

## ORDER OF SERVICE

February 12, 2023

Worship in Fellowship  
Worship in Music  
Worship in Message  
Worship in Giving

Wayne Braudrick

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### Love Creates

*Selected Scriptures*

*Love Is Series*

Life Change: We create in the image of our Creator.

**To be creative, people need boundaries**

**God sparks creativity by setting boundaries**

**Pr 8:22, 27-31**

Wisdom is connected to orderly creation

The boundaries are for delight!

**Boundary violation destroys delight**

It separates one from God

**Gen 3:8-10**

**Boundary violation destroys delight**

It always devolves into idolatry

**Gen 3:8-10**

Rom 1:22-25

It destroys society

Gen 3:11-13; Rom 1:28-31

It is no accident that the Age of Feeling is giving way to the Age of Anxiety...We are creatures and not the Creator. We were never designed to bear the impossible weight of creating and sustaining our identities. That is a God-sized task, and whenever we elevate ourselves to supreme status, playing God, anxiety inevitably spikes.  
– Thaddeus Williams, “The Age of Anxiety”

**Development in God’s image leads to boundless creativity! Col 3:8-10**

It renews people in God’s image

It fosters great art

It tames the Wild Wood





PLEASE SILENCE YOUR PHONE





courtesy noble



**Nope.  
Too scary.**



**Not going  
out there!**





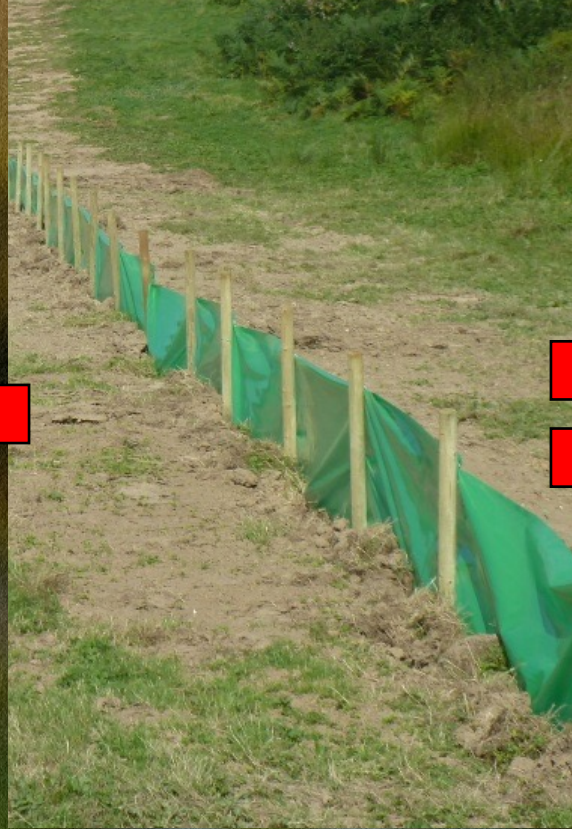
courtesy oart





courtesy trip savvy (Which seems appropriate, as it was easy to trip in that field.)







*Thunderstorm*  
Sal Vabrani  
2020





**<sup>22</sup> The LORD created me [wisdom] as the beginning of his works,  
before his deeds of long ago.**

**<sup>27</sup> When he established the heavens, I was there;  
when he marked out the horizon over the face of the deep,  
<sup>28</sup> when he established the clouds above,  
when the fountains of the deep grew strong,**

**Proverbs 8 NET**



**<sup>29</sup> when he gave the sea his decree  
that the waters should not pass over his command,  
when he marked out the foundations of the earth,  
<sup>30</sup> then I was beside him as a master craftsman,  
and I was his delight day by day,  
rejoicing before him at all times,  
<sup>31</sup> rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth,  
and delighting in its people.**

**Proverbs 8 NET**



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יהוה

YHWH: covenant name of the  
self-existent One

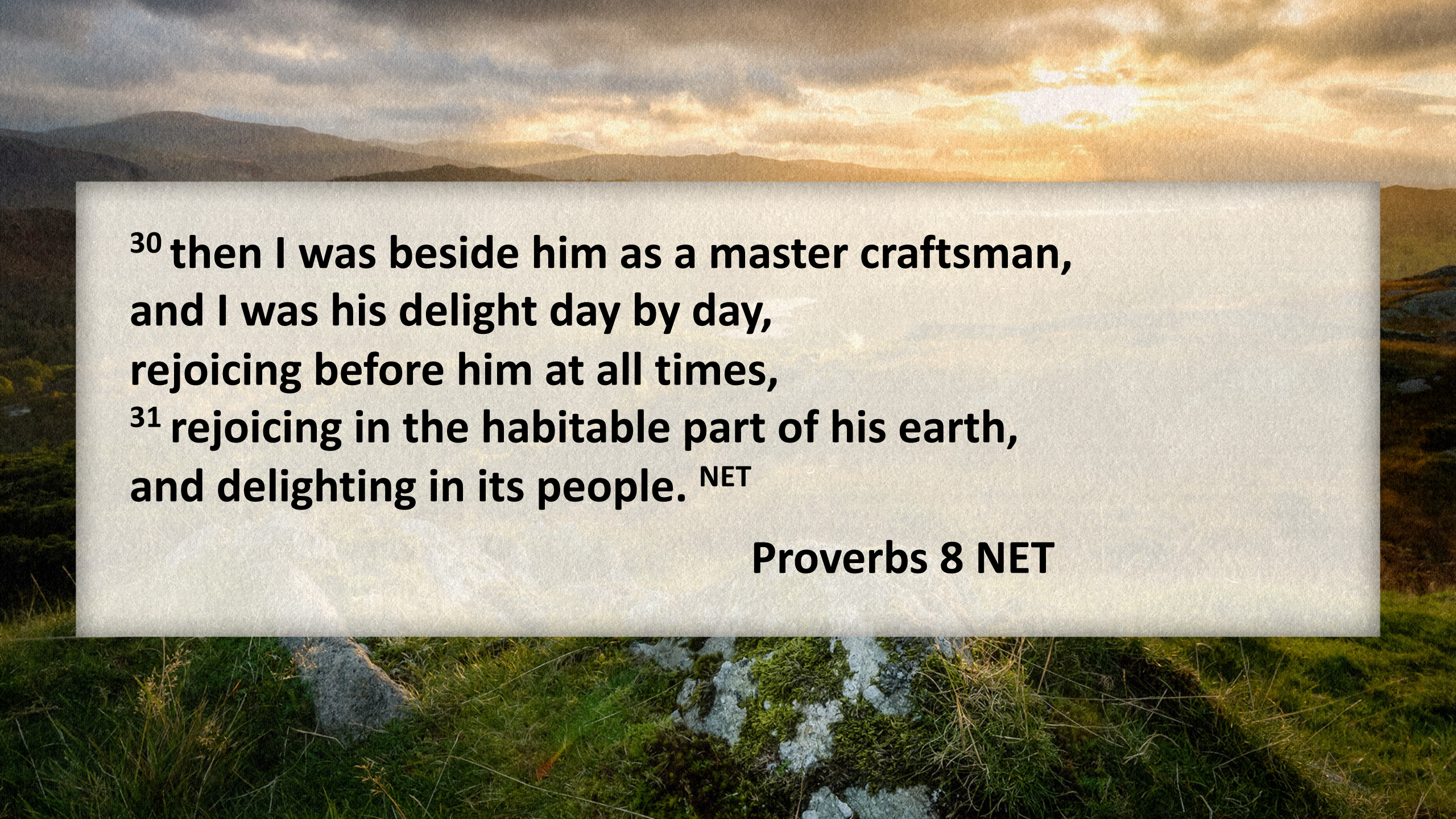


A scenic landscape at sunset or sunrise with rolling hills and a large white circle containing text.

