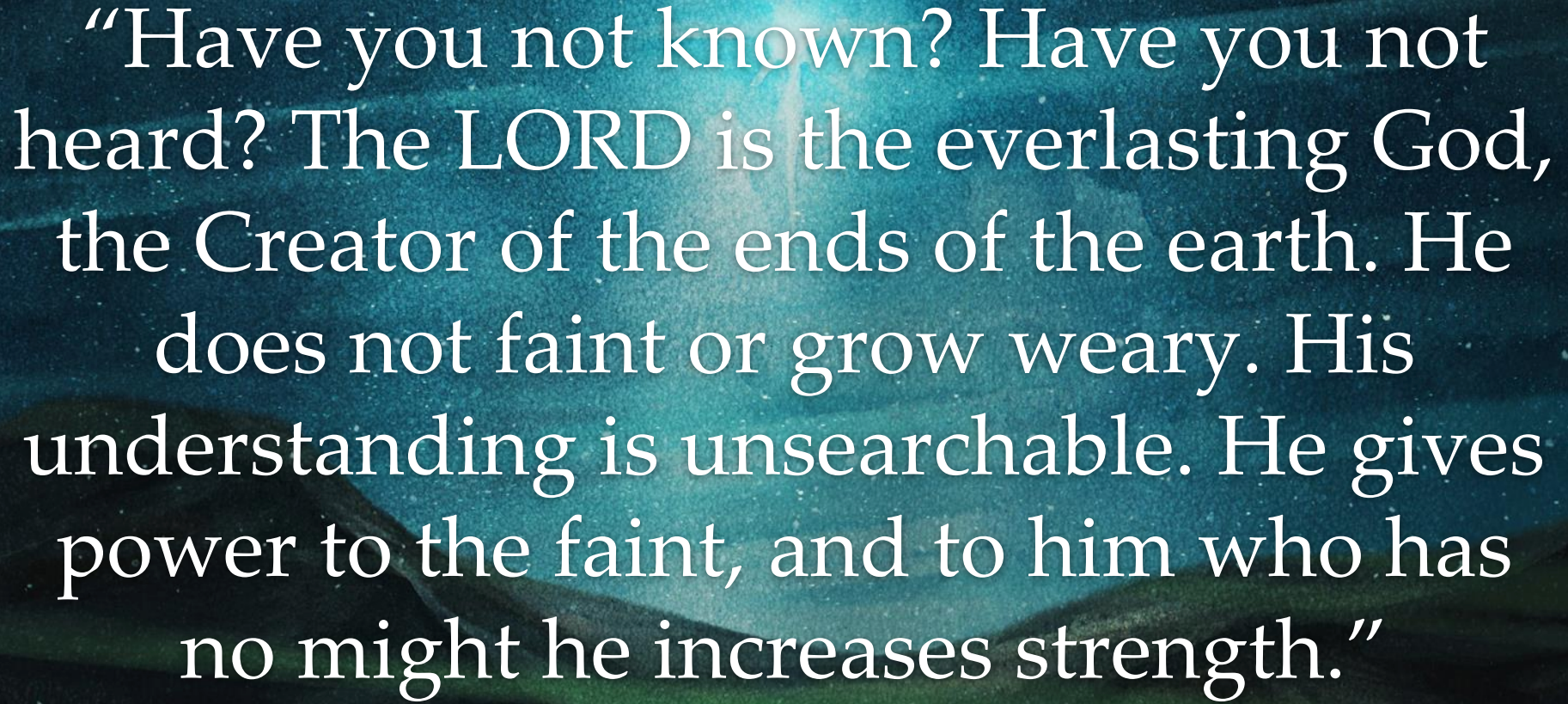


THE BEAUTY &
BLESSING OF WAITING



“Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary. His understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and to him who has no might he increases strength.”

(Isaiah 40:28-29)

“Even youths shall faint and be weary,
and young men shall fall exhausted,
but they who wait for the LORD shall
renew their strength. They shall mount
up with wings like eagles. They shall
run and not be weary. They shall walk
and not faint.” (Isaiah 40:30-31)

קוה *qāwāh*

- to wait for, hope in, look for

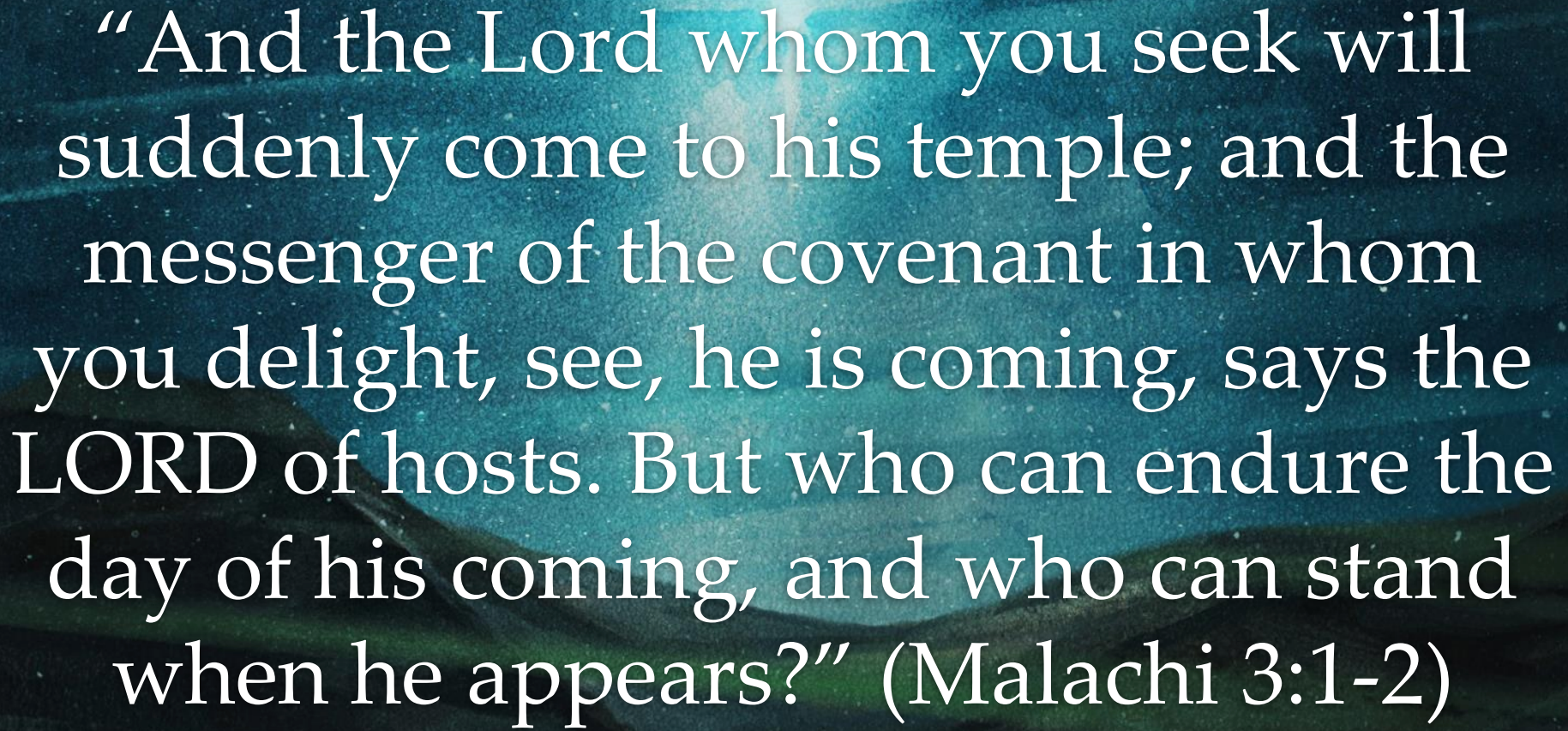
- like a cord twisted and stretched, enduring under tension

