for
the glory of his God.

Jeremiah 9:2

“Oh that I had in the desert
A wayfarers’ lodging place;
That I might leave my people
And go from them!
For all of them are adulterers,
An assembly of treacherous men.”

Jeremiah 9:2

“Oh that I had in the desert
A wayfarers’ lodging place;
That I might leave my people
And go from them!

For **all of them are adulterers,
An assembly of treacherous men.”**

When we lament the condition of our culture,
what is it that we are lamenting, really?



A Balm for Our Sickness; A Physician for Our Souls

What was the spring of Jeremiah's sorrow.

What was the source
of the people's suffering.

The Source of Their Suffering

Their incessant idolatry.

Jeremiah 8:19-20

Behold, listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from a distant land:

“Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not within her?”

“Harvest is past, summer is ended,
And we are not saved.”

Jeremiah 8:19-20

Behold, listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from a distant land:

“Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not within her?”

**“Harvest is past, summer is ended,
And we are not saved.”**

Jeremiah 8:19-20

Behold, listen! The cry of the daughter of my people
from a distant land:

“Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not within her?”

*“Why have they provoked Me with their graven images,
with foreign idols?”*

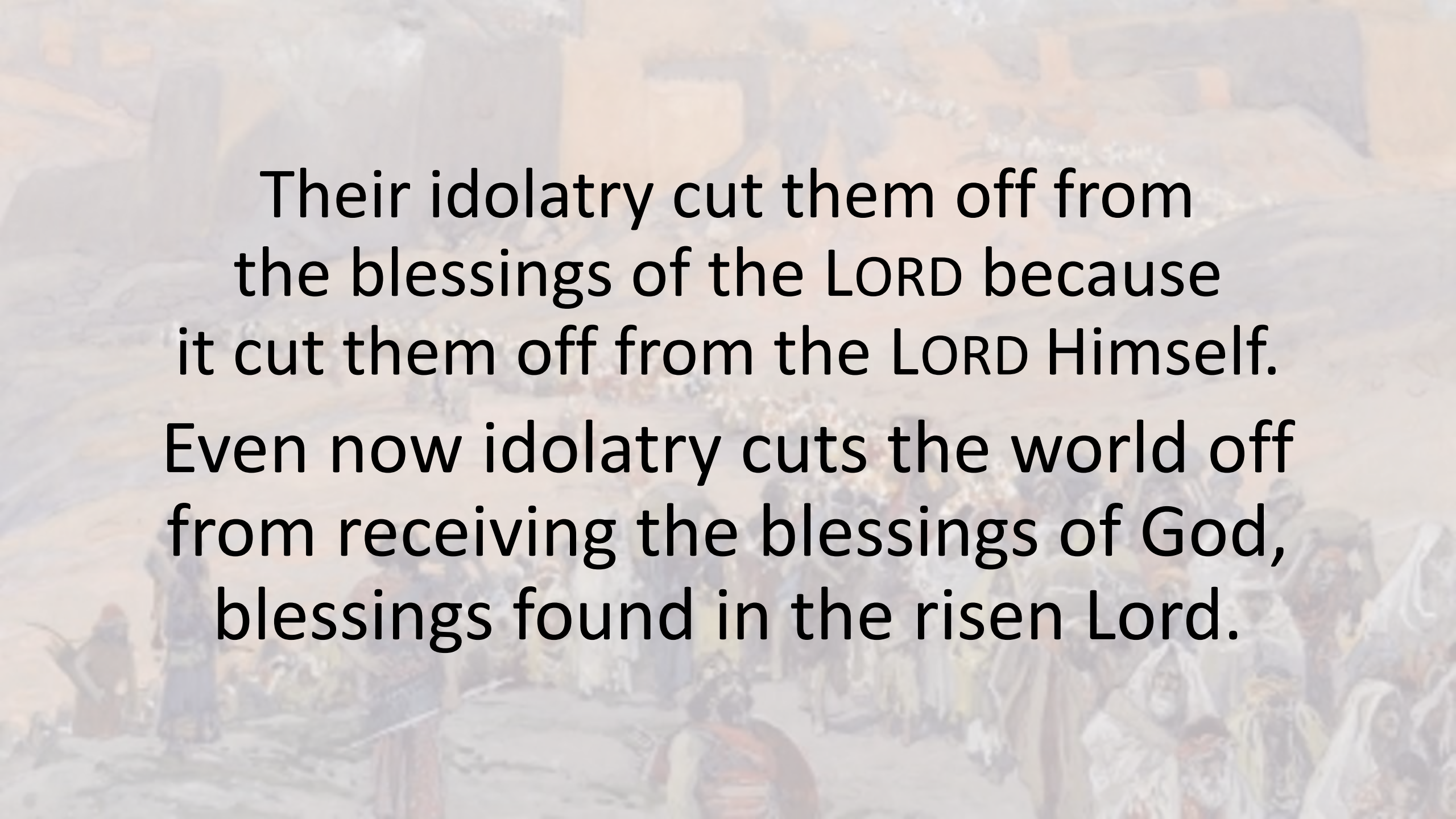
“Harvest is past, summer is ended,
And we are not saved.”

