

A sepia-toned landscape featuring a winding dirt road that leads up a hill. On the hill, there is a large, multi-towered castle or fortress. To the right of the castle, three large, simple crosses are visible against the sky. The background shows rolling hills and a dense forest of trees. The overall atmosphere is serene and historical.

# **The Motivation for True Worship**

**Luke 1:46-55**

## **Luke 1:46-50**

And Mary said:

“My soul exalts the Lord,

And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.

For He has had regard for the humble state of His bondslave;

For behold, from this time on all generations  
will count me blessed.

For the Mighty One has done great things for me;

And holy is His name.

*and His mercy is upon generation after generation  
toward those who fear Him.*

## Luke 1:51-55

He has done mighty deeds with His arm;  
He has scattered those who were proud  
in the thoughts of their heart.

He has brought down rulers from their thrones,  
And has exalted those who were humble.

*He has filled the hungry with good things;*  
And sent away the rich empty-handed.

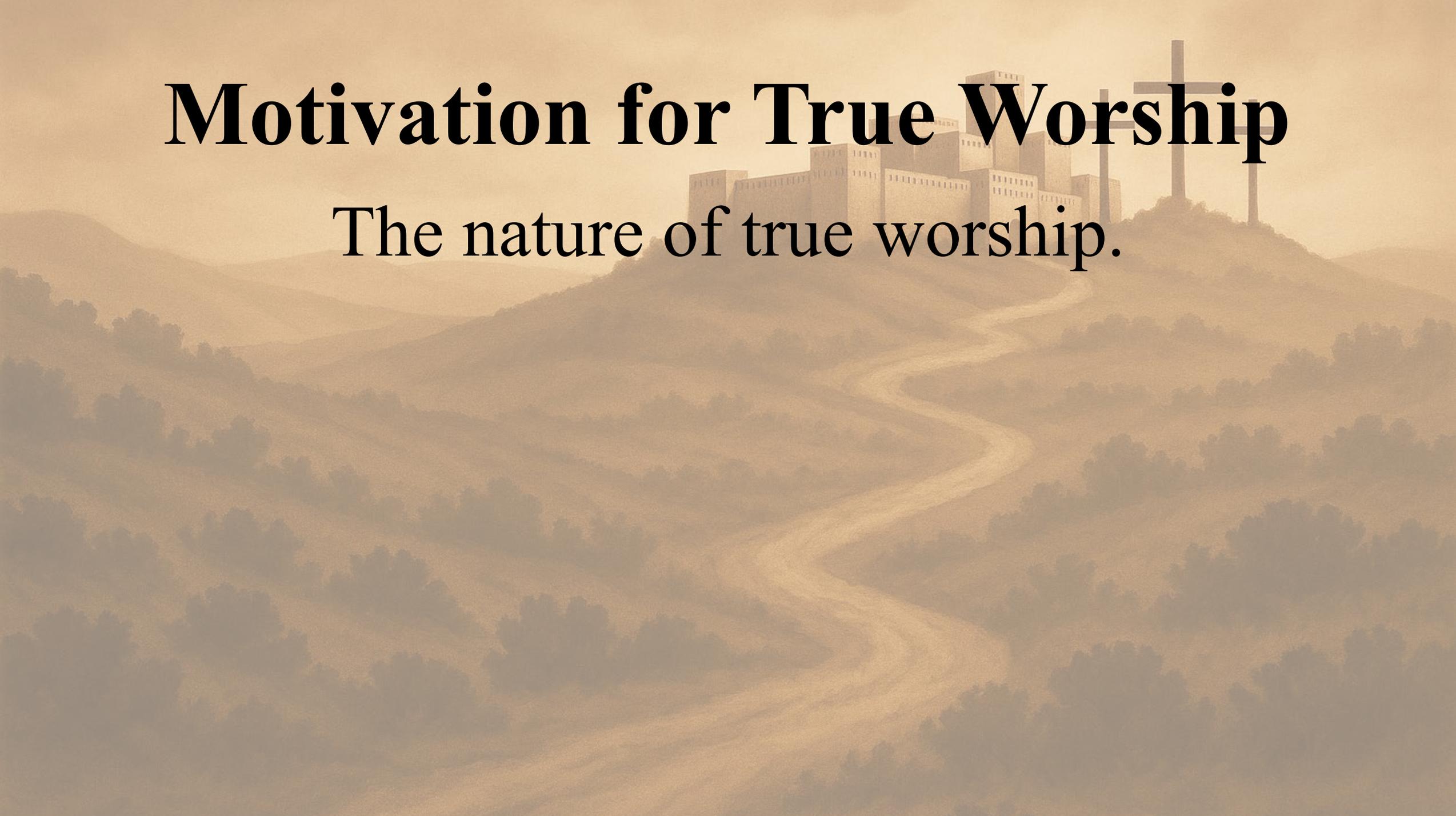
He has given help to Israel His servant,  
In remembrance of His mercy,

As He spoke to our fathers,  
To Abraham and his descendants forever.”

# **Main Point**

If you are to truly worship God as He desires, you must understand what worship is, what worship does, and what will move you to it.