Luke 2:36-37 (ESV)

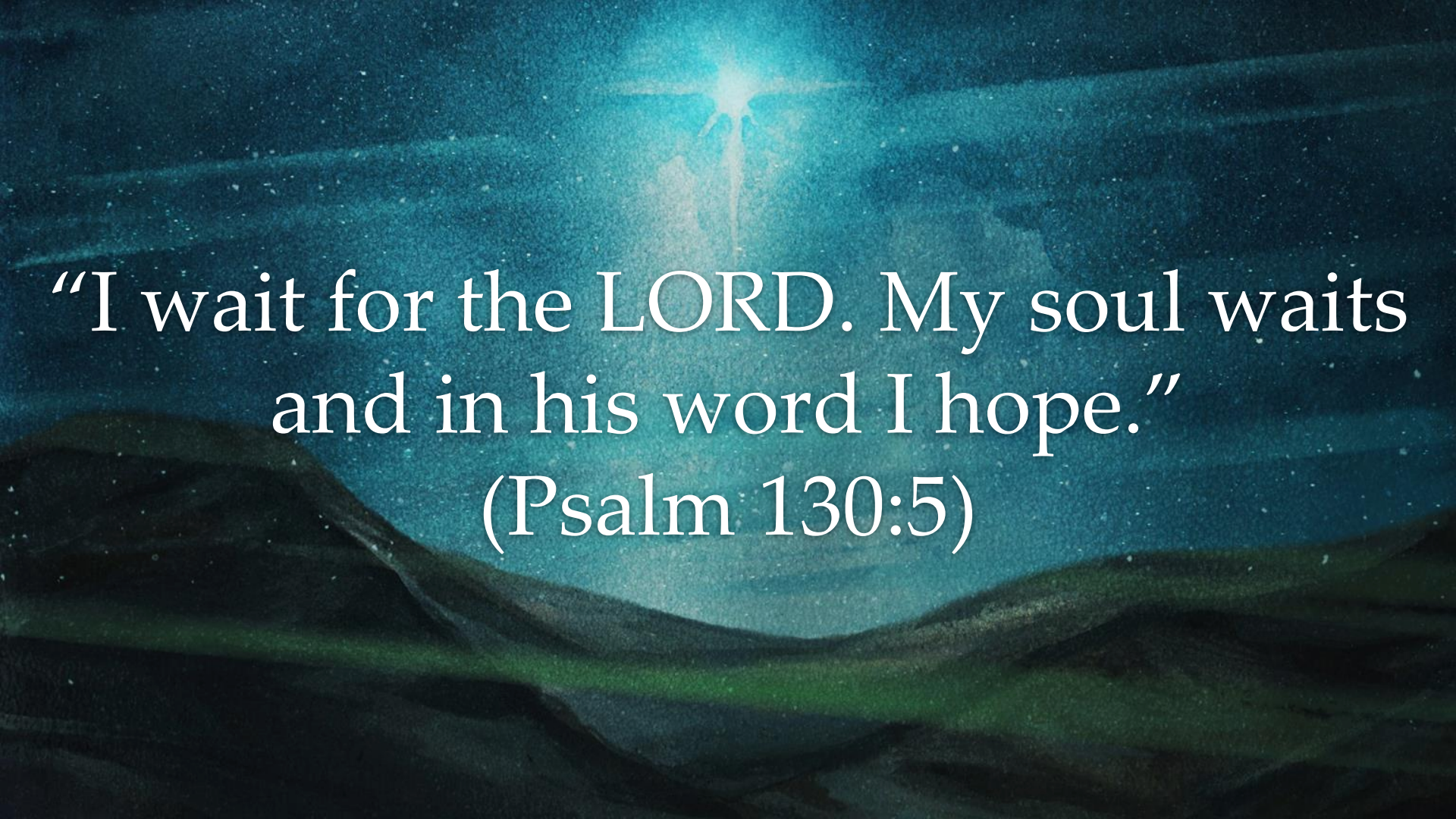
36 And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, 37 and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day.

Luke 2:25-26 (ESV)

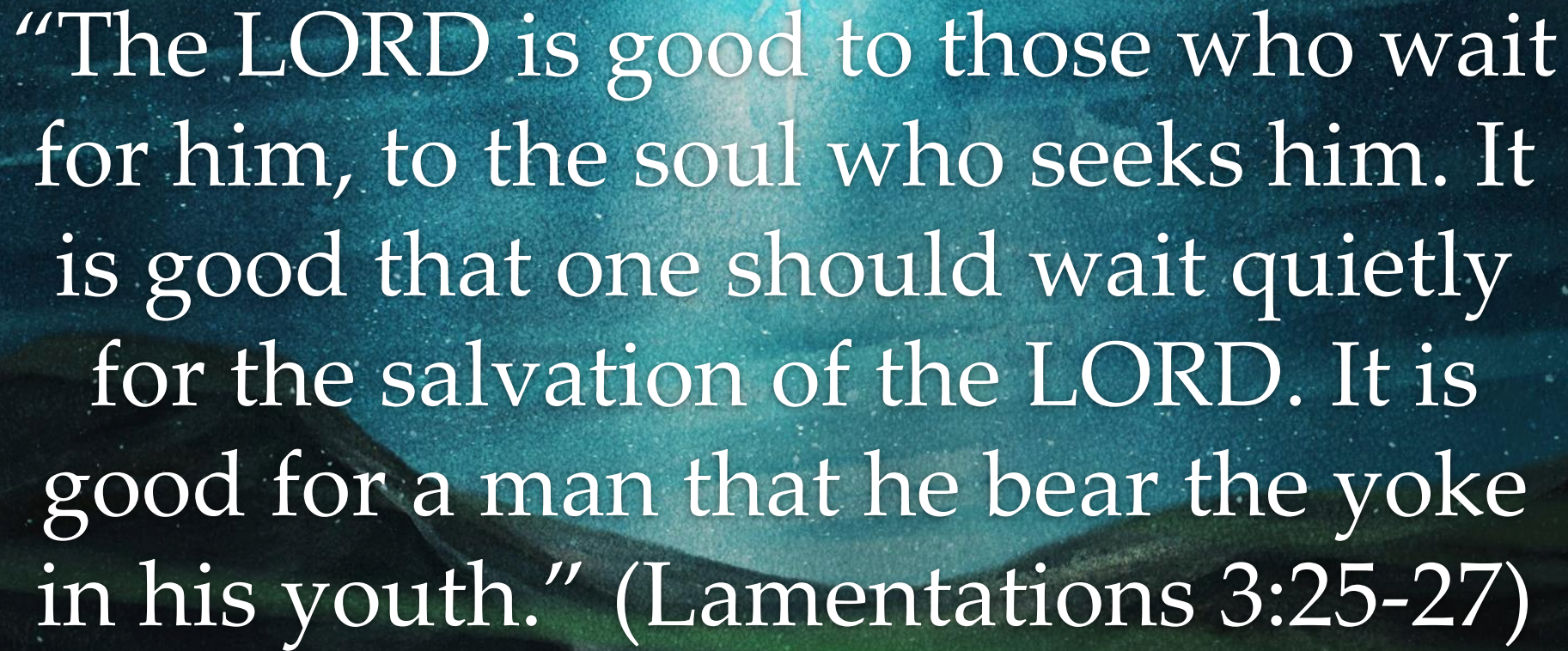
25 Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. 26 And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.



