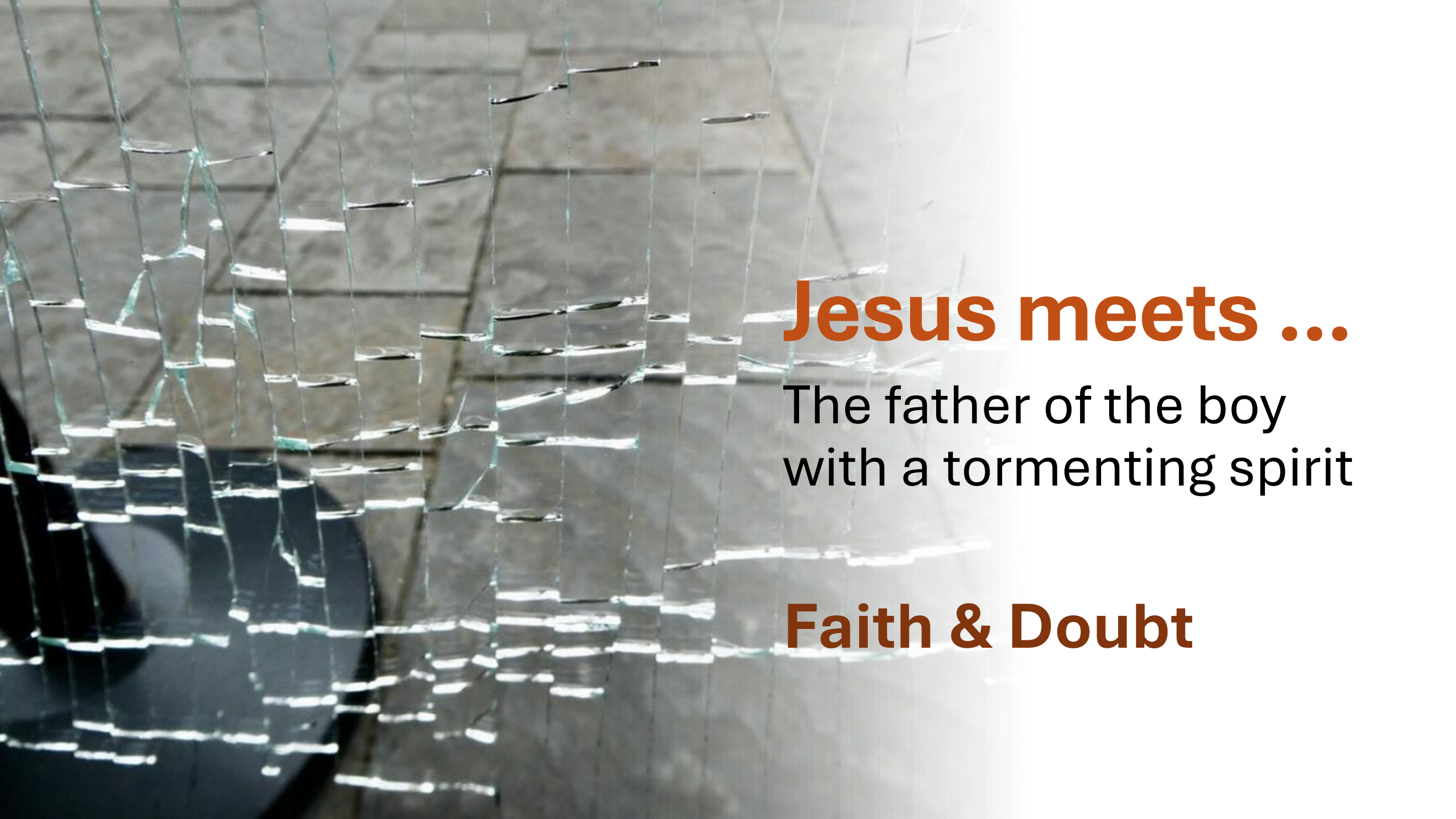




Jesus meets ...

