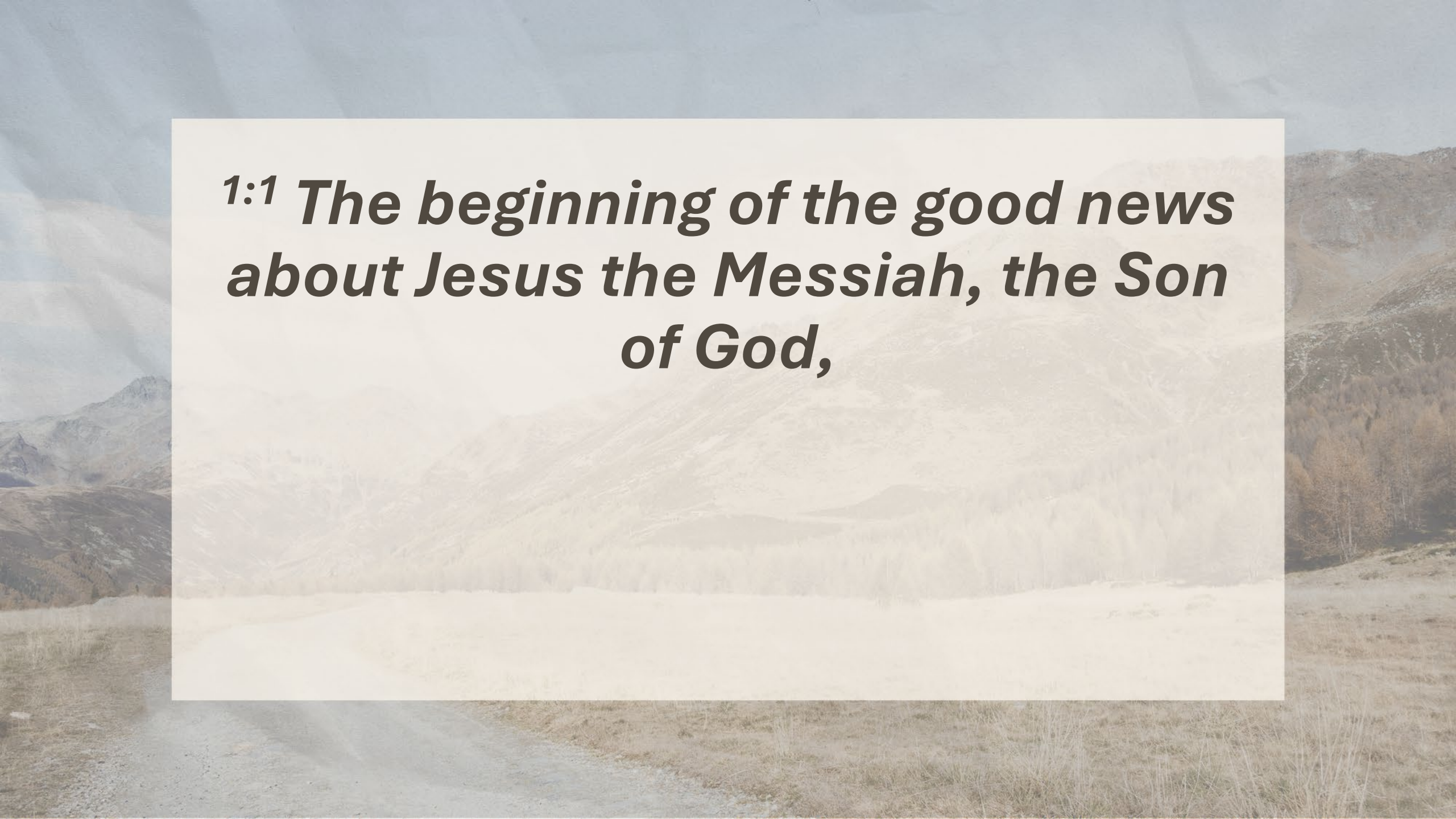


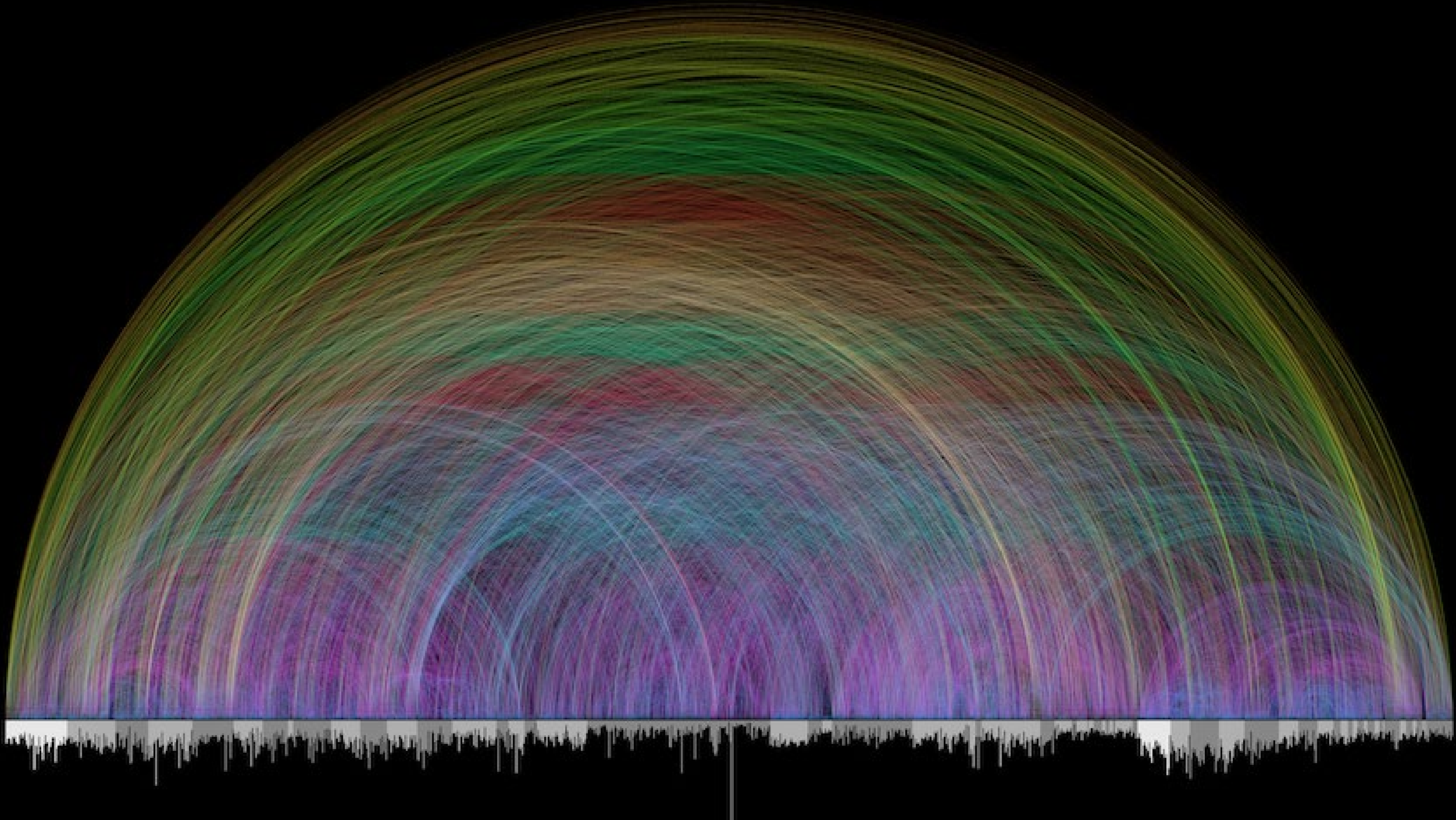
the gospel of

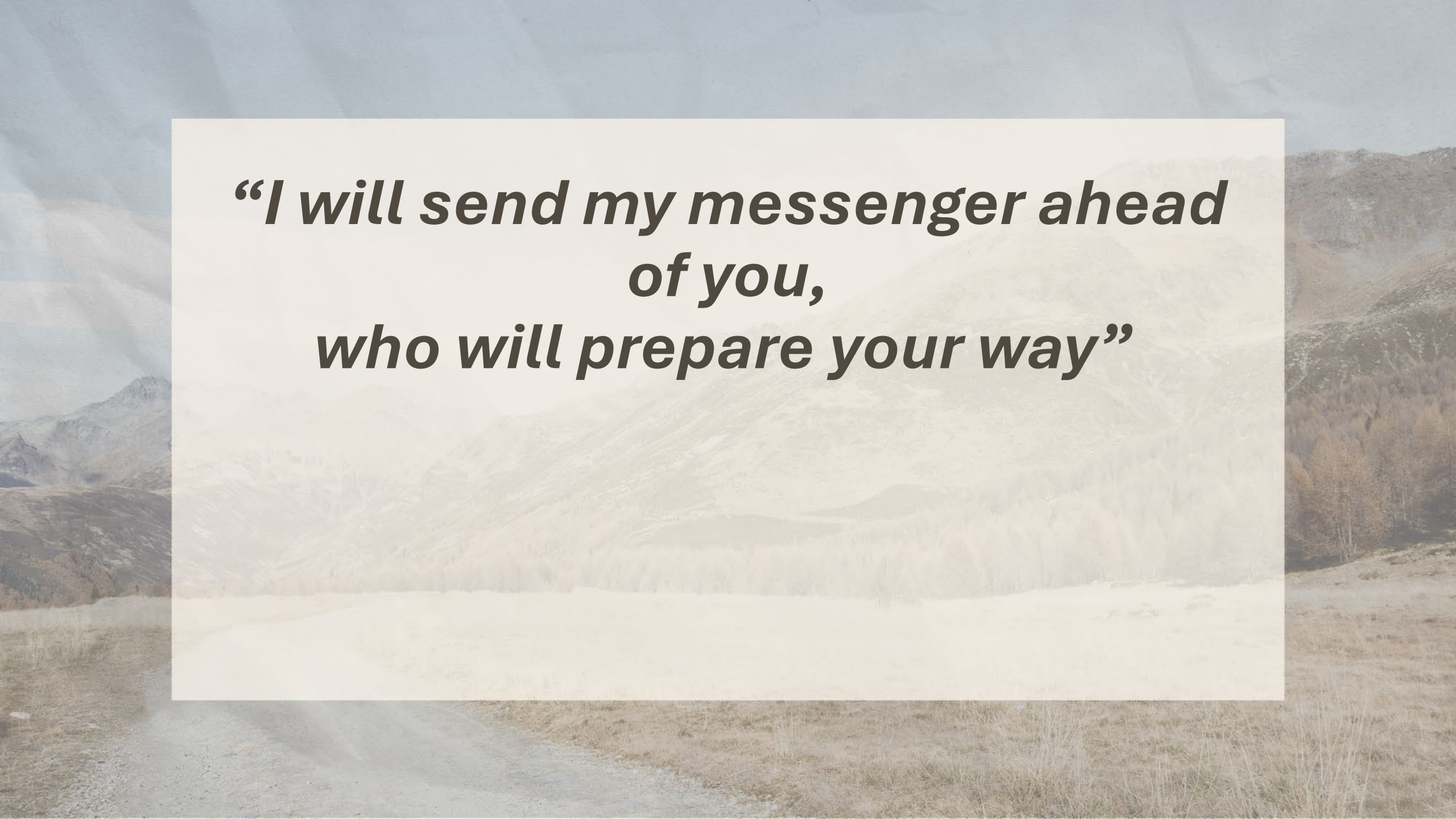
MARK

A scenic mountain landscape with a dirt road in the foreground and a semi-transparent text box in the center. The text box contains the following text:

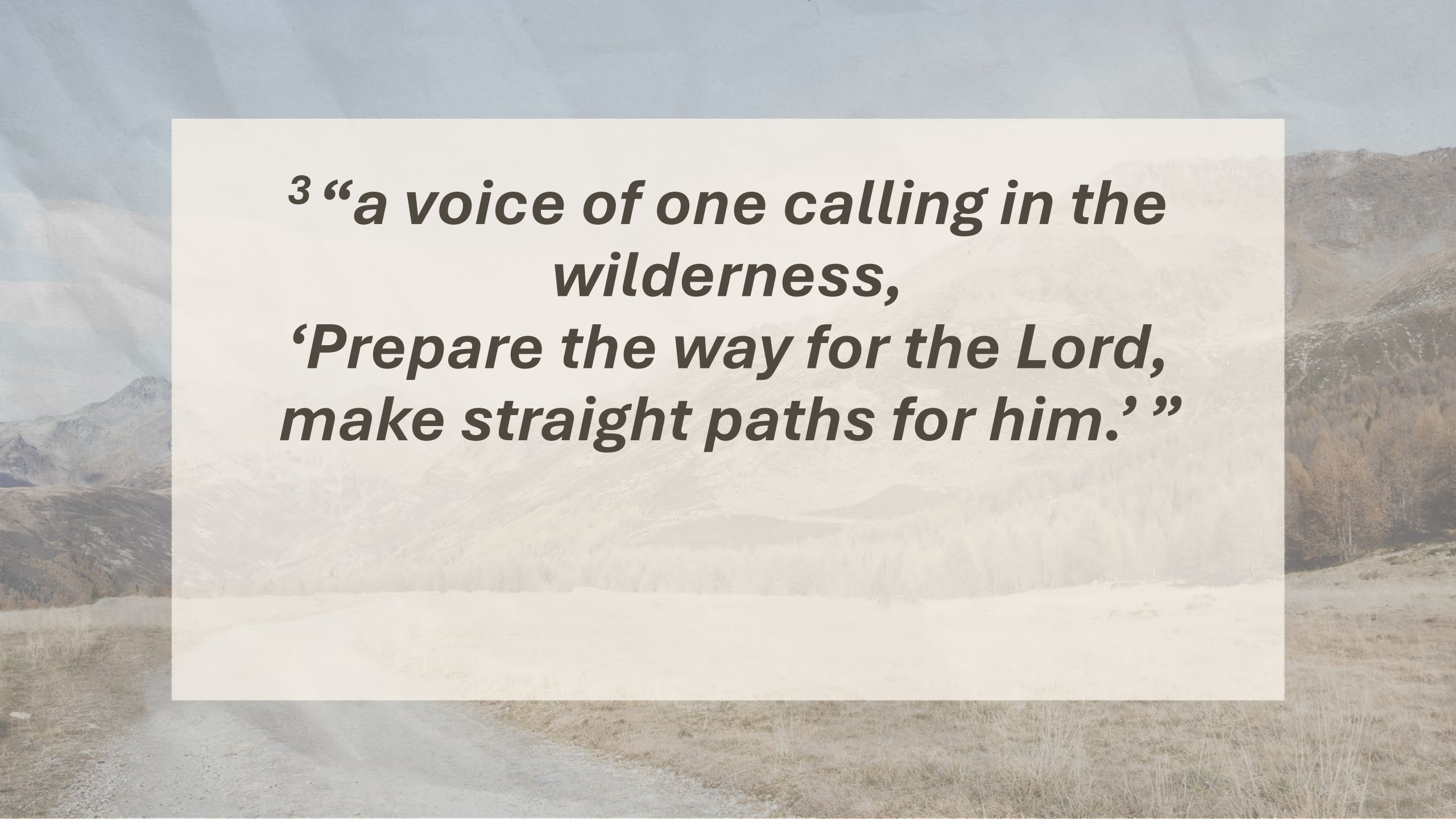
***1:1 The beginning of the good news
about Jesus the Messiah, the Son
of God,***



