



Baseless Boasting and Hopeless Hopes

Jeremiah 9:23-24

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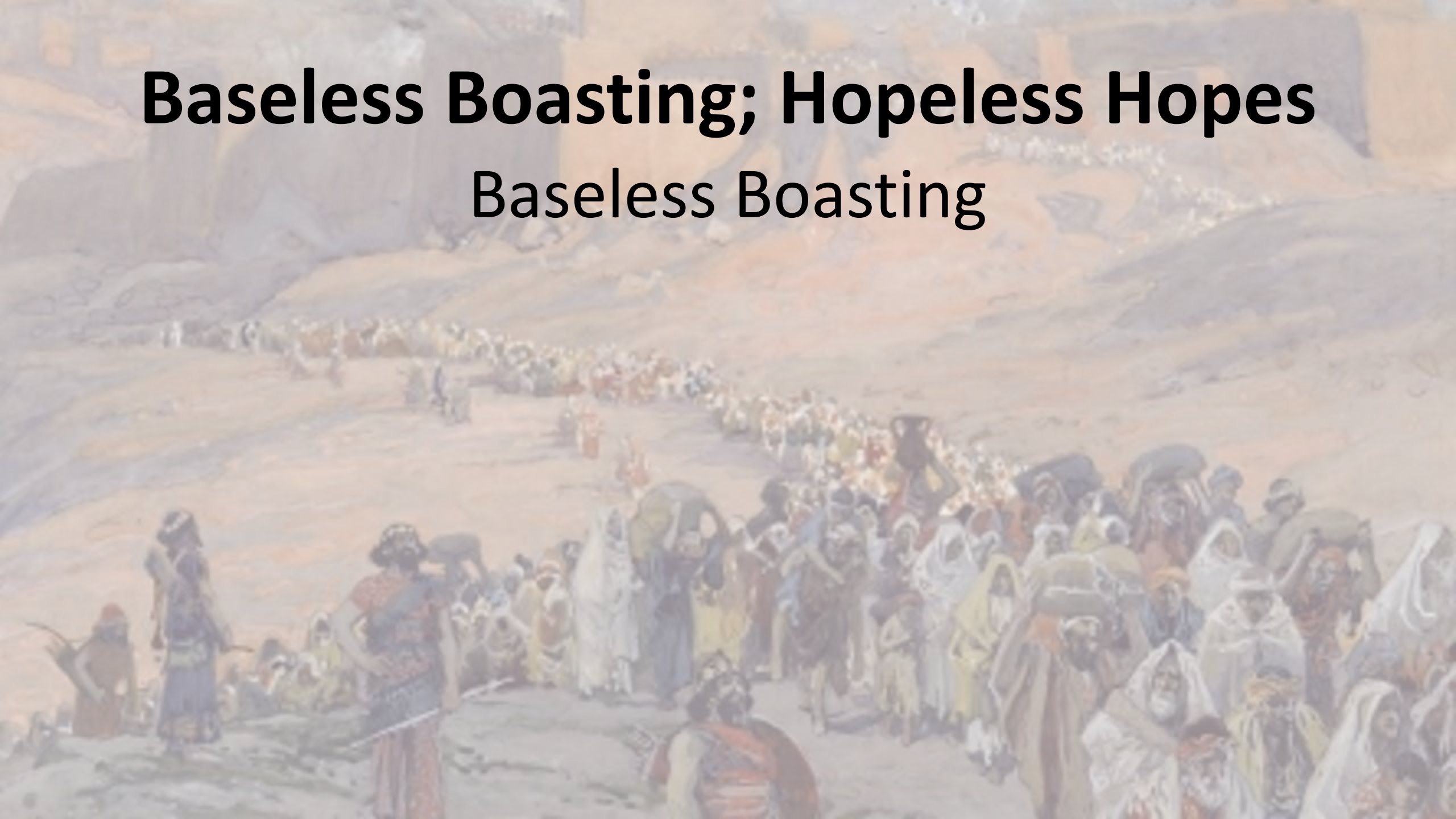
Thus says the LORD,
“Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom,
and let not the mighty man boast of his might,
let not a rich man boast of his riches;
but let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands
and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises
lovingkindness, justice and righteousness on earth;
for I delight in these things,” declares the LORD.

Main Point

We are inclined to boast in our own abilities, but the only basis for our boasting and our only hope for blessing is the LORD Himself.

Baseless Boasting; Hopeless Hopes

Baseless Boasting



Baseless Boasting

The coming-judgment context.

Jeremiah 9:17-19

Thus says the LORD of hosts, “Consider and call
for the mourning women, that they may come;
And send for the wailing women, that they may come!
Let them make haste and take up a wailing for us,
That our eyes may shed tears
And our eyelids flow with water.
For a voice of wailing is heard from Zion,
‘How are we ruined!
We are put to great shame,
For we have left the land,
Because they have cast down our dwellings.’”

Jeremiah 9:20-22

Now hear the word of the LORD, O you women,
And let your ear receive the word of His mouth;

Teach your daughters wailing,

And everyone her neighbor a dirge.

For death has come up through our windows;