The father of the boy
with a tormenting spirit

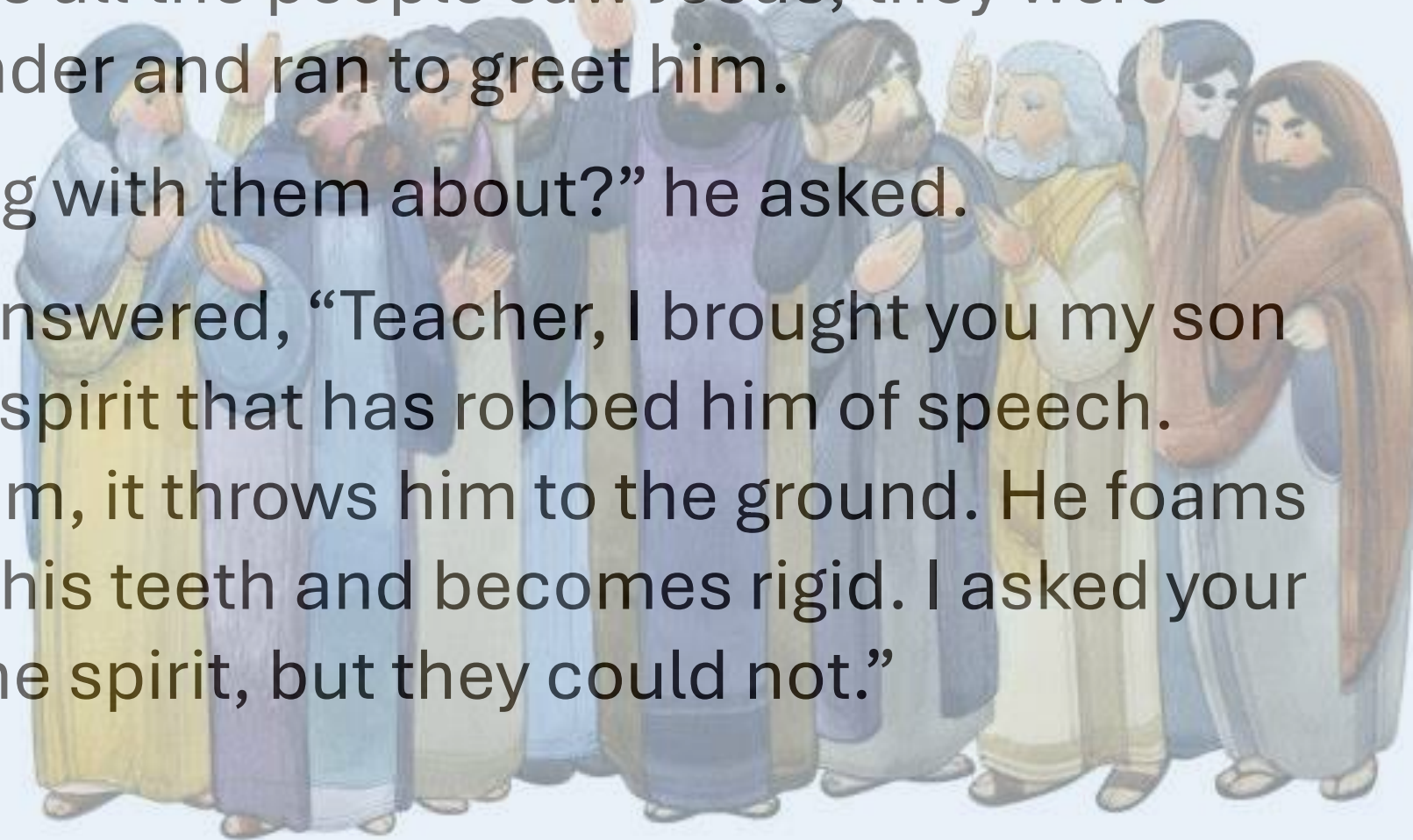
Faith & Doubt

Mark 9. 14: When they came to the other disciples, they saw a large crowd around them and the teachers of the law arguing with them. ¹⁵ As soon as all the people saw Jesus, they were overwhelmed with wonder and ran to greet him.

¹⁶ “What are you arguing with them about?” he asked.

¹⁷ A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech.

¹⁸ Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.”



¹⁹ “You faithless and perverse generation,” Jesus replied, “how long shall I stay with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring the boy to me.” ²⁰ So they brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a convulsion. He fell to the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth.

²¹ Jesus asked the boy’s father, “How long has he been like this?” “From childhood,” he answered. ²² “It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.” ²³ “If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.” ²⁴ Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”

²⁵ When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.”