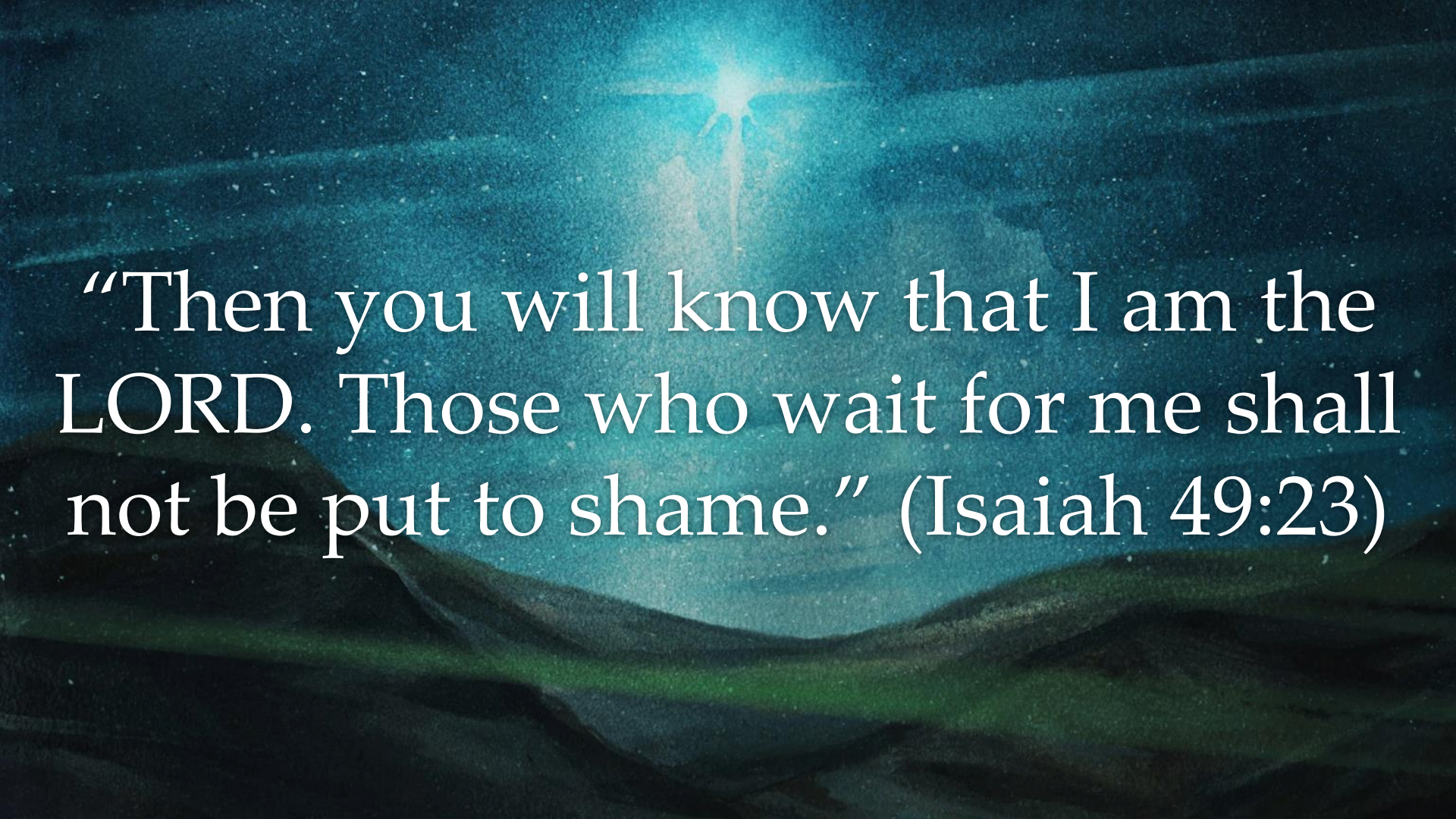
“And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, see, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?” (Malachi 3:1-2)

A night sky with a bright starburst in the center, casting a glow over rolling hills. The sky is dark blue with many small stars. The hills are dark green and black, with a soft glow from the starburst. The text is white and centered.

“I wait for the LORD. My soul waits
and in his word I hope.”
(Psalm 130:5)



“The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth.” (Lamentations 3:25-27)



“Then you will know that I am the
LORD. Those who wait for me shall
not be put to shame.” (Isaiah 49:23)

Luke 2:21-22 (ESV)

21 And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. 22 And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord

Luke 2:23-24 (ESV)

23 (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) 24 and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.”

Luke 2:27-29 (ESV)

27 And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, 28 he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, 29 “Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word.”

Luke 2:30-33 (ESV)

30 “For my eyes have seen your salvation
31 that you have prepared in the presence
of all peoples, 32 a light for revelation to
the Gentiles, and for glory to your people
Israel.” 33 And his father and his mother
marveled at what was said about him.