**Then God said,  
“Let us make man  
in our image,  
according to our likeness.  
They will rule the...earth.”**

**Genesis 1:26 CSB**





**<sup>30</sup> then I was beside him as a master craftsman,  
and I was his delight day by day,  
rejoicing before him at all times,  
<sup>31</sup> rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth,  
and delighting in its people. <sup>NET</sup>**

**Proverbs 8 NET**



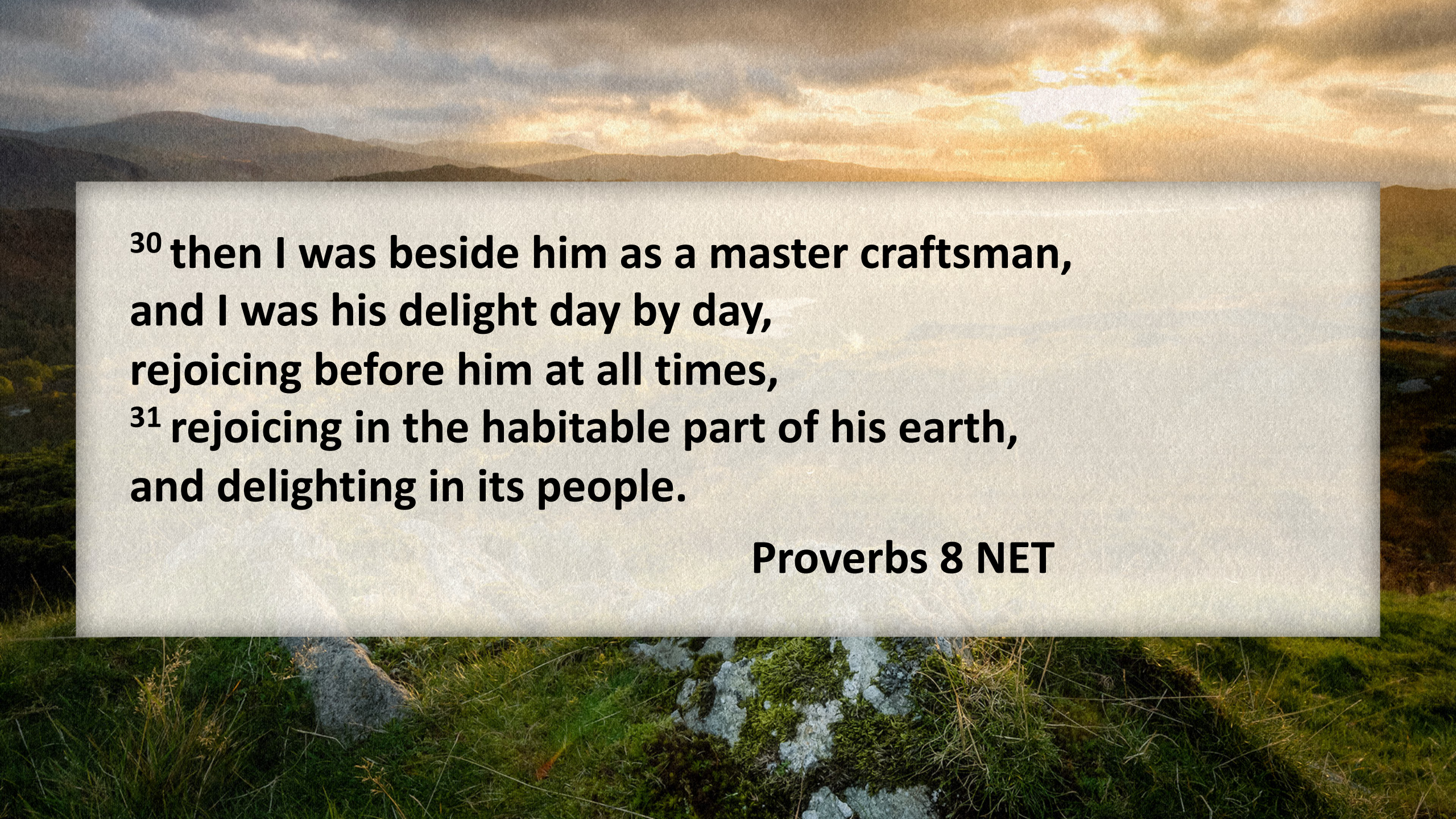


courtesy Universal





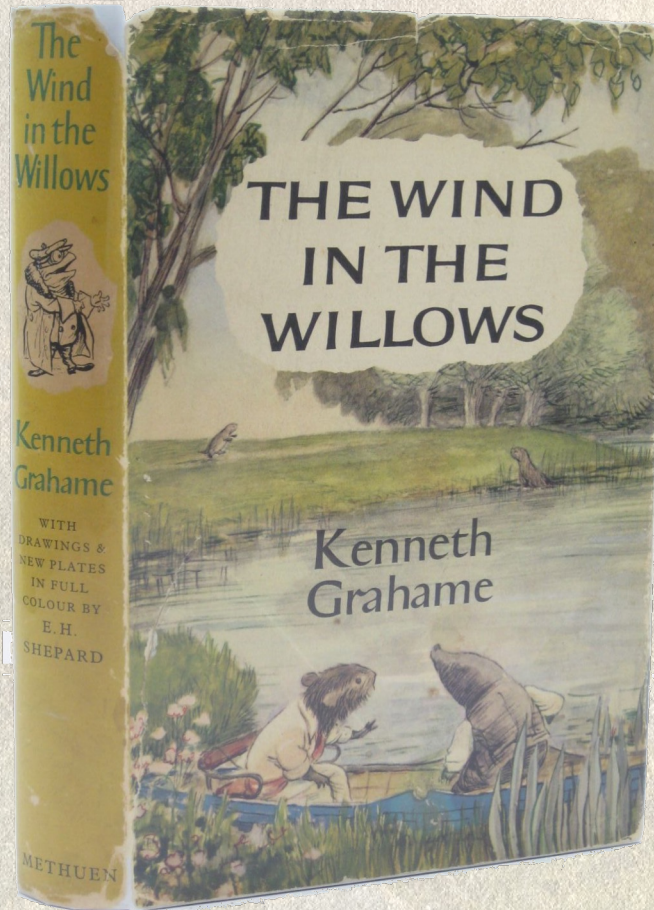




**<sup>30</sup> then I was beside him as a master craftsman,  
and I was his delight day by day,  
rejoicing before him at all times,  
<sup>31</sup> rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth,  
and delighting in its people.**

**Proverbs 8 NET**





*Young Mole*  
Nikolaj Djatschenko  
2016





***Rat and Mole on their way!***  
**Philip Mendoza**  
**1983**



**‘What lies over *there*,’ asked the Mole, waving a paw towards a background of woodland that darkly framed the water-meadows on one side of the river.**

**‘That? O, that’s just the Wild Wood,’ said the Rat shortly. ‘We don’t go there very much.’**

**‘Aren’t they—aren’t they very *nice* people in there?’ said the Mole, a trifle nervously.**

**‘W-e-ll,’ replied the Rat, ‘There are weasels—and stoats—and foxes—and so on...there’s no denying it, and—well, you can’t really trust them, and that’s the fact...I think you [shouldn’t] go there.’ – Kenneth Grahame, *The Wind in the Willows***



***Mole & Rat*  
Nadir Quinto  
1993**





*Ratty & Mole prepare for adventure  
with a stout luncheon basket*  
**Angel Dominguez**  
**2016**