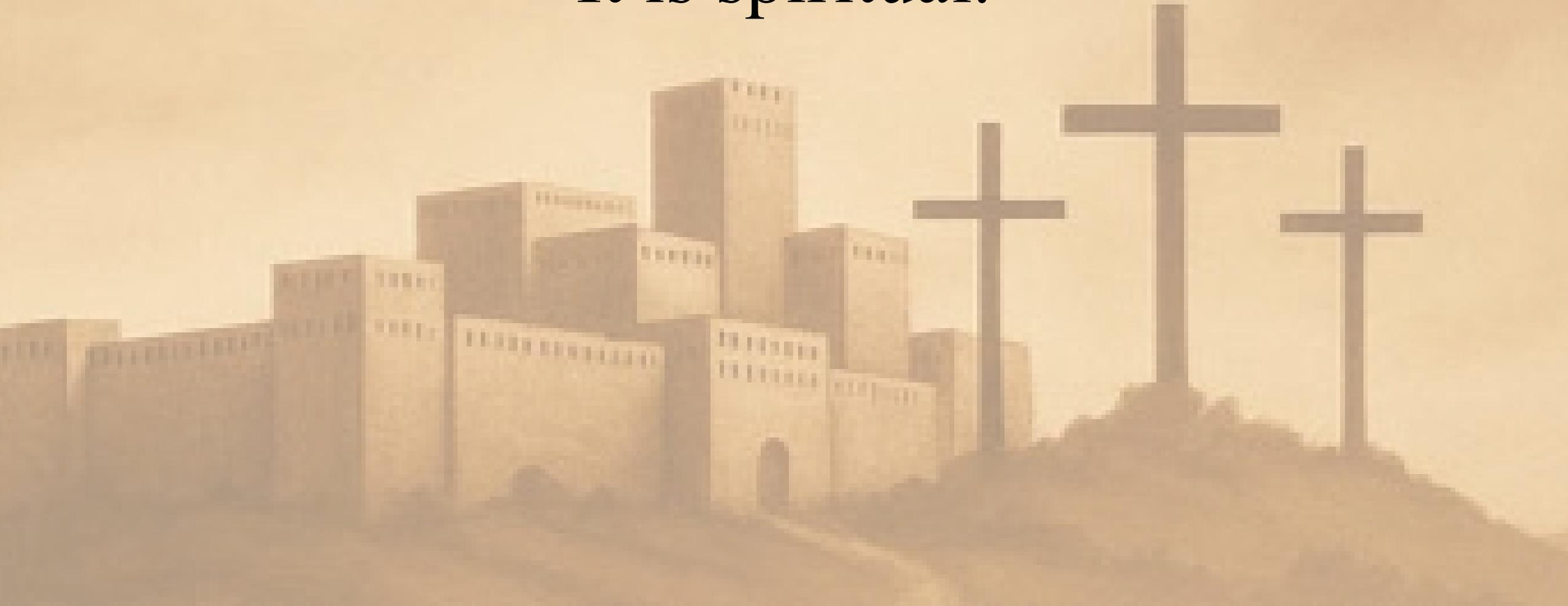
# Motivation for True Worship

A sepia-toned landscape featuring a winding dirt path that leads up a hill towards a city. The city is built on a hillside and includes several tall, thin crosses. The background shows rolling hills and a dense forest of trees, all rendered in a warm, golden-brown color palette.

The nature of true worship.

**What is the nature of true worship?**

It is spiritual.



**Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,  
And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.”

**Luke 1:46-47**

“**My *soul* exalts** the Lord,  
And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.”

**Luke 1:46-47**

“**My *soul*** exalts the Lord,

And **my *spirit* has rejoiced** in God my Savior.”

The soul and spirit are not different *parts* of you,  
but together refer to the whole of your inner person.

**Psalm 103:1**

Bless the LORD, O my soul,  
and **all that is within me**, bless His holy name.

# True worship must be spiritual worship.

## John 4:23-24

“But an hour is coming, and now is,  
when the true worshipers will worship the Father  
in spirit and truth;  
for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.  
God is spirit, and those who worship Him  
must worship in spirit and truth.”

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when the **true worshipers will worship** the Father  
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for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

God is spirit, and those who worship Him  
must worship in spirit and truth.”

# What is spiritual worship?

Spiritual worship is worship offered by a person who is spiritually *alive*.

Spiritual worship is worship *enlightened* and *empowered* by the Holy Spirit.

Spiritual worship is *sincere* worship that flows from the affections of your heart and involves your mind and your emotions.

# What is the nature of true worship?

It is spiritual.

It is knowledgeable.



**Luke 1:46-47**

“**My *soul* exalts** the Lord,  
And **my *spirit* has rejoiced** in God my Savior.”

**Ephesians 4:23-24**

...that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,  
and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has  
been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