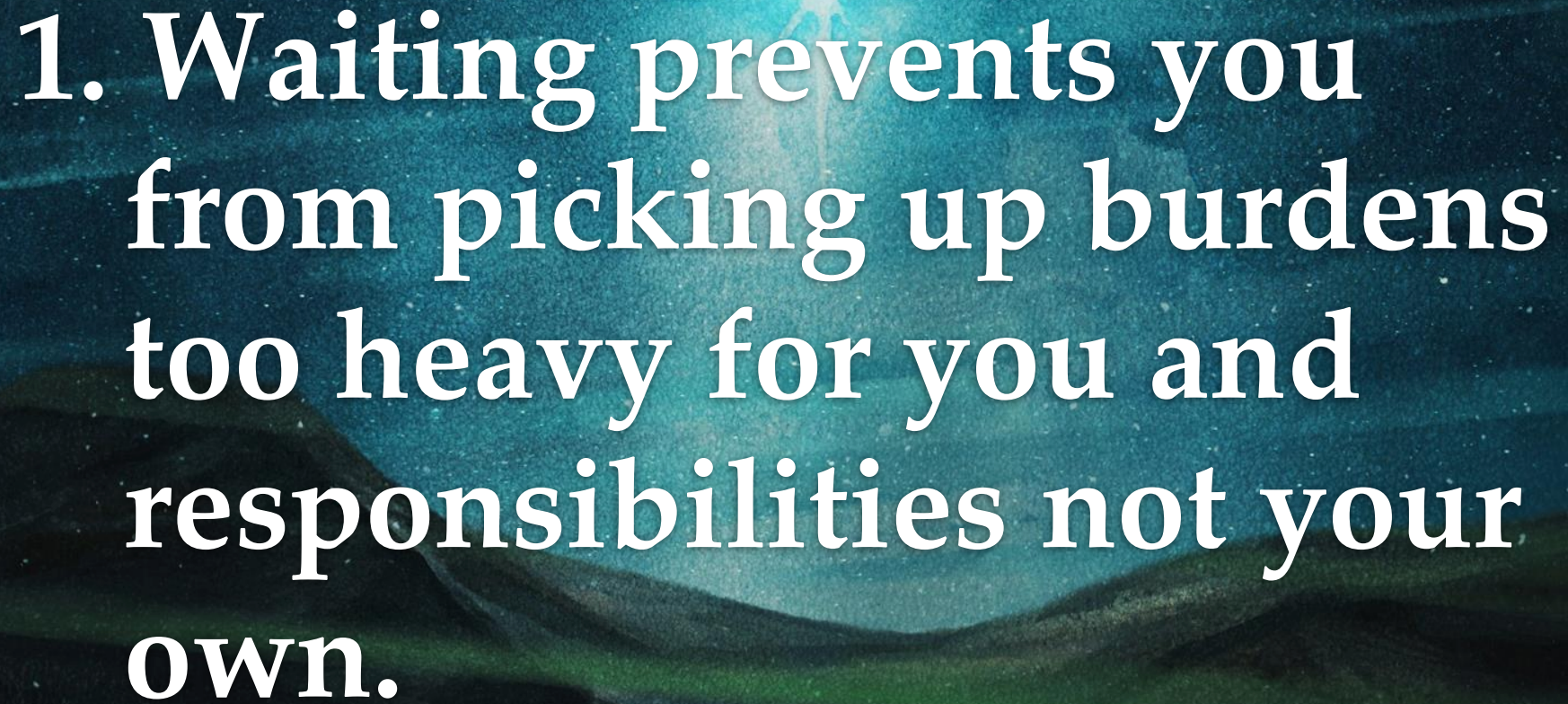
Luke 2:38 (ESV)

38 And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

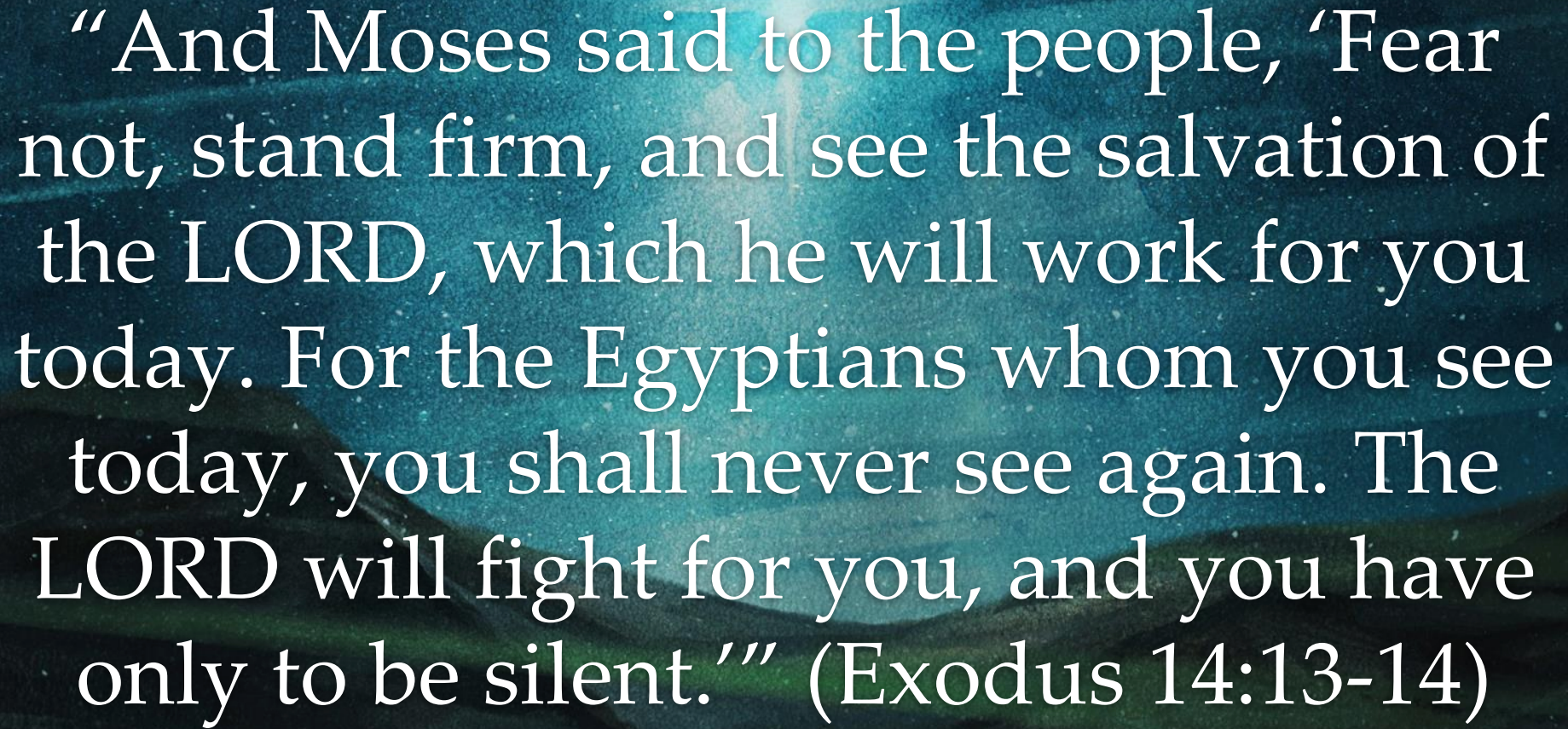





**What is the beauty and
blessing that comes from
waiting on the Lord?**



1. Waiting prevents you from picking up burdens too heavy for you and responsibilities not your own.



“And Moses said to the people, ‘Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.’” (Exodus 14:13-14)