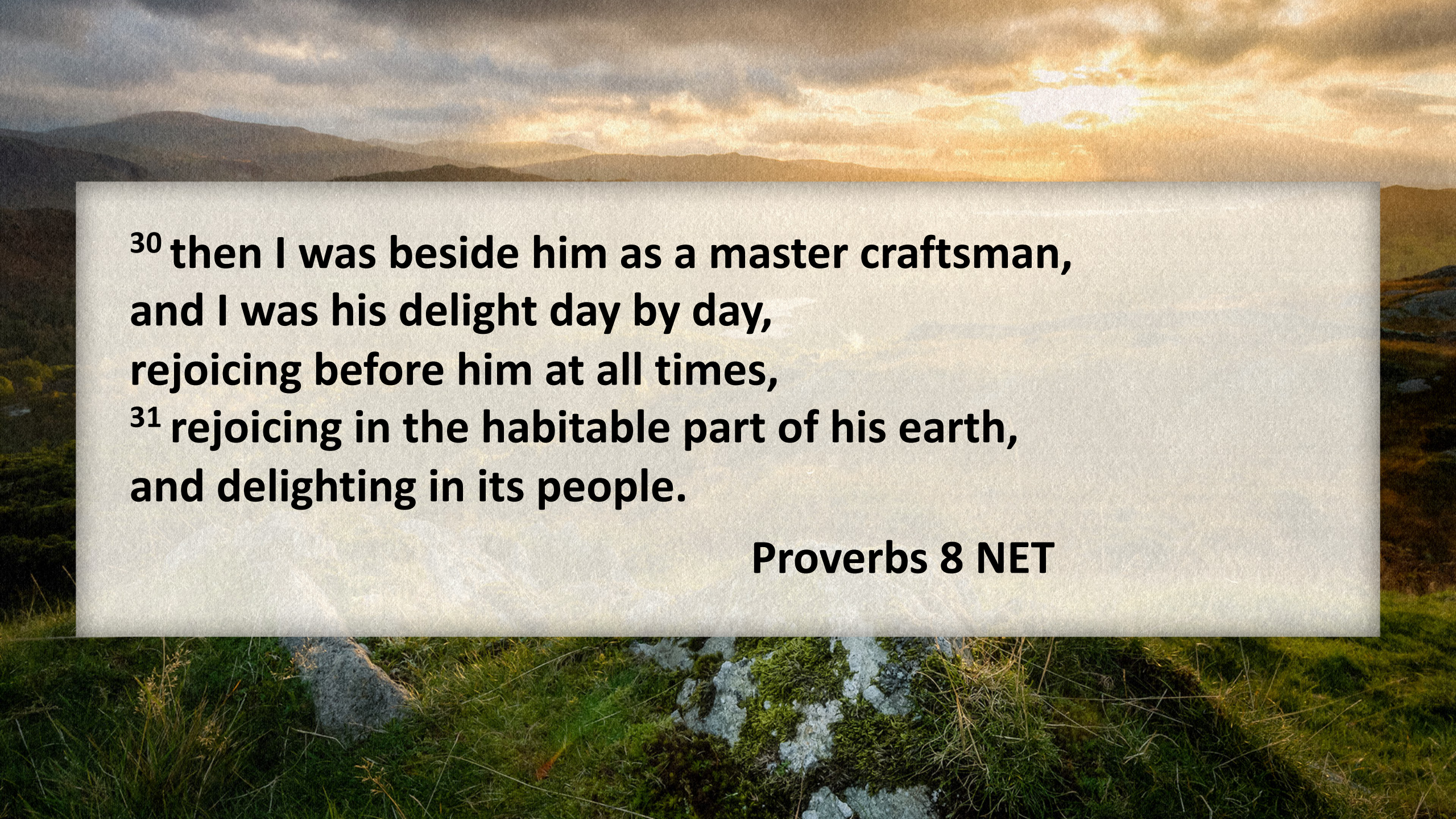




**Such a rich chapter it had been, when one came to look back on it all! With illustrations so numerous and so very highly coloured! The pageant of the river bank had marched steadily along, unfolding itself in scene-pictures that succeeded each other in stately procession. – Kenneth Grahame, *The Wind in the Willows***

***Mole and Rat picnicking  
under a tree by The River***  
**Ernest Shepard**  
**1931**





**<sup>30</sup> then I was beside him as a master craftsman,  
and I was his delight day by day,  
rejoicing before him at all times,  
<sup>31</sup> rejoicing in the habitable part of his earth,  
and delighting in its people.**

**Proverbs 8 NET**



*Adam and Eve  
expelled from the  
Garden*  
Thomas Cole  
1828



courtesy Boston Museum of Fine Arts



**<sup>8</sup> Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden.**

**<sup>9</sup> So the LORD God called out to the man and said to him, “Where are you?”**

**<sup>10</sup> And he said, “I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.”**

**Genesis 3 CSB**





*Mole & Rat meet for  
an evening walk*  
Philip Mendoza  
1983



*Adam and Eve  
expelled from the  
Garden*  
Thomas Cole  
1828



courtesy Boston Museum of Fine Arts





courtesy borgenmagazine; That one isn't even ripe, which would make it taste even worse (if that's possible).



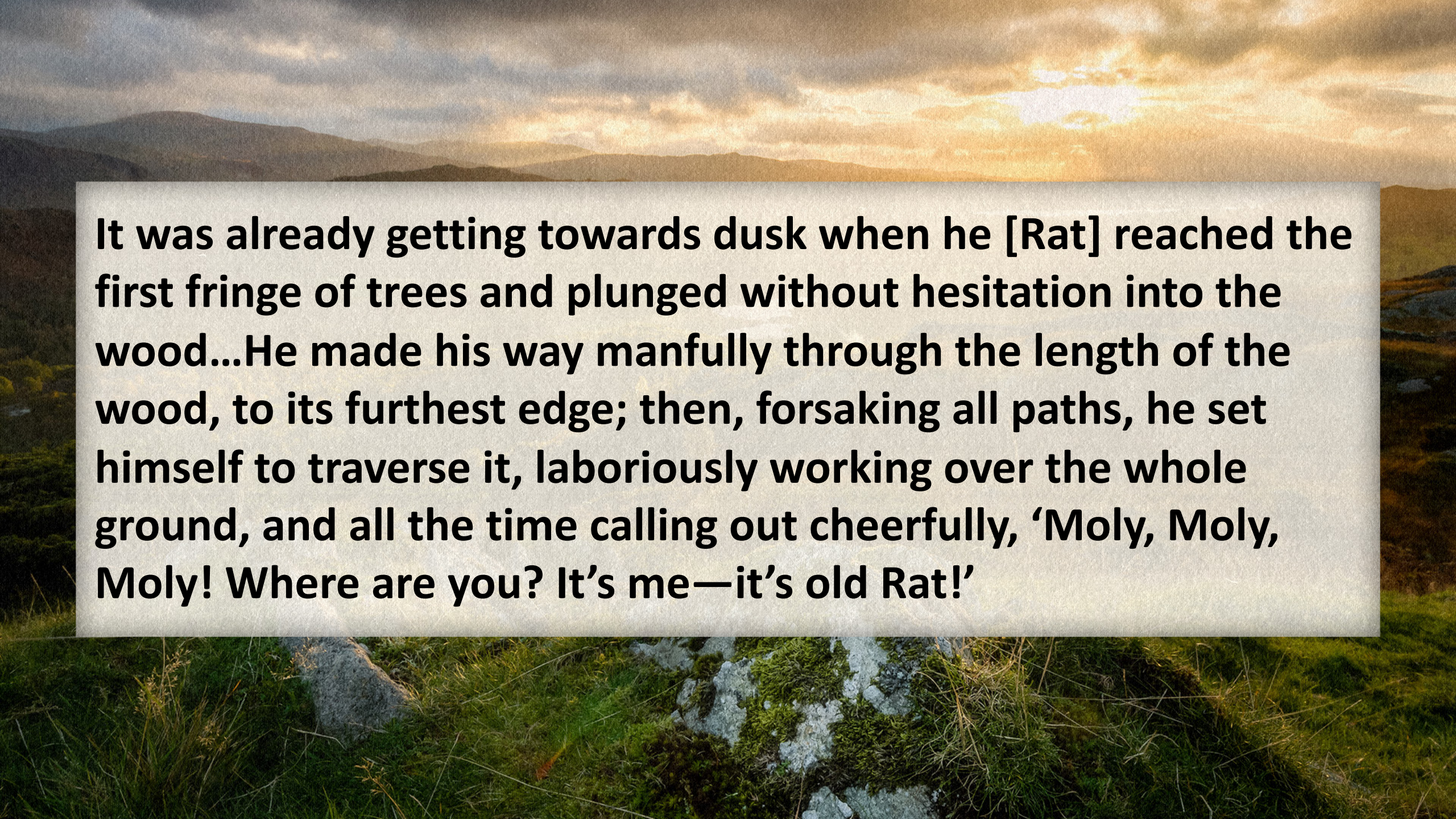
**Mole pushed on towards the Wild Wood, which lay before him low and threatening, like a black reef in some still southern sea...[mole then gets lost in the dark wood]...As he lay there panting and trembling, and listened to the whistlings and the patterings**