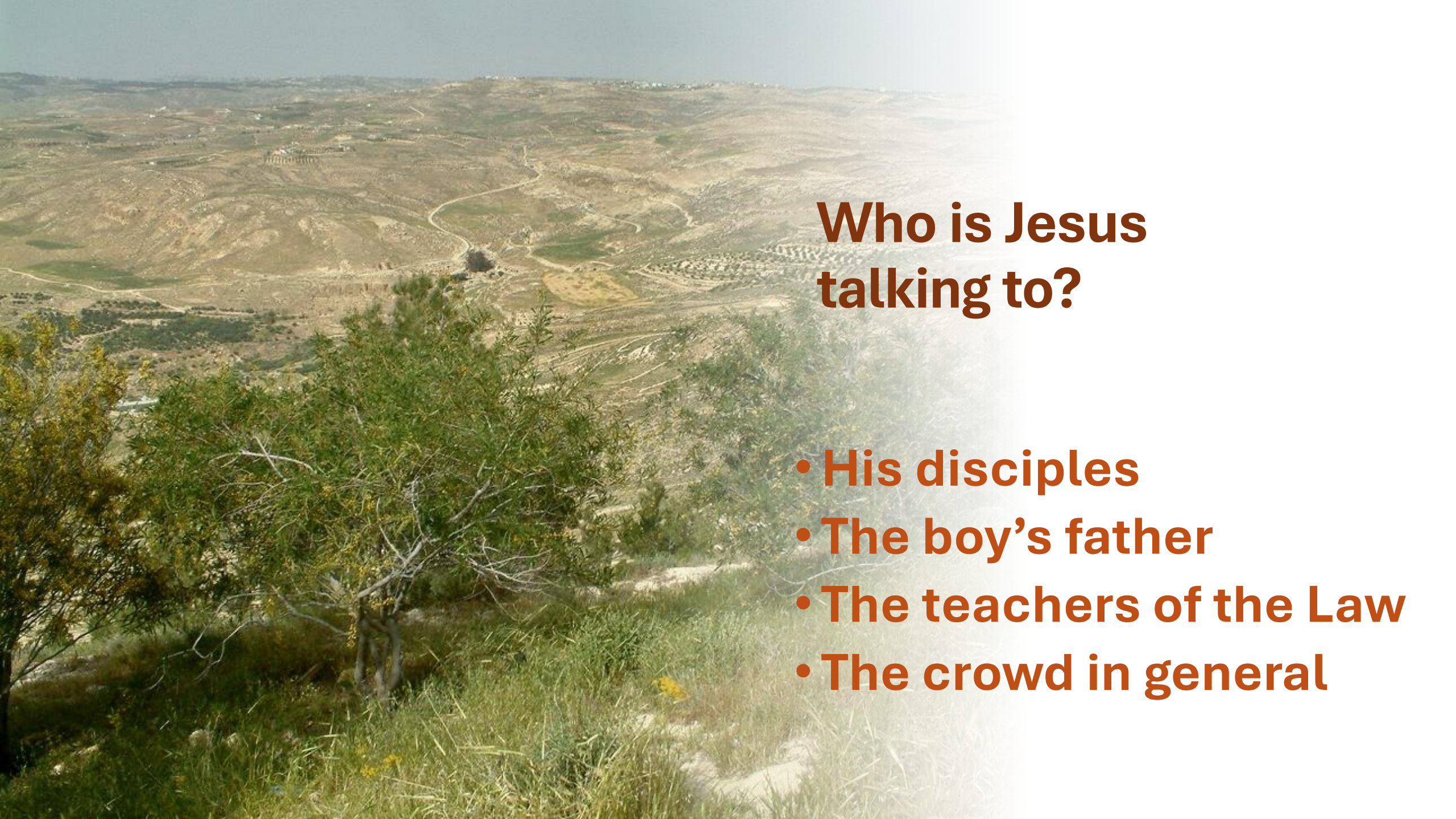
²⁶ The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.” ²⁷ But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him to his feet, and he stood up.

²⁸ After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?”

²⁹ He replied, “This kind can come out only by prayer.”