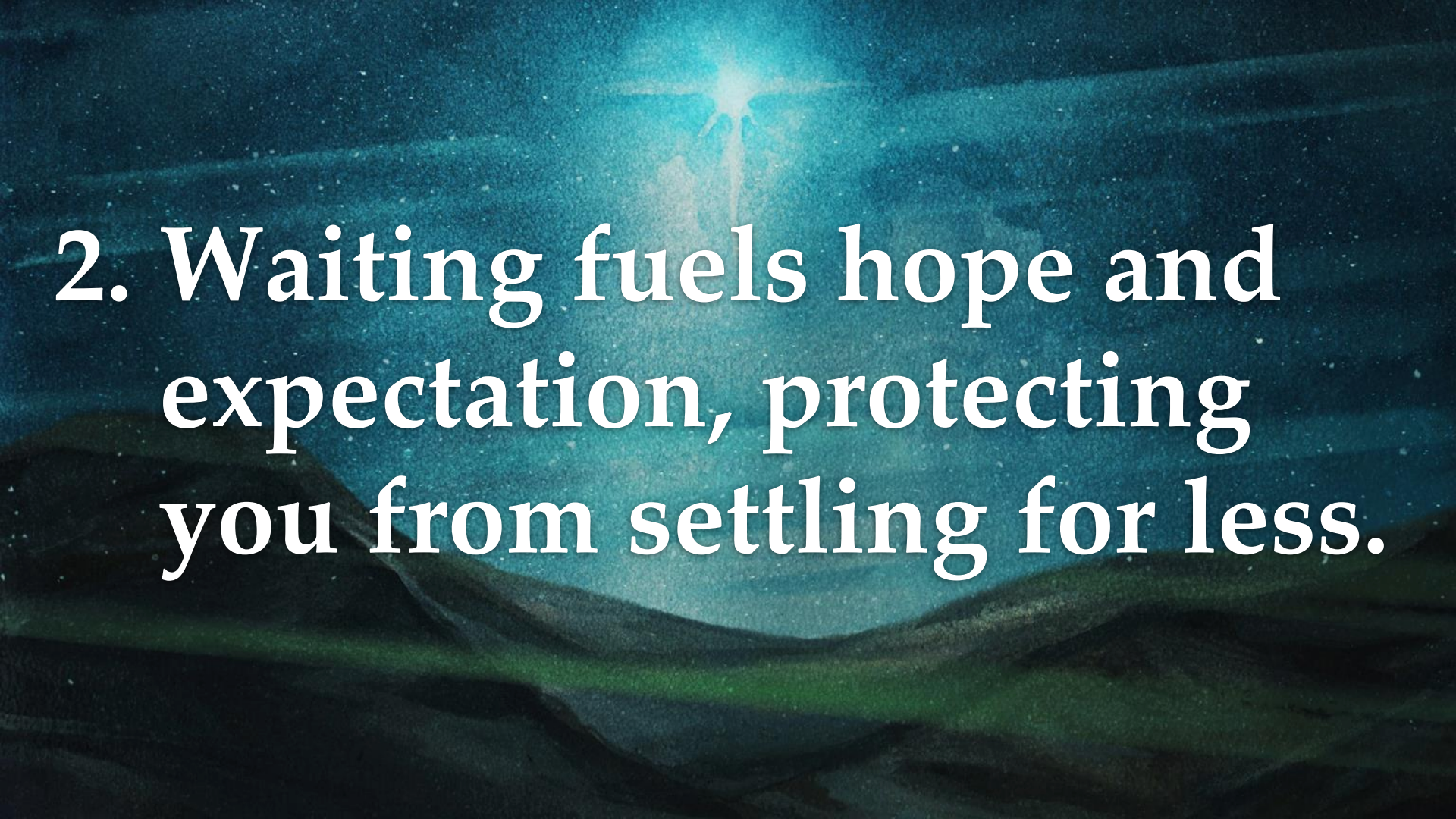


“Do not say, ‘I will repay evil.’ Wait
for the LORD and he will deliver
you.” (Proverbs 20:22)

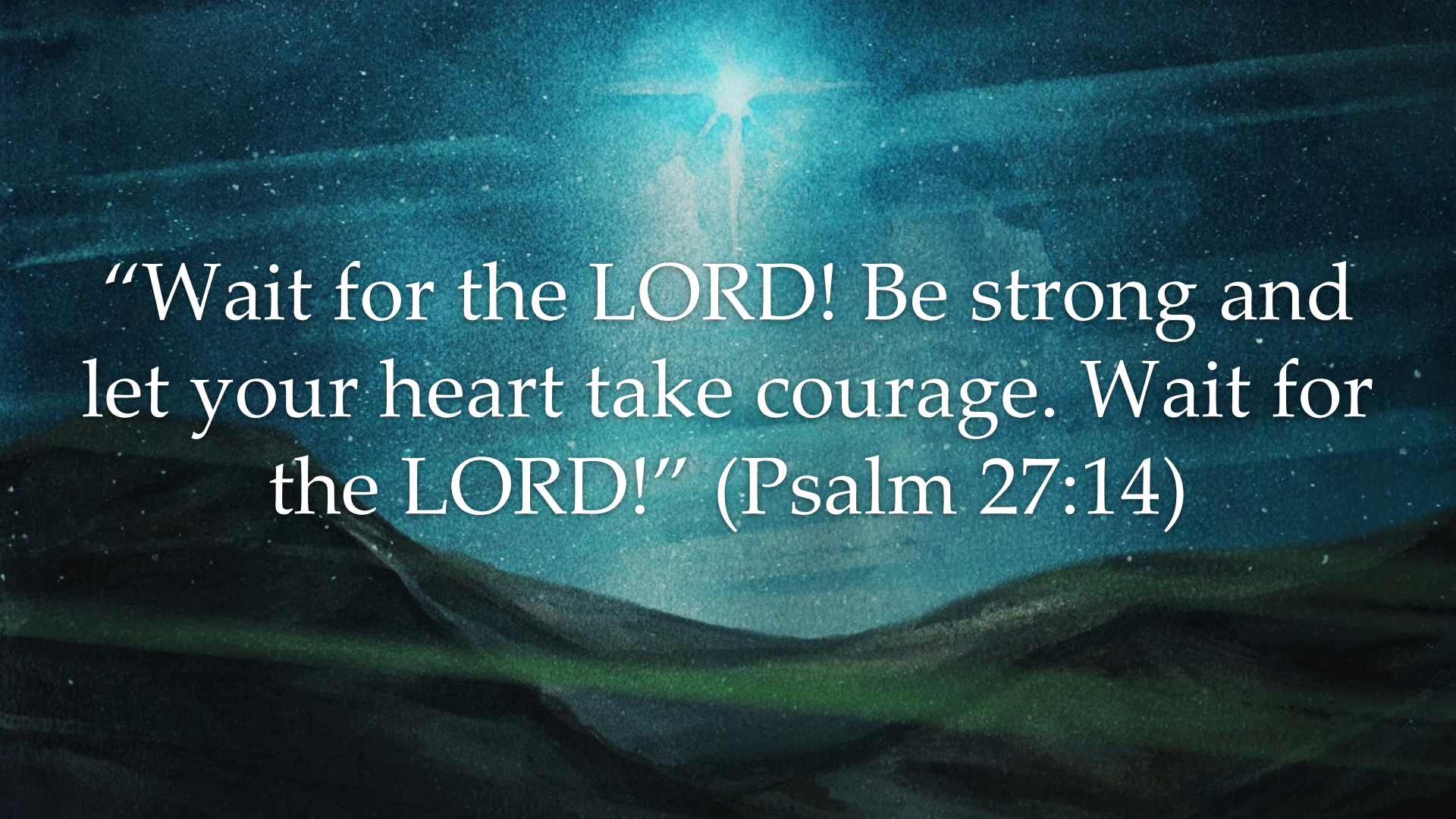
“In the path of your judgments, O LORD,
we wait for you!” (Isaiah 26:8)