**outside, he knew it at last, in all its fullness, that dread thing which other little dwellers in field and hedgerow had encountered here, and known as their darkest moment – the Terror of the Wild Wood! – Kenneth Grahame, *Wind in the Willows***

***Into the Wild Wood*  
Mary Begin  
2002**





The background image is a landscape photograph. The top half shows a range of mountains under a dramatic sky with orange and yellow light from a low sun, partially obscured by clouds. The bottom half of the image shows a close-up of green grass and mossy rocks. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the middle of the image, containing a block of text in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**It was already getting towards dusk when he [Rat] reached the first fringe of trees and plunged without hesitation into the wood...He made his way manfully through the length of the wood, to its furthest edge; then, forsaking all paths, he set himself to traverse it, laboriously working over the whole ground, and all the time calling out cheerfully, 'Moly, Moly, Moly! Where are you? It's me—it's old Rat!'**



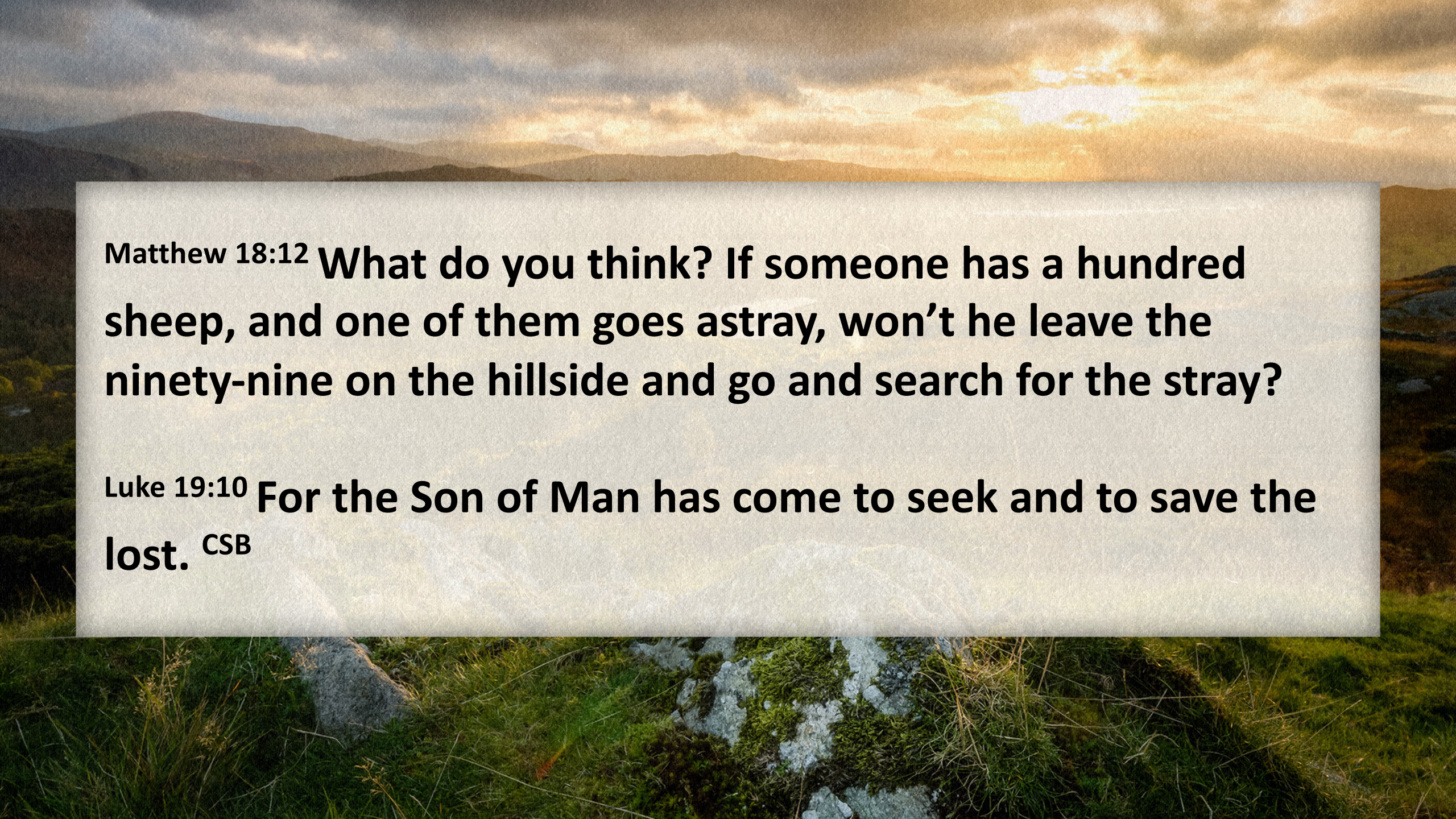
He made his way through the gathering darkness to the foot of an old beech tree, with a hole in it, and from out of the hole came a feeble voice, saying 'Ratty! Is that really you?'

The Rat crept into the hollow, and there he found the Mole, exhausted and still trembling. – Kenneth Grahame, *The Wind in the Willows*

*Rat finds Moly*  
Arthur Rackham  
1940



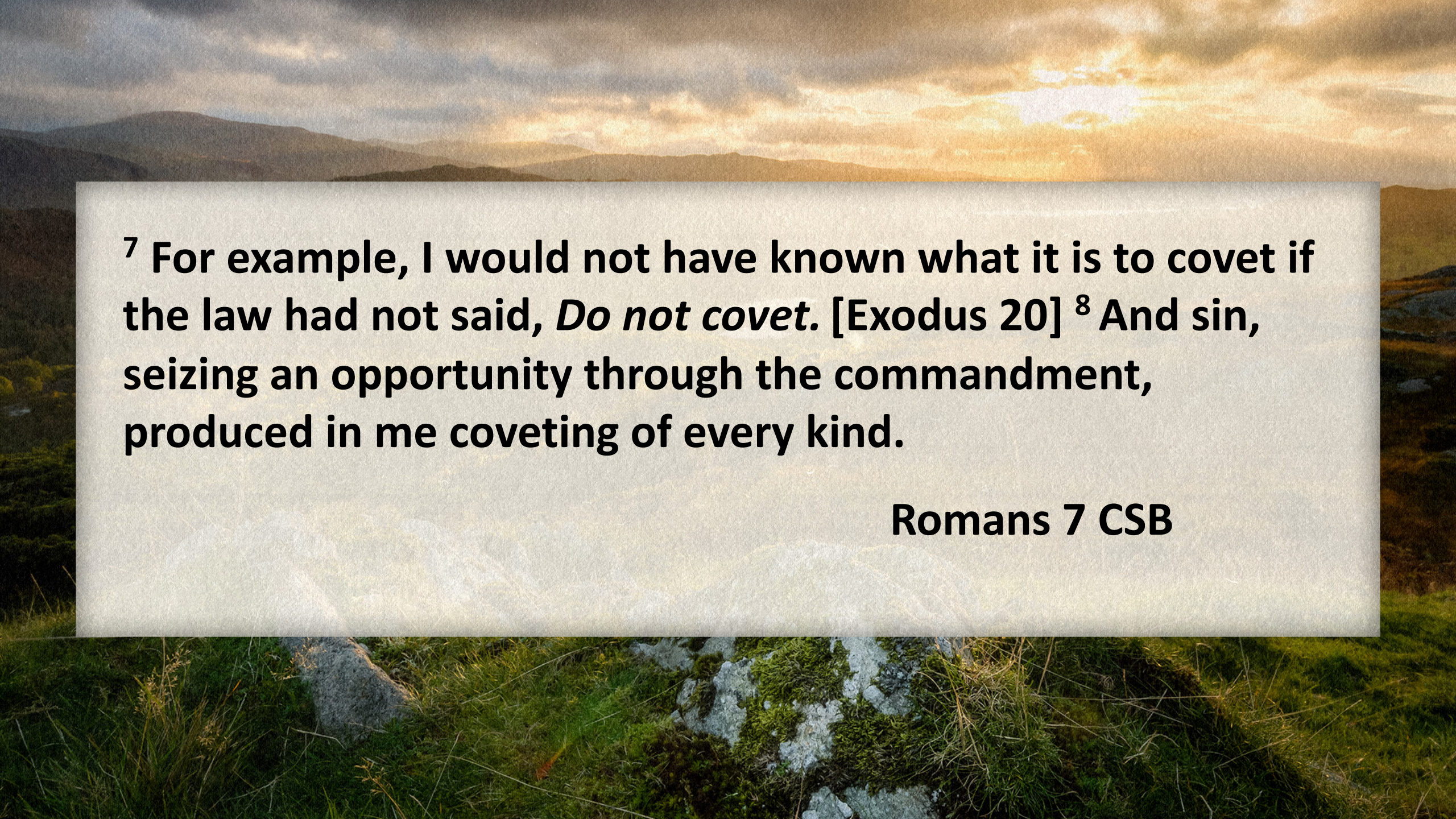




**Matthew 18:12** What do you think? If someone has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, won't he leave the ninety-nine on the hillside and go and search for the stray?