It has entered our palaces

To cut off the children from the streets,

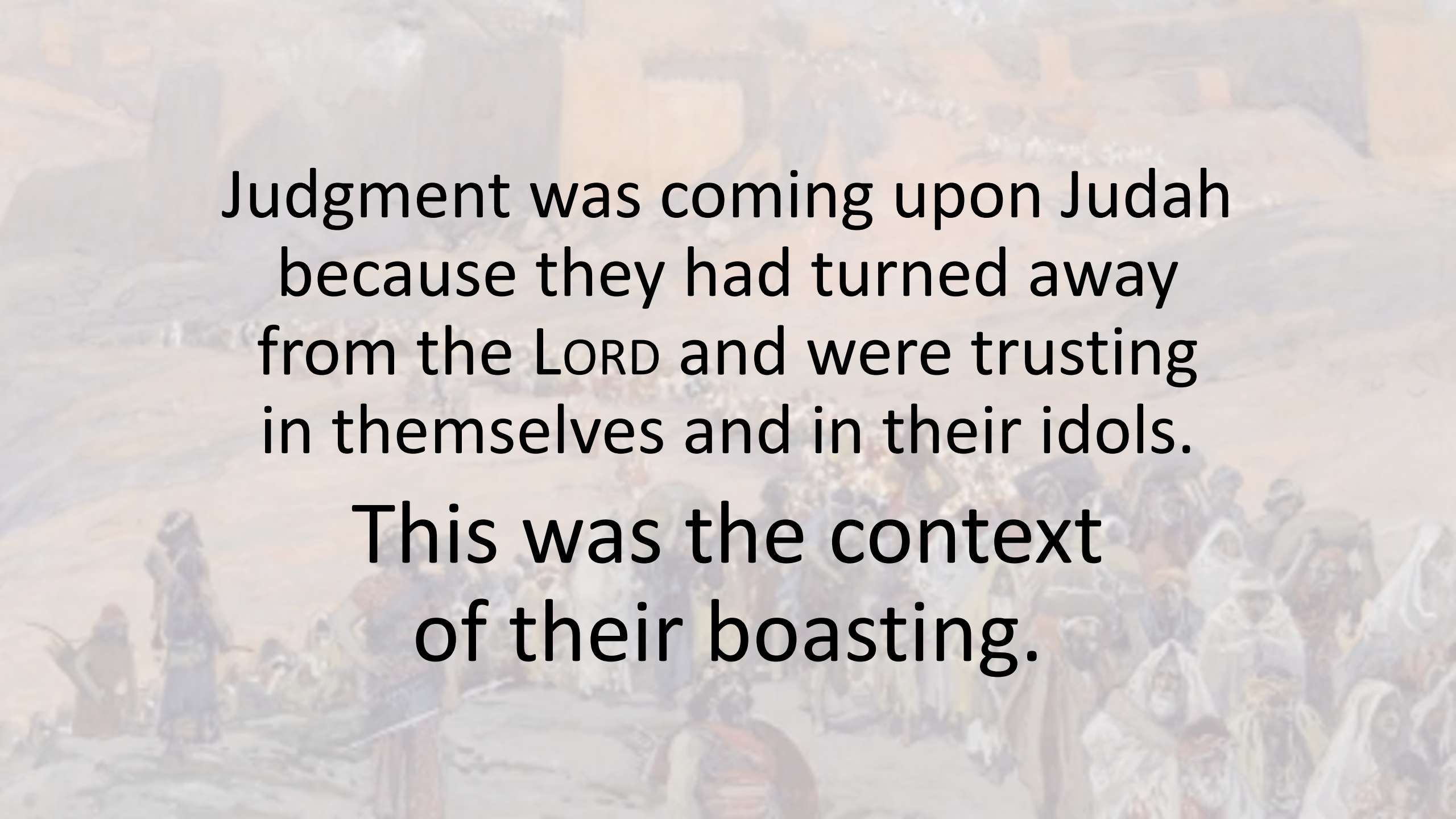
The young men from the town squares.

Speak, “Thus says the LORD,

‘The corpses of men will fall like dung on the open field,

And like the sheaf after the reaper,

But no one will gather them.’”



Judgment was coming upon Judah
because they had turned away
from the LORD and were trusting
in themselves and in their idols.

This was the context
of their boasting.

Baseless Boasting

The coming-judgment context.

The baselessness of their boasts.

Jeremiah 9:23

Thus says the LORD,

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and let not the mighty man boast of his might,
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Jeremiah 8:9

The wise men are put to shame,
They are dismayed and caught;
Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD,
And what kind of wisdom do they have?

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They are dismayed and caught;

Behold, they have rejected the word of the LORD,

And **what kind of wisdom do they have?**

Because they had rejected the Source of wisdom,
boasting in their own was baseless.

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Thus says the LORD,

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Isaiah 31:1

Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help
And rely on horses,
And trust in chariots because they are many
And in horsemen because they are very strong,
But they do not look to the Holy One of Israel,
nor seek the LORD!

If trust in many chariots and the great strength
of horsemen was foolhardy, how much more
foolish to trust in one's own strength?

Jeremiah 9:23

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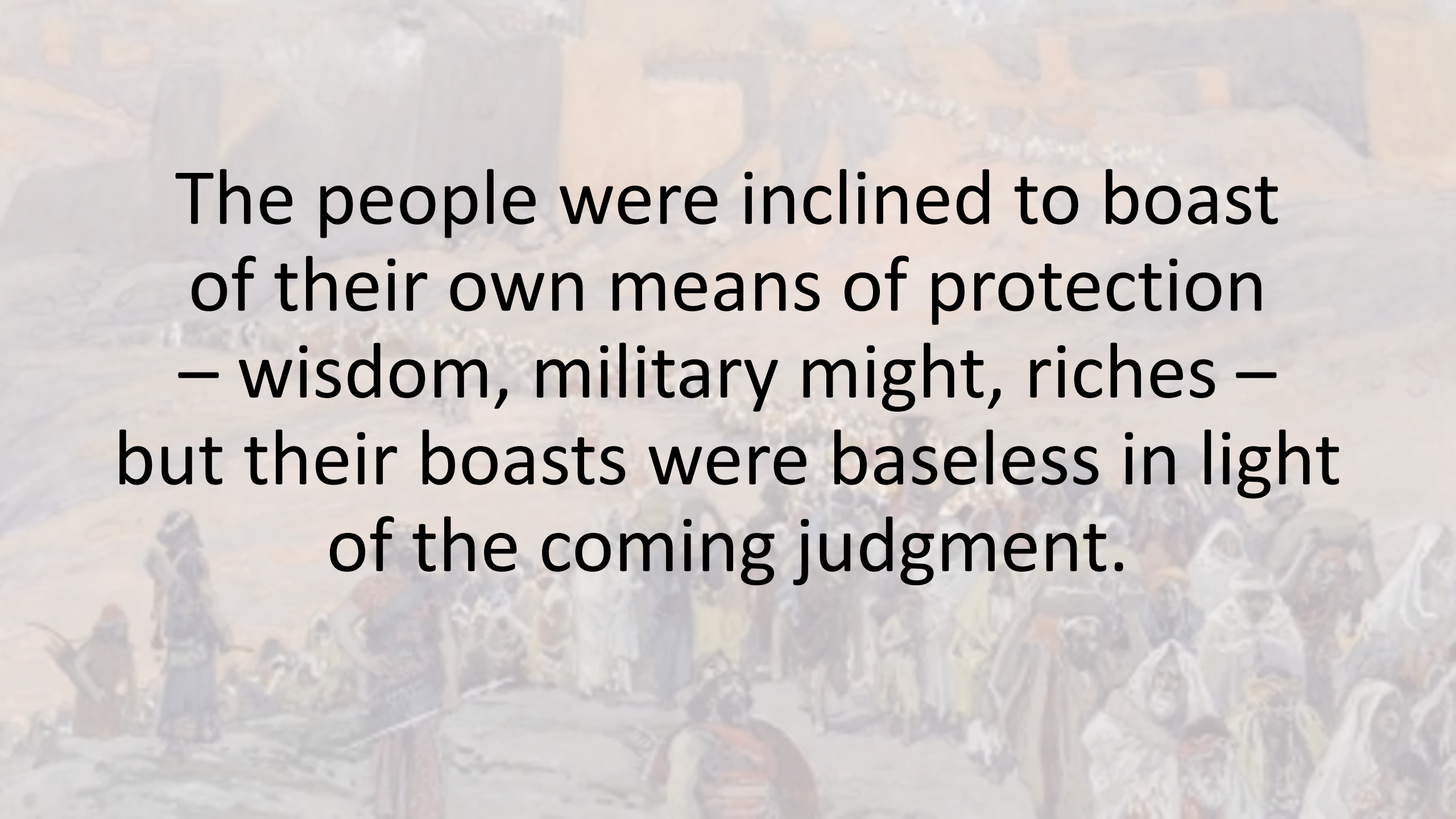
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“Let not a wise man boast of his wisdom,
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Men may be persuaded by the purse,
but how much would it take to placate
the One who already possesses all things?



The people were inclined to boast
of their own means of protection
– wisdom, military might, riches –
but their boasts were baseless in light
of the coming judgment.

Baseless Boasting

The coming judgment.

The baselessness of their boasts.

The hopelessness of their hopes.

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“Let not a wise man boast of his **wisdom**,
and let not the mighty man boast of his **might**,
let not a rich man boast of his **riches.**”

The object of one's boast reveals
the source of one's hope.

Jeremiah 13:15-16

Listen and give heed, do not be haughty,
For the LORD has spoken.
Give glory to the LORD your God,
Before He brings darkness
And before your feet stumble
On the dusky mountains,
And while you are hoping for light
He makes it into deep darkness,
And turns it into gloom.

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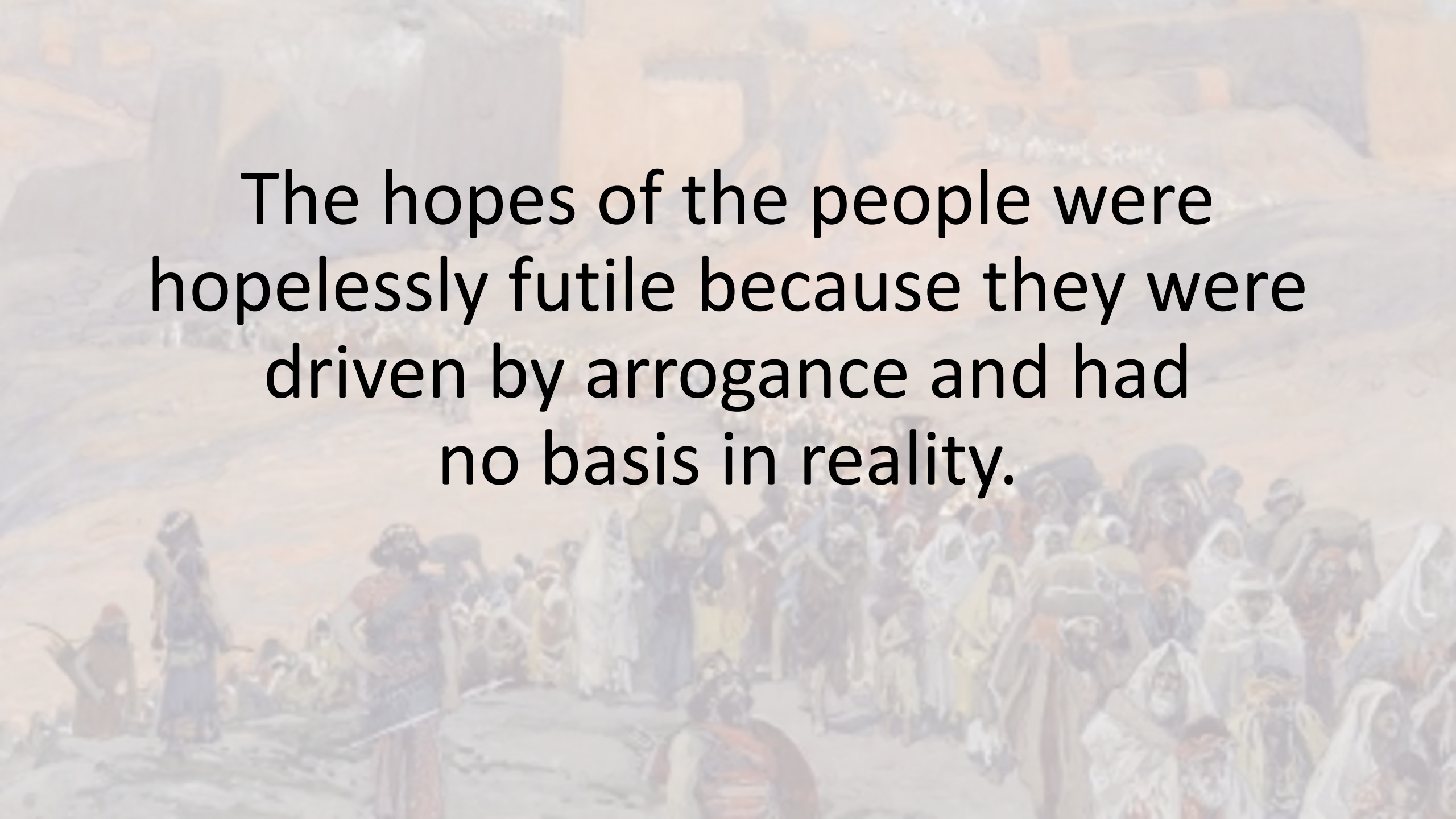
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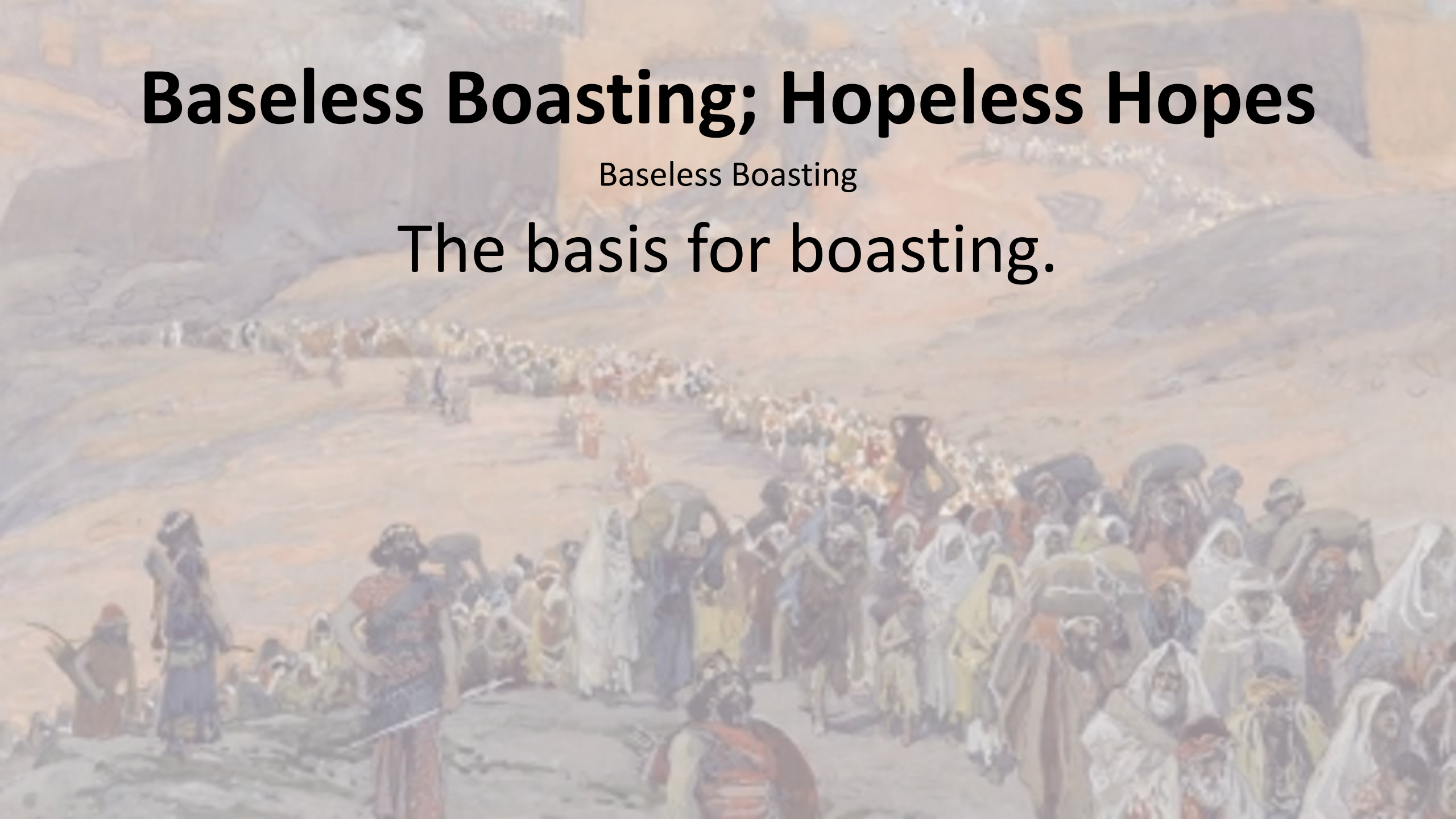
The background of the image is a faded, historical-style illustration of a large crowd of people in a desert environment. The figures are dressed in traditional, simple clothing, and the scene is set against a backdrop of rocky, arid terrain. The overall tone is somber and historical, suggesting a significant event or gathering in a past era.