Incessant Idolatry

Jeremiah 44:22-23

So the LORD was no longer able to endure it, because of the evil of your deeds, because of the abominations which you have committed; thus your land has become a ruin, an object of horror and a curse, without an inhabitant, as it is this day.

Because you have burned sacrifices and have sinned against the LORD and not obeyed the voice of the LORD or walked in His law, His statutes or His testimonies, therefore this calamity has befallen you, as it has this day.



Their idolatry cut them off from
the blessings of the LORD because
it cut them off from the LORD Himself.
Even now idolatry cuts the world off
from receiving the blessings of God,
blessings found in the risen Lord.

Romans 1:25

For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen.

1 Thessalonians 1:9-10

You turned to God from idols to serve a living and true God, and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, that is Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath to come.

The Source of Their Suffering

Their incessant idolatry.

Their sickness of soul.

Jeremiah 8:21-22

For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken;

I mourn, dismay has taken hold of me.

Is there no balm in Gilead?

Is there no physician there?

Why then has not the health of the daughter
of my people been restored?

**Jeremiah was not speaking
of a physical sickness.**

What is this sickness?

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is more deceitful than all else
And is desperately sick;
Who can understand it?

What is this sickness?

Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is more deceitful than all else

And **is desperately sick;**

Who can understand it?

Isaiah 1:5-6

Where will you be stricken again,
As you continue in your rebellion?

The whole head is sick

And the whole heart is faint.

From the sole of the foot even to the head

There is nothing sound in it,

Only bruises, welts and raw wounds,

Not pressed out or bandaged,

Nor softened with oil.

Isaiah 1:5-6

Where will you be stricken again,
As you continue in your rebellion?

The whole head is sick
And the whole heart is faint.

From the sole of the foot even to the head

**There is nothing sound in it,
Only bruises, welts and raw wounds,**

Not pressed out or bandaged,
Nor softened with oil.

Romans 3:10-12

“There is none righteous, not even one;
There is none who understands,
there is none who seeks for God;
All have turned aside,
Together they have become useless;
There is none who dies good,
There is not even one.”

What is the solution?



A Balm for Our Sickness; A Physician for Our Souls

What was the spring of Jeremiah's sorrow.

What was the source of the people's suffering.

What was the solution for this sickness.



The Solution for This Sickness?

The Balm of Gilead.

Jeremiah 8:22

Is there no balm in Gilead?

There was no balm in Gilead sufficient
to heal their sickness.

What was the balm needed?