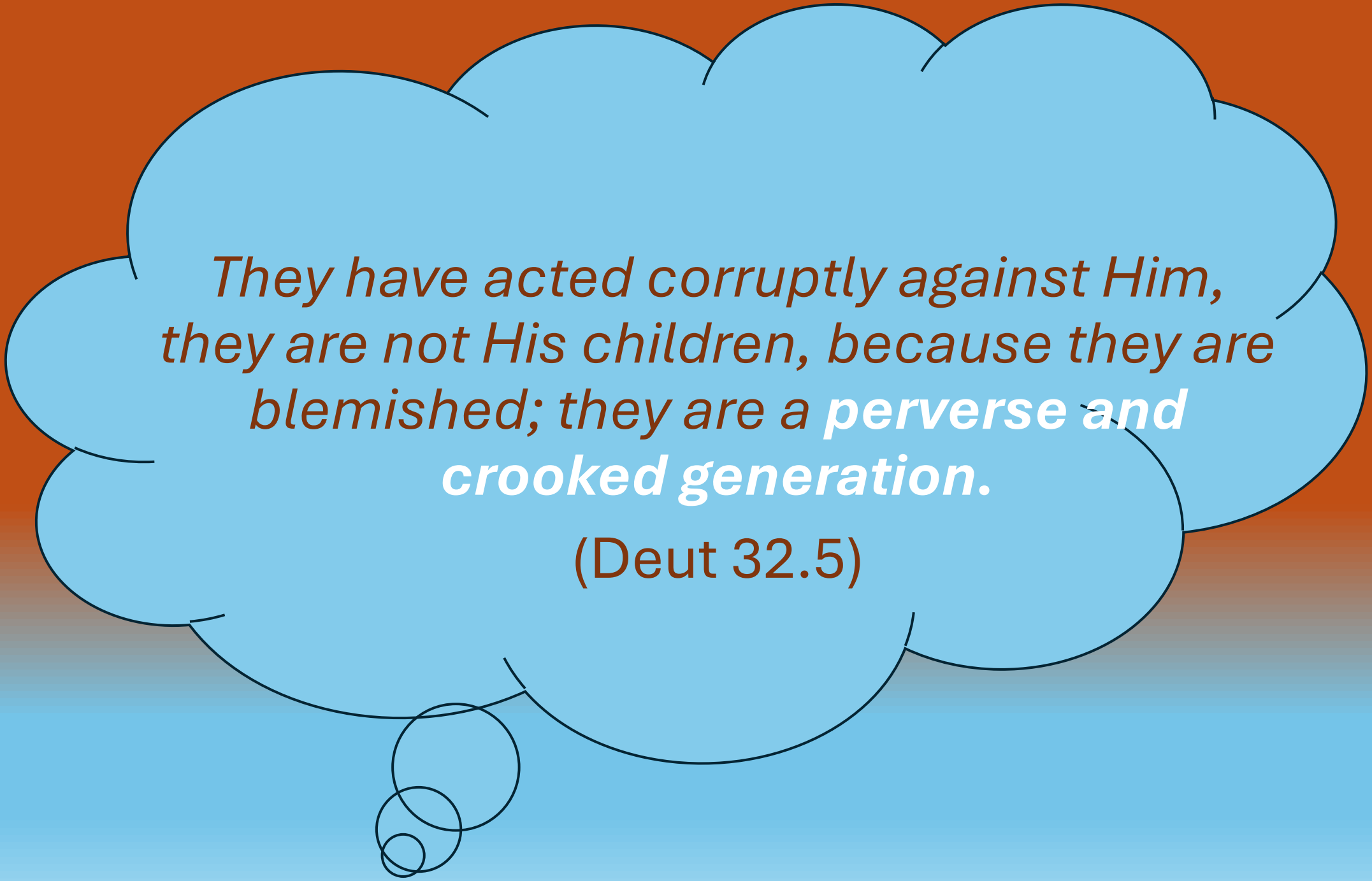


**What are you arguing
with them about?**



Who is Jesus talking to?

- **His disciples**
- **The boy's father**
- **The teachers of the Law**
- **The crowd in general**