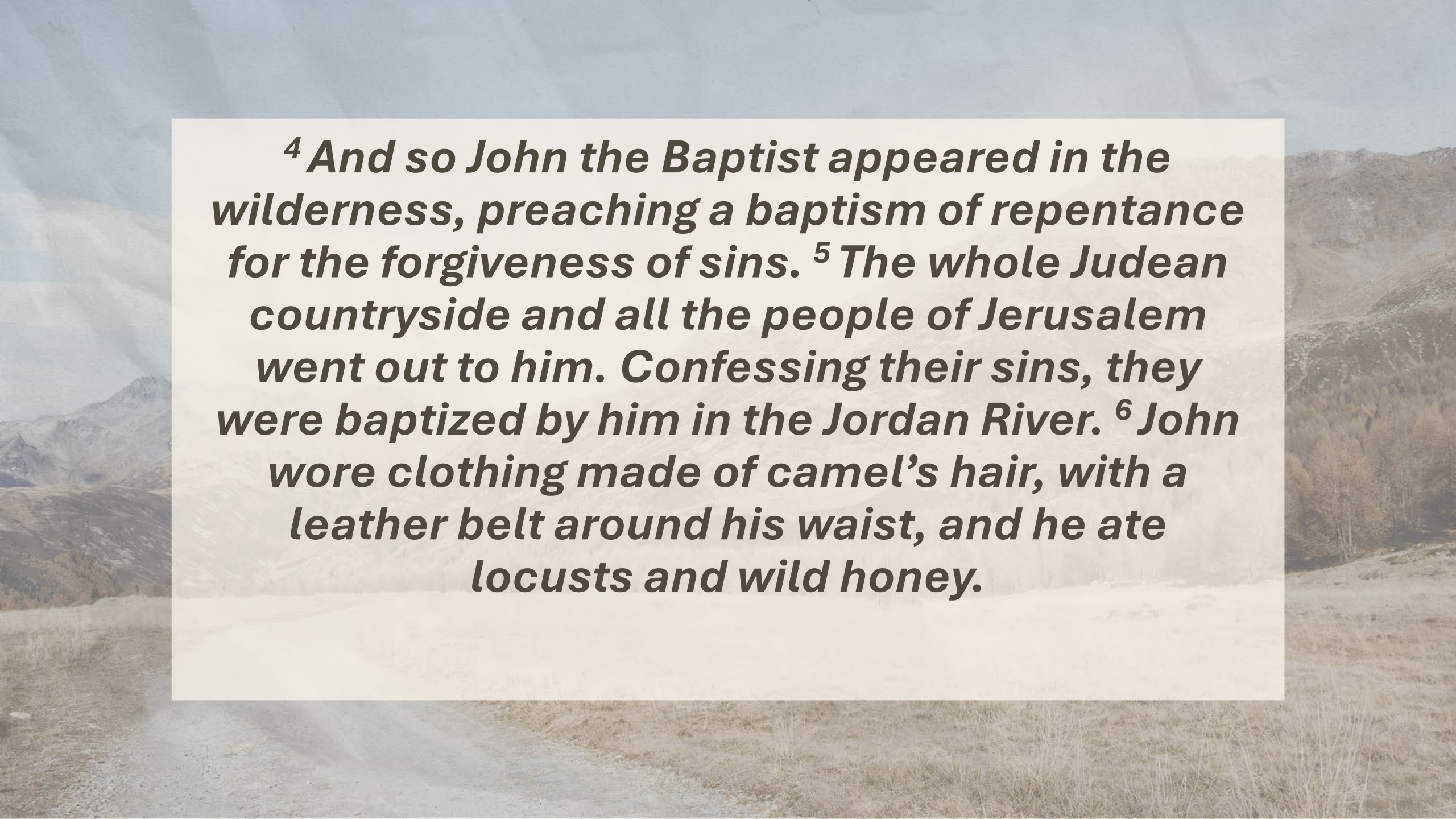


A scenic mountain landscape with a dirt road in the foreground and a semi-transparent text box in the center. The text box contains the quote: "I will send my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way".

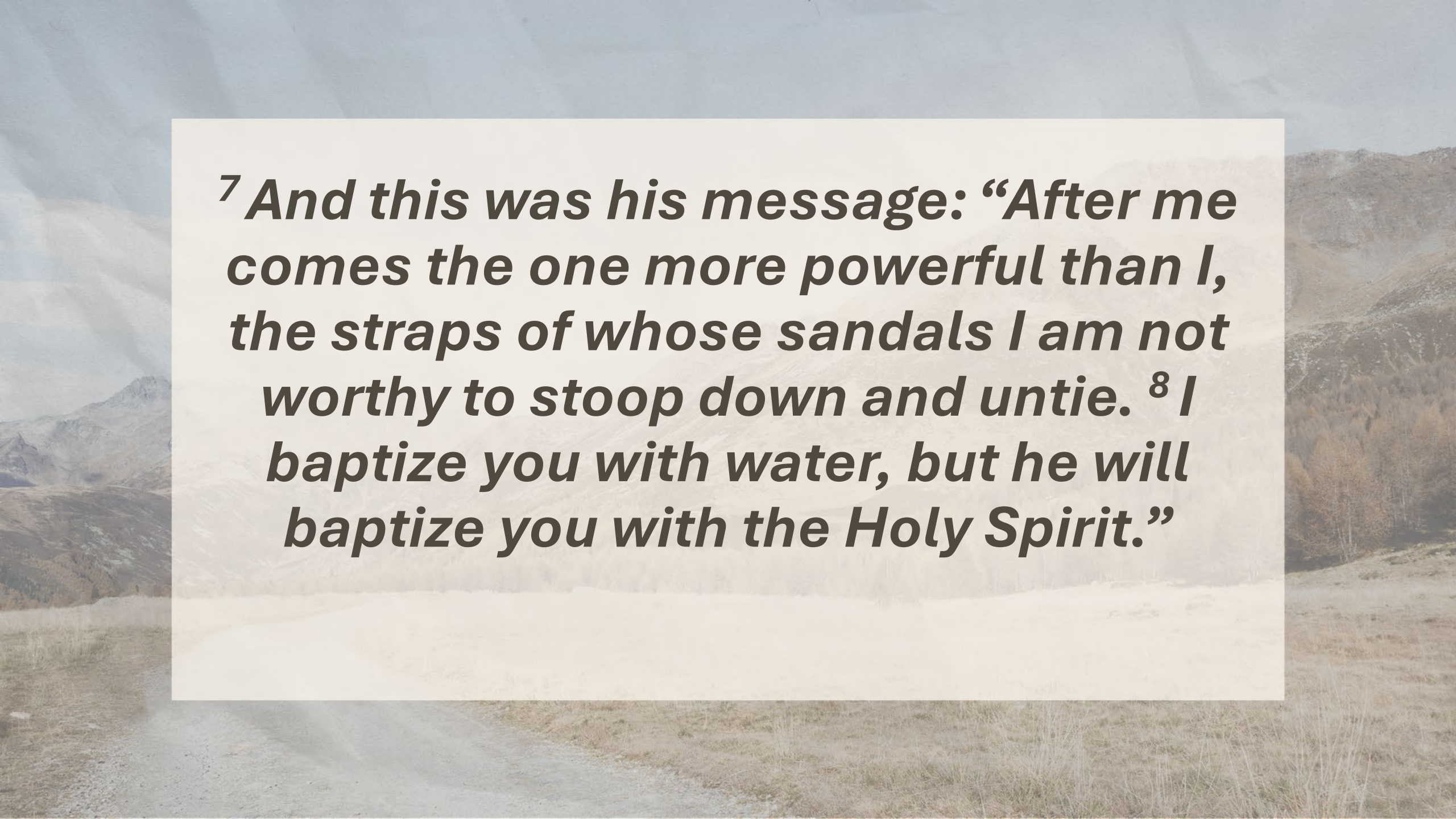
***“I will send my messenger ahead
of you,
who will prepare your way”***

A scenic landscape featuring a dirt road in the foreground, leading towards a valley with mountains in the background. The sky is overcast. A semi-transparent white box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing text.