The hopes of the people were
hopelessly futile because they were
driven by arrogance and had
no basis in reality.

Baseless Boasting; Hopeless Hopes

Baseless Boasting

The basis for boasting.



Jeremiah 9:24

But let him who boasts boast of this,
that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD
who exercises lovingkindness, justice and
righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,”
declares the LORD.

What is the Basis for Boasting?

The Person of the Lord.

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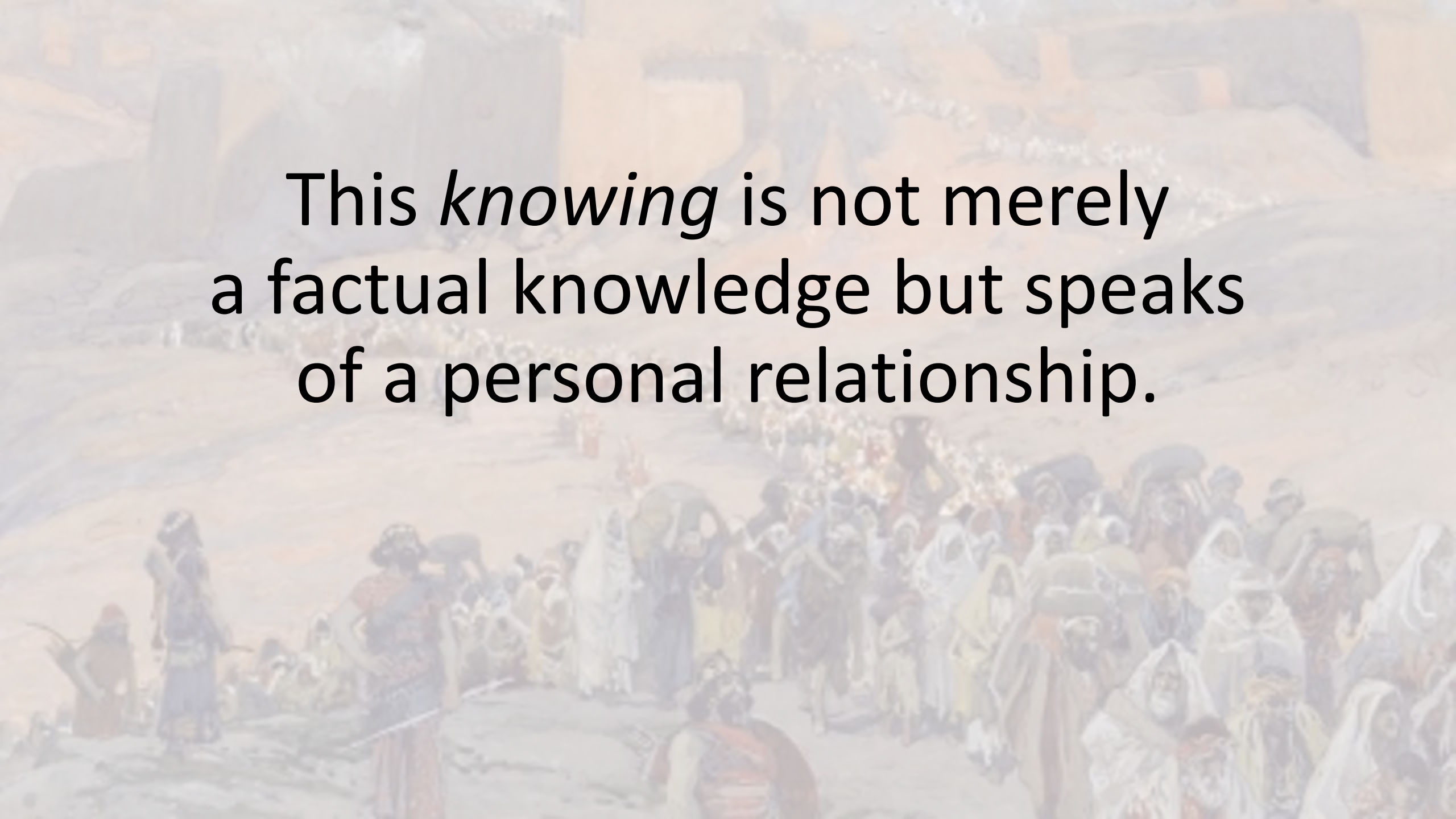
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This *knowing* is not merely a factual knowledge but speaks of a personal relationship.