“For the evildoers shall be cut off, but those
who wait for the LORD shall inherit the
land.” (Psalm 37:9)

“So you, by the help of your God, return.
Hold fast to love and justice and wait
continually for the LORD.” (Hosea 12:6)




2. Waiting fuels hope and expectation, protecting you from settling for less.



“Wait for the LORD! Be strong and let your heart take courage. Wait for the LORD!” (Psalm 27:14)

“I wait for your salvation, O LORD!”
(Genesis 49:18)

“It will be said on that day, ‘Behold, this is our God. We have waited for him, that he might save us. This is the LORD. We have waited for him. Let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.’” (Isaiah 25:9)

A dark, atmospheric landscape with rolling hills and a bright, glowing light source in the distance, creating a sense of mystery and hope. The scene is rendered in shades of deep blue, teal, and black, with a soft, ethereal glow emanating from the horizon. The text is overlaid in a clean, white, serif font.

**3. Waiting trains you to
abide in the Lord.**



“O LORD, be gracious to us. We wait
for you. Be our arm every morning!”

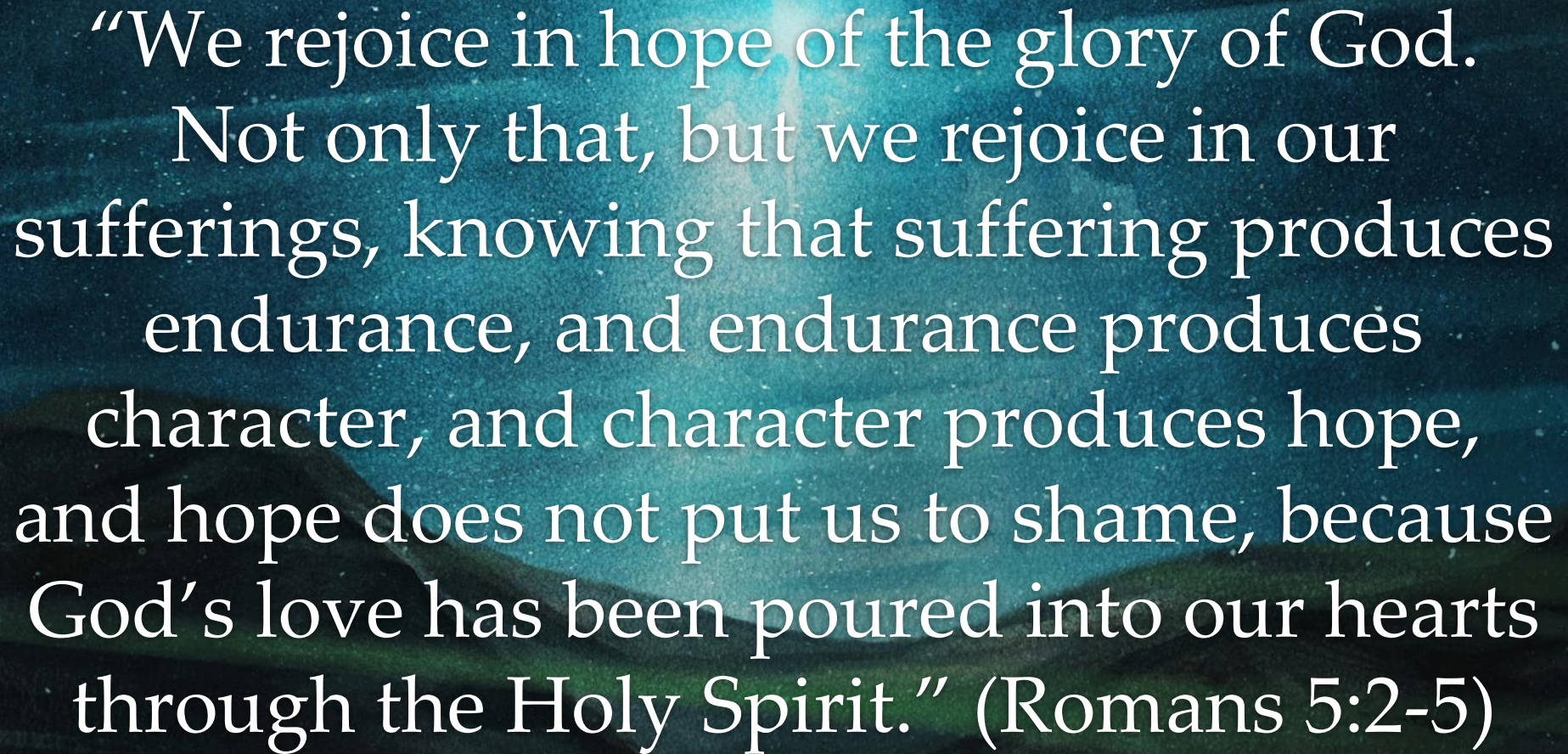
(Isaiah 33:2)

“May integrity and uprightness
preserve me because I wait for you.”

(Psalm 25:3)

The background is a dark, atmospheric landscape with rolling hills. A bright light source, possibly the sun or moon, is visible in the distance, creating a lens flare effect and illuminating the scene with a soft, blueish glow. The overall mood is mysterious and contemplative.