Ezekiel 36:25-26

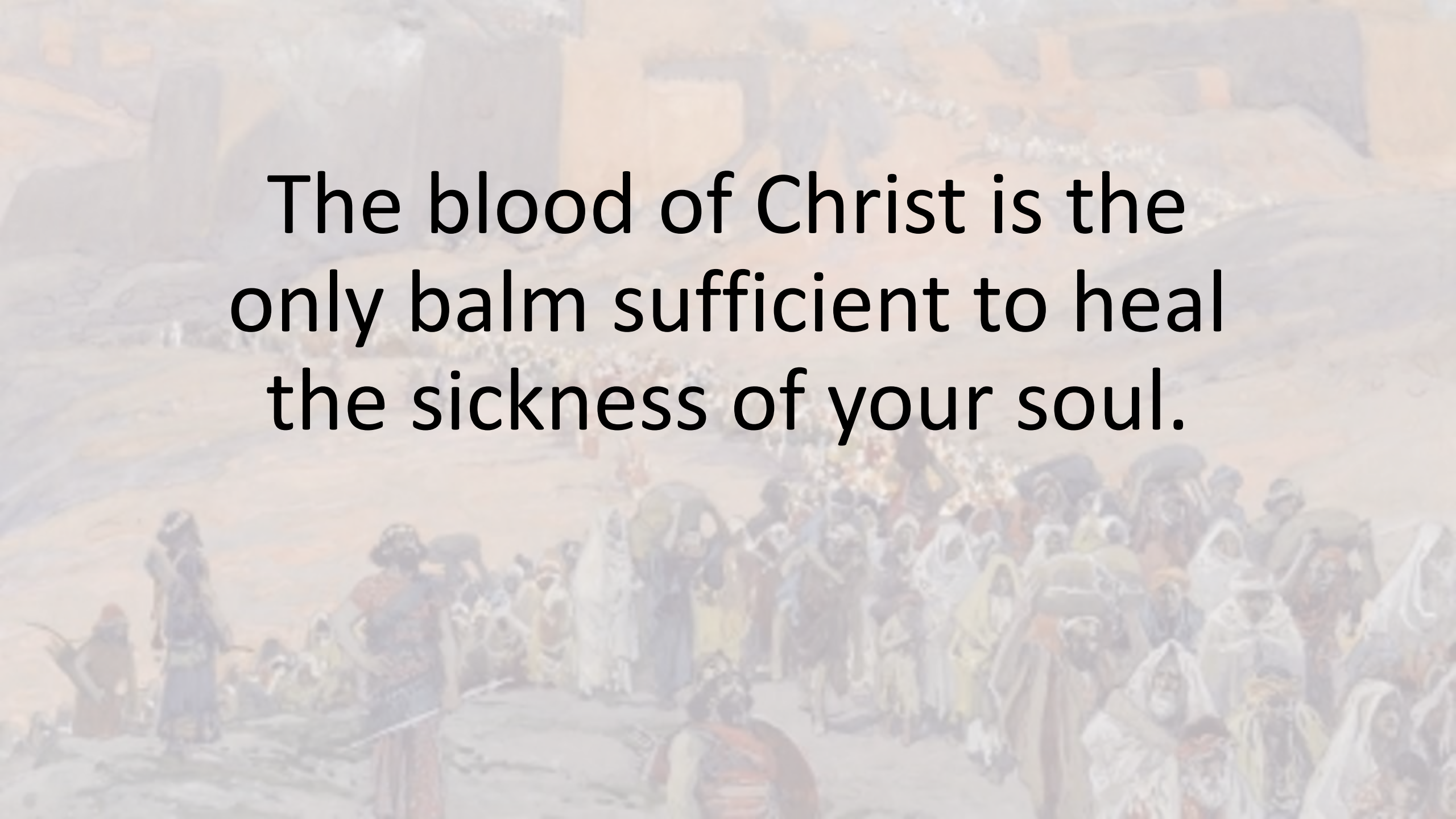
“Then I will sprinkle clean water on you,
and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from
all your filthiness and from all your idols.

Moreover, I will give you a new heart
and put a new spirit within you;
and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh
and give you a heart of flesh.”

It is the blood of Christ that cleanses
from all filthiness and forgives all trespasses
and redeems from the slavery of sin.

Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood,
the forgiveness of our trespasses,
according to the riches of His grace.



The blood of Christ is the
only balm sufficient to heal
the sickness of your soul.

The Solution for This Sickness?

The Balm of Gilead.

The Physician from Galilee.

Jeremiah 8:22

Is there no balm in Gilead?