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What kind of Person is the LORD?

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Our boast is in the reality
of who our Lord is in Himself.

What is the Basis for Boasting?

The Person of the Lord.

The promises of the Lord.

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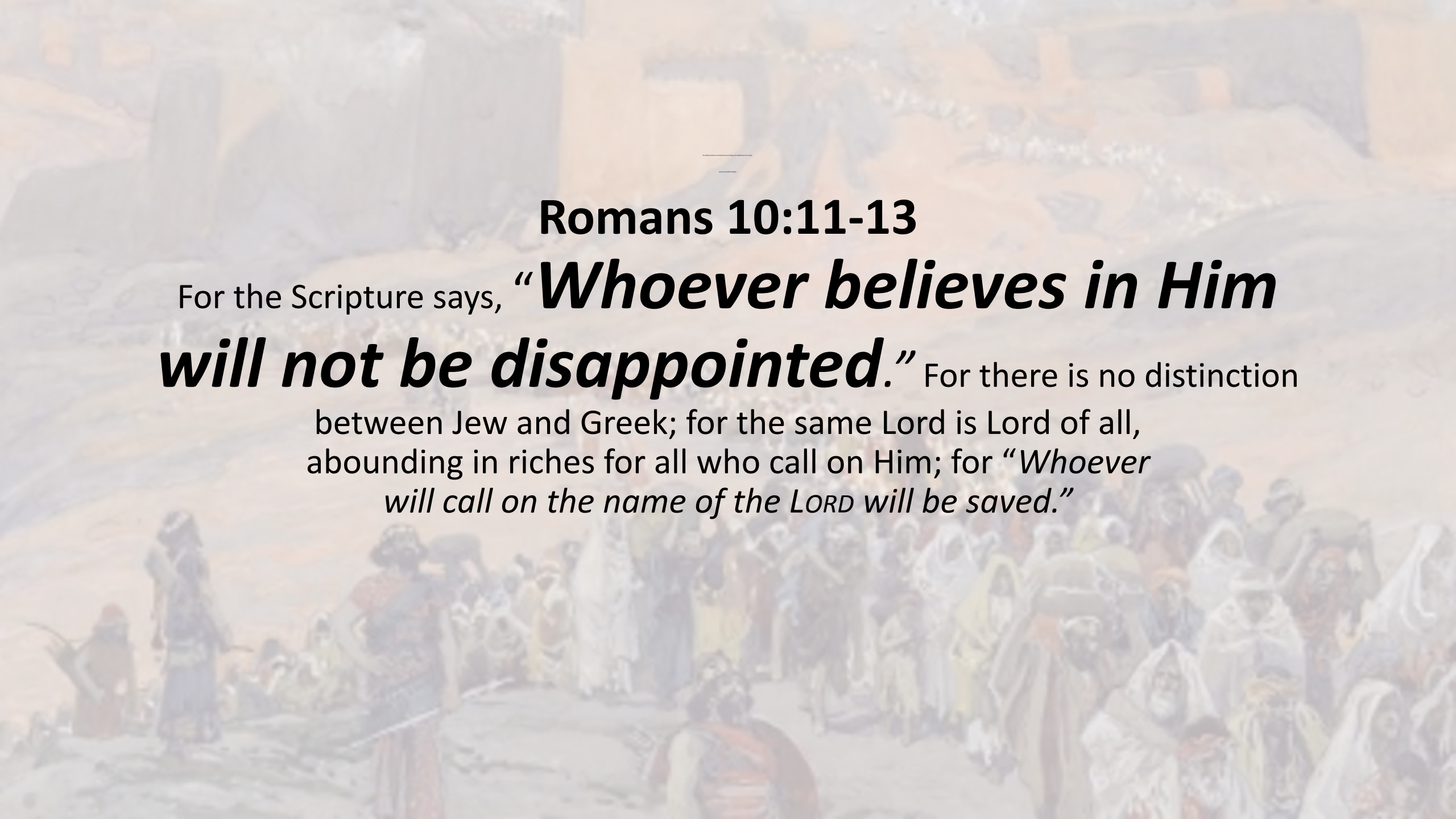
Chesed is most connected to covenantal
promises of love and corresponding
faithfulness to those promises.

The LORD's promises are the basis for our boasting, the hopefulness of our hope...

Because the LORD is faithful.

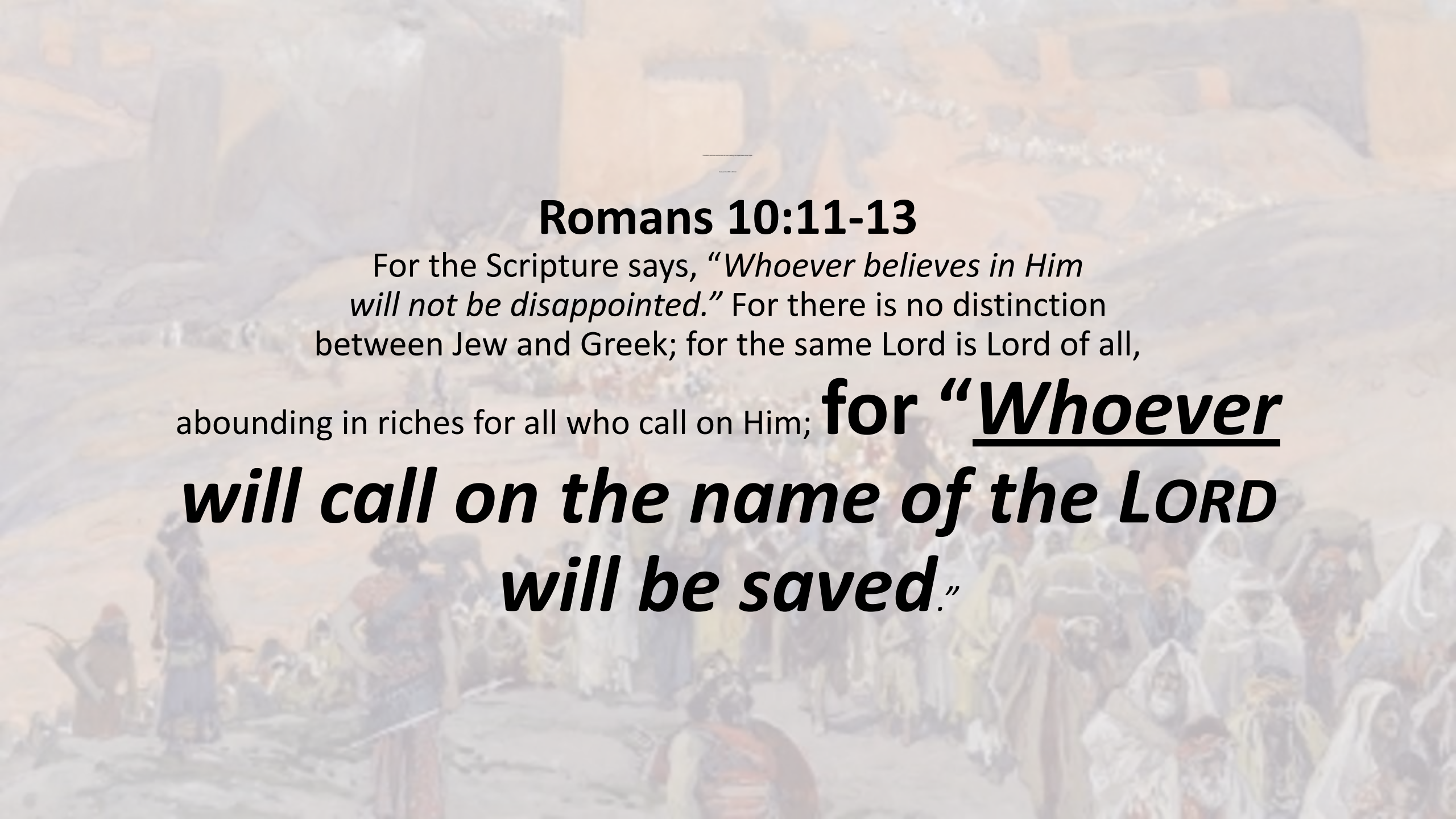
Romans 10:11-13

For the Scripture says, "*Whoever believes in Him will not be disappointed.*" For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call on Him; for "*Whoever will call on the name of the LORD will be saved.*"



Romans 10:11-13

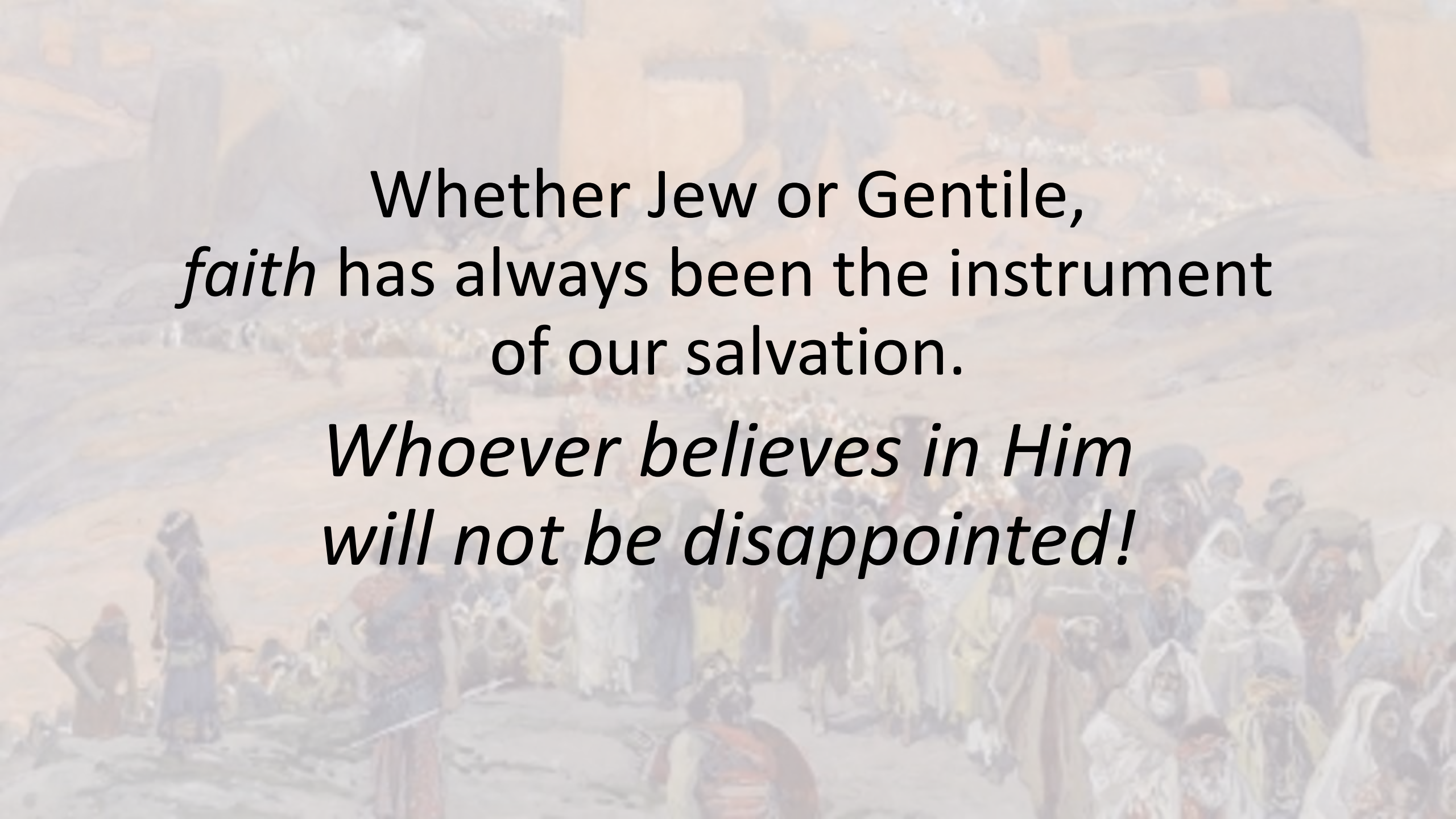
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Whether Jew or Gentile,
faith has always been the instrument
of our salvation.

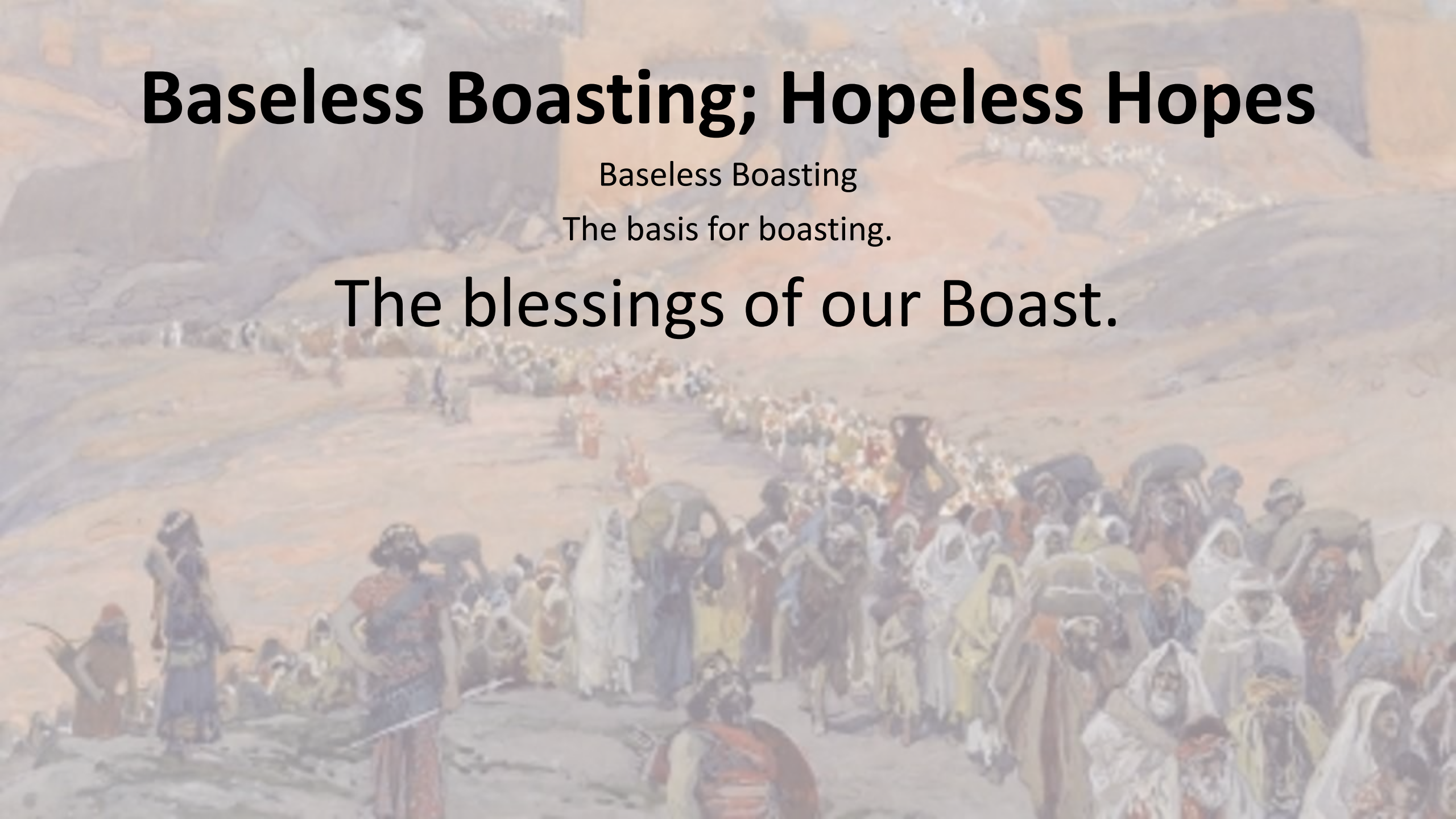
*Whoever believes in Him
will not be disappointed!*

Baseless Boasting; Hopeless Hopes

Baseless Boasting

The basis for boasting.

The blessings of our Boast.



Jeremiah 9:24

But **let him** who boasts **boast** of this,
that he understands and **knows Me**, that I am the LORD
who exercises lovingkindness, justice and
righteousness on earth; for I delight in these things,”
declares the LORD.

The LORD is our Boast.

What are the Blessings of Our Boast?

Blessed assurances.

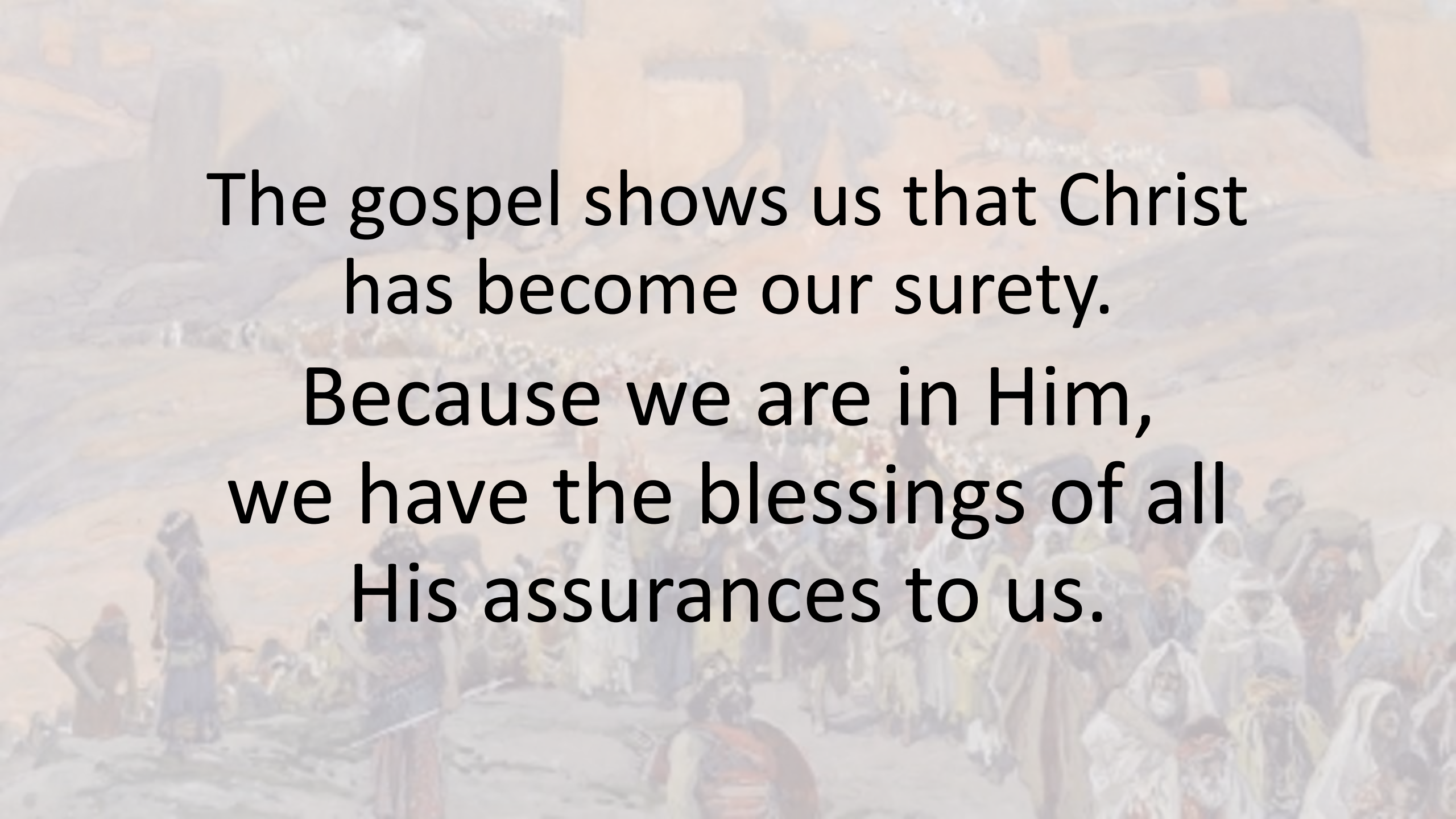
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declares the LORD.