***³ “a voice of one calling in the
wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’ ”***



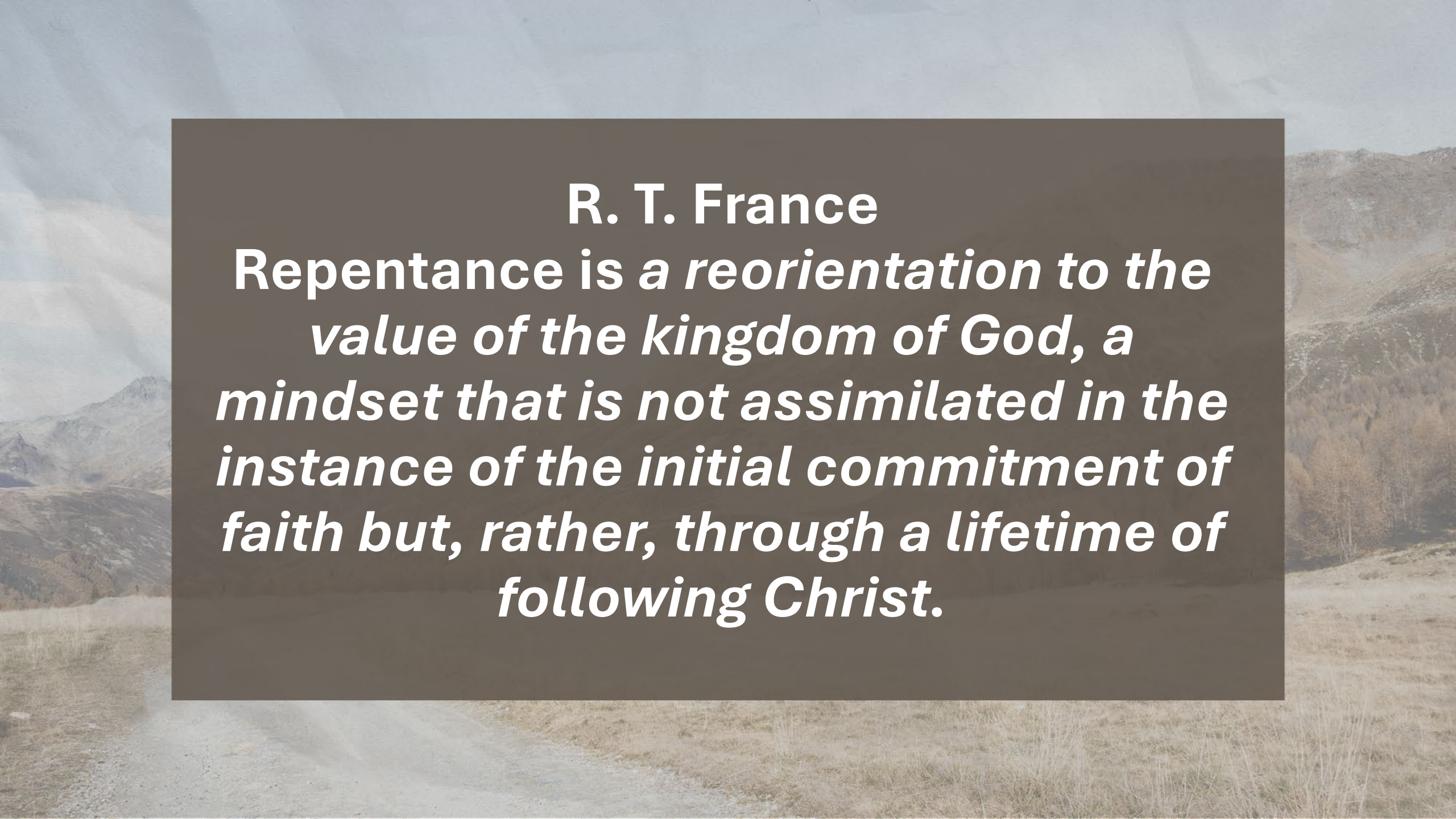
⁴ And so John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ The whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem went out to him. Confessing their sins, they were baptized by him in the Jordan River. ⁶ John wore clothing made of camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey.

The background of the image is a scenic landscape. In the foreground, there is a dirt road or path that leads into the distance. The middle ground features rolling hills and mountains, some of which are covered in sparse vegetation. The sky is a pale, hazy blue. A large, semi-transparent white rectangular box is overlaid on the center of the image, containing the text. The text is in a bold, italicized, black serif font.

⁷ And this was his message: “After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. ⁸ I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

H G Wells. "I am a historian, I am not a believer, but I must confess as a historian that this penniless preacher from Nazareth is irrevocably the very centre of history."





R. T. France

Repentance is a reorientation to the value of the kingdom of God, a mindset that is not assimilated in the instance of the initial commitment of faith but, rather, through a lifetime of following Christ.