**Luke 19:10** For the Son of Man has come to seek and to save the lost. CSB





**<sup>7</sup> For example, I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, *Do not covet*. [Exodus 20] <sup>8</sup> And sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me coveting of every kind.**


**Romans 7 CSB**





courtesy Kirsten McKee



A photograph of a forest path. The path is covered in green grass and leads into a wooded area. The trees are mostly bare, but some have small green leaves. A speech bubble with a yellow border and a black background is positioned over the path, containing the text "Look at these pretty green plants!".

**Look at these pretty  
green plants!**



**<sup>22</sup> Claiming to be wise, they became fools <sup>23</sup> and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man, birds, four-footed animals, and reptiles. <sup>24</sup> Therefore God delivered them over in the desires of their hearts to sexual impurity, so that their bodies were degraded among themselves. <sup>25</sup> They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served what has been created instead of the Creator, who is praised forever. Amen.**

**Romans 1 CSB**

MARK

LUKE

JOHN

ACTS

ROMANS

1 COR

2 COR

GAL

EPH





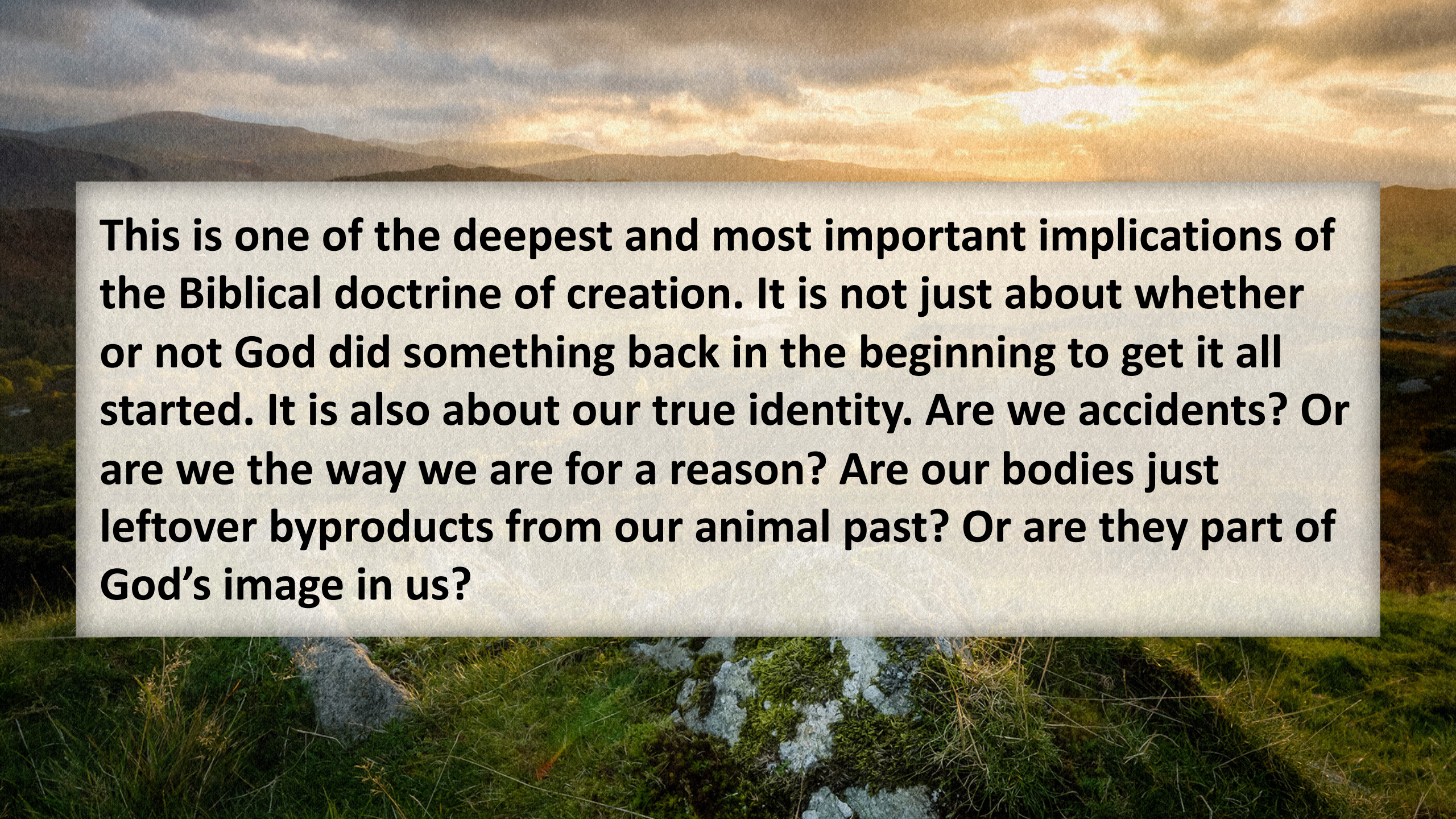
courtesy fbol; 9C) AP



**Chris Carter, “Gender theory and the doctrine of creation”**

**Many Christians instinctively know that there is something wrong with gender theory. Still, some don’t necessarily understand that at the most basic level, it is really a clash between affirming that we are God’s creatures versus affirming that we are self-creators. The reason this is so important is that if God designs men and women, then the only way that we can find our true identity and experience true happiness is by submitting our wills to the design of the Creator.**



The background image is a landscape photograph. The top half shows a sky with soft, golden light from a low sun, partially obscured by wispy clouds. Below the sky, there are rolling hills or mountains in the distance. The bottom half of the image shows a close-up of green grass and mossy rocks in the foreground. A semi-transparent white rectangular box is centered over the middle of the image, containing black text.

**This is one of the deepest and most important implications of the Biblical doctrine of creation. It is not just about whether or not God did something back in the beginning to get it all started. It is also about our true identity. Are we accidents? Or are we the way we are for a reason? Are our bodies just leftover byproducts from our animal past? Or are they part of God's image in us?**



**At the end of the day, it comes down to who is the Creator and who is the creature. – Chris Carter, “Gender theory and the doctrine of creation”**



**<sup>25</sup> They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshiped and served what has been created instead of the Creator, who is praised forever. Amen.**

**Romans 1 CSB**



**<sup>11</sup> Then he asked, “Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?”**

**<sup>12</sup> The man replied, “The woman you gave to be with me—she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate.”**

**<sup>13</sup> So the LORD God asked the woman, “What have you done?” And the woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”**

**Genesis 3 CSB**



**<sup>28</sup> And because they did not think it worthwhile to acknowledge God, God delivered them over to a corrupt mind so that they do what is not right. <sup>29</sup> They are filled with all unrighteousness, evil, greed, and wickedness. They are full of envy, murder, quarrels, deceit, and malice. They are gossips, <sup>30</sup> slanderers, God-haters, arrogant, proud, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, <sup>31</sup> senseless, untrustworthy, unloving, and unmerciful. <sup>CSB</sup>**

**Romans 1 CSB**

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**Romans 1 CSB**



## **Thaddeus Williams, “The Age of Anxiety”**

**For most of human history, feelings were the kind of things that could be embraced, resisted, ignored, celebrated, chastened, silenced, trained, or challenged. Our ancestors could do a whole lot with their emotions. The freedom of our day is far more limiting. You have one option when it comes to your heart—follow it. Anyone who tells you otherwise is a bigot, a phobic, a hater...Given the unprecedented authority granted to emotion in our day, it is accurate to describe this as “the Age of Feeling.”**



## **Thaddeus Williams, “The Age of Anxiety”**

**Blended Scotch is for “heart followers only,” as a recent ad instructs readers to “follow your heart with Cutty Sark.” An ad for a Sony soundbar targets those who “only follow the instructions of their heart.” ...Packed auditoriums of adolescents, hands outstretched in worship-pose, sing in unison with pop star JoJo Siwa, “No-No-Nobody can change me, change me. I follow my own lead. Once you get to know me you’ll see, got all these emotions, they’re guiding every moment.”**



## **Thaddeus Williams, “The Age of Anxiety”**

**Our Age of Feeling is collapsing all around us into what indie ensemble Arcade Fire have branded in the opening track of their latest album as “the Age of Anxiety.” We are told that anxiety disorders now effect a whopping one-third of adolescents between the ages of 13 and 18. Before 2009, 37 percent of students who visited university counseling centers cited anxiety as their problem. By 2016, the percentage jumped to 51 percent and continues to climb.**

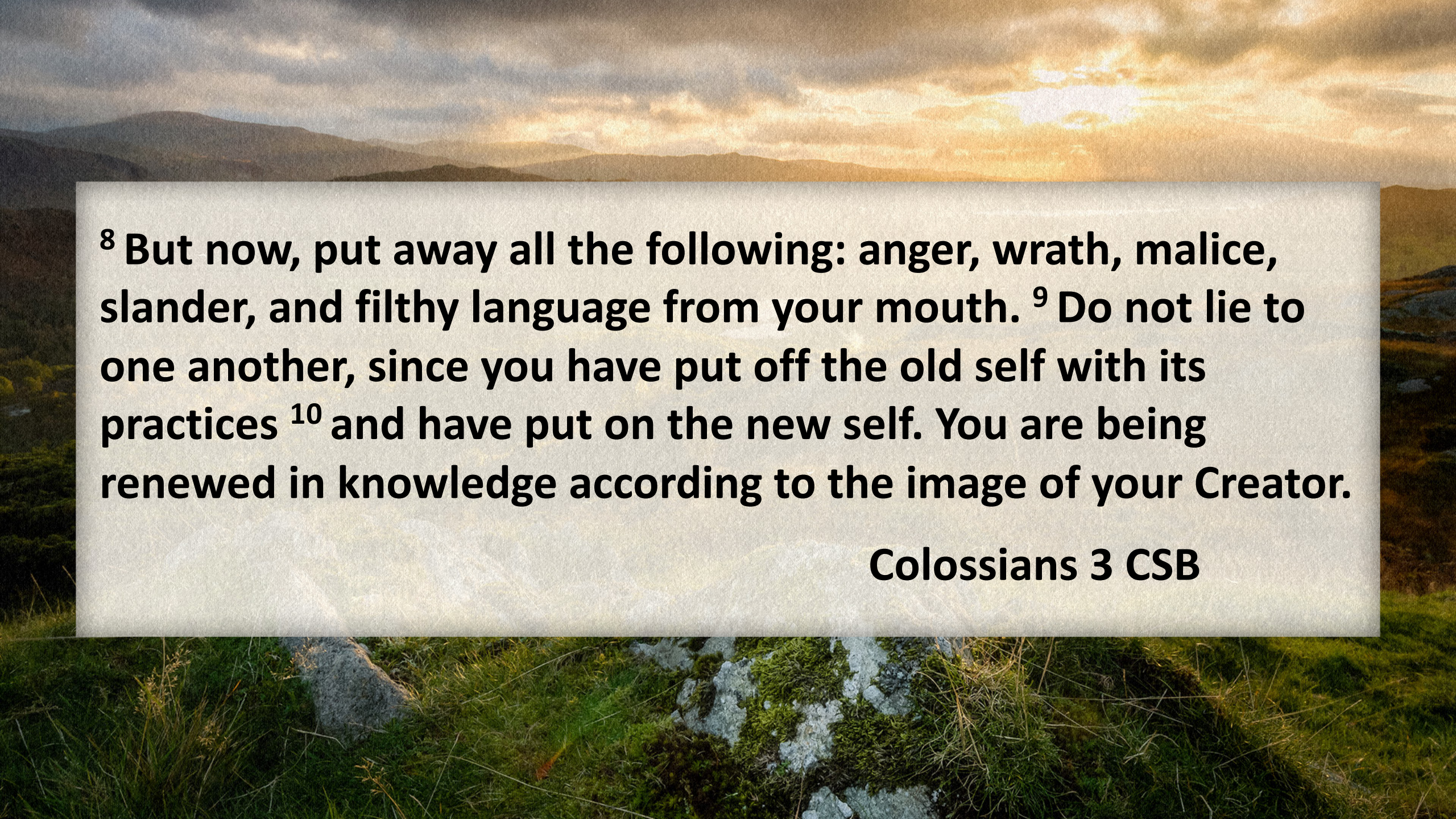




**It is no accident that the Age of Feeling is giving way to the Age of Anxiety...We are creatures and not the Creator. We were never designed to bear the impossible weight of creating and sustaining our identities. That is a God-sized task, and whenever we elevate ourselves to supreme status, playing God, anxiety inevitably spikes. – Thaddeus Williams, “The Age of Anxiety”**





A scenic landscape featuring a range of mountains under a dramatic, cloudy sky at sunset or sunrise. The foreground is filled with green grass and mossy rocks. A semi-transparent white box is centered over the image, containing text.

**<sup>8</sup> But now, put away all the following: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self. You are being renewed in knowledge according to the image of your Creator.**

**Colossians 3 CSB**

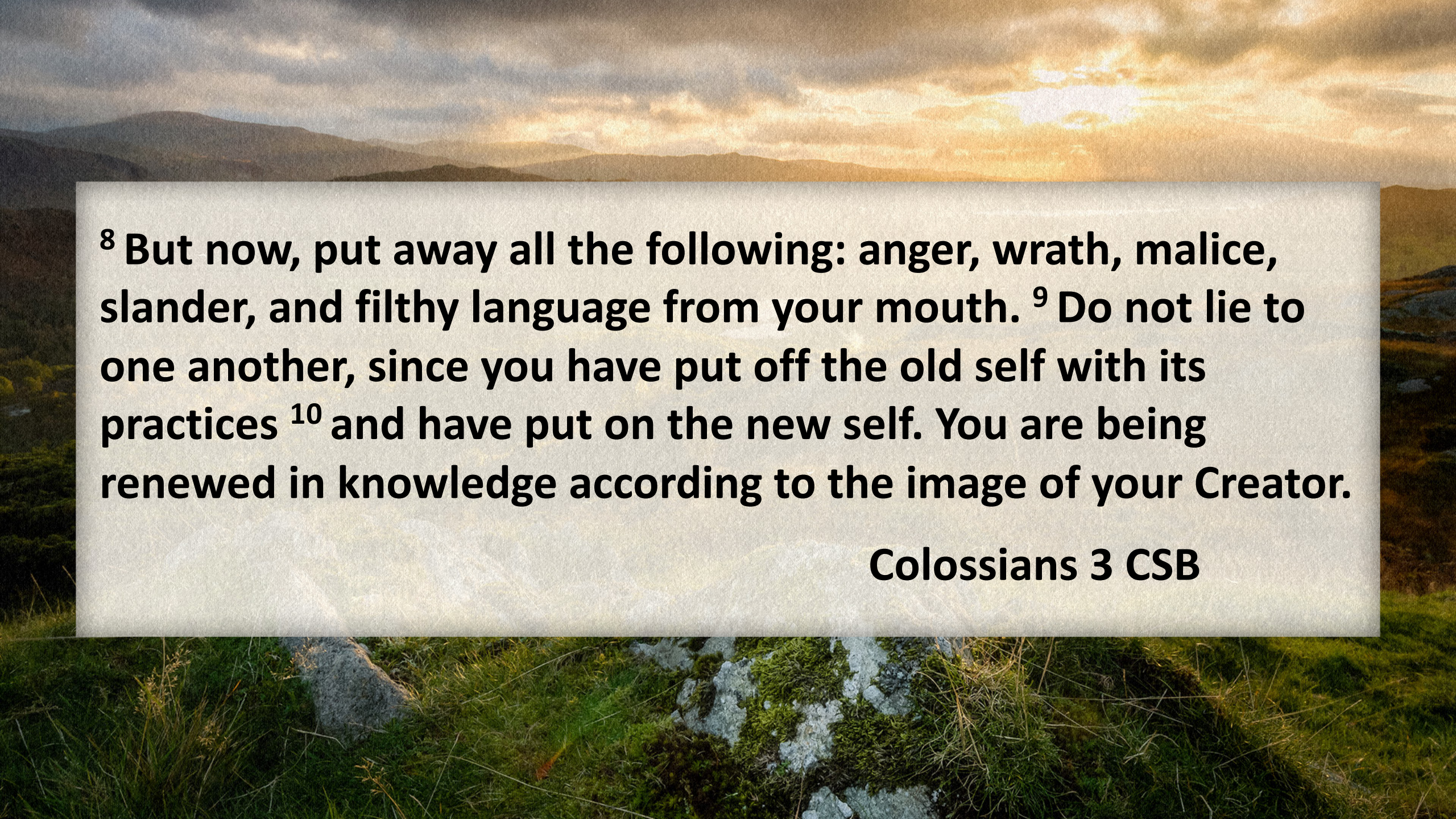










A scenic landscape featuring rolling green hills and mountains in the background under a dramatic, cloudy sky at sunset or sunrise. The foreground shows a grassy field with some rocks and moss. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

**<sup>8</sup> But now, put away all the following: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and filthy language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, since you have put off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self. You are being renewed in knowledge according to the image of your Creator.**

**Colossians 3 CSB**







*The infant Samuel at Mole's house*  
Philip Mendoza  
1983





**<sup>1</sup> The boy Samuel served the LORD in [Priest] Eli's presence. In those days the word of the LORD was rare and prophetic visions were not widespread.**

**<sup>10</sup> The LORD came, stood there, and called as before, "Samuel, Samuel!"**

**Samuel responded, "Speak, for your servant is listening."**

**<sup>19</sup> Samuel grew. The LORD was with him, and he fulfilled everything Samuel prophesied.**

**1 Samuel 3 CSB**



## Samuel

Prophet

Priest

Judge

King-maker

(of Saul & David)



## Messiah Jesus

Prophet

Priest

Judge

King



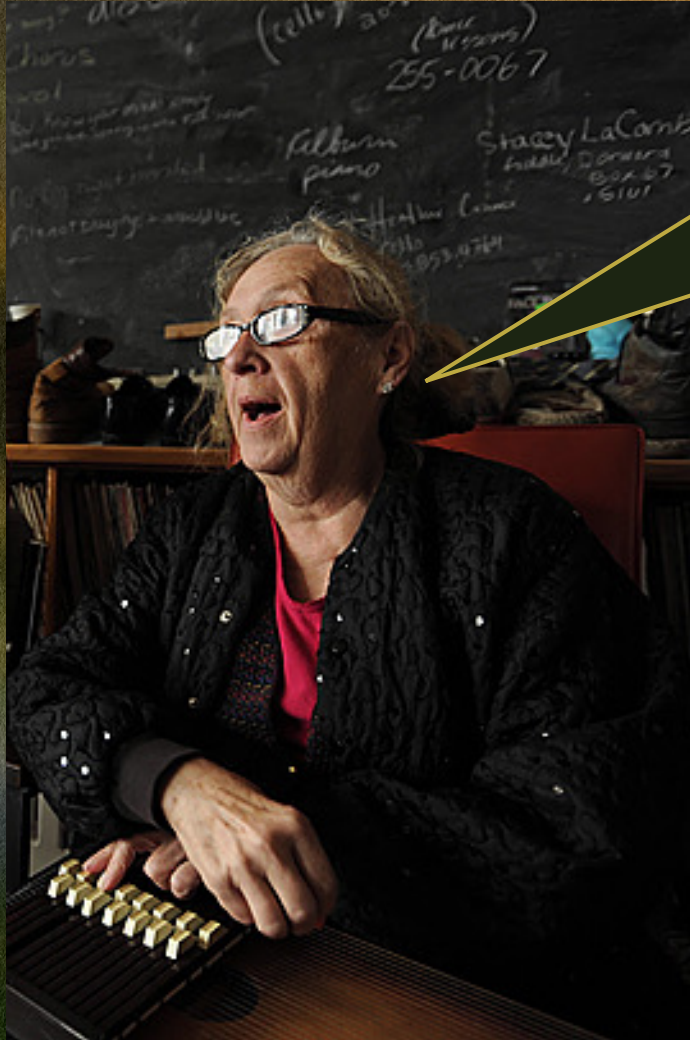


***Our Lady of Piety***  
**Michelangelo Buonarroti**  
**1498-9**

courtesy St. Peter's basilica



**Why is the greatest  
art based on  
Christian texts?  
– Bangor University  
professor**





**The boundary of truth fosters amazing productivity. Great creativity occurs when we recognize that we aren't creators of ourselves, but creative beings made in the Creator's image.**

**Why is the greatest art based on Christian texts?  
– Bangor University professor**





## **Alexander Solzhenitsyn, “Beauty Will Save The World”**

**One artist imagines himself the creator of an autonomous spiritual world; he hoists upon his shoulders the act of creating this world and of populating it, together with the total responsibility for it. But he collapses under the load, for no mortal genius can bear up under it, just as, in general, the man who declares himself the center of existence is unable to create a balanced spiritual system. And if a failure befalls such a man, the blame is promptly laid to the chronic disharmony of the world, to the complexity of modern man’s divided soul, or to the public’s lack of understanding.**



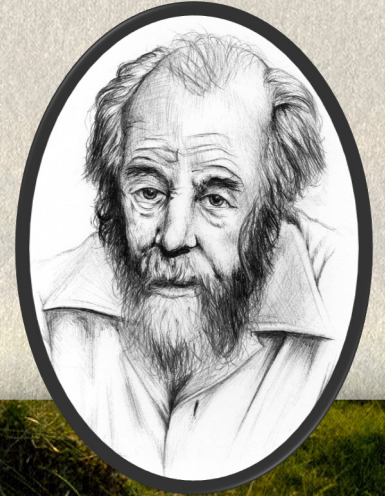
A landscape photograph of a mountain range at sunset or sunrise. The sky is filled with soft, golden light and scattered clouds. The mountains in the background are silhouetted against the bright sky. In the foreground, there is a grassy slope with some rocks and moss. A semi-transparent white text box is centered over the middle of the image.

## **Alexander Solzhenitsyn, “Beauty Will Save The World”**

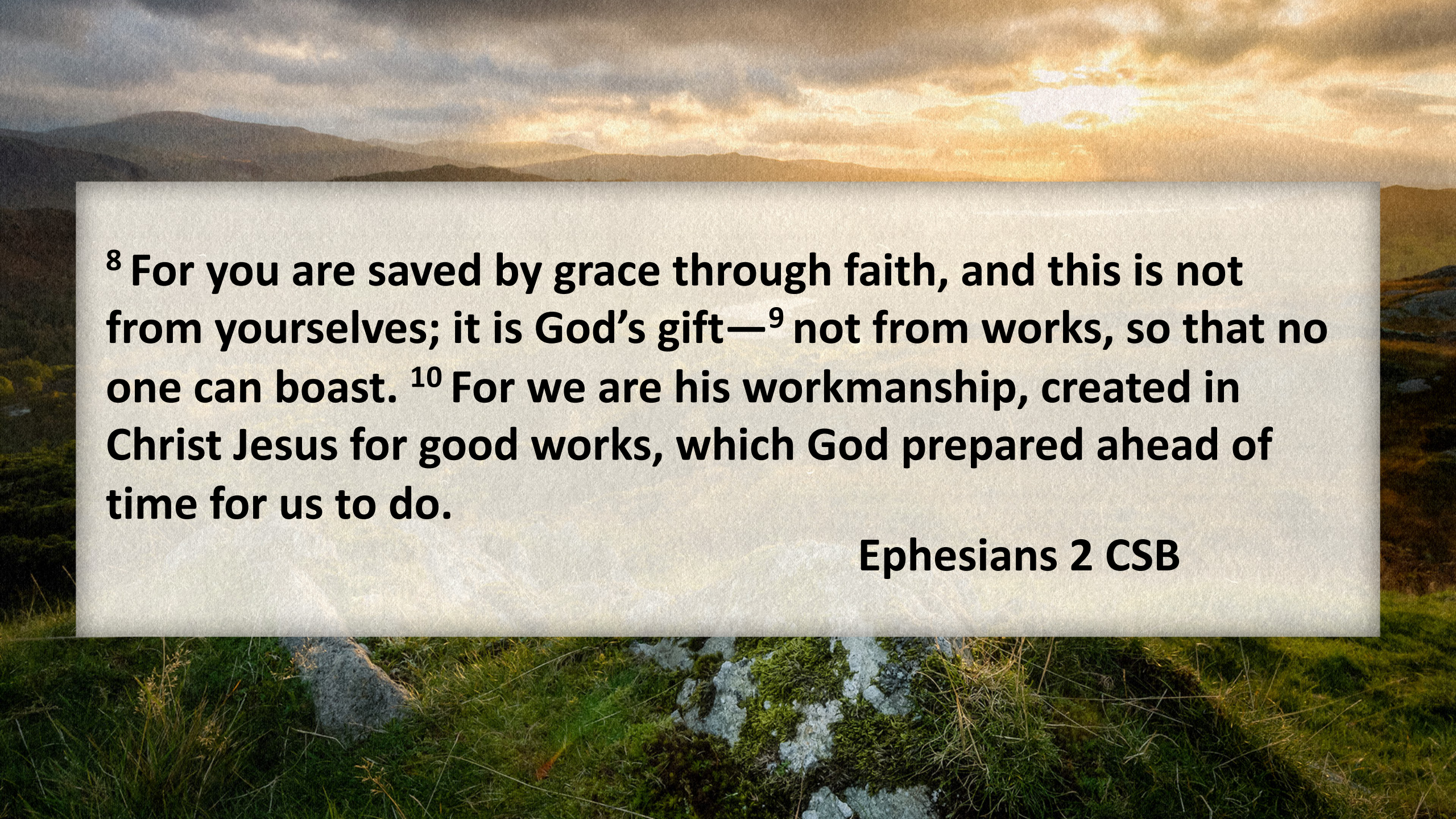
**Another artist recognizes above himself a higher power and joyfully works as a humble apprentice under God’s heaven, though graver and more demanding still is his responsibility for all he writes or paints—and for the souls which apprehend it. However, it was not he who created this world, nor does he control it; there can be no doubts about its foundations.**



**Even amid failure and at the lower depths of existence—in poverty, in prison, and in illness—a sense of enduring harmony cannot abandon him. – Alexander Solzhenitsyn, “Beauty Will Save The World”**







**<sup>8</sup> For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—<sup>9</sup> not from works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.**

**Ephesians 2 CSB**



A globe is centered in the upper half of the image, showing the Americas. A network of green lines connects various points on the globe's surface. The entire scene is set against a dark background filled with a dense field of glowing green and yellow particles, some of which are arranged in concentric circular patterns around the globe.

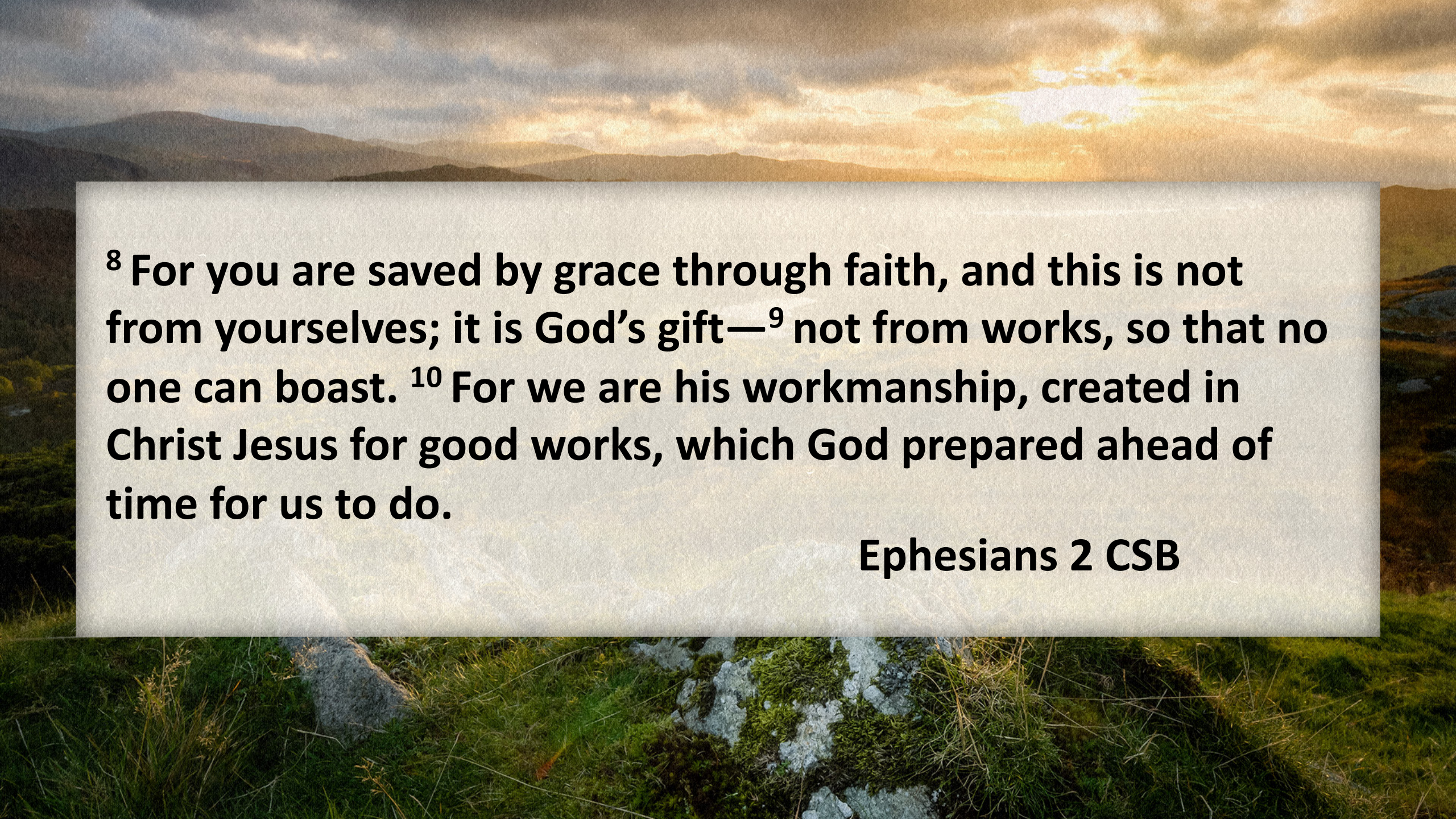
# ACTIVATE

— 2022-23 ANNUAL VISION —







A scenic landscape featuring a semi-transparent white text box overlaid on a background of rolling green hills and a dramatic sunset sky with orange and grey clouds. The foreground shows a grassy slope with some rocks and moss.

**<sup>8</sup> For you are saved by grace through faith, and this is not from yourselves; it is God's gift—<sup>9</sup> not from works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared ahead of time for us to do.**

**Ephesians 2 CSB**





*Preparing for battle*  
Ernest Shepard  
1931



***The tamed Wild Wood***  
**Inga Moore**  
**2000**



courtesy Walker Books