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**Luke 1:46-47**

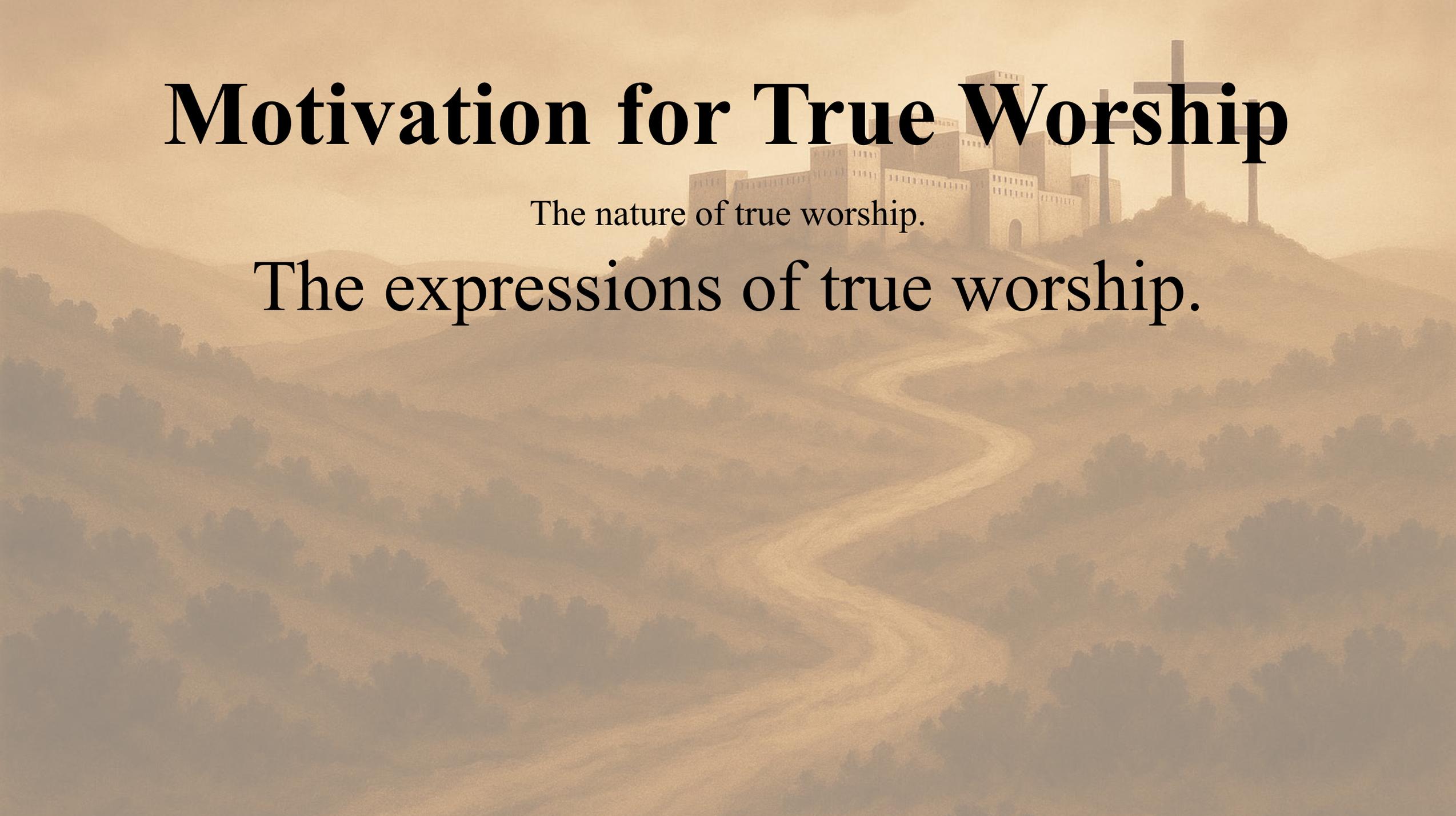
**“My *soul* exalts** the Lord,  
And **my *spirit* has rejoiced** in God my Savior.”

Mary’s worship was clearly  
knowledgeable as she drew extensively  
from the Scriptures in her song.

True worship must be knowledgeable  
because you cannot rightly worship  
what you do not rightly know.

Our culture is oriented to experiences  
and feelings, but true worship is grounded  
in knowledge and understanding.

# Motivation for True Worship



The nature of true worship.

The expressions of true worship.

# Expressions of True Worship

Exultation



**Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,  
And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Savior.”

**Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,

And **my spirit has *rejoiced*** in God my Savior.”

**Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,

And **my spirit** *exulted* in God my Savior.”

Mary's exultation was not a *once-and-done*, but it *was* a decisive moment of faith resulting in a transformation of her affections.

**Luke 1:47**

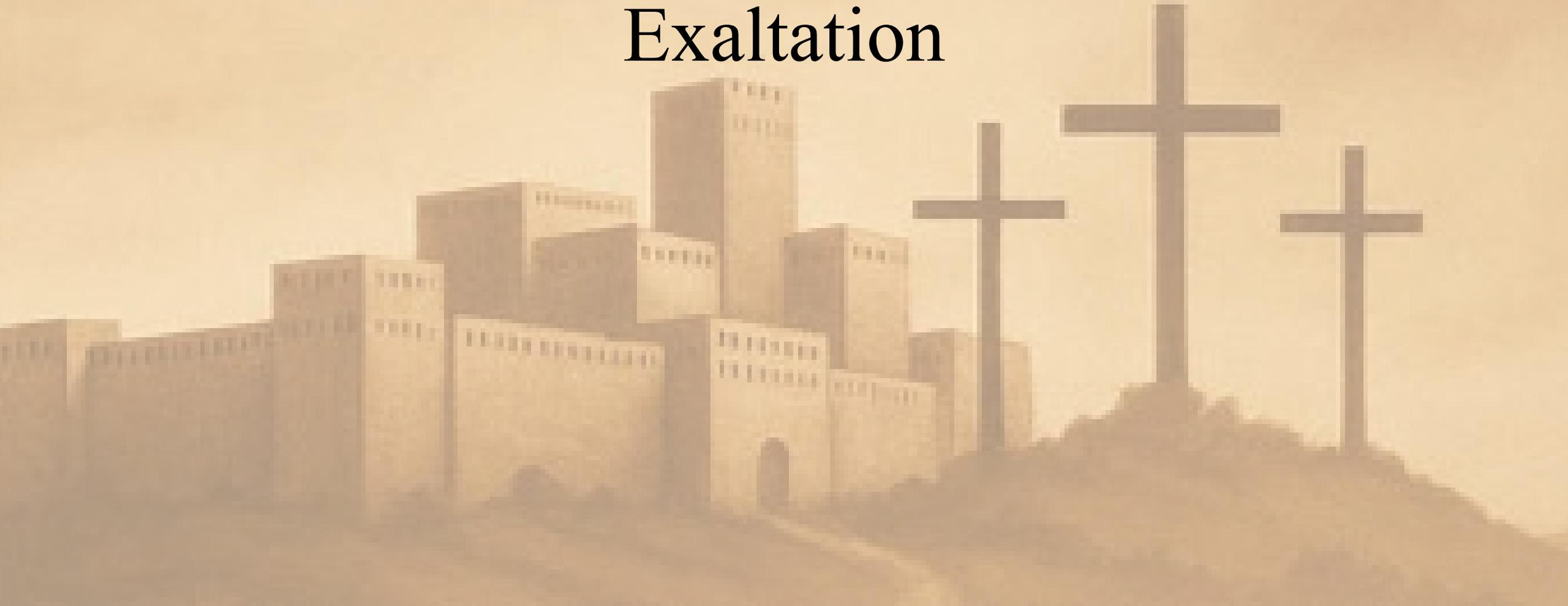
**“My spirit *exulted* in...my Savior.”**

It is *this* exultation that must precede exaltation!

# Expressions of True Worship

Exultation

Exaltation



**Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,

And **my spirit exulted** in God my Savior.”

**Luke 1:46-47**

“**My soul *exalts*** the Lord,  
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**Luke 1:46-47**

“**My soul *megaluno*** the Lord,  
And my spirit exulted in God my Savior.”

Those whose affections have been decisively  
turned to God in exultant faith will magnify  
the Lord from the depths of their souls!

Exaltation is the *outward* expression  
of an *inner* disposition.

## **John 4:23-24**

“But an hour is coming, and now is,  
when the true worshipers will worship the Father  
in spirit and truth;  
for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.  
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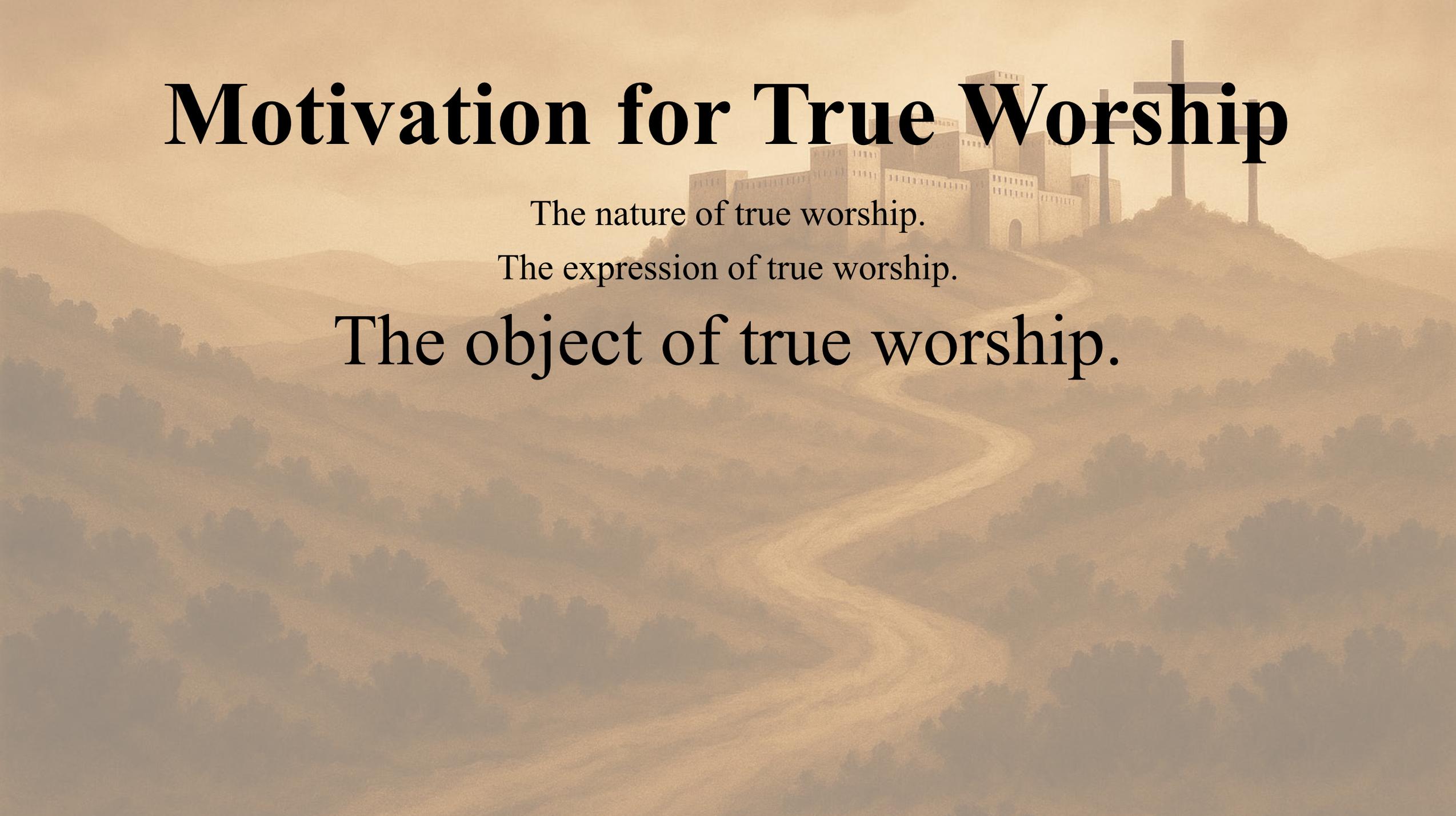
for such people the Father seeks to be His worshipers.

God is spirit, and those who worship Him

**must worship *in spirit and truth.***”

True believers *will* exalt the Lord!  
And their exaltations will flow out  
from the *sincerity* of their hearts.