The assurance of our hope is based upon
the *sureness* of the One who promised.



The gospel shows us that Christ
has become our surety.

Because we are in Him,
we have the blessings of all
His assurances to us.

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

For consider your calling, brethren, that there were not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble; but God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong, and the base things of the world and the despised God has chosen, the things that are not, so that He may nullify the things that are, so that no man may boast before God.

How foolish to boast of wisdom, might, or riches!

1 Corinthians 1:30-31

But by His doing you are in Christ Jesus,
who became to us wisdom from God, and righteousness
and sanctification, and redemption, so that,
just as it is written,
“Let him who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

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Remember, the object of our boast
reveals the source of our hope.

Romans 5:5

And hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God has been poured out within
our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

What are the Blessings of Our Boast?

Blessed assurances.

Blessed fellowship.

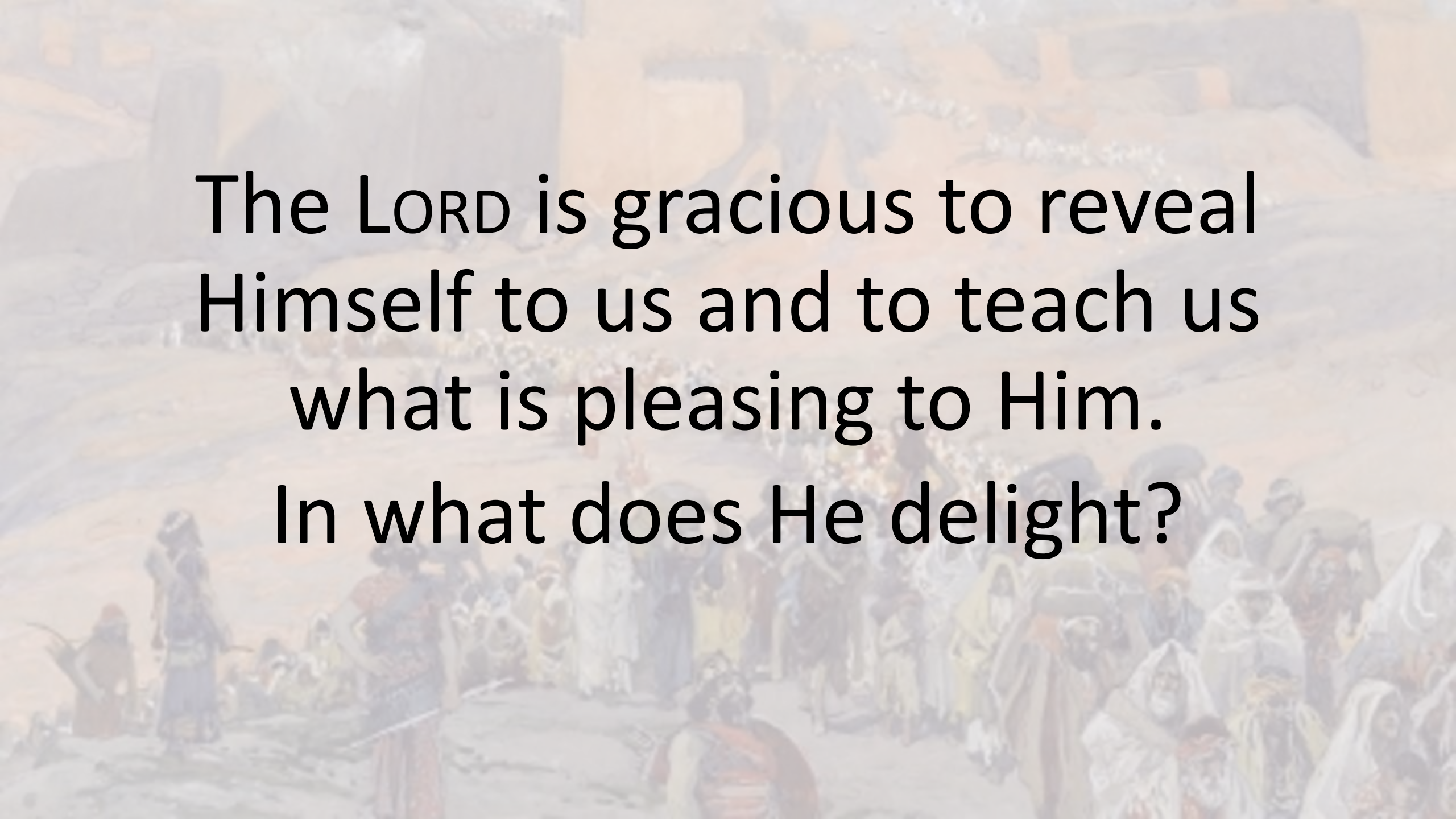
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The LORD is gracious to reveal
Himself to us and to teach us
what is pleasing to Him.
In what does He delight?

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Fellowship with Him is knowing Him
and walking in the light of who He is.

1 John 1:6

If we say that we have fellowship with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.

Some Concluding Questions

On whom or what are you basing
your hopes?

Have you come *to know* the Lord?

Are you resting in the assurance
of His Person and promises?