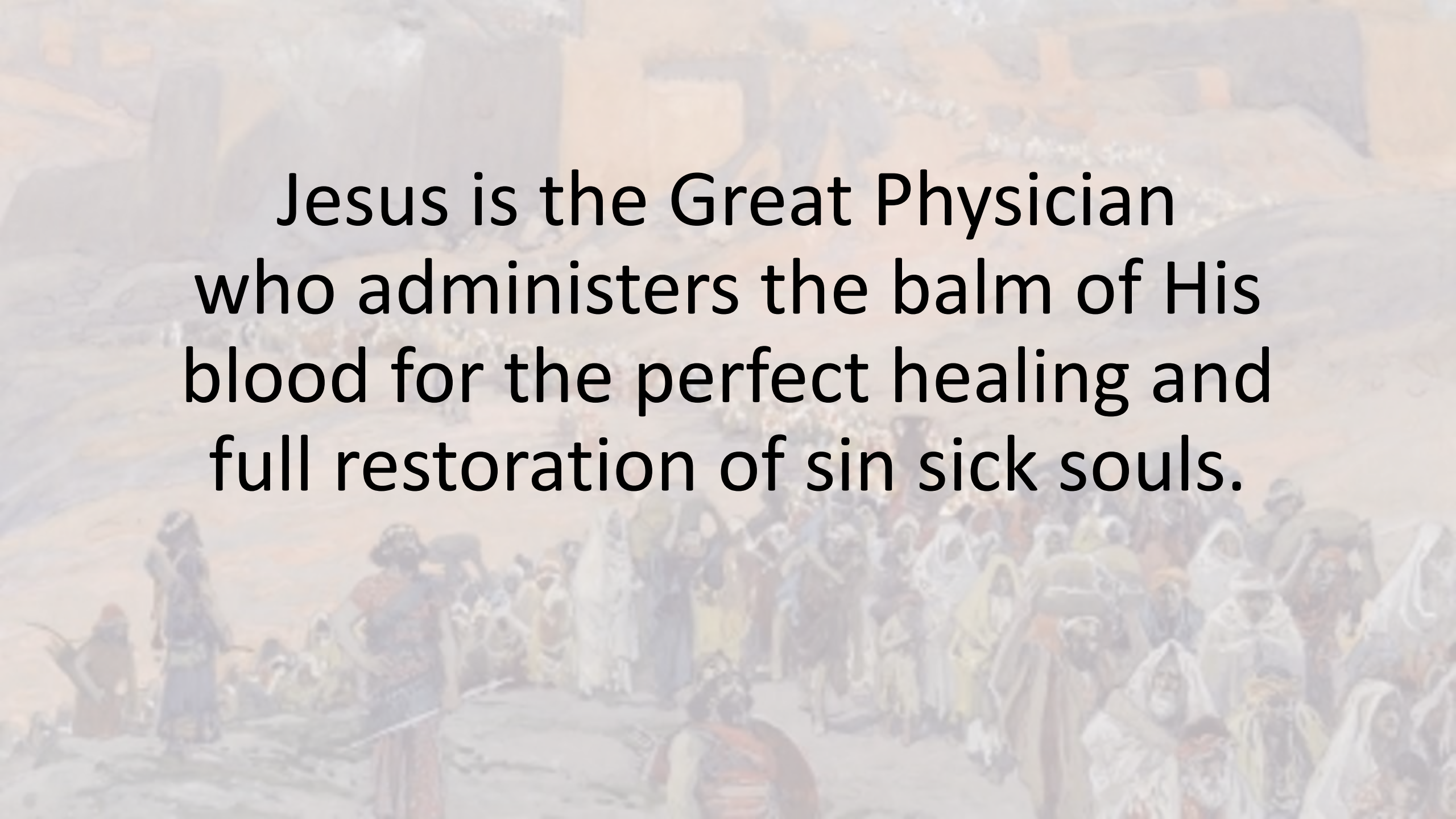
Is there no physician there?

There was no physician in Gilead capable
of curing the sickness of their souls.

But a Physician was coming from Galilee who
would bear in Himself all their sins on a cross
and thereby heal all their wounds.

1 Peter 2:24

He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross,
so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness;
for by His wounds you were healed.



Jesus is the Great Physician
who administers the balm of His
blood for the perfect healing and
full restoration of sin sick souls.

Some Concluding Questions

Have you acknowledged the sickness of your soul and grieved your sins?

Have you received the healing offered to you by Christ, the Great Physician?

Are you now living in the power of the gospel?