# Motivation for True Worship



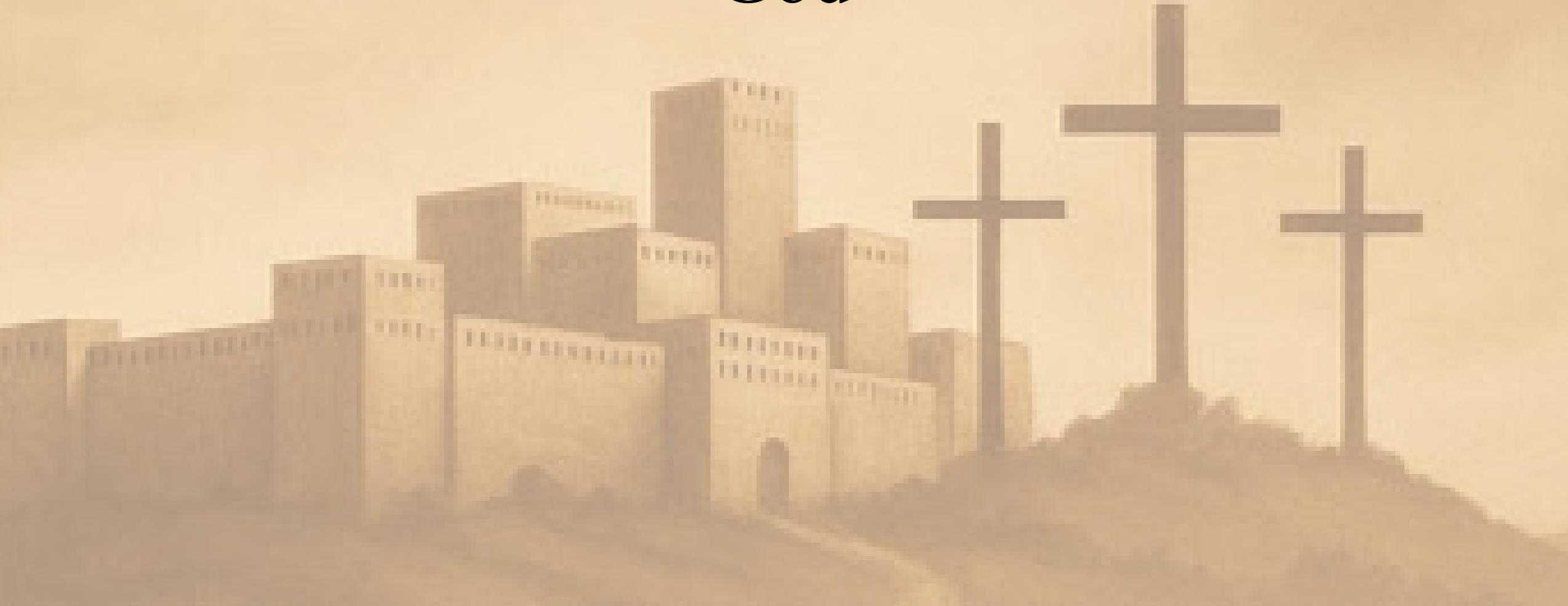
The nature of true worship.

The expression of true worship.

The object of true worship.

# The Object of True Worship

God



**Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,

And **my spirit has exulted** in God my Savior.”

## **Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,

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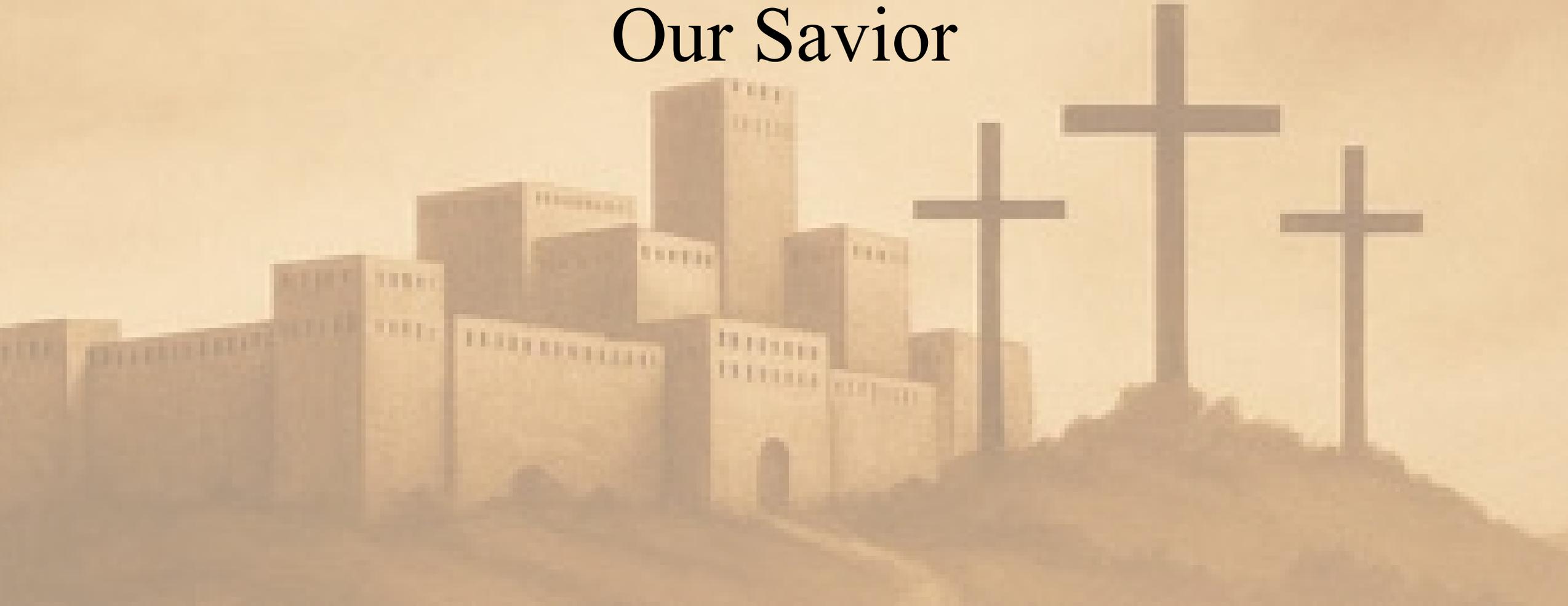
One is not truly worshipping God if he is not worshipping God for who He truly is.

True worship is knowledgeable of God and makes God *the object* of worship.

# The Object of True Worship

God

Our Savior



**Luke 1:46-47**

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## **Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,

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General praise can be given to God due to the manifestations of His glory in creation, but *true* worship is relational and flows from a posture of dependent need.

True worship exults in God *as the One who saves*; and therefore, it exults in Jesus, the saving Son!

**Luke 1:31**

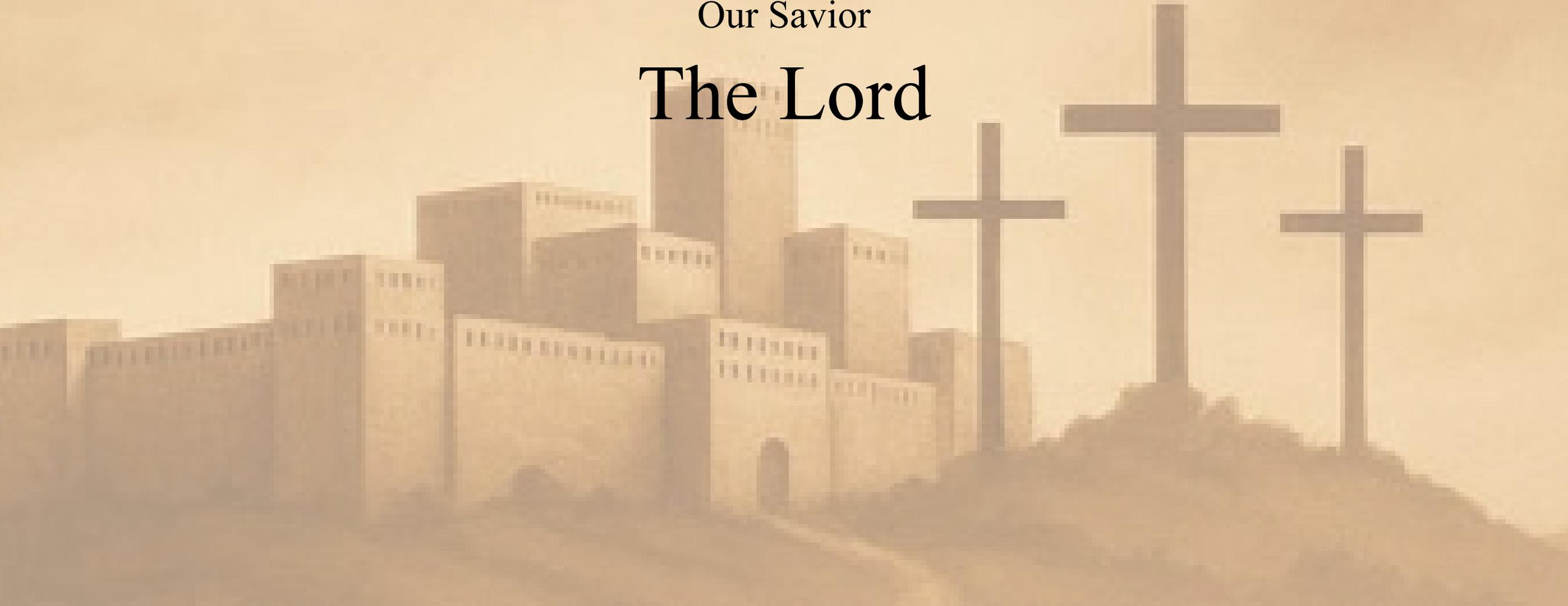
“And behold, you will conceive in your womb  
and bear a son, and you shall name Him  
**Yahweh Saves.”**

# The Object of True Worship

God

Our Savior

The Lord



**Luke 1:46-47**

**“My soul exalts** the Lord,  
And my spirit has exulted in God my Savior.”

**Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts **the Lord**,  
And my spirit has exulted in God my Savior.”

Righteous kings rightly deserve  
the exaltations of their subjects.

## **Luke 1:32-33**

“He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David; and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom will have no end.”

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will give Him the throne of His father David;  
and He will reign over the house of Jacob forever,

and **His kingdom will have no end.**”

## **Romans 10:10**

If you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord,  
and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead,  
you will be saved.

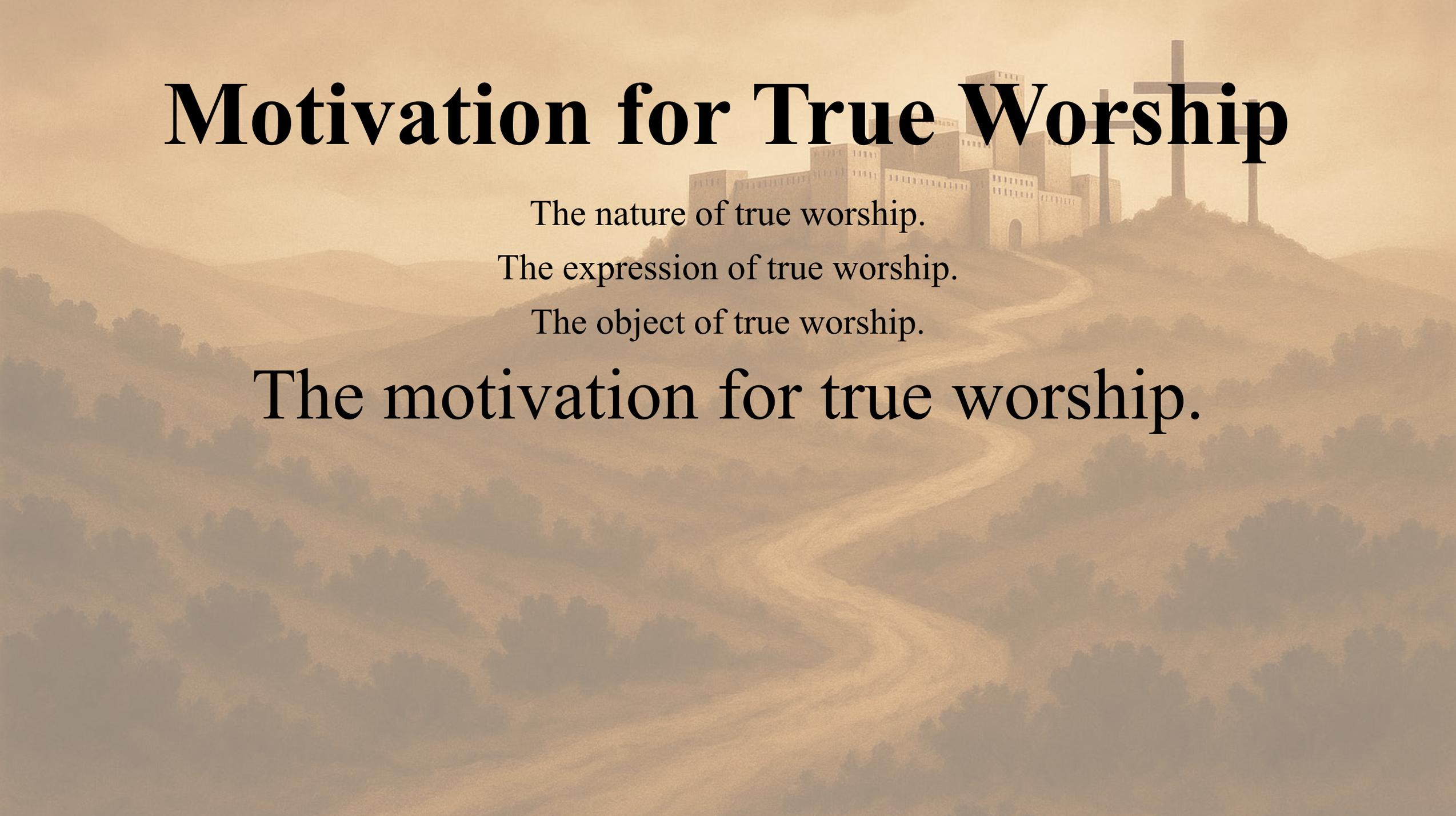
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# Motivation for True Worship

The background of the slide is a sepia-toned illustration. It depicts a winding dirt road that starts in the lower-left foreground and curves upwards towards the right, leading to a large, multi-story stone building perched on a hill. On top of the building, a large cross is visible. The scene is set against a backdrop of rolling hills and a hazy, golden light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset.

The nature of true worship.

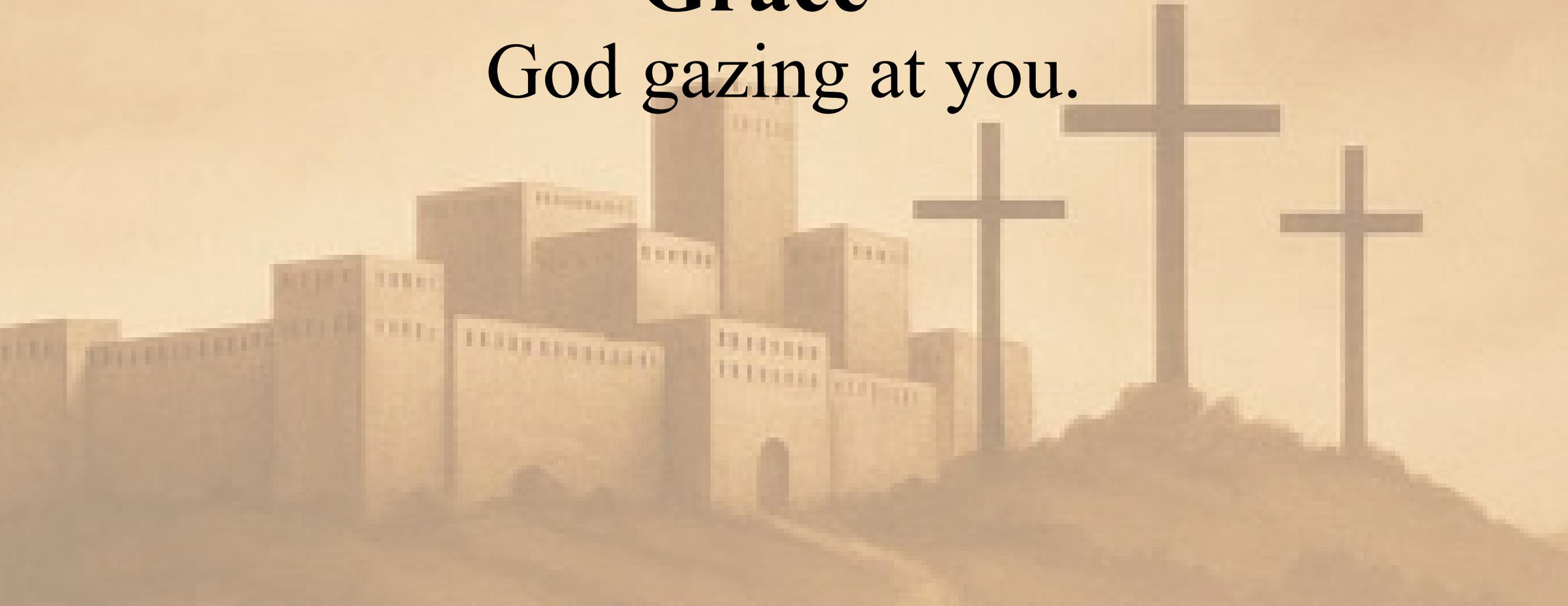
The expression of true worship.

The object of true worship.

The motivation for true worship.

# Motivation for True Worship

**Grace –**  
God gazing at you.



**Luke 1:48-49**

Because He has had regard  
for the humble state of His bondslave;  
For behold, from this time on all generations  
will count me blessed.  
For the Mighty One has done great things for me.

**Luke 1:48-49**

**Because He has *looked upon***

for the humble state of **His bondslave;**

For behold, from this time on all generations  
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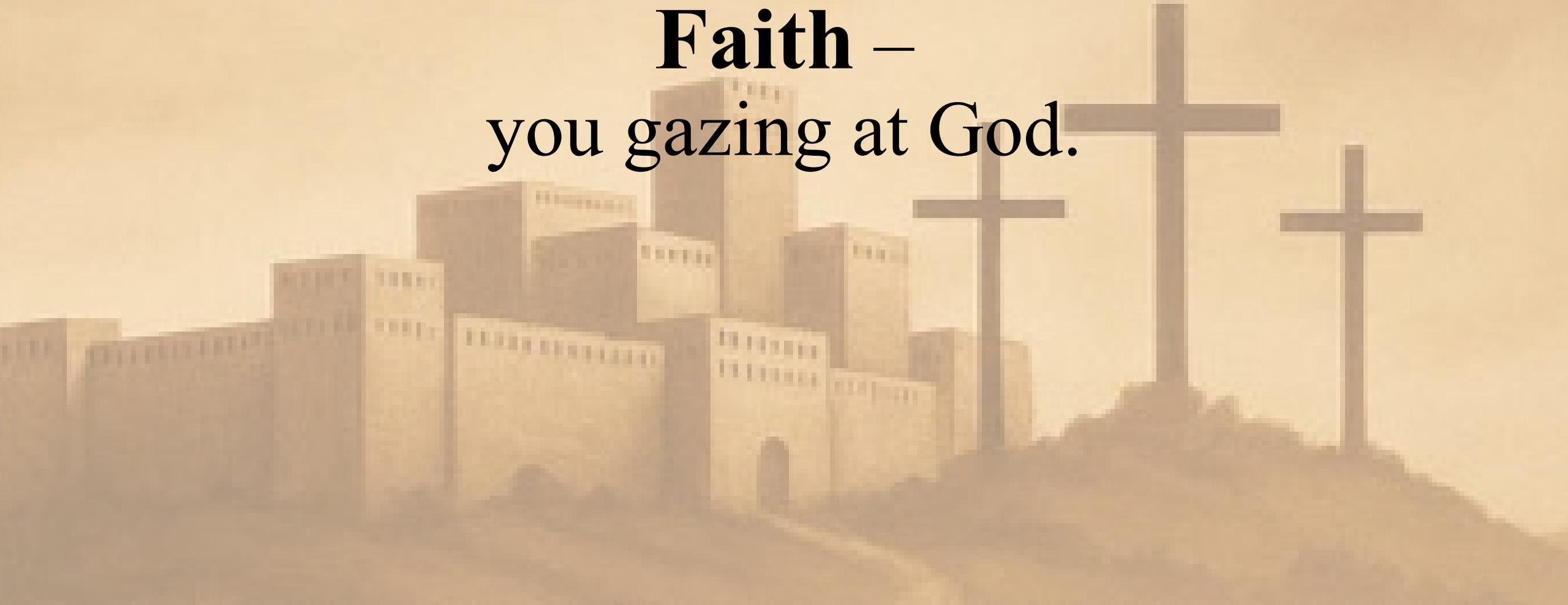
***For the Mighty One* has done  
great things for me.**

Mary's worship was brought forth  
*from* her by an act of God's grace *to* her!  
Apart from God's grace there can be  
no true motivation for true worship!

# Motivation for True Worship

Grace – God gazing at you.

**Faith –**  
you gazing at God.



**Luke 1:46-47**

“My soul exalts the Lord,

And **my spirit exulted** in God my Savior.”

Mary believed, and her heart was changed!

Luke 1:46-47

**“My soul exalts** the Lord,  
And my spirit exulted in God my Savior.”

Her exaltation was a response of faith.

Then she gazes on the glories  
of her God!

## **Luke 1:49-55**

Mighty One...holy is His name...

His mercy...He has done mighty deeds...

He has scattered...He has brought down...He has lifted up...

He has filled...He has sent away...He has given help...

He spoke.

If you long for motivation to worship,  
you must *be believing* and then *be gazing*  
on the glory of God, a glory most seen  
in the face of Christ your Savior.

# For Reflection

Have you had a decisive moment of faith in which your spirit was transformed to love God?

Are you *confessing* Jesus as Lord and *believing* in your heart that He was raised for you?

Are you growing in your knowledge and understanding, and are you gazing on the glories of your God?