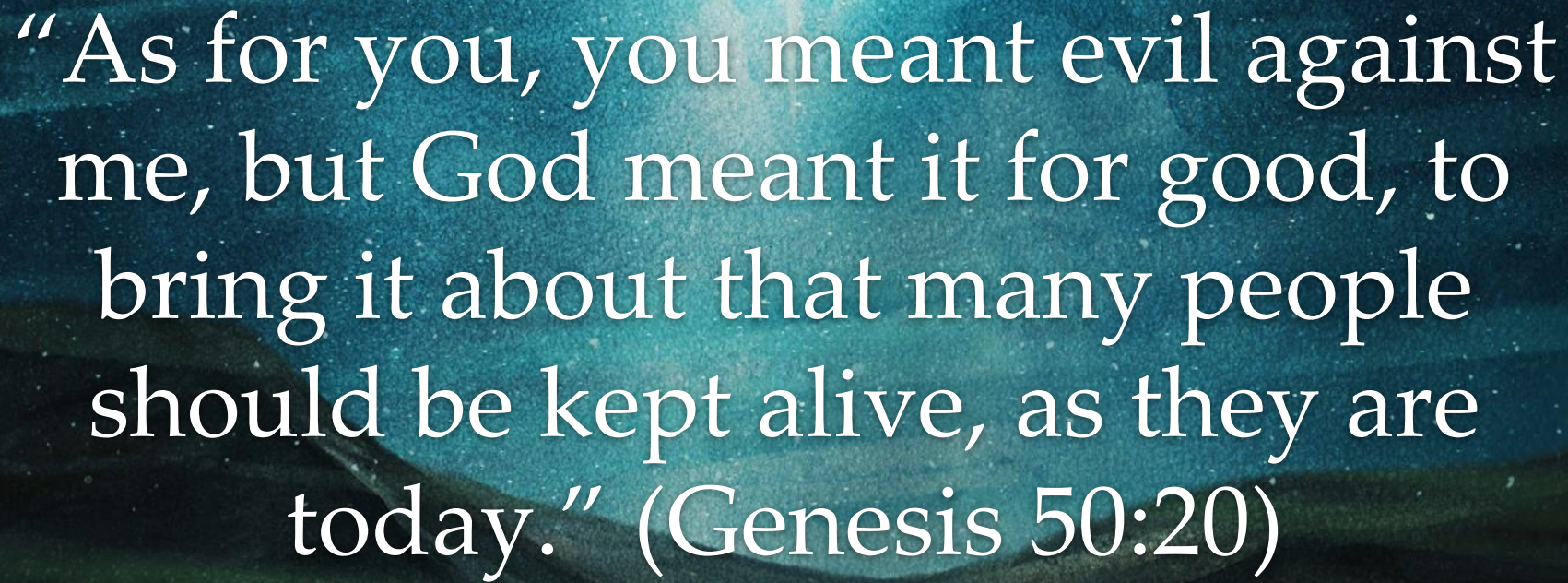
4. Waiting forms your
character.



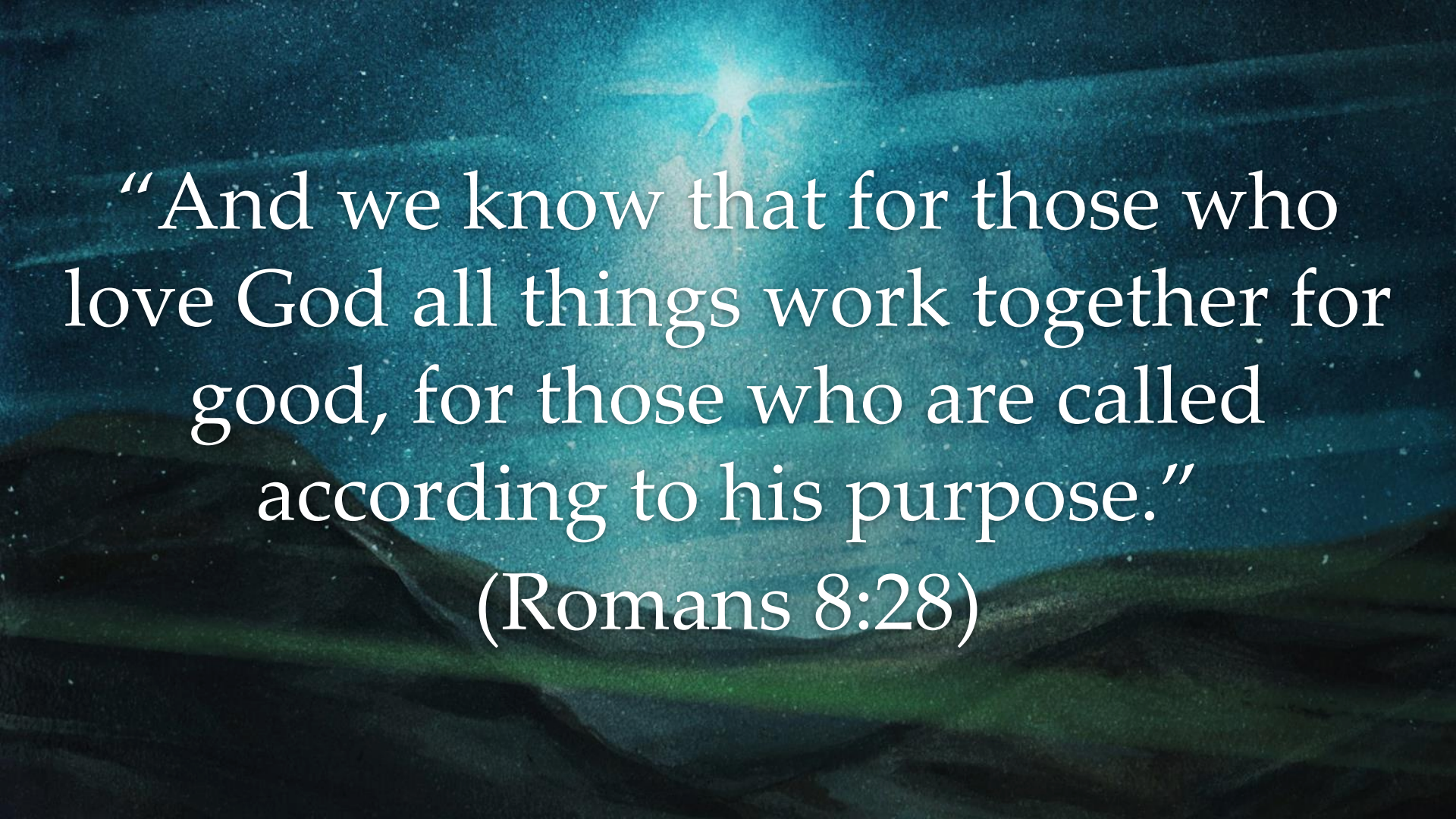
“We rejoice in hope of the glory of God.
Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.” (Romans 5:2-5)



5. Waiting is evidence of
God's working and grace.

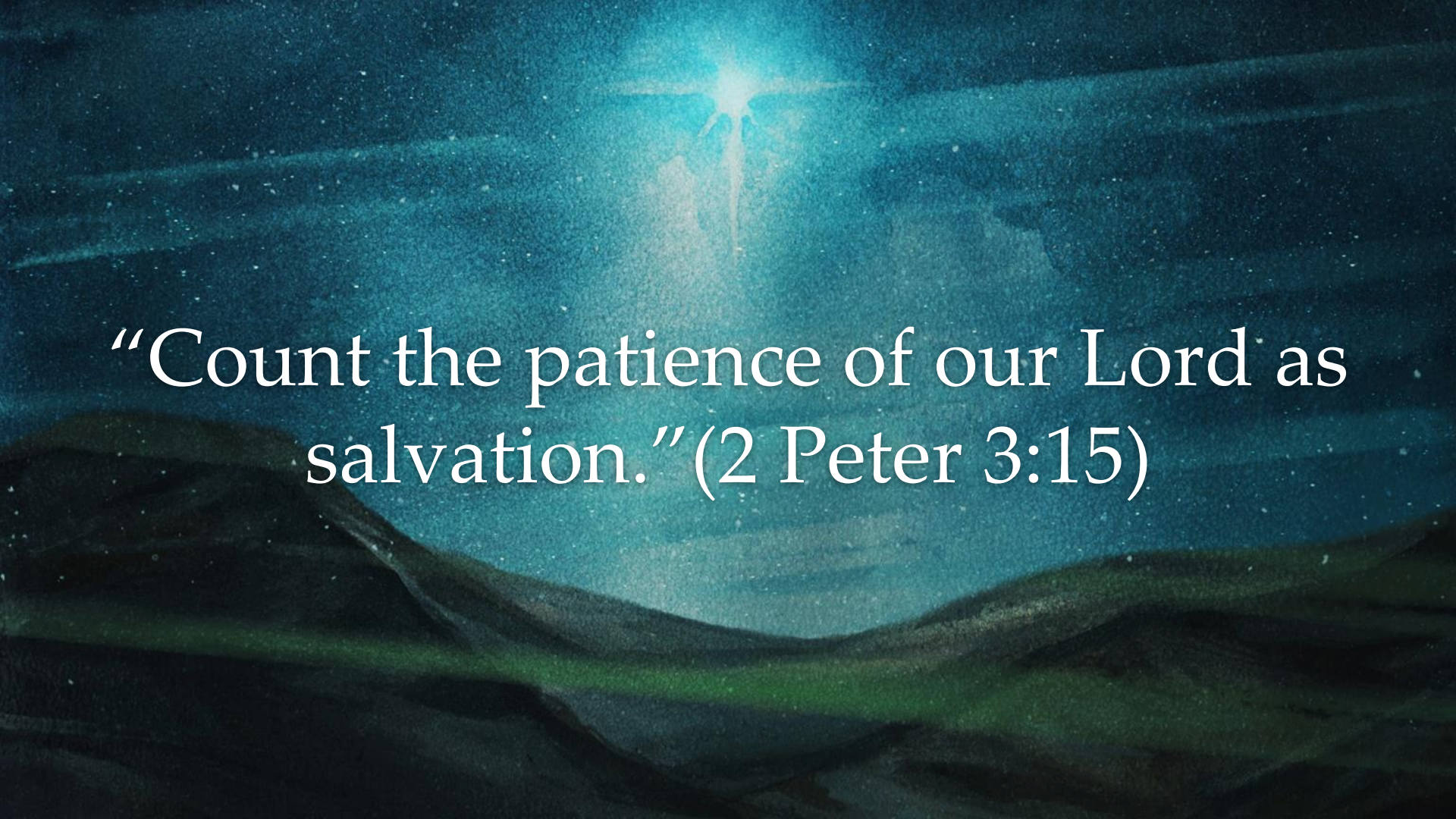
A dark, atmospheric landscape with a bright light source in the distance, creating a silhouette of a person standing on a ridge. The scene is rendered in shades of teal and blue, with a grainy, textured appearance. The light source is positioned in the upper center, casting a glow over the scene and creating a silhouette of a person standing on a ridge in the distance. The overall mood is mysterious and dramatic.

“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.” (Genesis 50:20)

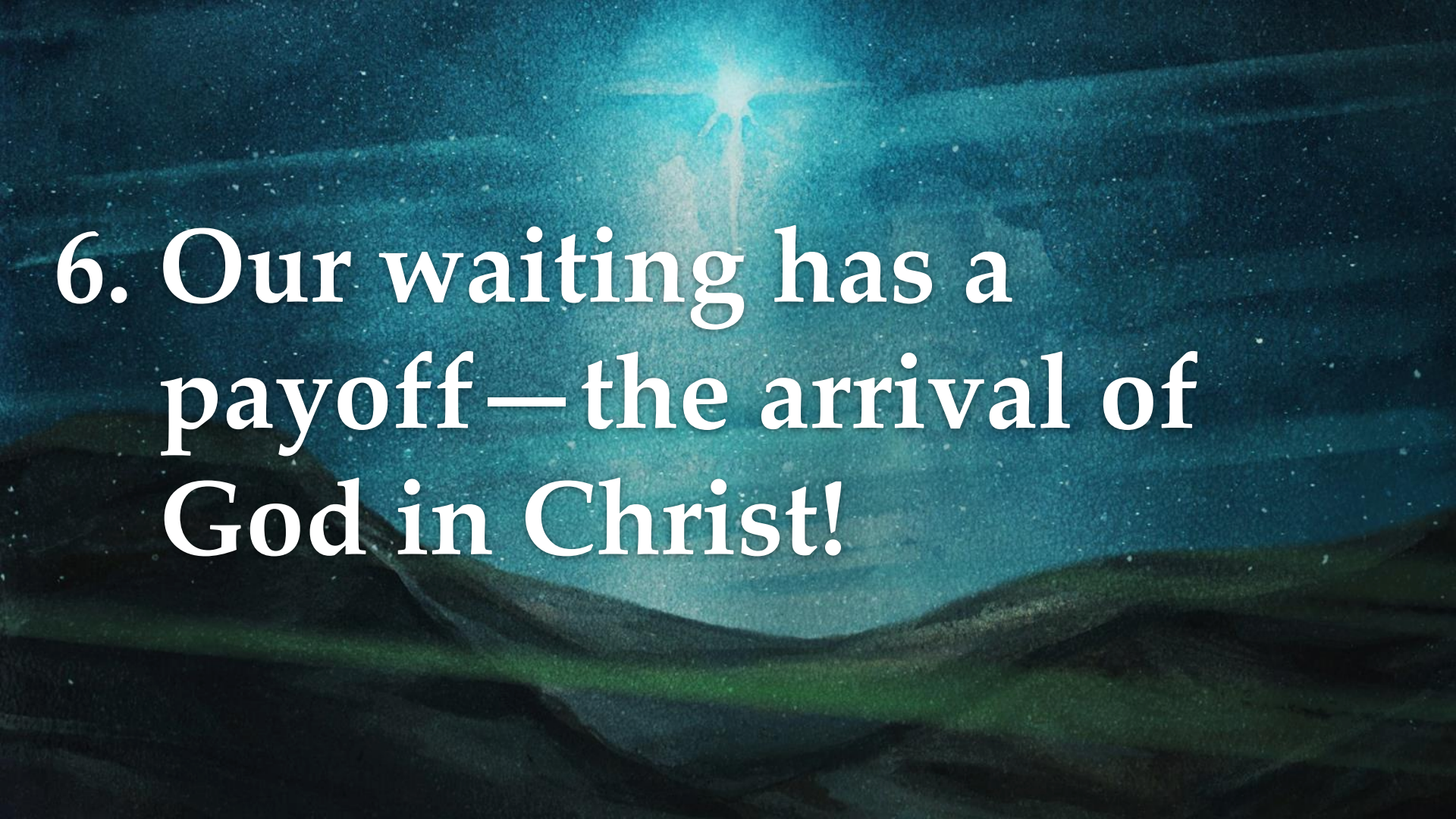


“And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.”

(Romans 8:28)



“Count the patience of our Lord as
salvation.” (2 Peter 3:15)



6. Our waiting has a
payoff—the arrival of
God in Christ!