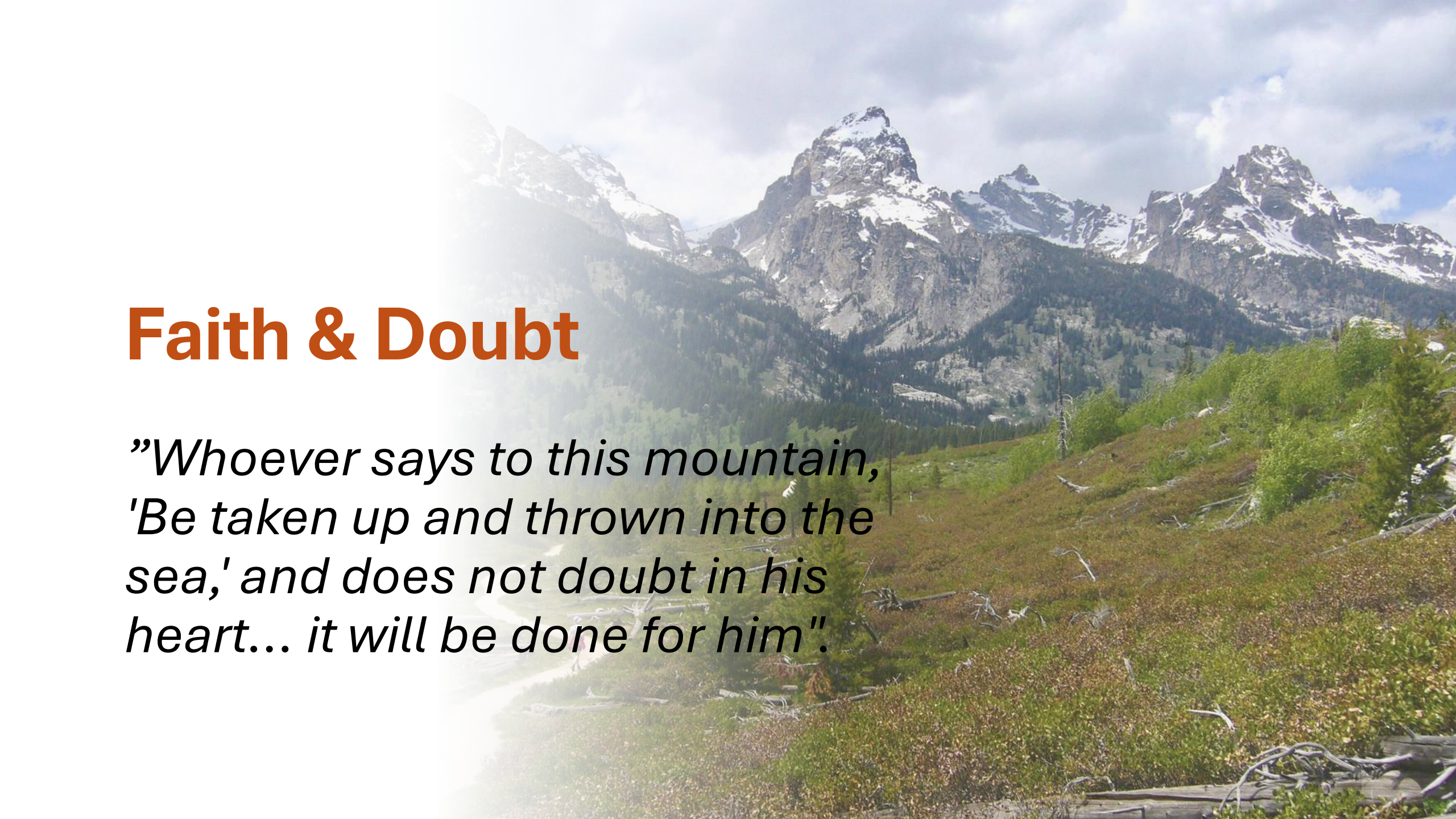


*They have acted corruptly against Him,
they are not His children, because they are
blemished; they are a **perverse and
crooked generation.***

(Deut 32.5)

Crises of faith

- **The father of the boy**
‘I believe; help my unbelief!’
- **The disciples**
‘Why couldn’t we do it?’

A scenic mountain landscape with snow-capped peaks and a valley. The foreground shows a grassy slope with some dead wood. The middle ground features a valley with a river and a small town. The background consists of several jagged, snow-covered mountain peaks under a cloudy sky.

Faith & Doubt

*"Whoever says to this mountain,
'Be taken up and thrown into the
sea,' and does not doubt in his
heart... it will be done for him".*

What did Jesus say about doubt?



Peter walking
on the water



Father of the
tormented boy



Thomas

*‘Disappointment
damages emotional,
mental, and spiritual
health, leaving people
vulnerable to unbelief,
despair, and spiritual
disease.’*

(Bill Johnson)





**‘Above all else,
guard your heart, for
everything you do
flows from it.’**

(Prov 4.23)



‘Hope deferred
makes the
heart sick.’

(Prov 13.12)



"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight."

Proverbs 3:5-6:

